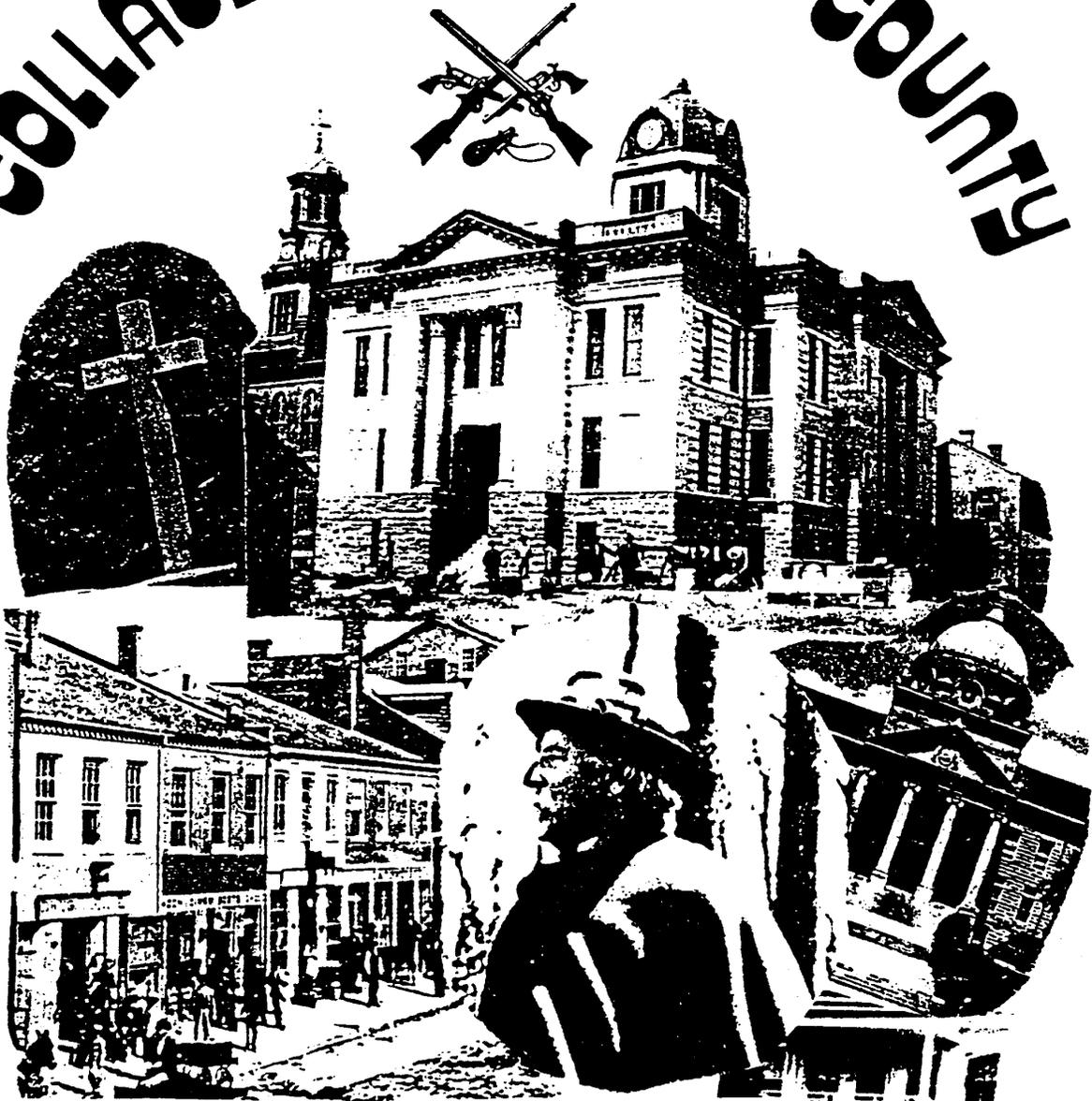


December 2019

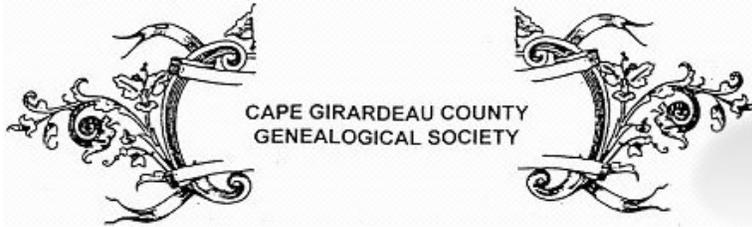
COLLAGE OF CAPE COUNTRY



CAPE GIRARDEAU EXPORTS 1874

Item	Amount	Price	Value
flour	120,000 bbls	\$ 6.00	\$720,000
lime	38,000 bbls	1.15	43,000
bacon	300,000 lbs	.07	21,000
lard	50,000 lbs	.07	3,500
hogs, dressed	150,000 lbs	.05	7,500





P. O. Box 571

Jackson, MO 63755

Volume 39 Number 2

September 2019

The Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society was organized in May 1970, a non-profit organization, its primary purpose is education in the field of genealogy. Membership is open to individuals upon payment of the annual dues of \$10, or a couple for \$15, per year, beginning in May. Life membership is available for a one-time payment of \$250. Web site: <https://www.capegenealogy.org/>

The CGCGS Library is located in the Research Room at the Cape Girardeau County Archive Center, 112 East Washington, Jackson, MO and is open during regular Archive Center hours. Our meetings are held at The Cape Girardeau County Archive Center, 112 East Washington in Jackson, MO, bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September, and November on the fourth Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., unless announced otherwise.

CGCGS publishes this quarterly, *THE COLLAGE OF CAPE COUNTY*, in March, June, September, and December, sent free to members. All members are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Submissions on disk (MS Word, rich text, or text files) or by email (text or rich text format) are encouraged, but not essential. Mail to **Bill Eddleman, 608 Teton Lane, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 (email: eddlemanw@sbcglobal.net)**.

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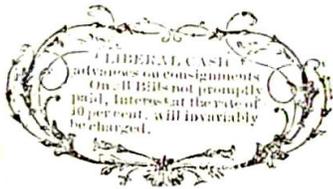
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THE

Cape Girardeau, Mo. Dec 11th 1871

Mr. Wm. N. Walker

On New Market St.



