

AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

2015 Vol. 56 No. 1



Austin Genealogical Society
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2015 AGS Calendar of Events

AGS meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm (except May and December). Meetings typically include time to get acquainted with other researchers, announcements and notification of upcoming activities. Meetings also feature a speaker on a genealogical topic.

January 27

Unusual Source Records for Genealogical Research – or this is some Cool Stuff!

Presented by Sue Kaufman from Clayton Library in Houston

February 24

Using Family Search to Solve Genealogical Research Problems - Case Study

Presented by Ed Donakey from Family Search

March 24

Research Strategies for Everyone

Presented by Teri Flack

April 28

Digging Up the Bones of Your Home

Presented by Phoebe Allen

(No Regular AGS Meeting in May due to the Seminar on May 30)

June 23

Finally...A Good Life in Texas

Presented by Joyce Aldridge (as Susanna Dickinson) and Warren Friedrich (as Joseph Hannig)

July 28

Using Perry Castaneda's Library for Genealogy

Presented by Katherine Strickland

August 25

Earning a Living: Your Ancestors at Work

Presented by Pat Gordon

September 22

World War I: One Hundred Years of Records

Presented by Debbie Pearson from Fort Worth Genealogical Society

October 27

Talking to Elders to Record Family History

Presented by Mary Scrudder

November 24

FALL FESTIVAL

Presenter to Be Determined

(No Regular AGS Meeting in December)

From the Editor

Hello Members,

We have a very interesting set of articles for this edition of the Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly; you are in for a treat!

This edition highlights the Bridger family history via three articles submitted by our members, James Bridges, Phoebe Allen and Lynne Hill. Last year, Phoebe and James both traveled to the ancestral homes of their descendants with a trip sponsored by the Bridger Family Association. They did not realize they were related until they met on this trip! How lucky to have a family history so rich, and to travel with 42 of your cousins to the lands of your ancestors. I enjoyed the summaries of the trip that each of them submitted, and now I'm itching to take a trip to visit my own ancestral roots. I hope it inspires you as well. (In our AGS April meeting, Phoebe will be the highlighted speaker with the topic "Digging Up the Bones of Your Home.")

An article which was originally published in the Save Austin's Cemeteries Fall 2014 newsletter gives us insight in what it takes to restore a headstone as well as a history of the man the headstone represents.

We have articles highlighting Thomas Swearingen Strode, a Travis County Pioneer, and his descendants. I always love reading about the pioneers – what adventures they confronted as they came out west and established their homes.

An article highlighting Abel Coburn of Vermont is a story of a late 18th – early 19th century farmer and his family, giving insight into the way of life in those times.

I hope you enjoy this issue as much as I have!

Robin Raben

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AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



2015 SEMINAR

Saturday, May 30, 2015
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
**Triumphant Love
Lutheran Church**
9508 Great Hills Trail
Austin, TX 78759

Guest Speaker

Judy G. Russell, JD, CGSM, CGLSM

For more Information
and to Register visit:
www.austintxgensoc.org



The Legal Genealogist, Judy G. Russell, JD, CGSM, CGLSM
A well known genealogist with a law degree, who writes, teaches and lectures
on a wide variety of genealogical topics.

Seminar Topics:

Blackguards and Black Sheep – The Lighter Side of the Law

No, actually, our ancestors didn't behave any better back then than we do today,
and the records they left behind documenting their missteps and misdeeds
are among the priceless gems of genealogy.

How Old Did He Have To Be...?

Is this man John the father or John the son? Could that man be my ancestor
who married in 1802? Knowing a person's age is often the key to
distinguishing between two people of the same name.
But if no record gives a birth date, how do you know how old someone was?
The law can give the answer.

Where There Is – or Isn't – a Will

Where there's a will, there's a probate. And often when there isn't a will,
there's still a probate. Understanding the process and finding the records created
when our ancestors died can help break through those brick walls.

Dowered or Bound Out: Records of Widows and Orphans

Widows and orphans have always had a special place in the law. But it's
not always the place that 21st century researchers might expect. An orphan
in the early days wasn't a child whose parents had died, but rather a child
whose father had died. The law didn't care much about the mother.
She was just the widow, entitled to her dower rights and generally not much more.
Learn more of the way the law treated widows and orphans,
and what the records may tell us about them.

Generations in Oakwood: A Broken Headstone and the Man

by Eva Miller Mohrlök

(This article was originally printed in the *Save Austin's Cemeteries Fall 2014* newsletter, and is printed here with the permission of Hal and Eva Miller Mohrlök.)



Thomas F. McKinney. Image courtesy of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

This story begins with volunteers from Save Austin's Cemeteries (SAC) repairing a broken headstone. The headstone is that of Thomas F. McKinney who is buried in Section Four of Oakwood Cemetery. His headstone fell over and broke in 2013 when gravity took its toll.

Thomas Freeman McKinney was born on November 1, 1801, in Kentucky and died October 2, 1873, at "McKinney Falls," Travis County, Texas. He was the fourth of eleven children of Abraham and Eleanor (Prather) McKinney. McKinney came to Texas in the early 1820s as one of Stephen F. Austin's first 300 colonists.

Thomas McKinney married his first wife, Nancy Wilson, in 1831 and his second wife, Anna Gibbs, in 1843. Anna was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1818 and she died December 27, 1896, in Travis County. She is buried next to Thomas in Section Four of Oakwood Cemetery in Austin. No children were born to either marriage of Thomas F. McKinney, thereby leaving no direct descendants. However, his brothers and sister provided plenty of indirect descendants.

McKinney and his business partner, Samuel May Williams, built the largest merchandising and shipping firm in Texas at the time. It also was the first banking institution in Texas. At one point, they owned one-fifth of Galveston Island and built the first pier there. He owned several ships used in the shipping business. When the Texas Revolution broke out, he allowed his ships to be used in the war. He is known as the "Father of the Texas Navy," and he helped finance the Texas Revolution against Mexico. A steamer named *Laura*, owned by McKinney, is thought to have fired the first shot of the Texas Revolution in September 1835. "Some say the schooner *San Felipe* commanded by Thomas F. McKinney fired first. In 1836, the *Laura* forced the first passage through Buffalo Bayou to Houston."

McKinney settled just southeast of Austin where he built his two-story home of limestone, cypress and cedar wood. The wood was found on his property and the limestone probably was quarried from nearby Onion Creek. The size of the house was approximately twenty by forty feet and was built



Remnant of the old McKinney homestead. From Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=McKinney_Homestead&oldid=568217691 accessed March 18, 2015.)

between 1850 and 1852. On this property, he had a horse race track and raised thoroughbred race horses. He also had his own grist mill.

After Thomas McKinney's death, the property was occupied by his surviving wife, Anna Gibbs. Before her death, most of McKinney's land and the house were sold to James W. Smith in 1885. Smith's grandchildren granted 682 acres to the state of Texas in 1974. It opened as McKinney Falls State Park in 1976. The former homestead was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. It has since been stabilized to prevent further deterioration of the stone structure.

Oakwood Cemetery and Oakwood Cemetery Annex are the final resting places for several of Thomas McKinney's extended family. This brings us back to the repair of the McKinney headstone. This project was directed by Kelley Russell, who received her Masters of Science in Historic Preservation from the University of Texas at Austin in 2011, and has experience in preservation in historic cemeteries. SAC volunteers who worked with Kelley on this project were Leslie Wolfenden, Dale Flatt, Charles Clinger, and Harold and Eva Mohrlök.

Repair of a headstone is a lengthy process. These are the steps we followed to complete the project:

- Gained permission to repair the headstone from a member of the extended family, Virginia (Miller) Wood, McKinney's great grandniece, with a signed authorization for repair.
- Removed broken headstone pieces from grave to a repair site behind the Oakwood Cemetery Chapel.
- Cleaned the headstone pieces with a special solution for stone.
- Drilled holes for stainless steel rods to support the stone pieces.
- Leveled the headstone base at the gravesite.
- Applied adhesive substance to rods and stones' broken edges.
- Used backboard to support headstone while drying.
- Cleaned base and took base measurements.
- Installed repaired headstone at McKinney's gravesite.



McKinney Headstone before repair. Photo courtesy of Hal and Eva Miller Mohrlök.



McKinney Headstone after repair. Photo courtesy of Hal and Eva Miller Mohrlök.

We documented the whole process from start to finish, with photographs and video, in the hopes of creating a presentation to be posted on the website to assist other volunteers on the proper techniques of repairing old headstones.

We offer many thanks to Kelley Russell for leading this project and for lending her conservation expertise.

Abel Coburn (1780-1861) of Franklin, Vermont

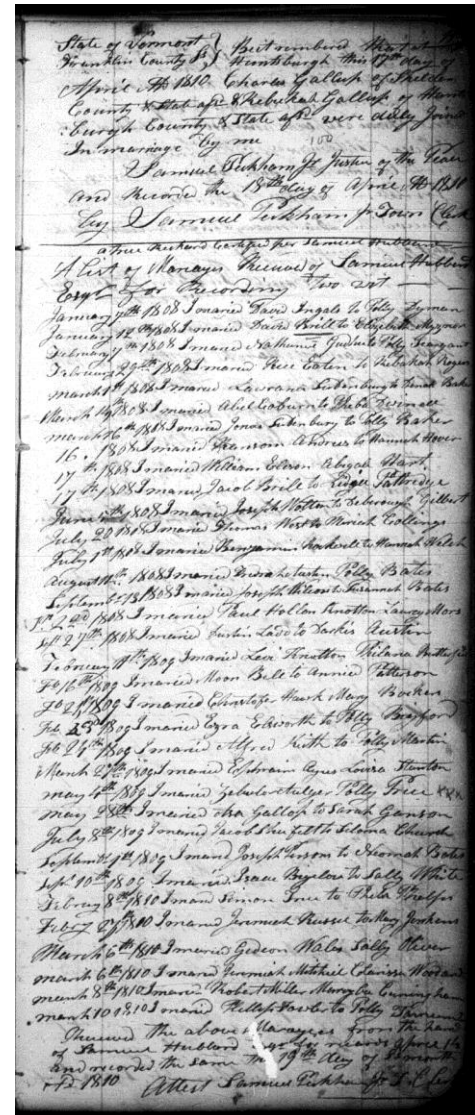
by Nancy R. Stevens

Abel Coburn, son of Amasa Coburn and Lucy Sanderson, was born in 1780 in Chesterfield, Cheshire County, New Hampshire,^{1,2,3} died on 15 January, 1861, in Franklin, Franklin County, Vermont,¹ and was buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Franklin.⁴ Abel married Ruth Jewett about 1800.^{1,5} Ruth was probably the daughter of Abel Jewett and Sarah Dwinell, born on 6 July, 1781, in Rindge, Cheshire County, New Hampshire.⁶ Abel next married Phoebe Dwinell on 14 March, 1808, in Huntsburgh (later renamed Franklin).⁷ Phoebe, daughter of Bartholomew Dwinell and Rebecca Towne, was born on 15 June, 1788, in Keene, Cheshire County, New Hampshire,^{8,9} died in 1824 in Franklin, and was buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Franklin.⁴ Abel next married Esther (possibly Goodrich).^{10,11,12} Esther was born about 1801 and died in March 1842 in Franklin.¹²

In 1790, the Coburn family was living in Rockingham, Windham County, Vermont.¹³ The next year, Abel's father bought land in the newly chartered town of Huntsburgh, in Chittenden County, Vermont, within a mile of the Canadian border.¹⁴ By 1792, the Coburns had moved to Huntsburgh.¹⁵ Huntsburgh became part of Franklin County in 1792, and the town name was changed to Franklin in 1816. Huntsburgh was still a wilderness when the Coburns made it their home. Abel's cousin, Harriett Sanderson, whose family moved to Huntsburgh at about the same time, described her family's first house as "constructed of the trees of the forest, roofed with bark, with floors of rifted logs . . . and chimney built of sticks of wood."¹⁶ Most of the original homes were probably of similar construction. The Coburn home was one of the places that school was held for children of the earliest settlers before school houses were built.¹⁶

There were fewer than fifty families living in Huntsburgh in 1800, but young men were at an advantage in that females outnumbered males by more than two to one among sixteen to twenty-five year olds.¹⁷ No civil marriage record has been located for Abel Coburn and his first wife, Ruth Jewett.

