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INDIRECT EVIDENCE IDENTIFIES THE FAMILY OF JAMES C. COOK OF NORTH CAROLINA, ALABAMA, AND FLORIDA

One of the biggest challenges facing genealogists researching a common name is making sure the correct person is identified and not just a person with the same name. Courthouse fires increase this difficulty. For many years, it has been reported that James C. Cook, a North Carolina native, who died 1901, Washington County, Florida, was the son of either William Cook and Eleanor Allen of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina or William's brother, Joseph Powell Cook and Hannah Baker who migrated from Mecklenburg County to Georgia. Analysis and correlation of documents created near the time of the events, naming patterns, clues from his friends, neighbors, and associates, and DNA provided by descendants prove that James C. Cook was not the son of either man.

JAMES C. COOK AND ELIZABETH HOLLAND

James C. Cook was born c. 1820/1821 in North Carolina, and died 21 March 1901, in Washington County, Florida.¹ Throughout his life, his parents were reported as born in North Carolina also.² He married first, **Elizabeth Holland**, with whom he had nine children.³ He next married **Emily Harris** and had five more children.⁴

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¹ Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church Cemetery (Hinsons Crossroads, Washington County, Florida), James C. Cook marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, July 1994. Widow's Pension Claim, 30 November 1908, application no. A02824, James C. Cook and Emily Cook, widow, Co. A, 33rd Regiment Alabama Infantry; Confederate Pension Files; Records of the State Board of Pensions, RG 137; State Library and Archives of Florida, Jacksonville.

² 1880 U.S. census, Henry Co., Ala., population schedule, Shorterville, ED 85, p. 674A, line 46, James Cooke; citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 16. 1885 Florida state census, Holmes Co., population schedule, p. 26, line 12, James Cook; citing NARA microfilm M845, roll 4. 1900 U.S. census, Washington Co., Fla., population schedule, Vernon, E.D. 123, p. 160B, dwelling/family 74, James Cook; citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 1773.

³ 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., population schedule, p. 159, line 26, dwelling/family 317, J C Cook; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 9 March 2014); citing National Archives Records Administration (NARA) microfilm M432, roll 13. 1860 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., pop. sch., Pct. 15, p. 3, dwell./fam. 24, J.C. Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 5 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 3. 1870 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. Sch., Twp. 7, p. 247, dwell./fam. 206, Elisabeth Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 5 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 12. For marriage, Butler Co., Ala., Estate Files, Box 6, folder 37, Mary Holland (1863); FHL microfilm 2,417,359.

⁴ Widow's Pension Claim, 30 November 1908, application no. A02824, James C. Cook and Emily Cook,

Butler County, Alabama, was created in 1819 with the first settlers coming from Georgia and the Carolinas by way of the Federal Road.⁵ Until 1866, what is now the Patsaliga Creek and Pike County bordered it on the east.⁶ In 1866, Crenshaw County was formed by parts of Butler, Pike, Coffee, Covington, and Lowndes, and was sandwiched between Butler and Pike.⁷ A courthouse fire in 1853 destroyed most records in Butler County.

James C. first appeared as a head of household in 1850 Pike County, Alabama, with his wife Elizabeth and children Sarah, William, Stephen, Mary, James, and Martha.⁸ Their first child Sarah, born April 1842,⁹ indicates a marriage of about 1841. Since records before 1853 were destroyed it is not surprising that a marriage record has not been found.¹⁰

Elizabeth's mother, Mary Holland, died in 1863 with her estate listing the heirs—including "Elizabeth Cook, wife of James C. Cook."¹¹ Elizabeth's father, James Holland, purchased eighty acres in Butler County, Section 12, of Township 7 North, Range 16 East in July 1838.¹² This purchase places the Holland family in Butler County before 1841 when Elizabeth and James C. were likely married. James C. would have been about nineteen or twenty years old in 1840. Understandably, he has not been found as a head of household.¹³ Elizabeth is likely the female 15–19 in her father's household in 1840.¹⁴ Based on these dates, they were likely married between 2 June 1840 and sometime in July 1841.¹⁵ The Holland property was near the Patsaliga Creek where the Pike County line was at that

widow, Co. A, 33rd Regiment Alabama Infantry; Confederate Pension Files; Records of the State Board of Pensions, RG 137; State Library and Archives of Florida, Jacksonville. 1880 U.S. census, Henry Co., Ala., pop. Sch., Shorterville, ED 85, p. 674A, line 46, James Cooke, *Ancestry* (accessed 10 March 2014); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 16. 1900 U.S. census, Washington Co., Fla., pop. Sch., Vernon, E.D. 123, p. 160B, dwell./fam. 74, James Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 10 March 2014); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 1773.

⁵ Patricia Hoskins Morton, *Encyclopedia of Alabama* (<http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1304> : accessed 22 July 2016), "Butler County."

⁶ Interactive Map of Alabama Counties Formation, "Map of US" (<http://www.mapofus.org> : accessed 22 July 2016).

⁷ Morton, *Encyclopedia of Alabama*, "Crenshaw County."

⁸ 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., pop. Sch., p. 159, line 26, dwell./fam. 317, J C Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 9 March 2014); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 13.

⁹ 1900 U.S. census, Santa Rosa Co., Fla., pop. Sch., Wellman, p. 157, Enumeration District (ED) 105, sheet 2-A, dwell. 36, fam. 37, John M. Henderson household; *Ancestry* (accessed 4 June 2016), citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 176.

¹⁰ Pike Co. records also searched: Pike Co., Ala., Marriages, September 1830–January 1849, Cook surname; *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 24 July 2016); FHL microfilm 1,033,193.

¹¹ Butler Co., Ala., Estate Files, Box 6, folder 37, Mary Holland (1863); FHL microfilm 2,417,359.

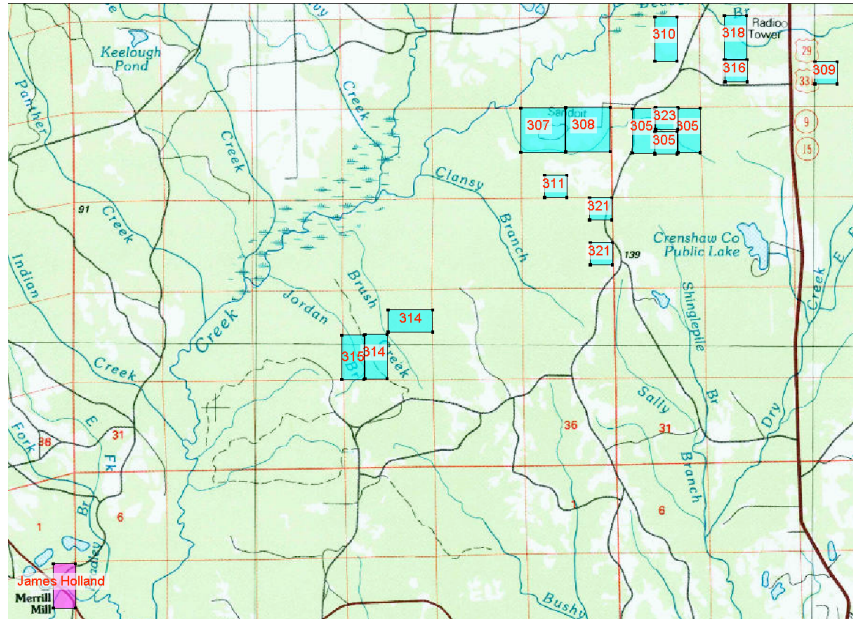
¹² Bureau of Land Management, "Land Patent Search," images, *General Land Office Records* (<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov> : accessed 6 July 2015), James Holland (Crenshaw [Butler] County, Alabama), patent no. 33,528.

¹³ 1840 U.S. census, Butler, Pike and surrounding counties in Ala. were searched for a James or J.C. Cook, *Ancestry* (accessed 9 March 2014).

¹⁴ 1840 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., p. 150, Jas Holland, *Ancestry* (accessed 20 December 2015); citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 1.

¹⁵ An earlier version of this report cited an email that provided an exact marriage date but that source has since been determined to be unreliable. "International Genealogical Index (IGI)," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/2:1:949Y-2PP> : accessed 6 March 2019), entry for James C. Cook, batch 8408804, sheet 82, serial 00259; citing FHL microfilm 1,395,751; submitted by rholland29223.

time. In 1850, James C. and Elizabeth lived in Pike County.¹⁶ Mapping the census households and the landowners recreates the census taker's likely route. Several landowners are not listed in the census neighborhood. Non-owners, like James C., are also in the neighborhood. They may have been working for some of the larger land holders. The landowner of dwelling 316, R.H. Capps, and dwelling 318, John Smith, were located in section 8, Township 8 North, Range 18 East. James C. was enumerated as dwelling 317 and likely was in this same section. This was roughly twelve miles northeast and across the creek from James Holland, Elizabeth's father.¹⁷



Map created with *DeedMapper*, 24 July 2016

On 29 September 1856, James C. paid fifty cents per acre for the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 1, Township 7 North, Range 16 East, which was the section north of James Holland in Butler County. One of the requirements for the purchase was an affidavit that the land was for their personal use. The affidavit was never filed so this transaction was cancelled.¹⁸ On 23 May 1860, James C. purchased 182 acres in Section 36, Township 8 North, Range 16 East. This section is north of the cancelled parcel. James and Elizabeth are back in Butler County and living near her parents by the mid to late 1850s. Census records consistently indicate that all of their children were born in Alabama.¹⁹

¹⁶ 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 159, line 26, dwell./fam. 317, J C Cook.

¹⁷ Comparison of 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., p. 158–159, dwells. 305–330 and first landowners from *HistoryGeo* (<http://www.historygeo.com>).

¹⁸ James C. Cook (Butler County) cash entry file, certificate no. 50301, Greenville, Alabama, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800–1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49; National Archives, Washington, D.C. United States Congress, *U.S. Statutes at Large*, vol. 10 (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1854), 273, “An Act to Graduate and Reduce the Price of Public Lands to actual Settlers and Cultivators”; images, *Library of Congress* (<http://www.loc.gov> : accessed 12 November 2016).

