

## CHAPTER 9: REUBEN WANSLEY and ELIZABETH CUNNINGHAM

ca 1774 **Reuben Wansley** was born in Albemarle County, Virginia, a son of John and Mildred Wansley.

The November term 1845 Annual Return for John Wansley, Sr. estate and Sarah Fleming's estate records for 07 January 1854 and 05 June 1855 are the only known contemporary references to "T." as the middle initial for **Reuben**, a son of John Wansley, Sr. **Reuben Wanslow** and Reuben T. Wanslow were winners in the 1832 Gold Lottery; consistent with father and son. According to tombstones in the Wansley Cemetery, Elbert County, Georgia, Reuben T. Wansley, Sr. was born in Albemarle County, Virginia in 1774. [NOTE: In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Frank N. Wansley erected the tombstone for **Reuben Wansley** based on incomplete information. Frank N. Wansley relied on family traditions and memories.]

20 Feb 1783 **Elizabeth Cunningham** was born, a daughter of John Cunningham and Ann Davis. According to John Cunningham and Ann Davis family record included with Ann Davis Cunningham's application for pension as a widow of a Revolutionary War soldier, **Elizabeth Cunningham** was born 20 February 1783. [Cunningham, John W6752, Complete and Selected Records NARA.] According to tombstone in Wansley Cemetery, Elbert County, Georgia, **Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley** was born 1784 in Virginia. Frank N. Wansley erected this tombstone based on incomplete information.

15 May 1795 Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Taxes:  
**Wansley, Reuben:** a white male over 16, owned no taxable property. Since this is the first listing on the tax rolls, **Reuben Wansley** had reached majority, consistent with estimated year of birth ca 1773-4. John Wansley, Sr., John Wansley, Jr. and William Wansley were recorded on the same page and same date on the tax rolls indicating they lived in close proximity. [*Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Property Tax Rolls, Vol. B, Reel 5, 1782-1799.*]

1799 Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Taxes:  
**Wansley, Reuben:** a white male over 16, owned no taxable property. [*Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Property Tax Rolls, Vol. B, Reel 5, 1782-1799.*]

1800 Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Taxes:  
**Wansley, Reuben:** a white male over 16, owned no taxable property. [*Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Property Tax Rolls, Vol. B, Reel 6, 1800-1813.*]

- 1801 Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Taxes:  
**Wansley, Reuben:** a white male over 16, owned no taxable property.  
 [Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Property Tax Rolls, Vol. B, Reel 6, 1800-1813.]
- 1802 Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Taxes:  
**Wansley, Reuben:** a white male over 16, owned no taxable property.  
 [Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Property Tax Rolls, Vol. B, Reel 6, 1800-1813.]
- 1803 Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Taxes:  
**Wansley, Reuben:** a white male over 16, owned no taxable property.  
 [Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Property Tax Rolls, Vol. B, Reel 6, 1800-1813.]
- 13 Feb 1802 "Met at the meeting house, opened a door for the reception of members and recd by experience Patson White, Patsey Lyon, Fanny Harris, Franky Kidd, Patsy Gaines, Daniel Thornton, **Elizabeth Wanslow**, George Alexander, Patsy Wanslow, Polly Alexander Tricky a black woman belonging to Mr. Roebuck, Elizabeth Kidd, Thomas White and Calep Oliver. 2nd Ordained Bro. Littleton Johnston a deacon according to appointment. The ordination of Bro. John Dingler till the constitution at Bro. Childs. Dismissed." [Records of the Church of Christ at Van's Creek, p. 31.] **[NOTE:** In spite of the title for the minutes, the church is Baptist.]
- [NOTE:** Since **Reuben Wansley** was on the tax rolls of Albemarle County, Virginia as late as 1803, Elizabeth Wanslow in *Records of the Church of Christ at Van's Creek* is the second wife of Nathan Wanslow, Elizabeth Cleveland. According to unverified family tradition, Nathan Wansley and his first wife, Susannah Watts, had two sons: Joseph Wansley (17 June 1794-) and John Wansley (ca 1795-). The date of marriage for Nathan Wansley and Elizabeth Cleveland is unknown. Their first son Nathan W. Wansley was born in 1797.]
- 11 Feb 1804 item 6: "Bro. Dozier Thornton moved that a committee be appointed to settle a difficulty between Sister **Elizabeth Wansley** and the family of the Wanslows, which was acceded [sic] to. Appointed Bro John Cason, John Carrol, John Jones, Sister Elizabeth Thornton, Sally Burk, and Ann Jones. The committee reported the matter settled in peace." [Records of the Church of Christ Vans Creek, p. 48.]
- 15 Apr 1804 item 3: "Appointed Bro. John Cason and Bro. John Jones to cite Sister **Elizabeth Wanslow** in a case of distress [sic], after having been settled by a committee, the 11<sup>th</sup> of February last." [Records of Church of Christ Vans Creek, p. 49.]

12 May 1804 item 3: "Took up the case of Sister **Elizabeth Wanslow** a reference of last meeting. After a long debate Sister Carrol brought a complaint against the said Sister Wanslow here being some difficulty attending the case it was laid over till next meeting." [*Records of Church of Christ Vans Creek*, p. 50.]

09 Jun 1804 item 1: "Called for references. Took up the Case of Sister **Elizabeth Wanslow** a reference of last meeting. Sister Milly Wanslow came forward laid in an accusation against her viz. that of telling an untruth, and she was excommunicated for the same." [*Records of Church of Christ Vans Creek*, p. 50.] [**NOTE:** Milly Wanslow was the wife of John Wanslow, Sr.]

ca 1808 Dabney Wansley was born in Georgia. Dabney Wansley died 22 February 1858, age 50, and was buried in Smyrna Methodist Church Cemetery, Lowndesville, South Carolina. Tombstone provides age at time of death but does not have date of birth. [Bratcher, p. 105] According to Frank N. Wansley, Dabney was a son of **Reuben** and **Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley**. However, there is no documentation for this familial relationship. [**NOTE:** More than one Dabney Wansley lived in Elbert County. On 01 June 1809, Dabney [X] Wansley witnessed a deed from Franklin Cunningham to Johnston Cunningham. *Elbert County, Georgia, Deeds, Vol. M (1808-1810)*, p. 8; Farmer, p. 76.] In the 1850 United States Census, Dabney Wansley was living in the same household with John Wansley, born ca 1772. I strongly suspect that Dabney Wansley was a son of this John Wansley, possibly John Wansley, Jr.

05 Aug 1809 Franklin Cunningham sold **Reuben Wansley**, both of Elbert County, 125 acres on Coldwater Creek. Consideration: \$300. Signed: Franklin Cunningham. Witnesses: John Cunningham, John Carrell, J. P. Recorded: 08 January 1812. [*Elbert County Georgia Deeds, Vol. N*, p. 237.]

According to John Cunningham and Ann Davis family record included with Ann Davis Cunningham's application for pension as a widow of a Revolutionary War soldier, Franklin Cunningham was born 14 August 1784. [Cunningham, W6752, NARA] [**NOTE:** More than one Franklin Cunningham lived Elbert-Wilkes County area. In 1785 John Allin [sic] sold Franklin Cunningham 200 acres on Coldwater Creek in Wilkes County, Georgia. [*Wilkes County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. AA (1785-1787)*, p. 102; Farmer, *Wilkes County, Georgia Deed Books A-VV (1784-1806)*.]

