

WOLVERTONS UNLIMITED

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Descendants of ANDREW WOOLVERTON

With allied families of HANKS, DODSON, NEV

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May/June 1994

Gene Voolverton of Vest Plains, Missouri, called to inform me that his Aunt Mabel, age 89, passed away on Vednesday, February 23rd. She had recently had part of her toes amputated and then her kidneys failed. She was the oldest child and also the last living child of George Vester and Nettie (Oliger) Voolverton. The funeral was held on Saturday, February 26th at 1:00 p.m. with burial at Voolverton Mountain Cemetery. She is survived by her husband, Dolphus Rhoden, 2 children, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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REUNION NOTICES:

WOOLVERTON MOUNTAIN REUNION, Sunday, May 8, 1994, 12:00 noon at the Formosa Community Building. (See last issue for further details)

Gene Woolverton says that he read in the paper that the roof of the Community Building had a leak in it, so it may not be usable by May 8th. If so, the family will meet at the --- Mountain View Baptist Church atop Woolverton Mountain after the services. Church starts between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m.

To get to the church and Woolverton Mountain Cemetery go south on Arkansas Highway 9 to the Austin Community, 2 miles south of Formosa. Then turn right on a gravel road. Sign shows Mountain View Baptist Church is 3 miles up the gravel road on top of the mountain.

If weather permits, Anna V. Smith of the John Bird Woolverton line, Gene Woolverton, and myself plan to copy down the inscriptions at the cemetery and make them available to the Arkansas Genealogical Society and other researchers. A few of the stones are marked only by field stones, but possibly Clifton clowers, age 102, who lives on the mountain can identify these.

LITTLEFIELD REUNION AT ELGIN, OKLAHOMA, Sunday, May 29, from 10:00-3:00 (see last issue for details)

HARRIS REUNION AT LOCKHART, TEXAS, June 24-26 (see last issue for details)

EDITORIAL

I've had recent phone calls from David Macdonald; Scleeta Hudson; Gene Woolverton; Bill Randolph; Ann Coleman; Mary Finley of the Albert Royal Harris line; Henry Walters concerning his great-grandmother, Lucinda (Wolverton) Peck (I was able to connect him to the William Woolverton line of Tennessee); and Linda Cleveland concerning the family of Charlotte E. (Linton) Wolverton, first wife of James Thomas Wolverton. I'm glad I was able to help each of these.

The move to 1040 E. McCanse Street went well. We painted most of the rooms ahead of time and now are in the process of putting up new wallpaper in the other rooms. We loaded up some smaller items and boxes little by little prior to the actual move. Then we were able to move on February 28th, a little sooner than we first planned. My father-in-law and mother-in-law helped on moving day, along with some friends from church. Marion's dad brought his cattle trailer to load all the heavy furniture and appliances. We also had a professional piano dolly to roll the piano down the street and up some stairs. (Marion's uncle owns a music store, so the dolly was free.)