¹⁹ 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 159, line 26, dwell./fam. 317, J C Cook. 1860 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., pct. 15, p. 3, dwell./fam. 24, J.C. Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 5 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 3. 1870 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. Sch., Township 7, p. 247, dwell./fam. 206,

MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA COOK'S

The belief that James C. was the son of William Cook of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, likely began with William's will. The will, written in 1836 and proved in April 1841, listed four sons under the age of twenty-one: William A., James C., Amzi W., and Samuel L. Cook:

"9th I give and bequeath to my four Sons William A. James C. Amzi W. & Samuel L. Cook my Mills and plantation which I purchased of Andrew & Samuel Meacham and all proceeds which may arise from Said Mills and plantation from & after my death. also the Tract of Land which I purchased of Andrew and Thomas Spratt--also my Tract of Land which I purchased at public sale formerly owned by Austin Cook Said Two Tracts Last Mentioned supposed to contain Two Hundred & Sixty acres."²⁰

This will that lists James C. Cook as the son of William, would cause one to think it is the same name, the age fits, it must be the right family! Deed records reveal a problem with this hypothesis. On 3 November 1847 and 3 March 1848, this James C. uses his portion of the lands he inherited from his father as collateral for several debts he owes:

"This Indenture made on the 3^d day of November 1847 between Ja^s C. Cook of the County of Mecklenburg & State of North Carolina of the first part & Wesley G. Phillips of the County & State aforesaid of the Second part...all his interest in a certain tract of land to him bequeathed by his Father the late W^m Cook it being one fourth of the Tract..."²¹

"This Indenture made this 3^d of March AD 1848 between James C. Cook of the County of Mecklenburg & State of aforesaid & Eliza Orr of the same State & County...which the late W^m Cook formerly lived Viz all my Right title & interest in & to the above described Lands it being one fourth part of whole..."²²

These deeds of trust specifically say that James is "of Mecklenburg County" meaning that is where he resides. James apparently paid his debts and the brothers petitioned the court in November 1849 to sell the land for the benefit of partition. William A. bought the land from his brothers on 3 January 1850:

"...William Cook formerly of s^d county had departed this life and left W^m. A. Cook, A.W. Cook, James C. Cook, of full age & Samuel L. Cook under the age of twenty one years, who petitions by his guardian W.A. Cook his heirs at law & tennants [*sic*] in common of a tract of Land on big Sugar Creek, and they prayed a decree of sale, and it was decreed accordingly, for the benefit of partition..."²³

Elisabeth Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 5 August 2009); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 12.

²⁰ Mecklenburg Co., N.C., Wills, v. 3, 1749–1869, William Cook, 1841, County Records Collection; North Carolina Archives, Raleigh.

²¹ Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Deed Book 2:354, Agreement, James C. Cook, November 1847; image, *Mecklenburg Register of Deeds* (<http://www.meckrodindex.com> : accessed 2 December 2012).

²² Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Deed Book 2:272, Deed of Trust, James C. Cook, November 1847.

²³ Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Deed Book 3:203, James C. Cook, Deed, November 1847.

Three legal documents place James C. Cook, son of William Cook, in Mecklenburg County in the years 1847–1850 when the Alabama James C. is clearly living in Pike and Butler County.

Powell was the brother of William Cook and was named in their fathers will of 1832.²⁴ Powell moved to Georgia before 1840 and remained there.²⁵ The last census he appeared on was in 1860 Gordon County, Georgia²⁶ and he signed a Reconstruction Oath on 23 July 1867.²⁷ No probate has been found for Powell.²⁸ His widow, Hannah, last appeared in the 1880 census living with her son in Pickens County, Georgia.²⁹ No probate for her has been found.³⁰ No connection to our James C. Cook is found near Powell's family in Georgia nor did any of Powell's children move to Alabama.

Y-DNA

A grandson of James C. Cook submitted a Y-DNA test with a haplogroup of R-M269.³¹ Any direct male descendant of James C. Cook's father would be the same haplogroup. A great-great grandson of Samuel L. Cook (son of William), also submitted a Y-DNA test. He is haplogroup J-M172.³² Both men joined the Cook/Cooke/Koch DNA Surname Project

²⁴ Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Wills, v. 3, 1749–1869, Robert Cook, 1832, County Records Collection; North Carolina Archives, Raleigh.

²⁵ 1840 U.S. census, Meriwether Co., Ga., p. 145, Powel Cook, *Ancestry* (accessed 21 March 2010); citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 46. 1850 U.S. census, Gordon Co., Ga., p. 35B, dwell. 343, fam. 346, Powell Cook, *Ancestry* (accessed 21 March 2010); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 71. 1860 U.S. census, Gordon Co., Ga., pop. sch., Fairmount, p. 380, dwell. 935, fam. 907, Howel Cook, *Ancestry* (accessed 21 March 2010); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 124.

²⁶ 1860 U.S. census, Gordon Co., Ga., pop. sch., Fairmount, p. 380, dwell. 935, fam. 907, Howel Cook household; *Ancestry* (accessed 4 June 2016), citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 124.

²⁷ "Georgia, Returns of Qualified Voters and Reconstruction Oath Books, 1867–1869," images, *Ancestry* (accessed 4 June 2016); Gordon Co., Ga., Oath Books, 1:362, Powell Cook, no. 723.

²⁸ Gordon Co., Ga., Will Books A & B, 1856–1931, various spellings for Powell Cook searched; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 24 June 2016), citing FHL microfilm 422,569. Records in Chattooga County were also searched as online trees list his death in that county. Chattooga Co., Ga., Estate records, 1856–1915, Close, Edward L.—Cook, Thomas, F., *FamilySearch* (accessed 24 July 2016); imaged from FHL microfilm 2,209,416. Chattooga Co., Ga., Estate records index, 1839–1939, search for Cook surname, *FamilySearch* (accessed 24 July 2016); imaged from FHL microfilm 337,202.

²⁹ 1880 U.S. census, Pickens Co., Ga., pop. sch., Jerusalem, ED 163, p. 528D, dwell. 238, fam. 238, Robert J. Cook, *Ancestry* (accessed 24 July 2016); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 161.

³⁰ Pickens Co., Ga., Inventories & Appraisements, Bills of Sale, Book B & C, 1880–1923, Cook surname, *FamilySearch* (accessed 24 July 2016); imaged from FHL microfilm 393,218. Pickens Co., Ga., Letters of Administration, 1856–1893, FHL microfilm 393,217. Pickens Co., Ga., Will Books A & B, 1854–1935, FHL microfilm 393,206.

³¹ "Cook/Cooke/Koch (& Variants) DNA Project," R1b-Lineage 029, kit 302663, *Family Tree DNA* (<https://www.familytreedna.com/public/cook/default.aspx?section=yresults> : accessed May 2019). Additional SNP's were tested and the haplogroup was refined to R-FGC14877. For Thomas J Cook's lineage: John Thomas Cook Family Bible Records, 1911–1953, *The Holy Bible* (New York: American Bible Society, 1915), "Births"; privately held by Lori Cook-Folger, Hot Springs, North Carolina, 2013; parentage of John Thomas Cook see 1900 U.S. census, Washington Co., Fla., pop. Sch., Vernon, E.D. 123, p. 160B, dwell./fam. 74, James Cook; citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 1773.

³² Bob Cooke to Lori Cook-Folger, email, 20 August 2016, "James C. Cook line," Cook Research Folder,

which has over 900 members. The grandson of James C. is in a sub-group of only two with several rare markers.³³ The Mecklenburg County Cook family is in a subgroup of six. Two list their ancestor as Robert Cook and one as his father, William Cook.³⁴ Two men from different haplogroups are not descended from the same male line.

The identities of two men named James C. Cook have been combined for many years. One, born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina was clearly living in that county until 1850. The other, born in North Carolina and died in Washington County, Florida, had migrated to Alabama by 1841 and remained there until after 1880. One man could not be living in two different states at the same time. Y-DNA of direct male descendants of the two men corroborates that these two families are not related. James C. Cook, who died 21 March 1901 in Washington County, Florida, is not the son of William or Powell Cook of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

FINDING A FATHER FOR JAMES C.

In the 1840s, Butler County was sparsely settled, and a young man might not find a wife in the same township where he lived but would have been close enough to have somehow met her. In 1840, five Cook households were enumerated in Butler County:

- G. H. Cook.³⁵ George is more than three townships and 30 miles away (Sect. 28, T11, R15)³⁶ from the Holland family and did not have a male of James C.'s age. He is not in the 1850 census.³⁷
- Elizabeth Cook.³⁸ Her son, Robert N. Cook, died in the War Between the States. His probate lists his mother, Elizabeth, whom he lived with, and his siblings. James C.

Cook-Folger Collection; privately held by author (used with permission), North Carolina, 2016. "Cook/Cooke/Koch (& Variants) DNA Project," J2-Lineage 2, kit 472475, *Family Tree DNA* (<https://www.familytreedna.com/public/cook/default.aspx?section=yresults> : accessed May 2019). For Bob's father, Robert Lee Cooke, see his email; for parentage of Robert Lee Cooke (1925) son of Robert Lee Cook, Jr, see 1910 U.S. census, Duval Co., Fla., pop. sch., Jacksonville, ED 83, p. 1B, dwell. 210, fam. 215, Robert L. Cook; citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 159. 1920 U.S. census, Buncombe Co., N. C., pop. sch., Fairview, ED 25, p. 8B, fam. 144, Robert Cook; citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 1287. For Robert Lee Cook Jr parentage, see 1880 U.S. census, St. Johns Co., Fla., pop. sch., Pct. 9, ED 141, p. 127B, dwell. 19, family 19, Samuel Cook; citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 132. For Robert Lee Cook parentage see Samuel L. Cook, obituary, image uploaded as "Obituary--Samuel L. Cook, June 29, 1902," 22 December 2017 by charlene_lebleu28, to "Cook-Foster Family Tree," *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/tree/109818833/family/pedigree> : accessed 14 March 2019). For parentage of Samuel L Cook, see Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, Wills, v. 3, 1749–1869, William Cook, 1841, County Records Collection; North Carolina Archives, Raleigh.

