



**State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
Tennessee State Library and Archives**

**Washington Family  
Genealogical Collection, 1833-2016**

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**COLLECTION SUMMARY**

**Creator:**

Rose, Stanley Frazer

**Inclusive Dates:**

1833-2016, bulk 1850-2016

**Scope & Content:**

Consists of genealogical research related to the Washington family of Wessyngton Plantation in Robertson County, Tennessee, and its related family branches. This research was compiled by Stanley Frazer Rose over several years and contains photocopied documents most of which are from the Washington Family Papers at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Rose also compiled detailed booklets and genealogical trees for numerous family members.

This collection was kept in the original order in which it was compiled. The compiler also created the folder titles.

A photocopy of one complete monograph was found in the collection; this monograph is located in TSLA holdings and may be found using the following citation: *A Tennessee Planter Family in Transition, 1849-1867*, by Catherine E. Carmack. M.A. Thesis, History Dept., Middle Tennessee State University. Call number F442.2 .C36 1995.

The collections published volume titled *Memory & Landmarks* was transferred to the Library collections. Call number E185.86 .P467 2016.

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**Repository:**

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**Administrative/Biographical History**

Stanley Frazer Rose is a sixth great grandson of Joseph Washington (1770-1848). He received his law degree and master's degree in management from Vanderbilt University.

**Organization/Arrangement of Materials**

Collection is loosely organized and retains the order in which it was received.

**Conditions of Access and Use****Restrictions on Access:**

No restrictions.

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## **Index Terms**

### **Personal/Family Names:**

Anderson family  
Bass family  
Branch family  
Cheatham family  
Dawson family  
Ewing, Jane Washington, 1867-1941  
Flood family  
Gault family  
Helm, Lucy Washington, 1861-1955  
Jackson family  
Jordan family  
Joyce family  
Kemp, Mary Bolling, 1861-1946  
Kirkman family  
Lewis, William Berkeley, 1784-1866  
Nicholson family  
Pope, Anne Hanna, 1802-1886  
Smith family  
Smith, Mary Jackson Hanna, 1801-1843  
Steele family  
Warren family  
Washington, Andrew, 1775-1835  
Washington family  
Washington, George Augustine, 1815-1892  
Washington, George Augustine, 1879-1964  
Washington, Jane Smith, 1830-1894  
Washington, Joseph, 1770-1848  
Washington, Joseph Edwin, 1851-1915  
Washington, Joseph George, 1808-1836  
Washington, Mary Cheatham, 1796-1865

### **Geographic Names:**

Robertson County (Tenn.) -- History -- 19<sup>th</sup> century  
Robertson County (Tenn.) -- History -- 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Tennessee -- History -- 19<sup>th</sup> century -- Sources  
Tennessee -- History -- 20<sup>th</sup> century -- Sources  
Wessyngton Plantation (Tenn.) -- History -- 19<sup>th</sup> century  
Wessyngton Plantation (Tenn.) -- History -- 20<sup>th</sup> century

### **Document Types:**

Articles  
Cookbooks  
Copy prints

Clippings (information artifacts)  
Genealogical tables  
Pedigrees  
Personal correspondence

## **Acquisition and Appraisal**

### **Provenance and Acquisition:**

This collection was donated by Stanley Frazer Rose of Naples, Florida in May 2016.

## **Processing and Administrative Information**

### **Preferred Citation:**

Washington Family Genealogical Collection, 1833-2016, Tennessee State Library and Archives

### **Processing Information:**

Processing was completed by Kimberly Mills Wires in October 2016. Duplicates were removed and any items not pertaining to the collection were transferred or removed.

### **Related Archival Materials:**

Washington Family Papers, 1796-1959, Mf. No. 1266, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Washington Family Papers, 1796-1962, Mf. No. 961, Tennessee State Library and Archives

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# Washington

## 1. Early Washington Ancestors

**Washington Line: Washington, Branch, Jordan, Wright.**

**Washington-Cheatham Line: Washington, Joyce, Long, Nicholson.**

**And**

**Washington DNA Research**

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016

# Washington

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## Washington

*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

Our Washington line (the Surry County Washingtons) has long believed to have been connected to the Washington line of Westmoreland County, Virginia—President George Washington—and traced back to a common ancestor, Lawrence Washington and his wife Margaret Butler, who lived in Brighton, England and Sulgrave Manor nearby. Our ancestors took much pride in this connection to the president and to the Washingtons of Sulgrave Manor. <sup>1</sup>

The above has been recently questioned and in fact proved to be incorrect. In an effort to clarify this situation, DNA tests were conducted in 2007 that showed that the DNA of a descendant of Joseph Washington of Wessyngton Plantation and the DNA of a descendant of the brother of President George Washington demonstrated a 40.79% chance that they shared a common ancestor within the past 1000 years or 40 generations. There was a 13.79% chance that the common ancestor lived within the past 800 years or about 32 generations.

This proves that the connection of President George Washington's line and our line was only around 1200 A.D. For genealogy snobs, the “cruellest cut” is that we lost nine Sureties for the Magna Charta (1215) which come to the Washington line through Margaret Butler. It also means that our family's connection to the Spencers of Althrop (Princess Diana) is not correct. [See below]

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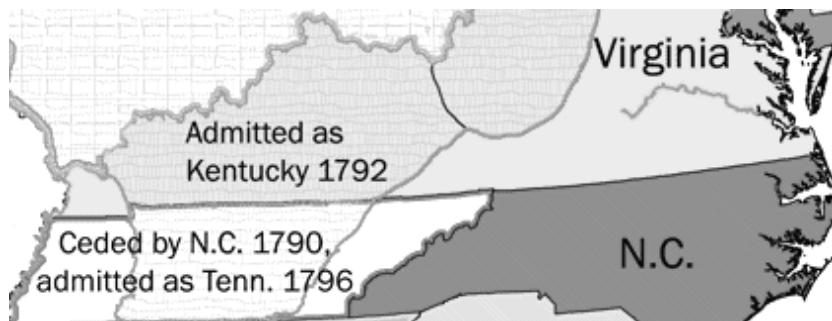
<sup>1</sup>  indicates that a document or photograph related to this topic is included in this booklet.

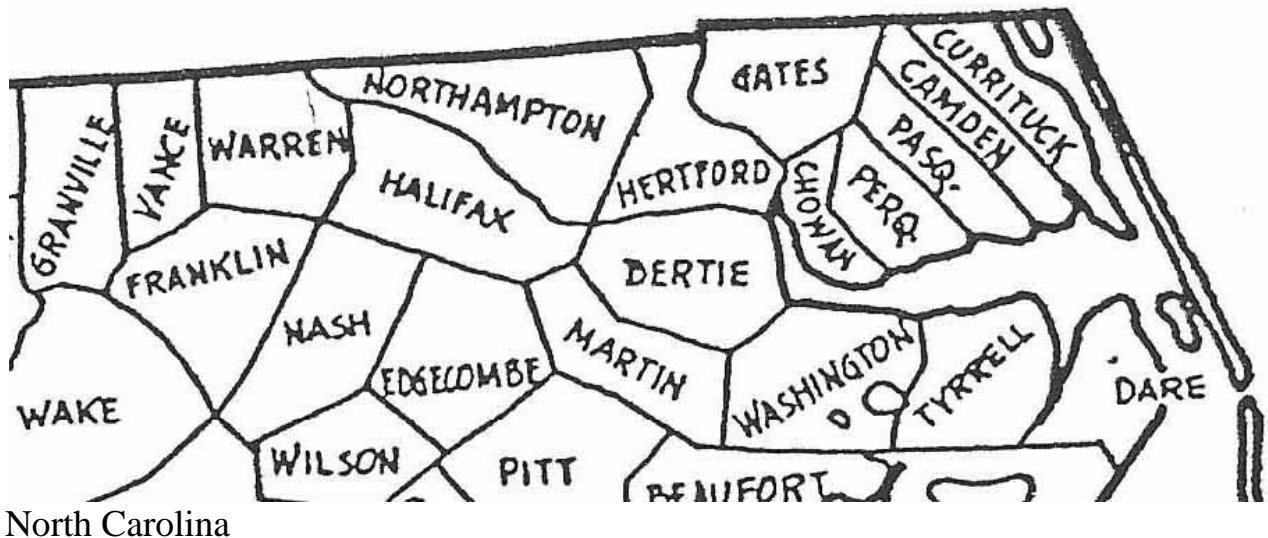
What follows is the correct genealogy of the Washington line. We have two Washington lines that join with the 1812 marriage of Joseph Washington (I will call the Washington-Washington line) and Mary Cheatham (I will call the Washington- Cheatham line).

## Shared Ancestors: Washington-Washington Line and Washington-Cheatham Line

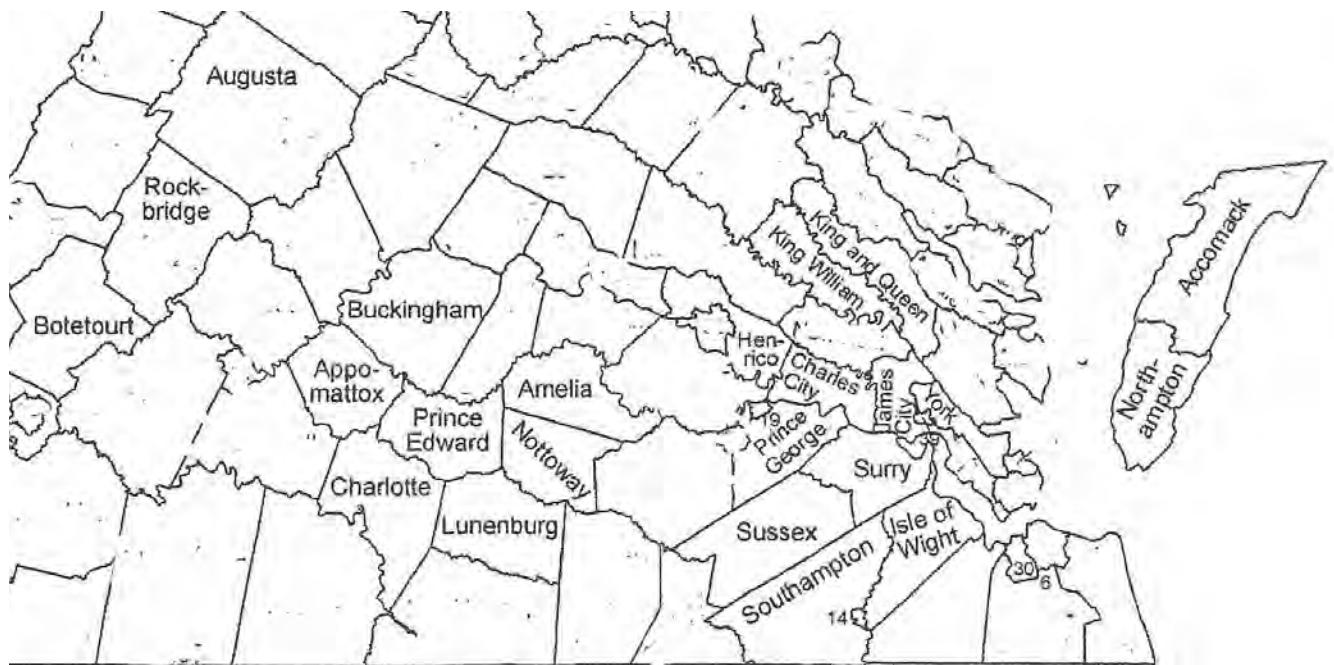
### Descendants of Richard Washington and Frances Browne

1 Richard Washington (about 1598 - about 1642)  
+ Frances Browne (1600 - )  
..2 John Washington (about 1632 - 1660)  
+ Mary Surname Unknown  
.....3 Richard Washington (about 1660 - about 1725)  
+ Elizabeth Jordan (1660 - before 1735)  
.....4 George Washington (between 1680 and 1690 - 1763)  
+ Mary Wright ( - before 1763)  
.....5 George Washington ( - about 1783)  
+ Sarah Surname Unknown  
.....5 Joseph Washington (between 1720 and 1740 - 1803)  
+ Zillah Branch (1748 - )  
.....6 Joseph Washington (1770 - 1848)  
+ Mary Cheatham (1796 - 1865)  
.....6 Andrew Washington (1775 - 1835)  
+ Margaret Bridger  
.....6 Lucy Washington  
+ Ethelbert Carr Williams  
.....6 Amelia Washington  
+ James Clayton  
.....6 Edwin Washington ( - 1804)  
.....6 William Washington  
+ Margaret Tyler  
.....6 George Washington  
.....6 Willis Washington ( - 1802)  
+ Lavinia Holland  
.....4 Richard Washington (about 1685 - )  
+ Hannah Surname Unknown  
.....4 Elizabeth Washington (about 1687 - after 1735)  
+ Sampson Lanier ( - 1743)  
.....4 Arthur Washington  
.....4 John Washington  
+ Elizabeth Surname Unknown ( - 1758)  
.....4 Thomas Washington  
+ Agnes Gray  
.....4 William Washington ( - 1763)  
+ Sarah Tynes ( - 1764)  
.....4 James Washington (about 1697 - 1766)  
+ Joyce Nicholson (between 1702 and 1705 - after 1778)  
.....5 Joyce Washington (1732 - 1799)  
+ John Long (1730 - 1796)  
.....6 Susanna Long (1775 - 1808)  
+ Archer Cheatham Jr. (1771 - 1822)  
.....5 Robert Washington  
+ Agnes Terrell  
.....5 Joanna Washington  
+ Charles Thompson  
.....5 Elizabeth Washington  
.....5 Nicholas Washington  
.....5 Benjamin Washington  
.....5 John Washington ( - 1768)  
+ Sarah Inmund  
.....5 Ethelred Washington  
  
.....4 Priscilla Washington  
+ Robert Lanier (1678 - 1756)  
.....4 Faith Washington  
+ Josiah Barker ( - 1761)  
.....4 Mary Washington  
+ Robert Hart ( - 1770)  
.....4 Arthur Washington ( - 1761)  
+ Sarah Surname Unknown  
.....4 Ann Washington  
+ John Stevens





North Carolina



Virginia

Our Washington ancestry can be traced to our first Washington, **John Washington** (1631/2-1660), of Surry County, Virginia who arrived there sometime before September 1658. He was not transported, but paid his own passage, thereby depriving researchers of records. On September 15, 1658, a Marriage Contract was made between him and the widow Mary “Fford,” making provisions for Mary’s son Thomas Blunt, son of her first husband, Richard Blunt.  The Fford has been read by many genealogists as Flood and connected her to Col. John Flood. [See Flood, George A. Frazer’s Maternal Ancestors]. John and Mary Washington had one son, Richard Washington (1659/1660-1724/1725), who was “of full age 5 September 1681.” (Surry C.O.B. 1671-90, p. 348).

The Washingtons of Surry County, Virginia were substantial families, involved in both the economic development and the political matters of their time. Richard Washington had land in both Surry County and Southampton County, Virginia, but his will and inventory seems to place him in Surry County and appears to show he was a wealthy merchant in addition to owning land. He served in the Militia in Surry County, VA.

Richard Washington married in 1682 Elizabeth **Jordan** (b.1660).  She was the daughter of Arthur Jordan and Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_, widower of Richard Bavinn (**Bevin**), who fell from a horse and died in 1653. The Jordan family appears to have come to Virginia from Suffolk, England, in the 1630s. A “Anth. Jordan” and a “Rich Banen” were headrights<sup>2</sup> of John Moore in 1635, and both men settled in Surry County, Virginia. The Jordan family members were important men in the Colony, holding many high offices.

We trace our Washington and Cheatham lines from two of Richard  and Elizabeth Jordan Washington’s  sons: **George Washington** (Washington-Washington Line) and **James Washington** (Washington-Cheatham Line).

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<sup>2</sup> Headright: A headright represented the entitlement to a certain amount of land acreage granted by the Virginia Company of England under a system begun in 1618. Colonists already living in Virginia received a headright; new immigrants received a headright when they arrived in Virginia; and colonists received a headright when they paid for the passage of another individual to Virginia.

## Washington-Cheatham Line:

### Descendants of Richard Washington and Frances Browne

- 1 Richard Washington (about 1598 - about 1642)
  - + Frances Browne (1600 - )
- ...2 John Washington (about 1632 - 1660)
  - + Mary Surname Unknown
- .....3 Richard Washington (about 1660 - about 1725)
  - + Elizabeth Jordan (1660 - before 1735)
- .....4 James Washington (about 1697 - 1766)
  - + Joyce Nicholson (between 1702 and 1705 - after 1778)
- .....5 Joyce Washington (1732 - 1799)
  - + John Long (1730 - 1796)
- .....6 Susanna Long (1775 - 1808)
  - + Archer Cheatham Jr. (1771 - 1822)

**James Washington** moved to Northampton County, North Carolina about 1740 or before and had a considerable estate and prominence. He had bought land on the south side of the Meherrin River in Bertie County (became Northampton County). James was very involved in the politics of Northampton County as a vestryman for the Northwest Parish of the County and as a Colonial General Assembly representative in 1745, 1747-49, 1754-57, and then 1760 from the newly created county Hertford County. He was a member of the Colonial Assembly 1753-55, 1756, the House of Commons of the North Carolina Assembly 1745, 1747-49, and a Justice of the Peace 1749 and thereafter. In 1756 he was Inspector of Beef and Pork. James Washington married Joyce **Nicholson** in 1729 in Virginia.

Joyce Nicholson's ancestors came from England. It was commonly believed that the Nicholson family probably came from Bushley Parish, Worcestershire. This is because Stephan Webb was from there, and he claimed a George Nicholson as a headright in 1635 in James City County, Virginia. However, there is no proof of a connection between Joyce Nicholson's proven

ancestor, Robert Nicholson, and that George Nicholson. **Robert Nicholson** (d. ca. 1670) immigrated before 1654 and acquired property through headrights of four people in 1656 in Charles City County. He married Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ and was involved with business transactions with tobacco. Robert **Nicholson** (b.ca. 1662-d. ca. 1719) was a boy when his father died and his mother remarried. He was a foot soldier in the Surry County Militia, 1687-1688. Robert Nicholson married as his third wife, Joannah (Joanah) **Joyce** (d. ca. 1743) about 1702 in Surry County.  The Nicholsons were land owners and tobacco planters in Virginia.

Robert and Joannah Joyce Nicolson's daughter Joyce **Nicholson** (b. 1705 Surry County, Virginia-d. ca. 1768, Northampton County, North Carolina) married in 1729 **James Washington** (b.ca. 1697, Surry County, Virginia- d. 1766, Northampton County, North Carolina), and they moved to Northampton County before 1740. John and Joyce Nicholson Washington's daughter **Joyce Washington** (1732-1799) married John **Long** (1730-1796). John and Joyce Washington Long's daughter **Susanna Long** (1775-1808, Northampton County, North Carolina) married ca. 1790 **Archer (Archie) Cheatham Jr.** (1771-1822). [See Cheatham, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors].

## Washington-Washington Lines

### Descendants of Richard Washington and Frances Browne

- 1 Richard Washington (about 1598 - about 1642)
  - + Frances Browne (1600 - )
- ...2 John Washington (about 1632 - 1660)
  - + Mary Surname Unknown
- .....3 Richard Washington (about 1660 - about 1725)
  - + Elizabeth Jordan (1660 - before 1735)
- .....4 George Washington (between 1680 and 1690 - 1763)
  - + Mary Wright ( - before 1763)
- .....5 George Washington ( - about 1783)
  - + Sarah Surname Unknown
- .....5 Joseph Washington (between 1720 and 1740 - 1803)
  - + Zillah Branch (1748 - )
- .....6 Joseph Washington (1770 - 1848)
  - + Mary Cheatham (1796 - 1865)
- .....6 Andrew Washington (1775 - 1835)
  - + Margaret Bridger
- .....6 Lucy Washington
  - + Ethelbert Carr Williams
- .....6 Amelia Washington
  - + James Clayton
- .....6 Edwin Washington ( - 1804)
- .....6 William Washington
  - + Margaret Tyler
- .....6 George Washington
- .....6 Willis Washington ( - 1802)
  - + Lavinia Holland

**George Washington** (d. 1763) married Mary **Wright** in Surry County, Virginia.  We know nothing about this particular branch of the Wright family nor do we know anything about the Fowkes family (the branch from which her mother may have come). Their eldest son, George Washington (d. ca. 1783) married Sarah \_\_\_\_\_ and owned land in Virginia.

\*

## Branch

George and Mary's younger son, **Joseph Washington** (1740- 1803), married Zillah **Branch** (b. 1748) before 1770 in Southampton County, Virginia. Joseph Washington was an Ensign in the Southampton County, Virginia Militia (eligible to be represented in the Daughters of the American Revolution [DAR]).  Zillah's ancestry is not proven completely. Her father was probably **George Branch** (d. 1770, Isle of Wight, Virginia) married to Martha [Bailey].

From what we are able to research, our particular **Branch** line came early to the Isle of Wight County, Virginia, and ended up eventually in Southampton County, Virginia. They would have been landowners, but not as wealthy as the other Branch family [see below].

John Bennett Boddie in his book, *Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County Virginia*, records the Branch genealogy. He writes that George Branch married in Surry County, Virginia to Susanne Corker, daughter of Capt. William Corker, Burgess for James City (Surry County), 1655-56.

His son George married Ann England, daughter of Capt. Francis England (d. 1677) and Sarah \_\_\_. Her father was Capt. Francis England, but there is confusion regarding Ann England's mother. Originally the theory (Boddie in 1976) was that it was Joyce Flake, whose father was Robert

Flake (married to Katharine), but she had no children by England, only children by a prior marriage.

One of their sons was Francis, as mentioned in Captain Francis England's will. Francis England's will (dated 28 Oct 1749, proved 12 Dec 1750) mentions only a son Francis and other children, but this may have included our **George Branch [Jr.]** (d. 1770) in Isle of Wight County. George is listed as a grandson of George Branch [Sr.]

George Branch did not include his daughter Zillah Branch Washington in his 1770 will. However, George's three sons are in the will. George Branch's sons, John, Benjamin and Howell, all came to Tennessee and settled near Whites Creek about five miles from Nashville. Benjamin Branch's place was on the northeast side of the creek where it crosses the present Dickinson Pike. A Washington cousin, Ms. Amelia Washington Evans at the age of 78, in a 1905 letter wrote that Zillah Branch was the mother of Joseph, and that Zillah's three brothers who came to Nashville were John, Howell and Benjamin.

Our Branch family should not be confused with the Christopher Branch family which came to Henrico County near Jamestown in March 1619/20 and were large landowners and direct ancestors of President Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the U.S. These wealthy Branches married into the famous Osborne family (Captain Thomas Osborne - arrived in Jamestown in 1619 on the *Bona Nova*) and ended up in Henrico County.

\*

## **PRE-DNA Washington Genealogy, Now Incorrect:**

[See Washington Memorial in England, Descendants of George Augustine Washington]

It has been thought for years that John Washington of Surry County was the son of Sir John Washington of Thrapston, Northamptonshire (the country parish where the Sulgrave and Althorp Estates are located), but a more thorough study of the family wills showed that the crucial point was in the will of Dame Margaret Sandys, October 11, 1673 (Dyce 118, P.C.C.) printed by a Mr. Waters in the *New England Historical Register* 1889. Margaret Sandys was the sister of Sir John, Sir William, the Rev. Lawrence Washington, and five other brothers.

Sir William died 1643, leaving only a daughter Elizabeth, and no sons. Dame Sandys' will says, "I give to my nephew John Washington, my dear eldest brother's son, Twenty pounds". In one sentence she shows that Sir John must be older than Sir William who had no son living, and that Sir John's son was alive to receive the twenty pounds in 1673. Therefore Sir John's son John did not die in Virginia in 1660.

It could be accepted that John Washington of Surry might be the son of Richard, the younger brother of Sir John. Katherine Harbury, a Virginia genealogist, and an English researcher have been looking into this. However, up to now no records have been found to connect John of Surry to this family. It could be theorized that since John Washington named his son Richard, that John himself might have been the son of Richard, the younger brother of Sir John.

Richard Washington was a freeman of the Clothworkers' Company of London. Their record shows that on the "7<sup>th</sup> July 1614 Richard Washington, son of Laurence Washington of

Wickhammond Co. Northampton Gent (apprenticed) to Richard Brent.

This Richard Washington was born about 1598, and was married at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

April 27, 1627, to Frances Browne. They had a daughter, Amy, baptized October 21, 1628, and a son, John, baptized March 14, 1631/2. Richard, the father, died and was buried January 8, 1641/2; Frances, his widow, married second, January 17, 1642/3 to a Ralph Hall.

Records do show that a Richard Washington did visit Virginia in the 1630s, bought some acreage, and suddenly returned to England where he died shortly after his arrival. He died ca. 1641/1642 and was buried at St. Martins in London. The records say he was “late of Virginia”. He had bought 100 acres of land in Charles River County, Virginia (now York County) as shown in Patent Book 1, p. 731-32, Volume 1/6 (1639).

The will of Ralph Hall, dated July 30, 1658 (Nabbs 18G) P.C.C.) named his wife Frances, and left several legacies to “Mrs. Amy Washington, my wife’s daughter”. John was not mentioned. No marriage has been found for Frances Washington-Hall or for Amy Washington; or a will for either one; nor a will for Richard Washington, or guardianship records for his very young children.



Washington Coat of Arms

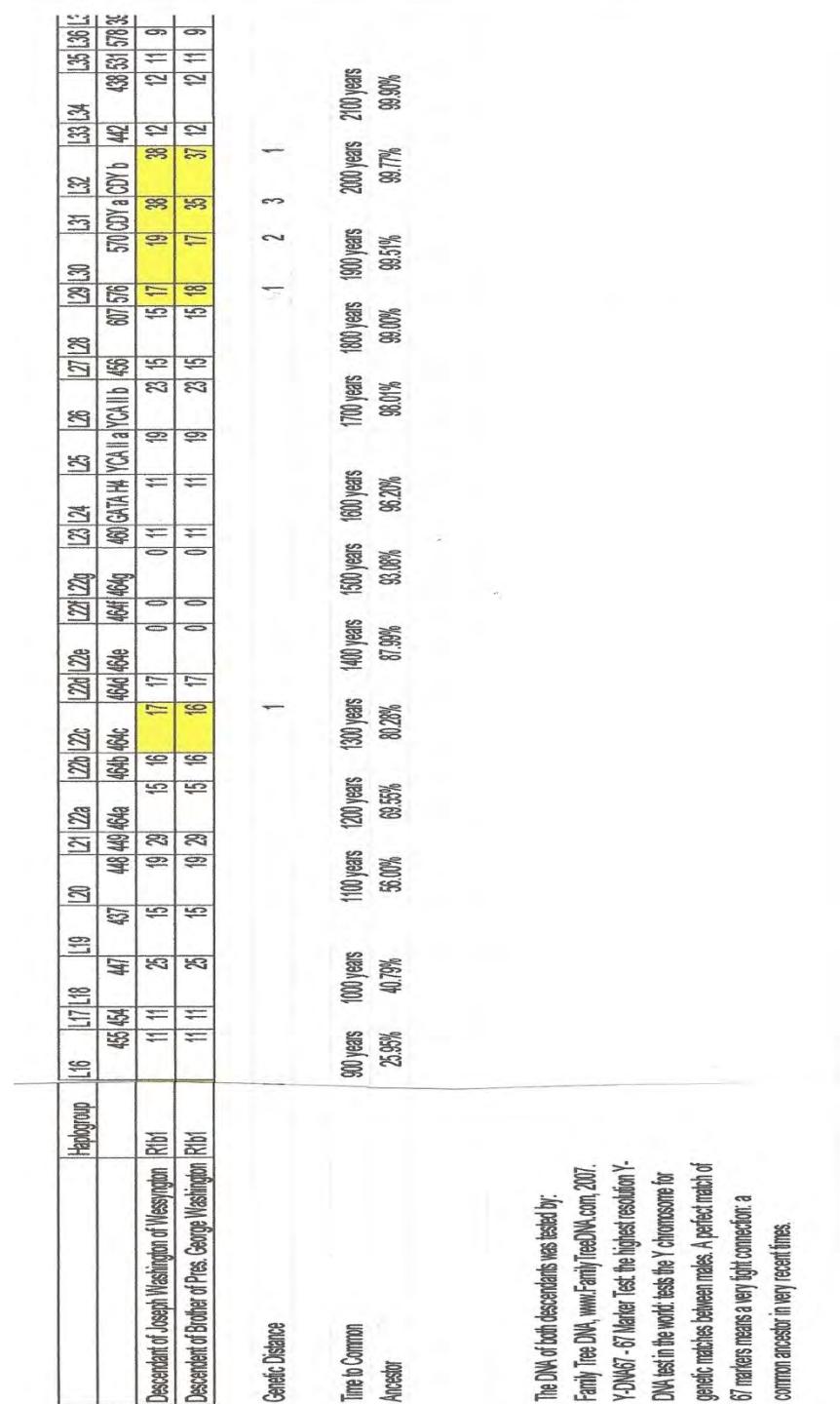
## DNA Washington Comparison:

### **Descendant of Joseph Washington of Wessyngton Plantation to Descendant of Uncle of President George Washington**

The conclusion is that there is a 40.79% chance that the two shared a common ancestor within the past 1000 years or 40 generations. There is a 13.79% chance that the common ancestor lived within the past 800 years or about 32 generations. This proves that the connection of President George Washington's line and our line was only around 1200 AD.

The DNA of both descendants was tested by: Family Tree DNA, [www.FamilyTreeDNA.com](http://www.FamilyTreeDNA.com), 2007.

**Y-DNA67 - 67 Marker Test:** the highest resolution Y-DNA test in the world: tests the Y chromosome for genetic matches between males. A perfect match of 67 markers means a very tight connection: a common ancestor in very recent times.



The DNA of both descendants was tested by:  
Early Tree DNA, [www.EarlyTreeDNA.com](http://www.EarlyTreeDNA.com), 2017.  
Y-DNA67 - 67 Marker Test: the highest resolution Y-DNA test in the world. Tests the Y chromosome for genetic matches between males. A perfect match of 67 markers means a very tight connector: a common ancestor in very recent times.

Bee It Known unto all men by these presents, yt where-  
as a contract of matrimony is agreed upon between me John  
Washington, and Mary fford, widow, I ye sd Washington, ffor  
divere good Causes & Considerations, mee thersunto maving doe  
before ye Celebration & solemnization thereof, by these presents  
ingage & oblige myself, my heires, executors, Administrator or  
assignees, to give and deliver, or cause to be given and delivered,  
unto Robert Stanton Clark, ffefffe in trust one mare ffilly, of  
one year old, to end ffor ye sole use and behoof, of Tho. Blunt,  
sonne of ye said Mary, his heirs, executors, administrators and  
assignees, with male and ffemale inddres ffor ever, wch sd mare  
ffille is to be delivered as above sd, y<sup>e</sup>, day y<sup>e</sup> sd Tho. Blunt, shall  
attain to ten years of age, in Surry County, and ffurther I y<sup>e</sup> sd  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Washington Doe hereby oblige myself, to acknowledge this my  
reall & voluntary act & deed, in y<sup>e</sup> next Court, to be holden  
ffor y<sup>e</sup> County of surry, & to have it recorded accordingly, in  
y<sup>e</sup> sd Courts records, witt:  
my hand and seal dated y<sup>e</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, still Anglia en<sup>o</sup>  
domini 1658.

John Washington (Sealed with  
red wax)

signed, sealed and delivered

in y<sup>e</sup> presence of us - - - -

Jn<sup>o</sup>. Flood  
Ben Sidney  
Edmund Shippam  
Jn<sup>o</sup>. Allen  
Tho. fflood

John Washington and Mary Ford, marriage contract.  
*Surry County, Virginia Book 1, 1645-1672, p. 126.*

Will of Robert Nicholson (1720)

In the Name of God Amen the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1719 I Robert Nicholson of Southwark parish in surry County being Sick and weak in body but of Sound and perfect Sence thanks be God do make and Ordain this to be my Last Will and Testament In manner and form as followeth, first I bequeath my Soul to God that gave it me trusting & Stedfastly believing through the merits of my blessed Saviour Jesus Christ to Receive full pardon for all my Sins my body I Commit to the Earth from whence it came to be decently Enterd at the discretion of my Executrix And for the wor\ldly Estate that God of his mercy hath bestowed on me I dispose thereof as followeth

Items: I Give and bequeath unto my Dafter Joyce one Negro Girl called Grace w<sup>th</sup> her Increase to the said Joyce and her heirs I also Give to the said Joyce fourty pounds Currant money and also one Gold ring of about 12 shillin price.

Item: I Give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Joannah Joyce, the Labour of my three old Negroes to say Frank, Tony and Bess dureing her naturall Life, and the Increase of the Wench Bess hereafter I Give to be equally divided between my three Dafter Joyce, Ann & Eliza: to them and their heirs I likewise Give to my aforesaid wife thirty Shillings to buy my two Youngest Children Each of them a Ring I likewise give to my aforesaid wife one good Feather bed and furniture and one Gold ring of about twenty Shillin price

Robert Nicholson's will, 1719. Excerpts with bequests to his daughter, Joyce, and wife Joannah Joyce.

"...I give unto John Nicholson the great Bible that was his father's which is properly mine. I give unto Robert Nicholson 15 lbs. current money. To dau. Joice Nicholson 10 lbs. current money, etc. To dau. Ann Nicholson 10 lbs. and a silver bodkin. To dau. Elizabeth my gold ring and and 15 lbs. current money. If my son Robert above mentioned dies underage or without heirs of his body lawfully begotten, his part to be equally divided between my two daus. Joice and Ann Nicholson...if either dau. dies, their part to be divided between my son Robert and the surviving daughter... Capt. Henry Harrison to have care of daus. Joice & Elizabeth until of age or married. Dau. Ann Nicholson to Capt. Thomas Cocke, son of Mr. Walter Cocke, with her portion in full, he refunding the same at day of her marriage or of age. Thomas Cocke, Executor; Witnesses, Nicholas Cocke, Mary Dawson and Mary Allstin. James Rookings, Security."

Joanah Joyce Nicholson Flood's will. October 21, 1720 (after her second marriage); probated May 10, 1743. Bequests to daughter Joice Nicholson. Surry County Deeds & Wills, Book 9, p. 433-434.

BEE IT KNOWN unto all men by these presents,  
that whereas there is a marriage to be made and consummated between Arthur Jordan and Elizabeth Bavinn both of the Parish of Southwark in ye County of Surry, and having concluded upon certain conditions have mutually agreed and consented this shall be contained in a deed unto the Jordans hand and seal in manner and forme following, vift: That the said Arthur Jordan shall not at any time nor noe time hereafter neither dispose nor make sale of a red mare nor philly nor their female increase but that it shall be the said Elizab. Bavinn own nor that the said Elizabeth doe not make over, give or dispose of them but if the said Arthur out live her the said Elizabeth it is all to remain in his hands as his own proper estate, but shall not be given from their children lawfully begotten on her body but if the said Eliza. out live him the said Arthur then the said Arthur shall not give away from her the said Eliza. any of the said mares and their increase and the said Arthur is to have and may dispose of all the male increase.....  
*is to have ye first mare foole that falls from the said red mare.* Also according to the firat article she the

said Elizabeth is to have two cowes called Browne and Lowely a yearling black heiffer with a white belly and a cowe calfe of Golding, falled this yeare with all their female increase and ye mare as aforesaid.

In witness whereof I the said Arthur Jordan have hereunto sett his hand and seal dated 12th Aprill 1654.

When ye said Eliz. shall require it this deed to be recorded by the said Arthur Jordan.

The mark A of Arthur Jordan. The seal red wax.

Signed, sealed and delivered  
in the presence of-----

Arthur Jordan (1628-1699) and Elizabeth \_\_\_\_ widower of Richard Bavinn (Bevin) (b.1630)  
Marriage Contract, 1654. *Surry County, Virginia Records, Vol. 1652-1672 Book 1*, p. 149.

Arthur—(X)—Jordan, of Southwark Parrish, Surry Co., Will of; 24, Sept. 1698. "very sick and weake of body." To son George Jordan all the land I now possess alsoe a negro boy that now lives withe him named George, a good feather bed with a rugge and a blanket. Son River Jordan one good feather bed with a rugge and a blankett, a negro boy that now lives with him named William, a mulatto boy named John, a negro girl named Sarah. My son and daughter Washington feather bed, rugge & paire of blankets, paire of sheets, mare called Fielo, negro girl that already lives with them name Seabro, a negro boy that now lives with them named Sam. Granddaughter Elizabeth Jordan a cow called Dogge. Grandson Arthur Washington one cowe named Spott. All my other estate being in Virginia or elsewhere unto my two sonnes George

and River Jordan too bee equally divided between them share and share alike. I doe alsoe will and earnestly desire that my negro Charity bee and doe imediately after my decease quietly possess and enjoy the (sic her?) freedome and whereas there being a late act of Assembly that thy oblige all negroes enjoying their freedome to be transported out of this countrie before they can leave here I doe therefore command and obledge you George and River Jordan and ye are afore mentioned that you at your owne proper costs and charges to send her out of this country and so bringe her in againe and suffer her peaceably to enjoy her freedome as aforesd." Son River Jordan Executor. "I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and annull all and other former testaments wills legacies bequests and executors by me and my wife before this time named willed & bequeathed ratifying and confirming this and none other to be my last will and testament." Witnesses—Nathaniel Harrison, Water Flood, Thos. Flood. Recorded Jany. 3, 1698/9. Ibid. p. 160.

SURRY COUNTY RECORDS, VOL. 4.

Will of Arthur Jordan (1628-1699). Bequest to Washington son-in-law and daughter (Richard and Elizabeth Jordan Washington).

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN; the ninth day of November in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and twenty four, I Richard Washington of Southwark Parish in Surry County being weak in body but in perfect mind and memory --- knowing that it is appointed for all men

once to die do make and ordain this my last will and testament and do devise of my worldly estate as follows.

ITEM: I give and bequeath unto my son George Washington 300 acres of land lying and being on the west side of the Notoway Swamp to him and his heirs forever; one Negro woman called Sabery and all of the stock and moveables he has now in his possession; one feather bed and furnishings and the labor of one negro man called Dick during his life and then to return to William Washington.

ITEM: I give unto my son Richard Washington and to his heirs forever all that part of my estate he hath now in his possession which is his full share of my estate.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son John Washington 150 acres of land more or less beginning at the Pokefield Branch at the head thereof lying on the back-side of his own land and to his heirs forever and all the stock and moveables he hath now in his possession.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son William Washington and his heirs forever 350 acres of land beginning at the aforesaid Pokefield (Pokefield) Branch and so down the said Seacock Swamp near to the mouth of the Lightwood Swamp to complete the same. I also give him all the stock and moveables he hath now in his possession on the said land. To said son I also give two negroes Sam and Sary.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my son Thomas Washington and his heirs forever this land and plantation whereon I now live beginning on the Blackwater Swamp --- and thence to the Mill Branch and Blackwater to first station. But if my said son shall offer to sell, lease or mortgage the land for above seven years, that then the next heir shall come in and enjoy the said land as if it had never been given him or in case he should refuse any of the rest to have the same privilege with the mill and all the houses now standing on the said land. I also give to my said son one negro man called Robin and another called Mingo with a proviser (proviso) that the said Thomas Washington buy a negro girl between 12 and 20 years for Ann Washington. If not, Ann is to have the negro Mingo. I also give to my son stock, feather bed and furnishings, 16 pewter dishes and one iron pott, one strong water still, six leather chairs, one cross-cut saw, to belong to the plantation, and also my Horse Arms.

ITEM: I give and bequeath unto my son Arthur Washington 165 acres of land lying on Seacock Swamp to him and his heirs forever, but if my said son shall offer to sell, lease or mortgage the said land for above seven years, the said land is to go to the next heir as if it had never been given to son James and in case that heir should refuse, any of the rest of his brothers to have the same liberty.

ITEM: I give and bequeath unto my son Arthur Washington all the remaining part of this land lying below Thomas Washington's land on Blackwater being by estimation 300 acres be the same more or less to him and his heirs forever, but if he shall offer to sell, lease or mortgage any part of the said land then Thomas Washington is to have and enjoy the said land forever. I also give to my said son 200 acres bounded and lying between his brother George Washington and floggy run. But if he offers to sell, lease or mortgage any part of this said land then George Washington is to have and enjoy the said land forever. I also give to my said son one feather bed and furnishings, 6 pewter dishes, furniture, one long gun, stock, and three negroes after his mother's decease, that is Harry, Jane, and Frank and also the labor of one negro Tony which he is to receive at age 21 years, which he is not to sell or let. If he doth either of these his brother William Washington is to seize (seize) on the said negro and take him as his own, I also give him one crosscut saw.

ITEM: I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth Lanier 200 acres of land lying on the west side of the Mill Branch that is the land wherein she now lives, to her and her heirs forever. She is also to have any sort of timber from the swamp for her plantation use. I give to my son-in-Law Sampson Lanier 200 acres of land in Isle of Wight County on the east side of the floggy run to him and his heirs forever.

ITEM: I give to my daughter Priscilla Washington a feather bed with furnishings, curtains and vallings (valances), bottle, horse and side saddle, six pewter dishes and plates, a negro woman Grace and a negro boy Peter to her and her heirs lawfully begotten. If she die without heirs, then the negroes and their increase to return to the above mentioned.

ITEM: I give to my daughter Ann Washington feather bed and furnishings, 6 pewter plates, six pewter dishes,

cows and calves, sheep, horse and side saddle, and one

Will of Richard Washington (d. 1725), Nov. 9, 1724; probated May 19, 1725.  
Surry County, Virginia Record Book, Vol. 1, 1715-1730, p. 583.

ITEM: I give to my daughter Faitha Barker three sheep besides what she hath already in her possession.

ITEM: I give to my daughter Mary Hart one negro girl called Isbell, but if my daughter dies without heirs the negro is to be returned to my estate. I also give my daughter seven pounds in cash and pounds in English goods and one mare and side saddle, which mare they have now in possession.

ITEM: I give to my grandson Thomas Lanier the first child negro Sary brings, to be nursed by its mother one whole year.

I give to my four grandsons Arthur, Sampson, Richard and Samuel (Lanier) each of them a breeding cow or value thereof.

I give and bequeath unto my grandson John Washington 250 acres of land lying in the Isle of White (Wight) County at the mouth of Notoway Swamp. If my said grandson dies before he reaches age 21 years then the said land is to fall to George Washington and his heirs.

I give to Richard and Josiah Barker to each of them a breeding cow.

ITEM: I give to my beloved wife Elizabeth Washington one feather bed and furniture and the use of another during her life and the labor of three negroes Harry, Frank and Jene during her natural life and the third part of my plantation during her natural life, one iron pot, six pewter dishes, and what cattle and household stuff she hath all necessary occasion of, and hogs.

My will is that the remaining part of my estate be divided between my wife and children that is George, John, Thomas, William, James, Arthur, Priscilla and Ann. I give unto my two sons George and William all my wearing cloaths (clothes) to be equally divided between them.

I constitute make and ordain George and Thomas Washington whole and sole executors of this my last will and testament -----.

IN WITNESS whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal the day and year above written. "I desire my two loving friends John Simmons and Howell Edmunds to see this my will preformed (performed)." Signed and Sealed in the presence of

Richd Washington, Sealed with a wafer

Will of Richard Washington (d. 1725), Nov. 9, 1724; probated May 19, 1725.  
*Surry County, Virginia Record Book, Vol. 1, 1715-1730, p. 583.*

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN. I, Elizabeth Washington Reliq, of Richard Washington, deceased, of County of Surrey and Parish of Southwark, being of perfect health and memory at this time, thanks be to Almighty God for the same, but considering the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the Mortall life do make and declare this to be my last will and testament, and do hereby make void all former wills whatsoever commanding my soul to God who gave it me, thro the merits of Jesus Christ my Savior, and my body to be decently buried at the discretion of my hereafter mentioned Exor, and my worldly goods as followeth that is to say.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my son George Washington three new Pewter dishes, one iron bred pan, a down pillow and two silk handkerchiefs.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my son Richard Washington three lbs. of holland.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my son John Washington one iron pott qt. eight or nine gallons with pot hooks and pot racks, one chest and two stone jugs. The one containing two gallons and the other one gallon.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my son Thos. Washington One good Feather bed and bolster, a down pillow, one rugg, one blankett, a hammock and pr. of sheets, one suit of curtains and Vallian and bedstead and all the brass ware that I have, one spitt, one iron pestle, one pr. fire tongs, one gridiron chafin dish, one box iron, one small iron pott, three new pewter dishes, one stone butter pott, and all the hogs and cattle that belongs to me except three young cow's, one pewter hankard, two porringers, one chest of drawers and a seal skin trunk.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my son William Washington three pewter dishes, two boles, one large and the other small and two plaits.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my son James Washington three young cows and one pr. Pott Racks.

Will of Elizabeth Jordan Washington. Probated May 21, 1735. Bequest to son, George Washington.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my son Arthur Washington one large bible and Common Prair Book, one large cason and pewter chamber pott, and to his wife my side saddle.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth Lanier one cold still three new dishes and a gold ring.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my daughter Brissillah Lanier the worth of forty shillings.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my daughter Faith Barker one large bason and the halph of my waring cloath.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my daughter Mary Hart one small box, one large bason and one book called the Practice of Piehy and the other halph of my waring cloaths and one stone butter pott.

ITEM. I give and bequeath to my daughter Ann Washington one book called Christs famous Title and Golden Chain.

LASTLY. I do make and ordain my above said Thos. Washington me whole and sole Executr. of this my last will and Testament and to see that the same be fully compleated according to the true intent and meaning of the words written.

Elizabeth Jordan Washington, Sealed with red wax.

At a court held for Surry County, May 21st, 1735.

The above mentioned will of Elizabeth Washington, deceased, thus presented by Thomas Washington Execut. thereof who made oath thereto and made bond with secretary according to law, and being proved by the oath's of Benjamin Reeks and Thomas Drinkhard witnesses thereto, the same is ordered to be recorded and is recorded by,

A Copy.

Jno. Allen,

Cl. Cur.

Teste:

A. T. Edwards, Clerk.

Will of Elizabeth Jordan Washington, conclusion. Probated May 21, 1735. Bequest to son, George Washington.

I George Washington of S. hampton County being sick and weak of body but of sound & perfect sense and memory and calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and that it is appointed for all men to die to make and ordain this my last will & testament in manner and forme following to wit:

Item. I devise and bequeath unto my son George Washington my plantation whereon I now live & all the lands adjoining to it beginning at Richard Johnston's line a corner tree on lightwood stump and from thence a straight line to the foot of a small branch where a hammock of dead pine lately stood thence down the meadow branch to James T. Scott's line containing four hundred and forty acres be the same more or less I give unto my said son George Washington and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten forever.

Item. I give devise and bequeath unto my son Joseph Washington all the remainder part of my land from flaggy swamp to his brother Georges line including four hundred acres more or less unto him and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten forever. I also give him all things which I have already possessed him and one whip saw.

And all the remainder part of my estate of what nature or kind seever after my just debts and funeral expences be paid I give and bequeath unto my son George Washington & his heirs.

And lastly I nominate constitute and appoint my two sons George & Joseph Washington to be my executors to this my last will & testament as witness my hand and seal this 11 day of September 1763.

his  
George Washington (L.S.)  
mark

James Jordan Scott  
John Beal  
Jashua Beal.

At a Court held for the county of S. hampton the 13 day of October 1763.

This will was presented in court by George Washington one of the executors therein named proved by the oaths of John Beal & Jashua Beals two of the witnesses thereto & ordered to be recorded and on the motion of the sd exec who made oath according to law certificate is granted him for obtaining a probat thereof in due forms giving security ex.

R. Kelle C.

A COPY:  
ATTEST: H.B. McLemore, Clerk.  
By: B. M. Wills, S.C.

Will of George Washington (d. 1763), September 11, 1763.  
*Surry County Will Book 2, p. 56.*

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN<sup>T</sup> I Joseph Washington of the Parish of Nottoway and County of Southampton being minefull of the frailty of human nature and that it is appointed for all men once to die being of sound mind, memory and understanding do therefore make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that i it is to say first and principally, I commit my soul to Almighty God my body to the earth there to be decently buried according to the direction of my Executors hereafter named.-----

Item.-- My Will and desire is that the tract of land lying and situat on Flag Swamp containing by estimation 305 acres more or less together with Eight negroes, namely, Seppe, Tom, Ephrain,Kate, Nalso Louise, Stephen Elvina, shall be equally divided between my child ren, namely William, Joseph, Andrew, Edwin, Lucy Williams and Fane Washington, to them and their heirs forever.-----

Item-- I give and bequeath unto my son Edwin the plantation where t now live to-gether with the appertanances thereon., also five negr namely, Harry, Cesor, Jacob, Nelly and Reuben, fourhorses, ten he of cattle, all the sheep, Hogs, house-hols and kitchen furniture, the plantation utensils. Vc<sup>t</sup> (Except one feather bed and dresser to him and his heirs forever.-----

Item-- I give and bequeath unto my daughter Lucy Williams, one negr girl named Lyddia, one negro Boy Mosses and four hundred pounds to paid by my Executors to her and her heirs forever.

Item-- I give and bequeath unto my daughter Famelia Washington two negros, namely Sam and Isham, also four hundred pounds/<sup>one</sup>feather bed, first choiced one dresser, and seven head of cattle to her and her heirs forever.-----

Lastly- I appoint my son Edwin Washington my whole and sole Executor of this my last will and testament, In witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and affixed my seal this 23rd day of April 1803.

Signed sealed and acknowledged Joseph Washington (SEAL)  
to be the last Will and Testament  
in presence of

Joseph Branch

Francis Branch

Soloman Holmes.

At a Court held for the County of Southampton the 18th. day of July 1803. This will presented in Court by Edwin Washington Ex-ecutor therein named and proved by the oaths of Joseph Branch and Francis Branch two of the witnesses thereto and ordetized to be re-corded and the motion of the said executor who made oath according to law probate was granted him giying bond whereupon Vc.  
Sam Kallo- C.

Will of Joseph Washington (d. 1803), April 23, 1803; probated July 18, 1803.  
Will Book # 5, Southampton County, VA, p. 420.

# Washington

## 2. Washington Family

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016

# Washington

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## Descendants of Joseph Washington and Zillah Branch

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- 1 Joseph Washington (between 1720 and 1740 - 1803)
  - + Zillah Branch (1748 - before 1803)
- ..2 Joseph Washington (1770 - 1848)
  - + Mary Cheatham (1796 - 1865)
- .....3 Martha Susan Washington (1813 - 1824)
- .....3 George Augustine Washington (1815 - 1892)
  - + Margaret Adelaide Lewis (1823 - 1844)
- .....4 William Lewis Washington (1844 - 1902)
  - + Jane Smith (1830 - 1894)
- .....4 Mary Washington (1850 - 1854)
- .....4 Joseph Edwin Washington (1851 - 1915)
  - + Mary Bolling Kemp (1861 - 1946)
- .....4 Martha Susan Washington (1854 - 1937)
  - + George Newton Tillman (1851 - 1923)
- .....4 Mary Washington (1855 - 1928)
  - + James Stokes Frazer (1852 - 1892)
  - + David Shelby Williams (1856 - 1924)
- .....4 Male Washington (1857 - 1857)
- .....4 Bessie Adelaide Washington (1858 - 1887)
  - + Henry Bethune Tompkins (1844 - 1903)
- .....4 Male Washington (1860 - 1860)
- .....4 Lucy Amelia Washington (1861 - 1955)
  - + John Larue Helm II (1847 - 1917)
- .....4 Male Washington (1863 - 1863)
- .....4 Male Washington (1864 - 1864)
- .....4 Jane Augusta Washington (1867 - 1941)
  - + Felix Grundy Ewing (1856 - 1935)
- .....4 George Augustine Washington Jr. (1868 - 1926)
  - + Mary Pleasants Richardson (1868 - 1891)
  - + Marina Kirkman Woods (1868 - 1959)
- ....3 Joseph Edwin Washington (1817 - 1818)
- ...2 Andrew Washington (1775 - 1835)
  - + Margaret Bridger
- ....3 Joseph George Washington (1808 - 1836)
- ....3 Amanda Washington
  - + Washington Ryburn
- ....4 Medora Amanda Ryburn (1834 - 1845)
- ....3 Richard Alvin Washington
  - + Name Unknown
- ....4 Joseph Washington
- ....3 James Clinton Washington
- ...2 Lucy Washington
  - + Ethelbert Carr Williams
- ...2 Amelia Washington
  - + James Clayton
- ...2 Edwin Washington ( - 1804)
- ...2 William Washington
  - + Margaret Tyler
- ...2 George Washington
- ...2 Willis Washington ( - 1802)
  - + Lavinia Holland

Joseph and Zillah Branch **Washington**'s son, **Joseph** (1770-1848), came to Robertson County, Tennessee in 1796 with his uncle, Benjamin Branch.  <sup>1</sup>

When Joseph came first from Southampton County, Virginia in 1796, he made the journey on horseback [accompanied by his servant, also on horseback] and brought practically all of his worldly goods in a pair of cow skin saddle bags. He and his relatives moved westward with that restless tide of emigration ever seeking adventure and success in new fields, where land was abundant and cheap. [In addition] there was a well authenticated tradition that the prime cause of his emigration to this section was his love for his fair cousin Roseanna Branch whose father Benjamin Branch with his whole family was removing from Southampton County, Virginia, to a place on Whites Creek in Davidson County not far from Nashville. Joseph Washington was one of the party. During the journey they were joined by a handsome dashing young cavalier named Murray. The fair, but fickle Roseanna, it was said, transferred her affections from Cousin Joseph to the plausible stranger. The romance ended. The young man upon investigation proved an unsuitable match.<sup>2</sup>

In 1796, Joseph Washington visited with Joseph Philips (whose family was from Surry

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<sup>1</sup>  indicates that a document or photograph related to this topic is included in this booklet.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph E. Washington, "Address of Hon. Joseph E. Washington, May 24<sup>th</sup> 1915 On the Occasion of the Reunion at Wessyngton of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of his father George Augustine Washington," Washington Family Papers, Tennessee State Library and Archives. Adapted from speech with additional information included in brackets.

County) at his home on Whites Creek in Gallatin (on Dickerson Pike, six miles north of Nashville), but Joseph Washington found the area too densely populated and traveled north to Robertson County where he founded Wessyngton Plantation.<sup>3</sup>

A family connection across ancestral lines: in 1796 the land where Wessyngton was later founded was owned by Moses and Caleb Winters (First Families of Tennessee). Rev. Green Hill [See Hill, George A. Frazer's Paternal Ancestors] visited the area from his home in North Carolina. In his diary, Rev. Hill noted that while in Tennessee he visited the ordinary (tavern) owned by Moses Winters.

Our Washington lines joined again in 1812. On Joseph Washington's 1796 trip, he visited his second cousin, Susanna Long, who was married to Archer Cheatham Jr. [See Cheatham, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors]. The Cheathams had a little new-born baby girl, Mary. Archer received Joseph in their Robertson County home. After talking for a while, he brought out the little baby girl and placed her in Joseph's arms, and said, "Joseph, behold your future wife."

Joseph and Mary married in 1812; they were second cousins once removed. 

Joseph Washington founded Wessyngton Plantation in 1798.  He bought the land from Moses Winters.  He left a real legacy as did his descendants who even improved on it.

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<sup>3</sup> This information is not in the Washington Family Papers, and perhaps the story only came to light when a Washington descendant, George Augustine Frazer, married Sadie Warner who was related to that Philips family. [See Philips, Sadie Warner Frazer Southern Ancestors] Sadie Warner Frazer recorded the story in her memoirs.

Wessyngton Plantation grew to just before the Civil War to 13,100 acres, 274 slaves, and was a plantation which was second largest tobacco producer in the world at that time - second only to one owned by the Egyptian Khedive (the ruler of Egypt [a viceroy] under the Sultan of Turkey as Egypt was a part of the Ottoman Empire). They also produced cured hams under the name Washington Country Hams that were sold in the leading hotels in Philadelphia and New Orleans.

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington's son, George Augustine Washington, was their only child to live to be an adult; he inherited and ran the plantation.  They established a family cemetery on the plantation around 1818 when they buried their infant son. 

Wessyngton remained in the Washington family until 1983 when the Blagden, Kinsolving, and Hotchkiss families (from New York and Connecticut who had married into the Washington family in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century) sold the plantation. It is currently a cattle farm; the house remains as well as a slave cabin.

The plantation is described in books and articles. The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009) [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com). For his research, he used the Washington Family Papers in the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville. I worked closely with him in regard to the Washington family history. I would also strongly suggest that the book is a wonderful source of information about our family. *Hospitality Homes and Historic Sites* by Ralph Winters (1971) has photographs and maps. In 2014 the Tennessee State Museum mounted an exhibition, "Slaves and Slaveholders of Wessyngton Plantation;" a Washington descendant, Frank Williams, donated funds for an exhibit catalog.

Therefore I include here only some stories that have come down through the family. George Augustine Washington (1815-1892), married first Margaret Adelaide Stokes Lewis (1823-1844) by whom he had a son, William Lewis Washington (1844-1902). Margaret Lewis' father William Berkeley Lewis owned Fairfield Plantation in Nashville and was a member of President Andrew Jackson's Kitchen Cabinet. Margaret Adelaide died shortly after

childbirth. Our grandfather, George Augustine Frazer, told me that one day in the early 1890s he was sitting in a living room and a beautiful woman in a white dress came in, and then walked over and passed through the wall where a staircase had been in the 1840s. He was told that this was the ghost of Adelaide Lewis who often appeared in her wedding gown.

George Augustine Washington married Jane Smith (1830-1894) on June 21, 1849.  [See Smith, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors]. [See Dawson, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors].

I visited Wessyngton as a young child. We knew some of the African-Americans who were still there, including "Dit" Terry whom Grandmother Sadie Warner Frazer would call from time to time to see how things were going with "cousin" George A. Washington 2d, whom as a child I met. He was the last resident of Wessyngton with the surname, a bachelor who died in 1964.

The left side wing of Wessyngton housed the kitchen, laundry and store rooms and had rooms on the second floor for the house servants. Those who were nursemaids generally slept in the room with the children. Our great grandmother Mary Washington Frazer's nursemaid slept in her room until she was 18 or until after she had made her debut. "Uncle Man" (Emanuel Washington) always slept in the rooms with the boys in our grandfather's generation. There were always four or five boys visiting on vacation in the summer; they slept in the Law Library, a separate building in front of the house (no longer there). Uncle Man was the "policeman" for

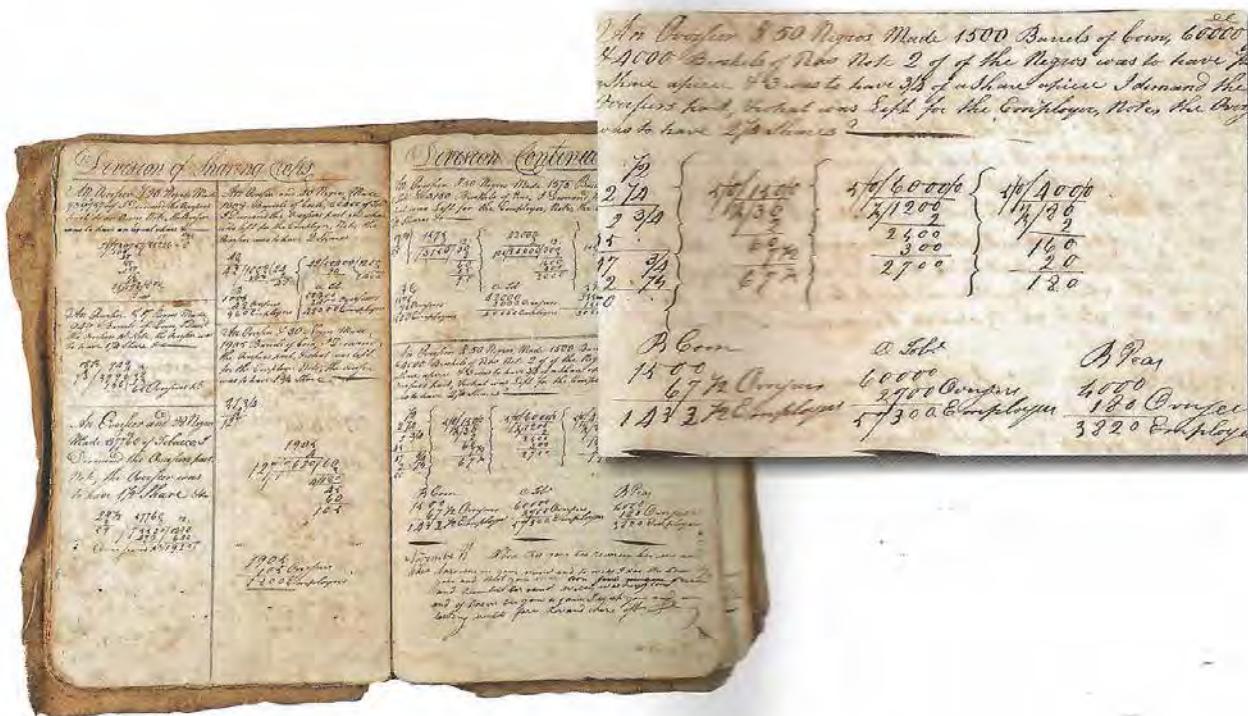
the young boys as well as the head cook. His wife, Hettie Washington, was the laundress.

A younger brother of Joseph Washington was Andrew Washington (1775 - 1835) who moved to lower Kentucky (Tennessee) about 1800, and lived in Robertson County.  Andrew's son, Joseph George Washington (Joseph Washington, Jr.) (1808-1836), died at the Battle of the Alamo; he was referred to as "Alamo Joe."  Andrew Washington and Andrew's granddaughter, Medora Amanda Ryburn (1834-1845), were reinterred in 1939 in the Springfield City Cemetery by George A. Washington 2d from their first resting place north of Wessyngton, 1.5 miles south of the Tennessee-Kentucky border. They were probably reinterred again in Elmwood Cemetery, but I cannot prove this.

\*

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Joseph Washington's (1770-1848) school "cipher" notebook used to learn mathematics. These pages show his calculations of the crop yield per "Negro." Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Nedon Grove October 20<sup>th</sup> 1802  
 Mr. Joseph Washington  
 Sir I hereby appoint you  
 Lieutenant of the Troop of the Robertson  
 County Troop of Cavalry. after your Troop  
 is compleated we to Number, an Election is  
 to be held agreeably to the Order sent to Capt. John Baker - I am Sir yours &c.  
 Robert Hayes. Col. Cavalry

Joseph Washington, Lieutenant, Robertson County Troop of Cavalry, 1802.  
Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

**Joseph Washington (1770-1848):**



Joseph Washington by John C. Grimes, 1836.



Joseph Washington's Money Purse.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

WILL OF JOSEPH WASHINGTON,  
OF  
WESSYNTON, TENNESSEE

I, Joseph Washington of the County of Robertson, and State of Tennessee, being of sound mind and disposing memory, and knowing the uncertainty of human events, do publish this, my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking and cancelling all other Wills at any time made.

I desire, that my body be interred in the family burying ground, in a decent and Christian-like manner and most cheerfully resign my spirit to the God who gave it.

Item the first: I give and bequeath to my loving wife Mary Washington, my carriages and horses, with all my household and kitchen furniture of any kind and description.

Item the second: I give and bequeath to my loving wife Mary Washington, and my son George A. Washington, the balance of my property, both real and personal of every description that I may die possessed of to have and to hold and to do with and by, as they think proper, and that my Executor hereafter named, be exempt from surety.

Lastly: I do hereby, nominate and appoint my dutiful son Geo. A. Washington my whole and sole Executor to this, my last Will and Testament.

In witness whereof I do to this my said Will and Testament, set my hand and seal, this 22nd day of March 1847.

J. Washington  
(Seal)

Signed sealed and published in our presence, and we have subscribed our names hereto in presence of the Testator this 22nd March, 1847.

Wm. Easly  
Jesse Davis

I, J. Earl Farmer, County Court Clerk, Robertson County, Tennessee, do hereby certify that the above is a true and perfect copy of said Will as the same appears of record in Will Book 14, page 108.

Witness my hand and seal of office this July 9, 1938.

  
J. EARL FARMER, COUNTY COURT CLERK.

Will, Joseph Washington, March 22, 1847.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

### Mary Cheatham Washington (1796-1865):



Mary Cheatham Washington by John C. Grimes, 1836.



Receipt from J. Grimes for three portraits (Joseph Washington, Mary Cheatham Washington and Andrew Washington), 1836.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

for ten dollars of place untrust on the last letter yet I have <sup>the</sup> got no getting  
higher if she will send me one dollar and a half I will get her  
one of the post office certificates that she  
and or can a few poorly. I am very  
desirous have some for her in  
remain your dear Daughter

1824  
Nashville Nov 7<sup>th</sup>

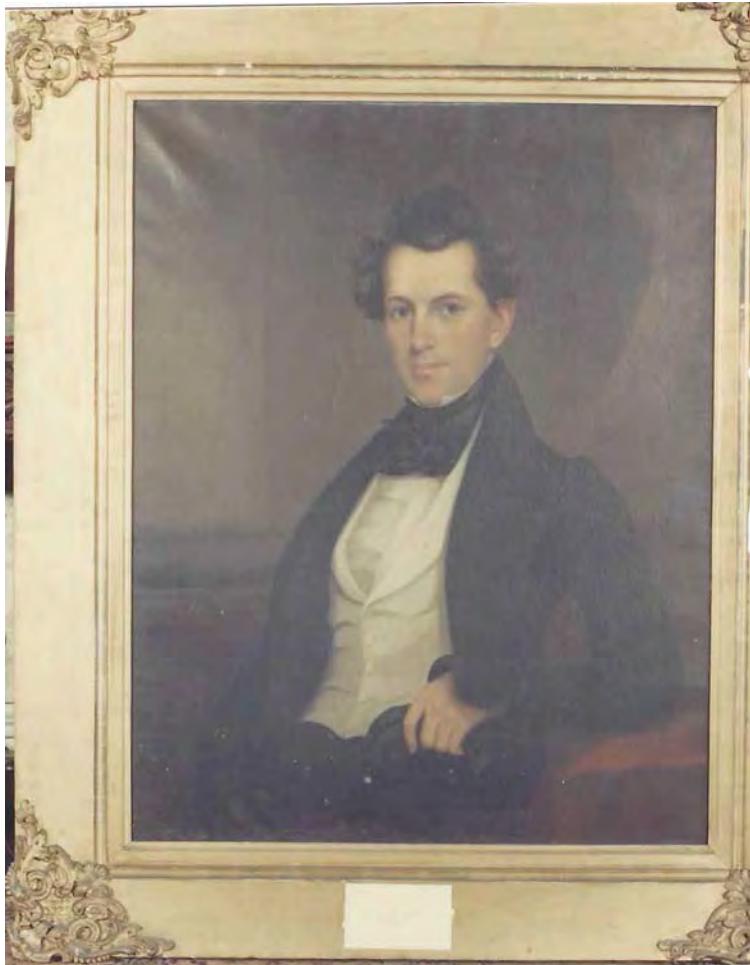
My Dear Mother

I have waited with impatience  
receiving a letter from you but I have not heard from home since  
I left you certainly you have not received my letter which you would  
have answered it before this time certainly paper must be scarce  
over there, I am well except there a very bad cold which I believe  
early cominice I do not expect that you have heard of the death  
of L. Franklin Relation that General Jeff. Greenfield  
he died about two days ago unluckly, I believe store very  
healthy in this place at the time I asked the Relation how  
much he would charge to go there on the vacation and time  
the piano and he said 150; let me go to the storeing which  
Dear Mother it will not be but the dollar and a half for the rest  
of their season it every Saturday if you please will me more as soon  
as you get this letter please send me the money to pay for my board  
and room one regimant paper and my pen and book my bonnet is still  
a great deal better than I expected it took me a week all are now  
done, tell Aunt Elizabeth that she must thank her in one word

Letter written by Martha Susan Washington to her mother, Mary Cheatham Washington. She died a few days later on November 7, 1824. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Andrew Washington (1775 - 1835), by John C. Grimes, 1836.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

Springfield, Tennessee.

ANDREW WASHINGTON'S WILL - 1835

State of Tennessee  
Robertson County }

I, Andrew Washington make and publish this my last Will  
and Testament in manner and form - as follows &c

In the first place, I will that my just debts be paid  
agreeable to contracte.

I then will that my wife Margaret Washington have to dis-  
pose of as she may think proper three negroes named as follows:  
A man named Jonah - a woman named Amy and a boy by the name of Bob.  
I also loan to the said Margaret during her natural life time or  
widowhood, two negroes - a woman named Mariah and a girl named  
Luceny. I also loan to said Margaret during her natural life  
time or widowhood one half of the land that I now own at this date  
and to be divided by a line to begin at the River where the big  
Spring inter-(sects) said River and to run a North Eastwardly  
course so as to divide the same equally.

I also loan to said Margaret during her natural life -  
as much of my household and kitchen furniture, stock of all kinds,  
farming tools, provisions &c as five good men on their oaths think  
that she in her then present situation might need.

I also loan to my daughter Amanda Ryburn - formerly  
Amanda Washington during her natural life time to use and enjoy  
free from the control of any other person or persons in any respect -  
four negroes named as follows: Judy, Maria, Jack and Charles and  
her Jackson press. I also give the negroes that I have loaned to  
said Amanda Ryburn to her bodily heirs to be equally divided amongst  
them at her death. I also give said Amanda Ryburn at my decease  
ten dollars.

I also give to my son R. E. A. Washington all the land  
that I own at this date and to have the (proposition 7) of the same  
in this way - the one half at my death and the other half at the  
death or marriage of his mother.

I also give to my son J. G. Washington two negroes at the  
death or marriage of my said wife named as follows: Maria &  
Larceny. I also will that all of the property and other effects  
that I have not already given away to be equally divided at my  
decease and the decease of my wife &c betwixt my sons J. G. and  
R. E. A. Washington.

I appoint J. G. and R. E. A. Washington Executors. I  
wrote and set aside all former Wills made by me this the 22nd day  
of February, 1835.

Test: BARTLEY PITT	ANDREW WASHINGTON (Seal)
his	
JEDIE x LEONARD	PROBATED
mark	CIRCA 1835.
JOHN CARR	

Andrew Washington's (1775 - 1835) Will.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



George Augustine Washington (1815-1892)



Joseph Washington (Alamo Joe) (1808-1836)

It is not known who painted these portraits. Per the curators at the Tennessee State Museum, it could have been John C. Grimes, Washington Bogart Cooper, or another artist.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Joseph Washington (Alamo Joe) (1808-1836)



### THE TENNESSEE MOUNTED VOLUNTEERS

Tennessee Mounted Volunteers is the popular name for Captain Harrison's Company of Nacogdoches Enlistees. These were a group of men who enlisted in the Volunteer Auxiliary Corps of Texas at the town of Nacogdoches between January 12, and January 14, 1836. They were new arrivals in Texas and included David Crockett.

Some, but not all of the men were from Tennessee, and despite popular belief, they were not all life time comrades of Crockett.

These men are often thought of as Indian fighting backwoodsmen of the type made famous by James Fenimore Cooper. However, this small group of sixteen men counted three attorneys, two trained physicians, and a former United States congressman among their number.

Another misconception is that Crockett was the leader of this group. These volunteers were actually commanded by Capt. William B. Harrison on their way to the Alamo. However, Crockett's winning personality and fame made him the dominant figure of the group.

In the context of the Alamo command, Crockett retained his rank of private yet he did command the men assigned to defend the wooden palisade between the chapel and the low barracks.

### THE TENNESSEE MOUNTED VOLUNTEERS

Capt. William B. Harrison

Lt. Robert Campbell

Pvt. Micajah Autry

Pvt. Peter J. Bailey

Pvt. Joseph Bayliss

Pvt. Daniel W. Cloud

Pvt. David Crockett

Pvt. William Fontleroy

Pvt. William I. Lewis\*

Pvt. William McDowell

Pvt. John P. Reynolds

Pvt. James W. Rose\*

Pvt. Richard L. Stockton

Pvt. B. Archer M. Thomas

Pvt. John W. Thomson

Pvt. Joseph G. Washington

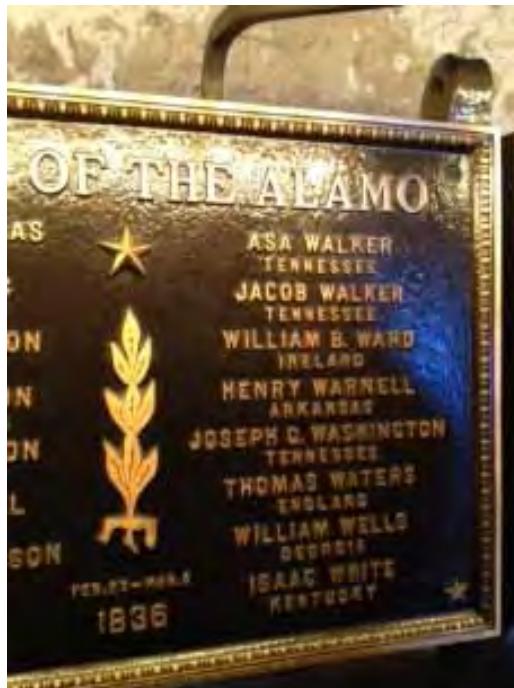
\* Joined group in San Antonio de Bexar

Phil Rosenthal and Bill Groneman, *Roll Call at the Alamo*, Vol. 1, 1985.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

The Alamo, San Antonio, Texas



Thomson, John W. - North Carolina  
Thurston, John M. - Pennsylvania  
Trammel, Burke - Ireland  
Travis, William B. - South Carolina  
Tumlinson, George W. - Missouri  
Tylee, James - New York  
Walker, Asa - Tennessee  
Walker, Jacob - Tennessee  
Ward, William B. - Ireland  
Warneil, Henry - unknown  
Washington, Joseph G. - Kentucky  
Waters, Thomas - England  
Wells, William - Georgia  
White, Isaac - Alabama or Kentucky  
White, Robert - unknown  
Williamson, Hiram J. - Pennsylvania  
Wills, William - unknown  
Wilson, David L. - Scotland  
Wilson, John - Pennsylvania  
Wolf Anthony - unknown  
Wright, Claiborne - North Carolina

Alamo Memorials with Joseph G. Washington's name.

Joseph G. Washington was a private, marksman in the Tennessee Mounted Volunteers. In the family, he was called "Alamo Joe."

A 1845 court deposition described him: "Joseph Washington was tall about six feet high, tolerably stout build, was at his death about 28 years of age..., was of a tolerably dark complexion, dark eyes and black hair and considerably inclined to be for one of his years."

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

### George Augustine Washington (1815-1892):



George A. Washington



With two grandchildren, ca. 1891



George A. Washington, by Cornelius Hankins, 1903

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



William B. Lewis's plantation "Fairfield" in Nashville.

## Adelaide Lewis- George A. Washington Engagement

Letter from Adelaide Lewis's brother, W. H. Lewis, to her father William B. Lewis,  
August 5, 1842:

...Mr. Washington has made proposals to sister [Adelaide Lewis] which she has accepted under the condition that you approved of them. ...For my own part, (my opinion is gratuitous for it was never asked), I think the match, all things considered, a very good one. I gave you my opinion of Mr. W. some time since, as he struck me on first appearance and short acquaintance. I have seen no reason to change it. He is a sober, steady, provident young man – some people call him penurious, which is an excellent tribute the envious pay him, and in my opinion the highest compliment which could be paid him. ...He is not indeed very brilliant – how few are? – but he is sensible, intelligent, well-travelled, and of pleasing and gentlemanly manners. These epithets are all studied, I assure you. Perhaps his size and his hair are the most objectionable things about him.... He is about, perhaps a little under, the middle size, say, five feet six or seven – and his hair is of a light auburn color, and curls – but he is well-made, has a strong robust frame, and a hearty constitution – I commend the match as a good one in every sense, both worldly and otherwise... Now here's a disclosure! The plan layed down and accepted four days after the proposal! They must be a devoted pair – one at least – talking in ecstasy about leaving her friends and relatives, and spending months in a distant place that she never saw before! I consider this another favorable omen, whilst it brings the ruling passion into full view. New Orleans is exceedingly gay and fashionable during the winter, and a general rendezvous for those who seek husbands as well as those who have them. Mr. Wash. generally goes down once a year to attend to the selling of his cotton and tobacco. He'll have something more than cotton to take care of the next time he goes. I like money, Pa, that is, being a great indispensable, I have no objection to it; but I hate to talk of it. Mr. W. is said to be worth a hundred thousand dollars himself, and his father, an old gentleman, about a hundred and fifty thousand, which will go at his death to his son, who is the only child. I think it would be best, if his father owned it all at present – for this reason – Young Wash. has an uncle named Cheatham who is a thoughtless (perhaps brainless) man, very extravagant (with other people's money), gambles, and does nothing. There may be some danger of the nephew being drawn into this maelstrom – but I have the greatest confidence in Mr. W's natural good sense and extreme cautiousness.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

**Jane Smith Washington (1830-1894):**



Jane Smith photograph.



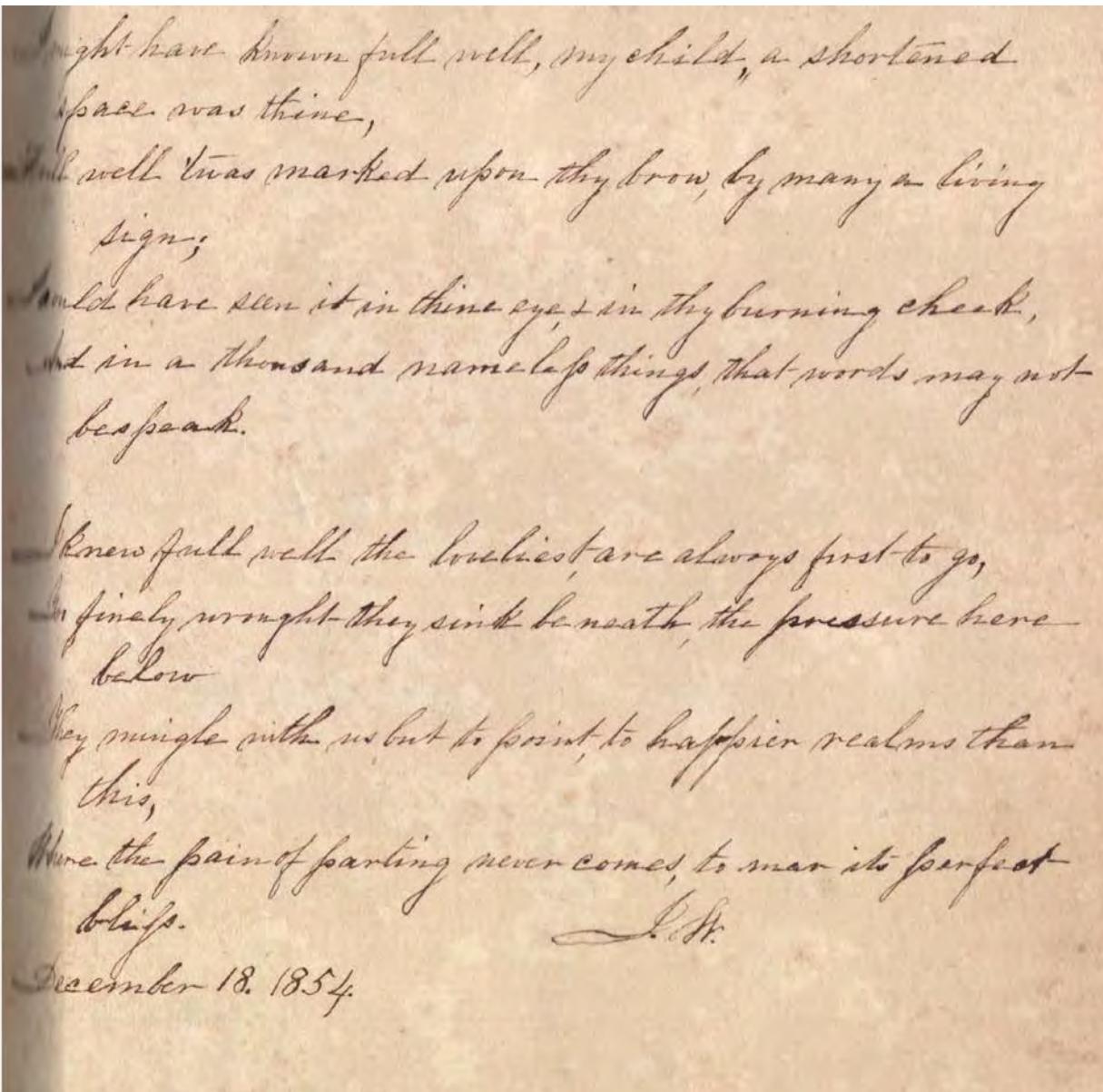
At Wessyngton.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Jane Smith Washington (1830-1894)



Jane Smith Washington wrote this poem after their daughter, Mary, died in 1854 when she was four years old. She wrote the poem in her Recipe Book that had been started by her mother, Mary Hanna Smith.

Transcription below.

LINES ON THE DEATH OF LITTLE MARY - born Aug. 1st, 1850 - died  
20th October 1854 - WRITTEN BY HER MOTHER JANE SMITH WASHINGTON,  
WIFE OF GEORGE A. WASHINGTON.

My child - my loved - my beautiful - where art thou  
now, my child  
With thy light heart, and sunny eye and girlish  
laughter wild;  
It was not thus in days gone by, thou answerdst to  
my call  
When thy light feet, with bounding step, came joyous  
thro' the hall.

