

Surry Community College Library

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# **COLLINS FAMILY**

## **GENEALOGY**

**COMPILED BY  
O.A. & F.G. PICKETT**

**NOVEMBER, 1994**



COLLINS GENEALOGY  
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November, 1994

- 1 Jonathan Collins  
m. - -  
1. Mahlon
- 11 Mahlon Collins  
b. 1756, Sussex County, New Jersey  
d. 1834, Lawrence County, Indiana  
Member Kingwood Monthly Meeting,  
Hunterdon County, New Jersey  
Buried Lawrence County, Indiana  
m. Hunterdon County, New Jersey, 10 October, 1776  
Phoebe - , b. 1758, d. 1841  
Buried Lawrence County, Indiana  
1. John, 2. Josiah, 3. Mary "Polly", 4. Levina,  
5. Randolph, 6. Deborah, 7. Ann/Anna, 8. Isaac  
1787, Mahlon and Phoebe moved to Deep River Monthly  
Meeting, Guilford County, North Carolina  
1790, moved to Westfield Monthly Meeting,  
Surry (now Yadkin) County, North Carolina  
Before 1795, moved to Chestnut Creek Preparative Meeting,  
Grayson (now Carroll) County, Virginia, a branch of  
Westfield Monthly Meeting  
Disowned by Chestnut Creek Preparative Meeting,  
18 May, 1799, for allowing fiddling and dancing  
in his home  
Later lived in Baywood, Virginia  
1830, moved to Lawrence County, Indiana
- 111 John Collins  
b. 1777, New Jersey  
d. before 1858, Grayson County, Virginia  
m. Effie Conley, b. 1775, d. before 1830  
1. Mahlon, 2. Elijah, 3. Lathena/Latheny,  
4. John, Jr., 5. Randolph, 6. (daughter)
- 1111 Mahlon Collins, b. 1800, d. 1838  
Buried Collins Cemetery, 2 miles west of Delhart,  
Grayson County, Virginia  
m. 8 May, 1825, Effie Hayes, b. 1804, d. 1878  
Buried Collins Cemetery, 2 miles west of Delhart,  
Grayson County, Virginia  
Father: Jacob Hayes  
Mother: Elizabeth -  
1. Wiley G., 2. Malinda/Melinda, 3. Louisa/Louise,  
4. John Curren, 5. Commodore Hayes, 6. Effie Lavina



- 11116 Effie Lavina Collins, b. 30 December, 1838, d. 29 April, 1909  
Buried Crab Creek Church Cemetery near  
Ennice, North Carolina  
m. Surry County, North Carolina, Richard Horten Gentry  
b. 25 August, 1838, d. 19 November, 1921  
Buried Crab Creek Church Cemetery near  
Ennice, North Carolina  
\*1 Martin Luther  
Lived most of lives in Alleghany County, North Carolina
- 11116\*1 Martin Luther Gentry  
Buried Crab Creek Church Cemetery near  
Ennice, North Carolina  
b. 7 October, 1868, d. 10 September, 1944  
m. 20 October, 1920, Etta Truitt  
b. 29 March, 1874, d. 17 November, 1915  
\*1 Lillie Mae, \*2 John Richard, \*3 Lucille Ophelia  
Lived in Glade Valley, North Carolina
- 11116\*11 Lillie Mae Gentry, b. 1896, d. 1953  
Buried Felts Memorial Park, Galax, Virginia  
m. 20 October, 1920, Alleghany County, North Carolina  
Everett M. Carico, b. 1872, d. 1977  
Buried Felts Memorial Park, Galax, Virginia  
\*1 Richard Fieldon, \*2 Rudolph Marvin, \*3 Edith Irene,  
\*4 James Randolph
- 11116\*111 Richard Fieldon Carico
- 11116\*112 Rudolph Marvin Carico
- 11116\*113 Edith Irene Carico
- 11116\*114 James Randolph Carico
- 11116\*12 John Richard Gentry, b. 1900, d. 1961  
Buried Glade Valley Church Cemetery,  
Glade Valley, North Carolina  
m. 22 December, 1926, Alleghany County, North Carolina  
Nell V. Bryan, b. 1906, d. 1965  
Buried Glade Valley Church Cemetery,  
Glade Valley, North Carolina  
\*1 Lois Virginia, \*2 Barbara Louise,  
\*3 John Richard, Jr.
- 11116\*121 Lois Virginia Gentry
- 11116\*122 Barbara Louise Gentry
- 11116\*123 John Richard Gentry, Jr.
- 11116\*13 Lucille Ophelia Gentry, b. 1914  
m. 27 July, 1932, Grayson County, Virginia  
Reeves McCann, b. 1907, d. 1976  
divorced  
m. Bert McCann, b. 1916, d. 19--  
Lucille Gentry McCann lives in Maryland

PEDIGREE of ALGER SAMSON COLLINS

CHART: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER 1 ON THIS CHART IS \_\_\_\_\_ ON CHART \_\_\_\_\_

Gerald R. Collins  
1193 South Franklin Rd.  
Mt. Airy, N. C. 27030

		8	?? ?? COLLINS		
				B:	?
				M:	
				D:	?
	4		JOHN WILLIAM COLLINS		
			B: 07/12/1825		
			W:		
			M: 03/13/1850		
			D: 07/02/1891		
			W: N C		
		9	?		
2	ALEXANDER (NONE) COLLINS			B:	
	B: 01/14/1865			D:	
	W: N C?				
	M:		10 ?		
	D: 12/04/1958			B:	
	W: N C			M:	
				D:	
		5	MARY ELIZABETH SLATE		
			B: 10/08/1832		
			W:		
			D: 09/08/1906		
			W: N C		
		11	?		
1	ALGER SAMSON COLLINS			B:	
	B: 05/23/1898			D:	?
	W: N C				
	M: 10/09/1917		12	ELISHA COLLINS	
	D: 11/29/1981			B: 1817	
	W: N C			M:	
				D:	
		6	JAMES W COLLINS		
			B: 11/22/1839		
			W:		
			M:		
			D: 06/05/1918		
			W: n c		
		13	MARIAH (MARIA?)		
				B:	
3	Mary JANE COLLINS			D:	
	B: 10/07/1869				
	W: NC				
	D: 02/25/1943				
	W: NC				
		14	HENSON JOHNSON		
				B: /	/1803
				M:	
				D:	
		7	CHRISTINA "TINA" JOHNSON		
			B: / /1848		
			W:		
			D:		
			W:		
		15	MILLIE JOHNSON		
				B: /	/1867
				D:	
MATTIE (EVIE) JARRELL					
B: 03/29/1884					
W: N C					
D: 05/20/1973					
W: N C					

Gerald R. Collins  
1193 South Franklin Rd.  
Mt. Airy, N. C. 27030  
03-05-1990



*Ancestors of Thomas Collings*

**James Collins**

m: 18 Feb 1701/02 in St. Andrew,  
Plymouth, Devon  
d: 1741

**Richard Collings**

b: 08 Mar 1710/11 in Landrake  
Parish Cornwall  
m: 17 Feb 1738/39 in St. Andrew,  
Plymouth, Devon  
d: 25 Apr 1793 in St. Keyne  
Parish, Cornwall

**John Sheere**

**Anne Sheere**

b: 08 May 1681 in Liskeard  
Parish, Cornwall  
d: 1746

**Flora XX**

**Thomas Collings**

b: 29 May 1740 in Landrake,  
Cornwall, England  
m: 18 May 1781 in Morval Parish,  
Cornwall  
d: Sep 1815 in Tregastic, Morval  
Parish, Cornwall

**John Vigers**

**Mary Vigers**

b: 17 Aug 1709 in Liskeard Parish,  
Cornwall  
d: 13 Dec 1793 in St. Keyne  
Parish, Cornwall

**Ann XX**

**Thomas Collings**

b: Apr 1783 in Morval Parish,  
Cornwall  
m: 04 Dec 1821 in Morval Parish,  
Cornwall  
d: 1860 in Morval Parish,  
Cornwall

**Elizabeth Blight Rogers**

b: 1741  
d: 1785 in Menheniot, Cornwall ?

FAMILY GROUP SHEET 24

Husband's First Name		Middle Name	Last Name
PETER			NORMAN
Born:	1800	Place:	
Christened:		Place:	
Married:	05/14/1831	Place:	SURRY
Died:		Place:	
Buried:	N C	Place:	
Father:		Mother:	
Other spouses:	1.		2.

Wife's First Name		Middle Name	Last (maiden) Name
ELIZABETH			ODEL
Born:	1810	Place:	
Christened:		Place:	
Died:		Place:	
Buried:		Place:	
Father:		Mother:	
Other spouses:	1.		2.

TS	Children	Birthdate	Place of Birth	Married	To Whom	Died
F	ELIZABETH ✓	/ /1843?	<i>gnd m</i>	✓	JAMES COLLINS	02/06/1918
M	WILLIAM	1838				
F	MARY	1840				
M	JAMES	1843				
F	FRANCES ✓ (FANNY)	/ /1846		✓	RUFUS JOHNSON	
F	NANCY	1848				

Sources:	Other Marriages:	Necessary Explanations:

Prepared by: GERALD COLLINS  
 1193 S. FRANKLIN RD  
 MT. AIRY N C 27030  
 919 786 5709

ALFRED COLLINS  
 RT 3 BOX 13  
 GRETNA VA 24557  
 804 656 1608

Date Printed: 02-25-1990



# Collins still serves up food with a smile

**TIM BULLARD**  
STAFF REPORTER

Virginia Collins never tires of her work. In fact, she anxiously looks forward to her next shift at a Mount Airy Hardee's fast-food restaurant.

"I've been with Hardee's about 12 or 14 years," Collins said recently. "I've been here two or three years. Honey, the older I get, the younger I feel. And that's no lie. I never have a pain."

While many 82-year-olds have long since retired, spending their time volunteering, or have moved to Florida. But that would never suit Collins whose worth ethic has become legendary among her coworkers and long-time customers.

"I'm not overweight. I eat like I should eat. I've never had the flu," Collins said. "I try to eat good, and I try to eat right . . . I'm just happy as a lark."

A mother and grandmother, her husband, G.F. Collins, died some time ago, back in 1982. She fondly remembers the days and time they spent together.

"I was 13, and he was 14. We'd go to dances together," Collins recalled. "He went to one school, and I went to another. Then the war came along, and it took him out of high school. I went ahead and finished. He wrote me every day, and I wrote him every day. When he came home, I waited

several years for him, and we made wedding plans. We had a hillbilly wedding in June."

Nowadays she considers her customers to be families.

"Oh, I love them. They are precious," Collins said. "They are sweet. None of them are old. None of them are sick. None of them are handicapped. I was once a nurse, so I see things I have got to do for them because they are disabled. I even sometimes go to the car with them and help them get in. I've even done that. They come in with walkers and breathing machines."

Part of her daily life means turning to a higher power. Knowing there is something beyond her mortality keeps Collins, a member of Roaring Gap Church in Low Gap, going. And she's grateful that someone is always looking out for her.

"I really love the Lord. He's been good to me," Collins said. "I appreciate every thing. So many times during the day I say thanks to Jesus because I see people my age who don't even know their name, honey. I'm just a tenderhearted person and a loving person. As far as I know, I don't have any enemies. People have always been nice to me. When these old folks come up, I'll go and help them carry that tray."

Hardee's Manager Angie Edwards said that Collins is more than an employee.



TIM BULLARD/THE NEWS

**Virginia Collins has worked at Hardee's in Mount Airy for 12 or 14 years.**

Collins is a personal ambassador for the restaurant and the people she serves.

"She does great," Edwards

said. Everybody, the customers and employees, all love her. On her days off, they ask if she is sick or what is wrong."

8-13-2007



(1770-1854) in 1794 d. 1860's  
d. 1863

Nancy Collins b. 1795  
m. Allen Pringle  
Jesse Collins b. 1798  
m. Jane  
to Greene Co., IND  
Elizabeth Collins  
m. Pringle  
James Collins b. 1804  
m. 1st Nancy Slate 1840  
2nd Annis Flippin 1852  
Sarah "Sally" Collins  
m. James Watkins 1828  
George Collins  
m. ? Martha Campbell 1834  
Lydia Collins  
m. Oliver Pringle 1834  
William Collins b. 1815  
m. Mary George

Elizabeth Collins  
Martha J. Collins  
m. Jesse Owens 1858  
Mary A. Collins  
m. Floyd Owens 1862  
Andrew Collins  
m. Mary J. Beasley 1865  
Elisha Collins  
m. Artressia George 1869  
Susan Collins  
m. William Beasley 1865  
Frances Collins

Savannah Collins  
m. John W. Flippin 1887  
Susanna Collins  
m. William M. Francis 1894  
Ruth E. Collins  
m. John W. Beasley 1894  
Mary Etta Collins  
m. M. Z. Hollingsworth 1895  
Mattie L. Collins  
m. James Robert Ward 1903  
William A. Collins  
  
James R. Collins  
m. Ada Ring 1912  
Lillie Viola Collins  
m. Grover Hill 1906  
Lizzie J. Collins  
m. Moses Epperson 1911  
Elisha Roy Collins  
m. Clytie Mills 1917  
Franklin L. Collins  
m. Pencie Martin 1921

d. 1860's

Leaton Collins b. 1803  
m. Sarah Tucker 1829  
Edmond Collins b. 1804  
m. Eliza Tucker 1828  
Esther Collins b. 1806  
m. Edmond Beasley 1826  
Eleanor Collins b. 1814  
m. Major Nunn 1834  
Francis Marion Collins b. 1814  
m. Sally Clark 1836  
Jane Collins b. 1815  
m. Robert Moss 1834  
Nancy Melissa Collins b. 1823  
m. William Campbell 1841  
Absalom Collins b. 1825  
m. 1st Elizabeth Nunn  
2nd Mary J. Ablos  
3rd Nancy Dunkley  
Joanna Collins b. 1826  
m. William Bowling  
? David Collins  
4 OTHERS

Jesse Isaac Collins  
m. Nancy J. Nunn 1866  
Joseph H. Collins  
m. Mary E. Smith 1869  
Elizabeth Jane Collins  
m. William H. Dunkley 1865  
  
John William Collins d.y.  
Creed Thomas Collins  
m. Susan Emma Wright 1881

Rhoda Ann Collins  
m. Andrew Beasley  
Elizabeth Collins  
m. Ballard P. Smith 1895  
William Franklin Collins unm.  
Nannie Lee Collins  
m. L. F. Nunn 1897  
Jenny K. Collins  
m. Joseph I. Nunn 1895  
Alice Collins  
m. Robert Nunn 1898  
Mary Emma Collins  
m. Henry F. Wright 1905  
Robert L. Collins  
m. Ada Nunn 1912

d. 1860's

David Holt Jr b. 1812  
m. Ruth Lawson 1842  
Hannah Holt b. 1814  
m. Anthony Puckett 1833  
Jackson Holt b. 1818  
m. Millie Lawson 1844

Elisha Collins b. 1826  
m. 1st Rachel Burch  
2nd Mariam Johnson Burch  
James Collins b. 1832  
Mary Jane Collins b. 1834  
Minerva Collins b. 1840  
Jesse L. Collins b. 1842  
Sarah Collins b. 1844  
Thomas Collins b. 1847

to Greene Co., IND

William Collins  
m. 1st Martha Burch  
m. 2nd Perlina Burch  
George Washington Collins  
m. Ann Eliza Westmoreland  
Lockey Collins  
m. Davis Burch  
Floyd Collins  
m. Martha Burch  
Emily D. Collins  
m. George Burch Jr

George Collins d.y.  
Minerva Collins d.y.  
Abigail Jane Collins  
m. George W. McCraw  
Locky Ann Collins d.y.  
Ambrose Collins  
m. Cornelia Jane Hol--  
Martha Ellen Collins  
m. George McAllister  
Elizabeth Ann Collins  
m. Jonathan Dark  
Davis Collins  
m. Jane Chaney  
Maria Collins  
m. William Henry Porter  
Hubbard Collins  
m. Nora E. White  
Mandy Collins  
m. John Hale  
Laura Alice Collins  
m. George W. Nelson

m. ? Hannah Nunn

Dida A. Collins b. 1805  
m. Allen Taylor Overby 1821

Eliza Collins  
Paul Collins  
m. 1st Eliza J. McDaniel  
2nd Sara Jane Anderson  
Locky Collins  
m. George W. McDaniel

William Thomas Collins  
m. Delitha Workman  
John Collins  
m. Julia Ann Clay  
Bunice Melissa Collins

William M. Collins  
George W. Collins  
Amson Collins  
Miconjah Collins  
Nancy Collins  
Zisari Collins  
Margaret C. Collins  
Eliza Theodocia Collins

Fannie Savannah Collins  
m. Ellis Lee Beasley  
Pomie Lee Collins  
m. Bessie King  
Jettie Lou Collins  
m. 1st Jesse Shelton  
Ida Jane Collins  
m. John Hunley  
Elsie Murray Collins  
William Avery Collins  
m. Mildred Johnson

George Washington Collins  
m. Annie Hutchens  
James Walter Collins  
m. Ola Hampton  
Lilla Collins  
m. 1st Fred Bunker  
2nd Irvin Long  
Martha Ann Collins  
m. Walter Dunbar  
Maggie Mae Collins  
m. Robert Wesley Boles  
Laura Collins  
m. Glenn Monday  
Samuel Thomas Collins  
m. Alma Glee Doss  
Nannie Ethel Collins  
m. 1st Sam Hall  
2nd William C. Lawrence  
Bertha Sally Collins  
m. Ernest Clinton Bullins

m. Elijah Optegrove  
to Henderson Co., TENN

Thomas COLLINS  
b. June 1828  
m. Sarah Lawson 1826  
d. June 1903

Martha Ann Collins (1847-1907)  
m. James Fleming Wright 1882  
Elizabeth Collins (1852-1937)  
m. Jesse Beasley 1872  
William Jackson Collins (1853-1927)  
m. Mary Ann Mitchell 1882  
Mary A. Collins (1855-1930) unm.  
John Robert Collins (1857-1912)  
m. Virginia Collins 1897  
James Franklin Collins (1859-1918)  
m. Flora Etta Martin (1869-1923)  
Susan F. Collins (1863-1931) unm.  
George Thomas Collins (1865-1911)  
m. Emma Jane Mitchell  
Sarah Emma Collins (1867-1924)  
m. Andrew F. Wright 1889

Bettie Collins unm.  
Verda Collins  
m. Will Goin

Mary Lennis Collins  
m. Henry F. Collins  
Arthur E. Collins  
m. Ida Owens  
Siller Collins  
m. Booker J. Dunkley  
Emma Lou Collins  
m. Jim Owens  
Verda Jane Collins  
m. Ran Mitchell  
Carrie R. Collins d.y.  
James Early Collins  
m. Eva Alice Holt

Ella Mae Collins  
m. Hayes Short

James Jackson Collins  
b. 1829-1830  
m. Mary Emily Lavson 1858

Delila Frances Collins 1860-1941  
m. William M. Overby 1880  
William Thomas Collins 1862-1934  
m. Savannah Texas Martin  
James Franklin Collins 1869-1926  
m. Delila Frances Lawson 1891

James "Jim" Collins  
m. 1st Betty Owens  
Willie Collins  
m. Sue Barnard  
Emma Collins  
m. Will Holt  
George Emmet Collins  
m. Mary Lou Puckett  
Flora Collins  
m. Charlie Overby  
Elijah Collins  
m.  
Silla Collins  
m. Sanders Campbell  
Millard J. Collins  
m. Minnie Nunn

Mary Lilla Collins  
m. Andrew M. Flippin  
Sarah Hester Collins  
m. William Thomas Collins  
Nancy Agnes Collins  
m. J. B. Smith  
Queen Ethel Collins  
m. James Hill  
Pearl E. Collins  
m. U. H. Barnard  
William Blaine Collins  
m. Lillie Smith  
Grace Collins  
m. Cecil Slate  
Irene Collins  
m. Vester Lee Palmer  
Mina Collins  
m. Melvin Slate  
Annie Collins  
m. James Clifton

