

Summer 2009

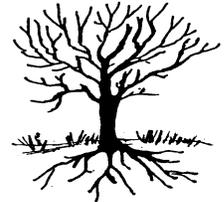


Roots and Branches Genealogy Society of West Volusia County

130 E. Howry Avenue, DeLand, Florida 32724

July, August, September 2009
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flrbgs/index.htm

Happy Summer



Andrew Marion Whiteside , Cleve Whitfield Whiteside, Whitfield Absolum Whitfield, Claude LeRoy Whiteside, & Loma Geneva Patterson Whitefield

How My Great Grandmother Nancy McRay Scarborough Fooled Sherman's Army and Made a Mint—LaVerne Hardin PLEASE SEE COVER STORY PAGE 8

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Special points of interest:

Do you remember when Sears sold kits to build a house from a catalog with everything included "already cut and fitted?" See the "History of Sears Modern Homes." Nancy Geiger shares memories of growing up in a large family and living in "The Sheridan" model, pages 4-5.

DeLandites answer the question "What's Your First Memory?" Read their responses on pages 6-7.

Learn how to collar a cow's head—a recipe from the first southern cookbook, "The Virginia Housewife, Or Methodical Cooking" page 8.

Planning a genealogy vacation? Get tips from Genealogy.com, plus Linda Williamson shares her experience in preparing for a trip, pages 10-11.

What Is Roots & Branches?

History & Mission: Founded in 1986, the Roots & Branches Society of West Volusia County, serves the cities of DeLand, Deltona, DeBary, Enterprise, Osteen, Pierson and Seville. The purpose of this Society is to stimulate and promote interest in genealogical and historical research and provide instruction in the use of efficient mechanics and adherence to scientific principles of accuracy and thoroughness in research.

Society Projects & Lecture Subjects: Our meetings feature workshops and speakers on such topics as early land, church, census and probate records; research documentation and organization; DNA testing and internet search. Society projects include staffing the Genealogy Room at the DeLand Public Library, digitizing the Brownell Collection for preservation and sharing with the Historical Society, maintaining the vertical files and an indexed collection of obituaries from the Beacon and News-Journal, and continuing the collection of pertinent information on

West Volusia cities and pioneer families of the area.

With seventy-eight members from all over the United States, the Society is a diverse group of all ages. We meet the third Sunday of each month, September through June, in the Auditorium of the DeLand Public Library for a Program at 2:00 PM. A 45 minute beginners' lesson is offered at 1:00 PM prior to the meeting in the Conference Room behind the Audio/Visual desk. Guests are always welcome. The Society's Board meeting is held the Friday prior to the General Meeting at 3:00 PM in the Conference Room. Members are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

Membership runs from January 1 through December 31. Renewals can be paid starting in September and must be paid by January 31, 2010 to be included in the directory. Dues paid after October are good through December 31, 2010.

To speak with a Roots & Branches member in the Genealogy Room call the DeLand Public Library at (386) 822-6430 x117.

The library web site is located at <http://volusialibrary.org/branchinfo.html#DLN>

E-mail the Corresponding Secretary, Jerry Hale at roots.branches.volusia@gmail.com

Send articles for the newsletter to the editor, Linda Williamson, at swilliamson1@cfl.rr.com

Contact the DeLand Family History Center at (386) 822-9695.

Find us on the web at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flrbgs/index.htm>

Welcome New Members!

**Connie & Joseph Workoff
Joyce Haggerty**

Officers & Committees

President: Jim Pardee

1st Vice President & Program Chairman: Carol Izzo

2nd Vice President & Membership Chairman: Mary Lois Kelley

Recording Secretary: Harriet Bolin

Treasurer: Judy Warensford

Corresponding Secretary: Jerry Hale

Past President ex officio: Rosemary Sutton

Publicity Chairman: Carol Izzo

Newsletter Distribution: Mary Lois Kelley

Newsletter Editor: Linda Williamson

Webmaster: Jerry Hale

Vertical File: Kay Jenkins



PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR GENEALOGY ROOM DUTY; WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Spring Calendar—Carol Izzo



Sunday, June 28, 2009 2:00 PM: Sharon Lopes will give a presentation on **“Writing Our Personal and Family Histories.”** Everyone needs paper and pencil for this one. Sharon feels everyone has a unique story to tell and that a written history of our life experience is one of the most valuable gifts we can pass on to future generations. She will have with her Jean Crawford, who has written a series of four family history stories. The books are called, “Quilted Stories.” She will explain how she came to write the books and have them published.

At 1:00 PM prior to the general meeting Rosemary Sutton will present the lesson on **“Preparing For A Research Trip.”**

July & August—no meetings.

Sunday, September 20, 2009, 2:00 PM: Dr. Lou McNally will give a presentation on **“Digging Weather Out of Old Diaries,”** He provides tips for finding weather events in old diaries. Genealogists benefit from this information as weather patterns frequently provide clues to family migration, property transactions, prosperity changes and even mortality.

At 1:00 PM prior to the general meeting Rosemary Sutton will give a lesson presentation on **“Researching Newspapers To Detect Migratory Trails.”**

Sunday, October 18, 2009, 2:00 PM: J. C. Johnston, M.Ed., a semi-retired counselor and psychologist, has been working on his own genealogy for years. He will give a presentation on his recently published family history book, **“The J.C. Johnston Family, Years 1794-2008”**, showing how he organized his material, laid out the information and inserted photographs to create the book through Ancestry.com.

