

Research on Arkansas Dickson Cemetery and burial place of Dysart Woods, Holmes, Dicksons

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BURIALS WOODS/DYSART/HOLMES ARKANSAS

By Kathryn Lang December 09, 2004 at 10:38:53

Re: HOLMES IN BENTONVILLE, BENTON CO., ARK

Posted by: Kathryn Mero HOLMES Lang (ID *****6719) Date: December 09, 2004 at 10:24:35

In Reply to: Re: HOLMES IN BENTONVILLE, BENTON CO., ARK by Sherrie Flud of 5770

Hey, Sherrie Flud,

Hi! Cousin, and Merry Christmas. Santa will be here before you know it. I just saw your old e-mail and wanted to respond to it. I did not see it until yesterday, and our cross country trip was long over.

So, Sherrie, tell me if this is right. You are a descendant of John Milton (Major) Holmes, b. 26-Jan-1818 in Tennessee, who married Susan Evaline Hardwick. John was a son of Phineas Holmes, b. 12-Nov-1786 in North Carolina, who married Rachel Stewert. Their son, "my" California Pioneer ancestor, Calvin Hall Holmes, b. 16-Dec-1825 was also a son of Phineas and a brother to John Milton Holmes. Calvin married Eliza Elvira (Ella) Huffman.

These men also had, as you must know, other brothers, one of whom was named Phineas Henderson Holmes.

P. Henderson Holmes accompanied Calvin on a few cattle drives to California, was himself a California pioneer, and he and his wife, Rebecca Means Huffman, are buried with their children in the Santa Rosa rural cemetery, an old and lovely cemetery in Santa Rosa.

By the way, Sherrie, three of these Holmes brothers married three "Huffman" sisters out of Texas. On October 9th, of this year, 2004, I just became a Daughter of the American Revolution, proving to John Huffman of Virginia. My national # is 830290.

[When he came here from Switzerland, he came to Pennsylvania. John Hoffman was a Revolutionary soldier, 5th, 11th and 15th Virginia Regiments. (Reference~War Department Adjutant General's Office in Washington, DC.) John Huffman served as Private in Lt. Col. John Cooper's Company 11th and 15th Virginia Regiments commanded successively by Lt.

Col. John Cooper and Col. Daniel Morgan's command.] I'm including this data here, Sherrie, since other Holmes descendants coming down from the three Holmes brothers who married the three Huffman sisters might be interested in joining the Sons of the American Revolution, or the Daughters of the American Revolution. I did a lot of very good research on my documentation so it is solid.

One of the reasons I wanted to "prove" my lineage to John Huffman was it was the closest I could get to laying down the HOLMES name, in terms of lineage, that connected to my father, Ovid Luttrell Holmes. It was a tribute to my dad whom I loved so much.

What I have that may be in your line is that John Milton and Susan E. Hardwicks son, William Henderson Holmes, b. ca. 1850, married Lena Harrison and they had a son, named Milton John Holmes, b. 05-Oct-1882, Decatur, Wise Co., TX. Etc. I might have actually gotten this information from you, Sherrie, but I don't really remember.

ABOUT THE FAMOUS TRIP!!!

6,000 MILES AND SEVENTEEN STATES!!!

Here's the part you might be interested in, cousin.

I had been stumped and still am, at finding information about Phineas Holmes' wife, Rachel Stewert. I also wanted to find out more about Phineas. His daughter, Sarah, b. 13-Feb-1811 in Bedford Co., TN, married her first cousin, Dysart Woods. This couple settled two miles northeast of town -Bentonville, Arkansas, when it was still a part of Washington County. Dysart Woods was a former county judge, the third in the county. He also was an engineer on the railroad train that went from Rogers to Bentonville and I don't know where else.

For some years, Sherrie, I had been communicating with Ms. Mary Marguess, an historian who works for the Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society [P.O. Box 796, Rogers, AR 72757]. I have sent her, from time to time information on the lineage of the Phineas Holmes family when I would have some little discovery, and I was looking forward to meeting her. And part of my quest was to hopefully find out where Phineas and Rachel might be buried, and where they had lived.

By the way, cousin, I made this trip with my loving companion and sixth-generation-removed cousin, Gene Edward Twyman. It is both very unusual and very wonderful that we have begun to share our lives and interests together. He is not a Holmes descendant. However, we are both descended from George Twyman who was a Patriot in the American Revolution. So Gene and I were hot on the genealogical trail of our various shared and different ancestors.

