

<b>Family Group Sheet</b>		Husband's Full Name Robert Gentry – Rev'l War Soldier					
	<b>Date of:</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Town County State or Country</b>	<b>Additional Info.</b>	
Information Obtained From:	Birth:	ca. 1730			Pamunkey Neck, St. Paul's Parish, Hanover, VA	later became	
The Gentry Family in America 1676 to 1909	Marriage:	about 1752 or 1753			Albemarle Co., VA	Louisa County	
	Death:	ca. 1811 – 9 May 1811			Dandridge, Jefferson Co., TN	d. 6 Feb. 1811	
by Richard Gentry	Burial:	probably buried outside			Dandridge, Jefferson Co., TN		
Places of Residence:							
NSDAR Patriot Index	Occupation:				Religion:	Military Record:	
	Other wives	Rachel West – md 13 November 1804, Jefferson Co., TN					
Echoes of the Past	His Father:	Nicholas Gentry II			His Mother:	Mary Jane Albert Brooks	
by Helen Watson							
Edwards	Wife's Full Maiden Name Judith Joyner						
<a href="http://www.ajlambert.com">http://www.ajlambert.com</a>	<b>Date of:</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Town County State or Country</b>	<b>Additional Info.</b>	
	Birth:	ca. 1734			Albemarle Co., VA		
	Marriage:	about 1752 or 1753			Albemarle Co., VA		
Compiler: Audrey J. Lambert	Death:	ca. 1803/1804			Jefferson Co., TN		
	Burial:						
Address: 39721 Timberlane Dr.	Places of Residence:						
City: St. Hts.	Occupation:				Religion:	Military Record:	
State: MI	Other husbands:						
Date: 22 September 2003	Her Father:	Phillip Joyner			Her Mother:	Elizabeth	
<b>Sex:</b>	<b>Children's Full Names:</b>	<b>Date of:</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Town County State or Country</b>	<b>Additional Info.</b>
M	<b>1. Charles Gentry</b>	Birth:	ca. 1755			Charlottesville, Albemarle Co., VA	Moved with his father
		Marriage:	Abt. 1777			Albemarle Co., VA	to TN in 1783,
	Full Name of Spouse: Elizabeth Joyner	Death:				<i>Possibly md Rhoda Carson.</i>	Jefferson Co., TN.
		Burial:					<i>Stolen by the Indians.</i>
M	<b>2. Jesse Gentry</b>	Birth:	ca. 1757			Albemarle Co., VA	It is probable that he
		Marriage:	ca. 1778			Albemarle Co., VA	finally settled in
	Full Name of Spouse: Elizabeth Betsey Young	Death:	ca. 1834				southern KY.
		Burial:					md 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sarah Eve Miller
M	<b>3. Martin Gentry</b>	Birth:	ca. 1760			Albemarle Co., VA	<i>Veteran of War of 1812</i>
		Marriage:	ca. 1785			Dandridge, Jefferson Co., TN	Service Location: VA
	Full Name of Spouse: Sarah or Ann Gentry	Death:	Before (ante) 2 Nov 1821			Albemarle Co., VA	Rank: Grd
		Burial:					
M	<b>4. Bartlett Gentry</b>	Birth:	ca. 1761			Albemarle Co., VA	Moved with his father
		Marriage:	1 February 1790			Greene Co., TN.	1783, Jefferson Co., TN.
	Full Name of Spouse: Elizabeth Whitman	Death:	ca. 1840/1857			Belfant, AL – Jackson Co., AL	Lived in White Co., TN -
		Burial:				Belfant, AL	moved to Alabama
F	<b>5. Sarah M. Gentry</b>	Birth:	ca. 1760			Albemarle Co., VA	md 2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Marriage:	ca. 1777			Albemarle Co., VA	John McGork/McGirk
	Full Name of Spouse: James Randolph b. 1758, Chesterfield Co. VA – d. 29 Oct. 1794, Jefferson Co., NC	Death:	ca. 1795 or			12 Sept. 1815	<i>* Will of James</i>
		Burial:					<i>Randolph *See Samuel Jack's conveyance to Randolph heirs.</i>
F	<b>6. Mary Gentry</b>	Birth:	ca. 1762			Albemarle Co., VA	md Mr. Drake
		Marriage:	md 1 <sup>st</sup> ca. 1783			Dandridge, Jefferson Co., TN	
	Full Name of Spouse: Marmaduke Kimbrough	Death:	ca. 1784				
		Burial:	Mossy Creek Iron Works			Jefferson City, Jefferson Co., TN	

CHILDREN CONTINUATION SHEET for FAMILY GROUP No.					
Husband's Full Name		Robert Gentry – Rev'l War Soldier			
Wife's full maiden name		Judith Joyner			
Sex:	Children's Full Names:	Date of:	Day Month Year	Town County State or Country	Additional Info.
F	7. Elizabeth Gentry	Birth:	ca. 1765	Albemarle Co., VA	
		Chr'nd			
	Full Name of Spouse: Mr. Morrор/Murrор	Marriage:	ca. 1785	Albemarle Co., VA	
		Death:			
		Burial:			

**Source: North Carolina Land Grants in Tennessee: 1778 – 1791:** Compiled by Betty Goff Cook Cartwright & Lillian Johnson Gardiner, Foreword by Robert T. Quarles, Jr., Director Division of Archives, State of Tennessee. Memphis, TN, 1958.

North Carolina Land Grants in Tennessee, 1778-1791 has been reproduced because of its value to genealogists and historians as source material for the earliest period of Tennessee settlement. Early records of Tennessee are scarce. Census schedules for 1790 of the Western Territory (Tennessee) were burned, so too were the 1809 and all but one county (Rutherford) for 1810. This list of land owners and/or settlers constitutes the only substitute for a 1790 Census of the part of North Carolina which became Tennessee in 1796.

**Pg. 13: No. of Grant: 531: To Whom Granted: Robert Gentry: No. of Acres: 375: Date of Grant: 1783: County: Washington: Section: on Limestone Creek.**

**Pg. 39: No of Grant: 1851: To Whom Granted: Robert Gentry: No of Acres: 475: Date of Grant: 1787: County: Greene: Section: on the head of Kelseys Mill Creek.**

**Source:** Land deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee 1792-1814 by Boyd J. Holdaway, Greenville, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1991.

Pg. 4

Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee:

57 27 Grant No. 1177: **Jesse Gentry** (Gentry)

19 June 1793 12 January 1793 600 Acres: 10 Pounds for every 100 acres. Our County of Green on the north side of the French Broad River adj. Robert Carson's creek, **Robert Gentry**, Abraham Hughs. State of North Carolina at Newburn. Jas Glasgow, Sectry, /s/ Richard Dobbs Spaight.

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Register of Deeds, Volume A, September 1792 – September 1793.

253 26 Grant No. 321: **Robert Gentry** (Gentry)

16 February 1796 20 September 1787 475 Acres: 10 Pounds for every 100 acres. County of Green on the north side of French Broad River on the head of Kelso's Mill Creek. State of North Carolina at Kingston. Jas Glasgow, Secretary /s/ Richard Caswell  
Certify the foregoing to be a copy of the records altered in the Secretary Office pursuant to an order of Green County Court this 30 September 1795. /s/ Jas Glasgow, Secretary

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Register of Deeds, Volume B. September 1793 – February 1796.

18 21 **Jessee Gentry** (Hawkins Co.) to **Robert Gentry**

26 December 1793 12 November 1793 200 Acres 300 Pounds

One the north bank of French Broad River; being part of said Jessee Gentry's tract of 600 acres adj. "\_\_\_" Graham, Cassion's Creek, "\_\_\_" Abraham heirs. Ackd /s/ Jessee Gentry

20 22 **Jesse Gentry** to George Graham, Gunsmith

20 December 1793 13 November 1793 180 Acres 194 Pounds, 8 Shillings. One the north bank of French Broad River adj. Casion's Creek; being part of a 600 acre tract entered in the State's Office at Hillsboro by Jesse Gentry. Adkd /s/ Jesse Gentry

23 24 **Jessee Gentry** (Hawkins Co.) to Abraham Hughs

27 December 1793 13 November 1793 200 Acres 100 Pounds On the North Branch of French Broad River; being part of said Jessee Gentry's tract of 600 acres. Ackd /s/ **Jesse Gentry**

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Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee

325 2 **Robert Gentry** to Robert Henderson

24 December 1795 12 November 1795 200 Acres \$583.33 On the north side of French Broad River on the East Fork of Kelso's Mill Creek. Wit: Jos. Hamilton. Ackd /s/ **Robert Gentry**.

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Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee

348 13 **Robert Gentry** to Hugh Kelso

26 February 1796 2 November 1795 275 Acres \$500.00 On the north side of French Broad River on the South Fork of Hugh

Kelso's Mill Creek. Wit: Jos Hamilton, Robert Henderson.

Ackd /s/ **Robert Gentry**.

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Register of Deeds, Volume C, September 1792 – April 1797

37 20 Conveyance from **Charles Gentry** (Hawkins Co.) to Adam Wilson

10 January 1793 5 September 1792 400 Acres 120 Pounds On the north side of French Broad River adj. David Lyle, Lyle's Branch, Beniaman McFarland, Hugh Kelso, John Coon; being original Grant No. 1025 dated 26 December 1791. Wit: **Robert Gentry**; Abed Inman; John Wilson. /s/ **Charles Gentry**

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Register of Deeds, Volume C, September 1792 – April 1797

202 50 Samuel Jack Conveyance to Heirs of **James Randolph**

23 June 1796 3 May 1796 200 Acres \$66.66

**Robert Gentry** and **Bartlet Gentry**, Executors, and **Sarah Randolph**, Executrix of the Last Will and Testament of **James Randolph**, Dec'd Jefferson County. Wit: Joseph Hamilton, Clk. /s/ Samuel Jack (*Sarah Gentry, d/o Robert Gentry and Judith Joyner md James Randolph*).

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Register of Deeds, Volume F, April 1802 – June 1804

157 483 Executors of the Estate of **James Randolph**, Deceased, to **Henry Haggard**

5 Oct 1803 1801 105 Acres \$600.00

Jefferson County adj. the land of William Hoskins purchased of Samuel Jack, deceased, George Douglass, **Sarah Randolph**, **Robert Gentry**, **Bartlett Gentry**, and **Sarah Randolph**, Executors. Test: J. Hamilton. Ackd /s/ **Robert** and **Bartlett Gentry**; **Sarah Randolph**. *Lucy Randolph, d/o James Randolph & Sarah Gentry. Lucy md Henry Hazelrigg Haggard.*

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Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee

10 6 Robert Henderson Deed to Thomas Galbreath (Gilbreath)

11 June 1804 20 July 1803 51 Acres \$250.00

Jefferson County adj. **Robert Gentry**, the Great Road. Adkd in open court.

/s/ Robert Henderson

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Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee

138 68 Robert Carson Deed to Benjamin McFarland

15 July 1805 13 June 1803 200 Acres \$318.00

Green County on the waters of French Broad River adj. **Charles Gentry**, Michael Coons, Robert Carson. Test: Benjamin Bradford;

Hugh

Martin. /s/Robert Carson April Sessions 1805. Then was the within deed proven in court and recorded. Let it be registered.

Test: /s/ J. Hamilton, Clk.

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Register of Deeds, Volume G, May 1804 – January 1806

(Original Deed Number 81 not used)

160 82 **Robert Gentry** Deed to **Martin Gentry**

31 July 1805 13 April 1805 82 Acres \$587.00

On the north side of French Broad River joining George Graham and Robert Carson; being part of a 220 acre tract. Test: Samuel Lyle; David Lyle. /s/Robert Gentry July Sessions 1805. Then was the within deed ackd in court and recorded. Let it be registered.

Test: /s/ J. Hamilton, Clk.

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Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee

58 Benjamin McFarland Deed to Robert Carson

On the waters of French Broad River adjoining **Robert Gentry**, Michael Coons, Robert Carson. Wit: John McFarland; R. McFarland; R. McFarland. /s/Benjamin McFarland October Sessions 1809. Then was the within deed proved in open court by the oaths of John McFarland and Robert deed proved in open court by the oaths of John McFarland and Robert McFarland, subscribing witnesses thereto. Let it be registered. Test /s/ J. Hamilton, Clk., by his Deputy, D. Barton.

