THE GEMS

Of
Pike County, Arkansas

Pike County Archives
And History Society

Fall 2003

Volume 14  Number 04
PIKE COUNTY ARCHIVES & HISTORY SOCIETY

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Internet Pages
http://www.rootsweb.com/~arpcahs
The Pike County Online Records Library
http://www.rootsweb.com/~arpcahs/pcahsolr/pcahsolr.htm

PCAHS MEETING TIME

The Pike County Archives and History Society meets the first Thursday night of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the PCAHS archives in the Pike County Annex Building, 112 N. Washington Ave., Suite B. Murfreesboro, Arkansas. The 6:30 p.m. time period is set aside for members and guests to discuss and exchange ideas on history, genealogy and effective ways to do research. Business meeting is held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Annual membership dues are $10.00. Lifetime membership dues are $100.00. The Pike County Archives and History Society was founded in 1986 and is a non-profit organization. Helpful telephone numbers: Pike County Clerk's Office (870) 285-2231; County Judge Courthouse (870) 285-2414.

PCAHS MAILING ADDRESS
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P.O. Box 875
Murfreesboro, Arkansas 71958

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Telephone: (870) 285-9175, E-mail: pcahs@iocc.com
Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adair, C.W.</td>
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<td>Elijah</td>
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<td>Owens, John S.</td>
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<td>Pamron, Gillis</td>
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Bush, James  Hughes, John  Sharp, John
Busick, S.H.  Hughes, William  Shirley, Henry
Caldwell, A.J.  Hughett, J.O.  Shirley, Jonathan
Campbell, David  Hutchison, _____  Shirley, Joshua
Campbell, William  Hutchison, L.  Simmons, William
Cannon, R.W.  Jackson, A.R.  Simpson, Jesse
Carpenter, J.L.  Jackson, J.B.  Smith, Everett
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Carpenter, Jesse  Jackson, William, Jr.  Snell, James
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Carroll, David  Jacobs, John  Speer, James
Carroll, Michael  James, John  Speer, John, Jr.
Carroll, S. _____  Jenkins, Thomas  Speer, William B.
Carter, Henry  Jenkins, William  Stegger, R.M.
Cheshire, E.  Johnston, John  Stegger, S.J.
Cheshire, John B.  Johnston, M.  Stell, A.A.
Choate, James  Johnston, Peter  Stell, Hiram
Choate, John D.  Johnston, William  Stell, Joseph
Choate, P.J.  Joiner, J.W.  Stinett, John
Clark, Anthony  Jones, C.B.  Stinett, Thomas
Clark, Joel  Jones, Charles  Stone, C.C.
Clements, Isaac  Jones, Rebecca  Stone, Uriah
Clements, J.  Jones, Samuel  Stone, William
Collier, Nathan  Jordan, Mary  Stover, Isaac
Connatser, _____  Jordon, J.L.  Stringer, Joseph
Connatser, D.K.  Kelley, E.B.  Stringer, Rice
Connatser, J.H.  Kelley, E.W.  Sullivan, Jack
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Connatser, William B.  Kelley, Robert  Swink, J.H.
Connatser, William P.  Kelley, Wesley  Tallant, James
Conway, T.J.  Kelley, William  Tallant, Thomas
Cooley, Isaac  Kennedy, Robert  Tallant, W.D.
Copeland, R.  Kennedy, Rubin  Taylor, Henry
Covington, William  Kennedy, William  Taylor, M.
Crawford, Josiah  King, John  Terry, William
Davis, Abijah  Kirkham, J.H.  Thompson, S.S.
Davis, John M.  Kizzia, James, Sr.  Thompson, William F.
Davis, Wayne  Kizzia, Martin  Thorn, W.B. Estate
Davis, William  Kizzia, T.J.  Tweedle, Isaac
Davis, Young  Laird, Patrick  Tweedle, William
Dickson, J.A.  Latimer, I.P.  Vardenburg, John
Dickson, John  Lewis, Joel  Walton, A.M.
Dickson, L.A.  Lingo, Erby  Washburn, Thomas
Dickson, Rebecca  Lingo, John  Watson, Henry
Dickson, S.B.  Linville, Brice  Wenner, Jerry
Dickson, S.B., Jr.  Linville, William  Westerman, C.D.
Dickson, William  Macon, Gideon  Westerman, J.T.
Dickson, William T.  Magby, Joel  Westerman, John
Donohoe, P.  Magby, Riley  Wha, George
Dossey, William G.  Magby, Robert, Sr.  Whistenhunt, A.
Draper, Daniel  Mansfield, J.C.  Whistenhunt, H.
Drummons, B.  McClure, Jesse  Whistenhunt, Noah
Durham, George  McClure, T.W.  White, Ab
Dyer, Caloway  McLaughlin, F.  White, David
Edgin, C.  McLaughlin, J.C.  White, H.L.
Edgin, Nathan  McLaughlin, James  White, Isaac, Jr.
Edmonds, George  McLaughlin, Thomas  White, Isaac, Sr.
Elliott, D.F.  McLaughlin, W.C.  White, Jack
Epperson, Charles  McMahan, F.M.  White, John, Sr.
Epperson, George  McMahan, James  White, Jordan
Evans, T.P.  McMahan, Robert  White, Jordan, Jr.
Farley, Stephen  McMenis, Joseph  White, Pleasant
Farley, Thomas  McRay, M.A.  White, Pleasant, Jr.
Farley, William Jr.  McRay, Massey  White, Spencer
Farley, William Sr.  McRay, William  White, William
Farmer, John  McWalkins, James  Williams, J.H.
Garner, T.R.  Miller, John  Williams, William
Gentry, J.M.  Mobley, David, Jr.  Williamson, Thomas
Gibbs, C.H.  Mobley, David, Sr.  Wingfield, Ben
Gill, John  Mobley, William  Wingfield, E.
Gillham, Nancy  Moore, John  Wofford, B.C.
Gillham, Perry  Moore, William  Woods, J.P.
Gillham, William  Neely, William  Yates, G.W.

Received (at) Murfreesboro, Pike County, Arkansas of Thomas K. Daper, Clerk, Pike County, the Tax Book for the year A.D. 1851, which I will collect the following monies, to wit: for all taxes due Two Hundred Sixty One dollars and Seventy-four cents and for County taxes Six Hundred Thirty Nine dollars and Twenty-seven cents this the 7 day of June 1851.
Lewis Huddleston, Sheriff and Collector of Pike County, Arkansas

Pike county Tax Books for the year 1851 received and filed in the auditor's office 28th June, 1851 and $261.74 charged to sheriff, page 36.

C.C. Danley, Auditor of Arkansas

Amounts receipted for the sheriff............$261.74
Correct amount of Tax Book ..................$255.80
Difference placed to sheriffs credit ..........$  5.94
Condensed Statement

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<th>Slaves</th>
<th>Saw Mill</th>
<th>Pleasure Carriage</th>
<th>Horses &amp; Mares</th>
<th>Mules</th>
<th>Neat Cattle</th>
<th>Value of Merchandise</th>
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Pike County, Arkansas Tax List 1851, Arkansas History Commission, Little Rock, Arkansas.

LINDA KAY WILSON
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Pike County Archives and History Society (PCAHS) has established a scholarship account in the memory of their Co-founder and long time treasurer, Linda Wilson, who passed away July 15, 2003. Memorial donations to the scholarship may be made to; Pike County Archives and History Society Scholarship account, at Diamond State Bank in Murfreesboro or by mail to PCAHS, P. O. Box 875, Murfreesboro, Arkansas 71958.

For more information please call 870-285-9157 or email pcahs@iocc.com

POST OFFICES & POSTMASTERS 1834-1867

Record of Appointment of Postmasters: Pike County

Volume 11 ca. 1832-44 page 276
New, Pike County, Arkansas Territory

Zebulon Post Office courthouse

Asa Thompson 29 May 1834
Bond of Rice Stringer & Jno. Hughes $300

David S. Dickson 6 Nov 1835

John Hughes 13 Apr 1837
Jesse Jenkins 26 Apr 1838
David S. Dickson 29 Oct 1844

Volume 14 ca. 1842-58 page 68
Pike County, Arkansas, Changed

Zebulon Post Office courthouse

Jesse Jenkins 26 Apr 1838
David S. Dickson 29 Oct 1844
John M. Dickson 8 Sept 1849
W.H. Preston 28 Feb 1851
Changed to Murfreesboro 8 Oct 1851

Wilton Post Office

A. W. Cole Feb 1849
James Scott 14 Sep 1849
Thomas L. Toland 23 Oct 1857

Huddleston Post Office

James B. Gray 18 Nov 1852
Nathaniel Gray 3 Apr 1857

Late "Zebulon" Murfreesboro Post Office

W.H. Preston 8 Oct 1851
William J. Kelley 4 Sep 1855
Jacob J. Kennedy Dec 1856
John M. Dickson 26 Mar 1857
William J. Kelley 16 Oct 1857

The GEMS of Pike County, Arkansas is a publication of the Pike County Archives and History Society 14-80
Brocktown Post Office
Jackson Brock 17 Nov 1851
James M. Brock 18 Feb 1854
Samuel Brock 10 May 1854
John Davis 29 May 1855
Samuel Brock 18 Mar 1856
Jackson Brock 29 Oct 1857

County Line Post Office
Henry Sparks 20 July 1852
Alfred M. Walton 19 Jan 1853

Late in Clark County: Antoine Post Office
William B. Speer 20 June 1854
William Gentry 27 Sep 1855
Joseph Trout 15 Dec 1855
William B. Speer 17 Feb 1857

Royston Post Office
Charles A. Magill 24 Sep 1857

Volume 25B ca. 1857-75 page 69
Pike County, Arkansas

Reestablished Now Antoine Post Office
William B. Speer 17 Feb 1857
Discontinued 22 June 1866
Reestablished 24 June 1866
Meredith Honeycutt 24 Aug 1866 in Clark County

Brocktown Post Office
Jackson Brock 29 Oct 1857
Miss Eliza Brock 29 Jan 1867
Abner N. Henderson 11 June 1867

County Line Post Office
David A. Walton 6 Dec 1854
Charles Cromwell 24 Aug 1858
David W. Alford 1 Dec 1858

Discontinued 11 Oct 1859

Reestablished Huddleston Post Office
James B. Gray 18 Nov 1852
Discontinued 29 Apr 1858
Reestablished 4 Jan 1859
Granville W. Tarpley 4 Jan 1859
James B. Gray 22 Apr 1861
Discontinued 2 July 1866
Reestablished 6 Nov 1867
Green B. Lee 6 Nov 1867

[Record of Appointment of Postmasters 1834-1971, Roll 8, Target 14, Arkansas: National Archives, Washington, D.C.]

