

# The Heritage of Caswell County North Carolina 1985



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Charlie Hudson Family Reunion at the home of Jimmy and Annie Sue McGee at Pelham, N.C. in 1973.

Charles, and three grandchildren.

Walter married Dorothy and they lived in California, where he worked for the postal service until his death. They had two children, Terry and Linda.

Howard married Mary Pascucci. They live in Danville and have one adopted daughter, Cecile m. Donnie Stowe, and one granddaughter, Tiffany Lynn. He worked as a hardware salesman until retirement.

Edward first married Magdeline Quisenberry, and they had two children, namely George Denny m. Pam Deboe, and Peggy Annette m. Tommy Hundley, and two grandchildren. After Magdeline's death Edward married Pauline Deboe. They live in Danville, where he operates a bicycle and lawn mower shop.

Frances was a tiny baby when the Hudson family moved to Pelham. She was married to Johnnie Neal McGee in 1939. This marriage was blessed with two sons, Thomas Neal and James Howard.

Neal was a farmer and a rural letter carrier. He died at the wheel as he was making his last run for the day of January 11, 1982. He had coronary atherosclerosis, cardiac ischemia according to death certificate. Frances worked at Belk-Leggett Company for 22 years until her retirement.

Thomas Neal, b 8/6/1941, married Betty Mims (divorced). They had four children, namely, Linda Ann b 8/20/1962, Thomas Neal, Jr. b 10/13/1963, Billie Jo b 2/20/1965, and Tammy Lynn b 1/20/1969. Tommy lives at Pelham and works at Goodyear.

James Howard married Annie Sue Woody. They have three children, namely, David Lee b 1/1/1973, Susan Kay 2/15/1975, and Ricky Dan b 6/14/1978. Both Tommy and Jimmy are volunteer firemen, as was their father.

All the Hudson children were brought up in Pelham Church. Now only Frances and her family remain in Pelham. They are active in the church and community.

Sources: Personal knowledge and family members.

— Frances H. McGee

## THE JOSEPH VERNON HUDSON FAMILY

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Sterling Foster Hudson was born in Caswell County, August 30, 1930, the son of Joseph Vernon Hudson and Lillie Eva Foster. On

March 1, 1959, he married Betty Carolyn Barrett of Mullins, South Carolina. Carolyn is the daughter of Robert Bradford Barrett and Reba Maxwell Barrett. Sterling and Carolyn have two daughters, Teri Leigh Hudson, born October 6, 1960, married Gregory Patrick Bullock of Natural Bridge, Virginia on August 2, 1980 and Lisa Carol Hudson, born October 28, 1965.

Joseph Vernon Hudson was born December 7, 1902 in Halifax County, Virginia, one of two sons born to Sterling Price Hudson and Maude Vernon. His brother, Luther Price Hudson was born September 8, 1905 and died July 7, 1977. On January 4, 1947, he married Empress Hall of Blairs, Virginia.

Joseph Vernon Hudson married Lillie Eva Foster, born January 22, 1906, the daughter of Thomas Tilden Foster and Lillie Francis Smith of Caswell County. They were married January 29, 1927. Shortly after their marriage, Vernon and Eva moved to Caswell County permanently. Vernon, in order to support his family began a series of jobs. He was a farmer, substitute mail carrier, he hauled tobacco and worked at the warehouse. At times, he would drive to Raleigh and haul gasoline for the school buses. I think Vernon and Eva were best known for running the typical Country Store. Their first store was next to the old Archibald Murphey School. "Miss Eva" became a substitute mother to many of the school children. Frightened first graders would stay with "Miss Eva." She tended to cuts, bruises and stomach aches, sewed on buttons on torn clothes and fed any hungry child. Mr. Hudson gave candy to every child that came in the store, he carried candy with him around on the mail route and the children would wait for him on the side of the road. He carried candy or gum to church with him. School children came to the store every day to



Lillie Eva Foster Hudson and Joseph Vernon Hudson

buy lunch. Nobody was turned away, if a child didn't have any money that day they could owe it to him, if a child never had any money they ate too, and nothing was ever said about it. Joseph Vernon Hudson died March 30, 1983.

