The Owen Family Association
(Of The Original Wilkes County, Ga.)

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2; No. 1

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Crystal Plaza, Apt. 809 So.
2221 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Arlington, VA 22202

February, 1987

OWN family reunion - OCTOBER 9 - 11, 1987

Mark your calendars! The FIRST EVER reunion of the descendants of early Wilkes County Owens will be held in that county October 9 - 11 of this year. Final arrangements are currently being made by President Carolyn Middour and promises to be a weekend to remember. Come and meet "new" cousins and learn more about our ancestors. Complete details will be forthcoming in future Newsletters.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER SINCE NOVEMBER 1, 1986

Mrs. Mary Gregg 3604 Spottiswood Ave., Apt. 2 Memphis, TN 38111

OWEN INQUIRIES

Non-members, as well as members, may submit genealogical inquiries to the Newsletter with only one restriction...the inquiry must relate to some branch of the Owen family. All inquiries are subject to editing to make them more concise. Readers who respond to the inquiry are asked to please send the Newsletter Editor a copy of any response, so our other readers may share the information.

RICHARD HART, 2735 FOREST GLEN TRAIL, RIVERWOODS, IL 60015
Information wanted on Laura W. Owen, born February 12, 1833, probably in Georgia, married November 5, 1849 in Montgomery County, Alabama and died July 2, 1903 in Escambia County, Alabama.

JO CHASSE, 2547 MEADOW COURT, WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406
Seeks information on her great-great grandmother, Mary Blanton Owen, who was born on 23 December 1811 in Halifax County, VA. She married Crowder Holloway, who was born in 1800 in Person County, NC. They had a son, William H. Holloway, who was born in Haywood County, TN in 1850. He attended William and Mary College. Mary Blanton Owen Holloway died in Haywood County, TN on November 18, 1890. Crowder Holloway died there in 1853. William H. Holloway died there on March 9, 1902.
On December 22, 1986, Mary Sue Mathys, a native of Texas, died in Pacific Grove, California. Her funeral service was held the following Monday at St. Marys-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church. Just sixty years old at her death, Sue fulfilled not only the traditional roles of wife, mother, grandmother and sister, she was a business woman — an expert in the bookkeeping fields of land and oil/gas. Your Editor knew her only by correspondence and her excellent work as a genealogist and author of Owen Connections — The Family of Bartholomew and Johanna Owen, Emigrants to Surrey County, Virginia.

This was the first book reviewed in the Owen Newsletter. In the review we said of Sue, "The author is a careful genealogist who knows how to properly interpret the source records and places genealogy in its historical context".

To close, we would like to share with you a little poem ascribed to Sue, sent with the notice of her death:

"Friendships are like snowflakes —
Beautiful, inspiring, purposeful
Dependable in shape and form
Yet, none are exactly alike —
Combined they form a beautiful blanket
Covering all the eye can see
Insulating against a cold, hard world
Hiding life's ugliness under a delicate mantle
Building a reservoir of strength for future growth."

"Owen" is the English translation of the Welsh "Owein", "Owain". It means "well-born".

Who are the Welsh, the people of Wales? The first historically identifiable settlers of Great Britain were the Celts, who came there from continental Europe, 400 years before the birth of Christ. Shortly before Christ was born, the Romans conquered the Celts and were the masters of Great Britain for 400 years, or as long as it has been since Columbus discovered America. All over Great Britain one can still see what the Romans built, including roads and Hadrian's Wall (A.D. 120).
As the so-called barbarian tribes closed in on Rome, the legions withdrew from Great Britain and the Angles and Saxons filled the vacuum, dispossessioning the Celts of the choice land and drawing them into the mountainous fastnesses of Wales and Scotland, across the sea to Ireland and down to Cornwall, the extreme southwestern part of England. Rome conquered all of Britain except the northernmost part. Never did the Angles and Saxons conquer Wales.

The next invaders of Great Britain were the Vikings of Scandinavia and the Danes, who had there a kingdom under Canute.

The last successful invaders of Great Britain were the Normans, who defeated the Anglo-Saxons in 1066. In the 1100's, under King Henry II, the Norman English conquered Ireland. In the 1200's, under King Edward I, Wales was conquered. Scotland was not united with England until a Scottish Stuart King, James VI, became King James I of England and Scotland in 1603.

Per square mile there are more castles in Wales than in any other country in the world. They were built by the Norman English to keep the Welsh in subjection. Not only by militarism, but also by diplomacy, did Edward I attempt to win the loyalty of the Welsh = every English Sovereign since his time, down to Queen Elizabeth II in our time, has proclaimed the heir apparent "Prince of Wales".

In the beginning years of the 1400's, Owen Glendower futilely proclaimed the independence of Wales. In the closing years of the 1400's England's greatest Royal House ascended the throne - the Tudor Kings. All Britains look back with pride to the reigns of Henry VII, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I! Through Margaret Beaufort, these sovereigns had the blood of English Kings; through Owen Tudor they descended from a long line of the Princes of Wales.

On the list taken in 1767 by John Donelson, father of Rachel Donelson, wife of President Andrew Jackson, were Richard Prewet, Henry Prewet and Joseph Prewet. On the list taken in 1767 by Thomas Dillard, Jr., were Wm. Owen, Thomas Owen and John Owen.

On August 10, 1767, Samuel Pruitt sold William Owen 100 acres in Camden Parish, Pittsylvania County, Virginia, on Sandy Creek, it being land on which William Owen was then living. Witnessing the deed were John Dix, John Owen, Daniel Ayres and James Smallwood Owen. Pittsylvania Deed Book 1, Page 73.
Our member, Mrs. Ruth Haxter, sent the writer a map of Pittsylvania County—Sandy Creek—on which William and Uriah Owen lived in the Southeastermost corner of Pittsylvania County near Halifax County, Virginia and just north of Caswell County, North Carolina. Mrs. Haxter had the pleasure of seeing the house built by her ancestor, John Dix, in Pittsylvania County in 1772. It is still occupied.

Who is Samuel Pruitt who sold the 100 acres on Sandy Creek to William Owen?

A great deal of information on him was sent the writer by Richard A. Prewitt, 801 S. 5th Street, Grimes, Iowa 50111. Samuel Pruitt, Jr. is shown on page 550 of the DAR Patriot Index as marrying Lucy Owen. DAR application papers show him as a native of Frederick County, Maryland, born in 1736. They married about 1754. Numerous of their children, including Samuel Pruitt III, moved to Franklin County, Georgia. Samuel Pruitt, Jr. had two sisters—Priscilla, born in 1721, who married William Duvall of Duvall Forest, Maryland, on October 20, 1743 and Sarah, who married David Boydston (Boyeston, Borlatone) in Frederick County, Maryland in 1752. Their father, the first Samuel Pruitt, was born on April 4, 1700 and married Elizabeth Hawker, who was born on December 14, 1701. Samuel Pruitt bought land and a tobacco house called "Easy Purchase" in Prince George's County, Maryland from Nathaniel Beale on November 22, 1737. He changed its name to "Pruitt's Purchase". According to Richard Prewitt, it was in the northernmost edge of the present District of Columbia, or else a little toward Bladensburg, located on a branch of the Anacostia River, called the northernmost branch of the Potomac. Samuel Pruitt died in 1760. His will was probated April 29, 1760, Frederick County, Maryland. His widow later married John Riddle, Sr. and died shortly after 1795.

Who was the John Owen who witnessed the 1767 deed from Samuel Pruitt to William Owen?

He may well be the John Owen of the Parish of Camden, Pittsylvania County, who left a will dated September 6, 1785, recorded March 20, 1786. His widow was Elizabeth Owen. His eldest son was William Owen. John Owen left the plantation whereon William Owen lived to Abram Legrand, Senr. of Halifax County because William Owen sold the land to Legrand. He left a daughter, Lucy Legrand, a daughter, Agnes Owen, a son, John Owen, a son, David Owen and his youngest son, Obediah Owen, not yet 18 years old. John Owen's land was on the Dan River and adjoined the North Carolina line.

