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Caleb Blagg of Colonial Virginia and the Carolinas: Himself and Three Generations of His Clan

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Caleb Blagg

of Colonial Virginia and the Carolinas: Himself and Three Generations of His Clan

A collection of research notes & analysis
By Steve Malone



Caleb Blagg
of Colonial Virginia and the Carolinas:
Himself and Three Generations of his Clan

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Published April 2020.

The conclusions reached herein conflict with those of several earlier Blagg researchers. The reason for this is that, while I have read many of those earlier accounts, I have not relied upon any of their “facts” when they lack sufficient information and detail to allow me to verify their accuracy. Much of what has been written earlier contains many red herrings that provide false leads and has created a lot of dead ends and false information. But their earlier failings have left the makings of a project that has definitely been worth pursuing. While some of what is written herein will likely never be definitively proven, it is well reasoned, thorough and it accounts for the many North Carolina and South Carolina Blaggs of the late 1790s and early 1800s in a way that nearly everyone appears to be accounted for, with no significant unresolved conundrums.

This paper was originally created using the basic version of Google Docs, with final formatting in Microsoft Word. It is formatted for printing. The first page is the front cover, which should be printed in simplex mode. The remainder of the document is intended to be printed in duplex mode, though it is not necessary to do so.

Cover art: “Stylized Colonial Carpenter”

This book is hereby placed in the public domain, as a gift to my many Blagg cousins.

Acknowledgments

Karen Hill Walker and **Richard St. Clair** provided financial support to obtain NARA bounty land warrant applications and other information related to the subjects of this research. Such assistance is very gratefully acknowledged and appreciated. Their help made it possible to dig a little deeper, and hopefully improved the quality of our research. At the very least, we left fewer stones unturned.

Karen Blagg provided a key clue that convinced me that our Blaggs descend from William and Sina (Knight) Blagg. Her Rootsweb family tree was also of great help in understanding all the Blagg lines that various others believe were interconnected, (though not necessarily in the way that they had believed), and that knowledge also greatly aided this research.

Daniel Blagg's prior research provided a solid foundation for the Blaggs of Anderson County, Tennessee; some researchers had incorrectly claimed them as descendants of Caleb Blagg - a red herring that has created a needless and unwelcome quagmire of misinformation and confusion. He also provided sourced information about Caleb Blagg's life prior to arriving in North Carolina, and shared results of yDNA testing that proves that our Blagg line is distinct from two other Blagg line, all of which trace back to late Colonial Virginia.

Adele Lefors' tireless efforts to find Blagg & Knight cousins on GEDMatch, 23andMe, and Ancestry.com have been invaluable, allowing a level of DNA analysis that would otherwise have taken far more time and effort. Her access to family trees on 23andMe has proved invaluable as well, and she single-handedly found and proved that Caleb Blagg's daughter Heathy had survived to raise a large family (a conclusion likely reached by others, but no documentation of that fact was found while researching this book).

Karen Hill Walker provided details about many of the people discussed in this book, helping to correct errors and improve the book's accuracy. Such help is very gratefully acknowledged. It is easy for a researcher to get an overall picture, but it is the efforts of many people adding to the pool of knowledge that helps to fill in the details, and to assure that any inconsistencies are resolved now, and not many years later by others who find our efforts to have been less than conclusive.

James Blagg provided feedback to improve the accuracy of the narrative and offered yDNA results to potentially corroborate or disprove any speculative conclusions.

Mel Rone for her help in understanding her father's DNA results and in providing input and feedback. His unique double Fowler cousin ancestry was helpful beyond belief.

Thanks are due to a long list of people for transferring their autosomal DNA results to GEDMatch, creating a great foundation for corroborating what would have otherwise been some speculative findings. I don't name them here for fear that I would offend someone by unintentionally omitting their name.

Earlene Blagg Chandler, whose research of six of the siblings of Michael Blagg was the key to quickly finding proof that James and Piercy Blagg were their parents, which thus put another Blagg line on a solid footing.

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who lived prior to 1850 is no easy task, but his efforts in identifying potentially living descendants of Isaac Blagg greatly simplified finding good DNA representation for a variety of Isaac's children and grandchildren.

Darby Drake, whose WikiTree information greatly facilitated locating several close relatives of hers, who descend from Israel Blagg; and she helped in identifying several slightly more distant cousins of hers, which was a huge help in compiling a large DNA pool of descendants of Israel Blagg.

Charlotte Smith, for sharing her research of the family of John Blagg. And years ago, she had also discovered the key evidence about the John Blagg of the Anderson County Blaggs, whose clan forms one part of the triad of Blagg clans which had originated in Colonial Virginia.

Dina Carson, for sharing her knowledge of C. D. Blagg and his daughter, Mary (Blagg) McDougal.

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Dell Carothers, for sharing his knowledge of Henry Blagg, b. 1808.

Sharryn Peck-Clark and **Jenny Mello**, for their efforts to attempt to prove that Jahu Blagg was a son of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg.

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Kandie Adkinson, for her assistance in her role as an employee of the Kentucky Secretary of State, in acquiring surveys of key Kentucky land grants. She has been an awesome resource on several of my research projects. And the sources that she has publicized have been of inestimable value to countless others. We need more Kandie Adkinsons! Where would so many of us be without her? Hers is a life well lived!

Diane Waggoner of the Mary Smith Fay Genealogical Library in Carmi, Illinois, for her help in searching their collection for any past documentation of the Blaggs of White County, Illinois. She and the library's other volunteer staff have been a very significant source of help on past research projects.

The following people, for allowing me to view various DNA results at Ancestry.com, consenting to act as the samples in the Blagg DNA Pool:

Linda Love Atwater, Dr. Dean David Baker, James D. and Kaelas Blagg, Karen Blagg, Mahlon Blagg, Cora Vondella Brooks, Mary Buller, Ray Deane Card, Dell Carothers, Dina Carson, Sylvia Carson, Sharryn Clark, Pam Dean, Darby Drake, Rebecca Henson, Tony Henson, Tanya Herron, Amber Johnson-Vigouroux, Gerrye Johnson, Charlotte Knight, James Knight, Adele Lefors, Tom Longfellow, Martha McKee, Tari Muralidharan, Jenny Mello, Sharryn Peck-Clark, Danny Remel, Mel Rone, Robert Rone, Craig Shafar, Charlotte Smith, Bobby Snavely, Jeff Snavely, Mike Spurlock, and Karen Hill Walker.

And, all the others who took an interest in helping with the researching and writing of this book, whose contributions, both large and small, provided very welcome and needed improvements. I am certain that in my haste to complete this project, more than one person's contributions have been unintentionally overlooked. For such omissions, I am eternally sorry, as that could not be farther from my true intent. I hope that any such persons will understand the difficulty of the research that has been conducted - the number of balls being juggled simultaneously in the air - and believe that any omission of their contributions is completely unintended and sincerely regretted. Your unacknowledged contributions have resulted in a superior finished project, and of that you can take great pride.

These folks all deserve the respect and admiration of anyone who happens upon this research. It is selfless efforts like theirs that help us all to get at the truth about our ancestors. And to differentiate an effort such as this from other, often far less serious efforts, some of which appear to have been more akin to someone playing ‘pin the tail on the donkey,’ rather than the serious detective work that is required to attempt to make sense of a such a complex puzzle with so many missing pieces.

Dedication

This book is dedicated to all the Blagg researchers, present and past, living and no longer with us, including the 50 or so individuals who followed along on at least part of this project, who have publicly shared clues to the origins to our Blagg clan. Such thoughtful, collaborative efforts greatly facilitated the research contained herein, and made the dull, boring parts of authoring a work such as this, far more pleasurable than would have otherwise been the case.

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Preface

If it is worth taking the time to write a book, it's worth stating what prompted the effort behind it.

Quite simply, this book has primarily been written to replace a raft of unsubstantiated, often illogical factoids about the family of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg. With the exception of information about their youngest daughter (Mary Montgomery [Blagg] Parrish Roberts), virtually everything that has been written about them has been inaccurate and completely bereft of fact or evidence. The reasons for this are many, though it appears the damage began when facts of another, unrelated, William Blagg were wrongly attributed to him. Things only devolved from there, as most of what had been attributed to his family defied the simplest, most basic logic. The hope is that this situation will now be corrected, at least to the extent possible, given the scarce availability of public records in many jurisdictions.

“It is easier to believe a lie told a thousand times than it is to believe a fact that one has never heard before.”

-Robert Lynd

Genealogy is not about individuals, but about families. So, a secondary purpose has been to attempt to identify William's parents and any of his siblings. When researching prior to 1850, it is rare when it is possible to extend a family line back in time by focusing solely on one individual. The clues are often spread throughout several family members, friends and neighbors. And if you are going to do that breadth and depth of research, you might as well share what has been learned with others. They are likely to appreciate the results, and possibly find a badly needed clue that may help solve their own family puzzle. And if they also learn to take a more expansive view of their own ancestors, that will likely lead them to new discoveries of their own.

One novel approach employed to attempt to recreate Caleb Blagg's family for this book was the creation of a very large pool of AncestryDNA results (AncestryDNA is Ancestry.com's brand name for autosomal DNA, which compares all 23 pairs of chromosomes). The DNA results and *confirmed* lineages of over 400 of Caleb's descendants were located, and compared against the results of more than two dozen samples. Such results are good at telling us something about relatedness, but tell us nothing about which ancestors we share. Only an accurate paper trail can do that. But the combination of the two can provide important insights that might otherwise have been missed. Where the Blagg Pool has helped in this regard, it will be noted in the narrative. Since its role in this project was relatively minor, I will spare everyone the boring technical details behind it.

Introduction

At the start of researching this book, what was known of Caleb Blagg and his children was mostly a muddled mess. What was needed most was a way to clear away some of this debris. To not do so would have resulted in a much longer research process and a less conclusive result.

A Triad of Blagg Clans

We know from existing yDNA results that there is a triad of distinct, unrelated Blagg lineages in the United States. I refer to these as the Doe Hill Blagg Clan, the Caleb Blagg Clan and the Anderson County Blagg Clan. And once the sources connected to those other Blagg lineages were excluded from this research, the whole picture became much clearer. Before diving into that, let's begin with a very brief overview of yDNA.

All males, and only males, inherit a nearly perfect copy of their father's y-chromosome. But, because it is a copy, there is at times some distortion, or mutation, of the DNA. This y-chromosome can identify men who share an unbroken male lineage, which typically means they all share the same surname. The degree of possible mutation from generation to generation makes it possible to predict a range of how many generations removed each tested descendant is from a shared ancestor.

Several Blagg males have submitted yDNA tests, and their efforts have shown that three distinct Blagg lineages, which most people in the past had felt were perhaps somehow connected, do not share a common male Blagg ancestor. Here, we are principally interested in the Blaggs who had lived in late Colonial Virginia, which is where the first reference to Caleb Blagg is found in 1753. The results of yDNA testing tell us the three distinct and paternally unrelated Blagg clans are:

1. **The Caleb Blagg Clan** (our clan), which belongs to Haplogroup I-M170.
2. **The Anderson County (Tennessee) Blaggs**. Its patriarch was John Blagg, who was born on 1 Mar 1761 and is found in the records of Anderson County, Tennessee in the early 1800s. They belong to Haplogroup R-A1541.
3. **The Doe Hill Blagg Clan**, whose progenitor was William Blagg, born 1740 in Virginia. They are most prominently found in an area of Pendleton County, West Virginia and Highland County, Virginia known as Doe Hill. They belong to Haplogroup R-FGC22516.

The above results mean that the Blaggs from around Pendleton County, West Virginia, whose descendants migrated to Ohio and beyond, are not related to our Blagg clan. Thus, records from those places are almost completely ignored in this research. Likewise for the Blaggs of Anderson County, Tennessee, who eventually migrated to Nodaway County, Missouri and beyond. Blaggs living in those places are also mostly ignored in this research.

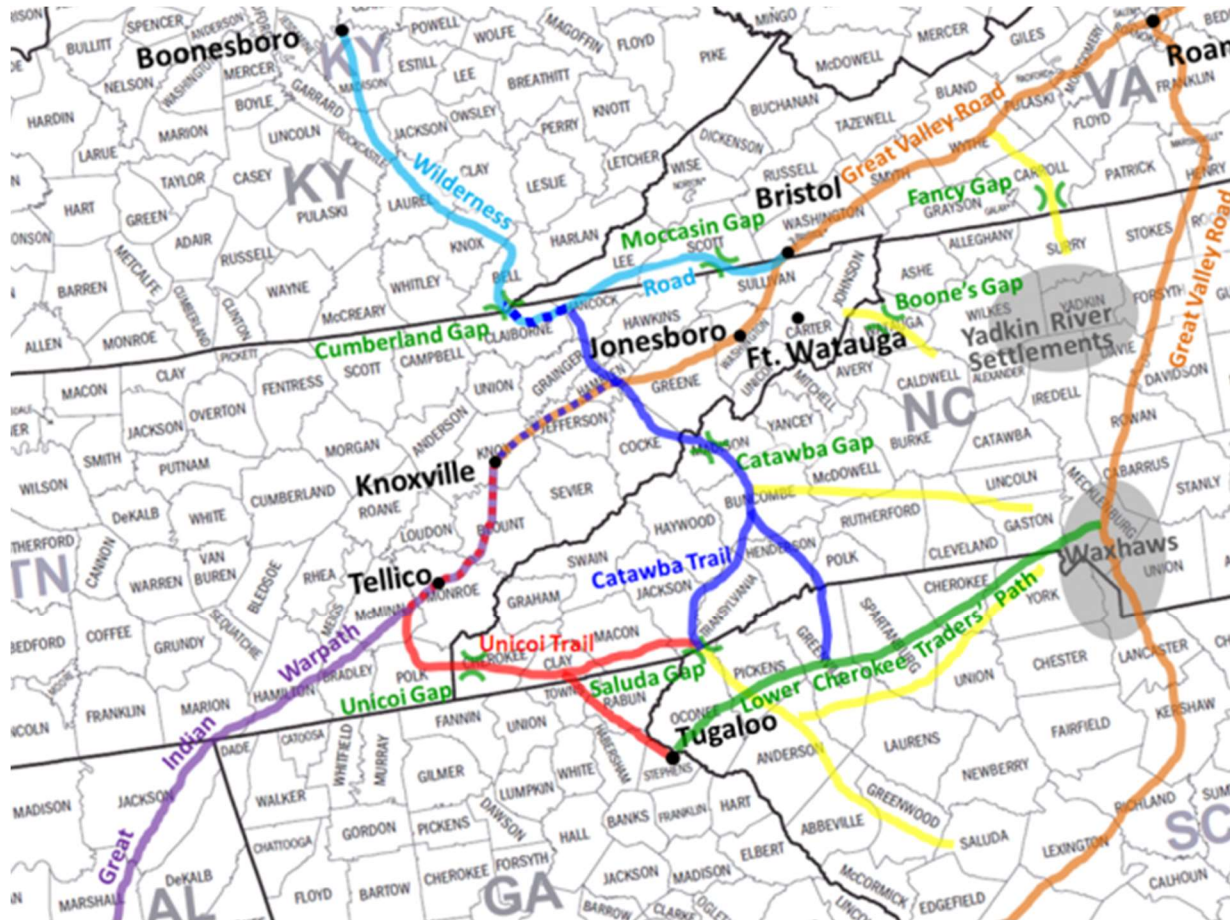
There is also an earlier group of Blaggs with deep roots in Westmoreland County, Virginia. These same Blaggs are often claimed to be ancestors of all three Blagg clans, though it has been found by other researchers that the paper trail is inadequate to clearly substantiate any such claims. The important point for our purposes is simply that any male Blagg who descends from one of the two other lines could not have been paternally related to, or a descendant of, Caleb Blagg.

The interesting thing about the Westmoreland Blaggs and Caleb's clan is that, while there is no known direct paternal ancestor, there are a few individuals of that clan, where the timing and location of their actions somewhat mirror those of Caleb Blagg. It seems unlikely that this is mere coincidence, given the rarity of that surname in the locations and time periods in question, especially in light of the exceptionally low population densities back then. But there are insufficient clues to suggest that it might be worthwhile to jump down that rabbit hole, and in doing so, include those vague speculations in this project.

Two members of the Anderson County Blaggs have, in the past, been confused with members of our Clan, and are the main source of confusion about how a large number of Caleb's descendants connect to him. They are: William Blagg and Joseph Blagg (sons of John Blagg). They were living in Anderson County, Tennessee in the early days of the 19th Century. John Blagg is found there in 1802 and 1805 tax records. Joseph enlisted in the U.S. Rifles there on 29 May 1813, and William Blagg enlisted there in the same unit a few days later. There was a land patent issued on 20 Jan 1826 in Cross County, Arkansas to "Joseph Blagg, brother, and the other heirs-at-law of William Blagg," which refers to these two men. Past researchers had erroneously assumed that this William Blagg was Caleb's son William. He very clearly was not, and the specifics supporting that conclusion can be found in [Appendix N](#).

Migrating West

The primary foci of this research are the several Blagg families who migrated westward from South Carolina and North Carolina, between about 1807 and roughly 1818, who were believed to be descended from Caleb Blagg. In that timeframe, there were three ways of proceeding westward after reaching the Great Tennessee Valley (which spans the north-south length of Eastern Tennessee, from the Georgia State Line [Chattanooga, Tennessee] northward to the Virginia State Line and beyond). The Valley is formed by two significant natural barriers: the Cumberland Plateau on the west, and the Great Smoky Mountains on the east.



Map 1: Map showing early migration routes, including the route from Guilford and Rockingham Counties, North Carolina (east of the Yadkin River Settlements) and Pendleton District (now Anderson County), South Carolina.¹

In the time period of interest to us, the three main early means of continuing westward from there were:

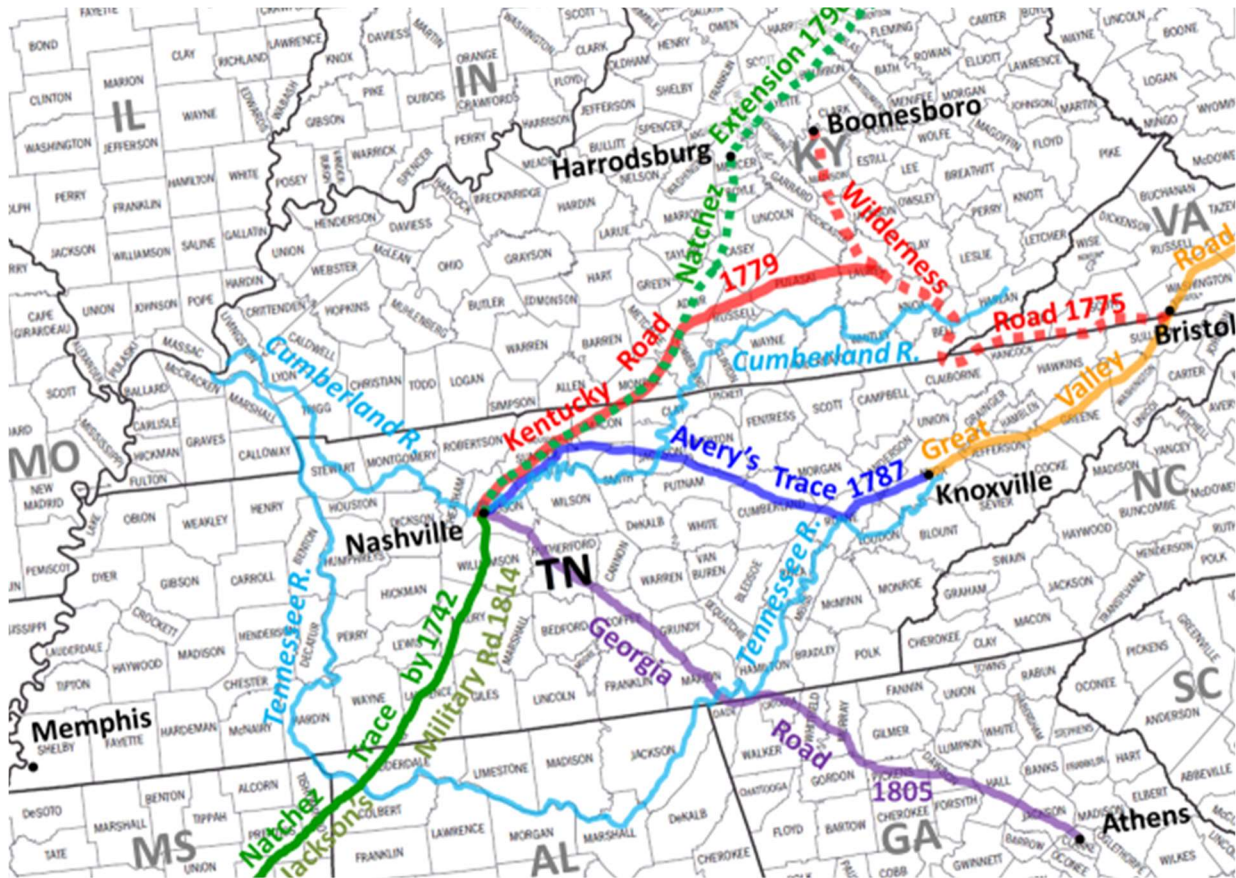
1. From the north end of the Valley over the Cumberland Gap on the Wilderness Road². Once in Kentucky, the Kentucky Road branched off from the Wilderness Road, heading to the west-southwest toward Nashville, Tennessee. The Wilderness Road was the earliest migration route to the west, and the first that could accommodate wagon traffic.
2. From the southern end of the Valley through the Unicoi Gap (east of Chattanooga, Tennessee). The first part of this toll road was opened after the 1805 Treaty of Tellico, which allowed construction of the road across Cherokee Country. Settlers often squatted on Indian lands along this route, including

¹ Familysearch.org: United States, Migration, Trails and Roads, Catawba Trail by David Dilts (2 Feb 2011).

² Avery's Trace was an available alternate by 1787, but it was a far more difficult route to take.

some Blaggs whose descendants are found in later records of the Five Civilized Tribes. Spoiler alert: these folks were not descended from Caleb's son William.

- The Great Indian War Path, which extended along the length of the Tennessee Valley, and to the south the route bisected Alabama from its northeastern corner all the way to Mobile. This route, together with the possibility of floating down the Tennessee River, would have been the route taken by Caleb's children and grandchildren who had settled for a time in Northern Alabama.



Map 2: Map showing early migration routes from the Great Tennessee Valley to points west.³

The Tennessee Road approached Nashville from the east-northeast. People arriving along this route in the early 1800s often settled in the present-day southern Kentucky counties south of the Green River (such as Warren, Allen, Logan, Simpson and surrounding counties), or in north central Tennessee, in Sumner County and surrounding counties.

Based upon public records, it would appear that Caleb Blagg was the first to venture west, where he appears in an 1807 tax record in Logan County, Kentucky.⁴ He apparently ventured west with the family of his daughter Heathy, whose husband was Caleb's neighbor in that 1807 tax list. The last record of Caleb in Pendleton District, South Carolina had been when he witnessed a deed there on 6 Dec 1806.⁵

A later neighbor of Caleb's was Kelton Blagg (also found in records as Nimrod or Nimrod K. Blagg). Though he ended up in Sumner County, Tennessee, he was nonetheless a close neighbor of Caleb and Heathy, living

³ *Familysearch.org: United States, Migration, Migration Trails and Roads, Kentucky Road* by David Dilts (6 Aug 2010).

⁴ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9X5-7?i=457&cat=156098, image 458 of 1012>.

⁵ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book L, page 62, #1186*

just across the State Line from them. He shows up in records there around 1814.⁶ Since he is found in the 1810 Census for Pendleton County, South Carolina, he very clearly came after the others.

But based upon credible family lore, the earliest record of any of Caleb's children in Tennessee was the birth, on 10 Jan 1807 near Cumberland Gap, of Mary Montgomery Blagg (daughter of Caleb's son William). No further record of William Blagg is known after that date, and in 1820 his widow is found living in Bedford County, Tennessee. William's point of departure on his way west was North Carolina, and Caleb's was South Carolina, but did they perhaps rendezvous and travel together?

When they started their journeys, Caleb was living near the town of Anderson, Pendleton District, South Carolina, while William was living near the town of Wentworth, Rockingham County, North Carolina: a separation of about 250 miles. Whether it was possible, in the five weeks between Caleb's last record in South Carolina and the birth of William's daughter in Tennessee, for them to have rendezvoused somewhere and traveled together to reach Cumberland Gap is an open question. It would have been about a 225-mile trip for Caleb, and a slightly shorter distance for William. But there is record of Williams' son-in-law Samuel Fowler living in Bedford County, Tennessee in 1811,⁷ while Caleb was still in Kentucky at that time: a separation of about 100 miles. But Caleb had a large household in 1810, and most were not his children. And in 1807 and 1809, tax records show that there was a second male over age 21 in his household, who could have been William. If so, he had died before the 1810 Census, and it is possible that his widow and most of his children were part of Caleb's household at that time.

From Chattanooga, the Georgia Road (see [Map 2](#)) dipped south before turning northward through present day Jackson County, Alabama and the Tennessee counties of Hamilton, Marion, Grundy, Coffee, Bedford, and continuing on to Nashville. This is likely the route taken from South Carolina by the families of James Blagg (who is listed in the 1830 Census for Jackson County, Alabama), John Blagg (who settled in Lawrence County, Alabama) and Israel Blagg, (whose widow Nancy died in Marion County, Tennessee in 1842).⁸ James was the last of Caleb's known children to have left Pendleton District, South Carolina, in 1818.⁹

James Blagg settled in Jackson County, Alabama in 1819.¹⁰ And in that year Israel Blagg was among the squatters who had been ordered out of Cherokee Country in Tennessee (this was located just west of Unicoi Gap (see Map 3, next page) and encompassed about one million acres in present-day McMinn and Monroe Counties).¹¹ It was after being evicted from these lands that members of his family are found first in Hall County, Georgia, and later in Marion County, Tennessee.

A spur of the Georgia Road followed the course of the Tennessee River to Huntsville, Alabama. This was likely the route taken by John and Elizabeth (Whitworth) Blagg. John was the last child of Caleb's known to have left Rockingham County, North Carolina, which was at some point after the 1810 Census. He was in Lawrence County, Alabama by around 1818.

In addition to the Blagg families who have been discussed thus far, there is record of two additional Blaggs in the records of Rockingham and/or Guilford County, North Carolina: Thomas Blagg¹² and Sally (Blagg)

⁶ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee Early Land Registers, 1778-1927, Tennessee, Sumner County*, Grant or Warrant #12787, 17 Jun 1814.

⁷ *Rockingham, North Carolina Deeds, Volume P*, pages 271-273.

⁸ *Marion County, Tennessee Court Minutes, Volume 1*, page 30.

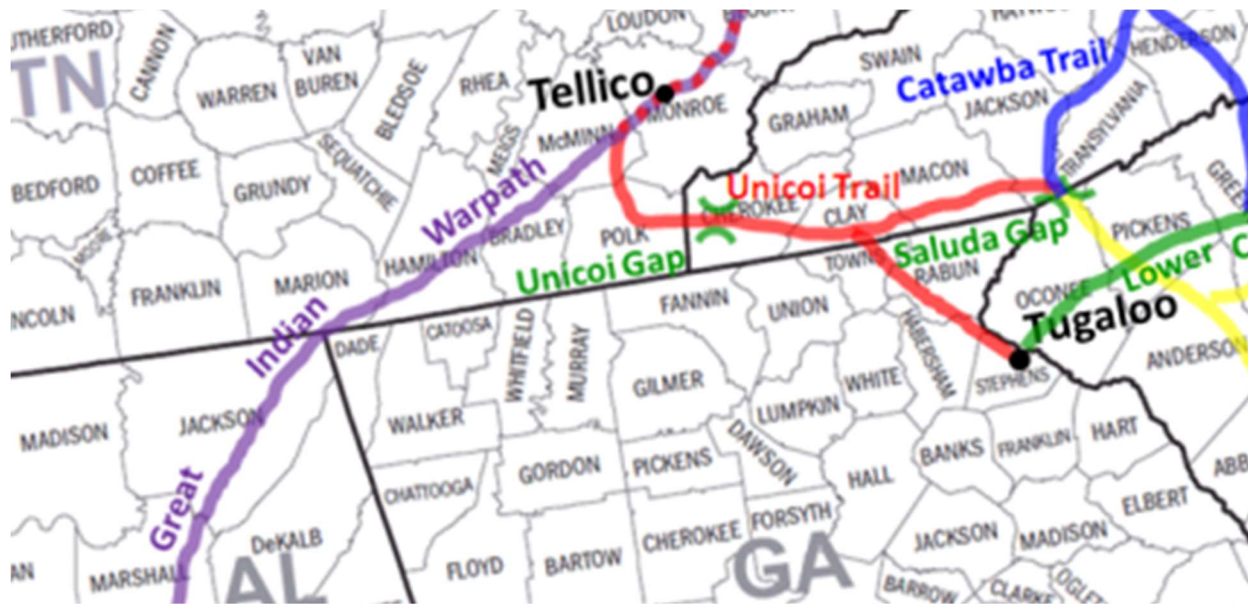
⁹ *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book O*, page 234.

¹⁰ *Jackson County [AL] Chronicles, Vol. 23, #1, Jan 2011*, page 2. <http://www.jchaweb.org/chronicles/2011ChroniclesV23N1-4.pdf>.

¹¹ Ancestry.com's *Memorial of the Inhabitants of Cherokee Country: (State Department Records, endorsed August 1819)*.

¹² *Guilford County, NC Deeds, Book F*, page 380.

Fowler.¹³ Since Thomas is not known to have had any children, and since no trace has been found of Sally's family, there really isn't much to be said about them, though we will return to them shortly.



Map 3: Map showing Unicoi Gap and locations where Israel and James Blagg had lived.

With that basic foundation, and with extensive research of available early land, tax, court and other records, there is a logical basis for deducing, with a high degree of certainty, who of the majority of the various early Blaggs were related to whom (or at least enough of them to establish a decent foundation upon which other researchers can build in the future). The specific details that help to prove these relationships are found in several appendices in the back matter of this book. The book's narrative only includes the most important of these details, so that the reader doesn't have to slog through very minute detail in order to comprehend the conclusions being made. Those desiring more detail are encouraged to pore over the appendices to satisfy their more intense and detailed curiosity of specific individuals.

¹³ Ancestry.com's *North Carolina Marriage Collection, 1741-2004*, 3 Dec 1808, Salley Blag to Francis Fowler.

Two Minor Enigmas

While the main narrative of this book follows a logical order for distilling down how the family of Caleb Blagg fits together, at the end of that process there remained two unsolved puzzles. They are best discussed now, as the uncertainty that they cause affects some of the later conclusions. They are:

1. Sally Blagg, who was married in 1808 in North Carolina, and
2. Thomas Blagg, whose name is only found in a single 1794 deed.

Sally (Blagg) Fowler

Her marriage to Francis Fowler took place on 3 Dec 1808 in Rockingham County, North Carolina.¹⁴ The only other record of her husband is a Rockingham County deed dated 5 Feb 1811, where Samuel Fowler of Bedford County, Tennessee sold to Lewis Bond 300 acres of land in Rockingham County. The deed was proved in 1812 in Wilson County, Tennessee (by Thomas Trollinger, husband of Polley Fowler). In addition to Samuel, the deed was also signed by the following, though their place of residence at the time is not stated:

- Francis Fowler
- Thomas Fowler
- Fanny Fowler (the widow of William Perry Fowler)

There is no record of Samuel purchasing this property, which William Perry Fowler had purchased from Alexander McLaren in 1796. William Perry Fowler died in Dec 1805, so the above deed with the signatures of his widow and children was very clearly part of the settling of his estate.

Just where the other three signatories were living when they signed is unknown. But the deed was not proven for an additional sixteen months, and that took place in Wilson County, Tennessee. It is likely that is where Francis and/or Thomas Fowler may have been living at the time. Unfortunately, that is a time period when exceedingly few records have survived there.

So, what can be inferred from Sally's marriage?

1. If she married when she came of age, she was likely born about 1790.
2. She was likely not William Blagg's daughter, as it would be very unusual for him to have left her behind and unmarried (for a full year, no less) while he was residing in Kentucky.
3. She was likely not Caleb Blagg's daughter, as he was living in Kentucky when she married, and had not resided in Rockingham County for several years prior to that, though there is a potential match to her in his 1800 Census record.
4. The only Blagg family still living in Rockingham County when she married was that of John Blagg, but later analysis shows that his household did not include a female with an age range that matches to Sally. However, her marriage bond was signed by Jacob Whitworth, who was likely the brother of John Blagg's wife, Elizabeth Whitworth.
5. There is a possible match for her in the Census household of James Blagg, but in 1800 he was living in South Carolina. So, it makes no sense that she was his daughter.

The most likely conclusion is that she was the widow of an unknown son of Caleb's, or that she had divorced one of Caleb's known sons. Regarding the latter, there is a significant gap in the ages of the children of James Blagg, so he would be the one possibility. The puzzling thing is that, if this speculation is correct, she waited so long to remarry. But it would explain why James' two eldest children ended up in Bedford County, Tennessee, while the rest of his tribe went to Jackson County, Alabama.

¹⁴ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C91D-SCFX?i=199&cat=1909424>

Thomas Blagg

While there seems to be no family that is a likely fit for Sally, there is the 1794 deed mentioning the property of “Thos Blagg.” If he was yet another son of Caleb’s (and Thomas was not simply the middle name of one of Caleb’s eldest sons or that his surname was incorrectly transcribed in that deed), then he is a possible candidate, as either his daughter or his widow. Of the two options, the latter might be a bit more likely.

The point would appear to be moot for both of them, as Thomas’ deed and Sally’s marriage are the only records of their existence. And even Sally’s husband from her 1808 marriage is found in only one additional record, the 1811 deed from Samuel Fowler.

Brief Overview

Tables on the following pages provide a brief overview of some of what was learned while researching this book. It's basically a heads up about where we will end up. It allows the reader to see up front where their ancestor fits into the scheme of things.

For the family of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg, the results will likely come as a total shock to many people. That is because most of the children who had previously been attributed to them were actually children by one of the following three men:

- James Blagg (one of his two elder children by what was apparently a first wife of his: these two siblings apparently headed to Bedford County, Tennessee when the rest of James' family went to Jackson County, Alabama),
- Israel Blagg (three of his at least six children; he is where the Hall County, Georgia and Cherokee heritage Blagg connections originate, not with William and Sina), and
- Kelton Blagg (probably one of his four children).

It seems the last two of these men were completely overlooked in earlier efforts to attempt to find parents for these particular grandchildren of Caleb Blagg. It illustrates how it is very easy to get the answer wrong when conclusions are reached in the absence of relevant facts.

In the place of these wrongly attributed children are four new children of William and Sina, three of whom had been completely missed by prior researchers. In addition, there are additional children added to the families of some of William's other siblings.

The first table (on the following page) shows how I have interpreted the facts related to about 40 of Caleb Blagg's grandchildren by six of his children. The narrative of the book will explain the degree of confidence that can be placed in the conclusions that have been reached about each of these families. The vast majority of information presented herein is on very solid ground, with considerable detailed research and analysis to back it up.

The second table shows the first and last (or only) record for each of Caleb's children (or their widow) in each place where their presence is documented in public records. It is somewhat simplified, but it helps to illustrate the migration patterns discussed above, as well as the scope of research that was undertaken for this book. The gaps between records help to illustrate that for some people it is not known precisely when they left one area and showed up in another. The blank spaces show that the migration could have happened anywhere within that vacant timespan.

Table: Caleb Blagg's Known Children and Grandchildren

In order to simplify this table, only one spouse of each grandchild is given, usually either the first, or the one responsible for the most offspring. The full details of these families can be found in a section devoted to each later in the book.

Caleb Blagg b. by 1744 & unknown wife		
<p>James b. 1765 <i>unknown wife</i> Elizabeth b. 1789 <i>m. Robert Chappell</i> Michael b. 1794 <i>m. Nancy Garner</i></p> <p>Piercy MNU Elijah M. b. 1802 <i>m. Nancy Almond</i> Zipporah b. 1803 <i>m. William Garner</i> James H. b. 1810 <i>unmarried</i> Lucinda b. 1810 <i>m. Alexander St. Clair</i> Samuel b. 1813 <i>m. Emeline Jennings</i> Lurena b. 1815 <i>m. Samuel Sloan</i></p>	<p>John b. 1772 <i>Elizabeth Whitworth</i> Jacob W. b. 1795 <i>m. Margaret Plant</i> Caleb b. 1796 <i>m. unknown</i> Behethelum b. 1802 <i>m. John Frost</i> William P. b. 1804 <i>m. Phebe Bailey</i> Josephus b. 1809 <i>m. Sarah Dethay</i> Frances b. 1811 <i>m. Isaiah Hamilton</i> Mary b. 1812 <i>m. Wiley Moore</i> Elizabeth J. b. 1815 <i>m. Amasa Graham</i> Thomas b. 1817 <i>m. unknown</i></p>	<p>Heathy b. 1777 <i>John Barnard</i> Pleasant b. 1796 <i>m. Nancy Hinton</i> Zadoc b. 1799 <i>m. Hannab Kimbel</i> John b. 1801 <i>m. Cada Johnson</i> William b. 1805 <i>m. Ally Hunter</i> George W. b. 1809 <i>m. Malinda Crowder</i> Caleb b. 1812 <i>m. Parzade MNU</i> Albert b. 1813 <i>m. Sally MNU</i> Margaret b. 1817 <i>m. Thomas Galey</i></p>
<p>William b. 1767 <i>Sina Knight</i> Caleb D. b. 1790 <i>m. Elizabeth MNU</i> Isaac b. 1791 <i>m. Lydia Morgan</i> Sarah H. b. 1793 <i>m. Samuel Fowler</i> Jahu W. b. 1805 <i>m. Judith Staggs</i> Mary M. b. 1807 <i>m. John W. Roberts</i></p>	<p>Israel b. 1776 <i>Nancy Richey</i> John M. b. 1802 <i>m. Charlotte Eaton</i> Israel J. b. 1805 <i>m. Nancy MNU</i> Pinkie b. 1806 <i>m. John Thornton</i> Sarah Ann b. 1806 <i>m. Meredith Edwards</i> Thomas J. b. 1808 <i>m. Sarah Lacy</i> Elizabeth b. 1809 <i>m. Jesse Paris</i></p>	<p>Kelton b. 1779 <i>Mary MNU</i> John b. 1800 <i>m. Sally Spain</i> Matilda b. 1804 <i>m. Mark Baker</i> Henry b. 1808 <i>m. Mary Nix</i> Martha b. 1810 <i>m. Isaac Burd</i></p>

Table: Places of Residence of Caleb Blagg and His Children, as Proven by Public Records

This table approximates the first and last known records for each of the listed individuals in various places where public records show that they had lived.

	CALEB	JAMES	WILLIAM & SINA	JOHN	ISRAEL & NANCY	HEATHY	KELTON
1778	NC-B						
1780							
1782	NC-G						
1784							
1786	NC-R		NC-G				
1788							
1790		NC-B					
1792							
1794		NC-R	NC-R				
1796				NC-R		NC-R	
1798							
1800							
1802	SC-P						
1804							
1806							SC-P
1808		SC-P					
1810			KY-L	SC-P			
1812							
1814							
1816	KY-L KY-S					KY-L KY-S	TN-S
1818					TN-C		
1820			TN-B				
1822							
1824		AL-J		AL-L		GA-H	
1826							
1828	TN-W						
1830					TN-M		
1832						TN-W	
1834							
1836							
1838							AR-F
1840					TN-M		

KEY:

North Carolina

- NC-B Burke Co.
- NC-G Guilford Co.
- NC-R Rockingham Co.

South Carolina

- SC-P Pendleton Dist.

Kentucky

- KY-L Logan Co.
- KY-S Simpson Co.

Tennessee

- TN-S Sumner Co.
- TN-B Bedford Co.
- TN-C Cherokee Country
- TN-W Weakley Co.

Alabama

- AL-J Jackson Co.
- AL-L Lawrence Co.

Georgia

- GA-H Hall Co.

Arkansas

- AR-F Franklin Co.