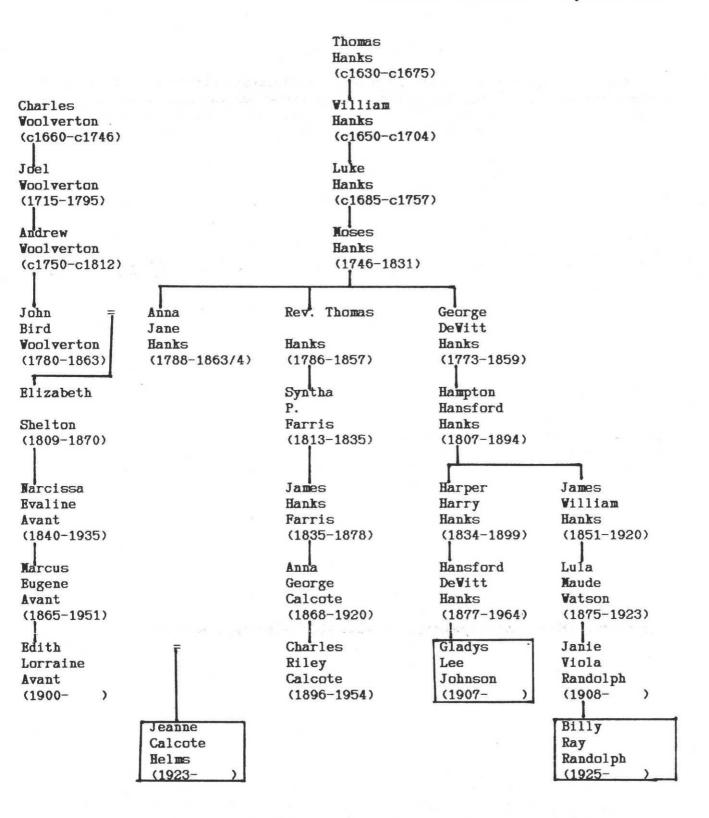
It was an interesting move because Janene, the girl who bought our old home, works at the Assemblies of God Headquarters where I do, so we knew her already. Also James and Laura Glynn, the people we bought the new home from, have been friends and neighbors of ours for eight years and retired from the Assemblies of God Headquarters. Janene's mother, who recently retired, worked in the same office as Mrs. Glynn. So everybody knew everyone else in the move.

In addition, Janene bought all of the Glynns' appliances and some of their furniture and other items since they were moving into a small retirement cottage and did not need them. Janene's family moved appliances and things from 1040 E. McCanse to 1023 E. McCanse, and we in turn moved all of our belongings from 1023 E. McCanse to 1040 E. McCanse. No telling what the neighbors thought!

The new house is much bigger, and I am getting more organized than ever before. I recently purchased a different computer (Apex 100/20 by Epson) which hopefully will be an improvement over the Amstrad word processor I am currently using. At least the new computer is IBM compatible. (Amstrad is produced in Great Britain, is not IBM compatible, and uses a different size of disk.)

Mr. Glynn built the two fireplaces in our home, and he used large bricks from the old boiler room at the Gospel Publishing House where I work. Because of this I feel I have a little bit of history in my home. In addition, I just recently purchased an old church pew from the Campbell Avenue Methodist Church. It was one of the historic churches in Springfield, and the building was purchased by the Assemblies of God when that congregation built a new facility. The building itself is on the register of historic sites, but the inside is now being remodeled for office space for the Assemblies of God Headquarters.

Because the former owners of this house were named "Glynn" and I am promoting the "Volverton" family, I like to imagine that the barony of Volverton is being returned to the rightful owners. (If you recall, the Volverton family received the barony of Volverton in 1066 from Villiam the Conquerer. It was passed down to male descendants until 1351 when Ralph de Volverton died without issue. Then it passed to his sister Margaret and to her descendants, the de Longueville family, until Edward Longueville died in 1718 when the barony was surrendered. Then in 1869 the barony of Volverton was granted again to a Sir George Carr Glyn and has passed to his descendants to the present day.)



NOTE: I plan to continue with these lineage charts of our subscribers and include addresses and phone numbers as a help to other researchers. Should anyone feel this is an invasion of privacy to include your address and/or phone number, please let me know if you do not want this information included.

- Mrs. Jeanne C. Helms, 1418 Hillendahl Blvd., Houston, TX 77055 ph. 713-468-5952
- 21. Gladys Hanks Johnson, 1060 Verbena Drive, Austin, TX 78750 ph. 512-258-7821
- 22. Billy R. Randolph, P.O. Box 243, Waskom, TX 75692-0243 ph. 903-687-3519

Jeanne Helms is one of our many double cousins through the Voolverton and Hanks families. In fact she has two lines which go back to Moses Hanks. Her parents were 4th cousins to each other. Also, her grandmother, Tennie (Campbell) Avant, was a half-sister to Ben G. Voolverton, Bonnie Voolverton's ancestor. Quite a number of the Hanks and Voolverton relatives in Virginia, Tennessee, and Texas lived near each other and intermarried. Jeanne has been an avid genealogist for more than 20 years. She was a big help to Bonnie Voolverton when Bonnie completed her book on Ancestors and Descendants of Benjamin G. Voolverton, Sr. in 1983.