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Land Deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee

327 Executors of the **Last Will and Testament of James Randolph**, Deceased, Bill of Sale to Samuel Carson.

20 September 1811 29 May 1809 \$450.00

**Robert Gentry** and **Sarah McGirk**, Executors. We have this day bargained, sold and delivered unto Samuel Carson, his heirs and assigns forever a certain Negro girl named Esther supposed to be 25 years of age and formerly the property of said **James Randolph**, deceased, the just right of which property we warrant and forever defend from the just and lawful claim of any other person or persons

whatsoever. Attest: **Martin Gentry; Silas Gentry.** /s/ **Robert Gentry**; Sary McGirk September Sessions 1811. The within Bill of Sale was proven in open court and ordered to be recorded. Let it be registered. /s/ J. Hamilton, Clk., by his Deputy, Wyly Martin.  
(Sarah (Gentry) Randolph md 2<sup>nd</sup> John McGork/McGirk)

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**North Carolina Land Grants, September 1792 – December 1814.**

**Grant/Patent Number: 321**

**Date: 20 September 1787**

**Grantee (Buyer or Indirect): Robert Gentry**

**Source:** North Carolina Land Grants Recorded in Greene County, Tennessee, Compiled by Goldene Fillers Burgner, 1981.

ISBN: 0-89308-204-X

Introduction: In 1783 the State of North Carolina decided Washington District which extended as the present State of Tennessee to the Mississippi River. A line was surveyed beginning at William Williams' place and to the mouth of Cloud's Creek on Holston River. All land south and west of this line was Greene County, North Carolina.

There was the land and the water, few trails and settlers were coming fast. Land was being taken fast for homes and farms, and large tracts fro speculation. Surveying was inadequate, property lines overlapped but by 1800, after much dispute and re-surveying, correct lines were established.

These grants do put the settlers in the general section which can be shown by the map of rivers.

### **GREENE COUNTY TENNESSEE RECORDS**

Greene (now Tennessee) was formed in 1783 from Washington (now Tennessee). Washington County was formed in 1777 from the District of Washington. It was roughly the territory west of Wilkes County, North Carolina, between Wilkes and the Virginia line, which had been allowed three representatives in the General Assembly of North Carolina in 1776.

Sullivan (now Tennessee) was formed in 1779 from Washington County. Part of Washington (Tennessee) was annexed to Wilkes County, North Carolina, in 1792.

This book contains approximately 2,000 land grants recorded in Greene County, Tennessee. Some of these grants were made by the U.S. Government to pay off debts to officers and soldiers who served in the Revolutionary War; some of the grants was land owned and sold by Lord Granville; while other grants were issued by the states of North Carolina and Tennessee to encourage settlement in the new state of Tennessee. All grants had to be registered by the claimant in order for his grant to be legal. Not only do we see grants issued by the states as described above, but these also contain deeds between persons for which some obligation had been undertaken. The land grants in Tennessee issued by the federal government to officers and soldiers in the Continental Line had to be entered in the county within 12 months, while these grants recorded in Greene County like later deeds had to be registered, but there was no proscribed period from the date of issue to the date of registration.

(pg. 107) Page 114 No. 841:

Michael Coons – 640 acres on French Broad River where Coons now lives, adjoining **Charles Gentry**, Hugh Kelso, Robert Carson. Alexander Martin at Fayetteville, 24 November 1790.

(pg. 112) Page 164 No. 164:

Robert Carson – 200 acres on French Broad River, adjoining **Robert Gentry**, Michael Coon. Alexander Martin at Danberry, 13 Febraury 1791.

(pg. 115) Page 201 No.\_\_\_\_

David Lyle – 320 acres on north side French Broad River, adjoining **Charles Gentry**, William Bryan. Alexander Martin at Newbern, 26 December 1791.

**Source:** Greene County, Tennessee Minutes of the Court of Common Pleas, 1783-1795, Compiled by Godene Fillers Burgner.

Introduction: Listening to the Past, we look to the Future.

Green County, Tennessee, was taken from Washington District of North Carolina as the settlers swarmed into its area seeking fertile soil and taking advantage of the land bought with military pay, for service in the American Revolution. The date was 1783 near the Big Spring in the heart of what was to become Greeneville, the County Seat; men hereinafter recorded set about to form a government and tame a new land. It was roughly the territory west of Wilkes County, North Carolina, between Wilkes and the Virginia line, which had been allowed three representatives in the General Assembly of North Carolina in 1776.

Sullivan (now Tennessee) was formed in 1779 from Washington County. Part of Washington (Tennessee) was annexed to Wilkes County, North Carolina, in 1792.

These first men were educated – could read, write and cypher – but there were no schools for the next generation, and for a great part, they signed their names with an X or a mark. But the potential was there, and as churches were organized, education was promoted in the church schools. Horses, cattle and sheep were brought in, field crops were improved orchards were started, and there were flowers around the cabins – thus forming the nucleus of the civilized society we have today.

The court of Common Pleas was composed of justices of the peace who exercised administrative, judicial, magisterial and ministerial functions. Normally, the Court met every three months, with each sitting generally referred to by its month, such as "January Term." The official business of the Court at each of its quarterly terms was recorded in County Court minutes, sometimes called minute dockets, or minute books. The main business fell mainly into the area of administration of local government, oversight of matters relating to estates and trials of minor civil and criminal actions.

Pg. **ROBERT GENTRY** and JAMES HOUSTON exhibited into Court her their petition setting forth that they are injured by a Grant but does not ascertain in what manner.

*Index: GENTRY: Charles, pgs. 121, 138, 157, 171, 187 – Jesse, pgs. 189, 373, 428, 430, 459 – Robert, pg. 259.*

**Source:** Greene County Tennessee Deed Abstracts, 1785- 1810, Volumes 2,4,6,7 and 8, abstracted by Joyce Martin Murray of Dallas, TX, 1996.

Introduction: The area covered by Greene County is referred to in the deeds herein at various times as Greene County, NC, part of the State of Franklin, Washington Co., TN, and Greene Co., Territory South of the Ohio, as well as Greene Co., TN. Greene County was formed by North Carolina in April 1783 out of part of the Washington District, which had itself been formed in 1777. Part of Greene County went into Knox County in 1792, and part of it was put into present Jefferson County the same year.

Greene County Deeds Book 1:

(pg. 25) Page 332 Indenture 16 August 1794:

JOHN MURPHEY and **JESSE GENTRY**, both of Greene Co., \$400 pd, 300 acres on both sides of Lick Creek, adjoining WILLIAM HODGE, RICHARD HAYNES, and MICHAEL REED, part of surv of 640 acres, patented at Kingston 1 November 1786, the 11<sup>th</sup> year of our Independence. Wit: JOHN WOOD, JURAT, JOHN SAYLES. Reg. 1 April 1795.

(pg. 33) Page 450 Indenture 15 September 1794: JOHN MURPHEY and JOHN BAYLES, 100 acres on Wolf Creek in Green Co., joining said Murphey's former survey. Wit: **JESSEY GENTRY**, JUART, SAYMER CATHCING. Reg. 7 April 1796.

(pg. 34) Page 452 Indenture 11 August 1794:

JOHN MURPHEY and RICHARD HAINEY, both of Greene Co., \$100 pd, 100 acres on West side Lick Creek, it being part of a surv of 640 acres, patent 1 November 1786. Wit: JOHN BAYUERS, **JESSEE GENTRY**, JURAT.

(pg. 54) Page 211 Indenture 8 August 1796:

**JESSE GENTRY** and JOHN KIRK, both of Greene Co., TN, \$500 pd, 300 acre tract in said county on both sides Lick Creek, adjoining JOHN MURPEY, SAYMORE CATCHINGS, JOHN MURPHEY, MICHAEL REED and WELCOM HODGE, & being part 640 acre survey, patent dated at Kinston 1 November 1786. JOHN REES, ANTHONY MOORE.

**Source:** Bent Twigs in Jefferson County, by Jean Patterson Bible, 1991 – Library of Congress Card No.: 468-120.

Pg. 1 Although Jefferson County did not have an official birthday until 1792, history was already shaping up throughout the entire area during the 1780's. White settlers were making their way in from Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Virginia, some via Watauga or Greene County after a short stay in those settlements. Undoubtedly several of them had previously scouted the territory and had liked what they saw. Also a good many were veterans who were returning from King's Mountain and had passed through this part of East Tennessee on their way home to Virginia. "They returned on the north side of the Tennessee, passed by the place since known as the Post-Oak-Springs, crossed Emery and Clinch a little above their confluence, and Holston some miles above its junction with French Broad. These were the first troops that had seen the richest lands of the present Hamilton, Rhea, Roane, Knox, and the north part of Jefferson counties, and seen as they were in all the beauty and verdure of May, it is not strange that a new and increasing current of emigration was at once turned to this beautiful and inviting county." Annals of Tennessee by J.G.M. Ramsey – pg. 188.

During that period, Jefferson was a part of what was called Caswell County (Greene County today), named for North Carolina governor, Richard Caswell. The Franklinites called it the "middle country" since it was that portion of the ill-fated State of Franklin.

Pg. 2: Those arriving in 1783 included **Thomas Jarnagin** (sometimes spelled "Jarnigan"), James Hill, Wesley White, **James Randolph**, Joseph Copeland, **Robert Gentry**, and James Hubbard. Captain Jarnagin settled four miles above the mouth of the Nolachucky on the north side, and it was recorded that 1784 "Thomas Jarnagin hath leave to build a mill on Long Creek." James Hill and family put down roots a mile lower down, Wesley White immediately opposite Taylor's bend, **Robert Gentry** four miles above Dandridge, and Joseph Copeland south of the river seven miles above Dandridge. They were soon followed by others, including Ninian Chamberlain, Thomas Snoddy and Matthew Wallace in the vicinity of Long Creek. In 1785, Col. George Doherty settled several miles west of Dandridge near today's Shady Grove. In about 1799, Michael Branner, ancestor of John Casper and John Roper Branner, settled in the Dandridge area with his family, as did Shadrach and Abednego Inman with large land grants. Others coming to the North bank of the French Broad above Dandridge included Benjamin McFarland, Hugh Kelso, Rev. Robert Henderson, Dr. William Moore, George Wilcoxon and William Goforth.

Pg. 12: The second meeting of the court was held on the fourth Monday in October, 1792, again at the home of Jeremiah Matthews. The following grand inquest appeared in court and were qualified and received their charge, to wit: William Horner, Samuel Patton, Andrew McGown, James Harrison, William Churchman, William Campbell, Benjamin Hargrove, Andrew Chamberlain, Thomas Renno, David Stuart, James Alexander, **Jesse Gentry**, Jeremiah Matthews, Roger Oats, John Neely, Joseph Doherty.

Pg. 12: In addition to more of the items mentioned earlier, others coming up in this rather lengthy session included "leaves" granted to build mills and operate ferries and Taverns. One to **Thomas Jarnagin** says that he "hath leave to keep an ordinary (tavern) at his own house, who entered into Bond with Alexander Outlaw & Robert McFarland his securities."

Pg. 13: The next meeting of the court was on the second Monday in May, 1793, this time in Dandridge. Tradition says it was held in the Old Bill Blue House, a log cabin torn down in 1955, located just up the street from the present court house. "The following grand inquest appeared in Court, were qualified and received their charge viz: Abednego Inman, foreman, James Hill, **Robert Gentry**, George Edges, George Evans, Joseph Prigmore, Caleb Witt, David Murphy, Joseph Witt, Hugh Kelso, Abrahma Slover, Richard Rankin, Samuel Lyle, John M. Roberts, Ezekial Henry, Samuel McClanahan, Adam Willson, David McClanahan, & Thomas Vance."

Pg. 16: According, Francis Dean donated forty acres of land for the site and Samuel Jack was appointed to survey and "lay Off" the town (to be named for Martha Dandridge Custis Washington, the wife of our first president), a job for which he is said to have been paid fifteen dollars.

