

SIMPSON – JONES CEMETERY, 65 – 3

Summary Report

This cemetery is located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 5, Range 1 West. It is within Test Area 1, at the northern edge of Sheet 14 of the General Site Map series of October 1986.



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003

A common marker has been put in the center of this little cemetery to commemorate the names of several Simpson family members who are known to be buried here. In fact, it is claimed by descendants that there were other individual tombstones for these family members in the cemetery in the past. Some of the tombstones were apparently removed some time ago by unknown persons. There is a singular tombstone inscribed for “Mary Lou Jones, daughter of A. G. & Z. M. Proctor”. That is the only basis that can be determined for the inclusion of the name “Jones” in the name of the cemetery on Army maps. However, it has been determined that this Mary Lou Jones was surnamed “**Proctor**”, not Jones, and that Jones was apparently a “given name” applied to this infant in honor of family friends – not relatives. There is absolutely no evidence of any Jones family member being buried in the cemetery or ever owning any of the land around it.

Accordingly, the name of the Cemetery should be simply the **SIMPSON CEMETERY**.



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003

This little tombstone is strange not only due to the ambiguous way of inscribing the name, but also because it is now facing the large common Simpson monument in the center of the cemetery. Of course, the common monument was not there when the little marker was originally emplaced.



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003

This view of Mary Lou Jones Proctor's marker is provided in order to afford a better perspective on the birth and death dates. She only lived for 2 weeks.



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 18, 2001



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003

While the death date above on the stone for 11-year-old Juriah Simpson is the earliest inscribed in this cemetery, Juriah was not the oldest of the Simpsons to be buried here. Below is the marker for Margaret A. Simpson, born in 1816:



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003



SIMPSON CEMETERY, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, Jan. 28, 2003

This stone for Emma Simpson Stubbs, who died at age 31, is the last of the individual tombstones to be found in the cemetery.

There was another tombstone installed in this cemetery in 1988, but it was not seen on January 28 of 2003. What happened to it is not known. The inserts below explain that marker's history:

September 5, 1987

Commander in Chief
Redstone Arsenal
Huntsville, AL 35811

Dear Sir:

I have a picture of my Ancestors Cemetery located in the Restricted Area of Redstone Arsenal Section 18 - 5S - 1W. SE NE called Simpson Cemetery.

I was informed by my grandfather Arthur Marcus Simpson, Jr., prior to his death, which happen March 11, 1964, that the Government would maintain this cemetery forever, in return that the family would relinquish the property to the Government.

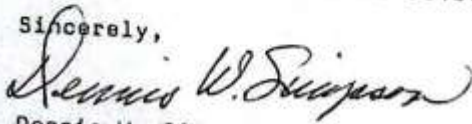
As you can see from my picture the Government has not kept its bargain with the family, can you see that this situation is taken care of as soon as possible, and send me a report to the same?

You should note in your records that John Simpson's father Doctor William Simpson, who also is buried at this cemetery in an unmarked grave, is a Veteran of the War of 1812. He was at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, and saved the life of the future President of Texas, Samuel Houston.

I have submitted papers to the Veterans Administration to have a bronze marker placed at this cemetery in his memory, I would like to receive your permission to place it there.

If you have any questions, please contact me, Dennis W. Simpson, P.O. Box 713, Sun Valley, CA 91353-0713, or call (818) 982-9697 or at work (818) 908-6613 or 6618.

Sincerely,


Dennis W. Simpson

Name: Dennis Simpson
Email: call1812@juno.com
Resident:
Years in Mad. Co:
Part of Mad. Co:
Does Website Meet Needs:
Comments:
Information on Early Settlers of your county. I am a descendant of Dr. William Simpson, first white surgeon in Madison County, Alabama from Londonderry, Ireland, settled near Ditto's Landing in 1807. He and his wife Marguerite (McAlpine) Simpson were suppose to have been buried at Hobbs Island, but there is no tombstone marking their graves. There son, John Simpson is buried with several members of his family at Redstone Arsenal, including my great-grandfather Arthur Marcus Simpson, one of ten children of John and Margaret Ann (Dickson) Simpson. Margaret Dickson was a daughter of James and Keziah (Wood) Dickson. James Dickson was one of the 241 signers of the petition requesting the government to allow them to stay on indian land in 1819. Dr. Simpson's daughter Mary Simpson married the Hon. George W. McLeod, Justice of the Peace and Postmaster of Ditto's Landing. One of their daughters, Margaret McLeod married the Hon. David Campbell Humphreys, later US Justice of the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia, and famous for his stand against Alabama joining the Confederacy during the Civil War. After Dr. Simpson died in the springtime of 1816, his widow married the Hon. Hopkins Lacy, former member of the Tennessee House of Representatives and attorney who represented both Andrew Jackson and John Coffee in several legal matters. Their daughter Martha Jane Cocke Lacy married Dr. Albert Russell, member of the same family who founded the Russell Erskine Hotel.

Entry made from 66.42.114.73
Referring URL: <http://www.co.madison.al.us/guest/>

Additional information about the Simpson family history, including a statement that the marker to commemorate Dr. William Simpson was emplaced in 1988, is found in the insert below:

Nathan A. Simms was born February 5, 1881 in Lincoln County, Tennessee, a son of George W. Simms and Martha Jones.

Minnie L. Sugg was born February 3, 1884 purportedly in Petersburg, Lincoln County, Tennessee. She was the daughter of Joseph Sydney Sugg and Mary Elizabeth McGee.

Nathan and Minnie were married June 30, 1901 in Lincoln County, Tennessee. They had two children: Oscar Washington Simms, born October 30, 1902 and Cornelia Martha Ann Simms, born May 22, 1906. Both children were raised in Lincoln County, Tennessee.

In 1940, Nathan and Minnie moved to Huntsville, Alabama and lived with their daughter Cornelia Simms Porter on McCullough Avenue. Nathan died in 1945 and is buried in Lincoln, Tennessee. Minnie died June 1967 and is also buried at Lincoln.

After completing the second year of high school at Lincoln in 1922, Oscar moved and later married Ethyl Lynn of New Market, Alabama. They were married in Madison County on 9 June 1922. They lived their early marriage years in Lincoln County Tennessee where Oscar Bryson was born 19 December 1923, and Minnie Elizabeth, was born on January 1927.

In the late 1920's Oscar and Ethyl and two children moved to Huntsville, Alabama. On 12 June 1928, George Melvin Simms was born on Mills Street. Oscar had accepted a job with International Harvester and became a farm implement parts salesman.

In early 1931, the family moved to Hazel Green, also in Madison County. Here Nathan Wayne Simms was born 29 June 1931. Bryson and Elizabeth attended school at Hazel Green where Alva S. Simms was the principal.

Shortly after this, the family moved back to Huntsville and lived at several places before settling on Meridian Street in the early 1930's. Nina Irene Simms was born on 9 November 1934 and John Louie Simms was born on 14 January 1938. Bryson, Elizabeth, Melvin, and Wayne attended the Huntsville City schools. Elizabeth graduated in 1940, Bryson came home from World War II and graduated in 1946, Melvin graduated in 1947, Wayne in 1949, Irene in 1952, and Louie in 1956.

Oscar W. and Bryson served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. Oscar spent most of his time in the South Pacific. Bryson was a crew member of the troop transport torpedoed and sank off the coast of Africa in 1942.

During the Korean War, Melvin served in the U.S. Air Force and Wayne served in the U.S. Navy. After graduating from high school, Louie also served in the U.S. Air Force.

Ethyl Simms died in Huntsville on 7 October 1963 and Oscar Simms died on 10 October 1964. Both are buried in State Line Cemetery north of Huntsville.

Bryson is now retired and lives in Cocon Beach, Florida. Elizabeth and Irene are deceased. Melvin retired from the Marshall Space Flight Center and lives in Brownsboro, Alabama. Wayne is now residing in Montgomery, Alabama and Louie is retired and lives in Warwick, Georgia. See photo on page 499. *Submitted by: George Melvin Simms, 1770 Dog Hill Road, Brownsboro, AL 35741. Sources: Marriage and Birth records of Madison County, Alabama and similar records of Lincoln County, Tennessee.*

Doctor William Simpson

William Simpson was born 1780,¹ at Ballynahery, County Londonderry, Ireland² and died in 1816, near Ditto's Landing, Mississippi Territory.³ He was buried at Hobbs Island, Madison county, Alabama in an unmarked grave.⁴

In Ireland, William Simpson received a commission as a Major in the United Irishmen. This was a Protestant organization whose goal was to gain equal representation in the British Parliament for Ireland's Catholics. After the unsuccessful rebellion of 1798, William Simpson was captured, and on March 12, 1798, was convicted of Treason, and sentenced to hang at Bantry Bay. He was imprisoned in the Donegal Arms for a short time, then released on bail, on condition he exile himself from the British Empire.⁵ He received an American passport and migrated to the United States about 1806.⁶ William Simpson left the emerald isle with his wife Marguerite, and quite possibly a younger brother, George Simpson accompanied them to America. Marguerite was pregnant with William's child and gave birth to their daughter Mary Simpson while on the voyage over.⁷

Dr. Simpson and his family came to Madison county, in 1807, when it was part of the Mississippi Territory prior to Alabama statehood. They were among the first white settlers of what is now Ditto's Landing, Alabama.

Dr. Simpson was listed in the 1809 squatters census,⁸ and staked out a squatter's claim near Ditto Landing then purchased it from the government land office in 1809, and went on to amass large land holdings in the area.⁹ He was very active in the formation



John Simpson

of Madison county Government. He served on numerous court cases,¹⁰ was an overseer for the public road,¹¹ and was a charter member of Madison Lodge Number 21, the first Masonic Lodge in Alabama.¹²

During the War of 1812 William Simpson served as a Private and a Surgeon in the 7th Mississippi Regiment.¹³ Colonel Peter Perkins' Battalion of Mississippi Militia from Madison county, Perkins' Battalion came under General John Coffee's command in October 1813, and fought for Andrew Jackson in Alabama against the Red

Sticks, a warring band of the Creek Nation.¹⁴ At Horseshoe Bend, Dr. Simpson help save the wounded leg of a young soldier named Samuel Houston, who later became President of the Republic of Texas. Dr. Simpson's death was apparently the result of an epidemic of some unknown malady, after the war was over.

After William Simpson death, his widow, Marguerite married the Hon. Hopkins Lacy, on July 15, 1817, in Madison county, Mississippi Territory.¹⁵ Hopkins Lacy was born about 1763, at Halifax county, Virginia, and died February 9, 1831, near Ditto's Landing, Alabama. He is buried beside his brothers and their families in the Bartee cemetery, Lacy's Spring, Alabama.¹⁶ Hopkins Lacy was the older brother of Theophilus and John Lacy, whom Lacy's Spring, was named.¹⁷

Hopkins Lacy was a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives, and Attorney General for the district of Washington prior to Tennessee statehood.¹⁸ A close friend of John Coffee and Andrew Jackson,¹⁹ Mr. Lacy accompanied them to Alabama after the Creek uprising in 1813. After hostilities ended Hopkins Lacy remained in Madison county and became closely associated with Dr. William Simpson. Marguerite preceded her husband Hopkins Lacy in death, she died before August 19, 1820.

