

# **THE UPPER CUMBERLAND GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION (USGA)**

Upper Cumberland Genealogical Association Inc.

Box 575, Cookeville, Tennessee 38503-0575

## **The Upper Cumberland Researcher**

**PROMOTING GENEALOGY  
AND  
SAVING THE HISTORY OF THE FAMILIES  
OF THE UPPER CUMBERLAND**

**MACON, CLAY, PICKETT, SMITH  
JACKSON, OVERTON, FENTRESS,  
PUTNAM, DEKALB, CANNON, WHITE  
WARREN, VAN BUREN, CUMBERLAND**

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THE UPPER CUMBERLAND AND GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION, INC. Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. in the meeting room of the Putnam County Library, Cookeville, TN (unless otherwise arranged in advanced). Membership is \$15.00 per year in the US. After March 31, it is \$18.00

The USGA Researcher is published quarterly (Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter) at PO Box 575, Cookeville, TN 38503-0575. A subscription is included in the annual membership fee. (Back issues may be obtained from the Association).

UCGA members and friends are urged to submit materials should be documented and the person submitting materials assumes responsibility for the accuracy and validity of the submissions. While all information will be considered, there are no guarantees that all items will be used. Permission must be included from original author's family.

## President's Letter

I hope everyone is well and has been enjoying the beautiful fall days we have been having. I really dread seeing the cold get here so fast, but this is my time of the year to really work on my family genealogy.

I just wanted to thank everyone for a wonderful year at the UCGA. We have had some great speakers and guest. We lost two of our family this year with George Johnson and Ted Darwin. Both men has done a lot for the UCGA.

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Theresa White

### Officers for 2015

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## The Rhineharts: Latter-Day Heroes of the Upper Cumberland

Compiled by William C. Colley

### Dr. Margret Inez Wrenn Rhinehart

Published: *The Expositor*, Sparta, TN, September 24, 2014

Dr. Margret Inez Wrenn Rhinehart, age 89, a Spencer resident and native of Collegedale, passed away Sept. 23, 2014, at her residence following a brief illness.

Dr. Rhinehart was loved and cherished by her many patients and community as a practicing physician in Spencer, 1951-2001. She was a unique and giving individual, a pillar of the community and will be missed deeply by the residents of Van Buren County and the surrounding communities. She authored a book on the cemeteries of Van Buren County.

Dr. Rhinehart was married to Shelby Aaron Rhinehart who preceded her in death, on Sept. 19, 2002. Her soon-to-be husband was one of her first patients she treated upon arriving in Spencer to pursue her medical career.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents, Barnie Franklin and Elfie Inez Row Wrenn; son, Shelby Porter "Archie" Rhinehart; and two sisters, Helen Clayburn and Marie East.

She is survived by a son, Barney Rhinehart, of San Antonio, Texas; two sisters-in-law, Mary Ruth (Dan) Boatwright and Jeanette (Bill) Garner, both of Marietta, Georgia; brother-in-law, Bob East of Rogersville; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service will be 2 p.m., Sept. 25, 2014, at Spencer Seventh Day Adventist Church, with Harley Roth officiating. Burial will follow in Spencer Town Cemetery. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m., Sept. 24, at High Funeral Home, in McMinnville, and noon-2 p.m., Sept. 25, at the church.

High Funeral Home, in McMinnville, is in charge of arrangements.

Dr. Rhinehart's obituary gave scant credit to her many contributions to the genealogical resources of the Upper Cumberland. Her works include:

Rhinehart, Margret, *Our People; The tombstone inscriptions of Van Buren County with genealogical notes*, published by the author, Spencer, TN, 2008.

Rhinehart, Margaret, *United States Census Van Buren County, Tennessee 1900*, and *United States Census Van Buren County, Tennessee 1910*, Van Buren County Historical Society, 1983 & 1984.

Rhinehart, Margret, *United States Census Van Buren County, Tennessee 1920*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 1993.

Rhinehart, Margret, *United States Census Van Buren County, Tennessee 1930*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 2004.

Lindstrom, Joyce & Rhinehart, Margret, *United States Census, White County, Tennessee 1850*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 1991.

Rhinehart, Margret, *United States Census White County Tennessee 1880*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 1992.

Rhinehart, Margret, *Van Buren County Marriage Records Book I Through Book V May 21, 1840 to September 2, 1935*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 1983.

Rhinehart, Margret, *Van Buren County Marriages 1935 to 1961*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 2003.

Rhinehart, Margret, *Van Buren County Tennessee Poll Tax Records 1840 - 1862*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 1999.

Rhinehart, Margret, *White County Marriage Records; Part of Book I January 11, 1859 to June 11, 1881*, Van Buren County Historical Society, Spencer, TN, 1985.

Rhinehart, Margret, *White County Marriage Records; June 1881 - March 1921*, Van Buren County

Historical Society, Spencer, TN, undated.

Dr. Rhinehart's husband, Shelby, was a latter-day hero in his own right:

### **Shelby Aaron Rhinehart**

Published: *The Expositor*, Sparta, TN, Monday, September 23, 2002

Shelby Aaron Rhinehart, 75, of Van Buren County, passed away Sept. 19, 2002, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Rhinehart was born May 1927, in White County, to Shelby Alexander Rhinehart and Lura Esther Underwood.

He attended the Baptist Church. Rhinehart served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He had been a pharmacist and served as a Tennessee state representative for 36 years.

Rhinehart was preceded in death by his parents; one son; and two brothers.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Rhinehart of Spencer; one son, James Barney Rhinehart; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary Ruth and Dan Boatright and Jeanette and Bill Garner; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held at 2 p.m., Sept. 21, 2002, at Van Buren County High School gymnasium in Spencer with burial in Spencer Town Cemetery. Lofton Graves and Joseph Blevins officiated.

High Funeral Home in McMinnville was in charge of arrangements.

### **Rhinehart, Shelby A. (1924 - )**

[From Cornwell, Ilene J., *Biographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly; Volume V 1951-1971*, the Tennessee Historical Commission, Nashville, 1990.]

HOUSE, 81st, 82nd, 87th-96th General Assemblies, 1959-1963, 1971-1991; representing Van Buren, Bledsoe, Cumberland, Grundy, and Sequatchie counties in 81st and 82nd Assemblies, Bledsoe, Marion, Sequatchie, and Van Buren counties (12th Floterial District) in 87th; thereafter, same counties with part of Warren County added to form House District 37; Democrat. Born May 5, 1924, in Monterey, Putnam County; son of Shelby Alexander and Esther (Underwood) Rhinehart. Attended Spencer Elementary School, Harrison Chilhowee Baptist Academy, and Van Buren High School, all in Spencer, Van Buren County; Tennessee Polytechnic Institute (now Tennessee Technological University), Cookeville, Putnam County; was graduated with M. S. degree in pharmacy from Howard College of Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. Served in United States Army during World War II, 1945-1946, and during Korean War, 1951; held rank of corporal; honorably discharged. Married September 20, 1952, in Spencer to Margaret Wrenn, daughter of Barney and Inez (Row) Wrenn of Crossville, Cumberland County; one son: James Barney Rhinehart (of San Antonio, Texas). Resides in Spencer, where he established Spencer Drug Company in 1956 and continues as its pharmacist. Chairman of Van Buren County Board of Education, 1956-1989; recorder for city of Spencer, 1975-1986; mayor of Spencer, 1963-1975. During his service in the House, has served on Commerce Committee, Joint Legislative Services Committee, and Council on Pensions and Retirement, being vice chairman; in sponsoring legislation, his "major interest was roads and schools" for his district. Member of Tennessee Pharmaceutical Association; Rho Chi and Kappa Psi fraternities; Lions Club; Free and Accepted Masons; American Legion; Veterans of Foreign Wars. Member of First Baptist Church in Spencer. In 1989, Representative Rhinehart continues as pharmacist at Spencer Drug Company and as legislator for House District 37, with offices in Legislative Plaza, Suite 34, in Nashville; he resides in Spencer, with mailing address of Post Office Box 128.

