

The organizational meeting of the genealogical group was held Monday, November 17th at Friedman Library. Mr. Tom Boozer, director of Arts and Humanities for Tuscaloosa County presided.

Mrs. Bessie Sasser, director of Friedman Library, greeted the group.

Mr. Boozer explained the reason for organizing the group.

Mr. Alton Lambert stated that he was interested in its formation to preserve the history of the area and to serve to disperse information about the county and its early settlers.

A discussion took place on the purposes of the organization with the following ideas evolving:

1. The group may serve as a "clearing house" for the exchange of information,
 2. Members may be able to share their personal reference materials with each other,
 3. The formation of a collection of genealogies and like materials may be gathered and kept at the Friedman Library. These materials may be cross-referenced in order that all families researched may be noted. Files would be available for all members and other interested people to use. This would be of special help to beginning genealogists.
 4. Projects, such as, cemetery restorations, might be done by the group.
 5. A newsletter is a possibility.
 6. The group could donate needed materials to Friedman Library.
- It was decided that the group would have two divisions---a day

group and a night group. This was in order that there would be a meeting at a time convenient for all concerned.

The group voted to use the name "The Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society."

at Friedman Library

The meetings will be/on the first Thursday of each month.

The next meetings will be held at ten a.m. on December 4th with the night group meeting on the same date at seven p.m.

There was a discussion on the collection of dues, but no final decision was reached.

Each member was asked to bring to the next meeting a list of any personal reference materials that they would be willing to share with group members. Each member was also asked to bring a documented

group.

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Mr. Alton Lambert stated that he was interested in its formation to preserve the history of the area and to serve to disperse information about the county and its early settlers.

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There was a discussion on the collection of dues, but no final decision was reached.

Each member was asked to bring to the next meeting a list of any personal reference materials that they would be willing to share with group members. Each member was also asked to bring a documented, chart of one family on which they were working. This will be put in the files.

An interesting question and answer session concluded the meeting.

We thought you might like a copy of the minutes for the next meeting.

Organization of Genealogical Materials

I. Introduction

Genealogical materials can be organized in an infinite number of ways. The system described herein is one in which the results are recorded on two basic documents: Ancestor Charts and Family Group Sheets. These can be numbered and arranged systematically so that data on any person in one's family genealogical files can be recorded in a particular place that can be found readily at a later date. Once a person is identified as being in a particular family group, then bits and pieces of information about that person can be recorded on the appropriate Family Group Sheet.

Ancestor Charts and Family Group Sheets are available from a wide variety of sources. Examples are shown herein as Figures 1 and 2 which include current information for placing orders.

II. Ancestor Charts

Ancestor Charts are available for four generations, five generations, seven, eight, etc. The system described herein uses the Four Generation Ancestor Chart. Five generation charts are also available in $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ size paper, but four generation charts are preferred for two reasons: (a) there is room for more information on a chart when there are only 15 persons on a page than for a chart listing 31 persons (the number on a five generation chart); and (b) using four generation charts results in the family group sheets being separated into smaller groupings, making them easier to find.

A. The Starting Point

Before initiating the first Ancestor Chart, a decision must be made as to which families are to be included in the system being organized. Person No. 1 on Chart No. 1 should be:

1. Yourself, if only your family is to be included.
2. Your spouse, if only the spouse's family is to be included.
3. One of your children, if you want both husband and wife's family to be included in the system (if no children, list husband as Person No. 2 and wife as Person No. 3).

B. Continuation

1. The eight names listed as Persons 8 through 15 will each be assigned as Person No. 1 on eight more Ancestor Charts. Person No. 8 (Chart 1) will go on Chart 2, Person No. 9 on Chart 3, etc., with Person No. 15 on Chart 9.

2. As each Ancestor Chart is filled out, persons 8 through 15 on a given chart each become Person No. 1 on a subsequent chart.

3. Since each chart spawns eight more charts (or 16 more if five generation charts are used), the numbering system must be carefully observed. The first chart spawns eight more, each of which generates eight, so at the third level there are sixty-four, and at the fourth level 512! See Figure 3.

4. Few people can extend all lines of their family back an equal number of generations along all ancestry lines, so gaps will appear at each level of ancestor charts. A numbering system must be devised to save the appropriate numbers for future additions. The formula for a Four Generation Ancestor Chart is as follows. To determine the chart numbers that extend back from a given chart, multiply that chart number by eight and subtract six. This will yield the number of the chart on which Person No. 8 will become Person No. 1. Example: Determine the chart numbers for the eight charts that are generated by Chart No. 3. Multiply 3 by 8 to get 24. Subtract 6 to get 18. Person 8 on Chart 3 will become Person 1 on Chart No. 18. Person 9 goes to Chart 19, Person 10 to Chart 20, etc., and Person 15 goes to Chart 25. (The corresponding formula for Five Generation Ancestor Charts is to multiply by 16 and subtract 14.)

5. Index tabs are placed on each Ancestor Chart to aid in locating families. The Chart number and family name of Person No. 1 are placed on the tab. To space the tabs evenly, place it beside the person number which Person No. 1 occupied on the previous chart. Example: Person No. 12 on Chart No. 1 becomes Person No. 1 on Chart No. 6. Place the index tab on Chart No. 6 beside Person No. 12.

III. Family Group Sheets

A. Numbering System

Sheets are numbered according to the Ancestor Chart Number and the Husband's Person Number on that chart.

Family Group Sheet No. 1/2 for example is the family of Person No. 2 on Ancestor Chart No. 1.

Sheet No. 4/8 is the family of Person No. 8 on Ancestor Chart No. 4.

B. Placement in Relation to Ancestor Charts

Family Group Sheets are placed directly behind the Ancestor Charts on which the families are listed. They are arranged in numerical order. Sheets 1/2, 1/4, 1/6, 1/8, 1/10, 1/12, and 1/14 will follow Ancestor Chart 1 in the notebook.

IV. Family Group Sheets for Collateral Lines

1. Children not in the direct ancestral lines

Children on each Family Group Sheet can be designated by using the Sheet Number (such as 4/6) and the child number in that family, such as 4/6:2 as the second child in Family Group 4/6. A Family Group Sheet for child 4/6:2 would be designated by that number. Children of person 4/6:2 are designated by adding their numbers to those of their parent's. Person 4/6:2:1 would be the first child born to person 4/6:2. Family Group Sheets of "collateral" children are placed, in sequence, after the parent's Family Group Sheet.

2. Families of second wives and/or husbands

If a husband had two or more wives and Family Group Sheets are included for more than one family, they can be designated as 4/6A, 4/6B, etc., with "A" indicating the first wife, "B" the second, etc.

If a wife had two or more husbands and more than one Family Group Sheet is included, the Family Group Sheets can be designated by using the wife's Person Number on the Ancestor Chart, such as 4/7A. This would be the family of Person No. 7's first husband (Person 7 is the wife of Person 6).

3. Families of In-Laws of Collateral Children

Suppose you wish to include the families of the spouses of your brothers and sisters (or the spouses of the brothers or sisters of your parents, grandparents, etc.) Family Group Sheet 4/6:2W would represent the family headed by the parents of the wife (W) of Child 2 in family 4/6. If both sets of those parents were to be included as Family Group Sheets in which they appeared as children, those sheets would be 4/6:2WW and 4/6:2WH for the families in which the mother (W) and father (H) appear as children.

4. Other collateral lines can be designated using similar codes.

William D. Jordan
June 4, 1981

Name of Compiler Wm D. Jordan

FOUR GENERATION ANCESTOR CHART

Address 2 High ForestPerson No. 1 on this chart is the same
person as No. 10 on chart No. 1.Chart No. 4City, State Tuscaloosa, AL 35406Date 4 Jun 19818 William JOHNSTONb. 16 Mar 1786 (Father of No. 4. 26)
Cont. on chart No. 26

p.b. Charleston SC

m. 28 Nov 1811

p.m. Charleston SC

d. 15 Mar 1872

p.d. Anderson Co SC

9 Martha GARRETTb. 25 Mar 1797 (Mother of No. 4. 27)
Cont. on chart No. 27

p.b. Charleston SC

d. 29 Mar 1872

p.d. Anderson Co SC

2 Joseph Garrett JOHNSTON

b. 22 Feb 1867 (Father of No. 1)

p.b. Booneville, MS

m. 4 Dec 1895

p.m. Carrollton, AL

d. 25 Nov 1947

p.d. Aliceville, AL

5 Isabella Louisa SELLERS

b. 5 Sep 1843 (Mother of No. 2)

p.b. Eutaw, AL

d. 26 Mar 1881

p.d. Carrollton, AL

10 Iredell P. SELLERSb. 8 Nov 1816 (Father of No. 5. 28)
Cont. on chart No. 28

p.b. SC

m. 29 Jul 1841

p.m. Eutaw, AL

d. 10 Dec 1848

p.d. Houston, MS

11 Margaret Reid STAPPb. 29 Jul 1824 (Mother of No. 5. 29)
Cont. on chart No. 29

p.b. AL

d. 22 Dec 1848

p.d. Houston, MS

1 John Bryant JOHNSTON

b. 18 Jan 1894

p.b. Gordo, AL

m. 29 Mar 1921

p.m. Aliceville, AL

d. 5 Jan 1954

p.d. Montgomery, AL

12 John RICHEYb. 3 Aug 1808 (Father of No. 6. 30)
Cont. on chart No. 30

p.b. Pendleton Dist SC

m. ca 1838

p.m. Carrollton, AL

d. 31 Aug 1852

p.d. Aliceville, AL

6 Joseph Dandridge RICHEY

b. 21 Feb 1842 (Father of No. 3)

p.b. Columbus, MS

m. 1867

Information for Ordering

FAMILY GROUP SHEET

Order No. A1

8½x11 inches, printed on Timeless Bond
paper, lines are spaced for standard
typewriter.

Dozen \$1.30

100 \$4.10

500 \$10.80

1000 \$21.00

FIVE GENERATION PEDIGREE CHART

Order No. A2

8½x11 inches, printed on Timeless bond
paper, 31 names. Can be continued for
any size pedigree.

Dozen \$1.30

100 \$4.10

500 \$10.80

1000 \$21.00

FOUR GENERATION PEDIGREE CHART

Order No. A24

8½x11 inches, Timeless bond paper, 15
names, can be continued for any size
pedigree.

