

TEXAS JOURNEY

by Gerry Booth

TEXAS!



This is the end of the trail. It has been my pleasure to share what I have learned as I tried to retrace the journey my ancestors made to Texas. Thank you for taking the journey with me.

In this final article, I will present some of the people who became known as the Old Three Hundred and how some of them were related to our big family.

We left Daniel's story with him saying that it was only his family and George Nidever, leaving Arkansas and heading for Texas. He said, "We started about the first of March on our not only lonely and more lonesome than ever, but rough and mountainous road."



To help understand how people were related, I made what I call a "connection chart" of some of the people who have been mentioned in this journey. I identified how they were related to Moses Shipman, father of Daniel Shipman, the author of *Frontier Life*. The chart includes some of his family members we have already covered and some that will be introduced in this article.

A "connection chart" is a chart I make to focus on a group of people and how they are related to one another. When a relationship is explained in words, it can be difficult to follow if you are a visual learner like I am. This chart helps you to visualize the relationships. These charts are my invention and I needed rules to make the charts. I put a full explanation of how to read these charts at the end of this article.

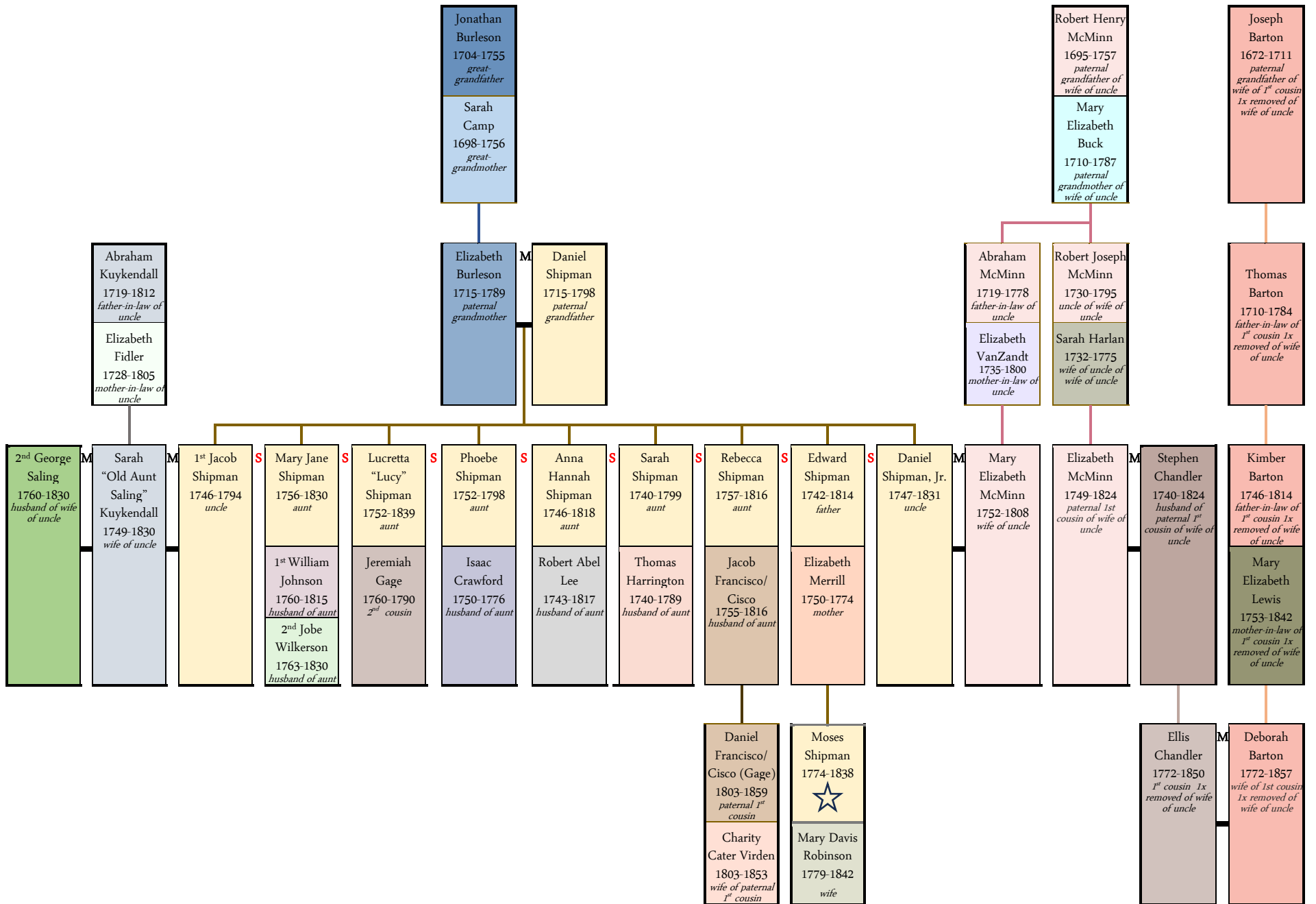
For my chart about Moses Shipman's relationships I did one extra thing. I added how the person was related to Moses.

Notice that Jeremiah Gage is not listed as the "husband of his aunt" like the other men who married Shipman sisters were. Instead, he is listed as a "2nd cousin." He was Moses' second cousin before he married a Shipman sister. The Ancestry "home" person feature located Jeremiah's father, who is not on the chart I made. With this additional information this is how it was determined he was a second cousin:

Jonathan Burleson 1704-AFT.1755		Great-grandfather to Jeremiah and Moses	1 common great-grandfather
Abigail <i>Burleson</i> Gage 1710-1775	Elizabeth <i>Burleson</i> Shipman 1715-1798	Sisters/Grandmothers to Jeremiah and Moses	2 different grandmothers
David Gage ABT. 1725 -1807	Edward Shipman 1742-1814	1 st Cousins/Fathers to Jeremiah and Moses	2 different mothers
Jeremiah Gage 1760-1790	Moses Shipman 1774-1838	2 nd Cousins	

A second cousin is a person who shares great-grandparents with you, but does not have the same grandparents.

SOME FAMILY MEMBERS AND HOW THEY ARE RELATED TO MOSES SHIPMAN



In this series of articles, we followed the migration of our ancestors starting back in North Carolina in the 1700s. Several of these relatives, today are considered to have been some of the founders of our nation.

The Tyron Declaration of Independence, now known as the Tyron Resolves, was a resolution to take up arms, if necessary, against the British. The signers of this document like the signers of the Declaration of Independence written eleven months later, vowed to resist coercive actions made by the British government.

You may remember when I introduced the Robinson family, I wrote that in 1775 John Robinson, Moses' father-in-law, lived in North Carolina and he served on Captain Abraham Kuykendall's Committee of Public Safety. The committee was formed by the Tyron Resolves to organize the county for protection. When I wrote about John Robinson, I put the names of family members in bold.

September 14, 1775. The Committee of Public Safety met according to adjournment. Present: Charles McLean, Chairman, Thomas Espey, Fetty Mauney, Frederick Hambright, **George Russell**, John Morris, **Robert McMinn**, **Abram Kuykendall**, **John Robinson**, John Barber. George Black, James Logan, James McAfee, Andrew Neel, Andrew Hampton, William Thompson, Nicholas Friday, Benjamin Hardin, and Perrygreen Mackness.



Captain Andrew Hampton was authorized to apply to the Council of Safety at Charleston for what gunpowder, lead and flints as can be bought with 8 pounds, 17 shillings and 6 pence proclamation money of North Carolina for the protection of those living on the frontiers of Tryon County, against attacks of savage Indians.¹

With this last *Texas Journey*, we will see how the underlined names above, Frederick Hambright, James McAfee, Andrew Hampton, and Benjamin Hardin, fit into our big family.²

The following connection chart, Tyron to Texas, shows some of the relationships of relatives who lived during the American Revolution to some who made the journey to Texas.

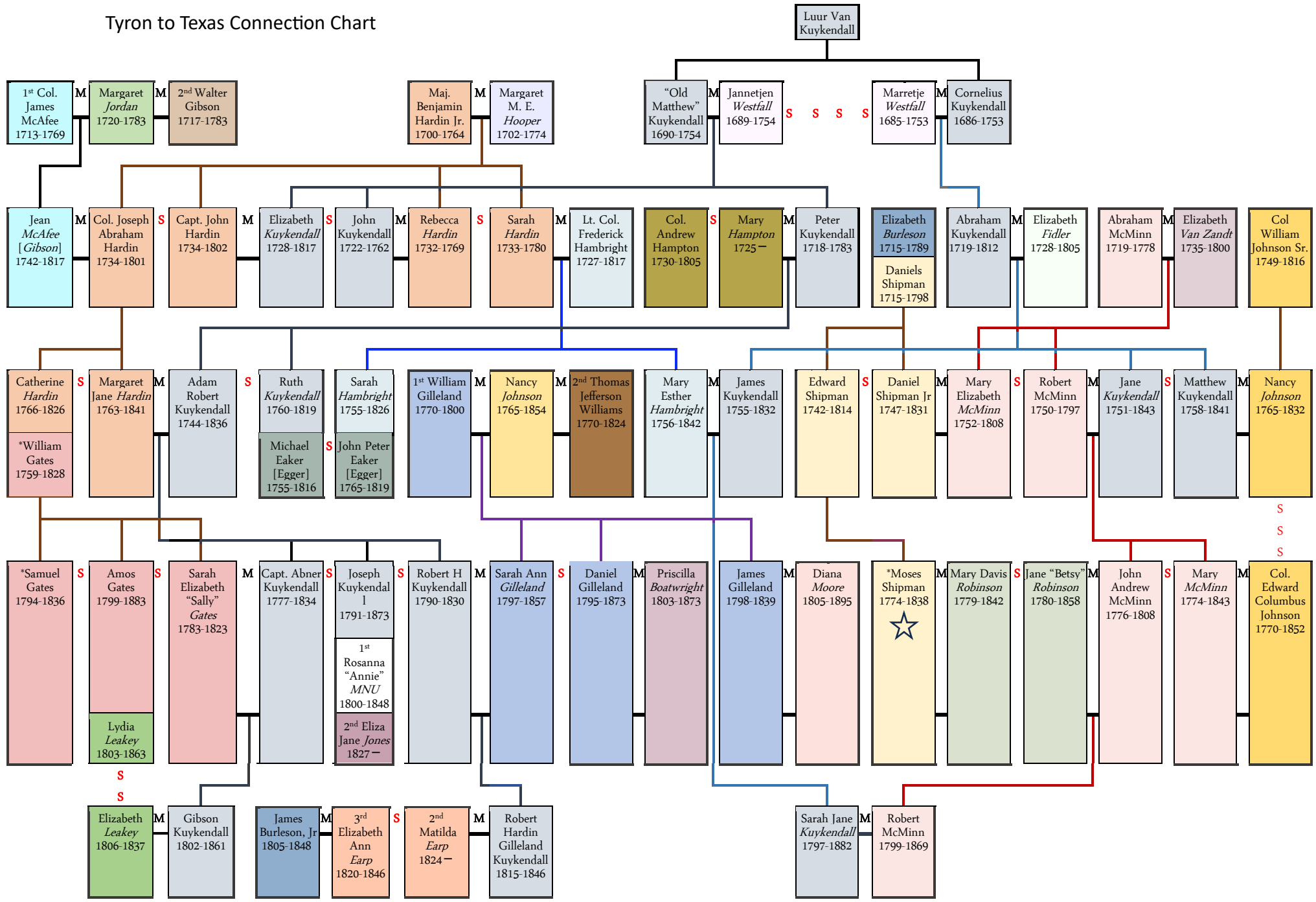
(A full explanation on how to read the connection chart is at the end of this article.)

¹ William L. Sherrill, *Sherrill's History of Lincoln County, North Carolina* (n.d.), 16.

<https://archive.org/details/sherrillshistoryo00sher/page/n15/mode/2up?q=%22John+Robinson%22> accessed June 6, 2024.

² Map of the State of Missouri and Territory of Arkansas 1826 https://www.raremaps.com/gallery/detail/57698/map-of-the-state-of-missouri-and-territory-of-arkansas-compl-finley?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMATAAR3Odm-JM_R7_DLx0VYXWTcLYKp1FXwVXGvLJjI24amSDRxIlnXosCP2K98_aem_AW6yOJKIPffj09dYVdbgFBAtIWrn6B7bfzvAJDaEyhuJ6cW8RtQ_bjFBEjPBF6ghkb_hcGuMwigtBYTseHT-iglyR

Tyron to Texas Connection Chart



Some of these relatives listed in the chart were settlers who joined Stephen F. Austin in his new colony located in Texas, which at that time was under the rule of Augustin de Iturbide, the Constitutional Emperor of Mexico.

Austin, like nearly all Americans of his day, didn't think much of emperors. But the interests of his Texas project prompted him to keep his disapproval to himself. 'I make a tender of my services, my loyalty, and my fidelity to the Constitutional Emperor of Mexico,' he wrote Iturbide, 'a tender which I am ready to verify by an oath of allegiance to the Empire.' To underscore his point, Austin added, 'This solemn act cuts me off from all protection or dependence on my former government. My property, my prospects, my future hopes of happiness, for myself and family, and for the families I have brought with me, are centered here. This is our adopted nation.'³

To many, Texas was the promise land. Lots of good land for about four cents an acre, no taxes, and the belief that being so distant from the central government of Mexico, would make it possible for one to do what one wanted.

However, by April of 1830, trouble began with the passage of a new law, called the Law of April 6, 1830. The law, that stated "no foreigner could settle in Mexican territory bordering the country he came from — a clear slap at American immigrants."⁴ The law also "suspended all unfilled colonization contracts; ended the colonists' monopoly on coastal shipping; banned future slavery; required all foreigners to have passports; and the colonists lost the duty exemption on essential goods and materials they brought in from the States. By 1831 Mexican troops were being stationed all over Texas; the council at Liberty was dissolved; and all the ports except Anahuac were closed. This led to another revolution. So once again, some of our ancestors took up arms and fought to be free.

One of the men in our big family, fought both fights, the American Revolution and the Texas Revolution. He was Bailey Anderson, Sr. (1753-1839), one of three men who fought in both the American Revolution and then more than fifty years later fought in the Texas Revolution.

In Bailey Anderson's application for a pension for his service in the American Revolution

...he stated that he enlisted in 1776 and served at various times up to and including the year of the battle of King's Mountain, and thereafter he was "out on several occasions against Indians and out-laying Tories' .," his service amounting in all to two years. He served as Private with South Carolina Troops under Captain Gordon and Colonels Brannon and Richardson; with Virginia Troops against the Cherokees under Capt. Thomas Price and Colonel Christian; again with S. C. Troops in the Black Swamp under Capt. Thomas Gordon; with Georgia Troops under Capt. Parsons and Colonels Clark, Shelby, and Williams, he took part in the battle of Musgrove's Mills; he served with Georgia Troops under Capt. Bridges and Col. Clark at the first siege of Augusta, he was at the battle of "Black Stalks," and served under Captain Farrar at the siege of Ninety-Six.⁵

In 1821, Bailey Anderson moved to the Ayish Bayou District in Texas. He commanded a company at the Battle of Nacogdoches, sometimes called the opening gun of the Texas Revolution, in August of 1832. In December of 1835 he once again served. Under the commander of the Texas army, General Edward Bureson, and along with other family members including the author of our story, Daniel Shipman he fought at the Siege of Bexar. "He, with twenty or thirty men, ten of his own company, ten of Captain English's and the remainder of the New Orleans Grey were piloted through the enemy's lines into the heart of the city, where they secured possession of old Colonel Navarro's house."⁶ This battle was when the Texans took the Alamo.

³ Brands, H. W., *Lone Star Nation*, (Anchor Books, a division of Random House, Inc. New York, 2004) 76.

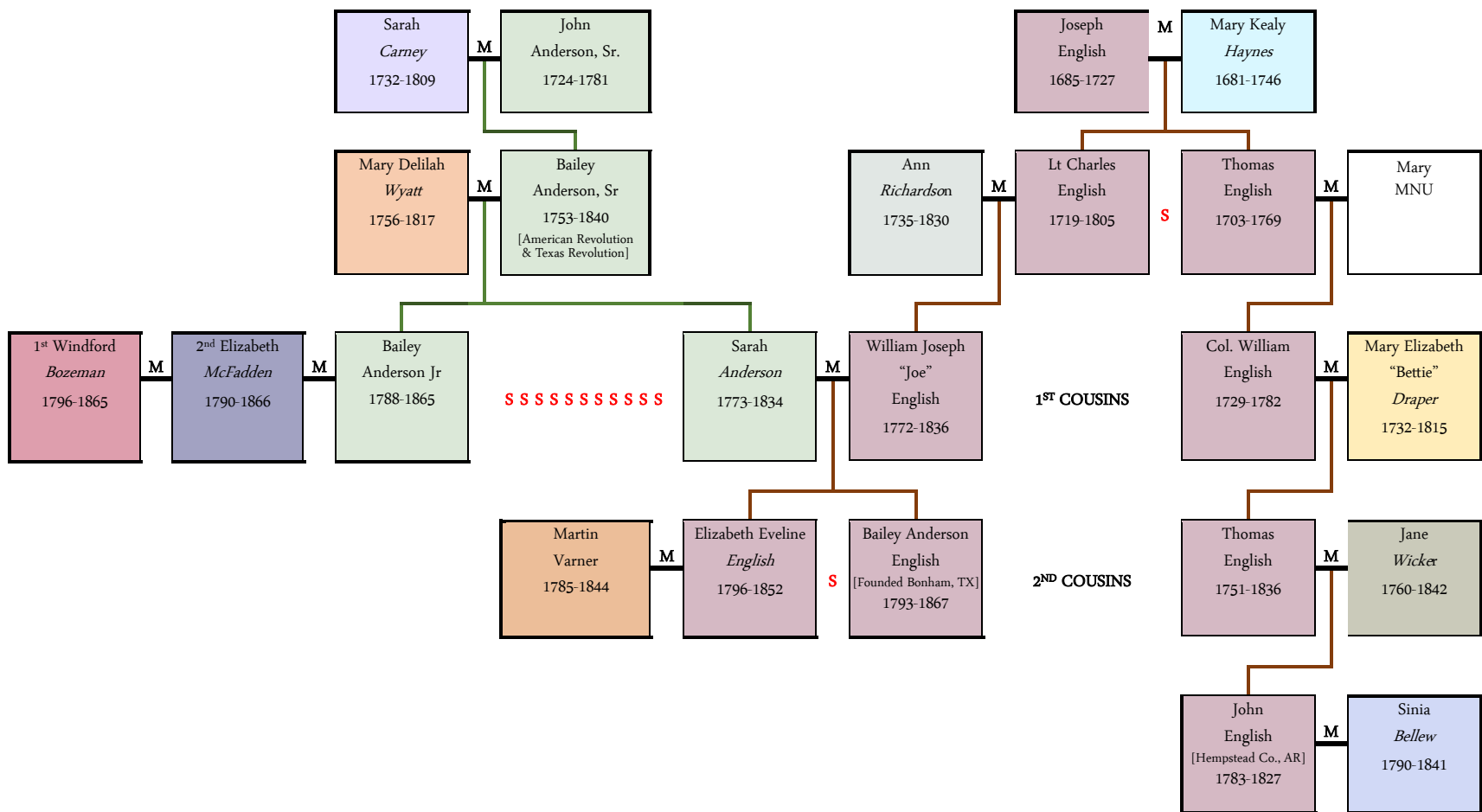
⁴ Lord, Walter, *A Time to Stand*, (University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln and London, 1961) 31.

