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| **RD-008** | John Jackson Jeffreys’ Wife or Wives |

Note:

In my system, an “RD-###” document is a “Research Document” that is used before I transfer information to an “FT-###” document, which is a “Family Tree” document. The Family Tree documents are more statements of the various facts of that particular family, while the Research documents are more investigative, intuitive, and sometimes just plain guessing. If you see something named “Source ###”, that is my numbering system for the various sources that back up the conclusions in the FT and RD documents. Sources, FT documents, and RD documents are all numbered sequentially as I create them.

In RD-007, as I researched William Jeffrey’s parents, I kept running across 4 different women listed as John Jackson Jeffreys, Sr.’s (hereafter referred to as JJJ, Sr.) wife:

* Jimmy Adye
* Jincey Edwyn
* Winifred Whitmore
* Deannah “Disa” Baker

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| **Item # 1** | **Jimmy Adye vs. Jincey Edwyn** | Ancestry.com | [**North Carolina, U.S., Marriage Records, 1741-2011**](https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=60548&h=6088017&tid=119665458&pid=202425771384&hid=1011539562829) |

This is the Ancestry.com “hint” that is used for both the Jimmy Adye and the Jincey Edwyn marriage inference. Here is a screenshot of the page from the hint:



So this does somewhat look like “Jimmy” for the first name, but looks more like an “Edwyn” last name. However, the problem is that this is a typed copy of 100+ year old records and the ink has run on the paper, blurring everything. The trick I found is to look at the *back* of this page. Luckily, the pages were only typed on one side. If we move one page further in the book from this hint, we can see the back side of this entry:



Now we can see that the last name (on the left side of the picture above) is definitely “Edwyn”. The first name looks more like “Jinc?y”. I am not sure what the 5th letter (signified by a “?” in my guess to the left) is. It seems like it should be a vowel, and I have no better guess than an “e”. So let’s call this name “Jincey Edwyn” and ignore the “Jimmy Adye” name.

Also we can note that the bondsman was James Burton, and that this marriage took place in Caswell County, NC. Another note is that JJJ Sr.’s last name is spelled “Jeffreys”.

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| **Item # 2** | **JJJ Sr.’s wives** | Ancestry.com | Michela Steele hint under John Jackson Jeffreys Sr. on Ancestry.com (Source 433) |

Source 433 is a hint on Ancestry.com from Michela Steele concerning her Jeffreys’ ancestors. Toward the end of this hint, she discusses the wives of John Jackson Jeffreys, Sr. :

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Ok, not sure how much of this I agree with. Here are some issues I see:

* If Jincey and JJJ Sr. got married in 1795, how was Jemima Jeffreys born in 1785? I don’t think it was too common for this situation. It’s possible though. Jincey would have only been 15 years old in 1785, and I have seen a [Geneanet webpage](https://gw.geneanet.org/fschwartziii?lang=en&pz=frank&nz=schwartz&p=gainer&n=jeffreys&oc=1) that shows Jemima (called Mary Jemima) as the daughter of Gainer Jeffreys, who is possibly JJJ Sr.’s father. BUT it does make sense that William Jeffreys (my ancestor) is the son of JJJ Sr. and Jincey Edwyn.

On Ancestry.com, I have found a marriage bond record for JJJ Sr. and Winifred Whitmore ([here](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60548/images/42091_338757-00220?pId=1038216)) which says they were married April 21, 1800 and the marriage was witnessed by Charles Whitmore (brother? father?).

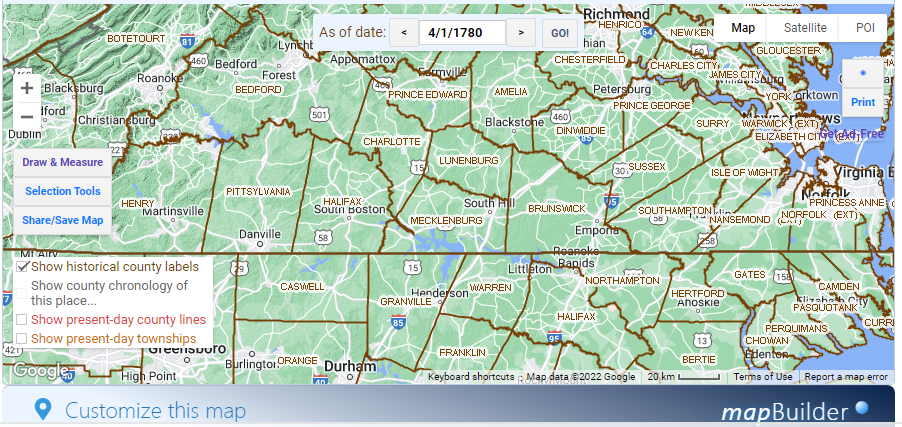
I haven’t seen any mention of a marriage bond for Deannah and JJJ Sr. I will keep looking as I am pretty sure they were married.