TERMS

Bought of J. & S. A. BERT,

Wholesale Grocers & Commission Merchants

No. 217 E. 7th St. S. A.

Four Decades of Researching the Brooks Family of Nell Holcomb Precinct, Randol Township, Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

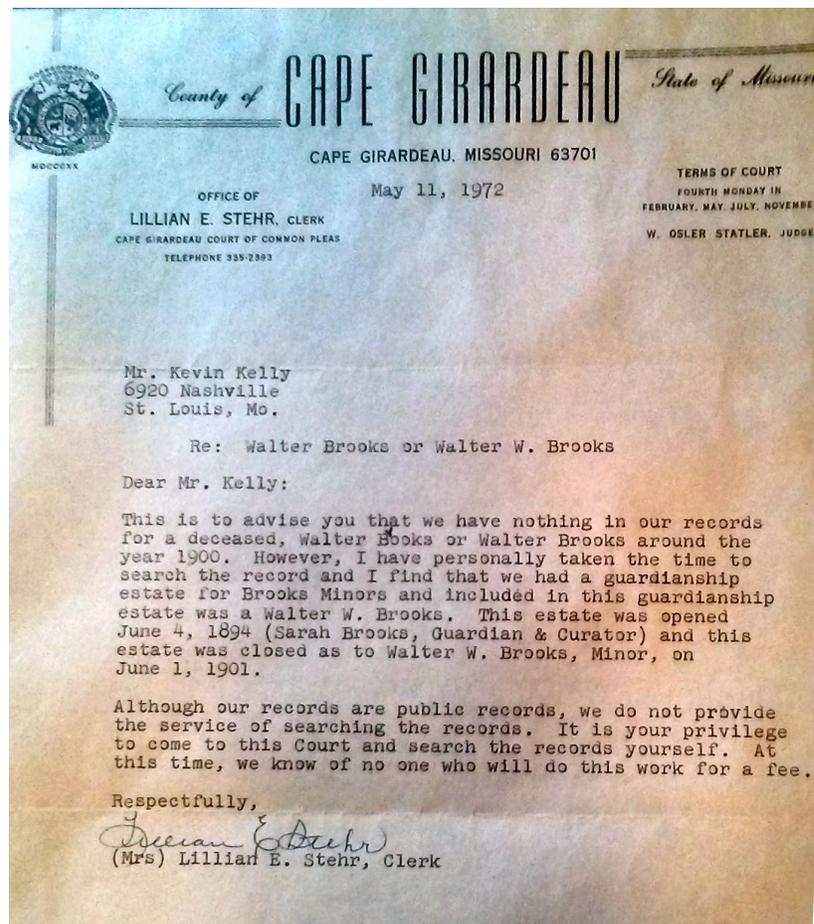
Kevin T. Kelly

"The long and winding road that leads to your door, will never disappear. I've seen that road before. It always leads me here, Lead me to your door" J. Lennon, 1940-1980, P. McCartney, 1942-

The above referenced Beatles song perfectly describes the genealogical journey in which I have participated since at least May 11, 1972. The beginning of my Brooks research was described in an article that I wrote for this quarterly in 1982.

In short, my grandmother's parents divorced when she was an infant, and with her mother, Nora Lindsay, moved to Dexter, Missouri. Grandma knew that she was born in Cape Girardeau, that her father was Walter Brooks, and her maternal grandfather was Jim Lindsay. This was the extent of her family background.

One of the first documents that I obtained was from the Cape Girardeau Court of Common Pleas. It was dated May 11, 1972. It referenced a Brooks Minors Case, June 4, 1894, Sarah Brooks, guardian and curator. I then found in *Goodspeed's History of Southeast Missouri, 1888*, a good biography of Jasper N. Brooks (father of Walter Brooks).



I received from the Cape County Recorder, dated 5 May 1972, a certified copy of the marriage of Walter "A." Brooks to Nora Lindsay on June 14, 1902. And an indenture (land sale) from Walter Brooks and Nora, his wife, to George E Weiss on June 21, 1902. This land was from his mother, Sarah A. Brooks, widow of Jasper N. Brooks (the undivided fifth interest). The location was part of Survey No. 2200 of T 31 North, R 14 East.

After meeting some of Grandma's Brooks first cousins, the search was much easier. Goodspeed's has this family migrating to Cape County in 1810. But, there is no mention of them in tax records in the 1810's. A land deed to Robert Brooks Sr. in Cape County in 1818 (then the Territory of Missouri) is the earliest activity that I find of this family in Cape County.

Here is a lead that a fellow researcher gave to me. It's from the (Old) Bethel (Baptist) Church Book, 1806-1876:

p. 28, May 12, 1821 "Church in conference. Received by experience Jane Brooks, Robert Brooks came forward and stated to the church that he has been excluded from the fellowship of the "Little Flat Book" Church in North Carolina. Which he acknowledged was just and acknowledged his faults.
Oct 13, 1821 Rec'd Bro. Brooks into fellowship"

From Bethel, I wrote to Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem. They referenced a Flat Rock Baptist Church in Yadkin (western North Carolina). I did not pursue this lead for quite some time.

As I was in contact with some of my Grandmother's first cousins, I obtained data on their families from them. I checked the census records. The publications of this Society were very useful to me. As for the Commonwealth of Virginia, it currently contains 95 counties and 38 independent cities. Count the State of West Virginia, and that adds 55 more counties. I looked at some census indices and county marriages but found nothing remotely helpful. I was able, over the decades, to correspond with tens of Brooks descendants, obtained some good information, but none of us had information or clues regarding this family in Virginia.

This is the first Brooks family that migrated to Cape County. Robert Brooks, Sr. was born between 1760-70, in Virginia, possibly in Halifax County (more later). His will was recorded 4 May 1835, so his death occurred prior to that. His wife was Elizabeth Jane, either Greenwood or Wood. She was born about 1767, in Virginia. Her death occurred May, 1849 in Cape County.