The echoes of thy voice are mute, that rang upon the  
air,  
And at the board and at the fire, is now an empty chair.  
The circle looks all desolate, without thy beaming brow -  
My child - my child, my yearning heart is breaking for  
thee now.

Thy father mourns thy absence, love, none sits upon  
his knee  
To raise to his much pleading eyes as thine were wont  
to be,  
Or say to him thy evening prayer, that God thy soul  
would take  
If death should summon thee away ere morning bid thee wake.

Thy little brother leaves his play and asks with wondering  
eyes,  
Why does my sister stay so long in yonder cold blue sky?  
He ranges all thy pretty toys, and gets thy little chair,  
Then weeps that all is beautiful and sister is not there.

I might have known full well, my child, a shortened space  
was thine,  
Full well 'twas marked upon thy brow, by many a living  
sign:  
I could have seen it in thine eye, and in thy burning cheek,  
And in a thousand nameless things, that words may not bespeak.

I knew full well the loveliest are always first to go,  
Too finely wrought they sink beneath the pressure here  
below.  
They mingle with us but to point to happier realms than  
this,  
Where the pain of parting never comes to mar its perfect  
bliss.

December 18, 1854

J.S.W.

Jane Smith Washington wrote this poem after their daughter, Mary, died in 1854.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Jane Smith Washington.



At Wessyngton.



At Wessyngton.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



George A. Washington, Jane Smith Washington, and a daughter-in-law.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Washington Parents and Children—Summer, 1891.

(Jane and George Washington in front).

Row 1, l. to r.: Mrs. Kemp (Mary Bolling Kemp's sister-in-law); Judge Henry Tompkins (husband of deceased Bessie Washington Tompkins); Mary Bolling Kemp Washington; Jane Smith Washington; George Augustine Washington; Joseph Edwin Washington; Judge and Mrs. Garner (George A. Washington's lawyer in Springfield).

Row 2: Jane Washington; Emily Kemp (Mary Bolling Kemp's sister); George Newton Tillman; Martha Susan Washington Tillman; James Stokes Frazer; Mary Washington Frazer.



Washington Parents and Children—Summer, 1891.

(Jane and George Washington on porch).

Row 1, l. to r.: Judge Henry Tompkins (husband of deceased Bessie Washington Tompkins);  
Jane Washington.

Row 2: Mary Washington Frazer; James Stokes Frazer.

Row 3: Mrs. Kemp (Mary Bolling Kemp's sister-in-law); Emily Kemp (Mary Bolling Kemp's  
sister); George Newton Tillman; Martha Susan Washington Tillman; Judge and Mrs. Garner  
(George A. Washington's lawyer in Springfield).

Row 4: Joseph Edwin Washington; Mary Bolling Kemp Washington.

Row 5: Jane Smith Washington; George Augustine Washington.



Washington Children and Grandchildren on Lawn—Summer, 1891.

Row 1, l. to r. Joseph Edwin Washington Jr.; Lawrence Smith Frazer.

Row 2: Bessie Washington Tompkins; Emily Kemp; Anne Bolling Washington; James Stokes Frazer Jr.; Janet Augusta Tompkins; Jane Smith Tillman; Mary Washington Tillman; Matilda Bethune "Maude" Tompkins.

Row 3: Henry Shelby Frazer; George Augustine Frazer; George Augustine Washington 2d.

Bench: Lewis Tillman; Mary Bolling Kemp Washington, holding Elizabeth "Betty" Wyndam Washington; Mary Washington Frazer, holding Mary Washington Frazer; Martha Susan Washington Tillman, holding Martha Washington Tillman.

Standing: Judge George Newton Tillman, holding Catherine Davidson Tillman; Joseph Edwin Washington; James Stokes Frazer, holding Elizabeth Murfree Frazer. Servant.



Washington Mothers and Grandchildren—Summer, 1891.

Row 1, l. to r.: Joseph Edwin Washington, Jr.

Row 2: Bessie Washington Tompkins; Lewis Tillman; Henry Shelby Frazer; James Stokes Frazer Jr.; Catherine Davidson Tillman; Janet Augusta Tompkins; [Cut out of photo] Matilda Bethune "Maude" Tompkins.

Row 3: Emily Kemp; Anne Bolling Washington; George Augustine Frazer; Lawrence Smith Frazer; Jane Smith Tillman; Mary Washington Tillman.

Bench: Mary Bolling Kemp Washington, holding Elizabeth "Betty" Wyndam Washington; Mary Washington Frazer, holding Mary Washington Frazer; Martha Susan Washington Tillman, holding Martha Washington Tillman.

Standing: George Augustine Washington 2d. Servant.



Washington grandchildren on cart.



Washington Grandchildren on Steps—Summer, 1891.

Row 1, l. to r.: Mary Washington Frazer; Lawrence Smith Frazer; Catherine Davidson Tillman.

Row 2: Mary Washington Tillman.

Row 3: Janet Augusta Tompkins; Jane Smith Tillman; Bessie Washington Tompkins.

Row 4: Elizabeth “Betty” Wyndam Washington; Lewis Tillman; James Stokes Frazer Jr.

Row 5: Anne Bolling Washington; Matilda Bethune “Maude” Tompkins; Joseph Edwin Washington, Jr.

Row 6: Henry Shelby Frazer; George Augustine Frazer; George Augustine Washington 2d; Emily Kemp, holding Martha Washington Tillman.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Jane Smith Washington, ca. 1893.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

**NOTICE.**

BY virtue of a deed of trust executed to me by Andrew Jackson, on the 26th of May, 1838; for the purpose of securing a debt to George A. Washington, therein set forth, I shall, on WEDNESDAY, THE 13TH OF JUNE NEXT, at the Court House door in the city of Nashville, proceed to sell at Public Auction, to the highest bidder for Cash, a certain tract or parcel of Land lying in Davidson county, State of Tennessee, and known as the Hermitage tract: bounded on the north by the lands of John and Philip Estate, on the east by the lands of A. J. Donelson, on the west by lands of William and Stockly Donelson, and on the south by the lands of Mrs. Ward and Timothy Dodson, and containing by estimation 1600 acres. Also, the negro slaves hereinafter named, viz: Squire, Smith, Polidore, Charles, Alfred, Ben, Byron, Henry, Ned Davis, Minor, Aaron, Tom, George, Dick, Augustus, William, Simpson, Thornton, Elmon, John, Albert, Moses, Booker, Julius, Davy, Little Tom, Sam, Dodey, Maria, Louisa, Grace, Cornelia, Sarah, Nan, Charlotte, Gracey, Mantis, H. Sally, D. Sally, C. Sally, Prizey, Laura, Kitty, Jane, Maria Creasy, Mady, Betsey, Betty, Martha, Julia, L. Hassnah, Ind'n Hassnah, L. Gracey, M. Ellen, Rindy, Letty, Mary Ann, Molly, and Syria.

As much of said property above described will be sold as will satisfy the debt due to said Washington.

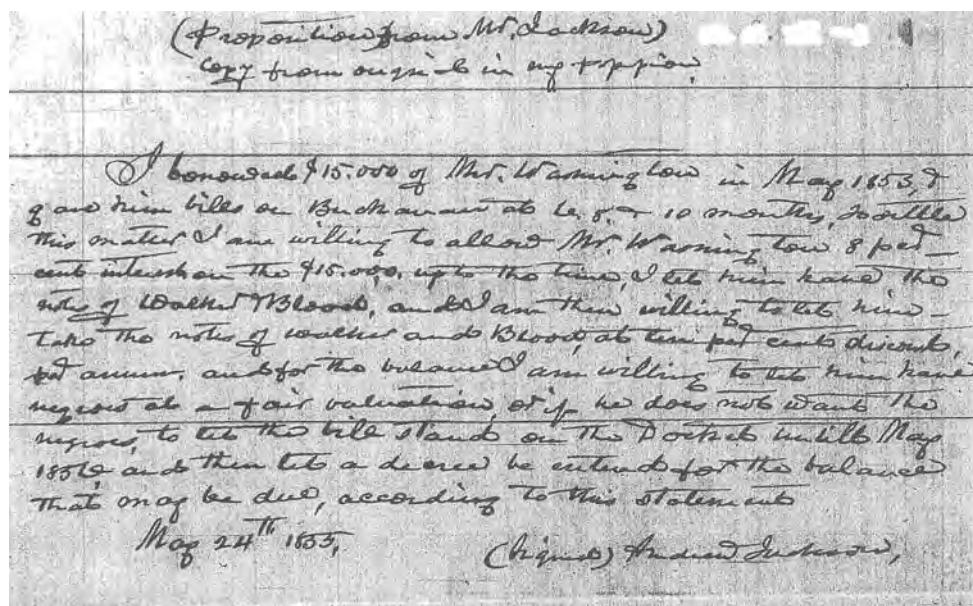
Sale to commence at the usual hour in the morning.

May 12.—edwd.

W. B. LEWIS, Trustee, &c.

President Andrew Jackson (d. 1845), or his adopted son who managed the Hermitage, owed money to George A. Washington in 1838. The trustee W. B. Lewis was the father of his first wife.

*Republican Banner*, May 25, 1855.



Proposition regarding \$15,000 loan in 1853 to son of President Andrew Jackson, May 24, 1855.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

## Will (excerpts) of George A. Washington, 1888:

Estate of Joseph Lawson Dawson Smith:

Second: Having received from the Estate of my wife's father J. L. D. Smith, Sixty Thousand Dollars, which I consider as a trust fund for my wife and her children, I hereby bequeath to my Wife, Jane Washington Sixty Thousand Dollars in Bonds;

George A. Washington, Jr. and Jane Washington:

Fifth: I give to my son, George A. Washington, Twenty-five Thousand Dollars in cash in order, to enable him to improve the Real Estate I intend to convey to him by Deed and to make it approximate in value to the Real Estate I herein devise to my son Joseph H. Washington.

### Codicil...

This Codicil directs that one half of the shares of my residuary personal Estate going to my daughter Jane A. and to my son George A. be controlled by the United States Trust Company until they respectively arrive at the age of Twenty-five years, and that the same be then paid to them absolutely, he and the same is hereby so changed, that said sums are to be held by said Trust Company until my said children respectively arrive at the age of Thirty years, and the same is to be paid to them absolutely. This December 12th, 1888.

Granville Washington:

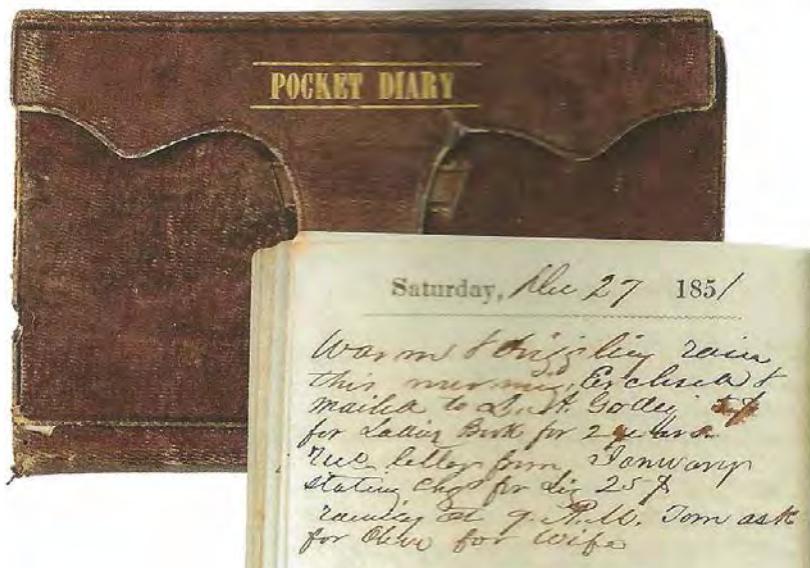
Sixth: I give and bequeath to Granville Washington, colored, Five Hundred Dollars for his fidelity to me.

Washington

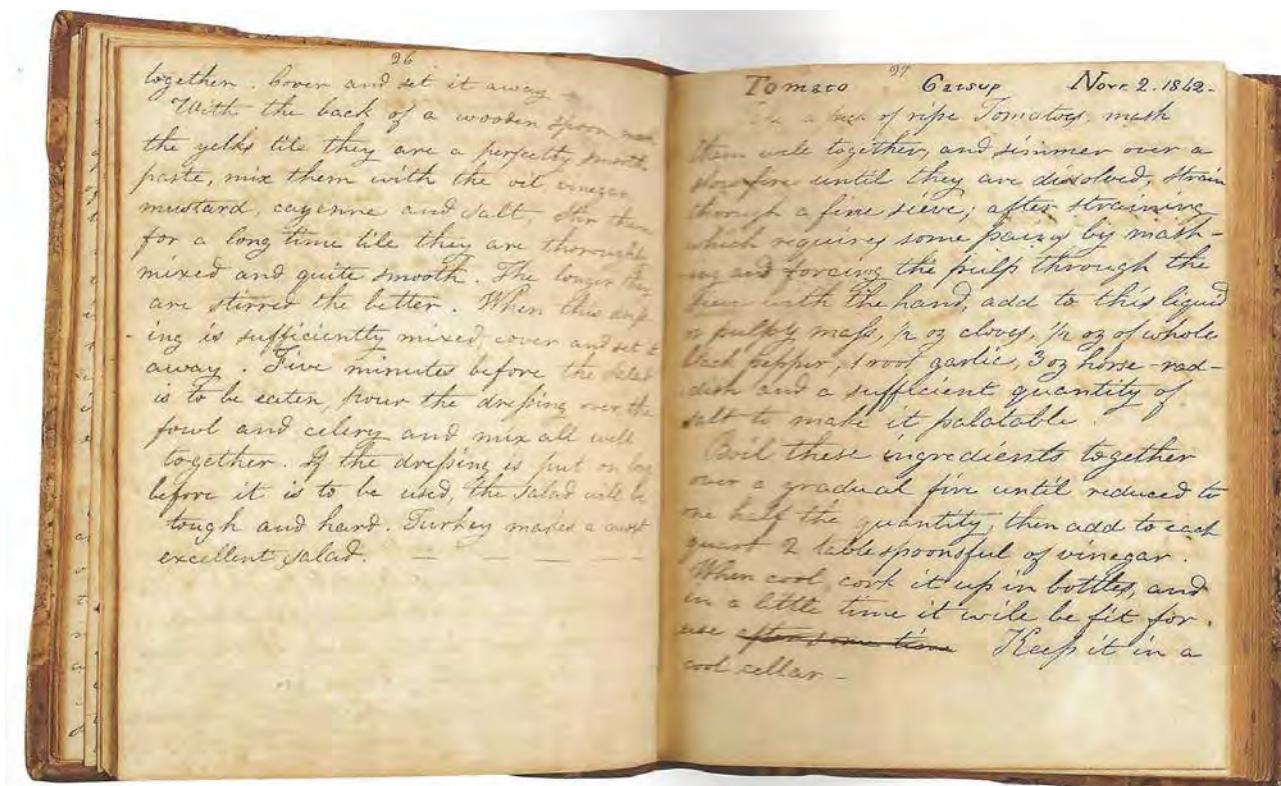
Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



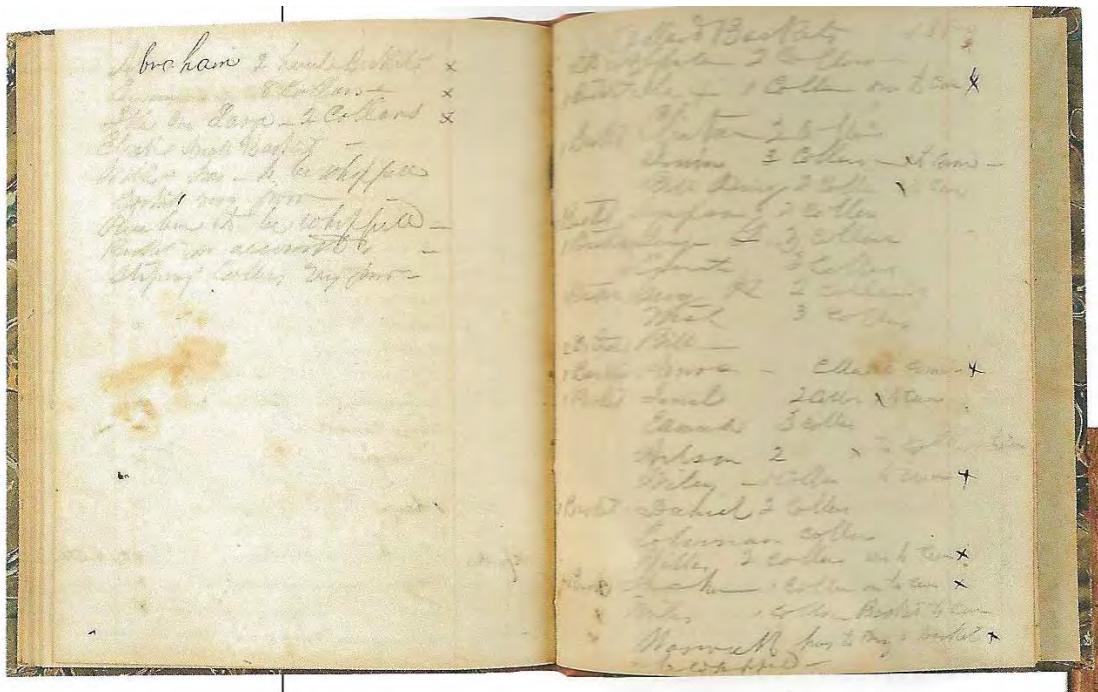
Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee. Top step: Jane Smith Washington, George A. Washington.



George A. Washington's Diary, 1851. Tennessee State Library and Archives.



Mary Jackson Hanna Smith and then her daughter Jane Smith Washington's Recipe Book, 1829-1860. Each mother also wrote poems upon the death of her children. Tennessee State Library and Archives.



Jane Smith Washington's "Negro Basket and Collar" book, 1858-1865. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Boys	May	Dec	Nubiles	Women	May	Dec
1861	S.P.	S.P.J		1861	S.F.	S.F.D.
James	4	4	robes	Charlotte	9	7
Riley	4	4		Bertha	7	7
Johnson	4	4	aprons	Sophy	7	0
John	4	4	linen	Eliza	7	0
Daniel	4	4	milk	Betty	6	4
Hiram	4	4	linen	Gannah	6	4
George	4	4	linen	Re Lucy	6	4
Stephen	4	4	linen	Mary	6	4
Eliza	4	4	linen	Suey	6	4
Sam	4	4	linen	Annie	6	4
Henry	4	4	linen	A. Martha	6	0
			linen	Bethie	6	0
			linen	Eliza	6	0
			linen	Bethie	6	0
			linen	Linda	6	0
			linen	Abigail	6	0
			linen	Sarah Jane	6	0
			linen	Suey	6	0
			linen	Pattie	6	0
			linen	Amy	6	0
			linen	Lillian	6	0

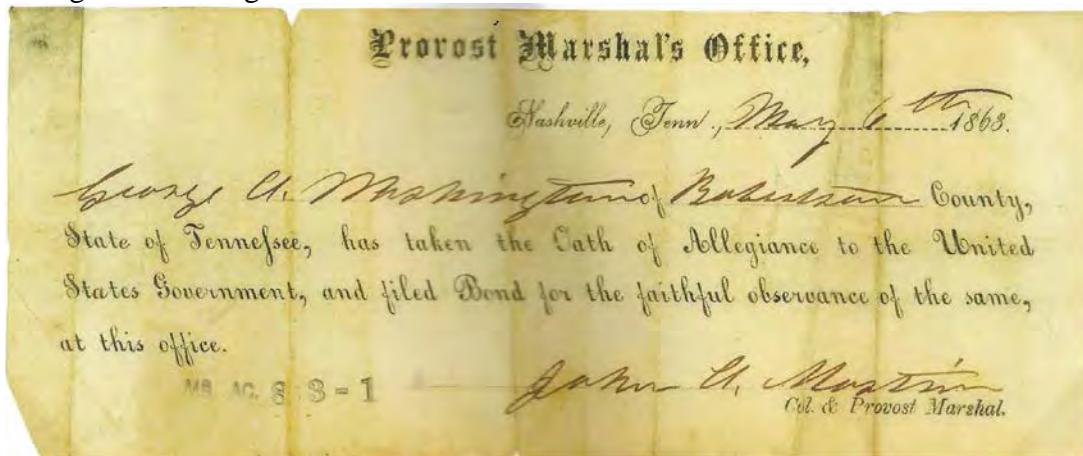
Jane Smith Washington's "Negro Clothes" Book, 1858-1865. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Washington

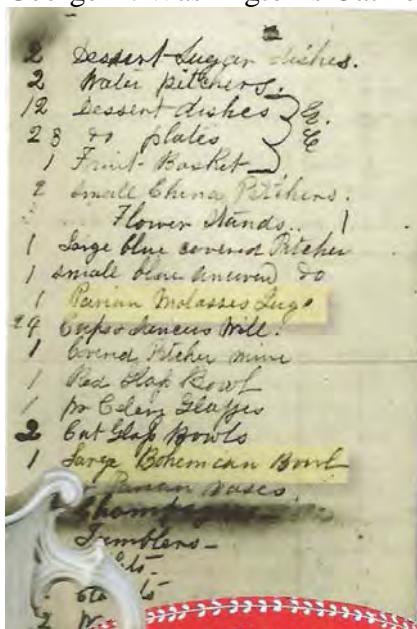
Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



George A. Washington's Rifle.



George A. Washington's Oath of Allegiance, 1863.



Inventory of Washington's possessions sent to a warehouse in Louisville for safekeeping during the Civil War. After the war, the family's treasured possessions were destroyed when the warehouse burned down. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Martha Washington (1854-1937), Joseph Edwin Washington (1851-1915), Bessie Washington (1858-1887). Undated photograph, ca. 1867. This is the only photo of the children from this period.



Silver covered dish with Washington crest, Gorham, 1891.

What of George A. Washington, the recognized head of this "new association?" Unsolicited, at the election of Directors, 31st of March last, he received almost the entire vote of the stockholders of the Edgefield and Kentucky Railroad Company, including the county of Davidson, and was unanimously elected President of the Company. "The right man in the right place"—and to this good hour he has maintained the confidence and united support of that directory. To the "manor born"—a man of large interests in the counties of Robertson and Davidson—no political trickster—one of our most successful planters and best financiers—thoroughly, a safe, practical man and of undoubted integrity, he has won for himself a name that any man might be justly proud of—surely anchored in the confidence of our people, a first class, energetic, live business man—for no great enterprise committed to his keeping can there be such a word as fail.

Sept. 12, 1871.

A DIRECTOR.

Letter to the editor excerpt, *Nashville Union and American*, September 13, 1871.

**GEORGE A. WASHINGTON**

Points About His Life That Have a Public Interest.

A Family Which Came to Tennessee Nearly a Century Ago.

The Series of Sketches of Well Known Men of Nashville and Vicinity Continued.

On the eve of his departure for New Orleans, where he is now, Mr. George A. Washington was interviewed by an AMERICAN reporter, the object being to gather facts for a biographical sketch.

Mr. Washington is a familiar figure on our streets. Though his home is in Robertson County, he is in Nashville a part of every week. He is the father of our Representative in Congress, Hon. Joseph E. Washington. His age is not indicated by his appearance. His life spans nearly three-quarters of a century, but the years have sat lightly upon him, and he is still strong and vigorous.

He belongs to the same family as that of George Washington, the Father of his Country. In his boyhood he has heard his father tell of his relationship, but only remembers that his ancestors and those of the great Washington were descended from brothers. Through his mother also he has the Washington blood in his veins. The Washingtons were Normans, and the name originally was de Washington. When the family came to England with William the Conqueror, it was so called, but in the course of time the name was anglicized into Washington.

His father was named Joseph Washington. He was born during the first year or two of the American Revolution, at Jerusalem, Southampton County, Va., the scene of Nat Turner's insurrection, which occurred about 1830. In 1798 he moved to Robertson County, where he was one of the earliest settlers. He came from Virginia with a friend, who was an ancestor of the late Gen. Frank Chantrell. The family intermarried, and Archie Chantrell was the grandfather of George A. Washington on his mother's side. The cousins of Robertson, Sumner and Davidson were entitled Normans, and the other counties in Middle Tennessee. Originally Robertson embraced the territory of Middle Tennessee.

attention to his own business, letting other people's alone, being up early and late, and never indulging in any form of speculation. He considers

FARMING A GOOD BUSINESS.

It does not yield immense returns, but where properly attended to it will pay a good return, more than it costs, but few occupations, and is a far safer business than many others.

For about ten years he was a director in the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and part of that time he was a Vice President. He resigned office about two years ago, having been elected to it six years ago. For about ten years he has been a director in the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad. He has only been in politics once. In 1872 he was a member of the lower House of the Tennessee Legislature. One term was enough to satisfy his ambition in that direction.

The large property that he now owns lies northwest and north from Springfield, reaching nearly to the Kentucky line. It includes the land owned by his father and his son, his father and great-grandfather on his mother's side. The homestead is called Washington, which was the name of the home of the Washingtons in England. The old house, which is a large brick mansion, was built when he was five years old, in 1827, and it remains in a good state of preservation. Six generations have been under its roof.

By his first wife he had one child,

William L. Washington, who has

a large number of children, having been all over Europe and

Africa. By his last wife he has had

seven children, six of whom are living.

Of these, the oldest, Joseph E. Washington, is our Representative in Congress.

Two of his daughters are the

wives of our Senators, G. N.

Tulman, Esq., and James A. Prentiss,

Esg.

*The Tennessean February 27, 1889 p. 8*

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His father was named Joseph Washington. He was born during the first year or two of the American Revolution, at Jerusalem, Southampton County, Va., the scene of Nat Turner's insurrection, which occurred about 1830. In 1798 he moved to Robertson County, where he was one of the earliest

settlers. He came from Virginia with a friend, who was an ancestor of the late Gen. Frank Cheatham. The families intermarried, and Archie Cheatham was the grandfather of George A. Washington on his mother's side. The counties of Robertson, Sumner and Davidson were settled earlier than the other counties in Middle Tennessee. Originally Robertson embraced the territory of Montgomery County. Archie Cheatham settled at Springfield and gave it the name, which was suggested by the numerous springs in the vicinity.

Joseph Washington brought with him from Virginia some money and several Negroes. He bought sixty acres of land lying on Sulphur Fork, about eight miles from Springfield. He had three children, one of whom, George A. Washington, was born in 1815. An older daughter and a younger son both died in childhood. Before his death, which occurred in 1848, the original sixty acres had been increased to 3,000, and he was also possessed of valuable lands in Todd County, Kentucky.

George A. Washington attended a school at Springfield taught by a Mr. Loving, who hailed from Connecticut and was an excellent educator. In 1831 and 1832 he attended the University of Nashville, then presided over by Dr. Philip Lindsley, father of our present President of the State Board of Health. Nathaniel Cross was professor of mathematics and Dr. Trooste, a German, was professor of geology. At the same time Russell Houston was a student in the university. Houston came from Alabama to Columbia, where he married into the Polk family. He then came to Nashville, where he was attorney for the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. Afterward he became the chief attorney of the road in Louisville, which position he now holds.

When a young man of about 22, George A. Washington took a trip to Cuba, going by steamer from New Orleans. He went out of curiosity and spent a part of one winter here. Before his father's death he took charge of his business, which was tobacco-raising. In 1842, when 27 years old, he was married to Miss Margaret Lewis, daughter of W. B. Lewis, of Nashville. She died in 1844, and five years later he was married to Miss Jane Smith, of Lauderdale County, Alabama.

At the time there was no railroad in this part of the country. All traveling was by stage or boat. The stage trip to Louisville required two days. In 1849, with his second wife, he desired to go to Winchester, Va. The most comfortable route would have been by boat to Wheeling, and thence by stage to Winchester. But cholera prevailed on the Ohio River, and they decided upon a stage journey through East Tennessee. The route was via Sparta and Tate Springs. Ground was then being broken for the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad.

The estate of 3,000 acres left him by his father was enlarged to over 10,000 all in a body, but in 1855 he sold the land he had inherited in Todd County, Kentucky. He continued raising tobacco and became the largest grower of the weed in the United States. His tobacco was taken to New Orleans, where it was sold as a special crop. His business required him to visit New Orleans every year.

Three steamers, the John Randolph, Ellen Kirkman and American, owned by Yeatman & Co., were then running between Nashville and the Southern metropolis. All were magnificent boats. Five or six days were necessary in going or coming, but the trip was not considered tedious. The passengers amused themselves by dancing, card-playing and other diversions, thus managing to spend a very pleasant time. Before the era of railroads New Orleans was the tobacco mart of the South. After the railroads were built, Louisville became the chief market for the staple in the Southwest.

When the irreconcilable conflict reached a crisis he espoused the cause of session. The legislature selected him to carry to Richmond the vote of the State for Jefferson Davis for President of the Confederacy. During the war he suffered severely. He lived on debatable ground and was the prey of guerrillas and Federal soldiers. His barns were burned and his house was fired several times. Before the war he had about 300 Negroes. In 1863 Federal soldiers impressed seventy-five or eighty of them for service in building the Northwestern Railroad. From then on his Negroes left gradually until all were gone except about 100 women and old men. The support of them became so burdensome that he had to apply to the Federal authorities to take them to their lines. After the war the Negroes began to come back. Some of them were hired and some became tenants. Twenty-five or thirty of his old slaves are living on his place now. The place is now cultivated entirely by tenants,

who raise tobacco, corn, wheat, oats, rye and all other Middle Tennessee crops.

The active duties of superintending the farm have not permitted him to enjoy the life of leisure for which he has an inclination. He attributes all the success he has attained to strict attention to his own business, letting other people's alone, being up early and late, and never indulging in any form of speculation.

He considers farming a good business. It does not yield immense returns, but where properly attended to it will pay in reasonable profit. Besides, it has but few temptations, and is a far safer business than many others.

For about ten years he was a director in the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and part of that time he was a Vice President. He resigned official connection with the road three or four years ago. For about ten years he has been a director in the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad. He has only been in politics once. In 1872, he was a member of the lower House of the Tennessee Legislature. One term was enough to satisfy his ambition in that direction.

The large property that he now owns lies northwest and north from Springfield, reaching nearly to the Kentucky line. It includes the land owned by his father and by his grandfather and great-grandfather on his mother's side. The homestead is called Wessington, which was the name of the home of the Washingtons in England. The old house, which is a large brick mansion was built when he was five years old by his father and it remains in a good state of preservation. Six generations have been under its roof.

By his first wife he had one child, William L. Washington, who has spent much of his life in traveling, having been all over Europe and Africa. By his last wife he has had seven children, six of whom are living. Of these the oldest, Joseph E. Washington, is our Representative in Congress. Two of his daughters are the wives of our fellow-townsman, G. N. Tillman, Esq., and James S. Frazer, Esq.

George A. Washington, Biography, *The Tennessean* February 27, 1889 p. 8

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

## HON. G. A. WASHINGTON DEAD.

MR. ALLEN.

Paralysis Takes Away One of Tennessee's Wealthiest and Best Men.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 4.—(Special).—Hon. George A. Washington, father of Congressman Joseph E. Washington, died at Wessyngton, his home, four miles from Cedar Hill, in Robertson county, shortly after noon to-day. Mr. Washington's father, Joseph Washington, came here from Virginia in 1798 and located in Robertson county, where he died fifty years later. George A. Washington, in the management of his father's estate, became a practical business man of the highest rank, and early became interested in the Louisville and Nashville and Nashville and Chattanooga railroads, in which companies he was a director. He was one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens in Tennessee. His second wife, whom he married in 1849, survives him.

Besides Congressman Washington, a number of other children survive, among them Messrs. W. L. Washington and G. A. Washington, Jr. Mr. Washington's fatal illness was paralysis, which grew gradually complete during the past three years. The funeral services will be held at the family home Tuesday.

Representative Washington's Father Dead.

The death of Mr. George Washington, of Wessyngton, near Nashville, Tenn., and father of Representative Joseph E. Washington, marks a landmark. Mr. Washington belonged to the old regime of Southern planters, but while the war closed his last step with the old order of things, and by his energy and skill took a leading place among the representatives of the South. He was a large stockholder in Southern railroads, and other Southern enterprises, and showed his son George in the recuperative power of the native section by investing a great fortune in Southern securities which were far from valuable. He was the man who took the lead out of the Louisville and Nashville road, and contributed much to its success. He was a typical of the best element of the South. Born to a handsome estate, he improved his fortunes under the old system, and at the breaking out of the war he was reported to have the greatest tobacco plantation in the country, and consequently in the world, at that time. His family name, Wessyngton, the original form of the name of Washington, was a model of kind. It was proposed for Mr. Washington to ride away after a straight course without leaving out a twist. He had many interests, and lived a patriarchal independence and dignity at Wessyngton his happy and comfortable home, a great land proprietor. But when the war was on, and all the conditions of and upon laborers changed, Mr. Washington did, by his energy, to the best of his power, preserve the values of his property. His interests were many, and were all prudently liberally managed for some years before his death. His aged son, Mr. George Washington, now home, who has for a number of years attended to his wife, his sons, and his daughter, his wife, a numerous descendant to whom the most valuable part of the inheritance is the good name, the positive influence, and general course of Mr. Washington. His train is headed by Judge J. A. Washington, president of the Negro State Bank.

December 4, 1892.

## THE DAILY AMERICAN

## G. A. WASHINGTON.

Death of One of Tennessee's Most Prominent Citizens.

Gradual Paralysis for Several Years Causes His Death.

A Millionaire and Formerly Vice President of the L. & N.

History of a Remarkable Business Man  
The Father of Congressman.  
C. E. Washington.

Col. George A. Washington is dead.

Yesterday at 12:40 o'clock the master of Wessyngton breathed his last, at his home near Cedar Hill, Robertson County.

For four years past Col. Washington has been giving way to a gradual paralysis, which slowly sapped his life away, and yesterday the end came. It has been known for months past that his death was momentarily expected but the strong life went out so suddenly yesterday as to shock his immediate family. Everything known to medical science was done for him, but each day he became more enfeebled and his physicians gave up all hope of his recovery.

Col. Washington was one of the richest and most prominent citizens of Tennessee, and up to the time of his paralysis several years ago, was actively engaged in the management of his vast estate and other private business. His wealth is reputed to be over \$1,000,000.

Col. George A. Washington was born in Robertson County, Tenn., May 24, 1815, thus making his age 77 years and 6 months. He was the only surviving child of Joseph Washington, Esq., who came from Westmoreland County, Va., and settled in Robertson County in 1793. There was a strain of consanguinity between Joseph Washington and the family of President George Washington, the "Father of his Country." The strain is traced back for many generations and the ancestors of both settled in Westmoreland County, Va. Joseph Washington married Miss Mary Cheatham in 1812. He died in 1848.

The son, George A. Washington, was highly educated and given all the advantages of wealth and station. He had hardly passed his majority before he was called upon to manage the large estate and business of his father, whose health was rapidly declining on account of old age. The cares of a vast estate acquired for him the habits of a very successful business man, habits which were afterwards developed in the great fortune which he himself added to his inheritance.

He married Miss Adelaidie Lewis, daughter of Maj. William B. Lewis, of Nashville, Sept. 13, 1842. Miss Lewis at that time was celebrated as the most beautiful woman in Middle Tennessee. One son, William L., was born of this marriage. She died two years later, Nov.

1844. Col. Washington was married to Mrs.

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Col. Washington had many friends in Nashville, where he was twice married and spent much of his life before his gradual paralysis. Congressman Washington was in Washington City at the time of his father's death, and will arrive to-morrow.

Col. Washington will be buried in the old family burying-ground, some four miles from Cedar Hill. The will be present—Gen. John E. Garner, Dr. J. H. Dunn, John W. Stock, John M. Duran, John H. Dunn, Dr. Thomas Meekins, Maj. J. W. Thompson, Maj. James McGehee, Edward Jones, N. P. Richardson, Maj. Albert Harris, Thomas S. Marr, Hon. Lucius Fairbank, and others.

It will be remembered, that for many years Col. Washington was Third Vice President of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, with headquarters at Nashville, which he resigned because all his time was necessary to the management of his private affairs.

Daily American, Nashville, Monday Morning, December 5, 1892

Col. George A. Washington, of Cedar Hill, died yesterday at his home, at 12:40 o'clock. Four years ago Col. Washington's strong vigor was touched by paralysis, and since that time its power over him increased gradually until his death. He was born in Robertson County, Tennessee, May 24, 1815, and therefore he was at the time of his death 77 years and six months old.

Col. Washington was the only surviving child of Joseph Washington, of Westmoreland County, Virginia, between whose family and that of the first Presidents of the United States there was a blood relation. In his youth Col. Washington was given the highest education that wealth and culture could procure. At an early age he was called upon to manage the large estates of his father, whose increasing age and failing health warned him that the days of his active labor were over. Thus began the business habits and keen foresight, for which Col. Washington was famous, and so well did he manage the affairs left to him that the estate he has left is said to be worth \$1,000,000.

In 1878 Col. Washington represented Robertson County in the Tennessee House of Representatives, but this is the only occasion on which he ever agreed to leave the seclusion of home for public life. He was one of the original stockholders in the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, and was at one time Third Vice-President of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, from which he resigned because of the heavy demands made upon him by his private affairs. He was a large shareholder in both roads. Col. Washington was interested in various other enterprises centering at Nashville, in and near which his whole life was spent.

Col. Washington married Miss Adelaide Lewis, daughter of Maj. William B. Lewis, of Nashville, September 18, 1842. One son, William, was born of this marriage, and the mother died two years after her wedding, November 22, 1844. Col. Washington married Miss Jane Smith, of Nashville, June 21, 1849, who survives him. Seven children were born to them, six of whom are living: Joseph E. Washington, Congressman from this district; Mrs. G. N. Tidman, Mrs. James L. Frazer, Mrs. John L. Helm, Mrs. F. G. Ewing, and George A. Washington Jr. His daughter, Mrs. Henry B. Tompkins, of Atlanta, died some years ago leaving several children.

Col. Washington's nature was genial and hearty, his judgment was well balanced and he was endowed with indefatigable energy and courage. His life was spent for his home and the ones he loved, and about him were always gathered the trusty friends.

The funeral will take place at noon tomorrow. The remains will be buried in the family burying-ground four miles from Cedar Hill. The pall-bearers selected are: Gen. John E. Garner, Dr. J. H. Dunn, John W. Stark, Hon. M. Burns, John H. Dean, Dr. Thomas Menard, Maj. J. W. Thomas, Maj. James Geddes, Esq., John N. D. Richardson, Maj. Albert Harris, Thomas H. Meigs, Hon. Richard Houston and C. C. Baldwin.

A special train will leave the Union depot for Cedar Hill in the morning.

Hon. Joseph E. Washington was in Washington City at the time of his father's death, but will arrive very to-night.

Nashville, Monday December 5, 1892

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

#### HON. GEO. A. WASHINGTON DEAD.

One of the Richest Men in this State  
Passes Away.

Special to the JOURNAL

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 4.—Hon. George A. Washington, father of Congressman Joseph E. Washington, died at Wessyngton his home, four miles from Cedar Hill in Robertson county shortly after noon to-day. Mr. Washington's father Joseph Washington came here from Virginia in 1788, and located in Robertson county, where he died fifty years later. George A. Washington, in the management of his father's estate became a practical business man of the highest rank and early became interested in the Louisville and Nashville and the Nashville and Chattanooga road in which companies he was a director at the time of his death. He was one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens in Tennessee. His second wife whom he married in 1849 survives him. Besides Congressman Washington, a number of other children survive, among them Messrs. W. L. Washington and G. A. Washington, Jr. Mr. Washington's fatal illness was paralysis which grew gradually complete during the past three years. The funeral services will be held at the family home Wednesday.

#### HON. GEORGE WASHINGTON DEAD.

A Prominent Business Man of Tennessee.  
Director in Several Railroads.

Nashville, Tenn., December 4.—(Special.) Hon. George A. Washington, father of Congressman Joseph E. Washington, died at Wessyngton, his home, four miles from Cedar Hill, in Robertson county, shortly afternoon today. Mrs. Washington's father—Joseph Washington—came from Virginia in 1798 and located in Robertson county, where he died fifty years later. George A. Washington, in managing of his father's estate, became a practical business man of the highest rank and early became interested in the Louisville and Nashville and Nashville and Chattanooga railroads, in which companies he was a director at the time of his death. He was one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens in Tennessee.

His second wife whom he married in 1849 survives him. Besides Congressman Washington a number of other children survive him, among them Messrs. W. L. Washington and G. A. Washington, Jr. Mr. Washington's fatal illness was paralysis, which grew gradually complete during the past three years. The funeral services will be held at the family home Tuesday.

Daily Journal, Knoxville, Tennessee, December 5, 1892. Atlanta Constitution, December 5, 1892.

**SUPPLEMENT  
OF  
THE SPRINGFIELD RECORD,  
DECEMBER 8, 1892.**

**Death of Col. G. A. Washington.**

Col. G. A. Washington died at his residence in Robertson County, Tenn., four miles from Cedar Hill, on the 4th day of December, 1892. His father, Joseph Washington, Esq., came from Virginia to Robertson County in 1798. He married Miss Mary Cheatham, sister of Gen. Richard Cheatham, in 1812. He died in 1848—leaving his only child, George A. Washington, surviving him. Col. Washington married Miss Adelaide Lewis Sept. 13, 1842, she died November 22, 1844—leaving an only child, William L. Washington, surviving. On the 21st day of June, 1849, Col. Washington married Miss Jane Smith. She survives him. Their children are Hon. J. E. Washington, Mrs. G. N. Tilman, Mrs. Jas. S. Fraser, Mrs. John L. Helm, Mrs. F. G. Ewing and George A. Washington, Jr. Their deceased daughter, Mrs. Henry B. Tompkins, left three children surviving her.

Col. Washington's ancestors were related to Gen. George Washington, the Father of His Country. Col. Washington was for many years the wealthiest citizen of Robertson County. He was a remarkably successful business man. Yet no man was more modest, sociable, hospitable, and unpretending. For a year or so past his health was feeble. But he was blessed with a wife of superior business qualities, who, with rare good judgment, looked after his estate with great success.

Col. Washington chose to devote himself to his private pursuits. He, in one instance, consented to serve the State of Tennessee as Representative in the General Assembly from Robertson County. He was, at one time, Director and Vice-President of the L. & N. R. R. Co.

From a notice of his death published in the Nashville American, we make the following extract:

Gen. John E. Garner, of Springfield, one of the closest friends of Col. Washington from his youth, sums up his life and pays him the following tribute:

"Col. Washington was in many respects a most remarkable man. He was endowed with a well-balanced judgment and indomitable energy and courage. Of strong attachments, hearty to an unusual extent, he was a true friend and his integrity was proverbial. He lived for his family and those who knew him best loved him most. Manliness and straightforward honesty were his leading characteristics, and were I to write his epitaph I should say: "Here lies an honest man—the noblest work of God. A man modest as a woman, brave as a lion, and one who had the courage of his convictions."

His burial took place Dec. 6, 1892, at his late residence. It was very largely attended. Bishop Quintard, assisted by Rector Winchester, performed, in a very impressive manner, the beautiful burial service of the Episcopal Church. A choir, consisting of Dr. A. A. McClanahan, J. E. Patton, Esq., Mrs. A. E. Garner, Mrs. Lottie G. Hart, Miss Nellie Watkins and Miss Kate Schneider, rendered most appropriate and charming music on the occasion. The pall bearers were Judge John E. Garner, Hon. M. Burns, Maj. James Geddes, Dr. Thomas Menes, John W. Stark, Dr. J. R. Dunn, John H. Dunn, Edgar Jones, Dr. N. D. Richardson and Maj. Albert Harris.

The coffin was borne from the residence to the grave by the family servants, whose ancestors had been in the family for generations. At the grave the exercises were concluded by a song from the family servants. Their melodious voices and deep earnestness touched all hearts.

And thus has passed away a worthy, honored and trusted citizen. He was ever true to his friends, and to the calls of duty, and lived for his family. His end was peaceful. Surrounded by his devoted wife and his affectionate children he quietly "yielded up his spirit to God who gave it." Being a firm believer in the Scriptures of Divine truth, his trust for the Great Hereafter was in the mercy of the world's Redeemer.

**THE LATE MRS. WASHINGTON.****Large Attendance at the Funeral Yesterday at Wessyngton.**

The funeral and burial of the late Mrs. Jane Washington were had at Wessyngton yesterday. The special train bearing the body, members of the family, other relatives and friends left Nashville at 9 o'clock and arrived at Cedar Hill two hours later. There were hundreds of people at the station and conveyances that made the procession about a quarter of a mile in length. The funeral cortege moved over the four miles of turnpike to the home of the Washingtons without accident, and the spacious, elegant house supplied ample quarters for the large company.

The casket was placed in the parlor and the funeral service was conducted by Bishop Quintard and Rev. Dr. Winchester, rector of Christ Church, Nashville. The service was after the manner selected by the deceased at the funeral of her husband, Col. George A. Washington, in December, 1893. The same singers, Mrs. Eckles, Miss Elam, Mr. Patton and Dr. McClannahan, of Springfield, sang the same hymns. One of the old songs used long years ago at a funeral in that family, beginning:

"The hour of my departure's come,  
I hear the voice that calls me home."

The Bishop led in reciting the Apostles' Creed.

~~At the procession passed through the flower~~  
garden to the family cemetery the choir sang:  
"Just as I am Without One Plea."

At the grave the services were conducted by the Bishop. A pathetic incident at the grave just before the benediction was the singing of "Hark! From the Tombs," by the old family servants and their children.

Beginning with the purchase of sixty-four acres in 1793 by Joseph Washington, who married a Miss Cheatham of the family so widely known and honored in Tennessee, the foundation of a large fortune was begun. The only surviving child was the late Col. George A. Washington, who increased his possessions in that vicinity until recently there was divided among the heirs in that body of land nearly 12,000 acres. It has been carefully preserved, and there are miles and miles of virgin forest upon it. The superb residence part now becomes the property of Hon. Joseph E. Washington, member of Congress from the Nashville District.

**Death of the Widow of Col. George A. Washington.**

Mrs. Jane Washington died yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary M. Frazer, Belmont Avenue and Division street. She was the widow of Col. George A. Washington, of Robertson County, over whose magnificent home she had presided for nearly half a century.

The deceased was a native of Alabama, the daughter of Mr. Lawrence Smith, of Florence. Her mother was a Jackson, one of the most prominent old families in Alabama. Miss Smith attended the Nashville Female Academy and at that time met Mr. Washington, to whom she was married at the age of 19.

Mrs. Washington had a charm of manner in entertaining and a gentleness in her treatment of her friends that won for her a host of friends who loved and honored her. Her home, Wessyngton, has long been noted for hospitality. The sorrow of the poor in the neighborhood at the knowledge of her death speaks volumes for the charity and benevolent kindness of the mistress of the estate.

The death of Mrs. Washington leaves the following children bereaved: Hon. Joseph E. Washington, Representative from this district to Congress; Mrs. G. M. Tillman; Mrs. James T. Frazer; Mrs. John L. Helm of Elizabethtown, Ky.; Mrs. Felix G. Ewing and George A. Washington.

Nashville Banner, February 12, 1894.

Daily American (Nashville), February 14, 1894.

**Mrs. G. A. Washington Dead.**

Mrs. Jane Washington, widow of the late Col. G. A. Washington of this county, departed this life at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. J. T. Frazier, in Nashville, Sunday, 11th inst., about 5 p. m., having been taken sick the previous Wednesday. When a beautiful and a accomplished young lady of nineteen she married Mr. G. A. Washington of this county and for nearly half a century presided over one of the most refined and elegant homes in Tennessee, noted for its princely hospitality.

Mrs. Washington was the daughter of Lawrence Smith, Esq., of Florence, Ala., and came from the maternal side of the Jackson family, long prominent in that state. She was a graduate of the Nashville Female Academy, then the foremost young ladies' school in the south. We quote from the *Nashville American*:

"Mrs. Washington was possessed of a character remarkable alike for strength and gentleness; and none who came within its beautiful influence failed in honor and love to her. Perhaps the most marked feature in her character, or perhaps it should be said, the basis of it, was intense loyalty to duty. She was called when quite young to an exalted position, and many were the high and delicate duties it entailed, but none of them did she fail to meet well and nobly, whether as wife, mother, mistress, friend and helper of a numerous tenantry, or neighbor.

Perhaps no more princely hospitality was ever dispensed than Washington, the Washington seat, has witnessed; but its bounties to the poor who lived about it have been more royal still, and none says her own children will feel a deeper grief at her going than the poor both white and black, who were so long blessed by her kind acts and kinder words of cheer and sympathy. The children of Mrs. Washington who survive her are Joseph E. Washington, Representative from this district to Congress; Mrs. G. M. Tilman; Mrs. James T. Frazier; Mrs. John L. Hight, of Elizabethtown, Ky.; Mrs. John G. Young and George A. Washington."

The obsequies of this loved and revered lady took place Tuesday, 13th. A special train bearing the deceased and mounting family and friends left Nashville at 9 a. m., and arriving at Cedar Hill was met by carriages which conveyed the large funeral party to the family burying ground, where the devoted mother was sweetly and tenderly by her children laid to rest beside the husband and father who had not long preceded her to the undiscovered country. Union actions became 19, 500 yards return.

Newspaper, February, 1894.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

## William Lewis Washington (1844-1902): Son of George A. Washington and Adelaide Lewis Washington



WASHINGTON—On Thursday morning in Philadelphia, Wm. L. Washington, eldest son of the late G. A. Washington, of Robertson County.

Notice of funeral later.

### W. L. WASHINGTON.

#### Well-Known Man Dies Suddenly in Philadelphia.

William Lewis Washington, the eldest son of the late Col. George Washington, of Robertson County, passed away suddenly in Philadelphia yesterday morning. Mr. Washington was about 55 years old, and left his home in Tennessee about twenty years ago. Mr. Washington's father was one of the wealthiest citizens of Robertson County, and the family is one of the most prominent in the State. The deceased had been in feeble health for several years. He was a half brother of Mrs. John L. Helms, of Louisville; Mrs. G. N. Tillman, Mrs. D. Shelby Williams, Mrs. Felix Ewing, J. E. Washington and George A. Washington.

### COL. WILLIAM WASHINGTON DIES AFTER A SHORT ILLNESS

He Was a Descendant of George Washington's Favorite Brother.

Colonel William Lewis Washington, a great-great-grandnephew of General George Washington, died Wednesday evening at his residence, 3415 Chestnut st. Public announcement of his death was first made to-day.

Colonel Washington had been ill about a fortnight. He was fifty-seven years old and leaves a widow. He had no children.

It was during the Civil War that Mr.

Washington received his title of Colonel.

At the outbreak of the war he was living in Nashville and he served in the Con-

federate army throughout the struggle.

Colonel Washington was a son of the late George Augustus Washington, and a brother of Joseph E. Washington, who served a term in Congress during Cleveland's administration. Mr. Joseph Washington will arrive here to-night and take the Colonel's body to Nashville, where interment will take place.

Colonel Washington had among other relatives here the Misses Martha, Anna and Elizabeth Washington, all descendants of Colonel Samuel Washington, the favorite brother of General Washington.

### OBITUARY.

The funeral of William T. Washington, who died suddenly in Philadelphia on Wednesday morning, will take place to-morrow at Wessington, Robertson County, the old home of the late G. A. Washington, his father. The deceased was the eldest son of Mr. Washington and was 67 years of age at the time of his death. His mother, Mr. Washington's first wife, was the daughter of Maj. William E. Lewis, of this city, who is remembered as one of Nashville's most distinguished citizens, a warm and valued friend of President Andrew Jackson and one of the Auditors of the Treasury under President Jackson. The deceased had not resided in Tennessee for over twenty-five years, but the friends of his youth and early manhood cherish the memory of him as a man of superior intellectual endowments and genial disposition. He leaves a wife but no children. Hon. Joseph E. Washington, G. A. Washington, Mrs. G. N. Tillman, Mrs. Shelby Williams, Mrs. John L. Helms and Mrs. F. G. Ewing are his half-brothers and sisters. A special train for the funeral party and friends will leave the Terminal Station for Cedar Hill at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, returning, leaving Cedar Hill at 4 o'clock p. m.

### WILLIAM L. WASHINGTON,

Formerly of Tennessee, Dies Suddenly  
In Philadelphia.

William Lewis Washington, the eldest and only son of the late Col. George A. Washington of Robertson County, by his first wife, died suddenly this morning in Philadelphia. He was about fifty-five years of age, and has not lived in Tennessee for twenty years. For some years he has been in delicate health and has not engaged in active business. He leaves a wife and seven living half brothers and sisters as follows: Mrs. G. N. Tillman, Mrs. John L. Helms, of Louisville; Mrs. D. Shelby Williams, Mrs. Felix Ewing, Messrs. J. E. Washington and George A. Washington. The funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

## THE HERALD.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15, 1902.

### DIED.

WASHINGTON—At Philadelphia, on Wednesday morning, William L. Washington, eldest son of the late G. A. Washington of Robertson County.

Burial at Wessyngton. A special train with the body will leave the Terminal Station at 9 o'clock to-morrow (Sunday) morning, returning, leaving Cedar Hill at 4 o'clock p.m.

The friends of the family are invited to attend without further notice.

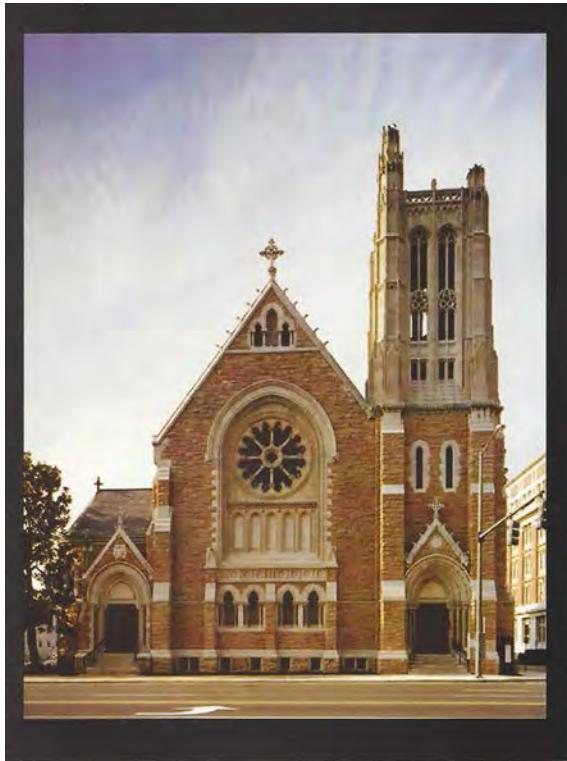
Honorary pall-bearers—Foster Cheatham, A. E. Garner, James Trimble, H. Clay McDaniel, C. D. Berry, F. C. Maury, Dr. J. R. Buist. Active pall-bearers—J. W. Dunn, W. R. Featherstone, J. F. Rufin, R. L. Batts, Wm. Winn, C. A. Bell.

WASHINGTON—Mr. William L. Washington, formerly of Cedar Hill, son of the late Col. G. A. Washington by his first marriage, died suddenly in Philadelphia last Thursday, of apoplexy. Mr. Washington was a half brother of ex-Congressman Joseph E. Washington and Mr. G. A. Washington, of Cedar Hill. He had lived for more than twenty years prior to his death, in New York and Philadelphia. He was a warm-hearted, generous man and loved most by those who knew him best. His remains reached Nashville Saturday night and were taken to Wessyngton on a special train Sunday morning and interred in the family burying ground.

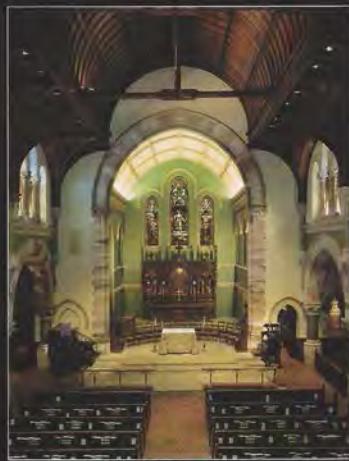
MS. AC. 84. 1

Funeral Mass for G. A. Burr, wife of

WASHINGTON—Suddenly, in Philadelphia, this morning, William L. Washington, brother of Mrs. G. N. Tillman, Mrs. D. Shelby Williams, Mrs. Felix Ewing, Joseph Washington and George Washington.



# Christ Church Cathedral



900 Broadway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203  
615-255-7729  
[www.christcathedral.org](http://www.christcathedral.org)

The Resurrections Windows: three large lancet windows over the reredos and altar. The central window was given by Jane Smith Washington. “Given to the Glory of God and In Memory of George Augustine Washington.”

The Great Wheel Window over the front entrance facing Broadway was given by the children of Jane Smith Washington. “Sing Praises to the Lord. Christ in the center surrounded by Angels playing musical instruments.”

“Given to the Glory of God and In Memory of Jane Smith Washington.”

Both windows were designed and created by the stained glass studio by Charles Booth and Charles Hogeman. Their studio and offices were located in New York and New Jersey. Both windows were in place when first services were held in the “new” Christ Church on December 16, 1894.

## **Washington Family Graveyard**

Wessyngton Plantation  
Cedar Hill, Tennessee 37032-4919

Washington Family members by law have full access to the Family Graveyard at Wessyngton Plantation.

The Washington plantation, Wessyngton, located in Robertson County north of Springfield and Cedar Hill, has a Washington family graveyard located about 100 yards to the left side of the main house (as you enter the driveway).

The Washington graveyard has been well kept up, as have the tombstones which are clearly readable. I am listing the graves with additional information.

William Lewis Washington - Nov. 3, 1844 - Jan. 8, 1902

Margaret Adelaide Lewis Washington - d. Nov. 22, 1844 - age 21 years. 6 mo. 25 days – [first wife of George A. Washington].

Bessie Adelaide Washington Tompkins - Dec. 4, 1858 - Aug. 9, 1887 – [wife of Henry B. Tompkins].

Joseph Edwin Washington - July 15, 1817 - July 24, 1818.

Martha Susan Washington - Apr. 1, 1813 - Nov 7, 1824

Joseph Washington - July 8, 1770 - November 28, 1848

Mary Cheatham Washington - Sept. 5, 1796 - Nov. 19, 1865 – [wife of Joseph

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

Washington]

George Augustine Washington - May 24, 1815 - Dec. 4, 1892.

Jane Smith Washington - Aug. 15, 1830 - Feb. 11, 1894. [wife of George A.  
Washington].

Peyton Bolling Kemp- June 12, 1865 - June 2, 1912 – [son of Seignora A. Peyton Bolling  
& Wyndham Kemp- brother of Mary Bolling Kemp Washington]

George Augustine Washington [2d] - Oct., 1879 - Feb. 1964 – [son of Joseph Edwin  
Washington & Mary Bolling Kemp Washington]

Joseph Edwin Washington - Nov. 10, 1851 - Aug. 28, 1915

Mary Bolling Kemp Washington - Jan. 15, 1861 - Mar. 24, 1946 – [wife of Joseph Edwin  
Washington]

Augustus Silliman Blagden - June 2, 1879 - May 10, 1960 – [son of Helen Peabody Rich  
& Thomas Blagden of Washington, D.C. - husband of Ann Bolling Washington].

Anne Bolling Washington - Jan. 16, 1882 - July 9, 1969

Joseph Edwin Washington III, Aug. 26, 1917 - Sept. 6, 1917- [infant son of Joseph E.  
Washington, Jr. & his wife, Pauline Gammon Washington]

The remains of Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith and Mary Hanna Smith, Jane Smith  
Washington's parents, and their three infants, Laurence, Henry, and James Jackson Smith, were  
moved from their resting place on the former plantation of Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith near

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington

Florence, Alabama (across the creek from the Forks of Cypress) in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when the graveyard on the Smith plantation was threatened, I understand, due to the laying of railroad tracks. George Augustine Washington 2d had the remains reinterred at Wessyngton.

Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith - b N.C. Dec 24, 1797 - d Ala., Oct. 26, 1837

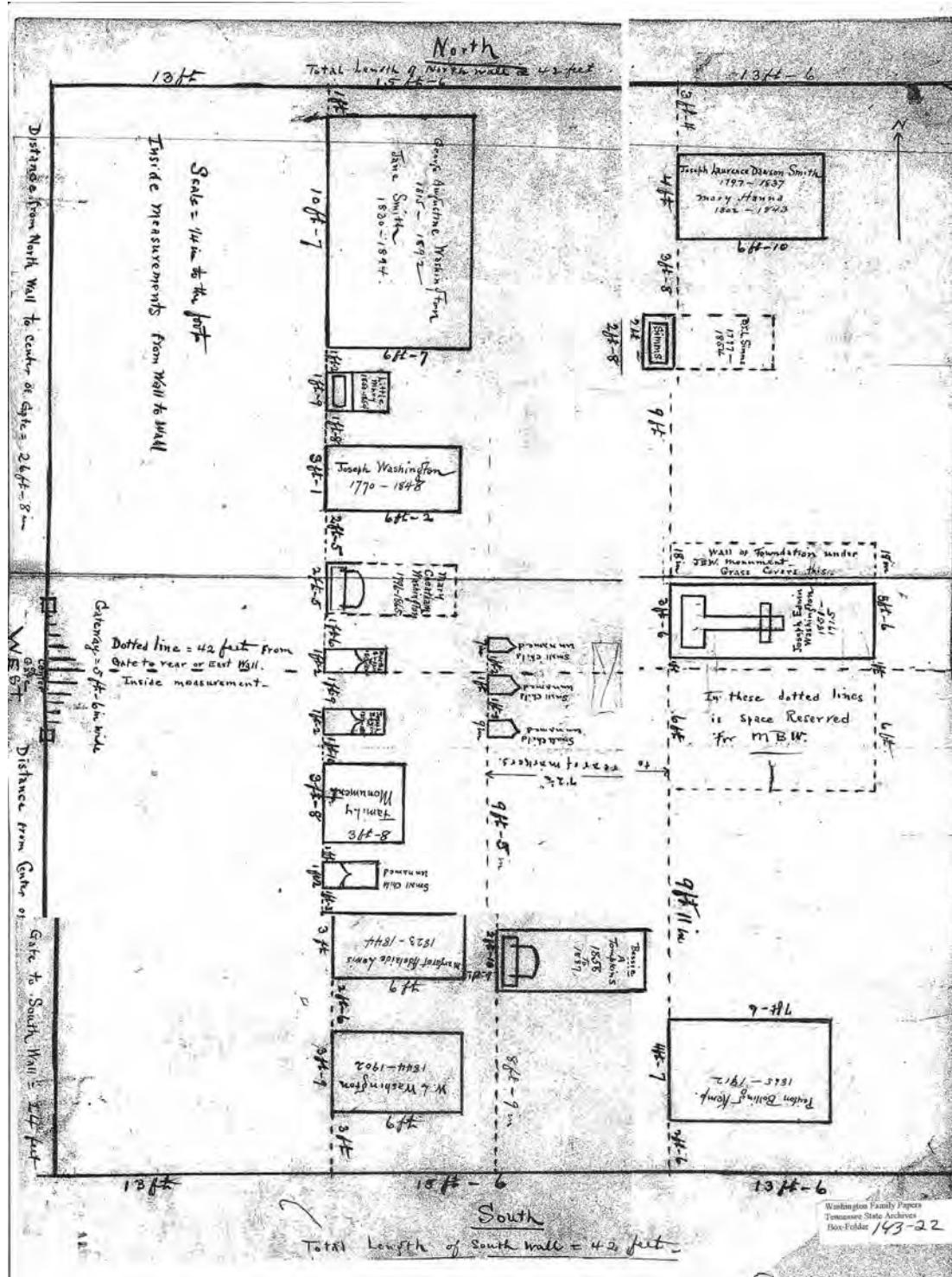
Mary Jackson Hanna Smith - b. Ballybay Ireland, 1802 - d. Oct. 8, 1843 –

[correct birth year: 1801] [wife of Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith].

Laurence Smith - July 13, 1828 - Aug. 15, 1834

Henry Smith - July 14, 1832 - July 15, 1832

James Jackson Smith - July 4, 1833 - March 31, 1837



Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Joseph Washington (1770-1848), Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee.



Mary Cheatham Washington (1796-1865), Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



Children's Graves, Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee.



Margaret Adelaide Lewis Washington (1823-1844), Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee.

Washington

Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington;  
George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington



George A. Washington (1815-1892) and Jane Smith Washington (1830-1894), Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee.

# Washington

## 3. Wessyngton Plantation

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016

# Washington

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The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

Wessyngton is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, May 6, 1971. 

*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

### **Descendants of Joseph Washington and Mary Cheatham**

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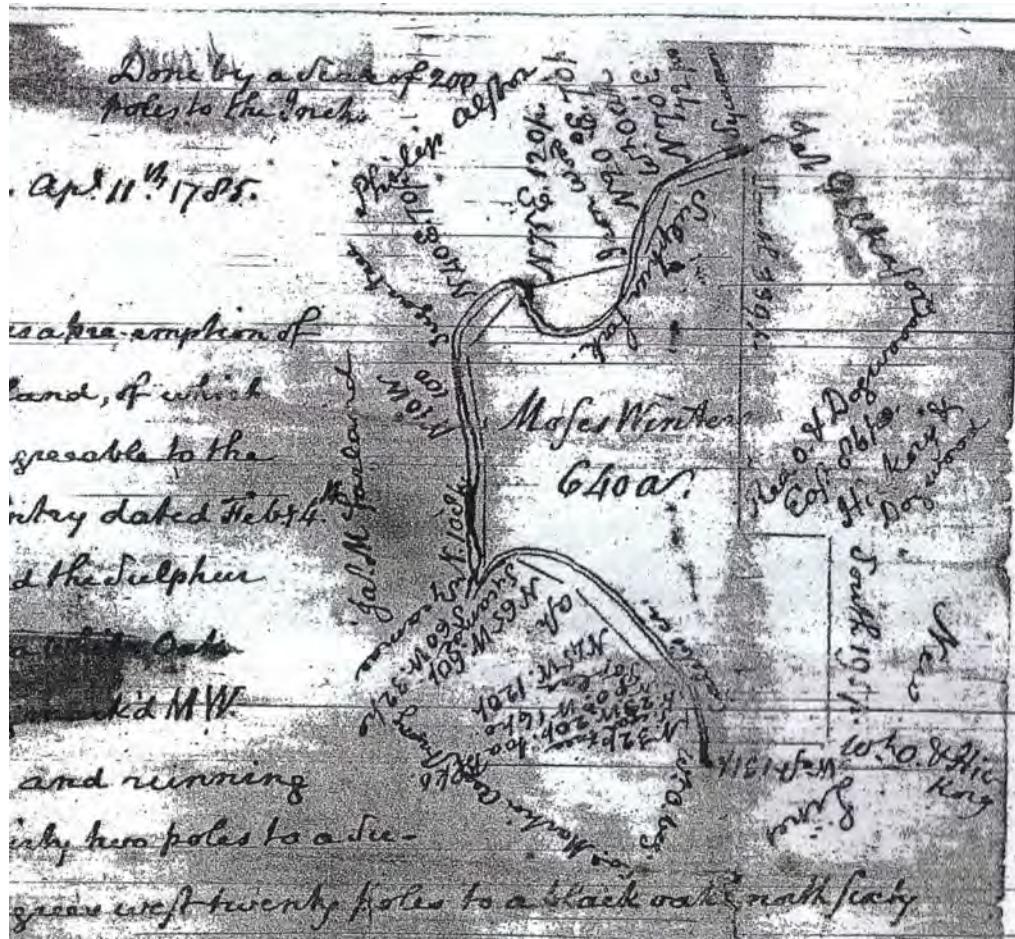
- 1 Joseph Washington (1770 - 1848)
  - + Mary Cheatham (1796 - 1865)
- ...2 Martha Susan Washington (1813 - 1824)
- ...2 George Augustine Washington (1815 - 1892)
  - + Margaret Adelaide Lewis (1823 - 1844)
- .....3 William Lewis Washington (1844 - 1902)
  - + Jane Smith (1830 - 1894)
- .....3 Mary Washington (1850 - 1854)
- .....3 Joseph Edwin Washington (1851 - 1915)
  - + Mary Bolling Kemp (1861 - 1946)
- .....3 Martha Susan Washington (1854 - 1937)
  - + George Newton Tillman (1851 - 1923)
- .....3 Mary Washington (1855 - 1928)
  - + James Stokes Frazer (1852 - 1892)
  - + David Shelby Williams (1856 - 1924)
- .....3 Male Washington (1857 - 1857)
- .....3 Bessie Adelaide Washington (1858 - 1887)
  - + Henry Bethune Tompkins (1844 - 1903)
- .....3 Male Washington (1860 - 1860)
- .....3 Lucy Amelia Washington (1861 - 1955)
  - + John Larue Helm II (1847 - 1917)
- .....3 Male Washington (1863 - 1863)
- .....3 Male Washington (1864 - 1864)
- .....3 Jane Augusta Washington (1867 - 1941)
  - + Felix Grundy Ewing (1856 - 1935)
- .....3 George Augustine Washington Jr. (1868 - 1926)
  - + Mary Pleasants Richardson (1868 - 1891)
  - + Marina Kirkman Woods (1868 - 1959)
- ...2 Joseph Edwin Washington (1817 - 1818)

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Native American arrowheads found on Wessyngton land not far from the mansion.



1785 Deed, Moses Winters' land.



“Moses Winters’ Cave” where he lived.

## Joseph Washington's purchase of land:

Moses Winters, To Joseph Washington,

April 16<sup>th</sup> 1803,

This Indenture made this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, in the year of our Lord, One thousand eight hundred & two, between Moses Winters of the County of Robertson of the one part, and Joseph Washington, of the County & State aforesaid of the other part, WITNESSETH, that the said Moses Winters for and in consideration of the sum of Eight Hundred Dollars in hand paid by the said Washington, to him the said Winters, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, he the said Moses Winters hath bargained & sold & by these presents do grant bargain sell alien convey and confirm unto the said Joseph Washington his heirs and assigns a certain tract or parcel of land situated lying and being in the County & State aforesaid and lying on the South side of Sulpher Fork of Red River, being part of Moses Winters D<sup>r</sup>cd, preemption containing 204 acres more or less, and bounded as follows, to wit:- Beginning at a black gum; runs West 73 poles to a white oak; then North 45° West 120 poles to a white oak on the Sulpher Fork Creek, then down the meanders of the Creek as follows, North 10° E. 41 poles, North 45° East 13 poles, then North 50° East 67 poles; then North 40° West 26 poles; then North 70° West 12 poles; then West 38 poles; then North 70° West 32 poles; then South 70° West 18 poles, then South 30° West 40 poles; then South 18° West 40 poles; then South 5° East 18 poles; then South 18° East 23 poles; then South 70° East 6 poles; then South 20° East 53 poles; then South 75 poles; then South 23° East 12 poles; then South 10° East 13 poles to a double sycamore, then with the Bluff of Caleb's Creek North 70° East 40 poles; then South 55° East 2 poles; then South 65° East 29 poles to a white oak and to sugar tree, then to the Beginning.

To have and to hold the said land and granted premises together with all the appurte- nances hereditaments woods ways waters mines minerals to the said Jos. Washington his heirs and assigns forever also all the estate right title property claim & deman- de which I the said Moses Winters now has or even had of in and to the said land & premises or any part or parcel thereof and I the said Moses Winters doth hereby cov- enant and agree for myself my heirs executors and administrator to and with the said Joseph Washington his heirs and assigns, that I the said Moses Winters my heirs exec- utors administrators shall and will warrant and forever defend against all lawful claims or demands of all person or persons whatsoever, claiming or demanding the said 204 acres of land whereby the premises may be affected or incumbered contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents for value Recd.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and date above written.

Signed, Moses Winters,  
with his seal affixed.

Signed Sealed & delivered  
in presence of

Miles Kirby,  
Andrew Washington,

B. Boren, Reg.,



Map of Wessyngton, 1869. Tennessee State Museum.

In 1815 a federal house was begun on the land of Joseph Washington in Robertson County. The two story house with simple federal lines probably had a chimney on either end and a small square porch in front. It is made of red brick and has a limestone and brick foundation. The original house had a central hall with stairway and rooms to either side. The house today, however, still contains the original block but has had additions across the front and a wing to the back has been added in more recent years as the family remodeled and expanded.

The house is surrounded by several remaining outbuildings which were necessary in the operation of a plantation the size of Wessyngton. Originally there were many slave cabins, barns, a carriage house, caretakers quarters, poultry houses, a crib and ~~grainery~~, etc. *granary*. Today, the smokehouse, kitchen, dairy house, and office are among the remaining outbuildings.

A lovely garden was designed and built south of the house for Mrs. Joseph Washington, wife of the builder. The flower garden is a plot about one hundred feet square, having a circular summerhouse in the center. In each corner of the garden is a triangular bed, and opposite each triangle is a circle. The design was a well proportioned one and is still quite evident. A walk past the entire garden leads to the family cemetery where four generations of the Washington family are buried.

National Register of Historic Places application, 1971

## Washington

## Wessyngton Plantation

1815-1817: Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington built Wessyngton Mansion. Wessyngton slaves made the bricks and constructed the building.



Wessyngton Mansion, ca. 1890.

(Top step: Jane Smith Washington, George A. Washington, Jane Washington (white hat) and her friends.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Wessyngton Mansion.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Front hall.



Library. George A. Washington and Jane Smith Washington.



Dining room.



Fireplace.



Downspout with Washington crest, JW [Joseph Washington], and 1819.

Washington



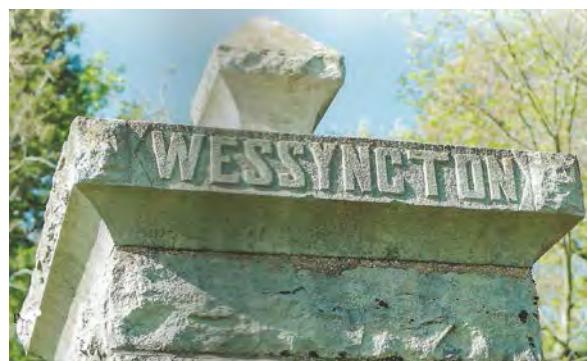
Wessyngton Plantation



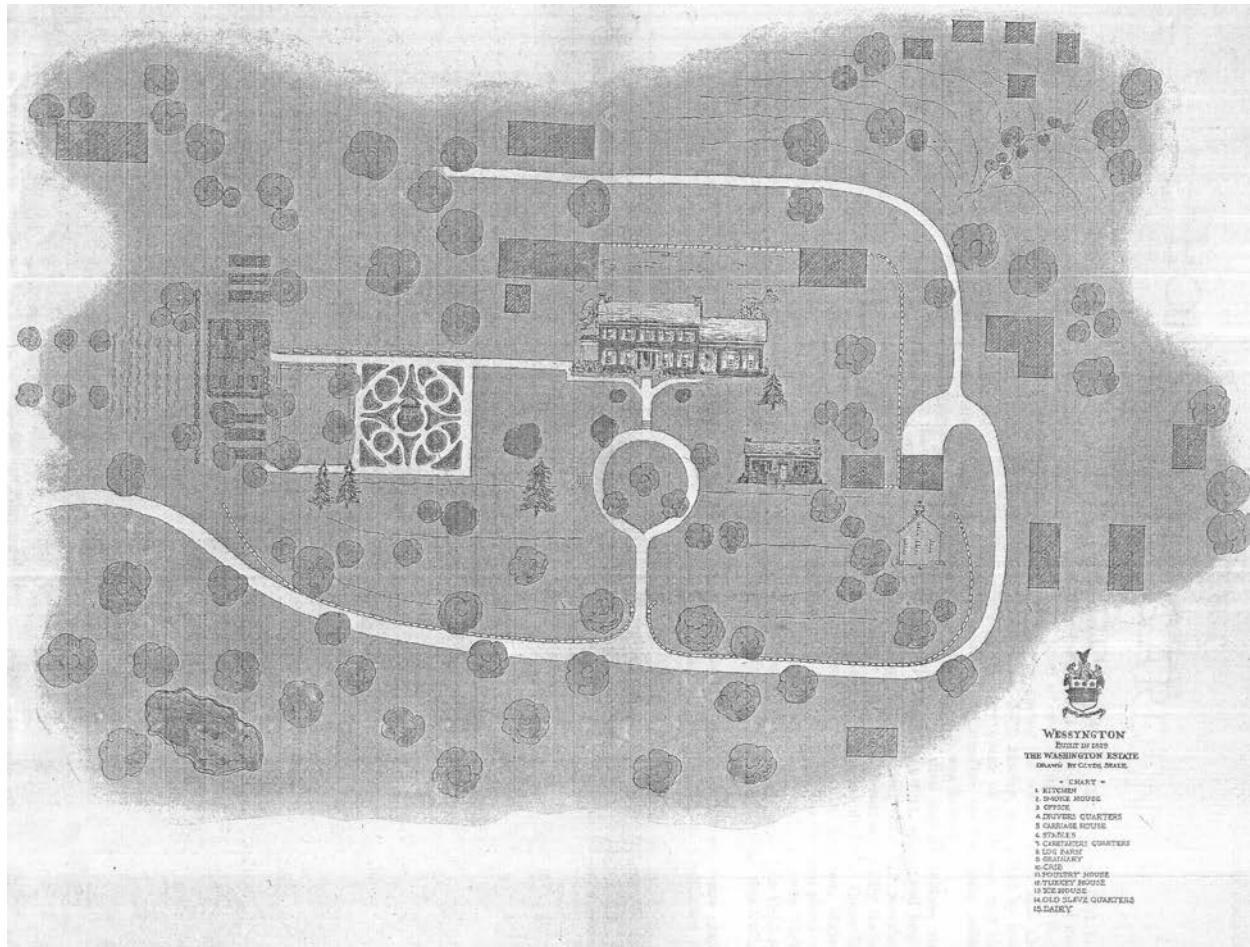
Entrance and dry stone retaining wall. The original retaining wall was done by a slave stone mason, Major. Major was hired out by his owner, and he completed the wall before Joseph Washington died in 1848.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



When workers came to the area to work on the railroad in the late 1890s, a new entrance gate was constructed.



Garden designed for Mary Cheatham Washington, 1819.

The Garden Study Club of Nashville, *History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee*, 1936.

The garden was designed for Mary Cheatham Washington and it remains as originally planned. The old crepe myrtle, callicanthus, lilac, smoke bush, fringe-tree, and syringa still border its long walks, and the old peonies still grace its beds. The flower garden is a plot about one hundred feet square, having a circular summerhouse in the center surrounded by a circular bed. In each corner of the garden is a triangular bed, and opposite each triangle is a circle. In the center of each side of the garden is a triangle and fitting in between the eight triangles are eight shield-shaped beds. Except for those beds that border the outer lines of the square all have curving lines. The design is a very well proportioned one. The garden square is bordered by a broad walk of cut stone and the beds themselves are separated by narrow walks of the same,

and they are bordered with turf. Old peonies are set in the angles of the beds and they still produce a profusion of white, red, and pink blossoms. Tall Pallida Dalmatica iris make drifts of color in early spring. In one bed flourish old plants of the Harrison's yellow rose, with a foreground of smoke-colored iris tinged with mahogany. In another is a mass of Madonna lilies blooming among purple larkspur. Hardy roses flourish on all sides, and here and there are tea roses blooming close to heliotrope and sweet lemon verbena. Around the summerhouse is a girdle of pale blue plumbago and there are innumerable night-blooming jasmine and the deliciously fragrant datura.

Back of the garden lies the graveyard inclosed by a beautiful old stone wall, over which climbs the Wichuriana rose.



The Garden Study Club of Nashville, *History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee*, 1936.

The trees are a fine feature at Wessyngton. On the lawn and in the Buck-Lot, a wooded pasture across the road, there are innumerable old white oaks, towering high before their great limbs branch out. There is one magnificent magnolia grandiflora and an equally fine snowdrop tree. There are large old silver poplars, tall pecans, copper beech, beautiful flowering chittimwood trees, and Athenian sycamores. There are splendid specimens of the Siberian tree lilac, pink dogwood, flowering crabapple, and fig trees.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Gazebo with path to Washington Family Cemetery.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Inside Washington Family Cemetery.



View from Washington Family Cemetery towards mansion.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Gazebo and Gardens, ca. 1900.

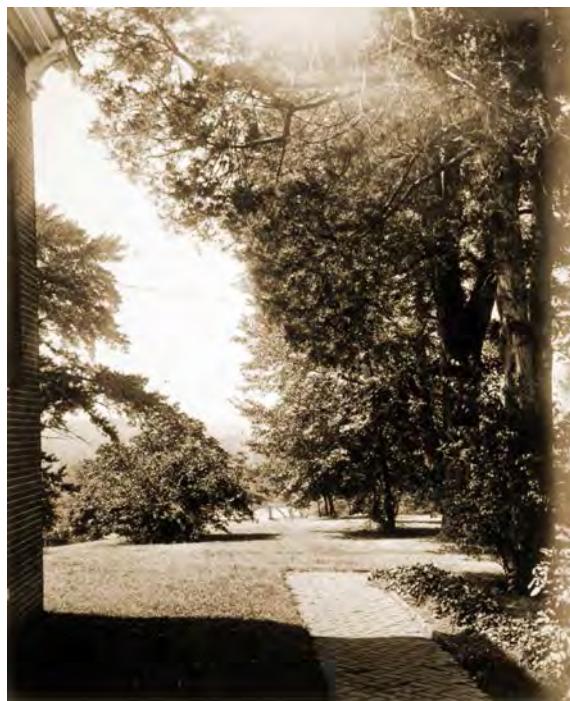


Possibly Elizabeth Wyndam Washington, ca.1888.

Washington



Wessyngton Plantation



Gardens

Washington



Wessyngton Plantation



Gardens

Washington



Wessyngton Canon and Flagpole.

