

Research Plan

Research Goal: Verify the lineage of the Massey family of Gordon, Wilkinson County, Georgia

Overview:

Known data suggest that furthest paternal ancestor, Peter Massey of Wilkinson County, Georgia was married to Julia Harris in whose union at least five children.

Suggested Records:

1. Georgia Deaths
 - a. Based on the accuracy of the informant's knowledge of the decedent, this will give insight to who his parents are which would satisfy the clients objective.
2. Marriage Application for Peter Massey and Julia Butler
 - a. Peter Massey's marriage application may be nonexistent depending on when Wilkinson county issued records that required that fulfilment of parental guardianship(s).

Methodology:

- Conduct preliminary research in surviving records, starting with Wilkinson County, Georgia
- Individuals to be included: Peter Massey, Julia Harris Massey, Toney Massey, Jennie Butler
- As each source is used, watch for a mention of Peter Massey

Research Report

Research Performed by: Christopher Smothers: (678) 439-9485

DATE: January 27, 2020

TO: C. D.

SUBJECT: Peter Massey of Gordon, Wilkinson County, Georgia.

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Peter Massey' married Julie around 1866.

OBJECTIVE: Verify the paternal ancestor of Toney Massey of Gordon, Wilkinson County, Georgia and review MyHeritage Tree.

LIMITATIONS: Client authorized one hour of research and report writing.

REPOSITORIES:

1. Ancestry.com
2. FamilySearch.org

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SUMMARY OF RESEARCH FINDINGS:

Toney Massey is the son of Peter Massey and Julie Harris of Wilkinson County, Georgia. We can infer this due to the credible information provided on his death certificate in Wilkinson County, Georgia. See the Detailed Research Notes section for details on sources, citations, and analysis. See the Attachments for copies of key documents. Due to the time constraints, I was unable to locate an 1870 census for the Massey Family with Peter in the household.

The following record supports the identification of Peter Massey as the father of Toney Massey

- The Georgia Death Certificate for Toney Massey informed by Jessie Massey (nephew) on 20 September 1934 in Ramah, Wilkinson County, Georgia lists Peter Massey as Toney Massey's father.

Detailed Research Notes begin on the next page.

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DETAILED RESEARCH NOTES:

Georgia Death Record¹

WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD. Every item of information should be carefully supplied. Cause of death should be stated in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of occupation is very important. Was disease or injury caused by dangerous or insanitary conditions or occupation? Where was disease contracted if not at place of death?

V.S.—2

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
1. PLACE OF DEATH County <u>Wilkinson</u> Militia District (Number and Name) <u>Ramah</u> 331st State of Georgia City or Town <u>Gordon Ga.</u> Length of residence in this city or town: Yrs. Mos. Ds. NON-RESIDENT (Yes or No) <u>no</u> Street and Number (No.) (Street) Ward (If death occurred in a hospital, give its name instead of street and number)	2. FULL NAME <u>Tony Massey</u> Residence (City or Town) (Street and Number) (State) <u>Ga.</u>	16. DATE OF DEATH <u>Sept 20th 1934</u> at <u>8-P.</u> M. (Month, Day, Year) (hour)	17. I HEREBY CERTIFY That I attended the deceased from <u>Sept 19th 1934</u> to <u>Sept 20th 1934</u> I last saw him alive on <u>Sept 20 1934</u> death is said to have occurred on the date and hour stated above. The principal cause of death and related causes of importance in the order of onset and duration of each: <u>Myocarditis</u>
3. SEX <u>male</u> 4. COLOR or RACE <u>bal</u> 5. Single, Married, Widowed, Divorced (write the word) <u>married</u>	6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, year)	Other contributory causes of importance:	
7. AGE <u>60</u> Years Months Days If less than one day Hours Minutes	8. OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession or particular kind of work done, as spinner, sawyer, bookkeeper, etc. <u>Farmer</u> (b) Industry or business in which work was done, as cotton mill, sawmill, bank, etc. (c) Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year) (d) Total years spent in this occupation <u>all life</u>	What test confirmed diagnosis? <u>Cerebral</u> (Specify whether autopsy, operation, laboratory, or clinical)	
9. BIRTHPLACE (P. O. Address) <u>Wilkinson Co</u>	10. NAME <u>Peter Massey</u>	If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following: Was injury an accident, suicide, or homicide? Where did injury occur (Specify city or town, if outside of limits, the county, and also the state) Did injury occur in a home, public place or industry? Manner of injury Nature of injury	
FATHER 11. BIRTHPLACE <u>Wilkinson</u> (P. O. Address)	MOTHER 12. MAIDEN NAME <u>Julia Massey</u>	(Signed) <u>W. B. Bronan</u> M.D. (Address) <u>Box 40 - Gordon, Ga.</u>	
13. BIRTHPLACE <u>Wilkinson</u> (P. O. Address)	14. INFORMANT (Signed) <u>Jessie Massey</u> (Address) <u>Gordon Ga.</u>	15. FILED <u>Nov 6 1934</u> (Signed) <u>W. B. Bronan</u> (Local Registrar)	
19. BURIAL PLACE (Cemetery) <u>Rose Hill</u> (Postoffice) <u>Gordon Ga.</u> Date <u>Oct 23rd</u>	20. UNDERTAKER (Signed) <u>E. E. Miller</u> (Address) <u>Gordon Ga.</u>		