Huntsburgh did not begin keeping vital records until 1802 and there is no record of the marriage in the state index. It is possible that they were married in Canada. There is no Abel Coburn household in Huntsburgh on the 1800 U.S. census¹⁷, but their oldest son was born about 1800.⁵ Ruth was probably the daughter of Abel Jewett and Sarah Dwinell. They are the only Jewett family found in the early Huntsburgh records, they owned property adjoining the Coburn property, and they had a daughter named Ruth who was just one year younger than Abel Coburn.^{6,17,18} Abel and Ruth had three children.¹ It is possible that they divorced but more likely that Ruth died young.



Abel Coburn–Phoebe Dwinell marriage record (Huntsburgh, Vermont, Town Clerk, Vital Records of Huntsburgh, Vermont and Earmarks, 1792-1817, 1A: 11)

In 1808, at age twenty-eight, Abel married Phoebe Dwinell.⁷ Phoebe was Ruth Jewett's cousin – Phoebe's father, Bartholomew Dwinell, and Ruth's mother, Sarah Dwinell, were siblings.¹⁹ The 1810 U.S. census entry for the Abel Coburn household includes children the right ages to be Abel and Ruth's three children, as well as Abel and Phoebe's first child.^{1,20} Abel and Phoebe had five more children over the next eleven years.¹ They had been married sixteen years when she died in 1824.⁴

As with most women of her time, the record of Phoebe's life has few entries. Her birth and marriage were recorded in town records; her death was not recorded. Her gravestone is damaged and almost illegible from wear. Phoebe may have left her parents' home at a young age. At the time of the 1800



Phoebe Coburn gravestone (Find A Grave, photograph, gravestone for Phoebe Coburn, 1824, Maple Grove Cemetery in Franklin, Franklin County, Vermont; photograph by Barb Destromp)

U.S. census, there was only one female age ten to fifteen living in the Bartholomew Dwinell household, although both Phoebe and her younger sister Rebecca fell into that age group.²¹ Phoebe was twelve and could have been working as a servant or living with someone who was teaching her a skill, such as dressmaking. When she married at age nineteen Phoebe became step-mother to three children. As the oldest daughter in a family of thirteen children,²² caring for young children may have been a role that Phoebe stepped into easily. The remainder of her life would have revolved around children. Her youngest child was only three years old when Phoebe died at age thirty-six.¹

Abel may have remarried fairly quickly to his third wife, Esther. Abel was about forty-five and Esther was twenty years younger. The only record of Esther's surname is on the 1908 death certificate of their son Edwin.¹⁰ The 1830 U.S. census entry for the Abel Coburn household includes children the right ages to be Abel and Phoebe's three youngest children, as well as three children of Abel and Ester under the age of five.²³ Esther and Abel had seven children, at least one of whom died young.¹ Their youngest daughter was seven years old when Esther died at age forty-one in 1842.^{12,24} In 1850, Abel and his youngest daughter were living with his son, Luther.²⁴

All indications are that Abel was a farmer. He served as a town officer three times and all three were positions related to farming. In 1802 and 1803, he served as a pound keeper, and in 1825 he served as a hayward.²⁵ A pound keeper maintained a pen for holding stray livestock, and a hayward managed fences to prevent livestock from breaking into enclosed fields from the town common grazing area. He was reported on the 1820 U.S. census as engaged in agriculture,²⁶ and in 1822 his earmark for cattle, sheep, and pigs was registered in the town records.⁷ In 1850, Abel was reported working as a farmer.²⁴

The 1810 through 1840 U.S. census entries for the Abel Coburn household include males and females in the expected age categories for Abel, his wife, and his younger children. The household also included individuals who were not members of the immediate family. In 1810 and in 1840, there was a young man living in the household who was old enough to be helping with farm labor. In 1820 there was an unidentified male child under the age of ten in the household. In 1810, 1820, and 1830, there was an older woman living in the household. Based on the reported age, it is possible that this was the same woman on all three records.^{11,20,23,26}

Abel may have fallen on hard times financially in his early thirties and again in his early fifties. His father deeded land to him before 1807, possibly when he turned twenty-one or at the time of his first marriage. In 1808, Abel sold this land and purchased forty-three acres near the Rock River, a few miles south of his father. Over the next four years, Able sold pieces of the forty-three acres, culminating in a sale of ten acres in 1812, described in the deed as all of the land he owned at that

time.²⁷ Abel and Phoebe had been married about four years and had five children, Ruth's three children and Phoebe's two children who were under the age of five.

By 1818, Abel had received land he inherited from his father, who died in 1815.² Over the next thirteen years, Abel purchased and leased additional land. In 1832, he sold all of his land, including the land he inherited from his father on which he was living.²⁸ Abel was fifty-two and Esther was in her early thirties, with five children under the age of ten, as well as older children at home. They continued living on the land Abel inherited from his father and in 1835 his twenty-one year old son Luther purchased the land back from the new owner.²⁹ There is no evidence that Abel became a land owner again.

Abel Coburn spent most of his life in Huntsburgh/Franklin, Vermont. He was twelve years old when his family moved to Huntsburgh. His parents ensured that his education was not interrupted by the move to the frontier; his literacy is evidenced by his signature on deeds. Abel was about twenty when he married the first time and sixty-two when he became a widower for the third time. He had sixteen children.¹ Like most of the early settlers, he was a farmer.¹⁶ Land records suggest that Abel experienced periods of relative prosperity and periods of financial hardship during his life. On the 1860 U.S. census his occupation was reported as "old gent."³⁰ He died the following year at the age of eighty-one.¹

1. Terry Jednaszewski, "Coburn/Dassance Family Records From Northern VT," *Across the Border*, Vol. III, No. 2 (Winter 1990): 21. Transcription of family records from Coburn bibles.

2. Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh Deeds, 2: 181-182, Amasa Coburn Will, 1815; FHL microfilm 28,219; will is recorded in the deed book.

3. Petersham, Massachusetts, *Vital Records of Petersham, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* (Systematic History Fund, 1904), 82, 139; digital images, *Google Books* (books.google.com : downloaded 18 December 2013).

4. *Find A Grave*, database and digital images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 15 July 2012), photographs, gravestones for Abel Coburn and Phebe Coburn, Maple Grove Cemetery in Franklin, Franklin County, Vermont; Find A Grave Memorials # 31502714 and 31501564.

5. 1850 U.S. census, Lorain County, Ohio, population schedule, Black River township, p. 373 (stamped), dwelling 1875, family 2012, Amasa Coburn household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 2 August 2012); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 705.

6. "New Hampshire Birth Records, Early to 1900," database and images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org : accessed 5 January 2014); Ruth Jewett, 1781, Rindge, Cheshire County, New Hampshire; citing Index to Births, Early to 1900, New Hampshire Registrar of Vital Statistics.

7. Huntsburgh, Vermont, Town Clerk, Vital Records of Huntsburgh, Vermont and Earmarks, 1792-1817, 1A: 11, Coburn-Dwinell marriage, 14 March 1808 (recorded 19 April 1810); 1A: 132, Abel Coburn earmark; FHL microfilm 28,218, item 2.

8. Keene, New Hampshire, City Clerk, Vital Records, Births (1738-1901) 1: 270, Bartholomew Dwinnell family births, 1784-1796; FHL microfilm 1,005,549, item 1, register of compiled birth records.

9. Rindge, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, "Town Records," Vol. 6 (1749-1852), p. 132, Dwinnel-Towne marriage, 1785; digital image, "New Hampshire, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1636-1947," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org: 18 April 2014).

10. Fairhaven, Bristol County, Massachusetts, "Deaths, 1906-1910," 1909, p. 172, Edwin Coburn; digital image, "Massachusetts Deaths, 1841-1915," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org: 12 July 2012).

11. 1840 U.S. census, Franklin County, Vermont, Franklin, p. [542], line 23, Abel Coburn household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 October 2010); citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 285.

12. "Esther Coburn," death notice, (*Windsor*) *Vermont Chronicle*, 23 March 1842; transcription, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 6 January 2014), Elkins-Wypych Family Tree.