Their children:1) Jane "Jinsey" Brooks was born 4 May 1789 in Virginia. She married Terry Poe, 1818 in Cape County. This marriage produced seven children. However, Jinsey died 7 May 1837 in Perry Co, Mo. This family then moved to Stoddard Co, Mo.

2) Robert Brooks, Jr. was born 1790, in Virginia. He married Mary Dunham in Cape County. This produced four children, three boys and a daughter. Mary owned 100 acres. Junior died young, about 1845. He had many grandsons in Cape Co. Several of his great-grandsons (around the Great Depression), migrated to St Louis, where three of them worked in shoe factories and another in an auto factory. They lived in University City and near Wellston, not far from my St. Louis city neighborhood of Hi-Pointe Dogtown. On 15 Oct 1846, Mary Dunham Brooks remarried to Robert Davidson.

3) Elizabeth Greenwood Brooks was born about 1796, in Virginia. She married George Washington Davidson. Between 1822-25, this family moved to Dyer County, Tennessee. George passed away there on 2 Nov 1852. Elizabeth and three of her grown children decided to live in Kaufman County, Texas. She passed away there 6 Aug 1873.

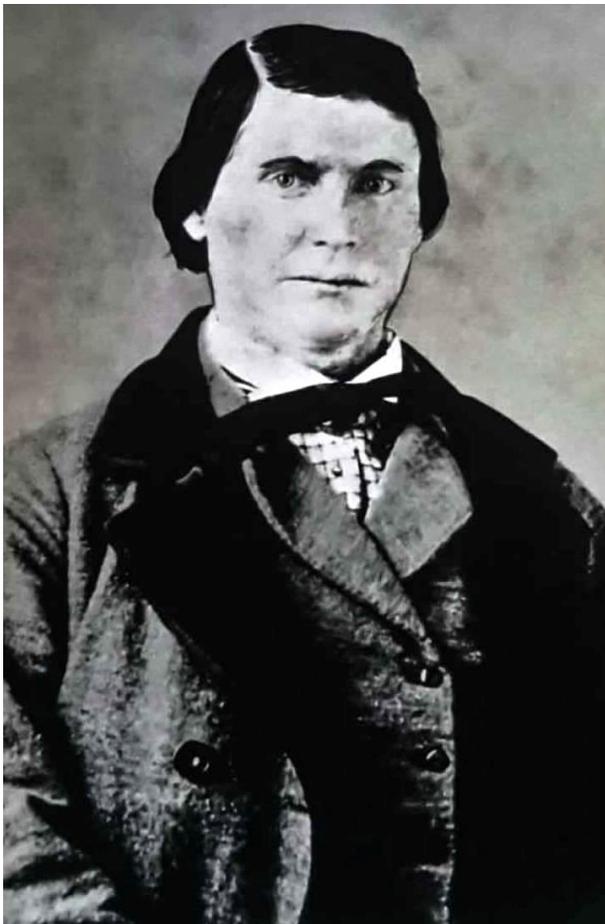
4) Hardy Brooks was born 13 Oct 1800, in Virginia and is my great-great grandfather. He married Susannah

Dunham in Cape County. Susannah was born in Tennessee on 9 Nov 1798 to John Dunham and Mary Polly Waller. He was a farmer owning 200 acres. She and Mary Dunham were sisters.

John Dunham and his parents, John Sr. and Jennie Dunham, were true Tennessee pioneers. They were probably on one of the two boats that left Virginia to middle Tennessee for the Nashville area. John Dunham, Sr. and Jr. were signers of the Cumberland Compact on May, 1780. John Dunham Jr. settled in the Leiper's Fork area of nearby Williamson County, Tennessee. In John's Jr. will, he leaves his land to his wife, Polly Waller Dunham, but stated upon his death his land was to be sold and she to purchase another tract of land. Given the fact, that Polly's parents, Joseph and Susannah Waller, were already settled in Cape County (and ran a ferry, later known as Green's Ferry, now within Trail of Tears Park), Polly Dunham purchased 284 acres on the South Fork of Flora Creek in Cape County). Susannah became a member of the Methodist faith in Tennessee, and it is believed introduced that to some of the Brooks family.

Hardy's death occurred 24 Aug 1879, in Cape County; Susanna died 13 Aug 1845, also in Cape County. They parented eight children, all who lived and died in Cape County, including my great-great grandfather, Jasper Nathaniel Brooks.

Jasper's second wife was Sarah Louisa Miller, born 12 Oct 1837, Byrd Township, Cape County. (His first wife was Elizabeth C. McClain.) Sarah was the daughter of John Newton Miller and Narcissa Patterson. The Patterson



Jasper N. Brooks



Sarah Louisa (Miller) Brooks

family was also a very early Cape family. Her grandfather, David Patterson, died about 1819 in Cape County. The Cape County Archives has documentation of David Patterson as a Captain in the Chester County South Carolina militia. Her father, Robert Patterson, is listed on a reconstructed census for Louisiana and Missouri, stated he lived in Cape in 1810.

5) Nancy Brooks was born about 1801 in Virginia. On 9 Nov 1826, she married Samuel Masterson. He was the son of William Masterson and Anna Randol. Samuel Masterson's brother, Jeremiah, married Narcissa Patterson's sister, Margaret. They parented ten children. Samuel died about 1842 and Nancy then married John B. Karnegey, on 10 Mar 1844, Cape County. She died about 1860 in Cape County.

6) Sarah Brooks was born about 1802 in Virginia. She married Lewis Gibbs. They had several children—the 1830 Census of Cape County says they had 3 sons and 4 daughters. Perhaps they migrated to another area, however, Findagrave.com has her buried in the Masterson Cemetery in Cape County, "Widow with children: Samuel M, William, Malinda, and Eli" and Martha Jane.

7) Lucy Brooks was born about 1803, in North Carolina. Her marriage was to Robert Davidson She died about 1825 and he later married Mary Dunham Brooks (see Dunham above)

8) Missiniah Brooks was born on 21 Nov 1807, in North Carolina. On 14 Sept 1826, in Cape County, she married Eli Ervin. Traditionally, Eli walked with his family and others from North Carolina to Missouri in 1823. Eli was a farmer with 260 acres. This couple was blessed with ten children. It appears that 8 of their children lived in Cape County the whole of their lives.

