

PIPKIN FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

On 1 Mar 1720, John Pipkin (now 45) and his oldest son John Pipkin Jr., (age 21) were each granted 640 acres in Chowan Precinct, NC. Both men established plantations on their land. Some of the landmarks denoting the boundaries of their property were recorded as follows: "the meanders of the Mill Swamp", "water oak on Mill Swamp", "Gum tree", "3 pines", "a Maple", and in a later partial conveyance of John Jr.'s estate a water stream was recorded as "Pipkin's branch." On 2 Aug 1736, John Pipkin purchased 180 acres from a Joseph Bradey and gave this same 180 acres to his son John Pipkin Jr. as an "inheritance in fee simple." John Jr. sold the same 180 acres on 16 Oct 1740 to a Moses Hare. John Pipkin Jr. is my genealogical ancestor.

JOHN PIPKIN JR (1699 - 1782)

The only mention of John Pipkin Jr. in his father's will is in a "bequeath to my son Daniel Pipkin a piece of land upon Milly Swamp being part of the tract that his brother John Pipkin did formerly live upon." John Jr. did not receive any portion of his father's estate in the will. He had already received from his father a gift "of inheritance in fee simple" 180 acres which John Pipkin Sr. had purchased from a Joseph Bradey 2 Aug 1736. John Jr. didn't keep this land very long. He sold the same 180 acres to a Moses Hare on 16 October 1740.

John Jr. started with his original 640-acre land grant he received in Chowan Precinct on 1 Mar 1720. Ten years later on 19 Feb 1730, he "and wife Sarah" sold 100 acres of this land to a Charles Gaffin, leaving a balance of 540 acres. Two years later on 17 Jan 1732, John Jr. purchased 80 acres from his father. In August 1736, John Jr. received "inheritance" of 180 acres from his father.

On 22 Oct 1739, John Jr. sold 80 acres to Joseph Bradey. (This is the same Joseph Bradey from whom John Sr. had purchased the 180-acre "inheritance" tract three years earlier and gave to John Jr. John Jr. now has 720 acres. On 16 Oct 1740 John Pipkin Jr. sold his 180-acre "inheritance" land to Moses Hare, leaving John Jr. with a balance of 540 acres in Chowan County.

Five years later John Jr.'s father died (1745). Shortly after his father's death, John Jr. moved westward to Johnston County, NC. In 1747, John Jr. purchased land in Johnston Co. from an Arthur Fort and established a new plantation. Six years after that on 29 Jan 1753, John Pipkin Jr., listed as "a planter from Johnston Co" sold his 540 acres lying on Mills Swamp in Chowan Co for "15 pounds Virginia currency." This was the remaining part of the original 640 acres he had received 33 years earlier in the land grant of 1720. John Pipkin Jr. and his wife Sarah lived on their plantation in that portion of Johnston Co which in 1758 became Dobbs Co and in 1779 became Wayne County. This area is situated near the center of North Carolina.

John Jr. and Sarah had four sons (no daughters): Jethro Pipkin (1730 - 1769), Jesse Pipkin (unk), Luke Pipkin (1735 - 1797), and Arthur Pipkin (1740 - 1790's). John Pipkin

Jr. died in 1782. Sarah Pipkin is listed in the 1790 census of Wayne Co. as John Pipkin Jr.'s widow. Their son Luke Pipkin is my ancestor.

LUKE PIPKIN (1735 - 1797)

Luke Pipkin was the third son of John Pipkin Jr. and Sarah. Luke married "Hannah" and they lived on the land in Dobbs Co, North Carolina his father John Jr. had purchased from Arthur Fort back in 1747 (then called Johnston Co). This is documented by a land grant from John Jr. to Luke Pipkin on 29 Apr 1768. From 1764 to 1796 Luke bought and sold a considerable amount of land in and around Falling Creek Swamp, the Neuse River and Goshen Swamp, all located in Dobbs Co., NC which in 1779 became Wayne Co.

Luke and Hannah had 8 children: Asher Pipkin (1760 - ?), Wm Pipkin (1763 - 1782), John Pipkin (1765 - ?), Matthew Pipkin (1776 - ?), Mark Pipkin (1781 - ?), plus one unknown male (under 16 in 1790) and two unknown females (from 1790 census). Luke's second son William Pipkin died 29 Aug 1782 from a wound he suffered earlier in the Revolutionary War. He was only 19.

Luke Pipkin died in 1797 at age 62. Luke's third son John Pipkin became North Carolina's Secretary of State. Luke's fifth son Mark Pipkin is my ancestor.