The Carolinas

There are only two records of Caleb Blagg prior to his arrival in North Carolina, which probably occurred at some point during the Revolutionary War. And though others have inferred quite a bit more from the two records that follow, my preference is to stick to the facts. The first clear record is his apprenticeship to James Nesbitt in 1753 in Dettingen Parish, Prince William County, Colony of Virginia where he was to learn the house carpenter's trade.¹⁵ And in 1773, he was living at Berkeley Plantation (the site of an early Colonial shipyard) in Charles City County, Colony of Virginia, where he advertised a reward for his lost horse.¹⁶ Just a few years later is when he first appears in records of North Carolina, the family's first stop on his descendants' long migration west.

Much has been speculated about Caleb's age based upon his apprenticeship. But based upon the best guess of the age of his eldest known child, he was likely born no later than 1744, meaning that he could have been apprenticed at a fairly young age (as early as nine years old).

What was unclear at the start of this research was whether all of the Blaggs found at various times in Census records living near Caleb were his children, or whether one or more could have been his sibling. What was concluded was that none of the others was old enough to have been a sibling, meaning that it is clear that one man is the progenitor of the many Blaggs discussed in this book, who are his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

¹⁵ *Dettingen Parish Vestry Book, 1745-1802*, pages 14-15 - I managed to not get the complete citation for this, but it is has been cited by many others. It is found on *FHL Microfilm # 31089*.

¹⁶ *The Virginia Gazette (published by Rind)*, 11 Mar 1773, page 3, column 2.

Rockingham County, North Carolina

The Blagg story does not begin in Rockingham County, North Carolina, but it is where enough evidence leads that it makes a good point of departure.

A few North Carolina records pre-date our clan's arrival in Rockingham County, so they are worth discussing briefly. In 1778, Caleb Blagg was mentioned in a deed in Burke County, North Carolina.¹⁷ In 1780, he made a land entry in Guilford County, North Carolina for property on the waters of Deep River, receiving the patent to the land in 1783. In 1785, Rockingham County had been created from Guilford County. In 1790, Caleb made a land entry on the east side of Blews Creek [sic: Belews Creek, a tributary of Dan River] in Rockingham County, receiving that patent in 1791. The property was located 10 or 15 miles north of the Deep River property. But for some reason, Caleb does not appear in the 1790 Census for either Rockingham County or Guilford County, depriving us of key information about the members of his household.

But William Blagg is found in the 1790 Census for Rockingham County, living three doors away from Thomas Knight. Thomas Knight's property was located on the north side of Jacobs Creek (less than ten miles west of Belews Creek), which is also a tributary of Dan River. In 1798, William Blagg sold 52 acres of that Jacobs Creek property to Isaac Perriman, with the deed stating that the property had been granted to him (William) by Asa Brasher.¹⁸ That deed, plus Thomas Knight's 1824 will in Wilson County, Tennessee stating that one of his daughters was Sina Blagg, proves that William Blagg had married Sina Knight.¹⁹ With an infant son in their 1790 household, they were likely married in 1788 or 1789. If it was their first marriage, then William likely married at age 21 and was born around 1768, and Sina was likely married at age 18 and was born around 1771.

In 1794, a deed where Caleb Blagg sold 200 acres to Lewis Williamson states that the property was on Thos Blagg's line, which is the only reference to this individual.²⁰ It suggests that he was yet another son of Caleb's, and that he was old enough to have owned property. Yet there are two other possibilities that may be more likely. The first is that his given name was recorded incorrectly, and that it should be something other than Thomas, or the surname was recorded incorrectly (Knight, perhaps?). Yet another possibility is that Thomas was the second name of one of Caleb's older sons, as in William Thomas Blagg, James Thomas Blagg or John Thomas Blagg.

In 1795, John Blagg married Elizabeth Whitworth in Rockingham County, and a short time later made a land entry for 100 acres of land there, on the waters of Jacobs Creek. The property abutted the properties of Thomas Knight, William Blagg, William Flemming and Charles Bruce. If John married at age 21, then he was born by 1774. If Elizabeth married at the customary age of 18, then she was born by 1777.

Also in 1795, Heathy (almost certainly a nickname for Beheathland, the surname of an old colonial family) Blagg married John Barnard in Rockingham County. If she had married at age 18, then she was born by 1777.

In 1796, John Blagg purchased 83 acres of land on Brushy Fork Creek, waters of Rock House Creek, from William P. Fowler (Rock House Creek and Jacobs Creek flow within less than a mile of each other in some places).²¹ An 1811 deed establishes that Samuel Fowler of Bedford County, Tennessee (son-in-law of William Blagg), Francis Fowler, Thomas Fowler and Fanny Fowler (his widow) were the heirs of William Perry Fowler of Rockingham County, North Carolina, who died there in 1804.²²

¹⁷ *Burke County, North Carolina Deeds, Volume 1*, page 250, #748.

¹⁸ *Rockingham County, North Carolina Deeds, Book E*, page 283.

¹⁹ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Wills and Probate Records, 1779-2008, Wilson County, Wills Index, 1803-1917*, Images 421-424.

²⁰ *Guilford County, North Carolina Deeds, Book F*, page 380.

²¹ *Rockingham County, North Carolina Deeds, Book M*, page 32.

²² *Rockingham, North Carolina Deeds, Volume P*, pages 271-273.

In the 1800 Census, both John Blagg and William Blagg were enumerated in Rockingham County.

In 1803, Caleb Blagg received the patent to his 200-acre grant in Rockingham County.²³

John Blagg's presence in the 1810 Census for Rockingham County is the last record of any Blaggs there.

The above facts strongly suggest that Caleb Blagg, William Blagg, John Blagg and Heathy (Blagg) Barnard were close family. While these facts also suggest that it was likely that William was born by 1768, John was born by 1774 and Heathy was born by 1777, there is, thus far, nothing to tell us Caleb's age, nor anything about the composition of his household.

²³ *Rockingham County, North Carolina Deeds, Book L*, page 158.

Pendleton District, South Carolina

Caleb Blagg is listed in the 1800 Census for Pendleton District, South Carolina, where it states that he was over 45 years of age (and thus born before 1755). In addition to himself, living in his household in 1800 were:

- A male born between 1785 and 1790 (Kelton Blagg),
- A male born between 1775 and 1785 (unknown),
- A female born between 1790 and 1800 (unknown),
- A female born between 1756 and 1774 (unknown), and
- A female born before 1755 (his wife)

We know that this Caleb Blagg was the one found in records of Rockingham County, North Carolina, because in 1804, while residing in Pendleton District, he sold his 200 acres on Hogan's Creek in Rockingham County to Thomas Blagg's neighbor, Charles Bruce of Guilford County, North Carolina.²⁴

Also found in the 1800 Census for Pendleton District are the households of James Blagg and Israel Blagg.

James Blagg was born between 1756 and 1774, though his 1810 Census record in Pendleton District narrows that range down to between 1756 and 1765. In addition to a wife of the same age range, James Blagg's 1800 household includes two sons and three daughters who were all born between 1790 and 1800. But where he had married remains a mystery. In 1804, Caleb Blagg witnessed a deed where James had acquired property, so they were clearly closely related.²⁵ The last record of him in Pendleton District is in 1818.²⁶

Earlier, it was stated that there was record of Caleb Blagg being in Burke County, North Carolina in 1778. In the 1790 Census for Burke County, there is the household of Jas Blagg, which includes two females (likely a wife and an infant daughter). With such a small family, he was likely married around 1789 or 1788, and thus he was born by 1767 (and his 1810 Census record implies that he was born before 1765). So, it is very plausible that he, too, was Caleb's son (at least it is far more likely than them being brothers), and it is likely Burke County is where his marriage took place (his wife's given name was Piercy, and the surnames of Piercy and Percy appear in records there during the time that they had lived there).

Israel Blagg's 1800 Census record shows that he and his wife were born between 1774 and 1785, and they had a young son and daughter. That suggests that they were married by 1797 or so, and the lack of a marriage record implies that they were likely married in Pendleton District, South Carolina, as other members of the family start to show up there around that time. An 1808 deed establishes that his wife's name was Nancy.²⁷ Her maiden name was likely Richey, as the 1834 will of John Richey includes a daughter, Nancy Blagg.²⁸ Israel sold his property in Pendleton District in 1808, and is found on a tax list for Franklin County, Georgia in 1807 (which is just across the state line from Pendleton District). If he was married in 1797, he was likely born by 1776. The last record of him in Pendleton District is when he witnessed and proved a deed in 1811.²⁹

In 1802, Nimrod Kelfin (or Kelssin if the cursive script used to record his name contains a long S, and not an F) Blagg appears as the witness to a deed in Pendleton District.³⁰

Caleb Blagg's last known public record in Pendleton District was in late 1806.³¹

²⁴ *Rockingham County, North Carolina Deeds, Book M*, page 32.

²⁵ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book K*, page 236, #1084.

²⁶ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book O*, page 234.

²⁷ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book J*, page 164, #296.

²⁸ In the 1800 Census, John Richey was the head of household #508, and Caleb Blagg was the head of household #515.

²⁹ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book M*, page 200, #2063.

³⁰ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book G*, pages 251-252.

³¹ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book L*, page 62, #1186.

In the 1810 Census for Pendleton District there are four Blagg households:

- James Blagg. His household included two men over 45 years old (the second man was *not* Caleb Blagg, as there is record of him living in Logan County, Kentucky that year).
- Jas or Jos Blagg, born between 1766 and 1794 (whose household was as large as James', implying that he had been married for many years). His household included a male and female between the ages of 16 and 25, plus seven younger children. Missing from this Census was Israel Blagg, though the above household is not a match for the majority of his daughters. It is most likely that James' household was simply enumerated twice.
- John Blagg, born between 1766 and 1794 (he was apparently the John Blagg from Rockingham County, North Carolina).
- Kelton Blagg, born between 1766 and 1794.

[NOTE: Shown living in adjacent Greenville District, South Carolina in the 1810 Census was the household of J. Blagg, with 24 family members! The surname should be Bragg, not Blagg. They are unrelated to Caleb Blagg.]

Two Migration Routes

Caleb Blagg, his children and descendants took two basic routes to reach the west:

- The northern route: over the Cumberland Gap, and then via the Wilderness Road and the Kentucky Road toward Nashville, Tennessee.
- The southern route: from South Carolina on either the Unicoi Trail or Georgia Road through Chattanooga, and then either north along the Georgia Road towards Nashville, Tennessee or west along the Great Indian War Path (which crosses Alabama from the northeast corner of the state to Mobile). Most who took the southern route followed the Great Warrior Path, though at least a few of James Blagg's children migrated north from Alabama, likely on the Georgia Road.

Those who took the northern route left first, as by that time it had been an established wagon road for over a decade. The family lore from Drew Roberts has it that William Blagg's youngest daughter was born along the trek west in 1807. Others who took this route, in the order of the first available public record were: Caleb Blagg (in 1807),³² Isaac Blagg (in 1811),³³ and Kelton Blagg (in 1813, which is based upon his Tennessee War of 1812 militia service – he could have arrived at any time after 1810).³⁴

All those who took the southern route had stayed for a time in Pendleton District, South Carolina. In the order of their last available public record there, they were: John Blagg (1810 Census), Israel Blagg (in 1811)³⁵ and James Blagg (in 1818).³⁶

The following narrative is grouped according to these two routes, but the story of Caleb's family is told out of sequence. That is because there is more clarity for those of his children who took the southern route, so they are covered first. They settled, at least temporarily, in parts of Georgia, Alabama and Southeastern Tennessee. Dealing with them helps to further lift the fog surrounding the family of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg, whose family will be among the last to be covered.

With the southern route trekkers out of the way, the focus will shift to those who migrated through the Cumberland Gap. They settled in three locations, which were all within about 150 of each other:

- The first location was on the Kentucky-Tennessee State Line, about three miles north-northwest of Mitchellville, Tennessee. Near the middle of the State Line, there is a more-or-less inverted triangular notch, with its inverted apex centered at Mitchellville. The Blaggs lived at the far end of the eastern line of that triangle, where the State Line resumes its horizontal orientation in a due easterly direction. This is almost exactly where the West Fork of Drakes Creek transects the State Line. They lived on the western bluff of Drakes Creek, on both sides of the State Line.
- The second location was in the southern half of Bedford County, Tennessee, south of Shelbyville on the waters of Sugar Creek. The first public record of any Blagg family in Bedford County was Sina (Knight) Blagg's 1820 Census record, though her son-in-law Samuel Fowler (husband of her daughter Sarah) is noted as residing there in the 1811 deed that settled the estate of his father, William Perry Fowler.
- The final location was in Weakley County, Tennessee. This where John and Heathy (Blagg) Barnard moved to from Simpson County, Kentucky, and it is also where the nuncupative (oral) will of Caleb Blagg was recorded at the Apr 1828 Session of the Weakley County Circuit Court.³⁷

³² <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9X5-7?i=457&cat=156098>, image 458 of 1012.

³³ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9N3-C?i=693&cat=156098>, image 695 of 1012.

³⁴ There is a John Blagg who shows up in a single 1811 Logan County, Kentucky tax record. This was not Caleb's son. He had more wealth than any of Caleb's sons, which suggests the surname was recorded incorrectly (perhaps Bragg?).

³⁵ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book M*, page 200, #2063.

³⁶ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book O*, page 234.

³⁷ *Tennessee, Weakley County, Circuit Court, Minutes, 1827-1835, Volume 1*, image 85 of 645.

With those basic facts out of the way, the following narrative is told in the following sequence:

Those who likely took Southern Route:

- James Blagg, born about 1765. He migrated from Burke County, North Carolina to Pendleton District, South Carolina to Jackson County, Alabama.
- John Blagg, born about 1772. He migrated from Rockingham County, North Carolina to Lawrence County, Alabama.
- Israel Blagg, born about 1776. He migrated from Pendleton District, South Carolina to Cherokee Country (located in Southeast Tennessee) to Hall County, Georgia to Marion County, Tennessee.

Those who almost certainly took the Northern Route:

- Caleb Blagg, born about 1744. From Virginia he migrated first to Burke County, North Carolina, then to Guilford County, North Carolina, next to Rockingham County, North Carolina, then the Pendleton District, South Carolina, then to Logan County, Kentucky, which later became Simpson County, Kentucky, and finally to Weakley County, Tennessee where he died in early 1828.
- Heathy (Blagg) Barnard, born about 1777. Her husband migrated from Rockingham County, North Carolina to Logan (now Simpson) County, Kentucky, to Weakley County, Tennessee, and finally to Franklin County, Arkansas.
- William Blagg, born about 1767. He migrated from Rockingham County, North Carolina, likely to Logan County, Kentucky.
- Kelton Blagg, born about 1779. He migrated from Pendleton District, South Carolina to Sumner County, Tennessee.

At the end of the series of narratives for each of the above people, the concluding section will review the facts supporting Caleb's relationship to each of his children and most of his grandchildren.

The Southern Route

As noted earlier, since there are few records providing clear proof of the identities of the many descendants of Caleb Blagg, this story needs to be told somewhat out of order. In that way, it is possible to begin with the firmest possible foundation of fact for members of Caleb's household, and slowly narrow things down to where the clues become scarcer. Researching in that sequence leaves progressively fewer and fewer mysteries to be solved. The end result is that the most difficult enigmas become simpler and far less confusing, and the conclusions more certain.

John Blagg & Lawrence County, Alabama

In addition to being one of the two Blagg lines built upon a firm foundation, the line of John Blagg would appear to have some basis in family lore, as some unsourced accounts provide important details, such as middle names and specific dates of birth. But it appears that nobody has been thoughtful enough to make the source of that information easily available to other researchers. And without a clear idea of its origins, it is best to stick as close as possible to just the verifiable facts.



Map 4: First dates in public records in places where John Blagg is found.³⁸

According to the place of birth attributed to John Blagg's children in their 1850 Census records (who will be listed later), he had lived in North Carolina until at least 1810 (where he was enumerated in Rockingham County, which is the last known public record of any of Caleb's clan living there), and had moved to somewhere in Tennessee by 1815 (where his youngest daughter was born).

In 1817, Alabama Territory was carved from Mississippi Territory, and Lawrence County was created there in 1818. Alabama became a state in late 1819. The earliest record of any Blagg in Lawrence County was in 1818, when Caleb and J. W. Blagg (both of whom were John's sons) appraised a stray bay filly to be worth \$18.³⁹ And the last reference of a Blagg residing in Lawrence County was for Thomas Blagg, who in 1842 was indicted for gaming.⁴⁰

In [Appendix G](#) there is reference to an article by Charlotte Smith found in a Jackson County, Arkansas genealogy newsletter, that gives an account of John Blagg's children, which, with the exception of two family members who were flagged as being speculative, has been adequately and competently researched. Also in the same appendix is a timeline detailing his family's tenure in Lawrence County, Alabama, including minor court records that span two and a half decades, and several marriage records, which are the primary evidence that identifies most of his children. Analysis of these records, and of his 1800, 1810, 1820 and 1830 Census records, plus early court records of Jackson County, Arkansas (where his descendants migrated to from Alabama), confirms the conclusions stated in the article. However, there was one other likely son who had been omitted: Thomas Blagg.

³⁸ Base Map Source: *USGS National Map* (online).

³⁹ FHL microfilm #2433693, *Alabama, Jackson County, Mixed Court Records, 1818-1950, Case 58, Box 259, File 14.*

⁴⁰ FHL microfilm #2433693, *Alabama, Jackson County, Mixed Court Records, 1818-1950, Case 1169, Box 178, File 142*

Un sourced family lore has it that John Blagg died while attempting to migrate to Arkansas in the mid-1830s, but since all of his children were still residing in Alabama in 1840, that story is somewhat suspect. Several of his children are found in the 1850 Census for Jackson County, Arkansas: Caleb, Behethelum (wife of John Frost), Josephus, and Elizabeth Jane (wife of Amasa Graham). The earliest public record of any of them living there was in 1845. John's wife, Elizabeth (Whitworth) Blagg, died in Jackson County, Arkansas on 9 Dec 1846.⁴¹

There are two guardianship bonds in the probate file of John's son Caleb, for his nephew and niece: Tipton Lewis Blagg, b. 1839, and Frances Jane Blagg, b. 1841. Guardianship was originally granted to Josephus Blagg, but upon his death, the responsibility had fallen to Caleb. Josephus Blagg, William W. Frost (possibly Behethelum Blagg's son), Isaiah Hamilton (husband of Frances Blagg) and Caleb Blagg posted the guardianship bonds. It seems most likely that these two youngsters were children of Thomas Blagg, as there would appear to be no other likely suspects. They were neither Caleb's nor Josephus' children.

John Blagg's Family

The known children of **John** and **Elizabeth (Whitworth) Blagg** were:

1. **Jacob Whitworth Blagg**, born About 1795, died After 1830. He is said to have married **Margaret Parmelia Plant**. They had at least two children:
 - a. **Nancy Blagg**, born 27 May 1829, died 12 Sep 1880. She married **John Martin**, and they had at least nine children together.
 - b. **Elizabeth Blagg**, born 2 Apr 1831, died 8 Mar 1908. She married **Joel Wesley Martin**, and they had at least twelve children together.
2. **Caleb Blagg**, born about 1796 in North Carolina, died about 1858 in Jackson County, Arkansas. In the 1840 Census, Caleb is found living in Lauderdale County, Alabama, which is just across the river from Lawrence County, Alabama. He had at least seven children, by an unknown wife or wives:
 - a. **Garlan Blagg**, born about 1824, died Nov 1849 of pneumonia. **Levina**, his widow, is found in the 1850 Census for Jackson County, Arkansas with their two children.
 - b. **Frances Blagg**, born about 1827. She married **Patrick Parsons** in Union County, Arkansas, on 3 Dec 1845. They had at least five children together.
 - c. **Elizabeth Blagg**, born about 1829, died Jul 1849.
 - d. **Charlotte Blagg**, born 7 Jun 1831, died 6 Dec 1896. She married **Marcus L. Box** in Jackson County, Alabama on 30 Apr 1854. They had two children together.
 - e. **Anderson J. Blagg**, born about 1836.
 - f. **William Blagg**, born about 1838.
 - g. **Samuel E. Blagg**, born 11 Sep 1840, died 4 Nov 1911. He married **Sarah E. MNU** (possibly Brooks). They had five children.
3. **Behethelum Blagg**, born about 1802 in North Carolina. She married **John R. Frost** in Lawrence County, Alabama on 3 Aug 1820 in Lawrence County, Alabama. They had one son.
 - a. **William Frost**, born about 1823.
4. **William P. Blagg**, born about 1804 in North Carolina (one undocumented source says the P stands for Perry, as in **William Perry Fowler**, **Samuel Fowler**'s father, who had sold property to **John Blagg** in 1796, and who died in 1804). He married **Phebe Bailey** in Lawrence County, Alabama in 1825. No further record is found of him after his marriage. Un sourced information claims that he had one daughter:
 - a. **Frances J. Blagg**, born about 1830.
5. **Josephus Blagg**, born about 1809 in North Carolina. He married first **Sarah Dethay** in 1837 in Lawrence County, Alabama, and they had five children together.

⁴¹ *Genealogical Abstracts from Reported Deaths, The Nashville Christian Advocate, 1847-1849*, by Jonathan Kennon Thompson Smith (2003), page number not noted.

- a. **Thomas T. or F. Blagg**, born May 1844. He married first **Adaline May Smith**, and they had one child. He married second **Sarah A. Clark** on 28 Mar 1880 in Jackson County, Arkansas, and they had three sons together.
 - b. **William Blagg**, born about 1846.
 - c. **James Thomas Blagg**, born 13 Jul 1848, died 5 Dec 1905. He married first **Mary A. Chesier** on 10 Oct 1869 in Jackson County, Arkansas, and they had two sons. He married second **Betty Elizabeth Moore** in 1878. They had six children.
 - d. **Constanza Ann “Tannie” Blagg**, born 7 Jul 1853, died 12 Apr 1933. She married first **William J. Garard** on 28 Mar 1869 in Jackson County, Arkansas. They had no children. She married second **Samuel Joseph McConnell** on 7 Jun 1874 in Jackson County, Arkansas. They had at least two children together.
 - e. **John Blagg**, born about 1854.
- Josephus Blagg** married second the widow **Sophronia (MNU) Crossland**, and they had four children together.
- f. **Talyrand Wesley Blagg**, born 18 Apr 1856, died 15 Oct 1931. He married **Mary Almeda Tate** on 19 Jul 1882 in Lee County, Texas. They had nine children together. He had been married earlier to an unknown wife, and they had one daughter.
 - g. **Phoebe Blagg**, born about 1859.
 - h. **Caleb Bartlette Blagg**, born 17 Jun 1859, died 19 Apr 1941. He married **Mary Etta Moon** around 1886. They had four children.
 - i. **Josephus Selden Blagg**, born 12 Dec 1861, died 20 Dec 1927.
6. **Frances Blagg**, born about 1811 in North Carolina. She married **Isaiah Hamilton** in Lawrence County, Alabama on 7 Jan 1829. They had four children.
 - a. **Isaiah McClaren Hamilton**, born about 1831. He married first **Martha Phillips** on 13 Nov 1849 in Jackson County, Arkansas. They had five children together. He married second **Martha Pierce** on 24 Apr 1870, and married third **Mary C. Young** on 12 Mar 1876. Both marriages took place in Jackson County, and there were no children by either marriage.
 - b. **John Josephus Hamilton**, born 29 Dec 1833, died 7 Nov 1903. He married **Corintha S. Davis** on 10 Feb 1864 in Smith County, Texas. They had one son.
 - c. **Mary Amelia C. Hamilton**, born about 1838, died 1899. She married **William Henry Morris III** on 30 Nov 1857 in Jackson County, Arkansas. They had 4 children together.
 - d. **Harriett N. Hamilton**, born about 1842. She married **James N. Johnston** on 12 Dec 1875 in Jackson County, Arkansas.
 7. **Mary Blagg**, born about 1812 in North Carolina. She married **Wiley B. Moore, Sr.** in Lawrence County, Alabama in 1833. They had six children:
 - a. **Wiley B. Moore, Jr.** born about 1837.
 - b. **John Moore**, born about 1838.
 - c. **Hetty Moore**, born about 1840.
 - d. **Jane Moore**, born about 1842.
 - e. **Josiah J. Moore**, born about 1846.
 - f. **Cyrus Moore**, born about 1848.
 8. **Elizabeth Jane Blagg**, born about 1815 in Tennessee. She married first **Amasa Graham** on 1 Dec 1835 in Lawrence County, Alabama. They had four children together. She had no children by her second marriage to **Peterson Elder** on 16 Nov 1851 in Jackson County, Arkansas.
 - a. **William Graham**, born about 1839.
 - b. **John Graham**, born about 1842.
 - c. **Henry W. Graham**, born about 1846.
 - d. **Mary B. “Mollie” Graham**, born about 1847. She married **Milton Bacon Bonner** on 10 May 1866 in Jackson County, Arkansas, and they had three sons together.
 9. **Thomas Blagg**, born about 1817, died about 1845. Thomas’ year of birth is inferred from his eldest child, and year of death is inferred from Tipton’s guardianship record.

- a. **Tipton Lewis Blagg**, born about 1839, died 1865. He married **Rutha H. Brooks** on 22 Sep 1859 in Jackson County, Arkansas.
- b. **Frances Jane Blagg**, born about 1841.

To confirm the accuracy of the above children, these individuals were matched to the households described in John's early Census records. That analysis is presented on the following page.

John Blagg Census Analysis

The table below compares early Census records of John's household with the children listed on the previous page. It shows that there is a corresponding match for each of them, and that there was at least one other son who likely died young (he was likely younger than Josephus, as the birth spacing of John's youngest children does not allow for a son born close to 1810).

	1800	1810	1820	1830	Child
JOB1 (male)	B. 1790-1800	B. 1795-1800	Over 21		Caleb Blagg, b. 1796
JOB2 (male)	B. 1790-1800	B. 1795-1800	Over 21		Jacob Blagg, b. 1798, d. 1833
JOB3 (female)		B. 1800-1810	Under 21		Behethelum Blagg, b. 1801
JOB4 (male)		B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	William P. Blagg, b. 1803
JOB5 (male)		B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	Josephus Blagg, b. 1809
JOB6 (male)		B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	(deceased?)	
JOB7 (female)		B. 1800-1810	Under 21		Frances Blagg, b. 1811
JOB8 (female)			B. 1810-1820	B. 1810-1815	Mary Blagg, b. 1812
JOB9 (female)			B. 1810-1820	B. 1815-1820	Elizabeth Jane Blagg, b. 1815
JOB10 (male)				B. 1815-1820	Thomas Blagg, b. 1817

James Blagg & Jackson County Alabama

The first record of James Blagg is in the 1790 Census for Burke County, North Carolina, where he and his wife have an infant daughter in their household.



Map 5: First dates in public records in places where James Blagg is found.⁴²

By at least 1798, he had moved to Pendleton District, South Carolina, where his wife “Purcy” had purchased an item from the estate of John Moore.⁴³ James Blagg purchased 100 acres there on Beaverdam Creek in 1805.⁴⁴

In his 1810 Census household, in addition to himself (at over 45 years of age), his wife and apparently eight of their children, is another male over the age of 45. This was NOT Caleb Blagg, who was recorded in the Census that year for Logan County, Kentucky, suggesting it could have been James’ father-in-law.

James purchased a 200-acre property on Pea Creek in 1816, and he appears to have been the last Blagg in Pendleton District when he sold that property in late 1818.⁴⁵ In that deed, his wife “Pircy” relinquished her dower right to the property.

In Dec 1819, Piercy Blagg was a charter member of the Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church near Carns, Jackson County, Alabama.⁴⁶ And James Taylor, James Blagg and Piercy Blagg were noted as having been among the earliest settlers of the area. There is a James Taylor in the 1810 Census for Pendleton District, South Carolina living in James Blagg’s neighborhood, who matches the age range attribute of the James Taylor found in the 1830 Census for Jackson County, Alabama.

⁴² Base Map Source: *USGS National Map* (online).

⁴³ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Probate Judge Estate Records, Book C*, page 143.

⁴⁴ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book K*, page 237, #1085.

⁴⁵ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book O*, page 234.

⁴⁶ *Jackson County [Alabama] Chronicles, Vol. 23, #1, Jan 2011*, page 2. <http://www.jchaweb.org/chronicles/2011ChroniclesV23N1-4.pdf>.

James Blagg's daughter, Zipporah (Blagg) Garner, was also a church member. Both she and her mother left the church sometime in the mid-1820s, likely to join a newer church closer to where Elijah M. Blagg would patent land a few years later.

In 1830, James and his wife are found in Jackson County, Alabama, in a household with three males aged 20-29 and a female aged 15-19. The household listed after his was that of James Taylor.

On 1 Oct 1830, Elijah M. Blagg made a land entry for 80 acres in Jackson County, Alabama, and is thus likely one of the three males found in James' 1830 Census household. He received the patent to that property (the E ½, SE ¼, Section 34, T2S, R6E) on 15 Jun 1831.⁴⁷ The adjoining 80-acre property to the east was patented on the same date by James Taylor.

Thus, you have James Taylor - James and Piercy Blagg's friend and neighbor for more than two decades (possibly Piercy's brother or brother-in-law?) - living on a property directly abutting the property of Elijah M. Blagg. The only possible conclusion is that Elijah was the son of James and Piercy Blagg - members of the only Blagg family to have settled in this rural part of Jackson County, Alabama.

Crawford and Franklin Counties, Arkansas

Prior to 1838, Franklin County, Arkansas had been part of Crawford County, Arkansas, and that is where we next find a few clues as to Elijah's siblings.

There are several tax records in Crawford County spanning from 1830 to 1836 for Elijah Blagg, James Blagg (this was likely James Junior, not his father), Samuel Blagg, William Garner (husband of Zipporah Blagg) and Alexander St. Clair (husband of Lucinda Blagg). And Lurena's husband (Samuel Sloan) is found on the 1831 tax list (and perhaps other years, as his name is more easily mis-transcribed - Stone, Stoen, Slone, etc.).

At some time after 1838, Elijah M. Blagg sold land to S. M. Weams in Crawford County, Arkansas, but no further details are known, as the deed is no longer extant: only the deed index has survived.⁴⁸

Elijah Blagg and Alexander St. Clair were enumerated in the 1840 Census in Franklin County (after it was created from Crawford).

Fannin and Grayson Counties, Texas

Samuel Blagg and James Blagg, Junior emigrated to the Republic of Texas in 1836,⁴⁹ and they lived in a part of Fannin County that would become Grayson County in 1846. Both men were unmarried at that time. In 1841, they were joined by Thomas J. Blagg,⁵⁰ who is believed to have been the son of their uncle, Israel Blagg.

The Estate of James Blagg, Junior

The probate of the estate of James Blagg, Junior was administered by his brother Samuel and settled on 16 Oct 1843.⁵¹ He died intestate, with no offspring and no surviving parents, so his estate went to his surviving siblings;

- Lurena Blagg, wife of Samuel Sloan,
- Elijah M. Blagg,
- Lucinda Blagg, wife of Alexander St. Clair, and

⁴⁷ *General Land Office Records, Accession # AL1210 .326.*

⁴⁸ *Franklin County, Arkansas Deeds, Book A, page 124*

⁴⁹ *Texas General Land Office, Fannin County conditional certificate #s 47 and 48.*

⁵⁰ *Texas General Land Office, Fannin County conditional certificate #35.*

⁵¹ *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A, page 273.*

- Zipporah Blagg, wife of William Garner.

In an intestate estate (one without a written will), the estate would first revert to the surviving spouse (usually, but not always, a one third dower interest), then any children, then parents, then siblings and their lineal descendants, and on and on until there are no surviving blood relations, at which time the property reverts to the state. James was a bachelor, so there was no wife or children. His estate implies that both of his parents had died, since they did not inherit. Thus, anyone inheriting either directly from James' estate through probate, or inheriting some proportional "undivided interest" in real estate, was either James' sibling or a niece or nephew. From what we know so far of the people who inherited a portion of James' estate through probate, they had to be his siblings. Normally, that would be the beginning and end of the issue, but for unknown reasons James' estate was pretty messy.

In 1848, the heirs at law of James Blagg obtained a duplicate certificate of his grant of a 1/3 league headright, and that summer a patent was issued for the property. In 1850, Samuel Blagg purchased the undivided interests of that property, which were owned by several heirs of James Blagg, who were: three of the four heirs involved in James' probate (less Elijah Blagg) received a total of \$500 for their combined shares; James B. Chappell, Elijah Chappell, and Caleb B. Chappell received \$100 each for their shares; and William Hibbetts and his wife Susanna received \$100 for their share.⁵² We'll discuss the latter two sets of heirs a little later. But neither the probate nor the estate deeds seem to include all of James' heirs.

In 1857, Nancy Blagg, widow of Michael Blagg, had a letter written for her which was addressed to her daughter, Elizabeth Parker, the wife of William Parker. It mentions Nancy's sons, Ben and Mike; also "Sipy" (her daughter Zipporah), wife of "Akeman" (Gilbert Aikman). It tells how Aunt Lucinda St. Clair had sold out and was moving to California, and Aunt Emeline Blagg (widow of Samuel Blagg) married Bill Blagg, "who came over here to work on the boat." Also mentioned is Uncle Billy Garner (husband of her sister-in-law, Zipporah).⁵³ Thus, Michael Blagg would seem to have been yet another son of James and Piercy Blagg, yet he was not mentioned in any of the known documents relating to the estate of James Junior, nor were his heirs.

In the 1850 estate deeds, each person sold Samuel Blagg "any and all undivided interest" that they had in the property. That is unusual, and it makes this puzzle more difficult to solve. More typically, each person would inherit, for instance, an undivided 1/7th interest in the property if they were a sibling, or, for instance, an undivided 1/3rd of a 1/7th interest if they were a niece or nephew with two siblings. A 1/7th undivided interest would mean there were seven siblings, and three people inheriting one of those interests would be the heirs of a deceased sibling. By not specifying the precise undivided interest being conveyed, it removes an important clue to whether everyone had been accounted for.

Elizabeth (Blagg) Chappell

The three Chappell brothers were believed to have been the sons of Robert and Elizabeth (Blagg) Chappell, though there is no direct proof to establish that as fact. But clearly, they were grandsons of James Blagg, Senior (as partly evidenced by their naming their eldest son James Blagg Chappell). Likewise, Susanna Hibbetts was almost certainly her daughter (unsourced Ancestry.com trees state that Elizabeth had a daughter named Piercy whose year of birth coincides with Susanna's). It would seem that they had taken issue with being omitted from the original distribution of the estate, which is what precipitated the later deed. It seems that, for unknown reasons, Michael's heirs never received a share in the estate.

Perhaps the best circumstantial evidence that Elizabeth had married Robert Chappell comes from a biography of Thomas Baldwin Chappell as told by a descendant, Virgle Chappell.⁵⁴ Thomas was the son of Jesse

⁵² *Grayson County, Texas Deeds, Book B*, pages 159, 161 and 163.

⁵³ See [Appendix H: Arkansas, Jackson County](#).

⁵⁴ <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ok/county/ellis/farmboy/family.html>.

Chappell of Pendleton District, South Carolina, who died there in 1810. Thomas' two older brothers were John and Robert, who along with other siblings are named in Jesse's will. The biography states that Thomas moved to Bedford County, Tennessee about 1828, and that by 1840 he had moved to Jackson County, Alabama, where Elizabeth's father and many of her siblings had lived in 1830. Jesse Chappell's widow was living 13 households from Kelton Blagg in the 1810 Census for Pendleton District, South Carolina, so they were clearly living in the same neighborhood as the Blaggs. Additionally, Robert Chappell and Michael Blagg had both served in Austin's Regiment of South Carolina Militia during the War of 1812.

The fact that Michael and Elizabeth (James' two eldest children) had moved to Bedford County, Tennessee, while the rest of the family had moved to Jackson County, Alabama suggests that they may have had a different mother than James' other children. If they were half-siblings to James Blagg, Junior, that would perhaps also explain why Elizabeth's children appeared to have received a smaller proportion of his estate than the other siblings (it would reduce their proportionate share in the estate by half).

Samuel Blagg

Samuel had some prominence in Grayson County, having donated 40 acres of land to the county on 6 Apr 1848, on condition that the county seat be permanently located there. The donation formed the basis for the town of Sherman.

An unsourced Find A Grave memorial states that Samuel died in Grayson County on 3 May 1860, but guardianship of his children was granted to his widow in Sebastian County, Arkansas in Jan 1856, suggesting he had died sometime in 1855. His death might have complicated the ability of any heirs who were missing from the 1850 deeds to collect their share. It seems likely that Samuel's estate was probated in Sebastian County, Arkansas, where courthouse fires in 1881 and 1882 destroyed most records there (though some earlier records have been reconstructed). That means an important part of the puzzle of James Blagg Junior's estate is likely lost forever.

James Blagg's Family

Census records suggest that **James Blagg** had about ten children. His wife Piercy was likely the mother of most of them, though a number of facts suggest that she may not have been the mother of James' two eldest children.

1. **Elizabeth Blagg**, born about 1789, died 1843. She married **Robert Chappell**. Her children moved from Bedford County, Tennessee to Independence County, Arkansas, eventually moving to Los Angeles County, California.
 - a. **Susanna Chappell**, born 1813, died 1868. She married **William Hibbetts**, and they had seven children together.
 - b. **James Blagg Chappell**, born 1818, died 1896. He married **Elizabeth Melinda Miller** on 10 Dec 1842 in Independence County, Arkansas. They had six children together.
 - c. **Elijah A. Chappell**, born about 1824. He married **Elizabeth Ruminer** on 5 Oct 1843 in Independence County, Arkansas. They had five children.
 - d. **Caleb B. Chappell**, born about 1827. He married **Rebecca L. Dobbs** on 30 Sep 1847 in Independence County, Arkansas. They had four children.
2. **Michael Blagg**, born about 1794. His widow was **Nancy MNU**. His widow and children moved from Bedford County, Tennessee to Yell County, Arkansas.
 - a. **Elizabeth Blagg**, born 24 Jun 1822, died 23 May 1893. She married **William Parker** on 31 Dec 1843 in Yell County, Arkansas. They had six daughters.
 - b. **Cora Zipporah Blagg**, born 7 Sep 1823, died 8 Feb 1879. She married **Dubois Gilbert Aikman** and they had five children together.
 - c. **Martha Jane Blagg**, born about 1825. She married **Enos Haynes**, and they had one son.
 - d. **Benjamin F. Blagg**, born Feb 1829. He married **Sarah Ann Smith** around 1860. They had eleven children together.
 - e. **Michael B. Blagg**, born 15 Mar 1832, died 18 Sep 1891. He married **Jemima Catherine Fowler**. They had six children.
3. **Zipporah Blagg**, born about 1800 in South Carolina (1850 Census) or 1803 in North Carolina (1860 Census). She married **William Garner**, and they lived in Scott County, Arkansas.
 - a. **Wyatt Garner**, born 1815, died 1859. He married **Elizabeth E. MNU** and they had six children.
 - b. **Jemima Meldora Garner**, born 1828, died 1870. She married **David W. Winn** and they had three children.
 - c. **Samuel Garner**, born about 1832. He married **Mary MNU**.
 - d. **Melissa Deletha Garner**, born about 1838.
3. **Elijah M. Blagg**, born 1802. He married **Nancy MNU**, born 1835. Unsourced information has her maiden name being Almond. She is found in the 1850 Census for Mill Creek, Franklin County, Arkansas with six children. Unsourced information states that two additional, older children are found in the 1850 Census for Prairie, Franklin County, Arkansas:
 - a. **Nancy A. Blagg**, born 20 May 1825, died 18 May 1899. She married **James M. Purl**. They had ten children.
 - b. **Almond Blagg**, born about 1832.
 - c. **Mark Blagg**, born about 1834.
 - d. **John Blagg**, born about 1837.
 - e. **Eliza C. Blagg**, born about 1839. She married **Elias William Cline**. They had seven children together.
 - f. **James Blagg**, born about 1841. He married **Nancy MNU**, whose maiden is claimed to have been Eubanks. They had three daughters.
 - g. **Elijah M. Blagg**, born about 1845. He married **Mary Boylen** or **Bylen**. They had six children.
 - h. **Samuel Blagg**, born Oct 1848, died 18 Sep 1922.