At 1:00 PM prior to the general meeting Rosemary Sutton will give a lesson presentation on **“Using Persi & Vertical Files Effectively.”**

The President’s Agenda—Jim Pardee



Its summertime summertime sum sum summertime
Summertime
Its summertime

Dear Roots & Branches Members,

Summer is on the horizon. That's the time of year when we pretend that genealogy is only done by travelling to our former northern home site and digging into musty old libraries.

It's true that some of the residents of West Volusia County vacation during the summer into "cooler" northern climes. Some of them probably do genealogical research while they are there, but the bulk of research nowadays is done on the internet and can be done wherever you are and at whatever time you desire to do it. Not that local history research doesn't produce valid information. Often it does, but it also can fill out the history of your ancestors with tidbits that can't be readily found on your computer.

So, travel away you who wish to do so. The rest of us will still be here in September when you return.

JIM

History of Sears Modern Homes

<http://www.searsarchives.com/homes/history.htm>

The hour has arrived. Dad gathers Mom and Sis into the carriage. He hops in the wagon with his brothers to ride off to the railroad station. The day and hour have come to greet the first shipment of your family's brand-new house. All the lumber will be pre-cut and arrive with instructions for your dad and uncles to assemble and build. Mom and Dad picked out No. 140 from Sears, Roebuck and Company's catalog. It will have two bedrooms and a cobblestone foundation, plus a front porch—but no bath. They really wanted No. 155, with a screened-in front porch, built-in buffet, and inside bath (!), but \$1,100 was twice as much as Dad said he could afford. In just a few days, the whole family will sleep under the roof of your custom-made Sears Modern Home.

Entire homes would arrive by railroad, from pre-cut lumber, to carved staircases, down to the nails and varnish. Families picked out their houses according to their needs, tastes, and pocketbooks. Sears provided all the materials and instructions, and for many years the financing, for homeowners to build their own houses. Sears's Modern Homes stand today as living monuments to the fine, enduring, and solid quality of Sears craftsmanship.

No official tally exists of the number of Sears mail-order houses that still survive today. It is reported that more than 100,000 houses were sold between 1908 and 1940 through Sears's Modern Homes program. The keen interest evoked in current homebuyers, architectural historians, and enthusiasts of American culture indicate that thousands of these houses survive in varying de-

grees of condition and original appearance.

It is difficult to appreciate just how important the Modern Homes program and others like it were to homebuyers in the first half of the twentieth century. Imagine for a moment buying a house in 1908. Cities were getting more crowded and had always been dirty breeding grounds for disease in an age before vaccines. The United States was experiencing a great economic boom, and millions of immigrants who wanted to share in this wealth and escape hardship were pouring into America's big cities. City housing was scarce, and the strong economy raised labor costs, which sent new-home prices soaring.

The growing middle class was leaving the city for the—literally—greener pastures of suburbia as trolley lines and the railroad extended lifelines for families who needed to travel to the city. Likewise, companies were building factories on distant, empty parcels of land and needed to house their workers. Stately, expensive Victorian-style homes were not options for any but the upper class of homeowner. Affordable, mail-order homes proved to be just the answer to such dilemmas.

Sears was neither the first nor the only company to sell mail-order houses, but they were the largest, selling as many as 324 units in one month (May, 1926). The origin of the Modern Homes program is actually to be found a decade before houses were sold. Sears began selling building materials out of its catalogs in 1895, but by 1906 the department was almost shut down until someone had a better idea. Frank W. Kushel, who was reassigned to the unprofit-

able program from managing the china department, believed the homebuilding materials could be shipped straight from the factories, thus eliminating storage costs for Sears. This began a successful 25-year relationship between Kushel and the Sears Modern Homes program.

To advertise the company's new and improved line of building supplies, a Modern Homes specialty catalog, the *Book of Modern Homes and Building Plans*, appeared in 1908. For the first time, Sears sold complete houses, including the plans and instructions for construction of 22 different styles, announcing that the featured homes were "complete, ready for occupancy." By 1911, Modern Homes catalogs included illustrations of house interiors, which provided homeowners with blueprints for furnishing the houses with Sears appliances and fixtures.

It should be noted that suburban families were not the only Modern Home dwellers. Sears expanded its line to reflect the growing demand from rural customers for ready-made buildings. In 1923, Sears introduced two new specialty catalogs, *Modern Farm Buildings and Barn*. The barn catalog boasted "a big variety of scientifically planned" farm buildings, from corncribs to tool sheds. The simple, durable, and easy-to-construct nature of the Sears farm buildings made them particularly attractive to farmers.

Modern Homes must have seemed like pennies from heaven, especially to budget-conscious first-time homeowners. For example, Sears estimated that, for a pre-cut house with

PLEASE SEE SEARS PAGE 5

My Family's Sears Roebuck Home—*Nancy Wehrili Geiger*

I have so many wonderful memories growing up in a Sears Roebuck Home ordered from the Sears Roebuck and Co. Catalog.

I grew up in my two story home with five bedrooms which I later discovered was called "The Sheridan," "No. P3224, Already Cut and Fitted \$2,245.00."

At the bottom of the page it reads: "For our easy payment plan See Page 144".