³³ Whit Athey to Lori Cook-Folger, e-mail, 1 February 2014, "Match with Cook at FTDNA," Cook Research Folder, Cook-Folger Collection; privately held by Cook-Folger, North Carolina, 2014.

³⁴ "Cook/Cooke/Koch (& Variants) DNA Project," comparison of J2-Lineage 2 and R1b-Lineage 029, *Family Tree DNA* (<https://www.familytreedna.com/public/cook/default.aspx?section=yresults> : accessed May 2019).

³⁵ 1840 U.S. census, Butler County, Alabama, p. 138, G H Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704.

³⁶ "First Landowners Project," *HistoryGeo* (accessed 2016), George H. Cook, Butler Co, Ala.

³⁷ 1850 U.S. census, search of Butler and surrounding Counties, Alabama.

³⁸ 1840 U.S. census, Butler County, Alabama, p. 147, Elizabeth Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 1.

- is not listed as an heir. Elizabeth is the mother of Isaac below.³⁹
- J. M. Cook. The census indexed him as “J.M.” Based on neighbors, probate of Robt. N. Cook, and census records, he is actually Isaac Milton, son of Elizabeth and living next door to her.⁴⁰
 - Stephen H. Cook.⁴¹ Stephen H. is age 40–49 and has a male in the household close to the age of James C. (20–29). The 1850 census shows he was born in North Carolina.⁴²
 - James Cook.⁴³ James is living next to Stephen H. Cook, above, and is age 70–80 with a female age 60–70. He is not in the 1850 census.⁴⁴

Five Cook households were enumerated in the 1840 Pike County census:

- James Cook.⁴⁵ He is age 60–69 and has a son of James C.’s age but his property was approximately fifty-one miles from the Holland’s. He likely died before 1850, no probate found.⁴⁶
- James W. Cook.⁴⁷ He is 20–29 years old with a wife and two sons under 5.
- John Cook.⁴⁸ His family does not have a male James C.’s age.
- Arthur R. Cook.⁴⁹ This family is the closest to the Holland family, yet still approximately 34 miles from them. He is also aged 20–29, and too young to have a son James C.’s age.
- Benjh. Cook.⁵⁰ He is 20–29, also too young to be James C.’s father.

The Covington County census enumerated no Cook households in 1840. This survey of the Cook household’s in the area show a likely candidate for James C.’s father: Stephen H. Cook. The distance between Stephen H.’s home and the Holland home is well within the distance that Elizabeth’s siblings traveled to find a spouse:

- James Holland Jr., married Elizabeth Long, c. 1842, daughter of William Long.⁵¹

³⁹ Butler County, Alabama, Estate Book 6:51–54, Robert N. Cook (1864); Probate Court Clerk’s office, Greenville; FHL microfilm 1,618,081.

⁴⁰ 1840 U.S. census, Butler County, Alabama, p. 148, J.M. Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704.

⁴¹ 1840 U.S. census, Butler County, Alabama, p. 151, Stephen H. Cook; citing NARA M704, roll 1.

⁴² 1850 U.S. census, Butler County, Alabama, pop. sch., Township 11, p. 495, dwell. /family 71, Stephen Cook; citing NARA micro publication M432, roll 2.

⁴³ 1840 U.S. census, Butler County, Alabama, p. 151, James Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 1.

⁴⁴ 1850 U.S. census, search of Butler and surrounding Counties, Alabama.

⁴⁵ 1840 U.S. census, Pike County, Alabama, p. 367, James Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704.

⁴⁶ “Pike County, Alabama, probate records, 1829–1923,” browsable images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/506955> : accessed 7 April 2019), Index to estate case files 1829–1915; Wills v A–B 1844–1876; Settlements, v A 1845–1851; Inventory Records v A 1833–1844 and v B 1845–1851; Sale Book v B 1842–1851.

⁴⁷ 1840 U.S. census, Pike County, Alabama, p. 369, James W. Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704.

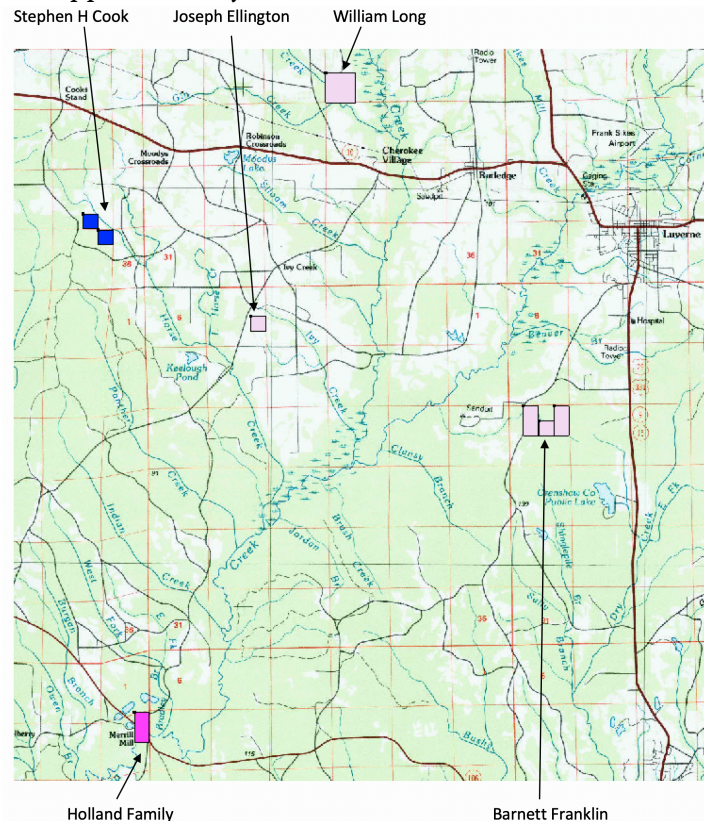
⁴⁸ 1840 U.S. census, Pike County, Alabama, p. 372, John Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704.

⁴⁹ 1840 U.S. census, Pike County, Alabama, p. 378, Arthur Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704.

⁵⁰ 1840 U.S. census, Pike County, Alabama, p. 395, Benjh Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704.

⁵¹ Butler County, Alabama, Estate Record, 2:227, William Long; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 14 November 2016), image 460 of FHL microfilm 1,618,029.

- They lived roughly 14 miles from the Holland homeplace.⁵²
- D. Furman Holland married Rebecca Ann Roxie Ellington, c. 1847, daughter of Joseph Ellington.⁵³ They lived approximately 16 miles from the Holland's.⁵⁴
- John N. Holland married Martha H. Franklin, 1851,⁵⁵ daughter of Barnett & Martha Franklin who lived in household 305 in Pike County in 1850, near James C. & Elizabeth in household 317.⁵⁶
- Stephen H. lived approximately 11 miles north of the Holland's.



STEPHEN H. COOK

Stephen H. Cook first appeared in Butler County when he purchased two parcels of

⁵² Bureau of Land Management, "Land Patent Search," images, *General Land Office Records* (accessed 8 June 2018), William Long (Butler [Crenshaw] County, Alabama), cash land entry nos. 23063, 30986, 35045, 35131.

⁵³ *Newspapers.com*, images (www.newspapers.com : accessed 10 June 2018); "Mrs. Roxie Holland Passes Away," obituary, *Crenshaw County News* (Luverne, AL), 21 October 1915, p. n.p., col. 3 and 4 November 1915, n.p., col. 3. 1850 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., pop. sch., Beat 3, p. 205A, dwell./fam. 403, Joseph Ellington and dwell./fam. 404, D.F. Holland; citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 2.

⁵⁴ Bureau of Land Management, "Land Patent Search," images, *General Land Office Records* (accessed 8 June 2018), Joseph Ellington (Butler [Crenshaw] County, Alabama), cash land entry nos. 27474, 34050.

⁵⁵ "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 8 June 2018); Pike Co., Ala., Marriages, B:85, J.N. Holland to M.H. Franklin, 1851.

⁵⁶ 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 158A, dwell. 305, family 305, Barnett Franklin; citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 13. Bureau of Land Management, "Land Patent Search," images, *General Land Office Records* (accessed 8 June 2018), Barnett Franklin (Butler [Crenshaw] County, Alabama), cash land entry nos. 12770, 12771, 13227, 22164, 32979.

land on 16 November 1836, one township north of Elizabeth's family.⁵⁷ The two parcels were forty acres each, paid for on the same day, being the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter in section 26, and the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 35, both in Township 9, Range 16.⁵⁸ The 1840 census shows Stephen H.'s household:

- 1 male age 40–49
- 1 female age 40–49
- 1 male age 20–29
- 1 male aged 10–14
- 1 female age 10–14
- 1 male age 5–9⁵⁹

The next household is James Cook: 1 male age 70–80 and 1 female age 60–70.⁶⁰ Stephen H. purchased an additional 40 acres on 16 July 1846, in the same Township and Range but a few sections north west: it was the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 6.⁶¹ Only one child is still in the household by 1850:

- Stephen Cook, age 56, born North Carolina
- Martha Cook, age 54, born North Carolina
- Stephen Cook, age 17, born South Carolina⁶²

The last document found for Stephen H. in Butler County was when he co-signed a mortgage on 15 June 1853 for a Stephen C. Benson.⁶³

BUTLER COUNTY CONNECTIONS

Stephen H. Cook co-signing a mortgage with Stephen C. Benson indicates a relationship between the two men. Family interactions and numerous DNA matches identify Stephen C. Benson as his grandson, Sarah Cook Benson as his sister, and Mary Jane Cook Boswell as his daughter.

MARY JANE COOK.

Mary Jane Cook married **William J. Boswell** likely about 1841 when no marriage records

⁵⁷ Stephen H. Cook (Butler County) cash entry file, certificate no. 32768 & 32769, Cahaba, Alabama, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800–1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁵⁸ Stephen H. Cook (Butler County) cash entry file, certificate no. 32768 & 32769, Cahaba, Alabama, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800–1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁵⁹ 1840 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., p. 151, Stephen H. Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 1.

⁶⁰ 1840 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., p. 151, James Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 1.

