



# Anderson Record

Anderson Co. Chapter SC Genealogy Society  
P. O. Box 74 Anderson, SC 29622-0074

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Linda Jones Cushing, editor

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www.anderson.scgen.org

## MCDUGALD FUNERAL BOOK 3

The long awaited book three of the McDougald Mortuary Records is now available for sale at the Visitors Center for ten dollars. These are entries made by the funeral home in order to process death certificates. It includes such information as descendant, spouse/maiden name, father, mother/maiden name, birthday, date of death, burial information for the years 1963 to 1971. Thanks should be given to the McDougald family for letting us preserve these records. Editor Sue Brewer and copyist Linda Cushing and Ron Kay are also responsible for the ten Mortuary books that are included in this printing. With book one and two, 6,000 funeral records are recorded. Book three has 3000 more. This is a wonderful additional to the cemetery records that we publish.

## Coming Next Newsletter: MARRIAGE RECORDS of Rev. N.G. Wright

Available in the Research Room are the Marriage Records of the Rev. Norris Garrison Wright who in 1934 was the oldest minister in the Saluda Baptist Association. He had the honor of never missing but one association meeting in 50 years. He married many people in Anderson County and kept records of those marriages. Next newsletter, the alphabetical records will be published in their entirety. One of our members, William Donald Kay compiled the book Robert Norris Wright, Esquire 1812-1885: His Life and Four Generations of his Family, a copy of which is in our Research Room. From that source, we learn that Rev. N.G. Wright was a son of James Christopher Wright and a nephew of the Squire. James Christopher Wright was the Squire's younger brother. N.G. married Della Brock of Honea Path and had eleven children. His two old-maid daughters, Bert and Zuella, operated "Wright's Quality Shop" on the Square in Belton for many years. Both are now dead but the store remained under that name. The Wrights lived around Wright School and Bethany Church, where Rev. N. G. and many other Wrights were buried.

## ANDERSON COUNTY DEATH CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE NOW

If you are looking for the parents of a person, the best place to find that information is on the Death Certificate. Several members have been going to Greenville County Public Library to get early Death Certificates from 1915 which was the first year that South Carolina began issuing them until 1921. Plans are to get more of the early years in order to have these available at the Visitors Center. The Research Center will be charging \$2.00 for these copies so the club can recoup the money spent on printer ink and paper. Other vital information is written on the Death Certificate beside mother and father. It gives the birth place of both parents and the decedent as well as the current residence, time of death, cause of death, date of funeral and the burial site. Of course, the information is only as good as the person who supplied it. The vital record includes that information also.

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## Thornton Obituaries

Our Research Center has clipped obits from *Anderson Independent Mail* in files separated by families. These are two examples that may or may not be related to the family in the following article.

## Donations

1830 U.S. Census of Anderson County - In memory of MARY HOBSON

1790-1820 U.S. Census of Anderson County - In memory of FRANCIS HENRY CLARK

1850 U.S. Census of Anderson County

1870 U.S. Census of Anderson County on CD

Jim Harper donated all his Family Research

Index to 1915-1950 SC Death Certificates on CD

Ink and paper by Joyce Fields

## Needs

74 HP Black Ink

Your family sheets

75 HP Color Ink

Genealogy charts

Dues are presently being accepted for the next Society year. Individuals are \$15; Family Memberships are \$25; Associate Members are \$10.

## Nominating Committee Reports

The nominating committee has reported to the club about officers for 2009. The slate of officers will be the same as last year except for the two offices of Secretary and Treasurer. The nominating committee submitted the names of Pat Chamblee for Secretary and Dot Turpin as Treasurer. Nominations from the floor were asked for and none was received. These officers will be voted on at our December business meeting and dinner. President Philip Cheney has appointed Rev. Carl Ellison to be the chapter's Chaplin.