Several years ago, when the catalog closed, The Flint Journal Newspaper in Flint, Michigan ran an ad from the 1926 Sears Catalog showing a picture of my home of which I have a copy. Our family of 11 children played many neighborhood softball games and forgotten games like "Eneey Ineey Over" as I



"The Sheridan" Sears Roebuck Catalog Home sold in the 1926 Sears catalog for \$2,245.00

recall and "Kick the Can"; "Hide the Thimble" and "Mother May I". We also darned socks that had worn holes in them with a round wood dowel inside of the sock. My dad planted a garden and we all (who

were not yet employed or in the Armed Services) sat around the kitchen table and canned fruits and vegetable together. What wonderful times we had. —*Nancy Wehrili Geiger, Deland, FL*

SEARS HOMES

FROM PAGE 4

fitted pieces, it would take only 352 carpenter hours as opposed to 583 hours for a conventional house—a 40% reduction! Also, Sears offered loans beginning in 1911, and by 1918 it offered customers credit for almost all building materials as well as offering advanced capital for labor costs. Typical loans ran at 5 years, with 6% interest, but loans could be extended over as many as 15 years.

Sears's liberal loan policies eventually backfired, however, when the Depression hit. 1929 saw the high point of sales with more than \$12 million, but \$5.6 million of that was in mortgage loans. Finally, in 1934, \$11 million in mortgages were liquidated, and despite a brief recovery in the housing market in 1935, the

Modern Homes program was doomed. By 1935, Sears was selling only houses, not lots or financing, and despite the ever-brimming optimism of corporate officials, Modern Homes sold its last house in 1940.

Between 1908 and 1940, Modern Homes made an indelible mark on the history of American housing. A remarkable degree of variety marks the three-plus decades of house design by Sears. A skilled but mostly anonymous group of architects designed 447 different houses. Each of the designs, though, could be modified in numerous ways, including reversing floor plans, building with brick instead of wood siding, and many other options.

Sears had the customer in mind when it expanded its line of houses to three different expense levels to

appeal to customers of differing means. While Honor Bilt was the highest-quality line of houses, with its clear-grade (no knots) flooring and cypress or cedar shingles, the Standard Built and Simplex Sectional lines were no less sturdy, yet were simpler designs and did not feature pre-cut and fitted pieces. Simplex Sectional houses actually included farm buildings, out-houses, garages, and summer cottages.

The American landscape is dotted by Sears Modern Homes. Few of the original buyers and builders remain to tell the excitement they felt when traveling to greet their new house at the train station. The remaining homes, however, stand as testaments today to that bygone era and to the pride of home built by more than 100,000 Sears customers and fostered by the Modern Homes program. *Copyright © 2009. Sears Brands, LLC. All rights reserved. Contact shcarchives@searshc.com*

Continuing With Responses to the Question “What’s Your First Memory?”—An Open-ended Question For a Good Genealogy Interview Response

Children Loved the Story of “Little Black Sambo”...What Happened To it?!—*Linda Williamson* http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Black_Sambo

What happened to the wonderful story of “Little Black Sambo?” My husband, Sam, and I were talking about first memories recently, and he mentioned the story was his favorite. I loved it, too. He remembers thinking tigers turning to butter was “really silly,” but I was distraught that Little Black Sambo had to give away his new clothes to the tigers.

As the story goes, Little Black Sambo had to give his colorful new clothes, shoes and umbrella to four tigers so they would not eat him. He recovered the clothes when the jealous tigers chased each other around a tree until they melted into a pool of butter.

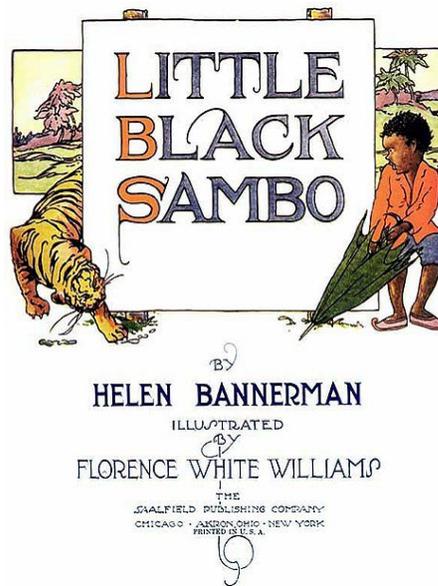
As his father, Black Jumbo was

walking home from work, he found the pool of butter at the foot of a tree. He gathered it in a big brass pot so that Little Black Sambo’s mother, Black Mumbo, could use it in cooking.

The story ended happily when Black Mumbo made a stack of pancakes for dinner. She ate 27, Black Jumbo ate 50 and Little Black Sambo ate 169.

Why is this story not told to children anymore? According to Wikipedia, the story was a children’s favorite for half a century, but then became controversial due to the use of the word “sambo”, considered to be a racial slur.

Eventually, as racial conscience grew, it was deemed hurtful to black children and gradually the book dis-



appeared from the list of recommended stories for children.—*Linda Williamson*

Good-bye Peeps and Snow Angels...We’re Moving to Florida!—*Jim Pardee*



We lived outside the town of Wadsworth, Medina County, Ohio, from the time I was two years old until I was seven. My parents operated a chicken farm, selling eggs and raising chickens for sale. My Dad and I used to go to the Railway Express office to pick up the “peeps” in a cardboard box.

The most vivid early memory, however, was making a “snow angel” on the lawn on the side of the

house. It was probably the winter of 1936-37, as that was the last winter we lived there. When the pipes froze that summer while we were vacationing in Florida, we decided to just MOVE to Florida. My uncles fixed the pipes and my parents sold the house.