Dozen \$1.30

100 \$4.10

500 \$10.80

1000 \$21.00

The Everton Publishers, Inc.
P.O. Box 368, Logan, Utah 843213 SCOTTother of No. 6. 31)
nt. on chart No. 311 ICHother of No. 7. 32)
nt. on chart No. 322 ELTON(Mother of No. 7. 33)
Cont. on chart No. 33

Figure 1

Elizabeth

b. 21 May 1899

p.b. Carrollton, AL

d. 31 Dec 1929

p.d. Gordo, AL

... before NC
p.d. census

FAMILY GROUP No. 4/8 Husband's Full Name William JOHNSTON

This Information Obtained From:	Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
US Census, Anderson Co SC	Birth	16	Mar	1786	Charleston	Charleston	SC	
1820 Pendleton Dist p.176	Chr'nd							
1830 Charleston Co p.161	Mar.	28	Nov	1811	Charleston	Charleston	SC	
1840 Anderson Co p.101	Death	15	Mar	1872	Anderson	Anderson	SC	
1850 Anderson Co p.8	Burial				Starr	Anderson	SC	
1860 Anderson Co p.65	Places of Residence				Charleston SC; Anderson Co SC			
1870 Anderson Co p.11	Occupation				Farmer	Church Affiliation	Episcopal	Military Rec. Militia
	Other wives, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							

Calhoun, Hamilton, Baskin & Related Families p.132 His Father Rodger JOHNSTON Mother's Maiden Name Elizabeth SADLER

Wife's Full Maiden Name Martha GARRETT

SC Hist & Gen Mag v.17/p.31	Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
33/62; 34/160; 22/17,18	Birth	25	Mar	1797	Charleston	Charleston	SC	
	Chr'nd							
Martha Sears - 1937 10th St	Death	29	Mar	1872	Anderson	Anderson	SC	
Abbeville, SC 20103	Burial				Starr	Anderson	SC	
Compiler Wm D. Jordan	Places of Residence				Charleston SC; Anderson Co SC			
Address 2 High Forest	Occupation if other than Housewife					Church Affiliation	Episcopal	
City, State Tuscaloosa, AL	Other husbands, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							

Date 4 Jun 1981 35406 Her Father Henry John GARRETT Mother's Maiden Name Abigail STEELE

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
M	1 Charles Scott	Birth	1	Sep	1812	Charleston	Charleston	SC	
	Full Name of Spouse* Elizabeth Ann JONES	Mar.	10	Dec	1835				
		Death	25	Jun	1889	Pleasant Ridge	Greene	AL	
		Burial				Presbyterian Ch. Cem, Pleasant Ridge, AL			
M	2 William Rodger	Birth	23	May	1814	Charleston	Charleston	SC	
	Full Name of Spouse* Frances H. SIMPSON	Mar.	16	Nov	1837	Charleston	Charleston	SC	
		Death			1855	Newnan	Coweta	GA	
		Burial							
F	3 Elizabeth Sarah	Birth	27	Jul	1816	Charleston	Charleston	SC	
	Full Name of Spouse* Richard GRAVES	Mar.	4	Jul	1837				
		Death			ca 1853	Lowndesville	Abbeville	SC	
		Burial							
M	4 Henry John	Birth	29	Nov	1821		Anderson	SC	
	Full Name of Spouse* Sarah TURNER	Mar.	27	Jan	1842	Elberton	Elbert	GA	
		Death	11	Jan	1887	Clinton	Greene	AL	
		Burial							
F	5 Martha Anne	Birth	4	Mar	1825		Anderson	SC	
	Full Name of Spouse* James J. COMER	Mar.	23	Oct	1844		Anderson	SC	
		Death			?				
		Burial							
F	6 Caroline Capers	Birth	6	Dec	1826		Anderson	SC	
	Full Name of Spouse* Peter K. NORTON	Mar.	30	Dec	1846		Anderson	SC	
		Death	13	Apr	1911		Anderson	SC	
		Burial				Old Silverbrook Cem, Anderson	SC		
M	7 Thomas Holmes	Birth	15	Jan	1836		Anderson	SC	
	Full Name of Spouse* Isabella Louisa SELLERS	Mar.	17	Dec	1861		Tuscaloosa	AL	
		Death	7	Nov	1894	Carrollton	Pickens	AL	
		Burial							
	8	Birth							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	9	Birth							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	10	Birth							
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

Figure 2

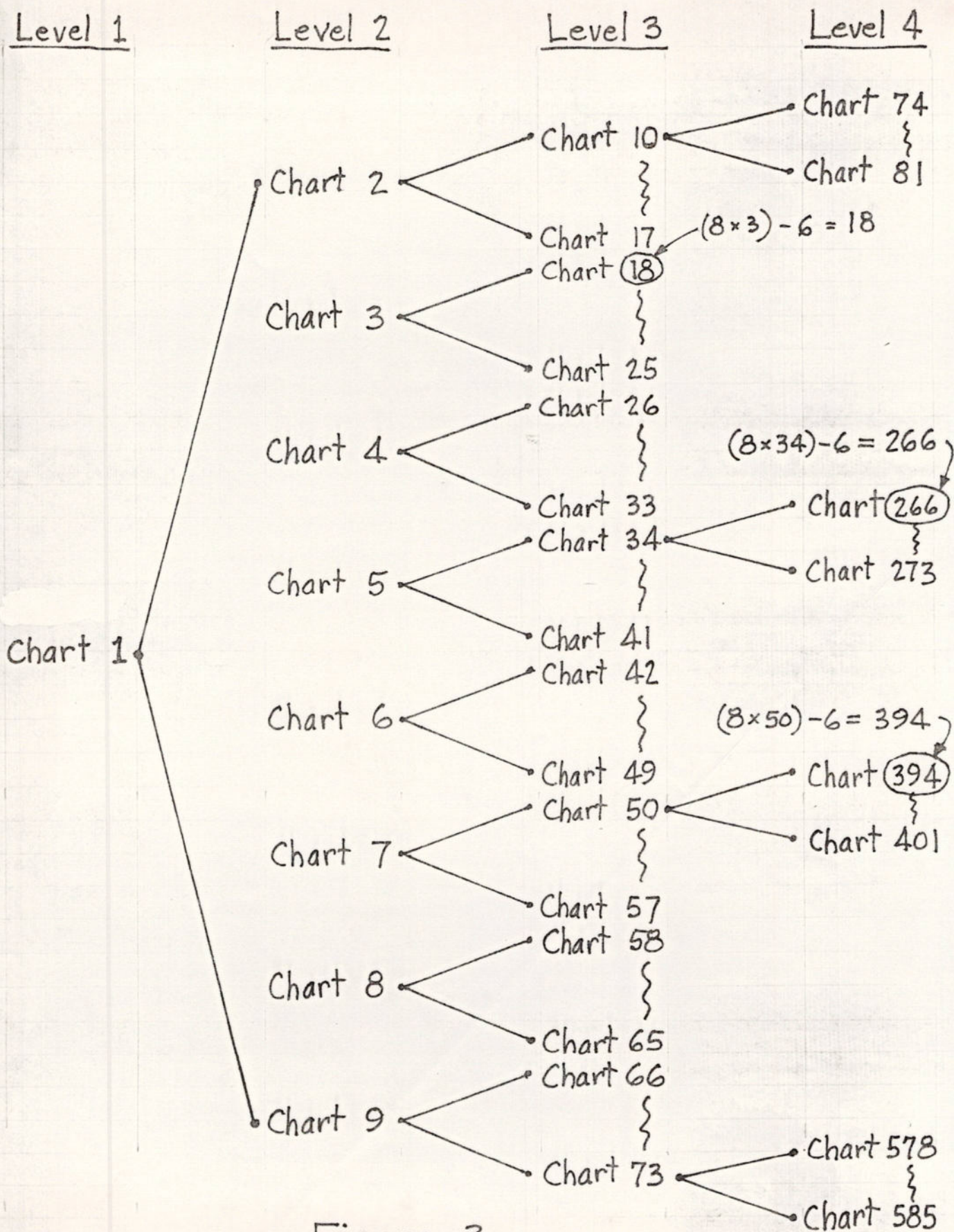


Figure 3



W WARNER FLOYD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

725 MONROE STREET

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130



TELEPHONE NUMBER
832-6621

December 1, 1975

Mr. R. L. Guffin, Jr.
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society
3810 65th Avenue
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Dear Mr. Guffin:

The act which created the Alabama Historical Commission was amended in the 1970 Special Session of the Alabama Legislature to, among other things, allow interested organizations to be represented on our Agency's Board of Advisors. The Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society is invited to request membership on our Board.

The procedure for requesting such membership is to write to our chairman, Milo B. Howard, Jr., and request representation on the Board of Advisors of the Alabama Historical Commission. Your request should also include a nominee to this group which advises and assists our official state agency in preserving Alabama's significant historic landmarks.

Mr. Howard's address is Chairman, Alabama Historical Commission, c/o State Department of Archives and History, 624 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36130.

Sincerely,

W. Warner Floyd

WWF/sap



3810 65th Avenue
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401
December 16, 1975

Mr. Milo B. Howard
Chairman, Alabama Historical Commission
c/o State Department of Archives and History
624 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Mr. Howard:

In a letter from Mr. W. Warner Floyd dated December 1, 1975, the newly formed Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society was invited to request membership to the Alabama Historical Commission's Board of Advisors. In addition we were asked to submit the name of a nominee from the membership of our Society who would serve on your Board.

In our December meeting the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society voted unanimously to request membership on your Board of Advisors and gave me authorization to appoint a member as a nominee to serve on that Board.

In accordance with the wishes of our Society I hereby am requesting that the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society be granted membership on the Alabama Historical Commission's Board of Advisors. I am also submitting the name of Mr. Tom Boozer as our nominee to serve on that Board.

Mr. Boozer's address is Executive Director, Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa County, P. O. Box 1117, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35401.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

R. L. Guffin, Jr.
President
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
MILO B. HOWARD, JR., DIRECTOR
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130



December 19, 1975

Mr. R. L. Guffin, Jr., President
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society
3810 - 65th Avenue
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401

My dear Mr. Guffin:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 16 expressing the interest of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society in membership on the Board of Advisors of the Alabama Historical Commission. Customarily such requests are brought up at the quarterly meeting of the Commission, and I shall certainly present the name of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society at our next meeting. Mr. Floyd, Executive Director, Alabama Historical Commission, will be in touch with Mr. Boozer following the meeting.

Very sincerely,

Milo B. Howard, Jr.
Chairman, Alabama Historical Commission

H:s

Genealogical society formed

A Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society was formed at an organizational meeting of approximately 30 local people.

New officers will be elected at the next meeting at which time a dues structure will be set up and programs established. The society will be divided into two groups, one meeting at 10 a.m. and the other at 7 p.m. Both groups will meet the first Thursday of each month in the conference room of the Friedman Library.

R. L. Guffin Jr., local genealogist, will preside

over the first meetings. Each person attending is requested to bring a five-generation pedigree chart, plus the name of one family or one problem in which they are most interested.

Discussion will center around these names and problems.

Purposes of the newly formed society are to exchange and share information and materials, to establish an inventory of genealogical materials, to establish a clearing house for those seeking genealogical information and to further genealogical projects.

'Who you are' might invol

By SALLY TUCKER
News Life-Leisure Editor

The question, "Who am I?", is one that is being asked more and more as individuals sense a need for true identity and realism in a more or less unreal world.

For some, the search for identity might be satisfied with simply getting in touch with the familiar things of their youth and discovering clues that bring back memories.

But for others, the search becomes literally that — a search. To these people, finding out who they really are means tracing their family history, a journey

that might possibly be unending.

R. L. Guffin, the coordinator of the humanities program at Stillman College and a professional genealogist, helps many people with their family history trips through personal consultation and through classes in the University of Alabama Adult Studies Program.

Guffin's interest in genealogy (the tracing of descent) began some 14 years ago with an interest in who he was.

"I mainly did research on my own by reading about the basic methods of research

and traveling during the summers," he said. "I did most of my research at genealogical libraries and state archives."

