

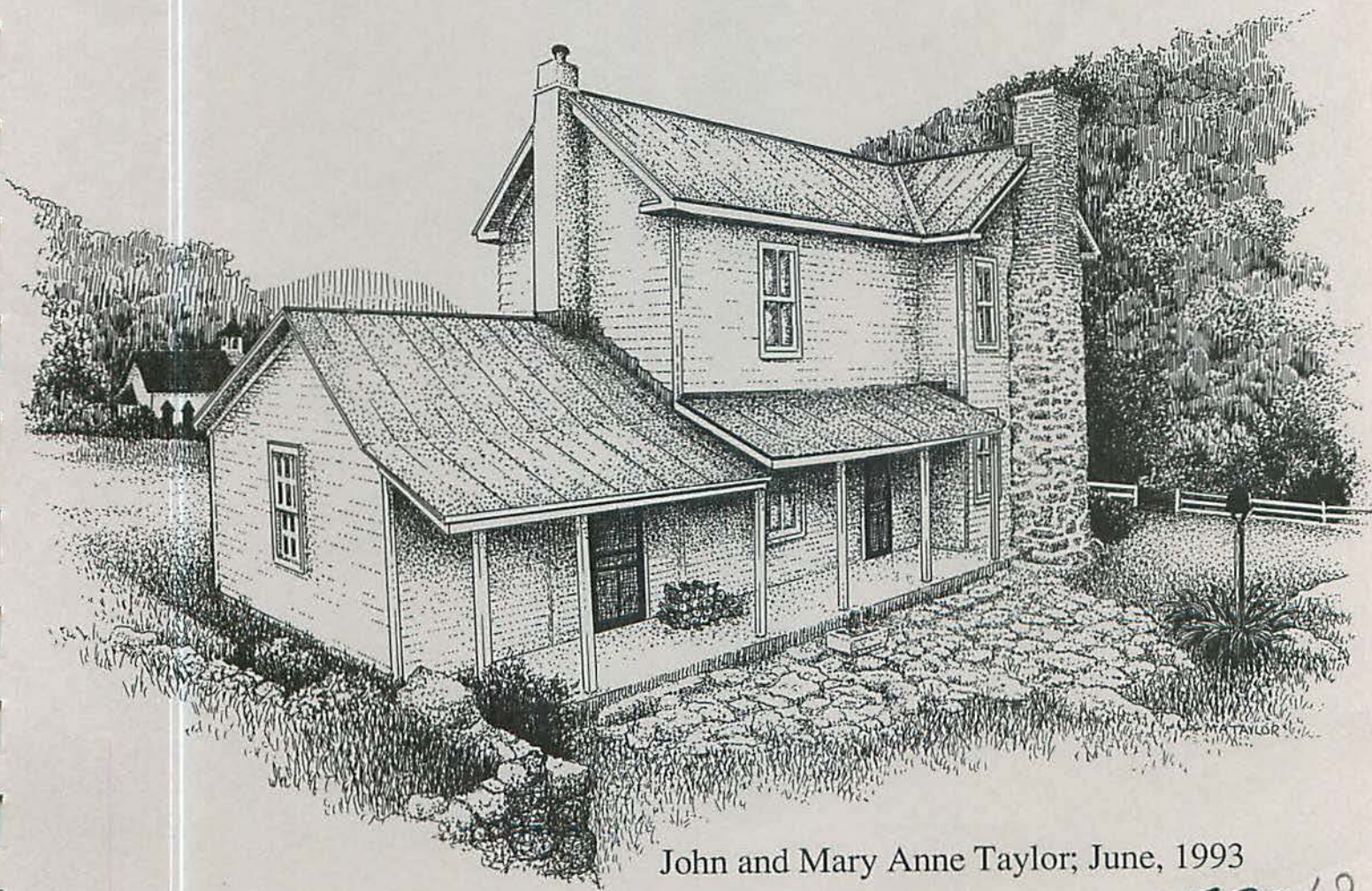


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## Coffey Family History and Genealogy

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# The Coffey Family Settlers of "Coffeytown"; Amherst County, Virginia



John and Mary Anne Taylor; June, 1993

CF. 3062

from John Taylor

Elsie Coffey's home  
Coffeytown VA 1978.



# Coffey Family History and Genealogy

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## The Coffey Family Settlers of "Coffeytown"; Amherst County, Virginia

First Edition; June, 1993  
John and Mary Anne Taylor



# Preface

We began a Coffey Family History to satisfy our curiosity about those who lie beneath the tombstones at the various family cemeteries in "Coffeytown", as they were the previous owners and farmers of our recently purchased small tract of mountainous land in a little area which still shows on the State map as "Alto", Virginia.

The basic structure of the Coffey family history presented in this booklet, which at this time is more a progress report than a finished work, was provided by Elsie and Tommy Coffey who still live in "Coffeytown". Others have helped elaborate on their particular branches of the family, and their names are mentioned throughout the charts. Each family history must begin with some "legend" and some truth, to be verified if possible, by reference to public documents. In Virginia, vital statistic information for the years since 1896 are not available to the general public at this time, so most of the descendant information must come from a living source willing to share. If your particular branch of the family is not fully delineated within the charts, it is only because no one in your branch has come forward with information to share. There is no intent to leave out any family member. Should you have corrections or additions, please send them to the address at the bottom of each page. Every effort will be made to include it in the next edition.

In order to keep this presentation of "Coffeytown" as objective as possible, we make little attempt to include those family legends which cannot be verified through public records, or which provide no furtherance of the basic history of the group as a whole. Old Cold Mountain Tales, written by Maryon Wood Harper, a descendant of Daniel Rufus Coffey, is well and sensitively written to convey much of this unique family legend. Although this delightful book is now out of print, there are copies in the possession of family members. It is recommended reading for anyone interested in Coffeytown history.

Research in the Virginia State Archives has been ongoing for about three years, during whatever time we are able to devote to this interesting family's history. Many records have been searched, and many remain unsearched. Most of our efforts have been aimed at those whose surnames are Coffey and therefore some of the womens' families may not be as complete as we would like. Census reports (1790 - 1910), birth and death records (1853 - 1896), marriage records, deeds, wills, military records - Revolutionary War, Civil War and others, Court records, and many secondary sources have been searched. Local cemeteries have been visited and information copied from the headstones of those we thought were important to the history of "Coffeytown" and the Coffey family. Surely we have missed many records and sources, as our goal is the overall picture and not a definitive study of each Coffey. We offer this booklet as a guideline for encouragement: for each branch of the family to elaborate, refute if necessary, or expand upon. None of this information is copywrite protected and you may feel free to copy and circulate any of it for genealogical or family history purposes. If this "First Edition" provides a catalyst to stir up more pride and interest in family history, it will have served its purpose.

Genealogy is the study of pedigree, a subject which is perhaps best suited for show dogs and race horses. Family history however, which encompasses genealogy, uses the family structure as a skeletal framework on which to hang an understanding of our ancestor's human relationships, achievements, and failures. Most of our ancestors were not the George Washingtons we may wish them to have been. Most Americans were poor, illiterate, and spent most of their lives trying to scratch a living out of the ground,

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*June, 1993*

casting a wary eye over one shoulder for the Indians, and over the other shoulder for their neighbors as they struggled to experience the joy of living. They were sometimes superstitious, violent, and stupid; but they were also religious, friendly, and brilliant in their time. In short, they were human beings. It is this reality which renders family history such an interesting and interpretative venture.

"Doing" family history is much like connecting the dots in a coloring book. Each new fact adds another dot to the blank pallet. These dots aren't numbered and we can't simply squint and get an overview. It takes a lot of work to dig out the family specific facts from general records. Sometimes the sequence of discovery of the "dots" influences how the overall picture may appear to the researcher, because the mind is always at work trying to draw pictures - and conclusions - from the available facts. Public records give us only a quick slice of life at some moment in history. Reality is extraordinarily complicated, and our 20th century minds have few of the perception molders and filters of the 18th and 19th centuries. Applying this century's "logic" to the actions of an ancestor - which is inevitable - often leads to surprises we didn't anticipate. The record won't show us what really happened, it only indicates that, at that particular moment in the past, our ancestors bumped up against someone who was keeping records. If the records are accurate, legible, and meaningful, we can feel fortunate, but we still have only a small slice of that life from which to draw our conclusions. Obviously the greater the number of "dots", the more accurate a picture we may draw. Even so, discovery of a single new, apparently unrelated fact, can have devastating consequences to the image we infer from the few facts we gather. This is one reason why family history is a continuing puzzle, evolving as new "dots" are discovered, each molding our overall mental picture of a particular individual in our past.

This booklet is only partially complete, and any conclusions reached herein may well be modified by additional research and more facts, as we continue to search for proof of the parents of Jordan Coffey. Accordingly, the first edition is divided into four major parts beyond the Introduction: "First American Coffeys", "Jordan Fitzgerald (Alias Coffey)", "The Coffey Family Settlers of Coffeytown", and "Descendant Families of the Original Coffey Settlers of Coffeytown". The bulk of this booklet is the family charts of the descendants, since there are so many of them. Even so, we have only about one-half of them listed herein. With your help this booklet can be corrected and expanded to include more of the descendants. The wider the audience, the more valuable the booklet becomes. Imagine someone, one hundred years from now, researching his ancestry and finding his great-great grandfather listed as one of the infants in these charts. A family historian would consider it a goldmine. So keep your copy in good condition, note any corrections or additions of which you are certain, and pass it on to your grandchildren.

We thank all of those who have shared their time, stories, information, charts, and comments concerning Coffey Family History, and we sincerely hope that this "First Edition" will lead to more documentation of the Coffey family's history. All additional information is welcomed, but keep in mind that the primary pleasure in family history is in doing it yourself.

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*June, 1993*

*Coffey Family History and Genealogy:  
The Coffey Family Settlers of "Coffeytown";  
Amherst County, Virginia*

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# Introduction

## General: Sources of Information

The Coffey family has been quite prolific in America, and evidently, in Ireland as well. Owing to the many political disruptions of this small country, there have been numerous immigrants named Coffey, Coffee, Coffy, Coffie, O'Coffey, etc. While many of these early immigrants appear to have died off, or at least not left a record, the very early colonial records are not definitive, and it is therefore difficult to be certain regarding specific immigrants. Many Coffey descendants have tried to trace their roots back to Ireland, only to find that they cannot pinpoint that first American Coffey. In part to help himself and other researchers to solve that problem, Mr. Leonard N. Coffey of Indiana began in 1981 a publication he called "Coffey Cousin's Clearinghouse". Since his death Mrs. Bonnie Culley of Missouri has continued this quarterly publication. She now has 200 subscribers, all of whom are trying to trace their Coffey Ancestry back to Ireland. This publication is available for a small charge to all interested parties who contact Mrs. Culley at 1416 Green Berry Road; Jefferson City, MO 65101-3620. It has had more than 50 editions published. The Macedonia Community Association will have a complete copy of all editions as a part of their collection. In addition to articles about Coffeytown, VA there are articles about Coffeyville, Kansas and other places where Coffey travelers have laid down roots. Most of their subscribers are descended from Edward Coffey of Essex County, VA. We believe the Coffeytown branch is also descended from him.

It was through the "Coffey Cousins' Clearinghouse" that I was introduced to a scholarly genealogical publication, James Bluford Coffey: Ancestors, Volume 2, by Marvin Dale Coffey of Ashland, Oregon. Mr. Coffey spent some 20 years of intensive research prior to writing his book, published in 1984. His Coffey ancestry begins in Essex County, Virginia, goes through present day Nelson County to North Carolina, then Kentucky, and eventually ends up on the Oregon Trail. He is at the end of that trail. In researching his own family he acquired, as all researchers do, considerable information concerning the collateral families, which he published for the benefit of people like us who don't have 20 years to spare. With his permission, some of the information in his book is included herein, especially the charts and other information about the First American Coffeys. We are very grateful for the opportunity to pass this on to Coffeytown descendants. Most of his discussions are not repeated at length in our booklet. These alone are well worth purchasing the book.

## Coffey History Relevant to Coffeytown Descendants - An Overview

Obviously the Coffey family came from Ireland. It is generally accepted that Edward Coffey, who married Ann Powell in Essex County, VA in 1699 is the first American Coffey in the line of descent which leads to Coffeytown. Edward had 6 children, two of them twins: John and Edward Coffey. It is not known for certain which of these two (if either) is the ancestor of Coffeytown. While there has been much extensive research into John Coffey and his wife Jane Graves and their children, it is not completely clear if his line leads to Coffeytown; or if Edward's line, of which very little is known, leads to that small band of Coffeys who settled Coffeytown.

Tracing back from known "legend" information, which was also confirmed by reference to public documents, it was determined that Jordan Coffey is indeed the patriarch of Coffeytown. He was known to have had 9 children: Hudson, John Jack, William, Jane, Elizabeth, and Susanna were six of them. Schylar and Nelson Coffey were closely



associated with Jordan, but no proof of their parentage has yet been found. We believe, however, that Jordan "adopted" Schylar and Nelson who were probably biological brothers who lost their parents early in life. They were probably Coffey parents, but not Jordan. Henry Coffey, originally thought to be a son of Jordan, has his parents listed on his death record as Charles and Jane Coffey. There was probably also a tenth child, name unknown, who died young between 1830 and 1840.

The record is clear that the Coffeys went from Essex County to Orange County, then to Albemarle, then to Amherst, in an area which became Nelson county. William Coffey, son of John Coffey the twin, died in Nelson County in 1827/1828 at the approximate age of 97 years. Immediately after this, and perhaps as a result of William's death, Jordan Coffey left Nelson County for greener pastures in present day Amherst County. It is believed that Hudson, then Jordan were the first Coffey settlers in present day Amherst County. The first Coffey to own land in present day Amherst County appears to have been Nelson Coffey, who paid \$475 for his father-in-law's estate of 170 acres near Thrasher's Creek.

The Coffeys did not move immediately into Coffeytown as some have speculated. They spent nearly 20 years in Amherst County nearby but not within Coffeytown, and some of them never saw the Coffeytown we know. For many years they lived in the general vicinity of Fork Mountain, along Thrasher Creek, Buffalo Springs, and the Chestnut Ridge area. Henry Coffey purchased the first Coffey property near present day Coffeytown, in 1851. Other Coffeys were there for awhile and left (such as Reubin Coffey who lived two doors down from John Jack and Patara Coffey). There were many "third generation" (after Jordan) Coffeys who settled the hills of what is shown on the map as "Alto".

But the big mystery in Coffeytown genealogy is Jordan's ancestry. There are many reasons to believe any one of several theories, but there is no "smoking pistol"... yet. We propose one which explains all the known facts, and although we have no proof at this time, it seems to fit both family legend and the relatively few facts available concerning early settlers in rural places.

If you are interested in greater detail, read on. The next chapter discusses most of what is known about the first American Coffeys which might not be readily apparent from the charts, but you need to look at both. After that, a discussion of Jordan Coffey and his family is presented in two separate chapters, essentially bringing the family development to the doorstep of Coffeytown. This is followed by exploring in chronological order each of the six male Coffeys who are thought to have been instrumental in Coffeytown. As much descendant information as is known about each of them is presented in chart form with short notes where genealogical information is known.

What this booklet does is to provide a report of what is and what isn't known (by us) about Jordan Coffey and his ancestors and descendants. It will be updated whenever additional information of consequence is discovered or if more information is passed on concerning descendants. This "first edition" should not be seen as the final word, especially since no attempt has been made to track - that is, to find out as much as possible - about each Coffey. Each had their own complex lives and we are well aware that we are only skimming the surface. Should you have additional, documented facts concerning any of your ancestors, please do not hesitate to share, as we will probably add items of interest to all and re-issue the booklet some time in the future. If you don't have such information, don't wait for us to do it for you - we won't ever get that far. You are encouraged to use this booklet as a guide to begin your own search for more information about your ancestors.

# First American Coffeys

*This chapter discusses the "assumed first family" of Coffeytown ancestry. Nearly all of this information was borrowed from Marvin D. Coffey's book, James Bluford Coffey: Volume 2: Ancestors, with his permission. The charts accompanying this chapter also came from his information. Much work went into sorting out all those early Coffeys who always seem to recycle the same names. We appreciate and acknowledge Mr. Coffey's work and encourage those who are seriously interested in Coffey genealogy to obtain a complete copy as a reference book.*

## The Coffeys in Ireland

Part of the problem with tracing the Coffey clan is that it is not clear which of the clans in Ireland gave rise to this branch of Coffeys. It is understood that there were at least three different groups which used the name Coffey or some variation as a surname, and that those early immigrants (17th century) came from the west central portion of Ireland. Later immigrants seem to have come from County Cork, in the southern portion of the island.

The Coffey name comes from the Irish "O'Cobhthaigh" which means "Victorious". Other original surname combinations include one which means "fairheaded victor". It is believed that the surname spelling "ey" is the original translation from "O'Cobhthaigh" into O'Coffey, then "Coffey".

Like most European countries, Ireland has had numerous upheavals over the many years of its existence. It is difficult for us in America to fully comprehend and appreciate such a long history of conquering and being conquered and oppressed. The Colonies offered hope to many people who faced devastating loss of family members and property in the political, religious, and bloody wars of the seventeenth century (and later) in Ireland.

The British experienced what historians call "The Restoration", after Oliver Cromwell died in 1658. He had put down the Irish in a bloody suppression a few years earlier, so brutal it has not been forgotten even in today's time. The Restoration was essentially a revolt against the harsh puritanical ways of the recent past, and offered some hope in the once-again swing of the political pendulum. But the Irish took up arms in support of the exiled James II and were put down again in the battle of the Boyne in 1690. After this, both religious and economic persecution were combined, prohibiting Catholic schools and rigidly controlling Irish Trade. This combination, coming on the heels of a series of on-again, off-again cycles of terror and hope, prompted Jonathan Swift to make his "... modest proposal that the impoverished Irish solve their economic problems by selling their babies as articles of food." (Modern Civilization: A History of the Last Five Centuries; Brinton, Christopher, and Wolff; Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1957, pg. 195).

By the mid-17th century, the hope of America spoke more eloquently.

## On to America

While there were several Coffeys coming into the Colonies in the 1600's and early 1700's, it is generally believed by most Coffey researchers that the Amherst/Nelson County branch came from Edward Coffey of Essex County, Va. Believed to be the first

Coffey in this line to settle in the Colonies, Edward is known to have been in Essex County, VA. before 1700, speculated to be about 1690.

There is no "smoking pistol" to establish the date of Edward's arrival, and there is some controversy among researchers as to whether he was indeed the first American Coffey in this line, some postulating that he may actually have been the step-son of Benjamin Mosely, the man to whom he was indentured. Indeed there are aspects of Edward's life in those days which seem far-fetched for a mere servant to have achieved. There were other Coffeys in the general vicinity, including Hugh Coffey who died in Gloucester County around the same time as Edward died in Essex County. In addition, we found a reference to an eleven year old James Coffey, servant of William Nock, in February 1682/1683 who was either in Accomack or Northampton County on the eastern shore and who appeared before the court to prove his age. While he was surely too young to have been Edward's father, it seems unusual for an eleven year old to have been imported for servitude, or to have arrived by himself. This at least raises the possibility of "American" Coffey parents, who may have died and their children were distributed among those willing to take on servants. Edward could have been one of those. This is, of course, only a possibility, and it is unlikely that there would ever be any proof of a relationship among the various, scattered early Coffeys, as the records of the time are neither complete nor always accurate. This discussion is only one of many you may read, including a simplified consolidation of all the early Coffeys, tied to the "first" John Coffee who probably never existed, as his name seems to have been miscopied; but those who have intensely researched the question, including Marvin D. Coffey of Oregon, have come to the conclusion that Edward Coffey was most likely the first Coffey in this line on American soil. Until someone discovers a "smoking pistol" record, some healthy controversy is likely to continue. Serious genealogists want proof.

### Edward Coffey

Edward Coffey was married to Ann (Powell) (Coffey) Duling in the colonies by 1700, probably in 1699, and this couple had six known children, among them Edward and John Coffey, believed to be twins born in 1700. Edward (the elder) was granted his "freedom, corn, and clothes" in a will dated 4 April 1706, signed by his "master" Benjamin Mosely. According to The Planters of Colonial Virginia, by Thomas Wertenbaker, 1922, less than five percent of the indentured servants ever became landowners. Evidently Edward moved rapidly, as he was noted to be a property owner as early as 10 October 1707, when Mr. Augustine Smith sold 93 acres to Henry Martin, such land being adjacent to Edward Coffey's land. In 1714, Edward sold 118 acres on the branches of Occupatia Creek to John Barbee in exchange for 500 pounds of "lawful, sweet-scented tobacco". This land had been previously bought by Edward from Augustine Smith, prior to 10 October 1707. It seems a little unusual that an indentured servant would have had sufficient money to buy property, but this may have been part of the original deal offered by Benjamin Mosely or it may have come from Ann's side of the family.

Ann Powell was, according to Marvin Coffey's research, the daughter of Thomas Powell and Mary (Place) Powell who were married around 1667. The Powell family was one of the first in the New World, and in short order there were 72 Powells in Virginia, 10 of them named Thomas. Mr. Coffey suggests that Ann however, was most likely the daughter of a Thomas Powell who was transported by William Mosely in 1663, and who by late 1665 was able to purchase 50 acres in Rappahannock County, VA. In 1676, during Bacon's Rebellion, a Thomas Powell was wounded. This may have been the ultimate husband of Mary Place, but there is no proof. From Thomas' will

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*Most information in this chapter comes from Mr. Marvin D. Coffey; Oregon.*

*Please send all additions and corrections to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Ave; Richmond, VA 23227 (June, 1993)*

and deeds, Mr. Coffey concludes that Thomas and Mary Place had 7 children: Honorias who married Joyce Lamberth, widow of George Lamberth; Place ..... who married a Mary ..... before 1705, he died about 1715; Thomas, Jr. who married Mary Gibson; William who died in 1705, unmarried; Frances; Elizabeth who married John Salmon; and Ann who married Edward Coffey. Interestingly, the Powell family went to Orange County, then Amherst County, VA, and into North Carolina and Kentucky - the same route many of the Coffeys followed. This is not unusual. As Emily Rusk, President of the Genealogical Research Institute of Virginia points out in an article in the *Richmond Times Dispatch*, June 21, 1993, "...groups who came here together generally stayed together as they moved across the country. You'll find families in the group marrying each other because this is who they knew. They grew up together, went to school together, and married each other."

Mary (Place) Powell died around the middle of December, 1710, in Richmond County. Perhaps the Powell family was well-off enough to have helped Edward and Ann in their purchase of a piece of land, or perhaps the Mosely family was generous with their servants and allowed them to work for others, and cash payment, as both Edward and Thomas, servants to the Mosely family, were able to buy land shortly after their freedom. It may have been standard policy by the Mosely family to offer some small land inducement for indentured servants. With an eye to the future this would allow Mosely more assured control over his servants upon arrival to keep them from running off. No one has a document which indicates exactly how Edward could have afforded land so soon. This, and other factors, may have prompted the speculation that Edward was actually the step-son of Benjamin Mosely. In any event, there are several Benjamins in the twin John's family, perhaps originating with this man; and numerous Williams in Thomas Powell's family as well as the Mosely family.

### **The Twins - John and Edward Coffey, Jr.**

On 16 July 1716, sons Edward and John Coffey bought 200 acres along Occupatia creek in Rappahannock (became Essex) County, VA in exchange for 8000 pounds of tobacco to John Mosely, believed to be the son of Benjamin Mosely. This is the property known as "Mosely's Quarters". Evidently it is located very near to land previously owned by their father.

John Coffey, the twin son of Edward Coffey, married Jane Graves and they had James Coffey around 1729 in Essex County, VA. This James married Elizabeth Cleveland, daughter of Alexander Cleveland and he eventually became a Baptist preacher in North Carolina, with his family following him. John and Jane had many other children, including William, John, Edmond, Winifred, Thomas, Reuben, Benjamin, and Elizabeth. This William Coffey became the grand old patriarch of Albemarle/Amherst/Nelson Counties in VA, possibly the next Coffey in the line of descent toward the Coffeytown settlers. William and Edmond are the only children of John and Jane Graves who lived out their lives in Virginia.

For about 20 years after their father's death in 1716, the twins remained in Essex County. All were tobacco farmers. Tobacco was the economic mainstay of the seventeenth century colonies. Although the British often siphoned off much of the profits by means of tariffs and other taxes, tobacco was the means by which many yeomen made their "fortunes". While there were ups and downs over the years, the British Navigation Acts having had a profound effect upon planters' profits, the end of the tobacco gravy train was the last two decades of the seventeenth century and the first decade of the eighteenth. Edward came in on the last wave of very high profitability in

Tobacco. Ultimately it was a sudden rise in the use of slaves which put the small planters at a disadvantage and forced many of them to look elsewhere for profits.

Another pressure to relocate was simple Malthusian mathematics: if a family had 200 acres to support itself, and 10 children, 5 of whom were males, each of those would soon need 200 acres. Available land soon gave out as the colonies grew rapidly by importations and large families. If the family wanted to stay together, it was necessary to take advantage of the Government's many schemes to settle the frontier.

While John seems to have acted more traditionally in family matters, Edward Coffey the twin sold his share of the property in 1737 to his brother John, and left Essex for Orange County, VA. perhaps following his future wife, Grace Cleveland. There was a "Roger Cleaveland of Gloucester" who recorded a deed for land on the north side of the Rappahanock River on 13 NOV 1679 in Old Rappahanock County (became Essex County) and it is likely that Grace was a granddaughter of Roger and Dorcas Cleveland. Grace's father is thought to have been Alexander Cleveland. She had brothers John, William, Benjamin, and Alexander, Jr. Grace was born 1 SEPT 1716. Whether Edward met her in Essex or Orange Counties is not known, but she seems to have been fairly entrenched in Orange. The date of their marriage is not known either, but is believed to be shortly after 1737.

Edward bought property in Caroline County in 1745, but probably continued to live in Orange until 1751 when he went to North Carolina for a short stay. He returned to Orange in 1752, but by 1769/1770 he shows up as a witness in a land transaction and then as a specified neighbor in Albemarle County. No further records are known that relate directly to this Edward, but some of those believed to be his children show up in Burke and Wilkes County, North Carolina as early as 1778. By that time, Edward, Jr. the twin, was an older man who may have died in Albemarle County, or left in 1774 and went to North Carolina with his son Cleveland, where he may have died within a few years after his arrival. There is no known will written by Edward which would readily identify his surviving children. Unfortunately for us, Edward's children have never been fully identified by anyone through research, so that someone has to essentially start from scratch with the Orange County colonial records. At this time there is speculation that Coffeytown ancestry leads to Edward Coffey the twin.

### Other Children of Edward Coffey and Ann Powell

The twins were only the beginning for Ann and Edward. Their daughter Martha married Joshua Stapp (or Stepp) and this couple had eight known children. Apparently, Martha and Joshua lived out their lives in Orange County, VA. Another daughter Annister Coffey is thought to have had an illegitimate son she named James Coffey. We understand that some Coffey researcher has found proof of this in court records of the time, but we have not seen it. One person mentioned in Edward's will was Austin or Austes. While no one is certain whether this was a male or female, it was most likely a male who married a Miss Chenault. Very little is known of this child. Elizabeth Coffey married John Cleveland and they had many children. They lived most of their lives on a tract of land they called "Blue Run", in Orange County, VA. where they probably died.

The twins (John and Edward) are known to have been in Albemarle County, which at that time included Amherst and Nelson, for some period of time in the 1700's, John Coffey having sold his property in Essex County in 1745 and 1747. Most of their descendants left Virginia for North Carolina, Kentucky and beyond, but a few remained behind. Of Edward's children almost nothing is known, but some speculation - next

### *First American Coffeys, Page 4*

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chapter - may be helpful. Of John's children, those offering the most interest to Coffeytown and local history were William Coffey the elder, his brother Edmund Coffey; and brother James Coffey. Although John's son Edmond remained in Nelson County until his death, none of his three sons, Edmond S., William, or Reuben seem to have been involved in Coffeytown ancestry.

### **Ann (Powell) (Coffey) Duling and Her Will**

After Edward's death in 1716, Ann married Robert Duling/Dooling/Dulin in Essex County. She and Robert had two children, William and Thomas. Her will is dated 30 October 1744 and she probably died shortly thereafter. It appears that traditional John continued to own property in Essex County until his mother died. Ann's will spelled out certain domestic items to go to her daughter Annisters, who was probably taking care of her mother during her latter years. To her grandson James, the probable illegitimate son of Annisters, she gave one spotted heifer. The remainder of the estate went to her two Duling boys, who were younger and less settled.

### **William Coffey the elder**

William is believed to be the second child of John and Jane (Graves) Coffey, born about 1731. He married Elizabeth Osborne around 1758, probably in Albemarle County, and they settled in an area around modern day Tyro, just south of where the Tye River comes together. William amassed nearly 1000 acres of land in Amherst /now Nelson County. He lived a very long life (thought to be 97 at his death), had at least ten children, and was active in his community, serving on jury duty, and at one point was appointed a Constable. His children included Osborne, who married Mary Nightingale and went to Kentucky around 1797; William, Jr. who married Polly Rippetoe; Winnefred who married Thomas Hayes; Millie who married Sam Coleman; Betsey who married John Bridge; Edmond F. who married Elizabeth Burger on 3 APRIL 1802; Jane who may have married twice - once in 1819 and later to a Fitzgerald; Margaret who married a Monroe; and Mary and Frankey Coffey who are not known to have married. There may have been others, but these are listed in his will. Of these Edmond F., William Coffey, Jr. who brought in the Rippetoe family; and Jane (Coffey)(Meeks) Fitzgerald(?) seem to hold the most interest for "Coffeytown" descendants.

William the elder wrote his will in 1825, which was probated in March, 1828 in Nelson County. In this somewhat complex will, he mentions what is presumed to be all his living children and defines certain restricted benefits for each of them. Jordan Coffey, surely the grand patriarch of Coffeytown - not some other Jordan - is also mentioned in this will, but he is not treated like the remaining children. Jordan is granted, at William's "desire and wish", the right to rent land on which he lived at the time of William's death. He is not treated like a son, and most researchers who study the will believe that the mere mention of Jordan is insufficient to prove that he is one of William's children, and indeed, almost proves that he is not. We will examine this attitude later and discuss what we think is an appropriate understanding of William's will.

Edmond F. Coffey was the son of William, as clearly stated in William's will. He became the Sheriff of Nelson County and there are many records regarding his work. It may have been his name which gave rise to the speculation that Coffeytowners all came from an Edmond Eff Coffey of Ireland who married an Elizabeth Thackery. There is a long and involved story about how Edmund Eff wanted to marry Elizabeth but his parents were against it, and sent him off to a monastery for two years. Elizabeth's

parents were given money and sent off to America by Edmund's father. Edmund was unhappy and ran off to America to marry her, where they lived happily ever after. No one has ever been able to find any proof of any such people, either in America or in Ireland. This appears to be pure puffery, perhaps generated in the early days by Coffey mothers who felt they needed a role model for their children to emulate, and this was more convenient than telling the whole story of Jordan Coffey, who in fact was not economically successful.

Nevertheless, the real Edmond F. was well known as a role model for children in Nelson County. From the statements in William's will, it is obvious that the old man also thought a great deal of his son Edmund. Originally, it seemed obvious that Edmond F. used his middle initial to distinguish himself from Edmond S. Coffey, a cousin. There could be more to it than that. One court record we found (Amherst County, August Court, 1800) involves a neighbor being sued for trespass and assault and battery. The suit was brought by William Coffey on behalf of young Edmond Coffey, William being listed as his "Guardian and next friend". The defendant was William Hamblen, who lost the case, but the important thing is that William Coffey (if this was the same William) must have had two Edmonds in his household at the same time, only one of which was his biological son. The other could have been a descendant of Edward Coffey the twin, whose parents died before Edmund was of age to take care of himself. Winnefred, William's daughter, became the guardian of Jemimah T. Coffey who married James Giles in 1797. Being guardians was not unknown to the Coffeys, and in fact was fairly common among family members and sometimes close neighbors.

The record is relatively clear regarding Edmond F., even if the legend is a bit carried away. Unfortunately the record regarding Jane is not so clear. In Marvin Coffey's book, Jane is indicated to have married twice, first to an Anderson, dated 16 DEC 1819, and then to a Fitzgerald. It is clear from her father's will (William Coffey the elder), written in 1825 and probated in 1828, that his daughter was known as Jane Fitzgerald in 1825. In Nelson County Marriages 1808-1850 by John Vogt, 1985, some Jane Coffey is listed as marrying Anderson Meeks on 15 DEC 1819, with George Hays providing the security. Later, some Jane Coffey married a William W. Coffey, 18 FEB 1832, with security being provided by Reuben Coffey. We believe that the first one listed is correct for our interest, a marriage to Anderson Meeks, probably on 16 DEC 1819, with the marriage license being executed on the 15th. The other is most likely a different and younger Jane Coffey.

There is reasoned speculation, originated we think by David W. Coffey of Lexington in the late 1970's, that Jordan Coffey could be the illegitimate son of Jane Coffey. This speculation is based on the wording in William's will which clearly establishes that Jane (Jane Fitzgerald in 1825, 6 years after her marriage to Meeks) had at least one illegitimate child by 1825. Jordan, however, was born in 1780, some 40 years before Jane married Meeks, and Jane is likely to have been too young to have been Jordan's mother, since she had 5 children by two different men, apparently later than 1819. It may be, since no record has been found of her marriage to her second husband, that these are the children referred to by William, with his intent being to force Jane into making her second marriage legitimate. Perhaps, having threatened to cut illegitimate grandchildren out of his will, William felt honor bound to carry through on his threat. The Fitzgerald she "shacked-up" with is unknown. It could have been Benjamin Fitzgerald who was listed as Jordan Coffey's guardian in 1803, as speculated, but this would have been later than necessary for Jordan to have come from such an affair. Further, by 1825, Benjamin Fitzgerald was 66 years old. There are several known connections between the Coffeys and Benjamin Fitzgerald. More of these will be explored in the next chapter "Jordan Fitzgerald (Alias Coffey)".

## **Edmund Coffey, son of John and Jane (Graves) Coffey**

Edmund Coffey married Nancy Barnett and they had six children: Edmund S., who married Tildy Fitzgerald who may have been Benjamin Fitzgerald's sister (needs confirmation); William who married Betsey Giles; Reuben who married Nancy Giles; Amelia "Milley" who married John Campbell; Nancy who married Joel Campbell in Nelson County; and Polly who married John Steel, also in Nelson County. Although some of Reuben's descendants may have wandered into Amherst County, most of Edmund's children settled in Nelson County, VA. These are probably not connected directly with Amherst County's "Coffeytown", but are probably intermingled with other branches.

Edmund owned a substantial amount of property near the fork in the Tye River. Between 1767 and 1800, he obtained 1235 acres in 7 transactions. All of this was along the north fork of the Tye River, from the fork itself to the Blue Mountain and Pond Run. He was clearly a busy man, but his family seems to have kept to itself and stayed out of the politics of William's family. The possibility of Jordan being the son of Edmund Coffey is therefore quite remote.

## **James Coffey, son of John and Jane (Graves) Coffey**

Another Nelson County Coffey of great interest to those seeking to establish Jordan Coffey's parentage is James Coffey, son of John and Jane (Graves) Coffey, who married Elizabeth (Cleveland) Coffey.

One of James' sons, Archelaus, married Eleanor (Wade) (Coffey) Shasteen. This couple was married in 1775, probably in Amherst County, and surely in time to have had a son in 1780. Archelaus and Eleanor went to Wilkes County, North Carolina after they had two sons in Virginia, James M. Coffey (B: 20 JULY 1776), and John Waid Coffey (B: Ca 1778). There they had a daughter, Jane Coffey (B: 22 JUNE 1782). Archelaus died around 1783. Soon, Eleanor returned to Amherst County, VA where she married Jesse Shasteen on 22 NOV 1785. According to research by some of the descendants of the two boys, Eleanor did not take her two sons by Archelous to raise. Whether she took Jane is not known, however, Jane was very young when Eleanor returned to Amherst County, and may have gone with her mother, but somehow all three of those children met Jesse and Eleanor Shasteen in Wayne County, KY where Jane was married in 1802. The Shasteens stayed there until about 1820, and followed James and his family to Gallatin County, Illinois where they presumably lived out their lives, Eleanor thought to have died before 1830.

There is the possibility that Archelous and Eleanor had another child in the four year span between John and Jane. That child would have probably been born about 1780. If the child was too young or sickly to be sent off with others, Eleanor could have brought the child back to Virginia. If she gave up her two oldest to marry Shasteen, she may also have given up her youngest by Archelous when she and Shasteen began having children of their own. Such a child - if it ever existed - could be Jordan Coffey. But at this time, there is no proof there was ever any such child, and it seems unlikely that she and Archelous would name 2 children traditional Coffey names, skip one and then return to "Jane". This possibility seems remote to us at this time, for the reasons stated herein and in the next chapter.



## **The Charts**

The charts accompanying this chapter are all taken from Marvin Coffey's book. Although much of this goes well beyond Virginia Coffeys, we think it is beneficial to see how those Coffeys who left Virginia in the 1700's have developed and multiplied, so we have included all available information. The chart for William Coffey has been slightly modified.

## **Summary**

The purpose of this booklet is to define the ancestors and descendants of those Coffeys who were instrumental in settling Coffeytown. Tracing back the majority of those settlers leads directly to Jordan Coffey and Elizabeth Rippetoe. Establishing Jordan's parentage is difficult at best, impossible with the information available at this time. The most likely first American Coffey in this line is Edward Coffey, whose eldest children were twin sons. Each of those were fruitful leaving several possibilities for Jordan's parentage. This chapter looks at that genealogical problem from an ancestral perspective, that is, who was available to have been the parents of Jordan. The next chapter examines the problem in more detail and from a different perspective.

**Coffey Family History; FIRST AMERICAN COFFEYS**

SEE ADDITIONAL CHARTS

James Coffey M: Elizabeth Cleveland  
 William Coffey M: Elizabeth Osborne  
 John Coffey M1: Dorcas Carter;  
 M2: Nancy Richardson  
 Edmond (Edward) Coffey M: Nancy Barnett  
 Winifred (Coffey) Moran M: Nicholas Moran  
 Thomas Coffey M1: Elizabeth Smith;  
 M2: Sally Fields  
 Reuben Coffey M: Sally Scott  
 Benjamin Coffey M: Polly Hayes  
 Elizabeth (Coffey) Fields M: Thomas Fields

Thomas Powell  
 Mary (Place) Powell

Mary:  
 B: Ca 1685  
 M: <1657  
 D: Ca 1710

Honorias Powell  
 Place Powell  
 Thomas Powell, Jr.  
 William Powell  
 Frances Powell  
 Elizabeth (Powell) Salmon  
 Ann (Powell) (Coffey) Duling

John Coffey  
 Jane (Graves) Coffey<sup>2</sup>

B: Ca 1700, Essex County, VA  
 D: Jan or Feb 1775, Albemarle Co., VA

John and Edward are believed to be twins.

Edward Coffey  
 Grace (Cleveland) Coffey<sup>3</sup>

B: Ca 1700; went to Orange Co., VA, then to NC in 1751, back to Orange in 1752, then to Albemarle Co., VA

Cleveland Coffey M: Elizabeth ?  
 (may have gone to NC by 1778)  
 Benjamin Coffey M: Leah ?  
 (went to NC by 1790)  
 James Coffey, may have gone to Botetourt Co., VA by 1785  
 William Coffey, Montgomery Co., VA, 1781-85  
 Jesse Coffey  
 Isaac/Isaiah Zarral Coffey

\* Edward Coffey was most likely the first Coffey to settle in the Colonies and have children.

Ann  
 \* Edward (Powell) Coffey  
 Duling

B: Ca. 1670, probably in Ireland  
 M: Ca. 1699, Essex County, VA  
 D: <16 JULY 1716, Essex Co., VA

Martha "Patsy" (Coffey) Stapp  
 Joshua Stapp

B: Ca 1702  
 D: Ca 1772, Orange Co., VA

John Stapp M: Ann Salmon  
 Joseph Stapp M: Elizabeth Lucas  
 Joshua Stapp M: Hannah Durham  
 Thomas Stapp M: Ann Lucas  
 James Stapp  
 Anester Stapp M: Capt William Sims  
 Eve Stapp M: Anthred Salmon  
 Elizabeth Stapp M: William Morris

Ann (or Annisters) Coffey

may have had an illegitimate son named James  
 B: Ca 1704; no marriage known

Austes (Austin) Coffey  
 Chenault

B: Ca 1706

This individual is somewhat mysterious. Mr. Coffey discusses possibilities of what may have happened to him in later chapters of his book.

Elizabeth (Coffey) Cleveland  
 John Cleveland

B: Ca 1708; Lived at Blue Run; Orange Co., VA

Col. Benjamin Cleveland, et al

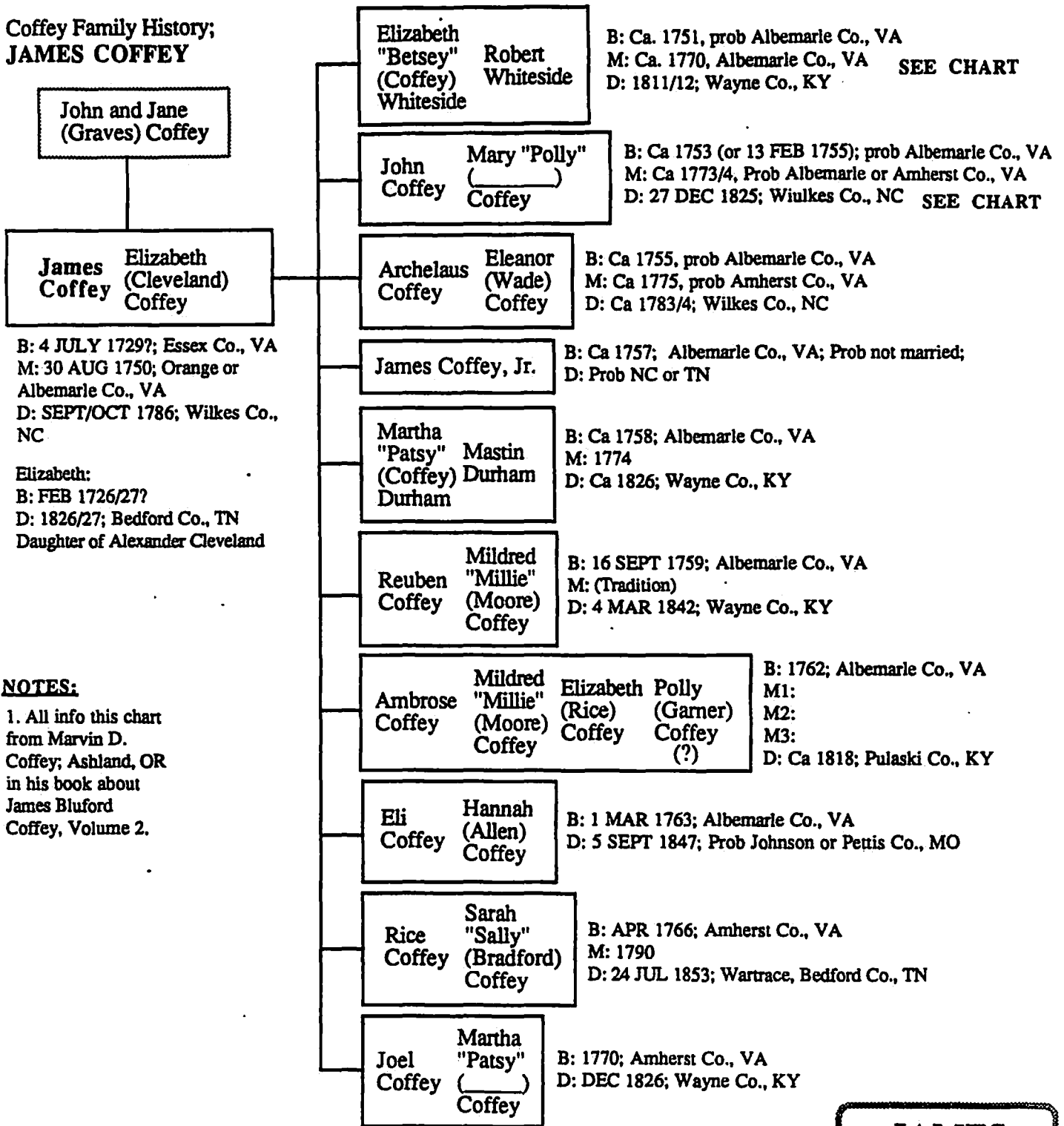
**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.
2. Jane Graves' parents were John and Hannah Graves. John's parents were James Graves and Jean (Mayfield) Graves.
3. Children of Edward Coffey are not easily defined in public records. These may not be all of his children, and all these may not be his children.

**FIRST AMERICAN COFFEYS**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

**Coffey Family History;  
JAMES COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**JAMES COFFEY**  
(Son of John & Jane Graves Coffey)



**Coffey Family History;  
JAMES COFFEY**

B: 21 JULY 1771  
D: 24 APR 1848

James Whiteside

John and Jane  
Graves Coffey

William Whiteside Lavina  
(Singleton) Whiteside

B: Ca 1773  
D: 1824

James Coffey Elizabeth  
(Cleveland) Coffey

Jonathan Whiteside Thankful  
(Anderson) Whiteside

B: 13 APR 1776, Amherst Co., VA or Burke Co., NC  
M: 19 JULY 1796; Madison Co., KY  
D: 1860, TN

Elizabeth "Betsey"  
(Coffey) Whiteside Robert  
Whiteside

Robert Whiteside Betsy  
(Dick) Whiteside

M: ?, Wayne Co., KY

B: Ca 1751, prob Albemarle Co., VA  
M: Ca 1770; Albemarle Co., VA  
D: 1811/12; Wayne Co., KY

Mary "Polly"  
(Whiteside) Davis Isaac  
Davis

Robert:  
B: 22 FEB 1743, Albemarle Co., VA  
D: 1810  
Son of William Whiteside and Elizabeth  
Stockton.

Joel Whiteside Sally  
(Lunch) Whiteside

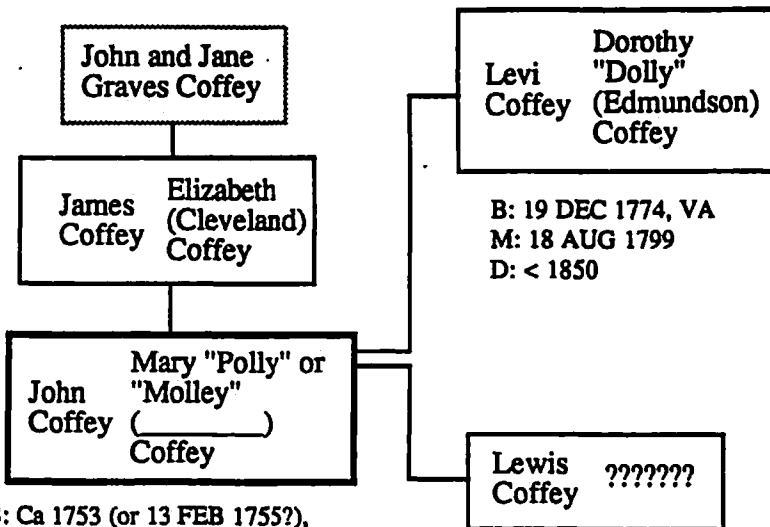
**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**Elizabeth  
(Coffey)  
Whiteside**  
(Daughter of James  
& Elizabeth Coffey)



**Coffey Family History;  
JAMES COFFEY**



Rice Coffey  
 Mary Ann Coffey  
 James Coffey  
 Robert Coffey  
 John Coffey  
 Keziah Coffey  
 Enoch Coffey  
 Elisha Coffey  
 Levi Coffey  
 Nancy Coffey

Louney Coffey  
 Sarah (Coffey) Brawner

B: Ca 1753 (or 13 FEB 1755?),  
 Prob Albemarle Co., VA  
 M: Ca 1773/4  
 D: 27 DEC 1825; Wilkes Co., NC  
 Polly:  
 B: 18 DEC 1755  
 D: <1825

B: 19 DEC 1774, VA  
 M: 18 AUG 1799  
 D: < 1850

B: 12 JAN 1777, VA  
 M: ?  
 D: > 1850; Gwinnett Co., GA

**NOTES:**

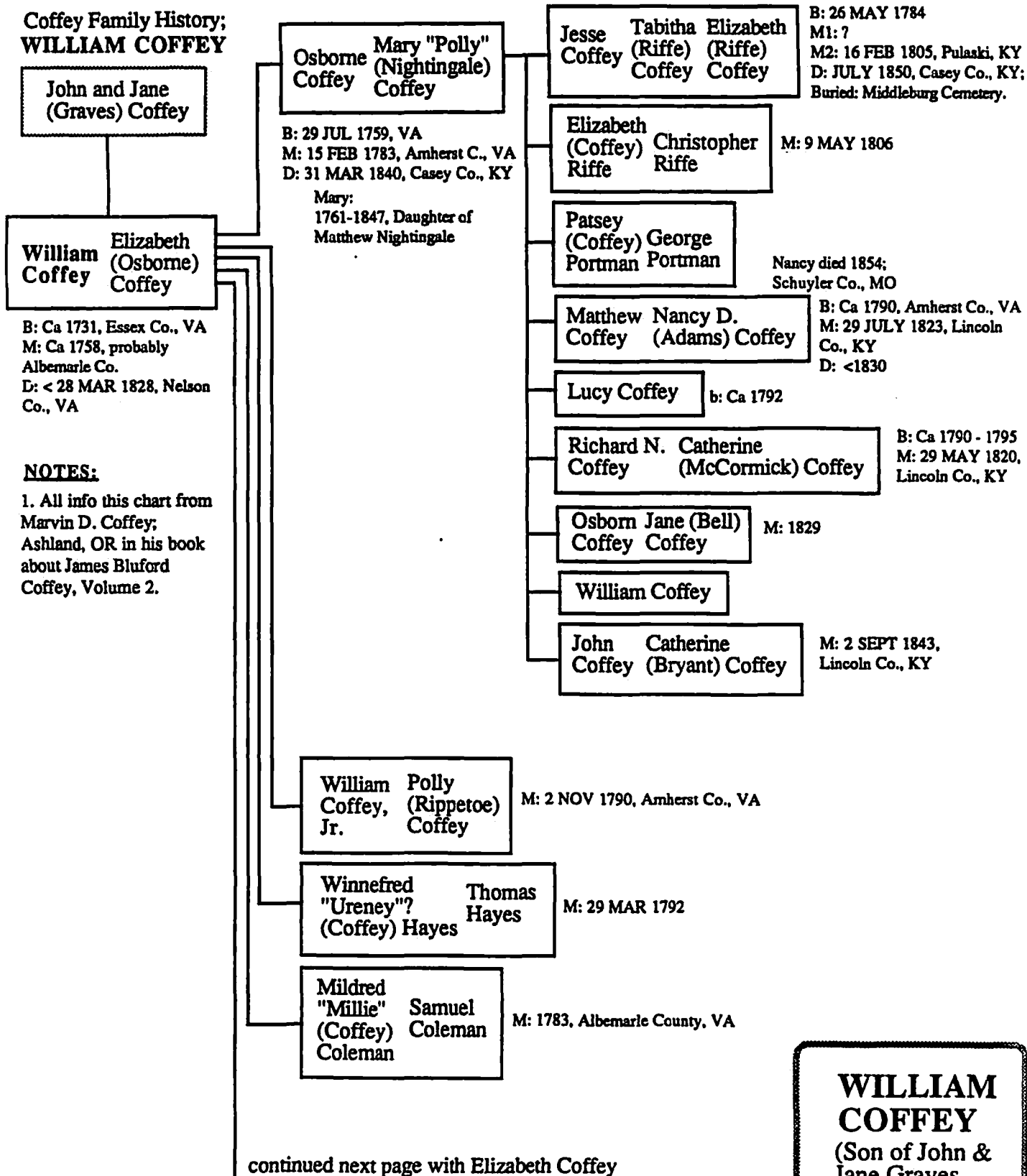
1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**John Coffey**  
 (Son of James & Elizabeth Coffey)  
 Chart 1 of 1





**Coffey Family History;  
WILLIAM COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

continued next page with Elizabeth Coffey

**WILLIAM  
COFFEY**  
(Son of John &  
Jane Graves  
Coffey)

**Coffey Family History;  
WILLIAM COFFEY**

continued from previous page  
children of William Coffey

Elizabeth  
"Betsey" John  
(Coffey) Bridge  
Bridge

M: 15 SEPT 1795

Edmond Elizabeth  
F. (Burger)  
Coffey Coffey

B: Ca 1773  
M: 3 APR 1802, Amherst Co., VA

Jane  
(Coffey) -----  
(Anderson) Anderson Fitzgerald  
Fitzgerald

M1: 16 DEC 1819  
M2: ?  
Children of 1: Joshua, Sallie, Winnie  
Children of 2: Perry, Asbury

Margaret  
(Coffey) -----  
Monroe Monroe

Mary Coffey

Frankey Coffey

Monroe Coffey

Nelson Coffey

Schylar Coffey ?  
Nelson Coffey ?

Jordan Elizabeth  
Coffey (Rippetoe)  
Coffey

B: Ca. 1780; probably  
Amherst Co.  
M: 3 MAR or MAY 1803,  
Amherst Co., VA  
D: Between 1851 - 1860;  
Amherst Co., VA.

Jordan Coffey is  
believed to be the  
disinherited son of  
William Coffey,  
see text.

**NOTES:**

1. All info on this chart  
above the dotted line is  
from Marvin D. Coffey;  
Ashland, OR in his book  
about James Bluford  
Coffey, Volume 2.

Note: Monroe and Nelson are  
indicated in 1797 Tax  
Records of Amherst County  
as sons of William, along  
with William, Jr. These two  
probably died before 1825.  
See text.

**WILLIAM  
COFFEY**  
(Son of John &  
Jane Graves  
Coffey)

**Coffey Family History;**  
**JOHN COFFEY**

John and Jane  
(Graves) Coffey

John Coffey Dorcas Nancy  
(Carter) (Richardson)  
Coffey Coffey

John:  
B: Ca 1733,  
Essex  
County, VA

JOEL:  
B: Ca 1806, Grainger Co., TN  
M: 5 FEB 1829, Grainger Co., TN  
D: < 10 SEPT 1851, Grainger Co., TN

Possible children

**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

Thomas Coffey B: Ca. 1766 - 1784

Sally Benjamin  
(Coffey) Rhea M: 9 FEB 1802,  
Grainger Co., TN

Jenny Levi  
(Coffey) Miller M: 23 SEPT 1806;  
Grainger Co., TN

B: Ca 1776  
Meredith Esther  
Coffey (?)  
Coffey  
B: Ca 1769, Albemarle or  
Amherst Co., VA  
M: Ca 1797  
D: 1838; Grainger Co.,  
TN

John Rebecca Jane  
Coffey (Ragsdale) (Hooper)  
Coffey Coffey  
B: 18 OCT 1798, Grainger  
Co., TN  
M1: 24 FEB 1821  
M2: ?

Anna Jacob  
(Coffey) Amett B: Ca 1800; Grainger Co., TN  
M: 3 NOV 1819, Grainger Co., TN

James Sally  
Coffey (Fielding)  
Coffey B: Ca 1803, Grainger Co., TN  
M: 14 DEC 1825, Grainger Co.  
D: < 10 SEPT 1851, Grainger Co., TN

Dorcas Jubal  
(Coffey) Mitchell M: 26 JAN 1840; Grainger Co., TN

Joel Elizabeth  
Coffey (Grubb)  
Coffey Nancy Coffey M: John Hinshaw  
John Coffey  
Susan Coffey M: Samuel Stallworth  
Jacob Coffey  
William Coffey  
Sarah E. Coffey M: Robert Inklebarger  
Elvira Coffey

Mira Hardiman  
(Coffey) Sparkman B: Ca. 1809  
M: 6 AUG 1827; Grainger Co., TN

Eliza Henderson  
(Coffey) Sparkman M: 16 FEB 1834

Mary Henderson  
(Coffey) Dyer M: 29 OCT 1838, Grainger Co., TN

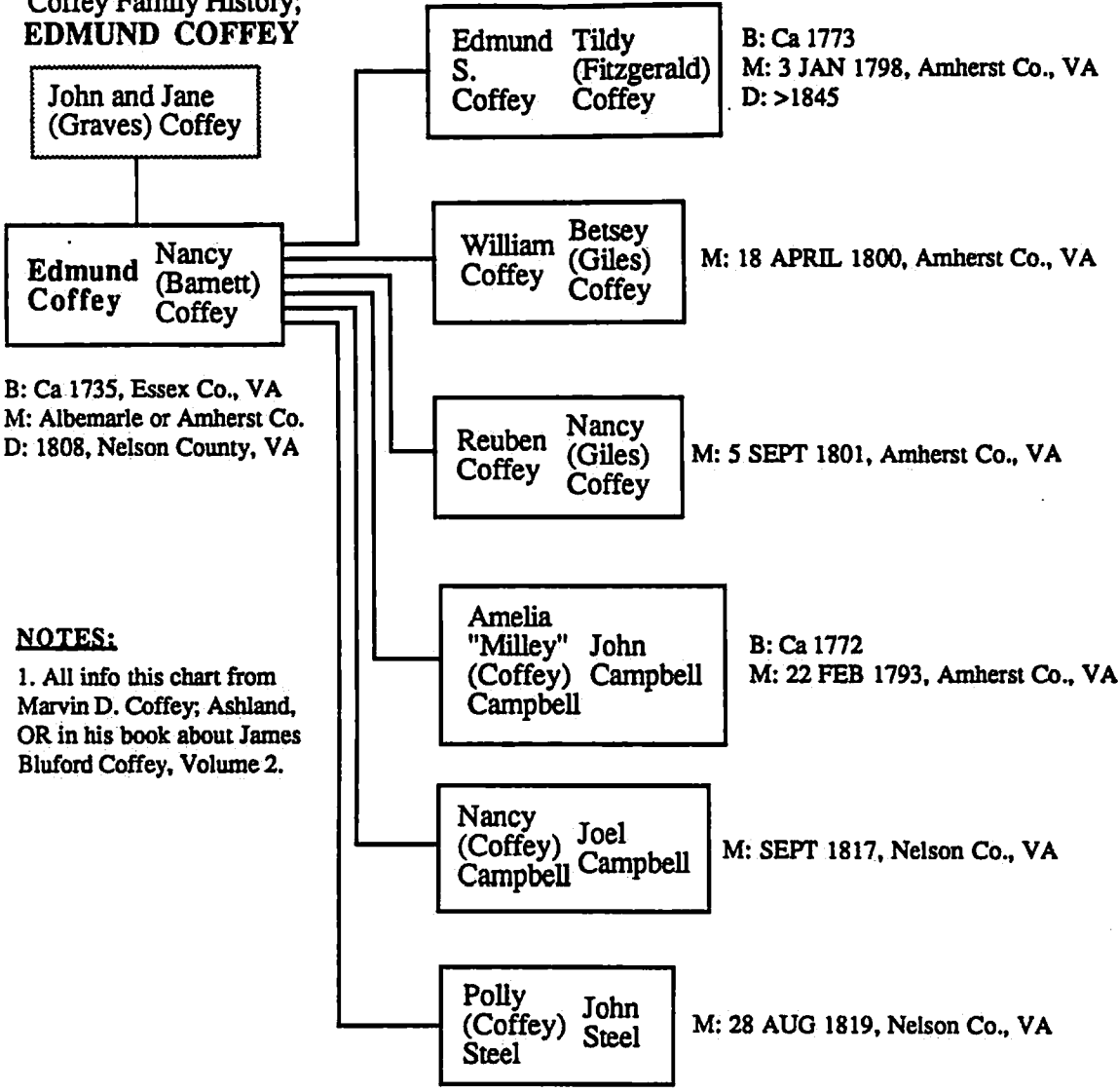
Mahalia Samuel  
(Coffey) Crain M: 11 AUG 1838; Grainger Co., TN

Rice Elvira  
Coffey (Trodden)  
Coffey M: 16 JUNE 1839; Grainger Co., TN.  
Moved to Crawford County, MO.

**JOHN  
COFFEY**  
(Son of John &  
Jane Graves  
Coffey)



**Coffey Family History;  
EDMUND COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**EDMUND  
COFFEY**  
 (Son of John &  
Jane Graves  
Coffey)



**Coffey Family History;  
THOMAS COFFEY**

John and Jane  
(Graves) Coffey

Thomas Elizabeth Sally  
Coffey (Smith) (Fields)  
Coffey Coffey

B: 7 MAR 1742, Essex Co., VA  
M1: Ca 1762, Albemarle?  
M2: Ca 1778/9, Albemarle?  
D: APRIL 1825, Wilkes Co., NC

Elizabeth David  
(Coffey) Allen  
Allen

B: 25 OCT 1763, Albemarle Co., VA  
M: ?  
D: 1850, Indiana (moved to Owen Co., IN in 1828)

John Hannah  
Coffey (Wilson)  
Coffey

B: Ca 1765, Albemarle Co., VA  
M: 3 OCT 1796, Wilkes Co., NC  
D: Ca 1812, Wilkes Co., NC  
Children: Eliza, Cassandra, Wilson (or William), Rebecca, Jane.

Thomas Margaret Nancy  
Coffey (Coffey) (Pendley)  
Coffey Coffey

B: Ca 1767, Albemarle CO., VA  
M1: ? M2: ?  
D: ?  
Children: 1: Joshua, Sallie, Winnie: 2: Perry, Asbury

James Delilah  
Coffey (Ferguson)  
Coffey

B: 1772, Albemarle Co., VA  
M: 31 AUG 1799, Wilkes Co., NC  
D: 1840, Wilkes Co., NC  
Children: Thomas, James, Lovancy, Marvel, Eli, Myra, Louisa.

Mary "Polly" William  
(Coffey) Coffey \*  
Coffey

B: Ca 1775, Albemarle Co., VA  
M: 3 JULY 1796  
Children: Austin, William, Elijah  
\* probably son of Benjamin

Smith Hannah  
Coffey (Boone)  
Coffey

B: Ca 1776, Albemarle Co., VA  
Children: Squire, Morgan, Athan, Sallie, Leland, Isaac, Millie

Martha Rev.  
"Patsy" James  
(Coffey) James  
Dowell Dowell

B: Ca 1780, Wilkes Co., NC  
M: 3 SEPT 1807  
D: Indiana

William Annie  
Coffey (Boone)  
Coffey

B: 29 NOV 1782, Wilkes Co., NC  
M: 16 OCT 1804  
D: 21 MAY 1839, Wilkes Co., NC  
Children: Daniel, Wilborn, Celia, Gilliam, Calvin.