As you have been reading this, surnames seem to appear more than once. The Brooks family lived in Randol Township, which in the 19th century was a sparsely populated farming community.

Relationship A: The best example of this involves Missiniah's daughter, Elvira. Elvira was born 15 Aug 1845. She married Joseph Vincent Hobbs. They had three sons, one of which was Charles "C. J." Jeremiah Hobbs. He married Etta Alice Brooks, daughter of Jasper and granddaughter of Hardy Brooks. So Etta and C. J. were third cousins, via the Brooks family. C. J. and Etta had three sons. My grandmother, Olga, was Jasper's granddaughter, and daughter to Walter Brooks. Therefore, Olga and Etta's sons were first cousins.

Relationship B: My grandmother's maternal grandmother was Lucinda Hobbs, son of John Hobbs and Martha Penn. Joseph V. Hobbs was the son of Greenberry Hobbs, (a brother to John) and Sarah F. Penn, C. J. would have been a fourth cousin to my Grandmother via the Hobbs family.

Relationship C: C. J. ("Jamie) Hobbs was a great-grandson to Mary Chitwood, married to Joseph Penn. Olga's great-great grandmother was Elizabeth Chitwood, married to Abraham Penn.

Relationship D: C. Jamie Hobbs was a grandson of Green Berry Hobbs. Grandma Olga was a great-granddaughter of John Hobbs, married to Martha Penn. This grandmother had a favorite saying, "well, I never." Exactly fits this scenario.

The Hobbs, Penn, Chitwood families were neighbors to each other in Lincoln County, Tennessee. From them I have, there were two American Revolutionary Patriots, Phillip Penn (father of "Abram") and Joel Chitwood (father of Elizabeth Penn). My Lindsay and McManus families came to Cape County after 1850. They and the Sprinkle(s) families came from Maury County, Tennessee. By 1870, the McManus family had settled in Ripley Co., Missouri and Calhoun Co., Arkansas. The Sprinkle family lived near Dexter, Missouri, as did my Caleb

Lindsay. I believe he had a brother, John, who married Mary Ann Hobbs. These families were neighbors to each other in Maury County and the intermarriage among these three families is large.

As it will unfold shortly, as I research this family, I came across a first name that made me laugh. It appears that Robert Brooks, Sr. had a great-great aunt named Massilva Brooks Hopper. She died in 1800, in Franklin County, Georgia. Apparently, Massilva is a 12th century English female first name.

I still do not have proof of the marriage of Robert Brooks, Sr. and "Jane" Greenwood. Marriage licenses were not mandatory in Colonial America. Earlier, I wrote about their daughter, Elizabeth Greenwood Brooks Davidson. Daughter Jinsey Poe named one of her daughters Elizabeth Greenwood Poe. Son Hardy named a daughter Elizabeth Jane Brooks. Nancy Masterson named a daughter Eliza Jane Masterson. Lucy Davidson had a Nancy Jane Davidson. Sarah Gibbs had a daughter that was named Martha Gibbs. Elizabeth Davidson had a daughter named Mary Jane and another, Sarah Elizabeth. Finally, Missinia had Louisa Jane Ervin. I believe that there is a good secondary case for Jane Brooks' maiden name.

Many years past before, I wrote to North Carolina regarding the Church minutes of Flat Book Church. I was successful in obtaining them; alas, they were no help at all. So continues the long and windy road.

I then began to research Yadkin (formerly Surry) County, North Carolina. About 2007, via the Internet, I found a most interesting web site, <http://gentryjournal.org/>. It is a superior genealogical web site. They document the journey of the Gentry family, through several migrations in Virginia and ending up in Yadkin County. Along their journeys, a neighboring family named Brooks traveled with them with some intermarriages. I was ecstatic! Here is the beginning of what the *Gentry Journal* says regarding the Brooks family:

We can schematically chart the Brooks family as follows:

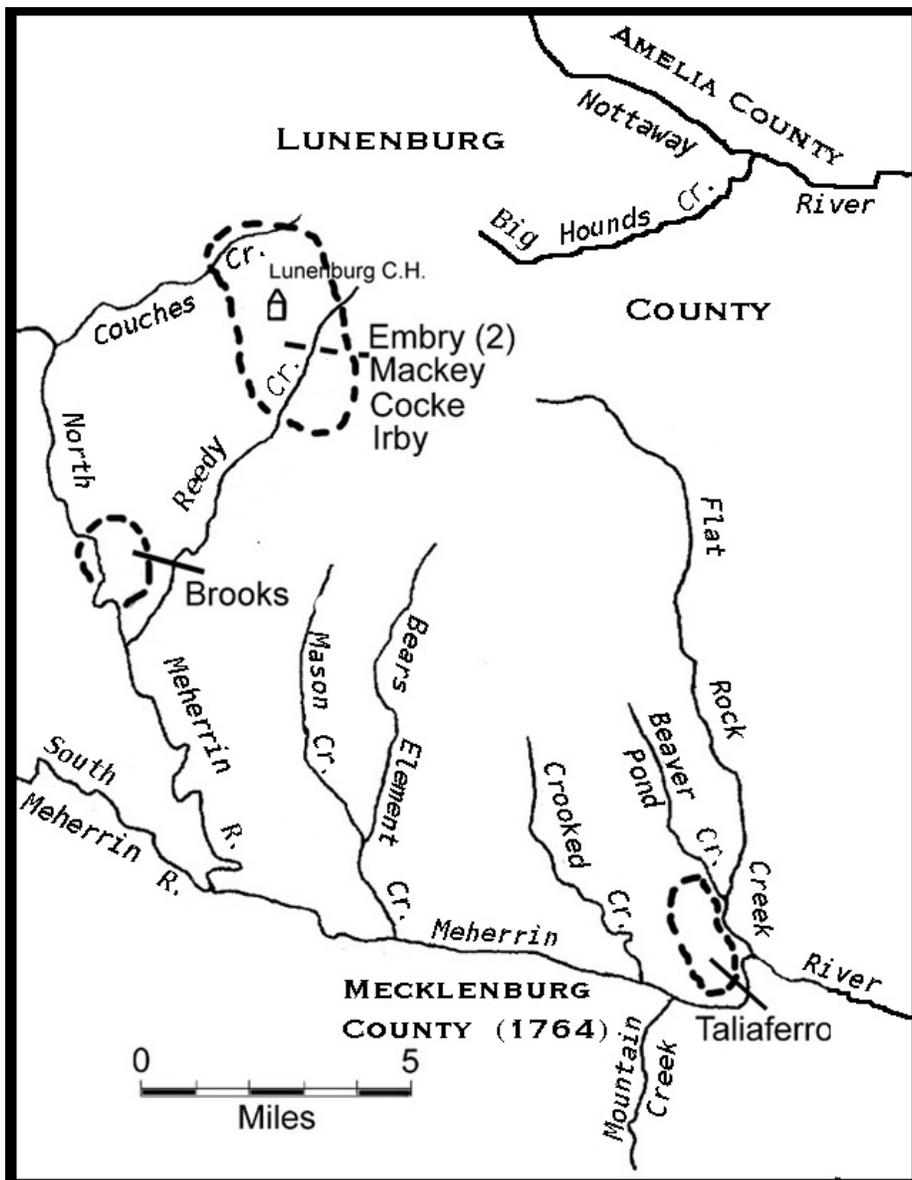
First Generation	Second Generation	Third Generation
Richard-I (m. Mary Gibson)	Children of Richard, order listed in will: William	
	Richard-II (m. Elizabeth)	Children of Richard (?), order unknown: Sarah (m. David Gentry) Elisha (m. Frances) Richard-IIIa (m. Susannah) Mary (m. Nicholas Gentry)
	Robert-II	Children of Robert (?), order unknown: Richard-IIIb (m. Lucretia) John (m. Elizabeth) Artha Matthew
	Sarah	
	Messilina	
Robert-I ??	"orphans"	