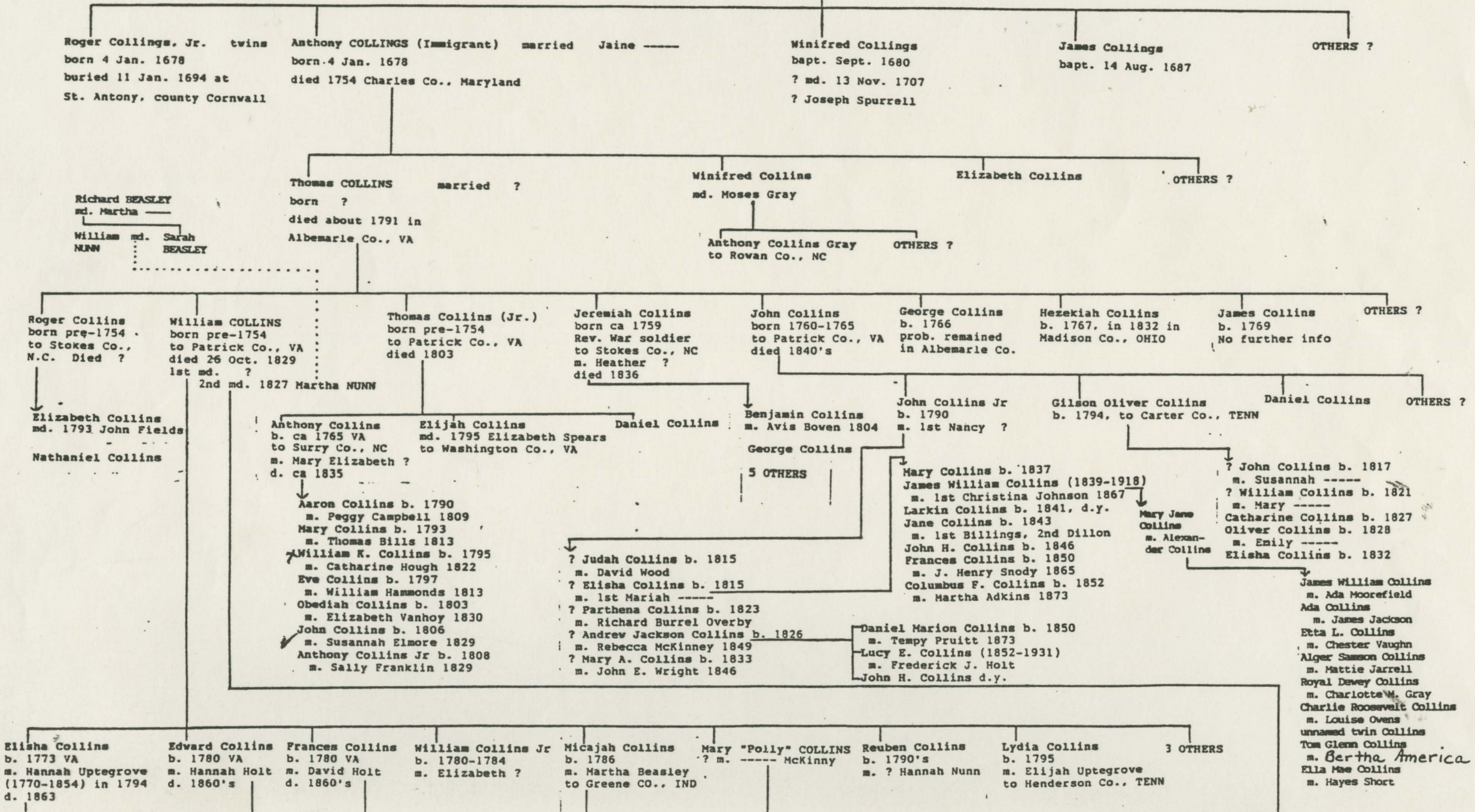


The COLLINS Family Tree

Roger COLLINGS, Gent. married  
 ? born about 1637 ?  
 buried 4 Jan. 1708 at  
 St. Antony by Saltash,  
 County Cornwall, England

Elizabeth Furlong Bidlake

Prepared by Butch Johnson  
 213 North 3rd Avenue  
 Mayodan, N. C. 27027  
 Phone (919) 548-1603  
 April, 1990





FAMILY GROUP SHEET 12

Husband's First Name		Middle Name		Last Name	
ALEXANDER		(NONE)		COLLINS	
Born:	01/14/1865	Place:	N C?		
Christened:		Place:			
Married:		Place:			
Died:	12/04/1958	Place:	CARTHAGE	MOORE	N C
Buried:	12/04/1958	Place:	SUMMERHILL	MOORE	N C
Father:	JOHN	WILLIAM	COLLINS	Mother:	MARY ELIZABETH SLATE
Other spouses:	1.			2.	

Wife's First Name		Middle Name		Last (maiden) Name	
Mary		JANE		COLLINS	
Born:	10/07/1869	Place:	CHESNUT RIDGE?	SURRY	NC
Christened:		Place:	Indian Graves Bapt Surry		NC
Died:	02/25/1943	Place:	NC		
Buried:	02/25/1943	Place:	SUMMERHILL	MOORE	N C
Father:	JAMES	W	COLLINS	Mother:	Christine Johnson NORMAN?
Other spouses:	1.				

Sex	Children	Birthdate	Place of Birth	Married	To Whom	Died
M	JAMES WILLIAM	08/01/1890	WESTFIELD, Stokes Co.		ADA MOOREFIELD	03/26/1974
F	ADA ?	10/03/1892	WESTFIELD		JAMES JACKSON	
F	ETTA L	05/25/1895	WESTFIELD		CHESTER VAUGHN	
M	ALGER SAMSON	05/23/1898	WESTFIELD	10/09/1917	MATTIE JARRELL	11/29/1981
M	ROYAL DEWEY	07/14/1900	WESTFIELD		CHARLOTTE? GRAY	12/30/89
M	CHARLIE ROOSEVELT	11/21/1902	WESTFIELD		LOUISE DWENS	
?	UNNAMED TWINS	??/??/1904	WESTFIELD			
M	TOM GLENN	05/29/1906	WESTFIELD	OCT 9 1925	BERTHA AMERICA	
F	ELLA MAE	03/04/1910	WESTFIELD		HAYES SHORT	

Sources:	Other Marriages:	Necessary Explanations:
Alexander Married Daisy Rhoades of Winston Salem in 1946, at at 81 years		

Prepared by: GERALD COLLINS  
 1193 S. FRANKLIN RD  
 MT. AIRY N C 27030  
 919 786 5709

ALFRED COLLINS  
 RT 3 BOX 13  
 GRETNA VA 24557  
 804 656 1608

Date Printed: 02-25-1990



# Sunday Living

## PROFILE

### Alpha Mae Collins

**NAME:** Alpha Mae Collins  
**OCCUPATION:** Mother, Mill Worker, Farmer  
**HOMETOWN:** Mount Airy  
**AGE:** 86  
**FAMILY:** 18 Children, 70 Grandchildren and more than 40 Great-Grandchildren  
**EDUCATION:** 10th Grade Education  
**HOBBIES:** Sewing and Gardening

By **MONDEE COX**  
 Staff Writer

To meet Alpha Mae Collins today, one might get the impression that she lives a very quiet ordinary life. But one look at a portrait on her living room wall reveals what is so extraordinary about this 86-year-old — her 18 children.

Collins said she decided when she had her 18th child, it was finally enough. Not only did she give birth to an extraordinary amount of children, she had them all in 16 years and all but one was born at home. All were single births.

Ask Collins to name off her children, which now range from 42 to 68 years of age, you'll hear: "Jack, Josephine, Leon, Ray, Ed, Bill, Barbara Jean, Laura Mae, David, Joan, Helen, Debbie, Gary, Steve, Denise, Danny, Mike and Roger."

Collins married Victor Collins when she was 17 years old and she had her first child at age 18. Her husband passed away 25 years ago she said. They originally lived in Ararat, Va. where they farmed tobacco and corn.

"Sometimes I would work all day and have a baby that night. I love all my children and I am proud of every one of them."

Now most of Collins' children live in other states with the bulk of them residing in New Jersey. Many of them are restaurant owners and operators. Her son Gary began Cousin Gary's Restaurant in Pilot Mountain six years ago. He eventually sold it to a sister and her friend.

Cooking for Collins' enormous family would give shudder to even the likes of Martha Stewart, but she took it all in stride.

"I taught all my children to cook. I didn't mind cooking a bit. We always had food on the table and clothes on our backs."

In addition to feeding an army, Collins also made most of their clothes.

"Belks used to sell fabric for a nickel a yard. You could make an entire dress for 15 cents."

Sewing is something she loves to do even today, although she says her arthritis has slowed her down a bit. Her duties in the kitchen have also calmed a bit, but she said her son Roger likes to stop and eat lunch with her whenever he can. He works for the Mount Airy Post Office and still enjoys her cooking.

After moving to Mount Airy in 1963 and purchasing the house she lives in today, Collins went to work for Spencer's and then Pine State. She retired from working in the mills several years ago, but continued to make cakes for her son Gary's restaurant. Up until five years ago she made seven cakes a day for him. She still makes a cakes every now and then for the restaurant but not nearly the volume she did then.

Growing up, Collins became used to having a lot of kids around. She said she had four brothers and five sisters. Her mother also had a set of twins that died at birth. Collins still mourns one sister who was fatally injured in a car wreck just over three weeks ago. She said one of her brothers has passed away as



Mondee Cox/The Mount Airy News

well.

Although Collins had so many children, many of them live in the northern part of the country. They scatter across New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Virginia. She said seven of her children still live close enough by now to visit her regularly. The others she said try to visit as often as possible, but sometimes find it hard to get away from their busy lives.

"We all get together whenever we can at holidays. I keep in touch with them on the phone mostly."

Her 18 children have produced 70 grandchildren and "40-something great-grandchildren." She said the latest addition came recently with the birth of her latest great-grandson.

Although she doesn't get to see all of her children all of the time, Collins says her neighbors keep her pretty good company. One of her neighbors recently had a baby and brought a picture of the newborn by for her to see.

"I just love babies."

Now that Collins' children are grown, she said things for children growing up today are quite different than when hers were growing up.

"Children today have so much. If they don't have

the latest toy, someone will just go out and buy it for them. I think things were better when my kids were growing up.

"They would go in the woods and make a fort. They'd use anything they could find to entertain themselves. It didn't take a lot of fancy toys."

Something that was also important to Collins was the ability to make her children "mind." She said she learned discipline from her father who always kept a switch over the door. Somehow, she said she knew that she did not want a "whipping with that switch."

"I never did get a whipping. My parents taught us all to mind our manners and to stay out of trouble. I did the same with my kids," Collins said.

She tried to instill values in her children as well.

"I tried to teach them that you should love everyone and you've got to give a lot. Do a lot more giving than taking."

**Favorite Book:**

Bible

**Favorite Television Show:**

Andy Griffith

**Favorite Music:**

Country

**Favorite Food:**

Vegetables



# Uncle Aaron, 94, Recalls Wagon Trip W

## He Survived Long Walk To Arkansas

By CLOICE BURRELL

When Uncle Aaron Miller Collins of Elkin was 21 he went west with a "wagon train."

It wasn't much of a wagon train at that, consisting of two wagons and 13 persons who, Uncle Aaron said, "walked most of the way to Arkansas."

That was about 74 years ago, which gives some idea of Uncle Aaron's age. He will be 95 next February.

"No, we didn't see any Indians," he said. "We rode across the Mississippi River at Memphis on a ferry boat."

Although there were no encounters with Indians, the trek wasn't altogether uneventful. Shortly after crossing the river the horse pulling the one-horse wagon became exhausted and the wagon had to be abandoned.

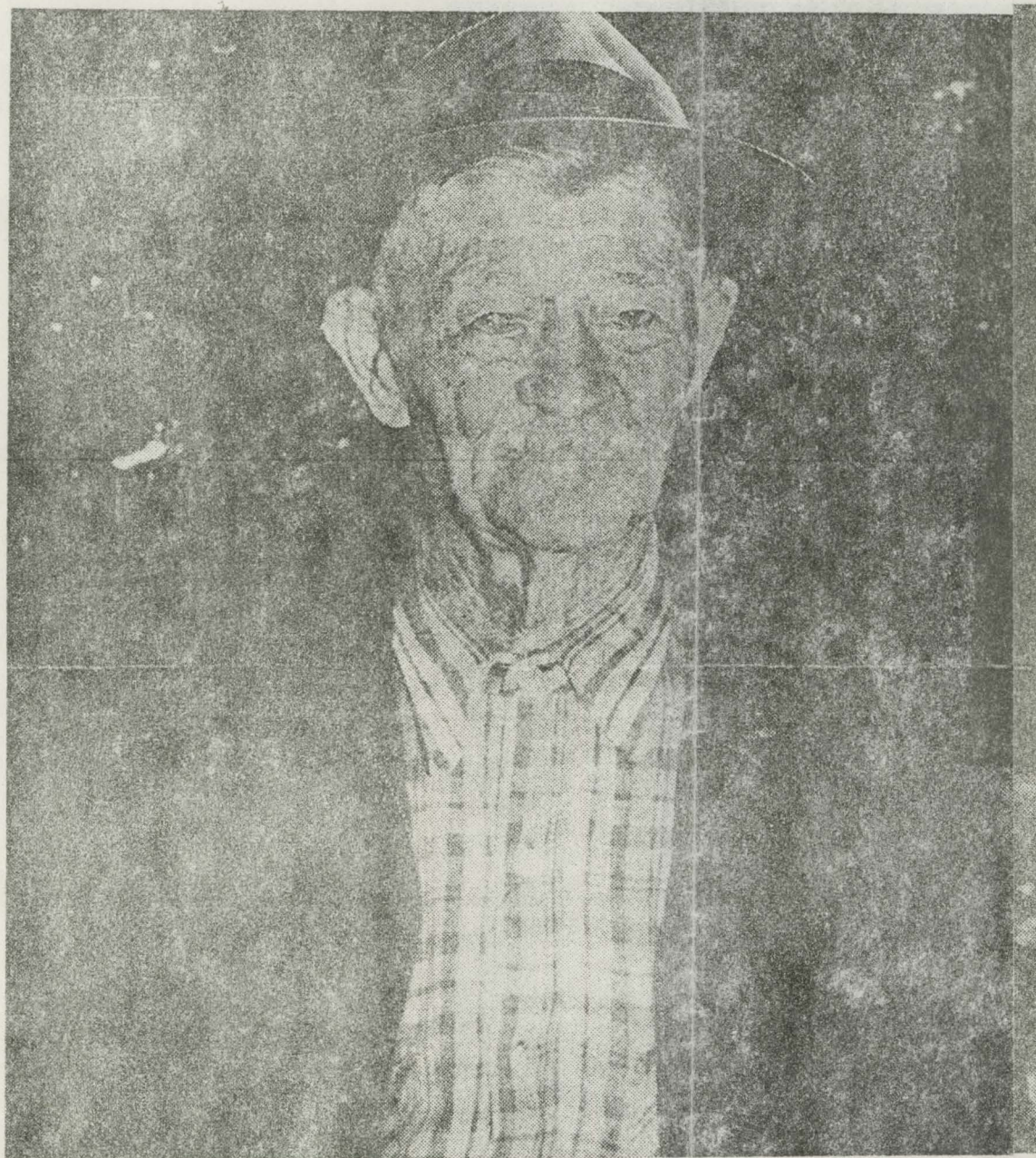
Deep in the Mississippi River bottom lands on the Arkansas side, Mrs. Jim Money, wife of the man in charge of the expedition, went into labor, a midwife was fetched from about five miles away and Mrs. Money gave birth to a baby in the lone covered wagon. Both mother and baby survived.

It was Mr. Collins' first and last trip west. The little band of travelers wound up in Independence County in north central Arkansas. Sant Marshall, a Yadkin County native, owned a small farm there and here Mr. Money lived and worked for about a year before returning to Elkin.

"I took a train to Statesville and when I got there I paid a man \$20 to drive me about 20 miles up the road toward Elkin in a horse and buggy," Uncle Aaron related. "I footed it the rest of the way."

Back home, he spent the next five or more years working at a variety of jobs. He worked for the late Richard Franklin, who operated a store and post office, he was employed for a while in the cotton mill operated by the Gwyns on Big Elkin Creek; and gradually he returned to farming and acquired 83 acres of choice land, some of it lying in the north part of Elkin.

Uncle Aaron was born and reared in Surry County near Elkin. He had four brothers and



TIME HAS BEEN KIND TO HIM—Uncle Aaron Miller Collins of Elkin has seen 94 winters pass. He will be 95 his next birthday. His biggest adventure occurred 74 years ago when as a young man of 21 he went on a "wagon train" to Arkansas.

(TRIBUNE PHOTO—BURRELL)

two sisters. Only one sister, "the youngest child in the family," now lives. She is 80. All of his brothers are dead.

He fathered 10 children himself, eight of whom are still living.

Although Uncle Aaron's sight and hearing are much impaired, his mind is still clear. And he hasn't lost his sense of humor. If you ask him what his first name is he will usually reply, "Aaron—big A, little A, ron."

He lives with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Johnson, on Eller Street. He rarely leaves the place anymore. "Haven't been to town in a year," he said.

He said he "retired" from work about seven years ago after a stomach ulcer hemorrhaged and he required three blood transfusions. But he hasn't completely resigned himself to his rocking chair. Last fall, for example, he shucked 250 bushels of corn.

His stomach gives him considerable pain. He said sometimes he wouldn't mind moving on to his eternal home, "although a feller dreads to appear before the judgment, I reckon."

When asked, as all old persons are asked, how he managed to live so long he shook his head and said "I don't know as I could tell you. The Lord just spared me is all I

know. And I'm willing to wait for him."

Uncle Aaron has never belonged to a church. "They all claim to be right and I don't know which one is," he said. "I just look to Jesus for my ride. If you have been born of the spirit I think you are all right."



## Roy R. Collins Is Taken By Death

**Well Known Mount Airy  
Man Passes Away Janu-  
ary 29th After Lengthy  
Illness**

Roy R. Collins, 36, well known Mount Airy man, died on Friday, January 29th, at the Martin Memorial hospital. His death followed a long illness and was not unexpected to relatives and a host of friends in Mount Airy.

Mr. Collins was a native of Patrick county, Virginia, where he was born on June 8, 1906, the son of Luther A. and Emma Belton Collins. However, he had made his home in Mount Airy for many years, being employed by the Carter Furniture company at the time of his death.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Lela Bowman Collins; by three daughters, Captola, Melba and Dolores Collins; and by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther A. Collins, all of Mount Airy.

Also surviving are one brother, Willard Collins, of Kimball, West Virginia; one half-brother, Ed Belton; and four sisters, Mrs.

Walter Bowman, of Kimball, W. Va., Mrs. Hobart Bateman, of Ararat, Va., and Mrs. Roland Carpenter and Miss Ruth Collins, of Mount Airy.

Funeral services were held at the Moody Funeral Chapel at 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, January 30th, with Dr. Richard K. Redwine, pastor of the First Baptist church, of which the deceased was a member, and Dr. W. C. McLaughlin, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, officiating. Burial was in Oakdale cemetery.

COLLINS, Roy R.

(MOUNT AIRY TIMES - Fri., February 12, 1943)



State of North Carolina,

Surry COUNTY.

To any Minister of the Gospel having the care of Souls, of whatever denomination, or to any Justice of the Peace for said County:

You or any of you are hereby licensed and authorized to celebrate and solemnize the rites of MATRIMONY between James Collins and Christena Johnson and join them together as Man and Wife.

Witness, \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk of \_\_\_\_\_ County Court, at Office this 2nd day of October A. D. 1867.

N. C. Hampton cc  
By J. A. Freeman



## JOHN WILLIAM COLLINS

John William Collins was born in Stokes County on July 12, 1825. He was married to Mary Elizabeth Slate, who was born on October 18, 1832 and died on September 8, 1906. John died on July 2, 1891. They had nine children: John William (Buck); Nancy Redd (Nan); George Washington, Cosba Jane; Martha Ann Elizabeth; James Sherman (Jim); Alexander Hamilton (Elic); Andrew Jackson (Jack); and Christopher Columbus (Lum).

1850

John William (Buck) Collins, the first child, was born in ~~1847~~ and married Martha Ann Needham on March 4, 1877. Buck died in 1903. They had five children: Rilla, born in 1879; Savannah, born in 1882 (died in infancy); Pency, born in 1885 (died in infancy); Nathan, born 1889 (died in infancy); and Roxie, was born on January 7, 1893 and married J. D. Bostick on May 8, 1910. Roxie died on May 10, 1915.