MARK PIPKIN (1781 - ?)

Mark Pipkin married Polly Hines in Wayne Co, NC. They moved westward to Williamson Co, Tennessee, where in 1805 they gave "Power of Attorney" to a Charles Stephens and David Hines, back in Wayne Co. NC, to collect their monies as heirs at law to their portion of the land which Mark's father Luke Pipkin had inherited from his father John Pipkin Jr., who had purchased the land from Arthur Fort 58 years earlier in 1747.

Mark and Polly are listed in the 1820 census of Maury Co., Tennessee, which was formed from Williamson Co. in 1807. Maury Co. is located in the central part of Tennessee. Mark was in manufacturing. He and Polly had three daughters and six sons. Their son Isaac Pipkin was born in 1805: he is my geneological ancestor.

In 1826 Isaac left home and moved to Union Co., Illinios. That same year Mark Pipkin moved the rest of his family westward to Gibson Co., TN (near Missouri) where on 27 Feb 1828 Isaac's sister Rebecca Pipkin married Tennessee's Gibson County Sheriff and Constable Elijah Billingsly. Isaac is still in Union Co, Ill.

ISAAC PIPKIN (1805 - 1850's)

On 12 Jul 1829 in Union Co, Illinois, Isaac Pipkin married Nazarene Standard, daughter of Thomas Standard. (See marriage certificate next page). Isaac and Nazarene named their first-born son Thomas Standard Pipkin, born 12 Jun 1830. Thomas Pipkin is my great-great-grandfather. Four years later down in Gibson Co, Tenn, Isaac's sister Rebecca

and her husband Elijah Billingsly gave birth to Nancy Billingsly on 25 Mar 1834. Thomas Pipkin and Nancy Billingsly were first-cousins.

Isaac and Razarene had two more sons: Mark Pipkin (1832) and James Pipkin (1834). Nazarene disappeared shortly after 1834: I'm not certain what happened to her. Isaac remarried 13 Jul 1838 (to Anne Evans), and immediately moved his new wife and three sons - Thomas, Mark and James - from Union Co, Ill to Weakly County, Tenn. Weakly Co is; adjacent to Gibson County, where Rebecca and Elijah Eillingsly were still residing with their daughter Nancy. Thomas Pipkin met his cousin Nancy Billingsly: he grew to like her and they were later married.

THOMAS S. PIPKIN (1830 - 1886)

Thomas Pipkin married Nancy Billingsly in Gibson Co, TN, and in 1857 they moved westward to Texas County, Missouri. (Thomas was 27, Nancy 23).

Living in Texas Co, life was very difficult during the 1850's & 60's. Bushwackers roamed the land in gangs, killing the men, raping the women and stealing the food. Thomas and Nancy settled in the Rocky Branch area which was then called Stanford, MO.

To avoid being killed by buschwackers, Thomas Pipkin, along with "Hite" Simmons and Billy Flowers, hid in the "Sweet Potato" cave. Their wives would carry food to them at nighttime. Occasionally during the day, the women would lead the pigs to and from the Piney River for water. They would swing by the cave, sending in one or two pigs for their husbands to butcher for food. Years later Gould Simmons had a bronze plaque made with the names of the men (including Thomas Pipkin) who were saved in this manner. The bronze plaque is situated near the entrance to the cave.

The following is from an article in the Houston Herald entitled "Saga of a Lost Love Letter" by Homer Vandivort:

The World Gazateer of 1850 lists Stanford as a postoffice in Texas County, Missouri. I am unable to learn the exact date of the beginning of the village of Stanford, but the postoffice pre-dates Simmons, Cabool and Mountain Grove.

The Postoffice was first located in the home of Thomas Pipkin who lived on a farm a short distance south of the Rocky Branch schoolhouse. Mr. Pipkin also put in a stock of groceries and dry goods. His business soon outgrew his room so he built a large store building and stocked one room of it with furniture and coffins as that was before the advent of funeral homes. Mr. Pipkin died in 1886 and his son William Henry Pipkin ran the business for a time until most of the trade had drifted to Simmons-town.