In 2006, on a visit to Medina County, I stopped at that farm house and talked with the current owners, a “retired” Methodist minister and his wife and litter of foster children. The wife was particularly interested in my appearance since she was reading the town

history which centered on the earliest Pardees in Medina County.—*Jim Pardee*



From Early Childhood I Remember the Smell of Cabbage and Still Wish For A Porch All The Way Around The House!—Joan Aldous

The year was probably 1941-43. We were living in Hastings, Florida. My father was an accountant for the Hastings Potato Growers Association. Hastings was known for growing potatoes and cabbage. I still remember the smell of the cabbage, but I don't remember when or why I got the tri-

cycle. My first memory is about age 3 or 4. We lived in a house with a porch on three sides. I remember riding my trike back and forth and wishing the porch went all the way around. To this day I wish for a house with a porch all the way around.—Joan Aldous, DeLand,



Better Than Any Toy...A Piece of Bacon On A String! —Howard Cauvill

I was born December 1, 1946, at Kirkland, Washington, the nearest hospital to my parents' home in Bellevue. I have no memory of living in the state of Washington, my mother having declared soon after my birth that she was taking her babies and going home to Texas to escape the constant damp-

ness of western Washington. My father stayed behind to wrap up family business affairs, then met us in Dallas. Soon after, my father found a job with an engineering firm in Houston and we moved there. We lived in barracks-like temporary housing offered by the US Army to relocating veterans. This community was next to an Air Force Base on low, sandy wet land, the perfect environment for fiddler crabs.



The Gulf Marsh Fiddler Crab
(*Uca Longisignalis*)

ness of western Washington. My father stayed behind to wrap up family business affairs, then met us in Dallas.

The crabs would dig burrows (hole homes) 1/2 inch wide that went almost straight down in the mud. Armed with a piece of bacon on a string, I would lower the bait into a burrow and when the crab grabbed it, I would pull it out. I was more than two years old, but certainly less than three, and I was absolutely delighted with my accomplishment.



My father says I would stay at my project of crab trapping for hours and present him with a bucket holding a dozen or more crabs when he came home from work. He would release my daily catch after I'd gone to bed, so that I could catch them and show them off again the next day.—Howard Cauville, DeLand, Florida

I Remember It Vividly—My Grandfather Brought Me Chocolate Cigarettes—Audrey Johnson



The first thing I remember about my early childhood is when I was about three years old. It was February, and I remember *standing* in my crib. I had been sick and my grandfather came to see me and brought me chocolate cigarettes. It is such a vivid memory I can still see it today. By Labor Day, I had contracted polio and could not stand.

No, I never did smoke and neither did my Grandpa. —Audrey Johnson, DeLand, Florida



COVER STORY

FROM PAGE 1

My Great grandmother, Nancy McRay Scarbrough built this home in 1870 in Benton County, now Calhoun County, Alabama. It is located about half way between Atlanta and Birmingham. It is my childhood home place. Many stories have been told about the War Between the States (the Civil War). Some are fictional, but this one is factual.

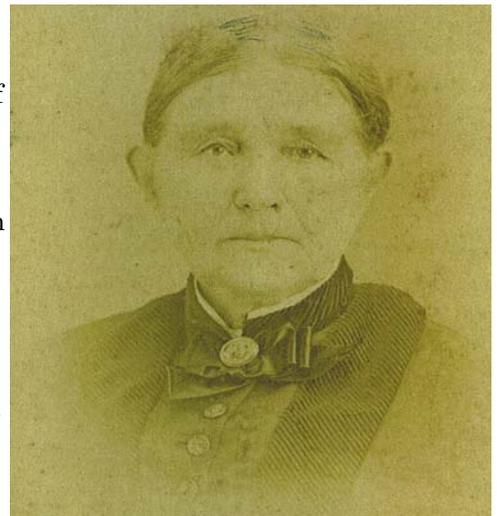
When Sherman's army came through the Atlanta area a tremendous number of his "strays" spread out for many many miles around, taking whatever they saw that they wanted, leaving people with little food, corn and cotton.

Learning that they were on their way, my Great Grandmother, Nancy McRay Scarbrough, had her cotton hidden in a large cave on her property. She had bushes set out in front of the opening. Since she had quite a bit of property there was "worlds" of cotton. When the

Sherman soldiers came down the mountainside on the trail that passed within twelve or fifteen feet of the cave they had no idea that all that cotton was so close to them.

The story goes...and I heard this from several different directions...the soldiers would take the cotton, sell it, ship it up north and pocket the money. It was suspected that they went home rich. Also, they were burning county courthouses. Because of the war, Benton County courthouse records were lost.

My Great Grandfather, Lemural Scarbrough, had died in 1850—pneumonia I think, leaving Nancy with twelve children. Nevertheless, she managed quite well. After the war was over, she was the only person within six to ten miles who had cotton seed. They had to plant back, as cotton was the primary source of income of that era. Consequently, word spread, and people came from "far and wide" for cotton seed. That is how my Great Grandmother, Nancy Scarbrough, made a "mint" on



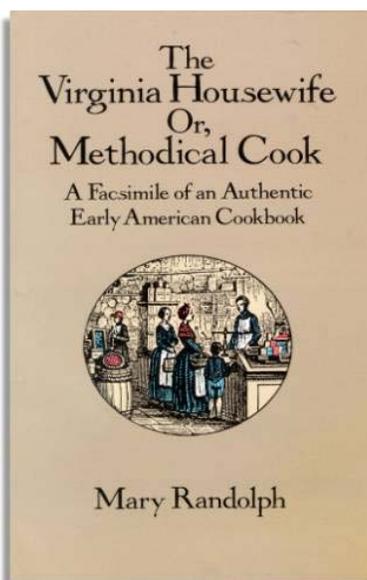
Nancy McRay Sczrbrough

1817-1902

her cotton seed.