3. **James H. Blagg**, probably born about 1810, since the first record of his existence would seem to be an 1831 tax record in Crawford County, Arkansas. He migrated to Grayson County, Texas and never married.
4. **Lucinda Blagg**, born 1810 in Alabama (per 1850 Census). She married **Alexander St. Clair**. In 1850, she was a widow with five children, living in Scott County, Arkansas.
 - a. **Mary A. St. Clair**, born about 1837, died 26 Mary 1907. She married **Richardson Abbott** and they had four children.
 - b. **Minerva St. Clair**, born about 1834, died 1883. She married first **Oliver McDaniel**, and they had one son. She married second **Charles Perry McPherson** on 13 Feb 1859 in Sonoma County, California. They had seven children. She married third **Thomas Jefferson Abbott** in San Joaquin County, California.
 - c. **Miranda St. Clair**, born 7 Apr 1835, died 2 Jul 1870. She married **Alvin Roote Combs** in 1857 in Tuolumne County, California. They had seven children.
 - d. **Francis Chapple St. Clair**, born 1837, died 10 Dec 1883. He married **Nancy Ellen David** on 15 Dec 1869 in Stanislaus County, California. They had seven children.
 - e. **Lurena W. St. Clair**, born 20 Oct 1843, died 1 Nov 1869. She married **Daniel Betts** on 29 Nov 1863 in Sonoma County, California. They had one son.
3. **Samuel Blagg**, born 1813 in South Carolina (per 1850 Census). He married **Evaline/Emeline Sophronia Jennings** in 1849 in Grayson County, Texas. They had three sons together.
 - a. **Benton Thomas Blagg**, born about 1850. He married **Sue R. Harris** on 5 Nov 1893 in Wise County, Texas. They had two sons.
 - b. **James Collin Blagg**, born 3 Aug 1854, died 13 Feb 1898. He married first **M. Jennings** on 21 Aug 1885 in Wise County, Texas. They had no children. He married second **Minnie Lee Pack** in 1892. They had at least seven children.
 - c. **Samuel Blagg**, born and died between the 1850 and 1860 Census.
3. **Lurena Blagg**, born 1815 in South Carolina. She married **Samuel Sloan**, and they lived in Scott County, Arkansas.
 - a. **Janon Sloan**, born about 1830.
 - b. **Nancy Sloan**, born about 1831. She married first **Marshall Davis**, and they had two sons. She married second **Andrew Miller**, and they had two daughters.
 - c. **Lucinda Sloan**, born about 1838. She married **Allen Martin Hogan**, and they had three children.

To confirm the accuracy of the above children, these individuals were matched to the households described in James' early Census records. That analysis is presented on the following page.

James Blagg Census Analysis

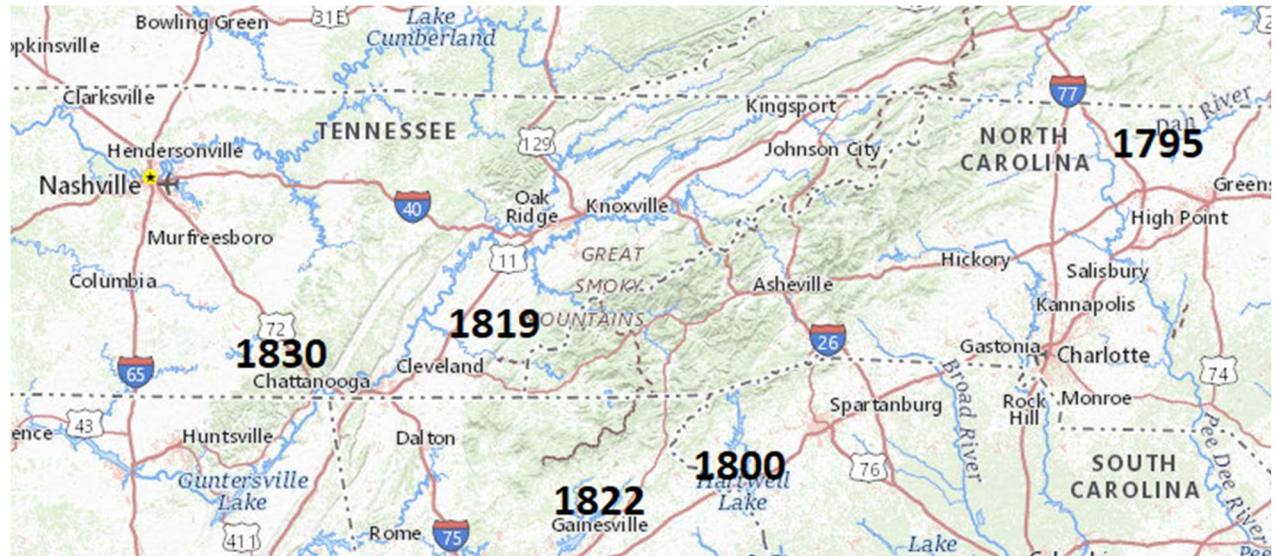
	1790	1800	1810 James (Israel?)	1810 Jas	1830	Child
JAB1 (female)	B. 1788-1790	B. 1790-1800	married?	B. 1785-1794		Elizabeth Blagg, b. 1789
JAB2 (male)		B. 1790-1800	B. 1785-1794	B. 1785-1794		Michael Blagg, b. 1794
JAB3 (male)		B. 1790-1800	B. 1795-1800	B. 1795-1800		
JAB4 (female)		B. 1790-1800	married?			
JAB5 (female)		B. 1790-1800	B. 1795-1800	B. 1795-1800		Zipporah Blagg, b. 1800
JAB6 (male)			B. 1800-1810	B. 1795-1800	B. 1800-1810	
JAB7 (male)			B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	Elijah M. Blagg, b. 1802
JAB8 (male)			B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810		James H. Blagg, b. ca 1810
JAB9 (male)			B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810	Samuel Blagg, b. 1813
JAB10 (female)			B. 1800-1810	B. 1800-1810		Lucinda Blagg, b. 1810
JAB11 (female)					B. 1811-1815	Lurena Blagg, b. 1815

It should be sufficient to observe that the individuals identified as James' children in probate records and the 1857 letter are mostly a good fit for his Census households as shown above. Two exceptions are James Junior and Samuel. For James, it is necessary to guess at his age, and Samuel's age is only based upon his 1850 Census record, which I suspect has him younger than he really was. Either that, or Piercy had a couple of sets of twins to account for so many children born so close together (not likely).

The table shows that there is no slot available in James' household for Susanna Hibbetts, whereas she is a fit for the 1830 Census household of Robert Chappell. That her family followed the Chappell sons to California in the 1860s is consistent with her being Robert's daughter.

Israel Blagg & Marion County, Tennessee

The first public record of Israel Blagg is the 1800 Census for Pendleton District, South Carolina, where his household included his wife and an infant son and daughter. In 1801, he purchased 162 acres there on Coneross Creek.⁵⁵ A short time later, he sold 122 acres of that land for the same amount that he had paid for the entire 162 acres.⁵⁶



Map 6: First dates in public records in places where Israel and Nancy (Richey) Blagg is found.⁵⁷

In 1808, Israel Blagg sold 350 acres of land in Pendleton District to Adolphus Bolles, though how he had acquired the land is unknown. Israel's wife Nancy renounced her dower interest in the land, making her mark with a backward N.⁵⁸

There is no clear record of him in the 1810 Census for Pendleton District, though he was there until late in 1811, when he had proven a deed at court.⁵⁹

In 1819, the US Government ordered white settlers squatting in “Cherokee Country” to leave. This land of about 1 million acres was located in Eastern Tennessee and Western North Carolina, with most of the farmable land being located in the area that includes present day Monroe and McMinn Counties, Tennessee.⁶⁰ The short time frame allowed to comply with the order was a major concern to those people, as they had crops in the field. That meant that leaving on schedule would put their families at great risk of starving. They petitioned the government for an extension, and Israel Blagg's name appears on the first and third such petitions. That is the last known public record of Israel Blagg.

There are three Blagg siblings who stayed close to each other as they migrated westward over many years: John Monroe Blagg, Israel Joseph Blagg, and Sarah Ann (Blagg) Edwards, the wife of Meredith Edwards.

⁵⁵ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book F*, page 380.

⁵⁶ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book I*, pages 389-390.

⁵⁷ Base Map Source: *USGS National Map* (online).

⁵⁸ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book J*, page 164, #296.

⁵⁹ *Pendleton District, South Carolina Deeds, Book M*, page 200, #2063.

⁶⁰ *Survey Map of Cherokee Country [ca. 1819], covering parts of eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina*, hand drawn by Robert Armstrong.

John Monroe Blagg married Charlotte Eaton in Hall County, Georgia in 1822. And another Blagg marriage occurred there five years later, that of Elizabeth Blagg to Jesse Paris. No other record of her or her husband was found.

John Monroe and Israel Joseph were listed side-by-side in the 1830 Census for Marion County, Tennessee, which is just a short distance across the state line from where their uncle James Blagg was living in Alabama. Within John's household is a 50 to 59-year-old male, thought to probably have been Israel Blagg.

The 1834 Anderson County, South Carolina will of John Richey (Pendleton District became Anderson County in 1826) lists Nancy Blagg as one of his daughters.⁶¹ And in 1809, Israel Blagg and John Richey had been involved in a suit against Stephen Fuller, leaving little doubt that Nancy Richey was the wife of Israel Blagg.⁶²

In 1836 and 1837, John (Monroe) Blagg and Israel (Joseph) Blagg had moved a short distance east, and were listed side-by-side on tax lists for Hamilton County, Tennessee. In Jun 1838, Israel Blagg and Jefferson Blagg each served in different regiments of the Tennessee Militia. The units were recruited from the same area, for the purpose of relocating the various Native American tribes (primarily Cherokees at this point in time) of Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama to new territories in the west.

In the 1840 Census for Washington County, Arkansas, listed side-by-side were John M. Blagg, M. D. Edwards and Israel Blagg. Meredith Edwards had resided in Washington County since at least the 1830 Census.

Prior to 4 Apr 1842, Nancy Blagg of Marion County, Tennessee had her will proved in court by Amos Griffith and Mary Rogers/Rogen. Henry Tatum was executor.⁶³ [NOTE: A 1922 courthouse fire destroyed all probate records from 1817 to 1875, so the cited will is no longer extant.]

By 1850, Israel Joseph Blagg and Sarah Ann (Blagg) Edwards were living in Benton County, Arkansas (the county immediately to the north of Washington County), where it appears they remained for the rest of their lives. John's whereabouts that year are unknown.

In 1860, John M. Blagg is found in the Census for Scott County, Arkansas, and he is said to have died in adjacent Logan County.

Thomas Jefferson Blagg

In late 1838, (Thomas) Jefferson Blagg fled justice for the murder of James B. Robinson in Bradley County, Tennessee (which is immediately west of Hamilton County, Tennessee, where John Monroe and Israel Joseph Blagg were living at that time).⁶⁴ A grand jury returned an indictment of first-degree murder, finding that Jefferson had, with malice aforethought, struck Robinson with a stick on the right side of the head, just above the ear, which had caused his death ten days later.⁶⁵

On 17 Jun 1839, (Thomas) Jefferson Blagg was apprehended at Washington, Hempstead County, Arkansas for the murder of James B. Robinson.⁶⁶

⁶¹ *Anderson County, South Carolina Wills, Book I, 1835-1857, Record of Wills, Book B*, pages 65 to 67.

⁶² <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKW-M33R-D?i=129&cat=440424>, image 130 of 792.

⁶³ *Marion County, Tennessee Court Minutes, Volume 1*, page 30.

⁶⁴ *Weekly Arkansas Gazette (Little Rock, Arkansas)*, multiple issues in 1839, accessible on *Newspapers.com*.

⁶⁵ *Bradley County, Tennessee Circuit Court Minutes, 1838-1848*, pages 207-208.

⁶⁶ *The Baltimore Sun (Baltimore, Maryland)*, *Saturday, 13 Jul 1839*, page 2, third column, about 2/3rds of the way down the page.

In Sep 1840, Thomas J. Blagg emigrated to the Republic of Texas, where he was given a conditional grant for 640 acres of 4th class land in Fannin (now Grayson) County [Note: at that time, grants for that amount of land were only given to heads of households; single men got half that amount]. If this was the Jefferson Blagg who had been re-captured in 1839, it seems he was able to flee his captors before being returned to Tennessee to stand trial. The location where he was captured in Hempstead County, Arkansas is directly downstream on the Red River from Fannin County, Texas. In fact, the Republic of Texas was as little as 20 miles from parts of Hempstead County.

In 1846, Thomas' widow took over paying taxes on his 640 acres, suggesting he had died around that time. That was also the time when the Republic of Texas became part of the United States, leaving one to wonder if the law had caught up with him, or if his victim's relatives had found him and taken matters into their own hands?

Thomas Jefferson Blagg married Sarah MNU, and they had two sons, John M. Blagg and Joseph Blagg, both born in Alabama (b. 1834 and 1836, respectively). In 1848, his widow remarried in Grayson County, Texas. His son Joseph claimed bounty land for his father's service in the Cherokee Removal. The patent issued on that land states that Thomas J. Blagg and Jefferson Blagg were the same person.⁶⁷

Family lore for Jefferson's line has it that his son Joseph had killed a man. My suspicion is that the story got mixed up, and it was his father who had committed that act.

Pinkie (Blagg) Thornton

Pinkie Blagg was the first wife of John Thornton, Their family is documented in *The Starr Genealogy* by Emmett Starr (1921), an effort to record the personal history and biography of as many Cherokee Indians as possible. Her year of birth is not known, but her eldest son was born about 1824, meaning she was likely born by 1806. Since John Thornton would have been from the same area where Israel was evicted from in 1819, Pinkie was very likely the daughter of Israel and Nancy (Richey) Blagg. She had two sons, though only one had issue, and that son had only one daughter. Thus, there are relatively few living descendants for her line.

Israel Blagg's Family

Thus, the suspected family of **Israel and Nancy (Richey) Blagg** is as follows:

1. **John Monroe Blagg**, born 9 Mar 1802 in Pendleton District, South Carolina, died 6 Aug 1877 in Logan County, Arkansas. He married first **Charlotte Eaton** on 27 Aug 1822 in Hall County, Georgia. Some information that follows was taken from an undated typescript that incorporates the detailed research of Nadine D. Faught of Grass Valley, California.
 - a. **Mary B. Blagg**, born about 1823. She married **John Jefferson Jackson**. They had one daughter.
 - b. **Jesse Jefferson Blagg**, born 24 Feb 1824, died 2 Jun 1902. He married first his cousin **Sarah Edwards** (daughter of **David Meredith** and **Sarah Ann [Blagg] Edwards**), and they had two daughters. He married second **Elizabeth MNU** and they had six children together. He married third **Nancy Caroline Long** on 17 Nov 1897 in Cooke County, Texas. They had no children. He is said to have had other wives, but there is no clear record to establish these as factual. It appears facts related to him may have been confused with 6i, below.
 - c. **Elizabeth Jane Blagg**, born 1834, died 16 Nov 1873. She married first **Daniel Muskrat**, and they had one son. She married second **Richard Fields**, and they had four children.
 - d. **William Anderson Blagg**, born about 1834, died 19 Nov 1916. He married **Evaline/Emeline Sophronia (Jennings) Blagg**, the widow of his cousin, **Samuel Blagg**. They had three children.

⁶⁷ U.S. General Land Office Records, Accession # MW-0233-479, document # 79692.

- e. **Caroline Blagg**, born about 1836.
 - f. **Sanford Harrison Blagg**, born 13 Dec 1840, died 30 Jun 1920. He married **Mary Magdalene Crane**. Per the 1900 Census, they had eleven children, only six of whom were still alive at that time.
- John Monroe Blagg** married next **Eliza E. Perkins**.
- g. **Collin Monroe Blagg**, born 10 Feb 1855, died 19 Apr 1928. He married **Sarah Penelope Maysey**, and they had seven children, all but one of whom were alive during the 1900 Census.
 - h. **Nancy Belle Blagg**, born 3 Sep 1857, died 13 Oct 1922. She married **Sebron James Thomas Hamby**. They had eleven children, nine of whom were still alive during the 1900 Census.
 - i. **Susan Blagg**, born about 1859.
 - j. **Evaline Blagg**, born 28 Sep 1860, died 28 Feb 1932. She married **William Robert Beason**. Per the 1900 Census, they had twelve children, all but two of whom were still living at that time.
2. **Pinkie Blagg**, born about 1805, died between 1830 and 1842. She married **John Thornton**.⁶⁸
 - a. **William F. Thornton**, born about 1834. He married **Minerva Jane Foreman** and they had one daughter.
 - b. **Calvin Thornton**, born 1830, died 1872. No issue.
 3. **Sarah Ann Blagg**, born 1807 in Pendleton District, South Carolina. She married **Meredith David Edwards**.
 - a. **Louise Edwards**, born about 1825, died about 1845. She married **Thomas Hambright Jackson**. They had two children.
 - b. **Sarah Edwards**, born about 1828. She married her cousin, **Jesse Jefferson Blagg** (son of **John Monroe** and **Charlotte [Eaton] Blagg**). They had four daughters.
 - c. **Nancy Edwards**, born about 1831. She married **Thomas Hambright Jackson**, her sister's widower, on 7 May 1846 in Washington County, Arkansas. They had two daughters.
 - d. **John A. "Jack" Edwards**, born about 1834. He was alive in 1871 when he made a claim for Civil War losses, living at the time in Washington County, Arkansas. At some point during the War he was living in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri.
 - f. **Maletha Edwards**, born about 1835.
 - g. **William Carroll Edwards**, born about 1836. He married **Elizabeth Jane McCabe** on 11 Dec 1858 in Pulaski County, Arkansas. They had six children.
 - h. **Martha Elizabeth C. J. Edwards**, born about 1836. She married first **Thomas Hambright Jackson**, the widower of her two eldest sisters. They had six children. She married **A. R. Clubb** on 10 Nov 1901 in Carter County, Oklahoma.
 - i. **George Edwards**, born about 1840.
 - j. **Thomas Edwards**, born about 1842.
 - k. **David Meredith Edwards**, born 4 Aug 1847, died 21 Feb 1822. He married **Nancy Barbara Clary** on 15 Mar 1868 in Washington County, Arkansas. They had seven children. [NOTE: Johneann and Isabelle 'Edwards,' found in Meredith's 1850 Census household, were his grandchildren by his daughter Sarah (Edwards) Blagg.]
 4. **Thomas Jefferson Blagg**, probably born around 1810, died in 1845 or 1846, likely in Grayson County, Texas. He married **Sarah Lacy**, probably around 1833 in Lawrence County, Alabama.
 - a. **John M. Blagg**, born about 1834.
 - b. **Joseph Louis Blagg**, born 1836, died 1879. He married **Susan H. Bigbee**, and they had six children.
 5. **Elizabeth Blagg**, born by 1809. She married **Jesse Paris** in 1827 in Hall County, Georgia.

⁶⁸ *Early History of the Cherokees* (no volume number given) by Emmet Starr (1922), page 419.

6. **Israel Joseph Blagg**, born 20 Mar 1812 per his tombstone (though most Census records put the year between 1803 and 1805, and he was at least 20 years old in the 1830 Census for Marion County, Tennessee) in either South Carolina or Tennessee (per Census records). He had several children by an unknown first wife:
- a. **Hester Blagg**, born about 1830.
 - b. **James Blagg**, born about 1832.
 - c. **Fatima "Timmie" Blagg**, born about 1833. She married first **Eli Poorboy**, and they had four children. She then married **Jonas Keys**. They had no children.
 - d. **Menerva Jane Blagg**, born about 1835, died 17 Apr 1913. She married **James Terrill Page**, and they had four children.
 - e. **William R. Blagg**, born 6 Mar 1842, died 31 May 1927. He married first **Susannah Brillhart**, and they had six children. He married second **Cleora Ann Peterson** on 25 Mar 1881 in Bourbon County, Kansas. They had six children.
 - f. **Martha A. Blagg**, born about 1843.
 - g. **Mary Elizabeth Blagg**, born about 1846, died 2 Aug 1926. She married first **Thomas Busby**, and they had three children. She married second **Oscar Montague Farber** on 18 Aug 1878 in McDonald County, Missouri. They had five children.
 - h. **Thomas J. Blagg**, born Mar 1846, died 15 Feb 1913. *This is a line that needs to be extensively researched. The following is speculative only!*
He first married **Mary Frances Kell**, and they had one son. He next married **Nancy MNU**, and they had a daughter and perhaps two sons (who would have been listed in the 1880 Census with the wrong surname - they could have been Nancy's children by a previous marriage). He married next **Susan Porter** on 15 Jan 1884 in Bourbon County, Kansas, and had at least one daughter. His final marriage was to **Julia Rebecca Long** on 24 Aug 1891 in Benton County, Arkansas. They had nine children.
 - i. **Jesse Israel Blagg**, born about 1849, died 1898. He married **Nettie McCormack** on 17 Mar 1879 in Denton County, Texas. They had seven children.
- Israel Joseph Blagg's** second marriage was to the widow **Nancy (Edgerton) Kell**:
- j. **John Evans Blagg**, born 14 Apr 1853, died 1918. He married **Roxana Sarah Thomas** on 16 Oct 1874 in Benton County, Arkansas. They had twelve children.
 - k. **Benjamin Henry Blagg**, born about 1854. He married **Susan Frances Earp**. They had three children.
 - l. **Nancy Caroline Blagg**, born about 1859. She married first **Mr. Belcher**, and married second **W. S. Witten** on 12 Aug 1881 in Benton County, Arkansas.
 - m. **F. Blagg**, born about 1865.

Unlike most of his siblings, there are no Census records after 1800 that can be used to verify the above. The 1800 Census shows that he had an infant son and daughter who were born by that time.

The Northern Route

This is where things have the potential to get a bit messy, with a scarcity of clues that mean that some conclusions are less firm than is optimally desired. When I started researching this project, I presumed that only Caleb Blagg and his son William Blagg had any children who had come of age in and around Sumner County and Bedford County, Tennessee by the time of the 1830 Census. But there were others, who will be covered in this section: Heathy (Blagg) Barnard and Kelton Blagg.

Heathy's family is likely incomplete, but there is evidence of several of her children, and public records put her as a neighbor of her father while she was living in Simpson County, Kentucky until the mid-1820s and in Weakley County, Tennessee at the time of his death in 1828. For William, the source of family lore about his youngest daughter has been identified, creating a very solid foundation upon which to assemble the facts about his family. We aren't so fortunate with Kelton. To say the least, his public records are somewhat conflicting. But his Census household and that of his widow fully accounts for four individuals who remain unaccounted for after reviewing all of Caleb's other known grandchildren.

Kentucky-Tennessee State Line

In 1807, 1809, 1810, and 1811, Caleb Blagg was taxed in Logan County, Kentucky.⁶⁹ He owned no land, but in 1807 and 1809 there were two males of voting age in his household.⁷⁰ In later records, there was only one such male. In 1810, a record for "Calep Brag" is found in the Federal Census for Logan County, with a large household that includes two men over age 45. His 1800 Census household showed his remaining sons had been about to come of age, so the seven children under 15 years of age in his 1810 household were most likely not his. While the second male over age 45 is a mystery, his son William would have been at least 43 year of age and is known to have migrated through this area. So, it quite possibly could have been William and his family. If so, it is possible that he had died not long after, since his widow's 1820 Census household contained no children born after 1810.

Also found in tax records of Logan County, Kentucky in 1811 are John Blagg and Isaac Blagg. Isaac was taxed the same day as Caleb, is found immediately after him on the tax list and only Caleb was taxed for land (which generally is sufficient proof of a father-son relationship, though with the extra adult in Caleb's household makes it a bit more likely he was Caleb's grandson, which would have to be by William). John was taxed for two horses, two stud horses and a tavern license, and was about 17 households away from Caleb and Isaac on the tax rolls (this would be only those with a taxpayer whose surname began with the letter B). He paid his taxes about a week before them, meaning they were living in the same general neighborhood, but were not close neighbors. It is the only record where he is found, and there is no obvious place for him in Caleb's clan. It could simply be that his surname was mis-recorded (perhaps Bragg?), as the ownership of a tavern and stud horses is inconsistent with the degree of wealth of any of Caleb's known children.

In 1812, Isaac Blagg married Lydia Morgan in Logan County, Kentucky. His tax record implies that he was born by 1790, and the marriage record reinforces that timeframe.

In 1817, Caleb Blagg had 150 acres of land surveyed on the waters of Drakes Creek of Logan County, Kentucky, which abutted William Hammond's land.⁷¹ On 12 Feb 1819, William Hammond had 35 acres surveyed which abutted property owned by John Barnard, and which he assigned to John Barnard on 23 Apr 1823.⁷² So, John and Caleb were clearly neighbors. These properties were west of Drakes Creek, and up until 1819 the West Fork of Drakes Creek had been the eastern boundary of Logan County. That would put the

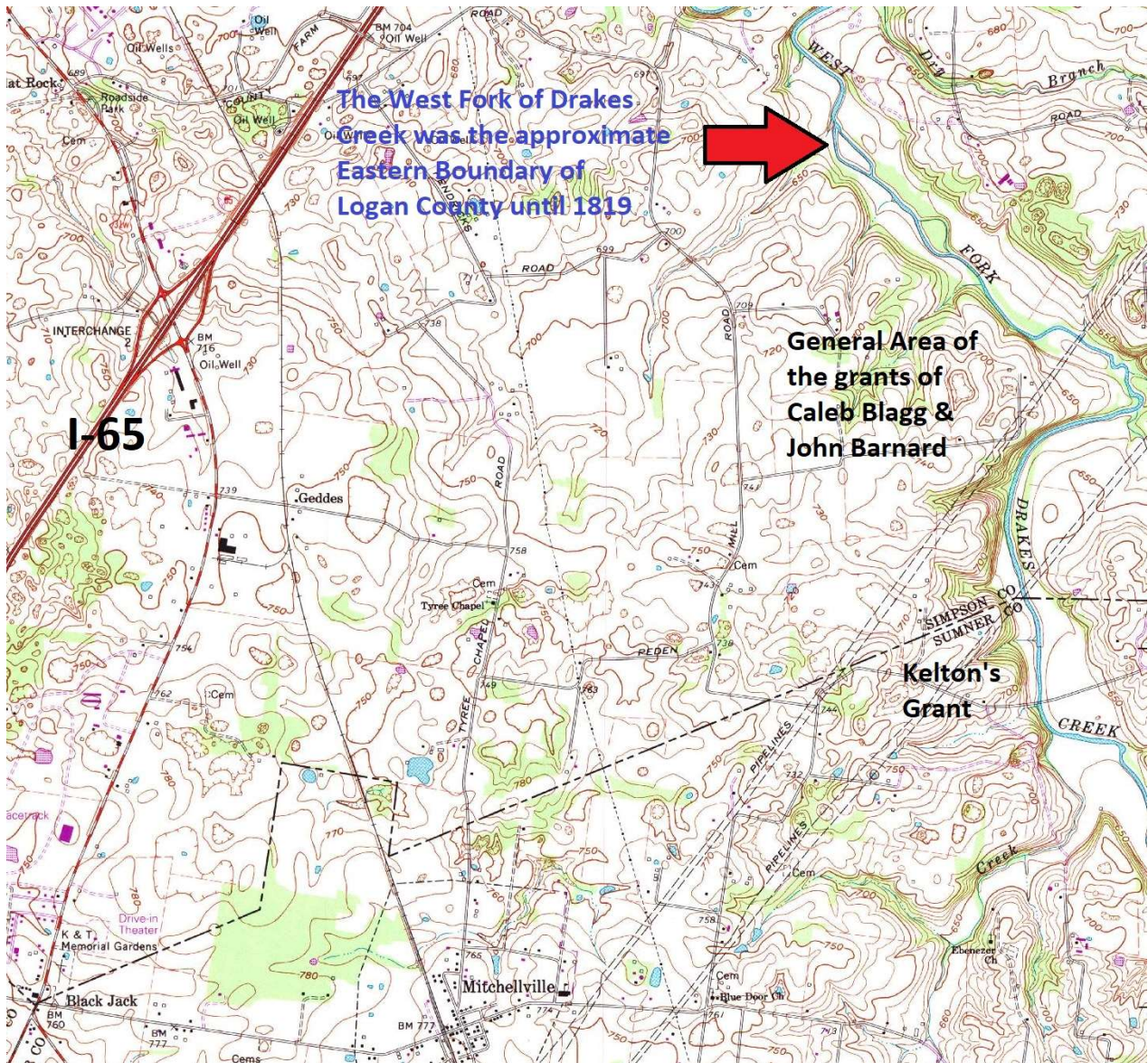
⁶⁹ In 1807 and 1810, John "Barnett" (Heathy Blagg's husband) was taxed on the same day.

⁷⁰ See [Appendix F](#) for citation of specific tax rolls for the Blaggs. See [Appendix O](#) for the same information about the Barnards.

⁷¹ *Kentucky, Logan County, Surveys, Book E*, page 456.

⁷² *Kentucky Secretary of State, South of Green River Land Grants, Survey 7594*

location of their lands fairly close to Kentucky-Tennessee State Line. In 1814, Kelton Blagg had received a grant for 14 acres of land in neighboring Sumner County, Tennessee, which was actually on the State Line, and also on the waters of the west bank of Drakes Creek.⁷³



Map 7: The land grants of Caleb Blagg, John Barnard and Kelton Blagg.⁷⁴

By 1819, the part of Logan County where Caleb had been living became part of Simpson County, Kentucky. He paid taxes to Simpson County in that year.

In 1820, Caleb Blagg, who was over age 45, was enumerated in Simpson County. In addition to his wife, his household included one female under age 10 and a female aged 26 to 44.

⁷³ Tennessee, Sumner County, Series 2, Book 29, Entry Book, 1st Surveyor's District, Book G, 1813-1815, page 245, certificate # A12787.

⁷⁴ Base map is from the USGS Quadrangle, Franklin, KY, 1:24000 series (1968).

Caleb Blagg paid taxes in Simpson County, Kentucky in 1822, 1824 and 1825. No further records were found for Caleb in Simpson County.⁷⁵

Weakley County, Tennessee

In Apr 1828, the nuncupative will of Caleb Blagg was proven by David Hunter and William Caudle, and recorded in Weakley County, Tennessee.⁷⁶ Despite being at least 84 years old, he apparently felt healthy enough not to have left a written will, which suggests that his health must have taken a sudden turn for the worse. The first sign of John Barnard in Weakley County occurred in Oct 1828, when he was selected for jury duty.⁷⁷

Though Caleb's will was ordered to be recorded in Weakley County, it is not found in Book A of deeds, nor in the index to wills. Possibly that is because his assets were still in Simpson County, Kentucky, and that is where his estate needed to be probated. It potentially would not have been easy to probate an oral will, regardless of where it was probated, as it would only take one heir contesting the will to send everything into a tailspin. If so, the likely result would be that his estate would have been split evenly amongst his heirs.

⁷⁵ See [Appendix F](#) for specific citations of tax rolls.

⁷⁶ *Tennessee, Weakley County, Circuit Court, Minutes, Volume 1, 1827-1835*, page 34, FHL microfilm #004769052, image 85 of 645.

⁷⁷ *Tennessee, Weakley County, Circuit Court, Minutes, Volume 1, 1827-1835*, page 61, FHL microfilm #004769052, image 116 of 645.

Heathy (Blagg) Barnard

The given name Heathy (actually a nickname), and its various phonetic equivalents, is almost certainly derived from a surname found in early Colonial Virginia: Beheathland. Various spellings of the name are found in the lines of several of Caleb Blagg's children. There is some circumstantial evidence that a Beheathland Blagg, found in records near the time and place where Caleb Blagg is first found, was related, and perhaps was even his mother. There may be something to this theory. It turns out that one of the more common reasons that young males were bound out was bastardy. When the identity of the father was unknown, and even in some limited instances when the identity was known, the responsibility for support fell to the parish vestry. Often the mothers of such children were indentured servants. If the vestry deemed a poor parent or parents incapable of bringing up a child in "an honest and orderly course of life," it had legal authority to bind children as apprentices. It may well be that this was the fate of Caleb Blagg, and that Beheathland Blagg may well have been his mother.⁷⁸

In 1795, Heathy Blagg married John Barnard. With no known probate record for either of them, trying to definitively identify their children is an effort that threatened to at least double the length of this project. And such an effort would not guarantee that there would be a high degree of certainty of any extra results. Fortunately, a large pool of AncestryDNA results from confirmed descendants of Caleb Blagg was created as part of the research for this book. Those results suggested the identities of five of her sons, forming a good basis for further deducing additional children of hers. The final list of children is likely incomplete, but it provides enough clues to help future researchers identify their Barnard connection to Caleb Blagg.



Map 8: First dates in public records in places where John Barnard is found.⁷⁹

Like the main storyline of this book, Heathy's children are best covered out of sequence, starting in 1838. In that year, George W. Barnard was granted a patent for 40 acres of land in Franklin County, Arkansas.

In the 1840 Census for Franklin County, Arkansas, we find the following Barnard households (bear in mind that this is could be a partial listing, as these records are barely legible):

Living in Lower Township:

- James Barnard, age 20-29.
- William Barnard, age 30-39.
- Albert Barnard, age 20-29.

Living in Prairie Township:

- Carrol Barnard, age 20-29.

⁷⁸ *The Journal of Southern History*, Volume 22, Number 3 (Aug 1956), pages 310 to 337, more specifically, pages 332 and 333.

⁷⁹ Base Map Source: USGS National Map (online).

- John Barnard, age 30-39.
- John Barnard, age 60-69 (no children, just him and his wife).
- Zadoc Barnard, age 30-39.

With the exception of Zadoc, all of the above are also noted as being found on the 1839 tax list for Franklin County, Arkansas.⁸⁰

By the 1850 Census, the Barnards were still in Arkansas, but had spread out slightly, with some of them appearing in records of Washburn Township, Scott County; others in Middle Township, Franklin County; and still others in Marion Township, Crawford County (Franklin County abuts both Scott County and Crawford County). The following Barnards are found in the following records in those places:

Living in Prairie Township, Franklin County:

- John Barnard, born about 1801 in Tennessee, household #449.
- Caleb Barnard, born about 1812 in Kentucky, household #467.
- Carrol Barnard, born about 1820 in Tennessee, household #472.

Living in Middle Township, Franklin County:

- William Barnard, born about 1805 in Tennessee, household #406.
- Margaret (Barnard) Galey, born about 1817 in Kentucky, household #407.

Living in Washburn Township, Scott County:

- George Barnard, born about 1815 in Kentucky, household #340.
- James Barnard, born about 1816 in Kentucky, household #391.
- Zadoc Barnard, born about 1799 in North Carolina, household #397.
- George Barnard, born about 1818 in Alabama, household #398.
- William Barnard, born about 1827 in Tennessee, household #399.
- John K. Barnard, born about 1819 in Kentucky, household #400.

Living in Marion Township, Crawford County:

- Albert Barnard, born about 1813 in Kentucky, household #17.
- Pleasant Barnard, born about 1800 in Kentucky, household #21.

There is one record that connects two of these Barnards, and therefore helps to tie them all together. In 1815, Pleasant Barnard married Nancy Hinton in Warren County, Kentucky. John Barnard stated that his son Pleasant was under age and that he consented to their marriage. So Pleasant was likely 19 or 20 years old, meaning that he was born about 1795-1796.

And in 1817, Zadoc Barnard married Hannah Kimbel just across the state line in Sumner County, Tennessee.

In 1807⁸¹ and 1810,⁸² John “Barnett” and Caleb Blagg were listed consecutively on the tax rolls of Logan County, Kentucky. And they were listed consecutively in the 1810 Census there. In the 1817 tax list, Pleasant Barnard was listed two households before Caleb Blagg, and John Barnard was listed three households after Caleb.⁸³

In 1819, part of Logan County became Simpson County, Kentucky, and on 12 Feb of that year, John Barnard patented 35 acres on Drakes Creek.⁸⁴ That property was acquired from William Hammond, and abutted another 100 acres that John Barnard had surveyed. Caleb Blagg’s 150-acre survey also abutted William

⁸⁰ *History of Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas* by Goodspeed Publishing (1889), pages 608 and 609.

⁸¹ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9X5-7?i=457&cat=156098>, image 458 of 1012.

⁸² <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9N3-R?i=651&cat=156098>, image 652 of 1012.

⁸³ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-FSYG-F?i=94&cat=156098>, image 95 of 1167.

⁸⁴ *Kentucky Land Warrants, Grant Book M*, page 164.

Hammond, meaning that John's 35-acre acquisition made them abutting neighbors. So, there is no doubt that the John Barnard and Pleasant Barnard living in south central Kentucky from about 1815 to 1824 is also the same John Barnard found living in Franklin County, Arkansas in 1840, and the Pleasant Barnard found living there in 1850.

One complicating factor in sorting this family out is that any male born after 1815 could be John Barnard's grandson. In the 1840 Census, John Barnard, Jr (born about 1801) and Carrol Barnard (born about 1821) are listed side-by-side. They are likely father and son. And later Census analysis finds no match for James Barnard, b. 1816 in John Senior's Census households. If he was not John and Heathy's son, then he could only have been Pleasant's son, who was their only son to have married by that year.

At the July 1829 Session of the Circuit Court of Weakley County, Tennessee, John and George Barnard put their property up as collateral for an agreement with Thomas Crofford to deliver 10,850 pounds of seed cotton by 1 Jan 1830.⁸⁵ And at same hearing, Zadoc Barnard did likewise.⁸⁶ These deeds help prove that George and Zadoc were John's sons.

In the 1830 Census, John, John Junior and George Barnard are listed within four households of one another in Weakley County, Tennessee. In neighboring Carroll County, Tennessee were the households of Pleasant and Zadoc Barnard.

⁸⁵ *Tennessee, Weakley County, Deeds, Book A*, page 326, FHL microfilm #008478978, image 173 of 390.

⁸⁶ *Tennessee, Weakley County, Deeds, Book A*, page 327, FHL microfilm #008478978, image 173 of 390.

Heathy (Blagg) Barnards' Family

The following is a summary of the people discussed in this section who are believed to be children of John and Heathy (Blagg) Barnard. This quite definitely is a partial list, but attempting to definitively identify a significantly higher percentage of their children would likely double or triple the considerable amount of effort that has gone into this book, without any guarantee of significant results. That effort is best left to some future direct descendant of theirs.

1. **Pleasant Barnard**, born about 1796 in North Carolina. He married first **Nancy Hinton** on 5 Sep 1815 in Warren County, Kentucky. Only one son from this marriage is known.
 - a. **James Barnard**, born about 1816. It appears he married three times. **Julia A. MNU** was his first wife. They appear to have had six children. There is a significant gap in the spacing of his children after those six, and his wife in the 1860 Census was born in a different year and place than Julia. His wife's name at that time is hard to decipher, but it may be **Irma MNU**. They had two daughters. His final wife was **Savina "Sibby" White**, and they had five children together.

Pleasant Barnard married second the widow **Nancy (MNU) Spellers**. He had two children by this marriage.

 - b. **Thomas Allen Barnard**, born 31 Oct 1846, died 22 Jul 1928. He married **Lucinda Virginia Aydelott** on 2 Feb 1871 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had eight children.
 - c. **Christopher Columbus Barnard**, born about 1850, died 9 Dec 1929. He is said to have first married **Mary Frances Pettigrew**, though no children survived to 1880. On 26 Apr 1881, he married **Martha E. "Nellie" Laughlin** in Logan County, Arkansas. They had six children.
2. **Zadoc Barnard**, born about 1799 in Tennessee. He married **Hannah Kimbel** on 29 Oct 1817 in Sumner County, Tennessee. Only one son from their marriage was identified:
 - a. **James F. Barnard**, born about 1836, died 1863. He is said to have married **Melisse Delford**. They had two children.
3. **John Barnard**, born about 1801 in Tennessee or South Carolina, died 1863. He had at least four children by an unknown earlier spouse or spouses.
 - a. **Carrol Barnard**, born about 1821. He is said to have married **Louisa Clem**. They had five daughters together.
 - b. **Burrell Barnard**, born about 1824.
 - c. **Eliza Barnard**, born about 1833.
 - d. **Susan Barnard**, born about 1835.

John Barnard married **Cada B. Johnson** around 1860. They had two sons together.

