



# WALTON

## RELATIONS & HISTORY

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Walton County Heritage Association

February 2020





# WALTON COUNTY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

## OFFICE LOCATION

Walton County Heritage Museum, (Old Train Depot)  
Hours: Open Tuesday – Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM

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## Newsletter Cover Collage Photos

Clockwise from top left:

1. Darlington, Florida, early 1900s, Courtesy of Baker Block Museum, photographer unknown. Edited by Sam Carnley.
2. *View of a turpentine still in Glendale or Gaskin*. 1904. Black & white photoprint, 4 x 6 in. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory. <<https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/42107>>, accessed 28 June 2017 by Sam Carnley.
3. William Lewis (Luke) Hurst Family, Fleming Creek/Clear Springs area, north Walton County, ca 1894, from “The Heritage of Walton County, Florida,” p. 190.
4. Old Paxton High School, “1961-62 Paxtonian” Year Book, photographer unknown. Edited by Sam Carnley
5. Walton County Heritage Museum, photo and editing by Sam Carnley.
6. Gladys D. Milton (1924-1999), Midwife, Flowersview/Paxton, photo by her daughter, Maria Milton. Also in “The Heritage of Walton County, Florida,” p. 249, and the September 2018 Newsletter at <http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/GenSoc/NL2018Sep.pdf> Edited by Sam Carnley.
7. Lake Jackson, South Side, in Paxton City Limits, photo and editing by Sam Carnley.
8. Paxton Water Tower, Paxton, Florida, photo and editing by Sam Carnley.
9. Old Freeport School, constructed ca 1908, burned 1943. Photo from “The Heritage of Walton County, Florida,” p. 45. Photographer unknown. Edited by Sam Carnley.
10. *Floralia Saw Mill Company's engine number 3 - Paxton, Florida*. 1907. Black & white photonegative, 4 x 5 in. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory. Photographer unknown. <<https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/146972>>, accessed 7 September 2019 and edited by Sam Carnley. [Built in 1873 and Originally owned by New York, Ontario and Western Railroad Company as engine number 60; then owned by Southern Iron and Equipment Company as engine number 568 in 1907; then owned by Florala Saw Mill Company as engine number 3 on March 3, 1907; returned to Southern Iron and Equipment Company and number changed to 915 on March 13, 1913; then owned by Louisiana Saw Mill Company as engine 50 in May, 1913.]

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The **Walton County Heritage Association, Inc.** is an 501 (C) 3 Florida Not for Profit Corporation Recognized by the IRS as a Public Charity Organization for Tax Deductible Donations.

The Walton County Heritage Association was organized for four main purposes:

- To promote the preservation and restoration of buildings and other landmarks of historical interest within Walton County;
- To maintain the Walton County Heritage Museum to preserve the heritage of Walton County for the education and enjoyment of current and future generations by collecting, preserving, and exhibiting artifacts and information from the time of its original inhabitants to the present;
- To foster and enhance the development, education, and sense of history which is unique to Walton County; and
- To secure cooperation and unity of action between individual citizens, businesses, and other groups as may be necessary to fulfill these purposes.

The Association depends upon the support of its members and the business community to accomplish its goals. Annual dues are \$25 for individuals, \$40 for families and \$100 for corporate memberships.

[Click here](#) for the Individual Membership Application

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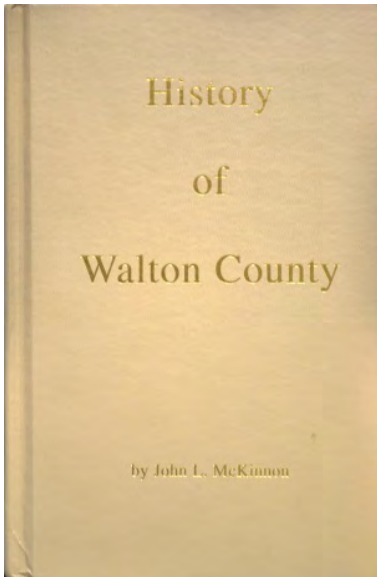
**Member Benefits:**

- **Automatic** membership in the **Walton County Heritage Museum** and the **Walton County Genealogy Society**.
- **Invitations** to Quarterly Members Meetings
- **Discounts** on Special Events
- **The Museum Research Center:** Members get free copies of documents and use of the Genealogy Society computer when the Museum is open.
- **The Museum Gift Shop:** Members receive discounts on books, special publications, postcards, photographs, CDs, DVDs, videos, and gift items.
- **Free subscriptions** to the WCHA Newsletter and Journal.

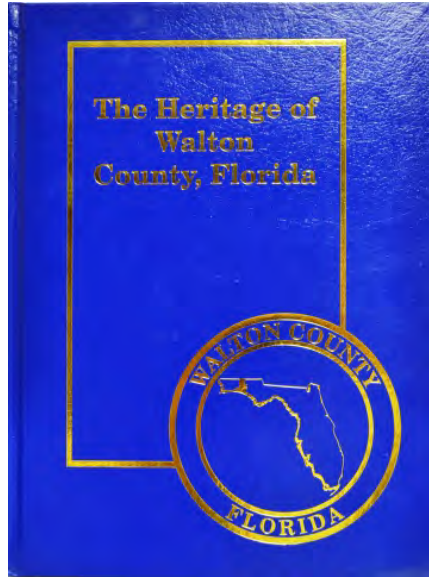
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# From the Museum Gift Shop

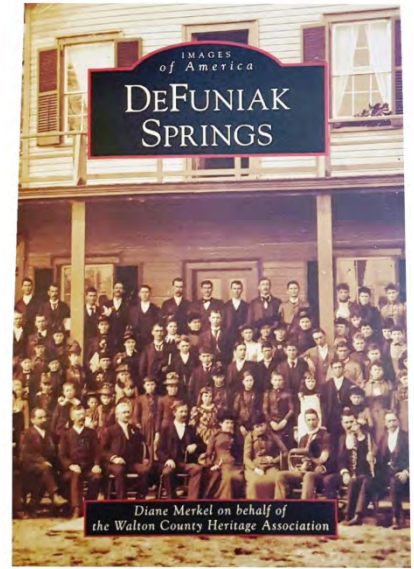
## Our most popular books



**History of Walton County**  
by John L. McKinnon. The Museum has sold out of this book and it is out of print, but it is available on line free of charge at this link,  
<https://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/georgiabooks/pdfs/gb0503.pdf>



**The Heritage of Walton County, Florida.** Item code **B13.** History of Walton County's organizations, churches and people. Hard cover, 316 pages, indexed.  
**\$59.00** plus tax and shipping.



**Images of America, DeFuniak Springs.** Item code **B06.** By Diane Merkel. Softcover, 128 pages, 185 photos, indexed.  
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Quantity	Description	Item Code	Price Each*	Amount
	The Heritage of Walton County, Florida	B13	71.13	
	Images of America, DeFuniak Springs.	B06	31.53	

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# **Angus Lane Anderson Family** **Scottish Pioneers of Walton County, Florida**

**Based on the Genealogy of the  
Anderson-Broxson Family, edited by  
Robert M. "Bob" Anderson, et. al.**

**Edited for the Newsletter by  
Sam Carnley**

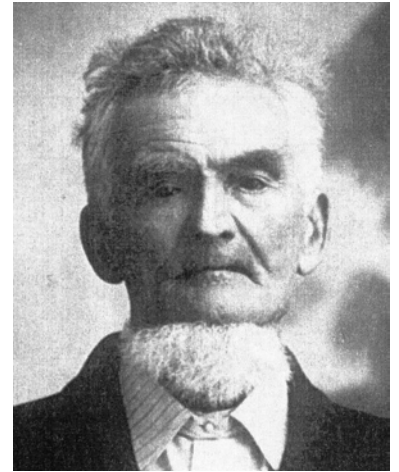
Angus Lane, aka Angus McLane Anderson, was a grandson of Angus Anderson who was born 25 March 1768 in Isle of Skye, Inverness-Shire, Scotland, and died between 1838-40, in Walton County, Florida. Angus L's father, Daniel Anderson Sr., claimed the same part of Scotland as his birthplace in 1795. Grandfather Angus brought his family from Scotland to Richmond County, North Carolina in 1802 and on 20 September 1813, became naturalized as a U. S. citizen.

The family subsequently migrated to Walton County, Florida ca 1822 along with other North Carolina Scots, to become the county's first European American settlers. On 8 March 1827, Angus L.'s father, Daniel Sr., became postmaster at Euchee Valley, a position he held until 31 March 1828 and received compensation of \$14.85.