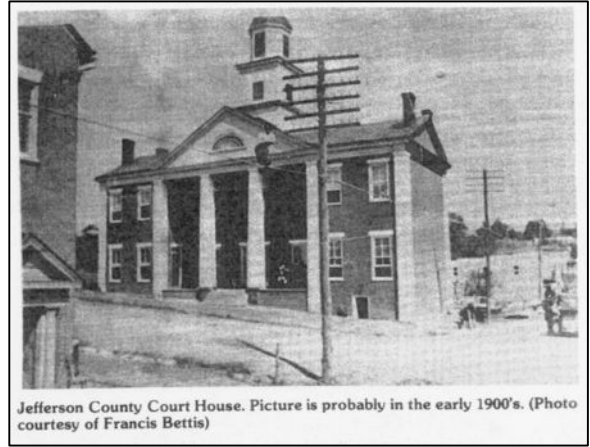
Pg. 20: Very little is known about the first Jefferson County court house, but old citizens are responsible for the tradition that it was a small brick building standing but a few feet from the upper corner of the present one. When it was torn down, the brick in its walls was used to build the old Fain blacksmith shop. The first brick kilns for Dandridge were located one mile below town near the homes of Andrew Henderson and the Sheddans. And as **Henry Haggard** and his son, **James**, did all the brick work for the new town, they perhaps assisted in the building of the first court house.

Pg. 21: To many people, the most interesting place in the historic structure is the County Court Clerk's office where hangs the famous marriage license of David Crockett and Polly Findley, dated August 12, 1806. Joseph Hamilton was clerk then.

Pg. 36: In the book, Thomas Jarnagin, by Lee Leepers Powers, a descendant of Jarnigan, Lee says that land grants recorded in Raleigh, North Carolina, showed that several settlers in the area had entered their claims in the late 1700's.

**THOMAS JARNAGIN**, written by the late Lee Leeper Powers (316 pages, hardback) can be ordered by sending a check for \$45.00 to: Alan P. Moore, 5878 Leepers Ferry Road, Morristown, TN 37813.

Alan Moore is a grandson of Lee Powers. Alan's mother, Marilyn Powers Moore, writes that they have a 200-year-old family farm that is a remnant of one of Thomas Jarnagin's land grants. The old Jarnagin family cemetery is about a mile away. Every summer they have Jarnagin visitors who are looking for the cemetery and the site of Mt. Harmony, the original Jarnagin home.



Jefferson County Court House. Picture is probably in the early 1900's. (Photo courtesy of Francis Bettis)

**Source:** First Families of Tennessee – East Tennessee Historical Society  
P.O. Box 1629, Knoxville, TN 37901

My name is Audrey June Denny Lambert and I am documented with your society certificate #13534. My ancestor that settled in Tennessee was Capt. William Jared., pg. 188. I am submitting to you another ancestor of mine found on pg. 155 of your book First Families of Tennessee – **Robert Gentry** – Born c1730, Hanover Co., VA; Died: c1812, Jefferson Co., TN; Married: (1) Judith Joyner: **County Settled: Washington, 1778; Proof: tax list.**

**Descendants:**

James Hubert Beene	Kenneth Glenn Gaffney	Beverly Claire Beene Haliburton
Jean Gentry Beene	David Allen Gentry	Carol Elise Beene Klussmann
Robert Murray Beene	Herbert Howard Gentry	Joy Neville Mask
Stephen Carl Beene	Virgil H. Gentry	Cynthia Ann Beene Summers
Christie Leight Beene Culp	Audrey June Denny Lambert	

Enclosed are documentation for my ancestor **Robert Gentry** and his family. Enclosed is the registration fee for the First Families of Tennessee Certificate.

**I have enclosed as proof:**

My Family Tree Charts.

Lewis Monroe Family Bible.

Aden Hendley Family Bible

1840 USA Census – 12<sup>th</sup> District of Jackson Co., TN showing Robert Gentry Jr. & Aden (Addin) Henley.

1850 USA Census – 9<sup>th</sup> District of Jackson Co., TN showing Joel Hendley and his wife Mary Horne father of Aden Hendley.

1850 USA Census – 9<sup>th</sup> District of Jackson Co., TN showing Aden Hendley and his wife Elizabeth Gentry.

1850 USA Census – 9<sup>th</sup> District of Jackson Co., TN showing the daughter of Aden Hendley and Elizabeth Gentry – Julian (Julia Ann) Hendley.

Journal of the House State of Indiana – showing on page 49 marriage of Aden Hendley and Elizabeth Jane Gentry.

Will of Nicholas Gentry – showing Robert Gentry as his son.

‘The Gentry Family in America’ by Richard Gentry showing the relationship of Robert Gentry Sr. to Bartlett Gentry to Robert Gentry Jr.

Will of Robert Gentry – pg. 40 of ‘The Gentry Family in America’ by Richard Gentry.

The Annals of Tennessee by J. G. M. Ramsey – pg. 277 showing Robert Gentry as a first settler of Jefferson Co., TN.

Putnam County Tennessee Cemeteries by Maurine Patton on pg. 484 it shows the dates and burial place of Aden S. Hendley and Elizabeth Gentry Hendley. Buried Smellage Cemetery, Boma, TN.

Putnam County Tennessee Cemeteries by Maurine Patton on pg. 541 it shows the dates and burial place of McDonald Wallace and Julia Ann Hendley Wallace.

Stray Leaves from Putnam County History by Mary Hopson pg. 243 shows Robert Gentry md to Nancy Harris. Shows their son Wiley B. Gentry born ca., 1838 – died in the Civil War. Buried: Old National Cemetery, Nashville, TN.

Journal of Gentry Genealogy

Robert's children, named in his will, included sons Charles, Jesse, Bartlett and Martin, and daughters Elizabeth, Sarah and Mary, all of whom moved from Virginia to Tennessee in the very earliest years of the settlement of that state.

#### **NSDAR PATRIOT INDEX:**

**GENTRY, ROBERT:**

**Birth: ca. 1730, VA**

**Rank: Sol**

**Service: NC**

**Death: 5/9/1811, TN**

**Patriot Pensioned: NO**

**Widow Pensioned: NO**

**Children Pensioned: NO**

**Heirs Pensioned: NO**

**Spouse: (1) Judith Joyner**

**Spouse: (2) Rachel West**

#### **Notes on Robert Gentry who md Judith Joyner:**

Robert and his family moved to Jefferson County, TN.

Robert was born in VA, moved east to TN and helped found Green Co., TN.

Note:

Robert gave his son-in-law, Duke Kimbrough a farm near Dandridge.

Robert was 81 years old when he died.

Robert lived east of Dandridge, TN on the French Broad River.

Robert was a planter of the parish.

Mary Gentry (Robert , Nicholas , Nicholas , Samuel ) was born in 1762 in Albermarle, Va. She died in 1784 in Jefferson, TN.

Mary married (1) Marmaduke "Duke" Kimbrough in 1783 in Dandridge, Jefferson, NC/TN. Marmaduke was born on 14 Nov 1762 in Rowan, NC. He died on 21 Sep 1849 in Mossy Creek, Jefferson, TN and was buried in Duke was buried, TN..

Duke was buried at the family graveyard on the farm he owned at Mossy Creek Iron Works about 2 miles from Jefferson City, TN.

He moved with his brother, Jesse, from NC to TN and settled near Dandridge in what is now Jefferson Co. but was called Green Co. at the time.

His father-in-law, Robert gave him a farm near Dandridge, TN where he lived for some time and then moved on the Mossy Creek Iron Works.

After his wife, Mary died, he married a second time.

Mary died in 1784 and Duke married a second time to Susan Hunter.

Death of one spouse

Mary also married (2) Drake in 1787 in Dandridge, Jefferson, NC/TN. Drake was born in 1765 in Dandridge, Jefferson, NC/TN.

Drake and Mary had the following children:

Robert Drake was born in 1788

Sarah Drake was born in 1790

Prudence Drake was born in 1792

Joe Payne

9001-H Grayland Drive

Knoxville, Tennessee

Tel: 865-670-8736

<http://www.joepayne.org/genealogy.htm>

Jefferson County, Tennessee Families and History 1792-1996

By The Jefferson County Genealogical Society – pgs. 223 & 224

Submitted by: Ansley R. Fox, 5 Shadowbrook Lane, Weaverville, NC 28787

**Thomas West** was born in England in circa 1730. Rachel?, wife of Thomas West was born around 1729.

In Colonial Soldiers of the South 1732-1774 a size roll of Col. George Washington's (later of become President) Company on 28 August 1757, is listed. On the list is Thomas West, 27 years old, 5' 11" in height, England, country of birth, carpenter by profession. He enlisted in October 1756 in Augusta Co., VA.

In 1783 Thomas West was listed in the 1783 Tax List of Greene Co., TN. His home was located near the Quaker town of Rheatown in Greene County. In June 1791, Edward West, son of Thomas West, married Lydia Stanfield, daughter of the Quaker family named Stanfield, who resided at Rheatown.

In 1792, Thomas West built a log house near Buffalo Springs in Jefferson County, where he lived. He owned 640 acres on both sides of the Holston River, on the border of Jefferson and Grainger Counties.

In May 1794, William Donelson won a law suit against Thomas West. Thomas West was assessed 5,000 pounds of Virginia money, plus costs.

In February 1795, Thomas West sold 150 acres to his son Samuel West, and registered in Grainger County a land grant of 117 acres in Greene Co., TN.

Thomas West died in January 1796 in Jefferson Co., TN according to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Account Book, when Donelson sued Edward West and Samuel West as heirs of Thomas West.

In November 1804, Robert Gentry became the second husband of Rachel West. Rachel died after 1811.

Children of Thomas West (incomplete):

1. Mary West – born 1764, died 1846, married ca. 1783 Absolom (sic) Haworth, 12 children.
2. Edward West – born 29 October 1766 in VA – died 8 April 1849 in Washington Co., TN – md 1st 17 June 1791, Greene Co., TN to Lydia Stanfield – md 2nd 25 December 1793, Washington Co., TN to Elizabeth Humphreys.
3. Samuel West – Will probated 3 November 1834 – married 24 October 1797, Grainger Co., TN to Elizabeth Thompson, resident of Grainger Co., TN, 12 children, 6 sons and 6 daughters.
4. Rachel West – born 1776, died 1840 married 18 March 1794, Jefferson Co., TN to David Boyles/Bayless, resident of Greene Co., TN – 13 children.
5. Jerusha West – married 26 December 1806, Jefferson Co., TN to Isaac Adams

**Source:** Tennessee Cousins – 1950

A History of Tennessee People By Worth S. Ray

Author of "The Lost Tribes of North Carolina"

pg. 99 – Where the First Settlers in Jefferson County Lived:

Goodspeed's History gives us a fair idea of who the first settlers of Jefferson Co., TN were, and where in the County and surrounding country, they lived. Jefferson County received its first contingent of pioneer families as early as 1783. At that time the territory included all of the present Hamblen, Cocke and Sevier countries. Among the first were:

Robert McFarland	Alexander Outlaw	<b>Thomas Jarnigan</b>	James Hill	Wesly White
<b>James Randolph</b>	Joseph Copeland	<b>Robert Gentry</b>	James Hubbard	

**ROBERT GENTRY'S** home was four miles above the present Dandridge.

**CAPT. THOMAS JARNIGAN** settled on the North side of "Chucky" River about 4 miles above its mouth. About 1784 he built the first mill in Jefferson Co. on Long Creek. \*See Family information on Thomas Jarnigan in the Jernigan files: [www.ajlambert.com](http://www.ajlambert.com)



pg. 98 – The French Broad Baptist Church and Coon’s Meeting House: The French Broad Baptist Church was the second church organized around Dandridge, and it was established about two and a half miles East of Dandridge in 1786 by Jonathan Mulkey and Isaac Barton. Following is what is said to be an authentic roll of its original members.

Michael Coons	<b>James Randolph</b>	<b>Henry Haggard</b>	John Fryer	Tabitha and Elizabeth Gentry
Wesley White	Rebecca Coons	Dolly Haggard	Margaret Smith	<b>Charles Gentry</b> (The 1 <sup>st</sup> Clerk)
Sarah Fryer	Elizabeth Morrow	Alexander Morrow	<b>Duke Kimbrough</b>	Unius and Sarah Carlock
Margaret Johnson	Joseph and Sarah Witt	Elizabeth Whitman	Catron McGirkl	Elizabeth Johnson Sr. and Jr.

