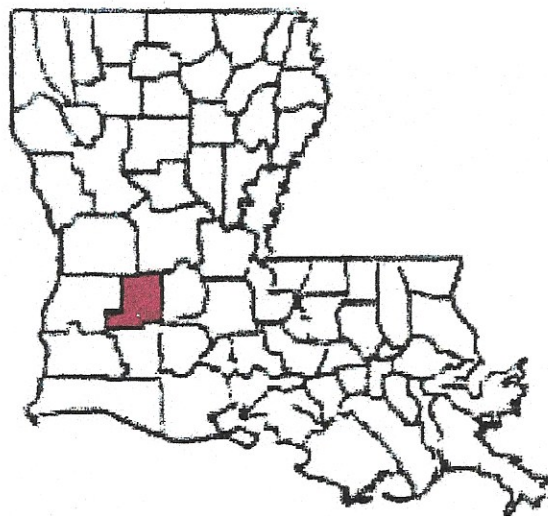


# **ALLEN GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

July, 2015

P.O. Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648

Issue No. 250



# **CROSSROADS**

**COVERING**

**Oakdale, Oberlin, Kinder, Elizabeth, Reeves,  
LeBlanc, Mittie and surrounding communities.**

**ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**2015 OFFICERS:**

President—Betty Sarver

Vice President---Durvin LaFleur

Secretary/Treasurer/Publishing Editor----Fran Clemmons

Consulting Editor---Ethel Sacker

Reporter/Tourism Envoy---Ouida Savant

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**ALLEN GENEALOGICAL and HISTORICAL SOCIETY** was organized May, 1985 to collect, organize, process, and preserve genealogical material. The purpose of the Society are to promote interest in genealogy, to assist and encourage genealogical researchers in gathering material on historical events and people of Allen Parish, and to help compile family histories. **AGHS** was incorporated in March 1990.

**AGHS** meetings are held every other month on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Library located at 833 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Kinder, La. Members are willing to help visitors with research and to answer questions they may have.

**MEMBERSHIP** fees are \$15 per calendar year per person and includes an annual subscription to *CROSSROADS*. Correspondence and dues should be sent to AGHS, P. O. Box 789, Kinder, La. 70648.

**CROSSROADS** is published semi-annually. Issues will be sent out in January, and July. Please let AGHS know of change of address to assure delivery. Queries are free to members, \$3 each for non-members and will be published as space permits. When sending in a query, please include all pertinent information such as names, dates, and places along with your name and address.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** -- We encourage and welcome contributions of genealogical and historical material that pertain to Allen Parish locations and families for inclusion in *CROSSROADS*. The society does not assume responsibility for accuracy for any copyright infringement of submitted and published material. We reserve the right to edit and/ or reject material we deem not suitable for publication.

**DONATIONS** of books, periodicals and other material of genealogical and historical interest relating to Allen Parish are accepted by the Society. We accept family histories, newspaper clippings, old photos, filled out 5-generation charts. The society will catalog these items donated and place them on file in the genealogy room at the Kinder library to be used for research purposes. Memorials and honorariums are also welcomed by the society.

## **BOOKS PUBLISHED BY ALLEN GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The following books are published by the AGHS and are available for purchase at the prices listed plus \$2 each for shipping and handling.

**Rev. Paul Leeds' Congregational Church records**("Marriages & Funerals"—1895-1957—vol.1 ) \$25

**Rev .Paul Leeds' Kinder Congregational Church records**( 1893—1957—volumes 1, 2, 3, & 4) each \$25

**Rev. Paul Leeds' Bethany (Green Oak) Church records** \$15

**Congregational Church records of the Indian Village, Edna, and Emad Communities** \$15

**Congregational Church records of Elton and China Communities** \$15

**Congregational Church records of Iowa, La.** \$15

**St Peter's Bayou Blue Indian Congregational Church records**(1901-1957(includes St Luke's early church)) \$15

**China Cemetery, Elton, La.** \$8

**LeBlanc Cemetery, Allen Parish** \$8

**Indian Village Cemetery, Kinder, La.** \$15

**Sonnier Cemetery, Allen Parish, La.** \$8

**Resthaven Cemetery, Oakdale, La.** \$8

**Lyles Cemetery—Barnes Creek, Reeves, La.** \$15

**Index of Surnames in all recorded Allen Parish Cemeteries** \$10

**St Augustine Cemetery, Basile, La.** \$15

**Ancestor Charts—five generation charts—Allen Parish ties** \$25

**THESE BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!!!**



# President's Greetings

At our May meeting, Ms. Rene Grantham, Allen Parish Library Director, met with us. She had good news about new equipment the library has acquired that will enhance our genealogy work. Library staff member, Jeff Smith, is the tech in charge of the equipment. He gave a detailed list of things that can be done with this new machine. It will be exciting to have Jeff to help us with some of our projects.

We have had a busy spring taking calls and helping out-of-state and local people with their Allen Parish research. Fran Clemmons, Ethel Sacker and I have been handling the requests. It's a great feeling to help them find that missing piece of their family tree. I was able to find a photo of one lady's grandmother and she was overjoyed to have it since she no photos of her. I also, found a photo of a gentlemen's great-grandparents who immigrated from Germany. Yes, it's been a busy but a rewarding time.

Wishing you a great summer,

*Betty Sarver*

Allen Genealogical and Historical Society President

*LETTER FROM THE EDITOR. . . . . Fran Clemmons*

I do relate to the following quote by Dr. Seuss: "How did it get so late so soon? It's night before its afternoon, December is here before its June. My goodness how the time has flown. How did it get so late so soon?" Time does go by so fast and surely doesn't wait on me. I seem to get a little more behind every day, but I keep on anyway.

A few of the society staff members have had work days at the genealogy room of the library to work on putting together in dated order the obituaries of the Allen Parish Louisiana towns and communities collected from the Lake Charles American Press and the Kinder Courier, to be published into booklets. The task of getting all the obituary clippings in order, then pasting on paper is time consuming but an important undertaking. The clippings have been cut out of the newspaper and collected for several years. There will be more work days scheduled in the future and notices will be mailed out.