13 Feb 1813 Johnson Wansley was born in Elbert County, Georgia. According to Frank N. Wansley he was a son of **Reuben** and **Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley**. Date of birth is from tombstone in Harmony Baptist Church Cemetery, Elbert County, Georgia and James H. and Sarah Ann

Eavenson Family Record. In censuses for 1850 and 1860, Johnson Wansley was living in same household with **Reuben** and **Elizabeth Wansley**, consistent with parents and son. In the 1860 tax roll for Elbert County, Johnson Wansley was trustee for **R. Wansley**. Also in 1867, Johnson Wansley sold 140 acres on Coldwater Creek to **Elizabeth Wansley** that contained the family burying ground. [*Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. EE, p. 66.*] Frank N. Wansley stated that he surveyed the Wansley Cemetery, noted at bottom of page 66, *Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. EE*. Johnson Wansley was named after his uncle Johnson Cunningham. Wansley, James H. and Sarah Ann Eavenson Family Record provides dates of birth and death for Johnson Wansley.

- 1813 Reuben T. Wansley was born in Elbert County, Georgia. According to Frank N. Wansley he was a son of **Reuben** and **Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley**. Source for date of birth: tombstone in Wansley Cemetery, Elbert County, Georgia. R. T. Wansley, Jr. (1813-11 April 1863). See deeds for 1867 and 1868 that indicated transfer of property from Johnson Wansley to his mother Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley and then to her grandchildren. He was known as "Reuben T. Wansley, Jr." Junior indicates a younger person of the same name, not necessarily father-son or even a familial relationship and does not indicate that the father necessarily had the same middle initial, if any.
- ca 1813-20 Fleming Wansley was born in Elbert County, Georgia. According to Frank N. Wansley he was a son of **Reuben** and **Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley**. Based on 1850 and 1860 census entries, Fleming Wansley was born about 1813. Based on 1880 census he was born about 1820. So far no documentation directly confirms that Fleming Wansley was a son of **Reuben** and **Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley**. Fleming may have been named for an great-aunt, Sarah Cunningham Fleming [Mrs. Moses Fleming].
- 1814 Tax Roll for Elbert County included **Ruben Wansley**, Baker district, p. 46. Other Wansleys on the 1814 tax roll: John Wansley, Joseph Wansley, Larkin Wansley, Nathan Wansley and Thomas Wansley. All were residents of Elbert County. [*An Index to Georgia Tax Digests 1814-1817, Vol. V.*]
- 16 Jun 1819 William Woods sold Samuel N. Bailey, both of Elbert County, 104 acres adjacent **Reuben Wansley** and others, part of 1000 acre survey originally granted to Middleton Woods, lately in dispute between Woods and Franklin Cunningham, except 28 acres sold to **Reuben Wansley**. Consideration: \$312. Signed: William Woods. Witnesses: Gaines Thompson, Hardie Brown, J. P. Recorded: 17 April 1824. [*Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. T, p. 128.*]

- 1820 United States Census Elbert County, Georgia, p. 187  
**Wanslow, Reuben**: 2 males <10; 1 male >45; 1 female <10; 1 female >26 & <45, 3 slaves
- 10 Nov 1826 Will of James Cunningham of Pendleton District, South Carolina: "I give and bequeath to my beloved Brother John Cunningham and **Elizabeth Wandsley** all the money that may be coming to me in the state of Georgia by note or otherwise to be Equally divided between them . . ." Witnesses: Joseph Taylor, Joseph T. Earle, Samuel J. Taylor. Signed: James Cunningham. Proved by oath of Col. Joseph Taylor. Recorded and examined by John Harris, O. P. D. [*Anderson County (Pendleton District), South Carolina Wills 1791-1834*, pp. 355-7.]
- 1827 Georgia Land Lottery, 03 April 1827. **Reuben Wanslow** of Blackwell's Militia District, Elbert County, won Lot 125, District 3, Section 1 in Lee County, containing 202½ acres.
- 1830 United States Census Elbert County, p. 152.  
**Reuben Wansley**: 1 male >10 & <15; 2 males >15 & <20, 1 male >20 & <30, 1 male >60 & <70; 2 females < 5; 1 female >5 & <10; 1 female >10 & <15; and 1 female >40 & < 50. No slaves. [p. 148 Thomas Wansley; p. 158 John Wansley. Nathan Wansley was in DeKalb County, Georgia.]
- 1832 Gold Lottery of Georgia. **Reuben Wanslow** of Thomason's District, Elbert County, Georgia won 40 acres in south half of District 13, Section 1, in Cherokee County, Georgia. [p. 110.]
- Reuben T. Wanslow** of Thomason's Militia District, Elbert County, won 40 acres in District 3, Section 3, Cherokee County, Georgia. [p. 643.]
- Improved Gold Lots: In Third District, Third Section, **Reuben T. Wanslow** of Thomason's District, Elbert County received 2 acres of Indian improvements. [Holland] **[NOTE:** The distinction between "Reuben Wanslow" and "Reuben T. Wanslow" may indicate two different individuals. However, Reuben T. Wanslow received his distributive share of the estate of John Wansley, Sr.]
- 16 Dec 1834 Governor Wilson Lumpkin issued a grant to **Reuben Wanslow** of Blackwell's District, Elbert County, in Muscogee County, District 16, Section 2, Lot 239, p. 231, containing 202½ acres. [1827 Georgia Land Lottery]
- 16 Dec 1834 Governor Wilson Lumpkin issued a grant to **Reuben Wanslow** of Thomason's District, Elbert County, for 40 acres of land in south half of District 13, Section, Lot 423. [p. 110] [1832 Georgia Land Lottery]

- 11 Jan 1835 Will of John Wansley, Sr. named **Reuben Wanslow** as a son and heir. [Elbert County, Georgia Will Book 1830-1835, pp. 482-3.]
- 01 Jan 1836 “No 12 Rec<sup>d</sup> of William A. Beck one of the Executors of the last will of John Wanslow dec<sup>d</sup> twenty two dollars in full of the within proven acct January 1<sup>st</sup> 1836 **Reuben T [X his mark] Wanslow**” [Elbert County, Georgia Annual Returns 1842-1846, pp. 205B-207B.]
- 08 Feb 1836 “No 13 Rec<sup>d</sup> of William A. Beck & Thomas Wanslow Executors of John Wanslow dec<sup>d</sup> three Hundred & fourteen 66/100 dollars in full pay of my distributive share of Said decd Estate this Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 1836 **Reuben T [X his mark] Wanslow** Test W<sup>m</sup> White” [Elbert County, Georgia Annual Returns 1842-1846, pp. 205B-207B.]
- 01 Mar 1836 Governor William Schley issued a grant to **Reuben Wanslow** of Blackwell’s District, Elbert County in District 3, Section 1, Lot 125, p. 143, containing 202½ acres in Lee County, Georgia. [1827 Georgia Land Lottery]
- 11 Aug 1840 Governor Charles J. McDonald issued a grant of 40 acres to **Reuben T. Wanslow** of Thomason’s District, Elbert County. The tract was in Cherokee County, District 3, Section 3, Lot 1164. p. 643 [1832 Georgia Land Lottery: Reuben T. Wansley is either son or grandson of John Wansley, Sr.]
- 1850 United States Census Elbert District, Elbert County, 05 August, p. 369 [s], 82/82  
Wanslow, J., 34, WM, carpenter, \$650, illiterate, GA [Johnson Wanslow]  
**Wanslow, R.**, 76, WM, farmer, illiterate, VA [Reuben Wanslow]  
**Wanslow, E.**, 66, WF, GA [Elizabeth Cunningham Wanslow]  
Wanslow, P. M., 24, WF, GA
- 18 Apr 1851 John A. Cunningham, Franklin Cunningham and **Elizabeth Wanslow** [or Wannslow or Warnslow], the only surviving children of John and Ann Cunningham, applied for \$550 per annum retroactive to 04 March 1831, due Ann Cunningham, widow of John Cunningham, a Revolutionary War soldier. [Cunningham, John. *Final Revolutionary War Pension Payment Vouchers: Georgia. Carter, Robert-Gilmore, Mary. Georgia M1746.*]
- 10 May 1851 United States Pension Agency, Georgia issued a check for \$7997.71 to James G. [or S.] Cunningham, attorney for John A. Cunningham, Franklin Cunningham and **Elizabeth Wanslow**. The check was for pension due Ann Cunningham from 04 March 1831 until her death 19 March 1849. [Cunningham, John. *Final Revolutionary War Pension Payment Vouchers: Georgia. Carter, Robert-Gilmore, Mary. Georgia M1746.*]