Joseph Vernon Hudson's father, Sterling Price Hudson, was born March 24, 1862 in Halifax County, Virginia. He was the son of William Franklin Hudson and Susan Fowkes. He had one brother James H. Hudson, born January 1860. James married Lula Wells, daughter of James Wells and Annie McSherry. James and Lula had three children: James H., Jr.; Sterling Price, born March 1926; died December 29, 1944, he was killed in WWII; and Virginia. Shortly after the birth of Sterling Price Hudson, his mother, Susan Fowkes died, and William Franklin married Isabella C. Roper. They had four children: 1. Thomas J. Hudson born December 11, 1866, married Mary A. Au'Lick of Kentucky, March 23, 1898 in Chinkrana, China where they were both missionaries. Thomas and Mary had two children: Henry Franklin and Irene. Irene married E. L. Hawthorn. Thomas died January 4, 1931.

2. Allen Venable Hudson, born September 27, 1868, died June 16, 1929. On February 10, 1892, Allen married Aurelia F. McSherry, daughter of Phillip McSherry and Nancy Emeline Carter. Aurelia was born January 1872 and died 1944. Michael McSherry was Phillip's father and census records show they came from Ireland between 1828 and 1860. Nancy Carter was daughter of Buck Carter and Bettie Turner. Allen Venable Hudson and Aurelia F. McSherry had seven children: Mabel married G. H. Arnn; Josie B. married Otis C Wells; Thomas Aubrey; Albert Swanson; Ralph married Betty Johnson; Francis and Doris.

3. Ella Hudson, born October 16, 1871 married Charlie B. Murray, son of John S. and Cornelia Carter Murray, on December 18, 1892. They had eight children: Ernest Ewell, born October 28, 1893, married Ruth Puckett on January 3, 1930, died December 27, 1969; Cornelia, born March 20, 1893, married Ollie L. Solomon on November 29, 1916; Adrian H., born August 5, 1897, married Ruby Carter on December 16, 1922; Mary, born April 30, 1899, married W. Floyd Meeler December 17, 1921; William Allen, born June 22, 1901, married Louise Collie December 22, 1928; Laura Mae, born December 9, 1903, married W. B. Carmichael on June 12, 1926; Charlie G., born September 6, 1905, married Alfrey Meeler; Clarence Eugene, born July 28, 1911 married Mildred Weatherford.

4. William Franklin, Jr., born July 10, 1873, married Elizabeth Wells on December 4, 1895, died November 30, 1953. Elizabeth, born April 2, 1876, died September 15, 1957, is the daughter of James M. Wells and Annie McSherry. William Franklin and Elizabeth had six children: William James, born November 21, 1897, married Myrtle Yeaman November 20, 1924, died June 24, 1970; Charlie Allen married Anna Collie; Joseph Clifton, born January 8, 1905, married Nettie Foster, born May 11, 1908, daughter of Thomas Tilden Foster and Lillie Francis Smith on January 12, 1928, died August 24, 1982; Hiram, born February 20, 1908, married Elizabeth Via, died January



Ware Sergeant, 4-5-1832 — 4-6-1916. They were married 9-16-1852 and lived in Leasburg, Caswell County, N.C. where he was a general practitioner. I have a copy of his pardon by President Andrew Johnson issued 8-15-1865 after the Civil War. They raised all nine of their children in Leasburg, Caswell County, N.C. Their children: John L., 11-6-1853 — 2-9-1914, married Daisy M. Griffin of Llane, Tx. 10-26-1892; William S., 12-25-1858 — 8-17-1870; Sallie Ann, 5-6-1858 — 8-11-1858; Madora Ella, 7-28-1859 — 4-6-1916, married Rufus Edwin Powell of Blanche, Caswell County, N.C., 3-25-1879; Edmund Richardson, 7-18-1862 — 5-1-1921, married Fannie E. Watkins, 11-6-1888; Mary Elizabeth, 7-26-1864 — 10-18-1883; Robert Payne, 2-25-1868 — 2-1941; Josiah Asbury, Jr., 2-19-1872 — 9-14-1915, married May Stephens of Memphis, Tenn. 3-17-1908; and Charlie Sergeant, 4-5-1877, married Minnie Lee Morehead of Memphis, Tenn. 11-4-1902.

Sources: Information from Uncle Walter B. Powell, Great Aunt Fleetwood Powell, Stanfield Family Bible, paper written by Charlie Stanfield to Uncle Walter B. Powell and wils.