 - e. **Alsberry D. Barnard**, born 20 Jul 1861, died 25 Oct 1930. He married **Laura Elizabeth Culbertson** on 4 Mar 1883 in Logan County, Arkansas. They had six children.
 - f. **John M. Barnard**, born about 1863. He married **Rosa V. MNU**. They had six children.
4. **William Barnard**, born about 1805 in Tennessee. He had at least seven children by an unknown wife or wives.
 - a. **Alexander Barnard**, born about 1828, died 5 Aug 1865.
 - b. **Osborn Barnard**, born about 1829. He married **Rebecca F. Colbert** on 1 Dec 1853 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had five children.
 - c. **Angeline Barnard**, born about 1831.
 - d. **David Pinkney Barnard**, born about 1833, died 4 Aug 1862. He married **Harriett D. Shaver** on 21 Dec 1859. They had one daughter.
 - e. **Pauline Barnard**, born about 1835. She married **William Colbert** on 3 Nov 1853 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had at least three children.
 - f. **Henry Tipton Barnard**, born 9 Feb 1837, died 15 Jan 1922. He married first **Elizabeth Stiles**, and they had at least three children. He married second **Ellen Masm** on 7 Jun 1886 in Sebastian County, Arkansas. They had no children. He married third the widow **Jennie (MNU) Key**. They had no children.

- g. **Albert Barnard**, born about 1840. He married **Cyntha MNU** and they had at least one son. **William Barnard** married **Ally Hunter** around 1842, and they had three children together.
 - h. **Elizabeth Barnard**, born 1844.
 - i. **Zacariah Barnard**, born about 1846.
 - j. **William Barnard**, born about 1850.
5. **George W. Barnard**, born about 1809 in Kentucky. He married **Malinda C. MNU**, and his nine children were likely by his marriage to her.
- a. **Pernicia Barnard**, born about 1827. She married **James Doshier**, and they had seven children.
 - b. **Emily D. Barnard**, born about 1834.
 - c. **Artemesia "Artie" Barnard**, born 1 Aug 1835, died 19 Aug 1917. She married **John E. Carnett**, and they had at least seven children born before the 1880 Census.
 - d. **Peachy Paralee Barnard**, born about 1836. She married **Lorenzo Dow Henley**, and they had at least ten children.
 - e. **Hardy S. Barnard**, born about 1841. He married **Henrietta Perdue**, and they had at least three children.
 - f. **Cordelia J. Barnard**, born about 1844.
 - g. **Borland B. Barnard**, born about 1850.
 - h. **Elizabeth Barnard**, born about 1853. She married **Peter Brooks** on 11 Feb 1874 in Washington County, Arkansas.
 - i. **Albert William Barnard**, born about 1857.
6. **Caleb Barnard**, born about 1812 in Kentucky, died 4 April 1881. His first three known children were by an unknown wife:
- a. **Andrew Jackson Barnard**, born about 1832. He died before his father. He married **Martha Calbert** on 1 May 1856 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had seven children, though only three were alive when Caleb died.
 - b. **Delilah Jane Barnard**, born Jul 1835, died 1904. She married first **William Davis** on 4 Sep 1853 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had no children. She married second **Nathaniel Clem** on 25 Mar 1861. They had three children.
 - c. **Adalissa Melissa Barnard**, born about 1839. She married **W. A. Cauthron**. They had either one or two daughters. Only one was alive when Caleb died.
- In the 1850 Census, **Caleb Barnard** is married to **Parzade MNU**, but the gap in the ages of his children suggest that she was his second wife.
- d. **John L. Barnard**, born about 1844, died 7 Feb 1917. He married **Susan C. Sharp** on 21 Feb 1868 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had at least nine children.
 - e. **Isaac W. Barnard**, born about 1845. He married **Emily Small** on 24 May 1866. He died before Caleb, and they had no children.
 - f. **Mary E. A. Barnard**, born about 1848. She married **G. McAlister**. They had two daughters.
 - g. **Margaret Beheathland Barnard**, born about 1850. She married **George W. Shaver** on 4 Feb 1869 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had six children.
- On 4 Apr 1852, **Caleb Barnard** married **Jane Strain** in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had three children together.
- h. **Adeline Narcissa Barnard**, born 9 Dec 1854, died 27 Feb 1898. She married first **Francis Marion Sharp** on 24 Nov 1870. They had one son. She married second **Joseph W. Swift** on 26 Feb 1878 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had at least three children.
 - i. **James A. Barnard**, born 4 Sep 1866, died 28 Sep 1888.
 - j. **Sarah E. "Sallie" Barnard**, born 30 Jul 1872, died 19 Aug 1888.
7. **Albert Barnard**, born about 1813 in Kentucky. He married **Sally A. MNU**, and they had at least three children together.
- a. **Helen Mary Barnard**, born 1841, died 1877. She married **Harvey Byrum**, and they had four children who are found in 1870 and 1880 Census records.

- b. **Daniel Barnard**, born about 1845.
- c. **Mary J. Barnard**, born about 1848.
- 8. **Margaret Barnard**, born about 1817 in Kentucky. She married **Thomas Galey**, and they had ten children together.
 - a. **Sinthia Jane Galey**, born 22 Oct 1834, died 27 Dec 1891. She married first **Thomas A. Smith** on 9 Jan 1856 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had two children. She married second **William Williams** on 2 Jan 1890 in Logan County, Arkansas. They had no children.
 - b. **Elizabeth Galey**, born about 1834, died 2 Dec 1915. She married **James F. Hunter** on 12 Jan 1854 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had five children.
 - c. **Julia Ann Galey**, born about 1836. She married **Elijah Morrison**. They had five children before the 1880 Census.
 - d. **Maizah Galey**, born about 1838.
 - e. **James T. Galey**, born about 1841. He married **Julia Ann Bottom**. They had four children before the 1880 Census.
 - f. **Amanda M. Galey**, born about 1845. She married **D. Burnett H. Rutledge**. They had four children prior to the 1880 Census.
 - g. **Malinda Catherine Galey**, born about 1849.
 - h. **Mildred M. Galey**, born Mar 1853. She never married.
 - i. **George Galey**, born about 1854. He married **Ann Priscilla Smith** on 5 Feb 1874 in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had one son together.

To confirm the accuracy of the above children, these individuals were matched to the households described in John Barnard's early Census records. That analysis is presented on the following page.

John Barnard Census Analysis

	1810	1820	1830	1840	
HB1 (male)	1795-1800				Pleasant, b. 1796
HB2 (female)	1795-1800				
HB3 (male)	1800-1810				Zadoc, b. 1799
HB4 (male)	1800-1810				John, b. 1801
HB5 (female)	1800-1810				
HB6 (male)	1800-1810	1802-1804			William b. 1805
HB7 (male)	1800-1810	1805-1810			George W., b. 1809
HB8 (female)	1800-1810	1810-1820	1811-1815		
HB9 (male)		1810-1820	1811-1815		Caleb, b. 1812
HB10 (male)		1810-1820	1811-1815		Albert, b. 1813
HB11 (female)		1810-1820	1816-1820		Margaret, b. 1817

The analysis confirms all of the known or suspected children of John and Heathy. And it shows three additional daughters, whose identities remain unknown.

One Final Enigma: Henry Blagg

We are getting near the end of our list of suspects, concerning identifying the fathers of the remaining known grandchildren of Caleb Blagg. Of the several grandchildren who remain, only two were born in South Carolina, and one is credited with having been born not only in South Carolina, but also in two other states: Kentucky and North Carolina. And one person has a direct association with Kelton Blagg, so he was almost undoubtedly his son.

Our research suggests that the only remaining sons of Caleb Blagg who are left to be discussed are William and Kelton. One fact clearly distinguishes these two men: where they had lived before arriving in Tennessee/Kentucky. There is no record of William Blagg having ever lived in South Carolina; he was only found in records of North Carolina. And there is no record that Kelton Blagg had ever lived in North Carolina; he was only found in records of South Carolina. Barring any conflicting evidence, it is most likely that the two grandchildren born in South Carolina were Kelton's children, as is the one with the direct connection to him. There are varying numbers of factors for all three which supports that notion, as will be discussed later. The others, with the possible exception of the one with three different claimed birth states, are most likely to have been William's children, as will also be detailed later.

Before we discuss who was in William's family, and who was in Kelton's, we need to take a look at the one oddball in the group who, if we don't deal with him first, greatly complicates the analysis: the one with three claimed birth states. Hopefully we can come to some conclusion about where he fits in the scheme of things before trying to wrap things up. That oddball is Henry Blagg, b. 1808.

Where was Henry Blagg born? In the 1850 Census for Tishomingo County, Mississippi, it states that he was born in 1808 in South Carolina. In the 1860 U.S. Mortality Schedules, it states that he, at age 51, died in Tishomingo County, Mississippi in 1860, and that he was born in North Carolina. In the biography of his son, William T. Blagg, it is stated that he was a native of Kentucky and was raised near Louisville.⁸⁷

We know that Kelton was in Pendleton District, South Carolina during the 1810 Census. That Census shows a son in his household whose age range is a match to Henry's age as reported in public records. So, he is a possible candidate as Henry's father.

We know that William had come from North Carolina, that he was at Cumberland Gap in 1807, and we suspect he was the other adult male in Caleb Blagg's household in Logan County, Kentucky tax records in 1807 and 1809, and that he does not appear in any 1810 Census. It also appears as though his children may account for Caleb's large household in that Census. The makeup of his wife's Census household in 1820 suggests William did not live beyond 1810, as none of her children who were alive then were born after that year. It appears that more than one male in Caleb's 1810 Census household is a possible match to Henry. The available male matches in Sina's 1820 Census are all older than Henry's reported age (none were born after 1805).

So which account of Henry's nativity can we believe? Perhaps it is best to seek the inverse first: which has less credibility than the others? The problem with the biographical account of his being a native of Kentucky is that there is a clear fudging of the facts in other parts of that narrative: his father having a plantation rather than a farm (there was no record that he had owned slaves), his being raised in Louisville (which tax records for counties surrounding that city prove is clearly not true) vs. a being raised in a poorer part of the state or a different state altogether. And Henry having been born in North Carolina, as reported in the Mortality Schedule, was clearly not coming straight from the horse's mouth – after all, Henry was dead at the time. In

⁸⁷ *Past and Present of DeKalb County, Illinois, Volume 2* by Prof. Lewis M. Gross (1907), page 528.

1850, on the other hand, it is quite possible (but not guaranteed) that the place of nativity had come directly from Henry. In a small way, it is a bit more credible than the other possibilities.

The possible match in Caleb's 1810 household (there are a few possibilities) is complicated. In Sina's 1820 household there is only one male who could be a possible match to Henry, and he is at least a few years older - his age range spans from 1795 to 1804. And there is fairly compelling information that would seem to match Jahu W. Blagg to that individual (the rationale for this conclusion is discussed when we get to the review of William's family). The trouble is, Jahu's age as reported in various places is inconsistent, but his birthplace is always given as North Carolina, suggesting he was born prior to 1807, regardless of two records which state he was born after that year. In Census records, his birth year is reported as 1805, 1808 or 1810. And it appears that there is an 1840 Census record that states he was 40-49 years old at that time (suggesting, if it truly is his record - and it does match what is known about his wife and children - that he was likely born closer to 1800). And if he was born in 1800, and if Henry was a bit older than his records indicate (born at least a few years earlier than stated), there are matches to both men in Sina's 1820 Census household. But that is far too many ifs. In essence, we can make both men fit, but only by using a really big hammer.

It was hoped that autosomal DNA results might help to tip the scales in one direction or the other, but that was not the case. First, there is the obvious problem of being several generations removed from a common ancestor, which means that most living descendants would only possess a percent or two of DNA from that particular shared ancestor. And another, more significant, problem, lies in the fact that Henry had a large family, and many lines of his children are represented in the DNA pool (11 of his 13 known children had heirs, and several of them had several children), whereas Jahu only had one daughter who started a family, from whom all of his descendants can be traced, and most of their households had smaller numbers of descendants. So, there is a wide range of Henry's DNA available for comparison, versus a very narrow range for Jahu. That is the equivalent of getting water from a fire hose versus getting water from a squirt gun. The difference in scale makes any comparisons meaningless. The odds will always be significantly better for getting a match to Henry, and significantly worse for getting a match to Jahu.

The interesting thing is that some of the strongest DNA matches for descendants of Sarah (Blagg) Fowler's line (William's daughter) are to descendants of Henry's line. But the unknown factor there is whether the two lines might also share some other, unknown ancestry? This unknown factor only amplifies the folly in attempting to make sense of any DNA results. DNA is clearly off the table for this purpose.

In the end, we simply cannot be sure who Henry's parents were, because there are too many conflicting clues, none of which clearly supports one position over the other. The prevailing opinion, for which there seems to be no factual basis whatsoever, is that he was William's son and that he was born in South Carolina, and that information is clearly contradictory.

For him to have been William's son means that Jahu's age has to have been under-reported in the 1850, 1860 and 1870 Census. And Jahu's two children born after 1836 are of no help in establishing that he was born any earlier than 1805, as they would imply that he could actually have been born as late as 1815 (he seems to have married very late for his age).

Evidence for Jahu being a son of William is fairly strong, mainly based upon his proximity to other children of William Blagg in the 1850 Census for Ray County, Missouri. While for Henry to fit into the 1810 and 1820 Census households of Caleb and Sina, respectively, would require both adjusting Jahu's age to be older than most records state and making Henry at least three years older than any public record states. That is too many adjustments that are needed in order to make him fit in William's household, whereas there are no such conflicts preventing him from fitting cleanly into Kelton's household.

So, in the following sections I have placed Jahu in William's household and Henry in Kelton's. Since there is more than a small possibility that Henry could have been William's son, please take his placement in Kelton's family with a grain of salt. My chances of being right are at best only marginally better than 50-50. The only sure thing is that he was Caleb's grandson. With that, let's get on with wrapping things up.

William Blagg & Bedford County, Tennessee

The first clear record of William Blagg is his household in the 1790 Census for Rockingham County, North Carolina, where he is living with his wife and an infant son. Living three doors down is the household of Thomas Knight (Thomas and William also show up as neighbors in a deed for John Blagg's property in Rockingham County), and Thomas Knight's 1834 will in Wilson County, Tennessee⁸⁸ states that one of his daughters was Sina Blagg.



Map 9: First dates in public records in places where William or Sina (Knight) Blagg are found.⁸⁹

Much has been written about William Blagg by earlier researchers. The bulk of what they have recorded is simply a collection of unsourced and erroneous factoids (factoids are assumptions or speculations that have been repeated sufficiently to become accepted as fact). The main erroneous factoids are presented and debunked in the subsections that follow.

William Blagg Factoid #1: When He Married

The first factoid is that Sina Knight married William Blagg in Rockingham County, North Carolina in 1794. However, marriage records in Rockingham County for that time period appear to be largely intact, and no such record of their marriage at that time exists. His 1790 Census record suggests that he was married by 1789 or 1788, and the lack of a marriage record suggests he married somewhere other than Rockingham County. Earlier property transactions for Thomas Knight and Caleb Blagg in Guilford County, North Carolina suggest that was likely where they were married, as there are few extant records of early marriages there. The pattern of land transactions detailed in [Appendix D](#) is suggestive that the land that William sold in Rockingham County, North Carolina in 1798 had originally come to him from Thomas Knight, suggesting it was possibly part of the dowry for his marriage Sina.

William Blagg Factoid #2: When and Where He Died

The second factoid claims that William Blagg had died during the War of 1812 in New York. This is very clearly flawed and erroneous information. The facts tend to indicate the likelihood that our William had died prior to that conflict, as has been discussed elsewhere.

In 1813, the mistaken William Blagg (who had, indeed, died in New York) enlisted as a private in the US Rifles.⁹⁰ Had our William Blagg still been alive then, he would have been about 46 years old, with a growing

⁸⁸ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Wills and Probate Records, 1779-2008, Wilson County, Wills Index, 1803-1917*, images 421 to 424 of 2823.

⁸⁹ Base Map Source: *USGS National Map* (online).

⁹⁰ Fold3.com's *Army Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914*. William Blagg, #7476.

family to support. That is hardly the ideal Army recruit, when the frontier was full of young men with no such entanglements (it would have even been quite old for a short stint of militia duty). The brother of the mistaken William Blagg was Joseph Blagg, who was 18 years old when he enlisted, and he had been born in “Green, Virginia” (sic: Greene County, Virginia).⁹¹ These men were part of the Anderson County Blagg Clan, as discussed at the start of this book, and they have no male blood relationship to anyone in Caleb’s Clan.

Just when our William Blagg died can only be guessed at. In Sina’s 1820 household, her youngest children were over ten years of age, and thus they were all born by 1810. That information fits with earlier speculation that William had perhaps died in Logan County, Kentucky around 1810. And the members of Caleb Blagg’s 1810 Census household are a match to all of the individuals found in William’s 1790 and 1800 Census households, and the 1820 Census household of Sina (Knight) Blagg. There are four other members of that 1810 household, one of whom may have been the wife of his eldest son, plus males born between 1800 and 1810 who may not have survived to see the 1820 Census.

William Blagg Factoid #3: His Children

With the exception of Mary Montgomery Blagg, there is no known basis for earlier beliefs about any other alleged children of William’s, including Michael Blagg b. 1794, John Monroe Blagg b. 1802, Sarah Ann (Blagg) Edwards b. 1807. Sufficient evidence has already been presented that they belong in the families of other sons of Caleb Blagg.

The apparent source of these errors began 20 years ago in a post by Annie Mae (Blagg) Snyder and perpetuated by Peggy Gann and others. The latter claimed that Caleb had only three sons: James, William and John. With some minor exceptions, even back then the members of the families of John and James Blagg were well known. It would seem the logic was that anyone else must have been William’s child. In light of the clear evidence that Caleb also had sons Israel and Kelton, this was clearly very deeply flawed logic. While these three individuals do fit the age and gender attributes of children found in William and Sina’s 1790, 1800 and 1820 Census records, they conflict with others for whom there is evidence that ties them more directly to William and Sina, and for whom there is no contradictory evidence of sibling relationships to others outside of William’s alleged family.

William Blagg Factoid #4: His Middle Name

A commonly held factoid is that Anderson was William Blagg’s middle name. Some take things further and state that it is the maiden name of Caleb Blagg’s wife. There are absolutely no facts to support either notion. The origin of this myth is that William Anderson Blagg born 1834 was the son of John Monroe Blagg, who others erroneously believe to have been the son of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg. He wasn’t: he was the son of Israel and Nancy (Richey) Blagg. Anderson as a middle name for William Blagg is utter nonsense.

With that out of the way, the following narrative seeks to eliminate the confusion surrounding William’s and Sina’s family by uncovering as many pertinent facts as possible. And by showing clearly that too many children have in the past been wrongly attributed as being a part of their family.

Mary Montgomery Blagg

Quite a bit is known about Mary Montgomery Blagg, thanks to her 2nd great grandson, Drew Roberts. The knowledge that he passed along makes Mary the linchpin in proving the identities of most of William’s and Sina’s other children. When Drew was growing up, his grandmother, Laura Ellington (Roberts) Baumann (1883-1966), lived in his family’s household, and she passed on her knowledge of her ancestors. He

⁹¹ Fold3.com’s *War of 1812 Pension Files*, Joseph Blagg, W D 35372 and W C 27829.

documented much of what she said on a genealogy.com tree of his entitled “*A Family Homestead on the Web*.”⁹² Karen Blagg’s Rootsweb site, “*J&N Blagg’s Roots*”⁹³ recorded other important details provided by Drew.

Laura related how her grandmother Mary was born on 10 Jan 1807 at Cumberland Gap, on her family’s wagon trip to Tennessee, and that Mary’s mother was Sina Knight.

In 1824, Mary M. Blagg had married Samuel B. Parrish in Bedford County, Tennessee. In Jun 1829, he was convicted on two counts of forging cotton receipts. For these black deeds, he was sentenced to several punishments: ten days in jail, three days of spending four hours in the pillory, thirty lashes well laid on his bare back, and that he be “rendered infamous.” He somehow fled the county, and abandoned his family for over two years, after which time Mary filed for divorce.

In 1832, Mary M. (Blagg) Parrish’s divorce petition was heard by the Tennessee Legislature. It was accompanied by 42 signatures in support thereof, along with a transcript of the case from the Circuit Court of Bedford County, Tennessee.⁹⁴ Her petition was granted, and Mary married John Winstead Roberts on 1 Sep 1833 in Bedford County, Tennessee, shortly before a number of inter-related families moved from there to Ray County, Missouri.

Sarah (Blagg) Fowler and Jahu Blagg

Samuel Fowler (formerly of Rockingham County, North Carolina) is noted as living in Bedford County, Tennessee in 1811, when his father’s estate was being settled in Rockingham County, North Carolina.⁹⁵ No Fowlers were found in tax records of Logan County, Kentucky at the times during which Caleb Blagg is found there. That suggests that Samuel had gone directly to Bedford County. Whether his father-in-law William Blagg had done likewise is an open question, though it seems unlikely. It is more probable that William had died in Logan County, Kentucky and that after his death his widow had moved south to be near her eldest daughter.

Proof that Sarah Blagg was the maiden name of Samuel’s wife is found in the marriage record of her son Jessie G. Fowler (whose mother was “Sarah Blagg”),⁹⁶ and the death certificate of her daughter Martha Ann Fowler (whose mother was “Mrs. Blagg”).⁹⁷

The household of “Siney” Blagg is found in the 1820 Census for Bedford County, Tennessee. Three households away was the household of Samuel Fowler.

The clearest record of the identities of most of William’s and Sina’s children is the 1850 Census for Ray County, Missouri, where:

1. Adjacent to the household of Samuel and Sarah (Blagg) Fowler (#833),
2. Were the households of three of their children (#s 832, 834 and 835),
3. And the household of ‘Jahugh’ (Jahu) Blagg (#831), plus
4. The household of the widow Mary M. (Blagg) Roberts (#836).

Thus, you have Sina’s known daughter Mary living next to both Samuel Fowler and Jahu Blagg. When you compare these three individuals (Sarah, Jahu and Mary) against the Census households of William in 1790 and

⁹² www.genealogy.com/ftm/r/o/b/Drew-Roberts/index.html.

⁹³ nc.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=PED&d+jandnmom&id=16271.

⁹⁴ Tennessee State Library and Archives, *Tennessee Legislative Petitions, Roll 12, Year 1832*, Petition 2, The State of Tennessee vs. Samuel B. Parrish.

⁹⁵ *North Carolina, Rockingham County, Deeds, Book P*, pages 271-273.

⁹⁶ Ancestry.com’s Iowa, *Marriage Records, 1923-1937*, Jesse G. Fowler to Susannah Hardman, 15 Aug 1883.

⁹⁷ *Missouri State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics*, Certificate of Death #15985, Martha Ritter, 28 Apr 1917.

1800, and Sina's household in 1820, they match perfectly to the attributes of their three youngest children. Still missing are two sons: one born before 1795 and one born between 1795 and 1800.

There is a strong Cowser family connection that further reinforces the notion that Jahu was William and Sina's son. It involves Jahu Blagg's daughter Martha, Sarah (Blagg) Fowler's son Leroy and her eldest granddaughter Martha Jane Graham (daughter of Altamira [Fowler] Graham):

1. Martha Blagg, born about 1836, married John Patton Cowser (she was his second wife), born about 1823, the eldest son of John Freelin Cowser.
2. Leroy Fowler, born about 1819, married Jane Cowser, born no earlier than 1819, whose parentage is unknown, though she may have been the eldest daughter of John Freelin Cowser.
3. Altamira's eldest daughter, Martha Jane Graham, born about 1829, married first Robert Porter Cowser, born about 1826, and married second Matthew David Cowser, born about 1833, both sons of John Freelin Cowser.

Additionally, Sarah's son Jessie Fowler patented land just north of the village of Millville, whereas John Freelin Cowser's patent was a bit more than 2 miles southwest of Millville. An 1877 map of Ray County shows Matthew Donald Cowser lived within a half mile of Jesse's patent. Further exploration of land records would likely show that the properties of Samuel Fowler's family overlaps those of the family of John Freelin Cowser. He and Samuel had both served during the Creek War (an early part of the War of 1812), though in different militia companies and at different times (late 1812 and fall 1813, respectively).^{98,99}

C.D. Blagg

A benefit of creating the Blagg DNA Pool was the discovery of C.D. Blagg. Due to the scarcity of available clues, C.D. Blagg would be all but forgotten in our clan, if not for the efforts of the late Hubert Wayne Beck. In researching his ancestor William Knight McDougal, he came upon the record of C.D. Blagg's intestate estate in Hardin County, Tennessee in Oct 1848, which W. K. McDougal had administered.¹⁰⁰ McDougal's wife was Mary Blagg, b. 1810 in Tennessee (there is no known record of their marriage - this marriage is implied through her husband's role in C.D.'s estate and the many remote AncestryDNA matches of her descendants to pretty much all of the descendant lines of Caleb Blagg's children).

Public records of C.D. Blagg are scarce, but they include:

1. He is probably the Caleb Blagg who served in the Tennessee Militia during the War of 1812.¹⁰¹
2. There is an 1820 court record in Lincoln County, Tennessee involving Caleb Blagg, which is thought to likely be C.D.¹⁰²
3. In 1822, Caleb Blagg was in Orphan's Court in Madison County, Alabama (which adjoins Lincoln County's southern border) where he was involved in a suit against Edward Parker.¹⁰³
4. The names of Elizabeth and C.D. Blagg are found in newspaper advertisements of people having mail at the post office in Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tennessee from 1825 to 1827 (the paper stopped publishing in 1828).¹⁰⁴ Elizabeth was likely the mother of Mary (Blagg) McDougal.
5. C.D.'s son-in-law is found in the 1830 Census for Madison County, Alabama. He and his wife moved to Lincoln County, Tennessee by 1835, were there for the 1840 Census, and were in Hardin County, Tennessee at the 1850 Census.

⁹⁸ <https://sos.tn.gov/products/tsla/regimental-histories-tennessee-units-during-war-1812>.

⁹⁹ As evidenced by the following General Land Office patents issued from Bounty Land Warrants: Samuel Fowler: MW-0627-464, John Freelin Cowser: MW-0250-076.

¹⁰⁰ <https://www.ancestry.com/boards/surnames.blagg/192/mb.ashx>.

¹⁰¹ www.fold3.com/record/641188831-caleb-blagg-private?xid+1945.

¹⁰² *Tennessee, Lincoln County, Court Minutes, Oct 1819-Jul 1823*, page 204.

¹⁰³ *Alabama, Madison County, Minutes of Orphan Court, 1821-1823, Book 2*, page 250.

¹⁰⁴ files.usgwarchives.net/tn/lincoln/newspapers/fayetteville1823-1828-2.txt.

6. C.D. is found in the 1840 Census for Randolph County, Alabama, where his household includes himself, age 40-50; a wife, age 30-40; a son age 10-15, and two daughters, one age 15-20 and one under age 5 (with Mary being born in 1810, it is likely his age range is a tad understated - he was probably born in 1788 or 1789, and thus a little more than 50 years old).
7. And then there is his probate file in Hardin County, Tennessee in 1848.

C.D.'s age (born about 1789), and the broad distribution of DNA results of his descendants to such a wide range of the descendant lines of so many of Caleb Blagg's other children, strongly suggests that he was a descendant of Caleb Blagg. It is possible that he could have been Caleb's son, though Caleb's two oldest sons were also old enough that either could have been C.D.'s father.

Of these three possible options, James Blagg's Census household lacks a male whose age range is a match for C.D. And the matching slots in Caleb's Census households match to other known males who show up in public records in the same locations where Caleb had lived (Kelton and Isaac). That leaves William Blagg as the only remaining person whose Census record shows that he had a son of C.D.'s age, and his circumstances suggest he was most likely C.D.'s father.

William Knight McDougal's middle name implies that he could certainly have had some sort of family connection to William's wife, Sina Knight. In 1820, Sina was living along Sugar Creek, in southern Bedford County, Tennessee (and likely was there for at least another 15 years or so), which is very close to the border with Lincoln County, Tennessee. Her granddaughter married Mathew L. Rone, whose father, siblings, uncle and cousins lived on both sides of the Bedford/Lincoln County line. Both the Rones and the McDougals came from the same neighborhood in northern Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, and the Rones of W.K.'s generation lived in Bedford and Lincoln County, Tennessee, with some of them also migrating around the end of the 1840s to Hardin County, Tennessee.

Isaac Blagg

Was Isaac Blagg Caleb's son or his grandson? A lack of public records for William Blagg makes that question impossible to answer with absolute certainty. An early tax record can be interpreted as Caleb being his father, but the significant disparity between when Isaac was born and when Caleb's other children were born makes such a conclusion suspect. So, let's gather up the facts and see what they tell us.

Isaac Blagg is first found in public records in Logan County, Kentucky in 1811, living next to Caleb Blagg. On the same day as Caleb, he paid the poll tax and was taxed for one horse.¹⁰⁵ Such a record is usually deemed to be direct proof of a father-son relationship. And Isaac married Lydia Morgan in Logan County in 1812. That implies that he was born around 1791, further reinforcing the notion that he had just left his father's household to establish a household of his own.

There is a match for Isaac in Caleb Blagg's 1810 Census household, adding further weight to the possible conclusion that he was Caleb's son. But the rest of Caleb's 1810 household looks a lot like it could belong to the widow of his son William. And in Caleb's 1800 Census household, he is a slight mismatch to one of the males (1785-1790 age range in the Census vs. likely having been born in 1791).

There are two possible matches for Isaac in William's 1800 Census record (one of whom we have concluded was C. D. Blagg). Isaac named his oldest sons William and Jahu, perhaps after his father and youngest brother (or one of his wife's relations). Jahu is a given name only found in Isaac's and William's lines, and it is significant that Isaac's eldest son was named William.

¹⁰⁵ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9NS-G?i=694&cat=156098>, image 695 of 1012

His showing up in tax records next to Caleb would be as consistent with him living with his grandfather after his father's death (or during his father's infirmity), as it would with Caleb being his father. But if he was Caleb's son, the difference in the year of his birth versus that of the next youngest child is considerable: to be Caleb's son, he would have to have had a different mother than Caleb's other children.

Taken together, the lack of an 1810 Census record for William Blagg, the disparity in ages between Isaac and the other children of Caleb, and Isaac's naming his oldest sons William and Jahu, would seem to tip the balance of circumstantial evidence in favor of him having been William's son.

Isaac next shows up in the 1818 Illinois State Census for White County, Illinois. And there is a biographical account of his son Leonard being born there on 16 May 1817.¹⁰⁶ The same source says that his father was a native of Virginia, and that Leonard was the third of six children. The statement about Isaac having been born in Virginia is almost certainly incorrect, as Isaac was born about 1790, and Caleb Blagg had left Virginia sometime between 1773 and 1778.

Isaac's youngest son, Andrew J. Blagg, had died by Mar 1850, when Jahu Blagg was appointed administrator of his estate.¹⁰⁷ The estate was settled in May 1852, with the proceeds being split among his five surviving siblings:¹⁰⁸

- Jahu Blagg.
- William Blagg.
- Leonard Blagg.
- Nancy Ann Shoemaker.
- Caleb Blagg.

The above five plus Andrew account for all six of Isaac's children as noted in a biography of his son Leonard.

According to Caleb Blagg's obituary,¹⁰⁹ he was born Apr 1823 near Carmi, White County, Illinois. His father died when he was young, so he was bound out as an apprentice, where he split rails and built flat boats, spending a great deal of time on the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. He is first found in the 1860 Census for Johnson County, Missouri, in a household with a wife and two children. He gradually migrated west, and eventually settled in Linn County, Kansas.

Isaac made a land entry for 40 acres of land in White County in 1836, and received the patent for the land in 1838.¹¹⁰ That same year he remarried, to Hannah Blandford.

Isaac is not found in the 1840 Census, though he is probably the 50-59-year-old male found that year in the household of his son Leonard. There was no individual who would likely be a match for Hannah, suggesting that she may have died soon after the marriage. The obituary of Isaac's son Caleb infers that Isaac had died soon after that Census, as Caleb would have come of age in 1844.

¹⁰⁶ *History of White County, Illinois* by Interstate Publishing Company (1883), page 805.

¹⁰⁷ *White County, Illinois Probate Journal, Volume D, 1850-1856*, page 9.

¹⁰⁸ *White County, Illinois Probate Journal, Volume D, 1850-1856*, page 174.

¹⁰⁹ *Linn County Republic (Mound City, Kansas), Friday, 28 Sep 1906*, page 1, column 2.

¹¹⁰ *U. S. General Land Office, Accession # IL1650_.354*.

William Blagg's Family

Thus, based upon the preceding analysis, the proven or suspected children of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg were:

1. **C.D. Blagg**, born about 1790, died 1848. He married **Elizabeth MNU** and his two known daughters were likely by this marriage. He later likely married the widow **Rebecca Baker**.
 - a. **Mary Blagg**, born about 1810, died about 1880. She married **William Knight McDougal**. They had thirteen children together.
 - b. **Lucinda Blagg**, born about 1820. She married **Hugh W. Harris**. They had eight children.
2. **Isaac Blagg**, born about 1791. He married **Lydia Morgan** in Logan County, Kentucky:
 - a. **William Blagg**, born about 1815 in Kentucky. He married **Ailcy Gann** on 27 Jan 1835 in White County, Illinois. They had twelve children.
 - b. **Jahu Blagg**, born about 1816 in Kentucky. He married **Susan Mears** in 1843 in White County, Illinois. They had two children.
 - c. **Leonard Blagg**, born 16 May 1817 in Illinois. He married first **Polly Gilbreath** on 10 Dec 1836 in White County, Illinois. He married second **Winnie Taylor** in 1843 in White County. He had two children by his first marriage, and seven by the second.
 - d. **Nancy Ann Blagg**, born about 1818 in Illinois. She married first **Henry D. Jackson** on 16 Aug 1836, and married second **Robert Shoemaker** on 22 Aug 1839; both marriages were in White County, Illinois.
 - e. **Caleb Blagg**, born 5 May 1823 in Illinois, died 20 Sep 1906. He married **Nancy White Harris** in 1853 in Missouri. They had three children together.
 - f. **Andrew J. Blagg**, born about 1826, died Mar 1850. He never married.
3. **Sarah H. Blagg**, born 1799 in North Carolina (per the 1850 Census) or 29 May 1793 (per an unsourced FAG record). She married **Samuel Fowler**. The age of Samuel's eldest daughter, Altamira, born 1812, would suggest the 1793 date is more accurate than 1799.
 - a. **Altamira "Mira" Fowler**, born about 1812, died about 1861. She married **Henry Faris Graham**. They had ten children.
 - b. **Emaline Fowler**, born 1814, died 1854. She married **Mathew L. Rone**. They had nine children.
 - c. **Thomas Benton Fowler**, born 13 Nov 1816, died 16 Sep 1875. He married first **Sarah Emily Thomson** on 17 Dec 1842 in Ray County, Missouri. They had nine children. He married second **Sarah J. Bean**, but they had no children.
 - d. **Leroy P. Fowler**, born about 1819. He married first **Jane Cowsert** on 21 Sep 1837. They had three children. He married second the widow **Martha Patterson (Haynes) Davis**. They had four children.
 - e. **Jessie G. Fowler**, born about 1822, died 11 Jul 1897. He married first **Adaline Robinson** on 8 Aug 1844 in Ray County, Missouri. He married second **Susannah Hardman** on 15 Aug 1883 in Mills County, Iowa. He had no children.
 - f. **Mary Caroline Fowler**, born Mar 1825, died 6 Sep 1897. She married **James Grant Milligan** on 10 Feb 1841 in Ray County, Missouri. They had thirteen children.
 - g. **Martha Ann Fowler**, born 24 Jan 1833, died 28 Apr 1917. She married **Moses F. Ritter** on 12 Aug 1852, and they had five children.
 - h. **Lucetta E. Fowler**, born about 1837, died 1898. She married first **Thomas H. Sours** on 14 Aug 1853 in Ray County, Missouri. She married second **John H. Lucas** on 16 Oct 1897 in Douglas County, Nebraska. There were three children by the first marriage.
4. **Jahu W. Blagg**, born about 1805 in North Carolina, died 27 Jul 1878. He married **Judith Staggs**, and they had a son and daughter together.
 - a. **Martha A. Blagg**, born 1836, died Sep 1868. She married **James Patton Cowsert** on 17 Dec 1857 in Ray County, Missouri. They had four children.
 - b. **James R. Blagg**, born about 1838.

5. **Mary Montgomery Blagg**, born 10 Jan 1807 near Cumberland Gap (at the intersection of Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky), died 15 Jun 1884. Census records of her year and place of birth vary widely, though they clearly all relate to the same person: 1850 Census - 1810 in NC; 1860 Census - 1820 in TN; 1870 Census - 1828 in TN; 1880 Census - 1808 in TN. She married first **Samuel B. Parrish**. She married second **John Winstead Roberts**. There were six children by the second marriage.
 - a. **Sarah Ann Roberts**, born 31 May 1836, died Jul 1921. She married **William Kelly** on 20 Dec 1860 in Ray County, Missouri. They had seven children together.
 - b. **Louisa Eliza Roberts**, born 23 Oct 1839, died 9 Apr 1925. She married **William Dagley** on 18 Jun 1862 in Greene County, Illinois. They had one son.
 - c. **Thomas Burton "T. B." Roberts**, born 28 Oct 1841, died 1921. He married **Mary Carrie Bowman** on 23 Feb 1871 in Greene County, Illinois. They had three children.
 - d. **Henry C. Roberts**, born 12 Dec 1842, died 7 Nov 1906. He married **Hannah Clay Dagley** around 1867. They had six children together.
 - e. **Martha Jane Roberts**, born 4 May 1845, died 20 May 1847.
 - f. **Mary Winstead Roberts**, born 26 Oct 1847, died Sep 1924. She married first **Elias Dagley** on 30 Nov 1866 in Greene County, Illinois, and they had two children together. She married second **George W. Huckins**. They had no children.
(**William, Hannah** and **Elias Dagley** were all children of **Joseph** and **Selina (Keeney) Dagley**.)

Below, the above children are compared against the Census records of William and Sina, as a means of confirming that the above information is correct. Or at the very least, that nobody above is a glaring mismatch to this family.

William and Sina Blagg Census Comparison

Because Caleb Blagg's 1810 Census household includes potential matches to four of the five known or suspected children of William and Sina based upon their 1800 and 1820 Census records, it is included here for comparison. If these additional children were Sina's, then there is a reasonable likelihood that two or possibly three additional children could have reached adulthood. All such individuals would have been born between 1795 and 1801-1802.

	1790 William	1800 William	1810 Caleb†	1820 Sina	Child
WB1 (male)	B. 1788-1790	B. 1790-1800	B. 1785-1794	B. 1776-1794	C.D. Blagg, b. 1789
WB2 (male)		B. 1790-1800			Isaac Blagg, b. 1791
WB3 (male)			B. 1795-1800		
WB4 (female)			B. 1795-1800		(Wife of C. D. Blagg?)
WB5 (female)		B. 1790-1800	B. 1795-1800		Sarah H. Blagg, b. 1799
WB6 (male)			B. 1800-1810		
WB7 (male)			B. 1800-1810		
WB8 (male)			B. 1800-1810	B. 1795-1804	Jahu W. Blagg, b. 1805
WB9 (female)			B. 1800-1810	B. 1805-1810	Mary Montgomery Blagg, b. 1807

† Also in this household was a woman born between 1776 and 1784. That would likely not be Sina, if she had a son born in 1789. Her likely year of birth would have been around 1770.

Kelton Blagg & Sumner County, Tennessee

Was he Nimrod Blagg, Kelton Blagg or Nimrod Kelton Blagg? Was this one man or two? It is possible to interpret the available clues both ways.

My initial thought was that they had to be just one man. Then I found records for Kelton Blagg where he appeared to be alive after Nimrod Blagg had died. Next, I also found a record for N.K. Blagg that was clearly a half dozen years after Nimrod had died. But then there is the 1810 Census record for Kelton Blagg, and the 1820 Census record for Mary Blagg of Sumner County, Tennessee, who was presumably Nimrod K. Blagg's widow. The age ranges and genders of the four children match to both of those households. Coincidentally, they also match those attributes of four remaining Blagg individuals who are found circa 1830 in records of Bedford County, Tennessee, yet whose parentage had not been determined:

1. **John Blagg**, born about 1800, location unknown.
2. **Matilda (Blagg) Baker Hays**, born about 1804 in South Carolina.
3. **Henry Blagg**, born 1808.
4. **Martha (Blagg) Burd**, born about 1810 in South Carolina.

Two of the four (three, if you include Henry) were born in South Carolina, within the period where there are records of the names of both Nimrod Blagg and Kelton Blagg. In fact, in one record his name is given as Nimrod "Kelfin" Blagg. So, let's assemble the available public records of Blagg males with these unique given names, and see whether they suggest to us that they were, or were not, the same person, and whether there is any sort of implied familial connection between any of the four people listed above.