I do hope you enjoy the articles I chose to publish in this issue of *Crossroads*. I was searching through some files Mr. Bill Fawcett had collected and stored in the genealogy room at the library and I found copies of newspaper articles he had clipped from the Kinder Courier that Eleanor LaFargue had submitted in her newspaper column, "Entre Nous." I used the article written about Miss Agnes Kingrey for this issue. Please read each article and let me hear from you about them. I need help in getting material to publish in *Crossroads* and would really appreciate any advice, comments, and even criticism you may have to offer.

The next regular meeting of the *Allen Genealogical and Historical Society* will be on **Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 A.M.** in the genealogy room of the Kinder branch of the Allen Parish Libraries located at 833 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Kinder, La. Coffee and fellowship begin when you arrive. The Society extends an invitation to you to come join us and bring someone with you. Guest are always welcome.



Dear Ancestor

"Your tombstone stands among the rest neglected and alone. The name and date are chiseled out on polished marble stone. It reaches out to all who care. It is too late to mourn.

You did not know that I exit. You died and I was born. Yet each of us are cells of you. In flesh and blood and bone. Our blood contracts and beats a pulse entirely not our own.

Dear Ancestor, the place you filled one hundred years ago spreads out among the ones you left Who would have loved you so. I wonder if how you lived and loved. I wonder if you knew that someday I would find this spot and come to visit you."

-Walter Butler Palmer

The Search for the grave of Savannah Odell "Delia" Hughes Yawn  
By: Velma Greer and Ethel Sacker

Velma Greer is a retired elementary School teacher and her husband, Jerry Greer is retired from teaching and coaching at the high school level. They presently live in Montgomery, Texas.

It began when Nancy Fruge from Tupelo, Mississippi, a fellow researcher, sent an email inquiring if I could help a family from Texas who was searching for the cemetery where her husband's great grandmother was buried.

Excerpts from Velma's first email:

"My husband's great grandmother's name is Savannah Odell (Hughes) Yawn, but everyone called her Della. She died in 1914 near Elizabeth, Louisiana. Her grave is unmarked, but her daughters tried to locate it many years ago. A man showed them where it was, but then he passed away before they could get a marker placed. Her daughters (who have also now passed away) said the cemetery was down a logging road, then they had to walk off that road to get to it. Do you know of any cemeteries that are located near Elizabeth that are down a logging road."

Ethel's answer to Velma's email:

"Found four cemeteries near Elizabeth; Hampton Cemetery, Turner Cemetery, Old young Cemetery, and Horton Cemetery. Can you tell me what you are looking for, that may help". Thus I received the above email. And the search began.

Through several emails, and much searching, and days later, we finally narrowed our search down to the Turner Cemetery. It seemed Della Yawns family had moved to the Elizabeth area because of the work available in the timber Industry at the time, which was around 1910. They apparently lived in the company housing, which was built on a temporary basis to house the workers. One such place was Marionville, a few miles from Elizabeth, with a cemetery near by.

Della had a gastric ulcer, which became worse in her new environment and she was treated by a Dr. John Branch. She evidently worsened, and died of a perforated gastric ulcer in 1914. Her husband took the children back to Texas and remarried.

Our search had ended. We were convinced the Turner Cemetery was the one. Velma's husband and family have made arrangements with the cemetery people to have a marker placed for Della Hughes Yawn. This will be finalized by the Cemetery meeting which is in August.

The full story follows.

There will be a follow-up in our next CrossRoads Publication.

It has been a rewarding experience for all concerned

Ethel F. Sacker

## The Search for Della Yawn's Burial Location

In studying my husband's family history, we discovered that his great grandmother, Savannah Odell "Della" (Hughes) Yawn, died in Elizabeth, Allen Parish, Louisiana, in 1914. No grave marker was placed at her grave at the time of her death. His grandmother, Gladys (Yawn) Greer, was only 9 years old at that time, and, in her adult years, wanted to go back to her mother's grave and place a headstone. She did go back to visit the grave, but because of extenuating circumstances, a marker was never placed. The name of the cemetery was never recorded in family records. This story is relating some of our discoveries about her family and the logging industry near Elizabeth where her husband worked, and our quest to find her burial location.

Nelson Hughes was born in Ozark, Dale County, Alabama, in 1833 to Ransom Vincent and Rachel (Matthews) Hughes. He married Cynthia Ann "Smithie" Martin about 1855 in Dale County, Alabama. They had 6 children: John Vincent, Joseph "Jode", Richard Nelson, Marcus, Mary Alabama "Bama", and Savannah Odell "Della". In 1872, shortly after the birth of Della, Nelson and Smithie Hughes moved their family to Willis, Montgomery County, Texas. They traveled with the families of John Isaac Lloyd and Ben W Martin. Many families were moving to escape the economic devastation of the Civil War during this time of American history. They wanted to start a new life in Texas.

Their youngest daughter, Della Hughes, met and later married William Columbus "Billy" Yawn in Willis, Montgomery County, Texas, on 31 Aug 1892. They had 7 children: Clarence William, Lottie L, Richard Charles, George Lube, Gladys "Trixie", Mary Emma, and John L. They lived in Willis, Montgomery County, Texas, according to the 1900 and 1910 census records. Billy worked as a farmer, and then as a log cutter at a sawmill. Some time after 1910, Billy and Della Yawn moved their family to the area of Elizabeth, Allen Parish, Louisiana, to work at the sawmills of the flourishing lumber industry.

Elizabeth, Allen Parish, Louisiana, was a new sawmill town, established in 1907 by Sam Park and the Industrial Lumber Company. The town was named for his daughter, Elizabeth. Sam Park began his career in the lumber business in Kansas, then moved to Beaumont, Texas, and by



the early 1900's, his business grew to include Louisiana. His name became magnified in the lumber industry. It is very possible that Billy Yawn knew of the opportunities of the sawmill jobs in the newly established Town of Elizabeth because of his sawmill jobs in Texas. Della and Billy Yawn also had a nephew, Edgar Earl Hughes, who had gone to Elizabeth, Louisiana, to work at the sawmill about 1907.