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| **Item # 3** | **Jincey Edwyn** | [Genealogy.com](https://www.genealogy.com/forum/surnames/topics/eddins/781/) | [**Linda**](https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=60548&h=6088017&tid=119665458&pid=202425771384&hid=1011539562829) **Bollinger post on the Edwyns (or actually Eddins)** |

Here is the full text of Linda Bollinger’s post:

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| William Eddins died in 1781 in Lunenburg Co., Virginia. I’m looking for evidence of when and where his widow, Ann, died. Did Ann die in 1796 in Lunenburg Co. or in 1804 in Caswell Co., North Carolina?  Four daughters of William and Ann Eddins married in Caswell Co., NC, three of them earlier than 1796. All of their names are misspelled in the Caswell Co. records. Fanny Edwards (Eddins) married William Sherman March 8, 1791. Milly Edwyn (Eddins) married Charles Sherman Oct. 31, 1794. Jincey Edwyn (Eddins) married John Jeffries March 9, 1795. Polly Edwyn (Eddins) married William Sherman Aug. 14, 1799.  An Ann Eddings died in Caswell Co. in 1804. Charles Sherman, husband of Milly Eddins, was administrator of her estate. There was a judgment against Abner Quarles. (Book E, 1804-1805, p 145).   (When Joseph Eddings married Elizabeth Holcomb in 1805, Charles Sherman was bondsman.)  I hope someone can point me toward records in Lunenburg Co. that prove or disprove that Ann died there in 1796. The conflict of information has bothered me for quite some time. Thanks for your help. Linda Bollinger |

So it seems that Jincey’s last name should be “Eddins” not “Edwyn”. Here is the location of Lunenburg County, VA in 1780 from [RandyMajors.org](https://www.randymajors.org/maps?x=-75.7262965&y=37.0434622&cx=-78.3524988&cy=36.8066931&zoom=8&state=US&hyear=1780&labels=show) in the figure below. Lunenburg County is not too far from Caswell County, NC. Not sure how Jincey and JJJ Sr. met, but meet they did!



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| **Item # 4** | **Jincey Eddins’ family** | Ancestry.com | **William Eddings Will, Lunenburg County, VA, 1781 (Source** |

I thought the name “Jincey” was probably a misunderstanding by whoever recorded these records, and I wasn’t sure how to trace it back to what might be the real name. One of the [webpages I found](https://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/trees/110177/I2139/williameddings-edens/individual) seemed to support that maybe her name wasn’t “Jinsey”, but possibley “Nansey”. Also, this same webpage pointed me to more of Jinsey/Nansey’s ancestors [here](https://worldconnect.rootsweb.com/trees/110177/I2085/williameddins-eddings/individual). These can be for tracing at another time!

However, these documents identified the father’s name (possibly) as William Eddings and gave some sources:

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| **1.** | *Title*:   Lunenburg County, Virginia Will Book *Page*:   1:133, 2/2/1754 |
| **2.** | *Title*:   Lunenburg County, Virginia Will Book *Page*:   3:86, proved 8/9/1781 |

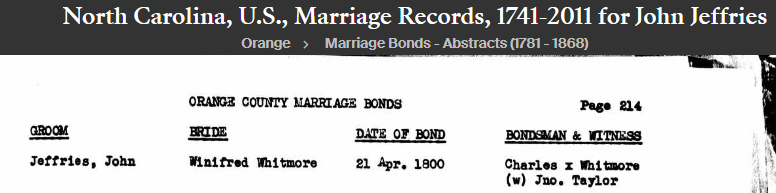
I looked through the Card Catalog on Ancestry.com and found the Lunenburg County Will Book and Pages mentioned by Brenda Reed on the Rootsweb pages! The first citation from page 133 of book 1 is William Eddins will in 1754. This William is the father of the William who is Jincey/Nansey’s father. The second citation from page 86 of Book 3 is the William we are looking for. In the Will of Jincey/Nancy’s father, the following family members are mentioned:

* Son Isaac Eddings
* Wife (not named)
* Son William Eddings (inherited a Negro slave named “Seaborn”? “Leavon”?)
* Son Abraham Eddings (inherited a Negro slave named “Dick”)
* Son Joseph Eddings (inherited a Negro slave named “Will”)
* Daughter Salley Davis
* Daughter Beckey Eddings
* Daughter Anna Eddings
* Daughter Fanny Eddings
* Daughter Polly Eddings
* Daughter Milley Eddings
* Daughter Jensey Eddings

How about that? It looks like the name is actually “Jensey” or “Jincey”! Let’s go with “Jensey” as that is in this will and this is probably who my ancestor is. Ok, Jensey! Welcome back to the family after being lost to us for 200+ years. Onto the next wife!

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| **Item # 5** | **Winifred Whitmore** | Ancestry.com | **Is Winifred Whitmore one of the wives of John Jackson Jeffreys Sr.?** |

As I do more research, I am beginning to doubt that Winifred and my John Jackson Jeffreys were married. The document that everyone cites for this marriage is always this one:



A few things to note:

* Orange County, NC, not Caswell County, NC. They are next door so maybe this is not an issue.
* John’s last name is spelled “Jeffries”, not “Jeffreys”. It has always been spelled “Jeffreys” before.
* Charles Whitmore is the bondsman for this marriage. Obviously a relative of Winifred’s.

My thinking is that this particular John Jeffries is a “Free Person of Color” from the North Carolina area. I don’t mean that they were African American – they may have been more Native American, in particular Saponi, more particularly the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation (<https://obsn.org/>). I am basing my thinking on some of the following:

* In this link (<https://www.freeafricanamericans.com/Jeffery_Johnson.htm>), we see that this page says:

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| 5.    Jacob Jeffries, born say 1758, enlisted in Donoho's 10th North Carolina Regiment on 25 May 1781 and left the service a year later. His final pay of 21 pounds was received by William King [Clark, *The State Records of North Carolina*, XVII:222]. He was taxable in Orange County in 1790 [NC:95] and head of an Orange County household of 9 "other free" in 1800 [NC:514]. He recorded a certificate in Orange County on 24 July 1791 that he was the "Mulatto Jacob" who received a discharge for 12 months service as a soldier in the Revolution [*NCGSJ* XI:115]. He married, second, Jane **Moore**, 5 October 1796 Orange County bond, Joshua Wittid bondsman. His 14 July 1818 Orange County will left his wife Jane his household furniture, farm animals, the crop on the plantation, a bounty ticket worth $3,000 due by Major Donoho (apparently for Revolutionary War service) and named her as executrix; left a cow to his son Rivers Jeffries; and left a dollar each to the his first wife's children: Reuben Jeffries, Mourning Jeffries, John Jeffries, Katty **Ammons** (**Hammons**) and Betsy **Guy** [North Carolina original will, D:543]. Jinncy was head of an Orange County, North Carolina household of 7 "free colored" in 1820 [NC:344]. Jacob was the father of  i. Reuben, born say 1783, married Kissiah **Hawly**, 30 May 1808 Caswell County bond, Miles **Scott** bondsman. Reuben was head of an Orange County, North Carolina household of 2 "free colored" in 1820 [NC:354]. Miles **Scott** was head of an Orange County household of 3 "other free" in 1810 [NC:817]. Reuben was about 69 on 14 September 1837 when he testified for the pension application of Charles **Whitmore** that he had been of neighbor of his in Brunswick County, Virginia [NARA, S.11739, M804, [http://fold3.com/image/28017759](https://www.fold3.com/image/28017759)].  ii. Mourning2.  iii. John, perhaps the John Jeffries who married Winfred **Whitmore**, 21 April 1800 Orange County bond, Charles **Whitmore** bondsman.  iv. Catey, married Mark **Hammond**, 10 May 1802 Orange County bond, Richard Hargreave and John Reeves bondsmen. Mark was head of an Orange County household of 6 "free colored" in 1820 [NC:284].  v. Elizabeth, born say 1786, married Vines **Guy**, 8 January 1805 Orange County bond, Jesse Blalock bondsman.  vi. Rivers. |

Another document that supports this is from <http://www.rla.unc.edu/Publications/NCArch/SIS_40.pdf>, which on page 18 states:

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| On the 1790 federal census for Orange County, North Carolina (then including Alamance County, which was formed in 1849), the names of Charles Whitmore, Jesse Whitmore, and Jacob Jeffries appear. Since the 1790 census for Orange County was actually made up from a tax list of 1787, it is clear that these heads of households and their families, and possibly others, were here by that date. In 1787, the Texas community no doubt was a long day's ride from the center of government at Hillsborough, and so it is likely that there were other families there as well. It also is unlikely that the members of the community were completely trusting of these White government officials, and consequently may have actively avoided contact with them. The 1790 census does not list the race of the heads of household in Orange County. Both Whitmores are listed in 1830 as "Free Negro Heads of Households" along with numerous Jeffrieses, Corns, Burnettes, Haithcocks, and others for the North District of Orange County. This "Free Negro" list also enumerates nearly all the families that were ancestral to present-day Indian communities in other parts of North Carolina such as the Lumbee, Coharie, and Meherrin. |

Yet another interesting [document](https://obsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/OBSN-Extended-History-Last-update-2014.pdf) is this from the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation, which states on page 2:

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And yet a 4th interesting document is this from <https://www.freeafricanamericans.com/revolution.htm> showing a list of 900 Free People of Color who fought in the Revolutionary War, which states:

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| Charles Whitmore was head of an Orange County, North Carolina household of 4 "free colored" in 1820 [NC:A:412]. He appeared in Orange County court on 25 May 1836 to apply for a pension for his service in the Revolution. He stated that he entered the service in the militia of Greensville County, Virginia. He was at the time bound to one Parr and substituted for his son Thomas Parr when he was drafted. He served in Captain Andrew Jeter's Company and Colonel James Moore's Regiment and helped guard Norfolk [NARA, S.11739, M804,Roll 2547, frame 424 of 822; <https://www.fold3.com/image/28017759>] |

**After looking at all of these documents, I have reached the opinion that the John Jeffries who married Winifred Whitmore is not my John Jackson Jeffreys Sr.**

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| **Item # 6** | **Deannah Baker** |  | **When did Deannah Baker marry John Jackson Jeffreys Sr.?** |

I have not found any information on when Jinsey Eddings died. It was obviously sometime around 1800, maybe a few years after. So let’s try to figure out when Deannah and JJJ Sr. married.

I have not found any information on Deannah’s and JJJ Sr.’s marriage in Ancestry.com. I looked through the Card Catalog and didn’t see anything there. I had an idea to look at their later children and see what the birth dates are for their children. I know that after JJJ Sr.’s death, Deannah lived with her son Abner (1850 US Federal Census) and her daughter Melvina Jeffreys Toliver (1860 US Federal Census). So I think it’s safe to say that those were her children.

[GeneaNet](https://gw.geneanet.org/samuckerheide?n=jeffreys&oc=&p=william+thomas) lists their children’s birth and death years as:

* M William Thomas Jeffreys 1796-1879
* M John Jackson Jr Jefferys 1800-1870
* M James Franklin Sr Jeffreys 1804-1860
* M Evan Evans Erin Evin Jeffreys 1805-1870/
* F Sarah Elizabeth Jeffreys 1806-1860/
* M Abner Baker Jeffreys 1809-1898
* M Simon Jeffreys 1810-1879
* F Sarah Elizabeth Jeffreys 1814-1912
* F Melvina "Vina" Jeffreys 1816-1912

1. From [FindaGrave](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/28175496/melvina-toliver), Melvina was born September 1812, which differs from the [GeneaNet](https://gw.geneanet.org/samuckerheide?n=jeffreys&oc=&p=william+thomas) birth year of 1816. Let’s look at the evidence I have so far.

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| **Source** | **Birth Year** | **Birth State** |
| [FindaGrave](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/28175496/melvina-toliver) | 1812 | Tennessee |
| [GeneaNet](https://gw.geneanet.org/samuckerheide?n=jeffreys&oc=&p=william+thomas) | 1816 |  |
| 1850 Federal Census | 1814 | Tennessee |
| 1860 Federal Census | 1814 | Alabama |
| 1870 Federal Census | 1813 | Tennessee |
| 1880 Federal Census | 1815 | Tennessee |
| 1900 Federal Census | Sept 1813 |  |
| 1910 Federal Census | 1814 | Tennessee |

Here, the preponderance of sources are in the 1814 timeframe for the birth year of Melvina Jeffreys in Tennessee.

1. [FindaGrave](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/42514417/abner-baker-jeffreys) says Abner was born in 1816, which differs from the Geneanet birth year of 1809. Let’s look at all the evidence I have so far.