In 1767, one John Owen had land on Cane Creek, west of Sandy Creek, but in the same southeastern part of Pittsylvania County where William Owen and Uriah Owen lived together. On February 24, 1769, William Owen married Edye Pigg, daughter of John Pigg. John Owen was on the bond. In December, 1784, Lucy Owen married Abraham Legrand. On October 12, 1785, Agnes Owen, the daughter of John Owen, married Hezekiah Pigg. In 1792, Obediah Owen married Polly Legrand, daughter of Abram Legrand. John Owen (probably Obediah's brother) was the bondsman. In 1792, David Owen married Peggy Nelson. John Nelson was bondsman.
Was this John Owen, who died in 1785-1786, the John Owen who was a Justice in 1769, Sheriff of Pittsylvania County in 1782 and on the Commission of Peace in 1783?

In 1777, on the list of Charles Kennon, are these Oaths of Allegiance in the War in Defense of Virginia - James Smallwood Owen, John Owen, Uriah Owen, William Owen, William Owen, Jr., Zachariah Pruitt, Philip Pruitt, Samuel Pruitt. Muster Roll Book, Pittsylvania County, Virginia, page 280. Charles Owen Johnson established the Uriah Owen line with the Sons of the American Revolution. His mother, Laura Owen Johnson (Mrs. Clifford Johnson) and Mary Ann Owen Grigsby (Mrs. Charles Vennum Grigsby) established the line with the Daughters of the American Revolution. All descendants of Uriah Owen should join the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, thereby assisting the patriotic work of these two fine organizations and honoring their ancestor.

On October 18, 1779, William Owen of the Parish of Camden, Pittsylvania County, sold Uriah Owen the 100 acres on Sandy Creek he had bought from Samuel Pruitt. Witnesses were ? Simpson, John Stamps, Benjamin Burgess and Mordecai Burgess.

On February 19, 1782, Uriah Owen and his wife, Sarah, of Pittsylvania County, sold land (Deed Book 6, page 235). On April 17, 1786, Peter Martin of Halifax County sold Uriah Owen of Pittsylvania County 235 acres (Deed Book 7, page 625). On December 17, 1787, there is a deed of Uriah Owen of Pittsylvania County, Virginia (Deed Book 8, page 123). On November 16, 1789, Uriah Owen of Wilkes County, Georgia, sold land in Pittsylvania County, Virginia on which he formerly lived.

In past years the writer had professional genealogists try to find Uriah Owen's parents. On January 23, 1947, Mrs. James S. Jones, Box 343, Chatham, Virginia, wrote - "I have made a careful search for a clue to the parents of Uriah Owen, but have not found his name listed as legatee in any will and I could find no settlement carrying his name. I tried to find a settlement of William Owen, who, I think was probably his father, but, finding none, it would appear that he left here --- My reason for thinking that William was father of Uriah is this = in the deed 1779, William sold Uriah 100 acres and later in the deed he mentions other consideration not with purchase price. Uriah was living on the plantation. I also went over many Owen notes taken in Halifax County, but nowhere did I find Uriah named."

On June 3, 1966, Elijah T. Sutherlin, 414 Airport Drive, Danville, Virginia, wrote - "I am inclined to believe that William Owen was the father of Uriah, though this is not definite, of course. My belief is based upon the location and the wording of the deed from William to Uriah Owen - the additional wording in the consideration. It seems probable that William might also have moved to Wilkes, or he might have deeded his home to his son and died without a will. It might be well to try to establish more about Uriah in Wilkes County, whether he had brothers and sisters and their names."
On January 12, 1850, a Milner Echols wrote a History of the Echols Family. It was published in the Dallas Genealogical Society Magazine, October, 1959. See also Mary V. Outlaw's, "Echols Family Records" in the December, 1959 issue of the same magazine. See Page One of Volume II of Echols Notes collected by Rebecca Echols Terry, 1414 Monterey Drive, SE, Huntsville, Alabama 35801. See page 84 of William Echols Spraggins' Bearne, Patton, Echols, Spraggins Pedigree.

Milner Echols wrote, "old Richard Echols second daughter Drucilla married William Owen and had a large family. They all went west, to the western country, but one daughter was named Rhoda Owen. She married Richard Mallaci Reeves. I know but little of the family. Am sure they all went west".

Ruth Blair wrote Some Early Tax Digests of Georgia (1926). On page 313 we read that Wm. Owins and Obediah Owens had land on Long Creek adjoining Joseph Echols. Malachiah Reeves was on Long Creek adjoining Joseph Echols. On page 315 we read that Uriah Owins' land adjoining that of Joseph Echols. And who is Joseph Echols? - He married Mary Stamps, who, we will show in a later article, is a distant cousin of Sarah Everet, wife of Uriah Owen. More importantly, Joseph Echols is a brother of Drucilla Echols, who married William Owen.

On February 1, 1790, Joseph Echols and Mary, his wife, sold Uriah Owen 240 acres on Long Creek (Book KK, page 153, Wilkes County).

Book 5, page 378, Halifax County, Virginia. William Owen sold Moses Echols land on Little Creek. This land may be in Pittsylvania County, which was not split off until 1767. This deed is dated 11 May 1765. Who was Moses Echols? He had a sister named Drucilla Echols, who married William Owen and a brother, Joseph Echols, who sold Uriah Owen land in Wilkes County, Georgia.


Mary Overby in Obituaries - Published by the Christian Index - 1822-1879 notes the death of Mrs. Rhoda Reeves, 78 years old, wife of Rev. Mr. Reeves, daughter of William Owen of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, died in Wilkes County September 7, 1842.

TO BE CONTINUED
BOOK REVIEW

Birdie Farrar Wynne All Roads Lead to Texas (1968). In this 129 page book the author traces several families from whom she descends, including the Owens. These Owens were Welsh Quakers who settled first in Pennsylvania. The immigrant ancestor, Robert Owen, was born in 1657 in Wales. He married Rebecca Humphrey, daughter of Owen Humphrey. They settled in Merion County, Pennsylvania in 1690. Both the Robert Owen home and the Merion Meeting House (the Quaker Church the Owens attended) were built in 1695 and were standing in 1968. Robert Owen was a Justice from Merion County and served as a Representative in the Provincial Assembly.

Robert and Rebecca Owen were the parents of eight children -

2) Evan Owen, born 1683. Married Mary Hoskin.
3) Jane Owen, born 1685.
8) Rebecca Owen, born 14 January 1697. Died at eight months old.

This Robert Owen, who married Rebecca Humphrey, was the first of his line to use "Owen" as a surname. His father was Owen ap Evan of Vron Goch Farm in Wales. He is the 24th generation from Howel-Dilcie, King of All Wales, A.D. 948. The word "ap", means "son of". The Welsh originally used only given names and no surnames, but would, in their names, often use the given names of several generations of their ancestors as "Owen ap Evan ap William ap Howell ap Thomas", etc. Land tenure depended on heirship and, even among the poorer people, records of descents were carefully maintained. This Robert Owen took as his surname the given name of his father, "Owen", who, himself, was the son of "Evan".

Owen Owen, from whom the author descends, lived and died in Philadelphia. His son, Robert Owen II, married about 1723, Rachel Owen Humphrey, a likely kinswoman of the wife of the first Robert Owen. Robert Owen II and his wife moved to Montgomery County, Maryland, where their son, Thomas Owen, was born in 1750. Robert Owen II died in Maryland on 25 February 1765. His son, Thomas Owen, married about 1775, Sallie Farmer of Frederick County, Maryland. About 1784, these Owens moved to Bourbon County, Kentucky. From there descendants moved to Missouri, Arkansas and finally, Texas.

The author notes the frequent intermarriage of these old Welsh families - Owen, Wynne, Evan, Ellis and Humphrey - not only in Wales, but also in the New World.
THE OVEN FAMILY REUNION - WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA - OCTOBER 9-11, 1987

Headquarters for the Owen Family Reunion will be the White Columns Inn located at I-20 and U.S. 78 in Thomson, Georgia. A block of rooms has been reserved for those attending the reunion. Each person should make his or her reservation by writing or telephoning - Ursula Weiser
White Columns Inn
P. O. Box 1408
Thomson, Georgia 30824
Phone: (404) 595-8821

Mention that you are attending the Owen Family Reunion.

The room rates are indeed modest:

Per night - $32.00 - 1 person, 1 bed
             $36.00 - 2 persons, either 1 or 2 beds
             $40.00 - King size bed, either 1 or 2 persons

No deposit need be made for the room you reserve if you arrive before 6 PM. If you arrive after that time you must either make a cash deposit or give your credit card number to hold the room. If a deposit is made and the reservation must be cancelled for some reason, the deposit will be refunded if cancellation is made before 6 PM on October 9th.