**Robert Gentry**

**Source:** Records of Early Marriages in Jefferson County, Tennessee - pg. 118

**David Bayless** to **Rachel West** married 18 March 1794 – (*Rachel West md 2<sup>nd</sup> Robert Gentry – no children*).

Source: Jefferson County, Tennessee Marriage Records, 1792-1870, by Virginia Carlisle d’Armand.

Jefferson County, Tennessee, Marriages:

Pg. 86: **GENTRY, ROBERT** to **RACHAEL WEST**: Bondsman: JAMES BRADFORD – 13 November 1804.

**Source:** William M. Gentry, Duluth, GA

Robert Gentry married Judith Joyner, daughter of Philip Joyner of Albemarle County, Virginia. In his will dated February 19, 1761, Philip leaves to Charles and Jesse Gentry, sons of Robert Gentry, each 200 acres of land. Today the University of Virginia stands on this land. The sons sold the land before moving their families to Tennessee (then part of North Carolina).

Robert and sons, Charles and Jesse, fought in the American Revolution while residing in Virginia.

On December 5, 1777 Robert took the oath before James McGavock in which he renounced and refused all allegiance to George III, King of Great Britain, his heirs and successors, and pledged to be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

After the war in 1783, Robert and his family moved to Green County, North Carolina, now a part of Tennessee.

Robert and his family were of the first Gentry settlers in this section of the country. He was very active in establishing the first Baptist church in the county. His sons, Charles, served as clerk of the church for many years.

In November, 1775, Robert’s son, Charles Gentry, was brought before church officials for abroisity, anger, and aggravation. Charles showed repentance and was forgiven. Charles had sold his land inherited from his grandfather, Philip Joyner, and requested at the same November meeting a letter of dismissal. He later removed to Tennessee with his father, Robert Gentry, and his brother-in-law, James Randolph.

Land was taken from Green and Hawkins Counties in North Carolina in 1792 to form Jefferson County. In 1796 this county became a part of Tennessee.

Judith Joyner died in 1803 and in 1804 Robert married Rachel West. They did not have any children.

Robert and some, if not all of his sons received land grants in Jefferson County. Robert received a grant of 400 acres a few miles north of Dandridge, the county seat of Jefferson County. This was his first home in Tennessee. These grants were awards for service in the army and were grants for land or grants for a small fee.

Son Jesse received a grant from the state of North Carolina. He paid ten pounds for each 100 acres. The back of his land boundary was the north side of the French Broad River. This land was four miles east of Dandridge, below the Swann ferry, which is now marked by the Swann Bridge over which Highway U.S. 70 and Interstate 40 pass. The land is reached today by the Oak Grove Road which is just south of the bridge.

In 1793 Robert purchased 230 acres of this land from Jesse and built a home there. He lived and farmed the land until his death in 1811. Robert willed the land to his second wife, Rachael. It passed to his son, Martin, upon her death. Robert’s will was dated May 9, 1811 and recorded in the court house in Dandridge, Tennessee.

**Source:** Reported in 1999 by, Glenn Staley Gentry – 5<sup>th</sup> great grandson of Robert Gentry:

The Robert Gentry House  
Oak Grove Road  
Oak Grove Community  
Jefferson County, Tennessee

After spending three days in Dandridge, Tennessee, I want to give an account of our new discoveries.

With information given to us by the librarian in the Dandridge Library, we were on our way to finding the **Robert Gentry** home, which has been the primary objective of our two visits to the River (The French Broad River). She suggested that we talk with Edith Leeper Drinnon who had been on a Knoxville TV station discussing the history of the Dandridge area. She lives in the Oak Grove Community.

I called Edith and talked with her. She was most knowledgeable about the Community where Robert and family had lived. She immediately told me where the Gentry house was located. We were surprised and happy.

The house is located on the Oak Grove Rd. (a road we had looked on before) just beyond, but adjacent to, The Douglas Lake Camp Grounds. As it was late in the evening on Wednesday that I talked with Mrs. Drinnon, who slightly admonished me for not knowing more about the State of Franklin, we decided not to leave for home early Thursday morning.

So on that foggy morning we drove to Oak Grove and were delighted to find a fair-sized brown house, a short distance from the Lake. The house had had two additions to the original log house; brown siding covered the logs. The end addition had been recently removed and logs were exposed. The back addition was being removed. It is a two story log house about 25x25 feet with one room down stairs and a good sized room upstairs. At the time in history the house probably had a reasonable amount of space for two people. The children were married and it is doubtful if any of them lived in the house. Most, if not all, of Robert's children were married in Virginia.

We had an interesting conversation with Darlene Bunch who owns the Gentry house and other property nearby. She had had the title searched back to Robert. Her plans are to restore the house to its original state. Ms Bunch told us that the only articles recovered from the site so far were four wooden bowls. This conversation took place in the office in the store on the Camp Grounds which Ms Bunch apparently manages.

Robert bought the land on which he built the log house from son Jesse on December 21, 1793. He sold half of his property where he formerly lived north of Dandridge on November 2, 1775 to Hugh Kelso and the other half to Robert Henderson on December 14, 1795. It seems reasonable to assume that he built the log house in the Oak Grove Community in 1794 and 1795.

Robert and his wife, Judith Joyner Gentry (1732-1803), would have lived there from the time it was built until her death. He and Rachel West, his second wife, would have lived there from 1804 when they were married until 1811 when they both died.

We stopped at the French Broad Baptist Church and took pictures. The church is now on a little peninsula in the lake. Wilma Dykeman in *THE FRENCH BROAD* tells of a cousin, Fanny Swann, who wrote to the President and Senators, and sent poems to the President's wife in an effort to save the Baptist Church from the waters of the Douglas Lake. By Presidential decree, a rock levee was built around the church. It stands today in a hidden corner at the waters edge.

Perhaps someone should investigate both Cordell Maddux and J. Gentry of the Carson-Newman University. Cordell Maddux, who is retiring this year is the current president of the University. Does he descend from Alexander Maddux who came to America in 1635? Gentry was president in earlier years and his portrait hangs in the University Library. Does he descend from Nicholas Gentry? Tom Gentry owns a newspaper in Jefferson City. He is the son of Beecher Gentry, who lived in Cookeville, Tennessee when the Solon Gentry family was there.

**Source:** People and Places of Jefferson County, Tennessee by Estle P. Muncy: Jefferson County Historical Society, 1994  
Library of Congress Catalog Card No.: 93-74795:

Pg. 14: No town or county in Tennessee has a more noble or interesting history than Dandridge in Jefferson County. In 1772 the first written compact of republican government on American soil was drawn up and was called the "Watauga Articles of Association." In 1774 this territory west of the Alleghenies named itself Washington District in honor of Col. George Washington, being the first geographical namesake of our future first president. Jonesborough was the first permanent settlement in Tennessee in 1779. In 1783 settlers flowed down the Nolichucky and French Broad Rivers to settle a permanent settlement then called "Francis Dean's Lower Meeting House." This area was then a part of North Carolina. The pioneers needed law, militia, and some system of government, which North Carolina was unable and unwilling to provide, so they organized the ill-fated State of Franklin. From 1784 to 1788 Dandridge was a village in Caswell County, State of Franklin. Due to friction of men in office and North Carolina's wanting the territory back, the State of Franklin died and Dandridge became a settlement in Greene County. A commission appointed by the legislature of the State of Franklin, headed by John Sevier, met with 30 chiefs and warriors of the Cherokee nation eight miles west of Dandridge and signed the Treaty of Dumplin June 10, 1785. The Treaty guaranteed the safety of white settlers who wished to move into this territory and who would pay the Cherokees a fair payment for their land. What was a fair price was not settled- and the Cherokees, as it developed, were "Indian givers." This treaty gave impetus to increased numbers of settlers in the next few years.

Pg. 16: The name Dandridge was given to the county seat in honor of our first President's wife, Martha Dandridge Custis Washington. It is the only town in the USA honoring the First Lady. The fact that many of the early citizens came from Virginia may have influenced the choice of names.

Pg. 17 & 18: Mrs. Lucy Felknox, Dandridge historian, gave a talk at the centennial celebration of the present courthouse in 1945. She said the early 1800 court sessions were probably held in the James Sanders house across the street from lot 25. A brick courthouse was later built on lot 25. Mrs. Felknox writes, "when it was torn down, the brick of the early one was used to build the old Fain blacksmith shop." Since **Henry Haggard and son, James**, did all the brick work in early Dandridge, they perhaps built the first brick courthouse.

Pg. 19: The courthouse building was so well constructed that no remodeling took place for over 100 years. The original marriage license issued August 12, 1806 to Davy Crockett and Mary Polly Finley is there, along with a dapper picture of Davy wearing a white shirt with a collar.

Pg. 43

CENTENNIAL JOURNAL, the oldest Record in Jefferson County, political or ecclesiastical, is the quaint church record book of the Church of Christ on the French Broad River (now the First Baptist Church of Dandridge). This rare artifact consists of 16 large pages between two hand-hewn pine boards bound together with thin bearskin thongs. The first page, in graceful goose quill penmanship states, "French Broad River Church, Charles Gentry, Clerk, constituted March 25, 1786 by Jonathan Mulkey and Isaac Barton. Being twelve in number, with their names, viz.: Michael Coons, **James Randolph**, **Henry Haggard**, John Fryder, Wesley White, **Charles Gentry**, Rebecca Coons, Margaret Smith, Sarah Fryder, **Dolly Haggard**, **Tabitha Gentry**, **Elizabeth Gentry**."

It is interesting to note that one column referred to men and the other to women, with an equal number of each. Following the list of members is a simple statement: "Concluded that our church meeting be the first Saturday in every month, **Charles Gentry**, Appointed Clerk."

The first church building was a log house, located at the mouth of Coons Creek, two and one-half miles east of Dandridge. Glenn A. Toomey, in his book, describes the founding of this church. He states that he believes Isaac Barton was the pastor for the first ten years. By May 1, 1796, when Rev. James Fears became its second Pastor, the membership had grown from 12 to 42. A year later Bro. Duke Kimbrough was ordained a preacher by Rev. Barton and Rev. Fears. When John Cate of Dumplin petitioned the Lower French Broad River Baptist Church (as it was then called) to establish a church of the same faith in Dumplin, Rev. Duke Kimbrough, **Robert Gentry**, Joseph Witt and Thomas Snelson organized it on July 29, 1797. Rev. Kimbrough was elected its first pastor.

In 1799, **Rev. Duke Kimbrough** was elected pastor of the Lower French Broad River Baptist Church and remained pastor until 1859. This spiritual giant pastored five Jefferson County churches for a total of 175 years. He was the pastor of two to four churches at the same time. Under his leadership, in 1845 the congregation moved from Coons Creek to a new location on Church Street in Dandridge. That building was destroyed by fire in 1913 but the pulpit was saved and is in the prayer room of the present building.

Within 90 days after the fire in 1913, the third Dandridge Baptist Church building was dedicated debt-free. Rev. Kimbrough, while preaching at Mill Springs Church, suggested that Mossy Creek Baptist Academy be organized by the Nolichucky Baptist Association to train young preachers in the art of preaching. Fifteen years later, in 1849, what is now Carson-Newman College had its organizational meeting at this Dandridge Baptist Church building. In 1958 the name of the church was changed to The First Baptist Church of Dandridge.

On April 3, 1983 the first service was conducted in the new one million dollar facility on Highway 92. The stained glass windows and church bell from the third building, and the old pulpit which was saved from the second building, were moved to the new building, giving historic continuity.