The result of Guffin's research was a book on his family's history, published in 1972. "After you get into genealogy, your goal usually becomes to write a book, recording all the family history you are learning through your research," he said. Guffin published a second book in 1973 which included even more of his family background.

The basic methods of research and the location of records that might offer

proof of ancestry are what Guffin teaches in his classes which he has been involved with for four years.

"The main thing is knowing where to look for information," he said. "That's what I have been finding out for 14 years now. There are some skills then, such as knowledge of legal terminology, that are necessary for reading some of the records."

Before becoming involved in the tracing of a family history, Guffin said, it is wise to become familiar with the kinds of records kept by the counties and federal files in the areas you will be working and to gain access to genealogical publications.

"Some of the publications serve as information swapping sources," Guffin said. "You might read about the work someone else is doing that might be helpful in your search and vice versa."

The people that have contacted Guffin for help with their history tracings have been from all walks of life, he said, and all exhibit one quality — they like a challenge.

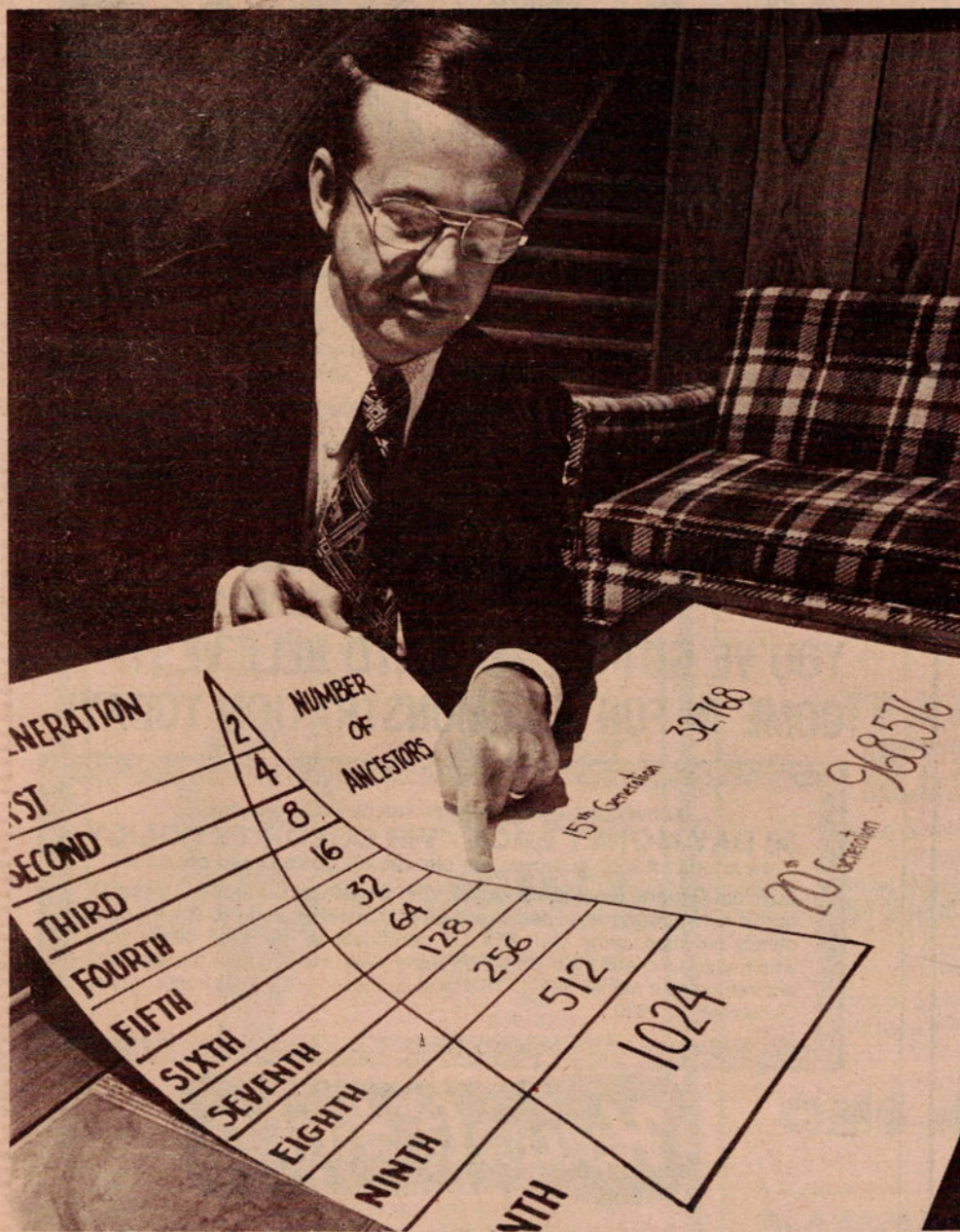
"All the clients have been pretty much of the same type but every particular case is different. They are all looking for any information they can find," he said.

"Most of the clients are people in the Southwest and Far West who have once had ancestors in West Alabama. Most have been English or Scotch Irish and I've seen a small trace of German," he said.

"West Alabama is a good area for finding records because we are within 65 miles of Birmingham where there is one of the finest genealogical library rooms I've ever seen," Guffin said. "Also, we have good access to the State Archives in Montgomery and the University of Alabama records. The local library here has a growing genealogy room."

When a client contacts Guffin for help, he first finds out everything they already know about their family and exactly what information they hope to find in this area.

"From there, I can decide what information sources I



ANCESTORS GROW WITH EACH NEW GENERATION
Guffin shows generation increases

ve many thousand people



News staff photos by Barry Fikes

GUFFIN DISPLAYS CHARTS USED IN TEACHING GENEALOGY CLASS

Basic instruction includes what to look for and where to look

need to check," he said. "You can classify different types of information into groups.

"Your primary sources are records in the possession of family members, courthouse records, federal records and church records," he said. "It is very important when contacting any of these records that exact information on where data was found is listed every time."

People seeking information from Tuscaloosa County are lucky in that the county courthouse has never burned, Guffin said, as is the case in neighboring Fayette and Pickens counties.

"There are records here dating back to 1820. We've found a number of descendants here of families that date back that far in the county," he said.

When starting a family search, Guffin usually checks census records first. "These are taken every 10 years and they give you a game structure to work with. You can see the progression of a family in these records.

"From there, I usually go to the courthouse to check marriage records or old

wills. Sometimes a land deed will reveal some valuable information," he said.

The curiosity bug is an ongoing thing, Guffin said, when you get into genealogy. "That's something that I've heard almost every genealogist I know say — once you get into this, you love it. There's probably something of a detective in us all and this is a great way to let it out," he said.

Guffin has learned to never be surprised at finding information in unusual places. "Once you get involved in the field and learn all the information sources, you know that anything is liable to turn up anywhere.

"Sometimes you can find out many things just by talking to people," he said, "but you have to always be careful to always check out all the information through factual sources."

Guffin has traced his own family history back to nobility in Europe. "Eventually, anyone could trace their family back to some noble family if they pursued it that far," he said.

"Noble families in Europe kept their family histories intact from forever. Once

you make that link to them, you can find out all types of history," he said.

Few Americans trace their family histories beyond the point of immigration to the United States, however, Guffin said.

His clients usually don't give any specific reasons for wanting to know their full heritage, Guffin said. "I guess there aren't any real reasons except that it's just a very interesting thing to do.

"For sure, tracing a family history never stops. I have worked on mine for 14 years and am still not finished," he said.

Although he has never experienced it personally, Guffin has heard of several cases where people were embarrassed at information they learned about their ancestors. "I have had some people who wanted to leave certain parts of their history out of their records, but I always encourage them to be realistic and record everything," he said.

One fact that usually elicits surprise from history tracers is finding that their

family was once quite wealthy. "But, strangely enough, most people aren't looking for things like that. They are usually very accepting of what their ancestors were," he said.

A society to unite genealogy enthusiasts in Tuscaloosa was formed last year with about 40 members. The Tuscaloosa Genealogy Society has now grown to a membership of over 80 and has monthly meetings with guest speakers.

The Society holds two meetings monthly, on the first Thursday, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. All meetings are held in the Friedman Library conference room.

There is a close bond shared by the members of the Society, Guffin said. "Actually, there is a bond between all people who work on their family histories. There is always that desire to know more.

"I guess most people keep on with their research for the same reason I do — I want to know all I can about what went into making me what I am today."

1439 49th Avenue, East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
March 22, 1978

Mr. F. Wilbur Helmbold
Librarian
Samford University
Birmingham, AL 35209

Dear Mr. Helmbold:

Berbert Newell and I were very pleased that you agreed to be with us at the April 6, 1978 meeting of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society. As I had mentioned our society is now divided in two sections - a morning and an evening group. For the occasion of your visit the two groups will be joined and will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Alabama Power Company auditorium near the University.

I have invited the Newells, along with Mrs. W. L. Wilson, vice-president of our morning group, to meet me at 5:00 p.m. on the afternoon of April 6 in the main lobby of the Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library on the University of Alabama campus. From there we will go to dinner together. I hope your schedule will permit you and Mrs. Helmbold to meet us at the library at 5:00 p.m. so that we might enjoy an unhurried meal and fellowship prior to our society meeting.

I mentioned to you that a majority of our members have been actively engaged in family research over a year with a small number who have been at it for over ten years. I believe I suggested that you might discuss some of the common pitfalls encountered by the family researcher as well as important sources commonly overlooked by the amateur. Please feel free to take any approach you would prefer. Certainly we would expect you to provide our group with information on Samford's Special Collections and Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research. We hope that you will be prepared to speak around 30-35 minutes followed by a 15-20 minute question and answer period.

I look forward to seeing you on April 6. Please contact me if our meeting arrangements are not convenient or if you have questions. My home phone is 556-2105.

Sincerely,

R. L. Guffin, Jr.
President
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society

Tracing pioneers east

Perhaps we'll never be absolutely certain who was the first permanent white settler in Tuscaloosa.

Conflicting reports exist but most authorities designate Thomas York. Other early settlers were Jonathan York, Emanuel York, John Barton, Patrick Scott, Josiah Tilley, John G. Ring, William Wilson, Pleasant H. Dearing, John Click, Matthew Click, Levin Powell, Isaac Cannon, John Wilson, John Prewitt and William Lewis Adams. The lives and deeds of many of these pioneers have become obscured through time while others are easy to trace through known living descendants.

It is indeed frustrating to attempt research on a person connected with Tuscaloosa only to hit a dead end. All available resources often lead to a complete blank. It is possible that many of those past blanks may now be filled with the help of a new Tuscaloosa publication — "The Lineage Chart Book 1978."

This book is now on sale for \$10.60 at the following locations: Sam Jackson's Emporium, Leopard Interiors, and Adams's Antiques in Northport. If you can't get by any of these stores, you may send your order and check to Mrs. Lyman Findley, 12 Woodland Hills, Tuscaloosa, 35405 and she will mail you one. Don't forget to include an extra dollar in your enclosed payment check to cover mailing cost.

How convenient it will be to search the index of 9,700 names included in the book compiled by the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society and suddenly find the name of the person you had been stymied with for months. Even better; flip to the pages of the chart where his name appears and find that your lost person has a living relative, (with address, yet) who compiled this particular genealogical information. Surely the person with that much information on one family would have additional family history concerning your elusive pioneer.