Nancy Redd (Nan), the second child, was born on January 16, 1856 and married Lum William Gammons on July 12, 1875. Nan died August 8, 1946. There were ten children of this marriage: Joseph, born June 4, 1876, married Nonnie Willard on January 2, 1898. Joseph died on April 6, 1969; Joel, born August 10, 1879, married Mary Alzrs Hiatt on January 12, 1902. Joel died January 4, 1945; Jay, born August 20, 1881, married Rebecca Alice Cook on August 4, 1907. Jay died June 29, 1956; William (Willie), born July 29, 1886, married Athaline Hiatt on April 10, 1910. Willie died December December 11, 1967; George, born April 11, 1888, married Sally Johnson on January 24, 1909. George died February 06, 1971; John, born February 8, 1890, married Mattie Agnes Wall on March 12, 1916. John died on October 6, 1978; Robert, born March 26, 1892, married Elizabeth Owens on February 25, 1917. Robert died May 24, 1973; Reid, born April 6, 1895, married Essie Ada Reynolds on January 9, 1917. Reid died on November 8, 1986; Lillar, born August 16, 1897 married Granville Adams on November 24, 1921. Lillar died February 23, 1976; Ella, born April 20, 1899, married Erastus Jessup on January 15, 1915. Ella died November 11, 1978.

George Washington, the third child, was born on April 10, 1857, married Paulina Jane "Jennie" Cook on December 25, 1881. Paulina was born on April 7, 1866 and died February 14, 1902. George later married a second time on February 14, 1917 to Mary Elizabeth Wilson, born January 27, 1867. There were no children of this marriage. George and Pauline reared nine children: Rebecca Jane, born on May 29, 1883, was never married. Rebecca died on December 3, 1972; Martha Elizabeth (Lizzie), born on January 30, 1885, married Joe E. Joyce. Lizzie died on June 25, 1973; George Thomas, was born on September 25, 1886; Emily Daisy, born May 16, 1888, married Dee D. Gibson. Emily died on October 20, 1973; Nancy Emma, born on August 2, 1890, married Sam Wilson; Jodie Pleasant, born August 7, 1893, married Doshia E. Hooker. Jodie died on February 21, 1964; Sally Julina, born on February 17, 1896, married Joel Jessup. Sally died on June 1, 1973; William McKinley, born on August 18, 1897, married Dona Elizabeth Hunter. William died on January 1, 1962; Mary Woody, born December 13, 1899, married "Will" Wilson. Mary died on October 13, 1964.



Cosba Jane, the fourth child, was born on June 29, 1859 and married Sanford Frederick Ring. Jane died August 26, 1947. They had five children: Nannie, born March 6, 1891, never married. Nannie died October 27, 1981; Rosie Lee, date of birth unknown, never married. Rosie died June 13, 1982; Laura Edna, born April 8, 1900, married John Dee Pruitt. Laura died February 15, 1982; Robert (Bob), born \_\_\_\_\_; and Necie Ann, born April 30, 1892.

Martha Ann Elizabeth, the fifth child, was born on May 29, 1862 and died April 12, 1926. She was married to Constine Lafayette (Tine) Arrington. Tine and Martha had six children: Jobe Edward, born May 7, 1891. Jobe died on November 5, 1970; John, born April 19, 1889, died May 05, 1984; Frank; Sam; Mary Edna; and Martha Lou, who married Luther Haymore.

James Sherman (Jim), the sixth child, was born on December 13, 1864 and married Violet Virginia Cobbler on March 1, 1885. Later Jim married a second time to Rosa Flinchum. Jim and Violet had eleven children: Eliza Ellen, born March 25, 1886, married Robert Lee Snow. Eliza died on April 6, 1975; Moses, born on January 30, 1888, married Nora Emma Golden. Moses died on December 10, 1930; Wyley Huston, was born December 16, 1890, married Grace Adams Lowe. Wyley died January 4, 1957; Sallie Ann, born on February 11, 1894, married Lee Roy Sparger. Sallie died on August 20, 1944; James Edgar, born on October 22, 1896, married Leila Myrtle Vernon; Sammie Dee, born May 24, 1899, married Harriet Elizabeth Logan. Sammie died on April 20, 1943; Essie Mae, born on January 29, 1903, married Clay William Golden; Gracie Leona, born on January 18, 1906, married John Williams; Hassie Dell, was born on July 5, 1908 and died 1909; William Brady, born on March 4, 1901, married Lillie Bell Pinnick; Ernest McKinley, born on January, 1914, married Lela Celeste Jones.

Alexander Hamilton (Elic), the seventh child, was born on January 14, 1865. Elic was a Baptist minister and farmer. He married Mary Jane Collins (daughter of Jim Collins and ~~Elizabeth~~ <sup>Christina</sup> Johnson Collins). Later Elic married Daisy Rhodes. There were no children of the second marriage. Elic died on December 3, 1958. Elic and Mary Jane had eight children: James William, born August 1, 1890, married Ada Moorefield; Ada D., born October 3, 1892 married Jim Jackson; Etta L. born May 5, 1895, married Chester Vaughn; Alger Samson, born May 23, 1898, married Matie Evie Jarrell. Samson died November 11, 1981; Royal Dewey, born July 14, 1900, married Maguritha Grey; Charles R., born November 11, 1902, married Louise Owens; Tom G., born May 29, 1906, married Bertha America; Ella M., born March 4, 1910 married Hayes Short.

Andrew Jackson (Jack) Collins, the eight child, was born on January 1, 1866, married Elizabeth (Eliza) Jane Snoddy (born November 15, 1871 and died February 20, 1906). Later he married Martha (Matt) Tucker (born 1866 and died October 03, 1930). There were no children of the second marriage. Jack died April 29, 1959. Jack and Eliza had eleven children: Drew Manual, born May 30, 1891, married Cordie Roberts on February 19, 1911. Drew died on June 1, 1974; Jetty, born on March 19, 1893, married James Millard Gibson in December, 1919. Jetty died on February 24, 1987; Mary, born September 9, 1897, married John Adams. Mary died on October 28, 1918. John Henry Collins, born on 11-19-1895, married Gusta McKinney; Amanda Collins (Mandy), born on March 20, 1894, married John Adams sometime after her sister Mary died in 1918. Mandy died March 12, 1922; Pency Collins, born on August 13, 1899, married William Murphy Hooker. Pency died on \_\_\_\_\_. Haida (Ida), born



on June 22, 1901, married Wilburn Baker on December 19, 1920. Ida died on December 10, 1976; Martha Jane, born on April 23, 1903, married William Robert (Will) Moorefield on January 1, 1927; Emily Francis (Bid--twin sister to Emma Ell), born June 15, 1904, married George Columbus Baker in October 1927. Emma Ell (Eid--twin sister to Emily Francis), born June 15, 1904, married Albert Monroe Nunn on January 6, 1927. Emma Ell died on March 10, 1982. One other child was born and buried with her mother (Eliza) at childbirth. "Eliza" had the flue and the measles.

Christopher Columbus (Lum), the ninth child, married Laura S. Simmons. No other information is available about Lum at this time.

**Sons:**  
**Waco**  
**Frank**

10/30/89



Dec. 2, 1990

Date: Gerald R. Collins  
 Name of Person Preparing Chart: 1195 S. Franklin Road  
 Street Address: Mount Airy, N.C. 27030  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

ABBREVIATIONS:  
 b - birthdate  
 w - where  
 m - married  
 d - died

Gerald R. Collins

b- Oct. 13, 1918  
 w- Surry County  
 m- June 28, 1937  
 d-  
 w-

Alger Samson Collins

b- 5-23-1898  
 w- Stokes Co.  
 m- Oct. 9, 1917  
 w- Surry County  
 Died 11-29-1981

name of husband or wife

Mattie Evie Jarrell

B. Mar. 29, 1894  
 D. 5-20-1973

Mary Frances Smith

b- Feb. 6, 1918  
 w- Surry County  
 d-  
 w-

Deborah Lea Collins

b- Feb. 4, 1948  
 w- Winston Salem  
 m- 4-3-1971  
 d- William Ferrell  
 w- B: 7-20-1989

2nd to

Hannie Hampton  
 B. 4-13-1949  
 M. Nov. 17, 1990

Lannie Hampton

b- 11-17-1949  
 w- Surry County  
 d-  
 w- M. Nov. 17, 1990

Gerald R. Collins

b- 11-14, 1953 Jr.  
 w- Allegheny Co.  
 m- 8-2-1975  
 d-  
 w- 1st marriage

Lauri Hollingsworth  
 B. Surry Co. 8-7-53

12-19-1987 to

Sherry Reece Long

b- 10-31-1958  
 w- Clay County  
 d-  
 w-

Emily Ann Ferrell

b- 9-5-1974	name	born/died
w- Winston Salem		
m-		
d-	name	born/died
w-		
b-		
w-		
d-	name	born/died
w-		
b-	name	born/died

Jason Hampton

b-	name	born/died
w- Surry Co.		
m-		
d-	name	born/died
w-		
b-		
w-	name	born/died
d-		
w-		
b-	name	born/died

b-	name	born/died
w-		
m-		
d-	name	born/died
w-		
b-		
w-	name	born/died
d-		
w-		
b-	name	born/died

Josh Long

b- 1-2-1980	name	born/died
w- Clay County		
m-		
d-	name	born/died
w-		
b-		
w- 2-28, 1984	name	born/died
d- Clay County		
w-		
b-	name	born/died



COLLINS, Sallie HEDGECOE (MRS. JOHN COLLINS)

(MOUNT AIRY TIMES - Fri., May 13, 1938)

## Rites Held Sunday For Dobson Woman

Mrs. John Collins, 79, elderly resident of the Dobson community, passed away at her home last Friday night about 7 o'clock, her death following a lengthy period of declining health.

Mrs. Sallie Hedgecoe Collins was born in Surry county on November 22, 1858, the daughter of the late John and Elizabeth Edwards Hedgecoe. She was the wife of John Collins, by whom she is survived. She is also survived by one son, Yancey White, of a former marriage; and two sisters, Mrs. Jane Butcher, and Mrs. Victoria Draughn; and several grandchildren.

Funeral services were held from the Little Vine Baptist church Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, with Mrs. Lottie Robertson, of White Plains officiating. Interment was made in the Little Vine church cemetery.



November 13, 1996

Surry County Genealogical Association  
P.O. Box 997  
Dobson, North Carolina 27017

Attn: Robert B. Holder

Dear Sir.

At the request in the Newsletter of November 1996, here is an Ahnentafel for myself. If there is a different form or more completeness needed, let me know.

My primary endeavor is on searching the Virginia Ancestry for "Collins", particularly those of the Halifax/Pittsylvania area for the time frame 1740-1795, a family which then went to Kentucky. They were apparently Quakers. Those of us searching on this line have made significant discoveries in the past year. A book is being published and when that is available, I will see to it that your association receives a copy.

I would be happy to correspond with any member of The Association who might have an interest in these "Collins" families. It is singularly important to note that the "Collins's" families noted in the above paragraph, are **not** descendants of the "Collins's" of Spotsylvania County Virginia. There may be a relationship, but if so, it would be possibly with an immigrant "Collins" family.

We just recently returned from a reunion of the "Logan's" (Wife's family) in Gilkey, NC. We enjoyed our stay in North Carolina. Regret that time did not permit us to visit your neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Stephens  
3204 Blossom Lane  
Odessa, TX 79762-6963  
(915) 366-8946  
Compuserve 72467,2620



1. Stephens, Charles Anthon, b 13 Oct 1925 at Camden, Polk Co., Tx, m to Raisch, Nancy 25 Jun 1954 at Austin, Tx, Living at Odessa, Texas 79762.

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 Generation 1
 

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2. Stephens, Buford Dured, b 09 Mar 1887 at Lawrence Co., m to Collins, Carrie Madeline 17 Oct 1907 at Columbia, Marion, Ms. 15 Jul 1932 at Long Point, Tx.
3. Collins, Carrie Madeline, b 14 Dec 1888 at Pike Co. Miss, m to Stephens, Buford Dured 17 Oct 1907 at Columbia, Marion, Ms 11 Sep 1987 at Austin, Travis Co. Tx.

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 Generation 2
 

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4. Stephens, Thomas Jefferson, b 08 Nov 1860 at Silver Creek, Miss, m to Hill, Annie Eliza 18 Sep 1887 at Monticello, Lawren Miss (Widowed), d 24 Apr 1949 at Darbun, Walthall, Miss.
5. Hill, Annie Eliza, b 22 May 1864 at Covington Co. Miss, m to Stephens, Thomas Jefferson 18 Sep 1887 at Monticello, Lawren Miss, d 05 Sep 1936 at Darbun, Walthall Co. Ms.
6. Collins, John Richmond, b 27 Sep 1848 at Lawrence Co. Miss, m to May, Florence Medora 11 Jan 1872 at Lawrence Co. Miss, d Jan 1927 at Darbun, Walthall, Ms.
7. May, Florence Medora, b 01 May 1854 at New Orleans, La., m to Collins, John Richmond 11 Jan 1872 at Lawrence Co. Miss, d Apr 1935 at Darbun, Walthall, Miss.

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 Generation 3
 

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8. Myers, Henry, b 1829 (abt 1838?) at Westville, Simpson, Ms., m to Fortenberry, Levina, d D at Lawrence Co. Ms.
9. Stephens, Nancy Louise, b 04 Nov 1843 at Lawrence Co. Miss, d 10 Jan 1925 at Lawrence Co. Miss.
10. Bass, William Thomas Jefferson, b 07 Jan 1839 at Bassfield, Miss, m to Hill, Mary Ann 14 Jul 1857, rm to Hill, Nancy Lou NM at NM (NM), d 26 Nov 1875 at D.
11. Hill, Nancy Louisa, b 08 Feb 1845 at Choctaw Co. AL., m to Bass, William Thomas Jefferson NM at NM (NM), d at Near Williamsburg, Covington Co. Miss.
12. Collins, Nathaniel Everette, b 28 Feb 1818 at Mo. ?? (Marion Co. MS (Tate), m to Hathorn, Nancy at Ms, d 06 Jan 1879 at Lawrence Co. Miss.
13. Hathorn, Nancy, b 12 Feb 1822 at Covington Co. Miss, m to Collins, Nathaniel Everette at Ms (Widowed), d 21 Nov 1888 at Lawrence Co. Miss.
14. May, William M., b 09 Apr 1826 at Monticello, Lawrence Co. Miss, m to Wilson, Mary (Marion) Elizabeth abt 1853 at Miss (Widowed), rm to Badon, Margaret, d at Marion Co. Miss.
15. Wilson, Mary (Marion) Elizabeth, b 1832 at New Orleans, La., m to May, William M. abt 1853 at Miss, d 1855 at New Orleans

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 Generation 4
 

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16. Myers, Eli, b 1803 at S.C, m to Beasley, Elizabeth 07 Jan 1824 at Monticello, Lawrence Co. Ms., d D at Westville, Simpso
17. Beasley, Elizabeth, b 1806 at S.C, m to Myers, Eli 07 Jan 1824 at Monticello, Lawrence Co. Ms., d D at Westville, Simpso
18. Stephens, Matthew, b ?? ??? 1803 at GA, m to Miller, Mary "Polly" 19 Oct 1826 at Monticello, Lawrence Co. Miss. (Widowed to Loftin, Society "Ciota" 23 Nov 1832 at Monticello, Lawrence Co. Ms, d 1860 at N. Sil. Cr. La. Ms.
19. Loftin, Society "Ciota", b 19 Apr 1814 at Oakvale, Lawrence Co. Ms, m to Stephens, Matthew 23 Nov 1832 at Monticello, La Miss, d 03 Mar 1894 at Near Silver Creek, Lawr. Co. Ms.
20. Bass, Ephriam Alexander.
21. Jones, Dicey.
22. Hill, Isaac, b age 22 1812-1790 at Bromwell Co. SC, m to Rigdon, Mary Ann 23 Dec 1820 at Bromwell Co. SC, d 06 Mar 1868.
23. Rigdon, Mary Ann, b 1804 at Brownwell Co. SC, m to Hill, Isaac 23 Dec 1820 at Bromwell Co. SC, d 13 Feb 1889.
24. Collins, Nathaniel Madison, b 30 Apr 1787 at Boone Sta. KY., m to Burrow, Susan "Sallie" Abt 1809 at Missouri or TN-"jus across line from Al" (Widowed), rm to Brumfield, Lucy 05 Feb 1827, d 16 Jan 1860 at Marion Co. Miss.



- 25. Burrow, Susan "Sallie", b 15 Jul 1790 at Tennessee, m to Collins, Nathaniel Madison Abt 1809 at Missouri or TN-"just acr line from Al", d 22 Feb 1825 at Mississippi.
- 26. Hathorn 1784, Samuel, b Abt 1784 at Ireland, m to Holloway, Amy 1806, rm to Wood, Susannah, d 1885 at Covington Co. Miss
- 27. Wood, Susannah, m to Hathorn 1784, Samuel.
- 28. May, Joseph Jr., b 08 Oct 1783 at Ga, m to Daughtry, Clarissa abt 1800, d 1866 at Pike Co. Miss.
- 29. Daughtry, Clarissa, b 29 Sep 1798 at Of Tenn, Born in N.C, m to May, Joseph Jr, d at D.
- 30. Wilson, Hacoles, m to Unknown, Maria Willson Jacobbs.
- 31. Unknown, Maria Willson Jacobbs, m to Wilson, Hacoles (Widowed), rm to Jacobbs (Widowed), rm to John Morphy, d 18 Feb 189 New Orleans, La.

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 Generation 5
 

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- 32. Mires, John.
- 36. ?.
- 37. ?.
- 38. Loftin, Ezekiel Jr., b 02 Mar 1792 at Washington Co. Ga, m to Allen, Jane Fall 1811 at Wilkinson Co. GA "Irwinton", d 14 1861 at Oakvale, Lawrence, Ms.
- 39. Allen, Jane, b 28 May 1795 at S.C, m to Loftin, Ezekiel Jr. Fall 1811 at Wilkinson Co., Ga, d 11 Dec 1876 at Oakvale, Lawrence Co. Ms.
- 44. Hill, Thomas abt 1773, b abt 1773 at Barnwell Co. S.C, d at D.
- 46. Rigdon, Enoch (?).
- 48. Collins, Elisha, b 30 Nov 1759 at Halifax County, Virginia, m to Madison, Frances 21 Apr 1783 at Halifax Co. VA (Widowed 28 Sep 1842 at Green Co. Ala, or Lauderdale Co. Ms.
- 49. Madison, Frances, b 1763 at Halifax Co. Va., m to Collins, Elisha 21 Apr 1783 at Halifax Co. VA, d 1830 at Green Co. AL.
- 56. May, Joseph Sr., b 15 Sep 1732 at Va, m to Baker, Unk, rm to McLain, Mrs Daniel, d 08 Dec 1829 at Pike Co. Miss.
- 57. McLain, Mrs Daniel, b abt 1745 at Scotland, rm to May, Joseph Sr, d at GA.

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 Generation 6
 

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- 76. Loftin, Ezekiel Sr., b 17 Aug 1750 at Dobbs (Now Lenior) Co. N.C, m to Unknown, Charlotte, rm to Linder, Virginia or Jen 1771 or 1791 at Dobbs (Now Lenoir Co.) N.C, d 1836 at Oakvale, Lawrence, Ms.
- 77. Linder, Virginia or Jennie, b Abt 1770/75 at Washington Co. Ga., m to Loftin, Ezekiel Sr. 1771 or 1791 at Dobbs (Now Len Co.) N.C, d at Oakvale, Lawrence Co. Ms.
- 78. John Allen.
- 96. Collins, Joseph, b at Virginia, m to Marchbanks, Lucy (Prisher) at Virginia, d at Kentucky.
- 97. Marchbanks, Lucy (Prisher), b at Virginia, m to Collins, Joseph at Virginia, d at Woodford County Kentucky.
- 98. Madison 1730, Roger, b Abt 1730 at Halifax Co. Va., m to Taliaferro, Elizabeth AbT 1756 at Halifax Co. Va., d Before 180 Halifax Co. Va.
- 99. Taliaferro, Elizabeth, b Abt 1735 at Virginia, m to Madison 1730, Roger AbT 1756 at Halifax Co. Va., d aft 1834 at Halif Va.
- 112. May, John, d 1785 at Richmond Co. Ga.



W-Salem Journal

# THINK BIG!

## Woman kept brood of 18 busy, happy

**M**OUNT AIRY — Alpha Mae Collins had her first baby at the age of 18 in 1935. She didn't stop until 23 years and 17 more babies later.

"I used to go down and count heads before I cooked breakfast," she said. "After the first few, it's just another mouth to feed."

Family photos from the early years look more like the class pictures from a rural one-room schoolhouse. The Collins brood stretched from baby Mildred Denise to 25-year-old Jack.

At 81, Collins is a practical, plain-spoken woman with the air of someone who has known great chaos and

come out of it with her wits about her.



"I just raised them the best I could," she said. "Back then, it wasn't any trouble. I wouldn't advise anyone to do it now."

Her approach to child-rearing was simple: Show that you love

them, but make them mind. Feed them well. Keep them busy. "I think the main thing is to keep them occupied," she said. "I was brought up to work. Mine came along the same way."