Marguerite had the following children. 1. Mary Simpson, born 1806, on the boat coming from Ireland. Married May 22, 1822, George W. McLeod.²⁰ She died May 23, 1837, at Mardisville, Alabama.²¹ 2. John Simpson born 1811, at Ditto's Landing, Mississippi Territory.²² Married November 18, 1840, Margaret Ann Dickson.²³ He died January 27, 1876, at Pond Beat, Alabama.²⁴ 3. Martha Jane Cocke Lacy, born 1818, at Ditto's Landing, Mississippi Territory. Married September 24, 1835, Dr. Albert Russell, Jr.²⁵ She died January 20, 1864, at Huntsville, Alabama.²⁶

Dr. Simpson and his wife Marguerite were buried beside one another at Hobbs Island, Alabama, but their graves were never found. In September 1988, a Veteran Administration marker was placed at the Simpson cemetery commemorating Dr. Simpson's service in the War of 1812, by his great-great-grandson, Dennis Simpson. The Simpson cemetery, located east of Dodd Road inside Test Area, I, is a small plot containing several 19th century burials.

The cemetery was established by Dr. Simpson's son John, whose family and descendants lived for many years on land that became Redstone Arsenal. The memorial service included a military color guard, a 21-gun salute which was followed by taps. The dedication was attended by numerous family members, a contingent and the two top Masons in Alabama.

William Simpson's descendants include the Hon. David Campbell Humphreys, Judge for the Supreme Court of the District of

Doctor William Simpson (Continued)

Columbia who was appointed by President Ulysses Simpson Grant. General John Alexander Steger, Madison county's last Confederate Soldier. John Russel Simpson, President of the Home-Stake Royalty Company. The Home-Stake companies are leaseholders of one of the richest oil fields in the world. Dr. Samuel Allen Wilkinson whose patients included the father of President John F. Kennedy; Queen Frederika of Greece; Mohandas Gandhi; and Sir Anthony Eden, Prime Minister of Great Britain. Dennis William Simpson author of *"The Descendants of Doctor William Simpson,"* a copy has been donated to the Heritage Room of the Huntsville Library. Dennis is District Deputy President General for the Pacific District of the General Society of the War of 1812, and President Emeritus of the Society of the War of 1812 in the State of California. He is a charter member of the First Families of the Tennessee Valley, and a life member of the Limestone County, Alabama Historical Society. Submitted by: Dennis William Simpson, Post Office Box 17084, Encino, CA 91416-7084

Sources: 'Dorothy W. Potter, *Passports of Southeastern Pioneers, 1770-1823,*' (Baltimore, Maryland: Gateway Press, Inc., 1982), p. 158.

'National Society of United States Daughters of 1812; National No. 4156; Tennessee State No. 57, Application papers of Mrs. Samuel Allen Wilkinson, Nee Laura May Simpson.

'Inventory of the Estate of William Simpson, 1816, Madison County, Alabama. File No. 1024.

'J.C. Fox, *"Simpson and Allied Families,"* in *Americana Illustrated,* (New York, New York: The American Historical Company, Inc., 1942), Vol. XXXVI, No. 4, p. 10.

'Rebellion Papers from the State Paper Office, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland, dated 1802, #D-162/102; #620-10/120/9; #620/62/80; #620/63/44; #620/63/45.

'It is not clear where the Simpson's departed from. They may have left the British Empire by going to France first. In France Napoleon gave refuge to the banished United Irishmen who later migrated to the United States after receiving their American passports.

'Arthur Marcus Simpson, Jr., to Grace Leona (Nash) Simpson, interview by author, 25 Nov. 1983, Morrow Bay, California. Also, Elizabeth (Trent) Hendricks, interview by author, 17 Mar. 1977, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

'Kathleen Jones and Pauline Gandrud, *"Alabama Records - Madison County,"* Vol. 80, p. 81.

'Receiver's Ledger, Sale of Public Lands, Credit System 1809-1881, Ledger 'A' Book No. 101."

'Kathleen Jones and Pauline Gandrud, *"Alabama Records - Madison County,"* Vol. 80.

'Minute Books of the Superior Court of Law and Equity of Madison County Miasissippi Territory 1810-1816, RG6, V.3, p. 87, Territorial Court Records. Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.

'*Helion Lodge #1, Birthplace of Masonary in Alabama*" (Huntsville, Alabama: 1966), p. 56.

'Mrs. Dunbar Rowland, *"Mississippi Territory in the War of 1812,"* (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1921), pp. 90, 189, 198.

'Benson J. Lossing, *"The Pictorial Field - Book of the War of 1812 ...,"* (New York, New York: Harper and Brothers, Publishers, 1868), pp. 758-759.

'Madison Co., AL: Marriage Book 1, No. 667.

'Cemetery Inscription, Bartee Cemetery, Lacy's Spring, Alabama.

'John Knox *"The History of Morgan County, Alabama,"* (Decatur, Alabama: Decatur Printing Company, Inc., 1967), p. 3.

'James Gettys McGrady Ramsey, *"The Annals of Tennessee to the End of the Eighteenth Century,"* (Charleston, South Carolina: Walker and James, 1853), p. 664.

'Letter dated October 9, 1799, from Hopkins Lacy to John Coffee via Judge Andrew Jackson.

'Madison Co., AL: Marriage Book 3, p. 168, No. 330.

'*"Marriage, Death, & Legal Notices of Early Alabama Newspapers, 1819-1897."*

'1860 United States Census for Madison County, Alabama, N.A. No. M653, Roll 15, p. 73.

'Madison Co., AL: Marriage Book 4, p. 550.

'*"The Independent - Huntsville, Alabama,"* February 3, 1876. Also, *"Huntsville Democrat,"* February 23, 1876; and *"Alabama Records - Madison County,"* Vol 165, p. 10.

'Madison Co., AL: Marriage Book 4, p. 271.

'Lacy Porter McColloch, *"Theophilus Lacy of Colonial Virginia and his Descendants."*

Heritage of Madison County, Alabama, Vol. 45; page 409

The inserts below show the census records for John Simpson, son of Dr. William and head of the family buried in the Simpson Cemetery, 65-3.

Benjamin Duncan				1			1				1		1
Ben Wallace	1			1					1			1	1
Sarah Humphris			1	1							1	3	1
Francis Blackburn	1			1					1	1	1	1	1
John O. King	1	1	2			1			1	1	1		1
Isaac Mandy	1	1	1	1	2			1		1	2	2	1
Elizabeth Cunningham				2								1	1
Barthol. Hurlbert						1			1			1	1
James Wright	2	1	1			1						1	1
John Simpson	1		1	1					2			1	1
Moses W. Galtney	1					1			1	3	1		1
John D. Smith	2					1						1	1
William H. Hughes						1			2	1		1	1
William Lantz		1	1									1	1
Alexander Lewis	1	1			1				1	2		1	1
John Wright	2						1			1	2		1
James Wain				2			1					1	1
Manuel Marry	2		3				1		1	2	1	1	1
Mary Merrin		1	1			1			1			1	1
Charles Clarke	3			2		1			2		2	2	1
James Chandler						1			2	1		1	1
Carroll Garrett													
				211		365			12	3	2		12

1830 Madison County, Alabama, census page 132:
Francis Blackburn - John Simpson - William H. Hughes families

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
<u>John Rowd Sr</u>	1		2																		2	
Margaret Hatcher												1	1									
<u>John Rowd Jr</u>												2	1									
<u>Henry Miller</u>													1									
<u>John Simpson</u>				1																		
Henry P. Griggore												1										
Thomas Stewart												2										
Anthony W. Hayden	1	1										2	1	1	1							
F. J. Spring	1																					
Harvey Dymus		1	1										1	1								
Heartwell Archland	2	1											2									
<u>John Samsters</u>	2																					
<u>Edmond Williams</u>	1	1										1	1	1								
William Morrow		1										2	1	1								
Milton G. Sprigg												1										
Mai Taylor	3	2	1																			
Levi Byram	1	2										1										
Wm J. Veasby												1										
Michael H. Pinn												1		1								
Wm Parker																						
	61	51	31	18	41	38	16	9	6	2		68	42	35	26	47	34	13	14	6	2	

1840 Madison County, Alabama, census page 152: John Simpson

Something apparently happened to the wife and children of John Simpson between the censuses of 1830 and 1840.

11								Tennessee
12		Mary W "	14 1/2	F				Alabama
13	269	269	John Simpson	39	M	Farmer	1	Alabama
14			Margaret A "	36	F			Tennessee
15			Alexander H "	7	M			Alabama
16			Melrose J "	5	M			Ditto
17			Mary E "	4	M			Ditto
18			Mary G	2	F			Ditto
19			Honey G	1/2	M			Ditto
20			Virginia King	38	F			Virginia
21			Margaret A "	2	F			Alabama
22	270	270	John M Lynch	60	M	Farmer	2160	Tennessee
23			Nancy "	37	F			North Carolina
24			Martha F "	3	F			Alabama
25			Maria M "	1	F			Ditto
26	271	271	George M Jacobs	35	M		250	Alabama
27			John "	28	M			Ditto
28			Wendy "	33	F			A. I. "

1850 Madison Co. AL census page 447-B: John Simpson household

The 1850 record shows that John Simpson must have married almost immediately after the 1840 census, because his first child (Alexander H.) was born to his new wife Margaret A. in 1841.

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in South Western Division in the County of Madison State of Alabama enumerated by me, on the 6 day of June 1860. Wm. Simpson Ass't Marshal
 Post Office Madison Station

1	2	3	Sex and Color			7	Value or Estate		10	11	12	13	14
			4	5	6		8	9					
Distinguishing number of household		The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.		Descendants			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of such person, male and female, over 15 years of age.		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.		Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.		
18	99	Kauby Keaton	30	m		Reverend		150		Ala			
		Mary L "	26	f						"			
99	100	Sarah A. Harris	31	f		None				Tennessee			
		Martha Ann	25	f						Alabama			
		William W. Will	19	m						Ala			
		Mrs W. Will	3	m						"			
100	101	Lynus Rendarant	50	m		Reverend		4700		Virginia			
101	102	Samuel M. Cook	39	m		"		200		Ala			
		Walter S "	27	f						"			
		Lidia S "	14	f						"			
		Charles S "	9	m						"			
		James H "	5	m						"			
		John H "								"			
112	103	Olin T. Woodland	71	m		Reverend		1500		Virginia			
		Martha Woodland	49	f		None		500		"			
		Hardenia Grantlin	21	f		"		1000		Ala			
		Henry H "	2	m						"			
		Martha S "	12	f						"			
		Ellen T. Ware	5	f						"			
103	104	William H. Allison	33	m		Farmer		7515 5500		Ala			
		Mary A "	15	f						"			
104	105	John Simpson	49	m		Farmer		5000 30200		"			
		Margaret S "	42	f						Tenn			
		Alcander H "	19	m		Labourer				Ala			
		William L "	14	m						"			
		Mary E "	13	f						"			
		Margaret E "	10	f						"			
		Jurrah H "	8	f						"			
		Sallie M "	5	m						"			
		Henry "	5	m						"			
		Jessie M "	3	f						"			
105	106	Francis B. Pritchard	50	f		Farmer		2000 2610		Virginia			
		Elyabeth B "	61	f						"			
		George B "	20	f						Ala			
		Walter E "	28	f						"			
106	107	John M. Lynch	50	m		Farmer		6500 20000		Tennessee			
		Nancy "	45	f						Ala			
		Sarah L "	19	f						Ala			

The 1860 census included Juriah R. Simpson in the household of John, about 3 years before Juriah's premature death. Henry, the last of John's children to pass away, is also shown in the household, as is Arthur M., the ancestor of Simpson family researcher Dennis Simpson. By the time of the 1870 census, there is no entry for John or Margaret A. Simpson. However, in Township 5, Range 1 (West), there are listings in the 1870 records for Alexander, Marion E., and William Simpson as heads of households. Marion Simpson was included in the 1850 household listing for John Simpson, but he was not shown in the 1860 record of the household.