On Friday, October 9th registration for the Owen Reunion will be held between 7 PM and 9 PM. There will be a private room where the Owen descendants may purchase whatever they wish to drink. Potato chips and onion dip will be provided gratis. A $5.00 registration is charged for each person attending the reunion. Not only may Owen descendants attend, but spouses and guests are most welcome.

On Saturday, October 10th each person attends to his or her own breakfast requirements. Registration continues from 8:30 to 11:00 AM. From 9:00 to 11:00 AM there will be a genealogical workshop. Bring your Owen research problems for consideration by the group. Also bring any pictures or notes of your Owen ancestors you would like to show the Owen cousins.
At 11 o'clock we will proceed by automobile to the Callaway Plantation where "Mule Day" festivities will be in progress. The Owen and Callaway families are connected by marriage. We will have a guided tour of the private ante-bellum homes on the site. There will be a charge of $5.00 per person for this activity. All day long fast food and cold drinks may be purchased. At Noon chicken barbeque will be sold. We are still hoping that we will be able to see the Uriah Owen farm, but plans for this are not yet definite or certain.

On Saturday night we will have the traditional banquet at White Columns Inn. The price for the banquet depends on the entree you choose. Tax and tip included, here are the entrees and prices:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entree</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Kiev</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filet Mignon</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With all entrees, the following items are included - Cheddar Cheese Soup, Salad with House Dressing, Green Beans with Mushrooms and Onions, Baked Potato, Ice Cream and Coffee or Tea.

In place of a banquet speaker, we are allowing any Owen descendant to tell us anything he or she wishes on any Owen ancestor. There will be a five minute limit on all speakers. When you make your reservation, indicate if you would like to speak. No one will be called upon to speak - it is purely voluntary.

On Sunday, October 11th, each person makes his or her own breakfast plans. A little after 10 o'clock we will proceed by automobile to the Sardis Baptist Church, now over 200 years old, where most of our Owen ancestors were members. We will attend the 11 o'clock Worship Service. If enough persons express an interest, we will arrange a catered lunch following the service. At the time you make your reservation, please advise if you will attend the Worship Service and, if so, if you would like a catered lunch.

To summarize: (1) Everyone must make a room reservation directly with Ursula Weiser, even if no cash deposit is required, and (2) All other reunion reservations must be made to

Carolyn Siddour
786 Park Lane
Decatur, Georgia 30033

Send Carolyn a check in the proper amount payable to the Owen Family Association.
Each person must pay a $5.00 registration fee. Each person pays $5.00 to attend the Callaway Plantation activities. Each person pays $10.00, $15.00 or $17.00 for the banquet, depending on the entree you choose. Advise if you will speak at the banquet for 5 minutes or less on an Owen ancestor. Advise if you will attend the 11 o'clock Sardis Baptist Church Worship Service. Advise if you would like a catered lunch after the Worship Service.

Two years will have gone into planning for the Owen Reunion. We will definitely not have another Owen Reunion before 1989, if we have one then. Family reunions are more fun and worthwhile the more family members attend. Please yourself and all the rest of the Owen cousins by attending the Owen Reunion, October 9 to 11, 1987 - and - MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW - or as soon as possible.....we need to know the numbers!

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER SINCE FEBRUARY, 1987

Benjamin Irvin Cheney, Jr. 6807 Tottenhame Rd. Louisville, KY 40207

President Carolyn Middour notes that each of our members is a member of the Membership Committee. We need lots of new members. Persons who have Owen ancestors in Wilkes County before 1860 are regular members. Persons with other Owen ancestors who did not live in Wilkes County may join in our "Friend of the Family" category. HELP US FIND NEW MEMBERS!

BOOK REVIEW

**The Will of John Owen of Prince Edward County, Virginia and the Brockman Manuscript**

Will of John Owen, Prince Edward County, dated 24 February 1767, proved 18 August 1767

Wife Pheba (Phoebe) Owen - plantation on Sandy River in Prince Edward County beginning at James Hamlets line.

- Daughter Mary Owen
- Daughter Lydia Owen
- Daughter Jemima Owen
- Daughter Kessiah Owen
- Son John Owen
- Son William Owen
- Son Thomas Owen
- Son Brackett Owen
- Son Jesse Owen
- Daughter Agnes Clarke
- Daughter Sally Davidson

Executors - Pheba Owen, Brackett Owen; James Hamlet

Witnesses Henry Dickenson, Arnold Tomasson, John Holloway
In the DAR Library in Washington is a bound manuscript by a Mrs. Lewis Brockman of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. It contains Owen genealogy, as submitted by various people. In large part there is no documentation of proof and, in some instances, the genealogy is contradictory. For instance, the John Owen, who will was probated in Prince Edward County in 1767 is said on Page 6 to be the son of Thomas Owen, Jr. and the grandson of Thomas Owen, Sr., who came to James City in 1622 on the ship Susan. On Page 10 it is said that this John Owen was one of three brothers who came from Wales in the 1700's. The names of their parents are unknown. On Page 10 it is also said that this John Owen is the son of William and Elizabeth Owen who were in Henrico County in 1674. On Page 16 this John Owen was said to be the son of Hugh Owen, who was the son of William Owen, who came to Virginia in 1634.

These accounts generally agree that John Owen was born in 1676 and died in 1767. They disagree on the number of his marriages. Some found only one marriage - to Phoebe Brackett; others found two marriages - the first to Sarah Brackett and the second to Phoebe ?. The children were:

1) SALLY OWEN. Born Henrico County, VA 1719. Married Joshua Davidson in 1740. Died Prince Edward County, VA 1816.
2) JOHN OWEN, JR. Born Henrico County, VA 1722. Married Elizabeth Nichols 1745. Died Pittsylvania County, VA 1786. This John Owen moved to Lunenburg County and settled on Contrary Run, a branch of Reedy Creek, about 1745. This is now in Halifax County. Later he moved to Pittsylvania County, where he served as Sheriff.
3) AGNES OWEN. Born in Henrico County 1724. Married Thomas Clark 1742. Died in Prince Edward County 1803.
4) WILLIAM OWEN. Born Goochland County 1727. Married Lucy ? 1750. In 1763 he moved to Contrary Run, Halifax County, adjoining his brother John Owen, Jr. His will, probated 26 September 1806, mentions his children - John Owen, Hatcher Owen, Thomas Owen, Susannah Brady, Lucy Powell, Agnes Thomas.
5) THOMAS OWEN. Born Goochland County 1730. Married Jane (Haskins?) 1754-5. Moved to Halifax County, then to Shelby County, KY.
6) BRACKETT OWEN. Born Henrico County 1733. Married (1) Elizabeth Wooten in 1760; (2) Elizabeth McGhee in 1800. In 1782 he built a Fort at Owen's Station, Shelby County, KY. Among his children were Captain Jacob Owen, Captain John Owen, Major David Owen and Colonel Abraham Owen, for whom Owen County, KY is named.
7) JESSE OWEN. Married Ann Crawford in 1760 and served as a Captain in the American Revolution.
8) LUCY OWEN. Married William Wooten.
9) MARY OWEN.
10) LYDIA OWEN.
11) KESSIAH OWEN.
12) JEHIMA OWEN.
On Page 19 of Emma Barrett Reeves' Reeves Review, Book II is the record of Malachi Reeves, Jr., born 1761, married March 17, 1792 to Rhoda Owens, born February 10, 1763, daughter of William Owens of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, who moved to Georgia in 1782. The Reeves joined Sardis Baptist Church - of which Uriah and Sarah Owen were members - about 1800. Malachi was Pastor of the Church for many years. Rhoda Owen Reeves died in the home of their daughter, Diantha Reeves, who was born 1792 and married November 20, 1827 to Robert Toombs Barrett, the son of the Reverend Lewis Barrett and his wife Mary, daughter of Gabriel and Ann Toombs.

On June 17, 1797, William Owen and Drucilla, his wife, sold land on Long Creek to Lewis Barrett. The land adjoined that of Joseph Echols and George Willis (who witnessed the will of Uriah Owen). Gabriel Toombs witnessed the deed.

