

John Lee Banner

(1864 - 1922)

and

Mary Emma Banner

(1865 - 1947)

of

Mount Airy, North Carolina

INCLUDING INFORMATION ON THE
MITCHELL, BIVENS, HAWKS, AND DIFEE FAMILIES

*Mason Banner McDaniel
Etc.*

By

Charlotte Mitchell McDaniel
1998

JOHN LEE BANNER

(1864 - 1922)

and

MARY EMMA BANNER

(1865 - 1947)

of

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA

**INCLUDING INFORMATION ON THE
MITCHELL, BIVENS, HAWKS, AND DIFEE FAMILIES**

*Great-Great-Grandparents of
Scott Madison McDaniel
and
Mason Banner McDaniel
Etc.*

**Information Obtained and Written
by
Charlotte Mitchell McDaniel**

1998

PROPERTY OF
MUSEUM OF REGIONAL HISTORY
Mount Airy, N. C.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	V
SOURCE CODES.....	VII
ANCESTORS OF CHARLOTTE MITCHELL MCDANIEL.....	XI
ANCESTORS OF JOHN LEE BANNER	XII
ANCESTORS OF MARY EMMA BANNER.....	XIV
DESCENDANTS OF JOHN LEE BANNER.....	XVI
BANNER FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS	XIX
YOUTH, 1864 - 1886.....	1
JOHN LEE'S BIRTH.....	1
JOHN LEE'S BROTHERS AND SISTERS.....	2
EMMA'S BIRTH.....	3
EMMA'S BROTHERS AND SISTERS	5
MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN, 1886 - 1910	8
JOHN MARRIES EMMA.....	8
RELATED	9
DESCRIPTION OF MOUNT AIRY	10
THE CHILDREN OF JOHN LEE AND EMMA BANNER	12
FIRST DAUGHTER: ANNE -- COFFEEPOT BABY	12
RAILROAD ARRIVES.....	13
SECOND DAUGHTER: ALMA.....	14
GRANITE QUARRY.....	15
THIRD DAUGHTER: KATHLEEN	15
FOURTH DAUGHTER: MARY JOHN.....	15
THE EARLY YEARS	16
OFF TO SCHOOL.....	16
EMMA'S PORTRAIT.....	16
DESCRIPTION OF EMMA	17
DESCRIPTION OF JOHN LEE	18
THE BANNERS' HOMETOWN.....	18
THE GREAT FIRE OF 1892.....	21
NEWSPAPER ITEMS FROM THE 1890s.....	24
ALLISON LYNCHING.....	25
THE DEATH OF JOHN LEE'S FATHER	26
THE RENFRO INN BURNS.....	26
MOUNT AIRY IN 1897	27

CENSUS OF 1900.....	32
JOHN LEE'S OCCUPATION.....	33
BRICK JOHN.....	35
FIFTH DAUGHTER: LOVE	35
AWAY TO SCHOOL.....	36
BOARDING HOUSE.....	36
ENTERTAINMENT OF THE DAY	36
COMMERCIAL CLUB DANCES	39
ALMA IN A PLAY.....	39
THE DEATH OF EMMA'S FATHER.....	40
ANNE MARRIES.....	40
WORKMEN'S BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.....	41
CENSUS OF 1910.....	42
KATHLEEN GRADUATES.....	43
GRANDCHILDREN, 1910 - 1933	44
FIRST GRANDCHILD: KATHLEEN BANNER "KACKY" MITCHELL.....	44
LOVES TO EAT, HATES TO COOK.....	44
SCHOOL FOR THE GIRLS.....	44
JOHN LEE AND EMMA'S HOME.....	45
A HOUSE FULL OF GIRLS.....	47
KATHLEEN MARRIES	47
ALLEN MASSACRE	48
HOUSE PARTY	48
THE DEATH OF JOHN LEE'S MOTHER	49
FOURTH OF JULY	49
STREET DIRECTORY.....	50
SECOND GRANDCHILD: MARY LEE "POLLY" HAWKS.....	51
E. C. BIVENS.....	52
ALMA GETS MARRIED	52
FEED THE FAMILY.....	55
THIRD GRANDCHILD: JOHN BANNER MITCHELL.....	57
THE DEATH OF EMMA'S MOTHER	57
FOURTH GRANDCHILD: BEVERLY BANNER BIVENS.....	57
FIFTH GRANDCHILD: WILLIAM HAWKS.....	58
CENSUS OF 1920.....	58
ANNE'S DIVORCE	59
SIXTH GRANDCHILD: JOHN LESTER HAWKS	60
RELATIONSHIP WITH CHILDREN AND OTHERS.....	60
SAM BANNER AND MISS EMMA.....	61
SEWING.....	62
HITCH A RIDE	62
SHOOTING RATS.....	62
BURNING BARN	62
KENTUCKY RIFLE.....	63
THE HONOR OF A NAME	63
PIE THIEF.....	64

TOWN COMMISSIONER	64
THE DEATH OF JOHN LEE.....	65
AN ACTOR BORN.....	68
1926 EXPLOSION.....	68
SAINT AUGUSTINE VISIT.....	69
LOVE'S WEDDING	73
SEVENTH GRANDCHILD: LOVE BANNER DIFFEE.....	74
SISTER MAGGIE'S DEATH	75
WILLIAM'S DEATH.....	75
THE DEPRESSION	75
SLEEP IN GRANNY'S ROOM.....	76
TAKING WAYS.....	76
RELIGION.....	76
EIGHTH AND NINTH GRANDCHILDREN: WILLIAM DIFFEE AND JAMES DIFFEE III	76
LATER YEARS, 1933 - 1947	78
ALMA AND BIV ACROSS THE STREET.....	78
ADULT SISTERS.....	78
POLITICS	79
EMMA DISAPPROVED.....	79
NIECE WEDS IN WASHINGTON	81
BABY BOOTIES	81
THE PORTRAIT	81
BIRTHDAY POEM	82
ANNIE ON THE MOVE	83
MOVIES.....	83
KACKY MARRIES.....	84
EMMA PAINTING.....	85
ANNE'S ART	85
CORNICES.....	85
BEVERLY'S GRADUATION	85
FAMILY VISITS	86
ANNE'S LETTERS.....	87
JOHN MARRIES	88
ANNE'S CHRISTMAS CARD	89
CARDS TO ANNIE.....	89
ANNE REMARRIES	90
KATHLEEN'S DEATH.....	91
MEALS WITH LITTLE SISTER	91
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN	92
PINK AND WHITE QUILT	94
ARTHUR SWAIN'S DEATH.....	94
EMMA'S 80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY.....	95
ANNE RETURNS	96
EMMA'S DEATH.....	97
BURIAL.....	98
THE DAUGHTERS.....	98

JOHN LEE AND EMMA'S HOME DEMOLISHED 99
ADDITIONAL SOURCE INFORMATION 101
INDEX 113

INTRODUCTION

John Lee and Mary Emma Banner were my great-grandparents. Much of the information for this book about them was given to me by several of their grandchildren. I visited with some of the grandchildren in person and spoke with others on the telephone as I gathered information on the couple's lives. I recorded the data in spiral notebooks either during or immediately following those conversations. The contents of those notebooks are transcribed here.

I also obtained material from a variety of personal papers and newspaper clippings. Those items were passed from John Lee and Emma's daughter Anne to her daughter Kacky (my aunt) and are now in my possession. Agnes Wells, of Mount Airy, North Carolina, has generously shared copies of material in her files. Among John Lee and Emma's grandchildren, John Banner Mitchell (my father), Kathleen Mitchell "Kacky" Rozendal, Mary Lee Hawks "Polly" Hodge, John Hawks, and Love Diffie Smith provided particularly helpful descriptions of their grandparents.

My cousins (John Lee and Emma's great-grandchildren) Chatham Olive and Kathleen Hawks Walker have also contributed useful information they either obtained for me or already possessed. Judy Cardwell of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has been generous in sharing her wealth of Banner material. The cooperation of all of these people and many more have helped me a great deal in pulling this material together, and their help is much appreciated.

I especially want to thank my husband, Jim McDaniel, for his help with the photographs and my daughter-in-law, Amy Bass McDaniel, for taking the time to proofread this manuscript and offer many excellent suggestions.

I have tried to note the sources for all my information and when each item was obtained. The source code and date are placed at the end of each body of information. The length of this body can vary, so that the code may appear either within or at the end of a paragraph. In some cases, several paragraphs occur before a source code is noted. In those cases all of the information after the preceding source code is covered by that latest source. In the case of undated material, the date given after the undated notation is the date the material was obtained. The following is an example of a source code: [ASM/LTR, 1 Feb 1944.] It means Arthur Swain Mitchell / Letter, or the information just given was from a letter written by Arthur Swain Mitchell dated February 1, 1944. Double slashes (//) between source codes separate different sources which gave me the same information. A single slash (/) between dates indicates the information was from one source, but they gave me the same information on multiple occasions.

My prime objective is to record the information I have on the lives of my great-grandparents and keep track of the sources. At this point, I have mainly family accounts of the lives of John Lee and Mary Emma Banner in these notes as well as information from books and newspaper articles telling of the time and place in which they lived. For anyone interested in learning more about this couple, a lot of material could probably still be obtained from sources I have not had time to pursue, such as land deeds, wills, newspaper accounts where various family members were mentioned, church records, etc.

John Lee Banner died before I was born. Mary Emma Banner died when I was almost two years old. I have no recollection of her although my parents took me to visit her quite often. Before I started first grade, my parents moved from Mount Airy, North Carolina, to Florida where I grew up with only

occasional visits to North Carolina and the relatives still living there. My purpose in writing this book is to preserve for my children and cousins a few of the ties they have to a charming, friendly little town in North Carolina called Mount Airy. Their Banner ancestors lived in that area for many, many generations.

Charlotte Anne Mitchell "Char" McDaniel
1998

Please send any correspondence to:

Charlotte M. McDaniel
6904 Loudoun Lane
Springfield, VA 22152

Phone: (703) 569-6699

E-mail: char.mcd@juno.com

What a mystery blood was—how did a tiny gesture, a tone of voice, endure through generations like the harder verities of flesh? He had seen it again and again, watching his nieces and nephews grow, and accepted without thought the echoes of parent and grandparent that appeared for brief moments, the shadow of a face looking back through the years—that vanished again into the face that was now...Perhaps that was why parents watched their weans in such enchantment, he thought; finding out all the tiny links between them, that bound the chains of life, one generation to the next.

Diana Gabaldon, Drums of Autumn, 1997

SOURCE CODES

1870/CEN	1870/Census
1880/CEN	1880/Census
1900/CEN	1900/Census
1910/CEN	1910/Census
1920/CEN	1920/Census
4 th /TMAN	<u>"Fourth Of July Celebration"/The Mount Airy News</u>
ABB/BFG	Alma Banner Bivens/Banner Family Genealogy
ABB/TMAN	Alma Banner Bivens/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
ABM	Anne Banner Mitchell
ABM/DAR	Anne Banner Mitchell/DAR Application
ABM/FB	Anne Banner Mitchell/Family Bible
ABM/LTR	Anne Banner Mitchell/Letter
ABM/PP	Anne Banner Mitchell/Personal Papers
ABST/NEWS	<u>Abstracts of Births, Deaths, Marriages & Other Items of Interest</u> <u>From Mt. Airy, NC Newspapers 1872-1895</u>
AHM	Alma Hines Mitchell
AM/F&D	<u>The Encyclopedia of American Facts and Dates</u>
AMW	Agnes M. Wells
ASM/LTR	Arthur Swain Mitchell/Letter
BMD	Barry Michael Diffie
BOAT/P	Boat Painting
C&R	<u>Collections And Recollections</u>
CARTER/HOL	W. F. Carter, Jr., & C. Y. Carter, <u>Footprints in the Hollows</u>
CAK	Dr. Carl A. Kauffman
CCD/TMAN	<u>"Commercial Club Dance 1914"/The Mount Airy News</u>
CDG	Cynthia Diffie "Cindy" Gallucci
CMR/RPW	Company Muster Roll/Roll of Prisoners of War
CW/C&T	Christine Weiss/ <u>Car & Travel</u>
DDF	Deborah Diffie "Debbie" Fahy
DG/DA	Diana Gabaldon/ <u>Drums of Autumn</u>
EP/TMAN	Eleanor Powell/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
EXP/TMAN	<u>"Explosion, Fire Hit Main Street"/The Mount Airy News</u>
FAM/MEDG	<u>Family Medical Guide</u>
FBP	Family Bible Page
FDR/WBE	<u>"Franklin Delano Roosevelt"/The World Book Encyclopedia</u>
FMG	<u>Better Homes and Gardens Family Medical Guide</u>
FTM	Family Tree Maker Genealogy Software
GBP	Gary B. Prather
GD/WBE	<u>"Great Depression"/The World Book Encyclopedia</u>
GH/WP	Georgiana Havill/ <u>The Washington Post</u>
GLD	Genevive Lukasik "Gen" Diffie
GRO/MAT	<u>"Industrial Growth Has Significant Heritage, Place In Surry</u> <u>History,"/Mount Airy Times.</u>
GRO/TMAN	<u>"How State Has Grown"/The Mount Airy News</u>

HBJ/HERIT	Hester Barlett Jackson/ <u>The Heritage of Surry County North Carolina, Volume I</u>
HST/TMAN	"Directory of Surry County Historic Sites"/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
INC/MAT	"City Incorporated Over 95 Years Ago"/ <u>Mount Airy Times</u>
JBM	John Banner Mitchell
JBM/BC	John Banner Mitchell/Birth Certificate
JCO	John Chatham Olive
JEF	James Edward "Jim" Fahy
JGH/HST	J. G. Hollingsworth/ <u>History of Surry County</u>
JH	John Hawks
JHC/WACH	John Henry Clewell/ <u>History of Wachovia in N.C.</u>
JLB/CD	John Lee Banner/Certificate of Death
JMHM	James Madison Hines Mitchell
JRSII	James Raymond Smith II
JSC	Judy Stanley Cardwell
KHW	Kathleen Hawks Walker
KMR	Kathleen Mitchell "Kacky" Rozendal
KMR/LTR	Kathleen Mitchell "Kacky" Rozendal/Letter
LAD	Linda Adams Diffie
LBH	Elizabeth Banner "Lib" Hudgins
LDJ	Love Diffie Jones
LDS	Love Diffie Smith
LIZ/TMAN	"There's little left of 'Miss Lizzie's School'"/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
LP/TREAS	Laura A. W. Phillips/ <u>Simple Treasures</u>
LWB	Lorna W. Barrett
LWB/MAR	Lorna W. Barrett/ <u>Marriages of Surry County, N.C. 1869-1899</u>
LWK/O&N	L. W. Kallam/ <u>Surry County Old and New, Vol. I</u>
MBM	Margaret Beard McMichael
MDH	Mary Diffie Hooser
MDS	Michael David "Mike" Smith
MEB/AB	Mary Emma Banner/Autograph Book
MEB/CD	Mary Emma Banner/Certificate of Death
MEB/PC	Mary Emma Banner/Postcard
MFS	Moody Funeral Services, Inc.
NPA/TMAN	Newspaper Article/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
NPA/MAT	Newspaper Article/ <u>Mount Airy Times</u>
NPC/UD	Newspaper Clipping/Undated
NPP	Newspaper Picture
NPP/TMAN	Newspaper Picture/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
PA/SA	Photo Album/St. Augustine
PC/UD	Postcard/Undated
PD/WMT?	Paul Drake/ <u>What Did They Mean By That?</u>
PH	Mary Lee Hawks "Polly" Hodge
PH/LTR	Polly Hodge/Letter
PHOTO	Photograph
PHOTO/RNL	Photograph/ <u>Richmond News Leader</u>
PHOTO/TMAN	Photograph/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
PHOTO/MAT	Photograph/ <u>The Mount Airy Times</u>
PHOTO/UD	Photograph/Undated

"CAP" MITCHELL

RCD/MAN	Richard C. Davids/ <u>The Man Who Moved a Mountain</u>
RM/MAT	Ruth Minick/ <u>Mount Airy Times</u>
SCH/TMAN	"Schools Have Come a Long Way in 78 Years"/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
SDH	Susan Diffie Hess
SH	Sis Hennis
TC/AJ&C	Tom Chaffin/ <u>The Atlanta Journal and Constitution</u>
TIME/HST	<u>The Time Tables of History</u>
TRAIN/TMAN	"The Train Came To Mt. Airy In 1877"/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
VOA/DIR	Virginia Optometric Association Directory
WB/MEDENC	<u>The World Book Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center Medical Encyclopedia</u>
WK/CEM	Wallace Kallam/Kallam Cemetery Books
WC/TMAN	"Workmen's Chartered in 1910"/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
WC/WAR	Walter Clark/ <u>Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War 1861 - '65.</u>
WED/TMAN	"Wedding of Great Social Interest"/ <u>The Mount Airy News</u>
WPB/HST	William Perry Banner, <u>The Banner Family of North Carolina, History and Genealogy</u>
WSD/JR	William S. "JR" Diffie, Jr.
WSD/SR	William S. "Bill" Diffie, Sr.

Note: For more information on these sources see Additional Source Information at the end of this book.

Ancestors of Charlotte Anne "Char" MITCHELL

Arthur Swain MITCHELL
b: Apx 31 Oct 1881 in Norfolk Co., VA
m: 22 Nov 1909 in Greensboro, NC
d: 15 Feb 1945 in Washington, DC

John Banner MITCHELL
b: 12 Apr 1917 in Petersburg, VA
m: 22 Feb 1941 in Mount Airy, NC

John Lee BANNER
b: 23 Aug 1864 in Forsyth Co., NC
m: 4 May 1886 in Surry Co., NC
d: 15 Oct 1922 in Mount Airy, NC

Anne Lee BANNER
b: 5 Feb 1887 in Mount Airy, Surry Co., NC
d: 26 Feb 1967 in Ormond Beach, FL

Mary Emma BANNER
b: 4 Oct 1865 in Surry Co., NC
d: 8 Jan 1947 in Mount Airy, NC

Charlotte Anne "Char" MITCHELL
b: 20 Jan 1945 in Mount Airy, NC
m: 29 Jun 1968 in Ormond Beach, FL

William H. "Willie" HINES
b: 30 Jan 1844
m: 4 May 1876
d: 15 Mar 1906 in Carroll Co., VA

James Madison "Matt" HINES
b: 31 Jul 1893 in Carroll Co., VA
m: 12 May 1917 in Mount Airy, NC
d: 4 Jul 1980 in Daytona Beach, FL

Mary E. Virginia "Mollie" MITCHELL
b: 16 Jun 1854 in Franklin Co., VA
d: 5 Aug 1935 in Carroll Co., VA

Alma Stella HINES
b: 12 Oct 1918 in Carroll Co., VA

James J. Milton "Jim" PARKER
b: 6 Oct 1869 in Yadkin Co., NC
m: 29 Aug 1889 in Mount Airy, NC
d: 19 Nov 1936 in Mount Airy, NC

Stella Sherman PARKER
b: 21 Mar 1895 in Mount Airy, NC
d: 17 Aug 1989 in Ormond Beach, FL

Susie A. SIMPSON
b: Oct 1871 in Mount Airy, NC
d: 17 Nov 1950 in Mount Airy, NC

Ancestors of John Lee BANNER

Benjamin BANNER, Sr.
b: 20 May 1753 in Rowan Co., NC
d: Apx 1844 in NC

Benjamin BANNER, Jr.
b: in Stokes Co., NC
m: 27 Mar 1825

Sarah --?--

Wilson Clayton BANNER
b: 2 Aug 1826 in NC
d: 17 Apr 1893 in NC

Margaret GEIGER
b: in NC

John Lee BANNER
b: 23 Aug 1864 in Forsyth Co., NC
m: 4 May 1886 in Surry Co., NC
d: 15 Oct 1922 in Mount Airy, NC

Frederick MORRIS
b: in NC

Martha Ann MORRIS
b: Apx 1842 in NC
d: 7 Dec 1912

Polly HORN
b: in NC

Ancestors of Benjamin BANNER, Sr.

Henry BANNER
b: Apx 1724 in England
m: 1748
d: 28 Nov 1789 in NC

Benjamin BANNER, Sr.
b: 20 May 1753 in Rowan (later Surry then Stokes) Co., NC
d: Apx 1844 in NC

Eleanor MARTIN

Ancestors of Mary Emma BANNER

Charles BANNER
b: 3 Sep 1773 in NC
m: 25 Jan 1798 in Stokes Co., NC
d: 21 Sep 1857 in Surry Co., NC

John BANNER
b: 21 Mar 1801 in Stokes County, NC
m: 22 Dec 1825 in Stokes Co., NC
d: 29 Aug 1888

Rebecca Apjones EVANS
b: 13 Aug 1776
d: 4 May 1856

John Elisha BANNER
b: 15 Apr 1835 in Surry Co., NC
m: 31 Jul 1861
d: 1909 in Surry Co., NC

William MOORE
b: 20 Feb 1775 in Stokes Co., NC
m: 8 Jan 1805
d: 8 Aug 1869 in Stokes Co., NC

Virginia MOORE
b: 28 Nov 1805 in Stokes Co., NC
d: 17 Jun 1891 in Surry Co., NC

Mary Emma BANNER
b: 4 Oct 1865 in Surry Co., NC
m: 4 May 1886 in Surry Co., NC
d: 8 Jan 1947 in Mount Airy, NC

Mary Letitia "Polly" MARTIN
b: 22 Oct 1780 in Stokes Co., NC
d: 18 Jun 1839 in Stokes Co., NC

Thomas Henry Franklin PRATHER
b: Apx 1783 in Rowan Co., NC
m: 1807 in Rowan Co., NC
d: Apx 1855 in Surry Co., NC

Eli Franklin PRATHER
b: Apx 1822 in NC
m: 7 May 1840 in Bath Co., KY
d: 7 Dec 1890 in Morehead, KY

Ruth HICKS
b: Apx 1785 in NC

Louisa Ellen PRATHER
b: Aug 1843 in Bath Co., KY
d: 17 Oct 1917

John BEAL

Margaret Jane BEAL
b: in KY

Ancestors of Charles BANNER

Henry BANNER
b: Apx 1724 in England
m: 1748
d: 28 Nov 1789 in NC

Joseph BANNER, Sr.
b: 28 Dec 1749 in PA
m: 16 May 1771 in NC
d: 25 Apr 1838 in Stokes Co., NC

Eleanor MARTIN

Charles BANNER
b: 3 Sep 1773 in NC
m: 25 Jan 1798 in Stokes Co., NC
d: 21 Sep 1857 in Surry Co., NC

Charles McANALLY, Sr.
b: Apx 1685 in Scotland
d: 1740-1749 in Lancaster, PA

Charles McANALLY, Jr.
b: 11 Sep 1731 in PA
d: 7 Aug 1810 in Stokes Co., NC

Sarah HOUSTON (?)

Sarah McANALLY
b: 10 Aug 1755 in Augusta Co., VA
d: 26 Sep 1843 in Stokes Co., NC

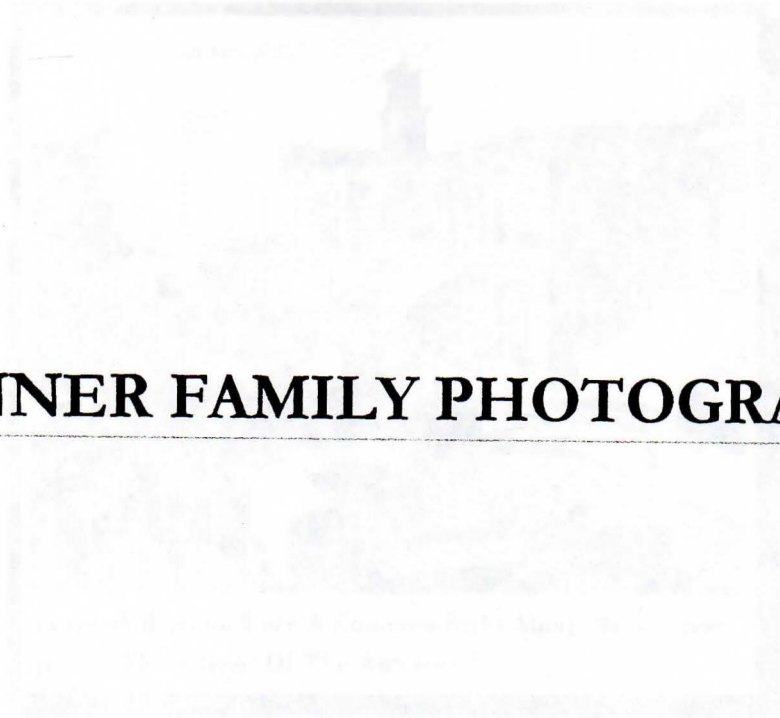
R. H.
b: 24 Dec 1736
d: 4 Oct 1806 in Stokes Co., NC

Descendants of John Lee BANNER

- 1 John Lee BANNER b: 23 Aug 1864 d: 15 Oct 1922 Age at death: 58
 - ... +Mary Emma BANNER b: 4 Oct 1865 m: 4 May 1886 d: 8 Jan 1947 Age at death: 81
- 2 Anne Lee BANNER b: 5 Feb 1887 d: 26 Feb 1967 Age at death: 80
 - ... +Arthur Swain MITCHELL b: Apx 31 Oct 1881 m: 22 Nov 1909 d: 15 Feb 1945 Age at death: 63 est.
- 3 Kathleen Banner MITCHELL b: 13 Oct 1910 d: 30 Jan 1980 Age at death: 69
 - +Henry D. Rozendal m: 19 Feb 1938 d: Mar 1981 Age at death: ?
- 3 John Banner MITCHELL b: 12 Apr 1917
 - +Alma Stella HINES b: 12 Oct 1918 m: 22 Feb 1941
- ... 4 Charlotte Anne "Char" MITCHELL b: 20 Jan 1945
 - +James Iley "Jim" McDANIEL b: 30 May 1944 m: 29 Jun 1968
- 5 Scott Madison McDANIEL b: 6 Feb 1970
 - +Michelle Christine LEE b: 6 Feb 1969 m: 8 Aug 1992
- 5 Mason Banner McDANIEL b: 1 Mar 1973
 - +Amy Kathryn BASS b: 24 Aug 1974 m: 31 Dec 1996
- ... 4 James Madison Hines "Jim" MITCHELL b: 10 Sep 1947
 - +Suzanne Lavone SMITH m: 8 Dec 1977
- ... *2nd Wife of James Madison Hines "Jim" MITCHELL:
 - +Susan Lee MOOG b: 31 May 1961 m: 22 Nov 1997
- 5 Dylan Moog MITCHELL b: 25 Jun 1998
- ... *2nd Wife of John Banner MITCHELL:
 - +Nancy Barbara Jean Hardwick m: 27 Nov 1965
- 2 Alma Louisa BANNER b: 3 Apr 1889 d: 1976 Age at death: 86 est.
 - ... +Edward Chatham BIVENS b: 1886 m: Nov 1915 d: 1958 Age at death: 72 est.
- 3 Beverly Banner BIVENS b: 1918 d: 21 Sep 1974 Age at death: 56 est.
 - +John Worth OLIVE b: 21 Aug 1921
- ... 4 John Chatham OLIVE b: 6 Jan 1949
 - +Janice "Jan" PAJAKOWSKI b: 18 Dec 1946 m: 8 May 1976
- 5 John Courtney OLIVE b: 19 Mar 1977
- ... 4 Worth Banner OLIVE b: 27 May 1950
- 2 Kathleen BANNER b: Apx 1892 d: Aug 1944 Age at death: 52 est.
 - ... +Posey Lester HAWKS b: 1887 m: 1912 d: Apx 1959 Age at death: 72 est.
- 3 Mary Lee "Polly" HAWKS b: 22 Feb 1915
 - +Norwood HODGE b: 30 Nov 1914 m: 23 Sep 1934
- 3 William HAWKS b: 1919 d: 1931 Age at death: 12 est.
- 3 John Lester HAWKS b: 11 Nov 1921 d: 11 May 1986 Age at death: 64
 - +Alyce GERBER b: 12 Jan 1926 m: 7 Feb 1948
- ... 4 Kathleen Banner HAWKS b: 1 Aug 1949
 - +Edgar Robert WALKER, Jr. b: 26 Nov 1947 m: 6 Jun 1970
- 5 Stephen Carey WALKER b: 6 Jan 1976
- 5 Jennifer Lee WALKER b: 19 Mar 1978
- 2 Mary John BANNER
- 2 Love Hilliard BANNER b: 2 Aug 1902 d: 29 Apr 1971 Age at death: 68
 - ... +James Marsh DIFFEE, Jr. b: 27 May 1902 m: 22 Feb 1929 d: 29 Jun 1994 Age at death: 92
- 3 Love Banner DIFFEE b: 28 Dec 1929
 - +Raymond Alfred SMITH, Jr. b: 5 Jul 1924 m: 10 Jun 1950 d: 14 Jan 1995 Age at death: 70
- ... 4 James Raymond SMITH II b: 26 Sep 1951
 - +Rosalind HEALD m: Dec 1971
- 5 Louisa Love SMITH b: 23 Apr 1973
- +Jerry BENNETT
- 6 Brian BENNETT
- 5 Jamie Ross SMITH b: 16 Aug 1974
- ... *2nd Wife of James Raymond SMITH II:
 - +Anne Ross RUTLEDGE b: 10 Jul 1956 m: 3 Nov 1979
- 5 James Raymond SMITH III b: 20 Oct 1983
- 5 Joseph Graham Rutledge SMITH b: 10 May 1990
- ... 4 Michael David "Mike" SMITH b: 15 Feb 1955
 - +Stacey Louise BRUNEAU b: 22 Feb 1960 m: 6 Dec 1986
- 3 James Marsh "Jimmy" DIFFEE III b: 19 Jan 1933 d: 21 Feb 1995 Age at death: 62
 - +Linda Mae ADAMS b: 5 Nov 1933 m: 10 Jun 1954
- ... 4 James Standard "JR" DIFFEE
 - +Beverly
- 5 Erica DIFFEE
- ... 4 Cynthia Lee "Cindy" DIFFEE b: 17 Jul 1959
 - +Andrew HICKMAN
- 5 Linda Michelle RAMER b: 3 Mar 1977
- +Gene KLOUDA
- 6 Gene Scott KLOUDA b: Aug 1996
- ... *1st Husband of Cynthia Lee "Cindy" DIFFEE:
 - +Charles RAMER b: 19 Jul 1955
- 5 Ryan Charles RAMER b: 4 Feb 1982

... *2nd Husband of Cynthia Lee "Cindy" DIFFEE:
..... +Carl GALLUCCI
... 5 Christopher Andrew GALLUCCI b: 15 Feb 1994
... 4 Susan Ann DIFFEE b: 29 Jan 1962
..... +Donald Jay "Don" HESS b: 28 May 1956 m: 12 Jan 1985
... 5 Donald Robert HESS b: 24 Sep 1987
... 4 Mary Lynn DIFFEE b: 5 May 1963
..... +James MAROUN m: 1982
... 5 Aaron HOOSER b: 23 Jun 1984
... *2nd Husband of Mary Lynn DIFFEE:
..... +David Duane HOOSER b: 15 Nov 1964 m: 1986
... 5 David Tyler HOOSER b: 2 Nov 1988
... 3 William Sherman "Bill" DIFFEE b: 19 Jan 1933
..... +Genevieve "Gen" LUKASIK b: 19 Dec 1934 m: 29 Sep 1956
... 4 William Sherman "JR" DIFFEE, Jr. b: 18 Jul 1957
..... +Debra Lynn "Debbie" ABESHAHEEN b: 8 Mar 1956 m: 1 Feb 1991
... 5 William Sherman DIFFEE III b: 19 Aug 1991
... 5 David Abeshaheen DIFFEE b: 20 Sep 1993
... 5 Douglas Brent DIFFEE b: 23 Feb 1995
... 5 Melanie Corrine DIFFEE b: 3 May 1997
... 4 Love Anne DIFFEE b: 18 Jul 1957
..... +Patrick LOFTIS b: 1955 m: 1974
... 5 Tricia Love JONES b: 10 Aug 1974
... 5 Patrick William JONES b: 6 Apr 1976
... *2nd Husband of Love Anne DIFFEE:
..... +Mark Hampton JONES b: 10 Nov 1955 m: 21 May 1982
... 5 Mark Hampton JONES, Jr. b: 21 Jun 1988
... 4 Deborah Jean "Debbie" DIFFEE b: 26 Nov 1958
..... +James Edward "Jim" FAHY b: 8 Sep 1939 m: 23 Jun 1979
... 5 Rebecca Marie "Becky" FAHY b: 20 Mar 1980
... 5 James Edward "Jimmy" FAHY II b: 26 Jan 1982
... 4 Barry Michael DIFFEE b: 1 Aug 1960
..... +Darlene Rae EGGENA b: 2 Feb 1963 m: 29 Jun 1997

... Mount Airy, North Carolina during the ... L. Banner
... from the February 24, 1976 issue of the Mount Airy News.

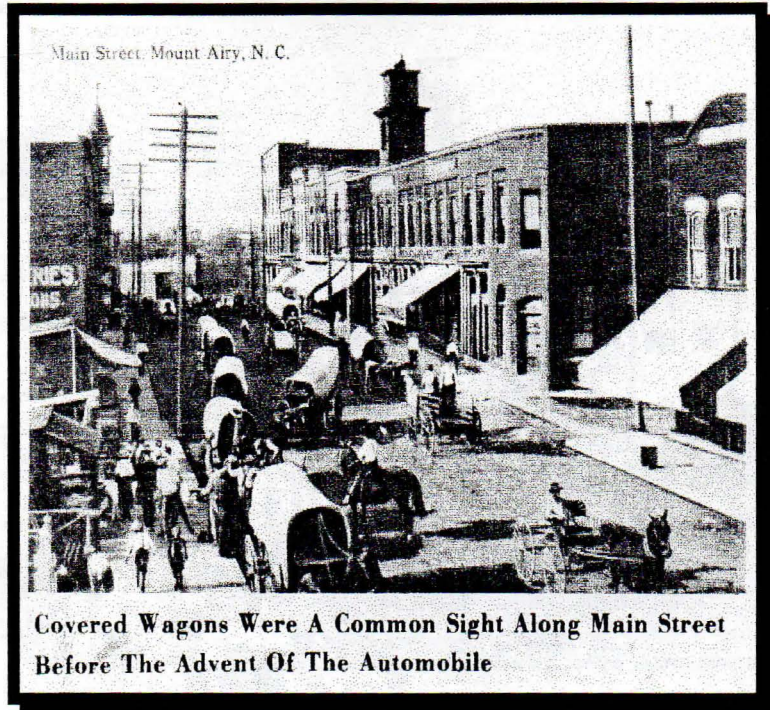


BANNER FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS



The Hotel And Saloon, Looking South On N. ...

Pictures of downtown Mount Airy, North Carolina during the years the John L. Banner family lived there. Taken from the February 24, 1976 issue of The Mount Airy News.

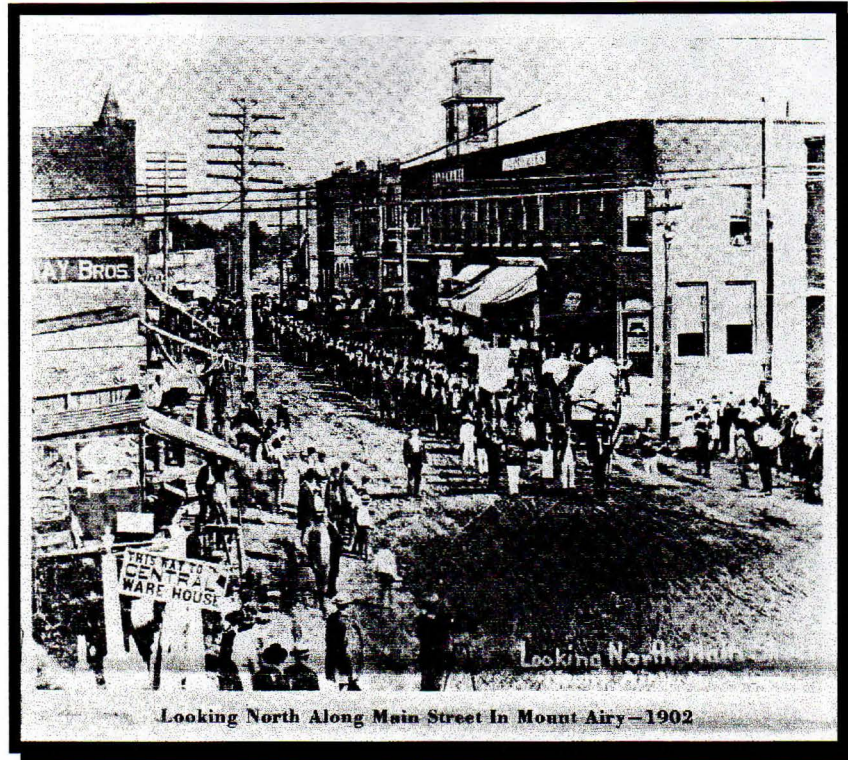


"Covered Wagons Were A Common Sight Along Main Street Before The Advent Of The Automobile."

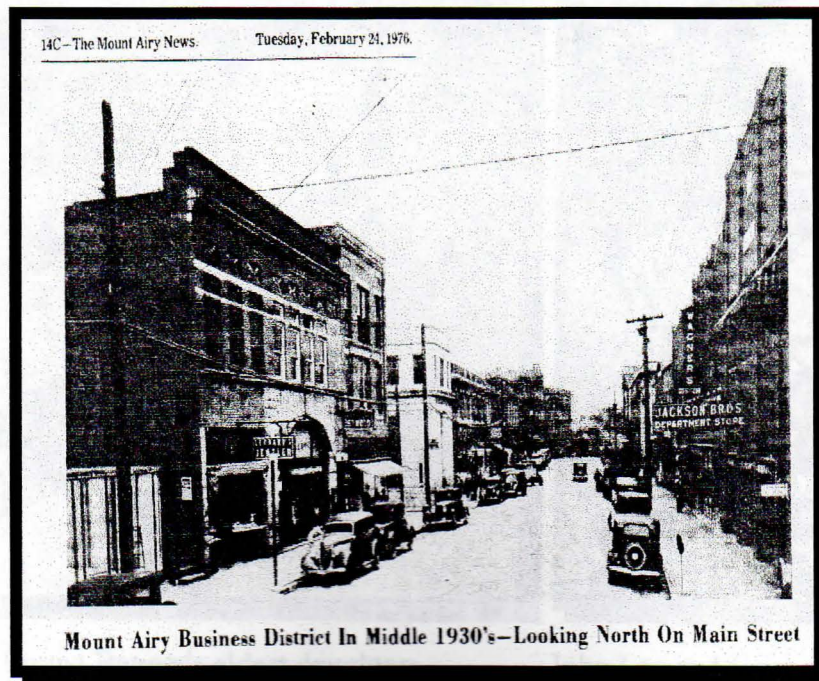


"Old Blue Ridge Hotel And Saloon, Looking South On Main Street, 1896."

Pictures of downtown Mount Airy, North Carolina during the years the John L. Banner family lived there. Taken from the February 24, 1976 issue of The Mount Airy News.



"Looking North Along Main Street in Mount Airy--1902."



"Mount Airy Business District In Middle 1930's--Looking North on Main Street."



Portrait of Mary Emma Banner (1865-1947)
of Mount Airy, North Carolina.



John Lee and Emma Banner's eldest daughters,
Anne Lee Banner (1887-1967), left, and
Alma Louisa Banner (1889-1976).



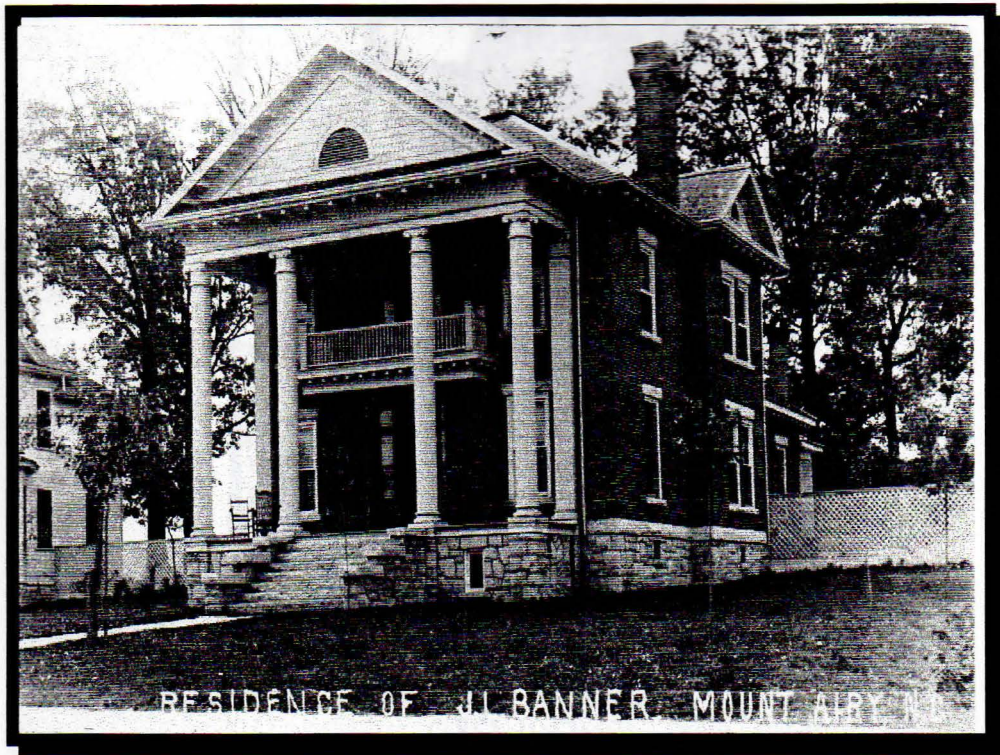
John Lee and Emma's third daughter,
Kathleen Banner (1892-1944), at her
graduation from Mount Airy High School.



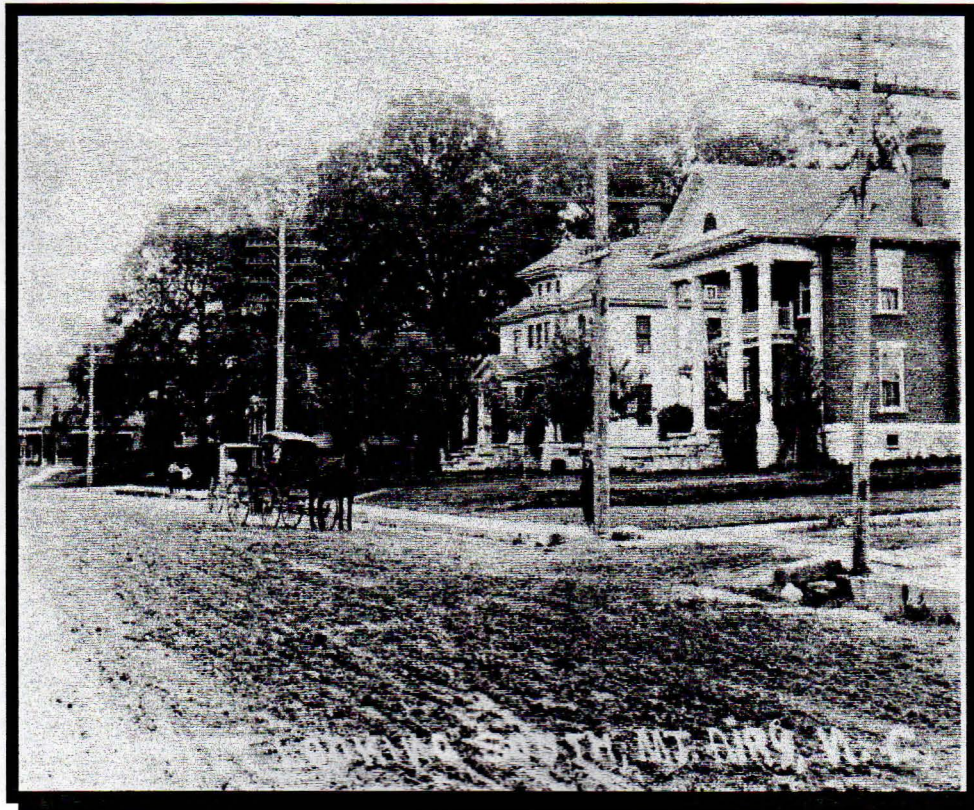
Mary Emma Banner Banner
(1865-1947)
Mount Airy, North Carolina



John Lee Banner
(1864-1922)
Mount Airy, North Carolina



Taken in the early 1900s, this photograph shows the residence of John Lee Banner and family on Main Street in Mount Airy, North Carolina.



In this photograph, looking south on Main Street, the Banner's home is on the far right. Next door the E. C. Foy home is visible, followed by the Gilmer home behind the trees. The John L. Ashby, Sr. home is shown in the left background.



Mary Emma B. Banner
(1865-1947)



Anne Banner Mitchell
(1887-1967)



Alma Banner Bivens
(1889-1976)

Anne and Alma were the two oldest daughters of Mary Emma and John Lee Banner.



John Lee and Mary Emma Banner are shown here at a family gathering in Mount Airy, North Carolina. This photograph was taken in the early 1920s. Their daughter, Anne B. Mitchell, wrote the following information on the back of the photograph:

Top row -- left to right:

Moir Moore
 Aunt Delia -- Jim Banner's mother
 Mrs. John Brower
 Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Banner [Anne's parents]
 Mrs. C. L. Banner (Aunt Marietta)
 Mrs. Jesse F. Moore (Aunt Ann)

Middle row -- left to right:

Mr. and Mrs. Marshal Davidson
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Banner -- Texas
 Mrs. Frank Moore (cousin Rach)

Bottom row -- left to right:

Anne Banner Mitchell
 Matthew Moore (Uncle Buck)
 Alma B. Bivens
 Beverly B. Bivens



John Lee Banner holding an unidentified child.



John Banner Mitchell clowning around at the beach with his grandmother, Mary Emma Banner. *The photograph was taken in December 1926 on Vilano Beach in Saint Augustine, Florida.*



Mary Emma Banner in Saint Augustine, Florida while visiting her daughter, Anne Banner Mitchell. *The photograph was taken in late 1926 or early 1927.*



Above: Mary Emma Banner with some friends of her daughter, Anne. The photograph was taken on February 13, 1927 while they were on a trip to Silver Springs, Florida. Anne wrote their names in a photograph album she assembled for her mother. She identified them, left to right: Charlie, Mr. King, "Tilly," Willis, "Holly," Mama (Emma Banner), and Brownie.



Right: Emma Banner, on the same 1927 trip to Silver Springs, with Elsie (standing to Emma's left), Brownie (seated), and young John Banner Mitchell, Emma's grandson, eating an ice cream cone.



Left: Anne B. Mitchell with her son, John B. Mitchell, in front of her mother Emma Banner's home on Main Street in Mount Airy, North Carolina. This photograph was taken in 1936.

Right: Emma Banner with her family in Staunton, Virginia. She was attending the 1939 graduation of her granddaughter, Beverly Bivens, from Mary Baldwin College. Front row, left to right: Anne Banner Mitchell and Kathleen Banner Hawks. Back row: Mary Emma Banner, Beverly Bivens, Judge Edward Chatham Bivens, and Alma Banner Bivens.





Anne Lee Banner Mitchell
(1887-1967)



Kathleen Banner Hawks
(1892/93-1944)



Love Hilliard Banner Diffie
(1902-1971)

The daughters of Mary Emma and John Lee Banner.