Bonnie wrote a special acknowledgement to Jeanne in her book and said, "She is a true expert on all the old Tennessee Colony families, including the Woolvertons. Most all of the material on the Campbells, Harrises, Avants, and Sheltons were supplied by Jeanne. She has been a constant source of information, help, and encouragement."

In a recent letter, Jeanne wrote: "Since I do not pick up Woolverton ancestry until my great-great grandmother Elizabeth Woolverton who married Gideon Farmer Shelton, I did not do much Woolverton research. Most of what I have was furnished by Bill Randolph."

Glady Hanks Johnson is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was the real pioneer in tracing out the descendants of Moses Hanks. She corresponded with Adin Baber in his search to trace the family of Mancy (Hanks) Lincoln. She first put together a booklet called "Our Hanks Family" in 1956 which was updated to a full-scale book called Genealogy of the Hanks and Allied Families (222 p.), in 1965. She was assisted by Bill Randolph and others.

Bill Randolph, a retired navy lieutenant, is another of our seasoned researchers. He is a member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas. He has been doing genealogy research for over 40 years and has compiled massive amounts of information on the Moses Hanks descendants. Although he is not a Woolverton descendant, because of so much intermarriage between the Hanks and Woolverton families, he also has gathered much information on the Woolvertons, especially those who went to Texas. He has more than 5,000 of Moses and Agatha Hanks's descendants. He also has much information on the Dodson, Meville, and Fitzgerald families which intermarried with the Hankses. He helped Gladys Hanks Johnson with compiling records and in printing her book on the Hanks family in 1965. He also has transcribed the family Bible record of Elder Thomas Hanks of Texas which has a wealth of valuable information, but has been a source of confusion because some of the entries were changed over time.



The Thomas Wolverton Place

From Bill Wagoner's "Wagon Spokes"

The Wolverton House was built by Thomas Wolverton in the late 1800's. The house is located on Highway 117 in Adamsville. Tom Wolverton was a veteran of the Civil War, having served in the "G.A.R. 6th Tennessee Regiment" according to the inscription on his tombstone in Adamsville Cemetery. Tom Wolverton (1844-1928) lived for a number of years with his wife, known as Aunt Sallie Wolverton (1843-1928) in the grand old house.

The only known historical information about the Wolvertons deals more with their son Eugene than with the house. Eugene was a drinking man they said ... was a true hobo and bummed his way all over the United States. It was said that when Eugene was hungry and broke he would go to a cafe order a good meal and as he was near finishing the meal, place a fly in the food and complain. Needless to say, the management would not accept payment for the food.

Aunt Sallie Wolverton and her daughter were well known seamstresses. They made fine suits and fancy Southern dresses for prominent people all throughout the community.

Eugene was the rounder of the family. He bummed all over the country and when he got in trouble he always came home. A neighbor of the Wolverton's recalled that one Sunday the chickens started squawkin' and scurrying about at the Wolverton home. Upon closer inspection of the commotion, it was found that old Eugene was stone drunk. He was catching the chickens and baptizing them in a washing tub. He seized each chicken and meticuously went through the whole routine each time — meticuously baptizing each in the "name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Gnost."

Aunt Sallie and her daughter were prominent ladies in the social field — being leaders in the Women's Christian Temperance Union. They attended many meetings far and near, fighting the indulgence of whiskey and numerous other wrong doings.

"We could see the light come on in the Wolverton house" recalled a neighbor. "It was unusual to see a light in the kitchen at 2 or 3 in the morning. We finally found out later that Eugene had him a little still out in the back pasture. He would bring his mash into the house late at night and cook it off on Aunt Sallie's cookstove!