From the Gentry Journal

The Brooks Family Connection

“Mary Brooks, Nicholas' wife, and Sarah Brooks, David's wife, were both daughters of Richard and Elizabeth Brooks. Other members of the extended Brooks family also were closely associated with the Gentry family. They appear to have descended from a Richard Brooks Sr. whose will was probated in Hanover County, Virginia in 1734. (We will refer to him as Richard-I). In this will he bequeathed his estate to his wife, Mary (Gibson) Brooks, sons William, Richard, and Robert, and daughters Sarah and Massilina.”

(Massilina is close to Missiniah.) So, as this thread goes, it begins in Hanover County, Virginia (the western tidewater region of Virginia). From there, these families migrated to Old Lunenburg Co, Virginia (central Virginia), and from there to Surry (now Yadkin) Co, North Carolina (in that County is Mount Airy, the birthplace of Andy Griffith). Before the Revolution, the Brooks were of the Anglican faith.



So, I began to pour through books at the St. Louis Genealogical Society Library at the headquarters of the St. Louis County Library. Much to my delight, I found a Greenwood family. They, like the Brooks and Gentry families, were also early settlers in Yadkin County. However, there was NO Elizabeth Jane Greenwood. So, all the research on the Brooks and Greenwood families in Western North Carolina was for naught?

In November, 2018, I decided to submit my DNA to Ancestry.com. I received my results and discovered I must load a gedcom to their website. And, I took out a monthly subscription (do both, for maximum results) Then, I found another online book about the Brooks family, *Brooks Family History*, Robert and Bernice Casey. This also tells the same story as the *Gentry Journal*. I continued researching and found a family that looked promising. Rev John Brooks, a Baptist minister, was born 6 Dec 1748 in Lunenburg County. His first wife was Elizabeth, possibly a Holt. They had a son, Robert Brooks, born about 1774 and died about 1850. I uploaded this John Brooks family onto my Ancestry family tree. I have 19 matches with five other children of Rev. Brooks! (see Thru Lines, DNA match) Fantastic!

ThruLines™ for (Possible) John Thomas(?) Brooks

ThruLines uses Ancestry® trees to suggest that you may be related to 18 DNA matches through (Possible) John Thomas(?) Brooks.

Relationships List

Robert Brooks Family Line	
	You (Possible) John Thomas(?) Brooks is your 5th great-grandfather.
Frances Brooks Family Line	4 matches ▾
David Brooks Family Line	1 match ▾
Matthew Brooks Family Line	12 matches ▾
Larkin Brooks Family Line	1 match ▾

Yet, a reason to pause. One of Reverend John Brooks’ sons, Matthew Brooks, Sr., migrated to Jackson, (western) Tennessee. Along with him was a Robert Brooks. It appears that this Robert married and died about 1850. He may not have had any children.

I believe that the 18 DNA matches with four of Rev. Brooks’ children is significant. I will continue researching to attempt to determine, that my Robert Brooks, Sr. is a son of John and Elizabeth Brooks.

A RUCKUS AT THE OAK RIDGE CHURCH IN 1872

State Warrant

Peter Fullbright
C M Horn
Philip Fullbright

Filed 29 Oct 1872
N c Harrison
Clk

The State of Missouri
County of Cape Girardeau
The State of Missouri to the
Constable of apple creek township
Whereas in my own presence
as the Justice of the peace that
Peter Fullbright C M Horn and
Filip Fullbright of the county aforesaid
did on the 16th day of June 1872 at
the county of Cape Girardeau did come
To the Church at Oak Ridge Just
as church was dismissed and did
^commit a Riot and^ Disturb the peace by cursing and
Fighting and using bad language
on the Sabath day
These are therefore to command you
To take the Said Peter Fullbright
C M Horn and Philip Fullbright
if they be found in your county and take
and Safely keep them the Said
Peter Fullbright C M Horn and Philip
Fullbright So that you have their body
forthwith before me to answer the
Said complaint and be further dealt
With according to law
Given under my hand and Seal this
16th day of June 1872
Wm L Horn J Peace

I authorize A M Mcalaster to execute
and Return this writ
June 16th 1872 W L Horn J Peace

Warrant returned 16th day of June 1872
by Executed by having the bodys of the Said
Peter Fulbright Philip Fulbright
and C M Horn before the Justice
A W Mcalster
fees 75 Dep constable