JOHN LEE BANNER
(1864 - 1922)

AND

MARY EMMA BANNER
(1865 - 1947)

YOUTH, 1864 - 1886

JOHN LEE'S BIRTH

John Lee Banner was my great-grandfather. He was born in 1864. [ABM/PP, obtained late 1950s.] Anne Banner Mitchell, my grandmother, gave me that information. She was John Lee's oldest daughter. When I was a young teenager in the 1950s, Anne gave me a handwritten list of our ancestors. That was the first time I was aware of the name of her father. About that same time, Anne also gave me an application form for the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). [CMM, 3 May 1998.] On that DAR form Anne had penciled in that John Lee Banner was born on August 23rd. [ABM/DA, obtained late 1950s.]

His birth date was confirmed by other sources as well, two of which stated that he was born on August 23, 1864. [MFS, 3 May 1998 // JLB/CD, 16 Oct 1922.] The census of 1870 indicated that John Lee lived with his parents in Middle Fork Township in Forsyth County, North Carolina, and that he was five years old in July, 1870. [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870.] That age is consistent with a birth year of 1864. The following month, in August of 1870, he would have been six years old. [CMM, 10 Mar 1998.] The census of 1900 also contains the information that John was born in August, 1864. [1900/CEN, 21 Jun 1900.]

According to information on his Certificate of Death, John Lee was born in Forsyth County, North Carolina. His parents were W. C. Banner, who was born in Stokes County, North Carolina, and Ann Morris, also born in Stokes County. [JLB/CD, 16 Oct. 1922.] Another source says that John Lee's parents were Wilson Clayton Banner (1826 - 1893) and Martha Ann Morris (1841 - 1912). [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155.] Wilson Clayton may have been born in 1827 and Martha Ann may have been born in 1842. [JSC, 12 Mar 1998.] Wilson's name, according to one source, may have been Wesley instead of Wilson. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] The name Wesley, however, is inconsistent with any other information I have. [CMM 3 May 1998.] On the census of 1870 his name was written as "Banner, Wilson E" (It was our Wilson because the proper wife and children were listed with him.), and on the census of 1880 he was listed as "Banner, W. C." In each census, 1870 and 1880, Martha was listed as "Banner, Martha A." [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870 // 1880/CEN, 10 Jun 1880.]

Wilson Clayton Banner's father (and John Lee's grandfather) was Benjamin Banner, Jr. and Wilson's mother (John Lee's grandmother) was Margaret Geiger. Benjamin Jr. and Margaret were married on March 27, 1825. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155.] They were married in Stokes County, North Carolina. Margaret was called "Peggy" and her last name has been listed as Geiger or Kiger. Benjamin Jr. was born in 1790 in Stokes County, NC, and died there after November 23, 1846. [JSC, 9 Aug 1997.]

Martha Ann Morris, Wilson Clayton Banner's wife, (and John Lee's mother) was born in 1842 in Stokes County, North Carolina, and died on December 7, 1912 in Surry County. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] Martha Ann's parents were Frederick Morris and Polly Horn. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997 // ABB/BFG, 1965.]

When John Lee Banner was born in 1864, the Civil War was raging on and tearing the country apart. A few weeks after John Lee's birth, Abraham Lincoln was elected for a second term as President of the United States. Earlier that year, General Ulysses S. Grant had taken over as the Commander in Chief of the Federal armies. Less than two months after John Lee's birth, Nevada was admitted as the 36th state to join the union. That was the year "In God We Trust" first appeared on a United States coin: the 1864 two cent piece. [AM/F&D, p. 272 - 274.]

According to some sources Wilson Clayton and Martha Ann Banner had seven children, including John Lee. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155 // JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] However, a newspaper article telling of Wilson Clayton's death in 1893 said they had eight children, seven of whom survived. [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p. 106.] While they were rearing their children, Wilson and Martha lived in Middle Fork Township in Forsyth County, North Carolina. [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870 // 1880/CEN, 10 Jun 1880.]

JOHN LEE'S BROTHERS AND SISTERS

A list of Wilson Clayton and Martha Ann Morris Banner's children follows (including John Lee):

- 1) William Franklin Banner (1859 - 1910) was born in Forsyth Co., NC, and died in Forsyth Co. when he was 51 years old. William Franklin married Ida Mae Banner (1862-1931) on 21 Oct 1886 in Surry Co., NC. She was the daughter of John Elisha Banner and Louisa Ellen Prather. Ida Mae died in Knoxville, TN, at the age of 69. They had three children: Kent Rawley Banner (born in 1898), May Banner and Marie Banner. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] Another source had some of the same material except it stated that William F. Banner was born in 1858 and that his wife Ida _____ was born in 1865 and died in 1947. [WPB, 1979, p. 155.] (Those are actually the birth and death years for Ida's sister Mary Emma Banner. [CMM, 8 Aug 1998.]) Yet another source confirmed that William Franklin Banner married Ida May Banner. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] William F. Banner, son of Wilson and Martha Banner, appeared on the census of 1870 as an 11-year-old farm laborer and on the census of 1880 as their 21-year-old son who was a laborer and had attended school within the census year. [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870 // 1880/CEN, 10 Jun 1880.]
- 2) Mary Elizabeth Banner's name is recorded in one source. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 156.] A second source had Elizabeth listed as being married to George Snyder. [ABB/BFG, 1996.] Yet another source had the same name, Mary Elizabeth Banner, with additional information. Mary Elizabeth (1860 - 1915) was born in Germanton, Stokes Co., NC, and died in Forsyth Co. In 1880 she married George D. Snyder in Forsyth Co. They had four children: Mary Ann, Robah Lee, Luther Preston, and Carrie Victoria. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Wilson and Martha, was said to be 9 years old in 1870 and 20 years old in 1880. It was in 1880 she appeared on the United States census living next to her parents with her husband Geo. D. Snyder. [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870 // 1880/CEN, 10 Jun 1880.]
- 3) Minerva Jettie Banner, (1862 - 1893), was born and died in Forsyth County, NC. She died at the age of 30. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997 // WPB/HST, 1979, p. 156.] Manerva (census of 1870) and Minirva J. (census of 1880), the daughter of Wilson and Martha, was listed on census records as 8 years old

in 1870 and 17 years old in 1880. As a 17-year-old, she had attended school within the census year. [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870 // 1880/CEN, 10 Jun 1880.] One source said Jetty married Oliver Haymore. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

- 4) John Lee Banner (1864 – 1922) was recorded in several sources. John Lee married Mary Emma Banner. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155.] Another source said that John Lee Banner was born in Surry Co., NC, and married Mary Emma Banner in 1886. They had five children: Annie Lee, Alma Louise, Kathleen, Mary John and Love Hilliard Banner. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] Another source listed the same information except Mary John was deleted, and the name Ida Banner was included as a child of this couple. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155.] That was incorrect. Ida Banner was a sister of Mary Emma and not her child. Mary John was John Lee and Mary Emma's child who died in infancy. [KMR, 22 Nov 1979.] John L. Banner, son of Wilson and Martha, appeared on the censuses of 1870 and 1880 as 5 and 15 years old respectively. As a 15-year-old, he had attended school within the census year. John Lee's occupation was listed as "at home" the year of that census, whereas his 21-year-old brother, William F. Banner, was listed as a laborer while also attending school within the census year. [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870 // 1880/CEN, 10 Jun 1880.]
- 5) Joseph Benjamin Banner (1867 – 1939) was born in Forsyth Co., NC. He married Cora B. Gwyn (1878 -) in 1897. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] Another source said her name was Cora Ashby Gwyn. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] They had four children: Wilson Claude Banner, Joseph Benton Banner, Mary Banner, and Eva Banner. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997] Another source had the same information except he said that Joseph Benjamin Banner was born in 1866 and his son was named William Claude. [WPB/HST, 1979, pp. 155-156.] Joseph B. Banner, son of Wilson and Martha Banner, appeared on the censuses of 1870 and 1880 as 3 and 12 years old respectively. As a 12-year-old, he had attended school within the census year. [1870/CEN, 22 Jul 1870 // 1880/CEN, 10 Jun 1880.]
- 6) Lillie Banner was listed in two sources. [WPB, 1979, p. 156. // JSC, 30 1997.] Wilson and Martha Banner's daughter, Lily A. Banner, was listed in the census of 1880 as an 8-year-old who attended school within the census year. [1880/CEN, 10 Jun, 1880.] If the information in the census of 1880 is correct, Lily A. Banner would have been born about 1872. [CMM, 10 Mar 1998.] Another source spelled her name "Lilly" and said she married William Roberts. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]
- 7) Victoria Banner appears in a family book. [WPB, 1979, p. 156.] Wilson and Martha Banner's daughter, Victoria Banner, was listed in the census of 1880 as being 5 years old. [1880/CEN, 10 Jun, 1880.] If the information in the census of 1880 is correct, Victoria Banner would have been born about 1875. [CMM, 10 Mar 1998.] Victoria married John W. Bondurant. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

EMMA'S BIRTH

My great-grandmother, Mary Emma Banner, was born on October 4, 1865. [MFS, 3 May 1998 // MEB/CD, 8 Feb 1947.] Andrew Johnson was the President of the United States at the time of her birth, having assumed the presidency about six months earlier after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. Just a few days before Lincoln's assassination General Robert E. Lee had capitulated to General Ulysses S. Grant and terms of surrender were negotiated and agreed upon at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. That effectively ended the United States of America's Civil War. [AM/F&D, p. 278.]

Mary Emma's father, John Elisha Banner, had fought for the Confederacy in that war since 1862 with Company A of the 2nd North Carolina Regiment. He was taken prisoner at Kelly's Ford in Virginia on November 7, 1863, but about a year later he returned to his unit after a prisoner exchange that took

place on November 1, 1864. [CMR/RPW, 1863 & 1864.] On April 9, 1865, John Elisha Banner was with his unit at Appomattox. Captain Matt Manley, who wrote a history of the 2nd NC Regiment, told how they had been in front of the town that Sunday and were engaging the enemy, "driving him," when ordered to withdraw. After the surrender at Appomattox that day there was "...the cry of mortification, the curse of defiance, the tears of sorrow for our friends slain in battle..." Among the officers and soldiers of the Second who were "paroled" at Appomattox was "John E. Banner." [WC/WAR, p.175.]

About a month after Mary Emma's birth, her home state of North Carolina voted the secession ordinance of 1861 null and void, and prohibited slavery in the state. In December of that year the congress adopted the 13th amendment abolishing slavery. On other fronts in the year of Emma's birth: Mark Twain became famous overnight with the publication of "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," free delivery of mail was provided in all cities with a population of at least 50,000, the first fire department with paid firemen was established in New York City, and the Ku Klux Klan was first formed in December of that year in Tennessee.

1865 was a year when beards became fashionable for distinguished men and remained so for some time after the Civil War. Clara Barton was placed in charge of a government-sponsored search of missing soldiers of the Civil War, and interest in baseball took a tremendous upsurge after the Civil War. [AM/F&D, pp. 274 - 279.]

Mary Emma Banner was the child of John Elisha Banner (1835 - apx. 1909) and his wife Louisa Ellen Prather (1843 - 1917). [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938, / 22 Jul 1938 // ABM/DAR, obtained late 1950's // WPB, 1979, p. 142 // ABB/BFG, 1965 // 1900/CEN, 9 Jun 1900.] Mary Emma was born in the town of Mount Airy in Surry Co., NC. [JBM, Jun. 1977.] A granddaughter said Mary Emma was called "Emma" by everyone and was born in the month of October. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] One of her grandsons also agreed that she was called "Emma." [JBM, Jun. 1977.]

According to Emma's granddaughter, Emma's mother's name was Louisa Ellen Prather, and her father's name was John Elisha Banner. [KMR, Dec 29, 1977.] Her father, John Elisha, was born in 1835. [ABM/FB, 28 Jul 1938.] He was born in April of that year in North Carolina. [1900/CEN, 9 Jun 1900.] As noted above, he fought with the Confederate army during the Civil War. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 142.] Emma's mother, Louisa Ellen Prather, was born in August 1843 in Kentucky. [1900/CEN, 9 Jun 1900.] John Elisha Banner and Louisa Ellen Prather were married in 1861. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938.]

John Elisha's parents (and Emma's grandparents) were John Banner and Virginia Moore. [ABM/FB, 28 Jul 1938 // ABB/BFG, 1965 // WPB/HST, 1979, p. 139.] They were married in 1826 according to one source. [ABM/FB, 28 Jul 1938.] Another source said they were married on December 22, 1825, and that John Banner had been born in Stokes County, NC, in 1801. Virginia was born in 1805. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 139.]

Louisa Ellen Prather's parents (Emma's other grandparents) were Eli Franklin Prather and Margaret Jane Beal. [ABM/FB, 22 Jul 1938.] Eli Franklin was born about 1822 in North Carolina and died December 7, 1890, in Morehead, KY. He married Margaret Jane Beal on May 7, 1840 in Bath County, KY. [GBP, Sep 1994.]

Emma was born in 1865, according to material in an old family Bible her daughter had access to. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938.] Many years later that same daughter, Anne or Annie, filled in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) application form (for me, her own granddaughter) and wrote in ink that Emma was born in 1866. [ABM/DAR, obtained late 1950's.] However, on another

paper, where she wrote our ancestors for me, Anne wrote that her mother was born in 1865. [ABM/PP, obtained late 1950's.] Anne's sister, Alma, wrote in a family history book she made for family members that Emma was born in 1865. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

On October 4, 1945, Emma's daughters gave her a birthday party honoring her 80th birthday. If she was 80 years old that October it would have meant she was born in 1865. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] According to the records of the funeral home in Mount Airy that handled Emma's funeral many years later, she was born on October 4, 1865. [MFS, 3 May 1998.]

There are contradictions about the year of Emma's birth. Assuming Emma was indeed born in October, a look at the various census records in which she appeared points out those differences. [CMM, 15 Feb 1998.] In the census of 1870, Emma was listed as being six years old in June of that year. If that was the case she would have been born after June in 1863. [1870/CEN, 7 Jun 1870.] In the census of 1880 she was said to be fourteen years old prior to June 1st of that year. According to that, she would have been born in 1865. [1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.] Most of the records for the census of 1890 were destroyed by fire. [CMM, 4 May 1998.]

The record in the census of 1900 is the only one involving Emma that gave the month she was born. It stated she was born in October. However, it has the year of her birth listed as 1866. [1900/CEN, 21 Jun 1900.] The census of 1910, taken in the spring of 1910, had her age listed as 44 years of age (no birth month given), which would have meant she was born in 1865. [1910/CEN, 29 Apr 1910.] The last census available to us at this time indicated she was 52 years old in the spring of 1920. That would have meant she was born in 1867! [1920/CEN, 1 Apr 1920.]

I feel that her family would have had Emma's 80th birthday party in the proper year. According to her daughter, that party was held in 1945, making Emma's year of birth 1865. One can never be sure who in a household was giving information to the census taker or how well they were aware of the various dates and information pertaining to the individuals in the household. That could account for the variety of ages and dates given for Emma. The year 1865 appears more than any other year in these various sources, and I am inclined to take that date as the most accurate for her year of birth. [CMM, 15 Feb 1998.]

According to a grandson, Emma was born in and grew up with her family in Bannertown, not far outside of Mount Airy, North Carolina. [JBM, Jun. 1977.] Her daughter had penciled in on the DAR application form that Emma was born in Mount Airy. [ABM/DAR, obtained late 1950's.] According to various census records John Elisha and Louisa P. Banner reared their children in Mount Airy Township, Surry County, North Carolina. All of their children were born in North Carolina. [1870/CEN, 7 Jun 1870 // 1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880 // 1900/CEN, 9 Jun 1900.]

About the time Emma was born, the population of her home state of North Carolina was just at or approaching the one million mark. By the time of her death in 1947, the population of North Carolina would be approaching four million people. [GRO/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.]

EMMA'S BROTHERS AND SISTERS

In speaking of his grandmother's brothers and sisters, Emma's grandson John Mitchell said, "She had a sister named Maggie, I guess it was Margaret. And she had a brother named Walter. I believe she had another brother named Dick. I'm pretty sure." There were other brothers that her grandson could not recall. [JBM, Jun. 1977.]

Emma actually did have several brothers and sisters. A listing of John Elisha and Louisa Ellen Prather Banner's children follows, including Mary Emma Banner and all eight of her siblings.

- 1) Ida May Banner's name only is listed in one source. [WPB, 1979, pp. 142, 155.] Other sources say she was born in 1862 and married William Franklin Banner, a distant cousin, in October 1886. They had three children: May Banner, Marie Banner, and Kent Banner. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] Ida May and William Franklin were married on October 21st. [JSC, 12 Mar 1998.] John Elisha and Louisa Banner's oldest child was listed on the census of 1870 under their name. Ida was listed as J or I (difficult to read) M Banner. She was an 8-year-old female who was attending school. She appeared in the census of 1880 as their 18-year-old daughter. In that census, she was listed as Ida M. and her occupation was said to be "at home." [1870/CEN, 7 Jun 1870 // 1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.] Ida May would die in Knoxville, TN, on September 9, 1931. [JSC, 12 Mar 1998.]
- 2) Mary Emma Banner [WPB, 1979, p. 142.] was born in 1865 and married John Lee Banner, a distant cousin of hers, in May 1886. John Lee was the brother of her sister Ida's husband. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938.] The children of Mary Emma and John Lee Banner were: Annie Lee Banner, Alma Louisa Banner, Kathleen Banner, Mary John Banner, and Love Hilliard Banner. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Mary Emma Banner, daughter of John E. and Louisa E. Banner, was listed with her parents on the censuses of 1870 and 1880. In the first census she was listed as Emma Banner, 6 years old, and "At House" instead of at school. In the second census, where she also appeared as a child, she was listed as Mary E Banner. She was 14 years old and was listed as "at home" but also was listed as attending school within the census year. [1870/CEN, 7 Jun 1870 // 1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.]
- 3) Walter Banner's name only was listed in one source. [WPB, 1979, p. 142.] John Walter Banner (called Walter) was born in 1867. He married Lillian Hennis. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938.] Another source said John Walter was born in 1868 and that Lillian was the daughter of Fannie and W. T. Hennis. She was born in Surry Co., NC, in 1872. [JSC, 12 Mar 1998.] John Walter and Lillian H. Banner's children were Marjorie Banner and Phillip Banner. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] J. W. Banner was listed on the census of 1870 with his parents, John E. and Louisa. He was four years old. In the census of 1880, he was listed as John W. and was 12 years old. Under occupation, he was said to "work in farm" and was also listed as attending school within the census year. [1870/CEN, 7 Jun 1870 // 1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.]
- 4) R. W. Banner was listed as a newborn child of John E. and Louisa Banner in the census of 1870. He was a white male who was born in May of that census year. His age was listed as /12 [th]. He was probably less than a month old. R. W. probably died as an infant or child, because he was not listed among the children of John E. and Louisa on the census of 1880. [1870/CEN, 7 Jun 1870 // 1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.]
- 5) Charles Banner was listed in a couple of sources. [WPB, 1979, p. 142 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] Charles Anderson Banner was born in 1870. He married Mrs. Margaret Newsome in 1924. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938.] They had no children. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] John E. and Louisa E. Banner's son, Charles A. Banner, was listed on the census of 1880 with his parents. He was shown as 9 years old and was listed as having attended school within the census year. Ten years later, on the census of 1900, he was still shown as living at home with his parents. He was listed as Charley A. Banner, a single white male born in May 1870, and his occupation was a "R. R. Laborer." He could read and write. [1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880 // 1900/CEN, 9 Jun 1900.]

- 6) Jesse W. (actually "M") Banner was listed in one source. [WPB, 1979, p. 142.] Another source lists him not as Jesse W., but as Jesse Moore Banner who married Blanche Hickman of Ohio. Their children were Louise Banner, Marguerite Banner, and Virginia Banner. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] Jesse M. appeared listed on the 1880 census with his parents John E. and Louisa E. Banner. He was listed as seven years old and had attended school within the census year. [1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.] Jesse Moore Banner was born about 1874 in Surry Co., NC. [JSC, 12 Mar 1998.]
- 7) Margaret Banner was also listed as a child of John Elisha and Louisa Ellen Prather Banner. [WPB, 1979, p. 142.] Margaret Eliza Banner was born in 1876. She married Claude Henley Beard. Margaret died in 1930. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938.] Their children were Lura Beard and Margaret Beard. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] Margaret Eliza Banner, the wife of Claude H. Beard, was always known as "Maggie" to her family and friends. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Margaret E. Banner appeared with her parents, John E. and Louisa E. Banner, on the census of 1880. She was listed as their three-year-old daughter. [1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.]
- 8) Paul Banner's name only was listed in one source. [WPB, 1979, p. 142.] Paul F. Banner appeared with his parents, John E. and Louisa E. Banner, on the census of 1880. He was listed as their one-year-old son. [1880/CEN, 7 Jun 1880.] Paul Franklin Banner died in 1900. He was unmarried. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938.]
- 9) Richard Ernest Banner married Helen Harris. They had no children. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 / 22 Jul 1938 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] Richard Ernest Banner was known as "Dick." [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Richard E. Banner was listed as living with his parents, John E. and Louisa Banner, on the census of 1900. He was listed as a single white 18-year-old male who was born in November 1882. He could read and write and his occupation was a "stone cutter." [1900/CEN, 9 Jun 1900.]

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN, 1886 - 1910

JOHN MARRIES EMMA

Emma Banner spoke of her Aunt Ann and told her granddaughter that one day when Emma was 19 years old she was sitting on her Aunt Ann's porch. A tall, slender man with brown eyes and black hair walked by. Emma thought he was a very handsome young man! She thought to herself, "There's the man I'm going to marry."

She found out that handsome young man was John Lee Banner. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] He had moved to Mount Airy in Surry County, North Carolina from Forsyth County in 1885 when he was about twenty to twenty-one years old. [NPC/UD, obtained 1990's.] Emma later met him at a party. It turned out that John Lee and Emma were distant relatives. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] Another granddaughter noted, "They were some sort of cousins." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.] One of their grandsons, though, did not even think they were related. [JBM, Jun. 1977.] However, they indeed were related, as the material in the following section describes. (See "Related.") [CMM, 6 May 1998.]

One of Emma's granddaughters thought Emma's Aunt Ann may have been Emma's great aunt. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] However, she appears to have been her aunt. Emma's father, John Elisha Banner, had a sister named Rachel Ann Banner, who married Jesse Franklin Moore in 1861. John Elisha and Rachel Ann Banner were the children of John Banner and Virginia Moore. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // ABM/FB, 22 Jul 1838.] Rachel Ann was probably the Aunt Ann to whom Emma referred in her chat with her granddaughter about first seeing John Lee. This is speculation, but it may be correct since John Lee and Emma's daughter Anne wrote "Mrs. Jesse F. Moore (Aunt Ann)" on the back of a photograph. It showed several members of the Banner family among a group of people sitting on some steps of a home. [CMM, 4 Feb 1998 // PHOTO, 1922.]

Two of John Lee and Emma's daughters, Anne and Alma, wrote their aunts name. Anne spelled the name Aunt Ann and Alma spelled it Aunt Anne. [CMM, 5 Aug 1998.] Alma Banner noted that her Aunt Anne had no children of her own. Aunt Ann was a sister of Alma's grandfather (John Elisha Banner) and was the wife of Jesse Franklin Moore. Alma wrote of Emma's aunt Ann Banner Moore:

Two of her sisters died young, each leaving a small child. They (the children) were Edwin (Dr.) Hollingsworth and Kate Foy. She became their mother and reared them as brother and sister, which they called each other, so I've been told, throughout life.

Aunt Anne's home stood where Hamm's drug store is now; a charming old-fashioned brick house with white woodwork. A brick-paved walk bordered with hedges of English boxwood led to it from the street, and I remember the fragrant white running rose which grew on the south side of the porch.

Mama [Emma] said that the original lot was from Taylor and Banner drug store (now Wolfe) to the corner at Franklin Street. When I first remember, the south side from the house to the drug store was part of the yard, but on the north side, the Leonard building was on the corner, and the young people played croquet where the other buildings now stand. After uncle Jesse died, Aunt Anne sold the property to Mr. Jim Fulton, father of Mary Fulton Bennett, who is the owner of a part of it now. The old

house was demolished in 1920 to make room for the buildings erected soon thereafter. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

It was a young John Lee Banner that caught Emma's eye that day while she was sitting on her Aunt Ann's porch. John's family lived in Forsyth County, North Carolina, near Winston-Salem. Emma was right, they eventually did get married. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.]

A penciled-in entry on a DAR application form written by John Lee and Emma's eldest daughter noted that John Lee and Emma got married on May 4th. [ABM/DAR, obtained late 1950's.] According to the book Marriages of Surry County, N. C. 1869 - 1899 compiled by Lorna W. Barrett, John L. Banner married Mary E. Banner on May 4, 1886. [LWB/MAR, 1992.]

An undated newspaper clipping was glued into a scrapbook/genealogy book compiled and written by their second daughter. It told of the wedding of John Lee and Emma Banner. Handwritten beside that newspaper clipping in the scrapbook were the words, "May 4, 1886". That clipping said:

Married.

At the residence of the bride's parents, near this place, on Tuesday morning, 4th inst., by Rev. Miles Foy, Mr. John L. Banner to Miss Emma Banner. The newly married couple left immediately after the ceremony on a visit to friends at Winston. THE NEWS wishes Mr. and Mrs. Banner a pleasant and prosperous life. [NPC/UD obtained 1997 // ABB/BFG, 1965.]

John Lee Banner was twenty-one years old when he married in 1886 and Emma was twenty. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.] Grover Cleveland was the President of the United States the year that John Lee and Emma got married. It was the year the Apache Indian chief, Geronimo, was captured by Federal troops in Arizona, thus ending the last major Indian war. A little over six months after their marriage, the Statue of Liberty was unveiled and dedicated by President Cleveland. The statue was presented to the United States by France in commemoration of 100 years of American independence. [AM/F&D, 1972, p. 338-340.]

RELATED

John Lee and Emma were both Banners and were related to each other. They were each descended from Henry Banner and his wife Eleanor Martin. Henry and his family were the first Banners to move into that section of North Carolina which is near what is now Winston-Salem. Henry was born about 1724 and died in 1789. He and Eleanor were married in 1748. They lived fairly near the Moravians' first settlement in that region. The Moravians were a religious group of people who built a fort they called Bethabara. Henry, Eleanor, and their family took shelter from time to time with the Moravians there at Bethabara for protection from the Indians.

Henry and Eleanor Martin Banner had several children. John Lee was descended from their son Benjamin Banner, Sr. Mary Emma was a descendant of another son of theirs, Joseph Banner, Sr. [WPB/HST, 1979.] Many years went by since the time Henry and Eleanor lived with their family in North Carolina. By the time John Lee and Emma's grandchildren were grown, some thought their grandparents were related in a distant way but did not know the exact nature of their relationship. Emma and John Lee would marry 138 years after their common ancestors Henry and Eleanor married. [CMM, 6 Mar 1998.] When all of the Banner family lines were entered into a genealogy software program for the computer, it was then possible for the computer to determine the exact relationship of John Lee and Emma.

No wonder the family gave up trying to figure out their relationship! According to the computer genealogy program, Emma was not only John Lee's wife but she was also his "half 3rd cousin once removed." John Lee's children were not only his daughters but also his "half 3rd cousin[s] twice removed," and they were the "half 4th cousin[s] of his wife" Emma. [FTM, 5 Aug 1997.]

DESCRIPTION OF MOUNT AIRY

A visitor to Mount Airy, North Carolina, where John Lee and Emma Banner would live and raise their children, wrote of his visit to the "charming and delightful mountain town" in 1894. That year was a time when the Banners' children were young. The visitor and lecturer, Henry Blount, wrote that Mount Airy was "one of the most delightful towns in Western North Carolina." He said, "The citizens are warm hearted, clever and sociable." The atmosphere was "pure, invigorating and health giving, making a stay there full of delight and enjoyment." [C&R, 1985, pp. 52-53.]

A description of the Blue Ridge Hotel, a well known place in the Mount Airy area for many years, included a description of the area in the 1890s when John Lee and Emma were in their late twenties and early thirties:

...Lying at our feet and all around us is a picturesque view of Mount Airy with its magnificent shade trees, elegant residences, well kept lawns, towering spires, and splendid business blocks. Mount Airy lies in the basin of the Blue Ridge. The scene is a beautiful one, and it is worth a visit to Mount Airy to see it. [C&R, 1985, p. 57.]

A railroad official would describe the town in 1889 as:

Mount Airy, the present western terminus of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley railway, is in Surry county, within five miles of the nearest point on the base of the Blue Ridge, with an elevation of about eleven hundred feet above sea level. Long a thriving village and the trade center of a large and prosperous agricultural community, its growth and increase in business, industrial enterprises and population have been almost unprecedented since 1880, the census of which year gave it a population of five hundred and nineteen, increased during the past eight years to fifteen hundred. [GRO/MAT, 21 May 1971, p. 10C.]

William Franklin Carter, Jr. and Carrie Young Carter wrote in their book Footprints in the Hollows about the vicinity around Mount Airy. They spoke of that area originally called "The Hollows," although it was not known where that name originated:

...Beginning in the foothills it was encircled by the beautiful sweep of the Blue Ridge Mountains on the north and west. Stretching south to the Yadkin River and eastward to where the stately Pilot [Mountain] marked the gateway into it, it was watered by the many small rivers and creeks which flowed down from the mountainsides. [CARTER/HOL, 1976, p. intro.]

In 1893 a local newspaper, The Yadkin Valley News, printed a description of Surry County that had been in the North Carolina Handbook about that time. It said in part:

Surry is a north border county, contiguous to the Blue Ridge and belongs to the Piedmont section of the state. The Yadkin River is its southern boundary. Its western

section is quite mountainous and there are small mountains in the middle so that its surface is quite broken, and its average elevation is nearly 1,400 feet. Its soils and forests are like those of the neighboring counties—Stokes and Forsyth; the high slaty ridges and mountains, as well as much of the rolling surface, having a light gray sandy loam soil and forests of oak and pine, with sourwood and chestnut, while the better tracts of reddish clay loams have a predominant growth of oaks, hickory, poplar, etc., with little or no pine.

The agriculture of the county is like that of Stokes, tobacco of better grades being the chief market crop, but of greatly less value than the grain product. The water-power of the county is notable, a number of large tributaries of the Yadkin crossing its territory with a fall of several hundred feet. This is a feature common to the whole piedmont region. There are several cotton factories and iron mines and forges in the county.

At the southern extremity of the county, the Blue Ridge takes a northern trend, throwing the mass of the county towards the east—a broken but not a mountainous country, with much of rich, arable land, and intersected with numerous fertile valleys. The Blue Ridge, in this part of its course, is remarkably prolific in bold streams, which rapidly contribute to the formation of the large river Yadkin, which catches all these affluents on the south border of the county... [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p.102.]

Yet another article described Mount Airy and life there at the time of John Lee and Emma Banner's young to middle adult years.

Family and social life for folks in Mount Airy in the latter part of the 1800's and early 1900's has been recaptured through tales handed down through generations and from precious memory books that entail pictures and yellowed newspaper clippings....

It was a time when ladies sat on porches in the afternoon—a time when magnolias, lilacs and honey-suckles scented the evening air.

Formal parlors, decorated with plush velvet settees, rockers and square pianos, were used only for funerals or entertainment.

Lots of pictures were commonly found on the walls. Brass beds were popular for the bedroom décor along with side tables covered with crocheted scarves. Sheer lace curtains covered the windows and there was always a rocking chair nearby.

Kitchens were usually located across a porch or across the yard to keep flies from the rest of the house...

The old Blue Ridge Hotel was noted for its elegant dances and dinners. The hotel drew a crowd with luncheons and dinners served in the ballroom. Practically all of the social events centered there in the later years... [EP/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.]

Many years after John Lee and Emma lived in that small North Carolina town, there would pass nearby the Blue Ridge Parkway. Built just fourteen miles away from Mount Airy, it shared the beauty of the area with many motorists. A magazine article said, "Ranked by many as America's most scenic

drive, the Blue Ridge parkway is a 469-mile motorist's delight connecting Virginia's Shenandoah National Park to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee." [CW/C&T, Mar./Apr. 1998].

THE CHILDREN OF JOHN LEE AND EMMA BANNER

John Lee and Emma Banner's children would refer to them as Mama and Papa. [ABM, Apx. 1960.] William P. Banner's Banner Family of North Carolina lists the children of John Lee and Mary Emma Banner as:

Alma Louise Banner (1889-1976) [Middle name was Louisa.-- CMM, 1998.]

Ida Banner (-) [Incorrect -- CMM, 1998.]

Annie Lee Banner (1887-1967)

Kathleen Banner (-)

Mary John Banner (died in infancy)

Love Hilliard Banner (-)

[WPB/HST, 1979, p. 146.]

There is additional information on these children later in this book. From my knowledge of John and Emma's children, the above information appeared to be wrong as far as Ida Banner was concerned. In 1979 I called Kathleen Mitchell "Kacky" Rozendal, John and Emma's granddaughter, to clear up the matter. Kacky said that John Lee and Emma did not have six children and that the information was mistaken. They did have five children, one of whom died. She also stated that Ida Banner was Emma's sister, not her daughter. [KMR, 22 Nov 1979 // CMM, 6 Sep 1993.]

FIRST DAUGHTER: ANNE -- COFFEEPOT BABY

John Lee and Emma's first child was a daughter who was born at their home. They named her Anne Lee Banner. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] (Anne was my grandmother.) Emma was twenty-one years old when Anne was born and John Lee was twenty-two. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

Little Anne was born prematurely. "She was a seven months baby and tiny!" said her daughter when telling of her mother's birth. She also told of Anne and the coffeepot. Emma's mother, Louisa Prather Banner, (whom her grandchildren called Memie) said at one point soon after tiny Anne's birth, "let's see if she fits in a coffeepot. And she did!" It was the old-fashioned kind of pot said Anne's daughter who told the story. [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

Anne was born on February 5, 1887, in Mount Airy, North Carolina. [KMR, Mar 1978 // FBP obtained 1980.] Anne's cousin, Margaret Beard McMichael, called her "Annie" as did a lot of people over the years. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.] While "Annie" was the name most often used for her by family and friends, she also often went by "Anne." Within the family, Annie was also very frequently referred to as "Big Sister." John Lee and Emma's second daughter Alma was called "Little Sister" within the family even though eventually Alma was not the youngest daughter. But the nickname remained with Alma. [PH, 1 Apr 1990 // ABB/BFG, 1965.]

The year that little Annie (or Big Sister) was born, Queen Victoria of Great Britain celebrated her Golden Jubilee. [TIME/HST, 1991, p. 444.] Grover Cleveland was the President of the United States, and the first successful electric trolley line was built in Richmond, Virginia. [AM/F&D, 1972, p. 341.]

RAILROAD ARRIVES

In 1888, a couple of years after John Lee and Emma got married, something happened in Mount Airy that caused excitement among the people living there. Emma was twenty-two years old at the time and John Lee was twenty-three. Their little daughter was over a year old. [CMM, 22 Feb 1998 // C&R, 1985, p. 83.] An article in a book tells us that:

June 20, 1888, was a day of celebration in Mount Airy. According to newspaper reports, the holiday was the occasion of a great gathering of enthusiastic people from all the surrounding section.

The railroad had come to town. Thanks to the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad with tracks meandering southward, Mount Airy was now connected by rail to Greensboro, Fayetteville, Bennettsville, South Carolina, and intermediate towns... [C&R, 1985, p. 83.]

A newspaper article told of the excitement found in Mount Airy and the surrounding areas with the arrival of the railroad. It told how with the backers arranged, the survey taken, and the first shovel of dirt turned over in 1877 by a prominent Mount Airy citizen, Robert S. Gilmer, the long hard task was begun. Much of the work was done by convicts who moved tons of earth and rock with wheelbarrows as they had no earth moving machines at that time. It took eight years for the railroad bed that was being built to reach Surry County and another three years before it was finally completed.

At last, in the summer of 1888, eleven years after that first shovel of dirt was turned, a train rolled into the station at Mount Airy. A special time table for the event gives the date—Mary [sic] 28, 1888.

On that day a train left Fayetteville at 8 a.m. on a trial run to Mount Airy, arriving twelve hours later. On the following day the train made the return trip to Fayetteville, cutting fifteen minutes from its time—(from a C.F. & Y.V.R. timetable).

It was three weeks later that the first official run was made with Tom Muse engineer, and a conductor named Murphy. The account of the arrival of that train and the celebration which followed was graphically described by the Mount Airy News of that date.

The town had been a fever of activity for weeks preparing for the celebration. Several hundred horsemen were expected to ride in the parade and to care for the horses a lot was provided in a persimmon grove at the foot of Lebanon Hill. Posts were set up with chains attached and well dug to provide water.

Word had gone out into the coves and ridges of the mountains, along the foothills, cross the farmlands to the east and the valleys of the Ararat and Yadkin Rivers, telling of the coming of the long awaited train. All day Tuesday, June 19th, people poured into town. They came from every direction, by every conceivable mode of travel, many walking long distances, to help celebrate the momentous occasion.

The celebration was to be held the following day but a huge crowd met the train which came in at seven-thirty in the evening, bring the Governor of the State, Honorable

A. M. Scales, with his departmental officers. The Governor was met by and introduced to the crowd by Judge Graves. He responded with a short speech after which a group of women sang "The Old North State," accompanied by the Mount Airy Cornet Band. This band, assisted by the Lexington Silver Cornet Band which had arrived on the train, entertained the people with music during the evening.

Records state that by mid-night five thousand visitors had arrived in town. The real celebration began Wednesday morning at 10:30 when the grand procession formed at the north end of Main Street in the following order: Lexington Silver Cornet Band; Governor Scales and his departmental officers; State and Federal judges; Orators of the day; Special invited guests; Town and County officers; Trade and Industrial Display; Mount Airy Cornet Band; Mounted Procession; Granite City Band, Colored; Citizens.

The parade ended at the Male Academy where a grandstand had been erected in a grove. (Cape Jasmine and Smilax, sent up from Wilmington, was used to decorate the stand.)

Here, on the spot where Rockford Street School now stands, Mr. B. W. Sparger, Chief Marshall, called the vast assembly to order. Prayer was offered by Rev. B. R. Hall and the guests welcomed by W. R. Carter who also introduced the Governor, speaker for the occasion.

Tradition says the heat was terrific and the water shortage acute—with only wells and springs for a normal population of less than a thousand people this could be true, but in spite of minor discomforts it was a memorable occasion, ending with a dance at the Globe Warehouse where, far into the night could be heard the music of the bands mingled with the rhythmic call of the dance figures...

Passenger service on the Atlantic and Yadkin Railroad, formerly the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley, came to an end on April 29, 1939, a casualty of the automobile age. [TRAIN/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.]

The coming of the train brought about something else that Emma and John Lee no doubt had to deal with over the ensuing years with their house full of growing daughters. There was one thing the girls were probably anxious to see each year—the circus. [CMM, 22 Feb 1998.]

One of the greatest annual events in Mount Airy was the arrival of the large Bailey Brothers circus train. The big tent was pitched across from Mount Airy Furniture Factory on South Street. Many boys earned a free pass to the circus by carrying buckets of water to the thirsty animals... [C&R, 1985, p. 83.]

SECOND DAUGHTER: ALMA

John Lee and Emma's second child, another daughter, was named Alma Louisa Banner. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] According to the census of 1900, she was born in April 18?9, (one number illegible). [1900/CEN, 21 Jun 1900.] William Banner's Banner family history book listed Alma's birth as 1889. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 151.] Yet another source has her birth as taking place in Mount Airy on April 3, 1889. [LWB, info. obtained May 1998.] Emma was twenty-three years old when Alma was born, and John Lee was twenty-four. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

During the year of Alma's birth, Benjamin Harrison was inaugurated as the 23rd President of the United States. The Oklahoma land rush occurred. Jefferson Davis, the ex-president of the Confederate States of America, died in New Orleans. North and South Dakota, Montana, and Washington were admitted as states in the Union. Thomas Edison developed the first movie film, and the first electric sewing machine was produced. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 348-350.] Also born that year was Adolf Hitler, the future Nazi dictator. [TIME/HST, 1991, p.444.]

GRANITE QUARRY

That same year of Alma Banner's birth, in 1889, Thomas Woodroffe bought a quarry one mile east of Mount Airy for \$5,000. It was once considered worthless land and sold for 50 cents an acre, the rock thrown in free. The quarry was 40 acres of solid rock and would become the largest open-faced granite quarry in the world.

The community of Flat Rock evolved as skilled quarrymen were brought in from New England, Italy, Scotland, and England. The descendants of those early workers still live in that community. Many lovely historic structures in Mount Airy were built with granite from that quarry. [NPA/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976 // C&R, 1985, p. 67.]

The beautiful white granite was considered some of the best in the world. "During the 1920's the beautiful stone became a common sight in school buildings, churches, memorials and bridges throughout North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Ohio and even as far distant as Michigan...The largest single contract ever handled by the local quarry was the stone for the Arlington Memorial bridge which spans the Potomac River at Washington and stands as an emblem of the union of the North and South." That contract, which began in 1926, amounted to over \$2,000,000 and assured boom work for several hundred men during those years. [NPA/MAT, 21 May 1971.]

THIRD DAUGHTER: KATHLEEN

John Lee and Emma's third child was another little girl they named Kathleen Banner. An older sister said at one point she was born in 1893, but said 1892 at another time. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] However, Kathleen's children would later say she was born in 1892. [JH, 26 Dec 1978 // PH, Oct. 1997.] The census of 1900, taken at the home of her family when she was seven years old, said that Kathleen was born in May 1893. [1900/CEN, 21 Jun 1900.] John Lee and Emma were both in their later twenties when Kathleen was born. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

Around the time of Kathleen's birth, Grover Cleveland defeated Benjamin Harrison to become the President of the United States. Bicycling became very popular in America as indicated by the increase of bicycles in use from some 20,000 in 1882 to over 1,000,000 in 1893. Henry Ford completed construction of the first of his gasoline engines that ran successfully. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 362, 365, 367.]

FOURTH DAUGHTER: MARY JOHN

At some point another little girl was born to John Lee and Emma. They named her Mary John Banner. It no doubt caused John Lee and Emma great heartache when their little Mary John died in infancy. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Mary John was a year and a half old when she died of pneumonia. [ABM, apx. 1960.]

Illness was something that had to be dealt with more often than they cared for in those early days of the town. "In those days, summer was a dangerous time for infants between the ages of one and two years. They frequently died of intestinal infections in hot weather...The cities first metal water tanks located on Lebanon Hill followed an outbreak of typhoid fever." [C&R, 1985, pp. 142,152.]

THE EARLY YEARS

When Annie was young, Emma and John Lee used to read "Cock Robin" to her (and probably to the other girls as well). [ABM, 1953 or 1954.] Their girls throughout their lives called Emma and John Lee "Mama" and "Papa." [ABM, apx. 1960.]

John Lee and Emma lived with their daughters in a white frame house in Mount Airy that had eight rooms. There was no plumbing in their kitchen when their children were young. It was around 1908 when they got plumbing in their house. All of the roads in town were dirt at that time. John Lee and Emma expected their daughters to do housework around the home and also to wash the dishes when they were old enough. [ABM, apx. 1960.]

OFF TO SCHOOL

According to her daughter, Annie went to a private school in the beautiful home of her cousin Margaret Moore Penn during her first few years of attending school. [KMR, Mar 1978.] Annie herself said that beginning when she was six years old, she attended a private school for two or three years. [ABM, apx. 1960.]

It was on August 13, 1897, that the city voted for a tax to make the Rockford Academy a free school. [HBJ/HERIT, 1983, p. 624.] That is probably where Annie, who was ten years old at the time, and the rest of her sisters then attended school. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

According to Anne, at some point one of the schools burned that she and her sisters attended. [ABM, apx. 1960.] A newspaper article speaking of the schools in town at that time gives a possible clue to the school of which Anne spoke. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] It said that when the Rockford School burned, it was rebuilt shortly after 1900 at a cost of just over \$15,000. [SCH/TMAN, 31 Mar 1978.]

Another article said, "On Wednesday, Nov. 4, 1903, at 3:30 a.m. catastrophe struck. Rockford Academy burned. People got busy so that in 1904, the main part of Rockford Street School was built. It was to serve pupils of all ages and grades." [LIZ/TMAN, 31 Mar 1978, p. 6G.]

EMMA'S PORTRAIT

Emma's granddaughter, Kacky (my aunt), had a portrait of Emma that was given to me when Kacky died in 1980. It is a portrait that gives the impression of an elegant-looking, well-dressed, trim, pretty young lady. The oval portrait of Emma is in a lovely square gold leaf frame. It is not known if the portrait was painted from real life or a photograph of Emma at a later date. The portrait is unsigned. I don't know if Kacky painted it herself. Kacky did attend art school as a young woman and was known to have painted other portraits.

In the painting, Emma's hair was worn up. It was a medium brown color and had soft curls. Her eyes appeared light in color, perhaps a light grayish or blue. Emma's dress was a rich burgundy with gold buttons down the front. There was a small border of white lace showing at the top of a high

standing collar up to her chin. In the center of that high collar was a beautiful gold oval brooch with an intricate gold design around the border. Hanging below the gold brooch, suspended by a gold chain around her neck, was a gold pendant with two short gold chains hanging from it with gold tassels on the ends of the chains.

Emma's dangling gold oval earrings, while not exactly like the gold brooch shown in the portrait, were similar to it. I now have those gold earrings that were shown in Emma's portrait. They are screw on earrings. Each one has a small ball and short link attached to a dangling gold oval that has a leaf design in the middle. In the portrait, a small ball dangled from the bottom of the oval of each earring as well, but the balls had been broken off by the time I got the earrings. I have the pieces but they are not attached. On the back of the oval part of the earrings were engraved the initials ABM. Those are the initials of Emma's oldest daughter, Anne Banner Mitchell. One of them, Emma or Anne, may have had that engraved on the earrings. Since her mother was wearing the earrings when she was a young woman, I suspect Emma gave them to Anne.

Anne's daughter, Kacky, gave the earrings to me before her death and told me they belonged to Emma originally. At the same time she gave me a lovely gold matching brooch. It matched the earrings but is not the brooch worn by Emma in her portrait. [CMM, 15 Feb 1998.]

DESCRIPTION OF EMMA

Emma had blue eyes. She was a short woman, of average weight. As she got older she gained weight and, especially after age fifty or so, became fat. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] Emma's oldest daughter Anne was five feet, three inches tall. Emma was shorter than that. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] John Hawks, a grandson of Emma's, described her as having dark brown hair that never did turn gray. She had blue eyes and wore glasses when he remembered her. According to him she was about five feet, four inches tall and weighed over 200 pounds. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.]

Another grandson of Emma's, John Banner Mitchell, guessed that she was no taller than five feet. "She wasn't very tall," he said. "She was about five feet I imagine. About five feet tall and about five feet wide. She loved to eat." [JBM, Jun 1977.] William S. "Bill" Diffie, Sr., one of Emma's youngest grandchildren, remembered that she was a big woman. She was wide and not exceptionally tall. However, she loved to wear hats and though large, he said, she carried herself well. [WSD/SR, 28 May 1998.]

Emma grew up to become an "outspoken woman" according to her granddaughter Kacky, who admitted to also having that trait. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] John Hawks noted that "she had a very imperious manner." When Emma wanted to cross the street, she would just put up her hand and go on across, not even looking for traffic. She just expected everyone to stop and they did. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.]

Emma's granddaughter Polly Hawks Hodge said of her, "She was a domineering woman, but she wasn't mean...All of her daughters stood in awe of her. What she said was the law." [PH, 1 Apr 1990.] Later her grandson, John Mitchell, used the same term in describing her, that she was "the law". "She was a stern person," he added. [JBM, 12 Feb 1994.]