**Source:** History of Tennessee – *From the Earliest Time to the Present; Together with an Historical and a Biographical Sketch of from Twenty-Five to Thirty Counties of East Tennessee, Besides a Valuable Fund of Notes, Original Observations, Reminiscences, Etc., Etc.* – Containing Historical and Biographical Sketches of Thirty East Tennessee Counties – Anderson, Blount, Bradley, Campbell, Carter, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hancock, Hawkins, James, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Loudon, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Polk, Rhea, Roane, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi, Union, Washington – The Goodspeed Publishing Co. 1887 – ISBN: 0-89308-188-4

pp. 856-857 & 861.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

Jefferson County lies mainly between the French Broad and Holston Rivers. About one-fourth of the entire area being south of the former streams. It at first extended far beyond its present limit, covering the territory now embraced in Cocke, Sevier and a part of Hamblen Counties. It now has an area of about 350 square miles. Bay's Mountains traverse it from east to west but the greater part of the county is either rolling or level. The soil along the French Broad River and the smaller streams is exceedingly fertile and yields large crops. No county in Tennessee has a more honorable record or a more interesting history. Her early settlers were many of them men of intelligence and education, patriotic and worthy citizens, the impress of whose character is still visible upon the third and fourth generations. The county received its first settler in 1783. These were Robert McFarland, Alexander Outlaw, Thomas Jarnagin, James Hill, Wesley White, James Randolph, Joseph Copeland, **Robert Gentry**, and James Hubbard. The first two located in what is now Hamblen County, and the last named, in Sevier County. Capt. Jarnagin settled on the north side of "Chucky," about four miles above its mouth. The next year he erected the first mill in the county, on Long Creek. James Hill lived about a mile below Capt. Jarnagin, and Wesley White immediately opposite Taylor's bend. **Robert Gentry** located four miles above Dandridge, and Joseph Copeland seven miles above on the South side of the French Broad. From this time the settlements increased rapidly. On Long Creek and its waters located Ninian Chamberlain, Thomas Snoddy, Matthew Wallace; on Dumplin, Richard Rankin, Frederick Fulkerson and many others. On the north bank of the French Broad above Dandridge were Benjamin McFarland, Hugh Kelso, Rev. Robert Henderson, Parmenas Taylor, William Moore, George Willcoxon and William Goforth. The first settlement on Mossy Creek was made by Adam Peck in 1788. His house stood just below where the town now is. *Story continues.....*

Pg. 861: The first church building that is now remembered was a very large hewed-log house, weather-boarded, which stood not far from the spring just back of Mrs. Hynd's residence. In 1843 a frame building was erected upon the lot where the present church stands. The latter was begun in 1869 and completed in 1872. The second church established in the vicinity of Dandridge, and the only one having a complete record from its organization is the Baptist Church. It was organized as the French Broad Baptist Church at Coons' Meeting-house, two and one-half miles east of Dandridge, on March 25, 1786, by Jonathan Murkey and Isaac Barton. The original roll of members is as follows: Michael Coons, **James Randolph**, **Henry Haggard**, John Fryer, Wesley White, **Charles Gentry**, Rebecca Coons, **Dolly Haggard**, Margaret Smith, Sarah Fryer, **Tabitha** and **Elizabeth Gentry**, Elizabeth Morrow, Elizabeth Johnson (Sr. and Jr.), Margaret Johnson, Alexander **Morrow**, Unius and Sarah Carlock, Joseph and Sarah Witt, **Elizabeth Whitman** and Catron McGirk. The first clerk was Charles Gentry, who continued in that position for several years. In 1797 a committee consisting of **Duke Kimbrough**, **Robert Gentry**, Joseph Witt and \_\_\_\_\_ Smelson were appointed to organize Dumplin Creek Church on July 29 of that year.

In April, 1843, the members of the French Broad Church decided to erect a building in Dandridge, and James H. Carson, Isaac Kimbrough, Caswell Lea and William Harris were appointed to supervise the work. A lot was donated by Joseph Hamilton, and the expense of erecting the building was largely borne by Samuel Carson. The new church was dedicated on February 22, 1845, by James Kennon. The members at that time numbered 253. Since that time the church has continued to prosper, but owing to the organization of a large number of new churches its membership is not now so large.

*\*Note: In reference to the story above the following people in **bold lettering** are as follows:*

**Robert Gentry I**

b. ca. 1730, Pamunkey Neck, St. Paul's Parish, Hanover Co., VA  
d. 29 June 1814, Jefferson, TN – d. after 9 May 1811, Jefferson Co., TN  
s/o Nicholas Gentry II & Mary Jane Albert Brooks

*Revolutionary War Veteran – First Families of Tennessee – Source:*

*1778 Washington County NC/TN Tax list md 1<sup>st</sup> ca. 1752/1753, Albemarle Co., VA,*

**Judith Joyner**

b. ca. 1734, Albemarle Co., VA – d. ca. 1803, Franklin, TN  
d/o Philip Joyner of Albemarle, VA

**Bartlett Gentry**

b. ca. 1761, Albemarle Co., VA - d. ca. 1857, Belfant, AL  
s/o **Robert Gentry I** & Judith Joyner - md 1 February 1790, Greene Co., TN,  
Security: **Robert Gentry** – *Source: 35,000 Tennessee Marriage Records and Bonds 1783-1870*  
*Volume 2 G-N Edited by: The Rev. Silas Emmett Lucas Jr. & Mrs. Ella Lee Sheffield pg. 13*

**Elizabeth Whitman** - b. ca. 1765, Albemarle Co., VA – d. ca. 1840

Sarah Gentry – b. ca. 1760, Albemarle Co., VA – d. ca. 1795 –  
d/o Robert Gentry I & Judith Joyner  
md 1<sup>st</sup> ca. 1777, Albemarle Co., VA, **James Randolph** – b. 1750, Chesterfield,  
Chesterfield Co., VA – d. 1795 Jefferson City, Jefferson Co., TN  
md 2<sup>nd</sup> John McGork – b. ca. 1756

**Elizabeth Gentry** – b. ca. 1765, Albemarle Co., VA

d/o Robert Gentry I & Judith Joyner  
md ca. 1785, Albermarle  
Co., VA, **Morrer/Murror/Murrell/Morrow** – b. ca. 1763, Albemarle Co., VA

Lucy Randolph – b. ca. 1780, Albemarle Co., VA –  
d/o James Randolph & Sarah Gentry  
md 6 October 1797, Jefferson Co., TN, Henry Hazelrigg Haggard –  
b. 1769, Albermarle, VA – d. 1 July 1829 Jefferson, Co., TN  
s/o **Henry Hazelrigg Haggard** & **Dorothy "Dolly" Randolph**

**Charles Gentry** – b. ca. 1755, Albemarle Co., VA – *Rev'l War soldier.*

s/o **Robert Gentry I** & Judith Joyner  
md Elizabeth Joyner – b. ca. 1777, Albemarle Co., VA

**Tabitha Gentry** – b. ca. 1776, VA

d/o Robert Gentry I & Judith Joyner

Mary Gentry – b. ca. 1762, Albemarle, VA – d. ca. 1784, TN –



French Broad Baptist Church, organized in 1786, is the second oldest in the county. The name was later changed to Dandridge First Baptist Church. Photo courtesy of Rev. McCray.

d/o **Robert Gentry I** & Judith Joyner  
md Mr. Drake  
md 1<sup>st</sup> ca. 1783, Dandridge, Jefferson, TN, - **Marmaduke Kimbrough**  
“**Rev. Duke**” – b. 19 November 1762, Rowan Co., NC – d. 21 September  
1849, Jefferson Co., TN – s/o Bradley Kimbrough & Sarah Thompson

Chapter: 6: [www.ajlambert.com](http://www.ajlambert.com)

**Gentry, Nicholas II**

b. 30 May 1697, St. Peters Parish, New Kent Co., VA  
d. 20 February 1779, Albemarle Co., VA  
s/o Nicholas Gentry I & Lucy Cornelius  
md 1<sup>st</sup> ca. 1721, St Peter Parish, New Kent Co., VA, **Elizabeth Caine Brooks** –  
b. ca. 1699, New Kent Co., VA – d. Bef. 1729, Hanover, King William Co., VA  
(*sister of Mary Jane Albert Brooks*)  
**md 2<sup>nd</sup>** 1729, Albemarle Co., VA **Mary Jane Albert Brooks** -  
b. ca. 1700, Abemarle Co., VA – d. Bef. 1766, Albemarle Co., VA  
(*sister of Elizabeth Caine Brooks*)

**Children of Elizabeth Caine Brooks & Nicholas II**

...**Elizabeth “Betsey” Gentry** – b. 14 August 1731, Albemarle, VA –  
d. 28 July 1820 - md Bet. 1745, **Nathaniel Haggard** –  
b. 21 November 1723 – *Nathaniel was 1<sup>st</sup> cousins to Elizabeth Gentry.*  
s/o **Elizabeth (Gentry) & James Haggard** - md **Martin Haggard**  
*Nathaniel Haggard and Elizabeth Gentry, his wife, moved from Virginia to Clarke County, KY, with their whole family about 1788;  
in the meantime most of his children were married.*  
...**Henry Hazelrigg Haggard** – b. 27 March 1744/45, Hanover, VA -  
md **Dorothy “Dolly” Randolph** – *He was Baptist preacher.*

Chapter 7: [www.ajlambert.com](http://www.ajlambert.com)

Children of **Judith Joyner & Robert Gentry I**

...**Sarah Gentry** – b. ca. 1760, Albemarle Co., VA – d. ca. 1795 -  
md 1<sup>st</sup> ca. 1777, Albemarle, VA, **James Randolph** – b. 1750, Chesterfield,  
Chesterfield Co., VA – d. 1795 Jefferson City, Jefferson Co., TN  
md 2<sup>nd</sup> John McGork – b. ca. 1756  
...**Tabitha Gentry** – b. ca. 1772/76, VA – d. ca. 1805  
...**Charles Gentry** – b. ca. 1755, Albemarle Co., VA  
md **Elizabeth Joyner** – b. ca. 1777, Albemarle Co., VA –

*Born in Albemarle Co., VA about 1755; he probably moved with his father to Tennessee in 1783. His father settled in Jefferson Co., Tennessee. There is a record of a deed for land in Clark Co., KY bought by Charles Gentry of Benjamin McFarland of Tennessee in 1805. He is mentioned as one of the legatees in his father’s will in 1811, of record in Dandridge, Jefferson Co., Tennessee. He sold the land in Virginia he inherited from Philip Joyner in 1875. There is a persistent tradition in the family that a Charles Gentry was stolen by the Indians, married a Cherokee Indian and lived with the tribe in Tennessee before 1800. He may be the ancestor of some prominent wealthy Indians of the name Gentry, living in the state of Oklahoma. Listed as a member of both Albemarle Baptist Church in Virginia and French Broad River Baptist Church in Dandridge, Tennessee. Served in the Revolutionary War, fighting the Cherokee Indians with his father, Robert, and his brother-in-law, James Randolph.*

**Source:** A History of Putnam County Tennessee by Walter S. McClain:

pg. 11: **Robert Gentry** came from North Carolina in 1815 and settled in Mine Lick country. The large Gentry family descended from this pioneer. *This would be Robert Gentry, s/o Bartlett Gentry & Elizabeth Whitman . Robert Gentry married Nancy Harris.*

pp. 62 & 63: County Officials – Trustee: Joseph Person, **Silas W. Gentry**, Simon Maxwell, W.N. Gentry, J. M. Whitson, H. M. Nichols, W.J. Lewis, W.J. Isbell, J.H. Verble, Wheeler Harp, J. T. Pointer, O.N. Draper, D. E. Slagle, Haskell Womack, Mrs. Mary Denny.

*This would be Silas Whitney Gentry, s/o Robert Gentry & Nancy Harris. Silas Whitney Gentry md 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Jane Kerr Lindsey & md 2<sup>nd</sup> Irena Allison*

pp. 84 & 85: Bloomington – The land where Bloomington stands was owned mainly by Matthew Kuykendall and Ridley Draper. The first house was built there, Mr. Brown thinks, about 1850, and is the one occupied by **Meredith Gentry**, for many years. No one seems to know the origin of the name, “Bloomington,” but such a postoffice has existed as far back as Mr. Brown and other old citizens can remember.

*This would be Meredith Jurdan Gentry, s/o Robert Gentry & Nancy Harris. Meredith Jurdan Gentry md 1<sup>st</sup> Frances Ann Shanks & Josephine Maxwell Shanks.*

**Source:** Robert Byrd Gentry- Notes for **Robert Gentry** who md **Nancy Harris**: Robert (GGrandfather of Robert Byrd Gentry) was born in White County, Tennessee and moved to Jackson County, Tennessee which is now a part of Putnam County, Tennessee. He settled in the Mine Lick Creek area in 1815. The Gentry Bluffs on Mine Lick Creek and the Gentry community in the lower end of Putnam County, TN are named for him.