**THOMAS  
COFFEY**  
(Son of John &  
Jane Graves  
Coffey)

Chart 1 of 3

continued next page with Rueben A. Coffey

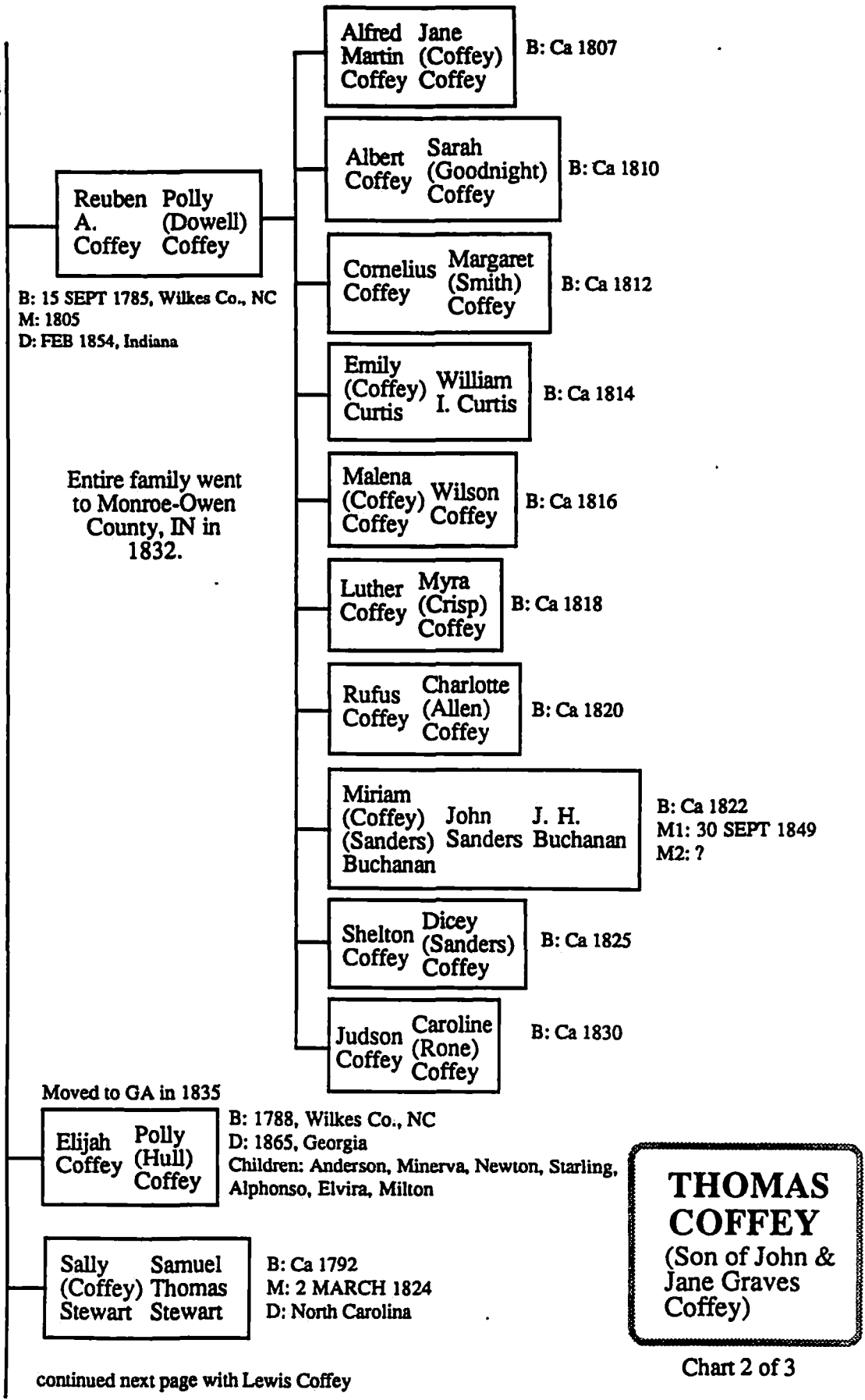
**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.



**Coffey Family History;  
THOMAS COFFEY**

continued from William Coffey, children of Thomas and Sally Coffey



**NOTES:**

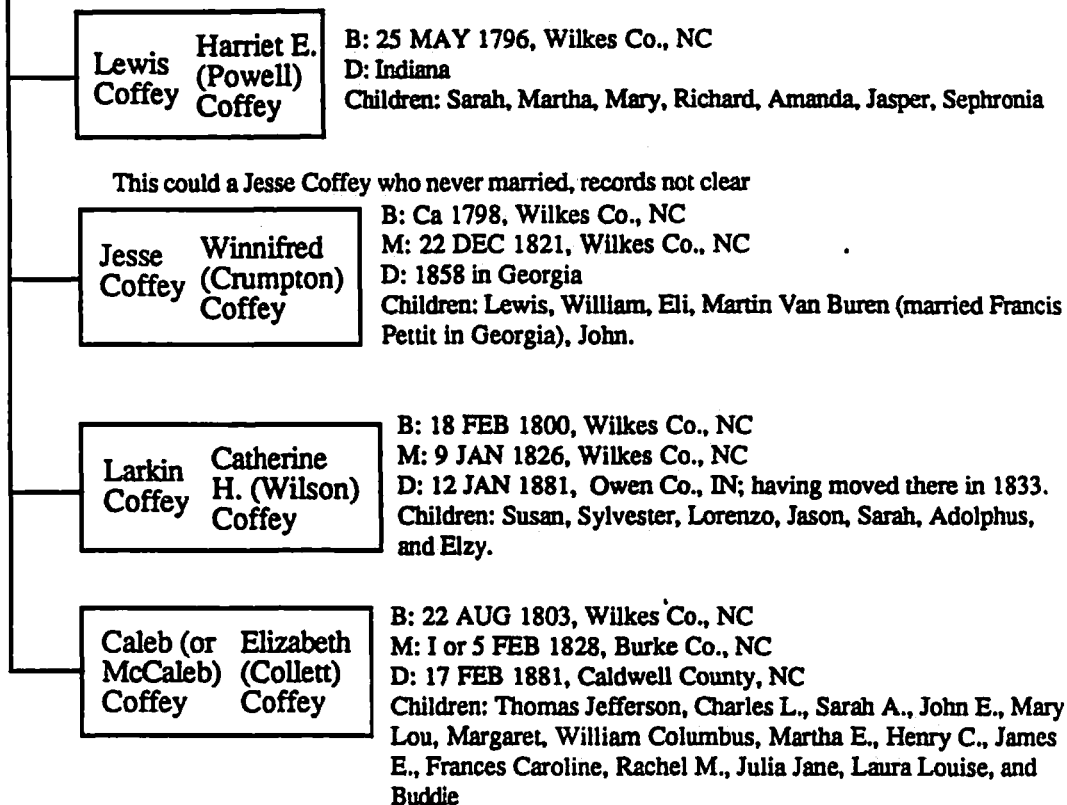
1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

Coffey Family History;  
**THOMAS COFFEY**

continued from Sally Coffey,  
 children of Thomas and Sally  
 Coffey

**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart  
 from Marvin D. Coffey;  
 Ashland, OR in his book  
 about James Bluford  
 Coffey, Volume 2.



**THOMAS  
 COFFEY**  
 (Son of John &  
 Jane Graves  
 Coffey)



**Coffey Family History;  
REUBEN COFFEY**

John and Jane  
(Graves) Coffey

D: OCT  
1837

Reuben Sarah "Sally"  
Coffey (Scott)  
Coffey

B: 1744, Essex or  
Spottsylvania Co., VA  
M: <1772, probably Albemarle  
Co., VA  
D: 1818, Burke Co., NC

John Coffey

Reuben Naomi  
Coffey (Hays)  
Coffey

B: 1772  
M: 7 FEB 1797, Wilkes Co., NC  
D: 30 NOV 1851, Owen Co., IN SEE CHART

Joseph ?  
Coffey

D: 1835  
SEE CHART

Jesse Coffey

D: 1840

Elizabeth B. John Green or  
(Coffey) Thomas Roper  
Green/Roper

B: 30 JUL 1776  
D: 5 MAR 1868, Green Co., IN

Elijah Mary Abby  
Coffey "Polly" (Dyer)  
Coffey

B: 11 MAR 1779, Globe, Burke Co., NC  
M: 23 SEPT 1803, Ashe Co., NC  
D: 3 SEPT 1863, Owen Co., IN SEE CHART

James D. Hannah Alloway  
Coffey (Strange) Coffey

B: 23 OCT 1786, Globe, Burke Co., NC  
D: 27 OCT 1868, Owen Co., IN SEE CHART

Nancy ----- Joel  
(Coffey) Durham Anderson  
(Durham) Dyer Dyer

B: 10 SEPT 1788, Globe, Burke Co., NC  
D: 19 APR 1866, IN

William Mary  
H. (Faulkner)  
Coffey Coffey

SEE CHART  
B: 1789, Globe, Burke Co., NC  
D: 17 OCT 1844, Owen Co., IN

Thomas Coffey

D: <1838, No children

Benjamin Exa Saphronia  
Coffey (Stepp) Coffey

SEE CHART  
B: Ca 1790, Globe, Burke Co., NC  
M: 1816  
D: 1843, Owen Co., IN

Jane James  
(Coffey) Webb  
Webb

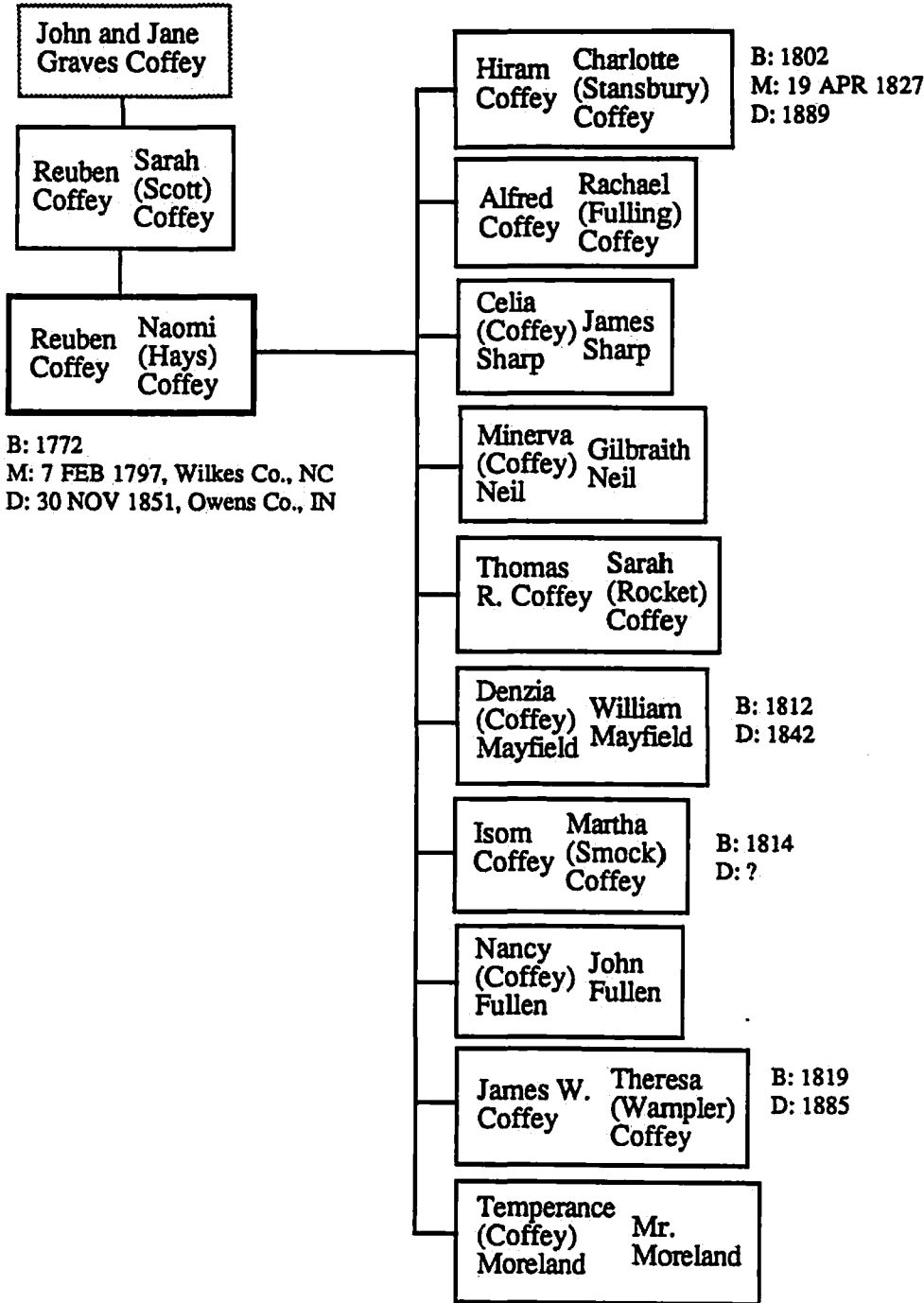
? Sally Samuel  
(Coffey) Curtis  
Curtis

**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from  
Marvin D. Coffey;  
Ashland, OR in his book  
about James Bluford  
Coffey, Volume 2.

**REUBEN  
COFFEY**  
(Son of John &  
Jane Graves  
Coffey)

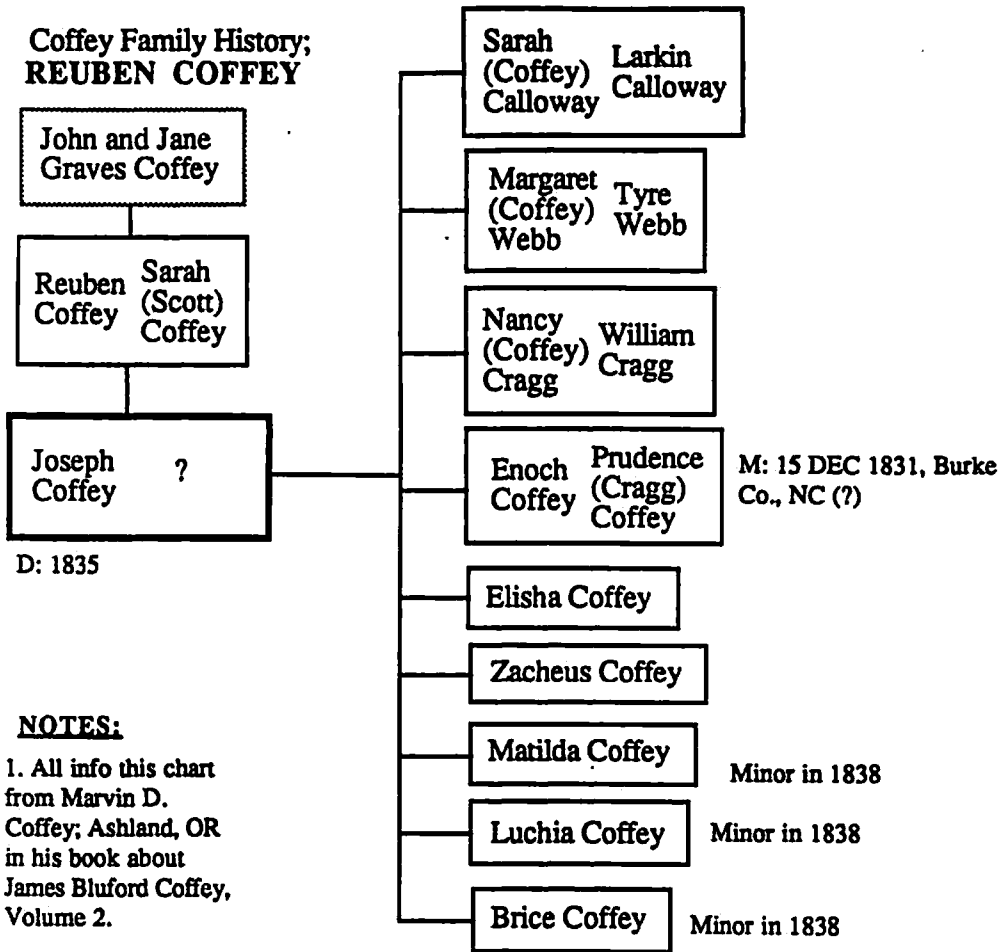
**Coffey Family History;  
REUBEN COFFEY**



**Reuben Coffey**  
(Son of Reuben and Sarah Scott Coffey)  
Chart 1 of 1



**Coffey Family History;  
REUBEN COFFEY**

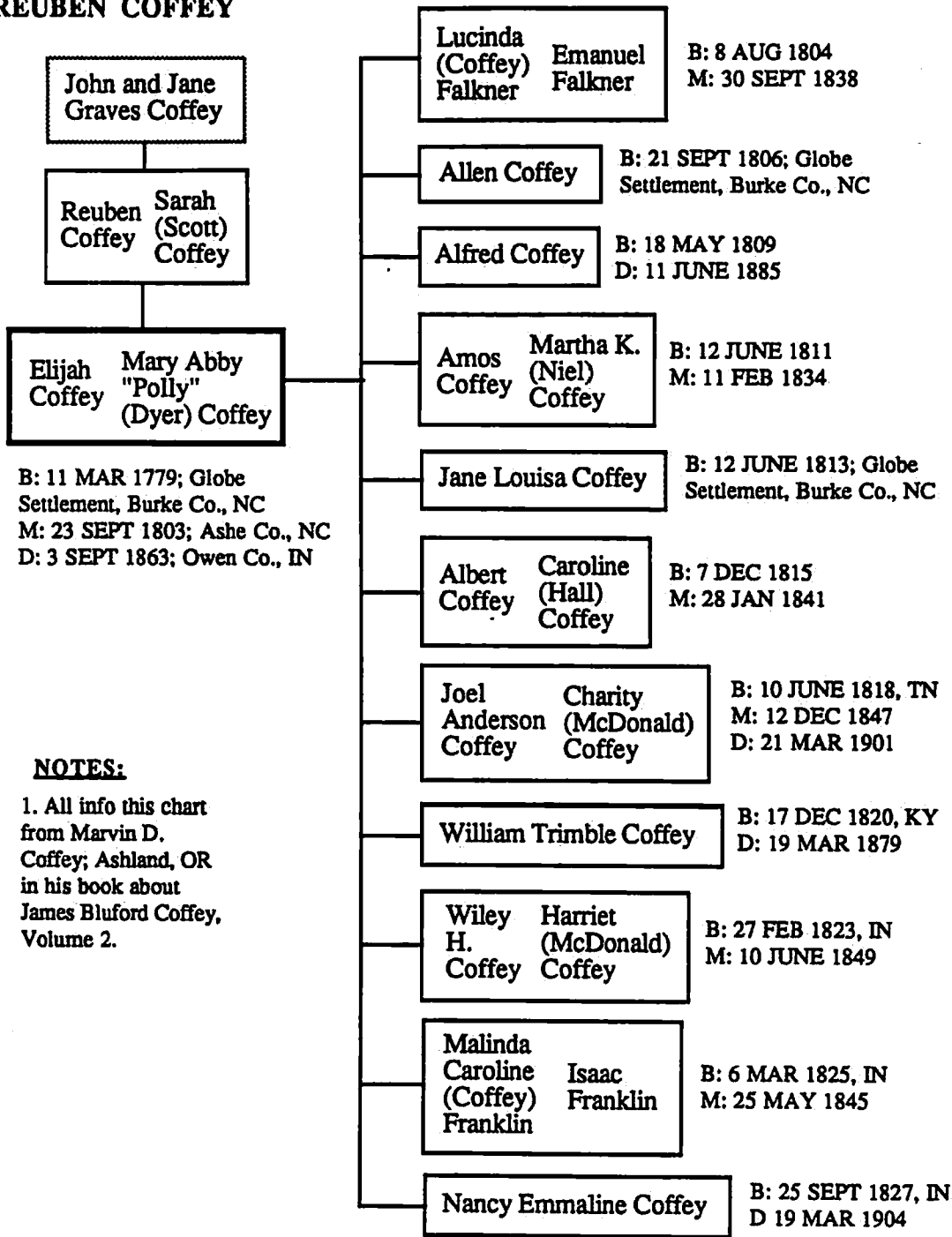


**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**Joseph Coffey**  
(Son of Reuben and Sarah Scott Coffey)  
Chart 1 of 1

**Coffey Family History;  
REUBEN COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

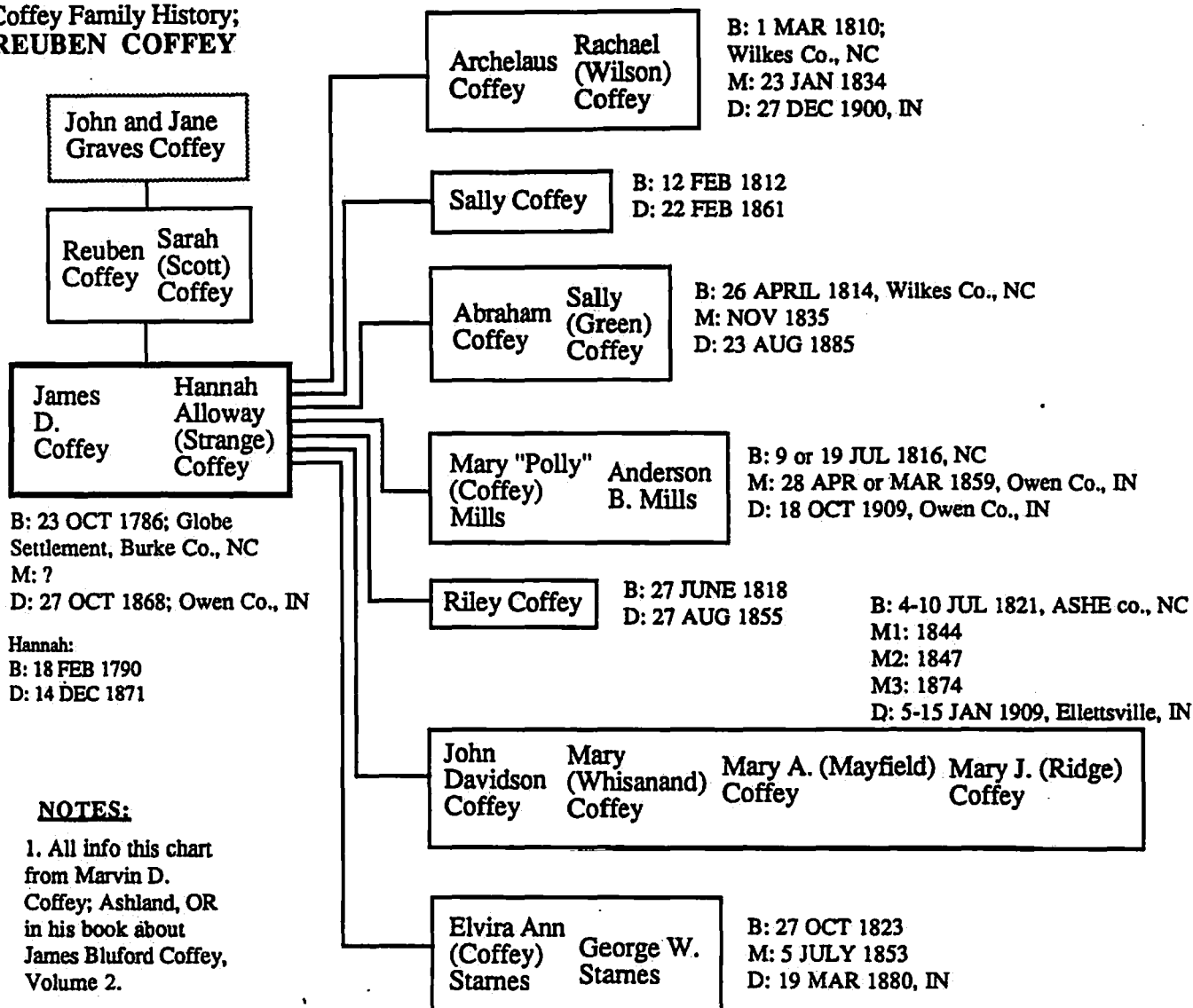
1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**Elijah Coffey**  
(Son of Reuben and Sarah Scott Coffey)  
Chart 1 of 1





**Coffey Family History;  
REUBEN COFFEY**



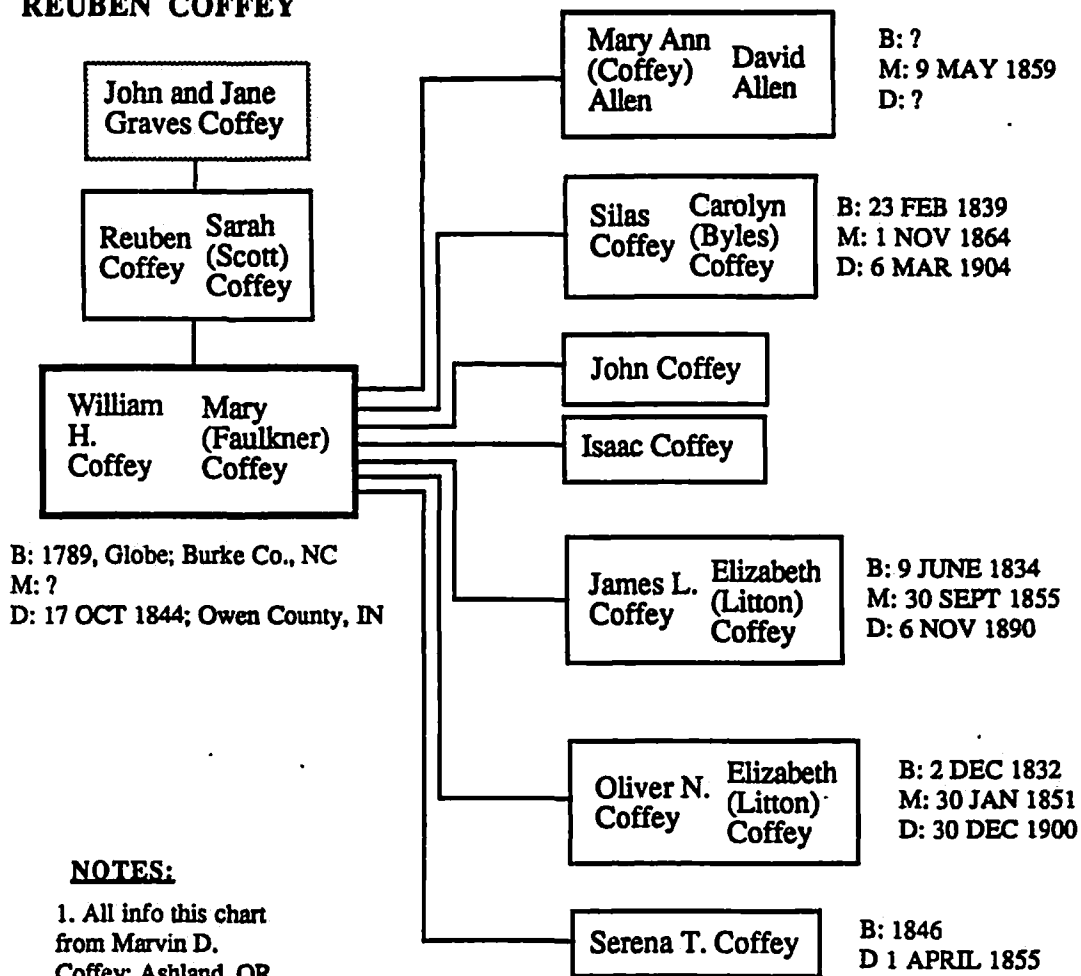
**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**James D. Coffey**  
(Son of Reuben and Sarah Scott Coffey)  
Chart 1 of 1



**Coffey Family History;  
REUBEN COFFEY**

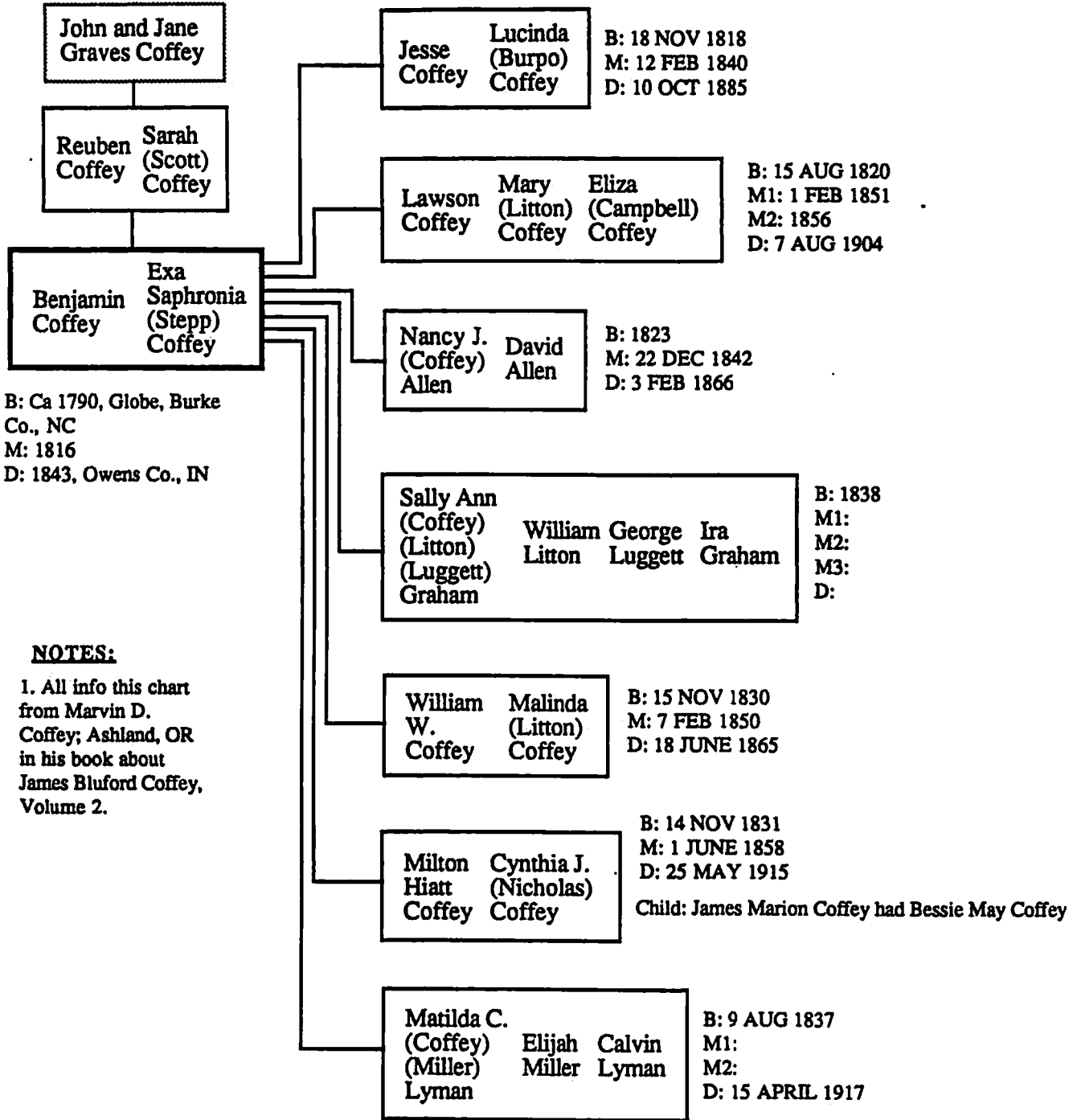


**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**William  
H. Coffey**  
 (Son of Reuben and Sarah Scott Coffey)  
 Chart 1 of 1

**Coffey Family History;  
REUBEN COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**Benjamin Coffey**  
(Son of Reuben and Sarah Scott Coffey)  
Chart 1 of 1



**Coffey Family History;  
BENJAMIN COFFEY**

John and Jane  
(Graves) Coffey

Benjamin <sup>M</sup> Polly <sup>2</sup>  
Coffey (Hayes)  
Coffey

B: 1747, Spotsylvania Co., VA  
M: ?  
D: 4 JAN 1834, Hawkins Co., TN

John Elizabeth  
Coffey (Rucker)  
Coffey

B: 15 OCT 1776, PROB Rowan Co.,  
NC  
M: SEE CHART  
D: 15 MAR 1845, Grainger Co., TN

\*\* George Margaret  
Coffey (Rucker)  
Coffey

B: Ca 1782  
M:  
D: SEE  
CHART

Caswell Martha  
Coffey (Campbell)  
Coffey

\*\* Bennett Sally  
Coffey (Ferguson)  
Coffey

Caswell:  
B: Ca 1806, NC  
M: 3 or 4  
D: 7 SEPT 1882,  
Grainger Co., TN

Joel Sarah  
Coffey (Mullins)  
Coffey

M: 5 NOV  
1855,  
Grainger  
Co., TN

Jesse Coffey

Ca 1828, TN

Louisa Coffey

Ca 1831, TN

B: Ca 1779  
M: 5 FEB 1805  
D: <1858

B: Ca 1778  
M: 3 JULY 1796

\*\* William Mary "Polly"  
Coffey (Coffey)  
Coffey

Austin Betsey  
Coffey (Hawkins)  
Coffey

William Margaret  
Coffey (Robbins)  
Coffey

Elijah Elizabeth  
Coffey (Robbins)  
Coffey

? Jesse Coffey

\* Jane Joel  
(Coffey) Coffey

M: AUG 1793 ?

? Ann Alexander  
(Coffey) McKinsey  
McKinsey

M: 28 OCT 1793,  
Wilkes Co., NC

\* Sarah James  
(Coffey) Coffey

M: 30 AUG 1794

? Daughter,  
name  
unknown

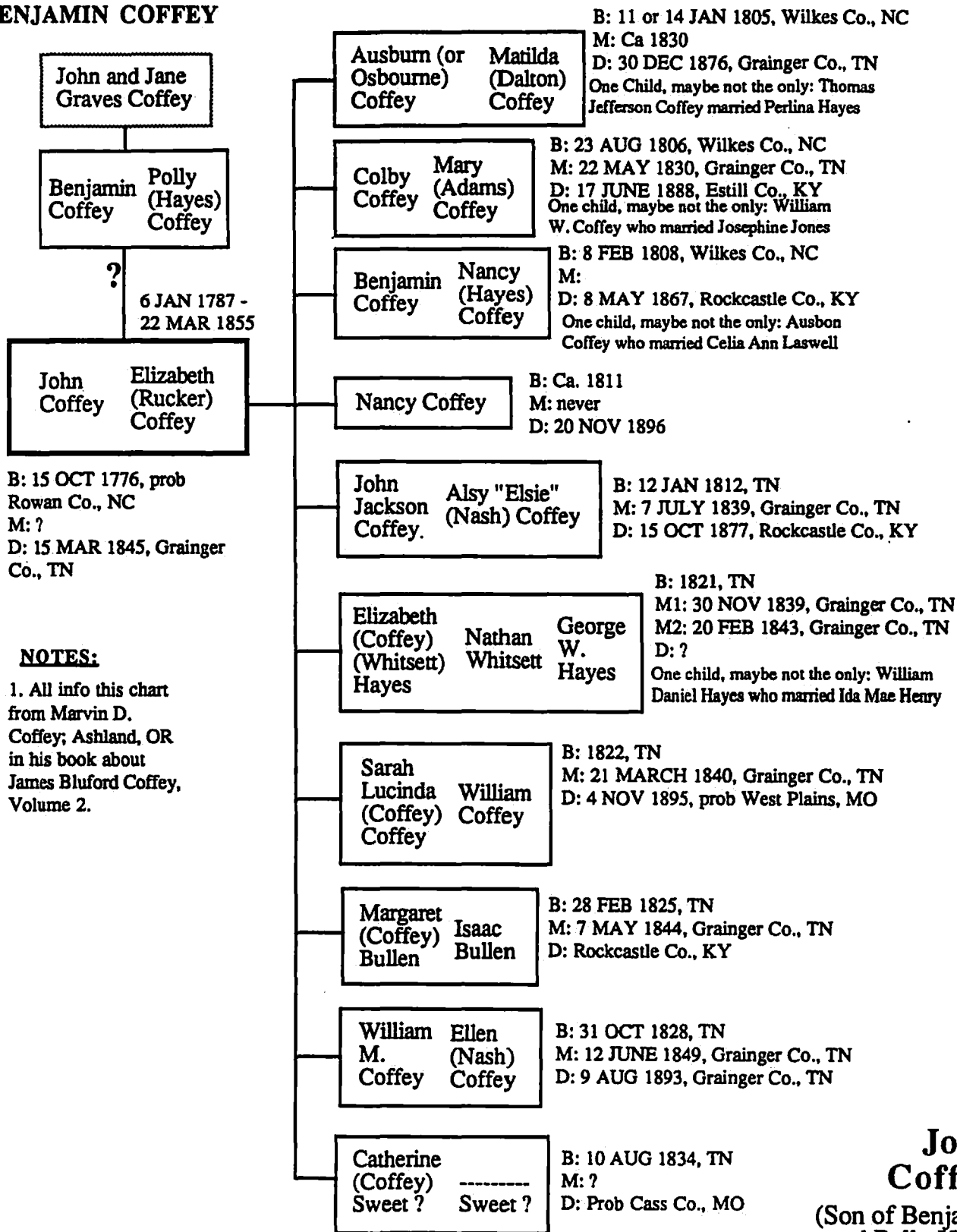
**BENJAMIN  
COFFEY**  
(Son of John &  
Jane Graves  
Coffey)

**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.
2. Polly may have been the daughter of Jesse Hayes.

- \*= This person may belong to the Chesley Coffey Family
- \*\*= Probable children, not yet proven.
- ?= Speculation or unknown

**Coffey Family History;  
BENJAMIN COFFEY**



B: 15 OCT 1776, prob Rowan Co., NC  
 M: ?  
 D: 15 MAR 1845, Grainger Co., TN

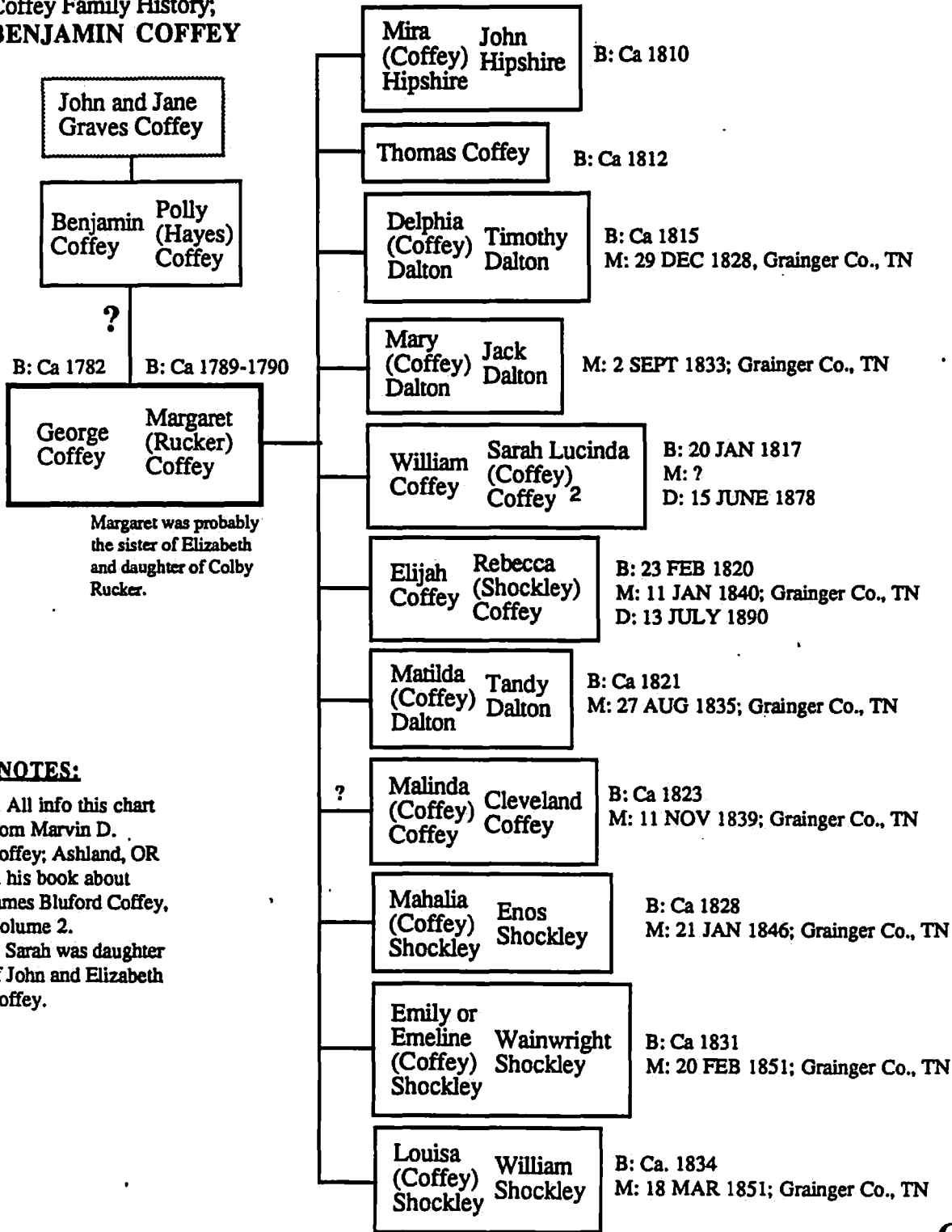
**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.

**John Coffey**  
 (Son of Benjamin and Polly Hayes Coffey)  
 Chart 1 of 1



**Coffey Family History;  
BENJAMIN COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Marvin D. Coffey; Ashland, OR in his book about James Bluford Coffey, Volume 2.
2. Sarah was daughter of John and Elizabeth Coffey.

**George Coffey**  
(Son of Benjamin and Polly Hayes Coffey)  
Chart 1 of 1

# "Jordan Fitzgerald (Alias Coffey)"

*By tracing backwards from the known founders of Coffeytown: John Jack and William "Billy" Coffey, and others, it is very clear in the records that Jordan Coffey is the grand patriarch of "Coffeytown", Virginia, although he never saw it developed. Those "founders" of Coffeytown who can be proven to be his children are Hudson, John Jack, and William "Billy" Coffey. Jordan also had three daughters: Jane, Susanna, and Elizabeth Coffey who married and left the area within a few years. Each of the six marriage records clearly establish their parentage. Schylar, Nelson, and Henry Coffey were three others who were closely associated with Jordan, but were probably not his biological sons. This chapter concerns Jordan himself, some aspects of his life, and possibilities for his ancestry.*

**1780/1803**

Jordan Coffey is indicated in the 1850 Census to be 70 years old, which would fix his birthdate in 1780, in the midst of the Revolutionary War. Two other Census reports indicate, by range, that this date is probably accurate. While his place of birth is not known for certain, it was likely Amherst County, VA. In the 1800 tax records for Amherst County, Jordan is listed as "Jordan Fitzgerald (alias Coffey)". In 1803, Jordan Coffey married Elizabeth (Rippetoe) Coffey, she being the daughter of Peter and Sarah Rippetoe of Amherst County. Giving permission for the marriage were her parents and his guardian, Benjamin Fitzgerald. Edmund Coffey was a witness. S. Garland, Jane Rippetoe, and James Bridge were involved as security or as witnesses. There is no death record for Jordan or Elizabeth, but both were alive in 1850, and although not listed in any Census report thereafter, Jordan is listed in the 1851 tax records for Amherst County. We have not yet searched more recent Amherst County tax records, which might narrow the range for his date of death, but at this time we estimate late 1851 to 1853 (based on Hudson's marriage date).

While Jordan was clearly the father of many of the early Coffeytown Coffeys, and at least closely associated with the others, it is not at all completely clear as to his ancestry. Unless Jordan's parentage can be firmly established, it is not possible to trace the Coffeytown line back to Edward Coffey of Essex County. Edward the immigrant is, as previously discussed, the most likely prospect for the first American Coffeytown Coffey, but proving the line by reference to some "smoking pistol" document, such as a will, death record, court record, or other acceptable document is necessary to fully establish the ancestry of Coffeytown. Unfortunately, such a record, if it exists, has not been found to date.

At this time, there is only speculation and deduction based on some very few known facts about Jordan and the people around him. This speculation is discussed throughout this chapter so that those who are interested in Coffey family history can at least appreciate the difficulty of tracing this branch of Coffeys "back to the boat". Of the various ideas we have heard or read, we have selected some to discuss here, either to refute, elaborate, or simply repeat.

## **Son of Archelous?**

If Jordan was a son of Archelous Coffey (grandson of James Coffey), as previously speculated, he would probably have been born in North Carolina. We have not searched

any of the North Carolina records, but others, seriously interested in their own ancestry and knowledgeable of the pitfalls of genealogy, have diligently searched and did not discover any "extra" children. Consequently, if Jordan was the son of Archelaus brought back to Virginia by Eleanor Wade after the death of Archelous, there may never be a record which would prove it. At this time, we believe this possibility is remote.

### **Illegitimate Son of Jane Coffey and Benjamin Fitzgerald?**

Other than as stated above, no other direct information is available from the records of Jordan's marriage in 1803. Why would Benjamin Fitzgerald, thought to be a bachelor most of his life, take on guardianship of a young boy? Benjamin was 21 or 22 when Jordan was born. Some have wondered if Jane Coffey, daughter of William Coffey the elder, and who was known as Jane Fitzgerald in 1825, did not marry Benjamin Fitzgerald after Jordan was born, due to Benjamin being Jordan's actual biological father. This proposed scheme would fit with part of the language of William's will, written in 1825, concerning Jane's illegitimate offspring, and it would help explain why Jordan named one of his daughters Jane, and why Benjamin Fitzgerald, when he wrote his will in Nelson County in 1848, left everything to his daughter: Jane Fitzgerald. These are some strong indicators of a close relationship, but not proof of parenthood. There are court records and other records which indicate the proximity of Benjamin Fitzgerald to the Coffey household, and no doubt to the haystack out back, but no "smoking pistol".

If Jordan was an illegitimate son, there might be some indication of his birth in the Amherst County court records. We could find no reference to him or any illegitimate Coffey in 1779, 1780, 1781, or 1782 court records. We also looked through the 1784 through 1790 court records. As we understand it, children were allowed to choose their own guardians at age 14, so we looked in the 1793, and a portion of the 1794 court records (remainder of 1794 and 1795 not on microfilm), again without success. Although all of the years are not available on microfilms at the Virginia State Archives, we also looked in the 1799-1801 index and completely through the 1801 and 1802 records with no luck. 1803 records are not on file at the Archives or at Amherst Court House, apparently having been lost. That was the year of his marriage. Several other court records were searched with some interesting results but not a guardianship case or other mention of Jordan Coffey. Not all of the available records have been searched, and this process may continue, with the hope of finding reference to a guardianship established at some "off" year, upon the death of his parents, or some other reason. But, given the lack of a court case to demonstrate that Jordan is an illegitimate child, and the apparent age difference between Benjamin and Jane, we find it doubly difficult to accept Jordan as an illegitimate child of Jane Coffey or any other Coffey, although there is much in the records and circumstances which might connect Jane and Benjamin. As an example, we offer the following:

In the April Court, Amherst County, 1782, the court ordered Moses Martin to keep the road in good repair from Doaks Gap to the old mill road, using the drafted services of James Hambelton, James Fitzjerrall (sic), William Coffey, Ozburn Coffey, John High; and others. Evidently all were neighbors along that road. This was the method by which roads were maintained in Virginia - by appointing someone, usually one of the most means, to become what later was referred to as a "Road Surveyor". His job was to survey the road, recruit help, and fix all the potholes. To refuse the surveyor would result in a day in court. Anyway, all these names became very important to Coffeytown family history: the Hambeltons would be responsible for three Coffey spouses and the first land owned by a Coffey in present day Amherst County; James Fitzjerrall is believed to be a relative of Benjamin Fitzgerald (needs confirmation through additional research).

William Coffey was probably the elder, father of Jane Coffey; "Osburn"/Osbourne Coffey went to Kentucky in 1797 after putting up bail (in 1785) for Robert Hambelton, who we will later refer to as "hot-headed Hambelton"; John Hight was involved in some land transactions and a few court cases of debt with the Coffeys.

All in all a happy little community, complete with its own drama, and transient thieves: As shown by court records of October, 1793, a felonius thug named Moses Moody (Alias Thomas Grant) came through Amherst County, having stolen a boy gelding from Archibald Crawford of Albemarle County, valued at 10 pounds. It was this horse thievery that William Coffey, Benjamin Fitzgerald, and James Smithe noted, chased and caught the man. But this wasn't his only bad habit. Moses was also wanted for robbing the eastern mail and stealing money, and also for breaking into and then breaking up a jail in Maryland and letting several of the prisoners loose. Later, William was excused from jury duty to travel to Maryland to cooperate with the authorities up there, perhaps to award Mr. Moody Maryland's Fine Citizen Award.

All of this is to say that the Fitzgeralds and Coffeys were close neighbors and there is no doubt that Benjamin Fitzgerald and Jane Coffey knew each other. However, there is no record that we could find of any marriage between Jane and any Fitzgerald, and the only record we found of a Benjamin getting married was in Nelson County to "Matilda A. J. Fitzgerald" in 1835, when our Benjamin was 84 years old. There is no evidence, other than coincidence, which might prove the proposed relationship.

Further, in the 1800 Tax records for Amherst County, Jordan is listed as "Jordan Fitzgerald (Alias Coffey)" by the tax collector. Evidently he had use of the two surnames somewhat interchangeably. If this were true, why would he decide to use a "bastard" name, and pass it on to his children, when he married? If his biological father was always there and his name was available, it would seem reasonable that Jordan would have used it. Other possible reasons for this selection will be discussed later.

At this time we consider that Benjamin was simply Jordan's guardian, not his father as some have suggested earlier as an avenue for further research and study. Benjamin was most likely an innocent bystander. A more complete explanation of this strange relationship will be offered later.

### **Edward the Twin?**

Consider also that "Edmund" the witness at Jordan's wedding, was the Edmund who had a "guardian and next friend" in William Coffey. Further, it is quite possible that this Edmund was Jordan's biological brother, and not a child of William the elder. It is possible that when their parents (Jordan's and Edmund's) died, say of disease, local neighbors took in the children. This was not uncommon. One went to William Coffey (perhaps William Coffey, Jr. who married Polly Rippetoe), one went to William's sister Winnefred (Coffey) Hayes (she was known to be the guardian of Jeminah Coffey) and another to a neighbor, Benjamin Fitzgerald, although it is strange that a bachelor would want to change diapers. There may have been others who have not yet shown themselves in the records. Many court records remain to be searched to establish this scenario as realistic. (It is possible that this was Edmund F., and that William, Jr. his older brother, was acting as his "guardian and next friend" in the court case, perhaps because the incident occurred when Edmund was visiting William, Jr. Indeed, William the elder's will describes Edmund F. as one of his "friends" and as his son, so the use of the word may have had somewhat less exclusive meaning in those days.)

Keeping in mind that the twin John was the traditional one, using family derived names

for his children, there are several "unattached" Coffeys with "non-Coffey" names in Amherst County at various times. The name Jordan has several possible origins. First, this is a Biblical name, not as common perhaps as John or James but more so than Edward or Jane. Secondly, there was a family in Amherst/Nelson County named Jordan, and William Jordan was a good friend of and a former military buddy with Benjamin Fitzgerald. Also, if Benjamin Fitzgerald knew him, William the Elder surely knew him also. Third, Osborne Coffey, serving in the colonial militia, had a leader whose middle name was "Jordain". There may be others but these are the only sources of the name of which we are aware which would have been available to the Coffeys at the time. Perhaps Jordan's father admired a Jordan and decided to name one of his children after the man. As we will discuss later, this may not have been the only time William named a child after a friend.

From the 1797 Tax records we found a William Coffey who had three sons between the ages of 16 and 21 years. These were about the same age as Jordan. One was named William, another Monrow, and another Nelson. Except for translating his own name to his first son, this Coffey named his children after other family surnames of which he was aware. Since we don't know who his wife was (she may have been a Monroe whose father's name was Nelson), we can't tell how "outside" these names were, but they clearly were not traditional Coffey names. Indeed, the Governor of Virginia at this time was James Monroe, and Lord Nelson was still widely known and respected. One other possibility is that this was William, Jr. who could have had a first wife named Monroe - his sister married a Monroe, and it could have been only later that he married the Rippetoe. The Monroe marriage could have happened in Albemarle County where the marriage records are poor.) This could also have been William the elder, whose sons Monroe and Nelson died before 1825. This last possibility is discussed further later.

There were many Biblical names: Abner, Micajah, Samuel, etc. in this timeframe, probably not from any one particular Coffey group. We found a Charles Coffey, wife Sarah, and sidekicks (no relation known) John and Peter Coffey, involved in a land deal, in the general vicinity of Amherst/Nelson County during Colonial times. The John sounds like John or Edward's group, Peter sounds like an unrelated group of Coffeys in Prince Edward County, but the Charles doesn't relate to any of Edward the indentured servant's descendants. So tracking the names alone isn't enough to establish a direction for further research, but there is one particular "coincidence" which seems worth mentioning.

When William Rippetoe sold his land to William Hall in 1770, it was recorded that this land was on the northeast side of the Piney Mountain adjacent to the land of Edward (70 years of age at the time) and Cleveland Coffey. This was most likely Edward the twin of John. Most likely, Cleveland was his son, since Edward married Grace Cleveland. This property is in present day Nelson County. A portion of Schyuler District dips down to encompass this territory. Nelson and "Schylar", sometimes spelled like the county district, were Coffeys who ended up with Jordan. Due to the lack of involvement by Jordan in their marriages and other transactions, we believe they were brothers who had a "guardian": Jordan Coffey. Henry Coffey was listed on his death record as being the son of Charles and Jane Coffey of Nelson County. None of those names are found in the known Coffey descendants of John and Jane Graves of the generations of concern.

It could be that all these "disconnected" Coffeys are related through their ancestry in Edward the twin. His family was known to be in the vicinity of the Rippetoe family (William Rippetoe left for North Carolina but Peter Rippetoe remained). Robert Hambelton married Susie Rippetoe (perhaps his second wife) and William Coffey, Jr. married Polly Rippetoe in 1790, an older sister of Elizabeth, who Jordan married in 1803. There may have been other Coffeys, descendants of Edward the twin, and

possibly of Cleveland his son, who had some children, then died and the children were farmed out among the neighbors. If the older Edward / Cleveland clan left Amherst, the remaining descendants (if any) would have been isolated from family and would have turned to other sources for children's names.

At this time, however, there is no proof of any of this and not even a solid clue in the public records we have seen to date. Therefore, we think this possibility is also remote and we offer an explanation we think is more likely.

### **Jordan Coffey in Nelson County**

The first mention of Jordan Coffey in the public records which we have found to date is the 1800 Amherst County tax record, followed by the 1803 marriage record. In 1807, Nelson County was created out of the north half of Amherst County. Jordan shows in the tax records of Nelson County for the years 1809 - 1827, after which he disappears from Nelson County records. Schylar and Hudson show up in the 1826 tax records of Nelson County.

None of the Census reports prior to 1850 list the names of those within the household, just the name of the head of the household. Others are listed by gender and age bracket. It is not always possible to tell who's who but sometimes a possibility can be eliminated. If Jordan was not the head of a household, perhaps he was living with Benjamin Fitzgerald in 1810, who seems to suddenly have a large family with no apparent wife. According to the age/gender brackets, it is unlikely that Jordan and his family were there because no one Jordan's age is listed and the quantities per gender within each category are wrong for his children. We don't know where in Nelson County Jordan was in 1810 or in 1820. In the early years of his marriage, he may have been living with the Hudson family, south of William's land, and this may be where the name Hudson came from. In 1820, Benjamin Fitzgerald is also not listed in the statewide index, and it is possible that he left Virginia for some period of time, was living with someone else and therefore doesn't show as the head of a household, or that he was simply missed when the census was taken. In 1820, Benjamin would have been 69 years of age and it is doubtful he would have been travelling far. In 1830, Jordan Coffey shows as the head of a household - in Amherst County, which at that time did not include Nelson county territory. Apparently Jordan never owned land in Nelson or Amherst Counties.

While we have not yet researched the Nelson County Court records, we understand that Jordan shows up several times in debt he can't seem to pay off. It must have been very difficult in those days, with a large young family, and no land of his own, to make ends meet. The early Coffeys in Albemarle/Amherst County also spent a good deal of time in court as they struggled to establish themselves, mostly over debts they couldn't pay or collect.

We don't know much about Jordan's life between 1780 and 1803, but one document may offer some clues to the mystery of his early life.

### **The Will of William Coffey the Elder**

From William Coffey the elder's will, written in 1825, we know that Jordan was living on William's land, and probably living in a homemade cabin around present day Tyro/Massie's Mill. We don't know the earliest date of his use of this land. William's will was probated in March, 1828. His exact date of death is not known but was surely before March of 1828. This will is important to Coffeytown history for many reasons. It

mentions Jordan Coffey and establishes where he was living, that Jane was a Fitzgerald who had at least one illegitimate child, that William didn't care for Polly Rippetoe, William, Jr.'s wife, and that for whatever reason, Jordan wasn't going to get anything meaningful from William through his will. Some have read the will to mean that Jordan was William's son, simply because he was mentioned in the will, but Jordan was not treated like a son, and that raises many questions. He was only given the right to rent the land on which he lived at a fixed rate of \$5.00 per year, unless William's Executors thought it was in the best interest of the estate to terminate that relationship. The wording of the will implies that Jordan was allowed to use this land, as long as William was alive, without paying rent, but upon William's death, Jordan had to pay his way. The Executors were Edmund F. Coffey and James Montgomery. If Jordan had a legal guardian in 1803, it certainly seems unlikely that he would have a living father in 1825. Many things need explanations.

What did Jordan get from this will? What was the purpose of making the statement at all? Jordan got nothing he didn't already have. Did William think his children would run Jordan off his property as soon as he died? If so, why did he care? Was Jordan a descendant of Edward the twin, a family connection which only William remembered and understood, and which he feared was not strong enough for his children to honor without such a statement? If so, why does he give Edmund F. such an easy out? We believe this portion of the will had the intent of making it perfectly clear that Jordan wasn't going to get anything except, if convenient, a continuation of what he already had, but now he would have to pay his way. It is not the magnanimous statement it appears to be. A careful reading of the will with some knowledge of the family relations at the time indicates that William's will is vindictive and insulting to his son William, Jr. and even to Jane's illegitimate child or children, and to Jordan himself. William, Jr.'s wife, Polly Rippetoe, and his children with her blood were cut completely out of the family assets. Family legend has it that the Coffeys never did think much of the Rippetoes, although no reason is ever given nor has any specific documented reason (such as a court case) been found to date. This will certainly fits that description. William the elder's will is not particularly generous with any of his daughters except Margaret who married the Monroe who William evidently admired and wanted taken care of with some of his assets. Something caused Jordan to leave the area almost immediately, leaving behind all his possessions which were evidently attached to the land. It wasn't because he couldn't contain his joy over the terms of the will. What would make him leave a comfortable home? Would the children of William run him off immediately, especially if Elizabeth was pregnant or had just had that "extra" child who shows up in the 1830 Census? Would Edmund have allowed the rest of the children to run him off so quickly, even if he was unrelated? Would the lack of \$5.00 for a year's rent cause him to leave so soon? If he were caught off guard, Edmund could have given him time to pay the rent. Would the same children reverse some of their vindictive father's wishes ten years later? It seems clear to us that Jordan left of his own accord, soon after William died and after the terms of the will were made public.

By this time Hudson, oldest son of Jordan, and perhaps Schylar Coffey had already gone south to Amherst County probably to make some money. In 1800 a resort area opened at Buffalo Springs in present day Amherst County, which lasted until the Civil War. This may have been their destination as employees or contractors. Jordan had John Jack, William, the girls, and maybe Nelson to help him out on the land he had been renting as of 1825 - 1828.

On 31 DEC 1827, in Amherst County, Hudson Coffey deeded some beds, furniture and a mare to his father Jordan. This deed (DB"S"/ pg 126) was prompted by benevolence and freely loaned to Jordan "... at pleasure and for welfare and interest of Jordan." Based on the date of the deed, this could have been some form of tax scheme gone awry.

Hudson in Amherst deeds to Jordan in Nelson, doesn't pay taxes in Amherst because he didn't have possession of it on 1 JAN 1828, and Jordan in Nelson pays much less tax. From the tax records it looks like they did not pay taxes in 1828 in Nelson county, but Jordan ended up paying \$0.26 for his possessions in Amherst County. Had he stayed in Nelson, perhaps the taxes would have been less. All that for \$0.26 or less? Most of the early Coffeys were illiterate, including Jordan, Elizabeth, and Hudson, and it is difficult to conceive that they would have come up with such a devious scheme, especially over 26 cents. Not only that but this deed is written as a loan, not a gift. The date of 31 December is probably a coincidence. From the subject of this deed, we believe that William most likely died in the latter part of 1827. It is unlikely that this is simply a Christmas present, or the deed would be dated earlier.

This action was most likely taken by Hudson to mitigate his father's pain and shock over the terms of William's will. Not only was Jordan's "homeplace" now left to the whims of those who perhaps didn't get along with his wife's family and perhaps not even with him, but his sister-in-law had just been completely cut out of any inheritance from the Coffeys, although she had been married to one for 38 years, and now, after some years - at least three - of living on the land perhaps rent-free, he had to start paying for it. Some ten years later, the rest of the family, out of love for William, Jr. reverted the land back to him, so that his children could inherit his land. (We don't know when Polly died. She was one of the objects of William's vindictive will.) But is all this enough to make a man pack up his family and leave the county?

It is not completely clear if Jordan was in Amherst when Hudson's deed was written or whether he was still in Nelson County; but we suspect that this deed was Hudson's way of convincing his father that he would be better off in Amherst County, drawing him away from the family politics of the day. Hudson chose the instrument of a deed rather than simply offering it to his father because it was the written document which had shocked Jordan so much. This was Hudson's attempt to see that his parents received something out of the activity around them. This was probably all Hudson had. Had he owned land, it too would probably have been deeded to Jordan. Hudson appears to have done the best he could with his limited resources.

### Another Possibility

All of this raises questions. Could it be that Jordan was in fact William's son; that William, Sr. had learned, from his "experience" with William, Jr.'s wife Polly beginning in 1790, that he just couldn't stand those Rippetoes; that William, Sr. had told Jordan NOT to marry another one of those creatures and that if he did, William would disown him; that Benjamin Fitzgerald, nice guy in the neighborhood, just acted as a guardian for Jordan after William disowned him when he continued seeing Elizabeth? In 1800 Jordan was only 20 and would have needed William's permission to marry, but by 1803, Jordan was 23 and all he needed (besides a little money) was someone to say he was over 21, so Benjamin who was taking care of him since he was 20 or a little younger, simply acted as his guardian to simplify the wedding. There is no mention in Amherst County court records of a formal guardianship being established. Could it be that Jordan left Nelson County not only because his sister-in-law had been insulted, but also because the old coot actually did it, actually disinherited him, and the realization of this shock was devastating? Although Jordan had even tried to change his name from Coffey in 1800, he still never believed his father would not eventually see that Elizabeth Rippetoe was Jordan's choice to make, and that she was not all that bad. Jordan tried to make peace with his father and, when he came to live on his land, hoped that his father would see the man he had become and William would eventually forgive him. In 1815, Jordan named a son after his father, or brother William, Jr. It may be that he was using



his father's land as early as 1815 when "Billy" was born. Now, with disclosure of the contents of the will, Jordan was shocked to learn that nothing he had done since 1800 had changed his father's mind. It wasn't the loss of land as much as the realization of his father's feelings for him which was so painful that Jordan had to leave the county. There was nothing left for him in Nelson County.

This scenario fits somewhat into the family legend that the Coffeys never cared much for the Rippetoes; and the legend of Elizabeth Thackery and Edmund Eff Coffey who defied their parents to get married, and it also explains quite a few minor mysteries, such as why Jordan never owned land, why he left Nelson County just when William died, and why would Benjamin Fitzgerald, probably a bachelor at the time, take on a son. Were the years with Benjamin equated to the stay in the monastery?

This scenario also opens up another possible explanation as to who were Nelson and Schylar Coffey, if not the sons of Jordan and Elizabeth. To tie in this mystery, we can add some speculation based also on that 1797 tax report showing some William with 3 sons between the ages of 16-21. This was the only William listed as a personal property taxpayer in 1797, and is therefore almost certainly William the elder. The son William was William, Jr. The son named "Monrow" was named after William the elder's very good friend George Monroe, to whom William willed \$100 for Monroe's "care and management". Since he is not mentioned in William's will, and there are no further children named Monroe, we assume he died before 1825. Nelson Coffey, son of William the elder, is also not mentioned in the will, nor are any children he or Monrow might have had. We suspect the following possibility for additional research will bear out some useful information:

Suppose Monrow died without marrying. Suppose Nelson, who was roughly the same age as Jordan, became involved with a young woman around 1805. She became pregnant and William banished Nelson from his household. Before he and his "wife" died, she bore him at least two children: Schylar and Nelson. This scenario would explain nearly everything known regarding the relationship between Schylar and Nelson and Jordan. They were his nephews. This possibility, for which we have no proof yet, is proposed only because it seems to make sense and fit the few facts we have, and it sets a direction for further research.

Further, let's examine that 1797 tax document a little closer, as it may hold the key to the last mystery of why the Coffeys didn't like the Rippetoes. In 1797, William Coffey is listed with three sons, including William, Jr. all between 16-21 years of age. But William, Jr. was married in 1790. At best, if the age range is correct, William, Jr. would have been 14 years old at marriage! Why would a 14 year old boy marry? Probably William the elder never believed Polly's testimony of who was responsible for her abdominal enlargements, and wrote her off as an opportunist, after his money, power, and real estate. In his mind this part French seductress was none other than a conniving opportunist and he made it clear prior to the wedding that she would NOT inherit any Coffey possessions. William, Jr.'s "sin" was being seduced as a young boy, for which his father forgave him; but Jordan's "sin" was far worse: disobedience. Both Coffeys paid heavy prices for their father's inability to judge Elizabeth Rippetoe on the basis of her actions, not those of her sister. This helps explain why Hudson, oldest son of Jordan and Elizabeth, was not born anywhere near 9 months after their marriage, and establishes a reason for William's distrust of the entire Rippetoe family.