**Family Tree Maker 2009** is available from the Ancestry Store. What's new is a streamline workspace with one click editing of individuals, a simplified sourcing with "cut & paste", a multitude of charts and reports and improved results on web searches. The offer of \$39.95 comes with a 14 day trial to Ancestry.com. It is available at <http://store.ancestry.com>.

### **MRS. ESTELLE THORNTON** Aug. 24, 1916 — May 11, 2006

ANDERSON, SC—Mrs. Annie Estelle Byrum Thornton, age 89, of 316 Masters Drive, widow of the late Gaines Thornton, died Thursday, May 11, 2006 at Willow Creek Nursing Center in Iva.

Born in Iva, SC on August 24, 1916, Mrs. Thornton was a daughter of the late William McKinley and Nora Elgin Byrum. She was a homemaker and of the Baptist Faith.

Survivors include daughters, Shirley Rice, Linda Thornton, Carolyn Loftis and Pauline Brown, all of Anderson; brothers Robert Byrum, Kent Byrum and Wilfred Byrum all of the Anderson area; sister, Helen McCrider of the Anderson area; six grandchildren, Darlene McIlwain, David Whitfield, Julie Whitfield, Rita Yunker, Chad Brown and Jared Brown and nine great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband

and parents, she was preceded in death by brothers Sam, Frank, Bill and Harold Byrum and a sister Doris Lewis.

The Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2006 at 4:00 pm in the Chapel of The McDougald Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Iva City Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Saturday from 2:30-4:00 pm.

The family will be at the home of her daughter, Shirley Rice, 106 Brentwood Circle, Anderson, SC.

Flowers are optional. Memorials may be made to Central Baptist Church General Fund, 708 W. Whitner Street, Anderson, SC 29624.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting [www.mcdougaldfuneralhome.com](http://www.mcdougaldfuneralhome.com).

THE MCDUGALD FUNERAL HOME

[mcdougaldfuneralhome.com](http://mcdougaldfuneralhome.com)

### **BENJAMIN THORNTON SR.** Aug. 28, 1906 — Sept. 11, 2005

HARTWELL, GA.—Benjamin S. Thornton Sr., 99, of Fairview Ave., formerly of 4 Sistine St., Anderson, died Sunday, Sept. 11, 2005, at Hart Care Center.

Born in Elbert County, he was retired from Hartwell Mills and was a member of the New Bethel United Methodist Church. He was the last surviving member of his immediate family.

Surviving are his son, Benjamin Spurgeon Thornton Jr. of Anderson; three granddaughters; and six great-grandsons.

He was the widower of Gladys Savannah Fields Thornton and was the son of

the late Walton William Thornton and Carrie Gaines Thornton. He was preceded in death by several brothers and sisters.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday from the chapel of Strickland Funeral Home with the Revs. Doug Brown and Brian Darrah officiating. Burial will be in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Anderson. The body is at the funeral home where the family will receive friends from 1 until 3 p.m. before the service. The family will be at the home of Scott and Cindy Dodgens, 1330 Luke Bouknight Road, Starr Strickland Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

## Interviews with Thornton Family Members by late Mary Riley

### Interview with Mrs. Meanda Thornton Williams, Starr, SC April 8, 1961

Miss Meanda's father was Reuben Benjamin Thornton, who lived about 2 miles from Bethesda Church on the 13 Forks Road. Her mother was Miss Mary Jane Teasley, daughter of John Teasley. Children:

1. John G. Thornton m. Fannie Maxwell
2. Sterling Thornton m. Miss Hopper of Cowpens, SC
3. Reuben Thornton m. Miss Lula Goodlett of Pacolet, SC
4. Lula Thornton m. Frank Gaines
5. Nora Thornton m. M.G. "Gus" Bowie of Starr, SC
6. Verona Thornton m. Elbert Adams, of Hartwell, GA to Atlanta
7. Mary "Mollie" Thornton died aged 13
8. Meanda Frances Thornton m. J.W. Williams
9. Acca Elberta Thornton died young

