



WALTON RELATIONS & HISTORY

Volume 8, Issue 10

Walton County Heritage Association

October 2017

WCHA Membership

By Sam Carnley

The Walton County Heritage Association is now accepting 2018 membership dues for returning members as well as those that are new. Our mission is to promote and encourage interest in many aspects of the County's history and its families. Benefits of membership include free enrollment in the Walton County Genealogy Society and access to resource materials in our genealogy section when the museum is open; discounts in our gift shop on a variety of books, special publications and other items of historical interest; invitations to regularly scheduled member meetings and discounts on special events; the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors and various committees; participation in museum operations by serving as docent; free issues of this newsletter and the opportunity to mix and mingle with like-minded history and genealogy enthusiasts.

Annual dues are \$25.00 for single, \$40.00 for family and \$100.00 for corporate memberships. We are a 501(c)(3) Federally recognized not-for-profit Florida corporation and donations are tax deductible. Applications are available on line by clicking the Walton County Heritage dot Org link in the box at right.

Membership is on a calendar year basis. Members paying in November and December are covered for those months as well the next calendar year.

Upcoming Reunions

Reunions traditionally held in November and December are rare and we have none listed for those months. For a complete listing of other months see the Reunions page at the following link:

<http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/genealogy.htm>

This Month's Newsletter Article

By Sam Carnley

This month's newsletter article is a compilation of selected genealogy query and response submissions found on the "Walton County History Detectives" website independently owned and managed by Diane Merkel, a long-time member of the Walton County Heritage Association. The History Detective website is linked to the WCHA website as a courtesy to WCHA members and others seeking and providing genealogical information. A practicing genealogist herself, Diane has dedicated her time and efforts for many years to helping others find answers to their genealogy questions. Thank you Diane, for your tireless and selfless work in service to others. Here is the link to the History Detectives website:

<http://historydetectives.proboards.com/>

Walton County Heritage Museum

Open Tuesday – Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM
1140 Circle Drive, De Funiak Springs, FL 32435
850-951-2127

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

Walton County History Detectives

Selected Genealogy Query Submissions and Responses

Diane Merkel, History Detectives Administrator

Article by Sam Carnley

Post by Kathy on Jun 19, 2009 at 11:34am
Looking for information on the Knight Family.
Charlie Hubbard Knight.
Cannon,Cobb,Barnett,Barnhill families.

Any info greatly appreciated!
Thank You, Kathy

Post by Diane Merkel on Aug 2, 2009 at 9:54pm
Kathy sent some additional information that may help solve some of her family mysteries. The following is a transcript of a letter by Jessie Turner, mentioning Charlie Hubbard Knight and Cannontown:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I, Jesse C. Turner, am 65 years old, born in Walton County, Florida December 31, 1894. I am a descendant of two of the first families that settled in Walton county. Elijah Ward on my Mothers side settled here in 1821 and Z.N.P.(Zaph) Turner on my Fathers side settled here in 1841.

In the fall of 1934 my work carried me into the community known as Cannontown, a few miles north of Baker in Okaloosa County, Fla. Where Jack Cannon operated a Country Cross-Road store. Jack always called me "Cousin" as a joke, due to the fact that my Grandmothers brother, Andrew Ward, son of Elijah Ward, married Jack's Aunt, Malissa Cannon.

There was a man in the store holding a small baby in his arms. Jack introduced me as his cousin, to the man, Charlie Hubbard Knight who styled him self as an Indian Doctor and showed me his little Boy baby in his arms. After telling how Jack and I were near- kin folks, I said that Andrew Ward's father, Elijah Ward was the son on an Indian Woman named Nancy Knight who married John Ward. - Charlie Hubbard Knight asked me a few questions about my family and then said, "my Grand Father was Jackson Knight a younger brother of your Great Grand Mother Nancy Knight the wife of John Ward and mother of Elijah Ward."

At the time I did not think anything about the family history but since have become interested and have found through the family of Andrew Jackson Knight that he was a Creek Indian and had a sister named Nancy Knight who married a John Ward.