- 10 Sep 1851 Sarah Cunningham Fleming's Will in Elbert County, Georgia: Sarah Fleming bequeathed 1/6 of her estate to **Elizabeth Wanslow**. John A. Cunningham was to receive 1/6 plus \$400 and Franklin Cunningham was to receive 1/6. Executors: Thomas Johnston, Lawrence M. Adams. Witnesses: William B. Nelms, John M. Thornton, Hiram G. Adams. Recorded: 11 January 1853. [*Elbert County, Georgia Will Book (1835-1860)*, p. 133, No. 367.] **[NOTE: John A. Cunningham, Franklin Cunningham and Elizabeth Wanslow were children of John Cunningham, Sr. Sarah Cunningham Fleming was a sister of John Cunningham, Sr. who died 1829.]** The value of Sarah Fleming's estate was \$16,525.60. Franklin Cunningham and **Elizabeth Wanslow** each received \$2260.62 and John A. Cunningham, \$2660.62.
- 05 Apr 1853 Sale of Land and Negroes from estate of Sarah Fleming: Johnson Wanslow bought one negro boy Lem B. for \$1080.00; one negro girl Ann for \$960.00 and one negro boy Lindsay for \$695.00. Fleming Wanslow bought one negro girl Sarah for \$905.00. [*Elbert County, Georgia Probate Records* for estate Sarah (Cunningham) Fleming]
- 07 Jan 1854 "No 13 Recd of Thomas Johnston & Lawrence M. Adams Ext<sup>rs</sup> of the will of Sarah Fleming decd twenty two hundred Seven dollars in part of the distributive share under Said Will coming to me in right of my Wife **Elizabeth Wanslow** this 8<sup>th</sup> January 1854 **Reuben T [X his mark] Wanslow**" [*Elbert County, Georgia Probate Records* for estate Sarah (Cunningham) Fleming]
- 05 Jun 1855 Thomas Johnston and Lawrence M. Adams, executors of Sarah Fleming, reported thirty-five payments, including No. 22, for \$52.62 to R. T. Wanslow. [*Elbert County, Georgia Probate Records* for estate Sarah (Cunningham) Fleming]
- 1860 United States Census Elberton PO, Elbert County, Georgia, p. 51 [w]/801 [s], 23 Jun, 388/388  
 Wansley, Johnson, 45, WM, farmer, \$1900 real estate, \$2800 personal property, illiterate, GA  
 Wansley, F. L., 25, WF, GA [Frances Louisa Roebuck Wansley]  
 Wansley, James, 5, WM, GA [James Hamilton Wansley]  
**Wansley, Reuben**, 80, WM, GA [Reuben T. Wansley]  
**Wansley, E.**, 75, WF, GA [Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley]  
**[NOTE: According to these entries, all members of this household were born in Georgia. However, Reuben Wansley was born in Virginia and Elizabeth Wansley was born either in South Carolina or Georgia.]**
- 1860 United States Census Elberton PO, Elbert County, Georgia, p. 75, 09 [?07] July, 573/573  
 Wansley, Fleming, 47, WM, farmer, \$1290 real estate, \$870 personal property, GA

Wansley, Rebecca, 46, WF, GA  
Wansley, C. C., 13, WF, GA  
Wansley, John, 8, WM, GA  
574/574  
Wansley, Thomas N., 26, WM, farmer, \$300,\$150, GA  
Wansley, Elizabeth, 24, WF, GA  
Wansley, Leroy H., 4, WM, GA  
Wansley, E. O., 2, WF, GA  
Wansley, W. H., 1, WM, GA

1860 United States Census Elberton PO, Elbert County, Georgia, 08 July 1 , p. 76, 581/581

Wansley, Reuben T., 45, WM, farmer, \$- -, \$305 personal property, GA  
Wansley, Emily, 38, WF, SC  
Wansley, Lucy C., 16, WF, GA [Lucy Caroline Wansley]  
Wansley, L. G., 13, WM, GA [Gaines Leonidas Wansley]  
Wansley, J. A., 10, WF, GA [Josephine A. Wansley]  
Wansley, A. F., 9, WM, GA [Augustus Florence Wansley]  
Wansley, [illegible] L., 7, WM, GA [Beverly Llewlyn Wansley]  
Wansley, Mary M., 4, WF, GA [Molly M. Wansley]  
Wansley, Larken, 1, WM, GA [Larken Wansley]

1860 Elbert County, Georgia Property Tax, Moss District, 196:

Wansley, Johnson: 295 acres, Elbert County, \$1900; money and debts of all kinds, \$960; total aggregate, \$960; aggregate less \$200, \$960. [NOTE: Aggregate and aggregate less \$200, both entered as \$960.]  
Wansley, Johnson Trustee for **R. Wansley**: Aggregate value city and town property, \$300; 3 slaves, \$1800; other property, \$98; aggregate total, \$2198; aggregate total less \$200, \$1998. [*Georgia Property Tax Digests 1793-1892*, Elbert County, 1860.] [NOTE: On 16 September 1852, Thomas Johnston sold Johnson Wansley 135 acres on Vans Creek. On 14 September 1867, Johnson Wansley conveyed 140 acres to Elizabeth Wansley; this land was conveyed to the children and heirs of Reuben T. Wansley, Jr., who sold the tract to Thomas S. Gaines. Deed for 16 June 1819 from William Woods to Samuel N. Bailey refers to 28 acres sold to Reuben Wansley. 135+140+28 acres totals 298 acres, within three acres of total in 1860 tax roll.]

14 Sep 1867 Johnson Wansley conveyed 140 acres to **Elizabeth Wansley**.

Consideration: \$200.00. The deed excluded  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre of the "family Bering ground." The tract of land was on Coldwater Creek "bounded as follows commencing at a Rock corner and Ralph Gaines Line and thence bounded East by the said Ralph Gaines Land North by James B. Turner Land west and South by Ralph Gaines Land . . ." Witnesses: Richard E. Adams, John Rowzee, J. P. Signed: Johnson [X his mark] Wansley. Recorded: 03 March 1869. "Stamped with U.S. Internal Revenue Stamps



fifty-cents." [*Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. EE, p. 66.*] [NOTE: Deed includes printed note, "Plat of.25 acres reserved, plat book 2 - page 385." Frank N. Wansley arranged for the cemetery to be surveyed.] The boundary description is essentially the same as the land that the children of Reuben T. Wansley, Jr. sold to Thomas S. Gaines in 1868. This certainly suggests Elizabeth Wansley intended to convey the land to Reuben T. Wansley, Jr. The conveyance was completed after her death. It is possible there is a deed from Elizabeth Wansley to Reuben T. Wansley, Jr. that was not indexed. In the index to Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, the deed from children of Reuben T. Wansley, Jr. to Thomas S. Gaines is indexed as "Elizabeth Wansley heirs" to Thomas S. Gaines.

ca 1867-8 **Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley** died.