Eugene, being the rounder that he was, died peacefully in his sleep in an Alabama hotel.

The news clipping on page 57 originally appeared in the Adamsville newspaper in about 1979. It was supplied by Miss Kittye Littlefield of Adamsville, Tennessee. The old Tom Wolverton house is still standing and is located at 246 South Maple (also known as Highway 117) in downtown Adamsville. James Thomas "Tom" Wolverton was the son of Robert Houston Woolverton and a grandson of James Matthew Woolverton. Tom Wolverton's wife was Sarah "Sallie" Holman. She was a big promoter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in Adamsville during the time of prohibition. (Undoubtedly her son Eugene's problem with alcohol caused her to make a firm stand against strong drink.) Tom and Sallie Wolverton were the grandparents of Royal Wolverton.

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SOME EXTRACTS OF DEEDS IN MCNAIRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, SELMER, TENNESSEE
Copied by Glenn Gohr, August 1983

Will Book 1, pp. 342-344:

Will of James T. Wolverton. Mentions wife, Sallie H. Wolverton; children of deceased son, James H. Wolverton; 4 living children—H. M. Wolverton, Florence S. Brown, Maud U. Cole, Georgie Daniels; and son Eugene L. Wolverton, deceased. The will says that Eugene may have left heirs, but if any heirs, they are to get nothing as he already cost more than his share.

H. M. Wolverton, G. T. Brown, and J. M. Cole are executors. Signed March 24, 1925 by Jas. T. Wolverton.

Same record is continued on January 6, 1927. The house is to go to Sallie H. Wolverton and more land which he has bought.

The will is signed on March 16, 1928 by Sallie H. Wolverton, H. M. Wolverton, Mrs. Florence S. Brown, Maude Cole, and Mrs. Georgia Daniels.

Administrator's Record Book C. p. 260:

J. W. Cole, principal, and Jno. S. Wyatt and Loyd Carroll bound for \$2,700 to the State of Tennessee on 30 March 1928. J. M. Cole, executor of J. T. Wolverton, deceased.

Administrator's Record Book C. p. 78:

Jas. L. Littlefield bound for \$1,000 to the State of Tennessee on 27 August 1907 as administrator of John W. Shaw, deceased. Signed by Jas. L. Littlefield, Jno. T. Warren, and W. P. Littlefield.

[Note: James L. and William Penn Littlefield were sons of Mancy Artemisia (Woolverton) Littlefield. Their sister, Rebecca, was married to Capt. John W. Shaw.]

Administrator's Record Book D. p. 7:

Mrs. Maude V. Cole, principal, and J. M. Cole bound for \$250 to the State of Tennessee on 8 September 1932. Maude V. Cole, administrator of Mrs. Sallie H. Wolverton, deceased.

Inventories of Estates Book E. p. 373:

Inventory of the Estate of James Volverton Deceased

1 note on J. Wolverton balance due 247.70 Notes on hands & sale notes 232.27 Cash on hands 44.70

Notes on L. R. Littlefield for the home place sold by virtue of his will, no. acres 136 Due 25th Dec. 1879 & 25th Dec. 1880 703.00

1 note on Monroe Wolverton for 113 dollars out of date & not good Lot corn & cotton amount 48.00

This 18th December 1878 W. C. Chamness Sworn to in open court, December term 1878

Job Bell, Clerk

[Note: This is James Matthew Woolverton. Luther Rice Littlefield, who was married to his daughter Wancy, received the Woolverton homeplace after James Matthew's death. James Monroe Woolverton (called Monroe here) is a son of James Matthew. W. C. Chamness married Eliza Malinda Woolverton, another daughter of James Matthew.]

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DODSON BOOKS STILL AVAILABLE

For those interested in the Dodson lineage, there is a 2-volume book available from Southern Historical Press:

The Dodson (Dotson) Family of North Farnham Parish, Richmond County, Virginia: A History and Genealogy of Their Descendants. Compiled and edited by Mrs. Sherman Williams and The Rev. Silas Emmet Lucas, Jr. 2 vols. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1989.