Possibly Uriah Owen named his daughter, Rhoda, after Rhoda Owen Reeves. Uriah appointed Malachi Reeves and his son, Obediah Owen, executors of his will. Obediah Owen married Jane Moseley (was she related to Samuel G. Mozley who witnessed the will of Uriah Owen?). They had a son named Malachi Reeves Owen. Another child of Obediah Owen and Jane Moseley was Aca (Asa?) Pruitt Owen.

On Page 19 of Barbara Cheney Roberts' A Cheney Family of the South is the marriage of John Cheney with Catharine Evans Owen on April 8, 1803, in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. John Cheney was born in Maryland on August 30, 1765. He died in Greene County, Georgia on October 19, 1838. His first marriage was to Rachel Benson and his second marriage was to Catharine Evans Owen, who is shown as born on January 3, 1781. She died on May 14, 1854 and is buried in Penfield Cemetery, Penfield, Greene County, Georgia. The names of the children of John Cheney and Catharine Evans Owen seem to prove that she was a daughter of William Owen and Drucilla Echols and the maternal granddaughter of Richard Echols and Catharine Evans - 1) Drucilla Echols Cheney, 2) William Owen Cheney, 3) Elizabeth Evans Cheney, 4) Harriet Holcomb Cheney, 5) Melissa Baldwin Cheney, 6) Rhoda Ann Cheney and 7) Marian Catharine Jane Cheney.

By his first marriage to Rachel Benson, John Cheney is shown as having several children, including John Cheney, Jr., born on April 20, 1769 in Maryland and dying in 1867 in LaVaca County, Texas. He is shown as marrying first Lucy Owens, daughter of Uriah Owen. She is shown as dying in November, 1836 in LaVaca County, Republic of Texas. On page 178 of the Cheney genealogy she is called Lucy Owen, daughter of Uriah Owen of Wilkes County, Georgia. Most of their descendants live in LaVaca and Navarro Counties, Texas. To show how much intermarried these people were, one of the sons of John Cheney, Jr. and Lucy Owen was Dr. Francis Marion Cheney, who married Eliza Ann Callaway, a daughter of the Reverend Enoch Callaway and Martha Reeves.
Dr. Cheney's father's half brother, William Owen Cheney, married Elizabeth Callaway, a daughter of the Reverend Enoch Callaway and Martha Reeves and Dr. Cheney's father's half sister, Rhoda Ann Cheney, married William Reeves Callaway, son of the Reverend Enoch Callaway and Martha Reeves. If, as we think likely, Uriah Owen is a brother of Catharine Evans Owen Cheney, then Dr. Cheney's mother is a first cousin of William Owen Cheney and Rhoda Ann Cheney Callaway. And don't forget that Martha Reeves, wife of the Reverend Enoch Callaway, is a niece of the Reverend Malachi Reeves who married Rhoda Owen, sister of Catharine Evans Owen Cheney and Uriah Owen. See pages 19 and 20 of Emma Barrett Reeves' Reeves Review Book II.

Now let me say, there is a conflict here. Mrs. Howard H. McCall (Ettie Tidwell McCall) in Roster of Revolutionary Soldiers in Georgia and Other States, Volume II, page 30 and Mrs. Nellie Martin Grubbs in Martin, Farrar, Truitt, Sax, Hay and Other Kin, pages 268-273, said John Cheney Senior, not his son John Cheney, Junior, married Lucy Catharine Owen, daughter of Uriah Owen. I think this is erroneous. In his will, Uriah Owen called his daughter "Lucy". The wife of John Cheney, Senior on her tombstone in Penfield, Georgia, is called "Katie". In the 1850 census of Greene County, Georgia, household of William O. Cheney, 318-318, there is listed a "Catharine" Cheney, born in 1782 in Georgia - very likely his mother.

On June 13, 1801, in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, Sidner Everet married Tabitha Owen. Who was Sidner Everet? Sarah Everet, wife of Uriah Owen, had a brother Sydnor Everet. See Administration of the Estate of Daniel Everet (their father), Halifax County, Virginia, Will Book 9, 1811-1814. 69-2179, November Court 1810, division of Slaves. Who is Tabitha Owen? We don't know. Could she be another daughter of William Owen and Drucilla Echols? Tabitha is a name in the Echols family. Milner Echols, cited earlier in this article, said Abraham Echols, brother of Richard Echols, and uncle of Drucilla Echols, wife of William Owen, had a daughter, Sarah, who married John Rowden. In turn, their daughter, Tabitha Rowden, married Glover Crane. On May 23, 1799, Glover Crane was deceased in Wilkes County and Tabitha Crane and John Rowden were appointed Administrators of his Estate. On February 24, 1801, William Owen was appointed guardian of the Orphans of Glover Crane - Sarah, Joshua, Mary and Martha. Joseph Echols, a brother of Drucilla Echols who married William Owen, and Hopkins Daniel, a nephew of Drucilla Echols who married William Owen, were securities - And ultimately Hopkins Daniel married the widow Tabitha Crane!

Earlier in this article we mentioned that in 1794 William Owen, Obadiah Owen and Uriah Owen all owned land adjoining Joseph Echols. Could this Obadiah Owen be the one who married Dicey Toombs in Halifax County, Virginia on December 21, 1783? This Obadiah Owen is not the son of Uriah Owen, as Uriah was only married ca. 1780 or 1781. Uriah's son, Obadiah Owen would have been too young. The Georgia Genealogist published a list of the 1807 Land Lottery eligibles, which included William Owen, Senior and Lucy Owen, Lenuel Owen and Levi Owen, orphans of Obadiah Owen, deceased. Was this Obadiah possibly another child of William Owen and Drucilla Echols?
Various genealogists have assigned to Franklin E. Owen, mentioned below, three children: Lucy E., Lemuel E. and Levi Owen from a supposed first marriage. Lemuel Owen was born April 20, 1798 in Milledgeville, Baldwin County, Georgia. He married Elizabeth Adams on July 14, 1821 in Kaskaskia, Illinois. He died May 8, 1861 and is buried in Ames, Illinois. Lemuel Owen had 13 children, including William J. K. Owen, Drucilla Owen, Ezra Madison Owen and Reuben Frank Owen. Levi Owen was born ca. 1800 in Milledgeville, Georgia. He married Judith Smith and died September 1, 1861 in Randolph County, Illinois. Lucy E. Owen was born in 1797 in Milledgeville, Georgia. She married on November 7, 1813, Charles Cavanah. She died in 1862 in Red Bud, Illinois, where she is buried. It would seem rather unlikely that the two brothers, Obediah Owen and Franklin E. Owen, would have three children with the names of Levi Owen, Lemuel Owen and Lucy E. Owen born at the same time.

Mrs. Baxter, mentioned earlier in this article, is a descendant of Major Ezra Owen, who, from an obituary in the Arkansas Gazette died in LaVaca County, Texas on October 11, 1859. Major Owen was born in Halifax County, Virginia on March 17, 1770. His parents took him to Georgia as a young child. On January 26, 1790 Ezra Owen and Thomas Wooten witnessed a deed by which Benjamin Porter and his wife, Patsy Claborne of Wilkes County, Georgia, sold 230 acres of land in Franklin County, Georgia, bounded on the west by the Oconee River, to William Owen of Wilkes County, Georgia (Book C, pages 1263-127, Franklin County, Georgia). There is a deed on December 16, 1793, by which William Owen and his wife, Drucilla, of Wilkes County, sold 230 acres on the south side of the Oconee River in the County of Franklin to Laurence Briers of Wilkes County (Book A-B, page 4, Jackson County, Georgia). William Owen and Willis Miller witnessed on July 16, 1790 a deed of 460 acres in Franklin County from James Spratlin and wife, Winifred, to John Helms, all of Wilkes County. In 1791 Richard Echols witnessed a deed of 100 acres of Franklin County land from David Brown of Pendleton County, South Carolina to Benjamin Echols of Franklin County.

On August 15, 1790, Ezra Owen witnessed a deed of land in Washington County, Georgia to Adrian Tellier, merchant, from Frederick Lipham.