Marker in Wansley Cemetery, Elbert County, Georgia:  
Reuben T. Wansley, Sr., born Albemarle Co., Va., 1774  
Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley, born in Va., 1784  
[Wansley, Frank N., "Wansley Cemetery" in *Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Fall 1976*, pp. 159-160.] [NOTE: Frank N. Wansley erected these markers. The cemetery is consistent with a disturbed archaeological site. With good intentions, Frank N. Wansley moved monuments and added them. Frank Wansley wrote he moved a granite monument for John Wansley, Sr. from Big Coldwater Creek. *From Rome to Ruckersville – Our Wansley History*, p. 32. Also the Rowzee family of Mississippi added a monument for Thomas and Jemima Means Wansley in 1973. [Frank Wansley, p. 3.] Elizabeth Cunningham Wansley was born in Georgia or South Carolina; definitely not Virginia.

31 Dec 1868 According to Elbert County Deed Index **Elizabeth Wansley** [heirs] conveyed 140 acres on Coldwater Creek to Thomas S. Gaines. The deed was actually from children of Reuben T. Wansley, Jr., to Thomas S. Gaines. The land was "Bounded as follows commencing at a rock corner and Ralph Gaines Line and thence bounded east by the said Ralph Gaines Land North by James B. Turner Land, west and South by Ralph Gaines Lands . . ." *Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. EE, p. 67-8.*] The boundaries are similar to deed from Johnson Wansley to Elizabeth Wansley. This deed indicates a familial relationship between Elizabeth Wansley and Reuben T. Wansley, Jr. as mother-son and then to her grandchildren.

17 Nov 1881 St. George Temple, Washington County, Utah records, pp. 16-7: No. 265. Name of deceased: **Reuben Wanslee**. Born: [blank date]. Birthplace: Elbert County, Georgia. Died: [blank date]. Proxy for baptism and confirmation on 08 November 1881, John Wesley Morris, "Gd Nephew," Ordination by: Joseph Harmon. [NOTE: **Reuben Wansley** was John Wesley Morris' great-grandnephew.] On same date, proxy baptism,

confirmation and ordination were performed for Larkin Wanslee.

*Albemarle County, Virginia Personal Property Tax Rolls, Vol. B, Reel 5, 1782-1799.*

Bratcher, R. Wayne. *Cemetery Records of Abbeville County, South Carolina.* R. W. Bratcher, 1982.

Cunningham, James. *Anderson County (Pendleton District), South Carolina Wills 1791-1834*, pp. 355-7.

Cunningham, John. *Final Revolutionary War Pension Payment Vouchers: Georgia. Carter, Robert-Gilmore, Mary. Georgia M1746.* [NOTE: Names surviving children of John and Ann Davis Cunningham: John A. Cunningham, Franklin Cunningham and Elizabeth Wansley.]

Cunningham, John. Revolutionary War Pension application for widow. W6752. [National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)] [NOTE: Includes original John and Ann Davis Family Record and typed transcription.]

Cunningham, John. [Complete] *Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrants. Cundiff, Isaac-Currie, Samuel.* [National Archives and Records Administration] [NOTE: Includes copy of John and Ann Davis Family Record and typed transcriptions.]

Cunningham, John. *Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrants. Cundiff, Isaac-Currie, Samuel.* [National Archives and Records Administration] [NOTE: Includes copy of John and Ann Davis Family Record and typed transcription.]

Farmer, Michal Martin. *Elbert County, Georgia Deed Books K-R, 1806-1819.* Dallas, Texas: M. M. Farmer, 1997.

Farmer, Michal Martin. *Wilkes County, Georgia Deed Books A-VV 1784-1806.* Farmer Genealogy Company, Dallas, Texas, 1996.

Fleming, Sarah. *Elbert County, Georgia Probate Records* including Annual Returns and Will. [loose estate documents, available on-line at [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org).]

*Georgia Property Tax Digests 1793-1892*, Elbert County, 1860.

Holland, Hubert G. "The Improved Gold Lots in the Second, Third and Eighteenth Districts of the Third Section of Original Cherokee County, Georgia" in *Northwest Georgia Historical and Genealogical Society Quarterly*, Vol. 26, No. 4, Fall 1994, pp. 3-4.

Houston, Martha Lou [compiler]. *Reprint of Official Register of Land Lottery of Georgia*

1827. Houston, Martha L., ca 1987.

*An Index to Georgia Tax Digests 1814-1817, Vol. V.* Spartanburg, South Carolina: Reprint Company, Publishers, 1986.

Lucas, Silas Emmett, Jr. [compiler]. *The 1832 Gold Lottery of Georgia Containing a List of the Fortunate Drawers in Said Lottery.* Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, ca 1977.

McRee, Fred W., Jr. *Elbert County, Georgia Abstracts of Wills 1791-1919.* F. D. McRee, Jr.: Dahlonega, Georgia, 2011.

*Records of the Church of Christ at Vans Creek.* [Original manuscript is in Office of Ordinary, Court House, Elberton, Georgia 30635, also on microfilm at Dallas [Texas] Public Library] [**NOTE:** The church is Baptist.]

*St. George, Washington County, Utah Temple Records 1881. Endowments for the Dead.*

Wansley, Frank Nicholas. *From Rome to Ruckersville – Our Wansley History.* Elberton, Georgia: Frank N. Wansley, ca 1977, second edition.

Wansley, Frank Nicholas. "Wansley Cemetery" in *Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly, Fall 1976*, pp. 159-160.

Warren, Mary Bondurant. *Alphabetical Index to Georgia's 1832 Gold Lottery.* Danielsville, Georgia: Heritage Papers, 1981.

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**Spouse:** Reuben Wansley  
Birth: ca 1774, Albemarle County, Virginia  
Marriage: unknown  
Death: after 1860  
Father: John Wansley, Sr. [1738-13 Jan 1835]  
Mother: Mildred [Milly] Whitten [died 09 January 1829, Elbert County, Georgia]

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**Spouse:** Elizabeth Cunningham  
Birth: 20 February 1783, Virginia or Georgia  
Death: ca 1867-8, Elbert County, Georgia  
Father: John Cunningham  
Mother: Ann Davis

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**Children:**

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1. Name: Dabney Wansley  
M Birth: ca 1808, Elbert County, Georgia  
Death: 22 February 1858, Lowndesville, South Carolina  
Marriage 1: unknown  
Spouse 1: unknown  
Marriage 2: ca 1849  
Spouse 2: Leannah Hall

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2. Name: Fleming Wansley  
M Birth: ca 1812, Elbert County, Georgia  
Death: before 17 May 1892, Elbert County, Georgia  
Marriage 1: 13 December 1832, Elbert County, Georgia  
Spouse 1: Rebecca [Becky] Patterson  
Marriage 2: 19 December 1878, Elbert County, Georgia  
Spouse 2: Sarah E. Cheek

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3. Name: Reuben T. Wansley  
M Birth: 1813, Elbert County, Georgia  
Death: 11 April 1863, Elbert County, Georgia  
Marriage: 15 December 1843, Elbert County, Georgia  
Spouse: Emily Cobb

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4. Name: Johnson Wansley  
M Birth: 13 February 1813, Elbert County, Georgia  
Death: 03 February 1897, Elbert County, Georgia  
Marriage: 12 March 1855, Elbert County, Georgia  
Spouse: Frances Louisa Roebuck

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**NOTE:** According to family tradition, Dabney Wansley and Fleming Wansley were sons of Reuben Wansley and Elizabeth Cunningham. Records in Anderson and Abbeville Counties, South Carolina suggest that Dabney Wansley was a son of John Wansley, possibly John

Wansley, Jr., son of John Wansley, Sr. See Chapter 8: “John Wansley, Jr. and Sarah [Sally] Greenway.” Fleming Wansley was probably named for Elizabeth Cunningham’s grandmother, Jane Fleming who married James Cunningham. Also Elizabeth Cunningham’s aunt, Sarah Cunningham, married a Moses Fleming.



**Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. EE, p. 66.**

Johnson Wansley to Elizabeth Wansley

State of Georgia     }}  
 Elbert County       }}       This Indenture made and entered into this the fourteenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight Hundred and Sixty-seven and witnesseth that I Johnson Wansley of the State and County aforesaid for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred dollars to me in hand paid the Receipt of the same is hereby acknowledged have granted bargained and sold and do by these presents grant bargain sell and convey unto Elizabeth Wansley of the same State and County all that tract or parcel of Land Excepting one quarter of and [sic] Acre including the family Bering ground Situated Lying and being in the State and County aforesaid and on the waters of Cold Water Creek Bounded as follows commencing at a Rock Corner and Ralph Gaines Lines and thence bounded East by the said Ralph Gaines Land North by James A. Turner Land west and South by Ralph Gaines Lands containing one hundred and forty acres be the same more or less which said tract or parcel of Land I the said Johnson Wansley will warrant and forever defend the right of from all my heirs Executors or administrators and the just claims of all other persons unto her the said Elizabeth Wansley her heirs and assigns to have and to hold the said bargained premises with all and Singular the right members and appurtenances thereunto belonging in fee Simple In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year above written

Signed and acknowledged

In presence of	}}		his
Richard E. Adams	}}	Johnson X Wansley	{{seal}}
John Rowzee JP	}}	mark	

Stamped with U. S. Internal Revenue Stamps fifty cents

**Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. EE, pp. 67-9.**

State of Georgia     }}  
 Elbert County       }}       This Indenture made this the thirty first day of December in the year 1868 between Lucy C. Jones formerly Lucy C. Wanslow. Gaines L. Wanslow and Josephine A. Wanslow in their own right and Gaines L. Wanslow as Guardian and representative of Augustus F. Wanslow, Beverly L. Wanslow, Mary M. Wanslow, Andrew R. Wanslow and Ella J. Wanslow minor children of Reuben and Emily Wanslow - of the county and State aforesaid of the one part and Thomas S. Gaines of the same place of the other part. Witnesseth that the said Lucy C. Jones Gaines, L.

Wanslow and Josephine A. Wanslow adults and in their own right for and in consideration of the sum of three Eights of two hundred and sixty two 50/100 dollars to them in hand paid and the further sum of five Eights of two hundred and sixty two 50/100 dollars cash in hand paid to Gaines L. Wanslow as Guardian and representative of the minor Children of Reuben and Emily Wanslow aforesaid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted, bargain, sold and conveyed and doth by these presents bargain, sell and Convey unto the said Thomas S. Gaines, his heirs and assigns, all that tract or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the county aforesaid on Cold water creek containing one hundred and forty acres more or less adjoining lands of Thomas S. Gaines on the East and west, Ralph Gaines on the South and James B. Turner on the North.

To have and to hold said tract or parcel of land to him the said Thomas S. Gaines his heirs and assigns together with all and singular the rights, members and appurtenances thereof, to the same in any manner belonging: to his and their own proper right and behoof forever in fee simple. And the said Lucy C. Jones, Gaines L. Wanslow and Josephine A. Wanslow for themselves their heirs Executors and administrators the said bargained three Eights of said bargained premises and the said Gaines L. Wanslow as Guardian and representative of the minor children aforesaid the said bargained five Eights of said bargained premises to the said Thomas S. Gaines his heirs and assigns will warrant and forever defend the right and title thereof against themselves and against the claims of all other persons whomsoever according as we have heretofore stipulated in this indenture. In witness whereof the said Lucy C. Jones, Gaines L. Wanslow and Josephine A. Wanslow representing three Eights and G. L. Wanslow Guardian and representative of the minor children representing five Eights hath thereunto set their hands and sales the day and year above written.

Signed Sealed and Delivered	}}	J. C. Jones	{{seal}}
In presence	}}	G. L. Wansley	{{seal}}
L J Gaines	}}	Josephine A. Wansley	{{seal}}
John Rowzee	}}	A. F. Wansley	{{seal}}
		B. L. Wansley	{{seal}}
		M. M. Wansley	{{seal}}
		A. R. Wansley	{{seal}}
		E. J. Wansley	{{seal}}

p. 69

State of Georgia                    }}  
 Elbert County                    }}        Know all men by these presents That I Gaines L. Wanslow hath this day bargained sold and conveyed to Thomas S. Gaines of said State and County five Eighths of a tract of land lying in said County on the waters of Cold Water Creek adjoining lands of said Thomas S. Gaines, Ralph Gaines and J. B. Turner containing one hundred and fifty acres more or less said five Eights of said tract being the property Augustus T. Wanslow, Beverly L. Wanslow, Mary M. Wanslow, Andrew R. Wanslow and Ella J. Wanslow minor children of Reuben T. & Emily Wanslow. Now in consideration of the fact that Gaines L. Wanslow hath bargained Sold and conveyed in manner and form aforesaid the tract or parcel of land and claimed the Right to Represent the minor children aforesaid and execute a

warrantee deed to said Thomas S. Gaines to all the interest of said minors in said tract or parcel of land I Gaines L. Wanslow as principal and Job W. Burden, Joel M. Crawford securities acknowledge ourselves jointly and Severally bound unto said Thos S. Gaines in the sum of one thousand dollars Signed Sealed and delivered this the thirty first day of December 1868.

The Condition of the above obligation is Such that if the said minor children of the said Reuben T. and Emily Wanslow should molest or disturb the title of said Thomas S. Gaines in the tract of land conveyed as aforesaid by said Gaines L. Wanslow then this obligation to be and remain of full force and affect otherwise to be null void.

Signed Sealed and delivered	G. L. Wansley	{{seal}}
In presence of	Job W. Burden	{{seal}}
T. D. Bailey	J. M. Crawford	{{seal}}
John Rowzee, J. P.		

Stamped with U. S. Internal Revenue fifty-cents

Recorded March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1869.

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***Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files. Cundiff, Isaac – Currie, Samuel. [John Cunningham, W6752]***

**[18 September 1838]**

State of Georgia

Elbert County

On this Seventeenth day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight personally appeared before Thomas Johnston one of the Justices of the Inferior Court in and for the County aforesaid - Ann Cunningham [widow] a resident in Elbert County Aged Seventy six or seven years who being Duly Sworn according to law - saith on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July the 7<sup>th</sup> 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows - That she is the widow of John Cunningham of the county aforesaid Deceased the twentieth of March Eighteen hundred and twenty nine. who was Major and Lieutenant Colonel in the old Revolutionary War - She says she became acquainted with him the aforesaid John Cunningham Some two or three years previous to their marriage which took place the tenth day of August Seventeen hundred and eighty one from my first acquaintance with him, which was passing, he was in Militia Service acting with grade of Major in the State of South Carolina of which we were both then Citizens Abeyville [sic, Abbeville] District - She cannot at this time of life Recollect all the officers which he served under to the best of her Recollection and Sources of good Information, he Served General Wilkins, General Green and Colonel or General Clark the battles he was engaged in I cannot Recollect all - but believe he was in the Battle of the Cowpens in South Carolina as Major of Militia which was on the Seventeenth of January Seventeen hundred and eight one the most of his Services was in the State of South Carolina till the Siege of Augusta [sic, Augusta] in Georgia when he Served under Colonel Clark, which was Some time in the month of April Seventeen hundred and eighty one I have good reason to believe that he entered into the Service

of his Country at or near the beginning of the Revolution, from my acquaintance with him I know he was most of his time in the Service until the war was ended he resided in the State of South Carolina when he first entered the Service he Volunteered under my Knowledge in all his services. She further declares that she was married to the Said John Cunningham late of Elbert County Deceased on the tenth day of August Seventeen hundred and Eighty one that her husband the said John Cunningham died on the twentieth day of March Eighteen hundred and twenty nine the marriage to the said John was previous to the first of January Seventeen hundred and ninety four - Viz at the time above stated