Good wages and attractive living conditions drew men to the sawmills until in 1909 lumbering in Louisiana was second only to the manufacture of sugar and molasses as an industry.

Sawmill towns were basically built around a mill. They were crude but carefully laid out towns, consisting of company houses, logging trams, mill ponds, and a business district. In the business district, there were company offices, a commissary, a drug store, a barber shop, a doctor office, a bakery, a movie theater, and a post office. Sounds of the mill reached every part of the town, and lives were regulated by the mill whistles. Many of the services and commissary items were paid for by company tokens or money, which the company paid their employees.

Billy and Della Yawn's family lived in this type of sawmill town or camp, near Elizabeth, in the township of 3 S, 5 W. Her death certificate showed this location as her place of death. The logging camp of Marionville was within this township. During their stay in Marionville, Della became sick from a chronic gastric ulcer. In March of 1914, she was attended to by a physician, J S Branch, from the Town of Elizabeth. After about a week, she died and was buried by the family the same day in a nearby cemetery. A study of sawmill towns show that most of them did not have a cemetery included in the town plot, since they were aware that the settlements were not permanent. Her grave was not marked at this time, and Billy took his children back to Texas to have his family help him raise them. On the 1920 census record, he was shown living in Hardin County, Texas.

Della's daughter, Gladys, described the cemetery as being down a logging road and off the road a bit. In later years, when she went back to visit her mother's grave, her grandson, Paul, went with her. Paul described the cemetery as being at the "y" of a red dirt or gravel road, with a white frame church in front of it. The Turner Cemetery is about 3

or 4 miles from Marionville, within the same township of 3 S, 5 W, and was at a "y" of a red gravel road. There is a white frame church in front of it that was built in 1935. In more recent years, it was mandated by an elected officer of the state that all cemetery roads be paved for easier access, so it is no longer a red gravel road. The Turner Cemetery Church had renovations and additions made around 1995. We are very certain that Della Yawn was buried in the Turner Cemetery. A headstone has been ordered and will be placed soon, thanks to the cooperation of the Turner family and Turner Cemetery Association in our quest.

By Velma Greer

Sources:

Death certificate for Savannah Odell (Hughes) Yawn

Family lore of Gladys (Yawn) Greer and Paul Strozier

Hughes family story from Lynda K Harris

1900, 1910, and 1920 U S Federal Census records

Lumbering in Southwest Louisiana, A Study of the Industry as a Culturo-Geographic Factor, by George Alvin Stokes

<http://library.mcneese.edu/depts/archive/FTBooks/stokes.htm>

Allen Parish, Louisiana, map of Post Office locations in early 1900's

Allen Parish Township map for 3 S, 5 W

Allen Parish brochure

<http://www.allenparish.com/communities.htm>

## Turner Cemetery

The Turner Cemetery is situated between Turner and Palestine Roads on a narrow country lane, Ben Turner Road, in rural Allen Parish. The earliest burial is Reddin Turner, buried Dec. 10, 1875. It is an old family cemetery, serving the Turner Community, sometimes called Ten Mile Community.

A memorial veteran's headstone is located in front of the cemetery. Family members dating back to the Civil War are honored with this memorial stone.

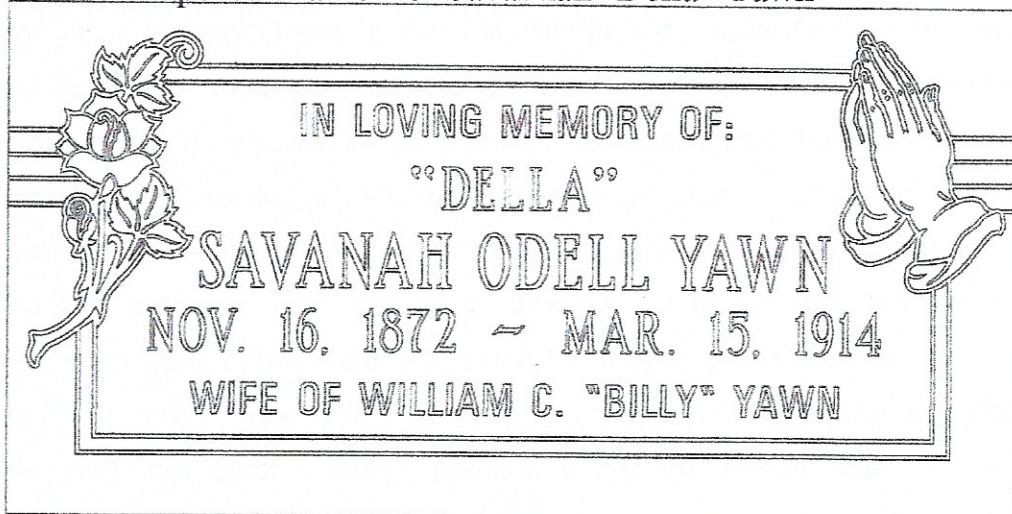
In 1935, Thomas (Tom) Turner saw a need for a church to be built, for church, family gatherings, and funerals. Donations were taken up for building materials and the entire Turner Community built the church within a month. Bro. Seth Baggett began preaching once a month for about 40 years. Yearly revivals began in 1937 with different local preachers. In 1980, the auditorium was enlarged, keeping the original floors and walls, but using new lumber to increase the side walls and floor. Also a kitchen and bathrooms were added. In 1995, another large room was added.

Although regular church services are no longer scheduled there, the church and hall are still used for wakes, funerals, reunions, gospel singings, and the annual Memorial Service and Reunion held on the first Saturday in August. Each year, an ancestor is memorialized through stories/memories of their children, grandchildren, cousins, and friends.