---------------------------------------------
CLARK COUNTY ARKANSAS
MARRIAGES
PART 3 OF BOOK A: 1832-1835
---------------------------------------------

McDonald & Coleman
The page with the marriage entry for
Augustus Baldwin McDonald and Mary
Coleman, 1834, is missing. An index entry for
this marriage is found in a marriage index for
Books A, B, & C.

---------------------------------------------
Hemphill & Callaway
The page with the marriage entry for Samuel
Hemphill and Nancy Callaway, 1834, is
missing. An index entry for this marriage is
found in a marriage index for Books A, B, & C.

---------------------------------------------
Scarborough & Langly
The page with the marriage entry for Jesse
Scarborough and Sally Langly (Langley),
1834, is missing. An index entry for this
marriage is found in a marriage index for
Books A, B, & C.

---------------------------------------------
Williams & Wilson
The page with the marriage entry for James
Williams and Levena (Levena) Wilson, September 4, 1834, is missing. An index entry for this marriage is found in a marriage index for Books A, B, & C. Marriage published in the Arkansas Gazette, September 23, 1834.

Large & Caruthers

The page with the marriage entry for Isaac Large and Rebecca Caruthers (no date) is missing. An index entry for this marriage is found in a marriage index for Books A, B, & C.

Neel & Clover

The page with the marriage entry for Francis Neel and Catherine Clover (nee McDonald) (no date) is missing. An index entry for this marriage is found in a marriage index for Books A, B, & C.

Rounds & Rose

The page with the marriage entry for Lyman Rounds and Mary H. Rose (widow of John Rose), January 10, 1835, is missing. An index entry for this marriage is found in a marriage index for Books A, B, & C. Marriage &c. recorded in Clark County Chancery Court Book B, pages 23-25.

Bare & Piles

The page with the marriage entry for Benjamin Bare (Bear) and Eliza Piles, 1835, is missing. An index entry for this marriage is found in a marriage index for Books A, B, & C.

Andrews & McNeely

The page with the marriage entry for James Andrews and Sarah McNeely, 1835, is missing. An index entry for this marriage is found in a marriage index for Books A, B, & C.

Ward & Smith

Territory of Arkansas, County of Clark.

I do hereby Certify that James S. Ward and Mary (Polly) Smith (step-daughter of James Galbreath) were duly and legally married by me on the 8th day of September A.D. 1835.

A.H. RUTHERFORD, J.P.

Lisenby & Green

Territory of Arkansas, County of Clark.

I hereby certify that Yearby Lisenby and Polly Frier were duly and legally married by me on the 11th day of October 1835.

MOSES MOORE, J. Peace

The GEMS of Pike County, Arkansas is a publication of the Pike County Archives and History Society

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of Marriage was this day produced to me in my Office and ordered to be Recorded which is duly done. Witness my hand as Clerk & Ex-officio recorder for said County this 18th day of November A.D. 1835 and of the American Independence the 60th year.

JAS. S. WARD,
Clerk & Ex-officio recorder.

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CLARK COUNTY ARKANSAS
MARRIAGES
PART 4 OF BOOK A: 1836-1837
------------------------

McLaughlin & Music

Territory of Arkansas,
County of Clark,
Antoine Township.

Married on the 3rd day of April 1836 William McLaughlin to Malinda Music by me.

MOSES MOORE, J.P.

Territory of Arkansas,
County of Clark.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing Certificate of Marriage was this day produced to me in my office and ordered to be recorded which is duly done. Witness my hand as Clerk & Ex-officio Recorder for said County this 14th day of April A.D. 1836 and of the Independence of the United States of America the 60th year.

A.H. RUTHERFORD,
Clerk & Ex-officio Recorder.

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Procter & Stroud

Territory of Arkansas, County of Clark.

I do hereby certify that the rites of matrimony were duly and legally celebrated between Thomas M. Procter and Rebecca Stroud on the Second day of June A.D. 1836.

JACOB STROOPE, J.P.

Territory of Arkansas,
Sct.
County of Clark,

State of Arkansas,

I do hereby certify that the rites of matrimony were duly and legally celebrated between Archibald Hamilton Rutherford and Eliza Stroud on the 18th day of August 1836.

JACOB STROOPE J.P.
The GEMS of Pike County, Arkansas is a publication of the Pike County Archives and History Society

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Sct.  
County of Clark.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing  
Certificate of Marriage was this day  
produced to me in my office and ordered to  
be recorded which is duly done. Witness my  
hand as clerk & Ex-officio Recorder for said  
County this 22d day of August A.D. 1836 and  
of the Independence of the United States the  
sixty first year.  

A.H. RUTHERFORD,  
Clerk & Exofficio Recorder.  

Callaway & Janes  
State of Arkansas,  
County of Clark.  

I do hereby certify that the rites of  
Matrimony were duly and legally Celebrated  
between John S.T. Callaway and Elizabeth  
Janes on the 8th day of September 1836 by  
(me).  

MOSES MOORE, J.P.  

Welsh & Nelson  
State of Arkansas,  
County of Clark.  

I do hereby certify that the rites of  
Matrimony were solemnized between Robert  
Welsh and Julianne Nelson on the 25th day of  
Sept. 1836 by me.  

WILLIAM JANES, J.P.  

BELLEVUE SETTLEMENT  
Louisiana Purchase, 1803  
St. Genevieve District, 1805  
Washington County, Missouri 1812  

[Editor’s note: Many of Pike County’s early settlers came from the Bellevue Settlement.]
Reports of the several boards of commissioners appointed for the settlement and adjustment of land claims in the State of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri: February 5, 1818. List of Claimants settled at Bellevue in the Territory of Missouri. (Extracted by David Kelley.)

Ashbrook, William
Baker, Elisha possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; 1803 to 1806 &c.

Baker, Thomas
Bear, Joseph possessed, inhabited, and cultivated; improved prior to and on December 20, 1803.

Boydston, William possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; improved, inhabited, 1803; 1804, 1805, 1806 &c.

Cooper, John possessed, inhabited, and cultivated, 1804.

Corder, John possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; possessed, and inhabited 1803; in 1804

Crow, Benjamin survey

Elliott, Elias possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; improved and inhabited 1803; 1804, 1805, 1806 &c. under Joseph Reed.

Fitzbottoms, William
Goforth, Miles
Hutchins, James

Janes, John possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; possessed, inhabited, and improved 1803; 1804, 1805, 1806 &c.

Lewis, John possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; improved 1803.

McCoy, Ananias survey

McLaughlin, Thomas possessed and improved prior to and on December 20, 1803; 1804, 1805, 1806 &c.

McMartree, John
McNeals, John's representatives
Paul, John
Paul, John's representatives
Reed, Robert survey
Reed, William

Rickman, Abraham possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; possessed, inhabited, and improved 1803; 1804, 1805, 1806 &c.

Rickman, John
Rogan, Bernard prior to and on December 20, 1803; 1804, 1805, 1806 &c.

Ruggles, Martin possessed, inhabited, and cultivated prior to and on December 20, 1803; possessed and improved prior to and on December 20,1803.

[American State Papers, Volume 3, Public Lands, 1834. The Bellevue settlement in Missouri was the previous home of several families later in Arkansas: Hempstead, Clark, and Pike County. Reverend William Stevenson led a caravan to Mound Prairie in 1817. Elisha Baker, Joseph Bear, Benjamin Crow, Thomas McLaughlin were among those settling in Arkansas.]

WILLIAM LACKEY SELF

Previous to his settlement at the "three forks" of the Little Missouri river in Pike County, Arkansas now Murfreesboro, William Lackey Self lived in Missouri. As early as 1806 he was in the Bellevue valley at Bellevue, Missouri then in the St. Genevieve District of Upper Louisiana. He signs a petition, Section 26, to Congress concerned about the appointment of a successor to General Wilkinson as the new Territorial Governor of Louisiana. The proposed
successor according to the citizens and expressed in their petition would not be one, as they believed, for their best interest. Other signers of the same section of this petition living at Bellevue and later in Clark and Hempstead County, Arkansas personally or having family relations living there were: George Ashbrook, Elijah Baker, Elisha Baker, Benjamin Crow, Walter Crow, Solomon Huitt, Robert Reed, Thomas Reed, William Reed senior, William Reed junior, Salmon Ruggles, and Lewis Self.