Map 10: First dates in public records in places where Kelton Blagg is found.¹¹¹

In 1802, in Pendleton District, South Carolina, Nimrod Kelfin Blagg was witness to a deed (he signed with his mark) involving the administrators of the estate of Henry McDaniel. In the 1810 Census there, Kelton Blagg was enumerated in a household with two sons, two daughters, all of whom had been born after 1800. Those are the only records for either name there.

¹¹¹ Base Map Source: *USGS National Map* (online).

Kelton and/or Nimrod Blagg first shows up in Tennessee on the War of 1812 militia rolls. From late 1813 to mid-1814, there are the following records:

- Kelton K. Blagg, private in John Moore's Company, 1st Regiment, West Tennessee Militia (Isaac Blagg also served in this Regiment).
- Nimrod Kelton Blagg, private in Roulston's 3rd Regiment, West Tennessee Militia. A reference card states that the record was originally filed under Kelton Blagg. Whether that means that they were the same person, or whether it had originally been misfiled, is an open question. Personally, I think the former is more likely.

Both regiments were raised from the men of Sumner County and other counties of "Western Tennessee" (which at the time was mainly present-day Central Tennessee).

On 17 Jun 1814, Kelton received a warrant for 14 acres of land located in Sumner County, Tennessee. It was located west of Drakes Creek and on the Kentucky State Line,¹¹² roughly opposite of where Caleb Blagg had made a land entry in Logan/Simpson County, Kentucky. On 6 Feb 1816, he had the property surveyed.¹¹³

On 31 May 1816, Mary Blagg posted bond with Edward Givens and James Trals to administer the estate of Nimrod K. Blagg, deceased.¹¹⁴

In 1817, Polly Blagg was taxed for 14 acres of land in Sumner County, meaning that she was clearly Kelton's wife.¹¹⁵ So, Kelton and/or Nimrod had a wife or wives with the names Mary and/or Polly.

In the 1820 Census, the only Blagg household in Sumner County, Tennessee was that of Mary Blagg. The four children in her household match the gender and age ranges of the four children found in Kelton Blagg's household in the 1810 Census.

On 12 Oct 1821, it is noted that John Blagg "took out" Kelton's 1816 survey, plus took out a survey of his own for an additional 9 acres of land located on Kelton's northwest corner.¹¹⁶ On 30 Nov 1821, the deed to the 14-acre property was issued to Kelton Blagg. Typically, if Kelton were dead, this would have been issued to the heirs of Kelton Blagg. But not doing so may simply have been a quirk of the clerk who wrote the deed.

Found on a petition filed with the Tennessee legislature on 22 Sep 1825 is the signature of N. K. Blagg.¹¹⁷ The petition sought to dam a portion of Duck River in Bedford County to power a carding mill. But it is likely that the petition may have been in circulation for quite some time before it was submitted (especially if the petitioner wanted some guarantee of success before ordering the carding machine).

There should be record of the sale of both of the Sumner County properties of John and Kelton, but no such deeds were found. Neither were there any probate records found for any other Blaggs in Sumner County. There are many possibilities for why this is, none of which are particularly easy to research. As such, this is likely to remain a mystery.

¹¹² Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Early Land Registers, 1778-1927, Series 02: Entries, 1813-1815*, Image 166 of 641, Certificate #A12787, Kelton Blagg (who made his mark as a capital B), 17 Jun 1814.

¹¹³ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Early Land Registers, 1778-1927, Series 03: plats and surveys, 1814-1815*, page 72, Kelton Blagg survey, 14 acres, filed 6 Feb 1816, taken out by John Blagg on 12 Oct 1821, image 329 of 883.

¹¹⁴ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Wills and Probate Records, 1779-2008, Sumner, Executor Bonds and Letters 1796-1926*, image 267 of 488, page 571, Mary Blagg named administratrix of the estate of Nimrod K. Blagg.

¹¹⁵ <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~tnsumner/1817ab.htm>, Blag, Polly, 14 acres, no male polls.

¹¹⁶ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Early Land Registers, 1778-1927, Series 03: plats and surveys, 1814-1815*, page 72, Kelton Blagg survey, 14 acres, filed 6 Feb 1816, taken out by John Blagg on 12 Oct 1821, image 329 of 883.

¹¹⁷ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee Genealogical Records, Bedford County*, page 187, image 194 of 400.

So, what can we conclude from the above facts? First, there is certainly no clear answer to whether Kelton Blagg and Nimrod Blagg were the same person. But his appearance in the 3rd regiment as both Kelton Blagg and Nimrod Kelton, plus the odd phonetic spelling of his middle name when witnessing the 1802 deed suggests that we are dealing with just one person. Add in the facts that Polly Blagg paid the taxes on Kelton's property, that Mary Blagg administered Nimrod K. Blagg's estate, and Mary Blagg is the only Blagg found in the 1820 Census for Sumner County, Tennessee. Considered as a whole, the conclusion would seem inescapable that Nimrod Kelton Blagg is the only person discussed in the above listed records.

So, let's review what is known of the four people of interest who were identified at the beginning of this section.

John Blagg

John Blagg is found on page 37 of the 1830 Census for Bedford County, and there are two young slaves in his household. His next-door neighbor was H.F. (Henry Faris) Graham, the son-in-law of Sarah (Blagg) Fowler. And a close neighbor was Samuel McQuiston, with whom Samuel Fowler had served in the War of 1812.

He is believed to be the John Blagg who in 1821 (when he had just come of age) made the land entry for a 9-acre property in Sumner County, Tennessee adjoining the 14-acre property of Kelton Blagg.¹¹⁸ In 1827, his mother-in-law had gifted a negro boy to her daughter, Ann Sally (Spain) Blagg, who was John's wife.¹¹⁹ The last record of John Blagg in Bedford County was in the 1830 Census. They moved from there to Calloway County, Kentucky in late 1830, where he died around 1836.

In 1831, he first shows up in tax lists for Calloway County, Kentucky, and continues to appear up until 1835. In 1836, the widow Sally Blagg took over paying taxes on his property, and in 1839, Sarah Blagg was married there to William Gore. She had purchased 148 acres of land in 1837 from Nicholas Copeland - the NW ¼ of Section 31, Township 4, Range 4 East, less 12 acres that had earlier been sold to Isham Threat.¹²⁰ Since there was no land grant issued to John Blagg, this was likely the property he had been farming, which he apparently had mortgaged from Copeland.

William Gore, Ann Sally's new husband, is found in the 1840 Census for Calloway County. In 1842, the part of Calloway County where John Blagg had lived became part of Marshall County.

And in the 1850 Census of Marshall County, Kentucky, William and Ann Sally Gore's household includes a son, Terry Gore. Also in the 1850 Census for Marshall County, is the household of Joshua Blagg, b. 1827 in Tennessee. His household was number 189 in that Census, whereas John Blagg's widow was living in household number 181.

On 20 Dec 1860, Joshua Blagg sold his undivided one third interest in the NE ¼ of Section 36, Township 4, Range 3 East to Sarah Gore for \$300.¹²¹ Another one third interest was likely Sarah's dower interest in the property. The remaining one third interest likely went to her daughter, Matilda (Blagg) Harrell Jackson, but evidence of a transaction from her was not found.

Martha (Blagg) Burd

In 1831, Martha Blagg married Isaac Burd in Calloway County, Kentucky. On several tax lists, Isaac Burd is found paying taxes at nearly the same time as John Blagg, suggesting that they were close neighbors. Isaac is

¹¹⁸ Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Early Land Registers, 1778-1927, Series 02: Entries, 1815-1821*, No. 21681, image 585 of 67, John Blagg, "beginning on Kelton Blagg's north west corner..."

¹¹⁹ *Tennessee, Bedford County, Deeds, Book BB*, page 451 and 452.

¹²⁰ *Kentucky, Calloway County, Deeds, Book B*, page 473.

¹²¹ *Kentucky, Marshall County, Deeds, Book 6*, page 80.

found in the 1840 Census for Calloway County, and his widow is found in the 1850 Census for Marshall County, where it states that she was b. 1810 in South Carolina.

Martha and John were almost certainly siblings.

Henry Blagg

He was married twice, but only the name of his second wife is known: she was Mary M. Nix of Knoxville, Tennessee, whom he married in 1847. They had six children, and he had another seven by this first wife.

In 1845, he moved his family to Tishomingo County, Mississippi. Some of his children by his second marriage migrated first to DeKalb County, Illinois and then on to Nebraska with his widow. Of the children by his first marriage, some stayed in and around Tishomingo County (which became Prentiss County), Mississippi, and others moved on to Sharp County/Lawrence County, Arkansas.

Earlier, in the section entitled *One Final Enigma*, the conflicting accounts of Henry's nativity were covered in sufficient detail, but it is worth detailing the extent of the effort undertaken to attempt to verify that he had lived for any period of time in Louisville, Kentucky. If such records existed they would have been immensely helpful. Early tax records of Kentucky are extant for many counties, and they give a nearly annual account of the people who lived there, including the quality and quantity of land being taxed, which waterway it was located on, who had entered, surveyed and patented the land, how many whites over 21 were in the household, how many horses and slaves were owned, and so on. This could be the key to conclusively identifying Henry's father, and thus making this entire undertaking far less speculative, so significant research time was invested to investigate this lead.

Louisville is located in Jefferson County, Kentucky and in 1808 it was surrounded by the counties of Henry, Shelby and Bullitt. Tax records from 1808 to the early 1820s are extant for all of these counties, and no Blaggs were found in any of those records. Thus, it seems that Henry's Kentucky nativity and upbringing is a red herring, or at the very least that not all the facts are correct.

But not so fast. Caleb Blagg is found in the records of Logan County, Kentucky on the opposite side of the state, as early as 1807. While there is no known Louisville near there, there is Mitchellville, which is located just a few miles from where he was living. And, a few years later, Kelton Blagg was living very close by, just over the border in Tennessee. So that likely is what is being referred to in the biography. But with the 1850 Census stating that he was born in 1808 in South Carolina, and since there is no proof of Kelton Blagg being in the vicinity at that time, it was probably where Henry Blagg was raised, not where he was born.

Matilda (Blagg) Baker Hays

Matilda married first Mark Baker, and they are found in the 1830 Census for Bedford County, Tennessee (page 56) living near Henry Blagg. She is said to have been born 14 Jul 1804 in South Carolina. They moved to Coles County, Illinois in late 1830, likely soon after they had married in Bedford County. He died and she remarried, to Tyre Hays, and they later moved to Piatt County, Illinois.

There was a colony of people from Bedford County, Tennessee (which included Matilda) who were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They migrated in the fall of 1830 to Pleasant Grove Township, Coles County, Illinois.¹²² The group was led by William Gammill and Alfred Balch. Others were Col. J. J. Adams, Isaac Odell, Andrew Gammill, Mark Baker and Andrew Clark. Several of these people are found on page 56 of the 1830 Federal Census for Bedford County, Tennessee. Living within six households of one another were William Gammill, Alfred Balch, Andy Gammill and Henry Blagg. A few lines later is found the

¹²² *The History of Coles County, Illinois* by William Henry Perrin (1879) on pages 414 to 416 gives an account of this colony.

record for Mark Baker, whose wife was Matilda Blagg. It seems very likely that Matilda and Henry were siblings.

Connecting the Dots

So, you have John and Martha who appear to have been siblings, and there is John's connection to Sumner County, Tennessee that ties him to Kelton. And you have Henry and Matilda who appear to be siblings, and you have some clearly flawed biographical data that perhaps puts Henry in the same neighborhood as Caleb and Kelton. Plus, there are clear records that John, Henry and Matilda had resided in Bedford County, Tennessee in the 1830s, plus John and Martha showing up in records of Calloway County, Kentucky at the same time.

It would seem that all of the pieces fit:

- First by process of elimination, which leaves them as the last four Blaggs who don't fit elsewhere,
- Second by virtue of the two sibling pairs noted above, and their connections back to Caleb and Kelton's neighborhood along the Kentucky-Tennessee State Line.
- Plus, you also have John's only daughter bearing the same given name as his sister Matilda.
- And you have Matilda's eldest daughter bearing the same given name of her sister Martha.

Kelton Blagg's Family

The children and grandchildren of **Kelton** and **Mary (MNU) Blagg** are believed to be as follows:

1. **John Blagg**, born about 1800, probably died about 1836. He married **Ann Sally Spain**, and they had two children together:
 - a. **Joshua Blagg**, born about 1827, died on 15 Mar 1889. He married first **Tempel Paralee Jones** on 16 Jul 1846 in Marshall County, Kentucky. They had six children together. He married second **Hannah Byerly**, and they had four daughters together.
 - b. **Matilda Blagg**, born Jul 1833. She married first **John P. Harrell** on 20 Dec 1849 in Marshall County, Kentucky, and married second **William Jackson** there on 11 Jul 1858. She had at least two children by the first marriage, and at least ten children by the second marriage.
2. **Matilda Blagg**, born 14 Jul 1804 in South Carolina, died 23 Mar 1859. She married first **Mark Baker**, and they had three children together.
 - a. **Martha Lucetta Baker**, born Mar 1830. She married **James Drew** on 13 Oct 1857 in Piatt County, Illinois. They had two sons.
 - b. **Isaac Baker**, born 22 Nov 1831, died 7 Jun 1903. He married **Hulda Quick** on 27 Jan 1859 in Piatt County, Illinois. They had six children.
 - c. **Joseph Henry Baker**, born 29 Aug 1833, died 24 Apr 1920. He married **Sarah Harshbarger** on 12 Apr 1860 in Piatt County, Illinois.

Matilda Blagg then married **Tyre Hays** on 12 Dec 1837 in Coles County, Illinois. They had four children together, including a set of TRIPLETS!

- d. **Eliza J. Hays**, born about 1839. She married first **Richard Hulse** on 12 Jan 1860 in Piatt County, Illinois. She married second **Beal Pickett** on 16 Nov 1882 in Piatt County. She had two children by the first marriage and none by the second.
 - e. **Jim J. Hays**, born about 1842.
 - f. **Martin B. Hays**, born about 1842.
 - g. **Andrew Evans Hays**, born about 1842.
 3. **Henry Blagg**, b. 1808 in South Carolina, died 10 Apr 1860. His first seven children were by an unknown wife.
 - a. **Harriett Jane Blagg**, born about 1826. She married **William Goodman Murphy**. They had 11 children together.
 - b. **John Wess Blagg**, born about 1832. He married **Mary Cheves**. They had four children.
 - c. **Samuel A. Blagg**, born Feb 1834. He married first **Sarah Ann Sutherlin**, and they had three children. He married second **Martha M. Barnhill**, and they had six sons.
 - d. **Henry Jackson Blagg**, born about 1836. He married first **Mary E. Hughes**, and they had three children. He married second **Louisa Frances Hunt**, and they had five children.
 - e. **James Farris Blagg**, born about 1839. He married **Anna A. Rowsey** and they had one daughter.
 - f. **Mary K. A. Blagg**, born 23 Mar 1841, died 15 Apr 1901. She married **Tandy S. Nicholson**, and they had eight children.
 - g. **Adam R. Blagg**, born about 1843. He married first **Sarah R. Blocker** on 7 Jan 1867 in Marshall County, Mississippi. They had two children. He married second **Mary Elizabeth Jernigan**, and they had five children.
- Henry Blagg** married second **Mary M. Nix** of Knoxville, Tennessee around 1845, likely in Bedford County, Tennessee.
- h. **William T. Blagg**, born 30 Dec 1847, died 2 Feb 1916. He married **Hattie A. Hobbs** on 28 Nov 1875 in DeKalb County, Illinois. They had two children.
 - i. **Finette "Nettie" Blagg**, born Apr 1849, died 1915. She married **Julius Tramblic** on 20 Sep 1877 in DeKalb County, Illinois. They had no children.
 - j. **Thomas J. Blagg**, born Jan 1850.

- k. **Lucy Ellen Blagg**, born 12 Feb 1854, died 24 Jul 1930. She married **Clark Edward Deming** about 1879. They had five children.
 - l. **Parthena Matilda “Tillie” Blagg**, born 4 Dec 1856, died 12 Feb 1935. She married **Vernon Johnson Tiger**, and they had three sons.
 - m. **Winnie Frances Blagg**, born Dec 1858, died 1928. She married **Stacy P. Kirkbride** on 29 Apr 1877 in DeKalb County, Illinois, and they had two children.
4. **Martha Blagg**, born about 1810. She married first **Isaac Burd** on 22 Aug 1831 in Calloway County, Kentucky and married second **Richard H. Boyd** on 17 Apr 1853 in Marshall County, Kentucky. She had four children by the first marriage, and none by the second.
- a. **Emaline Burd**, born about 1836. She married **James H. Slaughter** on 27 Oct 1855 in Marshall County, Kentucky. They had two sons.
 - b. **John Henry Burd**, born about 1839, died 3 Dec 1883. He married **Rebecca Ann Keeling**. They had three sons.
 - c. **Armilda Burd**, born about 1842. She married **Nicholas M. C. Darnall** on 20 May 1861 in Marshall County, Kentucky. They had four sons.
 - d. **Mildred Burd**, born Oct 1848. She married **Dempsey Cope** on 2 Nov 1881 in Marshall County, Kentucky. Per her 1900 Census record, they had two daughters together.

Kelton and Mary Blagg Census Comparison

As stated previously, Kelton’s and Mary’s Census records are a direct match:

	1810 (Kelton)	1820 (Mary)	
NK1 (male)	1800-1810	1802-1804	John Blagg, born 1800
NK2 (female)	1800-1810	1805-1810	Matilda Blagg, born 1804
NK3 (male)	1800-1810	1805-1810	Henry Blagg, born 1808
NK4 (female)	1800-1810	1805-1810	Martha Blagg, born 1810

Conclusions

A goal of the research for this book was to provide proof of Caleb Blagg's relationship to his many children. And, to the extent possible, to have that proof conform to the Genealogical Proof Standard. This is where those facts are recapped and cited, allowing the reader to easily assess for his- or herself whether the standard has been met for their particular line.

Genealogical Proof Standard

So, what is The Genealogical Proof Standard? It has five elements:

1. Reasonably exhaustive research has been conducted.
2. Each statement of fact has a complete and accurate source citation.
3. The evidence is reliable and has been skillfully correlated and interpreted.
4. Any contradictory evidence has been resolved.
5. The conclusion has been soundly reasoned and coherently written.

Any proof statement is subject to re-evaluation when new evidence arises.

The remainder of these Conclusions directly address whether this standard has been met.

Recap of Children Proofs

What follows is a summary of the specific facts that help prove the relationships between Caleb Blagg and his children. This isn't an exhaustive list, only the key facts: supplemental facts are cited in the Appendices.

1. **Thomas Blagg.**
 - a. In 1794, **Caleb Blagg** sold property on "Thos. Blagg's Line." (this is the only known reference to **Thomas Blagg**).¹²³
2. **John Blagg.**
 - a. In 1790, **John Blagg** was chain carrier on **Caleb Blagg's** land entry #75 in Rockingham County, North Carolina.¹²⁴
 - b. In 1795, **Israel Blagg's** property is noted as being adjacent to **John Blagg's** land entry.¹²⁵
 - c. In 1797, **John Blagg** and **William Perry Fowler (Sarah H. [Blagg] Fowler's** father-in-law) were chain carriers in the warrant of **Conney Fitts**.¹²⁶
 - d. In 1797, **William Blagg** was a chain carrier in **John Blagg's** warrant #279.¹²⁷
 - e. In 1798, **John Blagg's** grant #323, based upon land entry #279, was adjacent to **William Blagg** and **Thomas Knight (William Blagg's** father-in-law).¹²⁸
 - f. In the 1800 Census for Rockingham County, North Carolina are the households of **John Blagg, William Blagg** and **William Fowler**. John's neighbor was **Thomas Massy**, whereas William's neighbor was **Nathan Massy** (they were listed on separate pages, but the Census pages are not numbered).
3. **James Blagg.**
 - a. In the 1800 Census for Pendleton District, South Carolina are the households of **James Blagg, Israel Blagg** and **Caleb Blagg**, though none of these men were living close to one another.
 - b. In 1804, **James Blagg** bought land in Pendleton District, South Carolina, with **Caleb Blagg** as a witness.¹²⁹
 - c. In the 1810 Census for Pendleton District South Carolina are the households of **James Blagg** and **Kelton Blagg**.
4. **Israel Blagg.**
 - a. See 2b (**John Blagg's** property).
 - b. See 3a (1800 Census - **James Blagg** and **Caleb Blagg**).
 - c. In 1801, **Israel Blagg** purchased a 162-acre property. The deed was witnessed by **Martha** and **Bennet Aden**.¹³⁰ In the 1800 Census for Pendleton District, South Carolina, **Bennet Aden** was enumerated as head of household #521, while **Caleb Blagg** was the head of household #515. **John Richey**, Israel's father-in-law, was head of household #508.
5. **Nimrod Kelton Blagg**
 - a. In 1802, **Nimrod Kelton Blagg** witnessed a deed for the Heirs of **Henry McDaniel**.¹³¹ **Henry McDaniel** was head of household #511 in the 1800 Census for Pendleton District, South Carolina, while **Caleb Blagg** was head of household #515.

¹²³ *North Carolina, Guilford County, Deeds, Book F*, page 30.

¹²⁴ Ancestry.com's *North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960, Rockingham, 1-340*, image 602 of 1506.

¹²⁵ Ancestry.com's *North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960, Rockingham, 1-340*, image 1399 of 1506.

¹²⁶ Ancestry.com's *North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960, Rockingham, 1-340*, image 1389 of 1506.

¹²⁷ *North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960, Rockingham, 1-340*, image 1401 of 1506.

¹²⁸ *North Carolina Land Grants, Land Patent Book 99*, page 264, No. 323 (322), 20 Dec 1798.

www.nclandgrants.com/grant/?mars=12.14.106.323&qid=443178&rn=3.

¹²⁹ *South Carolina, Pendleton District, Deeds, Book K*, page 236, number 1084.

¹³⁰ *South Carolina, Pendleton District, Deeds, Book F*, page 380.

¹³¹ *South Carolina, Pendleton District, Deeds, Book G*, pages 251 and 252.

- b. **Kelton Blagg**'s 14-acre property on the waters of Drakes Creek in Sumner County, Tennessee was just over the State Line from **Caleb Blagg**'s property in Simpson County, Kentucky.^{132,133}
 - c. During the War of 1812, **Kelton Blagg** and **Isaac Blagg** both served in Captain John Moore's Company, Hall's 1st Regiment, West Tennessee Volunteers.^{134,135}
 - d. See 3c (1810 Census - **James Blagg**).
6. **William Blagg**
- a. See 2c (**William Perry Fowler**'s property - his son's father-in-law).
 - b. See 2d (**John Blagg**'s property).
 - c. See 2e (**John Blagg**'s property).
 - d. See 2f (1800 Census - **John Blagg**).
7. **Heathy (Blagg) Barnard**
- a. In the 1810 Census for Logan County, Kentucky, **Caleb Blagg** and **John Barnard** (Heathy's husband) are listed side-by-side.
 - b. In 1807, **John Barnard** and **Caleb Blagg** were listed side-by-side on the tax list for Logan County, Kentucky.¹³⁶
 - c. In 1810, **John Barnard** and **Caleb Blagg** were listed side-by-side on the tax list for Logan County, Kentucky.¹³⁷
 - d. In 1817, **Caleb Blagg** was listed two lines after **John Barnard** on the tax list for Logan County, Kentucky.¹³⁸
 - e. In 1822, **John Barnard**, **Pleasant Barnard** (John's son) and **Caleb Blagg** were listed side-by-side on the tax list for Simpson County, Kentucky.¹³⁹
 - f. In 1823, **John Barnard** was assigned the property of **William Hammond** on the waters of Drakes Creek in Simpson County, Kentucky.¹⁴⁰ In **Caleb Blagg**'s 1817 survey for land in then Logan County, Kentucky (now Simpson County) on the waters of Drakes Creek abutted 100 acres owned by **William Hammond**.¹⁴¹

[A number of Blagg deeds involved the properties of Hezekiah Cary and/or Charles Bruce. Both men owned significant amounts of property in Rockingham and/or Guilford County, North Carolina, suggesting that they were speculators, and not relatives.]

In the above list:

- **Caleb Blagg** took part in or was identified as a neighbor in land records of **James, John, Kelton** and **Thomas Blagg**, and for **Heathy**'s husband, **John Barnard**. Plus, **William Blagg** took part in the survey of **John Blagg**'s land, and **Israel Blagg**'s land abutted that of **John Blagg**.
- **Caleb Blagg** is found in tax lists and Census records living very near **John Barnard**, and **Kelton Blagg**'s land was located just across the state line from Caleb's property. Also, **Isaac Blagg** and **Kelton Blagg** served together in the militia.

¹³² Ancestry.com's *Tennessee, Early Land Registers, 1778-1927, Series 02: Entries, 1813-1815*, Image 166 of 641, Certificate #A12787.

¹³³ *Kentucky, Logan County, Surveys, Book E*, page 456.

¹³⁴ Ancestry.com's *War of 1812 Service Records, Microfilm Publication M602, Roll Box 18*, Kelton K. Blagg.

¹³⁵ Ancestry.com's *War of 1812 Service Records, Microfilm Publication M602, Roll Box 18*, Isaac Blagg.

¹³⁶ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9X5-7?i=457&cat=156098>, image 458 of 1012.

¹³⁷ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9N3-R?i=651&cat=156098>, image 652 of 1012.

¹³⁸ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-FSYG-F?i=94&cat=156098>, image 95 of 1167.

¹³⁹ <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83G1-4?i=6&cat=157357>, image 107 of 1169.

¹⁴⁰ Kentucky Secretary of State, *Kentucky Land Warrants, Grant Book M, page 164*, based on Warrant #3036.

¹⁴¹ *Kentucky, Logan County, Surveys, Book E*, page 456.

In addition, there is a series of deeds for properties in Pendleton District, South Carolina for properties located on the waters of Twenty Six Mile Creek. These deeds place James, Israel and Caleb Blagg in the same neighborhood over a very short period of time:

- In late 1806, **Caleb Blagg** was witness to a deed on said creek.¹⁴²
- In spring 1807, **Israel Blagg** was witness to a deed on said creek.¹⁴³
- In late 1807, a property on said creek sold by **Peter Johnson** states that it had been acquired from **James Blagg**.¹⁴⁴
- In early 1808, **Israel Blagg** sold his property on said creek.¹⁴⁵

The above list of key facts should leave little doubt that the following people were the children of Caleb Blagg:

1. **James Blagg**, born by 1765. Wife unknown.
2. **William Blagg**, born by 1768. His wife was **Sina (Knight) Blagg**.
3. **John Blagg**, born by 1772. His wife was **Elizabeth Whitworth**.
4. **Kelton Blagg**, born circa 1775. His widow was **Mary MNU**.
5. **Israel Blagg**, born by 1776. His wife was **Nancy Richey**.
6. **Heathy Blagg**, born by 1777. Her husband was **John Barnard**.

With only one record each of the existence of Thomas Blagg and Sally (Blagg) Fowler, it is not possible to include them as Caleb's children. Thomas may simply have been a transcription error, and Sally could have been the widow of an unknown son of Caleb's.

¹⁴² *South Carolina, Pendleton District, Deeds, Book L*, page 62, #1186.

¹⁴³ *South Carolina, Pendleton District, Deeds, Book K*, page 34, #869.

¹⁴⁴ *South Carolina, Pendleton District, Deeds, Book L*, page 230, #1424.

¹⁴⁵ *South Carolina, Pendleton District, Deeds, Book J*, page 164, #296.

Recap of Grandchildren Proofs

The following paragraphs summarize the sorts of proof found to establish the identities of various grandchildren of Caleb Blagg. Some have been proven clearly and directly. Others are inferred by sibling groupings and significant circumstantial evidence. A few have been proven mostly by process of elimination with at least some circumstantial evidence. While the order that these people appear in book's main narrative is somewhat random, here they are discussed in birth order.

James Blagg's children are mostly proven by the two probates of the estate of his son, who was also named James Blagg. It appears from these probates that James Blagg, Senior likely had two wives. The first probate settled the estate for the siblings by the second wife. The second probate included the heirs of Elizabeth (Blagg) Chappell, though the share of the estate that went to her heirs appears to have been less than the proportionate shares of the first probate. That would be consistent with her only having one parent in common with James Blagg, Junior. The final settlement of the estate is missing because the administrator, Samuel Blagg, moved to Sebastian County, Arkansas, where a fire likely destroyed those records. One other son, Michael Blagg, was likely a full sibling of Elizabeth, since he is named in an old letter which discusses all of the other siblings from the original probate file (but not Elizabeth, as she had died by then).

William Blagg's children mostly are proven through their relationship to William's youngest daughter, Mary Montgomery (Blagg) Parrish Roberts. It is her 1850 Census record that identifies William's two other youngest children. The identity of William's sons, Caleb D. Blagg and Isaac Blagg, is based upon scant circumstantial evidence and by process of elimination.

John Blagg's children are mostly proven by records of Madison County, Alabama, where they were clearly the only Blagg family to settle there. It also seems likely that someone in the past may have had some direct proof of his children, such as an old bible record, but no such source was uncovered in this research.

Israel Blagg's children are proven by inference. Three of his children clearly traveled westward together: Israel J. Blagg, John M. Blagg and Sarah Ann (Blagg) Edwards. The two sons are found in the 1830 Census for Marion County, Tennessee, which is where their mother's estate was settled in the 1840s. Israel's migration from South Carolina was unique, with his being the only Blagg to have settled first in the Cherokee Country in Eastern Tennessee and second in Northern Georgia, before finally moving on to Marion County. Two of his daughters are inferred by their presence in those two locations. And one son, Thomas, is inferred by his connection to Israel Junior, as well as by process of elimination that he could not have been the child of any other Caleb's other children. It is only descendants of Israel Blagg who claim Cherokee heritage, and there is both direct and circumstantial evidence of such a connection in the families of his children.

Heathy (Blagg) Barnard's eldest son, Pleasant, is proven directly by his father's consent to his marriage bond, and John Senior, George and Zadoc pledged their properties in Weakley County, Tennessee as surety for the same debt. What is known of her other children is inferred by their close proximity to Pleasant and his father as the family migrated from Logan/Simpson County, Kentucky, through Tennessee, and finally, in Franklin County, Arkansas and abutting counties.

Kelton Blagg's son John is proven directly by the land that he purchased abutting Kelton's property. John's younger sister Martha is proven by her proximity to John's household in Calloway County, Kentucky in 1830. There is no direct proof of Kelton's other son (Henry) and daughter (Matilda). Their connection is circumstantial and largely arrived at through process of elimination of all of Caleb Blagg's other grandchildren.

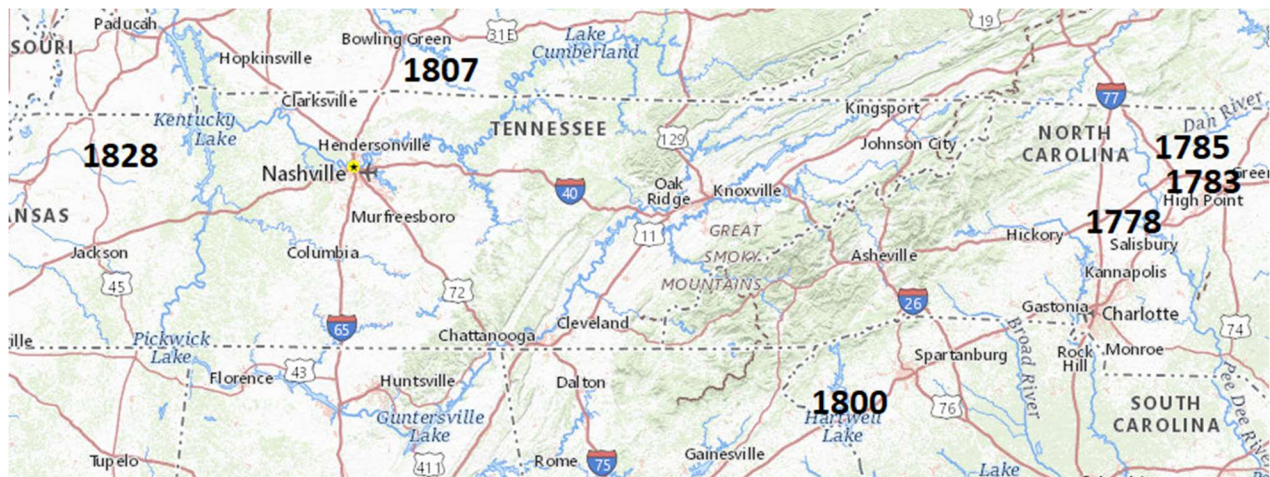
Summary

Here is where I summarize the results of more than a year's intensive effort, distilling several hundred hours of work down to a few succinct paragraphs. What began as simply wanting to know more about the ancestors of Sarah H. (Blagg) Fowler led to far more discoveries than I initially imagined were possible.

First, it is important to acknowledge that researching our particular Blagg clan was greatly facilitated by Daniel Blagg, as descendant of the Anderson County Blaggs. He pointed out the earlier efforts of Jim Blagg, Mahlon Blagg, Tim Blagg and unknown others, whose yDNA results helped focus the search to just Caleb's clan. This shared knowledge prevented other, unrelated Blagg lines from being an unnecessary distraction.

The research for this book has confirmed the earlier efforts of many prior researchers in identifying several of Caleb's children, while also adding to the mix two children whose families appear to have been missed in prior efforts: Israel Blagg, and Kelton Blagg. This has caused a major reshuffling of the deck in regard to several of Caleb's grandchildren.

It has also been shown that Caleb Blagg had lived to a ripe old age exceeding 80 years, having survived the War of 1812 by more than a decade. It is the knowledge of where Caleb spent most his last years (plus the tireless efforts of Adele Lefors) that helped me to learn more about the family of Heathy (Blagg) Barnard. That knowledge also added to the proof that Kelton was Caleb's son. And it was by tracing Heathy's family that led to the discovery of where and when Caleb had died.



Map 11: First dates in public records in places where Caleb Blagg is found.¹⁴⁶

The discovery of Kelton and Israel, together with subsequent research into their lives and families, has resolved the mess created by some earlier researchers surrounding the family of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg. It has deduced the correct family of each of those individuals who had been wrongly attributed as their children. But how long the effects of the pre-existing "William and Sina mess" will remain to vex us all is anyone's guess. I suspect it will be around for far too long, as many people will never look closely enough to see that it was created with little thought and apparently no supporting evidence.

A key missing piece of information about the family of William and Sina, which earlier researchers had lacked, was that Samuel Fowler's wife was Sarah Blagg. Without that knowledge, the fact that Samuel Fowler's 1820 household was just three doors from that of Sina's would have held absolutely no significance. And it was that knowledge that led back to Ray County, Missouri and further clues about other members of her family. It also

¹⁴⁶ Base Map Source: *USGS National Map* (online).

led to identifying Drew Roberts as the source of the absolutely indispensable information provided about Sarah's sister, Mary Montgomery (Blagg) Parrish Roberts. And that became the anchor which was needed in order to finally put William's family on a very firm foundation.

Earlene Blagg Chandler's great research about the family of James Blagg forms a significant part of the foundation for this book. And the subsequent research that expanded upon her efforts, aided by information shared by Tari Muralidharan, helped to lend credence to unsourced family lore about another daughter of hers: Elizabeth (Blagg) Chappell (wife of Robert Chappell). While there is no direct proof that Robert was her husband, there are enough circumstantial pieces to their puzzle that it leaves little doubt that the information is correct.

And it was Tari Muralidharan's musings that finally led to me being convinced that Kelton Blagg and Nimrod Blagg were one and the same person. That was something I had hemmed and hawed over for a long time.

More than one prior researcher has correctly identified the bulk of the children in John Blagg's household. But digging a bit deeper into the public records of Lawrence County, Alabama turned up one additional son who had been overlooked: Thomas. While a minor discovery, it does help to explain the later guardianship roles played by two of his older siblings in looking after Thomas' children.

Research also found that Francis Fowler, who married Sally Blagg in 1808, was the brother of Samuel Fowler, husband of William's daughter Sarah. Francis doesn't show up in records where any of Caleb's other children had resided, leaving us to wonder what became of him and his wife.

A key piece of the research for this book, but which hasn't played a large part in the narrative, is the large pool of AncestryDNA results that was created to possibly help sort out which lines of Caleb's descendants are most closely related to one another. More than two dozen people participated in the pool as samples, with the result that more than 400 DNA-verified descendants of Caleb Blagg were identified. While it turned out to be of little use for its original purpose, it did help to give a sense of the members of Heathy's family, making it easier to sort through her descendants and determine who was related to whom. It also identified some descendants who had avoided detection by other means, including C. D. Blagg, who is thought to have been the eldest son of William and Sina (Knight) Blagg, and Pinkie Blagg, who is almost certainly Caleb's granddaughter by his son Israel. Such discoveries are of little interest to the average reader, but are major discoveries for descendants of those lines.

Like all such projects that I have undertaken, this project has given me immense pleasure. While many people equate genealogy to doing a jigsaw puzzle, I view that to be an exceptionally poor analogy. In my experience, if done properly, it is more like doing a *New York Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle*. They aren't the most challenging puzzles produced by the *Times*, but they require considerable skill, and one wrong answer can mean that you'll spend considerable effort with nothing to show for it. With enough such wrong turns, you develop a sense of when you have headed down the wrong path. And having that sense allows me to work at a fast pace without an increased risk of creating the same sorts of messes that others have before me.

In an effort such as this, which often encountered no clear, definitive evidence of particular familiar relationships, it is possible, and most likely probable, that some mistaken conclusions have been made, despite every effort having been expended to avoid such mistakes. If mistakes have been made, very regrettable and unintended damage has been done. But there is absolutely no doubt that a very considerable amount of unintended damage that was earlier done by others has also been corrected in the process, so the balance of accuracy has clearly been tipped in the right direction. Hopefully others will follow in my footsteps and correct any unintended mistakes that I may have made. Doing so would please me more than I can adequately express. Kudos to such future efforts!

Appendices

The following are various tools compiled during the research for the preceding narrative: timelines, lists, etc. that helped me to better understand the people being researched. It contains more detail than needed to tell the story of Caleb Blagg's clan, but these resources are preserved here for those who might be interested in more detail about a particular family line, or for future researchers who uncover additional clues, and thus can add to what is known of his clan.

Please be advised that *these appendices are included for reference only*. They are not exhaustive lists and they have not been reviewed to attempt to assure that they are 100% error free. These lists were a tool to help get a sense of how this puzzle fit together. Once they had evolved to the point where the answers were becoming clear, they were mostly abandoned, with any newer details appearing only in the narrative.

While the main narrative of the book has been scrupulously reviewed, indexed, edited, sliced, diced, pureed, washed, dried and sanitized, no such effort has been made for the appendices. They are included here mainly for the benefit of people researching family lines other than those covered in the book. Expect them to be less than perfect. Every effort has been made to prevent any such imperfections from being repeated in the narrative. My hope is that I, and the many others who have helped me along the way, have been successful in that regard.

A: Blaggs in the Federal Census, 1790-1840

The following table lists Blaggs who lived from North Carolina and South Carolina westward. Thus it does not include New England/New York Blaggs, nor Blaggs from Virginia and West Virginia (most of whom can be eliminated based upon yDNA evidence). Most of the folks in the following table are believed to have descended from Caleb Blagg. This table was used as a means to make certain that nobody had been overlooked.

In the 1790 Census, there were only two Blaggs of interest, William in Rockingham County, NC and James of Burke County, NC. A deed record tells us that Caleb Blagg was living in Rockingham County in 1790, but census enumerators seem to have missed him. In 1778, he was in Burke County, NC, and in 1780 he was in Guilford County, NC.

The Blaggs in the table below were enumerated in one or more Federal Census between 1800 and 1840. Where a widow is known, her record is shown on the same line as her husband. Each entry includes a state & county code (see key after the table) and the age range reported in the Census.