Collins' husband, Victor, was a tenant farmer, so there was plenty of work to go around.

The kids made 10 cents an hour cutting grass with an old reel mower. They gathered and sold ivy for decorating at Christmastime. There were cows to milk. Peaches to pick.

Collins made all the kids' clothes, even the boys' pants. She washed clothes on a scrub board. "I don't feel like it hurt me one bit," she said.

Most of all, she cooked: big pots of pinto beans and potatoes, plus corn bread twice a day.

No sooner had she cooked breakfast, packed lunches and sent the kids off for school then it seemed that they were home wanting snacks. "They didn't have junk: soft drinks and cookies," she said.

What the Collins children didn't have in cash, they made up for in imagination. "They entertained themselves and played together.

"The girls used to make little houses in the woods. They'd use broken dishes for plates. They'd put a plank on two rocks and set on it for chairs. You probably never heard of such a thing."

Once a schoolteacher came to visit. She was astonished at how clean and quiet the house was. Collins told her that she maintained order because there was just no other way to keep her sanity.

Later on, if the kids couldn't agree on what TV show to watch, the television was turned off. Curfew was 11 o'clock. No arguing.

There was very little fussing and fighting. "You can believe it or not," she said, "but I just didn't allow it."



Life got easier as the Collins brood got older because there were



television was turned off. Curfew was 11 o'clock. No arguing.

There was very little fussing and fighting. "You can believe it or not," she said, "but I just didn't allow it."

■

Life got easier as the Collins brood got older because there were more modern conveniences to simplify housekeeping and more money to go around. Sometimes, though, Collins wonders whether too much time and money has spoiled people.

"Back then, everybody was just about alike," she said. "There were a few rich people in Mount Airy and Winston-Salem, but that was it.

"Now you have more money to buy things with. Children are all spoiled. They don't mind like they used to," she said. "Of course, if I'd only had one or two, I don't know if I wouldn't have spoiled them rotten like they do today."

Collins' children are scattered around in several states. Five of them have gone into the restaurant business, including Gary, who owns Cousin Gary's Restaurant in Mount Airy.

"I'm proud of all of them," she said. "They still are a blessing."

Even though she stopped having babies long ago, Collins will never stop being a mother, which brings her to the worst part of having 18 children: having 18 people to worry about.

"From the time you become a mother until the time you leave this world," she said, "you worry about your children."



UPDATE

- i. **ZACHARIAH COLLINS**<sup>3</sup> bn ca 1780-1785; d by 1937. Md Edna or Edney Collins. Edna bn ca 1785, NC; d ca 1850/1860.

Rev. G. Willard Collins reported in approximately 1990, that Zachariah was born either in NC or possibly, VA.

S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins provided copy of an Ancestry Chart of the family of Lilburn Francis Collins and Lula Belle Parson prepared by Jeanette Russell Wortham. This ancestry chart indicated that Zachariah was bn in VA.

Research of Charles Collins, Jr., son of Charles Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins stated that Zachariah was born in 1782, VA or NC.

S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins provided an unidentified handwritten note which stated that Zachariah was bn 1782, probably Johnson Co, NC.

According to the 1820 census, Zachariah Collins was born between 1775-1795. In 1830 he listed his birth between 1780-1790. From this, it would seem he was born on or before 1780, but before 1785.

According to the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, the only Zachariah Collins whose marriage is on record in North Carolina is one who married Welthy Beaman in Johnston Co, NC, 8 Oct 1802.

The North Carolina Groom Book reports that a Zachariah Collins md Welthy Beaman, 8 Oct 1902,

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<sup>3</sup>Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, NC, 1981; North Carolina Groom Book; NC Dept of Archives and History; Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timmothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; Washington Irving Bradshaw, son of Benjamin Harrison Bradshaw & Mallie (Blakey) Bradshaw; and, *Collins Cousins* by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995 at p. 6-9; Research of records at Adair Co Courthouse performed by Martha Sue (Collins) Thomas, provided by her father, Vander Luther Collins, son of Vander Martin Collins & Lillian Cecil (Shelley) Collins; research of S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins; and research of Charles Collins, Jr., son of Charles Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins.

from:

Ruth A. Collins  
LEGAL LADIES  
5288 N. Camino de la Cumbre  
Tucson, Arizona 85750-1506



Record No. 056 01 049; Bondsman: Isaac Beaman,  
Wintess: R. Sanders; Bond No. 000067411. The first  
three codes of the record number is the county.  
The county code 056. (Chowan Co???)

The Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North  
Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, 1981,  
lists a Zachariah Collins bn C1782; d 1838, KY;  
possibly lived in county code 056. (Chowan Co???)  
This information is not correct because Estate  
papers had been filed in July of 1837. This lists  
June Powell Orton as a reference and gives an  
address for her that is over 10 years old. I have  
all of June's research--she now lives in Oklahoma.  
June gave up on finding Zachariah's parents. As  
far as she is concerned, the trail ends with  
Zachariah. This index goes on to list when counties  
were formed and their descendant counties. Chowan  
Co was formed in 1668. (Josiah I lived in Chowan  
Co) Bertie Co was a descendant county of Chowan  
Co, formed 1722. (Josiah II lived in Bertie Co.)

The records in Adair Co, KY, establish that the  
wife of our Zachariah was Edna or sometimes Edney  
Collins. According to the 1850 census, Edna was bn  
1785, NC.

S. Keith Collins, Esq. reported verbally that Edna  
and Zachariah were md in 1804. An unidentified  
handwritten note provided by Keith indicated that  
Zachariah was md in NC to Edna \_\_\_\_\_.

Research of Charles Collins, Jr., son of Charles  
Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, delves into  
the Sparks family history because Zachariah  
Collins, Jr. married Catherina A. Sparks.  
According to this research Zachariah's mother's  
given name was Catherine and she was born about  
1807 in Pittsylvania Co, VA.

Family stories report the death of Zachariah's  
parents while making the move from NC to KY. The  
first person known to have told this story is Hugh  
Wesley. Hugh did not reveal his source. Since  
Hugh is dead, it is impossible at this time to  
learn who originally reported this story. Others  
have reported the death of Zachariah's parents  
while making the trip from NC to KY. Not one  
person has reported that they heard this story from  
their parents. They just heard that Zachariah's  
parents died while making the trip. There is no  
substantive proof that Zachariah's parents did, in

*Handwritten notes:*  
I checked  
Zachariah's  
mother's  
name  
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fact, die and were buried while making the trip to NC.

Although he was not on the tax rolls, the Federal census of 1810 showed the following members in KY belonging to the household of Zachariah Collins: one male born 1765-1785, one female born 1784-1794 and one male under 10 years of age. This female is not identified by name. The only thing we know with any certainty is at the time of his death, Zachariah was married to someone known as Edna or Edney Collins. We do not know if she was wife (1), (2) or (3). We do not know her given name.

Rev. G. Willard Collins further reported that when Zachariah and Edna arrived in Kentucky, they farmed for a living and that their farm was located at the convergence of Dry Creek and Cabin Fork Creed. This has been substantiated. On March 18, 1824, Zachariah Collins obtained his first land in Kentucky, 123-1/2 acres on Cabin Fork Creek (Bk 27, pg 85). Research of Charles Collins, Jr., son of Charles Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, indicates that part of this land is still in the Collins family.

The Kentucky General Assembly approved the following Act to form Russell County on December 14, 1825. The effective date of the new county was April 1, 1826, and was formed from the existing counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne.

#### FORMATION OF RUSSELL COUNTY

"An Act for the Formation of the County of Russell out of the Counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne"

"...all that part of the counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne included within the following bound (be formed into a new county called Russell); Beginning on the Adair and Casey county line, one mile south-eastwardly from William Jones's, horizontal measure, thence with a straight line to the east end of Aaron Williams' (deceased) lane, **THENCE TO ZACHARIAH COLLINS', LEAVING SAID COLLINS IN THE OLD COUNTY;** thence to a point on Crocus Creek, one mile below James Duncan's run, so as to leave Henry Antle and Adam Miller in the old county; thence to Andrew Samlley's so as to include the same; thence to William Hunter's, including the same; thence to Sheek's Mill on Beaver Creek,



including the same; thence to the mouth of Difficulty; thence across the river and up the same, to the mouth of Mill Creek, which empties in on the North Side of the river, nearly opposite Col. Ewing's of Wayne County; thence to Solomon Turpin's, including the same; thence to a point on the Pulaski and Wayne line, three miles from where the same crosses Wolf Creek, thence with said line crossing Wolf Creek, to the Adair and Casey County line; thence with the same to the beginning...and called and known by the name of Russell, in honor of General William Russell, Dec'd of Fayette County."

According to Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants", Zachariah Collins obtained 53 acres of land on Cabin Fork of Russell's Creek February 26, 1830 (Book 1, pg 17). This is listed under Warrants for Headright, the smallest group of land grants. There are only 55 listed altogether, dating from 1827 to 1849. The Old Kentucky Grants indicated in Chapter III are minus Volume IX. Possibly this volume marked W.F.H. is the lost No. 9.

Also in Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants", in the section Kentucky Land Warrants (1816-1873), Zachariah Collins received 17 acres on Cabin Creek April 23, 1835 (Book D-2, pg 492).

On July 6, 1930, Zachariah and his wife, Edna Collins, sold 53 acres of land more or less (it being part of a 173 acre survey in the name of Zachariah Collins) to Samuel Wheat. It was on Cabin fort, a branch of Russells Creek, and included location "on Stapps military line". Witnesses were William Rippetoe, John Wheat, Sr. and John R. Wheat. The land sold for \$150 (Deed book, pg 455). On February 23, 1835, Zachariah Collin[g]s, George Aaron and William Busby witnessed the deed of Abraham Aarons to Daniel Aarons.

On May 5, 1822, Zachariah Collins was ordered to be surveyor of the public highway of which Hen[e]ry Antle had been surveyor.

Zachariah Collins died in Adair County by 1837. The order for Appraisal of the Zachariah Collins estate was dated July 4, 1837 and the Original Inventory in October, 1837. An entry on July 4, 1837, shows "It being proven to the satisfaction of the Court that the widow of ZACHARIAH COLLINS DEC'D



relinquished her right of Administration on the motion of AARON COLLINS and Daniel Aaron administration of the estate is granted to them they having taken oath required by law and executed and acknowledged bond in the penal sum of \$600 with Samuel Sparks, Josiah Spark, THOMAS COLLINS and William Busby their security."

The records show that on August 10, 1837 "On motion of Daniel Aaron administrator of Zachariah Collins Dec'd ordered that Isaiah Bradshaw, James Miller, Isaac Bradshaw and William Rippetoe or any three be appointed commissioners to allot law off and assign to Edney Collins, widow of sd decedent, her dower in the land and personal property of her dec'd husband." On page 211 of County records, dated Monday October 2nd 1837, An Inventory and Appraisement of the estate of Zachariah Collins Dec'd was retd Examd approved and ordered to record." A separate entry on the same page reads, "A List of Sales of the Estate of Zachariah Collins Dec'd was retd Examd approved and ordered to record." The allotment for Edney Collins' dower in the lands was ordered to record December 4, 1837.

When he died, Zachariah owned 200-3/4 acres (Will Bk D, pg 97). Edna was allotted 67 acres for her dower, which was 1/3 of three smaller tracts comprising the 200-3/4 acres.

Deed Book K, pg 259, shows some heirs of Zachariah Collins selling their undivided interest to Samuel Wheat for \$120. Children are shown as Aaron Collins and wife Catherine, Daniel Aarons and wife Anna, Killion Aarons and wife Elizabeth, Thomas Collins and wife Nancyan, and Nancy Collins. The land was mostly in Adair County with the residue in Russell County, on Cabin Fork Creek. This deed was dated 26 Jan 1839.

In another deed, Zachariah Collins, Jr. and John Collins, heirs of Zachariah, sold land to Samuel Wheat for \$50 (Book L, pg 102). Edna Collins was also shown as an heir in still another deed, (Book M, pg 283). She sold her interest for \$20.

Samuel Wheat was appointed guardian of Zachariah Collins, Jr. and Edna Collins, "infant children above the age of fourteen of Zachariah Collins, deceased, in February of 1839. (Book F, pg 291).



Edna Collins was listed with two daughters Edna and Nancy and with nine grandchildren in the 1850 Adair County census. Edna apparently died between 1850 and 1860.



## Preface

by

Ruth A. Collins

Collins is Irish. In Ireland it is more likely to be spelled O'Collins, but it's the same family. The name comes from the Gaelic and means "young fearless warrior". Gaelic spelling of "O'Cuilean", not to be confused with Cullen/O'Cullen, an entirely different family.<sup>1</sup> If a search is made of early Ireland, Collins can be found in County Limerick. However, in the mid-thirteenth century, the Collins were driven south from Limerick into County Cork. It was land still in southwest Ireland, and closer to the sea.<sup>1</sup>

The name Collins can also be English in origin. Collins are found in Berkshire in 1196. A John Collins was found in Devonshire records in 1221.<sup>1</sup> The name Collins is distributed throughout much of England and has its densest frequency in Kent and Sussex; it is also found in Berkshire, Gloucestershire, Surrey, Hampshire, and Wiltshire, as well as southern Wales.<sup>2</sup> In the northern part of England it is usually found in the form of "Collinson."<sup>2</sup>

The Collins surname is taken from two or three probable sources.<sup>20</sup> One is the Scotch word "Cuilein" meaning "darling", a term of endearment, usually applied to young animals.<sup>20</sup> It is more probable, however, that the Collins surname was derived from the Welsh word "Coleen" signifying "hazel", "one of hazel eyes" or "one who lived near the hazel groves".<sup>20</sup> In Ireland, the word "Coleen" signifies a young maiden.<sup>20</sup> This may also be a probable source.<sup>20</sup>

When the American Revolution broke the thirteen colonies off from England to forge a new and independent destiny, eighty-two percent of the population of America was English or Welsh in origin.<sup>2</sup> At the time of the first national census in 1790, the Collins family were not very numerous, but they were a repeatedly growing family nevertheless.<sup>2</sup> By 1964 United States records revealed that Collins was the 41st most common name in America.<sup>2</sup> The name of Collins is now widespread in the United States and wherever it is known it is honored for the high achievements and admirable qualities of those who bear it. [Copied from Charlestown, W. Va. Newspaper]<sup>20</sup>

We don't know when our Collins first came to America. In the New England colony, the name of Collins was represented by a great number of first settlers.<sup>20</sup> One of the very first was John Collins, a shoemaker and tanner, son of John Collins of Suffolk, England.<sup>20</sup> He was born in 1616 and came to America before 1638<sup>20</sup> or prior to 1644.<sup>2</sup> John was married to Susanna Collins; children were John, Thomas, Susanna and Elizabeth.<sup>2</sup> In 1646 he was a member of the church in Braintree, Mass.<sup>20</sup> John died 29 Mar 1670.<sup>20</sup>



Edward Collins was born in England, 1603,<sup>2,20</sup> and died in 1689.<sup>2</sup> He immigrated to Massachusetts Bay prior to 1638; owned land around Cambridge, Massachusetts; member of the Military Company of Cambridge, commanded by Captain George Cooke, 1636; admitted freeman, 13 May 1640; member of The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, 1641; church deacon, 1658; represented Cambridge in the General Court, 1654 to 1670; married Martha Collins; children were Daniel, John, Samuel, Sibyl, Martha, Nathaniel, Abigail and Edward.<sup>2</sup> In 1636, Edward Collins registered his family coat of arms in Cambridge, Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup> He was located in Cambridge, Mass. in 1638 and later moved to Medford, Mass.<sup>20</sup>

At the same time that the name Collins is represented in New England colonies, we also find the name in the Southern Colonies, and find records of Collins's in Middlesex County, Virginia, as early as 1683, as well as in other eastern border counties.<sup>20</sup> The earliest Collins found in Virginia is a record of *English Immigrants to Virginia*; William Collins, May 15, 1635, age 20 years; and William Collins, age 34.<sup>20</sup> William Collins, age 34, emigrated from England to Virginia on board the ship *Plaine Joan* on 15 May 1635, age 34; indentured servant.<sup>2</sup>

There were no less than 150 capital crimes in England for which a man might be transported. Of course, there were the expected ones of murder, arson, and treason, but there were also lesser ones such as maiming, stealing a cow, cutting down trees along an avenue, sending threatening letters, and standing mute when addressed by a legal official. Some convicts were even people of quality. One gentleman of high birth, for instance, was transported for stealing books out of a library. As a child, George Washington was taught to read and write by a transported convict who had been a schoolmaster. Especially in the countryside, the crimes which resulted in transportation were often very petty. One man was transported for stealing a silver shoebuckle. Another was sent to America and indentured for seven years for the theft of a chicken.<sup>2</sup>

There were five well known families by the name of Collins among the early settlers of our country, each distinct and not related.<sup>20</sup> One went to Kentucky from Virginia.<sup>20</sup> One settled in New England and stayed there until the branching out occurred in recent times.<sup>20</sup> Another New England family settled in Ohio.<sup>20</sup> A Virginia Collins family, William Richerson Collins, settled in Athens County, in 1803.<sup>20</sup> A Maryland Collins family settled in Ohio, in Fairfield and Athens Counties, in 1805.<sup>20</sup>

Opal (Chapman) Dudley, daughter of Rosa Lee (Collins) Chapman and Otha C. Chapman, wrote "One of the earliest Colonists, Henry Collins and his wife Ann with their three children and five servants sailed from England on the ship *Abigail* in 1635 for the New World.<sup>2,3</sup> Henry was a member of the court of Salem; a selectman.<sup>2</sup> He settled in Lynn, MA,<sup>2,3</sup> where he homesteaded 800 a.



of land and became a plantation owner.<sup>3</sup> They had five children all together, which accounts for the great number of families by the name of Collins.<sup>3</sup> Evidently the five children were sons.<sup>3</sup> Their son, Joseph, md Duty Knowls in 1671.<sup>3</sup> One reference consulted seemed to consider this the main line of the name in the New World.<sup>3</sup>

Another theory regarding our ancestry is that we are descendants of the Mullungeons in North Carolina.<sup>3</sup> This was a group of people who spoke Elizabethan English out in the "boonies" somewhere.<sup>3</sup> One of the surnames among them was Collins.<sup>3</sup> They had different ideas about where these people came from, even guessing they were descended from the Lost Colony of Roanoke, Virginia.<sup>3</sup>

James Willard Scott reported that we are descendants of Josiah Collins I, who was born in England and immigrated to America in the mid 1700's.<sup>4</sup> According to James Willard Scott, Josiah Collins I,<sup>5,6</sup> sold everything he owned in Somerset, England, and moved to America<sup>5,6</sup> during the early 1700's<sup>6</sup> or circa mid 1700's<sup>5</sup> and settled in Virginia.<sup>4</sup> His wife chose to stay in England and did not come to America.<sup>7</sup> Josiah, I purchased 60,000 acres of land<sup>5,6</sup> or was given a land grant<sup>6</sup> in the Dismal Swamp area of North Carolina;<sup>5,6</sup> he also controlled 60,000 acres of land;<sup>5,6</sup> all together he had 120,000 acres;<sup>5</sup> or he owned three thousand acres and leased three thousand acres in and around the Dismal Swamp area.<sup>7</sup> The land was located in the northeast part of North Carolina near the Virginia border.<sup>5,6</sup> With the help of 120 slaves, Josiah, I built a fine home<sup>6</sup> (mansion),<sup>5</sup> which was still standing a few years ago.<sup>5</sup> He named his plantation the Somerset Place.<sup>5,6</sup> At one time, he owned 120 slaves<sup>6</sup> or 300 slaves<sup>7</sup> and tried to drain the dismal Swamp and turn it into farm land, but did not succeed.<sup>6</sup> Today you can still see the channels his slaves dug by hand while trying to drain the swamp.<sup>6</sup> Josiah I also raised hemp and made rope from the hemp.<sup>7</sup> The rope was then sold for use as lines for sea going vessels.<sup>7</sup>

Josiah Collins, II, was born circa 1738/1740.<sup>5,6</sup> Josiah, I. sent Josiah, II back to England for his education<sup>5,6</sup> or Josiah Collins, II stayed in England and was educated there until circa 1750.<sup>7</sup> When he returned to America, Josiah, II wanted no part of farming,<sup>6</sup> the plantation,<sup>5,6</sup> factory life<sup>7</sup> nor slavery.<sup>5,6</sup> This outraged Josiah, I and he disowned him.<sup>6</sup> Josiah, I was heard to say that the worst thing he ever did<sup>5</sup> or biggest mistake he ever made<sup>6</sup> was to give his son an education.<sup>5,6</sup> When Josiah I died, Josiah II was not named in his Will.<sup>5,6</sup> Josiah, II probably married a full-blooded Indian.<sup>5,6</sup>

It was written that Josiah, II was educated well enough to be a school master at any school he wanted, but he chose to live on what was then the frontier and moved to a small outpost on the edge of civilization<sup>4</sup> in Yadkin Valley, North Carolina,<sup>7</sup> or Josiah II lived in the western part of the state.<sup>5,6</sup> Beyond the outpost was Indian territory.<sup>4</sup>



Josiah, II became friends with Daniel Boone.<sup>5,6,7</sup> In the 1770's, when Daniel Boone was hired by the Spotsylvania Corporation to open the wilderness trail (road--through the Cumberland gap in the Cumberland Mountains) into Kentucky for settlement, Josiah, II was hired by the corporation to go along and record everything as it happened.<sup>5,6</sup> The Spotsylvania Corporation was a group of investors from Fredericksburg, Virginia.<sup>7</sup>

Josiah II lived in Boonesborough, Kentucky, in 1778.<sup>5,6</sup> At that time, Kentucky land was "Indian land" and was claimed by Virginia to be a county of the State of Virginia.<sup>5</sup> This was before Kentucky became a state and Boonesborough was known as Fort Boonesborough, Kentucky.<sup>5</sup> The week long siege on Fort Boonesborough occurred in Sep 1778 and the fort was attacked by 400 Indians and British Soldiers.<sup>5</sup> The siege of Boonesborough lasted for seven days and was said to be the last battle of the American Revolution, although the war had ended over a year before.<sup>7</sup> Josiah, II wrote down the conversation between Daniel Boone and an Indian Chief named Black Fish.<sup>6</sup>

James Willard Scott further reported that the Zachariah Collins who moved to Adair County, Kentucky, approximately 1810, was the son of Josiah II.<sup>4</sup> Unfortunately, Mr. Scott did not document the source of this information. He believes he obtained the information from an article in either *The Smithsonian Institute* or *National Geographics*.

