

THE THOMAS PHILLIPS FAMILY HISTORY

by

Mary Grant Phillips

(Mrs. G. Frank Phillips)

Dallas, Texas

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The progenitor of this Franklin County, GA family was Thomas Phillips who, when he appeared on this County's Tax rolls in 1810, owned 200 acres of land on Middle River. Also shown then is his son Cleverly who apparently owned no land but paid one pole tax.

This Thomas Phillips, Revolutionary Soldier, married Hannah Weathington in what is now Lenoir County, North Carolina in April 1785. The marriage was performed by Abraham Baker, a Baptist minister. Both her parents and Thomas'[sic] parents were "near neighbors" and she was well acquainted with the said Thomas Phillips.

Thomas Phillips was drafted as a Private from Lenoir County in the Spring of 1779 and for two six month tours. Later he enlisted and served until the War was over. He was severely wounded by receiving a musket shell in his arm and one in his side above the hip bone. He died in Franklin Co., GA 16 December 1814.

All of this was taken from the Revolutionary Pension application which Hannah Phillips made in Franklin County 1 December 1852 so that she might obtain the benefits provided for the widows of deceased Revolutionary Soldiers. At this time she was ninety years of age, still a resident of Franklin county[sic] and had never remarried,[sic] She listed her children and their birth dates as proof of her marriage to Thomas Phillips. The children:

1. **Cleverly Phillips** born 14 January 1786. He appears in the 1830 Census of Franklin Co, with a wife and children, but by the 1850 Census he is living in Murray Co., GA.
2. **Rachel** born 14 March 1788.
3. **Dennis** born 19 April 1791. More following.
4. **Zelpha** born 1784. She is apparently the "Zella" named in the Franklin Co. Census records as the wife Willis Scales
5. **Wiley** born 28 April 1797. Married Nancy Gober. Known children are Hannah, William C., Elizabeth B., Thomas C., Kizzy, Wilburne, Dennis W. ("Pegleg"), James C.C, Wiley Franklin, Nancy, John R..
6. **Dewrant** born March 1800.
7. **Rizza** born January 1803.

The above **Dennis Phillips** who was born 19 April 1791 in Lenoir Co., NC. married, according to family tradition, Mary Sewell. She is listed in the 1850 Census as being 56 years old. Dennis was dead before 8 August 1855 for on that date (Franklin Co., GA Deed Book AB, page 119) Mary Phillips, Russel Baker, T.A.T. Phillips, D.J. Phillips, H.W. Osborn, N.M.. Phillips, Asa A. Phillips, all heirs of Dennis Phillips, late of Franklin County, deceased, sell to Russel P. Bond, also one of the heirs, about 290 acres of land where Russel Baker was then living. Mary Phillips was still living in 1860 when she appeared on the Franklin Co. Census living alone and 65 years of age.

Children of Dennis Phillips and his wife Mary (polly[sic]):

1. **Thomas A. Tarpley Phillips** married Arminda Sewell 23 September 1840 with Rev. Nelson Osborn occiciating[sic]. Both T.A.T.. and Arminda are 40 years old in the 1860 Census. It is family tradition that T.A.T. is buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Royston in an unmarked grave.

2. **Dewrant (Durant) J. Phillips** was born about 1820, married Elizabeth (last name unknown), and had the following known children; Sarah E., Dennis N., James W., Mary L., John W., and Joel T.

3. **Nicholas Milton Phillips** married Charity Ann E. Osborn 14 October 1847. Known children: William C., James L.N., Wiley, Mary L.O., Doctor Bunyan, Jackson, Conjure, Benjamin, Morgan, and Talula M.

Nicholas Milton Phillips' will is dated 7 December 1871. He was deceased by 31 January 1872 because on that date his wife Charity Ann signed papers to execute the will. In his will he names his wife but does not give the names of the children. Both Nicholas and Charity Ann Phillips are buried in unmarked graves at Old Carroll's Methodist Church.

4. Harrison W. Osburn evidently married **Patsey Phillips** the daughter of Dennis Phillips. In a deed dated 1 July 1853 Dennis Phillips gave to his son in law 250 acres on North River in Franklin County on the road leading from Camesville and "where the said Osburn now lives". Their children, according to Census records, appear to be Mary E., Martha and William H. (twins), Vastine K., Robert T., and Araah.

5. Russel P. Bond, son in law of Dennis Phillips, evidently married **Elizabeth Phillips** since Elizabeth was named as his wife in the 1850 Census at which time she was 33 years old. Their children are given as Mary J, Eppy D., John B., and Doctor W. On 1 July 1853, Dennis Phillips gave his son in law, Russel P. Bond, 290 acres on the South side of North River where the said R. Bond then lived.

6. **Arcada Phillips**, probably the oldest child of Dennis and Mary Phillips, was born 14 October 1816 and dies 25 June 1906. She married Russell Baker (L[sic] Sept. 1812 — 16 October 1870) in Franklin Co., GA, and in 1864 they settled 5 miles west of Atlanta. Arcada died at their old home place in Fulton County and is buried at Westview in Atlanta, her grave being marked by a large tombstone. They raised a large family. Russell Baker, as one of the heirs, signed two deeds on 8 August 1855 when all of Dennis Phillips'[sic] heirs sold his property after Dennis'[sic] death.