William Lackey Self arrived in Arkansas prior 1830. The exact place he selected for his improvement is not known, but the 1830 census indicates in his vicinity were Sion Bradley Dickson, Gabriel Brown, Joseph Wheat, Rice Stringer, and the Hughes: James, John, Nathaniel and William. All of these men, based on land entry records, lived at or near Murfreesboro and in Thompson Township. Pike County was established in 1833. The civil townships were designated and their locations determined by the Pike County circuit court in 1834. W.L. Self later lived according to the census in 1840 in Missouri Township adjacent to and east Thompson Township in Pike County, Arkansas. The known children of William Lackey Self and his wife, not identified, were:

- David Self married Catherine Brown on March 24, 1833 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas.
- Lewis Self married, wife unidentified, about 1838, in Pike County, Arkansas.
- Fergus (Forgus) Self born about 1818 in Missouri married Mariah Jenkins daughter of Thomas Jenkins and Elizabeth O'Neal about 1840 in Pike County, Arkansas. Their children: Vincent Self, Thomas Self, Elizabeth Self, Joseph D. Self, William L. Self, Sarah A.M. Self, David A. Self, Cooper Self, and Robert A. Self.
- William Daniel Self born about 1823 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas married first Rebecca Cocke on May 12, 1842 in Clark County, Arkansas. They had a son Baldwin Self born in 1844. He married second Arcadia Jane Edwards daughter of Lewis Edwards on April 23, 1848 in Clark County, Arkansas.

They had a son William A. Self born in 1849. Nancy Self born March 1, 1828 in Clark, now Pike, County, Arkansas married Seaborn Reed on January 23, 1845 in Clark County, Arkansas, died on October 21, 1900 at Carbon, Texas; buried in the Carbon Restland Cemetery. Their children: William Joel Reed and Asa Bren Reed. Seaborn Reed died during the Civil War at Little Rock, Arkansas on January 8, 1864. William Lackey Self died in Pike County, Arkansas, Missouri Township about 1842.

Equity Court Proceedings
March 1st 1859

David E. Park, Complainant vs. William Gilmer as public administrator of the estate of Thomas Jenkins, deceased; Elizabeth Jenkins, late the wife of Thomas Jenkins now his widow; Forgy Self and Mariah his wife; Alfred M. Walton and Kizziah his wife; William Ray and Emeline his wife; Joshua Williams and Phoebe his wife; James Jordan and Jane his wife; Addison Smith and Salina his wife; and Mary Jenkins; heirs at law of Thomas Jenkins, deceased, Defendants.

Came the complainant by his solicitor and at the same time appeared in open Court, Alfred M. Walton, who was appointed by the Court the Guardian ad litem of the said defendant Mary Jenkins a minor heir of the said Thomas Jenkins, deceased; and the said defendants having failed to plead, &c. to Complainant's bill, the facts and allegations therein contained are taken as true and confessed and it is therefore ordered by the Court that unless the said defendants shall on or before the third day of the next term of this Court, plead, answer or demure to this bill &c.; that final decree will be entered against them and this cause is continued.

[Abstract of Title Book Prior to 1890, page 294. Equity Court Proceedings, Pike County, Arkansas Book 1, page 30.]

RICHARD WOOD

Richard Wood was resident in

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Lawrence County, Arkansas prior moving to the Turnwaugh settlement of Clark County by 1818. He was afterwards one of the first settlers along the Little Missouri river in Township 9, South of Range 23, West in Pike County, Arkansas. James Guinn Melson settled here in 1816. The Kelleys living north on Wolf Creek arrived in November 1815; Samuel Hasley, senior, likewise settled on Wolf Creek in 1817; William Gentry and James Ward settled on the public road leading from Antoine bayou to the Little Missouri river in 1817; and nearby east on the Antoine bayou in Antoine Township of Clark County, Arkansas the Edmistons from Tennessee settled in 1818.

Richard Wood was deceased by 1822. The Clark County, Arkansas circuit court minutes for the March Term 1822 record, "William Trimble, Esq. presented the Last Will and Testament of Richard Wood, deceased, which was proven by the subscribing witnesses before the court, and letters testamentary ordered to be granted to the executors named in said Will by their entering with bond and security in the penal sum of two thousand dollars." The executors named in the Last Will and Testament of Richard Wood were John Wood and Jacob Wood. Jacob Wood died in 1827 and John Wood died in 1834. The administration of Richard Wood’s estate was then appointed to John Wilson who later became the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Arkansas. The original will of Richard Wood was recorded in the first will and letters of administration book for Clark County, Arkansas 1819-1827. This book no longer exists. The Wood family, those identified as children of Richard Wood, except Thomas Wood and Elizabeth Wood whose relationship is uncertain, were:

Thomas Wood married Fanny, maiden name unknown, and died in Clark County, Arkansas in 1836. Willis S. Smith in his writings about Clark County first appearing in the Gurdon Advocate newspaper in 1883, pens in a sketch of "Antoine Township northwestern part of Clark County when a territory," the following: "John Gentry lived one mile and a half northwest of Okolona. Thomas Wood the same distance west. Here I saw about a 100 head of cattle, native, as I ever saw in any country. They were all muleys, not a horn among them. Mr. Wood would not have any other kind and very near the same color. Their necks and sides were red, backs and bellies white, with white or mottled face. Mr. Wood raised them all at his home near the bottoms of Missouri and Antoine rivers, entirely on the range and I have never seen as likely stock since." The children of Thomas Wood and Fanny his wife, were: Nancy Wood married John M. Lisenby on December 24, 1835 in Clark County, Arkansas; Mary Wood, and Fanny Wood.

John Wood married Susan, maiden name unknown, and died in 1834 in Pike County, Arkansas. He lived at the Little Missouri river where it was intersected by the public road. There was no bridge at this location such as the one across the smaller Antoine bayou connecting the public road at present day Antoine, Arkansas. Here he established a ferry crossing the Little Missouri by 1826. The public road from this place led south to Washington in Hempstead County, Arkansas. This ferry was later operated by Jacob Brinley from 1832 until 1846 and thereafter by Nathaniel Gray. Gray's Ferry is designated on an early map made by engineers during the Civil War. Susan Wood became the wife of Tyre O'Neal on June 8, 1837. Tyre O'Neal was executed by hanging in Pike County, Arkansas on October 20, 1837 for horse stealing.

Jacob Wood married Emeline, maiden name unknown, and died in 1827. They had a daughter Fanny Lavina Wood. Emeline Wood became the wife of Jesse Baxter on July 19, 1831 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. Joel B. Baxter married Elizabeth Wood on March 24, 1833 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. Elizabeth Wood is not mentioned in records associated with Richard Wood.

Polly Wood married Jesse Bittick, about 1826, in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. She died about 1836 in Pike
County, Arkansas. Their children were: John Bittick, Caroline Bittick, America Bittick married Edwin Lynn about 1860 in Pike County, Arkansas, and Samuel Bittick.


Jeptha Wood married Margaret Wooten on January 16, 1831 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. His name appears in an estate sale bill for John Wood, deceased, on October 24, 1834.

Patsy Wood minor heir of Richard Wood was appointed William Gentry as her guardian.

James Wood minor heir of Richard Wood was appointed James Ward as his guardian.

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POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all men by these presents: that, I, have for divers Intentions, made, constituted Charles Crabough my lawful agent and attorney in fact to act and to do with a certain tract of Land lying and being in the county of Lawrence of the Missouri Territory on the Creek known by the name of Laires Creek and being the same place which I formerly lived and to which I hold by the Law of the federal government the right of preemption, as he the same Charles may deem proper, convert and convey the said Land, with all the right(s) and emoluments, by, laid, belonging thereunto, to himself, to any other person or persons in as full and ample manner as I myself would do if present, and warrant and defend the same from me, from my heirs and assigns, as a true right of preemption for ever: but also by these presents clearly understood that if in case the said Charles should at any time wish to convey the said land to himself, that this shall be his sufficient Deed for the same, and that I hereby acknowledge to have received the sum of fifteen Dollars as a full compensation of him, the said Charles, for the aforesaid Land: for the true performance of the above I have hereto set my hand & seal this 22nd day of Sbr. 1815.

RICHARD WOOD (Seal)

In the presence of Josep(h) Hall

Territory of Missouri,
ss.
County of Lawrence

This day personally came and appeared Joseph Hall before me, Perry G. Magness, a Justice of the peace for the aforesaid county, and mad(e) oath that the within is a true Execution of the within Richard Wood and that same was Done by his order he being the subscribing witness: Joseph Hall sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of the peace the 5th day of October 1818.

PERRY G. MAGNESS, J. peace

Recorded April 4th 1820

RICH'D SEARCY, Clk.

[Lawrence County, Arkansas Deed Book B, Power of Attorney, pages 190-191.]

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DEED

County of Arkansas,
Territory of Missouri.

This Indenture made this twenty fourth day of September in the year One thousand eight hundred and eighteen, between Richard Wood of the Turnwaw (Turnwaugh) Settlement, county aforesaid of the one part, and Joseph Janes of the county of Lawrence, Territory aforesaid of the other part: Witiseth, that the said Richard for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars, to him in hand paid by said Joseph, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath granted, bargained, and sold, and by these presents doth grant, bargain, and sell to the said Joseph, all his rights, title, claim, and interest, to a certain preemption right and improvement made by said Richard on Janes Creek in the county of Lawrence and bounded as follows: on the west by land claimed by Lot Davis, and on the other side by public land, to have and to hold said improvement in preemption right, to him,
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said Joseph and his heirs, and said Richard for himself and his heirs, doth hereby forever warrant and defend said improvement, free from the claim or claims of all persons, lawfully claiming under him, said Richard Wood.