As a young man, Ezra Owen went with Daniel Boone into Kentucky. On July 16, 1793, he married 13-year-old Lydia Vance, who was born in Georgia on February 17, 1780. By 1795 the Ezra Owen family seems to have moved to Henderson County, Kentucky (the present-day Hopkins County, Kentucky). It appears he had these brothers, also living there - Reuben Owen, Franklin Owen and William Owen. The brothers then moved into Randolph County, Illinois, where Ezra Owen became a Major in the Militia, a Justice, Sheriff, Tax Collector, Town Commissioner and a delegate to the Assembly making Arkansas a State.

TO BE CONTINUED
The Owen Family Association
(Of The Original Wilkes County, Ga.)

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2; No. 3
C. Owen Johnson, Editor
Crystal Plaza, Apt. 809 So.
2111 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Arlington, VA 22202

August, 1987

LAST NOTICE FOR THE ONEW REUNION
WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA - OCTOBER 9-11, 1987

If you have not made reservations for the Owen Reunion, please do so now!

Room reservations should be made directly with Ursula Weiser, White Columns Inn, Post Office Box 1408, Thomson, Georgia 30824. The telephone number is (404) 595-8821. No deposit need be made if you arrive before 6 PM. For one person, the rate is $32.00. For two persons, either one or two beds, the rate is $36.00. For a King size bed, the rate is $40.00 for one or two persons.

All other reservations should be made with Carolyn Middour, 786 Park Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033. All persons must pay a $5.00 registration fee. There will be a cash bar from 7 PM to 9 PM on Friday, October 9th. There is a $5.00 charge for persons attending the Callaway Plantation tour on Saturday, October 10th. There is a charge for the Saturday night banquet, depending on the entree chosen - Turkey $10.00; Chicken Kiev $15.00; or Filet Mignon $17.00. This is a tax inclusive price for the meal, including all the trimmings as well as tax and tip.

We hope that every member who possibly can will be with us for this first Owen Reunion!

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS SINCE MAY, 1987

Marian Dodson Chiarito (29)  Route 2, Box 533  Nathalie, VA 24577
Peggy H. Gregory (30)  7130 Evans  Houston, TX 77061
Margie Owen Hanna (31)  523 W. Taft Street  Lafayette, LA 70503
Mary Lee Barnes (32)  1401 Woodland Hills  Tyler, TX 75701

OWEN INQUIRIES

Non-members, as well as members, may submit genealogical inquiries to the Newsletter with only one restriction...the inquiry must relate to some branch of the Owen family. All inquiries are subject to editing to make them more concise. Readers who respond to the inquiry are asked to please send the Newsletter Editor a copy of any response, so our other readers may share the information.
Mr. Ralph E. Marshall, 9921 E. 38th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64133
Seeks information on Colonel Thomas Owen, who came to Virginia in 1632 on the
Ship Susan, particularly the names of his children.

Mr. Marshall has compiled a 68 page book on his Owen ancestors, starting with
Bartholomew and Johanna Owen in Surry County, Virginia, but dealing
principally with Thomas and Isabell Owen and their son, Robert, in
Breckinridge County, Kentucky and four children of Robert Owen in Washington
County, Iowa. Mr. Marshall sells the book for $6.00.

Question: In the November, 1986 issue of the Owen Newsletter we ran an
inquiry from Mary Lee Barnes, 1401 Woodland Hills, Tyler, Texas 75701. She
sought information on a David Allen Owen, born ca. 1765 in South Carolina.
She had located a John Owen family in Chester County, South Carolina, on the
1810 census. This family had similar names to those of her family — David
Owen, Rachel Owen, Elizabeth Owen and Priscilla Owen.

Answer: Our member, Mrs. S. J. Baxter, Jr., 8318 Glenalta Street, Houston
Texas 77061, sent the Owen Newsletter a copy of her reply to Mary Lee Barnes:
"Three years ago I was in Chester County, SC and found the following
information naming a David Owen

Will of Robert Owen, filed in 1801 in Chester County....

Wife — Kathy Owen
Son — John Leak Owen
Brother — David Owen
Sisters — Betsy Owen, Rachel Donal, Priscilla Winburn
Father — John Owen of Halifax County, Virginia

Also several records for Lemuel Owen."

Editor’s Comment: Taking the birthdate of David Allen Owen as Circa 1765 and
using 30 years as a generation, the father, John Owen of Halifax County,
Virginia, would have been born Circa 1735 and have been a contemporary of the
William Owen who married Druscilla Echols and were ancestors of many of our
members.

Peggy H. Gregory – 7130 Evans Street – Houston, Texas 77061-2738
Seeks information on the possible Cherokee Indian ancestry of her Owens
family. She descends from an Elizabeth Owens, who was probably born in
Pittsylvania County, Virginia and died before 1820 in Wilkes County, North
Carolina. She married Nathaniel Judd, Sr. Elizabeth Owens was a daughter
of William Owens II and Mary Darnaby (?). William Owens II is said to have
been born in 1702 in Prince George County, Virginia and to have died in 1767
in Wilkes County, North Carolina. He is said to have been the son of William
Owens born in 1673 in Prince George County, Virginia and to have died in
Halifax County, Virginia. Peggy Gregory was told that Elizabeth Owens was a
full blooded Cherokee. She has a picture of Elizabeth (Owens) Judd's
granddaughter and "she definitely looks like an Indian lady of the time
period".
Editor's Comment - Probably the first thing learned - and the last forgotten - by American schoolchildren (certainly by schoolchildren in the South, if not in New England) is the marriage of the handsome young Englishman, John Rolfe, to the beautiful Indian Princess Pocohontas.

Some of us learned later that some branches - but not all - of two of Virginia's most eminent families are able to claim descent from this historic union - the Bollings and the Randolphs. The very readable historian, Parke Rouse, Jr., on page 35 of his Planters and Pioneers: Life in Colonial Virginia (1968) instructs us that, "Despite Rolfe's example, few settlers married Indians. English policy discouraged it, though occasionally such unions were permitted."

That few English settlers married Indians should not surprise us. Hostility between them followed English displacement of the Indians on their ancestral lands as certainly and naturally as night follows day. Within 14 years of the first settlement of Jamestown, the first Indian massacre of the colonists occurred. The second massacre in 1644 ".....permanently estranged the two peoples", according to Mr. Rouse. In 1676, almost the time William Owen I was born, the western English colonists were in rebellion against their own government for failing to protect them against the Indians. This "Bacon's Rebellion" is often called America's first revolution.

We can personalize this issue. William Owen II had a sister named in his father's will, probated in Halifax County, Virginia as "my daughter Joaner Kerbey". The father, William Owen I, named as the executors of his will, John Kerbey, Senr. and Frances Kerbey. This will was dated 23 October 1752. The will of William Owens II was probated in 1788 in Wilkes County, North Carolina. This will, dated 28 September 1785, was witnessed by Frances Kerbey. Pages 14-16 of Fitzgerald Hunt and Perrow's Eighteenth Century Landmarks of Pittsylvania County, Virginia have a picture and description of the Kerby House on Snow Creek. These are the opening words, "The Indian terror that lapped sickeningly around the edges of early Pittsylvania plantations is said to have struck in sight of this small gem of a house on Snow Creek. Legend says that one of the daughters was scalped near the foot-bridge which crosses it. She was a Kerby girl and this was a Kerby house, now lovingly restored by its present owner, Algie Davis. The Kerby family - John, Frances and William - had large grants of land on Snow Creek and Pigg River as early as 1746."

If, as tradition has it, Elizabeth Owens was a full blooded Cherokee, then I believe she was likely an Indian orphan girl who was adopted and brought up in the household of William and Mary Owens. A girl known to history did such a thing as adopting an Indian child. She was born in Pittsylvania County, the daughter of Colonel John Donelson. Rachel was married to General (and later President) Andrew Jackson. The General, in the course of leading the forces against the Indians, found a little, deserted Indian orphan boy. He called him "Lincoyer" and brought him up as a member of his family, referring to him affectionately as "my son".
If Elizabeth Owens were a full blooded Cherokee and if she was not adopted by
the Owens, but was in fact their daughter, then, of necessity, all of her
ancestors would have to be full blooded Indians. I find this unlikely. We
know the father of William Owen II was William Owen I and since Mary Sue
Mathys' Owen Connections was published, we know that Bartholomew Owen was the
father of William Owen I. Bartholomew was a Church Warden of Southwarke
Parish in Surry County in 1661. He is designated a "gentleman" in legal
records, denoting a man of social distinction in Colonial Virginia.
Bartholomew Owen's inclusion as a headright, along with his wife Jone and
their sons, Robert Owen and William Owen, years after his settlement in
Virginia, is evidence they all visited England and then returned to Virginia.
Mrs. Mathys does not mention Indian ancestry to my knowledge. Quite a lot has
been written over the years about Thomas Owen, a brother of William Owen....
Again, with no mention of Indian ancestry.

