



WALTON

RELATIONS & HISTORY

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Walton County Heritage Association

April 2021



WALTON COUNTY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

OFFICE LOCATION

Walton County Heritage Museum, (Old Train Depot)

Hours: Open Tuesday – Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Postal Address

**Walton County Heritage Association, Inc.
1140 Circle Drive, DeFuniak Springs, Florida 32435
Phone: 850-951-2127**

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Caroline Brown (Acting)

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Cover Design: Sam Carnley

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. *Henderson-Mathis 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 Floralia 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.]

The Walton County Heritage Association, Inc. is a 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.

Individual Membership Application <http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/Membership2020.pdf>
[Click here](#) for the Corporate Membership Application

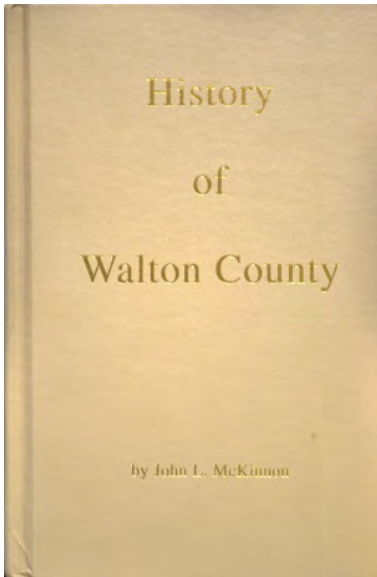
Member Benefits:

- 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.

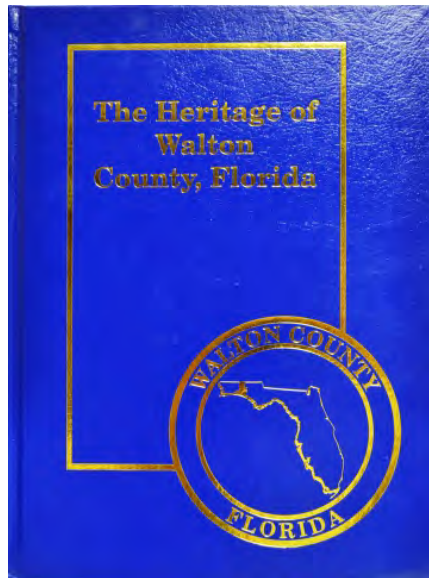
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From the Museum Gift Shop

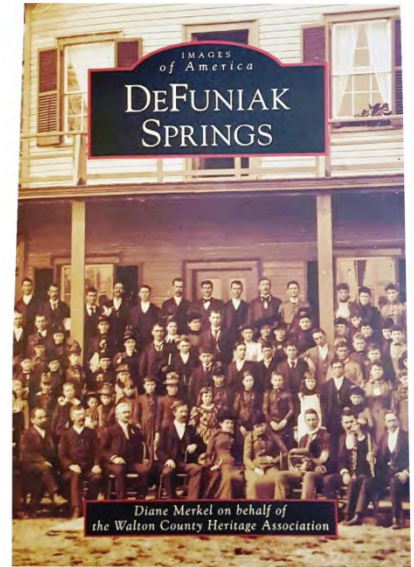
Our most popular books



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.
\$21.99 plus tax and shipping.

BOOK MAIL ORDER FORM

Walton County Heritage Association
1140 Circle Drive
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

Customer Name: _____
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Ph./Email: _____

Quantity	Description	Item Code	Price Each*	Amount
	The Heritage of Walton County, Florida	B13	71.13	
	Images of America, DeFuniak Springs.	B06	31.53	

*Price includes tax at 7% and shipping of \$8.00 per item.

Total _____

Sorry, credit cards not accepted. Please send check or money orders only. Do not mail cash. Please allow two weeks for delivery.