Emma's niece said that Emma "was one you sort of tiptoed around." She related the story of one time when some family members had been visiting Emma. Among those visiting were Emma's daughters Love (her youngest child) and "Kack" (Kathleen) and their husbands. They all stopped after leaving Emma's to get some medicine for headaches. They all had headaches! [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

Emma, or "Granny Banner" as her grandchildren called her, "had a keen sense of humor. She loved to play pranks," said a grandson. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.] "Granny was a real colorful woman, a real character," observed a granddaughter. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.] Emma's niece Margaret McMichael noted, "Aunt Emma was a real character, absolutely!" [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

My mother grew up in Mount Airy and married Emma's grandson (my father John B. Mitchell). Mother said of Emma, "Granny Banner was very jolly, fat, and gracious." She also said the Banners were a "nice family." When she was growing up in the town she noted that the Banners were well thought of by herself and others. They did not have a bad reputation in town. [AHM, 12 Dec 1995.]

In talking to someone who was overeating, Emma often said, "You are digging your grave with your teeth," which was interesting considering that she was overweight herself. [JBM, 15 Feb 1994.]

Emma used good grammar and proper English in her everyday conversation. [AHM, Mar. 1998.] Emma and John Lee's daughters all had soft, pretty southern accents. They also used proper grammar and correct English in their everyday speech. Which leads me to the assumption that they learned it from their parents and that John Lee and Emma spoke that way as well. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.] As far as one granddaughter could recall Emma spoke properly. That granddaughter said her own mother (Emma's daughter Love) was "a stickler for good grammar," and she assumes Love got that from her parents. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.]

DESCRIPTION OF JOHN LEE

John Lee was a darling man. Everyone said he was "sweet as sugar." His grandchildren, Kathleen or "Kacky" and her brother John Banner Mitchell, "loved him dearly." [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] (Kacky should not be confused with her aunt Kathleen, John Lee and Emma's third daughter. Both were sometimes called Kack. [CMM, 8 May 1998.]) Another granddaughter, Polly, said of John Lee, "I loved him a lot. He evidently loved me a lot and probably all of his grandchildren." [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

John Lee's niece Margaret Beard McMichael said, "Uncle John was a wonderful man." He gave away Margaret's mother (Emma's sister) Maggie when she got married. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

His grandson remembered what John Lee looked like. "He was a medium-sized man. Medium height and build. He was a good-looking man. I think he had a white handlebar moustache and white hair." He was not bald. "I remember my grandfather being real good to me." [JBM, Jun 1977.] When that grandson himself was an elderly man he was looking through some old family pictures and came upon one of John Lee. He said, "There's my grandfather. Gosh, I loved him! He was good to me." [JBM, 21 Mar 1995.]

THE BANNERS' HOMETOWN

Just a little over a year before John Lee and Emma were married, the small village of Mount Airy had become a town. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] In February 1885 the North Carolina General Assembly ratified the articles of incorporation that changed the little foothills village into a town. Several hundred people lived there at that time. [INC/MAT, 22 May 1980.]

1888 was the year the first election was held in Mount Airy after it was incorporated. In a list of voters for that year is the name J. L. Banner. Also voting in the same election were several other

Banners [probably all relatives of either John Lee or Emma]. Other voters were W. C. Banner and Wilson C. Banner [one of whom was probably John Lee's father]. [C&R, 1985, pp. 16, 18, 20.]

With the incorporation of the town, the residents were given the right to elect officials, levy taxes and pass and enforce their own laws. [LWK/O&N, 1984, p.12.]

Some town ordinances were passed about that time. A sampling of those ordinances, all including fines of varying amounts, included things such as prohibiting people from feeding any horse, mule, or other animal on any street or from hitching any of those animals to any shade trees in town. No one could ride or drive a horse, mule, or cow on any sidewalk in town. Sidewalks or streets could not be obstructed by playing marbles or ball, or by pitching quoits.

Any bitch found running at large in the streets of the town was to be captured by the police and if not claimed by the owner within twelve hours and receiving a fine of \$2.00 would be put to death.

A steep fine of \$10.00 was levied on people opening a store or shop on Sunday. Only drug stores could be kept open all the time, but no goods except for medical purposes could be sold on the Sabbath at any place within the corporation of the town.

Any person who kept a house of ill-fame or anyone who knowingly rented a house to be used for such a purpose would be fined \$10.00 for every day the house was kept. All adult persons living in such houses would also be subject to the same penalties. [C&R, 1985, p. 14.]

An exciting event occurred in 1888, when the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad Company brought the railroad to Mount Airy. With the train available, the Woodruff brothers started a granite quarry on the outskirts of town in 1889. [RM/MAT, 15 Feb 1979.] More substantial and handsome buildings began appearing on Main Street. [C&R, 1985, p. 24.] The growing town even hired its very own garbage collector that year. [RM/MAT, 15 Feb 1979.]

In 1894 Joseph Nations, one of Surry County's older citizens, wrote to The Yadkin Valley News telling of what the area was like in his youth. He noted, "Our old Surry has changed much. The hills and hollows are dotted with little houses, and Mount Airy is putting on city airs." [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p. 177.]

"Tobacco factories were dotted all over the town until the tobacco trust forced them out of business toward the end of the century." [C&R, 1985, p. 24.]

When John Lee and Emma married in 1886 people were using wells for their water, and gas and kerosene lamps for light. But soon after their children started to come along, electric lights came to town. [RM/MAT, 15 Feb 1979.] Electricity first arrived in Mount Airy in 1892. Around 1893 or 1894 the first telephones showed up. [C&R, 1985, p. 24.] About 1903 the town's first water system was installed. [INC/MAT, 22 May 1980.] Another source said the water works arrived in 1895. [C&R, 1985, p. 24.] Those changes must have seemed amazing to the Banners and other residents of the town. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.]

When John Lee and Emma's children were growing up in Mount Airy, the town had dusty or muddy streets, large stepping stones, hitching posts, and water troughs for the horses. [RM/MAT, 15 Feb 1979.] Sometimes droves of cattle would be driven down the streets. [C&R, 1985, p. 115.]

During those years in that little town, children followed the genial ice man around and grabbed hunks of ice that fell off when he sawed a block or two. Some of the children were afraid of the "sugar wagon" driver who collected the refuse from the "garden houses" out back—a man the boys said was just like the devil. They were afraid of the "booger man" who was said, also by the boys, to be in a very dark hole under the bridge.

Those were the days when the children could roam all over town. They ran barefoot in the summer, enjoyed Fourth of July parades and treats of ice cream. The young people walked to school, had hour-long lunches, and on snowy days perhaps got out early to have time for sledding after school. [C&R, 1985, p. 119.]

By 1912 pavement had slowly begun to replace the mud and dust of the streets in Mount Airy. [RM/MAT, 15 Feb 1979.]

In the book Collections and Recollections, many of Mount Airy's older residents described the town and their lives growing up there. Among those was Lucille Haynes who told of growing up on Rockford Street which crossed Main Street. That location was not far from either of the two houses where John Lee, Emma, and their family lived in Mount Airy. Mrs. Haynes told of life there in the early 1900s, and she no doubt knew some if not all of the Banner girls. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] She noted:

Those of us who grew up in our section of Rockford Street in the early 1900s always felt sorry for those who were not so fortunate. We children always had such a big time!

Ours was, I suppose, what we would call a street of upper-middle-class small-town residents. Everybody had a piano which the girls were supposed to learn to play. Everybody, that is almost everybody, had a cow, a horse, chickens, pigs, a cat, and a dog. Everybody, and this was everybody, had a garden. Of course, nobody could top Mr. Sparger, who had a peach and apple orchard.

Almost everybody lived in a house of two stories with a big wrap-around porch. Everybody had a little money, but not much. And everybody was expected to send his kids to college.

The neighborhood kids were plentiful. Not counting the small fry, there were over thirty of us, all approximately the same age. All of these thirty-plus boys and girls got along beautifully. We never had a serious quarrel, and we were all of the same mind. We knew that we had to mind our parents and we all knew what would happen if we didn't. Come to think of it, maybe the reason we children got along so well was because all of our parents were congenial...

In good weather, the height of joy and ecstasy for us children was to get to "play out." That meant playing out after dark. Kick-the-can was our game. Come to think of it, we had a lot of freedom but nobody ever got into any serious trouble, or did anything really mean.

On rainy days many of us would sit on our porches and play cards. Or we would huddle together and tell scary stories. Or Lib Smith and I might get out our Elsie Dinsmore books.

We gave plays in our old barn and charged admission in the form of pins. Why pins? I don't know... [C&R, 1985, p. 81.]

THE GREAT FIRE OF 1892

A terrible fire occurred in downtown Mount Airy in the early hours of New Year's Day in 1892. It was a tremendously upsetting event for the populace of the small town. [ABST/NEWS, 1987, pp. 41-41.] Emma was 26 years old and John Lee was 27 at the time. Their oldest daughter was approaching her fifth birthday. They lived only a few short blocks from downtown Mount Airy and were most likely swept up in the excitement and despair among those in the town. It would be interesting to know where they were and what they did during that fire. [CMM, 9 May 1998.] The Yadkin Valley News told of the awful event in its next issue. Excerpts from that account follow:

THE GREAT FIRE!

Sweeping Flames Destroy an Imposing and Costly Block

THE SPLENDID BLUE RIDGE INN

The Mount Airy Hotel and Six Stores Lay in Smoldering Ruins

The merriment of a joyous New Year's banquet was hushed; the old year had been buried just a couple of hours, and 1892, with her horrid New Year's offering, like a reckless youth, ran forth for mischief.

This young and lovely mountain town, the idol of its patriotic people, the home of progress and the monument to industry and pluck, was sleeping and dreaming of grander possibilities in store the coming year. Only a few banqueters had not retired, and two or three of these lingered along the street discussing the enjoyments of the past few hours, which were freighted with delight, seasoned with the dimpled smiles of lovely ladies and their merry chatter.

Fire! Fire!

But it was all vanity. The cry of fire! rang out on the midnight air. It was Sam Lucas...who first saw the smoke issuing from Mitchell's store and yelled the horrid words. Mr. Sam Pace was at his livery stables, Messrs. Henry Thomas and George Taylor were sitting and talking in their room over Merritt's Hardware Store and Messrs. John Nutt and McCollum were standing on the sidewalk near the block when the alarm was sounded. They all rushed to Mitchell's store door, and upon breaking it open saw the smoke coming through the floor. It was too stifling to proceed further, and they ran to the rear of the building...They saw hay and barrels burning, and as the fire was entirely beyond their control, their first thought was to wake up everybody in the hotels, which they ran to do. In the meantime the news spread like lightning and from one end of town to the other, the awful cry of fire! fire! could be heard on every hand. The whole town was wild at once. People poured out into the streets from every direction, some almost frantic with excitement as the sizzling flames rolled volume upon volume, sweeping onward in their unbroken course.

In the meantime, Mr. Richard Nutt had climbed to the town clock tower over Messrs. Worth & Joyce's hardware store, and the huge bell, with its ponderous iron tongue, told this whole section that flames were laying low our boasted block. Indeed

its warning seemed louder on that fateful New Year's morning than ever before, its sharp clang! clang! in quick succession having been heard from Westfield to Dobson.

THE FLAMES ROLLED ON

No one who heard it will ever forget how every sound of those crumbling (sic) walls almost broke their heart-strings entwined about Mount Airy's pride—her magnificent Blue Ridge Inn. And yet the merciless flames swept on and on unchecked. It was exactly 1:50 by the clock in the tower when the bell was sounded, and ten minutes later the flames reached the second floor of the Inn having already enveloped the storerooms of J. V. Mitchell and W. F. Bynum & Co., which, with the store of M. A. Robbins & Co., were on the ground floor of the building.

THE BLUE RIDGE INN BURNS

A dizzy throb of bitter anguish swept over the whole crowd as the flames entered that second floor. Then all was lost to them. The flaming tongues of fire knew no bounds in their rapid course, as they roared and sizzed (sic) and whirled through the long halls of that stately structure. Guests had no time to save anything except their lives and a few articles in easy reach...It was an ever memorable sight to the writer—the burning of the Inn. So proud were we of it, and yet it all went up in smoke and crumbled in ashes. The rolling volumes of flame seemed almost to kiss the clouds and the heat set the store of J. W. Prather on fire 150 feet away. It was the largest fire we ever witnessed and did its work quicker, there being no organized department to subdue the flames.

But by no means was the loss we sustained at that end of the block all of the great fire, for after the walls of the Blue Ridge Inn began falling, the fire took firm hold upon W. E. Merritt's Hardware Store.

MERRITT'S HARDWARE STORE

It seemed awful to think that just here if we had have had a stream of water 40 thousand dollars could have been saved. But we had none and on the rushing fire swept until the heavily stocked hardware establishment of Mr. W. E. Merritt was totally enveloped. A good quantity of goods had been taken out together with all the powder, but that was only a small lot comparatively. Four faithful men were attempting to rescue other property when the second floor fell in, three escaping by the skin of their teeth, and the third, Mr. Sam Allred, being partially knocked down and somewhat bruised by bricks falling on his arms and a gun case that fell across his back. It was a close call, and cold blood ran through the hundreds who witnessed it.

MOUNT AIRY HOTEL

For a long time the wooden houses to the rear of the Mount Airy Hotel had been on fire and it was not long after the hardware store fell in before that building was gone up together with Wallis & Long's Clothing Store, the smoke from the latter being as black as a huge tar kiln burned in pluto's regions.

THE FIRE HALTS

In its desperate course just here the fire halted, having laid everything from the Blue Ridge Inn to Wallis & Long's Store, inclusive, in ashes. The people worked hard to save the big store of Mr. J. D. Smith and it seemed more than probable for a while, but the flames had gotten a hold under the roof and nothing but a good stream of water could have saved it. It soon went up and then the great fire of New Years morning in the year '92 was at an end.

ANOTHER BLOCK IN DANGER

During the entire fire the handsome block of stores across the street suffered much. The stores of Messrs. D. A. Rawley and R. A. Totten were badly burned, the front being wiped off by the flames. Time and again did it catch and every time the flames were conquered. At one time it seemed the block would go in spite of all efforts, but we are glad to state that through the effective work of Messrs. Thomas and Kochitzky it is still here. The Worth & Joyce tower clock on top of this block, whose face was toward the fire, stood there bravely and struck two, three—and we never believed she would ever again tell the time of day or strike four, but she did, and then—five—and today still stands with her front damaged to tell of the ordeal through which she passed...

The article continued to give an account of how several men helped move the safes and other valuables out of two other businesses. It told of the price of the loss of buildings and contents for the burned businesses and how much of each business was covered by insurance, most having less insurance than they needed to cover the loss. In total the loss sustained by the fire was about \$120,000 with insurance covering about \$81,000. The article also stated:

Our citizens worked hard to save property and some could not refrain from weeping over the great loss sustained.

It was a mud hole in the vacant lot on the corner of Main and Franklin Streets that saved the block opposite the fire. If its salvation had depended on well-water it would this minute be in ruins... [ABST/NEWS, 1987, pp. 41-44.]

The citizens of Mount Airy saw how people can pull themselves together after a tragedy and continue on. Less than a year after the great fire a local newspaper wrote in August 1892 of the replacement of the two hotels that burned. The Banner family, including John Lee and Emma's children and some of their grandchildren, would attend functions at the rebuilt Blue Ridge Inn (or Hotel) for many years to come. [CMM, 14 May 1998.] Excerpts from the newspaper article follow.

"Here we are for the Blue Ridge Inn!!" "This way for the Renfro!!" "White Sulphur Spring's Hotel!!"

These are a few of the many exclamations we hear these days at the depot upon the arrival of the passenger train when the bewildered strangers wonder if they will ever live to survive the wrangle and hurl of drumming to which they are subjected.

Mount Airy's new hotels are open, have been open for several weeks, but have just gotten into a position to bid everyone come and partake of the fine air, the beautiful

mountain scenery and our health giving water, promising them entertainment not to be surpassed in any portion of the State.

The White Sulphur Spring's Hotel is full to overflowing, and we understand that over a hundred guests have been turned away. This is an old hotel situated out at our famous White Sulphur.

It is of the Renfro and Blue Ridge Inns we wish to speak. They have both been erected since March to take the places of the two hotels burned down last New Year's night. Mount Airy can never be downed on pure, genuine, unadulterated pluck and vim and it was these qualities that erected at once these two elegant hotels to take the places of the old ones. It should be remembered that before the brick of the old structures had become cold, the meeting of the citizens was called to consider plans for rebuilding.

The Renfro Inn is a charming and picturesque modern style wooden structure situated upon an elevation which commands at one sweep a magnificent view of the surrounding mountains. Its style of architecture is Japanese with Moorish treatment...

The Blue Ridge Inn has by the grand reputation of the former structure that bore its name, jumped immediately into public favor. It is a handsome modern style brick structure situated in the center of the city, situated convenient to business. It has elegant rooms for the public, nicely finished parlors, dining halls, pool rooms, bath rooms, etc., and its halls are airy and convenient... [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p. 71.]

NEWSPAPER ITEMS FROM THE 1890S

A look at some Mount Airy newspaper items from the 1890s listed in Collections and Recollections can give us a clue as to a bit of the talk and activities going on around the town at that time. Those were the years when John Lee and Emma were in their mid-twenties to mid-thirties and were busy with their growing family. The first item refers to the large fire described previously. [CMM, 22 Feb 1998.]

"A mudhole on the corner" of Main and Franklin saved the whole next block from being burned in the great fire of January 1, 1892... "The face of the town clock" across the street was scorched, but it sounded the alarm as "its huge bell, with its ponderous iron tongue, told the whole section that flames were laying low our boasted block... [it] could be heard from Westfield to Dobson."

The Methodists sponsored a Sunday School excursion to Winston with 525 passengers and five passenger coaches. The trip took two and one-half hours each way. It was an all day affair. "J. R. Paddison regretted that he had to turn people away but the engineer declared more would be unsafe." They made \$200 which would be used for a new library.

"Mr. Merritt is receiving the congratulations of his friends for his new looks caused by the shaving of his beard."

"R. J. Galloway has a tomato weighing thirty-four ounces and measuring nineteen inches in diameter."

The veteran's picnic (Confederate) on Lebanon Hill: "immense crowd, people were here from Currituck to Cherokee, from Murphy to Manteo. Delightful music, eloquent speeches and a superabundance of the Good Things of This World."

Excitement: "Town gets electric lights."

"Mayor Graves had no business to attend to this past week and Policeman Thompson was likewise idle. May it ever be thus."

The population of the town was nearly 3000 in 1892. It was 400 in 1850.

Cabbages went for 75 cents to \$1.00 per hundred pounds, apples were \$1.00 a bushel. But, shad was "costly." Roe shad, 75 cents each, bucks were 50 cents.

"Professor Trotter of Baptist Tabernacle, inventor of the illuminated lectures, will give an illuminated lecture on the Great World's Fair for three nights at the Opera House."

Citizens should keep streets clean. "Tis time to put away village ways."

If one bought furniture at McDuffies, he could get a bureau for \$5.00, a bed for \$3.00, a whole bedroom suit for \$20.00, cups and saucers for 30 cents each, and plates for 30 cents.

The fine for getting drunk was \$5.00. Those who sold liquor were urged to stop. A play at the Opera House was "Ruined by Drink."

R. S. Galloway had strawberries one and one half inches across.
[C&R, 1985, pp. 90-91.]

In 1896 Mount Airy was voted "dry" by its citizens. That stand the citizens took concerning alcohol was repeated on numerous occasions until a referendum in 1978 when it was repealed.
[INC/MAT, 22 May 1980.]

ALLISON LYNCHING

In 1892 an event happened in Surry County that must have been the talk of the area. R. F. McGuffin was the Coroner of Surry County at that time. According to his report, a man named Tom H. Allison was in jail in the town of Dobson (near Mount Airy) for the murder of two men and was considered a reckless and dangerous man. On the night of September 12th, according to McGuffin, between the hours of midnight and 2:00 a.m. a crowd of armed masked men overpowered the jailer and took Allison with them.

People were awakened from their sleep by the ringing of the courthouse bell. The information about what had happened quickly spread among the population. Shortly after the masked men had taken Allison, the citizens of the town followed in the direction they had gone and found Tom Allison's lifeless body hanging from the limb of a white oak tree. He was found about a mile from the courthouse in Dobson on the road toward Mount Airy. [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p.76.] Emma was almost twenty-seven years old and John Lee was twenty-eight at the time that lynching occurred. It must have been the topic of conversation for some time in the surrounding area. [CMM, 14 May 1998.]

According to the coroner's report, "Rumors began to float around that the people of Mount Airy did it, or were at least responsible for it." McGuffin, the coroner, held an inquest. A jury was assembled and people they wanted to question were summoned. McGuffin wrote, "...from the testimony of some 30 witnesses there was not development sufficient to warrant the jury in coming to a conclusion as to who the guilty parties were." The jury's verdict was that "T. H. Allison came to death by hanging at the hands of masked men to the jury unknown." McGuffin concluded his report by saying, "I greatly deplore the fact of this assumption of authority by private individuals, and were these offenders of the law citizens of Surry County then there is certainly an abnormal state of society greatly to be lamented." [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p.76.]

Dobson was the county seat of Surry County and had a small population. By the following year (1893), Mount Airy had a population of 2,800 people. Surry County itself had a population of 16,926 white people and 2,355 colored people. [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p. 103.]

THE DEATH OF JOHN LEE'S FATHER

As mentioned earlier, according to the census of 1880, fifteen-year-old John Lee Banner and his family were living in Middle Fork Township in Forsyth County, North Carolina. [1880/CEN, 10 June 1880.] At some point after that, John Lee's father Wilson Clayton Banner moved to Surry County along with his wife and John Lee's mother Martha. [CMM, 14 May 1998.] By the year 1888, J. L. Banner and W. C. Banner and Wilson C. Banner (one of whom was probably John Lee's father) appeared on the list of voters in Mount Airy. It was the first election held in the town after it was incorporated. [C&R, 1985, pp.18, 20.]

Wilson Clayton Banner died on April 17, 1893. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155.] John Lee was twenty-eight years old when his father died. [CMM, 14 May 1998.] An article in The Yadkin Valley News dated April 20, 1893 told of his death. It said Mr. Wilson C. Banner died of paralysis at his home which was three miles north of Mount Airy. The article also said Wilson Clayton was born in Stokes County on August 14, 1827, and that he lived for some time in Forsyth County about four miles from Winston, where he married Martha A. Morris. They had eight children, seven of whom survived him. Wilson Clayton Banner was a member of the Methodist Church for many years. [ABST/NEWS, 1987, p. 106.]

Another source, a Banner family genealogist, differed on Wilson Clayton's date of birth. He said Wilson Clayton Banner was born on August 2, 1826. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155.]

THE RENFRO INN BURNS

John Lee, Emma, and the citizens of Mount Airy had the shock of another downtown fire just a few years after the big one of 1892. [CMM, 15 May, 1998.] At 2:00 a.m. on a Saturday morning in early June 1895, the newly rebuilt Renfro Inn went up in flames. According to an article in The Yadkin Valley News printed on June 13th of that year, "All that is left of Mount Airy's pride—The Renfro Inn—is the pile of brick constituting the foundation and eleven tall chimneys."

The fire at the "magnificent property" was discovered by Claude McLaughlin, the proprietor. He awoke to find his room full of smoke and his bed on fire. His room was located directly over the kitchen. After checking on the fire, he realized he had to act quickly to arouse the guests and get them out immediately. That was done and all got out safely. Mr. McLaughlin thought the fire was started by some rats that got into some matches.

Shortly after the alarm was given, many citizens appeared on the scene. The fire burned so quickly it was impossible to save much furniture. About 100 feet away from the inn was a pavilion and ten pen alleys. They did not burn. The newspaper article about the fire said:

...Fortunately the building was isolated, and as there was hardly a breath of air stirring, no other property was seriously endangered. Some coals fell upon the post office and Grave's Warehouse, which were immediately in front of the building, on Main Street, but these were easily extinguished. Nearly the entire town turned out to the fire, and we doubt if anyone present ever saw a more magnificent sight than it presented. The blaze, roaring and hissing, leaped into the air many feet above the tall chimneys, while the myriad of sparks studding the sky, presented a sight that surpassed any possible artificial display of fireworks.

The building was of North Carolina pine and burned an almost incredible time before falling in. It was nearly two hours after it was discovered before the last of the tall framing timbers succumbed...

The report went on to say that the building was erected in 1892 and "architecturally was unsurpassed by any building we ever saw. Everything about it was admirably proportioned and presented such symmetry and harmony as to attract the notice and admiration of all beholders." The building was opened mainly as a summer resort but was kept open year round. It belonged to a joint stock company of Mount Airy citizens, who even though it was insured for a good part of its value, lost some money when the building burned. They decided not to rebuild it after that fire. [ABST/NEWS, 1987, pp. 227-228.]

MOUNT AIRY IN 1897

When John Lee and Emma's second daughter Alma Banner Bivens was in her eighties, she wrote an article for The Mount Airy News that described her hometown during her youth. It told what Mount Airy, North Carolina was like in the late 1890s while Emma and John Lee lived there with their family. To give a further glimpse of what the hometown was like where they lived and reared their children, Alma's article is reproduced below complete with the newspaper's introduction of the article.

Looks Back On Mount Airy's Past

Mrs. E. C. Bivens, a life long resident of Mount Airy, is a remarkable person with an extraordinary memory.

As she sits in her living room among treasures of the past, she paints a vivid image of Mount Airy as it was in the year of 1897.

"This has been my home for 86 years and there are still some reminders of years ago when there was time for visiting friends, neighbors and the elderly who created camaraderie among people," she mused.

"Longfellow's quote, "Into each life some rain must fall," is so true. However, that's the plan of life and they who are fortunate enough, can see the sun that follows the rain," Mrs. Bivens added as she recalled people and homes of the past.

The following story dates back to the time Mrs. Bivens was a young girl. Her parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. John L. Banner who made their home on South Main Street.

Her husband, the late Judge E. C. Bivens, was the youngest mayor to ever serve the Town of Mount Airy.

Mount Airy About 1897

By Alma B. Bivens

In retrospect I shall try to draw a picture in words about Mount Airy and some of its homes and their owners, as well as many other aspects as I remember them from childhood.

At that time there were only seven streets: Main, Rawley Avenue (named after Ab Rawley whose home was on the site of the present George Fawcett home), Needmore (now Virginia), Franklin, Pine, Rockford, and Wilson Street. Many of the present streets were mere alleys then. However, there were some houses on most of them, and I knew who lived in many.

Needmore was the colored section with a good class of people. They were our friends and we were fond of them. They helped us in many ways and as one old lady said, "Our fondness for them was mutual on both sides."

In winter, the streets were muddy and dusty in summer. At Leonard's Jewelry Store corner (across from what is now Baldwin's) there were stepping stones—the only ones in the village. There was no electricity and no paved sidewalks, except some brick ones in front of a few stores. There was also no inside plumbing, which brings to mind the Dump Cart. This was a large mule-drawn cart with a large flat box mounted thereon. It had a lid which raised from the back with a long-handled shovel sticking out. The Cart was a familiar sight, and as it approached, we ran holding our noses, because as you must know from this description, it didn't smell like Chanel No. 5.

North Main Street's Genesis

North Main Street's genesis was where the Fancy Gap Road, now West Lebanon Street, came into it from the left, winding its way south a distance of one and three-tenths miles to the home of Elisha Banner, known in later years as the Webster House. In antebellum days it was a country road, the route followed by stage coach traveling from Salem, N.C., turning left on Fancy Gap Road going across the mountain to Wytheville, Virginia.

North Main Street from Eckerd's up the hill was all in woods at this time. On investigation I found that this street was opened in 1902. The road to the cemetery wound around what is North Street, then on to the White Sulphur Springs, a famous summer resort of the day.

Mr. Newt Short, a substantial citizen and landowner, rented two cottages which stood side by side on the site of Eckerd's Drug Store. His home was where the new NCB bank was built.

The Brown House was large and airy for the comfort of summer boarders from the low counties, many of whom spent the summer there to enjoy the cool breezes and good food provided by Mrs. Brown. Mr. Brown was a wiry little man who loved playing the piano by ear, using the peck system. This was a very old house when it was demolished. I was told that it was put together with wooden pegs; no nails were used. At present a service station is at the foot of the hill and Joe Jackson built a home on the north side of the lot.

Dry Bridge

Down on the street level, next to the Dry Bridge, there was a rental cottage. The bridge was built of wood and called the Dry Bridge because no water ran under it. Years later the present concrete structure was built.

Next to the bridge was the Dick Galloway home; then a large two-story house where the Minicks lived. Then the home of Bob Dick Galloway, father of Dick, Harry, Gaston, Frank, Grace and Aline. The last owner of this house was Mrs. Joe Haynes. The Fawcett house was next, built by Mr. Thomas Fawcett, Sr., founder and first president of the First National Bank. It is now the home of the Lovills. Next to this stood the Harris house, home of Lois Haymore's maternal grandfather, now the Sykes Apartments. The Sam Inman cottage stood on the corner where the Reece home was later built. On the opposite corner of Main and Elm was the home of Morgan Booker, parents of Spurgeon Booker, whom some will remember seeing groping his way along the streets because of blindness which came to him in early manhood.

On down the street you come to the home of Ruff Haymore, a bachelor and lawyer, who lived with his spinster sister, Miss Martha. They were an unusual pair and a lot of fun with their witty remarks to passersby when sitting on their porch. Ab Rawley's home, mentioned earlier, was on the site of the George Fawcett home.

Rawley Avenue

Mr. Bob Bray lived on the corner of Main and Rawley Avenue with his three children, Bessie, Annie and Robert, and two spinster sisters, Miss Mary and Bett. The former was said to have a bright mind, but the latter was a little touched in the head.

The lot was very large and the house was one story with three rooms across the front. There was no porch, but each room had an outside door with steps leading up to it. No grass grew in the yard. A hard surface of brown dirt covered it, kept clean by the two old ladies sweeping it with straw brooms which they themselves had made. On the Rawley Avenue side of the house there was a high board fence enclosing the dog lot. In those days game, such as quail, rabbits, squirrels, was in abundance, and needless to say, Mr. Bray was a great hunter. He sold the place to Jesse H. Prather and moved to the country. Mr. Prather, father of Johnnie Prather and Frances P. Brown, built an imposing Victorian house on it, where the family lived until broken up by death and marriage, when it was sold to make way for the Workman's Federal Savings and Loan structure which will no doubt stand for aeons of time to come.

The Joe Prather house was next. At the time about which I am writing, it was a one-story brick house. A few years later the second story was added, newly decorated, and made into a beautiful house. This was the home of Jesse and Charlie Prather and sisters. When the family was broken up, the house was sold to W. W. Thomas and demolished a few years ago for the site of the Planters Bank.

Next to the Prather house was a cottage where the W. E. Merritt's lived. This house was green. Next door the J. D. Smith's lived. This house was yellow. Then came the home of Dr. Conse Banner, my maternal grandfather's brother. It was a two-story brown house with a front porch and boxwood hedges leading from the street to it. Dr. Conse retired from his profession before I remembered. He was a jolly good fellow, admired by all with whom he came in contact. There were no buildings from his home to Needmore Street.

Blue Ridge Inn

Where Merritt's Hardware Store is now located, there were two saloons, wooden structures with small front porches. Then we come to the Blue Ridge Inn. Many readers won't remember the two long porches off the second and third floors. There was an Italian, Joe Merrill, who played the harp and gave concerts from the first porch in the late afternoons. We enjoyed standing across the street to listen. He ran a little fruit shop down the street. His wife was a tall, skinny woman and they had several children. He lived and died here; his funeral was held in the Episcopal Church.

McPherson's Drug Store was close by the hotel and on down the street was the I. W. West Drug Store. Mrs. Parker (Celia Banner) ran a millinery shop. One or two stores were along this part of the street which brings us to Franklin Street.

Now going back to the Dry Bridge we come down the other side of Main Street. Dr. E. W. Allred (Miss Verona West's grandfather) lived in this house, now the home of Mrs. Steele; then came the Sydnor house, later demolished; and the C. C. Haymore house, now demolished. Next was the Baptist Church, a wooden structure which stood way back on the hill behind the present one. It had two aisles, a potbellied stove on each side of the church and a baptismal font back of the pulpit.

The next house was Willis Haymore's cottage (Lois Haymore's home). Later, a second story was added, now demolished. The next house is a very old one. I do not know who built it, but the Carroll Hill family lives there now. Next was the J. D. Thompson home, a one-story house at the time. It is now the home of Edward Ashby.

Where the W. E. Merritt house now stands was a large house where the Lewis family lived. They moved to Georgia before I can remember and the house was demolished to make way for the present Merritt home. There were no buildings after this until we come to the little brick house on the corner of Main and Hines Avenue. Many young couples lived there. Next door was a cottage and another beside that.

Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church was built in 1896. The Dr. E. W. Allred office, a one-room structure, was close by the church, with a hitching post and lamp post in front.

Then came a little brick house, very close to the street, in which the J. D. Thompsons lived. Next was the Galloway Opera House. Stock companies came and played a week's engagement, giving a different play every night. In later years the first floor became G. C. Lovill Company. On down the street was the J. W. Barker Store, R. D. DeVault Store (J. W. Prather clothing vacated by Belks), and the J. D. Smith Store last on the corner. The location of the John Midkiff Hardware Store, much below street level, was the campground. Farmers came bringing produce for sale. They cooked on camp fires and slept in wagons. We enjoyed standing on the sidewalk listening to the banjo picking and hearing their chatter.

Down the street R. T. Joyce ran a hardware store where Halcomb hardware now has a business. W. C. Moore's Book Store was next. The First National Bank, a brick building, now the stone structure, was on the corner. The Dr. Ed Hollingsworth office was over what is Rees Clothing Company Store, one of the oldest buildings here. Next door was the barber shop of Aaron Penn, a colored man. Down the street was the Central Hotel.

Renfro Inn was before my day but it stood on the hill of the post office site. Jimmy Schuab's wagon shop was on the north corner of the property where the Bivens home was later built. He made little red wagons by hand, to the delight of small boys. His mother, with her son, Toby, lived close by. The J. C. Hollingsworth house, a one-story brick, was next. A white colonial cottage was close by – Dr. Billy Hollingsworth's home with a small office to one side where his son, Dr. Bob, lived. Next was the home of Dr. Ed Hollingsworth, Zeb's father, and then the old home of Dr. Joe Hollingsworth with an office in the yard. Beyond that was Joe Fulton's home, still owned by the family, with Yancy Graves home next door.

The Durham home was later the home of D. M. Hodge. Way on down the street was a brick building in which Welch and Mitchell (Dr. Mitchell's father) ran a store.

Leonard's Jewelry

R. H. Leonard's Jewelry Store was on the corner of Main and Franklin. The charming old brick home of Jesse Moore and wife, Anne Banner Moore, was on the location of Lamm's Drug Company, the yard extending to Leonard's Jewelry corner on one side and on the south side to the drug store of Taylor and Banner, later Wolfe Drug Company. Close by was the home of Dr. W. S. Taylor (on the site of what is now the Banner building) and down the street was a shoe shop, Jenkins Book Store and a small grocery. There was nothing on down the street until you got to the lot where the John L. Banner home was later built. An old wooden building stood there. I was told the first floor was used for a store and the second floor for Miss Lizzie Gilmer's private school. A grove of trees was between this building and Miss Lizzie's home, later demolished for the building of a high school.

The Presbyterian Church, a small wooden building, was where the present one is located. The widow of William Martin Banner lived in a house on the location of the Robert Smith home. The W. F. Carter house, which was close to the street, had steps

leading from the sidewalk to the porch. Some years later it was moved way back and remodeled into the attractive southern Colonial home as we see it today.

Methodist Church

A two-story white house, still standing, belonged to the Methodist Church and was used as a home for Presiding Elders. On the corner there was a very old house, the last owner being the late C. L. Whitman. It was demolished and sold to the Friends Church for parking space.

Friends Church had not been built and the house close by was owned by Miss Cora Gilmer, now used as a part of the Cockerham Flower Shop. The old Methodist Church and cemetery, way back from the street, were neglected when the congregation moved to Franklin Street. The old church was quaint with a balcony for the slaves. Many of our ancestors are buried there, and it's a beauty spot since restoration. An ancient pine tree stands at the back as if keeping guard over the citizens of the long ago village.

Close by was the home of W. H. Spain. This, too, was a very old one. Sheriff Milt Davis lived in a house just this side of what was then the Globe Warehouse. It stood unused for many years; now a mill operates there. Mrs. Whetstone lived in a very large house and next door there was an ancient, enormous home belonging to Elisha Banner. Legend says that this home was the center of social activity in the long ago.

Mount Airy has grown from a country village to a thriving town since 1897. Although we did not have either radio or TV, we did have books, magazines and newspapers so that we were aware of what was going on in the world.

In the last fifty years, Mount Airy has changed so much. However, it is still home to me. My wish for all its people is that God may bless and keep them always in His loving care. [ABB/TMAN, 7 Oct 1975 p. 1A.]

CENSUS OF 1900

On June 21, 1900, Al Sparger visited John Lee and Emma's home. While there, he wrote down information on their family for the census of 1900. On that census form Al listed J. L. Banner as the head of the household. He noted that John Lee was a married white male who was born in August 1864 and was 35 years old. The census record also told that he and Emma had been married fourteen years. John Lee as well as both of his parents had been born in North Carolina. He could read and write and owned his own home which was free of any mortgage. Under John Lee's occupation was listed "mfg chairs."

M. E. Banner was listed as John Lee's wife. She was a married white female whom it said was born in Oct. 1866 and was then 33 years old. Emma and both of her parents had been born in North Carolina. [Note: That differs from the census of 1910 which said her mother was born in Kentucky.] The census tells us that Emma had four children, three of whom were still living.

At that time their three daughters listed on the census were in school and could read and write. The young white single girls were: Annie, age 13, born in Feb. 1887 [possibly 88 or 89 – hard to read], Alma, age 11, born in April ????, [hard to read] and Kathleen, age 7, born in May 1893.

When Al Sparger wrote down the information on the census of 1900, he did not write the name of the street where the Banners and their neighbors lived. The two families Al visited just before the Banners were the Overlys and Sydnors. John Lee and Emma's neighbor W. B. Overly was a 41-year-old widower. He was living with his three daughters (ages five to ten years old), a 45-year-old brother, and two boarders. Mr. Overly rented his home. Although he was a male his occupation was listed as Dressmaker.

Another family living near the Banners at that time was that of W. Y.(?) Sydnor. He was 34 years old, worked in the insurance business and rented his home. Mr. Sydnor lived with his wife and young son and daughter. A 24-year-old white female servant worked for them.

The home Al Sparger visited right after the Banners was that of R. L.(?) Haym__?__. He was a 49-year-old single male who was a lawyer. He lived with his single 59-year-old sister Martha, and it said he owned a farm.

The second entry on the census after the Banner's was the family of J. D. Thompson. He was a 28-year-old salesman who was renting his house. He lived with his 30-year-old wife and one and six-year-old daughters. Mr. Thompson's 49-year-old mother lived with them along with a fourteen-year-old black female servant. [1900/CEN, Jun 1900.]

All of those families, including the J. L. Banners, probably lived on North Main Street. In her article on Mount Airy of 1897, Alma wrote of the bachelor lawyer Ruff Haymore and his spinster sister who made witty remarks to passersby when sitting on their porch. [ABB/TMAN, 7 Oct 1975, p. 1A.] That was no doubt the R. L. Haym__?__ and sister recorded on the census of 1900. They were neighbors of the Banners which made it more likely they would chat with them and make funny remarks. [CMM, 28 Feb 1998.]

In the 1913-1914 General Directory for Mount Airy, R. L. Haymore was listed as living at 201 North Main Street (beginning with Oak). J. D. Thompson lived near him at 214 North Main Street. And a W. G. Sydnor also was there living at 266 North Main Street. The Overly and J. L. Banner families had moved by then. The street numbers listed sequentially in that directory had many large gaps in them. [C&R, 1985, p. 40.]

JOHN LEE'S OCCUPATION

John Lee had a chair factory and an ice cream factory at one point. He was a city commissioner for Mount Airy as well. John Lee made money, but he didn't keep it, according to a granddaughter. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.]

In J. G. Hollingsworth's History of Surry County, he discussed the economic climate of the Mount Airy area at the time John Lee was trying to support his family.

Just prior to the financial depression of 1893 the tobacco manufacturing in Surry County reached its zenith with twenty-one in operation. The building of the Yadkin Valley Railroad to Mount Airy, and the construction of the Winston-Salem-Wilkesboro Railroad no doubt had a great deal to do with the rapid development of manufacturing. The period of the '90's witnessed the extinction of many tobacco manufacturing plants. They were driven to the wall by the panic of 1893 and the cutthroat methods of competition of the rising Tobacco Trust. With the decline in

tobacco manufacturing the people of the county began to establish furniture factories which were able to profit by the vast supply of timber to be found in the county... The furniture factories at Elkin and Mount Airy were well managed and down to the present their history had been one of continued progress and business expansion. [JGH/HST, 1935, pp. 160-161.]

It was in 1895, when John Lee was thirty-one years old, that he had organized the Banner Chair Company. A newspaper article dealing with the industrial growth of Mount Airy over the years spoke of the three big lumber companies that had been in the region. [CMM, 3 Mar 1998.] It noted:

The last of the big lumber companies was the Foy Lumber company, which was founded in 1903 by E. C. Foy, Sr., who has been assisted by a number of his sons in the business. This company acquired the plant of the old Banner Chair company, which had been organized in 1895 by the late John L. Banner, and for some years the chair company was continued under the Foy name. This was discontinued, however, a good many years ago, and the business was confined to mill work and fine lumber. [GRO/MAT, 21 May 1971.]

Surry County became known for its apples, with Mount Airy being one of the principal apple markets of the state. [JGH/HST, 1935, p. 171.] John Lee Banner "was a man of many parts" according to a granddaughter. He had many acres north of Mount Airy on which he had a working apple orchard. A foreman ran it for him. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977 // JBM, 30 Oct 1993.] The orchard was on the way to Virginia. There was a big warehouse there and a cider mill. "Uncle Biv bought it from him." [JBM, 30 Oct 1993.] Judge Edward Chatham Bivens, "Uncle Biv," was John Lee's son-in-law. [CMM, 13 Nov 1993.]

A Mount Airy newspaper article following the growth of orchards in the area noted that the first to be planted near the city was the old Granite City orchard, which was started by B. F. Sparger in 1894. The article noted that no finer apple could be found in any market than those produced in the Mount Airy area.

The Coveland orchard of 12,000 trees was started in 1899 and was located at the foot of the mountains on the Ward's Gap road some ten or twelve miles north of Mount Airy. That was followed in 1906 by the Sparger orchard along the sides of Slate mountain planted by J. B. Sparger, J. A. Sparger, and B. F. Sparger. That orchard grew over the years to 15,000 apple trees and 5,000 peach trees and was ranked as the largest orchard near Mount Airy.

About five smaller orchards were also mentioned in the article: the Rosedale (started in 1912, later including 4,000 apple trees and 2,000 peach trees), the Mount Airy orchard (6,000 apple trees), E. G. Smith's orchard (included 5,000 peach trees), Marvin Sparger's orchard (included about 1,200 apple trees and about 800 peach trees) and "the Banner orchard, which was also started in 1912 and now includes about 3,000 apple trees." [GRO/MAT, 21 May 1971, p. 12-C.] The Banner orchard referred to in that newspaper article could be John Lee Banner's orchard. [CMM, 3 Mar 1998.]

In 1912 (the year the Banner orchard was started), improved upland farms were worth from \$30 to \$60 per acre, while land a considerable distance from the railroad was worth from \$10 to \$20 per acre. In contrast, the best farmland along the Yadkin river was worth \$75 to \$150 per acre. [JGH/HST, 1935, p. 171.]

By the time his first grandson had come along and was a little boy, John Lee owned an ice cream plant. That grandson was John B. Mitchell, who was born in 1917. He remembered that his grandfather had that ice cream plant when he was a little boy. [JBM, 30 Oct 1993.]

BRICK JOHN

John Lee Banner also owned a brick factory at one time. He was called "Brick John" by the people in town. That was done to differentiate him from "Tobacco John," another man in town who was also named John Banner and worked with tobacco. [JBM, 30 May 1992 / 30 Oct 1993.]

According to John Lee's grandson, John B. Mitchell, John Lee owned a brick yard. "There were two John Banners in town," he said. "I think the other one was his cousin, I believe. And the other one owned a tobacco warehouse, and they called one of 'em Brick John and called the other one Tobacco John. Tobacco John had a son named John Banner," said John Banner Mitchell. "Banner is his last name. You've probably met him. He's a good-looking young man. Remember Lib Banner? John is her younger brother." [JBM, Jun. 1977.] Tobacco John married late in life and they had two children Elizabeth "Lib" Banner and John Banner who was quite handsome. [JBM, 30 May 1992.]

In speaking of the two John Banners another time, John Mitchell said the two men were cousins. John Lee had his brickyard and Tobacco John owned a tobacco warehouse where they had tobacco auctions. Later in their lives Tobacco John had more money than Brick John (John Lee.) As John Mitchell thought about the two men, he began to think that Tobacco John was called Warehouse John instead of Tobacco John. He wasn't sure which. [JBM, 30 May 1992.]

That Tobacco (or Warehouse) John to whom John Mitchell referred was a cousin of both John Lee and Emma. However, he was a closer cousin to Emma. They were first cousins. [CMM, 16, May 1998.] Tobacco/Warehouse John Banner (1869 - 1952) was the son of William Martin "Billy" Banner and Catherine Whitlock. Billy's parents were John Banner and Virginia Moore (Emma's grandparents).

Tobacco/Warehouse John Banner had three children. Allan Carithers Banner, Sr. was his child by his first wife Annie Mead Borden. With his second wife (Johnnie May Roberts), John Banner had two more children: Elizabeth "Lib" Banner, born in 1918, who married Daniel Edward Hudgins; and John Banner, Jr., born in 1933, who married Sherry Lee Morris. [LBH, Sep 1997.]

FIFTH DAUGHTER: LOVE

John Lee and Emma's last child was another daughter they named Love Hilliard Banner. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] According to the census of 1910, Love was born in North Carolina. [1910/CEN, 29 Apr 1910.] Her daughter and another source said Love was born in Mount Airy, North Carolina, on August 2, 1902. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994 // LWB, info. obtained May 1998.] Love was often called "Lovie" by her friends and family. [CMM, 9 Feb 1998.] Kathleen and Love would be the two youngest daughters in the family as they grew up. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.] When Love was born, her oldest sister Anne, or Annie, was fifteen years old, her mother Emma was 36 years old, and her father John Lee was 38 years old. [CMM, 12 Mar 1997.]

Theodore Roosevelt was the President of the United States when Love was born. The Wright brothers' third glider was built according to new calculations and flown successfully at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. During September and October of that year nearly 1000 flights were made, several of more than 600 feet. During the month of August 1902, Mrs. Adolph Ladenburg rode astride her horse in

Saratoga, NY, and created a considerable stir in the press. She wore a split skirt and declared it much more comfortable and no more immodest than riding costumes for side-saddle use. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 393, 395.]

AWAY TO SCHOOL

After her grammar school years, Anne continued on into high school in Mount Airy. At that time the school went up to the tenth grade and ended. There was no graduation. Anne was about sixteen years old (around 1903) when she finished school in Mount Airy. [ABM, apx. 1960.] When Anne finished her schooling in her home town, she attended Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] Anne attended that college for one year. [ABM, apx. 1960.]

The school where John Lee and Emma sent their oldest daughter, the Salem Academy and College, was just about one hundred years old when Annie attended the school. Most of the students were boarders. The lovely old school was the third in the United States founded for the education of young women. It was founded by the Moravians, a religious group from Europe, who had settled in the area in the 1750s. In his book History of Wachovia in North Carolina, John Henry Clewell wrote that the "Salem Female Academy is looked upon as the school of the South which has done a work of great usefulness for the promotion of true womanhood... That on which the Academy prides itself, more than all else, is the earnest effort which it makes to inculcate a high and noble standard of Christian womanhood." [JHC/WACH, 1902.]