Sources: Information furnished by Representative Rhinehart, September 29, 1989, and by legislative secretary, Martha Bachelor, September 27, 1989, and by wife, Margaret W. Rhinehart, Spencer, October 9, 1989; *Sparta Expositor*, May 9, 1963; *Tennessee Blue Book*, 1963-1964, 177; 1965-1966, 184; 1985-1986, 56, 67; 1987-1988, 58.

Mr. Rhinehart's obituary and his biographical sketch disagree as to his place of birth. His father lies in Upper Cherry Creek Cemetery in White County.

## The History of Clay County, Tennessee

by

Larry W. Smith

Clay County, TN was formed from sections of Jackson County & Overton County, TN in 1870.

Jackson County gave up lands west from the Kentucky line in Cumberland County, KY, south along a line just east of Celina to the present Jackson County line, west to Macon County, then north to the Kentucky line in Monroe County, KY. Overton county gave up lands from the Kentucky line in Cumberland County, KY in a southeasterly arc back to the portion given up by Jackson County.

Clay County has been part of 3 states: North Carolina, Tennessee, and the northern portion was south of **Walkers** Line, which put this portion in Kentucky. It has been part of six counties: Davidson, Sumner, Smith, Jackson, and Overton Counties in Tennessee with the part that was south of **Walkers** line being in Cumberland County, Kentucky.

Land grants south of **Walkers** Line were made by the State of Kentucky for land lying in the State of Tennessee. They began in 1826 and continued until 1926. Most of the northern portion was south of Walkers line and at some locations this line extended at least ten miles into present day Clay County. This is the reason you will find people living in Cumberland County, Kentucky in the 1810 census, and then in 1820 census they are listed as being in Jackson or Overton Counties in Tennessee. They never really moved.

Editor's Note (from Counties of Tennessee by Austin P. Foster; Dept. of Education, Division and History, the State of Tennessee; 1923):

In that part of Clay County taken from Overton County, and in Overton County, **John Sevier** located 57,000 acres of land of the visit to which he refers in his diary, a copy of which was secured by the Tennessee Historical Society... After his death, in 1815, his widow moved to the Dale, known later as the **Clark** Place in Clay County. From there she moved to Alabama where she died. Her remains were removed to Knoxville ... and now repose beside those of her distinguished husband.\*

Present day Clay County, is bounded on the east by Pickett County and Overton County, TN. It is bounded on the south by Jackson County, TN and on the west by Macon County, TN. It is bounded on the north by Monroe County and Cumberland County, KY.

There are many communities in Clay County: Celina, the county seat and the largest in population and area, Bakerton, Leonard, Hermitage Springs (aka **Spivey**), **Moss** (aka Lodi ), Union Hill (aka Gregoryville), **Miles** Town (named for the Miles family), Brimstone, **Price** Town, Pine Hill, **Denton** Cross Roads, **Boles** TN/KY, Oak Grove (aka Memorial), Clementsville, Midway, New Hope, Beech Bethany, Arcot, **Bennett** Ferry, Vernon, TN/KY, Martinsburg, TN/KY, Cave Springs, Freed Hills, **Butlers** Landing, **Tinsley** Bottom, **Weaver** Bottom, Baptist Ridge, Beech Springs, Turkey Town, Ashlock, Pea Ridge, Willow Grove (lies under present day Dale Hallow Lake ), Lilly Dale, Maple Grove, Fox Springs, and **Neely** Cross Roads (aka Indian Graves). There are a many communities named for the creek or stream on which they were located. Among these are Mill Creek, Turkey Creek, Dry Creek, Proctor Creek, Dry Mill Creek, Knob Creek, Little Trace Creek, Pine Branch/ Kettle Creek, **Hamilton** Branch, and **Shanky** Branch.

Some of the earliest inhabitants are believed to be the Mississippian Indians, forerunners of the Cherokee. Other Indian Tribes who once dwelt in the Clay County area were the Shawnee, Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Iroquois. The earliest white man believed to be in the area was a Frenchman, **Martin Chartier**, who is believed to have been here as early 1691 in a hunting party with the Shawnee. It is believed he remained in the area about two years. One of the first permanent settlers in Clay County was **Obediah Terrill**, who arrived about 1770. The Obey River is named for him. Some of the earliest families to settle in this area were the following: **Boone, Crowder, Harpe, Hestand, Lincoln, Longdon, McColgan, McLerran, Miles, Monroe, Moore, Mulkey, Nevins, Newman, Osgathorpe, Pennington, Plumblee, Poindexter, Reecer, Skipworth, Smith, Stone, Strong, Tinsley, Waddell, Whitson, Williamson, York, and Young.**



Early life in Clay was based on farming and river transport via the Cumberland River. For many years, before modern day roads, the Cumberland River was the major form of transport in the Upper Cumberlands, making the ports of **Butlers** Landing, **Bennett** Ferry and Celina major distribution hubs. The early crops grown in this region were wheat, corn, flax, hemp, cotton, and oats. Tobacco was not an early crop. Livestock consisted of cattle, hogs, chickens, sheep, and turkeys. The timber industry has been a major business in the Clay County area since before 1800 and still is today.

## Upper Cumberland Place Names

**Bakers Crossroads** *Cumberland County* This intersection probably derives its name from the family or ancestors of Mary Baker, 73, an 1880 resident of the area. At the same time William, age 25, and John Baker, 19, were local citizens.

**Bakerton** *Clay County* The designation probably traces to John Baker who served as local postmaster in 1904, and also operation a store in the same building until his retirement in 1906.

**Baptist Ridge** *Clay County* The former name of this location was Oak Grove. A correspondent who grew up locally states, "My father says before he was 21, a Baptist preacher (Jess Hooten, he thinks) held meetings for nine straight weeks (here after which) everyone started calling it Baptist Ridge.

**Barnes** *Pickett County* The census records of 1870 show a number of Barneses as citizens of nearby Overton County which in 1879 with Fentress County contributed land to form Pickett County. Some of these Barneses and their ages follow: Nathan, 43, T. H., 20, Sarah, 44, Thomas, 48, Thomas, 23, James, 23, John, 48, and Zachariah, 39.

**Bates Hill** *Warren County* This elevation probably traces its name back to one or more of several Bateses residing in the area in 1830. Allen, James, Newton, and William Bates were Rhea County citizens at the time, but late, in 1855, part of Rhea contributed to the current area of Warren County.

**Baxter** *Putnam County* This community is the namesake of the builder of the Tennessee Central Railroad, Colonel Jere Baxter. Mine Lick and The Lowland were earlier designations. The community was incorporated in 1815.

**Beech Bottom** *Macon County* The bottomland here was dotted with American beech trees.

**Beech Hill** *Macon County* The American beech tree is found in all ninety-five counties of Tennessee, accounting for the name of this elevation.

**Belk** *DeKalb County* In about 1893, the post office was given this name by Nathan T Wall (1843-1924), in honor of his wife Mary L Belk (1848-1914), of Georgia, Nathan served at various times as postmaster, and ran a store in the community. The local school also took the Belk name.

**Berea** *Warren County* This is a biblical name inspired by a mention in Acts of the Apostles 17:10, which is sometimes styled Veria.

**Bethany** *Warren County* According to *American Place-Names*, this label usually traces back to an Old Testament village. The term was often used for a church, then transferred to the settlement around it.

**Bethel** *DeKalb County* This term is often applied to a place of sanctuary of a sacred area. It is usually translated as "house of God.

**Big Lick** *Cumberland County* The area became so known as a result of the presence of a large natural salt rock. Free roaming cattle were attracted to the place to lick the salt rock. Originally it was called Deer Lick. The first settlers began residing here between 1820 and 1830.

**Blue Springs** *DeKalb County* There was a large spring on Sink Creek at this location. Having a blue appearance, it was dubbed Blue Springs. The nearby school also assumed this name.

**Bluhmtown** *DeKalb County* Philip Bluhm (b. 1818 in Russia, arrived in this area from Iowa shortly after the Civil War with his wife, Charlotte (b. 1817) in Ireland. They had four children and the family operated

sawmill. Two of the sons, Phillip C and Fremont, became postmasters at the local facility which was called Bluhm and was established in about 1892. The surrounding hamlet became Bluhmtown.

**Boma** *Putnam County* In 1830 Andrew J Boman lived near here, in what was the part of White County. Portions of White eventually went to make up Putnam County. The place name may be a variant of Boman. It is well documented that early census takers often spelled resident's names phonetically and sometimes made spellings errors when recording the names.

**Bon Air** *White County* *Bon* meaning "good" in French, the air here must have seemed fresh and clean to early settlers.

**Bone Cave** *Van Buren County* During the war of 1812 and the Civil War, a large dry cave at this location was mined to supply nitrates used in gunpowder. During the Civil War period, the bones of a giant prehistoric ground sloth were unearthed in the cave, and the place became known as Big Bone Cave. The appellation became shortened over the years to its current form.

**Bowling** *Cumberland County* This label is the result of the 1820 residency near this spot of Rodney Bowling. Bowling was at the time a citizen of White County, but portion of White County later went to help make up what is now Cumberland County.

**Bowman** *Cumberland County* The explanation for this place-name is similar to the one proceeding one immediately preceding. In 1820, Nathaniel Bowman was a White County citizen.

**Bratcher's Crossroad** *Warren County* This site is sometimes designated simply Bratcher. The name lead back to an 1830 resident of this locale, Benjamin Bratcher or his family.

**Brown's** *Macon County* The names of Mary, James, Elizabeth, Samuel, Nancy, and Nelson Brown are in the 1850 census records as having resided in this area. It is likely the family was associated with this very site.

**Browntown** *Cumberland County* The 1800 Census of East Tennessee revealed numerous Browns populating the county, one or more of whom probably gave his or her name to the locality. John H., Jane, Martha, Clarence, Fenton, George W. N.C., James S, Marion, and Green Brown were some of those local Browns. In a census ten years earlier, three of the foregoing were listed as county citizens, plus Elizabeth, Nathaniel, Williamson, Larken, Ephraim H., and Gideon Brown. All were in their middle years at the time.

**Buckner** *DeKalb County* By 1882 a church had been erected here, called Buckner's Chapel Methodist Church, on land thought to have been donated by descendants of Louisa Buckner (b 1818 in Virginia). The Baptists shared the church until the 1920's. The community also was often Walker's Chapel from a school of that name established about 1904, probably on land given by John W Walker and his wife, Cyrena Puckett.

**Buckner Chapel** *Putnam County* William Buckner is listed in the 1820 census rolls as residing in Jackson County, one of the counties that later contributed to the composition of Putnam County. So it is possible he or his family was associated with a place of worship that now is listed as being in Putnam County but which was at time was in Jackson County.

**Bullard's Creek** *Jackson County* 1940, Lean Bullard was a county resident and probably gave his surname to the stream's designation.

**Burgess** *Putnam County* Four miles from here, on the boundary with White County are the Burgess Falls Dam and Burgess Falls State Natural Area. The Falling Water River runs through the area. The name and natural area take their name from Tom Burgess, who was deeded the land in 1793 by the US government as partial payment for his services in the Revolutionary War. Probable descendants of the Tom were J.W., Mary F., V.D., Washington, and Chalmers Burgess, who be 1870 called Putnam County home. One of the Burgess family once operated a gristmill on the Falling Water River.

**Butler's Landing** *Clay County* In Jackson County, one the counties that later formed Clay County, the 1850 census rolls list thirteen persons spelling their surname Butlar and seven spelling it Butler. The latter include Abslom, Obadiah, Sarah, three Thomases. A Thomas J Butler's Landing was previously called "Point" and a one was designated Butler's Ferry. The ferry is believed to have been operated by Bailey C. and Thomas Butler, who were brothers. Other early records reveal that Bailey Butler became a postmaster near here in 1831. Other Butlers associated with this site included Franklin W. and W. B. Butler.

**Byrdstown** *Pickett County* The community was incorporated in 1917. It is believed to trace its name to Colonel Robert Byrd, who strove to keep Tennessee in the Union during the Civil War and, when the state seceded, joined the Union army. Byrd hailed from Kingston. The town's name almost became Wrightsville, for Lem Wright, an individual who joined with Howell Pickett in leading a legislative effort to organize the county.

**Calfkiller** *Putnam County* One wonders if the name(s) might have been intended to assign the name of an Indian chief in the state, Pathkiller, to this location. Pathkiller one time occupied a site in Loudon County. The name may have been "heard, not written" and consequently was misunderstood and recorded as Calfkiller.

**Cambridge** *Warren County* An early school at this location was called Cambridge probably for the famed British educational institution.

**Campaign** *Warren County* The name is probably traceable to Joseph Campaign (variant spellings include Campaign and Campen), a North Carolina native who came to this area in 1842. Mr. Campaign operated a store adjacent to the railroad tracks, which became referred to as Campaign Stop. This was later shortened to simply Campaign. Another possibly family member, Galvin Campaign, is mentioned in the Deed Book of 1884-1886.

**Campbell Junction** *Cumberland County* A number of Campbells dot the census rolls for the county in 1880. Two named James lived in the area, plus William, John, W.C., and Moleon. The spelling of the given name is the last-named Campbell is questionable. "Junction" usually was appended to place-names because of local railroad stop or highway intersection.

**Carthage** *Smith County* This label was inspired by the famed North African city of antiquity. Exotic place-names were in vogue in the United States for a period, and this site was probably named during that time. It was founded in 1804 and incorporated in 1817.

**Cartwright** *Smith County* In 1850, local citizens included Adison, Harry, Richerson C., and Thomas Cartwright. The place probably traces its name to this family or these families.

**Cedar Grove** *Pickett County* The Eastern red cedar grows throughout Tennessee accounting for application of the name here.

**Celina** *Clay County* A prominent early educator, Moses Fisk, had a daughter named Celina. It was for her that this place was named. Incorporation took place in 1909.

**Center** *Cumberland County* The site proprietors were Robert Burke and Dr. Haley. Some farmland here was purchased in 1855 by Thomas Center. Hugh Center is another individual mentioned in early county records.