⁶¹ Stephen H. Cook (Butler County) cash entry file, certificate no. 36893, Cahaba, Alabama, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800–1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁶² 1850 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., pop. sch., Twp. 11, p. 248, dwell. /fam. 71, Stephen Cook; citing NARA micro publication M432, roll 2.

⁶³ Butler Co., Ala., Deeds, A:137–138; Stephen C. Benson, 15 July 1853; FHL microfilm 1,618,198.

survive. Her birth year varied throughout her life between 1818 and 1826.⁶⁴ Mary Jane and William had seven children⁶⁵ and her maiden name is found on death certificates of two of them, Nancy and James.⁶⁶ She may be the female in Stephen H. Cook's 1840 household.⁶⁷ Her two oldest sons, William Stephen and Thomas J. Boswell joined Co. F, 33rd Alabama Infantry on 28 August 1863 in Brandon, Butler County.⁶⁸ William Stephen was killed at Chickamauga in 1864.⁶⁹ Thomas deserted and joined 2nd Co. H, 1st Confederate Infantry on 16 October 1863, but was later sent back to the 33rd.⁷⁰ His decision may have been the fact that so many others had joined 2nd Co. H:

- William S. Cook, James C. and Elizabeth's oldest son,⁷¹ enlisted 1 September 1862, Greenville, Alabama, by Lt. Leverett⁷²
- Samuel O. Cleghorn, husband of Elizabeth's sister,⁷³ enlisted 1 September 1862, Greenville, Alabama, by Lt. Leverett⁷⁴

⁶⁴ 1850 U.S. census, Covington Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 154, dwell./fam. 357, William I. Begawell; citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 4. 1860 U.S. census, Covington Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 484, dwell./fam. 357, Wm J. Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 7. "Alabama State Census, 1820–1866," images, *Ancestry* (accessed 3 December 2015), entry for W.J. Boswell, 1866; citing Alabama Department of Archives, Montgomery. 1870 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 214, dwell./fam. 272, Thomas Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 12. 1880 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., Mount Ida, ED 59, p. 26D, dwell. 2, fam. 76, Mary J. Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 10.

⁶⁵ 1860 U.S. census, Covington Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 484, dwell./family 357, Wm J. Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 7.

⁶⁶ Alabama State Board of Health, death certificate no. 138 (1930), James Jackson Boswell, Vital Records, Montgomery; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 12 June 2018), image 155 on FHL 1,908,474. Alabama State Board of Health, death certificate no. 5673 (1908), Nancy Jane Campbell, Vital Records, Montgomery; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 12 June 2018), FHL 1,908,280.

⁶⁷ 1840 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., p. 151, Stephen H. Cook; citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 1. Mary Jane's birth year throughout her life varies between 1816–1826, see 1850 U.S. census, Covington Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 154, dwell./fam. 357, William I. Begawell; citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 4. 1860 U.S. census, Covington Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 484, dwell./fam. 357, Wm J. Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 7. 1870 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 214, dwell./fam. 272, Thomas Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 12. 1880 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., Mount Ida, ED 59, p. 26D, dwell. 2, fam. 76, Mary J. Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 10.

⁶⁸ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Alabama," images, *Fold3* (<http://www.fold3.com> : accessed 25 March 2015), T. J. Boswell and Wm Boswell, 33rd Regt. Alabama Infantry; citing NARA microfilm M311, roll 350.

⁶⁹ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Alabama," images, *Fold3* (accessed 3 December 2015), Wm Boswell, Co F, 33 Regt., Ala. Inf.; citing NARA microfilm M311, roll 350.

⁷⁰ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Raised Directly By the Confederate Government," images, *Fold3* (accessed 25 March 2015), Thomas J. Boswell, 2nd Co. H, 1st Confederate Infantry; citing NARA microfilm publication M258, roll 52.

⁷¹ 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 159, line 26, dwell./fam. 317, J C Cook; citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 13. 1860 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., Pct. 15, p. 3, dwell./fam. 24, J.C. Cook; citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 3.

⁷² "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Raised Directly By the Confederate Government," William S. Cook, 2nd Co. H, 1st Confederate Infantry; images, *Fold3* (accessed 2 December 2008); citing NARA microfilm publication M258, roll 53.

⁷³ "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," *FamilySearch* (accessed 20 December 2015); Butler Co., Ala., Marriage Book 1858–64:3, Holland–Claghorn (1858); FHL microfilm 1,290,250.

⁷⁴ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Raised Directly By the Confederate Government," *Fold3* (accessed 25 March 2015), Samuel O. Cleghorn, 2nd Co. H, 1st Confederate

- John N. Holland, Elizabeth's brother,⁷⁵ enlisted 1 September 1862, Greenville, Alabama, by Lt. Leverett⁷⁶
- And, just before the last Conscription Act went into effect,⁷⁷ James C. himself enlisted on 14 January 1864, at Ft. Gaines, Alabama, by Capt. Owens.⁷⁸ Mary Jane's son, Thomas J. Boswell, signed an affidavit for James C.'s Confederate Pension application on 3 March 1900.⁷⁹

Children of William J. Boswell and Mary Jane Cook:

- i. WILLIAM STEPHEN BOSWELL, born c. 1842, Alabama, and died 13 February 1864, Chickamauga, Tennessee.⁸⁰
- ii. THOMAS J. BOSWELL, born 11 July 1845, Alabama, and died 5 January 1919, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁸¹ He married Emaline Sasser, c. 1865, born c. May 1847, Alabama,⁸² and died 30 March 1928, Brantley, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁸³
- iii. NANCY JANE BOSWELL, born c. 1846, Alabama, and died 23 March 1926, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁸⁴ She married George Washington Campbell, c. 1871.⁸⁵
- iv. JAMES JACKSON BOSWELL, born 22 April 1848, Alabama, and died 4 January 1930, Pigeon

Infantry; citing NARA microfilm publication M258, roll 53.

⁷⁵ Butler Co., Ala., Estate Files, Box 6, folder 37, Mary Holland (1863); FHL microfilm 2,417,359.

⁷⁶ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Raised Directly By the Confederate Government," *Fold3* (accessed 25 March 2015), John N. Holland, 2nd Co. H, 1st Confederate Infantry; citing NARA microfilm publication M258, roll 55.

⁷⁷ "An Act to Organize Forces to Serve During the War, 17 February 1864," *The Statutes at Large of the Confederate States of America* (Richmond, Va.: R.M. Smith, Printer to Congress, 1864; digital edition, *Documenting The American South* (<http://www.docsouth.unc.edu> : accessed 1 March 2007), 30.

⁷⁸ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Raised Directly By the Confederate Government," James C. Cook, 2nd Co. H, 1st Confederate Infantry; *Fold3* (accessed 2 December 2008); citing NARA microfilm publication M258, roll 53.

⁷⁹ Soldier's and Widow's Pension Claim, October 1899–September 1927, application no. A02824, James C. Cook, Capt. Randolph Owens Co., Ala. Inf., 1899; Confederate Pension Files; Records of the State Board of Pensions, RG 137; State Library and Archives of Florida, Jacksonville.

⁸⁰ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Alabama," *Fold3* (accessed 3 December 2015), Wm Boswell, Co F, 33 Regt., Ala. Inf.; citing NARA microfilm M311, roll 350.

⁸¹ *Find A Grave*, database with images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 10 June 2018), memorial no. 24,083,470, Thomas J "Tom" Boswell (1845–1919), photograph by Nancy (Folmar) Reykdal; citing Pleasant Home Baptist Church Cemetery, Crenshaw County, Alabama. "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," *FamilySearch* (accessed 12 June 2018); death certificate images, Tom Boswell, 1919, cert. no. 549; image 1750 on FHL 1,908,208.

⁸² 1900 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., ED 52, p. 10A, dwell./fam. 167, Tom Boswell; *Ancestry* (accessed 3 December 2015); citing NARA microfilm publication T623, roll 12. "Alabama, Texas and Virginia, Confederate Pensions, 1884–1958," database with images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 31 March 2019), Widows Reclassification, Emerline C. Boswell, Crenshaw County, Alabama, dated 17 December 1920.

⁸³ Alabama, "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1307888> : accessed 12 January 2019), certificate image, Mrs. Emaline Boswell, 1928, cert. no. 13785; image 2634 on FHL 1,908,454.

⁸⁴ "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org : accessed 12 June 2018); Nancy Jane Campbell, 1926, cert no. 5673; FHL microfilm 1,908,280, image 75.

⁸⁵ 1900 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., Aiken, ED 52, p. 6, dwell. 100, fam. 100, Wash Campbell; citing NARA microfilm T623.

Creek, Butler County, Alabama.⁸⁶ He married Ann Catherine Campbell, 16 February 1871, Butler County, Alabama.⁸⁷ She was born 29 March 1849 and died 7 February 1929.⁸⁸

- v. JOHN W BOSWELL, born 19 February 1853, Alabama, and died 11 December 1908, Pigeon Creek, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁸⁹ He married Margaret Vernell Garrett, 27 February 1879, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁹⁰
- vi. JOSEPHINE BOSWELL, born May 1854, Alabama, and died 3 October 1919, Rutledge, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁹¹ She married Benjamin E. F. Petrie/Petrey, 6 March 1879, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁹²
- vii. MARTHA BOSWELL, likely born 5 April 1857, Crenshaw County, Alabama, and died 2 February 1936, Brantley, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁹³ She married James A. Williams, 9 December 1880, Crenshaw County, Alabama.⁹⁴

SARAH COOK.

Stephen H. Cook co-signed a mortgage for Stephen C. Benson on 15 June 1853.⁹⁵ Stephen C. was likely the son of William Benson and Sarah Cook.⁹⁶ He is living two doors from his parents in the 1850 census of Marion County, Georgia, with his brother, Robert, between them:

335 William Benson 50 Ga.

⁸⁶ "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org : accessed 12 June 2018); James Jackson Boswell, 1930, certificate no. 138; image 155 on FHL 1,908,474. *Find A Grave*, (accessed 10 June 2018), mem. no. 24,100,054, James Jackson Boswell (1848–1930) and mem. no. 24,100,066, Ann Catherine Campbell Boswell (1849–1929), double marker photograph by Nancy (Folmar) Reykdal; citing Pleasant Home Baptist Church Cemetery, Crenshaw Co., Ala.