⁵ Thomas, Helen Gilmore Smith; Barmann, Dolly Reed Gilmore, *Gillmore-Carter and Allied Families*, (1962), 111.

<https://archive.org/details/gillmorecarteral00thom/page/110/mode/2up?q=anderson> Accessed 3 Dec 2024.

⁶ <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph46827/m1/408/?q=native%20americans>

Anderson and English Connection Chart

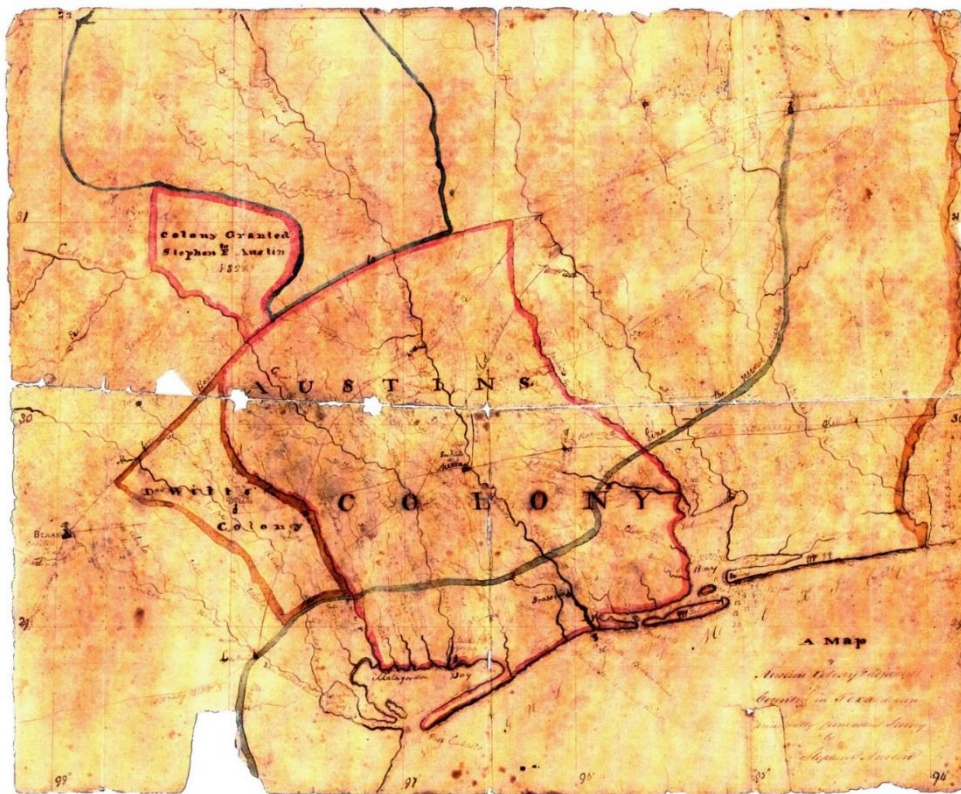


Bailey Anderson was an example of the kind of men our ancestors were. William DeWees described these men and himself.

“We’re here all united together, bound together by an indissoluble tie. As the past has been full of bitterness, we of course look forward to future happiness. . . .”⁷

And so, many of the families that make up our big family of Shipmans, Burlasons, Gages, and Kuykendalls to name a few of our allied families, looked for future happiness. By the summer of 1821, after many of the family had migrated westward but were still looking for that future happiness, the event that made Texas the land of opportunity occurred. Moses Austin succeeded by his son Stephen on his death, started a sanctioned colony in Texas.⁸

*Stephen F. Austin went from New Orleans by river steamboat to Natchitoches, where he arrived June 26, 1821. He and his party crossed the Sabine River on July 15, stopped a few days at Nacogdoches, and from there journeyed along the Old San Antonio Road, arriving at San Antonio August 12. Here he received authorization from Governor Marinez to explore the country and to make arrangements for his colony. He spent three months inspecting the territory and in laying plans for a great colonization enterprise. Roughly taken, the territory that Austin might colonize lay between the Brazos and Colorado rivers, and south of the Old San Antonio Road, though large areas also lay on the east side of the Brazos.*⁹



This is the map that Stephen F. Austin drew of his colony.¹⁰

⁷ Brands, H. W., *Lone Star Nation*. 35

⁸ Kuykendall, Marshall T., *They Slept Upon Their Rifles*, (Fort Worth, Texas, NorTex Press, 2005), 259

⁹ Schmidt, Charles F., *History of Washington County*, (San Antonio, Texas, The Naylor Company, 1949), 3.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/28286/images/dvm_LocHist012245-00009-1?treeid=47024475&personid=372200153112&hintid=1029274874241&usePUB=true&usePUBJs=true&pld=84 Accessed 3 Dec 2024.

¹⁰ <https://historictexasmaps.com/collection/search-results/93353-a-map-of-austins-colony-and-adjacent-country-in-texas-drawn-principally-from-actual-survey-by-stephen-f-austin-non-glo-digital-images> Accessed 3 Dec 2024.

Stephen F. Austin wrote a letter on July, 1, 1821 (to Unknow) in which he stated:

I am now this far on my journey to the Province of Texas, to take possession of the lands granted to my Father, Col. Moses Austin...IT (confirmation letter) contains a permission to settle three hundred families on the lands to each of whom a tract of land is to be given and to whom most liberal privileges are secured, both in regard to commercial intercourse and civil rights.¹¹

Word of free land was starting to spread.

“Austin published a handbill that invited settlers to secure free land as members of his colony in Texas. The news about Austin’s colony traveled to Missouri, Louisiana, and the Arkansas Territory. . . . “Austin left word for the early arrivals to his colony to wait for him where the La Bahia road crossed the Brazos River.”¹²

On Austin’s exploratory trip to Texas, he arrived at the Brazos on December 31, 1821, where he found several groups of settlers waiting for him.

Even though, Daniel talked about how few people traveled with his family on the long journey, some of these early settlers were in fact, related to him. As you read about some of the groups that traveled together to Texas you will notice some surnames that you may know are related to our big family.

The following paragraphs are a listing of some of the names of people who arrived in Austin’s Colony between November 1821 and March 9, 1822. There is no official record of who traveled together and what day they arrived at Austin’s Colony. However, these people tended to travel with their families and their allied families. I have given the groups the name of the leader or leaders of the individuals or families that were known to have traveled together. The group names are just an organization tool to help see the relationships.

This list does not include everyone who moved to Texas between November 1821 and March 9, 1822. I focused on groups that were related to our family or that were part of Daniel’s account of the Shipman journey. A few people I put in a group were related to the group and of interest but arrived in Texas later than March 9, 1822. In some cases, I have added additional information about their extended families so that connections to our family could be understood. I also added a little Texas history.

Like in Daniel Shipman’s story, these groups did not necessarily move as one big group. They may have been traveling as little groups in close proximity to each other, passing through the same areas within a few days or so of each other.

I have placed a star (*) beside the names of those who became Old 300, the name given to the first 300 (actually 297) settlers who qualified for land grants from Stephen F. Austin.

Before Moses got on the road to Texas, some of his Kuykendall cousins were already living in Texas with more to come.

THE KUYKENDALL GROUP

The leaders of this group were the three Kuykendall brothers, Abner, Joseph, and Robert. Joseph and Robert saw Moses Austin near Nacogdoches on his return from San Antonio where he had applied for a grant to organize a colony. They had been kicked off their land by the US Government granting it to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians and were looking for a new place to settle.

Captain Gibson Kuykendall was nineteen years old when he traveled with his father, Abner Kuykendall, on a caravan from Pecan Point on the Red River to Austin’s colony. In 1857, he wrote his recollections of this trip:

¹¹ Eugene Barker, ed., *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers*, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 1, pp. 399

<https://digitalaustinpapers.org/document?id=APB0394.xml> Accessed 9 Dec 2024

¹² Ramsey, Don. *Martin Varner: Texas Pioneer* (San Diego, California: www.Bookwarren.com, 2009), 42.

My father, Abner Kuykendall, and his brother, Joseph with their families, left Arkansas Territory for Texas in October 1821. At Nacogdoches they were joined by their brother Robert, who had, for some time been residing west of the Sabine. The three families crossed the Brazos River at the La Bahia road on the 26th day of November 1821. We found Andrew Robinson and family camped on the west side of the river. Robinson had preceded us two or three days. His was the first immigrant family that crossed the Brazos River. Here we all camped for about a month.¹³

Joseph, Captain Abner, and Captain Robert H. “were among the very first five families to enter Texas in what was to be the opening of the great migration into the state.”¹⁴

These brothers were the sons of **Adam Kuykendall** (1756-1836) and **Margaret Hardin Kuykendall** (1758-1835) and the grandsons of **Peter Kuykendall** (1719-1783). Adam and Margaret had seven children. Four went to Texas in 1821. Their son Peter went but after a short time returned to Conway County, Arkansas to be with the rest of the family.

***Abner Kuykendall** (1777-1834) a North Carolinian raised in Kentucky, traveled from Pecan Point on the Red River to Austin’s meeting point on the Brazos.

Abner Kuykendall was stabbed at San Felipe in June of 1834 by Joseph Clayton and died in late July. Clayton was convicted and hanged in what was probably the first legal execution in Texas.

[Land grants in Fort Bend – July 7, 1824; in Washington – July 7, 1824; and Austin – July 7, 1824]

Sarah “Sally” Gates Kuykendall (–1826) was thirteen when she married Abner. She was the daughter of **William Gates** (1759-1828) and **Catherine Hardin Gates** (1766-1826). This means that William Gates was Abner Kuykendall’s father-in-law.

***Joseph Kuykendall** (1794-1873) was the brother of Abner and Robert Kuykendall. He was less mobile and was more settled which some researchers believe indicates he may have been crippled.

Rosanna “Annie” (1798-1848) was Joseph’s first wife, and then he married **Eliza J. Jones** (1827–).

[Land grant in Fort Bend – July 8, 1824.]

***Robert H. Kuykendall, Sr**, (1790-1830) the son of **Adam Robert Kuykendall, Sr** (1756-1836) and **Margaret Jane Hardin** (1758-1835)

Robert lived west of the Sabine River for some time. It has been documented that Robert was on Galveston Island as early as 1819.¹⁵ It has also been documented that Robert was scouting in east Texas for several months before October 1821.

Robert Kuykendall was hit over the head with a gun barrel while he was fighting Indians in the spring of 1826. This caused him to become blind and paralyzed. He died about two years later.

[Land grants in Wharton and Wharton – no date]

Sarah Ann Gilleland (1797-1857) married Robert H. Kuykendall. She was the daughter of **William Gilleland** (1770-1800) and **Nancy Johnson** (1765-1854).

After Robert died in 1830, Sarah married **Peter Kensey** (–1837) and they had a daughter named **Sarah Ann Kensie** (abt. 1834–). Sarah then married **Thomas J. Tone** (1751-1850). They had no children. After Thomas Tone died Sarah lived with her daughter Sarah Ann.

¹³ Kuykendall, Marshall T., *They Slept Upon Their Rifles*. 212.

¹⁴ Kuykendall, Marshall T., *They Slept Upon Their Rifles*. 265.

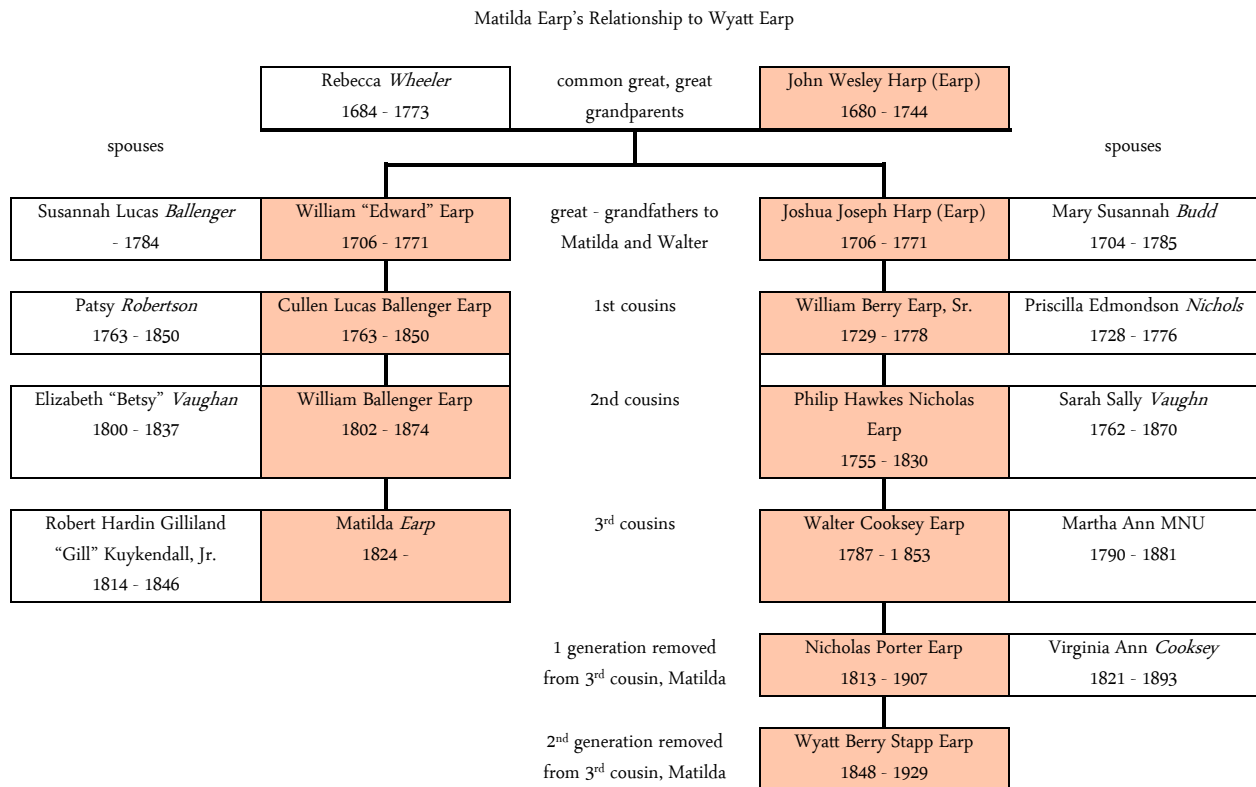
¹⁵ Kuykendall, Marshall T., *They Slept Upon Their Rifles*. 47.

Sarah Ann *Gilleland* and Robert Kuykendall had a son named **Robert Hardin Gilleland Kuykendall** (1815-1846). He first married **Electra Shannon** (1817-1844) and then after her death, he married **Matilda Earp** (1824–) on May 30, 1844.

Robert was ambushed by Indians while he was returning from a trip to San Antonio.

Matilda Earp had a sister named **Elizabeth Ann Earp** (1820-1846) who was married to **James Burleson, Jr.** (1805-1848), the son of **Captain James Burleson** (1775-1838) and **Elizabeth Shipman** (1770-1834). This makes Robert Kuykendall and James Burleson, Jr. brothers-in-law. (See the Tyron to Texas Connection Chart)

Also of interest, Matilda Earp was Wyatt Earp's third cousin, two times removed.

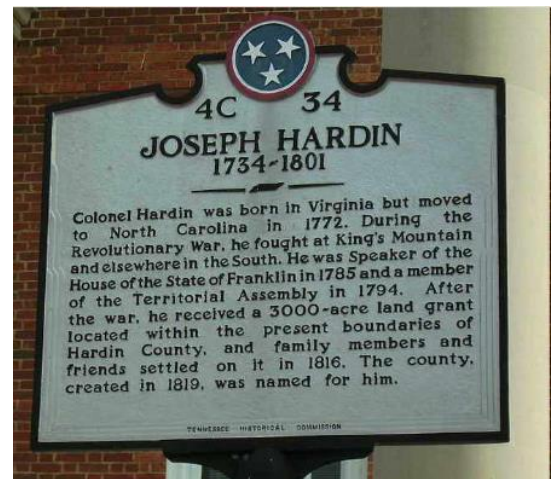


***William Gates** (A.B.T. 1759-1828) was the son of **Charles Gates** (1736-1805) and **Elizabeth Tholl** (1735-1807).

William traveled to Texas with his wife, Catherine; his sons, William, Samuel, Ransom, Charles, and Amos; and his daughter Sarah. They left in the fall of 1821 and headed south. In the latter part of December, they met up with Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches and were informed about how to acquire land in his colony. Then they continued toward the Brazos. After crossing the Trinity River the Gates family met Andrew Robinson and continued traveling with his family.

