



## THE BIRMINGHAM GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded April 15, 1959

[www.birminghamgenealogy.org](http://www.birminghamgenealogy.org)

<http://birminghamgenealogy.wordpress.com/>

## THE PIONEER TRAILS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2016

**General Meeting for April:** The Birmingham Genealogical Society will meet at 2:00 p.m. on **Saturday, April 23rd** on the fourth floor of the Birmingham Public Library (in the Arrington Auditorium). The Board of Directors will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the same room.

**Please join us on Saturday, April 23rd (2:00 pm) as Former BGS President, Scott Martin, will present: "Thinking Outside the Box – Non-Traditional Sources for Genealogical Research."** Learn about non-traditional tools used to aid in your genealogical research. While traditional methods work much of the time in genealogical research, sometimes it pays to take a more creative approach. Please join us for this informative program!



**Following Up the Obituary** - Don't just search a newspaper for an obituary of your ancestor. Local, weekly newspapers mention relatives of your ancestor coming from a distance for the funeral—including the town where they currently lived. There may be mention of your ancestor's final illness as well as relatives who came to visit.

**Deeds Can Be Recorded Later** – Land records are not recorded in the order in which they were executed. They are recorded in the order in which they were brought to the courthouse for recording. Your ancestor may have waited a few years to record his deed. He may have forgotten and when the heirs went to settle up they discovered that Pa had never recorded his deed. They'd have to record it before they could record any deeds of sale or transfer after his death. If your landowning ancestor lived in a county from 1830-1852, don't stop looking for land deeds in 1852. There could be records recorded much later. It was the purchaser who recorded the deed. If your relative sold his property to an unorganized purchaser, that deed may not have been immediately recorded.

**Extend Your Grantor and Grantee Index Searches** - Grantor and grantee indexes to land records typically only include the name of the first grantor in and the first grantee. Deeds involving inheritances, estate disputes, and partnerships may list multiple grantors or grantees. Searching for all members of your ancestor's extended family (relatives by blood, relatives by marriage, etc.) may locate references not found if you only look for that "one person of interest." And if your ancestors were farmers and you've never looked for a deed...you could be missing out.

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<http://genealogytipoftheday.blogspot.com>, TIPDATE.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR! THE 2016 BGS MEETING DATES:

May 21<sup>st</sup> – Story Castle – Second Floor Main Building  
June 25<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Floor Auditorium Linn-Henley  
July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Fourth Floor Auditorium Linn-Henley

August 27<sup>th</sup> - Fourth Floor Auditorium Linn-Henley  
September 24<sup>th</sup> - Fourth Floor Auditorium Linn-Henley  
October 22<sup>nd</sup> - Fourth Floor Auditorium Linn-Henley

**The past is not dead. It isn't even past. --William Faulkner**

*Scott A. Martin, BGS Newsletter Editor*





## NEWS FROM BIRMINGHAM

### ***Birmingham Iron Age, 29 June 1876***

Died, in Springville, Alabama, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mrs. Laura Glenn Fulton, wife of E.K. Fulton. Mrs. Fulton was born near Starkville, Mississippi, on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1843, being at the time of her death in her 34<sup>th</sup> year. She was the daughter of William M. and Sarah J. Montgomery and was married on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 1863. She made a profession of religion and joined the Presbyterian Church at Pleasant Ridge, Alabama in 1857. In the early part of 1874, she removed with her husband to Elyton, and united with the Presbyterian Church in Birmingham. She leaves three children, her husband and a large circle of friends to mourn her death.

### ***Birmingham Iron Age, 23 February 1882***

Our community was excited last week by the report of a man missing named Billy Poe. After a search of five days he was found near Mr. J. A. McClintock's on Friday evening of last week. Esquire Fancher held an inquest on the body. Mr. Poe had fallen of a bluff of rocks fifty feet high, on rocks below and his body was badly mangled. He and one Mr. Bailey on the Friday before went to Brock's Gap and remained there till Saturday, drinking. After they had gone, about half an hour Mr. Bailey returned to Brock's to get more whiskey but did not return that night to hunt for his friend. It is believed that Poe suicided by jumping off the bluff as he was tracked to the bluff and no other track with him. It is said that on one other occasion he had made an effort to kill himself and was only deterred by the fear of being buried and that he sought this out of the way place to prevent being buried.