The remainder of the article tells of a love letter lost in the mail and found many years later. Thomas and Nancy had eight children as follows:

(Keep in mind they were first-cousins)

Louisa Jane Pipkin	29 Sep 1857 - 21 Sep 1874	(17)
Robert M. Pipkin	8 Mar 1859 - 11 Nov 1880	(21)
Charlotte Pipkin	21 Apr 1861 - 15 Oct 1861	(6 mo)
Mark A. Pipkin	20 Feb 1863 - 8 Dec 1894	(31)
William Henry Pipkin	22 Apr 1865 - 10 Mar 1919	(53)
Margarite Pipkin	13 Apr 1867 - (unknown)	
James M. Pipkin	19 Apr 1869 - (unknown)	
Vandalia Pipkin	8 Sep 1872 - 11 Oct 1887	(15)

(Avg life expectancy - 23 yrs)

Thomas Pipkin died of tuberculosis 25 Mar 1886 at the age of 55. Nancy died of natural causes 17 Sep 1913 at the age of 79. Thomas and Nancy are both buried at the Union Cemetery, next to the Union Baptist Church, Texas Co, MO. Their son William Henry Pipkin is my great-grandfather.

WILLIAM HENRY PIPKIN (1865 - 1919)

William ("Bill Henry") Pipkin, at age 21, took charge of the family store after his father's death in 1886. He closed out the store and went into business with a Mr. Andrew White from nearby Bado, Missouri. William Henry later married Fannie Smith (born Nov 1872), and they had three children: Paul Pipkin (1898), Gustavus Adolphus ("Gus") Pipkin (1900), and Grace Lee Pipkin (1903).

William Henry Pipkin passed away 10 Mar 1919 at the age of 53, leaving behind Fannie (46), Paul (20), Gus (18), and Grace (15). He was buried at the Union Cemetery. Fourteen-year-old Inez Shilling saddled her horse and rode to his funeral at the Union Baptist Church. Inez Shilling later married William Henry's son Gus Pipkin, my grandfather.

GUS PIPKIN (1900 -)

As mentioned above, Gus Pipkin's real name was Gustavus Adolphus Pipkin. His mother (Fannie) had named him after her father Gustavus Smith (1840 - 1913). Gus Pipkin was never known by any name other than "Gus".

On 20 Dec 1919, Gus Pipkin Jr. was born to Inez and Gus Pipkin in the Shillings' "red house" in Rocky Branch, MO. When Gus Jr. was born the family doctor (Doc Hubbard) was out of the area. He had gone to Yankton, South Dakota to care for his daughter's broken leg, and since she was expecting, he stayed there to deliver her child. So when it was time for Inez to give birth, a Dr. Blankenship in Houston, MO was notified. There was a misunderstanding and he was unaware of the urgency at hand. It took him more than two hours to get to the "red house" where Isabella Shilling had, in his absence, delivered her daughter's baby boy. Holding the child in her arms, Isabella announced: "Here's Gus Jr."

Dr Blankenship arrived and put on the birth certificate "Gus Pipkin Jr." He then listed the father as "Gus Pipkin Sr." Had the family doctor (Doc Hubbard) been there, Gus Jr. would have correctly been named "Gustavus Adolphus Pipkin Jr." Dr Hubbard would have known Gus Sr.'s full and correct name.

In March of 1920, Inez and Gus Sr., with their 3-month-old son, moved from Rocky Branch to Sand Springs, Oklahoma. Gus Sr.'s uncle Fred Smith (Fannie's brother) lived there.

In June of 1920, Inez and Gus Jr. (now 6 mos old) returned to Texas County for her sister Lucy's funeral. Two weeks later she re-joined her husband back in Sand Springs, Oklahoma.

Then in August of 1920, Gus Sr., Inez and Gus Jr. moved back to Texas County. They lived in a small farm house on a hill called "Turkey Knob." From there they moved to the "Millen" house where on 13 Jun 1921 their second child was born - Ruby Irene Pipkin.

Their family doctor (Doc Hubbard) was there to deliver her. He correctly listed on the birth certificate as the father "Gustavus Pipkin" From the "Millen" house they moved to the "Mugridge place" (still within the Rocky Branch area), and from there to the "Pipkin place" where on 4 Aug 1923 Barbara Jean Pipkin was born. When they moved into the "Pipkin place" it was vacant because Fannie and Grace had moved to Simmons-town where Fannie was working as the area's telephone switchboard operator. The "Pipkin place" is the same farm house where Thomas Pipkin fifty years earlier had run his store and the Stanford postoffice.

Gus and Inez left the "Pipkin place" and moved their family into the Shillings' "red house" where on 11 Mar 1925 Katherine Elarie ("Kit") Pipkin was born. The "red house" was vacant because the Shillings (Inez' family) had purchased, and moved into, the "Bodine place" which was situated next to the Shillings' farm.

