

# Bagley, Bass, Brooks, Cooper, Lunsford and Hart Families - Covington County, Alabama

by Danny P. Bass, Villa Rica, GA, 2006.

## Lunsford's

**Ephraim Sihon Lunsford** - Married to Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_? Last name not found.

Ephraim was born 1766 in SC. Died about 1866 in Chattahoochee County, GA

Elizabeth who was born in 1763 in SC. Died in 1850's

Recently I found a posting on Genealogy. Com from Frank Lunsford, a cousin, pertaining to the Lunsford line. He makes the disclaimer that he cannot guaranty the accuracy but he offers the following.

Sir Thomas Lunsford born 1610 Wileigh Hall, Sussex, England died 1653 in James City Co. Va. Married to Ann Hudson.

William Lunsford Esp. born about 1638 in Northumberland Co. Va.

William Lunsford I born abt. 1655 in Virginia

William Lunsford II born abt. 1685 in Stafford Co. Va.

1-John Lunsford Sr. born 1720, married Mary Wingate born 1722

Son -

2 - James Lunsford wife (unknown) born 1742

has son

3 - Ephraim Sihon Lunsford Sr. born 1766 married Elizabeth (unknown) born 1763

Sons -

4 - Lion Lunsford born 1794 married Leah (?)

4 - Aris C. Lunsford born 1806 married Mary M. Ledbetter born 1812

4 - Ephraim S. Lunsford Jr. born 1802

4- John Pickett Lunsford born 1808 married Nancy Ann Bagley born (?)

5 - James Pierce Lunsford born 1834 married Sarah Ann Walters (?)

6 - David C. Lunsford born about 1865 married Susan A. Wall born 1867

7 - Lonnie H. Lunsford born 1894 married Maude V. Harris born 1899

I am related thru Lonnie H.

The above is listed at <http://genforum.genealogy.com/lunsford/messages/1909.html>

It is reported they had 12 children. It is thought to be 6 males and 6 females. Only 6 are known as above.

Known children:

Sihon Lunsford born about 1794 in Richmond County, NC

Aaron born 1810

**Aris C. Lunsford born 1800**

Sarah born 1803, who married a John A. Mitchell

Ephraim, Jr. born between 1800 & 1810

John Pickett Lunsford born 1808

In 1800 they were living in Richmond County, NC. Around 1809 they moved to Chesterfield County, SC, where they remained until 1837. They then moved to Muscogee County, GA., which in 1854 became part of Chattahoochee County.

Both Elizabeth and Ephraim lived to a very old age. According to Debra Wells, a cousin, Ephraim & Elizabeth continued living in the Chattahoochee area on what is now Ft. Benning Army Base. Ms. Wells, an archeologist, claims they are buried there. There is a list of 58 cemeteries on Ft. Benning land, but using the internet records, their names could not be found.

- 1850 Muscogee county census lists 2 children in Ephraim Sihon's household - William age 10 and John age 8 – who were John Picket Lunsford's kids by his first marriages.

The following is information on the other Lunsford children of Ephraim and Elizabeth that are not direct line ancestors.

Sihon Lunsford married Leah and produced the following children:

Children of Sihon and Leah:

Wyatt born 1827

Delilah born 1833

Louisa born 1835

Doctor W. born 1838 – he died during the Civil War

Susan A. born 1841

Leah born 1844 or possibly 1846

Aaron Lunsford married Susan Ann and had the following children:

Children of Aaron & Susan Ann

Orris born 1839

John J. born 1841

Britton R. born 1846

Sihon J. born 1848

Louisa born 1849

John Pickett Lunsford - It is believed that John Pickett Lunsford was married at least twice before marrying Nancy A. Bagley. The previous spouses are unknown but they produced two sons.

Children:

William born 9-10-1839

John born 1842

William Lunsford born 09/10/1839 in Muscogee County, GA. He died 3-29-1899 and is buried in Smith cemetery which is located about 1 to 2 miles west of Hart's Bridge in Covington County.

William Lunsford married Delilah A. J. Mock

William Lunsford & Delilah A. J. Mock Lunsford's children:

William Edward born 8/27/1862 – died 9/19/1954 – married Melissia Spence

Stephen Frances born 1/30/1865 – died 6/16/1896 – married Bell Morgan

Sarah Elizabeth born 10/29/1867 – died 1/16/1954 – married Carl J. Uebe

Charley Anderson born 3/2/1870 – died 04/05/1958 – married Della Ward

Rube J. born 2/13/1873

John Henry born 5/18/1875 – died 11/26/1957 – married Martha Ward

Emma Jane born 11/08/1879 – died 1/04/1970 – married William F. Ward

James Joseph born 04/24/1883 – died 1952 – married J. J. Garrett

John Lunsford was born 1842 in Muscogee County, GA

John Lunsford married Elizabeth Mock

John Pickett Lunsford married Nancy Bagley Scott

Children:

Harriet Eveline Lunsford born 12/17/1842 in Muscoque, AL

Nancy A. Bagley was the daughter of Moor Bagley. Moor was born 06/09/1783 in VA.