Sworn to and Subscribed	}}	
On the day and year above written	}}	her
Before me	}}	Ann <b>X</b> Cunningham
Thomas Johnston J. I. C.	}}	mark

Georgia }}  
 Elbert County }} I William B. Nelms clerk of the Inferior Court for said County do hereby certify that Thomas Johnston whose name appears to the foregoing declaration or affidavit as it was subscribed is and was at the date thereof one of the Justices of the Inferior Court and that full faith and credit ought to be had and given to his attestation as such and that the signature is genuine. Given under my hand and seal of Office This third day of October Eighteen hundred and thirty Eight

W<sup>m</sup> B. Nelms  
 Clerk of the Inferior Court

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***Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files. Cundiff, Isaac – Currie, Samuel. [John Cunningham, W6752]***

**[17 September 1838]**

Family Record true Copy [sic]  
 John Cunningham and Ann Davis was married in the year  
 Deceased March 18<sup>th</sup> 1829  
 of our lord 1781 august the tenth day

State of Georgia }}  
 Elbert County }} Personally appeared before me Thomas Johnston one of the Justices of the Inferior Court in and for Said County Franklin Cunningham and after being duly Sworn on oath Sayeth [sic] the above is a true copy [sic] of the Family Record of John Cunningham of said County who departed this life March 12<sup>th</sup> 1829 [as interlined in Said copy [sic] as it Stands Stated on the original Family record which has been in my possession between thirty and forty years and further sayeth that Ann Cunningham the widow of the aforesaid John Cunningham has never married since the death of her husband

Sworn to and Subscribed Franklin Cunningham  
 before the seventeenth Sept 1838  
 Thomas Johnston J. I. C.





my mother was pensioned there is yet a claim for an increase of pension, you will therefore allow my Agent R. W. Young to examine the papers on file in your office on which she was pensioned in order that he may prepare then the case fo an Application [illegible] increase and arrears that may be found due

Yours Respectfully  
Franklin Cunningham

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***Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files. Cundiff, Isaac – Currie, Samuel. [John Cunningham, W6752]***

**[17 March 1851]**

State of Georgia                                }}  
County of Elbert                               }}     Be it known that on this the seventeenth day of March A. D. 1851 before me a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Franklin Cunningham, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law, doth depose and say, that he is one of the surviving children of Ann Cunningham [widow of John Cunningham, a Lieutenant Colonel in the war of the Revolution] who received a pension under the act approved 7<sup>th</sup> July 1838, on account of her husband’s services at the rate of \$175. per annum, up to the date of her death which took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 1849, that he makes this declaration for the purpose of recovering any arrears of pension that may be found due the said Ann Cunningham for the benefit of himself, John A. Cunningham and **Elizabeth Warnslow** [sic, Wanslow] , who are the only Surviving children of said Ann Cunningham, and request their claim may be re-examined under such Actions or resolutions of Congress as are applicable to the case.

Sworn to and subscribed on                }}  
the day and year above written        }}  
before me                                       }}               Franklin Cunningham  
John H. Anderson, JP                        }}  
Justice of the Peace                         }}

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***Selected Records from Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files. Cundiff, Isaac – Currie, Samuel. [John Cunningham, W6752]***

**[19 March 1851]**

Georgia   }}  
Elbert County                                 }}     I hereby Certify that Ann Cunningham the widow of John Cunningham an officer of the War of the revolution and late a pensioner of the United States Departed this life on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 1849 and that Franklin and John A. Cunningham and **Elizabeth Wanslow** who was **Elizabeth Cunningham** are the only surviving children of the said Ann Cunningham Sworn to and Subscribed March 19<sup>th</sup> 1851

Before me John H. Anderson JP   F. B. Cunningham







Item 8<sup>th</sup> I do hereby constitute and appoint my friends Thomas Johnston and Lawrence M. Adams my Executors to execute this my last will and testament hereby revoking all other wills by me made

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this the Tenth day of September in the year of our lord one thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty one

Signed sealed and	}}	her
acknowledged	}}	Sarah X Fleming {{seal}}
In Presence of	}}	mark
W <sup>m</sup> B. Nelms	}}	
John M. Thornton	}}	
Hiram G. Adams	}}	

Georgia }}  
Elbert County }} Court of Ordinary January term 1853.  
Personally came into open Court John M. Thornton and Hiram G. Adams and being sworn saith that they together with William B. Nelms were present and saw Sarah Fleming sign the above and foregoing instrument of writing as her last will and testament and they together with said William B. Nelms signed the Same as witnesses in the presence of the testator and at her request and in the presence of each other these deponents believe the testator to have been of sound mind at the time of executing the same  
Sworn to in open Court this 10<sup>th</sup> of January 1853  
Attest John M. Thornton  
Wm B. Nelms Ordinary Hiram G. Adams

Researched and written by Jim B. Evans  
Based on research as of May 2017  
© 2017 by Jim B. Evans  
Contact: Wansley1835@gmail.com  
Website: [www.WansleyFamily.org](http://www.WansleyFamily.org)

If you use any information from this report, please include the documentation as given here and cite this paper as: Jim B. Evans. John and Mildred Whitten Wansley of Albemarle County, Virginia and Elbert County, Georgia and their children. (Dallas, TX: Jim B. Evans, 2017) Available online at [www.WansleyFamily.org](http://www.WansleyFamily.org) © 2017 by Jim B. Evans This document may not be used in part or whole for commercial purposes or paid subscriber services. All personal use needs to reference the research report and author.

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**CHAPTER 10: MARTHA [PATSY] WANSLEY and BENJAMIN DAVIS**  
**Joan Horsley and Jim B. Evans**

- 01 Mar 1781 **Martha [Patsy] Wansley** was born in Albemarle County, Virginia, a daughter of John and Mildred [Milly] Wansley. "MARTHA WANDSLEY wife of BENJAMIN DAVIS BORN March 1, 1781 in Albemarle Co. Va. Died 1868 Aged 87 Years" [Source: Photograph of tombstone in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, Georgia.]
- 13 May 1781 **Benjamin Davis** was born in Culpeper County, Virginia. [Source: Photograph of tombstone in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, Georgia.]
- 07 Nov 1801 "Met in conference and proceeded to business as follows 1st Opened a door for the reception of members, and received by experience ... **Benjamin Davis**. . ." [*Records of Church of Christ Vans Creek, Elbert County, Georgia*, pp. 27-8.]
- 13 Feb 1802 "Met at the meeting house, opened a door for the reception of members and recd by experience Patson White Patsey Lyon, Fanny Harris, Franky Kidd, Patsy Gaines, Daniel Thornton Elizabeth Wanslow, George Alexander, **Patsy Wanslow**, Polly Alexander Tricky a black woman belonging to Mr. Roebuck, Elizabeth Kidd, Thomas White and Calep Oliver. 2nd Ordained Bro. Littleton Johnston a deacon according to appointment. The ordination of Bro. John Dingler till the constitution at Bro. Childs. Dismissed." [*Records of the Church of Christ at Van's Creek*, p. 31.] [**NOTE:** Elizabeth Wansley is most likely Nathan Wansley's second wife, Elizabeth Cleveland. The date of the marriage for Nathan Wansley and Elizabeth Cleveland is unknown. Their son Nathan Whitten Wansley was born in 1797. Joseph Wansley, born 1794 and John Wansley, born ca 1795, are reputedly the sons of Nathan Wansley and Susannah Watts.]
- 02 Jan 1804 Benjamin Davis conveyed to Edmond Shackelford, both of Elbert County, 64 acres on Coldwater Creek for \$140. Witnesses: John Carrell, J. P., Reuben White. Signed: **Benjamin Davis**. Registered: 02 April 1805. [*Elbert County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. J [1803-1806]*, p. 135.] [**NOTE:** This deed does not indicate junior or senior.]
- 1807 In Georgia Land Lottery of 1807, **Patsey Winslow** of Clarke's District, Elbert County, won 202½ acres in District 18, Lot 166, Baldwin County, Georgia. Notation at bottom of page stated, "Ought to be **Wanslow**." [**NOTE:** Spinsters over 21 and three-year-residents of Georgia were entitled to one draw in the 1807 Georgia Land Lottery.]
- 10 May 1810 "**Benj<sup>m</sup> Davis** and **Patsey Wanslow** were Married May 10<sup>th</sup> 1810 By Adam Gaar JP A.. Pope CCO" [Elbert County, Georgia Will Book 1809-1812, p. 76.]