Charlie Hubbard Knight lived next house to Cannon Store and had a daughter named Katie Knight who married Will Cannon the brother of Jack Cannon. (signed)

(signed Perloca Linton) Jesse C. Turner

Notary Public
June 1, 1959

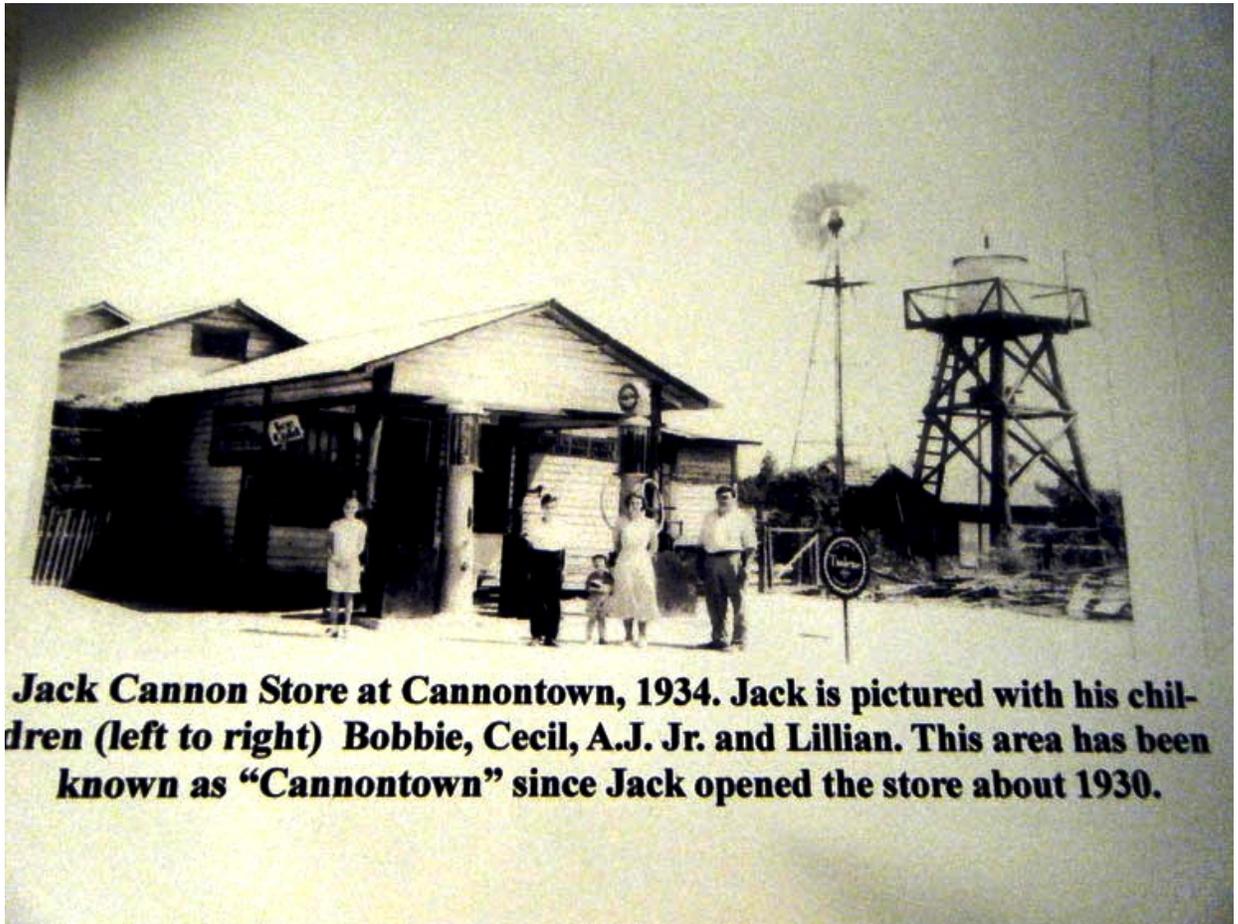
Below is the census record, showing C. H. Knight as an "herbalist." Kathy wrote:

My Grandfather had his first child in 1901. Her name was Katie Knight and, when she grew up, she married Will Cannon (Katie Cannon) which is the family in "Cannontown." Where I am sure the name came from. . . . So this puts my Grandfather living there in approx 1901 and then back there again in 1935.