Analysis: According to the informant, Jessie Massey (son of Burnell and Frances Massey) his uncle, Tony Massey, was born in Wilkinson County, Georgia. He lists his paternal grandfather's name as Peter Massey. The name of his paternal grandmother is Julia Massey. Tony Massey is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in Ramah, Wilkinson County, Georgia.

Cause of Death: Myocarditis

¹ Georgia Department of Health, Certificate of Death No. 28353, Tony Massey, 20 Sep 1934, Wilkinson County; viewed at "Georgia death certificates, 1928-1942," digital images; Familysearch.org (familysearch.org : Accessed 24 Jan 2020)

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CONTRIBUTORY EVIDENCE:

Julia Massey Death Certificate²

N. B. WRITE PLAINLY, WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD. In Deaths From Violent Causes, State (1) Means and Nature of Injury, and (2) Whether Accidental, Suicidal, or Homicidal. (See Reverse Side for Additional Space.)

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		FILE NO. FOR STATE REGISTRAR 31916	SOVA 11
1 PLACE OF DEATH COUNTY <u>Wilkinson Co</u>			
MILITIA DISTRICT <u>Pamela</u> TOWN OR CITY <u>Gordon Ga</u>		DISTRICT NO. <u>331</u> REGISTERED NO. <u>17</u>	
2 FULL NAME <u>Julia Massey</u> RESIDENCE, CITY <u>Gordon</u> No. _____ ST. _____			
18 Length of residence in city or town where death occurred: yrs. ____ mos. ____ dya. (IF NON-RESIDENT GIVE CITY OR TOWN AND STATE)			
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL PARTICULARS	
3 SEX <u>Female</u> 4 COLOR <u>White</u>		16 DATE OF DEATH <u>Sept 12</u>	
5 MARRIAGE STATUS: <input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE, <input type="checkbox"/> MARRIED, <input type="checkbox"/> WIDOWED, <input type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED (write the word)		17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I ATTENDED DECEASED FROM _____ TO _____ THAT I LAST SAW HIM ALIVE ON _____ AND THAT DEATH OCCURRED, ON THE DATE STATED ABOVE AT _____ M. THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS AS FOLLOWS: <u>Old age</u>	
6a IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED HUSBAND OF (OR) WIFE OF <u>Pete Massey</u>			
6 DATE OF BIRTH, (MO. YR.) <u>90</u>			
7 AGE <u>35</u> yrs. ____ mos. ____ dya. IF LESS THAN 2 YEARS state if breast fed Yes ____ No ____ IF LESS than 1 day ____ hrs. ____ mins.			
8 OCCUPATION (a) TRADE, PROFESSION OR PARTICULAR KIND OF WORK <u>house wife</u> (b) GENERAL NATURE OF INDUSTRY, BUSINESS OR ESTABLISHMENT IN WHICH EMPLOYED (OR EMPLOYER)			
9 BIRTHPLACE (STATE OR COUNTRY) <u>Virginia</u>		CONTRIBUTORY (SECONDARY) _____ (DURATION) ____ YRS. ____ MOS. ____ DYS.	
10 NAME OF FATHER <u>do not know</u>		WHERE WAS DISEASE CONTRACTED, IF NOT AT PLACE OF DEATH? _____	
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (STATE OR COUNTRY) _____		DID AN OPERATION PRECEDE DEATH? _____ DATE OF _____	
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER _____		WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? _____ WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? <u>no dx</u>	
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (STATE OR COUNTRY) _____		(SIGNED) <u>J. F. McCarthy</u> M. D. (ADDRESS) <u>Gordon Ga</u>	
14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. (INFORMANT) <u>Toney Massey</u> (ADDRESS) <u>Gordon Ga</u>			
15 FILED <u>Dec 9</u> 1925 <u>J. F. McCarthy</u> LOCAL REGISTRAR		16 PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL OF BONES <u>Pleasant Hill</u> <u>Gordon Ga</u> UNDERTAKER <u>O. M. Hill</u> ADDRESS <u>Gordon Ga</u>	