⁸⁷ Butler Co., Ala., Marriage Record 1869-72:199, Jackson Boswell to Ann C Campbell, 1871; browsable images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 9 March 2019), FHL 1,290,250, image 924.

⁸⁸ *Find A Grave*, (accessed 10 June 2018), mem. no. 24,100,054, James Jackson Boswell (1848–1930) and mem. no. 24,100,066, Ann Catherine Campbell Boswell (1849–1929), double marker photograph by Nancy (Folmar) Reykdal; citing Pleasant Home Baptist Church Cemetery, Crenshaw Co., Ala.

⁸⁹ "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," database with images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org : accessed 12 January 2019); John W. Boswell, 1908, cert. no. 108; image 1312 on FHL 1,894,064.

⁹⁰ "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," *FamilySearch* (accessed 10 June 2018); Crenshaw Co., Ala., Marriages, B:386, J.W. Boswell to Vernell Garrett, 1879.

⁹¹ 1900 U.S. census, Crenshaw County, Alabama, population schedule, Rutledge, ED 46, p. 18, dwelling 312, family 312, Benjamin F Petrey; citing NARA microfilm T623. "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1307888> : accessed 12 June 2018), certificate image, Joe Petrey, 1919, no. 130; image 1931, FHL 1,908,208.

⁹² "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 10 June 2018); Crenshaw Co., Ala., Marriages, B:388, B.E.F. Petrie to J.V. Boswell, 1879.

⁹³ 1860 U.S. census, Covington County, Alabama, population schedule, p. 484, dwelling/family 969, Wm J. Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 7. "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1307888> : accessed 12 January 2019), certificate image, Martha Williams, 2 February 1936, no. 9047; image 650 on FHL 1,908,541. *Find A Grave*, (accessed 10 June 2018), mem. no. 24,083,582, Martha M. Boswell Williams (1860–1936), photograph by Nancy (Folmar) Reykdal; citing Pleasant Home Baptist Church Cemetery, Crenshaw Co., Ala.

⁹⁴ "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 10 June 2018); Crenshaw Co., Ala., Marriages, B:487, J.A. Williams to Martha M. Boswell, 1880.

⁹⁵ Butler Co., Ala., Deeds, A:137–138; Stephen C. Benson, 15 July 1853; FHL microfilm 1,618,198.

⁹⁶ For Sarah's maiden name see her son's death certificate, "Texas Death Certificates," *Ancestry*, (accessed 4 December 2015), death certificate image, William C. Benson, 8 December 1928.

	Sarah	45	Ga.
	John	18	N.C.
	Sarah	16	N.C.
	Nancy	14	N.C.
	William	11	N.C.
	Amanda	9	N.C.
	Mary	7	N.C.
	James	4	N.C.
336	R.D. Benson	26	N.C.
	Rebecca	20	N.C.
	Martha Tompkins	60	N.C.
337	Davis Castleberry	24	Ga.
	Stephen Benson	23	Ga. ⁹⁷

The birth places for William, Sarah and Stephen show Georgia but is likely an error. The later census's show Sarah born in North Carolina,⁹⁸ William had died and Stephen C. has not been found in the 1860 census.⁹⁹ The youngest, James, birthplace is listed as North Carolina indicating the family relocated to Georgia after 1846. All of the children's birthplaces were reported as North Carolina throughout most of their lives.¹⁰⁰ The last land transaction for William in Bladen County, North Carolina, was dated 9 January 1850.¹⁰¹ The family likely left North Carolina soon after.

William died in 1851 while the family was living in Marion County.¹⁰² The widowed Sarah made a cash land entry for 247 acres in Butler County, Alabama, Sections 25 and 36—the same section where James C. bought his land, in 1859. Sarah's declaration says that she had been living on the land since 1 January 1856. James C. Cook signed the corroborating affidavit.¹⁰³ His signing for her indicates a relationship between them. A widowed woman with children would not move where she did not have a familial support system. Sarah was born c. 1806 in North Carolina,¹⁰⁴ making her too

⁹⁷ 1850 U.S. census, Marion Co., Ga., pop. sch., p. 250B, dwell. 335, William Benson; citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 77.

⁹⁸ 1860 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., Pct. 15, pop. sch., p. 2, dwell./fam. 11, Sarah Benson; *Ancestry* (accessed 3 December 2015); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 3.

⁹⁹ 1860 U.S. census, search for Stephen C. Benson, nationwide.

¹⁰⁰ For examples, see Florida State Department of Health, death certificate no. 330 (1917), JE Benson; Bureau of Vital Statistics, Jacksonville. 1900 U.S. census, Escambia Co., Ala., population schedule, Pct. 4, ED 151, p. 16, dwelling 305, family 337, Mary Johnson; citing NARA microfilm T623.

¹⁰¹ Bladen Co., N. C., Deeds, 28:426, William Benson to John H Currie, 9 January 1850; *FamilySearch* (accessed 13 July 2018); image 454, FHL microfilm 18,302.

¹⁰² Marion Co., Ga., Administrators Bonds, 1847–1852:38, Robert D. Benson, administrator of William Benson, 1851; images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 12 June 2018), image 433, FHL 422,220.

¹⁰³ Sarah Benson (Butler Co.) cash entry file, certificate no. 51055, Greenville, Alabama, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800–1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

¹⁰⁴ 1860 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., Pct. 15, pop. sch., p. 2, dwell./fam. 11, Sarah Benson; citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 3. 1870 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., Twp. 8, pop. sch., p. 56B, dwell./fam. 11, Sarah Benson; citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 12. 1880 U.S. census, Baldwin Co., Ala., pop. sch., ED 9, p. 216C dwell./fam. 18, Sarah Benson; citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 1.

old to be Stephen H.'s daughter but possibly his sister.

Sarah's daughter, Lucy Amanda Benson, married Calvin B. Pouncy, 15 October 1859.¹⁰⁵ He made a cash land entry, on 26 May 1860 for 318 acres in section 26, very near James C. and Sarah.¹⁰⁶ Sarah's son, William Calvin, also made a cash land entry the same day as Calvin Pouncy, for 320 acres in section 20.¹⁰⁷ This was three days after James C. made his entry. All the men's certificates are dated the same day.¹⁰⁸

Stephen C. first appears in Butler County records 31 December 1852 when he purchased forty acres about a mile from the last property that Stephen H. purchased.¹⁰⁹ This is the property that Stephen H. co-signed for the following June, showing some kind of relationship between the two men. Sarah's son, William Calvin, applied for a Confederate Pension in 1899, Coke County, Texas, where he stated that he was born in Bladen County, North Carolina.¹¹⁰ His death certificate lists his mother as Sally Cook.¹¹¹

BLADEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA CONNECTIONS

In this time period, families moved together or with other community members. Bladen County, North Carolina, is another county whose record loss is substantial, having had courthouse fires in 1770, 1800, and 1893. Most court records and some

¹⁰⁵ "Alabama, County Marriages, 1809–1950," images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 3 December 2015); Butler Co., Ala., Marriage Book 1858–64, p. 501, certificate no. 902, Pouncey–Benson, 1859.

¹⁰⁶ Bureau of Land Management, Records Improvement [U.S. Tract Books], microfilm, 1,265 rolls (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1957), Alabama, Greenville Land Office, vol. 57, p. 253, entry for Calvin B. Pouncy, 26 May 1860, E1/2 NE 1/4 and W1/2 NE1/4, and SE1/4, S26, T8, R16, certificate of purchase no. 52169; images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 21 December 2015) via "United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1820–1908,">Alabama>Vol 57 (Greenville)> image 214 of 226.

¹⁰⁷ Bureau of Land Management, *Records Improvement* [U.S. Tract Books], microfilm, 1,265 rolls (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1957), Alabama, Greenville Land Office, vol. 57, p. 240, entry for William C. Benson, 26 May 1860, SE1/4, E1/2 of NE1/4, W1/2 of NE1/4, S20, T8, R16, certificate no. 52163; images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 25 June 2019) via "United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1820–1908,">Alabama>Vol 57 (Greenville)> image 201 of 226.

¹⁰⁸ Bureau of Land Management, "Land Patent Search," *General Land Office Records* (accessed 11 September 2018), James C. Cook, patent no. 52,143, and Calvin B. Pouncy (Butler Co., Ala.), patent no. 52,169.

¹⁰⁹ Bureau of Land Management, Records Improvement [U.S. Tract Books], microfilm, 1,265 rolls (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1957), Alabama, Greenville Land Office, vol. 58, p. 24, entry for Stephen C. Benson, 31 December 1852, SE 1/4 SW 1/4, S7, T9, R16, bounty warrant no. 19746; *FamilySearch* (accessed 22 January 2016) via "United States Bureau of Land Management Tract Books, 1820–1908,">Alabama>Vol 58 (Greenville)> image 27 of 273.