### ***The Georgia Enterprise, 14 November 1889***

Two men armed with Winchester rifles were seen in the vicinity of Irondale, Ala., eight miles from Birmingham, late Wednesday afternoon. Soon after dark they robbed two citizens half a mile from the town. One of the men robbed reported that one of the highwaymen filled the description of RUBE BURROW, the train robber. RUBE BURROW, the train robber, took a ride on the night express train on the Kansas City, Memphis and Birmingham railroad Tuesday night. He was seen and recognized, but no one attempted his capture. He boarded the train, west bound, at a small station in the western part of Alabama, and rode a few miles across the line into Mississippi. He was alone, but carried a large Winchester rifle and two pistols.

### ***The Birmingham News, 31 October 1938***

Mrs. Lizzie W. DeJarnette, age 71, passed away Monday morning in Albertville, Ala. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. John B. Rice, of Albertville; one son, John P. DeJarnette, of Birmingham; 3 brothers, H. L. and G. M. Wood, of Birmingham, and H. C. Wood, of Portland, Ore. Funeral services will be held Tuesday morning, 10:30 o'clock at the residence of G. E. Coffman, 8708 Cotton Ave., Birmingham, Interment Oak Hill Cemetery, the Rev. W. Glenn Bartee officiating, and the Rev. R. L. Sloop assisting. Active pallbearers: John B. Rice, Jr., Jack DeJarnette, H. L. Wood, JR. G. N. Wood, M. D. Wood and Edward D. Mills.

### ***The Birmingham News, 20 May 1953***

Funeral services for Robert Fulton Massey, 85, of 826 Chester Avenue, who died Tuesday, will be held at 2 p.m. today at Mount Olive Baptist Church, with the Rev. H.O. Coshatt officiating. Burial in the adjoining church cemetery, Brown-Service directing. In retirement for quite some time, he was last employed as a labor foreman at a TCI lime quarry, near Trussville. He was a Mason and a member of the Odd Fellows. Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Meek Hathcock and Mrs. Florence Lees, both of Birmingham; three sons, Joe Massey, of Trussville, Bill Massey, of Bessemer, and Lester Massey, of Argo; 32 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and two gggrandchildren. Pallbearers will be his grandsons.

## **Can't Find the Grave? Alternative Locations for Burial Places for Your Ancestors** Courtesy of <http://www.ancestralfindings.com/>

Looking for the graves of our ancestors is a basic part of genealogy. The headstones provide a tangible link between us and those who came before us. It is something... and often the only thing... that we can touch that is intimately associated with that ancestor. Standing on the ground over which their earthly remains lay is as close as we'll ever get to the more ancient ancestors we never personally knew. Finding the grave puts a bookmark at the end of that particular ancestor's story (and it's up to you to fill in the details in the beginning and middle of that story through additional research). It also tells you a lot about where that ancestor lived and what his or her life might have been like in that place long ago. But what if you can't find the grave? Not everyone has one that is easily located. Some may not have one at all, such as if they were buried at sea (or lost at sea) or were among the missing in a war (in which case, all you may know is that they are buried on the battlefield somewhere). Here are some of the most common reasons why you may not be able to easily find a grave, or find one at all, and what to do about it.

The Town Where Your Ancestor Lived Had No Cemetery: This was not uncommon in early colonial times, and sometimes even into the later colonial era. Pioneers to the west in the mid to late 19th century may also have encountered this problem. If there was no town cemetery, your ancestors had two options for burial:

### 1) Use the Closest Cemetery

The closest cemetery may have been a town or even a few towns away. As long as a funeral procession could get there and back on foot in a day, the person was usually buried there. So, if you're looking for a headstone for your ancestor in the town in which they lived and can't find one, try looking in cemeteries in neighboring towns. Even if the town has a cemetery now, it may not have had one during the time of your ancestor. Such was the case with Salem, Massachusetts. For the first decade or two of its existence, it had no cemetery. People were taken to Ipswich for burial in the ancient cemetery there instead. Salem had its own cemeteries by the 1660's, but early colonial ancestors were probably buried in Ipswich.