Inez is now 20 with all four of her children. Gus Sr. is twenty-four, and there is no work available in Texas County. Shortly after Kit was born, Gus and Inez moved their family to Kearney, Nebraska where Gus Sr. found work. Gus Sr.'s brother, Paul, and his wife Etta, lived there also. Gus and Inez stayed in Kearney nine months. They moved their family back to Texas County in February of 1926, and again they lived in the "red house" on the Shilling farm.

The following fall (of 1926) Gus Jr. and Ruby started school at Rocky Branch. They had been going to school there for only six weeks, when in October of 1926, the family once again left Texas County. This time they moved to Reading, KS where Gus Sr. worked on a wheat and cattle farm, and where Gus Jr. and Ruby continued their first year of school.

One morning on their way to school, Gus Jr. and Ruby were crossing the creek when Ruby accidentally dropped her books in the ice-cold water. Gus Jr. jumped in and

retrieved them. When they got to school the teacher put Gus Jr. next to the stove to dry off and keep warm. Ruby was only 5; Gus Jr. was almost seven.

The following spring (March 1927), the family moved from Reading, KS to Kansas City, MO. They moved into a house on Lister Street and established their membership at the flue Valley Methodist Church. Gus Sr. worked in a brickyard next to the R/R tracks a mile south of 50 Hwy.

One day Gus Jr., at age 8, crossed over the highway atop the R/R trestle and walked all the way to the brickyard to meet his father when he got off work. They walked home together. Gus Jr.'s mother (Inez) had been worried about her son because she did not know where he had been all afternoon.

She asked Gus Sr. to give him a whippin' but he refused. After living in Kansas City for two years, they returned to Texas County in June 1929 to be with the Shillings because Inez' father, John Henry Shilling, was dying of cancer. At that time the "U-Smile Inn" in Simmons-town needed someone to run the restaurant. Inez took the job and lived there in the rear part of the "Inn" with her three daughters - Ruby, Barbara and Katherine.

That summer in August, six-yr-old Barbara fell off the porch (at the "Inn") and broke her arm.

Gus Sr. stayed with the Shillings (John Henry, Isabella and their son John O. Shilling) in the "Bodine" house so he could help "John-O" with the farm work. Gus Jr. stayed there with his father.

Gus Sr. and John-O harvested crops, tended the livestock and put hay in the barn for winter. Gus Jr. (age 9) helped with the chores. One day he and his Uncle John-O took the team of horses to the woods a mile north of the Shilling farm, and, using an axe and a two-man "push-pull" saw, they brought home a wagon-load of "dead" oak firewood.

Gus Jr. watched his Uncle John-O grab a snake from a tree, whirl it around and "whip-snap" its head, killing the snake instantly. A day or two later John-O and Gus Jr. spotted another snake in a tree. John-O asked Gus Jr. if he wanted to try it. Gus Jr. was afraid of snakes, but he grabbed the snake from the tree anyway. He started to swing it over his head when he accidentally wrapped the snake around his neck. He never tried it again after that.

By October of that year (1929) John Henry Shilling was nearing the end of his life. Inez was preparing to close the "Inn" so she and the girls could move to the Shilling farm and be with the rest of the family. Gus Sr. and Gus Jr. started cleaning up the "red house."

Gus Jr. remembers being in the empty "red house" cleaning the fireplace with his father when his father made him say a certain "bad" word, and then told him to never say that word around the girls or he would be punished severely.

Inez and the girls, and Gus Sr. and Gus Jr. all moved into the "red house" that October (1929). Gus Sr. continued helping John-O on the farm. In late November (1929), a terrible blizzard hit Texas County. The roads and fields were all covered with ice. The Pipkins and Shillings needed food and supplies, but the icy roads made it impossible to take the team of horses to town.

Gus Sr., John-O and their neighbor Martin Abels each made special snow shoes by driving small nails through pieces of wood to act as cleats. Wearing these special shoes, they were able to walk on the ice to Simmons-town. They bought food and supplies and returned home. Simmons-town was only a few miles away, but it took them all day.

John Henry Shilling passed away that December (1929) at the age of 80. He had lived a long life. In 1865, at age 16, he saw his father killed by bushwackers in the field in front of the "red house." He and Isabella had four children: Effie, John-O, Lucy and Inez .

Effie was ten years older than Inez, and she had left home when Inez was only 6 or 7. She did housework at a neighboring farm, then worked at Teeter's bank in Simmons-town, and later got a nursing job in Tulsa, OK. With the money she earned, Effie continually purchased nice things for her mother. She sent Isabella dresses, a new pair of shoes, a fine set of silverware, a wood-burning cook stove, other furniture and a mattress. Effie bought a Brownie "box type" camera for her sister Inez, and told her to take as many pictures as she wanted, and that she would send her money for new film and developing.

