

Histories of local Schools

I am compiling information and pictures about Conway County schools. This information will go back just as far as I am able to get. I would appreciate any information or pictures that you might have that you would be willing to give. I especially want info and pictures of the older schools of the county. I appreciate any help. This can be emailed or mailed to me.

Euna Beavers

20 Rocky Point Road

Morrilton, AR 72110

Upchurch

I would like to find descendants of the Upchurch families who settled in Conway County back in the 1850s. I understand there are many Upchurches living in the county today and am hoping they can help with my research of this family. These Arkansas Upchurches were some of the true pioneers we read about in school who braved the elements and headed westward! There are always wonderful family stories and legends that pass down from generation to generation, and that's what I'd like to find! Leaving North Carolina in the 1850s, a group of Upchurches and other family members, their spouses, and children traveled over 900 miles by boat and wagon train to this Arkansas area. In the 1890s, they applied for and received land patents in Township nine, Range sixteen West. They built cabins and cleared the land where they farmed and raised cattle. I just feel there must be numerous wonderful and glorious stories about their plight to settle this land. Some of the names I've found of those making the trek to Conway County include: Robert Upchurch, Thomas A. Upchurch, Thomas G. Upchurch, Patrick Bogan Upchurch, William Upchurch, Andrew Perrine/Prince, and William Skinner. These all show up living within a few miles of one another. My Great Great Grandfather was Patrick Bogan Upchurch, born 1816/20, Montgomery County NC. In 1837, he married Eunice 'Nicey' McSwain in Montgomery County, North Carolina. They had eleven or twelve children, most of whom made the trip to Arkansas with them in the 1850s. Patrick was granted 120 acres where he made his home and lived for many years. Data I have shows Patrick Bogan having died in Cleveland, Conway County, Arkansas somewhere around 1885; burial in Lowder Cemetery. I've not been able to establish his exact date of death, and hope to find someone who has funeral home or burial records that could tie that down for me. Also, was there a will -- or probate? My line descends from Patrick and Eunice Upchurch's ninth born child Charles Wesley Upchurch born 22 November 1854. In 1873, Charles married Julina/Judith Perrine whose family also lived in that area. I've been told there was a great conflict wherein her family opposed the marriage and after 1873, she never saw her family again. Are there still any Perrines/Princes in the area who might know more about that story? In my book about the Upchurches, I've tried to reconstruct what their lives were like and how they lived during the 1850-1920 era. If anyone has information, no matter how big or small, I would very much appreciate your help. You can contact me in a variety of ways. Thank you.

Mae D. Cox

922 Barbour Avenue

Norman, OK 73069

(405) 321-1617

Email: upchurch@coxok.com

Webb

My great-grandfather was Edward Webb. He was born in 1846 in Ireland. He immigrated here in 1866. He was married first to a Lucy Parsons in Yell county in May, 1877. I have no information on his second wife other than her name was Susan Jane Reynolds. She was born in 1860 in Arkansas. They lived in Dardanell in 1900 according to the 1900 census, then moved to Morrilton before the 1910 census. When

they were in Morrilton, according to the census, they had 3 children: Tara (my grandfather), Susie, and Thomas. Tara was the oldest; he was born in 1891. Susie, I think, was born around 1897 or 1898. Thomas was the youngest. He was born around 1901. According to my father they are both buried in Morrilton or somewhere near there. My dad doesn't remember his dad talking about his brother, but does remember him talking about Susie. The other daughter Dixie was born in 1895 but died before 1910. Most of the information came from the census of 1880, 1900, and 1910. There is no information on them in the 1920 census at all. The only reason I believe he was married twice is that the 1910 census had a m2 in the married column for him and m1 for her. If anyone has any information about these people please contact:

Jean Sigman

Email: jeansigman@aol.com

Queries

I am looking for information on my great grandparents. Liney (Ansaline) Wallace she married John A Kelley 1/12/1892 Conway Arkansas book H75. Liney supposedly died around 1903-1904. I have no other information on her. I did find them listed in the 1900 Perry county Rose Creek census. Any information on Liney or John will be appreciated. Thank you.