There had been a huge storm over the 4th of July week-end up there in Bentonville, Benton Co. Arkansas. Gene and I drove out there to check out the Benton County Historical Society, found it closed and noticed with horror that the storm had felled a tree on top of the roof of the society building which stands near the Peel Mansion. It was

closed. I think this was July the 5th. {By the way, I think Mary Marquess, who works for, and in the smaller building is actually a "Peel" descendant.}

Well, we went back on Tuesday, July 6th and with high spirits noticed that workmen had cleared away the tree and the quaint place was open. My ancestor, Calvin Hall Holmes was once a resident of this county ~Benton Co. AK~ and owned the land known as the "Burns" place south west of town. That was referenced in the 1905 "Obituaries of Benton County Arkansas."

Gene and I met Mary inside the Historical Society, and she is a warm, sweet, knowledgeable and lovely lady. While I was in there I happened to notice an oil painting of a creek up on the back wall, along with some others. I looked through the Holmes material and saw some I'd sent Mary years ago, but not much new from anyone else. I tried to convey to Mary what my interests were and she told me that she thought she could draw us a map of where to get to Osage Creek, as Phineas and Rachel Holmes settled on Osage Creek AR, by 1837. She could not remember all the names of the roads but she drew all the angles, and by golly, she was right! While I was still in the building and we were talking she pointed out the oil painting which I had noticed, and she said that was Osage Creek. It had been dammed up with huge blocks of granite? or stone, that were like large rectangular slabs of rock a foot or more thick and maybe six to twelve feet long. The dam was not real high, perhaps six feet or so. An important piece to remember is that you take the Mill Dam Road to Osage Creek. The Mill Dam Rd., or it might be called the Old Mill Road, ..well it's not the damn old road!... in any case it comes off from the highway at about a 90 degree angle, and on that corner, coming from town you turn to your left, there is a big old two story farm house of sorts painted white or grey. Then you wind out a pretty far piece in the county, through gentle rolling hills and mooing cows, stands of thick little trees and brush along small waterways. Because of the storm, which was furious over the weekend, we could see debris that had caught on the barbwire fences along where we traveled, though the road was no longer flooded to the degree it had been. Well, we wandered along, hoping we would find something and were about to turn around when we saw some huge county equipment ahead, tractors and big bulldozers. We parked the van and got out and walked forward and I caught my breath in delight! There was the real scene of Osage Creek from which the oil painting had been created. I wondered if I stood where my ancestors had, and was sure that I did. The county guys were clearing some trees that had fallen on and near the dam. The water spilled over the stones and flooded the road in front of them about a foot, or a foot and a half. As Gene and I stood there, ~me dreaming of the past~ a bare shirted, bare footed country boy came walking with his good dog out of a thicket by the creek. His name was Thomas Boyd. I struck up a conversation with him and he said his grandfather used to work for the people who had that old house up on the hill { he pointed across the creek and far away}. He said the house was one hundred years old, but he didn't know who originally build it. I don't either, Sherrie. He went on to point out not far from where we stood, just across the creek, where an old mill stood a long, long, time ago. Research states that Phineas Holmes had a mill on Osage Creek. I was thrilled! I brought a little rock, about the size of two fists, home with me from the creek to California. This was a

truly rewarding experience.

Before I finish here, there is something important I want to tell you. I could not find where Phineas or Rachel were buried. But this is what I learned from Mary and saw in the Benton Co. Historical Society building. Mary mentions in some data she sent me after I got home, Volume 6, #4 of the Benton County Pioneer, that "Later, more [unmarked] graves were found as the boundaries were measured." What Mary was referring to was the following data, and the REASON I think it is important, Sherrie, is that the HOLMES, WOODS, DYSART families had married into one another. Samuel Woods, who also fought in the Revolutionary War, had married Margaret Holmes. She was sister to James Holmes, who was the FATHER of Phineas Holmes who married Rachel Stewert. So many of these people were connected.

Here is what Mary sent:

BURIALS IN OLD DICKSON CEMETERY, ONE HALF MILE WEST OF BENTONVILLE
Robert Dickson, Born Sept. 1, 1773, Died Feb. 5, 1849

Joseph, son of Robert Dickson
and grandson of Gen. Joseph Dickson Died Oct. 24, 1845
Married Mary Hare in Tennessee May 30, 1821
Had six daughters and five sons.

Mary, wife of Joseph Dickson, Born April 8, 1803
Died March 11, 1869
"A Faithful Member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church."

Samuel Woods, Born Nov. 4, 1799 Died Sept. 23, 1871
Dysart Woods, Born Jan. 21, 1806 Died 1882
Sarah [HOLMES] wife of Dysart Woods, Born Feb. 18, 1810,
Died June 12, 1859

[I wonder why/if they died on the same day??]