**Center Hill** *Warren County* Located in upland terrain, the place was likely dubbed Center Hill in reference to a local topographical feature.

**Centertown** *Warren County* Incorporation took place in 1951. The initial label on the site may have been Glascock, a reference to George Glascock, who left for Texas following the Civil War. The locality later

became known as Center town due to its position approximately equidistant from Woodbury and McMinnville. There was a store here, kept in the early 1900s by John Ayers, which served as a landmark stopping point.

**Cherry Hill** *Dekalb County* This name was conferred upon the school in the hamlet, and Jesse Cherry, one of whom may have been a clergyman, accounting for the designation of this site.

**Chestnut Grove** *Warren County* The American chestnut thrives in this area of the state. The site took its name from a nearby grove of trees.

**Chestnut Hill** *Cumberland County* This promontory was dotted with American chestnut trees, common the eastern five-sixths of the state.

**Clarkrange** *Fentress County* Apparently, this name could be construed as "Clark's range," from either a landowners give name or surname, and his farm. Clark Peters lived in the area from 1819 to 1903. Cattle were driven to an unfenced, free-range pasture at a high elevation where grasses were lush. When Cyrus Clark arrived, he purchased an inn known as Bledsoe Stand and began farming on the side. When a post office was approved for the location, it was in the name Clark Range. Eventually, the style became Clarkrange.

**Clearmont** *Warren County* The site has been known by many names in its history including Barren Fork, New, Big Spring, Oak Grove, and Davenport. Located on Youngblood Creek, it had a gristmill and dam that later were washed away by flood waters. The name was probably inspired by the spring-fed creek, which was pure and clear; "mont" in the name is usually attributed to the French term for "mountain."

**Clements** *Clay County* Peter White and his family were perhaps the first whites to put down roots here, in 1812. George W Clements, Clarence Clements, Andrew Jackson Clements and Henderson M Clements were other family members whose names were associated with this locale. Jackson County contributed some area to the formation of Clay County. Living in Jackson County about that time were Christopher and Montgomery Clements, as reflected in the 1850 census figures. In fact, at one time, Christopher Clements served as postmaster here for twelve years when the site was still known as McLeansville. The Clementsville place-name does not seem to have been applied until 1857. The origin of this name probably related to one of these person, or one or more of the family members.

**Cookeville** *Putnam County* The city derives its name from a Virginian native, Richard Fielding Cooke, born in 1787. He served as a senator from Jackson County and introduced the measure to establish Putnam County. He was also a veteran of the Mexican War.

**Cooper's** *Fentress County* At the time of the 1870 census, numerous Coopers resided in the area. Among them were John, age 44; Joe, 56; Jane, 50; Jacob, 28; Alip, 45; Jephthia, 45; Mary, 27; Charly, 50; and three named William.

**Crab Orchard** *Cumberland County* One area correspondent explains that the whole side of the mountain here was once covered with wild crabapple trees. Agreeing, another states that the site acquired its name from the fragrance of the wild crabapple blooms.

**Crawford** *Overton County* Once a small mining community, Crawford takes its current name from a wealthy ironmaster, Alexander L Crawford, who arrived from New Castle, Pennsylvania, with his four sons. The Crawfords purchased timber and coal lands in the vicinity and were influential in persuading a railroad line from Knoxville to Nashville to build through the area.

**Crossroads** *DeKalb County* This place name traces back to Crossroads School, began sometime prior to 1904 near the point where the road from Dry Creek and New Home Road intersect. A Baptist church was also erected at that point at about the same time.

**Crossville** *Cumberland County* The site takes its name from the simple fact that two roads intersected here. Livestock were driven through the town over the Chattanooga-Kentucky Road, and at this site it intersected with the Nashville-Knoxville route. At an earlier date, it was known as Scott's Cross Roads. The current name is said to have been conferred about 1856 by a woman named Amanda Scott, probably the person for whom the "Cross Roads" were designated. Another designated in the sequence, Lambeth Crossroads, traces back to an early citizen, Samuel Lambeth.

**Cummings** *White County* According to the *History of Tennessee Illustrated, White, Warren, DeKalb, Coffee and Cannon Counties*, a merchant name J J Cummings did business in the area in the 1800's. There is likely a link between him and this hamlet.

**Cummingsville** *Van Buren County* In 1850 Joseph, G. P. and W.B. Cummings resided in Van Buren County. Likely one or more of them lived at this very locality, giving it its name. From another source comes the information that Gabe Cummings, an African American of this town, enlisted for military service in 1918.

**Curlee** *Cannon County* There is little information pointing to how this location took on the Curlee name. There was a Calvin Cannon known to reside in Cannon County at the time of the 1840 census.

Miller, Larry L. (2001). *Tennessee Place Names*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press

## **Ted Darwin, Obituary**

Dero Armistead Darwin, Jr. "Ted", age 85, died Thursday, October 2, 2014 in NHC of Sparta.

A descendant of English colonial settlers of North America and of pioneer families in the Tennessee Upper Cumberland region, he was the only child of the late Dero and Clemma Masters Darwin. Born June 27, 1929 in McMinnville, he was practically a Cookeville native because his father moved the family to Cookeville when he was just two years old. In 1944, Ted was the first capitol page appointed by Albert Gore, Sr. following Gore's election to the Congress of the United States. He graduated from Castle Heights Military Academy in Lebanon, TN and from Vanderbilt University in 1951, where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi international fraternity.

Mr. Darwin enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve and was a veteran of the Korean Conflict. In 1954, he was assigned to the U.S. staff at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, where he acted as liaison between SHAPE and the U.S. Embassy in Paris.

After receiving an honorable discharge from military service, Mr. Darwin enrolled in the Interior Design Department at Parsons School of Design in New York City, from which he received a certificate with honors in 1964. He was awarded Parsons' European Summer Session Scholarship in 1963, their only scholarship offered solely for academic achievement. He was also awarded both the National Underclass and the National Senior class Scholarships by the National Society of Interior Designers. The second scholarship was presented by the Society at the Huntington-Hartford Museum on Columbus Circle, NYC. and was followed with a champagne reception attended by his parents and friends. Mr. Darwin was subsequently acknowledged and published in "Interiors" and "Interior Design" magazines.

Upon graduating from Parsons, Mr. Darwin then worked as an interior designer in New York and Germany. He was the chief designer for several U.S. military officers' clubs in Germany, including Headquarters U.S. Army Europe at Heidelberg, and for New York City's new Bellevue Hospital Center. In addition, Mr. Darwin collaborated on commissions with Elizabeth Arden, Dean Witter, Du Pont, General Electric, Harper and Row, Hilton Hotels and U.S. Plywood, among others. He was a member of the Architectural League of New York, the National Arts Club, and the Salmagundi Club, the oldest professional club in the United States.

In Cookeville, Tennessee, Mr. Darwin served the community in many ways. He had been a member of the First Presbyterian Church USA since 1943, and was a Deacon Emeritus. He was proud to have contributed his talents on two major church building projects. He was a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Tennessee Historical Society, vice-president of the Tennessee State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and president of its Upper Cumberland Chapter for many years. Mr. Darwin was a founding member and the first president of the Upper Cumberland Genealogical Association, a charter member of the Cookeville Depot Preservation Committee, and he was elected to serve on the first Operation CityScape Board of Directors.