[Land grants in Washington -July 16, 1824 and Washington – July 16, 1824.]

Catherine Hardin Gates (1766-1826) of Rutherford County, North Carolina was William Gates' wife. She was the daughter of **Colonel Joseph Abraham Hardin** (1734-1801) and **Jean or Jane E Gibson** (1742-1817). This Jean/Jane Gibson is Jean/Jane McAfee. Jean/Jane's mother who was **Margaret Jordan** (1720-1783) first married and had a daughter Jean/Jane with **Colonel James McAfee** (1713-A.F.T. 1769). Margaret later married **Walter Gibson** (1717-1783). Jean/Jane



appears to have been known by her step-father's surname, Gibson but she was born, McAfee. Another explanation for the name confusion was found on Family Search:

In The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Family Group Record Archives, there is a record of Joseph and wife Jane Gibson and the recording of children. This group sheet dates to the 1920's. An article in the Independence County Chronicle, October 1974 by Ralph Wyatt documents the Hardin family connections. One item to note here is a deed record for Anson County, North Carolina. Deed Book 1 page 41, records on Nov 12, 1757, Joseph Hardin and wife Jean sold land. He states this Jean is said to be Jean McAfee and that the deed has his signature and her mark. Further Mr. Wyatt found a Will of James McAfee (Lincoln & Tryon County Wills) dated Feb 4, 1769. This names wife, Margaret, children; William, James Robert, Janet, a daughter in law, Jean, a daughter, son-in-law Joseph Hardin, and grandsons Thomas and James, sons of William.¹⁶

Sarah Elizabeth Gates (1768-1823) was the daughter of William and Catherine Gates. She married **Abner Kuykendall** (1777-1834).

***Samuel Gates** (1794-1836) was the son of William and Catherine Gates. He married **Catherine "Katy" Ann Elizabeth Pyeatt** (1795-1865). Catherine made the Texas flag that was carried in the Runaway Scrape.

In 1824, Samuel received two leagues of land, one for being the married head of household for farming and one league for raising stock. Most settlers claimed to be stock raisers and farmers in order to receive two leagues of land. (A league of land is 4,428 acres.)

[Land grants in Washington – July 16, 1824, and in Washington – July 16, 1824.]

William Gates Jr.(1794-1872) was the son of William and Catherine Gates. He was married to **Anna Theodosia "Dosia" Collins** (1799-1884). She was the daughter of **John Collins** (1769-1845).

Ransom Gates (1794–1828) was the son of William and Catherine Gates.

Charles Horatio Gates (1798-1836) was the son of William and Catherine Gates. He married **Minerva Fletcher Hanks** (1807-1891). She was the daughter of **Isabella Gabriella Stewart** (1774-1841) and **Peter Hanks** (1767-1811).

Amos Gates (1799-1883) was the son of William and Catherine Gates.

On the Gates family's journey to Texas, Amos was their scout. He successfully guided them to the Brazos in late December. In the spring the settlers planted a crop but there was a drought. In June of 1822, there was word of ships bringing provisions to the mouth of the Colorado River. "Gibson [Kuykendall], his father [Abner Kuykendall], and his uncle Amos Gates went to the mouth of the Colorado River to meet a ship loaded with provisions."

In his obituary published in the Bastrop Advertiser in 1883, it stated, "He was the oldest settler of Washington County, and was the first white man to cross to the west side of the Brazos River."¹⁷

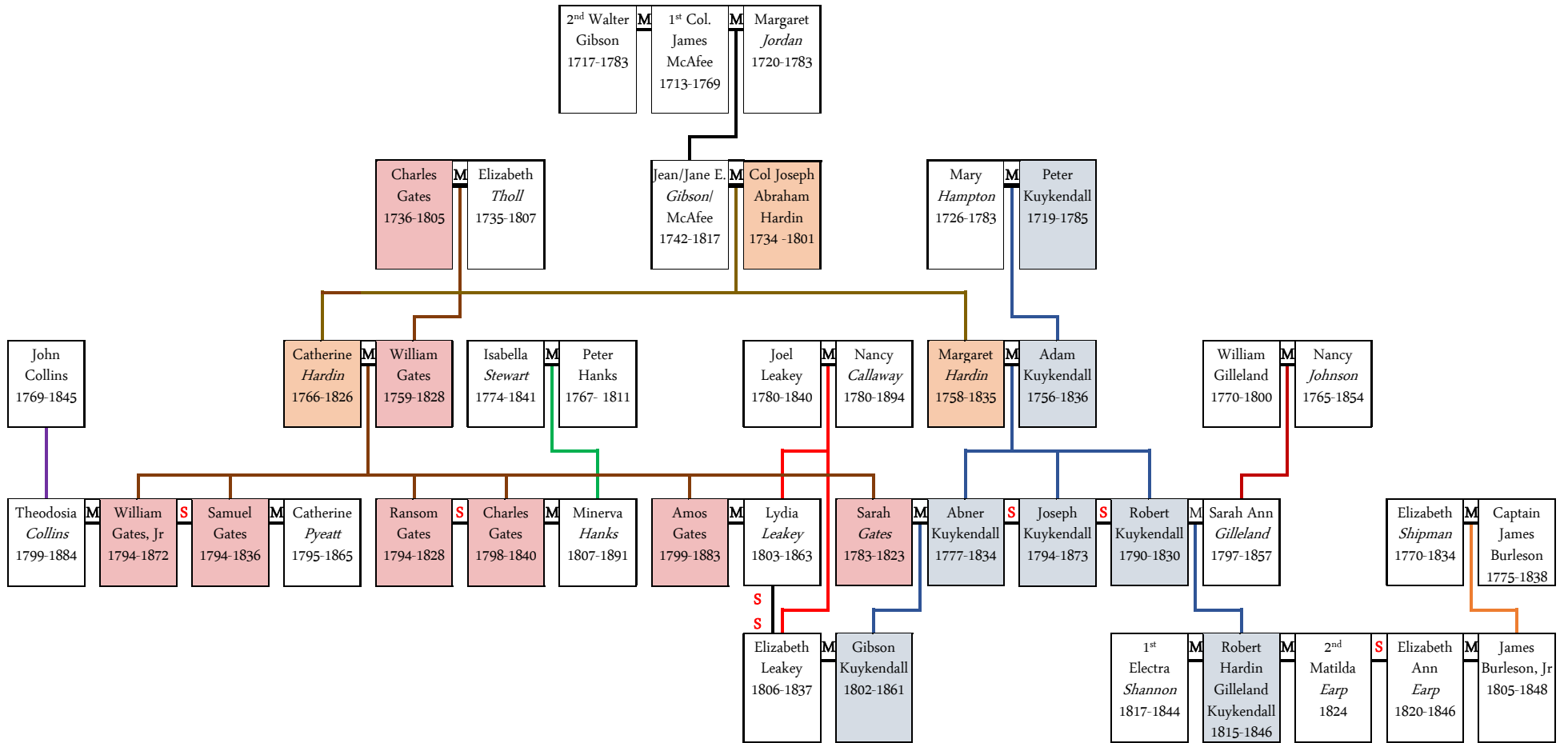
Lydia Leakey (1803-1863) was Amos Gates' wife. Lydia was the daughter of **Joel Leakey** (1780-1840) and **Nancy Callaway** (1780-1894). Lydia had a sister, **Elizabeth Leakey** (1806-1837) who married **Gibson Kuykendall** (1802-1861) the son of Abner Kuykendall. This means that Amos Gates who was about two years older than Gibson Kuykendall was his uncle. Amos' wife Lydia *Leakey* Gates was Gibson's aunt and his sister-in-law.

¹⁶ <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/collaborate/M4JZ-LML> Accessed 4 Dec 2024/

¹⁷ Ray, Worth S., *Austin Colony Pioneers* (Worth S. Ray, 1949, Austin, Texas), 102.

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/412996/?offset=0#page=107&viewer=picture&o=info&n=0&q=>

GATES, HARDINS, AND KUYKENDALLS MOVE TO TEXAS CONNECTION CHART



The Gilleland brothers, their step-father Thomas Jefferson Williams and mother, Nancy *Johnson* (Gilleland) Williams were living in Miller County and moved to Austin's Colony with John Ingram and Robert H. Kuykendall who was married to Daniel and James' sister, Sarah Ann *Gilleland Kuykendall*. They reached Texas on December 29, 1821. "In the last few days of December, the entire group of Kuykendalls, along with the allied families of Boatrights, and Gillelands, crossed the Brazos River on make-shift rafts and by swimming their livestock"¹⁸.

William Felix Gilleland (1770-1800) was the son of **James Gilleland** (1745-1810) and **Susannah Young** (1750-1842). He married Nancy *Johnson*.

Nancy Johnson (1765-1854) was the daughter of **Philip Earl Johnson** (1730-1776) and **Elizabeth Bush** (1740-1805). Nancy first married William Gilleland. After he died, she married Thomas Jefferson Williams.

There were two Nancy Johnsons that were part of the Kuykendall group. There was Nancy *Johnson* who first married William Gilleland and secondly Thomas Williams. The second Nancy *Johnson* married Matthew Kuykendall.

The Nancy Johnson that married Matthew Kuykendall had a brother Edward Columbus Johnson (1770-1852) who married Mary *McMinn* (1774-1843), the daughter of Robert McMinn (1750-1797) and Jane *Kuykendall* (1751-1843). Mary *McMinn* Johnson had a brother John Andrew McMinn (1776-1808), who married Jane "Betsy" *Robinson* (1780-1858). Jane was the sister of Mary Davis *Robinson* Shipman (1779-1842), the wife of Moses Shipman. (See Tyron to Texas Connection Chart).

In addition to these two Nancy Johnsons, many Burlesons have another Nancy Johnson in their family tree that was of the next generation and who was married to John Burleson (1817-1904). On the following page I have placed a connection chart of the three Nancy Johnsons to see exactly how they fit into the big family.

***Thomas Jefferson Williams** (ABT. 1771- ABT. 1825) and Nancy *Johnson* Gilleland married in 1802 in Tennessee. The family moved to the Arkansas Territory "and eventually settled on the Buzzard Creek Branch of the Red River above Pecan Point before 1821."¹⁹

[Land grant in Matagorda – August 16, 1824.]

Sarah Ann Gilleland (1797-1857) married Robert H. Kuykendall. She was the daughter of **William Gilleland** (1770-1800) and Nancy *Johnson*.

Robert Johnson Gilleland (1793-1840) was known by his middle name, Johnson. He was the son of Nancy and William Gilleland. He and his wife **Mary Barbour** (1793-1840) were living in Pennsylvania when the rest of his family began their journey to Texas. Robert, Mary, and their two children **Rebecca Jane Gilleland** (1831-1926) and **William McCalla Gilleland** (1834-1892) joined the rest of his and his wife's family in Texas in 1837.

Johnson served in the ranger company of Captain John J. Tumlinson, Jr. in the protection of the frontier.

Johnson and Mary have the same death date. They were living in Refugio when they were massacred by Comanches. Their 9-year-old daughter, Rebecca, and 6-year-old son, William were captured. General Albert Sidney Johnston led a command of mounted riflemen and was able to recover the two children.²⁰

***Daniel Gilleland** (1795-1873) was the son of William and Nancy Gilleland. Daniel married **Priscilla Boatwright** (–1873), who was the daughter of Thomas Boatwright and Amy *Rushing* Boatwright. Daniel and Priscilla with their infant daughter, Priscilla's parents the Boatwrights, and their children joined the Gillelands and Kuykendalls and traveled to Texas.

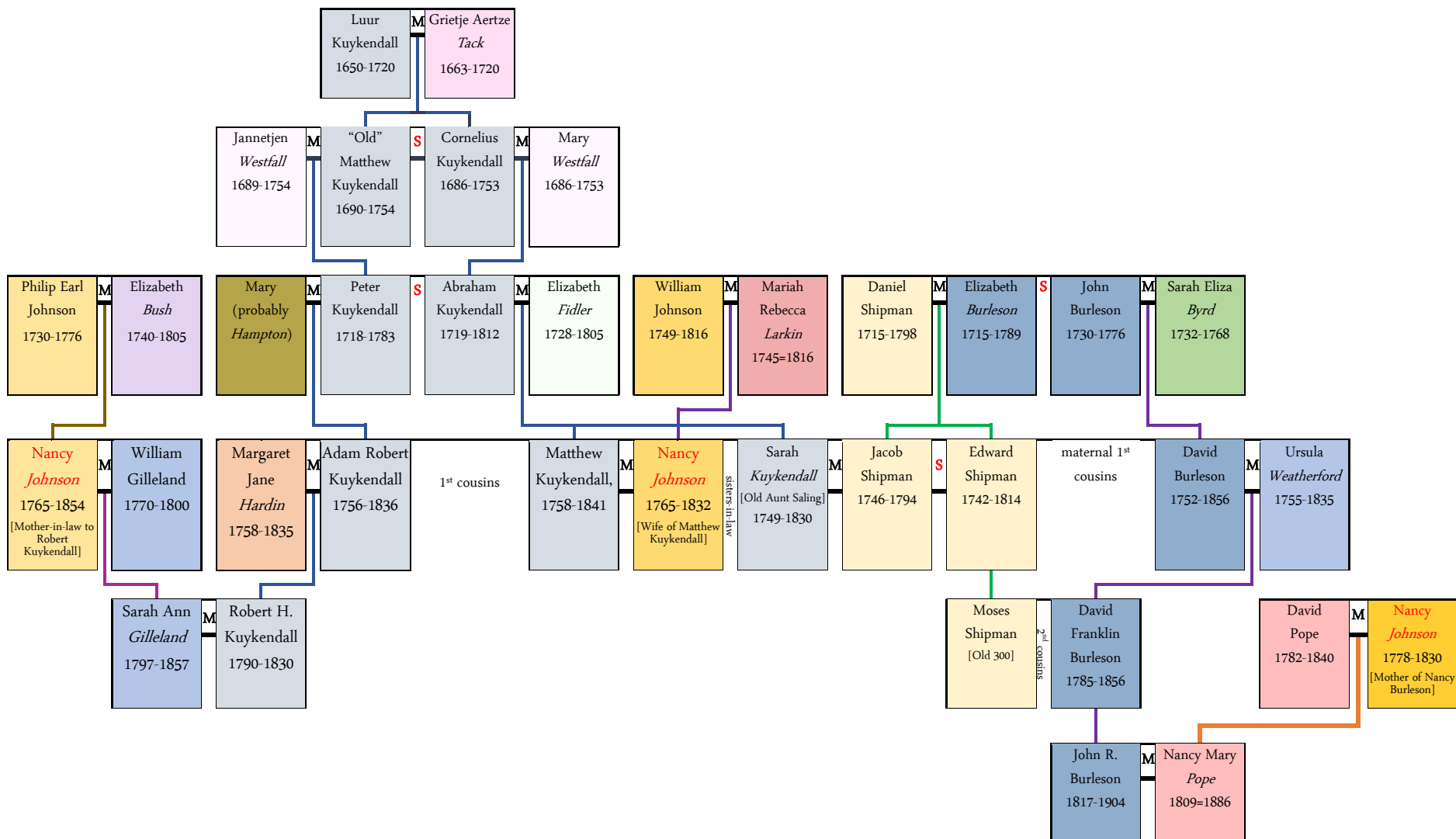
[Land grant in Austin – August 3, 1824.]

¹⁸ Kuykendall, Marshall T., *They Slept Upon Their Rifles*. 205.

¹⁹ Kuykendall, Marshall T., *They Slept Upon Their Rifles*. 45.

²⁰ https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/80833577/mary_gilleland# Accessed 8 Dec 2024.

THE THREE NANCY JOHNSONS



James Gilleland (1798-1839) was the son of William and Nancy Gilleland. James married **Dianna Moore** (1805-1895). She was the daughter of **Nathaniel** (1780-1850) and **Rebecca Adams Moore** (1788-1852).

During the spring of 1822, this group returned to Arkansas. In the fall of 1823, the group returned with the addition of Dianna Moore Gilleland's parents, the Moores, and the Rabbs.

James built his home on a creek that came to be known as Gilleland Creek. James was a Methodist lay preacher. He organized the first church in Bastrop, in the Spring of 1835.²¹

In 1839 when a band of Comanches attacked a settlement below Waterloo (Austin), James joined the militia that was raised to pursue them. The company caught up with the Comanches at Brushy Creek. General Edward Burleson was the commander. James was gravely wounded by a musket ball between the shoulder and neck. He died 10 days later. Jacob Shipman Burleson, General Ed's brother was also killed.

Sarah Ann Gilleland (1797-1857) was the daughter of William and Nancy Gilleland. Sarah Ann married first **Robert H. Kuykendall, Sr.** (1790-1830), second, Peter Kinsey and third, Thomas Tone (1751-1852).

Benjamin Williams (1803-1820). the son of Thomas and Nancy Williams, died on the way to Texas.

They had to chop out a path for their pack horses, cattle, and hogs. Each horse carried a large Mexican ciaxes (pack-saddle). A wood frame the length of a horse was made, then a wet cowhide was stretched over this frame and left to dry. A flap was left to cover the top making it rainproof. Two of these bags were joined by straps over the horse's back. A feather bed would fit into one of these bags. The ill son, Benjamin, was carried on such a bed made on top of the pack saddle.²²

Thomas Johnson Williams (1807-1889) was the son of Thomas and Nancy Williams. Thomas married first **Elizabeth Bennet DeMoss** (1815-1852), and second **Mary Moore** (1837-1854), and third, **Rebecca Horton**. (I have found Mary listed as Mary Isabella and as Mary Jane).