Turner Cemetery - Near Elizabeth, Louisiana



Proposed Marker for Savannah "Della" Yawn



## CHENO CEMETERY / LIBERTY CEMETERY

Over a hundred years ago the French name "Cheno" was given to an area southwest of Elton, Louisiana. "Chen" is a derivation of the French word for oak. Oak was a common tree in the area, so some people say that is how the name originated. Others say the name came from a misspelling of China. The area northwest of Jennings and southwest of what is now Elton was known as China. There was a store, a school and a post office located there. Mr. William Jackson served as post master as well as Henry Walton, and Arthur Anderson. In the census of 1860, this area was also known as Hickory Flat. The region was in Imperial Calcasieu Parish and Cheno Cemetery was one of the oldest cemeteries in the parish. The first burial dates back to 1868 of the young son of Mrs. Solomon Bertrand (Delcide Pitre). The cemetery and chapel were known to be in China.

In 1899, Mr. William Jackson, a homesteader of China, donated two acres of property north of the cemetery to Rev. J. Peters, a representative of Rev. P. L. Chapelle, the archbishop of the Catholic Diocese of New Orleans, La. In around 1900, the local people built a chapel to be used for masses, baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Once a year, a priest from Jennings or Welsh would travel by a horse-drawn buggy to render these services. It would take more than one day for these holy duties, so some of the neighboring homes would be honored with a priestly visit. Since 1932 this building has not been used for religious purposes. The cemetery has always been known for a well-kept burial ground. Family members would keep care of their family plots, then the people would work together on a "coup main". Later on annual bazaars were held to raise money for fence building, grass cutting and other maintenance expenses. At the yearly meetings, a caretaker was appointed for a year to care for the money and hire help to cut the grass. The bazaars were lots of work, but also fun. Kerosene stoves were brought in from homes and placed in the building to keep the gumbo and the home-cooked food warm. Barbeque and hamburgers were cooked outside. The serving of the lunches was done on tables in the chapel. There were cakes and pies, as well as coffee for sell also with the meals. People from the area and from neighboring towns came out for the bazaar to play bingo, buy meals, and listen to

political speeches. There were also raffles and auction sales of hogs, calves, and even baked items.

The money from the bazaar days helped with expenses and also people started subscribing a few dollars a year for the purpose of paying the caretakers. Annual dues were collected from house to house by a few men giving of their time and car expenses. The men that collect the dues were Mr. Elza Doise and Mr. Clifford Matt in Lake Charles, Mr. Finis Clement in Welsh, Mr. Eloi Ortego and Mr. John Gidlow in Kinder, and Mr. Oda Manuel in Elton. A lot of people gave their dues to the caretakers when they would meet them at a funeral.

The Cheno cemetery is now better known as Liberty cemetery. The story of how the cemetery name change was told by Mrs. Maxiel Bertrand (Vida Garbarino) and is as follows:

There was a small one-room school known as Liberty School located less than a mile south of the Cheno Church building. The school burned down, so the teacher, Lezina Bertrand (Mrs. B. F. Garbarino) got permission to continue her educational services in the little chapel, bringing her students to Cheno, and also the name of her school—Liberty. Other teachers who taught in this building were Mrs. L. V. Laurent, Miss Lessie Hart (Mrs. Walter Tietje), Mabel Dumatrait, and Vida Garbarino (Mrs. Maxile Bertrand). The school year of 1920-21 was the last year of school taught in the building and Vida Garbarino was the last one to teach there.

In 1967, Mr. Walter Treme obtained records from the Levingston Title Co., Inc. of Lake Charles, La. showing that the land for the cemetery was bought from Morris E. Davis by three interested citizens: James Garbarino, Joseph Bertrand and Eloi Miller in 1893. The original records were destroyed with the Calcasieu Parish Court House fire in 1910, but the Levingston Title Co. has a photographic reproduction of parish records made before the fire. After the record of land sale was discovered, three trustees were chosen for the China Burial Society. The three trustees, Edwin Miller, Finis Clement, and Mrs. Vida Garbarino Bertrand were direct descendants of the original trustees of the society. These three trustees elected the following officers: President—Mr. Finis Clement, First Vice-President—Mr. Edwin Miller, Second Vice-President—Mr. Walter

Treme, Secretary-Treasurer---Vida Garbarino Bertrand. They employed Mr. Maxiel Bertrand as caretaker.

After the death of Mr. Walter Treme, Mr. Edwin Miller, and Mr. Maxiel Bertrand, there was a need for a general meeting of the paid members of the China Burial Ground Society, so a meeting was called for September 7, 1980, by the president. The following were elected as trustees: Mr. C.L. Doise, Mr John Treme, Mrs. Eseary Miller Sonnier and Mr. Alvin Gidlow, the first three representing the three original families and the later one representing the non-related members of the society. They elected the following to be the active officers: President---Mr. C. L. Doise—Elton, La., First Vice-President---Mr. John Treme—Elton, La., Second Vice- President---Mr. Alvin Gidlow—Kinder, La., Board Member---Mrs. Eseary M. Sonnier—Elton, La., Treasurer---Mrs. Peggy Smith—Elton, La., Secretary---Mr. Alvin Manuel—Kinder, La., Caretaker---Mr. Oscar Bertrand—Elton, La.

Mr. Charles R. Cassidy, a lawyer from Jennings, recommended the method of choosing the officers for the society. He gratefully gave his time and knowledge to help make the cemetery organization an honest and successful group.

The second general meeting was held September 13, 1981 at the cemetery grounds and was conducted by Mr. Alvin Gidlow. The following trustees were elected: Mr. Alvin Gidlow—Kinder, La., Mr. Alvin Manuel—Kinder, La., Mr. J. L. Doise—Elton, La., Mr. Nelis Primeaux---Reeves, La. The four trustees chose the following as officers: President--- Mr. Alvin Gidlow—Kinder, La., First Vice-President---Mr. Alvin Manuel—Kinder, La., Second Vice-President---Mr. J. L. Duhon—Elton, La., Secretary---Mrs. Mabel D. Ledoux—Basile, La., Treasurer---Mrs. Peggy B. Smith—Elton, La., Board Member---Mr. Nelis Primeaux—Reeves, La.

The members of China Burial Society were disappointed to find out that the old church building and the 2 acres of land adjoining the cemetery now belonged to St. Paul's Catholic Church of Elton, La., but on June 14, 1982, the 1981-82 officers finally made the purchase of the property from the church for a sum of Two Thousand dollars.

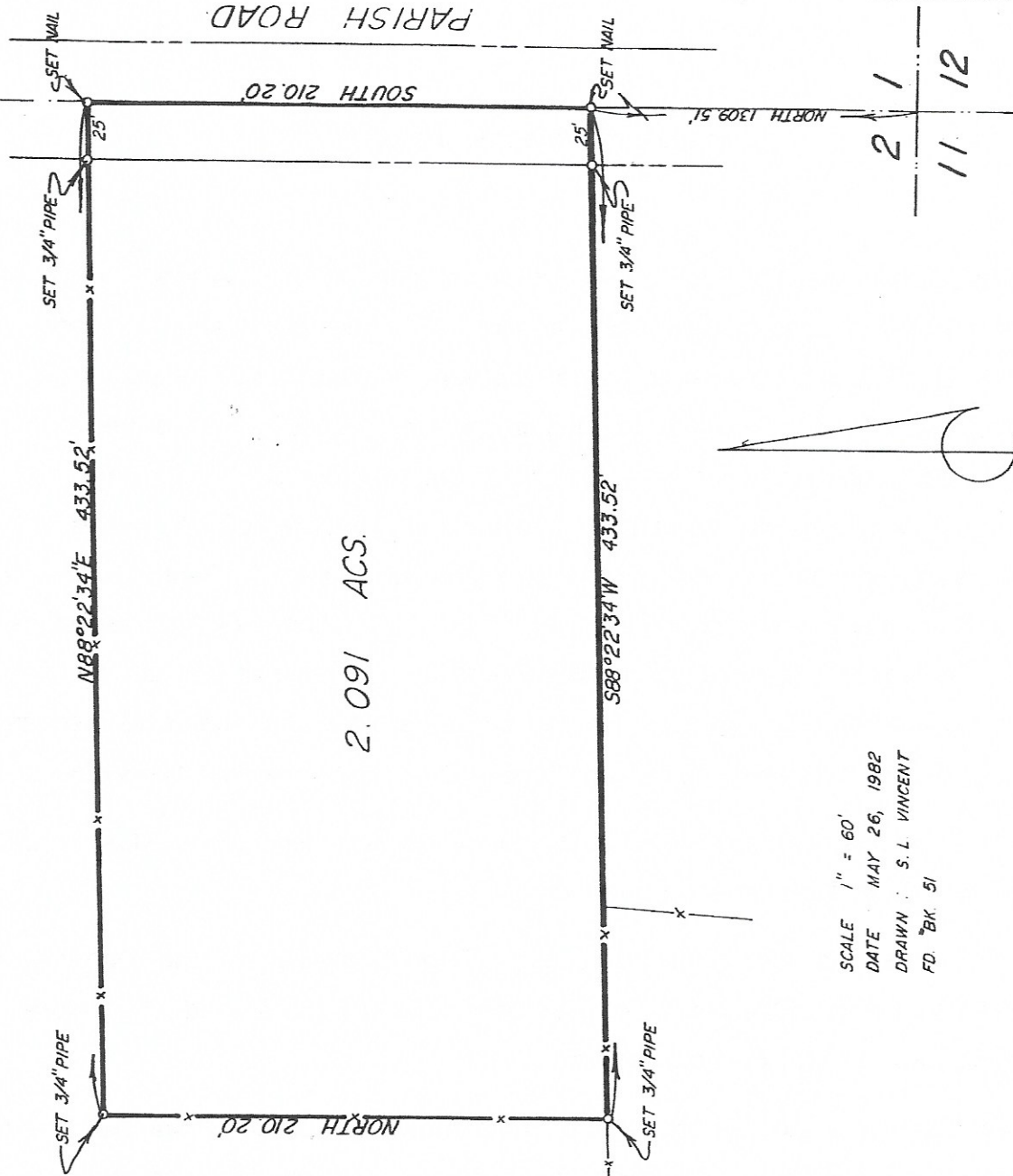
PLAT OF SURVEY  
FOR

**CHINA BURIAL SOCIETY**

FROM THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 2, T 7S - R 4W, GO NORTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SECTION 2 1309.51' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE S88°22'34"W 433.52', THENCE NORTH 210.20', THENCE N88°22'34"E 433.52' TO THE EAST LINE OF SECTION 2, THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SECTION 2 210.20' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING 2.091 ACRES IN JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA



*Norman G. Hutchings*  
NORMAN G HUTCHINGS  
REG. LAND SURVEYOR  
JENNINGS, LOUISIANA



2.091 ACS.

SCALE 1" = 60'  
DATE MAY 26, 1982  
DRAWN S. L. VINCENT  
FD. BK. 51

21  
11 12



## The Life of William M. Jackson

William Jackson was born on June 8, 1828 in Mommouthshire, Wales. He came to the United States in his late 20's in 1855 aboard a schooner (small ship) and landed in New York City. According to records he was very educated and worked as an iron worker/founder, also a teacher. During his time in New York City the war between the states was going on. He was offered his citizenship if he joined the Union Army so he signed up for that reason. According to records in (The Civil War Veterans of Old Imperial Calcasieu Parish) he was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant with CO. H. 78 Regt. US CAL. INF VOLS. (US Cavalry Infantry Volunteers). All of this information is on his head stone at Liberty Cemetery in Elton, La. (Civil War Veteran). Lt. Jackson was an honorable, brave and courageous young man. He was 36 years old at the time of his discharge. According to records he filed and drew a Federal (Disability) pension until his death.

In a 1890 census book he worked as an iron worker/founder, teacher, Justice of the peace, Postmaster, mail carrier, and farmer.

William Jackson is mentioned in a book "A Town Named Elton" the history of the town and Post Office. The history of the Post Office in Elton started long before the (Village) or Town of Elton became a reality.