**Source: Robert Gentry – Revolutionary War Soldier:**

**Robert Gentry's** name is listed in the Index to soldiers residing in Washington and Sullivan Counties in North Carolina Revolutionary accounts, 1781-1783 in the State Archives at Raleigh, NC. After the name **Robert Gentry Vol. 1, pg. 8, folio 2; Vol. 1 pg. 59, folio 2.** From TN soldiers in the Revolution by Penelope Johnson Allen originally published under the auspices of the Tennessee Society Daughter of the American Revolution, Bristol, Tennessee 1935. Pg. 20.

Pg. 13: North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts: Index to Soldiers Residing in Washington and Sullivan Counties 1781 – 1783: An account of Specie certificates paid into the Comptroller's Office by John Armstrong, Entry taker, for lands in North Carolina taken from Accounts paid by Anthony Bledsoe, Edmund Williams and Landon Carter. Note: the numerals following soldier's names here listed refer to volume, page and folio of the North Carolina Revolutionary Army Accounts in the State Archives at Raleigh, NC.

pp. 1143 & 1144:

**GENTRY: Rev'l War**

**Benajah:** b. c 1733 VA – d. 1-3-1831 VA – md (1) **Miss Austin** (2) **Anny Jones** - Civil Service, VA.

**David:** b. c 1724 VA – d. 1812 KY – md (1) x (2) **Mary Estes** – Public Service, VA.

**Martin:** b. 9-11-1747 VA – d. 5-28-1827 KY – md **Mary Timberlake** – Guard, VA.

**Nicholas Sr.:** – b. 1726/28 VA – d. 12-13- 1787 VA – md (1) **Nancy Blackstone** (2) **Sarah Dickens** – Public Service, VA.

**Richard:** b. 9-26-1763 VA – d. 2-12-1843 KY – md (1) **Jane Harris** (2) **Nancy Guthrie** – Pvt. VA – Widow Pensioned.

**Robert:** b. c 1730VA – d. 5-9-1811 TN – md (1) **Judith Joyner** (2) **Rachel West** – Soldier NC.

References by volume and page to the documentary or other authorities for Military Record: National No.628654 State Archives of Raleigh) NC Revolutionary Army Accounts Vol. 1 pg. 8, folio 2, Vol. 1 page 59 folio 2. Pay voucher #3306

This DAR application is through a woman named Mrs.Mary Elizabeth "Bettie" Walker Fricke National DAR number: 646034.

**Source: Marriages of Jefferson County, Tennessee 1793-1836** compiled by Edythe Rucher Whitley – with an Index by Deborah G. Sherr:1982

Jefferson County, Tennessee was erected on June 11, 1792. It was formed from portions of Greene and Hawkins counties and was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson. Dandridge, the county seat, was established in 1793. At its creation Jefferson County included what later became all or part of Hamblen, Cocke, and Sevier counties.

**The first settlers** came in 1783. Among them were Robert McFarland, Alexander Outlaw, Thomas Jarnigan, James Hill, Wesley White, **James Randolph**, Joseph Copeland, **Robert Gentry**, James Hubbard, Matthew Wallace, James Roddye, Richard Rankin, Thomas Snoddy, Parmenas Taylor, Hugh Kelso, Adam Meek, and George Doherty.

Among the interesting records of Jefferson County is one showing that on October 22, 1805 David Crockett was issued a license to marry Margaret Elder, who afterwards refused to marry him. The damage must not have been irreparable because on August 12, 1806 a license was issued for him to marry Polly Findley.

This present work has been copied from a register prepared by the Work Projects Administration. The WPA register was compiled from records which have since disappeared from the courthouse, so for the early period of the county's history the register offers the only evidence of marriage. Edythe Rucker Whitley, Nashville, TN.

Pg. 12 - - 527 November 13, 1804 – **Robert Gentry** to **Rachael West**

**Source:** 35,000 Tennessee Marriage Records and Bonds 1783-1870 Volume 2 G-N Edited by:

The Rev. Silas Emmett Lucas Jr. & Mrs. Ella Lee Sheffield - pg. 13

In these three volumes we have tried to bring you the marriage bonds and marriage records found in the index card file at the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville, TN between the period 1783 to about 1870. Ella Evadna Lee Sheffield.

**GENTRY, Bartlett** to **Elizabeth WHITMAN** - February 1, 1790, Security: **Robert GENTRY**, Greene Co., TN.

**Source:** 35,000 Tennessee Marriage Records and Bonds 1783-1870 Volume 3 O-Z Edited by:

The Rev. Silas Emmett Lucas Jr. & Mrs. Ella Lee Sheffield – pg. 390

**WHITMAN, Elizabeth** to **Bartlet GENTRY** – Greene Co., TN.

**Source:** Early East Tennessee Marriages – Vol. 1 Grooms by Byron & Barbara Sistler, Nashville, Tennessee 1987 –

pg. 132: **GENTRY, Bartelet** to **Elizabeth WHITMAN**: 2-1-1790 (Greene Co., TN).

pg. 133: **GENTRY, Robert** to **Rachael WEST**: 11-13-1804 (Jefferson Co., TN).

**Source:** Greene County, Tennessee Marriages, 1783- 1868 compiled by Goldene Fillers Burgner: ISBN 0-89308-202-3

Greene (now Tennessee) was formed in 1783 from Washington (now Tennessee). Washington County was formed in 1777 from District of Washington. It was roughly the territory west of Wilkes County, North Carolina, between Wilkes and the Virginia line, which had been allowed three representatives in the General Assembly of North Carolina in 1776. Sullivan (now Tennessee) was formed in 1779 from Washington County. Part of Washington (Tennessee) was annexed to Wilkes County, North Carolina, in 1792.

#171 on pg. 5: February 1, 1790: **Bartlet Gentry – Elizabeth Whitman - - Robert Gentry.**

**Source:** Tennessee Marriages 1801 to 1825 – A research tool compiled, extracted, and transcribed by Liahona Research, Inc. – Edited by Jordon R. Dodd, Precision Indexing, Inc. Bountiful, Utah: pg. 102:

**GENTRY, Robert to Rachael WEST** – 13 November 1804, Jefferson Co., TN

**Source:** Early East Tennessee Taxpayers – compiled by Pollyanna Creekmore – ISBN: 0-89308-145-0

**INTRODUCTION:** During the War of 1812 the original Federal census records of several states were destroyed, it is thought, when the British army burned some of the buildings in Washington. Among those records lost were the population schedules for the state of Tennessee. Later the returns for the East Tennessee countries for the Census of 1820 were lost. The National Archives, in a Reference Service Report, dated January 14, 1955, states: “Before 1830, the census schedules were turned over (by the enumerators) to the United States District Marshals, who were responsible for taking the census, (and in turn) to the Clerk of the Federal District court in each locality. The Clerk was then responsible for keeping them in the local Court House. In 1830, the schedules were ordered sent to Washington, and it is not known whether the Tennessee schedules (except for Rutherford County) were lost while in the custody of the Clerks of the Federal District Courts or whether they were lost or burned subsequently to being sent to Washington.” The absence of these records together with the total or partial destruction at various times of many of the counties’ records makes it difficult to obtain a list of the early residents of Tennessee. This series is an attempt to reconstruct a list of the early residents by counties through the use of tax lists.

Pg. 121:

Early East Tennessee Taxpayers – V. Jefferson County, 1800

Jefferson County was created by an ordinance of the Territory South of the River Ohio, on June 11, 1792, and named in honor of Thomas Jefferson, then secretary of state. The land was taken from Greene and Hawkins counties. Jefferson County has been partitioned in the creation of Sevier County in 1794, and 1797 when Cocke County was created out of Jefferson and Greene. The territorial limits remained virtually the same from 1797 to 1870, when Hamblen County was created out of Jefferson and Grainger counties.

Upon its creation Jefferson County was a part of Washington District, but on March 12, 1793, along with Knox County, it was made a part of the newly-created Hamilton District.

The first court was held at the home of Jeremiah Matthews on July 23, 1792. The following justices, appointed by Governor William Blount, were present: Alexander Outlaw, James Roddye, John Blackburn, James Lea, Joseph Wilson, Josiah Wilson, Andrew Henderson, Amos Balch and William Cox. The first county officials, also appointed by Governor Blount, who qualified for office were: Joseph Hamilton, clerk; Robert McFarland, sheriff; James Roddye, register, and Robert McCamon, William Job, Robert Pollock (Polk), Josiah Rogers, John Renno (Reneau), Stephen Wolsey and Barsdill Riddle, constables. The lawyers who qualified to practice were: Luke Bowyer, William Cocke, John Rhea, Alexander Outlaw, James Reese, Archibald Roane and Hopkins Lacy.

Dandridge the county seat, was not laid out until the next year, when at the January term, 1793, the court appointed Alexander Outlaw, George Doherty, Garrett Fitzgerald, Andrew Henderson, and Hugh Kelso to locate the site. The commissioners selected the site near Robert Henderson’s meeting house (Hopewell Presbyterian Church) on the French Broad River. Fifty acres of land were donated by Francis Dean; the town was laid off by Samuel Jack and named in honor of Martha Dandridge, wife of President George Washington.

While Jefferson County was established in 1792, the earliest extant tax lists are those of 1800. After Tennessee became a state in 1796, a new act was passed October 25, 1797, authorizing the counties to tax property and specifying types of property taxable and the method of taking them. White polls consisted of “all free males and male servants between the age of twenty-one and fifty years”; slaves, “all slaves male and female between the age of twelve and fifty years.” The justices were ordered to take the lists in the militia captains; companies and return them to court. The clerk usually transcribed them into a book kept for that purpose.

The Jefferson County minutes for 1800 appear fragmentary; in all probability pages were misplaced before the book was rebound. No orders for taking the tax lists of 1800 can be located; nether can the record of their return nor the order setting the rates for that year.

The following lists were copied from the original manuscript lists many years ago, and the latter cannot today be located. The copy was published by Mrs. Penelope Johnson Allen, in her “Leaves from the Family Tree,” in the Chattanooga Times, February 7, 14, 21, 1937. This reprinting is made possible through the permission of Mrs. Allen and the Chattanooga Times.

The next available tax lists for Jefferson County, covering the years 1822-1830, are available in the County Court Clerk’s Office, Dandridge, and typewritten copies are among those records transcribed by the Tennessee Historical Records Survey, available in the Tennessee State

Library and Archives, Nashville, and the University of Tennessee Library, Knoxville. Besides transcribing the county records, the Historical Records Survey copied many Bible and tombstone inscriptions in Jefferson County.

Except for the tax lists and a few other loose papers, there is no known destruction of Jefferson County records by fire or otherwise. The deeds were reindexed by the Tennessee Valley Authority when land was acquired for the basins of Douglas and Cherokee Dams. *Many individuals are listed.....*

**TAXABLE PROPERTY IN CAPT. CARSON'S COMPANY: pg. 124**

Name	Acres	White polls	Black polls	Town lots
<b>Gentry, Robert</b>	220		2	
<b>Gentry, Bartlett</b>	100	1		
<b>Haggard, Henry</b>		1		

The East Tennessee Historical Society's Publications: pg. 198

**Robert Gentry** 173-10-0 1-15-6

**Source:** The Clabaughs: an account of the life and times of Frederick Clabaugh of Maryland in 1742 and his descendants who migrated to east Tennessee, then on to Alabama and Texas; with a special chapter on **Henry Haggard** (1746 – 1842), a frontier Baptist preacher of Virginia, east Tennessee and Alabama and his family. FHL US?CAN Fiche (6094093)

Pg. 99, Chapter 7 –

To meet the needs of the growing population, on June 11, 1792, Jefferson Co. was created out of lower Green Co. by an ordinance of the Territory South of the Ohio River. The county was named in honor of Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson. In 1793, the site for the county seat was selected about 4 miles south of **Robert Gentry's** place and named Dandridge for **Martha Dandridge**, wife of **President George Washington**.

The population continued to grow. By 1796 more than the required number of people to qualify for statehood had settled in the Territory, thus in 1796 the State of Tennessee was born. Twenty years had passed since the **Gentrys** and **Randolphs** had arrived.