BLAGG	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840
Caleb	SC-P, 45+	(w/ James?)	KY-S, 45+		
James	SC-P, 26-44	SC-P, 45+ 2 males 45+		AL-J, 60-69	
John	NC-R, 26-44	NC-R, 26-44	AL-L (state)	AL-L, 60-69	
Israel	SC-P, 16-25		AL (1819)		
William Siney	NC-R, 26-44		TN-B, 45+		
Jas or Jos		SC-P, 26-44			
Kelton		SC-P, 26-44			
Isaac Leander			IL-W, 16-25	IL-W, 40-49	IL-W, 50-59
Mary, w. of Nimrod K.			TN-S, 26-44		
Elizabeth				TN-W, 30-39	
Henry				TN-B, 20-29	TN-B, 30-39
Henry				TN-B, 20-29	
Israel Joseph				TN-M, 20-29	AR-W, 30-39
Jacob				AL-L, 30-39	
John Ann Sally				TN-B, 20-29 TN-B, 30-39	KY-M, 40-49

John M				TN-M, 20-29 + 50-59 male	AR-W, 30-39
Levina				TN-W, 20-29	
Michael Nancy				TN-B, 30-39	TN-B, 30-39
Caleb C				AL-L, 30-39	AL-LD, 40-49
C D					AL-R, 40-49
Josephus					AL-L, 20-29
William					IL-W, 20-29
Elijah					AR-F, 30-39

Key to abbreviations:

AL-J Alabama, Jackson County

AL-L Alabama, Lawrence County (John Blagg's clan)

AL-LD Alabama, Lauderdale County

AL-R Alabama, Randolph County

AR-F Arkansas, Franklin County

AR-W Arkansas, Washington County

IL-W Illinois, White County (Isaac Blagg's clan)

KY-M Kentucky, Marshall County

KY-S Kentucky, Simpson County

NC-R North Carolina, Rockingham County

SC-P South Carolina, Pendleton District

TN-B Tennessee, Bedford County

TN-J Tennessee, Jefferson County (likely related to John Blagg who lived in Anderson County, TN in 1802 and 1805)

TN-M Tennessee, Marion County

TN-S Tennessee, Sumner County (Caleb Blagg's youngest sons)

TN-W Tennessee, Williamson County

In Tennessee, Williamson, Bedford and Sumner Counties are all reasonably close together (in central and north central Tennessee). And Simpson County, Kentucky abuts Sumner County, Tennessee. Whereas, Jefferson and Marion counties are located in Southeastern Tennessee.

In Alabama, Lawrence and Lauderdale Counties abut one another, though they are separated by the Tennessee River. Jackson County is also on the Tennessee River, but on the opposite side of the state. It abuts Marion County, Tennessee. Randolph County abuts Georgia, around the middle of the shared State Line.

B: Tennessee Blaggs in the War of 1812

All records are found in various military collections on Ancestry.com.

- 1813 May 29 **Joseph Blagg** enlisted for 5 years in the US Rifles in Clinton, Anderson County, (Eastern) Tennessee. He was born in Green, VA. If he enlisted at age 21, then he was born in 1792 (whereas Caleb Blagg's clan had been in North Carolina since at least 1778).
- 1813 Jun 2 **William Blagg** joined the US Rifles 3 days after Joseph Blagg had. He enlisted in the Company of **H. R. Graham** for a term of 5 years. His record does not state where he had enlisted, nor where he was born. He died at the end of 1813. He was likely Joseph's brother, and thus it is likely that they both enlisted in Anderson County, Tennessee. William was probably also born in Virginia.
- 1813 Sep to 1813 Dec **Isaac Blagg** and **Kelton H. Blagg** served in Captain John Moore's Company, Hall's 1st Regiment, West Tennessee Volunteers (raised from Sumner County and other nearby counties).
- 1813 Sep **Samuel Fowler** (husband of **Sarah Blagg**) served under Captain John B. Dempsey in Col. Newton Cannon's 2nd Regiment of Volunteer Mounted Riflemen (raised from present day Central Tennessee Counties, including Bedford and Sumner).
- 1813 Nov to 1814 May **Nimrod K. Blagg** and **Kelton Blagg** served in Raulston's 3rd Regiment, West Tennessee Volunteers (raised from Sumner County and other nearby counties) <https://sos.tn.gov/products/tsla/regimental-histories-tennessee-units-during-war-1812>. Kelton was in Captain Mathew Neal's Company, and was discharged on Feb 6, 1815.
- 1852 Aug 4 **Samuel Fowler** (husband of **Sarah Blagg**) redeemed Warrant 44378 for his service in the Company of **John Dempsey's** Tennessee Militia during the War of 1812, for 40 acres of land described as: The SE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 30, Township 34 North, Range 26 West (28 Sep 1850, ScripWarrant Act of 1850 [9 Stat. 520]).

C: Virginia Colony

- 1753 Dec 20 **Caleb Blagg**, a poor boy, bound until age 21 to **James Nisbett**. To be taught to read and write, and in the trade of a house carpenter. Witnesses: **Benjamin Grason, Fooshee Tibbs**, and **Anthony Seale** (these were church elders). (pp. 14-15 - sorry I managed to not get the complete citation for this, but it is also cited by many others. It is found on FHL Microfilm # 31089).
- 1765 circa **James Blagg** was born, presumably in Virginia.
- 1767 circa **William Blagg** was born, presumably in Virginia.
- 1772 circa **John Blagg** was born, presumably in Virginia.
- 1773 Jan 7 **Caleb Blag**'s grey mare was stolen or strayed from Berkeley Plantation, Virginia.
- 1773 Mar 11 **Caleb Blag** placed an advertisement in the *Virginia Gazette*, offering a 12 shilling reward for his lost horse. Page 3, column 2, third ad from the bottom of the page. Accessed at research.history.org.
- 1776 circa **Israel Blagg** was born, presumably in Virginia.
- 1777 circa **Hethey Blagg** was born, presumably in Virginia.

After 1778, all of Caleb's other children had been born in North Carolina.

A gap in the spacing of some of his children suggests the possibility of more than one wife, though it could also indicate one or more siblings who have yet to be discovered, or who had died young.

D: North Carolina

Information about land entries, surveys and/or patents were derived from *nlandgrants.com*, which is hosted by the North Carolina Genealogical Society. Various spellings of Blagg are found: Blag, Blagg, Blagge, etc.

Records of marriages are found in several sources on Ancestry.com.

NC: Burke County & Guilford County

- 1775 Feb 10 **William Lowther** of **Edmund Fanning**, Esq, 640 acres in Hillsborough, Orange County, NC for 300 pounds. Deed from the executor of the estate of **William Churton**, Esq, late of the province of North Carolina, decd, to **John Blagge** of the province and city of New York. *Guilford County, NC Deeds, Book A*, page 325. It appears this land was immediately sold from Blagge to Fanning in the deed following the one noted above.
- 1778 Sep 5 **Caleb Blagg**, 100 acres on Canow Creek into north side through **Patrick McKinny's** place. Down for complement. *Burke County, North Carolina Deeds, Volume 1*, page 250, #748).
- 1783 **Caleb Blagge** was granted 130 acres on the waters of Deep River in Guilford County, NC adj **Isaac Holston**.
- 1789 Apr 3 **Kaleb Blag** sold to **Phillip Horney**, both of Guilford County, NC, for 130 pounds, land lying on Deep River containing 130 acres and abutting lands of **Isaac Holston**. Witnesses were **Saml Robinson** and **George Mendenhall**. *Guilford County, NC Deeds, Book E*, page 143.
- 1790 Census **Jas Blagg** was enumerated in Burke County, NC in a household with two females: likely his wife and an infant daughter.
- 1794 Apr 21 **Caleb Blagg** of Rockingham County, NC sold to **Lewis Williamson** of Guilford County, NC for 100 pounds, 200 acres of land on Haw River, beginning on a beach on a branch of **Thos Blaggs** alis[sic: alias] **David Peeples** line. Witnessed by **George Bruce** and **Charles Bruce**. *Guilford County, NC Deeds, Book F*, page 380.
- 1804 **Caleb Blagg** sold land in Guilford County, NC while residing in Pendleton District, SC. *See the Pendleton District Timeline*.

A few given names in the descendants of Caleb's children and daughters-in-law (Kelton and Piercy, at a minimum), are found in the surnames of families found in early records of Burke County, North Carolina. This is probably significant, but there appear to be too few records there in the post-Revolutionary War period to ascertain what possible connection may be inferred.

NC: Rockingham County

Rockingham County, North Carolina is located in north central North Carolina and abuts Virginia on its northern boundary. It was created from Guilford County around 1786. The properties discussed below are located west of present-day Salisbury, near the boundary with present day Guilford County, NC to the south.

Big Rock House Creek is located about two miles west of Wentworth, NC.

Belew's Creek is located mainly below Belew Lake, which is in the southwest corner of Rockingham County, NC.

Brushy Creek and Jacobs Creek are located about 6-8 miles west of Wentworth, NC.

Land Ownership Notes:

The process for obtaining land from the State of North Carolina begins by making a land entry, after which a warrant is issued to have the property surveyed. Once the property is surveyed, paid for, and/or any any

required improvements are made, a patent is issued. Subsequent property transactions are recorded at the county level via a deed.

- 1784 Apr 10 **Caleb Blagg** and **Patrick Mullen** were chain carriers for **Zeza Brashers'** Warrant #2347 for 100 acres, which included **William Killpatrick's** old smith shop improvement.
- 1785 Rockingham County was formed from Guilford County.
- 1787 Sep 1 **Caleb Blagg** and **Zaza Brasher** were chain carriers for the survey for **Jno. Joice's** 200 acres that he had purchased from **Nathaniel Moxley**, based upon Warrant 2192.
- 1788 Jul 11 NC land grant #56 to **James Joice** references **Caleb Blagg's** land, implying that they were neighbors.
- 1788 (about) **William Blagg** was married, presumably to **Sina Knight**, daughter of **Thomas Knight**. This marriage did not take place in Rockingham County. It is more likely that they were married in Guilford County.
- 1789 Apr 3 ***Caleb Blagg** was residing in Guilford County when he sold land there - see Guilford County Timeline.*
- 1790 May 23 **Caleb Blagg** made land entry #75 for 75 acres in Rockingham County, NC. Adjoins **Christopher Ziglar**. **William Southerland** and **John Blagg** were chain carriers when the property was surveyed on 2 Dec 1790.
- 1790 Dec 1 **John Blagg** and **Daniel Cook** were chain carriers for **Cornelious Cook's** 100 acre warrant #2516.
- 1790 Census **William Blagg** was enumerated in Rockingham County, NC with 1 male under 16, one male over 16 and one female (recently married).
- 1791 Dec 20 **Caleb Blagg** received land grant #141 in Rockingham County, NC, based upon land entry #75, for 75 acres on the waters of Blews Creek, adjoining his own land and Ziglar's and Reagan's lines. Chain carriers were **William Southerland** and **John Blagg**.
- 1793 May 29 **Sarah H. (Blagg) Fowler** was born in North Carolina.
- 1794 Apr 21 **Caleb Blagg** of Rockingham County, NC to **Lewis Williamson** of Guilford County, NC for 100 pounds, 200 acres on Haw River adjoining **Thos Blagg's** alis [sic: alias] **David Peeples**'s line. Attested by **Edward Tatum**, **George Bruce** and **Charles Bruce**. *Guilford County, NC Deeds, Book F, page 380.*
- 1794 May 16 **Caleb Blagg** sold to **William Southerland**, 75 acres on Belews Creek starting at **Zeagler's** corner and abutting **James Reagan's** land. *Rockingham County, NC Deeds, Book G, page 26.*
- 1794 Nov 10 **John Blagg** and **John Carry** were chain carriers for the 250 acre Warrant #1799 of **Hezekiah Cary** and **Ephraim Thompson**.
- 1795 Feb 17 **John Blagg** of Rockingham County, NC married **Elizabeth Whitworth**. **Alexander McClaren** posted bond.
- 1795 Mar 31 **John Blagg** made land entry #279 for 100 acres in Rockingham County, NC, including improvements made by **Israel Blagg**. It lapsed and was re-entered by **Hezekiah Cary**, #346.
- 1795 Apr 21 **Hethey Blagg** married **John Barnard** in Rockingham County, NC.
- 1795 May 6 **Israel Blagg** made land entry #288. It lapsed and was re-entered by **Mason French**, #365, 150 acres.
- 1795 May 9 **Caleb Blagg** and **John Carry** were chain carriers for the survey of Warrant 262 of **Hezekiah Carry** for 250 acres of land on Upper Hogans Creek.
- 1795 Aug 15 **John Blagg** and **Mason French** were chain carriers for the 18 acre warrant #232 of **James Sanders** on Big Rock House Creek.
- 1795 Aug 29 **Caleb Blagg** made land entry #346 for 200 acres in Rockingham County, NC on Upper Hogan's Creek. Adjoins **Charles Bruce**. Surveyed by **Jesse Brasher**. Chain carriers were **Hezekiah Cary** and **John Warren**. This was originally land entry 312, but it lapsed and was re-entered by Caleb.

- 1795 Nov 12 **Hezekiah Cary's** 100 Acre Warrant #259 was surveyed, with **James Blagg** and **John Cary** as chain carriers.
- 1796 Sep 17 **William P. Fowler** sold to **John Blagg** 83 acres on Brushy Fork Creek, waters of great Rock House Creek. Recorded in *Rockingham County Deeds, Book M*, page 32.
- 1797 Apr 1 **William P. Fowler** and **John Blagg** were chain carriers for the 200 acre warrant #357 for **Conney Fitts** on Jacobs Creek.
- 1797 Apr 21 **Alexander Joyce**, Sheriff of Rockingham County, NC to **Caleb Blagg** of the same place for 20 pounds, 200 acres on Hogan's Creek, formerly the property of **Matthew Peggs**, which was sold to pay a debt of 15 pounds, 19 shillings and 4 pence owed to **James Thompson, Elijah Joyce, A. Dearing, Peter Hairston** and **Robert Axton**. Witnessed by **Thomas Henderson, John Gibson** and **Sam (x) Hays**. *Rockingham County, NC Deeds, Book G*, page 22, #188.
- 1797 Nov 13 **William Blagg** and **John McPeak** were chain carriers for **Jno Blagg's** warrant #279.
- 1798 Feb 3 **Caleb Blagg** of Rockingham County, NC sold 200 acres to **Charles Bruce** of Guilford County, NC. The land was on both sides of the south fork of Upper Hogan's Creek near the head of Findley's Creek. The property abutted that of **Michael Thomas** (alias) **Julius Fores**. Witnessed by **John C. Gillam** and **Charles Bruce**. Recorded *Rockingham County Deeds, Book H*, page 70, #496.
- 1798 Aug 10 **William Blagg** to **Isaac Perriman** for 52 pounds, 52 acres of land in Rockingham County, NC on the north side of Jacobs Creek, part of 100 acres granted to **William Blagg** by **Assa Brasher** (there is no deed record of this - was this land that was conveyed to Thomas Knight, and Knight conveyed it to his son-in-law [*Rockingham NC Deeds, C 322*]?). The land abutted land already owned by Perriman. William signed with his mark, "W". Witnesses were **Joseph Perriman** and **John Thomas**. *Rockingham County, NC Deeds, Book E*, page 283.
- 1798 Dec 20 **John Blagg** received grant #323, based upon land entry #279 for 100 acres on Jacobs Creek, adj **William Blagg, Thomas Knight, John Rogers, William Flemming** and **Charles Bruce**.
- 1800 **William Blagg** was enumerated in Rockingham County, NC. His household included his wife, plus two sons and one daughter under 10 years of age.
- 1800 **John Blagg** was enumerated in Rockingham County, NC. His household includes his wife, age 16-25, a male aged 26-44 and a male aged 16-25 (one of whom was John), and two sons under 10 years of age.
- 1800 May 6 **Caleb Blagg's** warrant #346 was surveyed.
- 1803 Aug 23 **Caleb Blagg's** NC Land Grant #473 (based upon land entry #346) was recorded in *Rockingham County Deeds, Book L*, page 158, after having paid fifty shillings per hundred acres. The 200 acre property was on Hogans Creek and began at **Hezekiah Carey's** line, abutted the property of **Charles Bruce, Jeremiah/Jerry Green** (formerly **James Reagan's** line), **William Williams** and **John Atkinson**.
- 1804 **Caleb Blagg** sold land in Guilford County, NC while residing in Pendleton District, SC. *Rockingham County, NC Deeds, Book M*, page 32. See *Pendleton District Timeline*.
- 1807 [**Caleb Blagg** is found in tax records of Logan County, Kentucky.]
- 1808 **Sally Blagg** married **Francis Fowler** in Rockingham County, NC.
- 1810 Census **John Blagg** was living in Rockingham County, NC.

Caleb Blagg, James Blagg and John Blagg migrated to Pendleton District, South Carolina.
William Blagg migrated west, and his widow Sina migrated to Bedford County, Tennessee.

E: South Carolina

SC: Pendleton District

Pendleton District was located in the NW tip of South Carolina. When the district system was abolished, records were transferred to Anderson County, SC.

Coneross Creek is located NW of Anderson, SC. Six and Twenty Creek is located N of Anderson, SC. They both flow into Anderson Lake. Today they are less than 10 miles apart, though in the early 1800s they likely converged near one another.

- 1798 Sep 1 **Purcy Blagg** (wife of **James Blagg**) was listed as a purchaser at the estate of **John Moore**. Other purchasers were **Robert Love, Elial Moore, James Simpson, John Wardlaw, Samuel McCalley, Elias Oldham, Robt. Stevenson, James Holland, Nathaniel Timmons, Richard Majors, James Allen, John Dowdle, William Drennan, John Ross, Stephen Willis, Robt. Dowdle,** and **Nancy Wardlaw**. *Pendleton District, SC Probate Judge Estate Records, Book C, page 143.*
- 1800 Census **Caleb Blagg**, over age 45 (household 515).
- 1800 Census **James Blagg**, 26-44 (household 824).
- 1800 Census **Israel Blagg**, 16-25 (household 101).
- 1801 Oct **Joshua Young** to **Israel Blagg** for 40 pounds, 162 acres lying on Conneross (sic: Coneross) Creek, a branch of Keowee River, adj **James Mitchell, John Miles**. Witnessed by **Marthy Aden** and **Bennet Aden** (household 521 in the 1800 Census). *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book F, page 380.*
- 1801 Oct 27 **Israel Blagg** and **James Mason** witnessed a deed from **Bennett Aden** to **Stephen Fuller**. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book M, page 19, #1709.*
- 1802 (about) **Israel Blagg** to **Lewis D. Martin** for 40 pounds sterling, 122 acres lying on a branch of Keowee River. Witnessed by **L. Payn** and **David Hammond**. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, I, pages 389-390.*
- 1802 Feb 15 **Nimrod Kelfin Blag, Tim Marhurst/Warhurst** and **John McDaniel** witnessed a deed for land on Keworee (sic: Keowee?) River from **Robert Henderson** of Jackson County, GA to **Polly** and **Henry McDaniel** (household 511 in the 1800 Census), who were the administrators of the estate of **Henry McDaniel**. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book G, pages 251-252.*
- 1804 Jan 7 **Jedediah Frost** to **James Blag** for \$70, 80 acres. **Caleb Blagg, Thos. Willingham** and **Nathaniel Timmon** were witnesses. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book K, page 236, #1084.*
- 1804 Jun 20: **Caleb Blagg** of Pendleton County, SC sold to **Charles Bruce** of Guilford County, NC 200 acres from land grant #473 on the waters of Upper Hogan's Creek. Adj. **Charles Bruce, Jerry Green** (formerly Reagan's land), **William Williams, John Atkinson** and **Hezekiah Cary**. Witnessed by **Sterling White, Harvy Owen** and **Joshua Edwards**. *Rockingham County, NC Deeds, Book M, page 32.*
- 1805 Jul 18 **Zachariah Green** to **James Blagg** for \$100, 100 acres on Beaverdam Creek, waters of Savannah River. Witnessed by **D. Hammond, J. Hammond & James George**. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book K, page 237, #1085.*
- 1806 Dec 6 **Samuel Anderson** to **John Gentry**, for 20 pounds, 40 ares on Twenty-Six Mile Creek. Witnessed by **Caleb Blagg** and **John McMillion**. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book L, page 62, #1186*
- 1807 Mar 31 **John B. Hodgin** and **Israel Blagg** witnessed a deed from **James Heaton** to **John Gentry** for land on a branch of Twenty-six Mile Creek, waters of Keowee River. Proved by **Israel Blagg** on 1 Dec 1809. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book K, page 34, # 869.*

- 1807 Jul 28 **James Blagg** and **John C. Anderson** witnessed a deed from **John Calhoun** to **William Forseyth** on waters of Rocky River. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book J*, page 327, #566.
- 1807 Nov 11 A deed from **Peter Johnson** to **George Liddell** states that **Peter Johnson** had acquired the property from **Jas Blagg**. 74 acres on branch of Twenty-six Mile Creek, waters of Seneca River. *Pendleton District, SC Deed, Book L*, page 230, #1424.
- 1808 Feb 18 **Israel Blagg**, farmer of Pendleton District to **Adolphus Bolles** for \$500, 350 acres of land on Twenty Six Mile Creek and Harris Branch of said creek originally granted to **James Harris**, adj. Cannon, **Herald Felton**, and **Joseph Heaton**. Witnessed by **John McCollum**, **Lydia McCollum**. Dower renounced by **Nancy Blagg** (signed with a backward N). *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book J*, page 164, #296.
- 1808 Feb 21 **John Chapple** married **Jane Allen**, by **John McMillion**, Esq. *Marriage and Death Notices from the Pendleton (S. C.) Messenger, 1807-1851* by Rev Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr (1977), page 3.
- 1809 **Stephen Fuller v. Israel Blagg** and **John Ritchey**, Roll #412, Pendleton District, South Carolina, Court of Common Pleas, Judgment Rolls, Index, Dench-R, ca. 1800-1899. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSKW-M33R-D?i=129&cat=440424>, image 130 of 792.
- 1809 Dec 4 **Israel Blagg** proved a deed dated 31 Mar 1807 from **James Heaton** to **John Gentry**. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book K*, page 35, #869.
- 1810 Census **James Blagg**, two men over age 45. James & Caleb?
- 1810 Census **Jos/Jas Blag**, 26-44. Large household.
- 1810 Census **Kelton Blagg**, 26-44.
- 1810 Oct 20 Two young mares, property of **Israel Blagg**; suit of **Stephen Fuller** and **Stephen Anderson**. *Abstracts of Miller's Weekly Messenger, Pendleton District, South Carolina* by G. Anne Sheriff, *Old Pendleton District Newsletter, Volume 16, Number 5, May 2002*, page 36.
- 1811 Jul 27 **Israel Blagg** and **Elisha Garrett** witnessed a deed from **Josiah Prator** of Pendleton District to **Joseph Putnum** of same. **Israel Blagg** also proved the deed before **John McMillon**, JP on 29 Oct 1811. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book M*, page 200, #2063.
- 1811 Nov 23 **John Chappell**, Executor, & **Martha Clark**, late **Martha Chappell** executrix to **Alexander Calhoun**, for \$280 a negro woman named Milly about 24 years old black complexion formerly being the property of **Jesse Chappell** deceased. Witnessed by **Robert Chappell** and **John Calhoun**. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book L*, page 326, #1536.
- 1812 **Michael Blag** served in Austin's Regiment, South Carolina militia. Also serving in the same regiment was his brother-in-law, **Robert Chappell**. Austin's regiment was formed under **Colonel William Austin**. It is not known where the regiment was formed, but there is a William Austin in Greenville County, SC whose household included 15 slaves. He would seem to have been the most likely person to have been the colonel in question. There were two other William Austin households in Charleston, neither of which owned any slaves.
- 1813 Nov 24 **James Blagg** was listed in a grand jury presentment in Pendleton District. <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/ViewImage.aspx?imageNumber=S165010181300012a.jpg&recordId=285072>
- 1814 Feb 24 **James Blag** attested to the character of **William Duncan**, born in Ireland in 1762 and resided in South Carolina since 1789, in a naturalization petition submitted in Pendleton District.
- 1816 Sep 17 **Robert** and **Mary McKnight** sold to **James Blagg** for \$300 cash, 200 acres on Pea Creek, waters of Rockey River. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book M*, page 269, #2833.
- 1818 Oct 28 **James Blagg** sold to **William H. Wade** for \$300, 200 acres on Pea Creek. Witnessed by **David Wade** and **Labor (x) Smith**. **Pircy Blagg**, wife of **James Blagg**, relinquished her dower right in the property. *Pendleton District, SC Deeds, Book O*, page 234.
- 1834 Jan 2 Will of **John Richey**. After my death and death of wife Elizabeth land sold and divided into 5 equal parts, 1 to each of my sons: **James Richey**, **Joseph Richey**, **John Ritchie**, **Charles Richie**, and 1 equal share to my grandson **Charles Almond Richie**. My three daughters, **Nancy Blagg**, **Sally Mason**, and **Elizabeth Hix**. **William Adams** and **William Steele**

were named as executors. Witnessed by **Whiteaker Smith, E. Clarke, William Adams** and **William Steele**. Proven 6 Mar 1837. *Anderson County, SC Wills, Book I, 1835-1857, Record of Wills, Book B*, pages 65 to 67.

South Carolina State Archive Records: Location of Case Unknown

- 1809 Feb 18 **Samuel Blagge vs. William Crafts**. <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/RecordDetail.aspx?RecordId=23220>
- 1812 **Michael Blag**, private in Austin's Regiment, South Carolina Militia
- 1815 Feb 10 **John Blagge vs. William Boyd**. <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/RecordDetail.aspx?RecordId=39081>

Caleb Blagg migrated to Logan/Simpson County, Kentucky.

James Blagg migrated to Jackson County, Alabama.

Israel Blagg migrated to Cherokee lands in Alabama.

Kelton and Nimrod Blagg migrated to Sumner County, Tennessee.

Michael Blagg's descendants migrated to Yell County, Arkansas.

Descendants of Israel Blagg migrated to Washington County, Arkansas.

F: Tennessee/Kentucky/Missouri

KY: Logan County, Simpson County & Sumner County

Sumner County, Tennessee is located in North Central Tennessee (north of Nashville). Present day Simpson County, KY is located to the north, across the state line. When the Blaggs first arrived in the area, Simpson County was part of Logan County.

The boundaries of Sumner County, Tennessee have not changed since the county was established in 1786.

Marriage records, military records, land grants and surveys are found in several sources on Ancestry.com.

- 1807 **Caleb Blag** is listed on the tax rolls for Logan County, Kentucky. His household was taxed for two white men of voting age.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9X5-7?i=457&cat=156098>, image 458 of 1012.
- 1809 **Caleb Blag** is listed on the tax rolls for Logan County, Kentucky. His household was taxed for two white men and three horses (very faint record).
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9XV-Q?i=618&cat=156098>, image 619 of 1012.
- 1810 Census **Caleb Brag** was enumerated in Logan County, Kentucky.
- 1810 **Caleb Blagg** is listed on the tax rolls for Logan County, Kentucky. He paid the poll tax and was taxed for three horses.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9N3-R?i=651&cat=156098>, image 652 of 1012
- 1811 **John Blagg** is listed on the tax rolls for Logan County, Kentucky. He paid the poll tax, and was taxed for 2 horses, 2 stud horses, and a tavern license.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9N3-C?i=693&cat=156098>, image 694 of 1012
Caleb Blagg and **Isaac Blagg** are listed next to each other on the following page, 17 households after **John Blagg** (and thus paid their taxes about a week later, suggesting they were all in same neighborhood, but John was not all that close to them). Both men paid the poll tax and were taxed for one horse.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9N3-C?i=693&cat=156098>, image 695 of 1012
- 1812 Sep 7 **Isaac Blagg** married **Lydia Morgan** in Logan County, KY (just north of Sumner County, TN and likely in present day Simpson County, KY).
- 1813 Sep to 1813 Dec **Isaac Blagg** and **Kelton K. Blagg** served in Captain John Moore's Company, Hall's 1st Regiment, West Tennessee Volunteers (raised from Sumner County and other nearby counties).
- 1813 Nov to 1814 May **Nimrod K. Blagg** and **Kelton Blagg** served in Raulston's 3rd Regiment, West Tennessee Volunteers (raised from Sumner County and other nearby counties)
<https://sos.tn.gov/products/tsla/regimental-histories-tennessee-units-during-war-1812>. Kelton was in Captain Mathew Neal's Company, and was discharged on Feb 6, 1815.
- 1814 Jun 17 **Kelton Blagg** made a land entry for 14 acres of land in Sumner County, TN on the waters of Drakes Creek on the Kentucky State Line.
- 1816 Feb 6 **Kelton Blagg** had his 14 acres on Drakes Creek surveyed. **Samuel F. Dorris** and **John Hudson**, chain carriers.

- 1816 May 31 The estate of **Nimrod K. Blagg** was probated in Sumner County, Tennessee. His wife **Mary Blagg** was named as Administratrix.
NOTE: **N. K. Blagg** is listed on a petition in Bedford County, Tennessee that was submitted to the legislature in 1822. It would seem that this petition had been circulating for quite some time before being submitted.
- 1817 **Polly Blagg** was taxed for 14 acres of land in Sumner County, TN. <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~tnsumner/1817ab.htm>.
- 1817 Jun 23 **Caleb Blagg** had 150 acres surveyed in Logan County (now Simpson County), Kentucky on the waters of Drakes Creek. The property bordered on Drakes Creek and abutted the 200 acre Survey of **Benjamin Land**, the 100 acre survey of **William Cummons (Hammond)**, the corner of **William Low** and **Hammond's** line. **Moses Land** and **Jacob Seares** were chain carriers. Recorded in *Logan County, Kentucky Surveys, Book E*, page 456. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3T-2S9T-S?i=988&cat=261398>, image 989 of 1085.
- 1817 **Caleb Blagg** paid taxes in Logan (now Simpson) County, Kentucky. The record shows that he made a land entry, but the land had not been surveyed or patented. The property was on Drakes Creek and near the Tennessee State Line.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-FSYG-F?i=94&cat=156098>, image 95 of 1167.
- 1818 (**Isaac Blagg** shows up in records of White County, IL.)
- Simpson County, Kentucky was formed from parts of Allen, Logan and Warren Counties in 1819.
- 1819 **Caleb Blagg** paid taxes in Simpson County, Kentucky (poll tax and one horse).
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83G1-4?i=6&cat=157357>, image 7 of 1169.
- 1820 Census **Calep Blagg** was enumerated in Simpson County, Kentucky (due north of Nashville, TN). The household consisted of the following:
1 male over 45 years old.
1 female under age 10.
1 female aged between 26 and 45.
1 female over 45 years old.
(NOTE: his near neighbors included Benoni Morgan, Elijah Majors and Alexander Majors)
- 1820 Census **Mary Blagg** was enumerated in Sumner County, TN in a household with one male and two females born between 1805 and 1810, one male born between 1795 and 1804, and two unnaturalized citizens.
- 1821 Oct 12 **John Blagg** made a land entry for 9 acres in Sumner County, Tennessee.
- 1821 Nov 30 **Kelton Blagg** received the deed to the 14 acres whereupon he lived in Sumner County, Tennessee. The property adjoined that of **Benjamin Shepherd** and was derived from a 500 acre grant of **Francis Childs**.
- 1822 **Kaleb Blagg** paid the poll tax and was taxed for one white male over 21 years old, one voter and one horse. **John Barnette** and **Pleasant Barnette** were listed consecutive to his record.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83G1-4?i=6&cat=157357>, image 107 of 1169.
- 1822 Apr 5 **John Blagg's** land entry for 9 acres in Sumner County was voided by order of Russel (?) Keen.
- 1824 **Kaleb Blagg** paid the poll tax and was taxed for one horse.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83PF-6?i=166&cat=157357>, image 168 of 1169.
- 1825 **Calab Blagg** paid the poll tax and was taxed for one horse.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83PX-B?i=200&cat=157357>, image 201 of 1169.

Descendants of Kelton Blagg migrated to Bedford County, Tennessee.
Isaac Blagg migrated to White County, Illinois.

TN: Bedford County & MO: Ray County

Bedford County, Tennessee is located in Central Tennessee. It connects to the Tennessee River via Duck River.

The boundaries of Bedford County, Tennessee have not changed since 1807. Prior to 1807, the part of the county containing Sugar Creek had been part of Rutherford County.

A tornado seriously damaged the Bedford County, Tennessee courthouse, with many records lost. Fires in 1863 and 1934 caused further record loss. All records prior to 1837 were lost, except for deeds.

NOTE: (JPC after an entry signifies that it came from *The Jennings-Phillips Collection of Early Bedford County, Tennessee Records* by Judy Henley Phillips and Linda Shanklin Jackson (1998). The number following JPC is the item # assigned in the book).

- No Date **Wm. Burnett** to **Jno. Blagg**, *Bedford County, Tennessee Deeds, Book W*, page 231.
- No Date **John Blagg** to **Nathan H. Schooler**. *Bedford County, Tennessee Deeds, Book AA*, page 306.
- 1811 Feb 5 **Samuel Fowler** of Bedford County, Tennessee was named in a deed in Rockingham County, NC from the estate of his father, **William Perry Fowler**. *Rockingham, North Carolina Deeds, Volume P*, pages 271-273.
- 1813 **Samuel Fowler** served in Captain John B. Dempsey's company of Col Newton Cannon's Mounted Gunmen from 24 Sep 1813 to 22 Dec 1813. *The Bedford County (TN) Historical Quarterly, Spring 1981, Vol. 7, #1, Bedford Countians in the War of 1812: Captain John B. Dempsey Company*, page 24.
- 1816 **Thomas B. Fowler**, third child of **Samuel Fowler**, was born in Bedford County, Tennessee. *Portrait and Biographical Record of Clay, Ray, Carroll, Chariton and Linn Counties, Missouri* (Chapman Bros., 1893), page 663.
- 1820 Oct 19 LINCOLN COUNTY, TN. **James Greer** vs. **Caleb Blagg**. The plaintiff wishes to dismiss this suit and assumes the payment of all costs. The suit was dismissed and the defendant was allowed to recover his costs.
- 1820 Census **Siney Blagg** was enumerated in a household with four other people.
Samuel Fowler was enumerated with his wife and four other people.
- 1822 A petition was circulated to allow a dam on Duck River in the town of Shelbyville, Bedford County, TN for the purpose of automating a carding machine owned by **William Galbreath**. It was submitted to the legislature on 22 Sep 1825, and included the following names (from *Tennessee Genealogical Records* by Edythe Rucker Whitley [1980]):
Saml Fowler (page 183).
John Blagg (page 184).
Henry Blagg (page 186 - listed twice).
N. K. Blagg (page 187).
- 1824 **Mary M. Blagg** married **Samuel B. Parrish**.
- 1825 **John Blagg** and **Henry Blagg** are listed sequentially in Mathew Phillips Collection Book for Cotton (JPC, 346)
- 1827 Sep 1 **Ann Sally Blagg**, wife of **John Blagg**, was gifted a negro boy named **Richmond** by her mother, **Hannah Spain**. **Henry Spain** and **Charity Jordan** were witnesses. *Bedford County, TN Deeds, Book Y*, page 277. Similar deeds before and after this deed were to **John H. W. Spain**, **James A. Spain**, **Abigail R. Spain**, **Kitty Hartsfield**, and **Polly J. Morgan**.

- 1829 Feb 14 **John Blagg** was witness to two deeds by **John Spain** of Lawrence County, TN to his daughters **Abigail R. Gamble** and **Kitty H. Hartsfield** (one negro each). *Bedford County, TN Deeds, Book BB, pages 451 & 452.*
- 1830 **John Blagg** and **Samuel Fowler** were listed in Mathew Phillips' Collection Book for Cotton. (*JPC, 346*)
- 1830 Census **John Blagg** was enumerated in Bedford County, Tennessee. His neighbors included **H. F. Graham** (**Henry Faris Graham**, the husband of Samuel Fowler's eldest daughter, **Altamira Fowler**) and **Samuel McCuiston**. His household included two slaves. Two different **Henry Blaggs** were enumerated in Bedford County, Tennessee. **Michael Blagg** was enumerated in Bedford County, Tennessee.
- 1831 **John Roberts** and **Samuel Fowler** were listed in Mathew Phillips' Collection Book for Cotton. (*JPC, 346*)
- 1831 (John Blagg shows up on records of Calloway County, Kentucky).
- 1832 Petition of **Mary M. Blagg Parrish** asking for a divorce from her husband, **Samuel B. Parrish**. Transcript from Bedford County Circuit Court for the case, State of TN vs. **Samuel B. Parrish**. (42 Supporting Signatures.)
- 1832 Feb 10 One day after Date I promise to pay **Jordan C. Nott** the Just sum of four Dollor Sixty eight & $\frac{3}{4}$ cents for Value recd of him this 10 Feb 1832. /S/ **Samuel Fowler**. (*JPC 130*)
- 1832 Mar 14 **Jordan C. Holt** for the use of **L. C. Temple** vs. **Samuel Fowler**. Judgment for plaintiff.
- 1832 Dec 26 **Samuel Fowler** vs. **Alexander Brown, C. H. Brown**. Judgment for plaintiff. On or before the 25th of Decr. next we or either of us promis to pay **Samuel Fowler** \$15.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents for Value re^a of him this 5 Oct 1832. Signed Alexr (his X mark) Brown; C. Harris (his X mark) Brown. Att: **Thos. Willingam**. Levied on three head of hogs as the property of H. Brown 10 Jan 1838. Levied on two bedsteads, two tables, four chears, one loom, one cotton wheel, on barrel of beefe & pork, two potts, one skillet, one churn, one bed of cabbage, three water pails, four barrels, one water barrel, one looking glass, one coffee mill, two plows, & stock, one axe, two hoes, one pair of stretchers, a passel of Cupboard ware, one pair of tongs, one pair of stillards, one smoothing iron & one candlestick. Satisfied 31 Dec 1832. (*JPC 130*)
- 1833 Jan 7 **John W. Roberts** (future husband of **Mary Blagg**) vs. **Thos. Willingam**. Executed for trial 7 Jan 1833. Staid by **David Burton**. Jas. Young, J. P. Account for blacksmithing. Mathew Phillips' Collection Book for Cotton. (*JPC, 388*)
- 1833 Jan 19 **Alexander Brown** vs. **Samuel Fowler**. Settled by consent. 14 Jan 1833, **Samuel Fowler** to **Alexander Brown** Dr, 103 lb of beef at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound, fodder, corn, cabbage, one water barrel and the rent of house. (*JPC, 35*)
- 1833 Sep 1 **Mary Montgomery Blagg** married **John Winstead Roberts**. This information was passed down from **Laura Roberts**, their granddaughter. Laura's father was their son, **Henry C. Roberts**.
- 1834-35 **John W. Roberts** was listed in Mathew Phillips' Collection Book for Cotton. (*JPC, 346*)
- 1836 Bedford County, TN tax list, based upon 1835 districts that were created before the reduction of Bedford County caused by the creation of Marshall and Coffee Counties (from Early History and Genealogy Digest of Bedford County, TN by Timothy R. and Helen C. Marsh [Greenville, South Carolina, 2005]). The cited source includes a map that shows the locations of these districts:
Jehu Blagg, District 20, taxed for one white person. (pg. 228)
- 1836 **John Blagg** (likely **Jahu Blagg**) appears on a tax list for Bedford County, Tennessee.
- 1837 Mar 27 **Henry Blagg** was made staylor (surety for a judgment) in a case between **R. M. Foster** and **Ridley B. Win**. (*JPC, 129*)
- 1837 **Jehu Blagg** and **Henry Blagg** appear on a tax list for Bedford County, Tennessee.
- 1838 Apr 24 **Henry Blagg** named in a suit brought by **Henry Brown**. Related to a promissory note from **R.B. Wynn** and **Henry Blagg** to **John W. Cobb**. (*JPC, 42*)
- 1838 **Jehu Blagg** appears on a tax list for Bedford County, Tennessee.