Nancy A. Bagley's headstone has an error on it. She was married to John Pickett Lunsford. There is no record of an A. P. Lunsford in any line.

Nancy's mother was Mary Jane Graves born about 1797 in probably Minton, GA.

Mary Jane Graves parents were John Graves born about 1767 in Chesterfield, SC and Rebecca Harris born about 1771 in VA.

Parents of John Graves was Robert Graves born about 1745 in VA and Unknown spouse Graves born about 1747 in VA. (listed on Root's web)

Nancy's father Moor Bagley whose parents were Robert Bagley who was born about 1757 in VA and Mary (unknown last name). Mary was born about 1761 in VA.

Moor Bagley and Mary Jane Graves were married 11/1/1810 in old Randolph, Jasper County, GA.

It is said that Moor Bagley was the first white man to come through King's Gap on the Indian trail above Hamilton, GA. He was a cooper by trade, maker of buckets & tubs.

In 1825 Moor Bagley moved his family to newly opened territory of Harris County, GA. In 1828 Moor Bagley moved to Columbus, GA. Then in 1830 Moor moved to a newly opened area in southern Muscogee County that was made into part of Chattahoochee County in 1854. Moor remained in the Cusseta / Columbus area for the remainder of his life. His oldest son William cleared the land where Broad Street in Columbus is located now.

The below are children of the Bagley family.

Moor Bagley & Mary Jane Graves children:

William Bagley 10/11/1811 in Jasper, GA – married JoAnna Jones on 12/24/1835

Elizabeth Bagley who married Henry Jones (no dates available)

Nancy A. Bagley was born 03/10/1815 in Fayette County, GA – married (1) M. R. Scott (2) John Pickett Lunsford

Mary Ann Bagley who was born 1816 in Fayette County, GA – married George Howard

Dread Bagley who was born 03/05/1817 in Jasper, GA. He married (1) Elizabeth J. Jones on 04/20/1843 in Muscogee County, GA then he married (2) Nancy Palmer and his last wife was (3) Martha Ann Padgett

Sarah Bagley was born 1822 – who married Aquilla Cobb

Martha Bagley was born 1829 in Muscogee County, GA – married John Mack

Barthenia Bagley was born 1832 in Muscogee County, GA – married Jasper Hicks

Dread Bagley & (2) Nancy Palmer Bagley's children:

Nancy born in 1876 – she was adopted

Dread Bagley & (1) Elizabeth J. Jones Bagley children:

Elizabeth Bagley born 03/15/1844 – married Dr. Benjamin C. F. Brooks who is brother of William D. Brooks

JoAnna W. Bagley born 08/10/1846 in Covington County, AL – married Reuben Hart about 1863 in Covington County, AL Reuben Hart was the son of Andrew Jackson Hart.

Luranda Bagley born about 1847

Nancy A. Lucinda Bagley born 09/18/1848 in Chattahoochee, GA – married William Henry Hart brother of Reubin Hart who was husband of JoAnna W.

Sarah E. Bagley who was born 11-11-1849 and died 10-16-1920 – she married George Anderson. Mock

Henritta Bagley born 1852 and died 1879 – married William J. Riley

George W. Bagley born 9-20-1854 – died 7-27-1907

John W. Bagley born 1856

William Benjamin Bagley born 1859 in Alabama – married Molly Gafford

JoAnna W. Bagley daughter of Dread & Elizabeth Jones Bagley married Reubin Hart

Children of JoAnna & Reubin:

William S. Hart born 06/15/1866 died 12/31/1947

Samuel Hart born about 1871 in Andalusia, AL

Sarah Elizabeth Hart born 02/06/1871 – died 05/31/1947

Vester Hart born about 1873

George Hart born 1877 in Andalusia, AL

Thomas Benjamin Hart born 09/10/1879 in Andalusia, AL

Dennis Aaron Hart born 08/02/1886 – died 01/16/1928

Alex C. Hart born 07/15/1890 – died 11/24/1962

Andrew Jackson Hart had three sons, two who married Bagley sisters. The third son Abram married Harriet Evelyn Lunsford. Andrew Jackson Hart and his sons constructed and operated Hart's Ferry at the site where Hart's Bridge was later constructed in about 1905. The Hart's have a chapter in the "The Folks From Pea Ridge" by Wyley Donald Ward. Their descendants were very prolific and were married into many of the

original families of Covington County.



Pictures of the original Hart's Bridge built around 1905. Picture taken from Hart's Bridge Road (with a new concrete bridge roadway).

John P. & Nancy Lunsford settled in Pea Ridge on the East side of Hayes Creek near the home of George Jones. They lived here for the remainder of their lives. John Pickett enlisted in the Confederate Army in November 1861. He was discharged shortly thereafter probably because of his age at the time (53 yrs. old).

John P. died in the 1870's. Nancy maintained her household & helped raise her grandchildren before she died. Nancy Lunsford was one of the most respected women in the community and if there was such a title as "Grandmother of Pea Ridge", she would be a prime contender (title suggested in Wyley Donald Ward's book "The Folks of Pea Ridge").

John Pickett and Nancy A. Bagley Scott Lunsford had only one child together. They each brought 2 children to the marriage. Together their five children's descendants would eventually account for half the population of the Pea Ridge Community according to "The Folks of Pea Ridge" book.

Harriet Eveline Lunsford Hart & Abram Hart children:

James Andrew Jackson Hart born 04/03/1860 and died 07/31/1941

Nancy Elizabeth Hart born 05/15/1862 and died 09/10/1941

Sarah Jane Hart born 02/13/1864 and died 02/23/1939

John Allen Hart born 02/17/1867 and died 04/21/1923

William Francis Hart born 10/31/1867 and died 04/07/1956

Amanda Catherin Hart born 01/09/1871 and died 03/02/1942

Samuel Alexander Hart born 1882

Laura A. hart born 11/07/1884 and died 04/18/1972

James (Jimmy) Hart born 1875

**Aris C. Lunsford** – Born 1810 and died after 1880

Aris was a Methodist Episcopal Minister.

Aris's first marriage was to Mary M. Ledbetter about 1832 and probably in Chesterfield County, SC

Mary M. Ledbetter was born in 1812 in SC

They had 6 children

Children:

**Myrick C. Lunsford** was born 1833 – in SC – married Josephine Scott

James Pierce Lunsford born in 1834 – in TN – married Sarah Ann Walters

Isaac Lunsford born 1844

Sara R. Lunsford born 1847

Wiley Lee Lunsford born May 1849 in Wayne County, TN

Minervy Lunsford born about 1860

Ezekiel Lunsford born about 1861

Levisa Lunsford born about 1864

Aris's second marriage was to Catherine whose last name can not be found. She was born about 1835 in GA.

Children:

William Washington Lunsford born 1870 in Covington County, AL – married Sophronia Johnston

Ella Francis Lunsford born about 1873 – married Billy Edson

Aris Lunsford seems to have come to AL from TN in about 1855.

They settled near Rose Hill community where he and Myrick served as Methodist ministers.

On July 26, 1861, he joined Company B of the 18<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry Regiment and served throughout the war although he was over 50.

The war years found Aris sick in quarters at Camp Gov. Moore, Alabama in December 1861.

He was captured at Missionary Ridge, TN November 25, 1863.

He was received at military prison in Louisville, KY December 7, 1863. Arrived at Rock Island Barracks, IL December 9, 1863, paroled at Boulwares Wharf, VA in March 1865.

Later admitted to Jackson Hospital in Richmond, VA around March 2, 1865. He was diagnosed with debilitas (Latin for feeble) and furloughed March 14, 1865 for 30 days.

– At 1880 LDS census listed head of household Arcus (Aris) Lunsford as 70 years old – as farmer – and Catherine Lunsford as his wife (45 years old) – Minerva listed as age 20, Ezekel listed as age 19, Levisa as age 16, William W. as age 10, Ella – listed as Eller as age 7

The following information is on other Lunsford children of Aris & Mary M. Ledbetter Lunsford who are not direct line ancestors.

James Pierce Lunsford & Sarah Ann Walters children:

Bud Lunsford

Etta Lunsford

Florence Lunsford

Ike Lunsford

John Lunsford

George Marion Lunsford born about 1857

Lemuel Porter Lunsford born about 03/30/1858

David C. Lunsford born about 1865

The following information is on other Lunsford children of Aris & Catherine who are not direct line ancestors.

William Washington Lunsford and Sophronia Johnston's children:

James Myrick Lunsford born 1892 in Conecuh County, AL

Mary Samantha Lunsford born 1894

Minerva Savannah Lunsford born 1893

Aris Algae Lunsford born 1900

William Carvel Lunsford born 1905

Frances Elizabeth Lunsford born 07/21/1908 in Red Level, Covington Co., AL

Samuel Lunsford born 1911



**Myrick C. Lunsford** – born 1833 in SC – died about 1868 in Covington County, AL

Occupation was Methodist Episcopal Minister

Married on March 9, 1854 to Josephine Scott who was born between 1833 and 1837 in Muscogee County, GA and died about 1875.

Myrick and Josephine's children

Children:

**James Samuel Lunsford** born 1856 in GA.

Seaburn Austin Lunsford born 7/16/1854 in GA – married Emily Hortense Chesser

Nancy Margaret Lunsford born 12/1859 in GA – married Frank Ward

Mary A. Lunsford was born 1862 in AL.

