

Going back to the marriage record of Fred Jones to Phillippa A. Jackson in March of 1817, it is suggested that Maria A. Jones was likely a daughter of Fred and Phillippa. Maria was born in July of 1818 in Alabama, per the tombstone and census records. Similarly, the 1860 census showed that Albert H. Jones was born in Alabama around 1822, so he also could have been a child of Fred and Phillippa. The deed in 1826 from Isaac Jackson to his grandsons Albert H. and Dallas J. Jones implies that they were brothers or first cousins. However, the Dallas J. Jones who received the land from his grandfather Isaac Jackson in 1826 could not possibly have been the same Dallas J. Jones shown in the 1850 household of Fred Jones. That child of Fred and Phillippa Jackson Jones was listed as age 10 in 1850, so he was born about 1840. In other words, he was not yet born in 1826, when Isaac Jackson gave his grandsons some land. (Even Albert H. Jones would have only been about 4 years old at the time of Isaac's gift of land, assuming that this is the same Albert H. Jones that appears in the 1860 census.) It is not at all likely that Fred and Phillippa would have given two of their sons the same name (Dallas J. Jones – one born before 1826, and one born in 1840), but that is possible. The practice has been observed in other families in old census records, but it is quite rare and usually is done when the older child has died. Still, there had to be a very close relationship of Maria A. Jones Ward Hawkins and Albert H. Jones and an older Dallas J. Jones for all of the land records to fit with the census data. Today, the exact nature of that relationship is unknown.

While the precise reasons are also unknown for Maria A. Jones Ward Hawkins to have been residing in Havana by 1867, it may well be a similar case to other former Confederates who were known to have fled to Brazil when the Civil War drew toward a close in 1865. Whole colonies of Confederate States families moved to Brazil to continue living with the slavery and cotton-based system, so it would not be unexpected that some also went to Cuba for the same reasons. Whatever the reason, at least Maria came back (or her body was brought back) to be buried here. Others of her family and former neighbors are probably also buried in the Jones 37-5 Cemetery, but their identities can only be guessed today.

Prepared by John P. Rankin, August 26, 2005; revised September 19, 2005