Wessyngton Plantation

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Wessyngton water tower.

Washington



Wessyngton Plantation



Pre-Civil War kitchen.

Dairy: small building on left side.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Kitchen and Laundry.



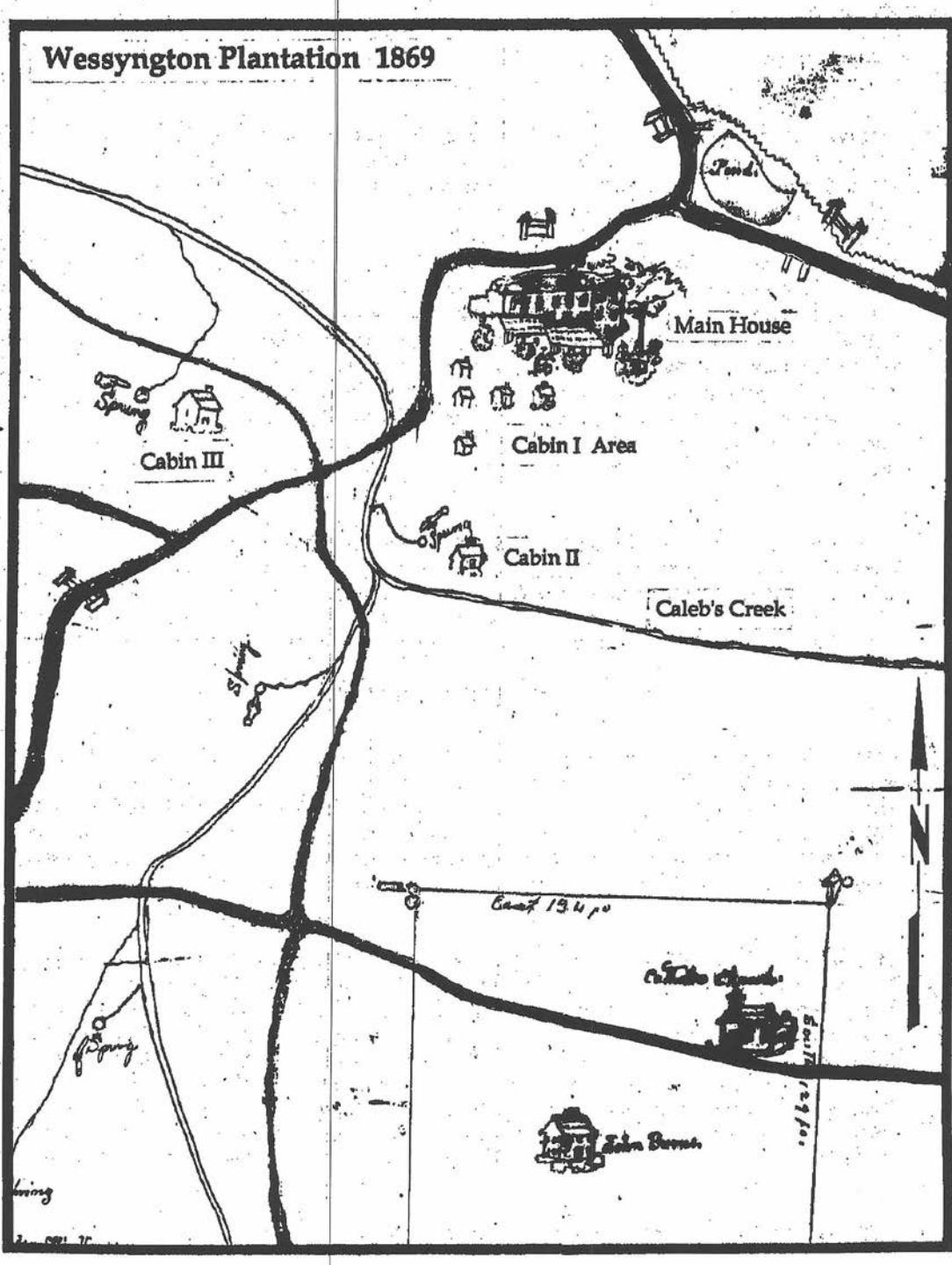
Washing Kettles

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



The Law Office.



David W.

Babson, John Baker, Jr., et.al., *Families and Cabins: Archaeological and Historical Investigations at Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee*, Midwestern Archaeological Research Center, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, 1994.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Covered bridge, built in 1876.



Covered bridge located between Wessyngton and Glenraven. It was a public bridge. George A. Washington paid half of the cost for the construction of the bridge. It was covered until the 1950s.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Wessyngton Blacksmith Shop, 1901.



Hogs slaughtered ca. 1890s.



Processing pork, ca. 1890s.



Smoke House where Washington Hams were cured.

Washington



Wessyngton Plantation



Barns.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Barns.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Wessyngton looking toward Sory Field.



Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Garden plots and storage buildings, ca. 1890s.



Barn.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Tobacco fields and harvesting, early 1900s.

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation

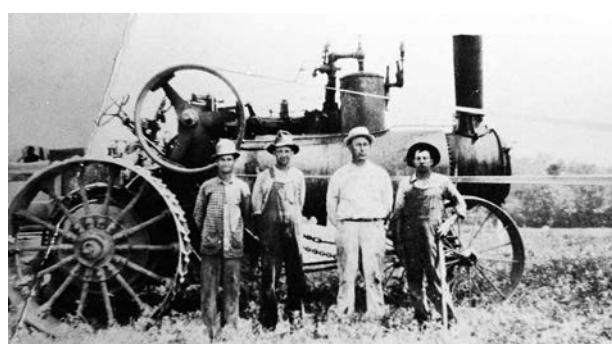
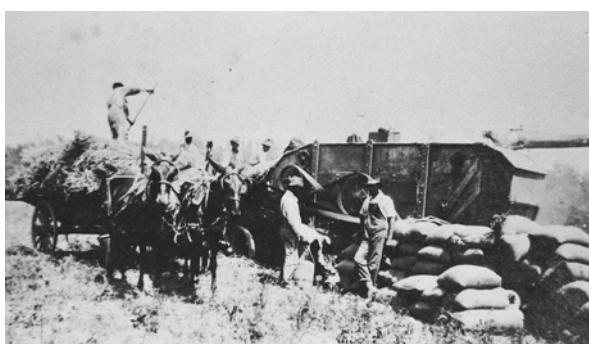


Plowing the fields. White and African American sharecroppers.

Washington



Wessyngton Plantation



Harvesting hay. White and African American sharecroppers.

Washington



Wessyngton Plantation



Model of Wessyngton Plantation, Tennessee State Museum Exhibition, 2014

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



4



Still photos taken from aerial drone footage, 2014

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



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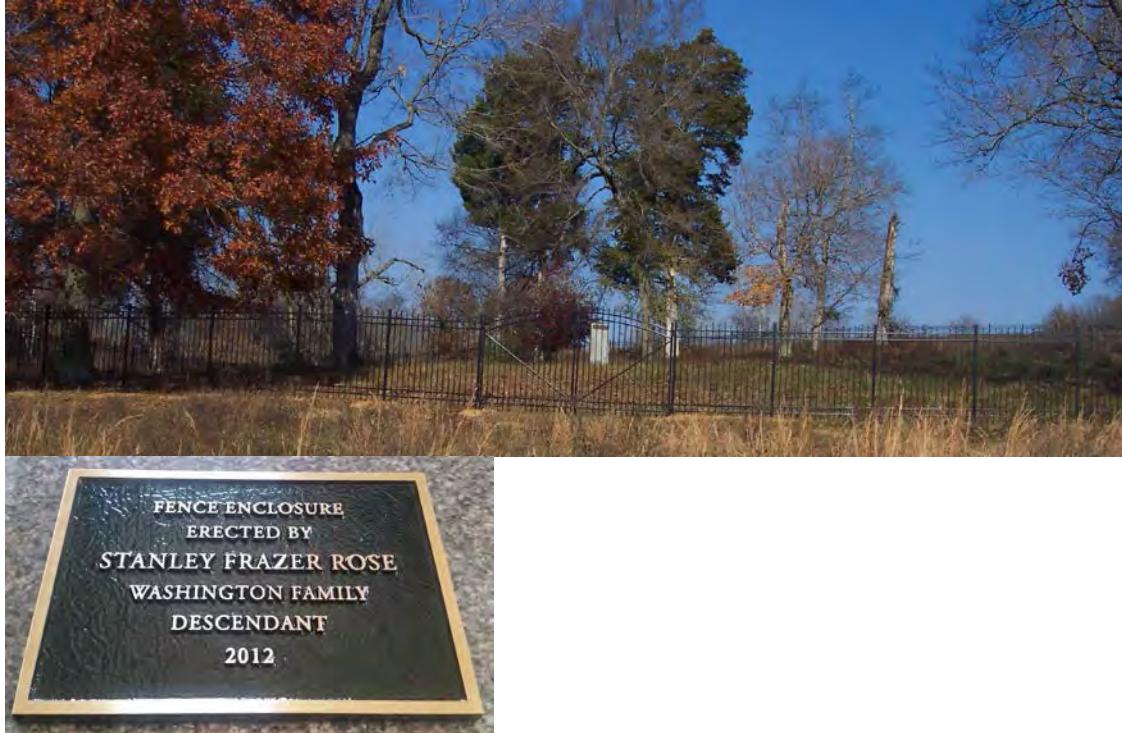
Wessyngton Plantation



The Slave Cemetery, located a 15 minute walk from the mansion.



Monument erected by Mary Washington Holley, Thomas Blagden, and Preston Frazer, 1995.



Slave Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, 2012. Fence donated by Stanley Frazer Rose.



Monument erected and funded by Washington family descendants.

Dedication ceremony, October 3, 2016.

For more photographs and video of the ceremony: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

## 1. NAME

COMMON:

Wessyngton

AND/OR HISTORIC:

STATE:	Tennessee
COUNTY:	Robertson
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71-547-0020 5/6/71	

## 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

3 miles south near Cedar Creek

CITY OR TOWN:

Cedar Hill via (South)

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

047

COUNTY:

Robertson

CODE

147

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY  
(Check One) District     Building     Site     Structure     Object

OWNERSHIP

 Public     Private     BothPublic Acquisition:  
 In Process  
 Being Considered

STATUS

 Occupied  
 Unoccupied  
 Preservation work  
in progressACCESSIBLE  
TO THE PUBLIC Yes:  
 Restricted  
 Unrestricted  
 No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

## 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Washington family heirs c/o Mrs. Arthur Kensolving

STREET AND NUMBER:

6001 Huntridge Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Baltimore

STATE:

Maryland

STATE:	Tennessee
COUNTY:	Robertson
ENTRY NUMBER	71-547-0020
FOR NPS USE ONLY	5/6/71

## 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Robertson County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

Public Square

CITY OR TOWN:

Springfield

STATE:

Tennessee

STATE:	Tennessee
COUNTY:	Robertson
ENTRY NUMBER	71-547-0020
FOR NPS USE ONLY	5/6/71

## 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

 Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

STATE:	Tennessee
COUNTY:	Robertson
ENTRY NUMBER	71-547-0020
FOR NPS USE ONLY	5/6/71

National Register of Historic Places application, 1971

7. DESCRIPTION						
CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed <small>(Check One)</small>					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE						
<p>In 1815 a federal house was begun on the land of Joseph Washington in Robertson County. The two story house with simple federal lines probably had a chimney on either end and a small square porch in front. It is made of red brick and has a limestone and brick foundation. The original house had a central hall with stairway and rooms to either side. The house today, however, still contains the original block but has had additions across the front and a wing to the back has been added in more recent years as the family remodeled and expanded.</p> <p>The house is surrounded by several remaining outbuildings which were necessary in the operation of a plantation the size of Wessyngton. Originally there were many slave cabins, barns, a carriage house, caretakers quarters, poultry houses, a crib and <del>grainery</del>, etc. <del>granary</del> Today, the smokehouse, kitchen, dairy house, and office are among the remaining outbuildings.</p> <p>A lovely garden was designed and built south of the house for Mrs. Joseph Washington, wife of the builder. The flower garden is a plot about one hundred feet square, having a circular summerhouse in the center. In each corner of the garden is a triangular bed, and opposite each triangle is a circle. The design was a well proportioned one and is still quite evident. A walk past the entire garden leads to the family cemetery where four generations of the Washington family are buried.</p>						

National Register of Historic Places application, 1971

<b>SIGNIFICANCE</b>					
<b>PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century		
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century			
<b>SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)</b> 1815-1819					
<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>					
Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater		
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce					
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications					
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation					
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>					
<p>Probably the most conspicuous and wealthy family in Middle Tennessee is the Washington family of Robertson County. It is not only prominent for wealth, but for high intelligence, social distinction, and good citizenship. For many decades its members were the largest planters in the state and won high merit as successful agriculturists, as well as for distinguished civil service in the state. The land bought by Joseph Washington in 1796 and lands added soon after have stayed in the same family for five generations or over 150 years.</p>					
<p><u>Joseph Washington</u> came to Robertson County in 1796 from Virginia and first settled on 60 acres lying on the north side of Sulphur Fork Creek about 3 miles south of the present town of Cedar Hill. This land had been a land grant from North Carolina. Here he lived in a rude log house. In 1802 he purchased the remainder of the 640 acre grant from Moses and Aaron Winters. He then moved to a house on this tract. Joseph Washington, like most farmers of that day, converted his surplus corn into whiskey and apples and peaches were turned into brandy as these were the most easily transported and most profitable crops for marketing. Many of the settlers in Robertson County came from southeastern Virginia and knew well the art of distilling which for many years brought fame to the county.</p>					
<p>In 1808 Mr. Washington, then 42, married Mary Cheatham, 16, and in 1815 began building Wessyngton which was completed in 1819. To Joseph and Mary a son was born in 1815 and he was named George Augustine. George grew up like his father and cared only for the pleasures of a domestic and private life. The plantation begun under Joseph Washington flourished under George Augustine. After his father's death in 1848, George took over the operation of the plantation. Plantation records show that the value was listed in 1850 at \$20,000 and by 1860 its worth was listed at \$250,000. Acreage grew from 4,700 acres to 13,000. The tobacco crop rocketed from 15,000 bushels in 1850 to 250,000 bushels in 1860 making Washington one of the world's largest tobacco growers. Tobacco and hams were shipped from Wessyngton to New Orleans each year by chartered boat. According to newspapers of the period Washington hams were sought by hotels all over the South, which catered to the most exacting taste, and even as far north as Philadelphia it was not unusual to see on the bill of fare of a high-priced restaurant "Washington Ham" as the tempting special on the menu.</p>					

National Register of Historic Places application, 1971

Form 10-300a  
(Dec. 1968)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Tennessee
COUNTY	Robertson
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
715470020	5/6/71

(Number of entries)

8. Significance (continued)

In 1861 the war temporarily broke up the peaceful home life at Wessyngton. George had business interests in New York and spent much of the time there, even moving the family there when things seemed perilous at home. George never was interested in politics but finally served in the 38th Tennessee General Assembly from 1873-75. His son Joseph Edwin (1851-1919), however, was more interested in politics and upon graduation from Vanderbilt Law School was elected to the Tennessee General Assembly in 1876. In 1887, at the age of 36, he was elected to the U. S. House of Representatives where he served ten years.

George A. Washington died in 1892 and the following year the plantation was divided among the surviving children. Joseph E. got the home tract which contained 799 acres. The remaining tracts, taken by the other children, had fine homes built on them very soon. Joseph, after returning to Wessyngton from Washington, D.C., was appointed county road commissioner and was elected a director of both the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railroad and the Nashville and Decatur Railroad.

He died in August, 1915, leaving four children. George Augustine (1879-1964) graduated from Yale University in 1900 and from Harvard Law School about 1902. From 1903 until the Depression he practised law in New York City. At the time of the Depression in 1930 he returned to Wessyngton to keep the estate together. The house now belongs to the fifth generation of the Washington family, but the surname Washington connected with the home tract as Wessyngton has died.

There is a movement underway in Robertson County to make the old plantation a park and preserve the old mansion. Meanwhile, the sturdy brick structure wraps itself in solitude and awaits its future destination.

National Register of Historic Places application, 1971

**Title:** Wessyngton  
**National Register Information System ID:** 71000830  
EVENT  
**Applicable Criteria:** ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING  
PERSON  
**Architectural Styles:** FEDERAL  
**Architects:** Unknown  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
**Areas Of Significance:** POLITICS/GOVERNMENT  
ARCHITECTURE  
**Periods Of Significance:** 1800-1824  
**Significant Years:** 1815  
1819  
**Significant Names:** Washington,George A.,et al.  
**Resource Type:** BUILDING  
**Related Collections:** National Register of Historic Places Collection  
**Resource Format:** pdf  
**File Size (bytes):** 602535  
**Date Published:** 5/6/1971  
**Parks:** National Register of Historic Places  
State: Tennessee  
**Locations:** County: Robertson County  
Cedar Hill ; S of Cedar Hill  
TENNESSEE ; Robertson ; Cedar Hill  
**Asset ID:** 5414a9bb-1508-4909-be56-53f90f222e96

National Register of Historic Places application, 1971

Washington

Wessyngton Plantation



Northern view



Eastern view

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

NAME <b>Common:</b> Wessyngton <b>AND/OR HISTORIC:</b>	STATE <b>Tennessee</b>	COUNTY <b>Robertson</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ADDRESS AND NUMBER:	ENTER NUMBER	DATE 715470020 5/6/71
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Cedar Hill</b>		
STATE: <b>Tennessee</b>	CODE <b>047</b>	COUNTY: <b>Robertson</b>
PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDIT: <b>Herbert L. Harper</b>		
DATE OF PHOTO: <b>January 15, 1971</b>		
NEGATIVE FILED AT: <b>Tennessee Historical Commission</b>		
IDENTIFICATION DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. <b>Front view of plantation office as it faces north</b>		

**SEE INSTRUCTIONS**



Plantation Office.

National Register of Historic Places application, 1971

# Washington

## 4. African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation

### Photographs owned by the Washington Family

Identifications by John F. Baker Jr.

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016

# Washington

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The story of the Washingtons and the African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

Washington family members referred to in articles.

### **Descendants of Joseph Washington and Mary Cheatham**

---

- 1 Joseph Washington (1770 - 1848)
  - + Mary Cheatham (1796 - 1865)
- ...2 Martha Susan Washington (1813 - 1824)
- ...2 George Augustine Washington (1815 - 1892)
  - + Margaret Adelaide Lewis (1823 - 1844)
- .....3 William Lewis Washington (1844 - 1902)
  - + Jane Smith (1830 - 1894)
- .....3 Mary Washington (1850 - 1854)
- .....3 Joseph Edwin Washington (1851 - 1915)
  - + Mary Bolling Kemp (1861 - 1946)

### **Descendants of Joseph Edwin Washington and Mary Bolling Kemp**

---

- 1 Joseph Edwin Washington (1851 - 1915)
  - + Mary Bolling Kemp (1861 - 1946)
- ...2 George Augustine Washington 2d (1879 - 1964)
- ...2 Anne Bolling Washington (1882 - 1969)
  - + Augustus Silliman Blagden (1879 - 1960)
- .....3 Augustus Silliman Blagden Jr. (1906 - 1968)
  - + Elise Ladue Grace
- .....4 Elise Grace Blagden (1939 - )
- .....4 Augustus Silliman Blagden III (1940 - about 1966)
- .....3 Joseph Washington Blagden (1907 - )
  - + Mary D. Gillespie
- .....4 Joseph Washington Blagden Jr. (1949 - )
  - + Katherine Surname Unknown
- .....3 Thomas Peabody Blagden (1911 - 2010)
  - + Martha Allen (1916 - )
- .....4 Frederick Allen Blagden (1938 - )
- .....4 Anne Washington Blagden (1940 - )
  - + Thomas N. Blodgett
- .....4 Irene Blagden
- .....4 Thomas Blagden Jr.
- .....3 Mary Kemp Blagden (1915 - 2001)
  - + Rev. Arthur Lee Kinsolving
- .....4 Arthur Lee Kinsolving Jr. (1938 - 1974)
- .....4 Augustus Blagden Kinsolving (1940 - )
- .....4 Anne Kinsolving (1942 - 2007)
  - + Rev. John Talbott



THE TENNESSEAN, Sunday, June 3, 1979

3-F

SPRINGFIELD—John Baker, 15, displays some of his hand-crafted etchings he has designed during the many months of waiting for replies from his queries about his heritage. The etchings are of his ancestors.

## Picture Pointed Youth Toward African Roots

By SUSAN THOMAS  
Tennessean Staff Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD—When John Baker flipped through one of his high school history books two years ago, he noticed a picture of an aging woman who strongly resembled his grandmother.

After questioning relatives and friends here, the teenager discovered the picture was actually a photograph of his grandmother's mother taken in 1892.

"THAT'S WHAT really got me interested in finding out who our ancestors were," said Baker, 15, a sophomore at Springfield High School. "But everything hasn't been as easy to find as that picture was."

Since the teenager saw the photograph, he has successfully traced his ancestry back to his great-great-great-great-grandfather, Esum Terry, who was brought from his native Africa to America shortly after the Civil War.

The task of tracing his "roots" has been extremely time-consuming—it took over two years—but Baker said all the questions, trips to the library, telephone calls and letters have been worth it.

"I HAD ALWAYS been interested in who my people were, and I read a lot about history, especially slavery," he explained. "After I got interested, my family encouraged me to keep on going and that's what I did."

"I've traced my people back as far as I can probably count, and it's a good feeling. It's a accomplishment. It's been really interesting too."

Fortunately for the student, his ancestors were part of an established American household which kept intricate records of names, dates and places.

"ESTUM TERRY was a member of the Fulani tribe in Africa," Baker said. "He was taken to Virginia as a young boy. His wife, Juba Terry, was brought from the Wolof tribe in America about the same time."

"They were both bought by Joseph Washington, a man who had many slaves. They were first brought as a breeding slave and had many children, but only one by his wife."

The son, Emmanuel Terry, and his wife and eight children moved to Wessyngton Plantation toward the end of the 19th century. For the next generations, life consisted of living on the enormous plantation as slaves. Even after the slaves' freedom was won in the Civil War, many of the Terrys stayed on at Wessyngton.

"EVERYTHING I'VE found makes it sound like the Washingtons were real nice to the slaves," Baker said. "They bought Emmanuel's whole family so they wouldn't have to be separated."

"And different people in my family held some of the most important

jobs at Wessyngton like head cook and valet."

Through the years, Baker's descendants entrenched themselves as a part of the family at Wessyngton. They also became the mainstay for other slaves in the area. When Baker's great-great-grandmother died, the funeral was so large the services had to be held in the large front yard at Wessyngton.

AMONG THE more memorable events Baker has discovered includes the fact that it was his ancestors who established the first black church in this section of the country.

More humorous events include the story about one ancestor who had a knack for picking locks who helped a number of his friends and himself escape from the state prison after they were wrongly arrested for stealing meat.

Baker has also found that his heritage includes some Indian blood, with several ancestors being from both Cherokee and Blackfoot tribes.

"I THINK the worse part about it all was what slavery did to my people," Baker added. "And the worse part of that is how it took the African heritage away from them. But it makes me even more proud of them because they survived. Now I know where I came from. I know who I am."

*The Tennessean (Nashville), June 3, 1979, 3-F. Note: This article is for the story of John F. Baker Jr. and the Washington Family. The reporter made some genealogical errors.*



**CEDAR HILL**—This 1892 photograph of slaves taken at Wessyngton caught John Baker's eye when he leafed through the pages of his junior high school history book. He soon discovered that Emanuel and Hettie Washington, the couple seated, were his great-great grandparents. Washington was the name of the builder of the Wessyngton estate. Standing are head dairymen Allen Washington, left, and valet Granville Washington. Emanuel Washington was a cook, and his wife was head laundress at the estate.

Note: Hettie should be Henny Washington.



**CEDAR HILL**—A side view of Wessyngton reveals the sturdy, 19th Century design of the main house and the slave quarters in the backyard where as many as 300 slaves lived.

Tennessean (Nashville), June 3, 1979, 3-F.

# 160 Years of U. S. History Embedded in Wessyngton

By SUSAN THOMAS

Tennessean Staff Correspondent

CEDAR HILL—The tears, joys, struggles and victories of America's childhood lie embedded in the delicate brick walkways at Wessyngton.

The crisscrossed stones, which encircle the massive estate and gardens, have weathered the heavy footsteps of time—from an era of newly found independence, through the suffering of a country divided by war, to a day of space travel and nuclear energy.

**BUT THEY HAVE** survived, only slightly scarred and buckled after 160 years.

"When we first moved here, I got down on my hands and knees and tried to pull the grass and weeds from between the bricks," said Ann Talbott, a sixth generation descendant of Joseph E. Washington, who built the mansion in 1819.

"Then someone told me they used to have five slaves doing what I was trying to do. I had to give up."

**THE END OF** slavery is not the only change at Wessyngton.

Gone too are the horses which roamed the open fields, the orchards which stretched as far as the eye could see, the plump hams which hung proudly in the smokehouse and

the sound of laughter and song from the workers in the acres and acres of tobacco fields.

Today, the home which requires more money for upkeep than can be easily obtained, stands as a harbor for memories of the past.

"**WESSYNGTON** is the old English spelling of Washington," Mrs. Talbott explained. "Joseph Washington came to this area in 1796 from South Hampton County, Va.—I guess because Virginia had grown too crowded for a man with big ideas.

"He bought 60 acres when he got here and went through two log cabins before he started building Wessyngton. And by that time, he had acquired approximately 15,000 acres and had between 250 and 300 slaves.

"That's not too many when you consider the cotton plantations in Mississippi, but the next largest slave owner in Robertson County had 20 slaves at the time. It was a big place."

**SEVERAL YEARS** after Wessyngton was built, it became the second-largest dark-fired tobacco plantation in the world. It also boasted a hog operation which supplied delicious hams to the finest restaurants from New Orleans to

Philadelphia. Peach brandy was also a trademark of the estate.

As the country flourished, Wessyngton did as well and did not have many more problems than an occasional horse theft until the Union and Confederate armies squared off against one another during the Civil War.

"The Union soldiers set fire to Wessyngton twice during the war," Mrs. Talbott said. "It's funny, but before the war they sent all the best furniture and things to a warehouse in Louisville. They must have realized the war was going to be bad.

"**BUT WESSYNGTON** made it—they were able to put the fires out before they did too much damage—and the warehouse burned to the ground."

However, many fine items left at the estate survived the war undamaged. Portraits of various family members still line the plaster walls and antiques rest on dark oak sideboards.

Other aging reminders—18-foot high ceilings, intricate stenciling on the entrance hall ceiling and filigree lace curtains—enhance the bold design of the home.

**"ABOUT THE** turn of the century, Wessyngton began to be mismanaged, and there is always a need of funds when the family runs out of money," Mrs. Talbott said.

"And as the children and grandchildren began growing up, the farm was divided and there wasn't enough money to keep the house up like it should have been."

Today, Wessyngton is owned by a corporation made up of descendants of the original owner, making it America's oldest and largest farm still in an original family's ownership, although its size has been reduced to 2,300 acres, Mrs. Talbott said.

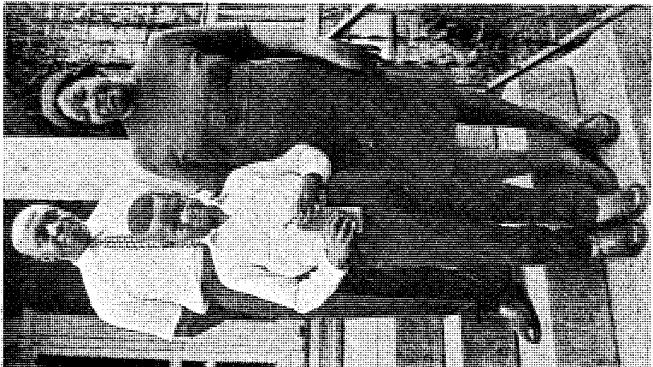
"**IT'S LIKE ANY** old house—it can drive you crazy," she explained. "There is a couple of new leaks every time you turn around, but it's built like a rock."

Mrs. Talbott, her husband Johnny, along with other members of family, are attempting to gradually restore Wessyngton to its original condition.

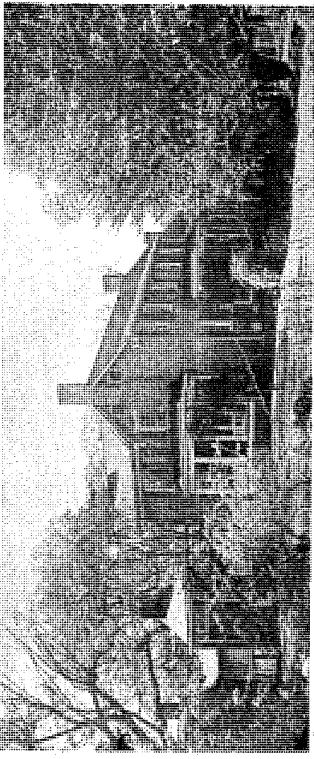
"We have real estate agents calling all the time, every year, seeing if we want to sell," Mrs. Talbott added. "But there's no way. We want to keep it in the family one way or another."

"It would be a shame to lose it now."

Tennessean (Nashville), June 3, 1979, 3-F.



# A Visit To Wessyngton



This is the view of Wessyngton, built in 1819 and the home of four generations of the Washington family, by members of the Robertson County Historical Society.

## Historical Group Tours Landmark

Society.

By Mrs. Marguerite Chinnard  
Arrangements for the group

to visit Wessyngton were made by Mrs. Sue Scobie, who was on Sunday, October 18, by members of the Robertson County Historical Society. Prior to entering the home Mr. Thomas Paper, wife of the Robertson County historian, made a few introductory remarks.

The caretakers of the home, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Terry and young son, Jerry, were gracious in showing the home and answering any questions asked by the visitors. Felix said that he had been open with the visitors about the odd pieces of furniture used by the father of the late George A. Washington when he was a member of Congress on the basis that he (Mr. Terry) was a member of the Tennessee Historical Society.

It is interesting to note that the round table in the living room has been in the same place since the table was acquired and it is of considerable value.

The key to the front door is approximately six inches long. A remain of the days when a man's home was his castle and the method of cooking

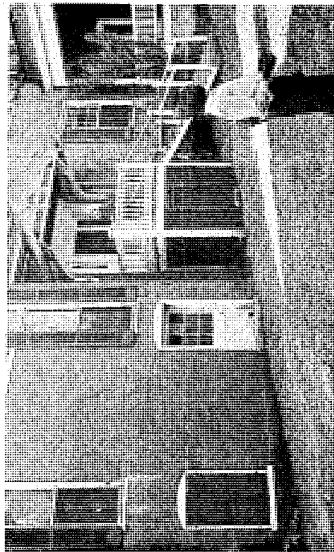
and the method of cooking hasn't changed at Wessyngton as the wood cook stove is still in use in the kitchen.

A friend of the family reminisced that in the past the entire family and every tenant sometime numbering as many as 100 tenants in the home was the Christmas party gift for the slaves. Gift for each one on Christmas Day morning.

Up until World War II a cannon was shot every Christmas morning. It was donated as scrap iron during World War II.

Approximately 65 were present for the tour and in addition to members of the

Robertson County Historical Society there were several from Clarksville, and surrounding areas.



This is a side view of Wessyngton, showing one of the visitors on the porch and Jerry Terry, the caretakers son, as he looks on at the visitors to the place now so familiar to him.



Former Wessyngton slaves in front of the mansion, Wessyngton, 1891.

Seated: Emanuel Washington (1824-1907), Henny Washington (1839-1913, wife of Emanuel Washington).

Standing left: Allen Washington (1825-1890s), Granville Washington (1831-1898).



**Granville Washington** (1831-1898) (believed to be fathered by George Augustine Washington and Fany, a slave. DNA testing has not been done as the correct male-line descendant of Granville Washington has not been located as of 2012). 1892 in Adams, Tennessee near Wessyngton.



Irene Lewis Washington, Granville's wife (1842-1932), ca. 1880s.

Sixth: I give and bequeath to Granville Washington, colored, Five Hundred Dollars for his fidelity to me.

George A. Washington's will, September 8, 1888.

Washington

African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



Foster Washington, Granville Washington's son.  
Washington's son.



Grantz Washington, Granville

I Granville Washington being I  
sound mind and disposing memory  
and in the full enjoyment of my  
faculties do hereby make and publish  
this my last Will and Testament -  
I bequeath devise and give my  
house and lot on Division Street  
in the City of Nashville and County of  
Davidson and which is now held in trust  
for me by Mr. Joseph E. Washington, to my  
beloved wife Ida Washington to have  
and to hold the same for and during her  
natural life and at her death the said  
house and lot shall be equally divided  
between my two daughters Joyce Nixon  
and Bessie (Ogier) Washington their  
and share alike.

I give and bequeath all of my household  
and kitchen furniture of every kind whatsoever  
to my beloved wife Ida Washington  
to have and to hold for and during her  
natural life and at her death the said  
household & kitchen furniture shall be

equally divided between my two  
daughters Joyce Nixon and Bessie (Ogier)

Will of Granville Washington, 1897. Joseph E. Washington was the trustee of his trust.

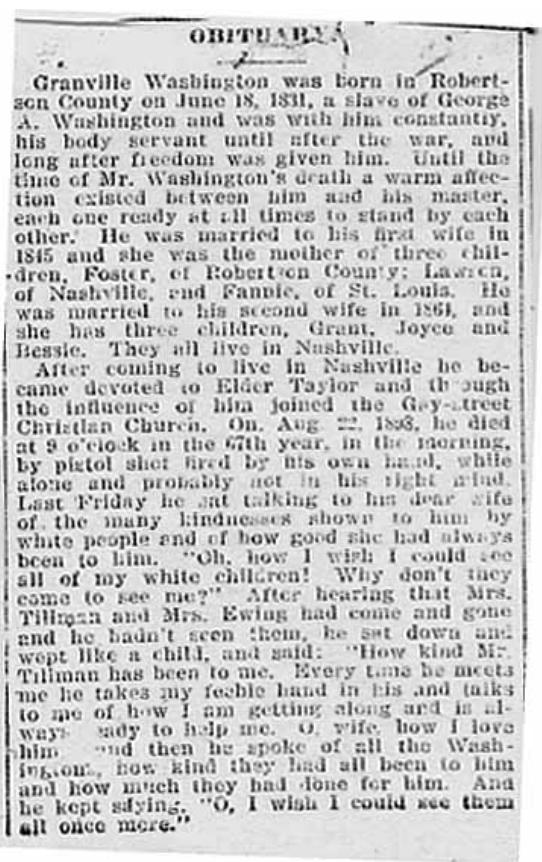
I leave nothing to my three sons  
 Foster Washington, Lawson Washington and  
 Granville (Gran) Washington in this will  
 because I have from time to time  
 already given to each of them, Foster,  
 Lawson and Granville, property  
 money and various articles of value  
 in the nature of advancements which if  
 collated & equalized would aggregate an amount  
 greater than the value of the property herein  
 divided. Signed and sealed in  
 the presence of witnesses this 16<sup>th</sup> October 1897  
 Granville Washington  
 mark

We the undersigned in the presence  
 each other and in the presence of the  
 testator have witnessed his signature  
 as witness to the fact that Granville <sup>Washington</sup>  
 made his mark above, declaring this to be  
 his last Will and Testament this 16<sup>th</sup> October 1897

Witnesses—

Joseph E. Washington  
 Mary B. Washington  
 J. M. Paton

Granville Washington's will, witnessed by Joseph E. Washington and Mary Bolling Kemp Washington.



Granville Washington's Obituary.  
Found in Foster Washington's Bible.

**COLORED MAN'S SUICIDE.**

**Granville Washington Sends a Bullet Through His Head.**

**Supposed to Have Fired the Fatal Shot While Suffering From Temporary Insanity.**

Granville Washington, a well-known colored man who lives on Fairmount street, committed suicide about 9 o'clock this morning by shooting himself through the head with a revolver. Death ensued almost instantly.

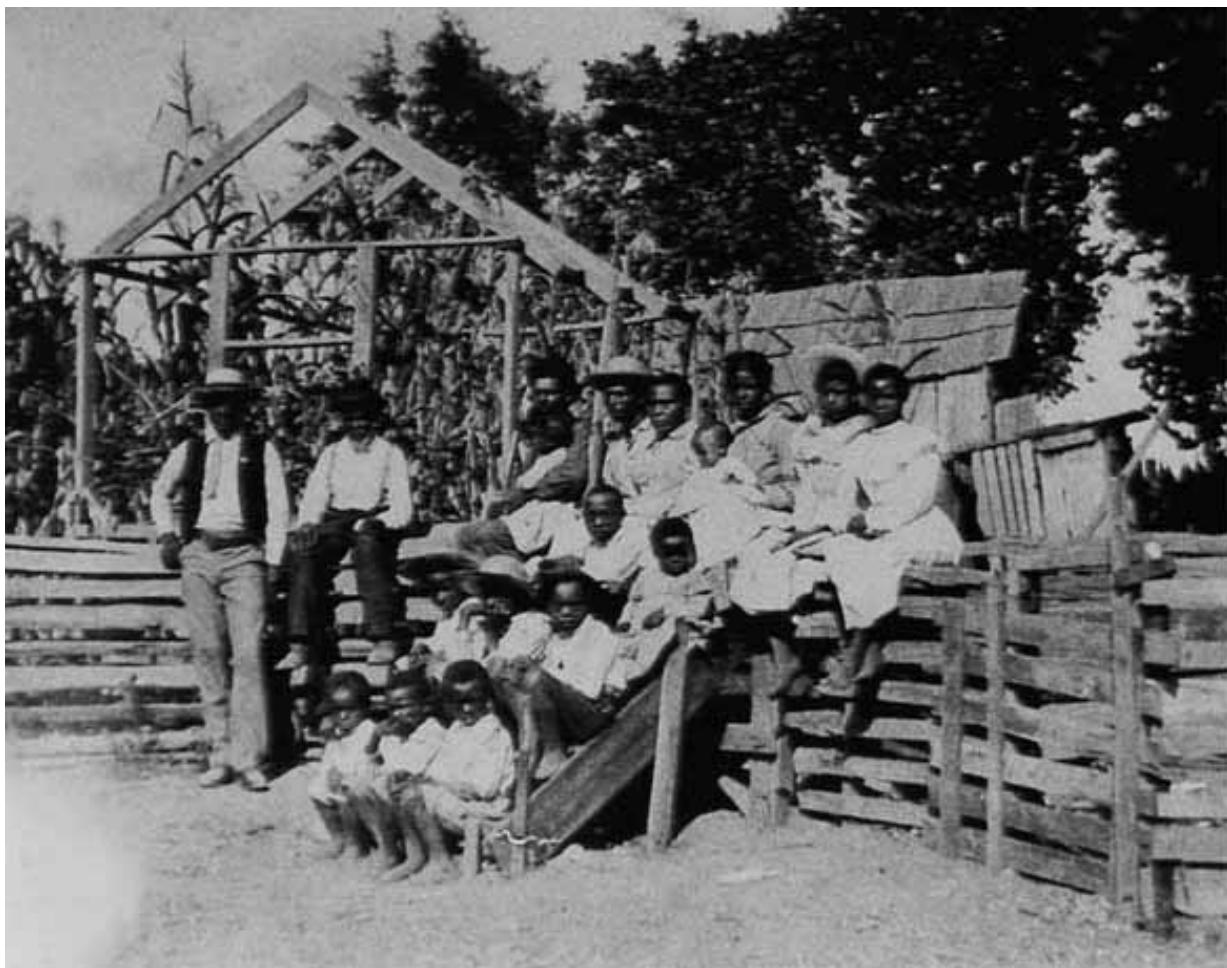
Washington had been in bad health for some years, and there were times when it was suspected that his mind was affected. It was during one of these periods that Washington is supposed to have fired the fatal shot. He was in a room alone when the rash act was committed, the first intimation the family had of it being the report of the pistol.

Washington was well known throughout the city, he for years having been employed in the bath rooms of Chas. Breyer, on Church street. He was polite and courteous to all and made many friends among the patrons of the shop. As a slave he belonged to the father of Ex-Congressman Joe Washington. Yesterday he returned from a visit to his old home in Robertson County, where he was ever welcomed by the Washington family, and stated that he felt better than for years. Taylor & Co. took the remains in charge and prepared them for burial.

Granville Washington's Obituary.  
*Nashville Banner*, August 22, 1898.



1903. Left to right: Jenny "Jincy" Washington (b.1830); Allen Washington's wife. Emanuel Washington (blind). Emanuel Washington's sister, Susan (b.1821). She came back to Wessyngton from Kansas. She lived to her late 90s.



Emanuel and Henny Washington's family, 1890s.



Sarah Jane Scott Harris (1852-1925), Henny Washington, Emanuel Washington, ca. 1901.



Susan Washington (b. 1821), ca. 1901.



Uncle Man's Ghost Story (letter from Preston Frazer to John F. Baker Jr., March 26, 1997):

The only ghost story that I can remember Father [George A. Frazer] telling us is the story of a ghost in the cemetery at Wessyngton.

When Father was little 10 or 12 years old, he and some of his cousins of the same age went several times to Wessyngton to visit their grandparents [George A. and Jane Smith Washington]. They stayed about a week and "Uncle Man" Emanuel Washington was put in charge of them.

They had beds in the law office [the building in front of the mansion] so they didn't disturb the grownups.

I will try to give some points on Uncle Man's story. He would tell ghost stories to the boys each evening. At one time various rumors were circulated at Wessyngton that a strange mist-like substance was seen night after night moving back and forth among the tombstone. That rumor then developed by some of the staff at Wessyngton who said that they had hidden near the cemetery to see if they could see the mist like substance.

The next phase was that some who saw it also said it made a low moaning sound.

Then, next, the sound was identified into the low moaning as saying "Think I am people don't you" over and over then the "oh, oh- oh – oh" over and over moaning.

Uncle Man then told the boys that he was going to the cemetery and check on the moaning.

He did this; he went to the cemetery and saw the apparition, the ghost-like mist moaning "Think I am people don't you?"

Uncle Man said he rushed at the apparition which was about 10 feet tall, grabbed the bottom, and yelled to the apparition, "I know you are people, get off of those stilts and get out." The apparition collapsed and fled.

You can imagine how delighted the little boys were at Uncle Man's description and solution.

Mary Washington Holley remembered the story too. She said what got the rumors of a ghost started was during the fall during heavy fog, a grey horse had gotten out of the stable and had been roaming near the cemetery and the ghost story developed from that before it was discovered that the horse was the only ghost in the graveyard. So I guess Uncle Man created a ghost story and made himself seem very brave to the little boys to confront a ghost at the same time.



Henny Smith. Brought by Jane Smith Washington to Wessyngton. (d. ca. 1849)



Henny Jackson Smith from a photograph. Pastel by [Maria] Howard Weeden in the 1890s. Hung in the Wessyngton mansion and then in the homes of Washington descendants.



Unknown woman. Pastel by [Maria] Howard Weeden in the 1890s. Hung in the Wessyngton mansion and then in the homes of Washington descendants.

W. C. Russell  
Capt. G. A. O. S.

Wartrace Tenn  
Aug 31<sup>st</sup> 1863

Sir

Upon my arrival at camp I find that there are several Contrabands anxious to ready to enter the Service & from the best information I can gather several hundred could be raised at this point of Shelbyville. Having been examined for a position in that department I would ask the privilege of being empowered with the following

- 1<sup>st</sup> To open a Recruiting Office at this point of Shelbyville for the purpose of enlisting colored troops for the United States Army.
- 2<sup>d</sup> To furnish those who may enlist as such with quarters & subsistence.
- 3<sup>d</sup> To commence organizing them into Companies & drilling them.

I would state as my opinion that by making Shelbyville a place of rendezvous, a Regt. Could be formed in a short time from those running at large not belonging to loyal Citizens. I have the honor to remain

Your. Ob<sup>t</sup> Servt

Thomas J. Downey  
Capt. Comdg Co D  
113<sup>rd</sup> Regt. O. V. I.

Formation of the 15<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment in Shelbyville, Tennessee, 1863. This regiment saved George A. Washington's life in December, 1864.  
Property of the descendants of Col. Thomas J. Downey.



Slave Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, 2013. Fence donated by Stanley Frazer Rose.



Monument erected by Mary Washington Holley, Thomas Blagden, and Preston Frazer, 1995.

About two hundred African Americans were buried in the cemetery.



Monument erected and funded by Washington family descendants.  
 Dedication ceremony, October 3, 2016.  
 For more photographs and video of the ceremony: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

**HISTORY**

# RESEARCHERS STUDY SLAVE CEMETERY



John Baker, Jr. watches as the work gets underway in the slave cemetery at Wessyngton. Baker, a guest curator of the upcoming Wessyngton exhibit at the Tennessee State Museum, has studied the plantation for more than 30 years. His ancestors were enslaved on the property. ALL PHOTOS BY NICOLE YOUNG/ROBERTSON COUNTY TIMES

Findings will be part of historical display

**By Nicole Young**

Robertson County Times

Archeologists with the University of Tennessee at Knoxville spent hours last week trying to determine how many bodies are buried in a slave cemetery at a former Robertson County plantation that will soon be the subject of an exhibit honoring the 150th anniversary of the Civil War at the Tennessee State Museum.

"There are at least 200 people buried out here, maybe more," said Stephen Yerka, an information technology specialist and geophysical archeologist with UT. "We are seeing rows and groupings as we would see in a normal cemetery."

Located in the middle of a pasture on the Wessyngton property near Coopersburg, the 640 square-foot slave ceme-



Stephen Yerka, an information technology specialist and geophysical archeologist with the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, readies his equipment for another pass in the slave cemetery at Wessyngton.

*USA Today*, December 31, 2013, Nation p.1. Originally in *The Tennessean*, December 28, 2013.

## Ground radar used to study site

» WESSYNGTON FROM 1A

tery is encircled by a plain metal gate. No individual grave markers are present on the site, but researchers had estimated in the past that about 200 slaves and their descendants were buried there. The Wessyngton property was once a plantation with a large slave population prior to the Civil War.

In 1994, a memorial marker containing 39 names was placed inside the cemetery.

Yerka and his colleague, Daniel Brock, an archeologist with UT, were brought in to gather preliminary information about the cemetery for the upcoming exhibit. Their full report will likely take a year to generate, according to Rob DeHart, curator of the Tennessee State Museum.

The pair used ground-penetrating radar to gather information about the graves. A machine was set up on a wheeled cart resembling an infant stroller.

"It's a lot like mowing the lawn," Yerka said. "Electromagnetic waves are pulsed into the ground allowing us to see any abnormalities. Once we get back to the lab, we can generate 3-D cubes that will tell us if the abnormalities are graves. The cubes will also tell us their positions and depths."

### History of the site

According to John Baker, Jr., a lifelong Springfield resident who will serve as a guest curator of the Wessyngton exhibit at the museum, burials in the slave cemetery began in the 1700s and ended in 1928.

Baker's involvement with Wessyngton dates back more than 30 years. He first came across a photograph of slaves on the property in a seventh grade social studies textbook at school. Later that year, his grandmother told him the slaves in the picture were his ancestors. His great, great grandmother and grandfather were born on the plantation as slaves in 1824 and 1839, he said.

"The slave cemetery here is one of the largest,



Daniel Brock, an archeologist with the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, points out images displayed on ground-penetrating radar to Stephen Yerka and John Baker, Jr. at the slave cemetery on the Wessyngton property. NICOLE YOUNG/ROBERTSON COUNTY TIMES

if not the largest slave cemetery in Tennessee," Baker said.

At Wessyngton, there are two cemeteries located on the grounds. A Washington family cemetery containing 15 marked graves sits next to the main home, which dates back to 1819 and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1971.

The Wessyngton exhibit at the Tennessee State Museum will include the survey from the slave cemetery and a film shot near the main home earlier this year. It will also include photographs, paintings, portraits, period furniture and fabricated elements that people can tour, such as a recreated tobacco barn, slave auction stand, parlor, and a partial interior of a slave cabin.

Guests will also see a scaled model of the home place property. It is slated to open at the Tennessee State Museum in February.

"One of the things the exhibit will try to do is show the diversity and complexity of slaves' experiences at Wessyngton," DeHart said. "We felt Wessyngton was a

### Property once largest farm in state

The plantation itself dates back to 1796. The

Washingtons originally bought 640 acres to be developed as farmland, Baker said.

Over time, the plantation grew to include 13,100 acres and was at one point the largest farm in Tennessee.

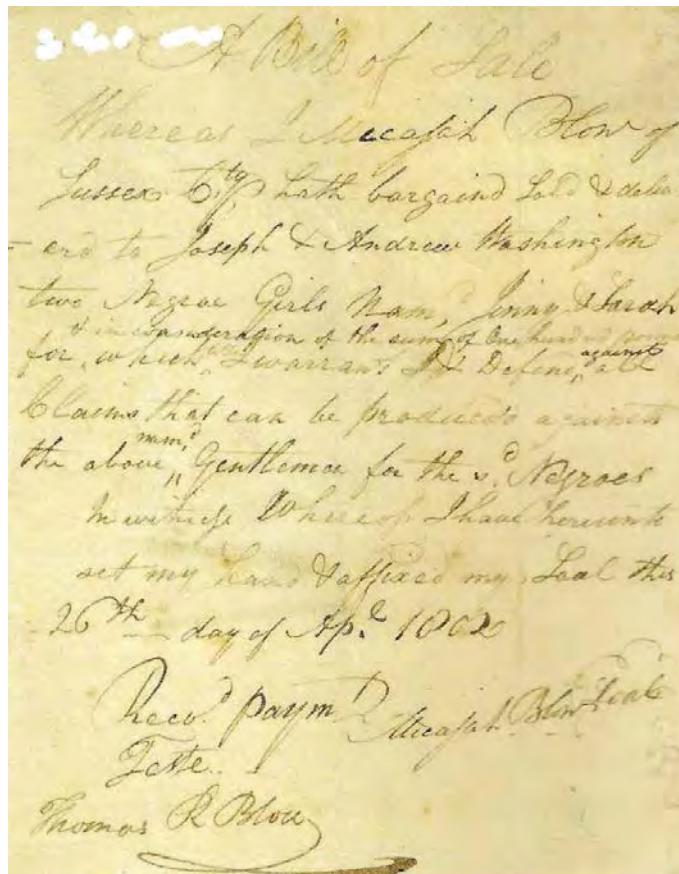
It was the biggest tobacco-producing plantation in the United States and the second-largest tobacco-producing plantation in the world before the Civil War in 1860, Baker said.

The slave population, which was recorded at one point as reaching 274, lived in some 40 cabins on the property, Baker said.

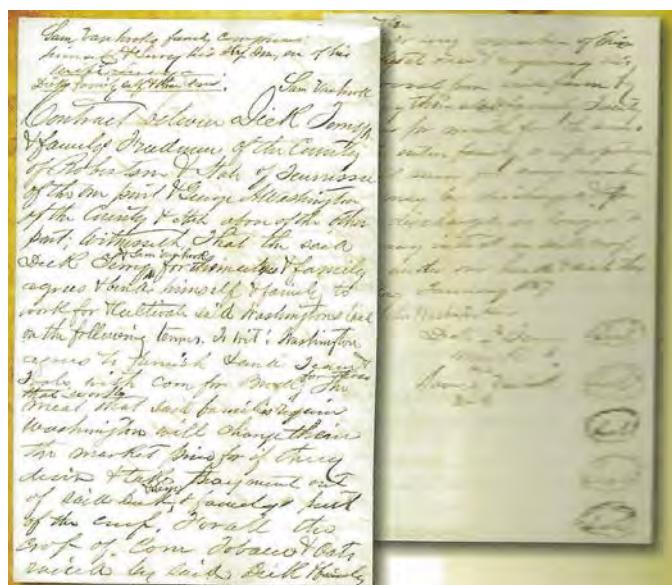
Today, the Wessyngton property is owned by Glen and Donna Roberts. The grounds, which total 2,735 acres, include one restored slave cabin, a 7,000 square-foot main house, three guest houses, a cattle barn, two tobacco barns, carriage house, granary and a smoke house.

The Wessyngton exhibit will be on display from Feb 11, 2014 through Aug. 31, 2014 at the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville.

*USA Today*, December 31, 2013. Originally in *The Tennessean*, December 28, 2013.

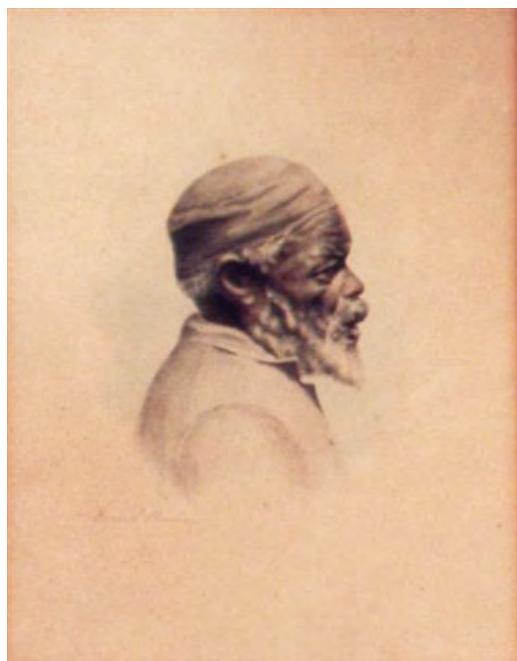


Slave bill of sale 1802. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

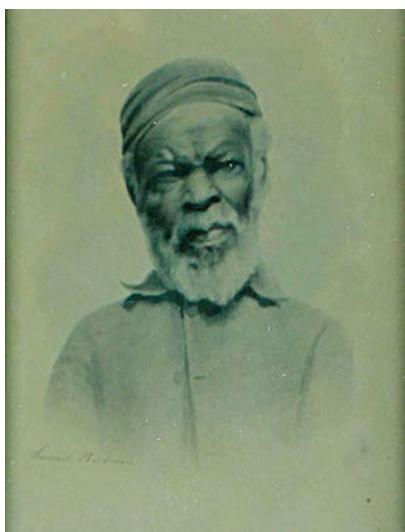
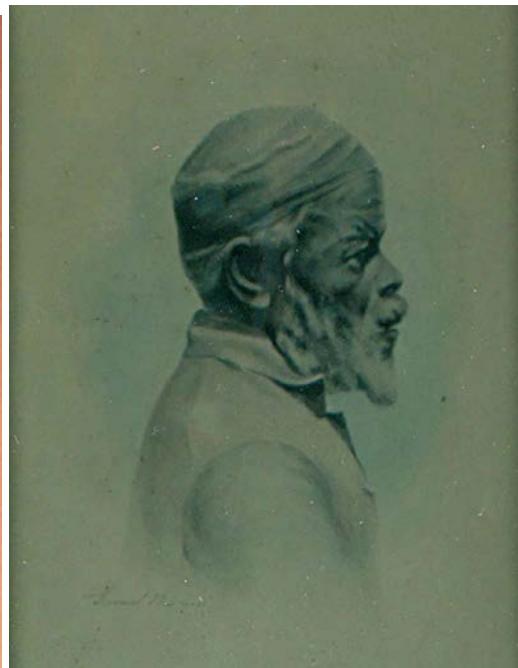


Sharecropper Contract 1867. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Washington



African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



Emanuel Washington

Pastels by [Maria] Howard Weeden in the 1890s. Hung in the Wessyngton mansion and then in the homes of Washington descendants.

Washington

African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



Hostler, 1920s.



Servant doing laundry, ca. 1880s.



Stringing peppers, ca. 1880s.





Andy and his wife.



House servant, 1890s.

Washington



Ca. 1891 with children and grandchildren.

African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



With Jane Washington.



Probably Emanuel Washington, wedding of Anne Washington and Thomas Blagden, 1905.

Washington



Nora Anna Carney.  
Williams.

African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



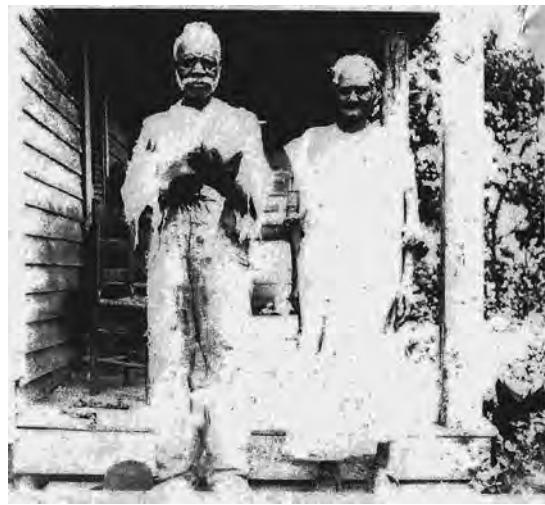
Carrie Williams Washington, Matilda

Washington



Joseph Scott, Fannie Biggers Scott.

African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



Joseph Scott, Fannie Biggers Scott.



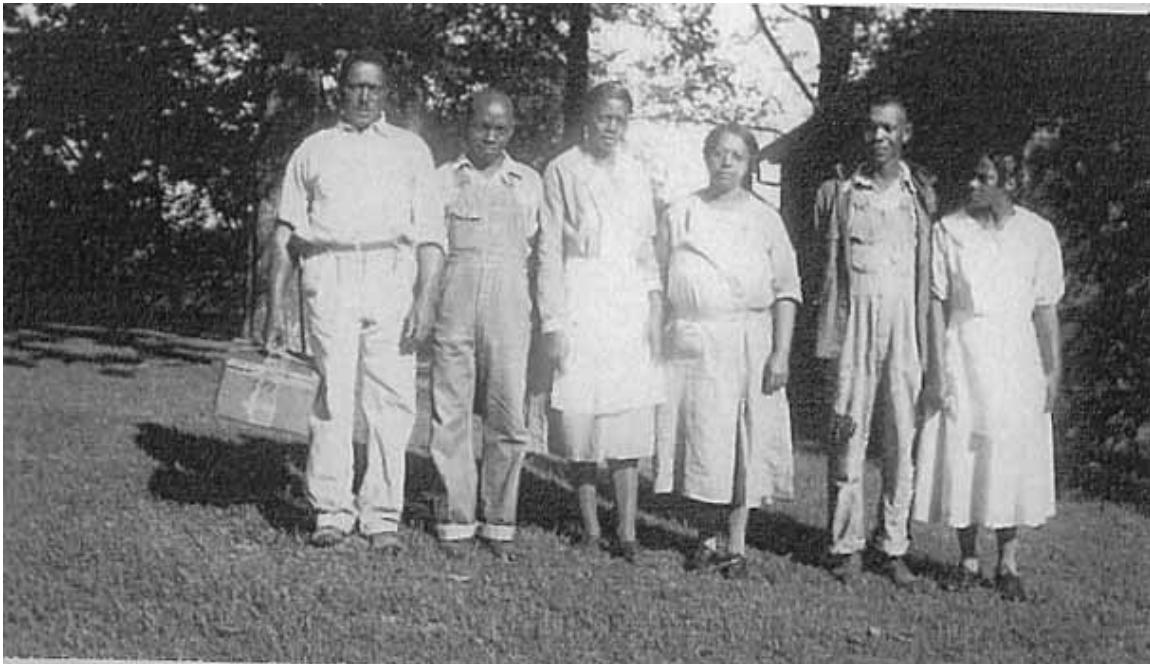
Joseph Scott, Fannie Biggers Scott



Joseph Scott, Fannie Biggers Scott.



African American servant with Pauline Tillotson Washington, 1919.



John Green (the chauffeur), \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson, Mattie Terry (granddaughter of Dick Terry), Beulah Green (John Green's wife), Guss Washington Jr., (grandson of Allen and Jenny Washington) and Carrie Williams Washington (granddaughter of Fannie Williams and Wes Williams)



Austin Terry, Anne Bernaw Terry.



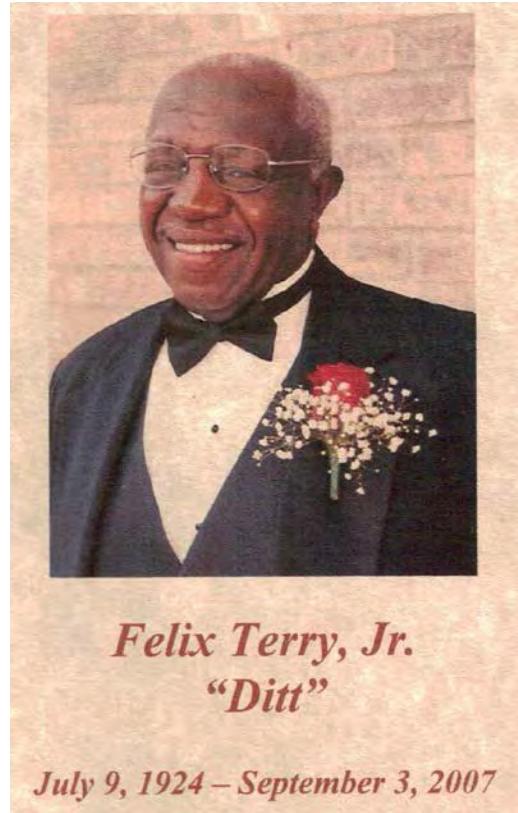
l. to r.: Beulah Green (cook), Mattie Terry.

Washington

African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



“Ditt” Terry, Dorothy Terry, Mary Terry Cole,  
Jimmy Cole, and Jerry Terry at Wessyngton.



*Felix Terry, Jr.  
“Ditt”*

*July 9, 1924 – September 3, 2007*



Terry family. Far right: George A. Washington 2d, early 1960s.



Baptism in Sulphur Fork Creek near Wessyngton, 1890s.



Cabins on the hillside behind the mansion, ca. 1920s.



Slave cabins.

Washington



African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



Gabriel Washington's (Gabe, 1857-1932) cabin at the bottom of the hill.

Washington



African Americans on Wessyngton Plantation



Restored slave cabin, 2006.

# Washington

## 5. Articles Washington Family And Wessyngton Plantation And Tennessee State Museum Exhibit

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016

# Washington

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**AN IDEAL SOUTHERN HOME.**

**The Big Tennessee Plantation Where Congressman Washington Lives.**

One of the most perfect specimens yet remaining of the old southern homes of which one reads in novels is Wessyngton, the family homestead of Representative Joseph Edwin Washington, in middle Tennessee. It has been preserved intact with all its ante-bellum flavor, and the same old plantation melodies which used to resound through the length and breadth of Dixie can still be heard there in the gloaming after the day's work is done. The place is still the self supporting little colony it was in the old days, with its blacksmith's forge and its carpenter shops and the weaving rooms where the "hands" manufactured their homespun from stoffs produced on the estate. The old cook who still presides over the culinary department in the little separate building in the rear was born in the kitchen seventy-five years ago and has been there ever since, with the exception of two years, when he joined the contraband camps, only to come back and serve his old family for the rest of his days.

Wessyngton is situated in Robertson county, Tenn., three miles south of the small town of Cedar Hill. It was settled and named by the grandfather of the



REPRESENTATIVE WASHINGTON'S HOME.

present owner, one of those sturdy pioneers who rode on horseback from Virginia at the close of the Revolutionary war and opened up the wilderness in Tennessee. The grounds are entered through a gate in the middle of a long stone wall, and, passing between two enormous old oaks, the visitor is taken by circuitous paths through acre upon acre of fine lawns plentifully besprinkled with ancient trees, hoary relics of the primeval forests. A long flight of stone steps leads from the drive up to the terrace upon which is the mansion itself. It is one of the finest old places in Tennessee. Built of brick it covers three sides of a square court, and its size prevents more than a small portion from being shown in the cut.

Over the front entrance and also at the east end is an old fashioned porch supported by square twelve inch cedar posts cut on the place. A wide hall runs through to the rear, where a two storied gallery surrounds the three inner sides of the court. The interior presents a vast expanse of rooms and corridors. The furniture is older than the house itself, and some of it is of rare and exquisite design. In the drawing room, standing opposite each other, are two pianos. One, covered with beautiful carvings and inlaid work, was an importation from Vienna way back in the last century, and was used by Mr. Washington's grandmother. The other is plain and simple in appearance, and was one of the first pianos to be manufactured in the United States.

There are also in this room four large old candelabra which were presented to Andrew Jackson while he was president, and which were brought from the White House by Maj. Lewis, Jackson's chief factotum. They are of bronze, and each is capable of holding ten candles. Two of them are made to hang from the walls, while the other two have handsomely ornamented bases.

The front of the house is shaded by cedars planted nearly a century ago, and now measuring two feet in diameter. On the east side is the flower garden, laid out in beds and walks and surrounded by a hedge three-quarters of a mile long. A pretty summer house occupies the center.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Washington are very fond of this great, wandering, old fashioned garden, and take personal charge of it while they are at home. In the rear of the house are about forty acres in forest trees and grass. The negro cabins used to be here, built in circular rows around the central hill. The farm lies at a short distance from the house and consists of 11,000 acres, upon which everything in the shape of live stock and crops is raised. It is in a rolling country, with alternate ridges and valleys, and is beautifully watered, for in every valley is a creek fed by live springs. The Sulphur Fork creek, quite a considerable stream, also runs through the farm for about twelve miles. Many of the hands still employed on the place were among the 800 slaves formerly belonging to the estate.

*Topeka State Journal* (and other newspapers), August 5, 1890.

# YESTER NASHVILLE NAMES

(Copyright 1909.)  
BY OCTAVIA ZOLLICOFFER BOND.

**M**ONCURE D. CONWAY, who has written: "Let no man fritter away his hours' sport unless he has a family crest in the shape of George Washington," avers definitely that he did not expect his descendants to fare more excellently than for descendants of Washington ancestry. Neither knew he the dazzling chase of the genealogist, who runs to place on divers family trees the numerous persons of consequence who have lived in and around Nashville in the past and present. From the original Washington tree there are several distinct Nashville branches which go back from son to father in direct line to Lawrence Washington, of Saligard, England (who was likewise a proponent of Gen. George Washington), La verence Washington, son of Gen. Lawrence Batter, was a general in command of the Thirteenth Regiment, from King Edward I of England, Lawrence, all those who descended from Lawrence Washington, of Shugard, above claim to royal blood.

A representative of one of the more prominent branches of the family, brilliant criminal advocate William H. Washington, Attorney General for the Nashville City School Board, immediate ancestor of Mr. Washington was Lawrence Washington, son of John Washington whose father emigrated from Ireland to New England about the year 1650. Lawrence was born in New England, from this Lawrence branch of the American Washingtons that the first President of the United States claimed descent. Hon. William H. Washington married first Mrs. Fanny Alderman.

Their only child is —— Mr. Washington's second wife is —— daughter of —— Edwards. There are others in Nashville not of the name who are descended through a great-great-grandmother, Joyce Washington, from Lawrence Washington, of Solgate, England. Among these are Charles J. Davis and his sister, Mrs. Fanny Alderman.

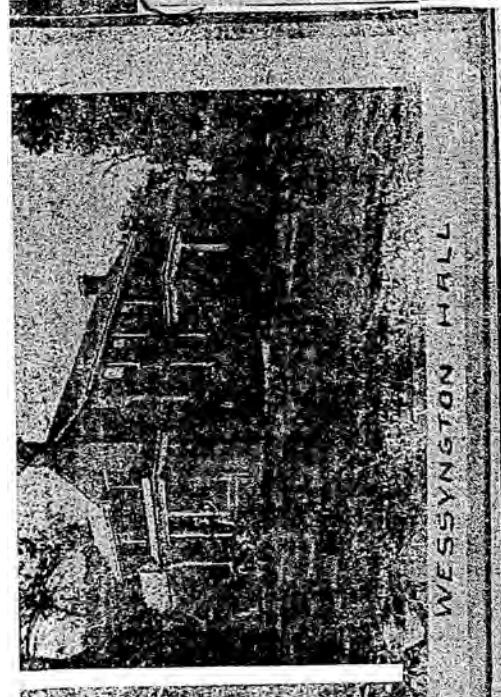
More nearly connected than any with the residence of Overton, Tenn., are the brothers, William, James, Gilbert and Thomas Washington, who were prominent citizens of Nashville before the year 1800. Their father, Thomas Washington, in still earlier years came to Nashville from Virginia. He owned and lived on the place which is now the residence of Overton, Tenn. His sword and powder horn have descended to his family as tangible evidences of his service in the Revolutionary War. His wife was Miss Love, of Brunswick County, or Scotland descent. Their daughter, Mary Washington, married William Atkinson. Their son, Thomas Atkinson, married the granddaughter of Alexander Ross,

*The Washington Family*  
*Written for the American*  
*By Octavia Zollcoffer Bond.*



Nashville Banner, October 10, 1909.

**WESSYNGTON HALL**



One of the early Governors of Tennessee, the children of which married are now lawyers and judges of note in Texas, William Allibone, Jr., married the daughter of iron. Felix Grimes, William Washington, one of the four sons of Thomas Washington, married Susan Trinkle, daughter of Judge John V. S. Ladd, and wife, Brown, the wife of Gov. N. S. Taylor. They brought their residence in Nashville, seat of the Gilbert Washington, son of Thomas Washington married Miss Wharton and lived on a farm near the Foster home at "Mansion Hill," the Foster James Washington, who married Susan Washington, son of Thomas Washington, married Mary Allibone. Mary Allibone's father was a noted philanthropist, of Philadelphia, who among other generous acts gave away one hundred barrels of flour to the poor of the city when, during the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia, flour was sold for twenty dollars a barrel. In business as owner of a line of steamships plying between New York and the East Indies, Mr. Allibone was progressive in methods but in the personal matter of dress he stood far behind the fashion of his fathers and far into the Nineteenth Century he turned to William Penn Quaker costume. His daughter, Mary Allibone, the wife of Thomas Washington, was one of eight original members of Christ Church in Nashville, when it was founded in 1790. Rev. Mr. Okey (afterwards Bishop Okey) in the year 1825, Mrs. Washington, in example of piety and devotion to church has been faithfully followed by her daughters and granddaughters to the latest generation. Thomas Washington was a remarkably fine looking man of impressive bearing and, was thought by many to be a Master duplicate of Gen. George Washington, in appearance. However that may be, there is little trace of the resemblance in the beautiful portrait of Thomas Washington skillfully painted on wood, instead of canvas, in possession of his daughter, Mrs. Love Washington Woods.

In the yesterday of Nashville, Mr. Washington, in wife, wife, wife, northwest entered of Cedar and Cherry streets and was attached to his residence, the garden, and, surely of which, extended, on Cherry street, to the walls of the old theater, as a playhouse, ranked high among his contemporaries, attorney, R. J. Metherell, secretary, newspaperman, and

Another daughter was Sarah Washington (Mrs. Nichol), whose daughter, Mrs. James P. Kirerman, married James P. Kirerman, by his first marriage, son of John Kirerman, the author of an admirably written account of "Memories in Christ Church," which is a valuable addition to our library literature.

Jeanette Love Washington, the third daughter of Thomas Washington, and Mary Allibone, married Andrew Woods, the youngest son of James Woods, the son of the famous Washington Woods, three daughters, Miss Mary Woods, former Secretary of the Country Club, devoted to the public service of every beauty and virtue qualities. It is paradoxical that Miss Woods' son, a number of sweet courtesy of speech have been elements of seventh and force that have compelled success in her distinguished work.

Her mother, Mrs. Jeanette Love Woods, has spent her life in giving that is gain, the giving of love, to one of the great efficient managers of the Industrial School, giving of herself to the care of those she loves, giving of her heart to the interests of her church, all offerings that have enriched her own life.

Apart from the above mentioned branches a distinct and distinguished family of Washingtons have lived at their country seat, Wessyngton, in Robertson County, through four generations of the name. Through intermarriages social contact and interbreeding touch with the city they have been identified with Nashville and the property on the roll of the Nashville names. Coming in line through John Washington, of John Washington, of John Washington, of John Washington, of Lawrence Washington, of Slugrave, England, and his wife, Margaret Butler, then descended from King Edward IV of England, Prince the King Edward of Wales, and King Washington, came from Southampton County, Virginia, to Robertson County, Tennessee, in 1791, bringing with him a tract of land which, as an existing dead estate, he purchased in 1791. This tract, acquired twice, was added to by successive purchases, and now forms a

*Photo by W. H. Jackson*

One of the early Governors of Tennessee, the children of which married are now lawyers and judges of note in Texas, William Allibone, Jr., married the daughter of iron. Felix Grimes,

*Nashville Banner, October 10, 1909.*

**MRS. AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON**

Mrs. Augustine Washington, widow of George Washington, died yesterday morning at her home in New York City. She was 87 years old. Her death was preceded by that of her son, George Washington, Jr., in 1902, and of her daughter, Martha Washington, in 1908.

Mrs. Washington was born in 1782 in New York City. She was the wife of George Washington, Jr., who was a member of the Continental Congress and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. They had ten children together.

Mrs. Washington was a member of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mrs. Washington's funeral service will be held at the Washington National Cathedral on October 12th at 10:30 AM.

**ROBERT WOODS WASHINGTON**

Robert Woods Washington, son of George Washington, died yesterday morning at his home in New York City. He was 83 years old. His death was preceded by that of his wife, Mary, in 1902, and of his son, George Washington, Jr., in 1908.

Robert Woods Washington was born in 1825 in New York City. He was the son of George Washington, Jr., and the brother of George Washington, Sr. They had ten children together.

Robert Woods Washington was a member of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution. He was also a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Robert Woods Washington's funeral service will be held at the Washington National Cathedral on October 12th at 10:30 AM.

*Nashville Banner, October 10, 1909.*

graveled road, the husband's call to vain race to reach the ferry before the delay occasioned by a sudden shock at the door of the school when they were told that their daughter had just died and had come true. George Augustine Washington was the sole heir of his father, Joseph Washington's large estate. He married Adelicia Lewis, daughter of the distinguished Maj. William Lewis, of beautiful "Fairfield," on Shannen pike, now owned by the Roman Catholic Church. Their only child, William Lewis Washington, died about eight years ago in Philadelphia, and his body was brought for burial at Wessington, where it was placed beside his father and mother in the old family burying ground.

The second wife of George Augustine Washington was Jane Smith, daughter of Lawrence D. Smith and Fary Jackson, an Alabamian from the celebrated "Jackson" homestead, "The Forks," of the same family referred to in a former paper as "comparatively fair." Bayley Bay, Ireland, according to the testimony of aged gentlemen still living in Nashville who was a visitor of Mrs. Jane Smith in her teens, she was a young woman of charming modesty and a sweet, attractive face.

The children of George Washington and Jane Smith are Joseph Edwin Washington, Martha Susan Washington, Mary Washington, Bessie Adelaide Washington, Lucy Washington, Jane Washington and George Augustine Washington.

Joseph Edwin Washington married Mrs. Holling Kemps, of Petersburg, closely connected with the family of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Mrs. Washington has all the attributes of a highly-bred Virginian, and has, besides the personal charms of beauty, brightness and gracefulness. Their children are Joseph Edwin, an electrical engineer in St. Louis; George, a lawyer in New York; Annie Holling, wife of Augustus Blodden, of Chester, Va., and Bessie A., the wife of Stewart Hotchkins of New Haven.

Martha Susan Washington, daughter of George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington, married George N. Tillman, a lawyer of great ability, who is widely popular in and outside of his political party, and who has been twice a candidate for Governor of the State. Their children are Jane Smith Tillman, Lewis Tillman, Mary Catherine Tillman, Martha Tillman and Lucy Tillman.

Mary Washington, daughter of George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington married Capt. James S. Frazer, who died in 1892. Their children are George A. W. Frazer, Sadie Carter Frazer, James S. Frazer, Andrew Frazer, Henry S. Frazer, Lawrence Frazer, Mary W. Frazer, Capt. W. Frazer. In 1897, Mrs. Frazer married David Shelby Williams,

Archer Cheatham, on the maternal side, who was the great grandfather of both George Augustine Washington and Queenie Woods Washington.

The family home of Wessyngton was built by Joseph Washington in 1823. He died at an advanced age. His wife, Mrs. Polly Washington, survived him many years. Her name is revered to this day by her former slaves as their "good old matriarch." Her son, George Augustine Washington, was remarkable as the largest tobacco grower in the world. His enormous crop was annually packed in hogheads, hauled from the plantation by mule team, twenty miles to Clarksville, loaded there on a specially chartered boat, together with the famous Washington hams from a thousand hogs, and floated down to New Orleans, where foreign buyers from the whole world's markets eagerly awaited the arrival of Mr. Washington's tobacco crop. After it was put up and sold at auction to the highest bidder the buyers every year gave Mr. Washington a magnificent banquet.

The Washington hams were equally sought by hotels all over the South, which catered to the most exacting taste, and even as far north as Philadelphia it was not unusual to see on the bill of fare of a high-priced restaurant "Washington Ham" as the tempting "special" on the menu. His son, George Augustine Washington, of Washington Hall, still uses the famous recipe for curing hams.

In 1861, war with its losses and train of horrors temporally broke up the peaceful home life at Washington. Geo. Washington's life was often in danger from the Federals camped near the house, and on one occasion he was threatened from being hanged by the interposition of his faithful body servant, Granville.

Forced at last to take his family away from the threatened danger, he began the move by sending all the house furnishings, pictures, family treasures and silver plate to storage in the warehouse of H. D. Newsom, in Louisville. In the meantime peace was declared, but before he could again get possession of his valuable effects the warehouse in Louisville burned and all of the Washington treasures were destroyed. This was not the only disastrous result of the war. The slaves were freed and all conditions so changed that farming was no longer profitable.

These reverses which, to a less resourceful man than Mr. Washington, might have been prostrating, only served to stimulate his activities in another direction. With the courageous rebound which has become recognized as a trait of Southern blood, Mr. Washington turned his attention to the development and promotion of railroads, an industry then in its infancy in Tennessee. As receiver for the Edgefield & Kentucky Railroad, and later as its President, he succeeded in rehabilitating it, making it a paying property.

Mr. Washington had large holdings in generations past "above the salt" by right of traits they inherit with blood that is royal.

The quaint old home of Wessyngton is good to look at. The elegant new mansion of Washington Hall, the residence of George A. Washington, is good to live in. Two miles from Wessyngton its fair walls rise from the surrounding park, interesting the eye with the belief that it is a bit of England set down in Tennessee.

Have you ever thought out the house you would build if the means were at command? In the spacious porches, broad hall, noble staircase and manifold luxuries of Washington Hall you may see your ideals realized. There may be seen all that the average heart could wish, and the best that domestic architectural taste and ingenuity could devise.

Mr. Washington leads the life of a country gentleman, devoting himself to farming and managing under the happiest conditions. His lands are in grass and corn, to feed the herds of cattle and droves of full-blooded hackney horses, which are his specialty. Washington Hall is the only farm in the South where this pure strain of horses is bred and sold.

Mrs. George Washington, the lovely chateleine of Washington Hall, meets all the exacting requirements of modern living with the brave, capable spirit of Mrs. Polly Washington. In her beautiful features generous impulses, courage of conviction and gracefulness of spirit unite to form an expression of face that gives promise of lasting beauty. It is safe to say that time's robbery of roses will be fully repaid by after glories reflected from bright red roses.

As head and heart Mr. and Mrs. Washington are at their best. Whether reclining down or extending the hand on equal plane, with open palm, they dispense largess of good will and easing courtesies to high and low alike. The impulses to lift up, to compensate the less fortunate, that themselves find partial expression in the frequent children's parties in which they gather under their roof, every little one in the neighborhood to a feast and a golden day of unrestrained enjoyment of all the beauties of Washington Hall. The Washingtons are conspicuous for the gracefulness that comes from security of place. Hauteur and false pride make no imprint in their breasts, who for

Nashville Banner, October 10, 1909.

Territory South of the Ohio River. Then in 1796 the State of Tennessee was formed and

The tavern is thought to area gave up its name to the infant state. What had been Tennessee County was divided into Robertson and Montgomery counties.

Joseph Washington's first purchase as recorded in the Robertson County clerk's office was 60 acres from Hugh Lewis on Dec. 8, 1798 — the price was \$360.

#### 25 Pounds, 10 Shillings

Next came purchases of 204 acres on Feb. 9, 1802, from Moses Winters Jr. for \$800 and 25 acres in September 1808 for a recorded price of 25 pounds, 10 shillings. Then on March 3, 1815, 211 acres were bought from Aaron Winters for \$600 — the mansion of Wessyngton is thought to be built on this tract.

From that date in the spring of 1815 to the present, the land on which Wessyngton stands has belonged to the Washington family.

Clarksville historian Ralph Winters, a direct descendant of the Winters family that sold the lands to Joseph Washington, has record of a 1796 tavern license issued to Aaron Winters. The price list includes: 16 and two-thirds cents for a half pint of whisky; 33 and one-third cents for dinner; 25 cents for a half pint of wine; 25 cents each for supper and breakfast; eight cents a night for lodging; corn or oats cost four cents a quart.

The Robertson-Montgomery have been on the land sold to Joseph Washington in 1815, where Wessyngton now stands and what was a crossroads in the early 1800s.

### *Robertson County Mansion*

## Wessyngton Sees 150th Fall

By JOHN JENNINGS  
Banner Staff Writer

Springfield — For the 150th time autumn has come to the Robertson County mansion of Wessyngton, tucked away atop an imposing Cedar Hill on the banks of Sulphur Fork Creek.

Completed in 1815, Wessyngton was but a dream when Joseph Washington came to Tennessee in 1796. But Washington and his descendants turned that dream into an empire.