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| **Source** | **Birth Year** | **Birth State** |
| [FindaGrave](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/42514417/abner-baker-jeffreys) | 1816 |  |
| [GeneaNet](https://gw.geneanet.org/samuckerheide?n=jeffreys&oc=&p=william+thomas) | 1809 |  |
| 1850 Federal Census | 1816 | Tennessee |
| 1860 Federal Census | 1810 | Tennessee |
| 1870 Federal Census | 1809 | Tennessee |
| 1880 Federal Census | 1808 | Tennessee |

So for Abner, we have 4 sources for the 1808-1810 timeframe and only two for 1816. However, there are no sources for the FindaGrave 1816 date, no picture of the gravesite or tombstone, no corroborating data at all. Maybe who ever built the FindaGrave webpage just used the data from the 1850 Federal Census? At any rate, the preponderance of evidence is on the side of approximately 1809 as a birth year for Abner Baker Jeffreys, also in Tennessee.

1. [Geneanet](https://gw.geneanet.org/samuckerheide?n=jeffreys&oc=&p=simon) says Simon was born in 1810, which is pretty close to our assumed birth year of Abner. Which means that if Abner is Deannah’s son, Simon probably is also. But what else do we have to back that birth year up? Looking at Federal Census docs, I cannot find a Simon Jeffreys in the 1830 US Federal Census that works for us. Our Simon should be in Alabama, as that is where his parents are. Maybe he is still at home with his parents – John Jackson Jeffrey’s Sr. and Deannah Baker (assuming Deannah is married to JJJ Sr. by 1830 which is probably a pretty safe bet).

In 1830, we find the John Jeffreys Sr. and Jr. families living in Morgan County, AL (Source 431). For John Jeffreys Sr., the household consists of:

* 1 White male, 15 to 20 years old
* 1 White male, 60 to 70 years old
* 2 White females, 15 to 20 years old
* 1 White female, 50 to 60 years old

In 1830, John Jeffreys Sr. should be 66 years old, according to the Geneanet Source in Item #1 and Deannah should be 57 years old. Both of these fit. It’s hard to know who the others are, but the Geneanet Source in Item #1 suggests:

* 1 White male, 15 to 20 years old (Simon or Abner)
* 2 White females, 15 to 20 years old (Sarah and Melvina maybe?)

I don’t see an 1830 US Federal Census for either a Simon Jeffreys or an Abner Jeffreys, so that can’t help me determine who the 15 to 20 years old white male is.

The 1840 US Federal Census doesn’t give us any information on citizens’ birth years, so no help there. We do learn that the most likely choice of Simon Jeffreys is now living in Pontotoc, MS. This Simon is a slave owner, having two slaves in his household.

The 1850 US Federal Census presents us with 2 interesting options. Our Pontotoc, MS Simon is still there. He is 40 years old, but now says he was born in North Carolina (which is where I think he should be born). He is listed as a farmer, and is living in the household of Martha Hyslop. It looks like he is married to a Rebecca Jeffreys (30 years old) and has a son named George (11 years old).

There is another Simon Jeffreys in the 1850 Census, living in Caswell, NC but he is listed as a mulatto. I think this is one of the “Free Colored” Jeffreys in North Carolina. So this is not our Simon Jeffreys.

I see no evidence of a matching Simon Jeffreys in the 1860, 1870, or 1880 US Federal Censuses. Therefore it seems that Simon may have died between 1850 and 1860.

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| **Source** | **Birth Year** |
| FindaGrave | 18## (I haven’t found a FindaGrave webpage for Simon yet) |
| [Geneanet](https://gw.geneanet.org/samuckerheide?n=jeffreys&oc=&p=simon) | 1810 |
| [Ancestry.com marriage record](https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/644641:7836?tid=119665458&pid=202427727115&hid=1011552322406) | 1810 |
| 1840 Federal Census | No birth year information given |
| 1850 Federal Census | 1810 |
| 1860 Federal Census | Not found |
| 1870 Federal Census | Not found |
| 1880 Federal Census | Not found |

**Ok, I think I have beat this horse enough. I don’t think I can identify which of JJJ Sr.’s children are from Jinsey and which are Deannah’s OTHER THAN:**

* **William Jeffreys (My ancestor) is definitely Jinsey’s**
* **Abner and Melvina are definitely Deannah’s.**

**I think I will stop here and just pursue Jinsey’s line for my family’s lineage.**