Thomas served in the Texas Revolution and according to family history, was one of the men who found the disguised and hiding Santa Anna after the Battle of San Jacinto.

Nancy Williams (1809-1841) was the daughter of Thomas and Nancy Williams. Nancy married **Thomas Walker Moore** (1803-1874). Thomas was the son of **Moses** (1777-1860) and **Jane Priscilla Miller** (1777-1800) **Moore**.

Mary Diane Williams (1811-1884) was the daughter of Thomas and Nancy Williams. Mary married **Thomas Adams Moore** (1808-1852), a cousin of her sister's husband, Thomas Walker Moore. Thomas Adams was the son of **Nathaniel** (1780-1850) and **Rebecca Adams Moore** (1788-1852).

Mary Diane Williams' half-brother, James Gilleland, married her husband's sister. Her husband was Thomas Adams Moore and his sister was Diane Moore.

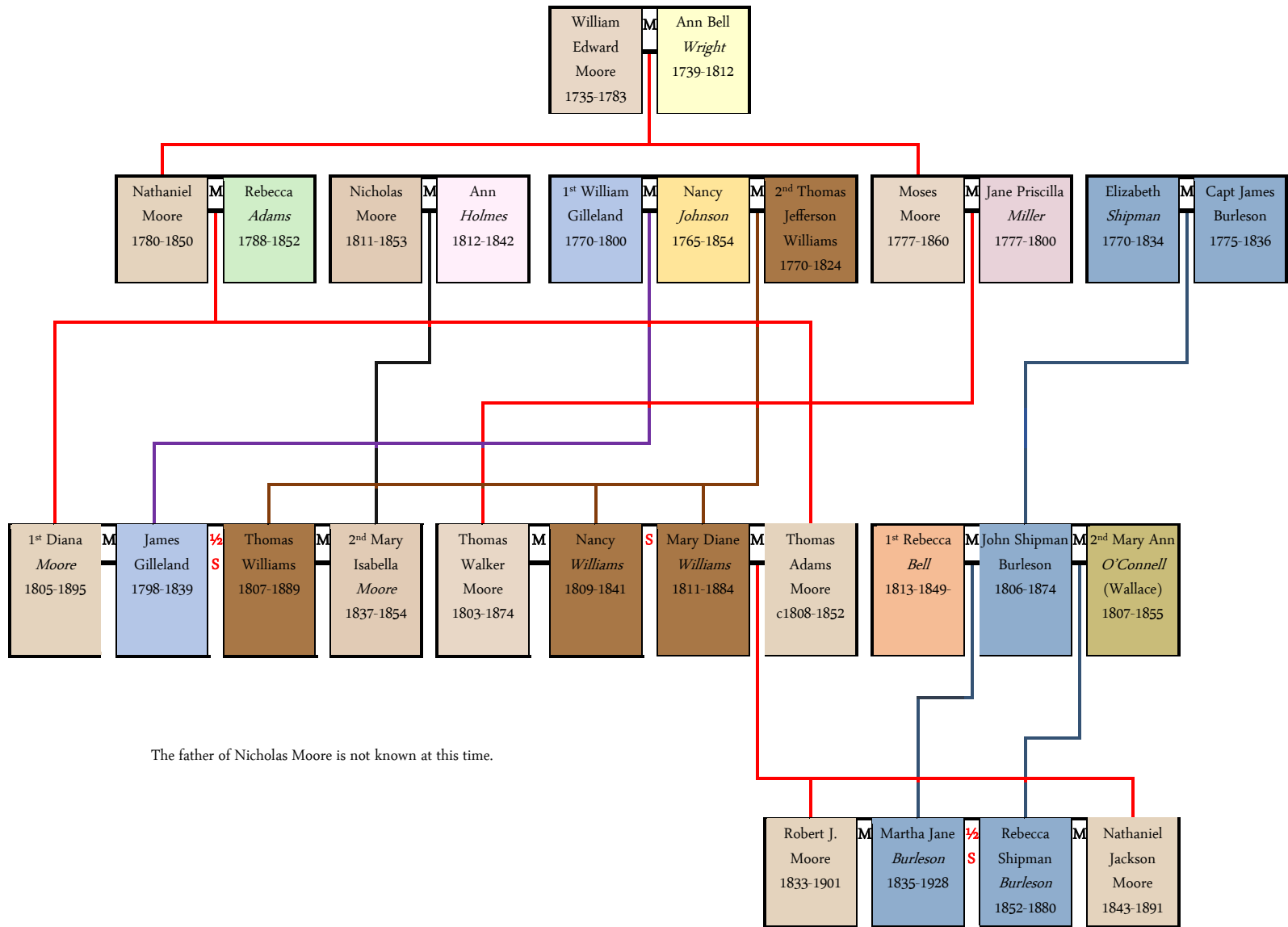
Thomas and Mary Moore had two sons who married two Burleson girls who were half-sisters. Their father was **John Shipman Burleson** (1806-1874) who was the son of **Captain James Burleson** (1775-1836) and **Elizabeth Shipman Burleson** (1770-1834). **Martha Jane Burleson** (1835-1928), whose mother was **Rebecca Bell Burleson** (1835-1928) married **Robert J. Moore** (1833-1901). **Rebecca Shipman Burleson** (1852-1880), whose mother was **Mary Ann O'Connell (Wallace)**, married **Nathaniel Jackson Moore**.

²¹ Ray, Worth S., *Austin Colony Pioneers*, (Austin, Texas: Worth S. Ray, 1949), 314.

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/412996/?offset=0#page=319&viewer=picture&o=search&n=0&q=Gilliland>
Accessed 8 Dec 2024.

²² Matagorda County Book Committee. *Historic Matagorda County*, Volume 1, book, 1986; Houston, Texas. 103.
(<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph992181/>: accessed December 8, 2024), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <https://texashistory.unt.edu/>; crediting Palacios Area Historical Association.

The Moore Connection Chart



The father of Nicholas Moore is not known at this time.

***Thomas Boatwright** (1760-ABT. 1830) and his wife **Amy Rushing** (1780-1839) were at Robinson's camp on the west side of the Brazos River in December of 1821. Gibson Kuykendall (1802-1861) son of Captain Abner Kuykendall remembered, "About the first of January 1822, my father and Thomas Boatright moved ten miles west of the Brazos River and settled near New Year Creek, about four miles south of the present town of Independence."²³

[Land grant in Austin – July 27, 1824.]

John Ingram (1808-1896), an orphan, also traveled with the Williams family. Ingram helped Williams plant a crop of corn before he returned to Arkansas where his guardian was. The next year his guardian refused to let him return to Texas, so he ran away with William Rabb and James Gilleland. He made his home with the Rabb family.

***Jesse Bennett Burnam** (1792-1883) was the son of **William Henry Burnam** (1751-1808) and **Diana Owen** (Abt. 1756-1810). Jesse was married first to **Nancy Cummins Ross** (1811-1863) and second to **Marie Temperance Null Baker** (1798-1833). Jesse's brother was **Samuel Burnam** (1792-1842) and he married **Edith "Edy" DeWees** (1819-1849). William B. DeWees* was his brother-in-law.

Jesse Burnam came from Pecan Point to the Brazos River. He later moved to the Colorado River where he established a trading post and ferry that was known as Burnam's Crossing. It was destroyed by Sam Houston during the Texas Revolution to stop the Mexican Army from using it.

[Land Grants in Fayette County – August 16, 1824, and in Colorado – August 16, 1824]

The Rabbs were living in Jonesborough and technically in Spanish territory. However, the Arkansas Territory authorities were trying to exercise civil jurisdiction over them. The Rabbs had known the Austins for years and were probably aware of Moses Austin's plan to establish a colony in Texas for some time.

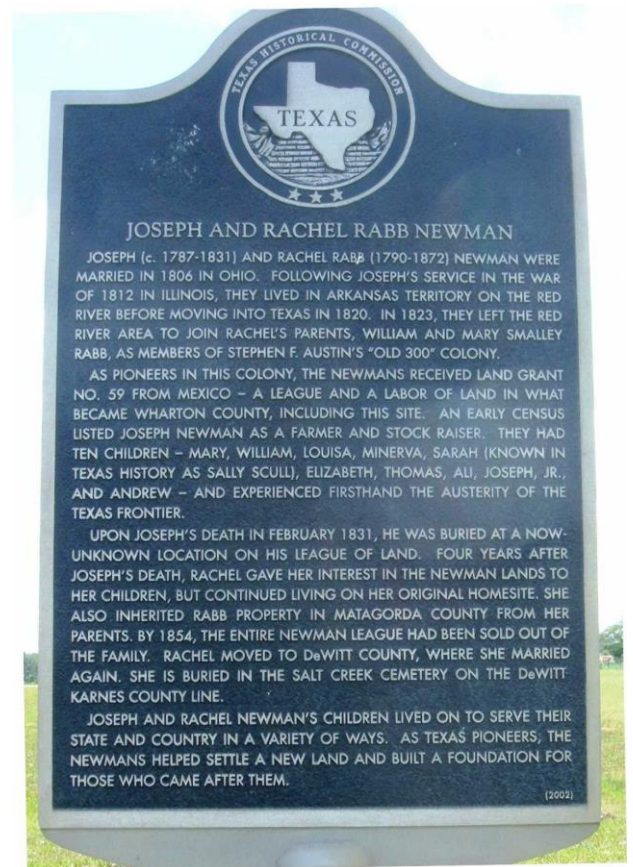
The Rabbs arrived in the Brazos River area in December 1821. The following year, William and Thomas accompanied Stephen F. Austin as far as Bexar on Austin's trip to Mexico City to confirm his colonization contract.

***William Rabb** (1770-1831) was the son of **Mary Scott** (1745-1798) and **Andrew Rabb** (1740-1804). William and his wife, **Mary Smalley** (1773-1831), and two sons left Jonesborough and arrived on the Colorado River in December 1821.

[Land grants in Fayette—July 19, 1824, in Matagorda—July 19, 1824, and in Fayette—August 24, 1824]

***John Rabb** (1798-1861) was the son of Mary and William Rabb. When he was twenty-two, he married **Mary Crownover** (1805-1882) the daughter of **John Crownover** (1774-1842) and **Mary Chesney** (1778-1844). John; his wife, Mary; his son; his father, William; his brothers Andrew and Thomas; his sister, Rachel; and her husband, Joseph Newman, and his family moved to Texas in 1823. They lived near Ruttersville and then moved to Rabb's Prairie which was named for their family. Their infant son died during the Runaway Scrape. The Rabbs moved several times but in 1860 they settled at the Barton Springs area outside of Austin.

[Land grants in Fort Bend – July 8, 1824 and in Austin – July 8, 1824]



²³ Kuykendall, Marshall T., *They Slept Upon Their Rifles*. 212-213.

***Thomas J. Rabb** (ABT. 1801-1846) was the son of William and Mary Rabb. He was the brother of Andrew, John, and Rachel *Rabb* Newman. He accompanied his parents on their trip to Austin's Colony, where they arrived in December 1821. The rest of the Rabb family had remained in the Arkansas Territory until the fall of 1823 when they made their trip to Texas. Thomas married **Serena Gilbert** (ABT. 1800-1836), the daughter of **Michael Gilbert** (1750-1836) and Sarah *Moon*.

[Land grant in Wharton—July 24, 1824]

***Sarah Moon Gilbert** (1750-1841) received her own grant in Austin's Colony in Wharton and Fort Bend counties in 1827 and was an Old 300.

[Land grant in Wharton & Fort Bend—May 11, 1827]

***Andrew Rabb** (1793-1869) was the son of William and Mary Rabb. He married **Margaret Howell Ragsdale** (1805-1885). She was the daughter of **William Ragsdale** (1778-1828) and **Sarah Campbell Ragsdale** (1780-1833).

[Land grant in Wharton—August 10, 1824]

***Joseph Newman** (1780-1831) married the daughter of William Rabb, **Rachel Rabb** in Warren County, Ohio, on June 12, 1806. He served at Fort Russell (See Byrd Lockhart.) during the War of 1812. In 1818 the family moved to Jonesboro. In 1823 they joined Rachel's family.

[Land grants in Wharton – August 10, 1824 and in Austin – August 10, 1824]

***Charles Garrett** (ABT. 1786-1847) is buried on the Joseph Kuykendall League. Joseph Kuykendall's first wife, Roseanna, died in 1848. Charles and Roseanna were buried next to each other. One marble slab with their two names inscribed on it marked their graves. The stone is no longer there.

[Land grants in Brazoria – July 15, 1824 and in Waller – July 15, 1824]

William Fitz Gibbons (Abt. 1776-) last name may be Fitzgibbons. In his application for land his name was spelled "Fitzgibbins," in his grant it was spelled "Fitsgivens," and on the Abstract of Texas Land Titles it was spelled "FitzGibbons."²⁴ His wife's name was Nancy. William settled on Ben Fort Creek, later renamed Gibbon Creek in Grimes County. A map showing his property was in the Early History of Grimes County book, with his name spelled Fitz Gibbons.

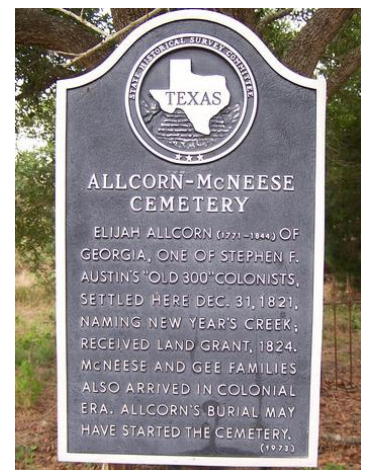
Charles Garret and William Fitz Gibbons brought their families and traveled with the Kuykendall group. They left the Kuykendall group at the Trinity River taking the upper road and settling at the Atuscasito crossing on the Brazos.

***Elijah P. Allcorn** (ABT. 1769-1844) was the son of **James Allcorn, Jr.** and **Catherine Allcorn**. He married his wife **Nancy Hodge Allcorn** (ABT. 1773-1844), in the 1790s. She is thought to have been the daughter of his commander from when he served in the Georgia State Militia, Captain John Hodge.

The Allcorns and their six children traveled to Texas in December 1821. On January 1, 1822 the Allcorn's joined the group that camped on a stream that they named New Year Creek. It was located between Independence and Brenham.

[Land grants in Fort Bend—July 10, 1824, in Washington—July 10, 1824, and in Waller—July 10, 1824]

Many of the Kuykendall group were already in Texas when Daniel Shipman's story continues:



²⁴ Blair, E. L., M. A. *Early History of Grimes County*, (1930) p.60. [https://grimescountytexas.gov/vertical/sites/%7B958238D0-27E6-4F6C-919E-F1D98542C5FD%7D/uploads/EARLY_HISTORY_OF_GRIMES_COUNTY\(1\).pdf](https://grimescountytexas.gov/vertical/sites/%7B958238D0-27E6-4F6C-919E-F1D98542C5FD%7D/uploads/EARLY_HISTORY_OF_GRIMES_COUNTY(1).pdf) Accessed 25 Jun 2024

We started about the first of March on our not only lonely and more lonesome than ever, but rough and mountainous road. Our company had all wasted away to none but father and family and George Nidever. As we started we directed our course considerably to our right, leaving the Arkansas river to our left, and came to a little river called Porto, about twelve miles from Fort Smith, where it empties into the Arkansas river. We then turned our course up that river, and followed it up a considerable distance; turned a little to our left, went over the mountain, on which we observed a great many buffalo signs, but no buffalo on the west side of the mountain. We crossed another small river called Kyomishy, and followed it nearly to where it empties into Red River, about ten miles above the upper settlements on the east side of the river at that time. We then turned down Red River, nearly opposite Jonesborough, which stands on the west side of the river, and on the 9th of March, 1822, we crossed over Red River into Texas; and have lived in Texas ever since. It was a new country, new acquaintances, and new things generally.

The next thing was to look for a place to live. Father found a little place, with a very rough log cabin on it, and a small patch enclosed; he traded for it; did not want a title, no one owned nor wanted land there at that time.

Nidever and I remained long enough to help father fix up a little, and becoming dissatisfied, we proposed to father, if he would assist us in way of an outfit, that we would go and look at the Brazos country, which he readily agreed to. We went to work, got everything ready, and on the 23rd of March, (the same month we came here), we set out still farther west, each of us on a Spanish pony; now two boys as we were, to go three hundred and fifty miles, through an unbroken wilderness, or nearly so, and quite a desolate and lonesome country, except we would occasionally meet with a small party of Indians, all strangers to us; and any person that are acquainted with the character of Indians, know they are a dangerous people to be among, with no more protection than we had. From their signs and improvements did not indicate their having been there long. From the signs of the Caddows it appeared that they had been their several years, as they had a considerable number of peach trees.

When we left Jonesborough, we were told to go down the river to what was then called "Pecan Point," a neighborhood about twenty-five miles below Jonesborough, and there enquire how to get to the Nick Tramel trail²⁵, which we did and got along very well. We got to the Sulpher Fork of Red River;



²⁵ <https://trammelstracetrail.weebly.com/> Accessed 8 Dec 2024.

found it quite deep fording; succeeded in getting across to the west bank, where we found a small village of Indians, who called themselves Alabamas. They gave us some directions, so that we arrived at the Tramel trail about dark, and, for want of a better place of entertainment, we stopped at Mr. Sproll's hotel, where our fair was tolerably good under the circumstances. It was true we had the provisions to provide, and do the cooking and drudgery generally, and to wait on ourselves, so that we had no one to grumble at, for this was all understood at the start. All quiet after retiring except the hooting of the owl, and the howl of the coyote or wolf. The next morning we were awoken by the mocking and other serenading birds, which were very numerous at that time in the beautiful pine, hickory and post oak forest of the west. When fairly awake it did not take us long to prepare and dispose of our morning meal, which our appetites were apt to relish well; then our ponies were the next thing we had to see after, which was hobbled near by. About the time the sun began to rise in the eastern skies, we were ready to mount our ponies, and turn our faces westward, and renew our journey until old Sol found the half way place in the firmament. Then for a little refreshments for ourselves, and a few minutes for our ponies to brouse on the grass and bushes, as that was all the feed we had to offer them—though the grass was very good at that time. The next thing was to saddle and mount our horses, and move on westward again.