Reuben's father, her grandfather, was John Thornton who married Frances Adams. She does not know who were their other children. One daughter married an Olbon; another married George Eavenson. She thinks there was a son named William. His widow married Gordy Fleming's father. She thinks Benny Thornton was a preacher who lived in Hartwell, GA and died there. He married in Augusta a lady named Lou who married secondly John Townsend after Benny died. Benny Thornton was the brother of John Thornton, her grandfather. She thinks Benny was married three times. (only two listed below) She further states that "Dunny" (see below), Rev. Tom Thornton, Frank Thornton, Mrs. D.C. Alford, Mrs. Jim Skelton were the children of Calloway Thornton, who was her father's first cousin.

### Interview with Dunstan Verdell "Dunny" Thornton, 1961 of Georgia

Dunny was born in Elbert County GA near Heardmont (house was over the Seaboard tracks). He was named for Dr. Dunstan Verdell who presided at his birth. He was one half brother to Frank Thornton, who was the father of Bob Thornton. His father was Benjamin "Calloway" Thornton, a Baptist preacher who m (1) Melissa Gaines, sister of Marion, and (2) Priscilla Teasley, dau of Allen Teasley. Their children were:

- ( Note: 1<sup>st</sup> wife- Frank B. Thornton b. 1848 d. 1888 m. Julia Waters)
1. Tom "T.A." Thornton, preacher, m. Georgia Carter
  2. Sara Thornton m. D.C. Alford
  3. Dosier "D.A." Thornton m. Susie Gillison (ch. Marion, Edna & Fredda)  
4,5,6, died young
  7. Amanda Thornton m. George Page
  8. J.B. "Jim" Thornton m. Sallie Speed (ch. Kathleen, Nina & J.B.)
  9. Johnny Thornton died young
  10. Jessie Thornton m. Jim Skelton
  11. McAlphin Thornton married Claire Dodd
  12. Dunstan Vernell Thornton m. Daisy G. McCurry (ch. Harold, McAlpin, Neal,  
Frances, Annie and Ruth)
  13. Annie Thornton m. John P. Cash

Benjamin Calloway was the son of Preacher Benjamin Thornton, Jr. whose father Benjamin, Sr. was the son of Dozier Thornton who m. Rebecca Upshaw. Benjamin Calloway's siblings were Asa Thornton of Athens, GA; Tom Thornton; Mallory Thornton of Elberton, GA; Priscilla Thornton m. a Brown; Sara Thornton m. McAlpin Arnold; and Mrs. Zach Copeland.

(Editor's Note: Read more about the Thornton Family of Hartwell, GA, Starr and Iva, SC in The Heritage Book of Anderson County especially story 1031 and story 520.)

## Thornton Bible

### Births:

Benjamin Thornton b. Aug. 15, 1801

Nancy Payne b. Dec. 19, 1802

Were married Sept. 16, 1819

Fleming P. Thornton b. May 22, 1820

Thomas S. Thornton b. Aug. 22, 1821 (m. Lucy Pulliam Nov. 2, 1843)

William E. Thornton b. May 27, 1824

Sara K. Thornton b. Feb. 14, 1826

Benjamin Callaway Thornton b. Dec. 13, 1829 m. (1) Melissa Gaines (2) Priscilla Teasley

Morry A. Thornton b. Sept. 30, 1830

John C. Thornton b. Nov. 20 or 25, 1832 (note: father of Reuben, grandfather of Ms. Meanda)

Asa C. Thornton b. Oct. 6, 1834

Priscilla E. Thornton b. Oct. 26, 1836 m. A. Brown Jan. 24, 1851

Dozier S. Thornton b. Dec. 19, 1838

Jesse M. Thornton b. July 30, 1840

Mallory J. Thornton b. Sept. 30, 1842

### Deaths:

Thomas S. Thornton died March 13, 1863 (home on furlough from Confederate Army)

George A. Thornton, son of Thomas, died June 28, 1874 (wagon accident)