For an Owen Indian connection, as well authenticated as that of John Rolfe
and Pocahontas, see Janet Shaffer's "Narcissa and Robert Owen: The Point of
Honor Years", The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Volume 89,
pages 153-169. Colonel Robert Latham Owen, President of the Virginia and
Tennessee Railroad (predecessor of the Norfolk and Western) and a Confederate
Officer, married a part-Cherokee Indian wife, Narcissa Chisholm. Colonel Owen
was born in Lynchburg in 1825, the son of Dr. William Otway Owen and Jane
Latham. His mother died prematurely and Colonel Owen was reared by his
father's second wife, Otwayanna Ann Carter, a granddaughter of George
Washington. Colonel Owen's grandfather, Owen Owen, had come from Augusta
County, Virginia to Lynchburg about 1790. Colonel Owen and Narcissa Chisholm
were married on October 4, 1853 by the Reverend David Sullins, who had
founded Sullins College in Bristol.

Narcissa Chisholm's mother, Malinda Wharton, was of Irish stock. Her father,
Thomas Chisholm, was the last hereditary war chief of the Western Cherokees.
Narcissa's grandfather, John D. Chisholm, was a Scotsman. It was through his
wife, Martha Holmes, that Narcissa's Indian ancestry came. Martha Holmes'
grandfather, John Beamer, was a white missionary who married a sister of
Caulunns, head chief of the seven clans of the Cherokees.

Robert Latham Owen, Jr., one of the two sons of the Colonel and Narcissa,
perhaps became better known than anyone else in his family. Robert, Jr. was
elected one of the two first United States Senators from Oklahoma. He joined
with Carter Glass in sponsoring the legislation establishing the Federal
Reserve System. He also promoted legislation benefiting Indians.

In Volume 2, No. 1, February 1987 issue of the Owen Newsletter, Jo Chasse,
2547 Meadow Court, West Palm Beach, Florida 33406 - sought information on her
great-great grandmother, Mary Blanton Owen, who was born on 23 December 1811
in Halifax County, Virginia. She married Crowder Holloway, who was born in
1800 in Person County, North Carolina. They had a son, William H. Holloway,
who was born in Haywood County, Tennessee in 1850.
Editor's Comment: Jo Chasse should find the answer to her question on pages 462-469 of Edna Anderson Manning's *Our Kin*.

On page 467 there is a "Mary B. Owen b. about 1811 m. Holloway, moved to Tennessee, raised a family".

This Mary B. Owen is shown as the daughter of John Owen, born January 1, 1779. Married on May 5, 1803, to Nancy Easley (daughter of Robert and Ann Stephens Easley). Died May 18, 1817 and buried in the W. L. Owen Cemetery, Chester Springs, Virginia. In John Owen's will, probated in Halifax County 23 February 1818, Mary Blanton Owen is mentioned probably as "Polly E Owen" (this "E" could be mistaken and "B" would be correct).

John Owen's parents are shown as Robertson Owen, Sr., born August 5, 1755 and his wife Obedience -. The Robertson Owen estate records are said to be found in Will Book 13 in Halifax County. He died on January 22, 1819, leaving substantial property, including 44 slaves.

The article in the Manning book notes that there is accurate information and dates from the time of Robertson Owen, Sr., as taken from his Bible owned in 1954 by his descendant, Owen King of South Boston, Virginia. The article says "---it would seem" that John William Owen, the son of John and Phoebe Owen, was the father of Robertson Owen, Sr. John and Phoebe Owen did not have a son, John William Owen; they had two sons, John Owen and William Owen. The John Owen was at one time Sheriff of Pittsylvania County, Virginia and his will was probated there in 1786. He left no son, Robertson Owen. The William Owen's will was probated in Halifax County, Virginia in 1806. Abstracts of this will do not seem to name a son, Robertson Owen. Jo Chasse should, however, secure a copy of this will to see if he is mentioned in it.

The John Owen who died in Prince Edward County, Virginia in 1767 is shown in the Manning book as born in 1705 and as being the son of Hugh Owen "who died about 1719" and the grandson of William Owen, born in 1611; came to Virginia in 1634 and settled in New Kent County, a part of which became Hanover County.

Frances Benson Chandler, on page 1 of her book, *Daniel Grant Owen - His Ancestors, Descendants and their Kin* (Albany, GA 1968) says this John Owen was the youngest of three Owen brothers - Thomas, William and John - who came from Wales to Virginia before 1700 and settled first in Henrico County about twenty miles from Richmond. This John is said in her book to have moved to Williamsburg where, in 1697, he was a member of Old Bruton Church.

Mrs. Lewis Brockman's unprinted manuscript in the DAR Library, cited in Volume 2, Number 2, May, 1987 *Owen Newsletter* gives at least two other possible lineages for this John Owen. What is needed here is some real proof, even if it needs be circumstantial, and not any more unproved guesses.
Following is the ancestry of Jo Chasse:

Walter Owen m. Joyce
d. 1765 - Lunenburg County, VA

David Owen m. Mary
d. 1793 - Montgomery County, VA

Robertson Owen, Sr. m. Obedience Edwards
d. 1819 - Halifax County, VA

John Owen m. Nancy Easley
d. May 18, 1817 - Halifax County, VA

Mary Blanton Owen m. Crowder Holloway
(Jo Chasse's great-great grandparents)

Further Editorial Comment for Jo Chasse's inquiry of Mary Blanton Owen's ancestry. As we saw, Mary Blanton Owen was the daughter of John and Nancy (Easley) Owen and the granddaughter of Robertson and Obedience (--) Owen, Sr.

The following inquiry in the Virginia Genealogist, Volume 22, page 156 (1978) may give the Robertson Owen ancestry. The query was from John Brayton, Box 667, Dyersburg, Tennessee 38024:

"Want ancestry and wives of Walter Owen, died 1765, Lunenburg County, Virginia, married Joyce --; son David Owen died 1798 Montgomery County, Virginia, married Mary --; his son Robertson Owen, died 1819 Halifax County, Virginia married Obedience Edwards (died 1852 Halifax County), daughter of Thomas (died 1772 Chesterfield County, VA) and Mary --."

URIAH OWEN'S PARENTS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS - CONTINUED FROM VOLUME 2; NO. 2

In a History of Southeast Missouri, page 1046, there is a biography of Reuben Pickett Owen - "R. P. Owen, ex-judge, probate judge and attorney-at-law, is a native of Hopkins County, Kentucky, born near Madisonville August 26, 1814, and is the son of Reuben and Patsy (Wells) Owen and grandson of William Owen, who had two sons in the Revolutionary War. He died in Georgia, wither he had immigrated at an early date --- Reuben Owen was a native of Virginia and his wife a native of South Carolina. Her mother was a niece of Daniel Boone. Reuben was reared in Georgia and in 1795 immigrated to Kentucky and in company with one young man went down the river to New Orleans when that territory was under the Spanish Government. He remained there a short time and came back up the river on a barge commanded by a Spanish officer. They stopped at Memphis where they built a fort and Mr. Owen cut the first stick of timber where Memphis now stands ---". 
In 1825 Franklin Owen died in Randolph County, Kentucky. The only son of Major Ezra Owen to remain in Illinois, Thomas Jefferson Vance Owen, became, with Franklin Owen's widow, Administrators of his estate. In a book written by James Ryan Haydon and printed for the Owen Memorial Fund, entitled "Chicago's True Founder - Thomas J. V. Owen", there is a short history of Ezra Owen. It is noted that Ezra Owen had a brother, Franklin E. Owen, who also came into Illinois and their father was believed to be named William Owen. Thomas Jefferson Vance Owen was appointed Indian Agent. He later served in the Illinois Legislature with Abraham Lincoln and then became the first Mayor of Chicago.