Tarrie Chaney

wchaney@pdq.net

Hi - My name is Richard Moore from Macomb, IL and I am researching my great uncle, Thomas Jefferson Moore who was a county and probate judge in Morrilton, Lumberman, Construction Contractor, builder and owner of the Sunset Park Amusement Park and Swimming Pool near Morrilton, etc. His wife was Sarah Frances "Sadie" Gist Moore - they had no surviving children. Sadie passed away March 19, 1955 (also listed as March 7, 1955 in some sources) and Uncle Tommie died March 3, 1956 -- I'm not sure whether in Morrilton or somewhere else. Also, Tommie married Anna Cosby November 5, 1955, a name I have found nowhere so far in association with Morrilton. What I'm needing most is an obituary for these three people to figure out where they were, where they are buried and possibly more details about the second marriage. Do you have any obit files or suggestions on who to obtain obits from Morrilton around those dates (and marriage notice also). I'm wondering if he retired perhaps near Sadie's family who came from Springfield, MO originally. I'm also very interested in Sunset Park which was advertised as Morrilton's first modern swimming pool in the late 20's. Tommy's brother, Reid apparently ran the park. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

Dick

Richard Moore

137 Doe Run

Macomb, IL 61455

309-836-7028

DEAN/FOWLER about 1900

My John Henry Fowler b. Jan. 6, 1880 Searcy Co., AR was not located on the 1880 Census, his Father, D. William Fowler died prior to 1884 when John Henry's Mom remarried to Laborn Stafford. John Henry Fowler left home at 11 years old and was on his own the rest of his life. Of course there was no 1890 Census and I first locate him in June 5, 1900 Davis, Van Buren Co. AR boarding with Andrew Rawlins, showing as a farm laborer. Oct 6, 1900 Woodruff Co. AR J. H. Fowler showing his age as 21 (which makes me suspect they ran away as he is 20 at that time) married M. M. (Mary) Dean. They were married by Justice of the Peace R. P. Stamps, she gave her age as 18 years old (which may or may not have been the

correct age). They got the license, married & it was recorded all on Oct. 6, 1900. John Henry Fowler's Mother & Step-Father were living in Cleburne Co., AR at that time. In 1903, Yell Co., AR, J. H. Fowler divorced M. M. Dean on the grounds of desertion saying he did not know her whereabouts. Then he quickly married my Grandma, a widow with 2 small boys, Eliza Jane Raulston whose family had lived in Yell Co., AR about all her life. John Henry Fowler never mentioned that first marriage to his children, grandchildren or the woman he married after my Grandma died (who he had gone to church with for about 15 years before my Grandma died and was married to for about 20 years after they married). My Dad happened to overhear John Henry Fowler and his Mother, Cassandra Goodman Fowler Stafford, whispering about it when Dad was a small child. My Dad thought it must be a terrible sin and was scared he and the whole family would end up in hell for sure and he set it aside in his memory and never mentioned it to anybody but my Mom after they married until after Grandpa died and I began doing genealogy. After Grandpa died I called my stepgrandma, Belle, to ask Mary's maiden name and my stepgrandma was flabbergasted, Belle had thought for over 20 years that she was the SECOND wife and she was the third wife. I located the marriage and divorce but both only list Mary's initials, M. M. Dean, no parents. The marriage says they were both from Snapp, Woodruff Co., AR but I have never located her on a Census that I know about. I suspected the family who lived in Conway Co., AR 1880 & 1900 may be hers.