After attending the Salem Academy and College, Annie returned home to Mount Airy and lived with her parents and sisters. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] With that one year of college behind her, Anne began helping her father who was manufacturing kitchen chairs at that time. [ABM, Apx. 1960.]

BOARDING HOUSE

Some North Carolina yearbooks listed hotels and boarding houses in Mount Airy for the years 1869 – 1916. For two of those years, 1905 and 1906, Mrs. J. L. Banner was listed as having a boarding house there in Mount Airy. [C&R, 1985, pp. 55-56.]

It is easy to speculate on why the family took in boarders for those two years. Were they taking in some relatives to help them out? They may not have been listed in the yearbook if that was the case. Was John Lee in a lean time with his business affairs or perhaps changing careers? Was he ill and unable to bring as much income to the household? Did he have an unusual business expense? Were they just trying to supplement their income because of the expense of rearing their young daughters? Or were they trying to put aside extra money for the new house they would build a few years later? At this point we don't know. What appears to be the case is that they only took in boarders for two years or were available to take in boarders, although we don't know how many they actually had. [CMM, 22 Feb 1998.]

ENTERTAINMENT OF THE DAY

According to Anne, in the days when Annie and Alma were young women many of the men wore mustaches. Emma, her girls, and all of the women wore long dresses down to the floor. They sometimes carried their dress on the side to keep the dust off the hems. They wore high top shoes some of which buttoned and some that laced up. All of their clothes were made by someone and not bought at stores. All the women had long hair and wore it up. [ABM, apx. 1960.]

A newspaper article describing life in Mount Airy in the late 1800s and early 1900s told how many of the women dressed.

...They spent days making elaborate dresses with fancy lace trim. Underneath the dresses went the chemise which fell to the knees and beneath the chemise were drawers or pantalettes that went from the waist below the knee. They were made of white and elaborately tucked, trimmed and ruffled about the leg. Over this was the corset, a garment of torture, which was fashioned to bring a lady's waistline down to a respectable size even if it squeezed the life out of her in the process. Then over this went three to five petticoats. [EP/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.]

Forms of entertainment for the Banner girls, Anne said, included going to parties and playing games such as fruit basket. They would also go up into the mountains for picnics. Such excursions took all day. They went in carriages pulled by two horses. [ABM, apx. 1960.]

Annie spoke of going to the mountains for picnics. Some of those excursions for the Banner girls and their parents or friends were to the White Sulphur Springs. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.] An article in Collections and Recollections describes that place.

From the latter part of the 1800's until the end of World War I, the White Sulphur Springs Hotel, four miles northeast of Mount Airy, was THE place to go. It mattered not if one came from Greensboro or from High Point, from Raleigh or from Chapel Hill, from Kinston or from Wilmington, from Virginia or from South Carolina, or from the Baptist, Methodist, or Presbyterian churches of Mount Airy on a Sunday School picnic, or just a local resident going out with his gallon jug for the salubrious, curative sulphur waters—everybody, and that meant EVERYBODY, enjoyed the White Sulphur Springs.

In the 1700's a race track was on the premises or nearby. In the early 1800's camp meetings helped take up the summers; but, in the late 1800's Rufus Roberts built his fine new hotel and, then, things began to hum.

Around 1900 the hotel burned. Then, in 1905 a really big three-storied affair, plus part of a fourth story on top of that, was built.

Following is a May 16, 1895, description of this gorgeous place. This, dear readers, was before the days of the summerhouse made of ivy roots, or of the lattice framework over the spring, or of the dance pavilion with its bowling alley downstairs and the dance hall upstairs.:

“The Mount Airy White Sulphur Springs Hotel is now open for visitors.”

“This justly celebrated spring is beautifully located four miles north of Mount Airy. The hotel nestles at the foot of a high bluff, and immediately in front of it, which, with its grove of stately maples and restless aspens, fascinates the eye and tempts to luxurious ease. The lawn is perfectly level and there is a delightfully shady walk leading down to the spring, which is one of the most lovely spots to be imagined.”

“About twenty feet to the west is the river, which here seethes and bubbles as it makes its way over the shoals, while to the left a little brook murmurs its way to the river, where its water soon loses itself in the flood. A few feet to the north is a rustic bower, while all around are majestic shade trees.”

“The spring itself is a limpid pool of water clear as crystal and pure as the dew of the morning. It is about two feet square, two and a half feet deep, and so clear that the bottom is seen as if reflected in a mirror. Around the sides is a sediment which hangs in festoons, showing the presence of the white sulphur, which is the principal ingredient, but iron, magnesia and other minerals are present in sufficient quantity to justify the reputation of the spring as a very fountain of health.”

“While the water is strong in minerals it is not unpleasant to the taste, being delightfully cool and refreshing. It is so light you can drink it until it runs out of the mouth without a particle of danger or unpleasant sensation.”

“The water is especially recommended for kidney and liver troubles and humors of the blood, and the cures which it has effected in these diseases are numerous and well authenticated. Everyone thus afflicted should come here and let these waters cure them.”

“The hotel has capacity for accommodating 150 guests. Messrs. Brown and Haynes, the proprietors, have had charge of them for three years, and their guests have uniformly been pleased with their courteous, but not effusive, attentions to their wants.”

“The table is supplied with all the delicacies of this mountain section—fine beef, mutton, chickens, eggs, sourwood honey, the richest butter and milk, and vegetables of all kinds.”

“Amusements are plenty. Fishing and rowing on the river, hunting, excursions to the mountains so occupy the time as to make it slip away almost unnoticed. An occasional day can also be spent in Mount Airy with pleasure and profit.”

“The proprietors will have hacks to meet all trains so there will be no need for anxiety or vexation. If you are interested, write to Messrs. Brown and Haynes for further information.” [C&R, 1985, pp. 63-64.]

One of the places the Banner family probably went to picnic in the mountains was to the grounds of the White Sulphur Springs Hotel. Many of the local people went to the well known resort to picnic and dance. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] As John Lee and Emma's daughters grew up, they would go to dances at the pavilion at White Sulphur Springs and sometimes take along their little sister Love, who enjoyed going up there with them. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.]

One local resident, Carma Sydnor, recalled growing up in Mount Airy. She said of her youth that she “looked forward to the opening of White Sulphur Springs Hotel each summer when the dances were held in the pavilion near the river and, also, to the holiday dances at the old Commercial Club located in the Banner building in downtown Mount Airy.” [C&R, 1985, p. 117.]

COMMERCIAL CLUB DANCES

When Emma and John Lee's daughters were young ladies, the Commercial Club opened in town. A newspaper article describing the social events of the late 1800s and early 1900s in Mount Airy told of that place.

Dances were usually held at the Commercial Club located in the upstairs area occupied by the old Wolfe Drug Store. Here was the scene of most social events. Excitement arrived with every ball invitation and when dances weren't on the agenda large groups gathered to play cards... [EP/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.]

Anne and Alma were known to have attended events at the Commercial Club. When asked what she did for fun in her youth, Anne told of going to a club where they were members and dancing there. The waltz and two-step were the primary dances she did, not square dancing as they considered that something country people did. [ABM, apx. 1960.]

An old photo appeared in a 1971 issue of The Mount Airy Times commemorating Surry County's 200th anniversary. Anne was among dozens of young well dressed people in that photograph. The caption stated, "The opening of the old Commercial Club in the Banner Building on Main Street (over the TIMES office) many years ago must have been a gala occasion..." [PHOTO/MAT, 21 May 1971.]

Then in 1976 an article was run in The Mount Airy News which also told of that earlier era. The headline of the article stated: "Commercial Club Dance 1914." Miss Alma Banner and [the young man she was interested in] E. C. Bivens were among the several dozen people attending that particular dance. The article stated in part:

A delightful social function was given in honor of Miss Ellen Wilson of Greenville, S.C., at the Commercial Club rooms Monday evening from 9 to 12 o'clock.

Their dances are always enjoyable and invitations eagerly accepted... [CCD/TMAN, 1914 // 24 Feb 1976, p. 6B.]

John Lee and Emma must have had a busy and interesting household in those years as they tried to keep up with their girls' social functions. Just keeping them properly clothed for such events was no doubt costly and time-consuming, not to mention the emotions that went with receiving or not receiving invitations to events the young ladies were anxious to attend. [CMM, 29 Jan 1998.] One person who was there during that era made the observation "the girls attended to their rather considerable social life, and the boys did what boys usually did. They courted and horsed around." [C&R, 1985, p. 103.]

ALMA IN A PLAY

In 1976 a newspaper in Mount Airy had an issue which contained pictures and stories from days gone by. One of those pictures told of an event the Banner family probably attended, another activity in which one of their daughters was involved.

There was a picture in that newspaper of a young, well-dressed Alma Banner who was sitting down. She was wearing a long light-colored lacy dress and had ribbons in her dark hair. Her hair may have been worn up. It is difficult to tell in the photograph. Alma appeared to be reading a piece of paper she held in both hands.

Standing beside Alma was a nice-looking young man wearing dress clothes. He was leaning over slightly and pointing to something on the paper Alma held which he also seemed to be reading. There was a caption below that newspaper picture. "LITTLE HOFFMAN AND ALMA BANNER all dressed up for a home talent play in which they took part. The year was 1909." [PHOTO/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976, p. 9B.]

That same 1976 newspaper also had another picture of Alma from her early days. It was an oval photograph of four young people. Three were seated and one young man was standing. The caption said: "STARRING IN THE COMEDY 'When a Man is Single' was Tom McCargo, Jerry Reeves, Dotty Franklin and Alma Banner. This photograph, made in the early 1900's, is recorded in Mrs. E. C. Bivens' (Alma's) memory book." [PHOTO/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976, p. 6B.]

THE DEATH OF EMMA'S FATHER

Emma's father John Elisha Banner died in 1909. [WK/CEM, info.obtained May 1998.] He had been born in 1835. [WK/CEM, info. obtained May 1998 // WPB/HST, 1979, p. 142 // ABM/DAR, obtained in late 1950s.] John Elisha was about seventy-four years old at the time of his death, and his daughter Emma was about forty-three years old when he died. [CMM, 14, May 1998.]

Soon after John Elisha's death, his wife (Emma's mother), Louisa or Lou as she was called, moved in with her daughter Emma and John Lee. [CMM, 14 May 1998.] She was living in their household by the time the census of 1910 was conducted. In that year Lou was recorded as John Lee's mother-in-law who was a sixty-six-year-old widow. [1910/CEN, 29 Apr 1910.]

In 1909, the year of John Elisha Banner's death, William H. Taft was inaugurated as the twenty-seventh President of the United States. The first commercial manufacture of Bakelite marked the beginning of the Plastic Age. An English aviator Henri Farman completed the first one hundred mile flight in an airplane, and the United States explorer Robert E. Peary reached the North Pole. [TIME/HST, 1991, pp. 462-263.]

ANNE MARRIES

John Lee and Emma's oldest daughter Anne was about five feet, three inches tall, had a trim figure, black hair, and brown eyes. Her daughter said she had been a beauty in her youth. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] When her son was a grown man and living in Mount Airy, people often told him Annie had been the prettiest girl in town. [JBM, 12 Feb 1994.]

Anne was a "sweet and gentle person. Everyone liked her." [KMR, Mar. 1978.] "She loved to socialize and enjoyed jokes and funny stories. She had a real good sense of humor." [JBM, Jun. 1977.] Anne's cousin was "very fond" of her and called her "a real sweetheart." [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.] Her niece and son both noted the everyone always loved Annie. She and her youngest sister Love were a lot alike. They were both more relaxed and liked to have fun. [PH, 6 Feb 1980 // JBM, 6 Feb 1980.] Another niece said she "loved her dearly, she was just a wonderful, wonderful woman." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

Anne met a young doctor when he opened a practice in Mount Airy. They would marry and live in Mount Airy for a short while. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] Annie's sister said she married Dr. Arthur S. Mitchell. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Dr. Arthur Swain Mitchell, who earned both medical and optometric

degrees, would become a nationally-known specialist and lecturer in diseases of the eye. [NPC/UD, obtained 1979.]

Arthur Swain was older than Annie. When they married, he was about 28 years old and she was 22 years of age. [CMM, 8 Feb 1998.] There is something unusual about their marriage. The two young people were not married in Mount Airy in Emma and John Lee's home as at least two of her younger sisters would be. It is easy to speculate about the reason for that. Did Anne's parents disapprove of the match? Did they attend the wedding? Did any of her family attend? Why did they get married out of town? It is not known. [CMM, 8 Feb 1998.] Anne's daughter did say that at a certain time in her youth Anne did not get along well with her mother. Her daughter speculated that Anne may have married to get away. [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

What is known is that Anne Lee Banner and Arthur Swain Mitchell were married on November 22, 1909, at the Episcopal Rectory in Greensboro, North Carolina. [FBP, obtained 1980.] Emma was forty-four years old when her first child got married, and John Lee was forty-five years old. Anne and Arthur Swain would live in a variety of places over the next few years. [CMM, 8 Feb 1998.] They would have two children, Kathleen and John Banner Mitchell. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // CMM, 8 Feb 1998.]

Kathleen would marry Henry Rozendal in 1938. [ABM/PP, obtained 1980.] They had no children. John would marry Alma Hines in 1941. [AHM, Mar. 1978.] John and Alma had two children, Charlotte Anne Mitchell and James Madison Hines Mitchell. [CMM, 8 Feb 1998.]

WORKMEN'S BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

John Lee was probably instrumental in establishing a new building and loan association in Mount Airy, because he served as one of the original officers when the Workmen's Building and Loan Association was first chartered by the state of North Carolina on April 8, 1910.

The original officers of the Association were: W. G. Sydnor, president; T. B. McCargo, vice president, and G. G. Galloway, secretary-treasurer.

The first board of directors of Workmen's Building and Loan were: W. E. Merritt, J. A. Hadley, E. H. Kochtitzky, J. A. Tesh, W. W. Thomas, S. G. Pace, Thomas Fawcett, J. L. Banner, and Dr. T. B. Ashby.

The first attorney for the Association was W. F. Carter, Sr. and the first headquarters was established in the second floor of the Merritt Building on North Street and West Oak Street.

The original amount of stock paid in upon its formation was \$800. The Association showed steady growth since that time.

The Association was converted from a state-chartered Building and Loan Association in 1936, some time after John Lee's death. It then received its new charter as a Federal Savings and Loan. By 1963 the Association had moved to the corner of North Main Street and Riley Avenue. [WC/TMAN, 31 Mar 1978, p. 6B.]

CENSUS OF 1910

On April 29, 1910, Robert Perkins was busy working on the Surry County, North Carolina, census for the United States government. He obtained and wrote down information on the Banner family on the census forms for that year. It repeated some of the information about various family members found on the previous census ten years earlier, but it also told that they were living on Granite Street in Mount Airy Township. The house number was 110. John L. Banner was listed as the head of the household. He was 45 years old and had been married for 24 years by that time. His native language was English, and he was renting a house. John's trade or profession was listed as "manufacturer" and the nature of the business was "cribs."

Mary E. Banner, according to the census, was his wife of 24 years who was forty-four years old. Her native language was English. It said Emma and her father had been born in North Carolina and her mother had been born in Kentucky. It also said that Emma had given birth to five children and four were living at that time.

During that April in 1910, John Lee and Emma had four other people beside themselves living in their household. Three were their daughters. Alma L. Banner was said to be a single twenty-one-year-old woman. Her native language was English and no trade or profession was listed for her. She was not attending school according to the census.

The next child listed was Kathleen Banner, seventeen years old, who also spoke English as her native language. Kathleen had attended school at some point between September 1, 1909 and April 1910, when the census was taken. "None" was listed for Kathleen under trade or profession.

The third daughter listed on that census for the Banners was Love H. Banner. She was said to be eight years old and, according to the census, had not attended school since the September 1, 1909, date specified on the census. Nothing was listed for Love under Native Language.

The sixth and last person said to be living in John Lee and Emma's home in the spring of 1910 was Emma's mother and John Lee's mother-in-law, Louise (a) ? [writing difficult to read] Banner. She was described as a white sixty-six-year-old widow. She had given birth to nine children and seven were still living at that time. Louisa could read and write and her native language was English. The census also indicated that Louisa was born in Kentucky and so was her mother. Her father, it said, was born in the United States.

The Banner family was the last one visited on Granite Street. Just before going to see them, the census taker had been to their neighbors John and Hallie. John T.(?) Moor(?) was a 46-year-old agent for the Express Office. His wife Hallie was 29 years old. They had three daughters and one son who ranged in age from a newborn to six years old.

Also living on Granite Street, just up from the Moors and near the Banners, was the family of Samuel N. Allred, a 46-year-old man who worked for the "Secret Services Department of Justice." He lived there with his 44-year-old wife Alice and their two daughters and four sons. The children ranged in age from two years old to twenty.

The third house away from the Banners on Granite Street was the home of William S. Taylor, 59 years old, and his 52-year-old wife Mary. William was a doctor in general practice there in Mount Airy. Living with them was a 40-year-old white servant. [1910/CEN, 29 Apr 1910.]

KATHLEEN GRADUATES

According to the census of 1910, the Banners' third daughter Kathleen had been attending school since September 1st of the 1909 school year. [1910/CEN, 29, Apr 1910.] An undated photograph showed a graduating class of Mount Airy High School. Kathleen was in that photo along with the other graduates of that year. If all the graduates were present for the photograph, there were nine members of that graduating class. There were seven women and two men, all holding bouquets of flowers and rolled diplomas. The women all wore long light-colored dresses and the men had on dark suits. The caption with the photograph stated:

GRADUATING CLASS OF MOUNT AIRY HIGH SCHOOL in the year ____, well, Mrs. Kate Hollingsworth Hoster, now of Bradenton, Fla., was unsure of the date. It apparently was around the end of the first decade of the century. The graduates, l-r, are seated: Lucy Hadley, a Miss Harris, Kathleen Banner, Gaye Callaway. Standing: Jesse Hollingsworth, Mary Franklin Graves, Stella James, Effie Ashby, and Roy Mitchell. The picture is part of the memorabilia in Mrs. Hoster's collection. [PHOTO/UD, obtained 1997.]

GRANDCHILDREN, 1910 - 1933

FIRST GRANDCHILD: KATHLEEN BANNER "KACKY" MITCHELL

John Lee and Emma's first grandchild was born on October 13, 1910. Their eldest daughter Anne and Dr. Arthur Swain Mitchell had a little girl they named Kathleen Banner Mitchell. She was born in Mount Airy, North Carolina. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] While she was often called Kathleen or Kack, her family usually referred to her as Kacky. Annie was 23 years old when her first child was born. Emma was forty-five and John Lee was forty-six years old when Kacky was born. [CMM, 8 Feb 1998.]

About a year and a half after Kacky's birth, her parents had her christened at St. Paul's Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. [FBP, obtained 1980.] When Kacky was very small, Swain had a practice he opened in Winston-Salem. They lived there for a time before moving on to Philadelphia where he continued with his medical career. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.] Kacky would marry Henry Rozendal on February 19, 1938. They had no children. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // CMM, 9 Feb 1998 // ABM/PP, obtained 1980.]

LOVES TO EAT, HATES TO COOK

Emma's granddaughter Kacky said, "Granny loved to eat! But she did not like to cook. Most of her life she had a cook. Once, she had a lunch guest who asked for the recipe for the dessert they had eaten." Emma replied, "I don't know and don't want to know!" [KMR, Mar. 1978.] In Emma's later years, however, another granddaughter thought she did her own cooking for she did not remember a cook being in Emma's house. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.] A grandson's wife also said that in those later years she did not remember seeing a cook at Emma's. [AHM, Mar 1998.]

Another granddaughter said, "She loved to eat, she was kind of big, you know. She was rather buxom, but she enjoyed life." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

A grandson of Emma's said, "She surely did like to eat! I remember one thing. I got all the chicken necks and backs it seemed like, and wings. I remember thinking, 'When I grow up I'm gonna go buy a whole chicken and eat it all by myself.'" [JBM, Jun. 1977.]

SCHOOL FOR THE GIRLS

Love Banner, John Lee and Emma's youngest, attended the Rockford Street School. In 1994, a Mount Airy newspaper ran a photograph showing students who attended the school in the 1910-11 school year. Love Banner was among that group. A caption with the old photograph said:

Students of Rockford Street School in 1910-11 were (front row, l-r) Elizabeth Rothrock, Kathaline Bryan, Ethel Jones, Eloise Sparger, Myrtle Dobbins, Love Banner and the teacher, Miss Mattie Yokley. (Center row, l-r) Coy Clifton, Howard Jones, Albert Council, Claud Banner, Viola Lineback, (unknown) Cook, Elfra Smith, Lottie York, and (top row) Abe Rector, unknown, unknown, Willie Green King, Glenn Jackson, Howard Belton, Jack Albright, Vance Hatcher. [NPP, obtained Feb 1994.]

Mozelle Owens Monson wrote of attending the Rockford Street School in those early years.

I walked to school. Everybody walked, even those living two or three miles away. We had an hour for lunch and, since I didn't have far to go, I went home. Those who lived too far had to take their lunch. They were the lucky ones because they could bolt down their cold biscuits and then jump rope, play thread-the-needle, hopscotch, ring-around-the-rosy, pretty-girl-station, marbles (what a fuss the teachers made when students played for keeps), or they could play ball. I remember, too, that there were see-saws on the grounds. [C&R, 1985, p. 85.]

JOHN LEE AND EMMA'S HOME

In her article describing Mount Airy in 1897, the Banner's daughter Alma Bivens said, "...There was nothing on down the street until you got to the lot where the John L. Banner home was later built. An old wooden building stood there. I was told the first floor was used for a store and the second floor for Miss Lizzie Gilmer's private school. A grove of trees was between this building and Miss Lizzie's home, later demolished for the building of a high school." [ABB/TMAN, 7 Oct 1975, p. 1A.]

The high school, when it was built, was south of the Banner's house, but between them stood the home of Sis Foy Hennis' grandparents. [AHM, 15 Apr 1990.] In speaking of Emma, Sis said, "I used to see her sittin' on her porch. My grandfather and grandmother lived right next door to her." [SH, 29 Jan 1994.] A niece of Emma's also said the Foy's house was next door to Emma and John Lee's house. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

The Banners' new home was a lovely two-story red brick house on South Main Street. [CMM, 8 Aug 1998.] John Lee and Emma had a photograph taken of their home, probably soon after it was built. In that picture, the only trees visible in the front yard were five saplings, while full-grown trees in the back yard framed the roof line. There was grass in the front yard. They had that photograph made into postcards with these words written in white on the bottom of the cards: "Residence of J. L. Banner, Mount Airy, N.C." [PC/UD, obtained 1980.]

In the book Collections and Recollections there was a photograph of part of Main Street looking south in Mount Airy. The first home shown in the picture was that of John Lee and Emma. The street was dirt but there was a paved sidewalk running in front of the homes shown. Telephone poles were evenly spaced down their side of the street. In front of the Banner's home was a single horse attached to a buggy with a top on it. Another buggy was directly behind. The caption for the photograph read:

CITY HALL BLOCK. The homes on the right side of this photograph are the Banner house (on the corner) and the Foy house. The area is now part of the city hall block. The photo was taken in the early 1900s before Main Street was paved. The John L. Ashby, Sr., homeplace is in the far background. [C&R, 1985, p. 30.]

Agnes Wells, a Mount Airy historian and genealogist, sent me a photocopy of the same photograph. Written on the back of the photo was "John Banner House, E. C. Foy House, Gilmer house, and John Ashby" which told who their neighbors were. [AMW // PHOTO/UD, obtained 1997.]

John Lee and Emma's home had a sidewalk leading directly up to the gray stone (probably granite) stairs leading to the front porch. That porch covered the entire front of the house. A granite foundation extended around the base of the building. The home itself was built of brick. The wood trim of the house appeared white in that black-and-white postcard. At the angle the photograph was taken, a

chimney could be seen protruding from the roof on the right side of the house. A second chimney was visible from the roof of a one-story brick extension visible at the back of the home. A white lattice fence divided the front and back yards.

The rocking-chair-lined front porch of the Banners' home was impressive and had a white railed balcony over the front door. There were long single-glass panels on either side of the front door and smaller glass panels across the top of the door. The balcony itself also had another door leading into the house on the second floor.

The pitched roof of the porch was supported by four large round white columns across the front of the house. The granite porch steps were centered between the columns. Two large squared columns, one on each of the far back corners of the porch, were attached to the brick house itself. [PC/UD, obtained 1980.]

A good description of the "John Lee Banner House" was given in Simple Treasures by Laura A. W. Phillips in a 1987 publication by the Surry County Historical Society. There was a photograph of the house, and she described their home in Mount Airy Township which was located at 224 South Main Street:

This early twentieth-century house was one of the most impressive examples of the Neo-Classical Revival style in Mount Airy. The use of brick walls with granite door and window trim placed the house squarely within the Mount Airy building tradition. It stood out from the more typical domestic architecture, however, because of its monumental two-story Classical portico with Ionic columns and full entablature with dentiled frieze and pedimented cornice. The portico sheltered a balcony above the main entrance. According to local tradition, this was the residence of John Lee Banner. Located adjacent to city hall and the public library, the Banner House was recently demolished by the city of Mount Airy to create a small park. [LP/TREAS, 1987.]

An article describing the wedding of the Banners' second daughter Alma in their home in 1915 tells us in that "handsome home" among the rooms downstairs were a parlor, library, dining room, a rear hall, a cloak room near the landing of the stairway, and a present-room where the wedding gifts were on display for the guests to see. [WED/TMAN, 1915/1976.]

The home was a typical southern colonial with a center entrance hall. There were public rooms to the left and right as you entered that front hall. In later years the room on the back left of the house, on the first floor, was used as Emma's bedroom. That may have been where the presents were displayed at the time of Alma's wedding. [AHM, 25 Jan 1998.] In the house Emma had an Empire style sofa in her later years that was close to seven feet long. [PH, 10 Apr 1994.]

One of John Lee and Emma's grandsons, who visited their home often, recalled the layout of the interior of their home. He noted the home was deeper than it was wide. He drew a rough map of the place which showed a center entrance hall. Immediately to the left as one entered the front door was a wide area that had a long seat under a window. Just beyond that were the L-shaped stairs that hugged the left outside wall of the house. Continuing on down the hallway on the left side of the house, just past the foot of the stairs, was a room that he called the living room but was probably called something else in Emma's era, possibly the library.

The back part of the center hallway was somehow closed off from the front hall, but he couldn't remember just how. Continuing on to the back part of the house, in the back center hall but still on the

left side, was a bathroom followed by two bedrooms. A small storage and pantry area was in the far back left corner according to her grandson's map. Next to it was a long kitchen which ran along the back of the house to the far right side of the home. One door from the kitchen went into the back center hall. Another door on the right side of the kitchen allowed one to come toward the front of the house by entering a butler's pantry. Coming on through the butler's pantry, on that right side of the house, allowed access to the dining room. There was one more room on the right side of the house--the front parlor. That was next to the dining room and was adjacent to the front hall and the long front porch. A closet was between the parlor and dining room. [JBM, 12 Apr 1998.]

John Lee and Emma had a grape arbor across the back of their house. A granddaughter remembers her grandfather picking grapes and giving them to her to eat when she visited them. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.] Another grandson remembered the "beautiful house" they lived in and an ice box in the back where they had ice delivered. [WSD/SR, 28 May 1998.]

A photograph was taken in the front yard of John Lee and Emma's home many years later. It was taken in 1936 and was a picture of one of their daughters and a grandson. By then those small young trees planted in the yard near the Banner's home were quite large with wide trunks and were very tall. [PHOTO, 1936, obtained 1980.]

A HOUSE FULL OF GIRLS

The granddaughter of John Lee and Emma's next-door neighbors, the Foys, spoke of her girlhood memories of the Banner family. "I didn't know much about her [Emma] except that she had all these girls. They were all just, well Miz Bivens [Alma Banner Bivens] wasn't very pretty, but the rest of them were just beautiful girls and very popular. Love used to teach dancing, and Bob, my brother, took ballroom dancing from her all one winter when he was in high school." That was before Love was married. [SH, 29 Jan 1994.]

Many years later, after the four sisters were dead, Love's daughter would say when speaking of them, "They all seemed to get along fine. I don't know of any fussing going on...Our family never had any fusses that I know of. Everybody got along pretty well." She did note that her mother, Love Banner Diffie, "loved Polly and Polly thought a lot of mother too. They were quite close." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.] Polly Hawks Hodge was Love's niece, the daughter of her sister Kathleen. [CMM, 20 May 1998.]

KATHLEEN MARRIES

John Lee and Emma's third daughter Kathleen married Posey Lester Hawks. He went by the name P. Lester Hawks according to their son. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.] A sister of Kathleen's confirmed that she married P. Lester Hawks. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] It was about 1912 when Kathleen married Posey Lester Hawks. He was from another area of North Carolina. It is not known in the family now if they married in Mount Airy or elsewhere. There is a possibility they were married in Petersburg, Virginia. [PH, Oct. 1997 // KHW, Oct. 1997.] Kathleen was about 20 years old when she married Lester. Her mother Emma was about forty-seven, and her father John Lee was about forty-eight years old at the time of her marriage. [CMM, 9 Feb 1998.]

Kathleen and Lester would have three children: Mary Lee "Polly," William, and John Hawks. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Kathleen and Lester's daughter Polly married Norwood Hodge in 1934. They had no children. [PH, Fall, 1997.] Their son John Hawks would marry Alyce Gerber in 1948. They had a daughter, Kathleen Banner Hawks, born in 1949. [KHW, 1997.]

ALLEN MASSACRE

In the middle of March 1912, something happened not too far from Mount Airy that caused quite a stir, not only among the townfolk but among the people of the nation as well. [RCD/MAN, 1970.] In Carroll County, Virginia just northwest of Mount Airy and across the state border occurred something so awful that it stunned the people of the surrounding area. Emma and John Lee were no doubt just as stunned as the rest of the nation. [CMM, 22 Feb 1998.]

Floyd Allen had been arrested for beating up a deputy sheriff when the deputy arrested two young members of the Allen clan for breaking up church services with rocks. On March 14th, 1912, Floyd was on trial for that offense in the quaint old red brick courthouse in the town of Hillsville, Virginia. No Allen had ever gone to jail, even though various members of the family had been known to get in many fights or shootouts.

It appeared though that Floyd was going to be sentenced to a year in prison. Suddenly "a troop of twenty mud-splashed mountaineers galloped in with rifles from the surrounding hills, raced up the steps and in less time than it takes to tell it, killed off the court, the judge upon the bench, the prosecutor before the bar and the sheriff at the door. Several jurors were shot, one mortally, and the prisoner and two bystanders were also wounded. Before the smoke of their rifles had cleared away, the mountain outlaws leaped into their saddles and, putting spurs to their horses, galloped through the stunned village."

A thousand men joined in the posse looking for the Allens who had fled into the hills. "Newspaper reporters—in hordes from all over the country—inspected the courtroom and found two hundred bullet holes." Bloodhounds tracked the men who scattered into the different hills and coves of the mountains. People wondered if they would be taken alive. [RCD/MAN, 1970.]

An article in The Mount Airy News published a few days later, on March 21, 1912, told of the reaction in Mount Airy on the day of the shooting.

A raging fire on the streets in the business part of town would not have caused more excitement than the news of the massacre at Hillsville created. The day of the occurrence business practically stopped, men gathered in groups everywhere and discussed the details. This town is the home market for the Allens. They do their trading here. They buy their fine lumber and building materials here. They come to this point to take the train to go to distance [sic] places...So intense was the excitement...that The Mount Airy News issued a special edition the same day. [NPA/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.]

One fugitive was just sixteen years of age when he came stumbling out of a thicket, sleepless and starving, and gave himself up. After weeks of hiding and being chased by bloodhounds the Allens were gradually caught one by one. [RCD/MAN, 1970.]

HOUSE PARTY

In spite of the rough lives of the nearby mountaineers, the social life of John Lee and Emma's daughters Alma and Love continued right on. Those two girls remained at the home of their parents. [CMM, 2 Mar 1998.] In 1912 Alma was invited to a friend's party. A reprint of an article about that party appeared in the newspaper in the 1970s. There was a photograph of five people, appearing to be seated on porch steps. A caption stated, "AN EASTER PARTY was given by Miss May Fulton (Bennett) at her country home in 1912. She is shown (center) with Mrs. E. A. Hannah, chaperone, Tom

McCargo, Grady Fulton and John Marion." [NPP/TMAN, 1912 / 24 Feb 1976.] The accompanying article stated:

House Party
1912

Miss Mary Fulton, at her beautiful country home near this city, charmingly entertained a number of her friends at a weekend house party during the Easter season.

The enjoyment of the occasion was enhanced by fishing, riding, (dear) [sic] hunting, boating, bridge parties and dancing. Music for the latter was furnished by Mt. Airy's famous orchestra, led by Mr. John Marion and closely followed by Thos. McCargo. On Sunday afternoon Enrico Caruso favored us with a selection entitled "For You Alche." Jno. McCormack also sang very sweetly (on the graphophone) a little ditty entitled, "I hear thee calling me."

Those enjoying Miss Fulton's hospitality were: Misses Aline Gallaway, Alma Banner, Helen Sparger, Gertrude Smith, Minnie Sutherland, Clarence Buhman, Messrs. John Marion, Thos. B. McCargo, Jr., Talmage Donnan, Gilmer Connally, William Graves (Sandwich Bearer), Grady Fulton (Fruit Server). [NPA/TMAN, 1912 // 24 Feb 1976.]

THE DEATH OF JOHN LEE'S MOTHER

John Lee was forty-eight years old at the time of his mother's death. [CMM, 14 May 1998.] Martha Ann Morris Banner was born in 1841 according to one source. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155.] Another source said she was born in Stokes County, North Carolina, in 1842. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] However, they both agree that she died on December 7, 1912. [WPB/HST, 1979, p. 155 // JSC, 30 Dec 1997.]

In 1912, the year of Martha Banner's death, Arizona and New Mexico became the forty-seventh and forty-eighth states in the United States of America. The steamship Titanic struck an iceberg and sank, drowning 1,513 people. Woodrow Wilson won the United States presidential election that year. [TIME/HST, 1991, pp. 464-465.]

FOURTH OF JULY

The young man whom the Banner's second daughter, Alma, would marry over two years later, E. C. Bivens, had his name in a 1913 newspaper article describing the Fourth of July celebration Mount Airy had that year. It told how the townspeople spent that day and, most likely, how some or all of the local Banner family did as well. [CMM, 3 Mar 1998.] The newspaper article described that day.

Fourth of July Celebration
1913

This city celebrated the Fourth of July last week as never before in recent years. Attorney E. C. Bivens, a bright and wide awake young lawyer, stirred around among the business men and put the movement on foot and under his leadership the city did itself proud.

The occasion was widely advertised in the local papers and when the day arrived thousands of citizens came to town to be present. Our businessmen and citizens did their best to get up a street parade in fine style and they succeeded to the greatest satisfaction to all. Many who saw the parade made up of automobiles beautifully decorated, wagons carrying displays of merchandise and fine horses and driving teams, pronounced it superior to anything usually gotten up by the largest shows.

The streets were literally packed with people from all parts of the county. During the day races and contests of various kinds were indulged in to the greatest amusement of the people. A greasy pole on which was a five dollar bill and a big well saturated in oil were among the attractions. A ball game in the afternoon was spoiled by a fearful accident that came near taking the life of a bright young man, Mr. Lon Folger, of Dobson. The bat in the hands of a player flew out of his hands and struck Mr. Folger on the head fracturing his skull. At first it was thought to be a very serious wound, but no bad effects have developed.

The Fourth was a great day for this city and section of the state. Not a thing happened to mar the good feeling of the people and the great throngs returned to their homes in the afternoon after spending the day with friends and relatives many of whom they had not seen in months. [4th/TMAN, 1913 / 24 Feb 1976.]

STREET DIRECTORY

"The oldest known edition of a General Directory for Mount Airy was compiled by J. Edwin Carter and A. Kyle Sydnor. The information helps to place families and businesses in the city of Mount Airy shortly after the turn of the century....On page 3 of the directory, the compilers offer several suggestions. Among them, 'Do not lend your Directory, because your neighbor is as able to buy one as you.'"

That street directory was for the years 1913-1914. Some homes had street numbers and some had blanks instead of numbers, indicating they were unnumbered. Colored people were denoted in the directory with an asterisk in front of their names. Fifty-four streets or areas were listed including one that said "Banner Suburb." There was also a Banner Street. However, no Banners were listed as living on that street at that time.

John and Emma's house had no house number in that directory. About mid-way down the names listed under "South Main Street, beginning with Oak Street:" was the name "Banner, John L." That section in the directory began with the Blue Ridge Inn as number 1. Many businesses followed. A few of the businesses and people listed in the directory (along with their street numbers), before and after John L. Banner, follow. They would appear to be located very close to the Banners. Many more on that street are omitted here.

- 61 Post Office
- 62 Thomas Electrical Shoe Shop
- 63 Princess Theater
- 65 Satterfield, T. F., Store
- 67 Creed, J. W., Book Store
- 68 Southern Express Co.
- 69 Times-Leader Office

- 71 Gallaway & Jackson, Grocery Store
- 73 Davis, C. E., Grocery Store
- 75 Poore, F. M., Grocery Store
Banner Warehouse
- 106 Jenkins, Mrs. J. D.
Banner, John L.
Schaub's Woodwork Shop
- 111 Foy, E. C.
- 116 Schaub, Mrs.
- 123 Stemple, P. C.
- 128 Brim, S. G.
- 131 Ashby, Mrs. John L.
- 132 Gilmer, Rev. J. A.
Vacant
- 142 Hollingsworth, J. C.
- 143 Hollingsworth, Mrs. Cora M.
Etc., etc...

Most of the buildings to the north of the Banners' home on South Main Street were businesses and those to the south were mainly residential, with a Presbyterian Church and a few businesses interspersed. [C&R, 1985, p. 42.]

Schaub's Woodworking Shop [located near the Banners' home] was founded by Thomas Schaub in 1856. His plant was located where Cherry Street enters South Main. A large two-story house surrounded by a picket fence was on the same lot.

Early products that he produced were probably handles for farm implements and simple furniture. His son joined him in 1871, and they converted the plant into a wagon factory. Many years later an article telling of that factory mentioned that:

The boys in the neighborhood found it a fascinating pastime to drop into the shop and watch the men as they made the different parts and put them together.

Their interest triggered a side line which endeared the men to youths of all ages; it was a miniature wagon built exactly like the farmer's model and made with such painstaking care that at least one of them still exists, remaining in the family of the little boy for whom it was made nearly seventy years ago... [NPA/MAT, 1971, p. 7-C.]

SECOND GRANDCHILD: MARY LEE "POLLY" HAWKS

On February 22, 1915, John Lee and Emma probably had an exciting day. Their daughter Kathleen had a child born right there in Mount Airy. Kathleen and her husband Posey Lester Hawks had a daughter they named Mary Lee "Polly" Hawks. [KHW, Oct. 1997 // PH, Oct. 1997.] It is probably no coincidence that Mary Emma and John Lee each had one of their names appear in the baby's name. Little Mary Lee Hawks was always called "Polly" by everyone. [CMM, 9 Feb 1998.]

Emma was forty-nine years old and John Lee was fifty when Polly was born. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.] Polly would marry Norwood L. Hodge on September 23, 1934. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // PH, Fall, 1997.]

E. C. BIVENS

A clipping from an unnamed newspaper contained a picture with the caption "Hon. E. C. Bivens." and an article on him. E. C. Bivens was the young man who would marry John Lee and Emma's daughter Alma. That old newspaper clipping follows:

E. C. BIVENS.
Attorney at Law

It may be stated as an indisputable fact that the legal fraternity as it is represented in Mount Airy numbers among its members lawyers whose legal learning and thorough knowledge of the law are not surpassed by any in the state.

One of these lawyers, who has earned the right to special mention in this review of the progress of this section by superior talents and personal merit is E. C. Bivens, the well known attorney of this city.

E. C. Bivens has made his home in this city for the past six years, but is a native of Monroe, Union County. He was educated at Trinity College, from which famous institution he graduated in 1908. He then took a law course at the University of North Carolina, and received his license to practice in February 1910.

Mr. Bivens commenced his practice in Mount Airy in the same year, and soon became recognized as a lawyer of more than usual ability. At the last municipal election he was elected mayor of the city, the duties of which office he has most faithfully fulfilled and is fulfilling.

The subject of this sketch has always taken a keen interest in the political affairs of the state and nation, and is, at the present time, Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of this county. He is a candidate for the Senate from this district, and judging from his past career and from the high esteem in which he is held in this part of the state, his campaign bids fair to be most successful.

Both as Mayor of the city and as a citizen, E. C. Bivens has proved himself all that can be desired, and is highly respected by a large circle of friends. [NPC/UD, obtained 1980.]

ALMA GETS MARRIED

In photographs, John Lee and Emma's second daughter Alma appeared to be very slightly taller than her older sister Anne. Alma had dark hair in her youth. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] Of the four girls in the family, Alma was the most serious. She had a keen interest in the family and family background, to the point of being somewhat snobbish about it, according to a niece and nephew. Sometimes various family members found her a bit hard to get along with, including her own daughter. [JBM, 6 Feb 1980 // PH, 6 Feb 1980.]

In her later years, Alma would be a valuable resource to her home town and family by writing articles on the town of her youth. She also put together several hand-written family history books for her

relatives about her family. Those materials have been a great help to me in putting together this book [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

Alma married Edward Chatham Bivens. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] In 1976, The Mount Airy News reprinted an article the newspaper had originally printed over sixty years earlier. It told of Alma's wedding. The article also contained a photograph of Alma. The picture had a dark background. Alma was shown from her waist up wearing a white dress and veil with small flowers in her very dark hair. She carried a large bouquet of small dainty flowers. The caption under the photograph said: "MRS. E. C. BIVENS in her lovely wedding attire."

The wedding must have been a busy and exciting time for Alma, her parents and the family. There were a lot of preparations to make, and then some friends and family members began arriving from out of town which undoubtedly added to the festivities. The local newspaper account of the wedding follows.

1915 Vows

Wedding Of Great Social Interest

On November 10, [sic] 1915, The Mount Airy News carried the following account of Miss Alma Banner's marriage to E. C. Bivens, who was mayor of Mount Airy. The ceremony was preformed at the home of the bride's parents on South Main Street.

Mt. Airy, Nov. 13 [sic]—A very beautiful marriage and one of great interest to numerous friends was solemnized last Wednesday evening at eight o'clock at the handsome home of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Banner, when their attractive daughter, Miss Alma, became the bride of Mr. E. C. Bivens, a rising young lawyer, at present mayor of the "Granite City".

The home was beautifully decorated with ferns and chrysanthemums, carrying out the color scheme of white and green with touches of pink.

The parlor, library and dining-room were thrown into one, and the ceremony took place at a beautifully improvised altar in the wide doorway between the parlor and dining room.

To the strains of the "Bridal Chorus" from "Lohengrin," the groom, accompanied by his best man, Dr. Edward Ashby, entered from the rear hall. Next came little Kathleen Banner Mitchell, the five-year old daughter of Dr. A. S. Mitchell and Mrs. Mitchell, wearing a dainty hand-made dress of white organdie with pink ribbons, and carrying the ring in the heart of a huge chrysanthemum.

Last came the bride with her father, who gave her away. Being of the decided brunette type she was extremely handsome in her wedding gown of ivory satin, and veil held by a dainty wreath of orange blossoms. She carried an exquisite bouquet of brides roses and valley lilies.

While "Barcarolle" was softly played by Miss Briggs Prather, pianist, and Mr. James McCargo, violinist, the marriage vows were taken, the beautiful and impressive ring ceremony being performed by Rev. Mr. Taylor, rector of Trinity Church.

Immediately after the marriage, a reception was held which was attended by throngs of guests eager to extend congratulations and good wishes.

At the front door the guests were greeted by Mr. and Mrs. P. Lester Hawks, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lundy, from the landing of the stairway they were shown to the cloak room by Miss Love Banner.

Receiving in the parlor with Mr. and Mrs. Banner, were the bride and groom Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Bivens, Mrs. Bivens of Durham, mother of the groom; Mrs. A. S. Mitchell of Philadelphia; Mrs. L. E. Banner, grandmother of the bride; Miss Ione Bivens of Durham, and Dr. Edward Ashby, best man.

From the parlor, the guests were invited to the dining-room by Misses Briggs Prather and Helen Sparger, where they were served with delicious ices by a score of pretty young girls.

Mrs. M. D. Beard and Mrs. Jesse Powell presided gracefully at each end of the lovely tables, pouring coffee from silver urns.

From the dining-room Misses Mary Fulton and Gertrude Smith escorted the guests into the present-room, where the lovely array of silver, cut-glass, china, etc. bespoke the high esteem in which the young couple were held.

After a ten day trip to the Northern cities, Mr. and Mrs. Bivens will be at home at the Blue Ridge Inn. [WED/TMAN, 13 Nov 1915 / 24 Feb 1976.]

Many years later Alma would write about having her grandmother at her wedding. Her grandmother, Emma's mother, was Louisa Ellen Prather Banner whom Alma called Memie. Alma wrote:

I was married in 1915, three years before Memie's death. Papa ordered Parma violets for her, and she was very excited about the wedding. She dressed early in her best black taffeta with white tulle neck ruff, white gloves and the corsage on her shoulder and came up stairs to watch me dress and help arrange my wedding veil. She stood in the receiving line at the reception. Of course she was pleased because of being made over and said she was happy to have lived for the occasion and enjoyed every minute of the festivities. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

Emma was fifty years old at the time of Alma's marriage, and John Lee was fifty-one when he gave his daughter away. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.] Alma and E. C. Bivens would have one child, a little girl they named Beverly. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Beverly would marry John Worth Olive in Mount Airy in 1947. Their children, both born in Mount Airy, were John Chatham Olive, born in 1949, and Worth Banner Olive, born in 1950. [JCO, 1997.]

FEED THE FAMILY

A grandson of Emma's said that she did most of her own cooking, but he remembered that she sometimes had a black woman help prepare meals. He remembered seeing the black woman in Emma's back yard wring the neck of a chicken, put it in boiling water, and then pluck the feathers off. [JBM, 12 Apr 1998.]

Back when Emma was twenty-six years old, a man named Floyd Poore opened a grocery store that became quite familiar to Emma. It was located near the earlier house in which they lived. The grocery store was even closer when the Banner family moved to their new home on South Main Street. [CMM, 22 Feb 1998.] Poore's Store was just two blocks north of Emma's home and located on the same side of the street. One person who knew Emma in Mount Airy said Emma most likely shopped there. [AHM, 21 Feb 1998.]

Floyd Poore knew John Lee. Later, they would serve together in the political affairs of the town. Floyd would be one of the town officials who signed a piece entitled "Resolutions of Condolence" that appeared in a Mount Airy newspaper when John Lee died. [NPC/UD, obtained 1980 // C&R, 1985, p. 142.]

According to the 1913-1914 General Directory for Mount Airy, there were two other grocery stores right next to Poore's Store in those years: the C. E. Davis and Gallaway & Jackson grocery stores. [C&R, 1985, p. 42.] Emma may have shopped in all of the stores in those early years. However, in the mid to later years of Poore's business those other grocery stores were not there. [AHM, 21 Feb 1998.] So it was that Emma and her daughters patronized Poore's Store frequently.

When one of Emma's granddaughters was asked whether she knew if Emma shopped there she replied, "Oh! Yes!!" She recalled her mother, Love, speaking of liking to go to "Po's Stow" as they called it. Apparently Mr. Poore was good to the children and often gave them candy. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.]

The store remained there throughout Emma's lifetime. In Collections and Recollections, Virginia Poore Leach wrote a wonderful description of that store. [CMM, 11 Feb 1998.]

POORE'S STORE

In 1891, just six years after our town was chartered, my grandfather, Floyd Poore, was starting his grocery store which became known as "Poore's Store." Most of his life, and that of my father, were spent down on South Main Street right next to the big corner brick buildings at West Pine and Main. When my grandfather started out, that corner lot was vacant and he had the end building.

Grandfather started off in a little building across the street. Then, when he got the money, he bought a little wooden building on the other side of the street, gradually enlarged it and, finally, bricked it in.

When my father, Walter Poore, got big enough he helped in the store (along with his three brothers) and, eventually, took over the business until ill health forced him out in 1950.

Old grocery stores always had a distinct enticing smell. In the early days, there was no air conditioning and no central heat. Groceries were not kept in air tight containers, and all of the delicious smells intermingled.

I have been told that, with Grandfather's first profit, he bought a cheese slicer, a coffee grinder, and a bread slicer.

Of course, the cheese came in a large round hoop and had to be sliced. The clerks had to be good guessers for weight.

The coffee was in beans, about the size of our small beans but round. The unroasted coffee was green; the roasted was dark brown in color. The grocerman would put the brown roasted beans into the grinder and out would come that delicious coffee aroma.

Back in those days, bakeries always sent their loaves of bread to the stores unsliced. Many customers preferred unsliced bread; but, for those who wished it sliced, the bread slicer was a great convenience. It gave uniform slices the thickness the customer desired.

Sitting around here and there on the floor were the barrels. One held the big fat pickles which sold for a penny each. There was the vinegar barrel, and the barrel of black molasses. And, of course, everybody had to have salt fish every now and then for breakfast, just as they had to have a piece of seasoning meat.

Fresh vegetables were brought in by the farmers in the area in bushel baskets. And lucky was the customer who could get a pound of good yellow country butter from a favorite supplier.

The big glass cases along the counter held trays of candy and trays of "loose" cookies. The stick candies usually had their own glass jars. My sister, Lucy Jane, and I could have any of these good things, but we had to ask first.

The canned goods were on shelves along the wall. There was a great tall ladder on rollers which the clerks could use to get goods off the top shelves. I well remember how my sister and I dearly loved to get on that ladder, give it a shove, and ride up and down the aisles. Of course, we had to be careful if there were customers about.

All kinds of people came into the store. They were rich and poor, high and low, educated and uneducated, city and country. And certain housewives would meet almost every day and have a good gossip session while deciding what to have for supper that evening.

One tale I remember well.

One day a man and his small son came into the store. The man bought a can of sardines and a few crackers, from the barrel, for his lunch. After opening the sardines, the father asked his son if he would like some. The boy looked into the tin and asked, "Pap, are they all dead?"

Most people paid grocery bills by the week, or on a monthly basis. Some never found it convenient to pay at all. Many customers expected a nice bag of candy as a bonus when they paid the bill.

A family member once asked my father why he did not cut off a man who did not pay his bill. Father replied, "Well, if I cut him off, he will spend his cash somewhere else. He won't ask for credit from me now. Therefore, if he keeps on buying here, maybe I can get some of the debt money back in profit."

That may be why my father and grandfather were able to stay in business so long. [C&R, 1985, pp. 78-79.]

THIRD GRANDCHILD: JOHN BANNER MITCHELL

In 1917 John Lee and Emma found themselves the grandparents of a third grandchild, a little boy named John Banner Mitchell. John was born on April 12, 1917, at the hospital in Petersburg, Virginia. His parents were the Banners' oldest daughter Anne and Arthur Swain Mitchell. [JBM/BC, 14 Apr 1917.] Emma was fifty-one and John Lee was fifty-two years old at the time of their grandson's birth. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

When John was born, his father Dr. Arthur Swain Mitchell was the president of the Virginia Optometric Association. [JBM, 30 May 1992 // VOA/DIR, 1973-1974.] Annie, her husband, and her daughter Kacky were living in Petersburg, Virginia at the time of John's birth. [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

John would marry Alma Stella Hines on February 22, 1941. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // AHM, Mar 1978.] They had two children: Charlotte Anne Mitchell, born in 1945, and James Madison Hines Mitchell, born in 1947. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.] Many years later, in 1965, John would marry Barbara Hardwick. They had no children. [CMM, 9 Feb 1998.]

THE DEATH OF EMMA'S MOTHER

Emma's mother, Lou Prather Banner, died in 1917 according to her tombstone. She was born in 1844. [WK/CEM, info. obtained May 1998.] That would have made Lou about seventy-three years old at the time of her death. Emma was about fifty-two years old when her mother died. [CMM, 14 May 1998.]

Woodrow Wilson was the President of the United States when Lou Banner died in 1917. The United States became involved in World War I that year and went to war against Germany. The average price of a new car at that time was seven hundred and fifty dollars. Also in 1917, the first two way radio-telephone communication between an airplane and the ground took place, and two days later it occurred between two airplanes. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 444-445.]

FOURTH GRANDCHILD: BEVERLY BANNER BIVENS

On November 18, 1918, right there in Mount Airy, John Lee and Emma's fourth grandchild Beverly Banner Bivens was born. [JCO, 1997 // 15 Feb 1998.] In fact, Beverly was born in John Lee and Emma's home on South Main Street. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Beverly's parents were Edward Chatham Bivens and Alma Banner Bivens. [JCO, 1997 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] Emma was fifty-three years old and John Lee was fifty-four when Beverly was born. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

Just a few days prior to Beverly's birth, the streets of Mount Airy had been crowded, jubilant, and noisy as World War I came to an end. [RM/MAT, 15 Feb 1979.]

John Lee and Emma got to watch little Beverly grow up, for her parents lived right across the street from them. Some of their other grandchildren would stay with them from time to time, but Beverly is the only one who grew up in Mount Airy, married, and remained there. [CMM, 9 Feb 1998.] Beverly and her parents would move into a lovely two-story house across the street when Beverly was just a baby.

As previously mentioned, when she was grown Beverly married John Worth Olive. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] They married on October 18, 1947. Beverly and John had two children: John Chatham Olive, born in 1949, and Worth Banner Olive, born in 1950. [JCO, 1997.]

FIFTH GRANDCHILD: WILLIAM HAWKS

By 1919 there was another baby born into the family. John Lee and Emma's family was growing. Their daughter Kathleen had another child, a little boy born in Mount Airy named William Hawks. [KHW, Oct. 1997.] By then Emma was about fifty-four and John Lee about fifty-five years old. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

CENSUS OF 1920

R. C. Carter visited the Banner home on South Main Street on April 1, 1920. The house number was listed as 109. His mission was to get information about the family for the census of 1920. It appears from that census report that ten people were living in the Banner home at that time. John Lee was listed as the head of his household and appeared to be the owner of the home. [R. C. Carter's writing was a bit hard to read. I think it was an O meaning Home Owned.]

Two other men were listed as heads of household in the Banner home. They were listed as renters and lived there with their families. [1920/CEN, 1 Apr 1920.] Those renters were Lester Hawks and E. C. Bivens, sons-in-law of John Lee and Emma. [CMM, 15 Feb 1998.]

In April 1920, according to the census information, John Lee Banner owned his home free of any mortgage. He was 54 years old and married. He was an employer who managed a brickyard. John's wife Emma was said to be 52 years old. [1920/CEN, 1 Apr 1920.] According to the dates of their birth, previously established, the proper age for John Lee on that census should have been fifty-five years old and for Emma fifty-four years old. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.] Their daughter Love was 18 years old and single according to the census of 1920. She had attended school at some point since September 1, 1919, and, of course, was able to read, write, and speak English. Love's place of birth and that of her parents was listed as North Carolina.

Also living in the Banner household were Kathleen (daughter of John Lee and Emma) and her family. The census listed Posey L. Hawks (called Lester by the family) as the second head of household living there. He was a renter who was a married white male 35 years of age. Lester was able to read, write, and speak English. He was born in Virginia as were both of his parents. His occupation was listed as insurance agent.

Kathleen Hawks was listed as Lester's wife. She was a married white female who was 26 years old according to the census information. She could read, write, and speak English and she and both of her parents were born in North Carolina.

Kathleen and Lester had two children at that time. The first was Mary Lee Hawks. [1920/CEN, 1 Apr 1920.] The writing on the census was hard to read. It could have been written as Lu instead of Lee. Lu is incorrect. The family called her Polly. [CMM, 15 Feb 1998.] Little Mary Lee was a white female who was four years old. She had been born in North Carolina. The second child of Kathleen and Lester was William Hawks. He was a white male who was born in North Carolina. He was just a baby. His age was given as either 1/1 or 1/6. (Hard to read writing.)

The last family living in the Banner household that year was headed by their son-in-law, E. Chatham Bivens. He was listed as the third head of household living there and was said to be a renter. E. Chatham Bivens was a married white male who was 32 years old. He was able to read, write, and speak English. He and both of his parents were born in North Carolina. He was said to be working on his "Own Account" and was a lawyer in general practice.

The wife of E. C. Bivens was Alma Bivens. She was a married white female who was 30 years old. She could read, write, and speak English and both she and her parents were born in North Carolina.

E. C. and Alma Bivens had one child listed on the census: Beverly Bivens. Beverly was listed as a white male son who was one and 2/? years old. [1920/CEN, 1 Apr 1920.] That is wrong! Beverly was a female and was their daughter. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] The census also said Beverly and both of her parents were born in North Carolina. [1920/CEN, 1 Apr 1920.]

ANNE'S DIVORCE

At a time when it was frowned upon by society, Anne and her husband Dr. Arthur Swain Mitchell got a divorce. It was sometime around 1920. Their daughter Kacky was about nine or ten years old. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] John was about three years old. [JBM, 28 Nov 1991.] The couple was still together and living in Petersburg, Virginia at the end of February in 1920. Annie was 33 years old and Arthur Swain was 38 according to the census of 1920. [1920/CEN, 26&27 Feb 1920.] It was probably some time shortly after that when they separated and divorced. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

Anne took her children with her and returned to Mount Airy. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] They were there on October 1921, for there was an article in the newspaper telling of "Little Miss Kathleen Mitchell" entertaining her friends at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Banner on Main Street for her eleventh birthday.

The children played games and were served chicken salad, sandwiches, and milk. Then ice cream and cake were served. The guests were given dainty pink baskets of mints for party favors. [NPA/TMAN, 20 Oct 1921.]

When Anne and her children returned to Mount Airy they did not live with her parents, at least not initially. John, although very young, remembered living at the Brown House, a place like a boarding house. He didn't know why they didn't stay with his grandparents John Lee and Emma. However, Anne and her children didn't stay at the Brown House very long. [JBM, 1 Apr 1995.]

The Brown house was indeed a boarding house just as John remembered. It was "a boarding house run by Mrs. Flora Brown, who catered to summer boarders as well as to the regulars...At the

Brown House the guests would sit on the front porch, sleep in the huge high ceilinged bedrooms, and eat at the long dining tables in the huge dining room where they would be served by black waiters in their white coats." [C&R, 1985, p. 115.]

Considering how many people were living at John Lee and Emma's home when the 1920 census was taken, it may be that they had no room for Annie and her children when she first returned to town. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

During the ensuing years after her divorce, Annie worked at a series of jobs to support herself and her two children. She got very little help from Swain or Arthur as she called him. [JBM, 28 May 1992.] She began working for Pilot Life Insurance Company whose headquarters was in Greensboro, North Carolina. The company moved her around some during those years. [JBM, 30 May 1992.] Anne, rather than being a secretary, managed to get a job in sales with the insurance company. She did well at it and was moved around some to open new offices for them. [JBM, 16 Mar 1997.] Anne would end up living over the years in Greensboro, North Carolina, Saint Augustine, Florida, Richmond, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and for a time in Berkeley, California, but she regularly returned to Mount Airy to visit her family. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

SIXTH GRANDCHILD: JOHN LESTER HAWKS

By 1921 Emma and John Lee's daughter Kathleen found herself in Roanoke, Virginia, where she and Lester had a third child: another little boy, John Lester Hawks, who was born on November 11, 1921. [KHW, Oct. 1997 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] Emma was fifty-six years old and John Lee was fifty-seven when John was born. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

John would marry Alyce Gerber on February 7, 1948. [KHW, Oct. 1997 // ABB/BFG, 1965.] John and Alyce had a daughter, Kathleen Banner Hawks, who was born in 1949. [KHW, Oct. 1997.]

RELATIONSHIP WITH CHILDREN AND OTHERS

According to a granddaughter, John Lee's favorite child was his oldest daughter, Anne or Annie. Emma, on the other hand, "took up for Alma." When Annie was in her teenage and young adult years, she and Emma did not get along with each other very well. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] Annie's cousin said that Annie loved her Aunt Maggie, Emma's sister, "more than anybody." Everyone in the whole family was very fond of Maggie (Margaret Banner Beard), especially Emma's daughters Annie and Kathleen. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

Emma's grandson said she loved Kathleen and Love, her two youngest daughters, the most. But Emma's grandson also noted that "her husband was her life. She was a mother second." [JH, 26 Dec 1978.] Emma's relationship with her daughter Love was "very good," according to Love's daughter. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.] A granddaughter noted, "Granny's own daughters toed the line. Everyone did except Emma's granddaughter Kacky." [PH, 10 Apr 1994.]

Emma's niece said that Emma was "entirely different" from her sister Maggie. Emma's children were very fond of Maggie. Emma's daughters Kathleen and especially Annie loved Maggie more than anybody. Maggie's daughter said Maggie "was grateful that her nieces loved her so much." [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

Their grandchildren called Emma "Granny" and John Lee "Pa." [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.] Emma and John Lee's oldest grandchild was Kathleen Mitchell "Kacky" (Rozendal). [JBM, 30 Oct 1993.] Kacky was born on October 13, 1910. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] According to Kacky, Emma and she got along terrifically. Kacky was a lot like Emma. Emma was very popular with most people. [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

Emma's granddaughter Polly said, "The only person that would stand up to her was Kacky, and I think Kacky must have been Granny's favorite grandchild, because she would talk back to her. A lot of the time people of that nature like people that will face up to them." [PH, 1 Apr 1990.] Kacky's brother John Mitchell thought Granny was more partial to Kacky than to him. In speaking of Granny he said, "She never did anything to make me love her." [JBM, 15 Feb 1994.]

A different view came from another granddaughter, Little Love, who said of Emma, "She was just a loving Grandmother...she was a grand lady." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

As was stated earlier Polly Hawks Hodge was named for her grandparents, John Lee and Mary Emma. Her name was Mary Lee Hawks. "Polly" was her nickname. Polly would visit her grandparents in the summers, coming from her home in Virginia. She remembered sitting with John Lee on his front porch in stormy weather when she was a little girl. He would hold her in his lap and rock her while she watched the trees sway and listened to the thunder. She loved it. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

John Lee's grandson John Banner Mitchell said of him, "I remember my grandfather, he was great!" [JBM, 30 May 1992.] John B. Mitchell was named for his grandfather, John Lee Banner, and his great-grandfather, John Elisha Banner [John Lee's father-in-law]. [JBM, 25 May 1997.] John Mitchell really loved his grandfather. He said of John Lee, "He paid a lot of attention to me, made me a bow and arrow and things like that." [JBM, 30 May 1992 / 1 Apr 1995.]

However, he didn't feel the same way about his grandmother, Emma. "I liked Aunt Maggie [Emma's sister] better than my own grandmother," said John. Maggie treated him better and was more affectionate with him. Emma was not affectionate with John. He didn't know if she was just that way with him or everyone. "She wasn't bad to me, but I wasn't terribly fond of her." [JBM, 30 May 1992.] "I don't have many fond memories of her," John said another time. "She never paid much attention to me. Her sister Maggie, I loved. She'd take me up on her lap and rock me and pick the wax outa my ears 'n things like that. I don't remember Granny doin' anything like that...She wasn't bad to me but I remember her sister Aunt Maggie was always doin' things for me. I just remember her more kindly than I do my grandmother, more fondly." [JBM, Jun. 1977.] "I dearly loved Aunt Maggie," [JBM, 12 Feb 1994.] "It's funny," said John, "Granny didn't have any sons and neither did Aunt Maggie. They all had daughters." [JBM, Jun. 1977.]

Another time John said of Granny, "I guess she didn't cotton to me. I don't know why." He reiterated that he loved Granny's sister Aunt Maggie much more. She was more like a grandmother to John than Granny was. [JBM, 1 Apr 1995.]

SAM BANNER AND MISS EMMA

Emma's daughter Alma wrote in her Banner family history and genealogy books that Sam Banner had been a slave of Emma's grandfather there in the Mount Airy area. That grandfather was John Banner, the husband of Virginia Moore Banner. They were the parents of Emma's father John Elisha Banner. Emma maintained a relationship with Sam over the years. Her daughter Alma wrote:

Sam was a child when the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery became law. His father was called big Sam and he, little Sam. He stayed on the plantation until he was grown, when he moved to town in the Negro section, and did gardening and odd jobs, as he said, "for my white folks." Of course he was old when I first remember him, but he came to see mama [Emma] and me from time to time. I had an oil portrait of mama painted from a picture taken in her youth, and when he came for a visit, asked him in to see it. Despite his failing vision, he looked at it and without hesitation said, "Well bless God if that ain't Miss Emma."

He enjoyed talking of the old days—said that all the darkies loved Mars John and Miss Jenny, (in his words), "cause they wuz so good to um." [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

SEWING

"She sewed like a dream!" said Emma's granddaughter Love. "Oh, my word, I have doll clothes she made for me that are just exquisite. I mean she worked the little button holes, you just wouldn't believe it, and padding and just beautiful work."

"She made quilts, I've got a couple of quilts she made. She made one for me when I was born [in 1929] that has been registered with North Carolina. She enjoyed it." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

Polly, another granddaughter, told of Emma making doll clothes for her. She taught Polly how to sew. "She taught me to be real meticulous," said Polly. And she noted how Granny made her pull things out over and over again. [PH, 10 Apr 1994.]

HITCH A RIDE

After a visit from out-of-town family members, Emma would ride for some distance with them as they left Mount Airy. Then she would get out of their car and expect that the person in the first car that came along would pick her up and take her home or at least back to Mount Airy. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.]

SHOOTING RATS

When John Lee and Emma's grandson John Banner Mitchell visited them, he slept in a back bedroom of their house. As a child, John remembered hearing rats or mice crawling in the walls sometimes. Little John Banner, as they called him, especially remembered seeing John Lee sitting in his back yard and shooting rats with a shotgun. [JBM, 12 Apr 1998.]

BURNING BARN

At one point John Lee and Emma's barn burned. He had one or more rifles that were important to him. His granddaughter Kacky didn't think they burned, but she didn't know what happened to them. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.]

In a book on Mount Airy, Ed Brannock, a retired fire chief from that town, recalled what happened one day when he was a boy attending the Rockford Street School. "The fire department was called to the John Banner home. Ed and a couple of classmates went to the fire and were expelled from school for their curiosity." [C&R, 1985.]

John Lee's grandson John Banner Mitchell was quite disappointed about the barn burning for he loved to look around in there with his grandfather. Before they had cars, John Lee and Emma used the barn for their horses. By the time John was a little boy in the early 1920s, they were using the barn for a car. [JBM, 30 May 1992.]

KENTUCKY RIFLE

John B. Mitchell enjoyed going up into the barn's hayloft with his grandfather before it burned. John liked to look around at the old furniture and assortment of things they had there. In that old hayloft was a very long rifle. It was a pre-Civil War rifle, more like the type the frontiersmen carried. It was so long and heavy that when young John put the rifle butt up to his shoulder, he couldn't lift it. John Lee told his grandson that he could have the rifle when he was old enough to lift it. [JBM, 30 May 1992.]

John described it this way. "He had a frontiersman's rifle, one of those long barrel Kentucky rifles. Real, real old rifle. It was so long I couldn't even pick it up. Very valuable thing. They had a barn behind the house, that was originally a barn. They used it as a garage then, but it had a big upstairs that was a loft. It was full of junk. Odds and ends. He had a rifle."

"I remember him telling me that--I was his namesake. I was named John Banner. I was named after him. I remember him telling me when I got old enough he was going to give me that rifle. Man, I was so proud! Every time I'd go there I'd want to go look at it. And the barn burned. The rifle was in it."

"I remember him making a bow and arrow for me, and he just played with me. You know he was good to me." [JBM, Jun. 1977.] "I was so proud of that (bow and arrow). He made over me. At the time I wasn't living with my father, so I probably needed that." [JBM, 1 Apr 1995.]

When the fire burned the rifle, John was quite disappointed. He said another time, "The fire burned my rifle. I had been quite intrigued with that gun." [JBM, 26 Jan 1992.] John was five years old when his grandfather died. [JBM, 30 May 1992.]

THE HONOR OF A NAME

When John Banner Mitchell was a boy visiting in Mount Airy, he heard how his grandfather was involved in the naming of a baby. It was common for black slaves to take the surname of their owners. So, several decades after the slaves were freed, there were some Negroes around Mount Airy with the surname of Banner.

One black man whose last name was Banner particularly admired John Lee Banner. He told John Lee that he wanted to give him the honor of naming his first son who had recently been born on the 4th of July. John Lee's grandson believed it was said in jest, but John Lee suggested the man name his son Star Spangled Banner. The man did!

Years later when John B. Mitchell was grown and living in Mount Airy, he heard of Star Spangled Banner but never met him. [JBM, 28 May 1992.]

PIE THIEF

One of Emma's granddaughters told of how her grandmother used to frighten her. Between the kitchen and the dining room at Emma's house on South Main Street was a butler's pantry. Off that was a closet with a screen door that had a lock on it. They would put food on shelves in that closet to keep the flies off.

Emma would make two egg custard pies at a time and put them in that closet. Her grandchildren John Mitchell, Kacky, Polly, and Beverly were all young about then and started getting into the pies when they weren't supposed to. So, Emma herself began hiding when she put the pies in the pantry closet. She hid behind a nearby wall. Emma, or Granny as they called her, waited for them to come and try to get the pies out. When they did, a granddaughter said Granny would "jump out with a big BOO and scare us half to death!" She did scare her little grandchildren. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

Emma's grandson John B. Mitchell remembered those times as well. He spoke of the same thing happening to him. "She liked to scare me. I know that. She's the one that hid in the closet...when I was visiting her when I was just a little boy. I was about five, anyway I was real little. Do you remember that old house? That big old house? Aunt Alma lived right across the street."

"Between the kitchen and the dining room there was what they called a pantry. And there was a screened-off section in the pantry with a screened wall and a screened door. To keep flies out--they kept things in there like pies and cakes and things like that in that part of the pantry."

"And I was there alone with her one night," John said. "She had baked some pies, I think, apple pies. I loved 'em. She could make good pies. She said, 'Now John Banner,' she always called me John Banner, 'I have to go across the street a few minutes. I won't be gone too long.' She said, 'Now you be sure and don't go in that pantry and get any of that pie now.' Put the idea right in my head ya know. So I said, 'OK.'"

"I didn't much want to stay there by myself, but I thought about that pie, and I thought, 'Well, I'll stay here by myself.' So, she went out the front door, and she ran around the house and came in the kitchen door and went in the pantry in that screened-off part."

"I waited to give her time to get away I thought. I went sneaking in that pantry, and I opened the door, and it was dark. I was afraid to turn on the light. There was a little light coming in from the street or something. There was very little, and I was scared anyway. And she jumped out of that pantry! Just when I opened the door she jumped at me and said BOO! And I'll tell ya it's a wonder it didn't--It did stunt my growth! I remember being scared spitless. That was a horrible thing to do to a little child like that. It really was. That was terrible to do. That's the only thing I really remember her doing to me." [JBM, Jun. 1977.]

TOWN COMMISSIONER

In a book that had some old newspaper articles reprinted is the news that for the years 1921-1923 the commissioners for Mount Airy were J. L. Banner, W. T. Monday, T. C. Barber, W. F. Carter, Jr., and [rest of the article was omitted in book]. The mayor for those years was A. V. West.

In 1911 the length of time in office for the mayor and council was changed from one to two years. John Lee's son-in-law E. C. Bivens had served as the mayor of Mount Airy for two terms, from 1915-1919. [LWK/O&N, 1984, p. 13.]

THE DEATH OF JOHN LEE

According to his granddaughter, John Lee Banner died of Bright's Disease (kidney trouble) and a stroke that was the result of Bright's Disease. In his death notice it said, "he was the soul of honor." She said John Lee was living in Mount Airy, North Carolina when he died about 1923 and was buried in the cemetery there. [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.]

His grandson John B. Mitchell was about five years old when John Lee Banner died. John was born in 1917 and guessed his grandfather died about 1922 or 1923 in Mount Airy. [JBM, Jun. 1977.] Another source had his death listed as 1922 and occurring in Surry County, North Carolina. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.] Actually, John Lee died on October 15, 1922, according to the records of the funeral home that handled his funeral and his Certificate of Death. [MFS, 3 May 1998 // JLB/CD, 16 Oct 1922.]

John Lee Banner's Certificate of Death is on file in the Archives and Records Section of the Department of Cultural Resources Division of Archives and History in Raleigh, North Carolina. It stated that John L. Banner lived on Main Street in Mount Airy, North Carolina and that he was a white male married to Mary E. Banner. It also stated he was born on August 23, 1864, in Forsyth County, North Carolina, and at the time of his death he was fifty-eight years, one month and twenty-two days old. The Certificate of Death also gave the name of his parents, W. C. and Ann Morris Banner, and said John Lee's occupation was "Farmer" and the general nature of his work was "Orchard Work." The person who gave that information was John Lee's son-in-law E. C. Bivens of Mount Airy.

As stated previously, according to his Certificate of Death John Lee died on October 15, 1922. The certificate was signed by J. C. Hill, the registrar, on October 16, 1922. However, it was also signed by Dr. E. M. Hollingsworth of Mount Airy on October 17, 1922. John Lee was buried on that same day, October 17th. The undertakers handling his burial were Hannah and Moody of Mount Airy. Dr. Hollingsworth wrote the cause of death on the certificate. He filled in the underlined portions shown below.

I HEARBY CERTIFY, that I attended deceased from Sept 1st, 1922 to Oct 15, 1922

That I last saw him alive on Oct 15, 1922

and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 8/05 p.m.

The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows:

Chronic Interstitial Nephritis

(duration) 6 mos.

Contributory Arterio Sclerosis

Did an operation precede death? No

Was there an autopsy? No

[JLB/CD, 16 Oct 1922.]

Bright's disease was an old term for nephritis or kidney disease. It was an extremely painful, dreaded, and common disease for which no cures were known in earlier years. [PD/WMT?, 1994, p. 26.] The old term was sometimes used as a general term for kidney disease. [FMG, 1973, p. 900.] "Bright's disease is not a single entity. Several varieties are now recognized... In a very broad way, the group of diseases may be called nephritis—inflammation of the kidney not resulting from infection in the kidney." [FMG, 1973, pp. 292-293.] "Nephritis is a general term for any inflammation or infection of the kidney...Nephritis may also involve the spaces within the kidney, causing problems in reabsorption of water and salts (interstitial nephritis)." [WB/MEDENC, 1991, p.594.]

Dr. Hollingsworth listed Arterio Sclerosis as a contributing cause of John Lee's death. [JLB/CD, 16 Oct 1922.] A medical encyclopedia says, "Arteriosclerosis, often called 'hardening of the

arteries,' is an arterial disorder characterized by a progressive thickening and hardening of the walls of the arteries. This causes a decrease in or loss of blood circulation. The most common form of arteriosclerosis is atherosclerosis, which is characterized by the deposition of fatty substances in large and medium-sized arteries, such as the arteries that lead to the heart and brain. Atherosclerosis and its complications are a major cause of death in the United States...Blockage in the arteries supplying blood to the kidneys can result in kidney damage. [WB/MEDENC, 1991, p. 51.]

John Lee's granddaughter Polly was visiting Mount Airy from Virginia when he died. She was about eight years old. He had been sick and Granny (Emma) had set up a bed in the sitting room downstairs.

Polly was told that he was real sick, but that he wanted to see her. Then they let her go into the room. They put Polly up on the high bed. "He sort of put his arm around me and took my hand and told me how much he loved me and told me to always be a good girl and to mind my mother."

When he died, Polly did not go to his funeral. They had someone there to keep the children while the funeral was being conducted. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

An undated newspaper clipping, probably from a Mount Airy newspaper in 1922, told of his death. His granddaughter Kacky had that clipping at the time of her own death many years later in 1980.

Commissioner Banner At Rest

Commissioner-at-Large John L. Banner fell asleep at his home on main street Sunday evening after a fight for life that has lasted several months. He was a victim of high blood pressure and its attendant ills.

Mr. Banner was born in Forsyth county in August 1864, he was the son of W. C. and Anne Morris Banner. He moved to Mount Airy in 1885 and in 1886 was married to Miss Mary Emma Banner, daughter of John E. and Lou Prather Banner of this city.

Of this union were born five daughters Mrs. Annie Banner Mitchell and Mrs. Alma Bivens, of this city Mrs. Kathleen Hawks of Roanoke VA and Miss Love Banner student of the N. C. W. all of whom with his wife were at his bedside during his illness, the fourth daughter, Mary, died in infancy.

He is survived by two sisters Mrs. Will Roberts and Mrs. John Bondurant and one brother Joe Banner.

Mr. Banner was a contractor and builder and from time to time served the town in public offices. He was a progressive public spirited man, he exerted his influence in favor of public schools, a water and light system, good roads and paved streets. He was a gentle sweet spirited gentleman, not a member of the church but a man of prayer and faith. He was converted in the Rev. Wm. Fife meeting in this city and contributed to the support of the gospel.

He was a devoted husband an indulgent father and a valued citizen. His passing leaves a gap in the life of the community.

The funeral was conducted from the home Tuesday at 10 a.m. by Rev. D. V. Price assisted by Dr. Boyer and the remains laid to rest at Oakdale cemetery. [NPC/UD, obtained 1990s.]

Another newspaper clipping spoke of John Lee Banner:

Resolutions Of Condolence

Whereas. God in His wisdom has seen fit to call from us our esteemed friend and co-worker Commissioner-at-large Mr. John L. Banner, and

Whereas. We are grateful for the privilege of having labored with one so faithful, efficient and unselfish as was Mr. Banner as he represented the people of our city, and

Whereas. We sorrow as we contemplate our loss in friendship, fellowship, and service because of his having been taken from us, we, therefore desire to place on the permanent records of The Town of Mount Airy, this testimonial for Mr. Banner and direct that this resolution be published in the Mount Airy News and a copy of same be sent to the bereaved family to whom we extend our sincere [sic] sympathy.

And yet, so weak and ineffectual is all human consolation in such an hour, but we doubt not your strong faith in Him who "doeth all things well" who will sustain and comfort y [sic] His own condolences which are "neither few nor small."

The recollections of him who has so lately departed must be full of painful regret, but we should all look to the brighter aspect, in the hope that he has gone to a happier sphere, and that what is loss to his family and to us is to him "unspeakable gain."

A. V. West, Mayor.
F. M. Poore, Sec. to Board.
W. I. Monday,
T. C. Barber, Comrs. Ward No. 1
W. F. Carter, Jr.,
J. W. Faulk, Comrs. Ward No. 2.
[NPC/UD, obtained 1980.]

Oakdale Cemetery [where John Lee Banner was buried] had been a former mustering ground and gathering point of supply wagons from surrounding farms en route to Lee's army in Virginia during the Civil War. [HST/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.]

At the time of John Lee's death Warren G. Harding was the President of the United States. In 1922 the Woman Suffrage Amendment to the Constitution was declared constitutional by a unanimous decision of the Supreme Court. The first commercially sponsored radio program was broadcast in New York, and the first mechanical switchboard was installed in the New York City telephone system. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 460, 463.] Alexander Graham Bell, the American inventor and physicist, died that year as well. [TIME/HST, 1991, p. 481.]

arteries,' is an arterial disorder characterized by a progressive thickening and hardening of the walls of the arteries. This causes a decrease in or loss of blood circulation. The most common form of arteriosclerosis is atherosclerosis, which is characterized by the deposition of fatty substances in large and medium-sized arteries, such as the arteries that lead to the heart and brain. Atherosclerosis and its complications are a major cause of death in the United States...Blockage in the arteries supplying blood to the kidneys can result in kidney damage. [WB/MEDENC, 1991, p. 51.]

John Lee's granddaughter Polly was visiting Mount Airy from Virginia when he died. She was about eight years old. He had been sick and Granny (Emma) had set up a bed in the sitting room downstairs.

Polly was told that he was real sick, but that he wanted to see her. Then they let her go into the room. They put Polly up on the high bed. "He sort of put his arm around me and took my hand and told me how much he loved me and told me to always be a good girl and to mind my mother."

When he died, Polly did not go to his funeral. They had someone there to keep the children while the funeral was being conducted. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

An undated newspaper clipping, probably from a Mount Airy newspaper in 1922, told of his death. His granddaughter Kacky had that clipping at the time of her own death many years later in 1980.

Commissioner Banner At Rest

Commissioner-at-Large John L. Banner fell asleep at his home on main street Sunday evening after a fight for life that has lasted several months. He was a victim of high blood pressure and its attendant ills.

Mr. Banner was born in Forsyth county in August 1864, he was the son of W. C. and Anne Morris Banner. He moved to Mount Airy in 1885 and in 1886 was married to Miss Mary Emma Banner, daughter of John E. and Lou Prather Banner of this city.

Of this union were born five daughters Mrs. Annie Banner Mitchell and Mrs. Alma Bivens, of this city Mrs. Kathleen Hawks of Roanoke VA and Miss Love Banner student of the N. C. C. W. all of whom with his wife were at his bedside during his illness, the fourth daughter, Mary, died in infancy.

He is survived by two sisters Mrs. Will Roberts and Mrs. John Bondurant and one brother Joe Banner.

Mr. Banner was a contractor and builder and from time to time served the town in public offices. He was a progressive public spirited man, he exerted his influence in favor of public schools, a water and light system, good roads and paved streets. He was a gentle sweet spirited gentleman, not a member of the church but a man of prayer and faith. He was converted in the Rev. Wm. Fife meeting in this city and contributed to the support of the gospel.

He was a devoted husband an indulgent father and a valued citizen. His passing leaves a gap in the life of the community.

AN ACTOR BORN

In 1926 when Emma was in her very early sixties, a baby boy was born in Mount Airy named Andy Griffith. He would grow up to become a well-known actor, especially in television. His show, "The Andy Griffith Show," was on television for eight years and left at the top of the ratings. The show began in 1960 and well into four decades later is still very successful in syndication. It continues to be seen around the world and still has its own fan club.

The endearing show was about small-town life in the south... Andy Griffith used his hometown of Mount Airy as a model for the show... He "based many of the show's characters on the friends, neighbors and shopkeepers he grew up with." [GH/WP, 24 Apr 1994.]

Andy Griffith owned the television show and "exercised a veto over the writers. Many of them visited Mount Airy to get a feel for Mayberry. For natives watching the sitcom, particular turns of phrase ('Pipe down!' 'You beat everything, you know that!') and folk-life staples (pie-eating contests, bluegrass music, lazy Sunday afternoons on the front porch) stir redolent Mount Airy memories."

In 1990 a writer visiting Mount Airy in search of that small town told of the place where [Emma lived and] Andy grew up. He wrote, "The heart of Mount Airy does bear a certain resemblance to its video offspring. Main Street is lined with handsomely restored turn-of-the-century granite and brick store fronts. Handsome bungalows, with unscreened porches, stand along maple-shaded residential streets, further evoking prewar small-town America." [TC/AJ&C, 16 Sep 1990.]

1926 EXPLOSION

About midnight on Saturday, December 18, 1926, an explosion occurred in downtown Mount Airy. It started yet another fire which gutted a large section of the Main Street business section. [EXP/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.] I do not know if Emma was there in town at the time of the explosion or had already left for a visit of several weeks to see Annie in Saint Augustine, Florida. Even if Emma was not in town, I'm sure she heard a lot about it when she returned, if not before. [CMM, 24 May 1998.]

The explosion and fire originated in the hardware store of Jim Midkiff and Carl Brannock, one of four businesses that were completely destroyed. The fire burned out of control for five hours. The explosion shattered plate glass windows in other stores along Main Street due to the force of the blast. It also threw the roof and second story high into the air of the building where it occurred.

A power failure followed the explosion, because the force of the blast caused the switches at the substation to be thrown open. By the time of that fire, the town had a twelve-year-old fire truck which was rushed to the scene. Firemen immediately threw three streams of water on the fire. A new fire truck recently acquired by the city was still at the train depot, unloaded and not operational. Another fire truck and firemen made it from Winston-Salem in one hour, record time, to help fight the blaze.

During the five hours it took to tame the fire, people feared the entire Prather block and the Lovill wholesale house would also catch fire because of the intense heat. Firemen were able to save them, however, by spraying the sides of the burning building.

The cause of the fire was never officially determined, but the proprietors of the hardware store admitted to having had a small supply of dynamite. Also in the building was a barrel of turpentine and another of alcohol. It created an inferno. A restaurant and a grocery store were also destroyed. [EXP/TMAN, 24 Feb 1976.] By the time the fire was subdued the next morning, Christmas trees on

Main Street, which had been put up for decorations, were completely covered with ice. [C&R, 1985, p. 129.]

SAINT AUGUSTINE VISIT

When Emma was about sixty-one years old she traveled to Saint Augustine, Florida, where she spent several weeks visiting her daughter Anne and her grandchildren. Annie was working for an insurance company and lived there in Saint Augustine with her children Kathleen, or Kacky, and John Banner Mitchell. [JBM, 30 May 1992.] If Emma and Anne had a strained relationship in Anne's earlier years it must have eased between them enough for Emma to undertake such a trip and long visit. [CMM, 30 Jan 1998.]

Anne rented a large old two-story house where she and her children lived. They lived almost across the street from the big old masonry fort there in town that had been built by the Spanish in the 1600s. [JBM, 30 May 1992.] Saint Augustine is filled with historic sites and architecture dating back to its Spanish roots. [CMM, 30 Jan 1998.]

At the time of her death in 1980, Emma's granddaughter Kacky had in her possession two small books relating to that visit Emma made to Saint Augustine. One was an autograph book belonging to Emma or "Mother Banner" as several people addressed her. The other book was a small picture album Annie had put together for her mother, gluing pictures on black pages and writing captions in white ink.

On the very first page of that small picture album was only one picture. It was of a stout woman, Emma, standing outside by a wooden fence. Underbrush and palm fronds were behind her. She was dressed in a dark long-sleeved dress that was two or three inches above her ankles in length, and she appeared to be wearing dark hose and dark shoes. Emma wore a rather tall but narrow hat, a light-colored necklace, and a mink or fox stole draped over her shoulders. A small purse hung by a strap over her left arm, and she carried light-colored gloves in her right hand.

In white ink on that first page of the photograph album by that picture of her mother, Annie had written: "Saint Augustine - Fla., February - 1927. Lest you forget." Annie probably showed her mother quite a few sites around St. Augustine, judging by the variety of pictures in her album. One picture of the fort had printed on the photograph "Matanzas River Fort Marion." Beside a picture of the interior of the fort Annie had written, "Built in 1565 (Original Fort) Destroyed by Sir Francis Drake in 1586. Present Fort finished in 1756."

Included in the album Anne put together for her mother were pictures of a variety of houses and hotels. There were also pictures of marshes south of the city, a shrimp boat fleet docked along the San Sebastian River, various city streets, the old Protestant Cemetery, a Spanish Cathedral, ruins from earlier days, a picture of the surf at Saint Augustine Beach, and a wooded country road on the way to Lewis Point. There were also pictures of a variety of people. They were probably friends of Annie whom Emma met.

"Silver Springs trip. February - 13th 1927," was the caption Anne wrote under one of the pictures that showed seven people lined up posing for the camera. There were four men and three women, one of which was Emma, or as Anne wrote in the list of their names, "Mama." Everyone was dressed up in their good clothes. There were more pictures of those people individually or in groups and in some of them was Anne's son John Banner Mitchell, who was close to ten years old. In one picture taken that day John was looking at a deer with another boy, and in another one he was with Emma and two other women. John was eating an ice cream cone.

In another series of photos, we learn that Anne took her mother to an outdoor concert. A group of well-dressed people, women in hats and high heels and men in hats and suits, were seated in rows on wooden benches. The benches had backrests on them. Sitting at the end of one of the rows was Emma and beside her was Anne. Palm trees were in the background. Anne wrote under the picture, "Listening to the Band. In the Plaza. Sunday afternoon. February -27- 1927."

They probably listened to some Scottish music, for two pictures of handsome men in kilts surround the picture of Emma and Annie in the plaza. Beside one man's photograph Annie wrote, "Murdock McDonald Leader McDonalds Highlanders. St. Augustine. Season - 1927." [PA/SA, 1927.]

Annie gave a small framed painting to Emma. It measured five inches by six and one half inches. It was given to me in 1980. It is a rather dark painting of two boats side by side in the water. Several sea gulls are flying in the sky. It is signed "Scheibner." [CMM, 15 Feb 1998.] On the back of the painting is written in ink, "Shrimp Boats by Scheibner, 20 Aviles St, St Augustine, Fla., 1926, Presented to Mama by A. B. M." [BOAT/P, obtained 1980.] A. B. M. are the initials of Emma's daughter Anne Banner Mitchell. [CMM, 25 May 1998.]

It was and still is common for many people to go to Florida in the winters to get away from the cold weather in more northern areas of the country. According to Emma's autograph book, it appears that Annie and some of her local friends met and socialized with some of those people from other areas. Emma was included in the activities of her daughter and her friends. [CMM, 1 Feb 1998.]

The other item giving us a glimpse into that time when Emma visited Anne was a small book with multicolored pages bearing the title Autographs of My Florida Friends. Glued onto the front cover was a photograph of Emma and Anne standing side by side. Emma had her left arm bent and Anne had slipped her right hand through Emma's arm. Both were standing in front of a bush or small tree loaded with fronds. Mother and daughter were dressed in their good clothes and wearing corsages. Annie was in a slim light-colored long-sleeved dress with two rows of ruffles at the bottom and had on a light-colored wide-brimmed hat. Emma was wearing a dark suit and lighter narrow hat. Written in green ink by the photograph was "2 Shenandoah St., St. Augustine, January 19, 1927."

A couple of people merely signed their names in Emma's book, including Lloyd F. Smith of Jacksonville, Fla., and R. W. Kellum of Hastings, Fla. Other items found in that book will be written here in the order they appeared. Jimmy (?) J. Farrell was the first signature in Emma's book signed on February 13, 1927. There were numerous other signatures. Among those was one from Virginia Vogelsang of Indianapolis, Indiana who wrote, "Memories of a sweet lady," and William J. Fowler who wrote, "With _____ and personal regards. Your old Jersey mosquito friend."

On February 16th, 1927, Samuel C. McDaniel wrote "In the years to come may the name subscribed below recall with pleasure your visit to the finest city in all the world. We enjoyed having you and hope you will pay us many more visits." A picture of Sam, a good looking man, was glued into the book next to his autograph.

Some other pictures were glued into the autograph book. One was of a nice car with three women in it, one of which was identifiable as Emma. No one was in the drivers seat. That was probably the person who took the picture. It had written under it in green ink, "Driving on St. Augustine Beach. February. 1927."

Another small photo was of Emma standing on the beach looking at the waves with her back to the camera. Her grandson John Banner Mitchell was grinning at the camera and pretending to kick his grandmother in the seat! Another woman was standing beside Emma, facing the camera (probably Annie). Written by that picture was "Vilano Beach, St. Augustine - December 1926."

There was another picture taken of a different car on the beach. Standing in front of that car, a convertible with its top up, was a man with short hair wearing a dark sleeveless one-piece bathing suit. Under the picture in green ink was written "Ed." Below that in black ink and different handwriting were the words, "It ain't my face, kid - It's my shape!"

A picture showed Emma and other people sitting in a wooden vehicle with a roof and open sides. It was on wheels with a horse standing beside it. Written in green ink under it were the words, "Aboard the horse car for Surfside. December - 1926."

Some other people wrote to Emma in her autograph book:

St. Augustine, Fla.
Feb. 18th 1927

Mother Banner ~

And when you've gone we'll miss you heaps and heaps And please don't stay away for keeps ~ Don't forget to remember

Mattie may Clark
76 Valencia St.

St. Augustine Fla.
Feb. 25, 1927

Mother Banner.

Seems a shame to break up such a good crowd but good things can't last always. I shall always remember your visit with much pleasure. Lets hope for another winter like 1926-27.

Brownie J Holloway.

St. Augustine Fla
Feb. 25 - 1927

Mother Banner:

We have enjoyed your visit and sorry that you are leaving. Just to prove that it's not Apple Sauce I am leaving too. Hope that, on our next trip to Silver Springs, I will not be so low as last Sunday

Lester M. Holloway
610 Woodward Bldg.
Birmingham - Ala

I will kiss you even though your not a "He male"-- Have enjoyed knowing
"Mother" Banner more than I can tell—

Devotedly
Hath

May the many (braw nights ?) we have had together be long remembered and
no forgotten

Charles H. King

St. Augustine Fla.
Feb. 25th 1927

Mother Banner.

The visit with the "gang," this winter, will ever be a pleasurable memory to me,
Willis C Ed__water

2-25-27

Another little drink wouldn't do us any harm-

Tillie-

P.S. You're the best chaperon in the world

T-

Oh! For some more "Sandwitches and beer" Its sorry stuff Just sorry there's no more

G. _ Kellam
2/26/27 Hastings, Fla.

Another picture was glued into the autograph book. It was of Anne and young John Banner, as they usually called her son, standing in a wooded area. The lower part of the picture was cut off, showing them only from the chest up. Written in ink by it was "St. Augustine. Feb- 5th 1927, 'Fair-Fat & Forty.'" [MEB/AB, 1927.] Annie was poking fun at herself when she wrote that. In fact she still had her dark hair and judging from the pictures of her in the book she was slim. It was taken, however, on her birthday, Feb. 5th. Written on that same page in her daughter Kacky's handwriting was "Mother born in 1887." A few more autographs appeared in the book. [CMM, 1 Feb 1998.]

Granny-

We are sorry you are going away.

Love

John

Feb. 17, 1927

Feb 25- 27-

Mother Banner:

If words of mine could keep you with us. I'd say everything I know.

I love you heaps and heaps – more than I can say – both for Annie and your very own dear self.

We have had some lovely times together and hope that you will come to us again-

Lots of love
"Elsie"

Feb. 25 – 1927

Mother Banner: -

We hate to see you go away,
Wish that you had come to stay,
Our many nights and days of fun
Will be remembered by each one.

Charles T. Groh (?)

P.S. You'll have to come back soon and smell this marsh-grass.

[MEB/AB, 1927.]

Many things were happening in the country during that year of 1927, the year Emma spent time in Saint Augustine and then returned to Mount Airy. She must have marveled at the changes that were taking place in the country and the world since the time of her youth. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.]

Calvin Coolidge was the President of the United States at that time. In 1927 the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was established to present annual awards, or "Oscars," to noteworthy achievements in the art of the motion picture. The first talking motion picture in which the sound track was actually on the film was released, "The Jazz Singer," starring Al Jolson.

That was the year Captain Charles Lindbergh flew the first solo nonstop flight from New York to Paris in his plane the "Spirit of Saint Louis." It took him thirty-three and one half hours. Commercial telephone service was opened between New York and London. And also that year the Holland Tunnel, the first underwater vehicular tunnel in the United States, was built beneath the Hudson River from New York to New Jersey. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 476-479.]