In 1870 she had a large home built with five bedrooms, each about the size twenty by twenty feet, with many hallways, parlor, etc. This home was inherited by my father, Whitfield Whiteside. This home is where I grew up.—*LaVerne Hardin*

An Old Recipe From Nancy McRay Scarbrough's Cookbook—"The Virginia Housewife Or, Methodical Cooking" Authored by Mary Randolph—*Linda Williamson*



LaVerne Hardin has her grandmother's original "The Virginia Housewife," by Mary Randolph published in 1848, considered to be the first southern cookbook. You can order a facsimile at

<http://www.foodhistory.com/classics/randolph/tvh.htm>.

TO COLLAR A CALF'S HEAD.

After cleaning it nicely, saw the bone down the middle of the skull, but do not separate the head, take out the brains and tongue, boil it tender enough to remove the bones, which must be taken entirely out; lay it on a board, have a good quantity of chopped parsley seasoned with mace, nutmeg, pepper and salt—spread a layer of thirds, then one of thick slices of ham, another of parsley and one of ham, roll it up tight, sew a cloth over it, and bind that round with tape; boil it half an hour, and when cold press it. It must be kept covered with vinegar and water, and is very delicious eaten with salad or oil and vinegar.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Nancy Scarbrough.

The subject of this notice was born in North Carolina, Montgomery county in 1817 and was married to Lemural Scarbrough May 6, 1834. Came to then Benton county Ala. and settled above White Plains, near Rabbit Town church in 1836. Her husband, Lemural Scarbrough, died in 1850 or '51, leaving her a widow with 12 children, 7 sons and 5 daughters and lived a widow more than 50 years and died at her home at White Plains the 19 of Aug., 1902.

The life and character of the good woman deserves more than a passing notice. At the death of her husband she was left with 12 children to raise and educate; and with commendable energy, she with great courage and energy not common with her sex, met and conquered the difficulties and not only provided for an educated her twelve children, but accumulated handsome property with the aid and cooperation of her noble sons and

not only served God and her generation in name, but in deeds and acts of generosity and helpfulness that cheered and brightened the pathway of many a burdened life.

Well does this scribe remember the dark and terrible days which followed the historic struggle of 1861-1865, of the scores and hundreds of widows and orphans all over the country who were without bread and it was no uncommon thing to hear the little bare-footed orphan say "We get our bread from Mrs. Scarbrough." This proverb of the Soloman is minutely applicable in the case of this good woman which says:

She stretcheth out her hand to the poor, yea she reacheth forth her hands to the needy."

And I have no doubt that she will be among those to whom the great Judge will say in the final day" In-

asmuch as ye have done this to the least of my brethren, ye have done it to me, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

She joined the Methodist church when a girl and remained a honored member till the day of her death and till transferred to the church triumphant.

Eight years ago she by a fall broke her leg just below the same leg as she by another fall broke the same leg and the injury received by the later fall terminated in her demise.

Now with her:

"The pains of life are past,

Labor and sorrow ceased

And life's long warfare closed at last,

Her soul is found in peace."

W.P. Howell

Iron City, Ala. Sept. 8, 1902.

The Confederate Reprint Company

Post Office Box 386 Dahlonega, Georgia 30533

706-864-2229

Many Think the War Was Fought Over Cotton.... "Why Study the War Between the States?"—<http://www.confederatereprint.com/>

The War Between the States was the pivotal point in American history. Not only were 600,000 American lives lost in those four years of bloody carnage, but the conflict completely altered the nature of the American constitutional system. According to historian James McPherson, "[After the war] the old decentralized federal republic became a new national polity that taxed the people directly, created an internal revenue bureau to collect these taxes, expanded the jurisdic-

tion of federal courts, established a national currency and a national banking structure. The United States went to war in 1861 to preserve the Union; it emerged from war in 1865 having created a nation. Before 1861 the two words 'United States' were generally used as a plural noun: 'The United States are a republic.' After 1865 'the United States' became a singular noun. The loose union of states became a nation." Thus, no one may really understand current events in this country without study-

ing the War Between the States.

What Were the Causes of the War Between the States?

Most Americans have been taught that the War Between the States was fought over the issue of slavery. However, while slavery did in fact play an important role in the dispute between North and South, there were many other factors involved. As most wars have been throughout modern history, the War **PLEASE SEE, WAR, PAGE 15,**

Planning a Genealogy Vacation—Kimberly Powell at [About.com](http://genealogy.about.com/od/research_trips/a/planning.htm)

Combining a summer vacation with a genealogy research trip can be rewarding and fun for you and your family. When your genealogy research next sends you on the road, try these tips for preventing frustration and achieving success.

What is Your Goal?

The first step in the planning process, choosing a specific family or individual to concentrate on will help keep your trip focused and make the planning easier.



Know Where You're Going

Before you go too far in planning your trip, be sure you're headed for the right location! You don't want to spend hours in a church or courthouse, only to learn later that the records of your family are actually kept in the next town or county.

Current geographical and political boundaries are not necessarily the ones in existence when your family lived in the area. I've got ancestors who spent multiple generations on the same piece of land, yet resided in three different counties during that time period due to boundary changes.