Dennis Simpson has written two books about Doctor William Simpson with extensive detail about the family through subsequent generations and about families that lived nearby or were related to the Simpsons in the pioneer days of Madison County. Selected portions of his books and other data from Dennis Simpson are included after the e-mailed message below for reference:

{May 18, 2004, from Dennis Simpson to John Rankin }

John,

Thank you for your kind reviews of my books. It would be an honor to have you include the information in the CD for the Army. Yes, you have my permission to do so. As you mentioned in your first paragraph, so much was written about Huntsville that writers have failed to write anything of substance about Southern Madison County along the Tennessee River, i.e., Triana, Pond Beat, Green Grove, Mullins Flats, Liberty, Ditto's Landing or Whitesburg, Owens Cross Roads, Hobbs Island, Elon, or New Hope, etc. These are the areas that were first settled by the original pioneers when they traveled downstream on the Tennessee River looking for ideal places to make there homes. John Ditto who built his trading post has less said about him than John Hunt or the Cramer Brothers, yet he was the first white Settler in Madison County.

At one time I contemplated about the possibility of writing a history of Southern Madison County, but so little was recorded about the area, it would be very difficult to write anything of substance, except for the families that lived there. In regards to land that the Army purchased for creation of Redstone Arsenal, many of the descendants who were living in the area were grandchildren and great-grandchildren of former slaves. Many of them carried the names of their former masters. The most famous slave was William Hooper Council, who became world renown for his work on education. He was a former slave of Judge David Campbell Humphreys, whose wife, Margaret McLeod was a granddaughter of Dr. William Simpson. Judge Humphreys, as you know, tried in vain to save Alabama from succeeding from the Union during the Civil War. During the War he tried to bringing Alabama back into the Union, and ran an unsuccessful bid for the

Governorship. He lost, but President U. S. Grant appointed him with House approval to become a Justice of the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia.

Another famous gentleman who settled in Madison County was the Honorable Hopkins Lacy. However, nothing is written about this illustrious gentleman, who arrived in the county from East Tennessee. More is written about his brother, who was the first banker of the famous Bank sitting on top of the Big Spring in Huntsville. Yet, Hopkins Lacy, a former Member of the House of Representatives from Tennessee, has very little information written about him. He was a soldier in the American Revolution from Virginia and North Carolina. He was an officer in the Tennessee Militia appointed by Gov. Blount. He served as Attorney General for the Washington District and was a Trustee of Nancy Academy in Sevierville, Tennessee. He was also a legal representative for both John Coffee and his brother-in-law Andrew Jackson who became President of the United States. Hopkins' arrival into Madison County was about 1812, and he became an associate of Dr. William Simpson. Together they purchased land with William Robinson and Thomas Austin and created the Town of Liberty situated due west of Ditto's Landing. In 1820 Hopkins Lacy operated a ferry that ran from Liberty to what was known as Leeman's Ferry northwest of Lacy's Spring, which was settled by the Lacy family in 1823. John Lacy, another brother, was the first white settler in that area that was once was an Indian campsite. The town was first spelled Lacy Springs, until some pre-Civil War postmaster changed it to today's spelling: Lacey's Spring.

Maybe that might be a project you might consider undertaking. Something I might consider helping you do, if you decided to undertake it someday...

Dennis

On Tue, 18 May 2004 11:02:48 -0500 "John P Rankin" <jprankin@knology.net> writes:

Dennis --

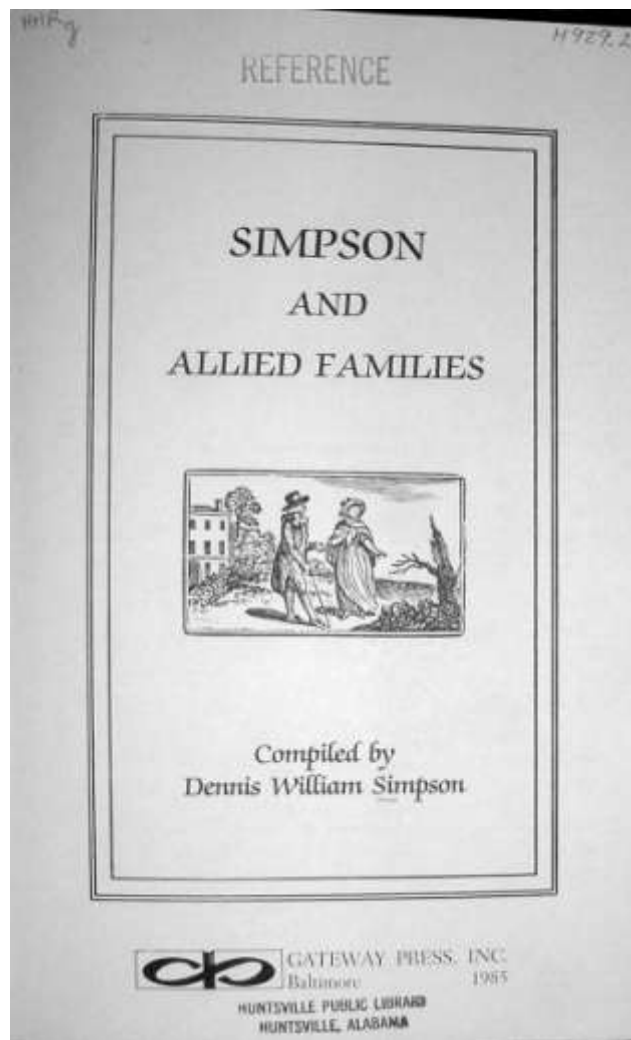
I spent yesterday at the Heritage Room in the Huntsville library. I examined your two books on the Simpson and related families of the area, and I am quite impressed. Those works obviously entailed an enormous amount of research. It is hard for me to understand how the arsenal family cemeteries have been so neglected in our area histories, when they contain the pre-eminent pioneers of the region.

I made several digital photos of the pictures and some of the pages. Will it be okay if I include them (with appropriate reference data on each image) on the

CD masterfiles that I make for the Army's offices on the arsenal about the pioneer settlers of pre-arsenal lands?

Either way, thanks for doing such superb work. I look forward to helping to spread knowledge of the Simpson and Dickson families (as well as Rankin and others) to whomever will be researching in the future....

John Rankin



SIMPSON AND ALLIED FAMILIES, compiled by Dennis William Simpson, 1985

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THE SIMPSON FAMILY OF MADISON COUNTY ALABAMA

SIMPSON, also spelled Simson, as well as its variants Sim, Simes and Simms, are of baptismal origin, meaning "the son of Simon" from the nickname Sim.¹ The Scottish Fraser and Simpson families had their origin with the French knight Simon de Frezel from the Province of Anjou. Simon's father, Rene Frezel, who was living in 1030, was the first known of the name. He made donations to the Abbey of Notre Dame Des Noyers in Touraine, which was confirmed by a declaration of King Robert given at Orleans the same year.

WHY IS YOUR NAME SIMPSON INSTEAD OF FRASER?

In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries people in Scotland and the British Isles were not particular about their surnames. Many Frasers, who were children of a Simon Fraser chose to take the name Simon's Sons or Simson. This sense of pride was a result of the patriarch of the Fraser Clan having been named Simon, with many of his successors bearing the same name.

About the fifteenth century the Scots started to adopt the Welsh custom of placing a "p" between the name of father and son, as in the Welsh name Thompson. It took almost 200 years for most of the Simsons to become Simpson, and it is today very rare to find a family still using the name Simson.²

THE CLAN FRASER OF LOVAT

Simpson descendants should be aware of the Scottish Clan affiliations of their ancestors who lived and worked under the Clan system for several hundred years, between the arrival of Simon De Frezel in 1066 with William The Conqueror until our particular ancestor's departure for Ulster in the 1600's, when they left the Clan protection.

In addition to the Fraser family, the following Scottish families are also members of this Clan:

Bissett	MacSimon	Simpson	Symon
Macimney	MacSyman	Simson	MacGruer
MacKin	Sim	Syme	MacTavish
MacKinnie	Sime	Symmer	Tweedie
MacShimes			

The Clan is a very old social institution and occurs in many parts of the world. Many of the Scottish Highland Clans were founded in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Clan Fraser of Lovat was one of these.

The Scottish Clan was a group of families occupying a definite locality or a particular glen, for example. These families were descended from a common ancestor. The head of the group was the living "Representer" of his ancestor and as such was Chief of the Clan. To him the Clansmen owed loyalty and respect. They accepted his jurisdiction over their daily affairs and responded to his summons in time of battle. The Chief, in turn, was the patriarch, the head and leader of the Clan. In return for their personal devotion to the chief, he had an obligation to protect his followers and to give help to any of them who were in distress.

THE SCOTCH-IRISH

The Scotch-Irish are Scots who settled in the Northern six counties of Ireland, which is called Ulster and is a part of the British United Kingdom. The first Simpsons to settle in Northern Ireland were in the military from 1590 to 1603, and settled in the County of Antrim. The next group arrived about 1607 in a movement sponsored by the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) with the blessing of King James I of England who invited Scottish and English Protestants to immigrate to this land. They were required to build fortified farmhouse and "bawn" or "strong courtyard" for their cattle if their grants were greater than 1000 acres.

DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON

DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON, was born circa 1760, near Drumachose, County Londonderry, Ireland. He died during the Spring of 1816, probably near Ditto Landing, in Madison County, in what is now Alabama, and was buried at Cherokee Island, now known as Hobbs Island, in Madison County, Alabama.³

In 1797, William Simpson was commissioned a Major in the United Irishmen, a Protestant organization whose goals were to gain equal representation in the British Parliament for Ireland's Catholics. After the unsuccessful rebellion of 1798, William's Court Martial was held at Newtonlimavady, on March 12, 1798. He was convicted of Treason, for joining and accepting a Major's Commission in a Regiment of the Rebel Army. For these charges he pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to hang at Bantry Bay. In his statement to Lord Cavan he made several objections for being appointed as a Major and when the Rebellion broke out he exerted himself to prevent an uprising in County Derry. He also said that he would "Never fight against George the King of England." He was imprisoned in the Donegal Arms, in Belfast, after remaining there for several months he got leave to settle his affairs under bail, and exiled himself to America.⁴

According to family tradition William left probably from Londonderry, about 1802, with his wife Mary who was pregnant. Their daughter Mary was born on the ship enroute to America.⁵

Descendants of William Simpson might be interested to know some of the personal property of their ancestor has survived and is in the possession of the following people: 1. Large China Vase, Mrs. Helen Maben Bond of Waynesville, North Carolina; 2. The Silver Watch listed in Inventory of Personal Estate, (Compiler) Dennis William Simpson of Panorama City, California; 3. The Simpson Family Crest, with the John Russel Simpson family.

The Arms as shown on the frontispiece were bore by Dr. William Simpson. Lord Lyon was responsible for the recordings of all Arms and Bearings in Scotland, these same arms were first used by Robert Simpson of Thourntoun, Scotland, 1680 and it would appear that Simpson of Thornton is descended from Simpson of Udoch since his Arms contain a cadency difference in the form of a chief indented which indicates descent from a younger son.

The meaning of the Arms-Argent on a chief indented vert three Crescents of the first.

CREST: A Crescent or

MOTTO: Tandem Implebitur - At length he shall be filled.⁶

ARMORIAL BEARINGS

Armorial bearings, being for distinguishing persons of, and within, a family, cannot descend to, or be used by, persons who are not members of the family. The surname indicates the family to which a person belongs. A person named Jones cannot bear a Brown coat of arms, or any part of it.