In approximately 1990, Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins, researched the family history while assisting his granddaughter, Jennifer C. Sorrell, with a school project. Rev. G. Willard Collins did not know James Willard Scott and his information was obtained completely independent of the information obtained by James Willard Scott. Rev. G. Willard Collins obtained dates of birth and most of the basic data by going to graveyards and taking the information off of tombstones. He believes any information not acquired from tombstones or was obtained from "Uncle Irv" (Washington Irving Bradshaw), grandson of Patra Ann (Collins) Bradshaw and John James Crittendon "Crit" Bradshaw. "Uncle Irv" died in March of 1996, before the knowledge which had been passed down to him by his family could be further documented. Unfortunately, Rev. G. Willard has misplaced this research and does not recall specifically how he obtained the information.

Rev. G. Willard Collins reported that Josiah Collins, father of Zachariah Collins, was born in Virginia or maybe England.<sup>8</sup> He was educated in England and later came to America.<sup>8</sup> Zachariah Collins and his father, Josiah Collins, and their two wives left North Carolina to move to Kentucky by covered wagon to make a new life for themselves because of the new frontier.<sup>8</sup> Josiah and his wife died on the way from North Carolina to Kentucky.<sup>8</sup> They were buried somewhere between North Carolina and Kentucky.<sup>8</sup> Zachariah



and his wife, Edna, arrived in Adair County, Kentucky, before 1810.<sup>8</sup> They settled on the convergence of Dry Creek and Cabin Ford Creek.<sup>8</sup> When he arrived in Kentucky, Zachariah farmed for a living.<sup>8</sup>

As a result of these two separate and independent reports, extensive research has been done to determine if there is documentary proof that Josiah Collins was the father of Zachariah Collins. To date, no record has been found to establish that Zachariah Collins was the son of Josiah Collins. After reviewing the records which have been located to date, it appears there is documentation to support many of the facts that James Willard Scott related; however, based upon extensive research, it also appears that Mr. Scott collected information on several individuals named Josiah Collins and blended all of this information in his account of Josiah I and II.

#### I. JOSIAH COLLINS SR.<sup>9</sup>

Josiah Collins, Sr. lived in Chowan County, North Carolina 1794-1787;<sup>11</sup> 1790;<sup>12</sup> and 1800.<sup>13</sup> The Chowan precinct is located on the West side of Cuscoconung River and in the middle of a great and Dismal Swamp, it being an Island Invironed with a Swamp commonly called Heron Island.<sup>14</sup> Josiah Collins, Sr., a native of Ilminster, Somerset County, England, settled in Edenton, North Carolina, in the mid-eighteenth century and became a prosperous planter.<sup>18</sup>

The State Census of North Carolina, 1784-1787, reported a Josiah Collins was living in Chowan Co, NC, with the following individuals in his household: (1) 4 white males 21-60 years; (2) 1 white female, all ages; and 19 blacks 12-50.<sup>11</sup>

According to the census of 1790, a Josiah Collins was still living in Chowan County, North Carolina, with: (1) three free white males of 16 years and upward, including heads of families; (2) one free white female, including heads of families; and (3) thirty slaves.<sup>12</sup>

A Josiah Collins was reported as a head of household living in Chowan County, North Carolina in the 1800 Census of North Carolina.<sup>13</sup>

Josiah, Sr. died prior to 2 Sep 1810<sup>9</sup> or in 1919<sup>10,14,18</sup> North Carolina Wills, A Testator Index 1665-1900 reports a will was probated for a Josiah Collins living in Chowan County, North Carolina, 1819.<sup>15</sup>

The 1790 census of Edenton County, North Carolina listed the following individuals with the surname of Collins: (1) Allen; (2) Caleb; (3) Christopher; (4) David; (5) Ferubah; (6) Frederick; (7) Henry; (8) Jeremiah; (9) John, Jr.; (10) L.;



(11) Luke; (12) Noah; and (13) Thomas.<sup>2</sup>

A. JOSIAH COLLINS, JR.

Josiah Collins, Sr. bequeathed by Will parcels of land in Washington and Tyrrell, a lifetime estate to his son, Josiah, Jr., with the estate passing to the seven children of Josiah Jr., upon his death.<sup>17</sup> The inscription on the tombstone of one of Josiah, Jr.'s daughters, Mary Matilda (Collins) Page, indicates that she was the daughter of Josiah Collins, Esq.<sup>18</sup>

According to Miss Elizabeth Vann Moore, of Edenton, "Josiah Collins, Jr., promised to build 'the finest house on King Street' in Edenton for Dr. Matthew Page at the time of his marriage to [Josiah, Jr.'s daughter] Mary Matilda Collins in 1829, if the very Virginian Dr. Page would consent to live in North Carolina."<sup>18</sup>

There are interesting descriptions of other activities of Josiah Collins, Jr., in Guion Griffis Johnson, *Ante-Bellum North Carolina* (Chapel Hill, 1937), pp. 485, 488, 528. He was the most conspicuous planter of the ante-bellum period in Chowan County, who raised corn as his main crop, and he abandoned the cultivation of rice in favor of corn on account of the prevalence of malaria among slaves on rice plantations. His plantation, named Somerset Place after his father's native county in England, was part of what was originally Scuppernon Swamp in Chowan County, which Collins had drained and where he had built granaries and grist mills.<sup>18</sup>

1. HUGH WILLIAMSON COLLINS.<sup>17</sup>
2. JOHN DAVIS COLLINS.<sup>17</sup>
3. MARY MATILDA COLLINS married Matthew Page, M.D.<sup>17, 18</sup> 17 Dec 1828 in Chowan County, North Carolina.<sup>18</sup> Dr. Matthew Page was a native of Virginia and sometime resident of the County of Chowan and State of North Carolina.<sup>18</sup> His paternal residence, Pagebrook, was located in Virginia.<sup>18</sup> Mary died 17 Nov 1847, in the 51st year of her age.<sup>18</sup> Dr. Page married (2) Henrietta Elizabeth (Collins) Page, sister of Mary Matilda (Collins) Page.<sup>18</sup>
4. JOSIAH COLLINS.<sup>17</sup>
  - a. George P. Collins.<sup>18, 19</sup>
5. ANN REBECCA D. COLLINS married \_\_\_\_ Davis.<sup>17</sup>
6. HENRIETTA ELIZABETH COLLINS.<sup>17</sup>



7. LOUISA M. COLLINS.<sup>17</sup>

James Willard Scott referred to Josiah Collins II who opened the Wilderness Road with Daniel Boone. The Josiah Collins who accompanied Daniel Boone to Kentucky was one of the founders of Lexington and no records have been located which indicated that he was in any way related to Josiah Collins, Sr. and Josiah Collins, Jr. of Edenton, North Carolina.

- II. JOSIAH COLLINS (Pvt VA)<sup>16</sup> born 2 May 1757,<sup>21</sup> Halifax County,<sup>21</sup> Virginia.<sup>21</sup> He died at age 88 in 1945.<sup>22,23</sup> He waited to marry until he was almost 35.<sup>22,23</sup> Josiah married Julietta Bohannon,<sup>16</sup> 21 Dec 1791, or Jannette (Jurette) Bohannon,<sup>21</sup> Woodford County,<sup>21</sup> Kentucky.<sup>21</sup> Josiah came to Kentucky prior to Oct 1778.<sup>21</sup> Served under Captain James Harrod at and about Harrodsburg in 1778.<sup>21</sup> He was a founder of Lexington, Kentucky.<sup>21,22,23</sup> In 1787, Josiah went home to his native Halifax County, Va., and brought his father's family to Lexington where a brother, Stephen, like Josiah was an early lot-holder, operated a tavern in the block formerly occupied by the stockade.<sup>22,23</sup> Josiah's siblings were Stephen,<sup>22,23</sup> Elisha,<sup>21</sup> Elijah,<sup>21</sup> Tabitha who married Elisha Prewitt,<sup>21</sup> and an older sister who married Robert Bowmar.<sup>21</sup>

The 1790 census of Halifax County, Virginia, listed the following individuals with the surname of Collins: (1) Edmond; (2) two individuals with the name of John; (3) two individuals with the name of Joseph; and (4) William.<sup>2</sup>

Rev. Dabeny Shane, a Presbyterian missionary interviewed Josiah Collins:

"In the case of Josiah Collins, Shane said that he took down 'Mr. Collins' own language; he being able to dictate very deliberately, and at this same time correctly."<sup>22</sup>

When later tested in a court of law, Collins' account was proven to be accurate.

"Collins' remarkable memory in regard to Lexington withstands a determined assault made in 1929 by a distinguished lawyer, Judge Samuel M. Wilson of Lexington. Stating that Collins' remarks were reliable, 'but that it would be altogether exceptional if all of his statements were found free from error. . .'"<sup>22</sup>

*'He went with Harrod West of the Mississippi'*

"Not many survived to old age who knew as much about Kentucky in its infancy as did Josiah Collins. Born in 1757, coming west in 1778,



waiting to marry until he was almost 35, Collins because of his long bachelorhood may have been freer than most from the grim, all-absorbing work of clearing the forest. His was a portable trade: As a single man, he could serve as a skilled hunter, at times with the army with which he marched, at other times killing game for surveyors hunting a more illusive quarry, previously unclaimed land."<sup>23</sup>

*'The beginning of that place'*

"I was at the beginning of that place," Josiah Collins said about Lexington years later. In April of 1779, he had been almost 22, a native of Halifax County, Va., who had come to Boonesborough via the Wilderness Road in March of 1778. In a day when any man and most women coming to Kentucky needed to be a good shot, Collins was an expert hunter. He had been enlisted in one of seven companies George Rogers Clark, newly commissioned lieutenant colonel in the Virginia army, and had been authorized to raise ostensibly for the defense of Kentucky, secretly to take British territory as far as Detroit if that should prove possible."<sup>23</sup>

*'The siege at Boonesborough'*

". . . I was well acquainted with a number that were in Boonesborough at the time of the siege. . . Blackfish came to the top of a hill opposite Boonesborough and called to see Boone. . . Boone and Maj. William Bailey Smith went out. Blackfish said to Boone, 'Well, Boone, what made you run away from me?' 'Why, because I wanted to see my wife and children.' 'Well, you needn't have run away if you'd asked me, I'd let you come.' 'Well, Boone, I have come to take your fort. If you will surrender, I will take you all to Chillicothe, and you shall be treated well. If not, I will put all the other prisoners to death and reserve the young squaws for wives.' . . . Boone told him they had determined to defend the fort to the last. . ."<sup>23</sup>

*'The treaty was commenced the next day'*

"The treaty was commenced the next day in a lick where there was a salt spring and a fresh



spring that came out near together about 60 yards from the fort. . . After they had signed the treaty, Blackfish said it was a custom with the Shawnees when they made a treaty for the two of them to take a white man's hand to shake hands strong and to make a strong and firm peace. . ."23

Josiah served as what was called "High Sheriff" and as justice of the peace in Bath County, Kentucky.<sup>22</sup> Per his Will dated 30 Sep 1845, Clerk's office, Owingsville, Bath County, Kentucky, Book "E", page 64, he had the following children:

1. FIELDINGS COLLINS<sup>21</sup>
2. WILLIS COLLINS<sup>22</sup>
3. BOHANNON COLLINS<sup>22</sup>
4. JANETTA COLLINS<sup>22</sup>

To date, the following information has been collected on other individuals named Josiah Collins.

\* \* \*

Josiah Collins, a Revolutionary War Veteran born 1757, Virginia.<sup>16</sup> He died 16 Jan 1808,<sup>16</sup> North Carolina.<sup>16</sup> Josiah married Clara \_\_\_\_\_,<sup>16</sup> Sol,<sup>16</sup> North Carolina.<sup>16</sup>

\* \* \*

JOSIAH born 1788,<sup>1</sup> Grayson County,<sup>1</sup> Virginia;<sup>1</sup> Married Nancy 24 Mar 1796, Grayson County, Virginia.<sup>1</sup> Nancy's father was David Collins. They moved to Lawrence County, Indiana. Josiah's father was Mahlon; Josiah was one of eight children. Two of his brothers were Randolph Collins and John Collins. Mahlon, Josiah's father, was born in Suffolk County, NJ in 1756; died 1834, Lawrence County, Indiana. Mahlon married Phoebe. Mahlon was a member of Kingwood Meeting--a Quaker. Mahlon's father was Jonathan.

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JOSIAH COLLINS probably died in North Carolina. His will was probated in Washington County, North Carolina, 1849.<sup>15</sup>

\* \* \*

JOSIAH COLLINS probably died in North Carolina. His will was probated in Franklin County, North Carolina, 1866.<sup>15</sup>



\* \* \*

The 1790 census<sup>2</sup> lists the following individuals with the name of Josiah Collins:

Josiah Collins, Windham County, Connecticut  
Josiah Collins, Bourbon County, Kentucky  
Josiah Collins, Knox County, Kentucky  
Josiah Collins, Montgomery County, Kentucky  
Josiah Collins (3 individuals w/same name) Edenton County, North  
Carolina  
Josiah Collins, Newbern County, North Carolina  
Josiah Collins, Washington County, Pennsylvania



## KNOWN ANCESTORS

5. **ZACHARIAH COLLINS, SR.** According to the census of 1820, Zachariah was born 1775-1795.<sup>1</sup> In 1830, he listed his birth between 1780-1790.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, it is assumed he was born between 1775 and 1780 (possibly 1782).<sup>3</sup> Zachariah was probably born in Johnston County,<sup>4</sup> North Carolina<sup>5</sup> or Virginia<sup>6</sup>. He may have lived in Johnston County, North Carolina.<sup>7</sup>

According to the Census of 1790, there was a Zachariah Collins living in Montgomery County, Maryland. The following were other individuals with the surname of Collins who were also living in Montgomery County, Maryland: (1) Edmund; (2) Elijah; (3) Elizabeth; (4) Hezekiah; (5) two individuals by the name of James; (6) two individuals by the name of John; (7) Joshua; (8) Richard; and two individuals by the name of Thomas.

There was also a Zach Collins listed in the Census of 1790, living in Essex County, Massachusetts. The following are other individuals with the surname of Collins who were also living in Essex County, Massachusetts: (1) Benjm.; (2) Caleb; (3) Charles; (4) Enoch; (5) Ezekiel; (6) two individuals by the name of Jacob; (7) two individuals by the name of James; (8) Job; (9) three individuals with the name of John; (10) John, Jr.; (11) Joshua; (12) two

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<sup>1</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>2</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>3</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society; (3) Unidentified handwritten note within the Research of S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins; (4) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981.

<sup>4</sup> (1) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Unidentified handwritten note within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham provided by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.

<sup>5</sup> (1) Research of Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society; (3) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981; (4) Unidentified handwritten note within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham provided by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.

<sup>6</sup> (1) Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) Ancestry Chart prepared by Jeanette Russell Wortham; (3) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society.

<sup>7</sup> Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981.



individuals by the name of Mary; (13) two individuals with the name of Moses; (14) Nehemiah; (15) Pickering; (16) Richard; (17) two individuals with the name of Samuel; (18) Samuel, Jr.; and (19) William.

The only Zachariah Collins whose marriage is listed in the North Carolina Groom Book is to Wealthy Beaman,<sup>8</sup> 8 Oct 1802,<sup>9</sup> Johnston County, North Carolina.<sup>10</sup> A Zachariah Collins married Ann Burton, Middlesex, Virginia, 01 Dec 1797.<sup>11</sup>

The first record which reveals the name of Zachariah's wife in Adair County, Kentucky, is a Deed dated 6 Jul 1930 wherein Zachariah Collins and Edna Collins sold approximately 53 acres of land<sup>12</sup> to Samuel Wheat for the sum of fifty-eight dollars.<sup>13</sup> The jurat stated:

"I, William Calorvelli, Clerk of the county Court for the county aforesaid do certify that . . . this Deed from Zachariah Collins and his wife Edna . . . Edna being examined by me privately and apart her said husband declared that she did freely and willing seal and deliver the said writing . . ."<sup>14</sup>

S. Keith Collins reported verbally that he had obtained information which indicated that Zachariah possibly married Edna ca 1804,<sup>15</sup> Johnston County,

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<sup>8</sup> (1) Certified copy of marriage certificate of Zachariah Collins obtained from the Department of Archives, State of North Carolina, Record No. 056 01 049; Bondsman: Isaac Beaman, Witness: R. Sanders; Bond No. 000067411; (2) North Carolina Groom Index; (3) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>9</sup> (1) Certified copy of marriage certificate of Zachariah Collins obtained from the Department of Archives, State of North Carolina, Record No. 056 01 049; Bondsman: Isaac Beaman, Witness: R. Sanders; Bond No. 000067411; (2) North Carolina Groom Index; (3) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>10</sup> (1) Certified copy of marriage certificate of Zachariah Collins obtained from the Department of Archives, State of North Carolina, Record No. 056 01 049; Bondsman: Isaac Beaman, Witness: R. Sanders; Bond No. 000067411; (2) North Carolina Groom Index; (3) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>11</sup> The Parish Register of Christ Church, Middlesex, VA, 1653-1812 published by The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Virginia, p. 302

<sup>12</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>13</sup> Adair County Deed Book G, page 455.

<sup>14</sup> Adair County Deed Book G, page 456.

<sup>15</sup> S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.



North Carolina.<sup>16</sup> Edna, or sometimes Edney,<sup>17</sup> was born 1780-1790 according to the 1830 census<sup>18</sup> and between 1784-1794 according to the 1810 census.<sup>19</sup> The 1850 census of Adair County, Kentucky, indicated that Edna was born 1785 in North Carolina.<sup>20</sup>

Copies of research provided by Charlie Collins, Jr. regarding the Sparks Family (researcher unknown) reports that Zachariah Collins, Jr., born about 1822, in Adair County, Kentucky was the son of Catharine \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>21</sup> This research further indicates that Catharine about 1807 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia.<sup>22</sup> It is possible that the researcher was confusing Zachariah Collins, Jr., son of Zachariah Collins, with Zachariah Collins, son of Aaron Collins and Catharine (Aaron) Collins. Catharine (Aaron) Collins was born ca 1805, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia.<sup>23</sup>

Zachariah moved to Adair County, Kentucky, during the late 1700's,<sup>24</sup> 1808<sup>25</sup> or before 1810.<sup>26</sup> Zachariah settled on the waters of Dry Fork and Cabin Fork Creek, on 123 acres, a part of which is

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<sup>16</sup> Unidentified handwritten note within the research of S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.

<sup>17</sup> (1) Estate Records of Zachariah Collins dated 2 Dec 1837, filed with the Adair County Courthouse, Adair County, Kentucky; (2) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>18</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>19</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>20</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>21</sup> Research of the Sparks Family History, copies provided by Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins.