That evening we met three men who had been west, though not as far as we were going. I traded ponies with one of them; got the most durable animal, but had to give work for its services, more than I wished, still I never regrated the bargain. At any rate “we made the trip—the pony and rider both stood it tolerably” well.

I think it was called eighteen miles from the Cadow village to Sabine river. This little stream was once called the dividing line between the United States and Mexico, but now that is of the past. We had that stream to raft; when across, we set out, did not go far until we came to a low, flat country, and soon to ugly looking bayous; it was one of three that was called the Cypress bayous, not far apart, and as there had been some rain, we had them all to swim. The first we came to I threw off my clothes and the saddle off of my mare; took her by the bridle, and pitched in; when about half way across, I undertook to pass between two large cypress trees; the water was running very swift, roaring and boiling at a tremendous rate, and caused such a strong suck to the center, that it took me some time to get out of it. My comrade striped his horse and turned him in, and the horses and myself got across safe. The next thing was to get Nidever and our baggage over. We went up the bayou and was lucky enough to find where some other man or men had cut some trees across from both sides, so as to make them meet and lap in the middle; we succeeded

in getting over safe. We saddled our horses and soon got under way again; had not gone far before we came to another one of those cypress bayous; found a large pine log across it—saw where there had been horses put in and where they had went out, and we supposed they were lead across; at any rate we turned ours in and lead them across through the water; about half way my mare jumped and came very near jerking me off the log, where it looked like it might have floated a large steamship; finally we got all over safe. We started again, and it was not long before we reached the third and last of those cypress bayous; and, again we found where some one had cut trees across, and we succeeded in getting all over. We went on until nearly night—darkness began to close in around us; finding no better chance for accommodation than we had the previous night, after a short consultation, we concluded to accept of the first proposition. In the first place we took care of our ponies by hobbling them in good grass; and, seeing our only chance was to wait on ourselves, as our host and hostess seemed to be so slow, and being a little hungry, so we went to work and soon prepared and disposed of our supper; and everything considered, we thought our fare tolerably good. We retired early, and our hotel keeper being very quiet, we slept very well. It seemed like we made nearly all the noise that we heard, except now and then the screech of an owl or raccoons fighting, and the rabble of wild animals in the swamps, mingling their different sounds, caused us to feel a little lonesome at the time; but when day light had fairly come, we were up and preparing our humble repast; disposing of it before that beautiful sun had shown its face, we had our feet in the stirups and our faces turned westward, and anxiously pushing forward on another day's travel; went on tolerably well, until about twelve o'clock when we generally stopped an hour or two and let our ponies pick a little grass, and to eat a snack ourselves.

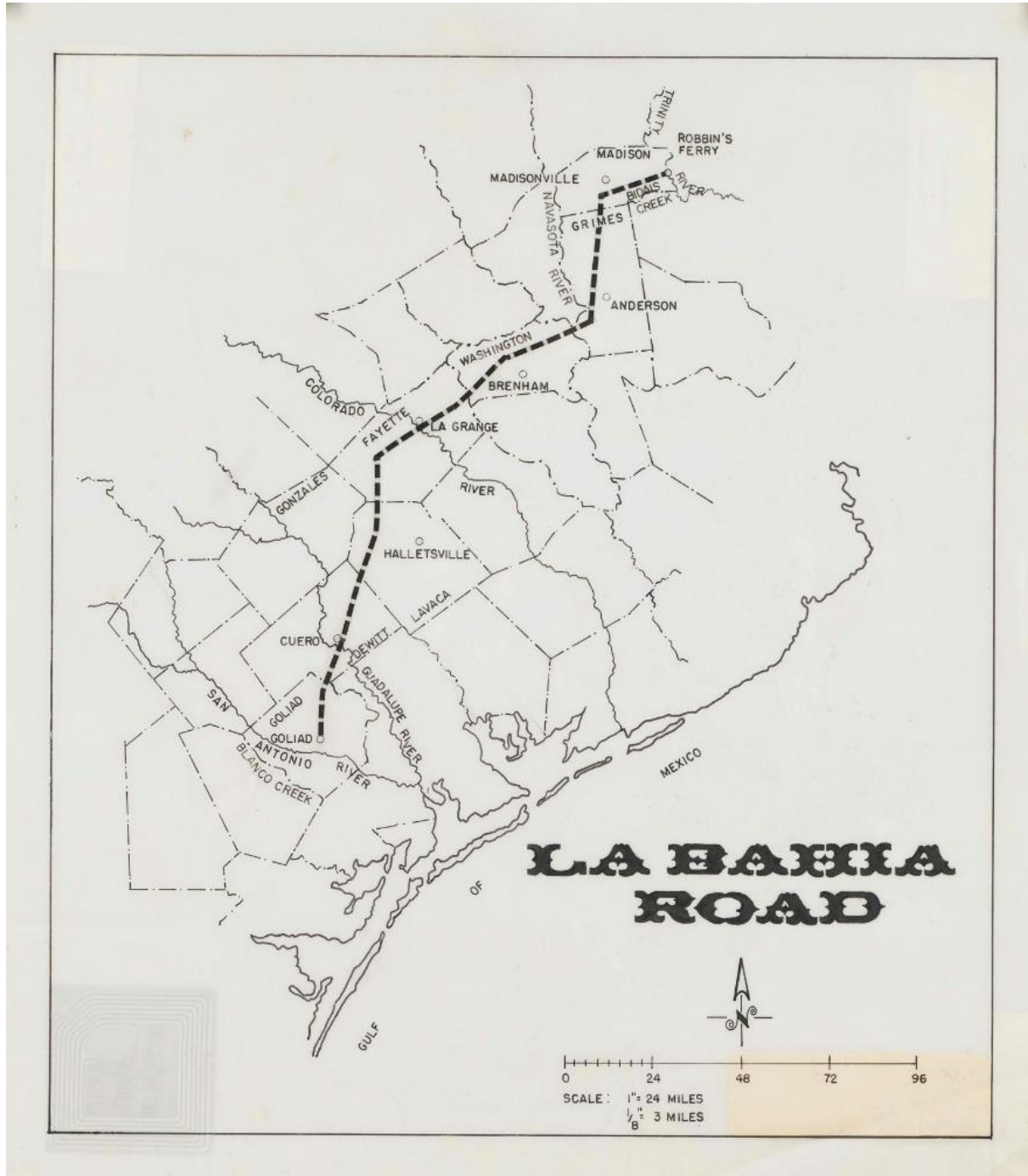
That day we passed through a Cherokee village and got some directions how to find an old Mexican village called "Nacogdoches." After awhile the sun began to disappear behind the western hills, which made us begin to lookout for another stopping place for the night; we soon found quite a good place, and by waiting on ourselves, as usual, we made ourselves comfortable; we retired early, being tired from traveling. Next morning after being awoken as usual by our little feathered musicians throwing down their lovely music into our ears, which sounded so sweet that I thought it was enough to arouse any sleepers; we finished our breakfast—turned our backs on all that we had passed the day before; set out with our faces and minds anxiously pressing westward; for another long and lonesome day, we followed our little dim path through the tall and beautiful pine trees, which was in great abundance in that region. This is what is now called the Cherokee county. The Indians were very friendly, and gave us good directions how to find the way to Nacogdoches, which we found no trouble in reaching. I think it was about forty miles. When we got there,

we found it quite an old dilapidated Mexican town, inhabited with a mixed population, consisting of Americans, Mexicans, Indians and even the free Africans. The buildings were of quite an ordinary character; had one large stone house, I suppose pretty well known throughout all Texas, (by reputation), if not to a considerable extent outside of Texas, as “the Old Stone House of Nacogdoches.”

When we first got there we enquired for the Alcalde, (justice of the peace); he was generally know as Captain Dill. When we found him; we introduced ourselves, and made known our business with him; we found him to be quite a nice old gentleman; he seemed to try and give us all the information he could about the country and people that we were going among, and gave us a passport. When we were ready to leave, we asked how much we owed him, he said, “nothing, for I am glad to see the people coming to the country, and am willing to help them all I can.” After being well entertained for two or three hours, we bid he and family farewell, after thanking him heartily and kindly, as we knew how, and he gave us to understand that we were as welcome as we could be. We then asked him about the road; he gave us directions, and we started on our western course, and appeared to take with us his best wishes. Right there then we met what was called a cavayard, (in other words a drove) of mixed stock, such as horses, mules, jacks and jennies, said to be about a thousand head; which were being driven from Mexico to the United States by stock traders. We found the way quite easily, about fifteen miles, to a large creek called Auhaline; about fourteen miles further, we came to a small prairie called “Mount Prairie,” on account of a singularly shaped mound in a level prairie; it appeared like it might have been make by the hands of man. I now feel at some loss to say how high it was, or how large around; I think it appeared to be twenty or twenty-five feet high, and about fifty yards around. One or two miles further we came to a small steam called Naches river, I suppose about fifteen yards wide; we had it to ferry on account of recent rains. The streams in this region seemed to have very little bottomland, and appeared to have a great many ponds and low places, so as to hold water. We did not admire this part of the country. My recollection is that it was called fifty miles further to the Trinity river; we traveled, I think, alternately, through a timbered and prairie country. About two miles from the Trinity river, we came to the edge of a black, stiff prairie valley; seemed to be rather low and wet. The road forked a little before we got to the river—the right hand went to the ferry, and the left to the ford, at which place we crossed. We turned up to the right and came into the ferry road about two miles from the ferry; (this was called Robin’s ferry); here the road forked—the right hand was known as the “old San Antonio” road, and the left was called the Labahia (Laberde) road; we were afterwards told that at the fork, on the retreat of the Liberal army, after the great defeat near Medina or San Antonio, the Gatchipines cavalry cut

off the retreat, and massacred them at such a rate that the blood ran down the road, I think that was in 1812.

We took the LaBahia road²⁶ and went to Robinson's ferry on the Brazos...

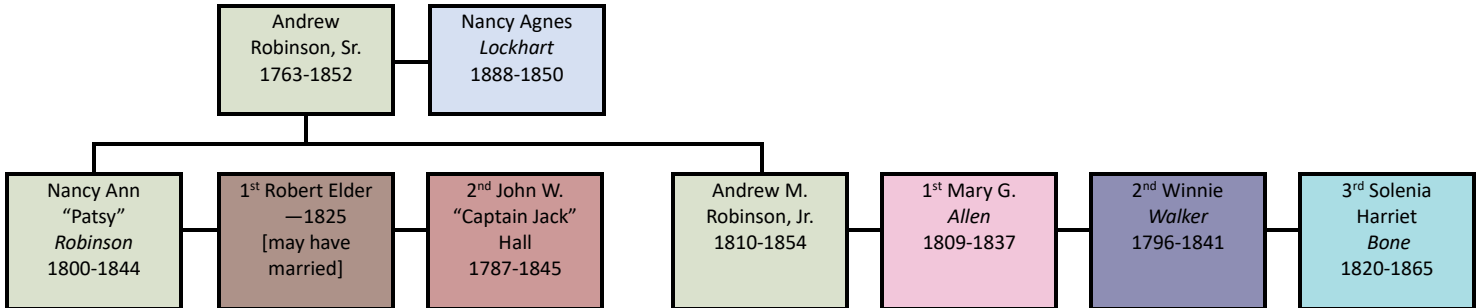


Here the Shipmans met up with the Robinson Group. Moses was married to a Robinson. (I believe there may be a connection between Mary Davis *Robinson* Shipman and Andrew Robinson, but I have not researched this.)

²⁶ <https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph493226/m1/1/> Accessed 8 Dec 2024.

THE ROBINSON GROUP

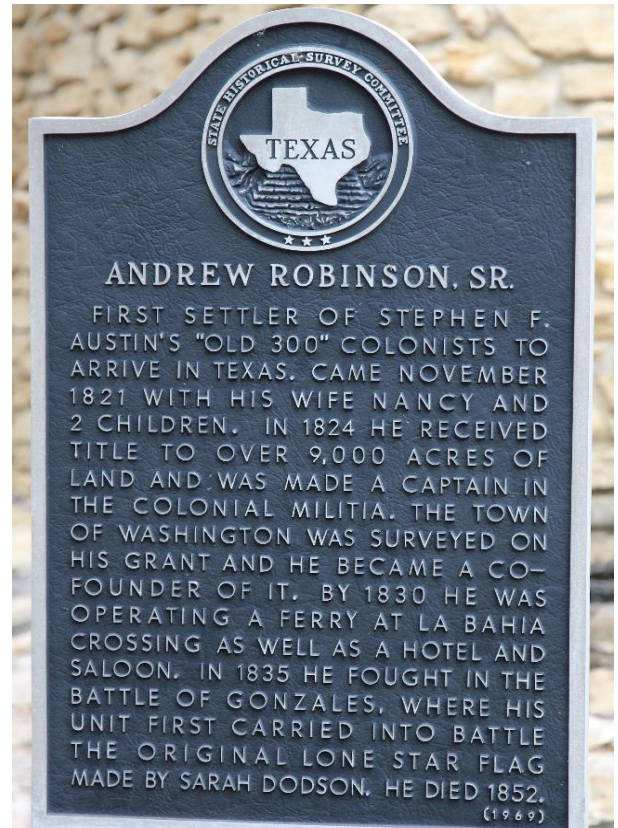
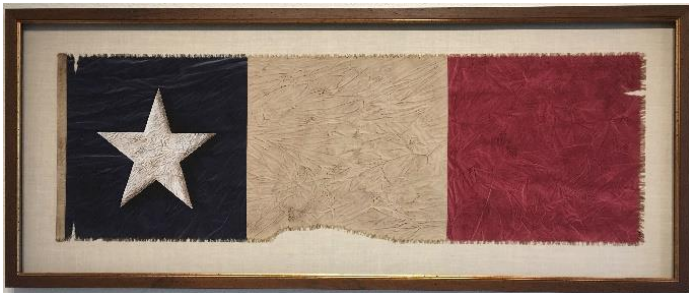
Andrew Robinson led the first group from Jonesboro to Austin's colony. He arrived on November 23, 1821, at the Brazos River and he crossed it.



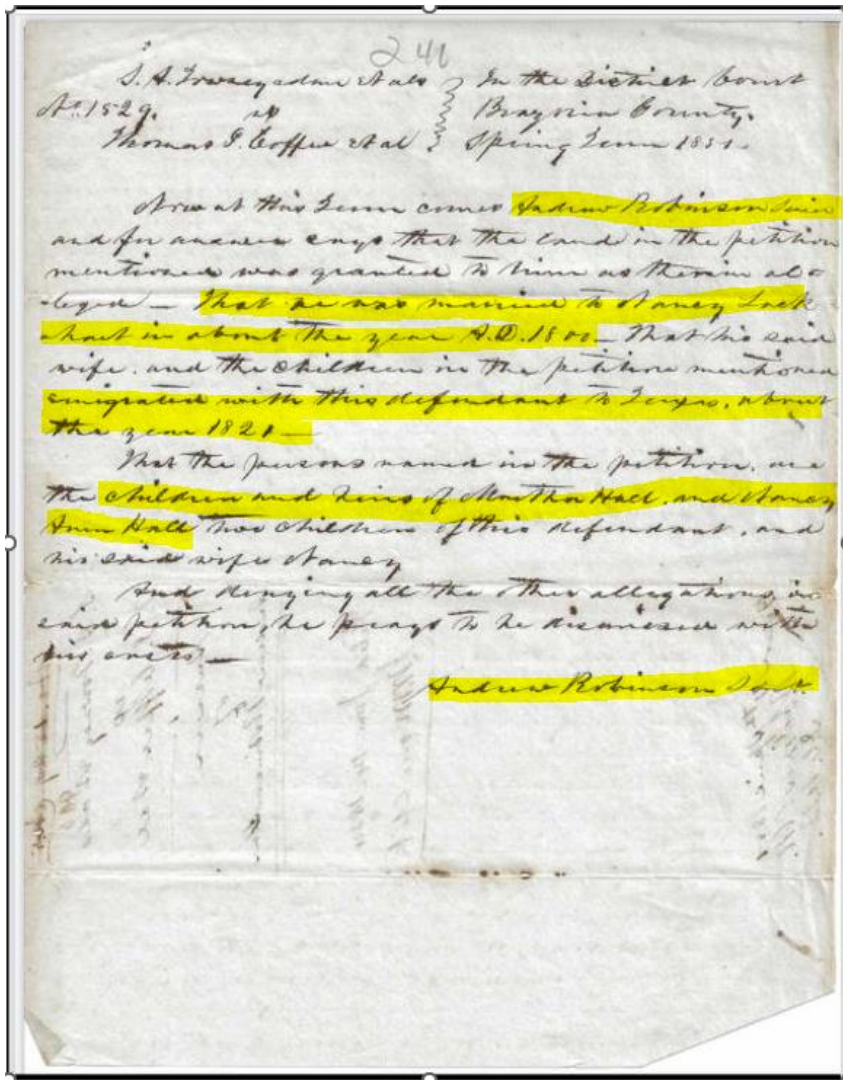
***Andrew Robinson, Sr.** (ABT. 1763-1852) was married to **Agnes "Nancy" Lockhart** (1788-BEF.1850).