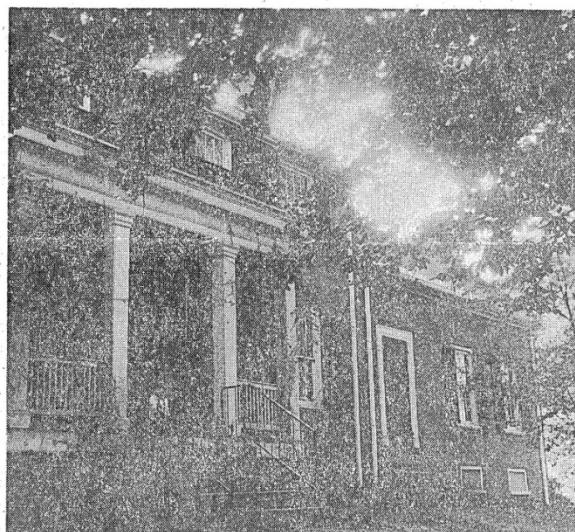
The Washington family roots can be traced to Charlemagne, America's first president, George Washington, came from one of two family branches in Virginia, Joseph was from the other.

#### Turbulent History

What is now Robertson and Montgomery counties had experienced a short but turbulent history when Joseph Washington appeared from the East.

Originally called the Cumberland County, North Carolina assumed control in 1784 and the Robertson-Montgomery area was part of Davidson County. In 1788 North Carolina, in response to a petition, separated the Robertson-Montgomery area from Davidson County and Tennessee County was born.

In 1790 North Carolina gave up control of the entire region and it became known as the



—Staff Photo by John Jennings

The mansion of Wessyngton in Robertson County is 150 years old, having been started in 1815 and finished in 1819. For four generations it was the home of the Washington family, and the plantation at one time was one of the largest tobacco producing tracts in the world. The land on which Wessyngton stands has never changed hands since having been purchased by Joseph Washington in 1815.

Nashville Banner, October 25, 1969.

**He Waited**

In 1812, at the age of 42, Joseph Washington married Miss Mary Cheatham.

Legend has it that during one of his early visits to the Cheatham home Washington was holding a little girl in his arms. When asked when he would get married, he said, "I may just wait for this one to grow up."

The little girl was Mary Cheatham. She was 16 years old when they were married.

In 1813 a daughter, Martha Susan, was born to the Washingtons. Construction began in 1815 on Wessyngton — the original Saxon spelling for Washington.

A son, George Augustine, was born on May 24, 1815 — less than three months after the land where Wessyngton stands became part of the Washington holdings.

A Sunday, Oct. 10, 1909, feature the Nashville American tells of an 1824 case of extra sensory perception by Mrs. Mary Washington.

"A remarkable vision experienced by Mrs. Washington just before the death of her only daughter, Martha Washington, 11, (then at boarding school in Nashville) is one of those instances of forewarning which occur often enough to keep alive belief in soul forces not yet 'dreamed of in our philosophy.'

**Distressing Dream**

"From her sleep one morning Mrs. Mary Washington started up with a cry of pain and told her husband of a distressing dream from which she had just awakened. In her vision she was standing in the garden listening to rapidly approaching horses' hoofs. The hoofbeats ceased at the gate leading to the house.

"Across the flowering shrubs presently came her husband's voice saying, 'Mary, Mary, I have a message.' A

*Nashville Banner, October 25, 1969.*

In 1832 George A. had matriculated during the summer session of the University of Nashville. On Sept. 15, 1842, he married Miss Margaret Adelaide Lewis, 19-year-old daughter of Maj. William Berkley Lewis of Fairfield Plantation near Nashville.

On Nov. 3, 1844, they had a son, William Lewis Washington.

Mrs. George A. Washington died 19 days later.

Under George Augustine Washington Wessyngton prospered. Records of realtive value of the plantation from 1850 to 1860 indicate the amazing growth.

**Crops Rocketed**

In 1850 the plantation's worth was listed as \$20,000. In 1860 it's worth was listed at \$250,000. Acreage grew from 4,700 acres to 13,000. The tobacco crop rocketed from 15,000 bushels in 1850 to 250,000 bushels in 1860, making Washington on one of the world's largest tobacco growers.

The 1909 Nashville American feature reported the tobacco and hams from Wessyngton were shipped to Clarksville and then to New Orleans by chartered boat.

"After the tobacco was put up and sold at auction to the highest bidder the buyers every year gave Mr. Washington a magnificent banquet.

"The Washington hams were equally sought by hotels all over the South, which catered to the most exacting taste, and even as far north as Philadelphia it was not unusual to see on the bill of fare of a high-priced restaurant 'Washington Ham' as the tempting 'special' on the menu . . .

"In 1861, wai with its losses and train of horrors temporarily broke up the peaceful home life at Wessyngton. George (Augustine) Washingt-

ton's life was often in danger from irregulars camped near the house and on one occasion he was barely saved from being hanged by the interposition of his faithful body servant, Granville."

In 1849 Washington had married 19-year-old Miss Jane Smith of Florence, Ala. Their children were: Mary, born in 1850, died 1854; Joseph Edwin 1851-1915; Martha Susan, 1854-1937; Mary, 1855-1928; Bessie Adelaide, 1858-1887; Lucy Amelia, born in 1861; Jane Augusta, 1867-1941; George Augustine Jr., 1868-1926.

#### Civil War

Washington had business interests in New York during the Civil War and spent much of his time there. He reportedly had a federal pass through the lines when he traveled to Wessyngton. After trouble flared around the plantation he moved his family to New York for the duration.

Fearful of possible destruction of the plantation, the furnishings, pictures, family treasures and silver plate were moved to the warehouse of H. D. Newsome in Louisville. Before the furnishings could be moved back to Wessyngton at war's end, however, the Louisville warehouse burned. George A. Washington's mother, Mrs. Mary Washington, died in 1865.

The freeing of the slaves is reflected in the 1870 census records for Robertson County. As was the habit at the time, slaves often took the surname of their former owners. The census books lists dozens of Negro Washingtons.

As for the slave who saved George Augustine Washington's life — there is a Granville Washington listed in the census as a farm laborer and his wife is listed as a domestic servant.

With the loss of slave labor, farming became difficult after the war. Washington invested in the Edgefield and Kentucky Railroad which later was bought by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. In 1874 he became a director of the L&N Railroad.

George Augustine died in 1892.

#### Plantation Divided

In May 1893 the Wessyngton plantation was divided among George Augustine Washington's surviving children. Joseph E. Washington got the home tract. The division of the lands was reportedly made by the drawing of lots.

The total acreage of Wessyngton estate at the time of the division was 7,326 acres.

The home tract contained 799 acres.

The mansion of Washington Hall was built on land given George Augustine Washington Jr., according to Winters, the author of a forthcoming book on historic homes in the area. Washington Hall burned recently.

Glen Raven, another mansion, was built by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Ewing on land willed by the elder George Augustine Washington. Glen Raven has changed hands, but still stands and is considered one of the outstanding structures in the area.

#### At Vanderbilt

Joseph Edwin Washington, who got the home tract, was graduated from Georgetown College in Washington, D.C., in 1873 at the age of 22. In 1874 he studied law with the first class organized at Vanderbilt University in Nashville and was admitted to the bar, but never practiced, according to information from the Manuscript Division of the Tennessee Library and Archives.

From 1876-78 he was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives. In 1879 he was married to Miss Mary Bolling Kemp and 1880 was a presidential elector on the Democratic of Hancock and English.

In 1887, at the age of 36, Joseph E. Washington was elected to the United States House of Representatives. He served for 10 years.

After returning to Wessyngton, he was appointed county road commissioner and was elected a director of both the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad and the Nashville and Decatur Railroad.

On Aug. 28, 1915, he died, leaving four children: George Augustine, 1879-1964; Anne Bolling (Mrs. Augustus Silliman Blagden); 18--1969; Elizabeth Wyndham, 1881-1961.

George Augustine Washington lived in Washington from age 9 until he was 19, during the time his father was in Congress. He was graduated from Yale University about 1900 and from Harvard Law School about 1902. From 1903 until the Depression he practiced law in New York City.

#### Kept Estate Together

At the time of the Depression in 1930 he returned to Wessyngton to keep the estate together.

Wessyngton now belongs to the fifth generation of the Washington family, but the surname Washington connected with the home tract at Wessyngton died with Joseph Edwin Washington in 1966.

There is a movement under way in Robertson County to make the old plantation a park and to preserve the mansion and its 150-year heritage.

Meanwhile, the sturdy brick structure wraps itself in solitude and awaits the coming of yet another spring.

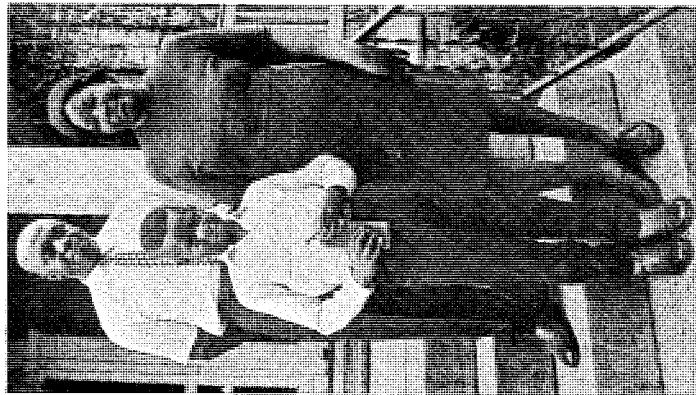
The Washingtons have gone.

Nashville Banner, October 25, 1969.

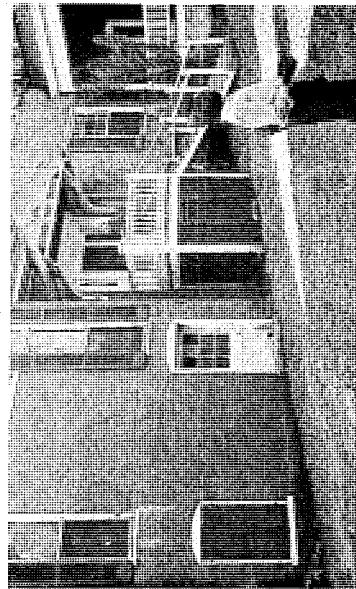
# A Visit To Wessyngton



This is the view of Wessyngton, built in 1819 and the home of four generations of the Washington family, by members of the Robertson County Historical Society.



Caretakers of the lovely landmark, Wessyngton, are Mr. and Mrs. Felix Terry, shown here on the steps to the front entrance of the home with their son Jerry. Terry conducted the tour this past weekend.



This is a side view of Wessyngton, showing one of the visitors on the porch and Jerry Terry, the caretakers son, as he looks on at the visitors to the place now so familiar to him.

## Historical Group Tours Landmark

Society.

By Mrs. Marguerite Chinnard

A visit to Wessyngton, one of Robertson County's landmarks, was made on Sunday, October 18, by members of the Robertson County Historical Society.

The lovely autumn day was an ideal day for visiting points of interest on the grounds, the family burial grounds, the office in the yard in front of the house which was issued by the National Park Service, George A. Washington, when he was a member of Congress. On the way is a section of the old fortification wall.

Mr. and Mrs. Felix Terry and their young son, Jerry, were gracious in showing the home and answering any questions asked by the visitors. Felix said that he had been with the Washington family some 40 odd years.

It is interesting to note that the round table in the living room has been in the same place since the table was abandoned and it is of considerable age.

The key to the front door is approximately six inches long. A man can fit his hand in the handle of the door.

A dumb waiter was of interest and the method of cooking hasn't changed at Wessyngton as the wood cook stove is still in use in the kitchen.

A friend of the family reminisced that in the past the entire family and every tenant sometime numbering as many as 300 assembled in the home for the Christmas party with a gift for every one on Christmas Day morning.

Up until World War II a cannon was shot every Christmas morning. It was donated as scrap iron during World War II.

Approximately 65 were present for the tour and in addition to members of the Robertson County Historical Society there were several from Clarksville, and surrounding areas.

**By Ralph L. Winters**

In the deed records of Robertson County the first purchase of land by Joseph Washington was 60 A from Hugh Lewis Dec. 8, 1798 for \$360.00 book B pg. 193. This was described as "a part of Moses Winters Grant". This 60 A was in the Horseshoe Bend of Sulphur Fork Creek and on the north side. This would be approximately west of the bridge on the Cedar Hill to Washington Road.

The next purchase found was from Moses Winter s(Jr.) on Feb. 9, 1802 for 204 A on south side of Sulphur Fork near the mouth of Caleb's Creek, price \$800.00 being "a part of Moses Winters Grant."

He made many other purchases but the next of the Winters land from Moses and Aaron Winters on Sept. 1, 1808—25 acres and 73 poles for 25 lbs. and 10 shillings "on the banks of Caleb's Creek." This was near the 204 acres, recorded book H pg. 55.

On March 3, 1815—Book L—Page 312 he bought from Aaron Winters 211 acres for \$600.00 "on the waters of Caleb's Creek, up the creek to the beginning of the pre-emption" "and where said Winters now lives".

This was the land on which Wessyngton all was built in 1819. Tradition says that Moses Winters Sr. and wife Elizabeth are buried just N.W. of the house. In 1959 Mr. George Washington (1879-1964) told my wife and me that his father, Joseph E. Washington (1851-1915) had told him that the "Winters Graves" were there.

These purchases accounted for the remainder of the Winters land grant.

Moses Winters had come with James Robertsons group of settlers in 1779. His oldest son, Caleb, then about 20 was also in the group. Mrs. Moses Winters and her seven daughters were on the boats with John Donelsons group.

Tradition says that Caleb Winters was a great hunter. Goodspeeds History of Tennessee 1886 says that "Caleb Winters lived in a cave on the, now, G. A. Washingtons farm in 1781 and subsisted on the game which he killed." This creek had been named for him BEFORE any land grants were recorded and is shown as a boundry on the earliest recordings.

Moses Winters was ranted 640 A. land by North Carolina and this was surveyed in 1784. He later sold 200 acres to Benjamin Menees. (This was just west of the present Cedar Hill Road and near the present bridge) Menees sold 60 acres to Hugh Lewis and he in turn sold to Washington.

Inasmuch as Moses Winters (Sr.) who had died in 1797 had "lent" his land to his wife Elizabeth her "lifetime" and had willed it to his youngest sons Moses and Aaron, we are assuming that she had lived til about 1815 when this last tract was sold.

The deed records through 1838 show that Joseph Washington bought about 30 more tracts of land. It would take a whole book to list these.

**The Washington Home**

Evidently Joseph Washington started building as soon as he bought this land in 1815 as an iron plate near the roof shows "1819." The magnificence of this house, now in 1969, would take another book to describe.

Four Generations have lived here:

**The Washington Family**

Mr. George Washington, in 1958, told us that the first Joseph Washington that came to

Robertson County was a second cousin to Pres. George Washington.

In 1968, many of the Washington papers were deposited in the manuscript section of the Tenn. State archives, and I am indebted to these for a brief sketch of the Washington family.

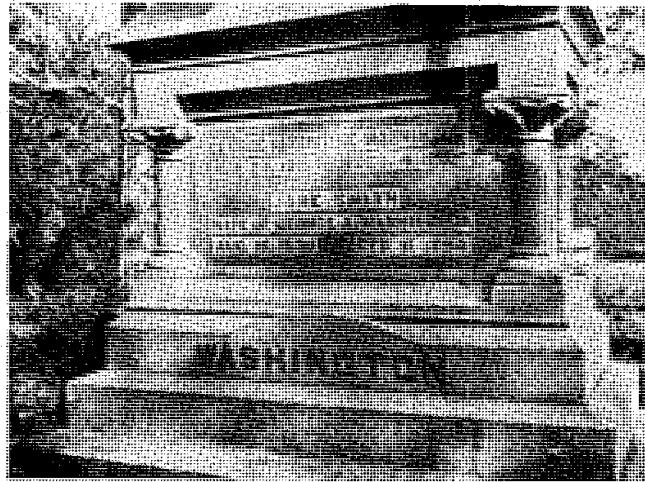
(1) Joseph Washington was born July 8, 1770 in County, Virginia. He came to Tennessee in 1796 and settled on Sulphur Fork Creek near Cedar Hill and began to farm. On March 12, 1812 he married Mary Cheatham, daughter of Archer Cheatham. Joseph Washington died Nov. 28, 1848.

(2) George Augustine Washington, the only surviving child of Joseph and Mary Cheatham was born May 24, 1815. Attended University of Nashville 1832. In 1842 married Margaret A. Lewis (1823-1844). They had one son, William Lewis, born Nov. 3, 1844. Margaret A. Washington died Nov. 22, 1844.

On June 21, 1849 George A. married Jane Smith (1830-1894). He had inherited his father's estate and from 1850 to 1860 he increased this extensively. In 1874 he was elected a director in L & N R.R. He died Dec. 4, 1892.

(3) Joseph Edwin Washington; the oldest son of George A. and Jane Smith Washington was born Nov. 10, 1851. Was tutored at home. On June 26, 1873 graduated from Georgetown College, Washington, D.C. 1874 studied law with the first class at Vanderbilt University. Married Mary Bolling Kemp, 1879. Served in Tenn. Legislature 1877-1879, representative U.S. Congress 1887-1897. Died Aug. 28, 1915.

*Springfield Times (Robertson County, Tennessee), October 23, 1969, 5B.*



Pictures by Marguerite Clinard

This is one of the grave markers in the family cemetery on the grounds at Wessyngton. This marks the graves of George Augustine Washington and his wife, Jane Smith. His father came to Tennessee in 1796 and built the home.

(4) George Augustine Washington, born Oct. 27, 1879. Attended public schools in Washington 1887-1897 while his father was in Congress. Graduated from Yale 1900—Harvard Law School about 1903. Practiced law in New York City til about 1930. Returned to Wessyngton to keep the estate together. Died Feb. 26, 1964.

All of these four generations are buried in the family cemetery at Wessyngton.

It is interesting to note that the first Joseph Washington lived in this mansion for about 30 years. His wife, George A. Washington from 1815 til 1892, Joseph Edwin from 1851—1916.

George A. born there in 1879 and returned and lived 34 years there til his death in 1964.

The first Joseph Washington had a sizeable estate at his death and the census of 1850 shows that George A. was worth \$20,000.

George A. Washington added much land to the estate and conflicting stories are told as to its great size.

In 1887 he deeded to his youngest son, George A. Jr., 1065 acres north of Sulphur Fork Creek and this was known later as the Washington Hall Estate.

At George A. Jr.'s death in 1892 his land was surveyed and was divided among his children. The deeds show "drawn by lot." There were 58 adjoining property owners. The deeds to these tracts total 7326 acres.

## Ancestors of Washington Built, Lived At Sulgrave

By Mrs. Hattie Pepper  
County Historian

Sulgrave Manor, The Elizabethan home of the Washington family, was built and inhabited by the direct ancestors of George Washington, the first President of the United States.

Sulgrave Manor, moreover, is a very charming house. It is separated from the surrounding farm lands and village by a garden which is partly based on Elizabethan patterns but is planted with many shrubs and flowers that the Elizabethans never knew. Its rooms reflect in miniature the best of two centuries of English domestic arts. To the historian it is a symbol of the past which the English share with the Americans.

General George Washington was not particularly interested in his English ancestry, and he had never heard of Sulgrave. But he recorded a family tradition that "they came from the North of England." He was right. The Washingtons stemmed from Washington, originally Wessington, a village in County Durham, where they were to be found at the end of the 12th Century, and at this village that ultimately gave its name to the capital of the Western World. From there they moved to Lancashire in the early 14th Century. The builder of Sulgrave Manor,

Lawrence Washington, migrated to Northamptonshire in about 1530 and made a small fortune as a wool merchant in London and Northampton (of which he was twice mayor) and later as a member of a sheep-raising partnership in the neighborhood of Sulgrave. He was wealthy enough to buy the manor from the Crown in 1539 on the dissolution of the Priory of St. Andrew of Northampton, to which it had belonged from at least the time of Henry 2.

The Washington line is quite clear. Col. John Washington, a great-great-grandson of Lawrence, the builder of Sulgrave, emigrated to Virginia for business reasons in 1656, and he was the great-grandfather of the President, who was born in 1732.

Thus George Washington was the direct descendant in the 7th generation of the Lawrence Washington who built the house. In 1914 Sulgrave had been acquired and was later refurnished by Anglo-American subscriptions "as a center from which sentiments of friendship and good will between the British and American peoples will forever radiate."

Sulgrave is of three periods, Elizabethan, Queen Anne and the twentieth century, and only the first has any connection with the Washington family itself.

Sulgrave lies on the outskirts

of its Manorial Village, surrounded by the cornfields and sheep-walks out of which the village grew and by which it still lives. Now it is known to most Englishmen and many Americans as the place where the Washingtons settled and from which they carried to America the greatest name in history. But would Sulgrave be a place of pilgrimage instead of Washington in County of Durham, were it not for the Monor-house, so faithfully restored by the two nations, which so well preserves the spirit of Christian neighborliness with which the Washington family were endowed?

*Springfield Times (Robertson County, Tennessee), October 23, 1969, 5B.*

Note: The Washington ancestry at Sulgrave Manor was believed to be correct until DNA test results proved that the Washington families were related only back in 1200 AD.

# Wessyngton History Outlined

## By Mrs. Kinsolving's Gift

By Henry Taylor

Wessyngton, the home of the Washington family for 188 years, was sold in 1863. Mrs. Kinsolving, a granddaughter of Joseph Washington, came to Wessyngton to supervise the removal of her families personal property.

I, as president of the Robertson County Historical Society, was invited to visit Wessyngton and select such items of a historical value as I thought should be retained by the Society.

During one of the several trips I made to Wessyngton, Mrs. Kinsolving gave me copies of a short history of Wessyngton and a story of Wessyngton Farms. The latter was written by her aunt, Mrs. Lucy Washington Helm.

I have been granted permission by Mrs. Anne Kinsolving Talbot to include these articles in my weekly Historical Column.

### A Brief History of Wessyngton

Joseph Washington, eldest of eight children, left his home at Southampton County, Virginia, in 1796 and came to Robertson County. Starting with a 60 acre tract of land along the big bend of the Sulfer Fork, he eventually amassed approximately 15,000 acres.

The principal crop was tobacco. At its height, Wessyngton was the second largest tobacco producer in the world, raising 300 acres. (The largest tobacco producer was one of the Khedives of Egypt). The sale of hams to hotels from Philadelphia to New Orleans was another main concern.

In 1839 and 1840, 1,000 hams were cured on the farm. Prior to the Civil War almost everything used was made on the farm, from clothing to tools. There was a mill, blacksmith shop and a distillery.

### Historical Column

The main part of the house and the kitchen were built in 1819 of bricks made on the place. The downstairs bedroom wing was added on in the 1840's and the dining room around the end of the 19th century. Each wall in the house is four or five bricks thick. The flower garden was designed and laid out by Mary Cheatham Washington shortly after the completion of the house.

Many of the larger pieces of furniture, such as the beds, were bought in New Orleans when the tobacco was taken there to be sold. They were then loaded on the rafts that had carried the tobacco crop to the coast and brought back up the rivers to the farm.

Much of the original furniture was destroyed in 1864 by Northern troops bent on destroying and setting fire to the house. The best panelings, silver and china were stored in a warehouse in Louisville for safekeeping during the Civil War. In the last days of the war the warehouse burned to the ground, and nothing was saved.

In 1812, at the age of 42, Joseph married his cousin and neighbor, Mary Cheatham, then 16 years old. Their only surviving child, George A. Washington, expanded the farm in size and scope.

In 1842 he married Margaret Adelaide Lewis, daughter of Major William B. Lewis, Andrew Jackson's Secretary of War. (The gilt mirror and wall sconces in the front parlor are said to have hung in the White House and were given to Major Lewis by Andrew Jackson.) Adelaide died in childbirth two years later. In 1849 George married Jane Smith of Florence, Alabama.

At George's death in 1892 the farm was divided among his eight surviving children by drawing lots from a hat. The

home tract was drawn by Joseph E. Washington, his second son, who served in the Tennessee Legislature from 1877-1879 and the U. S. House of Representatives from 1887-1897.

In 1897 he married Mary Bolling Kemp of Virginia. They had four children. Their son, George A. Washington, took over the farm after his father's death. The farm is now a family corporation. It is said to be the largest farm in the United States still owned by the same family, that originally settled

(To Be Continued)

*Springfield Times* (Robertson County, Tennessee), January 26, 1984.

**Henry Taylor**  
**(Copyrighted article)**

This week begins the history of the Washington family of Robertson County. This account is a part of the history of Robertson County written in 1900 by W. W. Pepper, John E. Garner, and Mrs. Archie Thomas.

Probably the most conspicuous and wealthy family in Middle Tennessee is the Washington family of Robertson County. It is not only prominent for wealth, but for high intelligence, social distinction, and good citizenship. For many decades its members have been the largest planters in the state and have won high merit as successful agriculturists, as well as for distinguished civil service to the county.

**Joseph Washington**

The ancestor of this family and one of the pioneers of the county was Joseph Washington, who was born in Southampton County, Virginia, in 1770, near the village of Jerusalem, the scene of the famous Wat Tyler rebellion, a very exciting insurrection among the negroes of that time. He died in Robertson County in 1849. He was a tall, robust man, with strongly marked features.

Though a man of great intellectuality and individuality, the Peace being for a long time a useful and active member of the County Court. He possessed a wonderfully equable temper, and it is said that no one ever saw him show anger or undue excitement or heard him swear.

He was a wise counsellor and a conservation man in business affairs. Every venture prospered under his direction, and he delighted to talk to and advise with young men, but he did it in such a quiet way that his object was rarely apparent at the time.

Mr. Washington was a devout member of the Missionary Baptist Church at Old Harmony where he

and others erected a brick church which stood for many years.

Joseph Washington first settled on a tract of sixty acres of land known as the Horse Shoe Bend, lying on the north side of Sulphur Fork Creek, about three miles south of the present town of Cedar Hill. This land was conveyed to him by Hugh Lewis by a deed dated September 8, 1798 and had been conveyed to Lewis by Moses Winters, to whom it had been granted on the 10th of July 1778 by the State of North Carolina.

Here Joseph Washington lived in a rude log house, such as sheltered all, the people of that time until about 1802, when he purchased from Moses and Aaron Winters, sons and heirs of Moses Winters, Sr., the remainder of the original grant of 640 acres, lying on the south side of the Sulphur Fork, just above the mouth of Caleb's Creek. He then removed his residence to a house on this tract facing a cave on the south bank of Caleb's Creek, from which flows one of the finest and most celebrated springs in the county of pure cold water.

Like most farmers of that day, Joseph Washington converted all of his surplus corn into whisky and his apples and peaches, of which he planted large orchards, into brandy, this being the only profitable way in which those products could be transported to the distant markets. The old letters and account books of that period contained frequent entries and allusions to the price of whiskey and brandy, which rarely sold for more than 10 cents per gallon and was often used for currency in the payment of small debts.

Many of the early settlers of Robertson County had emigrated from the southeastern counties of Virginia, which had been a great fruit and brandy country. They brought with them the knowledge of the art of distilling, and also brought the old standard varieties of fruits

and thus at the dawn of the last century was begun and production of those liquors which for many years gave celebrity and reputation of Robertson County.

Many of the old pear trees and apple trees introduced at the time are still living and bearing, and having withstood all the ravages of time and insect enemies, still produce fruit of a flavor and quality that cannot be equalled by the more modern varieties. There are pear trees today standing at Wessyngton the age of which is unknown, but which must have been planted nearly 100 years ago, that still bear delicious fruit.

*Springfield Times* (Robertson County, Tennessee), December 20, 1984.

**Henry Taylor**  
**(Copyrighted article)**

The history of Robertson County written in 1900 by Mrs. Archie Thomas, W. W. Pepper and J. E. Garner continues.

On the public ranges and in the vast forests filled with nut-bearing trees, like oak, the beech and walnut, Mr. Washington raised great numbers of hogs, which he fattened on corn, and having brought with him the method of salting and curing bacon and especially hams (this method is still being pursued in Southampton and Smithfield Counties, Virginia, States). Mr. Washington at a very early day established such a reputation for his hams that he used to send them by flat boat to New Orleans, where they commanded a premium on that market.

Mr. Washington was among the very first to begin the planting and cultivation to tobacco in Robertson County and in that line he became eminently successful. He used to assort and prize his own tobacco load three to four hogsheads on a big wagon, to which were hitched six mules, all decked with trapping and bells on the leaders, and haul the tobacco to Clarksville, whence it was sent by flat-boats to New Orleans.

In 1808, Mr. Washington, then a bachelor somewhat advanced in

years married, Mary, the daughter of Col. Archer Cheatham, who at the time resided at Springfield, of which town he was one of the founders. In 1818, Joseph Washington erected the two-story brick residence, now known as Wessyngton, where the family has lived ever since. He left only one child - a son.

**GEORGE AUGUSTINE  
 WASHINGTON**

This gentleman was born May 24, 1815, and died the 4th of December 1892. Like his father, Mr. George Washington cared only for the pleasures of a domestic and private life. Although a close student and most intelligent observer of all public affairs and always taking an active, but quiet part in politics, he neither sought nor held office, but once, in 1872 he was after much persuasion, induced by his friends to offer himself as a candidate for the State Legislature and was elected and served one term.

While a man of great force of mind and character he was timid in appearing before an audience to a painful degree and, except when as a candidate for the Legislature he made a most vigorous and active canvass, he was never known to make a public speech. He was perhaps the ablest financier who ever lived in the county and had few superiors in that line in the state.

After the close of the Civil War, his negroes having all been set free and

his farming operations paralyzed, he devoted his mind and energy to active railroad management. His first experience in this line was as the receiver of the Edgefield & Kentucky Railroad, a short line was as forty miles, then running from Nashville to Guthrie.

This road, like nearly all the others in the state, which had been seized and operated by the Federal Government during the war, had been left bankrupt and hopelessly in arrears of debt to the State of Tennessee, which has issued bonds to aid in its construction.

The physical condition of the road was such that it was almost impossible to operate it, yet under the careful and economical management of Mr. Washington while receiver, this road was made not only self-sustaining, but paid during about twelve months over two thousand dollars into the state treasury. This was the more remarkable when the fact is recalled that all the other roads of much greater length and importance which were being operated by receivers were run at a loss to the state treasury. It was about this time that Mr. Washington became identified with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad serving for nearly twenty years as a director and part of the time as Vice-President of that corporation.

*Springfield Times* (Robertson County, Tennessee), December 27, 1984.

**Henry Taylor**  
Copyrighted article

This weeks article concludes the history of the Washington family in Robertson County. Next week we begin the history of the Edward Saunders Cheatham family in the County, these personal historians are a part of the history of Robertson County written in 1900 by Mrs. Archie Thomas, W. W. Pepper, and John E. Garner.

When the Civil war began, Mr. Washington had about 300 negroes and a landed estate of 12,000 acres. He had been highly successful as a tobacco planter, being for many years perhaps the largest individual tobacco planter in the world. Mr. Washington was married twice; his first wife was a daughter of Maj. William Lewis Washington, now dead. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1849, was Jane, the daughter of Lawrence Dawson Smith of Florence, Alabama with whom he lived an ideally happy married life.

He has often been said by those who knew them well that there had never been a more perfectly mated man and woman - each, differing widely in temperament and disposition, was a perfect balance for the other. They reared a large family of two sons and five daughters. Though several years younger, Mrs. Washington survived the death of her husband only a little more than one year. She was never able to recover from the effect of his death. In the family burying ground at Wessyngton they lie under the same stone, sleeping peacefully and joyous resurrection.

Near them, in the same plot of ground, lie the remains of Joseph and Mary Washington, who by their frugality and industry built the home which their virtue, piety and kindness had made a bright and

shining light in that community. Such examples and such lives, while not adorning the pages of history with deeds of martial prowess or acts of state craft, nevertheless make themselves felt in moulding the character and forming the sentiment of a community and leave that impress on a state and a people which can only come from a Christian family - that unit without which there can be no state and no history.

A note from one who was intimately acquainted with Mrs. George Washington said: "She was a womanly woman; indeed, she was a classic character. Wife, mother, neighbor, she embraced all the high qualities that belong to a woman. This elevation of character she impressed upon her children and for generations to come her impress will manifest itself. There is much in her character that finds it parallel in that of the mother of Julius Ceasar. She was a thorough democrat in all that the term implies and yet of that nobleness of character that comes of the highest aristocrat breeding.

Had she been a man it could have been said of her that her word was as good as her bond, which with truth was said of her husband. When her son Joseph was elected to the Legislature in 1876, he received every vote in his Civil District but two of three. In conversation I said to her, mentioning this circumstance, that she ought to be proud of her son when his neighbors manifested such confidence in him.

She replied that it had been the effort of her life to raise him up in full fellowship and sympathy with the people among whom he had been born and reared. Subsequently she had the satisfaction of seeing him elected to Congress for ten years in succession without practical opposition.

She instructed her daughters in all

the details of housewifery - entertaining guests, keeping house, cooking, washing, ironing, dairying, and sewing. She fully believed that such knowledge was necessary in order to intelligently direct others. The result is that all her daughters are model housewives, and make their houses the abode of all that is elegant, comfortable and pleasant.

The same intimate friend who wrote of Mrs. Jane Washington says of her husband: "Mr. Washington was the son of Joseph Washington, a Virginian, by birth, and who was a descendant of the great Virginia family of that name. In all that goes to constitute an honest man, George Washington met the requirements.

Truthful, forceful and honest, every demand that was made upon him both as a citizen, husband and father was fully met and discharged. I think probably no better estimate of character of my subject can be expressed than was done by one of Mr. Washington's life-long neighbors recently in a conversation with the writer I made the remark that he was one of the best farmers in the county ever had, when the reply came, "Yes and one of the best men the county ever had." Mr. Washington was at all times the champion of public improvement, of progress and of material development.

He was but once in his life time a candidate of office, and that was when the people elected him to the Legislature of the State. He was not only a most successful farmer, but a splendid business man, and amassed a large fortune, so that he left his children at his death, a competency for life."

It is difficult to add anything to the foregoing description of the character of Mr. George Washington. He was the most masterful of men. In whatever circles he appeared he was the imperious leader. On change in New York he was the boldest of the bold, and never feared the machinations of the petty traders in stocks and bonds. When he was satisfied that certain securities had merit, he brought them for investment and not for speculation. In all his manifold dealings his financial sagacity was never at fault.

In many traits of character he resembled Andrew Jackson. He was absolutely without fear. He was bold in action, broad in his conceptions and wonderfully gifted in his knowledge of men and means. He had been a public man, his restless energy and spirit of command would have swept away every obstacle in his pathway to success. He brooked no opposition and his will was paramount and yet with it all he was the gentlest and kindest of men to his associates and friends. He was the strong man for every point of view and the State of Tennessee has rarely if ever, seen his equal in those lofty qualities that command success.

*Springfield Times* (Robertson County, Tennessee), January 3, 1985.

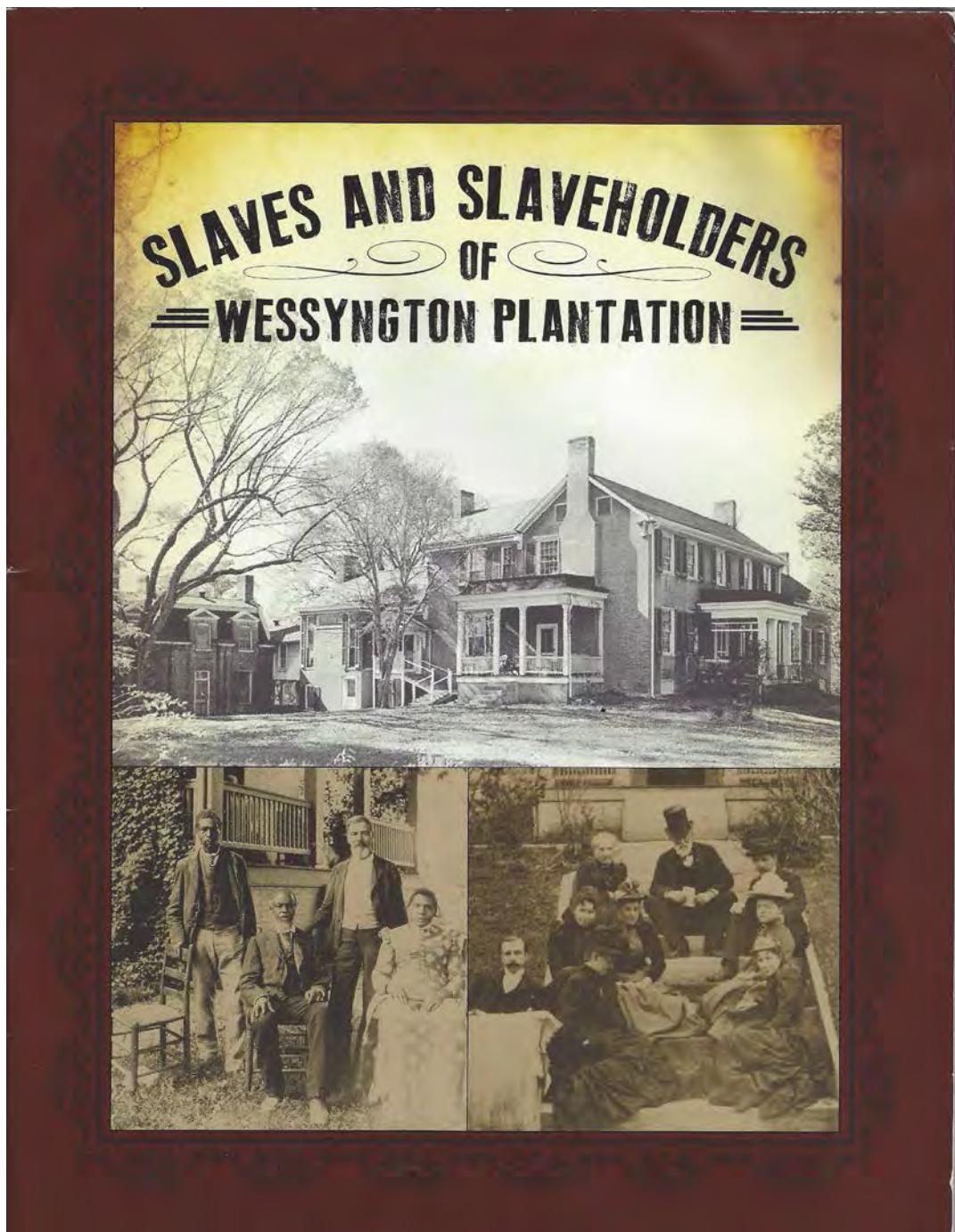
## **The Tennessee State Museum's Wessyngton Exhibition**

Based on John F. Baker Jr.'s book.

February 13, 2014- August 31, 2014.

Attendance: 67,448.

The exhibition traveled to venues throughout Tennessee and parts of the South.



Exhibition Catalogue, Tennessee State Museum.  
Funded by Washington descendant, Frank Williams.



## TAKE THESE CHAINS



Courtesy of the Tennessee State Museum

Driven by a personal quest, the Tennessee State Museum sheds light on how slavery flourished at one plantation

BY ABBY WHITE

**O**n Nov. 4, 2008, an exuberant crowd of 240,000 gathered around Chicago's Grant Park to witness history: the victory speech of the nation's first African-American president. In his address, President Barack Obama mentioned Ann Nixon Cooper, a 106-year-old African-American woman who cast her vote for him in Atlanta earlier that day.

President Obama reflected upon the many things that Cooper had witnessed in her lifetime. The Great Depression. Women's suffrage. Two world wars. The civil rights movement. As a woman born only a generation after slavery, he said, she had witnessed how far a nation could progress in a century.

"And this year, in this election, she touched her finger to a screen, and cast her vote," the newly elected president said. "Because after 106 years in America, through the best of times and the darkest of hours, she knows how America can change."

Where Cooper is concerned, that is an understatement. Orphaned at a young age, Ann Nixon Cooper was raised by the daughter of Granville Washington, the man standing on the right in the photo above. Granville Washington was a personal valet at Wessyngton Plantation, the vast Middle Tennessee estate that at one time was the country's single largest producer of tobacco. And like his daughter, Granville Washington

was a slave.

For all that's been written about slavery, gaping holes remain in our understanding of plantation life. Those complexities, contradictions and mysteries lie at the heart of *Slaves and Slaveholders of Wessyngton Plantation*, an ambitious and groundbreaking new exhibit that opens this week at the Tennessee State Museum. Running through Aug. 31, the six-month exhibit casts light on the complex ecosystem that was the antebellum plantation, a place where business, blood, captivity and everyday life

were inextricably linked — and the bonds of family were sometimes only too literal.

Wessyngton is uniquely suited to such study. In its heyday, Wessyngton's 13,000 acres in Robertson County were home to nearly 300 slaves, many of whom adopted the Washington surname of their white masters. Joseph Washington, a cousin of President George Washington, established the plantation, traveling from Virginia to Robertson County in 1796. His son, George A. Washington, inherited Wessyngton when his father died in 1848. By 1860, the plantation's

tobacco crop had made the Washingtons one of Tennessee's wealthiest families.

Little was known, however, about the enslaved Wessyngton residents on whom their fortune was built. The process that would bring that history to light began when a Springfield, Tenn., middle-schooler named John Baker opened up his seventh-grade social studies textbook, *Your Tennessee* — and saw that photo of Granville Washington's family.

Baker had lived all his life just minutes from the plantation. Looking at the picture, though, which was taken in 1891, he sensed something familiar in the seated couple. Particularly the woman. He couldn't say why, but she reminded him of his maternal grandmother.

The reason, he discovered, would change the course of his life. It would also ultimately affect tens of thousands of descendants of those enslaved at Wessyngton. Over the next 30 years, Baker's research would unearth hundreds of missing branches in an enormous family tree — and the fascinating story of its tangled roots.

In the summer of 1976, 13-year-old John Baker's maternal grandmother, Sallie Washington Nicholson, was visiting Springfield from Chicago. She was excited to find an article about Wessyngton in the *Robertson County Times*, which >> pg. 16



**"BECAUSE AFTER  
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— Barack Obama

Nashville Scene, February 13, 2014.

she wanted Baker to photograph her. Immediately, he recognized one of the photos. "She showed me the newspaper article, and I said, 'Grandma, that picture is in our social studies textbook,'" Baker says. "She told me that the couple seated were her grandfather and grandmother, and that her grandfather was the cook on the Washington farm — which is what everyone called Wessyngton — and told me that's how her family got the Washington surname."

Baker then asked about the identity of the "white man" in the photo, a person he'd always assumed was the slave owner. Nicholson told him that was Granville Washington, a cousin of theirs who was allegedly the son of George A. Washington, one of the white plantation owners, and a slave girl.

Baker was stunned. He couldn't wait to tell his classmates that a photo of his great-great-grandparents was in their textbook. From that point on, he was determined to learn more.

But his grandmother had little to add. Her grandfather, Emanuel Washington, died before she was born, and her grandmother, Hettie Washington, died when she was a little girl. All she knew of them was through stories her family told. Her older brother informed Baker that direct descendants of the white Washington family still lived in the Wessyngton mansion, and that perhaps he could learn more by reaching out to them.

"Immediately, I started the research," Baker recalls.

Baker contacted Anne Talbott, a sixth-generation descendant of Joseph Washington. She offered to meet with him and brought photographs and other documents, including one that recorded the births of the Wessyngton slaves from 1795 to 1860. When Baker found his great-great grandparents' names on that list, it gave life to people he'd known only through stories.

"She told me a number of individuals who lived there when she was a kid, and I

went to church with a lot of these people who were in their 80s, 90s, some of them over 100 years old," Baker says. "So they were telling me stories about their families' history at Wessyngton as well, and I became as interested in all of these other families as I did my own."

Tabbott told Baker that in the 1960s, her family deposited their records in the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville. That was Baker's next stop. He studied approximately 11,200 documents from Wessyngton: letters, bills of sale, court records, inventories, financial records, maps, diaries, photographs and newspapers.

From his archival research and interviews with children and grandchildren of the enslaved Wessyngton inhabitants, Baker gleaned a detailed view of plantation life and life after emancipation — a view that sharply contrasted with what he'd learned in school.

"There was very little on African-American history taught when I was in school," says Baker, who graduated from high school in 1981. "I found that as soon as [the former Wessyngton slaves] were given voting rights, every man on the plantation was a registered voter. They met at the church that they helped establish to determine who they were going to vote for in the first election."

"Some of the former slaves purchased hundreds of acres of land — some of which was part of the plantation that they had formerly been enslaved on — or started their own businesses. Many of them became educators. Some of these people went to school to learn to read and write when they were 40 or 50 years old. I'd never heard of things like that."

Learning that the emancipated slaves had accomplished so much when the odds were stacked entirely against them propelled Baker further in his research — not just of his own ancestors, but of other enslaved individuals whose genealogy ground to a halt around the time of the Civil War. It has



COURTESY OF THE TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

become his life's work. Baker's research has spanned more than three decades, prompting the release of his book *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation* in 2009.

Baker's book, which inspired the current exhibit, draws from the extensive

Wessyngton archives, linking tangible facts with oral histories collected from his interviews. Many of these are presented as transcripts, channeling the spirit of both the storytellers and their subjects while revealing family ties between

>> PG. 18

*Nashville Scene*, February 13, 2014.

thousands of descendants of the enslaved Wessyngton residents. Photos and portraits are plentiful, connecting faces to names that previously only existed in folklore.

"Daily correspondence in the Washington papers provided so much personal information about various slaves on the plantation and the Washington family I felt as though I knew them personally," Baker writes in his book. "My mother has often said that if you listen to me speak about my ancestors and all the others from Wessyngton you would think that I did. As I found information, I shared it with some of the older relatives and other families."

While Baker notes that there are many more African-American genealogical societies today than in the 1970s, he caught a closing window of historic preservation by recording interviews with children and grandchildren of slaves. Fortunately, advances in technology — such as DNA research — can aid descendants who followed in his footsteps too late. Baker delights in passing this information on to younger generations.

"Our family is very family-oriented; we've had Washington family reunions for the last 70 years," Baker says. "A lot of us still live in Springfield. There are several families in Springfield whose ancestors came from Wessyngton. Each year a lot of these families have big family reunions, so I'll go and give them a presentation about their family's history."

"I tell them when their first ancestor came, and I have the documents to show them," he adds. "I've got a family tree that's about five feet long with a thousand descendants — and this is for our family, but I've done the same thing for other families — and they'll post the family tree at the family reunion. All the little kids will run to see where their names are, and how they fit, and how they're connected to people. A lot of these trees, some of them span 10 generations, so a lot of these people will see names on there that they may not even realize are their cousins. So they're really excited."

**R**obert DeHart, curator at the Tennessee State Museum, hopes the Wessyngton exhibit will provide an authentic representation of plantation life — a topic of much concern at historic sites in recent years. (See the related article about Belle Meade Plantation on this page.)

"The way that some historic houses have sometimes interpreted slavery has not been as accurate as it could be," DeHart says. "One thing I will say, in museums of public history, the interpretation of slavery has changed a lot. It's better now than even 10 years ago."

The exhibit is certainly enriched by the Tennessee State Library's immense amount of archival material. But what makes *Slaves and Slaveholders* unique, DeHart says, is the insight Baker and his book brought to bear.

"It's really difficult to interpret what the slaves thought; if taken from a white-produced record, it's not really

>> PG. 20

with plantation owners, DeHart says understanding their mentality is crucial to understanding the period, and how such an institution was allowed (and encouraged) to flourish — so much so that white Southerners were willing to kill and die for it.

"The enslaved labor, plus these businessmen, were able to drive the South's economy, which becomes so important when we get to the Civil War," he says. "You start to understand why this idea of removing these slaves is so detrimental to the South, and why so many [plantation owners] opposed any kind of emancipation. This was their way of life, and their whole world was based around this."

After the end of the Civil War, many of the former Wessyngton slaves stayed in Robertson County. More than a century later, many of their descendants were still there, providing Baker with a large, geographically convenient pool of interview subjects.

"Once emancipation came, we'll be talking about how they had choices then, and how they used those choices," DeHart says. "The slave community was so tight at Wessyngton, so many stayed in Robertson County after the war, and John grew up in Robertson County. Most of the time, when these plantations broke up, the slaves went everywhere — some went north, or to other counties to find better opportunities, but Wessyngton is unique in that so many of them stayed in that area."

**I**n 1983, Wessyngton was sold out of the Washington family. While many of the plantation-era buildings are gone, the main house remains. It is privately owned and is not open to the public.

"When it was sold, it was the largest farm in America still continuously owned by the same family," Baker says. "When the new owners took possession, they dismantled some of the [slave] cabins — there's a restored cabin still on the property."

On the edges of the property, a slave cemetery stands. A recent ground-penetrating radar survey conducted by archaeologists from the University of Tennessee suggests that at least 200 individuals are buried in this location. Robert DeHart suggests the Wessyngton exhibit is in some ways their memorial, as well as a reminder of how much more we may never know.

"Of course, we can't know exactly who they are, but it's a way for us, I think, to honor these people," DeHart says. "This is the labor that built Wessyngton and contributed to Tennessee's economy, and rather than being nameless, faceless — we literally don't even know where they're buried — now we're able to get a better idea of where they are."

The exhibit closes, fittingly, with a video of Obama's 2008 speech featuring Ann Nixon Cooper, who died in 2009 at age 107.

"This talks about how far Americans have come," DeHart says. "It's a really cool way to end the exhibit. You come from Africa, to the president of the United States."

"This is *all* of our story; we didn't want it to be labeled as an African-American history exhibit," DeHart continues. "It's really a Tennessee history exhibit, because with the story of enslaved Americans, you can't separate that from the economic history of Tennessee, or the history of the slaveholders, or the Civil War. They're all tied together."

EMAIL EDITOR@NASHVILLESCENE.COM.

Nashville Scene, February 13, 2014.

# Washington

## **6. Washington Descendants**

### **Part 1**

### **Joseph Edwin Washington and his Descendants**

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016

# Washington

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The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009) [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com).

## Descendants of George A. and Jane Smith Washington

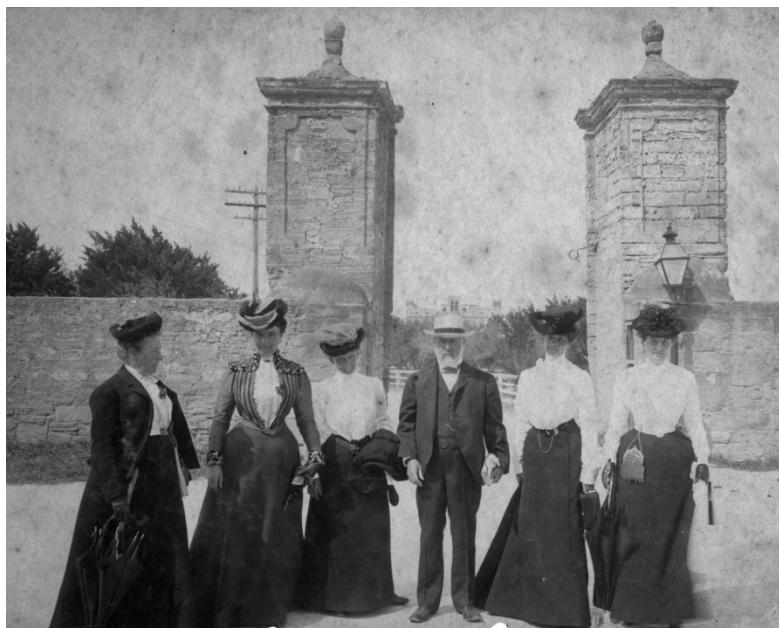
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- 1 George Augustine WASHINGTON b: 24 May 1815 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 04 Dec 1892 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN
- ... + Margaret Adelaide LEWIS b: 29 Apr 1823 Fairfield Plantation, Davidson Cty., TN, d: 22 Nov 1844 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN
- .....2 William Lewis WASHINGTON b: 03 Nov 1844 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 08 Jan 1902 Philadelphia, PA
- ... + Jane SMITH b: 15 Aug 1830 Plantation of Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith, Florence, AL., d: 11 Feb 1894 Home of Mary Washington Frazer, Nashville, TN.
- .....2 Mary WASHINGTON b: 01 Aug 1850 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 28 Oct 1854 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN
- .....2 Joseph Edwin WASHINGTON b: 10 Nov 1851 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 28 Aug 1915 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN
- ..... + Mary Bolling KEMP b: 15 Jan 1861 Petersburg, VA, d: 24 Mar 1946 Washington, DC
- .....2 Martha Susan WASHINGTON b: 02 Mar 1854 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 20 Sep 1937 TN
- ..... + George Newton TILLMAN b: 23 Jan 1851 Bedford Cty., TN, d: 15 May 1923 TN
- .....2 Mary WASHINGTON b: 25 Oct 1855 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 16 Jan 1928 Nashville, TN
- ..... + James Stokes FRAZER b: 07 Oct 1852 Lebanon, Wilson Cty., TN, d: 17 Apr 1892 Nashville, TN
- ..... + David Shelby WILLIAMS b: 19 May 1856 New Orleans, LA, d: 23 Jul 1924 Nashville, TN
- .....2 Male WASHINGTON b: 16 Aug 1857 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., d: 22 Aug 1857 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty.
- .....2 Bessie Adelaide WASHINGTON b: 04 Dec 1858 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., d: 09 Aug 1887 Grand Hotel, NYC, NY
- ..... + Henry Bethune TOMPKINS b: 27 Jul 1844, d: 25 Feb 1903
- .....2 Male WASHINGTON b: 22 Aug 1860 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty. TN, d: 22 Aug 1860 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty. TN
- .....2 Lucy Amelia WASHINGTON b: 14 Sep 1861 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 16 Feb 1955 Louisville, KY
- ..... + John Larue HELM II b: 04 Jul 1847 KY, d: 07 Jun 1917 KY
- .....2 Male WASHINGTON b: 25 Aug 1863 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty. TN, d: 25 Aug 1863 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty. TN
- .....2 Male WASHINGTON b: 31 Oct 1864 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty. TN, d: 31 Oct 1864 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty. TN
- .....2 Jane Augusta WASHINGTON b: 12 May 1867 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 15 Mar 1941 Nashville, TN
- ..... + Felix Grundy EWING b: 08 Aug 1856 Nashville, TN, d: 20 Nov 1935 Nashville, TN
- .....2 George Augustine WASHINGTON Jr. b: 05 Aug 1868 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 24 Jul 1926 TN
- ..... + Mary Pleasants RICHARDSON b: 1868 Athens, AL, d: 03 Jul 1891 Nashville, TN
- ..... + Marina Kirkman WOODS b: 16 Aug 1868, d: 09 Dec 1959 New Orleans

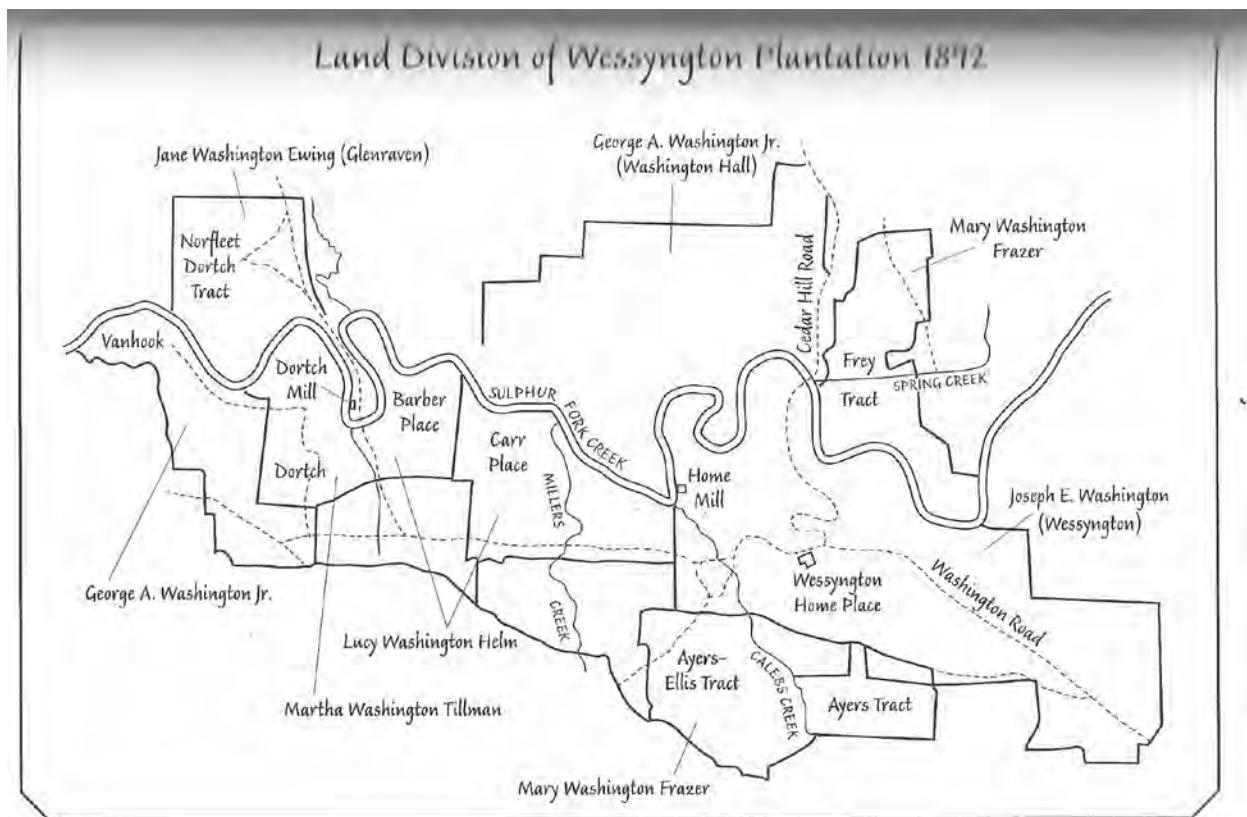
## **Descendants of Joseph Edwin Washington and Mary Bolling Kemp**

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- 1 Joseph Edwin Washington (1851 - 1915)
  - + Mary Bolling Kemp (1861 - 1946)
- ...2 George Augustine Washington 2d (1879 - 1964)
- ...2 Anne Bolling Washington (1882 - 1969)
  - + Augustus Silliman Blagden (1879 - 1960)
- .....3 Augustus Silliman Blagden Jr. (1906 - 1968)
  - + Elise Ladue Grace
- .....3 Joseph Washington Blagden (1907 - )
  - + Mary D. Gillespie
- .....3 Thomas Peabody Blagden (1911 - 2010)
  - + Martha Allen (1916 - )
- .....3 Mary Kemp Blagden (1915 - 2001)
  - + Rev. Arthur Lee Kinsolving
- ...2 Joseph Edwin Washington Jr. (1883 - 1966)
  - + Pauline Tillotson Gammon (1888 - 1958)
- .....3 Joseph Edwin Washington III (1917 - 1917)
- .....3 Pauline Tillotson Washington (1919 - 2003)
  - + Frank Gillespie Jr.
- .....3 Mary Bolling Washington (1920 - 2009)
  - + Nelson Robinson
  - + John Holley ( - 2006)
- .....3 Elizabeth Hotchkiss Washington (1922 - )
  - + William A. Buntin Jr.
- ...2 Elizabeth Wyndham Washington (1888 - 1961)
  - + Henry Stuart Hotchkiss (1878 - 1947)
- .....3 Henry Stuart Hotchkiss Jr. (1909 - )
  - + Mary Bell Clark
- .....3 Mary Bolling Washington Hotchkiss (1911 - 1990)
  - + Sydney Messer Williams Jr. ( - 1968)
- .....3 Stuart Trowbridge Hotchkiss (1913 - )
  - + June Blagden (1923 - )
- .....3 Joseph Washington Hotchkiss (1919 - 2010)
  - + Eugenia Whitney



Jane Washington Ewing, Mary Bolling Kemp Washington, \_\_\_, \_\_\_, Anne Bolling Washington Blagden, \_\_\_.



1892 Division of George A. Washington's Property. Drawn by John F. Baker, Jr.



1915 Dress.  
Tennessee State Museum



Card Case and Change Purse, ca. 1900.  
Robertson County Historical Society & Museum



Joseph Edwin Washington (1851-1915).

**WASHINGTON, Joseph Edwin**, a Representative from Tennessee; was born on the family homestead, "Wessyngton," near Cedar Hill, Robertson County, Tenn., November 10, 1851; received his early instruction at home; was graduated from Georgetown College, Washington, D. C., June 26, 1873; studied law with the first law class organized at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., in 1874, and was admitted to the bar, but never practiced; engaged in agricultural pursuits; member of the State house of representatives in 1876-1878; presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Hancock and English in 1880; elected as a Democrat to the Fiftieth and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1887-March 3, 1897); was not a candidate for renomination in 1896; appointed road commissioner and had charge of the road construction work of Robertson County; member of the board of trustees of Vanderbilt University; director of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis and Nashville & Decatur Railroads; resumed agricultural pursuits upon the family homestead, "Wessyngton," in Robertson County, Tenn., where he died August 28, 1915; interment in the family burying ground on his estate.

Joseph E. Washington, *Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1949*.



Joseph Edwin Washington

Speaking of Mr. Washington, it is a matter of justice, as well as of duty, to say that the retirement of no man who ever represented Tennessee in Congress will occasion more regret in political and social circles of the Capital than the retirement of Mr. Washington. Not alone because of himself, but also because of his charming wife. The friends that Mr. Washington has made in political circles are only equalled in number by the friends that Mrs. Washington has made in the circles of society. But those who know Mr. Washington know Mrs. Washington. They are most devoted, and are as inseparable as practicable. She takes a sympathetic interest in his ambitions, and he manifests an interest in her duties and pleasures. They have a nice home at 2013 Hillier Place in the midst of the most fashionable section of the fashionable northwest. The house is furnished luxuriously, a little oddly, but not fantastically, and always cozily. Elegance is there, but comfort, too, the one blending with the other so admirably that the aesthetic and the utilitarian go hand in hand. Better than the furnishings which make the interior attractive are the children which brighten the home. Mr. and Mrs. Washington have four of these. They are good looking boys and girls, and highly educated for their respective ages. One of Mrs. Washington's chiefest regrets in leaving Congress is the fear that it will be necessary to send the two youngest children to a boarding school. Mr. Washington doesn't believe in boarding schools. He believes in educating the children at home, where they can have the watchfulness of a father and the loving care of a mother.

Mrs. Washington is one of the few wives of Congressmen from the South, or anywhere else, who has gained admittance to the most exclusive circles of exclusive Washington society, and always found there a royal welcome. This became possible to her, not alone because of her husband's private fortune, but because of her education and accomplishments. Money may give you the power to knock at the door of Washington society, but talent and culture alone assure you of a welcome.

The wife of a certain member of Congress, whose term expires next March, came here last winter expecting that society would rush to meet her and prostrate itself at her feet. But there was not a single rush, nor the least indication of a prostrate. She went back home disgusted. And when the time came for the Congressional nominations in the district of the State in which she lived, and her husband said he proposed to run again, she put her foot down on it. "She didn't like Washington at all," she said, and she wasn't going to live there.

And his party had to find another man. People wondered why he declined the honor of making the race a second time, but he winked the other eye and whistled "There are things that cannot be explained."

Now he's glad that he graciously yielded to his wife, because the Democrat won.

Mr. Washington has accomplished much good for Tennessee and Tennesseans during the ten years of his life here as a member of Congress; but there are two bills which he is going to be compelled to reluctantly and sadly leave upon the calendar of "unfinished business." Those bills are for the relief of the Southern Presbyterian University, at Clarksville, and the Methodist Publishing House, at Nashville. The former is a claim for about \$25,000, the latter a claim for a sum in the neighborhood of \$100,000. Both claims are just, and the granting and payment of either would greatly benefit the interests of Nashville and of Clarksville; but Congress will do nothing with war claims at this session, which practically kills the two bills in their present shape. Neither will such matters be considered at the extra session of Congress in the spring; so that, if the claims ever come up again, it cannot be until the regular session next winter, and then must be presented in entirely new bills.

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It was in the interest of the Methodist Publishing House bill that Maj. E. B. Stahlman spent so much time in Washington last winter and spring. As a lobbyist during the last twenty years Maj. Stahl-

Washington newspaper, ca. 1897.

**J. E. WASHINGTON  
IS SOME BETTER.**

Word from the bedside of Hon. Joseph E. Washington a short while before going to press was to the effect that he had shown slight signs of improvement or rather he had rallied a little from his sinking spell. Mr. Washington is by no means yet on the road to recovery. It is hoped that owing to his unusual constitution that he may be able to withstand the complications from which he is suffering.

*Nashville Tennessean*  
Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 29, 1915

**JOSEPH E. WASHINGTON**

The Hon. Joseph E. Washington, who died at his home in Robertson county yesterday, was for many years the representative of this district in congress. He had high standing as a member of that body. He voluntarily retired rather than stand for re-election on a platform containing a plank in the soundness of which he did not believe.

Mr. Washington was in congress for sixteen years. Many men—probably most men—who remain in the official life of Washington for that length of time become so enamored of public life that they never again harmonize with private station. But Joe Washington retired to his country home and, for nineteen years, had lived a quiet and useful life among his home people, always taking a wholesome interest in public affairs, but having no lust for office.

Personally, Mr. Washington was a charming man. In a sense, he was a unique man. The state, not less than his own community, will miss him.

**Joseph E. Washington Dead.**

Nashville, Tenn., August 28.—Joseph E. Washington, former congressman from this district, serving ten years, died this afternoon of typhoid fever. Since retiring from congress he had operated his noted plantation, Wessyngton, Robertson county.

*Atlanta Constitution*, August 29, 1915

## Noted Tennessean Called by Death.



Photo by Thrus.

**HON. JOSEPH EDWIN WASHINGTON.**

One of Tennessee's leading citizens, who died Saturday afternoon at his home at Wessyngton after an illness of several weeks with typhoid fever.

*Nashville Tennessean*, August 29, 1915, p. 2.

Joseph E. Washington Is Dead

Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 28.—Joseph E. Washington, former representative from this district, serving ten years, died this afternoon of typhoid fever. Since retiring from congress he had operated his noted plantation, Wessyngton, Robertson county.

*The Washington Post*, August 29, 1915.

**JOS. E. WASHINGTON DEAD.**

A Member of Congress from Tennessee for Ten Years.  
Special to The New York Times.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 28.—Ex-Congressman Joseph E. Washington, one of Tennessee's most prominent citizens, died this afternoon at his home, Wessyngton, in Robertson County, after an illness of a little more than a week from typhoid fever.

Mr. Washington was a descendant of President George Washington. He received his early education at Wessyngton, the magnificent country home of his father, near Cedar Hill, Tenn., which he had since made his home. He was graduated from Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., in 1873, receiving the A. B. degree, and in 1888 he received the A. M. degree. He was a member of the first law class of Vanderbilt University in 1874.

Mr. Washington was a Democrat, and his first entry into politics was in 1877, when he was elected a member of the Tennessee Legislature from his county. In 1880 he was elected Presidential Elector for the Hancock and English ticket. In 1886 he was elected to represent the Sixth District in the Fiftieth Congress of the United States, and was elected to succeed himself in the four succeeding Congresses, serving for ten years with distinction.

Mr. Washington was a prominent Mason, a member of Thomas McCullough Lodge, F. and A. M., of Cedar Hill, and Trinity Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Nashville. He was a member of the Episcopal Church.

*New York Times*, August 29, 1915.



Nashville Banner, August 28, 1915.

*Aug. 28-15*  
NASHVILLE BANNER,

## DEATH CLAIMS J. E. WASHINGTON

Notable Tennessean Succumbs  
to Typhoid at Home at  
Wessyngton To-Day.

### BRAVE FIGHT TO LIVE ENDS

One of Most Widely Known  
and Highly Respected Resi-  
dents of This Sec-  
tion.

### IN CONGRESS TEN YEARS

Hon. Joseph E. Washington, one of Tennessee's most prominent citizens and most highly esteemed, died this afternoon at 2:05 o'clock at his home, Wessyngton, in Robertson county.

The news will be a source of wide-spread regret throughout the state and

**HON. JOSEPH E. WASHINGTON.**  
Former Congressman from Hermitage district, who died this afternoon.

particularly in Nashville, where his friends and admirers were limited only by his acquaintance.

Mr. Washington had been critically ill for more than a week, and his condition has been such as to excite the keenest apprehension on the part of his family and friends. With little hope of recovery during his last days, he made a brave fight for life, and it was his remarkable vitality and strength of will that prolonged the fight so long. His malady was typhoid fever.

#### BORN AT WESSYNGTON.

Joseph E. Washington was born at Wessyngton, Tenn., November 10, 1851, and was a son of George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington. He was a man of distinguished lineage, being a descendant of the father of President George Washington. His father was a man of large affairs, having held an interest in the Louisville & Nashville railroad, and having served as third vice-president of the company, and was also a large tobacco planter and capitalist. Before the Civil war, Mr. Washington was said to own the largest tobacco plantation in the world.

Mr. Washington received his early education at Wessyngton, the magnificent country home of his father, near Cedar Hill, which he has since made his home. Later he went to Georgetown university, Washington, D. C., where he graduated with distinction in 1873, receiving the A. B. degree, and in 1883 he received the A. M. degree. Mr. Washington was a member of the first law class of Vanderbilt university in 1874.

Mr. Washington was a Democrat in politics, and his first entry into politics was in 1877, when he was elected a member of the Tennessee legislature from his county, serving with marked ability, and winning reputation in the legislative halls. In 1880 he was elected presidential elector for the Hancock and English ticket. In 1886, Mr. Washington was elected to represent this (Sixth) district in the Fifty-first congress of the United States, and was elected to succeed himself in the four succeeding congresses, serving for ten years with honor and distinction.

Mr. Washington was a prominent Mason, being a member of Thomas McCullough Lodge, F. and A. M., of Cedar Hill, and Trinity Consistory, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Nashville. He was a member of the Episcopal church.

#### MAN OF INTEGRITY.

Mr. Washington was a man of the highest type in every sense of the word. In his dealings with all whom he came into contact he was affable and agreeable and possessed a personality which won for him fast friendships. As a citizen he was a man of high type, and in public life he made a splendid reputation for integrity and ability. He was a man of strong conviction, and had he been more of a politician than a man who stood for principle he would probably have remained in political life to the last. It was in 1896 that the Democratic party espoused free silver under the leadership of William Jennings Bryan, but Mr. Washington could not support this doctrine, and he retired from congress that year, after a most honorable record. Since that time he has been prominently mentioned for governor of Tennessee, but did not again enter public life.

Mr. Washington was greatly beloved by his neighbors and was widely known for his hospitality. He recently gave a great reception at Wessyngton, marking the 100th birthday of his father, had he been living, which was largely attended.

#### MARRIED IN 1879.

He was married January 15, 1879, to Miss Mary Bolling Kemp, daughter of Judge Wyndham Kemp, of Gloucester county, Virginia. Of the union there are four children—George A. Washington, Jr., Joseph E. Washington, Jr., Mrs. Elizabeth Hotchkiss and Mrs. Anne Blagden. Mr. Washington was a brother of Mrs. G. N. Tillman and Mrs. D. S. Williams, of this city; Mrs. Felix G. Ewing, of Glenraven; Mrs. John Helm, of Louisville, and Mr. George A. Washington, of Washington Hall.

# J. E. WASHINGTON SUCCUMBS AFTER BRAVE BATTLE

**End Comes to Noted Tennessean at Wessyngton Saturday Afternoon.**

**ILL WITH TYPHOID  
FOR SEVERAL WEEKS**

**Member of Honored Family and  
Former Congressman From**

**Aug. Hermitage District. 29<sup>th</sup>  
1915**

Following an illness of several weeks with typhoid fever, Joseph Edwin Washington, one of Tennessee's leading citizens and former congressman from the Hermitage district, died at 2:05 o'clock Saturday afternoon at his home at Wessyngton, in Robertson county. Though he had fought bravely against the disease for the past two weeks with wonderful vitality, he suffered a sudden turn for the worse Friday evening, and steadily became weaker until the end came. He was 64 years of age.

At the bedside were gathered the members of the family, who had kept a constant vigil during his illness. There were times in the past week when the patient rallied and seemed to be gaining strength, but news of his death will not come as a surprise to his host of friends throughout the state and south. His departure will be generally mourned in all parts of the state where he had spent practically all of his useful life.

*Nashville Tennessean, August 29, 1915.*

Mr. Washington was a man of pleasant and affable personality and sterling character, and his death will be a distinct loss to the commonwealth. As a planter he had been successful, carrying out the business of his father, and his political career was a distinguished one. In Nashville especially was Mr. Washington widely known and beloved, and there has been much concern evinced here for his ultimate recovery since the early stages of his illness.

#### BORN AT WESSYNGTON.

Mr. Washington was born Nov. 10, 1851, at Wessyngton, and was the son of George Augustine and Jane Smith Washington. His father was a tobacco planter and capitalist. His paternal grandparents were Joseph and Mary Cheatham Washington, while his maternal grandparents were Lawrence D. and Mary Hanua Smith.

By the time he was 22 years of age, Mr. Washington had finished his common school education at Wessyngton and had graduated from Georgetown University with an A. B. degree. He took his master's degree from the same university in 1888. His early life was spent as a planter and caretaker of the large estate left by his father. During this period he took a large part in the affairs of his county.

In 1888 Mr. Washington was elected to congress from the Hermitage district of Tennessee. He served five terms in the lower house of the national congress, being succeeded by John Wesley Gaines. On a number of occasions Mr. Washington's name was seriously considered for governor, but he never became a candidate for the honor. While in congress Mr. Washington held the universal love of his constituents and bore the nickname of "Little Joe."

#### POLITICAL HONORS.

Besides being a congressman from Tennessee, Mr. Washington had many other political honors. He was a member of the Tennessee legislature during the years 1877-78, and presidential elector for Hancock and English in 1880.

Mr. Washington's public spirit and interest in the welfare of his neighbors and friends were shown by the arduous labor he devoted to the building of the road system of Robertson county. The county issued \$400,000 of bonds and he was placed in charge of the work, which he did with skill and economy, the result being that Robertson had possibly the best system of roads of any county in the state. He refused to accept any compensation for his work. He was a highly intelligent and progressive farmer and was deeply interested in advancing the agricultural interests of his county and of his state. His interest in the unfortunate is shown in many ways, but he never talked of the many acts of charity which he did. If he saw a bright boy who had no opportunity to get an education he would arrange to have him sent to a good school, so that he could be better trained for his work in life.

#### A FRIEND OF CLEVELAND.

Mr. Washington was a close personal and trusted adviser of President Cleveland, of John G. Carlisle, Chief Justice White and other prominent democrats who refused to go over to the free silver wing of the party in 1896. It was beautiful to see the affection with which Chief Justice White greeted Mr. Washington last summer in Clarksville, when both were present as pallbearers at the funeral of their old friend, Judge H. H. Lurton.

Mr. Washington was a man of the highest personal courage, but was generous and considerate to everyone. His home was the seat of the most generous hospitality. He was a lover of music and literature, and can truly be said to have represented the flower of southern civilization.

Mr. Washington was deeply interested in education. He was a trustee of Vanderbilt university. In religion he was a member of the Episcopal church. He was also a prominent figure in the social and fraternal world. He was a member of the old Watauga club of Nashville. He was prominent in Masonry, being a member of Thomas McCullough Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., of Cedar Hill, Tenn., and Trinity consistory, A. A. S. R., of Nashville.

Mr. Washington was a director in the N. C. & St. L. and Nashville & Decatur railroads.

On January 15, 1879, Mr. Washington married Miss Mary Bolling Kemp, daughter of Judge Wyndham Kemp and Seignora Peyton Bolling of Gloucester county, Virginia. The family was prominent in Virginia.

His wife and four children survive. The children are: Joe Washington, Jr., of Tulsa, Okla.; George Washington of New York city; Mrs. Stuart Hotchkiss of New Haven, Conn., and Mrs. Augustus J. Blayden of Buffalo, N. Y. A brother, George A. Washington, Sr., of Washington hall, Cedar Hill, also survives, and four sisters—Mrs. D. Shelby Williams, Nashville; Mrs. G. N. Tillman, Nashville; Mrs. John Helm of Louisville, and Mrs. F. G. Ewing of Glenhaven, near Adams, Tenn.

**HON. JOS. E. WASHINGTON.**

The death of Hon. Joseph E. Washington brings deep regret to the many people in Tennessee, where he had spent his life, and to many outside of the state to whom he was known in person or as a public man.

Mr. Washington was a splendid type of the American citizen—a man of good intelligence, sterling character and one who took an active interest in the public welfare. He was in early life a member of the state legislature and afterwards served ten years in Congress as representative from the Sixth district.

Possessed of ample fortune, having an aristocratic Virginia lineage and in every respect a man of culture and fine social qualities, he preferred the life of a country gentleman and resided on his ancestral estate of Wessyngton in Robertson county, pursuing mostly the vocation of a tobacco planter, though he had other large interests.

Mr. Washington was in his mode of life a type of man once familiar in the South but rapidly passing away. He could not be called one of the old school of Southern gentlemen. He was altogether modern in his manners and habit of thought, but in his especial social caste and continued abode on the large country estate that had been the home of his father he was peculiarly suggestive of the ancient regime.

Mr. Washington made a splendid record in Congress. He was not a politician of the noisy or showy kind and made no special effort at display. He had fine practical judgment, business acumen, a sane view and a sound understanding of public questions that usually put him on the right side.

His withdrawal from Congress came of the division in the party in 1896 when the free silver policy prevailed in the national Democratic convention that nominated Mr. Bryan at Chicago. Not concurring in this policy he didn't offer as a candidate for renomination. In 1906 he was suggested as a candidate for Governor but didn't enter the contest and declined to allow his name to go before the convention. After that time he withdrew entirely from active participation in state politics.

Mr. Washington's splendid integrity, his usefulness as a citizen and a public man, his many excellent qualities and the station in the social and business world that he filled made him one of the leading and most valued citizens of the state and causes deep regret that he has too soon gone from the life where he was so much needed and so greatly appreciated.

Aug 31<sup>st</sup> 1915 NASHVILLE BANNER

## MR. WASHINGTON LAID TO REST

**Large Number of Sorrowing Friends Attend Funeral To-Day at Wessyngton.**

**MANY GO FROM NASHVILLE**

**Impressive Services Conducted By Revs. H. J. Mikell and J. F. McCloud—Masonic Ceremony.**

**BEAUTIFUL FLORAL GIFTS**

Special to the Banner.

Cedar Hill, Tenn., August 31.—Hon. Joseph E. Washington, who, during his manhood, has been one of the most honored men in Tennessee, and all his life a beloved son of Robertson county, where he was born and lived out his years, was laid to his final rest to-day at noon in the Washington family burial grounds on his home estate, Wessyngton.

The funeral services were impressive. They were attended by a gathering of several hundred people, fully 125 of whom went out from Nashville this morning on a special train over the Louisville & Nashville Road, leaving the union station at 9:15 o'clock. Many Masons went from Nashville to attend. Officials of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway and Louisville & Nashville Railroad were present, and there were many of the prominent citizens of Nashville and other places in Middle Tennessee. At Springhead a party of friends from that section joined. From all over the county other friends to the number of several hundred had journeyed to the residence, many traveling long distances. Right in the early morning the Manifest on the scene of all was the evidence of deep grief. Many faces were tear-stained. From all the walks of life Mr. Washington had drawn friends, and in his home county he had been a benefactor whose helping hand will be missed by many. The service was conducted by Rev. H. J. Mikell, rector of Christ church, assisted by the Rev. J. Francis McCloud. The Episcopal burial service was supplemented at the grave by impressive Masonic rites, carried out by Thirty-second degree Masons of Cedar Hill.

Nashville Banner, August 30, 1915.

Nashville Banner, August 31, 1915.

**BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.**

At noon the services took place, the body lying in the long living room of the house, banked with uncounted flowers. The casket was covered with a beautiful pall of ascension lilies provided by Mrs. Washington, and at the foot stood a superb cross of white lilies with a base of American Beauty roses, reaching eight feet in height and was given by Mr. Washington's children. From the board of directors of the N. C. & St. L. Railway another very handsome design, an immense purple and white pillow, was sent, and there were numberless others. Down to the smallest bunch of flowers all had a place around the resting place of the honored dead.

On the lawn the large United States flag, which always flies over Wessyngton, was at half-mast.

The full vested choir of Christ church rendered exquisite music. During the service "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" and "I'm an Old Soldier" were sung, and at close, as the choir led the funeral procession through the grounds to the family burial place, about 150 feet from the house, the hymn, "Come Ye Disconsolate," was used as a processional. At the close of the service at the grave "Peace Perfect Peace" was sung, and as the choir left to return to the house, followed by the assemblage, they sang "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Won."

**MEMBERS OF FAMILY PRESENT.**

Mr. Washington's immediate family present included Mrs. Washington, his sons, Messrs. George A. Washington, Jr., and Joseph E. Washington, his sons-in-law and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Blagden, of Buffalo, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stuart Hotchkiss of Connecticut, and his grandchildren, Alice Augustus, Jr., Joseph Washington, Thomas and Mary Kem Blagden, children of Mr. and Mrs. Blagden, and Henry, Mrs. Washington and Stuart Hotchkiss, children of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Hotchkiss. Other mourners were the sisters, Mrs. G. N. Tillman, Mrs. D. Shelby Williams, Mrs. John Helm of Louisville, Mrs. Felix Hart, wife of the deceased, his brother, Mr. George A. Washington, and Mrs. Washington and son, and his niece, Mrs. Reynolds Kirby-Smith, of Sewannee, and a large number of more remote relatives.

# The Burial of a Washington

**O**N the last day of August, Nineteen Hundred and Fifteen, a glorious day all made for the solemn occasion, throughout the hallowed halls of the homestead at Wessyngton, there had gathered with the family, friends, neighbors, acquaintances, from a dozen counties of Tennessee, and from as many different states of the American Union a multitude of mourners to attend the burial of

JOSEPH EDWIN WASHINGTON,  
THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY OF WASHINGTON  
IN TENNESSEE.