Armorial bearings, of which the Crest is a subsidiary part, are a form of individual heritable property, devolving upon one person at a time by succession from the grantee or confirmee, and thus descend like a Peerage. They indicate the Chief of the Family or Clan, or the Head of each subsidiary line or household descending from members who have themselves established in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland a right to a subsidiary version of the arms and crest, containing a mark of difference indicating their position in the Family or Clan. This is not a "new" coat of arms; it is the ancient ancestral arms with a mark of cadency, usefully showing the cadet's place within the family.

It is not only illegal, but a social crime and error of the most grave character, to assume and purport to use your Chief's arms without a due and congruent difference. Anyone who does so merely publishes their own ignorance, and lapse into bad manners, and use of such on seal or notepaper will close the doors of all the best families against the presumptuous upstart.

Those who wish to use arms in any personal sense must petition for a Grant of Arms or - if they can trace their ancestry back to a direct or, in some cases collateral, ancestor - a "cadet

----- Forwarded Message

From: Dennis W Simpson <ca11812@juno.com>
Date: Tue, 4 May 2004 02:30:17 -0700
To: preserve@hiwaay.net, mmsmith@co.madison.al.us
Subject: Re: Guest Book

Dear Ms Berry and Ms Smith:

Thank you for your response to the information that I sent to you. If you are able to help me with additional information on the burial spot for my ancestors William Simpson and Marguerite (McAlpine) Simpson Lacy I would be very thankful. I know she was not buried beside her second husband Hopkins Lacy, at Bartee Cemetery, in Morgan County. I believe he had her buried beside his friend, and her first husband, Dr. William Simpson. According to J.C. Fox in his genealogical research of the family, he stated they were buried at Hobbs Island. I understand when the Tennessee River floods it covers the Island, and it might have swept away any markers that were there.

Six family cemeteries of interest are located on or near the old Triana Pike, now within the boundaries of Redstone Arsenal and can be visited by prior arrangement only. The cemeteries are all situated in the test area of Redstone Arsenal which is secured because of the classified work. Arrangement would need to be made two weeks in advance of any visit, and an escort would be required while in the area.

The cemeteries of my family are: 1. Simpson. It is fenced with an iron picket fence and entry gate. In the center of the cemetery is a large marker of granite, with the following names listed top to bottom in this order: John Simpson, Margaret a. Simpson, Marion E. Simpson, Arthur M. Simpson, Emma Simpson Stubbs, H. Clay Simpson, Juriah Simpson and Henry C. Simpson. No other inscription, except "SIMPSON" in large letters at the top of the marker, appears on the stone. Additionally, three smaller headstones are inscribed as follows: Emma Simpson Stubbs, Born March 23, 1862 Died March 4, 1893; Juriah Simpson, Born July 8, 1852 Died Sep. 14, 1863 Aged 11 years, 2 months, 6 days Suffer little children to come unto me for such is the Kingdom of Heaven; Margaret A. Simpson Wife of John Simpson, Born Aug. 9, 1816 Died Aug. 31, 1874. Three foot markers bear the initials' J.S., M.A.S. and M.L.J.P. The first two are of John Simpson and Margaret A. Simpson the other is that of Mary Lou Jones Proctor. Additionally there is a small stone: Mary Lou Jones, Daughter of A.G. & Z.M. Proctor, Aug. 27, 1888, Sep. 10, 1888. "Z.M" Zuma Margaret Proctor was the daughter of John and Margaret Ann (Dickson) Simpson. There are probably two other children buried at this cemetery, but there are no markers to mark their graves. They are Ida Simpson, 1881-1882; and Henry Simpson Proctor, Born Dec. 16, 1896 Died Dec. 20, 1898. There was a veterans marker in memory of William Simpson placed in the cemetery by me on Grandparents Day 1988. Dr. Simpson served as a Private in the 7th Mississippi Militia during the War of 1812. The marker has his year of birth wrong, it is not 1760, but should be 1780, and he died 1816, at Liberty, Madison County, Alabama then Mississippi Territory.

John Simpson was born 1811, near Ditto's Landing, Mississippi Territory, died Jan. 27, 1876, at his plantation home near Pond Beat, Madison Co., Alabama. He married 18 Nov 1840, Margaret Ann Dickson, probably at her father James Dickson's home, near Pond Beat, Alabama. She was the daughter of James Dickson and Keziah Wood. Margaret's grandfathers both served in the Virginia Militia during the American Revolutionary.

5/4/04

The Dickson are buried a few miles east of the Simpson Cemetery. It is known as the Dickson-Rankin Family Cemetery. Children of John and Margaret Ann (Dickson) Simpson are:

1. Alexander Heath Simpson, born Oct. 4, 1841, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married Feb. 5, 1868, Helen Grey Steger, Madison Co., Alabama. He died Nov. 1, 1919, Gulfport, Mississippi and buried next to his wife at McAlester, Oklahoma. Alexander served in the 4th Alabama Infantry and stood within a few feet of Gen. Bernard E. Bee, when he made his famous remark about Stonewall Jackson at First Manassas.
2. William Timmons Simpson, born July 21, 1844, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. He died unmarried, Jan. 25, 1877, Jackson, Mississippi. He got the middle name from the Timmons family. John Simpson was guardian of William Hardie Timmons after his parents died leaving him an orphan with no family to take care of him.
3. Marion Ellis Simpson, born Nov. 25, 1846, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married Laura Kelly, of whom little is known. He died between 1902, and 1910 near Whitesburg, Alabama.
4. Mary Ella Simpson, born Oct. 12, 1848, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married Jan. 12, 1870, John Alexander Steger, Madison County, Alabama. John was the brother of Helen Grey (Steger) Simpson, children of Kennon Harris Steger and Mary Elizabeth Wall, all buried at the Steger-Ormond Family Cemetery, at Ryland, Alabama.
5. Henry Clay Simpson, born May 22, 1850, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. He died before 1857, Pond Beat, Alabama.
6. Juriah Read Simpson, born July 8, 1852, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. She died Sept. 14, 1863, Pond Beat, Alabama.
7. Arthur Marcus Simpson, born Sept. 30, 1855, Pond Beat, Alabama. Married Apr. 20, 1880, Lura Lee (Dewoody) Cate, widower. He died 01 Nov 1883, Triana, Alabama. Lura Lee Dewoody was the daughter of William Aiken Dewoody and Lucy Ann Tanner. Lura's maternal great-grandfather Samuel Tanner, was first Mayor of Athens, Alabama. She is a lineal descendant of Nicolas Martiau ancestor to both George Washington and Queen Elizabeth II of England. Lura Lee Dewoody was born 1862, Athens, Alabama. She died 1898, Decatur, Alabama. (Arthur and Lura (Dewoody) Simpson were my paternal great-grandparents.
8. Henry Clay Simpson, born Mar. 14, 1857, Pond Beat, Alabama. He died unmarried, Feb. 26, 1918, at his home near Green Grove, Alabama. His obituary reads as follows: "Died on February 26th at his home near Green Grove, Alabama, Henry Clay Simpson, aged 60 years. Mr. Simpson was born March 14th, 1857. He was the youngest on of the late John Simpson of Madison County, Alabama, and a grandson of SIR William Simpson an Irish patriot who took refuge in this County at the time of the execution of young Robert Emmet whose cause he espoused and whose fortune he shared....."
9. Zuma Margaret Simpson, born Mar. 13, 1859, Pond Beat, Alabama. Married Apr. 21, 1881, Albert Gallatin Proctor, at the home of John A. Steger, Ryland, Alabama. She died July 3, 1929, Alhambra, California. She and her husband are buried at Santa Ana, California.
10. Emma B. Simpson, born Mar. 23, 1862, Pond Beat, Alabama. Married R.C. Stubbs. She died Mar. 4, 1893, Huntsville, Alabama.

The other family cemeteries are Jordan, Matkins, McDonnell and Tate. They were related to the Dewoody family. William Matkins first wife Margaret McDonnell, daughter of Archibald and Elizabeth McDonnell.

Margaret was the grandaunt of James Smith McDonnell, Jr., the founder of McDonnell Aircraft which is now McDonnell-Douglas. William Matkins married as his second wife Margaret Adams Dewoody, sister to William Aiken Dewoody (my great-great grandfather). Margaret (Dewoody) Matkins was previously married to Uriah Milton Tate, and it is her children that are buried at the Tate Cemetery. Her son by William Matkins, William Blount Matkins married Bettie Jordan and are buried at the Jordan Cemetery south east of Madkin Mountain.

In regards to the Dickson-Rankin Cemetery, there are no graves marking the burial site of James Dickson or his wife Keziah (Wood) Dickson. However, several of their children who are buried there have markers they are as follows:

1. Nancy T. Graham, Relict of James B. Graham Born in Amherst Co., Va, Sept. 23, 1808, Died Oct 10, 1891. {Nancy's husband was clerk of the County Court of Morgan County, then located at Somerville, Alabama. He is buried at the old Somerville Cemetery}.
2. Virginia G. Dickson, Born Aug. 23, 1811 Died Mar. 4, 1877. {Virginia was also born at Amherst Co., Virginia. She was married 30 Mar 1847, Nathaniel G. Mingea, Pond Beat, Alabama; however, after he stole and sold her slaves, he deserted her and she was granted a divorce}.
3. Charles S. Fowler, Born in Mobile Ala, March 27, 1827, Died Dec. 11, 1889. {Charles Fowler was the husband of Juriah Graham, daughter of Col. James and Nancy (Dickson) Graham}.
4. There was a marker for Sarah A. Dickson, born Oct. 29, 1813, died before Oct. 27, 1873, which has since disappeared. However, Frank Jacobs (a free black man before the Civil War) bought the Dickson plantation several years after the death of Nancy Graham. He was asked by the Government to record the information from the gravestone before they purchased the land from him. He recorded the birth dates of Nancy Graham, Virginia and Sarah Dickson from their gravestones, but failed to record the death dates.

5. Dewitt "Dickson" Graham, Born Feb. 15, 1837, Died Mar. 11, 1867. (He was the son of Col. James and Nancy (Dickson) Graham. Before the war, he studied law, under the tutorship of David Campbell Humphreys and Edward Dorr Tracy. When war broke out, he enlisted in Co. D, 4th (Russell's) Alabama Cavalry, CSA as a Lieutenant. Dick was captured and interned at Camp Douglas, until the end of the war. While a POW, he caught consumption and it was this disease that he died of.

I use to live in Huntsville, in fact I lived several months in the home of a long time family friend, Kate (Blackburn) Sullivan, owner of the Hallmark store at 716 Pratt Avenue. Her mother was the sister of L. D. Walls, Sheriff of Madison County for several years. His wife, the former Miss Harbin was my paternal cousin. I am a descendant of Amelia Catherine Harbin who married William George Preston. One of their descendants Elizabeth Ann Ray, daughter of William Herbert Ray (owner of the Ray Dealership) and wife of former Mayor Glenn Hubbard Hearn is my cousin. Prior to my enlistment in the United States Navy, I lived in the home of another cousin, Irene and Bill Lockard at 716 Holmes Street. Irene was the daughter of Frank Nash, brother to my great-grandfather James Isaac Nash.

