



WALTON

RELATIONS & HISTORY

Volume 13, Issue 4

Walton County Heritage Association

February 2022



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

Website: <http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/#>

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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. *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 varying amounts for donors as shown on attached Annual Donor/Member Application for 2022. Donor logos are also shown on the attached Donor page in the monthly newsletter.

Annual Member/Sponsor Application 2022; See attached.

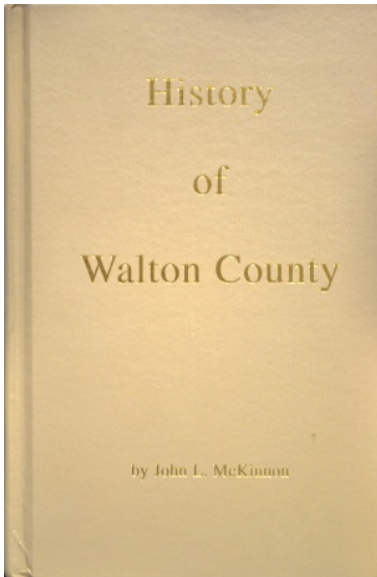
Member Benefits:

- 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.

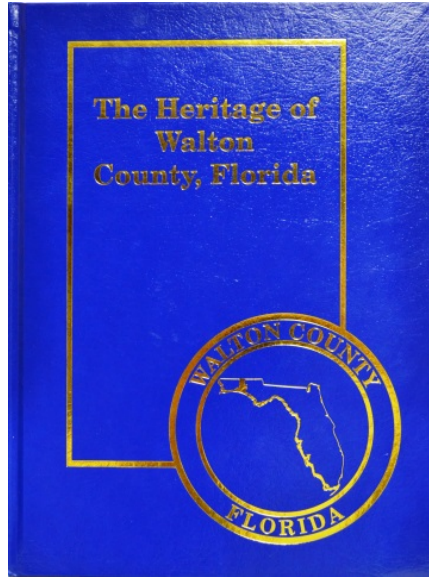
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From the Museum Gift Shop

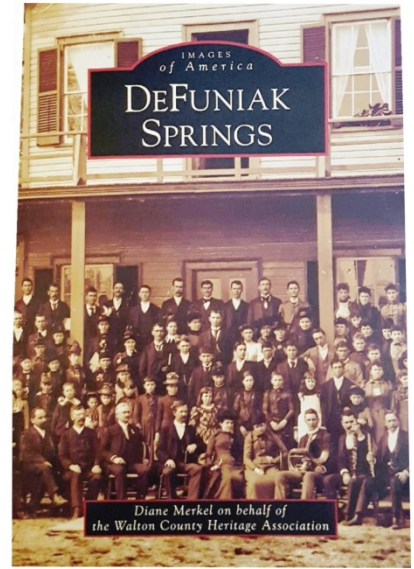
Our most popular books



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: _____
Address: _____
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.



Walton County Heritage Association, Inc.

1140 Circle Drive, DeFuniak Springs, Florida, 32435, Ph. 850-951-2117

Website: <http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org>

Email: HeritageMuseum@bighthouse.com

ANNUAL MEMBER/SPONSOR APPLICATION 2022

Name:

Individual/Family _____

Sponsor/Business/Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Member/Sponsor Category:

Individual \$25.00, Family \$40.00, Sponsor \$100.00, Silver Sponsor \$500.00, Gold Sponsor \$1,000.00, Platinum Sponsor \$2,000.00, Additional Gift \$ _____ * Total Enclosed \$ _____ *Gift earmarked for: _____

Our Mission

The Walton County Heritage Association is a nonprofit organization that was organized for four main purposes:

1. To promote the preservation and restoration of buildings and other landmarks of historical interest within Walton County;
2. 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;
3. To foster and enhance the development, education, and sense of history which is unique to Walton County; and
4. To secure cooperation and unity of action between individual citizens, businesses, and other groups as may be necessary to fulfill these purposes.

* Additional gift of over \$2,000.00 (any amount in excess of that number) would be greatly appreciated. You may earmark this gift for a specific expense/purchase of gift items for our museum.

- All donor categories are entitled to membership in the museum and Genealogy Society and 10% discount on museum gift shop purchases.
- For all levels of Sponsorship, the Walton County Heritage Association, Inc. will acknowledge sponsors on our website, in our newsletter and on a permanent plaque in the Museum. Sponsorships are on an annual basis from January to December. This is an acknowledgement of your gift only and does NOT constitute advertisement or the promotion of any individual, business or organization by the WCHA.