13. 1790 U.S. census, Windham County, Vermont, p. 30 (penned), p. 130 (penned), col. 1, line 23, Amasa Cobourn

- household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 December 2013); citing NARA microfilm M637, roll 12.
14. Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh Deeds, 1: 18, Jonathan Hunt to Amasa Coburn, 15 February 1797 (executed 3 January 1791); FHL microfilm 28,219.
15. Edward A. Hoyd, editor, *General Petitions, 1788-1792, State Papers of Vermont*, vol. 9 (Montpelier, Vermont: Secretary of State, 1955), 410.
16. Abby Maria Hemenway, editor, *Vermont Historical Gazetteer* (Burlington, Vermont: A. M. Hemenway, 1871), 5 volumes, 2: 221, 223-4, 230; digital images, *Google Books* (books.google.com : downloaded 7 January 2014).
17. 1800 U.S. census, Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 November 2013); citing NARA microfilm M32, roll 51.
18. Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh Deeds, 1: 19, Amasa Coburn to Abel Jewett, 6 March 1797 (executed 18 April 1795); FHL microfilm 28,219.
19. New England Historic Genealogical Society, "Massachusetts Vital Records to 1850," database and images, *AmericanAncestors.org* (www.americanancestors.org : accessed 8 January 2014); Bartholomew Dwinell birth, 1762; Sarah Dwinell birth, 1757; citing Vital Records of Topsfield Massachusetts (Topsfield, Massachusetts: Topsfield Historical Society, 1903), Topsfield Births, p. 37, 39.
20. 1810 U.S. census, Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh, p. 269 (stamped), Abel Coborn household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 8 October 2010); citing NARA microfilm M252, roll 64.
21. 1800 U.S. census, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, Keene, p. 901 (penned), p. 172 (stamped), line 3, Bartho Dwinell household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 8 August 2010); citing NARA microfilm M32, roll 20.
22. Nancy R. Stevens, "Bartholomew Dwinell and Rebecca Towne Family," *Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly* Vol. 55, No. 1-2: 16; online, *Austin Genealogical Society* (www.austintxgensoc.org: 2014).
23. 1830 U.S. census, Franklin County, Vermont, Franklin, p. 131, line 26, Abell Colburn household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 19 November 2013); citing NARA microfilm M19, roll 183.
24. 1850 U.S. census, Franklin, Vermont, population schedule, Franklin, p. 26, dwelling 185, family 188, Luther Coburn household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 10 January 2009); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 924.
25. Huntsburgh, Vermont, Town Records, 1789-1889, vol. 1 (1802-1832): 2, 3, and 166, town officers for 1802, 1803, and 1825; FHL microfilm 944,190.
26. 1820 U.S. census, Franklin County, Vermont, population schedule, Franklin, p. 106 (penned), line 33, Abel Colborn household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 8 August 2010); citing NARA microfilm M33, roll 127.
27. Franklin County, Vermont, Huntsburgh Deeds, 1: 287, 332, 333, 338; 2: 2, 31, 47, 64, 65, 281, FHL microfilm 28,219.
28. Franklin County, Vermont, Franklin Deeds, 2: 435; 3: 42, 299; 4: 25, 51, 80; FHL microfilm 28,219-28,220.
29. Franklin County, Vermont, Franklin Deeds, 4: 300, William Felton to Luther Coburn, 26 November 1835 (executed same date); FHL microfilm 28,220.
30. 1860 U.S. census, Franklin County, Vermont, population schedule, Franklin, p. 42, dwelling 339, family 303, Luther Coburn household; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 10 January 2009); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 1321.

History of Lawrence, Samuel and Joseph Bridger

by Phoebe Allen

The Bridger Family Association (BFA), formed in 2006, has previously made tours of sights associated with Samuel's son Joseph, who immigrated to the Isle of Wight in Virginia circa 1654. In May, the BFA will meet in Williamsburg and Jamestown.

Our Allen line runs back in time from our grandfather Walter Howard Allen to William Henry "Dick" Allen to Hezekiah Allen (1798 GA-1875 AL), the son of Harris Allen (1750 NC-1814 GA) and Sarah Hays (1775 NC-1804 GA). Sarah was the daughter of John Hays¹ (1750 NC-1795 NC) and Sarah Bridgers (1755 NC-1795 NC), who in turn descends from John Bridgers, William Bridgers II, William Bridgers I, Joseph Bridger II, Joseph Bridger I, Samuel Bridger, Lawrence Bridger, and Rychard Brydgere, to Henry Brygger (abt. 1480).²

11th Great Grandfather, Lawrence Bridger:

Lawrence Bridger, son of Richard Bridger of Surrey and Margery Eliot, was born 1550 in Godalming, Surrey, England (southwest of London), and died 30 June 1631 in Slimbridge, Gloucester, England (west of London, near Wales). The Rev. Lawrence Bridger was a Church of England clergyman. He was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford. He became a fellow at Oxford in 1568 and obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree on 23 October 1570. He received his Masters of Arts degree on 21 June 1574.

Rev. Bridger served as the parish priest at the Anglican church of St. John the Evangelist in Slimbridge for 53 years. The President of Magdalen College, with the approval of the Bishop of Gloucester, recommended Lawrence to the office of Rector and Clerk of Slimbridge. He was invested with the office by Queen Elizabeth I at Windsor Castle on 11 October 1577. In 1586, Lawrence was installed as a Prebend (honorary canon, a priest or rural dean acting as superintendent overseeing other priests in an administrative way) of the third stall at Gloucester Cathedral, a post which he held until resigning in 1625.

John Smyth (1567-1640), a steward to the Berkeleys³ wrote in The Berkeley Manuscripts, volume 3 page 203, that he sold Gossington Hall to Lawrence Bridger, clerke parson of Slimbridge, with 60 acres of land. Smyth also wrote that Lawrence was one of "the persons charged to finde horses for the trained band under Sir Gabriell Lowe, Knight and Captaine of Dragoons of Berkeley Hundred in Ano 1626." In what is a rather nice epitaph, Smyth says that Lawrence died "a very rich and honest man."

Lawrence married twice but died a widower. In his will, he makes bequests to nine children: Samuel, Lawrence, Joseph, Benjamin, Arthur, Elizabeth, Faith, Mary, and Anne, with Samuel being the eldest son by his first wife and Joseph the eldest by his second wife, neither wife having so far been confidently identified.

10th Great Grandfather, Samuel Bridger:

Samuel Bridger (son of Lawrence Bridger) was born in 1584 in Slimbridge, Gloucester, England, and died 31 July, 1650, in Woodmancote Manor, Dursley Parish, Gloucester, England. Samuel matriculated at Magdalen College, Oxford on 30 April 1602. For many years, he was the auditor of the College of Gloucester, likely a school supported by the Gloucester Cathedral, as churches were

¹ The Hays ancestors were, like the Bridgers, longtime residents of the Isle of Wight in Virginia.

² From the research files of Berry Lynne Allen Hill of California. Individual citations not provided.

³ We visited nearby Berkeley Castle, home of the Berkeley family for 850 years and the scene of the murder of King Edward II in 1327.

responsible for education. Samuel married Mary Webb in 1622 in Slimbridge, Gloucester, England, and about 1683 married a second wife.

He left the auditor's office to his son John in his will. He is also said to have been Sub-Dean of the College. Sons Joseph and James emigrated from England to Virginia.⁴ Samuel was buried in the Lady Chapel of Gloucester Cathedral. An epitaph, removed during a restoration in the late 1800s, read, "Here lyes the body of Samuel Bridger, gent, who departed this life upon the 21st day of July, An. 1650. Receiver of this College Rents, he paid his debt to Nature, and beneath he's laid, to rest until his Summons to remove, at the last Audit, to the Choir above."

9th Great Grandfather, Joseph Bridger:

Joseph Bridger, son of Mary and Samuel Bridger of Woodmancote Manor, was born in 1628 in Woodmancote Manor, Dursley Parish, Gloucester, England, and died 15 April, 1686, in White Marsh, Isle of Wight County, Virginia. He was baptized 28 February 1631/2 in Dursley. He immigrated to Isle of Wight County, Virginia circa 1652/54. He married Hester Pitt in 1654 in Isle of Wight County, Virginia; she was the daughter of Col. Robert Pitt and Martha Lear of the Isle of Wight County, Virginia. They had seven children including our ancestor, Joseph Bridger II (ca. 1654-by 1713), who married Elizabeth Norsworthy.

Joseph Bridger Sr. was a member of the Cavalier Army in the British Civil Wars. He immigrated to Virginia under the auspices of Colonel Nathaniel Bacon and was considered one of most prominent men of his time in the Isle of Wight County, Virginia, which he represented in the Virginia House of Burgesses from 1657 to 1658 and again in 1663 and 1664.

On 7 June, 1666, Joseph Bridger Sr. was given a deed for land. The land was described as "beginning by a white marsh, a meadow about half a mile from the main run of the Blockwater River." Joseph named his new 21-room brick mansion White Marsh. It was one of likely the two largest houses ever built in 17th Century Virginia. The inventory of the estate listed "cellar, kitchen, kitchen chamber, dining room, parlor, hall gallery, leading chamber over the dining room, out chamber, lower chamber, hall chamber, next chamber, middle chamber, middle uppermost chamber, and children's chamber."

Joseph Bridger had a patent for transporting new settlers into Virginia and transported 156 people from England, among them James Bridger, his brother, and Thomas Pitt, who became his father-in-law. Joseph is listed in the Virginia Colonial Militia of 1651-1776 as Commander in Chief of ye horse in ye Counties of Isle of Wight, Surrey, Nanzemond, and Lower Norfolk. He was an Adjutant General of the Virginia Forces in 1666. In 1673, Joseph received a grant of 432 acres in Surrey County, Virginia, and was deeded land by John Perry in 1673.

He had command of the Isle of Wight militia in the Indian War of 1675. Unfortunately, as an ardent Royalist, Bridger supported Governor Berkeley during Bacon's Rebellion in 1676. He denounced Bacon's Proclamation of 1676 and had to flee to the eastern shore of Virginia until the rebellion ended. Colonel Bridger was described as "a very resolute gentleman, who though forced to flee in the heat of war from his own countrie, yet on his return was very active and instrumental in reducing to their obedience the south parts of the James River."

Additionally, Joseph Bridger was a member of the Virginia Council of State, 1673-1686; Co-Acting Governor of Virginia, 1684 & 1685; Colonel of Isle of Wight County's militia by 1673-1686; Commander of Nine Virginia Counties for Defense against Indians, 1680; Commander of Four

⁴ See www.tngenweb.org/montgomery/rbridgeshis.html

Virginia Counties for Defense against Indians, 1683; Deputy Vice Admiral of Virginia, 1683; and is known as the traditional builder of historic St. Luke's Church, Isle of Wight County, Virginia. Probably constructed circa 1682, this Gothic brick structure is the oldest intact non-Roman Catholic Church building in the Western Hemisphere.

Bridger's will was made on 18 October 1683. His will named his wife Hester, his sons Joseph, Samuel and William, and his daughters Martha, Mary and Elizabeth. Interestingly enough, he disinherited his son Joseph Jr. "who I finde fly out with divers dissolute courses of life and is grown very disobedient to me."

Joseph was buried in the Old Brick Church on the White Marsh estate (the original mansion has long since disappeared). In 1894, Bridger's remains were moved to the chancel of the Old Brick Church. His bones were removed and studied by the Smithsonian and reburied in St. Luke's Church in February of 2014. Tests indicated that he had a large amount of lead in his bones – from eating off metal (pewter, an alloy of tin and lead) plates, lead-glazed earthenware drinking vessels, and using pewter utensils for many years. He also had gout. Lead exposure increased with wealth, indicating a person of means. He was one of the ten wealthiest Virginians of his time as owner of over 16,400 acres in Isle of Wight, Surry, Nansemond, and James City Counties in Virginia and in Somerset County, Maryland.⁵

⁵ Article was compiled from the Bridger Family Association website and various sources. Website <https://bridgerfamilyassociation.wordpress.com/english-roots/> accessed 3/31/2015.

The Gloucestershire Time Machine

A Genealogical Journey in England

By James E. Bridges

After much planning and preparation and a great deal of research, our group: myself, son John, and wives Rochelle and Quin, embarked on our journey into the past. We arrived at the Austin-Bergstrom Airport (AUS) for our flight, direct to Heathrow Airport (LHS) in London, England, aboard a British Air 777-200. The day was Sept 5, 2014, and we took off from AUS at 6:10pm CST, arriving at LHS on the 6th of Sept, 2014, 9:25 am GMT, after a 9 hour flight. Tired and dazed, we ran the rat maze of Heathrow Terminal 5 to pass customs, collect our luggage, and find our way to Terminal 2 where we made contact with our host for the day, David Carrington, Church Warden for Slimbridge Church. (More about the church later on.)