I first entered Huntsville, as a small child in 1960 when my family traveled through the area to go to Atlanta, Georgia. My father was station at Fort McPherson. I returned a second time with my paternal grandmother Grace Leona (Nash) Simpson in 1970, and was highly impressed with your fine city, that I swore I would return to live. I kept my promised after graduating from High School in June 1971, and remained there until February 1972, when I enlisted in the Navy. Although I am not a resident now, I have been back to visit your lovely city on several occasions since the time I lived there. I presently reside in my birth state, California. My mailing address is Dennis W. Simpson, PO Box 322, Lancaster CA 93584-0322. Your fine library holds two of my books that I published several years ago. I hope this information answers some of your questions.

Most Sincerely,

Dennis Simpson

The above data pretty well explains the grave markers in the Simpson Cemetery (65-3), plus connections to other arsenal cemeteries. Additional data about the Simpsons is presented below from Dennis Simpson's other book, for anyone interested in details of the family history.

*THE
DESCENDANTS OF
DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON*



HHR

REFERENCE

H929.2

*THE
DESCENDANTS OF
DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON*



Compiled by
Dennis William Simpson

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CHAPTER 1

THE DESCENDANTS OF DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON

William Simpson was born, presumably in the townland of Ballynahery, Parish of Drumachose, County Londonderry, Ireland.¹ He was born before November 2, in the year 1780,² and died in the spring of 1816, near Ditto's Landing, Madison County, Mississippi Territory.³ He was buried at Chickasaw Island, now known as Hobbs Island, in Madison County, Alabama.⁴

Of William Simpson's adolescent years nothing is known. Records in Drumachose Parish show the following interesting information proving the family had settled in Ballycrum townland, in the generations before William Simpson.

Vestry Meeting held in the Parish Church of Drumachose on 7 April 1795: - A list of gentlemen who subscribed to the enlarging of the churchyard, entitled them to their own plots of burial ground there. Among those listed was William Simpson, who paid 11s 4 1/2d.

List of Parishioners 25 November 1820: Ballycrum - Mrs. Simpson

List of Doubtful Parishioners 25 November 1820: Matthew. Simpson (no address was given)

P.R.O.N.I. T 808/15264 Religious Returns for County Londonderry 1766.
Drumachose Parish: Balicrum B. - John Simpson D (Dissenter)

P.R.O.N.I. T 808/125258 Protestant Householders, County Londonderry. 1740,
Drumachose Parish: Limavady - Joseph Simson
Ballycrum - Robert Simpson

¹National Society of United States Daughters of 1812; National No. 4156; Tennessee State No. 57, Application papers of Mrs. Samuel Allen Wilkinson. Nee Laura May Simpson.

²Dorothy W. Potter, "Passports of Southeastern Pioneers, 1770-1823," (Baltimore, MD: Gateway Press, Inc., 1982), p. 158.

³Inventory of the Estate of William Simpson, 1816, Madison County, Alabama. Original in file number 1024, County Courthouse, Huntsville, Alabama.

⁴J.C. Fox, "Simpson and Allied Families," in *Americana Illustrated*, (New York, NY: The American Historical Company, Inc., 1942), Vol. XXXVI, No. 4, p. 10.

DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON

Index to Derry Wills 1612-1858 Trift, Drumachose Parish:

Ballycrum - Robert Simpson, 1714
Ballycrum - Robert Simpson, 1757

Registry of DEED Lands Index for County Londonderry, covering the period 1709-1810 inclusive: 174 353 116571 Reg. 14/3/1755

Indenture of lease dated 26 May 1737, Robert Simpson, Ballycrum, Co. Londonderry, 1st part. Samuel Hunter, Drumramer, Co. Londonderry, the other part.

LAND, the park commonly called Curry's Park, and one acre of land.

TERM, for the term of 24 years to complete the term of 40 years which said Robert Simpson holds from Lord Tyrone.

RENT, L3.15.0 per annum.

Witnesses, Patrick Adams, James Kerr, both of Ballycrum, Jer(* * *) Chevers, Newton Limavady, Guarger.

Sworn at Newton Limavady 31/8/1755

N.B. Lease, Earl of Tyrone to Robert Simpson not located.

Legal documents in Alabama testify to the fact that William Simpson was a surgeon. Unfortunately there are no records available to let us know where or when he first practiced medicine. The few surviving records from Dublin, Ireland, pertain only to his involvement with the United Irishmen. These documents are located in the State Paper Office at Dublin Castle. They give some facts regarding William Simpson involvement with the United Irishmen.

In 1797, William Simpson received a major's commission in the United Irishmen. The United Irish were a Protestant organization whose goals were to gain equal representation in the British Parliament for Ireland's Catholics. After the unsuccessful rebellion of 1798, William Simpson was captured, and his trial was held at Newton Limavady, with other United Irishmen. On March 12, 1798, William was convicted of Treason, for joining and accepting a Major's Commission in a Regiment of the Rebel Army. For these charges he pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to hang at Bantry Bay. In his statement to Lord Cavan, William objected to being appointed a Major. He also stated, when the Rebellion broke out he exerted himself to prevent any uprising in County Derry. William mentioned, that he would "never fight against George, the King of England." William was imprisoned in the Donegal Arms in Belfast.⁵ After remaining there for several months, he got leave to settle his affairs under bail, and exiled himself to America.⁶

⁵Rebellion Papers from the State Paper Office, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland, dated 1802, #D162/102.

⁶Ibid., #620/10/120/9; #620/62/80; #620/63/44; #620/63/45.

DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON

In her letter dated 17 April 1802, Mrs. Theodosia McCausland's of Fruithill, County Londonderry writes to Colonel Charles Stewart of York, England.⁷ "William Simpson was the only child of his mother, after his exiled she pined for him, and that caused a great deal of local concern." Sir George Hill, Bart, opposed his possible return to Ireland. William's supporters in the Londonderry Gentry were Colonel Charles Stewart, Mr. Henry Bruce, Mr. Connolly McCausland and Mr. Marcus Gage. "Simpson maintained he did not want his commission in the United Irishmen, and stated he would never fight against the king. At the time of the rebellion he had in fact, done his best to prevent upheaval. He was, in short, 'merely a farmer.'"

When the United Irishmen learned that the American Congress repealed the Alien and Sedition Laws. The United Irishmen in British prisons, or living in European exile, applied for passports, to the new American ministers abroad, and received them. Among the new arrivals to the United States were Thomas Addis Emmet and Doctor McNevin. Thomas Emmet, an older brother of Robert Emmet, was arrested in 1798, for political activity. Thomas was a director of the United Irishmen, and was imprisoned in Scotland until 1802, when he was released on condition he leave the British Empire. After leaving Scotland, Thomas first settled in France for a short time. In 1804, he left Bordeaux, France, and sailed to the United States. Here he had a very successful law practiced in New York until his death in 1827.⁸ Emmet and McNevin were joined by William Sampson, a native of Londonderry, who settled in New York in 1807. In 1808, Sampson published a collection of his miscellaneous writings, culled from "THE PRESS" and "STAR," the United Irish organs. Other distinguished United Irishmen who migrated to the United States, were John Caldwell, who settled on a farm beside the Hudson; Dr. Sweetman, made his home in Georgia; the son of Wolfe Tone entered the topographical service of the United States; and the Binns' brothers settled near Philadelphia.

William Simpson, according to family tradition, left Ireland with his wife Marguerite and settled in Madison County, Alabama, when it was still Mississippi Territory. On the voyage over, Marguerite gave birth to their first child, whom they named Mary.⁹

⁷Charles William Stewart (born 1778, died 1854), 3rd Marquis of Londonderry, soldier and diplomat: served in the Netherlands (1794), on the Rhine and Danube (1795), in Irish rebellion (1798), in Holland (1799); undersecretary for war (1807); cavalry commander (1808), adjutant general to Wellington in Iberian Peninsula until invalided home (1811); British minister to Berlin, and ambassador in Vienna (1814).

⁸Webster's Biographical Dictionary, (Springfield, MA: G. & C. Merriam Co., Publishers, 1961), p. 481.

⁹Arthur M. Simpson to Grace L. Simpson, interview by author, 25 November 1983, Morro Bay, CA. Also, Elizabeth T. Hendricks, interview by author, 17 March 1977, Tulsa, OK.

DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON

In Henry Simpson's obituary it states: "Sir William Simpson and Irish patriot, who took refuge in this Country, at the time of the execution of young Robert Emmet whose cause he espoused and whose fortune he shared." History recorded the execution of Robert Emmet on September 30, 1803, suggesting William Simpson and his family were living in the United States then. From information William submitted when he registered as a British Alien during the War of 1812,¹⁰ William stated he arrived in Mississippi Territory in 1807. The Secretary of Mississippi Territory recorded the following information: "*William Simpson, 32 years old, in U.S. 5 years; A Wife and Two Children; resides in Madison County; A Phisician; [sic] An honest and respectable Inhabitant.*"¹¹

By 1805, pioneers began making unauthorized settlements in the area known today as Madison County, Alabama. At this time, the land belonged to the Cherokee and Chickasaw Indians. Soon the American Government enticed the Indians to cede a triangular-shaped section of land, between the Tennessee State Line and the Tennessee River, to the U.S. Government. This was to allow the settlers who were already in the area a legal place to live. Thomas Freeman, a Government Surveyor, from Nashville, Tennessee, received orders to survey the lands in the "Triangle." This surveyed land became known as Madison County, Mississippi Territory on December 13, 1808. Then no one owned, or could own, any of this land. Those pioneers that settled in this area were "squatting" on public domain, most with the hope of being allowed to purchase their homesteads. In January 1809, Thomas Freeman took a census of the inhabitants, living within the bounds of the newly-formed county. Mr. Freeman acted as registrar and received the inhabitants' applications to buy their land. After paying a small fee, the inhabitants' receive permission to stay as "tenants at will," with the right to purchase the land at a public land auction. The first sale took place at Nashville, Tennessee, in August 1809, and "fee simple land titles" were established. Before 1818, the only legal place to settle in North Alabama was Madison County.¹² In January 1809, William Simpson and his family were recorded in the "Squatter" Census as follows.

WILLIAM SIMPSON 1 Male under 21
 1 Male over 21
 1 Female over 21
 Total of 3 & 4 Slaves¹³

¹⁰Dorothy W. Potter, "Passports of Southeastern Pioneers, 1770-1823," (Baltimore, MD: Gateway Press Inc., 1982), p. 158.

¹¹Clarence Edwin Carter, "Territorial Papers of the United States," Vol. V, Mississippi Territory, 1798-1818, also, Georgia Executive Proceedings, Nov. 1809 - Dec. 1810, p. 213, drawer 50, roll 47.

¹²Letters received from the Surveyor General of Mississippi," General Land Office, p. 49, National Archives, Washington, D.C., pp. 179-196.

¹³Kathleen P. Jones and Pauline J. Gandrud, "Alabama Records Madison County," Vol. 80, p. 81.

DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON

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JAMES MADISON, President of the United States of America,

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

Know Ye, That *William Simpson of Madison county, Mississippi Territory* having deposited in the Treasury a certificate of the Register of the land office at *Huntsville,* whereby it appears that full payment has been made for *the North East quarter of Section number sixteenth in Township number five of Range number one, (lying East of the basis Meridian)*

of the lands directed to be sold at *Huntsville,* in pursuance unto the said *William Simpson, the quarter* lot or section of land above described: *Do Give and to hold,* the said *quarter* lot or section of land, with the appurtenances, unto the said *William Simpson* his heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, I have caused these Letters to be made PUBLIC, and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand at the City of Washington, the *twenty fourth* day of *April* in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and *fourteen* and of the Independence of the United States of America, the thirty *eighth*.