17 Dec 1811 Governor David B. Mitchell granted 202½ acres of land to **Patsey Winslow [Wanslow]**, in Baldwin County, District 18, Lot 166. [1807 Georgia Land Lottery]

unknown dates

Benjamin Goddard or Garland Davis, a son of **Martha Wansley** and **Benjamin Davis** was born and died young.

War of 1812 **Benjamin Davis** served as a private in Freeman's Squadron, Georgia Militia. [National Archives, Roll Box 53, Roll Extract. 602]

Elberton Cavalry was attached to 18<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment. **Benjamin Davis** was described as 37 years old, 5'8", dark grey eyes. [Telamon Cuyler Collection, University of Georgia.]

30 Jul 1812 James Madison Davis, a son of **Martha Wansley** and **Benjamin Davis** was born in Georgia.

ca 1817 Matilda Sanson Davis, a daughter of **Martha Wansley** and **Benjamin Davis**, was born in Jasper County, Georgia.

01 Mar 1817 Martha Caroline Davis, a daughter of **Martha Wansley** and **Benjamin Davis** was born in Jasper County, Georgia. "Daughter of Benjamin & MARTHA DAVIS and wife of W. MARTIN. Born March 1, 1817. Feb. 12 1884." [Source: Photograph of tombstone in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, Georgia.]

"Sister Martha C. Martin, the subject of this obituary, departed this life on the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup> of February, 1884. She was born in Jasper County, Georgia in the year 1817, and if she had lived until the first of March, she would have been sixty-seven years of age. Her parents were **Benjamin** and **Martha Wandsley [sic] Davis**, who moved from Virginia to Georgia in the present century. They were among the early settlers of Monroe County, moving to that place about the year 1820, settling near the waters of the Towaliga River. It was here in 1834, that she was married to Col. William Martin, and about a year afterwards, they moved to Lumpkin County." 15 May 1884, *Dahlonega [Georgia] Signal*. [Anderson, p. 106.] **[NOTE:** This obituary was printed about three months following death of Martha C. Davis Martin.]

1820 United States Census Monticello Township, Jasper County, Georgia, p. 220.  
**Davis, Benjamin:** 3 males <10; 1 male 26-45; 2 females <10; 1 female 26-45.

Records of Jasper County, Georgia [includes plaintiffs and defendants, undated and with no specifics about cases]: Superior Court cases:



**Benjamin Davis** and John Davis, Jr. vs. John Davis, Sr.  
**Davis, Benjamin and Martha Davis** vs. Susanah Hicks  
**Benjamin Davis** vs. Allen McClendon  
**Benjamin Davis** vs. James Richards for use of James McDonald. [Davis, Robert Scott, p. 132. ]  
**Benjamin Davis** vs William Walthall,. [Davis, Robert Scott, p. 324.]  
 [NOTE: Since Benjamin Davis is a relatively common name, these references may not be to the Benjamin Davis who married Martha Wansley.]

- 28 Jul 1820 Deed from Jasper County, Georgia Superior Court: **Benjamin Davis** [grantor] to John Beck [grantee]. Recorded: 28 July 1820. p. 423.  
 [NOTE: John Beck was Benjamin Davis' brother-in-law.]
- 1828 Capt. Gibson's District, Jasper County, Georgia tax roll: **Benjamin Davis** had two polls. He owned 202 ½ acres in Lee County, Georgia, District 29, No. 60.
- 1830 United States Census, Monroe County, Georgia, p. 177.  
**Davis, Benjamin:** 1 male 10-15; 1 male 15-20; 1 male 40-50; 1 female 10-15; 1 female 15-20; 1 female; 1 female 40-50. 1 male slave.
- 16 Oct 1833 Jesse Johnson of Heard County, Georgia, conveyed to **Benjamin Davis**, of Monroe County, Georgia, Lot No. 161, District 11, Monroe County, containing 202½ acres for consideration of \$800.00. Witnesses: Daniel Whitaker, John M. Ware, J. I. C. Signed: Jesse Johnson. Registered: 05 March 1834. [*Monroe County, Georgia Deeds Vol. H*, pp. 141-2.]
- 24 Apr 1834 Martha C. Davis married William Martin in Monroe County, Georgia. James Turner, J.P. officiated. Recorded: 31 December 1844. [*Monroe County, Georgia Marriages, Book A*, p. 233.]
- 11 Jan 1835 "Item Second: It is my will and desire that all my property, both real and personal, be sold with the least expense, and as early as can be done on a twelve months credit, and the proceeds be equally divided amongst my children (with the following exceptions: viz: Nancy Young, Elizabeth Elliot, Sally Beck, Nathan Wanslow, John Wanslow, Reuben Wanslow, Milly Jenkins, **Patsy Davis**, Thomas Wanslow, and Larkin Wanslow."
- "Item Three: Having given to some of my children some property heretofore, and deeming it right they should be charged with the amount received, and to be deducted from their shares, it is my will that the sum of Twenty-six dollars be deducted from my daughter, Elizabeth's share, and that the sum of Fifty Dollars be deducted from my son, John Jr.'s share, and that the sum of Thirty Dollars be deducted from my daughter, **Patsy's** share." [John Wansley, Sr. Will, *Elbert County, Georgia Will Book 1830-1835*, pp. 482-3.]

- 12 Nov 1835 Matilda Sanson Davis married William H. Grose [Gross, Grice] in Monroe County, Georgia. Spencer Stamper, officiated. Recorded: 03 March 1836. [*Monroe County, Georgia Marriages, Book A, p. 55.*]
- 06 Jan 1836 No 20 Rec<sup>d</sup> of Thomas Wanslow & William A. Beck Executors of the last will & Testament of John Wanslow<sup>Senr</sup> dec<sup>d</sup> Two hundred dollars in part pay of my distributive share of said estate January 6<sup>th</sup> 1836 **Benjamin Davis** [*Elbert County, Georgia Annual Returns 1842-1846, pp. 205B-207B.*]
- 04 Feb 1839 **Benjamin Davis**, of Monroe County, Georgia, conveyed to William Charters of Lumpkin County, Georgia, Lot 161, District 7, Monroe County, containing 202½ acres for consideration of \$2500.00. Witnesses: D. Hall, R. L. [?S.] Walker, J.P. Signed: Benjamin Davis. Recorded: 17 September 1839. [*Monroe County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. K, pp. 209-210.*]
- 16 May 1839 James M. Davis married Matilda Goggans in Monroe County, Georgia. Jesse Aycock, J. P. officiated. Recorded: blank. [*Monroe County, Georgia Marriages, Book A, p. 159.*]
- 1840 Benjamin Davis was not enumerated on the 1840 United States Census for Monroe County, Georgia.
- 07 Sep 1841 Superior Court of Monroe County, Georgia issued a writ of fieri facias at the suit of William E. & Archibald M. Nall against **Benjamin Davis**. Thomas W. Chipman, sheriff of Monroe County, seized the property of **Benjamin Davis**, Lot 161, District 7, and sold this property at public sale to John M. Suttle for \$61.00. Sheriff conveyed this land to John M. Suttle. Witnesses: Peter Randle, Jon<sup>a</sup> Johnston, J. P. Signed: Thomas W. Chipman. Registered: 06 May 1842. [*Monroe County, Georgia Deeds, Vol. L, pp. 105-6.*] **[NOTE: This is the same property Benjamin Davis conveyed to William Charters on 04 February 1839.]**
- 1850 United States Census Dahlonga, Lumpkin County, Georgia, 24 September 1850, p. 108, 182  
 Moody, John P., WM, 30, physician, \$1500, SC  
 Martin, William, WM, 38, atty, \$10,000, GA  
 Martin, Martha, WF, 33, GA  
 Martin, Benjamin, WM, 15, attended school, GA  
 Martin, Martha, WF, 13, attended school, GA  
 Martin, Beverly, WM, 7, attended school, GA  
 Martin, Fanny, WF, 5, GA  
 Reese, Sarah, WF, 6, GA  
**Davis, Benjamin**, WM, 69, VA  
**Davis, Martha**, WF, 70, VA  
 Reese, Pinkney [?], WM, 12, GA 1