Andrew built his cabin on the west side of the Brazos and operated a ferry to cross the deep current in the river at that location. He was granted a league of land where later the town of Washington-on-the Brazos was established.

In the Battle of Gonzales in the Texas Revolution, he carried the original Lone Star Flag.



On most accounts of Andrew Robinson that I found in my research, there was no maiden name given for Agnes "Nancy." I found on FamilySearch a document that I believe is evidence that Andrew's wife was a Lockhart. The document appears to prove Nancy *Lockhart* Robinson's name and her daughter's Nancy Ann *Robinson* Hall's name. The document is an affidavit of immigration into Texas in 1821 signed by Andrew Robinson, Sr.



Andrew Robinson Senior

that he was married to Nancy Lockhart in about the year A. D. 1800

emigrated with this defendant to Texas, about the year 1821.

children and heirs of Jonathan Hall, and Nancy Ann Hall

Andrew Robinson Senior

Nancy Ann "Patsy" Robinson (1800-1844) was Andrew and Nancy Agnes' daughter.

***John W. "Captain Jack" Hall** (1787-1845) was Patsy Robinson's second husband. His parents were **Warren** (1763-1820) and **Mary Sims Hall** (1765-). His brother was **Warren Dewitt Clinton Hall** (1794-1867) who also was an early Texas settler.

Captain Jack and his brother were in the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition of 1812 – 1813, which was a filibuster movement that attempted to take control of the Texas territory from Spain. In January of 1815, Captain Jack was in the Battle of New Orleans.

In 1822 he returned to Texas, where he and a few others founded Washington-on-the-Brazos. There he rented a building for the use of the Texans to write the Texas Declaration of Independence. During the Texas Revolution, he furnished supplies for the army.

[Land grant in Brazoria—July 10, 1824 and om Wall]

Andrew Robinson, Jr. (1810-1854) was Andrew and Nancy Agnes' son. He was married three times. His second wife, **Winnie Walker** (1796-1841) was their daughter-in-law, but her first husband was named **Samuel Lockhart** (1785-1831). Could Agnes "Nancy" Lockhart have been related to Samuel Lockhart, other than having been his mother-in-law?

Continuing my research I learned that Agnes "Nancy" Lockhart was the third cousin of one of Samuel Lockhart's brothers, according to my ancestry "home" person search:

Captain Byrd Lockhart Jr. 1782-1839

3rd cousin

[Byrd "Quavy/Qeavy" Lockhart Sr. 1750-1813](#)

Father of Captain Byrd Lockhart, Jr.

[Andrew Lockhart, Sr. 1710-1763](#)

Father of Byrd "Quavy/Qeavy" Lockhart, Sr.

[John Lockhart 1677-1731](#)

Father of Andrew Lockhart, Sr.

[James Lockhart 1653-1705](#)

Father of John Lockhart

[James Lockhart 1675-1733](#)

Son of James Lockhart

[Jacob Lockhart, Sr. 1707-1783](#)

Son of James Lockhart

[Jacob Lockhart, Jr 1742-1785](#)

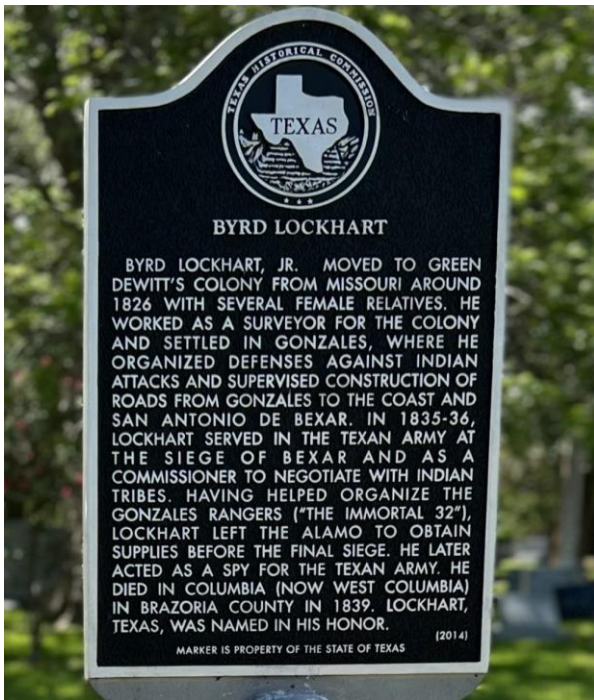
Son of Jacob Lockhart Sr

[Agnes "Nancy" Lockhart](#)

Daughter of Jacob Lockhart, J

If Agnes "Nancy" Lockhart was a third cousin to Captain Byrd, Jr, she would also be a third cousin to all of his siblings, including his brother Samuel. I believe that you could state that Nancy was Samuel's mother-in-law and his third cousin.

The following are some of the extended family. They did not arrive before Moses Shipman, but they are of interest.



Captain Byrd Lockhart (1782-1839), was well known in Texas. The town of Lockhart was named in his honor.

He fought in the Texas Revolution alongside Edward Burleson and Daniel Shipman at the Siege of Bexar.

He was also a survivor of the Alamo. That is correct, he was a survivor of the Alamo. He was a scout and a courier. He rode into the Alamo on March 1, with the 32 Rangers from Gonzales, who live in Texas History as the Immortal 32, representing the only volunteers to answer Colonel Travis' call. He was ordered to leave that night along with other couriers to bring back more support. Captain Byrd died three years after the Texas Revolution. His obituary read that he was "one of the most beloved in social life and most valuable private citizen of Texas."

Captain Byrd, Jr.'s parents were **Sarah Williamson** (1763-1826) and **Bryd Lockhart, Sr.** (abt. 1750-1813/1814). Byrd Lockhart died at Fort Russell, Illinois Territory. In the *Texas Journey* article, "To Okaw," I found some of our family members who were visiting or living around

Fort Russell close to this time frame. They included: Moses and Mary Davis *Robinson* Shipman, Mary *Burleson* Allard with her twins James and Lucy, possibly James Burleson, Levi and Rachel Virden, George Shipman (not too far south of the fort), a man named Thomas Robinson for whom the creek that many of them lived on, was named and Daniel Francisco (Gage) who stopped at the fort after the long journey he made when he ran away from home.

A brother and sister of this Lockhart family married a brother and sister of the Briggs family: **Mary “Polly” Lockhart** (1787-1851) married **Robert Briggs** (1779-1857); **Andrew Lockhart** (1781-1846) married **Esther Briggs** (1783-1846). The Lockhart parents were **Byrd Lockhart** (1750-1814) and **Sarah Williamson Lockhart** (1763-1826). The Briggs parents were **John Briggs** (1737-1802) and **Mary Brown Briggs** (1741-1806).

Robert and Polly Briggs migrated with extended family from Pennsylvania to Ohio and by 1814 were living at Fort Russell. They lived there for two years. Then they moved to Walshville in then Madison County and built a cabin. In 1818 the government bought their land out from under them and they were forced to move. They relocated near North Litchfield, Township In Illinois. Polly died in 1850 and Robert died in 1856 and they were both buried in the Bennett Wood’s Graveyard.

Andrew and Esther *Briggs* Lockhart were the parents of a daughter named **Matilda Lockhart** (1825-1843). Matilda was captured by Comanches in 1838 when she was fourteen. Her experience was a terrible event. A meeting two-years later, known in Texas history as the Council House Fight was held for the Comanches to make peace and to return all hostages they had taken. They only brought Matilda Lockhart. She had been tortured and disfigured.

There were three brother-sister marriages with the Lockhart and Barton families. **Captain Byrd Lockhart, Jr.** (1782-1839) married **Mary “Eliza” Elizabeth Barton** (1783-1826); **Margaret Lockhart** (1794–) married **Kimber Ward Barton** (1772-1835); and **Charles Lockhart** (1790-1846) married **Catherine Barton** (1797-1844).

This branch of the Bartons is not the same branch of Bartons who married into General Edward Burleson’s family. The branch of Bartons who married the Burlesons was headed by William Barton (1782-1840) who once owned Barton Springs.

Most of the Byrd family came to Texas a few years after Andrew and Agnes “Nancy” Lockhart Robinson and settled in DeWitt’s Colony. Specifically, Captain Byrd, Jr. settled in DeWitt’s Colony on March 20, 1826. Other siblings Sam, Charles, Drusilla, and Margaret joined Capt. Byrd in Texas in 1829 and 1830.

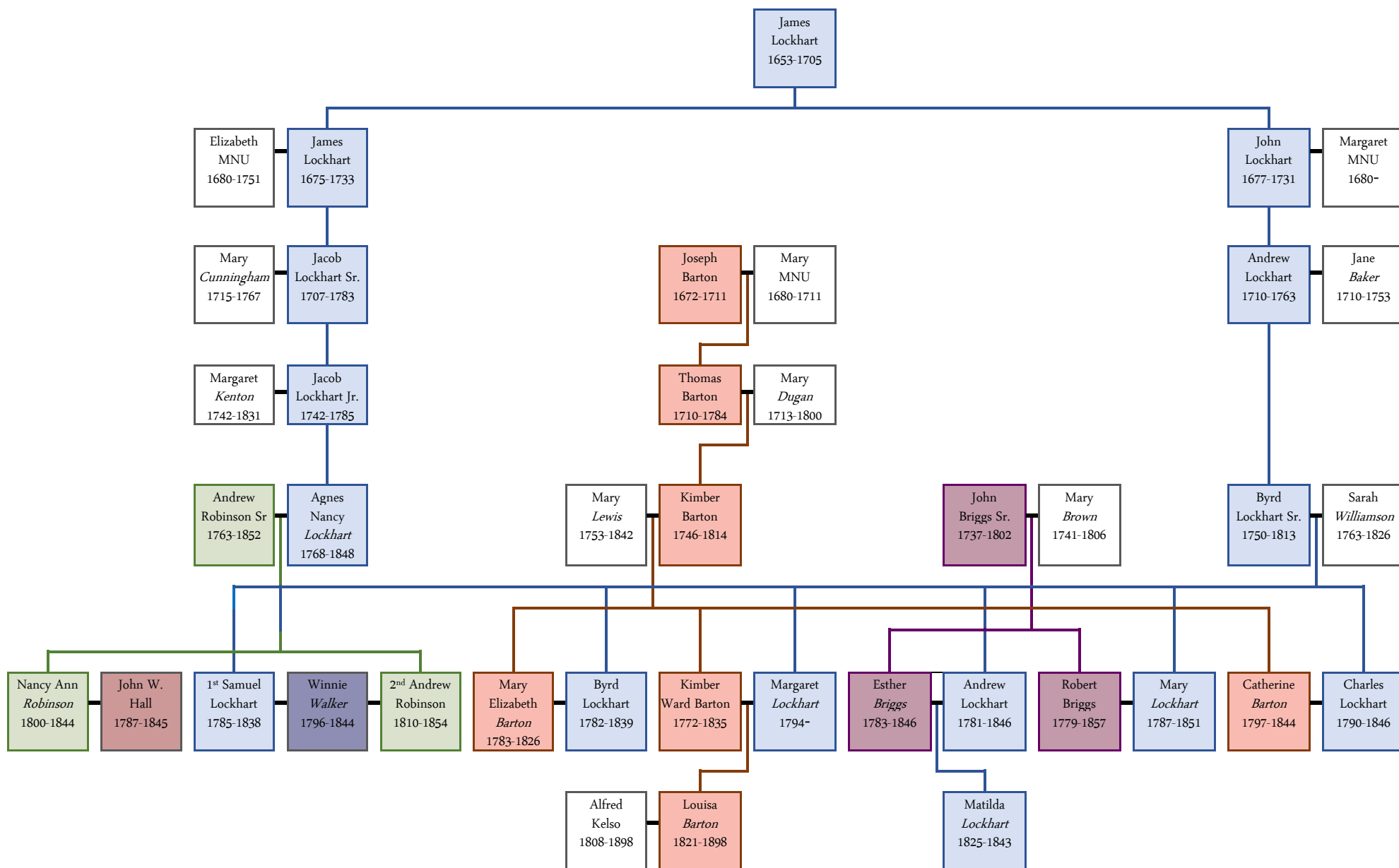
On the next page is a connection chart of several Lockhart children connected to their Briggs and Barton spouses. Notice that Nancy Lockhart connects to Samuel Lockhart and his other siblings through their mutual great-great-grandfather **James Lockhart** (1653). This means that they were third cousins just as the Ancestry “home” person stated.

An interesting connection person from the “Some Family Members and How They Are Related to Moses Shipman” chart is **Deborah Barton** (1772-1847), another member of the Barton family originally from Philadelphia, who was married to **Ellis Chandler** (1772-1830). She is not on the following chart, but some of her siblings and her father Kimber Barton are (a space issue). Deborah’s relationship to Moses Shipman was the “wife of 1st cousin, 1x removed of wife of uncle.” If you look at the chart about Moses Shipman’s relationships this complicated relationship will make sense. Deborah is the wife of the “first cousin, who was Ellis Chandler. Ellis was one generation after the wife of Moses’ uncle. Moses’s uncle in this relationship connection, was Daniel Shipman, Jr. The wife of Daniel Shipman, Jr. was Mary Elizabeth McMinn. Deborah is one of those people that in my opinion are “connectors.” She connects the Bartons to the Chandlers, the Chandlers to the McMinns, and that connects into the Shipmans. At that point the door is open; there are numerous connections that can be made. So when you look at the Lockhart, Barton Briggs Family Relationships to Andrew Robinson chart, remember that one Barton daughter, who is not on that chart, can tie those people to the Shipmans, and you can go from there.

The description of the relationship when one looks at Deborah Barton Chandler and all the other relatives in allied families would be over complicated. Sometimes it is just easier to take Daniel’s approach in his story of the journey to Texas, and just refer to a distant relative as a friend.

Daniel refers to Andrew Robinson as “one of our particular friends.”

Lockhart, Barton, Briggs Family Relationships to Andrew Robinson, the first settler in Austin's Colony



Continuing with Daniel's story:

We took the LaBahia road and went to Robinson's ferry on the Brazos, about eighty miles; we went out about four miles on the prairie and camped on a little cedar creek. Early next morning, as usual, our lovely little alarm clocks commenced their highly strung morning notes, so near to us that we were compelled to know it was about day. I suppose it is well known that this was in the spring of the year, when birds sing so much more lively than at any other time of the year. This accounts for us taking so much notice of them, and it appeared that there were more of them in Texas than any other country.

We were up soon, and after an early breakfast, we mounted and being so used to travelling westward that it naturally came handy to turn our faces that way. We traveled, I think, pretty well all that day, through a post oak and hickory forest, and about this time we came to fresh horse and wagon signs; we afterwards learned that it was made by old Colonel Groce, the father of our highly esteemed Colonel Leonard Groce, who was living in Grimes county, Texas, a short time since; I think, I have heard lately that he is dead.

When we got to the Brazos river, it was low, and by the advice of a good old lady, we forded it, and got across. This lady was the wife of old Captain Andrew Robinson, afterward one of our particular friends. He is one of the old pioneers of Texas that claimed to be a member of General Barnardoe's company at San Antonio in 1812.

We found Mrs. Robinson at what was then called Robinson's ferry, which was about three quarters of a mile below where the town of Washington now stands, a little town long to be remembered on account of it being the place where the Independence of the Republic of Texas was declared.

Before we left Red River, a gentleman by the name of English [William Joseph English] requested us to enquire for and find, if we could, a son-in-law of his by the name of Martin Varner; we enquired of Mrs. Robinson, and she gave us directions, so that we found him quite easily that evening.

THE MARTIN VARNER GROUP

Martin Varner's caravan left Jonesboro about October 1821 and traveled southeast until they reached "Trammels Trace" near present Hughes Springs, Cass County, Texas. They followed "Trammels Trace" to Nacogdoches where they received a Spanish passport and directions from the alcalde[mayor]. They left Nacogdoches traveling west on the "Old San Antonio Road" until they reached the Brazos River near the present town of Washington.²⁷

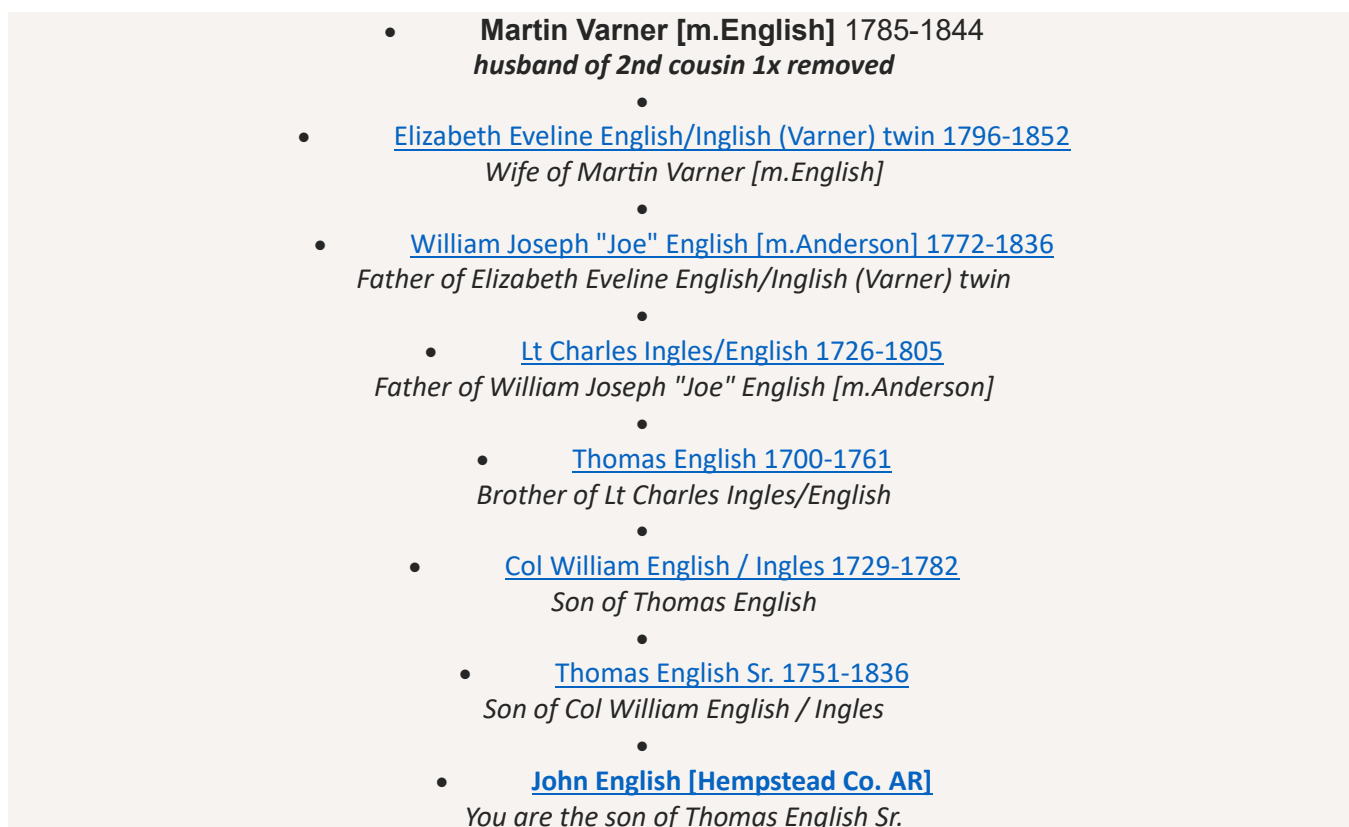
²⁷ Ramsey, Don. *Martin Varner: Texas Pioneer*, 44.