Lucy Thornton, wife of Tom, died Sept. 16, 1882

Martha Thornton Brown died May 10, 1886 m. Andrew Rucker Brown

James Callaway Thornton died Nov. 22, 1917

Beverly Allen Thornton died March 16, 1930

### Births (to Thomas S. Thornton and Lucy Pulliam)

James Callaway Thornton b. Aug. 28, 1844

Nancy Ann Thornton b. Feb. 26, 1846

Joseph Benjamin Thornton b. March 28, 1848

Priscilla Hannah Thornton b. Jan. 21, 1850

Martha Emily Thornton b. Nov. 2, 1852

Beverly Allen Thornton b. Mar. 28, 1855

George Alfred Thornton b. Oct. 11, 1857

Thomas M. Thornton b. Nov. 4, 1860

Frances Thornton b. Nov. 4, 1860

This Bible, according to Mary Riley, was called the "Old Thornton Bible" that originally belonged to Benjamin Thornton who married Nancy Payne. The Bible was then passed to Tom Thornton who lived at the Callaway Thornton place and married Lucy Pulliam, daughter of Joe Pulliam. His son Allen received it from his father. In 1961, the Bible was in possession of Heber Brown, son of Martha T. Brown.

## **“One Day While Plowing” Story by Art Green continued from last issue**

Things did not improve when John and the 38<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry was sent to Wartrace, Tennessee to join the Confederate Army of Tennessee. As Federal Armies pushed into Tennessee thrusting destruction toward the industrial center of Atlanta, it was the Army of Tennessee and the 38<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry, Co. B, and other similar regiments' job to prevent this from happening.

For a time it looked as though the Battle of Chickamauga might prevent this drive in the Southland. 15,700 Southern boys were killed or wounded and an opposing 12,200 Northern boys were dead or wounded at Chickamauga in September of '63, in the two days fighting. John's own neighbor and company Captain Rip Welch was killed in the first day's fighting as well as several other acquaintances. Rip's brother George Washington "Wash" Welch would take command of the Wilcox Farmers and lead them to other terrors of war.

John's mind wandered to beautiful Lookout Mountain and the huge boulders as large as his home in Packer's Bend hanging over him. He recalled the fight above the clouds, the Craven House fight and the full eclipse of the moon that allowed the group to retreat in darkness, cross the valley and climb Missionary Ridge at Rossville. He almost cried as the plow sailed along turning over last year's cotton stalks as he recalled the route on Missionary Ridge that cost so many of his friends their lives. Others of them would be imprisoned in Northern prisons to languish and die there hundreds of miles from home. He wondered if their parents even knew where they were buried. Some he helped cover with earth on the various battlefields and marked a board with their name and regiment. He hoped these would be taken to a decent cemetery and a proper stone placed for them.

One particular horror that still gave him night sweats caused a rabbit to run over his grave as he plowed was the ambush just out of Resaca when an Indiana Regiment hid in a cornfield and shot down 37 men of his regiment as they came marching by. Captain Langford was holding the 38<sup>th</sup> flag when he was captured as the regimental flag bearer had been killed.

His own short army career would end at Atlanta the next summer of 1864 as the struggling armies collided on the Decatur Road east of Atlanta. A whining Minnie bullet struck him in the left cheek and exited his mouth carrying two white molars with it. Suddenly he found himself surrounded with Blue Coats and placed under arrest. Aid was administered after a fashion but only after Yankee wounds had been dressed. What a sore mouth and headache John experienced. He still well remembered the maddening pain. Placed on a rattling, jarring cattle car with other captives and little else he was sent to Louisville, Kentucky to be processed and then on to a place he had never heard of but would never forget. Camp Chase was a prison camp just south of Columbus, Ohio. At one point there were 8,000 fellow southern prisoners behind the tall unpainted board wall with armed guards patrolling back and forth night and day. Here John would meet again some of his old friends who had been captured. Johnnie would struggle through a long cold northern winter to survive on short prison rations, but survive he did. John kept a roll book of men