Not only does this monumental work cover the Dodson lineage back to the early 1600s with all known descendants down to the present time, but it contains a large number of Hanks and Voolverton descendants as these intermarried with Dodsons. Moses Hanks was married to Agatha Dodson. Then several of Andrew Voolverton's descendants intermarried with the Hanks and Dodson families.

Royal Volverton sent information from his book, <u>Descendants of Andrew Voolverton</u>. Bonnie Voolverton of the John Bird and Anna Jane (Hanks) Voolverton line sent in updates on all of her family. Bob Holloway sent in his line and

also contributed some valuable information on Rev. Elijah Hanks which he received from a cousin, Virginia Rollings, of here in Springfield. Bill Randolph sent records on the Moses Hanks descendants and copies of Elder Thomas Hanks' Bible, Hansford Hanks' Bible, and the James William Hanks Bible. Cousin Josephine Adams sent information on her Hill line back to Joicey (Hanks) Hill. And I sent in much information on the Harris, Littlefield, Hanks, Williams and related families which was included in the book.

Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr. is the president of Southern Historical Press, now the largest publisher of genealogical books in the United States and also is an ordained Episcopalian priest. He descends from the Dodson family through his grandmother, Essie Gabriella (Dodson) Lucas. She in turn was a descendant of Abraham Dodson (1723-1768) who was a son of Thomas Dodson, Sr. (1681-1740) and wife Mary Durham. Thomas (who is also our ancestor through the Hanks family) was the son of Charles Podson, Sr. (c1649-c1704) who is the first known Dodson in our line.

It is possible that Rev. Lucas will publish a supplement to the Dodson books in the next 5-10 years, so you may wish to send him an update on your family if you already have seen the books.

To order a copy of the Dodson books, write to:

Southern Historical Press, Inc. P.O. Box 1267 Greenville, SC 29602-1267

Ph. 803-233-2346 or 803-859-2346

Cost is \$40.00 for Vol. 1 (1211 pages) and \$35.00 for Vol. 2 (738 pages). Discounts may be available if purchasing more than one set of the books.

THE LINCOLN LEGAL PAPERS

The cousins who are Hanks descendants will be interested in knowing that there are many organizations and historical societies which are collecting and preserving documents, photos, memorabilia, and other items relating to President Abraham Lincoln and his family. One of these is:

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency Old State Capitol Springfield, IL 62701

During the last 4 years this agency has been involved in a monumental project called THE LINCOLN LEGAL PAPERS. Through painstaking searches in manuscript libraries and courthouses in every county in Illinois and in surrounding states, the project hopes to complete a definitive work on the documentary history of the law practice of Abraham Lincoln from 1836-1861. Cullom Davis, director of this project, and his staff have located and copied over 75,000 items in 61 Illinois counties and other areas. Among these are over 150 newly discovered documents in Lincoln's handwriting.

The search for Lincoln documents is set for completion during 1994. Then work will begin on a complete facsimile edition of the documents and also a 5-volume book edition of selected items which will be available for sale.

To help promote the search for documents and report on its progress, the staff produces a quarterly newsletter which is FREE.

It is called <u>Lincoln Legal Briefs</u>. The newsletter also reports on various Lincoln cultural events and happenings throughout the U.S. An interesting item in the last issue mentioned the 21st annual "Abraham Lincoln Symposium" on February 12th in the Old State Capitol in Springfield, Illinois. One of the scheduled speakers was Glen W. Davidson of Doane College who was to discuss the controversy over possible DNA testing of Lincoln's remains. [Note: A number of experts in the medical field connect Lincoln's hollow looks with an inherited disorder called Marfan syndrome. The disorder affects skeletal development, vision, and the heart and blood vessels. Many of its victims have superior intellegence—ed.]