Francis Alice Lunsford born in AL 10/04/1865 - married John Ward

Seaburn Austin & Emily Hortense Chesser Lunsford's children:

Mary Elizabeth born 5/16/1883 – married Curt Smith

David Monroe born 2/22/1885 – died 9/17/1961 – married Anna E. Hogg

Sarah Gertrude born 5/7/1887 – married Louis Smith

Laura Josephine born 11/26/1889 – married Herbert Godwin

Myrick Lee H. born 2/27/1890? – married Ethel Thomasson

Josephine's sister Sara Jane Scott was the first wife of W. D. Brooks. Josephine's mother, who was Nancy A. Bagley was first married to Mr. Scott in 1832 and was married second to Mr. John Pickett Lunsford in 1842 in Muscogee County, GA. John Pickett Lunsford was Aris C. Lunsford's brother.

By 1870 Myrick's family had moved from Rose Hill to Pea Ridge settling near the home of Jullian G. Robinson. Both Myrick and his wife died while still relatively young, thus leaving their children to be raised by maternal grandmother Nancy Bagley Scott Lunsford. Nancy was a key part in not only the Lunsford family but also was grandmother to W. D. Brooks' children. Also, by being married to John Pickett Lunsford, she was great aunt to her grandchildren that she finished raising. Although even with the two sons of John

Pickett she only had five children she had at least 42 grandchildren and maybe more due to some of the families moving from the area and thus their records could be incomplete.

**James Samuel Lunsford** (born 1856 – February)

Married Martha Booth in about 1876.

Children:

Lizzie Lunsford born 9/1877 – married Fnu King

Thomas Lunsford born May 1882 married Julia Hogg

**Mary Priscilla (Mollie) Lunsford** born about 1883 - married Jacob Zedock Brooks

Monroe Lunsford born in March 1887

James Lunsford born in March 1888

Elonza Lunsford born in May 1892 – married Della

Curtis Lunsford born in March 1895

Valley Lunsford born in March 1899

For a short period of time J.S. and Martha lived with mother in law, Mary M. Booth, who lived on the East Side of Copeland Creek on property that was later sold to the Stokes family.

Later James Samuel Lunsford & Martha Booth Lunsford moved from Pea Ridge to Buck Creek community near Red Level in late 1800's.

**Mary Priscilla (Mollie) Lunsford** – born about 1883

Mollie died July 22, 1962

Molly married Jacob Zedock Brooks (Jake) July 18, 1901



Child in picture is Judith Elicca Bass



On 1900 Loango Covington County census states she was born April 1886

Her headstone displays born March 7, 1884

Mollie & Jake's children listed under the Brooks name.

Brooks's

**John S. Brooks** – born about 1798 in Oglethorpe County, GA

John S. married about 1821 – Elizabeth Cobb – born about 1802 in Columbia County, GA

Possibly the daughter of Benjamin Cobb who lived there in 1805.

John S. & Elizabeth had 9 children – 6 sons and 3 daughters – 2 sons died young

James Marion Brooks born 1822 – married (1) Eliza Gray and she died in early 1870's , married (2) Louisa J. who was born 1855 in Alabama

**William D. Brooks** born 9/13/1824 in Houston County, GA and died Jan. 1908 – married (1) Sarah J. Scott, married (2) Arnassie Dupree

Benjamin C. F. Brooks born 1827 – died 1889 – married Eliza Bagley born 3/15/1844 and died 01/11/1941

Henry A. Brooks born 1833 – married in 1858 Virginia (last name unknown) born 1840 in Alabama

Nancy A. E. Brooks born 1835 – married Bryant Howell, Jr.

Mary A. J. Brooks born 1841

The following is information on other Brooks children that are not direct ancestors.

James Marion Brooks & Eliza Gray children:

Elizabeth born 1843  
William A. born 1846 – married Elizabeth Beck  
Frances born 1850  
James W. born 1853  
Mary P. born 1854  
Sarah G. born 1856  
Benjamin born 1859  
Louisa J. born 1862  
Calidonia born 1865

James Marion Brooks & Louisa ( married around 1876) children:

Terrill S. born 1877  
Ida E. born 1878  
Marion born 1880

Benjamin C. F. and Eliza Jane Bagley children:

Sarah E. born 1862 – married Ephraim Neel

Mary E. born 1864

Nancy G. born 03/03/1866 – died 01/18/1918 – married William A. Hassell

Taob born 1867

Henry A. and Virginia children:

Jane E. born 1859

Charles born 1861

George S. born 1863

Levi born 1867

Caroline born 1868

Vallery born 1869

John S. was probably the son of James Brooks who participated in the GA land lotteries of that county in 1805 & 1807.

John S. and his wife Elizabeth appear to have begun their family in Houston County, GA.  
John S. & Elizabeth moved in 1834 to Sumpter County, GA

John worked in a manufacturing facility while living in Sumter County.