About 1845 the Ezra Owen family left Arkansas and moved to Lavaca County, Texas, where Ezra Owen died on November 11, 1859. Ezra Owen's first child was Drucilla Owen. His last son was William B. Owen. His last child was Lydia Echols Owen, who married Andrew M. Dodd. It was their son, David Owen Dodd, who is known as the "Boy Hero of the Confederacy". Dallas T. Herndon of the Arkansas Historical Commission wrote a fascinating article for their journal entitled "Letters of David O. Dodd with Biographical Sketch". At seventeen years old, David Owen Dodd was hanged in Little Rock as a Confederate Spy. offered a full pardon by Yankee General Steele if he would tell who gave him the incriminating evidence he replied "I can die, but I cannot betray a friend". Standing in a wagon under the gallows, deliberate and calm, he saw the provost marshall had forgotten a covering for his eyes. He said, "You will find a handkerchief in my coat". Those were the last words of David Owen Dodd.

TO BE CONCLUDED
The Owen Family Association  
(Formerly Wilkes County, Ga.)

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2; No. 4  
C. Owen Johnson, Editor  
Crystal Plaza, Apt. 809 So.  
2111 Jefferson Davis Hwy.  
Arlington, VA 22202

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, OWEN FAMILY ASSOCIATION!
1985 OWEN FAMILY ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, ATLANTA, GEORGIA
1987 OWEN FAMILY REUNION, WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA
1989 OWEN FAMILY REUNION, PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA

November, 1987

On October 26, 1987 the Owen Family Association celebrated its second birthday. It was organized October 26, 1985 in Atlanta.

On October 9-11, 1987, the Owen Family Association held its first family reunion in Wilkes County, Georgia. Attending, part, or all, of the festivities were the following persons: Captain Harry Owen of Dallas, Texas; Mary Ann Owen Grigsby (Mrs. Charles Vennum Grigsby) of New Orleans, Louisiana; Annette Braselton of Satellite Beach, Florida; Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Middour of Decatur, Georgia; Mrs. Mary L. Woods of Atlanta, Georgia; Elaine Baxter and her husband, Jack, of Houston, Texas; Owen Johnson of Arlington, Virginia; Bill Owen and his daughter, Jennifer, of Woodstock, Georgia; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Arnold Morris of Atlanta, Georgia; J. L. Doggett of Warm Springs, Georgia; and Mrs. Floy Prewitt of Cedartown, Georgia. Although the group was relatively small, it was an enthusiastic and happy one. Before the first hour passed on Friday night, we had all become acquainted and there was a real family feeling throughout the reunion.

Saturday morning we had a genealogical workshop. Questions were asked and various persons in the group volunteered answers and suggestions. We reviewed the list of children of William Owen and Drusilla Echols. Mr. Louis Morris showed The Morris, Arnold and Related Families genealogy which he authored in 1985. We saw pictures of various Owens. Just before noon we went to the Callaway Restoration Area where we saw three different homes belonging to that family. Later we went to Washington, Georgia, county seat of Wilkes County, where we toured two antebellum homes.

At the banquet Saturday night we had a short business meeting. It was decided to hold the next Owen family reunion in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, in the fall of 1989. President Middour named Owen Johnson as Chairman of a Committee on Arrangements. The following officers were elected to serve until the 1989 Reunion: President - Carolyn Middour; Vice President - Carolyn Blackwell; Secretary - Mary Ann Grigsby; Treasurer - Stewart Brown; and Genealogist-Editor - Owen Johnson.
Sunday we attended Sardis Baptist Church, which was organized in 1788. The Uriah Owen Family, who were members of this Church, had moved from Virginia to Georgia the previous year, incidentally the very year the United States Constitution was adopted. The present building of Sardis Church dates from 1835. After the Service we visited in the home of one of the Church members, who showed us the original Church Minutes, which contain the record of our Owen ancestors.

President Middour appointed Annette Braselton Chairman of a Committee on Owen Artifacts. Everyone is asked to send Annette a list of any item they own which belonged to an Owen before 1900. The item might be anything: a watch, a book, a Bible, furniture, china, silver, pictures, etc. - but it must have belonged to an Owen before 1900. When you write Annette - (1) describe the article; (2) tell to which Owen it belonged; (3) give an approximate date of the article; and (4) tell to whom the article presently belongs. Annette Braselton's address is 110 DeSoto Parkway, Apartment 11, Satellite Beach, Florida 32327.

Several people took numerous pictures of the Reunion. President Middour appointed Elaine Baxter Chairman of a Scrapbook Committee and requested that copies of all pictures taken during the Reunion be sent to her at 8318 Glenalta, Houston, Texas 77061. At the 1989 Reunion in Virginia we will all have an opportunity to see these pictures of the 1987 Reunion.

MERRY CHRISTMAS - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

President Carolyn Middour, her Staff of Officers, Owen Newsletter Publisher, Mary Ann Grigsby, and Editor Owen Johnson wish all the Owen Cousins and Friends a "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS SINCE AUGUST, 1987

Gayle M. Pore 412 East 14th Street Hope, Arkansas 71801
Exa Y. Cudd Route 2, Box 109 Wellington, TX 79095
J. L. Doggett Route 1, Box 162 Warm Springs, GA 31830

OWN INQUIRIES

Non-members, as well as members, may submit genealogical inquiries to the Newsletter with only one restriction...the inquiry must relate to some branch of the Owen family. All inquiries are subject to editing to make them more concise. Readers who respond to the inquiry are asked to please send the Newsletter Editor a copy of any response, so our other readers may share the information.
Mrs. James R. Hanna, 523 West Taft Street, Lafayette, LA 70503 - seeks parents of Larkin Owen, born 1780, traditionally in North Carolina. Mrs. Hanna found him in Fairfield County, South Carolina in the 1800 census. From deeds she found his first wife was "Patsey". He had four children born in South Carolina - Elizabeth, Nancy, John and Polly (Mary). He moved to Tennessee where he married, secondly, Margaret Elliot. They had two children - William Elliot and Robert Donnell (Donald). By 1817 he had moved to Morgan County, Alabama, where his other children were born - Larkin James, Jesse Forbes, Margaret Elvira (Peggy), Bird G., Silas Bester and Fleming G. Larkin Owen died in Tippah County, Mississippi on 28 May 1849.

Editor's Comment: Mrs. Hanna's first known Owen ancestor, Larkin Owen, is the same first known Owen ancestor of the Mrs. Brockman, whose well-known manuscript in the DAR Library has been previously cited in this column. Where should Mrs. Hanna look for Larkin Owen's parents?

Larkin Owen was born in 1780, traditionally in North Carolina. In the first U. S. census of 1790 his father may be listed. But where in North Carolina? The state has more Owen families listed in the 1790 census than any other....82 Owen families in 29 counties. We have 1790 census records for only eleven states. In those 11 states (one of which is North Carolina) there are only 350 Owen families, including the 82 Owen families in North Carolina, less than the number of Owen subscribers listed in the 1987 telephone directory of any one American city such as Atlanta, Georgia or Houston, Texas. As you go back in time from 1790 to 1607 (when Jamestown was settled), the number of Owens gets fewer and fewer! The job of tracing all 350 Owens in the 1790 census would indeed be formidable, but not absolutely impossible, but is, of course, unnecessary to the job of tracing the ancestry of Larkin Owen.

As a baptismal or given name, "Larkin" is not in the same league with "Tom", "Dick", or "Harry". "Larkin" is a surname, as "Owen" is a surname. The Editor's name is Charles Owen Johnson. His mother, Laura Owen, named him for her uncle, Charles Owen. Was Larkin Owen's mother a Larkin? The DAR Patriot Index (1966) page 402, lists 14 Larkin ancestors on whom DAR members joined, 3 from Rhode Island, 5 from Massachusetts, 2 from Connecticut, 2 from Pennsylvania and 2 from North Carolina (Captain Benjamin Larkin and Captain William Larkin). DAR records should tell where in North Carolina these Larkins lived. If Owens lived in the same county with them, then maybe you'll find some answers to the parentage of Larkin Owen. Also, since Larkin Owen was born in 1780, his father could have been a Revolutionary Soldier or patriot. The DAR records should be consulted. A DAR members lists not only the child of the Soldier or patriot from whom she descends, but all the children and their spouses.