BY THE PRESIDENT,

E. J. Commissioner of the General Land Office.



Pub. Grant, May 24 1814.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE CERTIFICATE NO. 262

COURTESY OF GENERAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

In a book entitled, "Receiver's Ledger, Sale of Public Lands, Credit System 1809-1881, Ledger 'A' Book No. 101." It shows that William Simpson purchased land in Township 5, South, Range 1 East, of the Huntsville Meridian, in Madison County, Mississippi Territory.

Southeast 1/4 Section 8 - 160.63 acres - William Simpson
Date of Sale 12 Aug. 1809 - Certificate #698.

Northeast 1/4 Section 17 - 640.64 acres - William Simpson
Date of Sale 21 Feb. 1810 - Certificate #262.

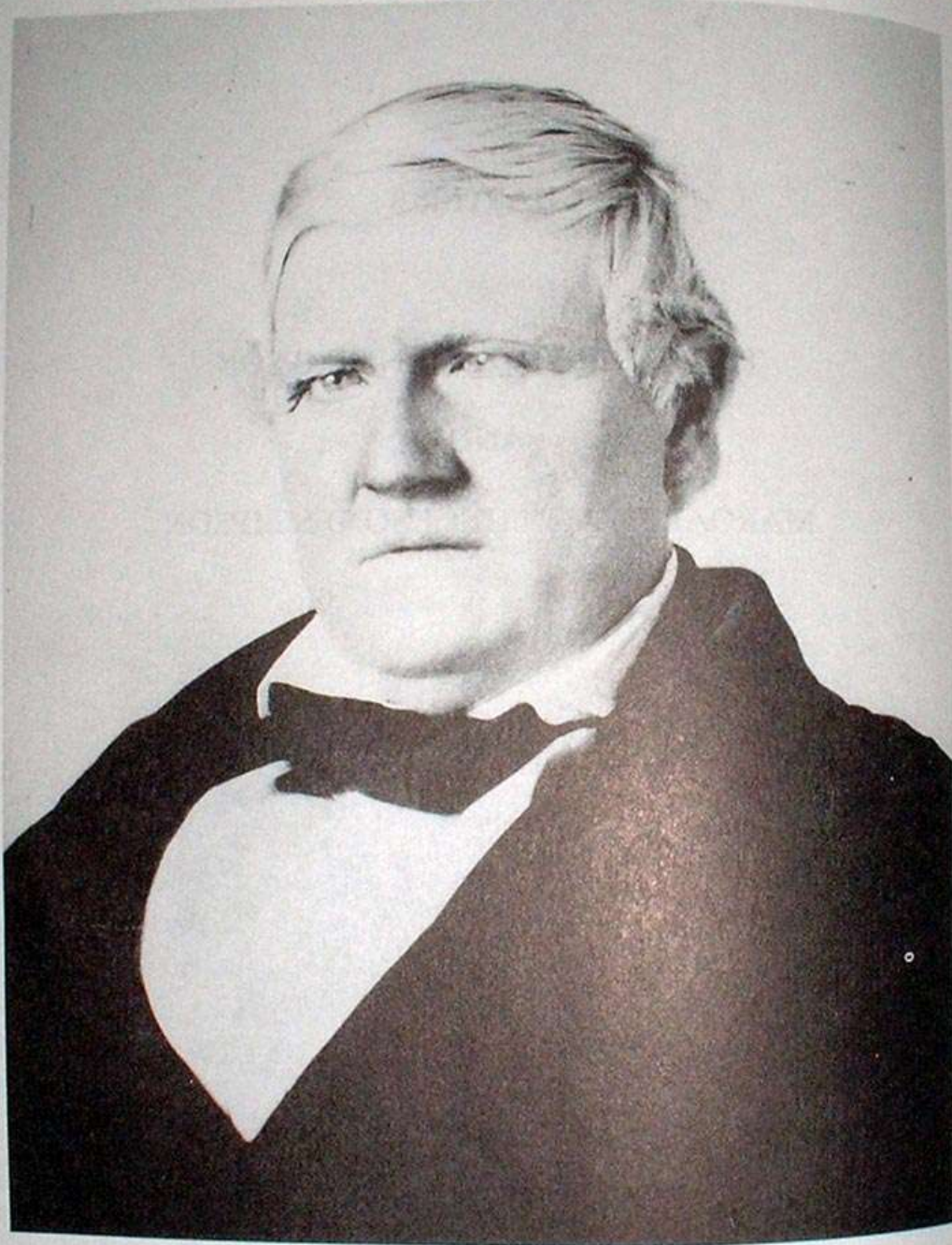
Southwest 1/4 Section 20 - 160.00 acres - William Simpson
Date of Sale 21 June 1811 - Certificate 519.

CHAPTER 3

THE FAMILY OF JOHN SIMPSON
AND
MARGARET ANN (DICKSON) SIMPSON



JOHN SIMPSON AND MARGARET DICKSON



JOHN SIMPSON
PHOTO COURTESY OF DONALD MAKOSKY

JOHN SIMPSON AND MARGARET DICKSON

(2.2) John Simpson, (William¹), was the second child of Doctor William and Marguerite Simpson. John was born about 1811; near Ditto's Landing in Madison County, Alabama. At that time it was known as Mississippi Territory. He died January 27, 1876, at his plantation home near Pond Beat, located between Triana and Ditto's Landing, in Madison County, Alabama. John was buried in the Simpson family cemetery, located in Section 18-5S-1W. SE NE, in what is now a restricted area of Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. He was buried beside his wife, and next to several of their children and grandchildren.

After the death of their father, John and his sister, Mary Simpson was living in the household of their stepfather, Hopkins Lacy. He married their widowed mother, Marguerite on July 15, 1817. They were living near Lacy's Spring, Morgan County, Alabama, shortly after the death of their mother about 1820.

The following documents were obtained from the Madison County Courthouse in Huntsville, Alabama, and are recorded in part as follows:

Madison County, Alabama, Probate Records

Book N, page 632: 17 February 1832. John Simpson, co-witness Sally Branson giving her interest and claim to certain land to John Hardie . . .

Book X, page 45: 6 March 1834. John Simpson to Frederick Jones, guardian of his children. George McLeod, on the 24th of December last executed title bond to Jones, the tract of land being a legacy to myself and to my sister the present Mrs. George McLeod, from my father's estate, the late Doctor William Simpson. Wit. John Hardie and J.B. Turner. Proved 16 October 1848, by the oath of John Read who swears to the handwriting of Hardie's signature, and believes said John Hardie has departed this life. Same Book, page 130: 1 February 1849. George McLeod, John Simpson and wife Margaret A. Simpson to Frederick Jones as guardian. Wit. J.H. Thomson, James Wells. Same Book, page 403: 31 January 1835. John Simpson and George McLeod and wife Mary to John F. Hobbs. SE 1/4 Section 8 T5 R1E. Deed [part of the document torn off] filed for record 18 December 1849.

Orphans Court Min. 6, page 258: 29 June 1835. John Simpson was security with John Hardie for William P. Terry who applied for Letters of guardianship on Jane G. Weldon, William A. Weldon, and Nancy S. Weldon, Children of James Weldon. [See also, Orphans Court Minutes 5, page 337. August 26, 1833; Probate Record Book 7, page 197. June 29, 1835.]

Orphans Court Min. 7, page 585: Campbell, Thomas G. died intestate; letters of administration issued to John Morris, with Nathaniel D. Snody and John Simpson,

JOHN SIMPSON AND MARGARET DICKSON

Access to Simpson Cemetery is not readily available. It lies within the boundaries of our test area which is secured because of the classified work. Therefore, arrangements would need to be made two weeks in advance of any visit, and an escort would be required while in the area.

Should you have further questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Ralph C. Perrill
Public Affairs Office

There are many interesting articles written about the pioneer families who settled in the area now known as Redstone Arsenal. Of particular interest is Weldon Payne's article for the Huntsville Times entitled, "Many Cemeteries Remain in the Shadow of Missiles" written Sunday, November 8, 1959. The picture in the article shows a Nike-Hercules anti-missile missile passing a gravestone. He writes, "despite the drastic switch of the area from a quiet country place into one of the busiest places in the country, this graveyard and about 59 others on the Arsenal property have not been molested and are, in fact, kept up by the Army". He continues, ". . . On one stone is listed the names of John Simpson, Margaret A. Simpson, Marion E. Simpson and Arthur M. Simpson. John's wife was born Aug. 9, 1816, died Aug. 31, 1874. Did she dream that some of the world's smartest men would someday walk in their backyard--in the years ahead after her country had fought three big wars".

On November 18, 1840, John Simpson married Margaret Ann Dickson near Whitesburg, Alabama. She was the daughter of James Dickson and Keziah Wood.² Margaret was born in the State of Tennessee, probably in Rutherford County where the family was residing before moving into Alabama.³ Margaret's dates of birth, August 9, 1816, and death August 31, 1874,⁴ are both listed on her gravestone which is located in the Simpson family cemetery at Redstone Arsenal.

²Pauline M. Jones and Kathleen P. Jones, "Genealogy of the Harris and Allied Families," (Huntsville, AL: December 1929), p. 31.

³Will of William Dickson, 17 December 1836, Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee, Wills 9:407-408. Also, Will of Enoch Dickson, 23 November 1840, Murfreesboro, Rutherford County, Tennessee. Will copied by Naida Dickson without recording source.

⁴Pauline M. Jones and Kathleen P. Jones, "Genealogy of the Harris and Allied Families," p. 31. The following notation was handwritten: *b. Aug. 9, 1815, d. Aug. 31, 1873. No source of information was given.

JOHN SIMPSON AND MARGARET DICKSON

Family Record from the Bible belonging to John Simpson, the title page is missing. Jane Byrd, who send this copy states, "This page was inserted in the family Bible belonging to John Alexander Steger, it appears to have been removed from some owner of this document is Mrs. Jane Byrd of Montgomery, Alabama. The original Bible has since disappeared.

FAMILY RECORD.	
MARRIAGES.	BIRTHS.
Marrried on 18 th Novemb 1840 by Rev. John Allen John Simpson to Margaret M. Dickson in the State of Alabama Madison County	Alexander Heath Simpson was born on Monday Octobr 4 th 1841
Marrried on 5 th February 1868 by Rev Mr Burr Allen Heath Simpson to Helen S. Steger	William Timmony Simpson was born on Monday July 21 st 1845
Marrried on 12 th January 1870 by Rev John G Wilson John Alexander Steger to Mary Ella Simpson	Monica Elli Simpson was born on Wednesday the 25 th Novemb 1846
	Mary Ella Simpson was born on Thursday the 12 Octobr 1848
	Henry Clay Simpson was born on Wednesday May 22 nd 1850
	Juriah Simpson was born on Thursday July 8 th 1852
	Arthur Marcus Simpson was born on Sunday Sep ^r tember 30 th 1855

JOHN SIMPSON AND MARGARET DICKSON

John Simpson and Margaret Ann Dickson were the parents of the following ten children.