Please mail your check and this form to:
WALTON COUNTY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION, INC. 1140 Circle Drive, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435.
THANK YOU!!!

The Walton County Heritage Association, Inc., is a 501(C)(3) charitable organization as defined by the IRS Code. Gifts may be tax deductible as defined by the Federal Income Tax Regulations. To request a receipt for your tax-deductible membership in the WCHA, or donation, please contact us.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REF: WALTON COUNTY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION, INC., DTN3054584, CH52108.

OUR SPONSORS for 2022

We dedicate this page to our sponsors in recognition of their generous support of our mission.

SPONSORS (\$100-\$499.00)

David Blutworth (\$260.00)

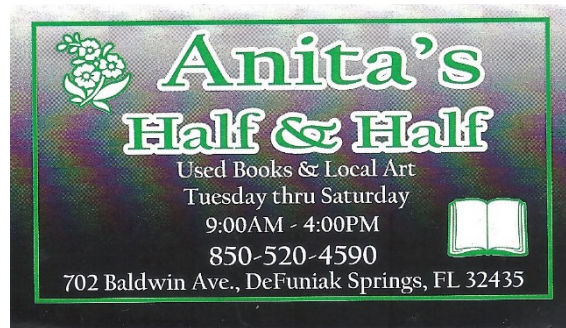
DFS Landmarks, Inc. (\$100.00)

Merrifield & Pilcher Realty (\$100.00)

SILVER SPONSORS (\$500 to \$999.00)

(None at present time)

GOLD SPONSORS (\$1,000 to \$1,999)



Anita's Half & Half (\$1,000.00)

PLATINUM SPONSORS (\$2,000 and up)

City of DeFuniak Springs



In the past the city has generously supported us with cash donations of \$2,000.00 annually, but due to changing budget priorities, was unable to do so in 2022. We wish to recognize the city's generosity however, for its in-kind donation of the RR depot which serves as the Walton County Heritage Association, Inc., Museum and administrative facility. The city provides maintenance and upkeep on the facility, and payment of electrical, water and waste disposal services as well. The value of this facility to us is far in excess of \$2,000.00 annually, for which we are deeply appreciative. Thank you, City of DeFuniak Springs.

CUPEDINE

A Walton County Family Story

By
Terry Edge

Edited by
Sam Carnley

While searching “The Heritage of Walton County, Florida,” for a possible WCHA newsletter story, I came across the unusual name “Cupedine.” I had never heard the name before and in researching its meaning I learned it is a version of Cupedo, Latin for delicacy; desire. Another version is Cupedinis. Presumably, it gave rise to Cupid, familiar to us all as the chubby little winged angel wielding the bow and arrow who symbolizes love.

The story is found on pages 156-157 of the Heritage book and is also included in the biography accompanying the Find A Grave memorial (ID # 16723221) of Cupedine Nowling Edge (1921-1972) by Terry Edge, her son. He identifies himself as author of her bio. The story in the Heritage book is by his brother, Larry Edge (1950-2011). Both versions are about the same. The interesting and heart-warming story is presented in its entirety below:

My earliest memories are of my mother. I remember how safe and warm and loved I felt when she held me. I remember getting up in the mornings and running to stand by the fireplace to get dressed; she always had a fire going on cold mornings and would warm the bed sheets with a bed-warmer on cold nights.

I remember going with her to milk the cow and helping her churn butter. I know I wasn't much help but she made me feel like it wouldn't have gotten done without me. I would go with her to pick cotton and end up sitting on the end of her cotton sack getting a ride as she picked the cotton.

She raised us to go to church and believe in God, though in later years she stopped going to church herself. When I was a boy, I used to fall asleep on the hardwood pews listening to her singing Amazing Grace and the Old Rugged Cross.

Mom would tell us stories of when she was growing up. It seems that her mother died while she was just a girl of 5 or 6 years of age. Her father couldn't care for her and her two brothers and sister so he left them with his parents, Ezekiel and Emma Nowling in DeFuniak Springs, Fla. Zeke and Emma had already raised a dozen children of their own and were pretty advanced in age but they took the four in. Emma was bedridden and



Cupedine Nowling Edge, Photo posted to Find A Grave Memorial by Terry Edge.

so the duties of family cook fell to Cupedine as the oldest girl. She said that she had to stand on a stool to reach the top of the woodstove.

Her grandmother would direct her efforts from bed and that is how Mom learned to cook. If things were not done to Ezekiel's satisfaction a whipping with a piece of kindling wood was soon to follow. She loved her grandparents and would take us to visit as often as possible. It was always a treat as Zeke ran a small store from his home and had candy for us whenever we came.