## The Rippetoe Family

Based on a Journal of the transactions at one of their stores in New Glasgow, the Higginbotham's sold various goods to the Coffeys and Rippetoes and others. Most of what the Rippetoes purchased, around 1820 and 1821, was whiskey. Edmund F. and even little William his son also frequented the store. On 31 MAR 1821, little William bought some Irish linen, lace muslim, and ginger for Mrs. Bridge (probably Betsey Coffey, daughter of William the Elder who married John Bridge). Perhaps, in addition to the shotgun wedding, it was the righteous indignation of William over the drinking habits of some of the Rippetoes which kept him against them. We haven't researched the Amherst County court records yet specifically to see if something else may have happened between 1790 and 1800 to set off old William, but we did search most of them looking for any Coffey or Rippetoe or Hambelton, with no information being found which would otherwise explain William's dislike. The following defines what we know of the two early Rippetoe families:

William Rippetoe is believed to be the grandson of the first French immigrant by that surname, and the brother of Peter Rippetoe of Amherst County. William (15 MARCH 1748 - 16 APRIL 1839) and his wife Ruth (Antle) Rippetoe (5 JAN 1751 - 5 JAN 1842) sold his 200 acres in Amherst County to William Hall in 1770, and he then took his family to North Carolina and then to Kentucky, where later some of his personal belongings were purchased by a neighbor, John B. Coffey. Three daughters of William and Ruth were born in Virginia: Elizabeth Rippetoe who married Jacob Grider in NC, 13 APR 1789; Nancy Rippetoe who married Peter Fincannon in NC; and Anon Rippetoe who married, tried to settle in Crocus, KY but was scalped by the Indians. Seven other children, Mary, David, William, Jr., Sarah, James Ireland, and John Rippetoe were born either in NC or KY. (This information from "A History of the Rippetoe Family", by Kathryn Robbins Barnett, as published in the Jamestown, KY *Russell County News* on 12 NOV 1974).

Peter Rippetoe, believed to be the brother of William, and perhaps the same Peter Rippetoe who shows up earlier in Orange County, VA married Sarah ..... . At one time he sold land in Amherst County to Sarah Henry, Patrick Henry's mother, as stated in her will dated 12 MAR 1784. Peter and Sarah Rippetoe had at least eight children: John Rippetoe who married Abigail Strickland in 1801; Susannah Rippetoe who married Zachariah Brown in 1798 (this could have been "Susie" who later married Robert Hambelton); Milly Rippetoe who married John Mays in 1794; Polly Rippetoe who married William Coffey, Jr. in 1790; James Rippetoe who married Nancy Brown in 1790; Sally Rippetoe who married Pleasant Hill in 1797; Elizabeth Rippetoe who married Jordan Coffey in 1803; William Rippetoe who married Mary Bryant in 1805. (This information from a letter by Mrs. H.G. Wright to Doris Hafle, 25 June 1980. Relationship between William and Peter needs further research as does the rest of the family. For instance, Jane Rippetoe was involved in Jordan's wedding, perhaps she was Elizabeth's sister who may not have married. It may have been her name, rather than William the Elder's daughter, whose name was used when Jordan's daughter was named.)

This seems to be the extent of the Rippetoe family in Amherst County in the late 1700's and early 1800's, although there is some indication of a possible third family of Rippetoes in Amherst County. William and Ruth Rippetoe are the ones who lived next to Edward Coffey the twin, but it looks like his children were too young to marry when he left Virginia, so none of them married into any of the Coffey family. Peter and Sarah had two children, Polly and Elizabeth who married Coffeys.

## **The Hambeltons/Hamiltons**

Up until and through Robert Hambelton, this family spelled its name as Hambelton. After Robert died it began to be spelled more commonly as Hamilton. There were two groups of these in Virginia. Only Robert's immediate family spelled it that way. The other group is probably unrelated. There was a James Hambelton, from Scotland, who served in the Revolutionary War, and then lived in Bedford County, VA. It may be that this group of Scots came from him. Robert's family lived in the neighborhood with William Coffey the Elder.

Ozborne Coffey (oldest son of William the Elder) put up bail for Robert Hambelton in a court case in 1785. On 1 JAN 1792, Reubin Harrison leased for 14 years Lot #1 on main roads near Stonehouse Creek to Robert Hambelton. This area is near the southeast foot of Piney Mountain in present day Nelson County. In 1793, Peter Rippetoe, who probably lived in that area, brought a case of assault and battery against Robert Hambelton. In 1799, William Sale complained that Robert Hambelton was disturbing the peace and Robert had to provide some \$300.00 in bond money which was put up by Andrew and William Hambelton, possibly his brothers. "Hot-headed" Robert countersued and Sale was also placed in jail. The two were ordered to stay away from each other for a year. In 1804 Hambelton bought 100 acres on the Horsely Creek from Jeremiah Dean and his wife Elizabeth for 60 pounds, which he sold for 40 pounds in May 1805 to Maurice Morris. On 7 DEC 1827, he bought 192 acres on Thrasher's Creek from William Hannah and his wife Jane, of Botetourt County for \$768. This is where he lived and died. He married Susie Rippetoe who may have been his second wife. One index shows a Robert Hambelton, bachelor, marrying Milley Mays, spinster on 10 MAY 1791 in Amherst County.

Robert had several children: Rebecca Hamilton who married Nelson Coffey; Elizabeth Hamilton who married Schylar Coffey; and John P. Hamilton who married Elizabeth Coffey. Further research is required to complete Robert's children. Robert Lewis Hamilton was a young son, and James P. Hamilton was another.

## **On Toward Coffeytown**

When Jordan and his small band of outcasts and orphans staggered into Amherst County in late 1827 or early 1828, they did not go directly to Coffeytown. We are not sure of their exact location because it was many years before they purchased property, but it was surely near Chestnut Ridge, Fork Mountain, Buffalo Springs, and Thrasher's Creek. We have no information as to who Jordan may have known in the neighborhood that he could rent from, unless it was Hudson or his landlord. Joel Hight was in the vicinity. He is believed to be the son of George Hight who served in the Revolutionary War, and possibly the brother of John Hight, a neighbor from the old neighborhood, but this is no more than a wild guess. There is no clear answer as to where Jordan was heading when he left Nelson County, unless it was to live with his son Hudson, which is most likely.

It was in the area of Fork Mountain that the Coffeys met most of their future wives, including the three children of Robert Hamilton who married the Coffeys, Meredith Allen who married Jane Coffey, Betsey Duff who married John Jack, and Sarah Crawford who married William "Billy" Coffey. John Crawford, Jr. married Susanna Coffey. When Robert Hambleton died in 1841, Nelson Coffey and others petitioned the court to appoint an executor to sell his assets. Robert Lewis Hamilton, now an orphan, was taken by Nelson and Rebecca and they were appointed guardians; John P. was appointed guardian for James P. Hamilton, and the others were apparently old enough not to need guardians. A year later, Nelson scrounged \$475 with which he bought Robert Hambelton's homeplace and the full contiguous property of 170 acres, evidently

only a part of the original 192 acre tract, but still a bargain based on the original price Robert Hamilton paid per acre. This was the first foothold on property in present day Amherst County which this group of Coffeys was able to obtain.

But it was in late 1827 or early 1828 that Jordan Coffey and his family came to Amherst County in search of a new life. The next chapter deals more in detail with the land and the people involved in the long road in Amherst County to Coffeytown, and it explores each of the six male Coffey settlers whose families established "Coffeytown".

**Coffey Family History;  
JORDAN COFFEY**

Probably William and Elizabeth (Osbourne) Coffey of Nelson County, VA.

Jordan Elizabeth Coffey (Rippetoe) Coffey  
1

Jordan:  
B: Ca. 1780; Probably Amh Co., VA  
M: 21 MAR or MAY 1803; Amherst Co., VA  
D: 1850 - 1860; Prob 1853/55, Amherst Co.

Elizabeth:  
B: Ca. 1778, probably Amherst County, VA.  
D: 1850 - 1860; Prob within a year or two of Jordan's death.

**NOTES:**

1. Elizabeth was the daughter of Peter and Sarah Rippetoe.
2. Schylar has not been proved to be the biological son of Jordan, is thought to have been informally adopted, along with Nelson.
3. When Nelson married, Schylar gave permission. This is believed to be his older brother, not his father. Best "guess" at this time is that Schylar and Nelson were sons of Nelson Coffey, grandsons of William the Elder Coffey of Nelson County, VA.
4. All marriage dates from Amherst County Marriage Records, Va. State Archives. See text for explanation of other dates.
5. Amherst County Death Records, VA State Archives.

Hudson Mahala "Huddie" (Green) Coffey (Lane) Coffey

B: Ca 1805; Amherst Co., VA  
M: 20 SEPT 1855, Amh Co.  
D: Btwn 1870 - 1880

Schylar Elizabeth Coffey (Hamilton) Coffey  
2

B: Ca 1806; Prob Amh Co., VA  
M: 30 JAN 1832; Amh. Co.  
D: Btwn 1870 - 1880; Prob in Coffeytown

John Elizabeth Virginia C. Jack "Betsey" (Campbell) Coffey (Duff) Coffey

B: Ca. 1808; Nelson Co., VA  
M1: 18 JAN 1830; Amh Co., VA  
M2: 1 APR 1873; Rockbridge Co., VA  
D: 14 DEC 1888; Prob in Coffeytown; of cancer.

William Sarah Anne "Billy" (Sally) Coffey (Crawford) Coffey

B: 9 or 23 APRIL 1815; Nelson Co., VA  
M: 24 SEPT 1835; Amherst Co., VA  
D: 26 JULY 1897; in Coffeytown

Nelson Rebecca Coffey (Hamilton) (Coffey) Clement  
3

B: 1810 - 1820; Prob Nelson Co.  
M: 5 FEB 1833; Amherst Co., VA  
D: 1845 - 1847; Prob Amherst Co. <sup>3</sup>

Rebecca married Abram Clement after Nelson died.

Susanna John (Coffey) Crawford, Crawford Jr.

B: ?  
M: 9 SEPT 1835  
D: ?

Jane Meredith (Coffey) Allen Allen

B: ?  
M: 21 APRIL 1834; Amherst Co., VA  
D: >1877; Prob. Wayne County, West VA

Elizabeth John (Coffey) Hamilton Hamilton

B: ?  
M: 5 MAY 1835; Amherst Co., VA  
D: ?

Henry Elizabeth F. (McDaniel) Coffey (Ogden) Coffey

B: Ca 1817, Nelson Co., VA <sup>5</sup>  
M: 10 MAR 1848; Amherst Co, VA  
D: 10 JUNE 1871, Amherst Co, VA <sup>5</sup>

**JORDAN  
COFFEY**

# The Coffey Family Settlers of "Coffeytown"

*The Coffey settlers of Coffeytown are described by family legend as Hudson, Schylar, John Jack, William ("Billy"), Nelson, and Henry Coffey. Jordan's three daughters were Jane, Susanna, and Elizabeth. Although Jane and Meredith Allen stayed in the general area for awhile, the girls never were involved in the settlement of "Coffeytown" as we know it today, which we define as land along Staton's Creek. At one time (1894 map) this creek was referred to as "Coffie Creek". This chapter explores the emergence of Coffeytown and discusses the lives of the Coffey family settlers to the extent we can find written documentation in the public records.*

## "Coffeytown - What the Census Shows

The 1830 Census shows Jordan Coffey as the only Coffey in present day Amherst County. This was the first census taken after Nelson county was formed (1807/1808) which shows any Coffey in Amherst County. Jordan and his wife and 9 children are indicated by age bracket. John Jack was the first in this group to marry, in January, 1830, and by the time the census was taken was probably not living with the family. (His wife could not have been one of those listed.) He doesn't show as the head of a household elsewhere but this could be because he was living with a different family, as a boarder, probably with the Duff family. If John Jack was not at home in the summer of 1830, this would mean that 10 children existed. There is no proof that all of these were Jordan's, as the listing is only for the head of the household and others by age range. One boy child is listed as being between the ages of 0-5. None of the known Coffeys listed above were that young in 1830. If this was Elizabeth's child, she would have been between 47 and 52 years of age when the child was born. It is likely that such a child may have died before the 1840 census. No name is known. He could also have been visiting for the summer, which is just as likely, based on the information available.

In 1830, the Census shows Jordan Coffey and most of his family living in the same basic neighborhood with Ambrose Rucker, Lindsay McDaniel, and Henry Ogden. A few doors away is William McDaniel, Benjamin Taliaferro, and Joshua Duff, with his family, probably including Betsey Duff and John Jack, Sr. In what appears to be a different part of the county not too far away, the census reads like a who's who of Coffey family and Amherst County family history: Anderson Sandidge, John Staton, Joseph Dodd, Garland Richerson, Willis White, Aaron Higginbotham, James Clements, John Allen. Robert Hamilton and his family were also nearby. It was in this timeframe, 1830 - 1840 that all the Coffeys, except Henry and Hudson, married and began having children.

By 1840, John Jack, Nelson, Schuyler, and William are listed in addition to Jordan as the heads of households. This leaves Henry and Hudson unaccounted for by name in 1840. There were two males, aged 20-30 listed in Jordan's household that year. This is strange because Hudson was too old (35) and Henry was too young (18) to fit into that category. Neither of them are listed anywhere in Virginia as the head of a household in 1840; but in 1839, the following Coffeys paid their taxes on the same day at the courthouse: John, Schylar, Jordan, Henry F., Hudson, and William. It is likely that the census age range is incorrect and that both Henry and Hudson were living with Jordan in 1840. The first mention of Henry is in the Amherst County tax records for 1839 when he would have been 22 years of age. It was 1842 when he paid taxes the next time, for a silver watch. Throughout the next seven years he declares for taxes but owns nothing being taxed. In 1849, after he married the widow Elizabeth (McDaniel) (Ogden) Coffey, he arrives in style with four metallic clocks, 2 slaves and one horse, logging in at the

staggering amount of \$0.76 taxes for the year. Given all that and the fact that Henry shows nowhere else by name in any census report, it is likely that he was the ninth child indicated in the 1830 census as well, giving some credence to the family legend that Henry was thought of as Jordan's son. According to his death record, he was not Jordan's biological son, but he could have been and probably was informally adopted by Jordan prior to his leaving Nelson County.

Based on the listing in the 1840 Census, John Jack, William and Schylar were living in the same "neighborhood", Nelson was off elsewhere in the county near his father-in-law's farm, and Jordan with Elizabeth, Henry and Hudson lived between the two groups. Jordan lived between John Cash and Thomas Mahoney. We didn't recognize any of the other "nearby" names either. William and John were living next to each other, 3 doors down from Schylar who lived next to Meredith Allen, Jane Coffey's husband. Meredith and Jane had two young girls and one boy, all less than 5 years old in 1840. Patsy Cooper was a neighbor and 14 houses down the road was William W. Davis. Not too far away was the Methodist Reverend Pitt Woodroof with his wife and eight youngsters.

Reubin P. Coffey was living in a different part of Amherst County - just him and his wife. By 1850, he seems to have moved to Augusta County, and Joseph Coffee (59 years old) and his wife Ruth (48) replaced Reubin P. as an "oddball" Coffey in Amherst.

In 1850, Henry, John, Jordan, Schylar, and William were living in the same "neighborhood" while Frederick and Jesse Coffey were the oddballs, living in different parts of the county. By this time, Jordan was 70 years old, Elizabeth was 72, and Nelson was dead. Eliza Wilson lived next to John Coffey who lived next to William H. Ogden. Jordan, William, Schylar and Henry lived all in a row with James Dodd and Cornelius Clement at the end. Some 100 houses away, Frederick was living with Abram Clement and Rebecca, the widow of Nelson Coffey, along with her children by both marriages. William Hamilton (Hambelton), with James P. Hamilton living in, also lived next to Abram Clement, probably on the same property which used to belong to their father.

Even Frederick Coffey joined the cluster by 1860. Rebecca and Pauline, with 15 year old Nelson were still living with Abram Clement, in the same neighborhood as William Sandidge, and next door to James Taliaferro. Charles E. Coffey, son of John Jack, Sr. was living near 36 year old Edward Drummond who ended up with Pauline Coffey before 1870, and next door to John Whitesides and his family. The cluster which Frederick joined consisted of the following men and their families: Henry Coffey, John Coffey, William Coffey, Frederick Coffey, William W. Davis, Ben H. Davis, Hudson Coffey, and Nelson Clark flanking Hudson. This was all probably within the general area of present day Coffeytown. Meredith Coffey and family were next to James Taliaferro and Peter Lawhorne. Schylar Coffey was still further away from the cluster, but still in Amherst County, probably way up Rt. 634, as this is where he is believed to have drowned.

In 1870, Reubin C. Coffey and wife Margaret, sons Augustus (23) and Marcellus (27), along with her mother Martha Bolling (60) and a black cook named Victoria Briggs, lived in the Courthouse district of Amherst, probably near Thrasher's Creek since he and Edgar Whitehead bought 467-3/4 acres in the vicinity from John R. Haden in 1869 (DB "JJ"/pg170). Meredith and his wife Martha, and four young children lived in the Temperance district of Amherst County. Pauline was living with Edward Drummond and her two children Moses (6) and William (2). They were also in the Temperance district. All other Coffeys seem concentrated in one area, which surely by 1870, was a

bustling little "Coffeytown".

The 1880 Census shows a well developed "Coffeytown" with the following families living close together, in some cases, "next door": William and Avarilla Davis with 9 children; Henry L. and Lillie Coffey with 3 children; John Coffey, son of Schylar, his wife Annie and 2 children; William and Sarah Ogden with 6 children, one grandchild and one daughter-in-law; Charles E. and Sarah Jane Coffey with 7 of their children (all but the two who died young); young Chittman Thomas and his new wife Georgie; Edward and Willie Coffey with 2 children; Sarah (Billy's daughter) and George Coffey with 1 daughter; Harden (Billy's son) and Elizabeth Coffey with 5 children; Billy and Sarah with Bettie and Arthur Coffey; William (son of Billy) and Sarah with 2 children; John Jack, Sr. and Virginia Coffey with John Stoopo, a 14 year old mulatto servant; William Henry (son of John Jack) and "Jenny" Coffey with 4 children; John Jack, Jr. and Patara Coffey with 8 children and Amelia Tyler, Patara's sister; Reuben and Sarah Coffey with 4 children; Jim (son of Billy) and Sophia Coffey with 2 children; Schylar, Jr. and his mother Elizabeth with Frances Coffey (47 years old); Peter and Nancy Coffey with 7 children; further down the road was Daniel Rufus Coffey with 4 children and Catherine Sandidge his mother-in-law; and further still was Elizabeth Coffey, alone - she was probably Henry's widow.

It was in 1888 that Charles E. Coffey deeded land to the Methodist Church, and 1896 when the present church, now in the process of restoration, was constructed of chestnut lumber cut from Coffey land. The post office's name as suggested was "Alta", but was misspelled to become "Alto", according to family legend. It was first listed in 1897 as a post office. The schoolhouse (land deeded by Charles E. Coffey in 1899 to Pedlar School Board - DB "YY" pg 405/ 498) was located just up the hill from the church site, and the post office was down by the road, next to the church. Charles E., who once owned slaves, was named as "Road Surveyor", since he had the most means to keep the roadway in good condition. This concentration of Coffeys continued through the 1910 Census report we reviewed, and no doubt continued well beyond, probably until the Depression. (Census reports later than 1920 are not available to the general public at this time.)

### **"Coffeytown" - the Land Records**

There seems to be some controversy as to when Coffeytown was actually settled by the Coffeys. The earliest deed in present day Amherst County which we could find relating to the Coffey family was the 1827 deed by Hudson to his father Jordan. This deed, and William the elder's will, set forces in motion which eventually led to Coffeytown.

The next earliest deed is 1842, when Nelson bought his father-in-law's property for \$475 from the estate. Our guess at this time is that he was living with his wife Rebecca on or near this property on Thrasher's Creek in 1841 when Robert Hambelton, Rebecca's father, died. Census reports indicate that he was next door to Robert in 1840. Nelson died sometime between 1845 - 1847 (based on tax records). His wife Rebecca Hamilton married Abram Clement in 1849. Abram was killed in Harrisonburg in 1862 during the Civil War. It appears that Rebecca stayed on the property for some time, but Frederick and Nancy each sold their share (29 acres each) of the land 20 AUG 1859 to James P. Hamilton. This land was related only to Nelson and his family and did not contribute to the overall development of Coffeytown as far as we know. Had Nelson lived, however, Coffeytown would probably have been along Thrasher's Creek, which is more like rolling hills than the mountainous area around Coffeytown. Family legend has it that the Coffeys bought into Coffeytown land because the land they wanted was



not available. If there is any truth to that statement, it was probably the land around Thrasher's Creek they would have preferred. They missed this opportunity in 1859 and another in 1873 when Reubin C. Coffey sold his portion of a 476-3/4 acre tract (206 acres) on Thrasher's Creek (28 April 1873) to Edgar and Sally Whitehead who owned the other half (DB "JJ"/171). This land was being sold by Reubin before he had finished paying John R. Haden.

In 1848, William Coffey signed a deed of trust for \$225.00 for Eliza White, his neighbor, who bought 230 acres with the money. This lien was released 12 April 1855. That same year William bought 105 acres from Meredith Allen and William's sister Jane, lying on the south side of Fork Mountain. This is probably the date the Allens left Virginia and eventually ended up in West Virginia, although they owned other property in the area which we have not tracked. William sold this to Willis White for a \$10 loss on 6 October 1851. This land was adjacent to property owned by Aaron Higginbotham and Anderson Sandidge.

This was no doubt sold because Henry Coffey, freshly married to Elizabeth (McDaniel) (Ogden) Coffey, bought 340 acres on both sides of the middle fork of the Pedlar River (Staton's Creek) on 8 May 1851 (DB "BB"/pp 188-189), having paid \$1000 to William McDaniel, Elizabeth's father. The deed had the will built-in, so that when Henry died, it went back to Elizabeth. Sort of a rubber string attached. McDaniel then wrote his will (5 JUNE 1851) leaving his plantation to his son Lindsay McDaniel, Elizabeth's brother. The property bought by Henry was previously purchased by McDaniel from Benjamin Sandidge in 1811. This is the earliest deed we could find for Coffey land which mentions Staton's Creek, even in such cryptic terms. It is likely that Jordan, Hudson, John Jack, Schylar, and William, since they were living in the same "neighborhood" in 1850, may have been living on Ogden land, inherited by Elizabeth from her husband Zachariah Ogden, at census time (Henry married Elizabeth in 1848). When Henry bought the McDaniel property on both sides of the middle fork, all his Coffey cohorts came with him, looking for similar property in the same area.

Cognizant of Henry's "rubber string" deed, in 1859 John Jack purchased land from Thomas, James, and R. Richerson (DB "HH"/329), which was probably northeast of Henry's property. This was later expanded on 14 June 1873 (DB "JJ"/237) when William and John Jack jointly purchased 1335 acres along Staton's Creek for the sum of \$4000 from the estate of Jesse Richerson. Jesse had purchased it from Richard and John Cooper; Captain Benjamin Taliaferro's heirs, and James Taliaferro. This land, which we believe became a larger part of Coffeytown, was known as "*Cooper's Place*". In 1874, William and John sold a small portion, 275 acres, to McDaniel Crawford, then split the remaining land between themselves, and John Jack sold portions of his land to his sons Charles E. and John Jack, Jr. By the time the land was split between John Jack and William, each had already built a cabin. The next few years are filled with land deals among the children and with a few outsiders, no doubt all centered around Coffeytown. (See Deed book "JJ" and later in Amherst County Courthouse.)

From several different indexes, these are the earliest deeds we have been able to find. Since other researchers seem to have the same problem with earlier Coffey property in Coffeytown area, we assume that 1851 was the first Coffey foothold along Staton's Creek but 1859 was the first year Coffeys freely owned land at Staton's Creek. Jordan and Elizabeth were most likely dead by this time, but they did get to see Henry's land and probably saw the general area before it was developed. Henry, we believe, lived south of Bridgehill Cemetery, in the general area of Embree Crawford's present house but probably up the hill off the roadway. The other Coffeys no doubt crowded around and saved their money until 1859. It was more than 30 years since Jordan had been so

disappointed by William the elder. The strong family ties which developed between the six Coffey boys, probably as a result of so much difficulty they faced together, left them determined to stay close together so they could support each other in a way which had not occurred between Jordan and his father. These Coffeys understood what it meant to be essentially abandoned.

Having reviewed the evolution of Coffeytown from a census perspective, and then as a real estate transaction, we turn attention now to each of the six Coffey boys whose relationships throughout those years held the family together and finally culminated in a community. The family charts for each of these is located in the next section on descendants.

#### **HUDSON COFFEY (Ca 1804/5 - >1870 <1880)**

Hudson "Huddie" Coffey was the eldest son of Jordan and Elizabeth Rippetoe Coffey. He was born in 1804-1805, one or two years after their marriage, in what is now Nelson County, possibly along the Tye River in the general area of what is now Tyro. Nothing is known of Hudson's early life, since no one is living to tell it and since he was too young to do things which made their way into the records.

Apparently, Hudson, and perhaps Schylar, left Nelson County to come to Amherst County, probably to make some money. They were still in Nelson County in 1826 so they hadn't been living long in Amherst County when William the elder died. Hudson must have learned that his father had been cut out of the will soon after the will was discovered and some months before it was probated.

Hudson deeded some of his property - a mare, bed and some furniture - to his father in 1827. This deed is listed in the Amherst County files, and is dated Dec. 31, 1827. This may have related to taxes, but probably not. We believe Hudson was devoted to his parents, based on the way he acted throughout his life, beginning with the 1827 deed which we believe was intended to mitigate the extreme disappointment his father felt over being disinherited by William the elder Coffey in Nelson County. Hudson seems to have devoted himself to the care of his parents. In the 1850 census report, where person's names are listed, Hudson is living with Jordan and Elizabeth in Amherst County. He was probably also there in 1840, taking care of his elderly parents. Before 1860 both his parents presumably died, as they do not show in any later census reports, and he was free to marry.

On 20 September 1855 Hudson married Mahala Lane, a widow. We don't know if there were any children by her first marriage, but census reports (1860 and 1870) show a James E. Coffey, presumably the son of Hudson and Mahala, living with the family in the Pedlar District of Amherst County probably on Henry Coffey's land. James was 5 in 1860 and 16 in 1870 when the census was taken. Apparently Mahala was pregnant at marriage or just after marriage. If she had other children, they were apparently too old to be living with the family in 1860. Perhaps Hudson continued living in his parent's house after they died. His place of residence would be interesting to discover since it is likely that this is where Jordan and Elizabeth lived out the latter portion of their lives, but since other dwellings, known to have been constructed later, have all rotted away, it is very unlikely that anything remains.

Census reports show both Hudson and Mahala as illiterate. Nothing is known of his son, James Coffey. He was too young and Hudson too old to have been directly involved with the Civil War, and there is no mention of him in connection with

Coffeytown history. There is no marriage record in Amherst or Rockbridge County for James. Hudson is not listed in the Amherst County death records through 1896. He was 66 or 68 years old in 1870, and does not show in the 1880 Census. Presumably both he and his wife died between 1870 and 1880. Place of burial is unknown. He may be one of the early settlers of Coffeytown buried with only a boulder for his marker. The cemetery behind Elsie Coffey's house is the oldest known but there may be some further north for these very early settlers. Bridgehill was not used until about 1907.

### SCHYLAR COFFEY ( Ca 1806 - >1870 <1880)

Schylar may have been the second son of Jordan and Elizabeth Coffey, born around 1806. More accurately, he was the second oldest child in Jordan's family. The marriage records do not list his parents, and death records have not been found for him. Schylar and Nelson are the only two of the original 9 for whom no specific listing of parentage has been found. When Nelson married in 1833, Schylar gave permission, not Jordan and Elizabeth, although they were alive and living in Amherst County at the time. Neither Jordan nor Elizabeth seem to have been involved in either Schylar's or Nelson's wedding.

The ancestry of Nelson and Schylar is not firmly established. Both of these names relate directly to Nelson County geography. Nelson was born approximately when a portion of Amherst became Nelson County. One district in Nelson County is Schuyler District. On occasions, Schylar's name has been written exactly that way. There were Coffeys who bought land at the northeast foot of the Piney Mountain in Nelson County, near Ivy Creek. Schuyler District dips down to this area and could well have been the source of Schylar's name. He and Nelson may be brothers, but only cousins to John Jack and Billy. They may be descendants of some of Edward the twin Coffey's people, or sons of Nelson Coffey, apparently a son of William the elder who died fairly young. They may be illegitimate sons of Nelson, or could even be brothers with Henry Coffey. Henry though was so much younger it is difficult to believe he came from the same parentage. NO records have been found which conclusively prove parentage of Schylar or Nelson which point to specific people.

Schylar married Elizabeth Hamilton, daughter of Robert "Hot-headed" (Hambelton) Hamilton, and sister of Rebecca Hamilton who married Nelson Coffey, on 30 January 1832. His parents are not listed. It seems Schylar and Elizabeth had at least 7 children. (see chart). Sophia, Jordan, Schylar, Jr. and John all married.

No information regarding marriage of any of the older three has been found. All three, Frances, George and Robert, were still living with their parents in Amherst in 1860. Frances Coffey, 40 at the time, was still there in 1870 and later in 1880, living with her brother. She probably never married.

George Coffey is believed to have enlisted as a Private in Co. B, 49th Regiment, VA Infantry, Confederate States of America on 23 April 1861. He died from wounds and typhoid fever either 1 or 5 March 1862 (2 different records) in camp along the Rapidan River in Madison County.

Robert Coffey also served as a Private in the same regiment from his enlistment on 21 August 1862 until his death in July 1864 from wounds received 12 May 1864. He received a Certification of Commendation prior to his death.

Jordan Coffey enlisted in Richmond, VA on 25 June 1864, assigned to Co. B, 3rd VA Calvary on 1 February 1864; no record regarding his service in the calvary but he enlisted 1 March 1864 in Amherst County, VA, later transferred to Co. I, 49th VA Infantry on 27 June 1864; listed as AWOL as of 1 October 1864. No doubt the death of his brothers and the realization of the lost cause contributed to his absence. No record of Schylar, Jr. serving in the CSA has been found. Jordan Coffey married Rebecca Pettis (Grant) Coffey in 1876 in Rockbridge County and they are known to have had children, but nothing else is known of this branch of the family.

Schylar Coffey, Jr. married at least twice and probably three times. His first wife, Isabella Drumheller died 17 February 1870. No children are known. He remarried a Mary Coffey, daughter of Reubin W. and SJB Coffey in 1880 and she must have also died as he is believed to have taken on a third wife, Elizabeth. With this one he had at least one daughter, Anne Belle Coffey, who died in Rockbridge County in August 1895, a little before Anne Belle died (12 October 1895), both of fever. No further record regarding Schylar, Jr.

Sophia Coffey married Jim Coffey, Billy's oldest son, and they had several children which are charted under the "Billy" Coffey section.

John Coffey married Annie Mariah Ogden in 1875 and they had eight children. John died in Harvey, West Virginia, but most of his children seemed to have settled in Buena Vista, VA. Nothing else is known about John at this time. He was too young to have been a soldier in the Civil War.

#### **JOHN JACK COFFEY (Ca 1808 - 14 December 1888, Amherst County)**

John Jack Coffey was born around 1808, according to the census reports and his death record. He was probably the second son of Jordan and Elizabeth Coffey, but he was third oldest. In 1827/28 when his family came to Amherst County, he was around 20 years old.

On 18 January 1830, John Jack married Elizabeth "Betsey" (Duff) Coffey, the daughter of Joshua and Besley Duff formerly of Fluvanna County, VA. His parents were not listed in that document, but Jordan and Elizabeth were listed as witnesses. Census records imply that this couple had 7 children, including Mark Coffey who appears as a 10 year old only in the 1850 Census. Mark may have died between 1850 and 1860, but his death does not appear in the County Death Records. Another possibility is that William Henry, who was also 10 years old at the time and is not listed by name in this report, could have been nicknamed "Mark". Or William Henry and Mark could have traded parents for the summer when the Census was taken, which was common practice in those days. (Mary was also listed so it is not a handwriting problem.)

John Jack's sons Charles Coffey, John Jack Coffey, Jr., William Henry Coffey and Daniel Rufus Coffey all lived in Coffeytown proper and provided much of the population of the western and northern portion of Coffeytown. No record of marriage has been found for Mary Coffey, but Sarah Jane (Coffey) Davis married William Davis in 1859. They had two children and after she died, Davis married Avarilla Coffey, Henry Coffey's daughter. William Henry and Daniel Rufus married sisters in a double wedding on 6 April 1868. True to the old wives' tale, it was bad luck. Mildred (Lawman) Coffey died and Daniel remarried to Sallie Cole (Black) Coffey. Between the two of them, Daniel had 14 children. Charles, the eldest son, married Sarah Jane Ogden

on Valentine's day, 1854. John Jack, Jr. married Patara Tyler (pronounced pay - tra) in December, 1860, who was listed as a 24 year old "domestic" in Charles' household in the 1860 Census.

John Jack Coffey, Sr. was too old to be involved as a soldier in the Civil War, but his sons were just the right age. On 22 April 1862, many of the Coffeytown boys were in Gordonsville, possibly selling tobacco. Up until this time they had stayed out of the war. As long as Stonewall was in charge, they weren't too concerned. Charles E., John Jack, Jr., Henry L. (son of Henry and Elizabeth Coffey), James (oldest son of Billy), and William (son of Billy) all enlisted as Privates in Co. E, 13th VA Regiment Infantry. Col Walker enlisted them, perhaps at gunpoint. The Confederate States instituted a draft in April, 1862 and these Coffeys stumbled into some serious recruiters in Gordonsville. The record shows that most attended one or a few of the drills and then disappeared, some being listed as deserters. Charles was AWOL on 1 June 1862 and there is nothing else in their records until May, 1864 when he "re-enlisted". Family legend has it that they hid from the recruiters but were discovered, routed out of the bushes and drafted. Somehow, John Jack Coffey, Jr. and Charles E. Coffey were "transferred" to Co. F, 50th Regiment, VA Infantry. According to the Compiled Service Records at the Archives, Charles E. and John Jack were captured 12 May 1864 at Spottsylvania Courthouse. Family legend has them being captured at the Battle of the Wilderness. They were taken to Belle Plains, VA and shipped to Elmira, NY as Prisoners of War. The record shows John Jack shipped on 30 July 1864, but Charles was sent 2 August 1864. They were both released 23 June 1865, under General Order #109, after taking the "Iron Clad Oath" of allegiance to the United States. John Jack is listed as having auburn hair, blue eyes, 5'-9" tall, and fair complexion. Both Charles and John Jack, Jr. were married before the war began.

William Henry Coffey served longer and paid a heavier price. He enlisted 15 August 1861 at Millner's Store by Capt William Higginbotham and he was mustered into service 24 September 1861 in Staunton, VA. He was in the 2nd Corp, Co. F, 58th VA Infantry. On 28 August 1862 he was sent to the Richmond Hospital, but he was promoted to Corporal in May 1862. In March and April 1863 he was admitted to the hospitals in Staunton as well as in Richmond. By August 1863 he was a "1 Corporal", which he remained until he was captured 12 May 1864 at Spottsylvania Courthouse. From there he was sent to Fort Delaware from Belle Plain, VA on 21 May 1864. He was released after taking the oath on 19 June 1865, under the same general order. His complexion was dark, hair dark, eyes dark, and 5'-6" tall. Nicknamed "Cripple Henry", he suffered as a result of his wounds during the war. Legend has it that he walked home from Fort Delaware and could barely make it down the road toward home. Some of the family had lost hope and given him up for dead but Betsey Duff, John Jack's wife, had never given up on old "Hen". She lived to see her faith fulfilled. In 1868 William Henry Coffey married Jenny Lawman who was a sister of Mildred Lawman who married Daniel Rufus Coffey. Henry and Jenny had at least seven children.

Daniel Rufus Coffey served in the local defense and is not known to have ever seen action. He was 15 when the war began. His descendants are very active as a family unit and his charts are the most complete at this time.

In August of 1871, Betsey died of Cholera. Henry Coffey, same generation as John Jack, died in June of the same year of Colic. About 1-1/2 years later on 1 April 1873, John Jack took a young wife, 25 year old Virginia C. Campbell of Rockbridge County. Virginia had come to the cabin, so the legend goes, to take care of Betsey during her sickness. Apparently there were no children by the second marriage. In this marriage record, John Jack's parents are listed as J and E Coffey, Jordan and Elizabeth. At the

time, he was 64 years old. A few months later, he and "Billy" bought the 1335 acres called "Cooper's Place" evidently named after John Cooper, an early trapper who lived in the area.

John Jack, Sr. died 14 December 1888 at the age of 80, of cancer. We have no specific place of burial for either him or Betsey. They may be buried behind the Arthur Coffey house (Elsie Coffey's present house) in an unmarked grave, as some believe.

### **WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY ( 9 April 1815\* - 26 July 1897\*)**

\* = See Charts

William "Billy" Coffey was probably the third son of Jordan and Elizabeth Coffey, but fourth in age of those in the family. He is not William B. Coffey. There were several of those who lived out their lives in Nelson County. According to his headstone he was born 9 April 1815. Other information indicates 23 April 1815 as his date of birth.

He married Sarah Ann "Sally" (Crawford) Coffey on 24 September 1835 in Amherst County. His parents are clearly listed as Jordan and Elizabeth Coffey. Her mother was Sarah Crawford. This couple, along with John Jack, Sr., had most of the population of what became Coffeytown.

Billy and his family built a house just north of Staton's Creek to the immediate west of Elsie Coffey's present house, where the family grew up. It was not until 1897 that the house Elsie lives in now was constructed. This may have been his second house in the general area of Coffeytown. His first purchase of land was made in 1873 when he and John Jack jointly purchased 1335 acres of property in the area. Up until that time, he may have lived on Henry's property or John Jack's land which he purchased in 1859.

William was too old for the Civil War but some of his sons were of the proper age, including Jim and William. Harden was about the same age as Daniel Rufus and was not known to have been involved. James Coffey was enlisted 22 April 1862 in Gordonsville, VA by Col Walker for 3 years or for the duration of the war, whichever was longest. He was a Private in Co. E, 13th VA Infantry. This is the same group John Jack, Jr. and Charles joined. He is listed as deserted 13 August 1862. William Coffey has the same record. Evidently, they all came home because the farm needed attention. Later John Jack and Charles joined the 50th Regiment VA Infantry. There are many James Coffeys involved in the war from Virginia. The one record which looks most like it would be Jim's is for a Jim Coffey who joined the same group - 50th VA, and that James is listed as being captured Spottsylvania Courthouse and sent to Elmira 30 July 1864, but then this James is listed as having died 14 October 1864 from chronic diareah, and they have him buried in grave #714. Fortunately, Jim Coffey lived until 1915. The 1910 Census indicates that he and Sophia had 5 children, only two of whom were living then - Edmund and Andrew. We have no idea who the other three were. The Civil War records for none of the other James Coffeys seems logical for this man, and it is possible that he never re-joined after the episode in Gordonsville. The same may be true for William.

Billy's headstone shows a death date as 11 May 1896. Death records show a William Coffey, unlisted parents, dying 26 July 1897. Evidently Billy's death came as a result of falling down the stairs at the original house, after he had returned from the new house. If this is true and the new house was not built until 1897, the 26 July date may be accurate. Otherwise, it could have been over a year since his death when it was reported in

Amherst Courthouse, and the record shows the reported date, not the actual date; or, the listed William is not the right one. However, the listed Billy was 81 years old, which is right for his age. No other William of that age was known to be in Amherst County at the time.

"Sally" and Billy Coffey are buried on the hill behind Elsie Coffey's house in a fenced-in area which includes Bettie Coffey, their unmarried daughter. Bettie evidently died of grief, as she was very attached to her mother. Others in the cemetery include Walter Campbell, perhaps related to John Jack's second wife, or to one of John Jack Jr.'s two daughters, Lena and Emma Jane, who married Campbell men in sufficient time to have had Walter. Robert H. Coffey, great-grandson of Billy Coffey, grandson of Harden Coffey and Hersey Coffey's brother, has the only other marked grave (1903-1907) in this cemetery. John Jack and his wife Betsey Duff are also believed to be buried in this vicinity, but there is no marker.

#### **NELSON COFFEY (Ca 1810-1820, died 1845-1848)**

Nelson Coffey's birthdate and parents have not been pin-pointed. It seems clear (although still speculation) that Nelson was Schylar's brother, but the two of them were probably not brothers with the others. William the elder Coffey of Nelson County is believed to have had a son named Nelson who died prior to 1825. There is speculation that this Nelson could have been the father of both Schylar and Nelson, but there is no proof that Nelson the older ever had any children.

Our Nelson married Rebecca Hamilton, daughter of Robert Hamilton, on 5 February 1833 in Amherst County. Schylar Coffey gave permission for Nelson to marry. We believe this was his older brother, not his father. Jordan and Elizabeth, although they were in the area, are not mentioned as being part of the ceremony. Surely they were there, perhaps as best man, but not as witnesses. Since they had no possessions, they also could not provide security.

Nelson and Rebecca had Frederick, Nancy, Julia, Mathew, Pauline, and Nelson Coffey. Nelson the older must have died sometime between 1844, when little Nelson was conceived, and 1849, when Rebecca remarried, to Abram Clement. According to tax records in Amherst County, Nelson paid the taxes in 1845, Rebecca paid in 1848, none were paid in 1846 or in 1847.

In the 1850 Census, Frederick was a 16 year old farm laborer, living with Rebecca and her new husband. Rebecca and Abram had 2 children - Missouri? (female) and John Clement - before Abram was killed in Civil War action in Harrisonburg in 1862. By 1870, Rebecca is alone again as the head of the household. Robert Hamilton, father of Rebecca and 2 others who married into the Coffey family, died in 1841. Nelson and others filed petition in Amherst County court to have the court appoint an executor to sell the assests. In 1842, Nelson paid \$475 for 170 acres of land along Thrasher's Creek. This is the first recorded deed of Coffey land in present day Amherst County which we found. Rebecca continued to live there with her new husband and even beyond his death. In 1859, Frederick and Nancy sold their 29 acres to James P. Hamilton, who lived nearby and was a young son of Robert Hamilton who had his older brother John P. Hamilton (he married Elizabeth Coffey, Jordan's daughter) appointed as his guardian when Robert died. Another young son, Robert Lewis Hamilton, had Nelson and Rebecca appointed as his guardian. The Hamiltons and Coffeys were very close in those

days in Amherst County, having left behind some of the court cases of assault and battery between the two families in Nelson County.

Apparently Frederick Coffey settled on a farm near Irish Gap Inns, and Nancy (Coffey) Lawhorne settled south of Dodd's Ford. Two of Frederick's sons, Frederick (called "Fed") and Zack were in Coffeytown in 1900, living next to "Big Hill" Henry. Zack was married to Mary Catherine Crawford, but "Fed" was still a bachelor at that time. He eventually married Mary's sister Susie Massie Crawford and they had at least four children, one of whom was Thomas F. Coffey who lived only 26 years, but married Flarie Taylor. They had one child George W. Coffey who lived only two months. Thomas, Flarie, and George are buried at Bridgehill Cemetery in Coffeytown. Mary Catherine and Susie Massie were sisters of Ora Wills Crawford who married Hugh Nelson Coffey. Frederick Coffey was a Private in Co. I, 49th VA Regiment Infantry, having enlisted for 3 years 1 March 1864 in Amherst County. He appears on the final disposition of Conscripts at Camp Lee, VA (in Petersburg) on 14 March 1864, no further record.

On 20 April 1874 Frederick, as householder and head of a family, and in accordance with the Homestead Act of 27 June 1870, declared the following items exempt from debt (evidently he was taking out bankruptcy): tobacco crop raised in 1873 (\$25); one gray mare (\$75); one yellow and white spotted cow (\$15); 14 heads of hogs (\$25); one calf (\$4); household and kitchen furniture (\$20); one rifle (\$20); and farming implements (\$15) (DB "JJ"/275).

Pauline Coffey's marriage record could not be located. She had 2 children, Moses and William, both named Coffee, who were most likely illegitimate. She was living with Edward Drummond in Amherst County for a while, perhaps as a domestic - he was much older than she. Application was made for a marriage license when she was 36 years old, and her children were teenagers, but it was not completed. Family descendants, as we understand, believe she and Edward were eventually married.

Julia (Coffey) Rogers married Benjamin Rogers 10 November 1856. They had six known children. Both are buried in the Asberry Cemetery at Oronoco.

Mathew Coffey, son of Nelson, was a Private in Co. I of the 58th Virginia Infantry, CSA. He died of measles in the spring of 1862 at Stribling Springs, VA; but he married Mary M. Coffey near Buffalo Springs in Amherst County on 21 March 1861. She was living in Madison, VA, near Lynchburg in 1888. There are no known children but there could have been one, as they were married for a year. We have not searched for any of her possible offspring.

In September of 1873, George W. Cash and Pat Drummond sued the Sheriff John T. Edwards, as administrator of Mathew's estate for \$15.03 with interest from 26 December 1860 'til paid, plus court costs of \$10.99. Mathew had been dead for 11 years.

Little Nelson Coffey was born about 1845, but nothing is known of him. There is no Civil War record for Nelson which we could find, although he would have been the right age had he lived.



## HENRY F. COFFEY ( Ca 1817 - 10 June 1871)

Although Henry Coffey shows for the first time in the 1850 Census as the head of a household, he may have been one of 2 boys living with Jordan and Elizabeth in 1840. According to Census reports, Henry was born around 1817. He married, at the age of 31, Elizabeth (McDaniel) (Ogden) Coffey, who was older than Henry, and she had several children of her own from a previous marriage to Zachariah Ogden. Henry seems to have acted as guardian to her older children and they took his surname, at least for the census reports, but they are believed to have used their own names later. Henry F. Coffey died 10 June 1871 of Colic, in Amherst County, according to the Amherst County death records. The information on the death record, including naming his parents as Charles and Jane Coffey of Nelson County, was given by Henry's son, Henry L. Coffey. His place of burial is unknown, but is probably up on the hill behind Embree Crawford's house, in an unmarked grave.

Henry shows in the public records for the first time in 1839 when he paid personal property taxes in Amherst County on the same day as John, Schylar, Jordan, Hudson and William Coffey. For this reason and others, he is believed to have been informally adopted by Jordan and Elizabeth, although his biological surname was Coffey also. This likely occurred in Nelson County before the family left in late 1827 or in early 1828. At that time, he would have been 10 or 11 years old. By 1839, he was 22 or 23 and needed to pay taxes.

Henry married Elizabeth (McDaniel) (Ogden) Coffey on 10 March 1848 in Amherst County. In early 1848 Henry had nothing and paid no personal property taxes. By 1849, he owned one horse, two slaves, one over 16 and another over 12 years of age, and 4 metallic clocks. By 1850, he was down to one horse. On 8 May 1851 he bought 340 acres on both sides of the middle fork of the Pedlar River from his father-in-law William McDaniel. William had bought it in 1811 from Benjamin Sandidge. This deed had a built-in will. That is, Henry paid \$1000 for the use of this land during his lifetime. When he died, ownership would revert to William McDaniel or his son Lindsay. Nevertheless, Henry was happy to have his own land to work. This is the first piece of land adjacent to or near Staton's Creek (middle fork) which we have found. The same deal may have made with Zachariah Ogden, when he married Elizabeth, because Henry seems to have been living on her property in 1850, along with the other Coffeys. Most of the land around present day Coffeytown seems to have been owned by the Richerson family. John Jack Coffey bought some of it in 1859, later expanded with a joint land purchase by him and William in 1873, but by that time, Henry was dead and Elizabeth was a widow again.

It seems that the first Coffey settler in the Coffeytown area was the youngest of the Coffey clan, Henry Coffey. Since Henry "owned" land on both sides of the Pedlar, it is likely that he continued to live on the south side and that the others set up housekeeping on the north side of the Creek, but judging from the census reports, and reading a little between the lines, the other Coffeys may have initially set up housekeeping on the far south end of Henry's land.

Henry and Elizabeth had three children of their own, but Paulin apparently never knew his father Zachariah Ogden who died before he was born. Paulin J. Coffey names Henry as his guardian in his will. He died evidently without marrying, at the age of 24. His will named the three children of Henry as benefactors. He is believed to be that P.J. Coffey who enlisted as a Private in Co. E, 13th VA Infantry in Culpepper on 28 October 1863. The record has him as a deserter in December 1863, no further record.

Nothing is known of the other elder children of Elizabeth except those who married back into the Coffey family. Henry's children Avarilla, Henry L. and Mary F. all married and had children of their own.

Avarilla (Coffey) Davis listed Henry as her father on her marriage application, although she was apparently born 2 years or so prior to Henry's marriage to Elizabeth. If there was an earlier marriage by Henry, it is not listed in Amherst, Rockbridge, Albemarle, or Nelson counties. Henry may have been working on Zachariah's farm when he died, stayed on to help out, since Elizabeth was pregnant at the time and had at least 6 other children to care for, only one of whom, "Zack", was male, and he was only about 8 years of age at the time. Avarilla married William Webster Davis, who had previously married Sarah Jane Coffey, daughter of John Jack Coffey. By that marriage there were two children. Avarilla gave him 13 more, including Virginia Ann "Jenny" Davis who married Arthur Coffey.

Henry L. Coffey married Lillie Belle (Burch) Coffey on 3 December 1873 in Amherst County. They lived in Coffeytown and had a number of children, including Georgiana, Mattie, John, Emmett, Bernard, Albright, Harry, Eliza, and Ruth Coffey. Henry was called "Big Hill" Henry, leaving little doubt as to the topography of his housesite. Henry was probably drafted as a Private into the 13th VA Infantry on 22 April 1862 in Gordonsville, along with others in the family. He is listed as deserted 17 June 1864, but was AWOL much earlier. Most likely he came back to Amherst County. It does not appear that he rejoined in another regiment.

Mary F. Coffey married Joseph Crawford on 5 December 1866 when she was very young. Nothing is known of this couple.

The next section of this booklet consists of family charts of as many Coffey descendants as we are aware. Each section has a separate divider, and some of the male Coffey settlers are arranged in chronological order based on what we know about their dates of birth. There are no charts for the three girls, Jane, Susanna, or Elizabeth Coffey.



## **Descendant Families of the Original Coffey Settlers of "Coffeytown"**

This section presents family charts of each of the six Coffey boys who were involved in the settlement of Coffeytown. Each section begins with a single chart showing all the known children of the original settlers. Where additional information is known the charts continue as far down the genealogical ladder as we can go at this time. The first chart in a given family line should serve as a Table of Contents. For instance, if Jordan and Elizabeth are considered the first generation, the second generation is presented as a family chart showing all the children of (for instance) John Jack Coffey, Sr. and other charts will show those of his generation. The third generation may also appear as an index, if additional information is known. This generation has a solid line "box" around the name of the person whose family is being illustrated. The next generation is named without the box, still bold but smaller. Subsequent generations are named without boxes and not in bold typeface. This sequence means that the oldest child and all his children will be presented before the next child is begun. All of this is required to fit all the information onto an 8-1/2x11 format and still give continuity to the families.

If you find errors or know of information which is missing, please send it to the address at the bottom of each page if you want it added to the next edition. Please print or type all information to minimize the chance for errors. No doubt there are already some errors within this amount of information, but there are no intended omissions. Many have helped provide family chart information so it comes from many different sources. It started from the memory of just a few people and perhaps not all the minor memory lapses have been worked out yet, but these kinds of charts have to start somewhere.

Please write and let us know what you think of the book, even if you disagree with any of the things presented herein. It always helps to have different points of view, and that is sometimes necessary to get the whole truth back together again!

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*John and Mary Anne Taylor (June 1993)*

*Descendant Families of the Original Coffey Settlers  
of "Coffeytown"*

*Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Ave.; Richmond, VA 23227 June, 1993*



**Hudson  
"Huddie" and  
Mahala  
(Green)  
(Lane)  
Coffey**

**Coffey Family History;  
Original Coffey Settlers in "Coffeytown"  
HUDSON COFFEY**

B: 1780 \*  
M: 21 MAR or MAY 1803, Amherst County  
D: Ca. 1850 - 1853

Elizabeth  
Jordan "Betsey"  
Coffey (Rippetoe)  
Coffey

B: Ca. 1805, Amherst Co., which included Nelson County \*  
D: After 1870, before 1880; probably Amherst Co.

Hudson Mahala  
"Huddie" (Green)  
Coffey<sup>3</sup> (Lane)  
Coffey

James E. Coffey<sup>2</sup>

Ca. 1855 \*

M: 20 SEPT 1855,  
Amherst Co. His parents  
were listed as Jordan and  
Elizabeth Coffey.<sup>1</sup>

Hudson was living with  
Jordan and Betsey in  
1850. Mahala was a  
widow when they married.  
No information on  
whether there were  
children by first marriage.

**NOTES:**

1. Amherst County Marriage records, State Archives.
2. Nothing is known of Hudson's son. He was too young to have served in the Civil War, and Hudson was too old.
3. Some believe the father's name was James Hudson Coffey, but I have not seen it written that way in any public record.

\* family listings this chart based primarily on 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 Census Reports. There were no Coffey family heads of households listed in present day Amherst County in 1810 or 1820 and only Jordan in 1830.

**HUDSON  
"HUDDIE"  
COFFEY  
AND  
FAMILY**

JUNE, 1993

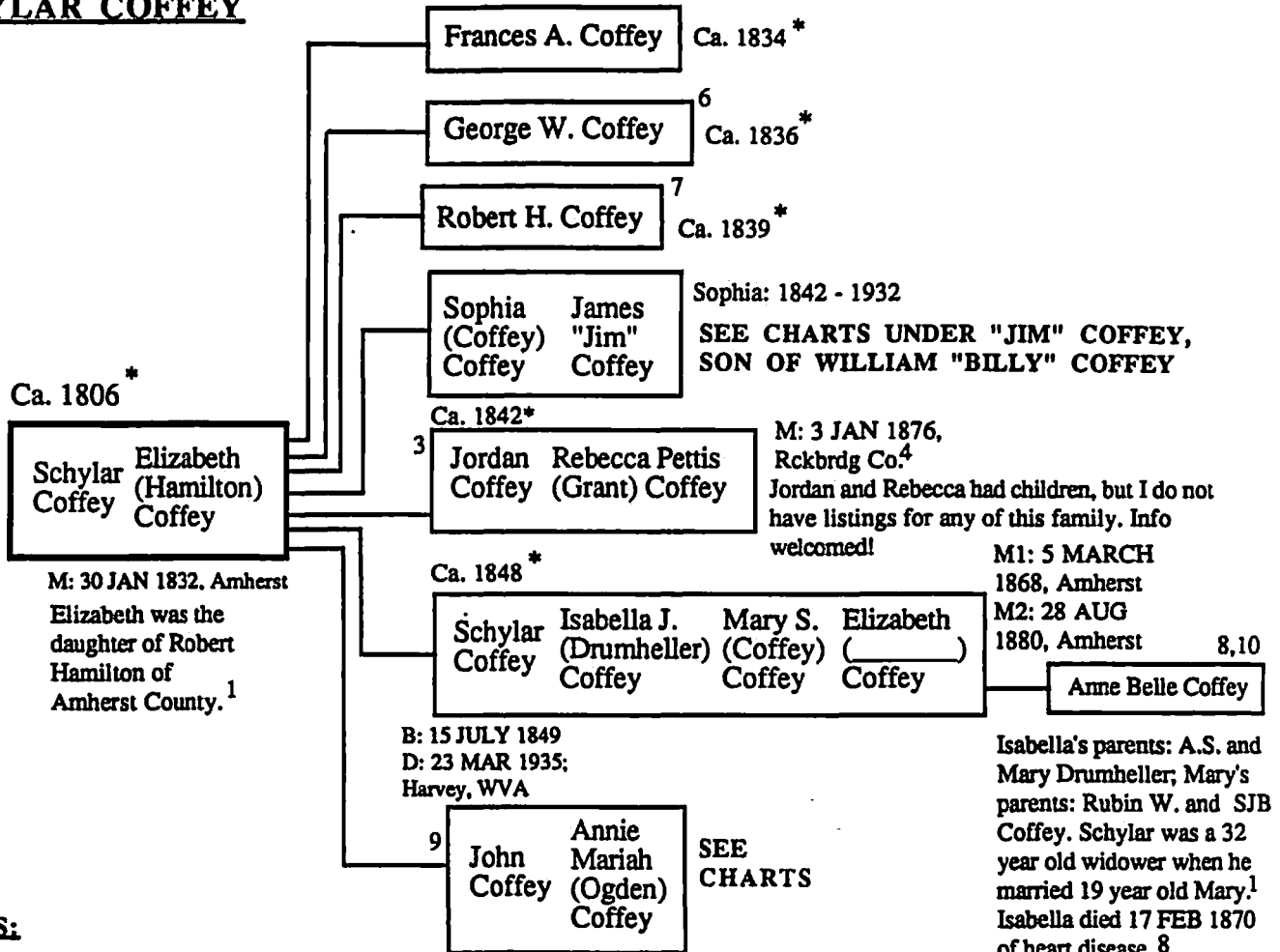
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100



**Schylar and  
Elizabeth  
"Betsey"  
(Hamilton)  
Coffey**

Coffey Family History;  
Original Coffey Settlers in "Coffeytown"  
**SCHYLAR COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

- \* family listings this chart based primarily on 1840, 1850, 1860 Census Reports.
- There were no Coffey family heads of households listed in present day Amherst County in 1810 or 1820.
- 1. From Amherst County Marriage Records at State Archives (1853 - 1935).
- 2. Buried in Bridgehill Cemetery at Coffeytown; dates from headstones.
- 3. Jordan enlisted on 25 JAN 1864 in Richmond, VA, assigned to Co. B, 3rd VA Calvary on 1 FEB 1864 and promptly deserted. He later enlisted on 1 MAR 1864 in Amherst Co., assigned to Co. I, 49th VA Infantry on 27 JUNE 1864, listed as AWOL as of 1 OCT 1864. Compiled Service Records.
- 4. Rockbridge County Marriage Records, State Archives
- 5. Statewide Birth Index
- 6. George served as a Private in Co. B, 49th Regiment, VA Infantry from 23 APRIL 1861 until his death from wounds and typhoid fever either 1 or 5 MARCH 1862, while in camp near the Rapidan River. Compiled Service Records of Virginians Who Served in the CSA; Virginia State Archives.
- 7. Robert served as a Private in Co. B, 49th VA Regiment from 21 AUG 1862 until his death in JULY 1864 from wounds received 12 MAY 1864 at Spotsylvania. He received a Certificate of Commendation. Compiled Service Records of Virginians Who Served in the CSA; Virginia State Archives.
- 8. Rockbridge County Death Records.
- 9. A license was applied for wedding to a 16 year old Ogden girl, 3 MAR 1875; not clear if marriage occurred, but a John and "Permelia" Coffey had "Edward" Coffey 8 NOV 1875, according to the Statewide birth index. I believe that Elias was most likely born 6 NOV 1875, reported two days later, but celebrated in December to conceal a prenuptial pregnancy. The reference to "Permelia" is probably a handwriting legibility problem, since the family calls her Anne Mariah. They were most likely the same girl.
- 10. No marriage record of Schylar the younger has been found for his presumed third wife; however, census reports and the Rockbridge County Death Records strongly imply that he did marry a third time. Anne Belle died of fever on 12 OCT 1895, at the age of 14; her mother Elizabeth died also of fever in AUGUST 1895. It is known that Elizabeth was born in Amherst County but her parents are not known.

**SCHYLAR  
COFFEY  
AND  
FAMILY**

JUNE, 1993

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**Coffey Family History;  
SCHYLAR COFFEY**

**John Annie  
Coffey Mariah  
(Ogden)  
Coffey**

John:  
B: 15 JULY 1849, Amherst Co.  
M: 15 MARCH 1875, Amherst  
D: 23 MAR 1935; Harvey, WVA

Annie:  
B: 21 DEC 1858  
D: 4 JAN 1903; Buena Vista, VA

**NOTES:**

1. All information this chart is from Pam (Coffey) Hardie, via Doris Hafle, 1993.

**Elias Fary  
Coffey (Letcher)  
Coffey** Elias (typical):  
B: 6 DEC 1875  
M: 6 MAY 1906  
D: ?

**Nathaniel Ruth  
Coffey (Mays)  
Coffey** B: 14 FEB 1879  
M: 18 SEPT 1906  
D: ?

**Ollie James L.  
(Coffey) Hamilton  
Hamilton** B: 19 JAN 1882  
M: 23 JAN 1901

**John Hayden  
Franklin (Davis)  
Coffey Coffey** B: 15 FEB 1884  
M: 29 AUG 1906  
D: AUG 1980; Buried  
in Buena Vista, VA

**Celestial Saylor  
(Coffey) Marshall  
Coffey Coffey, Sr.** B: 6 JAN 1887  
M: 20 DEC 1905  
D: 1963; Buried GreenHill  
Cemetery, Buena Vista, VA.

**SEE CHART**

**Walter Gertrude  
Herbert (Carr)  
Coffey Coffey** B: 12 MARCH 1890  
M: ?  
D: ?

**William Virgie Tina  
Coffey (Mays) ( )  
Coffey Coffey Coffey** B: 15 JULY 1894  
M1: ?  
M2: ?  
D: ?

**Sanford Florence Clarabell  
Dewey (Sterling) ( )  
Coffey Coffey Coffey** B: 25 JULY 1898  
M1: ?  
M2: ?  
D: ?

**John  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000

**Coffey Family History;  
John Coffey**

**Celestial Saylor  
(Coffey) Marshall  
Coffey Coffey**

Celestial:  
B: 6 JAN 1887  
M: 20 DEC 1905  
D: 1963; Buried in Green  
Hill Cemetery, Buena Vista.

