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Change History

Version	Date	Changes
FT-023.01	07-Nov-2022	Original document (not the original document, but I am going to call it that)
FT-023.02	28-Jul-2026	- Converted to new format - Added photo of Martha's gravestone, taken by John Sharp in April 2026. - Added 1830 and 1840 Census Data from John Boley Lewis – Lucinda Bush Family Tree document (FT-032)

Notes: The newest version is in **blue font**, and the changes made to the document are also denoted in **blue font** in the document below.

Parents of this Family

FT-032			
John Boley Lewis, Sr.		Lucinda Bush	
1798	1850	1808	1862

None – Brick Wall			
Unknown		Unknown	
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

Isaiah Lewis		Married:	Martha Rivers Bishop	
Born	23-Jul-1823		Born	31-Oct-1835
Where	Spartanburg County, South Carolina, USA	26-Sep-1852 or 16-Sep-1852	Where	
Died	22-Oct-1864	Where:	Died	22-Apr-1885
Where	Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee, USA	Marion County, AL, USA	Where	
Buried	Unknown	Source:	Buried	Carter Cemetery, Marion County, Alabama, USA
Source	FindaGrave	Stories on Ancestry.com and FindaGrave	Source	FindaGrave

Children:

Name	Born	Where	Source	Died	Where	Buried	Source
William Jephtha			FT-014				FT-014
John Boley, Jr.	March 18, 1856	Marion County, AL	FindaGrave	October 12, 1936	Hamilton, Marion County, AL	Carter Cemetery, Marion County, AL	FindaGrave
Mary Elmina Josephine	June 21, 1858	Marion County, AL	FindaGrave	June 21, 1932	Morton, Cochran County, TX	Morton Memorial Cemetery, Morton,	FindaGrave

Name	Born	Where	Source	Died	Where	Buried	Source
						Cochran County, TX	
Amanda Minerva Lucinda Caroline	June 13, 1860	Marion County, AL	FindaGrave	Unknown	Oklahoma	Unknown	FindaGrave
James Henry	December 13, 1862	Hamilton, Marion County, AL	FindaGrave	September 17, 1864	Columbian, Maury County, TN	Unknown	FindaGrave
Martha Jane	February 26, 1864	Marion County, AL	FindaGrave	March 6, 1947	Prescott, Yavapai County, AZ	Arizona Pioneers Home Cemetery, Prescott, Yavapai County, AZ, Row V, Grave 17	FindaGrave

Other Marriages:

		Sources
Husband – Other wife		
When		
Where		
Other Children		
Comments		

		Sources
Wife – Other Husband	John Boyd	
When	~1868 or 1869	
Where		
Other Children	Infant Boyett (1869 – 1869) Lucien Green Boyett (1871 – 1957) Ellen Boyett (1874 – 1941) John Robert Boyett (1874 – 1945) Melvinia Boyett (1879 – 1959)	FindaGrave
Comments	Isaiah Lewis died in 1864. It looks like Martha remarried by the time of the 1870 Federal Census.	

Story:

Activity	Sources
Pictures (people, gravestones, houses, etc.)	
Marriage Certificates	
Land Deeds	
Slave Schedule Information	
War Service Records	
Social Security Applications	
Newspaper Articles	
Where lived?	
1830 US Federal Census, Bibb County, Alabama In 1830, Isaiah was living with his parents, the John Boley Lewis household consisting of: • 2 males and 1 female under 5 years (Peter, Shadrack, and Margaret Rachel Lucinda) • 1 male 5 to 10 years (Isaiah) • 1 female 10 to 15 years (unknown, maybe a sister?) • 1 female 20 to 30 years (Lucinda Bush) • 1 male 30 to 40 years (John Boley Lewis, Sr.) • 1 female 60 to 70 years (unknown, maybe Lucinda's mother?) • 1 male 70 to 80 years (unknown male) So a few unknowns, but it makes sense that this is John Boley Lewis's family. There are no slaves listed in this family. So assuming this is John Boley Lewis' family, they left their slaves in South Carolina. I wonder what changed their opinion?	320
1840 US Federal Census, enumerated in Socopatoy, Coosa County AL In 1840, Isaiah was living with his parents, the John Boley Lewis household consisting of: • 2 males and 1 female under 5 years (George, Ephraim, and Mary) • 1 male 5 to 10 years (John Boley, Jr.) • 2 males and 1 female 10 to 15 years (Peter, Shadrack, and Margaret Rachel Lucinda) • 1 male 15 to 20 years (Isaiah Lewis) • 1 female 30 to 40 years (Lucinda Bush) • 1 male 40 to 50 years (John Boley Lewis, Sr.) • 1 female 80 to 90 years (possibly Lucinda Bush's mother, as John's mother died in 1820) So this Census matches all of the data that I have at this time. So we can say that in 1840, the John Boley Lewis, Sr. family was living in Socopatoy, AL! Socopatoy is now a ghost town and was chronicled here . It has a cemetery containing many pioneer families, but there are no Lewis's listed in the Socopatoy Cemetery in FindaGrave. There are no slaves listed in the 1840 Federal Census for the John B. Lewis family.	317