Although I am excited primarily about this family Lineage Chart Book for the assistance it will lend in my diggings into Tuscaloosa's past history, I see other benefits from its publication. It will be a valuable book for everyone interested in genealogy.

Did you know that this is the fastest growing hobby in America? Whether this interest was kindled by the bicentennial roots or other facets of the preservation of our past, it is attracting the young and old alike. Our libraries are crowded with people searching for family information. The Smithsonian Institute Archives division teaches classes in genealogy and research methods. Closer to home, Samford



University also has an excellent class. There are many magazines published on the subject. Probably the most popular is the monthly Genealogical Helper by Everton Publishers.

Genealogy societies have sprung up across the country. The Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society, publishers of this Lineage Chart Book, is headed by R.L. Guffin, Jr. It meets at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Friedman Library and membership is open to the public.

If you aren't interested in or have time for a society or class but do want to pursue tracing your family tree, the Friedman Library has many helpful books and publications. Some of these are: "Lineage Charts of South Carolina," "Lineage Book of the National Society of American Colonists," "The Colonial Family in the United States," and "The Mayflower Index." There are also early Census Records for Alabama, Georgia, and North and South Carolina; Pension Rolls dating back to 1835, Alabama Records to 1810 and marriage records. Theresa Prescott, the reference librarian, is most helpful in suggesting many other resources.

While you are there, why not buy a sample lineage chart for sale at the desk for 25 cents. This chart is an excellent method for organizing the data for your ancestors. It is also the form you submit to the Genealogical Society when they publish the second edition of "The Lineage Chart Book." When the project to publish this lineage book was started about a year ago, the society had hoped to have a minimum of 150 charts submitted. They were inundated. They received 250 by the deadline, which was October, 1978. Many others were interested but could not finish the necessary research

y with lineage book

time to make the cut-off date but have since completed the work. These will be included in the next edition.

For someone not particularly interested in family trees, this lineage charts book can still provide a great deal of other useful information. There are many veterans listed. In addition to the more recent wars, there are a great number of Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and Civil War, veterans listed.

Most early entries include place of birth, marriage and burial. As you peruse these dates, a pattern of immigration emerges. It becomes very evident that the majority of Alabama's early pioneers moved here from Virginia, Georgia, North and South Carolina. Some only stayed a short while and then continued to Texas.

The two decade period from the 1870's to 1890's saw a great migration to Texas and the West. It was estimated that over half the population of Greensboro, Ala., went to Texas. It was such a common occurrence that when the initials GTT were found on documents, tax records and postal records; people knew immediately it meant "Gone to Texas."

Charts have been submitted from many states by individuals whose families were originally from Alabama. Other charts are from recent arrivals to our country. This

diversity adds greatly to the value. Our hats are off to the society for its magnificent preservation effort.

If you haven't already done so, let me urge you to buy a copy soon. Certainly it should be a must for any newcomers to town before they attend their next large party. It could save them from making the fatal "foot-in-mouth" mistake of gossiping about one sister to another without realizing the connection before it is too late.



Frances Barton at Gorgas Library surrounded with family tree references



LINEAGE CHART BOOK DISPLAYED
By June Reece and R.L. Guffin Jr.

Society here publishes family tree source book

The Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society has just published what is expected to be a valuable source for persons tracing their family trees.

The society's "Lineage Chart Book 1978" contains 250 seven-generation lineage charts with more than 9,700 names in the index, according to Mrs. Lyman Findley, project chairman.

"Some of the charts have gone back as far as the 1400s. There are lots of Revolutionary soldiers and all types of veterans listed,"

she said.

The book also shows family connections and kinship in Tuscaloosa County, she said.

Mrs. Findley explained that each of the lineage charts includes the name and address of the person who compiled the information in order to assist those seeking genealogical information.

The project chairman said the society is "extremely pleased at the first attempt at publication. We had a tremendous response from people in the area. When we first started the project we wanted a minimum of 150 charts. Instead, we received 250."

The book includes a preface and introduction by the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society, the list of all persons whose charts are included, the 250 charts and 12 pages of index by family and individual names.

Copies of the lineage books

Lyman Findley, 12 Woodland Hills, Tuscaloosa, 35405, for \$10 plus \$1.50 tax and postage.

Assisting Mrs. Findley on the book project committee were Ola Grace Baker, treasurer; Louise P. Wilson, publicity chairman; T.L. Gallman, finance chairman; Bonnie Newton, sales chairman; June O. Reece, typing chairman; Marcia W. Burke, printing chairman; Linda Standridge and Charlotte McEachin, co-chairmen of the lineage charts, and Katie Ferguson, indexing chairman.

The Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society, headed by R.L. Guffin Jr., president, meets at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Friedman Library. Membership is open.

Milo Howard dies; was an archivist

MONTGOMERY (AP) — Milo Howard, the director of Alabama's Department of Archives and History for nearly 15 years, is dead.

Howard, 48, died Tuesday at a local hospital. He underwent lung surgery last August and had been in ill health in recent months.

Howard, who became the state's archivist in January 1967, was a scholar of Alabama history with a broad personal knowledge of the state's political past.

The columned state archives building, the focus of most of Howard's adult life, is located on land once owned by Howard's great-great grandfather, Neill Blue.

Howard began working for the state archives department as a youth in 1952 while on summer vacation. He returned each summer and, except for a two-year military tour in the Army, devoted his professional life to the department and its library of the state's historical documents and lore.

Genealogical Society prints book

By DIANNE LUDLAM
Graphic Editor

Almost two years ago the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society undertook a gigantic project — to collect family information on as many of the Tuscaloosa County pioneers as possible.

The project has been completed, and after 18 months of intense work, a splendid hard cover volume of more than 500 pages is ready to roll off the presses.

More than 7,500 names of pioneers, their parents and descendants appear in the book, according to Angie Cooper, secretary for the night group of the Genealogical Society and index chairman. "All of the entries were hand-indexed," Mrs. Cooper said.

The book is designed to serve as a textbook for persons interested in tracing their family origins as well as those persons interested in the history of Tuscaloosa County pioneers.

Family fact sheets on about 275 of the early pioneers are included in the book. These facts sheets were completed by

members of the genealogical society who spent months searching through cemetery records, records of deeds, wills, orphans court records, death notices, and other books published about Tuscaloosa's history, in addition to census records.

In addition to the family fact sheets, the book also contains a brief history of Tuscaloosa County written by Marvin Harper. Early maps of the area, as well as about 200 pages of narrative about the people who were here during the 1830 census, are included in the book.

As much of the information as possible has been documented in the book, and even stories which were passed down through family histories that were included in the book have quoted sources.

Members of the society who worked on the book discovered some exciting information about Tuscaloosa County, according to Mrs. W.G. Lockard, secretary for the society's group that meets in the morning, and research chairman for the project.

"I discovered that the mortality rate of

children was very low," she said. Mrs. Lockard and the other members of the society also discovered that most of the families who came here prior to 1830 were young farm families. Most had houses filled with children, and it was not uncommon to run across information on families who had 10 or 15 children. They even located one Revolutionary War soldier who has six wives, and a family that had more than 20 children.

They discovered that most of the early settlers in Tuscaloosa County, which at the time encompassed part of Bibb, Hale, Fayette, Pickens and Greene counties, were religious, and many well-known preachers had origins in this area.

Guffin said most of the early pioneers coming to Tuscaloosa County came from South Carolina, followed by Georgia and North Carolina. Many Revolutionary War soldiers came to these parts.

The society members also noticed a recurring theme among the names of the settlers. Most of the men had biblical

names, and family names were used a lot for the women. It was not uncommon for people to have more than two given names during this period, and sometimes records from this time period were confusing because the name might be given one way one time and another way the next time. Spellings also varied greatly.

The book will be a very valuable source of information for people trying to locate records on their Tuscaloosa County ancestors. The Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society believes this volume will not only facilitate family research in Tuscaloosa County but will serve as a model for similar pioneer family projects across our nation, Mrs. Reese said.

Only 500 copies in hardcover are being printed and pre-publication price is \$17.50 plus \$3 postage and handling. The price after Oct. 15 will be \$22.50 plus \$3 postage. Orders for the book can be placed with the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society, No. 76 Woodland Hills, Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35405.



(L-R) R.L. Guffin, June Reese Mrs. W.G. Lockard, Angie Cooper look over family fact sheets

photo by Calvin Hannah

19 June 1979

Mr. R. L. Guffin, Jr.
President
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society
1439 49 Avenue
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401

Dear Mr. Guffin:

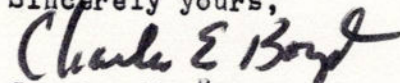
Please accept my apology for not answering your letter of June 8 sooner. When I received your generous invitation to talk to your 10 o'clock group, I was otherwise committed. However, I have now made other arrangements and will be happy to meet with your morning and evening groups on July 5th.

Thanks for your kind words about the Alabama Baptist Historian article and I hope the rest of the Haysop book will not disappoint too many people.

Your chart book has been of great interest to me and also remains a constant source book for me. I hope it is only the first work of this kind for your group. I have been in touch with several of your compilers with great benefit to my notes.

Thanks again for your invitation and I look forward to being with you and the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society members on July 5.

Sincerely yours,


Charles E. Boyd

P.S. Did your William and Mary Mathews have a son Presley Mathews who settled in Tuscaloosa County? Presley Mathews was one of the early settlers of eastern Tuscaloosa County near the head of Big Sandy Creek. Many of his descendants still live in Tuscaloosa City and County. (As you may know!)



ALABAMA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

CHARTERED 1958

1306 17th Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama 35205
April 14, 1980

Mr. Herbert Newell
Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society
Fayette, Alabama 35555

Dear Mr. Newell:

As the name of the president of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society is not known at this writing, we ask that you forward it to that person.

An invitation is extended to the President of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society to attend a luncheon on May 10, 1980, and to participate in an exploratory discussion relative to forming a federation of the local Alabama societies. Miss Mabel Willoughby, retired librarian from Hardin-Simmons University will talk on "The Joys of Genealogy" after the luncheon at 1:30 p.m. After her talk, benefits to be gained by a federation will be discussed and a question and answer session will follow to determine both advantages and disadvantages.

For some time, the desirability of forming such a federation has been discussed by members. As some are members of both the local society and the state society, they are aware of the interest shown in such a federation.

We believe that both societies will be benefited by such a federation. The local societies will have expanded research fields available as well as the state society will have a better knowledge of local situations. The exchange of knowledge as to what is available, what is needed, and how it might be found will be informative and interesting.