Mr. Darwin initiated the drive to obtain historical markers through the Tennessee Historical Commission for the (Cookeville) Town Spring and for Israel Putnam, Putnam County's namesake. He was also instrumental in obtaining historical designation for a portion of North Dixie Avenue. Mr. Darwin was a charter member of First Families of Tennessee and a lifetime member of the Order of the First Families of Maryland. Interest in family history prompted Mr. Darwin and his father to compile a 422-page genealogy of the Bankhead, McCann, and Richmond families. He also assisted Jack Masters with the compilation of his book, MASTERS FAMILY HISTORY, 1691-1989.

In 2011, the 114th year of the founding of the "Chase School", Parsons the New School for Design

published a catalogue entitled "Radical Shifts: Reshaping the Interior at Parsons, 1955-1985", which outlined curriculum changes. Mr. Darwin was one of nine former interior design graduates featured in the catalogue, and many of his academic renderings were included in the exhibit at the school's gallery, 66 Fifth Avenue, NYC.

Graveside services and Interment with Military Honors will be in the family plot at Cookeville City Cemetery, Wednesday, October 8th at 3 p.m., with Rev. Pat Handlson officiating. There will be no formal visitation.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Darwin Cemetery Fund, % FSG Bank, P.O. Box 11247, Chattanooga, TN 37401; to the Dero Armistead Darwin or Clemma Masters Darwin scholarships at the School of Agriculture and the School of Human Ecology at Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, TN 38505; or to a cause important to the donor.

Hooper- Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, (931) 526-6111. You may share your thoughts and memories at [www.hhhfunerals.com](http://www.hhhfunerals.com).



## History of the Bohannon Community

By Glen Jones  
Putnam County Archives

In their search for "almost forgotten crossroads" of Putnam County, the Putnam County Archives has been collecting information from local residents about the Bohannon Community.

The Bohannon Community is located in the vicinity of Old Sparta Road, Bob Bullock Road, and Horace Lewis Road in South Cookeville.

Not much history is known about this spot. As with many historical communities, the main activities centered on school and church. The Bohannon School began in 1875 and closed in 1953. On Sundays, church was held in the school building until a church was built in the area. The Home Demonstration Club was also big part of the Bohannon Community in the 50's and 60's.

In the 1930's and 1940's, John D. (J.D.) Burnett operated a general merchandise store eon what is now Old Sparta Road. The store stood just north of the Antioch Church of Christ.

"Lois Boyd Horsley remembers her grandmother, Belle Nicholas Boyd, and Belle's daughter, Minnie Lou, tell about going to Burnetts's store to exchange eggs for dress material," Glenn Jones, Putnam County archivist said.

J.D. Burnett's daughter, Pearl, married Bill McCormick, and they lived in the white house her farther north of the store. The McCormick house, a big white, two story still stands.

If anyone has information on the Bohannon Community or any other historical community, please visit the Putnam County Archives at 121 B South Dixie Ave or call 931-520-0042.

Old Gravesites at Cookeville City Cemetery			
Name	Birth	Death	Comments
Algood, Bettie	18 Mar1839	25 July1860	
Algood, Joel	25 Jan 1808 North Carolina	02 Feb 1861	Methodist circuit rider Surveyed Walton RD
Algood, Nancy Wilson <i>Moore</i>	25 Feb 1819 Wilson Co., TN	25 Feb 1897	
Algood, William	09 Aug 1849	15 Nov 1859	
Allen, Eston	17 July 1893	28 Mar 1896	
Anderson, Infant	20 Nov 1888	23 Nov 1888	
Anderson, N	31 Jan 1890	31 Jan 1890	
Arnold, Fannie Combs	03 Nov 1870	12 Sep 1874	
Arnold, Letitia Ann <i>Burton</i>	25 Mar1809 Virginia	17 Jul 1893	
Baker, Rev William	25 Feb 1816	08 Aug 1895	
Barnes, Jesse Z	02 Sep 1865	28 Sep 1888	
Bennett, Alice P	25 Sep 1890	01 Sep 1894	
Boyd, Alvin Goodpasture	16 Oct 1895	10 Oct 1896	
Brown, Mary Daisy	27 May 1875	27 Sep 1891	
Burton, Preston Young	07 Nov 1895	12 Nov 1896	
Carr, Infant	08 Apr 1898	10 Apr 1898	
Cowan, Alice Nita	02 Jun 1895	23 Sep 1898	d/o George Washington Cowan & Lucy Dow
Cox, Maggie	05 Mar 1845	29 April 1888	
Crawford, Mary E.	26 Jun 1876	30 Nov 1881	d/o M G. Crawford & M. M. Smith
Crawford, Norra L	19 Aug 1878	23 Nov 1881	d/o M. G. Crawford & M. M Smith
Crutcher, Joseph W	27 Dec 1827	14 Aug 1878	
Cullom, Mattie Z	15 Mar 1882	16 Apr 1893	d/o Burr & Martha W Cullum
Cumbee, Lucinda <i>Young</i>	07 Apr 1847	11 June 1898	
Davis, John Ridley	17 Mar 1889	21 Oct 1889	
Dorman, David	22 Jul 1833	23 Apr 1898	
Douglass, James M	24 Sep 1835 Tennessee	16 Apr 1875	
Dow, Enoch Fleming	20 Apr 1869 Cookeville, TN	12 July 1893	
Dow, Ralph E	30 Jun 1892	19 Feb 1898	
Dudney, James William	24 Aug 1899	15 Sep 1899	
Duke, Infant	07 Jul 1893	07 Jul 1893	
Dyer, Lizzie <i>Seawell</i>	1858	1891	
Early, Robert E	14 Feb 1820	19 Jan 1897	
Embrey, A. S.	1861	16 Oct 1895 Cookeville, TN	
Ford, Henry Clay	1852	1878	

Freeze, Cecil	06 Mar 1893	May 1893	
Freeze, Frances A	16 Nov 1864	12 Feb 1885	
Freeze, Herbert	Unknown	11 Feb 1896	
Freeze, Maggie	25 Feb 1873	30 Jul 1891	
Freeze Maggie Pearl	25 Apr 1894	15 Aug 1895	
Gabbert, Dr. Benjamin	1800	1855	
Gabbert, Benjamin B	09 Nov 1856	04 Oct 1878	
Gabbert, Dr. Diana <i>Coffee</i>	02 Nov 1811	12 Feb 1895	
Garrett, Loderick	1810 Campbell Co. VA	1870 Overton Co., TN	
Garrett, Mary L Pryor	1818 Campbell Co., VA	1880 Overton Co., TN	
Gentry, Eva	25 Feb 1892	10 Jun 1892	
Gentry, Nancy A <i>Waller</i>	23 Jun 1865	10 Dec 1896	
Gentry, Neva	25 Feb 1892	29 Jul 1892	
Goodpasture, Dr. James	17 Apr 1827	11 Aug 1876	
Grerar, Infant	30 Nov 1882	30 Nov 1882	
Haynes, Escol T	14 Jun 1884 Cookeville, TN	10 Jan 1896	
Henry, Avo A	Aug 1867	04 May 1883	
Henry, Jacob	21 Aug 1830	29 Jun 1893	84 INFANTRY CSA
Henry, Martha L <i>Miller</i>	05 Feb 1839	06 May 1899	
Hogan, Ray A	26 Mar 1876	20 Aug 1892	
Jared, Arthur Y	02 Nov 1882	28 Nov 1887	s/o B. B. & S. E. Jared
Kerr, J. F.	01 Apr 1827	11 Apr 1883	
Kerr, Joseph	04 Jun 1845	23 Jan 1898	
Laugaugh, Alford	Unknown	06 May 1881	
Lewis, Eliza Florence	19 Mar 1862	03 Jul 1878	
Lewis, Mary Laura <i>Quarles</i>	01 Sep 1872	24 Dec 1898	
Martin, Christine Sunshine	1896 Cookeville, TN	16 Jun 1898 Cookeville, TN	
Martin, Fannie Lou	13 Oct 1885	01 May 1897	
Martin, Jessie C	26 Feb 1876	28 Jun 1877	
Martin Dr. John Preston	27 Mar 1823 Sparta, TN	09 Jun 1899 Cookeville, TN	
Martin, Maggie <i>Cox</i>	05 May 1845	29 Apr 1888	
Martin, Mary <i>Walsh</i>	06 May 1854	22 Oct 1891	
Martin, Mary W	06 Nov 1879	06 May 1880	
McCulley, James Henry	1829	1881	CO K 13 <sup>TH</sup> TENN CAV
McKinney, Henry	24 Sep 1769	07 Aug 1846	
McKinney, James M	30 Jul 1809	17 Nov 1879	
McKinney, Mary	24 Sep 1770	03 Apr 1847	
McKinney, Winnie	30 Jun 1814	15 Mar 1863	
Mills, Lillie <i>Clouse</i>	1875	1899 Cookeville, TN	
Moore, Drucilla Dickson	26 May 1839	11 Sep 1860	