(Many of our old family photos were taken with this Brownie. Gus Pipkin Jr. has this same camera in his home today). John Henry Shilling was buried at the Rocky Branch Cemetery next to his daughter Lucy.

After the funeral, Gus Sr. and family returned to Kansas City, MO. On 1 Jan 1930 they moved into a small white house on 50th Terrace. The kids attended J.S. Chick Elem. School.

In August 1931, Inez caught the bus to Texas County. This time it was her mother's life drawing to a close.

Isabella passed away just after Inez got there. She was buried next to John Henry Shilling and their daughter Lucy at the Rocky Branch Cemetery. Inez stayed with her brother John-O for two weeks following the funeral; then she rejoined her family on 50th Terrace in Kansas City.

Two years later in November of 1933 Gus Sr.'s mother (Fannie Pipkin) passed away. Gus Sr. had driven to Texas County just prior to her death. He telephoned his wife Inez to bring the family down to Texas County for Fannie's funeral. Gus and Inez' neighbor back on 50th Ter. (Knut Smith) drove Inez and the kids all that night in his new 1933 Ford. They arrived at Aunt Grace's house in Texas County the next morning at daybreak in

time for the funeral later that day. Fannie was buried next to her husband William Henry Pipkin at the Union Cemetery.

Aunt Grace is Gus Pipkin Sr.'s sister. She married Irving McMillin, and they lived on the Pipkin farm just down the road from the "Pipkin place." Her mother Fannie was living there with her and Irving when she passed away.

After the funeral, Gus Sr., Inez and family returned to their home on 50th Ter. Gus Sr. got a good job working with his neighbor Mr. Lampson who was a precinct captain for the city.

He later got an even better job downtown in the professional building at 11th and Grand.

Through the 1930's he prospered. On Sundays he would drive the family to Swope Park after church for a picnic. In 1940 he and Inez purchased the house at 4816 Park Ave in Kansas City. In January 1942 Gus Sr. and Inez separated and later divorced. Gus Sr. joined the Army in November 1942.

He was 42 years old. The Country was at war. After the War, Gus Sr. settled down in Kansas City and married Sally Halstead. They now live in Raytown, just outside Kansas City, MO.

GUS PIPKIN JR. (1919 -)

Gus Pipkin Jr. is my father. He married Constance K. Brown (my mother) 31 May 1942 in a small church at 15th and Topping Streets in Kansas City, MO. The following September (1942) he was "sworn in" to the Army Air Corps. In March 1943 he was "called in" for Aviation Cadets. His pilot training was in Texas. Mother went with him, stayed in an apartment nearby, and would see him on week-ends. Dad graduated from Cadets on 7 Jan 1944, then he and mother moved to Nevada where he was fully trained to fly the B-17.

In November 1944, dad was sent to Italy to fly the B-17 in combat missions over Germany, so mother moved back to Kansas City, Five months later (4 Apr 1945) I was born in Kansas City. Dad was still in Italy flying his "25 missions." When a pilot completed his 25 combat missions the war was over for him; he was released to come home. Dad flew his 25th mission on 5 May 1945, and he would have been sent some shortly thereafter had it not been for the sudden turn of events that followed. The War in Europe ended three days later on 8 May 1945, and those pilots who had not completed their 25 combat missions were now being shipped on a high priority basis to the South Pacific. We were still at war with Japan. Pilots and other military personnel being shipped to the South Pacific filled all flights departing from Italy. Since Dad had completed his combat missions and was merely waiting to return home, he was given low priority and had to wait three months there in Italy for his return flight home. Mother knew he had completed his 25 missions but she did not know why, or how long, he was to remain in Italy. Dad could not tell her exactly why he was still there because any

communication regarding "troop movements" would have been a breach of security. Dad's 25th combat mission was completed on 5 May 1945. He returned home 14 Aug 1945.

EPILOGUE

Mother named me Terry Gene Pipkin after one of her favorite newspaper cartoon characters "Terry and The Pirates." My sister Dixie Lee Pipkin was born 2 Oct 1946 in Biloxi, MS.

Dad made his career flying for the Air Force, so we traveled and never stayed in any one place very long.

I owe a special thanks to those who helped with the information necessary to put together this narrative of our family history; namely, Mom and Dad, Grandma, Aunt Ruby, and The Pipkin Family Association.