Saylor:  
B: 11 JULY  
1886; Nelson  
County, VA, son  
of Alford and  
Martha A.  
(Bradley) Coffey

**NOTES:**

1. All information this  
chart is from Pam (Coffey)  
Hardie, via Doris Hafle.

B: 1 JULY 1925

**Emery Hallie Jane  
Elbert (Grubb)  
Coffey Coffey** Emery:  
B: 19 JULY 1907  
M: ?  
D: ? Hallie:  
B: ?  
D: 16 SEPT 1980

**Wilford Sarah Clarice  
Myers ( ) ( )  
Coffey Coffey Coffey** Wilford:  
B: 8 NOV 1909  
M1: ?  
M2: ?  
D: ? Sarah:  
B: ?  
D: 1 MAY 1969

**Moda Estelle  
Raymond (Dangerfield)  
Coffey Coffey** B: 18 APR 1912

**Novell Helen Lois  
Millard Gay Wingo  
Coffey (Webb) (Bailey)  
Coffey Coffey** B: 26 NOV 1914

**William Margie  
Stanley Tanner  
Coffey (Neal)  
Coffey Coffey** B: 24 MAR 1917

**Nettie Stanley  
Mildred G. Edgar  
(Coffey) (Edgar) Winston  
Barger Barger** B: 19 MAY 1920

**Louise Alixe Paul  
(Coffey) Donahue "Bell"  
(Donahue) Richard Staton  
(Walker) Staton C. Walker** B: 31 MAY 1923

Pam:  
B: 1 SEPT 1948, Roanoke, VA  
M: 15 FEB 1969

**Saylor Margorie  
Marshall E. (Edgar)  
Coffey, Jr. Coffey** **Pam James  
(Coffey) William  
Hardie Hardie, III**

Amy Lynn Hardie; B:  
25 JAN 1972  
Jason Andrew Hardie;  
B: 12 JAN 1976

**Annie Evelyn Benson Carr**  
adopted, daughter of Saylor's sister

**Celestial  
(Coffey)  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993.

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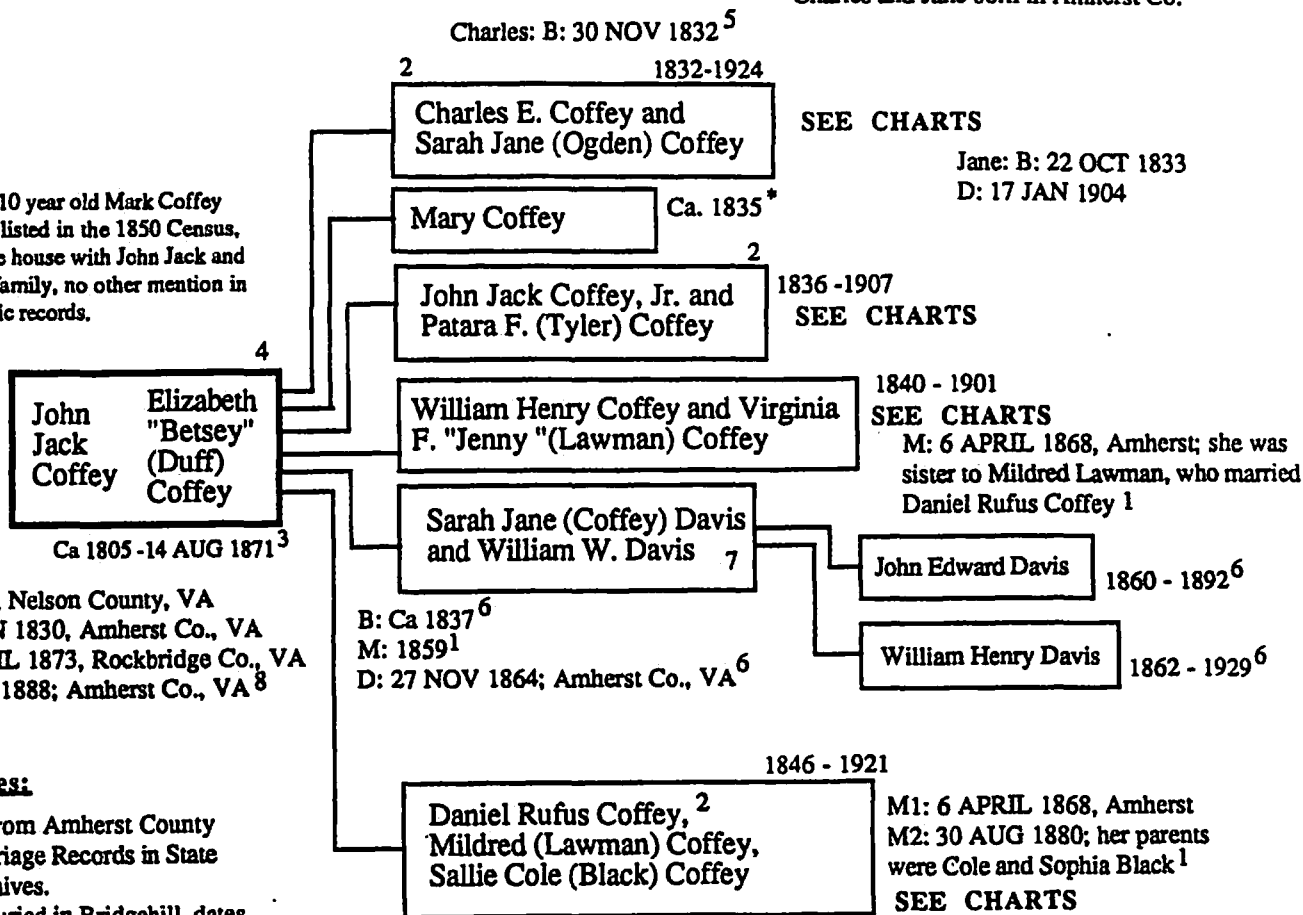
**John Jack  
and  
Elizabeth  
"Betsey"  
(Duff)  
Coffey**

**Coffey Family History;  
Original Coffey Settlers in "Coffeytown"  
JOHN JACK COFFEY**

\* listings are from 1840, 1850,  
and 1860 Census reports and oral  
history information; some dates  
from headstones

M: 14 FEB 1854, Amherst; her parents  
were Zachariah & Elizabeth (McDaniel  
(Ogden) Coffey, they were married 16  
OCT 1825; Amherst Co., VA; both  
Charles and Jane born in Amherst Co.<sup>1</sup>

\* A 10 year old Mark Coffey  
was listed in the 1850 Census,  
same house with John Jack and  
his family, no other mention in  
public records.



B: Ca 1808, Nelson County, VA  
M1: 18 JAN 1830, Amherst Co., VA  
M2: 1 APRIL 1873, Rockbridge Co., VA  
D: 14 DEC 1888; Amherst Co., VA<sup>8</sup>

**Notes:**

1. From Amherst County Marriage Records in State Archives.
2. Buried in Bridgehill, dates from headstones.
3. Am Co Death records, she died of Cholera, born in Fluvanna County to Joshua and Besley Duff.
4. On 1 APR 1873, John Jack married Virginia C. Campbell of Rockbridge County. He was 64, and the son of "J and E Coffey"; she was 25 years old. Apparently, there were no children by that marriage.
5. From Diane M. Gardner.
6. From Sarah Branch notes via Doris Hafle.
7. After Sarah died William married Avarilla Coffey, daughter of Henry Coffey.

8. From Amherst County Death Records, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Virginia State Archives

**JOHN JACK  
COFFEY AND  
FAMILY**

JUNE, 1993

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**Coffey Family History;  
JOHN JACK COFFEY**

John Elizabeth  
Jack (Duff)  
Coffey Coffey

B: 30 NOV 1832  
D: 13 FEB 1924<sup>10</sup>  
B: 22 OCT 1833  
D: 12 JAN 1904<sup>10</sup>

Charles Sarah  
Edward Jane  
Coffey (Ogden)  
Coffey<sup>5</sup>

M: 14 FEB 1854, Amherst Co.

John Coffey

B: OCT 1858, Amherst 8  
D: 14 DEC 1858 of Croup, Amh Co.<sup>4</sup>

Irvin Coffey

B: APRIL 1857, Amh County; <sup>8</sup>  
believed to have died young.  
1873 - 1947<sup>3</sup> 1881 - 1976<sup>3</sup>

Hiter Blanch Mary Fannie  
Webster H. (Crist) "Mamie"  
Coffey Coffey (Higginbotham)  
Coffey

SEE CHARTS  
B1: Ca 1867<sup>4</sup>  
M1: 17 JAN 1894<sup>1</sup>  
D1: 6 JULY 1897<sup>4</sup>

19 MAY 1862 - 11 MAY 1931<sup>10</sup>

Edwin Mary  
Horsely Virginia  
Coffey (Rucker)  
(Pribble)  
Coffey

SEE CHARTS  
M: 8 MAR 1883, Amherst<sup>1</sup>  
Went to Bristol, VA with logging  
company, 1901

Ca 1855

Pitt Lucy  
Coffey (White)  
Coffey<sup>6</sup>

M: 3 OCT 1881, Amherst<sup>1</sup>  
SEE CHART  
went to West Va.

Ca 1859

Charles Sallie M.  
"Charlie" (White)  
Coffey Coffey

M: 6 NOV 1880, Amherst;<sup>1</sup>  
Sallie one of 3 wives. SEE CHART

Mary Jane Albert  
(Coffey) Waggoner  
Stratton Stratton

Mary Jane born MAY 1866;<sup>8</sup>  
died 27 OCT 1928<sup>7</sup>

SEE CHART

1866 - 1928<sup>3</sup>

1858 - 1933<sup>3</sup>

1870<sup>8</sup>

Editha James  
(Coffey) Crist  
Crist

SEE CHART

B: 12 JUNE 1868<sup>8</sup>

Eleanna George Fletcher  
"Eleanor" (Coffey) Baxter Higginbotham  
(Stratton) Stratton  
Higginbotham

SEE CHART

M1: 31 DEC 1890,  
Amherst<sup>1</sup>

Geo:  
B: 1862<sup>9</sup>  
D: 26 FEB 1896<sup>9</sup>

**CHARLES  
EDWARD  
COFFEY**

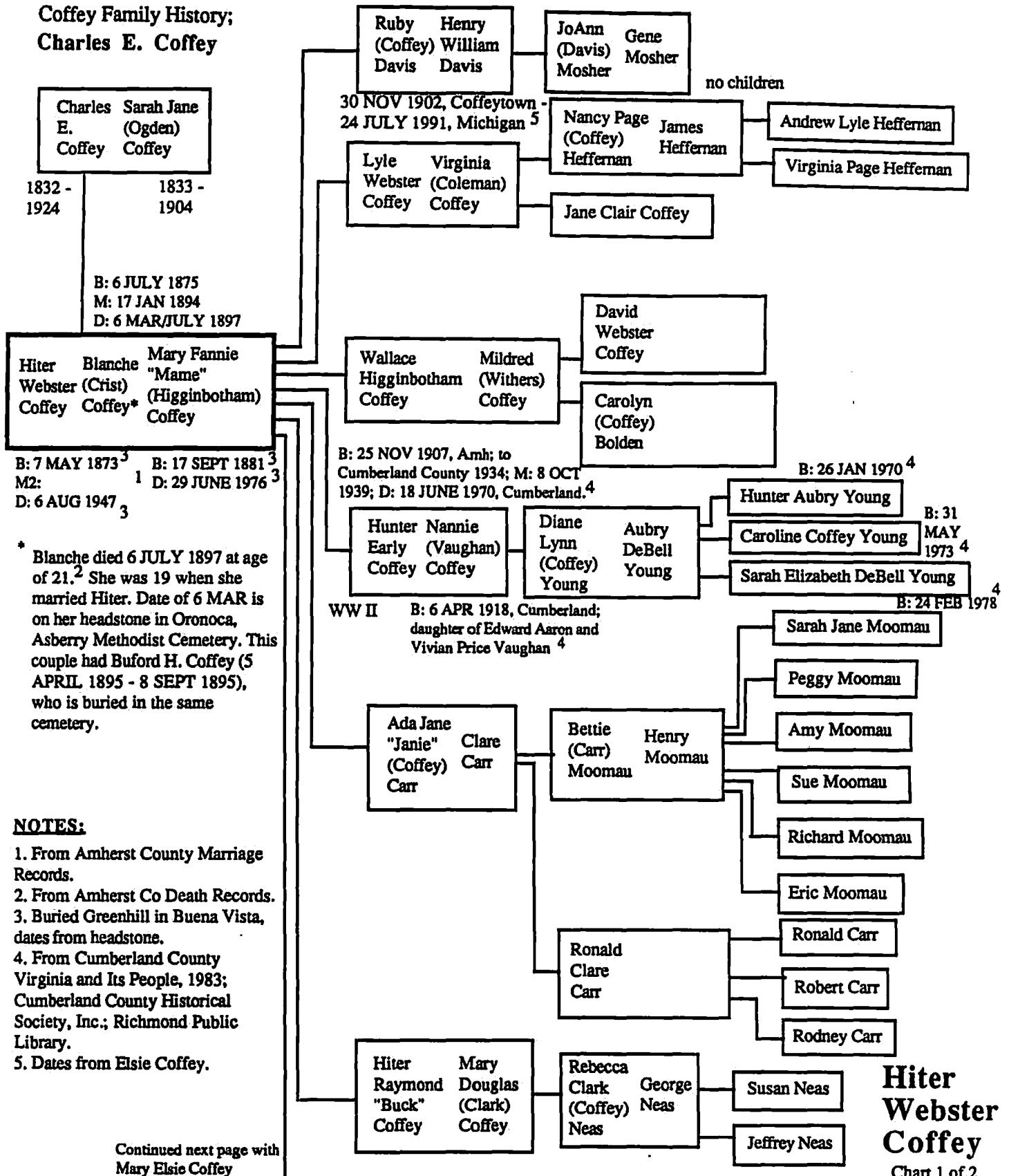
**NOTES:**

1. From Amherst County Marriage Records.
2. From headstones in Bridgehill Cemetery
3. Green Hill Cemetery, Buena Vista; dates from headstone.
4. Amherst Co Death Records.
5. According to Sarah Jane's Obituary, she had 9 children. Elsie Coffey seems to recall 2 boys who died young. They show in the Statewide birth index as John and Irvin.
6. When Sarah Jane joined the Asbury Chapel @ Oronoco, Rev. Pitt Woodroof was the Methodist minister. Maybe Pitt was named after him. She later transferred her membership to Macedonia.
7. Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1 November 1928 Obituaries.
8. Statewide Birth Index, State Archives in Richmond.
9. From Diane M. Gardner.
10. From Mrs. Ellen Wagner, Highland, MD.
11. Charles E. is believed to have been born in a log cabin behind the Richardson farmhouse off Rt. 60, approx 4 miles west of Rt. 29 and Rt. 60 intersection; from Doris Hafle.
12. See text for Charles Coffey's Civil War record.

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JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**



**NOTES:**

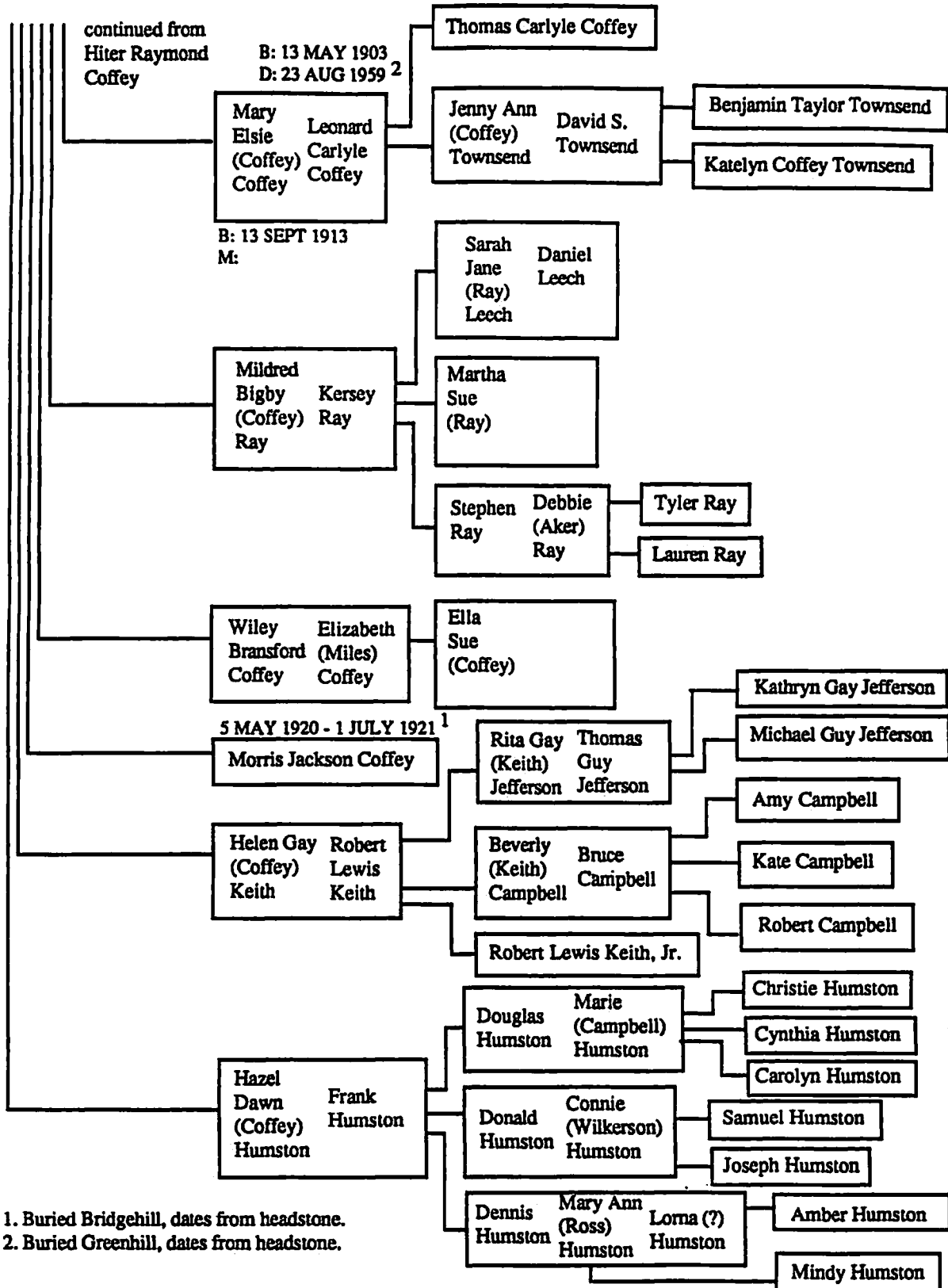
1. From Amherst County Marriage Records.
2. From Amherst Co Death Records.
3. Buried Greenhill in Buena Vista, dates from headstone.
4. From Cumberland County Virginia and Its People, 1983; Cumberland County Historical Society, Inc.; Richmond Public Library.
5. Dates from Elsie Coffey.

Continued next page with  
Mary Elsie Coffey

**Hiter Webster Coffey**

Chart 1 of 2

**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**



1. Buried Bridgehill, dates from headstone.  
2. Buried Greenhill, dates from headstone.

**Hiter  
Webster  
Coffey**

Chart 2 of 2



**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**

Charles E. Coffey  
Sarah Jane (Ogden) Coffey

Edwin Horsley Coffey  
Mary Virginia (Rucker) (Pribble)<sup>3</sup> Coffey

B: 19 MAY 1862<sup>2</sup>  
M: 8 MAR 1883<sup>1</sup>  
D: 11 MAY 1931<sup>2</sup>

This branch of the family lived in Bristol, VA.

**NOTES:**

1. From Amherst Co. Marriage Records.
2. All other info these charts is from a Coffey Family Tree by Donald Coffey and Ellen Wagner, obtained from Diane M. Gardner in July, 1992; and later expanded by Ellen Wagner, unless footnotes indicate another source.
3. Previously married to Dr. Samuel V. Pribble, she had a daughter who died young.

Lawrence G. Coffey  
Louise (Southerland) Coffey

B: 15 MAR 1885 1899 -  
M: 1918 1982  
D: 1963

Douglas Coffey  
Norma (Field) Coffey

B: 8 JAN 1923 B: 29  
M: 20 MAY 1944 APR 1926

Lawrence Coffey  
Adele (Hoover) Coffey

B: 18 JULY 1921  
M: 1955

Gary Coffey, B: 20 JULY 1950;  
M: Patricia ?  
Robin (Coffey) Beriault, B: 3  
DEC 1953; M: Mark Beriault  
Douglas Coffey, B: 14 NOV  
1959; M: Linda (Duvall) Coffey

B: 24 DEC 1959  
M: 20 JAN 1990

Robert:  
B: 17 AUG 1935  
Eugene:  
B: 14 FEB 1936

Robert Lisa  
Doherty (Henry)  
Doherty

B: 27 FEB 1961

Virginia:  
B: 23 JUNE 1939  
M1: 31 DEC 1958  
M2: 20 MAY 1978

Virginia Ruth (Hill) (Doherty) Shelton  
1. Robert S. Doherty  
2. Eugene P. Shelton

B: 24 AUG 1961  
M: 3 MAR 1990

B: 2 JAN 1918  
M: 30 APR 1938

Lucille Robert (Swann) Elkin Hill Hill

B: 17 JULY 1913  
D: 20 JAN 1991

B: 12 MAY 1941  
M: 4 JUNE 1963

Ellen Gail (Hill) Watson  
Tom G. Watson

James Monica  
Doherty (Lane)  
Doherty

B: 23 JULY 1966

B: 25 AUG 1887  
M: 9 JUNE 1914  
D: 15 JAN 1972

Myra Pearl (Coffey) Swann  
Robert F. Swann

B: 25 SEPT 1885  
D: 29 JAN 1966

Morgan Lane Doherty  
B: 28 OCT 1992

Todd Watson; B: 2 OCT 1964  
Thomas Gregory Watson;  
B: 30 DEC 1965

Robert Janie  
E. Hill, (Monroe)  
Jr. Hill

B: 12 NOV 1927  
D: 25 MAY 1966

B: 19 APR 1943  
M: 1 JUNE 1968

Robert E. Hill, III; B:  
14 APR 1970  
Michael M. Hill; B: 20  
OCT 1973

Robert June (Poe)  
Lewis Swann Swann

Steven Swann  
B: 13 OCT 1949

B: 22 DEC 1889  
M: 16 NOV 1915  
D: 10 MAR 1959

William Rucker Coffey  
1. Bertha (Hankla) Coffey  
2. Bernice (Hamilton) Coffey

B1: 17 AUG 1886  
D1: 30 OCT 1947  
B2: 30 AUG 1910  
M2: 16 NOV 1948

B: 7 NOV 1919  
M: 1 JAN 1940  
D: 11 AUG 1983

Margaret (Coffey) Diehl  
George Diehl

D: AUG 1986

B: 10 NOV 1947  
M: 20 MAY 1972

Barbara Ernie  
(Diehl) Williams Williams

B: 27 JAN 1945

Anne Williams,  
B: 29 DEC 1976;  
Benjamin  
Mathew  
Williams, B: 26  
NOV 1982

continued next page  
with Jesse Lee Coffey

**Edwin  
Horsley  
Coffey**

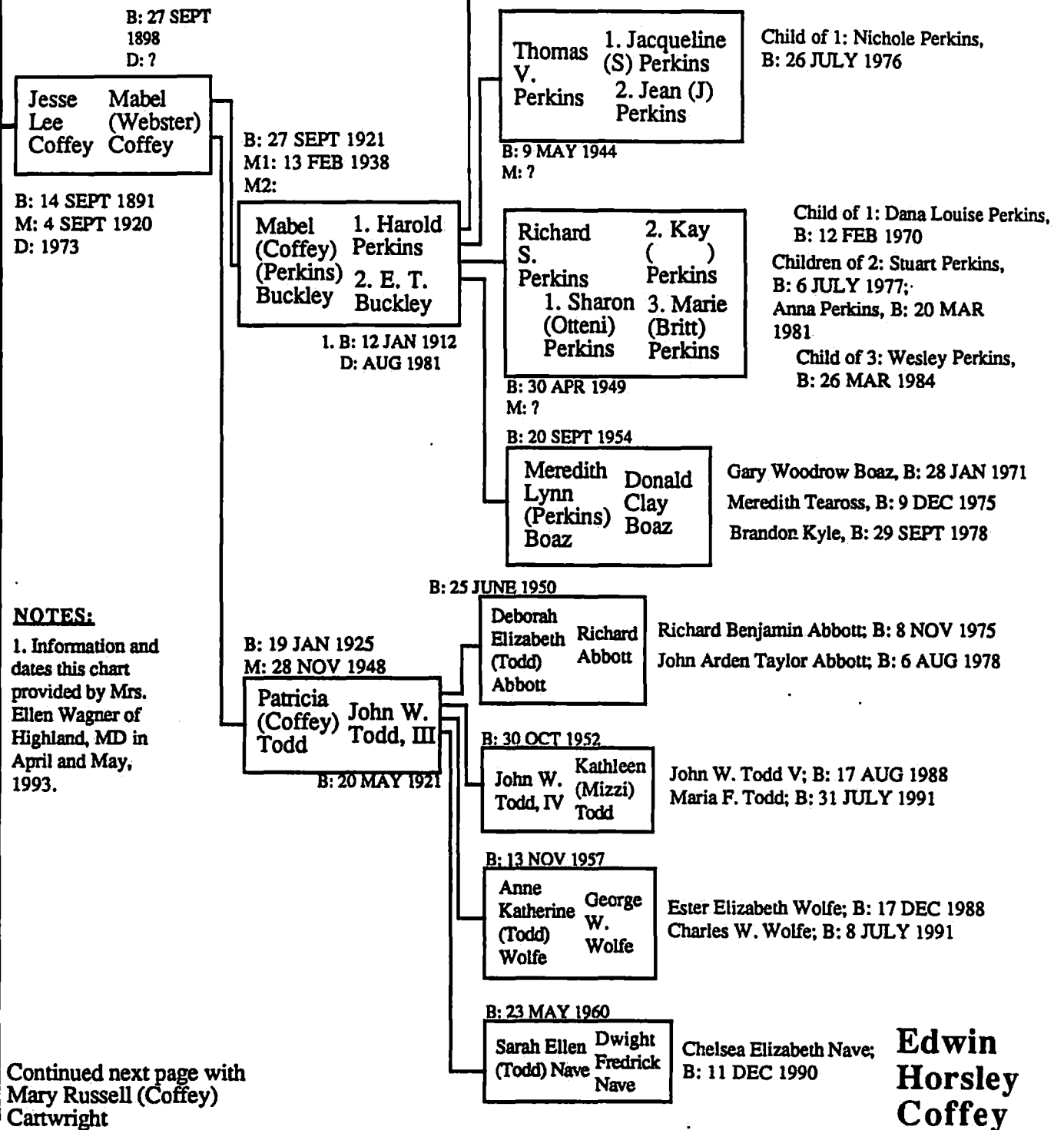
Chart 1 of 4

JUNE, 1993

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**

Continued from William Rucker Coffey



**NOTES:**  
1. Information and dates this chart provided by Mrs. Ellen Wagner of Highland, MD in April and May, 1993.

Continued next page with Mary Russell (Coffey) Cartwright

**Edwin Horsley Coffey**

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Chart 2 of 4  
JUNE, 1993





**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**

Continued from  
Jesse Lee Coffey

B: 10 NOV 1893  
M: 23 JULY 1916  
D: 10 JAN 1976

Mary Russell Jack  
(Coffey) Cartwright

B: ?  
D: 24 OCT 1947

B: 18 MAR 1896  
M: 7 AUG 1917  
D: 9 NOV 1964

Ottwa McDonald  
Buford (Lindsay)  
Coffey Coffey

"Boots"

**NOTES:**

1. Information and dates  
this chart provided by  
Mrs. Ellen Wagner of  
Highland, MD in April,  
and May, 1993.

B: 7 JUNE 1899  
M: 24 FEB 1925  
D: 11 AUG 1960

Edwin Douglas  
Coffey

B: 20 DEC 1899  
D: 19 DEC 1971

Continued Next  
Page with Charles  
Walker Coffey

B: 17 JUNE 1944  
M: 25 JUNE 1966

B: 9 JULY 1918  
M: 25 JUNE 1937

Frances (Cartwright)  
Rymer

B: 28 APR 1913

B: 4 NOV 1920  
M: ?

Richard Cartwright

B: 21 MAY 1931  
M: 20 OCT 1961

Ellen Douglas  
(Coffey) Wagner

B: 10 OCT 1932  
M: 24 DEC 1953

Donald Straley  
Coffey

B: 28 DEC 1934

B: 4 JAN 1940  
M: 20 AUG 1966

John Wallace  
Coffey

Kerry Patricia  
(Coffey) Hale

B: 2 MAY 1941

B: 25 NOV 1942  
M: ?

Kennon Gail  
Rymer (Carr)  
Rymer

Melissa Rymer  
Kennon Rymer, Jr.

Russ Pam Ruth  
Rymer (Henry) (Golden)  
Rymer Rymer

Russ Rymer, Jr.

B: 27 FEB 1951  
M1: ?  
M2: ?

B: 21 SEPT 1941

Gregg 2. ?  
Cartwright  
1. Mary  
(Blanken)  
Cartwright 3. ?

B: 28 JAN 1941

B: 26 AUG 1966 B: 26 OCT 1966

Richard Tracey  
Cartwright, (Pennington)  
III Cartwright

B: 9 NOV 1968 B: 15 MAR 1967

Kristin Stuart  
(Cartwright) Gunderson

B: 18 DEC 1947

Susan (Cartwright) John  
Fox Fox

B: 2 JUNE 1944

B: 28 SEPT 1968 B: 11 OCT 1965

Kaylin Jeffrey  
(Fox) Whitaker

Aaron Fox; B: 3 OCT 1969  
Rodney Fox; B: 23 JUNE 1975

William James Wagner; B: 25 OCT 1962  
David Douglas Wagner; B: 5 MAY 1964

B: 14 MAR 1955;  
M: 2 SEPT 1978

Kathryn Marie Michael  
(Coffey) Lee  
Craighead Craighead

Sarah Coffey Craighead;  
B: 4 JAN 1983;  
Emilyann Coffey  
Craighead; B: 12 OCT 1990

B: 14 JULY 1966;  
M: 3 JUNE 1989

B: 24 OCT 1949

Carol Teresa Patrick  
(Coffey) Joseph  
Burns Burns

B: 9 APR 1964

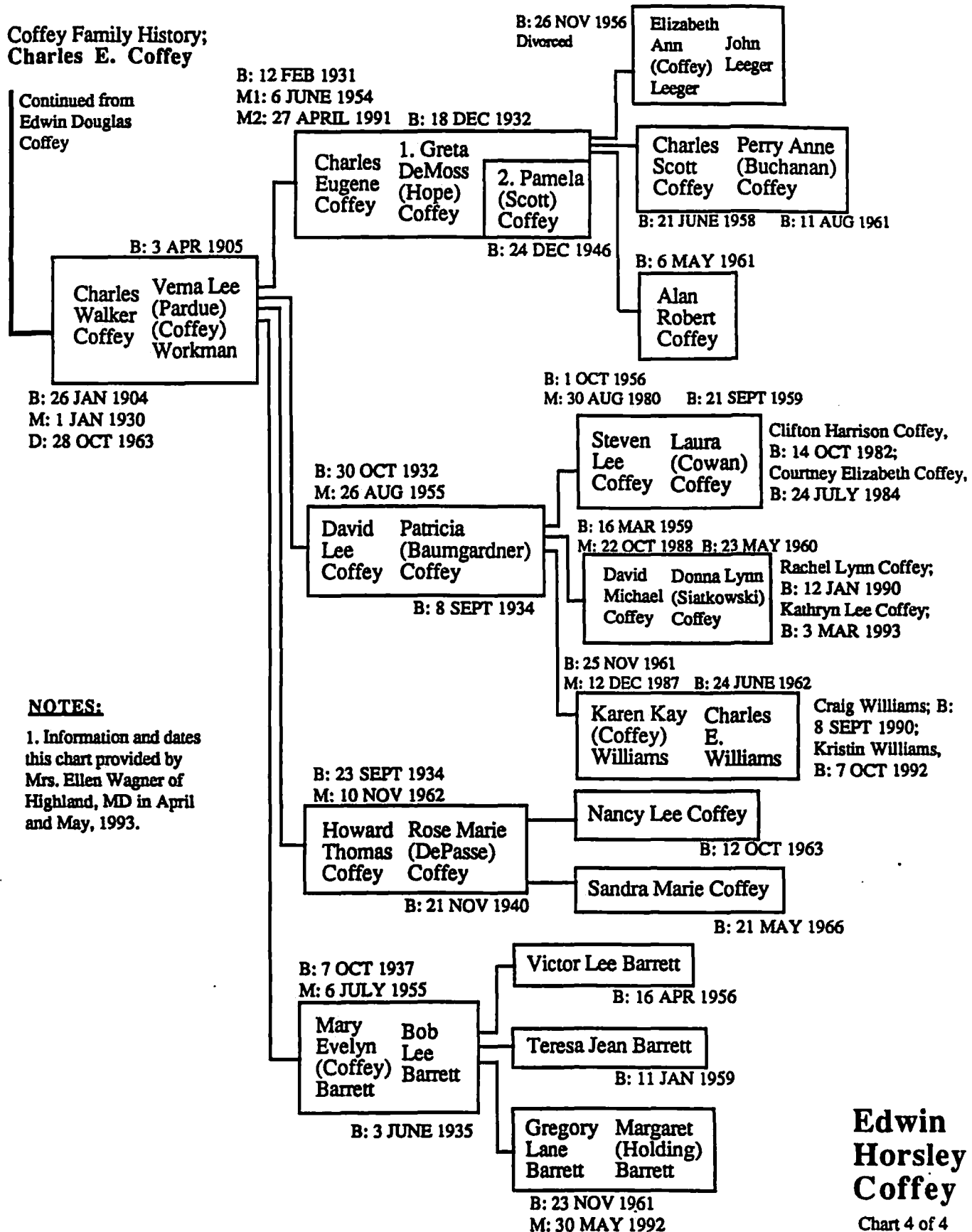
Janet Lynn Coffey; B: 6 SEPT 1972

**Edwin  
Horsley  
Coffey**

Chart 3 of 4

JUNE, 1993

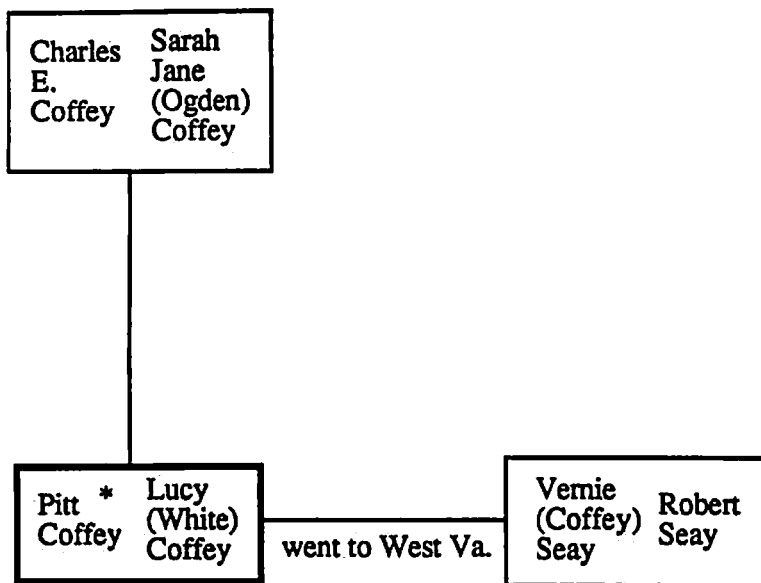
**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**



**NOTES:**  
1. Information and dates this chart provided by Mrs. Ellen Wagner of Highland, MD in April and May, 1993.

**Edwin  
Horsley  
Coffey**  
Chart 4 of 4  
JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**



B: Ca 1855  
M: 3 OCT 1881, Amherst<sup>1</sup>  
D:

\* Pitt was possibly named after Rev. Pitt Woodroof, a local Methodist minister. Pitt's mother Sarah Jane Coffey joined the Ashbury Chapel at Oronoco, and later joined the Macedonia Church. Rev. Woodroof was her first minister.

Not long after his marriage to Lucy, Pitt ran off to West Virginia with his mistress Flavonie Fletcher, leaving his wife and child. Lucy took out a Judgement against Pitt in Amherst County Court. In the May term, 1896, she was awarded \$39.37 (Judgement Docket #2, 1876-1899; Amherst County). Flavona Fletcher Coffey sold her interest in her father's estate at Sweet Briar College for \$5000.00 on 20 FEB 1901 (DB 51/pg 179). At that time she was living in Kanawa County, WVA.

No attempt has been made to track Pitt's life in West Virginia, although we understand some of his descendants have been to Coffeytown in search of their roots.

1. Amherst County Marriage Records. Pitt was a 26 year old widower when he married 18 year old Lucy. She was a widow at 18

**Pitt  
Coffey**

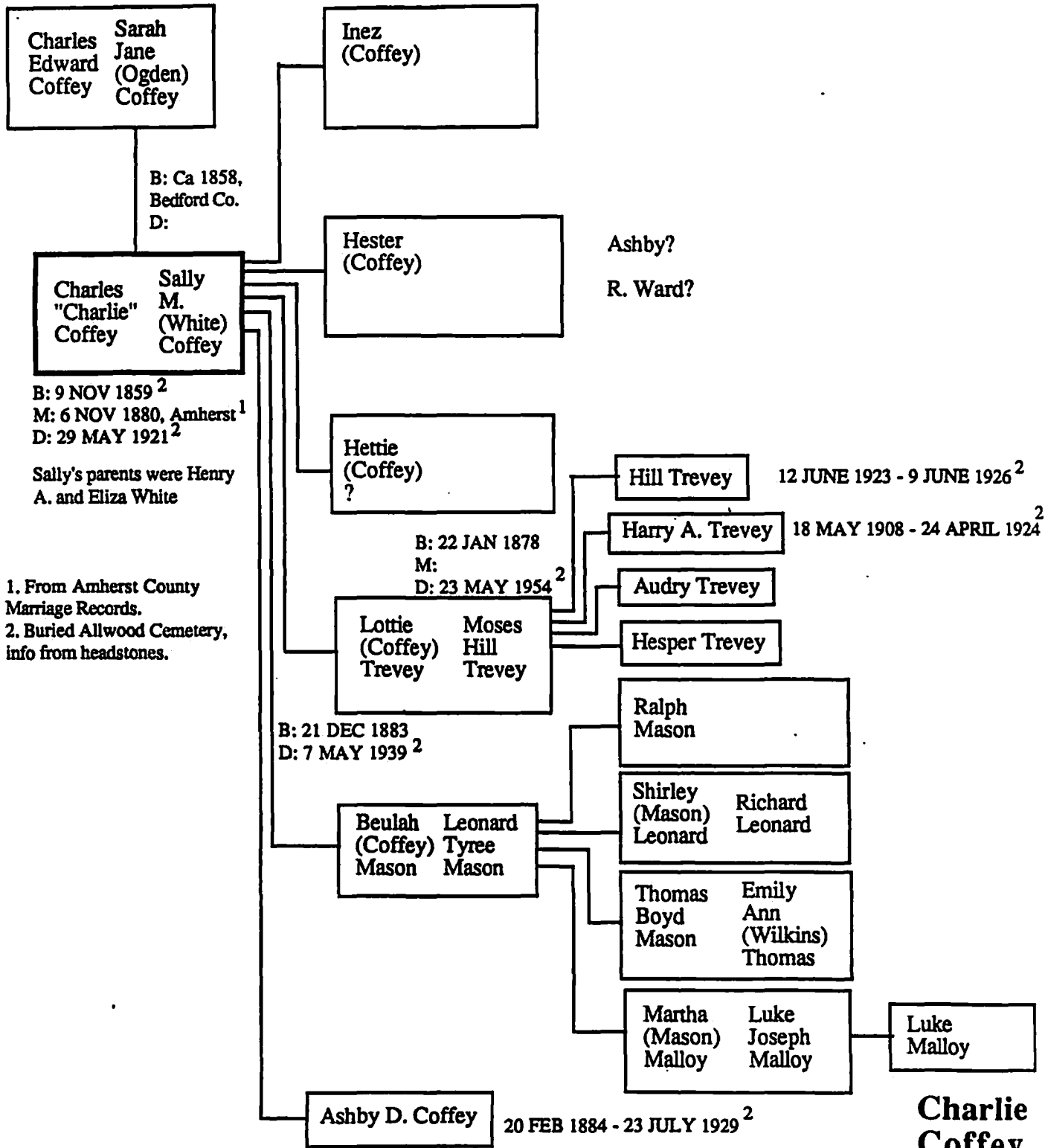
Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

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**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**



1. From Amherst County Marriage Records.  
 2. Buried Allwood Cemetery, info from headstones.

**Charlie Coffey**

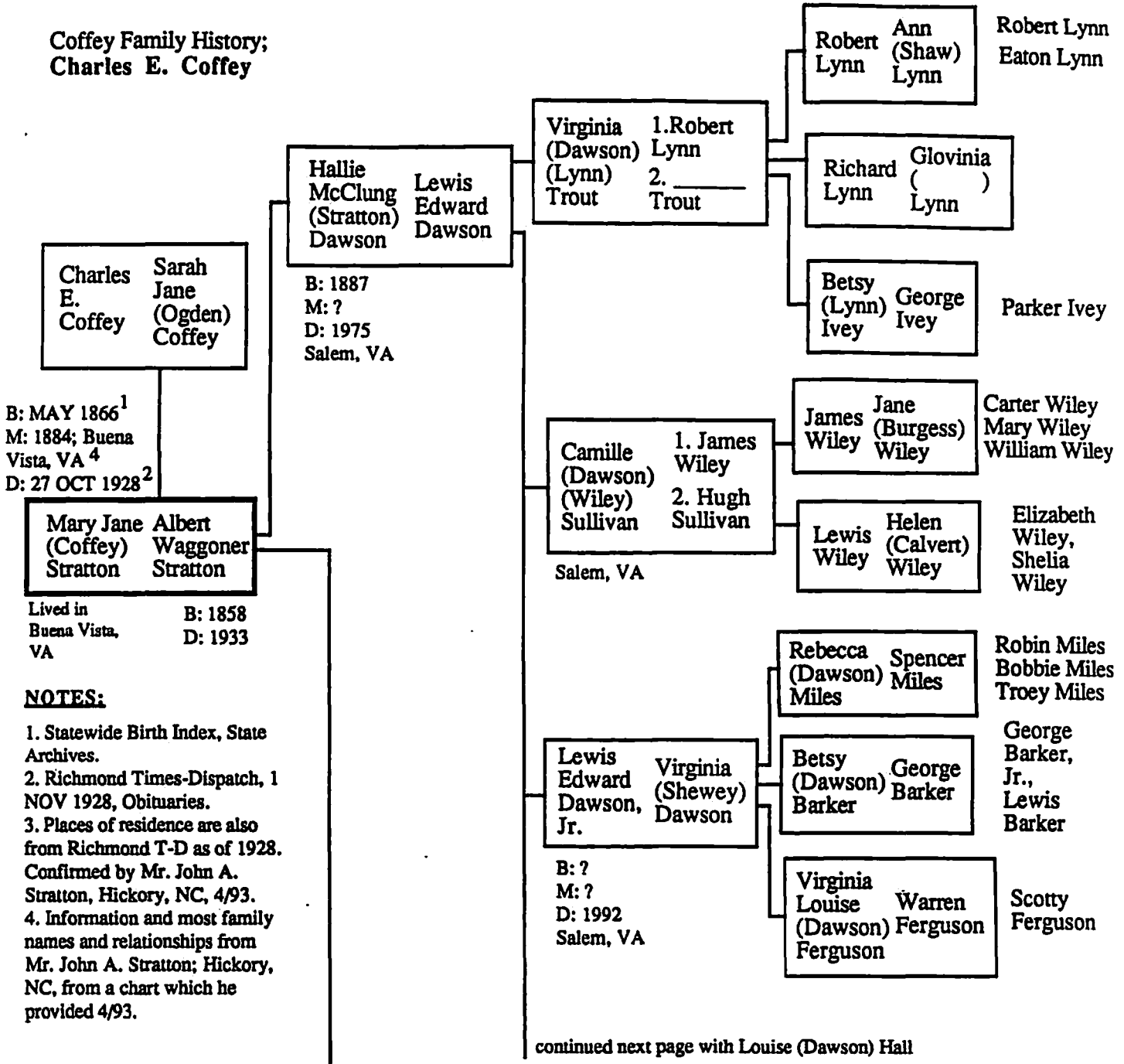
Chart 1 of 1

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

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**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**



**NOTES:**

1. Statewide Birth Index, State Archives.
2. Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1 NOV 1928, Obituaries.
3. Places of residence are also from Richmond T-D as of 1928. Confirmed by Mr. John A. Stratton, Hickory, NC, 4/93.
4. Information and most family names and relationships from Mr. John A. Stratton; Hickory, NC, from a chart which he provided 4/93.

continued next page with Louise (Dawson) Hall

Continued next page

**Mary Jane (Coffey) Stratton**

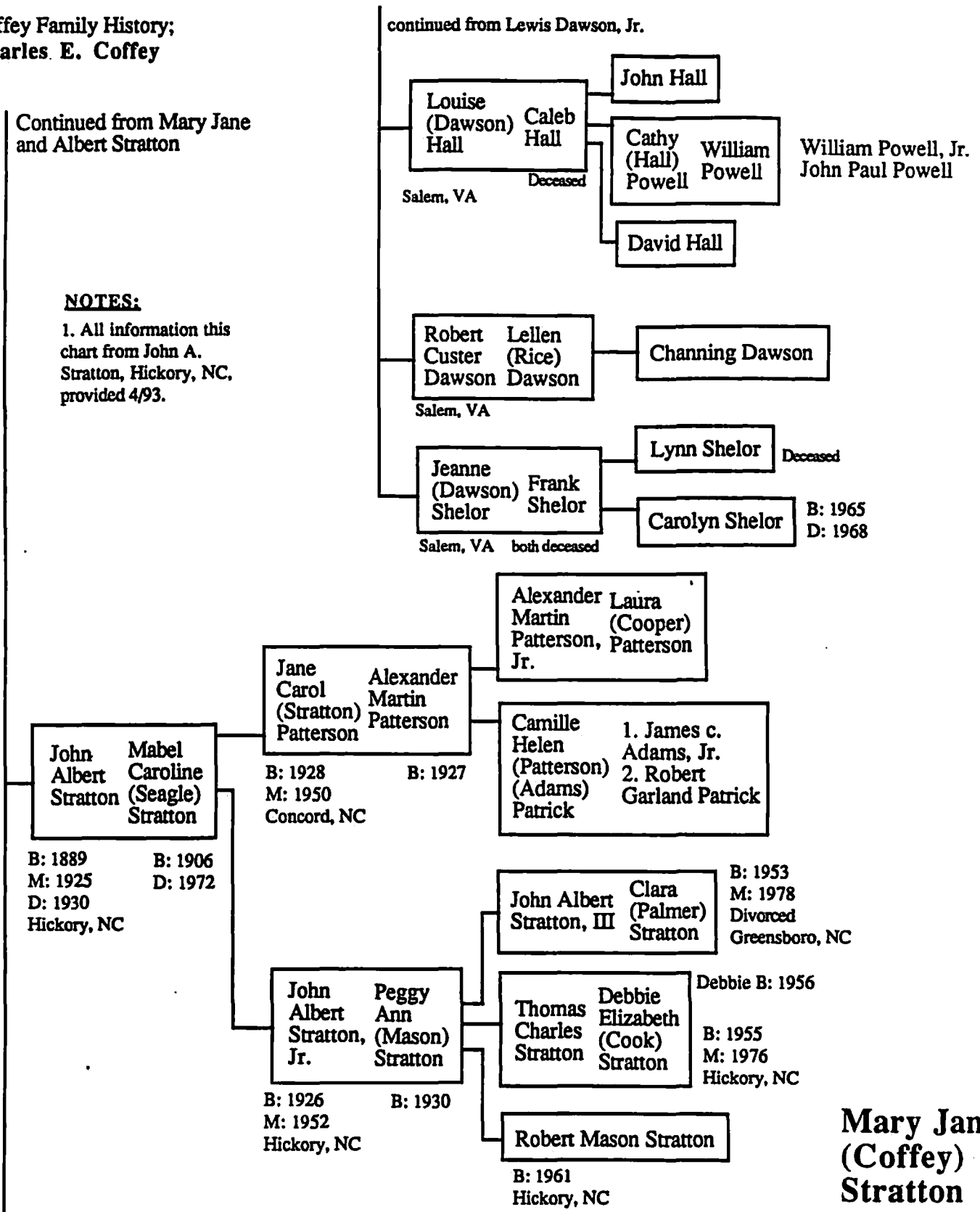
**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**

Continued from Mary Jane  
and Albert Stratton

**NOTES:**

1. All information this  
chart from John A.  
Stratton, Hickory, NC,  
provided 4/93.

continued from Lewis Dawson, Jr.



continued next page with Charles Coffey Stratton

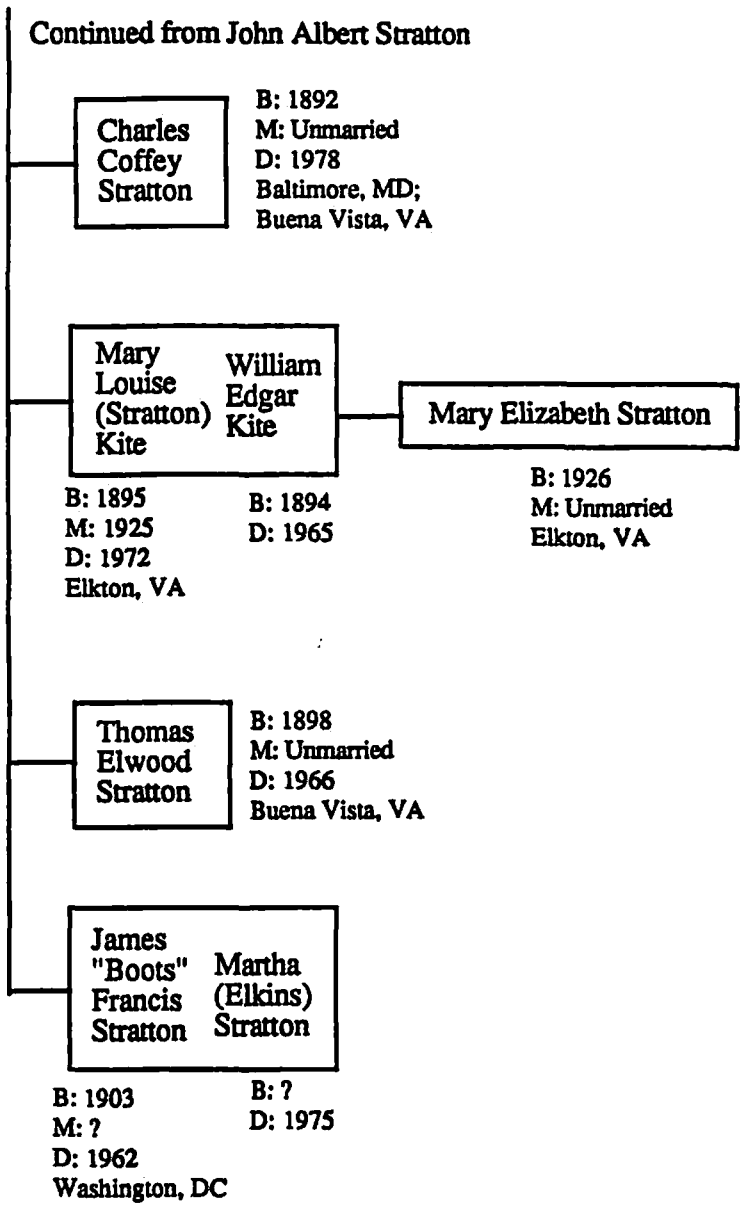
**Mary Jane  
(Coffey)  
Stratton**

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227

Chart 2 of 3  
JUNE, 1993



**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**



**NOTES:**

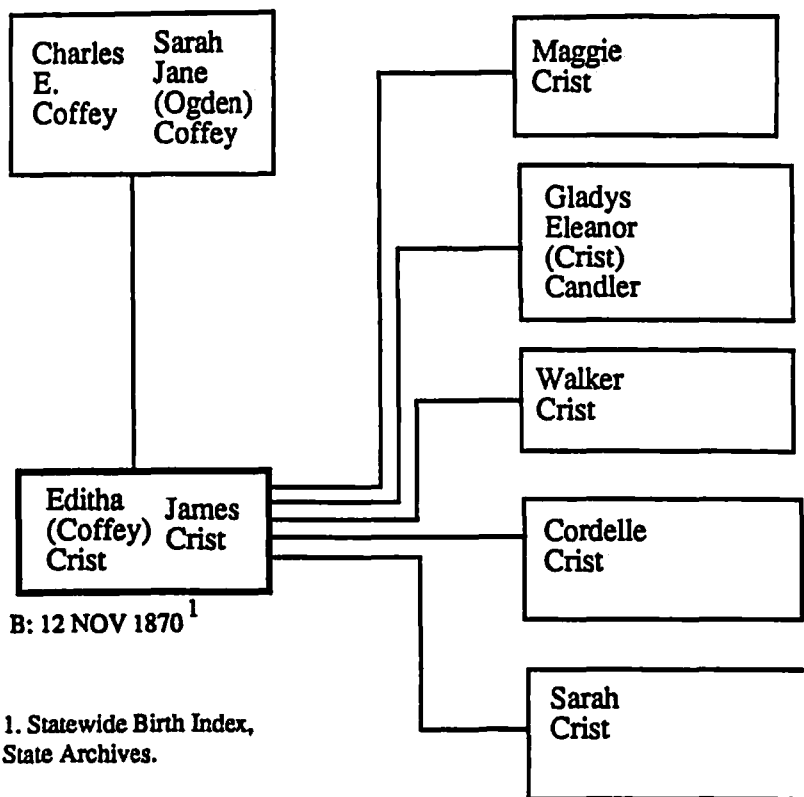
1. All information this chart from John A. Stratton, Hickory, NC, provided 4/93.

**Mary Jane  
(Coffey)  
Stratton**

Chart 3 of 3  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey



**Editha  
(Coffey)  
Crist**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

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**Coffey Family History;  
Charles E. Coffey**

Charles E. Coffey	Sarah Jane (Ogden) Coffey
-------------------------	------------------------------------

George:  
B: 1862  
D: 26 FEB 1896<sup>3</sup>

Called  
"Ela"

Eleanna "Eleanor" (Coffey) Higginbotham	George (Stratton) Baxter Stratton	Fletcher Higginbotham
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B:  
M1: 31 DEC 1890, Amherst<sup>1</sup>  
M2:  
D:

**NOTES:**

1. Amherst County Marriage Records, State Archives.
2. Some information this chart from John A. Stratton; Hickory, NC, 4/93.
3. Dates from Diane Gardner.
4. After George Stratton died, Eleanna lived with her children in Charles' house. She was listed as a housekeeper in 1900 census. She married Fletcher in the living room of Charles' house in Coffeytown.

B: Ca 1893 (Census)

Ethel McClung (Stratton) Coffey	Ernest Webster Coffey
--	-----------------------------

**SEE ARTHUR  
COFFEY CHARTS**

Mary Simpson (Stratton) Markham	George Markham
--	-------------------

Mary:  
B: Ca 1894 (Census)

Georgia (Stratton) Davidson	Bill Davidson
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B: Ca 1896 (Census)

Rufus Higginbotham
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Maggie Higginbotham
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Tom Higginbotham
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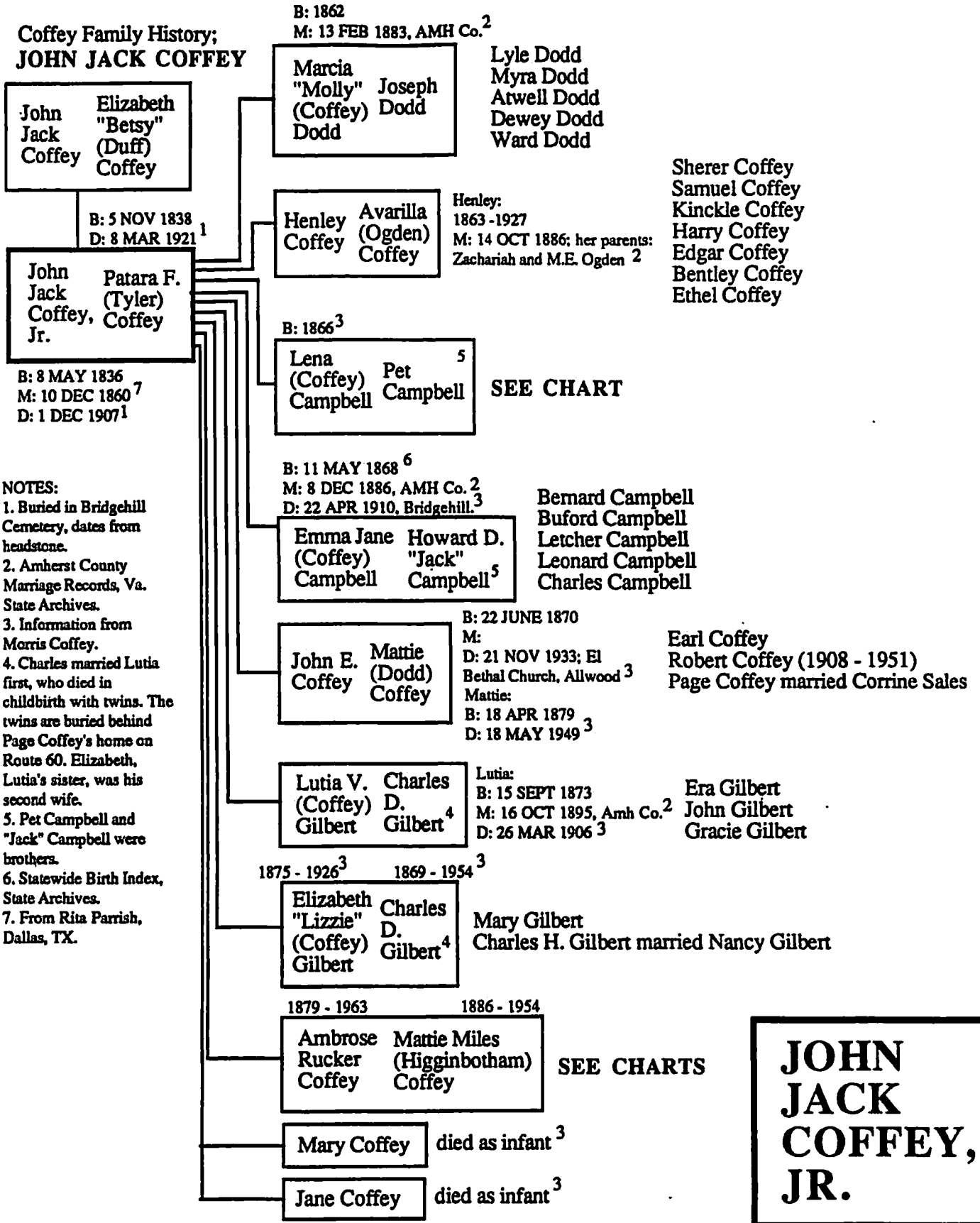
**Eleanna  
"Eleanor"  
(Coffey)  
(Stratton)  
Higginbotham**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

**Coffey Family History;  
JOHN JACK COFFEY**



**Coffey Family History;  
John Jack Coffey, Jr.**

John Jack Coffey, Jr. Patara F. (Tyler) Coffey

8 MAY 1836 - 1 DEC 1907      5 NOV 1838 - 8 MAR 1921 <sup>1</sup>

Ellena (Coffey) Campbell Howard Donald "Jack" Campbell

**ELLENA:**  
B: 12 JULY 1866, Amherst  
M: 8 DEC 1886, Amherst  
D: 22 MARCH 1950,  
Roanoke, Va.; buried  
Sherwood Cemetery

**HOWARD:**  
B: 30 JUNE 1867, Rockbridge  
D: 4 NOV 1951, Sherwood  
Cemetery

**NOTES:**

1. Dates from Headstones, both buried in Bridgehill Cemetery, Coffeytown. Death date coincides with Family Bible date, according to Rita Parrish, Dallas, TX.

2. Unless noted otherwise, all information this chart was furnished by Rita Parrish of Dallas, TX

Ollie Aurelia (Campbell) Williams Oscar David Williams

B: 31 OCT 1887,  
Rockbridge County  
M: 21 SEPT 1918  
D: 24 AUG 1957,  
Smyth County, Va.