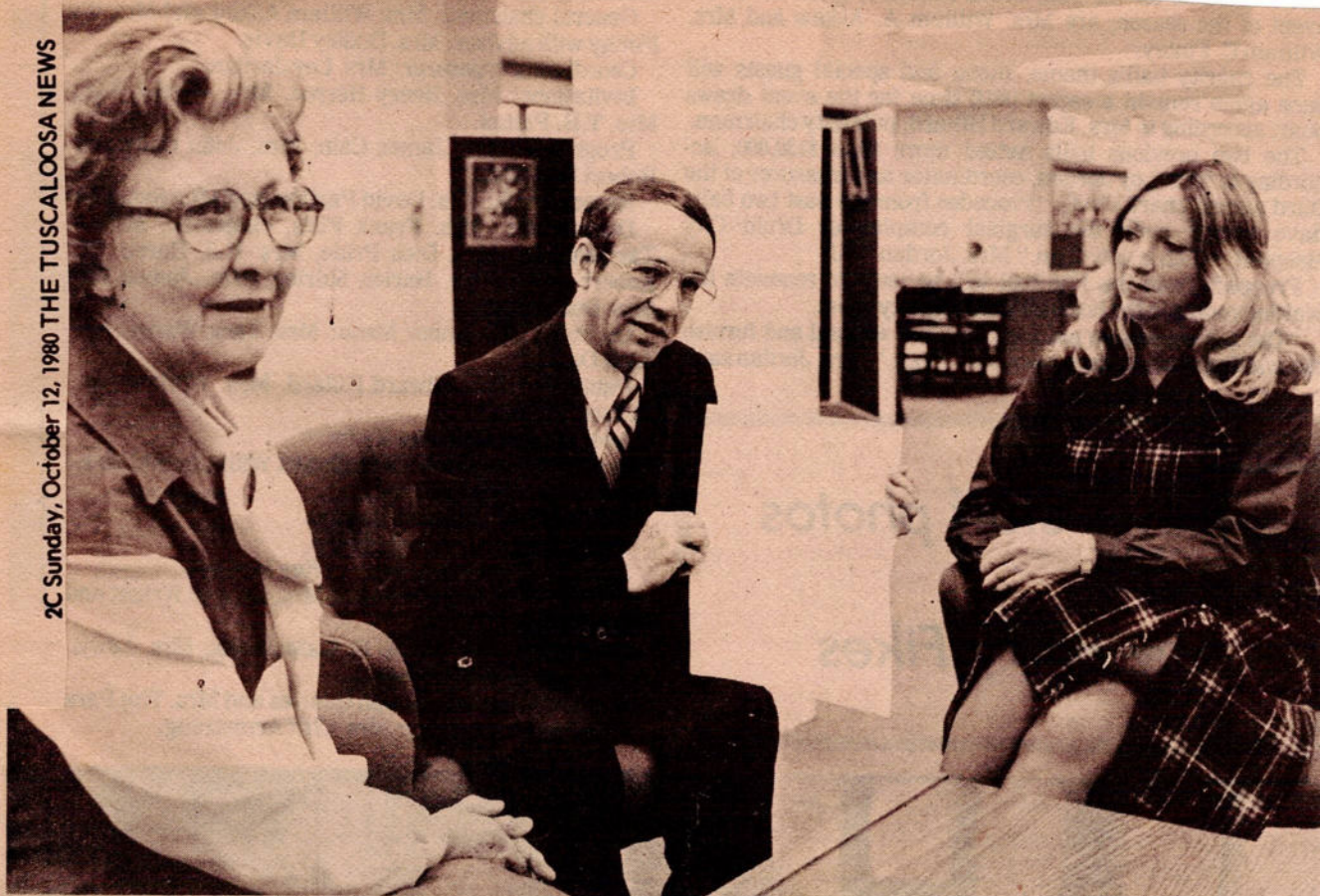
The luncheon will be held at 12:30 p.m., in the dining room of Holiday Inn, South, 1548 Montgomery Highway at Hoover. You, as President of your society, or a person designated by you, will be our guest. The luncheon will be \$6.00 per person for any member or interested person who wishes to attend. The price includes the tax and tip. Our regular meeting is from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, Special Collection Section, Samford University. Please complete the reservation at the bottom of this letter for you, members, or others who wish to attend and return to me by May 1, 1980. My telephone number is 322-2231.

Looking forward to seeing you on May 10th.

Sincerely yours,

Nell Robicheaux

Miss E. Nell Robicheaux, President
Alabama Genealogical Society



MRS. LOCKARD, GUFFIN AND JEAN NICHOLSON, PUBLICITY
Discuss new project undertaken by Genealogical Society

Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society charting Tuscaloosa's pioneers

By **DIANNE LUDLAM**
News Staff Writer

Since "Roots," the book by black author Alex Hayley, hit America's bookshelves, more and more Americans have become fascinated with tracing their family history.

A group of interested persons from Tuscaloosa organized the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society in 1975 and since that time the organization has grown from 17 members to more than 250.

Since its beginning the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society has undertaken two extensive projects, according to R.L. Guffin, president.

The most recent project which the society is just now getting off the ground

As far as the members of the society know this is the first project of its kind to be conducted in the United States.

The members designed special charts to record information about each of the pioneer families.

Included on the chart is name of the pioneer, information about where and when he was born and died, when married, and parents' names. The chart also includes spaces for name of spouse and information about parents and birth and death. Slots are also included for names of children, where and when they were born and died and who and when they married.

At the bottom of the chart is a space for information about the pioneer and his

Society members, help is needed to gather information about pioneer families. They are asking that anyone who knows about a pioneer who lived in this area for any length of time prior to 1830, to contact June Reese at 2012 11th Street or call her at 345-4916.

Any information which the general public can provide will be useful in helping them complete the project. Mrs. Reese, chairman of the project, said that members will offer any assistance possible in helping to complete the charts, but they need information which can be gathered from old family Bibles or any type of family records.

Mrs. W.G. Lockard, chairman of the research

prior to that census.

The Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society's first project was the completion of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society's Linage Chart Book, which contains lineage charts of 250 persons. The 350 copies of the book were sold out within a few weeks after printing.

"Anyone that's interested in the subject can join the group," Guffin said. He adds that the purpose of the group is two-fold. Some people join because they wish to be associated with people who are interested in family history. Others join because they are interested in the educational aspect of the the society.

Skills of the members also vary. There are members

consists of trying to locate information about Tuscaloosa's pioneers or persons who lived in this area from the years 1812-1830.

accomplishments.

These charts will then be reduced and bound together into book form and published.

According to Genealogical

said the members working on the project will use the 1830 census as a guideline but they are also trying to do charts on people who died or moved from Tuscaloosa

there are at least six members who have already published books on family histories. Several others have already compiled their family histories.

Guffin has published three family histories and teaches genealogy as part of a continuing education course from the University of Alabama.

Like many of the society's members Guffin is not a native of Tuscaloosa County. The society also has members who live in other areas; some from as far away as California.

Persons who can provide information about early pioneers should contact Mrs. Reese to receive a free copy of a chart and a sheet of directions explaining how to fill out the chart.

Interested persons may join the society by coming to the meetings the first Thursday of each month. There are two groups, a morning group which meets at 10 a.m. and an evening group which meets at 7 p.m. Both groups meet at the Tuscaloosa County Library and dues are only \$3 per year.

TUSCALOOSA NEWS JULY 15, 1960

More Beards than Heads in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — What has 100 Beards, 80 Heads, 25 Hands, 17 Shoulders, 15 Bones, more Richs than Poors, more Longs than Shorts and more Wests than Easts?

Nashville, according to a Japanese visitor.

Minoru Suda of Kyoto, Japan, who has been researching black American literature, said it all started when he decided to look up some Japanese names in Nashville's phone book.

"What the motivation was, I don't know myself," he said. "I was trying to find some Japanese names and then I began looking for the most common names."

According to his rough count of 100 names a column, Smith is the most common name in Nashville at 2,200. Second is Johnson at 1,440

followed by Williams, Jones, Brown, Anderson, Martin, Moore, Taylor, Jackson, Wilson and Thompson.

— Of names that signify an occupation, the most common is Smith, Suda said, followed by 600 Millers, 420 Bakers, 260 Cooks, 230 Hunters, 170 Fishers, 160 Gardners, 102 Weavers, 100 Farmers, 100 Carpenters, 90 Dyers, 55 Drivers and 46 Barbers.

Suda said he has no plans to continue his phone book research in other American cities.

"It takes too long," he said.



(L-to-R) MALLORY, HAYFORD, INGLE AND HARRIS
Four of six new faculty members at Stillman

New division chairman, 6 faculty, join Stillman

A new division chairman and six new faculty members have joined Stillman College this year.

R.L. Guffin has been named chairman of the division of humanities. He taught at Samford University and the University of North Alabama before coming to Stillman in 1966 to teach art and coordinate the humanities program for freshmen.

Guffin is a member of First Baptist Church and is former vice president of the Alabama Baptist Historical Society and has been president of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society since its organization in 1975.

An exhibiting artist who has won a number of awards, Guffin has served on committees of the Alabama Center for Higher Education and the Alabama Consortium for the



R.L. GUFFIN
Promoted at Stillman

Development of Higher Education, and is a member of the Southeastern College Art Association.

He earned his undergraduate degree from Mercer University in Macon, Ga., and a terminal degree

in studio art from the University of Georgia.

Dr. Diana R. Dorai-Raj has been appointed to teach chemistry. She received her B.S. degree from the University of Rochester in New York and her Ph.D. from the University of Oregon at Eugene. She has been an instructor at Seneca College.

Robert James Harris has been appointed to teach foreign languages. He received his B.S. degree from Carroll College in Wisconsin and master's degree from the University of Alabama.

Ekow Olu Hayford, appointed to teach business, received his B.A. degree from Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania, and his master's of business administration from Jackson State University in Mississippi.

David Ingle, appointed to

teach accounting, earned his B.S. from the University of North Alabama, and his master's from the University of Mississippi. He was instructor at Tennessee-Temple University from 1975-79.

Dr. William Mallory, appointed to teach elementary education, received his B.S. and master's degrees from the University of Alabama and his Ed.D. degree from Nova University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Last year he was assistant professor at Eastern Kentucky University.

Dr. Andrew Oh, appointed to teach mathematics, earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Kyungpook National University in Korea and his Ph.D. degree from the University of Virginia. Last year he was an instructor at Boise State University.

February 1981

THE PRESIDENTS

Lecture by Mr. R. I. Guffin

I have made a study, through the years, of all the Presidents of the United States, starting at the age of five, when my mother gave me a book about the Presidents. I memorized their whole names at that time and this has been a fascinating topic to me through the years.

Of the first sixteen Presidents--from George Washington through Andrew Johnson, only three of them had two given names because, as I have told you before, it was not common in this country before 1800 for families to give a child more than one given name. The three who had two given names were: John Quincy Adams, William Henry Harrison, and James Knox Polk, who had his mother's maiden name. Polk was born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, just north of Charlotte. His family moved around 1800 into Tennessee and there's where he started his career as a lawyer. We think of him as the President during the Mexican War.

After Andrew Johnson, most Presidents had two given names. There was an interval there, however, where three Presidents had only one given name. There were also three Presidents whose first names are not well known because they did not use them. They used their middle name and pretty well dropped the use of their first names. Those were: Grover Cleveland, whose first name was Steven; Woodrow Wilson, whose first name was Thomas; and Calvin Coolidge, whose first name was John. We have several Presidents whose names are almost obscure--few people know what they are. But starting with Grant, following Andrew Johnson, nearly all Presidents have had two given names, except for Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, and Theodore Roosevelt. Those three in a row, right before the turn of the century, each had just one given name. Harry Truman only had one name, but had an initial that they gave him. He used that initial but it didn't stand for anything. Harry S. Truman. I think there was a debate about what they

were going to let it stand for. He had a Grandfather named Shipp and they thought about naming him Harry Shipp Truman but decided to just use the initial S.