Moore, PVT William Thomas	Unknown	01 Nov 1862 Dublin, VA	"G CO TENN 16 <sup>th</sup> CAV
Neeley, Lula Burton	18 Oct 1872	18 Nov 1888	
Pedigo, Arminta Jane <i>Jared</i>	20 Oct 1869	28 Nov 1891	
Perkins, Ethel Lee	11 Sep 1894	31 Oct 1894	
Perkins, William Jordon	23 Dec 1826	11 Apr 1898	Co A TENN MTD INF
Puckett, Zelma	03 Mar 1892	11 Mar 1892	d/o J M & Marie Pucket
Randolph, Sarah <i>Fields</i>	1856	1897	
Rash, Martha <i>Dowell</i>	11 Jul 1859	07 Nov 1895	
Rayburn, Bertha	28 Jan 1894	22 Feb 1898	
Reagan, Andrew J	18 Mar 1855	05 Sep 1857	
Reagan, Isaac Denton	26 Oct 1828 Tennessee	16 Nov 1872 Overton Co, TN	
Reagan, Willie J	08 Jun 1854	23 Dec 1866	
Roberts, Alpha Chapin	08 Sep 1888	28 Nov 1888	
Roberts, Houston P	06 Apr 1861	22 Apr 1889	
Scott, Cora	18 Jul 1899	15 Dec 1899	
Shaw, Lola O	16 Jun 1877	05 Apr 1878	
Shaw, Mahaley Wiley	Unknown	Apr 1879 Cookeville, TN	1 <sup>st</sup> to be buried in Cookeville City Cemetery
Sloan, Mary E	06 Sep 1857	30 Oct 1897	
Smith, Benjamin A	11 Feb 1813	06 Aug 1898	
Smith, Matilda I	17 Aug 1846	04 Oct 1899	
Smith, Minnis O	19 Jul 1870	30 Mar 1897	
Smith, Philip Norman	05 May 1889	20 Jun 1889	
Smith, W B	12 Aug 1896	22 Aug 1897	
Staley, Louisa V	07 May 1869	18 May 1869	
Stanton, Lula <i>Ditty</i>	31 Aug 1876	29 Jul 1896	
Stultz, Horsley Anderson	21 Dec 1832	10 Sep 1899	
Stulys, J, C,	06 Aug 1854	06 Oct 1896	
Tibbs, T	15 Nov 1880	30 Nov 1898	
Wilson, Infant Son	Unknown	22 May 1895	
Womack, Mary	10 Nov 1811	25 Nov 1878	
Wright, Lizzie J	12 Aug 1866	01 Feb 1887	

**Old Gravesites at Hodges Cemetery  
Cummingsville, Van Buren County**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Birth</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Cummings, Pvt Joseph	1843	1892	"I" Co, TN 16 <sup>th</sup> Infantry
Hodges, A. M.	09 Dec 1839	20 Jan 1859	s/o Abner Hodges
Hodges, Abner	1775	30 Sep 1838	
Hodges, Pvt Jasper	12 Dec 1838	09 May 1881	CSA Van Burn County Home Guard
Hodges, Maggie <i>Denney</i>	30 Nov 1871	10 Mar 1892	
Hodges, Mary <i>McBride</i>	1807	1881	w/o W. H. Hodges
Hodges, Mary <i>Sparkman</i>	07 Oct 1867	1890	
Hodges, Sarah B	1779	1862	
Hodges, W. H.	1817	1854	h/o Mary Hodges
Hollingsworth, Jane <i>Hodges</i>	1843	1881	w/o John Hollingsworth
Hollingsworth, Sgt John	1843	1879	35 TN Infantry, CSA
Hollingsworth, Martha <i>Hodges</i>	1843	31 May 1881	
Lawson, Bazley	1799	1885	
Lawson, Mary Jane <i>Hodges</i>	1803	1875	
Louvall, Julia Fanny <i>Wilcher</i>	22 Feb 1840	05 Feb 1877	
Louvall, Walter Jr	07 Feb 1875	10 Nov 1886	
McBride, James Sr	1822	1886	
McBride, Sarah "Granny" <i>Fuson</i>	1777	1855	
Miller, W. L.	Unknown	1893	
Simmons, Eliza <i>Hopkins</i>	1873	1899	
Sparkman, William B	26 Oct 1843	23 Jun 1896	

## This and That

### Articles From Local Newspapers

Submitted by: Theresa White

#### Second Child Dies in the Same House The Cookeville Press, January 25, 1894

The two-year-old child of Nancy Eldridge, who lives in the 6<sup>th</sup> District, fell in the fire Friday last, while its mother was not near, and set its clothing on fire. When found the child was frightfully burned and died in a few moments. The suffering of the little one is said to have been horrible. This is the second child this woman has had burned to death and it does seem that caution is not known in that household. Nancy Eldridge is a very poor woman and has never been married.

#### Achilles Tendon Deadly? Cookeville Press, September 20, 1894

Fillmore, the fifteen year old son of George Slagle, got a spider in his eye one day last week. After remaining a short time, the spider burst, which set up inflammation, causing the little fellow to lose his eye.

#### Jackson County's Petrified Man Cookeville Press, May 7, 1896

Fourteen years ago, Dr. William Davidson of Jackson County died and was buried in the usual way. Last March his wife also died. A grave was prepared by the side of her lamented husband, but it was decided to bury her at another place not far off, which was done.

On last Thursday relatives and friends decided to remove the remains of the doctor to the side of this buried wife. His grave was uncovered, at the bottom of which a large running stream of water was found passing in at the head and through and out at the foot of the grave. The coffin and all other wooden material, which had been used in putting him away, except the bottom plank of the coffin, had decayed and turned to earth again. But to the utter astonishment of everyone present, Dr. Davidson lay before them in full life size perfect in form, except both arms were gone and his mouth a little enlarged. One examination it was found that he was petrified and had become a solid rock instead of flesh and blood.