Phineas H. Woods, Born Dec. 8, 1833 Died March 18, 1860
Mary A. Burns, wife of T.B. Burns, Born Oct. 18, 1806
Died March 17, 1870

Robert L. Burns, Born Oct. 17, 1832 Died Nov. 30, 1860
Rebecca L. Wooden, Born Dec. 5, 1824 Died Nov. 17, 1868
M. B. Kirby (No Data)
Infant son of D. & S. Woods, born and died Feb. 1839
~This is son of Dysart and Sarah Holmes Woods~
Infant son of D. & S. Woods, born and died March 9, 1852
~This is another son of Dysart and Sarah Holmes Woods~

There were no burials in this cemetery later than 1882.

What Mary said is that over time land developers cleared this land that the old cemetery was on. A lot of them didn't give any care to the headstones. Some people picked up some of the headstones out of a ditch years ago and took them home and later brought them in to the Benton Co. Historical Society building. The actual headstones I saw there and copied data from were those of Robert Dickson, listed above [his headstone says, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works follow them." also that of Mary, wife of Joseph Dickson; headstone for infant son of D & S. Woods b. and d. on March 29, 1852; and James F. son of J.W. and F. Grimes, born May 3, 1882, died July 18, 1882. His headstone says "sleep on sweet dove and heavenly rest, god called thee home, He thought it best."

Finally the last headstone leaning up against the wall was for: Thos. J. Maxwell, husband of L. B. Maxwell, born Feb 20, 1847, died September 14th, 1884. But since no burials were in the older cemetery after 1882, I don't know where this one came from, maybe Mary would know. But I have a wild hunch.

The only reference for the data below I got from from "The Backtracker" Arkansas Genealogical magazine found in LDS library, here in Sacramento, California. And it stated: "Miscellaneous information copied from documents and photographs at Seamster Museum, Benton Co., Arkansas. Copied and contributed by Mr. & Mrs. George Crabtree. The contents of the Museum have been sold at auction since being copied and present location of the items is unknown."

And, Sherrie, I really don't know how many years ago I noted this but I entered the stuff into my family treemaker file.

Michael Burkhalter Maxwell, born 22-Feb-1830 in Marion Co., TN, was buried in Bentonville, Arkansas. He was buried in Mount Eden or Maxwell Cemetery, 2 1/2 mi E. of B. on 102

His wife was America Jane Woods, born 17-Feb-1839 near Bentonville, AR. She died 25-Jan-1895, in Benton Co., AR -Rev. Peter Carnahan conducted the funeral service.

Now the thing about America Jane is that her father was William Harvey Woods, b.17-Jul-1811 in Preble Co., OH and her mother was Mary Greaves Dickson. So there is a Dickson connection. W.H. Woods died in 1880 and he/they lived . in Rogers and Pea Ridge area of AR, Benton Co. Some of the data I have says "TN -Some children buried in Woods Cemetery, Benton Co., AR." Apparently my source was Benton Co., AR (See Goodspeeds Hist. of Benton Co., AR).

My other research shows that Samuel Woods, Jr. was the father of William Harvey Woods. Samuel married Anna Purviance. (Her f. was John Purviance -b. 19 June, 1763 in Lancaster, PA, and (Her m. was Nancy Ferguson, b. 02 June, 1763 in Mechlenburg, N.C.) So if we

take the Woods line on back to connect into HOLMES, we find that the father of Samuel Woods, Jr. was Samuel Woods, Sr., (Capt. Rev. War), who married, yep! Margaret Holmes, daughter of John Holmes and Jennet Wilson, granddaughter of Dr. William Holmes [Gloucester, England. Of Lower Dublin Twp., Phil. Co., PN, 1734-1741] and Jane Mackintosh of England.

James Holmes, [who married Mary Nail] born Bef. 14-Jun-1747, was the son of John Holmes and Jennet Wilson, and the father of my old Phineas who wound up on Osage Creek in Benton Co., Arkansas.

There you go, cousin.

Anything new?

Happy Holidays and Warm Wishes~


Your HOLMES cousin

Kathryn Mero Holmes Lang




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Phineas Holmes ▼

 MEMORIES (../PEOPLE/7589530)


Dysart Woods ▼

 MEMORIES (../PEOPLE/7581812)


Sarah Elizabeth Holmes ▼

 MEMORIES (../PEOPLE/7580170)


Robert Dickson ▼

 MEMORIES (../PEOPLE/7581680)


Phineas H. Woods ▼

 MEMORIES (../PEOPLE/7736756)

Woods ▼

 MEMORIES (../PEOPLE/7736761)

Infant Woods ▼

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