At a little after 1:00 P.M., we departed LHS by bus for our first stop in the time machine. The spirits of old Magdalen College of Oxford University in Oxford, England, were strong that day. Magdalen (pronounced Maud-lin in British-ese) is one of 38 colleges that make up Oxford University and is the college from which our ancestor, Laurence Bridger, graduated in 1568.¹ His son, Samuel, also graduated from Magdalen College, was the auditor of Gloucester College and is the father of our immigrant ancestor, Joseph Bridger.² Laurence was appointed Rector of Slimbridge Church, officially known as the Church of St. John the Evangelist at Slimbridge. Laurence was the Rector from 1577 to 1630 during the reign of Elizabeth the First of England. Magdalen is one of the original colleges of Oxford, having been founded by William Wayneflete in 1458 outside the city walls of Oxford. This established a bit of independence and drew the contours of its own history, as the college brochure says.

In the beginning it was a Seminary for priests. Roman Catholic in the beginning, it swung back and forth with the winds of religious power in England, and is now primarily secular and broadly based in its curriculum. When 9th Great Grandfather Laurence was there, it was a protestant (Church of England) seminary. After a great guided walking tour of the college and experiencing the footsteps of great grandfather(s), we re-boarded our Applegate Tour Bus and motored on west. After a welcome rest stop in Bibury, a Cotswold village painstakingly preserved since the Middle Ages with a cool running trout stream in the middle and neat stone cottages lining the narrow road, we continued along to Tortworth Court, our hotel for the rest of the trip. With no sleep on the crowded plane, we were ready for a bite to eat and a good night of rest in the cool of the English weather, which was our air conditioning. Tortworth Court is a grand Victorian pile of stones with great accommodations, good food and drink, and a maze of hallways and stairs. It was used by U.S. Army troops in WWII and suffered a fire and other calamities, but has been well restored by the Four Pillars Hotel Corp. and is a visual wonder, with huge gardens of flowers and ancient trees of every kind, all labeled and stately tall. Built by a Count in Victorian times, it contributed to the feeling of being in a time machine. With our group rate, the cost was way below anything found in London and way better to boot. Being located near Wotton-under-Edge in Gloucestershire in the Cotswolds is a significant plus! Five stars

¹ Ancestry.com. Oxford University Alumni, 1500-1886 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007. Original data: Foster, Joseph. Alumni Oxonienses: The Members of the University of Oxford, 1715-1886 and Alumni Oxonienses: The Members of the University of Oxford, 1500-1714. Oxford: Parker and Co., 1888-1892.

² Ancestry.com. UK, Extracted Probate Records, 1269-1975 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009. Original data: Electronic databases created from various publications of probate records.

from me! With the location in a forest away from city streets, it is a prime location for high security visits, and was used for President Obama a few days before our arrival. I think he may have had the suite. We just had a room.

The next day was a Sunday, and we rose early to make the trip through autumn-flower-covered lanes to the village of Slimbridge, and attend services at the Church of St. John the Evangelist. This is an active Anglican Church today, with a history reaching back to the 1100s. It is not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1066, but in 1146, it is mentioned that the Advowson of Slymbridge was granted to the Benedictine Priory at Stanly St. Leonard when Stephen, the last king of the House of Normandy, was on the throne of England. Since the church existed in 1146, it points to an earlier time, shortly after the Domesday Book was compiled. The Patron of Slimbridge is today the College of St. Mary Magdalen at Oxford.

Forty two American cousins, descendants of Laurence Bridger, and the usual parishioners crowded into the little church for 10 o'clock services. The Rev. William Boon, current Rector, presided over the services, which included a renewal of marriage vows by one of our American cousins. The organ, installed about a hundred years ago but recently repaired and updated with electronic blowers and controls, provided appropriate music accompaniment to songs familiar to British and American alike. A short secular lecture, after the services, told of the location of the burial of Laurence Bridger under the center of the approach to the chancel, a fact established during recent excavations of the flooring. There is a Bridger window in the back left of the sanctuary, dedicated about twenty years ago. Our group hopes to install a bronze plaque underneath the window. We could feel the influence and presence of the Bridger family in this location all those centuries ago. The time machine functions well. Our ancestor, Laurence, was appointed Rector in 1577 and was in that position until his passing in 1630. He is still there in spirit as well as remaining body. It is worth mentioning that William Tyndale was born near the village, and his brother is buried in the church graveyard.³ William, another student at Magdalen College, provided the first English translation of the Bible, and was strangled and then burned at the stake for his troubles by the orders of Queen Mary I on the 6th of Oct 1536. We found a photocopy of a signature by Laurence Bridger posted on the meeting room wall!

After the services, the ladies of the parish treated us to a luncheon across the street in the church hall. The British do well with desserts, and this luncheon was no exception. Of course, there was tea. We were continually impressed with the friendly politeness of all the British people we encountered. After tea, we wandered at leisure through the mossy green headstones in the churchyard. The names of famous families stand out from the ages. The wealth of families can be estimated from the elaborateness of the memorials. The oldest are unknown as there are no stones remaining for them, but the burials stretch back more than a thousand years. Everything is neat and well-kept, with seasonal flowers everywhere. After a long full day, we were glad to get back to Tortworth for a good night's sleep.

The next day was to be a long one, so we took box lunches and boarded our buses early. We were on our way to Dursley town and Woodmancote Manor where Laurence's son Samuel lived and where our grandfather Joseph, the immigrant, was born. Once in the middle of a farm, with numerous outbuildings and cottages, and a large herd of sheep producing wool (and a family fortune,) it is now in the outskirts of the town of Dursley. It is well preserved, with small rooms, a great flower and green lawn, and a charming and perpetually hungry pair of pigs in the back yard. One could feel the type of family activities that must have been the norm back in the middle ages. Bathrooms have been added, a

³ Original Records of the St John's Church at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, UK.

luxury not found in the 1500s. The smells of the 1500/1600s must have been fragrant indeed, with primitive sewer facilities, wood fires burning for cooking and heating, limited bathing, frequent battles and feuding, and sheep all around. The manor still exists in roughly the original form, except for two windows that have been restored after Samuel filled them to avoid the King's taxes, which were levied based on the number of windows in the house. The current owners were good hosts to our 42 cousins traipsing through their living quarters. Each of our family groups provided them with a bottle of red wine. It should last them a few weeks of entertaining. Not sure about the quality of the wine.

From Dursley town, we bused south to the town of Cheddar to sample the cheese. There is only one place there still making the cheese named for the town. There is a cave used for many decades as a curing place for cheese, and a small canyon. It is a sort of mini-grand canyon compared to the western US. Interestingly, the canyon is the place where a minister was trapped during a storm, took refuge in a crevice on the wall of the canyon and wrote the song "Rock of Ages.... cleft for me." I had a nice English ice cream cone - flavor Baileys.

After a few hours, we motored on south and further back in time, to Bath to see the Roman ruins of the Temple of Minerva and the famous Roman Baths, still gathering the warm water from the mineral springs. The Abbey nearby is elaborately appointed and from the middle ages. After a bit of shopping, we returned to our buses and on back to Tortworth. This evening we had our dinner at the Stagecoach Inn, an old pub near Tortworth. The food was passable, their specialty being the Dragon Pie, and the bitters were good. English beer, usually bitter ale, is served at room temperature, but in September in the evening that is nice and cool. Over the fireplace, we saw a blunderbuss from the English Civil War that had been dug up on the premises, along with arrowheads and a shaft, with head still attached, once used in a crossbow fired in anger. In an old country, history is everywhere, especially underfoot and in the form of spirits. Do you believe?

Our next day was special for many of us. We visited the Cathedral at Gloucester, built in the 1100s on the site of a previous church built by Osric, Prince of Mercia, in the 900s. It is significant to the Bridger family because our 8th great grandfather, Samuel, was the cathedral auditor and is buried in the floor of the church. There was once a plaque on the wall, but it was removed some years ago. Other notables buried here are Osric, Prince of Mercia; Robert, the eldest son of William the conqueror, and King Edward II, the only known gay king of England. The last of that group is further connected to the Bridger family by his imprisonment at Berkeley Castle, and later assassination at that same castle. The owners of the castle were the Advowsons of the Rectors of Slimbridge Church in those days. The Cathedral must be seen to be fully appreciated. Even the brochures provided do not adequately describe the building, from its Norman pillars to the huge medieval glass windows and the spectacular noble burials. It was narrowly saved from destruction by the Puritans during the English Civil War, when they were reluctant to destroy the burials of kings. It would seem that the dead saved the building. After several hours at the Cathedral, we proceeded to lunch at the King's Arms Hotel in Malmsbury, just outside the famous abbey there. Lunch was nice - a few American cousins were introduced to "pouring cream," which is a lightly sweetened, heavy cream to be poured over cakes for dessert, a bit like clotted cream. You do know what that is, of course.

After lunch, we proceeded even further back in time to Stonehenge. There was little to do with genealogy here, but for many it was their first visit to one of the wonders of the ancient world. For those who had visited before, it was an update on the recent archaeological finds. There is a current program on the Smithsonian Channel that tells of these, and we got to see some first hand. Construction on roads and other buildings is still in progress. One of the "improvements" from years ago is a large building with restrooms, and a place to buy a snack and a souvenir. Designed after the

ancient structures discovered in the area, it also serves as the place to enter and exit the grounds. The old entry building is long gone, and tickets are purchased at the car/bus park prior to walking to the historical site across the roadway. We were dropped off at a local pub on the way back to the hotel. This pub, in Falfield, was fairly new, being only 400 years old. The venison was a bit tough, but tasty, with a great sauce, and the bitters were excellent. Kathy, the owner, was cheerful and polite and accommodating for diabetics that did not want sugar in a drink. She made one with seltzer, juice and a dab of angostura bitters, now known as The Kathy.

The next morning was an early start, and on to Wales and the town of Chepstow. In Chepstow, we had a quick tour of a Norman castle, met some students from Germany (they all spoke English) and crossed Wales off our bucket list. I am glad I did not have to speak the Welsh language. We then proceeded to Berkeley Castle for a great tour of this very old and significant pile of rocks. England has lots of rocks. The keep of the castle, the central tower located within the castle walls, was destroyed a few centuries ago during the English Civil War, and by agreement is not to be rebuilt. The rest of the castle is intact and is maintained as a tourist attraction and the residence of the owners. The tourist traffic helps to defray the cost of upkeep. The guides were polite and well informed and eager to explain the details as we proceeded from room to room, while a movie/TV set was being erected in portions. We were not significantly impeded by the movie persons as they were polite and we just ignored them. This castle, along with Gloucester Cathedral, is also the location of many scenes from the Harry Potter movies.