Preparations to re-inter the body last Saturday had been completed and it was buried. It took nine persons to carry the body and it was estimated by those who carried it that it would weight about five hundred pounds.

## **Evaluation of Evidence**

### **Evaluation Criteria- Original vs Derivative**

- Original records are the documents in the same form as when they were originally recorded at the time of the event for which they were created.
- Derivative records are records that are not in the original form in which they were created at the time to event occurred. For instance, birth certificates, death certificate
  - Types of derivative records
    - Transcriptions are intended to be an exact copy of all the information found in an original record published in a different format. Transcriptions are supposed to be free of any ideological input from the transcriber, but some interpretation is inevitable and can, potentially be correct.
    - Abstracts include only "important" details from the records. The abstractor interprets the original record to determine the importance of each fact or statement. While abstracts records can usually be used as proof of dates, places or lineage, you should evaluate the record to make sure that the information agrees with other evidence you already have.
    - Compilations include may incorporate multiple sources into a single work detailing the genealogy of a specific family or the history of a specific location. Evaluate these sources based on the identification and acceptability of the sources the author used and by the transparency of the author's methods of analysis and evaluation.

### **Evaluation Criteria-Primary vs Secondary**

- Primary evidence is the information on a document that records the details of the event for which the document was created. For example a Death Certificate records the event of a person's death, do the date of death that occurred when the record was created is Primary Evidence on that documents
- Secondary evidence is the information recorded on a document that provides information about prior events- usually this information is based on someone's memory of prior events or is transcribed from earlier records. For example, a Death Certificate is recorded at the time of the individual's death so any birth information is Secondary Evidence since it is based on someone's memory or an earlier record of the birth.

### **Evaluation Criteria-Direct vs Indirect**

- Direct evidence is any piece of evidence that directly states a particular date, place or relationship. For example a birth certificate that states the name of the child and the name of her parents is direct evidence to establish the parent-child relationship.
- One item of indirect evidence on a death certificate is information related between the person who provided the personal information listed on the death certificate and the deceased. . If this is not stated in the document, the death certificate would be considered indirect evidence that would need to be combined



with evidence from other documents to establish the nature of the relationship between these two people.

*DAR Genealogical Educational Program*

## Difficult Community

Before there was a Smith County and while Tennessee was still a part of North Carolina, and before the coming of the Long Hunters, the Cherokee claimed this land as their own. The guardian of this hunting ground was Hanging Maw.

John and Ephraim Peyton, twin brothers, Thomas Peyton, another brother, Esquire Grant and John Frazer were out on a hunting and surveying trip. They pitched their camp on an island in the East Fork of Shackler's Creel above the Big Spring. On a Sunday night in February 1786 the group sat up late playing cards. It was at this time that Hanging Maw and a band of warriors, in defense of the Cherokee claim, made an attack upon them. They were all wounded except Ephraim Peyton, who in escaping dislocated his knee. He later fell and relocated the knee, and all returned safely to near Gallatin. They left all of their horses and equipment which fell into the hands of the Indians.

Four years and nine months later, by virtue of a grant from the state of North Carolina, Phillip Shackler, a Revolutionary Private in the Continental Line, became the owner of 640 acres including the above mentioned land. This grant was unusual in that it was one mile square. It read:

State of North Carolina No: 1220 Know ye that we have granted into Phillip Shackler, six hundred forty acres of land in the county of Sumner on the north side of Cumberland River on Shackler's Creek. Beginning at a beech tree about one quarter of a mile below a large spring and forks of said creek at twenty poles, then north three hundred and twenty poles to a crossing of the East Fork of said creek and Holston Road to a line west, three hundred and twenty poles to a stake, south crossing said road and a branch of said creek to the beginning. To hold to the said Phillip Shackler, his heirs and assigns forever. Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> December 1790. Warrant No. 372. J. Glasgow, Secretary. Alex Martin, Gov. Ephraim Peyton, Joel Echola, C.C. S. Williams, D.S.

The Holston Road was also known as the Williamsburg Road, running from Sampson Williams' settlement and Fort at the crossing of the Cumberland River near Gainesboro. This later became Fort Blount and the road took the name Fort Blount Road. It crossed the Red Boiling Springs turnpike at Williams Cross Roads-now Difficult.

Six hundred forty acres just north and joining this land in the center of the road was also granted on the same date to Phillip Shackler. This was joined on the north by one hundred acre grant to Tobias Williams. Sometime after the turn of the century, John Goodner became the owner of a portion of the land. At double springs, he operated a still and built a still house.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1838, James Claridy Williams sold and deeded to Joel Worley, William Harris and William R. Pistole, Commissioners in Trust and their successors, "for and in the consideration of the sum or one dollar in hand paid, receipt of which is acknowledged, one acre of the Shackler grant, situated on the northwest corner of Williams Cross Road. The purpose was to build a church and school house and no other, to be used by the Baptist Church at their regular meeting and when not in use by them, to be used by any other religious denomination so desiring.

## 15 Ways to Find a Maiden Name

Maiden names rank among the most elusive facts that researchers must nail down to compile a viable family tree. To a degree, your strategy for acquiring that vital bit of data is dictated by the timeframe in which you're researching. Listed here are 15 potential sources that are applicable to most locales.

**Marriage License Applications.** Marriage license applications not the certificate, but the government form that a couple initiates prior to the ceremony – are an excellent source of a maiden name of the bride-to-be appears on her application. Can't locate that? Then try the marriage license of one of her children. Many applications include the maiden name of both the bride's mother and the groom's.

Most countries began keeping these records by 1885. Some date back to the early 1800's or before. These documents can usually be found at the county courthouse although cities and townships may have their own repositories. Really old ones may be at the state archives.

Be sure to note the bride's marital history. If she was previously married, she may give her first married name instead of her maiden name.

**Vital Records.** A woman's death certificate may yield her maiden name. So might a birth or death certificates of her children. Divorce records are another possibility.

**Death Books.** Prior to the early 1900's when state government took over the task of maintaining vital records in the US, birth and death records were largely maintained by local entities. Many county courthouses kept death books that resemble ledgers. Entries span two pages and often give the names of the decedents parents.

**Obituaries.** Older obituaries carried plenty of details that often included the names of the deceased's parents, whether they are still living or not. If the survivor's include brothers, then there's a good chance you've nailed a maiden name. However, the distinction between biological and step-brothers wasn't always made, so more research is needed.

**Wills and Probate Records.** If you have a hunch as to what the woman's maiden name is, check wills and probate records of potential parents to see if she appears under her married name.

**Church Records.** Many religious organizations maintain baptismal and marital records.

**Family Bible Records.** They may not be precise, but Bible records provide solid clues.

**Funeral Home Records.** An excellent source of free information, these records often furnish more data than death certificates and are just as accurate.

**Census Returns.** After 1850, census returns listed the name of every person living in the household. Quite often an elderly person lived with a child, grandchild or even a sibling.

**Cemeteries.** Find an epitaph with the word *nee* (French for born, feminine form) and your hunt is over. A cluster of nearby tombstones, all bearing the same surname, may be the woman's family.

**Local Histories Books.** Many local histories are woefully inaccurate, often nothing more than a forerunner of today's vanity presses. People paid to get mentioned in the book and supplied the information for the write up. But you never know. Expand your search to include children and grandchildren and you may hit pay dirt.

**Military Pension Records.** Pension records exist for nearly every war America engaged in, back to the Revolution. If a married veteran got a pension, there will be a reference to his marriage in the file that often includes a maiden name. Children born of the union prior to the date when the pension was awarded may be listed.