**Robert Gentry** lived to be over 80 years old, dying about 1811.<sup>37</sup> He had married his second wife **Rachael West** in 1804. Son Charles was granted 400 acres near the mouth of Kelso Mill Creek in 1791. Son **Jesse** was patented 600 acres adjacent to Robert in 1793. Little more is known of **Charles** and **Jesse**. They apparently moved to Hawkins co. by the early 1790's. Son **Bartlett Gentry** married in 1790 **Elizabeth Whitman** and by 1800 owned 100 acres in Jefferson Co. Later he moved to White Co. TN where he lived about 18 miles from Sparta. In old age he moved to Alabama, dying in Belfant. His children are listed in the Gentry Genealogy. Son Martin Gentry was the only son to remain in Jefferson Co. He received the old home from his father, which in 1906 was still owned by his descendants. His children are also listed in the Gentry Genealogy. Daughter **Elizabeth Gentry** married **Mr. Murrell** and daughter **Mary Gentry** married a **Mr. Drake**. Daughter **Sarah Gentry**, as mentioned earlier, married about 1777 **James Randolph**.<sup>38</sup>

**James Randolph** died in 1794 at the young age of 36, leaving his wife **Sarah** and 9 children.<sup>39</sup> His son **Henry Randolph** (July 4, 1778 – February 15, 1848) married **Susannah Moyer** and for many years was pastor of Friendship Baptist Church near White Pine in Jefferson Co. Daughter **Lucy Randolph** married in 1797 her cousin **Henry Haggard Jr.** and lived in Jefferson Co. where he died July 1, 1829 (pg. 106). Daughter **Elizabeth Randolph** married in 1804 **William Jones**. Daughter **Sarah Randolph** married in 1807 her cousin **Noah Haggard** and later moved to Alabama (pg. 108). Daughter **Mary Randolph** married **Isaac Kimbro** in 1807. Daughter **Susannah Randolph** married in 1812 **Silas Witt** and in 1860 were living in Cherokee Co., AL. Son **Robert Randolph** married in 1804 **Polly Leasley**. Son **John Randolph** married **Mary Hogan** and moved to Texas. Widow **Sarah Gentry Randolph**, sometime between 1800 and 1811, married **John McGirk**.<sup>40</sup>

<sup>37</sup>Jefferson County Will Book 2, pg. 9.

<sup>38</sup>Gentry pg. 40-43, 68-71. NC Patent Bk. 5, pg. 358 (Charles). NC Patent Bk. 5, pg. 377 (Jesse) – 1800 Jefferson Co. Tax List (Bartlett).

<sup>39</sup>Jefferson County Will Book 1, pg. 80

<sup>40</sup>WPA-1938, Tombstone Records of Jefferson Co. Tennessee. Nichols, pg. 186. Allen Collection, McClung Historical Collection, Nashville, TN. Jefferson Co. Marriage records.

**Source:** NSDAR application: (**Sarah M. (Gentry) Randolph**, d/o **Robert Gentry**, b. ca. 1730, Hanover Co., VA – d. 9 May 1811, Jefferson Co., TN md ca. 1753, Albemarle Hanover Co., VA to **Judith Joyner**, d. Jefferson Co., TN)

**James Randolph**, b. ca. 1758, Chesterfield Co., VA – d. 29 October 1794, Jefferson Co., NC md 12<sup>th</sup> of September 1815 to **Sarah M Gentry**, b. 1760 – d. ?. Their daughter is **Susannah Randolph**, b. 22 May 1795, Jefferson Co. TN – d. 15 June 1880, Moody McLennan Co., TX md on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 1812 to **Silas Witt**, b. 28 May 1790, Jefferson Co., NC - d. 15 July 1881, Moody McLennan Co., TX. Their son is **Robert Wesley Witt**, b. 10 April 1822, TN – d. 1 May 1898, Bell Co., TX md on the 27<sup>th</sup> of December 1843 to **Anita Lewallen**, b. 14 May 1820, TN – d. 9 March 1890, Bell Co., TX. Their son is **Silas Taylor Witt**, b. 1842, AL – d. 1893, Temple Bell Co., TX md **Elizabeth Richardson**, b. 1850, AL – d. 1890, Temple Bell Co., TX. Their son is **William Francis Witt**, b. 10 September 1869, Center Cherokee Co., AL – d. 3 October 1937, Roswell Chaves Co., NM md 1<sup>st</sup> September 1889, TX to **Addie Ida Gertrude Wright**, b. 15 March 1871, Summerset, KY – d. 25 April 1935, Roswell Chaves Co., NM.



**Source:** NSDAR application: **Robert Gentry**, b. ca. 1730, Hanover Co., VA – d. 9 May 1811, Jefferson Co., TN md ca. 1753, Albemarle Hanover Co., VA to **Judith Joyner**, d. Jefferson Co., TN. Their son is **Bartlett Gentry**, b. ca. 1761 – d. ca. 1840, Jackson Co. AL md 1 February 1790, Greene Co., NC to **Elizabeth Whitman**, b. ca. 1772. Their son is Joiner Gentry, b. ca. 1794, NC – d. ca. 1860, Putnam Co., TN md **Nancy**, b. ca. 1794, NC – d. 1860, Putnam Co., TN. Their son is **Martin B. Gentry**, b. 12 December 1818, TN – d. 10 June 1904, Jackson Co., TN (Co I 25<sup>th</sup> Tenn Inf C.S.A.) md ca. 1846, TN to **Mary A. Peek**, b. 29 September 1829, TN – d. 12 July 1901, Jackson Co., TN, both buried in the Dodson Branch Cemetery, Dodson Branch Road, Jackson Co., TN. Their son is **Elias A. Gentry**, b. 5 September 1859, TN – d. 14 November 1881, Overton Co., TN md ca. 1878 to **Sarah Catherine Hannah Miranda Emali Dodson**, b. 8 April 1860, TN – d. 13 September 1894, Overton Co., TN, Dodson Chapel Cemetery, Overton Co., TN.

**Source:** NSDAR application: **Robert Gentry**, b. ca. 1730, Hanover Co., VA – d. 9 May 1811, Jefferson Co., TN md ca. 1753, Albemarle Hanover Co., VA to **Judith Joyner**, d. Jefferson Co., TN. **James Randolph**, b. ca. 1758, Chesterfield Co., VA – d. 29 October 1794, Jefferson Co., NC md 12<sup>th</sup> of September 1815 to **Sarah M Gentry**, b. 1760 – d. ?. Their daughter is **Sarah Randolph**, b. ca. 1790, Jefferson Co., TN – d. Montevallo AL, md on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 1807, Jefferson Co., TN to **Noah Haggard**, b. ca. 1788, Green Co., NC – d. 2 January 1866, Montevallo Shelby Co., AL. Their daughter is **Mary Haggard**, b. 15 November 1815, Rhone Co., TN – d. ca. 1852, Perryville AL md on the 26 August 1834 to **Israel Jones**, b. 17 December 1809, Wardsborrow Anderson Co., NC – d. Perryville, AL. Their daughter is **Malissa Melvina Jones**, b. 17 July 1836, Perryville, AL – d. 18 October 1924, Selma AL, md ca. 1865 to **Joseph Ikerman**, b. 4 December 1837, Pittsburg PA – d. 6 October 1881, Selma AL. Their son is **Charles Henry Ikerman**, b. 7 June 1871, Selma AL - d. 27 November 1933, Selma AL md 24<sup>th</sup> January 1900, Montgomery, AL to **Rachel Thomas Alexander**, b. 15 December 1877, Burnsville Dallas Co., AL – d. 20 March 1956, Selma AL.

**Source:** Jefferson County, Tennessee Will Book 2 – 1811-1826 by James L. Douthat

*Pg. 1 –*

**Will of Robert Gentry** – May 9, 1811 – Pgs. 9-12

Wife: Rachael Gentry

Sons: **Charles**, **Jess**, **Bartlet** and **Martin** ‘...three daughters and two sons of my daughter **Elizabeth Murror**...’ children of my daughter **Sarah McGork**; grandson **Robert Krakes** and his two sisters **Sarah** and **Prudence**, granddaughter **Molly Shelton**.

Exc. wife **Rachel Gentry**, Thomas Gilbreath and John Schorn.

Witnesses: Modfrey Linnquest, William Moore and John Parrott.

*Pg. 2 –*

**Inventory of the Estate of Robert Gentry:** Presented by **Rachel Gentry**, Thomas Gilbreath and John Schorn on March session 1812. Pg. 15

*Pg. 6*

**Inventory of the Estate of Robert Gentry:** May 24, 1814: Presented by John Seahorn, exec to June session of Court 1814 Joseph Hamilton, Clerk. Pgs. 60-61.

*Pg. 11*

**Inventory of the Estate of James Randolph:** 295 acres of land lying on the head of Byryes Branch, one negro wench named Dynert, one table, etc. B. Gentry summary September 12, 1815. Extrx of **James Randolph**. J. Hamilton, Clerk. Pgs. 120-121.

*Pg. 12*

**Inventory of Estate of Silas Gentry:** Presented by Jesse Gentry, admrs. In open court December 11, 1815. Joseph Hamilton, Clerk.

*Pg. 17*

**Settlement of Estate of Robert Gentry:** June 29, 1814: Buyers: **Martin Gentry**, **John Gentry**, George Sehorn, John Sehorn, Pavy Wilderson, Andrew Gass, John Hase, Peter Eckle, Thomas Cate, **Henry Randolph**, John Haupe, James Gilbreath, Thos. Gilbreath. Rec: March session 1817 Joseph Hamilton, Clerk. Pgs. 166-168.

**Settlement of Estate of Robert Gentry:** Paid to: **John Randolph**, **Jesse Gentry**, **Robert Randolph**, **Henry Randolph**, Moses Armstrong, Moses Lisby, **Bartlett Gentry**, **John Morrow**, **James Morrow**, Joseph Hamilton, **Rachel Gentry**, Cathy Schorn, Thomas Caldwell, Joseph Ore, Samuel Lyle, Silas Witt, William Graham, Thomas Emerson, James Carmichael, William Jones, **Noah Haggard**, **Henry Haggard**.

**Filed:** March 14, 1817 - Adam Meek, Benj. Thornburg, comr Pg. 169

*Pg. 19*

**Sale of the Estate of Silas Gentry:** January 2, 1816: By Jesse Gentry, admr. Buyers: Caleb Maze, James Moses, Richard Hanes, Troylous Barnes, Mrs. Hargrove, Washington Woods, Arless Hargrove, Gardner Maze, John Morrow, James Bradford, Bartholomen Conyers, John Carmon, Samuel House, Silas Hall, Eli Witt. Rec: June 7, 1817. Pgs. 188-189.

**Settlement of Estate of Silas Gentry:** September 9, 1817: Jesse Gentry, admr. Vochers to wit: Dr. A.P. Fares’ bill, Samuel Houser, Jesse Gentry, Obediah Halls, Atto Keiths, Joseph Hamilton, Eli Witts, William Maze. Witnesses: Tidence Lane: Rec: September 11, 1817 – John Seahorn & Joseph Hamilton, C.D. pg. 192.

*Pg. 31*

**Sale of the Estate of John McQirk:** Sold August 15, 1821 by **Henry Haggard**. Buyers: Edward Blackburn, John Hayes, John Blackburn, Andrew Scott. **Martin Gentry** & John Blackburn admrs. Sworn in open court September 11, 1821. Pg. 312.

*Pg. 33*

**Inventory of the Estate of John McGirk:** Note on: Mary Henderson, James Henderson, Noden Henderson, James Bradford, Thomas Jones, Samuel Rankin, William Hoskins, Andrew Scott, James Scott, Thomas Gilbreath, James Gilbreath, James Corbet, Andrew Edgar, John Blackburn, **Martin Gentry**, admr. Filed June 13, 1821 John Blackburn & **Martin Gentry** Admrs. Pg. 343.