- 1839 **Joanna (Jahu?) Blagg** appears on a tax list for Bedford County, Tennessee.
- 1840 Census **Henry Blagg** was enumerated in Bedford County, Tennessee.
Samuel Fowler was enumerated in Grape Grove, Ray County, Missouri.
Mathew Rone was enumerated in Grape Grove, Ray County, Missouri (the second household after Samuel Fowler's).
- 1842 Mar 1 **Henry Blagg** witnessed a deed from **B. Phillips** to **J. C. Holt** for property willed by **George Nease**, late of Orange County, NC to his wife **Polly Nease**. *Bedford County, TN Deeds, Book LL*, page 311.
- 1841 May 22 **James McCarver**'s will named **Henry Blagg** of Mississippi executor. Filed Jan 1844.
- 1842 Jun 15 **Jahugh Blagg** witnessed a deed from **Alexander Bryant** and **Anna Briant**, formerly **Anna Gaunt** to **Americus Gifford** for their interest in the estate of **John Gaunt**, decd. *Bedford County, TN Deeds, Book LL*, page 358.
- 1845 Aug **Henry Blagg** was identified as executor of the estate of **James McCarver**, and **Samuel Doak** was his security. *Bedford County, TN Chancery Court Minutes, Volume 1, Part 2*, page 370.
- 1846 Mar 12 **John W. Roberts** (husband of **Mary Blagg**) was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for one of three counts of felonious assault. He appealed the verdict, but died before the appeal could be heard. Two of the witnesses were **James Campbell** and **William Campbell**. *Ray County, Missouri, Court Minutes, Book B*, page 396. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSVW-4DS9?i=442&cat=80081>, image 443 of 469.
- 1846 Jul 30 **Jahu Blagg** made an entry for 12 ³/₄ acres in Bedford County, Tennessee, # 2055.
- 1846 Feb 20 **Henry Blagg** continued as executor of **James McCarver**. *Bedford County, TN Chancery Court Records, 1846-1853*, page 22.
- 1846 Feb 26 **Henry Blagg**, as executor of **James McCarver** was named in a suit brought by the legatees to free a slave named **Jack**. *Bedford County, TN Chancery Court Records, 1846-1853*, page 24.
- 1846 Aug 25 **Henry Blagg**, as executor of **James McGarver**, was sued by legatees of **James McGarver** for not freeing the slave **Jack**, seeking \$23.56 in damages. He lost, having to pay that amount, plus costs and \$25. *Bedford County, TN Chancery Court Records, 1846-1853*, page 46.
- 1847 Feb 23 **Henry Blagg**, as executor of the estate of **James McGarver**, was involved in a suit regarding the slave **Jack**. **Jack** was ordered free, subject to posting sufficient bond and on condition that he leave the state of Tennessee and never again return.
- 1848 Aug 13 **Jahu Blagg** assigned his interest in 12 ³/₄ acres in Bedford County, Tennessee to A. H. Elliott. The property adjoined the properties of **Benjamin Belk** (formerly the property of **John Gant**), **W. D. Orr**, **Allen Newsome**, **Mrs. Stagg** and **N. B. Henson**. Recorded 22 Jan 1849, No. 19246.
- 1848 Oct 2 HARDIN COUNTY, TN. **W. R. McDougal** was appointed administrator of the estate of **C. D. Blagg**. *Hardin County, Tennessee County Court Minutes, Book D, 1843-1850*, page 339.
- 1850 Census In the US Census for Grape Grove, Ray County, Missouri are the following households:
#831 **Jahugh** (sic: Jahu or Jehu) **Blagg** and his wife Judith.
#832 **Matthew Roan** (sic: Mathew Rone), his wife Emiline (nee: Fowler, daughter of Samuel Fowler) and eight of their children.
#833 **Samuel Fowler**, his wife Sarah (nee: Blagg) and two of their daughters.
#834 **Thomas B. Fowler** (eldest son of Samuel Fowler) and four of their children.
#835 **Mary M. (Blagg) Roberts** and her five children.
- 1850 Census In the 1850 Census for Bedford County, Tennessee are the following Blaggs:
Elizabeth Blagg (b. 1796 in North Carolina - widow of Henry?) and daughter **Charlotta Blagg** were enumerated in Bedford County, Tennessee.
- 1851 Jan Petition of **Nicholas Burns**, **George W. King** & wife **Lovina**, **Jesse Chockley** & wife **Charlotts**, **Johu Blagg** and **Judy** his wife, presented the report of the clerk and master regarding the title of **Nicholas Burns** to the interests of **Isaac Rone** and **Eliza Jane** his wife, and **Ezekiel Rone** and **Lucinda** his wife. **Nath. White** and **Thos. Dryden**, who appraised the land of **William Staggs**, decd at \$6 per acre and found that it was wholly

impractical to divide the land into six parts. They stated that they were well acquainted with the children and heirs of **William Staggs**, decd, and that the parties named in the petition are said heirs. The clerk and master reports that he has examined the conveyance of **Isaac Rone** and wife **Eliza Jane** and **Ezekiel Rone** and wife **Lucinda** and found that they had conveyed their 2/6ths interest in the land to **Nicholas Burns**. They found that William Burns died in possession of two small tracts of land in Bedford County, TN on the headwaters of Sugar Creek containing 40 acres and 47 acres respectively. It was ordered that the remaining interests in the land be sold at auction to the highest bidder at a price of not less than \$6 per acre. *Bedford County, Tennessee County Court Minutes, Vol 1, 1848-1852*, page 278.

- 1851 Feb Final decree for the petition for the sale of land of **William Staggs**, decd. The first property was described as abutting a 1,000 acre tract of **Anthony Sharp** and **Thomas Dougan**, abutting a 166 acre land entry made by **Malcom Gilchrist**. The second property, upon which **William Staggs** had lived, also abutted **Sharp** and **Dougan**, and touched **John Gant**'s NE corner, **Clark**'s corner, and **John Allen**'s west boundary line, thence along **Allen**'s and **Stancell Moore**'s line. Granted by the State of Tennessee to **Wm Staggs** by grant No. 11223 dated 6th December 1832. *Bedford County, Tennessee County Court Minutes, Vol 1, 1848-1852*, pages 290-291.
- 1853 Jul 30 **John Blagg** and Wife to **Nicholas Barnes**, deed. *The Burned Deed Index of Bedford County, Tennessee, 1852-1861* by Timothy Marsh (1998).
- 1853 Jul 30 **John Blagg** and Wife to **Thos. Lents**, power of attorney. *The Burned Deed Index of Bedford County, Tennessee, 1852-1861* by Timothy Marsh (1998).
- 1853 Aug Exparte petition for the sale of lands of **William Staggs**, decd. It was stated that **Jehu Blagg** and **Judy** his wife were residing in Ray County, Missouri and had executed a power of attorney to **Thomas Lentz** to receive their share of **William Staggs**' estate. Their interest in the estate was sold to **Nicholas Burns**. *Bedford County, Tennessee County Court Minutes, Vol 2, 1852-1855*, page 117.
- 1854 Feb 20 **Charlotte Blagg** to **Benjamin F. Greer**, deed, one acre. *The Burned Deed Index of Bedford County, Tennessee, 1852-1861* by Timothy Marsh (1998).
- 1856 Jul 29 **Charlotte Blagg** from **Thomas Kimmons**, deed, one half acre. *The Burned Deed Index of Bedford County, Tennessee, 1852-1861* by Timothy Marsh (1998).
- 1860 Jun 4 **Charlotte Blagg** to **James Stallings**, deed. *The Burned Deed Index of Bedford County, Tennessee, 1852-1861* by Timothy Marsh (1998).

Descendants of Michael Blagg migrated to Scott/Yell County, Arkansas.

Descendants of John Blagg, husband of Ann Sally Spain, migrated to Calloway/Marshall County, Kentucky.

TN: Lincoln County & Hardin County

- 1820 Oct 19 **James Green**, plaintiff vs. **Caleb Blagg**, defendant, in Lincoln County. The plaintiff dismissed the suit and offered to pay all costs. It was ordered that **Caleb Blagg** could recover his costs related to the suit. *Lincoln County, TN Court Minutes, Oct 1819-Jul 1823*, page 204.
- 1825 Sep 30 **C. D. Blagg** was listed as having a letter at the post office in Fayetteville, TN. *Nashville Whig (Nashville, Tennessee), Number 10, Volume XIV, Monday, 31 Oct 1825*, page 4, column 2, second item (also on 24 Oct, same paper).
- 1826 Jul 1 **Elizabeth Blagg** was listed as having a letter at the post office in Fayetteville, TN. *Village Messenger (Fayetteville, Tennessee), Volume 3, number 10, 5 Jul 1826*.
- 1827 Feb 14 "Caution
I forwarn all persons from trading for two cotton Receipts no. 349, for 425 pounds in the name of **Harvey**

Reneger and no. 337 for 440 pounds in the name of **C D Blagg**.

Isaac Broyles

Feb 14, 1827”

Village Messenger (Fayetteville, Tennessee), Volume 3, number 38, 17 Jan 1827 (courtesy of Adele Lefors).

1837 Mar 31 **C. D. Blagg** was listed as having a letter at the post office in Fayetteville, TN. *Village Messenger* (Fayetteville, Tennessee), Volume 3, number 49, 4 Apr 1827.

1848 Oct 2 **W. K. McDougal** petitioned to administer the intestate estate of **C. D. Blagg**, deceased. *Hardin County, TN Court Minutes, Book D*, page 339.

TN: Hamilton County, Marion County & Bradley

Chattanooga is located within Hamilton County, Tennessee; Marion County abuts it to the west, and Bradley County abuts it to the east. These three counties are at the southern end of the Great Tennessee Valley, and form part of the boundary with Georgia, though the western part of Marion County forms part of the border with Alabama.

- 1830 The Census for Marion County, TN has **John M. Blagg** and **Israel Blagg** living side-by-side. Within John’s household is a 50-59 year old male, quite possibly his father.
- 1836 The tax rolls include **John Blagg** and **Israel Blagg** listed side by side in District 9 of Hamilton County, TN. Both men paid only the poll tax. *Ansearchin’ News, Volume 29, Number 1, Spring 1982*, page 29.
- 1838 Jun? **Israel J. Blagg** was a private in Captain Boyd’s Company, 1st Infantry Tennessee Volunteer Militia. County of residence was not noted. He received bounty land for his service.
- 1838 Jun? **Jefferson Blagg** was a private in Captain Laffery’s Tennessee Mounted Volunteer Militia. County of residence was not noted. His bounty land warrant was redeemed by his son, **Joseph Blagg**, for land in Colorado Territory (which was assigned to another purchaser). The patent also identifies him as **Thomas J. Blagg**.
- 1838 Nov 1 **Jefferson Blagg** fled from justice, being accused of murdering **James B. Robinson** in Bradley County, Tennessee. A \$500 reward was offered, which conjectured that he had fled to Arkansas, or in the territory recently set apart for the Cherokees. *Arkansas Gazette*, multiple issues in 1839, accessible on *Newspapers.com*.
- 1840 Apr 2 **Jefferson Blagg** was placed in the Bradley County Jail from 2 Apr to 6 Apr. *Bradley County, TN Circuit Court Minutes, 1838-1848*, page 248.
- 1840 Apr 28 A grand jury returned an indictment of murder in the first degree for **Thomas J. Blagg**, laborer, late of Bradley County. He was charged with feloniously, wilfully, deliberately, maliciously, premeditatedly and with malice aforethought killed **James B. Robinson** with a stick by a blow on the right side of he head above the ear. The assault took place on 1 Nov 1838 in Bradley County, but the victim died on 10 Nov 1838 in McMinn County, Tennessee. *Bradley County, TN Circuit Court Minutes, 1838-1848*, pages 207-208.
- 1840 Apr 29 The murder indictment of **Thomas J. Blagg** was transferred to McMinn County. *Bradley County, TN Circuit Court Minutes, 1838-1848*, page 214.
- 1842 Apr 4 The will of **Nancy Blagg** decd was proved in court by **Amos Griffith** and **Mary Rogers**. **Henry Tatum** was executor. *Marion County, Tennessee Court Minutes, Volume 1*, page 30.

John and Israel Blagg migrated to Washington County, Arkansas.

Thomas Jefferson Blagg migrated to the Republic of Texas, to present day Grayson County.

TN: Greene County, Anderson County & Jefferson County

Records for Blaggs found in the early records of these counties are from the Anderson County Blagg Clan. See [Appendix N](#) for these records.

G: Alabama

AL: Lawrence County

There is some record loss for Lawrence County, AL, the result of an 1859 courthouse fire. The county boundaries did not change between 1824 and 1850, while the Blaggs were there. There was a minor reduction of the county in 1895, with a loss of land in the NW corner.

The following link contains an article by Charlotte Smith about John Blagg and his family, who settled for a while in Lawrence County, Alabama:

<http://jackson.sdlhost.com/c/Stream-of-History/view/download/233/?download=true&file=The+Stream+of+History+Vol.+XIX.pdf>

- 1819 Dec 25 Estate of **Joseph M. Semmes** of Marathon, wife Agnes T., executor was his friend, **John Rutherford** of Hickman County, Tennessee. Witnesses: **Joseph Rhea, Jacob Blagg** and **James Hawes**.
- 1820 **John Blagg**'s family was listed in the Alabama State Census, living in Lawrence County.
- 1820 May 22 **Jacob W. Blagg** was appointed Captain of Alabama Second Division, Fourth Brigade, Seventh Regiment. The *Alabama Historical Quarterly, Register of Gubernatorial Appointments, Civil and Military, Summer Issue, 1944*, page 269.
- 1820 Aug 3 **Bethalma Blagg** married **John R. Frost**.
- 1823 Mar 3 **Jacob Blagg** was appointed Justice of the Peace
- 1824 May 1 **Jacob Blagg**, assignee of **David Moore**, received the patent to Lot #108 in the Town of Marathon.
- 1825 Jun 27 **William Blagg** married **Phoebe Bailey**. **Asaiah Hamilton** was bondsman.
- 1825 Oct 1 **Jacob Blagg** resigned as Justice of the Peace.
- 1826 Unsourced marriage of **Jacob Whitworth Blagg** to **Margaret Parmelia Plant**.
- 1828 Mar 25 **J**(acob) **Blagg** made a land entry for 40 acres described as "River Improvements" that were part of the E ½ NW ¼ Section 23, T 4 S, R 6 W.
- 1829 Jan 11 **Frances Blagg** married **Isaiah Hamilton**.
- 1830 Mar 29 **J. M. Blagg** made a land entry for the E ½ NW fractional ¼ Section 9, T 4 S, R 6 W.
- 1830 Dec 1 **Jacob Blagg**, assignee of **Hamlin Epes**, received the patent to Lot #84 in the Town of Marathon.
- 1830 Dec 1 **Jacob Blagg**, assignee of **Hamlin Epes**, received the patent to Lot #87 in the Town of Marathon.
- 1830 Census Blagg households:
Jacob Blagg
Caleb Blagg
John Blagg
John Frost, husband of **Behethlum Blagg**.
Isaiah Hamilton, husband of **Frances Blagg**.
- 1833 Jul 18 **Mary Blagg** married **Willy B. Moore**.
- 1833 Unsourced date of death for **Jacob Whitworth Blagg**, allegedly on a wagon train from AL to AR. They had daughters **Nancy** and **Elizabeth**, who were raised by their mother's family (The **Plants**). They married brothers **John** and **Joel Martin**.
- 1839 Nov 20 **Elizabeth Jane Blagg** married **Amasa Graham**.
- 1840 Census Blagg households:
Josephus Blagg
Amasa Graham, husband of **Elizabeth Jane Blagg**.
Wiley B. Moore, husband of **Mary Blagg**.
Isaiah Hamilton, husband of **Frances Blagg**.

John Frost, husband of **Behethlum Blagg**.

NOTE: in the 1840 Census there is a **C Blagg** listed in Lauderdale County, AL, and a **C D Blagg** listed in Randolph County, AL. Lauderdale County is located just across the river from Lawrence County, whereas Randolph County is located on the opposite side of the state. Since Caleb was still alive in 1850, it is likely that he was the C Blagg listed in Lauderdale County in 1840.

No Blagg grantor or grantee deeds were found in Lawrence County.

Court Records

The following records are listed in Case, Box, File order. As found indexed in FHL microfilm #2433693, with each case found in one of dozens of specific microfilms.

- 1818 58-259-14, **Caleb** and **J.W. Blagg**. Appraised a stray bay filly at \$18.
- 1819 May 27 66-259-14, **J. W. Blagg**. Appraised a stray chestnut sorrel horse at \$60.
- 1819 84-259-15, **Caleb Blagg**. Appraised a brindle cow at \$30.
- 1819 394-150-51, **Caleb** and **J. W. Blagg** v. **John Rutherford**. Rutherford sought judgment in the amount of \$67.70 $\frac{3}{4}$ which they unjustly detained from the estate of **Joseph M. Simmes**. Debt dated 8 Dec 1819. Judgment to Rutherford for full amount, plus \$9.60 court costs &
- 1820 Aug 47-40-50, **Caleb** and **Jacob Blagg**, partners trading under the firm of **Caleb & Jacob Blagg**. Debt of \$100 to **Francis Porterfield** dating from 28 Oct 1818. Judgment for Porterfield: \$100 + \$13.33 damages + \$14.12 damages, and \$14.12 costs. Dated 14 Apr 1821.
- 1821 235-150-256, **Caleb Blagg** and **Jacob W. Blagg** had bail posted by **Joseph Wyatt** in the amount of \$135.40, due on 10 Oct 1821..
- 1822 Jan 23 117-40-50, **Caleb Blagg** and **Jacob Blagg**, summoned to March 1822 court, regarding a debt of \$100 owed to **Francis Porterfield**. They were not found.
- 1822 292-103-11, **Caleb Blagg**. Stray horse appraised at \$25.
- 1823 -281-42, **Caleb Blagg**. **Isim Wooten** made oath that two hogs taken up by **Callib Blag** as stray "is his wright and property."
- 1823 Dec 29 853-40-50, **Caleb Blagg**, **Jacob Blagg** and **Adam Meck**. Summons to March court, regarding a debt of \$120 owed by them to **Francis Porterfield**, dated 25 Jul 1822 and due 25 Dec 1822. **Adam Meck** not found.
- 1826 827-89-55, **Jacob Blagg**, **John H. Cargal** and **Lina Plant** posted security for **Jacob Blagg** to pay **Hugh M. Wisser** (?) \$28.75, \$12.40 damages and \$11.67 costs, to be paid by the third Monday in Sep. Secured against a horse owned by **Jacob Blagg**.
- 1826 56-70-39, **Jacob Blagg** & **John R. Frost**. Summons to answer a complaint of **Carter Brandon** against them and **Thomas Garner**.
- 1831 -183-21, **Joseph Blagg**.
- 1833 1653-162-43, **John Blagg** and **John Roach**, charged by **Malcolm Gilchrist** of trespass vi et armis (entering with guns), and seeking \$500 damages. They were not found to be resident in the county.
- 1833 1563-196-33, **Josephus Blagg** and **John Blagg**. Judgment for **William H. Whitaker** for \$104.69 + \$32.06 $\frac{1}{4}$ damages + \$17.76 $\frac{1}{4}$ costs. Debt originally incurred on 14 Jan 1832.
- 1836 1844-169-40, **Joseph** and **John Blagg** recovered a judgment of \$95 + \$8.21 damages + \$15.56 $\frac{3}{4}$ costs against **James Gibson**.
- 1842 1169-178-42, **Thomas Blagg**. Indicted for gaming. No further details.

The descendants of John Blagg migrated to Jackson County, Arkansas.

AL: Miscellaneous Counties

- 1827 **Mary Blagg** possibly married **William Knight McDougal** in Madison County.
1840 **C. D. Blagg** was enumerated in the Census for Randolph County.
1860 Nov 12 **James Blagg** married **Nancy Eubanks** in Franklin County.

AL: Jackson County

- 1819 Dec **Piercy Blagg** was a charter member of Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church, which was located in the W ½ SE ¼, Section 2, T 3 S, R 6 E, immediately east of Carns, AL. It seems to be in the vicinity of where the present-day Bethel Church is located in Carns. Other early residents of Mud Creek were **James Taylor** and **James**. *Jackson County [, AL] Chronicles, Vol. 23, #1, Jan 2011, page 2.* <http://www.jchaweb.org/chronicles/2011ChroniclesV23N1-4.pdf>
- 1827 Jul 16 **James Blagg** purchased “1 piece of jeans” for \$1 from the estate of **Elijah R. West**. Another surnames at the sale included: **McDaniel, Browning, Wheeler, Inglis, West, Isom, Vanderpool, Nickols, Gentry, Renshaw, Mitchell, Campbell, Roswell, Moore, Cox, and Lee**. *Jackson County, AL Probate Records, 1820-1830, page 65.*
- 1827 Jul 16 **James Blagg**. *Jackson County, AL Orphans Court, 1820-1830, page 66.*
- 1829 **James Blagg**. *Jackson County, AL Orphans Court, 1820-1830, page 148.*
- 1830 Census James Blagg was enumerated. The entry following his was for **James Taylor**.
- 1830 Oct 1 **Elijah M. Blagg** made a land entry for 80 acres described as the E ½ SE ¼ Section 34, T 2 S, R 6 E.
- 1831 Jun 15 **Elijah M. Blagg** received the patent to the above property.
- 1831 Jun 15 **James Taylor** received the patent to the W ½ SW ¼ of Section 35, T 2 S, R 6 E.

Elijah Blagg and Lucinda (Blagg) St Clair migrated to Franklin/Crawford County, Arkansas.
James Blagg Jr and Samuel Blagg migrated to Fannin/Grayson County, Texas.

H: Arkansas

AR: Jackson County

Jackson County, Arkansas was created in 1829, and early records there are mostly intact, with no known record loss. Most records date back to 1845, which is also when the first record of any of John Blagg's children is found there.

Most records found on Ancestry.com or the Government Land Office website, glorerecords.blm.gov, unless specific citations are given.

- 1845 Nov 12 **Josephus Blagg** was appointed guardian of **Tipton Lewis Blagg** and **Frances Jane Blagg**, with **Isaiah Hamilton**, **W. W. Frost** and **Caleb Blagg** helping to post bond.
- 1846 Dec 9 Mrs. **Elizabeth Blagg** died in residence of Rev. **A. Graham**, Jackson Co., Ark., Dec. 9, 1846 aged 80 years. *Genealogical Abstracts From Reported Deaths, The Nashville Christian Advocate, 1847-1849*, by Jonathan Kennon Thompson Smith (2003), page number not noted.
- 1849 Oct 8 **J.S. Carter** to **Caleb Blagg**. Lot 14, SW ¼, Section 16, Township 12 N, Range 3 W. Filed and recorded on 8 Oct 1849. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book D*, page 370.
- 1849 Oct 10 **Gailin Blagg** was appointed the guardian of **Arthur Dill**, a minor under the age of 14.
- 1850 Jan 15 An inventory and appraisal of the estate of **Garlan Blagg** was returned by **Alexander Robinson**, **Isaac Burgan** and **John S. Roach**. It was stated that his entire estate vested in his widow, **Hannah Blagg**.
- 1850 Census **Levina Blagg** (presumably this was the widow of **Garlan Blagg**) was enumerated with her daughters, **Mary Blagg** and **Sarah Blagg**.

Some important facts from the 1850 Census for Jackson County, relating to John Blagg's children who survived to that time. It was reported that:

- **Caleb Blagg** was born in NC in 1796.
- **Behethlum (Blagg) Frost** was born in NC in 1802.
- **Josephus Blagg** was born in NC in 1810.
- **Elizabeth Jane (Blagg) Graham** was born in TN in 1815.

- 1852 Jul 15 **Patrick Parsons** and wife to **Samuel E. Blagg**. Recorded 18 Aug 1852 in *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book E*, page 76. Part of Section 25, T 8 N, R 4 W.
- 1853 Aug 1 **Tipton L. Blagg** patents the SE ¼ NE ¼, Section 32, T 13 N, R 2 W.
- 1853 Aug 1 **Caleb Blagg** assigned Warrant # 16740 for 80 acres, for his service as a private in the Company of Captain Chapman of the 2nd Regiment, Tennessee Mounted Volunteers in the Florida War, to **Richard A. Guthry**.
- 1854 Apr 30 **Charlotte Blagg** married **Marcus L. Box (Botana)**.
- 1854 Mar 4 **W. W. Frost** to **Josephus Blagg**. Recorded 14 Aug 1855 in Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book F, page 399. SE ¼ SE ¼, Section 32, T 13 N, R 2 W.
- 1855 Mar 24 **Josephus Blagg** to **W. D. Brown**, Bill of Sale. Filed 24 Mar 1856, recorded 26 Mar 1856. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book F*, page 546.
- 1855 Apr 28 **Josephus Blagg** to **W.D. Brown**. Filed Aug 14 1855, recorded Aug 21 1855. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book F*, page 399.
- 1855 Jun 24 **Josephus Blagg** married **Sophronia (Parsons) Crossland**.
- 1856 Sep 1 **Caleb Blagg** received a patent for 40 acres, described as the SE ¼ NE ¼, Section 5, T 12 N, R 2 W.
- 1857 Oct 20 **Caleb Blagg** to **Patrick Parsons**. Filed 1821, recorded 1824. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book D*, page 683.
- 1859 Sep 22 **Tipton L. Blagg** married **Ruth H. Brooks**.

- 1860 Apr 26 **Tipton L. Blagg** and wife to **Stephen I. Graham**. Filed 28 Nov 1860, recorded 29 Dec 1860. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book J*, page 258.
- 1865 Sep 6 **Ruth Blagg** married **J. F. Newton**.
- 1867 Sep 24 **T.T. and W.P. Blagg** to **T.J. Nesbitt** (trustee). Filed 9 Oct 1867. Recording date not specified. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book L*, page 498.
- 1868 Mar 12 **Thomas T. Blagg** to **W.D. Moore**. Filed 12 Mar 1868, recorded 19 Jun 1868. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book M*, page 191.
- 1868 Jul 4 **Sophonria Blagg** to **Watson & Co.** Filed 4 Jul 1868. Recording date not specified. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book M*, page 286.
- 1868 Jul 11 **William B. Blagg** to **Watson & Co.** Filed 11 Jul 1868. Recording date not specified. *Jackson County, Arkansas Deeds, Book M*, page 290.

AR: Scott County & Yell County

All records found on Ancestry.com or glo.records.gov, unless cited otherwise.

- 1840 **Nancy Blagg** was enumerated in the Federal Census for Scott County, Arkansas. In addition to herself, there were 10 others, which probably represented a blended household.

Yell County was created in 1840 from Pope and Scott Counties

- 1843 Dec 31 **Elizabeth Blagg** married **William Parker**.
- 1848 Feb 6 **Jane Blagg** married **Enos Haynes**.
- 1850 Census **William Parker** was enumerated in household #22 in Upper Fourche.
Nancy Blagg was enumerated in household #35 in Upper Fourche.
Enos Haynes was enumerated in household #36 in Upper Fourche.

 Letter transcription provided by Earlene Blagg Chandler, from the original letter from Nancy [widow of Michael Blagg, b.1794] to her married daughter, Elizabeth [b. 1822] and William Parker, written by Nancy's friend Louisa Cravens as though dictated by Nancy: () indicates there is a hole in the paper or it is unclear, the identities of individuals is given in square brackets [].

"April the 26 1857

Dear children after my best respects to you I take my pen in hand to inform you that I am well at present and hope when these few lines comes to hand they may find you all well and doing well. I have nothing of importance to write to you.

*We have had the coldest spring I ever saw. Wee had a snow the 5 of aprile and frost all the time. The frost has ruined all the wheat. Wee had a fine rain last night and I think it is turning warm. I hope the cold weather is done. The fruit is all kiled. It is a dry looking chance for a crop but I hope it will turn out for the beter. I have rented my place to **George Morgan** this yeare.*

*I have had now nuse from **Ben** [Benjamin F. Blagg, b. 1829] lately. I still look for him home this spring. **Sipy** [Zipporah (Blagg) Aikman, b. 1823] and her family is well. They are still living at the same place. **Sipey** has lost her baby and akeman has bought the plase they are living on. **Mike** [Michael B. Blagg, b. 1832] and his family is all well but the children. The baby it base the chills.*

William [Parker, b. 1818] *your conection is all well so fare as I know. William wee have not heard any thing from your cat(). Mister Gault says he will in quire (for) them in his rout a sberifing. If I can here () them I will write to you right away. Bet(y)[,] uncle billey garners daughter Mal(is),] and (Wat) Garner daughter come over last w(inter) to see me. Your aunt Lucinday Cincl()are* [Lucinda (Blagg) St. Clair, b. 1811, daughter of James Blagg] *has sold out and is going to California and your aunt Emeline Blag* [Emeline (Jennings) Blagg, widow of Samuel Blagg, b. 1813, son of James Blagg] *is married to Bill Blag* [almost certainly William Anderson Blagg, b. 1832, grandson of Israel Blagg] *the one that come over here to work on the boat.*

Betsey I want you to tell Jane and Jace [Martha Jane (Blagg) and Enos Haynes] *to write to me. Tell them that I never wanted to see them as bad in my life. Tell Frances* [their only son, b. 1848] *that granmaw wants to see him mighty bad. Betsey I want you to tell the children that ther granmaw has not forgotten them nor never will. I would give the worlds to see you all once more in life but I hardly even expect to see you all agane. I am staying at home. I would be glad to have the children come and stay with me. Tell them there aunt sippy and the children all sends there love to you all. Mike and his wife sends there love to you all.*

I have nothing more at present but remains your Mother untill Death.
Nancy Blag [Nancy (Garner) Blagg, b. 1797]

Louisa Cravens wishes to bee remembered by you all.
Betsey I can see to write for your mother. I want you and Jane to write to me. So far well at present.”

So, the above letter mentions all of Michael Blagg’s children: Betsey, Sipey, Jane, Ben and Mike, plus it mentions his sister, Lucinda, and the widow of his brother, Samuel.

-
- 1859 Aug **Nancy Blagg** died of bilious fever.
 - 1860 Mar 1 **Nancy Blagg** patented the NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 36, T3N, R25W. The original land entry was in 1858.
 - 1860 Mar 1 **Benjamin F. Blagg** patented the NW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 31, T3N, R24W, which abutted Nancy Blagg’s property. The original land entry was in 1858.
 - 1867 Aug **Nancy Blagg**’s estate is probated, with **Benjamin F. Blagg** as administrator.
 - 1871 Dec 22 **William Parker** and **Elizabeth** his wife; **Michael Blagg** and **Catherine** his wife, and **Zipporah Arkman** of Yell County, AR sold to **Benjamin F. Blagg** of the same place, all their right, title and interest to the NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 36, T 3 N, R 25 W for \$72. Witnessed by **John J. Boles** and **B. F. Arkman**. *Yell County, AR Deeds, Danville District, Book D*, page 94. This would appear to be the heirs of **Nancy Blagg**.

There is no record of the sale of Nancy’s property in the deeds of Yell County up to around the early 1880s.

AR: Crawford County & Franklin County

Most records are derived from an Arkansas substitute census at Ancestry.com.

Crawford County was established in 1820 from Pulaski County.

- 1831 **James Blagg** is found on a tax list for Crawford County.
- 1832 **James H. Blagg** and **Elijah Blagg** are found on a tax list for Crawford County.
- 1835 **James Blagg**, **Samuel Blagg** and **Elijah Blagg** are found on a tax list for Crawford County.

1836 **Elijah Blagg** is found on a tax list for Crawford County.

Franklin County was formed on 19 Dec 1837 from Crawford County.

1839 **Elijah Blagg** was charged with causing an affray.

1839 **C. M. Blagg (E. M. Blagg?)** was listed in the assessor's book.

Elijah Blagg's descendants migrated to Tuolumne County, California.

Lucinda (Blagg) St Clair moved first to Scott County, Arkansas and her descendants migrated to Tuolumne County/Calaveras County, California.

James and Samuel Blagg moved to Fannin County (now Grayson County), Texas.

AR: Independence County

No Blagg or Hibbetts deeds.

1842 Dec 10 **James Chappell** married **Elizabeth Melinda Miller**.

1843 **James Chappel** paid the poll tax, and was taxed for a horse and five cattle. *FHL #008339872, Item 4*, image 494 of 742.

1843 Oct 5 **Elijah Chappell** married **Elizabeth Ruminer**.

1844 **Elijah Chapell** paid the poll tax, and was taxed for two horses and one cattle.

CB Chappell paid the poll tax, and was taxed for one horse and one cattle.

James Chappell paid the toll tax, and was taxed for one horse. *FHL #008339872, Item 5*, image 532 of 742.

1847 Sep 30 **Caleb Chappell** married **Rebecca L. Dobbs**.

1847 Oct **James Chappell** served as a juror in State of Arkansas v. George Tosh. *Independence County, Arkansas County Court Records, 1830-1849*, page 437.

1849 **E. Chappell** paid the poll tax, and was taxed for one horse and one cattle. *FHL #008339872, Item 6*, image 575 of 742.

Jas. B. Chappell was taxed for the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 32, T 15, R 7 and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 31, T 15, R 7. *FHL #008339872, Item 6*, image 576 of 742.

C. B. Chapell paid the poll tax, and was taxed for one horse and one cattle. *FHL #008339872, Item 6*, image 578 of 742.

1850 Mar 4 **Jas Chappell** to **Mary Cavender**. Recorded 4 Nov 1851. Metes and bounds legal description. *Independence County, Arkansas, Deeds, Book H*, page 437.

1850 Jul 1 **James B. Chappell** patented the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 32, T 15, R 7 and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 31, T 15, R 7. *Government Land Office Records*, Accession # AR0530_.224 and .225.

1859 Jan 10 **Caleb B. Chappell** to **Jno. M. Richards**. Recorded 14 Jan 1859. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 29, T 14, R 7. *Independence County, Arkansas, Deeds, Book M*, page 636.

1859 May 28 **Caleb B. Chappel & Rebecca L. Chappell** his wife to **James Tosh** for \$10. Recorded 29 May 1859. NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 12, T 14, R 8. *Independence County, Arkansas, Deeds, Book Q*, page 75.

1861 Mar 4 **W. M. Garner** to **S. A. Waddy**. Recorded Sep 4 1861. S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 12, T 11, R 6. *Independence County, Arkansas, Deeds, Book P*, page 1.

1862 Jan 13 **C. B. Chappell** to **Jas. S. Smith**. Recorded 13 Jan 1862. W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 12, T 14, R 8. *Independence County, Arkansas, Deeds, Book P*, page 88.

1868 Jan 27 **Elijah Chappell** to **Thos. Gibson**. Recorded 29 Jan 1868. SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 13, T 14, R 9. *Independence County, Arkansas, Deeds, Book Q*, page 626.

1868 Jan 27 **Elijah Chappell** to **Thos. Gibson**. Recorded 29 Jan 1868. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 13, T 14, R 9. *Independence County, Arkansas, Deeds, Book Q*, page 626.

AR: Washington County & Benton County

Washington County was formed on 17 Oct 1828

Benton County was formed 30 Sep 1836 from Washington County.

- 1830 **Meredith Edwards**, husband of **Sarah Ann (Blagg) Edwards** was enumerated in Washington County, Arkansas Territory.
- 1840 **Israel Blagg, M. D. Edwards** (husband of **Sarah Ann Blagg**) and **John M. Blagg** were enumerated side-by-side in Vineyard Township, Washington County.
- 1850 **Meredith Edwards** was enumerated with his wife and six children in Vineyard Township.
- 1850 **James Blagg** and his wife **Catherine** were enumerated in Cane Hill Township.
- 1882 Feb 2 [date of *Siloam Springs Dispatch* death notice] “**Isriel Blagg**, an old and honorable citizen, died at his residence on Flint creek last Saturday morning. Age, seventy years.”

In the 1850 Census, Israel Blagg had moved to Benton County. No record of John M. Blagg has been found.

I: Texas

Texas land records found at glo.texas.gov. Most other records found at Ancestry.com, unless cited otherwise.

TX, Grayson County & Fannin County

- 1836 Jan Date of emigration to the Republic of Texas, for which **Samuel Blagg** was granted a conditional certificate #47 in Fannin County, Texas for 1/3 of a league of land (approximately 1,476 .1 acres). Proved by **John G. Jarett** and **William M. Williams**.
- 1836 Feb Date of emigration to the Republic of Texas, for which **James Blagg** was granted a conditional certificate #48 in Fannin County, Texas for 1/3 of a league of land (. Proved by **John G. Jarett** and **William M. Williams**.
- 1836 Feb 26 **James Blagg** was appointed as the guardian of **Lucinda Smith**. *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Volume 33, Jul 1929 - Apr 1930, History of Fannin County, Texas, 1836-1843* by Rex Wallace Strickland, page 278.
- 1838 **James Blagg**, a single man, receives certificate #762 for four labores of land (about 708 acres), part of his 1/3 league headright.
- 1838 **Sam'l** and **Jas Blagg** paid taxes in Fannin County. *Stirpes, Volume 9, Number 2, July 1969*, page 52, [Republic of Texas Tax List](#) by Marion Day Mullins.
- 1838 **Samuel Blagg** was taxed in Fannin County, TX for one poll and \$150 worth of negroes and/or livestock. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939F-W6YS-F?i=7&cc=1827575&cat=986276>, image 8 of 1238, line 17.
- James Blagg** was taxed in Fannin County, TX for one poll and \$120 worth of negroes and/or livestock. Same source, line 18.
- 1838 Dec 1 **James Blagg** served from 1 Dec 1838 to 29 Dec 1838 in Capt. **Jesse Stiff's** Company of Fannin County Mounted Gunmen, 2nd Regiment, 4th Brigade, Texas Militia. *Savage Frontier, Volume II, 1838-1839* by Stephen L. Moore (2006), page 47.
- 1839 **Saml Blagg** of Fannin County, TX paid the poll tax and was taxed for his land certificate and six horses. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939F-W6YS-F?i=7&cc=1827575&cat=986276>, image 20 of 1238, line 5.
- 1839 Jan 8 **Samuel Blagg, Charles Jackson, John F. Moody, Thomas Shannon** and **William R. Caruthers** were appointed to locate a road from Warren to Coffee's Station. In April, the reported back that it was not possible to lay out the road due to Indian depredations. *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Volume 33, Jul 1929 - Apr 1930, History of Fannin County, Texas, 1836-1843* by Rex Wallace Strickland, page 280 and 281.
- 1839 May 13 A deed was recorded where **James Blagg** had, on 1 May 1838, been assigned the land warrant of 320 acres for the three month militia service of **Daniel ?**. **Samuel Blagg** signed the deed as administrator of the estate of **James Blagg** and his business partner. *Fannin County, Texas Deeds, Book A*, page 99.
- 1839 May 13 **Samuel Blagg**, as administrator and surviving partner of **James Blagg**, conveyed the above grant to **Joseph Sowell** "for value received." *Fannin County, Texas Deeds, Book A*, page 100.
- 1839 Jun **Samuel Blagg** was appointed to the second board of Fanning County commissioners. *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Volume 33, Jul 1929 - Apr 1930, History of Fannin County, Texas, 1836-1843* by Rex Wallace Strickland, page 2787
- 1839 Aug 26 **Samuel Blagg**, brother and only relative of **James Blagg** living in Fannin County, applied for and was granted Letters of Administration for the estate of **James Blagg**, who died intestate. *Fannin County, Probate Court Minutes, Book A*, page 77.
- 1839 Nov 8 **Samuel Blagg** had land which was part of certificate #47 surveyed. The land abutted **John B. McAnair's** property. **Samuel Blagg** and **John F. Moody** were chain carriers.
- 1839 Oct 11 A survey for **Samuel Blagg** was completed for land 9 miles NE of Sherman, TX (the final survey notes were filed well after Sherman, TX had been established). Abutting owners were

- Samuel Wycherd, Daniel Dugan, George Dugan and Franklin Holcom. Samuel Wycherd and William Foster** were chain carriers.
- 1840 **Samuel Blagg** was taxed in Fannin County, TX for 1470 acres of land valued at \$1,470, one saddle horse and one poll. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939F-W6YS-F?i=7&cc=1827575&cat=986276>, image 28 of 1238, line 10 under "B."
- Samuel Blagg**, adm of the estate of **James Blagg**, decd was taxed in Fanning County, TX for 854 acres of land worth \$854 and no personal property.
- 1840 Jul **Samuel Blagg** petitioned for a commission of partition in the estate of **James Blagg**, deceased. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 127.
- 1840 Sep **Thomas J. Blagg** immigrated to the Republic of Texas.
- 1840 Dec **M. S. Blagg**, administrator of **James Blagg** decd was to have until the next term to make final settlement. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 159.
- 1841 Jan **Samuel Blagg**, administrator of the estate of **James Blagg**, was ordered to pay over the heirs of said estate \$815.40. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 164.
- 1841 Sep 27 **Thomas J. Blagg** was issued conditional certificate #35 for 640 acres of fourth class land. **Thomas F. Smith** and **Samuel Blagg** were witnesses. (*Fourth class headright grants were issued to heads of households who emigrated to Texas between 1 Jan 1840 and 1 Jan 1842.*)
- 1842 **James Blagg's** 1/3 league was surveyed. The property was located on Choctaw Bayou, starting at **M.C. Davis'** corner. Chain carriers were **William D. Davis** and **William Foster**.
- 1842 **Thomas J. Blagg** served in Captain Jesse Stiff's company of Republic of Texas Minutemen. Due 3 months pay at \$22.50 per month.
- 1842 Jan 4 **Samuel Blagg** placed an ad in the *Daily Bulletin*, stating that the Headright certificate of **James Blagg** (#48) had been lost, and if not found within three months, an application would be made for a replacement certificate. *Daily Bulletin (Austin, Tex.), Vol. 1, No. 30, Ed. 1, Tuesday, January 4, 1842*, page 4, column 1, last ad.
- 1843 Jun **Daniel Rowlett** was appointed by the court attorney for the absent heirs of **James Blagg**, deceased, the administrator **Samuel Blagg** being absent from the Republic. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 273.
- 1843 Aug **Daniel Rowlett** prayed that a scia facias be issued to **Samuel Blagg** to show cause for not having made final distribution on the estate of **James Blagg**, deceased, as dictated by the court on 25 Jan 1841. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 277.
- 1843 Aug 28 **Samuel Blagg** appeared before the court, requested until the October term to respond regarding the final settlement of the estate of James Blagg. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 279.
- 1843 Oct **Samuel Blagg** was granted a continuance for cause shown, until the March term of the court. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 285.
- 1844 May 15 **Samuel Blagg** advertised in *The Northern Standard* (Clarksville, TX) that he had lost the duplicate certificate #48 that was originally issued to James Blagg, decd. *Volume 2, Number 23, first edition, Wednesday, April 17, 1844*, page 4, column 4, last advertisement.
- 1844 Nov 4 **Thomas J. Blagg** was issued certificate #29 of Fannin County, Texas, having satisfied the requirements of conditional certificate #35.
- 1845 Mar 15 **Thomas J. Blagg** was deeded 50 acres in Grayson County by **Samuel Wychard**.