### 2) Use the Family Property

This was another common option when a cemetery wasn't available nearby (or plots in it were too expensive to purchase). Roadsides and even some front and back yards of private houses all over New England have these little family cemeteries, which are protected by the state. In many cases, though, no headstones were used. In order to know if your ancestor was buried on private property, you will need an obituary or some other ancient document such as a will to prove it.

The Headstone Is No Longer There (or Never Was): In really old cemeteries, vandalism and weathering have been problems. Many of these old cemeteries have broken headstones, or ones that can no longer be read. I ran into this in Gloucester, Massachusetts in the town's oldest cemetery. The vast majority of the stones were either broken or unreadable. While I did find a headstone for my ancestor there, it was a new one, put up by modern descendants. A railroad track had been built through the cemetery, and the actual burial spot of my ancestor was believed to be under the track or in the woods beyond it, where the cemetery used to extend.

Some graves originally had headstones, but they were made of wood, and destroyed through weather or vandalism or age-long ago. Other times, no headstone was ever there, either because the ancestor's family couldn't afford it, or, as in the case of Quakers, their religion preached against headstones as symbols of vanity. If you think your ancestor is buried in a particular cemetery, but there is no headstone (or no readable one for you to be sure it's him or her), you can go to the town hall or town historian to see if they have a map of burials in that particular cemetery. If they do, you can use the map to find the grave. If there is no map, as is the case with most ancient cemeteries, you may never actually be sure of the exact spot your ancestor is buried.

## Pioneer Trails Newsletter

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If you can find an obituary or will that provides the information, you will at least know they are there somewhere. If it is the only cemetery to exist in the town when your ancestor died, you can also be content knowing they are there, and you visited the place, even if you didn't find the exact location.

While it can be frustrating to not be able to find a headstone, it is a jumping off point for doing additional genealogical detective work. A headstone may, in fact, exist, just not where you expected it to be. It is your job to track it down. If there was a headstone that is gone now, or if there never was one, you might be able to find a map showing where your ancestor is buried in a particular cemetery. If not, knowing the cemetery they are most likely to be in and visiting it to pay your respects to your ancestor is the most you can do.

It's not like having a headstone you can touch or standing over the ground where your ancestor is, but you at least will know you walked on the ground where their relatives once stood when they brought the person there to be buried. Even standing in the probable cemetery where your ancestor is buried is a link to them and the past in its own unique way.

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### Jefferson County, Alabama Marriages to 1825 Transcribed and Contributed by Marcella Davis To be continued in next newsletter

Groom	Bride	Date	County
Isaacs, Elijah	Bagley, Milly	8 Nov 1821	Jefferson
Jacks, Nicholas	Harris, Sarah	10 Nov 1824	Jefferson
Jackson, Hezekiah	Steelman, Elizabeth	22 Nov 1821	Jefferson
Jackson, Samuel	Dill, Elizabeth	1 May 1823	Jefferson
Johnson, Joel	Elliott, Polly	4 Sep 1818	Jefferson
Johnson, John	McMillion, Charlotte	18 Jul 1823	Jefferson
Johnson, Price M.	Alred, Kezziah	31 Oct 1822	Jefferson
Johnson, Randolph	Ashby, Elizabeth	26 Jul 1823	Jefferson
Johnson, Rodolphus	Lee, Rebecca	16 Sep 1825	Jefferson
Jones, Charles P.	Dejernatte, Parmelia H.	11 Nov 1824	Jefferson
Jones, Eliah	Foster, Sally	24 Aug 1821	Jefferson
Jones, John	Harbin, Sarah	22 Nov 1818	Jefferson
Kellough, Isaac	Cruce, Nancy	3 Feb 1820	Jefferson
Kellough, Isaac	Duff, Ruth	26 Sep 1824	Jefferson
Kelly, John	Burleson, Rhoda	4 May 1819	Jefferson
Killough, Allen	Byars, Nancy	22 May 1819	Jefferson
Killough, Allen	Hudson, Nancy	7 Oct 1824	Jefferson
Killough, Allen	Killough, Nancy	4 Nov 1824	Jefferson
King, Peyton	Findley, Jane Elmira	7 Mar 1824	Jefferson
Larue, Stephen	Scoggins, Maria	28 Nov 1819	Jefferson
Lassiter, Benjamin	Murphree, Matilda	4 Jul 1822	Jefferson
Lee, Stephen	Weeks, Eliza	13 Nov 1821	Jefferson
Lindsey, Caleb	Alexander, Violet	30 Dec 1824	Jefferson
Lindsey, James	Franklin, Rachel	10 Jan 1821	Jefferson
Linn, Joseph	Hopson, Maranda	11 Sep 1822	Jefferson
Linton, Hillary	Jones, Bekey	29 Nov 1819	Jefferson
Little, Henry	Bass, Sinthy	6 Jun 1822	Jefferson
Little, Isaac	Burchfield, Mahala	2 May 1822	Jefferson