<sup>22</sup> Research of the Sparks Family History, copies provided by Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins.

<sup>23</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 8.

<sup>24</sup> Correspondence to Ms. Jeanette Wortham from Edwin H. Wesley, dated 14 Dec 1982.

<sup>25</sup> Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>26</sup> (1) Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (3) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6; (3) Research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham, copies provided by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins; (5) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society.



still in the Collins family.<sup>27</sup> He was not on the tax roll but was in the Federal census of 1810.<sup>28</sup> The 1810 census shows one male born 1765-1784;<sup>29</sup> one female born 1784-1794;<sup>30</sup> and one male under ten years of age.<sup>31</sup> The male under ten years of age is believed to be Zachariah's son, Aaron Collins.<sup>32</sup>

Family stories are that Zachariah's parents died while making the move from North Carolina to Kentucky and were buried along the way.<sup>33</sup> The first known report that Zachariah's parents started on the trip to Kentucky from North Carolina, died on the journey and were buried along the road was made by Edwin H. Wesley.<sup>34</sup> Edwin identified his source only as a resident and relative of Adair County, Kentucky (no name).<sup>35</sup>

When Zachariah arrived in Kentucky, farmed for a living.<sup>36</sup> On 5 May 1822, Zachariah Collins was ordered to be surveyor of the public highway of which Hen[e]ry Antle had been surveyor.<sup>37</sup>

On March 18, 1824, Zachariah Collins obtained his first land in Kentucky, 123-1/2 acres on Cabin Fork Creek (Book 27, page 85).<sup>38</sup> According to an

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<sup>27</sup> Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society.

<sup>28</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>29</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>30</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>31</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>32</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>33</sup> (1) Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (3) *The Scott Family* by James Willard Scott, 1993, at p. 80; (4) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>34</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>35</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>36</sup> Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins.

<sup>37</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>38</sup> (1) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.



unidentified handwritten note contained within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham, Zachariah purchased 123 acres located on the waters of Cabin Fork Creek in the Montpilier Section of the county on 7 Dec 1813.<sup>39</sup>

The Kentucky General Assembly approved the following Act to form Russell County on December 14, 1825. The effective date of the new county was April 1, 1826, and was formed from the existing counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne.

#### FORMATION OF RUSSELL COUNTY

"An Act for the Formation of the County of Russell out of the Counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne"

"...all that part of the counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne included within the following bound (be formed into a new county called Russell); Beginning on the Adair and Casey county line, one mile south-eastwardly from William Jones's, horizontal measure, thence with a straight line to the east end of Aaron Williams' (deceased) lane, **THENCE TO ZACHARIAH COLLINS', LEAVING SAID COLLINS IN THE OLD COUNTY;** thence to a point on Crocus Creek, one mile below James Duncan's run, so as to leave Henry Antle and Adam Miller in the old county; thence to Andrew Samlley's so as to include the same; thence to William Hunter's, including the same; thence to Sheek's Mill on Beaver Creek, including the same; thence to the mouth of Difficulty; thence across the river and up the same, to the mouth of Mill Creek, which empties in on the North Side of the river, nearly opposite Col. Ewing's of Wayne County; thence to Solomon Turpin's, including the same; thence to a point on the Pulaski and Wayne line, three miles from where the same crosses Wolf Creek, thence with said line crossing Wolf Creek, to the Adair and Casey County line; thence with the same to the beginning...and called and known by the name of Russell, in honor of General William Russell, Dec'd of Fayette County."

According to Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants", Zachariah Collins obtained 53 acres of land on Cabin Fork, a branch of Russell's Creek, 26 Feb

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<sup>39</sup> (1) Unidentified handwritten note contained within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham, copies provided by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins



1830 (Book 1, Page 17).<sup>40</sup> This is listed under Warrents for Headright, the smallest group of land grants.<sup>41</sup> There are only 55 listed altogether, dating from 1827 to 1849.<sup>42</sup> Also in Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants" (1816-1873), Zachariah Collins received 17 acres on Cabin Fork, 23 Apr 1835 (Book D-2, Page 492).<sup>43</sup>

Zachariah Collins died sometime between the time he received the land warrent on 23 Apr 1835<sup>44</sup> and the court order issued an order for appraisal of his estate 4 Jul 1837.<sup>45</sup> Prior to the discovery of these documents, reports were that he died in 1838, Adair County, Kentucky.<sup>46</sup> Also on 4 Jul 1837, Edna relinquished her right of administration of the Estate of Zachariah Collins.<sup>47</sup> Aaron Collins and Daniel Aaron were appointed joint administrators of the estate.<sup>48</sup> On 26 Aug 1837, Daniel Aaron and Aaron Collins filed an Inventory and Appraisement with the court which assessed a value of \$355.59 for the personal property of Zachariah Collins. His personal property was sold for the total sum of \$321.56 on 26 Aug 1837.<sup>49</sup>

Samuel Wheat was appointed guardian of Zachariah Collins, Jr. and Edna Collins, "infant children above the age of fourteen of Zachariah Collins,

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<sup>40</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>41</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>42</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>43</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>44</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>45</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>46</sup> (1) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society; (2) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981

<sup>47</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>48</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>49</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, court records, p. 73.



deceased, in Feb 1839 (Deed Book F, page 291).<sup>50</sup> On 26 Jan 1839, Aaron Collins and Catharine, his wife; Daniel Aaron, and Anna, his wife; Killion Aaron and Elizabeth, his wife; Thomas Collins and Nancyann, his wife; and Nancy Collins, sold the land to which they were entitled as heirs at law of Zachariah Collins, deceased, to Samuel Wheat for the sum of \$120.<sup>51</sup> Edwin H. Wesley reported the named individuals to be the children of Zachariah Collins;<sup>52</sup> however, this deed does not define their relationship to Zachariah Collins.<sup>53</sup> On 24 Aug 1841, John Collins and Zachariah Collins, sold the land to which they were entitled to by descent as heirs at law of Zachariah Collins, deceased, in and to the land of which he died, seized and possessed, lying on the Cabin Fork of Russell Creek and the greater part thereof in Adair County, Kentucky, and the residue in Russell County, Kentucky, to Samuel Wheat for the sum of \$50.<sup>54</sup> Again, this deed does not define whether these were children or grandchildren of Zachariah Collins.<sup>55</sup> They are presumed to be the children of Zachariah Collins.

The court appointed commissioners to allot lay off and assign to "Edney Collins, . . . her dower in the land and personal property of her deceased (sic) husband on 10 Aug 1837.<sup>56</sup> On 22 Oct 1846, Edna Collins sold the real property to which she was entitled as the heir at law of Zachariah Collins, deceased, in and to the land of which he died, seized and possessed, lying on the Cabin Fork of Russell's Creek, Kentucky, and the greater part thereof in Adair County, Kentucky, and the residue in Russell County, for the sum of \$20.<sup>57</sup> When he

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<sup>50</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>51</sup> Adair County Deed Book K, pgs. 259-260.

<sup>52</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>53</sup> Adair County Deed Book K, pgs. 259-260.

<sup>54</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Deed Book L, page 102.

<sup>55</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Deed Book L, page 102.

<sup>56</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>57</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Deed Book \_\_, pgs. 283-284.



died, Zachariah owned 200-3/4 acres (Will Book D, page 97).<sup>58</sup> As his wife, Edney inherited an undivided one-third of Zachariah's estate and was allotted 67 acres for her dower.<sup>59</sup>

Edna Collins was listed with two daughters Edna and Nancy and with nine grandchildren in 1850.<sup>60</sup> She apparently died between 1850 and 1860.<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>59</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Will Book D.

<sup>60</sup> 1850 census of Adair County, Kentucky.

<sup>61</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 8.



## Sources

- 1 *Collins Family Genealogy* by O. A. Pickett
- 2 *Heraldry of the Collins Family*, author unknown
- 3 Correspondence from June (Powell Orton to Ruth A. Collins dated 7 Feb 1966
- 4 *The Scott Family* by James Willard Scott, 1993
- 5 Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. In this letter, Mr. Scott stated the sources of his information was *The Underground Railroad* and *Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier*.
- 6 Correspondence to Artilla (Pennington) Williams from James Willard Scott (not dated).
- 7 Correspondence to Ruth A. Collins from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1966.
- 8 Shorthand notes taken in approx. 1990 by Ruth A. Collins during a phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins
- 9 Certified copy of Summons issued to the Sheriff of Chowan County, North Carolina, to the Estate of Josiah Collins, Sr., in the hands of Josiah Collins, Jr., his Executor, for Petition for a Ditch dated 2 Sep 1810
- 10 Deed between Ann C. Blount, Hugh W. Collins, Ann D. Collins, Henrietta E. Collins and Louisa M. Collins to Ann C. Blount, dated 9 May 1839
- 11 State Census of North Carolina 1784-1787
- 12 1790 North Carolina Census
- 13 Index to the 1800 census of North Carolina
- 14 *Province of North Carolina 1663-1729*
- 15 North Carolina Wills, A testator Index, 1665-1900, lists a Will of Josiah Collins, recorded in Chowan County in 1819. Recorded Copy No WB-A/224
- 16 DAR Patrior Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.
- 17 Petition to Court by heirs of Josiah Collins dated Feb 1840, Washington County, VA
- 18 *The Family of Dr. Matthew Page of Edenton, North Carolina* by



John Insley Coddington

- 19 Will of Ann C. Page of Edenton, N.C., Probated February Term 1866, Will Book D, p. 42
- 20 *The Genealogy of the Collins Family* by Nora I. (Mrs. C.C.) Collins
- 21 The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs. 208-213
- 22 Lexington 1779, Pioneer Kentucky as described by Early Settlers by Bettye Lee Matsin
- 23 Shane Interview with Josiah Collins, Lyman C. Draper Collection, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison
- 24 *Collins Cousins* by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995 at p. 67.
- 25 Family Narrative prepared by Artilla (Pennington) Williams
- 26 Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins



## Preface by Ruth A Collins

Collins is Irish. In Ireland it is more likely to be spelled O'Collins, but it's the same family. The name comes from the Gaelic and means "young fearless warrior". Gaelic spelling of "O'Cuilean", not to be confused with Cullen/O'Cullen, an entirely different family.<sup>1</sup> If a search is made of early Ireland, Collins can be found in County Limerick. However, in the mid-thirteenth century, the Collins were driven south from Limerick into County Cork. It was land still in southwest Ireland, and closer to the sea.<sup>2</sup>

The name Collins can also be English in origin. Collins are found in Berkshire in 1196. A John Collins was found in Devonshire records in 1221.<sup>3</sup>

We don't know when our Collins first came to America, but an Irish Collins is reported to have emigrated to America in 1635.<sup>4</sup> Opal (Chapman) Dudley, daughter of Rosa Lee (Collins) Chapman and Otha C. Chapman, wrote "One of the earliest Colonists, Henry Collins and his wife Ann with their three children and five servants sailed from England on the ship "Abigail" in 1635 for the New World. He settled in Lynn, MA, where he homesteaded 800 a. of land and became a plantation owner. They had five children all together, which accounts for the great number of families by the name of Collins. Evidently the five children were sons. Their son, Joseph, md Duty Knowls in 1671. One reference consulted seemed to consider this the main line of the name in the New World."<sup>5</sup> In 1636, an Edward Collins registered his family coat of arms in Cambridge, Massachusetts.<sup>6</sup>

Another theory regarding our ancestry is that we are descendants of the Mullungeons in North Carolina. This was a group of people who spoke Elizabethan English out in the "boonies" somewhere. One of the surnames among them was Collins. They had different ideas about where these people came from, even guessing they were descended from the Lost Colony of Roanoke, Virginia.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>2</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>3</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>4</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>5</sup> Letter from June (Powell) Orton to Ruth A. Collins dated 7 Feb 1996.

<sup>6</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>7</sup> Letter from June (Powell) Orton to Ruth A. Collins dated 7 Feb 1996.



Yet another theory is that we are descendants of Josiah Collins I, who was born in England and immigrated to America in the mid 1700's. This theory stems from family stories<sup>8</sup>.

In approximately 1990, Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins, researched the family history while assisting his granddaughter, Jennifer C. Sorrell, with a school project. He obtained dates of birth and most of the basic data by going to graveyards and taking the information off of tombstones. Unfortunately, Rev. G. Willard has misplaced this research and does not recall specifically how he obtained the information about Josiah Collins. He believes any information not acquired from tombstones or was obtained from "Uncle Irv", Washington Irving Bradshaw, grandson of Patra Ann (Collins) Bradshaw and John James Crittendon "Crit" Bradshaw. "Uncle Irv" died in March of 1996, before the knowledge which had been passed down to him by his family could be further documented.

Fortunately, Ruth A. Collins, daughter of Rev. G. Willard Collins and Naomi (Eastridge) took shorthand notes during the phone conversation when Rev. Willard reported the family history in approximately as follows:

(1) Josiah Collins was born in Virginia or maybe England.<sup>9</sup> He was educated in England and later came to America.<sup>10</sup> Josiah lived in Surrey, North Carolina.<sup>11</sup>

(2) Zachariah Collins and his father, Josiah Collins, moved to Kentucky with their two wives left North Carolina to move to Kentucky by covered wagon to make a new life for themselves because of the new frontier.<sup>12</sup> Josiah and his wife died on the way from North Carolina to Kentucky.<sup>13</sup> They were buried somewhere between North Carolina and Kentucky.<sup>14</sup> Zachariah and his wife, Edna,

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<sup>8</sup> Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins.

<sup>9</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>10</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>11</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>12</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>13</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>14</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.



arrived in Adair County, Kentucky, before 1810.<sup>15</sup> They settled on the convergence of Dry Creek and Cabin Ford Creek.<sup>16</sup> When he arrived in Kentucky, Zachariah farmed for a living.<sup>17</sup>

(3) Thomas Collins, son of Zachariah, was born 1811.<sup>18</sup>

(4) Unknown.<sup>19</sup>

(5) George Washington Collins died 1931.<sup>20</sup> He was a Baptist Minister.<sup>21</sup> George married Martha Ann Ellison.<sup>22</sup> She died 1955.<sup>23</sup>

Jennifer Sorrell turned this report into her teacher at Canyon View Elementary School, Tucson, Arizona (approximately 1990). At that time, Rev. G. Willard Collins did not know George Willard Scott nor did he know George Willard Scott was researching Josiah Collins I and Josiah Collins II whom he believed to be the grandfather and father of Zachariah Collins.<sup>24</sup>

I. JOSIAH COLLINS SR.<sup>25</sup> also known as JOSIAH COLLINS I<sup>26</sup> sold

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<sup>15</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>16</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>17</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>18</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>19</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>20</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>21</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>22</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>23</sup> Shorthand notes taken by Ruth A. Collins during the phone conversation with her father, Rev. G. Willard Collins, approximately 1990.

<sup>24</sup> (1) Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) James Willard Scott, son of Vernon Vaughtimore Scott & Lula Frances (Coffey) Scott.

<sup>25</sup> Certified copy of Summons issued to the Sheriff of Chowan County, North Carolina, to the Estate of Josiah Collins, Sr., in the hands of Josiah Collins, Jr., his Executor, for Petition for a Ditch dated 2 Sep 1810.



everything he owned in Somerset, England, and moved to America<sup>27</sup> during the early 1700's<sup>28</sup> or circa mid 1700's<sup>29</sup> and settled in Virginia.<sup>30</sup> His wife chose to stay in England and did not come to America.<sup>31</sup>

Josiah, Sr. purchased 60,000 acres of land<sup>32</sup> or was given a land grant<sup>33</sup> in the Dismal Swamp area of North Carolina;<sup>34</sup> he also controlled 60,000 acres of land;<sup>35</sup> all together he had 120,000 acres;<sup>36</sup> or he owned three thousand acres and leased three thousand acres in and around the Dismal Swamp area.<sup>37</sup> The land was located in the northeast part of North Carolina

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<sup>26</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>27</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>28</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>29</sup> The Scott Family by James Willard Scott, 1993, at p. 80.

<sup>30</sup> The Scott Family by James Willard Scott, 1993, at p. 80.

<sup>31</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.

<sup>32</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>33</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>34</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>35</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>36</sup> Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>37</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.



near the Virginia border.<sup>38</sup> With the help of 120 slaves, Josiah, Sr. built a fine home<sup>39</sup> (mansion),<sup>40</sup> which was still standing a few years ago.<sup>41</sup> He named his plantation the Somerset Place. At one time, he owned 120 slaves<sup>42</sup> or 300 slaves<sup>43</sup> and tried to drain the dismal Swamp and turn it into farm land, but did not succeed.<sup>44</sup> Today you can still see the channels his slaves dug by hand while trying to drain the swamp.<sup>45</sup> Josiah I also raised hemp and made rope from the hemp.<sup>46</sup> The rope was then sold for use as lines for sea going vessels.<sup>47</sup>

The Chowan precinct is located on the West side of Cuscoponung River and in the middle of a great and Dismal Swamp, it being an Island Invironed with a Swamp commonly called Heron Island.<sup>48</sup> Josiah Collins, Sr. lived in Chowan County, North Carolina 1794-1787;<sup>49</sup> 1790;<sup>50</sup> and 1800.<sup>51</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>39</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>40</sup> Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>41</sup> Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>42</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>43</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 2 May 1996.

<sup>44</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>45</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>46</sup> Telephone Interview with James Willard Scott, February 1996.

<sup>47</sup> Telephone Interview with James Willard Scott, February 1996.

<sup>48</sup> Province of North Carolina 1663-1729.

<sup>49</sup> State Census of North Carolina 1784-1787.

<sup>50</sup> 1790 North Carolina Census.

<sup>51</sup> 1800 Census of North Carolina.



The State Census of North Carolina, 1784-1787, reported a Josiah Collins was living in Chowan Co, NC, with the following individuals in his household: (1) 4 white males 21-60 years; (2) 1 white female, all ages; and 19 blacks 12-50.<sup>52</sup>

According to the census of 1790, a Josiah Collins was still living in Chowan County, North Carolina, with: (1) three free white males of 16 years and upward, including heads of families; (2) one free white female, including heads of families; and (3) thirty slaves.<sup>53</sup>

A Josiah Collins was reported as a head of household living in Chowan County, North Carolina in the 1800 Census of North Carolina.<sup>54</sup>

Josiah, Sr. died prior to 2 Sep 1810.<sup>55</sup> North Carolina Wills, A Testator Index 1665-1900 reports a will was probated for a Josiah Collins living in Chowan County, North Carolina, 1819.<sup>56</sup>

Josiah, Sr. is probably the Revolutionary War Veteran born 1757, Virginia.<sup>57</sup> He died 16 Jan 1808,<sup>58</sup> North Carolina.<sup>59</sup> This Josiah married Clara \_\_\_\_\_,<sup>60</sup> Sol,<sup>61</sup> North Carolina.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>52</sup>The State Census of North Carolina, 1784-1787.

<sup>53</sup>The 1790 North Carolina Census.

<sup>54</sup>Index to the 1800 census of North Carolina.

<sup>55</sup>Certified copy of Summons issued to the Sheriff of Chowan County, North Carolina, to the Estate of Josiah Collins, Sr., in the hands of Josiah Collins, Jr., his Executor, for Petition for a Ditch dated 2 Sep 1810.

<sup>56</sup>North Carolina Wills, A testator Index, 1665-1900, lists a Will of Josiah Collins, recorded in Chowan Co, in 1819 Recorded Copy No WB-A/224.

<sup>57</sup>(1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>58</sup>(1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>59</sup>(1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>60</sup>(1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>61</sup>(1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>62</sup>(1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.



- A. JOSIAH COLLINS, JR.<sup>63</sup> also known as JOSIAH COLLINS II born circa 1738/1740.<sup>64</sup> Josiah, Sr. sent Josiah, Jr. back to England for his education<sup>65</sup> or Josiah Collins, Jr. stayed in England and was educated there until circa 1750.<sup>66</sup> When he returned to America, Josiah, Jr. wanted no part of farming,<sup>67</sup> the plantation,<sup>68</sup> factory life<sup>69</sup> nor slavery.<sup>70</sup> This outraged Josiah, Sr. and he disowned him.<sup>71</sup> Josiah, Sr. was heard to say that the worst thing he ever did<sup>72</sup> or biggest mistake he ever made<sup>73</sup> was to give his son an education.<sup>74</sup> When Josiah,

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<sup>63</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>64</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

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<sup>66</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.

<sup>67</sup> (1) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>68</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington; (3) Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.

<sup>69</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.

<sup>70</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>71</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>72</sup> Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>73</sup> Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington

<sup>74</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.