We walked in the steps where our ancestors must have walked in the 1500/1600s, for they were some of the important people to the patrons of the castle. Interestingly the Berkeleys, the current owner/occupants of the castle, are Roman Catholic, whereas much of the activities around the castle were protestant or Puritan protestant. The private quarters are not open to the public and we were not invited in. The cemetery connected to the castle and the adjoining chapel had many interesting gravestones of nobles over the centuries, but there was insufficient time to prowl among them. I was intrigued by a set of bells on the wall in the old kitchen. There were various guesses as to their use, such as to summon servants, but the actual use was as cowbells. Each lead cow had a bell with a different tone so they could be tracked by sound. We were informed Queen Elizabeth the First visited Berkeley Castle and stayed several weeks, eating the owners out of house and home with her large retinue. She also loved to hunt with a crossbow and she and her hunters killed most of the deer in the castle grounds. The Lord of the castle was smart, however, and had moved into hiding half of his deer herd prior to the royal arrival. In those days, castle owners hated to host the royals (declining the visit was not an option,) as they had to bear the expense of feeding and entertaining, and then clean the place after the royal departure. There were no bathrooms as such in those days. The royal quarters had a garderobe where one could "hang it over the edge of the wall," but everyone else was on their own. Thinking about this was a nice walk in the time machine, but one from which we were all glad to recover to modern times. We visited the rooms where Edward II was imprisoned. Nice digs, actually. He was also assassinated there, probably by being smothered between horsehair mattresses to leave no marks on the royal body, even though there is a much more macabre story that is told to tourists.

In the evening, we gathered in the Orangery of the Tortworth Court, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, United Kingdom, for our 14th Annual Meeting of the Bridger Family Association. First order of business was the annual family photo. Previous meetings were mostly in Virginia, near The Isle of Wight County, where our first immigrant member, Captain Joseph Bridger, arrived in America, circa 1670, and settled across the river from Jamestown. A previous meeting three years ago was in Wyoming at Ft. Bridger, where Mountain Man Jim Bridger, also a cousin, lived most of his life. Our family has several members of the Jamestown Society, and I was privileged to attend a

meeting a few years ago in Williamsburg. At this 14th Annual Meeting in England, we were entertained by the Slimbridge Singers from Slimbridge Church. The Orangery is a cavernous old arboretum, and has a terrible echo, but the singers did their best and were greatly appreciated. Following our banquet, the meeting was called to order by Jean Tomes, this association's president, inspiration, and guiding light. We heard a lecture on some facets of English genealogy, made our profuse thanks to our hosts, David and Trish Carrington, and to the Rev. Boon of Slimbridge Church. The dinner was delicious and well served.

We arose early the next morning for our bus ride to LHS and our flight back to AUS on a British Air Boeing 787 Dreamliner, where we had about two or three precious extra inches for the knees. Those inches meant a lot for my back and legs! We brought home new knowledge of our ancestors, research confirmed by on-site observation and local ancient church records brought out for our perusal and photos. We gained a much closer connection with our grandfathers, the world they lived in, their struggles, and the customs they observed, as well as the locations of their homes and activities and burial. It is a rare privilege to achieve such a great mix of history and genealogy so far back in time. It was a family reunion of unusual breadth and scope, well planned and executed. We experienced no disputes, no accidents, no complaints and a jolly good time was had by all. Next year! The Isle of Wight beckons in May 2015.

I feel very privileged to have walked in the footsteps of ancestors of long ago. This brought the spirits to life in a way that just cannot be accomplished with a family tree and a piece of paper or a computer. With a bit of imagination the smells, the noises, the challenges and the living conditions can be conjured up and experienced. Living genealogy is possible. I highly recommend such journeys both for the research and the feel of the time and place.

Bridger Family Association 2014 Tour

By Phoebe Allen and Lynne Hill

Oddly enough, fellow AGS member Jim Bridges and I met for the first time in England this past September. His story will no doubt give the reader more details about our experience.

While I tend to focus on the stories of ancestors known to my parents or grandparents, my first cousin Lynne Allen Hill enjoys digging deeply into past generations. Last spring she happened across a line in our Allen tree that led to the Bridger Family Association (BFA,) and this past September, together with our husbands Loren Hill and Dick Kallerman, we traveled to London to join a BFA tour that visited sites where direct ancestors Lawrence and Samuel Bridger, our 11th and 10th great grandfathers, had lived, studied, and worked as rector of Slimbridge Church and auditor of College of Gloucester,

respectively. The following is a more detailed history of these two gentlemen and their son Joseph, who emigrated from England to Colonial Virginia. Photos can also be seen on the Bridger Family Association website, on the 2014 Reunion tab.



Magdalen College, Oxford, where both Lawrence and Samuel Bridger received their education. Photo courtesy of Phoebe Allen.

Two tour buses picked up about 70 participants at Heathrow and a hotel near the airport on Saturday morning. Two members of the Slimbridge congregation – David Carrington, a Slimbridge Church Warden, and his wife Tricia, the church organist – were our official guides each day, and the Association's president, Jean Tomes, organized the tour and was our fearless leader.

Our first stop was in Oxford, where we had some time to walk the campus (composed of 38 independent colleges) and visit the Bodleian Library, the beautiful round Radcliffe Camera and Church of St. Mary, and the Magdalen Bridge, with its punts on the River Cherwell adjacent to Magdalen College (*pronounced "Maudlin"*), founded in 1458. Guides led us in to see the college that both Lawrence (B.A. 1570, M.A. 1577) and Samuel Bridger (B.A. 1602) had attended. Magdalen College

was patron of the Rectory at Slimbridge, and it was from Magdalen that Lawrence received his appointment with a recommendation to the office of Rector and Clerk of the church by the President of Magdalen with the approval of the Bishop of Gloucester.

We then proceeded to our residence for the next five nights: Tortworth Court Four Pillars Hotel in Gloucestershire, on the edge of the Cotswolds. An elegant Victorian mansion built in Tudor style between the years 1848-53, Tortworth opened as a hotel in 2001. It is notable for an extensive 30-acre arboretum with more than 300 specimens, many rare and unusual.



Tortworth Court Four Pillars Hotel. Photo courtesy of Phoebe Allen.

Sunday morning we traveled to nearby Slimbridge (originally Slymbridge), a village in Gloucestershire, to attend services at St. John the Evangelist Church (Anglican Church of England). The attendance, normally 12 to 20 in number, was substantially increased by our presence, and they were ready for us! Rev. Bill Boon and the congregation, as well as the whole village, really went out of their way to welcome us and share what they knew of their former rector and our direct ancestor, Rev. Lawrence Bridger. The original church dates to Norman times; the present church was built in 1250-1300 with the exception of the spire, clerestory and roof, which were added or rebuilt later.

During the service, an American Bridger couple with two young children renewed their marriage vows, adding a special touch to the already moving service.



Slimbridge Church of St. John the Evangelist.

Afterwards, several climbed up into the bell tower (two of the bells date from the 1700s) for the countryside view and wandered around the cemetery that surrounds the church. The front window structure is in the shape of burning candles. A delightful buffet lunch with local English foods (cheeses, pickle chutneys, salads, meats, breads, homemade desserts, and English tea) was provided by ladies of the church and community in the Town Hall across the road. Members of Slimbridge Church and the Gloucestershire Historical Society spoke to us after lunch about the history of the church and Lawrence Bridger, who had been rector for 53 years. We viewed original historic documents from as early as 1635 and written on parchment.

We also had a close look at a window that had been installed by American Bridger descendants, adjacent to the altar, in 1996, dedicated in memory of Lawrence Bridger as rector from 1577 to 1630. The window incorporates the Bridger coat of arms – a chevron engraved between three crabs. Lawrence was buried at Slimbridge, but it is believed that his brass plate in the nave was covered when new flooring

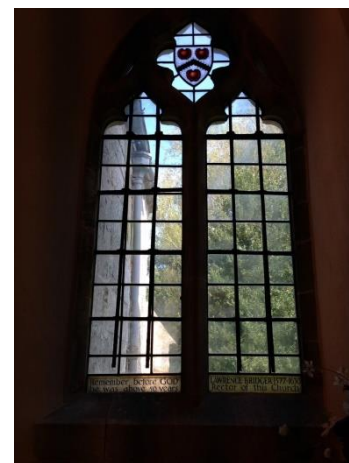


Photo of window dedicated to Lawrence Bridger.

was installed. The brass plate, no longer visible, read: “Here lyeth the Body of Lawrence Bridger who was above 50 year Rector in this Parish. He was buried the 18th day of October 1630.”



Woodmancote Manor, Dursley, Gloucestershire, England. Home of Samuel Bridger family. Birthplace of Joseph Bridger.

Near Slimbridge is the village of Dursley in Gloucestershire, where Samuel’s family lived in Woodmancote Manor, a gabled Cotswold country manor house built of stone with a roof of Cotswold tiles circa 1600, which had originally been owned by the Berkeley family (who had a large estate and castle nearby). We visited Woodmancote on Monday, and the young couple presently living there opened their home to us and invited us to look about the ground floor of the house

and gardens. Our ancestor Joseph, who had moved to Virginia, was born here. The floor is the original floor that would have been there when Samuel owned the house.

The bus then took us to Cheddar, where we toured a cheese factory, and later to Bath via the seaport of Bristol for sightseeing. As we traveled, we could see in the distance a tall monument to William Tyndale (1494-1536), a translator of the New Testament, on nearby Nibley Hill, near his birthplace. There is also a plaque dedicated to William Tyndale over the door to the bell tower at Slimbridge Church, which was the parish church of the Tyndale family.

We did not get to drive by Gossington Hall, where Lawrence Bridger's family had lived while at Slimbridge; the new owner was unwilling to open the house to our large group, but there is a photo on the BFA website.

On Tuesday we visited Gloucester Cathedral & Museum, begun in 1089 and the site of Henry III's coronation. Lawrence Bridger's son Samuel had been the auditor for Gloucester College (no longer in existence,) associated with Gloucester Cathedral, which was also the local governing cathedral for Slimbridge. We located the third chair, or stall, in the quire where Lawrence Bridger was seated for meetings as Prebender.

After a stop in Malmesbury for lunch at Kings Arms Inn and a quick visit to a neighboring abbey, we drove on to Stonehenge for sightseeing.

On Wednesday we crossed into Wales to briefly visit Chepstow Castle, then on to Berkeley Castle. Dating back to the 11th century, the castle has remained within the Berkeley family since they reconstructed it in the 12th century, except for a period of royal ownership by the Tudors. King Edward II was murdered here in 1327. A crew was setting up for a film, but we received an excellent guided tour. The Slimbridge area was once part of the Berkeley Estate; the Berkeleys had also owned Woodmancote Manor. John Smyth (1567-1640) was a founder of the Berkeley Company, established in 1618 to transport emigrants to Virginia. Samuel Bridger's second wife may have been a Berkeley descendant, and, if so, it is plausible that Woodmancote may have come to Samuel as his wife's dowry.

