

## CHILDRESS Line

The purpose of this report is to collect, organize and share my present knowledge about one line of descent in the family of my son-in-law. For this reason, collateral lines are not emphasized. I'm sharing this information in the hope of encouraging further research and contacts to create a more accurate genealogy. Please help me improve this.

1. **ISHAM CHILDRESS**, b. ca. 1800. Mrs. Ibera Oliver told me that Isham and Hannah Childress were the parents of Mary Ann Childress, first wife of George W. Bragg. Isham Childress is listed in the 1840 census of Spartanburg County and his family consisted of 1 male age 5-10, 2 m. 10-15, 1 m. 30-40, 2 females under 5, 1 f. 5-10, and 1 f. 30-40. The only Childress prior to that is John Childress in 1810 - 1830. On 1 Oct 1859, Sister Hannah Childress joined Abner Creek Baptist Church by experience; on 3 Jan. 1863, Brother Isham Childress was received by letter from Green Pond. They are both named on a membership list dated 1866, as were George and Mary Bragg, Ann and Pernatha Childress. [Abner Creek Church Records, 1834-1871, on micro film at Furman University]

In December, 1839, William Hughes, James Hendrick and Mary his wife, Thos. Wood, Esq., Martha Hughes, Nelly Hughes, Isham Childress and Ana Childress his wife, sold 108 acres on Abner's Creek, waters of Enoree River, to Eli Hughes. Isham Childress signed and Ana Childress made her mark. [Spartanburg County Deed Book 5P, page 545-546] On 17 Nov. 1916, J. R. Hughes made affidavit that he is the son of Eli Hughes, grantee in the 1839 deed, and that Eli Hughes died in March 1890, having lived on the land in the deed so long as the deponent can remember. The deponent is 60 years of age and was born on this place. Eli Hughes left no will and did not deed the property away. His heirs were William W. Hughes, Miss M. P. Hughes, Mrs. M. J. Childress, and J. R. Hughes. Two of Eli's children were dead -- one dying in infancy before Eli Hughes and the other, Thomas Jefferson Hughes, died since Eli Hughes, leaving surviving him the following children: W. B. Hughes, Mary Alice McHugh, Elizabeth May Hughes, Mrs. Leila Ballenger, and Robert L. Hughes. All five children were over 21 years of age. "My said brother[']s wife predeceased him, leaving no will." Mrs. M. J. Childress also agreed that the affidavit was correct.

I want to work on the identification of these people because of the connection to the Childress line. [check for obituaries] Perhaps Ana or Hannah Childress was a member of the Hughes family.

Eli Hughes (1811 - 22 March 1890) and his wife Louisa Waters (1821 - 7 Aug. 1899) are buried at Sharon Methodist Church about 2 miles from Reidville.

Mary P. Hughes (1844 - 7 Sept. 1918), dau. of Eli Hughes is also buried there.

William Washington Hughes (1841 - 1923) and his wife Martha W. Pearson (1847 - 28 March 1922) are also buried there.

John Roddy Hughes (1856 - 20 Nov. 1917) and his wife Josephene Brown (1864 - Dec. 1942) are buried at Abner Creek.

Martha Jane Hughes Childress (1848 - 18 Sept. 1931) and her husband A. C. Childress (1841 - 15 Feb. 1923) are buried at Abner Creek.

T. Jeffie Hughes (1861 - 8 May 1899) and his wife Mary Ella Jackson (1867 - 4 Feb. 1896) are buried at Sharon.<sup>16</sup>

The 1850 census of Spartanburg Co. lists the family of Eli Hughes (age 39), wife Susan, age 30, with children Mary (age 8), Robert (age 6), Susan (age 3), Martha (age 2), and Wm. Washington (age 10). [From Gilbert's 1850 census of Spartanburg Co.] In the 1860 census, family 1032, Sparta P. O., Eli was age 45, his wife Louisa was 36, and children were Wm., 18, Mary, 17, Robert, 15, Martha, 13, John, 3, and also Mary Hendricks, age 60. He apparently had lost his first wife and married Louisa.

Deed Book 5Q, p. 293, contains the record of the sale of this same land by William W. Hughes, J. R. Hughes, W. B. Hughes, Mary Alice McHugh, Elizabeth May Hughes, Mrs. Leila Ballenger and Robert L. Hughes to Miss M. P. Hughes and Mrs. M. J. Childress, "the grantors and grantees all being the heirs at law of the said Eli Hughes". The deed was made 17 Nov. 1916.