Jesse Burnham and Martin Varner came to the first Austin colony in 1822, and settled on lands about two and one-half miles West of what is afterwards called Independence in Washington County. Early in April of that year they were joined by Daniel Shipman and Charlie Nidever, and the last two took up some land and engaged Burnham and Varner and a Thomas Barnes to look after their crop while they returned to Red River and brought back Moses Shipman and his family.²⁸

There is no record of who was in this caravan but these are the probable candidates: Henry and Nancy *Stiles* Jones, John Jones, William Stiles, and family, Jesse Burnham and family; Thomas Barnes; William B. DeWees, and James Cook.²⁹

Before Moses Shipman left Jonesborough, Joe English told him to locate and talk with Martin Varner about where to locate his home. Daniel Shipman along with George Nidever visited Varner and received good advice.

Is the Joe English that told Moses to locate Martin Varner related to John English that owned the log house where the Hempstead County Courthouse was located? From the information I have gathered I believe the answer is yes. Martin Varner was the husband of John English's 2nd cousin 1x removed. (See Anderson and English Connection Chart)



Martin Varner (1785-1844) was the son of Martin Varner, Jr., and Elizabeth Reich. He married Elizabeth *English* on September 26, 1818, in Jonesboro, Red River County, Texas.

The Varner caravan arrived at the Brazos River about the first week in December 1821 to find that Andrew Robinson had constructed a raft to ferry passengers across the Brazos River. The caravan crossed the Brazos and made camp on the west bank where they rested and explored the area for suitable farmland. Austin arrived on 31 December 1821 with a group of settlers. On 1 January 1822, Austin led the settlers into his new colony to claim their land.³⁰

²⁸ Ray, S. Worth, *Austin Colony Pioneers*, (By the Author, Austin, TX), 1949, 264

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/412996/?offset=0#page=269&viewer=picture&o=search&n=0&q=rabb>

²⁹ Varner p. 43

³⁰ Ramsey, Don. *Martin Varner: Texas Pioneer*, 44.

Varner claimed land near present day West Columbia, Texas and built his home. This is where Daniel and George met him.

Varner's home later was sold to Columbus R. Patton, then to the New York and Texas Land Company, and finally to Texas Governor James S. Hogg. Now the property is the Varner-Hogg State Park.

Elizabeth Eveline English (1796-1852) married Martin Varner. She was the daughter of **William Joseph "Joe" English** (1765-1836) and **Sarah Anderson English** (1775-1834).

Sarah *Anderson* English's parents were **Bailey Anderson, Sr.** (1754-1840) and her mother **Mary Delilah Wyatt Anderson** (1756-1817). They had a son named **Bailey Anderson Jr.** (1788-1865) who married **Elizabeth McFadden** (1790-1866).

Elizabeth *McFadden* Anderson's parents were **Samuel McFadden** (1746-1839) and her mother was **Lucy Hampton** (1746-1827).

Samuel McFadden's parents were **John McFadden** (1700-1776) and **Martha Weeks** (1716-1762).

Samuel had a brother named **Andrew McFadden** (1754-1816) who was married to **Mary Volley "Polly" Hogan** (1750-1851). Mary Volley *Hogan* before she married Andrew, had been married to **Aaron Burleson** (1754-1785), son of **Aaron Burleson** (1722-1782) and **Rachel**.

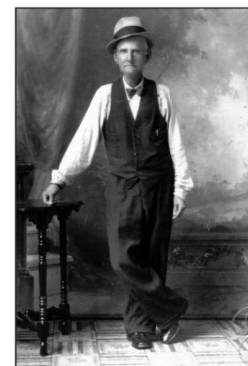
Another connection of interest is that **Bailey Anderson English** (1793-1867), the founder of Bonham, Texas, had a son named **Levi English** (1817-1894), founder of Carrizo Springs, Texas, who married **Matilda Jane Burleson** (1824-1902), daughter of **Aaron Burleson** (1791-1828) and **Rebecca Rutledge** (1793-1871). They had a daughter, **Morelda Jane English** (1845-1890) who married **Joseph "Sherriff Joe" Tumlison** (1840-1893).



Jacob "Jake" English, son of Levi, recorded this information:

Levi English was born in Little Rock Arkansas. In Aug 26, 1817. He died in Carrizo Springs May 14, 1894. Matilda Burleson English his wife was born in Grimes County Texas Feb. 19, 1824. Died June 20, 1901. They were married in Grimes County Texas in 1838. To their union were born eleven children fore olds where born on the head right of Aaron Burleson of twelve thousand six hundred akers of land in Grimes County Texas Deeded by Austin Colony to Earley settlers of Texas in 1838 this was known as Burleson Plantation Raised Cotton Corn

The Papers of Jacob "Jake" English of Dimmit County, Texas
Outlining early events in the history of Dimmit County and some early pioneers



³¹ <https://archive.org/details/ThePapersOfJacobjakeEnglishOfDimmitCountyTexas/mode/2up?view=theater> Accessed 3 Dec 2024.

***Henry Jones** (1789-1861) along with his brother **John Jones** (1779-1837) traveled by flatboat to the White River in the Arkansas Territory in 1817. There they joined Martin Varner for hunting and trapping. By 1820 Jones was operating a ferry across the Red River. The settlement there was named Jonesborough. Jonesborough is also known as Jonesboro.

[Land Grant in Fort Bend – July 8, 1824]

Nancy Stiles Jones (1804-1851) was pregnant while making their move to Austin's colony. Nancy was the daughter of William and Esther Stiles. Nancy gave birth to **William Jones** (1822-1875) in February. He was the first child born in Austin's Colony.

William Stiles (1769-1836) and his wife **Esther Hetty Vinson** (1769-1840) also traveled in Martin Varner's group. William Stiles was at the Battle of San Jacinto. He was charged with the care of Santa Anna just after his capture.

***James Cook** (1797-) it is thought that this James Cook was the brother of Hamilton L. Cook. If this assumption is correct, this James Cook is the man who married the widow Maria (Mariah) *Cummins* Ross. Probate records indicate that both James and Maria died by the end of 1836, but the Republic of Texas postal record indicates that James was still serving as postmaster of Cedar Island as late as 1839.

[Land Grant with partner James Cook in Colorado – August 3, 1824]

***William Buford DeWees** (1799-1878)

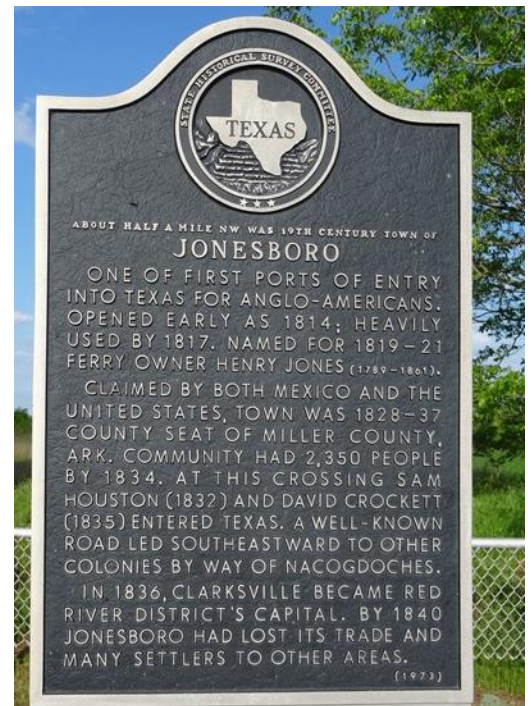
DeWees wrote many letters about his experiences that were later published. This is his description of his journey from Jonesboro to Austin's Colony:

We were several months in getting here, there being several families in company, among whom were quite a number of women and children. A part of the time we were detained by the sickness of one or another of the company, besides this we lost several horses on the way and in fact we seemed to meet with a great many misfortunes. We carried our luggage entirely upon pack-horses, the roads being perfectly impassable for a vehicle of any description.

On arriving at the Brazos we found two families, Garrett and Hibbings, [Charles Garrett and Bill Gibbons traveled with the Kuykendall caravan] who had got there a few days before us and were engaged in erecting cabins. We were, all of us, much pleased with the situation of this place, and decided to remain there for the present. The settlement now consisted of seven families, there being no other settlement within fifty miles.

Our mode of living particularly for the women and children has been a rough one since our arrival on this [Brazos] River. About that time our bread-stuff gave out, and we had no chance of obtaining more till we could raise it, and we have been obliged to subsist entirely upon the game which we take in the woods and prairies. We have no reason to fear suffering for food, as the country is literally alive with all kinds of game.

We have only to go out for a few miles into a swamp between the Big and Little Brazos, to find as many wild cattle as one could wish. If we desire buffalo meat, we are able to go out, load our horses, and return the same day. Bears are very plenty, but we are obliged to use great care when hunting them, lest the havalenas kill our dogs. . . . There are a vast quantity of bee trees about here, so that we have no want of



honey; one might almost give this country the same description as was anciently given of Canaan, “A land flowing with milk and honey,” but we are rather short of the milk just now.³²

[Land Grant with partner James Cook in Colorado – August 3, 1824]

Thomas Barnes (1795 -) was a Miller County resident who in 1821 signed the memorial to the President of the United States protesting his eviction from the Indian Territory and requesting compensation for his losses. Many of these signers who lived in Miller County would later migrated to Austin’s colony. Thomas Barnes was one. Thomas and Jesse Burnam were sitting on Martin Varner’s porch when Daniel Shipman and his friend Charlie Nidever came to visit.

The Tumlisons were another group of early settlers who arrived before the Shipmans.

THE TUMLISONS GROUP

The Tumlinson families consisted of two brothers John Jackson and James Stephen of North Carolina. Both men had wives named Elizabeth. They arrived at Austin’s Colony in 1821.

John Jackson Tumlinson, Sr. (1776-1823) was the husband of Elizabeth *Plemmons*. His parents were **Johnathan Tumlinson** (1750-1826) and **Rebecca Lucretia Hardeman** (1756-1845).

***Elizabeth Plemmons Tumlinson** (1778-1829) was the wife of John Jackson Tumlinson Sr. She was widowed in July 1823. She received a grant for the land her husband had selected. Elizabeth lived on the property the rest of her life.

[Land grants in Colorado—August 16, 1824 and in Colorado—August 16, 1824.]

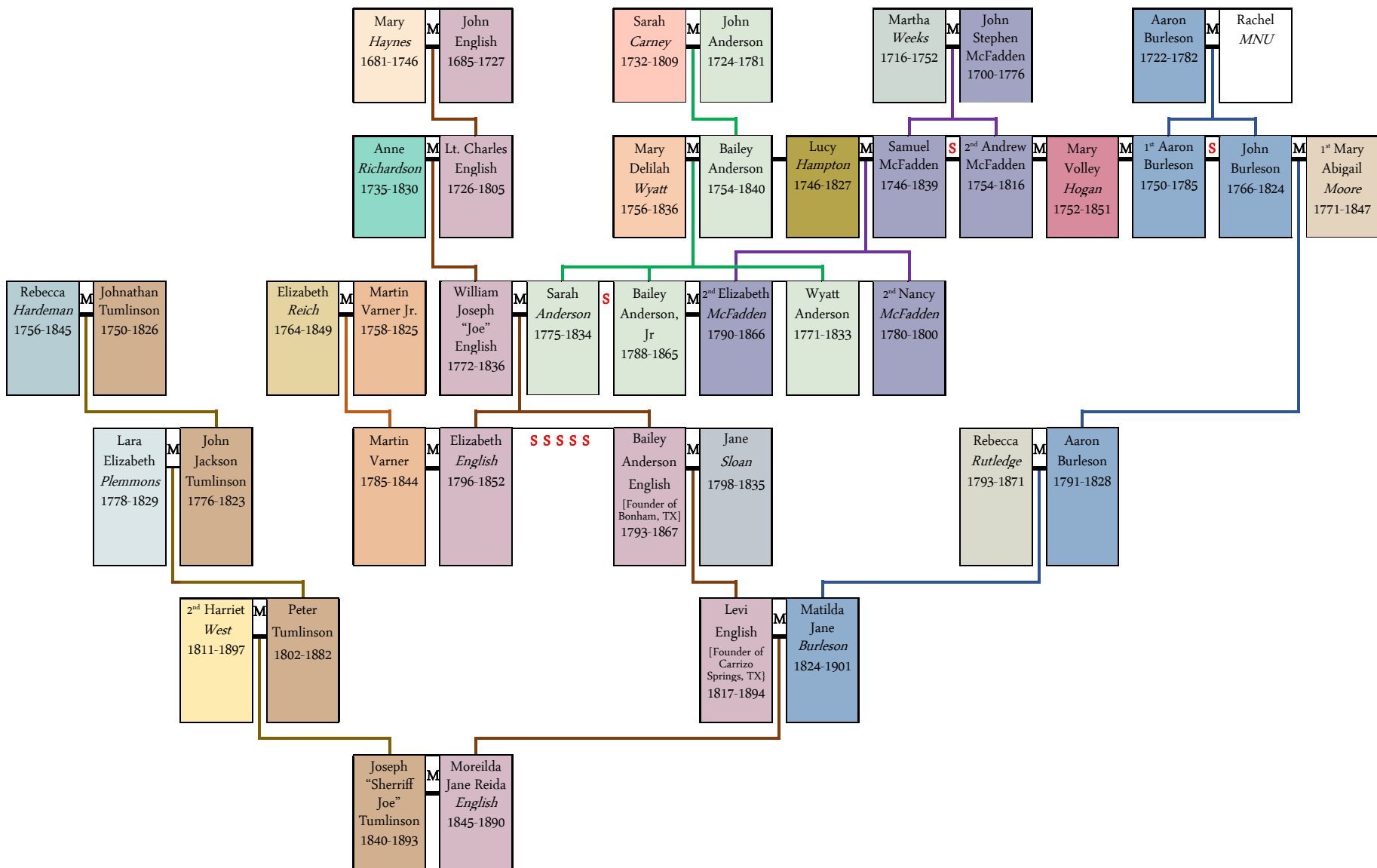
***James Stephen Tumlinson, Sr.** (1783-1839) was the son of Johnathan and Rebecca Tumlinson. His first wife was **Elizabeth Nance** (1783-1830). Next, he married **Diana Noyes Wilkerson White** (1800-1839), the widow of Thomas M. White.

James Tumlinson was the colonist from DeWitt’s Colony in Gonzales who went to San Antonio on March 10, 1831, to receive the “Come and Take It” cannon. It was given to Gonzales colonists for protection from the Indians but was given with the stipulation that it must be returned upon the request of the Mexican authorities. In September 1835, Colonel Domingo de Ugartechea sent five soldiers to retrieve the cannon. The colonists refused to surrender it and instead put the soldiers in prison. Ugartechea sent 100 soldiers. While waiting for a response more Texan volunteers came to the defense of the Gonzales colonists. At the Guadalupe River on October 2, 1835 the Texans attacked the Mexican camp. “Come and Take It” was the motto of the Texans. This incident is considered to be the first military engagement of the Texas Revolution.

[Land grants in Colorado—August 19, 1824, in Wharton—August 19, 1824 and in Colorado—August 19, 1824]

³² Ramsey, Don. *Martin Varner: Texas Pioneer*, 43.

VARNER, ENGLISH, MCFADDEN, TUMLINSON



In March 1822, Stephen F. Austin reported that fifty colonists, including eight families, were settled in his new colony.³³

Daniel said that he and George Nidever found Martin Varner “quite easily.”

He lived two miles and a half west of where the town of Independence now stands, at or near where is now called the Clay place. We rode up to a little yard fence, found him and family and two other gentleman [Barnes and Burnham] and their families all sitting out under some very pretty blackjack shade trees in front of a little log cabin, with a floor that nature had made and put there long ere they came there. They seemed to be enjoying themselves finely in their far western retreat. We asked them if we could stay all night, after they had very politely asked us to light and come in. The answer was in the affirmative, if we could put up with such fare as they had. Mr. Varner said, “I suppose you know we have no bread.” We told him that it did not make any difference with us, for we had some corn meal. He seemed very well pleased, and said to his better half, “old woman, put on the big pot, these men say they have some corn meal, and we will have a pot of mush to-night, as you know I am fond of mush. Well, we spent quite a pleasant time, eating our mush, answering questions about Red River and their relatives and acquaintances, and the news in that country generally, and we in asking about western Texas, and the probable laws that we would be governed by, and what they knew about Austin’s terms.