In 1831, Daniel voted in an election held in the Alaqua precinct, apparently having moved there from Euchee Valley where he had earlier served as postmaster. The year 1832 brought two notable events, one which directly involved the Anderson family, and the other which marked a turning point in the County's history. First was the birth on 7 November in Alaqua of Angus Lane to Daniel and his wife, Mary Elizabeth McLane, and second was the departure, en mass, of the Chief Sam Story band of Euchee Indians from the County, never to be heard from again. It was on Sam Story's invitation that the Scots had settled in the County and for whom Euchee Valley and Eucheeanna were named. The Chief died on the eve of his tribe's departure and is buried near the fork of Bruce Creek and Choctawhatchee River, the two streams down which the Eucheers exited the County in their canoes.

Still residing in Alaqua as of 1833, Daniel cast his vote in two elections that year and also served as elections clerk. Indian troubles in south Alabama brewing since 1835 finally spilled over into adjacent Walton County in early 1837 when a band of Creeks massacred members of a Walton County party searching for their free range cattle on a tributary of Shoal River north of today's DeFuniak Springs. Big John Anderson, one of the men killed, was a younger brother of Daniel Anderson. That event signaled the beginning of the Walton County Indian War of 1837 which both Daniel and his father, Angus, found themselves drawn into as a matter of necessity. They served as volunteers in the militias formed to repulse the Indians. By the end of the year the Indians had been neutralized and life in the county returned more or less to normal.

In 1848, Walton surrendered territory for the creation of neighboring Holmes County and in whose U. S. census Daniel's household was enumerated in 1850. Angus (no middle name or initial) was listed at age 16. The 1860 U. S. census found Daniel's family absent his presence enumerated in Walton County at the Euchee Anna post office. Heading the family was his widow, Mary, with children:



**Angus Lane Anderson  
(1832-1907).  
Photo, courtesy of Bob  
Anderson.**

Norman, Amanda, Nancy and Archy. Family historians place Daniels death date as 27 February 1858, in Holmes County, Florida.



Sarah Catherine Broxson Anderson (1839-1900), Photo, courtesy of Bob Anderson.

Angus L. was absent from his mother's household on the 1860 census because by that time he had started his own household. About 1856 he married Sarah Catherine Broxson, daughter of Thomas George Broxson I and Lorro Ann Pittman, in Walton County. She was born 31 January 1839 in Walton County and died there on 5 June 1900. Her burial was at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. (FGID, 57830986).

Identified on the census as Angus L. (not McLane or M.) Anderson, a 25 year old farmer enumerated at Eucheanna Post Office, his family in addition to himself, included wife, Sarah – 21, Daniel – 1, Lorro Ann – 6/12, Rutha J. Broxson – 16, and Lorro Ann Broxson – 10.

In April 1861 the Civil War broke out and Angus entered the Confederate Army a little over a year later on 5 August 1862. Under the name, A. L. Anderson, he enlisted at Chattahoochee, Florida as a corporal in Company G., 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Florida Cavalry, also known as Captain Williams Company. From his enlistment date to the end of August, his company was stationed at Camp Gainesville, near Tallahassee. During September and October, 1862, the company was stationed at Camp Sidney Johnson, no further location details provided. They remained at Camp Sidney Johnson from 31 October 1862 to 28 February, 1863. During May and June 1863, the Company was stationed at Camp Governor Milton, again no further location details given. The Company Muster Roll for the period between the end of June 1863 and 1 November 1863 is missing. From the latter date to 30 April 1864, the Company's station was Camp Jones, with no further location details provided. Angus' Company Muster Roll covering the Camp Jones post of duty period states that he was "absent, detailed to drive cattle, Oct 28/63," but does not give a location. This was the last record in his Civil War service file.

Why his service record ended as noted above may be explained by family lore from Ruth Lenore Anderson, Granddaughter of Angus McLane Anderson that reads as follows:

During the Civil War after the Union forces had cut the South in half by their control of the Mississippi River; it became necessary to transport cattle by barge from the Texas Gulf coast to the Florida Gulf coast. One of the points of entry was at St. Marks, about twenty or thirty miles south of Tallahassee. The cattle were then driven north to supply food for the Confederate forces around Atlanta and other southern outposts. Grandpa's regiment was stationed at St. Marks.