That was also the year Babe Ruth hit sixty home runs for the New York Yankees baseball team, and the fifteen millionth Model "T" Ford was produced. [TIME/HST, 1991, pp. 493, 495.]

LOVE'S WEDDING

John Lee and Emma's youngest daughter Love was married in Mount Airy at the home of her parents. The marriage took place after John's death, because he was not mentioned in a newspaper announcement of the wedding. [NPC, obtained 1980.] Love had gone to a women's college in Greensboro according to her daughter. She thought that it was around the time of John Lee's death, and

that prevented Love from attending more than a year or two of college. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.] According to John Lee's obituary above, Love had attended N.C.C.W. [NPC/UD, obtained 1990's.]

Love married James Marsh Diffie, Jr., the son of James Marsh Diffie, Sr. and Mary Lou Fischer. They were married on February 22, 1929. [LDS, 11 Jun 1998.] When Love Banner married, the following item appeared in the newspaper:

Miss Love Hilliard Banner Weds J. M. Diffie Jr. at Mount Airy

The wedding of Miss Love Hilliard Banner and James Marsh Diffie Jr. was solemnized on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the home of the bride in Mt. Airy with Rev. A. S. Gibbs, pastor of the Central Methodist Church, officiating and using the impressive ring ceremony. Only a few intimate friends and relatives witnessed the ceremony.

The bride was lovely in a tan ensemble suit and wearing a shoulder corsage of orchids.

Mrs. Diffie is the lovely daughter of Mrs. J. L. Banner of Mt. Airy and an alumnae of N. C. C. W. of Greensboro.

Mr. Diffie is the son of Mr. James Diffie of Cordele, Ga. He attended Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn, Ala., and is a member of Sigma Nu Fraternity. For the past several years he has made his home in High Point, being connected with the Tomlinson Chair Manufacturing Company.

Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Diffie left by motor for a trip to New York and Washington and upon their return will be at home in High Point. The young couple have friends throughout the State who will be interested in their marriage. [NPC/UD, obtained 1980.]

Aside from the newspaper account of their wedding, we also are told in the Banner family book written by Love's older sister Alma that Love married James Diffie. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Love called her husband Jimmy. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.] They would have three children: Love Diffie, born in 1929, William Diffie, born in 1933, and his twin James Diffie, born in 1933. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

SEVENTH GRANDCHILD: LOVE BANNER DIFFEE

Just after Christmas in 1929, Emma's family expanded again. Her daughter Love and son-in-law James Diffie had their first child, a little girl they named Love Banner Diffie. From then on the family usually referred to the mother and daughter as Big Love (or Lovie) and Little Love. [CMM, 9 Feb 1998.] Little Love was born on December 28, 1929, in High Point, North Carolina. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

Little Love would marry Raymond Alfred Smith, Jr. on June 10, 1950. [ABB/BFG, 1965// LDS, 2 Feb 1994.] Love and Raymond would have two sons: James Raymond Smith II, born in 1951 in Mount Airy, and Michael David Smith, born in 1955 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

SISTER MAGGIE'S DEATH

Emma's younger sister, Margaret Eliza (Maggie, the family called her), had married Claude H. Beard. They had two children, Lura and Margaret Beard. Maggie died in 1930. Her daughter Margaret would get married about five years later in 1935 to Charles McMichael. [ABM/FB, 16 Jul 1938 // 22 Jul 1938.] Maggie was fifty-three years old when she died. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

Emma's daughters Annie and Kathleen were very fond of Maggie as was the whole family. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.] As has been mentioned, Emma's grandson John Banner Mitchell was extremely fond of Maggie and cared more for her than Emma. [JBM, 30 May 1992.] Emma, herself, was about sixty-five years old when her sister died. [CMM, 17 Mar 1998.] The next year, in 1931, Emma would lose another sister to death, her older sister Ida. Ida had married John Lee's oldest brother, William F. Banner. [JSC, 12 Mar 1998.] William had died in Forsyth County, North Carolina in 1910. Ida died in 1931 in Tennessee. [JSC, 30 Dec 1997.]

WILLIAM'S DEATH

Yet another death hit the family. When Emma was in her mid-sixties she lost one of her grandchildren. William Hawks, her daughter Kathleen's son, died in 1931. He was about twelve years old when he died in Richmond, Virginia. [KHW, Oct. 1997.] It had to be an upsetting time for the entire family, especially Kathleen, her husband Lester, and their two remaining children: Polly, who was about sixteen years old, and John, who was about ten. [CMM, 9 Feb 1998.]

A cousin of William's said that, "He was a sweet kid." William was quite different from his little brother John, different enough that you wouldn't know they were brothers. It was quite a shock to the family when he died. He got appendicitis. His appendix burst which caused a critical infection which killed him. [JBM, 18 Feb 1998.]

THE DEPRESSION

John Hawks lived with his grandmother, Emma, during the depression. They had no servants at that time. Many nights, her grandson recalled, the family gathered on Granny's front porch. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.] It was during those depression years at some point that Emma also had her daughter, Love, and her young child Little Love, come to live with her. Love's husband James Diffie had contracted tuberculosis and had to spend about a year in a sanatorium. So Love returned to live with her mother while he was getting treatment. James did get over tuberculosis and would go on to live a long and successful life. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.]

The Great Depression was a worldwide business slump that occurred in the 1930s. "It ranked as the worst and longest period of high unemployment and low business activity in modern times. The Great Depression began in October, 1929, when stock values in the United States dropped rapidly. Thousands of stockholders lost large sums of money—or were even wiped out. Banks, factories, and stores closed and left millions of Americans jobless and penniless. Many people had to depend on the government or charity for food." Many people crowded into the home of a relative.

As the depression continued, many people died from disease that resulted from malnutrition. Thousands lost their homes because they could not pay the mortgage. "In 1932, at least 25,000 families and more than 200,000 young people wandered through the country seeking food, clothing, shelter, and a job." It was not until the beginning of World War II (1939-1945) that the Great Depression ended.

That was the result of nations increasing their production of war materials. That increased production provided jobs and put large sums of money back into circulation. [GD/WBE.]

SLEEP IN GRANNY'S ROOM

Emma's grandchildren Polly and John Hawks and their parents did not live in Mount Airy, but would visit in the summertime. However, Polly said she did live in Mount Airy one year with Emma. She was in her teens at that time. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.] That would have been about the time of the Great Depression. [CMM, 8 Aug 1998.]

Polly slept in the bedroom with her grandmother. She said that Emma had a ritual after they got in bed. Emma would say, "Oh God, oh God, please take me. Please take me. I want to die. Please take me." On and on she would go like that. Polly believed she was playing a martyr and maybe said that to make her feel sorry for her. She didn't actually die until Polly was grown, married, and around her mid-thirties. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

TAKING WAYS

Emma's granddaughter Polly said that "a relative down the street had taking ways," meaning that person would steal things. Under the staircase was a walk-in closet in Emma's home that could be entered from her sitting room. "Granny kept everything she treasured in that closet," said Polly. "Something came up missing. Granny tacked a note to the inside of the door that said to keep your cotton-pickin' hands off my property--only it wasn't cotton pickin.' Granny would cuss sometimes. She never had anymore problems." [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

RELIGION

Emma's grandson John Mitchell believed she was a Methodist. [JBM, Jun. 1977.] A granddaughter of Emma's said Emma's daughter Anne had been a Methodist but later switched to the Episcopalian Religion. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] If Anne had been a Methodist it was probably because at least one of her parents had been. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.] Another granddaughter, Little Love, also said Emma was a Methodist. Little Love said, "She was rather religious. I know she made me learn the 23rd Psalm when I was just knee high to a grasshopper. I say she made me, I was glad to do it, but she wanted me to do it, so I did it.

"I remember she gave me one of the first books I ever had with Bible stories for children. I remember her telling me the story of Joseph and his coat of many colors. That was one of her favorites.

"In fact," said Love of her son, "I named Michael David (Smith). Granny always said if she ever had a son she was going to name him David. She loved the name David. So, I did that for her." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

EIGHTH AND NINTH GRANDCHILDREN: WILLIAM DIFEE AND JAMES DIFEE III

Emma's last two grandchildren were born in 1933 when she was in her later sixties. Her daughter Love and Love's husband James M. Diffie had twin boys. The brothers, William Sherman "Billy/Bill" Diffie and James Marsh "Jimmy/Jim" Diffie, III, were born on January 19, 1933, in Washington, D.C.

Bill Diffie would one day marry Genevive, called "Gen." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.] Gen's maiden name, according to one source, was Lubasik, [correct spelling is Lukasik] and she was from Pennsylvania. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] The proper spelling of Gen's maiden name, according to her son, is Lukasik. [WSD/JR, 21 May 1998.] Bill and Gen were married on September 29, 1956. [GLD//WSD/SR, 28 May 1998.] They had four children: twins Love and William S. Diffie, Jr., Deborah "Debbie" Diffie, and Barry Michael Diffie (called Michael).

Jim Diffie would marry Linda. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.] Lynda, as it was spelled in one source, was from Kentucky, and her maiden name was Adams. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] Her sister-in-law said the proper spelling was Linda. She also said that Jim and his wife lived in Ohio. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.] Jim Diffie and Linda Mae Adams from Somerset, Kentucky were married on June 10, 1954, in Louisville, Kentucky. [LAD, 30 Jun 1998.] Jim and Linda Diffie also had four children: James Standard Diffie, Cynthia "Cindy" Diffie, Susan Diffie, and Mary Lynn Diffie. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

Emma's grandson, Bill Diffie, Sr., recalled that Emma lived with him and his family for a short time in the Washington, D. C., area in the mid to late 1930s. It was when he and his twin brother Jimmy were toddlers. Bill speculated that Emma was there to help his mother (her daughter), Love. [WSD/SR, 28 May 1998.]

LATER YEARS, 1933 - 1947

ALMA AND BIV ACROSS THE STREET

Alma's husband, Edward Chatham Bivens, would become a Judge of the Superior Court. [ABB/BFG, 1965.] At some point after their marriage, Alma and her husband moved into a house across the street from her parents. By standing on her front porch, Emma could look directly across the street and slightly to the right and see her daughter's home, an ivy-covered brick house. Their nieces and nephews called them Aunt Alma and Uncle Biv.

Just north of Alma and Biv's home was a two-story frame house. Dr. Roy Mitchell had his office there but didn't live there. And just to the north of Dr. Mitchell's was a garage where cars were worked on. At one point Greyhound buses stopped there. Many evenings after dinner Uncle Biv would walk over to the garage and talk with several men who gathered there. During the summer they sat in chairs outside in front of the garage. During the winter the men would gather inside to visit. [AHM, 9 Jul 1997.]

Alma Banner Bivens' nephew, John Mitchell (no known relation to Dr. Roy Mitchell), married Alma Hines, who grew up in Mount Airy. [CMM, 28 Dec 1997.] The younger Alma noted that Uncle Biv was a judge for a long time. She couldn't remember when he wasn't a judge. Alma Hines Mitchell liked both Aunt Alma and Uncle Biv. She was very close to their daughter and only child, Beverly Bivens (Olive), as they grew up, and Alma saw a lot of Aunt Alma and Uncle Biv.

Alma Hines Mitchell said that the Bivens family attended the same church as the Hines family, Central Methodist Church in Mount Airy. She liked Uncle Biv. He would sing at Alma and John Mitchell's wedding at the home of her parents, Matt and Stella Hines, in Mount Airy in 1941.

Alma H. Mitchell also liked Alma Banner Bivens. She described her as a serious person but said she was always nice to Alma as she was growing up and later when she married Aunt Alma's nephew, John Mitchell. Aunt Alma did have a reputation in town of being somewhat snooty. But she was always good to Alma and Alma liked her. [AHM, 9 Jul 1997.] Alma's nephew John said his aunt was somewhat of a snob and his sister Kacky got a lot of that from her. [JBM, 12 Feb 1994.]

Soon after Alma married John Mitchell she baked a birthday cake for Aunt Alma. Young Alma went to a hat shop in town and got a hat box that fit the cake perfectly. She took it to Aunt Alma who was very pleased to get it. Alma said she always liked Aunt Alma. [AHM, 9 Jul 1997.]

ADULT SISTERS

According to Anne's son, during the four Banner sisters' adult years, Anne and Love were fun-loving people who were enjoyable to be around. He was very fond of Love. Alma was the serious sister and was not as much fun. Kathleen was somewhere in between Anne and Love on one hand and Alma on the other. [JBM, 29 May 1992.]

Love's daughter Little Love described Alma. "She was funny. I always liked Aunt Alma. When I was a little girl Mother and I would come to Mount Airy, and we would stay with Aunt Alma. That was always fun. She introduced me to banana sandwiches, I know that. She was a good cook. Uncle

Biv would go hunting and bring home quail and she would have quail dinners. She had the one daughter and she was pretty wrapped up in her." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

One of Kathleen's nephews, Bill Diffie, Sr., remembered her as being "a very straight laced type of personality." He said she dressed and spoke well. He also remembered that she and her family lived in Richmond. [WSD/SR, 28 May 1998.] Of Kathleen, Little Love said, "I certainly remember Aunt Kathleen. I can't tell you much about her except that she was pretty and was a sweet lady." In speaking of all the sisters she said, "They all got along real well. They were very loving sisters, I think." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

I never knew Kathleen, as she died before my birth. However, I remember the other three sisters well. I last saw Aunt Alma and Aunt Love during my teenage years. The oldest sister Annie, my grandmother, died when I was a senior in college. They were all wonderful women. They never fussed with each other in my presence. All three treated me wonderfully and made me feel special, each in her own way. Aunt Alma was the more serious of the three but was still fun for me to be around and talk with on my visits to Mount Airy or her visits to see us in Florida.

She and Uncle Biv had an attractive elevator in their home which, as a child, impressed me greatly. I had never seen that in anyone's home before. We could see out of the caged elevator as it went up and down. My brother Jimmy Mitchell and I always tried to be very good when we visited them in their home, for if we were they would let us ride in the elevator as a reward. Aunt Alma knew so much about the earlier generations of the family, and I enjoyed hearing her tell family stories as well as discuss what was currently going on in town.

Aunt Love and my grandmother, Anne, were both such a lot of fun to be around even for a child. Generally, they were just sitting around having a cocktail and visiting with my parents, but I often preferred to be there listening to them rather than outside playing. They both had such charming personalities and loved to tell stories and jokes. I can picture Love and Anne, still, laughing and having such a good time together even though there was a difference of about fifteen years in their ages.

I fondly remember a day on a trip to Mount Airy when we were children. Aunt Love took my grandmother Anne, my brother Jimmy Mitchell, and myself to spend the day with her at her vacation home in the mountains just north of Mount Airy. She drove us up to the house in her large Cadillac, whipping it around those mountain roads like she knew every curve, which she probably did. For two youngsters growing up in the flat lands of Florida, it was an exciting ride with what we considered an old woman! [CMM, 25 May 1998.]

POLITICS

John Mitchell said of his grandmother, "She loved Franklin D. Roosevelt. She thought he could do no harm. He could do no wrong in her eyes." [JBM, Jun 1977.] Franklin D. Roosevelt was President of the United States from 1933 to 1945. [FDR/WBE, 1976, p.412.]

EMMA DISAPPROVED

Emma and other members of the family did not approve of her granddaughter Polly's choice of a husband. When she married Norwood Hodge, Polly endured about two years when they would not speak to her. During that two years or more Polly had no contact with most of them. The only family members who did speak with her during that time were her aunt, Anne Banner Mitchell, her "Uncle

Biv," (Judge E. C. Bivens) and his daughter Beverly. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.] Uncle Biv was, as has been mentioned, the husband of John Lee and Emma's daughter Alma. [CMM, 11 Sep 1993.]

The wedding took place in 1934. [PH, Fall, 1997.] Polly had been engaged to an older man but was really in love with Norwood Hodge of Mount Airy. Her family disapproved of Norwood's background. However, Polly's cousin John Mitchell knew Norwood's family and felt they were good people. But other members of Polly's family did not feel that way. They sent Polly to visit her Aunt Love Banner Diffie in Washington, D.C., in the hopes that she would forget about Norwood and marry the man to whom she was engaged.

While visiting Love in Washington, Polly eloped with Norwood! That caused a mighty upset among some members of the family, especially Polly's grandmother, Emma, and her aunt Alma Bivens. They didn't talk with Polly, who was living right there in Mount Airy, for over two years. Even Polly's own mother, Kathleen Banner Hawks, felt that way for awhile. [PH, 6 Feb 1980 // JBM, 6 Feb 1980.]

Polly and Norwood were married on September 23, 1934, at Amelia Court House, Virginia. [PH, Fall, 1997.] Soon after their marriage this item appeared in a Mount Airy newspaper.

Wedding Announced Hawks-Hodge

Miss Mary Lee Hawks and Norwood Hodge were quietly married Sunday, September 23rd at Amelia, VA., with Rev. Mosley officiating and using the ring ceremony.

The bride is the attractive and accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Hawks of Richmond, Va., and received her education in the Mount Airy high school and St. Katherine's School for Girls in Richmond, Va.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Hodge of this city. He received his education in the Mount Airy high school and is now a promising young business man. [NPC/UD, obtained 18 May 1994.]

Polly's aunts, Love Diffie and Anne Mitchell, were the quickest to forgive her. [PH, 6 Feb 1980 // JBM, 6 Feb 1980.] A couple of years after their wedding, Norwood and Polly went to see Polly's mother, Kathleen Banner Hawks, who lived in Ashland, Virginia, near Richmond. They arrived late at night. After they had talked for a little while, Polly's mother said, "Granny is upstairs." At that point Polly and Emma hadn't spoken in over two years. She asked her mother, "What am I supposed to do?" Her mother said, "Just act like nothing ever happened."

The next morning Polly went downstairs and there was Emma already up. She treated Polly like nothing had ever happened. Polly said, "I think she was sorry for the way she acted." Emma had forgiven her. After that Polly went to see Emma frequently, because she and Norwood lived in Mount Airy also. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.] The member of the family to hold a grudge against Polly the longest was her Aunt Alma Bivens. [PH, 6 Feb 1980 // JBM, 6 Feb 1980.]

In 1934, the year Polly and Norwood got married, federal agencies continued to administer and control many phases of American life as a result of the Great Depression. Here and there breaks appeared in the depression cloud and people began to take new hope. Franklin D. Roosevelt was still President. The synthetic fiber nylon was invented, and Hollywood produced a little girl who captured the heart of the world, Shirley Temple. [AM/F&D, 1972, p. 500, 501, 503.]

Polly and Norwood had a long and successful life together living in a lovely home in Mount Airy. They never did have any children. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.]

NIECE WEDS IN WASHINGTON

January 31, 1936, was undoubtedly a day that held Emma's interest, for it was a day that involved both her niece, Margaret Banner Beard, the daughter of her late sister Maggie, and her own daughter Love. It was on that day that Margaret, from Kernersville, North Carolina, married Charles McMichael, Jr. Emma was probably anxious to hear all about the event. And just how was Love involved?

The wedding was held at the home of Love and James Diffie, Jr., in Washington, D.C. Dr. Frederick Brown Harris, pastor of Foundry Methodist Church, performed the simple and impressive ceremony. The living room of James and Love's home was beautifully decorated with cut flowers, predominantly pink rosebuds and snapdragons. Immediately after the ceremony James and Love entertained those attending the wedding with an elaborate dinner at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

A newspaper article in a Winston-Salem, North Carolina, newspaper telling of the wedding spoke of Margaret as being an attractive young woman of charming personality who was a graduate of Chatham Hall, an Episcopal school for girls in Chatham, Virginia. [NPC/UD, obtained 1980.] No doubt Emma enjoyed hearing all about the event, because her family members were very fond of her sister Maggie and Margaret. [CMM, 4 Feb 1998.]

Margaret and Charles O. McMichael would have two children, Charlotte and Cindy McMichael. Charlotte Anne (she was named for Emma's oldest daughter, Anne) married Chuck Pelon (her second husband) and lives in Durham, North Carolina. Their other daughter is Margaret Lucinda "Cindy" who married Neal Paris. They had two children, Charles and Anne Paris. Their mother Cindy later married Dr. John Staddon, a professor at Duke University. They also live in Durham, North Carolina. [MBM, 17 Apr 1990.]

BABY BOOTIES

Emma knitted baby booties on steel needles. People said that they stayed on the babies feet well. A lot of her granddaughter Polly's friends were having babies, and Polly wanted to learn how to make booties from Emma. "Granny taught me over a period of two or three weeks," she said.

But Polly had to be patient. "Granny would sit on her front porch and she loved visitors. In the summertime she'd sit on the porch most all day long." There was a constant stream of visitors. It was hard for Polly. Emma would show her how to do a row, and then the company would start talking, and "I'd have to wait until there was a lull to ask about the next row. It took a long time," said Polly, "but I finally got it all written down." [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

THE PORTRAIT

Emma's grandfather was John Banner. He founded the original Masonic Lodge in Mt. Airy. Emma's granddaughter Kacky, who had been to art school, was asked to paint a portrait of him for the Masons to hang in their building. Kacky did so from a tintype but wasn't sure it looked like him even

though Emma assured her that it did. To prove it to Kacky, Emma put the painting in the drawing room of her house. They waited until Sam came by.

Sam was an old man in his nineties who was blind in one eye. He was tall and slender with white hair and had an eye patch. He had been a slave of John Banner and his wife Virginia. The next time Sam went by their house Emma called him in. She asked Sam if he knew who was in the portrait. "Yes Ma'am, that's ole Master Johnny, and if you had Miss Jenny sitting next to him its be just right." [KMR, 29 Dec 1977.]

Emma's grandson John Hawks said that an ex-slave, Jim Banner, came by Emma's home to visit once in awhile. He also noted that Jim Banner saw a portrait and recognized it. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.] I am not sure, but he probably was referring to the incident just described. Sam and Jim may be the same person. I don't know which name is correct. However, that was probably the same man, Sam, Alma Bivens referred to in her story of her mother's oil portrait. [CMM, 5 Sep 1993.]

BIRTHDAY POEM

In the book handwritten by Alma Bivens on her Banner family history for several of her immediate family members, she reproduced a poem. It was one that Kacky printed and framed and gave to Emma for her 70th birthday. Alma also said of her mother in that book, "She looked so young that 'granny' didn't seem the right appellation for her. However, all the grandchildren addressed her so except Beverly, who called her Namere. Where she got the name, we don't know." Kacky's poem follows:

A Portrait of Granny

My granny loves this earth,
Faithful she is to God
And not unmindful of fair heaven's worth,
Yet she clings
To all the sweet ephemeral things
That she has found most dear
The Flowers she grew in the early spring,
Her fine old lace, her thin gold ring,
Her house sweet scented with remembering,
But granny does not live in vanished times,
Her laughter chimes
At each new actor's witty play;
She loves a box of sweets
A bright bouquet.
My granny makes her age a cloak
To wear
Across one shoulder with a saucy air.
[ABB/BFG, 1965.]

Emma's seventieth birthday was in October 1935. [CMM, 21 Mar 1998.] In that year the Social Security Act was signed by President Roosevelt to establish a board to supervise the payment of old age benefits to people over sixty-five years old based on the amount of money they earned before they reached that age. [AM/F&D, 1972, p. 506.] Radar equipment to detect aircraft was built, and the Rumba became a fashionable dance. [TIME/HST, 1991, p. 509.]

ANNIE ON THE MOVE

After living in Florida for awhile, Emma's daughter Annie had moved with her job back to Greensboro, North Carolina. She lived there for part of her son's grammar school years. Then, Anne and her two children moved to Richmond, Virginia where they lived for a couple of years.

While in Richmond, Anne worked for Lester Hawks who owned a general insurance brokerage agency. Lester was her brother-in-law, the husband of her sister Kathleen. [JBM, 30 May 1992.] Anne was there in 1933, a time when she was active in the Salem College Alumnae group located in Richmond. [PHOTO/RNL, 7 Feb 1933.] After living in Richmond for awhile, Anne and John moved back to Greensboro again. [JBM, 30 May 1992.]

Anne's daughter Kacky had gone to art school in New York City, probably after she finished high school. [KMR/LTR, undated.] When her son John reached high school, he spent his freshman and sophomore years at Randolph-Macon Military Academy in Virginia. [JBM, 28 Jul 1991.] He could not finish there, however, for by then the Depression was taking its toll.

Anne had moved to Washington, D.C., by then and taken a job working for the government. However, she found she was unable to afford to continue sending John to the military academy. She asked his father, Arthur Swain Mitchell, to pay for it, but he couldn't afford it either. So, John went to live with his father and his wife Louise to relieve the financial strain on Anne. [KMR, Mar. 1978 // JBM, 30 Oct 1993.]

In 1936 Annie and her son John went to Mount Airy and visited Emma. The two of them, dressed in nice clothes, posed for photographs in Emma's front yard. [PHOTO, 1936, obtained 1980.] The nation's commerce in that year was twelve to fifteen percent higher in dollar totals than the previous year. Farm prices were up; metals were up; production of automobiles increased 20 percent. However, there were still eight million people unemployed. [AM/F&D, 1972, p. 509.]

About that time Anne and Kacky moved to Berkley, California. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] Anne worked in the insurance business while she was there. John joined them in Berkley for a time in 1936, but was badly injured while working for a pharmacist. He was delivering medicine on a three-wheeled motorcycle when he was hit by a woman who ran a stop sign. John landed on the curb hurting his hip. He could hardly move from the waist down and was unable to go to college as he was planning. After a lot of treatment there in Berkley, and then at Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, he gradually got better. It took him years to get over the effects of the accident. [JBM, 18 Dec 1993.]

Anne had a brief marriage to a man named Baird when she was living in California. It didn't work out, and they were married only a short time. [KMR, Mar. 1978 // JBM, 30 May 1992 / 12 Jan 1994.]

MOVIES

Emma was very fond of one of the new inventions that came along during her lifetime. [CMM, 25 May, 1998.] "She loved the movies," said her granddaughter, Love, "Daddy gave her a pass to the theater, and she went every night. I mean every night! It changed maybe once a week or twice a week, I don't know. Anyway, she went every night in good weather. She would walk. It was just about a block, a block and a half (from her house)."

"She had her seat where she sat every night. She came in one night and somebody was in her seat, and the manager went and got him out and said, 'I'm sorry that's Mz. Banner's seat.' She went every night, and I think so often how much she loved movies and how much she would have enjoyed TV...She loved to sit on the front porch. She probably would have rigged up a TV for out there." [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

KACKY MARRIES

One of Emma's favorite grandchildren married in 1938. [CMM, 11 Feb 1998.] Kathleen (Kacky) married Henry D. Rozendal, an Annapolis graduate, who would eventually retire from the United States Navy with the rank of Rear Admiral. [ABB/BFG, 1965 // CMM, 25 May 1998.]

Kacky was twenty-seven years old when she married Henry. She was living and working in Berkeley, California, with her mother Anne when she met Henry. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] Their wedding announcement read:

Mrs. Anne Banner Mitchell
Announces the marriage of her daughter
Kathleen
to
Lieutenant Henry Dirk Rozendal
United States Navy
on Saturday, the nineteenth of February
Nineteen hundred and thirty-eight
Vallejo, California
[ABM/PP, obtained 1980.]

According to a newspaper clipping, Kacky and Henry were married at high noon in the Navy Chapel at Mare Island. Chaplain Moyer of the Cincinnati officiated. "The rites were simple and the couple unattended. Only kinfolk and intimate friends were in attendance." [NPC/UD, obtained 1979.]

Henry had a successful naval career and was a decorated officer during World War II, earning the Legion of Merit award. [JBM, 13 Feb 1994.] He was awarded the medal "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services to the Government of the United States as Commanding Officer of a United States Warship during an engagement with an enemy submarine in the Attu island Area..." [NPC/UD, obtained 17 May 1994.]

When she got to know Henry, Emma decided she did not like her granddaughter's husband. She later said of Kacky marrying Henry, "She lit on a turd." [JBM, 15 Feb 1994.] Emma may have sensed something about him. Henry seemed to be a charming and pleasant fellow. However, many years later after he retired from the navy, he caused Kacky much distress in their later years. A drinking problem he had got out of hand after his retirement from the Navy and ruined their later years for them both. Kacky and Henry never did have any children. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

In 1938, the year of Kacky and Henry's wedding, there was a return of economic adversity that led to increased government spending which eased the situation a little but led to a certain disillusionment with President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. The menacing conditions in Europe were evident at that time which led to widespread nervousness about the possibility of war but few people believed it likely to happen. The President, however, asked Congress to build up the army and navy.

That year the minimum wage for workers engaged in interstate commerce went from twenty-five to forty cents an hour. The method for making glass wool, or fiberglass, was perfected, and the first nylon product marketed was toothbrushes. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 514-517.] The forty hour work week was established that year. [TIME/HST, 1991, p. 515.]

EMMA PAINTING

Even as she aged Emma was not afraid of some hard work. One time when Emma was in her seventies, her granddaughter Polly went over to her home and found Emma on her hands and knees painting the bathroom floor. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

ANNE'S ART

When Emma's daughter Annie was in her middle years, she took up calligraphy and illumination. With a lot of study and hard work she became quite good at it and did a number of commissioned pieces. Anne continued to work full time. Her art was a hobby, and she loved working on it. [CMM, 15 Feb 1998.] Her sister Alma wrote of her:

My sister, Anne Banner Mitchell, did beautiful old English printing and illuminating. She lived for a time in Washington, and in the interim her work was accepted for a showing in the Smithsonian Institute. However, her ambition was realized when she was commissioned to execute a large piece for the National Cathedral, which hangs in that lovely edifice, majestically crowning Mount St. Albans in our capitol city of Washington, D.C. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

Anne would sometimes address impressive looking envelopes for the letters she sent to her mother in Mount Airy using the calligraphy she had learned. Among many other pieces she did, she wrote the wedding vows for her son John's wedding in calligraphy and illuminated parts of it. Then, she had the whole thing bound in a lovely small green leather book. That book was used during John's marriage to Alma Hines in 1941, during my wedding to Jim McDaniel in 1968, and at my son Mason McDaniel's wedding to Amy Kathryn Bass in 1996. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.] Another piece of art work Anne did was a copy of the wedding invitation for her nephew, William S. "Bill" Diffie, Sr., when he married Genevive "Gen" Lukasik in 1956. [GLD, 28 May 1998 // WSD/SR, 28 May 1998.]

CORNICES

Norwood and Polly were building a house in Mount Airy, and Polly wanted cornices like those in her grandmother's home. She went over to Emma's to look at them and see how they were hung. Polly wanted to climb up and take them off the wall to see the curtain rod and how it was all attached.

Emma told her to go get a ladder. Polly did and took it to the sitting room. Polly started to climb the ladder when Emma, who was in her late seventies at the time, said, "Get away, let me do that. You don't know how to do it." And she climbed the ladder and took the cornice off to show Polly. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

BEVERLY'S GRADUATION

One trip we know Emma took in the summer of 1939 was to Staunton, Virginia. She went with all of her daughters and son-in-law E. C. Bivens to the graduation of her granddaughter Beverly Bivens

from Mary Baldwin College. They found dark-haired Beverly wearing a dark cap and gown. After the ceremony they took a photograph of her in her graduation attire holding her diploma. They must have all had fun that day for Alma wrote under that picture of Beverly in her scrapbook:

Mary Baldwin College
Staunton, Virginia
June the 6th. 1939

Mama, my sisters, Annie, Kathleen and Love, joined Judge and me in Staunton, for Beverly's graduation, which was a happy occasion. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

There was another photograph of the group taken that day. Beverly's Aunt Annie kept it until her death. In the photograph Annie kept of that happy graduation day, six members of the family were standing on some steps. Along with Beverly were Beverly's grandmother Emma, her parents Judge and Alma Bivens, and two of Beverly's aunts, Annie Mitchell and Kathleen Hawks. Beverly was still wearing her cap and gown, but the rest of the ladies were all dressed up and had on hats, gloves, purses, and high-heeled shoes. Annie and Kathleen, the most visible in the picture, had on short-sleeved dresses with the hem lines coming just below their knees. [PHOTO/1939.]

Beverly received many honors at Mary Baldwin and upon her graduation she was chosen president of the Alumnae Association, a post she held for many years until she became ill about twelve years before her death. [NPC/UD, obtained 1979.]

Less than three months before Beverly's graduation from college, German forces had invaded Czechoslovakia. After her graduation in 1939, German armies invaded Poland and Russia invaded Finland. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 520,522.] Italy invaded Albania and Britain and France declared war on Germany. Also during that time when the world's affairs were getting so tense, Igor Sikorsky constructed the first helicopter. 1939 was also the year nylon stockings first appeared. [TIME/HST, 1991, pp. 514-515.]

The outbreak of war in Europe brought about a spectacular upsurge in business that fall as orders poured into the United States from European countries for arms and war equipment. The first regular transatlantic passenger air flight with twenty-two people aboard took place that year. That Pan American Airways airliner left Port Washington, Long Island and arrived in Lisbon, Portugal, 23 hours and 52 minutes later. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp.521,523,525.]

FAMILY VISITS

Emma's grandson John Mitchell spent part of his teenage years living with his father and step-mother in Suffolk, Virginia. Dr. Mitchell had established a practice there. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] But John would go to Mount Airy from time to time, even when his mother was living in California, to visit Emma and the rest of his family. It was on one of those trips that he met a woman who was a good friend of his cousin Beverly Bivens. That friend had grown up in Mount Airy, and her name was Alma Hines. [AHM, 20 May 1994.]

In the very early 1940s Annie returned from California, and after visiting her mother in Mount Airy, moved back to Washington, D.C., where she had been living before she moved west. [AHM, 21 Jun 1993 // ABM/PP, Jun 1940.] Annie became active in politics while living in Washington. [AHM, 17 Dec 1985.] She was a Democrat and loved President Franklin D. Roosevelt. [KMR, Mar 1978 // JBM, 15 Feb 1994.] At some point she became involved with helping the National Woman's Party. [NPC/UD, obtained 1980.] In the spring of 1941, Annie was invited to a garden party at The White

House by Mrs. Roosevelt. [ABM/PP, obtained 1980.] Emma was probably quite interested to hear about that from her daughter. [CMM, 7 Mar 1998.]

The Japanese naval and air forces attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, and soon after the United States declared war on Japan. Germany and Italy then declared war on the United States and the U.S. Congress adopted a resolution recognizing a state of war between the U. S. and those countries. Thus, the United States became embroiled in World War II. [AM/F&D, 1972, p. 530, 532.] Emma was seventy-six years old at the time. [CMM, 25 May 1998.]

Anne lived in Washington during the frantically busy World War II years. People, especially women, poured into the city. The war expanded opportunities for American women. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] Annie had quit working in the insurance business and while living in Washington, D.C., had gotten a job with the United States government. She worked for the General Accounting Office. [AHM, Fall 1996.]

Anne was in her early to mid-fifties during those years. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] Her sister Love and her family also lived in the Washington, D.C., area. Love's husband James Marsh Diffie, Jr., had founded a successful furniture store there. He had started the Colony House in 1936. Many years later when James retired, his son Bill took over running the store, and by the late 1990s Bill's sons, Michael and William, Jr., or "JR.," were running the store. By then it was located in nearby Arlington, Virginia. They sell fine quality furniture at the Colony House. [WSD/SR, 28 May, 1998.]

During the World War II years, Emma's other daughter Kathleen and her family were living in the Richmond, Virginia, area, close enough to visit with her sisters in Washington. But even with their busy lives, Emma's children and grandchildren still went back to Mount Airy from time to time to visit with her and Alma and the rest of the family living there. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

ANNE'S LETTERS

Several letters that Anne wrote to her mother from the early 1940s survive. Annie told her in great detail what she was doing from day to day. Emma must have enjoyed getting that news of her daughters. [ABM/PP, 7 Sep 1940 / 28 Dec 1940/ and undated.]

In one undated letter written to Emma and Alma in Mount Airy Annie said, among other things, that she had taken three of her "pieces" to the National Museum to enter them in a competition of some sort. She couldn't wait until after Christmas to begin classes in learning illumination or "decoration" as she called it. Annie was going to stay a week at her sister Love's house while Love went to Chicago with her husband James. She was also going to get down to writing the marriage ceremony (in calligraphy) for her son John Banner, as she called him. Annie was anxious to hear if John would be drafted the next Tuesday. She was looking forward to the election being over and said that since November 11 was a holiday and fell on a Monday she would have a long weekend. Because of that, she planned to go down to see her sister Kathleen. [ABM/LTR, undated.]

In December 1940, Anne wrote again to her mother and Alma. She said that "Christmas has come and gone again, and although I have no family to do for it seems that I was busy as a bee. I enjoyed my visit to Ashland. At the last minute I decided to stay a day longer. Kack [her sister Kathleen] and I went to Richmond with Lester Thursday and had a good time looking at antique shops. We made no purchases however. Kathleen is well but Lester is having trouble with his stomach [sic] again." She spoke of Kathleen, Lester, and herself going to the Angles' new home for eggnog on

Wednesday and of her son John Banner coming by for a few hours visit there at Kathleen and Lester's. "I was pleased to see him looking so well," she said.

Anne then discussed John's upcoming wedding and the plans in the works for that. She said she could have a little party and thanked Alma for offering to have a cake cutting at her house. She asked her mother and sister to see that Miss Cora Earp wrote it up properly in the paper, "the son of Dr. A. S. M. of Suffolk, and Mrs. A. B. M. of Wash.—etc."

Then, Anne wrote of the preparations and studying she was doing for the upcoming Civil Service Exams and told of her sister Love expecting "you all to come up very soon and I certainly hope you do." Annie also said, "Last night I went out to Loves for supper, and to see the three tier cake – and the birthday party she had. There were 11 little girls invited to dinner – turkey and all the fixings – flowers, favors etc. It was quiet elaborate, and the cake, made by Woodward's (9 pounds) was the very prettiest thing I ever saw. We ate after they got through and I didn't get home until ten o'clock."

Anne asked her "Mama" to check with Geo Sparger about clearing up an insurance matter for her and said, "Please tell Cousin Willie that I am so glad she is recovering and back with you again." She thanked her mother for "my nice little apron" and signed the letter "with much love, from Anne." [ABM/LTR, 28 Dec 1940.]

JOHN MARRIES

When Emma was seventy-five years old, her oldest grandson John Banner Mitchell got married in Mount Airy. He had come back to town often to visit the young friend of Beverly's. On February 22, 1941, John married Alma Stella Hines at the home of her parents, James Madison "Matt" and Stella Parker Hines, there in Mount Airy. [AHM, Mar. 1978.]

One evening after the rehearsal for that wedding, a cake cutting was held at the home of John's Aunt Alma and Uncle Biv to entertain the bridal party, friends and out of town guests. Acting as hosts along with his Aunt Alma and Uncle Biv, were their daughter Beverly and John's mother Anne. [NPA/UD, obtained 1979.]

John's father and his wife Louise did not attend the wedding. But all of his mother's sisters were there, and Emma must have enjoyed the opportunity to have her daughters together again. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

After the wedding John and Alma lived for a few months with his father and Louise in Suffolk, Virginia. Then, they moved back to Mount Airy and were there until the spring of 1942. About that time John and Alma moved to Baltimore, Maryland to work for the war effort. [AHM, Mar. 1978.]

Annie (and no doubt Emma) had worried earlier about John being drafted during the war. [ABM/PP, undated, obtained 1980.] However, he failed the military entrance physical when called up. John was classified 4-F. That was due to the bad motorcycle accident he had while living with his mother in California. His hip was still bothering him. It took John many years to get over hip and leg problems from that accident. [JBM, 18 Dec 1993.]

John and Alma wanted to help with the war effort. So did Emma's granddaughter Polly and her husband Norwood. John, Alma, Polly, and Norwood all left Mount Airy and moved to Baltimore where all four of them got jobs with the Glenn L. Martins aircraft company helping with the war build up. The

Glenn L. Martins plant built B-52 fighter planes during World War II. [AHM, Mar. 1978 / 2 Jul 1990.] Eventually all four of them would move back to Mount Airy. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

ANNE'S CHRISTMAS CARD

One Christmas Anne sent a commercially made Christmas card to Emma. In that undated card she wrote in part:

Dearest Mama – Your package came and I thank you so much for the lovely bath powder – but the thing which I prize most highly is your beautiful card, with a message written by your own hand – the very first I have ever had. I do appreciate it very much indeed.

Anne went on to say she was ashamed of sending that very ordinary card as she had planned to make one for Emma. However, she had been so swamped with orders that she had not had time to do her own. She then told her mother of one order for a card she did in calligraphy and illumination to be placed on the nurses desk at Emergency Hospital. She got \$3.50 for it and found that it was very well received by the man who had commissioned it. She ended her message to her mother with:

I do hope Kack and Lester will get to Mt. Airy for Christmas – and Beverly too. I expect to go to Balto, Thursday night – back Friday. Will work Sat morning and then to Loves for Sat night and Sunday.

With much love and the hope that next Christmas will see us all together again—

Lovingly

Anne.

[ABM/PP, undated.]

CARDS TO ANNIE

In March 1943, Emma wrote two postcards to her daughter Anne. The context in which she wrote them is unknown. She seemed to have been bothered or upset by something. On the front of the color cards, which were identical, was a winding mountain road with the caption “Fancy Gap Highway Near Mount Airy, N.C.” Each card had a green stamp affixed to it which showed a picture of the Statue of Liberty. The words on each stamp said “United States of America, Industry – Agriculture, For Defense, Postage 1 cent.”

Both postcards were written in pencil and were undated. They were each addressed to: Mrs. A. B. Mitchell, 227 B St. NE, Washington, DC. The dates given below are from the Mount Airy, North Carolina postmarks on the cards.

March 10, 1943

Dear Annie,

[First word/s hard to read because of postmark. Possibly, Wrote] my children a few lines and and [sic] my haste to get it mailed forgot to tell her to call you; or send it you I know you don't see each other very often. Hope you will do this when receive this card

Mama

March 17, 1943

My Dear Annie,

Your letter received yesterday. Hope I didn't convey the wrong idea in my note to Love; I am greatly relieved and very thankful I think you know how I feel: so sorry my children had to shoulder the burden. Hope it will come out right in the end.

Much love

Mamma

[MEB/PC, obtained, 1980.]

ANNE REMARRIES

Over the years Annie had not had much contact with her ex-husband, Dr. Arthur Swain Mitchell. He had remarried and lived for a number of years in Suffolk, Virginia with his second wife, Louise Ramey. They had married when his son John was still a little boy. [JBM, 28 Nov 1991.] Louise became ill with intestinal cancer but lived for over nine more years before it caused her death in the early 1940s. [JBM, 6 Feb 1980 / 28 May 1992.] Soon after her death Arthur Swain sold his half of the medical practice to his partner Dr. Carl Kauffman and moved to Clearwater, Florida. He stayed there until he remarried Anne. [CAK, 12 Dec 1991.]

A while after Louise died Arthur Swain began writing to Anne. His health was not particularly good, but he asked her if she would consider getting together with him again. At some point Anne agreed to his proposal, and they were remarried. [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

In February 1944, Arthur Swain wrote a letter from Clearwater, Florida to Anne's sister and his former sister-in-law. He said in part:

My Dear Kathleen –

Your nice letter, and post card from Mount Airy, received. I have purposely delayed answering it so as to give you time to get back to Sumpter. The nice things you said about me in your letter pleased me very much. As Annie can tell you, I have always been very fond of you also.

I am so sorry to hear that you have been feeling bad lately, and I sincerely hope the doctors found your trouble and can cure it. It is very bad to be sick...

I know now that you did not get a chance to enjoy the fruit I sent to Sumpter, because you had left before it arrived. So in a few more days I am going to send another basket to you and Lester. I'll bet he had a good time with that first basket...

Now [sic] doubt you have heard that Annie and I are planning to be married again next spring? We are both lots older now, and more sensible, so we should get along much better than the first time...

Well Kathleen I will close now, with best wishes for you and Lester I remain,
Affectionately,

Arthur

[ASM/LTR, 1 Feb 1944.]

Around the spring of 1944, Anne and Arthur Swain Mitchell were remarried in Washington, D.C., where Anne was living at the time. [JBM, 28 Nov 1991 // AHM, 7 Dec 1991.] They remained in Washington, D.C., and rented a home that was located near the house office building. [JBM, 30 Oct 1993.]

KATHLEEN'S DEATH

Kathleen and Lester Hawks had lived in various places over the years with their children. They had spent some time in Mount Airy but also in Greensboro, North Carolina and the Richmond, Virginia area. [JBM, 18 Feb 1998.]

At some point around the war years Kathleen and Lester had lived in Washington, D.C. Kathleen had worked in the furniture store owned by her sister Love's husband, James Diffie. Kathleen and Lester didn't live in Washington too long, however, before they moved back to Richmond. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

It was there that an unfortunate accident devastated the family. In 1944 Emma and John Lee's daughter Kathleen Banner Hawks was hit by a streetcar in Richmond, Virginia and killed. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.] Her daughter said Kathleen was 51 years old that August in 1944 when she was killed in Richmond. [PH, 10 Apr 1994.] She had been going to a bakery and was crossing a wide street when a streetcar hit her. [PH, 6 Feb 1980.]

Kathleen's daughter Polly was contacted about her mother's death while she was working in Baltimore. She and Norwood were still working at the Glenn L. Martins plant helping manufacture the B-52 fighter planes during the war. [AHM, 2 Jul 1990.] Kathleen was taken back to Mount Airy for burial. [JH, 26 Dec 1978.]

Emma was seventy-eight years old when her daughter was killed. The grief and sense of loss she felt at such a tragic accident must have been tremendous. [CMM, 21 Mar 1998.] World War II continued on that year. After months of preparation and suspense, the country learned that on June 6th Western Europe had at last been invaded by the Allies. It was called D-Day when the Allies invaded Normandy, France. The invasion involved more than 4,000 ships, about 3,000 airplanes and troops eventually numbering over four million. The public knew that fighting would grow more bitter and more costly as our armies drew closer to the Rhine River, but no one doubted the outcome. Similar successes were occurring in the Pacific. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 542, 544.]

MEALS WITH LITTLE SISTER

Emma lived in her home on South Main Street during her later years, but ate her meals with her daughter Alma Bivens or "Little Sister" as they still called her, who lived across the street. Emma always wore a hat when she went out even to go across the street.

When she was heading for Little Sister's she would go to the curb of the street and, as mentioned earlier, hold up her hand. Traffic would stop and she would proceed across the street to her daughter's home. That happened during the mid 1940's. Mount Airy was larger than a village at that time and there was right much traffic. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN

I am John Lee and Emma Banner's first great-grandchild and was born in Mount Airy, North Carolina, in 1945. I am the daughter of their grandson John Banner Mitchell and his wife Alma Hines Mitchell. [JBM, 30 Oct 1993 // AHM, 12 Dec 1995.] John and Alma had moved back from Baltimore to be in Mount Airy for my birth. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.]

My mother Alma said of Emma, or Granny Banner as we called her, "I know she was crazy about you. She had a fit over, Charlotte, her baby. You were the first great-grandchild. Every Sunday afternoon we'd take you down to see her. In the winter we'd sit in her parlor and back sitting room. In the summer we'd sit out on the front porch. You were at the stage where you'd dance around and she loved that." [AHM, 12 Dec 1995.] A couple of years after Emma's death my parents moved to Florida and I grew up there. [CMM, 8 Aug 1998.]

A list of all of John Lee and Emma Banner's great-grandchildren follows. All were born after Emma's death except me. [CMM, 11 Feb 1998.]