In 1840 moved to Muscogee County, GA & settled near the Lunsford's in what later became Chattahoochee County.

According to author Wyley Donald Ward's book "The Folks from Pea Ridge" - John S. Brooks and four of his sons moved from Chattahoochee County, GA to Covington and Conecuh Counties sometime between 1858 and 1861.

The families of William D. and Henry A. were enumerated in the 1860 Covington County census. Later that year there was a record of Benjamin C. having witnessed a marriage license. James M. the oldest son arrived in 1861 and settled near Brooklyn in Conecuh County.

James M. and William D. served as captains for county Beat #6 Company, 60<sup>th</sup> Regiment (Covington County) 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 11<sup>th</sup> division, Alabama Militia.

In 1868 James was elected to serve as commissioner of revenue and roads.

James's family lived in the Fairfield community. Benjamin practiced medicine in the surrounding area.

The youngest son Henry A. was 43 years of age in 1864 when he enlisted as a private of the Company of Covington Militia. He and his wife Virginia, a native of Alabama, lived in the Fairfield community.

By 1860 all of the family had moved from Chattahoochee County except James M. & his family.

**William D. Brooks** - Born 9-13-1824

Died 01/10/1908 in Andalusia, Covington County, AL.

Buried at Hopewell Church in Covington County, AL between his first and second wives.

Occupation was farmer and Baptist minister. He pastored at Hopewell & Salem churches.

**First marriage** was to Sara Jane Scott born 06/18/1838 in Muscogee County, GA. and died 6-9-1868.

Sara Jane Scott was the daughter of Nancy Bagley who married John Pickett Lunsford on her second marriage. Her sister Josephine Scott was married to Myrick C. Lunsford and mother of J. S. Lunsford who was the father of Mary Priscilla (Mollie) Lunsford. (The gene pool was very narrow).

William D. Brooks & Sara Jane Scott Brooks children:

John S. Brooks born 1855

Benjamin Perry Brooks born 10-15-1861 - died 01-10-1913 – married Rebecca Wishum who was born 12/05/1870 and died 05/24/1940

Nancy Jane Elizabeth Brooks born 9-15-1858 in GA and died 1944 – married Richard Knowles who was born 1880 and died in 1930

Sara Emily Brooks born 8-23-1860 and died 3-11-1921 – married James Smith

Evelyne Loudeskie Brooks born 1862 – married Henry King

Willie Brooks born 1864 – died young

Nancy Jane Elizabeth Brooks Knowles and Richard Allen Knowles had eight children, one was;

Hattie Mae Knowles – born 1/15/1894 – died 07/05/1972 – buried in Mobley Creek Cemetery – married William Elias Ward born 12/25/1879 – died 06/30/1960

Hattie Mae Knowles and William Elias Ward had ten children, one of them was;  
Wyley Donald Ward – born 01/30/1934 – married Elaine Hair

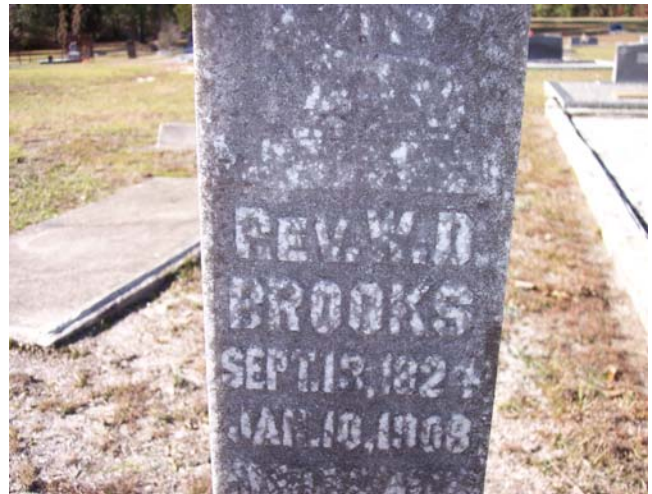
\*\*\* Wyley Donald Ward is the author of “Early History of Covington County, Alabama 1821 – 1871” written in 1976 and “The Folks from Pea Ridge in Covington & Conecuh Counties Alabama” written in 1973.

A lot of the information herein has come from these two books. We spoke with Mr. Ward via phone and he graciously sold us books and signed them.

**Second marriage** was to Arnassie Dupree born 1/16/1845 in Coffee County, AL

Arnassie was the daughter of Jacob Dupree born about 1812 in NC  
Arnassie’s mother was Amanda Snellgrove born about 1818 in GA.

Arnassie & **William D. Brooks** had 9 children: - all were born in, Covington County, AL





Three headstones are of W. D. Brooks, first wife Sara and 2<sup>nd</sup> wife Arnassie.