Activity	Sources
1850 US Federal Census, enumerated on November 28, 1850 in District 14, Marion County, Alabama, USA In 1850, Isaiah was 26 years old and living with his parents and siblings in Marion County, Alabama. The family consisted of: • John B. Lewis, male, 52 years old, Farmer, born in South Carolina, \$40 worth of real estate • Lucy Lewis (wife), female, 42 years old, born in South Carolina, cannot read or write • Isaiah Lewis, male, 26 years old, Farmer, born in South Carolina • Peter Lewis, male, 24 years old, Farmer, born in South Carolina • Shadrack Lewis, male, 22 years old, Farmer, born in South Carolina • John Lewis, male, 18 years old, Farmer, born in Tennessee • George Lewis, male, 15 years old, Farmer, born in Alabama • Ephraim Lewis, male, 13 years old, born in Alabama • William W. Lewis, male, 9 years old, born in Alabama • Mary Lewis, female, 11 years old, born in Alabama • Thomas Lewis, male, 7 years old, born in Alabama • Benjamin C. Lewis, male, 4 years old, born in Alabama	314
1860 US Federal Census, enumerated June 7, 1860 in the Western District of Marion County, AL, US (nearest post office is Prentiss (?)) and I have been unable to find the location of this office. It is probably a ghost town by now. In 1860, Isaiah Lewis (38) is living with his wife Martha (27), 3 children, and couple who are farm laborers on his farm. Isaiah owns real estate worth \$100 and has a personal estate worth \$100. Isaiah was born in South Carolina and Martha in Alabama. The others living in the household are: • William Lewis (5), born in AL • John B. (4), born in AL • Almina (should be Elmina), (1), born in AL • William Clayton (25), farm laborer, personal estate worth of \$42, born in AL • Mary Clayton (William's wife), (21), born in AL Willam and Mary Clayton were married within the last year. Since Isaiah's net worth was so low, it is doubtful he had any slaves.	204

Activity	Sources
According to the Index to Compiled Military Service Records; Alabama Tories: The 1st Alabama Cavalry, U.S.A.: Isaiah Lewis enlisted in the Union Army on December 7, 1863 at Camp Davies, Mississippi. Camp Davies (1862-1864) was a U.S. Civil War Camp established in 1862 near Corinth, Alcorn County, Mississippi. It was named Camp Davies after Union Brigadier General Thomas A. Davies and was abandoned in 1864. Camp Davies was located some six miles south of Corinth along the lower reaches of Clear Creek, not far from its junction with the Tuscumbia River. The camp cantonment area was enclosed by a squared log stockade and had about forty buildings enclosed within the walls. This location provided the fresh water and forage for the horses that Corinth lacked. Included among the buildings here were barracks, a hospital, commissary, and even a Masonic Hall. Fifteen-foot pine trees were transplanted to create shady avenues. There was a spacious parade ground on the inside of the stockade and a target range on the outside. Confederate scouts and guerrillas were always around the fringes of the camp, ready to grab any unwary soldier who wandered too far from the compound. Regular forays were sent out from the camp to chase away the enemy, often returning with prisoners of their own. On 24 Jan 1864, the Union forces abandoned Corinth and transferred men and equipment to Memphis because Corinth was no longer the strategic rail center. The 1st Alabama Cavalry set fire to the Camp Davies buildings and stockade and the camp was reduced to ashes. Isaiah's Muster Date was February 5, 1864. "Muster Date" is the annual day for enrollment in the militia of all able men aged 18 to 45, according to a law established in 1792 and in effect until after the Civil War. Isaiah joined the 1st Alabama Cavalry, Company A (incidentally, just like in the Revolutionary War, Southerners who fought for the Union were known as "Tories"). Isaiah was mustered out on November 10, 1864, after he died from disease in Columbia, TN. This matches up well with other information we have that Isaiah died in Maury County, TN from typhoid fever.	315, 316