State of Missouri }
County of Cape Girardeau } June 16th 1872

Before the undersigned Justice of
 The peace for said county came
 Peter fullbright and Philip Fullbright
 and John Fullbright and severally
 acknowledged themselves to owe the
 State of Missouri the Sum of one
 Thousand dollars to be levied of their
 Goods and chattals lands and tenemen
 ts if default be made in the condition
 following to wit
 The condition of this recognizance is
 Such that if the above boundens
 Philip Fullbright and Peter
 Fullbright Shall personally be and
 appear before the circuit court on the first
 day of the next term thereof next to
 be holden in and for the county aforesaid
 then and there to answer a charge of
 disturbing the congregation at Oak Ridge
 Church and commencing a riot and using
 bad and undecent language and abide the
 judgment of the court and not depart
 without leave then this recognizance Shall be
 void otherwise it shall be and remain in full
 force and virtue in law } Philip Fulbright
 Taken and acknowledged } P H Fulbright
 before me on the day and } John Fulbright
 year first above written }

Wm. L. Horn
 Justice of the Peace

 State of Missouri }
 County of Cape Girardeau } June 17th 1872
 Before the undersigned Justice of the peace
 For Said county came C M Horn and
 Henry Rose and Wm. J. Wilson
 Severly acknowledged themselves to owe
 The State of Missouri the Sum of five
 Hundred dollars to be levied of their Goods
 and chattels lands and tenements if
 default be made in the condition following
 To wit --- The condition of this recognizance
 is Such that if the above bounden C M
 Horn Shall personally be and appear
 before the circuit court on the first day
 of the next term thereof next to be holden
 in and for the county aforesaid then
 and there to answer a charge of disturbing
 The congregation at Oak Ridge Church and
 being ingaged in a riot and using bad
 and undecent Language and abide the
 Judgement of the court and not depart
 without leave then this recognizance Shall
 be void other wise it Shall be and remain
 in full force and virtue in law
 Taken and acknowledged }

before me on the 17th } Heinrich Rose [in German]
 Day of June 1872 } W. T. Wilson
 Wm L Horn Just of }
 The above bond is approved | Peace }
 By me this 17th day of June AD 1872
 John R Henderson Justice County Court

State of Missouri } Warrent issued the 16th day of
 vrs } June 1872 for crimes committed
 Peter Fulbright } In my own presence for the crime
 Philip Fulbright } of a Riot and disturbing the congre
 C. M. Horn } gation by using bad Language
 Such as cursing and Swearing on the
 Just fees 35 Sabath day and directed to the constable of
 Warrant 35 Apple creek township the constable not present
 Judge 50 A W Mcalaster was deputized to execute and
 three bonds 105 Return the writ Wm. L. Horn J Peace
 Transcripts 50

 Warrent returned 16th day of June
 1872 Executed by having the bodys of the Said
 Peter Fulbright Philip Fulbright and
 Court fees C M Horn before the Justice parties refuses
 A W Mcalaster To be tried the Justice adjudged that Said
 Serving War 75 Defendants give bail in the Sum of five
 For taking Hundred dollars Each to appear on the first
 Horn to Jail 1.00 Day of the next term of the circuit court for
 Milage 2,00 The county of Cape Girardeau then and there
 To abide until discharged by due course of
 Law the Said Fulbrights give their bonds
 With John Fulbright as Security but the
 Said Horn failed to give the bail required
 The Justice doth order that the said C M
 Horn by committed to the county jail of Said
 until he give Said Security or be discharged
 By due course of law
 The following named persons give
 Their bonds for the Sum of fifty dollars
 Each for their appearance on the first day of
 The next term of the circuit court for the
 county of Cape Girardeau as witnesses
 R Swann John Johnson Sr John
 Johnson Jr Cornelious Johnson A W
 Mcalaster L D Simpson Sile Beal
 Chesly Mcalaster John W Hays and
 H G Dixson

Wm L Horn J Peace

State of Missouri
 County of Cape Girardeau
 I W L Horn a justice of the peace within
 and for the township of apple creek in the
 County aforesaid hereby certify that the
 above and foregoing is a true and complete
 Transcript of Judgement in Said cause as
 The Same appears in my docket

Given under my hand this 28th day
of October 1872 W L Horn Justice of the peace

state N° 54

vs.

Peter, Phillip
Fullbright and C.
M. Horn

Peace of neighborhood

A True Bill
Joseph Lansmon

Foreman of the Grand
Jury

Filed 11th Novr 1872
N. C. Harrison
Clerk
Plea of Guilty

Wit. Rich. Swan, A W
McAllister Jno. Johnson
Cornelius Johnson,
Jno. W. Hays.

State of Missouri County of Cape Girardeau
In the Circuit Court of said county.
Nov. Term 1872

The Grand Jurors of the state of Missouri, duly impanelled, sworn and charged to inquire in and for said County of Cape Girardeau upon their oath present that Peter Fullbright, Phillip Fullbright and C Milton Horn on the 16th day of June 1872 at the county and state aforesaid did unlawfully and willfully disturb the peace of a neighborhood, to wit of Oak Ridge in said county and state by loud and unusual noise, by threatening, quarreling and fighting, to wit by hallowing, swearing, and quarreling and fighting with one John Johnson against the peace and dignit[y] of the state of Missouri.

Bill of Costs vs. Fulbright, Fulbright & Horn

Nov 5 72 N C Harrison Clk
“ For Indictment returned & filing 55
“ “ Plea, 15 Judgment 50 order 15 80

“ “ Taking
“ For filing 5 papers 25 2.10

L. H. Davis Cir aty conviction of
3 Defendants \$5 each 15.00
Pa 10.00
5.00

John Albert shff ans.
For confession 3 Dfts 1.00 3.00

Justice bus

Witness bus

John Johnson 2 days 2 00
Rich. Swan 2 “ 2 00
~~J McAlister 2 “ Pd 2 00 A W (x) Mcalister~~
Jno Hays 2 “ Pd 2 00 John W Hays
John Johnson 2 “ 2 00
Nelus Johnson 2 “ 2 00 12.00
38.25
15.00
63.25

The case was decided in Circuit Court [FamilySearch, <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSLF-D9XD-4?i=393&cat=321232>; Cape Girardeau County Circuit Court Minutes, Book K, pages 762-763, 18 Nov 1872. Defendants pled guilty and paid a \$5 fine each.