Mary Alfus Brooks born 10/05/1869 - died 06/09/1941 – married Willie Diamond

James Madison Brooks born 08/21/1870 – died 09/29/1938 – on 9/29/1938 married Mary E. Wishum

Martha Surilla Brooks born 01/24/1874 – died 10/01/1957 – married Henry Williams

Eliza Brooks born 07/15/1876 – died 09/11/1904 – married to Sam Kirkland

**Jacob Zedock Brooks** born 09/04/1879 – died 12/06/1946 – married Mollie Pricilla Lunsford

Amanda V. Brooks (Mandie) born 03/12/1882 – married William Garrett

Agusta Lucy (Gustie) Brooks born about 1884 – married Henry Little

Missouri Brooks born 1887 – died 1916 – married J. D. Barron

Lena Nora Brooks born 06/05/1892 – married Alcus Compton

Jacob Dupree's father was James Dupree who moved to Washington County, GA before 1830.

The Dupree's are of French origin and are considered by themselves Huguenots. Their lineage carries them back to the early colonists of VA at Jamestown. In the Dupree Genealogy Trail, Volume 2 lists a statement that although they endured the hardship of colonists, they still carried themselves in reflection of coming from the "most polished country in the world".





**ARNASSIE DUPREE BROOKS**  
Second wife of William D. Brooks

**Jacob Zedock Brooks** married Mary Priscilla (Mollie) Lunsford

Jake & Mollie's Children:

William born June 18, 1902 – died young

Dalton Georgia Brooks born 1904 - who married Myrtle King



Dalton Georgia Brooks & Myrtle King Brooks

## Cooper's

**William W. Cooper (W. W. Cooper)** Born 9/3/1837

W. W. Cooper married to Mary A.

W. W. was born 9-3-1837 and Mary A. was born 1840

William W. Cooper first appeared in the household of Samuel Shiver in the 1850 census of Haw Ridge Community, Coffee County, AL. We believe this to be George T's father.

At the time he was enumerated as being 16 years old.

There are 2 other male Coopers in the household

Thomas age 10

Joseph age 8

Samuel Shiver is married with Sarah as his wife on the census.

By the 1860 census of Baldwin County, AL, we find W. W. Cooper married to Mary with 3 sons listed.

Sam

John

**George**

Also in the 1860 census of Haw Ridge, Coffee County, Joseph Cooper now is 18 years old and in the household of Kathryn Shriver.

Enumerated in the Baldwin County census are at least 5 other Cooper families.

4 appear to be of the same generation. 1 widowed female of the previous generation with similar information of Cooper's born in GA, widow SC.

Could not locate W. W. Cooper in 1870 census. By 1880 census he appears showing in the Covington County, AL area.

The 1880 census shows W. W. Cooper head of household age 48, wife Mary 47, **George 23**, Kattey 18, Joseph 15, William 7, James 5, Norman 3, Nicholas 3.

Also in the household was William Jefferson (Bill) Franklin. Bill Franklin was great grandfather of Lisa R. Franklin, who provided a lot of this information. To see additional information go to [www.trackingyourroots.com](http://www.trackingyourroots.com) or send an e-mail to [webmaster@trackingyourroots.com](mailto:webmaster@trackingyourroots.com)

At time of 1900 census, W.W. was 62 years old and Mary A. at 60 years old. Shows married for 45 years. She was 15 and he 17. Shows Mary A. had 9 children, 7 living at time of census.

W. W. & Mary A. had in their household 1 daughter Katie, age 37.  
1 son, Norman age 26, 3 granddaughters and 2 grandsons.  
Probably children of Katie for it shows her to have had 5 children all of which were still alive at 1900.



Gusti Cooper Bass

**G. T. Cooper (George T.)** - Born April 1855 in Alabama

shows on 1900 Loango Pct. 6 census.

G.T. & Nancy married about 1881

Nancy Beck born 01/12/1864, died 09/03/1910

She was the daughter of William Green Beck. William Green Beck was born in Wilkerson County, GA.

**G. T.** and Nancy Beck Cooper had 5 children

Children:

William Lewis born 12/1882

Mary A. born 3/1885

**Gustie (Gusta)** born 8/1886 – died 1/15/1970 – married William Riley Bass



Frank born 4/1890 – married Ada B. who was born in 1912

Marion Albert born 4/26/1892 – died 3/1972 in Russell County, Phoenix City, AL. – married Theodocia Brooks daughter of Benjamin P. Brooks & Rebecca E. Wishum.

In the 1920 census G. T. Cooper was living with son Albert and his wife Theodocia Brooks Cooper.

William Lewis Cooper – 1930 census shows him divorced, age 47 and living in the household of William Riley and Gustie Cooper (his sister).

Nancy's father, William Green Beck was the son of John Beck and Mary Strong. He moved with his parents to Montgomery County, AL. John Beck was born in Orangeburg Dist. SC in 1792. His father was Elijah Beck who was probably a Revolutionary War Veteran. Mary Strong was born in VA about 1792.