## Pioneer Trails Newsletter

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Little, Thomas	Burks, Nancy 2	0 Jul 1820	Jefferson
Littlepage, Peter W.	Dejernate, Lucretia W.	10 Apr 1823	Jefferson
Liverman, Jonathon	Boyd, Patsey	3 Apr 1823	Jefferson
Livingston, John	Caldwell, Rebecca	21 Nov 1819	Jefferson
Livingston, Samuel	Livingston, Frances	7 Nov 1819	Jefferson
Lockhart, John H.	Burchfield, Mary	3 Apr 1825	Jefferson
Lockridge, Andrew	Nations, Anna	25 Oct 1818	Jefferson
Lockridge, James	Cawood, Patsey	23 Apr 1820	Jefferson
Loggins, John C.	Wear, Peggy	22 Apr 1823	Jefferson
Long, William	Rutherford, Polly	17 Sep 1819	Jefferson
Love, Tyra	Waldroop, Eleanor	19 Oct 1822	Jefferson
Lovelady, Thomas	Jones, Hester	13 Apr 1819	Jefferson
Loveless, Richard	Graham, Seley	10 Dec 1820	Jefferson
Malone, Drury	Campbell, Anny	18 Jul 1822	Jefferson
Martin, Robert N.	Presley, Eleanor	23 Dec 1825	Jefferson
Maxwell, Thomas	Lovelady, Betsy	9 May 1819	Jefferson
Mazy, Thomas	Roberts, Ruah	24 Dec 1821	Jefferson
McCallister, William	Beavers, Nancy	16 Oct 1821	Jefferson
McClain, Jesse	Hobson, Philloby	5 Aug 1822	Jefferson
McCurley, George L.	McAdams, Polly	4 Feb 1824	Jefferson
McEntosh, Kenneth	McClure, Matilda	25 Feb 1823	Jefferson
McKinney, Moses	Rupe, Nancy	11 Feb 1824	Jefferson
McMillion, Lemuel G.	Freeland, Attemira	22 Jan 1824	Jefferson
McSwain, James	Burks, Elizabeth	2 Jan 1825	Jefferson
McWhorter, Benjamin	Adams, Drucilla	6 Mar 1821	Jefferson
McWhorter, John H.	Adams, Jane C.	17 Oct 1822	Jefferson
McWilliams, James W.	Duff, Nancy	3 Sep 1824	Jefferson
McWilliams, James W.	Hudson, Judith	21 Sep 1820	Jefferson
McWilliams, John	Condry, Hannah	10 May 1821	Jefferson
McWilliams, Watson	Whittington, Anna	27 Dec 1821	Jefferson
Meadley, Bartholomew	Collingsworth, Matilda	18 Feb 1822	Jefferson
Micham, Roland	Taylor, Cynthia	21 Nov 1821	Jefferson
Middleton, John	Click, Isabella	29 Feb 1820	Jefferson
Middleton, Robert D.	Reid, Catharine	18 Oct 1820	Jefferson
Miller, Henry	McDonald, Sally	20 Jan 1820	Jefferson
Miller, Samuel	Snow, Martha	28 Feb 1819	Jefferson
Mirick, Henry	Goodwin, Betsy	20 Mar 1825	Jefferson
Mitchell, Thomas	Starnes, Betsy	24 Jun 1824	Jefferson
Montgomery, James	Reese, Martha	24 Sep 1824	Jefferson
Montgomery, Robert	Machen, Frances	13 Jul 1821	Jefferson
Moore, John	Long, Betsy	3 Mar 1825	Jefferson
Moore, Joseph	Burden, Charlotte	7 Mar 1821	Jefferson
Moore, William	Jones, Nancy	13 Nov 1819	Jefferson
Morgan, John	Hopson, Mehala	5 Aug 1822	Jefferson
Morgan, Walter	Deaton, Nancy	22 Jul 1819	Jefferson
Morris, James	Wilkinson, Nancy	31 Aug 1820	Jefferson
Morris, John H.	McCarter, Prudence	14 Jun 1819	Jefferson