Lottie Virginia (Campbell) Fauber Henry Franklin Fauber

B: 16 MARCH 1889  
M: 30 JUNE 1915

Herman Howard Campbell

B: 10 JULY 1891  
D: JAN 1977

B: 14 DEC 1893  
M: 19 MAY 1912

Mertie Loving (Campbell) Harvey W. T. Harvey

Elizabeth Bryant (Campbell) Gregory Edgar Gregory

B: 2 JULY 1896  
M: 21 MAY 1925  
D: 27 MARCH 1969

Hardy Thomas Campbell

B: 17 JULY 1898

Emily Shelby (Williams) Lloyd Ward Lee Lloyd

B: 21 JUNE 1909, Atkins, VA  
M: 8 JAN 1944

Margie Ellena (Williams) Perkins Herbert Hoover Perkins

B: 16 JUNE 1921; M: 28 APRIL 1941

Freeman Marco (Williams) Williams Margaret Vance (McKee) Williams

B: 3 MARCH 1923; M: 24 DEC 1949

Donald Sylvan (Campbell) Williams Lyndsy Williams

B: 12 DEC 1942; M: 2 NOV 1948

Jessie Oscar (Williams) Williams Geraldine (Conti) Williams

B: 24 SEPT 1926; M: 2 JULY 1948

Lois Aurelia (Williams) Richardson Rudolph Richardson

B: 27 MARCH 1929; M: 2 JULY 1950

Rita Jean (Lloyd) Parrish Eugene Walter Parrish III

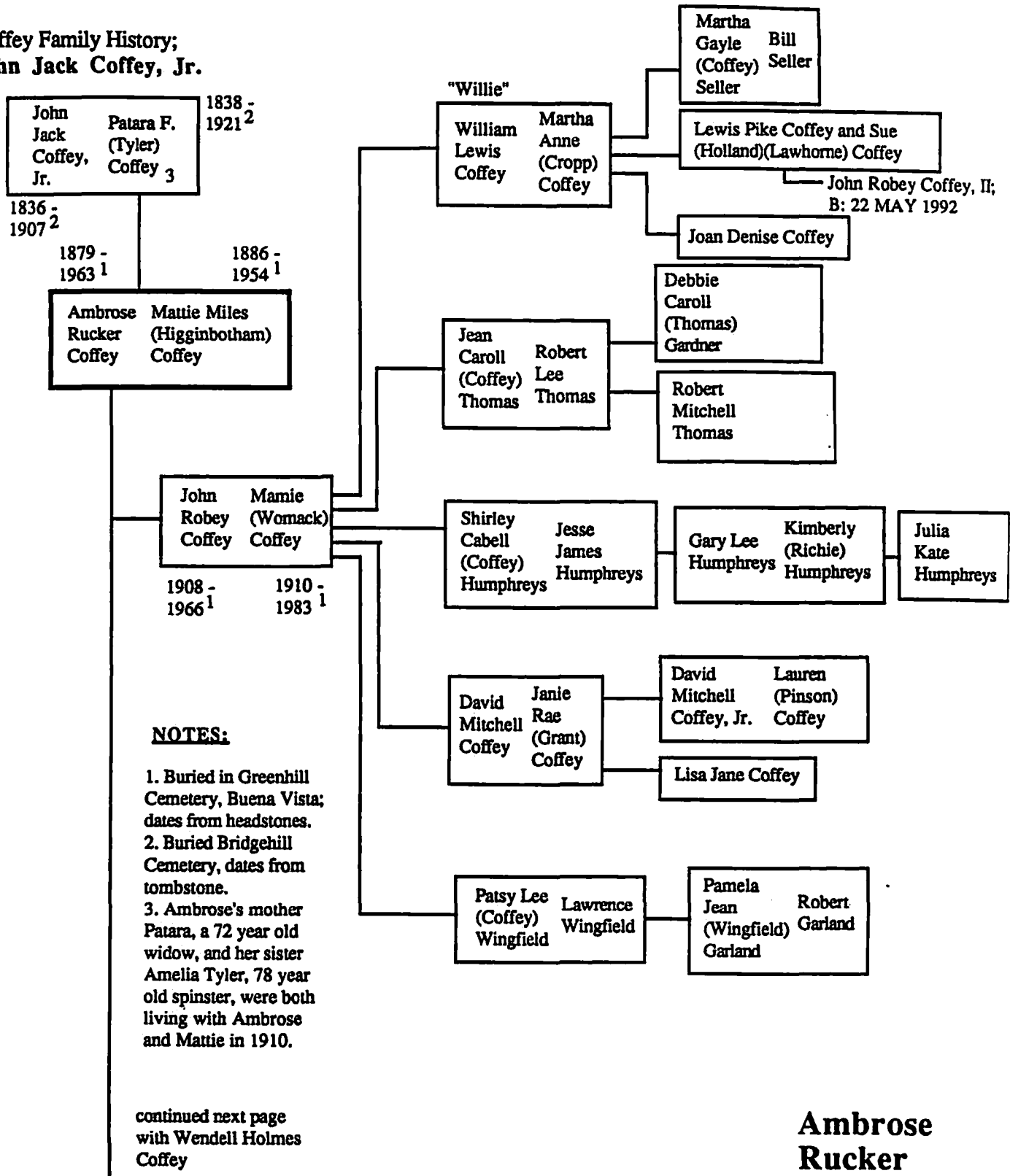
B: 14 DEC 1944; Marion, VA  
M: 15 MAR 1972, Dallas, TX

\* Rita and Eugene have two children: EUGENE "WALT" PARRISH, IV (B: 30 AUG 1975, Dallas) and ZACHARY SHELBY PARRISH (B: 2 JUNE 1978)

**Ellena  
(Coffey)  
Campbell**

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
John Jack Coffey, Jr.**



**Ambrose Rucker Coffey**

Chart 1 of 2

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

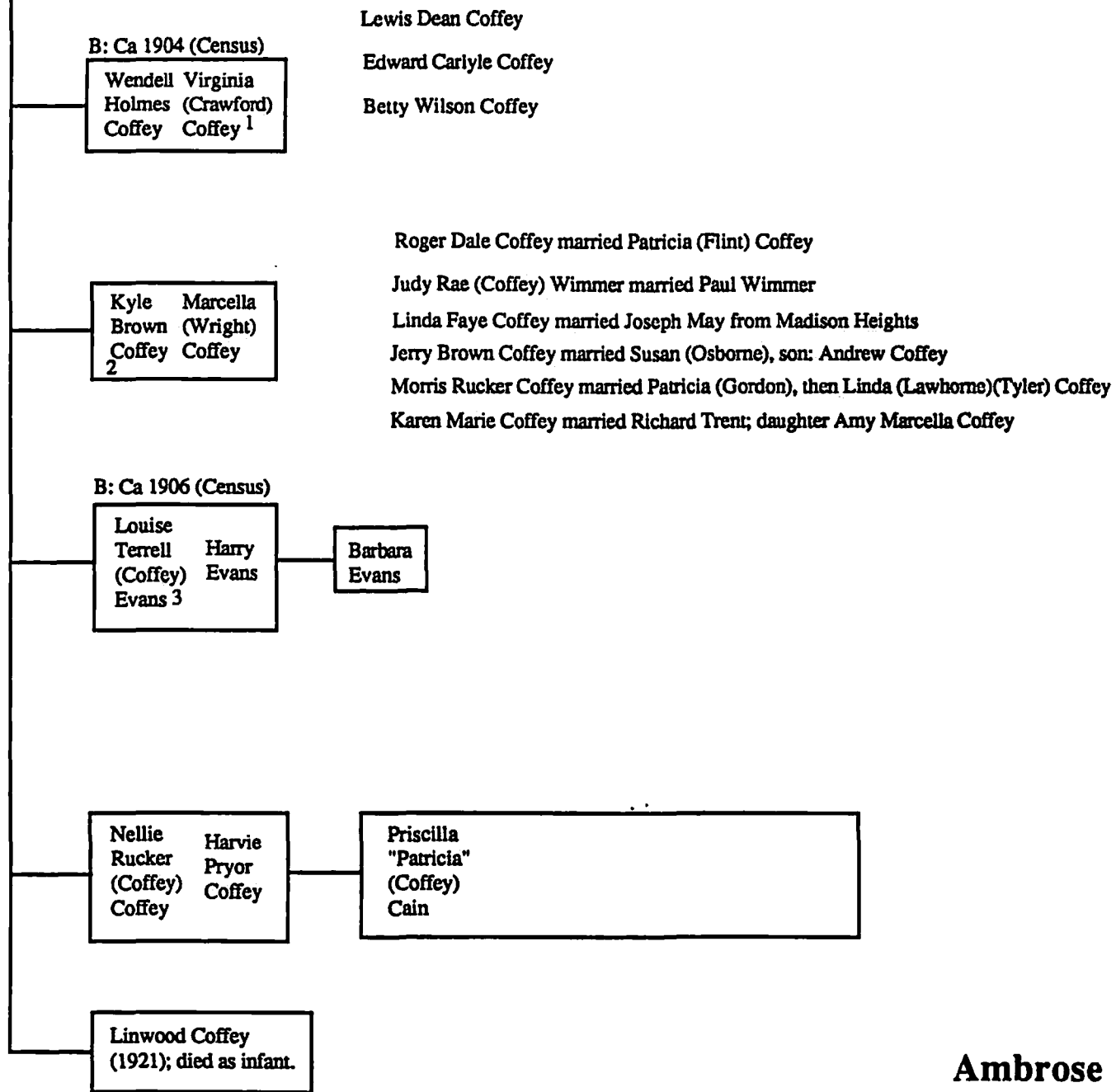
JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
John Jack Coffey, Jr.**

**NOTES:**

1. Sister to Embree Crawford.
2. Owned original John Jack's house until 1988.
3. Lived in Norfolk, owned and operated Nursing Home; buried Greenhill.

continued from John Robey Coffey



**Ambrose  
Rucker  
Coffey**

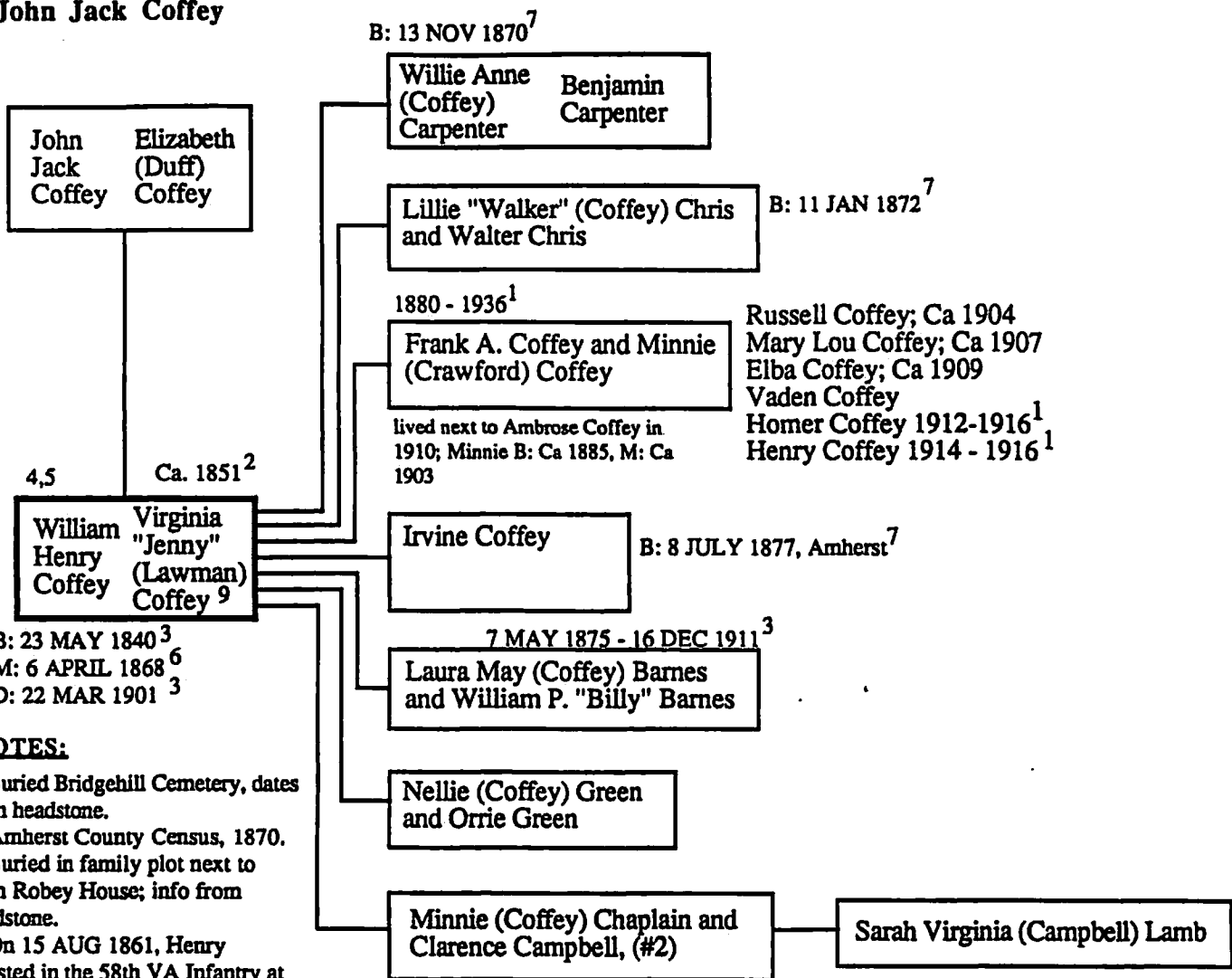
Chart 2 of 2

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227



**Coffey Family History;  
John Jack Coffey**



**NOTES:**

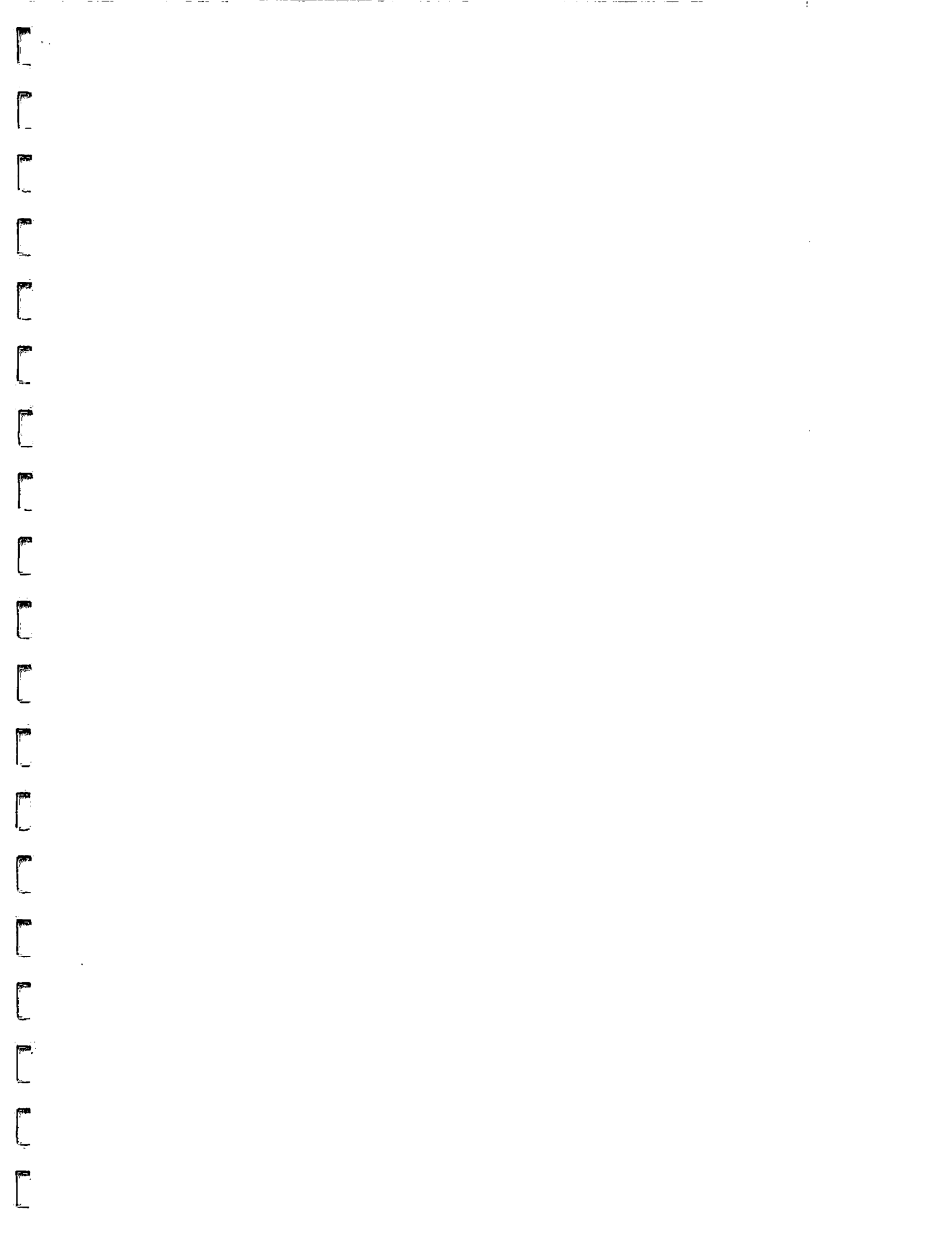
1. Buried Bridgehill Cemetery, dates from headstone.
2. Amherst County Census, 1870.
3. Buried in family plot next to John Robey House; info from headstone.
4. On 15 AUG 1861, Henry enlisted in the 58th VA Infantry at Millner's Store, Amherst Co., VA when he was 21; he was captured at Spottsylvania CH on 12 MAY 1864 and sent to FT. Delaware. He was released 19 JUNE 1865. Henry was 5'-6" tall, he had dark hair, dark eyes, and dark complexion. (From the Virginia Regimental Histories Series, Best Seller book store, Lexington, and Compiled Service Records, VA State Archives.)
5. Nicknamed "Cripple Henry", Wm H. was wounded as a Confederate soldier in the Civil War.
6. Amherst County Marriage Records.
7. Statewide Birth Index, State Archives.

8. Seven children are shown, 1910 Census indicates Jenny had 9 children. One of them may have been Hattie Coffey who married Henry Jemmings. Hattie died a few years after marriage, then Henry married Beulah Mays. From Mrs. H.G Wright, letter to Doris Hafle, 1980.
9. Jenny was living with her 80 year old widowed mother, Catherine Sandidge, on the other side of Ambrose Rucker Coffey, according to 1910 Census.

**WILLIAM  
HENRY  
COFFEY**

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993



**Coffey Family History;  
JOHN JACK COFFEY**

Daniel Rufus Coffey served in the Local Defense during the Civil War.

1846-1921

Daniel Rufus Coffey	Mildred (Lawman) Coffey	Sallie Cole (Black) Coffey
---------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------

B: 17 AUG 1846,<sup>1</sup> Fluvanna Co.<sup>2</sup>  
M1: 6 APR 1868, Amherst<sup>2</sup>  
M2: 30 AUG 1880, Amherst.<sup>2</sup>  
D: 18 NOV 1921<sup>1</sup>

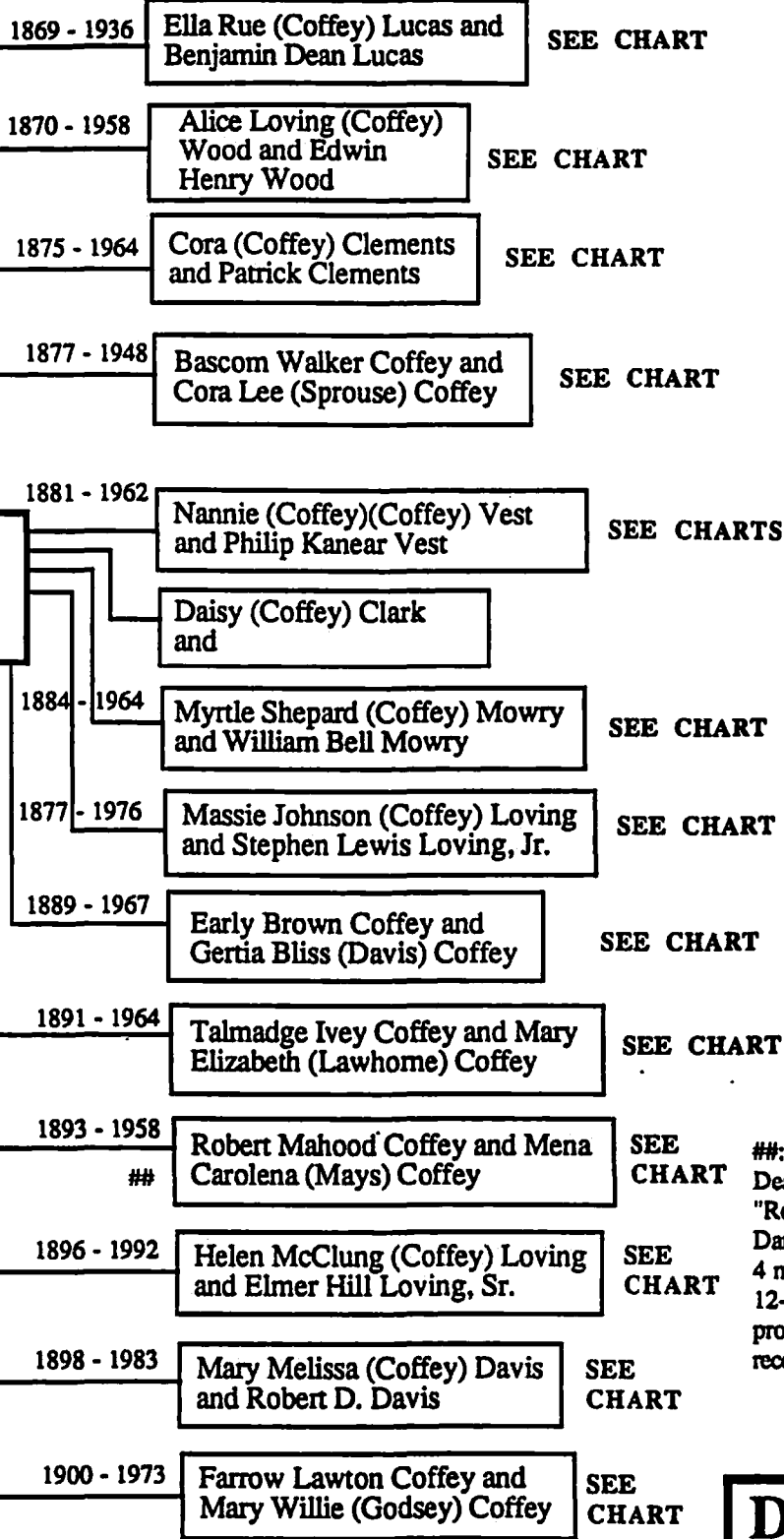
Mildred's parents: John and Catharine Scott? <sup>2</sup> Sandidge?

Sallie's parents: Cole and Sophia Black.

**NOTES:**

1. Buried Bridgehill, dates from headstone.
2. Amherst County Marriage Records.
3. Amherst County Death Records.

\*All charts for Daniel Rufus descendants are based on information received at Coffey Family Reunions, 1990 - 92; typed and handwritten sub-family listings submitted to Thelma DePriest by family members. We understand Joyce Coffey Mason was responsible for much of this. Unless noted otherwise, all info is from that source.



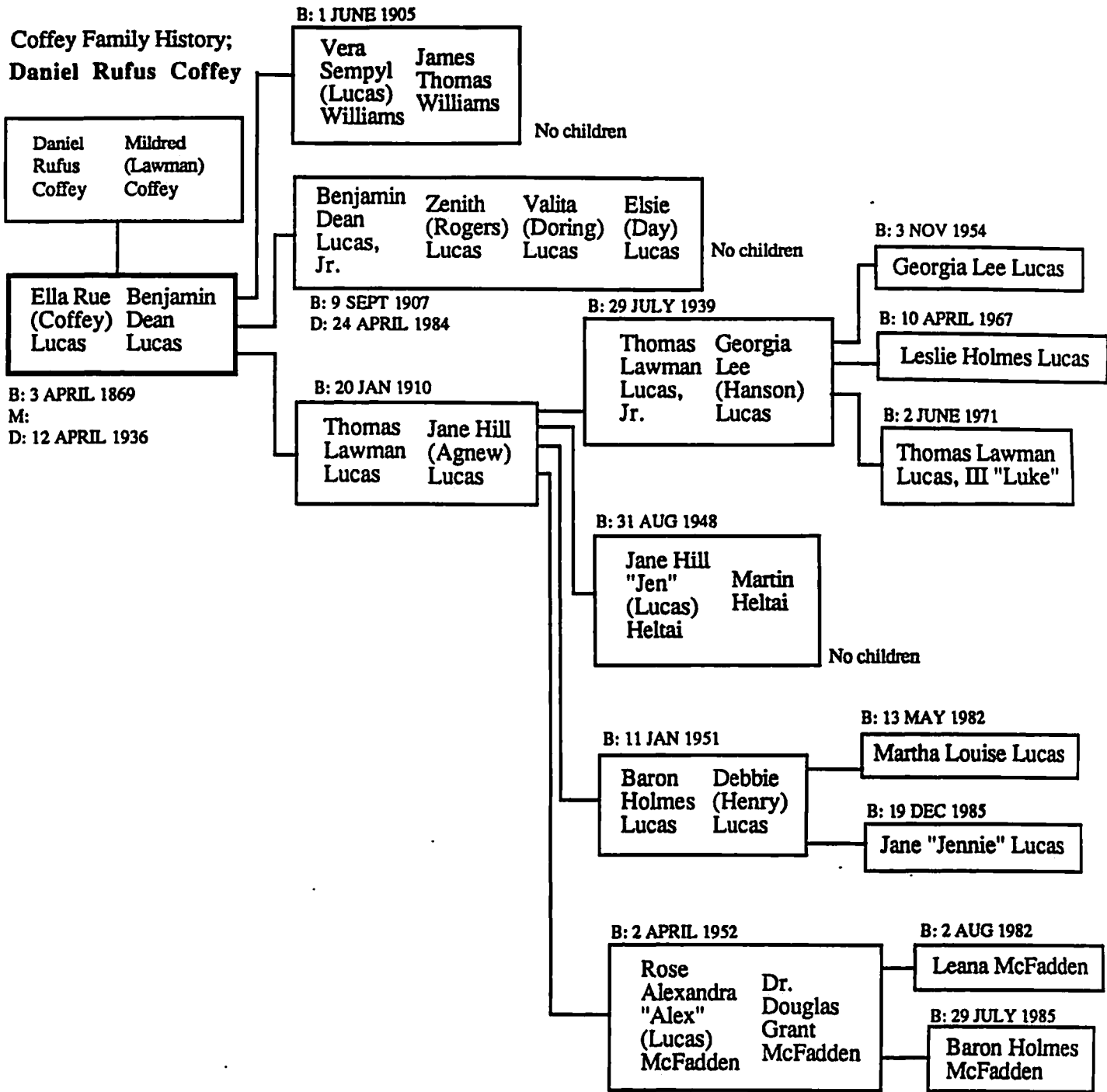
**DANIEL RUFUS COFFEY**

##: Amherst County Death Records show a "Rob Coffey", son of Daniel and Sallie, died at 4 months old on 12-22-1894. This was probably a botched birth record.

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



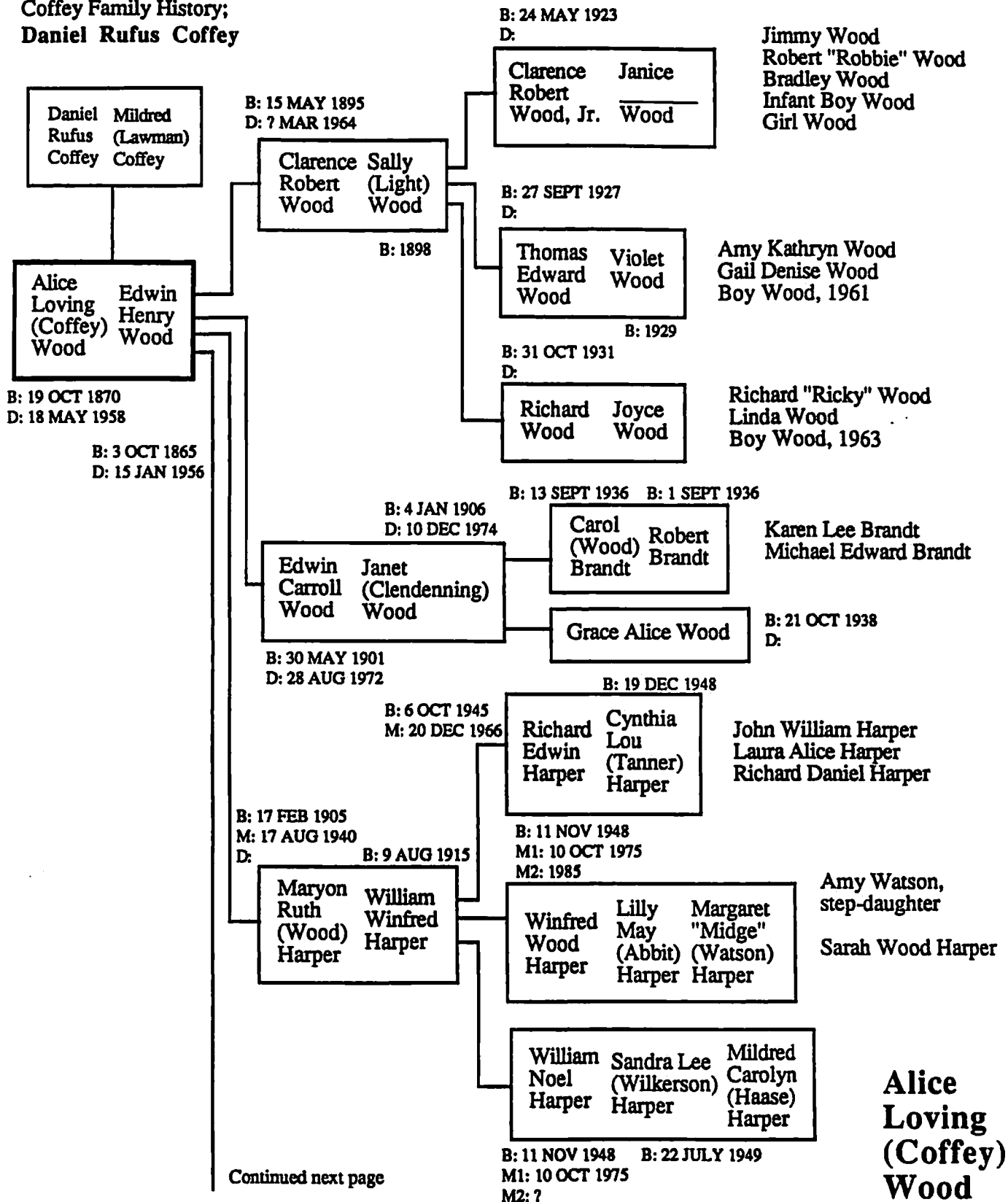
**Ella Rue  
(Coffey)  
Lucas**

Chart 1 of 1

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

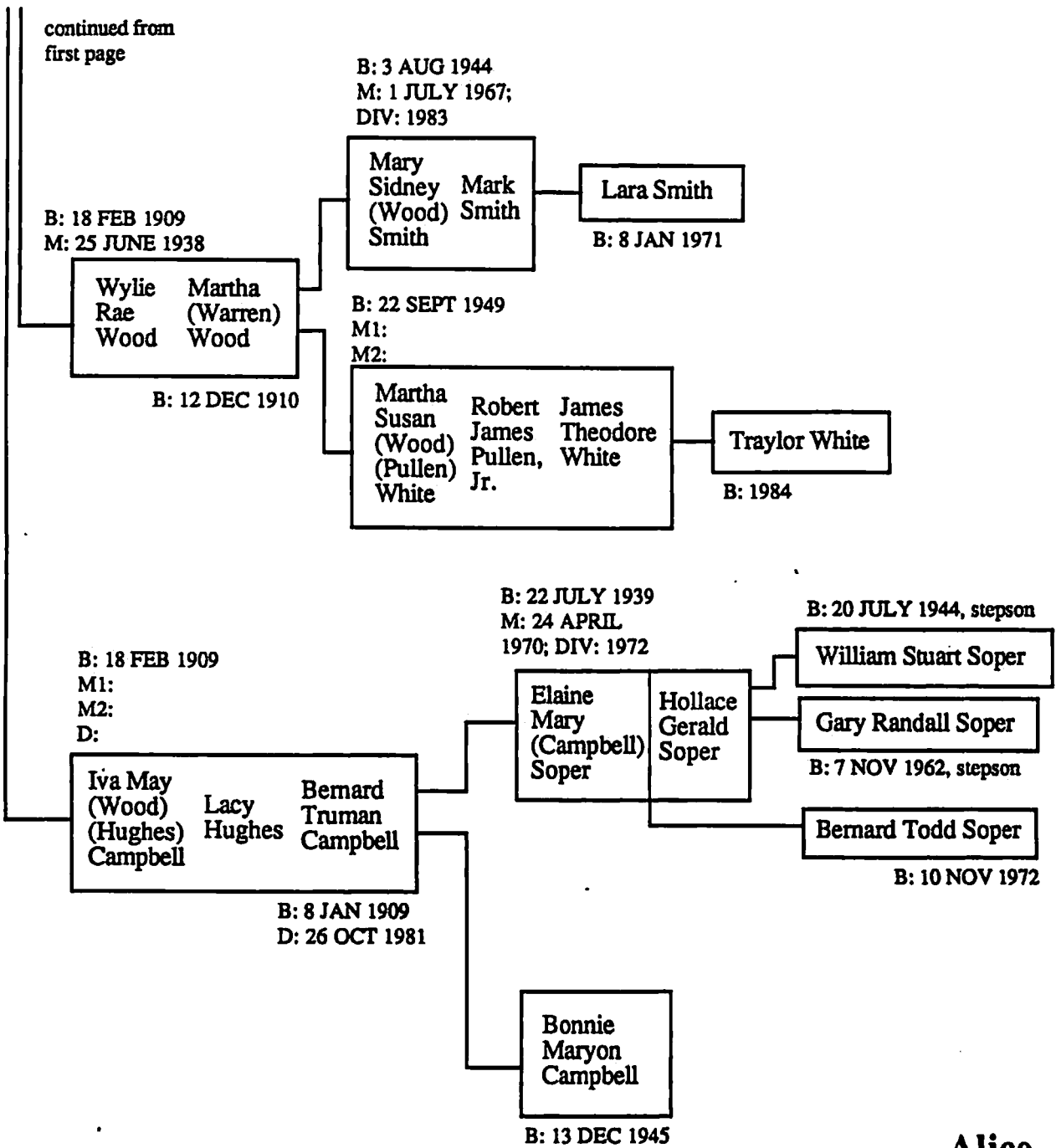
**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



Continued next page

**Alice  
Loving  
(Coffey)  
Wood**

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



**Alice  
Loving  
(Coffey)  
Wood**

Chart 2 of 2  
JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

B: 26 OCT 1900  
D: 2 SEPT 1930

Daniel Mildred  
Rufus (Lawman)  
Coffey Coffey

Lile Goldie  
Bascom (McKinley)  
Clements Clements

B: 8 MAY 1875  
D: 8 FEB 1964

Cora Lee Rev Patrick  
(Coffey) Henry  
Clements Clements

B: 9 OCT 1867  
D: 29 SEPT 1950

B: 26 JULY 1903  
D:

Louise Terrell Judge  
(Clements) J.H. Cole  
Cole

B: 12 NOV 1926  
D:

Harriet Louise W. J.  
(Cole) Mayes Mayes

Died 1969

B: 16 OCT 1953

W. J. Mayes, III

Clements  
Cole Mayes

B: 15 AUG 1958

B: 14 JULY 1934  
D:

Nancy Clements Cole

Barbara Ann J. B.  
(Cole) Jacks Jacks

B: 20 MAY 1940  
D:

Bernard Paul Jacks

B: 21 MAR 1967

\* Information from Mrs.  
Joyce Mason, August, 1991

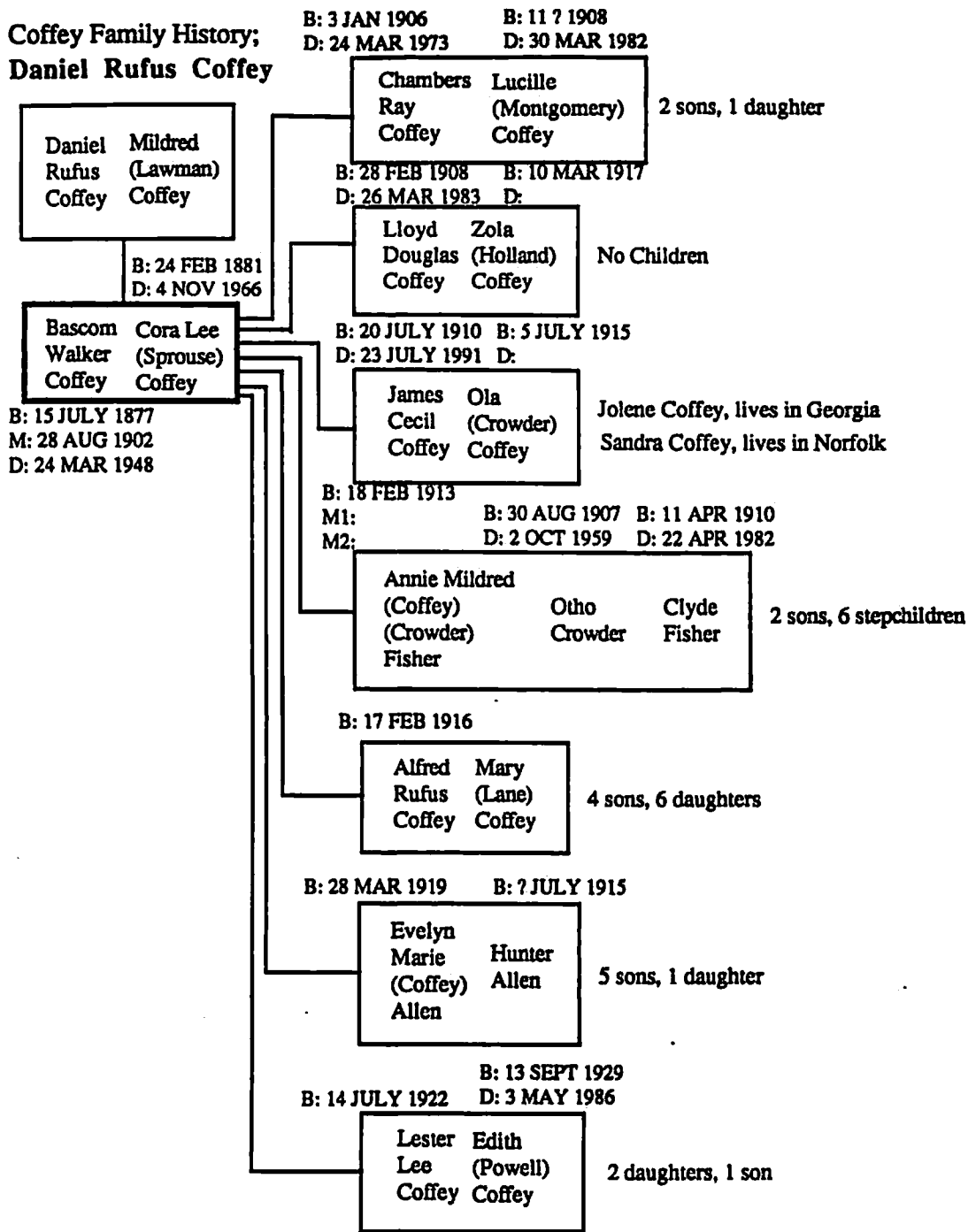
**Cora Lee  
(Coffey)  
Clements**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



**Bascom  
Walker  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227



**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

Daniel Rufus Coffey	Sallie Cole (Black) Coffey
---------------------------	----------------------------------

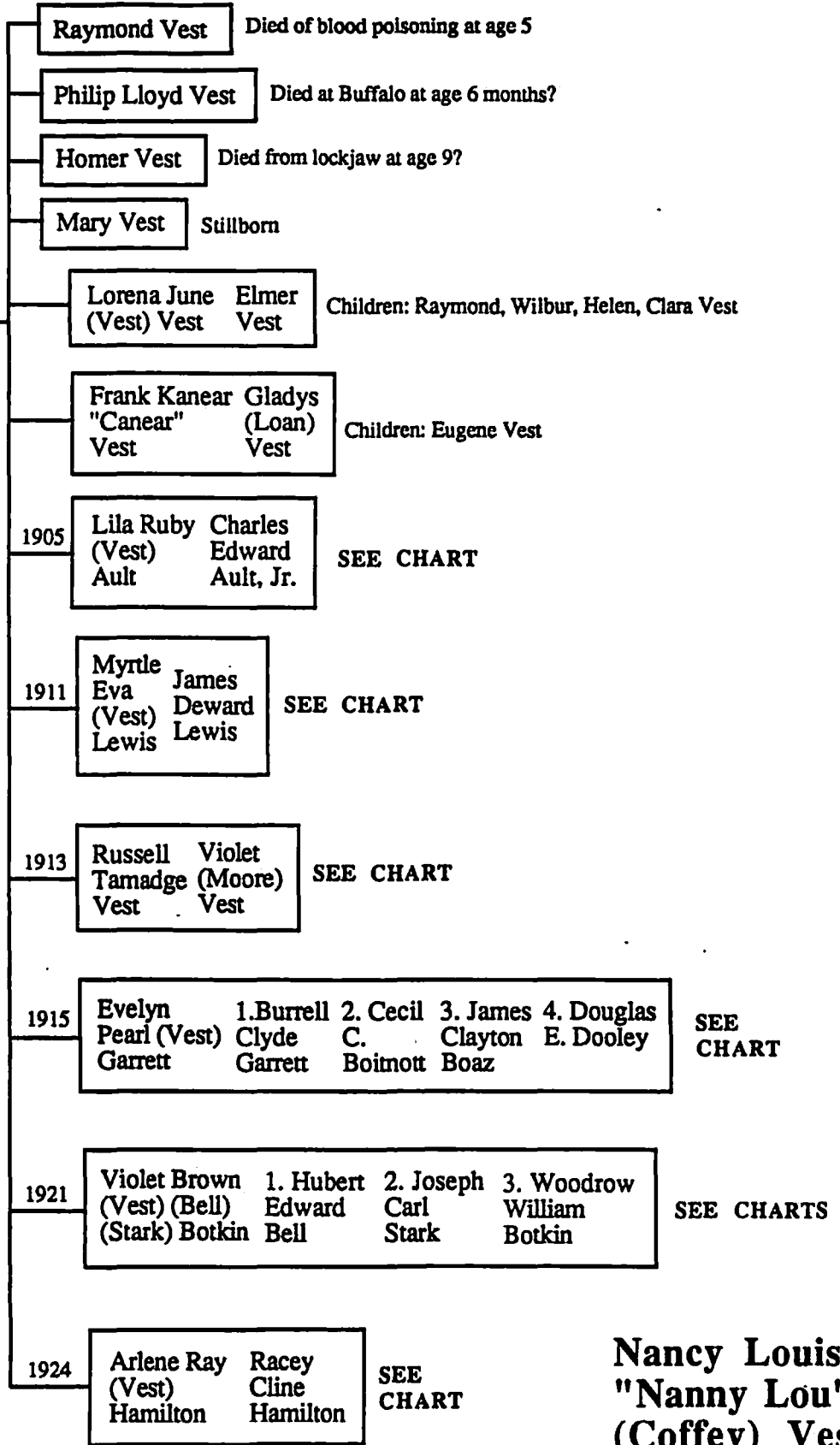
Nancy Louise "Nanny Lou" (Coffey) Vest	Philip Kaneer Vest
--	--------------------------

B: 6 AUGUST 1881 <sup>2</sup>  
M:  
D: 13 AUGUST 1962

Philip:  
B: 12 MARCH 1882  
D: 4 SEPT 1956

**NOTES:**

1. All information this chart from Louise Humphreys, Kilmarnock, VA, June, 1993.
2. Tombstone indicates 1882 as date of birth.

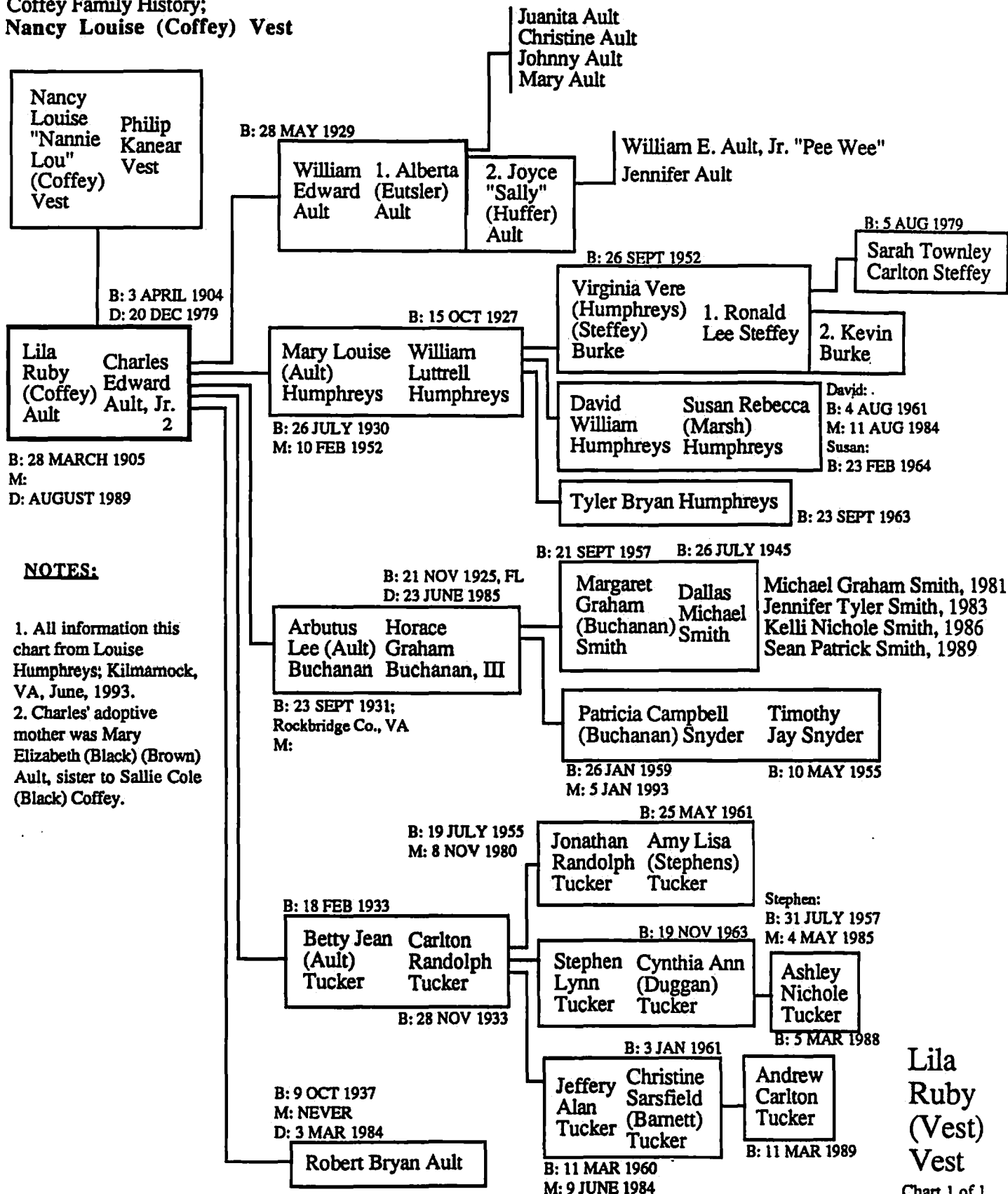


**Nancy Louise  
"Nanny Lou"  
(Coffey) Vest**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History:  
Nancy Louise (Coffey) Vest**



**NOTES:**

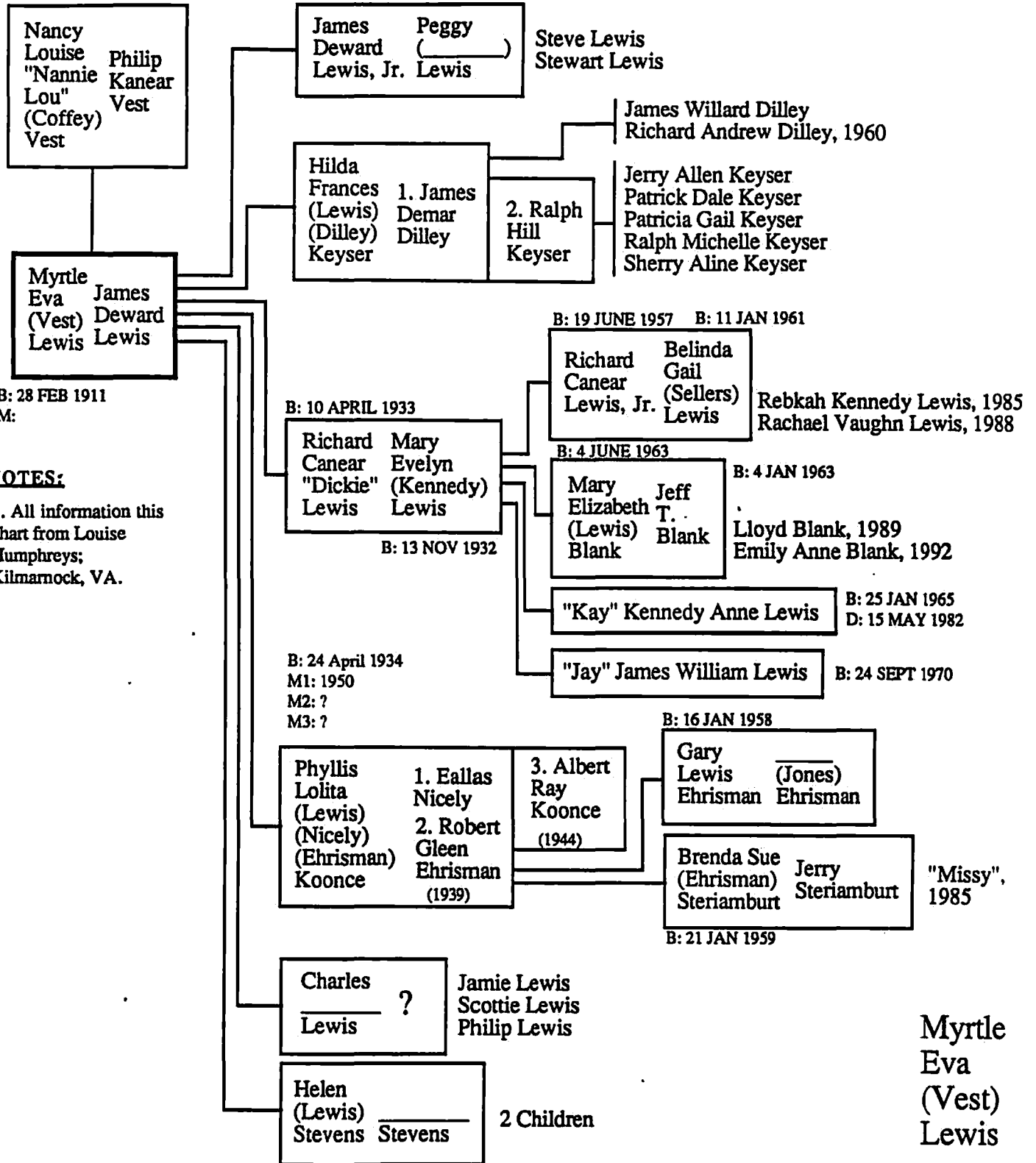
1. All information this chart from Louise Humphreys; Kilmarnock, VA, June, 1993.
2. Charles' adoptive mother was Mary Elizabeth (Black) (Brown) Ault, sister to Sallie Cole (Black) Coffey.

Lila  
Ruby  
(Vest)  
Vest

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Nancy Louise (Coffey) Vest**



**NOTES:**

1. All information this chart from Louise Humphreys; Kilmarnock, VA.

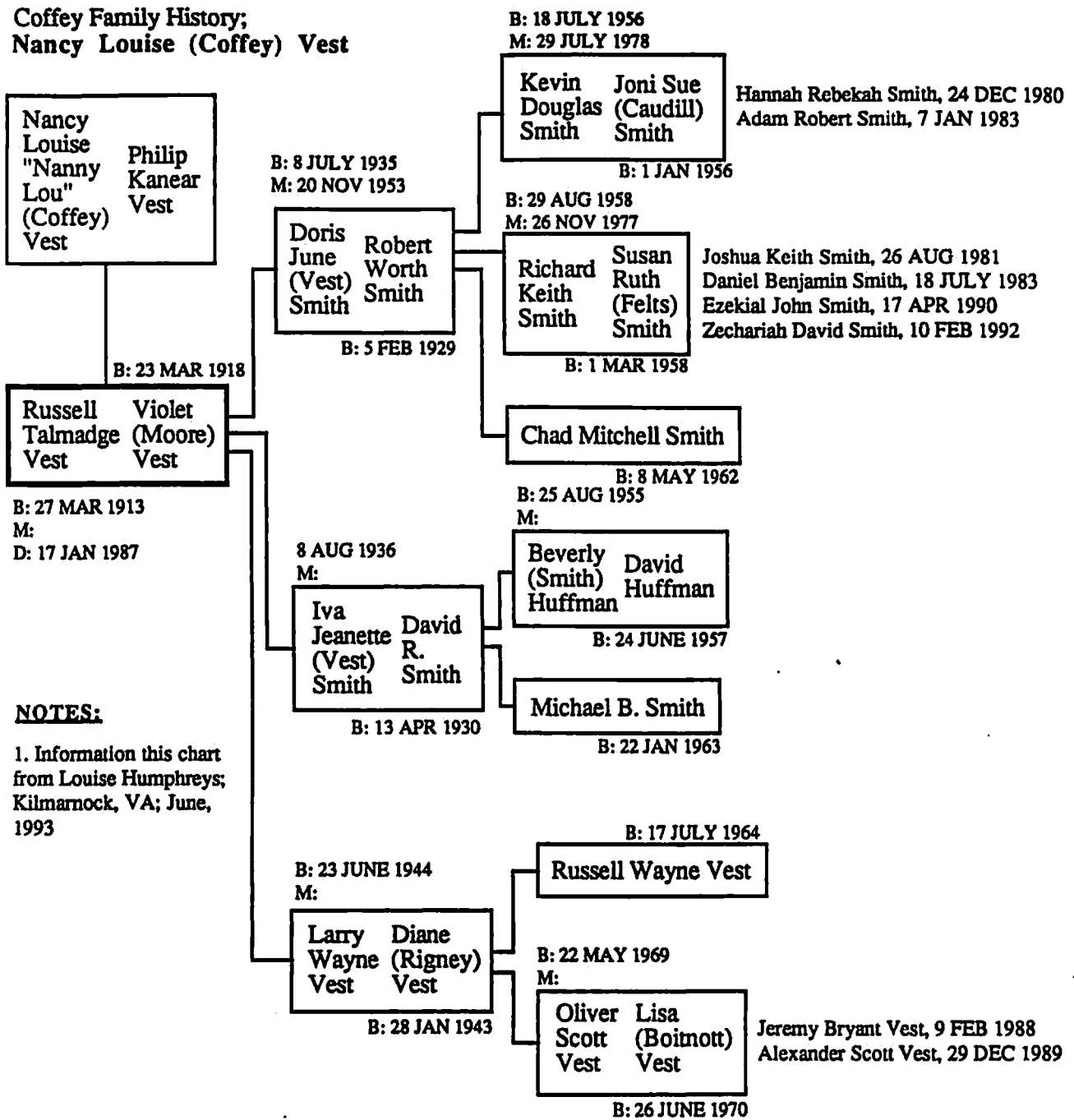
Myrtle  
Eva  
(Vest)  
Lewis

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Nancy Louise (Coffey) Vest**



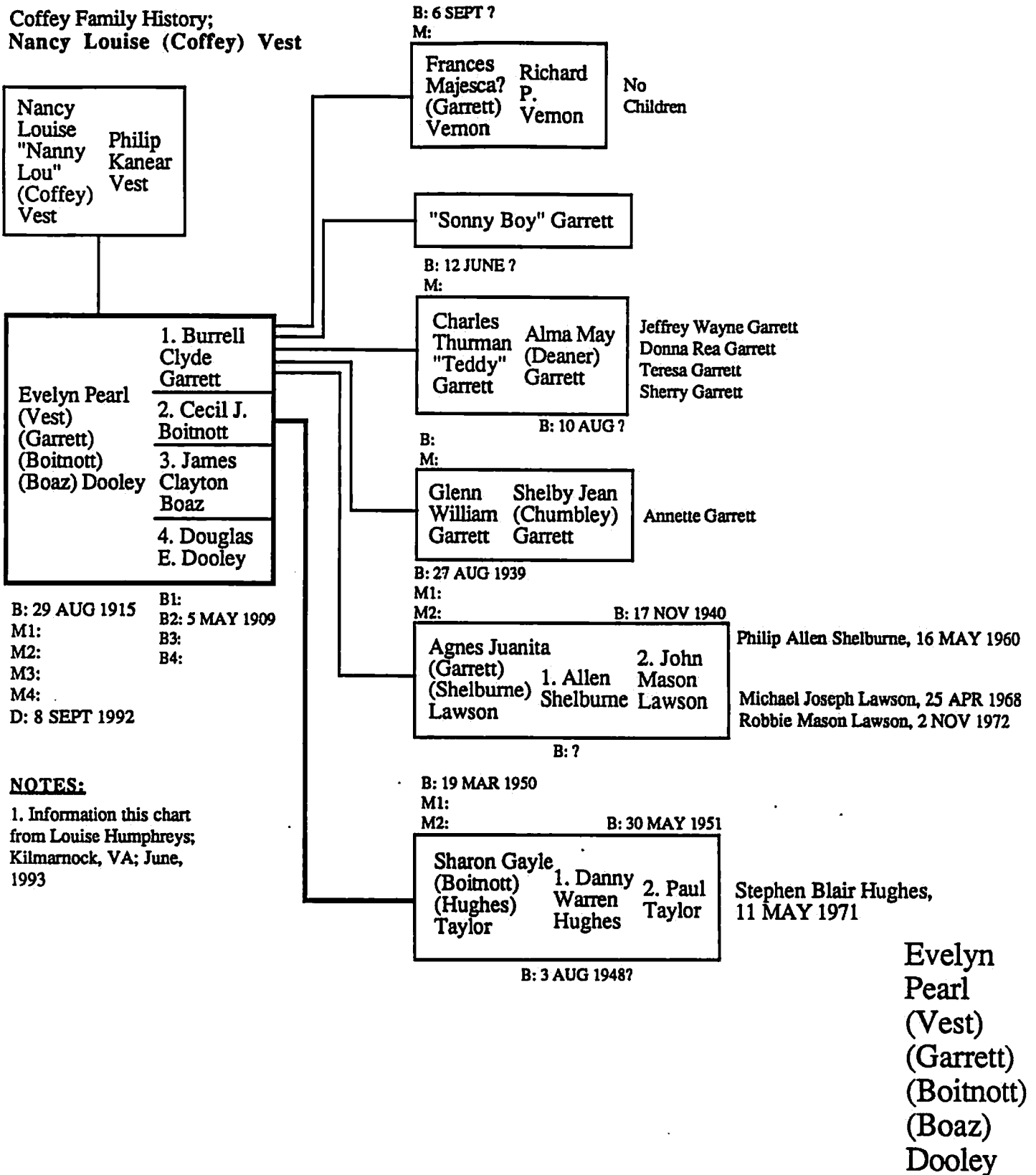
**NOTES:**

1. Information this chart from Louise Humphreys; Kilmarnock, VA; June, 1993

**Russell  
Talmadge  
Vest**

Chart 1 of 1

**Coffey Family History;  
Nancy Louise (Coffey) Vest**



**NOTES:**

1. Information this chart from Louise Humphreys; Kilmarnock, VA; June, 1993

Evelyn  
Pearl  
(Vest)  
(Garrett)  
(Boitnott)  
(Boaz)  
Dooley

Chart 1 of 1

**Coffey Family History;  
Nancy Louise (Coffey) Vest**

Nancy Louise Philip  
Louise "Nannie Kanear  
Lou" (Coffey) Vest  
Vest

Hubert:  
B: 29 DEC 1913  
Divorced

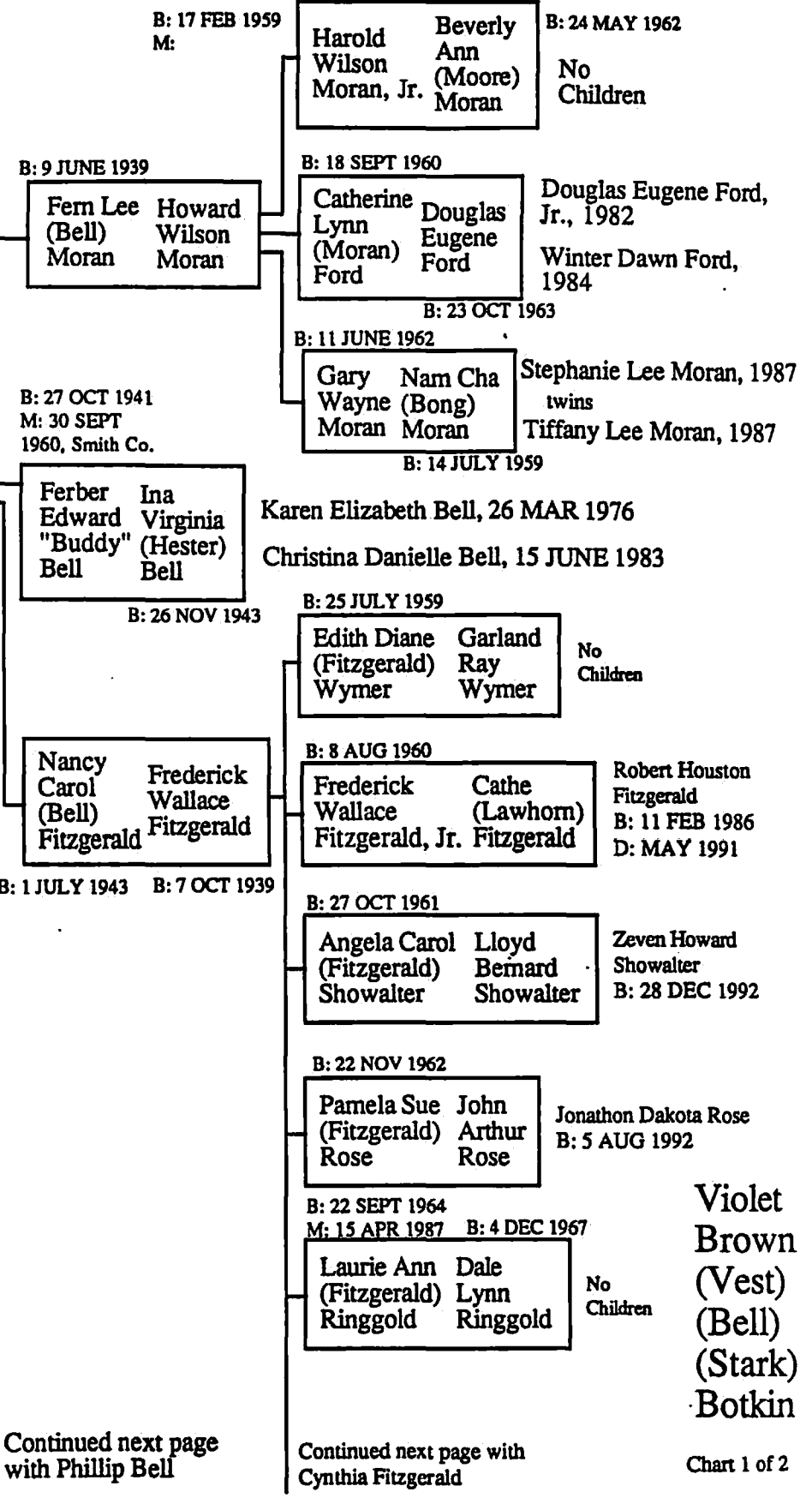
Violet Brown (Vest) (Bell) (Stark) Botkin  
1. Hubert Edward Bell  
2. Joseph Carl Stark  
3. Woodrow William Botkin

B: 24 JUNE 1921  
M1: 1938  
M2: 1970  
M3: 1991

Woodrow:  
B: 24 MAY 1913

**NOTES:**

1. All information this chart from Louise Humphreys; Kilmarnock, VA.



Continued next page with Phillip Bell

Continued next page with Cynthia Fitzgerald

Chart 1 of 2

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Nancy Louise (Coffey) Vest**

**Violet Brown (Vest) (Bell)  
(Stark) Botkin continued**

**NOTES:**

1. Information this chart from  
Louise Humphreys;  
Kilmarnock, VA; June, 1993

Continued  
from Nancy  
Carol (Bell)  
Fitzgerald

Continued from  
Laurie Ann  
(Fitzgerald)  
Ringgold

B: 6 OCT 1966  
D: 8 JAN 1967

Cynthia Louise "Cindy" Fitzgerald

B: 21 JUNE 1967

Jacqueline Kay  
(Fitzgerald) Sheffer  
Ricky Lee  
Lee Sheffer

No  
Children

B: 17 MAR 1969

Patricia Renee  
(Fitzgerald) VanZant  
Timothy VanZant

No  
Children

B: 7 JUNE 1983

Samantha Kari "Sam" Fitzgerald

B: 19 JAN 1946  
M: 3 SEPT 1965

Phillip Allen  
Bell  
Barbara Adele  
(Baylor) Bell

No  
Children

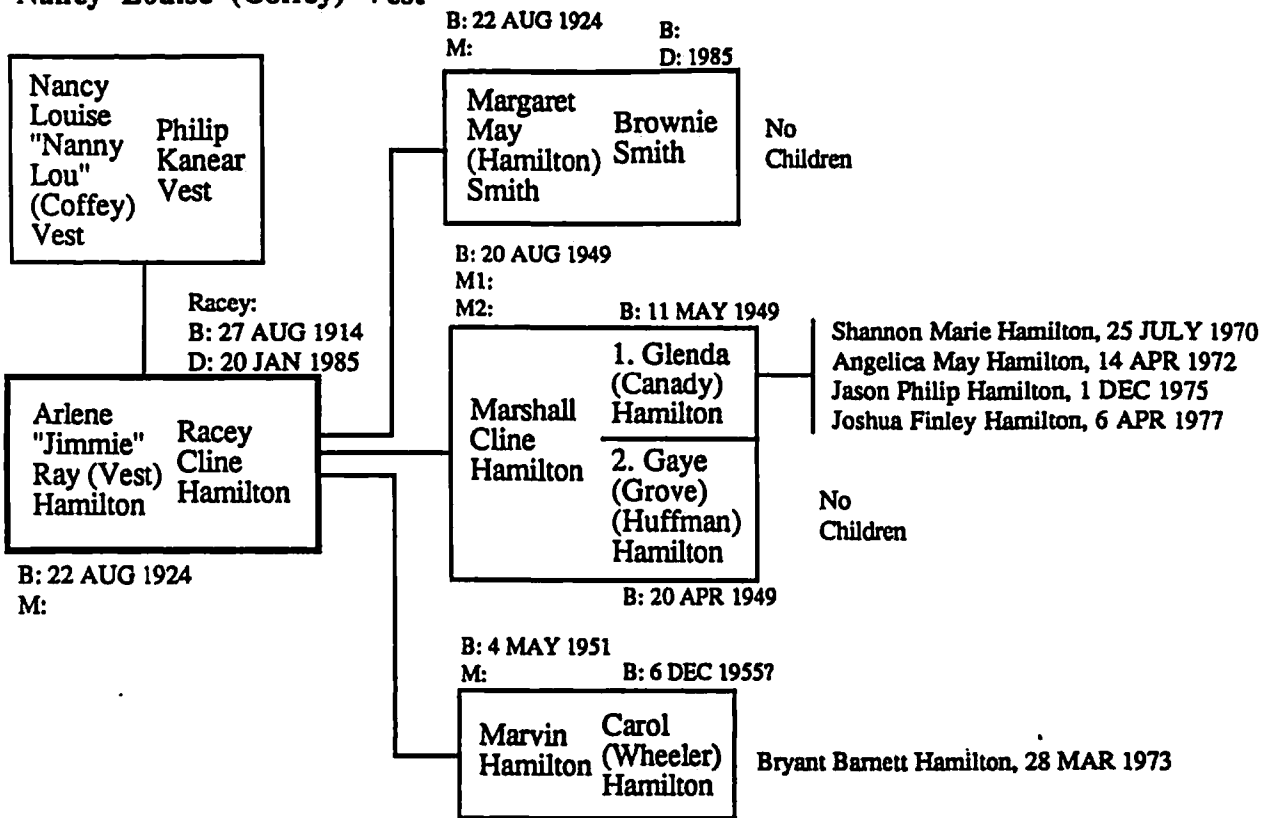
B: 3 SEPT 1946

Violet  
Brown  
(Vest)  
(Bell)  
(Stark)  
Botkin

Chart 2 of 2

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Nancy Louise (Coffey) Vest**