in his barracks, Number 11, and believing that he would perish he wrote not only his name but names of his mother, father, and all his brothers and sisters who were back home in Lower Peach Tree so maybe, someday, somehow, someone would know what had become of him. He had seen the loneliness and misery of those men who had families. They had to not only deal with their own misery but thought constantly of their wives and children and at least he did not have that worry. It was pitiful to watch those who were married agonizing about the well being of their families while they were away attending to war or imprisoned. In prison they could not write or receive mail and this was especially cruel on them. Finally the end came and John was allowed to walk back from Ohio to Packer's Bend and he did just that.

"Whoa, Sadie, time for lunch!" Wipe away the sweat and tears and sit on the stump beneath the tree but not before a trip to the spring for Sadie. It sure was a cry from Camp Chase to his field in the Bend. The lunch bucket was just that, a shiny syrup bucket, with a tight round lid, filled with black eye peas, a chunk of streak-a-lean, and a hoe cake biscuit which his wife Callie had prepared for him. "Now that Caledonia was one fine wife and much more pleasant thing to think about than the war." Callie's sister Jane Rhoads had married John's younger brother Leslie and they lived in his Dad's log house across the roadway. This made their children double first cousins and made for very close families. They lived near enough to smell the smoke in the fireplace and see a kerosene lamp light through the chinks. Now Leslie was luckily too young to see service so he had to pull extra chores at home during the war. In fact John recalled that his father, mother, and Leslie had all stood behind that same plow in that same field during the war years so that at least a piece of crop could be made.

Musing John wondered if sometime Sadie figured that he, John, belonged to the mule and it was really Sadie's idea to plow or go to the spring or better yet the barn. Some days she acted like it. "Funny how a man can get attached to a mule." Considering all the time they spent together working John guessed it was a natural thing. Speaking of plowing they would next week have to go plow the island. John had a tillable island in the Alabama River and had built a little shed and corral there so that he could leave Sadie overnight if they were not finished with ground breaking or cultivating the island garden plat. Sometimes he'd stay over there himself on a pleasant night. He loved to grow vegetables there on the annual flood inundated soil as they grew so well. He often had collard greens as high as your shoulder on his island. A flat cypress barge that he had built for the purpose was tethered by a chain to a willow tree on the shore suitable to take him, Sadie, Shep and his plow over. He would pole the barge over as need required. Occasionally while he was there a friendly toot on the steam whistle from a passing steamer pilot to howdy John would sing out. He had a soft spot for the river and was most happy he lived near it.

Nearer home was a traditional garden spot with sugar cane, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, corn, string and pole beans, herbs, carrots and such to be handy for Callie to harvest as needed for her kitchen. The cane syrup mill that Sadie pulled in circles in the Fall and cooker pans stood nearby to make sorghum molasses and syrup. There was a grape arbor and a nearby pigpen for bacon

and ham on the foot and of course, the cow and calf for milk. A fine red rooster to announce the dawn, midnight and to keep the hens was a very valuable addition and completed the yard staff. His and Leslie's rooster made a contest of their crows each morning to welcome the rising sun. No one could sleep through that din of noise. Other farm necessities required that he hitch Sadie to the wagon and cut through the woods a couple of miles to the community of Chance where Mr. Haskew had his general store and Post Office.

Sure enough about 3 PM and here comes Shep, Roberta and little Mary with a sugar biscuit from Callie's kitchen safe for Pop and a carrot for Sadie.

A few rows later with chatter about Miss Irby's school and it's time to call it a day and go on in to feed up and chop some firewood for Callie's stove. "You don't have to say barn twice to Sadie."



**John C. Green**

This is a picture of Art Green's Grandfather and Linda Cushing's Great Great Grand Uncle, John C. Green (1845-1917). He was the son of John Sidney Green and Sarah Flewellen Green. John was one of nine children who lived in the corner of Wilcox, Clarke and Monroe County, AL on the Alabama River called Packer's Bend, near Lower Peach Tree and Chance.