#####

1816-1817 Monies Received for Licenses, Cape Girardeau County

[Missouri Gazette and Public Advertiser, St. Louis, Mo., 6 Dec 1817, page 3, col. 5]

A LIST

Of all monies received by the sheriff of the county of Cape Girardeau of which he ought to have received, to tavern licenses, to retailers of merchandize, and all other licenses, of which territorial tax is imposed from the first Monday in December 1816.

Daniel M. Stout, merchant	15 00	William Ross, ferry license	5 00
Thomas Stevens, do	15 00	Parish Green do	5 00
Solomon Bollinger, Ferry license	5 00	Charles G. Ellis do	5 00
Medad Randol, do do	5 00	Nathan Vanhorn, merchant	15 00
Robert Hancock, merchant	15 00	James Smith, pedlar	14 00
Joseph Rogers do	15 00	Daniel F. Steinbeck, merchant	15 00
Joseph Frizel & Co. do	15 00	John Cammack do	15 00
Wake and Young do	15 00	John Herbert & Co. do	15 00
George Henderson do	15 00	Rene le Mellieur do	15 00
Daniel F. Steinbeck do	15 00	Worthington & Bailey, pedlar	14 00
Thomas Stevens do	15 00	George Henderson, merchant	<u>15 00</u>
Jeptha Sweet do	<u>15 00</u>		<u>\$ 178 00</u>
	Amount \$ <u>160 00</u>		

1817, June 2d.
John Edwards, tavern license 10 00
George Henderson do 10 00
William Sheppard do 10 00
William Neely, merchant 15 00

Given under my hand, the thirteenth day of October, in the year, one thousand eight hundred & seventeen.
John Hays, Shff.

Dr. Erasmus Ellis is Accused of Stealing a Slave (1809)

(Editor’s Note: There is little doubt that Dr. Erasmus Ellis, of the numerous early family of prominent Cape Girardeau citizens who immigrated here from Georgia, and Richard Davis loathed each other. For example, Davis once called out Dr. Ellis for a duel, perhaps resulting in the wounding referred to below. They were also the parties in at least one lawsuit in early Cape Girardeau Court records. Recently, the *Missouri Gazette*, the most well-known of early Missouri newspapers, has been scanned and can be accessed by subscription on newspapers.com. The transcription below is an exchange over alleged theft of a slave.]

[*Missouri Gazette*, issue of Wednesday, 31 May 1809, “100 Dollars Reward,” vol. 1, no. 45, page 1, col. 2]

100 dollars Reward.

STOLEN from the subscriber, on Friday night the 21st inst. a Negro woman named GINNY. She is about forty five years of age, and under the middle size.

From the subjoined certificates it will appear that she was stolen by Erasmus Ellis. He is about twenty-five years old, about five feet eleven and a half inches high, his complexion is very dark, and has a thin visage: He may be known by a limping gait, which appears to proceed from deformity of person, but is only the effect of habit. I think it probable he will endeavor to escape down the Mississippi. The above reward will be given for the theft [sic] and negro, and fifty dollars for either of them, when delivered to the sheriff of the District of Cape Girardeau, or the subscriber.

RICHARD DAVIS.

Cape Girardeau, April 24, 1809.

CERTIFICATES

Of Mrs. Waters and Captain

James Brady.

I hereby certify that on the night of the 21st inst Erasmus Ellis came to my house, accompanied by several men, and by force of arms did feloniously take away a negro woman named Ginny, the property of Richard Davis. Given under my hand the 23d of April, 1809.

(Signed)

FANNY WATERS

Witness—W. Garner.

I certify that on Friday night the 21st inst. Erasmus Ellis, commonly called Doctor Ellis, came to the house of Mrs. Waters, and forcibly carried away a negro woman named Ginny, the property of Richard Davis. He had several men with him, and made an attempt to take away several other negroes belonging to Richard Davis. Given under my hand the 23d day of April, 1809.

(Signed)

JAMES BRADY.

Witness—W. Garner.

[*Supplement to the Missouri Gazette*, issue of Wednesday, 20 Aug 1809, “To the Editor of the Missouri Gazette,” vol. , no. (supplement), page 5, cols. 1-4]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE
MISSOURI GAZETTE
SIR,

There are few things so painful to a mind of sensibility, as to be forced from its domestic privacies into the glare of public view. A desire however, to vindicate my character from the foul aspersions thrown on it, when absent from this country, and to efface from the public mind, any unfavourable impressions which may have been made (if any such do exist) with respect to my conduct, has reluctantly induced me to come forward. A generous public be[[illegible]] whom I am to pass, will execute, if, in defending myself form the calumnious suggestions of

Richard Davis, I should as far as possible avoid everything like *intemperate invective* and personal abuse, which is so much the *order* of the day, and which so eminently distinguish the elegant publications of some gentlemen. A plain statement of facts, with the affidavits annexed, will I trust, defeat in some measure, the malice of Mr. Davis—if it does not, I must suffer detraction and invective, which are not the weapons I am in the habit of using.