With church and Masonic ceremonies, at high noon, they laid him at last in his lowly bed, made beautiful by tender hands, sanctified with the tears of loving hearts, covered with the flowers of his friends and the green emblem of Masonic immortality.

Of the life and character of this man, advantageous and superior as it was in the beginning, admirable as it was in the living, and all glorious in the end, this story, having to do only with the burial, leaves to the historian, the priest or the poet.

Of the devoted multitude that had gathered long before time in and about the hospitable old home,—consecrated by the memory of many social ceremonies, many public honors,—the family, the connections, the friends, the neighbors, the associates, the tenantry, the servants, some of the old slaves of the family or their children,—each one's face bore the imprint of regret and sorrow. As one stood beneath the blue sky, beholding the green fields of abundance, the thought came, that after all, though the hand of fortune bountifully extends its favors to a people of merit, the privilege of death belongs to all humanity.

Large as the place is, ample as the dimensions of the long rooms and halls, the flowers sent as tributes from present and distant relatives, from friends and admirers, literally filled the place to overflowing—so many that the largest pieces and designs were sent ahead to the burial place and grouped about the to-be-companions already gone before. Pall and pillows, anchors and crosses, wreaths, all too many to attempt to describe, save, with pardon, one—the tribute of a daughter of the house, it was said—a beautiful cross, divine in its proportions and decorations, all studded in Easter lilies, reaching nearly to the ceiling as it stood by the bier, and up into the tree-tops as it was finally placed at the grave. It was beautiful beyond compare. A pure tribute to a pure man.

Precisely at the hour set, through the long halls of Wessyngton, the choir of Christ's Church, of Nashville, in full vestments and made up of twenty male and female voices, came singing that inspired hymn:

"The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
The victory of life is won."

"From death's dread sting, thy servant  
is free."

Following the choir came the priests of Christ's Church, Dr. Mikell and his colleague, Dr. McCloud. In clear tones Dr. Mikell, as he entered, began the beautiful service of the Episcopal Church, continuing as they passed through the hall and advanced to the center of the large living room. Here the casket was placed, about which the immediate family was assembling, hid from view by banks of glorious flowers of the fall, in richest color, kind and profusion. One felt the pang of sorrow lightened, the pain it brings assuaged, the soul temporarily transported to a heavenly bower, where sorrow could not go.

"I know that my Redeemer liveth," came the voice of the priest. "We brought nothing into the world; it is certain we can carry nothing out."

By E. C. Lewis



Wessyngton—Home of Four Generations of Washingtons.

"The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away.  
Blessed be the name of the lord."

Under the clear lead of the celestial soprano, in assuring tones, the choir's full measure of feeling pealed out Moore's lines—

"Come ye disconsolate;"

"Come to the mercy-seat."

"Earth has no sorrow that heaven can  
not heal."

Ah, what taut cords they touched!  
What promises, what hopes they held!  
What sad hearts they touched! What a sweet solace to the stricken ones all, even to her whose

"Sorrow's crown of sorrow is remembering  
happier things."

On went the choir:

"Here see the Bread of Life—"

"Earth has no sorrow that heaven can  
not cure."

"The Lord giveth and the Lord hath  
taken away," saith the preacher.

Again the swelling voices of the musicians chanted with glorious feeling:

"Behold thou hast made my days as it  
were a span long.  
Deliver me from all mine offenses."

"Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and  
Ever shall be: world without end. Amen."

The minister continued—"Now is Christ risen from the dead."

"For since by man came death, by man  
came also the resurrection of the dead."

"For as in Adam all die, even so in  
Christ shall all be made alive."

"That which thou sowest is not quickened,  
except it die."

"So also is the resurrection of the  
dead."

this prayer pronounced by all must have reached the great high throne itself:  
"Most merciful Father,  
Grant to us  
That we may be joined hereafter  
In glory everlasting.  
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

"O, merciful God, the Father,  
We humbly beseech thee,  
Raise us from the death of sin.  
That we may rest in him.  
Grant, we beseech thee, this,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.  
Amen."

Again came the voice of the minister:

"O, merciful God,  
And heavenly Father,  
Look with pity upon the sorrows of thy  
servants.  
Lift up thy countenance upon them  
And give them peace,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

Then came that divine benediction.  
Who does not feel elevated at its pronouncement? Who can doubt but that the appeal will be answered?

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,  
Be with you all, evermore. Amen."

It is done. The service is over. The pall bearers lift their precious burden.

So, now, this Washington, the son of his fathers, went out of his earthly home, hallowed as it was by the presence of generations of his blood before him, by sweet moments of this man's own youth, his maturity and his middle life. His ambitions, his successes, his loves, all his life's efforts, which went to hold Wessyngton beyond and above the habitation of most men in honor, integrity, and hospitality, in pride of ancestry and virtue's power, in worth, in everything needful to maintain a great family.

Wessyngton Hall, with all its broad lines of charity and bounty to humanity, was giving up its dear dead lord. The choir took the belflowered and bowery path that led to his grave, their clear notes and words ever ringing o'er hill, o'er vale, o'er all. The honorary pall bearers came after, then the active bearers of the pall. The body was borne by the Masonic selection.

"The strife is o'er, the battle done."

The choir sang with triumphant voices:

"The victory of life is won."

Ah, how fine to win even at last! The grave was to be robbed of its victory; life won by death itself.

"Death is the gateway of life."

Slow, to the metre of the hymn, still they marched and still they sang—

"From death's dread sting,  
Thy servant free!"

Close to the casket of the honored and beloved dead came those nearest and dearest. Ah, how near, Holy Virgin, Mother of All! How dear! Can the pen of man tell? Can the heart unstricken feel saintly woman's sorrow? Bereft! Bereft! Bereft! May the winds of summer touch lightly now; may the angels of mercy mention her in their matins and in their vesper prayers.

After the immediate family came the connections in direct line, large in numbers, brave in character, devout in spirit, passing through the double line of his Masonic brothers, guarding, if need be, with their lives the loved ones of him

(Continued on page 35.)

to whom their creed obligates them, as they marched with slow tread and with sorrow to the grave.

At Wessington "God's Acre" lies well away from the manor, yet above and beyond, 'amidst flowering shrubs and daffodils, and scents of eglantine and jasmin, rose and rosemary.'

The Masonic fraternity turned in their formal order and entered within the walls, the family square, "God's Acre," if ever land was. The flowers and shrubs and surroundings 'consecrated each grave within the walls and breathed a benison o'er the sleeping dust.'

In the southeast section was the new-made grave. All around, about and within was lain and hung with white cloth, covered in generous irregularity with bright-colored roses. The effect was befitting to each sorrowing soul. Here surely the grave is robbed of its victory, death of its sting.

"Nor couldst thou  
Wish couch more magnificent . . ."

Then came in full regalia the Tiler with drawn sword; the stewards with their white rods arched the walk-way; then came the Master Masons, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, the Past Masters, the Holy Writing spread on a cushion of black and borne by the oldest Masonic member of the lodge, a patriarch indeed, ninety years of age. The Masters, supported by deacons with white rods, stood at the head. All that had been mortal of Joseph Edwin Washington was lowered into the flower-strewn grave by his selected Masonic brethren.

The minister read: "Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to take out of the world the soul of our deceased brother, we therefore commit his body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

All else had been so sweetly solemn, all so divinely devout, all so poetical, so perfect, with sorrow, to be sure, but with the acceptance of "Thy will be done," till the symbolism of "Earth to earth."

How it aches, and thrills and chills—the terrible reality of earth upon the coffin! So softly the minister sprinkled the dust. His soul seemed to shrink from the formal act and the heart of everyone felt the knife of the knell, "Ashes to ashes."

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

"Lord, have mercy upon us."

"Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name."

With impressive manner and sonorous voice, the Masonic Master began the inspired service to his order.

"The hand of the Lord is upon me."

The Chaplain prayed: "Almighty and most merciful Father, we adore thee as the God of time and eternity. As it has pleased thee to take from the light of our abode one dear to our hearts, we beseech thee to bless and sanctify unto us this dispensation of thy providence,

And thine, O righteous Father, shall be the glory forever. Amen."

"So mote it be," spoke each and every Masonic voice.

Then the Master, in his same musical and measured voice, continued: "Brethren: The solemn notes that betoken the dissolution of this earthly tabernacle have again alarmed our outer door and another spirit has been summoned to the land where our fathers have gone before us. Again we are called to assemble among the habitations of the dead, to behold 'the narrow house appointed for all living.' Here around us sleep in that sleep which the world cannot give nor take away, the unnumbered dead. The gentle breeze fans their verdant covering, they heed it not; the sunshine and the storm pass over them and they are not disturbed; stones and lettered monuments symbolize the affection of surviving friends, yet no sounds proceed from them."

"We are again called upon to consider the uncertainty of human life, the immutable certainty of death and the vanity of all human pursuits."

The cradle and the coffin stand in juxtaposition to each other. We are suddenly alarmed at the approach of the messenger of death, at a moment when we least expect him, and which we probably conclude to be the meridian of our existence. The power of wealth, the dreams of ambition, the tide of intellect, or the charms of beauty, pay Nature her just debt. Here the sceptre of the prince and the staff of the beggar are laid side by side.

"Be then persuaded, my brethren, by this example, of the uncertainty of human life."

"The lambskin, or white apron, is the emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle; more honorable than the Star and Garter, when worthily worn."

This ancient symbol of worth was here spread upon the casket, lying in the lowly bed. Not a sound was heard; peaceful as death itself was all this assembled multitude while this impressive and inspiring ceremony proceeded—all the silent air a solemnity sublime—each one remarking it.

The Master continued: "This emblem I now deposit in the grave of our deceased brother. By it we are reminded of the universal dominion of death. The arm of friendship cannot interpose to prevent his coming; the wealth of the world cannot purchase our release; nor will the innocence of youth or the charms of beauty propitiate his purpose. The mattock, the coffin, and the melancholy grave admonish us of our mortality, and that sooner or later, these frail bodies must moulder in their parent dust."

"This evergreen," said the Master, "which once marked the temporary resting place of the illustrious dead, is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. This, too, I deposit in the grave, with the exclamation, 'Alas, my brother!'"

Whereupon the brethren moving in procession, dropp'd each his sprig of evergreen, giving the grand honors:

"We cherish his memory here," said they all; "We commend his spirit to God who gave it," they prayed; "And consign

his body to earth," they spoke, regretful of the loss on earth.

The Master then continued: "Unto the grave we have consigned the body of our deceased brother, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

No dry eyes now, no hearts unwrung.

"To those who are most stricken at the loss we have all sustained," spoke again the mellow voice, full of soul and sympathy, "we can only deeply and most affectionately sympathize in their afflictive bereavement. But we can say that He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" (Great God of Love, be kind now) "looks down with infinite compassion upon the widow and fatherless in the hour of their desolation; and that the great Architect will fold the arms of his love around those who put their trust in him."

Hold—still as death! It was death. "Susage your soul as you may, death it was. Sorrowful death! The very solemnly proclaimed it; the hearts beat it; the faces blanched it; only the service saved—the service of the Saviour."

The choir uplifted by the solemn service sang again with ardent voice:

"Peace, Perfect Peace,  
Death shadowing us and ours,  
Jesus has vanquished Death and all its powers."

Thus was there peace to every submissive soul within the hearing of this unforgettable ceremony, so full of feeling, so formal, so impressive, so true. And

there was peace beyond measure to him who lay in this last lowly bed.

Over the famous feudal lands and lawns, over the gardens and meadows, over the fine forests, among the flowers and the fruits, high up in the pure day's air, up to the very heavens, the song soared, reached, and sank back again to haven in the hearts of men. From a far away treetop a lonely dove mourned plaintively for its mate.

Where else in all the world could such a funeral be?

This day's happening was full of poems—lyrics, epics, elegies—spontaneous, unsung, but recorded in many minds and hearts.

The united church and Masonic ceremony—impressive, consoling, soothing, inspiring—was ended.

*"In hoc signo vinces."*

*"Jesus hominum Salvator."*

At the beginning of the Masonic ceremony Dr. Mikell, who had doffed the vestments of the church for the high-honored apron of the ancient order, and had taken part in the entire Masonic service, again appeared in priestly robe.

All the air a solemn stillness held while this prayer was spoken, the last prayer: "O, Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is o'er, and our work is done. Then, in thy mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at last. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

*Southern Woman's Magazine, October, ca. 1915, p. 35.*

*Nashville Banner*

SEPTEMBER 1, 1915.

## SLEEPS WITH HIS FATHERS

General Sorrow Attends Laying Away of Kindly Master Of Wessyngton.

### HERO IN HOME COMMUNITY

Funeral the Occasion For Retelling Stories of Mr. Washington's Good Will and Generosity.

### SOLEMN SERVICES HELD

Only in a community where traditions of the old South are almost sacredly cherished could a burial such as that accorded on Tuesday to Hon. Joseph E. Washington have been possible. It was remarkable not only in the number of people who gathered to pay him their last tribute, but in the spirit of loyalty and poignant sorrow that animated them. There were many over five hundred present. Perhaps the number was nearer double five hundred, for it was not possible to gather an adequate idea of the size of the assemblage. Only one fact was clear and unmistakable, and that was its grief. From early morning the roads leading to Wessyngton, Robertson county, where four generations of Mr. Washington's family have lived, were crowded with vehicles of all description, from the most luxurious motor car which this community boasts, to the covered wagon of the country districts, and all were crowded with occupants. Many country people came on foot, their clothing and shoes showing the marks of the dust of the road. Quite a number had walked to Wessyngton from miles away. Some of the women were in sunbonnets, and nearly all were leading children. Genuine love and respect for their friend and benefactor animated every one, and on every face there was the same look of solemnity and sorrow. Although the assemblage was so large, it was almost absolutely quiet. Hardly a whisper could be heard as the people sat or stood in the halls and reception rooms or packed in the broad porches that encircle the house. As the late arrivals came, the yard about was filled.

**LAST LOOK ON KINDLY FACE.**

Mr. Washington's tenantry and neighbors sent a request to the family that they be allowed to look again on his face. The request was instantly granted, and for a long time a file passed slowly by the casket, and out through the rear door of the long living room in which it lay. Women sobbed softly and mature men wept unrestrainedly as they looked. Superb flowers were massed all about the casket. Reaching almost to the ceiling they made a background of floral beauty not often to be seen. Crates of flowers came all through the morning hours in such quantities that many had to be taken direct to the graveyard and placed on the graves of other members of the family. Portraits of Mr. Washington were garlanded with graceful clusters cut from the white clematis vines that his hands had often tended. On the lawn the United States flag, garrison size, which Wessyngton always flies, hung at half mast on its tall pole.

**MANY FROM NASHVILLE.**

At 11 o'clock vehicles began to arrive bringing in Nashville friends from the station at Cedar Hill, and they crowded the large house. They included the governor of the state, public men, high railroad officials and other prominent people from Nashville, Springfield and other sections of Middle Tennessee. They came in relays and were arriving until almost the funeral hour—noon. The service of the Episcopal church, conducted by Dr. H. J. Mikell, rector of Christ church, assisted by the Rev. J. Francis McCloud, were supplemented by exquisite music by the Christ church full vested choir, with the choirmaster, F. Arthur Henkel, directing. Walking up from the house on the lawn, where they had been vested, they began singing Thomas Moore's beautiful hymn, "Come, Ye Disconsolate," their voices swelling louder as they entered the house, and came into the room of the services, and later, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" was sung, and for a recessional "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Won," as the procession walked from the house to the burial ground.

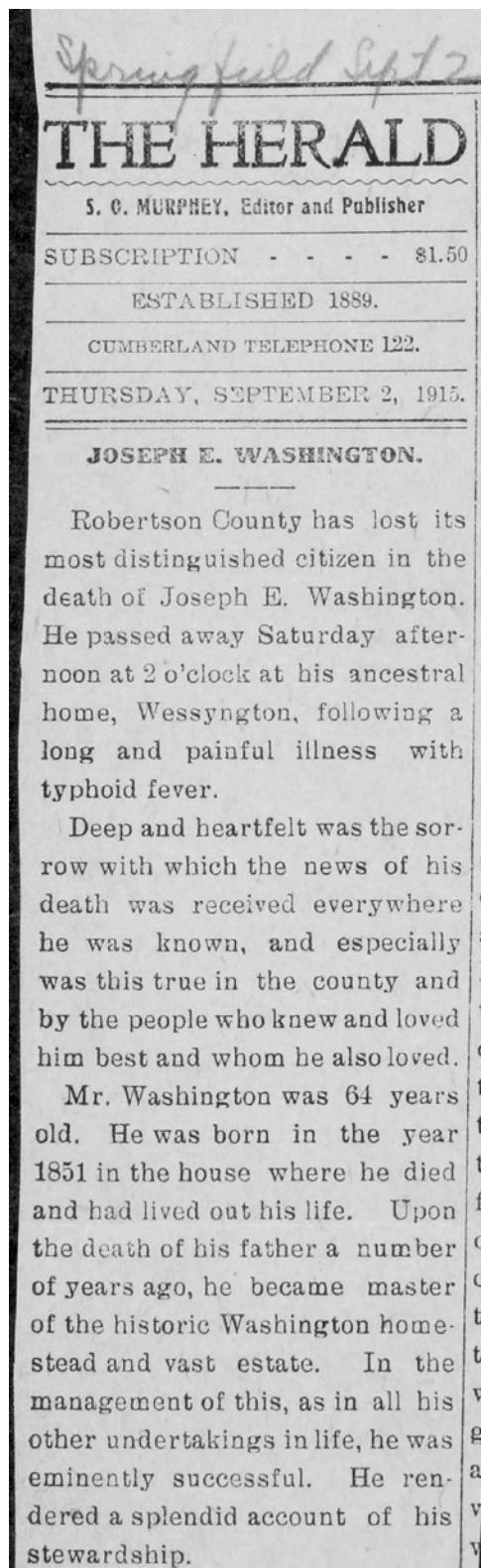
The graveyard, several hundred yards away, is surrounded with a handsome stone fence and within the enclosure the pall-bearers, the family, the connection, Masons and the nearest friends were assembled. Around the walls the rest of the friends stood, as far back as they could be seen. One section was reserved for the colored plantation hands and the colored people of Robertson county, who came in great numbers. The house servants who had been faithful to Mr. Washington for many years followed the family.

**MASON'S BORE THE BODY.**

Masons who assisted in bearing Mr. Washington's body to the grave were: Messrs. J. E. Adams, J. E. Sory and John Hester of the Blue Lodge; W. D. Sugg and John Johnston for the commandery, and R. B. Darden and M. F. Long for Trinity consistory. Following the committal service of the Episcopal church, Charles Barham of Nashville conducted the impressive Masonic burial rites, assisted by B. F. Alnutt, master of Thomas McCullough lodge or Cedar Hill, and the membership of that lodge; the Red River lodge of Adams and the Western Star lodge of Springfield. Prayers were said, full of abundant hope, and the choir softly chanted two verses of the requiem hymn, "Peace, Perfect Peace," as the assemblage turned to leave the flower-lined grave.

The day was filled with stories told again of Mr. Washington's kindness and hospitality, and of his generosity in relieving individual wants and in promoting the good will of the community. A master of the true quality of southern gentility, he was among the few who are heroes in their own community. His benevolence was the spontaneous kind that prompted his heart to benefit the living during his own days upon the earth. The education that he made possible to many bright boys of his acquaintance among his home people, will stand as a fine and far-reaching evidence of his sincere desire to uplift and to help those less fortunate than himself. Always he showed the highest regard for the feelings and wishes of those around him. He possessed in an eminent degree the finest, highest charity of which man is capable—charity of judgment—and to uncounted friends his grave must ever be a place where sorrow will weep with infinite regret.

*Nashville Banner*, September 1, 1915.



*Springfield (Robertson County) Herald, September 2, 1915.*

Mr. Washington served ten years in Congress, representing this, the Hermitage, district in that body. In that also he wroughtably and well, retiring of his own accord because he could not subscribe to the memorable platform of 1896. He was not a politician.

Mr. Washington was an ideal citizen and it was in his everyday life and walk among men that he filled his highest calling. Here his polish, culture and mental attainments showed to greatest advantage. The world is better for his having lived in it. He leaves sorrow and mourning for having departed out of it.

ON COUNTY.

1915. Springfield Herald Sept. 2, 1915

NUMBER 28

## HON. JOSEPH E. WASHINGTON COUNTY'S LEADING CITIZEN PASSES TO GREAT BEYOND

Sept. 2, 1915

After an illness of several weeks with typhoid fever Hon. Joseph E. Washington, one of the State's leading citizens and former Representative in Congress from the Hermitage District, died at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon at his home at Wessington, this county. He was 61 years of age.

Although he had made a brave fight against the disease, he suffered a turn for the worse Friday and grew steadily weaker until the end came. Gathered at his bedside at the time were members of the family who had kept constant watch during his entire illness and used all means in human power to restrain the effects of the disease.

Mr. Washington was taken sick six weeks ago and until two weeks ago was making satisfactory progress toward recovery. However, a change for the worse came at this time and since then physicians had held but little hope for his recovery.

There were times when the patient rallied and seemed to be gaining strength, but news of his death did not come as a surprise to his host of friends throughout the State and South. His deparure will be generally mourned

in all parts of the State and more especially in this county, where he had spent practically all of his useful life.

Mr. Washington was a man of pleasant and affable personality and sterling character, and his death will be a distinct loss to the Commonwealth. As a planter he had been successful, carrying out the business of his father, and his political career was a distinguished one.

Mr. Washington was born Nov. 10, 1851. He was a son of George A. Washington, widely known throughout the South as one of its wealthiest planters and capitalists.

By the time he was 22 years of age, Mr. Washington had finished his common school education at Wessington and had graduated from Georgetown University with an A. B. degree. He took his master's degree from the same university in 1886. His early life was spent as a planter and caretaker of the large estate left by his father. During this period he took a large part in the affairs of his country.

In 1887 Mr. Washington was elected to Congress from the Hermitage District of Tennessee. He served five terms in the Lower House of the national Congress, being succeeded by John Wesley Gaines. He refused to stand for re-election in 1893 because he doubted the soundness of a plank in the Democratic platform. On a number of occasions Mr. Washington's name was seriously considered for Governor. He announced for this honor in 1900 and after having made a partial canvass of the State and receiving flattering support and endorsement, he withdrew from the

wing of the party in 1896. It was beautiful to see the affection with which Chief Justice White greeted Mr. Washington last summer in Clarksville, when both were present as pallbearers at the funeral of their old friend, Judge H. H. Lurton.

Mr. Washington was a man of the highest personal courage, but was generous and considerate to everyone. His home was the seat of the most generous hospitality. He was a lover of music and literature, and can truly be said to have represented the flower of Southern civilization.

Mr. Washington was deeply interested in education. He was a trustee of Vanderbilt University. In religion he was a member of the Episcopal Church. He was also a prominent figure in the social and fraternal world. He was prominent in Masonry, being a member of Thomas McCullough Blue Lodge, F. & A. M., of Cedar Hill, and Trinity Consistory, A. A. S. R., of Nashville.

Mr. Washington was a director in the N. C. & St. L. and Nashville & Decatur Railroads.

On January 15, 1879, Mr. Washington married Miss Mary Bolling Kemp, daughter of Judge Wyndham Kemp, of Gloucester County, Virginia. The family was prominent in that State.

His wife and four children survive. The children are: Joe Washington, Jr., of Tulsa, Okla.; George Washington, of New York City; Mrs. Stuart Hotchkiss, of New Haven, Conn., and Mrs. Augustus J. Blagden, of Buffalo, N. Y. A brother, George A. Washington, Sr., of Washington Hall, Cedar Hill, also survives, and four sisters—Mrs. D. Shelby Williams, Nashville; Mrs. G. N.

Tillman, Nashville; Mrs. John Helm, of Louisville, and Mrs. F. G. Ewing, of Glenhaven.

Mr. Washington held the universal love of his constituents and bore the nickname of "Little Joe."

Mr. Washington was a man of progress and pronounced public spirit. This was shown in many

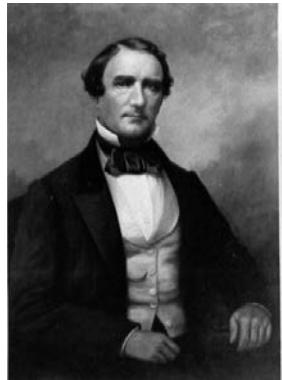
race. While in Congress Mr. Washington held the universal love of his constituents and bore the nickname of "Little Joe."

Mr. Washington's funeral took place at Wessington Tuesday at 12 o'clock. The services were very largely attended by neigh-

*Springfield (Robertson County) Herald, September 2, 1915.*

Joseph Edwin Washington researched the Washington, Smith, Dawson, and Cheatham genealogy for many years. His manuscripts and notes are in the Washington Family Papers, Tennessee State Archives.

**Mary Bolling Kemp Washington (1861-1946):**



Her father **Judge Wyndam Kemp**,  
(1809-1875) Gloucester County, Virginia.



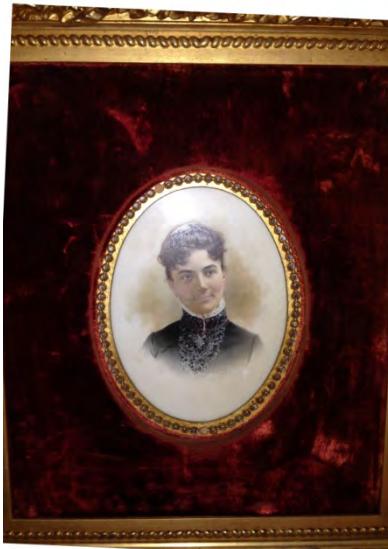
Mary Bolling Tabb and baby.



Her great grandmother, **Frances Peyton Tabb**, Amelia County, Virginia by John Durand (not an original portrait). *Virginia Historical Portraiture*, Alexander Weddell, 1929.



FRANCES PEYTON TABB  
(Wife of John Tabb of Clay Hill)  
From the Original Portrait by John Durand, now in the possession  
of Mrs. John Hill Morgan, New York City,  
Canvas measures 34½ x 27 inches.

**Mary Bolling Kemp Washington (1861-1946):**

37" x 49" Signed Portrait

1932



Emily Kemp?, Joseph and Mary Bolling Kemp Washington. Mary Bolling Kemp and Joseph Washington.



Joseph E. and Mary Bolling Kemp Washington.



Anne, Joseph Jr., Mary Bolling Kemp, Elizabeth,  
George Washington, ca. 1888.



Joseph Jr., Joseph Washington.



Anne, Joseph, Elizabeth, George, Joseph Jr., Mary Bolling Kemp Washington, 1895.

# Mrs. Washington Dies in Florida

## Widow of Former Congressman Member Widely Known Family

Mrs. Joseph E. Washington, 85, of Wessyngton at Cedar Hill, widow of the former congressman from the Sixth Congressional District, Joseph E. Washington, died at 1:30 o'clock yesterday morning at the Hotel Monson in St. Augustine, Fla.

Mrs. Washington had been in Florida for the last three months, and she had divided her time between Washington, D. C., and Wessyngton, noted Middle Tennessee tobacco plantation and family estate, for the last 30 years. She had suffered a heart ailment during the last year and died in her sleep yesterday morning.

Funeral services will be held at Wessyngton on Thursday and burial will be in the family cemetery on the estate. Funeral arrangements had not been completed last night. The body will be brought to Wessyngton tomorrow, accompanied by Mrs. Washington's daughter, Mrs. Augustus S. Blagden, and Mr. Blagden of Ambler, Pa., and Joseph E. Washington, Jr., of Wessyngton.

The former Miss Mary Bolling Kemp, Mrs. Washington was the daughter of the late Judge Wyndham Kemp of Gloucester County, Va., and Seigniora Peyton Bolling of Petersburg, Va. She lived in Gloucester County, Va., until her marriage on January 15, 1879.

At that time Mrs. Washington came to Wessyngton, the ancestral estate in Robertson County which had been in the Washington family since 1798. Mr. Washington was a descendant of John Washington of Surry County, Va., who was a first cousin of John Washington of Westmoreland County, Va., great-grandfather of Gen. George Washington.

Wessyngton was founded by Joseph Washington, grandfather of Mrs. Washington's husband. The estate was enlarged to 16,000 acres by his son, George A. Washington, who died in 1892. When it was divided among his children, his son, Joseph E. Washington, inherited the original homestead of 2,200 acres.

### Lived in Washington

Mrs. Washington lived at Wessyngton until she moved to Washington, D. C., where her husband served as congressman from 1886 to 1896. Mr. Washington died on August 28, 1915.

Since then Mrs. Washington had made her home at 1302 Eighteenth Street, Northwest, in Washington and at Wessyngton, Cedar Hill, with her son, George A. Washington. Her daughter, Mrs. Blagden, was with Mrs. Washington at the time of her death.

Mrs. Washington was a member of Christ Church, Episcopal, in Nashville and of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Washington, D. C. Survivors are her daughters, Mrs. Blagden, and Mrs. H. Stuart Hotchkiss of East River, Conn.; her sons George A. Washington, former lawyer of New York City, now of Wessyngton; and Joseph E. Washington, Jr.; her 11 grandchildren, Augustus S. Blagden, Jr., of Ambler, Pa.; Lt. Joseph W. Blagden, USNR, of Ambler, Pa.; Thomas P. Gladden of Lakeville, Conn.; Mrs. Arthur Lee Kinsolving, wife of the Rev. Arthur Lee Kinsolving, of Princeton, N. J.; Capt. Henry Hotchkiss, USNR, naval attache at Cairo, Egypt; Commdr. Stuart T. Hotchkiss, USNR, on duty in the Pacific; Joseph W. Hotchkiss of East River, Conn.; Mrs. Sidney M. Williams, Jr., of Petersborough, N. H.; Mrs. Frank Gillespie, Jr., of San Antonio, Tex.; Mrs. Nelson Robinson of Nashville, and Mrs. W. A. Buntin, Jr., of Portland, Tenn.; by 18 great-grandchildren; by her sister-in-law, Mrs. John L. Helm of Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. George A. Washington of "Washington Hall," Cedar Hill, widow of her husband's brother who died in 1928; her nephews, Col. George A. Fraher, USA, retired, of Nashville, James S. Fraher and Lewis Tillman of Nashville, Joseph W. Fraher of Detroit, Robert W. Washington of Cedar Hill; Maury Kemp of El Paso, Tex.; and nieces, Mrs. William E. Norvell, Jr., of Nashville, Mrs. William T. Berry of Nashville, Mrs. T. Walter Hardy of St. Louis, Mo., Mrs. Malcolm McLean of Savannah, Ga., Mrs. Blanton Fortson of Athens, Ga., Mrs. Reynold Kirby-Smith of Sewanee, and Mrs. St. George Bryan and Miss Mary G. Kemp of Richmond, Va.

### IN MEMORIAM

Never, perhaps, in this Southern section of the country, will there be an occasion such as took place in Robertson County, Tennessee, a few days ago, harking back to the old South now fast disappearing.

A great lady had passed away and was laid to rest in the family grave yard, at the end of the garden, at "Wessyngton," the estate of the Washington family for six generations. Mrs. Joseph Edwin Washington (Mary Bolling Kemp), the châtelaine of this old home for five decades was a rare woman, combining many qualities. She was endowed with beauty, charm, keen wit and social graces, and was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, also a gifted home-maker, reighing for many years over well-ordered homes, dispensing gracious hospitality.

Mrs. Washington was a well rounded Christian lady of the old school, and as such, family, relatives, friends, tenants and servants, many from the surrounding counties, came to pay their respects and tributes.

After simple services in the rambling old home, nearly 200 years old, to the strains of "Abide With Me," there came from the white porch an impressive and solemn procession, which had in its rarity the character of a pageant. First came the clergy in white vestments, the lily-covered casket, the family, friends and neighbors, followed by a long line of family servants and tenants, many bent with age, youths and young children, each carrying a floral design, sent from far and near. The procession moved slowly through the old garden, bright with spring flowers, between lilies and flowering fruit trees, to the stone walled burial ground. Brief services, when the muted singing songs of the birds, the meadow lark, the Bob White and doves sounded their farewell, they were laid "Grande Dame" beside her husband, "Rest in Peace and May Light Perpetually Shine Upon Her."

Nashville Tennessean

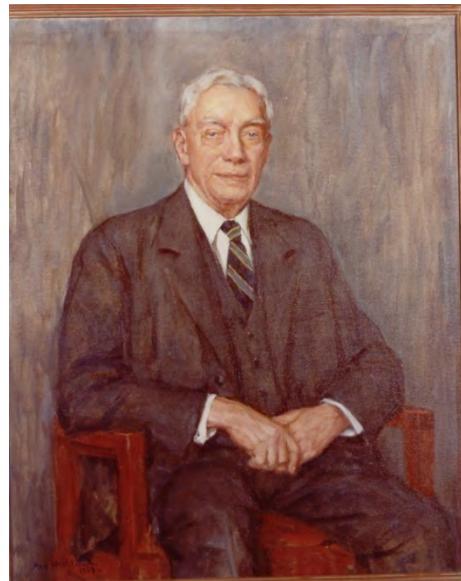
Nashville Tennessean, March 25, 1946.

[April], 1946.



**IN A MASS OF FLOWERS.**—Here is a vehicle that attracted much comment, the occupants, Mrs. J. W. Thomas and Mrs. Washington, being almost hidden in a mass of bright flowers. The picture was taken during a pause in the procession, while the vehicles stood in front of the Cincinnati Building.

Mary Bolling Kemp Washington in the Floral Parade, Nashville Centennial Celebration, 1896.

**George Augustine Washington 2d (1879-1964):**

George Augustine Washington 2d, by Max Westfield.



George A. Washington 2d researched the Washington, Smith, Dawson, and Cheatham genealogy for many years. His manuscripts and notes are in the Washington Family Papers, Tennessee State Archives.

**Anne Bolling Washington (1882-1969)**

Wedding to Augustus Silliman Blagden at Wessyngton, October 11, 1905.



Helen Peabody and Richard Blagden, Anne and Gus Blagden, Mary Bolling Kemp and Joseph E. Washington.



George A. Frazer (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and his fiancé Sadie Lindsley Warner (3<sup>rd</sup> from left).



Probably Emanuel Washington on the bench.

Washington- Blagden Wedding, 1905.

**Washington-Blagden.**  
MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH E. WASHINGTON, of Wessyngton, Tenn., have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Anne Bolling, to Mr. Augustus Stillman Blagden, on Wednesday, the 11th of October, 1905, at 12:30 o'clock at Wessyngton, Tenn.

Special train will leave union station, Nashville, for Cedar Hill at 9:30 a. m., and guests are requested to present the card announcing this fact at the gate of the station.

Miss Washington has frequently visited Atlanta as the guest of her cousins, Mrs. Blanton Fortson and Mrs. Edward Fortson.

*Atlanta Constitution*, September 16, 1905.

**A**T the wedding of Miss Anne B. Washington and Mr. Blagden on Wednesday, the toilettes of the women were the subjects of general observation and comment. It was the first large social gathering of the season, and while not by any means the handsomest possible gowns were worn, on account of the railroad trip to and fro, yet the toilettes seen were of such artistic effect and style as to make the occasion memorable as a fashion display, in addition to its distinction of being the most attractive and picturesque wedding ceremonial which Nashville society has seen in a score of years.

The toilettes of the ladies of the Washington family were extremely artistic and appropriate. That of the bride's mother was a charming creation of pompadour chiffon finished with band trimming of black velvet. Around the corsage were circles of small pink silk rosebuds. Mrs. Washington wore no gloves, and extended to her guests the most cordial of handclasp welcomes.

Mrs. Thomas Blagden, the groom's mother, was in white chiffon and lace with a white lace hat.

Mrs. D. Shelby Williams appeared in hand-painted pompadour chiffon over white silk; elaborately combined with pointe lace.

Mrs. John Helm, of Louisville, was in pompadour brocade in which shades of pale blue and pink were predominant; and the trimmings were broad panels and insertions of pointe lace.

Mrs. G. N. Tillman wore black grenadine over silk, combined with thread lace, and trimmed with black jets.

Mrs. Felix G. Ewing was in embroidered white French muslin over white silk; with lace motifs, and a dog collar of pearls caught by diamond slides.

Mrs. George A. Washington was extremely handsome in pale gray crepe

de chene combined with white Irish pointe. She wore diamond stars, and a picturesque black tulle and lace hat.

Mrs. Page was in black and white silk and thread lace.

Mrs. W. H. Fitzhugh Lee wore a handsome mourning toilette of black net over dull black silk.

Mrs. James S. Frazer, the bride of last June, was charming in a gown of black silk net over a foundation of "Alice" blue silk. A braid brimmed black hat was trimmed with a wreath of small French rosebuds.

Miss Mary Tilman was in pale blue silk with lace motifs.

Mrs. Stanley Bell was in black, soft silk, trimmed with panels of black silk Cluny lace, and finished with chiffon.

Mrs. James Trimble was in black crepe de chene, with a toque of white chiffon and real lace.

Miss Marina Bell, a debutante in whom unusual interest centers, was very much admired in a white lingerie gown, with a blue girdle, and a lace hat trimmed in blue!

Others noticed were:

Mrs. James S. Robinson, who wore one of the handsomest gowns of the occasion. It was of black silk net over ivory silk, inserted with large motifs of black lace in a very stylish design. Her ornaments were diamonds and her hat, a small French shape of black velvet, was trimmed with white plumes.

Mrs. William S. Bransford wore an all-over lace gown, with a blue and lavender hat.

Mrs. Claude C. Christopher was in white chiffon cloth combined with pointe lace, and wore a very becoming hat of pale blue felt combined with touches of delicately shaded pink and lavender.

Mrs. John E. Ransom wore black liberty crepe, with a large black hat trimmed with white plumes. Her daughter, Mrs. R. T. Wilson, wore a very stylish tailored gown of rosada cloth, made with the new shaped coat, and very elaborate trimmings. Her hat was in shades to match.

Mrs. Benton McMillin was in white silk tissue over white silk, trimmed with pink, and her hat was a lace picture shape.

Mrs. M. M. Gardner wore pale pink crepe de chene and pink chiffon, combined with pink pompadour brocade lace. Her hat was of black velvet, trimmed with white plumes.

Mrs. H. Blair Smith was in lavender mirror silk, trimmed with bands of cream Cluny lace. Her hat was a French turban of lavender felt.

Mrs. Percy Warner was in lavender and white silk, with a black and white velvet hat.

Mrs. W. S. Settle wore a white tailored cloth, combined with bands of white lace, and a small black velvet hat.

Mrs. George W. Fall was in lavender crepe de chene, combined with pipings of velvet in the same shade, and cream lace motifs. Her hat was a picture shape in velvet and lace.

Mrs. Johnson Bransford, whose return to society after a period of mourning, was cordially welcomed, appeared in white silk trimmed with lace.

Mrs. Thomas S. Weaver was in black net over dull silk, and Miss Mary Ready Weaver was gowned becomingly in pink silk combined with cream lace and touches of chiffon.

Mrs. Whitefoord R. Cole was in gray tailored taffeta with a hat of black velvet-faced with white lace, and trimmed with white plumes.

Miss Mary Toy Howell, one of the brides of this week, wore pastel silk combined with lace, and white felt and lace hat.

Miss Marie O'Shaughnessy wore blue tailored silk with a white lace hat. She had a medallion necklace of garnets and carbuncles that was very much admired.

Mrs. Will C. Dake wore champagne voile and lace over light blue silk, with a hat to match.

Miss Bessie Dake was gowned in tailored lavender velvet, with a lace blouse and hat to match.

Mrs. B. F. Wilson was in black lace, with a small lace and feather hat.

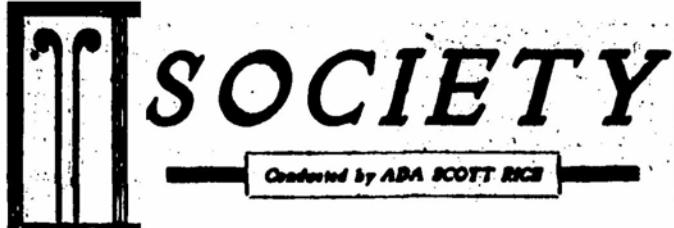
Mrs. H. H. Lurton was in black jetted net, with a black lace and velvet hat.

Miss Nell Fall, one of the season's popular debutantes, wore ivory silk with Dresden figures, and a pale grey beaver hat with a grey plume.

Miss Eleanor Wills wore a green tailored gown with a ponge blouse and a Scotch plaid turban trimmed with wings.

Mrs. Thomas B. Neal was in black Renaissance lace over white silk, trimmed with black jets and pointe lace touches. Her hat was a velvet shape trimmed with plumes.

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Washington- Blagden Wedding, 1905. *The Nashville American*. October 15, 1905.

**Joseph Edwin Washington, Jr. (1883-1966):**

Joseph Edwin Washington, Jr. to Pauline Gammon, October 28, 1916, Tulsa, Oklahoma.



Joseph Edwin Washington, Jr. by Charles Sneed Williams, 1913.

## Joseph Washington Rites Held In Texas

Services for Joseph Washington, of "Wessyngton," famed estate of the Washington family at Cedar Hill in Robertson County, and of San Antonio, Tex., were in San Antonio Tuesday. Burial was there.

Mr. Washington, a descendant and namesake of the original owner of the family estate established in the 18th century by an earlier Joseph Washington, who came to Tennessee from Virginia, died Sunday in San Antonio.

He was a pioneer in oil research in Oklahoma and Texas, but was retired from business at the time of his death.

A fifth generation member of the family, Mr. Washington maintained residence in San Antonio and "Wessyngton" (the original Saxon spelling for Washington) throughout his life.

The still grand residence "Wessyngton House," was built in 1819 of bricks made on the place, according to "The History

of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee," compiled by the Garden Study Club of Nashville.

The historical account says "Joseph Washington, descended from John Washington of Surry County, Va., who was the son of Sir John Washington of Thrapston, Northampton County, England, came from Virginia to Tennessee in 1796. He purchased lands granted to the owners in 1788, and with his marriage to Mary Cheatham, he acquired a large tract adjoining his own."

In 1892, at the time of the death of George Augustine Washington, second owner and builder of the present residence, the plantation comprised 15,000 acres and the owner was said to be the second largest individual grower of dark tobacco in the world.

Mr. Washington attended And-

over and was graduated from Yale University.

He was married to the former Miss Pauline Cammon of Utica, N.Y., who died several years ago.

Survivors are a sister, Mrs. Augustus S. Blagden of "Wessyngton" and New York City; three daughters, Mrs. Nelson Robinson of Houston; Mrs. Frank Gillespie Jr., and Mr. Donald Ecker, both of San Antonio; eight grandchildren; a one great-grandchild.

*Nashville Banner*, March 30, 1966.

## Elizabeth Wyndham Washington (1888-1961):

Elizabeth Wyndham Washington married Henry Stuart Hotchkiss, October 9, 1907.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Washington, of Wessyngton, Tenn., announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Wyndham, to Mr. Henry Stuart Hotchkiss, of New Haven, Conn., who is the only son of Mr. Henry L. Hotchkiss, of New Haven. He is a graduate of Yale, class 1900.

The wedding will take place at Wessyngton early in October.

Invitations were received in Washington yesterday to the marriage of Miss Elizabeth Wyndham Washington, daughter of former Representative and Mrs. Joseph E. Washington, of Wessyngton, Tenn., to Mr. Henry Stuart Hotchkiss, of New Haven, Conn., on Wednesday, October 9. The ceremony will take place at the home of the Washingtons in Tennessee.

The announcement is of particular interest here, as both Miss Washington and Mr. Hotchkiss have many friends in this city. Although Representative and Mrs. Washington have not lived here for about three years, Miss Washington has spent a part of every season in Washington. She is extremely popular, as is her sister Anne, who was married two years ago to Mr. Augustus G. Blagdon, of this city.

A special train will take the wedding guests from Nashville to the home of the Washingtons at Wessyngton. Mr. Hotchkiss belongs to an old Connecticut family, and is a graduate of Yale.

*Washington Post*, June 23, 1907

*Washington Post*, September 17, 1907

## MISS WASHINGTON A BRIDE.

### Many Persons from East Attend Her Marriage to H. S. Hotchkiss.

Nashville, Tenn., Oct. 9.—The marriage of Miss Elizabeth W. Washington and H. Stuart Hotchkiss was solemnized at noon to-day at Wessyngton, the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Washington, in the presence of 300 guests, a large party having come with the groom from the East.

Rev. George C. Bratenahl, rector of St. Alban's Church, Washington, performed the ceremony before an altar of palms and white lilies at the end of a long hall.

The bride was in white satin and real lace, with a bouquet of lilies and a superb diamond necklace given by the groom.

The bridesmaids were Misses Marjorie Thornburgh and Florence Hayes, of St. Louis; Reba Forbes, of Brooklyn; Annie Lee Worden, of Wilkesbarre, Pa.; Caryl Crawford and Alexandrine Fitch, of Washington; Emily Helm, of Louisville, and Mary Frazer, Mary Tillman, and Marina Bell, of Nashville. Miss Isabel Stickney, of Springfield, Mass., was maid of honor, and the groom's cousin, Dr. Raynham Townshend, of New York, best man.

The groomsmen were Henry Townsend and Osborne Day, of New Haven; Layne Wills and John Inmann, of New York; Lewis Fulton, of Waterbury, Conn.; Alan Richardson and Frederick Allen, of St. Louis; Augustus Blagden, of New Haven, and George A. and Joseph E. Washington, Jr., of Nashville.

Other Eastern guests were Mrs. Charles B. Gilbert and Mrs. Charles H. Townshend, Henry L. Hotchkiss and Miss Hotchkiss, of New Haven; Mrs. Huntington Denton, of Paris; Mrs. E. E. Garrison and Miss Juliet Adee, of New York; Mrs. W. H. Fitzhugh Lee and Robert E. Lee, of Virginia; Samuel Norris, of Providence, and William Fincke, of Cleveland.

The bride and groom left to-night for the Adirondacks, and on October 28 will sail from San Francisco for a trip to Japan.

The marriage to-morrow of Miss Elizabeth Washington, daughter of former Representative and Mrs. Joseph E. Washington, and Mr. H. Stuart Hotchkiss, at "Wessyngton," the Tennessee estate of Mr. and Mrs. Washington, will be attended with all the traditional festivity of a Southern wedding.

Mr. Hotchkiss took down a party from New York in his private car on Saturday. Miss Fitch, Miss Ann Lee Worden, and Miss Caryl Crawford, three of Miss Washington's bridesmaids, went from here to New York to join Mr. Hotchkiss' party.

Mrs. Huntington Dunton, who was Miss Ellen Trowbridge, an aunt of Mr. Hotchkiss, came from her home, in Paris, for the wedding, and was another member of the party, as was also Mr. Hotchkiss' father, Mr. H. L. Hotchkiss.

The wedding party, numbering fifteen, were entertained at luncheon and at dinner in Nashville yesterday and will be guests at a luncheon at Washington Hall, the estate adjoining Wessyngton, today. The bridal dinner will be given by Mr. and Mrs. Washington at Wessyngton to-night.

The wedding will take place at noon to-morrow, and Mr. Hotchkiss' car, with the bridal party, will start North to-morrow night. Several members of the wedding party, including Miss Fitch, Miss Crawford, and Miss Anna Lee Worden, will join a house party for a fortnight at Mrs. Worden's country place, near Wilkesbarre.

*Washington Post*, October 8, 1907

*Washington Post*, October 10, 1907

The bridal cortege was led by the groomsmen. Mr. George A. Washington entered with Mr. Laying Mills of New York; Mr. Joseph E. Washington with Mr. Lewis Fulton of Waterbury, Conn.; Mr. Henry Townshend of New Haven with Mr. Osborne Day of New York; Mr. Alan Richardson of St. Louis with Mr. John Inman of New York, and Robert E. Lee, Jr., of Virginia with A. S. Blagden of Washington.

They were followed by the bridesmaids, who entered as follows: Miss Marjorie Thornburg of St. Louis, with Miss Caryl Crawford of Washington; Miss Florence Hayes of St. Louis, with Miss Mary Tillman; Miss Mary Frazer, with Miss Reba Forbes of Brooklyn; Miss Emily Helm of Louisville, with Miss Alexandrine Fitch of Washington; Miss Marlene Bell, with Miss Annie Lee Worden of Washington.

The bride was preceded by the maid of honor, Miss Isabel Stickney of Springfield, Mass., who entered alone.

The bride was a picture of girlish loveliness as she entered in her wedding gown of duchess satin, with a bertha of duchess lace on the corsage, and the skirt was trimmed with panels of embroidery. She wore the regulation tulle veil and her ornaments were a diamond necklace and an exquisite diamond sunburst. She carried valley lilies and ferns.

Rev. George C. Bratenahl, rector of St. Alban's church in Washington, where the Misses Washington were confirmed, performed the ceremony.

Preceding the ceremony, Mrs. W. D. Haggard at the piano and Mr. Alfred Howell, violinist, rendered Franzlehar's "Vilja," and, during the ceremony Liszt's "Lieberstrum." Pelleterie's orchestra played Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus as the bridal party entered and Mendelssohn's Wedding March as the recessional.

The bridal party adjourned to the lawn, where they received the guests, and the bride and groom received congratulations. They were assisted by Hon. and Mrs. Joseph Washington.

The bridesmaids' gowns were creations of rare beauty. They were fashioned princess and were made of chiffon elaborately inserted with lace. The bridesmaids wore large white platter hats trimmed with white ostrich plumes and carried arm bouquets of American beauties.

The maid of honor wore a handsome gown of embroidered batiste over blue silk with blue ribbons and a hat similar to those of the bridesmaids, in tones of blue with blue plumes, and she carried American beauties.

The green and white bridal colors were used in the decorations in the dining room. The members of the bridal party were seated at a round table, in the center of which was a mound of ferns. The place cards bore the monograms in gold and were decorated with floral sprays. A six-course menu was served with champagne. The individual cakes were decorated in white and green and the leos were moulded in the shape of wedding bells and hearts. The bride's cake was heart shaped and decorated with valley lilies. The favors were drawn by bows of Nile green ribbon and was an interesting feature. Miss Mary Frazer drawing the ring. Toasts were pledged in champagne.

Mrs. Washington was unusually handsome in a white lace gown over white silk trimmed with panels of pink embroidery and her hat was of white felt trimmed with pink roses and plumes.

Mrs. George A. Washington, who is

one of the most beautiful women in the south, was very much admired in an exquisite empire gown of brown panno velvet embroidered, and finished with lace in the same tone. She wore a large black plastron hat with black plumes.

Mrs. Williams' gown was of green and white silk, and her white lace hat was trimmed with long white plumes.

Mrs. Tillman wore a handsome black silk gown, trimmed with white lace, and a black hat trimmed with plumes.

Mrs. Ewing wore an embroidered mull over pink silk, with pink ribbons, and her hat was trimmed with white plumes and pink roses.

Mrs. Helm wore a green silk gown, trimmed with duchess lace, and she wore a black hat, trimmed with plumes and pink roses.

Mr. and Mrs. Hotchkiss left last night for Chicago. They will go from there to the Hotchkiss camp in the Adirondacks. Later they will go to New Haven, then to San Francisco, where they will sail for Japan.

Mrs. Hotchkiss' going away gown was of blue cloth.

The display of wedding gifts was one of the largest and most valuable ever received in the state. The bride's parents presented a chest of silver and the groom's father presented her with a crescent of sapphires and diamonds, and the gift of his mother was a crescent of diamonds. Mrs. Townshend presented her with a large diamond pin with a turquoise center. Miss Hotchkiss' gift was a Tiffany fan bespangled with gold.

Mr. Bristol sent an exquisite wine service in engraved glass. Mrs. Fitzhugh Lee presented an electrolier with crystal pendants. Miss Helm Bell's gift was a tall colonial candelabra. Mr. and Mrs. George Washington presented a handsome wine decanter and glasses, and Mr. George A. Washington, Jr., a silver bureau set. Miss Mary Frazer presented an exquisite antique mirror and Mrs. James Trimble presented a mosaic mirror. Mr. and Mrs. Justis Hotchkiss' gift was a silver filigree fruit bowl.

### HOTCHKISS-WASHINGTON.

The marriage of Miss Elizabeth Washington to Mr. H. Stuart Hotchkiss yesterday was one of the most notable events in society in the state.

The ceremony, which took place at Wessyngton, the palatial country home of the bride's distinguished parents, Hon. and Mrs. Joseph Washington, was witnessed by 250 guests.

A special train carried the guests from Nashville and this was met by conveyances which carried the guests to the home. The weather was ideal and the drive through the country, where the first signs of autumn are in evidence, was a delightful prelude to this most charming hospitality.

Two years ago today, Wessyngton was the scene of the marriage of the bride's only sister, Miss Anne Boiling Washington and Mr. Augustus A. Blagden, which was brilliantly solemnized and in many respects the plans of the two weddings were similar.

The entire lower floor of this magnificent home was thrown together and attractively decorated. The broad hall was decorated with palms, ferns and yellow dahlias. The front parlor was in pink and green, the flower receptacles being filled with La France roses and pink carnations. In the library yellow and green were evident, the palms forming a pretty background for the large clusters of yellow fall flowers. In the large salon, where the ceremony was performed luxuriant palms were placed entirely around the room and at one end an improvised altar was formed of palms and Easter lilies. The mural tones are green with the old ivy wood work and the decorations were entirely green, with the exception of the Easter lilies used in forming the altar. The row of pillars, which extend the entire length of the room were entwined with Jackson vine, and the intervening chandeliers were entwined with asparagus vines, garlands of which were suspended between the pillars and chandeliers. The handsome family portraits were also draped with Jackson vine.

As the guests arrived they were received by Mrs. George A. Washington, Mrs. D. Shelby Williams, Mrs. G. N. Tillman, Mrs. John Helm, of Louisville, and Mrs. Felix G. Ewing.

Nashville Tennessean. October 10, 1907.



Baby Stuart in his great grandfather's cradle on the 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
of his birth - May 24 1815  
SJ May 24-1914

Elizabeth Wyndham Washington Hotchkiss, Joseph Edwin Washington and Stuart Hotchkiss.  
The cradle, used by George A. Washington, is still in the family.

# Washington

## 6. Washington Descendants, Part 2

**Note: Joseph Edwin Washington is in Washington Descendants, Part 1**

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016

# Washington

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*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

### **Descendants of George Augustine Washington and Jane Smith**

---

- 1 George Augustine Washington (1815 - 1892)
  - + Margaret Adelaide Lewis (1823 - 1844)
  - ..2 William Lewis Washington (1844 - 1902)
    - + Jane Smith (1830 - 1894)
    - ..2 Mary Washington (1850 - 1854)
    - ..2 Joseph Edwin Washington (1851 - 1915)
      - + Mary Bolling Kemp (1861 - 1946)
      - .....3 George Augustine Washington 2d (1879 - 1964)
      - .....3 Anne Bolling Washington (1882 - 1969)
        - + Augustus Silliman Blagden (1879 - 1960)
      - .....3 Joseph Edwin Washington Jr. (1883 - 1966)
        - + Pauline Tillotson Gammon (1888 - 1958)
      - .....3 Elizabeth Wyndham Washington (1888 - 1961)
        - + Henry Stuart Hotchkiss (1878 - 1947)
      - ..2 Martha Susan Washington (1854 - 1937)
        - + George Newton Tillman (1851 - 1923)
      - .....3 Jane Smith Tillman (1884 - 1974)
        - + Thomas Walter Hardy II (1882 - 1960)
      - .....3 Lewis Tillman (1885 - 1946)
        - + Angeline Gault Watson (1892 - 1980)
      - .....3 Mary Washington Tillman (1886 - 1969)
        - + William Tyler Berry (1884 - 1937)
      - .....3 Catherine Davidson Tillman (1888 - 1982)
        - + William Frank Stockell (1887 - 1953)
      - .....3 Martha Washington Tillman (1891 - 1976)
        - + William Edmund Norvell Jr. (1885 - 1959)
      - .....3 Lucy Helm Tillman (1893 - 1933)
        - + Randolph Leigh
      - ..2 Mary Washington (1855 - 1928)
        - + James Stokes Frazer (1852 - 1892)
      - .....3 George Augustine Frazer (1879 - 1962)
        - + Sadie Lindsley Warner (1885 - 1974)
      - .....3 Henry Shelby Frazer (1882 - 1964)
        - + Milbrey Ewing Keith
      - .....3 James Stokes Frazer Jr. (1884 - 1953)
        - + Anita Lewis (1885 - 1965)
      - .....3 Lawrence Smith Frazer (1886 - 1957)
        - + Frida Tillman (1894 - )
      - .....3 Mary Washington Frazer (1888 - 1962)
        - + Hickman Price (1886 - 1939)
      - .....3 Elizabeth Murfree Frazer (1890 - 1899)
      - .....3 Joseph Washington Frazer (1892 - 1971)
        - + Lucille Frost (1895 - after 1974)
        - + David Shelby Williams (1856 - 1924)
      - .....3 Priscilla Williams
      - ..2 Male Washington (1857 - 1857)
      - ..2 Bessie Adelaide Washington (1858 - 1887)
        - + Henry Bethune Tompkins (1844 - 1903)
      - .....3 Matilda Bethune Tompkins (1882 - 1961)
        - + Reynold Marvin Kirby-Smith (1874 - 1962)
      - .....3 Janet Augusta Tompkins (1884 - 1967)
        - + Judge Blanton Fortson (1882 - )
      - .....3 Bessie Washington Tompkins (1885 - )

+ Edward Norvell Fortson (1884 - )  
...2 Male Washington (1860 - 1860)  
...2 Lucy Amelia Washington (1861 - 1955)  
    + John Larue Helm II (1847 - 1917)  
.....3 Jane Washington Helm (1882 - 1969)  
    + Eckstein Norton Jr. (1872 - 1944)  
.....3 John Larue Helm III (1884 - 1943)  
    + Anne Elizabeth Botts (1894 - 1946)  
.....3 Lucy Washington Helm (1885 - )  
.....3 Emily M. Helm (1887 - )  
    + Malcolm Roderick Maclean  
.....3 Bessie Washington Helm (1889 - )  
    + Graeme Botts  
.....3 George Washington Helm (1897 - )  
    + Harriet Seymour  
...2 Male Washington (1863 - 1863)  
...2 Male Washington (1864 - 1864)  
...2 Jane Augusta Washington (1867 - 1941)  
    + Felix Grundy Ewing (1856 - 1935)  
...2 George Augustine Washington Jr. (1868 - 1926)  
    + Mary Pleasants Richardson (1868 - 1891)  
.....3 Male Washington (1891 - 1891)  
    + Marina Kirkman Woods (1868 - 1959)  
.....3 Robert Woods Washington (1904 - 1959)  
    + Stella May Hawkinson (1907 - 1980)

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Martha Susan Washington (1854-1937)



At Miss Reid's School, New York City.



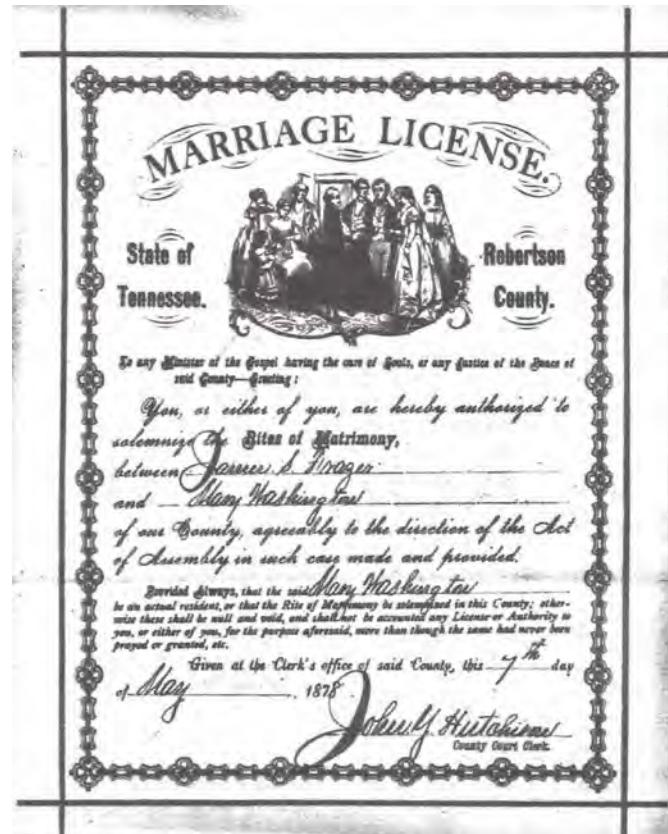
Martha Susan Washington Tillman, second wife of George Newton Tillman.

**Mary Washington (1855-1928) [See George A. Frazer's Paternal Ancestors]**



Miss Reid's School, New York City, 1875-1877.

Miss. Mary Washington.  
Washington.



DEATH OF JAMES S. FRAZER  
(BORN OCTOBER 7, 1852-DIED APRIL 17, 1892) HE WAS STRICKEN WITHOUT WARNING AND DEATH CAME IN A FEW MINUTES.

JAMES S. FRAZER DIED YESTERDAY (APRIL 17, 1892) MORNING AT 9 O'CLOCK AT HIS HOME, ON THE CORNER OF BELMONT AND DIVISION STREETS. HIS DEATH CAME WITHOUT WARNING AND WAS A SAD SURPRISE TO HIS FRIENDS AND THE PUBLIC, AS IT IS A BEREAVEMENT OF INCALCULABLE DEGREE TO HIS IMMEDIATE FAMILY. HE WAS IN THE ACT OF ARISING FROM BED FOR THE DAY WHEN A HEMORRHAGE ATTACKED HIM, AND THE LIFE WENT OUT FIVE MINUTES LATER. HE HAD BEEN IN IMPAIRED HEALTH FOR SEVERAL YEARS, BUT NO APPREHENSION EXISTED THAT HE WAS IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH. HE WAS ATTENDING TO BUSINESS SATURDAY AND RETIRED AT NIGHT FEELING UNUSUALLY WELL.

NO MAN IN NASHVILLE WAS MORE WIDELY OR MORE FAVORABLY KNOWN. HE WAS BORN IN WILSON COUNTY, IN THIS STATE, OCTOBER 7, 1852. HE EXHIBITED EARLY IN LIFE STUDIOS HABITS AND A TASTE FOR LETTERS. HIS LITERARY EDUCATION WAS AT NASHVILLE IN THE MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NASHVILLE. HE GRADUATED WITH HONOR IN BOTH OF THESE INSTITUTIONS AND MANIFESTED A CHARACTER WHICH WON HIS FELLOW-STUDENTS. HE RECEIVED THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NASHVILLE, AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF LEBANON. BEFORE ENTERING ACTIVELY INTO HIS PROFESSION HE FURTHER ENLARGED HIS LEGAL ATTAINMENTS BY READING A YEAR IN THE OFFICE OF MESSRS. DEMOSS & MALONE.

IN 1876 HE BEGAN THE PRACTICE OF LAW IN NASHVILLE, AND FROM THAT TIME TO HIS DEATH EACH YEAR HAS BEEN ONE OF INCREASING PROFESSIONAL HONOR AND EMOLUMENT. HE EARLY ACHIEVED AND ALWAYS MAINTAINED THE HIGHEST ETHICAL STANDING, AND HIS CAREER HAS BEEN A BRIGHT ORNAMENT TO HIS PROFESSION, AND IS WORTHY CAUSE FOR PRIDE TO HIS PROFESSIONAL BRETHREN.

IN 1876 HE WAS ELECTED TO REPRESENT THE COUNTY OF DAVIDSON IN THE LOWER BRANCH OF THE LEGISLATURE. HIS RECORD THERE AS A FAITHFUL, UPRIGHT, BROAD-MINDED AND COURAGEOUS PUBLIC SERVANT, IS WELL KNOWN. HE NEVER HELD AND NEVER SOUGHT ANY OTHER PUBLIC OFFICE.

MAY 8, 1878, HE MARRIED MISS MARY, DAUGHTER OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, OF ROBERTSON COUNTY. HIS WIDOW AND SEVEN YOUNG CHILDREN, BESIDES A LARGE FAMILY OF RELATIVES AND CONNECTIONS, MOURN HIS LOSS. SPRUNG ON BOTH SIDES FROM OLD AND HONORED FAMILIES, SUCH AS HAVE GIVEN TO TENNESSEE HER PROUD HISTORY; INSPIRED BY THAT KIND OF FAMILY PRIDE WHICH URGES TO NOBLE ENDEAVOR AND THE MAINTENANCE OF HIGH PRINCIPLES ILLUSTRATING IN HIS LIFE THE VERY BEST TYPE OF CHRISTIAN MANHOOD, FULL OF ENERGY, COURAGE AND HIGH PURPOSE, MR. FRAZER HAS BEEN A CITIZEN WHO NASHVILLE CAN ILL AFFORD TO LOSE, AND WHOSE LIFE IS DEEPLY LAMENTED.

HE WAS AN EARNEST CHURCH WORKER, AND WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS OF THE WEST END METHODIST CHURCH. THE CHURCH CONGREGATION MET YESTERDAY AND ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS UPON THE DEATH OF THEIR DECEASED MEMBER.



Mary Washington Frazer, widow, 1892.



Mary Washington Frazer

**Mrs. Frazer's Death**

**MS. AC. 84-140**  
Mrs. Mary Washington Frazer is a distinct loss to the community. Decended from the strongest, most influential and respected families among the pioneers of this state, possessing a rare charm of manner, endowed with the finest attributes that make the Southern woman, Mrs. Frazer had endeared herself to an unusually large circle of friends.

Her family had a most distinguished and unusual record for achievement. Her father, the late George A. Washington left his impress indelibly upon the State of Tennessee, where as an extensive planter, railroad builder and civic leader he long wielded great influence. She was a sister of Joseph E. Washington, who for a decade was the representative of the Hermitage district in the Congress of the United States. Her other two brothers, George A. and William, men of influence and character, preceded her to the grave. Her sisters were: Mrs. George N. Tillman of Nashville; Mrs. Felix G. Ewing of Robertson county; Mrs. Helm of Kentucky, and Mrs. Hillyer of Atlanta.

Mrs. Frazer's husband, the late James S. Frazer, was a distinguished member of the bar. Her life had been long and useful. No woman ever held her friends with stronger ties than Mrs. Frazer. She was a devoted follower of her Savior and gave much of her time and thought to the service of her church. She was a cultured, educated, Christian woman of that type that always elicits from those with whom she come in contact, the very highest appreciation. Her death has caused genuine mourning among a very wide circle of friends.

Mary Washington Frazer, by Willie Betty Newman, 1910.



Mary Washington Frazer at Glencliff



Mary Washington Frazer, Warner Frazer, 1906

# Frazer Hill was prominent late 1800s area residence

Wessyngton. Washington Hall. Glen Raven. Frazer Hill. Fraser Hill? What and where is that?

Frazer Hill was the home built by Mary Washington and her husband, James Stokes Frazer. She was the sister of George A. Washington, Jr., who built Washington Hall, and of Jane Ewing, who built GlenRaven.

Born Oct. 25, 1855, she was the daughter of Jane Smith and George A. Washington. An earlier daughter, who died at age 4, had also been named Mary. When another daughter was born the next year, she was named after her dead sister.

Her home, Frazer Hill, was built on 1,443 acres given to her by her father. It was located in the area of Anderson Ranch Road.

Mary Washington's husband and Jacob McGavock Dickinson were law partners. The Washington-Frazer wedding took place in 1878, and he died in 1892. After this, Mary W. Frazer and her children lived in Nashville. Frazer Hill was sold and eventually it burned.

One of the owners had been Col. Jack Haynes, whose walking horse, Haynes Peacock, was the World Grand Champion in 1940 and 1941.

If Mary Washington's family is interesting, so, too, is the

family of James Stokes Frazer, who traced his family back to the Clan Frazer and the Battle of Culloden Moor. His line included Andrew Jackson's surgeon general, also named James Frazer.

Other branches on his family tree include Green Hill, a Methodist bishop; Hardy Murfree, a hero of King's Mountain; and J. Hart Hillman, an iron and coal industrialist.

Mary Washington Frazer's husband was born in Lebanon in 1852. He eventually was an attorney for the Louisville and Nashville Railroad before his early death.

Family names continue in the names of the seven children—George Augustine, Henry Shelby, James Stokes, Lawrence Smith, Mary Washington, Elizabeth Murfree and Joseph Washington Frazer. The success of the family also continues.

James Stokes Frazer, for example, operated the first

taxi company in Nashville. With his brother, Joseph Washington Frazer, and Max Bennie, the first automobile company in Nashville was formed—the Imperial Motor Car Co. James sold Packards and Hudsons in his showroom on Broadway, and he became an agent for the newly introduced Chryslers.

Joseph Frazer worked with Henry Kaiser as producer of the Frazer-Kaiser automobiles. During the time Frazer was president of Willys Overland, the company won the contract for designing the General Purpose vehicle—the jeep.

Mary Washington's marriage to James Stokes Frazer had combined the past with the future.

A good example of this would be the marriage of Washington Frazer to Marie Louise Bickford in January, 1939. The bride wore a "cap" of rose-point lace that had belonged to "Mrs. George Augustine Washington of Wessyngton, Tennessee." In newspaper accounts, it was specifically noted that Mrs. Washington was the great-grandmother of the groom. It was a true marriage of the past and the future.

*Then and Now is sponsored by the Robertson County Historical Society.*

Robertson County Times, July 23, 2014.

## Bessie Adelaide Washington (1858-1887)

A special train left here yesterday morning for Cedar Hill. It conveyed a large number of invited friends to the country seat of Col. George A. Washington. On reaching Cedar Hill they were taken to Waverly in vehicles. The occasion of the trip was to witness the marriage of Miss Bessie A. Washington to Judge Henry B. Tompkins, of Savannah, Ga. The happy pair were united at noon by Bishop Beckwith, of Georgia, assisted by Rev. Wm. Graham, of Nashville. After the ceremony the bridal party came to Nashville, Mr. and Mrs. Tompkins leaving soon after for New Orleans.

Bessie Adelaide Washington married Judge Henry B. Tompkins.

### DEATH LOVES A SHINING MARK.

The Late Mrs. Henry B. Tompkins—The Funeral in Tennessee.

The southern and northern journals, during the past few days, have published many beautiful and touching tributes to Mrs. Bessie Tompkins, the wife of Judge Henry B. Tompkins, of this city.

The loss of this noble and rarely gifted woman has carried sadness and gloom into a large circle of loving relatives and friends. Of gentle blood and historic lineage, Mrs. Tompkins was always a favorite in the cultured circle where her grace and beauty made her a reigning belle. The crystal purity of her life, her sweet and tender nature, and the wealth of affection which she lavished upon those who were near and dear to her, made her beloved by all; and many felt, when they heard of her death, that all the sunshine of their lives had faded into rayless darkness. The *Nashville American* of the 18th contained the following:

The funeral of Mrs. Bessie Tompkins, wife of Judge Henry B. Tompkins, of Atlanta, Ga., which took place yesterday at the home of her father, Mr. George Washington, in Robertson county, was a peculiarly sad one. But few women have drawn to them family and friends as did Mrs. Tompkins. Though quite young, she was beloved far and wide as a woman of sweetest life and gentlest manners. Mrs. Tompkins had been in feeble health for some months, but was believed only a day before her death at Long Branch, to be in condition to speedily recover.

She leaves three tender little girls, and these, though too young to suffer the anguish and experience the sorrow of the husband, the father, and mother and brothers and sisters, yet they are the greatest sufferers. There was something peculiarly touching at the grave. It was in the garden of the old homestead, and indeed it is an old homestead, and an old family graveyard.

Dr. Johnson of Nashville, read his beautiful eulogium over the poor patient. The pallbearers were the old friends of the family and of Judge Tompkins—J. B. Kilby, W. H. Coffey, G. J. Diddo, Walter Ross, Mr. McMurphy, Dr. Lusk, and Dr. Cutten. The deceased was 21 years old, and one of seven living children. She was a member of Congregational church, a deeply religious girl. Her husband, during the time when members of congress were elected from Robertson county, was the person, number and language, of General Sherman's education, who educated her in her youth.

It is a sad sight to behold what is often seen when death comes into the home of relatives and loved people. The family are the more grieved in the case of a child, and the grandmothers, if the deceased were young, are often unable to bear the agonies of grief.

The deceased was a widow, and the husband, when he died, left a widow with three small children, and a house.

Bessie Washington Tompkins died August 9, 1887. *Nashville Banner*, after August 18, 1887.  
Excerpt from *Nashville American*, August 18, 1887.

**MRS. HENRY B. TOMPKINS DEAD.****UNEXPECTED DEMISE OF A LADY OF RARE CULTURE AND BEAUTY.**

Bessie Washington Tompkins, daughter of a third cousin of George Washington, died after a brief illness at the Grand Hotel Tuesday night. She was the charming and accomplished wife of ex-Judge Henry B. Tompkins, of Atlanta, Ga., they having been married in February, 1882. Ex-Judge Tompkins is very well known in Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee, and is one of the prominent members of the Atlanta Bar and a most enterprising citizen. When Judge of the Superior Court it was known as the Eastern Circuit and regarded as the most important jurisdiction in the State, and his term was distinguished for conspicuous ability and uniform courtesy on the bench.

Mrs. Tompkins's sudden and unexpected death at the age of 26 years will cast a gloom over a large section of the territory south of Mason and Dixon's line, and bring a world of sympathy to the bereaved husband. Henry W. Grady, of the Atlanta *Constitution*, telegraphed his condolence yesterday. A very sad feature of the lady's demise is the fact that she left behind three little girls, all under 5 years of age. In her maidenhood Bessie Washington was as fair and lovely as any flower that ever bloomed in the South. She was a veritable Southern belle, and so gentle, beautiful, and accomplished as to justly merit the praises heard round about the old homestead near Nashville, Tenn., and in the most cultured society. Sweet and good, noble and brilliant was the reputation of the daughter of George A. Washington, the wealthy planter, who was third cousin to the Father of the Country.

Mr. Tompkins and his family came North the latter part of June, and until last Friday were at the West End Hotel, Long Branch. Mrs. Tompkins was taken seriously ill, and her condition became so alarming that she was brought to this city for treatment. The best medical skill was employed, and so favorable were the symptoms Monday evening that it was believed the crisis had been passed, and plans were under consideration for a trip to the White Mountains. Suddenly, like a delicate and lovely flower blighted by frost, the patient was stricken. She sank rapidly and expired a few minutes after 10 o'clock.

The body was taken South last evening. Many friends called on ex-Judge Tompkins at the hotel yesterday and helped him to bear his terrible affliction.

Bessie Washington Tompkins Obituaries.

*New York Times*, August 11, 1887.

Bessie Washington Tompkins, daughter of a third cousin of Geo. Washington died Tuesday night at the Grand Hotel New York city. She was the daughter of George A. Washington, of Nashville, and wife of ex-Judge Tompkins, of Georgia, and was celebrated for her beauty.

*Western Appeal (Saint Paul, MN)*, August 20, 1887

Mrs. Bessie Washington Tompkins, daughter of a third cousin of George Washington, died in New York on the 9th. She was the wife of ex-Judge Henry B. Tompkins of Atlanta, Ga.

*Boston Journal*, August 12, 1887.

## Lucy Amelia Washington (1861- 1955)



Lucy Amelia Washington married John Larue Helm II. She wrote her memoirs in 1945.



Elaborate six-piece American sterling silver tea service: 14 x 9 x 7-1/2" hot water kettle on stand with base and burner; 12-1/2 x 4-3/4 x 5-1/2" coffeepot; 11-1/2 x 8-1/2 x 5" teapot; 5 x 5-1/2" waste; 8 x 6 x 4" creamer; 9 x 7-1/2 x 5" covered sugar, each with petal-form pedestal base with elaborate repoussé grape and grapevine decoration, twig-style handles and finials encrusted with grapes, grape leaves and vines, each piece in tea service has double monogram of bride and groom, with marching 30-1/2 x 20" sterling tray, twig-form handles, heavy grape relief decoration, all pieces marked "William Kendrick, Louisville, Kentucky," each with three-letter monogram, tray 139.54 oz. T., (tray with marks for Peter L. Krider, Philadelphia), tea service 171.93 oz. T., tea service was given on occasion of the wedding of Lucy Amelia Helm and John Larue Helm (1877) by her father George Augustine Washington, only Nashville director of Louisville and Nashville Railroad; John Larue Helm was son of John Larue Helm, governor of Kentucky and president of Louisville and Nashville Railroad;



Lucy Washington Helm, Matilda (Maude) Tompkins,---, Mary Frazer, Jane Washington Tillman, Bessie Helm, Jane Helm, Janet Tompkins.



Emily, Janet H., Jane T., Mary F., Janet,

Emily Helm, Janet Helm, Jane Washington Tillman, Mary Frazer, Janet Tompkins, -----.

Washington cousins visiting the Helm Place in 1902.

**Jane Washington (1867-1941).**

Jane Washington Ewing married Felix Grundy Ewing. Felix Grundy Ewing was the great grandson of Felix and Ann Rodgers Grundy. Felix Grundy was the attorney general under President Martin Van Buren [see Grundy, Sadie Warner Frazer's Maternal Ancestors.]



Mrs. Ewing was never idle and most of her energies were spent in effort to others and the Community Welfare. It may be said that she devoted her entire life to doing something useful for the Community and for the carrying on of worthwhile organizations' .

She first came into notice as one highly interested in the public good in the days of the Old Planters Association. Glenraven was the Mecca where hundreds of people came during the years of the life of that organization, and Mrs. Ewing always made them Welcome .

At the great rally held in Guthrie on Sept. 25, 1906, by the tobacco growers, a silk banner with a tobacco plant and appropriate motto worked thereon by Mrs. Ewing was carried in the parade and was greatly appreciated by the thousands who gathered there that day' .

Excerpt, *Robertson County Times*, March 20, 1941.



Jane Washington Ewing.



Row 1: --, Jane Washington Tillman, Janet Tompkins.

Row 2: Matilda (Maude) Tompkins, ---, ----, Felix Ewing.

Row 3: Henry Frazer, Bessie Tompkins,--.



Row 1: Henry Frazer, Janet Tompkins, Stuart Hotchkiss, Jane Washington Ewing.

Row 2-3: ---

Washington cousins visiting Glenraven in 1902.



Jane Washington Ewing, Bessie Helm, Felix Ewing, Elizabeth (Bessie) Washington, Mary Frazer, (Mr. Burns), Lawrence Frazer.



Bessie Helm, Mary Frazer, Elizabeth (Bessie) Washington, Matilda (Maude) Tompkins.

Washington cousins visiting Glenraven in 1902.



Bessie Tompkins, Jane Washington Tillman, Matilda (Maude) Tompkins, Janet Tompkins.



Jane Washington Tillman, Matilda (Maude) Tompkins, --, Janet Tompkins.

Washington cousins visiting Glenraven in 1902.



Jane Washington Ewing, Janet Tompkins, Matilda (Maude) Tompkins, Jane Washington Tillman, Bessie Tompkins.

Washington cousins visiting Glenraven in 1902.



Jane Washington Ewing



Glenraven Mansion and plantation built by Jane Washington and Felix Grundy Ewing. Built from 1897-1904. In 1922 they secured a large loan; the early 1930s it was taken over by the lender, an insurance company; and sold to a private owner in 1942.



Felix Ewing driving a "break" coach in front of the original house, the Pavilion.



Covered bridge.



Mill.



Store and post office.



Church and school.

Glenraven estate.

In 1893 Jane Washington Ewing inherited the Glen Raven tract from her father, George Augustine Washington. In 1897 she and her husband, Felix Grundy Ewing began the construction of the Glen Raven mansion. It was not completed until 1902.

Glen Raven is a three story house with a full basement. It is primarily Victorian in style. The white clapboard siding is constructed of yellow poplar which was cut from the land. The roof is multi-gabled, especially by the many alcoves on the third floor. The windows have elaborate wood trim, and there are several bay window areas in the house. There are massive stone columns at the front entrance. Smaller columns support lesser entrances on each side and at the rear and also for the base of the porch which extends across the front and half way down the sides of the house. These stones were quarried on the farm and the bricks used for the basement and foundation were also made there.

The Glen Raven mansion was of massive proportions. It had twenty-four rooms and ten baths. A ballroom covered the whole third floor. The interior construction was lavish. The interior wood trimming included oak, cherry, and walnut, all cut from the land. Expensive tapestries were often used for wall paper and a hand-painted French hunting scene graced the wall above the six foot chair rail in the dining room.

There were wood burning fireplaces in almost every room at Glen Raven. An elevator was installed to aid in distributing fuel to the upper floors. A duct system was built into the house but a furnace was never installed. The house did have its own battery operated telephone system with extensions in every room. The light fixtures throughout the mansion could be powered by either electricity or gas.

The lavish proportions of the Glen Raven estate did not end with the big house. The estate had its own church and school, post office, store, mill and tenant houses. The tenant houses were one and a half story white clapboard with unusual hipped tin roofs. Many of these are still in excellent condition and used by the present tenants. A white clapboard carriage house with a similar hipped tin roof remains in good condition. It now houses farm equipment instead of carriages.

The church and school were housed in a single white clapboard building. An Episcopal priest was brought from Nashville periodically to conduct services. The school was run under the auspices of the Robertson County Board of Education and had up to eighty pupils at one time or another. Most of these children lived on the estate. In 1934 the church and school building was dismantled.

Glenraven (Glen Raven) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.  
Application, 1973.

The store was located on the main road that passed through the Glen Raven estate. It was a red brick structure with a wooden porch across the front. The post office, which was in operation from 1896 until 1910, was also located in the store. Across the road from this building was the meal and flour mill. It was a two story clapboard structure with a one story front porch. The mill was run by electricity which was generated by a power house on the creek behind it.