The final BFA event was an annual dinner and business meeting back at Tortworth. On Thursday, the four of us departed for more time in the Cotswolds, Stratford upon Avon, and Warwick Castle. Afterwards, Lynne and Loren headed to Bath and London while Phoebe and Dick left for several days of hiking in Penzance before returning to London.



Gloucester Cathedral. Photo courtesy of Phoebe Allen.

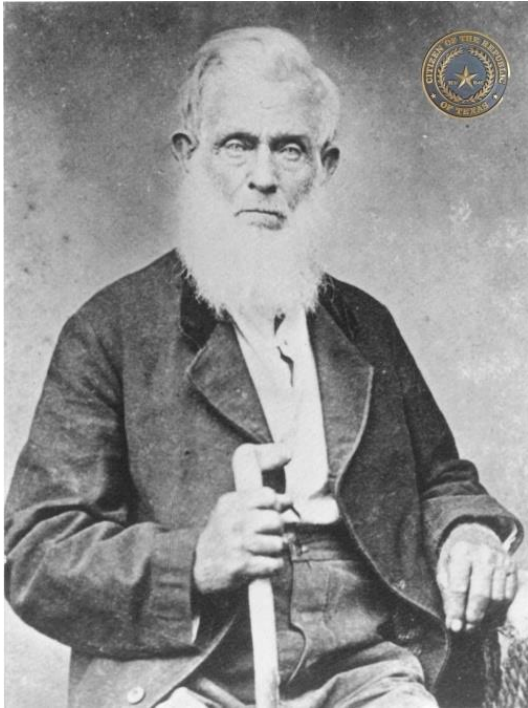
Thomas Van Swearengin Strode

A Republic of Texas Pioneer

Birth 11 Apr, 1803, in Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio, USA

Death 17 Oct, 1880, in Jollyville, Williamson Co., Texas

By Alyssa Helen Behr



Thomas Van Swearingen Strode, A Republic of Texas Pioneer. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr

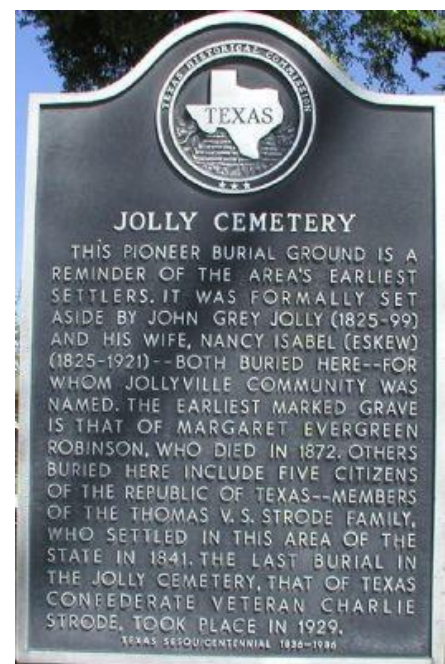
Thomas Van Swearengin Strode, son of Jeremiah Strode and Elizabeth Athey Strode, was born in 1803 in Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio. His family later moved to Ralls County, Missouri, where he met and married Emaline Fields. Their first two children were born in Hannibal, Marion County, Missouri: Missouri R. Strode, in 1839, and Virginia Strode, in 1840. Thomas V. S. Strode and his wife, Emaline Fields Strode, and children came to Texas in 1841 in a covered wagon.

The Strodes settled in the Williamson County area and in 1845, Thomas purchased land in the W. S. Baker Survey, land grant 1-267. The Baker survey is next to the Rhodes survey. Thomas Strode is shown on the 1850 Williamson County U. S. Census as age 46, a farmer worth \$1,000.00, with wife Emaline, age 35 and having five children. Mr. Strode said “in those days, the oxen gave the first warning of the approach of the Indians. When the oxen pulling the plow, suddenly stopped in their tracks, threw their heads high and began to sniff the air, the early pioneer knew to unhitch them, go to the house, get his gun and ammunition ready.”

Thomas V. S. Strode was one of the early postmasters of nearby Pond Springs, serving in 1857. He was also active in the Round Rock Masonic Lodge #227.¹

In the October, 1880 edition of the Round Rock Reporter, a Masonic Memorial announced “that Rev. Thomas V. Strode, an old, zealous and faithful member of that lodge, had died that morning at his residence near Jollyville, in this county, at 2 o’clock, a. m. and that before his death he had requested that he should be buried by his Masonic brethren, according to the usages of the ancient order; and that he had convened the lodge for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements for complying with Rev. Strode’s request. The article went on to say that the Worshipful Master, Wardens and brethren of Round Rock Lodge No. 227 of the Free and Accepted Masons carried out plans according to his wishes.”¹

Mrs. T. V. S. (Emaline) Strode (1813-1885) is buried next to her husband. When the Strodes came to the Republic of Texas from



Hannibal, Missouri, they brought two baby daughters; Missouri age two, and Virginia, 6 months. A son, Charles Edward (Charlie), was born in 1845 which, of course, was the Republic of Texas era, and would become Williamson County in 1848. They had five children that lived to adulthood.¹

Missouri Strobe (1839-1922) and Virginia Strobe Taylor (1840-1921) are buried in the Jolly Cemetery next to their parents. The fifth Strobe family member buried in the Jolly Cemetery, and a Confederate Veteran is Charles Edward (Charlie) Strobe. At the age of 18 years, he volunteered to fight for the Confederate Army. He served in Company H, 5th Regiment, Texas Cavalry, Sibley's Brigade. He was wounded at Fort Butler, Louisiana, on June 28, 1863, and captured on the same day at Donaldsonville. His right leg was amputated on that date "in the field" as a Rebel prisoner. He was only 18 years old. After returning to Jollyville after the Civil War ended in 1865, he continued to live there until his death at age 84, on January 12, 1929. He never married. His obituary in the Austin Statesman on Sunday, January 13, 1929 reads: "C. E. Strobe, 84, pioneer resident of Williamson County and Civil War veteran died at his home in Jollyville Saturday morning. Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. Burial was in the Jolly Cemetery. Surviving him is one sister of Austin, Mrs. J. W. Thorp, besides a large connection of relatives in Williamson and Travis counties."¹

¹*Excerpts with permission from Williamson County Historical Commission website, accessed March 2015:*
http://www.williamson-county-historical-commission.org/Jollyville_texas/Jolly_Cemetery_and_Historical_Maker_Jollyville_Williamson_County_Texas.html#Thomas_Van_Swearegin_Strobe

Thomas Van Swearengin Strode and Family

By Alyssa Helen Behr

Thomas V.S. Strode and Emaline had a total of eleven children, but some did not live past infancy. Only 5 made it to adulthood.

Missouri R. Strode 1839 - 1907

The oldest, Missouri never married. Her occupation was keeping house.

Virginia Strode 1840 - 1921

She married Samuel Cox Taylor on January 15th, 1863, and she raised five children. She passed away in her home of fifty years. She is buried at Jolly Cemetery.

Charles Edward Strode 1845 - 1929

He volunteered to fight for the Confederate Army and lost a leg. After the war, Charlie became a teacher and bought himself a school bell. He also had some land that he farmed. He never married.

Sarah Elizabeth “Lizzie” Strode 1851 - 1940

She married John Wesley Thorp on January 18th, 1880, and she raised three children.

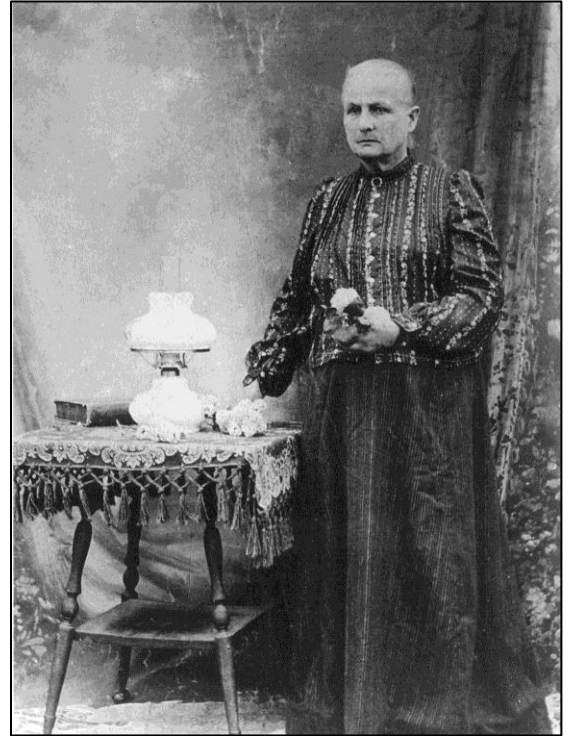
Thomas “Tom” Van Swearengin Strode Jr.

1855 – Unknown

Thomas was the best looking man in the family and never married. Tom was a hotel clerk for

Bruswick Hotel from 1889-1890 in downtown

Austin, Texas. He was considered the black sheep of the family. He disappeared, possibly to prison or hung as a horse thief.



Virginia Strode Taylor, the daughter of Thomas Van Swearingen Strode. Photo was taken in Austin, Texas, around 1900. Photo is from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.



Back row L-R: Richmand Buchanan, John Thorp. Front row L-R: John Henry Crowson, Tom Strode, Walter Kyle. Strode & Thorp are brothers-in-law: Thomas “Tom” V.S. Strode Jr.’s sister, Sarah Elizabeth “Lizzie” Strode, married John Wesley Thorp. Photo courtesy of Kenneth Crowson.



1919 Thorp Photo: Standing (L to R): Bertha Thorp, Raymond D. Thorp, Virgie Thorp. Seated (L to R): John Wesley Thorp, Sarah Elizabeth “Lizzie” Strode. Photo courtesy of Lisa Smith-Curtean through the Austin History Center.

Virginia Strode Taylor and Family

By Alyssa Helen Behr



Samuel Cox Taylor. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.

Samuel Cox Taylor, son of William Barnett Taylor and Deborah Catherine Storey, was born February 20, 1830, in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, died April 12, 1887, and is buried in Jollyville, Williamson County, Texas. Samuel fought in the Civil War, enlisted in Company D, North Carolina 18th Infantry Regiment, on June 27, 1861. He mustered out on May 3, 1863 at Chancellorsville, Virginia.

After the war, Samuel and his brother William moved to Texas. He met and married Virginia Strode on January 15, 1863. The 1880 census says he was a farmer in Jollyville, Texas. Medical records show Samuel Cox Taylor was admitted to the Austin State Hospital Asylum on May 3, 1886, where he remained until his death on April 12, 1887. He and Virginia had five children:

Samuel Houston Taylor 1863 – 1940

He married Bertha Viola Williams. They had six children: Ima Gene, Omar, Van, Ethel, Grace, and Purity.

Emma Catherine Taylor 1866 – 1916

She married Samuel S. Brown. They had six children: Eula, Hubert, Ola Ray, Olney, Forrest, and Elwin Ross “Shine”.

Adda “Addie” Caroline Taylor 1870 – 1952

She never married.