My Mother is listed also in the census in 1935. Charlie Hubbard Knight had married a Sebie Buntin in 1901 and had 4 children, Then in 1924, he married my Grandmother Myra Harris and had 8 more children. Myra is listed with him in the 1935 Okaloosa census. . . . Also in the census records you will see the name Cobb listed living next to the Knight family. I believe that they are also somehow possibly related to the Knight family. Many years later my Grandfather moved , traveled down to South Bay Florida. Some of the members of the Cobb family also moved to South Bay Florida. My Grandfather died [1949] at the home of Walter Cobb, who was originally from Okaloosa. I have confirmed this by actually speaking with Mr. Cobb's Jr, age 80's+. He remembered my Grandfather from South Bay and shared his memories of him and how is family all lived in Okaloosa., which brings in the Barnhill name. . . . Mr. Cobb's Sr. Wife, Mrs. Cobb's maiden name was Barnhill, also from that area.

POPULATION CENSUS 1935									
NAME	ADDRESS	SEX	AGE	RACE	RELATION TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF BIRTH	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY
Wilsons Albert	Baker 7th	male	36	white	son	ala			Rent Farmer
Langston Lema	"	"	45	"	daughter	"			5
Wildrease Frank	"	"	44	"	husb	ala			own Farmer
" Ruby	"	"	37	"	wife	Fla			6
" William	"	"	8	"	son	"			3
" Alice	"	"	6	"	son	"			0
" Alice	"	"	2	"	"	"			0
Barnhill J. G.	"	"	70	"	head	Fla			own Farmer
" Susan	"	"	68	"	wife	ala			own "
" Henry	"	"	33	"	son	Fla			5
Wilkie Cynthia	"	"	46	"	mother	ala			5
" Willie Mae	"	"	16	"	daughter	"			2
" Jessie	"	"	14	"	daughter	"			2
" Walter	"	"	6	"	son	"			0
Rosa Dannelly	"	"	26	"	husb	ala			4
" Wendell	"	"	24	"	wife	"			4
" J. D.	"	"	4	"	son	"			0
" Marguerite	"	"	1	"	d	"			0
Barnhill Charles	"	"	28	"	hus	Fla			6
" John	"	"	19	"	wife	ala			6
" Clara Jeanie	"	"	2	"	"	Fla			0
" Steve Edward	"	"	0	"	son	"			0
" Ella Barnhill	"	"	24	"	hus	Fla			4
" Maggie	"	"	32	"	wife	"			4
" James Earl	"	"	5	"	son	"			0
" Rhoden, Maggie	"	"	31	"	wife	"			8
" Robert	"	"	24	"	hus	"			8
" Charles Eludat	"	"	1	"	son	"			0
" Rhodie, Robert Ed	"	"	21	"	hus	"			9
" Lucile	"	"	18	"	wife	"			10
" Floyd Donald	"	"	0	"	son	"			0
" Ramon, J. J.	"	"	47	"	husb	Fla			8
" Alice	"	"	27	"	wife	"			8
" Lillian	"	"	20	"	daughter	"			12
" Cecil	"	"	16	"	son	"			8
" Bobby	"	"	13	"	daughter	"			8
" Andy, Jr	"	"	3	"	son	"			0
" Knight, C. H.	"	"	64	"	hus	Fla			46
" Myra	"	"	27	"	wife	Fla			9
" Fred Earl	"	"	33	"	hus	ala			10
" Fred Mae	"	"	34	"	wife	ala			9
" Fred Ruby Nell	"	"	11	"	daughter	Fla			6
" Knight, Billie	"	"	19	"	daughter	Fla			3
" Babie	"	"	8	"	daughter	"			2
" Rudy	"	"	6	"	son	"			1
" Hubby	"	"	4	"	son	"			0
" Gertrude	"	"	1	"	"	Fla			0
" Compton Aubert	"	"	34	"	husb	ala			6
" Cook Horace	"	"	32	"	husb	Fla			8
" Minnie	"	"	30	"	wife	ala			8

Extend to white 28 ✓
29 ✓
30 ✓



Jan 1, 2010 at 11:32am

Post by bmoore on Jan 1, 2010 at 11:32am

I have also been researching the Knight family. Elijah Ward is my ggggrandfather. I found Nancy Elizabeth Knight from Eugala Creek Nation, Geneva Co. Al. Born- 21 June 1760 and Died Dec. 1851. Her Creek Name was Na-ho-ga or No-hem. I have been told her father was Andrew Jackson Knight and mother was Katie Martin recently, but have no proof. Barbara McClellan Moore- Texas.