According to a story on Ancestry.com by BobbieAnn123:

Isaiah Lewis, oldest child of John Boley Lewis and Lucinda Bush, was born July 23, 1823 in South Carolina. The date is from the few remaining pages of a small notebook that belonged to great-grandson John Boley Lewis, III. On September 26, 1852, Isaiah was married to Martha Rivers Bishop by Artimas Sims in Marion County, Alabama. From all the records, I have been able to find out that Isaiah's father, John Boley Lewis and Martha Rivers Bishop's grandmother, Margaret (Peggy) Lewis Bishop, were brother and sister, which makes Martha and Isaiah third cousins. Martha Rivers Bishop was also of Indian decent. How much Indian blood Martha had or what tribe she descended from is not known.

As the Civil War progressed, Martha and Isaiah were the parents of five children—William, John Boley, Elmina, Caroline, and James. In the latter part of 1863, tension and passion over the war often times rose to very high peaks in Marion County as many of its residents sided with the union sympathizers of Winston County next door. Winston County is reported to have seceded from the Union becoming known as the "Free State of Winston". Many Marion County residents joined the First Alabama Cavalry; the only Union regiment in the state of Alabama, and organized in Winston County. On Dec 07, 1863, Isaiah Lewis joined the ranks of this group. According to Sam Lewis (from stories told by his father, John B Lewis III), Isaiah Lewis joined the Union Army during the Civil War becoming a private in Co. A, 1st Alabama Cavalry because of his belief that it wasn't right for one man to own another person. Isaiah served with this until the latter part of 1864 when he was furloughed home due to sickness. By this time, Martha and her children had moved from Marion County to Columbia, Tennessee, where the First Alabama Cavalry was located. From his war record we learn that Isaiah had a fair complexion, light hair, gray eyes, and was 6 ft. tall. Due to his illness, Isaiah never returned to his unit. Isaiah did not die from wounds received, but from one of the many illnesses that plagued the troops. It was passed down in the many stories that Isaiah refused to take the medicine given to him. Isaiah died October 22, 1864 in Federal Hospital No. 1 in Columbia, Tennessee. His place of burial has not been located at this time. As his family had very little money, in all probability the government buried him. It is possible that he was buried beside a small son, James Henry (who died approximately a month before on September 17, 1864) as his family had moved to Columbia for protection according to the sworn statements made by his wife, Martha, when she applied for a pension for herself and her children. The death date that our family has always used for Isaiah's death was November 10, 1864, but after looking at his war record and pension records, I changed the date on my records to October 22, 1864. The war records contained three different death dates. The pension records also contained different dates, but all of Martha's sworn statements when she applied for her pension were consistent in using October 22, 1864. The children's birth records were copied from the family Bible by John D. Terrell, Judge of Probate of Marion County, Alabama. The family Bible was lost some years later in a house fire. These records not only give the birth dates of each child, but also list the day of the week on which each child was born. This record must have been written by Isaiah as Martha was unable to write. All of her pension records were signed with a (x) mark.