Living, loving, working and dying in that golden era of wonderful, fabled

Another Great Book by Jerry Alexander!

# Antebellum

## Old Pickens

## District, S.C.

(Oconee-Pickens Counties)



*A history too long untold, about the Backcountry of Upper S.C., in those awakening, growing years between the American Revolution and the great Civil War, as our area was first settled! People were building churches, cabins, roads, and covered bridges. They were clearing forests, planting crops, and having up to a dozen babies per family... A few attributed large families to something in the drinking water...*

*When this was a jumping-off area for the Deep South and western states...*

Please allow up to 10 days for your order to arrive. Send check or money order made payable to Jerry Alexander, P.O. Box 1233, Seneca, S.C., 29679. Books can be shipped directly to whomever you wish—just send their mailing address with payment. Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ Soft cover copies @24.95 ea., or \_\_\_\_\_ hard cover copies @ 29.95 ea., plus \$3 each, shipping and handling, for total enclosed of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

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For bulk shipments or additional info on our other books, including "The Catechee Story," "Where have all our Moonshiners gone?" and now, yes, we have reprints available of "Alexander Families of upper S.C.," e-mail us at [Jerryalex@netmds.com](mailto:Jerryalex@netmds.com), or call 1-864-882-9326.

### CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING

Date: Monday, December 1, 2008

Time: Dinner at 6:30 Price: \$10.00 per person (includes tax and tip.)

Place: Anderson County Library

Menu: Turkey & Dressing, Fried Chicken, 3 vegetables, dessert, bread and beverage

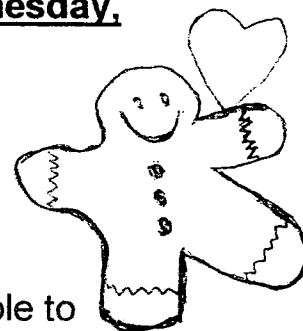
Please clip and return this portion for reservation(s). Make check payable to Anderson County Chapter. Mail form and check to Jean Hoag, 109 Welpine Rd., Pendleton, SC 29670. Call Jean Hoag at 864- 231-7006 for questions or information.

We **must receive** your reservation form and check by **Wednesday, November 26!!!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make checks payable to Anderson County Chapter)

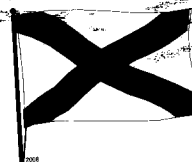




Anderson County Society SCGS  
P.O. Box 74  
Anderson, SC 29622-0074

GREENVILLE SC 296

15 NOV 2008



USA 42

Mr. Paul Kankula  
203 Eagles Landing  
Seneca, SC 29672

29672+4706



#### Officers of Anderson County Chapter

President	Philip Cheney	e-mail: philipcheney@hotmail.com
Past President	James Harper	e-mail: Kerlnty2@aol.com
Vice President	Carolyn Duncan	e-mail: cduncan1583@charter.net
Treasurer	Jean Hoag	e-mail: jeanhoag@myfam.com
Recording Secretary	Dorothy Turpin	e-mail: clauturp@aol.com
Corresponding Secretary	Ron Kay	e-mail: Runkyk@charter.net

Anderson Record is the official quarterly publication of The Anderson County Chapter of South Carolina Genealogical Society. Contributions of historical articles, family histories, Bible records, notifications of reunions & queries are welcomed. Editor reserves the right to edit articles prior to publication. Articles or e-mails should be clearly written with name of contributor and source furnished. Permission to use material published in this newsletter is granted if the source and author are noted. Send articles to Anderson County Chapter, SCGS P.O. Box 74 Anderson, SC 29622-0074 <http://www.andersoncounty.scgen.org>  
Editor's e-mail: [jelcushing@bellsouth.net](mailto:jelcushing@bellsouth.net) Note ACCSCGS NEWSLETTER in subject line.

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