Mar 28, 2012 at 6:06pm

Post by jaxjaguar on Mar 28, 2012 at 6:06pm

My Grandfather was Walter M. Cobb and Grandmother was Mattie Maude Barnhill Cobb. Both were originally from Okaloosa County, FL. He was born on 09/11/1890 and passed away on 01/02/1972. She was born on 11/29/1893 & passed away on 02/02/1984. He moved to south Florida in 1931, and brought the family down in the summer of 1932. My grandmother was pregnant at that time with my father (Buck Cobb) who was born on 09/14/1932 just south of South Bay, Florida. They later built a house that was 1 mile south of South Bay and was located right beside highway U.S. 27. I spent many, many, many days and nights at this house. And the bedroom where I always slept was where Dr. Knight passed away. I just recently told my wife about Dr. Knight. No one is alive now from the Cobb family (from the children of Walter and Mattie anyway) other than Walter M. Cobb, Jr, who lives in South Bay. He was pastor for many, many years of the Church of All Nations

and a missionary to several central America countries. He will be 84 on 7/24/2012. I have several Barnhill family members that are still in and around Crestview, Florida. One is Bill Barnhill. My grandmothers baby brother Hereford Barnhill, passed away in 2003, in Crestview. He was the last surviving member of my grandmothers siblings. My wife and I were privileged to visit him in the hospital the night before he passed away. The facial resemblance between him and my grandmother was astonishing. If anyone wants to get in touch with Bill Barnhill, or Walter Cobb, Jr, I can pass along their information.

Apr 3, 2012 at 11:53am

Post by loretta on Apr 3, 2012 at 11:53am

I "stumbled" upon your website and was flabbergasted to see a picture of my grandfather (Jack Cannon) with some of his children (including my mother Lillian Cannon). My mother Lillian married Lewey Thomas Powell and they had nine living children - I'm am third from the youngest. All siblings' first names start with an "L," my four children are named with an "L," and I have two grandchildren with Ls - so we have four generations of L names. My mother's sister Bobbie (also in the online picture) married a Barnhill but I can't recall his first name - they lived in Crestview for a good while - owned a liquor store - I think on highway 90

Apr 24, 2012 at 6:43pm

Post by holley on Apr 24, 2012 at 6:43pm

My name is Holley Diane Rhodes Hendrix. My mother, Lucille Mae Cannon, was Jack Cannon's daughter. She wasn't in the pic with the others in front of granddaddy's store. She married Edward Marshall Rhodes in Baker in a small one-room church, Pyron Chappel. The church is stil there. Mama & Daddy had 3 children - Lloyd Donald "Dusty" Rhodes, Sandra Gail Rhodes, and me. Dusty was actually born at home in Baker and lived in Baker for a long time; however, he has since moved across the FL/AL line. Aunt Bobbie (Cannon) did marry a Barnhill, and they called him "J.T" Barnhill. Loretta, who posted, is my first cousin. Thanks for sharing!

Dec 6, 2012 at 7:29am

Post by kathy on Dec 6, 2012 at 7:29am

Ref. jaxjaguar post, Mar. 28, 2012 at 1:06pm:

Hi, Just came across post/reply to the pictures I posted on my Grandfather Dr. Knight and Knight family. Please contact me. I would like to speak with you and exchange information. I have additional information also on families. Look so forward to hearing from you,
Kathy

Dec 6, 2012 at 7:32am

Post by kathy on Dec 6, 2012 at 7:32am

Ref. bmoore post, January 1, 2010 at 11:32am

Hi Barbara,

I would like to speak with you. Thank You, Kathy

Oct 28, 2007 at 4:22pm

Post by Diane Merkel on Oct 28, 2007 at 4:22pm

A lady is researching the Vaughan family that settled in the Euchee Valley around 1830, along with the Andersons and the Broxtons. She is a descendant of James Vaughan.

A couple of people contacted me who are related to the Vaughans, and another man wrote, "The old Vaughan

home was in Beach Grove."

Any other information will be appreciated.