William Green Beck, 1<sup>st</sup> married Louisa Smith – they had 6 children

2<sup>nd</sup> wife Sara Jane Johnson, widow of Mr. Tane – children Thomas and Nancy

William Green Beck moved from Beck community in Conecuh River to Pea Ridge West of Hopewell Church. He was born in Wilkerson County, GA

William Green Beck was a blacksmith and operated a grist mill. He loaded and sold ammunition. He was elected to a 2 year term in the Alabama State legislature.

## **Gustie Cooper**

Married William Riley Bass whose children are listed under the Bass's

There are several documents which prove our lineage back to Wilson Bass, father of Bennett Bridges, William Riley and Nancy. Wilson showed last on the census reports of Covington County in 1840. The first census to name household members by name was 1850. There are young female members enumerated on Wilson's 1830 and 1840 census that are unaccounted for. This may mean there are other siblings. The census of 1860 shows Bennett Bridges Bass as having two females of different ages with the same name.

## Bass's

### **Wilson Bennett Bass**

Born about 1785 in Nash County, NC

According to internet site "My Family" his spouse was unknown and he had 3 children.

Children:

Bennett Bridges Bass born 1808 in GA.

Nancy Bass born 1813 in GA and died after 1900 in Texas. – married William

Paget, Jr. who was born 05/28/11 and died 11/08/1855

**William Riley Bass** born 1824 in Covington County, AL

The 1830 Covington County census list Wilson Bass with two other males in the household.

1 age range 20 to 25

1 age range 5 to 10

5 females (1 age range 25 to 30) probably his wife, 1 female 15 to 20, 1 female 5 to 10, 2 females 0 to 5.

The 1840 Covington County census list one other male in the household – and 5 females.  
Also listed in the 1840 census is Bennett B. Bass (two males in household, 1- 0 to 5, 1 – 25 to 30)

2 females (1 – 0 to 5, 1 – 25 to 30)

The 1850 Covington County census does not list Wilson Bennett Bass. However, this is the first census that names person's of the household and Bennett B. Bass 42, married to Elizabeth 33 show a household of 10 others in ages from 1 year old to 17 years old. It appears that Wilson's household members were taken in by his son Bennett Bridges Bass.

Also listed in the 1850 census is Riley Bass, age 26 married to Mary age 29. With 2 sons, James 3 and John 1.

The 1860 census list Riley Bass age 37, Mary age 39, James W. age 13, John age 12, **William** age 8 and Riley age 3.

Also in 1860 census for Covington County Bennett B. Bass age 57, Elizabeth age 42, Wilson age 21, Jane age 18, Vina age 17, Holland age 15, James age 12, Bennett age 10, Elizabeth age 8, Jane age 6 and Riley age 5.

The 1860 census also has listed under the household of Ephraim Lyles, Emeline Bass age 22.

The following is information on children of Nancy Bass & William Paget, Jr.; Nancy was the sister of our William Riley Bass. Not our grandfather but our Great-Great Grandfather

Jane Paget born 03/18/1838  
Henry Paget born 06/18/1844 – died 12/15/1861 in Mobile, AL  
Levinia Paget born 1847  
Elizabeth Paget born 1851  
Nancy Paget born 04/16/1855 and died 05/12/1933

Henry Paget married Anna Diamond; one of their children was Reubin Rufus Padgett who married Mattie P. Parker. One of their children was Ruby Lena Padgett wife of Barney Bass our uncle.

Bennett Bridges Bass married Mary Elizabeth Hogg who was born 10/15/1818 in Andalusia, AL

Some of their children are:

Mary Bass born 10/12/1838 – died 7/11/1915 – married William Teel born 1840 and died 1863 – He died in the Civil War at Mobile, AL  
Wilson Bass born 1839  
Nancy Bass born 3/2/1840 – died 4/26/1916 – married James Teel in 1859  
James Teel born 11/30/1840 – died 10/19/1904  
Jane Bass born 1842  
Vina Bass born 1843  
Holland Bass born 1845

James Bass born 1848  
Bennett Bass born 1850  
Elizabeth Bass born 1852  
Jane Bass born 1854  
Riley Bass born 1855

Nancy ( Bass) Teel and James Teel had a total of 10 children. One of them was

Martha Mat Teel born 10/1884 – died 03/30/1947 – married John Kirklin born 12/23/1888 – died 4/1979 - son of Wiley Kirkland and Mary Unknown. They had one child that lived to adulthood.

Juel Eugene Kirklin born 7/28/1923 – died 9/16/1987 – married Dover D. Brooks

Bennett Bridges Bass had a cattle ranch south of Andalusia in the Carolina community. He lost his ranch soon after the Civil War began and moved with his family to Rocky Bayou near Niceville, FL. Two of his sons James and Wilson and his brother William Riley were killed near Niceville, FL at Boggy Bayou during the Civil War by Mississippi cavalymen. Information found suggest that the Basses were killed helping a union sympathizer, a local politician named Alfred Holley (state representative), escape to the Union lines. Bennett remained in Walton County, Florida after the war and died there in 1874.