## Pioneer Trails Newsletter

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Morris, Washington G.L.	Lacey, Jane	13 Sep 1825	Jefferson
Murphree, Rowland J.	Steelman, Polly	1 Apr 1823	Jefferson
Murray, Gibson W.	Brooks, Drucilla Taylor	3 Dec 1822	Jefferson
Narrimore, Joseph	Reid, Delila	3 Jun 1819	Jefferson
Nation, Bayless	Ferguson, Mary	1 Jul 1824	Jefferson
Nations, Christopher	Stapp, Polly	27 Nov 1821	Jefferson
Nations, Daniel	Barton, Ludia	14 Feb 1823	Jefferson
Nations, Daniel	Strawn, Atheniah	1 Oct 1818	Jefferson
Nations, Isaac	Davis, Rachel	6 Jan 1822	Jefferson
Neal, Joseph	Craft, Esther	12 Dec 1820	Jefferson
Neal, Obadiah	Davidson, Elizabeth	20 Dec 1819	Jefferson
Nicholas, Joseph	Lovelace, Mary	23 Mar 1823	Jefferson
Nutt, Sampson	Speer, Polly	7 Mar 1824	Jefferson
Nutt, William	Spears, Elizabeth	20 May 1818	Jefferson
Oaks, Laban	Stapp, Sarah	15 Aug 1823	Jefferson
Obannon, Sampson	Obannon, Elizabeth	6 Feb 1823	Jefferson
Oliver, Alexander	Killough, Jane	17 Jan 1822	Jefferson
Paulling, John	Walker, Elizabeth	15 May 1823	Jefferson
Payne, John W.	McMahon, Sally	22 Sep 1825	Jefferson
Peden, Thomas W.	Pierce, Mahala	19 Mar 1823	Jefferson
Pierce, Aquilla	Deloach, Nancy	4 Jan 1821	Jefferson
Pierce, David	Little, Susanna	1 May 1823	Jefferson
Pierce, Riley	Bass, Nancy	25 Jul 1821	Jefferson
Powell, Green	Tidmore, Patsey	3 Apr 1823	Jefferson
Prier, John	White, Dicy	19 Jan 1820	Jefferson
Prude, William	McAdory, Celia	6 Apr 1823	Jefferson
Queen, Hiram	Burden, Anna	19 Feb 1819	Jefferson
Ragan, Charles	Burford, Elizabeth	22 Jan 1825	Jefferson
Ramsey, George	Cunningham, Patsey	13 Dec 1820	Jefferson
Raney, Thomas	Bishop, Jane	11 Sep 1822	Jefferson
Ratliff, James	Cooper, Polly	24 Feb 1825	Jefferson
Ratliff, John	Hopper, Fereby	3 Aug 1820	Jefferson
Reed, Levi	Rusher, Eleanor	23 Dec 1819	Jefferson
Reed, Reddin	Powell, Nancy	3 Feb 1820	Jefferson

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