It is interesting to look at names and how they develop and it is interesting that none of these Presidents ever had three given names. Back in the 1830's, especially in the South, it became very common for a family to give three given names. This was back when they were having twelve or more children and some were named for Presidents.

I want to mention the middle names of the Presidents following Andrew Johnson. Grant's complete name was Ulysses Simpson Grant and Hayes' was Rutherford Birchard Hayes. James Abram Garfield was a preacher in the Disciples of Christ Church and had a church before he became President. We have two other Disciples of Christ Presidents -- Lyndon Johnson and Ronald Reagan. Garfield was assassinated and the man that took his place was Chester Alan Arthur. He was born in Vermont, the son of a poor Baptist preacher but he married a lady who was Episcopalian and he became a member of that church.

Following Arthur, of course, was Steven Grover Cleveland, the only President to come back into office after he had gone out.

Theodore Roosevelt's father married a Georgia girl. He was from New York and came down to Cobb County, Georgia, married her there in her home, and took her back to New York where she lived the rest of her life.

Following Teddy Roosevelt was Taft. His name was William Howard Taft -- the only man to serve as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court as well as President. He served as Chief Justice after he was President.

Thomas Woodrow Wilson was followed by Warren Gamaliel Harding, then John Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Clark Hoover. Then we had Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight David Eisenhower, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Lyndon Baines Johnson, and Richard Millhouse Nixon. Next was Ford, whose name was not Ford. He was born King but was adopted and his name became Gerald Rudolph Ford. Then we had James Earl Carter and Ronald Wilson Reagan.

We have some interesting facts about the Presidents. Virginia has been called the state of the Presidents because eight presidents came from this state. This is more than any other. After Virginia come Ohio with seven. New York is next. In the South, the eight that came from Virginia were: Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, William Henry Harrison (born in Virginia but lived in Ohio), John Tyler, Zachary Taylor, and Woodrow Wilson. Woodrow Wilson was born in Staunton, Virginia (pronounced Stanton). His father was a Presbyterian minister and so was Grover Cleveland's. Several Presidents were Presbyterian. Andrew Jackson was raised a Presbyterian but did not join the church until after he retired as President. His mother wanted him to be a Presbyterian minister but of course, he was born on the frontier and his father died before his birth. They lived in the worst kind of circumstances and he was the only member of the family to survive. It's a remarkable story to see how Andrew Jackson got to be President.

All the Presidents before Andrew Jackson were aristocrats and when he was elected, John Quincy Adams pretty much felt that the country was going to the dogs. He would have nothing to do with the inauguration. Then, after having been President, Adams served for seventeen years in Congress. This is another interesting story. He actually died while serving. He fell out on the floor of the House, they carried him out, and he died a couple of days later.

The story of our Presidents is most fascinating. Most all of those born in Virginia were raised Episcopalian, as you can imagine, because that had been the state religion before the American Revolution. James Madison was Episcopalian but went off to a Presbyterian University, Princeton, to study, and of course, had a lot of problems with his own church because of his beliefs on separation of church and state.

There were three Presidents that we know never joined a church. One was Thomas Jefferson and another was Abraham Lincoln. Jefferson, in a number of letters, talked about his beliefs.

Two Presidents were Quakers: Hoover and Nixon. There have been a good many Methodist Presidents. Polk joined the Methodist Church after he retired. Reagan attends the Presbyterian Church, although he was raised in the Disciples of Christ Church. Only three have been Baptists--Harding, Truman, and Carter. The other Methodists besides Polk were: Hayes, who attended but never joined; McKinley, and Andrew Johnson. That's four that attended the Methodist Church that we know about. Calvin Coolidge was a Congregationalist.

James Buchanan was the only bachelor President, as you may remember, and was Presbyterian. He was Scotch-Irish. We think of most of our early Presidents as being of English origin, but Scotch-Irish ancestry is there for several. These are Andrew Jackson, James Buchanan, Woodrow Wilson, and perhaps Cleveland.

Other interesting facts: James Monroe was President when Alabama became a state in 1819. Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill were cousins. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were arch enemies but after retiring as Presidents, they became good friends and carried on a correspondence for many, many years. They died on the same day, July 4, 1826, exactly fifty years from the day the Declaration of Independence was signed. That, to me, is one of the strangest facts of American history. We, of course, take pride in our governmental institutions and fascination in these men who have occupied the highest seat in the land because it was a noble experiment when they started. We must give credit to George Washington who would not take on any of the trappings of the monarchs of Europe. He kept it simple and down to earth. There have been some fascinating people who have served in this highest office.

U&L's Presidential "Primary"

On July 2, 1788 Cyrus Griffin, President of the Confederation Congress, announced the new Constitution in effect. On September 13, New York was fixed as the site of the new government. Presidential electors were appointed by the states. Congressmen were chosen and the electors balloted. March 4, 1789, the first Congress met—but had to wait until April 1st for a quorum to arrive. On the 6th of April, the electoral ballots were counted, and George Washington became President with 69 votes. On the 16th of April, Washington left Mount Vernon for New York (a journey for which he had to borrow money). Fourteen days later, he mounted the steps of Federal Hall to be inaugurated. One of history's great democratic experiments was about to begin.

A lot has happened in the two centuries following that historic date, and thirty-six presidents have followed Washington as leader of the United States.

"What is a President?" U&L is inviting our readers to come up with an answer. Just look through the handsome engravings by The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, from the Ralph Ginzburg Collection, and circle the one president you feel would be most capable of injecting new life into a troubled democracy.

Additionally, note one empty box at bottom right. That's for the candidate most likely to succeed as our next president. Mail us both your selections. U&L will compute the results and publish them in the next issue.



GEORGE WASHINGTON



THOMAS JEFFERSON



JAMES MADISON



JAMES MONROE



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS



ANDREW JACKSON



MARTIN VAN BUREN



FRANKLIN PIERCE



ABRAHAM LINCOLN



ZACHARY TAYLOR



MILLARD FILLMORE



JAMES BUCHANAN



ANDREW JOHNSON



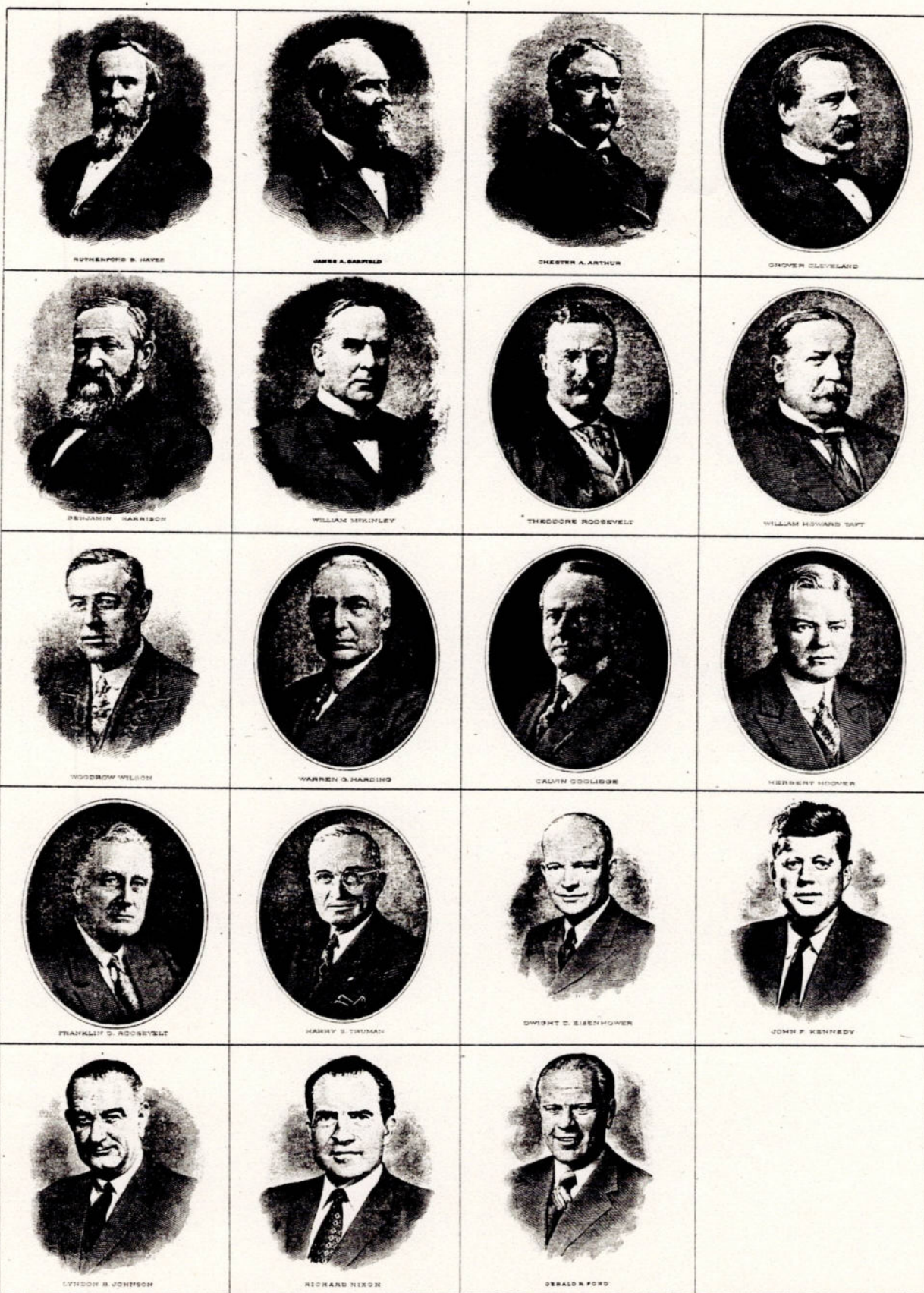
ULYSSES S. GRANT



GROVER CLEVELAND



BENJAMIN HARRISON



ENGRAVINGS BY THE BUREAU OF PRINTING AND ENGRAVING

VIRGINIA

Taught by: John Frederick Dohrman - Editor of the Virginia Genealogical Magazine

Delivered: Samford Genealogical Institute-Samford University, Summer 1980

Best Resource: Handy Book for Genealogy which lists counties and county seats

- Plan to begin your research at Richmond, Va.
- Visit Virginia State Library and the Virginia Historical Society
- 2 other libraries that would be beneficial to visit are:
 - a. Alderman Library at the University of Virginia
 - b. William & Mary University Library at Williamsburg

VA. Publications- Virginia Counties-Those Resulting from Va. Legislation by Morgan Robinson

Va. Colonial Militia 1651-1776 by Crozier

Va. Soldiers of 1776 3 Vol. by Lewis Burgess

Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution by Gwaltney

Early Va. Immigrants 1623-1666 by Geo. C. Greer

Virginia Magazine

Tyler Quarterly

Va. Historical Index - 2 vol. by Sweims

a catalog entitled "Va. Books & Pamphlets Currently Available" can be ordered by writing Va. Book Co., Berryville, VA. 22611

(work is being done now on 3 Va. Gazettes dating back into 1770-publication is expected soon)

How Justice Grew by Martha Heiden -discusses legal codes and their effectiveness in Va. On 1 Jan. 1787 a law was passed regarding descent of property which changed former procedures drastically. The Law of Primogeniture was repealed (the oldest son inherits the land).