Analysis: According to the informant, Toney Massey, son of Peter and Julia Massey, further verifies that his mother was the wife of “Pete” Massey and was born in Virginia. This conflicts with all other information acquired. The father and mother of said Julia are unknown at the time of recording. Julia Massey is buried in Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Gordon, Wilkinson County, Georgia.

Cause of Death: Old Age

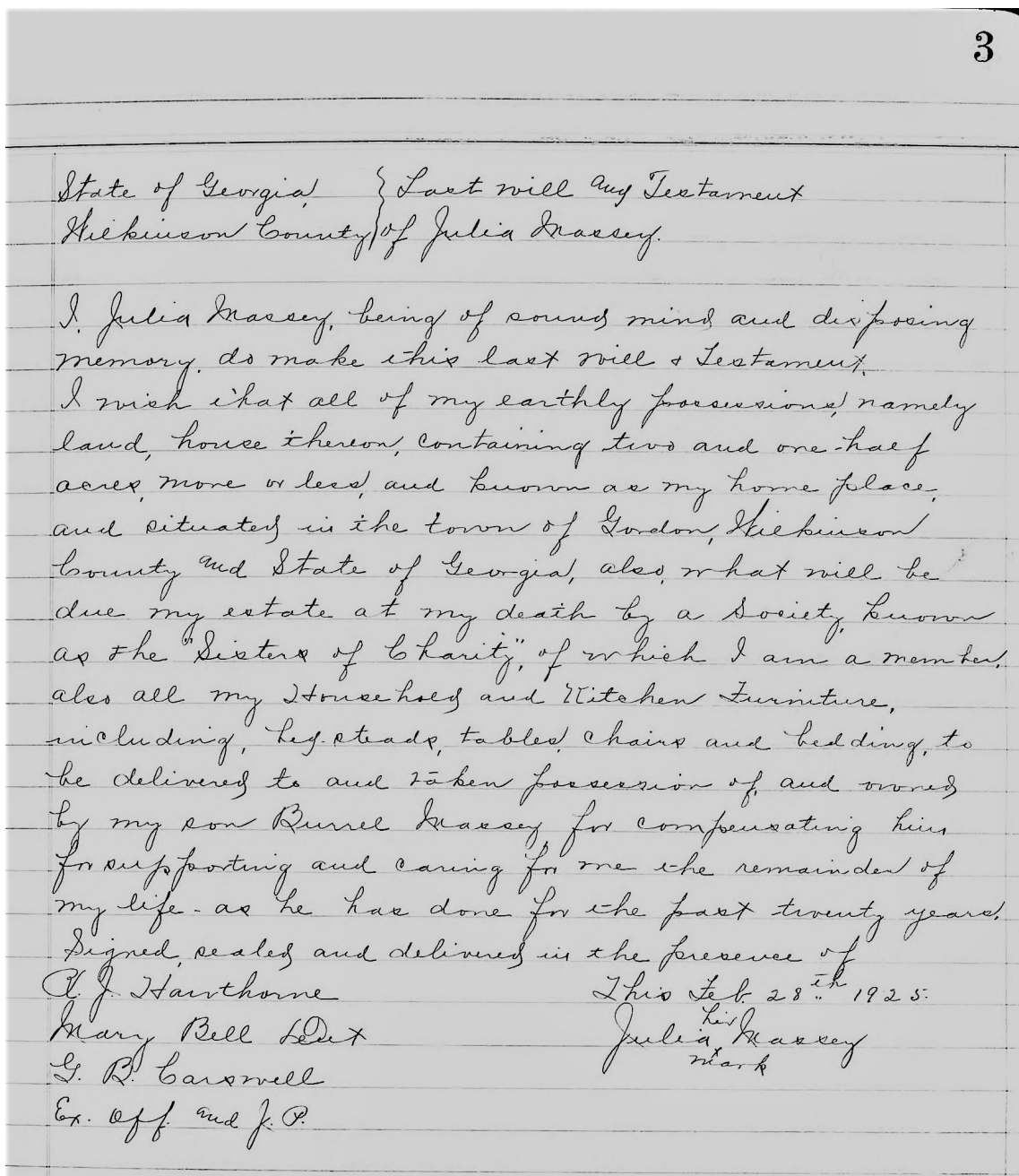
² Georgia Department of Health, Certificate of Death No. 31916, Julia Massey, 12 Sep 1925, Wilkinson County; viewed at “Georgia death certificates, 1914-1940,” digital images, Ancestry (ancestry.com : Accessed 24 Jan 2020)