My mother married my father in 1939. She said that her father came home one day and told her, his friend Oscar Edge needed a wife and she would go with him to be married. I guess that that was the way things were done in the backwoods of Florida in those days.

Cupedine helped to raise Oscar's children from his first marriage while giving him five sons of her own. This was also done while following him to the lumber camps he worked in all over the panhandle. It was in the lumber camps that she learned how to cook for large groups of people, as she became the camp cook. She told of a Negro lady who helped her prepare the meals and how much she learned from her.

She also told me what happened when a man came to the Cookhouse while all of the workmen were out. When he tried to get fresh, that old black lady took after him with a butcher knife. Nobody was going to mess with those two ladies! He must have learned his lesson -- he never came by again. If she had told Oscar the man would have been in big trouble.

During hunting season every year men from all over the state would come to go hunting with my father and his sons as they were some of the best hunters around. I can still see the kitchen full of men waiting for some of Miss Cupedine's homemade biscuits with breakfast before they left to go hunting. These men would always bring something for Miss Cupedine to cook for breakfast or lunch for them. My father would say he didn't know if they came to go hunting or to eat Cupedine's cooking.

It seemed that we always had extra people around the house, our friends were always spending the night. My mother was mother to everyone who came to our home. She was the best cook around and someone was always staying for supper or coming early for breakfast. She fixed fried chicken to die for and her banana pudding would melt in your mouth. Chicken and dumplings, blackberry or blueberry cobbler, salmon patties, blackeye peas. Fried green tomatoes, redeye gravy; you name it, she cooked it, better than anyone.

It wasn't just the food that people loved about Cupedine, it was how she cared for everyone she met. She loved people and trusted them. She never met a stranger and would reach out to people and try to help them even when she was the one who really needed help.

After our father died mother remarried two more times. It seems that she had a thing for musicians as our father played the fiddle and called square dances. Mom's second husband also played the fiddle in a band and her third husband played guitar and sang (At one time he sang on a radio gospel program). She loved to square dance and we went every Friday and Saturday night when there was one around.

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think of her and how much she loved us. As my children have grown, I have thought much of how proud Mom would be of them. When my sons reached their teen years and girls started calling for them, I remember her saying "you Edge boys aren't much to look

at, but you sure do clean up well!" She also would tell us, "If you do as good as you look, you'll do all right."

Cupedine believed in discipline but you really had to push her to get her to send you for a switch. The whole time she was swinging that switch she would be telling you that she didn't like doing it and that you should have listened when she told you to stop the first time. The surest way to get a switching was fighting and as brothers who didn't always get along, we received a few for this infraction. Mom would tell us, "Brothers shouldn't fight!"

You were never too old to be disciplined by Mom. After Mayo was married, he talked back to Mom and received a hand across the mouth for it. Then there was the time my half-brother, Vernon's wife, said some things to Mom that she shouldn't have. Mom took her over her knee and taught her some manners.

When Vernon started to interfere our father told him to sit still as she was getting what she asked for! I was teasing Mom one day and she told me I had better go on and leave her alone. Of course, being young and foolish I didn't listen. Well, the next thing I knew I received her spit cup in my face from across the room! I also got to clean up the mess. Needless to say, my brothers and my wife thought this was the funniest thing they had seen in a while.

Mom did the best she could for us after our father died of a prolonged battle with cancer. Due to the medical bills, she lost the farm and we moved to town. Things were never the same again. We moved around a lot and didn't have much but Mom kept us together as a family. Though we were poor in the things of this world, we were the richest kids around when it came to a mother's love. I could write from now till eternity and use every word in every language and never finish describing the love our mother had for us.

The following family members are listed for Cupedine on the Find A Grave memorial page:

Her parents were Harley Nowling and Sally Kidd. She had the following siblings: Willie F. Nowling (1921-1971), Edward Wesley Nowling (1926-2001), Ethelene Nowling Strickland (1929-2011), Earl Nowling (1935-1989) and Zack Nowling (1938-2000).

Her 3 spouses were Oscar Edge (1894-1959); Boss Jackson (1917-1980) and Alphus Rudolph Hawthorne (1920-1991). Her five biological children included: Mayo Edge (1941-1982), Marvin McArthur Edge (1943-1943), Jerry N. Edge (1945-2016), Larry Wayne Edge (1950-2011) and Obediah L. Edge (1951-1976).

Her grave is in Old Bethel Cemetery, Crestview, Okaloosa County, Florida.