Grayson County was formed from Fannin County on 17 May, 1846.

- 1846 **Samuel Blagg** was taxed for 1285 acres of land valued at \$642 that was originally granted to him.
Samuel Blagg, adm was taxed for 1476 acres of land, valued at \$1165 that was originally granted to **Jas. Blagg**.
Sarah Blagg was taxed for 50 acres of improved land that was originally granted to **Samuel Wychard**.

- 1847 **Lacy Blagg** was listed on the Grayson County, TX tax rolls. Two households later was **Abel H. Drake**.
- 1847 Jan 11 Conditional Certificate #115 for 320 acres issued to **William P. Hunter**.
- 1847 Jan 14 **William P. Hunter** conveyed 120 acres of his 320 acres of certificate #115 to **Samuel Blagg**.
- 1847 May 16 **William P. Hunter** had 200 acres surveyed of a 320 acre conditional certificate #30. **Samuel Blagg** and **Jno Jennings** were chainmen.
- 1847 May See transcription of probate court minutes below. *Fannin County, Texas, Probate Minutes, Book A*, page 312.

Settlement of James' Estate, as transcribed by Earlene Blagg Chandler:

*This day came **Samuel Blagg**, Admr. of the Estate of **James Blagg** Decd. and presented to this Court the receipts and relinquishments of the Heirs of said Decedent of their several portions of Said Estate, by which it appears to the Court that full payment of the sum of Eight Hundred Fifteen Dollars and Forty cents, due said Heirs upon settlement of said Estate or a satisfactory consideration had been made by **Samuel Blagg** as aforesaid and that quit claim has been made by said Heirs to said **Samuel Blagg** of all their rights and interest in said Estate and property of said Decedent. Whereupon it is ordered by the Court that all rights, property and Fee to said Estate and property of said Decedent be vested and hereby is vested in **Samuel Blagg**, his heirs and assigns Forever, which heretofore vested and was held as of right by the Heirs aforesaid, to wit:*

Samuel Sloan
Lucina Sloan
Elijah M. Blagg
Lucinda St. Clair
Alexander St. Clair
Wm. Garner
Zipporah Garner, and

*it is further ordered that said relinquishment be made a matter of record in this Court, said relinquishment being dated October 16, 1843 and that **Samuel Blagg** Admr. as aforesaid be finally discharged and he is hereby discharged from further administration of said Estate and that the same be certified.*

The State of Texas

County of Fannin

I, Jno. T. Fitzgerald, Clerk of the County Court in and for Fannin County, Texas, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of an order of the probate court of Fannin County, Texas made at its May Term, 1847, as appears of record in Book A, page 572.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 19th day of Oct A.D. 1912.

Jno. T. Fitzgerald, Co. Clk.

By, Myrtle Hancock, Deputy

Filed for record Oct 24, 1912

Recorded Oct 26, 1912 T.E. Goff, Clerk

- 1848 **Samuel Blagg** was taxed for 755 acres of land worth \$380, that was originally granted to **Samuel Blagg**.
- Samuel Blagg** was taxed for 640 acres of land worth \$320, that was originally granted to **James Blagg**.
- Samuel Blagg** was taxed for 200 acres of land worth \$100 that was originally granted to **William Hunter**.
- Sarah Blagg** was taxed for 50 acres of land worth \$50 that was originally granted to **S. Wychard**.
- 1848 Jan 4 A duplicate certificate was issued to the legal representatives of **James Blagg**, decd for his 1/3 league conditional grant.

- 1848 Jan 13 **James B. Shannon, John Hendricks, Samuel Blagg, John H. Vadere and John M. Shackelford** were appointed Commissioners of Grayson County to locate the center of the county and to find two locations within three miles of said center for the purpose of locating the County courthouse.
- 1848 Aug **James Blagg's** ½ league was patented.
- 1848 Nov 20 **Susan Blagg**, widow of **Thomas J. Blagg**, married **Able H. Drake**.
- 1848 Nov 23 **Samuel Blagg** donated 80 acres of land for the location of the county seat within Grayson County.
- 1849 **Samuel Blagg** was again taxed for land originally granted to himself, **James Blagg** and **Wm. Hunter**, and he acted as the agent for the land of **Rosenborough**.
- 1849 Jul 1 **Samuel Blagg** was named the administrator of the estate of **James McGlothlin**, decd. *Texas, Grayson County, Probate Court Records, Miscellaneous Wills and Administrations, Box Mc.*
- 1850 Feb 26 **Sam Blagg** reported that **Michael French** removed from Grayson County. *Texas, Grayson County, Probate Court Records, Miscellaneous Wills and Administrations, Box U.*
- 1850 Feb 26 **Samuel Blagg** was surety with **George N. Butt** for **John Henry**, administrator of **Samuel Smith**, Deceased. *Texas, Grayson County, Probate Court Records, Miscellaneous Wills and Administrations, Box S.*
- 1850 Apr 26 **William Garner** and **Ziporah Garner** his wife, **Samuel Sloan** and **Lurena Sloan** his wife and **Lucinda St. Clair** of Suell [sic] County, Arkansas [noted as Franklin County, Arkansas when the deed was proved] sold to **Samuel Blagg** for \$500 any and all undivided interest in property on "Short Stone Bluff and surveyed by virtue of a part of his headright certificate issued to **James Blagg**," which started on **Joseph Sowell's** corner (corrected in an 1851 survey to be [**Saphira**] **Smith's** corner) and contained 4,825,600 square varas (about 850 acres). Witnessed by **William/Wilson Foster** and **Zed Garner**. *Grayson County, Texas Deeds, Book B, page 163.*
- 1850 May 31 **James B. Chappell, Elijah Chappell** and **Caleb B. Chappell** of Independence County, Arkansas sold to **Samuel Blagg** for \$100 any and all undivided interest in the property noted above. *Grayson County, Texas Deeds, Book B, page 159.*
- 1850 Aug 18 **William Hibbetts** and **Susanna Hibbetts** his wife of Independence County, Arkansas sold to **Samuel Blagg** any and all undivided interest in the property noted above for \$100. **James B. Chappell** and **Mortimer R Wallis** were witnesses. *Grayson County, Texas Deeds, Book B, page 161.*
- 1851 **Samuel Blagg** was taxed for 640 acres of land worth \$1920 that he had originally been granted on Post Oak Creek.
Samuel Blagg was taxed for 150 acres of land worth \$75 that had originally been granted to **James Blagg** on Choctaw Creek.
Samuel Blagg was taxed for 200 acres of land worth \$100 that had originally been granted to **Wm. Hunter**.
- 1851 Mar 28 The survey for **James Blagg's** ½ league was corrected, with **James Pearson** and **Samuel Blagg** as chain carriers. This was for four varas of land (about 708 acres).
- 1851 Oct 4 **Samuel Blagg** conveyed the 120 acres that he received from **William P. Hunter** to **John Sutherland**.
- 1851 Nov 17 **John & Joseph Blagg** from **Samuel Blagg** for \$200 - this deed states explicitly that **John Blagg** and **Joseph Blagg** were sons of **Thomas J. Blagg**, deceased. It does not state the relationship between **Samuel Blagg** and any of the other individuals. The property was the headright belonging to **Samuel Blagg**, less 31 acres that he had sold to **William C. Wyle**.
- 1851 Apr 26 **Samuel Blagg** was the principal and **Thomas J. Shannon** and **Fielding Bacon** were sureties in the guardianship bond of Lewis Rogers, Minor. *Texas, Grayson County, Probate Court Records, Miscellaneous Wills and Administrations, Box R.*
- 1852 Apr 15 **John Chronister** conveyed to **Samuel Blagg** 320 acres of a 640 acre survey.

- 1854 Mar 13 **Sarah Drake**, late wife and legal representative of the estate of **Thomas Blagg**, decd, sold to **Wm. C. Young** all her right and interest that may be due from the State of Texas for **Thomas Blagg**'s service in 1842 in the company of Captain Stiff. Witnessed by **A. B. Manion** and **A. Drake**. <https://tslarc.tsl.texas.gov/reclaims/188/18800594.pdf>
- 1860 Jan 18 **Samuel Blagg**, deceased. Transfer of records of Probate Court, Sebastian County, Arkansas. Wife **Evaline Blagg**. **Wm. A. Blagg**, guardian of **Thomas B. Blagg** and **James Blagg**, minor heirs of **Samuel Blagg**. *Texas, Grayson County, Probate Court Records, Miscellaneous Wills and Adminstrations, Box B.*
- 1860 May **William A. Blagg** was granted guardianship for **Thos B. Blagg**, **James C. Blagg** and **Samuel Blagg**, minor heirs of **Samuel Blagg**, deceased. It notes that **William A. Blagg** had been their legally qualified guardian in Sebastian [County], Arkansas. *Grayson County, TX Probate Minutes, Book E, page 176.*
- 1861 Oct 29 Estate of **James Wiley Jennings**, deceased. **William A. Blagg** and **James W. Jennings** were named as equal owners of land in Tarrant County. Said Jennings died intestate on 1 Sep 1861. *Texas, Grayson County, Probate Court Records, Miscellaneous Wills and Adminstrations, Box J.*

TX, Fannin County Deeds

BKPG Grantor

Grantee

- A100 Samuel Blagg, Adm Jos. Sowell, transferred conditional grant of James Blagg.
- B194 Thomas J. Blagg John H. Glover, 640 acres, head right of Thomas J. Blagg.
- B280 Samuel Wychar Thos. J. Blagg , 50 acres including the house and farm.

NOTE: These deeds are available on microfilm from the FHL, but they were not yet scanned and available online in May 2018.

TX, Grayson County Grantor Deeds

All of the following are deeds unless specified otherwise:

BKPG Grantor

Grantee

- A112 Samuel Blagg James O. Logan
- A113 Samuel Blagg Nancy Hardaway
- A121 Samuel Blagg Grayson County
- A209 Samuel Blagg Sarah Bacon
- A211 Samuel Blagg Mark Perdue
- A212 Samuel Blagg John Jennings
- A214 Samuel Blagg William C. Wyble
- B003 Samuel Blagg James L. Atchison
- B027 Samuel Blagg Sterling Wood
- B033 Samuel Blagg Jesse J. Shelton
- B034 Samuel Blagg Slack & Beasley
- B165 Samuel Blagg Charles Carter
- B189 Samuel Blagg James S. Loffee
- B220 Samuel Blagg F. G. Beasley
- B277 Samuel Blagg Bradley & Barnard
- B340 Samuel Blagg D. Willoughby (BOND)
- B389 Samuel Blagg John Horveth
- B397 Samuel Blagg James Sarn
- B399 Samuel Blagg James Sarn
- C020 Samuel Blagg J. Sutherland

C022	Samuel Blagg	W. C. Coffey
C401	Samuel Blagg	W. C. Coffey
C023	Samuel Blagg	J. D. Fraser
C402	Samuel Blagg	J. D. Fraser
C024	Samuel Blagg	John & Joseph Blagg
C025	Samuel Blagg	Burrell P. Smith
C052	Samuel Blagg	Charles Carter
C082	Samuel Blagg	Thomas Y. Logwood
C105	Samuel Blagg	Morrison Rulan
C206	Samuel Blagg	W. C. Painter
C236	Samuel Blagg	M. Anderson
C312	Samuel Blagg	William D. Fitch
C369	Samuel Blagg	James B. Shannon
C392	Samuel Blagg	T. F. Garrison
C400	Samuel Blagg	Caleb Horn
C401	Samuel Blagg	J. D. Frazor
D241	Elvina Blagg	M. Anderson (Acknowledgement) - Book D is missing!
D073	Sam Blagg	F. G. Beasley
E098	Sam Blagg	Stephen Rose
E243	John & Joseph Blagg	Josiah Wynn
E351	Sam Blagg	James L. Atchison
E352	Sam Blagg	James L. Atchison
F053	Samuel Blagg	Enoch M. Jones
F054	Samuel Blagg	Enoch M. Jones
F071	Samuel Blagg	Burrel Perry
F400	Samuel Blagg	John Carpenter
F455	Samuel Blagg	D. Willoughby
F541	Samuel Blagg	B. P. Smith (Power of Attorney) - this gives Smith power to act on all of Samuel Blagg's legal interests.
H076	John M. Blagg	James S. Clark - deeded his undivided 1/2 interest in 400 acres.
H128	Joseph Blagg	R. L. Bullock - deeded his undivided 1/2 interest in 400 acres.

TX, Grayson County Grantee Deeds

A111	Samuel Blagg	James B. Shannon
B159	Samuel Blagg	J. B. Chappell et al
B161	Samuel Blagg	William Hibbets & wife
B163	Samuel Blagg	William Garner et al
B036	Samuel Blagg	James O. Logan
C024	John & Joseph Blagg	Samuel Blagg
C017	Samuel Blagg	John Chronister (Bond)
C016	Samuel Blagg	Alexander H. Martin (Bond)* these bonds required the grantors to secure their interest in their properties and to execute a valid deed to Samuel Blagg.
D224	Samuel Blagg	James Tam
F037	Samuel Blagg	A. H. Martin

J: Kentucky

KY: Calloway County & Marshall County

Calloway County, KY was created in 1822 from part of Hickman County. In 1842, the northern half of the county became Marshall County.

Soldiers Creek is located northwest of Hardin, Kentucky.

Tax records are found on familysearch.org for each county in question. Most other records are found on Ancestry.com, unless cited specifically.

- 1831 **John Blagg** is found on the tax list for Calloway County, Kentucky, farming 160 acres of second class land that he had entered and patented on the waters of Clarks River. The record shows that he owned a wheeled carriage, one negro under the age of 16 and two horses. His name is not found on the 1829 list (the 1830 list is not extant). Three entries later is the record for **Isaac Bird**. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-G9?i=176&cat=155044>, image 177 of 1067.
- 1831 Aug 22 **Martha Blagg** (b. 1810 SC) married **Isaac Bird** in Calloway County, Kentucky.
- 1833 **John Blagg** was not taxed for land or a carriage, but he still owned a negro under the age of 16 and two horses. The entry for Isaac Bird was fifteen lines later on the same page. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-G1?i=214&cat=155044>, image 215 of 1067.
- 1834 **John Blagg** was taxed for 160 acres of first class land that he had entered and patented on the waters of Soldier's Creek. He still owned a negro under the age of 16 and two horses. **Isaac Bird's** taxes were listed seven lines above John's, and he, too, was living on the waters of Soldier's Creek. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-G1?i=214&cat=155044>, image 262 of 1067.
- 1835 **John Blagg** continued to farm his 160 acres. He was also taxed for one negro under the age of 16 and four horse. He was also assessed for farming 640 acres entered and patented by **P. Roberson**. Interestingly, **Nathan Bowman** was said to be farming 160 acres entered by **John Blagg**. **Isaac Burd** was listed about 17 lines earlier. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-G1?i=214&cat=155044>, image 312 of 1067.
- 1836 **Sally Blagg** is found paying taxes on the 160 acres entered and patented by **John Blagg**. She was also taxed for two horses.
- 1837 **Sally Blagg** again paid taxes on 160 acres of land, one negro under the age of 16 and 2 horses.
- 1837 May 29 **Sally Blagg** to **Nicholas Copeland** for \$250, land on Clarks River described as the NW ¼ of Section 31, T 4, R 4 E, containing 148 acres (12 acres had previously been sold to **Isham Threat**). Witnessed by **John P. McElrath** and **Robt House** (*Calloway County Kentucky Deeds, Book B, page 473*).
- 1838 **Sally Blagg** was taxed for 320 acres of land on Soldiers Creek, one negro under the age of 16 and 2 horses.
- 1839 Apr 8 **Sarah Blagg** married **William Gore** in Calloway County, KY.
- 1840 There are no Blaggs listed on tax rolls of Calloway County, KY (the 1839 tax list there is not extant).

JURISDICTION CHANGES TO MARSHALL COUNTY. There was considerable record loss in Marshall County, due to unspecified disasters in 1888 and 1914.

- 1843 **William Gore** was taxed for 320 acres of land on Soldiers Creek, no slaves and three horses.
- 1844 **William Gore** was taxed for 148 acres of land on Soldiers Creek, with a slave over 16 years old and five horses.
- 1845/1846 **William Gore** continued to pay taxes, but the records are barely legible.
- 1846 Jul 17 **Joshua Blagg** married **Tempy Jones** in Marshall County, KY.
- 1847 **William Gore** was taxed for 200 acres of land, one slave over age 16 and three horses. He likely continued to be found on later tax records.
- 1850 Census **Ann Sally Gore**, b. 1796 in North Carolina, living in Calloway County, KY.
- 1850 Census **Martha (Blagg) Burd** was enumerated in Marshall County, KY in 1850 in a household with four children.
- 1850 Census **Joshua Blagg**, b. 1827 in Tennessee, was enumerated in Marshall County, KY in 1850 in a household with two children.
- 1850 Census **Ann Sally (Spain) Blagg Gore**, b. 1796 in NC, was enumerated in Marshall County, eight households away from **Joshua Blagg**.
- 1860 Dec 20 **Joshua Blagg** sold his undivided one third interest in the NE ¼ of Section 36, T4, R3E to **Sarah Gore** for \$300. *Marshall County, Kentucky Deeds, Book 6, page 80.*

KY: Logan County & Simpson County

See the [appendix](#) for Tennessee - these records are grouped with those of Sumner County, TN, as the Blaggs found in records of these three counties likely lived in very close proximity to one another along the Tennessee-Kentucky State Line.

See also [Appendix O](#) – which contains some Barnard records from these counties.

K: Illinois

IL: White County

Most records found at Ancestry.com, though patents are found at glo.records.gov, and land entries are found on the website of the Illinois Secretary of State. Other records are cited specifically.

- 1817 May 16 **Leonard Blagg** was born in White County, Illinois. His father was a native of Virginia. *History of White County, Illinois* by Inter-State Publishing Company (1883, Chicago), page 805.
- 1818 **Isaac Blagg** was enumerated in the Illinois State Census: 1 male over age 21 + three other inhabitants.
- 1820 Census **Isaac Blagg**: a male and female age 16-25, plus three sons under age 10.
- 1830 Census **Isaac Blagg**'s household includes 7 males and one female.
- 1836 Jul 27 **Isaac Blagg** made his land entry for the NW ¼ NE ¼ of Section 22, T 6 S, R 9 E.
- 1838 Jul 28 **Isaac Blagg** patented the NW ¼ NE ¼ of Section 22, T 6 S, R 9 E.
- 1838 Sep 4 **Isaac Blagg** married **Hannah Blandford**.
- 1840 Oct 21 **Lynard Blagg** to **Yearby Land**, 19 acres of corn in **James Garrison**'s field. White County, Illinois Deeds, Book D, page 589.
- 1850 Oct 15 **John F. McHenry** to **Leonart Blagg**. *White County, Illinois Deeds, Book H*, page 573.
- 1850 Jul 15 **Leonart Blagg** to **Wm S. Hay**. *White County, Illinois Deeds, Book I*, page 506.
- 1850 Jul 26 United States to **Leonart Blagg**. *White County, Illinois Deeds, Book P*, page 312.
- 1857 Feb 16 **Lucy A. Rowe** to **Leonart Blagg**. *White County, Illinois Deeds, Book P*, page 323.
- 1857 Feb 16 **Wm Hall** to **Leonart Blagg**. *White County, Illinois Deeds, Book P*, page 379.

L: Mississippi

Most records are found on Ancestry.com and derived from the biography of Leonard Blagg found in *Past and Present of DeKalb County, Illinois, Volume 2* by Lewis M. Gross and H. W. Fay (1907), page 528, and *History of old Tishomingo County, Mississippi* by Fan Alexander Cochran (1971).

MS: Tishomingo County

- 1845 A Blagg was noted as settling in Tishomingo County at this time.
- 1845 Henry Blagg was enumerated in the 1845 State and Territorial Census for Tishomingo County, Mississippi. His household includes six males and three females.
- 1845 Henry Blagg was appointed as a justice of the peace.
- 1845 Mar Henry Blagg, George Ellis, A. S. Holmes, Robert Whiteside, Solomon Knight, G. N. Key, and William Narolin were appointed to be a jury to lay out a road from Troy to the house of Lewis Jones on the county line.
- 1847 Feb 10 Henry Blagg married Mary M. Nix in Alcorn County, Mississippi.
- 1854 Oct 11 Henry Blagg from Richard Orne and Ann his wife. *Old Tishomingo County Land Records, 1835-1857* by Melvin V. Lambert (no publication date).
- 1860 Census Mary's household (#371) includes nine children, two of which were Mary's. In household #355 was Samuel Rone, Junior, believed to have been the brother of Mathew Rone (the son-in-law of Henry's sister Sarah [Blagg] Fowler).
- 1850-1855 Henry Blagg served as a County officer for Tishomingo County.
- 1860 May J. C. Lowry, administrator of Henry Blagg, petitioned for letters.
- 1860 May J. Y. Lowry, administrator of Henry Blagg, submitted an appraisalment.
- 1860 Jun J. G. Lowrey, administrator of Henry Blagg, report of sale of personal property due.
- 1861 summer Henry Jackson Blagg served as a private in Company A, 32nd Mississippi Regiment, serving for over three years.
- 1862 circa J. (James) F. Blagg and A. (Adam) R. Blagg served as a privates in Company F, 23rd Mississippi Regiment.
- 1862 circa William T. Blagg enlisted in Company K, Illinois Infantry, and in the Western Sharpshooters and on detached duty as a spy and guide, before being discharged for disability.
- 1865 Nov 13 J. G. Lowery, administrator of Henry Blagg (Case No. 598) submitted his second annual account.
- 1865 Dec 11 J. G. Goviery, admin of Henry Blagg (Case No. 598) gave account of \$8.84 in cash and \$600 in Confederate interest bearing notes.

Descendants of Henry Blagg migrated to DeKalb County, Illinois; Gage and Lancaster Counties, Nebraska; and Lawrence and Sharp Counties, Arkansas.

Deeds

Henry Blagg purchased from A. W. Walker, Alcorn County, MS Deeds, Book N, #62

Mary Blagg purchased from Thos W Dilworth on 2 Nov 1881 for \$300, Alcorn County, MS Deeds, Book 9, page 152

N: The Anderson County Blagg Clan

Joseph Blagg, Brother v. the other heirs of William Blagg

Most information comes from the War of 1812 pension file of Joseph Blagg, which is accessible for free at *fold3.com*. Other records from *Ancestry.com*.

Joseph Blagg

Joseph Blagg was William Blagg's brother, as witnessed by a patent issued to "Joseph Blagg, brother v. the other heirs of William Blagg."

Joseph's widow claimed a pension for his service during the War of 1812. He joined the US Rifles on 29 May 1813 in Clinton, Anderson County, (Eastern) Tennessee, signing on for 5 years service. His service record notes that he was born in Green, VA (likely Greene County, Tennessee) and that he was discharged in 20 May 1818 at Bellefontaine, St. Louis County, Missouri. In 1819, he was issued a patent for 160 acres in Hancock County, Illinois, which he sold immediately and never laid eyes on. In 1823, he was married in Jefferson County, (Eastern) Tennessee to Mary Dick.

A statement by his widow states that after his Army service they resided 10 years in Jefferson County, Tennessee; 4 years in Putnam County, Indiana; 4 years in Platte County, Missouri; and after that they resided in Nodaway County, Missouri.

William joined the US Rifles on 2 Jun 1813 in the Company of H. R. Graham for a term of 5 years. His record does not state where he had enlisted, nor where he was born. He died at the end of 1813.

In the 1830 Census, this Joseph was living in Jefferson County, TN.

In 1840, he was living in Platte County, MO.

In 1850, he was living in Nodaway County, MO.

William Blagg

In 1826, a patent was issued to Joseph Blagg, brother v. the other heirs of William Blagg in what was at the time Arkansas County, Arkansas. There is no record of a Blagg selling the property while it was part of Arkansas County, nor while it was part of Phillips County or in any of the subsequent counties that eventually became Cross County (those courthouses didn't have deeds that went back that far, due to courthouse fires and other calamities).

TN:Greene County, Anderson County & Jefferson County

The following records are for Blagg for whom yDNA testing proves they are members of the Anderson County Blagg Clan, and not related to the Clan of Caleb Blagg. They are included here because these records are often mistakenly attributed to sons of Caleb Blagg

These counties are located near the Northern End of the Great Tennessee Valley, not far south of Virginia.

Tax and military records can be found on *Ancestry.com*.

- 1790 May 25 The Territory Southwest of the Ohio River was created, including land ceded by North Carolina lying at the northern end of the Great Tennessee Valley.
- 1795 **Joseph Blagg** was born in Greene County, TN.
- 1796 Jun 1 Tennessee was granted statehood.
- 1801 Sep 23 **John Blagg** signed a petition to form a new county (Anderson). *Ansearchin' News*, Fall 1992, page 125.
- 1801 Nov 6 Anderson County was formed from parts of Knox County and Grainger County.
- 1802 **John Blagg** is found on the tax rolls of Anderson County, TN.
- 1804 Sep 12 **John Blagge's** property was named in a court case concerning the bounds of the road overseen by William Lamon. *Anderson County, TN Court Minutes, 1801-1809*, page 156.
- 1805 **John Blagg** is found on the tax rolls of Anderson County, TN.
- 1812 **William Blagg** was order to work on a road overseen by Jeremiah Hibbs. *Anderson County, TN Court Minutes, 1810-1814*, page 235.
- 1813 May 29 **Joseph Blagg** enlisted in the US Army in **Captain Thomas Ramsey's** Company of U.S. Rifles at Clinton, Anderson County, Tennessee. He was enlisted by **Lt. Finley**.
- 1813 Jun 2 **William Blagg** enlisted in the US Army in **Captain H R Graham's** Company of U.S. Rifles. It is not recorded where he enlisted, nor by whom.
- 1813 Dec 25 **William Blagg** died at Sackett's Harbor, New York. The record of his enlistment includes the note "**see pension application.**"
- 1819 Jan 18 **Joseph Blagg** made the initial land entry for the property (described below) that he patented on the same date.
- 1819 Jan 18 Patent issued on Warrant 20198 to **Joseph Blagg**, private in **W. McIntosh's** Riflemen for 160 acres: NW ¼, Section 11, Township 3 North, Range 8 West, located in Hancock County, Illinois (May 6, 1812: Script Warrant Act of 1812 [2 Stat 728]).

O: The Barnards

NC: Rockingham County

1795 Apr 21 **John Barnard** married **Heathy Blagg**, with
1799 **Pleasant Barnard** was born.

TN

1801 **Zadoc Barnard** was born. This was likely in Eastern Tennessee.

KY: Warren County, Logan County, & Simpson County

Allen County was formed from Warren County, Kentucky in 1812. Simpson County was formed from parts of Warren County and Logan County in 1819. So it is possible that people could have lived in both Warren and Simpson County, or in Logan and Simpson County, and never moved. Where Caleb Blagg had lived is very close to where the shared border between Logan and Warren Counties had interested with the Tennessee State Line prior to the creation of Simpson County.

- 1807 **John Barnett** was taxed in Logan County for 105 acres, 2 voters, 1 male over age 21 and 2 horses. The next taxpayer was **Caleb Blagg**.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9X5-7?i=457&cat=156098>, image 458 of 1012.
- 1810 Logan County 1810 Tax List:
John Barnett was taxed for 100 acres entered by "Sundries", 1 poll and 5 horses. The next taxpayer was **Caleb Blagg**.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9N3-R?i=651&cat=156098>, 652 of 1012
- 1815 Logan County 1815 Tax List:
John Barnett was in Captain Bell's Company and was taxed for 100 acres, 1 poll and five horses.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-C9F6-P?i=949&cat=156098>, image 950 of 1012.
- 1815 Sep 5 A bond was issued for the marriage of **Pleasant Barnard**, son of **John Barnard** to **Nancy Hinton**, daughter of **Jesse Hinton**.
- 1816 Logan County 1816 Tax List:
John Barnett was taxed for 100 acres of land on the waters of Drakes Creek, 1 poll and four horses.
Pleasant Barnett was listed next. He paid the poll tax and was taxed for two horses.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-FSY3-C?i=9&cat=156098>, image 10 of 1167.
- 1817 Logan County 1817 Tax List:
Pleasant Barnard paid the poll tax and was taxed for two horses. Two lines later, **Caleb Blagg** paid his taxes.
Three lines after that, **John Barnett** was taxed for 100 acres entered by **John Barnett**, one poll and three horses.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-FSYG-F?i=94&cat=156098>, image 95 of 1167.
- 1819 Feb 12 **John Barnard** was granted 35 acres of land on Drakes Creek in Logan County, Kentucky.
- 1819 Mar 31 Simpson County, KY was created.
- 1819 **Pleasant Barnard** paid the poll tax and was taxed for one horse in Simpson County. He was living on the waters of Drakes Creek.

- <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83G1-4?i=6&cat=157357>,
image 7 of 1169.
- 1822 **John Barnette** and **Pleasant Barnette** were each taxed for one voter and one male over age 21. John was taxed for one horse, Pleasant for two. **Kaleb Blagg** was listed consecutive to their records.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83G1-4?i=6&cat=157357>,
image 107 of 1169.
- 1823 **John Barnett** and **Pleasant Barnett** paid the poll tax and were taxed for two horses each.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83GY-2?i=137&cat=157357>,
image 138 of 1169.
- 1823 Apr 28 **William Hammond** assigned his 35 acres (from Warrant #3036 for 100 acres) to **John Barnard**. It was located on the west side of Drakes Creek, adjacent to **John Barnard's** 100 acre survey, and sharing a line with **Nathan Mobley** and **John Cook**. Chain carriers were **Nathan Moberly**, **George Kimble**, **John Cook** and **Samuel Hinton**. *Kentucky Land Warrants, Grant Book M*, page 164.
- 1824 **John Barnett** and **Pleasant Barnett** were both listed on the tax rolls of Simpson County, Kentucky. John paid the poll tax and was taxed for one horse. There was no information about what taxes Pleasant paid. **Kaleb Blagg's** record was dozens of records after theirs.
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS3J-83PF-6?i=166&cat=157357>,
image 167 of 1169.

AR: Franklin County

- 1838 Aug 20 **George Barnard** received the patent to 40 acres of land located at the SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 13, Township 8 North, Range 27 West, 5th P.M.
- 1840 The following are found listed in the 1840 Census for Franklin County, AR, and they are the only Barnards listed for Arkansas in the Federal Census that year (note that some part of this Census are barely legible:
Lower Township:
- **James Barnard** (page 1 of 3).
- **William Barnard** (page 1 of 3).
- **Albert Barnard** (page 2 of 3).
Prairie Township:
- **Carrol Barnard** (page 2 of 3).
- **John Barnard, Jr** (page 2 of 3).
- **Thomas Galey** (page 2 of 3).
- **John Barnard [Sr]** (1 of 3)
- **Zadoc Barnard** (1 of 3).
- 1848 May 30 **Albert Barnard** received the patent to 80 acres of land located at the W ½ SE ¼ of Section 36, Township 9 North, Range 27 West, 5th P.M.

P: Two Thomas Blaggs

There are two men who are somewhat enigmatic: Jefferson Blagg, who on 1 Nov 1838 fled from justice in Bradley County, Tennessee for the murder of James B. Robinson; and Thomas Blagg, who in Lawrence County Alabama was indicted for gaming.

In the household of Josephus Blagg (son of John, grandson of Caleb) in the 1850 Census for Jackson County, Arkansas, were Tipton Lewis Blagg, b. 1839 in AL and Frances Jane Blagg, b. 1841 in Tennessee or Arkansas: these were not his children. Josephus had been appointed their guardian, but available records do not mention when he was thus appointed, nor do they mention their parents. So who were their parents?

For the Thomas Blagg indicted for gaming in Lawrence County, Alabama, the obvious answer would be that he was yet another member of John Blagg's family. The events of his life happen to intermesh with those of Jefferson Blagg, but it makes no sense that Jefferson Blagg would have returned from Grayson County, Texas or western Arkansas for a short time, just to be convicted of gaming while risking arrest for murder. The two wards in Josephus Blagg's 1850 household lend credence to this theory, and they almost certainly were Thomas' children.

For Jefferson Blagg, murder suspect, fleeing the country would have been a rational reaction, as it would protect him from prosecution in the United States, and might protect him from the vengeance of his victim's family. The fact that Samuel Blagg appears (in a deed to Jefferson's sons) to have been looking after their welfare, makes a pretty ironclad case that he was Samuel's brother, and thus also a son of James Blagg.

Despite both men having the given name of Thomas, they were clearly two different men, who met two different fates.

Q: Blaggs Named Henry

A nagging question in researching the Blaggs who lived in Bedford County, Tennessee prior to 1840 is: How many Henry Blaggs were there?

There is clearly only one Henry of whom we have any detailed knowledge. He is found in the 1850 Census for Tishomingo County, Mississippi, where it is stated that he was born in 1808 in South Carolina. His oldest daughter was born in 1826, casting doubt on the accuracy of his year of birth. If he had married at age 21, a year of birth around 1804-1805 would be more likely.

We know that this Henry was in Mississippi by 1841, because in that year he was named administrator of the will of James McCarver, which was probated in Bedford County, Tennessee.

He is almost certainly the Henry Blagg found in the 1840 Census for Bedford County, Tennessee, where he is listed as having been born between 1801 and 1810, with a wife of the same age range. He had six children in his household at that time:

- A female, born 1825 or sooner: no match in the 1850 Census.
- A female, born between 1826-1830: a match to Harriett Jane (1826).
- Two males, born between 1831-1835: matches to John Wess (1832) and Samuel A. (1834).
- Two males, born between 1836-1840: matches to Henry Jackson (1836) and James Farris (1839).

The above further calls into question Henry's age as stated in the 1850 Census. An additional female, who was at least a year older than Harriett Jane, would mean that Henry was likely born by 1803-1804.

The only mentions of a Henry Blagg in records of Bedford County, Tennessee prior to 1830 occurred in 1825, when a Henry Blagg was noted in Matthew Phillip's Collection Book for Cotton, and in 1825 or earlier, on a petition to build a mill on Duck River, where the name of Henry Blagg appears twice on the same page.

Those two petition signatures are one reason to ponder whether there were two or more Henry Blaggs. And then there are also two 1830 Census households in Bedford County for a Henry Blagg (found on pages 42 and 56). The trouble is, those two Census records are remarkably similar. The parents were both of the same age ranges: a male aged 20-29 (born 1801 to 1810), and a female aged 15-19 (born 1811-1815). And both had the same household members:

- A male born 1816-1820 (unknown).
- A female born 1826-1830 (possibly Harriett Jane Blagg, born 1826).
- A male born 1821-1825 (unknown).

The only difference is that the household on page 42 also had two additional members:

- A female born 1816-1820 (unknown).
- A female born 1821-1825 (unknown).

That leaves open the possibility that there was only one Henry Blagg, and he had moved while that Census was being enumerated, resulting in his household being counted twice. The other possibility would be that there were, indeed, two Henrys, and that one had either died or moved away from Bedford County sometime after 1830. So there is no clear answer.

But what about the one Henry Blagg who we do know something about? Whose son was he?

Presuming that he was born in South Carolina, as stated in the 1850 Census, and that he was born sometime between 1800 and 1810, who could have been his father? There are several possibilities.

William Blagg's children ended up in Bedford County and he had a son who could be a possible match to this Henry, but there is no record that he had lived in South Carolina.

John Blagg had lived in South Carolina, and had a son of the same age range as Henry who has not yet been identified. But there is no record of John Blagg or any of his children ever living in Bedford County.

James Blagg had lived in South Carolina, and had a son of the same age range as Henry who had not yet been identified. There is record of his eldest known children having lived in Bedford County around 1830, though his younger children who were much closer to Henry's age had all lived in Alabama. There is also a very complicated probate for the estate of James Blagg, Junior, which went to his siblings. For some reason, his two eldest known siblings, Michael Blagg and Elizabeth (Blagg) Chappell, were omitted from the initial probate. In a subsequent probate, the heirs of Elizabeth did inherit, but less than what the others had received. The one scenario where that makes sense is if Elizabeth was not a full sibling of James, Junior. And that also might explain why Michael and Elizabeth ended up in Tennessee, when all of James' other children ended up in Alabama. If Henry Blagg was James' son, he would have been a half-sibling to Michael and Elizabeth, which begs the question of why he didn't stay with his full siblings in Alabama?

The final possibility is Kelton Blagg, who had lived in South Carolina and had two sons of the same age range as Henry.

About the Author

I have been conducting family history research for nearly a decade, having authored and self-published two very detailed histories of my paternal Malone/Hunter and Williams/Cater ancestors, a collection of research notes about my maternal Rone ancestors and a similar effort for a Martin family with roots in frontier South Carolina and frontier Indiana Territory. I have a number of other books in various stages of completion, which is primarily why I chose to publish this as simply a compilation of research notes - doing so requires far less time and effort, though the quality of research is fairly close to the same level as any of my more over-researched books. Another reason for this less formal format is that it is certainly possible, maybe even probable, that some of the well-reasoned speculations contained herein will never be proven conclusively, mainly due to a scarcity of public records: in the time period in general, and in particular the near total absence of records in early Bedford County, Tennessee. The hope is that this information can aid a future researcher, who might have the good fortune to happen upon some verifiable family lore or other solid source that clearly confirms or refutes my speculative conclusions.

In my professional life I was an urban planner, a vocation that improved my writing ability to the point that my books are, in general, easy to read (at least when the narrative is driven by clear facts). My time as a planner gave me invaluable experience in navigating land and court records. Being able to spatially relate 200-year-old public records (i.e., which events occurred nearer or farther from one another) is often the key to understanding who is related to whom, and who is likely not a person of interest. As is understanding how jurisdictions have changed over time; counties all over the country were often split, merged, adjusted, renamed or otherwise modified during the late 1700s and early 1800s. Thus, while an ancestor may have lived in one spot for decades, there could be records for him/her in several different jurisdictions, giving the appearance that he/she had moved around a lot.

My line from **Caleb Blagg** is:

William and Sina (Knight) Blagg
Sarah (Blagg) and Samuel Fowler
Emaline (Fowler) and Mathew L. Rone
William H. H. and Eliza Jane (Campbell) Rone
William H. and Mary Alice (Richardson) Rone
Ethel Eliza (Rone) and Carl Henry Adams
Mary Ellen (Adams) and Paul Elmar Malone
And finally, Yours Truly
(I have no descendants)

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