¹¹⁰ "Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Alabama," images, *Fold3* (accessed 12 November 2016), William C. Benson, Co. K, 17th Ala. Inf.; citing NARA microfilm M311, roll 255. "Alabama, Texas and Virginia, Confederate Pensions, 1884–1958," *Ancestry* (accessed 4 December 2015), entry for W.C. Bensons, file no. 03274; citing "Confederate Pension Applications, 1899–1975," Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

¹¹¹ "Texas Death Certificates images, *Ancestry*, (accessed 4 December 2015), death certificate image, William C. Benson, 8 December 1928; citing Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics, Austin.

land records were destroyed. Stephen H. and Martha signed a quit claim deed in Bladen County to James Bryan Jr. for an unidentified parcel of land that she was entitled to as one of the heirs of the late John Bryan.¹¹² A George Bryan, of Butler County, Alabama, sold his property in Bladen County, North Carolina, in 1842¹¹³ after he had purchased land in Butler County.¹¹⁴ His certificate was dated just eight days before Stephen H.'s certificate in 1837.¹¹⁵ The only other record of Stephen H. in Bladen County is a statement made by A. G. Campbell:

“On the Night of Tuesday the 12th of December 1820
I was in Mr. James Cook’s House and called for some
Brandy, which James Cook brought and set on the table;
Then James Cook and myself drank with each other—
He then pointed to a chair for me to set in and taking
another for himself we both set down before the fire
tolerable close to each other __ Where after a short
time I asked him — If he did not tell Mr. Enoch
Daniel that I whipt John Daniel (Enoch’s Son)
wrongfully for James Benson’s Lies — As Enoch Daniel
told me a few Days before then that he did___
James Cook said then that he never told Enoch Daniel
no such thing — I then told James Cook that there
must be a Lie depending between himself and
Enoch Daniel_____He then (without any
further Notice) got up and with his fist struck me
over the left Eye with such force as sent me and
the Chair that I sat in along the Floor — When I got
up James Cook and his Wife and Mr. John Edwards
all of them appeared not to be satisfied until I should
be further beatten [sic] —And had not Stephen Cook
interfered I know not what the Consequences might
have been before they would have been satisfied —
I was so frightened in Consequence of what was going on
between James Cook and his Wife and John Edwards
after I got up that I scarcely knew what I was doing
for I never met with such treatment before in my life —
I was cut over the left Eye and also on the outside
of it and the whole side of my head ached and
pained me very much for six or seven Days
afterwards ———

¹¹² Bladen Co., N. C., Deeds, 8:49, Stephen Cook to James Bryan, 4 November 1825, *FamilySearch* (accessed 16 November 2016), imaged from FHL microfilm 18,292.

¹¹³ Bladen Co., N. C., Deeds, 8:84, George Bryan, to Colin Monroe, and 8:91, George & Nancy Bryan to Absalom Wilson, *FamilySearch* (accessed 19 November 2016), imaged from FHL microfilm 18,292.

¹¹⁴ George Bryan (Cahaba Land Office, Alabama), cash land entry no. 49521; “Land Patent Search,” *General Land Office Records* (accessed 30 November 2016).

¹¹⁵ Stephen H. Cook (Butler County) cash entry file, certificate no. 32769, Cahaba, Alabama, Land Office; Land Entry Papers, 1800–1908; Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

A.G. Campbell”¹¹⁶

No relationship is stated between Stephen and James Cook. Stephen is not found as head of household in 1820.¹¹⁷ The names mentioned in this statement all lived on the south side of Bladen County, near the Columbus County line, except for John Edwards who was in Columbus County.¹¹⁸ This is also the area that William Benson owned land before relocating to Georgia.¹¹⁹

NAMING PATTERNS

Naming patterns support the relationships as well. Stephen H. and Sarah, likely siblings, both named children, Stephen, James, and Mary. Likely siblings, James C. and Mary Jane, both named children, Stephen, Martha, and James.

James C. and his aunt, Sarah, also named sons William. While all these names are fairly common in many families, the other Cook families in Butler County did not use the name Stephen, nor did the Cook families from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

¹¹⁶ A.G. Campbell statement, 12 September 1820; folder 34, T. D. McDowell Papers #460; Southern Historical Collection, The Wilson Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Thomas David McDowell was the son of Alexander McDowell, clerk of Bladen County, 1812–1844. These papers were donated in 1920 and 1927.

¹¹⁷ 1820 U.S. census, search for Stephen Cook in Bladen and surrounding counties of North Carolina.

¹¹⁸ For example, see “North Carolina, Land Grant Files, 1693–1960,” images, *Ancestry* (accessed 19 June 2018), entry no. 504, Enoch Daniel, entry nos. 92, 285, John Daniel, entry nos. 310, 3874, 3875, 3945, 3984, Alexander/A.G. Campbell. 1820 U.S. census, Bladen Co., N. C., pop. sch., p. 130, line 26, Enoch Daniel, p. 142, John Daniel and James Benson, p. 158, James Cook, Sr.; citing NARA microfilm M33, roll 82. 1820 U.S. census, Columbus Co., N. C., pop. sch., p. 51, line 8 from bottom, John Edward; citing NARA microfilm M33, roll 84.

¹¹⁹ For example, see Bladen Co., N. C., Deeds, 10:86, Francis Benson to Wm. Benson, 7 September 1822; images, *FamilySearch* (accessed 18 November 2016); FHL microfilm 18,293. “North Carolina Land Grant Images and Data,” images, *North Carolina Land Grants* (<http://www.nclandgrants.com> : accessed 16 November 2016); William Benson, no. 4667.

Duplication of names used by proposed siblings			
James C. and Elizabeth Cook's children	Mary Jane and Wlm. Boswell's children	Stephen H. and Martha Cook's known children	Sarah and Wlm. Benson's children
Sarah Ann			Sarah Jane
William S.	William Stephen		William Calvin
Stephen L.		Stephen	Stephen C.
Mary E.		Mary Jane	Mary L.
Martha	Martha		
James David	James Jackson	James C.	James Franklin
John N.	John W.		
Robert Marion			Robert D.
Furman Jackson			
	Josephine		
	Nancy Jane		Nancy
	Thomas J.		
			Lucy Amanda

SUPPORTING DNA

Autosomal DNA (atDNA) is a DNA test that looks at both sides of a person's ancestry, maternal and paternal. Humans have 22 pairs of autosomes and one pair of sex chromosomes (the X and Y chromosome). The 22 pairs are numbered by their size (number of genes on each chromosome), with chromosome 1 being the largest and chromosome 22 the smallest. Children inherit approximately half from each parent as their parents did from their parents. Essentially children receive half their atDNA from each parent, a quarter from grandparents and so on.

The exchange of DNA segments between two copies of a chromosome (maternal and paternal) is called recombination and occurs at conception. The newly formed chromosome is a patchwork of the grandparents. Siblings will inherit different portions of their grandparents' DNA. Genetic distance is measured by the recombinant frequency called centimorgans (cMs).¹²⁰ Analysis and comparison of cM segments between two or more people can help identify common ancestors. DNA testing companies provide chromosome browsers to help with this comparison with the exception of *AncestryDNA* who only provides the total cMs and number of segments matching.

Clustering is an analysis methodology of atDNA matches with their shared matches. The result is "AutoClusters" of test takers that are likely to descend from common ancestors. A cluster is a group of test takers who match you and at least two other

¹²⁰ *International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki* (http://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA: accessed 20 July 2016), "Autosomal DNA," rev. 16:38, 10 July 2016.

test takers who also match each other. This clustering can be accomplished by using a third-party tool, *Genetic Affairs* (geneticaffairs.com). It supports tests from *23andMe*, *FamilyTreeDNA*, and *AncestryDNA*. *MyHeritage* also offers this for testers at their site. This technique is useful when there is no access to the segment data at *AncestryDNA*.

Two clusters were generated using the AutoCluster tool, each with seventeen matches, supporting the two sibling relationships between James C. and Mary Jane and between Stephen H. and Sarah.¹²¹ Of these, twenty-one were identifiable, all direct descendants of James C., Mary Jane, or Sarah.¹²²

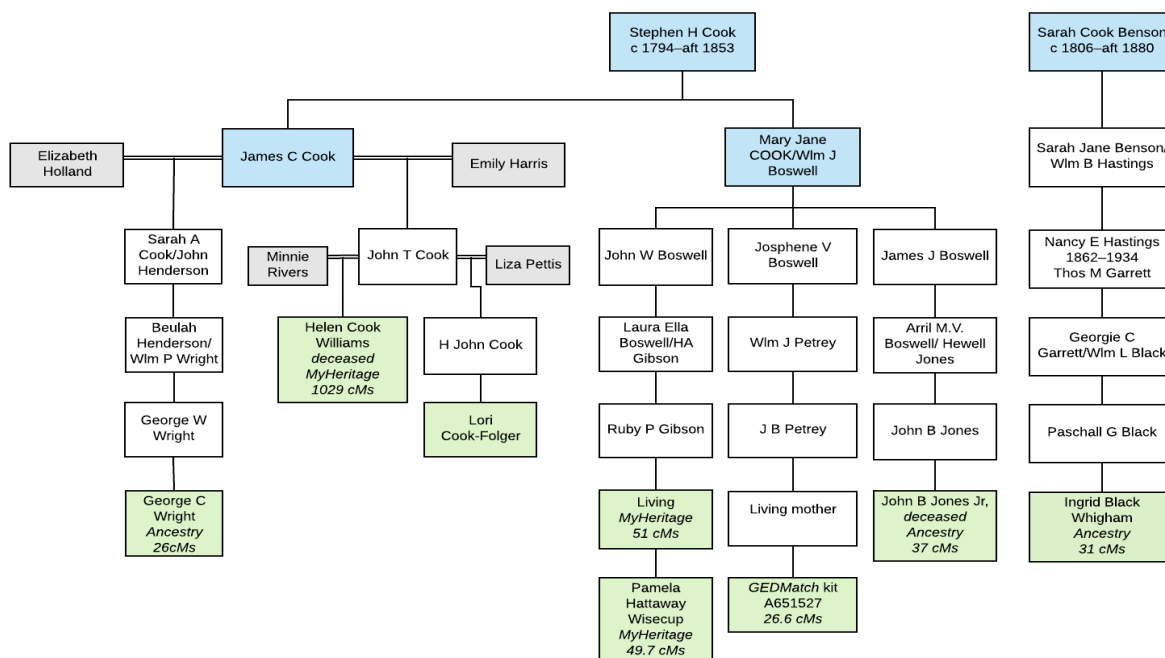
▼ Cluster 3 (17 items)					
+	Lori Cook-Folger	67.8	20	3	fourth cousin
+	William Cook-Folger	57.3	40	3	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	53.2	31	3	fourth cousin
+	David Cook-Folger	46.1	36	3	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	45.2	21	3	fourth cousin
+	William Cook-Folger	41.1	23	3	fourth cousin
+	William Cook-Folger	38.9	21	3	fourth cousin
+	William Cook-Folger	38.8	25	3	fourth cousin
+	William Cook-Folger	37.6	16	3	fourth cousin
+	John Jonesal	37.3	30	3	746 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	36.5	24	3	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	35.7	24	3	7 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	35.5	31	3	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	35.1	12	3	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	34.6	20	3	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	34.3	58	3	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	34.1	15	3	fourth cousin

▼ Cluster 9 (17 items)					
+	Robert Cook-Folger	69.9	27	9	51 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	69.4	24	9	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	67.1	39	9	137 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	55.4	43	9	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	51.9	35	9	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	48.2	24	9	8 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	43.7	23	9	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	41.7	20	9	1 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	41.2	24	9	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	40.4	20	9	671 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	39.4	28	9	640 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	38.8	23	9	373 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	36	17	9	511 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	34.8	32	9	fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	31.7	22	9	fourth cousin
+	IWhigham	31.6	18	9	36 fourth cousin
+	Robert Cook-Folger	31.5	18	9	fourth cousin

¹²¹ “AutoClusters,” for tester Lori Cook-Folger, *MyHeritage* (www.myheritage.com : accessed 2 June 2019). “AutoCluster for Lori Cook-Folger-AncestryDNA account: cookfolger1,” *GeneticAffairs* (www.geneticaffairs.com : accessed 17 March 2019). Each of the two clusters contained seventeen testers. Of these, twenty-one were identified and trees confirmed or researched. The AutoCluster tool at *MyHeritage* does not allow specifying a range. *GeneticAffairs* does allow a range and the clustering was run on 25–100 cM matches, but because of the number of matches, did not include matches below 31 cMs.