Charles Pinckney Taylor 1873 – 1963

He married Eurilda Estelle “Rilla” Williams. They had seven children: Sybil, Austin, Frank, Myra Marie, Lorene “Suki”, Samuel, and Ford.

Harriet “Lizzie” Elizabeth Taylor 1875 – 1966

She married John David Early Millegan. They had five children: Henry, Walter, Thomas, Roscoe, and Clifton.



Virginia Strode Taylor and Family Group Photo: three daughters, one daughter-in-law, one son-in-law and seven or eight grandchildren. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Addie Taylor (daughter) | 8. Stanley Milligan |
| 2. Sybil Taylor | 9. Ola Ray Brown |
| 3. Emma Taylor Brown (daughter) | 10. Lizzie Milligan (daughter) |
| 4. Eula Estelle Brown | 11. Eurelda E. "Rilla" Williams Taylor (daughter-in-law) |
| 5. Hubert Leon Brown | 12. Grandma Virginia Strode Taylor |
| 6. Cousin of Mrs. W. Taylor | 13. Sam S. Brown |
| 7. Elwin Brown | 14. Forrest Brown |

Charles Pinckney “Pink” Taylor and Family

By Alyssa Helen Behr

Charles Pinckney Taylor, son of Samuel Cox Taylor and Virginia Strode Taylor, was born the 19th of March, 1873, in Jollyville, Williamson County, Texas. He died the 1st of August, 1963, in Williamson County, Texas.

My great grandfather, Charles Pinckney Taylor, and his brother, Houston Taylor, worked for the Austin White Lime Company between 1890 and 1930 as coopers. A cooper is someone who makes wooden staved vessels, bound together with hoops, and possessing flat ends, or heads.

Charles and his brother became friends with a co-worker by the name of John Henry Brock who introduced them to their future wives. John Henry Brock married Mary Josephine Williams in 1889. By 1895, both of her parents had died and left seven of her younger siblings to be raised back in Louisiana. They split the

seven siblings up between the three older married siblings:

James Aries Williams, Jennie Virginia Williams Raley, and Mary Josephine Williams Brock. Eurilda Estelle “Rilla”

Williams, age thirteen, and Bertha Viola Williams, age seventeen, both moved in with Mary Josephine Brock and her family in Round Rock, Texas.

Charles Pinckney Taylor married Eurilda Estelle “Rilla” Williams while sitting in a buggy in the dead of winter in Round Rock’s Waters Park, December 28, 1898. Rilla was only fifteen

years old and Pink was twenty-five. They had eight children; and all but one lived to adulthood. Their eldest child, Sybil, remembers as a child going to Merriltown Elementary school, near Round Rock, with her two younger brothers, pulling a wagon two miles. After school, they

would buy groceries at the Austin White Lime Company store for their mom. She remembers one time around 1910 when their mom gave her a 10-dollar-bill to buy the groceries. Her mom said she needed the change for rent. Sybil had the change in her dress pocket, while pulling the wagon two miles to home. The money



Eurilda Estelle Williams Taylor and Charles Pinckney Taylor on their 50th wedding anniversary. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.



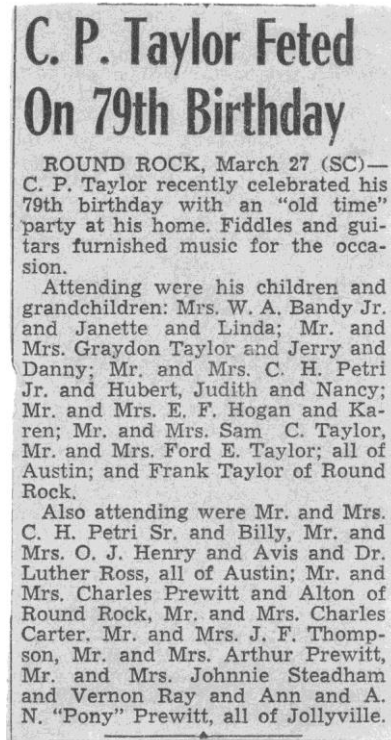
While living with her sister's family a photo was taken of Eurilda Estelle Williams, her nieces, Ruby and Purity and nephew, Little Henry. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.



Charles Pinckney Taylor and Eurilda Estelle “Rilla” Williams. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.

must have fallen out of the pocket. Sybil was so worried she wouldn't be able to find the money, so her brother Frank told her to go down the same road and search along the road for the money. Sure enough, it was on the road.

In 1913, Charles Pinckney Taylor and his family (nine people) moved into a small 3-bedroom farmhouse with his elderly Uncle Charlie Strode, a Civil War veteran. Charlie lost a leg in that war and never married, and he needed help running the farm. They raised cotton, corn, green beans, and other vegetables. Sybil hated working in the fields because of the snakes. The farm was willed to Charles Pinckney Taylor when Uncle Charlie Strode passed away in 1929.



News clipping from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr. Newspaper source unknown.



The Taylor family in the front yard of their Round Rock home: Parents in foreground Eurilda Estella Williams and Charles Pinckney Taylor. Children: (L to R) Ford Eugene Taylor, Florence Lorene Taylor (Hogan), Samuel Calvin Taylor, Sybil Estelle Taylor (Bandy), Austin Graydon Taylor, Myra Marie Taylor (Petri), Frank Williams Taylor. Photo from the collection of Alyssa Helen Behr.

The Extensive Plant of The Austin White Lime Company.

AUSTIN and surrounding country is celebrated for the character of its limestone rock from which is produced a grade of white lime which is unsurpassed for excellence in the world and which has therefore been one of the most potent factors in bringing Austin to the front as the home for standard products of this

of the International and Great Northern and the Austin and Northwestern railroads. This little town is really not a town at all, its only store being the big commissary of the Austin White Lime Company. The company practically gives employment to the people of the entire surrounding country, many of whom are employed at

not long have been built, one on each side of the kilns proper, and a train railway nearly 100 feet long runs through its entire length, passing the openings or pits into which the newly made lime has fallen. Barrels are filled with lime directly from the pit to the train car, which will hold perhaps ten barrels, and these are immediately

loaded. It has reduced the handling of lime to the minimum cost, and this is one of the main reasons why it is able to compete so strongly with lime manufactured abroad.

Its trade is steadily increasing, and it does an extensive business throughout Texas, Louisiana, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and New Mexico.



General View of the Works of the Austin White Lime Company.

most essential item in all kinds of construction.

The Austin White Lime Company, by its enterprise and business ability, has been prominently instrumental in making the words "Austin White Lime" synonymous with the words "The Best," "Standard," "Guaranteed," etc.

On account of the increased demand for its product the Company has found it necessary to enlarge the capacity of its works from time to time, and now has four large kilns in operation, with a capacity of 100 barrels of lime per day. Its shipping facilities are unequalled as its works are located at the junction of two great railway systems, the International and Great Northern railway and the Austin and Northwestern railway, with side tracks from both roads to its kilns and warehouses. It



Interior Cooperage Shop.

The illustrations on this page show the plant itself on its west side. The interior of its cooperage shop and also the interior of the kiln store which serves the people of the entire region throughout. An illustration is also given of the process of drilling the rock which is to be converted into lime in which the formation and strata of the rock is also faithfully shown. The company owns sufficient rock to last a century and it also owns its own cedar forests from which its fuel is cut, thousands of cords being stacked alongside the railroads at all times.

The manufacture of white lime is perhaps the most important natural industry of the region and will be a never failing source of income to its



In the Company's Commissary.

operates the largest, most complete and best equipped lime works in Texas, and probably in the entire South. Its works are situated at McNeil, a town just above Austin at the junction

the works, and others are cutting and hauling wood constantly.

The company has built very extensive warehouses in which to handle its output; two buildings each 100

feet long have been built, one on each side of the kilns proper, and a train railway nearly 100 feet long runs through its entire length, passing the openings or pits into which the newly made lime has fallen. Barrels are filled with lime directly from the pit to the train car, which will hold perhaps ten barrels, and these are immediately



Drilling in the Limestone.

loaded. They are then run for shipment; the freight cars come right up to the sliding doors of the warehouses to receive their load. By the perfect system which the company has estab-

lished. The Austin White Lime Company is composed of Alfred F. Martin and Joseph A. Martin, who are both residents of the city of Austin.



Above and Left: I found this wonderful book: "Austin Texas Illustrated. The Famous Capital City of the Lone Star State," printed at the turn of the century, 1900. The book had many old photos of businesses, schools, colleges and homes throughout the Austin area. There was one photo that caught my eye: the page of Austin White Lime Company where my great grandfather worked. It has a photo of the interior Cooperage Shop (middle of page) and the Company Commissary (bottom left).

Book cover and page from Austin, Texas, illustrated: famous capital city of the lone star state, Book, 1900; (<http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph33020/>), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <http://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Austin History Center, Austin Public Library, Austin, Texas.

The German Free School – Are You One?

Descendants of the Trustees, Teachers, and Students of the German Free School

By Elizabeth “Liz” Nitschke Hicks

The German Free School was the first school chartered by the Texas Legislature in Austin. It was created by German immigrants who desired to have public education available for their children. The school was not free, but free in the sense it was open to any student regardless of the religious or political belief of their parents. The school operated from 1858 to approximately 1878. It passed into private hands when the public school system was established in Austin. In 1991, the school building was bequeathed to the German Texas Heritage Society (GTHS,) which uses it today as their headquarters. The Society publishes a newsletter and quarterly, holds Maifest and Oktoberfest festivals, and offers tours and German language classes at the site located at 507 East 10th Street, Austin, TX, 78701. GTHS also has an annual Conference.



The German Free School. Photo courtesy of Mary Whigham, Journal Editor, GTHS.

The German Texan Heritage Society would like to locate descendants of the trustees, teachers, and students of the German Free School. We are especially interested in photographs and biographical information of the trustees, teachers, and students. Please contact Liz Hicks, genealogy editor, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030; e-mail: erootrot@usa.net or phone: (713) 944-1118.

Descendants will be recognized at the 2015 GTHS Conference Sept. 3-5, Austin, TX.

TRUSTEES

George Paul Assmann (1849-1910) 1883 trustee, Gunsmith and Locksmith (married Margurita Stumpf)

Frederick “Fritz” Bastian (1819-1906) 1881 trustee, book binder (married Johanna Juliana Buaas)

Dr. J. A. Brown(e) (1824-1876), 1858 charter trustee (married Lucinda Metz)

Francis B. Forster 1879-1880 trustee, moved to New York City, NY, before 1900

David Friedman 1881 trustee, saloon proprietor

Reinhold Haschke (1843-1940) Trustee, Puck saloon proprietor (married Cecelia Keylich)

F. Heger, 1858 trustee

Henry Hofheintz, (1822-1880) 1872 trustee moved to Houston, TX (married Christiana Hinemann)

William Kluge (1820-1880), 1872 trustee, ran a saloon and restaurant (married Anna Reiche)

Rudolph C. Koerber, 1879-1880 trustee, pecan merchant (married Antonie?)