William Jackson settled an area that became known as Jackson Point, because the tree lines formed a point on the prairie south of Elton. The area had great oak trees. He was known as a Red Haired "rough and tumble" native of Monmouth, Wales, who came to homestead after the Civil War ended. He had done some fighting in the area during the war and made plans to come back and settle.

Mr. Jackson married Lucinda White in Hickory Flat in Calcasieu Parish in November 1869. She was the daughter of Meredith White and Francis Louise Lee. They had five children: Mary Elizabeth, Sophie Jane, Anna, David George, and Christina. His wife Lucinda deserted him after 25 years of marriage. Mr. Jackson died on December 22, 1907, at the age of 78years. His place of burial is at Liberty Cemetery, Elton, La.

## MISS AGNES KINGREY / KINDER HOSPITAL

Information for this article taken from *The Kinder Courier*, "Entre Nous" by Eleanor LaFargue

and *Find a Grave.com*

A dedication to nursing, a love for people, and a deep love and respect for her father, W. S. Kingrey, directed Agnes Kingrey into the path of several generations of Allen Parish / Kinder area residents.

Anyone and everyone that remembers the Kinder Hospital from the forties through the late sixties will immediately associate that memory with "Miss Agnes." She received her nursing degree from Hotel Dieu and Lamar College in Beaumont, Texas. She began her nursing career in Texas, but her father could see his daughter's talents were very much needed in her home town, so with a little persuasion, home she came, and began her duties at the hospital located in the Cappel Building. During the interview for the article to be written about her, she remarked that the professional training she received, did not prepare her for "country nursing."

Dr. Pete Buck, and a new young doctor, J.J. Storer were the doctors in Kinder. "Dr. Pete" could see a need for another doctor, and they began to urge another young doctor who was practicing in Oakdale to join them. Dr. J. W. Mayes was from Kinder, and decided to return to meet the needs of his hometown.

Miss Agnes could see that more space plus more sophisticated equipment was needed so wheels were put into motion for a new hospital. In 1949, The Kinder Hospital was opened. The hospital located near the Kingrey home on Second Ave. and Eleventh Street, was equipped with a laboratory, labor room, delivery room, emergency room, a room for surgery, kitchen, and two dining rooms.

Nurses were needed to staff the hospital. The following is a list of the nurses that worked for Miss Agnes in The Kinder Hospital: Frances Cronan,(was the baby nurse), Mabel Wallace, Jenny Wrinkles Williams(from Kinder and received nurses training at Hotel Dieu with Miss Agnes), and Lula Bell. "Aunt Jenny" as she was called, and Lula worked in surgery. Other nurses were Elaine Cottongin, Jane Morgan, Georgia Cook, Mamie Fossett, Juanita Baggett, and Gladys Lawrence. Mrs. Baggett and Ms Gladys

Lawrence later worked with Dr. Mayes in his private practice, and Mrs. Mamie Fossett, and Mrs. Lula Bell worked with Dr. Storer in his private practice.

Dr. Paul Shorts eventually joined the staff of the hospital, and Mr. Dick Reeves came on to work in the lab and administer the anesthesia. Dr. Shorts later went into practice in Lake Charles.

Miss Agnes told the interviewer with lots of pride about the many types of medical services that were administered in the hospital, from obstetrics to surgery to lab tests. In the early days of the hospital, there was very little of this thing called hospitalization insurance. Times were hard, and many of her patients were not able to pay for all the services that were rendered but she said in the interview, "We did the best we could for them."

Miss Agnes commented on the hours that nurses put in each day in the early years. A normal shift would run from 7:00 a. m. until 7:00 p.m. The doctors went without sleep most of the time and as for which doctor was on call, she said whoever had a patient to come in with an emergency, or to be admitted, their doctor was called.

Miss Agnes had living quarters in the hospital, since she was the head nurse and the administrator. She referred the quarters as "the mud room." She would dabble in ceramics to keep herself awake while waiting on someone in labor. She and her staff and friends enjoyed working with the ceramics, so she put in as many as six ceramic kilns at one time. Miss Agnes was a very talented artist, and she had a lot of her oil paintings and china paintings on exhibit in her home.

In 1966, Miss Agnes closed her hospital when her father became ill to devote her time to nursing him, and also at this time, the parish had voted to build The Allen Parish Hospital. She would visit the Kinder Nursing Home frequently and also spent time visiting old friends and patients.

Miss Agnes was the daughter of William Sampson Kingrey(1886-1966), and Charlotte "Lottie" Brice Kingrey(1889-1967) born on December 1, 1906. She died at 94 years old on April 1, 2001 and is buried in Carter Memorial Cemetery, Kinder, Louisiana.

## GENEALOGY HUMOR

### DON'T GO ALONE WHEN TRANSCRIBING CEMETERIES

*Author: Sandi Gorin*

*A woman in Kentucky, an avid cemetery hunter did what no gal should do. She had heard about a cemetery in the woods long sought after and went by herself. It was way off the beaten path but she found it. She took out her pen and tablet and started pulling up and clearing away weeds growing around the graves so she could read the markers and write down the information there. She was working on her hands and knees with her head down busy with her task when she was alerted by the sound of a click. She looked up and saw a fellow on each side of her with cocked rifles. In her excitement of finding the graves and working to rid the weeds, she failed to recognize just what the weeds were. She glanced down then and realized she had been pulling up their "crop" ready for harvesting—the illegal type of hemp! Thinking quickly (and praying a lot) she turned on the tears and said "Oh, I hope I am not trespassing...I am so happy....for years I have been hunting for my Grandpa's grave, and there it is...And there he is, Oh Grandpa!!! The men took one look around them and just walked away. NEVER go cemetery hunting alone.*

*By the way, she didn't have the foggiest idea of who was buried there, but bet her real Grandpa was proud of her!*

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### OLDER THAN DIRT

*As I age, I Realize That:*

- 1. I talk to myself, because sometimes I need expert advice.*
- 2. Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.*
- 3. I don't need anger management. I need people to stop "ticking" me off.*
- 4. The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write it down, I'll remember it."*
- 5. At my age "getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.*