**NOTES:**

1. Information this chart from Louise Humphreys; Kilmarnock, VA; June, 1993

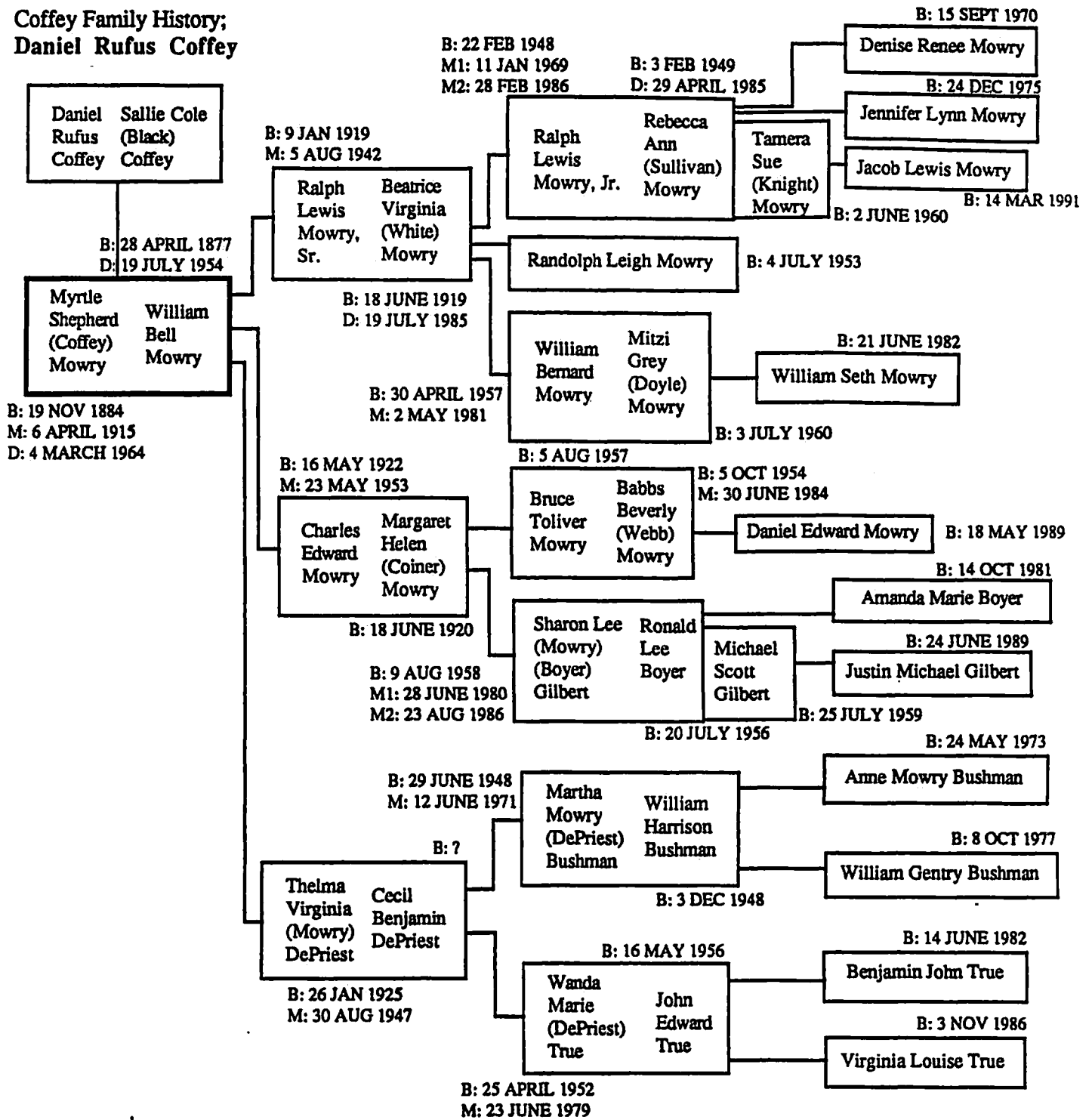
**Arlene  
Ray  
(Vest)  
Hamilton**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227



**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

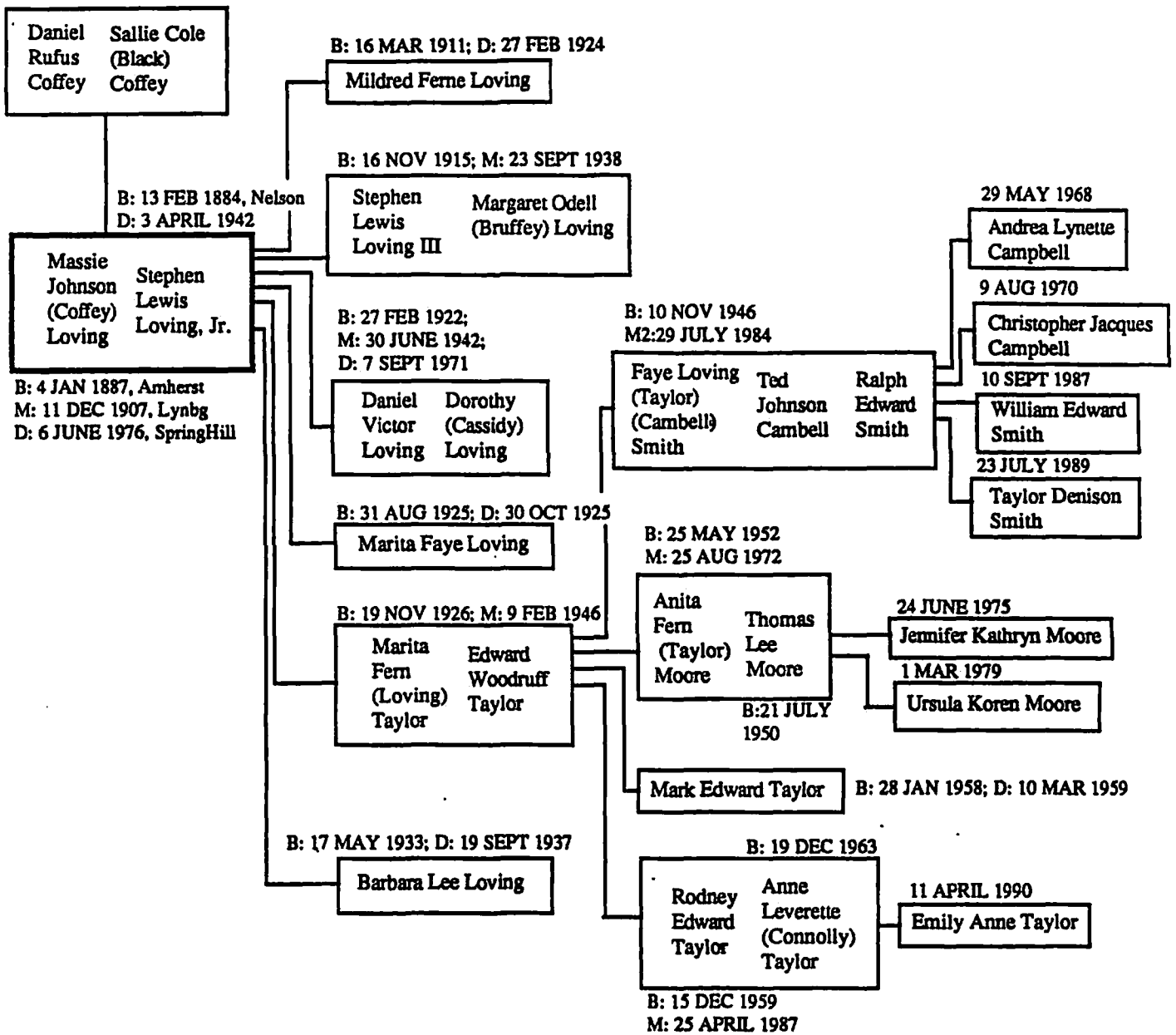


**Myrtle Shepard  
(Coffey) Mowry**

Chart 1 of 1



**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



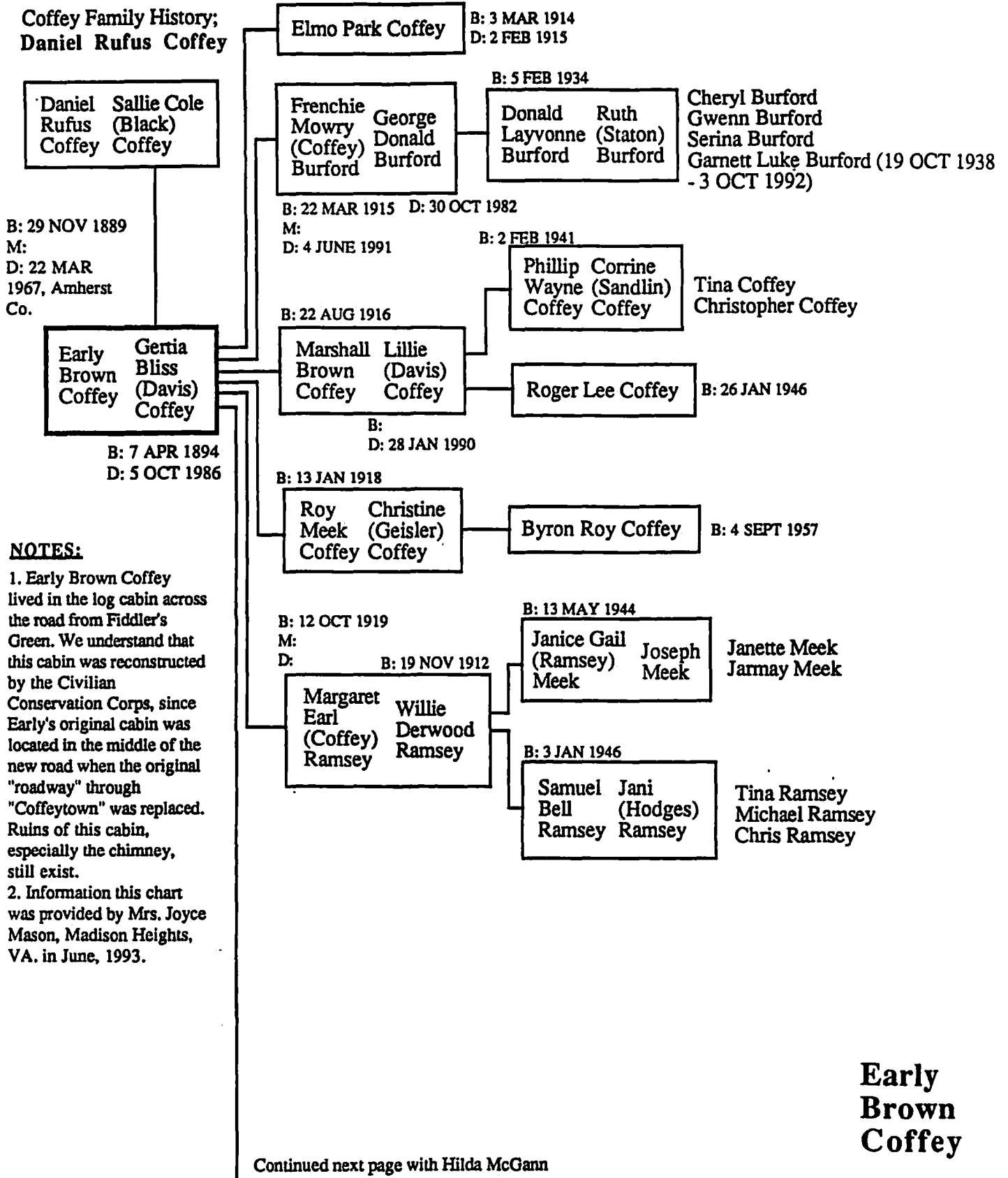
**Massie Johnson  
(Coffey) Loving**

Chart 1 of 1

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



**NOTES:**

1. Early Brown Coffey lived in the log cabin across the road from Fiddler's Green. We understand that this cabin was reconstructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps, since Early's original cabin was located in the middle of the new road when the original "roadway" through "Coffeytown" was replaced. Ruins of this cabin, especially the chimney, still exist.
2. Information this chart was provided by Mrs. Joyce Mason, Madison Heights, VA. in June, 1993.

Continued next page with Hilda McGann

**Early  
Brown  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 3

JUNE, 1993

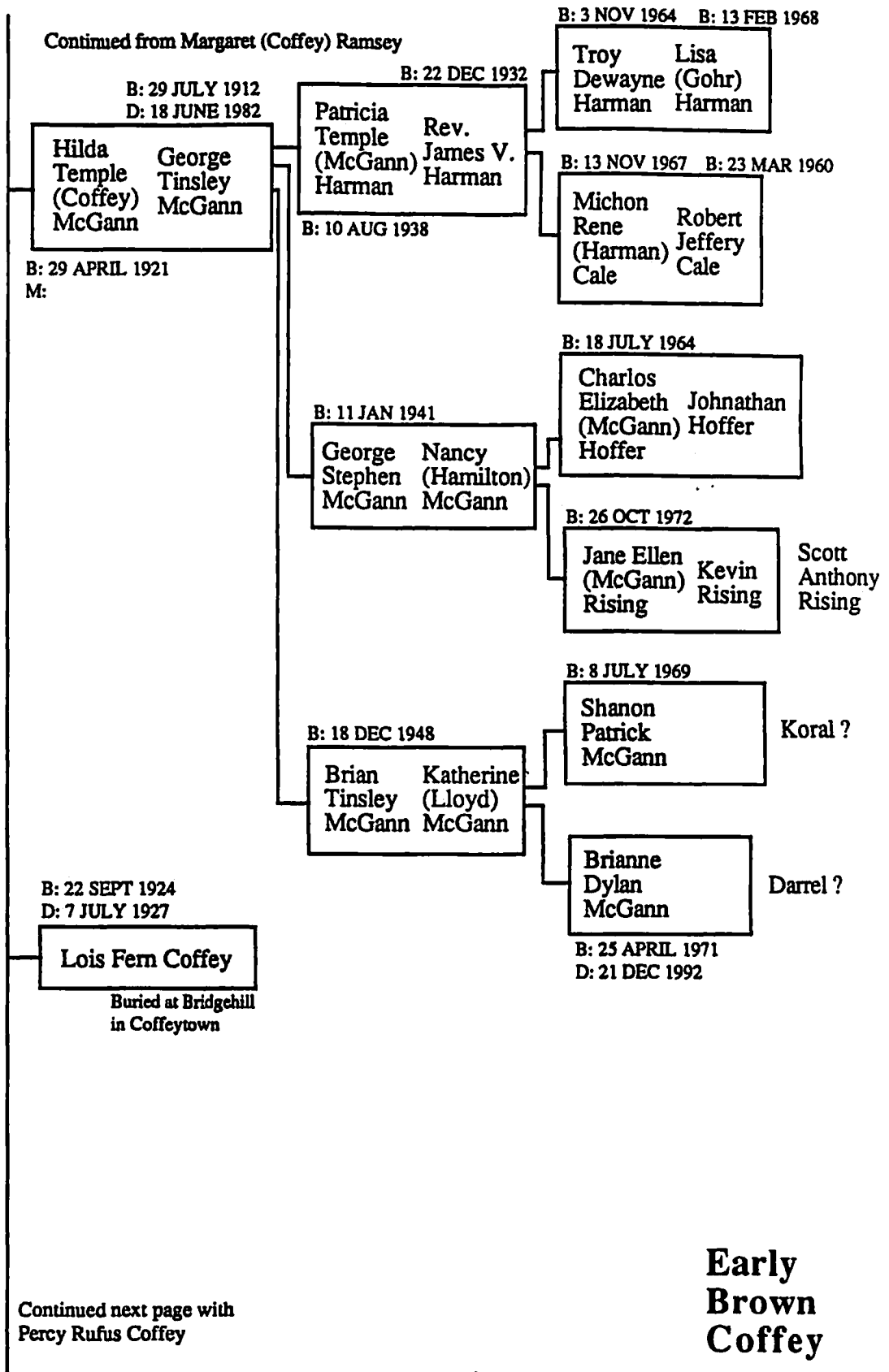
Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

**NOTES:**

1. Information this chart was provided by Mrs. Joyce Mason of Madison Heights, VA in June, 1993.

Continued from Margaret (Coffey) Ramsey



Continued next page with  
Percy Rufus Coffey

**Early  
Brown  
Coffey**

Chart 2 of 3

JUNE, 1993

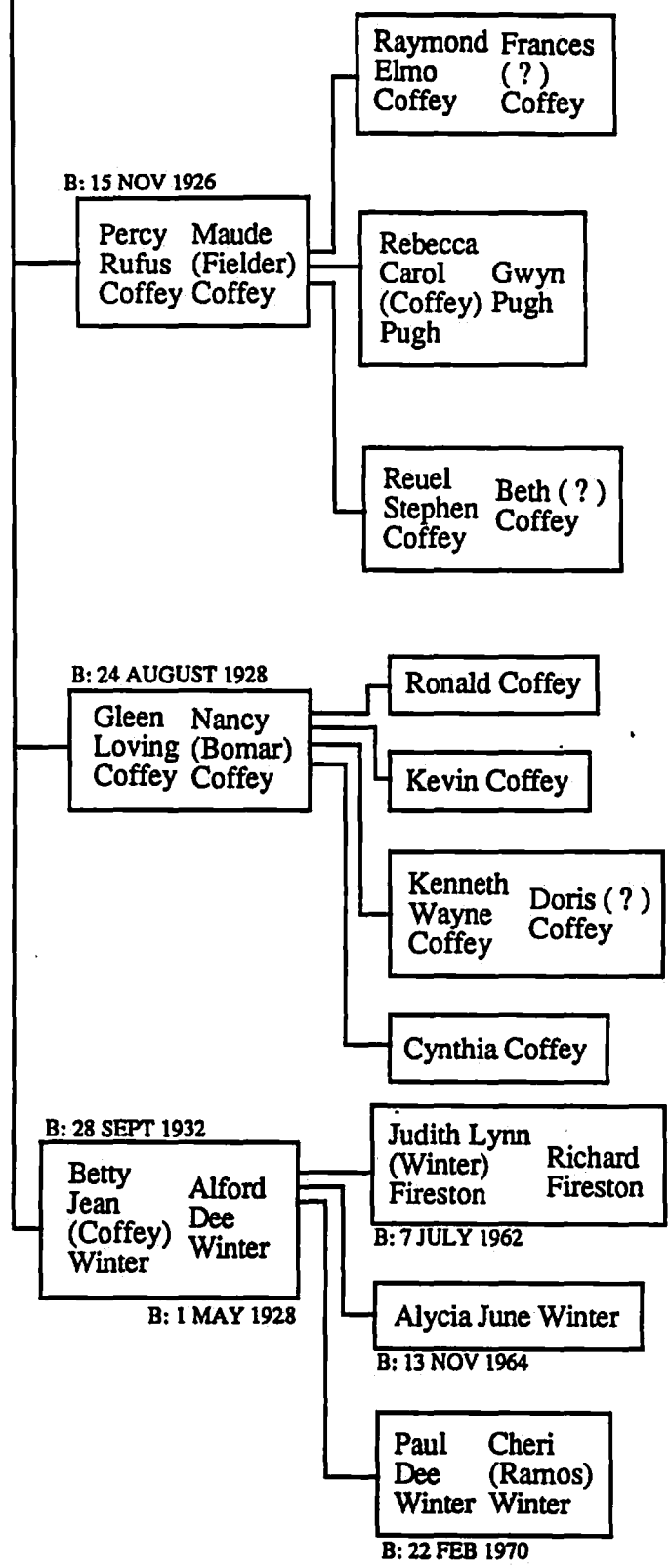
Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

**NOTES:**

1. Information this chart was provided by Mrs. Joyce Mason of Madison Heights, VA in June, 1993.

Continued from Lois Fern Coffey



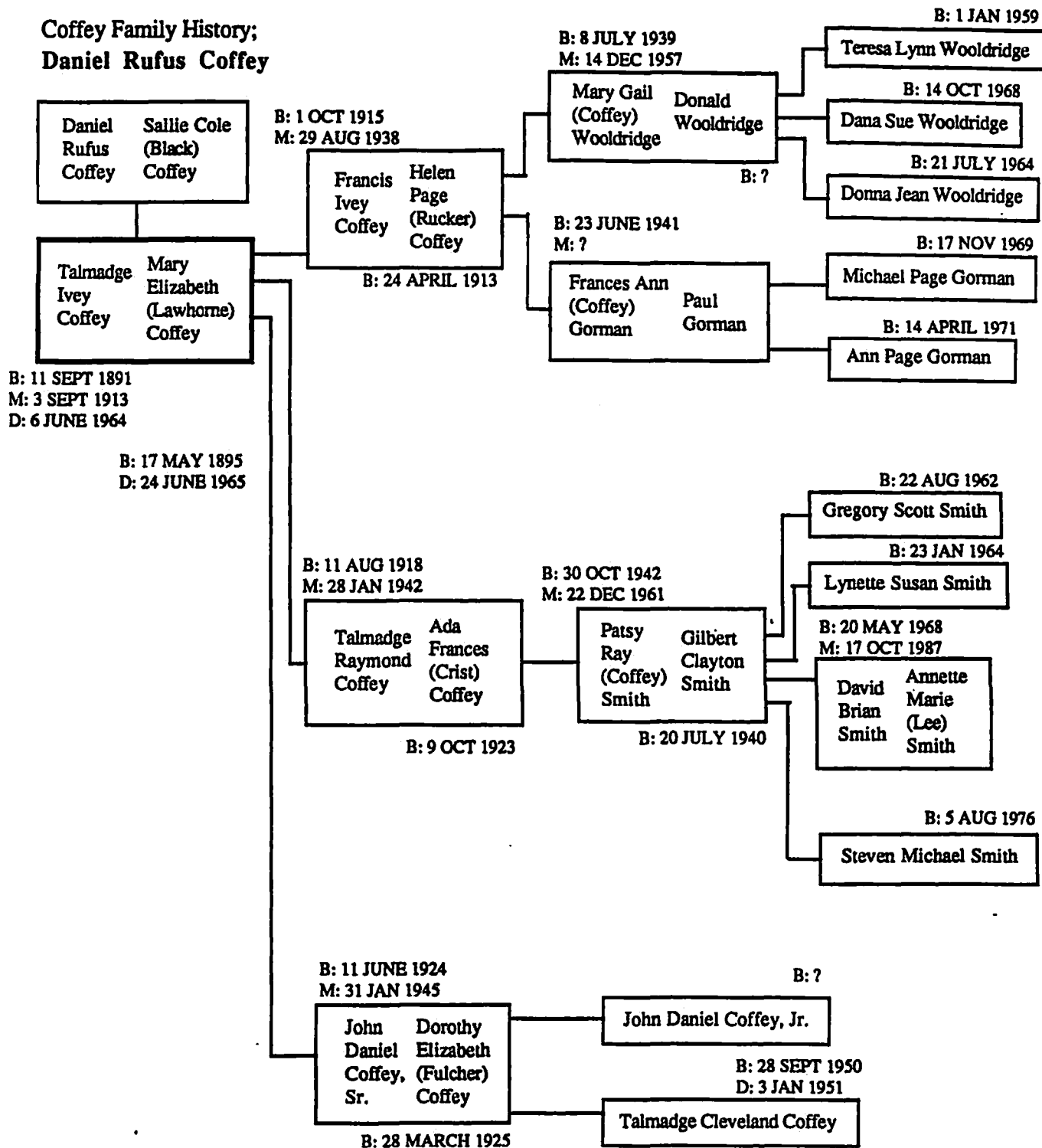
**Early  
Brown  
Coffey**

Chart 3 of 3

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



**Talmadge  
Ivey  
Coffey**

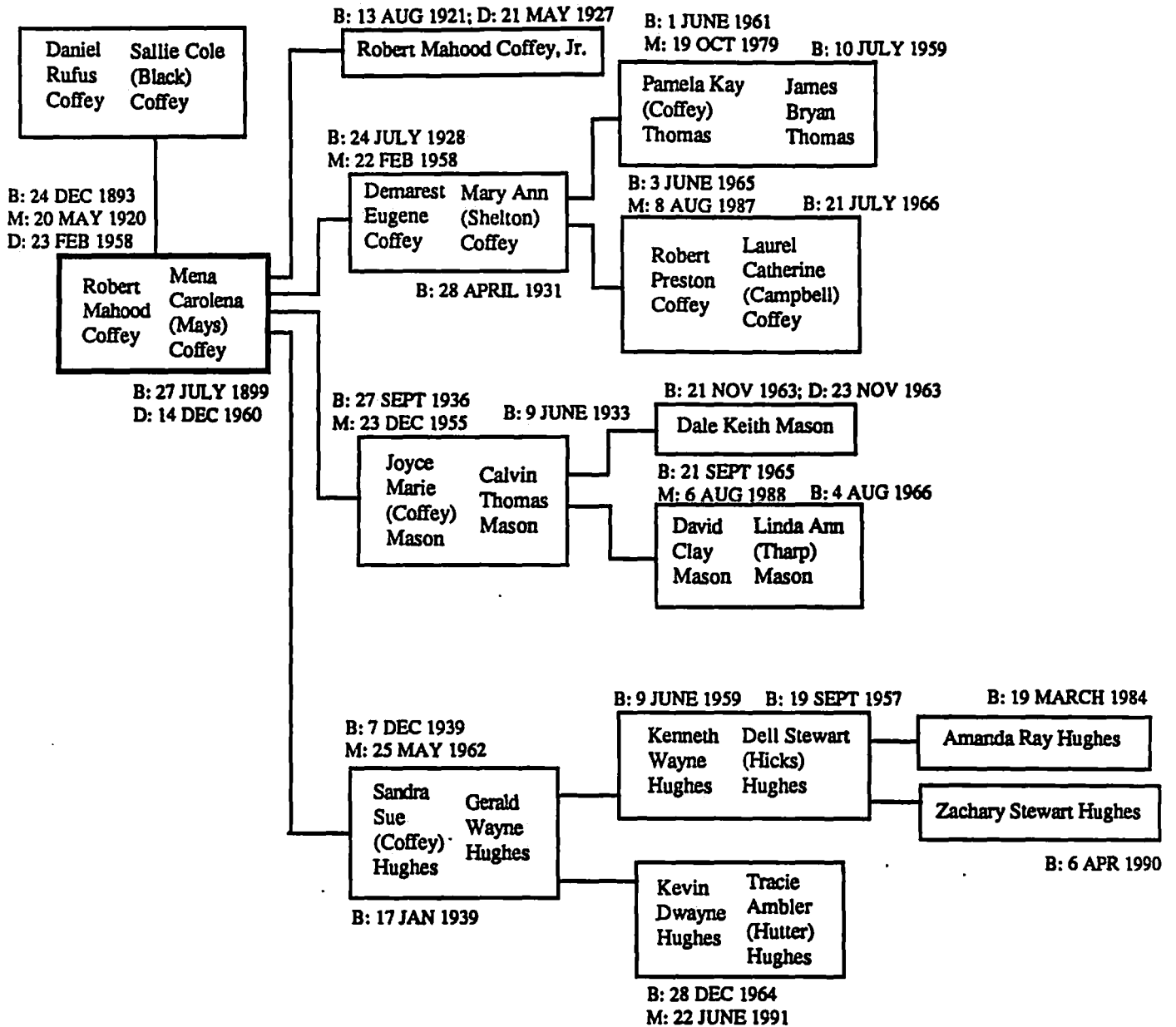
Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227





**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

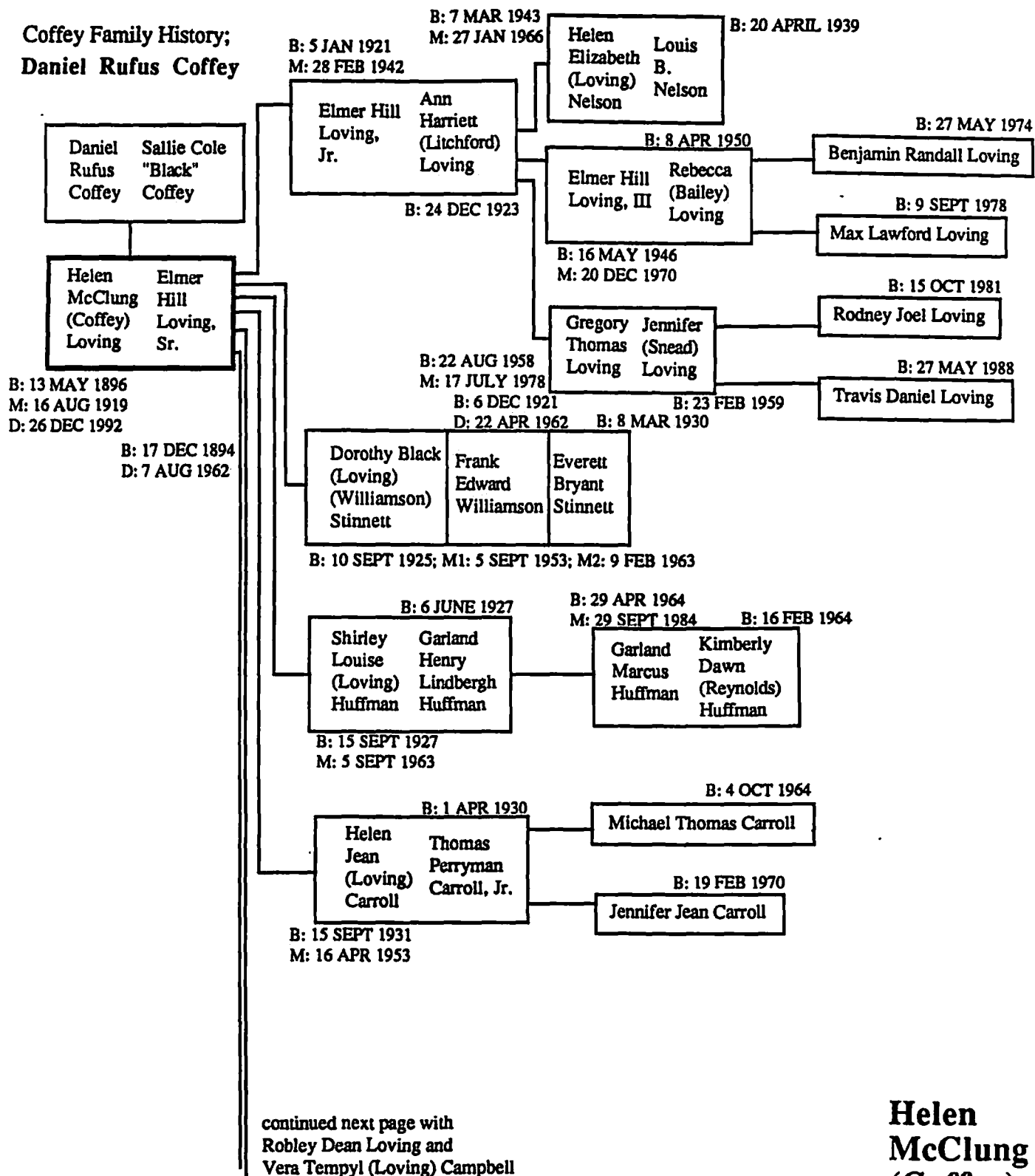


**Robert  
Mahood  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



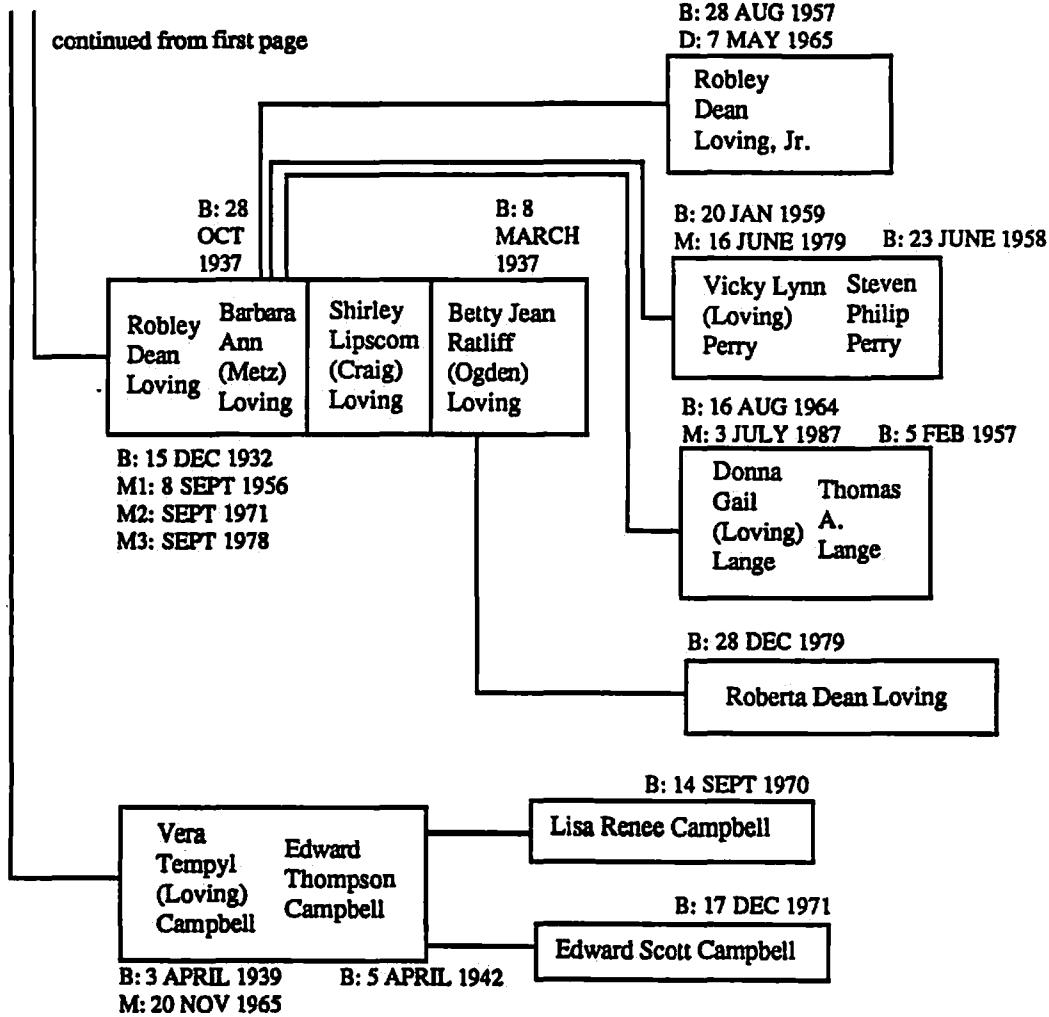
continued next page with  
 Robley Dean Loving and  
 Vera Tempyl (Loving) Campbell

**Helen  
 McClung  
 (Coffey)  
 Loving**

Chart 1 of 2  
 JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

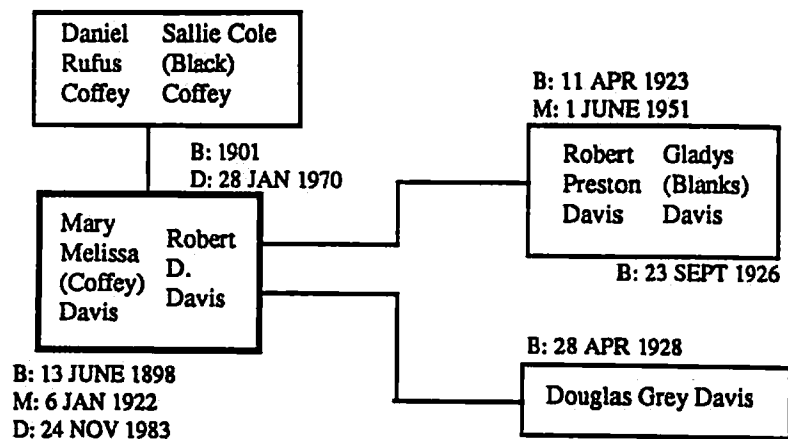


**Helen  
McClung  
(Coffey)  
Loving**

Chart 2 of 2  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**

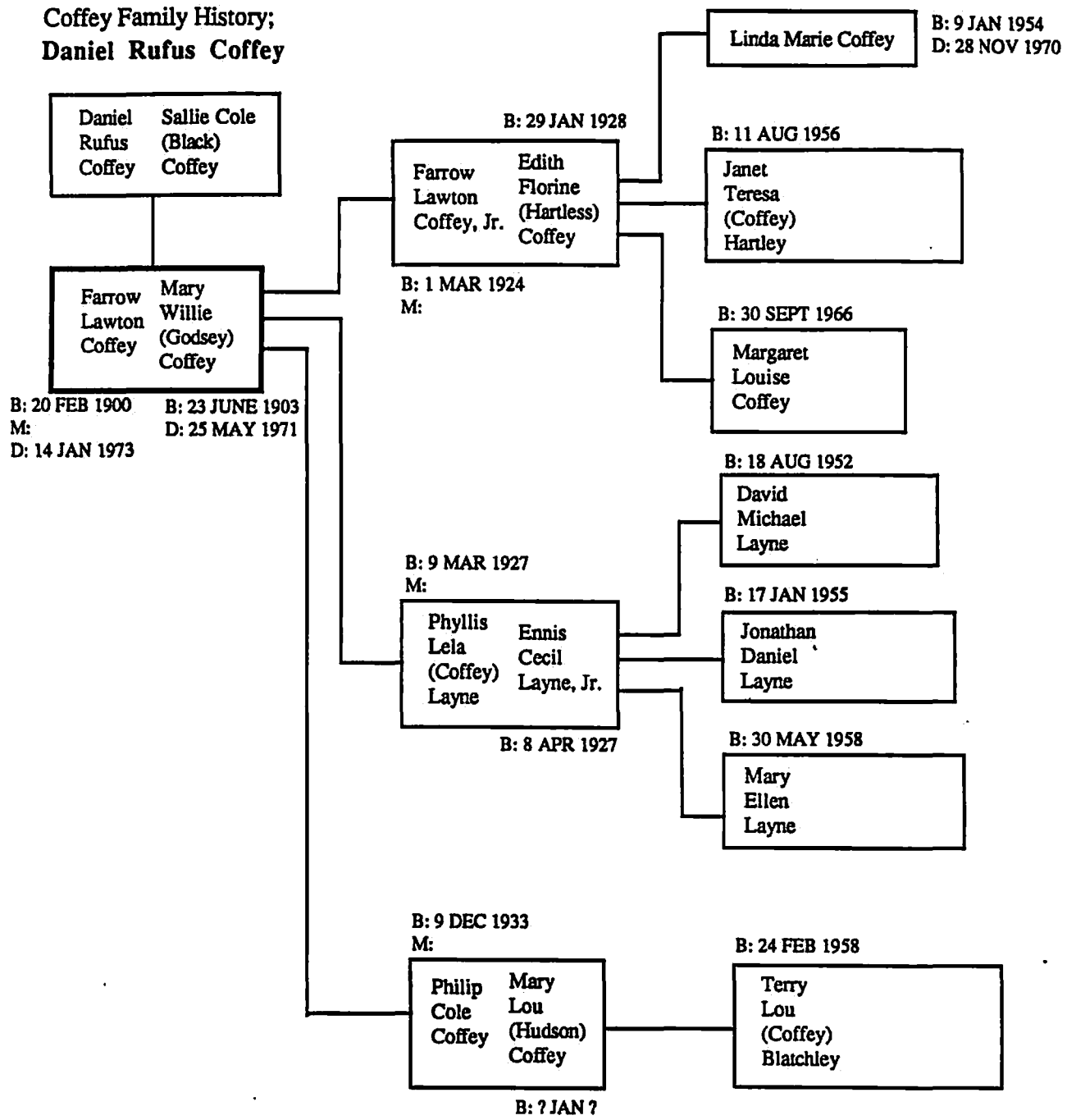


**Mary  
Melissa  
(Coffey)  
Davis**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Daniel Rufus Coffey**



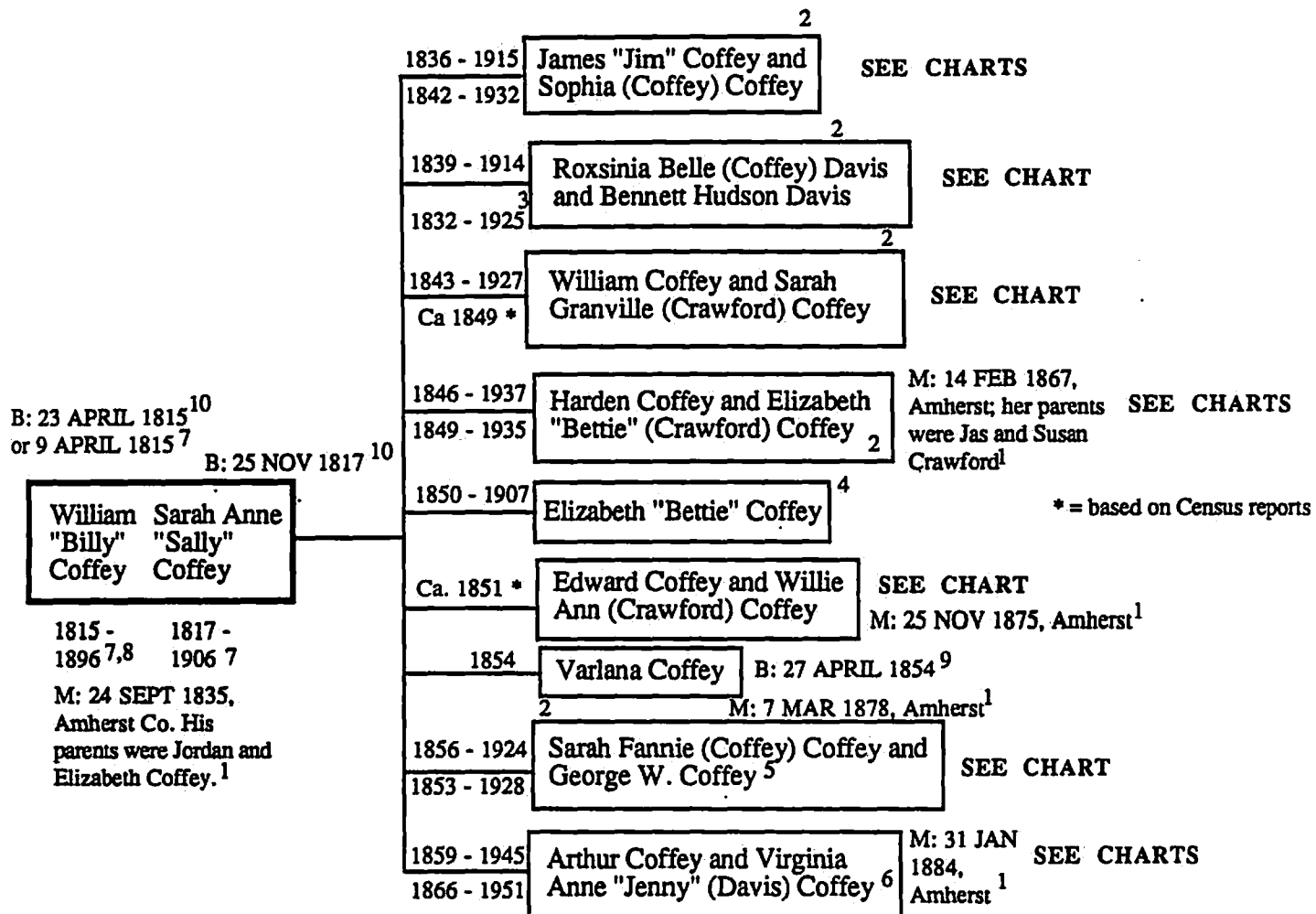
**Farrow  
Lawton  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**William  
"Billy" and  
Sarah Anne  
"Sally"  
(Crawford)  
Coffey**

Coffey Family History;  
 Original Coffey Settlers in "Coffeytown"  
**WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

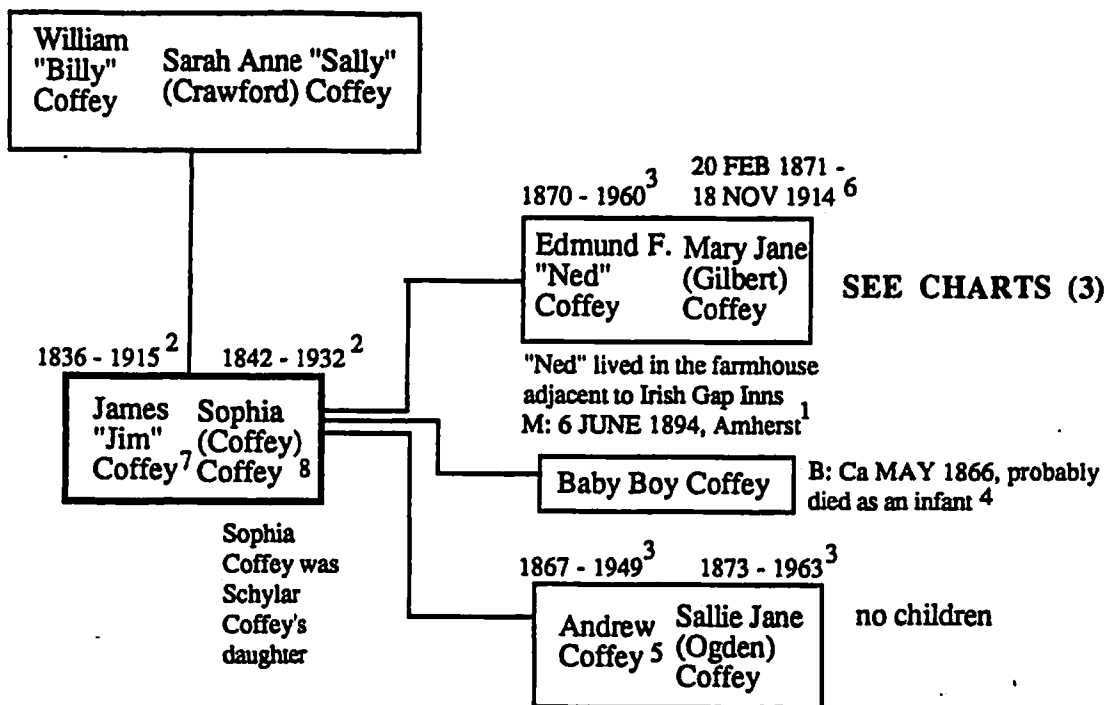
1. From Amherst County Marriage Records in State Archives.
2. Buried in Bridgehill, dates from headstones.
3. From Ruby C. Leighton, Buena Vista, VA.
4. Never married, buried in family plot behind Elsie Coffey's house, with her parents.
5. Marriage records: parents were Rubin W. and S.T. Coffey; George was born in Nelson County.
6. Her parents were Avarilla and Wm W Davis.
7. Buried behind Elsie Coffey's house, dates from headstones which were set some years after deaths.
8. Some William Coffey died 7-26-1897 in Amherst Co., aged 81, no parents listed in records. Billy died as a result of falling down the stairs in the dark, after rising to open the window, according to Elsie Coffey.
9. Statewide Birth Index
10. From Diane M. Gardner

**WILLIAM  
 "BILLY"  
 COFFEY  
 AND  
 FAMILY**

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

Coffey Family History;  
**WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY**



M: 27 NOV 1889, Amherst; her parents were Wm H and Sarah J. Ogden. He was 23, she 17.<sup>1</sup>  
 Sarah's name was Sarah Jane (Painter) Ogden.<sup>6</sup>

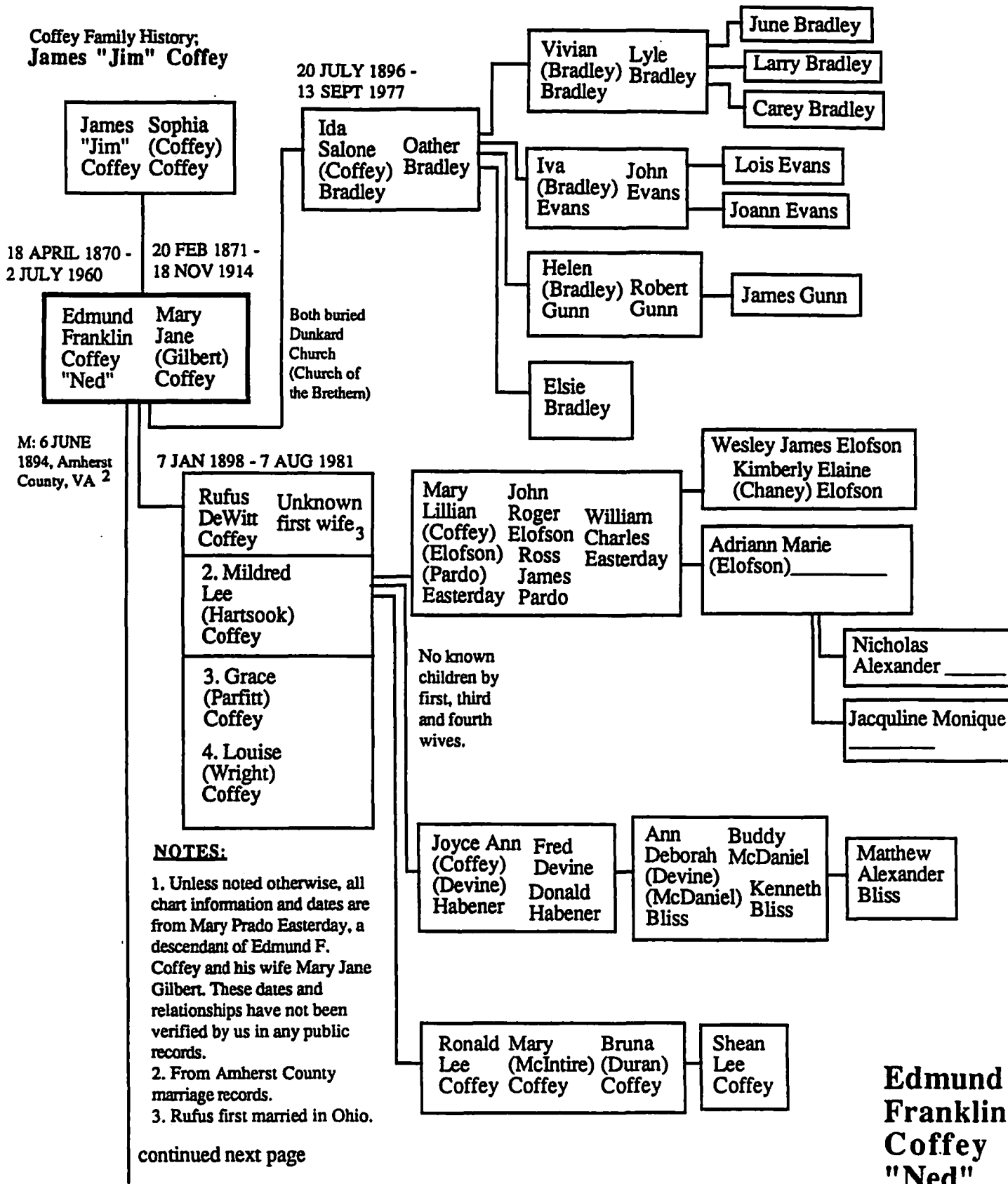
**NOTES:**

1. From Amherst County Marriage Records, State Archives.
2. Buried in Bridgehill cemetery, dates from headstone.
3. Buried in Greenhill Cemetery, Buena Vista, dates from headstones.
4. Statewide Birth Index, State Archives.
5. Statewide Birth Index shows a male born to "Jas & Sophia" in SEPT 1867, probably Andrew.
6. Information from Mary Pardo Easterday, 1992
7. James is believed to have been a soldier in the Civil War. He is probably the one who was enlisted, probably at gunpoint, in Gordonsville, VA on 22 April 1862 as a Private in Co. E, 13th VA Infantry. His record is unclear, see text of "The Coffey Family Settlers of Coffeytown".
8. The 1910 Census indicates that Jim and Sophia had 5 children by that year, only two of whom were living at that time, so there are two unknown children not listed.

**JAMES  
 "JIM"  
 COFFEY**



**Coffey Family History;  
James "Jim" Coffey**



**Edmund Franklin Coffey "Ned"**

Chart 1 of 3  
JUNE, 1993

continued next page

**Coffey Family History:  
James "Jim" Coffey**

\* Unless noted otherwise, all chart information and dates are from Mary Prado Easterday, a descendant of Edmund F. Coffey and his wife Mary Jane Gilbert. These dates and relationships have not been verified by us in any public records.

continued from first page

5 AUG 1899 -  
5 JAN 1925

Lutie Bell  
(Coffey) Clarence  
Crawford Crawford

Odessa Roy  
(Crawford) Creasey  
Creasey

2 Boys  
Dotty Creasey  
Bonny Creasey

3 JULY 1901 -

Ora Ethel Herman H.  
(Coffey) Campbell  
Campbell

Cecele C. Campbell

17 JUNE 1922 - 15 AUG 1934

Jean Anne Clarence  
(Campbell) Dye  
Dye

Roger Dye  
Becky Dye  
Natalie Dye  
Malcom Dye

Janie Mae John  
(Campbell) Stuart  
Mullins Mullins

No  
Children

6 JULY 1904 -  
20 SEPT 1981

Robert Maggie  
Yoast Wilson  
Coffey (Bradley)  
Coffey

Vera Oran  
Joyce Gilford  
(Coffey) Eakin  
Eakin

Oran Gilford Eakin, Jr.  
26 MAY 1954 - 5 APRIL 1982

Mary Ester Stanley  
(Coffey) DeMasters,  
DeMasters Jr.

No  
Children

Adis Wilson Thomas  
(Coffey) W. Fultz,  
Fultz Jr.

Curtis Connie  
Ray (Fox)  
Fultz Fultz

Daniel Wayne Fultz

continued next page

George Addie L.  
Franklin (Reid)  
Coffey Coffey

George Franklin Coffey, Jr.  
Pamela Kay Coffey

**Edmund  
Franklin  
Coffey  
"Ned"**

Chart 2 of 3  
JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
James "Jim" Coffey**

continued from second page

12 JULY 1906 - ?

Hamilton  
Coffey

Martha Jane  
(Coffey) Dooley  
Garland A.  
Dooley

D: 2 FEB 1972  
No Children

B: 31 JAN 1910

Mary Ozella  
(Coffey) Crawford  
Frank Charlie  
Crawford

Albert Lee  
Crawford  
Hattie  
Ernstine  
(Robinson)  
Crawford

B: 4 MAR 1930

Albert Lee Dairdre  
Crawford, II (Gould)  
"Johnny" Crawford

No Children

Franklin Elane  
Ellwood (Clark)  
Crawford Crawford

No Children

Rachel Elizabeth Bruce  
(Crawford) Milne

No Children

Deloris Arlene  
(Crawford) Davis  
Ralph Davis

Buffy Elizabeth Davis  
Stephanie Elene Davis

B: 17 MAY 1911

Carol Ann Zachary R.  
(Crawford) McCann, II  
(McCann) Clark  
Keith Clark

Karen Marie Crawford

Edward Eugene Crawford

\* Unless noted otherwise, all chart information and dates are from Mary Prado Easterday, a descendant of Edmund F. Coffey and his wife Mary Jane Gilbert. These dates and relationships have not been verified by us in any public records.

22 NOV 1931 -  
22 APRIL 1965

Sheila Thurman Billy  
(Crawford) Campbell

Robbie Gay Tex  
(Crawford) Campbell

B: 23 FEB 1937

Valeria Gay Campbell

Vonda Kay Campbell

**Edmund  
Franklin  
Coffey  
"Ned"**

Chart 3 of 3  
JUNE, 1993



**Coffey Family History;  
William "Billy" Coffey**

B: 9 APR 1815 <sup>1</sup>  
M: 24 SEPT 1835;  
Amherst Co., VA <sup>4</sup>  
D: 11 MAY 1896 <sup>1</sup>

William "Billy"  
Coffey

Sarah Anne  
"Sally"  
(Crawford)  
Coffey

B: 25 NOV 1817  
D: 11 OCT 1906

B: 12 MAY 1839 <sup>2</sup>  
M: License  
obtained 5 MAR  
1858, Amherst  
Co., VA. <sup>4</sup>  
D: 2 OCT 1914 <sup>2</sup>

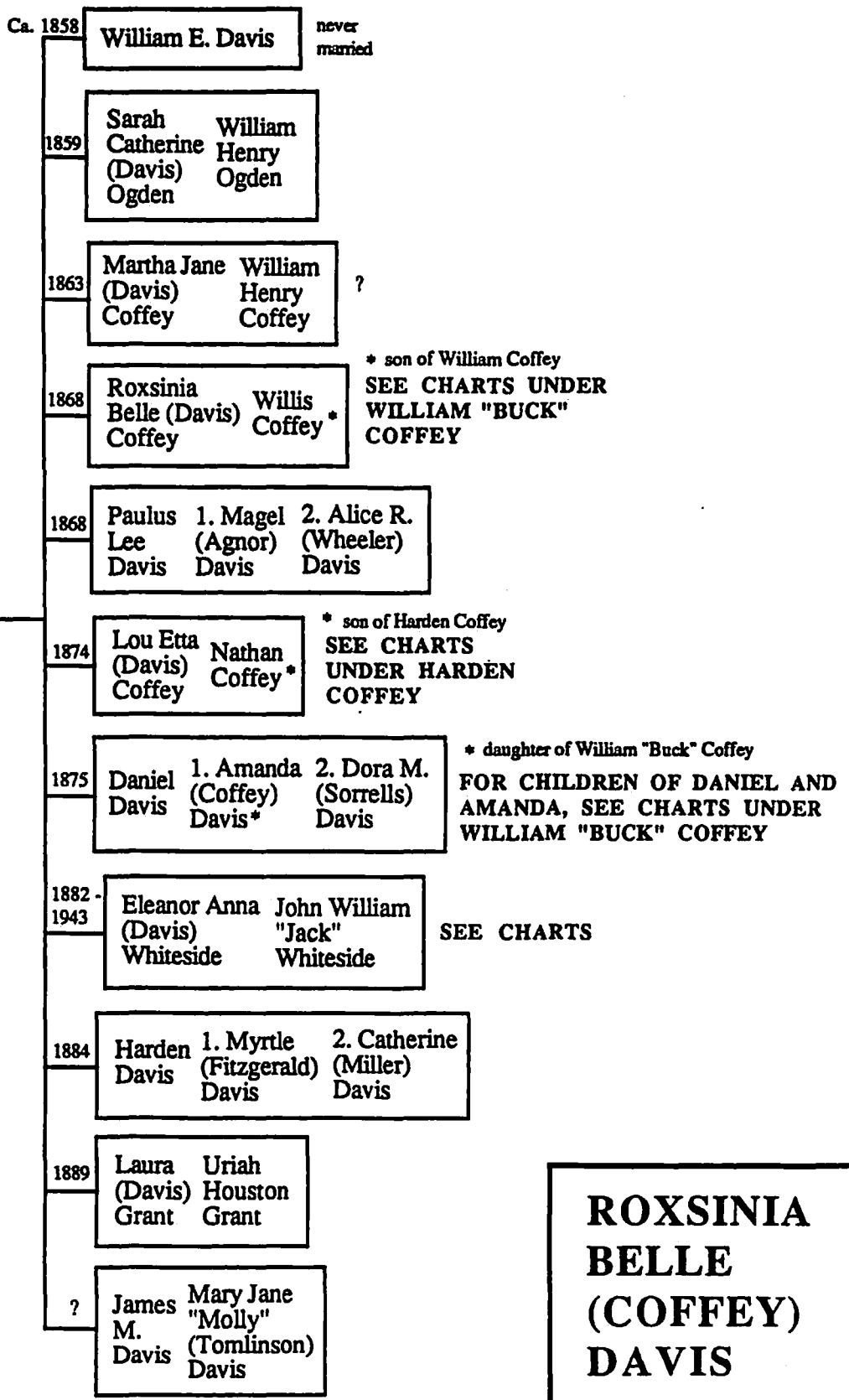
Roxsinia Bennett  
(Coffey) Hudson  
Davis

Bennett  
Hudson  
Davis

1832-1925 <sup>3</sup>

**NOTES:**

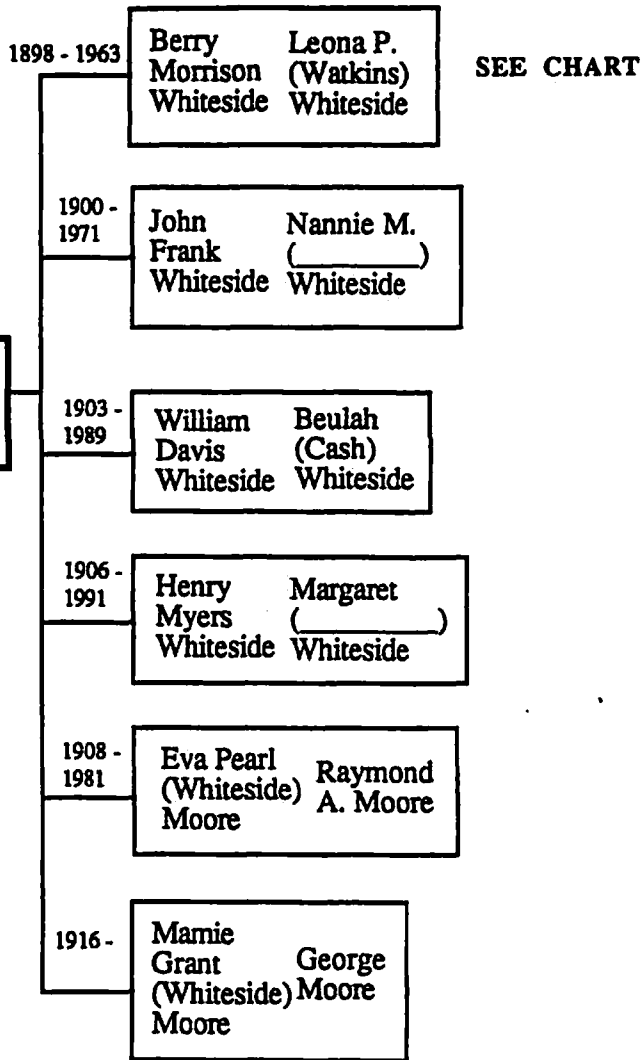
1. Buried behind Elsie Coffey's house, dates from Headstones.
2. Buried Bridgehill, dates from headstones.
3. Most information this chart from Ruby Leighton, Buena Vista, VA; May, 1993.
4. Amherst County Marriage Records, Virginia State Archives.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

**Coffey Family History;  
Eleanor Anna (Davis) Whiteside**

Roxsinia Bennett  
Belle Hudson  
(Coffey) Davis  
Davis



Eleanor Anna (Davis) Whiteside  
John William "Jack" Whiteside

B: 1882  
M:  
D: 1943

B: 1871  
D: 1951

**NOTES:**

1. All informatiun this chart from Ruby C. Leighton, Buena Vista, Va; May, 1993.

**Eleanor  
Anna  
(Davis)  
Whiteside**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Berry Morrison Whiteside**

Eleanor Anna (Davis) Whiteside	John William "Jack" Whiteside
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