7. **Asa Eldridge Allen Phillips** was married 11 December 1849 to Mary D.M. Osborn. The 1850 Census gives A.E.A. as being 25 years old and Mary 20, They evidently had three children: James Tolley Phillips (27 Nov. 1850 - 26 June 1929). Dennis Wilburn was born about 1852 and Mary Arminda E. Phillips was born about 1854. It is not known by the writer when Mary D.M. Osborn Phillips died, but in his will dated 1 August 1860 Asa E.A. Phillips names his wife Sarah E. Phillips "with whom I have lived 1 year and 5 months". Asa and Sarah had one child, a son WILLIAM Allen Phillips (26 May 1860 - 19 June 1938). He and his mother Sarah Phillips evidently moved to Athens, GA where both are buried. There William married and raised a family; one of the daughters married James Earnest Eidson in Athens. Asa E.A. Phillips is buried at Old Carroll's Methodist, as is probably his first wife Mary.

Children of ASA Eldridge Allen Phillips:

1. **James Tolley Phillips** married on 10 October 1869 Martha Elizabeth Higginbotham (24 June 1853 - 4 October 1899), daughter of Benjamin THOMAS Higginbotham and FRANCES Elizabeth Cook. Their children were:

a. **Benson T. Phillips** (13 July 1870 - October 1874).

b. **Mary Frances Phillips** (13 February 1872 — 12 February 1946). She married HENRY F. Phillips on 30 December 1890.

c. **Willie A. Phillips** (17 September 1873 - April 1876).

d. **Lula Elizabeth Phillips** (23 May 1875 - 15 February 1960). She married James Plummer McCall 4 October 1896.

e. **Anderson Quillian Phillips** (31 January 1878 - 25 May 1957). Married 26 December 1906 - Flora Ethel Lewis.

f. **James Rush Phillips** (22 January 1880 - 24 August 1948) married **FLORA ADAMS**, daughter of **James Dillard Adams** and **Ellen Catherine Ginn**, 30 November 1901. Flora Adams Phillips was born 15 April 1886 and died 17 August 1948. To them were born the following eight children: Uriel who married William Howard McGee; Allen Albert married Gracia Long; Catherine Elizabeth married Walter Elbridge Norris; Milton David married Lucile Winn; James Rush, Jr. married Lois Nelson Gregory; Martha Ellen married Leighton Deming; Guy Frank married Mary Virginia Grant; Charles Orville married Lillian Louise Campbell.

g. **Asie Marvin Phillips** (13 January 1882 - 1948). Married Rosie Gaines 8 December 1901.

h. **Dosier Tarpley Phillips** (11 July 1884 -). Married Margaret Ellen Hall 8 June 1905.

i. **Nancy R. Phillips**, born 4 January 1887. Married Bert Goodson 9 October 1904.

j. **Benjamin ("Bennie") F. Phillips** (23 December 1888 — 8 February 1924; married Ila Pruitte 28 July 1912.

k. **Samuel Jones Phillips** (23 June 1891 - 20 May 1957). Married RUTH H. PULLIAM 30 November 1913.

l. **David Gloer Phillips**, born 18 November 1893. Married Pauline Osborne Dean; on 26 December 1917. To them were born four children: Martha married Ray J. Boleman; Gloer who died in infancy; Nelson L. married J amenell Collins; Neal C. who married Peggy Hunt. After Pauline O. Dean Phillips died on 6

February 1944, David G. Phillips married again, first to Mrs. Dora Payne who died in 1958, and second to Marguerite Maddux on 18 February 1960.

n. **Claiborn K. Phillips** (6 December 1895 — 24 November 1965). Married Bertha Allen 15 November 1914,

Of the above thirteen children, eleven lived to become adults. From these eleven marriages came many children and grandchildren and even great grandchildren — many of whom still live in Franklin County or in the vicinity.

2. **Dennis Wilburn Phillips** (18 September 1852 - 1933) married Miss Laura E. Attaway 25 February 1872. She was born 15 January 1849 and died in 1897. To them were born the following children: Norman (29 May 1873 - 1954); Thomas Van (5 January 1875 — 1965); Lou E. (31 November 1878 — 1977); Daffalee P. (18 December 1881—1922); Chandler E. born 30 December 1885 and is still living and is in good health; Jim Veal (29 September 1886—1910); and Fred Phillips born 22 November 1892. After the death of his first wife, Dennis Wilburn married Effie DANIEL. They had no children.

3. **Mary Arminda E. Phillips** married William C. Heaton 24 January 1875. The writer has done no research on this line.

4. **William Allen Phillips** (26 May 1860 - 19 June 1938) was Asa E.A. Phillips' son by his second wife SARAH Elizabeth Hall (19 June 1837 - 14 March 1922). At some time after Asa E.A. Phillips' death, the widow Sarah E. evidently moved to Clarke Co., GA taking her infant son with her. The son William Allen Phillips married Isabelle White and to this union were born: Nevel Oscar Phillips who married Rosa Sorrells; Bessie Nancy Elizabeth Phillips; Rosa Lee Phillips married to James Ernest Eidson.; William Robert Phillips married Hilda Pryer; Miriam Ruth Phillips married Fredrick Nash. Both Sarah E. Phillips and William Allen Phillips are buried at Oconee Hills Cemetery in Athens, GA as are many others in their family.

The two oldest sons of Asa E. Allen Phillips, namely James Tolley Phillips and Dennis Wilburn Phillips, owned and operated farms slightly east of Royston, GA. Also in the early 1900's James Tolley Phillips was a Justice of the Peace. Both sons were active in both community and Church affairs. In 1877 when the First Methodist Church was established in Royston there were twenty charter members. The Phillips family was well represented by James Tolley Phillips and his wife Martha, Dennis W. Phillips and his wife Laura, William C. Heaton and his wife Mary Anninda, and Thomas A. Tarpley Phillips (exhorter) and his wife Arminda.

Originally found at the following link which no longer exists:

<http://www.theneelys.com/phillips/history.html>