## A TRIVIA STORY of INTEREST

### About The Sears Roebuck Mail-Order Company and Sears Modern Homes

The Sears Roebuck mass-merchandizing mail-order company was founded in 1893, and quickly became one of the largest such operations in the world. The company dates its history back to 1886, when a Chicago jewelry company shipped some gold-filled watches to an unsuspecting jeweler in a Minnesota hamlet, thus started a chain of events that lead to the founding of Sears. Richard Sears, an agent of the Minneapolis and St. Louis railway station in North Redwood, Minnesota, with spare time on his job as station agent, sold lumber and coal to local residents to make extra money. When he received a shipment of watches – unwanted by a Redwood Falls jeweler, Sears purchased them himself, sold the watches at a profit to other station agents up and down the line, and ordered more for resale. He began the R. W. Sears Watch Company in Minneapolis, selling watches through a mail order catalog. The following year, Sears moved his business to Chicago and inserted a classified ad in the Chicago Daily News—“Wanted: Watchmaker with reference who can furnish tools. State age, experience and salary required. Address T39 Daily News.” Alvah C. Roebuck answered the ad. He told Sears he knew watches and brought a sample of his work to prove it. Sears hired him. Here began the association of two young men still in their twenties, that was to make their name famous.

In 1893 Richard Sears and Alvah Roebuck renamed their watch company Sears, Roebuck & Company. By 1895, the catalog had grown to a 532 page catalog offering many items other than watches and jewelry. The catalog offered shoes, women garments and millinery, wagons, fishing tackles, stoves, furniture, china, musical instruments, saddles, firearms, buggies, bicycles, baby carriages and glassware and also began selling building materials. By 1906 the department for selling building materials out of the catalog was almost shut down until Frank W. Kushel, had a better idea. He believed the homebuilding materials could be shipped straight from the factories, thus eliminating storage costs for Sears. To advertise the company's new and improved line of building supplies, a Modern Homes specialty catalog, the Book of Modern Homes and Building Plans, appeared in 1908. Customers were invited to write in and ask for a copy, which featured house plans and building materials. This catalog was 68-pages long and offered 44 house designs, ranging in price from \$695 - \$4,115. (Besides offering 44 house designs, Sears offered a school house design also for \$11,500, about one dollar per square foot.) The same year an ad appeared on page 594 in the Sears general merchandize catalog that read, “*\$100 set of building plans free. Let*

*us be your architect without cost to you."* In 1909, a lumber mill in Mansfield, Louisiana was purchased for first bill of materials sold to complete modern home.

The timing for these catalog homes was ideal. In 1900 only 8,000 cars were on America's roads. Just a decade later, 460,000 automobiles were registered and licensed. People were heading to the suburbs in their "Model Ts," and Sears had just the house for them.

After selecting a house design from the Sears Modern Homes catalog, customers were asked to send in \$1. By return mail, they received a bill of materials list and full blueprints. When the buyer placed the actual order for the home-building materials, the \$1 was credited toward their purchase.

A few weeks after the order was placed, entire homes would arrive by railroad, from precut lumber, to carved staircases, down to the nails and varnish. Families picked out their houses according to their needs, taste, and pocketbooks. Sears provided all the materials and instructions, and many years the financing, for homeowners to build their own houses. Sear's Modern Homes stand today as living monuments to the fine, enduring, and solid quality of Sears craftsmanship.

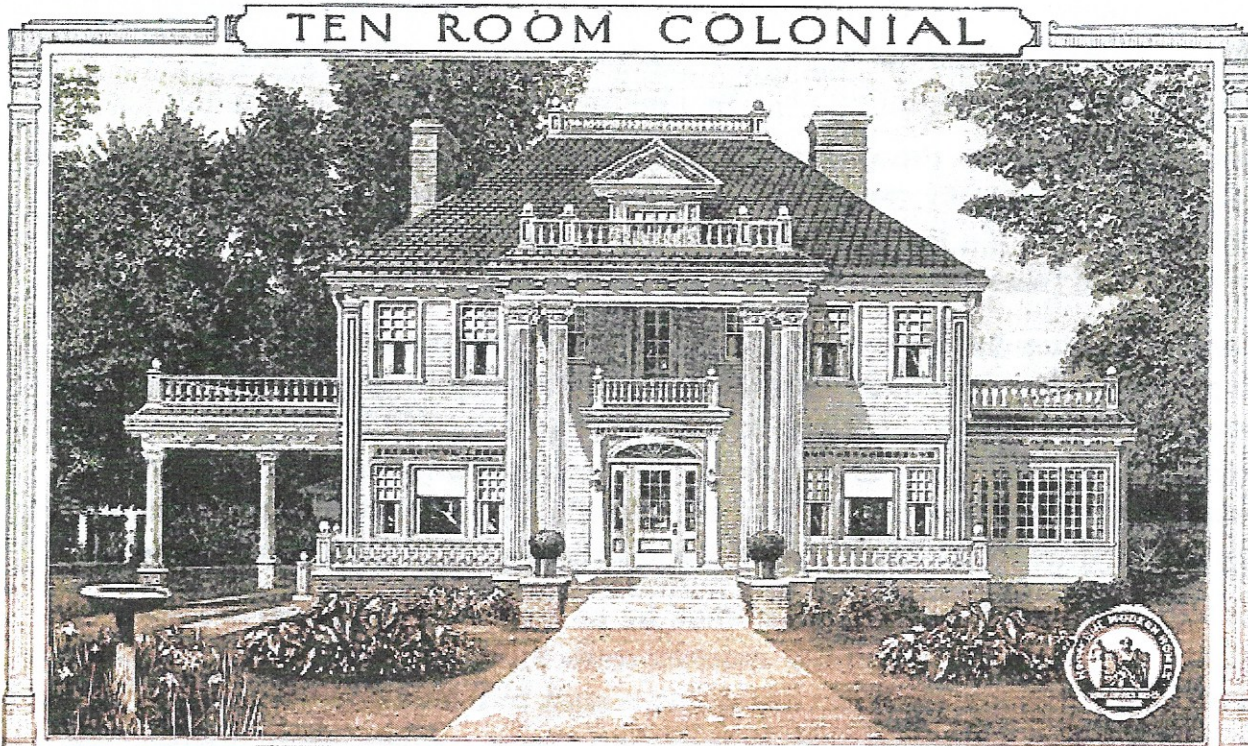
Over 32 years that Sears offered homes by catalog, Sears offered 370 different models. In the early years, the models were identified with numbers. After several years, Sears also began assigning names to the various models. Certain models were more popular than others and these models were offered over multiple years, while other models were only offered for one year.