Know What's Available

Once you have decided which areas you would like to visit, take time to familiarize yourself with the record

sources generally available in that region. Some good resources for this include:

LDS Research Guides and LDS Family History Library Catalog for good, general outlines of available records for a specific location.

City, county, parish, state or country GenWeb page to learn more about sources for a specific location, and ask for recommendations.

The Library of Congress Card Catalog to determine what books have been published on the county or area you are planning to visit.

Prepare Checklists

If you haven't already done so, go through the research you have already compiled on the family and use this to create a list of facts or theories that you would like to prove or disprove, and a "to-do" list of records that you would like to check. To help you with this process, many genealogy software programs offer a "to-do" list tool, or the utility software, GenSmarts, can analyze your genealogy file and produce research recommendations.

Do Your Homework

Before you leave home, spend time on the Internet and on the phone to find office hours, holdings and other details on courthouses, libraries, archives, historical societies and other record repositories that you plan to visit. If the library or archive's catalog is online, make a list of records you wish to find, concentrating especially on sources unique to the area where you are researching, including manuscript collections, unpublished papers and records, photographs and local his-

tory books. Call ahead to make sure that the records you want to look at are currently available to researchers.

Map a Strategy

The more familiar you are with the area you're planning to visit, the easier your research trip will be. Obtain not only present-day highway maps, but also maps contemporary with the life of your ancestors. The maps I don't research without are prepared by the USGS. These small-scale, topographic maps include county road numbers, farm roads, and many churches and private cemeteries.

Pack for Success

You don't want to know how many times I've lamented during a genealogy vacation over things that I forgot to bring with me. Here's a short checklist to get you started:

- Copies of your research goals and to-do lists
- Copies of your pedigree charts and family group records
- Plenty of pencils (many record repositories do not allow the use of pens)
- Blank charts and forms, including pedigree charts, family group sheets, research logs and forms for abstracting or extracting records (such as blank census forms)
- A laptop computer if you have one (check with the individual repositories to be sure their allowed)
- A magnifying glass to help in reading old records
- Comfortable clothes and shoes (you may spend a lot of your research time standing at counters)

PLEASE SEE VACATION PAGE 15

What a Difference an “e” Makes!—Linda Williamson

I've been frustratingly unsuccessful in my online search for my mother's Reardon line that settled in Edgefield County, South Carolina, so I've decided to take my first genealogy vacation. I need a change of scenery and the article "Planning a Genealogy Vacation" (See page 10) has at last inspired me to research somewhere besides Ancestry.com.

I know where I'm going. My sister Josie lives in Simpsonville (SC), about an hour's drive from Edgefield. This is the logical place to start. Luckily, when I called Josie, her calendar was open, so I've made a reservation to fly there in two weeks.

I'm paying close attention to the "Pack For Success" list and adding two items: (1) upgrading my Razor (cell phone) to an *iphone*, for its GPS capabilities, and (2) a flash drive for file portability. I've downloaded blank charts and forms from Family Tree Magazine at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/forms/download.html>.

My Gen Smarts program could help me "Prepare Checklists", but the problem is I don't have enough information to start. In desperation, I'm beginning to think about the possibility of *living* relatives. Yes, that should have been first on my list, not last.

I grew up visiting my aunts, uncles, cousins and my paternal grandmother in Greenwood and Ninety Six, in the summer and at Christmas. But sadly, during the course of a lifetime it is only natural that relatives die, and I'm sorry to say that we have lost touch with the remaining family members.

Fortunately, Josie knew how to contact our mother's cousin, Dewey, and



I look forward to touring the Rose Garden in Greenwood, South Carolina—one of several theme gardens that Park Seed Company maintains for their own testing and to provide inspiration to visiting garden enthusiasts.

she said that he remembers her. When I called, he was very warm and gracious, but he did not have a lot of family information. He referred me to his nephew Keith, who he said has researched the Reardon genealogy.

Keith provided full names of our ancestors all the way back to the unknown Reardon who got off the boat in Charleston. Halleluiah!!! Our grandfathers were brothers.

Keith's primary interest is soldiers and battlefields. The week of my visit he will be in Spotsylvania National Battlefield, Virginia placing a plaque on the grave of a soldier that died in battle—a Reardon relative. I'm disappointed he won't be there, but I am looking forward to a visit with Dewey.

PLEASE SEE REARDON PAGE 15



Sleuthing With Jerry—Computing is Moving On, Are You?—Jerry Hale



There are several things today changing the way we use computers—are you keeping up?

The biggest thing on the horizon is probably CLOUD COMPUTING. The concept is based on very small computers called "net books."