The story of the trip to Columbia made by Martha and her five children was passed down through son, John B Lewis, III. John said that they walked from Hamilton, Alabama to Columbia, Tennessee, walking at night and hiding during the day. He said that they almost starved, but finally found a place (a store of sorts) where they could buy something to eat. All they were able to buy was some fat back meat and some soda crackers to eat. I was also told that when Martha and her children left Marion County, Alabama, that they had an old mule and a broken

Activity	Sources
down wagon. Neither the mule nor the wagon made it to Tennessee. The wagon came apart and then the mule died. Apparently the majority of the trip was made on foot. To me, the thoughts of a woman and five small children walking to Columbia, Tennessee, is unthinkable. The oldest child, William would have been only ten years old and the youngest child, James, was only two. Only after the war was over, did Martha return with her children to Marion County and begun the long process to receive the pension due to her and her children. According to some sources, the Union sent a soldier to escort Martha and her children back to Marion County after the war. Martha was granted a pension -- \$4 a month for herself and \$2 a month for each of her four children – a total of \$12 a month. To us today, this amount seems to be such a small pittance, but to Martha and her children, it must have seemed like a fortune in a time when no one had any money. Approximately 1870, Martha remarried to Jones Boyette and had five more children – Lucien, Robert, Ellen, Melvina, and an infant (the oldest who died at birth) and was the first person to be buried in what is today Carter Cemetery. At the time of the child's death, the land on which Carter Cemetery is located on belonged to Isaiah and Martha. The child was buried on the edge of the yard, as was the custom. Over half of those buried in this cemetery today are family members. (Joyce Riggan, daughter of Ollie Florence Sanderson and James Burley Riggan wrote this story)	

Activity	Sources
Isaiah Lewis is thought to have died about October 22, 1864 of typhoid fever during the Civil War. According to his FindaGrave site: Isaiah Lewis was born on July 23, 1823, in South Carolina, the oldest child of John Boley Lewis (1798-?) & Lucy Bush Lewis (1808-?). Isaiah moved with his family when they migrated westward probably during the Indian removal. The Family first went to eastern Tennessee where son John Boley, Jr. was born, the southward into Coosa County, AL where son, William Wiley was born, and then on the Marion County AL. He married Martha Rivers Bishop on Sept. 16, 1852, in Marion County, Alabama. According, to son John Boley Lewis, Isaiah joined Company A, 1st Alabama Cavalry, USA during the Civil War because of his belief that it was not right for one person to own another person . He died of typhoid fever during the war, and his burial place is not known. According to older family members, Isaiah refused to take the medicine given him for his illness. It my belief that Isaiah was buried beside his young son who died about a month before Isaiah. Martha had moved her family to Columbia, Tn for protection according to the pension records. Isaiah war record lists 4 different death dates but all the statements in the pension records that were signed by Martha as sworn statemens were consistant with October 22, 1864. After the conclusion of the War, Martha was excorted home by a Union Soldier. Children of Martha and Isaiah are in the family links. (Added by gt gt granddaughter Joyce Riggan,) Children: • William Jephtha Lewis (1854-1916) • John Boley Lewis (1856-1936) • Mary Elmina Josephine Lewis Reid (1858-1932) • Amanda Minerva Lewis Lewis (1860-1926 in OK) • John Henry Lewis (1862-1864) • Martha Lewis Stephens (1866-1947) The proof of his death rests in his widow's Confederate pension application, which states he died Oct. 22, 1864, in General Hospital #1 in Columbia, Maury County, Tennessee. added by Dawn Kelly	FindaGrave 205 206 (photo of Isaiah Lewis)

Activity	Sources
Photo of Isaiah Lewis: 	FindaGrave
1870 US Federal Census, enumerated June 30, 1870 in the Western District of Marion County, AL, USA As Isaiah died during the Civil War, Martha has remarried to John Boyd. [John Note: William Jephtha's FindaGrave webpage says "Boyett". It could be the enumerator heard wrong.] Martha (35) has married a much younger man, as John is only 25. May have been a problem with many men dying during the Civil War. John was born in AL, and is a farmer, with a net worth in real estate of \$100 and a personal estate worth of \$100. Martha is checked as being unable to read and write, but John seems to be able to read and write. Living with John and Martha are: • William (16), who is farming with them, born in AL, checked as being unable to read and write • J. B. (John Boley) (14), checked as being unable to read and write • Emaline (12) , checked as being unable to read and write • Caroline (10) , not checked as being unable to read and write • Catherine (5) , not checked as being unable to read and write Catherine's entry looks almost like Catherine's last name is Boyd. On William Jephtha's FindaGrave webpage, we see a Martha Lewis who was born in 1866. Maybe they called her Catherine or Catherine was her middle name? There is no Boyd or Boyett, in the blended family who would be 5 years old in 1870. There was a child who died in infancy in 1869 shown on William Jephtha's FindaGrave webpage. Maybe we will learn more in later Census documents!	207 FindaGrave (William Jephtha)