- (3.7) 1. Alexander Heath Simpson, was born October 4, 1841, at Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married February 5, 1868, Helen Grey Steger. He died November 1, 1919, at Gulfport, Mississippi.
- (3.8) 2. William Timmons Simpson, was born July 21, 1844, at Ditto's Landing, Alabama. He died unmarried, January 25, 1877, at Jackson, Mississippi.
- (3.9) 3. Marion Ellis Simpson, was born November 25, 1846, at Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married Laura Kelly. He died, between 1902 and 1910, near Whitesburg, Alabama.
- (3.10) 4. Mary Ella Simpson, was born October 12, 1848, at Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married January 12, 1870, John Alexander Steger. She died October 30, 1896, at Huntsville, Alabama.
- (3.11) 5. Henry Clay Simpson, was born May 22, 1850, at Ditto's Landing, Alabama. He died before 1857, at Pond Beat, Madison County, Alabama.
- (3.12) 6. Juriah Read Simpson, was born July 8, 1852, at Ditto's Landing, Alabama. She died September 14, 1863, at Pond Beat, Alabama.
- (3.13) 7. Arthur Marcus Simpson, was born September 30, 1855, at Pond Beat, Alabama. Married April 20, 1880, Lura Lee (Dewoody) Cate. He died November 1, 1883, at Triana, Alabama.
- (3.14) 8. Henry Clay Simpson, was born March 14, 1857, at Pond Beat, Alabama. He died unmarried, February 26, 1918, at his home near Green Grove, Alabama.
- (3.15) 9. Zuma Margaret Simpson, was born March 13, 1859, at Pond Beat, Alabama. Married April 21, 1881, Albert Gallatin Proctor. She died July 3, 1929, at Alhambra, California.
- (3.16) 10. Emma B. Simpson, was born March 23, 1862, at Pond Beat, Alabama. Married R.C. Stubbs. She died March 4, 1893, at Montgomery, Alabama.

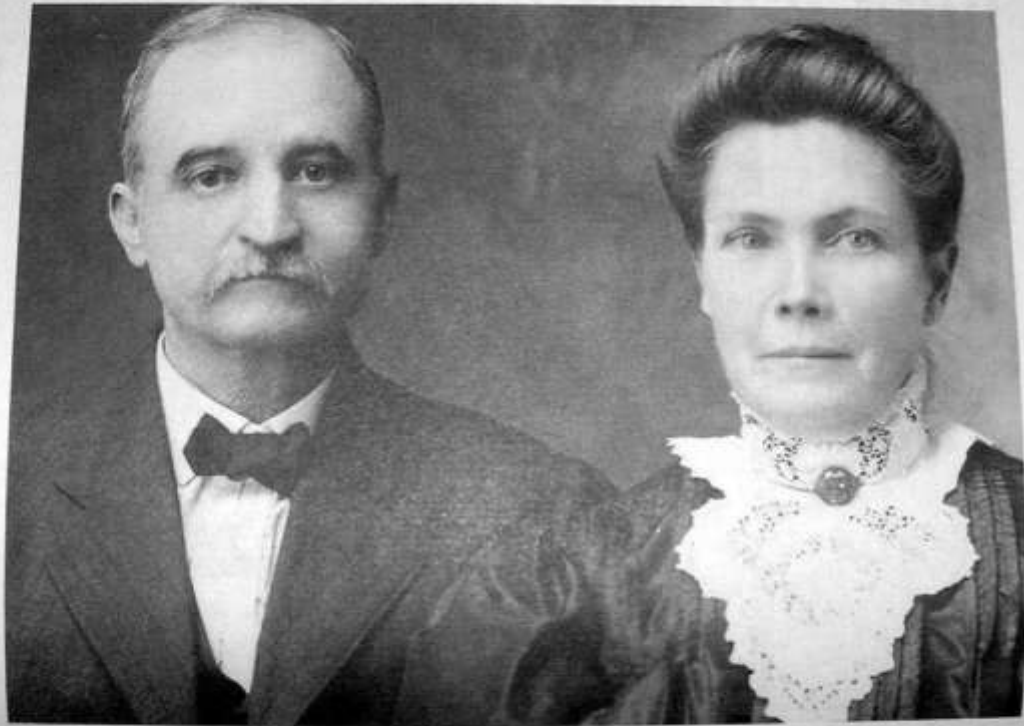
CHAPTER 11

THE FAMILY OF ALBERT GALLATIN PROCTOR

AND

ZUMA MARGARET SIMPSON





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ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

ALBERT GALLATIN AND ZUMA MARGARET (SIMPSON) PROCTOR
PHOTO COURTESY OF MARGARET TYLER

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON



ALBERT GALLATIN PROCTOR
PHOTO COURTESY OF MARGARET TYLER



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ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

PROCTOR FAMILY

L-R: STANDING: ALBERTA, ZUMA, ALBERT. SITTING: HUGH, MARCUS AND ROBERT PROCTOR

PHOTO COURTESY OF DONALD MARONEY

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

(3.15) Zuma Margaret Simpson, (John², William¹), was the ninth child of John Simpson and Margaret Ann Dickson. Zuma was born March 13, 1859, at Pond Beat, Alabama, and died of angina pectorals, July 3, 1929, at her home in Alhambra, California. She was buried beside her husband at Santa Ana, California.

PLACE OF DEATH, Dist. No. 1929
 County of Los Angeles
 City or Town of Alhambra
 or Rural Registration District

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
 VITAL STATISTICS
 STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
 Local Registered No. 3154

WARD (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)
2410 W. Alhambra Rd.

FULL NAME Zuma M. Proctor

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
SEX <u>Female</u>	COLOR OR RACE <u>White</u>	SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (Write the word) <u>Widow</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
MARRIAGE STATUS <u>WIFE of</u>	HUSBAND'S NAME <u>Albert G. Proctor</u>	DATE OF BIRTH <u>March 13 1859</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
AGE <u>70 years 3 months 20 days</u>	OCCUPATION <u>At Home</u>	CAUSE OF DEATH <u>Angina Pectoris</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
BIRTHPLACE <u>Alabama</u>	NAME OF FATHER <u>John Simpson</u>	CONTRIBUTORY CAUSE <u>Chronic Myocarditis</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER <u>Ireland</u>	MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Margaret Dixon</u>	WHERE DISEASE CONTRACTED <u>No</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER <u>Alabama</u>	LENGTH OF RESIDENCE <u>10 months</u>	OPERATION PRECEDES DEATH? <u>No</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
PLACE OF DEATH <u>Alhambra, Cal.</u>	THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) <u>Dr. W. Proctor</u>	WAS THERE AN AULOGY? <u>No</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Santa Ana, Calif.</u>	REGISTRAR OR DEPUTY REGISTRAR <u>D. J. Stewart</u>	WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS? <u>Symptoms</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>
ADDRESS <u>Alhambra, Cal.</u>	ADDRESS <u>Santa Ana</u>	DATE OF BURIAL <u>July 6 1929</u>	DATE OF DEATH <u>July 3 1929</u>

This is a true certified copy of the record if it bears the seal, imprinted in purple ink, of the Registrar-Recorder.

FEE \$2.00 MAY 4 1977

Registrar-Recorder
 LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



CERTIFICATE OF DEATH OF ZUMA MARGARET PROCTOR

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

Zuma Simpson was only 15 years old when her mother passed away and 17 when her father died. She was first raised by her twenty year old brother, Arthur Marcus Simpson, at the family homestead until February 21, 1878. On that date the Probate Court of Madison County, Alabama appointed guardianship to her brother-in-law, John Alexander Steger.

Madison County, Alabama Probate Court Case Number 3485:

The State of Alabama, Madison County.

Know all Men by these Presents, That we, Alex Steger, W.F. Jordan & K.H. Steger, are held and firmly bound unto WILLIAM RICHARDSON, Judge of the Court of Probate of Madison County, in the State of Alabama, and his successors in office, in the penal sum of Two Hundred & Fifty (250.00) Dollars, to which payment, well and truly to be made, we and each of us do bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, and dated the 21st day of February Eighteen Hundred and seventy-eight.

Now, the condition of the above Obligation is such, That whereas, the above bound Alex Steger has this day been duly appointed Guardian of the person and estate of Zuma Simpson an infant.

Now, then, if said Alex Steger shall well and truly perform all the duties which are or may be by law required of him as such Guardian, then the above obligation to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue.

Witness our hands and seals, the date above written.

Witness:

Approved the 21st day of
February, 1878)
William Richardson)
 Judge P.C.

Alex Steger (Seal)
W.F. Jordan (Seal)
K.H. Steger (Seal)

While on a job assignment in Tuscumbia, Alabama, Albert Proctor wrote the following letter to his sweetheart, Miss Zuma M. Simpson. The envelope was post-marked Nov. 29, 1880, at Tuscumbia, Alabama. The three cent George Washington stamp was located on the upper right side of the envelope. It was cut from an apparently anxious reader. It was addressed to Miss Zuma M. Simpson Brownsboro Ala / Care of Alex. Steger:

Tuscumbia, Ala
Nov. 28, 1880

Mifs Z.M. Simpson, Brownsboro, Ala.

Dear Miss Maggie,

I know you will be surpresed [sic] when you receive this letter and when you

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

read it, for I am going to ask, what I consider one of the most serious questions ever put to a lady, and you are the first one I ever asked such a question. Miss Zuma I love you and will you be my wife. I have been thinking about you most all day, whether or not I must write this letter to you.

This is something I have been studying for several weeks, but could not muster up courage to ask you untill [sic] now. I am aware of the fact that you know very little about me. I am poor as you know, and have to labor for my living, so I cannot promise you many luxuries, but think I can make a support for you if I keep my health and strength. My family name is good. The people in Jackson are not very refined and society is not as good as I have seen, but they are honest and clever. Now you may want to know why I write about the people well it is because my interest is in Jackson and I may make that my home for life and I wanted to tell you something about the people.

I am not very sentimental and do not know how to write what is called a love letter. I can only say I love you and want to know if you will love me in return and if so I want yours for a partner during life I leave this for you to decide.

There are many trials and troubles to overcome in this world of ours and I feel that I need [sic] some one to comfort me and help me overcome them, and have selected you for that one of all others, I want you to consider the question well and see if you think we can climb the hill of life together. I am tolerably high tempered, but not overly hard to get along with, but do not claim to perfect by any means whatever. I have no assurance whatever that you care anything for me more than a friend but hope you do, I have loved you almost from the time I first became acquainted with you.

I have never fully given my consent to marry untill [sic] this year because I consider this a serious business. I fear I could treat a wife as she ought to be treated but have concluded as others, marry and do well why not I also. Miss Zuma you can take time to decide this question, but I will ask of you to write to me immediately and give me some hope if you can.

If we can do nothing more I want us to still be friends. I saw Miss Hellen Wall & Miss Julia Ross¹ today, they are well. I go to Russelville tomorrow. If you get this by next (read at top 1st Page) Friday write to Gus. If not direct to Leighton. Write immediately cannot say when I will be back. Yours in hope Albert G.P. My ink is bad please excuse blotches. [sic]

A postscript was written as follows: "Monday morning. Be sure and write to me immediately whether you answer my question fully or not, for I want to hear from you in some way. Yours &c. Albert."

¹Helen Wall was the daughter of Dr. Alexander Alfred Wall and his wife Mary (McLeod) Wall. Julia Ross was a relative of Dr. Wall's first wife, Amanda M. (Ross) Wall.

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

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The State of Alabama--Madison County.

TO ANY OF THE JUDGES OF SAID STATE, ANY JUSTICES OF THE PEACE OF SAID COUNTY, OR OTHER PERSONS LEGALLY AUTHORIZED:

These are to Inform you, or either of you to solemnize the Rites of Matrimony between Al. Proctor and Mrs. Zuma M. Simpson of said County, agreeable to the Statute in such cases made and provided.

Given at the Office of the Judge of Probate of said County, this 18 day of April 1881. W. Richardson

Solemnized on the 21st day of April 1881 by R.D. Cook

Know all Men by these Presents, That we Al. Proctor of Madison County, State of Alabama, are held and firmly bound unto the State of Alabama, in the sum of Two Hundred Dollars, for the use of said State (for the due payment thereof, we bind ourselves and heirs, jointly and severally. Witness our Hands and seals, this the 18 day of April 1881.