Index to Va. Wills & Administrators 1632-1800 lists names alphabetically under surname; gives county; then, first name of person making will and/or year it was made.

Before 1787, the wife of a deceased land owner was entitled to 1/3 of her husband's real estate and a child's portion of his personal property.

- Personal property could be disposed in a verbal will, real estate could not.
- After an inventory of the deceased's property and accounts were rendered, debts settled, then payment was made to the Administrator of the will for travel, etc.
- If the deceased had no sons, his daughters were co-heirs. If he had no children, his oldest brother inherited his estate, and if his brother was dead or there was none, the oldest nephew was the inheritor.
- If the will read: "to my heirs and assigns forever" the estate could be sold.
- If the will read: "of heirs of my body lawfully begotten" the estate COULD NOT BE SOLD.
- The term "son-in-law" in many instances meant son by law and could have been a stepson and not a daughter's husband.
- The latin derivation of nephew was used and could have meant grandson.
- The same term for cousin could have meant nephew.

Prior to the Revolution landowners received land patents. After the Revolution landowners received land grants.

Early land patents are indexed by Nell Nugent in her book Va. Counties & Pioneer Abstracts 1623-1666 Vol. I.

The Clerk of the Court was responsible and in charge of marriage records, civil court minutes, deeds and wills.

When the State of West Virginia was founded, all land patents in the Western part of Va. were given to the newly formed W. Va. and have been indexed by Sims.

When researching in Virginia, you need to carefully check these sources:

1. Court Orders - very valuable, poorly indexed, but the final record is in perfect form.
2. Surveyor Records

3. Overseer Appointments
4. Grand Jury Records
5. Militia Records - the State of Va. granted Revolutionary War pensions. Disability pensions began while the war was still active.

Marriages and Obituaries 1736-1820 are on a card file system in the Va. Historical Society in Richmond. Also, housed here is the best catalog of all collections containing a large group of names and Bible records.

NORTH CAROLINA

Taught by: Mr. Mitchell, Director of State Archives at Raleigh, N.C.

Delivered: Samford Genealogical Institute - Samford University - Summer 1980

Best Resource: North Carolina Research Genealogy & Local History-latest publication-large book

Researching Originals or Microfilm:

- Plan to begin your research at Raleigh. They have more Originals there, at the Archives, than at most archives
- Keep in mind--in N.C. they have Top Security. You can't carry bags, purses, etc IN or OUT without being checked. Identification will be Required

3 Things to Remember While Researching in N.C.

1. In the State Archives--there are 2 places to do research.
 - A. Search Room - in the Archives Department
 - B. State Library - also in the same building, but a different floor

Suggestion - go to the Library first -- go through their CARD file

Land Grant Records - in Sec. of State's Office in the basement (they have card files for the whole state)

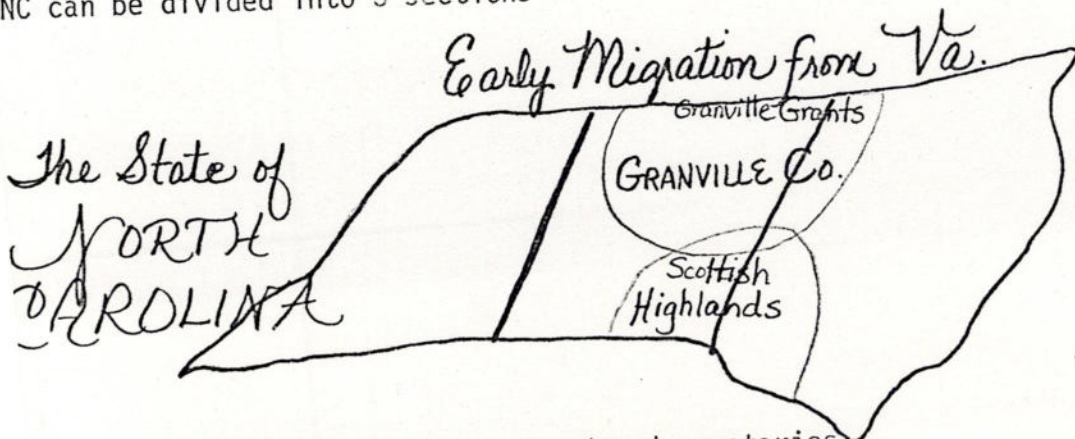
Do your Home Research First before you go to N.C.

2. They will help you with certain records - answering SPECIFIC queries - If you know where a person was and when. BE VERY CONCISE & SPECIFIC when corresponding. Do not write letters giving histories, background material, etc. JUST STATE YOUR REQUEST. The Archives have published several excellent pamphlets and articles on Research Correspondence which would be most helpful in any query correspondence. The Archives in NC handles certain requests and requires payment for the search and reply fee (which is all outlined in the pamphlet material). You pay for Each name researched; copy fee, etc. and estimated fees will be returned. They respond to Query Request for Records such as: War Records of Specific Name, Specific names of individuals in specific counties, marriage information (if you have an approximate CLOSE date) Not when were so & so married (ex.)? Will or estate records of said person - Is a specific name listed on a specific census record? Probate & Court Minutes.

3. There are 3 Standard Sources for Revolutionary or Civil War soldiers
 - a. Rev. War Army Accounts
 - b. Rev. War Army Vouchers
 - c. Rev. War Colonial & State Records

ONLY 1 SPECIFIC ANSWER IN EACH LETTER.

NC can be divided into 3 sections



Spillover from VA.

Mid. to Late 1700's

Had other groups come in - like Scotch-Irish 1750-1760

8 Counties are now working on abandoned cemeteries.
astardy Bonds often give the name of the father.
and Records (Deeds) THE ORIGINALS are still in the County Courthouses.

Military Records of Revolutionary Soldiers

A. Continental Line (the Regular Army) These are Good Records

B. Militia Men (the Home Guard) were probably not well trained. These are poor records. Account and Pay Records are in the State Archives.

There are many land line disputes, as in all states Andrew Jackson's birthplace is even disputed between 2 counties in different states (NC and SC)

Land Patent

person paid a surveying fee

Land Grant

virtually the same but given for service (military, etc.)

The Old Land Grants:

CROWN Grants - were from the King

GRANVILLE Grants - were from Lord Granville

Be aware of old names of counties. They will not be the same now. Families living near the state and county lines may be listed in other counties or states than previously recorded or believed. This is where many LOST relatives are. CHECK these surrounding areas carefully. There are Spillovers - groups or families settled in 1 area and spilled over into surrounding countryside.

Scotish - Highlanders a mixture of people

Scotch-Irish

Moravians - formed a settlement in Winston Salem, NC. Kept excellent records. There were a religious sect of people natives of Czechoslovakia.

Germans - came down through the Shenandoah Valley (between the Blue Ridge & Allegheny mtns.

Geo. Washington was a surveyor and had covered nearly all this territory. He got upset in 1790 (the year of the first formal census) because he got reports that Census Takers in certain areas were asking the people to come to their homes-rather than the Census Taker himself visiting them to sign the family up.

Plan your scheduled visit to Raleigh to include a lot of time at the 2 described places. There are files of LOOSE WILLS & ESTATE RECORDS Prior to 1753 that had been the property of the Records of General Court. After 1753 records can be found in District Superior Court. The Secretary of the Colony settled some estates up until ca. 1760.

Some counties-you will find-branch from other counties. Records may not be found in the present day county. You need to check the PARENT county.

MARRIAGE BONDS are computerized 1741-1861, 340,000 names on microfilm

There have been many changes at Raleigh in recent years. It is ultra-modern. It is a most enjoyable place to do research and everyone there is quite helpful. You must schedule your research time carefully though:

Hours are: 8:00a.m. - 5:30p.m. Tuesday through Friday

8:30a.m. - 5:30p.m. Saturday

Closed Mondays, Sundays, and any Saturday following a Friday holiday.

May, 1981

The Tuscaloosa News

Sunday, May 31, 1981

Life/

Group traces lives of

By SUZANNE JOHNSON
News Life-Leisure Editor

When the 1830 census was taken in Tuscaloosa County, there were about 2,800 families in the area. But today, more than 150 years later, very little is known of these "pioneers" of Tuscaloosa County and their families or the way they lived.

But if the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society has anything to say about it, all that is going to change. According to Society president R.L. Guffin, they are more than halfway through a project to uncover the citizens of Tuscaloosa's early history.

The society's first project started several years ago, when the group published a book of seven-generation ancestral charts submitted both by Genealogical Society members and other area residents as well. The book was well received and sold out quickly, Guffin said.

"After that, we started trying to think of another project and decided to go back and find as much information as possible on the families of the pioneers that came into this county," Guffin said. "We knew that in our area there were white settlers by 1816, so we had to find a cut-off date and we set it at 1830. So a pioneer family to us is a family that was settled here by 1830."

Society members advertised and got family charts from people who knew their ancestors had been here during that 1816-1830 period, Guffin said.

Then the group began doing research, starting with the census records for the county. "We decided to use the 1830 census of Tuscaloosa County as a kind of guide for us," Guffin said. "Approximately 2,800 households were in the county at that time. We knew there was no way we could find out information on all of them, but we went from the charts people submitted and from records at the county courthouse in wills and estate information."

At present, Guffin said the Society has information on more than 700 families that lived in the county during the specified period. And the work, which Guffin estimated would take, overall, about a 15-month period, has been exciting. "There

is no other society that we know of that has attempted such a project," he said. "We didn't have anything to go by, and had to make all the decisions from the ground up. It really has been exciting because we've had to be creative in our approach to the whole thing."

Guffin said he hopes to be able to start putting the project into book form by early fall. "We're trying not to pin ourselves down to a specific date," he said. "But we hope to wrap it up by then."

Quite a few people have been involved in the project, collecting information and submitting what they know of their own ancestors. A good many more people will become involved when the information gets to the organizing and publishing stage, Guffin said, adding that the Genealogical Society has maintained a number of committees for things such as typing and mailing.

The Society itself has grown to include quite a lot of members over the past few years, Guffin said. When he first came to Tuscaloosa in 1966, he said he had been interested in genealogy for quite some time, but knew of no one else in Tuscaloosa who shared his enthusiasm. His mailman noticed, from the type of mail he received, that Guffin was a genealogist, and told him that he, too, shared the interest.

They, along with several other Tuscaloosans, started the Society in the fall of 1975 with 17 members. Today, the Genealogical Society boasts of more than 275 members. The group meets the first Thursday of each month at the Tuscaloosa Public Library, and members discuss things ranging from their own problems in tracing family history to general problems such as organization of collected materials.

The people who have joined the Society have a variety of backgrounds and interests, Guffin said. Some joined because they are working on their own family histories; some joined because they are interested in family history but just never got started. Then, he said, there are those who have been involved in genealogy for a number of years and who are just seeking the companionship of others with similar interests.