The Isham Childress family appears in the 1850 census of Spartanburg County :  
842/842

Isham Childers	50
Sally	48
Thomas	25
Betsy	20
James	18
Susan	15
Caroline	12
John	6
James	4
Sally	2

---

<sup>16</sup> All this burial information is from Gilbert, Horace E. and Dusterhoft, Rodney, Alphabetical Listing of Approximately 7,400 Names of Persons Buried in Various Family and Church Cemeteries Located in Spartanburg and Greenville Counties, South Carolina but primarily in Reidville Township, Spartanburg County, South Carolina. (Cincinnati, Ohio, 1996)

843/843

Thomas Childress, age 23

Caroline Childress, age 23

(Is this the same Thomas as in Isham's family?? Even more importantly, is this wife, Sally, a different person from Isham's wife listed below and where is the 1850 record of the son, Anderson Crowell Childress? The census clearly lists the name John at his age slot.)

Isham Childress and family appear in the 1860 census of Spartanburg County  
p. 395 1384

Isham Childers	57 m. Tenant	Fort Prince P.O.
Andrew [?]	54 f.	[name verified from census]
Pemothi [?]	19 f.	
Anderson C.	18 m., laborer	
Hannah E.	16 f.	

The 1870 census of Reidville township, Spartanburg County, lists  
p 547 278/278

Isham Childress	68, white male farmer can't read or write, b. SC
Anne	62, white female can't read or write, b. SC
Parmathi	25, white female can't write
Nellie Hughes	age 70, white female

Thus, there is difficulty in these census abstracts in following a consistent pattern for the family of Isham Childress. Did he have only one wife? Where is Anderson C. Childress in the 1850 census? I found no estate settlement in Spartanburg County for Isham Childress.

#### Children of Isham and Hannah (\_\_\_\_\_) Childress

2.
  - i. Mary Ann Childress
  - ii. Parmathi[ ?] Childress. Panathi Childress, b. 1840, age 60, is listed in the 1900 census of Reidville Twp., Spartanburg County [ED 96, sheet 11] as a sister of Anna Leonard, b. 1845, age 54, widow.
3.
  - iii. Anderson Croell Childress, b. 1842
  - iv. Anna (or Hannah) Childress, b. 1843. Gilbert (Alphabetical Listings of ...) shows Hannah E. (Childers) Leonard (24 Dec. 1843 - 8 July 1923) and her husband Newton Jasper Leonard (21 June 1846 - 30 Jan. 1894) as buried at Sharon Church. I did not find her death record, 1915 - 1934. She is listed in the 1910 census of Reidville Twp. [ED 96, Sheet 11], as a 54 year-old widow (born Dec. 1845) who had had ten children of whom eight were still living and three were still at home.

2. **MARY ANN CHILDRESS**, daughter of Isham Childress, married George W. Bragg. See the BRAGG LINE.

3. **ANDERSON CROELL [CROWELL] CHILDRESS**, son of Isham Childress, is first located in the public records when he was listed, as age 18, in the 1860 census record of the family of Isham Childress.

Anderson C. Childress served in the Civil War as a member of Company C, 22nd Regt. of SC Volunteers under Capt. Hendrix. In his application for a South Carolina Confederate pension on 15 Sept. 1919 [he had already been on the pension roll for several years but the law had been recently revised], he stated that he had enlisted in 1861 and served until 1865, that he had been discharged at Elmira, NY, in July 1865, that he was born 12 Aug. 1841, that he resided at Route 1, Spartanburg, and that he and his wife had an income of less than \$500 and property valued at less than \$1000. His application was also signed by W. W. Hughes, Co. C, 22nd SC, and Wm McElrath, Co. B, 13th SC. In the Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers from the State of South Carolina, 22nd infantry, Cos. C-E, there are several records of A. C. Childress, including the fact that he was on the muster roll of Jan. 10, 1862, had enlisted Jan. 10, 1862 for three years or the war, that he was absent on furlough for 10 days since 22 Oct. 1863, that he was promoted to 3 Corporal, 23 Nov. 1863, present on muster rolls for Nov. & Dec., 1863, for Jan. & Feb. 1864, was promoted to 3rd sergeant from corporal on 1 June 1864, captured near Petersburg on July 20, 1864, absent from muster Nov. & Dec. 1864, Jan. & Feb. 1865, transferred to Elmira, NY, Aug. 8, 1864, rec'd at Elmira 12 Aug. 1864 from Point Lookout, MD, and released 3 Feb. 1865. He took the Oath of Allegiance at Elmira on 3 July 1865, with residence at Cherryville, NC. He had florid complexion, light hair, grey eyes and was 5' 5" in height. One note says he deserted at Branchville, SC, 17 May 1863.