Oct 29, 2007 at 11:08am

Information from a History Detective

Ref. Post by Diane Merkel on Oct 28, 2007 at 4:22pm

Eucheeanna Lodge No. 17 was chartered January 10, 1849. The Masonic Lodge had a David Vaughan serving as the Senior Warden during the year 1858. (Could that have been a son of the John Vaughan the woman was seeking information about?) Thomas G. Broxson--the spelling of the Lodge Rolls-- was listed as a member during 1858. No Andersons were listed for that year. However, the Grand Lodge of Florida might have records of additional years which might fill in earlier dates. Often families fail to consider that their relatives might have been Masons and they can add information about their relatives through a state Grand Lodge.

Jan 18, 2009 at 4:34pm

Post by contraryscotsman on Jan 18, 2009 at 4:34pm

Ref. Post by Diane Merkel on Oct 28, 2007 at 4:22pm

This quote about Vaughanville residents used on be on a Ron Jones webpage but the page is no longer active:

"According to My Recollection" - Composition dated May 10, 1938,

Dictated by Mary Isabell Baker Barker and written by her son-in-law C. B. Murdock:

"During the Indian wars that followed (ca 1837), the settlers suffered many hardships, always living in danger of being attacked by the Indians. Some time after the Indians were all driven out a party of the Vaughanville settlers who all owned cattle went on a roundup trip through a section of west Florida to get up cattle for market, but were warned before leaving by Grandfather Vaughn not to come back through Big Swamp, telling them that if there were any Indians left in the country they were in this swamp as it was a very dense forest and a good hiding place for hostile Indians. So on their way back to Vaughanville this party whose names were John McQuagge, John Anderson a brother-in-law of Mrs. Baker, Mike Vaughn her brother, a Mr. McCaskell and a Mr. McLeair decided they would attempt to come back through this big swamp since it was nearer and they did not find any Indian tracks but, to their surprise, they had not gone far before they heard the war whoop of Indians just as they had built a camp fire and began to prepare to lie down to sleep for the night. So in the bloody fight with the Indians that took place the whole party was killed except one, this being Mr. McQuagge. He somehow escaped and made his way back to Vaughanville and told what had happened. Mr. McQuagge was a cripple man, his toes all having been burned off in childhood, but in spite of this handicap he was able to escape."

And this from McKinnon's book "The History of Walton County":

"The whites killed near Gum Creek reportedly were scalped. Accounts differ as to how many whites were involved in the incident. According to available information, 'Big' John Anderson, Michael Elliot, Joseph Nelson, William Nelson, John Porter, and Michael Vaughan were killed, and Bill Caswell and Thomas Broxton survived. The White retaliatory expedition attacked the Indians on a small creek which emptied into Shoal River. The creek later was named "Battle Creek" because of this engagement.

Ibid., April 29, May 13, 1837; McKinnon, History of Walton County, 109-17."

Nov 10, 2010 at 4:47pm

Post by birddog on Nov 10, 2010 at 4:47pm

Ref. Post by Diane Merkel on Oct 28, 2007 at 4:22pm

Michael Vaughan Sr. settled in Alaqua in the 1820's . He was the first sheriff of Walton County . He lived in what today would be Blounts Creek area. He served during the same time Judge Henry Brackenridge was

presiding over the courts in Walton County . The jail and courthouse was on Brackenridges property and house in Alaqua .The first court in the county was held there in 1830 (I've got copy of court document). Henry Ramsay was the Clerk of Courts. The Vaughans and Hardy Woods are the first settlers noted on any documents I've found.They are both noted on survey plats from James Exum during the 1820's. The Vaughans later moved to Holmes County. You can locate most of the land deeds there.

Oct 28, 2007 at 4:25pm

Post by Diane Merkel on Oct 28, 2007 at 4:25pm

A woman researching her family wrote, "My relatives moved to Walton county about 1844 from Russell county, Alabama. I was wondering if you might have any information on Hiram and Lodusky Burgess or their children, Martha Jane Burgess McFadden, America Burgess Cook, Missouri Burgess Broxton, Joel Hiram Burgess or my great-great granddaddy Thomas C. Burgess. They moved to Holmes county sometime between 1860 & 1870. I would really appreciate any help you could give me."