- 1850 United States Census Dahlonge, Lumpkin County, Auraria District, Georgia, 19 July, p. 945, 234/234  
Davis, Benjamin, WM, 20, clerk, GA [single person household, son of James Madison Davis]
- 1860 United States Census Dahlonge, Lumpkin County, Georgia, Dahlonge District, 15 Aug, p. 1006, 633/633  
Martin, William, 48, WM, atty at law, real estate \$48,000, personal property \$8,500, GA  
Martin, Martha C., 43, WF, house keeper, GA  
Martin, Benjamin A., 16, WM, at collage [sic], GA  
Martin, Frances, 14, WF, at collage [sic], GA  
**Davis, Martha**, 70, WF, house asst, VA  
[NOTE: Benjamin Davis was not enumerated in this household.]
- 1867 **Benjamin Davis** died in Lumpkin County, Georgia and was buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Dahlonge, Georgia. "BENJAMIN DAVIS BORN March 3, 1781 Culpepper [sic, Culpeper] Co Died 1867 Aged 86 years" [Source: Photograph of tombstone.]
- 1868 **Martha Davis** died in Lumpkin County, Georgia and was buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Dahlonge, Georgia. "MARTHA WANDSLEY Wife of BENJAMIN DAVIS BORN March 1, 1781 Albemarle Co Died 1868 Aged 87 Years" [Source: Photograph of tombstone.]

Anderson, Jimmy E. *Deaths, Murders and Lynchings Abstracted from Lumpkin County, Georgia Newspapers, Vol. 1 - 1873-1900*. Fernandina Beach, Florida: Wolfe Publishing Co., ca 1998. [Includes obituary for Martha Carolina Davis Martin, daughter of Benjamin Davis and Martha Wandsley]

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*Daughters of the American Revolution Lineage Book, Vol. 61, 1922, pp. 483-4.*

*Daughters of the American Revolution Lineage Book, Vol. 91, p. 162-3.*

Davis, Benjamin, Sr. *Elbert County, Georgia Estate Records Davis, Absalom-Deadwyler, Emma*. [will and inventory]

Davis, Era. "Davis [Family]" in Wansley, Frank Nicholas. *From Rome to Ruckersville – Our Wansley History*. Elberton, Georgia: Frank N. Wansley, ca 1977, second edition.

Davis, Robert Scott, Jr. *Records of Jasper County, Georgia From the Georgia Department of Archives and History*. Greenville, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, ca 1990.

*Elbert County, Georgia Will Book 1809-1812 [Mixed Records Wills, Marriages, Administration of Estates, Guardianships]*, p. 76.

"Elberton Cavalry attached to 28<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Telamon Cuyler Collection, University of Georgia.

Farmer, Michal Martin. *Elbert County, Georgia Deed Books A-J 1791-1806*. Dallas, Texas: Farmer Genealogy Company, 1997.

Horsley, Joan. *Mildred "Milly" Wansley Wife of John Wansley of Albemarle County, Virginia and Elbert County, Georgia [Previously known as Amelia Barber] Fictions and Facts in Wansley Family Genealogies*. Horsley, Joan, 2009, on-line.

Horsley, Joan. Personal communications. [Joan Horsley is a descendant of Martha Wansley and Benjamin Davis.]

*Monroe County, Georgia Marriages, Book A*.

*Records of Church of Christ Vans Creek* [Elbert County, Georgia]. [Original in Office of Ordinary, Elbert County, Georgia; also microfilmed with Elbert County, Georgia deeds in Dallas Public Library.]

Smith, Doris Steed [Mrs. Wray Smith]. "Wansley Line." manuscript.

Virkis, Frederick A. *Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy, Vol. III*. Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1987. [reprint of 1928]

Wansley, John, Sr. *Elbert County, Georgia Annual Returns 1842-1846*, pp. 205B-207B. [final account of distribution of estate]

Wansley, John, Sr. *Elbert County, Georgia Will Book 1830-1835*, pp. 482-3. [will]

Wansley, Frank Nicholas. *From Rome to Ruckersville – Our Wansley History*. Elberton, Georgia: Frank N. Wansley, ca 1977, second edition. [Includes contributions on the Davis-Wansley from Doris Steed Smith and Era Davis.]

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02 Sep 1796 Will of Benjamin Davis in Elbert County, Georgia. He bequeathed estate to children: Ann Morning Davis, Mary Davis, Elizabeth Davis and Benjamin Davis. Benjamin Davis, the son, was to receive the land where

his father lived. Executors: John Jones, Sr. and John Davis. Witnesses: Gibson Jarrell, Simeon Jarrell and Elijah Jarrell. On 19 July 1797, the witnesses testified they saw Benjamin Davis sign his will. On 08 December 1797, the appraisers, Thomas White, George Rucker and Mordecai Shackelford submitted their appraisal. Total valuation was \$254.82. The estate included livestock, household furnishings, carpentry equipment, a loom and farm implements. [Davis, Benjamin, Sr. *Elbert County, Georgia Estate Records Davis, Absalom-Deadwyler, Emma*. [will and inventory]

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**Spouse:** Benjamin Davis  
Birth: 13 May 1781, Culpeper County, Virginia  
Marriage: 10 May 1810, Elbert County, Georgia  
Death: 1867, Lumpkin County, Georgia  
Father:  
Mother:

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**Spouse:** Martha [Patsy, Patsy] Wansley  
Birth: 01 March 1781, Albemarle County, Georgia  
Death: 1868, Lumpkin County, Georgia  
Father: John Wansley, Sr. [1738-13 Jan 1835]  
Mother: Mildred [Milly] Whitten [died 09 January 1829, Elbert County, Georgia]

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**Children:**

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1. Name: James Madison Davis  
M Birth: 30 July 1812, Elbert County, Georgia  
Death: 07 January 1896, Chambers County, Alabama  
Marriage: 16 May 1839, Monroe County, Georgia  
Spouse: Matilda Goggans

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2. Name: Martha Caroline Davis  
F Birth: 01 March 1817, Jasper County, Georgia  
Death: 12 February 1884, Lumpkin County, Georgia  
Marriage: 24 April 1834, Monroe County, Georgia  
Spouse: William Martin

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3. Name: Matilda Sanson Davis  
F Birth: ca 1817, Jasper County, Georgia  
Death: 1895, Chambers County, Alabama  
Marriage: 12 November 1836, Monroe County, Georgia  
Spouse: William Harrison Gross

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4. Name:  
Birth:  
Death:  
Marriage:  
Spouse:

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Researched and written by Jim B. Evans and Joan Horsley  
Based on research as of May 2017  
© 2017 by Jim B. Evans  
Contact: [Wansley1835@gmail.com](mailto:Wansley1835@gmail.com)  
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