Thomas Childress also enlisted 10 Jan 1862 and died in the hospital at Richmond on or about 23 Oct. 1862. He was 5' 10" tall and his age is unclear (when?) 33, 35 or 53, perhaps. His widow was Artelisa (also Hartley) of Reidville, SC. The family of Thomas Childers, age 32, and Artesie[?], age 35 is listed in the 1860 census of the southern division of Spartanburg County.

By 1870, A. C. Childress was married and listed in the census of Reidville twp., Spartanburg County, as:

p. 536, P. O. Glenn Springs

Anderson Childers	27	m. farmer	b. SC
Margaret	27	f. keep. house	b. SC
David	2	m.	
Simpson Coan	25	m. black, laborer	

The 1880 census of Reidville township, Spartanburg County, shows the family as follows:  
135/135

Croel Childress	30	farmer
Elizabeth	24,	wife, keeps house
David	12,	son, farm labor

Elizabeth      7, dau  
 Etta            2(?), dau

Spartanburg County Probate Court file 4542 yields the following information. Ila Duncan and Olive Childress, minors over fourteen, residing with their father and having no general guardian, are entitled to \$134.84 from the estate of William Hendrix. A. C. Childress was made guardian. Ila was 20 years old on 10 Feb. 1902 and Olive was 14 years old on 2 Jan. 1902, The report was filed on 14 Oct. 1901. On 12 Feb. 1903, “now of age”, Ila Duncan signed as past the age of twenty-one, for the receipt of \$118.65, the remaining part of her inheritance. Olive Childress signed on 15 Jan. 1908. I did not find the estate of a William Hendrix <sup>17</sup> to connect with this record. Childress had served under a Capt. Hendricks in the Civil War. The 1860 census of Spartanburg County, family 1031, P. O. Sparta, lists the family of W. W. Hendrix, age 39, wife Ann, age 28, and children Simon, 13, James, 10, Wm., 9, Mary, 7, and Charity, 1.

The 1900 census of Reidville Twp., Spartanburg County (ED 96, sheet 8), lists:  
 Anderson Childress    b. Aug. 1842, age 57, m. 18 years  
 Martha J. Childress    b. Aug. 1849, age 50 m. 18 years, no children  
     Olive                    b. Jan. 1887, age 13, dau  
     Walter B.                b. May 1885, age 15, nephew  
     Mary A.                  b. Nov. 1886, age 13, niece  
     Lizzie M.                b. Jan. 1891, age 9, niece  
     Robert L.,                b. June 1894, age 7, nephew  
     Mary Hughes          b. Mar. 1846, age 54, single, sis-in-law,

On 4 Jan. 1908 [Spartanburg County Deed Book 4M p. 407], A. C. Childress, Etta Dupree, Ella Chapman, Ila Duncan and Olive Childress of Spartanburg County, for \$400, sold to I. T. Wilson, “all that tract or parcel of land, situate and being on Abner Creek, waters of Enoree River, being the homestead of the late W. W. Hendrix,” 55 acres, described. Mrs. Martha Childress, wife of A. C. Childress, was examined separately.

The 1910 census of Spartanburg County (ED85, sheet 23 A) lists:  
 Croel Childress, age 68, m. 3 times, this time for 12 y.  
     He was a Civil War Veteran and owned 400 acres  
 Martha J., age 62, wife, m once, 12 yr, no children  
 Mary Hughes, 65, single, sister-in-law  
 Alice Hughes, 23, niece, single

---

<sup>17</sup> W. W. Hendrix wrote his will March 1862 and it was probated by his widow, Ann H. Hendrix, 17 Nov. 1865. By 1 Oct 1866, she had married Aaron M? Sherbert. The will mentions making an equal division of the estate among his children if his wife remarries before the youngest is of age but the names of the children are not in the estate record. [Spartanburg County Probate Judge Estate Papers, no. 2448, microfilm, Spartanburg County Library].

Lizzie Hughes, 18, niece, single  
Lelia Hughes, 16, niece, single  
Robert Hughes, 14, nephew, single

The Spartanburg Herald of 17 Aug. 1910 devoted considerable space to the meeting of Confederate Veterans and in a biographical listing of the Confederate Soldiers of South Carolina said (page 4):

“CHILDRESS, CROWELL - Born July 5, 1843, Spartanburg County. Enlisted 1861, Co. C, 22d S. C. Reg. Capts. W. Hendrix, A. Wakefield, T. J. Wakefield, and Edward Dreary. Was in prison at Elmira, N. Y., at the close of the War. Farmer.”

The 1920 census of Reidville Township, Spartanburg County (ED 94 sheet 12A) lists:

Robert Hughes	24 single
Martha Childress	72, aunt, married
Anderson C. Childress	78, uncle, married
Barney Smith	48, hired man, black

Another 1920 census listing in Reidville Township, Spartanburg County [ED 96 sheet 2A] is:

Anderson C. Childress, age 78  
Marthy Jane Childress, age 72, wife

followed by [sheet 2B] Robert L. Hughes, age ?, head, single, and Barney Smith, age 19?, black, head.

Spartanburg County Probate Court file 7421 yields the following information:

A. C. Childress, late of Spartanburg County, died intestate 15 Feb. 1923. His estate, valued at \$300, consisted of notes, a pony, a cow, household goods, etc. His surviving heirs at law were his wife, Martha Jane Childress, and four children: D. W. Childress, Mrs. Lizzie Smith, Mrs. Ella Chapman, and Mrs. Ila Duncan, deceased. Ila Duncan had two children, Daisy Duncan, age 19 years, and George Duncan, age 17 years. R. L. Hughes of Duncan, SC, requested that letters be granted to D. H. Smith, 3 March 1923. He listed the estate as including 22.25 acres at \$40 per acre, 1 sorrel mare, 1 Jersey cow, 1 buggy, a one-horse wagon, etc. Items were purchased by D. H. Smith, W. A. Chapman, T. J. Hendrix, Joe Hughes, Mrs. Childress, G. T. Coggins, et. al

The SC death record 1923-3289 shows that Anderson Crowel Childress died in Reidville twp., Spartanburg Co. on 15 Feb. 1923, was born 2 Aug. 1841 and was age 81 yr., 6 m., 13 d. He was born in South Carolina, was the son of Isham Childress, also born in SC. Informant Robert Hughes of Greer did not know the name of his mother. He was buried at Abner Creek on 16 Feb. 1923 by John D. Wood, undertaker. I was unable to find an obituary for him in the Spartanburg Herald or the Spartanburg Journal. The record at Wood Mortuary lists no family information but shows that the bill was paid by Robert Hughes of Duncan.

SC death record 1931-16593 says that Martha Hughes Childress, wife of A. C. Childress and daughter of Eli Hughes and Louisa Waters, was born 7 Aug. 1848 and died 18 Sep. 1931, age 83

yr, 1 m., 12 d., of arterio-sclerosis, cardio-renal insufficiency and apoplexy.

Anderson C. Childress and other members of his family are buried at Abner Creek:

Anderson C. Childress, b. 6 Aug 1841, d. 15 Feb. 1923

Martha Jane Hughes Childress, b. 07 Aug. 1848, d. 18 Sept. 1931

[They share a single, nice, large, white stone]

Elizabeth Childress, d. Sept. 1886, age 34

wife of A. C. Childress. "She was a kind and affectionate wife and mother and friend to all"

William O. Childress, d. 02 Jan. 1886, age 4 mos., son of A. C. and Elizabeth Childress

Elizabeth and William are buried in a separate row but not far from A. C. Childress.

Thus, the records support the note from the 1910 census that A. C. Childress was married three times. In 1870, his wife is listed as Margaret, who was born about 1843 and is the apparent mother of David and of Elizabeth, whose death record should be examined. By 1880, he had married Elizabeth, who was born about 1852 and died in 1886 and is the apparent mother of Etta, Ella, Ila, Wm. O., and Olive. She was Elizabeth Hendrix, b. ca. 1852 and perhaps will be shown to be a daughter of Wm. W. Hendrix. By 1900, he had married Martha J. Hughes (1848-1931) who never had children. This conflicts slightly with the 1887 birth date for Olive.

Children of A. C. and Margaret (\_\_\_\_\_) Childress

i. David Childress, b. 1868 (from 1870 census); living in New York City, 1934 and 1940

ii. Mrs. Lizzie Smith. Elizabeth Childress Smith (15 Feb. 1873 - 15 Dec. 1934) and David Henry Smith (12 May 1870 - 30 July 1949) are buried at Woods Chapel. [Gilbert, Alphabetical Listing ...] Her obituary in the Spartanburg Herald Journal of Sun., 16 Dec. 1934, says that she died at 7:30 Saturday morning, age 61, at her home on Route 5, Greer. She "was the wife of Henry Smith, and was a member of a well known Spartanburg County family. She was the daughter of the late A. C. and Margaret McMurry<sup>18</sup> Childress and was a member of the Woods Chapel Methodist Church ... Surviving are her husband; one brother D. W. Childress of New York City; two half sisters, Mrs W. C. Chapman and Mrs. Olive Johnson, both of Greer, Route 5; also four nieces and two nephews." Her death record gives the above dates, says she died at age 61 y, 10 m. 0 d, of myocarditis, was the wife of D. H. Smith and daughter of A. C. Childress and Margaret McMurray, both born in SC. She was buried at Woods Chapel by John D. Wood..<sup>19</sup>

Children of A. C. and Elizabeth (Hendrix) Childress

iii. Mrs. Etta Dupree, b. ca. 1878

iv. Mrs. Ella Chapman. Her obituary in the Spartanburg Herald of Wed., 21 Aug. 1940, says she died suddenly on Monday night (i.e. 19 Aug. 1940) at her home near

<sup>18</sup> The obituary in The Journal and Carolina Spartan, 15 Dec. 1934, page 5, give this name as Margaret Murray.

<sup>19</sup> SC Death Record 1934-20762, SC Archives, Columbia, SC.

Greer and was to be buried at Abner Creek Baptist Church. She was Mrs. Ella Childress Chapman, age 69, daughter of the late A. C. and Elizabeth Hendrix Childress and survived by her husband William A. Chapman and three children: Lee Chapman of Tigerville and two daughters Mrs. Harvey Jones and Mrs. Paul Jones, both of Greer, Route 1. She was also survived by a half brother, Dave Childress of New York City, and ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Her age here, 69, conflicts with the pattern I have created. However, her death record corrects this. She was a white, female, housewife, married to William A. Chapman, and daughter of A. C. Childress and Elizabeth Hendrix. It says she was born 7 July 1880 and died 19 Aug. 1940, of coronary thrombosis and buried at Abner Creek by the Wood Mortuary.<sup>20</sup> The family of W. A. Chapman, 43, and wife Ella, 38, with several children, is listed in Reidville Twp, Spartanburg County, 1920 census, ED 95, Sheet 2B. Among the children is an 18 year old son, Landrum Chapman, who later married Lavada Bragg. With the family of W. A. Chapman is his mother, Eliza, at age 65.

4.
  - v. Ila Childress Duncan, b. ca. 1882.
  - vi. William O. Childress, b. 1885, d. 2 Jan. 1886
  - vii. Olive Childress Johnson, b. Jan. 1887 She is listed in the 1910 census of Spartanburg County (ED 85 sheet 23A, family 387/396) in the family of Henry Smith as follows:
    - Henry Smith, age 39, m. once, for 18 years
    - Elizabeth age 37, m. 18 y, no children
    - Olive Childress, age 2\_?, sister-in-law
    - Lutha Drummond, age 20, male, black, servant
    - Will Shaw age 10, male, black, servant
    - Anderson Cunningham, age 18, male, black, servant

Her death certificate says she was born 2 Jan. 18?7 [the tens digit has been overwritten and looks like a 7 over a 6] and died on 4 July 1936, her age as 39 y 6 m 2 d (consistent with birth in 1897, but presumably corrected by the obituary). She was a daughter of A. C. Childress and Elizabeth Hendrix and buried at Abner Creek by Wood Mortuary. She died in Spartanburg General Hospital of cerebral hemorrhage and listed as married but “no record” of husband. The informant was D. H. Smith of Greer.<sup>21</sup> Her obituary appeared in the Greenville News, 5 July 1936, p. A5 and stated that she was Mrs. Olive C. Johnson, age 49, of Greer, Route 5. She was a daughter of the late A. C. and Elizabeth Hendrix Childress. She had lived at the home of D. H. Smith a number of years and had spent her entire life in the community. She was a member of Abner Creek Baptist Church

<sup>20</sup> SC death record, 1940-13517, SC Archives, Columbia, SC.

<sup>21</sup> SC Death Certificate 1936-11577, SC Archives, Columbia, SC.



ans was survived by one daughter, Lucille Johnson, one sister, Mrs. W. A. Chapman, and one half brother, D. W. Childress.

4. **ILA or "Eilar" CHILDRESS** was the first wife of Joseph Duncan. See the DUNCAN LINE.

---

<sup>22</sup> Forrester, Penny "Greenville District Probate Judge Real Estate Book, Vol. 2", Greenville Chapter [SCGS Journal, Vol. 7, No. 1&2, (Spring and Summer, 1996).