The Condition of the Above Obligation is Such, That they said Al. Proctor hath this day prayed a License from the Judge of the Probate Court of Madison County, to be married to Mrs. Zuma M. Simpson Now, if there be no lawful reason to obstruct said marriage, then the above obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force.

H. J. Goggin - L. S.
J. S. Hoge - L. S.

STATE OF ALABAMA,
MADISON COUNTY.

Personally appeared before me, WILLIAM RICHARDSON, Judge of the Probate Court of said County, Al. Proctor and made oath that Al. Proctor a fit and lawful person to be married to Mrs. Zuma M. Simpson and that the above conditions of said license are true and legal.

Given and subscribed before me this 18 day of April 1881. W. Richardson

Marriage License of Albert Gallatin Proctor and Zuma Margaret Simpson

On April 21, 1881, Zuma Margaret Simpson married Albert Gallatin Proctor. They were married in the home of her brother-in-law, John Alexander Steger at Maysville, Alabama. Albert was the son of Robert Tinker Proctor and Margaret Lee Thomas. He was born December 14, 1853, in Jackson County, Alabama, and died of stomach disease, July 5, 1928, at his home in Santa Ana, California. He was buried beside his wife in the Santa Ana city cemetery, Santa Ana, California.

1900 U.S. Censuses for Madison County, Alabama, page 132-A:

PROCTOR, Albert G.	Dec. 1853	47	Farmer	Ala	Tenn	Tenn
" Zuma	Mar. 1859	41	(Wife)	Ala	Ala	Ala
" Alberta	Aug. 1882	17	(Daug)	Ala	Ala	Ala
" Robert	Mar. 1884	16	(Son)	Ala	Ala	Ala
" Marcus	Jul. 1886	13	(Son)	Ala	Ala	Ala
" Hugh	Aug. 1890	9	(Son)	Ala	Ala	Ala
" Julia	Apr. 1899	1	(Daug)	Ala	Ala	Ala

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON
1910 U.S. Censuses for Riverside County, California, page 228:

PROCTOR, Albert G.	57	Alabama
" Zuma M.	51	Alabama
" Margaret A.	27	Alabama
" Robert T.	25	Alabama
" Arthur M.	22	Alabama
" Hugh	19	Alabama
" Julia G.	11	Alabama

Madison County, Alabama, Probate Book 104, page 451:

Zuma M. Proctor and H.)	The State of Alabama,
To)	Madison County.
Henry C. Simpson)	

For and in consideration of the sum of One hundred dollars, to us in hand paid, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we, the undersigned Zuma M. Proctor and her husband A.G. Proctor do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto Henry C. Simpson, the following described real estate laying in the County of Madison State of Alabama, and described as follows, to-wit:

The north east quarter of section eighteen (18) the south west quarter of section seventeen (17), and one hundred and fifteen acres on the west side of the north west quarter of section seventeen (17), all in township five (5), range one (1) west, containing 435 acres, more or less, the true object of this conveyance being especially to convey unto the said Henry C. Simpson, all the interest in said lands that have been or may hereafter be vested hereafter in us by and through our interest in the estate of our deceased sister, Mrs. Emma Stubbs.

To have and to hold the above described real estate with all the rights, tenements and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining unto him, the said Henry C. Simpson, his heirs and assigns forever, covenanting to and with the said Henry C. Simpson, that we are seized in fee of said one seventh undivided interest in said estate of Emma Stubbs, deceased, excepting as to a life interest of R.C. Stubbs, and that we will forever warrant and defend the title to same from and against all persons whomsoever.

In witness whereof, the said Zuma M. Proctor and her husband A.G. Proctor, hereunto subscribe their names and affix their seals on this the, 7th day of March, A.D. 1911.

Zuma M. Proctor, (Seal)
A.G. Proctor, (Seal)

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

The State of California, Riverside County.

I, W.J. Martin, a Notary Public in and for said county and state hereby certify that Zuma M. Proctor and A.G. Proctor, her husband, whose names are signed to the foregoing conveyance, and who are known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the conveyance they executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date. Given under my hand and seal of office this the 7, day of March, 1911.

(Seal) W.J. Martin, Notary Public

My commission expires Apr. 17, 1912.

The State of California, Riverside County.

I, W.J. Martin, a Notary Public in and for said county do hereby certify that on the 7, day of March, 1911, came before me the within named Zuma M. Proctor, known to me to be the wife of the within named A.G. Proctor, who being examined separate and apart from the husband touching her signature to the within deed, acknowledged that she signed the same of her own free will and accord, and without fear, constraints or threats on the part of the husband.

In witness whereof, I hereto set my hand and seal of office this the 7, day of March, A.D. 1911.

(Seal) W.J. Martin, Notary Public.

My commission expires April 17, 1912.

The foregoing deed was filed in the office of the Judge of Probate of Madison County, Alabama, Oct. 11, 1911, and duly recorded Nov. 8, 1911.

W.T. Lawler, J of P.²

In her letter dated, June 30, 1989, Mrs. Margaret Tyler writes from Palm Desert, California: "My father's parent's Albert and Zuma Margaret Proctor, came from Huntsville, Alabama where Albert had been in the hardware business."

²Judge William T. Lawler was murdered on June 14, 1916. His body was found near the Aldridge Creek bridge, weighted down with railroad iron, clothes pockets stuffed with iron bolts. There were two bullet wounds in the chest and repeated blows to the head. Earlier that year Lawler had narrowly won re-election over David D. Overton, one-time Huntsville Police Chief who had resigned his position as circuit court clerk to challenge Lawler. Overton was later convicted of the murder after stating he had committed the act in self defense.

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

John Webb of the famous Webb Brothers Preparatory School in Bellbuckle, Tennessee encouraged the Proctor family to move to the Coachella Valley. In 1908, they purchased a ranch southwest of Coachella. "Albert was an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, a Mason, and helped finance and built the Masonic Temple in Coachella."

PLACE OF DEATH, Dist. No. 3001
(To be inserted by Registrar)

County of Orange
City or Town of Santa Ana
or Rural Registration District

California State Board of Health
DEPARTMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS
STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
(No. 1104)

Local Registered No. 154
Serial 28-036763

FULL NAME A. G. Proctor

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

SEX Male COLOR OR RACE White SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED (Write the word) Married

WIFE OF Zuma Proctor
DATE OF BIRTH Dec 14 1853

AGE 74 years 6 months 21 days

OCCUPATION Ret. Farmer

BIRTHPLACE Alabama

FATHER Robert T. Proctor
BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Alabama

MOTHER Thomas
BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Texas

PLACE OF DEATH Santa Ana Calif

DATE OF DEATH July 5 1928

DATE OF BURIAL July 6 1928

PLACE OF BURIAL Santa Ana Calif

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

DATE OF DEATH July 5 1928

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That attended deceased from July 15 1928 to July 5 1928 and that I last saw him alive on July 5 1928 and that death occurred on the date stated above on July 5 1928

CAUSE OF DEATH Cancer of Stomach and Intestines

Where was disease contracted? At home

Did an operation precede death? No

Was there an autopsy? No

What test confirmed diagnosis? Path. Exam. found

DATE OF REPORT July 6 1928

REPORTER Dr. F. T. Toothill

PLACE OF REPORT Santa Ana Calif

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CERTIFICATE OF DEATH OF ALBERT GALLATIN PROCTOR

ALBERT PROCTOR AND ZUMA SIMPSON

Albert Gallatin and Zuma Margaret (Simpson) Proctor are the parents of seven children.

- (4.39) 1. Margaret Alberta Proctor, born July 26, 1882, at Triana, Alabama. Married September 15, 1915, Claude William Hyde. She died June 25, 1972, at Vista, California.
- (4.40) 2. Robert Thomas Proctor, born March 6, 1884, at Triana, Alabama. He died unmarried, October 13, 1952, at Arkadelphia, Arkansas.
- (4.41) 3. Arthur Marcus Proctor, born July 9, 1886, at Triana, Alabama. Married first, 1912, Katie Sue Brewster. Secondly, 1945, Mrs. Delia Zimmerman. He died August 27, 1955, at Durham, North Carolina.
- (4.42) 4. Mary Louise Jones Proctor, born August 27, 1888, at Triana, Alabama. She died September 10, 1888, at Triana, Alabama.
- (4.43) 5. Hugh White Proctor, born August 5, 1890, at Triana, Alabama. Married first, July 28, 1915, Grace Angele Makosky. Secondly, November 7, 1942, Dorothy Elizabeth Pray. He died July 15, 1976, at La Jolla, California.
- (4.44) 6. Henry Simpson Proctor, born December 16, 1896, at Huntsville, Alabama. He died December 20, 1898, in Madison County, Alabama.
- (4.45) 7. Julia Graham Proctor, born April 17, 1899, at Huntsville, Alabama. Married August 14, 1922, Frank Charles Makosky. She died October 11, 1964, at Alhambra, California.



Ceremony at old cemetery honors pioneer citizen

Descendants of one of Huntsville's pioneer families assembled at their ancestral cemetery here Sunday to dedicate a memorial marker to Dr. William Simpson, a prominent settler who emigrated from Ireland about 1804 after being sentenced to death by hanging for political activity.

The Simpson cemetery, located east of Dodd Road inside Test Area I, is a small plot containing several 19th century burials. It was established by Dr. Simpson's son John, born in 1811, whose family and descendants lived for many years on land that became Redstone Arsenal.

Dr. Simpson came to Madison County when it was part of the Mississippi Territory prior to Alabama statehood. He staked out a squatter's claim near Ditto Landing, purchased it from the government land office in 1809 and went on to amass large land holdings in the area. He died in 1816, about age 56, and was buried at Hobb's Island in an unmarked grave.

His great-great-grandson, Dennis Simpson of Hollywood, Calif., who has written a 400-page book about the Simpson family and has another volume nearly finished, arranged the memorial service and obtained from the Veterans Administration a bronze marker commemorating Dr. Simpson's service in the War of 1812. At Horseshoe Bend, Dr. Simpson reportedly helped treat and save the wounded leg of Sam Houston who became president of the Republic of Texas.

Dr. Simpson along with John Hunt was a founding member of the Madison Lodge -1, Alabama's oldest Masonic group, which is now known as Helion Lodge -1. It was represented at the memorial dedication by a contingent and the two top Masons in Alabama, Grand Master Floyd Hambrick and his deputy David Shrey, also attended.

The memorial service included a 21-gun salute from MICOM's ceremonial platoon unit under SSgt. Jeffery Wilson. SSgt. Archie Brown led a three man military color guard. SSgt. Charles Wright blew taps.

In preparation for the ceremony, Charles Hubbert, a University of Alabama archaeologist on assignment to the Environmental Office here, arranged to have the monuments professionally restored and the old iron fence surrounding Simpson cemetery painted.



MEMORIAL — An old family cemetery inside Test Area I was the site Sunday of a memorial service for Dr. William Simpson, one of the first people to settle in Madison County. A Veterans Administration bronze plaque was placed in memory of Simpson who served in the War of 1812.

APPENDIX F
DOCTOR WILLIAM SIMPSON - MEMORIAL SERVICE

Finding Dennis Simpson's published works about the Simpson and related families has proved to be a windfall, for the meticulous and exhaustive research that he has already done. Moreover, his gracious permission to use the material has been greatly appreciated. His efforts have honored his ancestors in an outstanding manner, and now some of them rest under the close protection of the United States Army at Redstone Arsenal in Madison County, Alabama, in one of the most historically significant cemeteries in the region.

Prepared by John P. Rankin, September 3, 2005