Carl Krohn (1817-1899), 1858 trustee, butcher (married Emilie Leontine Kantzow)

Captain Max Maas (1842-1913), 1881 trustee, City Assessor and Collector, IRS Deputy Collector (m. Clara Brueggerhoff, stepdaughter of Carl Ohrndorf)

Richard Newton Lane, 1879-1880 trustee (married Ann Swisher)

Joseph Martin (1811-1870), 1858 charter trustee, civil engineer, draftsman TGLO (married Thresa/Teresa Huck)

Carl “C.L.” Ludwig Nitschke (1813-1888), 1881 trustee, cabinet maker, Austin City Sexton (m. (1) Wilhelmina Christina Veight in 1842; (2) Emma Basset 1854)

Charles William Pressler (1823-1907), 1858 charter trustee, surveyor, cartographer and chief draftsman of the Texas General Land Office (married Clara Johanne Doerk)

Frederick Reichow (1831-1894), 1872 trustee, carpenter, builder (married Matilda Engstrand/Engstrom)

Wilhelm Martin Sattler (1808-1880), 1858 charter trustee, bookbinder and postal contractor (married Sofia Charlotte Hildebrandt)

Jean Schneider (1813-1862), brewer, member of committee of 3 to choose 1st teacher (m. Margaretha Groben)

Joseph Schuber (1833-1922), 1872 trustee, contractor and builder (married Ann Steussy)

Edward Schütze (1824-1902), 1881 trustee, brother of Julius Schütze, draftsman TGLO

August Schwartz, 1858 trustee

Edward Steiner (1839-1903), 1883 trustee, painter, carpenter, and ran beer saloon

Fred Steussy (1814-1880), 1858 trustee

Henry Steussy, 1858 charter trustee. Printer (married Caroline Steufl, Julia Stoffel, Josephena Russell)

Frederick William Sutor (1819-1878), 1872 trustee. Cabinet and saddle maker, Sutor Hotel, and operated a general store with a Mr. Hirshfeld circa 1859 Austin (married Emilie Henrietta Schulke)

Edward “Ed” Tips (1832-1872) 1858 trustee, brother of Walter Tips, connected to Runge family (m. Olga Basse)

Henry Vogel (1841-1915), 1883 trustee, Carpenter

William von Rosenberg (1821-1901), 1858 charter trustee. Civil Engineer, draftsman and land agent. Author of 1894 *Kritik* (first critical account of German immigration to Texas). He married Augusta F. Anders

James Wahrenberger (1855-1929), is listed as a possible trustee. I believe it was his father,

John Wahrenberger (1812-1864), was a possible trustee of the GFS. John immigrated to Austin in 1839. His son, James, was the first Texas architect with a professional architecture degree. He completed a project for the Capitol which won second prize in a competition. He designed the Methodist Episcopal Church in Austin (1878), Fayette County jail in La Grange (1881). James Wahrenberger moved to San Antonio circa 1883.

August Wahrmann (1826-1888), possible trustee, blacksmith (married Lehna Swenson)

Carl Weise/Weisse (1821-1879), 1872 trustee, carpenter (married Elizabeth Nolle)

Christian Wilhelm (1817-1897), 1858 charter trustee, died in Houston, TX

August Wolf (1830-1913), 1883 trustee, carpenter and miller (married Anna St Hade)

TEACHERS

Jacob Bickler (Teacher 1872-1874, 1876-1877)

Philip Bickler (Teacher 1870-1872)

Amanda Brown (Teacher 1872)

Alma Maria Belcher Buaas (Teacher 1881)

Clara Burnham (Teacher 1871)

Alnis Emerson (Teacher 1872-1874)

T.S. Kempfer (Teacher 1872)

Otto Mundelius (Teacher 1877) moved to
Brenham, TX

William Otis (Teacher 1867)

Julius Schütze (Teacher 1858-1863, 1880-1883)

Emma Seabaugh (Teacher 1877)

Ernst Stroeter (Teacher 1875)

August Weilbacher (Teacher 1858, 1865, 1872)

Julius Schuetze 1835-1904 (First Teacher 1858)

STUDENTS

(from handwritten list, some names may be misspelled)

Augusta Bahn

Karl von Rosenberg

Arthur von Rosenberg

Bertha Riedel

August Riedel

Anna Schmitz

Wilhelm Schmitz

Clara Ohrndorf

Hulda Ohrndorf

Julia Ohrndorf

Karl Ohrndorf

August Kunze

Mine Kunze

Anna Kunze

Karl Kunze

Hulda Pecht

Francisca Pecht

Marie Adam

Ther. Adam

Elizabeth Hofheinz

Anna Martin

Mina Ropel

Mina Schröder

Peter Schröder

Elise Sattler

Natalie Hartenstein

Richard Heyer

Robert Heyer

Caspar Steussy

Bertha Steussy

Anna Steussy

Margarete Steussy

Oscar Neumann

Otto Neumann

Carl Riefenstahl

James Kirchberg

Florian Zimmermann

Marie Fruth

Terese Fruth

Marie(Mary) Nitschke

Emma Lohmann

Theo. Neumann

Oscar Hartenstein

Henry Sauer

Lucinde Sauer

Theo. Wilhelm

Judie Wilhelm

Herm. Grothaus

Louis Grothaus

Heinrich Bols

Gustav Bols

Amalie Bols

Fernando Wilhelm

Carl Hoffmann

Kath. Hofheinz

Gus Lohmann

Adolphine Sterzing

Carl Sterzing

Emilie Hutter

Henry Henninger

Kath. Henninger

Henry Wetz

William Sutor

Theo. Miethe

Domenique Schneider

Minna Green

Albert Schütze

Mary Ann King

Margaret King

Amy Sparks

Minna Thielepape

Gertrude Thielepape

Chas. DeRyce

Paul Perner or Perser

Walter Ragsdale

James Wooldridge

Elias McLaughlin

John J. McLaughlin

Paul Bernd

Blucher Hutchins

James Wahrenberger

Jacob Isensee

W. Mourn

Mark Neile

Gus Cezeaux

Thomas Harrel

Harden Baker

Agnes Dohme
Marie Krohn
Wilhelm Bonnet
Julius Jurgeson
Will. Thom. Kelly
John Kelley
Fried. Reichow
Emilie Reichow
James Williams
Louis Sutor
Max Arlitt
Henry Ziller
Oskar Nitschke
Carl Domschke
William Nitschke
Hermann Settegast
G. Biberstein
Carl Lohmann
Emilie Bohm
Max Scholz

Louis Sommer
Mine Sommer
Ed Lea
John Pressler
Agnes Pressler
Rudolph Arlitt
Marie Begage
Joseph Begage
Jane Kelly
Anna Ackerlin
Rosine Fruth
John McLaughlin
Jacob Schneider
Albert Schneider
R. Eckerlin
Herbert Jurgenson
Charles Benke
Max Schulke
Dorette Lohmann

Tom Harrell
Ernst Krohn
Ida Scholz
Thos. Lea
John Wheeler
Casper Schuber
Albert Riesmann
Ameilie Schrabbe
Willie Crozier
Danny Crozier
Henrietta Steussy
Ramsey Crozier
John Crozier
Carl Bossett
Julius Nitschke
Sara Biberstein
Emil Schulke
Adeline Lohmann
Wm. Buaas

Pioneer Families of Travis County, Texas

The Austin Genealogical Society will issue a pioneer certificate to those who can prove their ancestors lived in Travis County, Texas, prior to the close of 1880. To qualify for the certificate, you must be a direct descendant of people who lived here on or before Dec. 31, 1880, proved with birth, death and marriage certificates; probate, census and military records; and obituaries and Bible records.

Applications for Pioneer Families of Travis County can be found at <http://austintxgensoc.org/> or from Kay Dunlap Boyd, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.

Each application is \$20 and the certificates make nice gifts. You don't have to be a Travis County resident or a member of Austin Genealogical Society, although membership in the Society is another fine bargain at \$20 a year.

Austin Genealogical Society	
Travis County Texas	
Pioneer Families Certificate	
This is to Certify that	

is a descendant of	

who was living in Travis County, Texas	
before the close of	
_____	_____
Certificate No.	President
_____	_____
Date	Pioneer Families Chairman

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Austin Genealogical Society General Information

PURPOSE: The purposes for which this Society is organized are: To promote an interest in genealogy. To investigate, collect, record, publish and deposit in libraries, archives, and digital or electronic repositories the genealogical and historical materials of Texas, with particular focus on items pertaining to the City of Austin and/or Travis County. To educate its members and the general public in the use of historical and genealogical reference materials. To support genealogical libraries, archival collections, and access to and preservation of records that will benefit the research efforts of the Society.

MEMBERSHIP is open to all upon payment of annual dues. Classes: Individual: \$20; Family (Two in the same household): \$30; Lifetime: \$500 (\$300 if over age 65). All classes are entitled to one electronic copy of each issue of the Quarterly and the monthly Newsletter. **After July 1, dues are \$10 for the balance of the year**, but you will receive only the publications produced after the date you join. Membership includes a copy of the annual Membership Directory, which is published each spring.

DUES FOR EXISTING MEMBERS are payable on or before January 1 of each year for the ensuing year. If dues are not received by February 1, the name must be dropped from the mailing list. Send dues payments to **AGS Treasurer, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.**

MEETINGS of the general membership begin at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month except May and December. Members are encouraged to come at 6:30 p.m. Meeting Place: **Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Dr.** Take Northland (RR2222) exit Loop 1 (Mopac). Go west one block to Balcones Dr., then left a half block. The church and parking lot are on right. Visitors always welcome. The Board of Directors meets at 5:45 p.m.

CHECK RETURN POLICY Members and other payees must pay AGS the cost of any returned check (currently \$5) over and above the charge their bank may impose.

AGS QUARTERLY is issued March, June, September and December. Contributions are always welcome, subject to editing for style and length. Contributor is completely responsible for accuracy and any copyright infringement. AGS assumes no responsibility for content of submitted material.

SUBMISSIONS for the Quarterly must reach the Editor at P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010, or quarterly@austintxgensoc.org by the deadlines below, preferably by electronic means, either in an e-mail or as an attachment to an e-mail. When an electronic version is not possible, typing, handwriting or printing must be black and legible. Months must be spelled or abbreviated, not in figures. Show dates in accepted genealogical style: day, month, and year. Leave 1-inch margins at both sides and at top and bottom, and hand number pages on the back of each page. Carefully check horizontal pages (reading in the 11-inch direction) so that one-inch margins are on top, bottom and both sides so no information is lost in stapling. No 8 ½ x 14 sheets, please. You may submit lineage or family group charts, narratives, memoirs, letters, cemetery inscriptions, Bible records, census data, queries or a combination of material, just so it is not under copyright. **Proofread** your material for accuracy and clarity so we will not publish faulty or incorrect data. Consult a recent AGS Quarterly for suggestions.

AGS QUARTERLY DEADLINES: Quarterly submission guidelines and due dates are available on the Austin Genealogical Society website: <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/quarterly-guidelines>.

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