In testimony whereof, the said (Richard) hath hereto set his hand and seal, the day and date first above written.

RICHARD (his x mark) WOOD (Seal)

The words of the one part interlined: also Richard.

Witnes:
S.F. AUSTIN
J.R. McILVAIN

Territory of Arkansas, ss.
County of Lawrence.

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace in and for the county, afore- said, the within and named Stephen F. Austin, who being duly sworn, says, that he saw the within named Richard Wood, sign, seal, and deliver the within deed of conveyance for the use and purposes therein mentioned. Given under my hand this 24th day of July, 1820.

RICH'D SEARCY, J.P.
Rec’d and Recor’d July 24th 1820, by Searcy, Ck.

[Lawrence County, Arkansas Deed Book B, pages 209-210.]

SEPTEMBER TERM 1827

On motion of John Wood by R.O. Matthews his attorney, it is ordered that he have leave to keep a Ferry across the Little Missouri River near his dwelling house in this County, upon his producing the Sheriff's receipt for two dollars, a tax imposed on said Ferry, and his executing bond in the Clerk's office of the Court with sufficient security in the penal sum of one hundred dollars, conditioned as the law directs; and it is further ordered that the following rates of ferriage be received at said Ferry, to wit: two dollars for each four wheeled cart or carriage, 12 1/2 cents for each person, 12 1/2 cents for each horse &c., and 6 1/4 cents for each head of cattle, hogs, &c.

[Clark County, Arkansas Circuit Court Minutes, September Term 1827, page 130.]

SAMUEL HASLEY

Samuel Hasley was appointed a magistrate or justice of the peace for Missouri Township in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas on May 19, 1823. He had been living in Arkansas since 1817, a daughter's tombstone suggests 1818. He previously lived in Dickson County, Tennessee. He settled at pre-sent day Delight, Arkansas on Wolf Creek.

Settlement on Wolf Creek preceded 1814. Reverend William Stevenson writing of his visits to Arkansas from his home at Bellevue, Missouri says he visited the Wolf Creek settlement in 1813. Of his 1814 visit he writes that they had "formed a society there some time before with some conversions and ... a number of mourners." He also speaks of the Choctaw Indians at Wolf Creek and the conversion of one them. In 1814 a man named Halifield settled here and when the Kelleys arrived in 1815 he sold his improvement to them. Samuel Hasley married Mary Ann Drewry and their known children were:

Mariam Hasley born September 19, 1802 in Dickson County, Tennessee married Charles Wingfield in 1819 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. She died on January 14, 1877 at Antoine, Pike County, Arkansas and is buried in the Antoine Cemetery. Their children were: Elijah Wingfield, Emily Wingfield, Samuel H. Wing- field, Joseph Wingfield, William Wingfield, Mary Jane Wingfield, Asa Thompson Wingfield, Nemesus Wingfield, and Adaline Wingfield and an infant girl Wingfield that died at birth, twins.

Drewry Hasley born about 1804 in Dickson County, Tennessee married Mary Ann Wingfield daughter of John Wingfield and Sarah Elizabeth Simmons on September

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4, 1828 in Clark County, Arkansas. Their children included: Eliza Hasley, Sarah Hasley, Mary Hasley, Samuel Hasley, and Alfred Hasley.


Samuel Hasley, senior, died after 1830. Mary Ann Drewry Hasley died on August 20, 1835 at the residence of Charles Wingfield in Clark County, Arkansas “at an advanced age.”

JOSEPH DELANEY

Joseph Delaney lived in the Antoine bayou, Little Missouri river locale of Pike, then Clark County, Arkansas prior 1830 and in his vicinity in the township he lived (Missouri) in 1830 were William Bennett, Andrew Cowin, William Gentry, Robert Gibbens, John Gollihar, James Harper, Lawson Johnson, James G. Melson, Thomas Milson, Samuel Simpson, Washington Sorrels, James Ward, John Wood, and Thomas Wright. He married Nancy Edmiston about 1825 in Clark County, Arkansas. She was born in Tennessee in 1796 the daughter of David Edmiston and Ann Brevard. Her parents came to Arkansas in 1818. About 1832 Joseph Delaney moved to Washington County, Arkansas where his death occurred before 1850.

The identified children of Joseph Delaney and Nancy Edmiston were:
Three daughters born by the 1830 census year. One of them was Minerva Delaney born about 1830 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. James Delaney born about 1832 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. John Delaney born about 1834 in Washington County, Arkansas. David Delaney born about 1836 in Washington County, Arkansas. Sarah Delaney born about 1839 in Washington County, Arkansas.

In 1835 the Edmistons, Nancy Delaney's brother David Crawford Edmiston and mother Ann Brevard Edmiston, came to live in Washington County from Clark County, Arkansas. They were preceded by John Ish and his wife Cynthia, Nancy Delaney's sister, in 1828.

JOHN GREEN

John Green settled in that portion of Pike then the Missouri Township of Clark County, Arkansas by 1819 as reflected in early court records. He made his home initially at the "three forks" of the Little Missouri River in the vicinage of what became the county seat of Pike County. He lived prior to Arkansas in Illinois and Missouri. His wife has not been identified. They had a large family of children; from census, marriage, and tax records, accepted as:


Jeremiah (Jerry) Green born in 1813 married Margaret Taylor on September 12, 1847 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.

Jemima Green born in 1815 married Philander Alexander on November 20, 1831 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. Their children: John Green Alexander, William Alexander, Margaret Alexander, Francis Alexander, Pleasant Jasper Alexander, Elvira Jane Alexander, Newton Alexander,
James Alexander.
Armstead Green named on the 1841 Pike County, Arkansas tax list.
Richard Green named on the 1841-1842 Pike County, Arkansas tax lists.
Aaron Green named on the 1842 Pike County, Arkansas tax list.
Martha Green married Harmon Brewer on December 30, 1840 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.
Malinda Green born in 1824 enumerated with the Calvin C. Stone family in the 1850 Pike County, Arkansas.
David W.H.J. Green born in 1826 married Mary A., maiden name unknown, about 1847 in Pike County, Arkansas. They had a son John H. Green.
John Green was in Brewer Township, Pike County, Arkansas in 1840 and the census that year reveals he lives in proximity with Rebecca Blackwood, Isham or Isam Conner, James Henry, and Isham Pruitt Latimer. They were near to the Pike and Sevier County boundary line and in what is now Howard County, Arkansas. John Green purchased the West half of the Southeast quarter and the East half of the Southwest quarter of Section 9, 160 acres, in Township 8, South of Range 27, West on February 17, 1840. A patent was issued to him on May 1, 1845. The name of John Green is found on the Pike County, Arkansas tax lists through 1848. He is not found in the 1850 Pike County, Arkansas census enumeration.

GABRIEL BROWN

Gabriel Brown situated in 1829 on the Clear Fork of the Little Missouri river where Oliver Brewer, senior, lived. He was born in East Tennessee, Washington later Cocke County, and prior Arkansas lived in Olgethorpe County, Georgia and Lincoln County, Missouri. His father William Brown was born in Bedford County, Virginia in 1755 and eventually lived in Pike County, Arkansas. William Brown and a twin brother Joseph Brown were veterans of the Revolutionary War as was their father John Brown. The children of Gabriel Brown and his wife Elizabeth, maiden name unknown, have not been identified. Catherine Brown married David Self on March 24, 1833 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas and may be one of their daughters. Through 1840 the name of Gabriel Brown is found on the Pike County, Arkansas tax lists. This likely indicates the time he thereafter left the county.

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ABIJAH DAVIS

Abijah Davis was born in Christian County, Kentucky on February 28, 1807. He came with his parents to Arkansas from Illinois in 1822. They settled at or near present-day Murfreesboro. The familiar history of Pike County, Arkansas published in 1890 says Jeremiah Davis and Joseph Davis were here prior 1830. The family of Jeremiah Davis is well documented. They arrived about 1820. It is Joseph Davis whose name is found in the early court records of Clark County, Arkansas that remains the possible father of Abijah Davis, his mother unknown.

Abijah Davis acquired sizable properties in Pike County with the purchase of four tracts of public land from the Land Office at Washington, Arkansas in 1840. They were, by description, the West partial half of the Southwest quarter of Section 19, and the West half of the Southwest partial quarter of Section 18, in Township 8, South of Range 25, West comprising 255.44 acres; and the West half of the Southeast quarter and the East half of the Southwest quarter of Section 35, in Township 8, South of Range 26, West comprising 160 acres; or in all 415.44 acres.

Abijah Davis married Lucinda (Brewer) Dickson in 1839 in Pike County, Arkansas. She was previous-ly married to John M. Dickson who was murdered at
Murfreesboro on July 2, 1836. She was born at Bellevue in Washington County, Missouri on December 19, 1813 the daughter of Oliver Brewer, senior, and Mary Henderson. Her parents came to Arkansas in 1818. Prior to Arkansas they lived in Tennessee until 1808 when they moved to Missouri. Lucinda Brewer and John M. Dickson had one daughter named Elizabeth. Elizabeth Dickson married Sion Bradley Dickson the son of John Dickson about 1852 in Pike County, Arkansas and they had two children: Lucinda Dickson and John M. Dickson. Both Elizabeth Dickson and Sion Bradley Dickson were deceased by 1856. The children of Abijah Davis and Lucinda Brewer born near Murfreesboro in Pike County, were:

Howell Davis born in 1840 and died December 21, 1855. He is buried in the Murfreesboro Cemetery.

Rebecca Davis born in 1842 married Brown.

Luvisa Davis born in 1844 and enumerated with her parents in the 1850 Pike County, Arkansas census.

Oliver Davis born in 1846 and enumerated with his parents in the 1850 and 1860 Pike County, Arkansas census.

Mary Ann Davis born June 26, 1848 married Benjamin Polk Haynes on January 27, 1866 in Pike County, Arkansas and died February 16, 1934. She is buried in the Rose Hill Cemetery at Hope, Arkansas.

John Franklin Davis born May 29, 1850 married Emily Salina Haynes on July 8, 1871 in Pike County, Arkansas and died January 20, 1929 at Murfreesboro. He is buried in the Murfreesboro Cemetery.

Henry B. (Bige) Davis born January 2, 1853 married Laura E., maiden name unknown, about 1879 in Pike County, Arkansas and died January 15, 1892. He is buried in the Macedonia Cemetery in Bodcaw Township seven miles south of Hope, Arkansas.

William E. Davis born November 6, 1859 married Adelia Ann Evans about 1878 in Pike County, Arkansas and died November 2, 1883. He is buried in the Murfreesboro Cemetery.

The Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, Pike County says, Abijah Davis "in growing up ... received no advantages so that in starting out for himself at the age of nineteen he was ... penniless." When he died he was the owner of 680 acres with 150 acres under cultivation all the result of his honest, earnest labor." These memoirs further say "he took an active interest in ... enterprises for the good of the county and was willing to lend a helping hand." Abijah Davis died October 15, 1873.

Lucinda Davis died September 12, 1886. They are buried in the Murfreesboro Cemetery.

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BENJAMIN POLK HAYNES

[Editor's Note: In 1912 Benjamin Haynes gave the following information to T. A. Turner who was the Assessor of Hempstead County, Arkansas. Starting in 1911, the assessors of the various counties in Arkansas interviewed many veterans of the Civil War and this information was given to the Arkansas History Commission. In 1980 this information was published in volumes entitled, Arkansas 1911 Census of Confederate Veterans. The biography of Benjamin Polk Haynes is in Volume II, transcribed and edited by Bobbie J. McLane and Capitola Glazner, 1980, pages 72-73.]

Benjamin Polk Haynes, of Hope, Arkansas was born November 4, 1844 at Villa Rica, Carroll County, Georgia, the son of Henry Haynes born on October 17, 1797 in Henry County, Virginia. He (Henry Haynes) lived at Haywood County, North Carolina, Potosi, Missouri, then at Villa Rica, Georgia and in Columbia, Pike and Hempstead counties of Arkansas. (Henry Haynes) was living on a farm in Hempstead County, near Hope at the time of his death in March 1877, in his 80th year. He (Henry Haynes) was the son of William Haynes and his wife Phoeba Haynes, who lived at Henry County, Virginia, Haywood County, North Carolina and Carroll County, Georgia.

Maiden name of (the) subject's mother was Elizabeth Goodson, daughter of Michael Goodson and his wife, Lydia Vestal. She was born June 26, 1818 in Lincoln County, North Carolina and lived at or near Villa Rica, Georgia and moved with her husband and family to Arkansas in 1857. She was the mother of twelve children - the writer being
the 4th. My mother died at Murfreesboro, Arkansas in November 1901 in her 86th year. She was a thoroughly "Confederate Woman". She and the Negro women that belonged to her spun and wove, and made cloth to clothe her boys, and other boys who were fighting the battles of the Fair South Land, and worked with a will with her own hands both day and night. My fathers, or the Haynes family came from Scotland, and settled in Virginia, before the War for Independence, two brothers of my grandfather Haynes, and my grandfather Goodson were soldiers in the Continental Army under General Washington, but we do not know that they held any office, either military or civil. My Grandfather Haynes was too young to serve in that war. My mother's ancestors came from England, and settled in North Carolina before the liar of Independence, but we know very little of the history of our Mother's family. Our ancestry on both sides of the family, as far back as we can trace them, has a record of being law abiding people, we have no account of any of the Haynes family every committing any crime of any note; and during the war with the States, all of my kinfols that we know anything about, who was subject to military service, were volunteers in the Confederate Army, and we are proud of the fact that we never heard of a Haynes that was a deserter from that Army.

I am the youngest of five brothers who fought for "Southern Rights", the oldest J. M. Haynes, belonged to the 15th Ark. Regt., was captured at the battle of Fort Donelson, and died in prison at Alton, Illinois in 186). Next oldest, H. F. Haynes, belonged to the 4th Ark. Regt., died of measles at Camp Walker, Benton Co., Arkansas in 1862. Next is J. J. Haynes who belonged to the 11th Ark. Regt. and served from the beginning to the close of the war, was in all the battles in which the regiment took part, was never wounded, and is now living at Mena, Arkansas and is an honored Baptist preacher, and has been for more than 30 years. Thomas J. Haynes, my next oldest brother, belonged to the 4th Ark. Regt. which was in Braggs Army in Tennessee and was afterwards taken a prisoner at the Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia and put in prison at Camp Douglas, Illinois, and was held until the close of the war when he returned home and lived an honored citizen of this county until about seven years ago, he died and we buried him at Shover Springs, Arkansas, five miles south- east of Hope, Arkansas. Now as to myself, in my boyhood days, I was taught in the common schools where we lived in Georgia and in Arkansas, the names of my Georgia teachers were A. Y. Sheets, Radford Emery, G. I. Haynes, my oldest half-brother, Miss Sarah Autrey, Capt. John M. Cobb, and L. D. Perkison, up to 1857 when my father and all his family including the negroes he owned, moved overland to Arkansas. Was 47 days on the road, traveled 700 miles, did not cross a railroad, nor see a train of cars on the whole trip. The war deprived me of a college education. I was attending a high school "Johnsons Institute" near Bingen, Hempstead County, Arkansas in 1862, when I volunteered and joined a Cavalry Company raised at Murfreesboro, Arkansas, commanded by Captain G. R. D. Preston, and was made Company C in Witherspoons Battalion, which later consolidated with Col. Monroe's Regiment, the 1st Ark. Cavalry, Gen. Cabells Brigade, Col. Fagans Div. of Gen. Sterling Price's Army, of the Trans-Mississippi Dept. The letter of our company was changed from "C" to "E", after being consolidated with the 1st Regiment. In this Army I served until I was discharged on May 27, 1865, near Corsicana, Texas. I was in 22 hotly contested battles, but we gained the victory, and routed the enemy in nearly all these battles.

My occupation has been farming, teaching school, running a sawmill, merchandising, dealing in real estate, and I have succeeded in earning an honest living for myself and family.

I married Mary Ann Davis, daughter of Abijah and Lucinda Davis, on January 27, 1866 near Murfreesboro, Arkansas. We know very little of the wife's parents ancestry. Her father and mother were both natives of Missouri and moved with their parents to
Pike County, Arkansas when they were children and when the state was a territory. Wife's mother's maiden name was Lucinda Brewer, wife's parents have been dead over 25 years and are buried in the cemetery at Murfreesboro, Arkansas. They were slave owners and contributed to the cause of the Confederacy liberally. My parents are buried in Macedonia Church Cemetery, eight miles southeast from Hope, Arkansas. Children:

John H. Haynes, oldest, single, Hope, Arkansas.

Wife's mother's maiden name was Lucinda Brewer, wife's parents have been dead over 25 years and are buried in the cemetery at Murfreesboro, Arkansas. They were slave owners and contributed to the cause of the Confederacy liberally. My parents are buried in Macedonia Church Cemetery, eight miles southeast from Hope, Arkansas. Children:

John H. Haynes, oldest, single, Hope, Arkansas.

Ludie E. Haynes married Robert N. Singleton, 26 years ago, and five years later Mr. Singleton died, leaving his wife with three small children: William Polk, Edna Fern, and Flossie Singleton, all of whom are now of age and educated. William Polk is a merchant, Edna Fern and Flossie are teachers, all live at Hope, Arkansas.

Charles A. Haynes, single, a merchant, Hope, Arkansas.

James Augustus Haynes married Miss Annie Black and they have two lovely little boys, the oldest Henry Autry, 3 years and Benjamin Polk Haynes, one year old. He is a merchant, Hope, Arkansas.

Cora Maud Haynes married Charles F. Routon, they have been married about eight years. They have one lovely little boy, Charles F. Routon, Jr., six years old. Mr. Routon is a merchant, Hope, Arkansas.

Stella May Haynes, our youngest, who was married to Mr. Charles A. Hervey, about five years ago. Mr. Hervey also is a merchant, Hope, Arkansas.

[Certified by T. A. Turner, Assessor of Hempstead County, Arkansas, July 26, 1912.]

Jacob Barkman before his death in 1852 had become the wealthiest man in Clark County, Arkansas. Early on he owned a large number of slaves as indicated by the 1830 census, there were thirty five, and in time owned several thousand acres of land along with enterprises in cotton, salt, a steamboat line, and horse racing. The first courts for Clark County, Arkansas in 1819 were held in his house built of "sun dried" bricks. He was born in Kentucky on December 20, 1784. He was living in Rapides Parish, Louisiana when with a caravan of families led by John Hemphill came to Arkansas. S.D. Callaway, a grandson of John Hemphill, writes in "The Gurdon Times" newspaper for January 13, 1906: that "Jacob and John Barkman and the Davises brought" John Hemphill's "negroes and drove his stock through by land and they all (arrived) at the bluff or steamboat landing on January 1, 1811 at what is now Arkadelphia."