Emeline Soule Rose (1842 – 1892)

Mother of longtime DeFuniak Springs resident Ruby Rose Rogers

Submitted by
M. Rose Rogers

Edited for the newsletter by
Sam Carnley

Emeline was born May 19, 1842 in New Orleans. She was one of three daughters (others were Susie and Emma) of Henry Sahl of Hamburg, Germany, and Charlotte **Christina Jansen of New Orleans. Henry's occupation is listed in Ruby's memoir and New Orleans census records as "seagoing pilot."** **Emeline Soule (the name as spelled on her marriage certificate)** was married March 20, 1871 to my great grandfather, Rufus Edwards **Rose at St. Anna's Chapel (Episcopal), New Orleans.** Rufus was a Civil War veteran of the Federal Army and was a college-educated chemist who worked for New Orleans companies including the Louisiana Reclamation Company.

Early in marriage, Rufus and Emeline had four children who died either at birth, in infancy or in early childhood. Their fifth child, who grew to adulthood, was their daughter Ruby Edwards Rose, who was born in New Orleans, July 12, 1878. Emeline moved with Rufus and Ruby to Florida in 1881 and Rufus managed drainage projects and a sugar cane plantation in St. Cloud, in a partnership with developer Hamilton Disston.

Ruby's memoir includes notes about a happy childhood on the St. Cloud plantation with her mother and father. Ruby recalled days of swimming, climbing trees, riding a mule and picking a peach for Emeline's birthday. "I was undoubtedly a badly spoiled youngster," Ruby recalls of her relations with her parents. "I also imagine that my tomboyishness was a trial to my mother, who spent hours making dainty dresses, etc., which I feel sure I did not appreciate!"



Figure 1. Portrait of Emeline Soule Rose,
(1842-1892)

Photo courtesy of M. Rose Rogers, Great
granddaughter.

When old enough for high school, Ruby was sent to live with relatives in the growing town of Kissimmee six miles away, and would come home often on weekends. Among her keepsakes, Ruby saved a letter from Emeline containing a hand-written favorite verse:

*“To my darling Ruby,
True happiness is not a plant of earth;
The search is fruitless, if you seek it here.
It is an exotic of celestial birth,
And never blooms but in celestial air,
It rises oft and buds, but never was seen
To blossom quite, the climate is too cold.
Your loving Mama, Kissimmee, **March 7th, 1892”***

Nine months later, Emeline died on Dec. 29, 1892 in Kissimmee. The cause of death was given **as Bright’s disease, a kidney ailment** which she had battled for several years. Ruby was 14 at the time **of her mother’s death.**

Ruby continued school and graduated from Osceola High School as Valedictorian in 1894. **Ruby’s father, Rufus, subsequently remarried, to Mary Ann Morgan,** and continued his role as a founding father of Kissimmee and his career as Florida State Chemist.

After high school, Ruby became a teacher and married fellow teacher Henry Jewett Rogers of DeFuniak Springs, beginning their long involvement with the town as teachers and business owners of Beach Rogers Lumber Company.

Ruby died in Richmond, Virginia where she was living near her son, Alfred Rogers on Oct. 17, 1964. She is buried in Magnolia Cemetery, DeFuniak Springs.

Notes:

This account relies on Ruby’s memoirs contained in her scrapbooks, old family letters, and on family history compiled by one of her sons, Lewis Rogers. Her son David Rogers and wife Connie lived in DeFuniak for 20 years during retirement and their daughter M. Rose Rogers (named after her Great Grandmother) is a 4th generation property owner in Walton County. Ruby had two other sons Alfred and Nathan. Rose remains a family name to this day.

The phrase “Happiness is an exotic of celestial birth” is attributed to Irish-born playwright Richard Brinsley Sheridan (1751-1816).

About the portrait:

The portrait is in an ornate wooden frame measuring 25” X 32’. The paper containing the portrait was replaced with a new matte border and some discolored places **retouched by Lewis Rogers’** son, James Rogers of Detroit, Michigan in 1921.

The charcoal portrait of Emeline was made in 1889 and is signed by Ada A. Brewster who was a portrait artist who traveled the East Coast, including Florida, with some connections to Kissimmee around the time Emeline lived there. Ada painted many charcoal portraits and landscapes, as well as water colors. Ada Brewster was fairly notable in her own right with an interesting background that included being a nurse during the Civil War.

Submitted by,

M. Rose Rogers

Great Granddaughter of Emeline Soule Rose

April 2021