**Land Records.** Sometimes parents sold their daughter and new son-in-law a piece of the homestead for a dollar. County land records are generally indexed by grantor and grantee.

**Naming Traditions.** Naming traditions may reveal family ties. Some immigrants honored the mother's family by giving a son her maiden name. A common German naming tradition was to give the oldest males a middle initial that was the same as the first letter in the mother's maiden name. If the mother's birth name one Long, the boys' middle initial would be "L."

**Social Security Card Applications.** After the Social Security Act was enacted in 1936, many people applied for Social Security cards. Birth names and the maiden name of the applicant's mother are required.

*Family Chronicle (April, 2008).*

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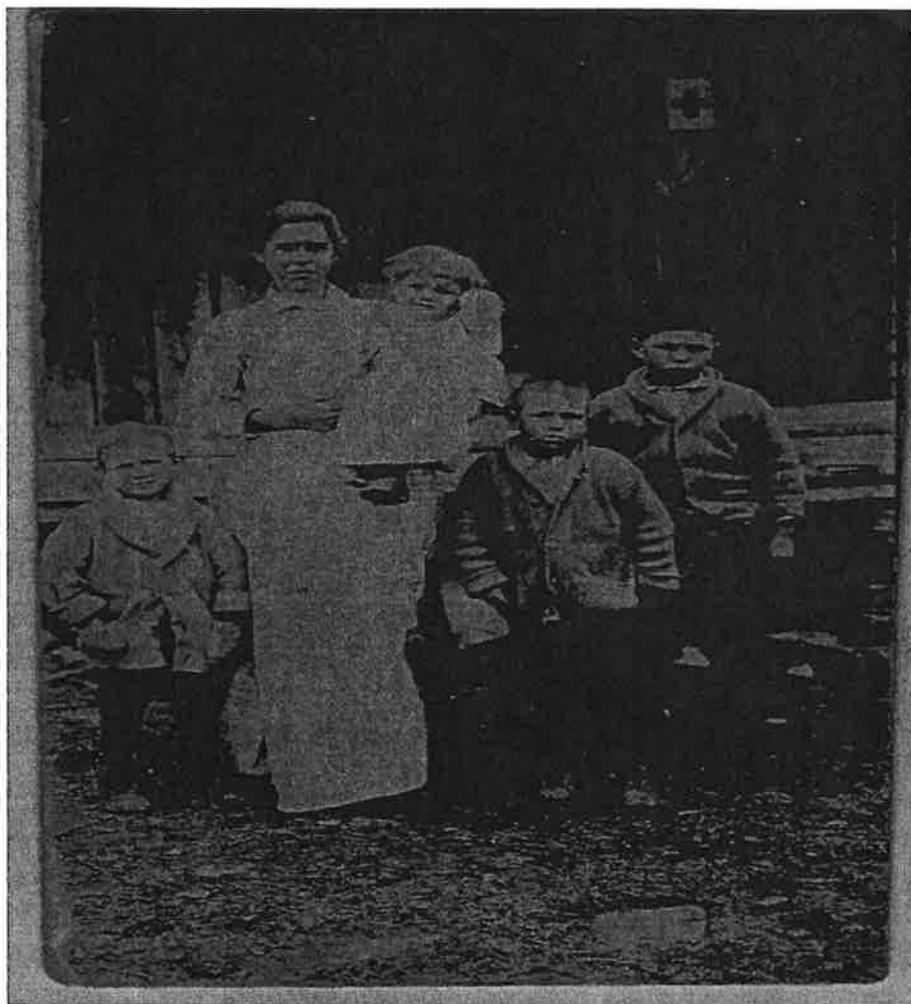
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.....And bring a friend

## Quarries

**Looking for information on the picture below. On the back of the picture is written Dora (Gore) Brewer and children. I think she may have been the wife of John Brewer. Please contact me at [theresawhite@hotmail.com](mailto:theresawhite@hotmail.com)  
Submitted by: Theresa Dover White**



I was also contacted wanting information on the picture below.

To whom it may concern:

I do hope you will be able to assist me in identifying a photo found in pictures of a family member that is deceased.

"Lilly Shanks" was written on the back of the picture. However, no one in the family seems to recognize this person. I do not know whether Shanks is her maiden name or if it is a married name. The picture was taken by Hardemans Studio in Cookeville, TN about Dec 11, 1945.



Thank you in advance for your assistance

I may be contacted at:

Alice Shanks Swanner

PO Box 25141

Sarasota, FL 34277

swan09@yahoo.com

## Book Store

This list consists of books by current UCGA members who have donated a copy of their books to the UCGA to be placed in the Tennessee Room of the Putnam County, TN Library. Books will remain on this list as long as membership is maintained and the book is in print. Please notify if any book is unavailable.

### **Genealogical and Historical Notes from Crossville, TN Newspaper**

Vol. 1 1879-1899 \_\_\_\_\_ \$43.00 Postpaid

Contains genealogical and history notes from Crossville, TN newspaper prior to 1900. Since most of the courthouse records were burned in a 1905 fire, this book may be of help to family research. Soft cover with multi-level indexes. Full name, place names, and cemeteries. Order from Michael Boniel, 140 Spears Way, Crossville, TN 38553

**Seventeen Year Table of Contents Index, UCGA Bulletins** \$5.00. Order these two from UCGA, PO Box 575, Cookeville, TN 38501-0575.

**A New Beginning in Maryland** by John Bippin \_\_\_\_\_ \$85.00 + \$5.00 S & H postpaid

Order these two from Emily Phippen, 1266 Auburn Ave., NW Palm Bay, FL 32907

Email: [elpippin@hotmail.com](mailto:elpippin@hotmail.com)

**Hear Ye Hear Ye, George Allen Came to Virginia in 1648** \_\_\_\_\_ \$82.50 postpaid

After some 30 years research in courthouses around the country and contacting many "Allen Cousins" all descendants of George Allen. I have compiled it all in a book.

George had 3 children, William, Elizabeth and John Allen, all born in 1670's. The book contains over 16,000 names of descendants and spouses of these children are indexed. Many early records have either been abstracted or printed as is, in the book. Most of the descendants and ancestors of Duke and Jesse Allen of Jackson, TN are listed in the book. The book contains 837 pages, 8 x 11 inches and is hardback bound. You may purchase from: Robert E Allen, PO Box, Bakerton, WV 25410 or Elizabeth Allen email: [ef@frontiernet.net](mailto:ef@frontiernet.net)

**Baxter Seminary Yearbooks 1834-1960** (4 CD set) \$30.00 postpaid

Order from Audrey J Lambert, 39721 Timberlane Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48310-2464

**John D & Jane Browning Lawson, Covered Wagon Pioneers and their**

**descendants.** Part one and Part two is not available in the Tennessee Room at the Putnam County Library. If anyone wants a copy please contact Barbara Shackleford at 931-526-6815



We have 4 new CD's by Ron Dishman in the Tennessee Room. They are back copies of the Overton County Historical Society Newsletter (1927-2007 11 years 44 issues) Overton County TN birth and death records (1908-1912); Birth and death 1925-1938; and Overton County WPA Writers Project 1941: (Historical information on all Overton County, TN Also a checklist of Cemeteries and Graveyards WPA project by Ethel Reneau.

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UCGA  
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*Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year*



Cookeville, TN 38501