Unfortunately, I have no information to pass to her. Please help her if you can by replying to this message.

Apr 22, 2010 at 9:01am

Post by Diane Merkel on Apr 22, 2010 at 9:01am

Another website visitor wrote:

I am using Ancestry.com and have found census records as well as some marriage records. I think that Missouri Broxson's husband George died in the civil war. I am interested in finding out more on this family. I think that the spelling has changed for Broxson to Broxton as the years have gone by.

Jun 10, 2010 at 9:32am

Post by Diane Merkel on Jun 10, 2010 at 9:32am

One of our "History Detectives" wrote:

I went to the Hardy Cemetery in Washington County not long ago to photograph some of my relatives' headstones and passed a Broxton cemetery (I believe that was the name of it) on River Road. The Washington, Holmes, Walton lines changed so much that I thought this might help your researcher. I note also that the book E W Carswell wrote called *Holmesteading* has some of those names in there as well.....including a Douglas and Jesse Burgess.

Oct 28, 2007 at 4:37pm

Post by Diane Merkel on Oct 28, 2007 at 4:37pm

A gentleman from Arkansas is trying to identify a school that is said to have operated from 1895 until 1947 and may have been in the vicinity of Bruce Creek. He has been told that the school was maintained by Indians for Indian students in the area. He would also appreciate information about any Indian "ceremonial grounds" around Bruce Creek that were used until the late 1920s.

I have received the following pieces of information:

- There was a school called Knox Academy I believe in what was called Knox Hill. A John Newton was teacher and I think his wife was Mary Esther. They moved to Camp Walton and the little place on 98

was named Mary Esther.

- The school was called “Poplar Head” but it was not an Indian school. It was for white children. The school was torn down and some of the lumber used to build a barn still standing just south of the School house. The old school house sat near where the sand pits are on McKinnon Bridge Road. There was a trail that went through the woods from the school house to Walton Bridge Road close to where “Little Cas Campbell’s” father, “Big Cas” had a saw & grist mill. The mill was called the McCollum Mill and had located on Panther Creek until the dam washed out and relocated. The mill was ran by Malachi Rushing until just before his death in 1932. Malachi was grandfather of John’s wife Bessie Mae Rushing Adkison. John said that the Indians had been drove out a good while before he returned Florida around the age of 12. Malachi’s mother was said to be a full-blooded Creek Indain. There are two family stories about Baron Dekalb Washington Rushing’s (Malachi’s father) wife, Sirena. When Baron Dekalb was a young boy hunting in the woods one day, he heard the cry of a child. The girl was about eleven years old and was thought to be Creek Indian. His parents raised her and called her Sirena. The other story is that Serena was a Creek Indian left with the Rushing family because the girl's parents were being marched to Oklahoma and did not think Serena would survive. Hence, they left her with Baron Dekalb's a family, who agreeably in Christian spirit raised and cared for her. One family history suggests she was born in Tallapoosa Town, Coosa, Co., AL. Tallapoosa Town (most likely a Creek Indian village) was a part of the Creek Indian Territory. Coosa Co. Family history suggests Serena was born circa 1828.

I knew of the Knox Hill school but the Poplar Head school was news to me. If you know more about either school, please reply to this message at <http://historydetectives.proboards.com/>

Jul 29, 2008 at 6:04pm

Post by Diane Merkel on Jul 29, 2008 at 6:04pm

A woman wrote, "I am trying to find a listing of Churches in Walton county that would have been in existance around 1825. I have been to the Walton County Gen Web page but the link for the list of churches on that page is no longer working. Any help would be appreciated."

Jan 18, 2009 at 4:24pm

Post by contraryscotsman on Jan 18, 2009 at 4:24pm

The only church in the county in 1825 was the Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church.
www.flgenhisonline.com/counties/walton/eucheevalleypres.rtf