Activity	Sources
1880 US Federal Census, enumerated June 19, 1880 in Township 11, Range 15 in Marion County, AL, USA In 1880, the family name is “Boyett”, not “Boyd” as in the 1870 Census – except of course for the older Lewis children. John’s name has changed from the 1870 Census. Now he is William J. Boyett (34). John is still farming, was born in AL, while his parents were born in SC. Martha is 45, and now says she and her parents were born in SC (changed from the 1860 and 1870 Censuses, which listed AL). William and Martha have now had several children of their own: • Lucien G., son, 9 years old, born in AL • Ellen, daughter, 6 years old, born in AL • Robert, son, 3 years old, born in AL • Melvinia, daughter, 1 year old, born in AL The Lewis children still living with William and Martha are: • William Jephtha (25), working as a farm laborer, born in AL • John Boley (23), working as a farm laborer, born in AL • Martha G. (14) William John Boyett’s mother and sister have also come to live with them: • Delila A. Boyett, (58), born in SC, her parents born in SC also • Josephine Boyett (21), born in AL, her parents were born in SC. Strangely enough, Delila is not listed as widowed, but as married within the Census Year (1880). Must have been a missed check mark. Josephine is also listed as married with the Census Year (1880), and also as single. The page is a bit smudgy around the check for the Census Year for Josephine, so maybe the enumerator knew they made a mistake and tried to wipe it out. I am not sure where “Catherine” went from the 1870 Census. Martha is now the name of the female Lewis child who would fit in that age period. All in all, that’s quite a blended household! Pieces of 3 or 4 families!	117

Activity	Sources
Martha died in 1885. From her FindaGrave page: “Martha Rivers Lewis Bishop was born October 31, 1835 and was full blood Cherokee of parents unknown. Martha had an Indian named that her granddaughter knew but now no one knows what that name was. According to Gt Grandson, Jack Lewis, Martha's parents were on the Trail of Tears and somehow was able to leave Martha with a missionary family. This appears to be John Bishop (1809-1850) & Minerva Bishop (1813-1890). I have found information in my Gt Grandfather's (John B, Lewis, III) writing that the Bishop family had 5 other daughters and one son, Joe Buck Bishop. I believe that he is possibly Martha's real brother, as this is the only one of this family other children that my grandmother, Rosa Lewis Sanderson and her sisters ever talked about. She married Isaiah Lewis on Sept. 16, 1852, in Marion County, Alabama. Isaiah died in Federal Hospital No. 1 in Columbia, TN. No place of burial has been found. It is my belief that although this family was in TN at the time of his death that the federal troops may have performed the burial, that he is buried by his youngest son John Henry who died about a month before Isaiah. (Gt Gt Granddaughter, Joyce Riggan)” Children: • William Jephtha Lewis (1854-1916) • John Boley Lewis (1856-1936) • Mary Elmina Josephine Lewis Reid (1858-1932) • Amanda Minerva Lewis Lewis (1860-1926 in OK) • John Henry Lewis (1862-1864) • Martha Lewis Stephens (1866-1947) After Isaiah died in 1864 during the Civil War, Martha married William Jones Boyett about 1868. Jones and Martha had 5 more Children. Children: • Infant Boyett (1869-1869) • Lucian Green Boyett (1871-1957) • Ellen Boyett Collier (1874-1941) • John Robert Boyett (1877-1945) • Melvinia Boyett Cantrell (1879-1959) Inscription Mother of John B Lewis - At Rest	FindaGrave

Activity	Sources
Picture of Martha: 	FindaGrave

Photo of Martha’s Gravestone (new gravestone), taken by John Sharp in April 2026



This grave is located in Carter Church Cemetery, southwest of Hamilton, AL on Highway 17. This used to be the Lewis Cemetery, but was renamed over the years.

Hamilton, Alabama below:



