

Phillips Family

1. **WILLIAM PHILLIPS.** This line begins with a William Phillips who died about 1839 in Yancey Co., NC. William Phillips is not a distinctive name for that time and place, but it is hoped that the records here do form a consistent record of one family and will lead to the discovery of further proofs and family connections.

William Phillips heads the family line reported by Jason B. Deyton¹. The immediately relevant statements include:

"John Garrison Phillips, born August 2, 1850; son of William Lafayette and Susan Wiseman Phillips; born at the John McKinney place, near the trail of John Sevier's men to King's Mountain; named for his grandfather who was the son of William Phillips. His grandmother was a Cox, sister to Isaac and Dave. His mother, Susan, was a daughter of Bedford and Polly Chambers Wiseman. Bedford was a son of William Wiseman, the first of the tribe to come into the mountains. Not exactly sure about Polly Chambers; may have been Polly Cresaun.

"John Garrison Phillips, grandfather, lived at foot of the mountain back of the Berry place, at what was known as the John Wiseman place. ... John Garrison was a magistrate and a prohibitionist ... his people came from some eastern county; was probably born at what is now known as the Bud Washburn place just below Altapass. member of Yancey Co. court."

On 28 June 1828, Thrower Phillips, William Phillips, Willis Phillips, and Patsey Phillips were among those contracting for a school teacher on Jacks Creek of (then) Buncombe County. They had 1 pupil each.²

On 15 March 1836, James Davenport sold 50 acres on Squirrel Creek at Toe River to William Phillips. J. G. Phillips was one witness.³

On 30 Jan. 1838, William Phillips made a deed to his son Lazarus H. Phillips, both of Yancey County. This deed conveyed 115 acres on the Toe River in Yancey Co., mentions "my old tract" and the dwelling house of L. H. Phillips. It was signed in the presence of J. G. Phillips.⁴

¹ Deyton, Jason B., "Interview with John Garrison Phillips, 1850-1945, December 9, 1942". This is a typescript of an interview that Deyton had with his father-in-law. It relates family stories and local history.

² Families of Yancey County, NC, vol. 1 (1984) #2, p. 36. Taken from Common Times, Written and Pictorial History of Yancey County (2nd printing, 1982).

³ Williams, Sally, "Index and Abstract of Deeds of Yancey Co., NC, Deed Book 1" (Medford, OR, 1985). From Deed Book 1, p. 172.

⁴ Williams, Sally, "Index ...", from Deed book 1, p. 347.

On 10 March 1838, William Phillips sold to Thomas Wilson 150 acres on Toe River at the edge of a Laurel Swamp.⁵ This is the same land that Phillips purchased from Davenport in 1836.

On 17 Oct. 1838, William Phillips sold 130 acres on Roses Creek at Big Meadows to John Vance.⁶

In 1840, John G. Phillips was administrator of William Phillips and presented a list of property sold on 23 Nov. 1839.⁷ Among those at the sale were L. H. Phillips, James Phillips, Henderson Phillips, and Bedford Wiseman. [Maybe I should consider this more strongly as an indication that L. H. and Henderson are not the same person.] Also mentioned in Yancey Co. Deed book 1, p. 308 on 25 Jan. 1840 is "John G. Phillips administrator on the estate of Wm. Phillips decd".⁸

The 1840 census of Yancey Co. shows the following family heads named Phillips:⁹

Carson Phillips, 1 m. 20-30

William Phillips, 1 m <5, 1 m 5-10, 1 m 30-40, 2 f <5, 1 f 5-10, 1 f 30-40

William Phillips, 1 m <5, 1 m 20-30, 2 f < 5, 1 f 20-30

William Phillips, 1 m 20-30

H. W. Phillips, 2 m <5, 2 m 5-10, 1 m 10-15, 1 m 15-20, 1 m 30-40, 1 f <5, 1 f 5-10, 1 f 30-40

Delila Phillips, 1 m < 5, 1 f 20-30

John Phillips, 1 m < 5, 1 m 20-30, 1 f <5, 1 f 20-30

L. H. Phillips, 1 m <5, 1 m. 30-40, 1 f < 5, 1 f 20-30, 1 f 60-70

J. G. Phillips, 2 m < 5, 1 m 5-10, 1 m 10-15, 1 m 30-40, 1 f <5 [or 5-10], 1 f 10-15, 1 f 30-40.

Lazarus Phillips, Sr. 2 m 5-10, 1 m 10-15, 1 m 40-50, 1 f < 5, 1 f 10-15, 2 f 15-20, 1 f 40-50

If the wife of William Phillips is in one of this families, it must be that of L. H. Phillips. However, she had probably died before William.

Since Yancey County was formed from Burke and Buncombe in 1833, the logical earlier place to seek William Phillips would be the 1830 census of one of these counties. It turns out, of course, that there is at least one William Phillips in each county.

The most likely candidate for "our" William Phillips in the 1830 census is in Burke Co. In the 4th Regiment, among neighbors like Bedford and Alexander Wiseman, John and Arthur Green, James Howell, Jackson Steward, David and Isaac Cox, and John Mullins (all familiar names in Yancey Co. of a few years later) were the following Phillips families:

⁵ Williams, Sally, "Index ... ", from Deed book 1, p. 214.

⁶ Williams, Sally, "Index ... ", from deed book 1, p. 367.

⁷Yancey County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Feb. term, 1840, recorded in Yancey Co. wills, 1834 - 1869, p. 47.

⁸ Williams, Sally, "Index ...".

⁹ This is a composite from my old notes and requires a careful re-study of the entire county. Other Phillips are also in the record.

- p. 196 John G. Phillips :male 2 - - - 1 :female 1 - - - 1
 (with three young children, he and his wife were 20-30)
 (according to another reading, this was 2 m <5, 1 m 15-20, 1 m. 20-30, 1 f< 5, 1 f 20-30)
- p. 197 Lazarth Phillips : male - 1 2 1 - 1 : female 2 1 - 2 1
 (these parents were age 30 - 40)
- p. 197 Wm. Phillips : male - - - 1, 1 - - 1 :female 1 1 - - - 1
 (oldest male was 50-60, oldest female 20-30)

In the 3rd Regiment of Buncombe Co., 1830 census, I have found at least two families headed by a William Phillips. In the same area lived several Deaton families and S. D. Poore -- all later Yancey Co. residents.

William Phillips : - - 1 2 1 - - - 1 :female - - - - - 1

(he was 60 -70, she was 40-50)

William Phillips : male - - - 1 1 - 1 :female - 2 1 - - 1

(he was 40 - 50, she was 30 - 40)

Buncombe Co., which has more extant records than Burke, but where I have done little research, has many Phillips families in earlier census records including at least two headed by a William and three by a Lazarus. On 1 March 1832, a deed for land on Jacks Creek in (then) Buncombe Co. mentions the line between Lazarus Phillips (dec'd) and Thomas Phillips.¹⁰

Children of William Phillips and _____

2. Lazarus Henderson Phillips
3. John Garrison Phillips

2. **Lazarus Henderson Phillips**, as I presume his full name to be, was referred to in the John G. Phillips interview.¹¹ "Uncle Henderson, grandfather's brother, liked Little Bill, came near killing grandfather because he whipped little Bill for not keeping a pet deer out of the garden. The deer would dart back and forth and get in the garden in spite of Little Bill's efforts. His father whipped him severely and Henderson threatened to kill grandfather; did kill the deer. Henderson entered the Bogue Vance place, always had something to sell. Cleared a new ground every year and hunted otters, minks, coons, muskrats on the side; caught some beavers too. His money crops were ginseng, 10 cents a pound, venison hams and skins."

It is difficult to identify this man in the census with any certainty and thus to estimate his age. He may have been the one who was age 30-40 in 1830, 40 -50 in 1840 or the younger man, L. H.

¹⁰ Williams, Sally, "Index ...", from Deed Book 1, p. 7.

¹¹ Deyton, Jason B., see note 1.

Phillips who was 30 - 40 in 1840. The 1850 census of Yancey Co. includes the following family, living next to our Wm. L. Phillips, age 24:

Lazarus H. Phillips	age 44
Jason W.	12
Joseph T.	9
William B.	4
Zachary T.	1 ¹²
Myra	30
Mary E.	13
Sarah A.	6

In the 1860 census of Yancey Co., as L. H. Phillips, he was age 57, with wife Elivra, age 32. In the 1870 census of Jones Ridge, Mitchell Co., as Henderson Phillips, age 55, with wife Miry, age 52, he lived near Taylor [i.e. Zachary Taylor] Phillips, age 22, and wife Sarah, 16. I shall not further detail the children in the census record as I feel unsure of having the same man.

3. **JOHN GARRISON PHILLIPS** was born, probably in Burke Co., NC, on 24 Sept. 1802 and died 8 Aug. 1891.¹³

“There are conflicting stories about a John Garrison Phillips and wife coming from Virginia to Mitchell County with their children, staying a while and returning to Virginia; the other story is they came from Wilkes County and settled permanently in Mitchell County near Spruce Pine.”¹⁴

"John Garrison Phillips, grandfather, lived at the foot of the mountain back of the Berry place, at what was known as the John Wiseman place. Settled there perhaps because seasons were short and most land uncleared. Was necessary to get on the sunny side of the mountain above frost line; killing frosts at such places as Old Field of Toe where Newland is now located in every month of the year. John Garrison was a magistrate and a prohibitionist; didn't use any liquors himself. His people came from some eastern county; was probably born at what is now known as Bud Washburn place just below Altapass. Farmed, but was greatly interested in politics; member of Yancey County Court. Went to Arkansas about 1844 [perhaps a little later -- DWO], taking my father, Little Bill, with him, who stayed for one year and came back and lived with his sister Minerva Blalock, wife of David Blalock, brother of Tillman, both of whom were away in the

¹² Z. T. Phillips m. Sarah Whitehead, 17 Nov. 1869, per Mitchell County marriage records. In 1964, Mrs. W. B. Kester told me that her father, Z. T. Phillips, was a first cousin of James C. “Big Pappy” Phillips. This is not in agreement with my current construction of the family.

¹³ Mrs. Opal Morrow, Yellville, Ark., to Dan Olds, letter dated 28 Aug. 1974. quoted in more detail later.

¹⁴ An unsigned article, “Phillips”, in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

Mexican war at the time. Little Bill was 20 or 21 at the time of his return from Arkansas."

"Soon after the death of his first wife John Garrison came back from Arkansas and married Dave Cox's daughter, and went back to Arkansas. Wanted to take me with him but said it appeared that I meant business here and would make good. His address was Yelva, Marion County, Arkansas. Disinherited Billie for leaving him. Offered to pay my expenses to Washington Territory for a 640-acre claim, but I thought too much of myself to accept money for nothing. Preferred to stay here anyway."

John Garrison Phillips is probably listed in the family of a William Phillips in the 1810 and 1820 federal censuses. Such a listing can be found both in Buncombe and in Burke counties. He probably married Sarah Cox in Burke Co. by 1825. By the time of the 1830 census, listed above, they appear to have had three young children. By 1840 there were more.

John G. Phillips was appointed a road commissioner for Yancey Co. in 1834.¹⁵ On 18 Feb. 1834, Joshua Young served notice that on the 22nd day of the next month a deposition would be taken at the house of John G. Phillips in Yancey Co. Young was a defendant in the suit and Roland Duncan and wife Judith were complainants. Phillips seems not to have been involved and this may be related to the statement that he was on the Yancey Co. Court. In June of 1834, Lazarus, William and Garrison Phillips were among those summoned for jury duty in Yancey Co.¹⁶

John G. Phillips entered a state land grant in Yancey County on 20 Nov. 1835 and he bought land from David Vance on 8 Jan. 1839.¹⁷

On 27 July 1837, John G. Phillips and Sarah his wife, of Yancey Co., together with James McTaggart and Olive his wife, Isaac N. Cox and David N. Cox of Burke County sold land in Yancey Co. to Isaac Cox. This land was the undivided part of the estate of William Cox, deceased, and owned by the legatees of the said William Cox. James McTaggart had 1 share, John G. Phillips had 1 share, and Isaac N. and David N. Cox had three shares.¹⁸

In Oct., 1837, John G. Phillips and B. J. Smith were appointed to lay out the year's provision for P. Williams, widow of J. P. Williams.¹⁹

On 29 Nov. 1838, John G. Phillips had a state grant of 50 acres in Yancey Co. on "Jimeash

¹⁵ Deyton, Jason Basil, "History of Toe River Valley", (1931, his thesis, at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill).

¹⁶ Families of Yancey County, NC, vol. 1 (1984), p. 64, from Yancey Co. Court minutes.

¹⁷ Yancey County deed index, Burnsville, NC.

¹⁸ Yancey Co. Deed book 1, p. 224. This Cox family is treated more fully in another paper. I have, however, never figured out the conditions which would explain this distribution of shares.

¹⁹ Families of Yancey County, NC, vol. 1 (1984), p. 64, from Yancey County Court Minutes.

branch".²⁰

On 8 Jan. 1839, David Vance sold two tracts of land on Jacks Creek to John G. Phillips. They had been granted by the state to Hubbard Blalock.²¹

Private John G. Phillips enlisted in Co. G of the 12th Regt but transferred to Co. D on 1 Jan. 1848. He "d. June 24, '48" -- I presume that means discharged. Company D of the 1st Regt. of foot volunteers was organized by Captain Tilman Blalock at Yancey in Jan. 1847 and called into U.S. Service 14 Feb. 1847, honorably discharged at Smithville, 7 Aug. 1848.²²

Mrs. Opal Morrow of Yellville, Ark., knew of this family. "The Phillips and my father and mother were the best of friends. My mother is 83 years old. They never knew this family I have listed [John G., his first wife and 3 children in 1850 census of Marion Co.]. His second wife was Aunt Olive to them. Mother said John G. and Olive L. (Cox) was the parents of one son his name was also John. My father and mother was married in 1910, and had rented a farm from young John Phillips, and had been moved to it just 2 months when he died. He died young only 35 years old. He was a school teacher and farmer. in order to get the dates right I went back to the little cemetery today. They are buried on the farm where they lived, just 5 graves in the little cemetery. This is the dates.

John Garrison Phillips	Olive L. Phillips
b. Sept. 24, 1802	b. May 19, 1841
d. Aug. 8, 1891	d. Oct. 19, 1908

John N. Phillips	his wife Ethel (Covington) Phillips
b. Dec. 17, 1875	b. Dec. 17, 1880
b. Dec. 6, 1910	d. Dec. 20, 1948

"They (John and Ethel) had five daughters their youngest girl Marion is buried in the little cemetery she was born in 1908 - d. 1927. Mother said he named her Marion after Marion, N. C.

"We wonder where his (John G.) first wife is buried also his first children."²³

On 10 Aug. 1977, Mrs. Morrow sent me further information on the family from the 1976

²⁰ Williams, Sally, "Index ... ", from Deed book 1, p. 294.

²¹ Yancey Co. Deed book 1, p. 288, in "Index and Abstract of Deeds of Yancey Co., NC, Deed Book 1" by Sally Williams (1985). She gives one witness as S. H. Phillips, although in the present context L. H. Phillips seems a possibility.

²² Roster of N. C. Troops in the War with Mexico (1887), p. 43 et. al.

²³ Morrow, Opal, Yellville, Ark., to Dan W. Olds, letter dated 28 Aug. 1974.

history of Marion County. The Phillips entry was written by Louise Phillips Yount.

"John Garreston [sic] Phillips (1802 - 1891) came to Marion County during [actually well before --DWO] the Civil War. He and his first wife Sarah (1804 - 1864) homesteaded the Phillips farm three miles south of Yellville. He had three tenant farmers who did most of the farming, since his main interest was mining potassium nitrate that was being used for making ammunition for the Civil War. He had slaves and they worked the farm and in the mines. Some of the slaves are buried on the farm on a knoll east of the farm house.

"Before the war ended, he took his slaves to New Orleans and sold all of them. The \$30,000 in gold he received for them is purportedly buried on the farm. He hid it there and when he returned home after being held prisoner by the Union Army he could not remember where the gold was hidden. His wife had passed away and no one else knew the whereabouts of the gold.

"Mr. Phillips had seven children by his first wife, most of whom passed away when they were young. James Phillips, his son, married Nancy Wood. They had one son James. He married Mat Dodson. They had seven children. Matilda Phillips, daughter of John G. Phillips, married Wils Williams, son of Polly Hurst and Shelte Williams, Matilda and Wils were parents of James Williams, who married Cora Layton. (The children of Dr. and Mrs. (Matilda) Wilson are: Charles, Nell, Rena, D.G. E. and Al)

"John G. Phillips married Olive Louise Cox (1841 - 1908) in 1866 and they operated the farm. Their only child, John Nelson Phillips was born in 1875 and spent his life in Marion County. He worked as a civil engineer and was county surveyor for several years. He passed away in 1910, leaving his wife (Ethel Covington) Phillips aged 30 yrs, with 5 daughters to rear and farm to operate.

"From the second marriage of John G. Phillips, four grand children are living: Ruby Phillips Nowlin, Florine Phillips Melton, Hildred Phillips, and Louise Phillips Yount. 3 gr. grand children, 9 great-great grandchildren, and 3 great-great-great grandchildren.

Mrs. Morrow also found Phillips materials in other sections of this book. Matilda Phillips, daughter of John G., was married about three times. She first married Wils Williams. He and bro. were killed in the Civil War, on the Confederate side. This is on page 84 of the book. Under the pioneer family Wilson, she found that Dr. W. C. Wilson and Matilda Blaylock Wilson were the parents [of children?], with the same names as the Phillips lady gave in the Phillips family write up. She also found that Laura Phillips, another daughter of John G., married Shelby King, and had three children before she died. Mr. King married again and had four children by the second marriage. He had his 91st birthday Jan. of 1958 and did not live long after that.

GayNell Tinsley Wells²⁴ read a version of my notes on this family and provided the following additional information:

“There is a book published in 1997 by the Historic Genealogical Society of Marion County Arkansas entitled GENEALOGIES OF MARION COUNTY FAMILIES 1811-1900. You will see this book referred to by Marion County locals as “The Big Blue Book”. It is a very large volume with relatively small print (655 pages) containing hundreds of family histories of the earlier pioneers and settlers of that area. That is where I got the information that my gr-gr-grandfather, John Calloway Phillips, was the son of John Garrison Phillips. I believe Mrs. Morrow probably got her information from a book published earlier by Earl Berry entitled HISTORY OF MARION COUNTY FAMILIES. I have found mistakes in both sources. It is my understanding that the historic society is in the process of compiling and publishing a supplement to The Big Blue Book.

“I have also read the statement, ‘Mr. Phillips had seven children by his first wife, most of whom passed away when they were young.[’] I don’t think this is an accurate statement. If so, then some of the children who are listed as children of John G. and Sarah must not be their children, for most of those people who were listed were still living in and around Marion Co., AR in the 1860s and 70s. I would add to this statement that if, in fact, some of those listed were not the children of John G. and Sarah, then possibly there could be room for ‘my’ John C. in that family tree. Otherwise, I don’t think it is possible.

“There seems to be a good deal of confusion about Martha Matilda Phillips, daughter of John G. I do not believe that she ‘was married about three times.’ In fact, The Big Blue Book says that she was married to James ‘Wils’ Wilson only. I think the difficulty comes with the names of Matilda (Martha Matilda), her sister Minerva, and her sister Minerva’s daughter, Sarah Matilda. From census records of Marion Co., and Macon Co., IL, Minerva and her husband, David Blalock, move to Mt. Zion, Macon,[sic] Co., IL where all but their two oldest children were born and where they remained throughout the remainder of their life. You will find David and Minerva still there in the 1900 census of Macon Co. Minerva and David’s daughter, Sarah Matilda Blaylock, married Dr. William C. Wilson, grandson [of] James and Celia Askew Wilson of NC.

“Matilda Phillips did marry Wils Wilson and remained in Marion Co., AR.

“Now, if you will look on page 7 of your notes, according to Mrs. Morrow, Laura was another daughter of John G. Phillips. This is absolutely incorrect. Laura Lee Phillips, wife of Barnett B. ‘Shelby’ King, was the daughter of John Bolin Phillips. John Bolin was the son of John Calloway Phillips, and was my gr-gr-grandfather. Laura Lee died 19 June 1900, and is buried in Netwon Cemetery, Boone Co., AR next to her grandfather John C. Phillips. There is a Phillips infant buried there also. John Bolin’s first wife, Sarah Elizabeth Ruff Phillips, also died during children birth at the age of 42 years. She is buried next to her daughter, Laura.

“Shelby King did remarry, I believe twice after the death of Laura. I have seen notes written by my mom’s family saying that they still were visiting with Laura’s husband, Shelby. If you will look at the dates, Mrs. Morrow (on p.7) states that Mr. King remarried and was still living in 1958. Certainly that could not be possible, considering that John G’s children nor their spouses

²⁴ Wells, GayNell Tinsley, e-mail to Dan W. Olds, 25 May 1999.

could not have been still alive in 1958.

“That is pretty much it, Dan. I hope this clears up a few things. It doesn’t clear up who John Calloway Phillips was. The Big Blue Book has him and his family fitted in perfectly with John G. and his family. He and his children were certainly enmeshed with John G and his family. I was recently in touch with someone in Marion Co and they were shocked that I would even consider that he was not John G’s son. And so, the mystery continues, at least for me.”

I have found no Phillips families in the 1840 census of Marion or Izard Counties, Ark. However, by 1850 there are several, including John G. who was in White River Twp, Marion Co. (p. 311.5, 15 Oct. 1850).

John G. Phillips	47 (all b. NC)
Sarah	46
Martha M.	15
Alf. Clay	12
Isaac Avery	10

Also listed (p. 315) is James Phillips, age 21, b. NC, and wife Nancy, age 19, b. Ark., and (in the family of John and Nancy Doss, ages 28 and 25 respectively) a Samuel Phillips, age 21.

On 30 March 1851, John G. Phillips of Marion County, Arkansas, made a deed "for and in consideration of the natural love that I have for my son William" for land in Yancey Co.²⁵ (Compare this with the disinheritance story.)

The 1860 census of Prairie twp, Marion Co., Ark., 3 June 1860, p. 564.5 shows John Phillips, age 58, and Sarah Phillips, age 57.

The 1870 census of Union twp, Marion Co., Ark., p. 511, shows J. G. Phillips, age 69, and Olive L., age 28, both b. in NC. He is marked under the column headed "Male citizens of United States of 21 years of age and upwards where right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than rebellion or other crimes."

The 1880 census of Union twp., Marion Co., Ark., p. 25.5 shows John G. Phillips, age 77, b. in NC, father b. in NC, mother b. in Va., with wife Olive L., age 38, b. in NC, parents b. in NC, with son John N. Phillips, age 5, b. Ark., and a boarder, James M. Phillips, age 24, b. in Ark., father b. in NC and mother b. in Ark.

At the time I read the Arkansas records, I did not know the married names of the Phillips daughters.

Children of John Garrison and Sarah (Cox) Phillips

²⁵ Yancey Co. Deed Book 3, p. 285

4. Minerva Phillips m. David Blaylock, probably in Yancey Co.
5. William Lafayette Phillips, b. 8 Sep. 1826 - 12 Sep. 1916
6. James M. Phillips, b. ca 1829; moved to Marion Co., Ark.
7. Matilda (Martha Matilda?, b. ca. 1835) m. Wils Williams
8. Alfred Clay Phillips?, b. ca. 1838
9. Isaac Avery Phillips?, b. ca. 1840

Children of John Garrison and Olive L (Cox) Phillips

10. John Nelson Phillips, b. 17 Dec. 1875, d. 6 Dec. 1910

5. **William Lafayette Phillips** was born 8 Sept. 1826 and died 12 Sept. 1916, age 90 years, 4 days, the son of Garrison Phillips and Sallie Cox.²⁶ He married Susannah Lucinda Wiseman (8 March 1828 - 4 March 1926). Their children were James C., John, Laura, Ella, Matilda, Sally, Hattie, Lilla, Dexter and Squibb.

On 25 April 1860, at a Sheriff's sale, Wm. L. Phillips bought some land that had belonged to John W. Wiseman and was being sold for taxes.

Children of William Lafayette and Susan Lucinda (Wiseman) Phillips²⁷

11. i. James C. Phillips m. Eliza Poore
12. ii. John Garrison Phillips m. Lydia Minerva English
13. iii. Laura Phillips m. Sam Ford
14. iv. Ella Phillips m. Clem Ellis
15. v. Matilda Phillips burned to death when her home burned
16. vi. Sallie Phillips m. Sam Ford and moved to Dallas, TX
17. vii. Hattie Phillips m. John E. Ellis
18. viii. Lila Phillips m. John A. Scronce, Methodist minister
19. ix. Dexter Phillips m. Betty Yount
20. x. Squibb Phillips m. (1) Sophia Blalock and (2) Lucy Young

6. **James M. Phillips**, age 21, b. NC, and his wife Nancy, age 19, b. Ark., appear on p. 315 (23 Oct. 1850) of the 1850 census of North Fork twp., Marion Co., Ark. In the 1860 census of Union twp., Marion Co., (p. 559) Nancy, age 31, appears to be a widow with children Ambrose W., 9, Mirah, 8, Wm. C., 6, John, 4, and James, 2. In 1870, the family is listed as Nancy, age 40,

²⁶ Mitchell Co., NC, death records, Book 1, p. 54. The informant was J. C. Phillips.

²⁷ for the moment, I am using a list taken from an unsigned article, "Phillips", in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press). This article continues with the the family of John G. Phillips and Lydia Minerva English and their son James Milton Phillips. It contains their pictures as well as those of William L. and Susan Phillips.

A---?, age ?, Sarah E., 17, William, 15, John ?, 13, and James ?, 12. This latter may be the James M. Phillips, age 24, b. Ark., father b. NC and mother b. Ark, who was boarding with John G. and Olive in 1880 and working on the farm.

11. **James C. Phillips**, born 13 Aug. 1848, died 20 Feb. 1930, is buried _____. He married Anna Eliza Poore on 5 Oct. 1875.²⁸ She was born 5 Feb. 1856. He wrote the following in a ledger at his store:²⁹

“James C Phillips was brond August the 13 1848 and this is June 18 1882 nearly thirty four years old

“A. E. Phillips was bornd February the 5 1856 makes here twenty Six years old

“John Phillips was bornd December the 3 1876

“Samuel L. Phillips was bornd February the 23 1878 and no more at the present my pen and ink is good my hand is Bad So you must excuse me for this”.

In his will, dated 18 Aug. 1926³⁰, he left his estate mostly to his son Samuel L. Phillips, his older son John H. Phillips having been previously provided for.

Children of James C. and Anna Eliza (Poore) Phillips

21. i. John Heap Phillips, b. 3 Dec. 1876
22. ii. Samuel Lafayette Phillips, b. 23 Feb. 1878

12. **John Garrison Phillips**, was born in 1850, near Altapass, NC, before his father moved to Snow Creek. In November, 1873, he married Lydia Minerva English, a daughter of Col. J. M. English. They had eight children.³¹ He farmed as many as 1800 acres in Avery County, NC. He was in his 81st year when an article about him and his farming was printed in “an Avery County newspaper”.³² Their children were:³³

23. i. James Milton “Jim” Phillips, b. 8 July 1874, d. 11 Dec. 1960, m. Nora Delle English (1 Feb. 1880 - 19 Aug. 1962. They are buried in Pine Grove Cemetery.
24. ii. Hettie Lee “Het” Phillips, b. 17 April 1876, d. 17 Sept. 1964, unmarried
25. iii. Willard Lyndsey “Lynn” Phillips m. Maude Farr
26. iv. David McDonald “Mack” Phillips, b. 10 June 1883, d. 4 Aug. 1948, m. Linda Buchanan (26 Jun 1892 - 18 Feb. 1973)
27. v. Edward Spear Phillips, b. 9 May 1885, d. 3 Sept. 1966, m. Florence Mae Silver of

²⁸ Mitchell County Marriages, James Phillips and Eliza Poore.

²⁹ Manuscript Collection, Duke University.

³⁰ Mitchell County Wills, book 1, p. 548-550.

³¹ An unsigned article, “Phillips”, in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

³² Bailey, Lloyd (ed.), The Heritage of the Toe River Valley, Vol. I (1994, Walsworth Publishing Co., Marceline, Mo.) article 560, “John Garrison Phillips grows from ten to 1,800 acres: John Philips shows how to farm successfully in the mountains”, pp. 369-370.

³³ Bailey, Lloyd (ed.), The Heritage of the Toe River Valley, Vol. I (1994, Walsworth Publishing Co., Marceline, Mo.) article 560, “Dr. Edward Spear Phillips, Sr. (D. M. V.), p. 370. This article names nine children.

Bandana, Mitchell County, 28 Sept. 1918.

28. vi. Caroline Mae "Kate" Phillips, b. 20 March 1890, m. Lewis Carl Willis, b. 1885, and lived and died in Mountain City, TN.
29. vii. Martha Estatoe "Essie" or "Mep" Phillips, b. 24 July 1892, d. 27 May 1981, married George W. Green (26 June 1888 - 23 Aug. 1972)
30. viii. Nellie Phillips, b. 12 March 1895, d. 20 May 1988, married Jason Basil Deyton (13 Feb. 1894 - 27 April 1971).
31. ix. John Grover Phillips, b. 19 March 1888, d. 19 April 1890.

13. **Laura Phillips** married Samuel Ford on 16 Sept. 1875.³⁴ Her will was made 29 March 1934 and probated 11 March 1938.³⁵ She mentions her nephew Harold Phillips who got twenty-five acres of the Billie Phillips home place, as well as his brothers Everett Phillips, Robert Phillips, and sister Lela Howell. She mentions Jeff Ford of Asheville, her sister Mrs. Hattie Ellis, her brother W. S. Phillips, and sisters Ela Ellis and Lila Spronce.

20. **Woodville Squibb Phillips** married Sophia Blalock who "was born in 1876 and married Woodville Squibb Phillips (son of William Lafayette Phillips and Susan Lucinda Wiseman) in Mitchell County in 1895. She died in 1907 of tuberculosis and is buried in Snow Hill Cemetery. . . Among their children were [Everett Leon, Lela, Robert, and Harold]"³⁶ His will, probated in Mitchell County, NC³⁷, mentions his deceased first born Virgil Clayton Phillips, Everett Leon Phillips, Lela Robera Howell Green and Phillips, Robert Blalock Phillips, Laura P. Phillips Yelton, Sallie Kate Phillips Slate, and William Harold Phillips, dec'd.

W.S. Phillips, 19 July 1874 - 28 April 1952 and Sophie A, his wife, 22 May 1887 - 8 Feb. 1907, are buried at the Snow Hill Methodist Church Cemetery.

- i. Virgil Clayton Phillips, 20 July 1896 - 12 Oct. 1904, buried at Snow Hill Meth. Church
32. i. Everett Leon Phillips (1898 - 1989) who married Edna Blanch Greene
33. ii. Lela Phillips, b. 1899, m. (1) Jesse Greene and (2) Dudley Howell
34. iii. Robert Blalock Phillips, b. 1902, m. (1) Florence Poteat and (2) Ruth Pittman Wiseman
- iv. Laura P. Phillips Yelton
- v. Sallie Kate Phillips Slate
35. iv. William Harold Phillips, b. 1905, m. Faye Rutherford

21. **John Heap Phillips**, b. 3 Dec. 1876, d. 27 Nov. 1916 He and Retta Lee Conley were married by D. W. Greene, J. P., on 9 Nov. 1895 at C. B. Conley's.³⁸ John Phillips and Van

³⁴ Mitchell County Marriages.

³⁵ Mitchell County Will Book 2, pp. 124-125.

³⁶ Bailey, Lloyd (ed.), *The Heritage of the Toe River Valley*, Vol. I (1994, Walsworth Publishing Co., Marceline, Mo.) article 178, "Tilman and Sarah (Wilson) Blalock", p. 150.

³⁷ Will Book 2, p. 501.

³⁸ Bible presented to J. H. Phillips by his mother A. E. Phillips on 6 March 1896 (c. 1892)

Phillips were featured and pictured in a article in the Mitchell Journal, 22 Feb. 1979 because Joh Phillips had been elected to the NC State Legislature in 1914 as the first Democrat ever elected from Republican Mitchell County and, in 1978, his great nephew Van Phillips, also a Democrat, was elected to the same body.

only child of John Heap and Rett Lee (Conley) Phillips

36. i. Cora Viola Phillips, b. 18 , d. 1917

22. **Samuel Lafayette Phillips** married Emma Gertrude “Gertie” Chandler

Children of Samuel Lafayette and Emma Gertrude (Chandler) Phillips³⁹

37. i. Jennie Phillips, b. 13 Oct. 1902, d. 22 March 1994, m. James Festus “Fess” Rosenbaum, (10 April 1889 - 29 Sept. 1959), on 20 Dec. 1918 in Jonesborough, TN.

38. ii. Ralph Phillips. A Ralph Phillips, 13 Oct. 1893 - 12 Aug. 1900 is buried at Snow Hill Metho dist Church.

39. iii. Cecil Phillips

40. iv. John Phillips

41. v. Fletcher Phillips

42. vi. Horace Phillips, 17 Nov. 1914 - 16 June 1996⁴⁰

43. vii. Sam Phillips

23. **James Milton Phillips**,⁴¹ b. 8 July 1874, d. 11 Dec. 1960, married Nora Della English, b. 15 Feb. 1880, d. 19 Aug. 1962, of Madison County. Their children were:

44. i. Carol Ralph Phillips m. Alice Taylor, Valle Crucis, Watauga Co.

45. ii. Geneva Phillips m. A. Frank Arnold

46. iii. Marian Phillips m. Bret Lomax

47. iv. Florence Phillips m. V. D. Adams

48. v. Flora Phillips, twin to Florence

49. vi. Frank Phillips m. Henrietta Thompson, daughter of Wallace and Rita Thompson

34. **Robert Blalock Phillips**, b. 30 Oct. 1902, died 24 Jan. 1999. He married (1) Florence Poteat in 1927 and (2) Ruth Inez Pittman Wiseman. Ruth’s funeral card states that she was born 7 Nov. 1924 and died 6 Aug. 1994, the daughter of the late Joseph and Florence Pittman, mother of Marguerite Ann Wilder and Patricia L. Lewis, sister of Betty Poteat, Lula Ashburn, Ella Stamey, Sam Pittman, Clarence Pittman, and Joe C. Pittman, the grandmother of five and great grandmother of one. She was buried in the Spruce Pine Memorial Cemetery. “Uncle Bob” was buried at Snow Hill Cemetery near his home along with his first wife, Florence P. Phillips, 3 Feb. 1903 - 27 April 1979.

³⁹ The names of the Phillips and children are from the obituary of Jennie Rosenbaum, an unidentified newspaper clipping.

⁴⁰ from a funeral marker in Lily Branch Cemetery, seen 22 Sept. 1996.

⁴¹ An unsigned article, “Phillips”, in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

Children of Robert Blalock and Florence (Poteat) Phillips

- i. Robert E. "Bobby" Phillips
- ii. Marie Phillips, m. (1) James Thomas and (2?) Bill Fulford about Aug. 1996

36. **Cora Viola Phillips**, 1896 - 1917, married Frank Bela Poteat, 2 July 1888 - 14 June 1976. They are buried in Maple Lawn Cemetery, Jonesborough, TN.

37. **Jennie Phillips**, b. 13 Oct. 1902, d. 22 March 1994, married James Festus "Fess" Rosenbaum (10 April 1889 - 29 Sept. 1959) on 20 Dec. 1918 in Jonesborough, TN.

Children of James Festus and Jennie (Phillips) Rosenbaum⁴²

- i. Anne Rosebaum Miller
- ii. Richard Rosenbaum

43. **Sam Phillips** was the father of

- i. Van Phillips

44. **Carol Ralph Phillips**⁴³ married Alice Taylor, Valle Crucis, Watauga County, NC, and they were the parents of :

- i. Carolyn Phillips m. Paul Clapp
- ii. Nancy Phillips m. Thomas Weld
- iii. Gladys Phillips m. Fred Stout
- iv. Alice Phillips m. Howard Klemmetsen

45. **Geneva Phillips**⁴⁴ married A. Frank Arnold and they were the parents of:

- i. Jerry Arnold m. (1) Julia Horton and (2) Susan Phillips
- ii. Phillip Arnold m. Susan Bondurante

46. **Marian Phillips**⁴⁵ married Brett Lomax and they were the parents of:

- i. Phillip Lomax m. Sarah Shatley
- ii. Mary Lomax m. Edwin Todd
- iii. Martha Lomax (twin with Mary) m. George Boxtic

47. **Florence Phillips**⁴⁶ married V.D. Adams and they were the parents of:

⁴² The names of the Rosenbaum children are from the obituary of Jennie Rosenbaum, an unidentified newspaper clipping.

⁴³ An unsigned article, "Phillips", in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

⁴⁴ An unsigned article, "Phillips", in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

⁴⁵ An unsigned article, "Phillips", in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

⁴⁶ An unsigned article, "Phillips", in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and

i. Margaret Adams m. Major Thomas Tickin

49. **Frank Phillips**⁴⁷ married Henrietta Thompson, daughter of Wallace and Rita Thompson.

They were the parents of;

- i. Frank W. Phillips, Jr. m. Vivian Clark
- ii. Patsanna Phillips m. A. R. Cope
- iii. Anthony Phillips m. Martha Wirth
- iv. Dellrita Phillips m. Lionel Todd
- v. Emma Jane Phillips m. Charles V. Powell
- vi. Susan Lucinda Phillips m. James E. Loven

SELECTED PHILLIPS MISCELLANEA

In the Burke Co. court for Oct. 1791, Isaac Burlison made oath in open court that ... left ear of Charles Philips was taken ... by a bite of the mouth of sd Burleson [apparently recorded to prove that this ear was not removed as a criminal punishment?].

A deed for 150 acres from Lazarus Phillips to James Barns was recorded in Burke Co. Court minutes for April 1794.

Wiley Phillips (1811 - 1896) married Flora McKinney in Mitchell Co., NC. One son was Rev. Wm. G. Phillips (1836 - 1906). Henderson Lace Phillips (called Hence) of "Bakersfield", NC m. Virginia Melissa "Jane" Scoggins there. Both these families moved to West Virginia.⁴⁸ The marriage of Henderson Phillips and Jane Scoggans on 9-15-1872 is recorded at Bakersville.

"Jennie (or Jane) [Garland] 1790 -1857 m. Lazarus Phillips and their descendants are scattered all over the USA."⁴⁹ This Lazarus Phillips, at age 61, appears to be the oldest Phillips listed in the 1850 census of Yancey Co. Their son Lazarus d. 14 Dec. 1917, age 84, and was buried in Phillips Cemetery.⁵⁰ The wife seems to be the Jane Phillips, age 69, b. Tenn., married, who died in April [1860] according to the 1860 mortality schedules of Yancey Co. In 1964, on the way from Burnsville to Bakersville, I stopped at Red Hill Baptist Church and Phillips Cemeteries, but seem to have no notes from that.

"Robert B. Phillips of Yancey Co. was b. 28 March 1823. He was married on 13 Jan. 1848 by

Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

⁴⁷ An unsigned article, "Phillips", in Avery County Heritage, Vol. III, Biographies, Genealogies and Church Histories, compiled and edited by Avery County Historical Society (Puddingstone Press)

⁴⁸ Families of Yancey County, NC, vol. 3 #1, p. 14, taken from "Reference Book of Wyoming County History", p. 479, by Mary K. Bowman.

⁴⁹ Garland, Paul E., "GARLAND Family Records", Families of Yancey County, NC, Vol. 3 # 4 (Dec. 1986), p. 129.

⁵⁰ Mitchell Co., NC, death records, book 1, p. 632.

Wesley Phillips to Mary Ann Weaver, b. 10 March 1831."⁵¹

William Phillips was a private in Co. E, 3rd NC Inf. Regt, from 4 March 1865 to 8 Aug. 1865 (given as a U. S. Soldier, #79 in the 1890 special census of Yancey Co., NC).

The Phillips Family History by Harry Phillips of Watertown, TN (published 1935 at Lebanon, TN) deals with the family of Nathan Wheeler Phillips, b. 30 June 1817, son of Joseph and Anne (Wheeler) Phillips.

On 31 Aug. 1832, when Wineford Phillips (male) and Wesley Phillips of Buncombe Co. deeded land on Jacks Creek to Lewis Briggs, they mentioned the lines of Polly Phillips and Charles Byrd et. al. and excepted a graveyard from the deed. (Yancey Co. deed book 1, p. 11). What graveyard???

Burke County land entries, 1778 - 1795, include:
#132, 100 acres to William Phillips, on waters of Pepping Creek, entered 1789, warrant #108 issued 15 Jan. 1791
50 acres to Gary Phillips, next to John Phillips, bounded on west by French Broad, 5 Sept. 1791
100 acres on Snow Creek to Lazarus Phillips, entered 23 July 1793, warrant 17 April 1793; included his improvement.

Adam Phillips seems to be one of the oldest of the Phillips name in Buncombe Co. He died 27 Dec. 1858, age 98, at the home of his dau., Mrs. Catharine Bell, 4 mi. east of Asheville.⁵² He is listed in the 1810 census of as over 44 years old.

In the 1810 census of Buncombe Co., NC, Lazarus Phillips was age 26-45, Lazarus Phillips, Sr., was over 44, and another Lazarus Phillips was 16-26. William Phillips, Sen, was over 44, William Phillips was 16-26 and Thrower Phillips was age 26-45. Both William and William, Senior, had a son under ten years of age (i.e. possibly John G. Phillips) but only Lazarus, Sr., had two sons in this age group.

The 1820 census of Buncombe County, NC, lists the families of Adam Phillips, age 26-45, of William Phillips, age 26-45, Thons? Phillips, Wineford Phillips, Patsey Phillips, Marey Phillips and Willis Phillips.

The name Lazarus Phillips catches the eye as being significant more easily than does William Phillips. On 22 Aug. 1779, Lazerus Phillips had a grant of 250 acres in Burke Co., "on north fork of the upper creek ... including the Camp bottom and a spring for complement." On 25 March

⁵¹ Families of Yancey County, NC, vol. 4 #1 (March 1987), p. 32-33. Quoting a family Bible record.

⁵² Tompkins, Robert M., Marriage and Death Notices from Extant Asheville, NC, newspapers, 1840 - 1870.

1780, Samuel Swaringen entered 50 acres on north fork of the Upper Creek bounded by Lazarus Phillips and William Pereys upper line. His name was on a list issued 12 Dec. 1782, to be cited as Tories in a Jan. 1782 court session. On 15 May 1783, he was a purchaser at a sale of William Pearsey. In 1793 he was taxed for 150 acres and 1 poll in Capt. Thomas White's Company (possibly 3rd Co. of 1790 census).⁵³ On 1 March 1832, when Sanders Hughes sold 89 acres on Jack's Creek to Charles Byrd, the line between Lazarus Phillips, deceased, and Thomas Phillips was mentioned (Yancey Co. deed book 1, p. 7)

Lazarus Phillips purchased several tracts of land on Jack's Creek: 204 acres from William Heanan in 1804; 50 acres from John Strother in 1803; 100 acres from George Baker in 1801. In 1825 Wesley Phillips sold 240 acres on land on Jack's Creek to Winneford Phillips (get description).⁵⁴

In Buncombe Co. Deed book H, p. 249: William Phillips got 100 acres on Beaverdam and Hominy Creeks from Joseph Robbins, deed dated 1-13-1819 (registered 12-20-1816, note error). In Book 10, p. 304, Lazarus Phillips sold 100 acres on Jack's Creek to William Phillips in a deed dated 25 July 1804.⁵⁵ This is a deed I should see!

⁵³ Huggins, Edith Warren, Burke County, North Carolina, Land Records, 1779 - 1790 and Important Miscellaneous Records, 1777 - 1800, vol. II. (Easley, South Carolina, 1985).

⁵⁴ Wooley, James E. Buncombe County, North Carolina Deeds, 1783 - 1850 (Southern Historical Press, Easley, SC, 1983).

⁵⁵ Williams, Sally, "Index and Abstract of Deeds of Yancey Co., NC, Deed Book 1" (Medford, OR, 1985).