Jacob Barkman married first Rebecca Davis about 1810. She was born March 24, 1791 in Madison County, Kentucky the daughter of Zachariah Davis and Prudence Roberts. She died January 17, 1837 in Clark County, Arkansas. They had three children:

Leanah Barkman born February 14, 1814 in Clark County, Arkansas died September 14, 1831 in Pulaski County, Arkansas. She had been attending school in Little Rock.

William F.S. Barkman born January 26, 1816 in Clark County, Arkansas married Mary M. Scott on November 12, 1845 in Clark County, Arkansas; died July 11, 1862.

James E.M. Barkman born February 23, 1819 in Clark County, Arkansas married Harriet Eleanor Maddox on March 9, 1841 in Clark County, Arkansas. She was born May 22, 1821 near Montgomery, Alabama and died May 16, 1912. He died on September 13, 1865. They are buried in the Rose Hill Cemetery, Clark County, Arkansas.

In 1835 George William Featherstonhaugh traveled from Washington on the Potomac now D.C. to Texas and through Arkansas visited the Barkmans on his way to and from the frontier of Mexico and provides a very descriptive account of his encounters with them:

Three miles before we reached the Caddo, the country began to descend, and a change soon took place in the aspect of nature, and of everything around us. Having crossed the ferry where the river is about 100 yards wide, we entered upon an extensive rich bottom of canebrake, and not long after came to a no less extraordinary thing than a brick house, belonging to a person of the name of Barkman. This man, whose father was German, came into the country.

The GEMS of Pike County, Arkansas is a publication of the Pike County Archives and History Society
many years ago in the character of a peddler, and having married the daughter of one Davis, a famous hunter, settled here, became a trader, and was now very well to do in the world. In the mean time old Davis and his sons, all of whom were brought up without any other schoolmaster than the rifle, continued their favorite wandering vocation, looking up to the opulent Barkman as the great man of the family. Mr. Barkman we did not see, but I shall certainly not forget his lady soon, as I have never seen anyone, as far as manners and exterior went, with less pretensions to be classed with the feminine gender. All her accomplishments seemed to me to have a decided learning in the other way. She chewed tobacco, she smoked a pipe, she drank whiskey, and cursed and swore as heartily as any backwoodsman, all at the same time, doing quite as much vulgarity as four male blackguards could do, and with as much ease as if she had been an automaton set to do it with clockwork machinery. She must have been a person of surprising powers in her youth, for I was informed that she was now comparatively refined to what she had been before her marriage; at that period, so full of interest to a lover, she was commonly known by the name of old Davis's "She Bar."

We had an opportunity of seeing one of her extraordinary brothers, a genuine hunter, dressed in leather prepared by himself from the skins of animals he had killed, as he was going with his rifle on his shoulder, and his dogs, some twenty miles off to hunt bears. This man, although between thirty and forty years old, had never been out of this neighborhood, and had no idea of the world beyond his own pursuits, and that which he saw going on around him. His brother-in-law Barkman he considered to be the first man in the whole country; people that came from Little Rock he had not a strong predilection for, not because they were unworthy, but because so many lawyers lived there; the government of the United States he looked upon with horror, because they sold the lands and broke up the cane-brakes: but Texas he approved of highly, saying "heern there was no sich thing as a government there, and not one varmint of a lawyer in the hull place." As his house was not very far from Barkman's, I accompanied this worthy there to see it, and on our way had a good deal of curious conversation with him, learning from him amongst other things that he had "been raised on fat bar's meat," as all his family had been, and that he loved it better than anything. The cabin of this fellow corresponded with his manners, and was a sort of permanent camping out of doors; the logs of it were at least six inches apart, the interstices, without any filling in, staring wide open; one of the gable ends was entirely wanting, the roof was only closed at one end, and at the other some bed clothes were heaped together in a comor upon a rough floor, and his family, consisting of a wife and several young children, were warming themselves at a fire, not in the house, but out of doors. How they managed during long periods of cold wet weather may be imagined, but they seemed contented, and even cheerful. As to himself, he seemed quite indifferent about this al-fresco style of living: his happiness was found only in the cane-brake "driving the bears about" as he said, and sleeping near a good fire. Mrs. Barkman, notwithstanding her habits, was not deficient in good nature to us: they had killed a young steer the day before our arrival, and a dish of fat boiled ribs was set before us, with good bread, of which we made an excellent meal, having been without food since we left Mrs. Conway's the morning before ...

From Barkman's we proceeded to the Tournoise Creek, said to be 15 miles off, always upon flat good land, occasionally sandy, with heavy beds of bluish green calcareous clay in all the ravines; and from the description I obtained of the country further south, I thought it probable we should keep upon the tertiary beds all the way to the Mexican frontier ... We crossed several large creeks during the afternoon, and at night put up at a famous hunter's called Hignite, who lived in a solitary log cabin that had once been the court house for the county of Clark ... (on return) I slept at Hignite's again, and starting early on a fine cold moonlight morning, rode on to Mrs. Barkman's, where I fed my horse. The old lady, who was standing at the door with her pipe in her left hand, and a comfortable chew of tobacco in her cheek, shook hands heartily with me, and asked me how I liked Texas, adding before I could give her an answer, "that she could not see what folks was sich (blank) fools as to go there for."

Jacob Barkman married second Mariah Dickinson on August 9, 1837 in Clark County, Arkansas. He died August 23, 1852 "after illness of thirteen days" according to his family Bible record. His estate was administered in Clark County, Arkansas.

REBECCA BARKMAN

Blakleytown - The people of Clark County were saddened to learn of the death of Rebecca Barkman in this year 1837. She was the wife of Jacob Barkman, a planter, a river trader, and one of the earliest settlers of this region. Jacob Barkman and his brother John, arrived here around 1811. The Barkman brothers were married to sisters, the daughters of the famous Kentucky bear.
hunter (Zachariah) Davis. While Jacob's frequent trips to New Orleans transformed him into a gentleman, the frontier born and bred Rebecca kept her rough edges. Little Rock newspaperman Hiram Whittington described her in 1830 as "a woman about fifty (she was actually about 40) weighing in the latitude of 200. She is ill-bred or rather not bred at all, smokes a dirty pipe, talks all manner of nonsense, and never had a bonnet on her head in her life." Whittington continues, "But when she comes to town ... she has a kerchief tied around her head, and bear skin shawl over her shoulders. And what is worse than all the rest, she has an awkward way of boxing her husband's ears when he displeases her"

Rebecca had, however, a gentle nature. She was ... (accounted) a gracious hostess ... It is said that the loss of her beautiful daughter Leanah, who died in 1831 while attending school in Little Rock, broke her spirit. Only months before her own death, Mrs. Barkman ... spent many long hours administering to the needs of a group of Choctaw Indians who had gotten cholera and camped at the Barkman plantation on their way to new homes in the Indian Territory.


JOHN BARKMAN

Mary P. Fletcher in "Arkansas Territorial Pioneers and Their Descendants" appearing in the April 1914 issue of Arkansas Pioneers, says: "as early as 1810 Jacob and John and Asa Barkman lived by trap-ping and hunting in Ouachita Parish (Louisiana) ... later they moved to the district now known as Clark County (Arkansas) where they spent eventful lives ... Jacob Barkman was a member of our first legislature, and the first post office and county court (of Clark) used his house until suitable buildings were erected. This house was built of bricks molded and burnt by his servants who also built grist and cotton mills and boats."

John Barkman was born on July 30, 1786 in Kentucky; another source says Indiana. He married Hannah Davis about 1808 the daughter of Zachariah Davis and Prudence Roberts. The account of his coming to Clark County, Arkansas with his brother Jacob Barkman and his wife's family, the Davises, and the Hemphills in 1811 has been previously given. In October 1815 his brother Jacob Barkman, Andrew Robinson, and Abraham Anthony, hunting and en route to visit another hunting party camped on the Kiamichi about forty miles above its mouth, were attacked by Osage Indians. They attempted to outride their attackers, but Abraham Anthony was overtaken, killed, and scalped. "Later his skeleton was found ... his hat hanging on a bush nearby."

Prior 1826 John Barkman moved his family to Lost Prairie in Miller County, Arkansas. This was in the jurisdiction of Lafayette County, Arkansas when it was created in 1827. John Barkman was numbered among the new county's first grand jurors. About 1833 he moved to Texas and settled in Bowie County. He and his wife reared a large family of fifteen children:

Mary Ann Barkman born July 31, 1810 in Rapides Parish, Louisiana married Seth Morris.
Rebecca Barkman born March 9, 1812 in Clark County, Arkansas died July 2, 1826 in Miller, now Lafayette County, Arkansas.
Jacob Davis Barkman born December 15, 1813 married Salina Looney in 1841 and died February 15, 1860.
Susanah Barkman born April 8, 1816 in Clark County, Arkansas died March 26, 1837 in Texas.
John J. Barkman born June 4, 1818 in Clark County, Arkansas died February 1, 1837 in Texas.
Isabel Barkman born February 24, 1820 in Arkansas married Joseph A. Looney in 1846.
Mahala Barkman born January 18, 1822 in Arkansas married William Lansdale in 1842.
Hannah Barkman born April 12, 1823
James Wesley Barkman born February 18, 1826 at Lost Prairie, within the original Miller County, Arkansas, married first Rebecca A. Peake on July 7, 1852 at Arkadelphia, Clark County, Arkansas; married second Hattie C. Martin; died April 23, 1906 near Leary, Bowie County, Texas.