- 1) Charlotte Anne "Char" Mitchell, born 20 Jan 1945 in Mount Airy, NC, married James Iley "Jim" McDaniel in 1968 in Ormond Beach, FL. We have two sons: Scott Madison McDaniel, born 6 Feb 1970 in Savannah, GA, married Michelle Christine Lee in 1992 in Prince George County, VA. Mason Banner McDaniel, born 1 Mar 1973 in Landstuhl, West Germany, married Amy Kathryn Bass in 1996 in Prince George County, VA. Jim and I live in Springfield, VA. (I am the daughter of John Banner Mitchell and Alma Stella Hines.)
- 2) James Madison Hines "Jim" Mitchell, born 10 Sep 1947 in Mount Airy, NC, married first Suzanne Levone Smith in 1977 in Carnesville, GA. His second marriage was to Susan Lee Moog in 1997 in Lake Toxaway, NC. Jim and Sue have a son, Dylan Moog Mitchell, born 25 Jun 1998 in Alexandria, VA. Jim and Sue presently live in Leesburg, VA. (Jim is the son of John Banner Mitchell and Alma Stella Hines.)
- 3) John Chatham Olive, born 6 Jan 1949 in Mount Airy, NC, married Janice "Jan" Pajakowski in 1976 in Midway, KY. They have one son, John Courtney Olive, born 19 Mar 1977 in South Bend, IN. Chatham and Jan live in Charlotte, NC. (Chatham is the son of Beverly Banner Bivens and John Worth Olive.)
- 4) Worth Banner Olive, born 27 May 1950 in Mount Airy, NC, lives in Wilmington, NC. (Worth is the son of Beverly Banner Bivens and John Worth Olive.)
- 5) Kathleen Banner Hawks, born 1 Aug 1949 in Richmond, VA, married Edgar Robert "Bob" Walker, Jr., in 1970 in Richmond, VA. They have two children: Stephen Carey Walker, born 6 Jan 1976 in Virginia Beach, VA, and Jennifer Lee Walker, born 19 Mar 1978 in Virginia Beach, VA. Kathleen and Bob live in Virginia Beach, VA. (Kathleen is the daughter of John Lester Hawks and Alyce Gerber.)
- 6) James Raymond Smith II, born 26 Sep 1951 in Mount Airy, NC, first married Rosalind Heald in 1971 in Mount Airy, NC. Raymond and Rosalind had two children: Louisa Love Smith, born 23 Apr 1973, and Jamie Ross Smith, born 16 Aug 1974. Raymond then married Anne Rutledge in 1979 in Salisbury, NC. They have two sons, both of whom were born in Winston-Salem, NC: James Raymond Smith, III, born 20 Oct 1983, and Joseph Graham Rutledge "Rut" Smith, born 4 May 1990. Raymond and Anne live in Winston-Salem, NC. (Raymond is the son of Love Banner Diffie and Raymond Alfred Smith, Jr.)

- 7) Michael David "Mike" Smith, born 15 Feb 1955 in Winston-Salem, NC, married Stacey Bruneau in 1986 in Belmont, NC. Michael and Stacey live in Charlotte, NC. (Michael is the son of Love Banner Diffie and Raymond Alfred Smith, Jr.)
- 8) Love Anne Diffie, born 18 Jul 1957 in Washington, D.C., first married Patrick Loftis in Rockville, MD. They had two children, both of whom were born in Bethesda, MD: Tricia Love Loftis, born 10 Aug 1974, and Patrick William Loftis, born 6 Apr 1976. Love then married Mark Hampton Jones in 1982 in Bethesda, MD. Love's second husband Mark H. Jones adopted her first two children. They now use his surname and are known as Tricia Love Jones and Patrick William Jones. Love and Mark Jones have a son, Mark Hampton Jones, Jr., who was born in Silver Spring, MD on 21 Jun 1988. Love and Mark live in Germantown, MD. (Love is the daughter of William Sherman Diffie, Sr. and Genevive Lukasik.)
- 9) William Sherman "JR" Diffie, Jr., born 18 Jul 1957 in Washington, D.C., is the twin brother of Love. JR married Debbie Abeshaheen in 1991. They have four children, all born in Washington, D.C. Their children are: William S. Diffie, III, born 19 Aug 1991, David Abeshaheen Diffie, born 20 Sep 1993, Douglas Brent Diffie, born 23 Feb 1995, and Melanie Corrine Diffie, born 3 May 1997. JR and Debbie live in Arlington, VA. (JR is the son of William Sherman Diffie, Sr. and Genevive Lukasik.)
- 10) Deborah Jean "Debbie" Diffie, born 26 Nov 1958 in Washington, D.C., married James Edward "Jim" Fahy in 1979 in Garrett Park, MD. Their children, both born in Silver Spring, MD, are Rebecca Marie "Becky" Fahy, born 20 Mar 1980, and James Edward "Jimmy" Fahy, II, born 26 Jan 1982. Debbie and Jim live in Vienna, VA. (Debbie is the daughter of William Sherman Diffie, Sr. and Genevive Lukasik.)
- 11) Barry Michael Diffie, born 1 Aug 1960 in Washington, D.C., married Darlene Rae Eggena in 1997 in MD. Michael and Darlene live in Falls Church, VA. (Michael is the son of William Sherman Diffie, Sr. and Genevive Lukasik.)
- 12) James Standard "JR" Diffie lives in Ohio. (JR is the son of James Marsh Diffie, III, and Linda Mae Adams.)
- 13) Cynthia Lee "Cindy" Diffie was born 17 Jul 1959 in Washington, D.C. Andrew Hickman was the father of her first child, Linda Michelle, who was later adopted by Charles Ramer. Thus Cindy's daughter later became Linda Michelle Ramer. Linda Michelle was born 3 Mar 1977 in Louisville, KY. Cindy had married Charles Ramer. They had a son, Ryan Charles Ramer, born 4 Feb 1982 in Cleveland, OH. Cindy's present husband is Carl Gallucci. Their son is Christopher Andrew Gallucci, born 15 Feb 1994 in Conneaut, OH. Cindy and her family live in Medina, OH. (Cindy is the daughter of James Marsh Diffie, III, and Linda Mae Adams.)
- 14) Susan Ann Diffie, born 29 Jan 1962 in Washington, D.C., married Donald Jay "Don" Hess in 1985 in Seville, OH. Their son, Donald Robert Hess, was born on 24 Sep 1987 in Akron, OH. They live in Carmel, IN. (Susan is the daughter of James Marsh Diffie, III, and Linda Mae Adams.)
- 15) Mary Lynn Diffie, born 5 May 1963 in Washington, D.C., married James Maroun from Tupper Lake, NY, in 1982. They had one child, Aaron, who was adopted by Mary's second husband and now goes by the name Aaron Hooser. Aaron was born on 23 Jun 1984 in Winter Garden, FL. Mary's second husband is David Duane Hooser. They married in 1986 in Medina, OH. Mary and

David have a son, David Tyler Hooser, born 2 Nov 1988 in Medina, OH. They now live in Medina, OH. (Mary is the daughter of James Marsh Diffie, III, and Linda Mae Adams.)

[ABB/BFG, 1965.]
[BMD, 12 Jul 1998.]
[CDG, 16 Jun 1998.]
[CMM, 11 Feb 1998.]
[CO, 1997.]
[DDF, 25 May 1998.]
[GLD, 28 May 1998.]
[JEF, 24 May 1998.]

[KHW, Oct 1997.]
[LAD, 30 Jun 1998.]
[LDJ, 5 Jul 1998.]
[LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]
[MDH, 14 Jun 1998.]
[SDH, 10 Jun 1998.]
[WSD/JR, 21 May 1998.]
[WSD/SR, 28 May 1998.]

PINK AND WHITE QUILT

Granny Banner, or Emma, made a lovely pink and white quilt all by hand for me about the time I was born in 1945. She stressed to Alma Mitchell, my mother, that it was to be for me. [AHM, 12 Dec 1995.] I still have that quilt. It is beautifully done! That large quilt has a predominantly white background. Inset from the scalloped edges of the quilt is a solid pink border three and a half inches wide. From that pink border to the outer scalloped edges of the quilt is five inches. That outer area is made up of a series of alternating solid pink and solid white cones. They form the scalloped edge of the quilt.

Inside the solid pink inset border of the quilt, on a large solid white background, is a series of ten scalloped circles, rather daisy-like in appearance. Each circle is about thirteen inches in diameter and is composed of various strips of different colored floral or geometric fabrics. The designs in all of the various fabrics used in the circles are small with the predominant colors being yellow, green, pink, and blue.

At the center of each of those daisy-like floral circles is a white circle six inches in diameter that contains four solid pink petals. Those pink petals match the pink of the border (and also half the solid cones in the outer scalloped edge). The vast areas of solid white in the quilt, and the three and a half inch pink border as well, were all hand quilted by Emma. It was a beautiful job and a tremendous amount of work! [CMM, 29 Dec 1997.]

ARTHUR SWAIN'S DEATH

At the end of 1944, Emma and her daughter Alma went to Washington, D.C., to visit their family members living in the area. Anne wrote a letter to her son and his wife beginning "Dearest J. B. and Alma-" and dated "Wash - D. C. Jan - 1- 1944." [ABM/LTR, 1 Jan 1945.] The year was actually 1945, because she discussed my pending birth, and I was born on January 20, 1945. [CMM, 8 Mar 1998.] John and Alma Mitchell had returned after a few years in Baltimore to Mount Airy to await my birth, their first child.

In that letter she wrote to her son and daughter-in-law, Anne reported on Arthur Swain's declining health and she said in part:

His eyes are much better. He has been reading since a day or two before Alma and Mama left as they probably told you. He certainly gave me a "tussle" the week they were here - three "spells" in one week, and not a one since they left. He has finally

admitted that the sleeping medicine "might" be the cause, and has cut the dose down to two each night, with the result stated...He is weaker and thinner than he was last summer and suffers a great deal with his stomach... [ABM/LTR, 1 Jan 1945.]

On February 15, 1945, Arthur Swain Mitchell died in their home in Washington, D.C. [NPC/UD // JBM, 18 May 1980.] Anne decided to have Arthur Swain taken back to her hometown of Mount Airy. Anne's sister Alma opened her lovely home for a Sunday afternoon funeral service with Dr. C. N. Clark in charge. Arthur Swain was buried in Oakdale Cemetery. [NPA/MAT, 23 Feb 1945.] That was the same cemetery where John Lee had been buried. [CMM, 8 Mar 1998.]

Emma got to see some of her family who came into town for the service, including Love Diffie from Washington, D.C., her son-in-law Lester Hawks from Richmond, and Polly and Norwood who were still living in Baltimore at that time. [NPA/MAT, 23 Feb 1945.]

EMMA'S 80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

In October 1945 Emma was 80 years old. [CMM, 8 Mar 1998.] Emma's daughters gave her a big party for her 80th birthday and asked her who she wanted to invite. She said, "Everyone in town! The butcher, baker and candlestick maker, everyone who has been good to me." They had a "tremendous reception for her." According to a granddaughter, between 150 and 200 people came. [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

Her family gave that party for Emma. Alma Mitchell, the wife of Emma's grandson John Mitchell, and Emma's daughters Alma Bivens and Love Banner Diffie, were quite involved. They used silver and all the finest materials for the party. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

Emma wore a fine black dress trimmed with black beads. An orchid was on her shoulder. She was unable to stand in the receiving line for so long, so she sat in the drawing room and received everyone there. [KMR, Mar. 1978.] One of her granddaughters said, "Granny was in her glory--she loved the attention." [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

The party lasted a long time. When it was nearly over, Emma's son-in-law Judge Edward Chatham Bivens said "Mother Banner, I saw you kissing a few men in there." She replied, "I kissed all the good looking ones." [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

In the mid-1940s an article appeared in the local newspaper about that party which the family seemed to enjoy so much.

MRS. JOHN L. BANNER FETED BY DAUGHTERS ON 80TH BIRTHDAY

Mrs. J. M. Diffie, of Silver Spring, Md., Mrs. A. S. Mitchell, of Washington, D.C., and Mrs. E. C. Bivens entertained informally Thursday evening from 8 to 10 o'clock at the Bivens home on south main street, honoring their mother, Mrs. John L. Banner, on her 80th birthday anniversary.

Around one hundred friends and neighbors called between the hours of 8 and 10 o'clock. Judge and Mrs. E. C. Bivens greeted the guests upon arrival. Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Diffie and Mrs. A. S. Mitchell assisted in the drawing-room, where Mrs. Banner received, gowned in a black afternoon dress with purple orchid corsage.

A profusion of fall flowers provided a decorative background for the delightful affair.

A pink, green and white motif was carried out in the diningroom, where a beautiful birthday cake and the punch bowl graced the dining table. Cake, punch, nuts and mints were served by four granddaughters of the honoree, Mrs. H. D. Rozendal of Long Beach, Cal., Mrs. John Banner Mitchell, Mrs. Norwood Hodge and Miss Beverly Bivens of this city. [NPC/UD, obtained Feb. 1979.]

In her Banner Family history and genealogy, Emma's daughter Alma wrote of her mother's party that day. She said:

To honor mama on her 80th birthday, my sister Love, came down from Washington to join Annie, another sister, and me in giving a party in my home October 4th, 1945. Friends sent flowers; so many that the house looked like a flower shop. She insisted that we specify no presents, in the invitations extended; despite this request, many were sent as well as the flowers. She wore her "Sunday best dress", and seated in the drawing room, greeted the host of friends who came to offer congratulations. It was an informal party, so we mingled with the guests throughout the house. Mama had a keen sense of humor. I happened to be in the hall in sight of her, when Garnett (Bud) Fawcett came in – she kissed him! Teasingly, I said to her, "mama, are you kissing the gentlemen"? She laughed and said, "no, not all of them, only the pretty ones".

Refreshments were served in the dining room and everyone seemed to enjoy mama's party. [ABB/BFG, 1965.]

A lot was going on in the world the year Emma had her eightieth birthday party. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died in April 1945. He was succeeded by Vice-President Harry S. Truman. About six months before Emma's eightieth birthday party that year, Germany surrendered unconditionally to the Allies after almost six years of war. A few weeks before her birthday, the United States dropped two atomic bombs on Japan and soon thereafter Japan surrendered unconditionally. World War II was over!

Aside from the Allied victory, the biggest news that year was the development of atomic energy. And something odd happened that summer. A stir was caused one foggy Saturday morning in July of 1945 when the Empire State Building in New York City was struck by a B-25 bomber at the 78th and 79th floors. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 549-553 // CMM, 25 May 1998.]

ANNE RETURNS

At some point after Arthur Swain's death in Washington, D.C., Anne decided to move back to her hometown of Mount Airy, North Carolina. It was where her son and his family were living and where her mother and her sister Alma lived. [KMR, Mar. 1978 // AHM, 17 Dec 1985.] It is not known if she moved back before or after Emma's death. [CMM, 20 Feb 1998.]

Anne moved into an apartment on West Poplar Street above one rented by her son John and his wife and child. [AHM, Mar. 1978.] Some time after returning to town Anne had a small apartment building built for herself. She lived in one of the apartments and became a landlord renting out the other units. [KMR, Mar. 1978.]

EMMA'S DEATH

Emma was a heavyset woman and her granddaughter Polly guessed that she must have had high blood pressure. She was on some sort of medication. Polly thought that it must have been a pain killer, because Emma wanted it more often than they would give it to her.

She didn't know why Emma went through that talk about wanting to die when Polly was a teenager, because "she fought dying like a tiger." She guessed that Emma died of some type of a stroke, but she was sure that she did not die of cancer. [PH, 1 Apr 1990.]

Little Love said, "She went to bed one night and didn't wake up. I'm sure she probably had a massive heart attack or...she always said she hoped that's the way she went." She had been all right up to that point. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.]

Her grandson John Mitchell guessed about the cause of her death, "I think she had a heart attack, or a stroke one. She was a great big, fat woman. It might have been a stroke. I believe it was a stroke. She was up in her eighties." [JBM, Jun. 1977.]

Emma's Certificate of Death on file with the Vital Records Section of the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources says the date and time of her death was January 8, 1947, at 10:00 p.m. She was listed as the white widow of John L. Banner and her age was given as 81 years, 3 months and 4 days. It said she was the daughter of John Banner and Lou Prather, that she was born in Surry County, N.C., and lived on Main Street in Mount Airy, N.C. She died in a home on Main Street within the corporate limits of the town. It noted Emma had lived in that community her entire life. The information about Emma on the certificate of death was given by E. C. Bivens (her son-in-law).

The Certificate of Death was signed by Dr. A. J. Lovill of Mount Airy on January 9, 1947, and by the registrar, Mrs. J. C. Hill, on January 13, 1947. On the certificate the physician was instructed to underline the cause to which death should be charged in his description of the cause of death. Dr. Lovill underlined "Heart." He also wrote that he had been attending to Emma for over fourteen months. Dr. Lovill filled in the form as follows:

I certify that death occurred on the date above stated; that I attended deceased from Oct. 22, 1945 to Jan 8 1947 and that I last saw her alive on Jan 8 1947.

Immediate cause of death Cardiac Failure -- Hypertension Heart Disease

Due to Hypertension

Other conditions Angina Pectoris

Anemia secondary type [MEB/CD, 8 Feb. 1947.]

It appears that hypertension or high blood pressure lead Emma's heart to fail. [CMM, 16 May 1998 // WB/HMENC, 1980, p. 239.] "High blood pressure is a condition in which a person's blood pressure is persistently above normal...High blood pressure can be caused by a variety of conditions, and if the level remains high the patient is more likely to develop heart attack, stroke, or heart and kidney failure..." [WB/HMENC, 1980, p. 239.]

Angina pectoris, according to a medical encyclopedia, "was once the term for any pain in the chest, but it now refers to a specific condition that involves pain from the heart. The pain occurs because not enough oxygen reaches the heart muscle, especially following exercise. There is a tight feeling across the chest, which may later spread into the neck, jaw, shoulders, and to one or both arms as far as the hands...In most patients, however, pain is present only in some of these areas. Usually there is

shortness of breath and a feeling of faintness... Coronary heart disease (Arteriosclerosis) is the cause of angina pectoris. The condition is not in itself a heart attack, but may be either a warning that one could occur, or the immediate result of one." [WB/HMENC, 1980, p. 73.]

Anemia, which Emma had, "is any one of the disorders in which the blood has fewer than the normal number of red blood cells, or the red blood cells are deficient in hemoglobin... Hemoglobin gives blood its red color, and a person with anemia may be noticeably pale... Other symptoms of anemia include tiredness, headaches, dizziness, shortness of breath and palpitations after only slight exertion." [WB/HMENC, 1980, p. 69.]

According to a penciled entry on a DAR application form filled in by her daughter Anne, Emma died on January 9, 1947. [ABM/DAR, obtained late 1950's.] However, according to the records of the funeral home in Mount Airy that handled Emma's burial, Moody Funeral Home, she died on January 8, 1947. [MFS, 3 May 1998.] January 8, 1947 concurred with the date of death on Emma's Certificate of Death. [MEB/CD, 8 Feb 1947.]

Over fifty years later one of Emma's granddaughters, Little Love, remembered being away from her home when Emma died. When she heard of Emma's death she was upset and "cried and cried." But her parents told her to stay where she was and not come to Mount Airy for the funeral, which upset Love. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.]

The year of Emma's death, Harry S. Truman was still President. Economic equilibrium after the war was his chief concern. That was the year the first Negro baseball player in the National League, Jackie Robinson, signed to play ball with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Captain Charles E. Yeager piloted the first airplane to achieve supersonic speed during a test in California. [AM/F&D, 1972, pp. 556-559.] The auto maker, Henry Ford, also died that year leaving a fortune of \$625 million. And the United States gangster, Al Capone, died that year as well. [TIME/HST, 1991, p. 527.]

BURIAL

According to a granddaughter, Emma and John Lee were buried in Mount Airy, North Carolina. [KMR, late 1970s.] Another granddaughter said they were buried in Oakdale Cemetery in Mount Airy. Their plots were some of the originals there and are some of the first ones you come to as you go into the cemetery, up near the front. [LDS, 2 Feb 1994.] Emma's certificate of death confirmed that she was buried at Oakdale Cemetery and said she was buried on January 10, 1947. [MEB/CD, 8 Feb 1947.]

THE DAUGHTERS

John Lee and Emma's remaining daughters stayed in close touch with each other throughout the remainder of their lives. During her last few years, Anne (their eldest and my grandmother), moved from Mount Airy and lived in Ormond Beach, Florida, with her daughter Kacky. Her son John and his family lived nearby. After breaking her hip and being in declining health for a few years, she died in February 1967 at the age of 80. Anne was buried in Oakdale Cemetery in Mount Airy, North Carolina. [CMM, 29 Jan 1998.]

I was so sorry to lose her when I was in college. Anne, or "Auntie" as my brother and I called her, was a wonderful grandmother who was always protective of us and was a delight to be with. We loved her dearly. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.] As my brother Jim Mitchell said of her, "I always thought that she was really neat... Auntie was fun!" [JMHM, 28 Mar 1994.]

I treasured the times during my childhood when Aunt Love would show up, sometimes with her husband James, and sometimes without him. We sometimes visited with her in Mount Airy when she and we were in town at the same time, and other times we visited at our home in Florida. Even though there was a big difference in their ages Aunt Love and my grandmother, her big sister Annie, got along very well together. They were lively and lots of fun to be with. They were up in years and I was just a child, but I loved being in their company. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

John Lee and Emma's youngest daughter Love Diffie and her husband James lived in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, after his retirement from the furniture store he founded. [CMM, 29 Jan 1998.] Love died in Fort Lauderdale at the age of 68. According to a newspaper clipping, she was survived by her husband, James, her daughter Mrs. Raymond (Love) Smith of Mount Airy, and two sons, James M. Diffie III, of Ohio and William S. Diffie of Washington D.C.

Love was also survived by her sister Mrs. E. C. (Alma) Bivens and ten grandchildren. She was buried in Oakdale Cemetery in Mount Airy, North Carolina. [NPC/UD, obtained 1980.] Love's daughter confirmed that she died on April 29, 1971, and had ten grandchildren. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.] Love's husband James died in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on June 29, 1994. He was also buried at the Oakdale Cemetery in Mount Airy. [NPC/UD, obtained mid-1990s.]

Emma and John Lee's second daughter Alma lived longer than all of her sisters. In the 1950s and 1960s, when my parents would drive up to Mount Airy from our home in Florida to visit family and friends, we would visit Aunt Alma in her home. She always made us feel special and was always kind and gracious to us. Even as a child I enjoyed spending time with her and my grandmother either in Mount Airy or on Aunt Alma's trips to visit us in Florida. She went down there several times after her sister Anne moved there to be near her children. [CMM, 18 Feb 1998.]

Alma outlived her husband, all of her sisters, and her only child Beverly B. Olive as well. Alma's husband Judge Edward Chatham Bivens died in 1958 in Mount Airy. Her daughter Beverly died on September 21, 1974. [JCO, 1997.] Beverly had been ill for about twelve years before her death at the age of fifty-five. [NPC/UD, obtained 1979.] She had suffered from multiple sclerosis for many years before her death. [CMM, 25 May 1998.]

Alma Banner Bivens died in 1976. [WPB/HST, 1979, p.151.] She died in Mount Airy and was buried there in Oakdale Cemetery. [LDS, 22 Mar 1998.] That was where her husband and daughter were buried. Alma was about 87 years old at the time of her death. [CMM, 1 Feb 1998.]

JOHN LEE AND EMMA'S HOME DEMOLISHED

Over thirty-five years after Emma's death the home that she and John Lee had built and lived in with their daughters was demolished. It was a sad time for their granddaughter Polly Hodge, who still lived in Mount Airy. From her home at 148 West Poplar Street, Polly wrote to me about it. Her letter was postmarked October 17, 1983, and the envelope had a 20 cent stamp with a picture of the U.S. flag on it. Polly wrote in part:

Dear Char,

I don't know when I've gotten such a nice letter as I got from you. I enjoyed every word of it and thank you so much...

...The only news I have of interest to you is that the town has bought Granny Banner's house and is going to tear it down to make a park of sorts. It makes me real mad that they can take whatever property they want. I knew it was pending but when I read it in the paper, I boiled up. They paid \$100,000 for it and the little lot next to it on the corner which should have been Norwood's. When I read the account I said "Well thank you Miss Alma." Norwood was the high bidder when it was sold and had made all arrangements with the Dr. to convert it into a Doctor's clinic. When miss Alma found out who made the bid, they let it go to next lower bid who has had it ever since.

I really hate to see it come down as I have so many memories from the time your Dad and I were just little kids all the way to Granny's death many years later. The house has been used for several years as part of the Health Dept., so I have made arrangements to go in it after they vacate. I want to see it one more time as I want something from it if nothing more than a brick. It will be changed, I know, from how I remember it but anyhow--Its been 30 some years since I was last in it. Before its all over with, the town will own the whole block, as they pretty much do now....

Much love,
Polly

September 4, 1983

P.S. This got misplaced but decided to go on and mail it anyway. Its Monday Oct 17 today. That's slow!!!

Granny's house is down and the mayor forgot to call me when I could go into see it once again.

Anyway, next time you are in Mt. Airy, I have a brick or 2 from the house if you want 1 to keep. Also, have a call in to the lawyer who handled it all to ask him what year it was built, as I just want to know. I think it was after your grandmother [Anne Banner Mitchell] was born but I'm not sure. [PH/LTR, 4 Sep 1983 & 17 Oct 1983.]

I did get a brick from John Lee and Emma Banner's home from Polly on a subsequent visit in Mount Airy. I still have it. [CMM, 23 Jan 1998.]

Agnes Wells, a prominent genealogist living in Mount Airy, wrote to me in 1997. She said, "Today's location of the Banner house is the site of a small park." [AMW, 19 Sep 1997.]

ADDITIONAL SOURCE INFORMATION

1870 Census – (1870/CEN) The 1870 United States census for Mount Airy Township in Surry County, N.C. Found in the United States National Archives in Washington, D.C., Box No. 1161, p. 1.

1880 Census – (1880/CEN) The 1880 United States census for Mount Airy Township in Surry County, N.C. Found in the United States National Archives in Washington, D.C., Supervisor's District No. 4, Enumeration District No. 175, p. 37.

1900 Census – (1900/CEN) The 1900 United States census for Mount Airy Township in Surry County, N.C. Found in the United States National Archives in Washington, D.C., Roll No. 1219, Call No. T623, Supv. Dist. No. 6, Enumeration District No. 113, Sheet No. 25, Line No. 88.

1910 Census – (1910/CEN) The 1910 United States census for Mount Airy Township in Surry County, N.C. Found in the United States National Archives in Washington, D.C., Roll No. 1133, Call No. T624, Enumeration District No. 137, Sheet No. 15A, Line 37.

1920 Census – (1920/CEN) The 1920 United States census for Mount Airy Township in Surry County, N.C. Found in the United States National Archives in Washington, D.C., Supv. Dist. No. 5, Enumeration District No. 258, Sheet No. 35A.

1920 Census – (1920/CEN) The 1920 United States census for Petersburg City in Dinwiddie County, VA. Found in the U.S. Archives in Washington, D.C., Supv. Dist. No. 4, Enumeration District 75, Sheet No. 6A, Line 5.

Abstracts of Births, Deaths, Marriages & Other Items of Interest From Mount Airy, North Carolina Newspapers 1872-1895 – (ABST/NEWS) compiled by Agnes M. Wells, Virginia G. Phillips, and Carol J. Leonard, 1987. Obtain by contacting Agnes M. Wells, Mount Airy, NC.

“Anemia” / The World Book Illustrated Home Medical Encyclopedia – (WB/HMENC) vol. I, Medical Reference Guide, A-H, Chicago, World Book—Childcraft International, Inc., 1980, p. 69.

“Angina Pectoris” / The World Book Illustrated Home Medical Encyclopedia – (WB/HMENC) vol. I, Medical Reference Guide, A-H, Chicago, World Book—Childcraft International, Inc., 1980, p. 73.

“Arteriosclerosis” / The World Book Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center Medical Encyclopedia – (WB/MEDENC) Chicago, World Book, Inc., 1991, p. 51.

Banner, John Lee / Certificate of Death – (JLB/CD) Obtained from the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Division of Archives and History, Archives and Records Section, S.123.138, file # 723, p. 437, register # 64, certificate filed Oct. 16, 1922, copy issued May 6, 1998.

Banner, Mary Emma / Autograph Book – (MEB/AB) An autograph book titled Autographs of My Florida Friends that belonged to Emma Banner. She visited her daughter Anne Banner Mitchell and her grandchildren in St. Augustine, FL in the winter of 1926-1927. A few pictures are in the

book as well as some autographs of some of Annie's friends. The autograph book was in the possession of Anne's daughter Kacky at the time of Kacky's death in 1980. I now have it.

Banner, Mary Emma / Certificate of Death – (MEB/CD) Obtained from the North Carolina Department of Health and Natural Resources, Vital Records Section, vol. 47, p. 001364, certificate date Feb. 8, 1947, copy issued May 11, 1998.

Banner, Mary Emma / Postcard – (MEB/PC) Two postcards written by Emma in 1943 to her daughter Annie Mitchell. Those cards were in the possession of Anne's daughter Kathleen Mitchell Rozendal at the time of Kathleen's death in 1980. They are now in my possession.

Banner, William Perry / The Banner Family of North Carolina, History and Genealogy – (WPB/HST) Asheville, N.C., published by William P. Banner, 1979. This book is a history and genealogy of Henry Banner and his descendants covering the time period 1723-1979. A copy is in my possession.

Barrett, Lorna W. – (LWB) I received a photocopy of page 8 of a book by Lorna W. Barrett from her "delayed births book." The exact title and publication date of the book was not given. The material covered the birth dates, place, and parents of some members of the Banner family. I received the photocopy from Agnes Wells of Mount Airy in May 1998.

Barrett, Lorna W. / Marriages of Surry County, N. C. 1869-1899 – (LWB/MAR) Compiled by Lorna W. Barrett, 1992, p. 6. Publication may be ordered from Agnes M. Wells, Mount Airy, NC.

Better Homes and Gardens Family Medical Guide – (FMG), ed. by Donald G. Cooley, New York, Better Homes and Gardens Books, 1973, pp. 292-293, 900.

Bivens, Alma Banner / Banner Family Genealogy – (ABB/BFG) The second daughter of John Lee and Mary Emma Banner. Alma lived her entire life in Mount Airy and married Judge Edward Chatham Bivens, and they had one child, Beverly, who married John Worth Olive. Beverly and John had two sons, Chatham and Worth. In 1965, when she was 76 years old, Alma Banner Bivens wrote a Banner family genealogy and remembrances for several members of her family. It was handwritten and dealt with her mother's side of the family. Both her mother (Mary Emma) and father (John Lee) were Banners. They were distantly related. In June 1979, Alma's grandson Chatham Olive let me borrow his copy of the book to type some of the information for myself. Then in 1997 he let me borrow her actual scrapbook that had a lot more material in it as well. Some old newspaper clippings were glued into the scrapbook. In August 1985, Alma's nephew John L. Hawks made a photocopy of his Banner family history done by Alma and gave it to me. The booklets and scrapbook contain a lot of useful information.

Bivens, Alma Banner / The Mount Airy News – (ABB/TMAN), "Looks Back On Mount Airy's Past," The Mount Airy News, p. 1A, October 7, 1975. An article written by John Lee and Emma's daughter Alma describing the town of Mount Airy, where her family lived in 1897, and what it was like during her childhood about that time.

Boat Painting – (BOAT/P) A painting that was given to Emma by her daughter Anne in 1926. It is of shrimp boats in St. Augustine, FL. It is signed Scheibner. The painting was in the possession of Emma's granddaughter Kacky at the time of Kacky's death in 1980. The small painting was then given to me by Kacky's brother John Banner Mitchell.

Cardwell, Judy Stanley – (JSC) A distant Banner cousin and Banner family genealogist who has shared a lot of Banner family material with me via the Internet. Most of the material from Judy was obtained in 1997. She lives in Winston-Salem, NC, and is quite familiar with the early Banners and where they lived.

Carter, William Franklin, Jr., and Carter, Carrie Young / Footprints in the Hollows or Surry County and her People – (CARTER/HOL) Printed by the Northwestern Regional Library, Elkin, NC, 1976.

Chaffin, Tom / The Atlanta Journal and Constitution – (TC/AJ&C) September 16, 1990, Atlanta, GA, p. M1. An article on “The Andy Griffith Show,” as seen on television, and also Mount Airy, NC.

“City Incorporated Over 95 Years Ago” / Mount Airy Times – (INC/MAT) May 22, 1980, Mount Airy, NC. An unsigned article on the history of Mount Airy.

Clark, Walter, editor / Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War 1861 – '65 – (WC/WAR) Written by members of the respective commands. Published by the state, Raleigh, E. M. Uzzell, Printer and Binder, 1901. Reprinted by Broadfoot’s Bookmark, Wendell, NC, 1982. Captain Matt Manly of Company D wrote a history of the Second Regiment to which Emma’s father John Elisha Banner was assigned during the Civil War. Manly told what it was like to be at Appomattox on the day of the surrender. He also told of the members of the various companies in their regiment who were present that day. Among them was John E. Banner of Company A.

Clewell, John Henry / History of Wachovia in North Carolina – (JHC/WACH) NY, Doubleday, Page & Co., 1902, Facsimile Reprint, Bowie, MD, Heritage Books, Inc., 1991, pp. 191-335. The book describes the place in Winston-Salem where Anne Banner went away to school.

Collections And Recollections – (C&R) Memphis, TN, Wimmer Brothers Books, 1985, p.96. This is a book that was published by the Mount Airy Restoration Foundation, Inc. in Mount Airy, North Carolina. It is: “A collection of memories, recipes and recollections that reflect our early beginnings.” Ed Brannock, a retired fire chief, talked of a fire at the John Banner home in this book. There was much more information in the book from various people telling what Mount Airy was like in the early years of the town when John Lee and Emma lived there. There was a photograph of the Banners’ home in the book also.

“Commercial Club Dance 1914” / The Mount Airy News – (CCD/TMAN) February 24, 1976, Mount Airy, NC, p. 6B. An issue telling of the town of Mount Airy, NC and its people in earlier years.

Company Muster Roll / Roll of Prisoners of War – (CMR/RPW) Information on Emma’s father, John Elisha Banner. A record of when “2 Sergt John E. Banner” was paid every two months for the years 1863 and 1864 during the Civil War. He fought with the Confederate army and was with Company A of the 2nd Regiment North Carolina Infantry. His name also appeared on a record of prisoners of war who were paroled at Point Lookout, MD in 1864. Both records were found at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

Davids, Richard C. / The Man Who Moved a Mountain – (RCD/MAN) Philadelphia, Fortress Press, 1970, pp. xi-xii, 1-14, 33-36. This book was written about Bob Childress, a mountain man who became a preacher. He grew up and later lived in the Virginia mountains not far from Mount Airy. He wrote about the Allen massacre.

Diffee, Barry Michael – (BMD) John Lee and Emma's great-grandson. The grandson of Love Banner Diffee and James M. Diffee, Jr. The son of William Sherman Diffee, Sr. and Genevive Lukasik. I spoke with Michael on the phone in July 1998. He gave me information on himself and his wife Darlene. They live in Falls Church, VA.

Diffee, Genevive Lukasik "Gen" – (GLD) The wife of John Lee and Emma's grandson William S. "Bill" Diffee, Sr. (See below). She worked with her husband at their furniture store, Colony House, and continued to work part time there after her husband retired and her sons took over running the business. I spoke with both Gen and Bill, Sr. on the phone in May 1998, and they were most helpful in giving me material on their side of the family.

Diffee, Linda Adams – (LAD) The wife of John Lee and Emma's grandson James Marsh Diffee, III. I spoke with Linda in June 1998 by phone, and she gave me some information on her late husband and herself and her family. Linda and James had four children: James, Cindy, Susan and Mary. Linda lives in Medina, OH.

Diffee, William Sherman, Jr. "JR" – (WSD/JR) John Lee and Emma's great-grandson. The grandson of Love Banner Diffee and James Marsh Diffee, Jr. The son of William Sherman Diffee, Sr., and Genevive Lukasik. William Jr. is called "JR" to distinguish him from his father. That happened years ago when JR started working at the family furniture store where his father worked. That store, the Colony House, founded in 1936 by JR's grandfather, James M. Diffee, Jr. is located in Arlington, VA. They sell fine quality furniture. I met with JR in his office in May 1998 at the Colony House. He was very helpful in giving me names and dates for his children and some information on other members of his family. JR and his wife Debbie and family live in Arlington, VA.

Diffee, William Sherman, Sr. "Bill" – (WSD/SR) John Lee and Emma's grandson. The son of their daughter Love Hilliard Banner and her husband James Marsh Diffee, Jr. I spoke with Bill and his wife Genevive Lukasik "Gen" Diffee in May 1998 on the telephone. They were helpful in giving me information on their children, grandchildren, and some material on Bill's late twin brother Jim and Jim's family. Bill and his brother Jim took over running the Colony House furniture store (founded by their father James in 1936) when James retired in 1958. A few years after that, Bill's brother Jim moved to Medina, OH, to open his own furniture store, Lexington House. Bill continued to run the Colony House in Arlington, VA until he retired and turned it over to his sons William, Jr., called "JR," and Michael. Bill and Gen had four children: Love, William Jr. ("JR"), Debbie, and Michael. Bill and Gen live in Fort Lauderdale, FL part of the year and will soon move to Gainesville, VA after living in Gaithersburg, MD for some time.

"Directory of Surry County Historic Sites" / The Mount Airy News – (HST/TMAN) February 24, 1976, Mount Airy, NC, p. 8C. An issue telling of the town of Mount Airy, NC and its people in earlier years.

Drake, Paul / What Did They Mean By That? – (PD/WMT?) Bowie, MD, Heritage Books, Inc., 1994, p.26. A dictionary of historical terms for genealogists.

The Encyclopedia of American Facts and Dates – (AM/F&D) ed. by Gorton Carruth and Associates, New York, Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1972. A book filled with many events that happened in America year by year.

- "Explosion, Fire Hit Main Street" / The Mount Airy News – (EXP/TMAN) February 24, 1976, Mount Airy, NC. A reprint of an old article in that newspaper telling of a bad fire in Mount Airy many years earlier.
- Fahy, James Edward "Jim" – (JEF) The husband of Deborah Diffie "Debbie" Fahy. She is a great-granddaughter of John Lee and Emma. I spoke with Jim on the telephone in May 1998, and he gave me birth information for himself and their two children.
- Fahy, Deborah Jean Diffie "Debbie" – (DDF) A great-granddaughter of John Lee and Emma. The granddaughter of Love Banner Diffie and James M. Diffie, Jr. The daughter of William Sherman Diffie, Sr. and Genevive Lukasik. I spoke with Debbie in May 1998, by telephone. She gave me additional information on her family and other family members. She and her family are presently living in Vienna, VA.
- Family Bible Page – (FBP) The "Family Register" page, front and back, from a Bible. The rest of the Bible was missing. It had belonged to Anne Banner Mitchell and the family information was in her handwriting. The page was found in the possession of Anne's daughter Kathleen Mitchell "Kacky" Rozendal at the time of Kacky's death in 1980. I was given the page at that time.
- Family Tree Maker – (FTM) Version 4.0B, Broderbund Software, Inc. August 5, 1997. The computer genealogy software program I use.
- "Fourth Of July Celebration" / The Mount Airy News – (4th/TMAN) February 24, 1976, Mount Airy, NC. A reprint of a 1913 newspaper article telling of the Fourth of July celebration in Mount Airy for that year.
- "Franklin Delano Roosevelt," / The World Book Encyclopedia – (FDR/WBE) 1976 ed., vol. 16, Chicago, Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, p. 412.
- Gabaldon, Diana / Drums of Autumn – (quote after the Introduction), N. Y., Dell Publishing Group, Inc., 1997, p. 757.
- Gallucci, Cynthia Lee Diffie "Cindy" – (CDG) The great-granddaughter of John Lee and Emma Banner. The granddaughter of Love Banner Diffie and James M. Diffie, Jr. The daughter of James and Linda Adams Diffie. I spoke with Cindy in June 1998, by telephone, and she gave me information about herself, her husband Carl and her children. They presently live in Medina, OH.
- "Great Depression" / The World Book Encyclopedia – (GD/WBE) 1976 ed., vol. 8, Chicago, Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, pp. 340a-340c.
- Grun, Bernard / The Timetables of History – (TIME/HST) New York, Simon & Schuster, 1963, 1991. A book filled with many events happening in the world year by year.
- Havill, Georgiana / The Washington Post – (GH/WP) "Welcome to Mayberry. Really," April 24, 1994, p. E1. An article about "The Andy Griffith Show," which was on television and also about the town of Mount Airy, NC.
- Hawks, John – (JH) The grandson of John Lee and Emma. The son of Kathleen Banner Hawks and P. Lester Hawks. I spoke with John in person a couple of times in the 1970s and 1980s and asked

him questions about the Banner family. I wrote down his answers in a notebook. He lived in Richmond, VA with his wife Alyce before his death in 1986. Their daughter is Kathleen Hawks Walker of Virginia Beach, VA.

Hennis, Myrtle Hines Foy "Sis" – (SH) Her grandparents lived next door to John Lee and Emma. She was a good friend of the Banners' granddaughter Beverly Bivens Olive, who lived across the street from John Lee and Emma. Sis was also a good friend of Alma Hines Mitchell, the wife of John Lee and Emma's grandson John Mitchell. I have spoken with Sis several times in the 1980s and 1990s. She and her husband, Sam Hennis, live in Mount Airy, NC.

Hess, Susan Diffie – (SDH) A great-granddaughter of John Lee and Emma Banner. The granddaughter of Love Banner Diffie and James M. Diffie, Jr. The daughter of James M. Diffie, III and Linda Adams Diffie. I spoke with her by phone in June 1998. She gave information on herself, her husband Don, and her son. They live in Carmel, IN, at the present time.

"High Blood Pressure" / The World Book Illustrated Home Medical Encyclopedia – (WB/HMENC) vol. I, Medical Reference Guide, A-H, Chicago, World Book—Childcraft International, Inc., 1980, p. 239.

Hodge, Mary Lee Hawks "Polly" – (PH) The granddaughter of John Lee and Emma. The daughter of Kathleen Banner Hawks and P. Lester Hawks. I spoke with Polly numerous times during the 1980s and 1990s and asked her questions about the Banner family both on the phone and during visits to her home. I wrote Polly's answers in notebooks at the time of the discussions. Polly and her husband Norwood Hodge lived in Mount Airy, NC, for most of their married lives. In the mid-1990s they sold their home in Mount Airy and moved into a retirement / nursing home in Myrtle Beach, SC, to be near Norwood's niece. They had no children.

Hodge, Polly / Letter – (PH/LTR) A letter Polly wrote and mailed to me in Springfield, VA, in 1983 telling of the demolition of John Lee and Emma's home.

Hollingsworth, J. G. / History of Surry County or Annals of Northwest North Carolina, – (JGH/HST) pub. by J. G. Hollingsworth, [no other publisher listed] 1935.

Hooser, Mary Lynn Diffie – (MDH) A great-granddaughter of John Lee and Emma Banner. The granddaughter of Love Banner Diffie and James M. Diffie, Jr. The daughter of James M. Diffie, III and Linda Adams Diffie. I spoke with Mary by phone in June 1998. She gave me information on her family and husband David. They live in Medina, OH.

"How State Has Grown" / The Mount Airy News – (GRO/TMAN) February 24, 1976, Mount Airy, NC. A newspaper article giving the population numbers for the state of North Carolina for each decade taken from each federal census through 1950.

Hudgins, Elizabeth Banner "Lib" – (LBH) Lib was born in 1918 in Mount Airy, NC, and married Daniel Edward Hudgins. They had one child, Elizabeth "Betty" Hudgins Spinner. Lib is the daughter of Emma's cousin John Banner and his wife Johnnie May Roberts of Mount Airy. Lib is Emma's first cousin once removed. In 1997 she reviewed and added to some family group sheets I sent on her side of the Banner family. She was able to give me a lot more information on relationships and names, births, deaths, and marriages. I also got information from her on the telephone about that time. Lib lives in Greensboro, NC.

"Industrial Growth Has Significant Heritage, Place In Surry History" / Mount Airy Times – (GRO/MAT) May 21, 1971, Mount Airy, NC, pp. 9C – 12C. A newspaper article covering much of the business and industrial history and growth of the Mount Airy area.

Jackson, Hester Barlett, editor / The Heritage of Surry County North Carolina, Volume I – (HBJ/HERIT) published by the Surry County Genealogical Association in cooperation with Hunter Publishing Co., Winston-Salem, NC, 1983, p.624.

Jones, Love Diffie – (LDJ) A great-granddaughter of John Lee and Emma. The granddaughter of Love Banner Diffie and James Marsh Diffie, Jr. The daughter of William Sherman "Bill" Diffie, Sr., and Genevive Lukasik. I spoke with Love by phone in July 1998. She gave me information on her family. Love and her husband Mark live in Germantown, MD.

Kallam, Wallace / Kallam Cemetery Book – (WK/CEM) A series of over two dozen books of cemetery surveys conducted by the author in parts of North Carolina and Virginia. I obtained a photocopy of the material on some Banner family tombstones in Oakdale City Cemetery in Mount Airy, NC, from one of Kallam's books. The page number was 103. However, the Volume number and date of publication was not noted on the photocopy. I obtained the copy in May 1998 from Agnes Wells of Mount Airy.

Kallam, Lemuel Wallace / Surry County Old and New – (LWK/O&N) vol. I, 1984, pp. 12-13. A book giving information on Surry County, NC, and the town of Mount Airy.

Kauffman, Dr. Carl A. – (CAK) A business partner in the medical practice of Dr. Arthur Swain Mitchell in Suffolk, VA. Dr. Kauffman kept in touch with Arthur Swain's son John Mitchell over the years. Dr. Kauffman and I exchanged letters and phone calls in 1991. He was helpful in giving me information about Arthur Swain and his life. Dr. Kauffman was 86 years old in 1991.

McMichael, Margaret Beard – (MBM) Emma Banner's niece. The daughter of Emma's sister, Margaret "Maggie" Banner Beard. I spoke with her about the Banner family and wrote down what Margaret remembered. She was 81 years old when I spoke with her on the telephone in April 1990. Margaret lived in Durham, NC at that time.

Minick, Ruth / Mount Airy Times – (RM/MAT) "Mount Airy History Stretches Way Back," February 15, 1979, p. 1B. An article discussing Mount Airy's history and giving the dates of many firsts in town. The article is by a prominent Mount Airy historian.

Mitchell, Alma Hines – (AHM) The first wife of John Banner Mitchell, John Lee and Emma's grandson. My mother, Alma, knew Emma in her later years. It was during the early years of her marriage to John. She was also a good friend of John Lee and Emma's granddaughter Beverly Bivens Olive.

Mitchell, Anne Banner – (ABM) The oldest daughter of John Lee and Emma Banner. The mother of Kathleen Mitchell "Kacky" Rozendal and my father John Banner Mitchell. Anne was my grandmother. When I was a young teenager, about 1960, I asked her for information about her childhood and young adulthood. I wrote down the information she gave me on a couple of pieces of paper that I still have. Also, in late 1953 or early 1954 Anne sent a newspaper article to my brother and me, her grandchildren, about a poem mentioning Cock Robin. She wrote a message at the top saying that her parents had read Cock Robin to her as a child.

Mitchell, Anne Banner / DAR Application – (ABM/DAR) When I was about 13 years old, in the late 1950s, my grandmother Anne gave me an application to join the Daughters of the American Revolution. She told me I could join if I wanted to when I was older. Anne had filled out the lineage portion of the application for me with the names of my ancestors and some dates. Beginning with me it went back 9 generations. Most of the information was filled out in dark ink. Some of the dates or places she penciled in lightly. Anne's daughter Kacky told me in the late 1970s that her mother got the information for the application from a family Bible in the possession of Mary Margaret Hollingsworth _____. She did not know her married name.