Sr. died, Josiah, Jr. was not named in his Will;<sup>75</sup> or Josiah, Sr. named Josiah Jr. the executor of his Will.<sup>76</sup> Josiah, Jr. probably married a full-blooded Indian.<sup>77</sup>

It was written that Josiah, Jr. was educated well enough to be a school master at any school he wanted, but he chose to live on what was then the frontier and moved to a small outpost on the edge of civilization<sup>78</sup> in Yadkin Valley, North Carolina,<sup>79</sup> or Josiah, Jr. lived in the western part of the state.<sup>80</sup> Beyond the outpost was Indian territory.<sup>81</sup>

Josiah, Jr. became friends with Daniel Boone.<sup>82</sup> In the 1770's, when Daniel Boone was hired by the Spotsylvania Corporation to open the wilderness trail (road--through the Cumberland gap in the Cumberland Mountains) into Kentucky for settlement, Josiah, Jr. was hired by the corporation to go along and record everything as it happened.<sup>83</sup> The Spotsylvania Corporation was a group of investors from Fredericksburg, Virginia.<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990 wherein he stated this information came from documents from "The Underground Railroad" on file in the State Archives at Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>76</sup> Certified copy of Summons issued to the Sheriff of Chowan County, North Carolina, to the Estate of Josiah Collins, Sr., in the hands of Josiah Collins, Jr., his Executor, for Petition for a Ditch dated 2 Sep 1810.

<sup>77</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. North Carolina wherein he reports he obtained this information from "Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier"; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>78</sup> The Scott Family by James Willard Scott, 1993, at p. 80.

<sup>79</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.

<sup>80</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. North Carolina wherein he reports he obtained this information from "Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier"; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>81</sup> The Scott Family by James Willard Scott, 1993, at p. 80.

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<sup>84</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.



Josiah, Jr. lived in Boonesborough in 1778.<sup>85</sup> At that time, Kentucky land was "Indian land" and was claimed by Virginia to be a county of the State of Virginia.<sup>86</sup> This was before Kentucky became a state and Boonesborough was known as Fort Boonesborough, Kentucky.<sup>87</sup> Week long siege on Fort Boonesborough in Sep 1778 by 400 Indians and British Soldiers.<sup>88</sup> The siege of Boonesborough lasted for seven days and was said to be the last battle of the American Revolution, although the war had ended over a year before.<sup>89</sup> Josiah, Jr. wrote down the conversation between Daniel Boone and an Indian Chief named Black Fish.<sup>90</sup>

Suggested reading: "The Discovery, settlement and present state of Kentucke" published 1784, written by John Filson.

In late 1778 or early 1779, Josiah, Jr. returned to North Carolina.<sup>91</sup> He probably lived in Bertie County, North Carolina. Bertie County was formed from Chowan County in 1722.<sup>92</sup> A Josiah Collins, living in Bertie Co, North Carolina, was reported as a taxpayer as early as 1769.<sup>93</sup>

The State Census of North Carolina, 1784-1787, reports a Josiah Collins living in Bertie County, North

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<sup>85</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. North Carolina wherein he reports he obtained this information from "Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier"; (2) Second page of letter written by James Willard Scott (not dated) which was provided by Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>86</sup> (1) Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. North Carolina wherein he reports he obtained this information from "Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier"; (2) Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.

<sup>87</sup> Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. North Carolina wherein he reports he obtained this information from "Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier".

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<sup>92</sup> Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina 1981.

<sup>93</sup> North Carolina Taxpayers, 1701-1789, page 43.

Carolina.<sup>94</sup> He had the following individuals listed in his household at that time: (1) two white males 21-60 years; (2) four white males under 20 & above 60; (3) four white females, all ages; and no slaves.<sup>95</sup>

According to the 1790 census, a Josiah Collins was living in Bertie County, North Carolina, as head of household. He had the following individuals listed in his household: (1) three Free White Males under 16 years; (2) three Free White females, including heads of families; and (3) two slaves.<sup>96</sup>

S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins obtained a book from the Adair County Genealogical Society about the life of Josiah Collins II. According to him, Josiah II died in his late 80's in Indiana. On the other hand, the State of North Carolina, Department of Archives reports that the Will of Josiah, Jr. was probated with his father's will (2 estates, 1819 and 1830). This would lead one to believe Josiah, Jr. died by 1830, in North Carolina.

1. ZACHARIAH "ZACK" COLLINS born circa 1780,<sup>97</sup> or circa 1782<sup>98</sup> North Carolina.<sup>99</sup>

To date, the following information has been collected on other individuals named Josiah Collins.

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II. JOSIAH born 1788,<sup>100</sup> Grayson County,<sup>101</sup> Virginia.<sup>102</sup>

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<sup>94</sup> State Census of North Carolina, 1784-1787

<sup>95</sup> State Census of North Carolina, 1784-1787

<sup>96</sup> 1790 Census of North Carolina.

<sup>97</sup> Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. North Carolina wherein he reports he obtained this information from "Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier".

<sup>98</sup> Correspondence from James Willard Scott dated 1 May 1996.

<sup>99</sup> Correspondence to June (Powell) Orton from James Willard Scott dated 30 Jun 1990. North Carolina wherein he reports he obtained this information from "Daniel Boone, First Hero of the Frontier".

<sup>100</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>101</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>102</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.



Married in Grayson County, Virginia.<sup>103</sup>

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III. JOSIAH COLLINS probably died in North Carolina. His will was probated in Washington County, North Carolina, 1849.<sup>104</sup>

\* \* \*

IV. JOSIAH COLLINS probably died in North Carolina. His will was probated in Franklin County, North Carolina, 1866.<sup>105</sup>

\* \* \*

V. \_\_\_\_\_ COLLINS

A. STEPHEN COLLINS<sup>106</sup>

B. JOSEPH COLLINS<sup>107</sup>

C. JOSIAH COLLINS (Pvt VA)<sup>108</sup> born circa 1762,<sup>109</sup> or 2 May 1757,<sup>110</sup> Halifax County,<sup>111</sup> Virginia.<sup>112</sup> He died circa 1847<sup>113</sup> in Kentucky.<sup>114</sup> Josiah married Julietta Bohannan,<sup>115</sup> 21 Dec 1791,<sup>116</sup> or Jannette (Jurette)

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<sup>103</sup> Collins Family Genealogy by O. A. Pickett.

<sup>104</sup> North Carolina Wills, A Testator Index (1665-1900).

<sup>105</sup> North Carolina Wills, A Testator Index (1665-1900).

<sup>106</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>107</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>108</sup> (1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>109</sup> (1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>110</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>111</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>112</sup> (1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990; (2) The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>113</sup> (1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>114</sup> (1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

<sup>115</sup> (1) DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part 1, Washington: 1990.

Bohannon,<sup>117</sup> Woodford County,<sup>118</sup> Kentucky.<sup>119</sup> Josiah came to Kentucky prior to Oct 1778.<sup>120</sup> Served under Captain James Harrod at and about Harrodsburg in 1778.<sup>121</sup> Founder of Lexington, Kentucky.<sup>122</sup> Per his Will dated 30 Sep 1845, Clerk's office, Owingsville, Bath County, Kentucky, Book "E", page 64, he had the following children:

1. FIELDINGS COLLINS<sup>123</sup>
  2. WILLIS COLLINS<sup>124</sup>
  3. BOHANNON COLLINS<sup>125</sup>
  4. JANETTA COLLINS<sup>126</sup>
- D. ELISHA COLLINS<sup>127</sup>
- E. ELIJAH COLLINS<sup>128</sup>

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<sup>116</sup> (1) E-Mail from S. Keith Collins dated 16 May 1996 re: Disk obtained by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins; CD shows several alternate spellings for spouse and choice of thee marriage dates: Juster Behannon 26 Dec 1791; Jurette Bohanning 21 Dec 1790; Jurette Bohanning or Boha 21 Dec 1791; Jurette Bohannon or Bohan 21 Dec 1791.

<sup>117</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>118</sup> (1) E-Mail from S. Keith Collins dated 16 May 1996 re: Disk obtained by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins; CD shows several alternate spellings for spouse and choice of thee marriage dates: Juster Behannon 26 Dec 1791; Jurette Bohanning 21 Dec 1790; Jurette Bohanning or Boha 21 Dec 1791; Jurette Bohannon or Bohan 21 Dec 1791; (2) The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>119</sup> (1) E-Mail from S. Keith Collins dated 16 May 1996 re: Disk obtained by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins; CD shows several alternate spellings for spouse and choice of thee marriage dates: Juster Behannon 26 Dec 1791; Jurette Bohanning 21 Dec 1790; Jurette Bohanning or Boha 21 Dec 1791; Jurette Bohannon or Bohan 21 Dec 1791; (2) The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>120</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>121</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>122</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>123</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>124</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>125</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>126</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>127</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>128</sup> The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.



F. TABITHA COLLINS married Elisha Prewitt.<sup>129</sup>

G. \_\_\_\_\_ COLLINS married Robert Bowmar.<sup>130</sup>

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<sup>129</sup>The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

<sup>130</sup>The Collins and Prewitts from Genealogies of Kentucky Families by Emma Beard, pgs 208-213.

## KNOWN ANCESTORS

1. **ZACHARIAH COLLINS, SR.** According to the census of 1820, Zachariah was born 1775-1795.<sup>131</sup> In 1830, he listed his birth between 1780-1790.<sup>132</sup> Therefore, it is assumed he was born between 1775 and 1780 (possibly 1782).<sup>133</sup> Zachariah was probably born in Johnston County,<sup>134</sup> North Carolina<sup>135</sup> or Virginia<sup>136</sup>. He may have lived in Johnston County, North Carolina.<sup>137</sup>

The only Zachariah Collins whose marriage is listed in the North Carolina Groom Book is to Wealthy Beaman,<sup>138</sup> 8 Oct 1802,<sup>139</sup> Johnston County, North Carolina.<sup>140</sup> A Zachariah Collins married Ann Burton, Middlesex, Virginia, 01 Dec 1797 or 20 Dec 1797.<sup>141</sup>

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<sup>131</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>132</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>133</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society; (3) Unidentified handwritten note within the Research of S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins; (4) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981.

<sup>134</sup> (1) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina; (2) Unidentified handwritten note within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham provided by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.

<sup>135</sup> (1) Research of Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society; (3) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981; (4) Unidentified handwritten note within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham provided by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.

<sup>136</sup> (1) Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) Ancestry Chart prepared by Jeanette Russell Wortham; (3) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society.

<sup>137</sup> Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981.

<sup>138</sup> (1) Certified copy of marriage certificate of Zachariah Collins obtained from the Department of Archives, State of North Carolina, Record No. 056 01 049; Bondsman: Isaac Beaman, Witness: R. Sanders; Bond No. 000067411; (2) North Carolina Groom Index; (3) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>139</sup> (1) Certified copy of marriage certificate of Zachariah Collins obtained from the Department of Archives, State of North Carolina, Record No. 056 01 049; Bondsman: Isaac Beaman, Witness: R. Sanders; Bond No. 000067411; (2) North Carolina Groom Index; (3) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>140</sup> (1) Certified copy of marriage certificate of Zachariah Collins obtained from the Department of Archives, State of North Carolina, Record No. 056 01 049; Bondsman: Isaac Beaman, Witness: R. Sanders; Bond No. 000067411; (2) North Carolina Groom Index; (3) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>141</sup> E-Mail from S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins re: Marriage Disk.



The first record which reveals the name of Zachariah's wife in Adair County, Kentucky, is a Deed dated 6 Jul 1930 wherein Zachariah Collins and Edna Collins sold approximately 53 acres of land<sup>142</sup> to Samuel Wheat for the sum of fifty-eight dollars.<sup>143</sup> The jurat stated:

"I, William Calorvelli, Clerk of the county Court for the county aforesaid do certify that . . . this Deed from Zachariah Collins and his wife Edna . . . Edna being examined by me privately and apart her said husband declared that she did freely and willing seal and deliver the said writing . . ." <sup>144</sup>

S. Keith Collins reported verbally that he had obtained information which indicated that Zachariah possibly married Edna ca 1804,<sup>145</sup> Johnston County, North Carolina.<sup>146</sup> Edna, or sometimes Edney,<sup>147</sup> was born 1780-1790 according to the 1830 census<sup>148</sup> and between 1784-1794 according to the 1810 census.<sup>149</sup> The 1850 census of Adair County, Kentucky, indicated that Edna was born 1785 in North Carolina.<sup>150</sup>

Copies of research provided by Charlie Collins, Jr. regarding the Sparks Family (researcher unknown) reports that Zachariah Collins, Jr., born about 1822, in Adair County, Kentucky was the son of

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<sup>142</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>143</sup> Adair County Deed Book G, page 455.

<sup>144</sup> Adair County Deed Book G, page 456.

<sup>145</sup> S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.

<sup>146</sup> Unidentified handwritten note within the research of S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.

<sup>147</sup> (1) Estate Records of Zachariah Collins dated 2 Dec 1837, filed with the Adair County Courthouse, Adair County, Kentucky; (2) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>148</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>149</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>150</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

Kentucky and were buried along the way.<sup>163</sup> The first known report that Zachariah's parents started on the trip to Kentucky from North Carolina, died on the journey and were buried along the road was made by Edwin H. Wesley.<sup>164</sup> Edwin identified his source only as a resident and relative of Adair County, Kentucky (no name).<sup>165</sup>

When Zachariah arrived in Kentucky, farmed for a living.<sup>166</sup> On 5 May 1822, Zachariah Collins was ordered to be surveyor of the public highway of which Hen[e]ry Antle had been surveyor.<sup>167</sup>

On March 18, 1824, Zachariah Collins obtained his first land in Kentucky, 123-1/2 acres on Cabin Fork Creek (Book 27, page 85).<sup>168</sup> According to an unidentified handwritten note contained within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham, Zachariah purchased 123 acres located on the waters of Cabin Fork Creek in the Montpilier Section of the county on 7 Dec 1813.<sup>169</sup>

The Kentucky General Assembly approved the following Act to form Russell County on December 14, 1825. The effective date of the new county was April 1, 1826, and was formed from the existing counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne.

#### FORMATION OF RUSSELL COUNTY

"An Act for the Formation of the County of Russell out of the Counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne"

"...all that part of the counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne included within the following

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<sup>163</sup> (1) Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; (2) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (3) *The Scott Family* by James Willard Scott, 1993, at p. 80; (4) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>164</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>165</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>166</sup> Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins.

<sup>167</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>168</sup> (1) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>169</sup> (1) Unidentified handwritten note contained within the research of Ms. Jeanette Wortham, copies provided by S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins



bound (be formed into a new county called Russell); Beginning on the Adair and Casey county line, one mile south-eastwardly from William Jones's, horizontal measure, thence with a straight line to the east end of Aaron Williams' (deceased) lane, **THENCE TO ZACHARIAH COLLINS', LEAVING SAID COLLINS IN THE OLD COUNTY;** thence to a point on Crocus Creek, one mile below James Duncan's run, so as to leave Henry Antle and Adam Miller in the old county; thence to Andrew Samlley's so as to include the same; thence to William Hunter's, including the same; thence to Sheek's Mill on Beaver Creek, including the same; thence to the mouth of Difficulty; thence across the river and up the same, to the mouth of Mill Creek, which empties in on the North Side of the river, nearly opposite Col. Ewing's of Wayne County; thence to Solomon Turpin's, including the same; thence to a point on the Pulaski and Wayne line, three miles from where the same crosses Wolf Creek, thence with said line crossing Wolf Creek, to the Adair and Casey County line; thence with the same to the beginning...and called and known by the name of Russell, in honor of General William Russell, Dec'd of Fayette County."

According to Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants", Zachariah Collins obtained 53 acres of land on Cabin Fork, a branch of Russell's Creek, 26 Feb 1830 (Book 1, Page 17).<sup>170</sup> This is listed under Warrents for Headright, the smallest group of land grants.<sup>171</sup> There are only 55 listed altogether, dating from 1827 to 1849.<sup>172</sup> Also in Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants" (1816-1873), Zachariah Collins received 17 acres on Cabin Fork, 23 Apr 1835 (Book D-2, Page 492).<sup>173</sup>

Zachariah Collins died sometime between the time he

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<sup>170</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>171</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>172</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>173</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

received the land warrent on 23 Apr 1835<sup>174</sup> and the court order issued an order for appraisal of his estate 4 Jul 1837.<sup>175</sup> Prior to the discovery of these documents, reports were that he died in 1838, Adair County, Kentucky.<sup>176</sup> Also on 4 Jul 1837, Edna relinquished her right of administration of the Estate of Zachariah Collins.<sup>177</sup> Aaron Collins and Daniel Aaron were appointed joint administrators of the estate.<sup>178</sup> On 26 Aug 1837, Daniel Aaron and Aaron Collins filed an Inventory and Appraisement with the court which assessed a value of \$355.59 for the personal property of Zachariah Collins. His personal property was sold for the total sum of \$321.56 on 26 Aug 1837.<sup>179</sup>

Samuel Wheat was appointed guardian of Zachariah Collins, Jr. and Edna Collins, "infant children above the age of fourteen of Zachariah Collins, deceased, in Feb 1839 (Deed Book F, page 291).<sup>180</sup> On 26 Jan 1839, Aaron Collins and Catharine, his wife; Daniel Aaron, and Anna, his wife; Killion Aaron and Elizabeth, his wife; Thomas Collins and Nancyann, his wife; and Nancy Collins, sold the land to which they were entitled as heirs at law of Zachariah Collins, deceased, to Samuel Wheat for the sum of \$120.<sup>181</sup> Edwin H. Wesley reported the named individuals to be the children of Zachariah Collins;<sup>182</sup> however, this deed does not define their relationship to Zachariah Collins.<sup>183</sup> On 24

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<sup>174</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 6.

<sup>175</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley; (2) Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>176</sup> (1) Research of Charlie Collins, Jr., son of Charlie Collins, Sr. & Della (Aaron) Collins, apparently obtained from The South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society; (2) Index of North Carolina Ancestors, North Carolina Genealogical Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1981

<sup>177</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>178</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>179</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, court records, p. 73.

<sup>180</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>181</sup> Adair County Deed Book K, pgs. 259-260.

<sup>182</sup> (1) Research of Edwin H. Wesley.

<sup>183</sup> Adair County Deed Book K, pgs. 259-260.



Aug 1841, John Collins and Zachariah Collins, sold the land to which they were entitled to by descent as heirs at law of Zachariah Collins, deceased, in and to the land of which he died, seized and possessed, lying on the Cabin Fork of Russell Creek and the greater part thereof in Adair County, Kentucky, and the residue in Russell County, Kentucky, to Samuel Wheat for the sum of \$50.<sup>184</sup> Again, this deed does not define whether these were children or grandchildren of Zachariah Collins.<sup>185</sup> They are presumed to be the children of Zachariah Collins.

The court appointed commissioners to allot lay off and assign to "Edney Collins, . . . her dower in the land and personal property of her deceased (sic) husband on 10 Aug 1837.<sup>186</sup> On 22 Oct 1846, Edna Collins sold the real property to which she was entitled as the heir at law of Zachariah Collins, deceased, in and to the land of which he died, seized and possessed, lying on the Cabin Fork of Russell's Creek, Kentucky, and the greater part thereof in Adair County, Kentucky, and the residue in Russell County, for the sum of \$20.<sup>187</sup> When he died, Zachariah owned 200-3/4 acres (Will Book D, page 97).<sup>188</sup> As his wife, Edney inherited an undivided one-third of Zachariah's estate and was allotted 67 acres for her dower.<sup>189</sup>

Edna Collins was listed with two daughters Edna and Nancy and with nine grandchildren in 1850.<sup>190</sup> She apparently died between 1850 and 1860.<sup>191</sup>

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<sup>184</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Deed Book L, page 102.

<sup>185</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Deed Book L, page 102.

<sup>186</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>187</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Deed Book \_\_, pgs. 283-284.

<sup>188</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 7.

<sup>189</sup> Adair County, Kentucky, Will Book D.

<sup>190</sup> 1850 census of Adair County, Kentucky.

<sup>191</sup> Collins Cousins by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995, at p. 8.

ZACHARIAH & EDNA COLLINS

ZACHARIAH COLLINS

1. **ZACHARIAH COLLINS** is the only descendant of Josiah Collins, II, which is known to this writer at this time.

"Zachariah Collins arrived in Adair County, Kentucky from North Carolina before 1810. He was not on the tax roll, but was in the Federal census of 1810. The 1810 census showed one male born 1765-1785, one female born 1784-1794, and one male under 10 years of age. This male is believed to be his son, **AARON COLLINS**."

The research done by the Rev. G. Willard Collins in 1990 substantiated that Zachariah arrived in Adair County, Kentucky, before 1810.