Another way to determine where to look for Larkin Owen's parents is to find where his neighbors came from. You know that in 1800 he lived in Fairfield County, South Carolina.
In the 1790 census there was a Smallwood Owen in Fairfield County. In 1767 (when Pittsylvania County, Virginia, was cut off from Halifax County) a James Smallwood Owen witnessed a deed from Samuel Pruitt (whose wife was Lucy Owen) to William Owen. Another witness to that deed was John Dix, who named in his will probated in Pittsylvania County in 1784 a son, Larkin Dix. Also living in Pittsylvania County, Virginia is Larkin Madding. Larkin Owen, Larkin Dix, Larkin Madding....could they all be related through a Larkin family?

Larkin Owen had a son, Bird Owen. Everyone knows there was a Byrd (Bird) family in Virginia. Larkin Owen had a son, Fleming G. Owen. In Marriages of Halifax County, Virginia 1801-1831, compiled by Marion Dodson Chiarito and James Hadley Prendergast, there is, on page 102, the marriage on December 25, 1801 of Fleming Owen to Anney Wouall. Fleming must have been at least 21 when he married in 1801, so born about 1780. Larkin Owen was born in 1780. Could they be brothers?

Larkin Owen had a son, Silas Bester Owen. Who was Silas Bester?

Look at a map of the United States. Virginia is just north of North Carolina. Pittsylvania County adjoins Halifax County. John Dix, mentioned above as witnessing the Pruitt-Owen deed and as having a son, Larkin Dix, lived in the southeastern part of Pittsylvania County, very close to Halifax County and very close to North Carolina. His house is pictured and described on pages 64-66 of Fitzgerald, Hunt and Perrow's, Eighteenth Century Landmarks of Pittsylvania County, Virginia 1767-1787.

THE PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF SAMUEL PRUITT, JR.

WILLIAM OWEN AND URIAH OWEN

We know that in one of the first deeds recorded in Pittsylvania County, Samuel Pruitt, Jr. sold William Owen the land on which William was living and then later William sold this land to Uriah Owen, who was living on the land with him. On page 550 of the DAR Patriot Index was found Samuel Pruitt marrying Lucy Owen. The underlying DAR applications show Lucy Owen was born in 1736 in Frederick County, Maryland, where the Pruitts originated. Samuel and Lucy married ca. 1754.
The D.A.R. application papers name these children for Samuel Pruitt and Lucy Owen:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Name of Spouse</th>
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<td>Philip Pruitt</td>
<td>1756</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zachariah Pruitt</td>
<td>1758</td>
<td>Jane Burgess</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth Pruitt</td>
<td>1760</td>
<td>Mr. Cook</td>
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This marriage was on 17 October 1785. Benjamin Thrasher was surety. She was the daughter of Edward Burgess, whose will probated on 17 January 1814 in Pittsylvania County names a son, Benjamin; daughter Mary Clark; Sarah Burgess, Mordiea (this is surely "Mordecai") Burgess, Jane Prewitt, James Burgess, John Burgess, Milly Wilson, daughter Verlinna Burgess, wife Margaret Burgess and son William Burgess. Witnesses to this will were Halcott Townes, George Spratlin, Jassheth (?) Prewitt, Matthew Fitzgerald and William Snody.

4. Samuel Pruitt III 10 Sept. 1761 Lavenia Walters

The Pruitt-Walters marriage was on 26 December 1788. Robert Walters was surety.

The will of Thomas Walters was probated in Pittsylvania County on 18 August 1796. His wife was Lucy and his children were - John, Robert, Archer, Obediah, William, Abraham, Wilmuth Scott, Agatha Matthis, Lucy Walker and Margaret Walters. Security for the executors were George Dodson, William Richards and Henry Barksdale. Also named in the will is a grandson, John Walters, the son of Thomas Walters, deceased.

5. Elizabeth Pruitt 26 Apr. 1763 Zachariah Butts

The surety was Bazell Hawker. The marriage was on 26 April 1794. The mother of Samuel Pruitt, Jr., who married Lucy Owen, was Elizabeth Hawker.

6. Benjamin Pruitt 1765 Mary Walters
7. Polly Pruitt Bazdel Hawker

Married on 22 March 1794.
8. Sally Pruitt

Married March 3, 1807.
(What relation, if any, is William Seals, Jr., who on 23 October 1790 married Eliza Hawker? Surety was John Givings).

9. Joseph Pruitt

Married 24 March 1790. She was the daughter of Jonathan Elliott. The surety was Joseph Akin.

The will of Samuel Pruitt, Jr. naming his children was probated in Pittsylvania County. Land "to Atkinson's line" was left to daughter Sally The will was witnessed by George Sprat (?), (probably the same George Spratlin who witnessed the will of Edward Burgess) - William Stamps and Polly Stamps.

William Stamps and William Walker were executors of the will of John Waller, probated on 20 February 1809. Named in the will were his wife Rebecah, his sons Joel, Obid (Obadiah), John and Pleasant, his daughters Lidda White, Phebe Bolton and Sarah Price, deceased wife of Major Price. Witnesses to the will were William Walker, William (X) Colley, and George Dodson, Sr. (who was security for the executors of Thomas Walters). Security for the executors of John Waller were Jackson Walters, William Dodson, Rawley White, John Pestole, Noel Waddell, Thomas Shelton, Stockley Turner, William Williams, William Yancey and Doctor C. Williams.

Was "Rebecah" a second wife of John Waller? On page 82 of Reverend Silas Emmet Lucas, Jr.'s Supplement to History of the Dodson (Dotson) Family (1966) we see John Waller was married to Lydia Dodson, a daughter of Elisha Dodson and Sarah Everett (aunt of Sarah Everett Owen). See also Lucas' Genealogy of the Dodson (Dotson), Lucas, Pyle, Rochester and Allied Families (1959).

Their daughter, Sally Waller, married Major Price of Pittsylvania County, Virginia. He had a son by a previous marriage, Thomas Lawson Price, who married Lydia Bolton, daughter of Sally Waller's sister, Phebe Waller Bolton. Mr. Price was the first Mayor of Jefferson City, Missouri, a Major General in the Missouri Militia, Lieutenant Governor of Missouri (1849-1852), and Congressman (1862-1863) - Who's Who in American History, page 425.

Samuel Pruitt, Jr., Zachariah (X) Pruett and Absalom Hendrick witnessed the deed of Richard Echols (father of Drusilla, who married William Owen) to James Johnson on 11 January 1786 of 476 acres on the main fork of Sandy Creek.

On 18 October 1779 William Owen of the Parish of Camden, County of Pittsylvania, sold to Uriah Owen of said Parish and County a parcel of land on Sandy Creek, part of a tract of 333 acres formerly belonging to Samuel Prewit, on which Uriah Owen was living. Witnesses to the deed were Jer. Simpson, John Stamps, Benjamin Burgess and Mordecai Burgess.
In the DAR Library is Alexandra Vernelle Stimson's *Our Stimson Clan and Kin* (1986). "Jer Simpson, one of the witnesses to the Owen deed in 1779, was Jeremiah Stimson, who was mentioned in the will of his father, Jeremiah Stimson, which was probated in Pittsylvania County on 27 March 1777." This will was witnessed by Richard Echols, grandfather of Uriah Owen, by Daniel Everett, father-in-law of Uriah Owen and by John Stamps (born ca. 1740; died 1812), who married Eleanor Dodson, according to the DAR Patriot Index, page 640. Eleanor Dodson was the daughter of Sarah Everett (1729 - ), who was the sister of Daniel Everett (1731/2 - ) and the aunt of Sarah Everett (1761 - 1832), wife of Uriah Owen.

Jeremiah Stimson's will mentions his sons Jeremiah, Erasmus and Loyd. His wife, Rachel, and son, Jeremiah, were named executors. Securities for the executors were Benjamin Thrasher (who was security for the Zachariah Pruitt-Jane Burgess marriage) and John Waller, whose will probated in 1809 we have discussed. This Jeremiah Stimson is the son of Solomon Stimson, whose will in Prince George's County, Maryland, is dated 9 January 1726/7. Jeremiah Stimson bought land in Prince George's County, Maryland on 22 July 1738 and sold it to Charles Harding on 1 February 1770. He served in the Maryland Colonial Militia under Captain George Beall in 1748. The birth of his son, Erasmus Stimson, on 14 April 1762, is recorded in St. Paul's Rock Creek Parish Church, the only Church in the District of Columbia dating from the Colonial era. The Church was then a parish of the Church of England and now is a parish of the Episcopal Church.

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