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ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION:

Julia Massey Last Will & Testament³



³ Georgia, Wills and Probate Records, 1742-1992, Book 1: 03, Last Will and Testament of Julia Harris Massey, 1925; digital image, Ancestry.com (ancestry.com : accessed 24 Jan 2020)

Research Report

Toney Massey & Virginia Butler Marriage Record⁴

MARRIAGE LICENSE.

STATE OF GEORGIA, WILKINSON COUNTY.

To any Judge, Justice of the Peace, or Minister of the Gospel:

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO JOIN

Toney Massey and *Virginia Butler*
in the Holy State of Matrimony, according to the Constitution and Laws of this State, and for so doing this shall be your License. And you are hereby required to return this License to me, with your Certificate hereon of the fact and date of the marriage.

Given under my hand and seal, this *21* day of *Oct* 189*9*
J. E. Butler Ordinary. (SEAL.)

CERTIFICATE.

GEORGIA, *Wilkinson* COUNTY.

I Certify that *Toney Massey* and *Virginia Butler*
were joined in Matrimony by me, this *22* day of *Oct* 189*9*
J. A. Bennett. M. G.
J. E. Butler Ordinary.

Recorded *Nov-1-* 189*9*

⁴ Georgia State Marriages, 1822-1941, Marriage Records, Wilkinson, page 387, Marriage License of Toney Massey & Virginia Butler (1899); digital image, *FamilySearch.org* (familysearch.org : accessed 24 January 2020)

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RECOMMENDED FURTHER RESEARCH:

1. Check land and property records in Wilkinson County, Georgia for the earliest residence of Peter Massey.
2. Look at property records for Toney Massey in Wilkinson County, Georgia
3. Search GoogleBooks for more information about Peter Massey and plantation(s) in Wilkinson County, Georgia
4. Search Wilkinson County marriages for Peter Massey and Julie Harris in Wilkinson County, Georgia and its surrounding counties.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Given the time constraint, all research performed was preliminary. To solidly confirm Peter Massey is the biological father of Toney Massey, a DNA test would be required. See “recommended further research” for next targets if contracted for further research.