— Louise Powell Butler

## LOUISE POWELL BUTLER

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I was born in Newport News, Va. 2-25-1919, married 7-16-1942, Charles C. Butler. He was born in Newport News, Va. 3-2-1922. We reside in Hampton, Va. where we raised our two children; son Robert (10-17-1944) married Carolyn Holloway 6-18-1971 parents of Aaron (1-7-1973) and Amy (10-22-1975); daughter Charlotte (3-16-1949) married 1st Steve Mesic 3-2-1968, 2nd Donald Keene 11-24-1978, parents of Thomas Keene (4-30-1975). We are active members of Northside Church of Christ in Newport News, Va.

I am the third of seven children born to Henry Asbury Powell (2-1-1882 — 8-31-1962) and Carlisle Gravett (7-27-1895 — 9-28-1963). My father was born in Blanche, Caswell County, N.C. He married my mother 12-29-1914 in the Baptist Church Alton, Va.; there she was born and raised. My father was a Baptist preacher and the first one at Hilton Baptist Church, Newport News, Va. He attended Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, N.C. and the Southern Theological Seminary in Knoxville, Tenn. My mother studied at Roanoke Female Institute, Danville, Va. for two years. They are buried in the Garden of Wisdom in Peninsula Memorial Park, Newport News, Va.

Their children; Edwin Merritt (4-13-1916) married 1st Hazel Clary (4-18-1919 — 3-28-1973) 3-21-1942 and they had a daughter, 2nd Gladys Knight (8-27-1903 — 11-22-1976) 4-27-1974 and 3rd Mary Bumpers (4-9-1911) 3-24-1978 now divorced; Kathleen (8-6-1917) married 1st Reuben D. Williams (8-1-1902 — 1-9-1975) 9-16-1934 and they had two children, 2nd D. Howard Ledford (6-12-1909) 9-1-1979; Louise (2-25-1919) married Charles C. Butler (3-2-1922) 7-16-1942 and they have two children; Walter B. (1-25-1921 — 1-14-



Rufus Edwin Powell, Madora Ella Stanfield Powell, their sons: Henry Asbury, Rufus Edwin, Jr., Walter Belvyn, Robert Guy and their daughters: Mary Elizabeth, Mattie, Rosa, and Emma Cobbs Powell. Picture made circa 1911.



Homeplace of Rufus Edwin Powell, Jr., Blanche, N.C.



Carlisle Gravett Powell and Henry Asbury Powell.



Charles Clarence Butler and Louise Powell Butler, July 1983.

1977) married 1st Betty Stuntz and they had a daughter, 2nd Edythe Schindler (2-7-1916); Paul B. (3-27-1925) married M. Elizabeth Henry (10-22-1922) 7-17-1946 and they have two daughters; Dorothy (7-17-1929) married William T. Baker (2-12-1925) 7-20-1946 and they have two daughters; and William G. (12-21-1934) married Donna Strayer (2-17-1943) 12-

29-1961 and they have two sons.

My grandparents on my father's side were Rufus Edwin Powell (1-22-1856 — 12-5-1924) and Madora Ella Stanfield (7-28-1859 — 1-10-1915) and they married 3-25-1879 in Leasburg, Caswell County, N.C. where my grandmother was born. My grandfather was born in Blanche, Caswell County, N.C. and was a farmer and lived at the homestead in Blanche, where even now the Powell families gather for reunions. They both are buried in the cemetery at the homestead. They had nine children; Mattie (1-17-1880 — 4-2-1941) married 1st James H. Jennings, 2nd Rev. W.L. Griggs (7-8-1883 — 2-26-1953) 6-3-1909 and they had three children; Rev. Henry A. (2-1-1882 — 8-31-1962) married Carlisle M. Gravett (7-27-1895 — 9-28-1963) 12-29-1914 and they had seven children; Rufus Edwin, Jr. (3-12-1884 — 3-31-1941) married Lillian Dean (4-1-1882 — 8-23-1967) 7-22-1913 and they had two sons; Mary Elizabeth (2-5-1886 — 12-10-1963) never married; Walter Belvyn (DDS) (12-31-1887 — 1-6-1977) married Elizabeth Sloan (9-20-1896 — 2-16-1976) 7-20-1925 and they had a daughter; Rosa (7-31-1890 — 7-9-1963) married Julius H. Taylor (10-9-1894 — 4-10-1944) 12-29-1915 and they had two children; Robert Guy (10-8-1892 — 7-14-1961) married Mary E. Gatewood (4-6-1899 — 9-28-1977) 11-27-1925 and they had four children; Emma Cobbs