Information from the book “Early History of Covington County” by Wyley Donald Ward claims in late 1863 there were growing numbers of deserters and Union sympathizers in Southern Alabama & Western Florida. In order to deal with this, Governor Shorter of Alabama instructed the Confederate Army to attempt to crush deserters and Union sympathy in that region.

Col. Holland of the confederate army was a leader of one of the groups assigned to this task. Apparently one of the first moves of Col. Holland was to trap Alfred Holley, state representative of Covington County. Who was thought to be assisting the deserters. An attempt was made on March 15, 1864 which was reported in the Montgomery Weekly Advertiser on April 20, 1864 to trap and arrest Alfred Holley.

Although they did not arrest him, they took his son Alfred D. Holley a Lieutenant in the 40<sup>th</sup> Alabama infantry and held him for a period of time before releasing him after determining his loyalty to the confederacy.

Only three days later reported in General Maury’s activity report to General Cooper, Col. Holland’s expedition had an encounter on the Choctawhatchee Bay and he claimed the entire boat crew of about 25 were killed & drowned with no loss on the Confederate side. Col. Holland was leader of the 37<sup>th</sup> MS regiment.

The event was also mentioned in the April 4, 1864 report of Gen. Asboth, Union Commander at Ft. Barrancas. It stated that “Mr. Alfred Holley came in yesterday, reporting that while leaving Boggy Bayou for East Pass in a skiff with five others (all members of the Bass family residing there), the rebels fired upon them killing 3 and wounding 2, who we now have in our hospital”.



All the men on the skiff were natives and or long time residents of Covington County, Alabama. Those killed were William Riley Bass (the youngest son of Wilson Bass) and 2 nephews, Wilson & James H. Bass, sons of Bennett Bridges Bass. Many of the cattle taken by Col. Holland's' troops in Florida, were owned by William Ward, also a former resident of Covington County, Alabama.

### **William Riley Bass**

Born 1824 in Covington County, AL

Died March 18, 1864 at Boggy Bayou near Niceville, FL

Married to Mary Straughn born about 1817.

Mary Straughn daughter of Temperance "Tempy" Straughn, who later married Willson Franklin (Tempy is Lisa Franklin's g-g-g grandmother)

Children –

James W. Bass born 12/14/1848

John Bass born 12/13/1850

**William M. Bass** born 08/02/1852

Bennett B. Bass born 06/18/1855 (does not show on any census)

Riley Bass born 12/02/1856 died 02/23/1915

Riley Bass appears on the 1860 census in Covington County, AL. He appeared in the census in 1866 in Covington County. He appeared in the census in 1880 in Covington County. He appeared in the census on May 24, 1910 in Loango, Covington County, AL. He died from inflammation of the stomach on Feb. 23, 1915 in Covington County. According to his death certificate he was single. He was buried in Covington County. John appears with Riley showing John as head of household on 1870 census and on thru the 1910. On the 1910 Loango census John is 61 and single and Riley is 54 and also single. Also in the household is an aunt Sirena Franklin also listed as single and age 82.

### **William M. Bass**

Born about 1852

Died 02/20/1913. He is buried in Bass Cemetary, located on private property at an undisclosed location.  
Married Abbie Welch born about 10/1854

Her father was born in Ireland. Her mother born in SC.

According to the 1900 census Covington County, Loango area - William M. and Abbie (listed as Ebbi) had 2 children. Both of which were still alive.

Children:

Mary A. born Dec. 1881 – died 1940 – buried At Fairmont Baptist Church Cemetery, Red Level, Covington County, AL

Mary A. married Liston Thomas Hutcheson 07/02/1899

**William Riley** born August 1882 married Gustie (Gusta) Cooper – see Coopers

Mary A. Bass & Liston Thomas Hutcheson was married on July 2, 1899. Liston Thomas Hutcheson is the son of John Wilson Hutcheson & Martha Jane Findley. He was born on Jan. 3, 1880 in Alabama. He died on Jan 6, 1975 in Red Level, Covington County, AL. He was buried in the Fairmount Baptist Church Cemetery. From his obituary from Audrey Ard Tschirhat: “Liston was not slim but not portly. Somewhere in between. And I imagine about 5 foot 9 inches tall with a ruddy complexion. He did not wear a hat when he was at church. Of course, he was a Baptist; very polite and friendly. Always had on a white shirt.”

From Covington County History, 1821-1976 by Gus Bryan: “Liston T. Hutcheson the oldest citizen in the Red Level – Loango area. Hutcheson was a three mule farmer, operated a sawmill and a cotton gin. In 1925 he moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida where he worked as a carpenter and later operated a gas station. When he retired he returned to Loango. After his wife’s death he remarried Maggie Lindsey Acree and the two resided Loango.”