Annie Barkman born December 1827 in Lafayette County, Arkansas married first William McCloskey on June 27, 1849; married second William Cain.

Leanah Barkman born October 21, 1830 in Lafayette County, Arkansas married Robert J. Looney.

Enoch Barkman born October 16, 1832 in Lafayette County, Arkansas married Emily Holmes and died July 15, 1860.

Caroline Barkman born March 2, 1834 in Texas married B.H. Bobo and died March 28, 1864.

Elizabeth Jane Barkman born February 8, 1836 in Texas married first Joseph Tyson; married second a Threadgill; died January 1, 1862.

Jerome Bonaparte Barkman born September 2, 1839 in Texas married Mary Elizabeth Carpenter on December 14, 1865; died November 9, 1892.

SILAS C. BLAIR

The name of Silas C. Blair appears on a "Petition to the President by Citizens of Miller County" in the Territory of Arkansas subscribed in 1825. The tract of country upon which these petitioners had settled was acquired by the United States from the Quapaw Nation of Indians by a treaty concluded on August 24, 1818. This tract was now public land of the United States and the Legislature of the Territory of Missouri included it within the civil jurisdiction of Hempstead County. Hempstead County was organized under provisions of an act of the Missouri Territorial Legislature approved December 15, 1818. Parts of these public lands in 1819 were surveyed into Townships and subdivided into sections within about eight miles of the then 1825 western border of Arkansas. Also, in 1819, the government removed some of the settlers that were on the Red River above Kiamichi and on the Arkansas River above Poto. Below and east of these rivers where no prohibition to settlements being made existed and within a few miles of Kiamichi on the Red River, the public lands were surveyed into sections to facilitate the settlers in acquiring titles to the lands they chose to settle.

This encouraged more settlers to come to this area below Kiamichi on the Red River and an immediate increase of settlements were made, but in 1820 a new treaty was made with the Choctaw Nation of Indians and the land on which the petitioners lived as well as other large areas of adjoining territory was ceded to the Indians. James Miller, governor of Arkansas Territory, received assurances from the President, "it was not the view or intention of the general government to remove any of the settlers from the lands" then ceded to the Indians and the parts of land then settled would be repurchased from them by the government. With these assurances the settlers continued to enlarge their farms and improvements.

From the time these first settlements were made, civil government and jurisdiction was extended to them and an Act of Congress passed in 1824 granted rights of preemption for lands on which to establish permanent seats of justice and new counties. Consequently the proper commissioners of Miller County, Arkansas which was formed April 1, 1820 selected a quarter section of land for the county seat and part of the public buildings were placed under contract. This only encouraged the settlers more to increase and develop their improvements, however, a new treaty made with the Choctaw Indian Nation in 1825 provided for the removal of citizens from Indian lands, thus the reason for their petition to the President of the United States.

Silas C. Blair was born in Rowan County, North Carolina in 1804. His father was William Hiram Blair and his mother Elizabeth Black daughter of James Black and
Elizabeth Russell. The Blairs excluding the father William Hiram, now deceased, were in Clark County prior 1823, thereafter Miller County, Arkansas and returned to Clark now Pike County; their departure from Miller County may have been motivated by the 1825 treaty with the Choctaw Indians. Prior Arkansas they lived in Illinois. William Hiram Blair and Elizabeth Black had other children including:

- Dorcas G. Blair born June 1, 1802 in Rowan County, North Carolina married Noah Reeder about 1819. They lived in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas afterwards moving to Washington County, Arkansas where Noah Reeder died in 1846. She moved to Texas and died June 23, 1887 in Bosque County and is buried in the Poston-Odle Cemetery near Valley Mills, Texas.

- Elam S. Blair married Elizabeth Cates daughter of Isaac Cates and died in 1833 in Scott County, Arkansas. They had two children Martha Blair and Lucinda Blair.


- Silas C. Blair entered and made improvements in Sections 17 and 18 of Township 8, South of Range 25, West in Pike County, Arkansas contiguous south of Murfreesboro in 1833. He continued to reside in Pike County until about 1848 when he moved to Grayson County, Texas. He and Elizabeth Brewer the daughter of William and Sarah Brewer were married on December 6, 1832 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. Elizabeth Brewer Blair died prior 1850 and it is not known if she died in Arkansas or Texas. Their children included: Lucinda Blair and J.G.W. Blair.

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**SOLOMON HUITT**

Solomon Huitt was born in North Carolina in 1770 and lived in Franklin County, Georgia and Washington County, Missouri prior to Arkansas. In 1805 he settled about three miles west of Caledonia, Missouri in the Bellevue Valley and purchased a small cabin from James Brown and the west half of a tract of land confirmed to Joseph Bear where the cabin was situated. From the Bellevue Valley Solomon Huitt moved to Lawrence County, Missouri now Arkansas and held preemption rights to land and improvements on the north side of Spring River about two miles above the mouth of the Eleven Points River. He also held the privilege of the ferry landing across Spring River opposite from where he lived.

The early Lawrence County, Arkansas court records reveal Solomon Huitt's activity as one of the original county commissioners. He was appointed in 1815 with Joseph Hardin, Richard Searcy, Adam Ritchey, and William Hix. They approved the survey and plans for the town of Davidsonville, selected by them as the county seat, and administered the erection of a courthouse and jail. Living in Lawrence County then (1815-1816) and later Clark and Hempstead County, Arkansas including those portions that would become Pike County, were: Samuel Bittick, Betsey (Elizabeth) Blair, George Butler, Charles Gallilhar, William Hughes, William Janes, Robert Messer, Moses Moore, Jacob Reeder, and Richard Wood. The name of Taylor Polk is found on the 1815 tax list. He previously arrived in Arkansas in 1808. Solomon Huitt left Lawrence County after 1819 and located in Hempstead County, Arkansas and afterward resided in Clark County. About 1829 he moved to Crawford County and in 1831 his name is listed in the Independence County, Arkansas tax book. In 1836 he was living in Washington County, Arkansas. The identified children of Solomon Huitt and his wife Charity, maiden name unknown, were:

- Roland Huitt born prior 1800 in Franklin County, Georgia married first Rosanna Brewer daughter of Oliver Brewer, senior about 1814; she died about 1835. Their

Elizabeth Huitt born April 9, 1805 near Caledonia, Washington County, then St. Genevieve District, Missouri; married Henry Brewer on July 18, 1829 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; died in Pike County, Arkansas after 1870. Their children: Cynthia Brewer, Rosanna Brewer, William R. Brewer, James P. Brewer, Martha E. Brewer, and Henry Taylor Brewer.

John Huitt born prior 1810 in Missouri; married first, wife unknown. Their children: Elizabeth Huitt, Charlotte Huitt, Andrew J. Huitt, and Thomas B. Huitt. He married second Martha maiden name unknown; died January 7, 1848 in Dallas County, Texas. Their children: Margaret Huitt and Irene Huitt. Martha Huitt married Anthony Bledsoe on March 11, 1849 in Dallas County, Texas.

William Huitt named on the 1829 Sheriff’s census of Missouri Township, Clark now Pike County, Arkansas.


In 1843 Solomon Huitt and his son John Huitt moved from Washington County, Arkansas to Dallas, then Robertson County, Texas and settled at Carrollton. Roland Huitt likewise came to Texas and entered Peter’s Colony, Dallas County, Texas in 1846. John Huitt served as sheriff of Dallas County and after his death in 1848 Roland Huitt succeeded him.

There is a notice of death of Mrs. Nancy Huit in the Arkansas Gazette, May 3, 1835. She died April 16, 1835 in her 34th year, in Washington County, Arkansas survived by a husband and 3 small children. Her death is also reported in the Little Rock Times, May 16, 1835. She is related to the above Huitt family by marriage but the name of her husband was not given.

Andrew Cowin

Subsequent his marriage to Elizabeth Prewitt in Caddo Township, Clark County, Arkansas on August 11, 1825 Andrew Cowin settled in Missouri Township of Clark, now Pike County. In his vicinity lived Joseph Delaney, William Gentry, Robert Gibbens, Lawson Johnson, Thomas Milson, Samuel Simpson, James Ward, John Wood, and Thomas Wright. The Prewitts entered Clark County, Arkansas from Kentucky.

Charles Prewitt married Elizabeth Crow on August 28, 1822 in Clark County, Arkansas. They lived in Antoine and later South Fork Township. Elizabeth Crow was born in 1802 on a flatboat from Tennessee to Missouri. She was the daughter of Walter Crow and Margaret Hutchinson. Charles Prewitt died in Clark County, Arkansas on March 10, 1848. James H. Crow his brother-in-law and William Prewitt his son were granted letters of administration on his estate. Their children included: William Prewitt, James Prewitt, Stephen Prewitt, Lucinda Prewitt, John Nelson Prewitt, Amanda Jane Prewitt, Sarah C. Prewitt and Rebecca Ann Prewitt.


Isham Prewitt Latimer settled early at Center Point, Pike, now Howard County, Arkansas in 1834; he prior lived in Hempstead County where he married Mary Caroline Henry daughter of John Henry and Ann Alexander in 1826. He was the son of John Latimer and Margaret or Peggy Prewitt born January 3, 1806 in Mercer County, Kentucky.