Mitchell, Anne Banner / Family Bible – (ABM/FB) On both July 16th and July 22, 1938, Anne Banner Mitchell made two copies, one each day, of family information. They were handwritten in Mount Airy, NC, on long yellow legal paper and contained the names and some dates of family members and their children. The material was copied from an old Bible. Anne's daughter Kacky had them at the time of Kacky's death in 1980. The papers were then given to me by my father John B. Mitchell, Kacky's brother. Those papers are now in my possession.

Mitchell, Anne Banner / Letter – (ABM/LTR) Letters or cards written by Anne to various members of her family. They were in the possession of either her daughter Kacky, or her ex-daughter-in-law Alma Mitchell. They are now in my possession.

Mitchell, Anne Banner / Personal Papers – (ABM/PP) Papers, invitations, letters, and cards she wrote or received, receipts, etc. that were in the possession of Anne at the time of her death in 1967. Her daughter Kacky had them when she died in 1980. They were given to me by my father and Anne's son, John B. Mitchell. He found them when he went through his sister's belongings after her death.

Mitchell, Arthur Swain / Letter – (ASM/LTR) On February 1, 1944 Arthur Swain, my grandfather, wrote a letter from Clearwater, FL to his (at that time) ex-sister-in-law Kathleen Banner Hawks. She was Emma and John Lee's daughter. In 1985, Kathleen's son John Hawks sent me the letter, and it is now in my possession.

Mitchell, James Madison Hines "Jim" – (JMHM) Emma and John Lee's great-grandson. The grandson of Arthur Swain Mitchell and Anne Banner Mitchell. The son of John Banner Mitchell and his wife Alma Hines. My brother. I have spoken with Jim numerous times about our grandparents. Jim and his wife Sue and their son presently live in Leesburg, VA.

Mitchell, John Banner – (JBM) The grandson of John Lee and Mary Emma Banner. The son of Anne Banner Mitchell and Arthur Swain Mitchell. My father. I spoke with him many times about his family and wrote down many of his answers at the time of our discussions.

Mitchell, John Banner / Birth Certificate – (JBM/BC) A copy of John B. Mitchell's birth certificate that is on file with the Virginia Department of Health in Richmond, VA.

Moody Funeral Services, Inc. – (MFS) The funeral home in Mount Airy, NC, that handled the funeral arrangements at the time of John Lee and Mary Emma Banner's deaths. After consulting their records they gave me the birth and death dates for both of them.

Muster Roll – See Company Muster Roll / Roll of Prisoners of War.

"Nephritis" / The World Book Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center Medical Encyclopedia – (WB/MEDENC) Chicago, World Book, Inc., 1991, p. 594.

Newspaper Article / The Mount Airy News – (NPA/TMAN) Various newspaper articles printed or reprinted in Mount Airy, NC, newspapers which were obtained from family members. Some articles were reprints from newspapers from years before such as the one printed on February 24, 1976, describing the Allen Massacre of 1912 and the Fulton house party Alma Banner attended.

Newspaper Article / Mount Airy Times – (NPA/MAT) Newspaper article published in Mount Airy, NC, on May 21, 1971, telling of the history of the local granite quarry and the people of Mount Airy.

Newspaper Clipping / Undated – (NPC/UD) Undated newspaper clippings obtained from family members. Many came from the scrapbook of Alma Hines Mitchell, who married John Lee and Emma's grandson John Mitchell. Others were in the possession of their granddaughter Kacky Mitchell Rozendal at the time of her death in 1980 or in a scrapbook / genealogy that Alma Banner Bivens put together.

Newspaper Picture – (NPP) Picture from unnamed Mount Airy newspaper of Love Banner's school class for the school year 1910-11. An old photo of the students of the Rockford Street School. The paper ran the picture in Jan. 1994. Obtained from Sis Foy Hennis in February 1994.

Newspaper Picture / The Mount Airy News – (NP/TMAN) Mount Airy, NC, February 24, 1976. An issue of the Mount Airy newspaper that told of the town and its people in prior years as well as reprinting old pictures. Two of the old pictures were of Alma Banner. One was said to be taken in 1909, and the other in the early 1900s. Another was of friends of Alma's who attended the Fulton house party.

Olive, John Chatham – (JCO) The great-grandson of John Lee and Emma. The grandson of Alma Banner Bivens and Edward Chatham Bivens. The son of Beverly Bivens and John Olive of Mount Airy, NC. Chatham reviewed some family group sheets and gave me some dates concerning the lives of his side of the family. In 1997 and earlier he shared with me a lot of material his grandmother Alma Bivens had written or accumulated about Mount Airy and her family. Chatham lives with his wife Janice "Jan" in Charlotte, NC.

Phillips, Laura A. W. / Simple Treasures – (LP/TREAS) Surry County Historical Society, 1987, p.166. A photograph and description of John Lee and Emma's home at 224 South Main Street in Mount Airy, NC. Agnes Wells of Mount Airy shared a photocopy of that material with me in September 1997.

Photograph – (PHOTO) Family photographs that were in the possession of John B. Mitchell, Anne Banner Mitchell, her daughter Kacky or Alma Banner Bivens. Some photographs had the date or year written on the back. (See Photograph / Undated below.)

Photo Album / St. Augustine – (PA/SA) A photograph album that was in the possession of Anne Banner Mitchell's daughter Kacky at the time of Kacky's death in 1980. It was given to me by my father John Banner Mitchell and is now in my possession. The album was put together and probably given to Emma by Anne Mitchell. It was to be a reminder of the trip Emma Banner took to visit her daughter Anne and her grandchildren children in St. Augustine, FL, from December 1926 to February 1927.

Photograph / The Mount Airy Times – (PHOTO/MAT) May 21, 1971, p. 10-C. A copy of an old photograph of the people present at the opening of the old Commercial Club in Mount Airy, NC. It was run in conjunction with an issue celebrating Surry County's 200 anniversary.

Photograph / Undated – (PHOTO/UD) Most of the photographs I have dealing with the lives of John Lee and Emma Banner were given to me by my father and their grandson, John Banner Mitchell. He got a lot of them when he went through his sister's (Kacky's) belongings at the time of her death in 1980. She still had pictures that had belonged to her mother and the Banners' daughter, Anne. Some of the pictures are still in the possession of John B. Mitchell. He allowed me to have copies made of them in 1994. A few pictures discussed were copies of pictures that were in family history and genealogy books written by John Lee and Emma's daughter Alma Banner Bivens in 1965. Kathleen Hawks Walker shared a photograph of her grandmother Kathleen Banner Hawks with me, and her father John Hawks gave me a copy of a photograph of Emma's mother and her mother's sister. Agnes Wells of Mount Airy, NC, sent me some photocopies of pictures found in Mount Airy newspapers or books.

Postcard / Undated – (PC/UD) A postcard containing the photograph of John Lee and Emma's home. It had not been written on. The card was in the possession of their granddaughter Kacky Mitchell Rozendal at the time of her death in 1980. She had a number of items that had belonged to her mother Anne Banner Mitchell, John and Emma's daughter. That card was one of those items. It is now in my possession.

Powell, Eleanor / The Mount Airy News – (EP/TMAN) "Photographs Recapture Early Life in Mount Airy," February 24, 1976, p. 11A. An article describing life in Mount Airy, NC in the late 1800s and early 1900s when John Lee and Emma's daughters were young women.

Prather, Gary B. – (GBP) A Prather family genealogist living in Frisco, TX. Gary has spent many years and gone on several research trips to England to collect material on the Prather family. We exchanged family information in 1994.

Rozendal, Kathleen Banner "Kacky" – (KMR) The granddaughter of John Lee and Emma Banner. The daughter of Anne Banner Mitchell and Arthur Swain Mitchell. My aunt. I spoke with Kacky several times about her family and wrote down her answers at the time of our discussions.

Rozendal, Kathleen Banner "Kacky" / Letter – (KMR/LTR) An undated letter written by Kacky to her Aunt Love and Emma, whom she called "Granny." She described New York City and her art school to them in that letter. It was in Kacky's possession until her death in 1980 and is now in my possession.

"Salem College Alumnae Officers" / The Richmond News Leader, – (PHOTO/RNL) February 7, 1933, Richmond, VA.. This was a newspaper photograph with caption that was in the possession of Anne and Swain's ex-daughter-in-law Alma Hines Mitchell in July 1989.

"Schools Have Come a Long Way in 78 Years" / The Mount Airy News -- (SCH/TMAN) March 31, 1978, Mount Airy, NC, p. 3G.

Smith, James Raymond, II – (JRSII) The great-grandson of John Lee and Emma Banner. The grandson of Love Hilliard Banner and James Marsh Diffie, Jr. The son of Love Banner Diffie and

Raymond Alfred Smith, Jr. I spoke with Raymond, II, by phone in July 1998. He gave me information on his family. Raymond and his wife Anne live in Winston-Salem, NC.

Smith, Love Diffie – (LDS) The granddaughter of John Lee and Emma Banner. The daughter of Love Hilliard Banner and James Marsh Diffie, Jr. Love married Raymond Alfred Smith, Jr. I spoke with Love on the telephone about the Banner family several times in the 1990s, and she was quite helpful in giving me information. Love lives in Mount Airy, NC.

Smith, Michael David "Mike" – (MDS) The great-grandson of John Lee and Emma. The grandson of Love Hilliard Banner and James Marsh Diffie, Jr. The son of Love Banner Diffie and Raymond Alfred Smith, Jr. I spoke with Mike by phone in July 1998. He gave me information on himself and his wife Stacey. They live in Charlotte, NC.

"There's little left of 'Miss Lizzie's School'" / The Mount Airy News – (LIZ/TMAN) Mount Airy, NC, March 31, 1978, p. 6G.

"The Train Came To Mount Airy In 1877" / The Mount Airy News – (TRAIN/TMAN) Mount Airy, NC February 24, 1976, p. 6C.

Virginia Optometric Association Directory – (VOA/DIR) vol. 15, p. 10, Richmond, Virginia, 1973-1974. This directory was sent to me in 1991 by Dr. Carl A. Kauffman who was a partner with Arthur Swain Mitchell in Suffolk, VA, in his medical practice. The directory lists past presidents of the association including Dr. A. Swain Mitchell in 1917 and Dr. Carl A. Kauffman in 1946.

Walker, Kathleen Hawks – (KHW) A great-granddaughter of John Lee and Emma. The granddaughter of Kathleen Banner and Posey Lester Hawks. The daughter of John Lester Hawks and Alyce Gerber. Kathleen checked over some family group sheets I sent her, and she shared various birth, marriage, and death information with me in 1997. She also sent me a photograph of her grandmother, Kathleen Banner Hawks. Kathleen and her husband Bob live in Virginia Beach, VA.

"Wedding Of Great Social Interest" / The Mount Airy News – (WED/TMAN) Mount Airy, NC, February 24, 1976, p. 10A. A reprint of a 1915 newspaper article telling of the wedding of Emma and John Lee's second daughter Alma Banner to E. C. Bivens.

Weiss, Christine / Car & Travel – (CW/C&T) "Rocky Road," AAA Potomac, Fairfax, VA, March / April 1998, p. 44. An American Automobile Association magazine article discussing the scenic drive along the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Wells, Agnes M. – (AMW) A Mount Airy, NC, genealogist and historian who has shared a lot of material with me concerning the Banner family and material on other lines as well. She mailed me several packets of photocopied material in 1997.

"Workmen's Chartered in 1910" / The Mount Airy News – (WC/TMAN) Mount Airy, NC, March 31, 1978, p. 6B.

INDEX

Note: The following people are not listed in this index because they are mentioned so frequently in this book: John Lee Banner and Mary Emma Banner Banner.

- Abeshaheen, Debbie, (see Debbie Abeshaheen Diffee.)
- Adams, Linda Mae, (see Linda Mae Adams Diffee.)
- Alabama Polytechnic Institute, 74.
- Albright, Jack, 44.
- Allen family, 48, 103, 109.
- Allen, Floyd, 48.
- Allison, Tom H., 25, 26.
- Allred, Alice, 42.
- Allred, (Dr.) E. W., 30.
- Allred, Samuel N., 42.
- Angle home, 87.
- Ashby, Edward, 30.
- Ashby, (Dr.) Edward, 53, 54.
- Ashby, Effie, 43.
- Ashby, John, 45.
- Ashby, (Mrs.) John L., 51.
- Ashby, John L., Sr., 45.
- Ashby, (Dr.) T. B., 41.
- Atlantic and Yadkin Railroad, 14.
- Auntie, (see Anne Banner Mitchell.)
- Bailey Brothers circus, 14.
- Baird, (Mr.), 83.
- Baldwin's, 28.
- Banner, Allan Carithers, 35.
- Banner, Alma Louisa, (see Alma Louisa Banner Bivens.)
- Banner, Anne Lee, (see Anne Lee Banner Mitchell.)
- Banner, Benjamin Jr., 1.
- Banner, Benjamin Sr., 9.
- Banner, Blanche Hickman, 7.
- Banner, "Brick John," 35.
- Banner building, 31, 38, 39.
- Banner, Catherine Whitlock, 35.
- Banner, Celia, (see Celia Banner Parker.)
- Banner Chair Company, 34.
- Banner, Charles Anderson, 6.
- Banner, Claud, 44.
- Banner, (Dr.) Conse, 30.
- Banner, Cora Ashby Gwyn, 3.
- Banner, Eleanor Martin, 9.
- Banner, Elisha, 28.
- Banner, Elizabeth "Lib," (see Elizabeth Banner "Lib" Hudgins.)
- Banner, Eva, 3.

INDEX

Banner family, 19, 20, 23, 33, 37-39, 42, 49, 51, 55, 102, 103, 111.
 Banner, Helen Harris, 7.
 Banner, Henry, 9, 102.
 Banner, Ida Mae, 2, 3, 6, 12, 75.
 Banner, Jesse Moore, 7.
 Banner, Jim, 82.
 Banner, John, Jr., (grandson of William Martin Banner), 35.
 Banner, John, (son of Charles Banner), 4, 8, 35, 61, 62, 81, 82, 97.
 Banner, John, (son of William Martin Banner), 35, 106.
 Banner, John Elisha, 2-8, 40, 61, 66, 103.
 Banner, John Walter, 5-6.
 Banner, Joe, 66.
 Banner, Joseph, Sr., 9.
 Banner, Joseph Benjamin, 3.
 Banner, Joseph Benton, 3.
 Banner, Kathleen (see Kathleen Banner Hawks.)
 Banner, Kent Rawley, 2, 6.
 Banner, Lillian Hennis, 6.
 Banner, Lillie A., (see Lillie A. Banner Roberts.)
 Banner, Louisa Ellen Prather "Lou," 2, 4-7, 12, 40, 42, 54, 57, 66, 97.
 Banner, Louise, 7.
 Banner, Love Hilliard, (see Love Hilliard Banner Diffie.)
 Banner, Margaret Eliza "Maggie," (see Margaret Eliza Banner "Maggie" Beard.)
 Banner, Margaret Geiger "Peggy," 1.
 Banner, Margaret Newsome, 6.
 Banner, Marguerite, 7.
 Banner, Marie, 2, 6.
 Banner, Marjorie, 6.
 Banner, Martha Ann Morris, 1-3, 26, 49, 65, 66.
 Banner, Mary, 3.
 Banner, Mary Elizabeth, (see Mary Elizabeth Banner Snyder.)
 Banner, Mary John, 3, 6, 12, 15, 66.
 Banner, May, 2, 6.
 Banner, Minerva Jettie, (see Minerva Jettie Banner Haymore.)
 Banner orchard, 34.
 Banner, Paul Franklin, 7.
 Banner, Phillip, 6.
 Banner, Rachel Anne(e), (see Rachel Ann(e) Banner Moore.)
 Banner, Richard Ernest "Dick," 5, 7.
 Banner, R. W., 6.
 Banner, (Big) Sam, 62.
 Banner, (Little) Sam, 61, 62.
 Banner, Star Spangled, 63.
 Banner suburb, 50.
 Banner, "Tobacco John," 35.
 Bannertown, 5.
 Banner, Virginia, 7.
 Banner, Victoria, (see Victoria Banner Bondurant.)
 Banner, Virginia Moore, 4, 8, 35, 61, 62, 82.
 Banner warehouse, 51.

Banner, "Warehouse John," 35.
 Banner, W. C., 1, 19, 26, 65, 66.
 Banner, Wesley, 1.
 Banner, William Franklin, 2, 3, 6, 75.
 Banner, William Martin "Billy," 35.
 Banner, (Mrs.) William Martin "Billy," 31, 35.
 Banner, William Perry, 12, 14, 102.
 Banner, William Claude, 3.
 Banner, Wilson C., 19, 26.
 Banner, Wilson Claude, 3.
 Banner, Wilson Clayton, 1, 2, 3, 26.
 Banner, Wilson E., 1.
 Baptist Church, 30, 37.
 Baptist Tabernacle, 25.
 Barber, T. C., 64, 67.
 Barrett, Lorna W., 9, 102.
 Barton, Clara, 4.
 Bass, Amy Kathryn, (see Amy Bass McDaniel.)
 Beal, Margaret Jane, (see Margaret Jane Beal Prather.)
 Beard, Claude Henley, 7, 75.
 Beard, Lura, 7, 75.
 Beard, Margaret Banner, (see Margaret Banner Beard McMichael.)
 Beard, Margaret Eliza Banner "Maggie," 5, 7, 18, 60, 61, 75, 81, 107.
 Beard, (Mrs.) M. D., 54.
 Belks, 31.
 Bell, Alexander Graham, 67.
 Belton, Howard, 44.
 Bennett, Mary Fulton, 8, 48.
 Bennett, May Fulton, 49.
 "Big Sister," (see Anne Banner Mitchell.)
 Bivens, Alma Louisa Banner, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 14, 15, 27, 28, 32, 33, 36, 39, 40, 42, 45-48, 52-54, 57, 59-61, 64, 66, 74, 78-80, 82, 85-88, 91, 94-96, 99, 100, 102, 109-111.
 Bivens, Beverly Banner, (see Beverly Banner Bivens Olive.)
 Bivens, (Judge E. C.) Edward Chatham, 28, 34, 39, 49, 52-54, 57-59, 64, 65, 78-80, 85, 86, 88, 95, 97, 99, 102, 109.
 Bivens family, 78.
 Bivens, (Miss) Ione, 54.
 Bivens, (Mrs.) (of Durham) 54.
 Biv, Uncle, (see Edward Chatham Bivens.)
 Blount, Henry, 10.
 Blue Ridge Inn / Hotel, 10, 11, 22-24, 30, 50.
 Bondurant, (Mrs.) John, 66.
 Bondurant, John W., 3.
 Bondurant, Victoria Banner, 3.
 Booker, Morgan, 29.
 Booker, Spurgeon, 29.
 Borden, Annie Mead, 35.
 Boyer, (Dr.), 67.
 Brannock, Ed, 62, 103.
 Brannock, Carl, 68.

Bray, Annie, 29.
 Bray, Bessie, 29.
 Bray, Bett, 29.
 Bray, Bob, 29.
 Bray, Mary, 29.
 Bray, Robert, 29.
 Brim, S. G., 51.
 Brown, Flora, 59.
 Brown, Frances P., 29.
 Brown House, 29, 59, 60.
 Brown, (Mr.), 29, 38.
 Brown, (Mrs.), 29.
 Bruneau, Stacey, (see Stacey Bruneau Smith)
 Bryan, Kathaline, 44.
 Buhman, Clarence, 49.
 Callaway, Gaye, 43.
 Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad, 10, 13, 14, 19.
 Capone, Al, 98.
 Cardwell, Judy Stanley, 103.
 Carter, Carrie Young, 10, 103.
 Carter, J. Edwin, 50.
 Carter, R. C., 58.
 Carter, W. F., 31.
 Carter, W. F. Sr., 41.
 Carter, W. F. Jr., 64, 67.
 Carter, William Franklin, Jr., 10, 103.
 Carter, W. R., 14.
 Caruso, Enrico, 49.
 Central Hotel, 31.
 Central Methodist Church, 74, 78.
 Chaffin, Tom, 103.
 Chatham Hall (school for girls), 81.
 Childress, Bob, 103.
 Cincinnati, the, 84.
 Civil War, 2-4.
 Clark, (Dr.) C. N., 95.
 Clark, Mattie May, 71.
 Clark, Walter, 103.
 Cleveland, Grover, 9, 12, 15.
 Clewell, John Henry, 103.
 Clifton, Coy, 44.
 Cockerham Flower Shop, 32.
 Colony House, 87, 104.
 Commercial Club, 38, 39, 110.
 Company Muster Roll, 103, 108.
 Connally, Gilmer, 49.
 Cook, (unknown), 44.
 Cooley, Donald G., 102.
 Coolidge, Calvin, 73.
 Council, Albert, 44.

Coveland orchard, 34.
 Creed, J. W., (book store), 50.
 Daughters of the American Revolution, (DAR), 1, 4, 5, 9, 107.
 Davids, Richard C., 103.
 Davis, C. E., (grocery store), 51, 55.
 Davis, Jefferson, 15.
 Davis, (Sheriff) Milt, 32.
 Democratic Executive Committee, 52.
 Diffee, Barry Michael, 77, 87, 93, 104.
 Diffee, Cynthia Lee "Cindy," (see Cynthia Lee Diffee "Cindy" Gallucci.)
 Diffee, Darlene Rae Eggena, 93, 104.
 Diffee, David Abeshaheen, 93.
 Diffee, Debbie Abeshaheen, 93, 104.
 Diffee, Deborah Jean "Debbie," (see Deborah Jean Diffee Fahy.)
 Diffee, Douglas Brent, 93.
 Diffee, Genevive Lukasik "Gen," 77, 85, 93, 104, 105, 107.
 Diffee, James Marsh Jr., 74-76, 81, 87, 91, 95, 99, 104-107, 110, 111.
 Diffee, James Marsh Sr., 74.
 Diffee, James Marsh, III, 74, 76, 77, 93, 94, 99, 104-106.
 Diffee, James Standard, 77, 93.
 Diffee, Linda Mae Adams, 77, 93, 94, 104-106.
 Diffee, Love Anne, (see Love Anne Diffee Jones.)
 Diffee, Love Banner, (see Love Banner Diffee Smith.)
 Diffee, Love Hilliard Banner, 3, 6, 12, 18, 35, 42, 44, 47, 48, 54, 55, 58, 60, 66, 73-81, 86-89, 91, 95,
 96, 99, 104-107, 109-111.
 Diffee, Mary Lou Fischer, 74.
 Diffee, Mary Lynn, (see Mary Lynn Diffee Hooser.)
 Diffee, Melanie Corrine, 93.
 Diffee, Susan Ann, (see Susan Ann Diffee Hess.)
 Diffee, William Sherman, Jr. "JR," 77, 87, 93, 104.
 Diffee, William Sherman, Sr. "Bill," 17, 74, 76, 77, 79, 85, 87, 93, 99, 104, 105, 107.
 Diffee, William S., III, 93.
 Dinsmore, Elsie, 20.
 Dobbins, Myrtle, 44.
 Donnan, Talmage, 49.
 Drake, Paul, 104.
 Drake, Sir Francis, 69.
 Duke University, 81.
 Durham home, 31.
 Earp, Cora, 88.
 Eckerd's Drug Store, 28.
 Ed, 71.
 Edison, Thomas, 15.
 Ed__water, Willis C., 72.
 Eggena, Darlene Rae, (see Darlene Rae Eggena Diffee.)
 "Elsie," 73.
 Emergency hospital, 89.
 Episcopal Church, 30.
 Episcopal Rectory, 41.
 Express Office, 42.

Fahy, Deborah Jean Diffie "Debbie," 77, 93, 104, 105.
 Fahy, James Edward "Jim," 93, 105.
 Fahy, James Edward, II "Jimmy," 93.
 Fahy, Rebecca Marie "Becky," 93.
 Farman, Henri, 40.
 Farrell, Jimmy, 70.
 Faulk, J. W., 67.
 Fawcett, Garnett "Bud," 96.
 Fawcett, George, 28, 29.
 Fawcett, Thomas, 41.
 Fawcett, Thomas Sr., 29.
 Fife, (Rev.) Wm., 66.
 First National Bank, 29, 31.
 Fischer, Mary Lou, (see Mary Lou Fischer Diffie.)
 Folger, Lon, 50.
 Ford, Henry, 15, 98.
 Foundry Methodist Church, 81.
 Fowler, William J., 70.
 Foy, Bob, 47.
 Foy, E. C., 45, 51.
 Foy, E. C. Sr., 34.
 Foy house, 45, 47.
 Foy, Kate, 8.
 Foy Lumber company, 34.
 Foy, (Rev.) Miles, 9.
 Franklin, Dotty, 40.
 Friends Church, 32.
 Fulton, Grady, 49.
 Fulton, Jim, 8.
 Fulton, Joe, 31.
 Fulton, Mary, 49, 54.
 Gabaldon, Diana, vi, 105.
 Galloway, Aline, 49.
 Galloway, Aline, 29.
 Galloway & Jackson, Grocery Store, 51, 55.
 Galloway, Bob Dick, 29.
 Galloway, Dick, 29.
 Galloway, Frank, 29.
 Galloway, Gaston, 29.
 Galloway, G. G., 41.
 Galloway, Grace, 29.
 Galloway, Harry, 29.
 Galloway, J. R., 24.
 Galloway Opera House, 31.
 Galloway, R. S., 25.
 Gallucci, Carl, 93, 105.
 Gallucci, Christopher Andrew, 93.
 Gallucci, Cynthia Lee Diffie "Cindy," 77, 93, 105.
 G. C. Lovill Company, 31.
 Geiger, Margaret "Peggy," (see Margaret Geiger "Peggy" Banner.)

General Accounting Office, 87.
 Gerber, Alyce, (see Alyce Gerber Hawks.)
 Geronimo, 9.
 Gibbs, (Rev.) A. S., 74.
 Gilmer, Cora, 32.
 Gilmer house, 45.
 Gilmer, (Rev.) J. A., 51.
 Gilmer, Lizzie, 31, 45, 111.
 Gilmer, Robert S., 13.
 Glenn L. Martins aircraft company, 88, 89, 91.
 Globe Warehouse, 14, 32.
 Granite City Band, 14.
 Granite City orchard, 34.
 Grant, Ulysses S., 2, 3.
 Graves, (Judge), 14.
 Graves, Mary Franklin, 43.
 Graves, (Mayor), 25.
 Graves Warehouse, 27.
 Graves, William, 49.
 Graves, Yancy, 31.
 Griffith, Andy, 68, 103, 105.
 Groh (?), Charles T., 73.
 Grun, Bernard, 105.
 Gwyn, Cora Ashby, (see Cora Ashby Gwyn Banner.)
 Gwyn, Cora B., (see Cora Ashby Gwyn Banner.)
 Hadley, J. A., 41.
 Hadley, Lucy, 43.
 Halcomb hardware, 31.
 Hall, (Rev.) B. R., 14.
 Halloway, Brownie J., 71.
 Hamm's drug store, 8.
 Hannah and Moody, 65.
 Hannah, (Mrs.) E. A., 48.
 Harding, Warren G., 67.
 Harris, (Dr.) Frederick Brown, 81.
 Harris, Helen, (see Helen Harris Banner.)
 Harris house, 29.
 Harris, (Miss), 43.
 Harrison, Benjamin, 15.
 Hatcher, Vance, 44.
 Hath, 72.
 Havill, Georgiana, 105.
 Hawks, Alyce Gerber, 47, 60, 92, 106, 111.
 Hawks, John Lester, 17, 47, 60, 75, 76, 82, 92, 102, 105, 108, 110, 111.
 Hawks, Kathleen Banner, 3, 6, 12, 15, 18, 32, 35, 42, 43, 47, 51, 54, 58-60, 66, 75, 78-80, 83, 86-91, 105, 106, 108, 110, 111.
 Hawks, Kathleen Banner, (see Kathleen Hawks Walker.)
 Hawks, Mary Lee "Polly," (see Mary Lee Hawks "Polly" Hodge.)
 Hawks, Posey Lester, 47, 51, 54, 58-60, 75, 80, 83, 87-91, 95, 105, 106, 111.
 Hawks, William, 47, 58, 59, 75.

Haymore, C. C., 30.
 Haymore, Lois, 29, 30.
 Haymore, Martha, 29, 33.
 Haymore, Minerva Jettie Banner, 2, 3.
 Haymore, Oliver, 3.
 Haymore, R. L., 33.
 Haymore, Ruff, 29.
 Haymore, Willis, 30.
 Haynes, Lucille, 20.
 Haynes, (Mr.), 38.
 Haynes, (Mrs.) Joe, 29.
 Heald, Rosalind, 92.
 Hennis, Fannie, 6.
 Hennis, Lillian, (see Lillian Hennis Banner.)
 Hennis, Myrtle Hines Foy "Sis," 45, 106, 109.
 Hennis, Sam, 106.
 Hennis, W. T., 6.
 Hess, Donald Jay "Don," 93, 106.
 Hess, Donald Robert, 93.
 Hess, Susan Ann Diffie, 77, 93, 106.
 Hickman, Andrew, 93.
 Hickman, Blanche, (see Blanche Hickman Banner.)
 Hill, Carroll, 30.
 Hill, J. C., 65.
 Hill, (Mrs.) J. C., 97.
 Hines, Alma Stella, (see Alma Hines Mitchell.)
 Hines family, 78.
 Hines, Matt, 78, 88.
 Hines, Stella, 78, 88.
 Hitler, Adolf, 15.
 Hodge, D. M., 31.
 Hodge, D. S., 80.
 Hodge, (Mrs.) D. S., 80.
 Hodge, Mary Lee Hawks "Polly," 17, 18, 47, 51, 59, 61, 62, 64, 66, 75, 76, 79, 80, 81, 85, 88, 91, 95-97, 99, 106.
 Hodge, Norwood L., 51, 79, 80, 81, 85, 88, 91, 95, 100, 106.
 Hoffman, Little, 40.
 Hollingsworth, (Dr.) Billy, 31.
 Hollingsworth, (Dr.) Bob, 31.
 Hollingsworth, (Mrs.) Cora M., 51.
 Hollingsworth, (Dr.) Ed., 31.
 Hollingsworth, (Dr.) Edwin, 8.
 Hollingsworth, (Dr.) E. M., 65.
 Hollingsworth, J. C., 31, 51.
 Hollingsworth, Jesse, 43.
 Hollingsworth, J. G., 33, 106.
 Hollingsworth, (Dr.) Joe, 31.
 Hollingsworth, Mary Margaret, 108.
 Hollingsworth, Zeb, 31.
 Holloway, Lester M., 71.

Hooser, Aaron, 93.
 Hooser, David Duane, 93, 94, 106.
 Hooser, David Tyler, 94.
 Hooser, Mary Lynn Diffie, 77, 93, 94, 106.
 Horn, Polly, 2.
 Hoster, Kate Hollingsworth, 43.
 Hudgins, Daniel Edward, 35, 106.
 Hudgins, Elizabeth Banner "Lib," 35, 106.
 Inman, Sam, 29.
 I. W. West Drug Store, 30.
 Jackson, Glenn, 44.
 Jackson, Hester Barlett, 107.
 Jackson, Joe, 29.
 James, Stella, 43.
 J. D. Smith, Store, 31.
 Jenkins Book Store, 31.
 Jenkins, (Mrs.) J. D., 51.
 John Midkiff Hardware Store, 31.
 Johns Hopkins University Hospital, 83.
 Johnson, Andrew, 3.
 Jolson, Al, 73.
 Jones, Ethel, 44.
 Jones, Howard, 44.
 Jones, Love Anne Diffie, 77, 93, 104, 107.
 Jones, Mark Hampton, Jr., 93.
 Jones, Mark Hampton, Sr., 93, 107.
 Jones, Patrick William, 93.
 Jones, Tricia Love, 93.
 Joseph, 76.
 Joyce, R. T., 31.
 J. W. Barker Store, 31.
 Kallam, Lemuel Wallace, 107.
 Kallam, L. W., 107.
 Kallam, Wallace, 107.
 Kellam, G., 72.
 Kellum, R. W., 70.
 Kauffman, Dr. Carl A., 90, 107, 111.
 Kiger, Margaret "Peggy," (see Margaret Geiger "Peggy" Banner.)
 King, Charles H., 72.
 King, Willie Green, 44.
 Kochtitzky, E. H., 41.
 Kochtitzky, (Mr.), 23.
 Ku Klux Klan, 4.
 Ladenburg, Mrs. Adolph, 35.
 Lamm's Drug Company, 31.
 Leach, Virginia Poore, 55.
 Lee, Michelle Christine, (see Michelle Lee McDaniel.)
 Lee, Robert E., 3, 67.
 Leonard building, 8.
 Leonard, Carol J., 101.

Leonard's Jewelry Store, 28, 31.
 Leonard, R. H., 31.
 Lewis family, 30.
 Lexington House, 104.
 Lexington Silver Cornet Band, 14.
 Lincoln, Abraham, 2, 3.
 Lindbergh, Charles, 73.
 Lineback, Viola, 44.
 "Little Sister," (see Alma Banner Bivens.)
 Loftis, Patrick, 93.
 Loftis, Patrick William, (see Patrick William Jones.)
 Loftis, Tricia Love, (see Tricia Love Jones.)
 Longfellow, 27.
 Lovill, (Dr.) A. J., 97.
 Lovills, the, 29.
 Lovill wholesale house, 68.
 Lucas, Sam, 21.
 Lukasik, Genevive, (see Genevive Lukasik Diffiee.)
 Lundy, (Mr.) Clarence, 54.
 Lundy, (Mrs.) Clarence, 54.
 Maggie, Aunt, (see Margaret Eliza Banner "Maggie" Beard.)
 Manley, Matt, 4, 103.
 Marion, John, 49.
 M. A. Robbins & Co., 22.
 Maroun, Aaron, (see Aaron Hooser.)
 Maroun, James, 93.
 Martin, Eleanor, (see Eleanor Martin Banner.)
 Mary Baldwin College, 86.
 Masonic Lodge, 81.
 Matanzas River Fort Marion, 69.
 McCargo, James, 54.
 McCargo, T. B., 41.
 McCargo, Thos. B., Jr., 49.
 McCargo, Tom, 40, 48, 49.
 McCollum, (Mr.), 21.
 McCormack, Jno., 49.
 McDaniel, Amy Bass, 85, 92.
 McDaniel, Charlotte Anne Mitchell "Char," 41, 57, 92, 99.
 McDaniel, James Iley "Jim," 85, 92.
 McDaniel, Mason Banner, 85, 92.
 McDaniel, Michelle Lee, 92.
 McDaniel, Samuel C., 70.
 McDaniel, Scott Madison, 92.
 McDonald, Murdock, 70.
 McDonalds Highlanders, 70.
 McDuffies store, 25.
 McGuffin, R. F., 25, 26.
 McLaughlin, Claude, 26.
 McMichael, Charles O., Jr., 75, 81.
 McMichael, Charlotte Anne, (see Charlotte Anne McMichael Pelon.)

McMichael, Cindy, (see Cindy McMichael Staddon.)
 McMichael, Margaret Banner Beard, 7, 12, 18, 75, 81, 107.
 McPherson's Drug Store, 30.
 Memie, (see Louisa Ellen Prather "Lou" Banner.)
 Merrill, Joe, 30.
 Merritt, (Mr.), 24.
 Merritt Building, 41.
 Merritt's Hardware Store, 21, 22, 30.
 Merritt, W. E., 22, 30, 41.
 Methodist Church, 26, 32, 37.
 Methodist Church, old, 32.
 Midkiff, Jim, 68.
 Minick, Ruth, 107.
 Minicks, the, 29.
 Mitchell, (Dr.), 31.
 Mitchell, Alma Hines, 41, 57, 78, 85, 86, 88, 92, 94-96, 106-110.
 Mitchell, Anne Lee Banner "Annie," 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 16, 17, 32, 35-37, 39-41, 44, 52-54, 57, 59, 60, 66, 68-70, 72, 75, 76, 78-80, 83-90, 94-96, 98, 99, 101-103, 105, 107-110.
 Mitchell, (Dr.) Arthur Swain, 40, 41, 44, 53, 57, 59, 60, 83, 86, 88, 90, 94-96, 107, 108, 110, 111.
 Mitchell, Barbara Hardwick, 57.
 Mitchell, Charlotte Anne "Char," (see Charlotte Anne Mitchell "Char" McDaniel.)
 Mitchell, Dylan Moog, 92.
 Mitchell, James Madison Hines "Jim," 41, 57, 79, 92, 98, 108.
 Mitchell, John Banner, 17, 18, 35, 41, 57, 59, 61-65, 69, 71, 72, 75, 76, 78-80, 83, 85-88, 90, 92, 94-98, 102, 106-110.
 Mitchell, J. V., 22.
 Mitchell, Kathleen Banner, (see Kathleen Banner Mitchell Rozendal.)
 Mitchell, Louise Ramey, 83, 88, 90.
 Mitchell, (Dr.) Roy, 78.
 Mitchell, Roy, 43.
 Mitchell's store, 21.
 Mitchell, Susan Moog, 92, 108.
 Monday, W. I., 67.
 Monday, W. T., 64.
 Monson, Mozelle Owens, 44.
 Moody Funeral (Home) Services, Inc., 98, 108.
 Moog, Susan Lee, (see Susan Moog Mitchell.)
 Moor(?), Hallie, 42.
 Moor(?), John T.(?), 42.
 Moore, Jesse Franklin, 8, 31.
 Moore, Rachel Ann(e) Banner, 8, 9, 31.
 Moore, Virginia, (see Virginia Moore Banner.)
 Moravians, 9, 36.
 Morris, Frederick, 2.
 Morris, Martha Ann, (see Martha Ann Morris Banner.)
 Morris, Sherry Lee, 35.
 Mosley, (Rev.), 80.
 Mount Airy Cornet Band, 14.
 Mount Airy Furniture Factory, 14.
 Mount Airy High School, 80.

Mount Airy Hotel, 22.
 Mount Airy News, The, 13, 27, 39, 48, 53, 67, 102-106, 109, 110, 111.
 Mount Airy orchard, 34.
 Mount Airy Times, 39, 103, 107, 109, 110.
 Moyer, (Chaplain), 84.
 Murphy, (conductor), 13.
 Muse, Tom, 13.
 Namere, 82.
 National Cathedral, 85.
 National Museum, 87.
 National Women's Party, 86.
 Nations, Joseph, 19.
 Navy Chapel, 84.
 N.C.C.W., 74.
 NCNB bank, 28.
 Newsome, Margaret, (see Margaret Newsome Banner.)
 North Carolina, University of, 52.
 Nutt, John, 21.
 Nutt, Richard, 21.
 Olive, Beverly Banner Bivens, 54, 57-59, 64, 78, 80, 82, 85, 86, 88, 89, 92, 96, 99, 102, 106, 107, 109.
 Olive, Janice Pajakowski "Jan," 92, 109.
 Olive, John Chatham, 54, 58, 92, 102, 109.
 Olive, John Courtney, 92, 109.
 Olive, John Worth, 54, 58, 92, 102, 109.
 Olive, Worth Banner, 54, 58, 92, 102.
 Opera House, 25.
 Overly family, 33.
 Overly, W. B., 33.
 Pace, Sam, 21.
 Pace, S. G., 41.
 Paddison, J. R., 24.
 Pajakowski, Janice, (see Janice Pajakowski Olive.)
 Parker, Celia Banner, 30.
 Paris, Anne, 81.
 Paris, Charles, 81.
 Paris, Neal, 81.
 Peary, Robert E., 40.
 Pelon, Charlotte Anne McMichael, 81.
 Pelon, Chuck, 81.
 Penn, Aaron, 31.
 Penn, Margaret Moore, 16.
 Perkins, Robert, 42.
 Phillips, Laura A. W., 46, 109.
 Phillips, Virginia G., 101.
 Pilot Life Insurance Company, 60.
 Planters Bank, 30.
 Poore, Floyd, 55.
 Poore, F. M., (grocery store) 51, 67.
 Poore, Lucy Jane, 56.
 Poore's Store, 55.

Poore, Virginia, (see Virginia Poore Leach.)
 Poore, Walter, 55.
 Post Office, 27, 31, 50.
 Powell, Eleanor, 110.
 Powell, (Mrs.) Jesse, 54.
 Prather block, 68.
 Prather, (Miss) Briggs, 54.
 Prather, Charlie, 30.
 Prather, Eli Franklin, 4.
 Prather, Gary B., 110.
 Prather, Jesse, 30.
 Prather, Jesse H., 29.
 Prather, Joe, 30.
 Prather, Johnnie, 29.
 Prather, J. W., 22, 31.
 Prather, Louisa Ellen "Lou," (see Louisa Ellen Prather "Lou" Banner.)
 Prather, Margaret Jane Beal, 4.
 Presbyterian Church, 31, 37, 51.
 Price, (Rev.) D. V., 67.
 Princess Theater, 50.
 Ramer, Charles, 93.
 Ramer, Linda Michelle, 93.
 Ramer, Ryan Charles, 93.
 Randolph-Macon Military Academy, 83.
 Rawley, Ab, 28, 29.
 Rawley, D. A., 23.
 R. D. DeVault Store, 31.
 Rector, Abe, 44.
 Reece home, 29.
 Rees Clothing Company Store, 31.
 Reeves, Jerry, 40.
 Renfro Inn, 23, 24, 26, 31.
 Roberts, Johnnie May, 35, 106.
 Roberts, Lillie (Lily, Lilly) A. Banner, 3.
 Roberts, Rufus, 37.
 Roberts, (Mrs.) Will, 66.
 Roberts, William, 3.
 Robinson, Jackie, 98.
 Rockford Academy, 16.
 Rockford Street School, 14, 16, 44, 62, 109.
 Roll of Prisoners of War, 103, 108.
 Roosevelt, (Mrs.), 87.
 Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, 79, 80, 82, 84, 86, 96, 105.
 Roosevelt, Theodore, 35.
 Rosedale orchard, 34.
 Rothrock, Elizabeth, 44.
 Rozendal, Henry Dirk, 41, 44, 84.
 Rozendal, Kathleen Banner Mitchell "Kacky," 12, 16-18, 41, 44, 53, 57, 59-62, 64, 66, 69, 72, 78, 81-84, 96, 98, 102, 105, 107-110.
 Ruth, Babe, 73.

Rutledge, Anne, (see Anne Rutledge Smith.)
 St. Katherine's School for Girls, 80.
 Saint Paul's Church, 44.
 Salem Academy and College, 35, 36.
 Salem College Alumnae, 110.
 Salem Female Academy, 36.
 Sam, 82.
 Satterfield, T. F., (store), 50.
 Scales, (Governor) A. M., 14.
 Schaub, (Mrs.), 51.
 Schaub, Thomas, 51.
 Schaub's Woodwork Shop, 51.
 Scheibner, 70, 102.
 Schuab, Jimmy, 31.
 2nd North Carolina Regiment, 3, 4, 103.
 Secret Services Department of Justice, 42.
 Shoreham Hotel, 81.
 Short, Newt, 28.
 Sigma Nu Fraternity, 74.
 Sikorsky, Igor, 86.
 Smith, Anne Rutledge, 92, 111.
 Smith, E. G., 34.
 Smith, Elfra, 44.
 Smith, Gertrude, 49, 54.
 Smith, James Raymond II, 74, 92, 110.
 Smith, James Raymond III, 92.
 Smith, Jamie Ross, 92.
 Smith, J. D., 23, 30.
 Smith, Joseph Graham Rutledge, "Rut," 92.
 Smith, Lib, 20.
 Smith, Lloyd F., 70.
 Smith, Louisa Love, 92.
 Smith, Love Banner Diffie, 61, 62, 74-76, 78, 79, 83, 92, 93, 97-99, 110, 111.
 Smith, Michael David, "Mike," 74, 76, 93, 111.
 Smith, Raymond Alfred Jr., 74, 92, 93, 111.
 Smith, Robert, 31.
 Smithsonian Institute, 85.
 Smith, Stacey Bruneau, 93, 111.
 Smith, Suzanne Levone, 92.
 Snyder, Carrie Victoria, 2.
 Snyder, George D., 2.
 Snyder, Luther Preston, 2.
 Snyder, Mary Ann, 2.
 Snyder, Mary Elizabeth Banner, 2.
 Snyder, Robah Lee, 2.
 Southern Express Co., 50.
 Spain, W. H., 32.
 Sparger, Al, 32, 33.
 Sparger, B. F., 34.
 Sparger, B. W., 14.

Sparger, Eloise, 44.
 Sparger, Geo., 88.
 Sparger, Helen, 49, 54.
 Sparger, J. A., 34.
 Sparger, J. B., 34.
 Sparger, Marvin, 34.
 Sparger, (Mr.), 20.
 Sparger orchard, 34.
 Spinner, Elizabeth Hudgins "Betty," 106.
 Staddon, Cindy McMichael, 81.
 Staddon, (Dr.) John, 81.
 Steele, (Mrs.), 30.
 Stemple, P. C., 51.
 Sutherland, Minnie, 49.
 Sykes Apartments, 29.
 Sydnor, A. Kyle, 50.
 Sydnor, Carma, 38.
 Sydnor house, 30.
 Sydnor, W. G., 33, 41.
 Sydnor, W. Y.(?), 33.
 Taft, William H., 40.
 Taylor and Banner drug store, 8, 31.
 Taylor, George, 21.
 Taylor, Mary, 42.
 Taylor, (Rev. Mr.), 54.
 Taylor, William S., 42.
 Taylor, (Dr.) W. S., 31.
 Temple, Shirley, 80.
 Tesh, J. A., 41.
 Thomas Electrical Shoe Shop, 50.
 Thomas, Henry, 21.
 Thomas, (Mr.), 23.
 Thomas, W. W., 30, 41.
 Thompson, J. D., 30, 31, 33.
 Thompson, (Policeman), 25.
 Tillie, 72.
 Times-Leader Office, 50.
 Titanic, 49.
 Toby, 31.
 Tomlinson Chair Manufacturing Company, 74.
 Totten, R. A., 23.
 Trinity Church, 54.
 Trinity College, 52.
 Trotter, (Professor), 25.
 Truman, Harry S, 96, 98.
 Twain, Mark, 4.
 Victoria of Great Britain, Queen, 12.
 Virginia Optometric Association, 57, 111.
 Vogelsang, Virginia, 70.
 Walker, Edgar Robert, Jr. "Bob," 92, 111.

NOTES

Walker, Jennifer Lee, 92.
 Walker, Kathleen Hawks, 60, 92, 106, 110, 111.
 Walker, Stephen Carey, 92.
 Wallis & Long's Clothing Store, 22, 23.
 W. C. Moore's Book Store, 31.
 Webster House, 28.
 Weiss, Christine, 111.
 Welch and Mitchell store, 31.
 Wells, Agnes M., 45, 100-102, 107, 109-111.
 West, (Mayor) A. V., 64, 67.
 West, Verona, 30.
 W. F. Bynum & Co., 22.
 Whetstone, (Mrs.), 32.
 White House, 86, 87.
 White Sulphur Springs Hotel, 23, 24, 28, 37, 38.
 Whitlock, Catherine, (see Catherine Whitlock Banner.)
 Whitman, C. L., 32.
 Willie, Cousin, 88.
 Wilson, Ellen, 39.
 Wilson, Woodrow, 49, 57.
 Winston-Salem-Wilkesboro Railroad, 33.
 Wolfe Drug Company / Store, 8, 31, 39.
 Woodroffe, Thomas, 15.
 Woodruff brothers, 19.
 Woodward, 88.
 Workmen's Building and Loan Association, 41.
 Workman's Federal Savings and Loan, 29, 41.
 Worth & Joyce hardware store, 21.
 Worth & Joyce tower clock, 23.
 Wright brothers, 35.
 Yadkin Valley News, The, 19, 26.
 Yadkin Valley Railroad, 33.
 Yeager, Charles E., 98.
 Yokley, Mattie, 44.
 York, Lottie, 44.

NOTES

NOTES