A bell tower behind the big house remains in good condition. The bell was rung as a signal during the early days of the estate. A pavilion house which was built on the bluffs above the creek no longer remains.

Most of the structures on the Glen Raven estate are well preserved. The mill and store are in fair condition, but the other structures are in excellent condition and are still in use.

#### Significance:

The Glen Raven estate is significant as it represents an attempt to form a self-contained economic unit at such a late period in history, circa 1900. Felix Grundy and Jane Washington Ewing were determined to build their own empire. They lived very well for a while, but they could not make the Glen Raven estate profitable. In 1935 Mr. and Mrs. Ewing became bankrupt and lost their beloved estate. They spent the remainder of their lives in relative poverty in a downtown Nashville hotel. Although no one building has particular architectural significance, the collection forms an interesting study of late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures as built in a rural area of Middle Tennessee.

Glen Raven was built as a self-contained plantation-type operation on 2,500 acres of good agricultural land. A mill on the farm, a store, school and church and separate electrical and telephone system were all a part of the attempt to operate a self-sufficient farm for forty tenant families as well as the owners and numerous guests.

Glenraven National Register of Historical Places Application, 1973.



Bell Tower

Mill



Store



Tenant house

Glenraven National Register of Historical Places Application, 1973

Compiled by Stanley Frazer Rose, 2016

# A Dream Come True

As a small boy Robert D. Moore admired the splendors of Glenraven, Robertson county estate of 2500 acres, longing to own the rich principality, and now he does

By Josephine Murphey

**T**HREE was a store, a post office, a mill and a church on the 2500-acre estate of Glenraven in its heyday, when celebrated artists performed in the music room of the huge Victorian house which Felix Ewing built with his wife's inheritance, and light feet danced on the pavilion which he had swung over the bluff nearby. Forty tenant families lived in the quaint houses with hipped roofs which dotted Glenraven's rolling fields, and imported waterfowl swam on the brick-bottomed lake adjoining the lawn. There were traps, and surveys and bob-tailed horses driven by liveried servants to meet the train at Cedar Hill and fetch home the guests who filled Jane Ewing's house.

The Ewings were living high, and their doings were the talk of their Robertson county neighbors. But it was the beauty of the rich, productive land of Glenraven which fascinated a small boy named Robert D. Moore, sunbathing on his father's farm across the road from the Ewing place.

As young Robert rode his pony down the gravelled road to the Glenraven store, sometimes meeting Felix Ewing mounted on a blooded horse and carrying the big megaphone he habitually used to shout orders to his hands, the little boy dreamed, with the longing of the young, of owning the fertile acres.

The dream persisted as Robert outgrew his pony and followed in the footsteps of his father, well-known auctioneer G. S. Moore, whose Springfield home was the headquarters from which he traveled throughout the country to "make" sales of land and livestock and fine horseflesh.

"I tried to trade for that farm for 25 years," Robert Moore admitted the other day. "Once I tried to swap 12 farms for it, and they wouldn't even talk to me."

But the day came when Glenraven was available. In the mid-Thirties, the Ewings had suffered such severe financial reverses that they were unable to hold the place any longer and an

insurance company took it over. For several years they operated it by remote control at a profit, a thing the Ewings had almost never been able to accomplish, and in 1941 it was purchased, minus some 300 acres which Felix Ewing had sold off, bit by bit, when he needed money, by a successful Springfield auctioneer, landowner, real estate and insurance agent. His name was Robert D. Moore.

One of the largest single farms currently in operation in Middle Tennessee, Moore's boyhood dream is the kind of place which sidewalk-sick city dwellers generally have in mind when they speak largely of how much they would like to settle down in the country on a farm. And Moore, who maintains residence in the edge of Springfield on his 617-acre "home place," and lives at Glenraven only in the summer, is the prototype of the gentleman farmer.

**A**FARM manager, Bailey Apple, who has been with Moore, on other farms he has owned, for 27 years, lives with his family in an apartment at the vast Glenraven house built by the Ewings and directs the work of sharecroppers and day laborers who keep the 2500-acre farm Moore has bought back the 300 acres sold by Ewing and thus restored the farm to its original size in profitable cultivation. Moore himself, busy as the proverbial switch engine with sales and the work of his Springfield office, likes to ride his acres on one of his nine saddle horses and says that he enjoys nothing more than getting out with the men to drive a wagon and team, or help with harvesting or threshing. In actual practice, however, he has time for "little more than brief supervisory visits except in the summer, when he and Mrs. Moore move to Glenraven, some 15 miles from Springfield, to live comfortably in the cool of its mammoth, high-ceilinged rooms while less fortunate mortals suffer from the heat.

His two sons share his enthusiasm



Owning the rolling acres of Glenraven was Moore's boyhood dream

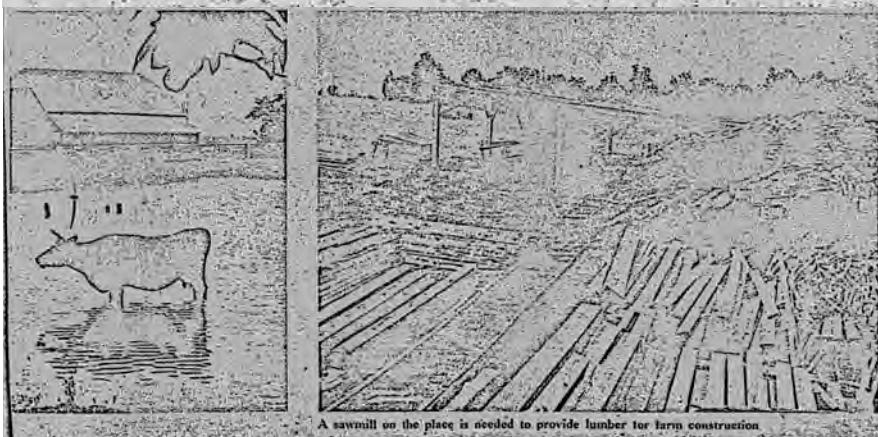
for the farm, although he made a rare mistake in judgment in directing the course of their education. The elder, Robert D. Jr., was dispatched to study agriculture at the University of Tennessee, where he exhibited a marked fondness for business procedures. He likes the office work of G. S. Moore and Son, his father's business.

Taking note of this, Moore sent his second son, Joe H., to study business administration at Vanderbilt university. Joe strongly prefers farming.

There are 14 and one-half miles of wire fence and 101 buildings on the

farm, each of the latter numbered (by request of the company which has them insured). All of the acreage is in 100-acre fields with the exception of two tracts, and the land supports 19 resident tenant families, who have a share in the crops and work by the day for Moore when time permits. A saw mill on the property prepares lumber for necessary construction, and Moore employs a full-time carpenter to keep the buildings in repair, and a painter who puts in almost solid time.

Many of the buildings were tumbling down and the land, neglected for years,



A sawmill on the place is needed to provide lumber for farm construction

Nashville Tennessean Magazine, December 3, 1950, pp. 5, 6, 8, 9, 12.



Photos by Don Cravens

Nothing but the best material, hand-picked, went into Glenraven, which Felix Ewing built in turn-of-the-century taste



Moore grows 80-odd acres of tobacco, dark-fired, one-sucker and burley

Ewing had the lake enclosed by netting

*Nashville Tennessean Magazine*, December 3, 1950, pps. 5, 6, 8, 9, 12.



Hipped roofs characterize the dozens of Ewing-built tenant houses

was covered with weeds, brush, trees, sagging fences and leaning gates when Moore bought Glenraven nine years ago. In re-claiming the farm of his boyhood dreams, he has given first attention to the soil, terracing with the advice of county soil conservation officials, planting cover crops to build it back to productivity, and clearing trees and heavy growths of brush away with a bulldozer.

This operation has repaid him handsomely for his consideration. His abundant pastures (he has 1000 acres) in orchard grass and ladino clover support 300 head of Hereford cattle and more than 100 purebred Suffolk sheep and produce the grain which sends around 400 hogs to market each year. Between 15,000 and 16,000 bales of hay are fed from his barns each year, including red clover, alfalfa, orchard-grass and lespeleza. Three hundred acres of corn, 80-odd acres of tobacco and crops of wheat and oats make up the bulk of the Glenraven planting.

A FARMING operation of this size necessitates machinery and tools in quantities which would stagger the average small farmer: 15 wagons and teams, eight tractors, two farm trucks, a threshing machine, two combines, two feed grinders. One of the recent installations is a water system modeled after that of the City of Springfield, with a 45,000-gallon storage tank, and a

chlorinator and filter.

The monstrous taste reflected in turn-of-the-century architecture is evident in the Glenraven manor house, and Moore has great plans for tearing away the rear portion, which the Ewings added only as an afterthought, and doing extensive remodeling at some later date, when he has it in mind to retire to Glenraven as a permanent, year-round residence. Currently, the portion which the Moores use is attractive and livable, but no great amount of work has been done on the house during their tenancy.

Although the house was built according to Felix Ewing's directions, the estate it graced was the property of his wife, Jane Washington Ewing, one of the eight children of George Augustine Washington, one-time vice-president of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad.

The first Robertson county Washington was Joseph, who came to Tennessee from Virginia in the late 1790's and married Mary Cheatham, through whom he acquired land adjoining his own property four miles south of Cedar Hill. Their only surviving child was George Augustine Washington (a daughter and another son died in infancy), who at the time of his death in 1892 left some 16,000 acres of land, in a single Robertson county tract, and a



Nashville Tennessean Magazine, December 3, 1950, pps. 5, 6, 8, 9, 12.



**A Dream**

(Continued from page 8)  
personal fortune in excess of two million dollars to be divided among the eight children.

Some time before her father's death, Jane Washington, child of her father's second marriage to Jane Smith of Florence, Ala., had married Felix Grundy Ewing of Nashville, a carriage maker with a business establishment on Second avenue. When Jane received Glenraven as her share of her father's real estate, the Ewings moved to a small house on the property and Felix began to devote himself to spending their part of the income from the trust fund in which George A. Washington had left his fortune on the building of the present Glenraven house.

The money (the trust was finally broken and the money made available in lump sum, according to Moore) seemed inexhaustible, and Felix Ewing had definite ideas on what to do with it. Probably no house was ever more solidly built, from six-inch concrete sub-floor to gabled roof. All of the stone and lumber which went into the house were taken from the farm (the planing mill is now a sheep barn), and even the bricks were made there. Every piece of siding in the house is yellow poplar, and Ewing inspected every piece, rejecting any with even the smallest knot.

THE paneling alone must have cost a fortune. The well-type entrance hall of baronial proportions (the measurements are 24x40 feet) is paneled in solid oak, with insets of brocaded tapestry on the sides of the room and on the landing of the double stairway which curves around a big brick fireplace in the center of the hall. On the left of the hall, sliding doors of solid cherry, heavy enough to tax the strength of a good-sized man, separate the billiard room, paneled in burnt oak and hung with Japanese bamboo tapestry, from the dining room, where a noted artist was engaged to paint hunting scenes on the four walls above the six-feet-high paneling of solid cherry. The big double parlors on the right of the entrance hall are also separated by sliding doors, and the original wallpaper and beige-and-blue tapestries still hang there, in good condition.

Felix Ewing's office, across a vast

Jane Washington Ewing



Felix Grundy Ewing



Jane Washington Ewing

horizontal hallway which cuts the house in two, had its own telephone booth, bathroom, and a grandfather clock built into the wall. A private telephone system operated by batteries had outlets in every room.

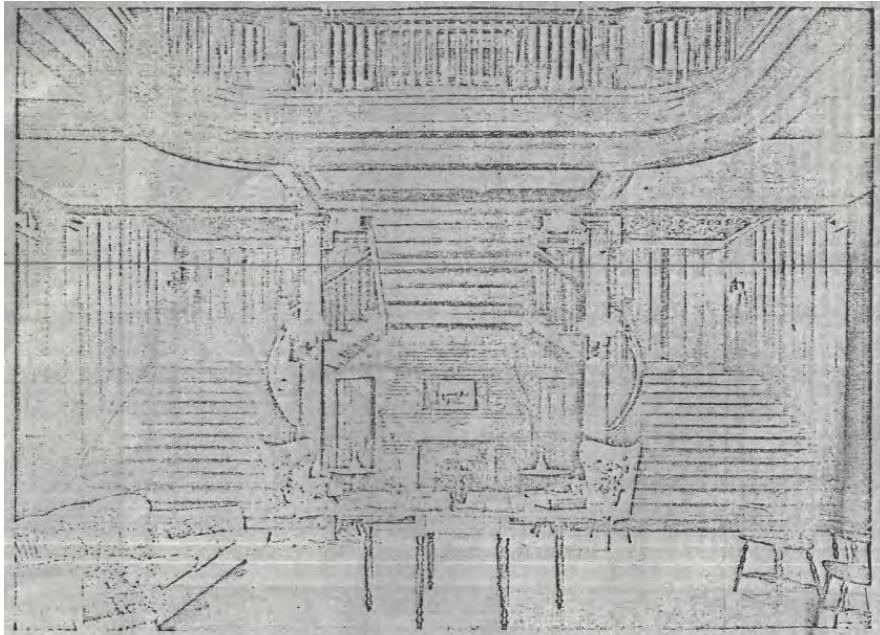
When it was completed, after three and a half years, the frame house, with tall columns of stone across its porch and a goodly amount of Victorian frippery on its exterior, contained 24 rooms, 10 baths, and a ballroom which covered the whole of the third floor. The portion of the house behind the wide horizontal hallway, which was once a back porch, was added after the Ewings, returning from a trip to New York, decided that the other Washington heirs, building on their own share of old George's estate, were outstripping them in size and grandeur.

The rest of the Glenraven estate



The house has its own telephone system, an outlet in each room

Nashville Tennessean Magazine, December 3, 1950, pp. 5, 6, 8, 9, 12.



The well-type entrance hall, two stories high, is paneled in rich-toned oak

### A Dream Come True

also felt the imprint of Felix Ewing's talent for spending money. The lake on the right of the lawn—which might

more properly be termed a pond—was given a brick bottom and enclosed with wire netting to restrain the wings of the waterfowl imported to grace it. On the lawn of the house, trees were planted which represented almost every section of the world, fruits of the

Ewings' trips abroad. The hipped roofs and unusual architecture of barns and tenant houses bespeak the expensive nature of their building. Ewing even devised a new type of feeder barn, since copied throughout the state, in which feed sits down into feeding

troughs on its own momentum.

Although Ewing used state convict labor in building the house (housing them in the basement after it was completed and paying a guard to watch them), the copcensus was that its construction broke him. Certainly the combination of the house and his other extravagant gestures on the estate, combined with an inability to make the farming operations pay, must have done it. The neighborhood reports had it that the farm showed a profit but one year during his tenancy—a year during which he spent the winter in New York.

Finally, in the Thirties, when the going was hard everywhere, it got too hard for the Ewings. As a last desperate effort on behalf of the home she loved, Jane Ewing is said to have offered her magnificent diamonds to the Nashville bank which had the place mortgaged, in return for permission to live one more year at Glenraven.

The end came in 1935. The insurance company took possession of the place, and the Ewings moved to Nashville, where they lived in a hotel until their deaths. The brick store became a tobacco stripping barn, the grist mill was abandoned, and the Jane Ewing's little church was given to the village of Flewellyn and removed there. Glenraven, once an estate, became a farm.

The metamorphosis in the character of the land was not the only change. Although his wife was regarded as a sweet and a gracious lady, Felix Ewing was never popular; Robert Moore entertains his tenants and workers at an annual barbecue, furnishes each tenant a cow, provides each hired man with a \$50 cash bonus at Christmas time, takes care of those who become too old to work. Attentions such as these have provided Glenraven with a warmer and friendlier atmosphere and have endeared to his employees the man whose dream came true. \*\*\*

*Nashville Tennessean Magazine, December 3, 1950, pps. 5, 6, 8, 9, 12.*

## George Augustine Washington, Jr. (1868-1926):



SOCIETY.

McKendree Church was filled to overflowing last night at 6 o'clock for the marriage of George A. Washington, Jr., and Miss Mary Pleas Richardson, the consummation of an event which caused a perceptible ripple upon the surface of society when it was announced, only two weeks ago, as among the anticipated marriages of the immediate future. The prominence of the parties interested, and of the two families which are united by the event, gave special interest to the occasion. At the hour appointed the ushers advanced down the two aisles; first three abreast in each aisle, then two abreast; then came two of the bridesmaids' arm in arm in each aisle, and in like order the entire list of attendants, numbering twenty-four. The gentlemen were in evening dress. The bridesmaids were each attired in yellow china silk. Then followed the lovely bride in white rep silk on traine, with illusion veil, and carrying a bunch of lilles of the valley. By her side walked Miss Marie Horton in a white tulle and carrying a bunch of white buds. In all other particulars the tone of the wedding was yellow. The bride and her companion were the centre of attraction as they walked down the left aisle. The two contrasted well in their petite figures and presented a beautiful picture of innocent, fresh girlhood. At the altar they were joined by Mr. Washington and his best man, Mr. A. Tillman, and when they faced Bishop Hargrove, who awaited them, the groom offered his arm to the bride. On either side the attendants stood grouped picturesquely, and the yellow and white blended with the various colors of chrysanthemums banked about the pulpit railing and surmounted by stately palms. The ceremony performed, the party left the church. In the following order, preceded by the groom and bride and Miss Horton with the groom's attendant:

Miss Jane Washington with Mr. Nick Richardson, Miss Mamie Duncan with Mr. Jon Warner, Miss Edith Cheatham with Mr. Lem R. Campbell, Miss Lillie Morrow with Mr. T. T. Tanner, Miss Jennie Walker of Alabama, with Mr. Harry W. Evans, Miss Carrie Hoyte with Mr. John P. Spurr, Miss Eliza Marshall with Mr. Coleman Hlaughter, Miss Johnnie Marshall with Mr. Percy D. Maddin, Miss Mamie Woolwine with Mr. J. C. McReynolds, Miss Mattie Spurr with Mr. Elbridge Duncan, and Miss Leigh of Virginia, with Mr. Wicks Berry. The ushers were Messrs. Frank Fitz, John A. Baxter, Preston Vaughn, Robert I. Overton, J. W. Jackson and Dudley Gale. The bridal party repaired to the bride's home, where a collation was served, prior to the departure of the newly married couple for an Eastern tour, and where an opportunity was offered for an inspection of the arms of costly gifts from numerous friends and well-wishers. The attendants afterwards adjourned to the Kendrick reception. The groom and bride are so well known throughout Tennessee that it is scarcely necessary to state that Mr. Washington is the youngest son of George A. Washington, of Robertson County, and that the lady is a daughter of Dr. N. D. Richardson, the well-known physician of Nashville. Miss Richardson had scarcely entered society, and her retirement from young ladyhood is in a sense a cause for many regrets.

First marriage, November 15, 1889, Nashville Newspaper.



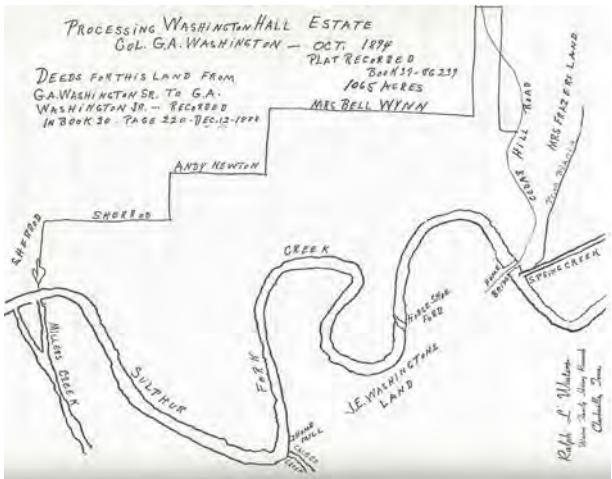
Marina "Queenie" Woods Washington and George A. Washington, Jr., 1902, Washington Hall.



Washington Hall built by George Augustine Washington Jr. and his wife, Marina "Queenie" Woods Washington. Tennessee architect: William C. Smith. Started construction ca. 1896. It was sold to Joe Werthan (Werthan Bag Co., Nashville) in 1941. Used to store hay; September 11, 1965 destroyed by fire.



Washington Hall, 1902



## Washington Hall About 1897-1900

This magnificent mansion, reportedly containing 44 rooms, was destroyed by fire on Sept. 11, 1965.

Built by George A. Washington, Jr. (born 1869) the youngest child of George A. Washington, Sr. this was long one of the show places of Robertson County.

It is reported that many of the furnishings were imported from Italy and France and that the massive doors were hand carved.

The house and land passed from the Washington family in the 1940s, to absentee owners. It was used for a storage for Crops and hay and was vandalized over the years. Possibly not a window glass was unbroken at the time it was destroyed by fire.

The imposing log gate house to the estate still stands on the West side of the road about 2 miles South of Cedar Hill.

No member of this family has supplied any information and public records have been my only source of information.

The 1065 acre tract on which this house was built was given by G. A. Washington, Sr. to his son G. A. Washington, Jr. The deed dated Dec. 12, 1888 was recorded in Book 30 Page 220 Robertson County. The consideration was "\$1.00 and love and affection".

The description starts — "The 60 acre Horseshoe tract bought by my father in 1798 from Hugh Lewis" Note — (This 60 acres was a part of the original Moses Winters tract which he secured by deed and grant in 1784. Of his original 640 acres he sold Benjamin Menee 200 A, and he in turn sold 60 A. to Hugh Lewis. Lewis was the first clerk of the Red River Baptist Church formed in 1791. He also was the second Register of Tennessee County.)

The total land conveyed was 1071 1/4 A. of which he reserved 5 acres for an abutment to his mill dam. By 1894 G. A. Washington, Jr. had added the prefix COL. to his name and this title was used when he had his land processed and a plat put on record Book 30 Page 239.

In addition to this land, which was an outright gift, G. A. Washington, Jr. also received a child's share, 965 acres, when his father's estate was divided in 1893.

In the Will of G. A. Washington, Sr. he provided that George, Jr. would not receive his share from Sales of personal property until he was 25 years old. A later codicil provided the age 30 years. So possibly he did not get a part of his inheritance until 1899. Tradition says that this house was started in 1896.

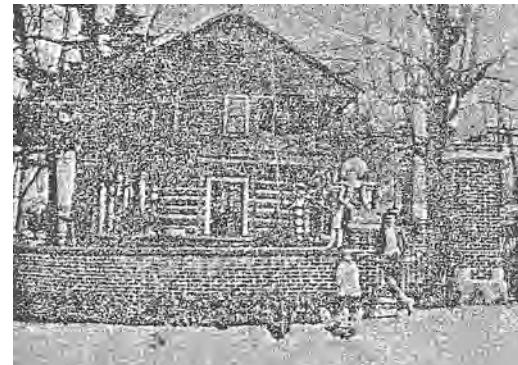
In checking the settlement of G. A. Washington, Sr.'s estate we find that each child received \$231,514.00 and one half of this was to be held in trust for them.

The Will of G. A. Washington, Sr. dated 1888 provided that his oldest son, Joseph Edwin should have the home place and about 1400 acres land and that his youngest son, George A. Jr. should have an additional \$25,000 to make his inheritance more nearly equal to his older brother Josephs.

So apparently Col. George, Jr. began to spend in splendor as soon as the money got into his hands.

A tradition is handed down by some of the people who lived on the estate that a great rivalry existed between Jane Washington Ewing and her brother George and each wanted to out do the other so Washington Hall and Glenraven were the results. Both Magnificent Structures.

Map and history of Washington Hall. Ralph L. Winters, Hospitality Homes and Historic Sites, Robertson County, Tennessee, 1971.



Washington Hall log gatehouse and entrance.

## Cedar Hill

A SERPENTINE DRIVE designed by the late Mr. Washington extends from the Lodge for over a mile through dense woodland to the second entrance gates at the foot of a slight rise, upon which stands the house. Of Colonial architecture, it was built by Mr. and Mrs. Washington shortly after their marriage in 1893, on ancestral land of the Washington family. Original land grants are to be seen at Washington Hall. To the right of the house, a brick walk leads from the gallery steps to the garden, which is enclosed by a hedge of privet. Gravel walks traverse the garden, whose beds are outlined with sweet spice pinks. In the beds are all the old-time flowers that grew in the garden at Westwood, the home of Mrs.

Washington's grandparents, Robert and Sarah West Woods.

Mrs. Washington's rose garden, situated beyond the formal garden, includes many of the most beautiful varieties.

*Entrance gate to Washington Hall, near Cedar Hill, Robertson County. Original land grants to this property are still retained by the family.*

PHOTO BY WILES



Washington Hall Entrance

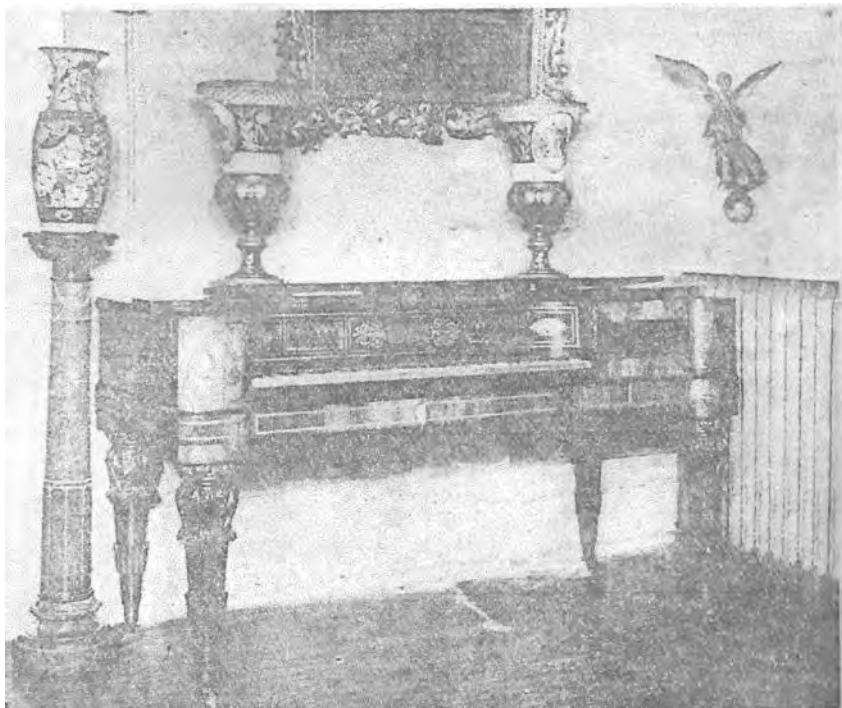
*History of Homes and Gardens of Tennessee*, The Garden Study Club of Nashville, 1936, p. 251.



Portrait, Marina "Queenie" Woods Washington and her son, Robert Washington. By Ella Sophonisba Hergesheimer (1873-1943), ca. 1909. No longer in possession of the family. Queenie and George were distant relatives, sharing their great grandparents, Archer Cheatham Jr. and Susanna Long.



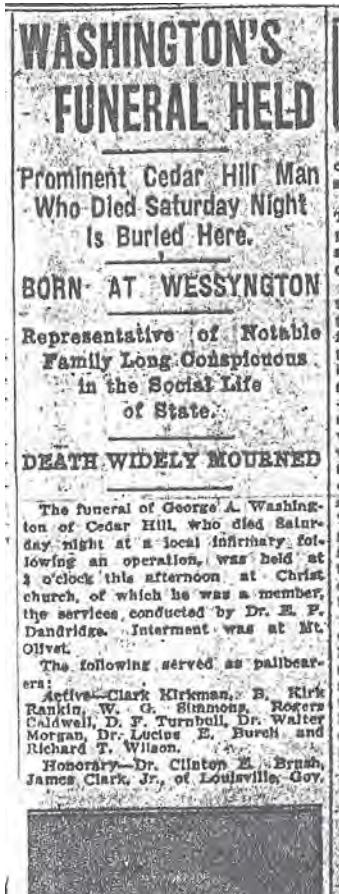
The third floor of Washington Hall was a ballroom.



The piano was made in 1820, Napoleonic vases, and one of fifty mirrors were among the 736 lots of furnishings in the forty-four rooms that were auctioned at a 3-day event in 1948.



This silver pitcher from 1904 depicts the Washington crest and Sulgrave Manor in England that the Washingtons believed was their ancestral home.



MONDAY EVENING, JULY 26, 1926.

## WASHINGTON TO

(Continued from First Page.)

one of the most prominent family connections in Tennessee and who himself enjoyed wide popularity, had been suffering from a stomach trouble for two or three weeks and was brought here Saturday for an operation for appendicitis. When the operation was performed it was found that his trouble was much more serious and he died following the effort to relieve it.

The news of his death was a profound shock to his many devoted friends, numbers of whom were not aware that his condition had assumed so serious an aspect.

Following his death the remains were carried to the home of his sister, Mrs. G. N. Tillman, on the Vaughn road, where they lay until the hour of the funeral.

Surviving Mr. Washington are his devoted wife, formerly president of the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs; his son, Robert Woods Washington, and four sisters, Mrs. George N. Tillman of Nashville, Mrs. Mary Washington Frazer of California, Mrs. John L. Helm of Louisville and Mrs. Felix G. Ewing of Glen Haven. His brother, Hon. Joseph E. Washington, who represented the Hermitage district in congress from 1897 to 1911,

## OF DISTINGUISHED LINEAGE.

George Augustine Washington was born at Wessyngton, the ancestral home in Robertson county, Aug. 3, 1848. He was the son of George A. Washington, a large planter there and at one time president of the old Bedford & Kentucky Railroad, now embodied in the L. & N. system. His mother was formerly Miss Jane Smith of Florence, Ala. The progenitor of the Washington family in Robertson county was Joseph Washington, a son of the same family from which the father of his country was descended, who came to Tennessee from Virginia in 1794. Since that early date the family has been one of the notable ones of this state.

Mr. Washington was educated at Montgomery Bell Academy, in the days when it was under the management of Prof. G. M. D. Clark; at Harvard University and at Johns Hopkins university.

On June 21, 1871, he was married to Miss Queenie Woods, the ceremony, a notable social event, being performed at the old Woods residence on Ninth avenue, north. In 1886 he built for his beautiful young wife Washington Hall, near Cedar Hill, one of the show places of the section and famous for its social hospitality. He soon took up residence there, the property farmed extensively, raising tobacco, the staple of the section, and diversified crops. He was widely read, traveled

extensively and was a charming companion for those who came in contact with him. He was generous to a fault and a man of wide but unostentatious charities. Those who were near him—whether as friends, associates or employees, were devoted to him, and the grief for his passing is widespread, both here and in Robertson county.

Mr. Washington was a charter member of the old University Club of this city, which subsequently merged with the Hermitage Club, and a member of the Belle Meade Country Club, his family having always been prominently identified with the social life of Nashville.

George A. Washington Jr., *Nashville Banner*, July 26, 1926.

## DEATH WIDELY MOURNED

The funeral of George A. Washington of Cedar Hill, who died Saturday night at a local infirmary following an operation, was held at 3 o'clock this afternoon at Christ church, of which he was a member, the services conducted by Dr. E. P. Dandridge. Interment was at Mt. Olivet.

The following served as pallbearers:

Active—Clark Kirkman, R. Kirk Rankin, W. G. Simmons, Rogers Caldwell, D. F. Turnbull, Dr. Walter Morgan, Dr. Lucius E. Burch and Richard T. Wilson.

Honorary—Dr. Clinton E. Brush, James Clark, Jr., of Louisville, Gov.

### GEORGE A. WASHINGTON.

The death of George A. Washington of Washington Hall, in Robertson county, came as a shock to the public. For generations the Washingtons have lived and attained prominence in Robertson county and the state. The father of him whose death is chronicled was a man of big affairs. He owned Wessyngton, one of the finest and most extensive farms in the state, and cultivated it with marked success. He was a man of great constructive genius, one of the builders of the Louisville & Nashville railroad, and amassed a large fortune. A brother of the Washington who has just passed away was Hon. Joseph E. Washington, a most excellent gentleman, who represented this district in congress for ten years. His sisters proved women of highest character, and possessed of most excellent qualities.

George A. Washington was educated in Nashville, at Harvard and at Johns Hopkins University. He was a man of generous nature, and most hospitable traits and had many devoted friends. Extensive travel and much reading gave him culture and made him always interesting and entertaining. He married Miss Queenie Woods, a fine woman of this city, and the two have long been prominent in the social affairs of this section. Mr. Washington leaves a widow and one son, to whom the sympathy of many friends goes out in their hour of sad bereavement.



**GEORGE A. WASHINGTON.**

A. H. Roberts, John E. Garner of Springfield, Gov. Benton McMillin, Maj. E. B. Simpkins, Dr. B. B. Sory of Cedar Hill, Guliford Dudley, Walter Cain, H. S. Stratton of Memphis, David Bogatzky, William S. Bransford, Vice-Chancellor H. P. Finney of Sewanee, William Darden, H. L. Webb of Turnersville, Tenn., J. B. Deeds, Gideon P. Wade, Abram Tillman, Thomas C. Buntin, James Ross Todd of Louisville, Robert L. Burch of Chicago, L. F. Bell of Springfield, Porter Lewis, W. E. Beard, Robert L. Bains of Chicago, Harry W. Evans, John M. Gray, Morris Wilson, John A. Hawkinson, Joseph B. Palmer, Harry A. Batchelor, Joseph A. Gray. Mr. Washington, who represented

George A. Washington Jr., ca. July 25, 1926, Nashville newspapers.

THE NASHVILLE BANNER, Thurs., Dec. 10, 1959

## Washington Funeral Rites To Be Friday

Services for Mrs. George Augustine Washington, former Nashvillian, will be held at 2:30 p.m. Friday at Christ Church, Episcopal.

Officiating will be the Rev. Raymond T. Perris, rector of the church. Burial will be in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

The body will arrive at 12 noon Friday at the Rossch-Patton Funeral Home.

Mrs. Washington died Wednesday at her home in New Orleans following a long illness.

The former Queenie Woods, Mrs. Washington was born in Nashville, a daughter of Robert F. and Marina Cheatham Woods. After her marriage to Mr. Washington she made her home in Washington Hall, Cedar Hill, Tenn., until moving to New Orleans 10 years ago.

Mr. Washington died in 1926.

Mrs. Washington was active in civic groups here and a communicant of Christ Church, Episcopal. She was a member of the Colonial Dames of America and Tennessee; organizer and honorary regent of the General Robertson chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and past state president of the Women's Federated Clubs.

She was the only woman ever to be made an honorary alumna of the University of the South at Sewanee. She was awarded the honor because of her long interest and support of the University.

Surviving are a son, Robert Woods Washington; a grandson, George Augustine Washington, and a great-grandson, Robert William Washington, all of New Orleans; two nieces, Mrs. Alex G. Hunter, Nashville and Mrs. Robert W. Harris, Ashville, N. C.; a nephew, Stanley E. Reid, Washington, D. C.

Active pallbearers will be John B. Wilson, John F. Hunt, Richard A. Barr, John Fletcher, William J. Tyne, C. P. Wilson, John S. Bransford, and Guilford Dudley.

Honorary pallbearers will be Dr. Walter Morgan, Dr. Clinton E. Brush, William Dudley Gale, Frank W. Fletcher, Dr. John C. Burch, Zach A. Coles, John E. Cain, William E. Buist, Robert Shwab, Joel B. Ruffin, Nashville; Robert Woods Bliss, Washington, D. C.; Arthur Chitty, Sewanee; Brown Burch, Memphis; Matthew M. Gardner, Hartford, Conn.; Robert Brandau, New York; Albert Carter, Cedar Hill; Maurice Weinberger, Miami Beach; Ernest C. Richard, Monroe, La.; Samuel S. Labouisse, Jr., New Orleans; William Bowernaster, Eugene L. Waller III, New Orleans; William Weigand, J. Barkly Witherspoon, Marshall J. Frye, Arthur Tipping, John J. Kerrigan, Pass Christian, Miss.

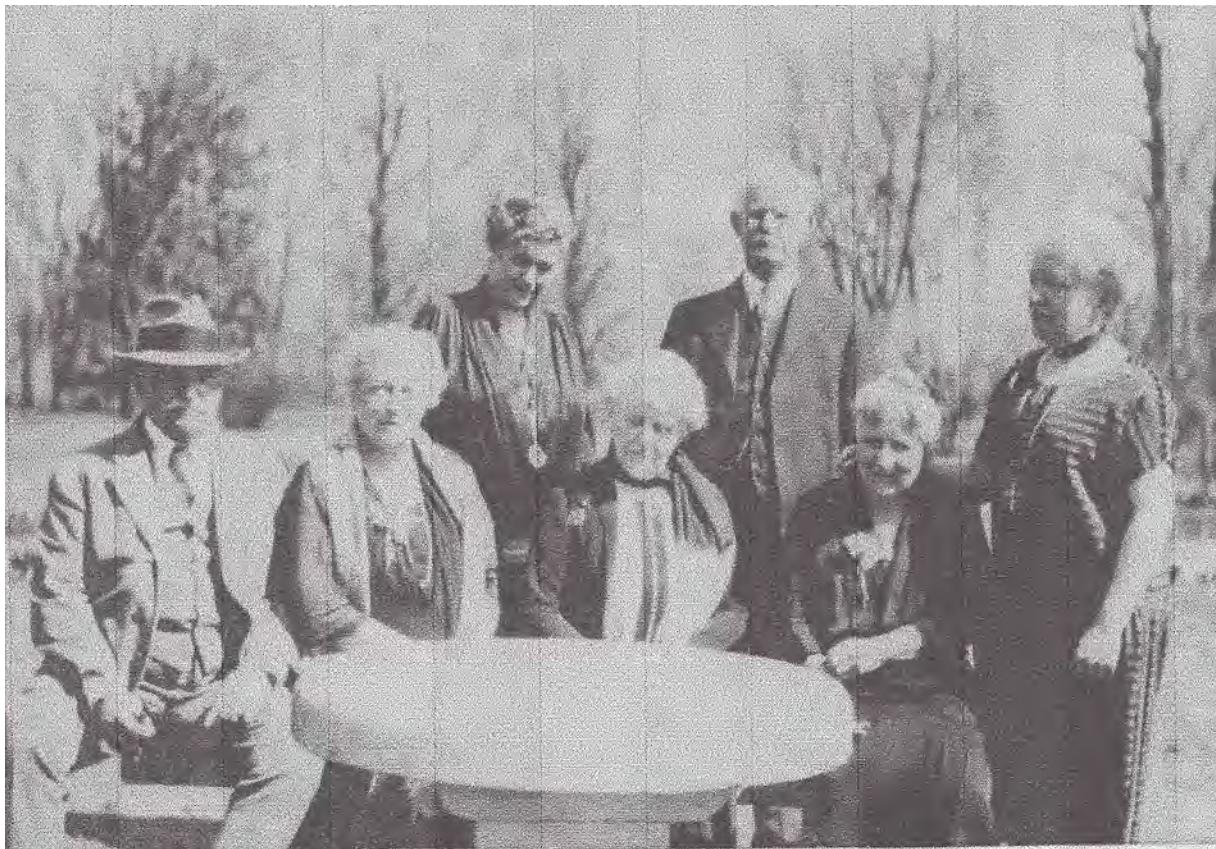
Mrs. George A. Washington, Marina "Queenie" Woods.



Family and Friends: Step 3: Joseph E. Washington. Step 5: Mary Bolling Kemp Washington. Side of mansion facing gardens.

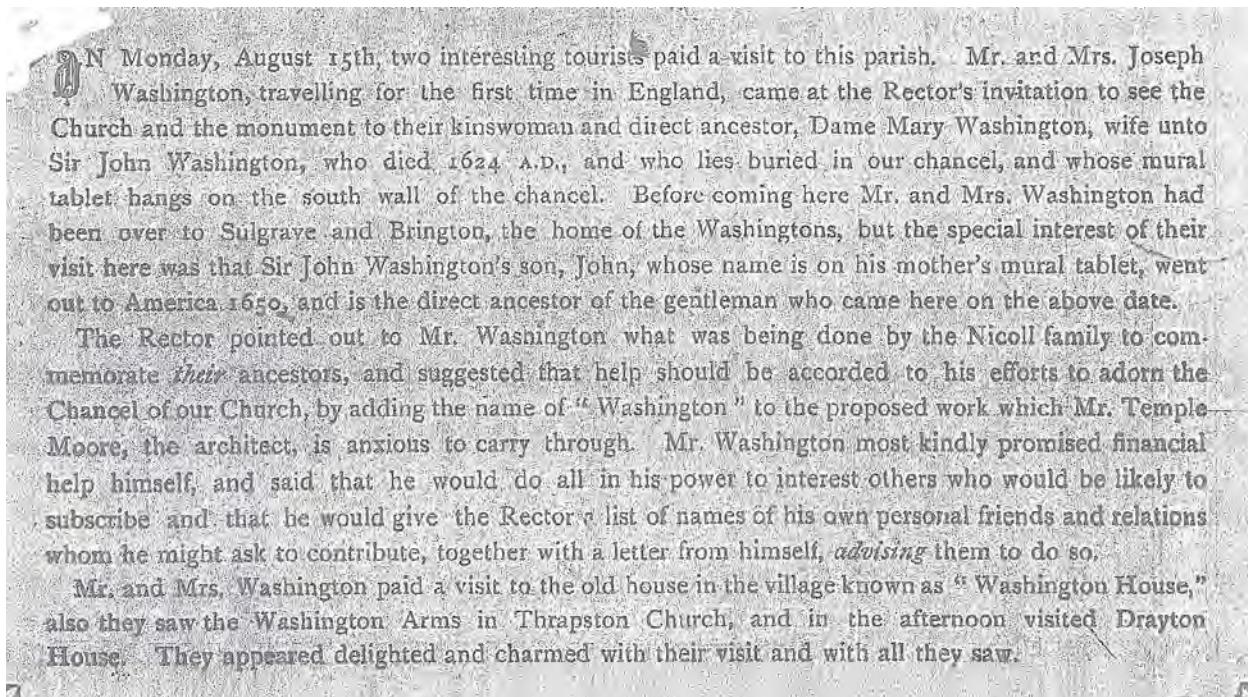


1922: George "Newton" Tillman, Martha Susan Washington Tillman, Mary Bolling Kemp Washington.



Seated, l. to r.: Joseph E. Washington, Jr., Mary Washington Frazer, Lucy Washington Helm, Martha Washington Tillman.

Standing, l. to r.: Mary Bolling Kemp Washington, Felix Grundy Ewing, Jane Washington Ewing.



Washington Memorial, England.

*Islip Parish Magazine*, Church of St. Nicholas, Islip, Northamptonshire, England, September 1910.

Joseph Edwin Washington donated \$100. Jane Washington Ewing donated \$50. Perhaps other Washingtons donated funds included in those amounts.

At this time, the Washingtons believed that our family was closely related to President George Washington and the Washingtons of Sulgrave Manor. DNA testing proved that the connection was only in 1200 AD. [See Incorrect Early Genealogy, Washington Early Ancestors]

# St. Nicholas, Islip,

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

## THE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL.

In the Chancel of the Church of St. Nicholas, Islip, there is a Monument of Raunds stone, supported by two small Tuscan pillars, and on a tablet between the pillars is this inscription:—

Here lieth the body of Dame Mary, wife unto Sir John Washington, Knight, daughter of Phillippe Curtis, Gent, who had issue by her said husband 3 Sons, Mordaunt, John, and Phillippe, Deceased, the first of Janv. 1624.

There is an old Maner House in the Village which for generations has been known as Washington House, where it is very probable that the above lady lived.

Sir John Washington, Knight, was the son of the second Laurence Washington, of Brington. He had a brother also named Laurence, who took Holy Orders and became fellow of New Coll. Oxford, and Rector of Purleigh, Essex. It is from this Laurence Washington that George Washington, the first great President of the United States, was descended.

The Rector of Islip in Janv. 1910, wrote to the Hon. J. E. Washington, of Wissington, Tennessee, asking him if he knew of this Monument in the above Church. He replied requesting further information, and saying that he had good reason to believe that Dame Mary's son, John Washington, was the first of his ancestors in Virginia.

In July of the same year Mr. Joseph E. Washington visited Islip, and the Rector placed before him the idea of some memorial in the Church to the memory of his ancestors, or of members of his family contributing to the fund for the adornment of the Chancel which the Nicoll family in U.S.A. were raising to commemorate their ancestors, who lived in this parish from A.D. 1467 to 1670.

Mr. Washington kindly promised to give the idea his sanction and approval, saying he would contribute to the fund himself and assist by sending names and addresses of members of his family who he knew to be descended as he was from Sir John and Dame Mary Washington.

On May 10th, 1911, The Rector of Islip received from Mr. Washington a letter in which was enclosed a draft value \$100, together with a list of names saying that he hoped the Rector of Islip would meet with success.

The Rector of Islip proposes as the form the Memorial should take the completion of the Scheme for the adornment of the Chancel the shape of a Reredos, for which £150 or £200 is wanted. If this meets with approval he would be deeply grateful for contributions to the fund.

In case funds for this purpose were obtained from other sources, he would propose as an alternative to fill with stained glass two windows in the Chancel, and to place therein a Brass stating the facts of the Memorial.

W. ST. GEORGE COLDWELL,  
*Rector.*

Church of St. Nicholas, Islip, Northamptonshire, England, ca. May, 1911.

# Washington

## 7. Cheatham

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

**Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016**

# Washington

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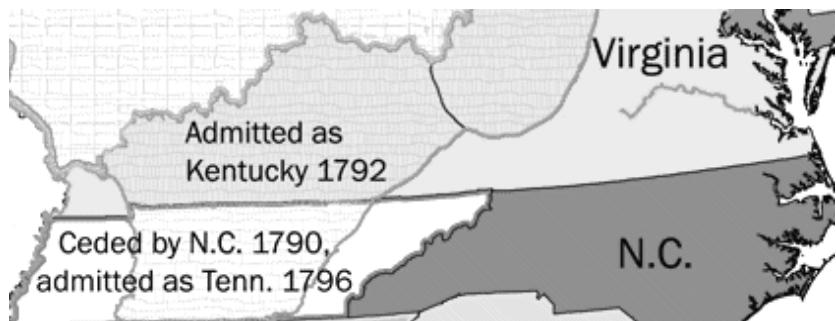
## Cheatham

*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

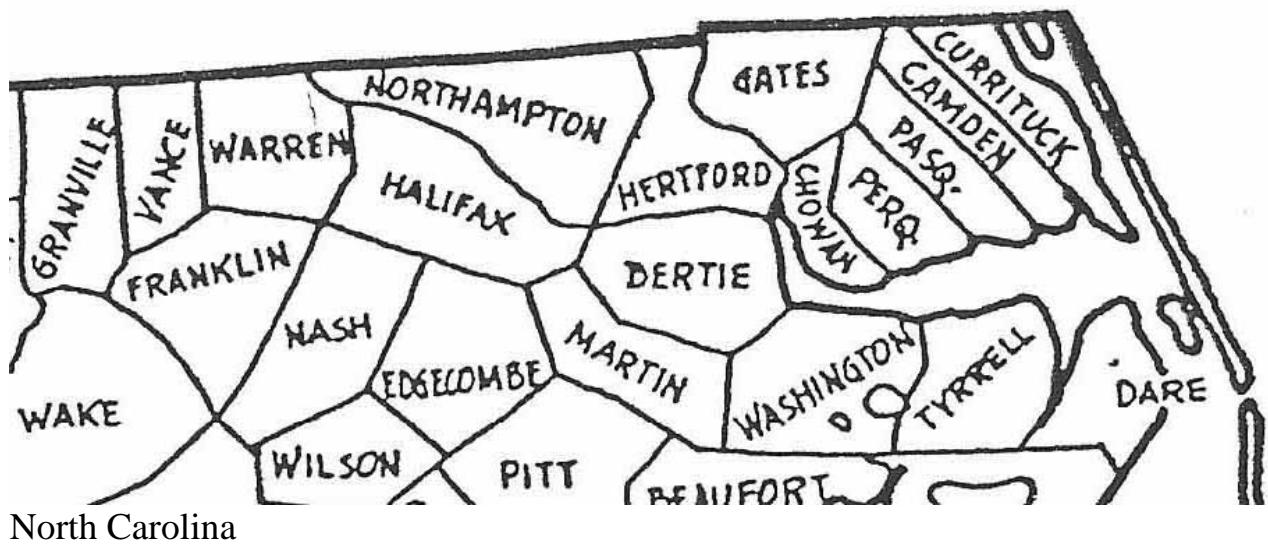
### Descendants of Thomas Cheatham Sr.

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- 1 Thomas Cheatham Sr. (about 1645 - )
  - + Margaret Surname Unknown
- ....2 Thomas Cheatham Jr. (between 1680 and 1686 - between 1756 and 1766)
  - + Tabitha Osbourne
- .....3 James Cheatham (about 1717 - )
  - + Name Unknown Archer
- .....4 Archer Cheatham Sr. (about 1743 - about 1799)
  - + Mary Anderson (about 1747 - )
- .....5 Anderson Cheatham
  - + Name Unknown Pope
- .....6 Leonard Pope Cheatham (1794 - )
  - + Elizabeth Robertson
- .....5 Archer Cheatham Jr. (1771 - 1822)
  - + Susanna Long (1775 - 1808)
- .....6 Mary Cheatham (1796 - 1865)
  - + Joseph Washington (1770 - 1848)
- .....6 Richard Cheatham (1799 - 1845)
  - + Susan Saunders (1801 - 1864)
- .....6 John Long Cheatham (1801 - 1833)
- .....6 George Washington Cheatham (1804 - 1844)
  - + Marina Brickell Turner (1808 - 1894)
- .....6 Elizabeth Cheatham (1806 - )
  - + Oliva de Loach ( - 1812)
- .....6 Female Cheatham
- .....6 Female Cheatham
  - + Martha Williams
- .....6 Susan Cheatham
  - + Name Unknown Watkins
- .....6 Martha Cheatham
  - + Name Unknown Rye
- .....5 John Cheatham
- .....5 Peter Cheatham
- .....5 William Cheatham
- .....5 Christopher Cheatham
- .....5 Thomas Cheatham
- .....5 Edward Cheatham



Tennessee



North Carolina



Virginia

# Cheatham

As compared to a number of the other families – like the Washingtons - we know relatively little about our **Cheatham** line. A series of articles in *The Virginia Genealogist* (1983-84) by Alberta Marjorie Dennstedt gives us clear information as to the first several generations of Cheathams who came from Lancashire, England to originally York County, Virginia before 1677. <sup>1</sup> The Cheathams (Archer Cheatham, Sr.) were in Amelia County, Virginia in 1790, but the family is from Chesterfield and Henrico County, Virginia. (However, Dennstedt, based on the information she had available, clearly got wrong the information indicating who were **Archer Cheatham Sr.** and Archie Jr.) [See below].

Archer Cheatham Sr. (b. ca. 1743-d.ca. 1799) married in Virginia Mary \_\_\_\_\_(b. ca 1747). There are two suggestions for her surname. Joseph Edwin Washington's 1915 speech said Archer Cheatham's wife was an **Anderson**. George Augustine Washington 2d's notes also say she was an Anderson, daughter of a British army officer who was killed - most likely prior to the Revolutionary War. Since they named their first child Anderson Cheatham, this further supports Anderson as her surname. The other suggestion is that her surname was **Bass**, but this is based only on naming one of their sons Bass Cheatham and that there was a very large Bass family in the counties where Archer Cheatham Sr. lived in the 1740s, 1750s, 1760s in Virginia - Amelia, Chesterfield and Henrico.

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<sup>1</sup>  indicates that a document or photograph related to this topic is included in this booklet.

Archer Cheatham Sr. seemed to have left Virginia for North Carolina due to unpaid taxes in Amelia County which declared him insolvent in 1788. In the early 1790s he moved to Robertson County, Tennessee. His descendants are eligible for membership in Society of First Families of Tennessee.

George Augustine Washington 2d indicated that early on Archer Cheatham Sr. bought a tract of land and built a house on the south side of Sulphur Fork about one mile east of where Wessyngton Plantation was founded in 1796. This was the “Cheatham” field. Archer Jr. also purchased land on Sulphur Fork where Washington Hall was built in the 1890s by George A. Washington Jr., one of George Augustine Washington’s children, When Archer Jr. came to Robertson County, he served on a Commission to lay out Springfield, the county seat.

Archer Cheatham Jr.’s descendants qualify for membership in the hereditary Society of First Families of Tennessee.

Archer Cheatham Jr. married Susanna **Long** in Northampton County, North Carolina ca 1790. We have no definitive information about the ancestry of Susanna’s father John Long (1730-1796). Susanna Long’s mother was **Joyce Washington**, daughter of James Washington and Joyce **Nicholson**. This is where the Washington and Cheatham lines have shared ancestors.

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## Shared Ancestors: Washington-Cheatham Line:

[See Early Washington Ancestors, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors]

### **Descendants of Richard Washington and Frances Browne**

- 1 Richard Washington (about 1598 - about 1642)
  - + Frances Browne (1600 - )
- ...2 John Washington (about 1632 - 1660)
  - + Mary Surname Unknown
- .....3 Richard Washington (about 1660 - about 1725)
  - + Elizabeth Jordan (1660 - before 1735)
- .....4 James Washington (about 1697 - 1766)
  - + Joyce Nicholson (between 1702 and 1705 - after 1778)
- .....5 Joyce Washington (1732 - 1799)
  - + John Long (1730 - 1796)
- .....6 Susanna Long (1775 - 1808)
  - + Archer Cheatham Jr. (1771 - 1822)

**Joyce Washington Long**'s ancestry can be traced to our first Washington, **John Washington** (1631/2-1660), of Surry County, Virginia who arrived there sometime before September 1658. He was not transported, but paid his own passage, thereby depriving researchers of records. On September 15, 1658, a Marriage Contract was made between him and the widow Mary \_\_\_\_\_ "Fford," making provisions for Mary's son Thomas Blunt, son of her first husband, Richard Blunt. (Surry Co. Va. Book 1645-1672, f. 126). The Fford has been read by many genealogists as Flood and connected her to Col. John Flood. [See Flood, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors] John and Mary Washington had one son, Richard (b. ca.1660-d. ca.1725), who was "of full age 5 September 1681." (Surry C.O.B. 1671-90, p. 348).

The Washingtons of Surry County, Virginia were substantial families, involved in both the economic development and the political matters of their time. Richard Washington had land in both Surry County and Southampton County, Virginia, but his will and inventory seems to place

him in Surry County, and appears to show he was a wealthy merchant in addition to owning land.

**Richard Washington** married in 1682 **Elizabeth Jordan** (b.1660), the daughter of Arthur Jordan and Elizabeth, widow of Richard Bevin. The Jordan family appears to have come to Virginia from Suffolk, England, in the 1630s. A “Anth. Jordan” and a “Rich Banen” were headrights<sup>2</sup> of John Moore in 1635 and both men settled in Surry County, Virginia. The Jordan family members were important men in the Colony, holding many high offices. Arthur Jordan’s wife’s surname is unknown; she was the widow of Richard Bevin (in the headright with Jordan) who fell from a horse and died before 1654.

We trace our Washington and Cheatham lines from two of Richard Washington and Elizabeth sons: George Washington (Washington-Washington Line) and James Washington (Washington-Cheatham Line).

### **Washington-Cheatham Line:**

James Washington (b.ca. 1697, Surry County, Virginia- d. 1766, Northampton County, North Carolina) moved to Northampton County, North Carolina about 1740 or before and had a considerable estate and prominence. He had bought land on the south side of the Meherrin River in Bertie County (became Northampton County). James was very involved in the politics of

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<sup>2</sup> Headright: A headright represented the entitlement to a certain amount of land acreage granted by the Virginia Company of England under a system begun in 1618. Colonists already living in Virginia received a headright; new immigrants received a headright when they arrived in Virginia; and colonists received a headright when they paid for

Northampton County as a vestryman for the Northwest Parish of the County and as a Colonial General Assembly representative in 1745, 1747-49, 1755-57, and then 1760 from the newly created county Hertford County. He was a member of the Colonial Assembly 1753-55, 1756, the House of Commons of the North Carolina Assembly 1745, 1747-49, and a Justice of the Peace 1749 and thereafter. His 1761 will was witnessed by William Murfree who was a member of the House of Commons of the North Carolina Assembly from Northampton County. [See Murfree,

George A. Frazer's Paternal Ancestors].  James Washington married Joyce **Nicholson** in 1729 in Virginia. [See Early Washington Ancestors, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors]

Joyce Nicholson's ancestors came from England, probably from Bushley Parish, Worcestershire. This is because Stephan Webb was from there, and he claimed a George Nicholson as a headright in 1635 in James City County, Virginia. By 1688, the Nicholsons had settled in Upper Chippokes Creek, Swanbay, Surry County, Virginia. George Nicholson may be the progenitor of the family, but there is clear evidence of a Robert Nicholson (born between 1630-42 in Virginia). Robert's son, Robert (died between September 29, 1719 [will] and February 17, 1719/1720 [probate]), Southwark Parish, Surry County, Virginia), married as his third wife, Joannah **Joyce**. The Nicholsons were land owners and planters in Virginia.

Robert and Joannah Joyce Nicholson's daughter Joyce (1702-1705, Surry County, Virginia- aft 1778, Northampton County, North Carolina) married in 1729 James Washington (b. ca. 1697, Surry

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the passage of another individual to Virginia.

County Virginia- d. 1766, Northampton County, North Carolina), and they moved to Northampton County before 1740.

John and Joyce Nicholson Washington's daughter Joyce Washington (1732-1818) married John Long. John and Joyce Washington Long's daughter Susanna Long (b. 1775 Northampton County, North Carolina – d. 1808 Springfield, Tennessee) married **Archer (Archie) Cheatham Jr.** ca. 1790. Family tradition related by Elizabeth (Betty) Turner, a cousin, who lived with George Augustine Washington 2d at Wessyngton for many years, was that Susannah Long eloped on horseback from her home in North Carolina with her husband Archer Cheatham Jr. In 1795, he bought Charles Thompson's North Carolina land grant from Mary Thompson; the land was on the north side of Sulfur Fork Creek. Archer Cheatham Jr. was in Captain Crunk's Company in 1813 during the War of 1812. He was then a colonel in the 2nd Regiment, West Tennessee Militia in the War of 1812; it was called Cheatham's Regiment; he took part in the Campaigns of 1814-1815. He is eligible to be represented in Society of the War of 1812. He moved to Springfield where he owned considerable property.

***The Cheatham and Washington lines joined again in 1812.*** Joseph Washington (1770-1848) came to Robertson County in 1796. On this trip, he visited his second cousin, Susanna Long, who was married to Archer Cheatham Jr. The Cheathams had a little new-born baby girl, Mary. Archer, after having received Joseph and having talked for a while, brought out the little baby

girl and placed her in Joseph's arms, and said, "Joseph, behold your future wife." Joseph and Mary Cheatham married in 1812; they were second cousins once removed.  The farm on which Mary was born was a few miles from Wessyngton Plantation, and later became part of that estate and still was part of it as of 1945. [See Washington, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors].

The story of the Cheathams and Washingtons was told in John F. Baker's, *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009)

<http://www.wessyngton.com/> For his book, he used the Washington Family Papers in the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville.

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The **Cheathams** were involved in politics in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Archer Cheatham Jr.'s son, Richard Cheatham, was a Whig member of the U.S. House of Representatives, 1837-1839. Archer Cheatham Jr.'s grand-nephew was the Civil War Confederate General Benjamin Franklin Cheatham (1820-1886) (Archer Sr.-Anderson-Leonard-Benjamin Franklin). He had also served as a colonel of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tennessee Infantry in the Mexican-American War, 1846-1848. After the Civil War, General Cheatham was the superintendent of the state penitentiary and the postmaster of Nashville.  Archer Cheatham Jr.'s grandson was Richard Boone Cheatham (1824-1877) (Archer Jr.-Richard-Richard Boone) who was the Mayor of Nashville 1861-1862. He surrendered Nashville to the Northern Army on February 25, 1862.

The Cheathams were originally buried in the Old City Cemetery in Springfield, and then later many of them re-interred at Elmwood Cemetery in Springfield.  Some Cheathams are buried in the Cheatham plot in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Nashville.

Members of our family, most likely up to our Grandmother and Grandfather Frazer's generation (last decades of 19<sup>th</sup> century and first half of 20<sup>th</sup> century), had contact with the Cheatham family. They even joked about a law firm named Ketcham and Cheatham. I never met a Cheatham, but would assume that there are some who are still in Robertson County. A portrait of James Cheatham, son of Thomas C. Cheatham, 1<sup>st</sup> cousin of Archer Cheatham, Jr., hung at Wessyngton Plantation at least up to 1935, according to George Augustine Washington 2d.

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**Early Cheatham Genealogical questions:** There are several opinions as who are the second and third generations of our line. The lines go:

- Thomas Cheatham -> Thomas -> James -> Archer Sr. [the Katherine Harbury analysis], or Thomas (came to Colonies) -> Jonathan (died 1759, Prince Edward County, Virginia) -> Edward (in records of Amelia County and Albemarle County Virginia) -> Archer Sr. [the Bill Cheatham theory in 2011].
- George A. Washington 2d had another theory: Thomas -> Thomas -> Leonard -> Archer Sr. The problem is that there are absences of wills and clear documentation at the second and third generation levels. Bill Cheatham bases his theory on the fact that Archer

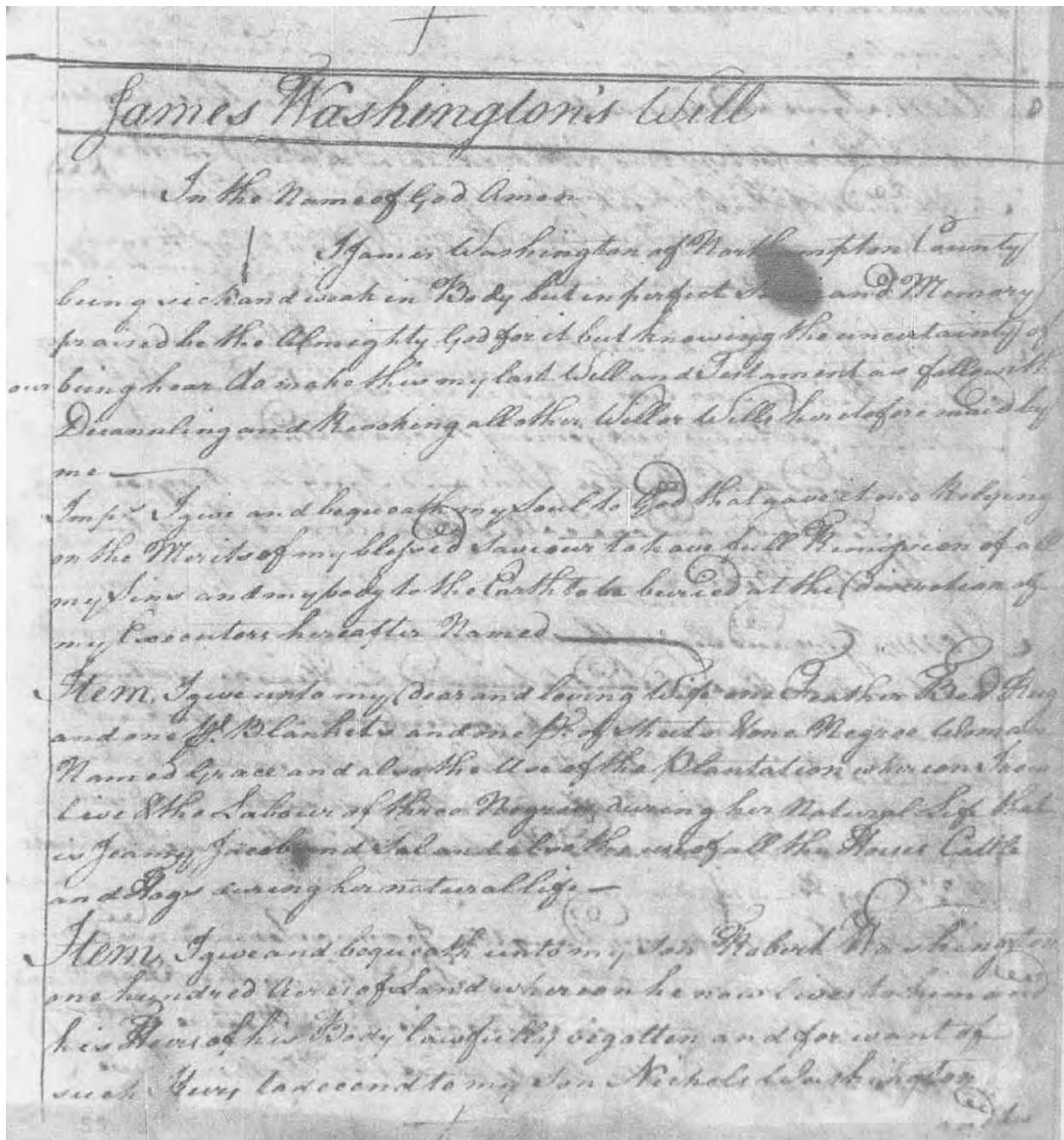
Cheatham Sr. and Archer Jr. used names for their children which were closer to those of their supposed line, than the other variations on this theme.

Note: Capt. Thomas Osborne Sr., the ancestor of Thomas Cheatham's wife Tabitha Osbourne, is eligible to be represented in the Jamestowne Society:

### **Descendants of Capt. Thomas OSBORNE Sr.**

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- 1 Capt. Thomas Osborne Sr. (about 1590 - before 1642)
  - + Name Unknown
- ...2 Thomas Osborne Jr. (about 1606 - between 1650 and 1660)
  - + Name Unknown
- .....3 Edward Osborne (about 1645 - 1697)
  - + Tabitha Platt ( - about 1694)
- .....4 Tabitha Osbourne
  - + Thomas Cheatham Jr. (between 1680 and 1686 - between 1756 and 1766)
- .....5 James Cheatham (about 1717 - )
  - + Name Unknown Archer
- .....6 Archer Cheatham Sr. (about 1743 - about 1799)
  - + Mary Anderson (about 1747 - )
- .....7 Anderson Cheatham
  - + Name Unknown Pope
- .....8 Leonard Pope Cheatham (1794 - )
  - + Elizabeth Robertson
- .....7 Archer Cheatham Jr. (1771 - 1822)
  - + Susanna Long (1775 - 1808)
- .....8 Mary Cheatham (1796 - 1865)
  - + Joseph Washington (1770 - 1848)



Will of James Washington (d. 1766), December 8, 1761; probated May, 1766.  
*North Carolina, Probate Records, 1735-1970, Northampton Wills, 1762-1791, Vol. A, p.98.*

his Servt for And 1 bequeath unto my son Robert Washington  
one Negroe Fellowe Red Com and one he called Nelly  
to him and his Sons for ever and a lesse Negroe Fellow  
called Sippie after the death of his Mother.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my son Benjamin Washington  
two hundred Acres of Land being the Plantation  
whereon I now live and the said Land I hold of the other side  
of Moshannon River in Bedford County to him and the Heirs  
of his body lawfully begotten and for want of such Heirs  
to descend to Michael Washington and his Heirs forever I give  
my Son Benj Washington one Negroe Boy called Roger &  
after the death of his Mother one Negroe Man called James  
to him and his Heirs forever and further my desire is that my  
son Robert Washington may have timber off the land over  
Moshannon in Bedford County to build on his Plantation of  
Leuwa.

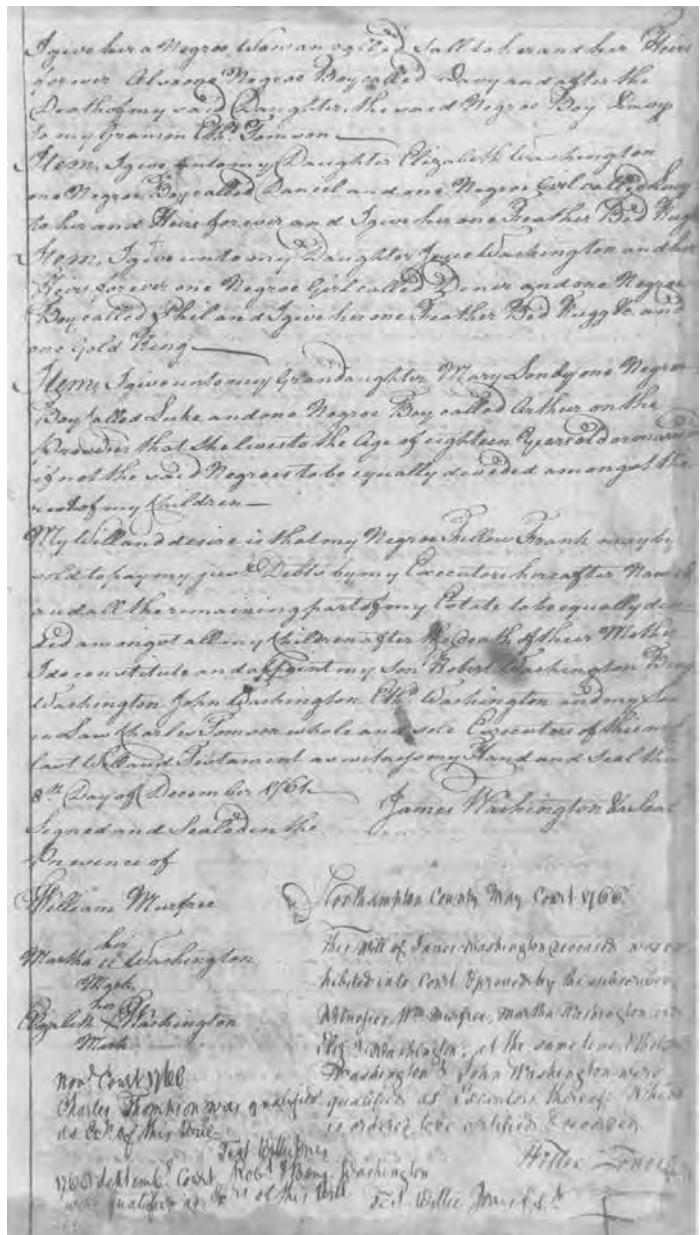
Item, I give and bequeath unto my Son John Washington  
and his Heirs forever two hundred Acres of Land on the  
south side of Kirby's Creek joining Arthur Williams Land  
and I give him one Negroe Boy called Pitt and one Negroe  
Boy called Nelly and his Heirs forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Son Phillip Washington  
and his Heirs forever two hundred Acres of Land on the  
south side of Kirby's Creek joining Richard Andrews Land  
and the Land of his Brother John and I give one Negroe  
Boy called Lewis and one called Charles and I give him  
one Negroe Girl.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my Son Michael Washington  
fifteen hundred Acres of Land to him and his Heirs forever lying  
on the North side of Kirby's Creek joining the same Creek and  
the Land I give him his Brother John and Phillip and I give him  
one Negroe Boy called Pitt and one Negroe called George and  
I give one Negroe Girl called Lucy and I give him one Negroe  
Boy called Rugg.

Item, I give unto my Daughter Joanna Tomson and  
her Heirs forever sixty Acres of Land being the Plantation  
that she now liveth on I also give her a Negroe Fellow  
called Skipper and after the death of her Mother I give

Will of James Washington (d. 1766), December 8, 1761; probated May, 1766.  
North Carolina, Probate Records, 1735-1970, Northampton Wills, 1762-1791, Vol. A, p.99.



Item, I give unto my Daughter Joyce Washington and her Heirs forever one Negroe Girl called Dives and one Negroe Boy called Phil and I give her one Leather Bed Rugg &c. and one gold Ring.

Will of James Washington (d. 1766), December 8, 1766; probated May, 1766.  
 Bequests to daughter Joyce Washington [Nicholson]. Witnessed by William Murfree.  
*North Carolina, Probate Records, 1735-1970, Northampton Wills, 1762-1791, Vol. A, p.100.*



Cheatham Coat of Arms



Mary Cheatham Washington  
by John C. Grimes, 1836  
*Joseph Washington Blagden Jr.*

Mary Cheatham Washington (1796-1865)



Tennessee State Museum



Civil War Confederate General Benjamin Franklin Cheatham (1820-1886).



Gen. Richard Cheatham (1799-1845)



Susan Saunders Cheatham (1801-1864)

Henry Taylor  
(Copyrighted article)

This history of Robertson County written in 1900 by Mrs. Archie Thomas, W. W. Pepper and J. E. Garner, continues. This week we begin a short review of the Edward Saunders Cheatham family.

Archie Cheatham was one of pioneers of Robertson County, and his brother, Peter Cheatham, made an eviable reputation among the early settlers for having whipped a backwoods "bully", who had a terror to the good citizens of the county one very muster day.

General Richard Cheatham was the son of Archie Cheatham and represened the County in the Legislature eight terms without opposition, and was elected to Congress in 1837, after a spirited contest with the Hon. Cave Johnson. In the canvass he charged Mr. Johnson with being in a large measure, the cause of the financial distress under which the county was suffering at the time the canvass was made. This was Mr. Johnson's first and only defeat. General Cheatham and Mr. Johnson were both natives of Robertson County, but the latter in early manhood became a citizen of Montgomery County.

The subject of this paper was the son of General Richard Cheatham and was born July 31, 1818. He was the oldest of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, of whom only two are now living. His first school was Liberty Academy in Springfield, where so many of the best citizens of the county were educated.

Afterwards he was matriculated at the University of Nashville when it was presided over by Dr. Phillip Lindsley probably the greatest educator that ever lived in Tennessee. The spirit of this institution was engrrafted into the mental con-

stitution of Mr. Cheatham and he was not only a great speaker, but won the hearts of all by his genial manners and profound knowledge of human nature.

He was said to have been the most popular man that ever lived in Robertson County. He was a born leader and had such a remarkable power in presenting his views that he rarely failed to carry his point. He was a Representative in the Tennessee Legislature in 1856 at the time the excitement in the building of railroads in the state was at its height.

As early as 1843 the state had agreed to assume secondary liability by endorsing the bonds of the railroad companies. This did not sufficiently protect the public interest, and the state agreed by statute, in

1849-50 to issue its own bonds to the companies and take the title to the roads to secure payment.

But even this law did not properly protect the state, and in 1852 the so called omnibus bill was passed by which any company that should grade and prepare the roadbed, ready for the rails, should be entitled to a retaining, as security a first mortgage on the road, its franchises and equipment.

Mr. Cheatham seized this opportunity to forward the building of a railroad from Nashville to the state line where Guthrie now stands, with the ultimate intention of pushing it through to the rich coal fields of Western Kentucky. This was subsequently done, and to him and to Col. E. A. Fort, Nashville is indebted in

*Springfield Times (Robertson County), January 10, 1985*

ELMWOOD CEMETERY

Cheatham

Robertson County  
1029 Richard Street  
Springfield, Tennessee 37172-2786

The Elmwood Cemetery (founded 1888) was private until it was taken over by the city of Springfield in 1987. It replaced the Old City Cemetery which started originally as the Cheatham Family's private cemetery. Eventually the remains of Cheatham family members were moved from there to Elmwood Cemetery and over the years about 100 people were re-interred, many of which had unreadable tombstones. The Old City Cemetery no longer exists; an elementary school stands in its place.

George Augustine Washington 2d's notes described the arrangement of the graves in the old cemetery which is basically the same as at Elmwood Cemetery. Archer Cheatham was buried between Mrs. Susannah [Long] Cheatham (first wife) and Mrs. Oliva de Loach Cheatham (second wife). Francis Cheatham was buried next to Oliva de Loach Cheatham, his mother. Joseph Edwin Washington stated in 1915 that in the Old City Cemetery there was at one time "a handsome monument...erected over his grave [that of Archer Cheatham, Jr.] and that of his first wife Susan Long." The monument had been in perfect condition, but it was stolen by vandals.

In 2007, these headstones were still found in the Elmwood Cemetery: Susan (Saunders)

Compiled by Stanley Frazer Rose, 2016

## Cheatham

Cheatham (1801-1864) and Richard Cheatham (1799-1845), John L. (Long) Cheatham (1801-1833) and, I believe, Susannah (Long) Cheatham (Archie Jr.'s first wife ) (1775-1808); Archie Cheatham (Jr.) (1771-1822), and Francis Cheatham (1809-1827), whose mother was probably Oliva de Loach, Cheatham (d. 1812), (the second wife of Archie Jr.).

On the Archer Cheatham Jr.'s tombstone, the inscription is:

"In memory of Archer Cheatham who died the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 1822. Aged 51 years Five months and 27 days."

Susannah [Long] Cheatham's inscription states:

"In memory of Mrs. Susannah Cheatham who died the 12th day of February 1808. Age 32 years 4 months and 3 days."

Oliva de Loach Cheatham's inscription is: "In memory of Mrs. Oliva Cheatham who died 20<sup>th</sup> day of October 1812."

John Long Cheatham's grave reads:

"Consecrated to the memory of John L. Cheatham a gallant boy soldier at 13 years of age under Andrew Jackson in the Campaign of 1814 Terminating in the glorious 8<sup>th</sup> of January 1815. Born March 11<sup>th</sup> 1801. Died October 12<sup>th</sup> 1833. He is honest believed without an enemy on earth."

The Gen. Richard Cheatham's monument was also brought to Elmwood Cemetery. The inscription on the north side is:

"This monument is consecrated to the memory of  
Gen. Richard Cheatham  
Born February 20<sup>th</sup> 1799  
Died September 9, 1845"

The inscription on the west side is obliterated by the weather. The inscription on the south side is:

“Elected member of the Legislature in the State of Tennessee in 1825 where he continued for eight years by successive elections without opposition. In 1834 elected a member of the Convention to frame a new Constitution for the State of Tennessee.

In 1837 elected a member of Congress and again in 1843 elected a member of the Legislature of Tennessee

A faithful and efficient friend

The Kindest of Fathers

A profoundly devoted Husband

A Heart that melted at others woes

An Eye that wept for the Afflicted

A Hand that was never withheld from the unfortunate.”

The inscription on the east side of the monument reads:

“A Head and Heart worthy of the

Divine Architect

A Christian

Imbibed with the holy spirit of his Master

He met death with a smile of triumph

and greeted him with this remarkable salute

“I have no fears beyond the grave.”

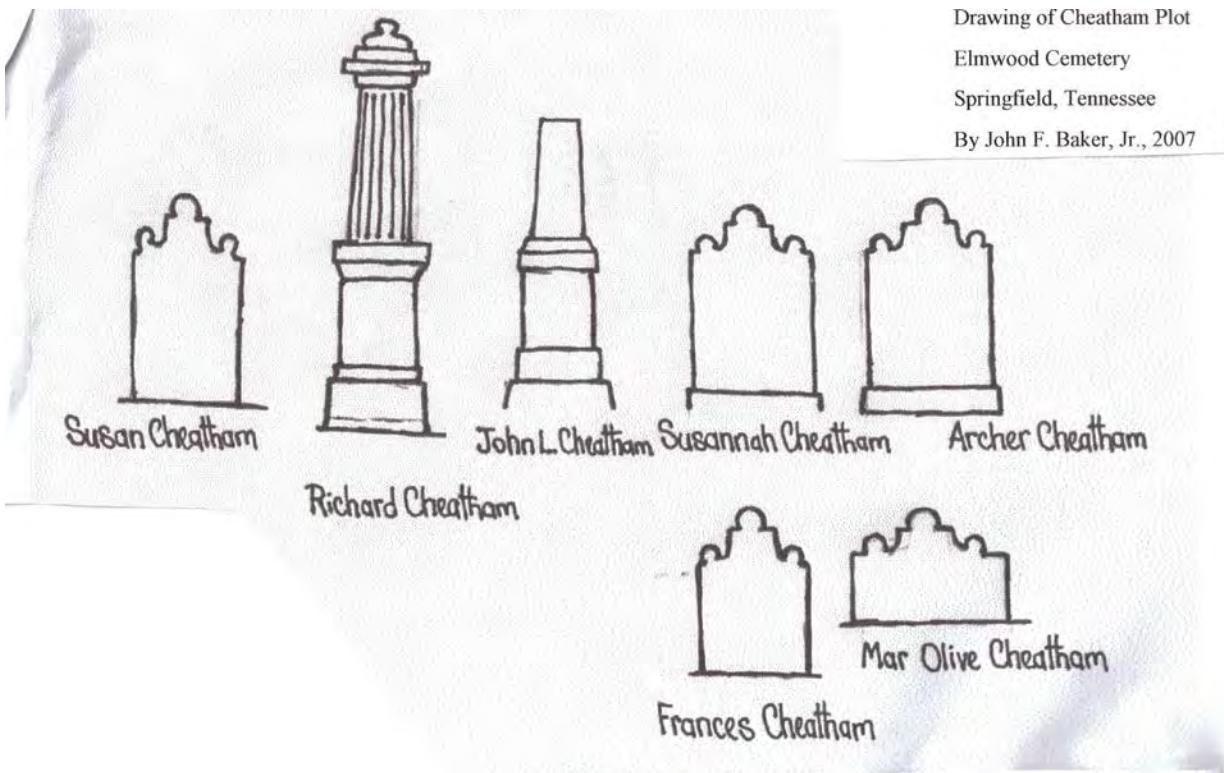
## Cheatham

Drawing of Cheatham Plot

Elmwood Cemetery

Springfield, Tennessee

By John F. Baker, Jr., 2007



Note: The correct spelling is Mar Oliva Cheatham.

