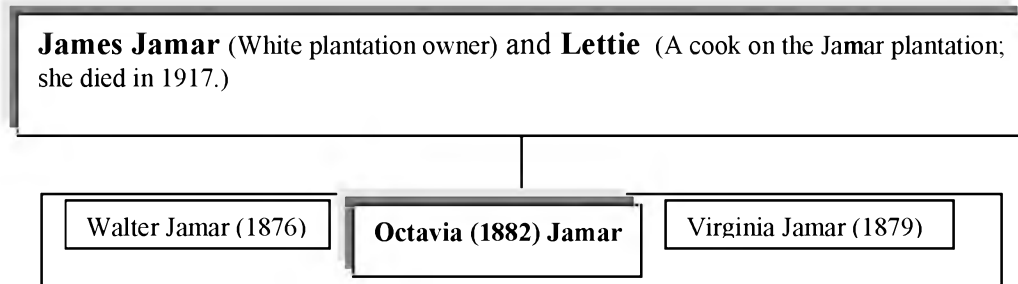
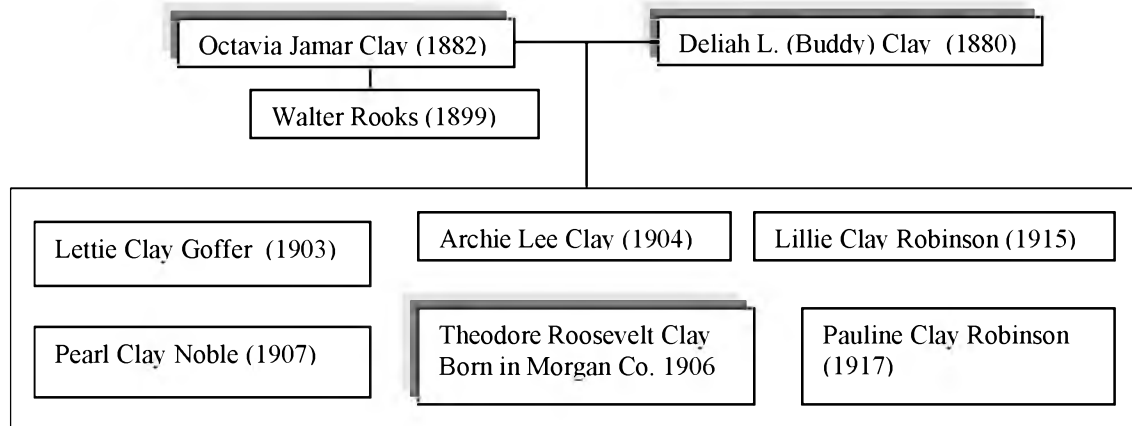


away: “The other two children were big enough to walk; Grandmother [Octavia] was a babe in arms. It was said Lettie went to Mississippi, but this isn’t verified.” She later married a Patterson and gained both a husband and a last name.



Elnora commented that to look at her grandmother, “you couldn’t tell her from White folks.” Octavia had one child, Walter Rooks, prior to her marriage to Buddy. Octavia and Buddy were the parents of Lettie Clay Goffer (1903), Archie Lee Clay (1904), Theodore Roosevelt Clay (1906), Pearl Clay Noble (1907), Lillie Clay Robinson (1915), and Pauline Clay Robinson (1917).



In the early 1900’s the Buddy Clay family was in Pond Beat. They lived near Jamar Cemetery. Their yard didn’t have grass. It was hard-packed dirt, and they swept it. They did have a rug on the floor in the house. The Clays had a vegetable garden and grew their own food. They had their own cows for milk, hogs, and chickens. They also had a mule. During the winter, Buddy would kill a hog and peddle pork and eggs to the other homes in the community. James Long, who lived south of the Clays, remembered that Buddy Clay was deaf in his older years. Edith Woodward remembered the Clays and spoke well of them.

Buddy and Octavia’s son Theodore Roosevelt Clay (born in 1906) was a little boy when they moved to Pond Beat. Theodore Clay, Jr. said his father’s education was limited to