May 31, 1981

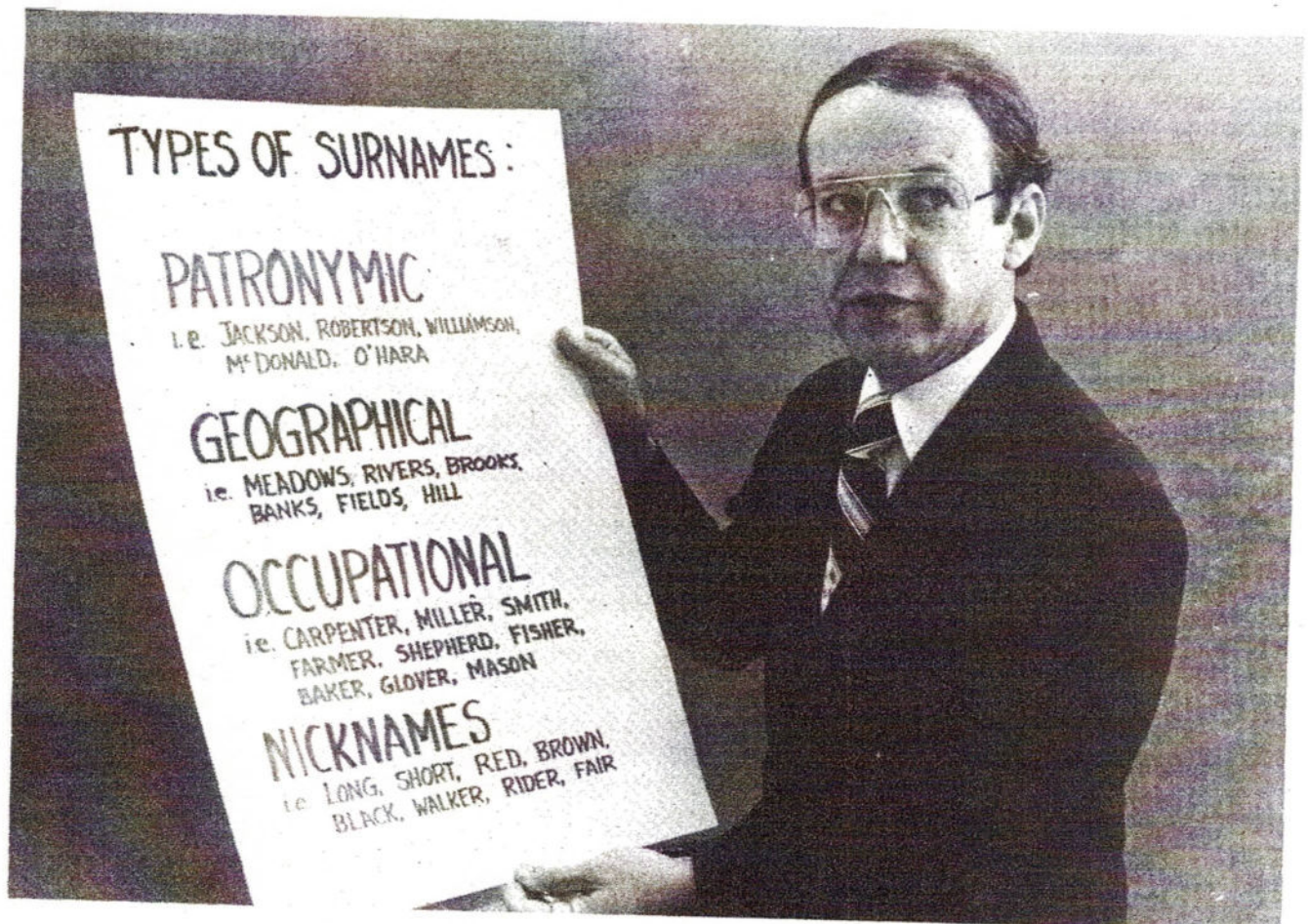
Leisure

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C

county pioneers



R.L. GUFFIN WITH GENEALOGICAL CHART
Tracing family histories still popular

news staff photo by Donna Hennen

Number of family members from 1st-10th generations

GENERATION	NUMBER OF ANCESTORS
First	2
Second	4
Third	8
Fourth	16
Fifth	32
Sixth	64
Seventh	128
Eighth	256
Ninth	512
Tenth	1,024

Tracing is long

By SUZANNE JOHNSON
News Life-Leisure Editor

The big family history boom hit in 1976. The Bicentennial was in full swing, and on the television screen there dominated a big series called "Roots," the story of author Alex Haley's search for his family ancestors.

There may not be as much talk about "finding your roots" these days, but there are more people than ever involved in trying to find out more about themselves by studying the family members who came before them.

According to R.L. Guffin, Department of Humanities chairman at Stillman College and also the president of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society, tracing one's family history is a long, involved process. But for those who are really interested, there are definite steps they need to take. And once they get started, often, they find themselves not wanting to stop until they find out as much about themselves as they possibly can.

The first step to take in tracing your family ancestry, Guffin said, is to talk to family members. "The best way to start is by asking questions within the family," he said. "Talk to older family members and write down everything they tell you. One basic question to start out with, for example, is to find out whether or not there is an old family Bible. Even things like old letters and old journals will be of great help. I've seen people turned on to tracing their family history by an old letter they found."

After all possible sources have been exhausted within the family, Guffin said, the next step is probably to go to census research. "Knowing that the census has been taken every 10 years since 1790, we've got a nice 10-year framework

the family's ancestry process for most people

work with," Guffin explained. Unfortunately, however, he said only since 1850 have all family members' names been listed. Before, only the name of the head of the household was listed in the census reports, along with the number in the household and what age bracket those unidentified family members fell into.

And because Congress waits 75 years to make a census available to the public in order to protect the privacy of individuals, Guffin said the 1900 census is the most recent one genealogy buffs have to work with.

There is also a 20-year gap caused by the destruction of the 1890 census, Guffin said.

The step after census research is to go to the courthouse of the county in which you are looking. "What you would need to look for there would be marriage records, and hope that your ancestor had been foresighted enough to make out a will," Guffin said, adding that in the past very few people made out wills. Still, the lack of a will does not stop your search, he said. "If your ancestor had property or real estate there was a process by which the estate was settled, and these records are available," he said.

In addition, a county courthouse would hold any deeds the ancestor held, which would give information on the type of property he owned and where it was located.

If there was an ancestor with a shady past, the genealogist might find things of interest in court documents, in case the person was ever carried to court for any reason.

After exhausting the courthouses, the person in search of his family history goes to archives, both state and national, to look for military records. Guffin said, in his own search, he had

uncovered several of his own ancestors who had fought in the American Revolution.

One ancestor in particular had left an unexpected legacy. Guffin said this particular ancestor had lived long enough to apply for his pension from the military. In the application process, this ancestor had to tell about his life and give detailed accounts of his military service. Guffin came across those records in his search. "It is very exciting to sit and read what one of your ancestors told some court clerk back in 1832," he said.

Church records and archives are also valuable sources in tracing family history, Guffin said. Most early American families were highly involved in church life, and members will often be mentioned in church minutes and records.

And as complicated as this whole procedure sounds, Guffin said people who live in the South probably have a distinct advantage over people in other parts of the country. For one thing, he said, Southerners tend to remain in one area throughout a number of generations more than other parts of the country, and the South is an area that has been populated since the early days of the nation's history.

And next to the upper New England area, Guffin added, there are probably more Southerners who can trace their relations back to the American Revolution than in any other American geographical area.

"We encourage people to study migratory patterns and try to determine why their ancestors came over here in the first place," Guffin said. "We try to get them to find out the conditions that motivated their ancestors to come to this country to begin with."

What's in a name? Maybe

By SUZANNE JOHNSON
News Life-Leisure Editor

Most common surnames in U.S.

1790	1960
Smith	Smith
Brown	Johnson
Johnson	Williams
Jones	Brown
Davis	Jones
Clark	Miller
Williams	Davis
Miller	Wilson
Wilson	Anderson
White	Taylor

Most of us are interested in names, and what they mean. Before a new child is named, the parents look carefully through books of given names to find one whose meaning has qualities they want their child to have.

We don't have any control over our family names, but it is interesting to see how they came to be.

"It is quite exciting to go back and determine how the family names developed," according to R.L. Guffin, president of the Tuscaloosa Genealogical Society. Family names in Europe, he said, got started in the 11th century, and caught on to the point of being wide-spread by the 15th century.

There are four major categories of family names, Guffin said. The first, and most common, category is the patronymic name, in which the person takes the name of his father, his patron. In England, John, the son of Robert, became John Robertson, while Robert, the son of John, became Robert Johnson.

And in the patronymic name groups, Guffin said, it is easy to trace the similarity in the development of family names throughout the world. In Scotland, John, the son of Donald, would become John MacDonald. In Ireland, John, the son of Henry, would become John O'Henry. The prefixes are different, but the name is the same.

Another category of family names are the occupational names, Guffin said. "If everyone had taken the name of their occupation for their family name, the most common name in the world would be 'Farmer,'" Guffin said. "But this type of name was taken usually when a man had a skill or trade of which he was very proud." Such names as Baker, Fowler, Brewer, and Smith fall into this category.

It is not surprising that Smith is the most common name in the country, Guffin said, because the smiths, or people who worked with metal, were very proud of their skills and would take that as their name. That, plus the fact that there are all kinds of smiths, from blacksmiths to goldsmiths, adds up to a

the key to who, what you are

lot of Smiths.

A third category of family names is the name that is derived from the geographical location of the family, or from some geographical trait. Guffin, for example, had a relative with the last name Eubanks, and it was only after a long and involved search that he found those relatives lived in an area of Europe where there were Yew trees growing on the banks of a river.

The change in spelling goes along with the fact that many of the names have been anglicized as American generations have evolved.

The fourth group of names, Guffin said, are the names that are taken from nicknames of family members. Descriptive last names such as Long, Short, Walker, Red, Black, White or Green are good examples of this type of name, Guffin explained.

Then, he said, there are names that almost defy definition. He said his initial interest in genealogy came from wondering about his name. "There were no other Guffins in the area of Georgia where I grew up," he said.

After searching and searching, he finally found the name mentioned in an old copy of a newspaper from Edinburgh, Scotland, where his ancestors originated. The name "Guffin," he said, means "black magic." He has not been able to find out any more about the name other than that, he said.

And of the top 10 names, all are English names, primarily from the fact that most of our ancestors did come from England, Guffin explained.

Also, the list of 10 most common names changed very little between 1790 census time and 1960. Eight of the 10 most common names appeared on both lists, Guffin said.

The 10 most common surnames in the United States in 1790 were Smith, Brown, Johnson, Jones, Davis, Clark, Williams, Miller, Wilson and White.

The 10 most common names in 1960 were Smith, Johnson, Williams, Brown, Jones, Miller, Davis, Wilson, Anderson and Taylor.

Origin of family names

PATRONYMIC:

John, son of Robert — John Robertson

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION:

John, who lives in a green field — John Greenfield

OCCUPATION:

John, the blacksmith — John Smith

NICKNAMES:

John, who is black-haired — John Black