# Washington

## 8. Smith, Dawson

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

**Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016**

# Washington

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**Smith**

*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

## Descendants of Arthur Smith and Anne Millward

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- 1 Arthur Smith b: Abt. 1575 Blackmore, Essex, England, d: 07 Mar 1623 in Blackmore, Essex, England
    - + Anne Millward b: England
  - ...2 Thomas Smith b: Essex, England, d: Aft. 27 Mar 1667 in Surry Cty., VA
    - + Elizabeth Creede
  - .....3 Nicholas Smith b: Surry Cty., VA, d: 1719 in Surry Cty., VA
    - + Elizabeth Flood b: Bet. 1650–1656 Surry Cty., VA, d: VA
  - .....4 Lawrence Smith b: Isle of Wight Cty., VA, d: Abt. 1747 in Southampton Cty., VA
    - + Jane Mary Regan b: VA, d: Abt. 1758 in Southampton Cty., VA
  - .....5 Joseph Smith b: 1724 Isle of Wight Cty., VA, d: Abt. 1774 in Northampton Cty., NC
    - + Mary Small
  - .....6 Col. Lawrence Smith b: 07 Jul 1754 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 07 Mar 1812 in "Bellevue", Northampton Cty., NC
    - + Jane Dawson Smith b: 03 Nov 1758 VA, d: Abt. 1812 in Northampton Cty., NC
  - .....7 Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith b: 24 Dec 1799 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 26 Oct 1837 in Florence, AL
    - + Mary Jackson Hanna b: 20 Sep 1801 Ballybay, Ireland, d: 08 Oct 1843 in Grenada, Yalobusha Cty., MS
  - .....8 Laurence Smith b: 13 Jul 1828 Florence, AL, d: 15 Aug 1834 in Florence, AL
  - .....8 Jane Smith b: 15 Aug 1830 Plantation of Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith, Florence, AL., d: 11 Feb 1894 in Home of Mary Washington Frazer, Nashville, TN.
    - + George Augustine Washington b: 24 May 1815 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 04 Dec 1892 in Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN
  - .....8 Henry Smith b: 14 Jul 1832 Florence, AL, d: 15 Jul 1832 in Florence, AL
  - .....8 James Jackson Smith b: 04 Jul 1833 Florence, AL, d: 31 Mar 1837 in Florence, AL
  - 5 Absolem Smith b: Southampton Cty., VA, d: 1766 in VA
    - + Hannah Dawson b: Southampton Cty., VA, d: [VA]
  - 6 Jane Dawson Smith b: 03 Nov 1758 VA, d: Abt. 1812 in Northampton Cty., NC
    - + Col. Lawrence Smith b: 07 Jul 1754 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 07 Mar 1812 in "Bellevue", Northampton Cty., NC
  - 7 Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith b: 24 Dec 1799 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 26 Oct 1837 in Florence, AL
    - + Mary Jackson Hanna b: 20 Sep 1801 Ballybay, Ireland, d: 08 Oct 1843 in Grenada, Yalobusha Cty., MS
  - .....8 Laurence Smith b: 13 Jul 1828 Florence, AL, d: 15 Aug 1834 in Florence, AL
  - .....8 Jane Smith b: 15 Aug 1830 Plantation of Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith, Florence, AL., d: 11 Feb 1894 in Home of Mary Washington Frazer, Nashville, TN.
    - + George Augustine Washington b: 24 May 1815 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 04 Dec 1892 in Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN
  - .....8 Henry Smith b: 14 Jul 1832 Florence, AL, d: 15 Jul 1832 in Florence, AL
  - .....8 James Jackson Smith b: 04 Jul 1833 Florence, AL, d: 31 Mar 1837 in Florence, AL
  - 5 Flud Smith
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Virginia



Yalobusha County, Mississippi



Florence (Lauderdale County), Alabama

This is an important family in our lines as it goes back to Jane Smith who married on June 21, 1849 George Augustine Washington, the second owner of Wessyngton Plantation.  <sup>1</sup>Jane Smith's grandparents were first cousins.

Joseph Edwin Washington's genealogy files from 1915 provided the family tree charts and a number of wills that helped to trace the Smith ancestry. The wills were of Lawrence Smith (d. 1746, his wife Jane (d. ca. 1758), a Nicholas Smith (d. 1718/19), and a Henry Dawson. This information pointed to a Smith line, through a Nicholas Smith who married Elizabeth Flood [See Flood, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors]. Nicholas Smith's daughter, Elizabeth married, Sion Hill (1654-1705). [See Hill, George A. Frazer's Paternal Ancestors] I am now able to trace through Nicholas Smith, to his father Thomas Smith, and to his grandfather Arthur Smith.

Nicholas Smith's probable father, Thomas Smith, was born in Essex, England, and died after 1667 in Surry County, Virginia. 

Therefore, our first provable Smith is Nicholas Smith (d. 1719), born in Surry County, Virginia, and first appears in the Surry County, Virginia records in 1669, connecting him back through Richard Smith, probably a brother. This then connects to the genealogy that Don Timmerberg [See Sources, George A. Frazer's Ancestors] researched at length which takes this Smith line back to the standard bearer of Richard I (Sir William Carrington) in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century. The Carringtons changed their name to Smith during the War of the Roses (1455-1485) in a desire to put distance from their past which from time to time had backed the wrong side.

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<sup>1</sup>  indicates that a document or photograph related to this topic is included in this booklet.  
Compiled by Stanley Frazer Rose, 2016

George A. Washington 2d says Nicolas Smith married an Elizabeth (Flood) King, a widow, who predeceased Smith. George A. Washington 2d pointed out that in *Early Virginia Immigrants*, (p. 302), there is listed a grant to a Nicholas Smith in 1656 for the transport of his wife Sarah. He felt that these may be the parents of our Nicholas Smith. Nicholas Smith's marriage to Elizabeth Flood (1680-1685) leads us back into the Flood family, of First Families of Virginia (FFV) caliber. [See Flood, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors].

Nicholas Smith made his will in Surry County on February 18, 1719, and it was probated November 18, 1719. Nicholas Smith, per his will, had a son Lawrence (at times spelled Laurence) who married Jane Mary Regan. His will gave his son Lawrence Smith a "horse, bridle and sadle [sic]."

Lawrence Smith's wife was Jane, last name believed to be Regan. She made her will on November 26, 1757 which was presented to the court in Southampton County, Virginia on February 9, 1758. The will was presented by her executor, Joseph Smith, her son. 

This is where the two Smith lines begin. Lawrence Smith's children included Joseph, Absolem (Absolom), Lawrence, and Flood Smith (all these sons are named in the wills of Lawrence Smith and his wife Jane). The two lines in our family were started by Lawrence's sons Absolem and Joseph.

Lawrence Smith died between June 10, 1746 (his will) and June 9, 1748 (will probated in the Isle

of Wight, Virginia). Lawrence Smith left to his son Joseph his plantation “at Pottakasy” (Northampton County, North Carolina). Joseph Smith (1724-ca 1773), on his inherited land, founded a plantation Bellevue (Bellevue) five miles from Jackson, the county seat of Northampton County, North Carolina. It had a large brick house which Joseph Smith built before

1754.  Joseph lived there until his death, sometime between August 12, 1773 and August 11, 1774. This date is arrived at by a study of Guardian Accounts of Southampton County, Virginia, and coincides with the 1773 which Jane Smith Washington told Joseph Edwin Washington, according to George A. Washington 2d. Joseph died intestate, and the property was inherited by his only son Col. Laurence Smith.

**Col. Laurence Smith** (1754-1812) married his first cousin, **Jane Dawson Smith**, the daughter of Absolem Smith. We don’t know why Laurence Smith used colonel.

**Absolem Smith** (d. 1766) inherited his father Lawrence’s “plantation as I live upon,” which was located in Northampton County, North Carolina. He married **Hannah Dawson** who was the daughter of Henry Dawson. Hanna (Hannah) Dawson was referred to as Hannah Smith in her father’s will (died between 1768-73).

\*

**Dawson**

*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

## Descendants of William Dawson

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- 1 William Dawson d: Aft. 09 Nov 1665 in VA
  - + Name Unknown
- ..2 Henry Dawson b: Abt. 1630 Isle of Wight Cty., VA, d: Bef. 02 May 1698 in Isle of Wight Cty., VA
  - + Martha Martin b: VA, d: Aft. 09 Jun 1703 in VA
- .....3 Martin Dawson b: Bet. 1675–1678 Isle of Wight Cty., VA, d: Abt. 1745 in Isle of Wight Cty., VA
  - + Rebecca Surname Unknown
- .....4 Henry Dawson b: 1710 Isle of Wight Cty., VA, d: Abt. 1773 in Southampton Cty., VA
  - + Name Unknown
- .....5 Hannah Dawson b: Southampton Cty., VA, d: [VA]
  - + Absolem Smith b: Southampton Cty., VA, d: 1766 in VA
- .....6 Jane Dawson Smith b: 03 Nov 1758 VA, d: Abt. 1812 in Northampton Cty, NC
  - + Col. Lawrence Smith b: 07 Jul 1754 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 07 Mar 1812 in "Bellevue", Northampton Cty, NC
- .....7 Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith b: 24 Dec 1799 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 26 Oct 1837 in Florence, AL
  - + Mary Jackson Hanna b: 20 Sep 1801 Ballybay, Ireland, d: 08 Oct 1843 in Grenada, Yalobusha Cty., MS
- .....8 Laurence Smith b: 13 Jul 1828 Florence, AL, d: 15 Aug 1834 in Florence, AL
- .....8 Jane Smith b: 15 Aug 1830 Plantation of Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith, Florence, AL., d: 11 Feb 1894 in Home of Mary Washington Frazer, Nashville, TN.
  - + George Augustine Washington b: 24 May 1815 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN, d: 04 Dec 1892 in Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty., TN
- .....8 Henry Smith b: 14 Jul 1832 Florence, AL, d: 15 Jul 1832 in Florence, AL
- .....8 James Jackson Smith b: 04 Jul 1833 Florence, AL, d: 31 Mar 1837 in Florence, AL
  - + John Suter

It seemed to me that the **Dawsons** must have been an early family, as they had an early Virginia name. The first one in America was William Dawson who appears in Isle of Wight, Virginia in 1635.

Many of the Dawsons moved in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century/early 18<sup>th</sup> century to Northampton County, North Carolina; however, Henry Dawson's father, Martin (b. abt. 1675-d. ca. 1745), stayed in the Isle of Wight County. Henry Dawson (b. 1710-d. ca. 1773) apparently did move to Northampton, North Carolina although his will appears in the Southampton County, Virginia will book. Henry Dawson owned a mill on Kirby's Creek, North Carolina.

Henry Dawson's daughter, **Hannah Dawson**, married **Absolem Smith** of Southampton County, Virginia. Absolem was the brother of Joseph Smith, the grandfather of Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith. Henry Dawson's will is dated April 23, 1768 (Southampton County, Virginia), probated there April 8, 1773, and refers to his daughter Hannah Smith.

We also can go back to the marriage bond of Hannah Dawson and Absolem Smith dated December 13, 1757, witnessed by a Joshua Dawson, probably Hannah's brother. Absolem Smith died 1766. Hannah Smith married John Suter in 1768.

Hanna Dawson Smith and Absolem Smith had four children, including Jane Dawson Smith who married Col. Lawrence Smith of "Bellevue," Northampton County, North Carolina, son of Joseph Smith. Jane and Lawrence were first cousins. This information is in the Southampton

County records.

**Genealogy note:** The first Dawson may be Henry Dawson of Breeden, Leicester, England; however, Dorman in his 2004 *Adventurers of Purse and Person* has stated that the Dawsons cannot be adequately researched to make a statement on their genealogy - thus reversing Boddie's genealogy on our genealogy chart to Martin Dawson (b. abt. 1675-d. ca. 1745). Martin Dawson's will was dated September 16, 1745 in Isle of Wight County, probated March 16, 1746, and mentions a son Henry.

**Genealogy note-1:** A word to the wise regarding genealogy: in some of my papers I ran across a Dawson associated with the Jacksons in the 1730s in Ireland and almost concluded - these are the Dawsons! This was a false lead, and I had to push myself to keep searching. Our Dawsons are from England.

\*

## **Smith, continued**

**Col. Lawrence Smith's** family owned Bellevue until sometime after 1812. Lawrence Smith and his wife Jane Dawson Smith died in 1812 and 1813 respectively. Col. Lawrence Smith was buried in the Smith Cemetery at Bellevue. A handsome and imposing marble monument still marked his grave in 1913. The following epitaph is carved on the tomb of Col. Laurence Smith:

He departed this life March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1812, aged 57 years and 8 months. He was born and always lived within view of this place. He was a man of unquestioned veracity and honesty, great industry and economy. As a husband, affectionate, as a parent indulgent

and as a Master humane, and remarkable for his great hospitality and liberality to the poor. His conduct through life was exemplary and worthy of imitation.

In Col. Lawrence Smith's will is the following: Item "I give and bequeath to my son Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith the tract of land in Southampton County, Virginia, that I bought of Richard Blunt and all the lands lying between Potocasey [sic, Pottakasy] Swamp and Wheeler's Hill Swamp in Northampton County, N.C." His will states that it was written while he was in Monroe County, Virginia. John Dawson was a Witness and Col. Daniel Mason was one of the Executors. He left issue two sons and two daughters.

The heir to Bellevue was his son, Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith (1797-1837). He was a minor, whose brother Henry Smith was appointed his guardian on June 8, 1813. Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith gave Henry his consent to sell the house. Bellevue was still standing as of 1976. The Smith Cemetery, where Colonel Laurence Smith is buried, was near the mansion.

Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith went to Yale College in New Haven, Connecticut. Evidently as soon as he reached adult age, he moved to Florence, Alabama. 

There Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith had a small plantation  across the creek from Forks of Cypress owned by James Jackson, a visionary Irishman who had come to the United States early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and moved through Philadelphia to Nashville to eventually Florence, Alabama where he established a large tobacco plantation. James Jackson became the guardian of his two nieces, Anne Hanna and Mary Jackson Hanna, after their parents' deaths (1806/1808); they were

living in Ireland. About ten years later, Anne and Mary Hanna traveled first to Philadelphia, then to Nashville, and then to the Forks of Cypress. [See Jackson, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors].

One of Jackson's orphaned nieces, **Mary Jackson Hanna** (1801-1843), married Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith. According to Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith's Family Bible, he married Mary Jackson Hanna May 15, 1823 (not August 19).

Their daughter Jane Smith married George Augustine Washington of Wessyngton Plantation in 1849. George Augustine Washington 2d wrote that Jane said she was named for her grandmother Jane Smith and that her father Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith was named for his grandfather Joseph Smith, his father Laurence Smith, and for the Dawson family, his maternal grandmother's family name.

When Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith died in 1837 in Florence, Alabama, his will directed his executors to build a wall around the graveyard on his plantation, and erect a monument over the graves (his, and his infant sons Henry, Laurence and James Jackson Smith). He set aside a sum of money to do that. The descendants of the Smiths met in 1914 and appointed Martha S. Tillman (daughter of George A. Washington) and Mary W. Williams (a cousin whose Washington ancestry dated back to a sister, Lucy, of Joseph Washington [1770-1848]) to deal with the graveyard. This committee recognized that the graves were unmarked, neglected and unfenced, on a hillside on the bank above Cypress Creek in Lauderdale County, Alabama. They resolved to erect and pay for a proper monument with suitable inscriptions, to mark the graves,

and that their remains should be exhumed and removed to and reinterred at the Wessyngton Plantation Washington Family Cemetery where a monument should be re-erected near the grave of Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith's daughter, Jane Smith Washington. Those actions appear to have been taken in the period 1915-1920. 

The grave of Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith's widow was more problematic. His widow Mary Jackson Hanna Smith (Hurd) died October 8, 1843 in Grenada, Yalobusha County (Grenada County as of 1870), Mississippi where she was buried (presumably on the other plantation owned by Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith) [See below]. My understanding was that she was reinterred once in Mississippi, and when a railroad line was to cross that cemetery, she was reinterred in the Wessyngton Plantation Washington Family Cemetery sometime between 1915 and 1960 by George Augustine Washington 2d. An old story from Preston Frazer is when the dirt was thrown on her casket, George A. Washington 2d said "Now God Dammit, stay buried."

Letters from a cousin Harriet C. Stoddert (January 18, 1895 and February 6, 1895) give a glimpse into their lives:

January 18, 1895: "The Smith family were people of wealth for those times. My grandmother, (who was a sister of Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith) your grandfather, inherited \$75,000. The sons were educated at Chapel Hill, North Carolina and the daughters at good schools, .... My mother's dining room man was the best servant in all the country; it was his boast that he had waited on five generations of the Smith Family. Britton, of whom you may have heard your mother speak, was your grandfather's "body servant," was about the same age and made the same boast. I do

not know the year your grandfather settled in Alabama, on land he inherited, but it was before he was married. He was the youngest, my grandmother the eldest. She was born in 1784. There were four children. His mother was Jane Dawson Smith and was born in 1758 and her husband Col. Lawrence Smith was born in 1754. I saw this in a notebook, kept by my grandfather Absolem Smith, a cousin of your grandfather who was living in Northampton County, N.C. in 1842."

February 6, 1895: "In looking over some of my mother's papers I find this memoranda: Lawrence Smith only son of Joseph Smith married Jane Smith, daughter of Henry Smith. [NOTE: This is wrong; it is not Henry Smith as Lawrence had no son Henry; the girl Jane was the daughter of Absolem Smith. [See Dawson, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors].

They lived in Northampton County, N.C. five miles from Jackson, the County Seat. I also find that your grandfather was six years younger than my grandmother and, that he was educated at Yale College.

Yours Affectionately,

HARRIET C. STODDERT."

Joseph Edwin Washington commented in 1915 on the death of Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith and his wife's remarriage, her second husband. He also wrote about the childhood of Jane Smith.

Joseph Laurence Dawson Smith "died October 26, 1837 while still quite a young man and is buried on his former plantation near the old residence. His widow was married on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 1842 to the Reverend Samuel Hurd of New Hampshire, a Presbyterian minister then residing at Florence, Alabama. After her marriage to Mr. Hurd they

removed to a plantation in Yalobusha County, Mississippi, where Mary Hanna Hurd departed this life at one o'clock on Sunday, October 8, 1843. She was buried on the plantation. My mother [Jane Smith Washington] has often given me a most pathetic account of the last illness and death [1843] of her mother Mary Hanna, whose marriage to the Reverend Mr. Hurd was most unfortunate and unhappy. Mary Hanna was a most kindhearted and indulgent mistress to her slaves of whom she owned a large number. She intended to emancipate them before her death and taking advantage of that sentiment the Rev. Mr. Hurd, who had come South claiming to be an abolitionist and a representative of the Colonization Society, worked on the sympathy and interest of my grandmother until she became sufficiently attached to marry him, whereupon I have always been told, the Reverend gentleman very soon became a most zealous pro-slavery advocate and cruel taskmaster and after the death of our grandmother entirely ignored her wishes and her promise as to emancipation and claiming all the negroes as heir at law, held on to them and to all the other personal property on which he could lay his hands to the deprivation of my mother. There were no children born of the marriage with Mr. Hurd. What became of the Rev. Mr. Hurd I do not know.

After the death of her mother [1843], Jane Smith then a little orphan girl of seven years [Note: correct is 13 years - born 1830] was taken in charge by her maternal aunt Anne Hanna Pope at that time a widow with no children.  Mr. Thomas Kirkman [The Kirkmans were related through marriages to the Jacksons and Hannas. This refers to a Kirkman cousin living in Nashville] was my mother's guardian. My mother was reared at Florence, Alabama and educated at the old "Female Academy" at Nashville,

Tennessee, which was then in charge of Dr. Elliott, one of the most famous educators of his day. [The Nashville Female Academy was founded in 1816 and reached its apex in 1860 with 513 students including 256 boarders. It was closed 1861-1864 during the war years, and in 1866, it closed its doors as it was unable to recover from the war.]

My mother and father [Jane Smith and George Augustine Washington] met in Nashville, Tennessee and were married on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June 1849. They came at once to reside at Wessyngton Plantation. My paternal grandmother Mary Cheatham Washington was then living at Wessyngton with my father and mother until her death, November 1865.

Mrs. Anne Pope, the aunt of my mother resided on Spruce St., Nashville, Tennessee until her death about 1882. Mrs. Anne Pope was possessed of a very strong personality, with a very violent and ungovernable temper. Soon after my father and mother were married Mrs. Pope made herself so exceedingly disagreeable that my father entered into a legal contract with her, by which in consideration of a certain and quite considerable sum of money, Mrs. Pope agreed to sever all connection with my mother and from that day to the end of her life, there was no further intercourse or communication with her.

### **Incorrect and Puzzling Genealogy:**

Originally I believed, and I think a large part of our family believed, that the first Smith in America was Major Lawrence Smith (born ca. 1640-1700) who was instrumental in the design of the town of Williamsburg, Virginia and a very prominent member of the First Families of Virginia (FFV). Major Smith married into and was thus related to the Townley and Augustine

Warner Families of noble descent in England and early settlers in Virginia (Augustine Warner who is no relation to our Warners, but to whom everyone interested in FFV genealogy wants to claim a connection). I always had certain doubts because there was a weak link (not completely provable) from a son of Lawrence (Charles Smith) to the further line of Lawrence Smith.



Smith Coat of Arms

In the Name of God Amen I Jane Smith of the County of Southampton being in good Health and in perfect ~~Service~~ and Memory God be praised for it do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and Form Following

That is to say, First I commend my Soul unto the hands of Almighty God that gave it and my Body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter named and touching the disposing of all such <sup>such</sup> Estate as it hath pleased God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as followeth-

Item I give unto my Daughter Faithe Harris seven Shillings current Monry.

Item I give unto my Son Joseph Smith one grey mare and my Desire is that what the sd. Mare is appraised to for my Son Flood Smith to have the half of it paid by my son Joseph Smith-

Item I give to my son Absolom Smith one pair of Pistols & Holsters and one chest marked Thur. R:H: to him and his Heirs forever-

Item I give unto my Daughter Jane Smith Sixteen Shillings and eight pence current money-

Item I give unto my Son Lawrence Smith one Feather Bed and furniture to him and his Heirs-

Item I give unto my Daughter Hannah Smith Two feather beds and furniture that does belong to them-

Item I give unto my Daughter Sarah Smith two Feather Beds that does belong to them-

Item I give unto my two Daughters Hannah Smith and Sarah Smith all the rest of my Estate after all just Debts and Funeral Expenses is paid that <sup>has</sup> already disposed of to be equally divided between them by my son Joseph Smith and James Turner jun. or either of them-

And my Will and Desire is that my Son Joseph Smith shall be my

Executor to this my last Will and Testament and my Desire is that there shall be no appraisers appointed to this my Will In Witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this the 26th day of November, 1757.

Teste

James Turner ju.

William Bynum

<sup>her</sup>  
Jane x Smith  
mark

At a Court held for the County of Southampton the 9th day of February, 1758-

This will was presented in Court by Joseph Smith the Executor within named proved by the oaths of James Turner and William Bynum Witnesses thereto and ordered to be Recorded And on the Motion of the said Executor certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate thereof in due form giving security.

Teste R. Kelso C.C.

Jane Regan Smith's (wife of Lawrence Smith) will, 1757.

I, Laurence Smith of Northhampton County and State of North Carolina now in Monroe County and State of Virginia being low in health and calling to mind the mortality of the body, though low in health is sound in mind and in perfect sense do ordain and give my worldly estate as follows:

Item. I lend unto my beloved wife Jane Smith all my lands lying the West side of Braddys Road between Correroy Swamp and Potecasy Swamp also the lands and Mill I bought of Low, during her life or widowhood.

Item. I give unto my son Joseph L. D. Smith the above lands I have lent unto my wife after her marriage or death to him and his heirs forever, my will and desire is that my sons Henry Smith and Joseph L. D. Smith and my daughter Rebecca Smith should remain in and have the benefit of my house I have lent unto my wife during their single state and without paying board.

Item. I lend unto my beloved wife all my household furniture, plantation utensils, charriott and two horses, which she may make choice of, during her widowhood, but she may despose of the same during her widowhood to my children as she may think proper.

Item. I lend unto my beloved wife three of the house servants of which she may make choice of not interfering with them I may hereafter give away during her widowhood or life. I also lend her one fifth part of my estate, lands except that I may not hereafter give away during her widowhood or life and at her marriage or death which may first take place my will and desire is that it shall be equally divided amongst my children except that which I have already given away or may hereafter give away.

Item. After my just debts being paid I give unto my beloved wife one fifth part of all my bonds and money, and if the said bonds and money that comes to her share do not amount to five Thousand dollars the deficiency is to be made to her to make the amount five thousand dollars.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Henry Smith my Mush Island tract of land, provided he will pay unto his brother Joseph L. D. Smith ten thousand dollars paying one thousand dollars annually to him and his heirs forever, but if the said Henry Smith should refuse to take the land on the above terms, I give and bequeath unto my son Joseph L. D. Smith the above lands on the same conditions of his paying his brother Henry Smith the ten thousand dollars in annual payments of one thousand dollars, but not to be paid or any part thereof till he the said Joseph L. D. Smith shall come of age.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son Henry Smith the land and plantation I bought of William Peterson to him and his heirs forever and also a negro man, a Blacksmith by the name of Willis.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son Joseph L. D. Smith the tract of land in Southampton County Virginia, that I bought of Richard Blunt and allt land lying between Potecasy Swamp and Wheelers Mill Swamp in Northampton County to him and his heirs forever and a Blacksmith, Fill and his wife Cate who arē to remain on the plantation where he now is and is to do my wife's Blacksmith's Work gnataest.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Rebecca Smith my lands and Mill lying the east side of Braddy's Road to her and her heirs forever, also the land I bought of William Sikes, and the following negroes to-wit: Nan and her child Alfred, Yellow Juda and her children, viz: Sealy, Kello and Eliza and her last child of their increase to her and her heirs, also one negro man a Blacksmith by the name of Alston.

Item. I lend unto my beloved wife a negro man named Tom a Blacksmith, during her widowhood.

Lawrence Smith's will, 1811.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Dorothy Mason all my lands lying the South side of Wheelers Mill Swamp to her and her heirs forever, also I give unto her the negroes I sent to her that she has now in possession and their increase to her and her heirs forever.

Item. My will and desire is that the negroes, stock of all kinds and all other kind of my estate that I have not already given away that my wife shall have one-fifth part during her widowhood or natural life as above stated.

Item. My will and desire is that all my negroes that I have not already given away, money, bonds, stock of all kinds and every thing that I have not heretofore disposed of shall be equally divided between my children Henry Smith, Joseph L. D. Smith, Rebecca Smith and Dorothy Mason, without an auction of any part of my estate whatever, but if my executors think proper to make sale of any part of the perishable estate and it may be necessary they do it at private sale, the two old negroes Jerry and Lucy his wife my desire is that they may live with either of the family as they may make choice and those that they may make choice to live with shall maintain them comfortable.

I do hereby nominate and appoint my son Henry Smith and Daniel Mason my whole and sole executors of this my last will and testament, disannulling all Wills heretofore made by me. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 31st day of July, In the year our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and eleven

Laurence Smith

(SEAL)

John Dawson

Allen Deberry

Being law in health but in sound mind and memory, thanks be to God therefor.- I make and amendment to my Will made 31st day of July 1811 Wherein I have since purchased a tract of land known by the name of the Courthouse tract lying in the County of Northampton which land. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Dorothy Mason to her and her heirs forever, and in consequence of my giving my daughter Dorothy Mason the above named land, I deduct out of her share of my will made 31st day July, 1811 Six Thousand Dollars which is to be equally divided between my children viz: my son Henry Smith, Joseph L. D. Smith and Rebecca Smith which is two thousand dollars each.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Rebecca Smith fifteen hundred dollars it being for the land that I sold known by the name of Sykes's which Land I had given to her in my Will made 31st July, 1811. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 9th. day of December, One Thousand eight hundred and eleven.

Test.

Laurence Smith

(SEAL)

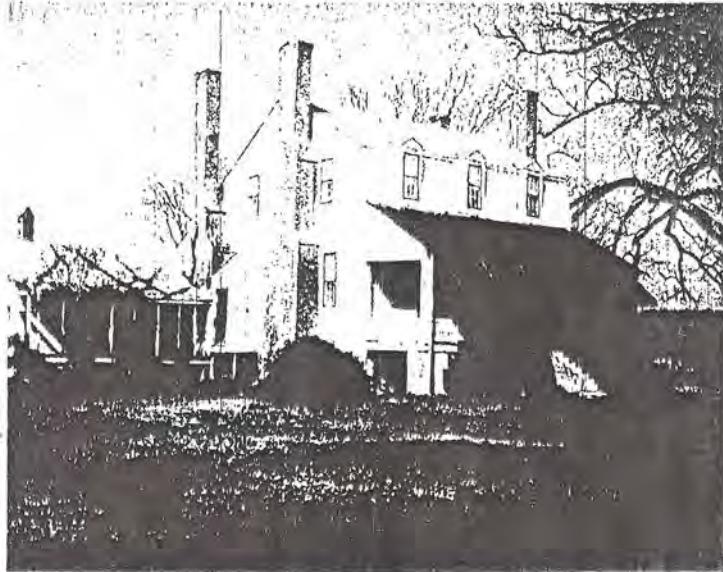
H. Edmunds Jr.

Simon Braswell

Presley Pritchard

Lawrence Smith's will, 1811.

## Bellevue (Bellview)



*Bellevue*

While the vast majority of early settlers in North Carolina lived in simple log huts, there is evidence to prove that among those first homes were weatherboarded houses and houses of brick. Although the first settlers were forced to live in a primitive way in the beginning, just as soon as possible they were building spacious wood-framed houses. Bellevue (also written Bellview) is a type of the flowering North Carolina architecture in the early days, which is the same style of architecture in many present-day homes.

Bellevue was built before 1754 by Joseph Smith. The snugly fitted dormers, the fat high chimneys, and the general proportions closely resemble the medieval homes of England. It is a type of house prevalent in North Carolina until as late as 1830. But only the most pretentious of the early homes boasted dormer windows, for there was an added tax on the homes of more than one story. The nails used in the construction were made in the blacksmith's shop on the plantation and it is said that the bricks were also made there. The style of the house was undoubtedly Georgian, but many changes have made it quite unlike a true house of that type. Farmhouses, such as this one, however, had an appeal and character far different from the domestic architecture of any other period and have influenced later homes.

Colonel Lawrence Smith was born at Bellevue on July 17, 1754, and died there March 7, 1812. He is buried in the family cemetery that contains more than 20 graves. The inscription on his tomb reads: "Always lived and died in view of this place". There is also a slave graveyard on the plantation.

The house has owned at one time by Ethelred Peebles who planted the oak trees. In 1837 Peebles sold the plantation to John Long, who at his death had no heirs but was heavily in debt. His widow married John Ramsay who

sold off his own property to pay the debt on the then 1300-acre plantation. The Ramsays have owned and occupied the house for six generations, the present occupant being John H. Ramsay, III.



*Mrs. J. H. Ramsay*



Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith (1797-1837)

Washington

Dawson, Smith



Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's home, Florence, Alabama.

The State of Alabama )  
Lauderdale County ) In the name of God amen.

I, Joseph L.D. Smith being sound in mind and though/ weak in body  
do make this my last will and testament .

in the first place I devise that <sup>my</sup> all debts should be paid as they become  
due for which purpose I hereby invest my executors with full powers to draw  
bills and to do all such other acts as are necessary and proper to execute  
the same. To my wife Mary Smith I bequeath all my household and kitchen  
furniture ,Carriage and horses and the following negroes Lige Denney and  
his Children who are now in Florence, Nancy and Joe and during her widow-  
hood to be supported out of the proceeds of my estate with the same ease  
and comforts that she was accustomed to during my life . Should she marry  
I bequeath to her ten thousand Dollars . The property above mentioned Viz:  
the household and kitchen furniture Carriage and horse Lige Denney and her  
Children in Florence at this time ,Nancy and Joe to be included as a part  
of the Ten Thousand Dollars , to her and her heirs forever.

I desire my executors to continue my Negroes on the same plantations in  
Mississippi where they now are another year and if in the opinion of my  
executors the price of property will warrant a sale,in that event i desire  
all of the Negroes plantations , tools and implements horses , cattle and  
other stock to be sold , after the crops are gathered in, on a credit of  
one and two years requiring bond and mortgage and three good securities .  
In the sale of the Negroes the men and their wives and Children under two  
years of age must be sold together , shousl the price of property be low  
and my executors should think it advisable not to sell , in that case land  
must be rented in Mississippi to raise another crop ,and at the expiration  
of this year if it is thought advisable by my executors property having a  
fair valuation then and in that case let my executors sell the Negroes  
plantations tools stock & etc as directed above.

the proceeds of all my estate as shall be sold being converted into monby .

i desire that one half of the amount be vested in stock such as my executors  
in their wisdom may think best . the other half to be lent to individuals  
or corporations on notes or bonds to be renewed semiannually <sup>as the executors</sup>

Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's will and codicil, 1837.

may determine for the benefit of the estate.

The lands on the Mississippi river which I own in copartnership with Thomas Kirkman I wish sold when fifteen dollars per acre can be had for it on a credit of one and two years the proceeds to be vested as the proceeds of my other property.

I wish my Daughter Jane to be educated in the best practible and ornamental branches of education which the United States can afford and to facilitate her in the French language which I desire her to acquire I wish her to board for two years with a respectable french family , and further more that she may acquire a good education , I desire that she should continue at School until she arrives to the age of eighteen years.

After my debts are paid and the estate in the hands of my executors shall amount to eighty thousand dollars , I give and bequeath to each of my executors One Thousand dollars , To my Sisters Rebecca I, Williams Two Thousand Dollars , To Rebecca I. White One Thousand Dollars , To Rebecca E. Dancey One Thousand Dollars , To Mary Jane Stoddard One Thousand Dollars , To Joseph D. Mason One Thousand Dollars , To Malinda R. Williams One Thousand Dollars and to my friend thomas Williams of Misssissippi Five hundred Dollars , My Texas interest in lands I bequeath to Lawrance Williams.

The rest and residue of my estate both real and personal I give and bequeath to my only Daughter Jane.

Should my Daughter die before she marries then and in that event I will and direct that the estate both real and personal shall be equally divied between my Sister Rebecca I. Williams and my Neices Mary I. Stoddard , rebecca I. White nebecca E.Dancey Malinda R.Williams and my nephews Joseph D.Mason and Henry D.Smith.

Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's will, 1837.

In the event of my Daughter's marrying and dieing without issue then and in that case I direct and will that one half of the estate both real and personal shall descend to her husband and the other half shall be equally divied between my Sister rebecca L.Williams and my Neices Mary L. Stoddard Rebecca I. White, rebecca E.Dancey Malinda R.Williams and my Nephews Joseph D. Mason and Henry D.Smith .

In the event that she should die leaving issue then the estate to decend to her lawful heirs .

Should my Daughter marry one half of the estate which she will be entitled to by this instrument shall vest in my executors in trust nevertheless for the purpose herein mentioned to-wit; The one half of the whole amount of the estate at the time she marries which shall be ascertained by my executors shall be vested by my executors in such stock as in their wisdom they may approve and the annual proceeds to be paid to her or her representatives after her death

This trust to cease and the property vest amoung her Children if any, as the other portion of the estate would vest , and should she leave no Children then the other portion of the estate together with the other portion which is the amount of the whole estate shall be equally divied as before directed.

Should my Daughter die during the widowhood of my wife Mary , In that case my wife must be paid ten Thousand Dollars agreeably to the manner which I have directed in the fore part of this my will and testament.

The rest of my estate or that portion which I have here bequeathed to my Daughter both real and personal shall be equally divied among the persons and in the manner in which I have directed in the preceeding part of this instrument .

I bequeath to rebecca I. White the mulato Boy called Oscar to her and the heirs of her body forever - in consideration of the faithfulsservices of old Robbins , I will and bequeath to him his freedom and desire that he shall live on the plantation or elsewhere with Henry D.Smith under his care and directions and that my executors do pay Henry D.Smith twenty-five dollars annually for the support of Robbins and for his care and attention of him during his life.

Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's will, 1837.

I desire that my executors will have me burried in a plain Mahogany coffin lined with tin that four hundred dollars be reserved from my estate which shall be appropriated to the erection of a stone wall five feet high around the burrying ground of myself and Children, That a plain marble slab be placed over my grave with my name and the names of my Children. I wish no gate to the entrance.

In case of the refusal to act of either of the persons named as my executors in the death of either then he or they who do consent to act or the successors or successors are hereby vested with all power to execute this my last will and testament.

I hereby appoint as my executors to this my last will and testament.

James I.B. White, William Stoddard and Thomas Kirkman.

In my strong box is a book exhibiting all my bank debts, and containing also sundry notes and bonds.

In place of having the marble slab placed over my Grave I desire it to be set in the wall upright with my name and the names of my Children and of my wife if she should be burried there.

I also appoint as one of my executors Henry D. Smith and retract the bequeath of one thousand dollars to him mentioned among others and direct that he receive in common with my other executors one thousand dollars.

I have not bequeathed any thing to my beloved Brother Henry, not because he is less dear to me but because he is already possessed of all that is necessary in this life in a pecuniary point of view.

In testimony whereof I have set my hand and seal this twenty-ninth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven.

J.L.D. Smith. (seal)

Witness.

Jon'a Beckwith. H.I. Posey.

Mary Smith.

In the event of my death it may be desirable to my wife Mary to reside in Nashville, Tennessee. To that end I desire that a house shall be rented there for her accommodation rent annually paid by my executors out of the funds arising out of my estate and that Fifteen hundred dollars to be appropriated to furnish a house for her.

Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's will, 1837.

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In case of the death of my Daughter Jane before marriage or after marriage leaving no issue it is my will and intention that my wife Mary shall receive an equal share of my estate in the distribution of it like the rest of my legatees. I also appoint my wife Mary as my executor.

In consideration of the neglect that Henry D. Smith has exhibited towards me during this my last illness I hereby retract and change this my last will as regards him in every respect desiring that he shall not receive or be entitled to any portion of my estate nor be my executor.

MS. A.84.1

I wish and direct that old Robbin shall remain with my wife Mary and be

Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's will, 1837.

supported as directed in that part of my will where I directed him to live with Henry D. Smith. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 24th day of October 1837.

Witness David Dancey, Mary Smith. J.L.D. Smith. (seal).

H.L.Posey, S.W.White.

I subscribed before witnessex a Codicil of the 24th of October Recanting any and every demise made to Henry D. Smith and likewise willed that he shall not be my executor as I have nominated him in the forepart of my will. this I did because I thought he had neglected me, I am now perswaded not and therefore satisfied I labored under a mistake.

It is therefore my will that he shall be entitled to the demise made in my will as I first intended that he act as one of my executors.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my hand and seal, this 26th of October, 1837.

J.L.D. Smith. (seal)

witness.

Nathan Bodie, James Moell.

S.Gibson Patton, Levi Todd.

Tho M.Laxter.

The state of Alabama.

Lauderdale County, Orphans Court October 30th 1837.

The foregoing will and Codicil were this day produced in open Court and proved by the oaths of the subscribing witnesses thereto. Viz; Jonathan Beckwith, Mary Smith, Levi Todd, Nathan Bodie, James Moell, Gibson Patton, S.W.White, and is ordered to be admitted to Probate.

this 30th day of October, 1837. John T.Haraway, Judge of the  
RECORDED Nov 1st -1837. County Court of Lauderdale County.

Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's will, 1837.

and therefore satisfied i labored under a mistake .

It is therefore my will that he shall be entitled to the demise made in  
my will as I first intended that he act as one of my executors .

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my hand and seal , this 26th of  
October , 1837.

J.L.B. Smith. (seal)

witness .

Nathan Bodie , James Noell .

S.Gibson ratton , Levi Todd .

Tho M.Laxter .

The State of Alabama .

Lauderdale County , Orphans Court October 30th 1837 .

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Gibson Patton , S.W.White , and is ordered to be admitted to Probate .  
this 30th day of October . 1837. John T.Haraway , Judge of the  
RECORDED Nov 1st -1837. County Court of Lauderdale County .

The State of Alabama.Lauderdale County .

I, J.F.Koonce, Judge of Probate in and for the State and County afore-  
said , do hereby certify that the above and within is a true and correct  
copy of the will of J.L.D.Smith , as found of record in this office , and  
recorded in will book "A." Pages 34-35-36-37-38-39-&40 . This June 20th I

*J.F.Koone*  
Judge of Probate

Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith's will, 1837.

	Pounds
A	
Biscuit cheese-cake	2
Apple jelly	6
C. Pa.	2
B	
Blomange	3
Blanshange	7
Candied orange peel	1
Currant jelly	4
Cheese cake	7
Saffry sauce	8
Oystard Pudding	9
Fried Raspberry	8
Dr. Quince	8
E	
Everblasting syllabub	6
F	
Flummery	1
Florentine pudding	3
Flour	9
M	
Macaronis	1
Mincie pie	2
Muffins	4
N	
Nobles Biscuit	6
O	
Oyster Pie	5

Preserve Jammes	3
Cherries	3
Pinkle-red cabage	4
Preserve ofgooberry	5
Granberries	5
Groat	7
Richmond Pudding	7
Raspberry jelly	2
Rush	4
Spice nuts	8
Yew cream	2
Sponge cake	6
Dolly Lun	7
Taffian cake	8
Whip cream	6
Batter bread	9
Batter cakes	30
	30

Almond Cheese Cake  
1 lb & blanched almonds, pound them fine  
1 egg beaten, Lemon skin grated & butter  
all beaten, beat together and put into paste

Lemon Pudding  
1 lb Butter, 1 lb raisins 2 spoonfuls flour & eggs  
get 2 little sugar, 2 nutmegs, some salt mix  
them together and put them in a well floured  
tin, & bake for 1 hour

Mince Pie  
3 lbs of well boiled and shot fine, 3 lbs meat & 2 lbs  
currants, 1 lb raisins, 2 lbs sugar, 2 lbs Lemon pulp &  
orange, 1 oz cinnamon pieces, 2 lemons, brandy wine  
to taste, 6 large apples &

Spice Nuts  
Yellow 2 lbs Butter, 1 quart molasses, 2 lbs ginger 2 lbs  
sugar and cinnamon and 2 lbs nutmegs and cinnamon

O. Pa.  
1 lb. Butter, 1 lb sugar rubbed well together  
1 pint milk, roll them and cut them about the size  
of a cup. Bake in a quick oven

Pudding  
1 lb flour, 2 eggs, some yeast, mix the  
flour and sugar with the milk, beat the eggs well &  
Spice Lance  
Break with hands & beat when first boiling the milk,  
till pretty tender, put a small piece butter in the milk  
with a little flour with cinnamon pepper. Oysters may  
be used if you please

Dolly Lun  
1 lb with 2 lb butter, 3 eggs, 2 teaspoon fulls of yeast &  
then add the butter in the milk and melt it,  
then pour it upon so much flour as to make it a  
little stiffer than sponde cake. Great as your judge  
and direct. When made put it in a tin pan in  
which let it rise and bake with a quick oven.  
A hour quite sufficient

Quince Cordial  
Grate the quinces with the skins sweeten to your  
taste strain & add as much spirits as you have juice

Raspberry Sorbet  
squeeze your fruit and sweeten to your taste let it  
stand then strain & add spirit enough to it to  
keep it from softening

Mary Hanna Jackson Smith's Recipe Book. Additional entries by Jane Smith Washington.  
Private collection, Berry Family.

**OBITUARY.**

[COMMUNICATED.]

Departed this life, in hope of a glorious resurrection, at her residence near Grenada, Miss., on the 8th of October, Mrs. MARY HURD, wife of the Rev. Samuel Hurd, aged about 45 years.

The deceased was a native of Ireland but emigrated to this region of the United States at a very early period, of her life. Her residence was, until a little more than a year since, in or near Florence. She was endeared to her numerous friends here, by the strongest ties of friendship and affection. As a consistent member of the Church of Jesus Christ—as a munificent friend to every good cause—as a hospitable member of society—as a benefactor of the poor, and as a warm personal friend, her memory is embalmed in the hearts of many of our citizens. "We sorrow not as those that have no hope," for in her final, tedious and trying illness, her faith was strong and her anticipation of future bliss, bright in the extreme. No one who saw her in her last moments could fail to ejaculate the prayer, "Let me die the death of the righteous." A bereaved husband—a bereaved sister, and a bereaved daughter, have met, in her decease, with no common affliction.

Obituary of Jane Smith's mother, Mary Jackson Hanna Smith Hurd, [October 9], 1843.

1<sup>o</sup> My Daughter Pam being sufficiently provided for by the will of her father I bequeath to her as tokens of my affection my <sup>18</sup> ft. & nail stand my watch & links my quarto edition of Scott's Bible, and a conditional annuity named below.

2<sup>d</sup> To my sister Mrs. Amy Pope I bequeath any annuity of three hundred dollars, to be paid by my Executor on the first day of May each year, until a fund shall be raised for her use as described below. This annuity is to cease so soon as my young interest of said fund shall be placed at her disposal.

3<sup>d</sup> To my husband I bequeath all my interest in the furniture & books not otherwise disposed of.

4<sup>o</sup> It is my will that the conditions of the marriage contract made with Sam'l Hurd before our marriage be fulfilled, and I hereby bequeath to him my husband one half of all my property real & personal & mixed which I possessed at the time of our marriage or now possess or claim.

5<sup>o</sup> It is my will that my portion of the Estate shall remain connected with my husband without division and managed to the best advantage, until the profits

Mary Jackson Hanna Smith Hurd's will, 1843.

money from the Estate shall pay off the debts against it whether they bear my name or the name of my husband. But if it shall be necessary to sell the property to pay the debts I hereby authorize and direct my Executor to pay one half of said debts out of my half of the Estate by selling such property and in such manner as he may think best or in other words I desire the debts to be paid out of the undivided property. When said debts shall be paid off I direct my Executor to set apart the net proceeds of my half the Estate for a term of 8 years and invest the same in some safe and productive investment according to his best judgment. & thereby create a fund as named above the interest of which shall be annually paid to my Sister Mrs Sophie during her life time in trust of the legacy named above. After her death the interest of said fund shall be annually paid by my Daughter Sophie during her life. At her death of the inheritance the fund is to become the property in fee simple of her child or children. If she die without offspring I bequeath the fund both principal and interest to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Free Church in the U.S.

Mary Jackson Hanna Smith Hurd's will, 1843.

to be used for such purposes) as will best  
 promote the interests of the Church  
 & so long after the expiration of the  
 three years (during which my negroes are  
 to work to raise the sum as named above,  
~~& as my Executor shall find practicable~~  
~~he shall send all my negroes i e all~~  
~~which fall to my half the Estate when~~  
~~the survivor shall have been made to one~~  
~~of the American Colonies in Africa~~  
 to be there emancipated they are not to be  
 free till they land in Africa. If there be  
 any who tho' age or vicious habits or any  
 thing else are inservable to be sent to the  
 Colonies I direct them to be sold. I direct  
 my interest in the land stock and other  
 property to be sold, and the proceeds  
 arising from said sales I direct my Execu-  
 tor to apply first to the support of my  
 negroes that may be too infirm to find  
 a purchaser and all the balance to the  
 use and benefit of the negroes that  
 shall go to Africa.  
 8 The exec. Church named above is that  
 now commonly designated "Old School"  
 9 I appoint ~~Sam'l Hurd~~ executor of my  
 will & testament and I hereby authorise  
 him to appoint his successor the Executrix

Mary Jackson Hanna Smith Hurd's will, 1843.

To see these signs & wishes carried out I now  
whereof I hereunto set my hand & seal this  
twenty eighth day of July in the year of  
1843 in presence of these witnesses  
*Thos S Wynn* }      *Mary Hurd Esq*  
*Henny Haggard* }  
*James his son Matthews* }

Mary Jackson Hanna Smith Hurd's will, 1843.



Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith (1797-1837) and Mary Jackson Hanna Smith (1802-1843). Reinterred ca. 1915, Washington Family Cemetery, Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson County, Tennessee.

Washington

Dawson, Smith



Jane Smith (1830 – 1894)



Washington

Dawson, Smith



Jane Smith Washington (1830 – 1894)

Washington

Dawson, Smith



Jane Smith Washington's maternal aunt, Anne Hanna Pope (1802-1886)

# Washington

## 9. Jackson, Hanna, Gault, Steele, Kirkman

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

The story of the Washingtons and Wessyngton Plantation was told in John F. Baker Jr.'s *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom* (Atria Books, 2009). For videos and more information: [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)

**Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016**

# Washington

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**Jackson**

*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

**Descendants of Henry Jackson**

- 
- 1 Henry Jackson b: Ireland, d: Lisnabo(e), Cty. Meath, Ireland
    - + Mary Surname Unknown
  - ...2 Hugh Jackson b: 1709 Lisnabo(e), Cty. Meath, Ireland, d: 16 May 1777 Ballybay, Cty. Monaghan, Ireland
    - + Ellinor Gault b: Abt. 1710 Carrickmacross, Monaghan,Ireland, d: 24 Oct 1791 Ballybay, Cty. Monaghan, Ireland
  - .....3 James Jackson b: 1743 Ballybay, Ireland, d: 05 Mar 1822 Ballybay, Ireland
    - + Mary Steele b: 1749 Moynalty, Cty. Monaghan, Ireland, d: 09 May 1784 Cty. Monaghan, Ireland
  - .....4 Eleanor Jackson b: 18 Nov 1774 Ballybay, Cty., Ireland, d: 30 May 1850 New Orleans, LA
    - + Thomas Kirkman b: 24 Dec 1779 Cork, Ireland, d: 07 Apr 1826 Nashville, TN
  - .....5 John Washington Kirkman b: 09 Apr 1813 Nashville, TN, d: 01 Aug 1888 Nashville, TN
    - + Catherine Hobson McNairy b: 06 Apr 1823 TN, d: 03 Sep 1856 Nashville,TN
  - .....6 James Porter Kirkman b: 15 May 1843, d: Jan 1867 Nashville, TN
  - .....6 John Kirkman b: 23 May 1845 Nashville, TN, d: 03 Feb 1863 Fort Donelson, Nashville, TN
  - .....6 Amanda McNairy Kirkman b: 04 Jan 1854 TN, d: 29 Nov 1934 Nashville, TN
    - + Coburn Dewees Berry II d: 21 Sep 1913 Nashville,TN
    - + Maria Adelaide Washington b: 09 Feb 1832, d: 05 Mar 1902
  - .....4 Martha Jackson b: 09 May 1777 Ballybay, Ireland, d: 10 Jun 1808 Dublin, Ireland
    - + Col. Hugh Hanna b: 1770 Ireland, d: 16 Jun 1806 India
  - .....5 Mary Jackson Hanna b: 20 Sep 1801 Ballybay, Ireland, d: 08 Oct 1843 Grenada, Yalobusha Cty., MS
    - + Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith b: 24 Dec 1799 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 26 Oct 1837 Florence, AL
  - .....6 Laurence Smith b: 13 Jul 1828 Florence, AL, d: 15 Aug 1834 Florence, AL
  - .....6 Jane Smith b: 15 Aug 1830 Plantation of Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith, Florence, AL., d: 11 Feb 1894 Home of Mary Washington Frazer, Nashville, TN
    - + George Augustine Washington b: 24 May 1815 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty.,TN, d: 04 Dec 1892 Wessyngton Plantation, Robertson Cty.,TN
  - .....6 Henry Smith b: 14 Jul 1832 Florence, AL, d: 15 Jul 1832 Florence, AL
  - .....6 James Jackson Smith b: 04 Jul 1833 Florence, AL, d: 31 Mar 1837 Florence, AL
    - + Rev. Samuel Hurd b: NH, d: [MS]
  - .....5 Anne Hanna b: 20 Nov 1802 Dublin, Ireland, d: 1886 Nashville, TN
    - + Alexander Pope d: 1834
  - .....4 James Jackson b: 25 Oct 1782 Ballybay, Ireland, d: 17 Aug 1840 Florence, AL
    - + Sarah Moore b: 10 Jul 1790, d: 24 Dec 1879
  - .....5 Martha Jackson b: Oct 1812, d: 15 Aug 1879
    - + Robert Andrews b: 08 Oct 1810, d: 16 Jan 1848
  - .....6 Sarah Andrews b: 29 Dec 1844, d: 27 Jan 1877
    - + William Park Campbell b: 02 Dec 1842
  - .....5 James Jackson III b: 21 Apr 1822 Forks of Cypress Plantation, Florence, AL, d: 14 Aug 1879
    - + Elizabeth Perkins b: 1832, d: 18 Aug 1872

Washington

Jackson  
Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman



Florence (Lauderdale County), Alabama

*Note:* The notes of Joseph Edwin Washington plus a Jackson descendant and cousin, Louis Farrell Sr.'s extensive genealogical and historical study of the Jackson family [in Tennessee State Library and Archives] give us a good description of their Irish roots. From 1910 to 1915 Joseph Edwin Washington researched these lines through a Jackson cousin in Ireland, a Mary Jackson of Longfield Carrickmacross, County Monaghan. He visited Ireland in 1910.

## Jackson

The Jackson family was, as would have been said, “newcomers,” i.e., the only members of the Frazer/Washington ancestry who came to America after the Revolutionary War. However, Sadie Warner Frazer asserted that the Jacksons, the Hannas, and their Kirkman kin were people who came to America “with means.” This appears to have been the case. In Ireland, the Jacksons, Kirkman and several of the Hanna family came from the area around Monaghan in County Ballibay (Ballybay), Ireland, midway between Dublin and Belfast. <sup>1</sup> The fourth family of importance was the Gault family.

Our Irish cousin concluded that the first Jackson she could trace was a John Jackson in Lisnabo (Lisnaboe/Lisnabo(e)/Lisabon), Ireland whose house had a stone slab marked “John Jackson, 1709,” set in the chimney. She thought that a competent genealogist might be able to trace the Jacksons several generations further back in Ireland as they appeared to have come during Cromwell’s time (1648-1660) to claim land and estates taken from the Irish Nobles for their service to England. She also felt that the Jacksons could be then traced further back into England.

However, other sources believe that Henry Jackson was the father of Hugh Jackson (1709-1777).  
 He was from the Diocese Clogher, Lisnabo, County Meath, and married in 1734 (marriage bond August 12, 1734) Eleanor (Ellinor) **Gault** (1710-1791). Our Irish cousin concluded that the Gaults came from France in the 16<sup>th</sup> century from the Valley of La Gault in the Aisne (Adinet)

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<sup>1</sup>  indicates that a document or photograph related to this topic is included in this booklet.

District (perhaps near Lyons). They were Huguenots; a part of the family stayed in England and a part went to Ireland. According to Joseph Edwin Washington's notes, the wife of the first Gault, Elizabeth (1680-1754) was buried in the graveyard at Tullycorbet Church located about four miles outside Ballibay (Ballybay). [See below for graveyard information].

Our Irish cousin sent a postcard of the house in Lisanisk, Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, where a John Dawson (one of the signatories of Hugh Jackson's marriage bond) was living in 1734:

Marriage License Bond 1734                                  Diocese of Clogher

Novorint Universe p F'senter nos Hugonem Jackson de Lisnabo, in com'midonsi & Johannen Dawson de Carrick McCross in Com'Monaghensi teneri & firmite obligari rondo admon m in Christo Pri ac Dno Bro Johanni prid dnia Cloghere-nsi E'po en centum libe'ster bon' & legal monot Magn Brit' solvend Eid Rendo aut Suo corte attorn' Successor' vel assign' suis as Qm quid solucon' bene & fidel. faciond obligam nos quemibile nrnum conjm & divm p se P toto et in solido Hored ex & admnm nros ferim P P'sentos Sigill nrnis sigellat Dat 120 sei 8 bris 1734.

The condition of ye above obligacon is such yt where as License is granted By the above named Lord Bpp to solemnizo mrony between the above bound Hugh Jackson & Ellinor Gault of Carrick McCross in the parish of Maghaross in tho above named Diocese of Clogher if therefore theroy appear not any lett or impediment by reason of affinity, consanguinity p' contract or otherwise may hinder the sd marriage. Also if there be not at this p'sent any controversy or suit had or depending before any judge Ecciali or civil, for or concerning the marriage or contract of either of the sd persons with any other and further if the said persons do not proceed to the above mariage except the consent of their parents, tutors or Govrs (if any they have) bo therefore first had and obtained. and lastly if the said persons do not proceed to the said marriage in any private place but publickly in the face of the Ch-pish Church where one of them dwells between (~) of the ten and twelve of the clock in the forenoon & not on any of the days or seasons phibited by the canons then this obligacon to be void else to remain in full force in law.

Test P'sent    Hugh Jackson        seal  
 Joshh Paterson                                      John Dawson        seal "  
 Ta:Hastings Tun (?)

John Dawson was married to a sister of Eleanor Gault. Hugh Jackson, and Eleanor Gault may have been married in the house. Hugh Jackson and Eleanor Gault Jackson are buried at Tullycorbet Church near that place. 

Hugh Jackson and Eleanor were the parents of James Jackson, (1743-1822).  He married Mary Steele (1749-1784). Our Irish cousin could only trace the Steele family in Ireland to nearby Canlingford, Diocese Clogher, Parish of Inneskeen, and County Monaghan. According to Joseph Washington's notes, Mary Steele's father was Walter Steele (ca. 1729-1792) from near Carrickmacross. They were previously from Monalty, County Monaghan. James Jackson and Mary Steele's marriage bond from 1760:

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE OF IRELAND  
MARRIAGE BOND  
JACKSON      X      STEEL  
1760

We, James Jackson of Ballibay in Parish of Tulliochorbet, and Norman Steel of Carlingsford in the Parish of Enniskeen, both of County of Monaghan, are hereby bound to Reverent Bishop of Clogher in the sum of five hundred pounds, dated the 19th day of May 1760.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas the abovo bound James Jackson and Mary Steel are contracted together in holy matrimony, and are very desirous of having the same solemnized in the face of the Church, that if they have not obtained the consent of their parents or guardians, if they are bōth Protestants, if there be not lett or Impediment by reason of consanguinity, affinity, precontract or otherwise, this obligation shall be null and void, otherwise remains in full force and virtue of law.

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of

Mark Foster	James Jackson Norman Steel	seal se.al
-------------	-------------------------------	---------------

James Jackson and Mary Steele lived on his Estate near Ballibay (Ballybay). James Jackson had five sons: Henry, James, John, Alexander and Hugh, and seven daughters, including Martha, Mary, Sarah and Eleanor.

Mary's father Walter Steele's will was dated 1792. His executors were his son, Norman Steele, his son in law, James Jackson of Ballybay. Mary Jackson his daughter is not mentioned [because she died in 1784] but he left a little money to each of the following Jackson grandchildren: Sarah, Eleanor, Martha, Mary, Hugh, Walter, John, Alexander, James Washington. His wife had evidently predeceased him, as she is not mentioned in his will. Walter Steele is buried in the Churchyard at Ballybay.

James Jackson wrote his will on November 7, 1820, and it was probated March 21, 1822. Joseph Washington added that after Mary Steele's death on May 9, 1784, James Jackson's wild rakish side appeared. He fathered a number of children by his housekeeper ("his natural children") and included them in his will. They are buried at Tullycorbet Church graveyard.

\*

James Jackson's daughter was Martha Jackson (1777-1808). Martha married a British Army Officer, Col. Hugh **Hanna** (1770-1806) about 1795. Our Irish cousin was unable to identify from where the Hanna family came. Joseph indicated that the Washington family had silver that bore the Hanna family coat of arms, which was brought to America. Martha Jackson Hanna and Col. Hugh Hanna had two daughters: Mary Jackson Hanna (1801-1843) and Anne (1802-1886). Col. Hugh Hanna died in India in 1806. Martha Hanna died in 1808 in Ireland.

\*

A ca. 1879 letter  of Anne Hanna Pope indicates that the Jacksons had some connection with the Irish Rebellion of 1798 and two of its leaders Oliver Bond and Robert Emmett (imprisoned and hanged in 1803). Henry Jackson, brother of James Jackson, was involved in the rebellion. His daughter Eleanor married Oliver Bond. Henry Jackson fled first to Germany and then to America where he reestablished in Baltimore the iron foundry business he had in Dublin. There is a mention of the Jacksons and the application of the Fugitive and Banishment Act for their part in the Rebellion. (See W. H. Maxwell's *History of the Irish Rebellion*, page 330 [John Jackson, James Jackson, Henry Jackson]. See also P.W. Joyce, *History of Ireland*.)

Martha Jackson Hanna's brother, James Jackson (1782-1840), was about 17 in 1799, and the

Irish Rebellion may have been the reason why he came to America in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. 

James Jackson owned a prosperous store, Jackson's General Merchandise, in Nashville. James Jackson married Sarah "Sally" Moore, a young beautiful widow in 1810; they had nine children.

James Jackson was an advisor of Andrew Jackson and was his attendant in the infamous fatal duel on May 30, 1806 between Andrew Jackson and Charles Dickerson. James Jackson lent Andrew Jackson money over the years. They eventually had a falling out.

James Jackson founded the Forks of Cypress Plantation in Florence, Alabama; it was built from 1818-1822 (It was destroyed by fire on June 6, 1966).  There he became a famous thoroughbred horse breeder. He served in the Alabama state legislature; in 1839, he was president of the state Senate. When he died in 1840, he was the richest man in Alabama.

Both Forks of Cypress and the Jackson Cemetery on Forks of Cypress were placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997 and 2000 respectively. 

## Descendants of Thomas Kirkman and Eleanor Jackson

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- 1 Thomas Kirkman b: 24 Dec 1779 Cork, Ireland, d: 07 Apr 1826 Nashville, TN
  - + Eleanor Jackson b: 18 Nov 1774 Ballybay, Cty., Ireland, d: 30 May 1850 New Orleans, LA
- ..2 John Washington Kirkman b: 09 Apr 1813 Nashville, TN, d: 01 Aug 1888 Nashville, TN
  - + Catherine Hobson McNairy b: 06 Apr 1823 TN, d: 03 Sep 1856 Nashville, TN
- .....3 James Porter Kirkman b: 15 May 1843, d: Jan 1867 Nashville, TN
- .....3 John Kirkman b: 23 May 1845 Nashville, TN, d: 03 Feb 1863 Fort Donelson, Nashville, TN
- .....3 Amanda McNairy Kirkman b: 04 Jan 1854 TN, d: 29 Nov 1934 Nashville, TN
  - + Coburn Dewees Berry II d: 21 Sep 1913 Nashville, TN
- .....4 William Tyler Berry b: 09 Oct 1884 TN, d: 10 Mar 1937
  - + Mary Washington Tillman b: 25 Nov 1886 Nashville, TN, d: 07 May 1969 Nashville, TN
- .....5 Coburn Dewees Berry III b: 21 Nov 1922 Nashville, TN, d: 01 Apr 2012 Franklin, TN
  - + Sue Bradley Douglas d: Franklin, TN
- + Maria Adelaide Washington b: 09 Feb 1832, d: 05 Mar 1902

After his sister's and brother-in-law's deaths (1806 & 1808), James Jackson made preparations to bring his orphaned nieces, Anne Hanna and Mary Jackson Hanna, to America. Ten years after the deaths, Anne and Mary came in 1818, stayed a year in Philadelphia in a Mrs. Melone's girls' school and stayed with the **Kirkmans** (who had married into the Jacksons and Hannas) in their home in Nashville on vacations. The girls then moved to Florence, Alabama to live with their Uncle James Jackson at the Forks of Cypress. Anne and Mary lived there until they married. Mary Jackson Hanna brought her bed with her from Ireland. Some Hannas also came to America; married other Jacksons and Kirkmans; and came to Nashville and later New Orleans. Thomas Kirkman (1779-1826) was a major in British Army before he came to Nashville. One of the Kirkmans was married at President Andrew Jackson's home, the Hermitage near Nashville. 

\*

African American Alex Haley's (author of *Roots*) book and major motion picture *Queen* relates to James Jackson's plantation Forks of Cypress in Florence, Alabama. We and Alex Haley have the same ancestors, James Jackson and Mary Steele back in Ireland, because Haley descended

from Queen who was fathered by Martha Jackson Hanna's nephew, (James Jackson III, the son of her Uncle James Jackson); Queen's mother was the slave, Easter, on Forks of Cypress Plantation. When I first read *Queen*, I was astounded how many people in our genealogical past I recognized - the Jacksons, the Hannas, the Kirkman family, and of course Nashville. Haley presents a story that all the Jacksons, Kirkmans and Hanna families were wild-eyed revolutionaries. Haley painted Hugh Hanna (a British army officer) incorrectly as an Irish revolutionary leader of vigilante squads.

\*

In 1823 Mary Jackson Hanna married Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith, who owned the small plantation across from Forks of Cypress Plantation. They had one daughter, Jane Smith (1830-1894). After her husband's death in 1837, Mary Jackson Hanna Smith married the Rev. Samuel Hurd of New Hampshire on July 5, 1842. The bed Mary Jackson Hanna brought with her from Ireland remained at Forks of Cypress when she married Rev. Hurd. When the plantation burned, Jane Washington Ewing bought it and brought it to her home Glenraven. Hickman Price (descendant of Mary Washington Frazer) then bought it and it remains in his family. [See Smith, Dawson, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors].

After her parents' deaths, Jane Smith came to Nashville (evidently to stay with her Kirkman/Jackson cousins). [See Smith, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors] She lived in Nashville until she was 18 when she married George Augustine Washington, the owner of Wessyngton Plantation, about 40 miles outside Nashville. [See Washington, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors] The wedding took place in a Kirkman home in Nashville. One of the

Kirkman houses was used by General Rosencrans when he was in charge of the Union occupation of Nashville (1862-63) and was never ever re-occupied by the Kirkmans.

Several Jacksons and Kirkmans fought in the Civil War. Col. James Jackson III with the 27<sup>th</sup> Alabama Regiment was wounded fourteen times. John Kirkman was killed at Fort Donelson (Nashville) on February 3, 1863. Captain James Porter Kirkman was with the 10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Regiment (the “Irish Regiment”) when on May 12, 1863 he received a minor wound in the head at the Battle of Raymond, Mississippi . Kirkman was connected with Randal McGavock who was the colonel of the 10<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Regiment and was killed at the Battle of Raymond. [See McGavock, Sadie Warner Frazer’s Paternal Ancestors]. According to Captain Patrick Griffin:

I got two of the members of my company to volunteer to go with me. We found the body just where I had left it. We picked him up tenderly and started toward town. I hope and trust that God will never let me find a toad so long and sorrowful again. Capt. George Diggons and Capt. James Kirkman were the only members among the wounded of my regiment who were able to get away from the battlefield. The Confederates were retreating rapidly, and we were not far off the way when the Yanks came in sight. As soon as my two comrades saw them, they let loose of the Colonel’s body and started to run, but I drew my pistol and told them: they would have to die by him; but later, seeing there was no possible chance of escape, I told them they could go and I would stay with him.

According to the editor of *Confederate Veteran*, Capt. Griffin said “Damn it, boys; die by your colonel.” Captain Griffin recalled that after the War:

I called on Mr. K— and told him about his son, Capt. James K—, being wounded at Raymond. He was not disposed to be friendly, so I cut my visit short and went over to Capt. Stockell’s.

(Source: Captain Patrick Griffin, “The Famous Tenth Tennessee, *Confederate Veteran*, XIII, 1906, 553-560).

James P. Kirkman was taken prisoner on September 2, 1864 in Atlanta and was held at Johnson's Island, Ohio until June 1865. He died of exposure to cold in January 1867.

Nashville is really full of Jackson descendants - people related to the Kirkman family, a number of people I knew as a child.

**Tullycorbet Church Graveyard,Ireland:** The graveyard is located about four miles outside Ballibay (Ballybay) . The following is a diagram showing the relative positions of the Jackson Tombs on a gently sloping hillside, under the shadow of large trees in the Tullycorbet Churchyard. (Provided by cousin Mary Jackson of Longfield Carrickmacross, County Monaghan, Ireland, January 9, 1911.) Each grave is covered by an oblong four sided stone monument with square corners. The sides and ends consist of a single stone each about two feet high, the top being a flat slab of stone with the inscriptions on the top surface. The graves as given of our ancestors, beginning at the top of the hill and coming down:

HUGH JACKSON  
Died 16 May 1777 aged 68 years  
and  
ELEANOR, his wife who died in 1791  
aged 81 years  
Here lieth the body of Hugh Jackson  
who departed this life the 16<sup>th</sup> of May  
1777 aged 68 years. Also his wife  
Eleanor [Gault] who departed in 1791  
aged 81 years.

---

Born 1749  
MARY JACKSON [Mary Steele]  
Died 9<sup>th</sup> May 1784 aged 35 years.  
[May be Mary Steele, wife of James].

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JAMES JACKSON  
Died 5<sup>th</sup> March 1822 aged 79 years  
Born 1743.  
The date of their marriage bond was May 19,  
1760.

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The graves contain and are labeled for multiple bodies, sons, daughters, etc. When Joseph Edwin Washington visited in 1910, a handsome stone monument in very good preservation stood over James Jackson's and his father Hugh's grave.

Washington

Jackson  
Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman

Transcribed from the tombstone by Cousin John Jackson at Cousin Mary Dyas' request.

The four brothers lie side by side in the family buying ground at Tullycorbet.

Tombstone of James Jackson:

Here lies the remains of James Jackson, late of Ballybay – who departed this life 5 of March, 1822 – 79 years of age.

He was ever the steady and sincere friend of civil and religious liberty, from the principles of which he never apostacized, as was too much the case with his early friends and acquaintances.

This stone is erected as a testimony of filial affection by his son.

W. Jackson.

Tullycorbet – 4 of Sept. 1863.

Washington

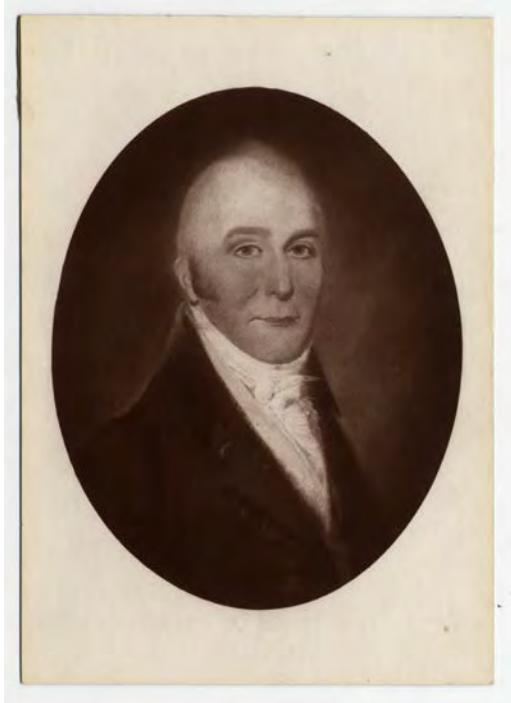
Jackson  
Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman



Jackson Coat of Arms

Washington

Jackson  
Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman



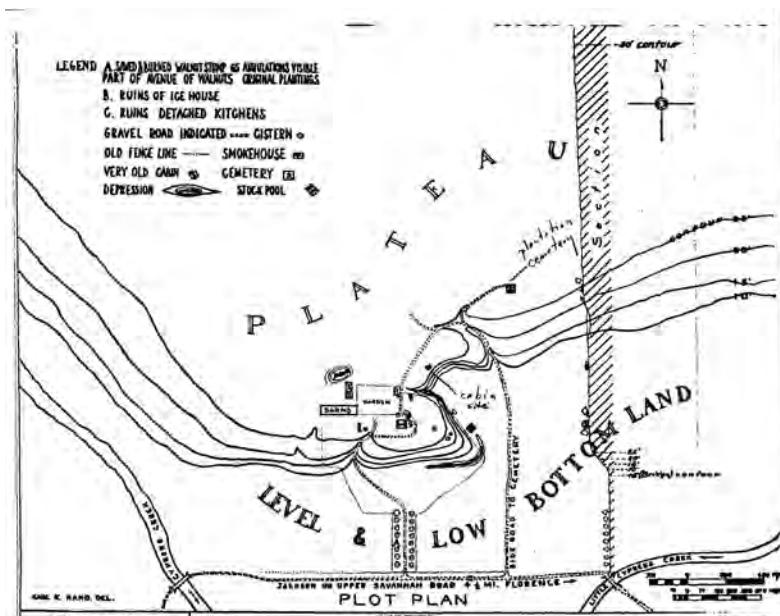
Hugh Jackson (1709-1777), Ballybay, Ireland



James Jackson (1743-1822), Ballybay, Ireland.



James Jackson

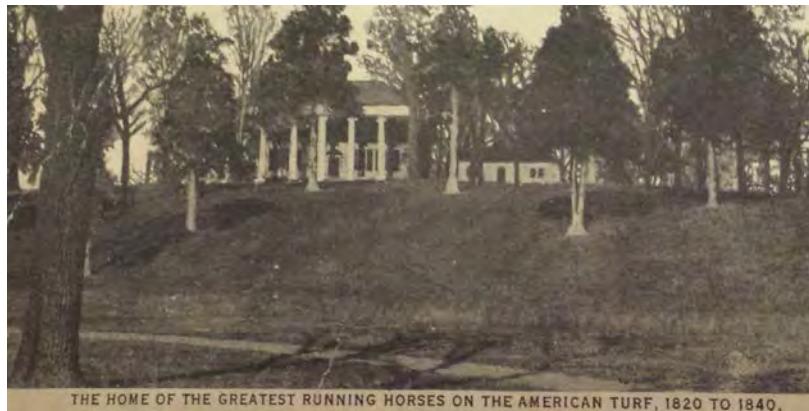


Forks of Cypress, Florence, Alabama

Washington



Jackson  
Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman



James Jackson (1782-1840), Forks of Cypress Plantation, Florence, Alabama.

The Forks of Cypress ruins, the remains of an exceptional Alabama plantation house dating from c. 1825-1830, consists today of a series of twenty-three brick columns, arranged as a peristyle, resting on a limestone stylobate. A brick foundation with brick and limestone lined light wells and a brick lined cellar with a later poured concrete floor mark the former location of the house within the peristyle. Brick paving occupies the area between the colonnade and the foundations. The ruins crown the level top of a gentle slope at the confluence of the Big Cypress and Little Cypress creeks. The surrounding countryside consists largely of tree-lined open fields with a few trees scattered in the immediate vicinity of the site. The rolling agricultural land to the south of the house probably closely resembles the historic pastoral setting of the ruins within the horse farm of James Jackson, the man who commissioned the house. A short distance to the west of the ruins stands a mid-twentieth century frame barn. The setting to the northwest of the house has been slightly compromised by the recent construction of a large house in the Post-modern Eclectic vein about one hundred and fifty yards from the site. The new house does, however, rest on a somewhat lower site than the ruins and backs up to a tree line, so that its presence does not greatly influence the predominant sense of open space characterizing the historical pastoral landscape. A large stone chimney stand from what was once a log saddlebag dependency of the house remains some distance to the northeast of the house. At the end of a ridge almost directly to the east of the site, but not visible from the ruins because of its location in woods, is the Jackson family cemetery.

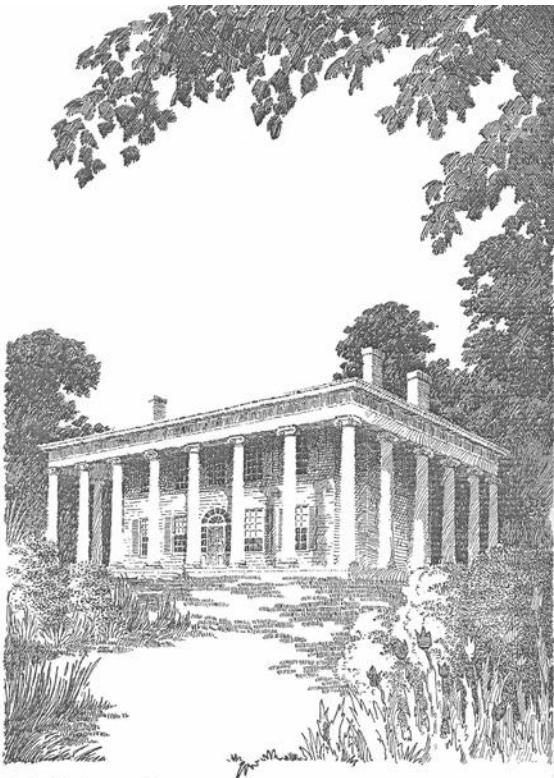
The ruins of the Forks of Cypress consist of all the non-wooden elements of the house, the rest being consumed in a great conflagration in June of 1966, with the exception of the chimneys which had collapsed following the fire. The ruins have three basic components: the twenty-three brick columns and twenty-four column bases, the stone stylobate and brick porch floor, and the stone-lined cellar and window wells. The columns of the Forks of Cypress consist of multiple curved bricks molded to varying sizes in order to achieve their pronounced entasis. On several of the columns, most notably the one on the extreme northeastern corner, the plaster which originally covered the shafts still remains. One column is "missing" in the middle of the eastern elevation because one of the chimneys collapsed on it as a consequence of the 1966 fire. The capitals of the columns were wood and therefore did not survive. The columns rest on bases with torus moldings that are accurate for the Ionic order.

Three limestone steps still allow access to the porch on the south facade. The bottom step originally terminated in ornamental scrolled returns, and the more eastern end of the step remains intact. The stone stylobate is composed of a fieldstone retaining wall capped by a slightly protruding stone course. The stylobate is faced with dressed stone on the south and west elevations. On the east and north elevations, the fieldstone has always been exposed. Inside the physical parameters of the stylobate stonework, the porch consists of brick paving laid directly in earth. The brick-lined cellar extends beneath what was originally the south half of the frame portion of the house. The brick lining is still visible, as are some elements of stonework, including the fieldstone lining of what was once a window well and cut stone slabs that mark locations of chimney bases and cellar entrances on east and west elevations. Not now visible but confirmed through archaeological investigations, the floor of the cellar is covered with a twentieth-century layer of concrete. Concrete or plaster remains in sections on the cellar walls. Archaeological investigations have shown the existence of the foundation of the kitchen building immediately to the east of the house proper, but these are not currently visible.

Detailed information about the portions of the house that were burned in 1966 are available in the form of HABS drawings. These show that the house was basically a double-pile frame form with the unusual plan element of a widened stair hall in the north half of the central passage. High style architectural detail typical of Alabama during the 1820s and early 1830s was scattered throughout the house in the form of mantles, fanlights, sidelights, and moldings. For more detailed information on how the Forks of Cypress looked before the fire, refer to the accompanying HABS documentation.

Some archaeological exploration has been performed around the house foundations and on the site of the kitchen. This work has been limited in its nature, primarily with the purpose of confirming that the colonnade, the house core, and the kitchen were all of contemporary construction. Great archaeological potential remains further out from the house, where there is a high probability of sites relating to slave life, the early horse industry, and plantation landscape in general.

National Register of Historic Places, 1997



Lauderdale County, Alabama

## THE FORKS OF CYPRESS 1820

Still in the deep Tennessee Basin, but not Tennessee architecture, James Jackson's house has felt the influence of the Natchez Trace-hipped roofs, temple verandas, and cotton.

architecture of the cotton kingdom—the first example we have considered of a way of building very popular in the Deep South.

James Jackson, native of Ireland, born of parents of little better than ordinary circumstances and well educated, came to America when he was a young man and settled in Nashville, Tennessee, during the time of Andrew Jackson. He came to Lauderdale County, Alabama, from New York in 1811, and eventually became a member of the Legislature, where in 1830 he became President of the Senate. In 1847, with John Coffee and Andrew McKinley, he organized the Cypress Land Company which secured great tracts of land in the Tennessee River Valley from the Tennessee Land Company. This real estate concern opened up the lands around Florence in 1818 and sold off lots and country estates in that region. This section was excellent stock country for it was a recurrence of the Kentucky Bluegrass type and possessed clear, swift streams and good climate. Blue grass flourished where none had before.

Following the domestic affairs of the Jacksons, one finds there a typically romantic family of the Old South. There were three daughters, Elizabeth McCullough and Mary Jackson, half-sisters, and May Ellan, a younger sister. With these young ladies in the offing, there was of course a great deal of gay life, a number of balls, and a continuous string of important guests. The Jacksons proved to be quite prolific, and from the 'twenties through the 'sixties, a continual train of children romped the hillsides of the Cypress Land Company while they were "carried out" of Alabama in the War-between-the-Stars. Mrs. Jackson continued as mistress of the Forks long after the War and during the Reconstruction days, and died at the age of ninety, leaving over one hundred

descendants. James Jackson died in 1849. Carrying on the tradition of early Tennessee influence and the Bluegrass regions, the Forks of Cypress became a very important live stock center. Its stables, much to the delight of Jackson, were second to none in the country. He stocked his stables with thoroughbreds, domestic and foreign, including the famous Leviathan from the stables of Lord Godolphin of England, and Glencoe from the Duke of Grafton. Among the famous horses displayed and stabled at the Forks were Magnolia, Gallopare, Iroquois and Peacock.

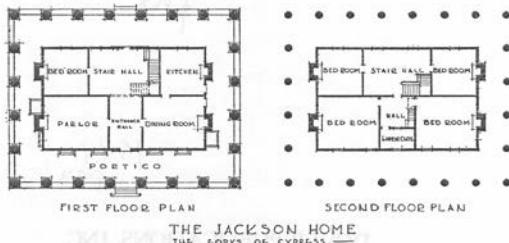
Surmounting the four slopes to the big house is said to have been four enormous orchards, two devoted exclusively to apples and two to peaches. In addition to this there was a double row of peach trees one mile long which lined the avenue leading to the quarters. Jackson is said to have kept only sixty slaves at the home place and the others in Mississippi on his plantations. In his quarters were extensive shops in both wood and iron work where all of the farm implements and wagons were made for his entire holding.

On visiting The Forks today, one finds a very impressive sight. The big house still reposes on the highest crest of the hill commanding the countryside as though its importance was comparable to the Acropolis. Great white pillars depend on the deep shade of the veranda they border for their background, for here is missing the usual salmon colored brick wall of Tennessee or the orange stucco of Louisiana. The outside walls are stuccoed and painted white; only the green blinds and the black shadows of the windows and the weathered wood roof break the spell.