In the fall of 1863, Grandpa, Angus McLane Anderson, later shortened to Angus Lane Anderson, fell victim to the dread disease, typhoid fever. Fortunately, Grandpa had a faithful servant who accompanied him on his military journeys. Although the black servant took care of him as best he could, Grandpa thought his chance of recovery would be better if the servant would return to North Walton County and bring Grandma, Sarah Catherine Broxson Anderson, back with him to practice her expert nursing care.

Taking Grandpa's horse, the servant started out to accomplish that one hundred miles without being caught by either roving Indian tribes or renegade whites who were acting as spies for the Union Forces. This required much hiding out at night and sometimes during the day as well as taking circuitous routes to avoid discovery. Needless to say, this required more time than



would a straightforward route from St. Marks to Sandy Creek which at that time was a part of Walton County.

Almost immediately, Grandma and the black man, each on horseback, started the return journey. Grandma knew that she must carry with her whatever medicine, food, clothing and other comforts she would expect to use in treating her very ill husband. Of course, all medicine was of the herbal variety, the preparation of which has been handed down through generations of thrifty forebears. Also, extra clothing for Grandpa needed to be supplied. After three years of arduous military service, the 'Civil War' soldier (at least those who really did the soldiering) was practically in rags. Also, any clothing supplied was literally 'handmade' - not just sewed. The cotton was planted, harvested, ginned, spun into thread and woven into cloth - then, also by hand, sewed into garments. This was all accomplished by Grandma and whatever help was left at home.

Now, Grandma left her home and small children in the care of another faithful servant by the name of Hannah, the wife of the black who came to take her to St. Marks. She knew she was starting out on a journey through swamps and across rivers, not knowing whether or not her husband was still alive and that she would be gone for several weeks. As before, the journey required several days of hazardous travel. Hiding out at night from Indians and renegade whites was hard enough; but fording two large rivers, the Choctawhatchee, the Apalachicola and many smaller creeks and streams was even worse. As now, those streams were regularly inhabited by alligators. The woods were inhabited by bears and other wild animals.

After a week or more of very difficult travel, Grandma arrived at St. Marks to find her husband raging with fever and lying at the point of death. During the following weeks, Grandma accomplished things only prayer, hard work, love and devotion can accomplish. Her very weak husband began to recover. From the meager resources available, Grandma prepared nourishing food and Grandpa was soon able to return to duty.

After an absence of about three months, Grandma returned to Sandy Creek accompanied by the same escort as before.

In 1865, the Civil War was brought to a close and Grandpa returned to Sandy Creek. Incidentally, on July 20, 1864, a new baby boy had arrived at their home. His name was Angus Lane Anderson.

Under normal military procedures during the Civil War, when soldiers came down sick, that fact was disclosed on their company muster rolls. Not only that, it was not unusual for both the nature of the illness and where he was hospitalized, if he was, to be stated. No documents, however providing that information was found for Angus L. Due to the lateness in the war and the organizational break down going on in the then seriously demoralized Confederate Army, the documents may just not have been prepared, or were prepared and lost.

Family lore filled in some of the gaps in the records, notably the revelation of his illness in this instance, which his service records failed to disclose. But other information, such as place and date of surrender, when and where pardoned and mustered out, etc., would remain unknown if not for other records in the form of Angus' Civil War pension application.

His application was dated 11 November 1905 and filed under the name, Angus L. Anderson, Sr., when he was about 72 years old. He stated in the application that he joined the Confederate Army about October 1862, that his captain was William H. Williams when he enlisted, and Horace Greely Townsend when he was discharged. His battalion or regiment commander when he enlisted was Col.

H. K. Smith. Regarding when he was discharged, he stated that “I was at home sick on furlough, and before I returned the army was abandoned.” In reference to what property he possessed, he stated he owned 135 acres in Walton County and 1 horse and four head of cattle. He was living at the time with his daughter near Ponce De Leon, in Holmes County, Florida.

Alison Ramsey and Robert French stated in an affidavit that they served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Florida Cavalry with Angus, that he presently lived near Union in Walton County, Florida and that they had known him for 40 years. They were not certain when he left the Army, but was at home on sick furlough. They confirmed that he suffered from old age and rheumatism. Further, he had no income and due to frailty, was unable to work. According to Ramsey and French, their military organization was surrendered at Key West, the applicant was not present, and he was at home on furlough.