Zachariah and Edna had the following children:

- (1) **AARON COLLINS** was born in 1807 in North Carolina. (CC, p. 8)
- (2) **ANNA COLLINS** was born in 1810 in Adair County, Kentucky. (CC, p. 48)
- (3) **THOMAS COLLINS** was born in 1811, in Adair County, Kentucky. (CC, p. 49)
- (4) **ELIZABETH COLLINS** was born in 1812, in Adair County, Kentucky. (CC, p. 114)
- (5) **JOHN COLLINS** was born between 1813 and 1817 in Adair County, Kentucky. (CC, p. 114)
- (6) **NANCY COLLINS** was born in 1918 in Adair County, Kentucky. (CC, p. 114)
- (7) **ZACHARIAH COLLINS, JR.** was born in 1820 in Adair County, Kentucky. (CC, p. 114)
- (8) **EDNA COLLINS** was born in 1823 in Adair County, Kentucky. (CC, p. 122)

According to the 1820 census, Zachariah Collins was born between 1775-1795. In 1830 he listed his birth between 1780-1790. From this, it would seem he was born after 1780, but before 1785. The only **ZACHARIAH COLLINS** whose marriage is on record in North Carolina is one who married Welthy Beaman in Johnston County, North Carolina on October 8, 1802. According to Courthouse records in Adair County, Kentucky, the wife of

Ruth A. Collins  
LEGAL LADIES  
5288 N. Camino de la Cumbre  
Tucson, Arizona 85750-1506

*Paternal*  
~~Paternal~~ Ancestors



our ZACHARIAH was EDNA or sometimes EDNEY COLLINS. She was born in 1785 in North Carolina, according to the 1850 census."

Three children of Zachariah and Edna Collins married three children of Abraham Aaron, Jr. and Nelly (Perdue) Aaron. Abraham was a Revolutionary War veteran who came to Adair County from Pittsylvania County, Virginia. There at least seventeen marriages between Collins and Aaron descendants, not counting the Collins who married Collins and the Aarons who married Aarons.

Rev. G. Willard Collins reported that when Zachariah and Edna arrived in Kentucky, they farmed for a living and that their farm was located at the convergence of Dry Creek and Cabin Fork Creed. This has been substantiated. On March 18, 1824, Zachariah Collins obtained his first land in Kentucky, 123-1/2 acres on Cabin Fork Creek (Bk 27, pg 85).

The Kentucky General Assembly approved the following Act to form Russell County on December 14, 1825. The effective date of the new county was April 1, 1826, and was formed from the existing counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne.

#### FORMATION OF RUSSELL COUNTY

"An Act for the Formation of the County of Russell out of the Counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne"

"...all that part of the counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne included within the following bound (be formed into a new county called Russell); Beginning on the Adair and Casey county line, one mile south-eastwardly from William Jones's, horizontal measure, thence with a straight line to the east end of Aaron Williams' (deceased) lane, **TENCE TO ZACHARIAH COLLINS', LEAVING SAID COLLINS IN THE OLD COUNTY;** thence to a point on Crocus Creek, one mile below James Duncan's run, so as to leave Henry Antle and Adam Miller in the old county; thence to Andrew Samlley's so as to include the same; thence to William Hunter's, including the same; thence to Sheek's Mill on Beaver Creek, including the same; thence to the mouth of Difficulty; thence across the river and up the same, to the mouth of Mill Creek, which empties in on the North Side of the river, nearly opposite Col. Ewing's of Wayne County; thence to Solomon Turpin's, including the same; thence



to a point on the Pulaski and Wayne line, three miles from where the same crosses Wolf Creek, thence with said line crossing Wolf Creek, to the Adair and Casey County line; thence with the same to the beginning...and called and known by the name of Russell, in honor of General William Russell, Dec'd of Fayette County."

According to Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants", Zachariah Collins obtained 53 acres of land on Cabin Fork of Russell's Creek February 26, 1830 (Book 1, pg 17). This is listed under Warrants for Headright, the smallest group of land grants. There are only 55 listed altogether, dating from 1827 to 1849. The Old Kentucky Grants indicated in Chapter III are minus Volume IX. Possibly this volume marked W.F.H. is the lost No. 9.

Also in Jillson's "Kentucky Land Grants", in the section Kentucky Land Warrants (1816-1873), Zachariah Collins received 17 acres on Cabin Creek April 23, 1835 (Book D-2, pg 492).

On July 6, 1930, Zachariah and his wife, Edna Collins, sold 53 acres of land more or less (it being part of a 173 acre survey in the name of Zachariah Collins) to Samuel Wheat. It was on Cabin fort, a branch of Russells Creek, and included location "on Stapps military line". Witnesses were William Rippetoe, John Wheat, Sr. and John R. Wheat. The land sold for \$150 (Deed book, pg 455). On February 23, 1835, Zachariah Collin[g]s, George Aaron and William Busby witnessed the deed of Abraham Aarons to Daniel Aarons.

On May 5, 1822, Zachariah Collins was ordered to be surveyor of the public highway of which Hen[e]ry Antle had been surveyor.

Zachariah Collins died in Adair County by 1837. The order for Appraisal of the Zachariah Collins estate was dated July 4, 1837 and the Original Inventory in October, 1837. An entry on July 4, 1837, shows "It being proven to the satisfaction of the Court that the widow of ZACHARIAH COLLINS DEC'D relinquished her right of Administration on the motion of AARON COLLINS and Daniel Aaron administration of the estate is granted to them they having taken oath required by law and executed and acknowledged bond in the penal sum of \$600 with Samuel Sparks, Josiah Spark, THOMAS COLLINS and William Busby their security."

The records show that on August 10, 1837 "On motion of Daniel Aaron administrator of Zachariah Collins Dec'd ordered that Isaiah Bradshaw, James Miller, Isaac Bradshaw and William Rippetoe or any three be appointed commissioners to allot law



off and assign to Edney Collins, widow of sd decedent, her dower in the land and personal property of her dec'd husband." On page 211 of County records, dated Monday October 2nd 1837, An Inventory and Appraisement of the estate of Zachariah Collins Dec'd was ret'd Exam'd approved and ordered to record." A separate entry on the same page reads, "A List of Sales of the Estate of Zachariah Collins Dec'd was ret'd Exam'd approved and ordered to record." The allotment for Edney Collins' dower in the lands was ordered to record December 4, 1837.

When he died, Zachariah owned 200-3/4 acres (Will Bk D, pg 97). Edna was allotted 67 acres for her dower, which was 1/3 of three smaller tracts comprising the 200-3/4 acres.

Deed Book K, pg 259, shows some heirs of Zachariah Collins selling their undivided interest to Samuel Wheat for \$120. Children are shown as Aaron Collins and wife Catherine, Daniel Aarons and wife Anna, Killion Aarons and wife Elizabeth, Thomas Collins and wife Nancyan, and Nancy Collins. The land was mostly in Adair County with the residue in Russell County, on Cabin Fork Creek. This deed was dated 26 Jan 1839.

In another deed, Zachariah Collins (JR) and John Collins, heirs of Zachariah, sold land to Samuel Wheat for \$50 (Book L, pg 102). Edna Collins was also shown as an heir in still another deed, (Book M, pg 283). She sold her interest for \$20.

Samuel Wheat was appointed guardian of Zachariah Collins, Jr. and Edna Collins, "infant children above the age of fourteen of Zachariah Collins, deceased, in February of 1839. (Book F, pg 291).

Edna Collins was listed with two daughters Edna and Nancy and with nine grandchildren in the 1850 Adair County census. It has been impossible to tell which children were Edna's and which were Nancy's. Edna apparently died between 1850 and 1860.

## JOSIAH COLLINS, I

JOSIAH COLLINS, I, was born in England. He is believed to have died in North Carolina.

In the early 1700's, Josiah sold everything he owned in Somerset, England and came to America. He purchased 60,000 acres of land, or was given a land grant, in the Dismal Swamp area which is located in North Carolina at or near the Virginia border where Josiah built a fine home and named his plantation "The Somerset Place". At one time, he owned as many as 120 slaves. Josiah attempted, without success, to drain the Dismal Swamp and convert it into farm land. By hand, Josiah's slaves dug channels to drain water from the swamps. Today you can still see the channels which were dug by Josiah's slaves.

Note: Proof has not yet been obtained which establishes with certainty that Josiah I was the grandfather of the Zachariah Collins who moved to Adair County, Kentucky. Although it is believed by family members that he is the grandfather of Zachariah.



## JOSIAH COLLINS II

Josiah Collins II, was born sometime between 1738 and 1740 in North Carolina.

*Collins Cousins* by Edwin Hugh Wesley and June Orton Powell, Revised 1995, at page 6, states:

"One resident of Adair County, Kentucky said that ZACHARIAH's parents started on the trip from North Carolina, but died on the journey and were buried along the way. Unfortunately, we do not know their names or where they lived in North Carolina."

In approximately 1990, Rev. G. Willard Collins researched the family history while assisting his granddaughter, Jennifer C. Sorrell, with a school project. He obtained dates of birth and most of the basic information by going to graveyards and taking the information off of tombstones. Unfortunately, Rev. G. Willard has misplaced this research and does not recall specifically how he obtained the information about Josiah Collins.

Rev. G. Willard Collins reported that Josiah Collins, the father of Zachariah Collins, was born in Virginia, or maybe England. He was educated in England and later came to America. Josiah lived in Surry, North Carolina. Josiah and his wife left North Carolina with their son and his wife, Zachariah and Edna, to move to Kentucky. They traveled by covered wagon. They were moving to Kentucky to make a better life for themselves because of the new frontier. Josiah and his wife died on the way from North Carolina to Kentucky. They were buried somewhere between Kentucky and North Carolina.

In February of 1996, Artilla "Tilly" (Pennington) Williams shared a copy of a letter written by James Willard Scott. James Willard Scott's letter substantiated the information previously obtained by Rev. G. Willard Collins.

According to James Willard Scott, Josiah, II, was sent to England, by his father, to obtain an education. When Josiah, II, returned to America, he wanted nothing to do with farming, the Plantation nor Slavery. This outraged Josiah, I, and he disowned Josiah, II, saying that the biggest mistake he ever made was to give his son an education. When Josiah, I, died, he did not mention his son, Josiah, II, in his Will.

James Scott further reported that Josiah, II, established a friendship with Daniel Boone. He accompanied Daniel for the purpose of recording the events surrounding the opening of the Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap in the Cumberland Mountains of Kentucky. The Wilderness Road provided settlers

access to Kentucky.

In September of 1778, Josiah, II, was living in Boonesborough, Kentucky. During this month, Indians attacked the Fort. Josiah, II, wrote down the conversation between Daniel Boone and an Indian Chief named Black Fish. Although the Indians had no written language, James Scott has a copy of the Indian's rendition (in picture form) of the attack on the Fort. James Scott also has a drawing of Daniel Boone and Josiah Collins, II, made by an Indian.

Josiah Collins, II, returned to North Carolina in late 1778 or early 1779. He had a son in 1780 and named him Zachariah (Zack) Collins.

Note: Proof has not yet been obtained that Josiah, II, is the father of the Zachariah Collins who moved to Adair County, Kentucky, although it is believed by family members that he is the father of Zachariah.



**THIS IS WORK IN PROCESS. THERE ARE NO ASSURANCES AS TO THE ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN.**

**FAMILY OF HENRY EASTRIDGE**

**HENRY EASTRIDGE** bn 1774 (per 1850 census); Surrey or Granville Co, NC; d 1859; bur Eastridge Cem., Little Laurel Creek, Ashe Co, NC. Md Elizabeth Floyd, 29 Jul 1799, Granville Co, NC, Bond #1992, at Granville Courthouse, NC. Elizabeth bn ca 1772, Granville Co, NC; dau of William and Elizabeth Floyd. A tombstone at the Eastridge Cem., Little Laurel Creek, Ashe Co, NC identifies Elizabeth only as "E.E."

NOTE: I HAVE A COPY OF A PHOTO OF HENRY & ELIZABETH GIVEN TO ME BY DOROTHY EASTRIDGE.

*Maternal Ancestors.*

**JOSIAH COLLINS I**<sup>1</sup> bn in England. He is believed to have died in North Carolina. In the early 1700's, Josiah sold everything he owned in Somerset, England and came to America. His wife [name unknown] refused to come to the United States and remained in England. He purchased 3,000 acres of land, and 3,000 was released to him, possibly by land grant. The land was located near an outpost in the northwest corner of Yadkin Valley, NC, known as the Dismal Swamp area. This land was located in North Carolina at or near the Virginia border where Josiah built a fine home "mansion" and named his plantation "The Somerset Place".

Josiah raised hemp and made rope from the hemp. The rope was then sold for use as lines for sea going vessels. At one time, he owned as many as 300 slaves. Josiah attempted, without success, to drain the Dismal Swamp and convert it into farm land. By hand, Josiah's slaves dug channels to drain water from the swamps. Today you can still see the channels which were dug by Josiah's slaves. Proof has not yet been obtained which establishes with certainty that Josiah I was the grandfather of the Zachariah Collins who moved to Adair County, Kentucky. Although it is believed by family members that he is the grandfather of Zachariah.

- a. **JOSIAH COLLINS II**<sup>2</sup> bn sometime between 1738 and 1740, possibly born in England or North Carolina. Md a full blooded Indian whose name is unknown.

In approximately 1990, Rev. G. Willard Collins researched the family history while assisting his granddaughter, Jennifer C. Sorrell, with a school project. He obtained dates of birth and most of the basic data by going to graveyards and taking the information off of tombstones. Unfortunately, Rev. G. Willard has misplaced this research and does not recall specifically how he obtained the information about Josiah Collins. He believes any information not acquired from tombstones was obtained from "Uncle Irv", Washington Irving Bradshaw, bn 19 Oct 1913, grandson of Patsy Ann (Collins) Bradshaw and John

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<sup>1</sup> James Willard Scott, son of Vernon Vaughtimore Scott & Lula Frances (Coffey) Scott reports that he obtained his information from the Library of Congress & Smithsonian Institute; and, Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington.

<sup>2</sup>James Willard Scott, son of Vernon Vaughtimore Scott & Lula Frances (Coffey) Scott; Artilla (Pennington) Williams, dau of Flora (Allen) Pennington & Jesse Cole Pennington; Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timmothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; and Washington Irving Bradshaw, son of Benjamin Harrison Bradshaw & Mallie (Blakey) Bradshaw; and S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.



James Crittendon "Crit" Bradshaw. "Uncle Irv" died in March of 1996, before the knowledge which had been passed down to him by his family could be further documented.

In approximately 1990, Rev. G. Willard Collins reported that Josiah Collins, the father of Zachariah Collins, was born in Virginia, or maybe England. He was educated in England and later came to America. Josiah possibly lived in Surry, North Carolina. Josiah and his wife left North Carolina with their son and his wife, Zachariah and Edna, to move to Kentucky. They traveled by covered wagon. They were moving to Kentucky to make a better life for themselves because of the new frontier. Josiah and his wife died on the way from North Carolina to Kentucky. They were buried somewhere between Kentucky and North Carolina.

In February of 1996, Artilla "Tilly" (Pennington) Williams provided a copy of a letter written by James Willard Scott. James Willard Scott's letter substantiated the information previously obtained by Rev. G. Willard Collins. According to James Willard Scott, Josiah, II, was sent to England, by his father, to obtain an education. "Josiah II was educated enough to become a School Master." When Josiah, II, returned to America, he wanted nothing to do with farming, the Plantation nor Slavery. This outraged Josiah, I, and he disowned Josiah, II, saying that the biggest mistake he ever made was to give his son an education. When Josiah, I, died, he did not mention his son, Josiah, II, in his Will.

James Scott further reported that Josiah, II, established a friendship with Daniel Boone. The Spotsylvania Company, located in Virginia, hired Daniel Boone to open the Wilderness Road to Kentucky. [Virginia originally claimed Kentucky as a county.] Because of Josiah II's friendship with Daniel Boone, he was also hired by the Spotsylvania Company to accompany Daniel for the purpose of recording the events surrounding the opening of the Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap in the Cumberland Mountains of Kentucky. The Wilderness Road provided settlers access to Kentucky.

According to James Willard Scott, Josiah, II, was living in Boonesborough, Kentucky in September of 1778 during the "Seige of Boonesborough". The Seige of Boonesborough was known as the last battle of the American Revolution. Because of a lack of communication, the Redcoats were unaware that Revolution had ended. In September of 1778, Redcoats teamed up with the Indians and attacked the Fort at Boonesborough. Josiah, II, wrote down the conversation between Daniel Boone and an Indian Chief



named Black Fish. Although the Indians had no written language, James Scott has a copy of the Indian's rendition (in picture form) of the attack on the Fort. He took this picture to an artist and had a rendering of Josiah drawn from the Indian's sketch. James Scott also has a drawing of Daniel Boone and Josiah Collins, II, made by an Indian. Josiah Collins, II, returned to North Carolina in late 1778 or early 1779. He had a son in 1780 and named him Zachariah (Zack) Collins. Proof has not yet been obtained that this Zachariah Collins is the Zachariah Collins who moved to Adair County, Kentucky, although it is believed by family members that he is the father of Zachariah.

S. Keith Collins, Esq. reported verbally that he has been reading a book, which he obtained from the Adair Co Genealogical Society, about the life of Josiah II. Based upon that information, he does not believe Josiah II was the father of our Zachariah because Josiah II died in his late 80's in Indiana. Keith suspects that our Zachariah's father was named Zachariah and that he was in the Rev. War. He is checking this out further.

- i. **ZACHARIAH COLLINS<sup>3</sup>** bn ca 1780-1785; d by 1937. Md Edna or Edney Collins. Edna bn 1785, NC; d 1850/1860.

Rev. G. Willard Collins reported in approximately 1990 that Zachariah and his wife, Edna, arrived in KY before 1810 and that Zachariah was born either in NC or possibly, VA. S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins provided copy of an Ancestry Chart of the family of Lilburn Francis Collins and Lula Belle Parson prepared by Jeanette Russell Wortham. This ancestry chart indicated that Zachariah was bn in VA.

S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins also provided an unidentified handwritten note which stated that Zachariah was bn 1782, probably Johnson Co, NC. Md

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<sup>3</sup>NC Dept of Archives and History; Rev. G. Willard Collins, son of John Timmothy Collins & Lala Rey (Smiley) Collins; Washington Irving Bradshaw, son of Benjamin Harrison Bradshaw & Mallie (Blakey) Bradshaw; and, *Collins Cousins* by Edwin Hugh Wesley & June Powell Orton, Revised 1995 at p. 6-9; Research of records at Adair Co Courthouse performed by Martha Sue (Collins) Thomas, provided by her father, Vander Luther Collins, son of Vander Martin Collins & Lillian Cecil (Shelley) Collins and research of S. Keith Collins, Esq., son of J. Smiley Collins & Pansy (Taylor) Collins.



in NC to Edna \_\_\_\_\_. S. Keith Collins, Esq. reported verbally that Edna and Zachariah were md in 1804.

Although he was not on the tax rolls, the Federal census of 1810 showed the following members in KY belonging to the household of Zachariah Collins: one male born 1765-1785, one female born 1784-1794 and one male under 10 years of age.

According to the 1820 census, Zachariah Collins was born between 1775-1795. In 1830 he listed his birth between 1780-1790. From this, it would seem he was born on or before 1780, but before 1785.

According to the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, the only Zachariah Collins whose marriage is on record in North Carolina is one who married Welthy Beaman in Johnston Co, NC, 8 Oct 1802. The records in Adair Co, KY, establish that the wife of our Zachariah was Edna or sometimes Edney Collins. According to the 1850 census, Edna was bn 1785, NC.

Rev. G. Willard Collins further reported that when Zachariah and Edna arrived in Kentucky, they farmed for a living and that their farm was located at the convergence of Dry Creek and Cabin Fork Creed. This has been substantiated. On March 18, 1824, Zachariah Collins obtained his first land in Kentucky, 123-1/2 acres on Cabin Fork Creek (Bk 27, pg 85).

The Kentucky General Assembly approved the following Act to form Russell County on December 14, 1825. The effective date of the new county was April 1, 1826, and was formed from the existing counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne.

#### FORMATION OF RUSSELL COUNTY

"An Act for the Formation of the County of Russell out of the Counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne"

"...all that part of the counties of Adair, Cumberland and Wayne included within the following bound (be formed into a new county called Russell); Beginning on the Adair and Casey county line, one mile south-eastwardly from William Jones's, horizontal measure, thence with a straight line to the east end of Aaron Williams' (deceased) lane, THENCE TO ZACHARIAH COLLINS', LEAVING SAID COLLINS