

R. Clayton by the Marshal of the *Northern* District (or Territory) of *Ala*

SLAVES										FREE COLORED PERSONS										TOTAL	WHITE PERSONS					
MALES					FEMALES					MALES					FEMALES											
Under ten years of age	From ten to 14	From 15 to 24	From 25 to 49	50 and over	Under ten years of age	From ten to 14	From 15 to 24	From 25 to 49	50 and over	Under ten years of age	From ten to 14	From 15 to 24	From 25 to 49	50 and over	Under ten years of age	From ten to 14	From 15 to 24	From 25 to 49	50 and over							
1	1				3	2									16	4	13	9	4	4	3	9	4	6	57	1
					1	1																			10	
																									9	
																									4	
																									11	
																									12	
																									6	
																									57	
																									15	
																									4	
																									14	
																									51	
																									16	
																									11	
																									32	
																									50	

Gross Scruggs household

The Scruggs household included 21 male slaves and 20 female slaves. Adding those numbers to the free white household of 10, the total should be 51, but the total written in this census page is given as 51, unless the “7” is perhaps really a “1” that is slanted and has a smudge at the top. Alternatively, there could also be an error in the tally of slaves, or the enumerator simply made a mathematical error. In any event, in 1831 (soon after the census was taken), Gross Scruggs sold the land of the SW/4 of Section 14 in T4-R2W in two parcels. One parcel was sold to Elijah & Joshua Stamps, while the other was sold to Benjamin Bledsoe. Benjamin Bledsoe was one of the earliest landowners adjoining what would become the town of Madison Station in the 1850s, having purchased his land to the northeast of the “school lands” of Section 16, T4-R2W, on 2 February 1818. In 1834, Elijah & Joshua Stamps sold their parcel of the SW/4 of Section 14 to Benjamin Bledsoe also, leaving him in control of all of the SW/4. However, Benjamin Bledsoe didn’t keep the land very long, because in 1838 he sold his interest to Richard Holding. The Holding family kept the land until 1873, when it passed to the Carter, Trotman, and Whitworth families – all of whom are known white family pioneers of the town of Madison and the area around it. The land transactions are shown below for Section 14: