

A detailed woodcut illustration of a classical architectural capital. The capital is composed of several acanthus leaves arranged in a circular pattern around a central stem. The leaves are deeply lobed and have prominent veins. At the top of the central stem is a small, stylized floral ornament. The entire capital is set against a background of horizontal lines, suggesting it is part of a larger architectural structure.

This image shows a blank, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf from an old book. The page is framed by a decorative border consisting of a series of vertical, slightly curved lines. On the left edge, there is a small, dark rectangular label with a textured, possibly leather-like, border. Inside this label, the words "ty", "on", and "le" are printed in a serif font, separated by dots, suggesting a list or index. The page itself is mostly empty, with some faint, illegible markings and a small, dark smudge near the bottom center.

Volume XVIII, Number 4
Spring 2005

Middle Tennessee Counties

Bedford
Cannon
Cheatham
Clay
Coffee
Davidson
DeKalb
Dickson
Fentress
Franklin
Giles
Grundy
Hickman
Houston
Humphreys
Jackson
Lawrence
Lewis
Lincoln
Macon
Marshall
Maury
Montgomery
Moore
Overton
Perry
Pickett
Putnam
Robertson
Rutherford
Smith
Stewart
Sumner
Trousdale
VanBuren
Warren
Wayne
White
Williamson
Wilson

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

All meetings
(unless otherwise noted)
1:00 P.M.

at
Edmondson Pike Branch Library
5501 Edmondson Pike
just north of Old Hickory Blvd.
at Nippers Corner

Check our website for any changes
www.mtgs.org

May 21, 2005 –

Hermitage Heritage: Behind the Big House

Marsha Mullin & Elizabeth Kellar

Slide presentation featuring the genealogy of the slave families of the Hermitage. Archaeological insights reveal slave family life and culture at Andrew Jackson's plantation. Careful research has brought to light the family ties, social bonding, and daily activities of the Jackson slave community. Ms. Mullin is Chief Curator and Director of Museum Services at the Hermitage, and Dr. Kellar is Chief Archaeologist.

June 1-4, 2005
NGS Conference in the States
Nashville Convention Center
(see pp. 147-148)

Jul. 16, 2005
Putting Your Ancestors in Context
Linda Barnickel

Construct the time and place in which your ancestor, his family and friends lived and worked. General historical, topical and locality-specific resources will be identified and their value for the family historian described. Ms. Barnickel is a librarian and archivist in the Nashville Room, Nashville Public Library. She also serves as coordinator of the Veterans History Project.

MTGS meets on the third Saturday of January, March, May, July, September and November, unless otherwise announced.

Middle Tennessee

Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XVIII, Number 4, Spring 2005

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**Middle Tennessee
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**Middle Tennessee Journal
of Genealogy & History**

Editor

Charles A. Sherrill

Contributors in this issue

Gale Williams Bamman

Thomas K. Potter, Jr.

From the President . . .

Fellow Members:

As my first year as president of the Middle Tennessee Genealogy Society is drawing to a close, I would like to thank all of *you* for making it such a good one. As of the end of February we have more than 450 members of the Society. Our bimonthly meetings have been very well attended...to the point of running out of chairs on occasion. The November seminar featuring Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck of the Dallas Public Library was a great success, both in the number of participants and in the material presented by Mr. Bockstruck.

Our *Journal* continues to provide well-written and well-researched genealogy, our website is outstanding, and we have a competent, dedicated board of officers and directors who put in many hours to keep the Society running smoothly.

By now everyone knows that the National Genealogy Society annual meeting will be in Nashville in June and that we are the host chapter. Vance Little has marshaled a small army of volunteers who are vigorously preparing for an expected 2500 participants. But don't despair: if you haven't volunteered, there's still time. Information about volunteering is in this issue of the *Journal* as well as on our website.

And if you can't volunteer, we do hope you'll be able to participate in the meeting. I counted more than 120 separate sessions, not including workshops, which will be going on during the conference. Registration forms have been mailed to public libraries and other repositories around the state.

Then after the conference is over and we've all caught our breath, let's make 2005-2006 an even better year!

Sincerely,

Martha Gerdeman
President, Middle Tennessee
Genealogical Society

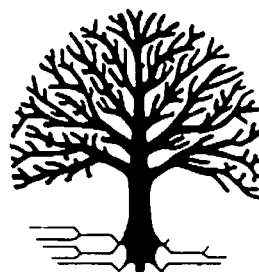
Formerly **Middle Tennessee Genealogy**. Published quarterly by the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, Inc., a not-for-profit society, P.O. Box 330948, Nashville, TN 37203-7507. © 2005. All rights reserved. Opinions expressed in the *Journal* are of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Society or the editor. See inside back page for *Journal* submission instructions.

Yearly memberships include four issues of the *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History*. Make check or money order payable to MTGS. Dues are \$25.00 per membership year, beginning of fiscal years on June 1. See back cover for details and application form.

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Our website: <http://www.mtgs.org/>

National Genealogical Society Annual Conference Comes to Nashville

June 1st through 4th, 2005



Middle Tennessee will host nearly 2,000 genealogists this June as experts and beginners gather together for the 27th Annual Conference in the States.

The GENTECH conference on genealogy and technology will be held simultaneously, bringing the best in lectures and exhibits to Nashville.

Lectures will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Wednesday through Saturday. Receptions, banquets and special events will be held in the evenings. The State Library & Archives will be open for extended hours.

Nationally known lecturers from across the nation will present a variety of programs. Topics include research in states and regions of the U.S., researching ancestors from various ethnic and religious groups, military and land records, internet searching, using scanners, databases, and much more.

The full program and registration info are on the NGS web site:

www.ngsgenealogy.org

No genealogist should miss this great opportunity!

Local Volunteers Needed for NGS Conference

Can You Help?

Yes, I would like to help the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society by volunteering for the June 1-4, 2005 National Genealogical Conference (Wednesday thru Saturday).

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Please circle areas where willing to help and state available times and days below.

Work before the conference: a. stuff envelopes _____ b. set up _____ c. computer work _____

Work at the conference: a. staff information and/or registration booths _____
 b. room monitors (direct traffic, assist speakers with lights, etc.) _____

Please list below any special talents that you have that might prove helpful in June 2005:

Thanks for volunteering!

Please clip this form and mail/fax

or

Photocopy and mail/fax

or

E-mail the information

Send to Shirley Wilson
106 Leeward Point
Hendersonville, TN 37075
fax 615-826-1125
email swilsonsntn@aol.com

Life & Death in a Convict Labor Camp

Tracy City, Grundy County

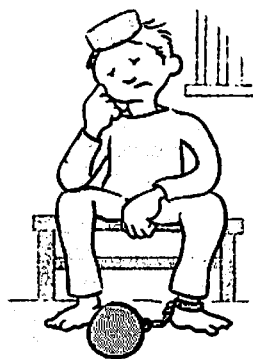
Coal mining in Grundy County began before the Civil War and eventually became the county's largest industry. It began sometime in the 1840s when Benjamin Wooten, a settler in the area that would become Tracy City, discovered a black substance beneath an uprooted sourwood tree. He and his sons found that blacksmiths in the valley toward Winchester would purchase this "black dyamint" to stoke their fires. In 1850 Leslie Kennedy, a young Irishman, arrived in the area and saw the potential for coal mining on a larger scale. With the financial backing of Nashville attorney William N. Bilbo, Kennedy bought Wooten's land and adjoining tracts.¹ Bilbo secured more capital from a group of New York investors including Samuel Franklin Tracy, who formed the Sewanee Mining Company in 1852.²



Convicts, ca. 1890³

A railroad was built and mining operations began on a small scale, but were interrupted by the Civil War. Following the war Arthur S. Colyar revitalized the operations as the Tennessee Coal and Railroad Company (TCR) and shifted to the production of "coke" rather than pure coal. By 1873 more than 100 coke ovens were in operation at Tracy City.⁴

Prior to 1873 the mining and furnace operations were conducted using hired labor, drawing increasing numbers of workers to the mountain. However, beginning in that year the TCR began using convict labor. Leased from the Tennessee State Penitentiary, these convicts cost the company \$1 per day, plus their room and board. By 1884 the TCR leased more than 60% of the entire population of the Tennessee Penitentiary system, working them in the mines at Tracy City and elsewhere. Convict labor became a source of large revenue to the state.⁵



The convicts were housed in a stockade originally built by the Union Army during the wartime occupation of the area.⁶ Living conditions were poor, and there was a high mortality rate among the convict population, the majority of whom were African-Americans. Oral tradition has passed down these verses sung by the Tracy City convicts as they labored:

¹ The 1860 Davidson County census shows William Bilbo, age 43, as a lawyer with \$30,000 in real estate and \$10,000 in personal property. He was born in North Carolina. Living with him were: Martha age 35; William, 7; Virginia, 5; Helen, 3; and Mary age 1. (District 13, page 238, family #1074.)

² Nicholson, James. *Grundy County*. (Memphis: Memphis State Univ. Press, 1982), pp. 27-29.

³ Library of Congress, Prints & Photos Division, Detroit Publishing Co. Collection.

⁴ *Ibid*, p. 67.

⁵ White, Robert H. *Messages of the Governors of Tennessee, 1883-1889* (volume 7). (Nashville: Tenn. Historical Commission, 1967), p. 116.

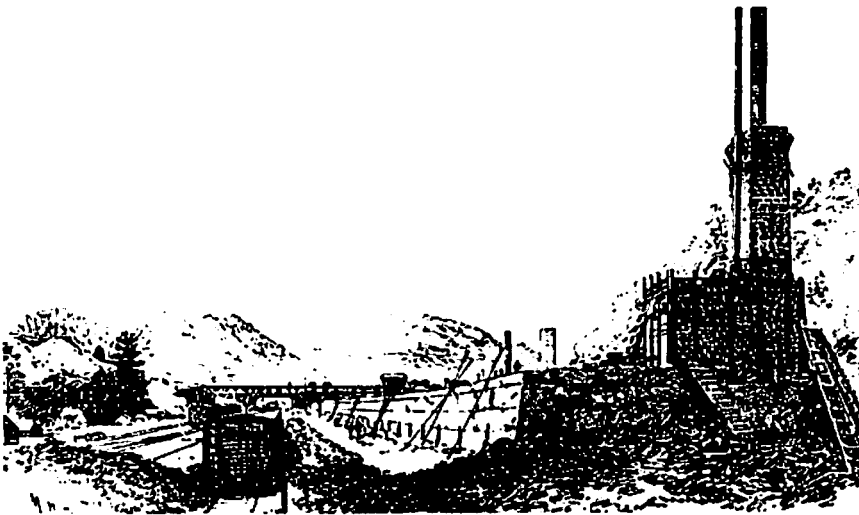
⁶ Nicholson, p. 67.

*Warden went down to Nashville
Stepped up to the Pen
Said to the Nashville warden,
'I want fifty of your best men,
Want to take them to Tracy
To work in the Lone Rock Mines'
Buddy, roll down the line.
Buddy, roll down the line.'*⁷

The convict leasing system met with disapproval on several fronts. Social reformers felt that leasing prison labor was an unethical sort of profiteering by the state. Local miners had even stronger negative views. They saw prison labor taking away the jobs once held by free men, and resented the depressed wages and limited job opportunities that resulted from convict labor. Grundy County historian James Nicholson wrote, "To the free miners and workmen of Tracy City, the extensive use of convict labor by the company was a festering sore, which in 1892 finally would come to a head."⁸

By the summer of 1892 there were 320 convicts working in the mines and coke ovens at Tracy City. A committee of miners went to Superintendent Einar O. Nathurst and demanded more work. 150 of them marched on the Lone Rock stockade, where the prisoners were housed, and forced it open. Training their guns on the convicts, they

forced the men out and burned the stockade to the ground. The rioting miners then marched the convicts to the railroad, loaded them into boxcars and ordered an engineer to send them on to Nashville. Between Monteagle and Sewanee, prisoners uncoupled one car and 13 of them made a break. At least one was killed, and two wounded, but six escaped.⁹



A Long Line of Coke Ovens, ca. 1900 (Library of Congress)

In 1893 newly-elected Governor Peter Turney declared that the most difficult problem facing the Legislature was the Penitentiary problem. He recommended that the state begin preparing for the abolition of the convict lease system.

To that end, the Governor appointed a committee of legislators to visit the various convict labor sites and report on conditions there. The committee that visited Tracy City was comprised of Senators R.M. Barton, Jr., Hardin Leech and J.R. Penland, along with Representatives H.P. Doyle, J.J. Newport, Geo. B. Hicks and A.J. Williford.

Report of the Sub-committee to Visit Prisons to Gov. Peter Turney, 1893¹⁰

Tracy City Branch Prison. Your committee, having completed its work at Inman, next visited the branch prison at Tracy City, in Grundy Co., TN, where we found what is said to be the largest coal and

⁷ Nicholson, p.67.

⁸ Nicholson, p.67.

⁹ Nicholson, p.70.

¹⁰ White, *Messages*....., pp. 487-489.

coking industry in the State, owned and conducted by the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railway Company, and operated by convict labor.

We here found 523 convicts - 145 whites and 378 colored. Many of these are employed at the coke ovens and others in the mines in the vicinity of Tracy City. Your committee did not find things altogether as satisfactory here as at Inman, but better than at Coal Creek and Oliver Springs. The convicts appeared to be worked harder, and less attention given to their clothing, bedding and sleeping. The work at the Coke ovens is not only hard work, but those employed at these posts are exposed to all the inclemency of the weather, such as rain and snow, which they cannot avoid and do their tasks. None of these convicts at this place are furnished night shirts; but such as have them, sleep in an undershirt and the pants that they wear during the day, while others, and the majority, are forced to sleep in the clothes that they work in during the day, whether at the coke ovens or in the mines. This conduct on the part of the management here, for failing to provide clean or dry clothing for the convicts to sleep in at night, cannot be too strongly condemned.

The day your committee visited this prison, it happened to be raining and snowing, and hence, very disagreeable to those who worked at the coke ovens. Some of them were examined personally by members of the committee, and they were found to have on only a shirt, pantaloons, hat, shoes and socks, all of which were as wet as it was possible for them to be. And yet they were forced to sleep in this clothing, if any at all, when night came. The commonest instinct of man teaches us that this not human treatment, even though visited upon a convict, and those who are guilty should be required either to make amends or be removed from their posts of duty, and others substituted in their stead who will do their duty.

It is proper to state here that we were informed by those in authority that sleeping shirts had been very recently procured, and would be issued to the convicts at an early day; but, from the best information we could get, it had been about two years since night-shirts had been issued to them.

The committee is also of opinion that the punishment inflicted here is too severe in many cases. The officer whose duty it is to administer punishment is a large, strong man, and the last used by him rather a heavy one, being made of a leather strap fastened to a wooden handle, the leather being three-ply in thickness from the handle down to about the center, and two ply from the center to the tip; while all the other straps we saw were made of only one ply leather each. It was in proof that the offender was often whipped in presence of the other convicts, and that the skin was broken on the naked backs where the licks were laid on. The amount of punishment is determined by the Warden, and administered by him or a whipping-boss, and amounted to from five to thirty lashes.

We found the bedding at this place in moderate condition. Some of the ticks needed filling with fresh straw, and some of the bed clothing rather filthy, caused in large measure, no doubt, by the occupants sleeping in them with their dirty clothes on. There was no partition or railing to separate one bed from another, but they were laid side by side on a frame or scaffold. This is unfortunate, and has only existed since the stockade was rebuilt after the burning last August.

The sanitary conditions of this prison we think exceptionally good, and wisely directed by Dr. J. O. Sutton, the Prison Physician. He seems to thoroughly understand his business, and takes a pride in directing his part of the prison work. His hospital for the sick was neat and clean, properly ventilated, and in every way properly adapted to the care of the sick. His average sick list was, perhaps, about twelve out of 523 in this prison. No epidemics prevail here, nor at any of the other prisons.

The food for the sick in the hospital is prepared under the special direction of Dr. Sutton himself; and if what we saw is a fair sample - and we were informed that it was - then it is all that could be desired or expected.

We find the prisoners here all fed well, receiving sufficient quantity and variety. Vegetables of different kinds are furnished every day. The food is all well cooked and prepared. We here give a bill of fare or amount of rations used for one day for 500 men, which we learned was about an average day's allowance: sixteen bushels of meal, fifteen pounds of coffee, three hundred and eighty pounds of beef, twenty-five pounds of flour, one hundred and eighty-five pounds of bacon, one hundred and seventy-five pounds of beans, twelve pounds of onions, and two and one-half bushels of potatoes. As evidence that the convicts here receive a variety of wholesome vegetables, which is conspicuously absent at some of the other prisons, we saw, with our own eyes, a large store-house well supplied with peas, beans, apples, potatoes, hominy, onions, molasses, and many other articles of food which were furnished the prisoners.

One of the most commendable features connected with this prison is the convenient and well-regulated bathing facilities. A good bathing-house, with well arranged bath-troughs, is placed at the disposal of the convicts, and all required to bathe once a week every Sunday morning. The only objection seen to the present arrangement is that there are not enough bath-troughs to accommodate 523 men, only about twenty being able to bathe at one time.

In this, like the other prisons, we found a large percent of the convicts when sent there, afflicted with venereal diseases, about fifty percent of the negroes and twenty-five percent of the whites being thus diseased. And, in the same way we found the clothing issued to the convicts without regard to what suit each one had worn the week before and put in the wash.

The convicts here are assigned so much work per day as a task, and if he fails to complete his task, any day, he is allowed so many days to make it up, and then, if he fails, he is punished with the strap. A day's task for two men at the coke ovens is to draw the coke from six ovens and remove it to its proper place. Those who work in the mines are required to dig from three to four tons, depending upon the thickness of the coal and the strength of the man.

Your committee were not able to enter the mines at this place and investigate their general condition, for want of time and owing to the very inclement weather, and the further fact that there were four mines, and some of them at considerable distance from the stockade. But your committee wishes to state here that, as they are not experts in mine inspections, they would not be able to very intelligently report on this subject anyway, and that they regard it the duty of the Mine inspector to investigate and furnish full report to the General Assembly on this subject. Suffice it to say, however, that we heard nothing special against the sanitary condition of the mines at this point. The Mine Inspector testified that these mines were in a fair condition.

Some accidents have occurred here, as at other places, from falling slate, and other causes, but we are not able to state whether it is the fault of the convicts themselves or those directing the work, except it was reported to us unavoidable accidents.

Despite the efforts of Governor Turney and his Prison Committee, the bad conditions at the mining camps continued. In the summer of 1894 it was the prisoners who mutinied at Tracy City. Two men were killed in an uprising of convicts who protested the harsh treatment and bad living conditions at Tracy City. In January of 1896 the convicts were removed for good. Strikes and unrest among the paid labor force continued, however, and in 1904

the company moved its headquarters from Grundy County to Birmingham. Although mining operations continued into the 1960s, they were in a steady decline.¹¹

**Names of Convicts deceased at Tracy City
from Dec. 1, 1890 to Dec. 1, 1892¹²**

Name	Color	Date of Death	Cause of Death
Brook, Wm.	W	Nov. 28, 1892	Typhoid fever
Brooks, Paul	C	Nov. 30, 1891	Syphilis
Carpenter, Henry	C	Apr. 19, 1892	LaGrippe
Carroll, J.C.	W	Mar. 15, 1892	Pneumonia
Carter, Marshall (alias Carter)	C	June 7, 1892	Typhoid fever
Carter, Randle	C	Dec. 30, 1891	Heart failure
Caslenbury, Ed	C	Apr. 17, 1892	Mortification of bowels
Cole, John	W	June 28, 1891	Pneumonia
Flowers, Doss	C	Oct. 22, 1892	Consumption
Fuller, James	W	Nov. 3, 1892	Falling slate
Gray, Price	W	Apr. 23, 1892	Abcess
Hamer, Ticus	C	Aug. 13, 1892	Pneumonia
Hickman, Will	C	Mar. 15, 1891	Stab with knife
Holland, Brack	W	Feb. 7, 1892	Consumption
Jackson, Prince A.	C	Oct. 22, 1891	--
Johnson, Chas.	C	June 9, 1892	Bright's disease of kidneys
Jones, Bond	C	Apr. 3, 1891	Rupture
Jones, Jim	W	May 18, 1892	--
King, Phil	C	Feb. 27, 1892	Consumption
Knott, Will	C	Feb. 8, 1892	Consumption
Ledger, Adam	W	Nov. 19, 1892	Typhoid fever
Linard, Wm.	W	Dec. 18, 1891	Gangrene of lungs
Lowe, Blank	W	Oct. 26, 1892	Typhoid fever
Maxwell, Peter	C	Nov. 24, 1892	Bilious fever
Newton, Matthew	C	Oct. 30, 1891	Falling slate
Osburn, Frank	C	Nov. 6, 1892	Bright's disease
Paskell, Henry	C	Feb. 9, 1892	Consumption
Payne, Thomas	W	Mar. 29, 1891	Consumption
Powell, Peter	C	Jan. 2, 1892	Apoplexy
Price, James	C	Jan. 10, 1892	Typhoid fever
Reaves, Jim	C	June 7, 1892	--
Smithers, Rich	C	June 13, 1892	--
Waycaster, Dock	W	Jul. 20, 1892	Consumption
Williams, Tom	C	Apr. 16, 1892	Falling slate
Winson, Tom	W	Dec. 20, 1891	--

*Thanks to Wanda Gant of McMinnville and Janelle Taylor of the Grundy County Historical Society
for bringing the report of the Prison Committee to the Editor's attention.* ■

¹¹ Nicholson, p.72.

¹² Appendix to Senate Journal, 48th General Assembly, 1893. (Nashville: Marshall & Bruce, 1893), pp.110-111.

Preparing An Oral Family History

One Family's Chapter in a World War II Epic – (Part 2)

By Thomas K. Potter, Jr.



Sunny days, blue skies, and sea breezes embrace Anna ("Kiki"), 7; Mariluisse ("Mucke"), 11, with the family pet, "Friedolin," and Dieter ("Boy"), 5, in this meadow scene c. 1948 near Westerland, Sylt island, near the Danish border.

Combining oral history with diligent research, Tom Potter resumes the story of how his German-born wife and her family escaped invading Soviet forces in the waning days of World War II. In Part 2, the Lass sisters recall the flight from their Baltic seaside home to a new life in rural northern Germany. Here are childhood impressions of a wartime train trip, the surrender, and the hardships of early post-war days.

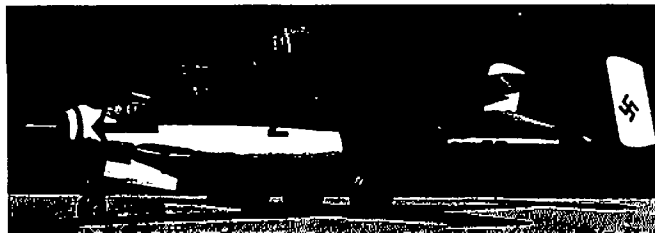
Das Leben wird vorwärts gelebt und rückwärts verstanden.

Life is lived forward, but it is understood in review.

--- From the visitors book, Golm Military Cemetery, Golm/Usedom, Federal Republic of Germany

In early February, the *1. Gruppe* of Herbert Ihlefeld's command, *Jagdgeschwader 1*, (Fighter Squadron 1) had been assigned to the Garz airfield for about a week before being ordered to Parchim west of Schwerin, and then to Ludwigslust. There the squadron became the first operational unit to be equipped with the "Volsjäger" (People's Fighter) jet, one of the new *Wunderwaffen* (Wonder Weapons). The new jets replaced the squadron's Focke-Wulf 190A/D fighters.

²⁵

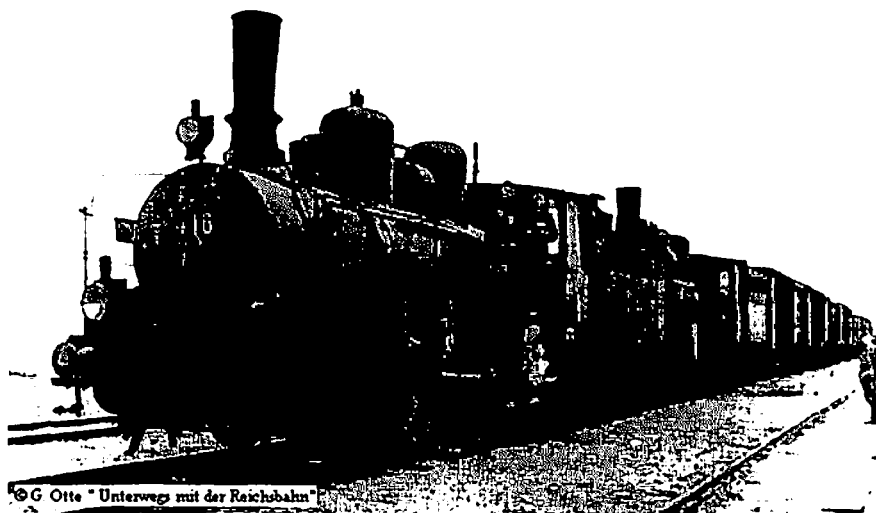


Heinkel He162A "Volsjäger" Jet carried two 20mm cannons and flew up to 600-640 mph. Developed in a crash program, the jet saw little combat due to shortages of fuel and trained pilots. ("Luftwaffe Fighter Aces & Aircraft" photo)

The new Heinkel 162A jet fighter, often called the "Spatz" (Sparrow), had been developed as a top-priority project in a remarkably short time at a plant in Marienhe near Parchim. Built of wood and non-strategic alloys, the new jet fighter was clocked at speeds of 600 miles per hour. From design to first flight required only 74 days, and within five months, several hundred of the new jet fighters were constructed under the most difficult conditions. On 7 April 1945, American B-17 bombers raided Parchim, seriously damaging the He-162 facilities and resulting in the transfer of *1. Gruppe* of *Jagdgeschwader 1* to Ludwigslust.²⁶

From *Fliegerhorst Garz*, the Lass family fled aboard a military train apparently transporting some of the planes and personnel of Ihlefeld's *Jagdgeschwader 1* to Leck in Schleswig-Holstein. Ihlefeld, a former schoolmate of Gertrud Lass, showed particular concern

for the family by allowing them to travel with his troops. The train apparently had priority clearance and probably boarded *I. Gruppe* and perhaps some of the squadron staff, equipment and supplies at Ludwigslust. The *II. Gruppe* and *III. Gruppe* were both on the Baltic coast in the Rostock area in late April. About 1 May, the *II. Gruppe* was transferred to Leck, and the *III. Gruppe* was disbanded and its most experienced pilots joined the other units.²⁷



Engine 416 with a WWII German train of freight cars. The engineer and fireman stand before the cab and a third crewman is at the cab door. Behind is a second engine. (Courtesy "Loks im Krieg" website and G. Otto, "Unterwegs mit der Reichsbahn")

Only from the data on the squadron's organization chart and history, discovered through Internet research, could these events, their relationship and sequence have emerged. The logical links were all connected: (1) the high priority inherent in the quick-time development of the new "Volksjäger" jet fighter, (2) its manufacturing site deep inside Germany, (3) the bombing of that site, (4) the subsequent moves, (5) eventual relocation far from the rampaging Red Army, and (6) the priority implications for the transport train.

The only civilians aboard the train seem to have been Gertrud Lass, her three children, Maria, and "Tante" Erika Grosse and her elderly mother. Erika and Gertrud had grown up together and their fathers also had been

close friends. She was a vivacious brunette, somewhat theatrical, and a romantic with a great sense of *joie de vivre*. Altogether the women and children occupied one-half of a box car somewhere in the long train far from the locomotive. The front half of the car was stacked from floor to ceiling with drums of black cable wire. In the rear, beyond the sliding doors, the floor was covered with straw. Here Muttschi, Maria and Dieter, Mucke and Kiki slept on one side, and Frau Grosse and her mother on the other side. The only equipment was buckets which served as chamber pots, fire bricks, which were heated outside and used for cooking or warmth, and, remarkably, a gramophone with several records. Among the many favorites was "Roter Mohn, Warum Welkst Du Denn Schon?" (Red Poppy, Why Are You Wilting So Soon?)²⁸

Amazingly clear and crisp. Memories shaped by close living in new quarters. I sleep here; you sleep there. Here is food; there is warmth. And all over the joy of music. Popular songs of the Thirties and Forties. Songs for singing. Songs for surviving.

Life underway was punctuated by the threat of air attacks, occasional slow-downs or stops permitting foraging, hidden days in the woods, nights underway again, and the risk of being left alone by sudden departures. Once the train moved out suddenly --- perhaps under threat of enemy air attack. The women and children were in danger of being left behind. But a throng of troops -- either *Luftwaffe* soldiers who were also passengers or other soldiers camped in the area --- broke and ran after the train, sweeping up the women and children and returning them safely aboard.²⁹

Years later, Mariluise said, Muttschi would recall their rescue by the soldiers, always expressing gratitude that every one in the family was swept up into the departing train: "So very many, many hands have helped us!"

Amusing the children was often difficult, but the photo album always made it easier. Muttschi had snatched it up with other belongings as they hurried from Misdroy. She had thought it was an album of family photos, but it actually was a collection of photos from the *Baltenschule*, including school theater productions. The many photos of 17th century swashbucklers and ladies-in-waiting resplendent in their rental costumes from Berlin were delightfully amusing to the Lass children. They claimed the album as their very own picture book.³⁰

Daylight hours were usually spent under the cover of forests to avoid enemy air attacks. During these stops, *Frau Grosse*, Maria and Muttschi would build a fire, heat the bricks and prepare a simple meal. Foraging usually yielded vegetables from abandoned village gardens, and Muttschi often returned with armloads of garden flowers which temporarily graced the waste buckets and brightened their box car home.³¹

Memories of the colorful bouquets still glowed in Mariluise's eyes and lingered in a warm smile.

"How remarkable," she said, "that our mother took the time in the midst of a vegetable garden to first gather flowers from its edges. She wanted us to have that beauty as well as food."

Despite dangers and deprivation, the two little sisters experienced the train trip as an exciting new adventure --- better than camping, but in a new rolling home --- always wandering to new sights, sounds and places. It was all thrilling to little eyes and big imaginations. Mariluise sat in the open doorway of the car marveling at the beauty of spring. Trees were budding. The countryside was greening. The air was fresh and sweet. The train was slowly making its way toward the railhead of Plön, a city in Schleswig-Holstein.³²

After a journey of several weeks, the train reached its destination at *Fliegerhorst Leck*, a *Luftwaffe* airfield, about the time of Adolf Hitler's April 20 birthday -- a major national holiday. The village of Leck stood west

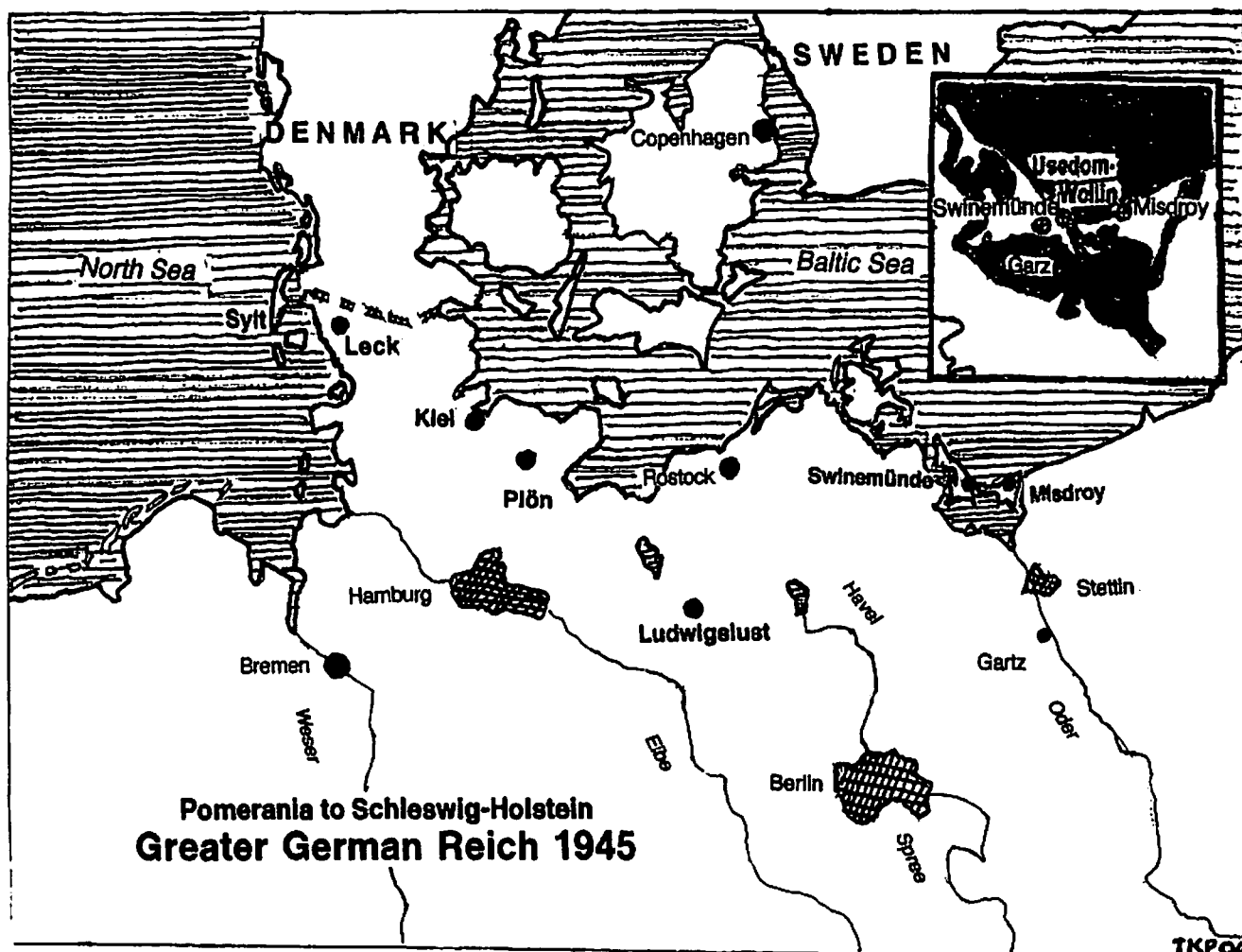
of Flensburg in the flat farmland of Schleswig-Holstein. Here the squadron took up its new post, manned by 50 pilots and about 250 other personnel organized in six echelons and equipped with 50 new Heinkel He162A *Volksjäger* jet fighters.³³



Fighter Squadron Commanders Confer on the airfield at Leck in late April or early May 1945, Col. Herbert Ihlefeld (left), squadron commander, discusses pre-surrender procedures with group commanders. In the background stands 50 He 162A jets, awaiting delivery to the Allies. (MombEEK, *Defenders of the Reich*..., Classic Pubs., 2003.)

Before long, the *Luftwaffe* troops prepared gardens behind the school and built a tiny two-room wooden house, providing more privacy for *Frau Lass*, Maria and the children. One day they surprised *Frau Lass* with a cut of freshly-butchered mutton, which also yielded *Hammelfett* or mutton fat, a traditional favorite spread for bread. Later the Lass family, *Frau Grosse* and her mother were provided with quarters in the Schmörholm Barracks.³⁴

Next they were moved into the abandoned *Nordmark Schule* which had been pressed into service as a military hospital with three-tiered bunks lining each floor. One classroom was temporarily assigned to the Lass family, providing living and sleeping quarters, but cooking was done at outside kitchen. The lively and dramatic Tante Erika was paired with "*mein Furst*" (my Prince), an attentive officer, in other rooms, and her aged mother was nestled nearby.³⁵



The Lass family evacuation route in March-April 1945 began in Misdroy and progressed westward via Swinemünde, Garz, Ludwigslust and Plön to Leck, a trip of about 476 miles and six weeks, including two layovers. Underway, the train averaged about 20 miles per day.

During those lackluster days at Leck, a bit of excitement and adventure was always stirring in the minds of Tante Erika and Muttschi. They were often dreaming and scheming for a grander future. One such idea was a "Varieties" stage production or cabaret theater to entertain the troops and public. The fantasy even took them to Flensburg to investigate possibilities and to interview prospective performers. In the end, they entertained only themselves.³⁶

The interlude at Fliegerhorst Leck, Schmörholm Barracks, and Nordmark Schule was during the last days before the formal surrender. Afterward, Ihlefeld, his pilots, support troops and jets were surrendered to the British Army. Ihlefeld and his men became

prisoners-of-war, and his He162A jets were shipped to Great Britain, the U.S., France and the U.S.S.R. for study and research.

Oral family history frequently nags with the question of what happened after a particular event. The answer may offer a clue to new discoveries.

Sometime after the unconditional surrender of the German armed forces on 8 May, 1945, the family was moved to Lager Osterholz, a refugee camp with several barracks about three kilometers from Leck. Living conditions here were spartan. The internees at the camp were all homeless, dispossessed persons who had fled from the eastern provinces of Prussia and Pomerania.

They had few belongings and no ready means of subsistence. By contrast, native Schleswig-Holstein farmers in the countryside, small towns and villages were relatively comfortable in their own undamaged homes and unspoiled farmlands, sustained by a fierce independence and a strained, but unscarred agricultural economy. They were not too receptive to the hordes of intruding strangers in their midst.³⁷

"Why," I asked Mariluise, "were German refugees so often discriminated against by their own countrymen in Schleswig-Holstein?" What seemed to me to be a disparity actually turned out to be that all-too-human trait of selfishness and scapegoating. Immigrants were unwelcome or even detested when natives considered their presence as aliens much too obvious, their numbers too great, their impact on the surrounding society too burdensome, and --- "they are not like us."

The *Lager Osterholz* barracks-home of the Lass family consisted of two rooms, one for storage and one for living, which was heated by a large iron stove. Firewood, vital to life during hard winters, was stored beneath the beds to aid in drying it, and also to prevent theft. The whole family was engaged in wood cutting. Children joined adults in felling nearby trees and chopping stovewood.³⁸

Foodstuffs and clothing were in short supply among the refugees. All were strictly rationed and available only with official coupons. Personal ingenuity, frugality, hard work, and the kindness of others were qualities which helped sustain life. Gardening, foraging, bartering, and "care packages" from overseas were some of the means of survival.

In the large quadrangle amid the half dozen or so barracks at *Lager Osterholz*, garden plots were apportioned to each family. Vegetables and flowers were commonly grown, but Muttschi, always resourceful, also planted tobacco seeds to supply her own smoking needs and to use in bartering.³⁹

Two goslings also were carefully raised and fattened. It was Mariluise's job to herd the goslings. In cold winter weather, she led them into the warm family quarters so

they would not freeze, but grow, fatten and eventually grace the family table.⁴⁰

Gleaning cultivated fields was important source of food. Women, children, and older men all scavenged through turned rows of earth, searching for overlooked potatoes. The small harvest helped stave off winter hunger. In the eyes of children, the Lass family potato cache was a large one. The potatoes were stored in a large armoire placed flat on the floor of the family quarters. At mealtime, the potatoes were baked in an open fire.⁴¹

Care packages from all over the world were distributed in the camp. Prepared to exact requirements, these mass-produced packets contained a selection of foodstuffs such as coffee, tea, chocolate candy, and powdered milk. The name and address of the donor was often found within the package. One donor was an elderly American widow in St. Louis, Missouri. Remembered fondly as "Auntie Sheppard," she and Muttschi corresponded for awhile.⁴²

Another donor was a university student in Sweden. On a St. Nicholas day during the earliest post-war years, Mariluise awoke to find her first real shoes in several years. They were brown leather, plain, and much too large, but a luxury and holiday treasure --- and just in time for winter. Like all donors of care packages received by *Familie Lass*, the Swedish student received a "*Danke Schön*" letter. Shoes and most other new goods were rationed and rarely available. For a time, Mariluise made do with an old pair of women's shoes with heels, but the soles eventually wore through and even paper stuffing would not keep out the cold and rainwater. Without good shoes, Mariluise could not walk to the newly reopened school in icy winter weather.⁴³

Even in a community as small and remote as Leck, the harsh realities of the times contributed to "Black Market" trading. *Reichmarks*, the wartime banknotes, were almost valueless, and trade by swapping goods was common. Muttschi and other women often ventured onto farms in the neighborhood to exchange care package coffee and chocolate for fresh milk and eggs. And all but two of the sterling silver soup

spoons, heirlooms bearing her father's monogram, were traded for necessities.⁴⁴

With the arrival of the icy *Hungerwinter* 1946/47, the coldest of the 20th century, the stuff of daily life --- food, clothing, fuel --- was sharply restricted and hunger gripped all of Germany. Black Market trading, swapping, bartering and hoarding were the tools for survival. The need for warm clothing and shoes became critical. After a barefooted summer and fall, the Lass children were ill-prepared for the snow and ice of a cold winter. Wooden soles were carved, fitted with straps to hold the foot, covered with secured canvas tops made from surplus army packs, and laced with twine. Thus they became shoes -- an improvement over heavily-worn layers of socks and burlap wrappings.⁴⁵



An old thatch-roofed Frisian house like this one quartered the Lass family in 1948 at Westerland, Schleswig-Holstein. The four of them lived in two rooms, sharing the house, kitchen and outdoor toilet with two other families.(Friesenhaus Morsum photo)

The experience of the immediate post-war years in occupied Germany are not easily comprehended by Americans today. This experience is beyond living memory in our society. Civil War recollections of a defeated American South carry themes similar to the burden of the post-WWII German experience -- destitution, despair, depleted farms, destroyed cities, damaged infrastructure, missing fathers, sons and

brothers, mostly the old, young, and wounded males at home, and women doing hardscrabble work in a bleak world now rebuilding and renewing itself through hard work and helping hands across borders.

Casting oral family history in the broader perspective of its era gives the story new vitality and depth -- feeling the human pathos of the story; understanding it on its own terms and in its own time, and trying to integrate it into one's own life.

When hostilities ceased, Anni Ernst also came west and settled in Kappeln, a fishing village on the Schlei River, about 70 kilometers southeast of Leck. She and her companion, a fishing boat captain, were joined by Renate, 4, who left the Leck refugee camp where times were difficult for the family. Tante Anni had secured

two attic rooms in a large house directly at the river piers. The owner, Arthur Koch, manager of a small packet steamer company, was required by the Allied military government to share his house with two other families. *Herr* Koch, his wife, his daughter, Inge, 4, and an older son lived above the restaurant on the ground floor. Two East Prussian refugees, "Tante Lotte" and her aged mother, resided in the master bedroom, and Renate and Tante Anni lived in the attic. So the family was temporarily divided, permitting Gertrud to reestablish her career as a

pharmacist while caring for two of the children in limited quarters. This was possible because Tante Anni took Renate into her own newly-assigned quarters and restored a semblance of normalcy into her neice's daily life.⁴⁶

While in Kappeln, Renate completed her first two grades in public school and discovered some of the small pleasures now entering her daily life. Before the issuance of new coins, small change was produced as banknote strips. Given a small strip worth only 10



Renate Anna Lass-Potter and Mariluise Lass Zöllner, Hamburg, Germany, pause for this photo in Nashville in November 2004 while recording the story of their escape from invading Soviet forces in March-April 1945 and the hard life of a refugee in the early post-WWII years.

pfennige. Kiki excitedly made a very special purchase - a green lollipop molded in the form of a monkey.⁴⁷

A vivid and delightful flashback! Anna hadn't thought of it since she first licked that lollipop, yet it returned as the rare treat it originally was, as fresh and tasty as it was in 1948 or 1949. Just the thought of that licking-good green monkey was still delicious!

In March 1948, the British, American and French occupation zones adopted a common economic plan, and monetary reform became possible, evolving through American initiatives in the European Recovery Program. On 19 June, the monetary reform law was announced and the *Deutsche Mark* (DM) was introduced. Each person received 40 DM "*Kopfgeld*," the value of personal and real property strongly increased, and eventually goods returned to store shelves. In the next year, the new *Bundesrepublik Deutschland* (Federal Republic of Germany) was founded and began a phenomenal economic revival, the *Wirtschaftswunder*.⁴⁸

The term "Kopfgeld" or allowance per person brought a smiles and chuckles to the Lass sisters as they recalled the wonder and excitement at receiving new riches.

With the adoption of monetary reform, Gertrud Lass, Mariluise, 11, Renate, 7, and Dieter, 5, next relocated not far away to Westerland, a small town on the island of Sylt, just off-shore in the North Sea. The family was at last reunited and quartered together in two very small, allotted rooms in a 300-year-old Frisian house --- the oldest on the island --- with a thatch roof, no

heating, poor wiring which often caught fire, a kitchen and an outhouse shared with two other resident families, and an overgrown garden with many gooseberry bushes and a large elder bush clinging to the wall. Gertrud resumed her career as a pharmacist in the local apothecary. She was now the family breadwinner, but beginning in 1949, welcomed additional subsistence was provided by the new *Bundesrepublik*.

The old Frisian house still stands, surviving several owners, and now transformed into a fine restaurant, "Die Alte Friesenstube," and private home. The roof is still made of thatch. The quaintness and charm are still there. Once a decaying centuries-old shelter for several war-weary families, it is today an expensive, renovated antique amid a premiere seaside summer resort area.

It had been five hard years since the flight from Misdroy, a journey of about 765 km (or 420 miles) and 38 days to Leck. The family had survived and put down new roots in a Germany that was rebuilding and thriving, but their future would be one without a father whose fate remained a mystery for another half-century.⁵⁰

Conclusion

Oral family history is an heirloom. If you have a personal story to share or if you have beloved elders in your family whose own personal story has yet to be preserved, it is time to begin. Dig it out; verify and enhance it with research; put it in sequence; make your outline; shape the story; record it in the voice of the owner, using good sound equipment.

Anna and Mariluise's story of their flight in 1945 has been recorded in their own voices, following a brief outline of key events and vignettes. A written account will be printed as a companion piece to the computer-disc recording. Together they will be presented as a gift to the four grown children in the next generation, to the six grandchildren in the newest generation, and to those who follow.

Sources:

25. "Jagdgeschwader 1," Feldgrau, <<http://www.feldgrau.com/JG1.htm>>. A Jagdgeschwader or fighter squadron normally was comprised of three to four Gruppe (Groups) or about 124-212 planes. A Gruppe consisted of about 40 planes organized in three Staffeln (Echelons) of 12 planes each plus three to four staff planes. A Staffel was made up of three Schwärme (Flights) of four planes each. The basic unit was a Rotte (File) consisting of two planes. 26. "Heinkel He-162," <www.encyclopedia.freedictionary.com/Heinkel1%20He%20162>; also "The Heinkel He-162 'Volksjäger'," Greg Goebel, In The Public Domain, www.vectorsite.net/avhe162.html#m3. And the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institute, http://www.nasm.si.edu/research/aero/aircraft/heinkel_162.htm. The test flight of the first German jet fighter, Heinkel He280, occurred 30 Mar. 1941. German's vaunted Messerschmitt Me262 jet fighter was tested 17 Jul. 1942. 27. "Jagdgeschwader 1," Feldgrau; "Herbert Ihlefeld," <http://www.jg52.de/Ihlefeld.htm>. The first He162 was transferred from Ludwigslust to Husum on the Baltic Sea 14-15 April 1945, and Gruppe 1, Jagdgeschwader 1 was transferred from Husum to Leck on 16 April 1945. Ground crews began arriving in Leck on 18 April 1945, according to the website, "Jagdfliieger 1939-45," http://www.w2media.com/Jagdfliieger/Luftwaffe/Schmitt_Rudolf.htm. The transfer of Gruppe 1 to Leck and disbanding of Gruppe III found in *Defenders of the Reich, Jagdgeschwader 1, vol. 3, 1944-1945* by Eric Mombeek (Classic Publications, 2003, pp.292,297). Normally, one complete Gruppe occupied a single airfield. See website "Oskar Reschke," <http://hem.passagen.se/gallant/Reschke.htm>. The II. Gruppe, equipped with the He162, was stationed at Fliegerhorst Garz on Usedom from 3 Feb. through 7 Apr. 1945 and a Warnemünde on the coast outside Rostock from 7 Apr. to 30 Apr. III. Gruppe, equipped with the Messerschmidt BF109G/K, was at Rostock-Markgrafenheide 27-30 Apr. The squadron staff and I. Gruppe were both in Ludwigslust; the staff from 8-30 Apr. and I. Gruppe 9-15 April 1945. See "Jagdgeschwader 1," Feldgrau, <<http://www.feldgrau.com/JG1.htm>>. 28. Zöllner and Lass-Potter, 29 Oct. and 3 Nov. 2004. 29. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 30. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 31. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 32. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 33. Luftwaffe 39-45, <http://www.luftwaffe3945.hpg.ig.com.br/aero/he162.htm>; Deutsche Geschichte 1919-1945, <<http://balsi.de/Waffen+Gebaeude/Flugzeuge/he162.htm>>; Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004, remembers arrival sometime not too long before Hitler's birthdate. The estimate of personnel is based on the assumption of four mechanics or technicians per aircraft. 34. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 35. Zöllner, 29 Oct. and 3 Nov. 2004; Lass-Potter, 1 May, 19 Oct. and 16 Dec. 2000. 36. Zöllner, 3 Nov. 2004. 37. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 38. Zöllner, 29 Oct. and 3 Nov. 2004. 39. Zöllner, 3 Nov. 2004. 40. Zöllner, 3 Nov. 2004. 41. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 42. Lass-Potter, 1 May, 19 Oct. and 16 Dec. 2000; Zöllner, 3 Nov. 2004. 43. Zöllner, 3 Nov. 2004. Lass-Potter, 15 Nov. 2004. 44. Zöllner, 3 Nov. 2004; Lass-Potter, 27 Nov. 2004. Today, Mariluise and Anna each have one of the treasured monogrammed soup spoons. 45. Thomas Sävert, "Winter 1946/47," <<http://www.naturgefahren.de/winter4647/htm>>; "Die Währungsreform 1948 - ein tiefer Einschnitt im Leben der Deutschen," a project of Class BOS12b (1997-1998), State Technical & Vocational High School, Erlangen, Germany, directed by Hans-Joachim Schmüser, <<http://www.teachers-online.com/papers/vol-002/p006/reform48.htm>>; Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. Photos of a child's foot wearing an ersatz "shoe" with a wooden sole, cloth top and string tie, and another child's foot fitted with layered socks and burlap wrapping appear in W. G. Sebald's *Luftkrieg und Literatur* (Frankfurt: Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, 2001), p. 45. 46. Lass-Potter, 16 Dec. 2000. 47. Lass-Potter, 16 Dec. 2000 and 3 Nov. 2004. 48. "Die Währungsreform 1948...", Class BOS 12b, Erlangen. 49. Lass-Potter, 1 May, 19 Oct. & 16 Dec. 2000, 15 Nov. 2004, and as posted 3 July 2004 in the *Alte Friesenstube* guestbook <<http://www.altefriesenstube.de>>. The restaurant was successfully operated by the Stricher family, also refugees from Pomerania, during the 1950s. Today, the restaurant is operated by the Schacht family. 50. It is estimated that the family traveled by truck about 30 km or 19 miles from Misdroy to Garz; then 735 km or 457 miles by rail. The estimated date of departure from Misdroy is 9 March 1945, and the date of arrival in Leck was about 16 April 1945, according to Mariluise Lass Zöllner. This is a total of 38 days. The net time underway by train is estimated at 23 days or an average of about 32 kilometers (20 miles) per day. An estimated 10 days were spent in Osternothafen and five to seven days in Garz. It is thought that the staff of Jagdgeschwader 1 was entrained at Fliegerhorst Garz and that the I. Gruppe boarded at Ludwigslust with their equipment. Air raids, railroad repairs, rerouting, loading troops, equipment and supplies, and the generally chaotic conditions in the last weeks of the war contributed to the delay. Soviet forces occupied Misdroy, Wollin and the Oder estuary on 26 April 1945.

A Sleepy Village in Williamson County

The 1900 Census of Brentwood – Part II

Brentwood today is a city of 30,000 people, and one of the wealthiest communities in Tennessee. But in 1900 it was a sleepy village entirely separate from Nashville and Franklin, which now push at its borders. Brentwood itself sits on the line between Williamson and Davidson counties, but for most purposes the 15th Civil District of Williamson County can be said to encompass the community. The following census records, transcribed by Jean Waggener for the Brentwood Library, show a community mainly comprised of farmers. A sprinkling of tradesmen and professional people also appear. The presence of toll-gate keepers Ella Kelly and Mrs. J. Lane reminds us that Brentwood was on the Franklin Pike, and the residency railroad laborers, “rousty bouts” and railroad superintendent Charley Phelps signify the village’s place along two railroad lines.

House	Surname	Given Name	Relation	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth place	Fath. Birth place	Moth. Birth place	Occupation
53	Moore	Robt. J.	Head	W	54	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Moore	John C.	Son	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	Book Keeper
	Moore	Henry R.	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Moore	William M.	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Moore	Charley C.	Son	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
54	Irvin	C R.	Head	W	37	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Irvin	James W.	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	
60	Barnes	James	Head	W	32	M 5		TN	TN	TN	Teamster
	Barnes	?	Wife	W	31	M 5	2-2	TN	TN	TN	
	Barnes	Johnnie	Son	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Barnes	Clarence	Son	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
61	Lipscomb	William	Head	W	70	M		TN	VA	VA	Professor
	Lipscomb	Allie	Wife	W	46	M	0-0	TN	KY	KY	
65	Staggs	Owen S.	Head	W	45	M 15		TN	TN	TN	RR Foreman
	Staggs	L.M.	Wife	W	35	M 15	6-6	TN	TN	TN	
	Staggs	Lena W.	Dau	W	13	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Staggs	Marshall	Son	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Staggs	Henry	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Staggs	Owen S., Jr.	Son	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Staggs	Mattie	Dau	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Staggs	Charley	Son	W	3	S		TN	TN	TN	
79	Wooten	James	Head	W	35	M 15		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Wooten	Maggie	Wife	W	30	M 15	4-4	TN	TN	TN	
	Wooten	Alice	Dau	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Wooten	Nettie	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Wooten	Aria	Dau	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Wooten	Adalia	Dau	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
80	Martin	Fred R.	Head	W	35	M 14		VA	SC	SC	Farmer
	Martin	Bettie S.	Wife	W	32	M 14	4-4	TN	TN	TN	
	Martin	Frederic R.	Son	W	12	S		TN	VA	TN	At School
	Martin	Jessie C.	Dau	W	10	S		TN	VA	TN	At School
	Martin	Minnie S.	Dau	W	8	S		TN	VA	TN	At School
	Martin	William M.	Son	W	4	S		TN	VA	TN	
81	Greer	Winfield W.	Head	W	49	M 18		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Greer	Martha C.	Wife	W	46	M 18	5-5	TN	TN	TN	
	Greer	Maury N.	Son	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Greer	Henry T.	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Greer	Charley S.	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Greer	Martha C.	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Greer	Katie N.	Dau	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	
84	Redmond	A. Rud	Head	W	25	M 5		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Redmond	Jennie B.	Wife	W	25	M 5	3-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Redmond	James F.	Son	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Redmond	Maud E.	Dau	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Redmond	Mary L.	Dau	W	1	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Shy	Maud E.	Sis in Law	W	28?	S		TN	TN	TN	

House	Surname	Given Name	Relation	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth place	Fath. Birth place	Moth. Birth place	Occupation
	Orman	Robert C.	Boarder	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	Telegraph Operator
	Orman	Ben F.	Boarder	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	Telegraph Operator
86	Oden	Dr. S. F.	Head	W	51	M 25		TN	TN	TN	Doctor of Farms?
	Oden	Mollie	Wife	W	45	M 25	8-7	TN	TN	TN	
	Oden	Thomas	Son	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	Physician
	Oden	Buist	Son	W	22	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Oden	Lewis	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Oden	Rebecca	Dau	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Oden	Johnnie	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Oden	Robert	Son	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Oden	Marion	Son	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
89	Moore	Hugh C.	Head	W	54	M 28		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Moore	Kate	Wife	W	48	M 28	6-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Moore	Allen J.	Son	W	23	S		TN	TN	TN	Dentist
	Moore	Hugh C.	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Moore	Robert I?	Son	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
90	Robinson	Billie	Head	W	42	M 11		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Robinson	Susie	Wife	W	41	M 11	2-2	TN	TN	TN	
	Robinson	Adeline	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Robinson	Daniel	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Roths?	Mrs. N.	Boarder	W	40	W	1-1	TN	TN	TN	
	Roths?	Robert	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Gwinn	Mrs. C.	Boarder	W	30	W	1-1	TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Gwinn	Georgia	Dau	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Guthrie	Miss Mary?	Sis in Law	W	50	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
91	Taylor	William	Head	W	30	M 11		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Taylor	Mary Lou	Wife	W	26	M 11	5-5	TN	TN	TN	
	Taylor	Charlotte	Dau	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Taylor	Sallie E.	Dau	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Taylor	Minnie C.	Dau	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Taylor	Henry	Son	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Taylor	Minerva	Dau	W	<1	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Taylor	Henry R.	Father	W	59	W		TN	TN	TN	Blind
	Taylor	Sallie E.	Sister	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	
92	Cotton	Mrs. Sallie	Head	W	53	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Mayfield	James A.	Brother	W	59	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
93	Lane	Tom M.	Head	W	32	M 15		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Lane	Amanda	Wife	W	30	M 15	5-5	TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Howard	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Lane	Huston	Son	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Lane	Harry	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Thomas	Son	W	3	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Robert	Son	W	<1	S		TN	TN	TN	
94	Lane	William A.	Head	W	51	M 27		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Lane	Elizabeth	Wife	W	50	M 27	5-5	TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Josephine	Dau	W	27	M	0-0	TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Mary	Dau	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Elsmore	Dau	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Lane	Earnest	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Lane	Johnnie	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
98	Holland	James L.	Head	W	30	M 8		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Holland	Mollie	Wife	W	30	M 8	3-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Holland	Louise	Dau	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Holland	Mazy?	Dau	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Holland	Earnest	Son	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
100	Venson	Henry	Head	W	35	M 15		KY	KY	KY	Farmer
	Venson	Lucille	Wife	W	32	M 15	6-6	KY	KY	KY	
	Venson	Mary Laura	Dau	W	13	S		KY	KY	KY	At School
	Venson	Annie B.	Dau	W	12	S		KY	KY	KY	At School
	Venson	Henry Jr.	Son	W	11	S		KY	KY	KY	At School
	Venson	Frank C?	Son	W	9	S		KY	KY	KY	At School
	Venson	Virgie A.	Dau	W	6	S		TN	KY	KY	
	Venson	Maggie E.	Dau	W	4	S		TN	KY	KY	
102	Lane	Harrison	Head	W	30	M 8		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Lane	Tillie	Wife	W	27	M 8	3-3	TN	TN	TN	

House	Surname	Given Name	Relation	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth place	Fath. Birth place	Moth. Birth place	Occupation
	Lane	Carrie	Dau	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Beula	Dau	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Lane	Lula	Dau	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
103	McGee	Thomas A.	Head	W	30	M 3		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	McGee	Belle D.	Wife	W	25	M 3	1-1	TN	TN	TN	
	McGee	Myrtle	Dau	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
108	Horton	Lou	Head	W	44	M 7		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Horton	Hattie	Wife	W	30	M 7	3-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Horton	Jennis	Son	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	Day Laborer
	Horton	Carrie	Dau	W	15	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Horton	Rosa	Dau	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Horton	Sam	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Horton	George	Son	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Horton	Frank	Son	W	1	S		TN	TN	TN	
109	Whitfield	Johnny H.	Head	W	39	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
111	Brooks	German	Head	W	30	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
112	Brooks	Charley C.	Head	W	27	M 8		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Brooks	Katie B.	Wife	W	26	M 8	2-2	TN	TN	TN	
	Brooks	Lucille	Dau	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Brooks	Marshall	Son	W	3	S		TN	TN	TN	
113	Whitehurst	John	Head	W	50	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Whitehurst	Hugh F.	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Whitehurst	Edward D.	Son	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	Day Laborer
	Whitehurst	Minnie	Dau	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Whitehurst	Florence N.	Dau	W	13	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Whitehurst	Maggie C.	Dau	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
114	Brown	W. R.	Head	W	39	M 15		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Brown	Eliza Lee	Wife	W	35	M 15	4-4	TN	TN	TN	
	Brown	Minor	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Brown	Delmar	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Brown	Ollie	Son	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Brown	Frank	Son	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
117	Webb	Lucian P.	Head	W	30	M 11		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Webb	Chynthia N.	Wife	W	27	M 11	3-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Webb	Mollie D.	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Webb	Henry S.	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Webb	Nannie W.	Dau	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
124	Truett	F.W.	Head	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
125	Gresham	Tom	Head	W	39	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
126	Sweeney	Woodrow	Head	W	50	M 30		GA	GA	GA	Farmer
	Sweeney	Louise	Wife	W	49	M 30	6-5	GA	GA	GA	
	Sweeney	Sam	Son	W	28	S		GA	GA	GA	Carpenter
	Sweeney	Charley	Son	W	26	S		TN	GA	GA	Farmer
	Sweeney	Minnie	Dau	W	23	S		TN	GA	GA	
	Sweeney	Sallie	Dau	W	19	S		TN	GA	GA	
127	Still	Thos. J.	Head	W	40	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Still	Arthur	Son	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Still	John K.	Son	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Still	Mary Lou	Dau	W	15	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Still	Henry N.	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Still	Olive	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Still	Charley	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Still	Stella	Dau	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Still	Susie	Dau	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
128	Buist	Rains	Head	W	30	M 5		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Buist	Susan	Wife	W	25	M 5	2-2	TN	TN	TN	
	Buist	Mollie O.	Dau	W	3	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Buist	Charles A.	Son	W	1	S		TN	TN	TN	
129	Owen	Mary M.	Head	W	50	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Owen	Lucy	Dau	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Owen	Mary	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Owen	Charley	Son	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
131	Frost	Mrs. Rebecca	Head	W	49	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Frost	Harry	Son	W	28	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Frost	Delbert	Son	W	26	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Frost	John C.	Son	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Frost	Mira H.	Dau	W	20	S		TN	TN	TN	
132	Ramsey	John	Head	W	44	M 20		TN	TN	TN	Farmer

House	Surname	Given Name	Relation	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth place	Fath. Birth place	Moth. Birth place	Occupation
133	Ramsey	Lulu	Wife	W	39	M 20	7-5	TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer At School At School At School At School
	Ramsey	John K.	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Ramsey	Huna?	Dau	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Ramsey	Robert	Son	W	15	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Ramsey	Lacy	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Ramsey	Minor W.	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Lane	Mrs. J?	Head	W	36	S	5-5	TN	TN	TN	Toil Gate Keeper
	Lane	Liza	Dau	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Lane	Henry	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Lane	Minnie	Dau	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Lane	Tansil	Son	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Lane	Hayden	Son	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
134	Hamilton	Tom	Head	W	50	M 26		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Hamilton	Martha	Wife	W	49	M 26	6-5	TN	TN	TN	
	Hamilton	Robert	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	Day Laborer
	Hamilton	Carrie	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hamilton	Louise	Dau	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Hamilton Jr.	Thomas	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
135	Hamilton	Frederic	Son	W	13	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hadley	James P.	Head	W	54	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
136	Hadley	Fred H.	Head	W	51	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Hadley	Sallie P.	Dau	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Hadley	Annie H.	Dau	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hadley	Walter C.	Son	W	15	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
141	Davis	T.W.	Head	W	61	M 32		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Davis	Sallie	Wife	W	50	M 32	4-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Davis	Florence	Dau	W	30	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Davis	Allen	Son	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Book Keeper
142	Davis	Thomas	Son	W	26	S		TN	TN	TN	Teacher
	Thomas	Sol	Head	W	53	W		TN	NC	NC	Blacksmith
	Thomas	Earnest	Son	W	30	S		TN	TN	TN	Blacksmith
	Thomas	Robert	Son	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Day Laborer
	Thomas	Mary	Dau	W	23	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Thomas	Pearl	Dau	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	
143	Thomas	Cube	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Owen	Robert	Head	W	55	M 32		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Owen	Lucinda	Wife	W	51	M 32	5-4	TN	TN	TN	
	Owen	Frank	Son	W	30	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Owen	Robert	Son	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Owen	Emma	Dau	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	
144	Owen	Felix	Son	W	22	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Allen	J.O.	Head	W	50	M 30		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Allen	Anna	Wife	W	49	M 30	9-8	TN	TN	TN	
	Allen	Birdie	Dau	W	28	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Allen	Felix	Son	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Allen	French	Son	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Allen	Ida	Dau	W	23	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Allen	Corrine	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Allen	Walter	Son	W	15	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McKay	Mollie	Dau	W	22	W	0-0	TN	TN	TN	
	Chiles?	Lucy	Dau	W	19	M 1	0-0	TN	TN	TN	
145	Chiles?	F.W.	Son in Law	W	26	M 1		TN	TN	TN	School Teacher
	Edmonson	David	Head	W	60	M 35		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Edmonson	Eliza	Wife	W	54	M 35	4-4	TN	TN	TN	
	Edmonson	John	Son	W	28	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Edmonson	Charley	Son	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Edmonson	Minie	Dau	W	23	S		TN	TN	TN	
146	Edmonson	Robert	Son	W	20	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Edmonson	S?	Head	W	39	M 10		TN	VA	VA	Farmer
	Edmonson	Marie	Wife	W	30	M 10	3-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Edmonson	George	Son	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Edmonson	Daniel	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Edmonson	Leslie	Son	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
149	Carpenter	William L.	Head	W	51	M 25		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Carpenter	Fannie	Wife	W	46	M 25		TN	TN	TN	
	Carpenter	Ola	Dau	W	23	S		TN	TN	TN	

To be continued

Middle Tennessee Supreme Court Records

Second Series

*Contributed by Gale Williams Bamman, CG
and the late Betsy Ragsdale*



Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Joshua Coffee, Admr.
vs Jane Coffee & others**

Original Bill heard in
Warren County Chancery Court

The Bill of Complaint of William Black, Administrator of Joshua M. Coffee, dec'd. a citizen of Warren County, Tennessee, Complainant against the President and Directors of the Planters Bank of Tennessee Citizens of Davidson County, Tennessee, and also the Planers Bank of Tennessee to the use of Thomas W. Hall and Carter A. Hall citizens of Maryland and Thomas Embry a citizen of Kentucky and also against Jane Coffee widow and relict of Joshua M. Coffee, dec'd., also the following named persons heirs and distributees of said Joshua M. Coffee, to wit, William B. Coffee, a citizen of Hamilton County, Tennessee, Jno. T. Coffee a citizen of the State of Arkansas, James E. Coffee a citizen of Warren County, Tennessee, Thomas S. Coffee a citizen of Warren & a minor under the age of 21 years Franklin Coffee Brown Coffee and Jane Coffee all minor likewise citizens of Warren also Nancy late Nancy Coffee intermarried with Andrew J. Wood both citizens of DeKalb County,

Tennessee, and John Sappington, a citizen of the State of Missouri and John Black a citizen of Davidson County, Tennessee.

Your Orator William Black, administrator of Joshua M. Coffee late of the County of Warren and State of Tennessee represents that on or about the 3rd day of October 1842 Joshua M. Coffee a citizen and resident of Warren County departed this life intestate leaving the said Jane his widow and the heirs and distributees mentioned in the caption of this Bill his only heirs at law and distributees as specified by name nine children and his widow. Your Orator further states and so charges that November Sessions of the County Court for Warren County in the year 1842, your Orator was appointed administrator on the estate of said Joshua M. Coffee and executed bond and gave security approved of by the court ...

Your Orator further shows and so charges that the estate of said Joshua M. Coffee is insolvent and ... and Orator returned an inventory ... and there suggested the insolvency ... Your Orator further states and so charges that said Joshua M. died seized and possessed of an estate including

both personal and real estate of a much greater value than five hundred dollars. Your Orator further states that the estate and affairs of said Joshua M. are greatly involved and embarrassed with divers *fi fas*

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**M. A. R. Owen
vs**

William Owen

Original Bill heard in Williamson
County Chancery Court

Your Oratrix Martha A. R. Owen of the County of Williamson the wife of Hubbard Owen of said County who sues by her next friend Algernon[?] Jones, that upon the 26th day of February 1835 one Robert T. Cannon of the County of Bedford, Tennessee by his deed of that date conveyed to one John McNairy Thompson of said County in trust for the only proper use and benefit of your Oratrix then a feme covert and the wife of the said Herbert Owen a negro man named Tom about thirty-five years old by which said deed the said Trustee Thompson was to permit your Oratrix to have and enjoy the later use & exclusive benefit of said negro Tom to her

own separate use free from any and all claim or claims of her husband or any other person

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

Martha Alexander vs Nathaniel Perry and James Perry
Original Bill heard in
Warren County Chancery Court

Bill of Complaint of Martha Alexander a citizen of Warren County against Nathaniel Perry and James Perry, also citizens of said county, defendants. Your Oratrix would shew that on 1st day of June 1839 your Oratrix together with Samuel Alexander Silas Alexander _____ [blank] Alexander Alexander [sic] children of your Oratrix and heirs at law of William Alexander, dec'd. of whom your Oratrix is widow and relect sold to Nathaniel Perry, Deft. etc. the following tracts of land in Warren County on the Barren Fork of Collins River....

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

Andrew McAuley vs Caroline Lockheart
Original Bill heard in
Sumner County Circuit Court

Caroline Lockhart, Plaintiff against Andrew McAuley, administrator with the will annexed of Ann McAuley, dec'd., deft. ...

I, William Trousdale, am bound unto Andrew McAuley, Admr. etc. in the penal sum of two hundred and sixty dollars to be void if

Caroline Lockhart shall present the afsd. case this day commenced against said A. McAuley in the Circuit Court of Sumner County ... this 6 June 1843 [signed] W. Trousdale.

Caroline Lockhart by attorney complains of Andrew McAuley, Administrator with the will annexed of Ann McAuley, deceased, who has been summoned by the sheriff of a plea for that whereas the said Ann McAuley in her lifetime to wit in the year 1842 at the county aforesaid was indebted to the plaintiff one hundred and twenty one dollars for the work and labour care and diligence of the said Caroline Lockhart by her before that time performed as a nurse for the said Ann McAuley

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

William Lowrey & Hilton Humphreys vs E. R. Anderson, Evelina A. B. Anderson & others
Original Bill heard in
Sumner County Chancery Court

The Bill of Complaint of William Lowry and Hilton Humphreys citizens of McMinn County, Tennessee, Complainants against E. R. Anderson a citizen of the State of Mississippi Evelina A. B. Anderson Joseph H. Peyton and George W. Parker citizens of Sumner County, Tennessee, Defendants.

Your Orators show that in the month of October 1836 they became the holders in the regular course of trade of a Bill of exchange or draft drawn by the

defendant E. R. Anderson on one George W. Terrill dated the 26th of October 1836 payable twelve months after the first of March 1837 to the Order of William J. Hill for two thousand four hundred and seventy five dollars which bill was accepted by the said Terrill payable at the Mechanics and Trader's Bank, New Orleans, and endorsed in _____[blank] by the said William J. Hill and one Benjamin F. Chambers; that they also in like manner became the holders of a certain other Bill of exchange or draft drawn by the said George W. Terrill and one Osman Claiborne, dated 27th October 1836 payable twelve months after the first day of March 1837 to the order of the said defendant E. R. Anderson for three thousand seven hundred dollars ... and endorsed by the said defendants E. R. Anderson and by one John E. Richardson.

Your orators further shew that when said bills became due, to wit, on the 3rd day of March 1838, your Orators caused them to be presented for payment at the Mechanics and Traders Bank, New Orleans, and payment being refused, they were protested for non-payment of which notice was duly given to the aforesaid drawer and endorsers respectively; and so, your Orators aver that the said Defendant E. R. Anderson is justly indebted to them in the amount of the aforesaid Bills, which remains wholly unpaid and unsatisfied ...

Upon enquiry into his circumstances your Orators found that he was greatly involved in debts to pay which his property in Mississippi was embarrassed with

encumbrances; that he had quarreled with and parted from his wife the said Evelina A. B. Anderson; that she had come to Tennessee, where he married her, and that he had sent several slaves with her; and probably purchased a tract of land in her name or in that of some friend for her use. Your Orators further show that on enquiry at the Register's Office of Sumner County, Tennessee, they found on record an absolute bill of sale from said defendant E. R. Anderson to the defendants Joseph H. Peyton, a brother of the defendant Evelina of the slaves George, Jim, Minerva, Ellen Susan Laura and Minerva and a barouche[?] and pair of horses, purporting to be for the consideration of nine thousand dollars also a bill of sale of the same slaves from the said Joseph H. Peyton to the said defendant George W. Parker, in trust for the defendant Evelina, in which latter deed the said Joseph H. Peyton recites that the said slaves had been conveyed to him, the said Joseph H. in trust for his sister the said Evelina and not for the consideration on the fact of said first mentioned deed expressed.

The said deeds are dated the 3rd day of March 1837 and are registered on the 11th of July 1837. And your Orators charge that ... the said slaves as well as the land aforesaid ought to be subjected to the satisfaction of your Orator's said demands, which were contracted by the said E. R. Anderson long before the said conveyance of said slaves to the Defendant Joseph H. Peyton

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

William Gilliam

vs

Mary Bransford

Original Bill heard in Williamson
County Chancery Court

Bill of Complaint of William Gilliam of Davidson Co., Tenn., against Mary Bransford of said county ... being a wholesale dealer in china, glass & Queens ware in Nashville, to carry on which business an able-bodied servant is indispensable. In March 1839 he applied to Lindley Murry[?] Bransford, the son and agent of the deft., Mary Bransford, to hire from him such a servant, he having some slaves to hire that had belonged to John Bransford, dec'd., the father of the said L. M. Bransford & husband of the defendant, Mary ... Said L. M. Bransford gave assurance that Jordan was an honest servant ... whom he hired in 1839 ... but was detected in stealing

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

Mary B. Sanders

vs

Sims B. Hale

Original Bill heard in
Sumner County Circuit Court

Sheriff commanded to summon Sims B. Hale to appear at 4th Judicial Circuit in Gallatin on 3rd Monday in October 1842 to answer Mary B. Sanders in a plea of *detinue* that he render to her a negro girl Judy which from her he unjustly detains to her damage

fifteen hundred dollars ... that on 1st day of January 1841 she was possessed of said Negro girl Judy as her own proper negro and ... which said negro came to the hands and possession of the said Sims B. Hale by finding [sic]. Yet the said Sims B. Hale, well knowing the said negro Judy to be the property of her the said Mary B. Sanders hath not as yet delivered said Judy to [her] ... Judgment rendered February term 1843 in favor of Mary B. Sanders for sum of six hundred dollars besides costs ... and appealed to Supreme Court of Errors and Appeals. Now if James Sanders, Administrator, etc. shall prosecute said appeal ... [his bond] to be void, this 2nd March 1843. [signed] James Sanders, John A. Littleton.

Now, defendant, by his attorney read his Bill of Exceptions ... that the cause came on to be heard 1st of March 1843 ... and jury selected ... The plaintiff introduced the following witnesses and they swore as follows to wit:

Mrs. Susan Sanders proved that she was the widow of Thomas S. Sanders and mother of the plaintiff ... that her husband Thomas S. Sanders in 1834 or 1835 gave to his daughter Emily who afterwards intermarried with Nathaniel Harrison a negro girl ... and in same year he gave to his daughter Mary B. Sanders the negro girl Judy who was some three or four years old ... that the said Mary B. lived with them up to the death of Thomas S. Sanders who died in September 1840 ... At the time of the gift Thomas S. Sanders was indebted about \$800 or \$900 ...

that he had eight or ten Negroes and a tract of land whereon their lived of upwards of two hundred acres ... Out of this land she took dower and Thomas S. Sanders died intestate. Mary B. Sanders is now 24 or 25 years of age. She said that a short time after the death of Thomas S. Sanders the administrator James Sanders advertised the hiring of the slaves of the estate and the plaintiff claimed Judy as her property and refused to permit her to be hired ... James Sanders took the girl [after resistance from Mary B.] and she was hired at twelve months at fifty cents. Witness told the people present that the girl belonged to her daughter Mary B. and any one that hired her would be sued ... On the day of sale Mary B. was sick and asked her to go to the sale ... at Hartsville ... and Judy was sold among the other Negroes by James Sanders and she became the purchaser at \$425, the girl being about eleven years old

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Mary L. Powell vs Thoms P.
Powell and others**
Original Bill heard in
Bedford County Circuit Court

The petition of Mary L. Powell, widow of Robert Powell, dec'd., late of Bedford Co., Tenn. sheweth that her late husband Robert Powell departed this life in Bedford County afsd., intestate, some months since; that at the time of his decease, he was seized and possessed of the hereinafter described tract of land, to wit, a tract containing eighty-six acres

and 120 poles, in Bedford County, beginning at two dogwoods and a Hornbeam in McCorcle's [?] north boundary line ...

Your petitioner sheweth that she has never had her dower assigned her out of said land; and ... has not relinquished her dower right in the same. She further sheweth that her said husband left only two children & heirs, namely, Elizabeth H. who has intermarried with John N. Porter and who resides in Bedford Co., afsd., and Thomas P. Powell who also resides in said county and who has been appointed as administrator of the estate of the said intestate ... Plaintiff prays that a writ of dower may be issued

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Charles Gookin & others vs
Hugh N. Graham & others**
Original Bill heard in Williamson
County Chancery Court

Bill of Complaint of Charles Gookin, James Irvine, John B. Boggs, Allen [?] Scruggs, George M. Savage and Richard D. Roy, all of County of Lauderdale and State of Alabama, complainants, against Hugh N. Graham of the same county and state and Joseph Campbell of the County of Williamson and State of Tennessee defendants ...

Orators show that the defendant Hugh N. Graham on 15th June 1837 (by deed bearing date of that date) conveyed to your orator the said Charles Gookin the following personal property, to wit, five slaves namely Billy about 20 years

of age, Charles about 22, Julia about 19, Betsy about 15, and Clarissa about 4, also five horses, one wagon and a gig and harness all in trust for the payment of a debt of \$1509.26 due from him to your orators Irvine and Boggs and also for payment of a debt of \$225.00 due from him to your orators Scruggs and Savage and Roy trading under the firm of Scruggs Savage & Co., with interest ... and also in the further sum of \$60.00 for cash lent him on 4th May 1837 ... all debts except last one evidenced by notes ... and entitled by the laws of that state to draw interest at the rate of eight per centum per annum ...

... that on the night of 23rd July 1837 defendant Graham left his residence in Lauderdale clandestinely and took with him the slaves Julia and Betsy ... worth at least \$500.00 each and three or four of the horses...and orators Boggs and Roy set out in pursuit ... and succeeded in tracing him ... to the Town of Franklin in Tennessee where he left the slave Julia in the possession of the defendant Joseph Campbell



Full Name and Place Index

MTGS Journal

Volume XVIII, 2004-2005

Indexed by Juanita Patton

Introduction to the Index

We believe that every genealogical work requires a complete index, and to that end provide an every-name index in the fourth and final issue of each volume of the Journal. This index includes names, places and subjects. Pagination of Volume XVIII began with page 1 in the Summer 2004 issue and continued through this issue. The following notes prepared during the indexing process will be helpful to the reader.

- Individuals identified in the text as “slaves” are indexed under that heading.
- Names beginning with M', Mc, and Mac appear as if all started with Mac.
- If the maiden name of a female is known, she is listed under both her married and maiden names.
- Rivers and streams are indexed under *Waterways* and cemeteries are grouped under *Cemetery*.
- Military units are indexed under that heading.
- (n) indicates that the entry appears in the notes on the page cited.
- (auth) indicates that the person is the author of a *Journal* article
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