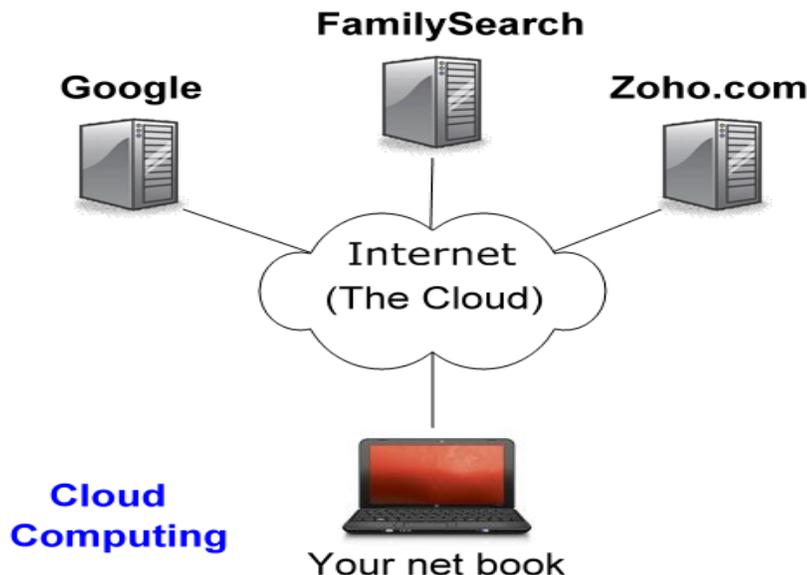
The MSI Wind is a typical example. Not much bigger than a book the Wind (U100-422CA) has an Intel Atom Processor (N270) a 160GB hard drive 1GB of memory and reads three kinds of memory cards. It has a 10" screen and runs Windows XP Home Edition.

Notice that it does NOT have a CD or DVD drive but has 3 USB ports so you could attach an external optical drive if one is ever required.

The net book computer is designed to be very easy on batteries and easy to carry around. It weighs less than 3 lbs. Its built in wireless system allows connection through any library (though not in Volusia County), coffee shop or other public access point. It can also be connected with a cable if a wired connection point is available.



Such a small, relatively "bare bones" computer becomes very powerful when used with "CLOUD" applications. There are literally thousands of applications available. You go to the web site, log in, and run a word processor, spreadsheet, graphics editing, planning calendar, or even genealogy program. Most are free, some have a small monthly cost (\$5 or so.)



The application "lives" on the online server and not on your hard drive. You can save the data to your hard drive or leave it on the web to share with others. A group can collaborate on a document or a publication or you can email the document to yourself or someone else.

Google is one of the leaders in providing online applications or "Google Docs1."

If you're a member of the Mormon Church you already have a Cloud Computing geneal-

Genealogy Gold Mine Discovered—*Jerry Hale*



Fig 1

I am always looking for old county and local history books. I have searched the internet periodically for “The History of Marshall County Iowa” published in 1878. I recently found a later history but this particular one was never available at a reasonable price.

Last week I did the search again and the book popped up at an eBay store called ANCESTRY-WORLD. The store turns out to be a real gold mine. There are around 900 old out of print and hard to find county and local history books for sale from \$10 to \$30. Many of the CDs contain from 2 to 12 books on one CD for one price. This is a FANTASTIC deal. The pdf files of the books are searchable and you can even do a single search across all of the books at once.

I started out cautiously, ordering two CDs, one for Marshall County Iowa and one for Crawford County PA. I wanted to wait until I had received them and checked them out before

mentioning it to the Society.

The two CDs came in the mail yesterday, I spent last evening looking at everything and now I can say WOW! The Crawford County PA CD has four volumes and I was able to find my Baileys in all four with a single search. It is a bit slow because Adobe is searching 1200 pages but it works very well. There are 21 books listed for Iowa, 60 for Virginia, 26 for New Jersey, 64 for Pennsylvania, 17 for South Carolina, 29 for Georgia, 22 for Connecticut, 7 for Delaware etc etc. Check out your research areas at

<http://stores.shop.ebay.com/ANCESTRY-WORLD>

Under “Other Useful CDs” you will find some remarkable CDs. One is “12 in 1-AMERICAN REVOLUTION / REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY” which has 12 old books that would be hard or impossible to find in used book stores and would cost a fortune. This CD sells for \$24 plus \$2 s/h. My only complaint is that my History of Marshall County Iowa was scanned in black & white and so the illustrations are not good. (see Fig 1.)

The illustrations in the Crawford County Histories are quite good (Fig 2 & 3) so the quality is not uniform.

Shipping is just \$2.00 for the first CD, others ordered at the same time are free. It's hard to imagine a better bargain. I received the CDs in 4 days exactly as promised. I'm preparing another order for as soon as my budget allows. If I were rich I'd order everything from this store. I believe our library collection could benefit from some of these books on CD.

Give it a try, you'll love having these old books.—*Jerry Hale*



E. Herrington

Fig 2.

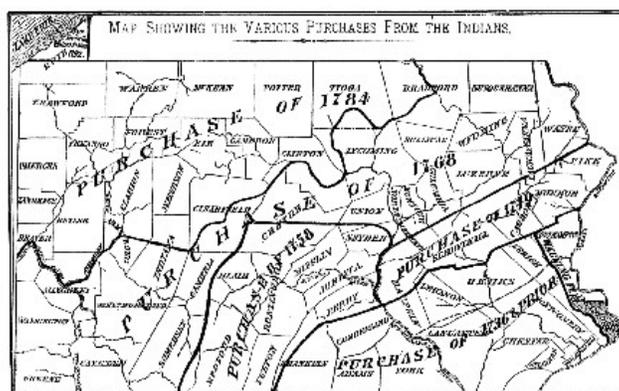


Fig 3.

VACATION

FROM PAGE 15

- Or squatting in old, dusty basements). Stick with business casual over sweats or jeans, for better service.
- Camera, batteries and plenty of

REARDON

FROM PAGE 13

Following up our conversation with an e-mail, Keith wrote: "If we are related as we believe we are, I must tell you that the spelling of our common surname has been the cause for many scolding's to newspapers, reports, etc. Most often, even when we provide it in writing, our last name will be spelled with an "o" as in Reardon."

"This is absolutely not how my family, going back as far as **Sanders Rearden (1768)** and his father (an immigrant from Ireland) spelled the name. The name is derived from the native Irish name

WAR

FROM PAGE 9

Between the States was at bottom a financial conflict. With the demise of the Whig Party and the split of the Northern and War Southern branches of the Democratic Party, the opportunity afforded itself for the recently organized Republican Party to increase its political power in both chambers of Congress and to successfully elect Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency. Radical Abolitionist Wendell Phillips acknowledged that the Republican Party was "a sectional party, organized against the South." Several other leading Republicans even went so far as to

film (or memory cards if your camera is digital)

- A tape recorder

Visiting where your ancestors lived can be an extremely exciting and rewarding experience. Walking the land and visiting the cemeteries where my ancestors lived brings me

O'Riordan, from County Cork. The most common spelling in the United States might be Reardon, however, in South Carolina going back to the 1750's, it is spelled REARDEN."

It never crossed my mind that I was spelling the name wrong. Every scrap of paper that I have from my Dad—from receipts to obituaries—the named is spelled Reardon. When I searched Ancestry.com for Rearden, I easily found all the names that Keith had mentioned. I'm ecstatic with this success.

If my research trip goes as well, Josie and I should be able to spend some time outside the libraries taking in sights like the Park Seed Company/Wayside Gardens national

advocate civil war in order to keep the Southern States in a condition of subordination to a Northern majority. Southern leaders, such as John Caldwell Calhoun, had warned that if the North ever gained control of the federal Government the rights of the Southern people would be lost. The Republican pledge to confine slavery within the existing States and to prevent its spread into the common Territories was perceived as an intent to destroy the rights of the Southern people wholesale. Many Republicans, such as Lincoln the former Whig and Henry Clay admirer, also openly advocated a high tariff and internal improvement system (which Clay had named, "The American System"). Historically, high tariffs benefited Northern industry and

closer to them than a piece of paper could ever do. While it's great to jump in the car and go, advance planning usually results in a much more rewarding adventure. I'd really hate to have you go home disappointed when you find out the courthouse is closed for repairs. —*Kimberly Powell, About.com*

headquarters complex in Greenwood, surrounded by nine acres of beautiful gardens.

Post Script: I had a very successful trip researching in South Carolina, and was amazed to find many variations in the spelling of Rearden.

The original immigrant was Timothy Riordan, who came from Ireland abt. 1764. In an Edgefield family cemetery where five relatives were buried in the 1850's, the name is spelled three different ways on five tombstones.

In record sources (even in the same document) I found the name spelled Rearden, Rarden, Reardan, Raarden, Readon, Readin—and yes, Reardon!—*Linda Williamson*

had adverse effects on the price of exported Southern cotton. Consequently, the War Between the States had much more to do with differing views on the relation of the States to the federal Government, the extent of State power, and economics rather than the issues of slavery or Negro civil rights. In fact, some of the Northern people deplored Abolitionism and were opposed to Negro equality. Even Lincoln openly declared himself in opposition to Negro citizenship. Most of the Northern States had various anti-Negro laws on the books and Lincoln's own State of Illinois altered its constitution in 1862 to prohibit the immigration of free Blacks entirely.—*From the Confederate Reprint Company*



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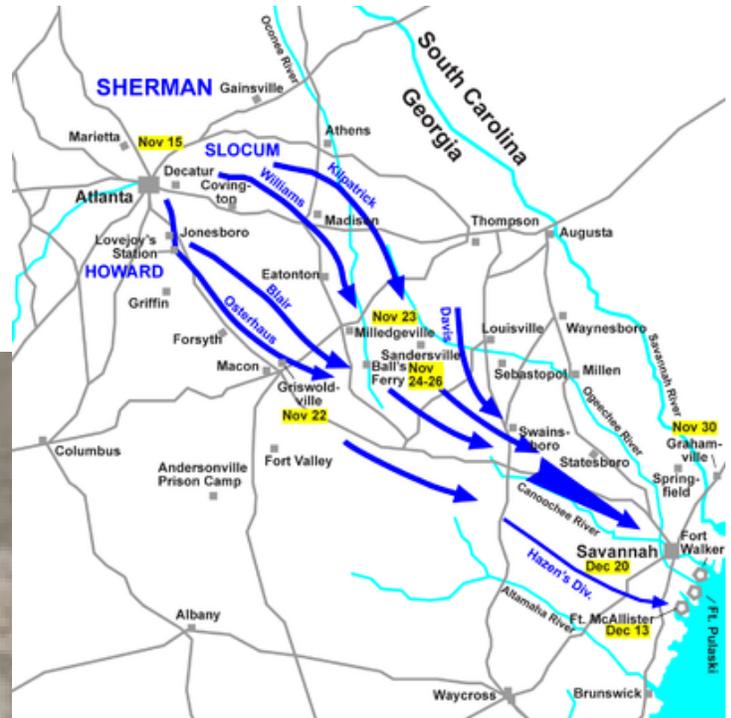
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DeLand, Florida 32724**

We're on the Web!

[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/
~flrbgs/index.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flrbgs/index.htm)

We're also on the Web
@

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counties/flagvol/volusia/volusia.html](http://www.flgenhisonline.com/counties/flagvol/volusia/volusia.html)



Engraving by Alexander Hay Ritchie, Depicting Sherman's March

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Hay_Ritchie