B: 1882  
M:  
D: 1943

B: 1871  
D: 1951

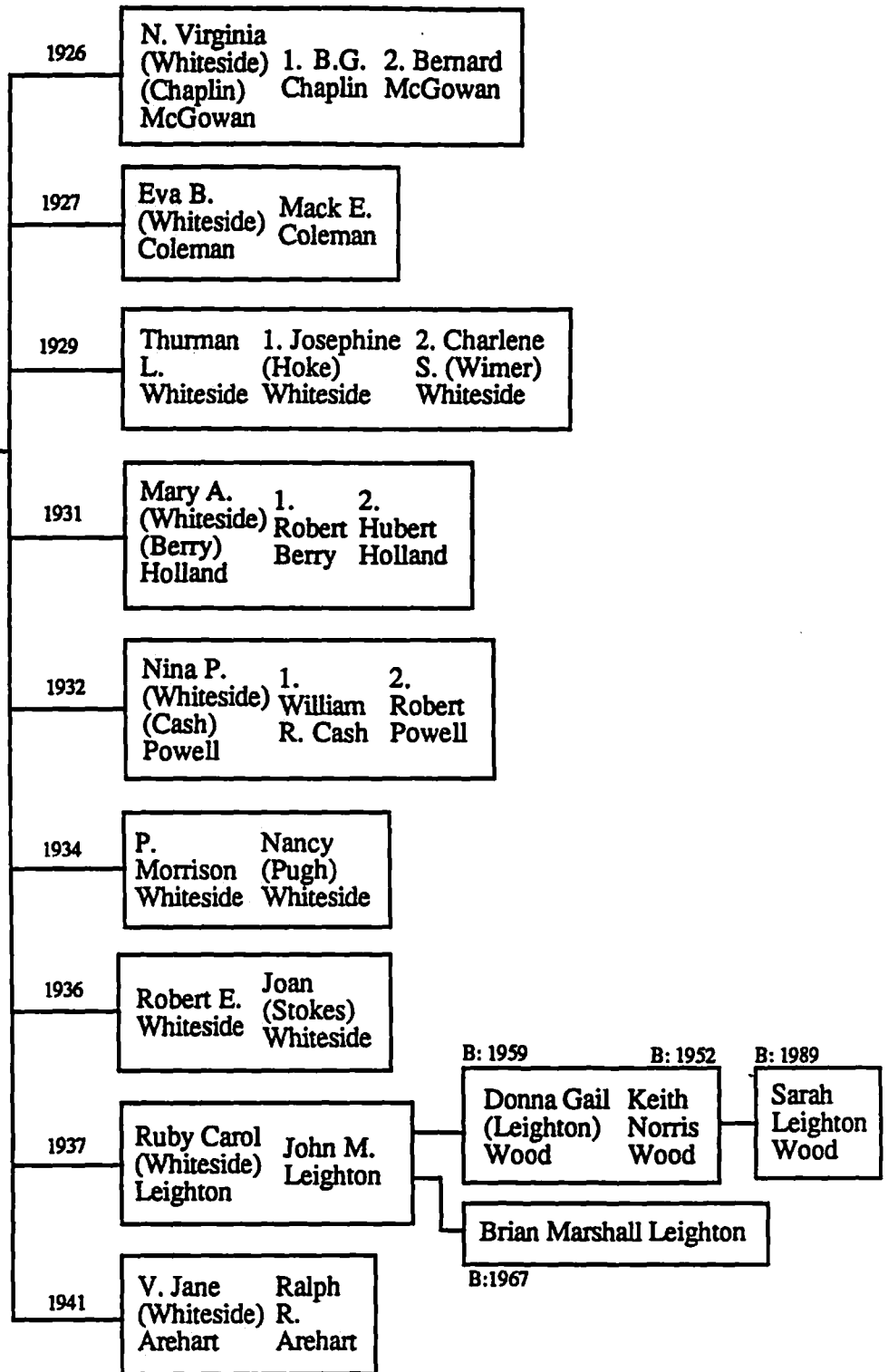
Berry Morrison Whiteside	Leona P. (Watkins) Whiteside
--------------------------------	------------------------------------

B: 1898  
M:  
D: 1963

B: 1906  
D: 1981

**NOTES:**

1. All informatioun this chart  
from Ruby C. Leighton, Buena  
Vista, Va; May, 1993.



**Berry  
Morrison  
Whiteside**

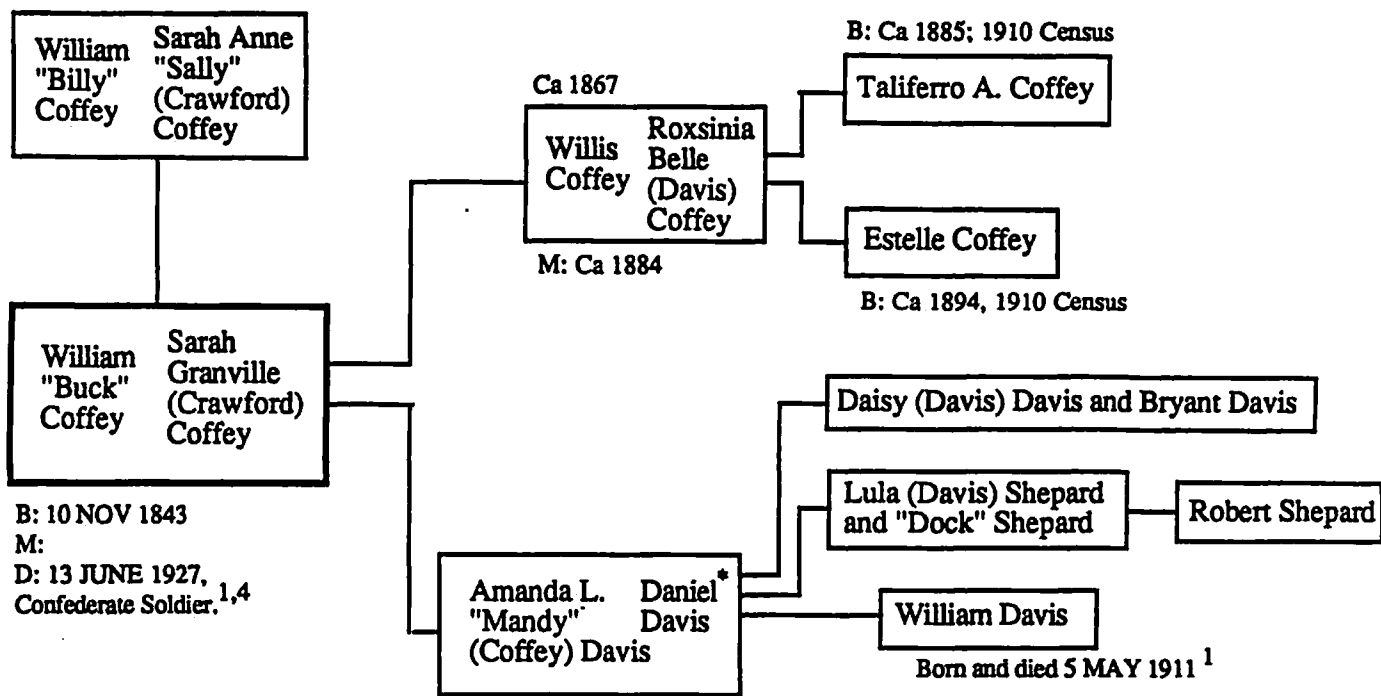
Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227



**Coffey Family History;  
WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY**

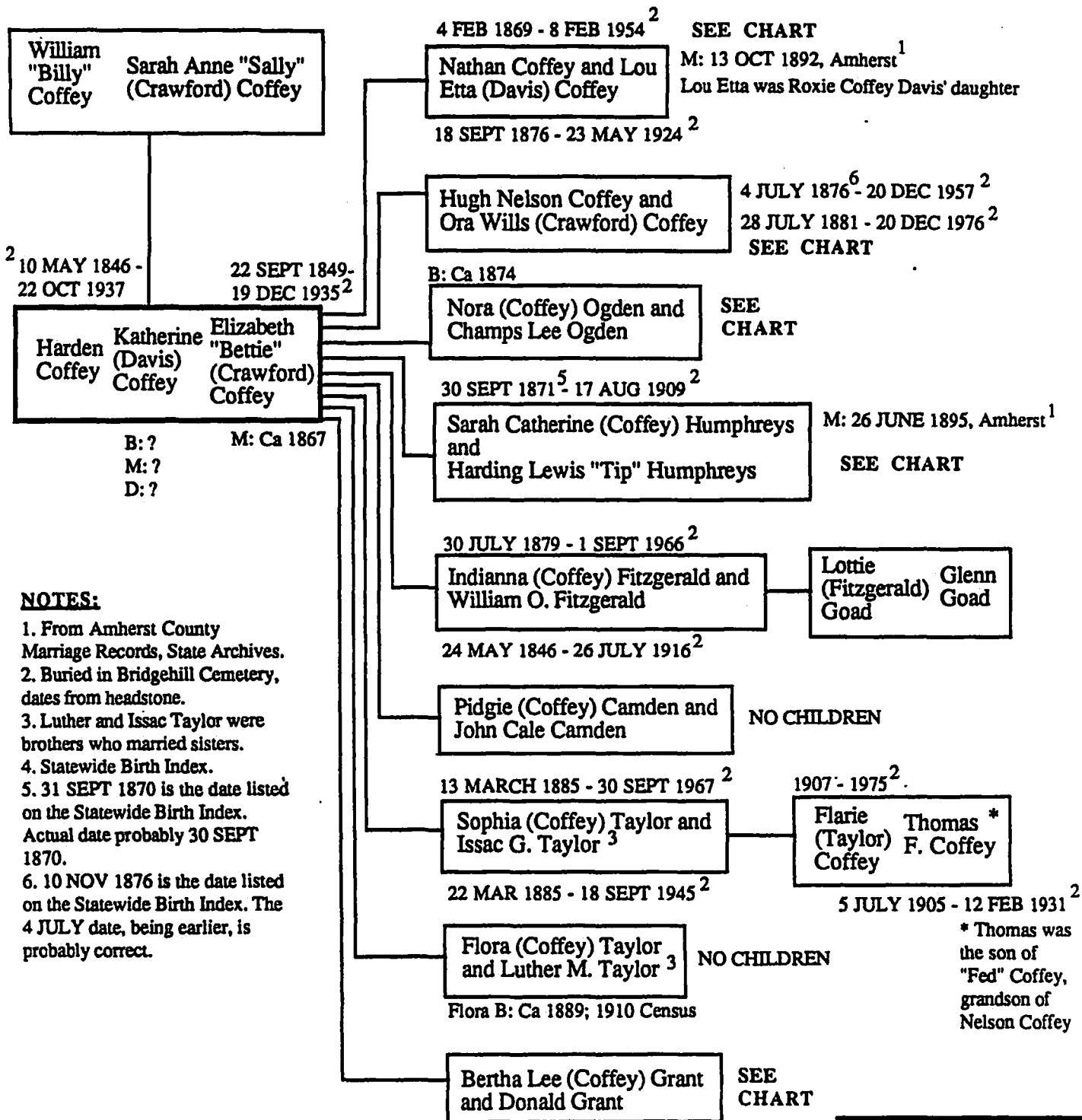


**NOTES:**

1. Buried in Bridgehill, dates from headstone.
2. From Amherst County Marriage Records.
3. Statewide Birth Index.
4. William is believed to be that William Coffey who was enlisted, probably at gunpoint, in Gordonsville, VA on 22 Aril 1862 by Col. Walker. He reported "sick" in May-June 1862 and from then on was AWOL. Two different dates were listed for "Desertion": 13 AUG 1862, and 21 MAY 1864. He does not appear to have re-enlisted with John Jack and Charles E. Coffey.

**William  
"Buck"  
Coffey**

**Coffey Family History;**  
**WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY**



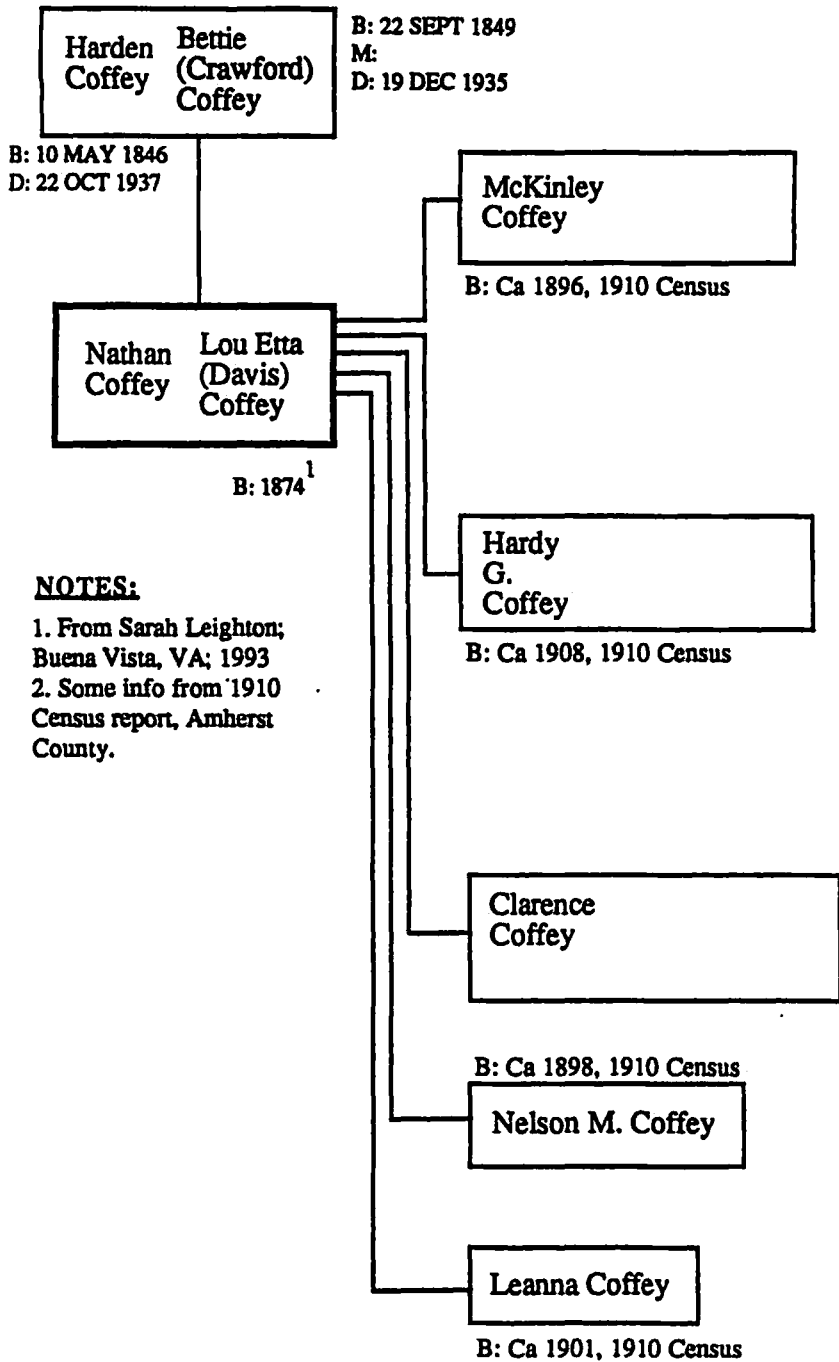
**NOTES:**

1. From Amherst County Marriage Records, State Archives.
2. Buried in Bridgehill Cemetery, dates from headstone.
3. Luther and Issac Taylor were brothers who married sisters.
4. Statewide Birth Index.
5. 31 SEPT 1870 is the date listed on the Statewide Birth Index. Actual date probably 30 SEPT 1870.
6. 10 NOV 1876 is the date listed on the Statewide Birth Index. The 4 JULY date, being earlier, is probably correct.

**HARDEN  
 COFFEY**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

**Coffey Family History;  
Harden Coffey**



**NOTES:**

1. From Sarah Leighton; Buena Vista, VA; 1993
2. Some info from 1910 Census report, Amherst County.

**Nathan  
Coffey**

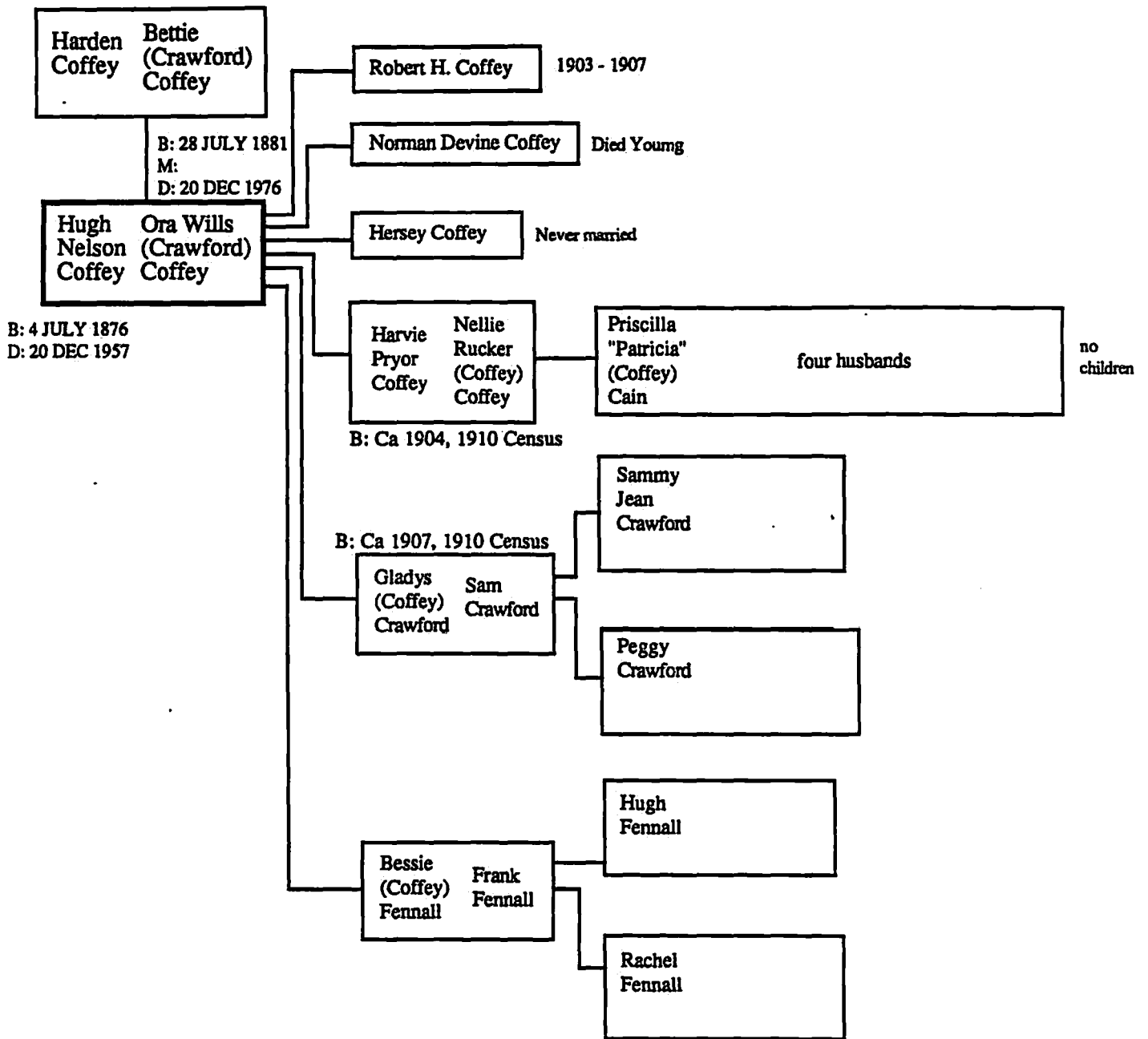
Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA.



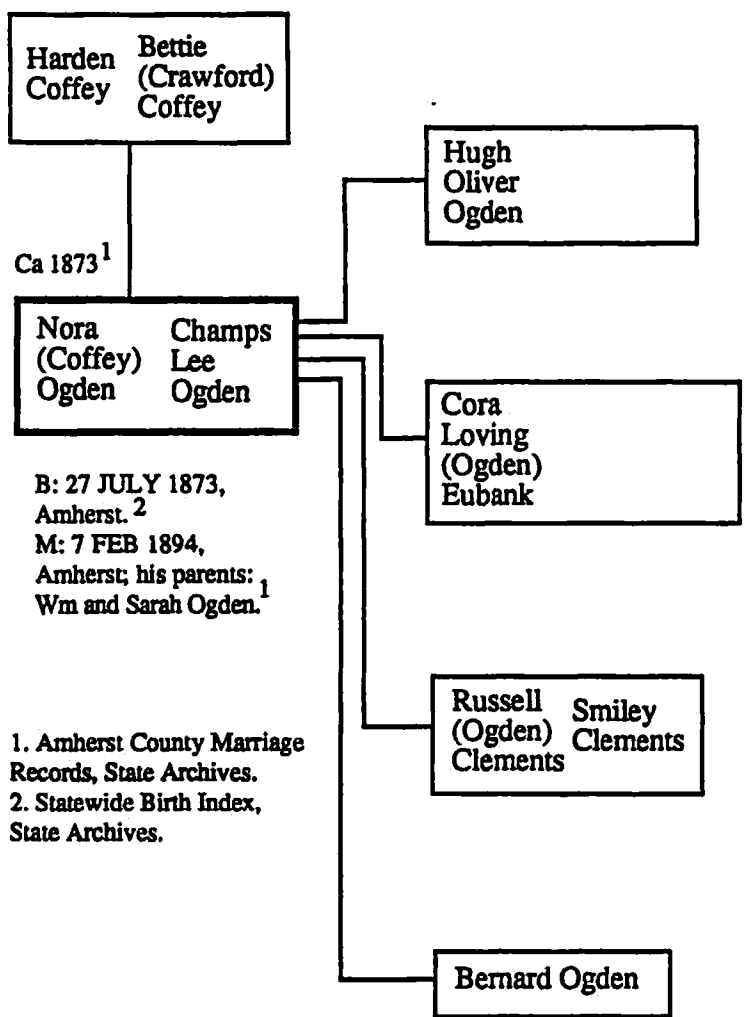
**Coffey Family History;  
Harden Coffey**



**Hugh  
Nelson  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1

**Coffey Family History;  
Harden Coffey**



**Nora  
(Coffey)  
Ogden**

Chart 1 of 1

**Coffey Family History;  
Harden Coffey**

Harden Coffey    Bettie  
                    (Crawford)  
                    Coffey

B: 26 JULY 1898  
M:  
D: 23 JULY 1967 2

\* Harding    Sarah Cora  
Lewis      (Maddox)  
Humphreys, Humphreys  
Jr.

Agnes Humphreys

Lena Humphreys

John Henry  
Humphreys

Sarah Catherine    Harding  
(Coffey)            Lewis "Tip"  
Humphreys        Humphreys

B: 30 SEPT 1871  
M: 26 JUNE 1895, Amherst 1  
D: 17 AUG 1909 2

Rucker  
Humphreys

Frank  
Humphreys

B: Ca 1906, 1910 Census  
\* Turner  
Humphreys

B: Ca 1902, 1910 Census  
\* Sophia  
(Humphreys)  
Fitzgerald

Berta  
(Humphreys)  
Cambell

**NOTES**

1. From Amherst County Marriage Records, State Archives.
2. Buried in Bridgehill Cemetery, dates from headstone.

\* These three were living with Harden and "Bettie" in 1910

**Sarah  
Catherine  
(Coffey)  
Humphreys**

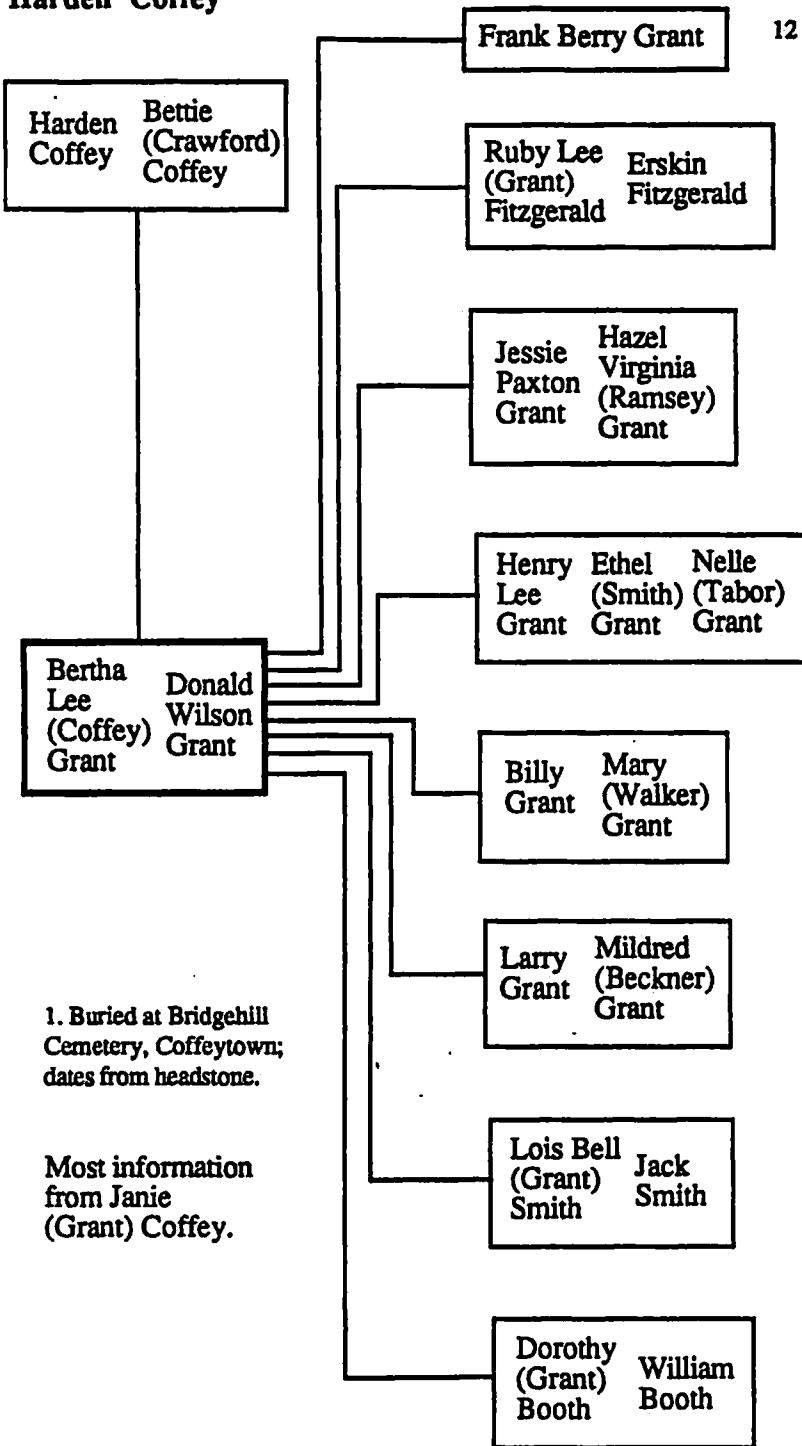
Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993





**Coffey Family History;  
Harden Coffey**

12 JUNE 1917 - 13 OCT 1917<sup>1</sup>



1. Buried at Bridgehill Cemetery, Coffeytown; dates from headstone.

Most information from Janie (Grant) Coffey.

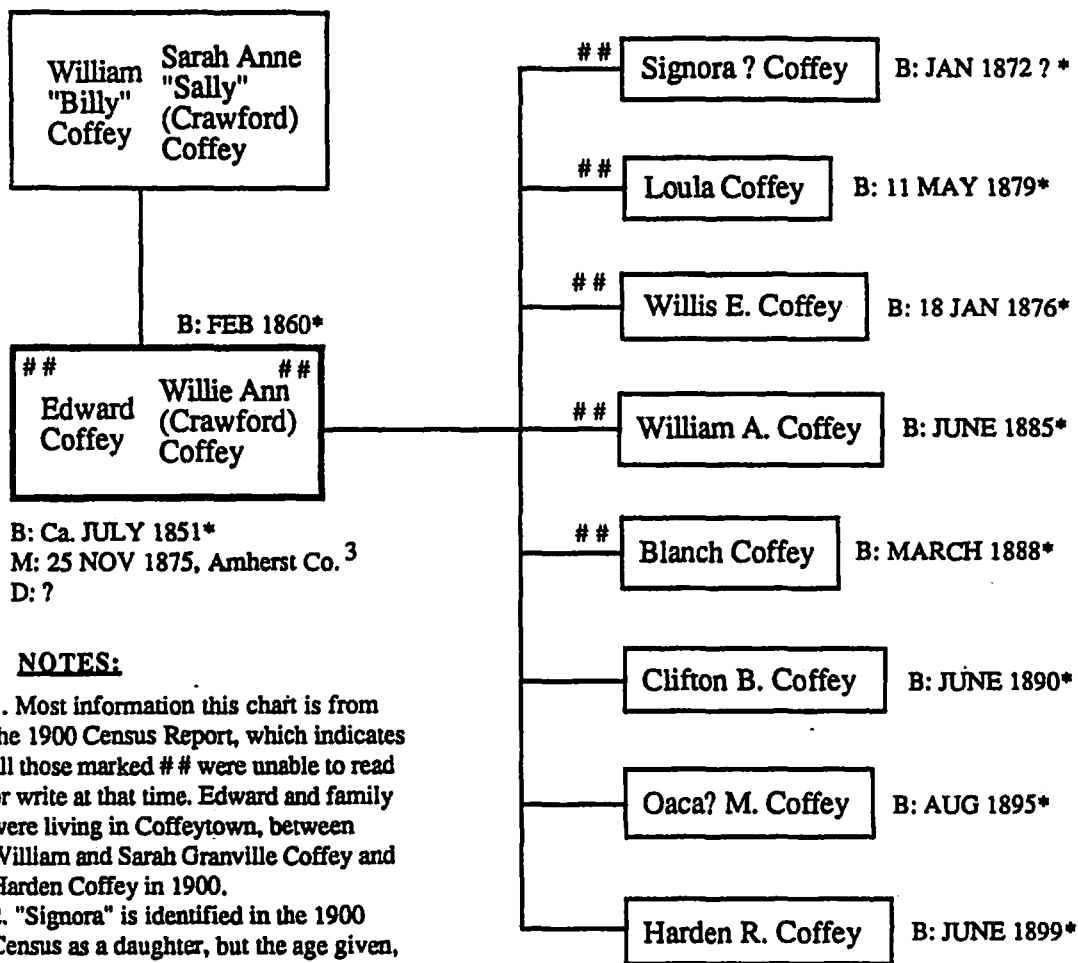
**Bertha  
Lee  
(Coffey)  
Grant**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Coffey Family History;  
**WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY**



B: Ca. JULY 1851\*  
 M: 25 NOV 1875, Amherst Co.<sup>3</sup>  
 D: ?

**NOTES:**

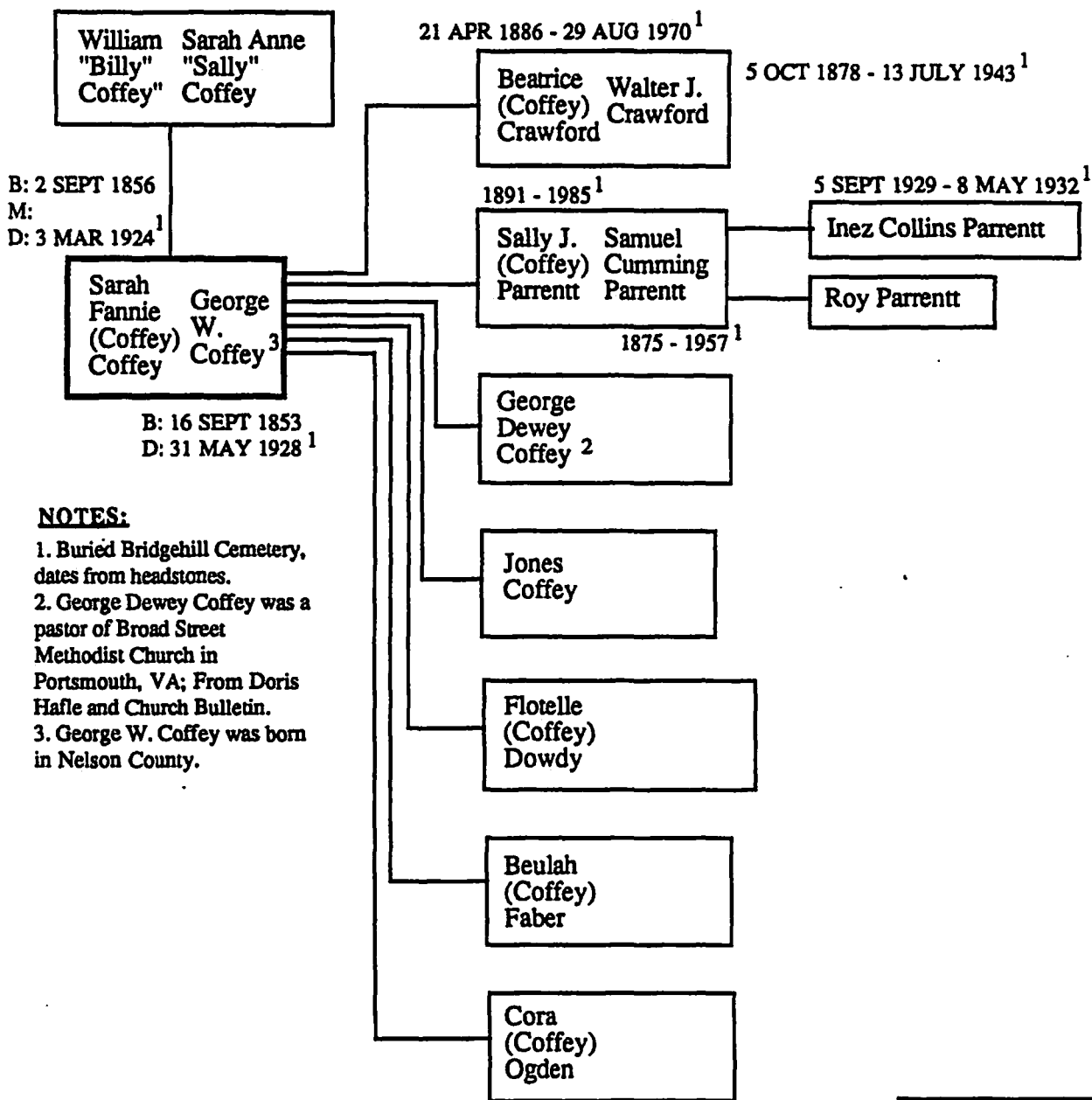
1. Most information this chart is from the 1900 Census Report, which indicates all those marked ## were unable to read or write at that time. Edward and family were living in Coffeytown, between William and Sarah Granville Coffey and Harden Coffey in 1900.
2. "Signora" is identified in the 1900 Census as a daughter, but the age given, 28 years old, doesn't add with the birthdate given, nor with the known marriage date of Edward and Willie. The date we list assumes the age was given correctly. She may have been a domestic or Willie's sister. This Edward was not in Coffeytown in 1910 and there is no 1890 Census information. Strange name for a Coffey.
3. Amherst County Marriage Records, Va. State Archives.

**Edward  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1  
 JUNE, 1993



Coffey Family History;  
**WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

1. Buried Bridgehill Cemetery, dates from headstones.
2. George Dewey Coffey was a pastor of Broad Street Methodist Church in Portsmouth, VA; From Doris Hafle and Church Bulletin.
3. George W. Coffey was born in Nelson County.

**SARAH  
 FANNIE  
 (COFFEY)  
 COFFEY**

Coffey Family History;  
**WILLIAM "BILLY" COFFEY**

Births<sup>3</sup>

William "Billy"  
Coffey

Sarah Anne "Sally"  
(Crawford)  
Coffey

B: 15 AUG 1866  
 D: 14 MAY 1951<sup>1</sup>

Arthur Coffey

Virginia Ann "Jenny"  
(Davis)  
Coffey

B: 10 AUG 1859<sup>1</sup>  
 M: 31 JAN 1884, Amh Co.<sup>2</sup>  
 D: 30 MAR 1945<sup>1</sup>

**NOTES:**

1. Buried Greenhill Cemetery, Buena Vista, dates from headstone.
2. Amherst County Marriage Records.
3. Dates given here are from William Arthur Davis of Mullens, WVA, "Front page in an old Bible", typewritten copy sent to me 4/93. Bible shows Arthur's birthday as 10 AUG 1860; and Jenny's birthday as 15 AUG 1867. Statewide birth index confirms date of 1859 for Arthur's birth. Such early dates were probably added to Bible much later.
4. Buried Bridgehill, dates from headstones.

3 JAN 1885

Mabel Irene  
(Coffey)  
Humphries

Emmett  
Humphries

SEE CHART

26 FEB 1886<sup>4</sup>

Hiram Randolph  
Coffey

Susie A.  
(Catlett)  
Coffey

No children

(Lived and died in Embree Crawford's house)

17 SEPT 1924

21 FEB 1888

Ernest Webster  
Coffey

Ethel (Stratton)  
Coffey

SEE CHART

\* Headstone shows 5 FEB

2 MAY 1890

Alma Gertrude  
(Coffey)  
Crawford

T. Powell  
Crawford

SEE CHART

21 FEB 1892

Hallie Pearl  
(Coffey)  
Crawford

J. Houston  
Crawford

SEE CHART

3 OCT 1893

Fletcher Beadles  
Coffey

Maggie (Harris)  
Coffey

SEE CHART

10 JAN 1895

Mina Lee  
(Coffey)  
Gibson

Thompson James  
Massie William  
Davis Gibson

SEE CHARTS

25 NOV 1896

Sally (Coffey)  
(Palmer)  
Wyatt

Wallace Glenn  
Palmer Wyatt

SEE CHART

13 MAY 1903

Leonard Carlyle  
Coffey

Elsie (Coffey)  
Coffey

SEE CHARTS

4 APR 1907

Essie Rose  
(Coffey)  
Sales

Emmett  
Sales

SEE CHART

**ARTHUR  
COFFEY**

**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**

Arthur Coffey	Virginia Anne (Davis) Coffey
---------------	------------------------------

Mabel I. (Coffey) Humphries	Emmett B. Humphries
-----------------------------	---------------------

Jessie O. (Humphries) Tucker	Ruby M. Tucker	Robert Tucker Ronnie Tucker Elaine (Tucker) Fisher
------------------------------	----------------	--

Effie (Humphries) Williams	William N. Williams	no children
----------------------------	---------------------	-------------

Ruth W. (Humphries) Akins	Milton Akins	Thomas Akins
---------------------------	--------------	--------------

Mildred E. (Humphries) Beasley	James Beasley	Donnie Beasley Charles Beasley Ellen Beasley
--------------------------------	---------------	--

Herman C. Humphries	Edith (Taylor) Humphries	Wynona Lee Humphries Carol Humphries David Humphries
---------------------	--------------------------	--

William Howell Humphries	Lucille (Eggelston) Humphries	William H. Humphries, Jr. Philip Humphries Rebecca Humphries
--------------------------	-------------------------------	--

Vernon Humphries	Mabel (Nease) Humphries	"Midge" Teresa (Humphries) Craun Delores (Humphries) Green
------------------	-------------------------	---

Kenneth B. Humphries	Willie (Dixon) Humphries	no children
----------------------	--------------------------	-------------

John Marshal Humphries	Frances (Binns) Humphries	Mark Humphries Marsha Humphries Penny Humphries
------------------------	---------------------------	---

Baby girl Vivian T. Humphries	Died at 2 years old	
-------------------------------	---------------------	--

**NOTES:**

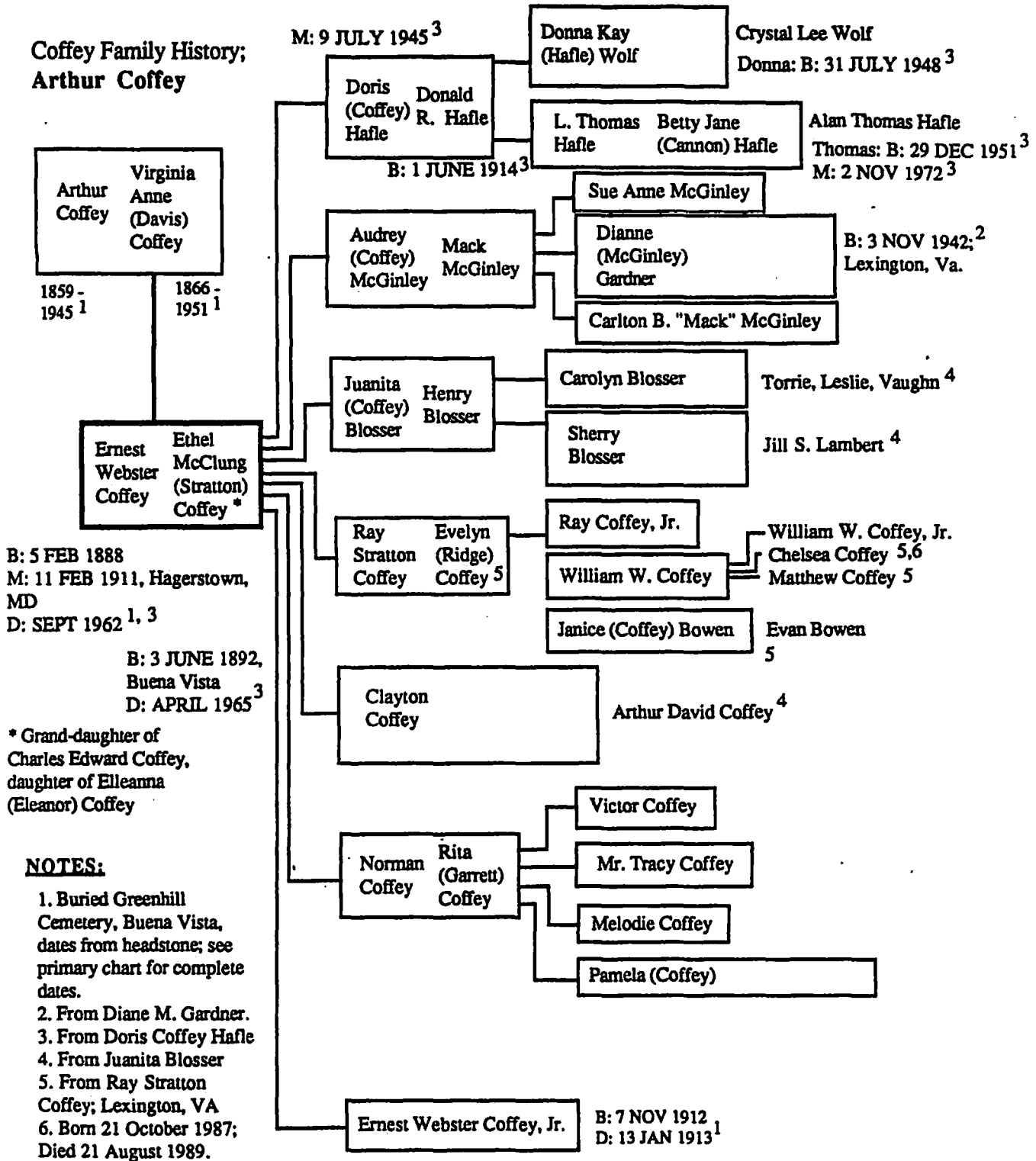
1. Info this chart from Wilbur Vernon Humphries; 4/93

**Mabel (Coffey) Humphries**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993



**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**



\* Grand-daughter of Charles Edward Coffey, daughter of Elleanna (Eleanor) Coffey

**NOTES:**

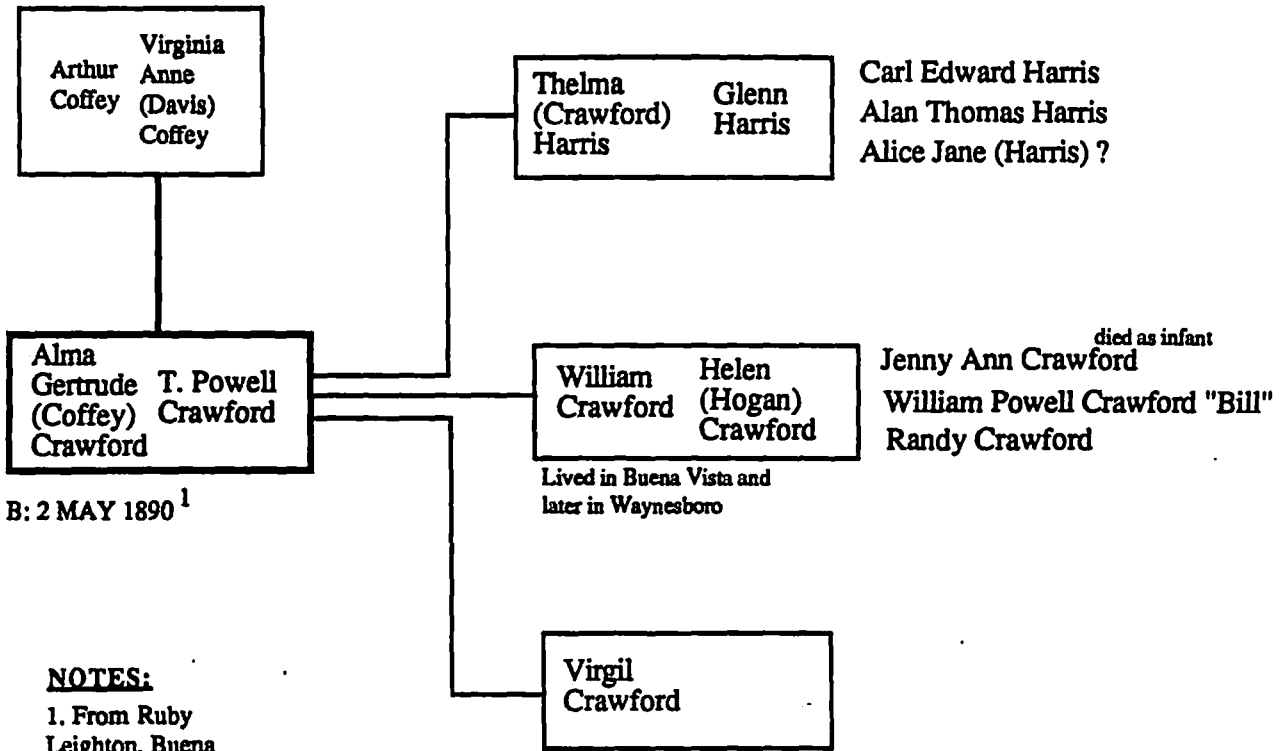
1. Buried Greenhill Cemetery, Buena Vista, dates from headstone; see primary chart for complete dates.
2. From Diane M. Gardner.
3. From Doris Coffey Hafle
4. From Juanita Blosser
5. From Ray Stratton Coffey; Lexington, VA
6. Born 21 October 1987; Died 21 August 1989.

**Ernest  
Webster  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1  
JUNE, 1993



**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**



**NOTES:**

1. From Ruby Leighton, Buena Vista, VA.

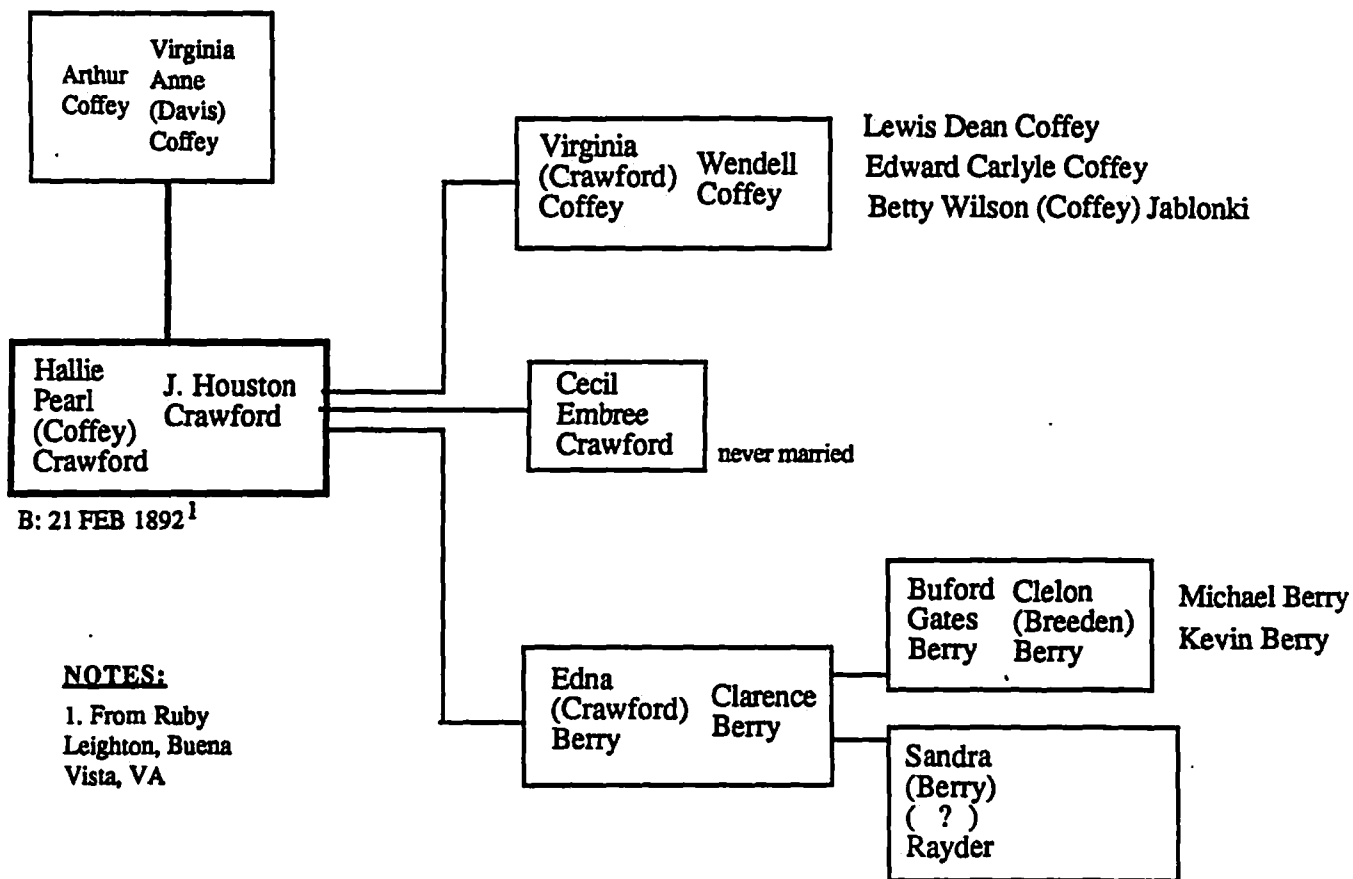
**Alma  
(Coffey)  
Crawford**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**



**NOTES:**  
1. From Ruby Leighton, Buena Vista, VA

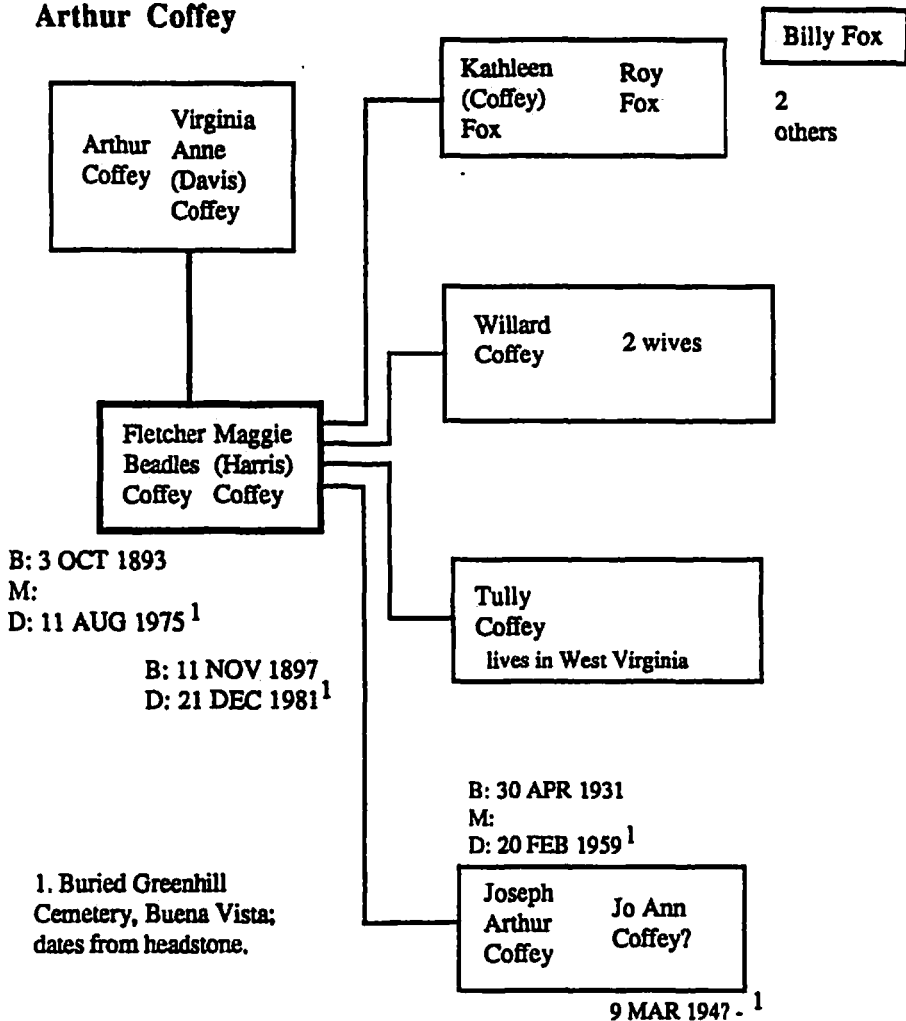
**Hallie  
(Coffey)  
Crawford**

Chart 1 of 1

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**



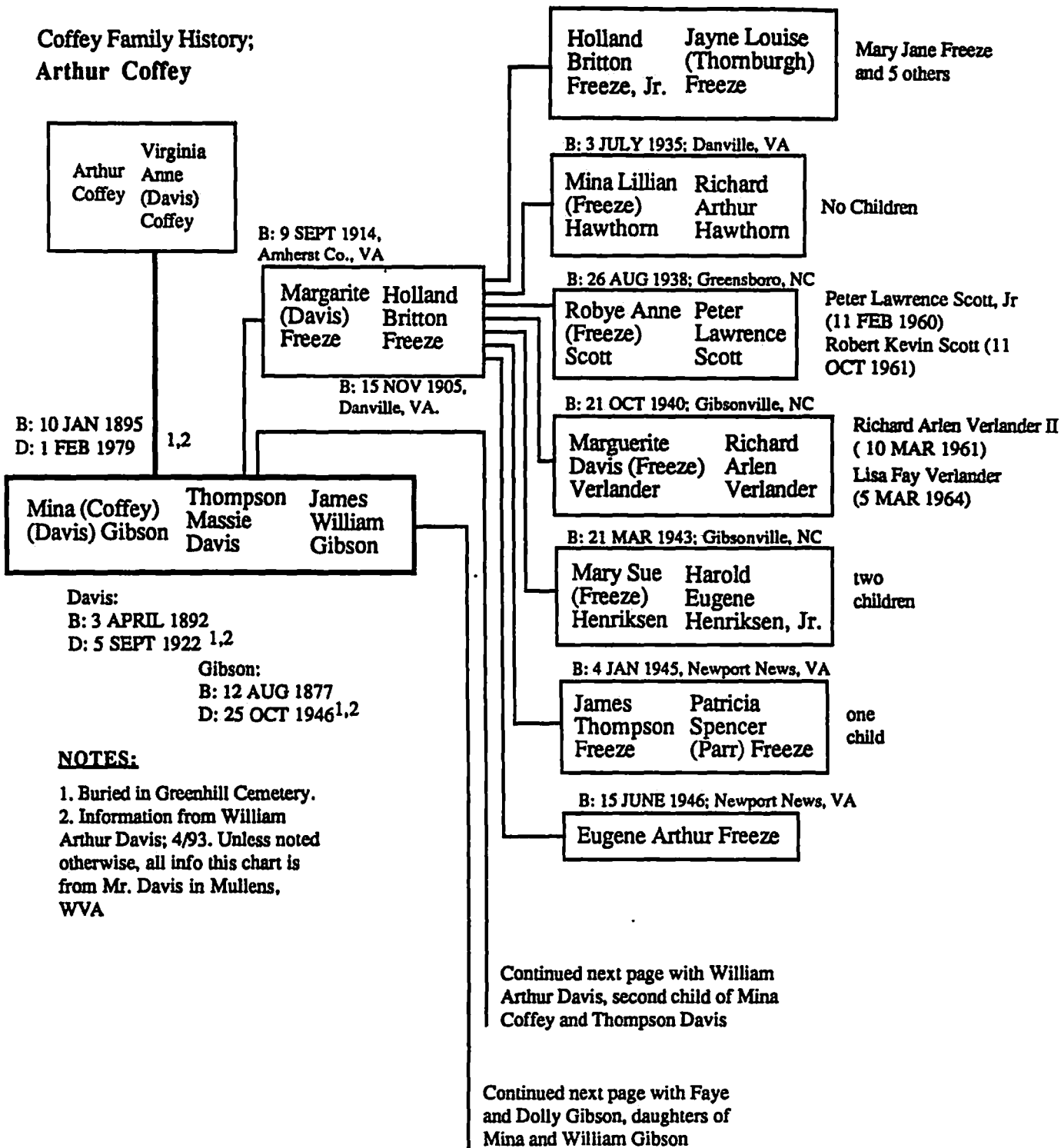
**Fletcher  
Beadles  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**

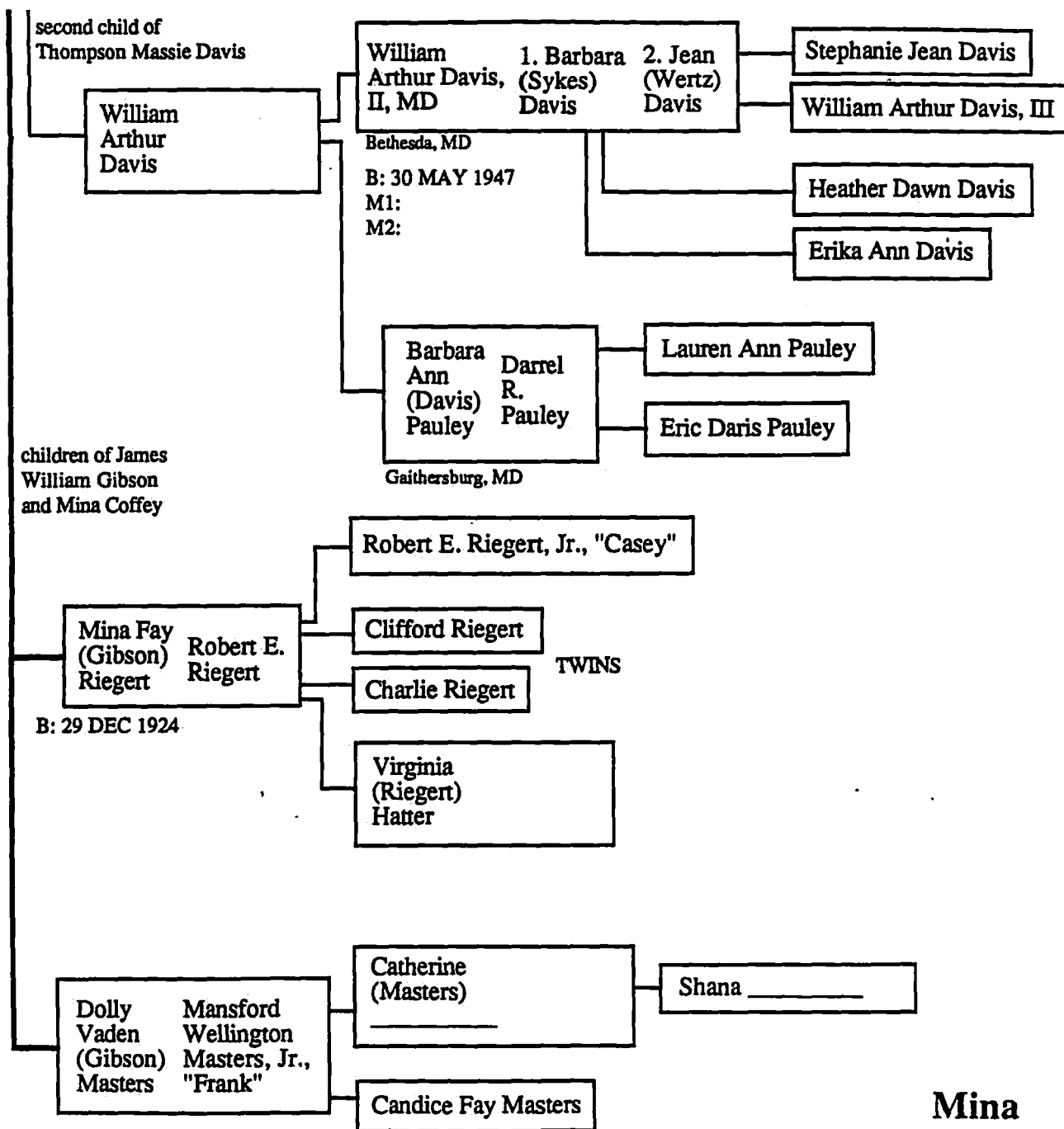


**Mina  
(Coffey)  
(Davis)  
Gibson**

Chart 1 of 2  
JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**

Continued from previous page, children of Mina Coffey Davis Gibson



**NOTES:**

1. Unless noted otherwise, all info this chart from Mr. William Davis of Mullens, WVA; provided 4/93.

**Mina  
(Coffey)  
(Davis)  
Gibson**

Chart 2 of 2

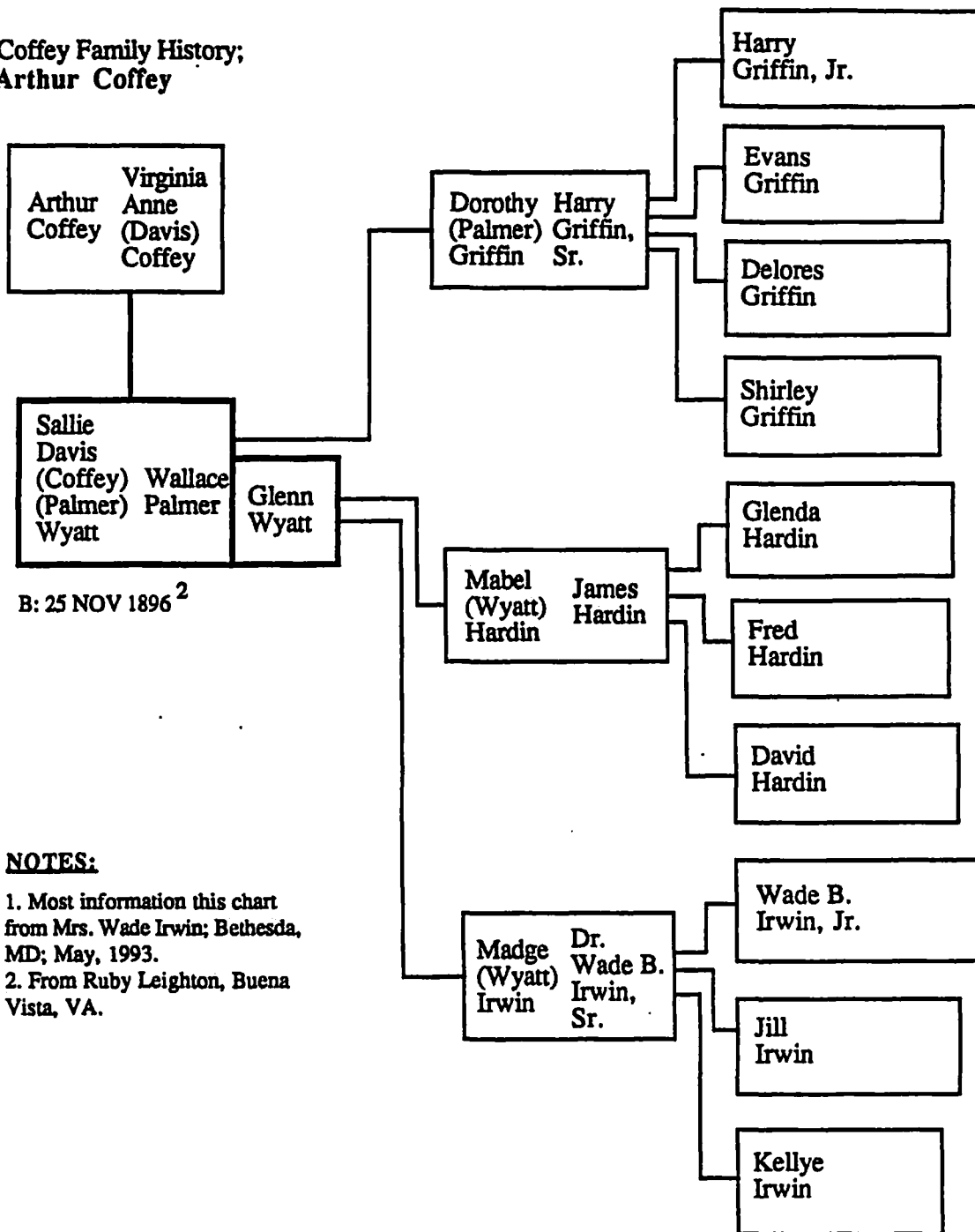
JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor; 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227





