

HANCOCK FAMILY

[we are indebted to our cousin, Ms. Blanche Turlington Hancock, for providing much of the information on this family page. She has spent 35 years researching the Hancocks, and has published her findings in a 2008 book: *HANCOCK: COW-PENS AND PLANTATIONS: Backtracking a Southern Hancock Family*]

The Early Family

The first male in our Hancock family whom we have been able to identify is Robert Hancock, who was born in Virginia about 1735. He was the son of an unknown Hancock and Ann Mitchuson Newton (1712- aft. 1750), daughter of John and Constance Mitchuson of Prince Georges Co., Maryland. Ann second married the unknown Hancock in about 1732 and had four children by him. By 1747, she was deserted by her abusive husband and fled south to Fairfield Co., SC, where she joined her younger brother, William Mitchuson. In December 1748, William petitioned the South Carolina Crown Council to formally deed 300 acres of land over to her, in trust, in the name of her son James Newton and his Hancock step-siblings. This land tract was in Fairfield County, near to William Mitchuson's on the Broad River very near present day Strother, SC. I visited Strother in August 2005 and unknowingly was able to stand right on the land of my great-great-great-great-great-great grandmother.

Robert Hancock (1735 - 1799)

Robert Hancock (1735-1799) was a Captain in the South Carolina Militia. In about 1770, he married Lucy Hutchison (ca. 1752-1824), and they had six children of whom my great-great-great-great grandfather, James Hancock was the last.

James Hancock (1789 - 1868)

James' father died in 1799, and James became entitled to his share of an inheritance in about 1808, at which time he purchased land about twenty miles northwest of Fairfield Co. on Wilson's Creek (now Clark's Creek) just east of the Broad River in Chester Co., SC. We have discovered that James' land (now in the Sumter National Forest) was apparently just 2-3 miles west of the plantation of a wealthy planter, William Scaife. In about 1814, James married Sarah Scaife (ca. 1800- ca. 1827). They had three children before 1818 when James decided to sell his South Carolina property and move to Alabama.

We are not yet certain where our Hancocks settled in Alabama, but Sarah and James had three more children there. Sarah died in about 1827, and, at about the same time, James moved his family back east to Fayette Co., Georgia, near Jonesboro, where a number of Sarah's siblings had settled. In about 1829, James remarried to Margaret Evans (ca. 1804 - aft. 1880), and they had six children. James eventually relocated to Fulton and then Cobb County, GA in 1855-1865.

Albert Garrison Hancock (ca. 1817 - ca. 1846)

Albert was born about 1817 in Chester Co., SC. In November 1837, he married Mary Bowden (1820-1911) [pictured to the right] of nearby Henry Co. Georgia. She is believed to have been the daughter of Jesse Bowden (1782-1835) and Sarah (Sally) Yarborough. Albert and Mary had three children of which my great-great grandmother, Sallie, was the second. Albert joined other Georgians and went off to fight for Texas Independence. He died fighting before 1847, probably before the formal Mexican War began. We have no record of how he was lost or where he is buried.



Sallie Scaife Hancock (1840 - 1916)



Sallie Scaife Hancock was born September 1840, in Henry County, Georgia and died in November 1916 in Henry County, Alabama. She married Hilliard Judge Askew on May 10, 1866, in Henry County, Alabama. Sallie and Hilliard had only two children: Minnie (1867-1924) and Albert Harris (1868-1934). Both Hilliard and Sallie Askew are buried in the Gordon Cemetery at Gordon, Alabama.