The conclusive relationship of
Elizabeth Cowin to Charles and Hiram Prewitt and to Isham Prewitt Latimer is not resolute or the particulars of Andrew Cowin's birth when or where known.

JOHN CHEAIRS

An order of the Clark County, Arkansas territory Court of Common Pleas at its March term in 1822 appointed John Cheairs a commissioner with Jacob Chandler and William Kelley to "view and mark" a road "passing by the residence of James G. Melson" to the Little Missouri river. The Melson improvement (fields) were located in Township 9, South of Range 23, West according to the original government survey in 1819: specifically the south-west quarter of the northwest quarter and the West half of the southwest quarter of Section 7; and the Little Missouri river entered into the east corner boundary of the Missouri Township of Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas: beginning in Section 14 continuing through Section 18. Here the Little Missouri River served as a bound between Clark and Hempstead County and now a boundary between Pike and Nevada County.

John Cheairs was born in North Carolina in 1788 and lived in Missouri prior to Arkansas where he married Eleanor Bittick about 1811. Their time of arrival in present-day Pike County is not known, but information concerning their first child, a son, indicates a birth in Arkansas in 1812. John Cheairs moved his family to Hempstead County, Arkansas in 1828. Sam Williams states in his memoirs, "a man by the name of Chairs (Cheairs) or Cheers lived at the place which ... Hugh Blevins afterward owned and where he died and a little northeast of that William Wingfield improved a farm." He says this was on sandy land in what was known as the "pinewoods." He adds, "The general opinion of the early settlers was that the pine lands were so poor a man could not earn a living on them. What a mistake! Most of the strangers to the sand and pine and having no experience with them jumped to the conclusion that the land was worthless and only fit to be utilized as a range for their stock." Officially John Cheairs purchased 40 acres of the public land, the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 3, in Township 10, South of Range 24, West in Hempstead County on December 12, 1832 then moved to Texas. He settled in what became Houston County.

Settlers who arrived before late 1835 were eligible for land grants under Spanish or Mexican law in the original Texas land districts. The land law of the Republic of Texas allowed for additional land for many of its earliest settlers and they applied for augmentations on their claims. In 1837 a petition dated April 22 was sent to the Senate and House of Representatives of the Texas Republic from citizens desiring a new county, its tentative situation: "on the east side of Trinity River beginning at Robbin's Ferry on said Trinity thence running fifteen miles each side of the old San Antonio Road and east far enough to make a constitutional county."

Subscribed to this petition resulting in the creation of Houston County are the names of: in order, Samuel Cheairs, John Cheairs, Francis Cheairs, William Cheairs, John F. Cheairs, and Francis Bittick. Another petition was presented after Houston County was formed dated September 4, 1837 and its signers were "feeling ourselves aggrieved and injured by some of the Acts of our last Congress ... First the Tariff is insufferable ..." followed by a "litany of complaints against the Ad Valorem tax law." Signers included: in order, John Cheairs, Swanson Yarbrough, Samuel Cheairs, and William Cheairs.

The Congress of Texas enacted legislation in January 1838 that set of local boards of land commissioners in each land district (essentially the counties) to receive applications from the residents for land. The petitioner was required to bring two credible witnesses who could swear to the truth of answers to questions posed by the land law. The local board issued certificates to the successful applicants, stating the amount of land to which they were entitled and summarizing the personal facts on which their claim was based. It may be assumed that the issue of an Unconditional Certificate proves the settler still to be living and to have met the residence requirements, unless the name of a representative appears.

Houston County began to hear petitions for land on 4 January 1838. The county was barely organized. This shows the eagerness of the settlers to start the chain of actions needed to obtain patents for their land. Commissioners for 1838 were appointed by Congress. Beginning in January 1839, they were the elected justices of the county.

The Clerk of the Board (after 1838 he was the County Clerk) made periodic reports to the General Land Office. These Clerk’s Reports were copies of minutes kept in the original county. They provided information about applicants, quantity of land, and their time of emigration. This content is from the publication "The GEMS of Pike County, Arkansas" by the Pike County Archives and History Society, page 14-100.
Return No. 1 from January 4, 1838 shows Swanson Yarbrough applicant, 1 league and 1 labor of land, emigrated 1832.

Return No. 2 from January 23 to February 22, 1838 shows Samuel Chairs applicant, 1/3 league of land, emigrated 1832.

Return No. 3 from February 23 to March 29, 1838 shows Samuel Chairs applicant, 2/3 league of land, emigrated 1833 and John Chairs applicant, 1 labor of land, emigrated 1833.

[The First Settlers of Houston County, Texas by Gifford White; 1983]

Family Memories of John Milton and Dora (Dupriest) Head

John Milton Head was born 16 December 1860 in Calhoun County, near Banner, Mississippi, the son of Andrew Jackson Head and Elizabeth (Potts) Head. John Milton was married twice. His first wife was Sarah 'Sally' Elizabeth Greenlee, born 26 Feb 1866, in Sparta, Calhoun County, Mississippi was the daughter of William and Sarah Greenlee. John and Sally were married 22 Dec 1881 in Banner, Calhoun County Mississippi and they had two children, Phoebus Aelia, b. 11 Sept, 1882 and Sarah Elizabeth, b. 25 Feb 1885. John’s first wife, Sarah, died 30 Mar 1885 and is buried in Providence Cemetery in Calhoun County Mississippi.

John Milton met Dora around the Little Rock, Arkansas area and they were married 20 June 1889 in Pulaski County, Arkansas. Dora was born 29 December 1869 in Faulkner County, Arkansas, the daughter of Samuel A. Dupriest and Eliza Ann Pate. Samuel’s parents were Martin and Pricey (McSwain) Dupriest. Eliza’s parents were Thomas Pate and Malinda A. Pritchett.

John and Dora moved to Pike County, Arkansas before 1900 and settled between Pike City and Murfreesboro, Arkansas. John ran a cotton gin and farmed.

There were eleven children born to John and Dora. They were: Mauna Givula Head born 14 June 1890, married William Nathan Davis; Lela A. Head born 22 November 1891, married Dale Parsons; Bruce Dial Head born 20 December 1893, married Lillie Finney; Alpha G. Head born 23 October 1895, married Robert Lynn Ferguson, Sr.;
Willie O. Head born 04 March 1897, married Harrison Greenlee; Wilma Head born 29 November 1899, married Will Gardner; Herman Lee Head born 10 November 1901, married Iva Jackson; Joe Polk Head born 26 August 1903, married Helen McRae; Linden Melvin Head born 05 December 1907, married Lena Mae Hipps; Zenobia Gertrude Head born 28 October 1909, married William Beard and Hicks Green; and James Hershel 'Bo' Head born 26 October 1912, married Ludie Jackson. Iva and Ludie Jackson were sisters. All the children are deceased now with the exception of Zenobia. I have lost contact with her, so I don't know if she is still living or not. All the children were born in Arkansas

Lela had spinal meningitis when she was about six years old and it left her blind. John and Dora sent her to Little Rock to attend the School for the Blind. She learned to read Braille and play the piano and organ. Later Murriel took Lela around to her students so Lela could give them piano lessons. Lela had a good sense of humor. Murriel can still remember when Lela would say to someone, “You needn't think because I'm blind that I'm crazy.” She loved life and after she married she ran a store in the front part of her home in Murfreesboro.

Murriel Green (Davis), granddaughter of Dora and John recalls that her grandparents must have been pretty well off as they had the first car in the area, had nice furniture and a nice buggy. Their house had a “dog trot” - a big wide hall and porch all the way around the front of the house. They had a double fire place, large bedrooms, dining room, and had a big chifforobe closet with beautiful carvings on the door and drawers. She also remembers they had many big trunks. Murriel recalls that her grandparents had some beautiful blue drinking glasses and a big blue granite trimmed stove with a warming closet above it. Murriel said she can still remember the good corn bread and sweet potatoes that her grandmother had in that warming closet. They had a big concrete root cellar where they kept potatoes and onions. The wind would blow through the cellar and Murriel said that they would churn milk down in the cellar. They also had plenty of grape vines and an English walnut orchard. They had a big deep well in front of their house. They had a bell that they ran to call members of the family to meals and was also used for emergencies or when the men were needed at the house.

Murriel said that her grandparents place was a big gathering place for events. All the family members, cousins and kinfolks would all come to John and Dora’s house for gatherings. They made brush brooms out of Dogwood; they played lots of games which consisted of horse shoes, washers, kick-the-can and hide-and-seek. There was a huge mulberry tree in the yard and Dora or the kids would put a sheet down and shake the tree and the mulberries would fall on the sheet. Mulberry shortcakes and cobblers always tasted good.

One night after they had just harvested the hay, the barn caught fire. Grandma Head (Dora) rang the bell for help while the family got the livestock out of the barn. Neighbors came to help put out the fire but to no avail, the barn burnt down. This event seemed to make a dramatic impression on the children and grandchildren. To this day, most of the grandchildren are still afraid of fires.

Murriel still remembers the good times when the families would get together and play music. Many of them were musically inclined. William Nathan Davis (Mauna’s husband) would play the fiddle, Mauna would play the guitar, and Lela would play the organ. Others would play the harmonica and tunes such as the Arkansas Traveler, Buffalo Gals and Red Wing would fill the air.

John died 25 Jul 1918 in Pike County, Arkansas and is buried at the Pleasant Home Cemetery in Pike County, Arkansas. Dora died 16 Dec 1950 in Pike Co, Arkansas and is also buried in Pleasant Home Cemetery in Pike County, Arkansas.
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