To receive the free newsletter, write to:

Lincoln Legal Briefs The Lincoln Legal Papers Old State Capitol Springfield, IL 62701

Ph.: (217) 785-9130 FAX: (217) 524-6973

E-mail: LLP@EAGLE.SANGAMON.EDU.

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COMMENTARIES ON LINCOLN

A similar newsletter began in 1992 and is called <u>Commentaries</u>. It offers brief summaries of 333 Illinois Supreme Court cases in which Lincoln was involved. It will also bring out the historical short stories and sometimes amusing aspects of these court cases. Most of these cases are included in a book, <u>Lincoln and the Common Law</u>, but the newsletter is attempting to go into more detail and to bring out the human interest aspects of his court cases. The newsletter is quarterly and costs \$14.50 per year. The book is \$14.95. If interested, write to:

Human Services Press P.O. Box 2423 Springfield, IL 62705

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WHO WAS JOEL'S WIFE?

We are indebted to David A. Macdonald, 621 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018, for discovering the maiden name of Joel Woolverton's wife. (Joel is the son of Charles Woolverton the immigrant and the father of Andrew Woolverton.) Eleanor Bracegirdle put him in contact with me, and he has also had contact with

John E. Wolverton, Dalton Woolverton, and others. Macdonald is not a Woolverton descendant, but is helping a great-uncle by marriage to research his family. The uncle is from the Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, Roger Woolverton line through Abigail⁴ (Isaac³, Roger², Charles¹) Woolverton, who married John Farnsworth.

Macdonald hopes to compile a definitive listing with proven sources for the first four or five generations of Woolverton descendants in the U.S. descended from Charles Woolverton of Hunterdon County, New Jersey. If you have copies of Bible records, court documents, or other primary sources which prove the early lineage, he would be interested, and you should contact him.

Here follows some of David Macdonald's comments on the Joel and Elizabeth (Robins) Woolverton family:

Joel Wolverton married ELIZABETH FOBINS, daughter of John Robins and Eleanor _____. There is no direct evidence of the marriage, but the circumstantial evidence is sufficient to justify the conclusion: John Robins, of Amwell Township, Hunterdon County, left a will dated 20 June 1775 in which he spoke of his wife Elener; sons Cornelius and Job, the latter under 21; and daughters Anna Robins, Mary Robins, Elizabeth Woolverton, Hannah Robins, Jane Kitchen, Rachel Reily, Lydia Parlee, and Catharine Robins. New Jersey Archives, Wills 4: 428. That Elizabeth Robins married Joel Woolverton seems to be evidenced by the fact that they named their a son Job and a daughter Jane, both of which are names of Elizabeth Robins's siblings and neither of which had before appeared in the Woolverton family. Moreover, there appears to be no other place in the Woolverton family where Elizabeth Robins could be fitted unless she was the second wife of Isaac³ (Roger², Charles¹), whose first wife died in 1755-6, but the name of his second wife, if he remarried, is not known.

Their daughter Jane married John Duckworth, and their daughter Mary married George Duckworth:

On 2 September 1819, John Duckworth, Sr. and Jane, his wife, of Alexandria Township, conveyed to John Duckworth, Jr. two tracts of land in Alexandria Township. Hunterdon County Deed Book 30: 383.

On 4 February 1804, George Duckworth, and Mary, his wife, of Amwell Township, conveyed to Samuel Bray, of Kingwood Township, a tract of land in Kingwood Township, containing 3 1/4 acres 9 perches, bounded by Charles Woolverton, a road, Jacob Fox, Dennis Woolverton, and Joel Woolverton.

The only thing I would add to this is that Joel's daughter Amy married John Severns. In <u>COUSINS UNLINITED</u>, Sept./Oct. 1992, p. 4, Suzanne Bush reported the marriage of the three daughters as uncovered in court records she found (Only the surnames had been reported in Joel's will). Joel's sons were: Gabriel, Joel, Charles, Andrew, John, and Job.

Alenn