Between 1908 and 1940, Modern Homes made an indelible mark on the history of American housing. Sears had the customer in mind when it expanded its line of houses to three different expense levels to appeal to customers of differing means: Honor Bilt, Standard Built, and Simplex Sectional. Honor Bilt was the highest-quality line of houses, with its clear-grade flooring and cypress or cedar shingles. The Standard Built were best for warmer climates, meaning they did not retain heat very well. The Simplex Sectional line, as the name implies, contained simple designs. Simplex Sectional houses were only a couple of rooms and were ideal for summer cottages.

An Honor Bilt home, "The Magnolia," a ten room colonial was the largest and most expensive model, costing \$6,488.

The American landscape is dotted by Sears Modern Homes. Few of the original buyers and builders remain to tell the excitement they felt when traveling to greet their new house at the train station. The remaining homes, however, stand as testaments today to the bygone era and to the pride of home built by more than 100,000 Sears customers and fostered by the Modern Homes program.

Richard Nixon was born on January 9, 1913 in a Sears Catalog Home his father built in Yorba Linda California. The house is now a part of the Nixon Presidential Library Complex.

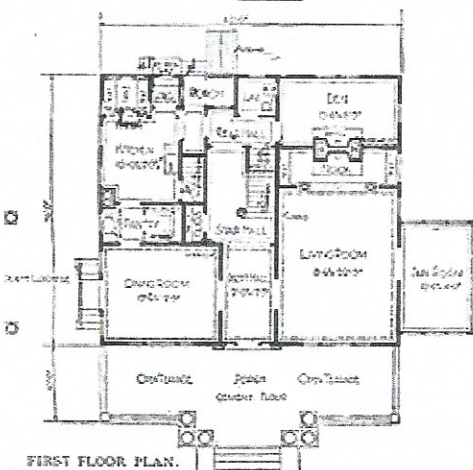


TEN ROOM COLONIAL

Honor Bill

*The Magnolia*  
No. 2089 "Already Cut" and Fitted.  
**\$6,488<sup>00</sup>**

"Honor Bill" No. 2089. "Already Cut" and Fitted.  
At the price quoted we will furnish all the material to build this ten-room house, including mill work, lumber, both shingles, porch ceiling, siding, flooring, finishing lumber, building paper, covee bough, door spongs, sash weights, hardware, nails, covee trough, eaves, colonnade, roofing, painting material, mantels, tile and grates. We guarantee enough of the above material to build this house. Price does not include cement, brick or plaster.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

**First Floor** A Colonial front door opens from the porch into the reception hall, which has French doors leading to the living room and the dining room. French doors also lead from the living room to the sun room. A massive but graceful stairway leads from the hall to the second floor. There is a rear hall back of the stairway, with doors leading to the kitchen, the den and the rear porch. The kitchen has a nicely arranged breakfast nook, lit by three fancy windows. A china case and seat each in the above. See illustrations on the opposite page. Rooms are 9 feet 6 inches from floor to ceiling.

We furnish oak flooring, birch doors and birch trim for the reception hall, living room, dining room and sun garden. Yellow pine flooring, doors and trim for the rest of the first floor. With the exception of the French doors for the living room, dining room and sun garden, all other inside doors are the latest two-panel design. For the second floor we furnish yellow pine flooring and trim with beech-rose panel solid white pine doors.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

This house can be built with the rooms reversed. See page 3.

**FROM** the days of George Washington to the present time, the Colonial type of residence has always been popular. It has housed the greatest figures in American history, science and literature. Many will recognize a close resemblance in the illustration above to the famous residence at Cambridge, Mass., where the poet Longfellow composed his immortal works. Leading architectural authorities declare that this type will continue to win favor for hundreds of years. There can be no question of its imposing appearance, graceful lines and other attractive features. This is a house for the discriminating builder who is willing to invest a fair amount for the largest returns in comfort, convenience and extra high quality.

**Second Floor** There are four bedrooms with closets, two bathrooms and a sleeping porch on this floor. One of the front bedrooms and one of the rear bedrooms have dressing rooms, with extra closets for dresses and hats. Other conveniences are shown in the closets, a special linen closet and a stairway to the attic. Note that the servants' quarters are completely separate and have a stairway from the kitchen. Rooms are 9 feet from floor to ceiling.

**Basement** An excavated basement under the entire house, 3 feet from floor to joists, lighted with basement sash.

A pair of French doors lead from the stair landing to the deck and a French door from dressing room to front of balcony.

Painted three coats outside, your choice of color. Varnish and wood filler for interior finish.

Built on a concrete and brick foundation, frame construction. No. 1 yellow pine framing and dimension lumber.

Oriental Asphalt Shingles, instead of Wood Shingles, no extra charge.  
For Prices of Plumbing, Heating, Wiring, Electric Fixtures and Shades, see page 115.  
**Our Guarantee Protects You—Order Your House From This Book.**  
Price Includes Plans and Specifications.  
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City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please type or print clearly all information. Use a separate form for each person you are seeking information on. Please capitalize the last name of each person you are seeking information on. Fill in all the applicable blanks. If not applicable, place a dash in that space. Place a question mark where the information is speculative. Use "ca" for any date that is approximate or a good guess.

Subject's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's birth year: \_\_\_\_\_ Death year: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's maiden name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's birth year: \_\_\_\_\_ Death year: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's name: (Maiden name): \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's date and place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's date and place of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject's children: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject's siblings: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject's places(s) of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

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Any additional information on subject: \_\_\_\_\_

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