**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**



B: 25 NOV 1896<sup>2</sup>

**NOTES:**

1. Most information this chart from Mrs. Wade Irwin; Bethesda, MD; May, 1993.
2. From Ruby Leighton, Buena Vista, VA.

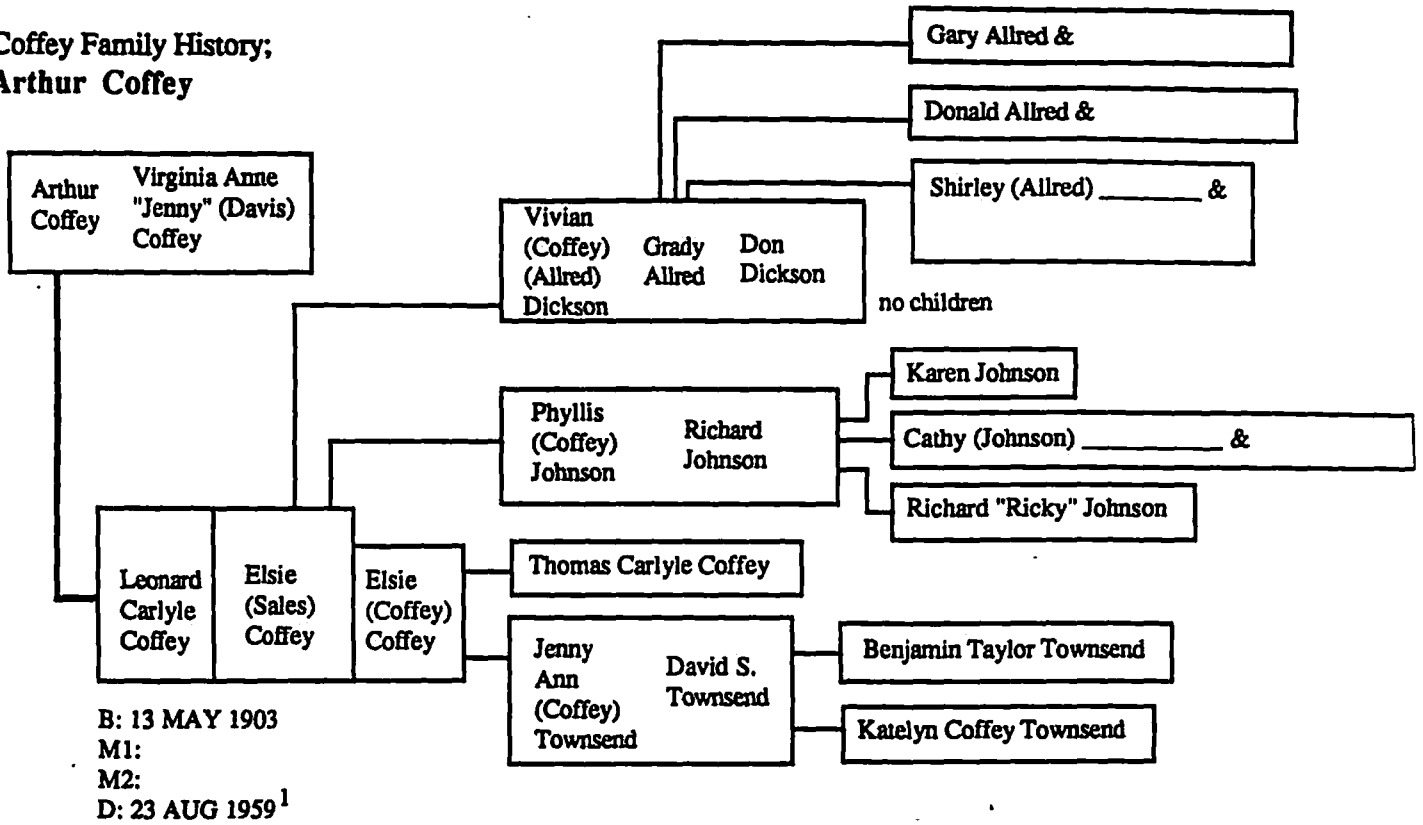
**Sallie  
Davis  
(Coffey)  
(Palmer)  
Wyatt**

Chart 1 of 1

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History:  
Arthur Coffey**



**NOTES:**

1. Buried Greenhill Cemetery,  
Buena Vista, dates from headstone.

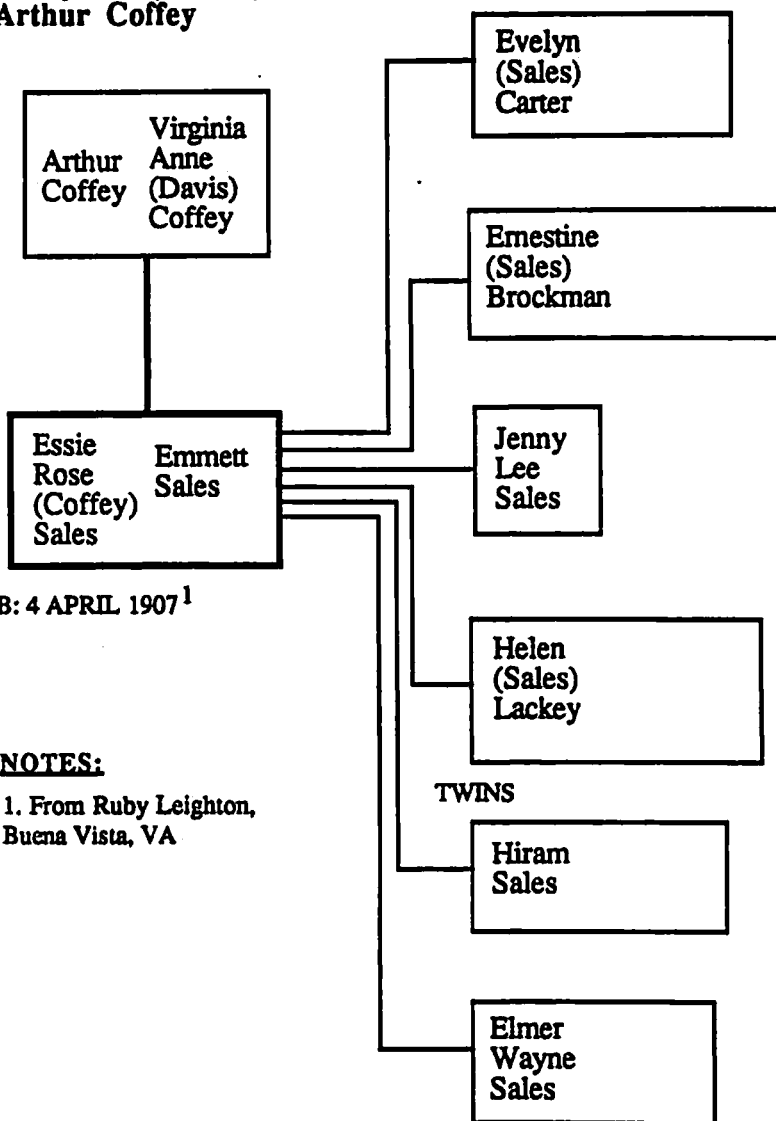
**Leonard  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Arthur Coffey**



B: 4 APRIL 1907<sup>1</sup>

**NOTES:**

1. From Ruby Leighton,  
Buena Vista, VA

**Essie  
Rose  
(Coffey)  
Sales**

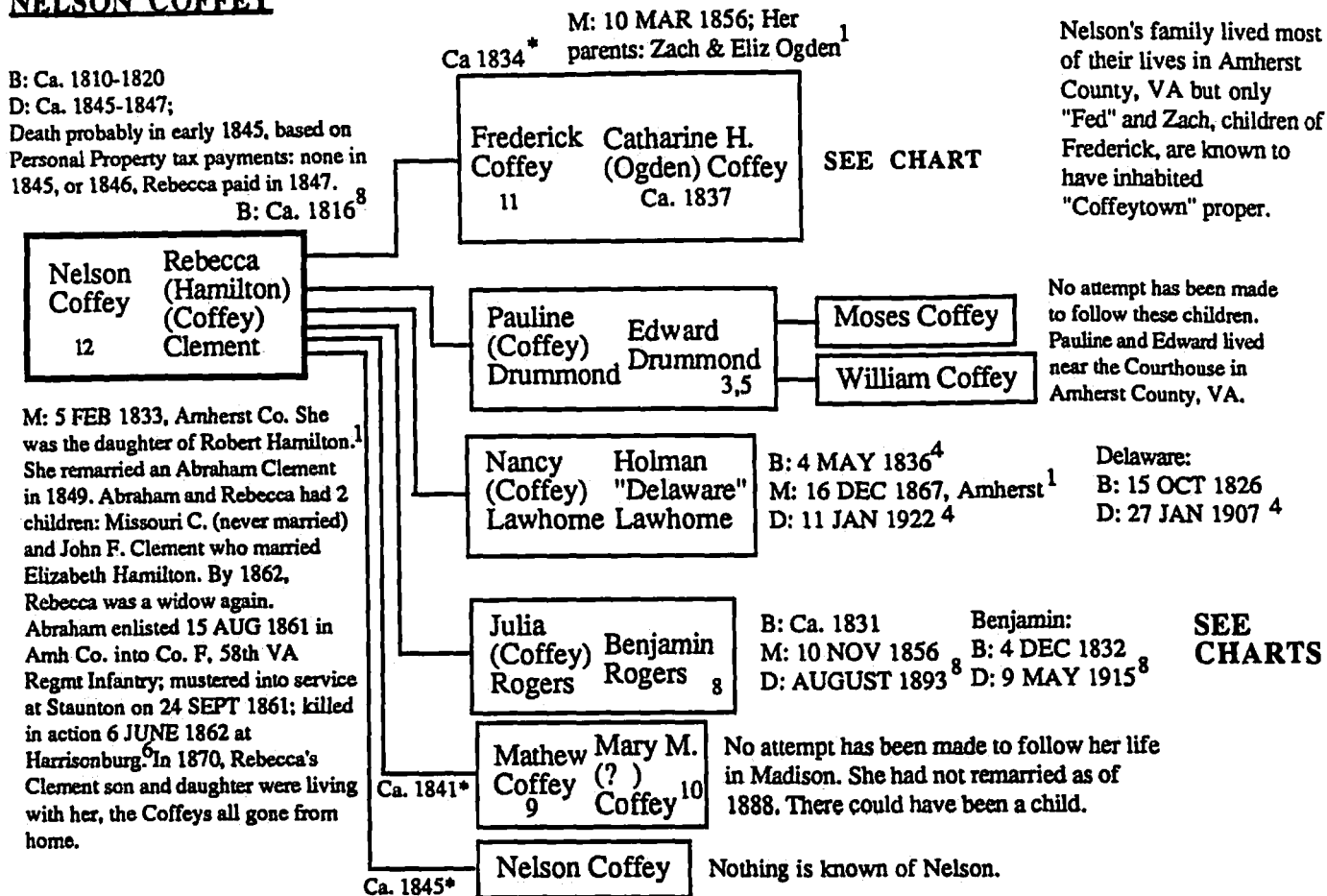
Chart 1 of 1

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

**Nelson and  
Rebecca  
(Hamilton)  
(Coffey)  
Clement**

**Coffey Family History;  
Original Coffey Settlers in "Coffeytown"  
NELSON COFFEY**



\* Listings are from Census Reports, estimated dates of birth.

**NOTES:**

1. From Amherst County Marriage Records in State Archives.
2. From Amherst County Death Records.
3. At age 36 Pauline Coffey applied for a marriage license in Amherst County but never returned for the marriage; man's name not clear.
4. Allwood Cemetery, dates from headstone.
5. Pauline's first husband, if any, has not been located. She was living with Edward Drummond in Amherst County with her 2 children in 1870, according to census reports. Family legend has her married to Edward but no record of this marriage has been found either.
6. From Compiled Service Records of Virginians Who Served in CSA, VA State Archives.
7. Statewide birth index shows a male born in 1868, which may have died young, as apparently it had not been named when reported.
8. Information from Mr. Gene Tomlin, Greenville, SC, a descendant of Julia Coffey. She and Benjamin buried in "Asberry" at Oranoco.
9. Mathew Coffey was a private in Co. I of the 58th Virginia Infantry, CSA. He died of measles at Stribling Springs in 1862. There is some indication that Rebecca had a brother named Mathew Hamilton, and this Mathew is likely named after him.

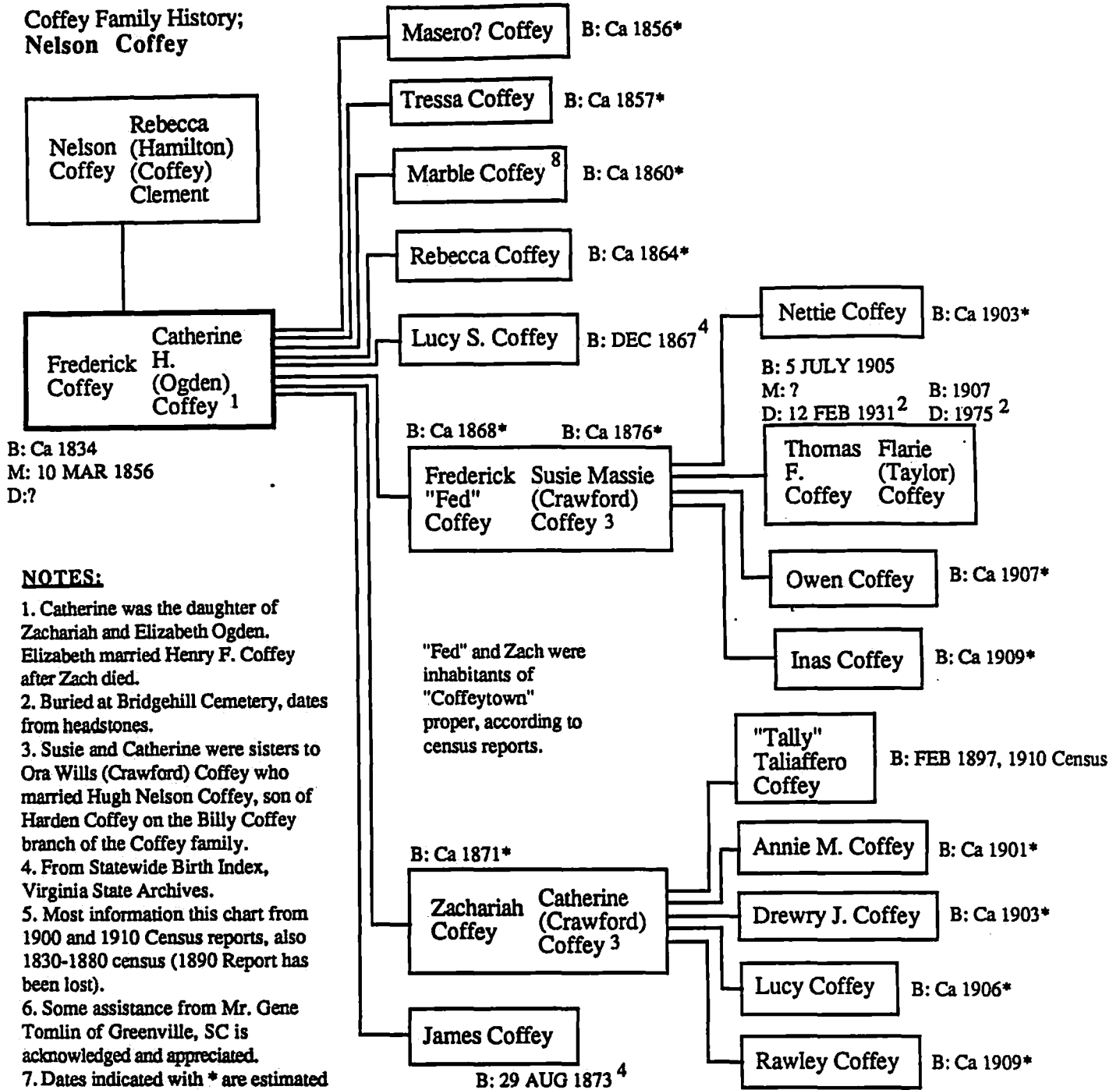
10. Mary and Mathew were married 21 MAR 1861, near Buffalo Springs; Amherst Co. She was living in Madison, VA in 1888. This information from pension applications; "VA Confederate Pension Act of 1888, 1989, VA State Archives.
11. Frederick Coffey enlisted as a Private in Amherst County 1 MAR 1864, assigned to Ft. Lee, VA to Co. I, 49th VA Regmt Infantry, CSA, no further record.
12. Nelson was appointed as guardian for Robert Lewis Hamilton (Hambelton) after Robert Hamilton, his father, died in 1841. This from WB 10: 386 GB, Amherst County, VA. At this time John P. Hamilton became guardian of James Preston Hamilton, another of Robert's sons.
13. Nelson Coffey bought the 170 acres on which Robert Hamilton lived and worked for \$475. This was the first time Coffeys owned land in present day Amherst County. Later, Frederick and Nancy sold their shares (29 acres each) to James P. Hamilton in 1859, while Abram Clement was still alive and in possession of the land (presumably living there).

**NELSON  
COFFEY  
AND  
FAMILY**

Please return all corrections and additions to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Nelson Coffey**



B: Ca 1834  
M: 10 MAR 1856  
D: ?

**NOTES:**

1. Catherine was the daughter of Zachariah and Elizabeth Ogden. Elizabeth married Henry F. Coffey after Zach died.
2. Buried at Bridgehill Cemetery, dates from headstones.
3. Susie and Catherine were sisters to Ora Wills (Crawford) Coffey who married Hugh Nelson Coffey, son of Harden Coffey on the Billy Coffey branch of the Coffey family.
4. From Statewide Birth Index, Virginia State Archives.
5. Most information this chart from 1900 and 1910 Census reports, also 1830-1880 census (1890 Report has been lost).
6. Some assistance from Mr. Gene Tomlin of Greenville, SC is acknowledged and appreciated.
7. Dates indicated with \* are estimated from census reports. These are not always accurate but are usually reliable for sequence of birth and general range of timeframe.
8. Family legend has it that Marble froze to death when fairly young. No death record information is available.

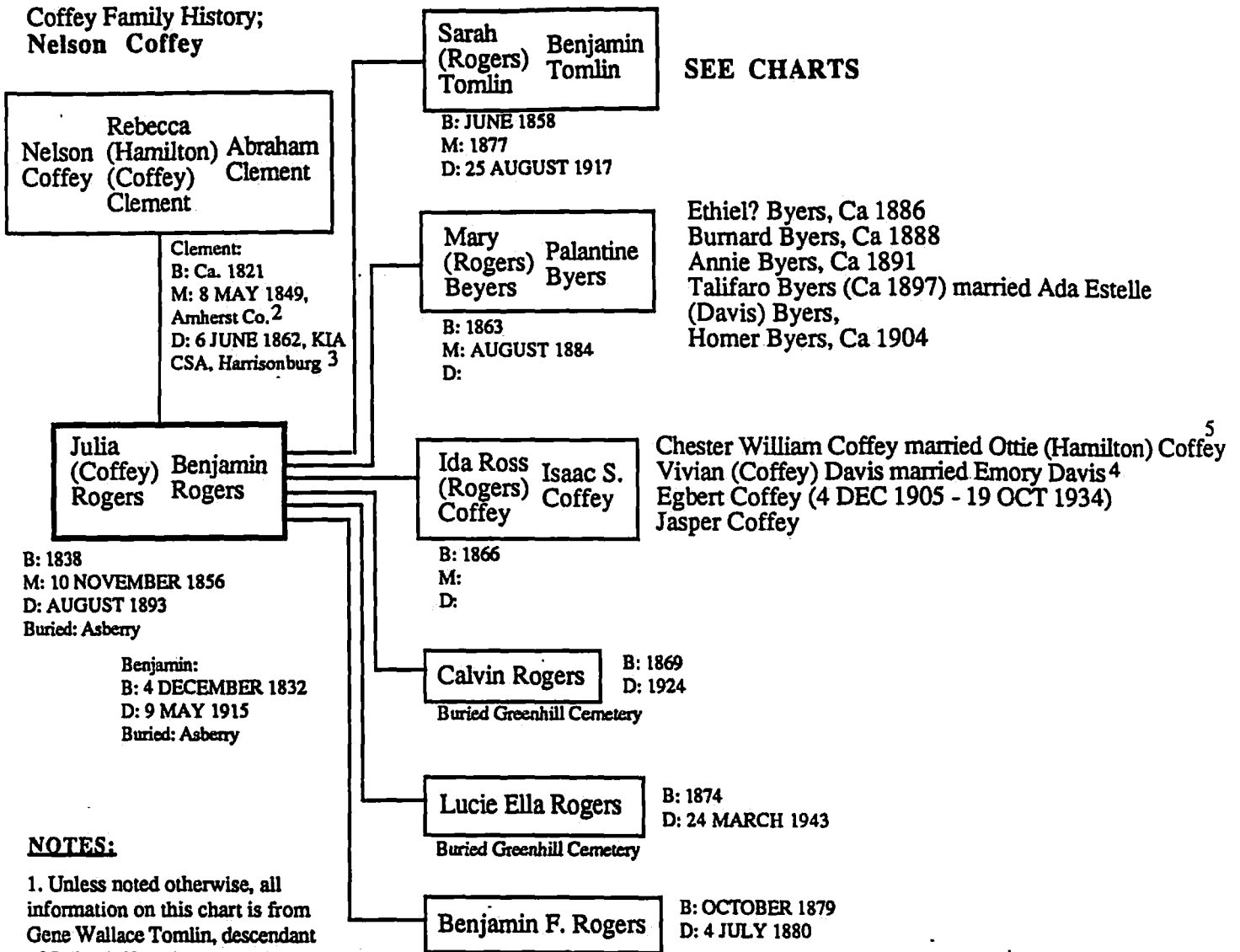
**Frederick  
Coffey**

Chart 1 of 1

JUNE, 1993

Please return all additions and corrections to John Taylor, 1417 Claremont Avenue; Richmond, VA 23227

**Coffey Family History;  
Nelson Coffey**



**NOTES:**

1. Unless noted otherwise, all information on this chart is from Gene Wallace Tomlin, descendant of Julia Coffey. Gene lives in Greenville, SC.
2. Amherst County Marriage Records, Va. State Archives.
3. The Virginia Regimental Histories Series, 58th Virginia Infantry, and Compiled Service Records of Virginians in CSA, Va State Archives.
4. Vivian (1903 - 1992) and Emory (1896 - 1985) are both buried in Greenhill Cemetery, Buena Vista, VA.
5. Chester (1888 - 1974) and Otie (1890 - 1987).

**Julia  
(Coffey)  
Rogers**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100



**Coffey Family History;  
Julia (Coffey) Rogers**

B: 18 FEB 1878  
M: 7 JAN 1902  
D: 23 FEB 1935

B: 8 FEB 1880  
D: 28 NOV 1966

William Tomlin, 1903  
Bessie Tomlin, 1905  
Raymond Tomlin, 1909  
Strode Tomlin, 1910  
Woodrow Tomlin, 1914  
Edna Tomlin, 1916  
Ethel Tomlin, 4 MAY 1919  
Lutie, 1 OCT 1922  
Ruth Tomlin ?

Rebecca  
Nelson (Hamilton)  
Coffey (Coffey)  
Clement

Willis Maggie  
Tomlin (Sandidge)  
Tomlin

Julia Benjamin  
(Coffey) Rogers  
Rogers

B: 3 SEPT 1880  
M:  
D: 24 DEC 1918

B: 25 MARCH 1882  
D: MARCH 1983

Herman Sandidge 2 JUNE 1907  
Alpha Sandidge 23 JUNE 1910  
Walter Sandidge 3 JANUARY 1913  
Virginia Sandidge 17 AUGUST 1915

Florence Cameron  
(Tomlin) Sandidge  
Sandidge 2

B: JUNE 1858  
M: 1877  
D: 25 AUGUST 1917

B: 2 APRIL 1858  
D: 1908

Sarah Benjamin  
(Rogers) Tomlin  
Tomlin

Georgia Cline Tomlin

B: 13 MAY 1883  
D: 1924?

Julia Ann Stuart  
(Tomlin) "Pony"  
Davis Davis

B: 16 MAR 1885  
M: 20 JAN 1903  
D: 9 APRIL 1946

B: 22 JAN 1875  
D: 19 NOV 1933

Percy Davis, 1904  
Mabel Davis, 1907  
Essie Davis, 1910  
Alfred Davis, 1913  
Ruby Davis, 1915  
Audrey Davis, 1918  
MaryLou Davis,  
1923  
Junior Davis, 1927

**NOTES:**

1. All information on this chart from Gene Tomlin, Greenville, SC.
2. Cameron Sandidge also married Leanna Coffee. This couple had Dorothy, Loraine, Marolyn, Carolyn, Essie.

Baby Tomlin

JUNE 1887 - 10 AUGUST 1887

Frank G. Tomlin

25 NOV 1888 - 10 APRIL 1889

Emma Thomas  
(Tomlin) Charlie  
Clements Clements

Delta Clements, 1919  
Roy Clements, 1908  
Carson Clements,  
Alma Clements, 1912

B: 5 APRIL 1890  
M: 11 MARCH 1907  
D: 1932?

B: 1880  
D:

**Sarah  
(Rogers)  
Tomlin**

Chart 1 of 3

JUNE, 1993

Continued Next Page

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**Coffey Family History;  
Julia (Coffey) Rogers**

Continued from  
previous page

Walter Bessie  
Tomlin (Corbin)  
Tomlin

B: 25 APRIL 1892  
M: 3 APRIL 1917  
D: 10 AUGUST 1959

Continued  
Next Page

Walter Blanche  
Henry (Breeden)  
Tomlin Tomlin

B: 8 JAN 1918  
M: 7 MAY 1937

Continued  
Next Page  
with  
Mildred  
Minnie  
Tomlin

B: 20 JUNE 1938  
M: 12 JUNE 1962

Peggy  
(Withers)  
Ralph Tomlin Tomlin

Doris  
(Tomlin) Richard Henry  
(Lewis) Lewis Harris  
Harris

B: 11 AUGUST 1940  
M1: 6 SEPT 1960  
M2: 12 MAR 1982

Mary Frances Ronnie  
(Tomlin) McNemar  
McNemar

B: 10 OCT 1942  
M: 14 FEB 1962

Kathleen Lucas  
(Tomlin) Hutton  
Hutton

B: 28 AUG 1949  
M: 3 MAR 1973

Betty Lee Ogden

Sybil Tomlin

Nita Tomlin

Carl Marie  
Corbin (Painter)  
Tomlin Tomlin

B: 16 APRIL 1920M:  
D: 28 JAN 1989

Bertha  
(Tomlin) Lewis  
Cook Cook

4 MAR 1969  
Kim P. Cook

Lewis Todd Cook

B: 14 MAY 1948  
M:

4 FEB 1973

Carl Corbin Tomlin, Jr.

Cassandra:  
B: 30 JULY 1971  
M: 21 JAN 1989

Walter Cassie  
Lee (Cook)  
Tomlin Tomlin

Cassandra Lee David E.  
(Cook) Green Green

Ruth Jeanette Cook

B: 3 APRIL 1951  
M: 18 JULY 1969

B: 24 MAR 1976

Dennis Tomlin

Carol Tomlin

**Sarah  
(Rogers)  
Tomlin**

Chart 2 of 3  
JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
Julia (Coffey) Rogers**

Continued from  
previous page

Continued from  
previous page  
Walter Tomlin

B: 4 JULY 1926  
M: 23 AUGUST 1944

Mildred Minnie Berne  
(Tomlin) Seagle  
Seagle

B: 25 SEPT 1929  
M:

Dennis Mildred  
Nelson (Ladwig)  
Tomlin Tomlin

B: 24 JULY 1937  
M: 4 APRIL 1958

Gene Marcia  
Wallace Ann  
Tomlin (Evans)  
Tomlin

B: 25 APRIL 1892  
M:  
D: 29 JAN 1975

Howard Nettie  
Tomlin (Spence)  
Tomlin

Ben Tomlin  
Shirley Tomlin  
Emma Tomlin  
William Tomlin  
Howard Tomlin, Jr.  
Martha Tomlin

Wilford Tomlin

B: 25 JUNE 1895

Hayes Tomlin

B: 6 SEPT 1898

John Tomlin

B: 6 SEPT 1898  
D: 15 JAN 1952

Richard Mittie  
Henley (Henson)  
Tomlin Tomlin

B: 9 FEB 1902  
M:  
D: MAY 1987

Lois Tomlin  
Richard Tomlin  
Laura Tomlin

Victor Elizabeth  
Seagle (Stockton)  
Seagle

Sandra  
(Niver)  
Seagle

Stephanie Seagle

B: 12 NOV 1982

Eric Seagle

Victor:  
B: 28 MARCH 1945  
M1: 22 AUGUST 1970  
M2: 10 NOV 1990

21 APRIL 1992

Linda Paul  
(Seagle) Ducotey  
Ducotey

B: 27 JULY 1947  
M: 30 OCT 1969  
D: 3 OCT 1987

21 JUNE 1958

Nelson Tomlin

Ellen Jonathan  
(Tomlin) Ervin  
Ervin

7 JUNE 1987

Christopher Shaun Ervin

B: 11 OCT 1961  
M: 20 JUNE 1986

Leslie Tara Larry  
(Tomlin) English  
(English) Gledden  
Gledden

B: 8 OCT 1959  
M1: 2 JULY 1983  
M2: 28 OCT 1989

28 JUNE 1990

\* Ashley Nichole Tomlin

\* Brittany Dawn Tomlin

28 JUNE 1990

\*Child of Richard and Leslie

**NOTES:**

1. All info this chart from Gene Tomlin; Greenville, SC

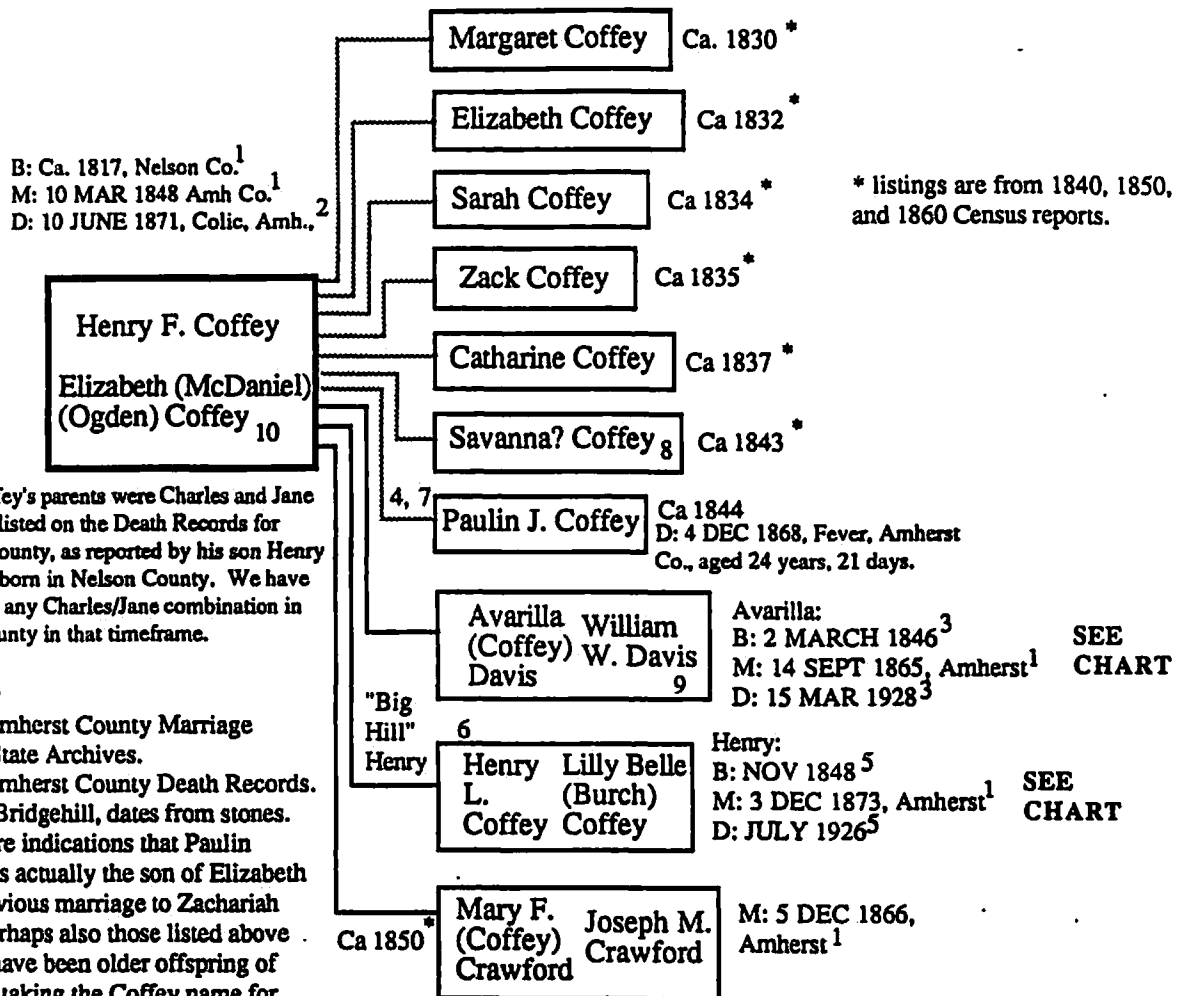
**Sarah  
(Rogers)  
Tomlin**

Chart 3 of 3

JUNE, 1993

**Henry and  
Elizabeth  
(Ogden)  
Coffey**

Coffey Family History;  
Original Coffey Settlers in "Coffeytown"  
**HENRY F. COFFEY**



Henry Coffey's parents were Charles and Jane Coffey, as listed on the Death Records for Amherst County, as reported by his son Henry L. He was born in Nelson County. We have not located any Charles/Jane combination in Nelson County in that timeframe.

**NOTES:**

1. From Amherst County Marriage Records, State Archives.
2. From Amherst County Death Records.
3. Buried Bridgehill, dates from stones.
4. There are indications that Paulin Coffey was actually the son of Elizabeth by her previous marriage to Zachariah Ogden. Perhaps also those listed above him may have been older offspring of Elizabeth, taking the Coffey name for census only. Henry is listed as Paulin's guardian in the Register of Wills for Amherst Co. Paulin left all to Avarilla, Henry and Mary. All persons in this household are listed in the 1850 Census. By 1860, all but the youngest 4 are gone.
5. Dates from Mrs. Delia (Coffey) Olson; Lowry, VA, descendant of Henry L.
6. Henry is believed to have been drafted as a Private into 13th VA Infantry on 22 April 1862 in Gordonsville. He is listed as AWOL immediately and "Deserted" 17 JUNE 1864.
7. Paulin is believed to have enlisted as a Private in Co. E, 13th VA Infantry in Culpepper on 28 OCT 1863. He deserted DEC 1863. No record of any marriage for Paulin in Amherst County.

8. Name very difficult to read, could be Levina.
9. Previously married to Sarah Jane Coffey, daughter of John Jack Coffey.
10. Elizabeth was previously married to Zachariah Ogden, who died in 1843. Their children included some who married back into the Coffeys, next generation.

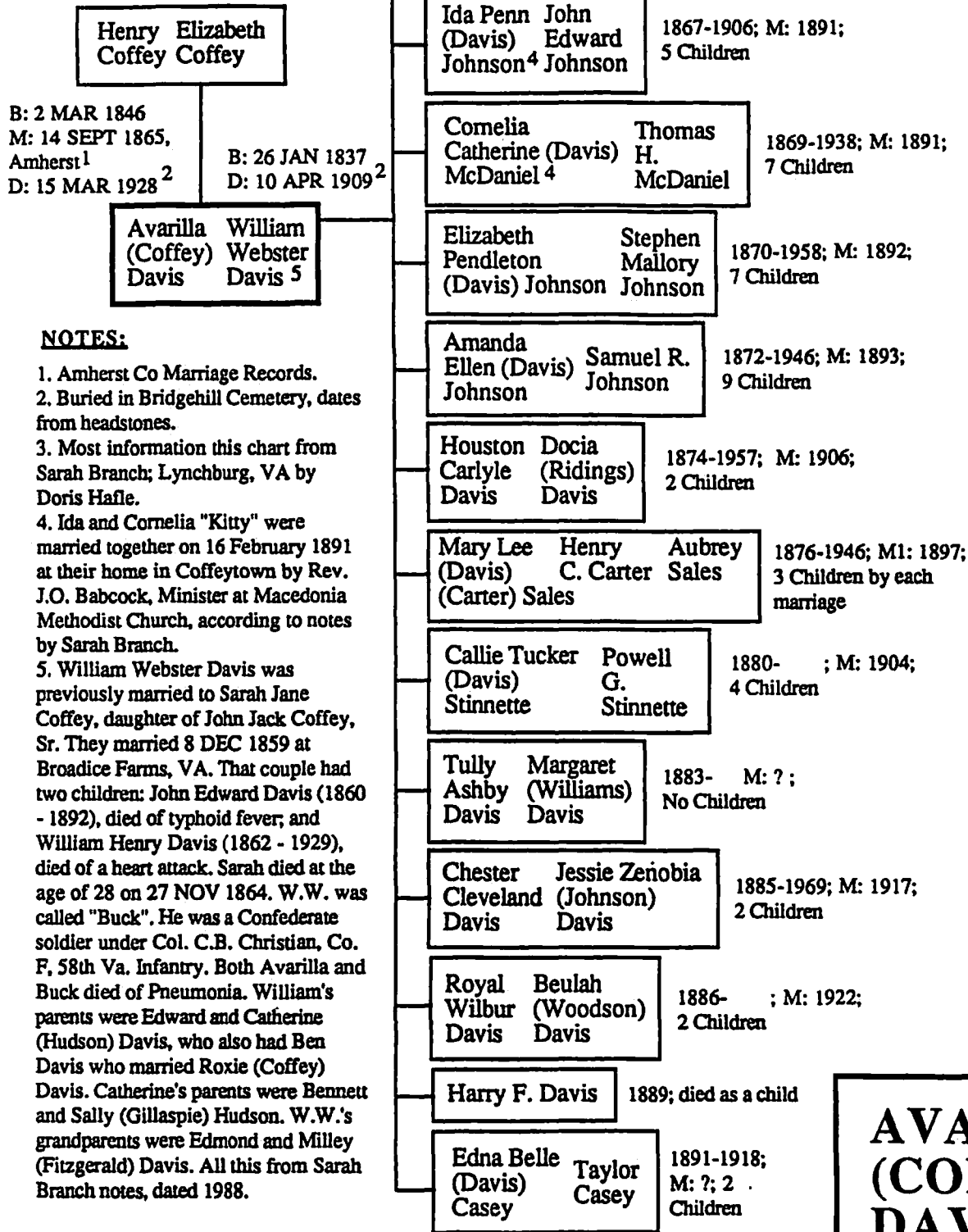
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**HENRY  
COFFEY  
AND  
FAMILY**

JUNE, 1993

**Coffey Family History;  
HENRY COFFEY**

**SEE CHARTS  
UNDER WILLIAM  
"BILLY" COFFEY**



**NOTES:**

1. Amherst Co Marriage Records.
2. Buried in Bridgehill Cemetery, dates from headstones.
3. Most information this chart from Sarah Branch; Lynchburg, VA by Doris Hafle.
4. Ida and Cornelia "Kitty" were married together on 16 February 1891 at their home in Coffeytown by Rev. J.O. Babcock, Minister at Macedonia Methodist Church, according to notes by Sarah Branch.
5. William Webster Davis was previously married to Sarah Jane Coffey, daughter of John Jack Coffey, Sr. They married 8 DEC 1859 at Broadice Farms, VA. That couple had two children: John Edward Davis (1860 - 1892), died of typhoid fever; and William Henry Davis (1862 - 1929), died of a heart attack. Sarah died at the age of 28 on 27 NOV 1864. W.W. was called "Buck". He was a Confederate soldier under Col. C.B. Christian, Co. F, 58th Va. Infantry. Both Avarilla and Buck died of Pneumonia. William's parents were Edward and Catherine (Hudson) Davis, who also had Ben Davis who married Roxie (Coffey) Davis. Catherine's parents were Bennett and Sally (Gillaspie) Hudson. W.W.'s grandparents were Edmond and Milley (Fitzgerald) Davis. All this from Sarah Branch notes, dated 1988.

**AVARILLA  
(COFFEY)  
DAVIS**

JUNE 1993

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**Coffey Family History;  
HENRY COFFEY**

4,5

Henry Elizabeth  
Coffey Coffey

"Big Hill"  
Henry

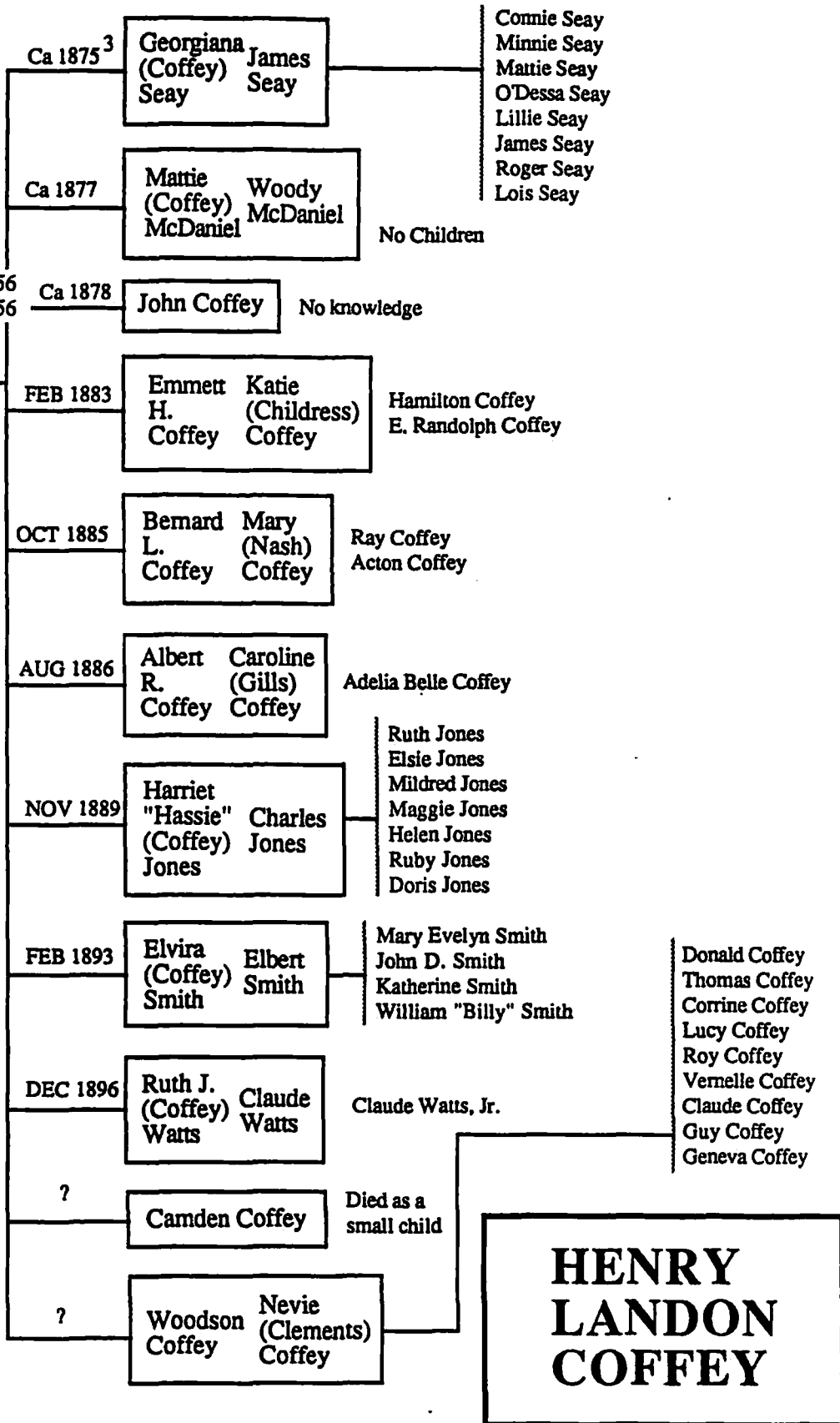
B: 1 JUNE 1856  
D: 12 FEB 1956

Henry Lillie Belle  
Landon (Burch)  
Coffey Coffey

B: NOV 1848  
M: 3 DEC 1873,  
Amherst Co., VA  
D: JULY 1926

**NOTES:**

1. Unless otherwise noted, information this chart is from Mrs. Delia (Coffey) Olson; Lowry, VA, a descendant.
2. Amherst County Marriage Records.
3. 1880, 1900, 1910 Census Reports, taken together, are responsible for some info this chart, especially dates for the children of Henry and Lillie which came from 1910 Census report. These may not be accurate but are probably in sequence.
4. There is no proof that Henry F. Coffey who married Elizabeth (McDaniel) (Ogden) Coffey was the biological son of Jordan and Elizabeth Coffey. Henry's death record shows his parents as Charles and Jane Coffey of Nelson County. We cannot find any Charles and Jane Coffey combination in Nelson County for this time period. Henry F. is known to have lived next to and acted as if he was Jordan's son, but none of the official records establish a father-son relationship.
5. Henry F. Coffey may have been the first Coffey to own land near present day Coffeytown, VA.



JUNE 1993

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# Appendix



# Bridge Hill Cemetery

List of Headstones and other markers.

Brief History of each person buried w/ marker.

## Coffeytown

---

**PAUL JOSEPH WIMMER: 5/5/29 - 2/8/85; wife not yet buried.**

Paul was Kyle Coffey's daughter's (Judy) husband. He was from Czechoslovakia and managed a hotel locally.

**GEORGE W. COFFEY: 9/16/1853 - 5/31/28**

**SARAH F. COFFEY: 9/2/1856-3/3/24**

This couple lived in the old log cabin, recently torn down, on what is now Steve Wright's property. George was from Rockbridge County. He was a farmer. Sarah was the daughter of William "Billy" Coffey.

**\*INEZ COLLINS, daughter of S.C. AND SALLIE PARRENT: 9/5/29-5/8/32**

Inez Collins Parrent, daughter of Samuel Cumming Parrent who married "Billy" Coffey's daughter Sally.

**SAMUEL CUMMING PARRENT: 9/3/1875 - 4/8/57**

**SALLY J. COFFEY PARRENT: 3/31/1891-9/15/85**

Samuel was a carpenter who lived in the old crooked house behind the trailer across the road from Steve Wright's house. Sally was the daughter of Sarah Fannie and George W. Coffey, grand-daughter of William "Billy" Coffey.

**\*ESSIE P. DAVIS: 5/21/15-2/23/16**

Child of Ed Davis's people. Child's parents did not live around Coffeytown.

**ROY K. PARRENT: 1922 - 1985**

Lived in Rockbridge Co., Rt. 11. He was son of Sally and Samuel.

**MANDY (Coffey) DAVIS, wife of Daniel Davis: 12/28/1870-5/6/11**

**\*WILLIAM DAVIS: BORN AND DIED 5/5/1911**

Mandy died in childbirth with William Davis. She and her husband lived where the Puckett's live now. They were farmers. After her death, he married Dora (Sorrells) Davis. Mandy was daughter of William "Buck" Coffey, grand-daughter of William "Billy" Coffey.

**LUELLA DAVIS COFFEY: 9/18/1876 - 5/23/24**

She was Nathan Coffey's wife and Hersey Coffey's aunt; daughter of Roxie (Coffey) Davis. Sometimes called "Lou Etta".

**WILLIAM E. DAVIS: 1/22/1858-2/27/40**

Lived in house now owned by George Lin, before the house was moved down the hill. He was called "Will", farmed, but never married. Son of Roxie (Coffey) and Ben Davis.

**WILLIAM "Buck" COFFEY, "FATHER": 11/10/1843-6/13/27; confederate soldier.**

He lived in the house next to Hersey's, now a run-down barn. A farmer, he was Harden's brother, and Arthur's, etc. Mandy Coffey, his daughter, died in childbirth in 1911. He had a son, Willis Coffey. "Buck" was son of "Billy" Coffey and married Sarah Granville (Crawford) Coffey.

**JAMES COFFEY "FATHER": 8/23/1836- 12/30/15**

**SOPHIA COFFEY: 10/30/1842 - 8/27/32**

The couple lived near Irish Gap Inns, and farmed. He was also Harden and Arthur's brother. Sophia was Schylar Coffey's daughter. They had Andrew and "Ned" Coffey. James was "Billy's" oldest son, and served in Civil War.

**Coffey Family History;  
Bridge Hill Cemetery  
Page 2**

**\*LOIS FERN COFFEY: 1924-1927**

**\*ELMO PARK COFFEY: 1914-1915**

Elmo was the oldest of Early Coffey's nine children. Lois was another. These are grandchildren of Daniel Rufus Coffey.

**DANIEL R. COFFEY: 8/17/1846 - 11/18/21**

This is Daniel Rufus Coffey of Fiddler's Green, who had two wives, and fourteen children. He was a farmer, the youngest son of John Jack Coffey, Sr. He served in the local defense during the Civil War.

**WALTER J. CRAWFORD: 10/5/1878-7/13/43**

**BEATRICE C. CRAWFORD: 4/21/1886-8/29/70**

Embree Crawford's uncle and aunt. Walter, a farmer, was seriously ill for many years. The couple lived in George Coffey's house.

**THOMAS REED CRAWFORD: 6/20/1847-2/5/26, "FATHER"**

Father of Walter and Houston Crawford, this farmer married Fannie (Ogden) Crawford.

**NATHAN COFFEY: 2/4/1869-2/8/54**

Husband of Luella Davis, and Hersey Coffey's uncle, he was a farmer who lived in Buena Vista. Nathan was Harden Coffey's son, grandson of William "Billy" Coffey.

**HARDEN COFFEY: 5/10/1846 - 10/22/37, "FATHER" -PHOTO**

**BETTIE COFFEY: 9/22/1849-12-19-35, "MOTHER" - PHOTO**

Hersey Coffey's grandparents, these farmers had nine children. Harden was William "Billy" Coffey's son, her parents were James and Susan Crawford.

**WILLIAM O. FITZGERALD: 5/24/1890- 7/26/16, "FATHER" at footstone**

**INDIANA C. FITZGERALD: 7/30/1879 - 9/1/66, "MOTHER" at footstone**

She was one of Harden's children, Hersey's aunt. They had one daughter, Lottie Fitzgerald Goad who married Glenn Goad. William was shot to death by Harden Davis, brother of Daniel Davis. Shooting took place in the flatland adjacent to the creek on what is now Joe Malloy's property. Evidently Harden believed William was involved with the wrong woman, although the rumors were apparently unfounded. Indiana did not remarry.

**MARY PIDGIE (Crawford) KERR: 3/14/1876 - 10/27/22**

**BUDD M. KERR: 7/14/15 - 8/4/45**

Mary married Mack Kerr. They had Jim, Walter; Budd, Evans, and Hortense Kerr. Budd was killed while he was in WW II.

**S.J.C. - NO HEADSTONE (This marker is a footstone)**

There is no headstone because Susie Catlett is not buried here. She married Hiram Coffey. The couple lived in Embree Crawford's house.

**HARDING LEWIS HUMPHREYS: 7/26/1898 - 7/23/67**

Son of Sarah Catherine Coffey Humphries, father was "Tip" Humphries.

**SARAH Catherine Coffey HUMPHREYS: 9/30/1871 - 8/17/1909**

Married "Tip" Humphreys. Sarah was Harden Coffey's daughter.

**WILLIAM M. WHEELER: 9/25/1887 - 4/11/1907**

**THOMAS F. COFFEY: 7/5/1905 - 2/12/1931**

Husband of Flarie Taylor Coffey, Fed Coffey's son, Nelson Coffey's grandson, lived behind Steve Wright's new house, a farmer.

**\*FRANK B. GRANT: 6/12/1917 - 10/13/1917**

Bertha's son, Frank was grandson of Harden Coffey.

**\*LUCILE, INFANT OF Henry L. AND SALLY COFFEY: 3/30/23 - 3/4/24**

**\*GEORGE W. COFFEY: 3/16/28 - 5/16/28**

Son of Thomas and Flarie Coffey.

**Coffey Family History;  
Bridge Hill Cemetery  
Page 3**

**HOWARD E. POTTER: 1/22/1893 - 2/2/1937**

Married Sadie Crawford Potter, sister of Pidgie Crawford.

**FLARIE TAYLOR COFFEY: 1907-1975**

Wife of Thomas F. Coffey, she was daughter of couple buried next to her.

**SOPHIA C. TAYLOR: 3/13 OR 18 /1885 - 9/30/67**

**ISSAC G. TAYLOR: 3/22/1885 - 9/18/45**

Sophia was daughter of Harden Coffey. Couple had one daughter, Flarie (Taylor) Coffey who married Thomas F. Coffey. Farmers.

**WILLIAM H. "Ham" KERR: 9/15/1876 - 11/29/56**

**NANNIE Lou Crawford KERR: 7/8/1882 - 4/21/53**

Couple had Strode, Gracie, and George Kerr. They lived near the intersection of Rt. 60 and 634, where a small pond now exists. They were farmers. He was a constable for a while.

**GRACIE W. KERR: 1/10/02 - 10/5/74**

Daughter of "Ham" and Nannie. Gracie never married.

**BESSIE MYERS Tomlin KERR: 1922-1985**

She was Strode's wife. They lived on Rt. 60 near Ogden's store. She was crippled, but a hard worker. The couple had Nannie Lou Kerr who never married, and James Kerr.

**AMELIA "Mealy" TYLER: 4/7/1832 - 10/12/14**

Never married, she lived with her family. Patara (Tyler) Coffey, wife of John Jack, Jr. was her younger sister.

**EMMA J. (COFFEY) CAMPBELL: 5/11/1868 - 4/22/10, a mother**

Sister of Ambrose Coffey, she was John Jack Coffey, Jr's. daughter, married Howard "Jack" Campbell, they had at least 5 children.

**JOHN J. COFFEY: 5/8/1836 - 12/1/1907**

**PATARA (Tyler) F. COFFEY: 11/5/1838 - 3/8/21**

This couple had 9 children, including Ambrose Coffey. He was John Jack, Jr.

**MALCOLM "Mack" KERR: 2/16/1876 - 5/3/56**

Brother of "Ham" Kerr, he married Pidgie (Crawford) Kerr. The couple had Hortense, Walter, Odessa, Budd, Jim, Zelia, Gladys, and Jack Kerr.

**ROXSINIA, WIFE OF BEN. H. DAVIS: 5/12/1839 - 10/2/14;**

(Date of Ben Davis's birth on back of Roxsinia's stone: 1832)

Ben was a constable and a farmer. They lived in George Lin's house before the house was moved. The couple had several children: Will, Daniel, Harden, Paul, Laura, and Luella.

Roxsinia was William "Billy" Coffey's daughter. Ben died in 1925.

**HUGH NELSON COFFEY: 7/4/1876 - 12/20/57**

**ORA C.(Crawford) COFFEY: 7/28/1881 - 12/20/76**

Hersey Coffey's parents. Hugh was son of Harden Coffey. Ora was sister of two Crawford girls who married Frederick Coffey's sons Fed and Zack. Hugh and Ora had six children.

**FLORA C. TAYLOR: 1888-1970**

**LUTHER M. TAYLOR: 1892-1967**

Luther was brother of Issac Taylor. Flora was a younger daughter of Harden Coffey. This couple had no children. They were farmers and saw mill operators.

**HIRAM RANDOLPH COFFEY: 2/26/1886 - 9/17/24, "HUSBAND" at foot, wife was S.A.C. but no headstone found.**

She not buried here. They lived in house now lived in by Embree Crawford, as farmers. Hiram was one of Arthur Coffey's older sons. This couple had no children.

**\*ERNEST W. COFFEY: 11/7/1912 - 1/13/13**

A grandchild of Arthur Coffey, son of Ernest Webster Coffey, Sr. who married Ethel McClung (Stratton) Coffey. Later, in 1927, family left Coffeytown to live in Lexington, VA.

**Coffey Family History;  
Bridge Hill Cemetery  
Page 4**

**FRANK A. COFFEY: 9/6/1880 - 11/5/1936**

Married Minnie (Crawford) Coffey. They lived in house next to Embree's (just below cemetery). They had Russell, Mary Lou, Elba, Vaden, Homer and Henry, the two children who died within days of each other of Typhoid Fever. Frank was the son of William Henry "Crippled Henry" Coffey. They married around 1903.

**\*HOMER F. COFFEY: 4/9/12 - 6/24/16**

**\*HENRY M. COFFEY: 10/21/14 - 6/19/16**

Sons of Frank and Minnie Coffey. They died of Typhoid Fever.

**\*MORRIS J. COFFEY: 5/5/20 - 7/1/21**

Elsie Coffey's brother, son of Hiter and "Mame" Coffey.

**AVARILLA DAVIS: 3/2/1846 - 3/15/28**

**William W. DAVIS: 1/26/1837 - 4/10/1909**

Parents of Virginia Anne "Jenny" Coffey (who married Arthur Coffey), lived in Embree Crawford's house. William had previously married Sarah Jane Coffey, daughter of John Jack Coffey. Avarilla was daughter of Henry F. Coffey and Elizabeth (McDaniel) (Ogden) Coffey. Avarilla and William had 13 children.

**CHARLES E. COFFEY: 11/30/1832 - 2/13/24, "FATHER"**

**SARAH J. (Jane) COFFEY: 10/22/1833 - 1/17/1904, "MOTHER"**

Charles built the cabin now owned by Daris Raper; he was father of Hiter, Edwin Horsely, Pitt, Charlie, Mary Jane, Editha, and Eleanna Coffey. Charles was a soldier in the Civil War, taken prisoner and spent approximately one year in Yankee prison in Elmira, NY. He once owned slaves, prior to the War, and was generally economically successful. Charles deeded land to the Methodist Church and the Pedlar School Board. The cover of this booklet includes a sketch of his house, which later became Hiter Coffey's house.

**ADA B. HIGGINBOTHAM: 1861-1956**

**K. (Kuihn) HIGGINBOTHAM: 1/19/1850 - 8/27/1912, "62 YRS, 7MOS, 8 DAYS"**

Couple had Mary Fannie "Mame" Higginbotham (Hiter's wife) and Mattie Miles Higginbotham Coffey who married Ambrose Rucker Coffey.

**JAMES M. CRAWFORD: 12/25/1839 - 1/2/1932**

**MARY FRANCES CRAWFORD: 7/27/1826 - 2/20/1929**

Reported to be the oldest couple in cemetery (the tombstone dates may not be correct.). This stone was turned over until recently. They were parents of Ella, Minnie, Sadie, Nannie L. Crawford Kerr, and Ollie Crawford. Also Emma Crawford Davis who married \_\_\_\_\_ and who had Smiley, Ashby (husband of Ruth Davis), Kelly, Samantha (who ran a store when Ruth Davis was running what is now Hamm's Country Store), Vernon, Lonnie (who married Dorothy Stinnett Davis who is living), Myra, and Ellis Crawford.

**VADEN WISE: 1/23/1924 -**

**EVELYN KERR WISE: 6/11/1926 - 6/11/1991**

Wife of Vaden Wise, she lived near the intersection of 634 and 755. She died of cancer after much treatment at UVA Hospital.

**Coffey Family History;  
Cemeteries**

**Cemetery Behind Elsie Coffey's house, at top of hill,  
Coffeytown** (3/4/90)

**William Coffey:** Born: April 9, 1815  
(Billy) Died: May 11, 1896

**Sarah A. Coffey** Born: November 25, 1817  
(Sally) Died: October 11, 1906

**Bettie Coffey:** Born: December 24, 1850  
Died: February 28, 1907

According to Elsie Coffey, Bettie (who never married) grieved deeply at her mother's death, then died shortly thereafter. These three were buried together, within the fenced-in area, along with the following:

**Walter N. Campbell** Born: March 20, 1898  
Died: February ?, 1901 (the day is blurred)  
No one seems to know anything about this child.

**Robert H. Coffey** Born: May 25, 1903  
Died: April 5, 1907  
Father was Hugh Coffey, Grandfather was Harden. This was Hersey Coffey's brother.

There are several stone and wooden markers outside the fenced-in area, with no names to identify the dead. There are no other carved stones in the cemetery at this time. Elsie says the 1907 date was the last date anyone was buried in this plot, all others have been buried in the cemetery on Embree Crawford's property, at the intersection of 634 and 633. Some were buried at Greenhill Cemetery in Buena Vista, when the cemetery ran out of space. Later, Embree Crawford gave some additional property for use as a cemetery.

**Cemetery adjacent to the old Robey Coffey  
House:** (9-23-90) No other markers noted, very overgrown cemetery

**Laura May (Coffey) Barnes,** Born: May 7, 1875  
wife of W.P. Barnes Died: December 16, 1911

**William H. Coffey** Born: May 23, 1840  
("Cripple Henry") Died: date on stone is underground

**Catherine (Lawman) Sandidge,** Born: not listed  
wife of Anderson Sandidge Died July 22, 1929  
(Mother of Mildred Lawman Coffey, first wife of Daniel Rufus Coffey)

**William F. Coffey** Born: November 11, 1851  
Died: May 28, 1923 (stone broken)

## Will of William Coffey

I, William Coffey of the County of Nelson and State of Virginia being of sound mind and disposing memory do make, declare and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form as followeth viz:

Item - I give to my son Edmund F. Coffey and to his heirs forever that tract of land that I purchased of Joseph Burger which is the same tract that the said Edmund now lives on containing by estimation two hundred fifteen acres be the same more or less, also a negro boy named John.

Item - I give to Edmund F. Coffey and James Montgomery in trust and to their successors, for the benefit of my daughter Jane Fitzgerald and the legitimate children of her body, one-half of my tract of land in Nelson County on Cub Creek containing by estimation two hundred fifteen acres the said tract of land to be equally divided according to quantity and quality.

The other moiety of the said last mentioned tract of land I give to my said trustees hereinbefore mentioned and to their successors for the benefit of my son William Coffey during his natural life, at his death to return to the rest of my children or those which I shall name hereafter, each to hold the part they now live on.

Item - I give to Margaret Monroe that tract of land called Briges Place in Nelson County containing by survey one hundred acres be the same more or less. Also one hundred dollars cash to be paid by my executors hereafter named to the care and management of George Monroe, nevertheless the said Margaret is at liberty to dispose of the said land as she pleases, also one horse of the value of \$40, 1 cow and calf.

It is my desire and request that my Executors hereafter named shall rent to Jordan Coffey my tract of land whereon the said Jordan has lived, he the said Jordan paying to them for the benefit of my estate five pounds per annum so long as my executors shall think it prudent to rent to him, but if my executors shall think it right to sell the said tract of land the proceeds of the said is to go to the rest of children hereafter named.

Item - I give to Edmund F. Coffey and James Montgomery in trust for the benefit of Elizabeth Bridge and to their successors as also for the benefit of the heirs of her body forever one moiety of my tract of land in Augusta County on Back Creek, the said tract to be equally divided according to quantity and quality.

Item - I give to Elizabeth Coleman, Anney Coleman, James Coleman, John Coleman, Patsey Coleman and Lucy Coleman (who are children of Mildred Coleman, deceased who was Mildred Coffey) one dollar each to be paid by my executors out of my estate.

All the rest of my estate both real and personal of what kind or nature soever after my just debts and funeral expenses are paid I give to Osborn Coffey one-eighth part, to Edmund F. Coffey one-eighth part, to Edmund F. Coffey and James Montgomery trustees and to their successors for the benefit of Mary Coffey and Elizabeth Bridge one-eighth part each; also to my said trustees and their successors for the benefit of Jane Fitzgerald and the legitimate children of her body, and Winey Hays I give one-eighth part each; also to my said trustees and their successors for the benefit of Frankey Coffey one-eighth part; also to my said trustees and successors for the benefit of William Coffey during his natural life one-eighth part, at his death to return to the rest of my children and my trustees to be divided among them in the same manner as the property heretofore given that was not especially given. Nevertheless all those that have received any money or other property neretofore must bring the same into Hotch pot before any division takes place on their part. Except Edmund F. Coffey who is not required to account for anything received, all the property herein given in trust is to be under the management and sole control of my trustees hereinbefore named and their successors. It is my desire that the County Court of Nelson shall appoint trustees to act in place of those appointed by me in this last will whenever it appears they are unable to act.

Hereby revoking all former wills made by me, I do constitute and appoint my friends Edmund F. Coffey and James Montgomery my Executors of this my last will and testatment. In witness whereof I do hereunto  
set my hand and seal this second day of March, 1825.

William Coffey, Seal

Acknowledged before us  
John Hughes, Moss W. Hughes, Benjamin Hughes, Peter C. Coffey