¹²² The matches over 31 cMs were emailed, only four responded.

The following chart shows three descents from James C. Cook, three from Mary Jane Cook Boswell, and one from Sarah Cook Benson:



Proposed Siblings
DNA Tester

NOTE: cM matches
are all to Lori

JAMES C. DESCENDANTS

- Lori Cook-Folger,¹²³ is the great granddaughter of James C. Cook through his last child, John Thomas Cook.¹²⁴ All DNA matches and relationships are to Lori.
- Helen Cook Williams,¹²⁵ was a granddaughter of James C. and Lori's half paternal aunt, only sharing the Cook line with her.¹²⁶
- George C. Wright,¹²⁷ is the great-great grandson of James C. through his first child, Sarah Ann Cook Henderson.¹²⁸

¹²³ "MyHeritageDNA matches," database, *MyHeritage* (accessed 16 June 2019), matches for Lori Cook-Folger.

¹²⁴ For Lori's lineage, see "John Cook," obituary, *Timpson and Teneha (Texas) News*, 28 July 2005, p. 8, col. 1. For H. John's parents, see Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, amended birth certificate no. 12960 (1936, 1981), Hubert John Cook; Bureau of Vital Statistics, Jacksonville. For John T.'s parents, see 1900 U.S. census, Washington Co., Fla., pop. sch., Vernon, E.D. 123, p. 160B, dwell./fam. 74, James Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 10 March 2014); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 1773.

¹²⁵ "MyHeritageDNA matches," database, *MyHeritage* (accessed 16 June 2019), matches for Helen Cook Williams, deceased.

¹²⁶ For Helen's father, see "Helen Williams" *Jay Funeral Home (Jay, Florida)*, (<http://www.jayfh.com> : accessed 6 January 2016), 5 January 2016.

¹²⁷ "Ancestry DNA Results for Lori Cook-Folger," database report, *AncestryDNA* (<https://ancestry.com/dna> : accessed 20 June 2019), predicted 4th–6th cousin genetic match with user "George C. Wright."

¹²⁸ For George C.'s parentage, see *Newspapers.com*, images (www.newspapers.com : accessed 20 June 2019).

MARY JANE DESCENDANTS

- Pamela Hattaway Wisecup¹²⁹ is the great-great-great granddaughter of Mary Jane Cook.¹³⁰
- *GEDmatch*, kit A651527¹³¹ is also a great-great-great granddaughter of Mary Jane.¹³²
- John B Jones, Jr., deceased,¹³³ was the great-great grandson of Mary Jane.¹³⁴

2019); "George W. Wright," obituary, *Playground Daily News (Fort Walton Beach, FL)*, 13 April 1972, p. 3A, col. 1–2. For George W.'s parentage, see 1930 U.S. census, Okaloosa Co., Fla., pop. sch., Yellow River, ED 7 p. 3A dwell. 49 fam. 51 Bulah I Wright; citing NARA microfilm T626. For Beulah's parentage and marriage, 1880 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., Mt. Ida, ED 59, p. 453C, dwell. 1, fam. 41, John H. Henderson; citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 10. "Florida Marriages, 1830–1993," *FamilySearch* (accessed 7 September 2016); Santa Rosa Co., Fla., Marriage Book E:450, W.P. Wright to Bulah Henderson, 8 June 1905. For Sarah Cook's parentage and marriage see 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 159, line 26, dwell./fam. 317, J C Cook; citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 13 and 1860 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., Pct. 15, p. 3, dwell./fam. 24, J.C. Cook; citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 3. Crenshaw Co., Ala., Marriage records, A:9, John Henderson to Sarah Ann Cook, 1869; images, "Marriage records, 1867–1957," *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/63729>: accessed 20 June 2019), path: Marriage records v. A–C 1867–1890 > image 13 of 691, FHL 1,288,731.

¹²⁹ "MyHeritageDNA matches," database, *MyHeritage* (accessed 16 June 2019), matches for Pamela Hattaway Wisecup; includes a triangulated match between Pamela, Lori Cook-Folger and Helen Cook Williams, Chromosome 5, (start–stop points: 158743846–168477797), 13.6 cMs.

¹³⁰ For parents and grandparents of Pamela see "MyHeritageDNA matches," database, *MyHeritage* (accessed 16 June 2019), "Wisecup Family Tree," attached Pamela Hattaway Wisecup DNA match to Lori Cook-Folger and 1940 U.S. census, Palm Beach Co., Fla., pop. sch., ED 50-45, p. 2A, fam. 30, Daniel Hattaway; citing NARA microfilm T627, roll 607. For parentage of Ruby Pearl Gibson, see 1910 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., Mount Ida, ED 68, p. 6B, dwell. 113, fam. 113, Henry A Gibson; citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 9. For parentage of Laura ZueElla Boswell, see 1900 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., Aiken, ED 52, p. 6, dwell. 99, fam. 99, John Boswell; citing NARA microfilm T623 and "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," *FamilySearch* (accessed 19 November 2018); Crenshaw Co., Ala., Marriages, G:46, Henry A. Gibson to Ella Boswell, 1905, "at John Boswell's," and *Newspapers.com*, (accessed 11 March 2019); "Commissioners Sale," *Crenshaw County (AL) News*, 20 November 1913, n.p., col. 3. For John W. Boswell's parentage, see 1870 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 214, dwell./fam. 272, Thomas Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 12.

¹³¹ "GEDmatch Autosomal Comparison," *GEDmatch* (www.gedmatch.com : accessed 19 June 2019), one-to-one comparisons of kits A651527 and T025424 (H Williams), chr. 2: 25,572–12,741,369 (30 cMs) and one-to-one comparisons of kits A651527 and T314020 (Lori Cook-Folger), chr. 2, 2,685,581–12,867,780 (26.6 cMs). There were no additional matches, "People who match both, or 1 of 2 kits," *GEDmatch* (accessed 19 June 2019), kits T314020 and A651527.

¹³² For mother & grandfather, see "Public Member Tree," *Ancestry* (accessed 10 June 2019), "Newman-Petrey-Stowe" family tree by user NStoweGebhardt, pedigree chart. For parentage of James B. Petrey, see 1910 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., Bullock, ED 70, p. 8B, dwell. 151, fam. 151, William J Petrey; citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 9. For parentage of William J. Petrey, see "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," *FamilySearch* (accessed 14 June 2018), certificate image, William Junior Petrey, 1954, no. 1598; citing "Alabama Department of Health, Montgomery." For parentage of Josephine Boswell, see 1870 U.S. census, Crenshaw Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 214, dwell./fam. 272, Thomas Boswell; citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 12 and "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," *FamilySearch* (accessed 10 June 2018); Crenshaw County, Alabama, Marriages, B:388, B.E.F. Petrie to J.V. Boswell, 1879, married at "Mrs. M.J. Boswell."

¹³³ "Ancestry DNA Results for Lori Cook-Folger," database report, *AncestryDNA* (<https://ancestry.com/dna> : accessed 20 June 2019), predicted 4th–6th cousin genetic match with user "johnjonesal" at 95% confidence.

¹³⁴ For John Jr.'s parentage, see "John B. Jones, Jr.," obituary, *Hughes Funeral Home* (<https://hughesfuneralhome.org/2017/10/24/john-b-jones-jr-d-october-24-2017/> : accessed 18 May 2019) and "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," *FamilySearch* (accessed 14 June 2018); Jefferson Co., Ala., Marriages,

SARAH DESCENDANT

- Ingrid Black Whigham,¹³⁵ is the great-great-great granddaughter of Sarah Cook Benson.¹³⁶

The author verified and conducted additional research to complete the DNA matches pedigrees and documented each parent child relationship. Comparison of these pedigrees show that the matches do not share multiple common ancestors.

Test Taker	Number of possible ancestors	Initial number of ancestors in test taker's pedigree	Number of additional ancestors identified by author	Percent of Known Ancestors
Lori Cook-Folger-GG (to James C)	4*			100%
Helen-G (to James C)	2*			100%
George Wright (to James C)	16		12	75%
Pamela-GGGG (to Mary Jane)	32*	13	19	100%
A651527-GGGG (to Mary Jane)	30*	30		100%
John-GGG (to Mary Jane)	30	30		100%
Whigham-GGG (to Sarah)	30	16	12	93%

208:268, John Bruce Jones to Gloria Pauline Bell, 1948. For John Sr.'s parentage, see 1930 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., pop. sch., Greenville, ED 12, p. 7B, dwell. 178, fam. 187, H P Jones; citing NARA microfilm T626 and "U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936–2014," *Ancestry* (accessed 14 June 2018), entry for John Bruce Jones. For Arril's parents, see "Alabama Deaths, 1908–1974," *FamilySearch* (accessed 12 January 2019), certificate image, Arrie Victoria Jones, 1958, no. 24554; citing "Alabama Department of Health, Montgomery."