1880 Conway Co. Lick Mountain, AR shows

- * Dean, Andrew h.o.h. married. Male w. 47 TN farmer SC
- * Dean, Mary J. wife m. f. 32 GA keeping house SC
- * Dean Alice A. dau s. f. 7 AR TN GA (mar. Willie Dunbar June 1, 1898)
- * Dean, Anna A. dau s. f. w. 8 AR TN GA (mar David N. Braudway Dec. 21 1895)
- * Dean, Andrew J. son s. m. w. 6 AR TN GA
- * Dean, LuEllen dau s f w 1 AR TN GA

1900 Conway Co., CenterRidge, AR #345/355

- * Dean, Mary J. hoh w. f. Aug 1847 52 widow 11/8 child. liv. GA SC SC farmer owns farm
- * Dean, Madison H. son w. m. Oct. 1880 19 single AR TN GA
- * Dean, Oscar L. son w. m. Aug 1882 17 sing. AR TN GA
- * Dean, Homer F. son w. m. Oct 1884 15 sing. AR TN GA
- * Dean, Nettie E. dau w. f. July 1885 13 sing. AR TN GA

If this M. M. Dean belonged to this family she would have been missed on both Census records I guess, if she had married before the 1900 census was taken, or if she had lived away from home. I have never located her on a census. I always wondered if she had children by John Henry Fowler, I do not know how long they were together or what became of her? I was told by John Henry Fowler's young half brother, Adam, who would have been about 5 that John, had brought his new wife to meet his Mother and that the girl was very pretty and seemed like a nice girl but when they step father came home he told them to both get out. Adam said John and his wife lived down the road apiece, that could have been Yell Co. or Pope Co. AR, (that is where Adam lived when I talked to him) but Adam did not know what caused them to break apart. There is no telling, I heard that John Henry Fowler was pretty wild before my Grandma married him, that he had worked for a man who had a still and John Henry Fowler gambled and drank a lot, it was probably his fault. Shortly after he married (or just before) Grandma he began going to church that is probably why he never discussed his childhood or anything from before his marriage to my Grandma. One time when my Dad was trying to get me to write what Grandpa said (before my interest in genealogy) Dad asked John Henry Fowler if his Step Dad was good to him, John said that his Step Dad was as good to him as he was to the rest of the children. He never mentioned leaving home at 11, but Dad asked him about it and he said that he worked on farms and that sometimes people were good to him and allowed him to go to school when their own children went so

he had the opportunity to learn to read and write and do arithmetic. I understood from others when I began genealogy that Grandpa, John H. Fowler, had worked any job he could find until he married my Grandma and he sort of settled down to farming. Grandpa raised his 2 little step sons and 8 of his own children with my Grandma. I have often wondered if he and the first wife had children. My Grandma had one every two years until she passed childbearing years. Any help on this M. M. (Mary) Dean b. 1880-1885 would be greatly appreciated but I do not know for CERTAIN she was child of Andrew J. & Mary J. Dean. I noticed on the 1900 Census the Dean's lived near a William Fowler and Thomas Fowler but I do not know if they were related to my John Henry Fowler as his Father was an only son, maybe they were related some way? Thank you so very much for your time. Any help or suggestions would be appreciated.

Charlene,

CCS1101@aol.com

I am looking for descendants of Thomas

Jefferson & Margaret "Peggy" Hill Williams, Leroy P & Martha Ann Hill Williams, John Littleton & Mary Hill Williams. If you are interested in attending a JONAS HILL (REV WAR VET) descendant's family reunion in/near Morrilton, AR in October 2005 (21st & 22nd), please contact Charlotte West at ccwest46@hotmail.com or PO Box 235 Choctaw, AR 72028.

Thanks,

Charlotte West

I am looking for information on my great grandparents. Liney (Anseline) Wallace, she married John A Kelley 1/12/1892 Conway Arkansas book H-75. Liney supposedly died around 1903-1904. I have no other information on her. I did find them listed in the 1900 Perry county Rose Creek census. Any information on Liney or John will be appreciated. Thank you.

Tarrie Chaney

wchaney@pdq.net