The link above no longer works. I believe this is the same or a similar article:

www.fl-genweb.org/how/walton/eucheevalleypres.pdf

~ DM

Jan 18, 2009 at 5:19pm

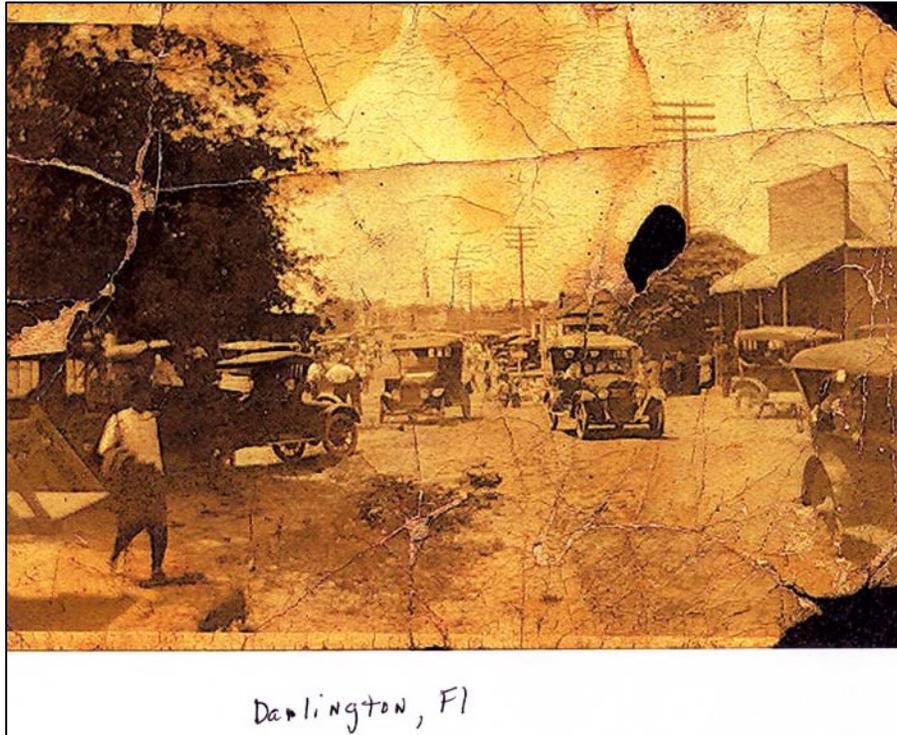
Post by contraryscotsman on Jan 18, 2009 at 5:19pm

In the book written by Elba Wilson Carswell entitled, Holmes Valley - a West Florida Cradle of Christianity, Mr. Carswell's gives the history of many of the oldest churches in western Florida.

Jan 24, 2009 at 6:54pm

Post by Diane Merkel on Jan 24, 2009 at 6:54pm

Judy Cadenhead, who inspired the start of the Walton County Genealogy Society, found the photograph below in the collection of the Baker Block Museum and is wondering if this is the Darlington in northern Walton County. She has no information about the photo other than the notation on it.



Feb 7, 2009 at 1:50pm

Post by Diane Merkel on Feb 7, 2009 at 1:50pm

Thanks to Sally Merrifield for getting us this answer:

This is our Darlington. It is either Moore's Store or Green's Store. There was a huge Turpentine Industry there until the early 40s. It disappeared and so did the business communities in Gaskin and Darlington.

Walton County Heritage Association Membership in
the Walton County Heritage Association includes Membership in
the Museum and Genealogy Society
2018

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM as we are updating our records

Membership Benefits:

The Museum Research Center:

Members get free copies of documents and use of the Genealogy Society computer when Museum is open to the public.

The Museum Gift Shop:

Members receive 10% discounts on books, special publications, postcards, photographs, CDs, DVD's Videos and Gift items.

Membership is on a calendar year basis. Those paying in November or December will be members during those months as well as the next calendar year.

Walton County Heritage Association annual dues: Single - \$25.00, Family - \$40

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State** _____

Zip: _____ **Phone** _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to the Walton County Heritage Association:

_____ \$ _____	Dues	Individual, Family	\$25.00	\$40.00
_____ \$ _____	Other Cash Donations	Total Enclosed \$	_____	

- I would like to volunteer at the Walton County Heritage Museum
- I have genealogy information I would like to share with the Genealogy Society
- I would like to talk with someone about how to get started researching my family tree
- I have artifacts or photographs I wish to donate or loan to the Museum

Please mail your check and this form to
Walton County Heritage Association
1140 Circle Drive
De Funiak Springs, FL 32435

Thank You!

All membership dues are tax deductible.

The Walton County Heritage Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization as defined by the Internal Revenue 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 please contact us.