Clerk of the Circuit Court, James A. McLean, certified Angus’ pension application on 1 January 1906. The application was made to the State of Florida which had accepted the obligation to pay pensions to its citizens who served in the war. But no evidence was found in researching his application that the State accepted it or granted him a pension.

The application reveals an inconsistency with the family lore in that whereas the story says Grandma nursed Grandpa back to health and he returned to duty, he actually did not return to duty, but apparently went home with Grandma before the war ended and never returned to duty. The absence of a company muster roll documenting his official release to go home on sick furlough no doubt proved fatal to his pension application, without which he had no proof he had not gone AWOL or deserted, and under which circumstances the State had no obligation to grant him a pension. Obviously, the State placed greater weight on the absence of authorizing documentation for his sick furlough than on the affidavit of Ramsey and French in determining the validity of his pension claim.

Another instance in which family lore seems questionable as it relates to documented history is the source of the cattle. At that point in the war the Union Navy had in place a virtually impenetrable blockade of that part of the Gulf that would have made Confederates shipment of cattle from Texas in those waters as the lore alleges extremely difficult or impossible.

It is a matter of historical record that Florida then produced more cattle than any other state east of the Mississippi River whereas most of the beef the Confederacy needed to feed its armies initially came from Texas. But that ended in 1863 with the Union Army’s capture of Vicksburg giving them control of the Mississippi River and ability to block the Confederates from driving cattle overland from Texas.

The Confederacy then turned to Florida as its primary source of beef. Getting it to the armies most in need of it however, in Northern Virginia and Tennessee, who bore the brunt of the conflict against the Union, met with many difficulties. Those representing the greatest threats to the drives were marauding Confederate deserters and Union Army raiding parties.

To protect the drives against those threats, the Confederacy created what became known as the “Cow Cavalry.” Officially organized in 1863 by Captain John T. Lesley, as Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Florida Special Cavalry, in Hillsborough County, it mustered about 900 men.<sup>1</sup>

Its job was to counter Federal efforts to disrupt the flow of beef to Confederate armies further north. The cattle consisted of the hardy scrub variety common throughout the State including Walton County, where the William Cawthon family sold many hundreds of head to the Confederacy. By far the largest number came from central and south Florida and was where the cow cavalry mostly

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<sup>1</sup> Florida’s “Cow Cavalry,” <https://emergingcivilwar.com/2018/01/04/floridas-cow-cavalry/> Accessed 2-13-2020.

operated. Florida's goal of driving 3,000 head a week north to Confederate troops largely succeeded due to the efforts of the cavalry's cowboy soldiers. As the herds passed through populated areas such as Tallahassee, local cavalry units were detailed to help them out. That was probably the extent of Angus L.'s participation in driving cattle as his unit, Co. G, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg., Florida Cav. was not officially a part of the cow cavalry.

After the war, Angus continued farming for a living. He also served three two-year terms as a County Commissioner, from 1899 to 1904. He died on 14 February 1907 in Walton County and was buried at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Cemetery (FGID, 57834705).

It was written that "Another name for Angus was Angus McLane Anderson." It was further written as follows:

Angus McLane Anderson dropped the "Mc" because, as chairman of the Board of County Commissions, his signature was required on every check and document. He got tired of writing the "Mc L." and dropped it. So, we go from Angus McLane to Angus Lane to Angus L. – I would assume from his maternal grandfather.

In researching the records for this article, including census records, Civil War records, and Angus' Civil War pension application, none of them showed his middle name as McLane or middle initial as M. In every instance when a middle initial was included, it was "L." without exception. Even his Civil War service records gave it as "L.," when the middle initial appeared and those records were created when he was in his early 20s decades before he served as County Commissioner. Unless the middle name "McLane" appeared in some record such as a Bible which was not available for this research, no documentation was found showing he ever went by that middle name. Perhaps this was simply another example of an inconsistency between family lore and documented history.

### Epilog:

Jeanette Anderson McDonald recounted the story of a young black man getting off the train in DeFuniak Springs and searching for Angus Anderson. He found a relative and said that he was the grandson of Hannah who was with the Angus L. Anderson family in Walton County. Hannah was still living at the time and residing in a northern state. The young man said Hannah told him they were 'family'. That happened in the 1920s. Hannah's husband is believed to have been Mose, who returned to live with the family until his death. Preacher Dan had many stories about Mose.