During my absence from this country, which has been considerably lengthened by indisposition, I had not an opportunity of seeing any of your papers; on my return to the Territory, one fell into my hands dated the tenth of May last, in which I saw a place given to an erroneous advertisement, signed *Richard Davis*, in which he offers a reward of 100 dollars, for a negro woman named Ginney, which negro, he asserts was stolen from him, and from two subjoined certificates, he says, it will appear that she was stolen by Erasmus Ellis, he then goes on to describe my person. On the style and manner of this *ludicrous production of genius* [sic], I will not stoop to remark; as the indulgence of Mr. Davis's wit is, I presume, so sweet to him, and the complacency excited by a happy display of his powers of description so supremely grateful, that it would be cruel to say any thing calculated to diminish the deliciousness of his exquisite sensations. In examining the advertisement, however, I am greatly at a loss which most to admire, his talents or courage; he has certainly displayed a vast stock of both; but I, it will be recollected, was not in this country; it was therefore easy for Mr. Davis, to assert what he pleased, without the shadow of responsibility, as he thought, as it surely gave the public a high idea of the valour of this most valorous knight, that he had published me a thief, when I was many miles from him. This appears to be a *twin* brother to another of Mr. Davis's, *heroic deeds*. I do not know whether he has told this story often himself, but I presume not; however, the good people of Cape Girardeau, very well knows that in November last, I was by this fame Mr. Davis, most basely, cowardly, and sneakingly shot through the right elbow, with a pistol he had borrowed and prepared for that purpose, and without having received from him the slightest intimation that he was armed in that way. For this injury however, I have sought a remedy from the justice of my country, it is therefore unnecessary for me to say any more on that subject at this time. After this bold attempt at assassination, one would have supposed that Mr. Davis's malice would have subsided, but in addition to this, he adds a slanderous and false charge, in order still farther to injure me if possible. He has also stimulated his satellites to re-echo the thunder of his defamations, and to entice some of his faithful followers, to follow me down the river—now if Davis wished me pursued, why did he not do it himself, and not endeavor to lead other people into trouble? Why should a private dispute thus anxiously interest a whole territory? Has it I say militated against the inhabitants or their property, or how and where does it concern them at all? Let every fabric I say, stand upon its own foundation.... My friends, if I have any, have remained in silent composure, under all the torture of assailed reputation, for which I feel myself under singular obligations to them. But, Mr. Editor, on the contrary I think the odious charge of theft may with propriety be laid at Mr. Davis's own door. It is a fact which the subjoined affidavits, made by men of the most undoubted veracity, will prove, that the property which Mr. Davis forcibly took from my brother, off the Devil's Island, which is not I believe in this territory, were my property, that the negro with which he has charged me of stealing, is also mine, and that he has gotten property in his hands, to the amount of three or four thousand dollars, to satisfy an execution of fifteen hundred dollars, issued against my father, though every body knows I never owed him a farthing in my life; yet his wolfe like appetite is not satisfied, and still holds in terrorem the balance of that execution—this is the honorable and upright Davis. If I had taken the negro which he complains of, I should, I presume have only acted to strict law, which gives every man the right of taking his own property wherever it may be found, if in doing so he does not infringe rights more sacred than his own.

With regard to the certificates upon which Mr. Davis rests his charge, I shall say very little of one of them, I mean that signed "Fanny Waters," I should have said nothing had not she came in as a volunteer, as she certainly was not legally called on. Politeness, the dictates of which my education has taught me to respect, would have sealed my lips, were it not for the circumstance. But I cannot forbear saying that Mrs. Waters, ought to know that she committed an error, when she says that I was at her house on the night the negro was taken, I am certain Mrs. Waters never saw me at her house: in fact I was never there in my life and I am sure she cannot say of her own knowledge, I was there or ever took from her house any species of property.

The other is signed "Captain James Brady," from the high sounding title of this name, one would be disposed who did not know the animal who wears it, to give some credence to a certificate made by him. Were the public acquainted in general, with this contemptable *lick spittle*, it would be unnecessary to say a word about what he has

certified, the insignificance of the man who made it, and the perfect lowness of his character, would defeat the object of his puerile malice. In his zeal to be the tool of Davis, he has gone further than Mrs. Waters, and has asserted "that I not only took off the negro of Davis's, but attempted to take off more property." The boldness of his venture in this commerce of certificates, has shown he has nothing to lose by the risk, he dashed on at all hazards and certified a *lie*.

I am compelled, here, to beg pardon of you, sir, and the public, for permitting my contempt of this being, to excite in my bosom the slightest glow of feeling—every man of honor will, however, excuse me—to be injured by a man of any standing is sufferable, the hope of atonement inspires us with fortitude, until the moment of satisfaction arrives. But to be thus calumniated by poltroons, and especially by this animal, the disgrace of his cloth and title, when in a distant territory, is more than ordinarily vexatious.

I will now exhibit to you the affidavits of A. Scott, and Capt. Ezekiel Able, both respectable citizens of this place, which will clearly establish my title to the negro which Mr. Davis has charged me with stealing, and also show [sic] he in his malice and desire to injure me, has left truth as far behind in his advertisement, as his respectable compeer "Capt James Brady" has done in his certificate.

ERASMUS ELLIS

*Cape Girardeau. }
7th August, 1809 }*

Cape Girardeau district.

Personally appeared Alexander Scott, before me a justice of the peace in and for the district aforesaid, and made oath, that he did to the best of his knowledge, sell seventeen negroes at Cape Girardeau, which said negroes was sold to satisfy a claim under a deed of trust in favor of Dr. Erasmus Ellis, to raise a sum of money due Erasmus Ellis from Elisha Ellis, which property and sale had been previously advertised in the public papers agreeable to law. This deposition further states, that the sale was open and fair, and at the Court House in the town of Cape Girardeau, and that Dr. Erasmus Ellis was the highest bidder for the negroes aforesaid, and amongst whom was the negro woman named Ginny, which said negro, Richard Davis has since charged Doctor Erasmus Ellis with having feloniously taken.

(Signed)

Alex. Scott.

Sworn and subscribed
before me, this 16th
day of May, 1809.

Robert Blair, J. P.

Cape Girardeau district.

Personally appeared Ezekiel Able, before me a justice of the peace in and for the district aforesaid, and made oath that he was present at a sale, held at the Court House of said district on the 21st of February last, where there were seventeen negroes and other property sold, by virtue of a deed executed by Elisha Ellis in favor of Erasmus Ellis, this deponent understood it was to raise a sum of money due Erasmus Ellis from said Elisha Ellis, which property this deponent saith had been previously advertised in the public papers agreeable to law. This deponent further states that the sale was open and fair, and with in the usual house, also that Erasmus Ellis was the highest bidder for the negroes aforesaid, and among whom this deponent saith, was the negro woman named Ginny, which said negro, Richard Davis has since charged Erasmus Ellis with having feloniously taken off.

(Signed)

Ezekiel Able.

Sworn and subscribed
before me, the 12th
day of August, 1809.

Robert Blair, J. P.

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Alfred P. Ellis House, Cape Girardeau (historic, now demolished). Library of Congress Photo.

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Cape Girardeau City Death Book B (1912-8/1924) (69 pages, indexed)	\$13
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