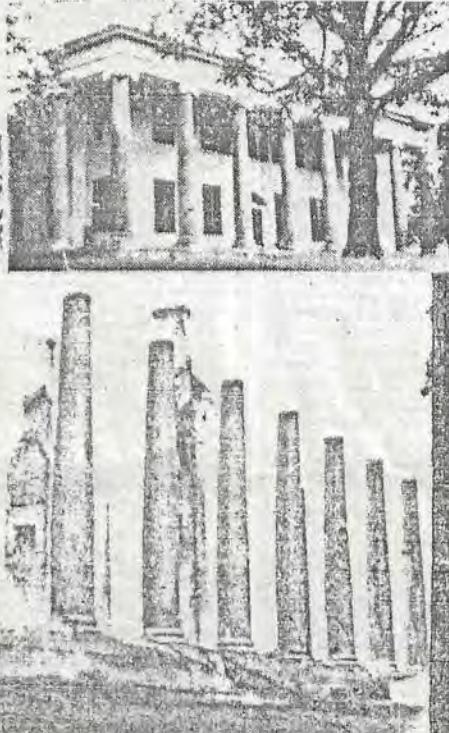
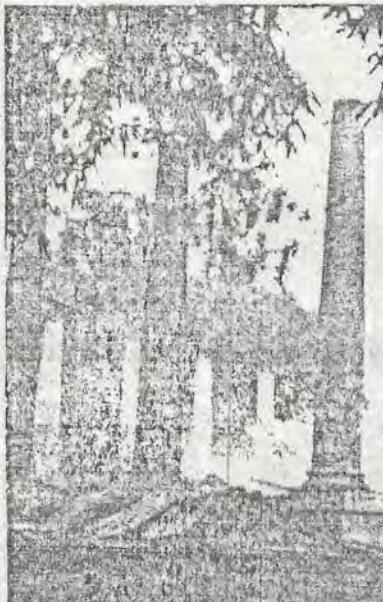
Five miles from Florence in the junction of Big and Little Cypress Creeks, on a high knoll commanding this beautiful spot, James Jackson built, in 1820, his only home which he called The Forks of Cypress. The immediate estates surrounding it consisted of three thousand acres of land.

In plan it is a typical plantation home, Tennessee in character, except for the temple veranda façades which are in the Louisiana manner. There are center halls on both floors with the usual two rooms on each side. The chimneys, located on the outside walls, take up too much of that precious space and tend to crowd the windows. Farther south the planter who built on this pattern usually put the chimney pieces on the interior walls, reserving the exterior for light and ventilation. The façades, while traditionally Greek temple in form, are not constructed of materials usual in classical architecture. The pillars, instead of being of stone, are of wood, and the walls instead of brick and stone are of wood also. Fenestration and entrances show the influence of the Atlantic seaboard. The Ionic order is very good in the shaft proportions, but the capitals and entablatures have succumbed to local treatment, probably because of the limitations of slave labor and the failure of a good traveling craftsman to happen along at the proper time.

The outstanding feature of the Forks is its temple piazza. The temple type of house, a rare exception in Tennessee, was extensively used in Alabama, South Mississippi, and along the Mississippi River. This home, built rather early for the region and rather far north for the type is an outpost, as it were, of the

J. Frazer Smith. *Plantation Houses and Mansions of the Old South*. 1941.

## *Lightning Strikes Forks of Cypress*



**TOTAL LOSS**—Florence's Number One tourist attraction, the historic Forks of Cypress, upper right, was totally destroyed by fire on Monday morning, when the 144-year-old mansion was struck by lightning. Only the 24 columns and three of the four brick chimneys were left standing. The Forks, owned by R. B. Dowdy of Birmingham contained many antiques and other articles of historic interest. It was built by James Jackson in 1822.

## **Historic "Forks" Burns**

(From the *Florence Herald*, June 9, 1966).

An old, and certainly one of the area's most historic landmarks, the Forks of Cypress, was destroyed by fire before noon Monday after being struck by lightning. The structure was owned by Rufus B. Dowdy of Birmingham.

One of the few remaining ante-bellum homes in the area and unique because of its unusual temple architecture, The Forks was built in the early 1820's by James Jackson, known as America's first importer and breeder of race horses, and one of the founding fathers of Florence.

Strangely like the ruins of ancient temples standing as silent reminders of the "glory that was Greece," the 24 great columns remained erect after the fire burned every vestige of the great house to the ground. These columns made

of crossed blocks of wood\* overlaid with a stucco of sand, horsehair, charcoal and molasses, had withstood the ravages of time remarkably well and had required comparatively little upkeep.

The famous house, which had housed many notables in the heyday of its glory, was operated by Dowdy's niece, Mrs. A. J. Wallace, and was the site for numerous art shows and ante-bellum pageantry. In recent years it had become nationally famous as a tourist attraction.

Mr. Dowdy had, in addition to furnishing the home with authentic furniture of the period, collected many museum pieces of unusual interest, including imported china, silver and glassware, as well as pioneer artifacts impossible to replacement.

\*Bricks were the material used, as substantiated by examination.

*Florence Alabama Herald*, June 9, 1966.



Forks of Cypress

The Forks of Cypress Cemetery is located on 5 acres of wooded land at the end of a narrow lane which diverges east from the current Dowdy Road a quarter of a mile north of Jackson Road outside of Florence, Ala. The road proceeds a short distance through the recent growth of woods, over a small historic stone and cement culvert to a small clearing. The cemetery proper begins in this clearing and consists of two components, the Jackson family cemetery and the slave cemetery. In the clearing on the crest of a bluff over the Little Cypress Creek sits the Jackson family cemetery, surrounded by a substantial stone wall complete with stile. Beyond and to the east of the Jackson family burials in a wooded area is the African American cemetery with numerous depressions in the earth, one headstone, and a few unworked blocks of stone which indicate the graves of the slaves and, later, the descendants of Forks of Cypress slaves and tenants of the Jackson family.

The Jackson family section of the cemetery, proper, is bounded by a dry-laid stone wall that is on average four feet high and two feet in width. In the northwest corner of the wall is a stile composed of four stone steps on either side. The plan of the wall is a rectangle with the following dimensions: the north side measures 89' 10", the west side measures 83' 11", the south side measures 89' 8", and the east side measures 84' 4". The west wall was partially dismantled in recent years in order to allow admittance to equipment to repair some of the monuments after a bout of vandalism; it was reconstructed with such care that the part of the wall that was dismantled is indistinguishable from the completely intact sections of the wall on the three other sides.<sup>1</sup> The dimensions of the dry-laid stones vary considerably. Large, somewhat more regularly shaped stones cap the wall. The corner cap stones had their positions reinforced with iron tie bars at some unknown time within the historic period.

The monuments within the grand stone enclosure conform to several different types and materials. The nineteenth-century monuments are largely of grey limestone or white marble, while monuments from the turn-of-the-century on are largely of granite. The nineteenth-century monuments form the primary visual impression of the cemetery, being larger and more vertical (frequently as variations on the obelisk type). The later monuments seem almost to physically defer to the antebellum/Civil War era ones, with lower profiles, darker stone, and less elaboration. There are a total of fifty-six monuments within the stone enclosure. Only one monument commemorates a burial within the last fifty years, and given that it matches the spouse's stone for his burial in 1949, the monument itself may well fall within the period of significance. Seventeen monuments are obelisks or variations of the basic obelisk form, all dating to before 1880. Seven of the obelisks are solely of grey limestone, while ten are of marble but set into limestone bases. Makers' signatures on four of the marble obelisks indicate diverse origins in St. Louis, Philadelphia, Boston, and Nashville. Some of the obelisk monuments are accompanied by footstones or horizontal stone slabs to indicate where the burial lies, particularly if the obelisk acts as a headstone for more than one person. Many obelisks are very chaste in their form, firmly within Classical Revival and specifically Greek Revival tastes. Family patriarch James Jackson's monument is a good example of the standard from which the other obelisks vary to a greater or lesser degree. Within the obelisk type, there are several variations in style and some real departures from the prototypical form, however. The 1830s limestone monument for the mother and child, Martha and John Albert Childress, has an exceptionally thin obelisk shaft and shows a Federal style influence in a base with fluting and bull's-eye motifs. The circa 1840 monument for William and Pocahontas Perkins has a basic obelisk form but is capped with a small pediment and a detailed relief carved wreath. The circa 1848 marker of Robert Andrews is octagonal in plan and has a base surrounded by a crown of *fleur-de-lis*, giving it more of a Gothic Revival air. The circa 1872 Rev. W.M. Mitchell monument takes on a Renaissance Revival cast with strapwork panels imitating architectural ornaments from the 16th century and a scrolled Baroque-influenced epitaph escutcheon. The marker of Thermuthis C. Jackson is actually a truncated obelisk (i.e. the top does not come to a point) and is very much in a Greek Revival strain with pediments on the four sides of the base, but also has an elaborately carved harp surrounded by roses and other flowers. The grave of Sarah Hanna is marked by a monument in the obelisk family but which should be more precisely termed a "pedestal-tomb."<sup>2</sup>

Jackson Family Cemetery, Forks of Cypress, National Register of Historic Places, 2000

Washington

Jackson  
Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman



Jackson Cemetery, Forks of Cypress, Florence, Alabama



Jackson Cemetery, Forks of Cypress, Florence, Alabama

Washington

Jackson  
Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman



Eleanor (Eleanora, Elinor) Jackson Kirkman (1774-1850)



Anne Hanna Pope (1802-1882).  
Jane Smith Washington's aunt.

Washington

Jackson

Hanna , Gault, Steele, Kirkman

Dear Florence :

You and Norman Farroll ( ) have often expressed a wish to know more of our family history. Lately I had occasion to write to our dear old Aunt Jackson (?) now in her 83d year for some dates respecting my sister's marriage to Joseph D. Smith and Mr. Pope's ( ) death in 1834 in New Orleans of yellow fever in the midst of a hopeful career.

She was not able to furnish the dates but referred me to Sarah Polk of Columbia for other dates on record in the old family Bible, given to her, from which Aunt J cut out that part relating to Aunt Hanna's ( ) family for Cousin James Hanna ( ) when on a visit in 1861.

If you have the Irish letter I sent you from Cousin Mary Jackson ( ) on the occasion of Miss Dyas' ( ) first visit to Ireland you will see something of our great grandfather (Hugh Jackson), his relationship to a Lady Somebody, with an unpronounceable name. Our great grandfather belonged to another county before he settled in County Monaghan, where he owned a large landed estate. He was a quiet inactive man fond of ease and rural sports, such as fishing and hunting and etc. His wife was an active managing woman, who took the supervision of her five boys and everything else, raised them all in the Presbyterian faith, the friends of equal rights and no Prelacy. I have often heard our grandfather speak of his mother with great affection.

You will see from the Bible record grandmother (Mary Steele) must have died early notwithstanding the twelve children she brought into this world of care and conflict. After her death there seems to be a breaking up of the family by marriage and emigration to the United States, when my sister (Mary Hanna 1st) and self were sent to the old homestead in Ballibay after my mother's death in 1806. There were none of them there.

The five brothers inherited their father's estate and all lived in the same neighborhood, except Uncle Henry ( ), who was an ironfounder in Dublin until the time he and Oliver Bond ( ), Uncle John (?) grandfather of his rebel daughter, was implicated in the rebellion (Irish). Uncle John (?) and Henry ( ) fled first to Germany and then to the United States, where Uncle Henry re-established his family in Baltimore, smuggling his machinery from England as he could. It took him five years to get under way, as England would not suffer a mechanic to leave her shores - so he wrote our grandfather ( ). Uncle Henry and Uncle Hanna ( ) died in 1818. We were consigned to Uncle Henry but did not hear of his death until our arrival in Baltimore. Aunt Kirkman ( ) then living in Philadelphia, placed us at Mr. Malone's School for a year, spending Saturdays and Sundays at Aunt Kirkman's.

We were kindly received by our mother's relatives. We came to Tonnossoo in 1819 and lived with Uncle James ( ) and Aunt Hanna ( ) until our marriage, mine in 1823 to Alexander, third son of Col. LoRoy Pope, Huntsville, Ala.

The history of our grandfathers in this country you know. They were all highly successful men and women in business, without stain or reproach. It is for the third generation to transmit their names, untarnished, to those now under their influence and wise coercion.

What little I know of our family was obtained from Aunt Hanna ( ) who had a love for genealogy which seemed to me of no moment. I think differently now when I see the fairest characters misrepresented. Often maliciously trampled down to build up some rotten concern who never took heed to their ways, running into excesses of every kind until too late to deserve respectability. Our people as far back as we can trace, belonged to the gentry class, occasionally mixing with Lords in hunting and other gatherings.

Grandfather ( ) was highly esteemed by the Catholic clergy tho a stiff-necked Presbyterian. Invited to one of their councils in Dublin by a liveried

Letter by Anne Hanna Pope, ca. 1879.

Note: ( ) referred to genealogy data numbers, and I have deleted them.

courier. Count Leslie was often his guest - when he came to collect rents. Grandfather was no traveller. Once he and Uncle Hanna ( ) went with priest Mohan, his long and well beloved friend, an educated man, to the Isle of Man to attend some religious solemnities called stations - where were rigid penances of various and amusing exactions from the half naked devotees.

When Aunt Hanna ( ) and my mother ( ) were preparing for the United States, he revisited Dublin, gave Aunt Hanna his miniature, from which was taken the splendid likeness in Uncle James ( ) parlor. My mother was captured by my handsome a la militari father.

Uncle James returned to Ireland and was taking his sister Mattie (probably 1h) back with him when an all wise providence ordered her death in her native land that they might show kindness to her orphan children.

My father ( ) and Uncle Hanna ( ) inherited each ten thousand pounds with which they embarked in business. What with wars, and privateering - shipments to foreign ports were attended with great difficulties and loss. They could not hold up without clear seas and safe transport for shipments abroad.

The history of grandfather Jackson's children who settled in the United States you know. Mary Jackson married Stanley Daniel (other say McDaniel) of Caraghcross. Aunt Mary ( ) died leaving two children. She was very beautiful, fair as a lily. With red hair.

Eleanor ( ), Uncle Hugh's daughter married William Tenant (should be Tennent) of Belfast, she left one child, Lady Emerson Tennent ( ) Her husband, Mr. Emerson and author, took her name, was a member of Parliament and afterwards knighted. Isabella ( ) married Dr. Wirsing (spelling ?) a surgeon in the British Army, served in India. He was a tall elegant looking man dark as an Indian. He left two children.

Uncle Hugh's three sons came early to this land of fist and muscle. James and Alice lived in Nashville. Uncle James was in business on the Square. Aunts Ellen ( ) and Hanna ( ) lived over the stores where Levonian is now, as was usual in the early settlement of the town. Humphrey ( ) went to Arkansas, married, and was killed by the fall of a tree. Walter ( ) had the blood of a free man, joined the patriots in South America, and was never heard of again. Norman sought to call his boy (the author) after him and put some brimstone in his baptismal font.

Do you want to know what kinds of houses our honored forefathers lived in? You must remember the rude architecture of 200 years ago! You can only judge of the style of the occupant by the furniture of the furnished house. The old homestead of the family in Ballibay was occupied by father Jackson ( ). There were born his twelve children in so many years and where he died. The house and grounds were walled in from large fields surrounding, embracing an area equal to the Square from Church to Broad Streets (about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile). A large garden of flowers and fruit trees, stables, outhouses, grainaries, kennels, and hay yards for oats and hay. A clear river or brook ran through, abounding in fish. Fine oaks and laurels. Our house two stories high covered with ivy. The house was stone, two storied, stuccoed, and slated. On entering you saw a long paved hall. Parlors at each end, a Chinese bannister to the stairs. All the rooms had closets large enough for bed rooms. The ceilings were low, windows small, but plenty of them. Mantles were marble. Furniture old, gilded black mahogany, richly carved. The bedsteads all curtained. The state bedroom had curtains of Chinese figures, richly fringed with deep lined thread. The top of the bedstead had a deep cornice of Chinese work, such as you see in fans and pictures. The sideboard was a long mahogany table, like old fashioned pianos, with scroll work around edge. Chairs high backed, covered with dyed hair cloth. The furniture all in keeping throughout the house. Grandfather had white men and two women servants, had hunting horses and pack of hounds. Our table supplied wool from land and sea. Uncle John of Crievo lived two miles off, a large house called in the ballads of the county "Castle of Carnavay". Uncle J had extensive bleach greens. Had a family of pretty daughters and two sons, wild hunting follows when money was plenty. He was a splendid man. One of his daughters married Sydney Hamilton Brown of Killoly Castle, family of note. Mr. Popo met him when he was in Washington, D.C., said he was the most finished gentleman he ever saw. Another daughter married John Jackson, her cousin, President of the bank in Monaghan, brother of Mrs. Dras. Alice Jackson, Mrs. Dynas' father, built a fine house on his land erected bleach mills at Cromore. His wife was a splendid haughty high toned Church woman. Four daughters and two sons. I believe I have written all I can recollect.

Letter by Anne Hanna Pope, ca. 1879, p. 2.

Note: ( ) referred to genealogy data numbers, and I have deleted them.

# Washington

## 10. Flood, Warren

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

**Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016**

# Washington

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**Flood**

*Note: The descendant lists and dates are for reference only. Exact dates are in the genealogy database.*

Please note that this genealogy is very confusing. I am including this information in hopes that at some time in the future, this genealogy will be proved or disproved.

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**Descendants of John Flood and Elizabeth Crider**

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- 1 John Flood d: Bef. Nov 1693 Surry Cty., VA
  - + Elizabeth Crider
- ...2 Elizabeth Flood b: Bet. 1650–1656 Surry Cty., VA, d: Bef. 11 Feb 1718/19 VA
  - + Nicholas Smith b: Surry Cty., VA, d: 1719 Surry Cty., VA
- .....3 Lawrence Smith b: Isle of Wight Cty., VA, d: Abt. 1747 Southampton Cty., VA
  - + Jane Mary Regan b: VA, d: Abt. 1758 Southampton Cty., VA
- .....4 Joseph Smith b: 1724 Isle of Wight Cty., VA, d: Abt. 1774 Northampton Cty., NC
  - + Mary Small
- .....5 Col. Lawrence Smith b: 07 Jul 1754 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 07 Mar 1812 "Bellevue", Northampton Cty., NC
  - + Jane Dawson Smith b: 03 Nov 1758 VA, d: Abt. 1812 Northampton Cty., NC
- .....4 Absolem Smith b: Southampton Cty., VA, d: 1766 VA
  - + Hannah Dawson b: Southampton Cty., VA, d: [VA]
- .....5 Jane Dawson Smith b: 03 Nov 1758 VA, d: Abt. 1812 Northampton Cty., NC
  - + Col. Lawrence Smith b: 07 Jul 1754 Northampton Cty., NC, d: 07 Mar 1812 "Bellevue", Northampton Cty., NC
- .....4 Flud Smith

We have two connections to the Floods. One is through **Elizabeth Flood who married Nicholas Smith** ca. 1680. This connection has been proven. [See Smith, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors] In the ancestry of Jane Smith, wife of George Augustine Washington, it is proved that an Elizabeth Flood (d. 1719) was the wife of Nicholas Smith in Virginia. She was Elizabeth Flood, presumed to be a daughter of John Flood [Jr.], son of Colonel John Flood (who came to Jamestown in 1611 on the *Swan*). Some historians doubt John Flood's existence, but the headright<sup>1</sup> rolls cited in a Colonel John Flood [Sr.] Land Patent for James City County, 1638, do list a John Flood [Jr.]. Thus, we probably (but not 100% sure and not accepted by the Jamestown Society) go back to Colonel John Flood (true First Family of Virginia, FFV), but in a different manner than believed.

In this case, who is the John Flood, father of Elizabeth Flood who married Nicholas Smith? One amateur genealogist, but a good one, theorizes that perhaps John Flood [Jr.] was angry at his father marrying Fortune Jordan (a younger lady) after the death of his first wife and that there was a break in the relationship; John moved away from where he lived with his father; and as a consequence this is why John [Jr.] does not appear in the will of his father.

The second Flood line is on the Washington side, but this is not proven and is confusing. We always believed that our Washington line went back to the Floods in Virginia. However, this evidently not the case as the **Mary Flood** who married the earliest Washington in our line in Virginia, John Washington of Surry County, cannot be proved to be a Flood, and there are

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<sup>1</sup> Headright: A headright represented the entitlement to a certain amount of land acreage granted by the Virginia Company of England under a system begun in 1618. Colonists already living in Virginia received a headright; new immigrants received a headright when they arrived in Virginia; and colonists received a headright when they paid for

extreme doubts that a Mary Flood ever existed. This Mary may also have been a Warren.

Katherine Harbury, a Virginia genealogist, who has for a number of years tried to unravel who really is John Washington [another major mystery!] has written me:

“In *Adventurers of Purse and Person 1607-1624/5* by John Frederick Dorman, there is still a lot of debate about Col. John Flood’s ancestry. Dorman was also careful not to have our Mary Blunt-Ford-Washington-Briggs (she had four husbands) as the daughter of John Flood, and he knows what he is talking about. I still feel that our Mary may well be a Warren because of her son Thomas Blunt having to do with some land of Thomas Warren and her other son Richard Washington naming a son William Warren Washington.

Other researchers indicate that a Mary Warren immigrated to Virginia in 1641 accompanied by Daniel Gookin (I have not found this), but a Thomas Warren was transported by Capt. Daniel Gookin in 1642 (Mary had a brother Thomas). Thomas had one son named William the Elder who died, and another son William Warren the younger who died ca. 1670 in Surry County, Virginia. Our Richard Washington, son of John and Mary, obviously felt some close kinship or feeling for the Warrens, perhaps because his mother may be the sister Mary Warren. I am still trying to find out her date of birth in England to see if she is of the right age (so far, it is), but we need to know if she came to Virginia and became our Mary of the Surry Co. Records. There are also documents containing statements by Col. George Jordan about his relationship of some kind to either Mary or her husband Blunt.”

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the passage of another individual to Virginia.

As we (Harbury) know, “John Washington m. 15 September 1658 the widow Mary (Warren?) Blunt-Ford. She had married Richard Blunt and then Charles Ford. She was not a Flood for the following reasons:

1. As a young widow with a toddler, Mary was in such straits that she had to petition for corn and other necessities. If she was a Flood, she would have been cared for by her neighboring Flood relatives who lived literally next door. Instead, Col. George Jordan was the one to take care of her not only out of charity, but also because of his “having [a] relationship to...Blunt.” Unfortunately, we do not know if he was referring to Mary or her husband Richard. This same deed mentioned her family. Who were they other than her son Thomas?
2. If she was indeed a Flood, it would have made the Flood family look very bad in the eyes of the community. We know that was not the case, since they were a good family.
3. It is believed that the real Mary Flood married someone else. However, the Floods did live next to Blunt and the others, and naturally they would have served as witnesses.
4. The other compelling evidence lies in the name Warren. Thomas Blunt, Mary’s first-born, got some land that once belonged to a Thomas Warren. And then Mary’s other son, Richard Washington (born ca. 5 Sept. 1659/60), named one of his own sons William Warren Washington. It was very unusual to have a middle name at the time. The fact that two half-brothers had any connection with the name Warren points to the possibility that it was Mary’s maiden name.
5. It is known that a Warren family did arrive early in Virginia in the 1630s Among them was a Mary Warren who was old enough to be this widow Mary.

In addition, the reason for this dispute and misunderstanding was that since she was married four

times - (1) Blunt (2) Ford (3) Washington (4) Briggs, her Ford husband's surname was written Fford in the old English. Those who dispute Mary's surname believe it was this husband's surname being misread as Flood that was the source of her alleged maiden name. The genealogist John Bennett Boddie's identification of Mary as Mary Flood was based in part on a misreading of John Flood's headright list by an earlier writer. When shown a copy of the original list, he retracted his identification. Charles Ford owned a piece of land which was mistakenly included in John Flood's headright grant exchange. This mistake was corrected, but still the Floods would have been Mary's nearest neighbors, which probably accounts for the many connections with the Flood family.

Colonel John Flood (Fludd) came to Virginia from England in 1610 as a teenager on the *Swan* and by 1624/25 he was living at Jordan's Journey (owned by the Jordan family) with his wife Margaret, the widow of William Finch, and two children. His son John [Jr.] was either born much before then (at the time of a muster in 1624 (a census) he was not mentioned) and was still in England, or born afterwards in Virginia because the only child of the two which was attributed to Colonel Flood in 1624 was a 3-week old infant William.

In spite of doubts as to John Flood [Jr.]'s existence, his name appears in enough documents of the time to build a case in his favor, and that being the case "John Flood, son of Colonel John Flood" had a daughter Elizabeth (born between 1650-56) who married Nicholas Smith, thus tying the Flood family into the Smith family. [See Smith, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors] As described by Katherine Harbury, the Floods were a substantial FFV family, well connected, well off and established, and close to other influential families - the Jordans - who by

the 1680s had married into the Washingtons of Surry County. [See Washington, George A. Frazer's Maternal Ancestors] The Floods are also traceable back into England and Ireland and have been researched to a certain degree by a Charles Robley Patterson in this regard; however, nothing of precise scholarly work has been done on them. But, I reiterate that there are contrary opinions and the Jamestown Society is of the opinion that neither Mary Flood or John [Jr.] existed, based on Dorman's *Adventurers of Purse and Person*, page 291, fn. 18:

"There is no evidence that John Flood had a son John or a daughter Mary. The John Flood previously accepted as a son and named as a headright in Col. John Flood's 1638 patent deposed, 15 Dec. 1652, that he was aged 30 years (Surry Co. Deeds, Wills, 1651-72. p. 16), which would place his birth prior to the muster, 1624/5, in which he is not listed in Col. John Flood's family. On 9 May 1659 he deposed he was aged 44 (*ibid.* p. 131), which would require that he be a child of a marriage of Col. John Flood prior to that to Mrs. Margaret Finch. Even a birth in 1622, which would require that he be the eldest son, is at variance with known records relating to Col. John Flood's estate, which indicate Capt. Thomas Flood was the eldest son (Surry Co. Deeds, Wills, 1652-72, p. 350; Patent Bk. 6, p. 44, patent 14 March 1666/7, to Ralph Creed of land previously "granted unto Coll. Jno. Flood, desead [sic], and by Thomas Flood, Lawfull heire of the decd Jno."). The sale by "Nich. Smith and Elizabeth my wife and Thomas Lane and Jane my wife of Surry County in Virginia, being daughters of John Flood, late of Surry County." Nov. 1693, of 150 acres near the plantation of Arthur Jordan, adjoining land formerly of Col. John Flood (Surry Co. Record Bk. 3, p. 336), evidently does not prove to Dorman that John Flood [Jr.] inherited land from Col. John Flood. The claim that Col. John Flood had a daughter Mary who was wife successively of Richard Blunt, Charles Ford, John Washington and Henry Briggs, is discussed by Jean Stephenson in *Virginia Genealogical Society Quarterly*, VII, pp. 28-

29, who points out that George Cabell Greer, *Early Virginia Immigrants* (Richmond, 1912), p. 116, miscopied the abbreviation "Margt." in a patent of 1650 as Mary and the marriage contract of John Washington and the widow Mary "ffoord" was misread as Mary "floord." Dr. Stephenson observes "Apparently it did not seem strange to anyone that a twice widowed woman would be married under her maiden name."

I had concluded that the Warren family might have been Mary's family. However, George Augustine Washington 2d did a lot of research in 1933 and concluded she was a Stevens. The research revealed the following: Capt. Richard Stevens married Elizabeth Piersey, daughter of Abraham Piersey, known as one, if not the wealthiest, of the "ancient planters first residents." They had a daughter, Mary, who, among others, married Richard Blunt, Captain Thomas Flood, John Washington, Charles Ford, and Henry Briggs. The marriage to Flood and the maiden name Stevens are not proven. Moreover, he concludes that she was close to the Jordans, a very early wealthy family into which Mary and John Washington's son, Richard, married Elizabeth Jordan. Katherine Harbury does not agree that Mary in the 1660s was close to the Jordans, because as indicated before, she had to petition for help from the state, even though she was living near the Floods and had dealings with the Jordans. Moreover, Dorman in *Adventurers of Purse & Person* (written over fifty years later) does not mention this in his write-ups of Stevens (Stephens) and Piersey (Percy), and does not come to the same conclusion.

George Augustine Washington 2d concluded that Elizabeth Flood was a daughter of John Flood, [Jr.] (John Flood the second). She married first Thomas King of Surry County (d. 1679) and then second Nicholas Smith (1680-1685), our ancestor. [See Smith, George A. Frazer's Maternal

Ancestors] This fact is also not recognized by Dorman (*Adventurers of Purse and Person*) although a late 17<sup>th</sup> century deed seems to affirm the fact bearing in mind that the John Flood, [Jr.] mentioned there, is the same as the John Flood, [Jr.], son of the ancient planter, John Flood. According to George Augustine Washington 2d, her brother was John Flood III whose inventory was presented August 14, 1679. He may have confused this Flood with John Flood, the son of Walter Flood whose father was John Flood, the ancient planter. Dorman states in a footnote on page 995 of his 1986 book that there is no evidence to support that the first John Flood had either a daughter Mary nor a son John. Elizabeth may have been the sister of John Flood (d. 1709), son of Walter Flood. However, Dorman does not show that either. This leaves us with a Nicholas Smith and a wife Elizabeth, unknown maiden name, or maiden name Flood, but a different Flood than the John Flood, the ancient planter.

# Washington Ancestors: Hereditary Societies and Military Service

<b>British Army</b>	
Name	Rank
Hugh Hanna (1770-1806) Surry Cty., VA	Colonel in British Army. Died in India.
Thomas Kirkman (1779-1826)	Major in British Army

## Colonial Wars

Name	Rank
<b>John Washington</b> (ca. 1632-1660) Surry Cty., VA	Major in the VA Militia.
<b>Richard Washington</b> (1659/1660-1724/1725), Surry Cty., VA	VA Militia
<b>Robert Nicholson</b> (b.ca. 1662-d. ca. 1719) Surry Cty. VA	Foot soldier in the Surry County Militia, 1687-1688.
<b>John Washington</b> (ca. 1632-1660) Surry Cty., VA	Major in the VA Militia.
<b>Richard Washington</b> (1659/1660-1724/1725), Surry Cty., VA	VA Militia
<b>Robert Nicholson</b> (b.ca. 1662-d. ca. 1719) Surry Cty. VA	Foot soldier in the Surry County Militia, 1687-1688.

## American Revolution: Society of the Cincinnati

Name of Ancestor	State Society: Rank	Represented as of 2014	Has been represented.	Has never been represented. Eligibility.
Nehemiah Long	NC	No	Yes <sup>1</sup>	

## American Revolution

(Not eligible for Society of the Cincinnati)

Name	Rank
Joseph Washington (1740-1803) Southampton Co., VA	Ensign, Militia.

<sup>1</sup> Nehemiah Long- Relation to our family is not known.

Compiled by Stanley Frazer Rose, 2016. For further information, refer to family database and booklets.

\* indicates that the person is on two lists.

# Washington Ancestors: Hereditary Societies and Military Service

19<sup>th</sup> Century, various

Name	Rank
Joseph Washington (1770-1848)*	Lieutenant, Robertson Cty. Troop of Cavalry, 1802

## War of 1812

Name	Rank
Archer Cheatham, Jr.(1771-1822) Springfield, TN	Private in Capt. Richard Crunk's Militia Company, 1812. Colonel, 2nd Regiment, West TN Militia; called Cheatham's Regiment. Took part in Campaigns of 1814-1815.
Joseph Washington (1770-1848)*	Private in Capt. Elliot's Militia Company, 1812, Robertson County, TN.

## The Alamo, 1836

**Joseph George Washington** ("Alamo Joe") (1808-1836). He is eligible to be represented in Alamo Defenders Descendants Association, Society of Descendants of the Alamo, and Society of Texas. Private, Marksman, TN Mounted Volunteers (Capt. Harrison's Co. of Nacogdoches Enlistees). Alamo Memorials with Joseph G. Washington's name. The Alamo, San Antonio, Texas.

## Mexican-American War, 1846-1848

Name	Rank
Benjamin Franklin Cheatham (1820-1886) *	Colonel, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tennessee

# Washington Ancestors: Hereditary Societies and Military Service

## Civil War-Confederacy

Name	Rank
Edmund Kirby-Smith (1824-1893)	General in the Confederate States Army. Wounded at 1st Bull Run; last Confederate general to surrender, May 26, 1865.
James Jackson III (1822-1879)	Colonel, 27 <sup>th</sup> Alabama. Wounded 14 times.
James P. Kirkman (1843-1867)	Captain, 10 <sup>th</sup> Tennessee Regiment. Wounded in head. In many battles.
John Kirkman (1831-1863)	Killed at Ft. Donelson, near Nashville, Feb. 3, 1863.
Benjamin Franklin Cheatham (1820-1886) *	General; Commander of forces at Battle of Franklin, 1864.
Richard Boone Cheatham (1824-1877)	Mayor of Nashville; surrendered city to Union Army, February 25, 1862.

Compiled by Stanley Frazer Rose, 2016. For further information, refer to family database and booklets.  
\* indicates that the person is on two lists.

# Washington

## 12. RESEARCH & BIBLIOGRAPHY

**Washington, Branch, Nicholson, Wright, Jordan, Joyce**

**Washington Family & Wessyngton Plantation**

**Cheatham**

**Jackson, Hanna, Gault, Steele, Kirkman**

**Smith, Dawson**

**Flood, Warren**

*This information is provided for educational  
and genealogical purposes only.*

Compiled by: Stanley Frazer Rose  
2016, Rev. 2017

*Notes: Sources are not in alphabetical order or in order of significance. This is a working bibliography; some citations are incomplete.*

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- (A) Washington Family Papers, 1796-1959, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, TN. Microfilm Accession Number: 1266. Finding aid: <http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/68-029+.pdf>
- (B) Frazer, Sadie Warner Papers, 1894-1974, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, TN. Microfilm Accession Number: 1190. Finding aid: <http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/83-040.pdf>
- (C) Louis Farrell. Family Record of the Descendants of Hugh Jackson and Ellinor Gault, Unpublished typed manuscript, [1930s]. (Tennessee State Library and Archives).
- (D) Selected Citations used by George Augustine Washington 2d in his genealogy research (1915-1950):

### Nicholson Family:

- (a) Surry Records, Volume 1715-30, p. 244 (will of Robert Nicholson).
- (b) Ibid., p. 597 (will of Joannah Joyce Nicholson Flood).

### Jordan Family:

- (a) Surry County Records, Vol. 1652-1672, p. 149 (marriage contract of Arthur Jordan).
- (b) Surry County Records, Volume 4, p. 160 (will of Arthur Jordan).

### Long Family:

- Northampton County Records, Deed Book 6 (deed of John Long and Joyce, his wife)

### Smith Family:

- (a) Southampton Records, Will Book 1, p. 239 (will of Jane, wife of Lawrence Smith [November 26, 1757])
- (b) Isle of Wight Records, Volume 5, p. 110 (will of Lawrence Smith [June 10, 1746]).
- (c) Isle of Wight Records, Book 8, p. 175 (deed)
- (d) Southampton Records, Will Book 2, pp. 252-259 (court order - Absalom Smith estate).
- (e) Surry Records, Volume 1715-1730, p. 227 (will of Nicholas Smith).
- (f) Surry Records, Volume 1715-1730, pp. 316, 409-11 (deeds involving Lawrence Smith).
- (g) Isle of Wight Records, Book 8, p. 175, deed between Joseph Smith (Northampton County, North Carolina) and Joseph Smith (Isle of Wight County, Virginia).

### Cheatham Family:

- (a) Robertson County, Tennessee, Book I, Wills and Estates, 1796-1812, p. 54 (inventory - Archer Cheatham, Sr.).
- (b) Robertson County, Tennessee, Deed Book 4, p. 15 (Release of dower - Martha (Williams) Cook [third wife of Archer Cheatham, Jr.])
- (c) Robertson County, Tennessee Court Record, Book 3, p. 513.
- (d) Robertson County, Tennessee Wills-Abstracts, Book I, 1796, 1811.

### Washington Family:

- (a) Colonial Records of North Carolina, Vol. 5, pp. 43, 54, 55, 184, 521, 697, 847.
- (b) Surry Virginia, Record of Deeds, Vol. I, p. 126 (John Washington/Mary Ffoord marriage contract - November 15, 1658).
- (c) Eliza Timberlake Davis, Wills and Administration of Surry County, Virginia, 1671-1750, 1955, p. 172.
- (d) Southampton County, Virginia Will Book 2, p. 56 (George Washington b. ca. 1680-82 - died 1763).

- (e) Southampton County, Virginia Will Book 5, p. 420 (Joseph Washington).
- (f) "Wessyngton", Robertson County, Tennessee, Tyler Quarterly Magazine, Vol. 7, pp. 45-49, 124-126, 133.
- (g) Surry Records, Volume 1730-38, p. 496 (Elizabeth Washington).
- (h) Surry Records, Volume 1730-38, p. 593, 901.
- (i) Surry Records, Volume 1738-54, p. 135, 287.
- (j) Colonial Records of North Carolina, Volume IV, pp. 855, 966.
- (k) Colonial Records of North Carolina, Volume V, pp. 43, 54, 204.

Branch Family:

Southampton Will Book 2, p. 347-48 (George Branch will).

- (E) The Joseph Lawrence Dawson Smith Family Bible - presently in possession of Sydney Williams, Old Lyme, Connecticut (cousin by marriage of descendants of Elizabeth Washington Hotchkiss, daughter of Joseph Edwin Washington [1851-1915]).

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- (1) John F. Baker Jr. The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation: Stories of My Family's Journey to Freedom, New York: Simon and Shuster (Atria Books), 2009. [www.wessyngton.com](http://www.wessyngton.com)
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# Ancestor Connections

## to

## General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

Rev. Philip Lindsley – Lindsley Ancestors

Judge Felix Grundy – Grundy Ancestors

Robert Cartwright – Cartwright Ancestors

Col. Joseph Crockett – Crockett Ancestors

Martha “Patsy” Philips Martin – Philips Ancestors

Major William B. Lewis – Washington Ancestors

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### **Major William B. Lewis (1784-1866), Judge Felix Grundy (1775-1840), Rev. Philip Lindsley (1786-1855):**

On May 4, 1825, General Lafayette, making his second tour through the United States, arrived here, and was received with distinguished honor and great public demonstrations of joy. In the words of another, "an immense procession was formed, the streets were decorated with arches of evergreens, and patriotic mottoes were inscribed upon them. The general landed on the grounds of Major William B. Lewis, above the water-works, where General Jackson and a number of citizens received him, and Governor Carroll addressed him in behalf of the State, tendering him a welcome to Tennessee. The procession with the military escorted him into the city, where Robert B. Currey, Esq., the Mayor, addressed him in behalf of the city, and tendered him its freedom and hospitality. The joy of the people knew no bounds, and General Lafayette ever after spoke of his reception in Nashville as one of the most pleasant events of his life. He was taken to the residence of Dr. Boyd McNairy, who threw open his doors to the distinguished Frenchman and his suite. The next day the general went to the Masonic Hall, where he received the ladies of Nashville in that polite and cordial manner for which he was remarkable. A public dinner was given him at the Nashville Inn, at which General Jackson acted as president, assisted by Judge George W. Campbell and Major Henry M. Rutledge, John Sommerville and Judge Felix Grundy as vice-presidents. Old Timothy Mon Brun [Demonbreun] was at this dinner, and was toasted by Colonel Andrew Haynes as the patriarch of Tennessee and the first white man that settled in the country. General Lafayette visited the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, the Royal Arch Chapter, and the Masonic fraternity generally, and was welcomed by Wilkins Tannehill, Esq., as a friend and brother.

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A collation was furnished on the occasion, and all had a good time. Before his departure the general called on Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Littlefield (the daughter of his old companion and friend, General Greene, of revolutionary memory), Governor William Carroll, Rev. Dr. Lindsley, and others." For this statement the writer is indebted to his old friend, Anson Nelson, Esq., as indeed for many other facts contained in this sketch of Nashville.

*History of Nashville, Tenn.* H. W. Crew, 1890, p. 102-103.

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### **Major William B. Lewis (1784-1866), Judge Felix Grundy (1775-1840), Rev. Philip Lindsley (1786-1855):**

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strations of joy. An immense procession was formed, the streets were decorated with arches of evergreens, and patriotic mottoes were inscribed upon them. The general landed on the grounds of Maj. William B. Lewis, above the water-works, where Gen. Jackson and a number of citizens received him, and Governor Carroll addressed him in behalf of the State, tendering him a welcome to Tennessee. The procession, with the military, escorted him into the city, where Robert B. Currey, Esq., the mayor, addressed him in behalf of the city, and tendered him its freedom and hospitality. The joy of the people knew no bounds, and Gen. La Fayette ever after spoke of his reception in Nashville as one of the most pleasant events of his life. He was taken to the residence of Dr. Boyd McNairy, who threw open his doors to the distinguished visitor and his suite. The next day the general went to the Masonic Hall, where he received the ladies of Nashville in that polite and cordial manner for which he was remarkable. A public dinner was given him at the Nashville Inn, at which Gen. Jackson acted as president, assisted by George W. Campbell, Henry M. Rutledge, John Somerville, and Felix Grundy as vice-presidents. Our old friend, Timothy Demonbreun, was at this dinner, and was toasted by Col. Andrew Hynes as the patriarch of Tennessee and the first white man that settled in the country. Gen. La Fayette visited the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, the Royal Arch Chapter, and the Masonic fraternity generally, and was welcomed by Wilkins Tannehill, Esq., as a friend and a brother. A collation was furnished on the occasion, and all hands had a "good time" generally. Before his departure the general called on Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Littlefield (the daughter of his old companion and friend, Gen. Greene, of Revolutionary memory), Governor Carroll, Rev. Dr. Philip Lindsley, and others.

La Fayette's whole stay at Nashville was a continued ovation. The military was drawn up in two lines, and Gen. Jackson took the arm of La Fayette and walked from one end of the line to the other, La Fayette shaking hands and receiving the congratulations of the citizens. Among them was one of his old comrades in arms, Maj. Blackman, who had fought with him at the battle of the Brandywine, where both were wounded. They met and embraced, and many a

tear was shed at the affecting scene. La Fayette then became the guest at the Hermitage during his stay, and upon his departure he presented Gen. Jackson with the pistols given him by Gen. Washington as the most worthy man in America to bear them. A splendid ball was given him, at which the *élite* of the city, headed by Jackson and Carroll, and prominent citizens participated. We subjoin one of the invitation cards. It is a very creditable piece of work for that day. The ornamental design, artistically engraved, consists of an arch and columns. On one of the latter are the names of the following battles, in which Gen. La Fayette distinguished himself: Fort Montrie, Chadd's Ford, Jamestown, Brandywine, Monmouth, Yorktown. The other column bears the names of Gen. Jackson's most famous victories: Talladega, Emuckfaw, Ecatichopko, Horse-Shoe, Pensacola, and New Orleans. Above these are busts of the generals. Arranged along the arch are thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original States, and at the top of the arch the figures 76. Beneath this is the American eagle,

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

holding in his beak a wreath of laurel over a bust of Washington. The wording of the invitation is:

"WELCOME, LA FAYETTE."

In honor of

Gen. La Fayette.

You are respectfully invited to attend a ball in Nashville, on the third evening after the arrival of Gen. La Fayette, or on the second, should the arrival be on Friday.

MANAGERS.

E. H. Foster.	A. McCall.
S. B. Marshall.	J. Waters.
J. Parrish.	J. W. Overton.
J. Somerville.	J. Phillips.
B. McNairy.	J. Vanix.
J. Stewart.	A. Latapie."

*History of Davidson County, Tennessee. Prof. W. Clayton. 1880, p. 204-5.*

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### **Major William B. Lewis (1784-1866), Judge Felix Grundy (1775-1840),**

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*Singleton's Nashville Business Directory, 1865. p. 36.*

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### Judge Felix Grundy's granddaughter's speech

Mary Malvina Grundy (1810-1863)

In 1825 Lafayette came to Nashville. He came up in a boat. It went up the river, turned around, and landed at the mouth of Broad Street. When he landed cannons were fired. He was met at the river by a large crowd of people, and his bodyguard was a beautiful company of cavalry which conducted him through the streets. He was taken from the boat to an open carriage drawn by six white horses. Lafayette and Gen. Jackson sat on the back seat, and his son, George Washington Lafayette, and his aid-de-camp, Barnard, sat on the front seat. All the houses were gaily decorated. The party came up Market Street, around the Square, and down College, passing under a beautiful arch at the corner of College and the Square.

Robert B. Currey was Mayor and postmaster at this time, and lived on College Street, between Union and Church, where Mrs. Early used to keep a millinery-store. He entertained Lafayette during his visit here.

The night of Lafayette's arrival a large ball and supper were given him at the Masonic Hall. There was a platform where he stood, and he shook hands with everybody. He kissed all the

young ladies who shook hands with him. He was invited to the Nashville Academy. There was a platform made in front of the building, and Miss Malvina Grundy delivered the welcome address. He was also entertained by Ephraim Foster in the house in South Nashville now used as a Catholic convent. Gen. Jackson, too, entertained him at the "Hermitage." At night the entire town was illuminated. Mrs. Littlefield, a daughter of Gen. Greene, knew Gen. Lafayette when he was at their house, where he was brought when he was wounded during the revolutionary war. She was living here in Nashville when Lafayette came.

*Old Days in Nashville, Tenn.: Reminiscences.* Jane H. Thomas. 1897, p. 58-59.

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### Rev. Phillip Lindsley:

May 4, 1825, LaFayette visited Nashville. The military were drawn up in a semi-circle on the public square. And then LaFayette, accompanied by Gen. Jackson, Governor Carroll, and Dr. Philip Lindsley, appeared in an open carriage drawn by six blooded grays. Thirteen lovely maidens represented the 13 states that achieved their independence. Dr. Lindsley was assigned the duty of welcoming LaFayette to the capitol city of Tennessee.

Guild - Old Times in Tennessee pp. 446

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### Martha (“Patsy”) Philips Martin (1792-1886)

*Memoirs, Battle Book*, Vol VI. <http://lfeldhaus.tripod.com/philiplsfamily>

In the spring of 1825, General Lafayette visited Nashville, and well do I remember his noble and pleasant manner of receiving all who were introduced to him. My husband was among those who were appointed to receive him and his party. Taking our little girls into town, we spent some days at our friend Mr. Stewart’s home.

There was a handsome arch erected across the street near the public square, and a large platform on which to welcome him. General Jackson, General Lafayette, and George Washington Lafayette were in an open carriage drawn by four handsome gray horses. Governor Carroll welcomed them with much feeling and pleasure. The old Revolutionary soldiers came from every part of the state to shake hands with the old General, who had come across the waters to see them.

I saw one old soldier who threw his arms around him with that love of gratitude not often remembered saying, “You have not forgotten the soldier who brought a bear to your tent, which I had killed when you were out of provisions!” And General Lafayette embraced him saying, “Mr. Hagar, is it possible that you are still with us?”

That night Nashville was illuminated, and the next night there was a splendid ball, which the old and young attended, the ladies displaying the fashions of the day, their beauty, and their smiles. A place at one end of the room was raised about three feet for the old ladies and, our visitors. On this platform were seated: General Lafayette with Mrs. Jackson, General Jackson and. Mrs. Priestley, Mrs. Carroll, George Washington Lafayette, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. McNairy, Dr. Shelby, Mrs. Minick, and myself. The young people truly enjoyed themselves dancing. Not less than thirty danced the first set.

The morning before the ball, a large party went up to the Hermitage, General Jackson’s home, twelve miles from Nashville, in company with General Lafayette on a steamboat, and. they fired a salute in passing the home of Dr. Priestley in honor of him, who had so lately passed away.

That night his widow replied very beautifully to General Jackson for his kind remembrance of her dear husband.

About two o’clock the next day, General Lafayette and his party left for Louisville. Every attention and honor which could be shown our worthy guest was lavished on them. His visit gave Nashville people something to talk about long after his departure.

<http://lfeldhaus.tripod.com/philiplsfamily>

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### Robert Cartwright (1722-1809)

Robert Cartwright brought a cannon with him from Virginia to Nashville on the flotilla in April 1780.

The patriotic citizens of Nashville in the enthusiasm of their welcome to La Fayette when he visited Nashville in 1825, used an overcharge of powder and the historic little [Cartwright] cannon exploded.

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### Col. Joseph Crockett (1739-1829)

#### GENERAL LAFAYETTE

When General Lafayette made his memorable tour of the United States in 1824-25, Colonel Joseph Crockett, Colonel Anthony Crockett and Honorable Peter Dudley rode in an open carriage with him from Frankfort to Lexington, a distance of twenty-seven miles. The cordiality in the meeting between Crockett and Lafayette at Frankfort was quite touching, in that they embraced each other. The first time that Colonel Crockett met Lafayette was on the battlefield, when he received from the hands of Lafayette his commission as Colonel, signed by General Washington. Lafayette's reception in Lexington was most hearty, the acclamations of ten thousand people greeting his ears. Crockett was one of the marshals on that occasion. The night following the street demonstration, Mr. Robert Wickliffe tendered Lafayette a reception, when a large number of Revolutionary soldiers were introduced to him by Colonel Crockett.

*Notable Southern Families, Vol. V: The Crockett Family.* Zella Armstrong. 1928, p. 274.

#### GENERAL LA FAYETTE.

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The following letter may prove of interest, in that it gives in detail an account of the reception of General La Fayette by the citizens of Lexington and vicinity, and also of the reception given him in the evening by Mr. Robert Wickliffe:

#### LETTER OF B. NETHERLAND.

Nicholasville, Ky., Oct. 7, 1826.

My Dear Friend:—I was very much pained on hearing that the cut on your leg has not improved since I was to see you in April last. I was sorry that your wounded leg prevented you from being in Lexington last year, when the Marquis de La Fayette was given one of the greatest and grandest receptions I ever witnessed. More than ten thousand people marched in line to receive on the big road leading from Frankfort to Lexington. He rode in a fine four-horse carriage accompanied by Gov. Desha, Col. Anthony Crockett, Col. Jos. Crockett, Gen. Peter Dudley, and many other gentlemen who rode on horseback and acted as a guard of honor in the rear of the carriage. More than forty-six years ago I was in Charleston when he landed there in 1777, a young man from France on his way to offer his services to Gen. Washington to fight for the liberties of the people of our country. In Charleston he was received with becoming respect and honor, the people everywhere were loud in their praise of the young French soldier—but his reception was nothing in comparison to the reception given him by the patriotic people of Lexington last May. When Gen. La Fayette got into Lexington the rush of many of the old soldiers was truly exciting. Everywhere his carriage was stopped by the surviving veterans who served with him and Washington at Monmouth, Trenton, Brandywine, and Little York. Every one was anxious to see Gen. La Fayette. It just seemed as though there were no other actor in the great Revo-

*Biographical Sketch of Colonel Joseph Crockett.* General Samuel W. Price. Filson Club, April 6, 1908, p. 31-32.

## Ancestor Connections to General Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834)

### Col. Joseph Crockett, continued

utionary drama who had been so near to the heart of Washington as Gen. La Fayette. When the great dinner given to the General in the city limits was over, I went to Mr. Wickliffe's house with Cols. Jos. and Anthony Crockett to pay my respects to the young man, of forty-seven years ago. I was introduced to Col. Wm. Moultrie, who was putting Charleston in fighting trim to resist the British fleet which I learned while in Cuba was to sail from Jamaica under Admiral Parker and bombard Charleston. I brought the intelligence, which I hastened to give Col. Moultrie, who immediately commenced putting the town in a proper state for defending every place along the harbor. On arriving at Mr. Wickliffe's house Joe Crockett first introduced me to George Washington La Fayette, the son of the General. His son looked like a man who had seen much mental trouble; he seemed to be pleased at the reception given to his father, but was not a man to talk, was stiff and I thought not an intelligent man whatever, but a proud, weak man. When Col. Crockett brought me into the parlor of Mr. Wickliffe's house, to Gen. La Fayette, he introduced me as the young man "Netherland" who forty-seven years before had made him known to Col. Moultrie, who in 1776 and 1777 had command at Charleston. He remembered me introducing him to Moultrie and my going as far as Charlotte with him, as he went through Richmond to Philadelphia; he received me very warmly, shedding tears, as he did when meeting Anthony and Joe Crockett. He asked my age; I told him I was just in my seventieth year; he then informed me he was sixty-nine years of age and felt that his health had greatly improved since he had revisited America.

When I bid him farewell, I, in company with the two Crocketts and Robt. B. McAfee, lieutenant-governor, all went and bid the General a long farewell. The General shed tears and in fact every one present cried. Dosia, my wife, cried, kissed the General and we separated, never to see Gen. La Fayette again on earth. Hundreds of the people of Lexington in talking of La Fayette cried out aloud. The ladies especially shed tears when taking leave of the great friend of Washington.

Very truly your friend,

B. NETHERLAND.

Capt. Thomas W. Ashford,  
Versailles, Ky.

*Biographical Sketch of Colonel Joseph Crockett.* General Samuel W. Price. Filson Club, April 6, 1908, p. 33-34.

# Ancestor Connections

## to

# President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

George Augustine Washington – Washington Ancestors

Major William B. Lewis – Washington Ancestors

James Jackson – Washington Ancestors

John Berrien Lindsley – Lindsley Ancestors

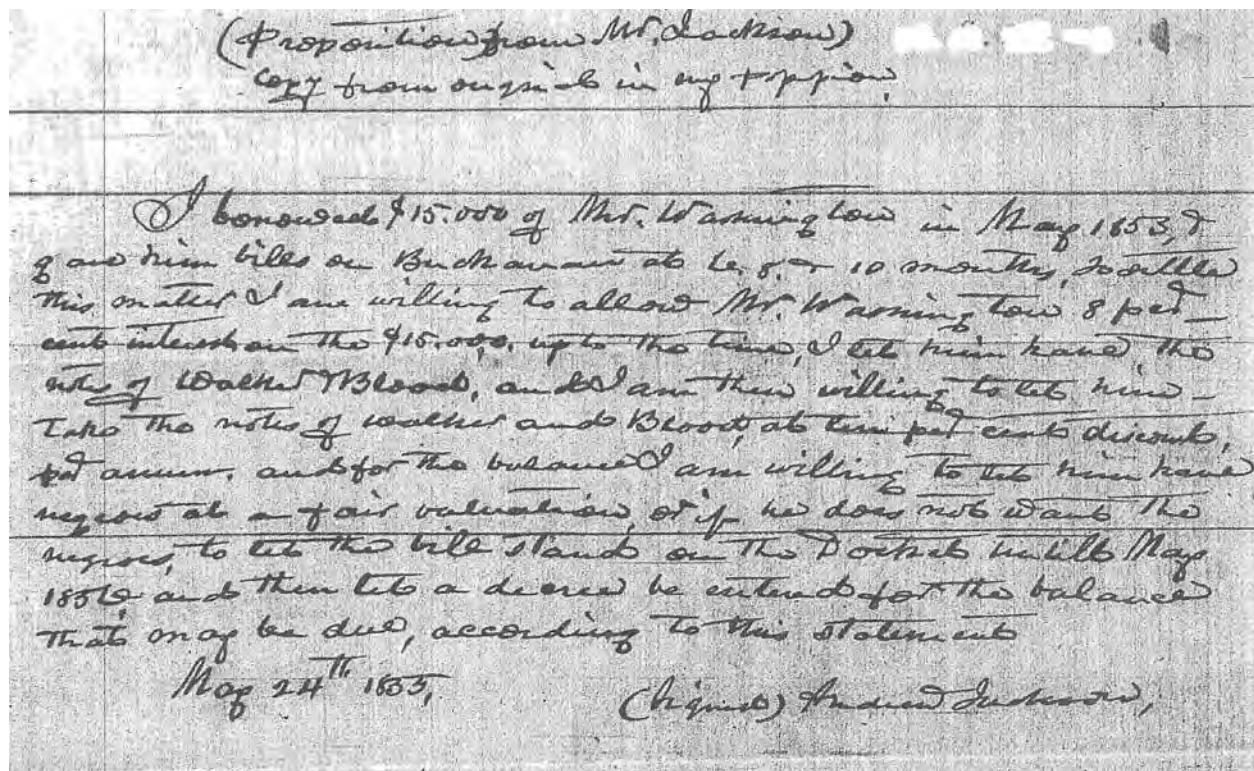
Martha “Patsy” Philips Martin – Philips Ancestors

Judge Felix Grundy – Grundy Ancestors

Jacob McGavock – McGavock Ancestors

Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

George A. Washington (1815-1892)



Washington Family Papers, Tennessee State Library and Archives.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

Washington Family and Wessyngton Plantation

### NOTICE.

BY virtue of a deed of trust executed to me by Andrew Jackson; on the 26th of May, 1838; for the purpose of securing a debt to George A. Washington, therein set forth, I shall, on WEDNESDAY, THE 13TH OF JUNE NEXT, at the Court House door in the city of Nashville, proceed to sell at Public Auction, to the highest bidder for Cash, a certain tract or parcel of Land lying in Davidson county, State of Tennessee, and known as the Hermitage tract; bounded on the north by the lands of John and Philip Shute, on the east by the lands of A. J. Donegan, on the west by lands of William and Stockly Donegan, and on the south by the lands of Mr. Ward and Timothy Dodson, and containing by estimation 1600 acres. Also, the negro slaves hereinbefore named, viz: Squire, Smith, Polidore, Charles, Alfred, Ben, Byron, Henry, Ned Davis, Minor, Aaron, Tom, George, Dick, Augustus, William, Sampson, Thornton, Simon, John, Albert, Moses, Booker, Julius, Davy, Little Tom, Sam, Dodey, Maria, Louisa, Gracey, Cornelia, Sarah, Nan, Charlotte, Gracey, Manthis, H. Sally, D. Sally, C. Sally, Fanny, Laura, Kitty, Jane, Maria Creasy, Kady, Betsey, Betty, Martha, Julia, L. Hannah, Ind'n Hannah, L. Gracey, M. Ellen, Riddy, Letty, Mary Ann, Molly, and Myrt.

As much of said property above described will be sold as will satisfy the debt due to said Washington.

Sale to commence at the usual hour in the morning.

May 12, 1855. - W. B. LEWIS, Trustee, &c.

President Andrew Jackson (d. 1845) owed money to George A. Washington in 1838, *Republican Banner*, May 25, 1855.

The trustee W. B. Lewis is the father of his first wife.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### **William B. Lewis** (1784-1866)

Major Lewis had served under Andrew Jackson in the Creek Wars and formed a part of President Jackson's "kitchen cabinet" which wielded most of the power in the first years of his presidency.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### **James Jackson** (1782-1840, No familiar relation to the president):

May 30, 1806, future President Andrew Jackson kills a man who accused him of cheating on a horse race bet and then insulted his wife, Rachel.

Contemporaries described Jackson, who had already served in Tennessee's Senate and was practicing law at the time of the duel, as argumentative, physically violent and fond of dueling to solve conflicts. Estimates of the number of duels in which Jackson participated ranged from five to 100.

Jackson and Dickinson were rival horse breeders and southern plantation owners with a long-standing hatred of each other. Dickinson accused Jackson of renegeing on a horse bet, calling Jackson a coward and an equivocator. Dickinson also called Rachel Jackson a bigamist. (Rachel had married Jackson not knowing her first husband had failed to finalize their divorce.) After the insult to Rachel and a statement published in the *National Review* in which Dickinson called Jackson a worthless scoundrel and, again, a coward, Jackson challenged Dickinson to a duel.

On May 30, 1806, Jackson and Dickinson met at Harrison's Mills on the Red River in Logan, Kentucky. At the first signal from their seconds, Dickinson fired. Jackson received Dickinson's first bullet in the chest next to his heart. Jackson put his hand over the wound to staunch the flow of blood and stayed standing long enough to fire his gun. Dickinson's seconds claimed Jackson's first shot misfired, which would have meant the duel was over, but, in a breach of etiquette, Jackson re-cocked the gun and shot again, this time killing his opponent. Although Jackson recovered, he suffered chronic pain from the wound for the remainder of his life.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### James Jackson:

December 17, 2007

#### Killed in a Duel, Then Lost in the Earth

By THEO EMERY

NASHVILLE — On Saturday morning, cars jammed the street outside James and Laura Jane Bowen's home. Friends chatted in the yard, hands around coffee cups.

With history buffs and curious neighbors looking on, an archaeologist directed the excavation of the Bowens' lawn in search of a 201-year-old grave and, possibly, the resolution of a long-standing historical puzzle.

The dig's goal was to solve a mystery over the grave of Charles Henry Dickinson, who was killed in an 1806 duel with a future president, Andrew Jackson. The location of Mr. Dickinson's final resting place has been in contention since the 1960s, when historians in Maryland claimed to have found his coffin.

"The day we moved in, the guys across the street came in and said, 'Have you heard about the body? Are you going to help excavate it?'" said Mr. Bowen, as he watched with his daughter, Lily, in his arms.

The grave is largely a footnote in Jackson's legacy, but Mr. Dickinson's place in history presents a dizzying set of what-ifs: had the marksman killed the future president on May 30, 1806, instead of just wounding him, would the United States have won the Battle of New Orleans? Would executive power have evolved without President Jackson? Would the Trail of Tears have taken place?

"The ball that Charles Dickinson shot into Jackson, it was only about an inch or two from his heart," said Paul Clements, a historian. "Clearly, it was a matter of inches that American history unfolded the way it did."

Mr. Dickinson's death arose from a feud with Jackson, then a major general who gladly settled questions of honor with violence. In 1803, he even challenged Gov. John Sevier, a Revolutionary War hero, to a duel.

The feud with Mr. Dickinson is generally traced to the aftermath of a forfeited horse race and rumors questioning Jackson's honor, said Daniel Feller, a University of Tennessee history professor and an editor of Jackson's papers.

Some historians have written that Mr. Dickinson also insulted Mrs. Jackson, although documents from the time do not reflect that, Mr. Feller said.

Tennessee had banned duels, so the men traveled north to Kentucky. When the order came to fire, Mr. Dickinson hit Jackson just beside his heart.

Despite the wound, Jackson raised his own pistol, but the weapon misfired. He recocked, fired again, and hit his adversary's abdomen. Mr. Dickinson bled to death over many hours, in terrible agony, according to accounts.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### James Jackson:

Many people in Nashville considered the killing dishonorable, and two newspapers published editions with black bunting. Jackson was ostracized, and political opponents later used the duel as fodder against him, Mr. Feller said.

"It didn't help Jackson's reputation at all," Mr. Feller said. "He was something of an outcast in certain circles after this."

Documents indicate that Mr. Dickinson was buried on his father-in-law's plantation, Peach Blossom, on Nashville's outskirts, and a stone marker erected atop the grave. In the 20th century, though, the plantation was subdivided and the marker vanished. In time, maps and the property deeds no longer reflected that a grave was on the land.

Then, in the 1960s, Maryland historians found a coffin in a cemetery that appeared to confirm accounts that the body had been returned to the Dickinson homestead, said J. O. K. Walsh, president of the Caroline County Historical Society.

They proclaimed the remains to be Mr. Dickinson's, despite tests indicating that the bones were probably a woman's, according to a 1965 letter from a Smithsonian Institution curator.

Charles H. Miller, a direct descendant of Mr. Dickinson's who lives in Texas, said he tended to believe the body was in Nashville, but said his wish was simply to get his ancestor's remains into a real grave.

"The only thing I'm concerned with is finding out if his remains are there in Nashville," Mr. Miller said, "and if they are, getting them put into the Nashville City Cemetery and marked properly."

Ground radar tests indicated a likelihood that the grave remained. But after hours of digging and the onset of a cold drizzle on Saturday, the excavation failed to find the remains.

The archaeologist leading the dig, Larry McKee, his jeans streaked with mud, announced to onlookers and his tired crew, "I think we're going to call it, guys."

The Bowens looked out from the porch as workers replaced the sod, saying they might continue after more research.

"We should let them dig up the whole yard," Ms. Bowen said, "just to settle it once and for all."

# Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

## James Jackson:

"Mr. Jackson?" he wondered, and Andrew laughed, and shook his hand.

"Andrew will do," he said. "And you're the greenhorn! James or Washington?"

"James," James murmured, feeling very like an errant boy before his father.

"Well, James," Andrew said. "You've already set a few tongues wagging in Nashville with this advertisement. Everyone took pity on you because you are new, but no one had the guts to tell you. Except me."

He tapped the advertisement on the counter.

"We'll find you a boy."

He turned to his shadow. "See to it, Alfred. Get him a good 'un, but not too pricey. We may have one at the farm."

"Yes, suh, Massa," the shadow, Alfred, murmured.

Andrew turned back to James.

"Irish," he barked. "Horses?"

James didn't understand the question.

"Horseracing!" Andrew snapped impatiently. "Are you a gambling man?"

"Some," James admitted. The truculent manner of his visitor was annoying him again. He wanted to say something to put him in his place, but was already slightly in awe of him.

"My father bred steeplechasers," he said, with a tinge of pride. "Crazy Jane, among others."

Andrew nodded in appreciation, and James was surprised again, for he could not imagine that anyone here had heard of his father's prize mare.

"We'll make a frontiersman of you yet," he said. "Though I trust your prices will be more reasonable than your thieving brothers."

He was already on his way out of the store, and James's temper snapped.

"My brothers are not thieves," he cried. "And nor am I."

Andrew stopped and turned back, and gave James his most dazzling smile.

The effect of that smile, impudent, confident, embracing, and reassuring, was remarkable. James thought he had survived a test of fire, and had triumphed and been included in the company of a god.

"Well, we shall see," Andrew said. He tipped his hat to the women who were still twittering about beans and swept out of the store. Alfred followed him, as closely as his shadow.

After he had gone, James looked at his hands, which were shaking slightly, but he was well satisfied with the meeting. He sold the women what they wanted, then, having no other customers, set to and swept the store.

At dinner that night he told Washington about Andrew, and, cautiously, suggested that they might soon own a slave. Washington raised his eyebrows in surprise, but listened to James's justifications.

"I'd rather the poor beggar was with us," Washington said, "than stuck in the fields like his brothers. I have seen terrible things done to them."

Washington, on his journeys of delivery, had seen much more of the actual workings of slave life than James. He had seen blacks flogged for minor misdemeanors, and it had shocked him at first, and repulsed him. But he was getting used to it.

"And it is the way of things," he said.

They agreed they would be kind to their slave, if he turned up, and never raise their hand to him in anger. They made a room ready in the basement, with a small bunk and some blankets, like getting a kennel ready for a new and costly dog, and wondered what he would eat. They took their own meals at the tavern across the road, and remembered there was provision for the feeding of slaves, in the kitchen.

Alfred came back the following morning, before Washington set off on his rounds. He had a small black boy with him, of eight or nine years old.

He tipped his hat to James and Washington.

"Massa," he said. "This here be Ephraim."

Ephraim was thin and scrawny, simply dressed and barefooted. He kept his eyes to the floor.

Alfred bent down and spoke to him.

"This yo' new Massas," he said. "Be a good boy, an' allus do what you tol'."

Ephraim nodded without looking up. Washington went to him.

"Well, now, Ephraim," he said. "I'm Massa Washington, and that's Massa James."

He waited a moment.

"Do you understand?"

Ephraim nodded.

"What is my name?" Washington asked him.

"Mass' Wash'n ton," Ephraim murmured.

"Very good," Washington said. "And that man?"

"Mass' James," Ephraim whispered.

"Excellent," Washington said, and put his arm around the boy's shoulders. Ephraim stiffened.

"There's no need to be frightened of me," Washington told him. "I'm not going to beat you."

Ephraim nodded, but didn't seem convinced.

"Are you hungry?" Washington asked him.

"Chile bin fed," Alfred said, but Ephraim looked up at Washington

Alex Haley's *Queen*. Alex Haley. 1993, p. 74-75

# Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

## James Jackson:

James thought that nature must have arrested time. Everything seemed to happen so slowly.

He saw Dickerson raise his gun, slowly, and point it at Andrew, slowly.

James was sweating. Dickerson was known to be a crack shot. Would the man never fire?

Alfred, standing near James, stared at the scene impassively, but was filled with emotion. There was more than one man's future at stake, if only one man's life.

Andrew stood stock-still.

Dickerson fired.

Andrew stood still.

James almost cried out in joy and relief, but only Dickerson spoke.

"My God! Have I missed him?" he cried, and stumbled away from his position.

"To your mark, sir," Overton ordered.

Slowly, so very slowly, Dickerson returned to his mark, like a condemned man approaching the gallows.

Slowly, so very slowly, Andrew raised his gun and fired.

There was a click. The gun had misfired.

Slowly, so very slowly, Andrew reset, aimed, and fired again.

Slowly, so very slowly, Dickerson swayed to the ground.

Dr. Catlett ran to attend him. He lived for the rest of that day in agony, and died that night.

James and Alfred moved quickly to Andrew, and saw with horror that there was a hole in Andrew's jacket, just below his heart, and blood all over his boots.

"I think he poked me," Andrew said, his face contorted in pain.

They got him to a surgeon, who took out the bullet and patched him up. They got him home and put him to bed. Rachel nursed him, and when she could not, Alfred was always there. He did not leave his Massa's room for a month. When Andrew recovered, he gave orders that Alfred was to be moved from the slave quarters to a bedroom next to his own in the main house.

Rachel fell to her knees and gave thanks to God for her husband's deliverance, but she prayed for the dead man's wife as well.

"God have pity on her," Rachel begged. "And on her poor child."

Mrs. Dickerson had been six months pregnant when Andrew killed her husband.

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ames attended Andrew at three other duels after that, but none had the same impact on him as the first because none of the others was fatal. It was enough to satisfy the honor of both antagonists that they had accepted the challenge and presented themselves, and they simply fired their guns in the air. On two occasions, Andrew got drunk with his opponent afterward, and they would end the evening slapping each other on the back and laughing about their quarrel, but this never happened in the case of those who had slandered his wife.

Andrew got drunk often in the early days of his friendship with James, in the frustrating years of the embargo. Andrew could not bear inactivity or indecision. He longed for a chance to trounce the British, he longed to test his skill on a real battlefield, and the protracted negotiations among America, Britain, and France frustrated him.

"Let's hit 'em, and hit 'em hard," he cried, but James was never quite sure whom he wanted to hit, for Jefferson was included in his excommunication. James began to think there might be truth to the stories that Andrew had helped Aaron Burr in his wild plans to form a breakaway country centered in the west, if only to provoke a war. For Andrew longed for war.

Sometimes he would arrive at James's house or, if it was early enough in the day, at the store, his speech slurred, and swaying on his feet. James would put him to bed to sleep it off, or send Ephraim with a message to the Hermitage. Then Alfred would come, hoist his inert Massa over his shoulders, as gently as a mother with a babe, and take him home in the gig.

Andrew was only a little drunk on the day he introduced James to his friends the Polks. They were at the racetrack, and Andrew's mare, Virginia, had won a splendid race and earned a handsome purse. Andrew was in an expansive mood, and kept introducing everybody to everyone, as though they had never met.

James already knew the Polks, who were a well-established family in the district, and did business with him at his store. He did not know

Alex Haley's *Queen*. Alex Haley. 1993, p. 94-95

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### James Jackson:



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Once a political adviser to Andrew Jackson, James Jackson and the future president split over personal business and James Jackson became a leader in the Whig Party in Alabama.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### Judge Felix Grundy (1775-1840), Jacob McGavock (1790-1878), Rev. John Berrien Lindsley (1822-1897):

A letter to Judge John H. DeWitt, dated 2nd March 1931, thanking him for an article "Andrew Jackson and His Ward - Andrew Jackson Hutchings," expresses reasons behind Miss Lindsley's enthusiasm for Jackson and The Hermitage.

I am deeply interested in everything pertaining to Andrew Jackson. The truth is I have inherited this interest and feel that he is a part of my family on both sides.

On one side, my great-grandfather, Felix Grundy, was associated with him politically. My grandfather, Jacob McGavock, was with him at the battle of the Horseshoe Bend. He was among the young men that history calls "Priestley's Pets," who joined the General in the Creek and Indian War.

At the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Horseshoe Bend, I was invited to represent the descendants of the men who were with him at that battle.

Jacob McGavock's house, where the McGavock Building now stands, was the headquarters of General and Mrs. Jackson on Saturday when they came into the city.

Now, on the other side, Philip Lindsley and he were friends and Jackson was one of the trustees of the University of Nashville. My father, Dr. J. Berrien Lindsley, studied divinity as a profession and medicine as an accomplishment, but actually the medical profession was his career. However, he was what was called in that day a "stated supply" and preached at The Hermitage Church every other Sunday, going with the family for dinner at The Hermitage.

On June 8th, he returned to The Hermitage from the church, knowing that the General was very ill and offered the prayer at his bedside. You will find an account of this in The Nashville Banner of June 8th, 1845.

I have a very valuable important American State Paper, dated Washington City, June 18, 1812. In it is President James Madison's message to the Senate and House of Representatives and also the Proclamation of the War of 1812. There is also an article from Felix Grundy to his constituents.

In speaking of the War of 1812, there was a saying at that time that the War of 1812 was caused by Felix Grundy, Andrew Jackson, and the Devil. I must say that was one time when the Devil was in good company.

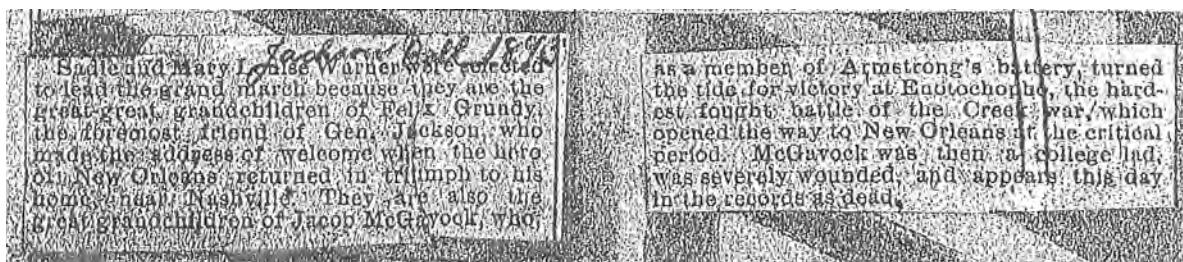
So you see why I am interested in everything pertaining to Jackson and can read with appreciation your article.

With best wishes, I am,  
Cordially Yours,

Louise G. Lindsley (signed)

Margaret Lindsley Warden, "Louise Grundy Lindsley." *Seven Women of Nashville*. 1974, p.77.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)



Nashville Newspaper, 1893.

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## Jacob McGavock

In 1813 Jacob McGavock served in the Creek War and became an aide to General Andrew Jackson. He was wounded by the Creek Indians in the Battle of Enitachopco Creek (SE Alabama), Jan. 24, 1814; the bullet remained in his body the rest of his life.

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A McGavock granddaughter, Louise Grundy Lindsley, described their social life in her 1936 memoir:

They were a gay family, fond of singing and dancing. Jacob McGavock was an expert dancer and so was Andrew Jackson. General and Mrs. Jackson were guests in this dining room on many a Saturday, he to attend court, and she could visit and shop with the ladies.

President Andrew Jackson and his wife often stayed in the McGavock home. Jacob McGavock was a pallbearer at President Andrew Jackson's Funeral, June 1845.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### John Berrien Lindsley (1822-1897) and President Andrew Jackson's death:

"Today is the anniversary of the death of General Andrew Jackson. On the afternoon of June 8th 1845, just fifty-one years ago, the hero of the Battle of New Orleans, passed peacefully away at the Hermitage, his handsome home, where he had for the previous eight years, after his retirement from the Presidency of the United States, lead a tranquil life. Dr. J. Berrien Lindsley, the present Secretary of the State Board of Health, was present when General Jackson died, and he is probably the only living person who saw him breath his last. Dr. Lindsley said, the impression made on his mind was one of a life time; he never witnessed a more solemn nor impressive scene than was presented in that chamber of death on that beautiful June afternoon; when the man who had on various occasions defied death, came to the reality that his own was approaching, true to his character, he never faltered, but met the summons calmly but passed into Eternity as peacefully as a child sinking to sleep."

"The Death of Andrew Jackson," *Nashville Banner*, June 8, 1895.

Dr. Lindsley studied Divinity as his profession, medicine as an accomplishment. When as a very young man he preached in a great many of the country churches, especially the Hermitage Church and frequently spent his Sabbath afternoons at the Hermitage with the family. General Jackson's death occurred on Sunday, the 8th of June and as he was one of Jackson's young friends and much beloved, he was present at that time. I have often heard Dr. Lindsley speak of this beautiful death bed scene, and what a grand Christian General Jackson proved to be when the trying hour, through which we must all pass, arrived.

Dr. Lindsley was in charge of the Hermitage church near the home of President Andrew Jackson during the latter's final illness. On the day of the President's death, June 8, 1845, Dr. Lindsley was summoned, being the only person present besides the immediate household, and offered the prayer.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

1845 June 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday 6 o'clock P.M.  
Died at the Hermitage Gen. Andrew  
Jackson, aged 78 years and nearly 3  
months. He was born March 15<sup>th</sup> 1767  
John Berrien Lindsley was with him  
at his death. He was perfectly calm,  
self possessed, resigned and ready to depart.  
His funeral took place on Tuesday at  
11 o'clock A. M. The following will be  
the epitaph on his tombstone -  
Andrew Jackson  
Born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 1767  
Died on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1845.

Philip Lindsley's Diary. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Mrs. John Berrien Lindsley (Sallie McGavock Lindsley) (1830-1903) led the Ladies Hermitage Association in preserving President Andrew Jackson's home.

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### Judge Felix Grundy (1775-1840)

1819-1825- Elected to Tennessee legislature and supported state-owned bank. He was opposed by Andrew Jackson and the two men were never intimate after this time.

1827- Ran for Congress in Jackson's home district and received the support of "Old Hickory" against John Bell, but lost the race.

1833- Elected to the Senate after a bitter struggle with John H. Eaton who was supported by Jackson

Although Judge Felix Grundy and Andrew Jackson were never on intimate terms, Grundy quickly emerged as one of the president's principal defenders in the Senate. His states' rights sympathies and his friendship with John C. Calhoun initially led him to support Calhoun's theory of nullification, but he remained loyal to the president when he learned of Jackson's condemnation of the doctrine. Grundy strongly defended Jackson's "war" against the Bank of the United States, and by 1834 he was widely recognized, with James K. Polk, as a leader of Tennessee's Democratic Party. Grundy's prominence made him a particular target for the rival Whig Party. A Whig majority in the legislature in 1838 attempted to force Grundy's resignation, first by electing Ephraim H. Foster as his successor before the expiration of his term, and then by instructing him to oppose President Martin Van Buren's proposal to create an Independent Treasury System. Although Grundy at first refused to resign, he left the Senate later that year, when Van Buren appointed him to the cabinet as attorney general.

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Engaged in sale and purchase of slaves with Andrew Jackson.

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When Felix Grundy died, James K. Polk, then governor of Tennessee, wrote former President Andrew Jackson at the Hermitage. Jackson responded saying that the state of his health and the coldness of the weather prevented him from attending Grundy's funeral and "paying a last tribute of respect to the memory of [my] deceased friend." He asked Polk to "make a tender to Mrs. Grundy and all the family of [my] sincere condolence on this melancholy occasion." To another friend, Jackson wrote: "our friend Grundy is no more, his death...is a serious loss to his country and family."

*See J. Roderick Heller III, Democracy's Lawyer: Felix Grundy of the Old Southwest. 2010.*

## Ancestor Connections to President Andrew Jackson (1767-1845)

### **Martha “Patsy” Philips Martin (1792-1886)**

There were many officers that belonged to the army stationed at Nashville. My father [Joseph Philips] invited them all with their wives out to dine, and well do I remember their happy, jovial manner. Among them was General Jackson, a noble, elegant looking gentleman. He wore a long que [?] and, powdered hair, which was the fashion in those days. They all appeared to enjoy the dinner and drank freely of the old peach brandy which my father always kept. The company returned to Nashville in the evening, apparently quite well pleased with their visit. My eldest sister, Mary, was then a young lady, much admired and quite pretty.

General Jackson being an old friend of my husband [Thomas Martin], I feel I must say something in regard to him. As a statesman and a military man, none exceeded him. In 1824 he was nominated for president of the United States but was defeated.

In 1828 he was elected and in 1832 he had. an overwhelming majority. Mrs. Jackson lived but a short time after he was first elected, which made a great change in him. He never afterwards had the happy, cheerful look he had before his death. The last time my husband saw him, he stopped at our home on the Gallatin Pike, with some friends, as he was on his way to Washington at the beginning of his second term. He looked sad, and he asked my daughter to play and sing “Old Lang Syne”. On his arrival at Washington, he sent my husband his likeness, which I have now.

After his return from Washington, General Jackson remained. on his farm, his adopted son and his son’s wife living with him. I paid him a visit two weeks before his death.

Although he was not able to come out of his room, he received me most cordially and inquired for all my family. I sat with him until dinner was announced. Before leaving, I walked in the garden and when I went inside again to take leave of him, he said: “Have you been in the garden?” I replied that I had and I gave him a rose which I had in my hand. He took the rose, then took my hand saying, “Farewell, my dear, and may God bless you.” Two weeks after that visit, I attended his funeral. Mr. Edgar preached from Revelations , verse 14.

His likeness was only finished a few days before his death, taken by a gentleman that had been sent from France for that purpose.

Martha “Patsy” Philips Martin. *The Battle Book* Ch. VI

<http://lfeldhaus.tripod.com/philiplsfamily/id27.html>