¹³⁵ "AncestryDNA results for Lori Cook-Folger," personalized database, *AncestryDNA* (accessed 16 June 2019), predicting "4th–6th cousin" genetic match with user "IWhigham" at 95% confidence.

¹³⁶ For parentage of IWhigham, see *Newspapers.com*, (accessed 8 June 2019); "Paschall Goldstein Black 1916–2003," obituary, *Pensacola (FL) News Journal*, 6 January 2003, p. 4C, col. 2. For parentage of Paschall Goldstein Black, see 1920 U.S. census, Baldwin Co., Ala., pop. sch., Bay Minette, ED 4, p. 25A, dwell. 194, fam. 194, W.L. Black; citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 2 and *Newspapers.com*, images (www.newspapers.com : accessed 8 June 2019); "Mrs. Georgie G Black," obituary, *Pensacola (FL) News Journal*, 21 April 1940, p. 11, col. 2. For parentage of Georgie Garrett Black see 1900 U.S. census, Baldwin Co., Ala., pop. sch., Sibleys Mill, ED 4, p. 14, dwell. 287, fam. 289, Thos M Garrett; citing NARA microfilm T623. For parentage of Nancy E. Hastings see 1880 U.S. census, Baldwin Co., Ala., pop. sch., ED 9, p. 215B, dwell./fam. 13, William Hasting; citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 1. For Sarah J Benson's parentage see 1850 U.S. census, Marion Co., Ga., pop. sch., p. 250B, dwell. 335, William Benson; citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 77 and; "Alabama County Marriages, 1809–1950," *FamilySearch* (accessed 14 November 2016); Butler Co., Ala., Marriages 1858–1864:16, William B. Hasting to Sarah J. Benson, 29 August 1858, married "at Mrs. Benson's."

*“Are your parents related?” tool for determining if parents are related was run for Lori, Helen, and A651527, showing no relationship between parents.¹³⁷ Pamela’s father is also a match on the exact segments, eliminating her maternal line. Therefore, only half of their pedigrees are listed in the possible ancestors.

These relationships all fall within the expected range of shared cMs:¹³⁸

Match Pair	Traced Relationship	Shared cM	Expected cM (range)
Lori/Helen	Half Aunt	1029 ^a	884 (619–1159)
Lori/Pamela	3C2R	49.7 ^b	36 (0–84)
Lori/A651527	3C2R	26.6 ^c	36 (0–84)
Lori/John	3C1R	37 ^d	36 (0–84)
Lori/Ingrid	4C1R	31 ^e	29 (0–67)
Helen/Pamela	2C3R	29.5 ^f	49 (0–114)
Helen/A651527	2C3R	30 ^g	49 (0–114)
George/Lori	H 2C1R	26 ^h	75 (0–158)
George/John	4C	50 ⁱ	36 (0–84)

^a “DNA Matches,” MyHeritage (https://www.myheritage.com/dna/match/D-475176FF-5869-4DE4-AA29-00F6335955B4-D-1F0926C7-AA5D-4D45-A68D-C328E11699F1/515097021?p=1&ps=10&sort=total_shared_segments_length_in_cm&memberId=360355641 : accessed 16 June 2019), “Review DNA Match: Lori Cook-Folger and Helen Cook Williams, showing 1029.1 shared centimorgans over 23 segments, predicted relationship: 1 cousin, gr aunt.

^b “DNA Matches,” MyHeritage (https://www.myheritage.com/dna/match/D-475176FF-5869-4DE4-AA29-00F6335955B4-D-2P4F760A-M568-L78B-4F6A-4F6AOL6B8UB7/515097021?p=1&ps=10&search=pamela&sort=total_shared_segments_length_in_cm&memberId=360355641 : accessed 16 June 2019), “Review DNA Match: Lori Cook-Folger and Pamela Hattaway Wisecup, showing 49.7 shared centimorgans over 3 segments, predicted relationship: 3–5 cousins.

^c “One-to-One Autosomal DNA Comparison,” GEDmatch (<https://www.gedmatch.com> : accessed 25 May 2019), comparing kits T314020 (Lori Cook-Folger) and A651527 (NStowGebhardt), 26.6 cM shared on 1 segment.

^d “Lori Cook-Folger’s Shared Matches,” AncestryDNA (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-matches/compare/a6018b20-0f86-4ad8-a23e-0cfdc924c9af/with/d2b864ce-f11a-451d-ad82-c01b76956e3d> : accessed 9 February 2020), “You and jonejonesal,” showing 37 shared centimorgans of DNA over 3 segments, predicted relationship: 4–6 cousins.

^e “Lori Cook-Folger’s Shared Matches,” AncestryDNA (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-matches/compare/a6018b20-0f86-4ad8-a23e-0cfdc924c9af/with/ca98fcab-3c8a-4b87-b5c4-a972c0b4024d> : accessed 25 May 2019), “You and IWhigham,” showing 32 shared centimorgans of DNA over 3 segments, predicted relationship: 4–6 cousins.

^f “DNA Matches,” MyHeritage (https://www.myheritage.com/dna/match/D-1F0926C7-AA5D-4D45-A68D-C328E11699F1-D-2P4F760A-M568-L78B-4F6A-4F6AOL6B8UB7/515097021?p=1&ps=10&search=wisecup&sort=total_shared_segments_length_in_cm&siteId=515097021&individualId=1500004 : accessed 16 June 2019), “Review DNA Match: Helen Cook Williams and Pamela Hattaway Wisecup, showing 29.5 shared centimorgans over 2 segments, predicted relationship: 3–5 cousin.

^g “One-to-One Autosomal DNA Comparison,” GEDmatch (<https://www.gedmatch.com> : accessed 25 May 2019), comparing kits T025424 (H Williams) and A651527 (NStowGebhardt), 30.0 cM shared on 1 segment.

¹³⁷ “Are your parents related?” GEDmatch (<https://www.gedmatch.com> : accessed 25 January 2020), for kits T314020 (Lori Cook-Folger), T025424 (H Williams), and A651527 (NStowGebhardt).

¹³⁸ Blaine T. Bettinger, “The Cluster Chart,” *The Shared cM Project—Version 3.0* (August 2017), 3.

^h “George C. Wright’s Shared Matches,” *AncestryDNA* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-matches/compare/7c43e226-a82a-41d3-8936-e6c369a5d32c/with/a6018b20-0f86-4ad8-a23e-0cfdc924c9af> : accessed 25 May 2019), “You and Lori Cook-Folger,” showing 26 shared centimorgans of DNA over 2 segments, predicted relationship: 4–6 cousins.

ⁱ “George C. Wright’s Shared Matches,” *AncestryDNA* (<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-matches/compare/7c43e226-a82a-41d3-8936-e6c369a5d32c/with/d2b864ce-f11a-451d-ad82-c01b76956e3d> : accessed 25 May 2019), “You and johnjonesal,” showing 50 shared centimorgans of DNA over 3 segments, predicted relationship: 4–6 cousins.

CONCLUSION

No direct evidence exists to name the father of James C. Cook. Many pieces of information gleaned from him and the people he interacted with throughout his life point to Stephen H. Cook as his father, Mary Jane as his sister, and Sarah as his paternal aunt:

- The proximity to his future wife, Elizabeth Holland, and the elimination of other Cook men in the area.
- Stephen H. Cook co-signed a mortgage for Sarah's son, Stephen C. Benson.
- Stephen C. Benson purchased land near Stephen H. Cook.
- James C. signed an affidavit for Sarah Cook Benson to purchase land next to him.
- Sarah's son, William Calvin Benson, and son-in-law, Calvin Pouncy, purchased land very near her and James C. within days of James C.'s purchase.
- Sarah's son, William Calvin, listed his birthplace as Bladen County, North Carolina and his mother as Sally Cook.
- Stephen and Martha Cook signed a quit claim deed in Bladen County, North Carolina.
- Bryan and Cook families migrated from Bladen County to Butler County near the same time.
- Sarah, born c. 1806, North Carolina, and Stephen H. Cook, born c. 1794, North Carolina, are the age of siblings.
- Family members joined the same regiments during the war.
- James C., Mary Jane, and Sarah all named sons Stephen; James and Mary Jane both named daughters Martha.
- Shared DNA of descendants supports the theory that James C. and Mary Jane were the children of Stephen H. Cook and that Sarah Cook Benson was the sister of Stephen H. Cook.

Stephen H. and Martha Cook likely had at least these three children:¹³⁹

- i. JAMES C. COOK, born c. 1820, North Carolina,¹⁴⁰ and died 21 March 1901, Washington

¹³⁹ 1840 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., p. 151, Stephen H. Cook; *Ancestry* (accessed 25 October 2015); citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 1. 1850 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., pop. sch., Twp. 11, p. 248A, dwell. /fam. 71, Stephen Cook; citing NARA micro publication M432, roll 2.

¹⁴⁰ 1850 U.S. census, Pike Co., Ala., pop. sch., p. 159, line 26, dwell./fam. 317, J C Cook; citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 13.

County, Florida.¹⁴¹

- ii. MARY JANE COOK, born c. 1818–1826, and died after 18 May 1893.¹⁴²
- iii. STEPHEN COOK, born c. 1833.¹⁴³

¹⁴¹ Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church Cemetery (Hinsons Crossroads, Washington County, Florida), James C. Cook marker, transcribed and photographed by Lori Cook-Folger, July 1994. Widow's Pension Claim, 30 November 1908, application no. A02824, James C. Cook and Emily Cook, widow, Co. A, 33rd Regiment Alabama Infantry; Confederate Pension Files; Records of the State Board of Pensions, RG 137; State Library and Archives of Florida, Jacksonville.

¹⁴² "Alabama, Texas, and Virginia, Confederate Pensions, 1884–1958," images, *Ancestry* (accessed 28 December 2015), entry for Mrs. M.J. Baswell, Crenshaw Co., Pension no. 2080; citing Alabama Department of Archives, Montgomery.

¹⁴³ 1850 U.S. census, Butler Co., Ala., pop. sch., Twp. 11, p. 248A, dwell. /fam. 71, Stephen Cook; citing NARA micro publication M432, roll 2.