Now when I was a little boy in old South Carolina, I think it was in the year 1810 or 1812, I well recollect hearing my father say to mother that he wanted to go to Red and Sabine rivers, which was the line between the United States and Mexico, and the latter belonged to old Spain, and the Spanish government proposed to give 640 acres of land to the head of a family, coming well recommended, and his wife 320 acres, and each child 160 acres, and that he would like to go to some country where he could get land enough to settle all his children so that they would not have to rent land, and be tenants and have to work all their lives for other people; and, if he could get that much good land that he thought he could make it answer his purpose.

When we asked Mr. Varner the question as to the quantity of land, he said he had understood that each emigrant or family would get —he then repeated the above quantity and propositions, and that he had also understood that Austin in his first proposition to the Mexican authorities, asked them for that amount, and their reply to him was that it was too much, that they would not let them have more than one square league and one labore of land, and that was all they would let them have. “Well,” said Austin, “if that is the best you will do, we will try and make out with that.” So that appeared to be agreed upon, between Austin, as Empressaro of his colony, and the Mexican government.

³³ Ramsey, Don. *Martin Varner: Texas Pioneer*, 44.

Now my understanding was and is yet, that Moses Austin, of Missouri, father of Colonel Stephen F. Austin, made a contract with the government of old Spain, I suppose within a certain time, to bring and colonize three hundred American families in Texas on the Brazos, Colorado and their tributaries, within and between ten leagues of the coast, and the old San Antonio road; and I suppose he was making arrangements to carry out his part of the contract at the time of his death; and, then his son, Stephen F. Austin, according to his father's request, concluded to carry out his contract with Spain and after some correspondence with the Mexicans, it seemed that some time in the latter part of the year 1821, that Austin selected a few of his most reliable friends to go with and assist him in doing everything that he might need in the settling of Texas; and I suppose, he went to New Orleans, and not being fully prepared in way of means to carry out his plans. I understood that he made an arrangement with a gentleman by the name of Hawkins, dividing his premium lands with him, as Empresaro, for what means he could accomplish his object with. Then Austin and his selected friends, went and located themselves at or near where the town of Richmond now stands, in what is now called Fort Bend county; I suppose that was the way it happened to be called Fort Bend county, on account of some sort of a fort they made.

At the time we got to Mr. Varner's on the 8th of April, 1822, Austin had gone to Mexico to complete his contract with the government for the settlement of the colony. When he got there Itrabide was on the throne of Mexico.

Austin then went to work for the purpose of getting his contract confirmed; about the time he succeeded in getting it confirmed there came a revolution in which deposed Itrabid and established a republican government, elected General Victori president; then Colonel Austin had all his work to do over; but, finally, succeeded in getting his contract confirmed by the new government; but, I think it took him a considerable time to get it fixed so that he was willing to risk it. My recollection is now that it was some time in 1823 before he returned to Texas.

My companion, George Nidever, and myself, stayed in the Varner neighborhood until some time in May; we planted about two acres of corn, and hired our three friends Varner, Burnham and Barnes to cultivate it for us; but the season was so dry that they did not make anything for us, nor themselves either.

We went back to the family on Red River; found them all well, and father well pleased with our report, and decided for us all to go the Brazos in the Fall,

THE SHIPMAN GROUP

*Moses Shipman (1774-1838) was married to *Mary Davis Robinson* (1779-1842). He brought his 9 children: **Daniel Shipman** born February 20, 1801; **Edward Shipman**, born in Tennessee, March 1, 1803; **Mary Shipman**, born in North Carolina, September 28, 1805; **John McMinn Shipman**, born in North Carolina, March 17, 1808; **Christana Reed**

Shipman, born in South Carolina, August 23, 1810, **James Robinson Shipman**, born in South Carolina, April 8, 1813; **Moses Shipman**, born in Franklin County, Tennessee, January 16, 1816; **Elizabeth Shipman**, born in Howard County, Missouri, February 3, 1819; and **Lucetta Shipman**, born in Arkansas, December 28, 1821.

[Land grants in Fort Bend – July 19, 1824 and in Austin – July 19, 1824]

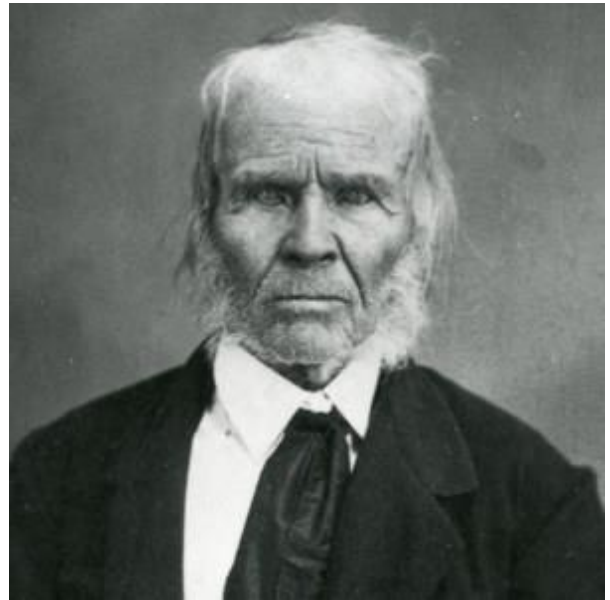
***Daniel Shipman** (1801-1881), was the oldest son of Moses and Mary *Robinson* Shipman, and the author of the book, *Frontier Life in Texas*.

[Land grant with partner Isaac N. Charles (Charles Nidever) in Brazoria – May 21, 1827]

George Nidever (1802-1883) was a son of **George Nidever** and **Christina Punkhouser**.

Daniel asked George to return to Texas with him but he was not interested. According to George:

We went to that portion of Texas then known as Austin's Grant, visited several parts of this tract and two months later returned to Fort Smith. Shipman soon returned to Texas with his father and mother and several brothers and sisters who had come from Mo. with us. They begged me to go with them but I had no desire to return at that time.³⁴



George is best known for having found the "Lone Woman." In 1833 George moved to Santa Barbara, California. In 1853 he went to the Island of the Blue Dolphins on a seven-man sea otter hunting trip and found the "Lone Woman." She was an elderly Chumash woman who had been living alone on the island for possibly twenty years. Nidever convinced her to return with him to Santa Barbara.

Isaac N. Charles (Charles Nidever) The following is my research on Charles Nidever.

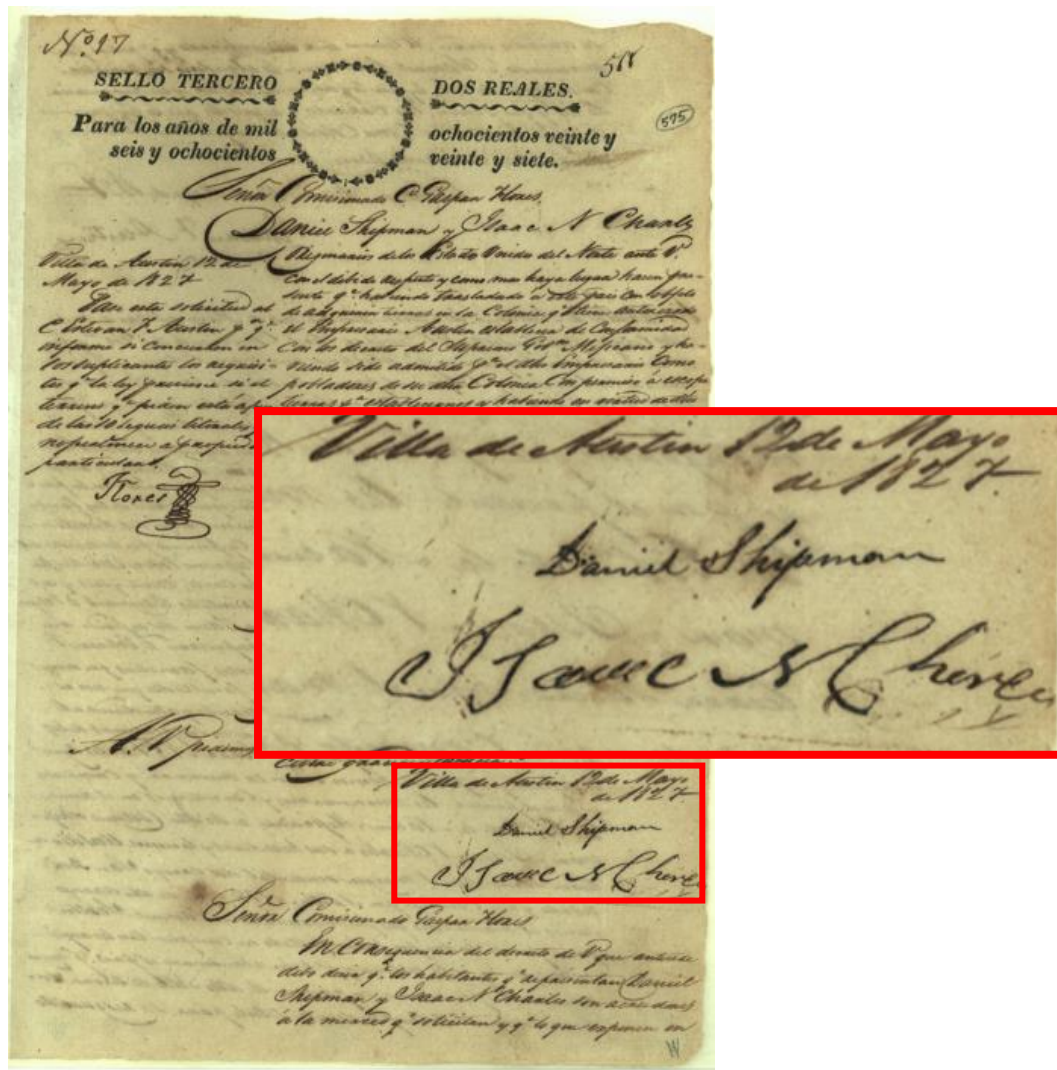
According to the Texas General Land Office, the Shipmans came to Texas and Moses applied for a land grant. Daniel and Charles Nidever, as business partners, also applied for a land grant.

Who was Charles Nidever? I cannot find a record of George Nidever having a brother named Charles and Charles was not one of George's names.

Both Daniel and George claim that they made a trip together to find Martin Varner. An account by Worth Ray states that the person who made the trip with Daniel was Charles Nidever. Daniel Shipman and Charles Nidever applied for a land grant. Single men who had a business partnership could apply jointly for land grants in Austin's Colony. The Texas Land Office has the original land grant that was issued.

³⁴ Ramsey, Don. *Martin Varner: Texas Pioneer*, 46.

This is the first page of the signed deed, dated May 1827. ³⁵



According to Worth Ray, who wrote the book *Austin's Colony*,

On page 78 of his book, he writes:

ISAAC NIDEVER came to the Austin colony early in the Spring of 1822 in company with Daniel Shipman, and the two of them took up land adjoining the location of MARTIN VARNER and others about 2 and ½ miles West of where the town of Independence was located later. Nidever was the youngest of a family of the name who was probably related to the HARRELLS, who on their way to the Colony decided to stop for awhile on Red River. He and Daniel Shipman planted some corn and left VARNER and others to look after it while they returned to Red River to join the Shipmans and Harrells. Young NIDEVER died and never returned to the Colony. (Through an inadvertence this name is listed on the THREE HUNDRED originals as ISACC N. CHARLES. His identity is cleared up by Shipman's "recollections" written in 1870). ³⁶

³⁵ https://cdn.glo.texas.gov/ncu/SCANDOCs/archives_webfiles/arcmaps/webfiles/landgrants/PDFs/1/0/2/8/1028234.pdf

³⁶ Ray, S. Worth, *Austin Colony Pioneers*, 78

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/412996/?offset=0#page=83&viewer=picture&o=search&n=0&q=nidever>

Accessed 9 Dec 2024

On page 209 Worth Ray writes:

MOSES SHIPMAN and his oldest son, DANIEL SHIPMAN (the latter being accompanied on the list with one "Charles Isaac N", undoubtedly being, instead an attempt to write the name, as it really was, CHARLES ISAAC NIDEVER, the companion of Daniel Shipman, mentioned in his account) with C. I. NIDEVER, were all three listed among the original THREE HUNDRED Shipman explains that NIDEVER died.³⁷

The description of the partner and the person who accompanied Daniel to Texas fits George Nidever but George Nidever did not die shortly after applying for a grant. He lived two years longer than Daniel. This information is very confusing.

Returning to our story, with the decision made that everyone would go to Texas in the fall, the family waited...

but, when Fall came nearly all were sick, and we did not get off until the next Fall.

Finally Moses was able to journey south and claim his land.

Moses Shipman reached Texas in time to be granted, in 1823, the first labor (177 ½ acres) and sitio (4,428 acres) of land in the fork of Mill Creek and the Brazos River, about 20 miles from the present Richmond and Houston.

"Stephen Austin and party took Moses Shipman to the land, and, taking him by the hand, leading him about it and telling him in loud tones that, by virtue of the power vested in them, and in the name of the Government of Mexico they put him in possession of the land with all its uses, customs, privilege and appurtenances, for him, his heirs, and successors, and the said Moses Shipman pulled herbs, threw stones, set stakes and performed other necessary ceremonies." Thus, Moses Shipman became the first of the famous "Austin's 300" Colonists on the Brazos. Stephen Austin went on with other grants until in 1831 he had 5,700 settlers in his colonies. Other promoters brought thousands more. The Moses Shipmans moved to their new land in the fall of 1825. They built a comfortable home, cleared land, built fences, and planted crops. "They raised their thousands of corn, and cotton, used Missouri gins, and continued to live in the good style for a number of years."³⁸

GOD BLESS TEXAS

³⁷ Ray, S. Worth, *Austin Colony Pioneers*, 209

<https://www.familysearch.org/library/books/viewer/412996/?offset=0#page=214&viewer=picture&o=info&n=0&q=>
Accessed 9 Dec 2024

³⁸ Carl, Rita Shipman, *The Shipman Family in America*, (1962) 488

https://archive.org/details/shipmanfamilyina00carl_0/page/487/mode/2up?q=robinson Accessed 10 Dec 2024

INSTRUCTIONS FOR READING MY CONNECTION CHARTS

A connection chart focuses on a group of people who are in some way related. It does not necessarily contain a whole family, just the ones important to a study. It has some nontraditional ways of displaying siblings and spouses. It is like following a maze, in fact you will follow a path of lines and symbols. These rules have developed over time so some charts do not have some of these features.

Zoom it. You may want to enlarge the chart for easier reading. If you place your cursor at the middle of the top ribbon, or bar, another ribbon drops down. In the center is a “-” and “+” symbol for making the document smaller or larger. Or, hold the Control Button and turn the wheel on your mouse.

Explanation of a connection chart:

The rectangles are colored according to the surname. The ink color for connecting rectangles is just to make it easier to follow the lines

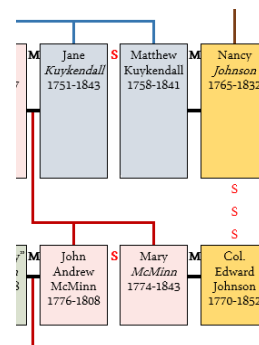
An ancestor and their spouse can be displayed in two rectangles joined by a line with a “M” or they can be displayed in one rectangle stacked on top of each other.

Siblings can be displayed in rectangles usually on the row below their parents. However, if a sibling marries out of their age group they may be on a higher or lower row. Siblings can be connected to each other using traditional lines back to the parents or by being placed next to each other with a “S” between the rectangles. If they are separated by a generation due to marrying different generations, a series of “S’s” will connect the rectangles.

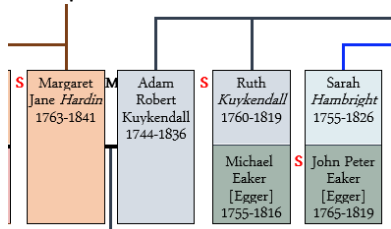
Little 1st, 2nd or 3rd indicates the order of marriage to that spouse.

On some charts I put a heavier line or three narrow, close together lines on the sides of the rectangles to indicate no other family connection from that direction.

Example: The gray and yellow rectangle are connected with a bar and a “M” to show that Matthew Kuykendall is married to Nancy Johnson. Nancy in yellow is connected by a series of “S’s” to the yellow rectangle below to show that Col. Edward Johnson is her brother. They are on different rows because Nancy married Matthew who belonged on the same row as his sister and they were older. Edward’s spouse belonged on the row with her brother and they were younger.



Example Two: This shows the two ways a married couple can be shown. The traditional way with two rectangles joined with a bar and I add a “M.” The other way is to stack spouses. Here you see two couples displayed in the two ways. The bottom two rectangles with the Eaker men also have a “S” showing that they were siblings. Note the “S” between Adam and Ruth indicating that they are brother and sister. This way of organizing the spouses and siblings allows for more names to be displayed on the chart. If space is tight and the spouse is not necessary to show a connection, they may be omitted entirely.



Example Three: This is an example of how a heavier bar, or three narrow lines helps you to see that a surname has stopped.

Mary Diane has no heavy lines meaning that she has a relationship to the people above her, below her and to each side. Her left side attaches to a sibling, her right side to her husband, the top side attaches to her parents, and the bottom side attaches to her child or children. Her husband has a heavy bar on the right side. That means that Thomas Adams Moore is not part of Rebecca Bell’s family. Rebecca Bell attaches to her spouse and to her child or children. John Shipman attaches to his parents, his first wife, his second wife and to his child or children.