Pg. 39

**Settlement of the Estate of John McGirth:** John Blackburn and **Martin Gentry**, admrs. Bonds held on: Mary Henderson, Samuel Rankin, William Hoskins, James Gilbreath, Thos, Jones, Andrew Scott, James Scott and Edward Blackburn. Pg. 410

Pg. 50

**Settlement of the Estate of James M. Randolph:** Filed. Preston Coans, admr. pg. 589-591.

**Source:** Jefferson County Tennessee Will Book #1: 1792 – 1819 by James Bouthat

Pg. 15 – **Will of James Randolph, h/o Sarah Gentry**

Pages 80-82 – JAMES RANDOLPH – Will, written October 29, 1794:

**James Randolph** of the County of Jefferson and Territory of the United States South of the river Ohio make this last will and testament: to wife **Sarah** one Negro wench Dinar and household goods and the remainder to be divided equal among my children; to son **Henry**, one Negro named Joe; to daughter **Lucy** one Mulatto girl named Easter and one half doz. Pewter plaits and other household goods; to son **Robert** 100 acres of land on the Tennessee River; to son **John** 100 acres of land lying on the Tennessee joining the same tract; to **Elizabeth, Sarah** and **Mary** two Negro girls and two feather beds and other furniture.

**James Randolph**

Witness: John Wright

Joshua Wright

“And I do leave my wife **Sarah, Robert Gentry, Bartlett Gentry** executors”

**Source:** Register of Qualified Soldiers and Patriots of the American Revolution Buried in Tennessee, compiled by Mary Kay Parrish Hudson, Tennessee Publications Chairman, Tennessee Society Daughter of the American Revolution, 2000.

Pg. 241

**Gentry, Nicholas** – b. ca. 1740, Hanover Co., VA – d. ca. 1782, Fort Nashborough, Davidson Co., TN

Patriot Service, NC – married Elizabeth – Children: George, Nicholas, Samuel, John, Nancy Boyd. – References: DAR Patriot Index Centennial Edition – DAR National number: 591409.

**Gentry, Robert** – b. ca. 1730, Hanover Co., VA – d. 5/9/1811, Jefferson Co., TN – Soldier, NC – married Judith Joyner & Rachel West - References: DAR Patriot Index Centennial Edition.

**Source:** The Gentry Family in America 1676 to 1909 by Richard Gentry

#### Third Generation

**Robert Gentry (2)** – ( Nicholas II, Nicholas I) of Jefferson Co., Tennessee

Born in Hanover Co., VA about 1730; married Judith Joyner, daughter of Philip Joyner of Albemarle Co., VA. In 1776 he conveys 234 acres of land on which he lived in Albemarle, to John Woodson, in which his wife Judith joined. He is described as a planter of the parish. The will of Philip Joyner dated February 19, 1761, names, among other legatees, his grandsons Charles and Jesse Gentry, giving each of them 200 acres of land, and names his granddaughters, Elizabeth, Sarah and Mary. The land on which the Virginia University stands is a part of this legacy. He moved to Tennessee and settled on the north side of the French Broad River, 4 miles east of Dandridge, Jefferson Co., Tennessee, in 1783. He married second wife Rachel West, in Tennessee, November 13, 1804. She had no children. “Ramsey’s History of Tennessee,” page 277, mentions Robert Gentry among the first settlers in Jefferson Co., Tennessee in 1783.

Children, by first wife:

Charles (23)

Jesse (24)

**Bartlett (25)**

Martin (26)

Elizabeth, married Mr. Murror

Sarah, married Mr. McGork

Mary, married Mr. Drake

#### Fourth Generation

**Bartlett Gentry (6)** – (Robert III, Nicholas II, Nicholas I) of Belfant, Alabama

Born in Albemarle Co., VA, about 1761. He emigrated to Tennessee with his father, who was one of the first settlers of Jefferson Co., Tennessee in 1783. He raised his family in White Co., Tennessee about 18 miles from Sparta, and in his old age he moved to Alabama with some of his children, and died near Belfant in the state.

Children:

**Robert (86)**

Joyner (87)

John (88), died in 1854

Barlett (89), born in 1803; died in 1894, in Seymour, MO

Jesse, born in White Co., Tennessee, about 1805; married and settled in Jackson Co., Tennessee and raised a family.

Jennie

Betsie

Polly

Sallie

Katie; married Wesley Green and had: Mrs. Sallie Thorn of Confederate, KY; Mrs. Rosa Gist of Calera, Alabama, W. J. Green of Alabama, and Henderson P. Green of Prairie Grove, ark., Mrs. Thorn's daughter, Mrs. Rosa Lawrence, lives at Old Hickory, Conway Co., Ark.

#### Fifth Generation

**Robert Gentry (25)** – (Bartlett IV, Robert III, Nicholas II, Nicholas I) of Jackson Co., Tennessee

Born in White Co., Tennessee; married and reared his family in Jackson Co., Tennessee

Children:

Silas

William

Meredith

**Source:** The Gentry Family in America 1676 to 1909 by Richard Gentry, pg. 330 & 331:

The Tennessee pioneers still encountered unsurpassed hardships and dangers for many years; from the time of the first settlement until Tennessee was made a state, in March, 1896, it was subject to a constant warfare, with all the barbaric savagery known to the Southern Indians. "The **History of Tennessee** contains as much intense tragedy and elevated romance as is found in the history of any modern people." **Haywood's history** gives the details of over four hundred tragedies, with the names of those killed, scalped or taken prisoner. Before the Revolution the British agents furnished the Cherokees, Choctaws and Chickasaws with guns and ammunition, and in every way encouraged them in their depredations on the settlers. During the Revolution these Indians were British allies, and after the war they became the allies of the Spaniards of the South, and continued their depredations.

On account of their remoteness these Tennessee pioneers had to make their own laws, govern themselves, and fight their own battles. After the Revolution they organized as a state, which they called the state of "Franklin," and elected **John Sevier** as their governor; but North Carolina claimed the territory and made objection, and the State of Franklin was overthrown, after two years of quarrel and conflict, and North Carolina controlled and claimed the territory until the State of Tennessee was organized in 1796.

In these trying times in the settlement of Tennessee, we find among the bold pioneers a number of **Gentrys** from both Virginia and North Carolina. **Robert Gentry** was one of the first settlers in Jefferson Co., TN in 1783.<sup>1</sup> He came from Albemarle Co., VA, with a large family. He was one of the seven sons of **Nicholas Gentry** of that county, a son of **Nicholas Gentry**, the immigrant. He built his home four miles east of Dandridge, TN, on the French Broad River. Tradition tells us that some of his descendants were killed and others taken captive by the Indians.

**Nicholas Gentry**,<sup>2</sup> with his family, followed **James Robertson** to Davidson Co., TN. He and his oldest son were caught by the Indians outside of the fort, near the present site of Nashville, and killed in 1782.

<sup>1</sup>Annals of Tennessee by J.C. M. Ramsey, pg. 277.

<sup>2</sup>Haywood's History of Tennessee, pg. 219.

*The eastern part of Tennessee was part of North Carolina until 1796. The western part was purchased from the Cherokee Indians in 1818 by the United States. Tennessee became a state in 1796.*

**Source:** Haywood's History of Tennessee, pg. 218 & 219:

After the rights of preemption were created by the act of 1782, events took place which de facto formed the preemptioners into classes more or less meritorious. Some had gone off when the public distress was very pressing, and lived for a time in Kentucky or in other neighboring settlements; some had remained and defended the country through all its dangers; others had done the same, but were under the age of twenty-one years, and for that reason were out of the provisions of the act of 1782; others had come after the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 1780, but had joined with great bravery and effect in repelling the Indians; and some were killed, and left young children and widows. Those of the first description this act of 1784 left as they were before. Under the provisions of the act of 1782 and 1783 they were entitled to a right of preemption, but must pay the price required. Not so with those who had staid and defended the country, and were still living. They were to make their entries without any price to be paid to the public. These the act particularly named – that is to say: John Cockrill, Ann Cockrill (formerly the widow), Ann Johnston, Robert Espey, James Espey, John Buchanan, Cornelius Reddle, James Mulherrin, James Todd, Isaac Johnston, John Gibson, Francis Armstrong, John Kennedy, Jr., Mark Robertson, William Ellis, James Thompson, James Shaw, James Franklin, Henry

Howdeshall, Pierce Castello, Morris Skean, William Logan, David Flood, John White, Peter Looney, William Collins, Jonas Manifee, Daniel Williams, John Evans, Andrew Thompson Casper Mansco, George Freeland, Daniel Johnston, Edward Swanson, Andrew Kellow, Francis Hodge, John Mulherrin, James Freeland, John Tucker, James Foster, Amos Heaton, Dennis Condry, Frederick Stump, Russell Gower, Andrew Erlin, Thomas Rater, Isaac Lindsey, Moses Winters, James Harris, John Brown, Lewis Crane, John Montgomery, Stephen Ray, Daniel Hogan, Thomas Spencer, Humphrey Hogan, Heyden Wells, Henry Ramsey, John Barrow, John Thomas, William Stewart, Samuel Walker, David Rouncevall, Arthur McAdoo, James McAdoo, Henry Turney, Samuel Barton, John Dunham, Ephraim Pratt, William Overall, and James Robertson –seventy in all. The same provision was made in favor of the heirs and devisees of such as were dead, and those also were specially named: Zachariah White, Alexander Buchanon, James Leiper, James Harod, Alexander Thompson, Daniel Maxwell, Robert Lucas, Timothy Terril, William Hood, Edward Carven, William Neely, James Franklin, Samuel Morrow, George Kennedy, John Robertson, Able Gowen, Sr., Abel Gowen, Jr., Nicholas Trammel, Philip Mason, James Turpen, Nathan Turpen, Jacob Stump, **Nicholas Gentry**, William Cooper, Jacob Jones, James Mayfield, William Green, William Johnston, Samuel Scott, George Aspie, William Leighton, John Crutchfield, Joseph Hay, John Searcy, Isaac Lucas, Patrick Quigley, Jacob Stall, Joseph Milligan, Abraham Jones, David Porter, Benjamin Porter, Edward Larimore, William Gausley, Jonathan Jennings, David Carver, Jesse Bralston, Joseph Renfroe, Philip Conrad, William Gausway, John Bernard, John Lumsden, John Gilky, Solomon Phelps, James Johns, Thomas Hainey, Alexander Allerton, John Blackmore, James Fowler, John McMurtry, John Shoctly, John Galloway, and Isaac Lafour – sixty-three in all. The act takes notice of these latter as persons who were killed in the defense and settlement of the county of Davidson, and directs that the heirs and devisees of each of them shall have six hundred and forty acres of land without price to be paid to the public. It proceeds to make provision for those who, because of their non-age on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 1780, were not entitled to the right of preemption under the act of 1782, though they had remained in the country and helped to defend it; and for those who had joined in its defense, though not in the country on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, 1780. They gave to each of them six hundred and forty acres of land, to be laid off out of any lands in the country, except those set apart for the officers and soldiers. These also they particularly named, and enabled them to enter their lands without price to be paid to the State. *Further information and names continue in this book.....*

**Source:** Haywood’s History of Tennessee, pg. 238: ca. 1787:

In the month of April the Indians killed **Randel Gentry** at the place where Mr. Foster now lives; also Curtis Williams and Thomas Fletcher and his son, about the mouth of the Harper. Col. Robertson issued orders to Capt. Rains to pursue the doers of that mischief.

**Source:** Entry Taker’s Report: 1778-1783, Washington County Tennessee & Sullivan County, Tennessee, transcribed by Oveda Meier, Salt Lake City, UT.

Introduction:

When the State of North Carolina created the counties of Washington and Sullivan from its western territory, an entry taker was appointed to record the property claimed by residents, who had been, in many cases, on their land for up to ten years under a lease agreement with the Indians. The entry taker also recorded entries made on unclaimed land taken up by preemption right or military warrant.

Many entries were not surveyed or submitted to the Governor for grants, and therefore became void. Many settlers passed through the area to be called Tennessee on their way to new frontiers. The value of the Entry Book is to provide tracks for these land-hungry pioneers.

The territory included in the above counties was originally thought to be a part of Virginia, and most of the names in the report can be found in Washington, Montgomery, Botetourt, Fincastle, and Augusta Counties in Virginia. Others can be found in North Carolina. Many moved on to Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi and Illinois; others to Middle and West Tennessee.

The report used to transcribe this material was also transcribed from the original handwritten copy.

Pg. 1:

Entry Taker’s Report: 1778 – 1783, Washington County, Tennessee.

Bounds of Washington County as established by Act of Assembly of the State of North Carolina passed December 24<sup>th</sup> 1777...

“Beginning at the most North Westward part of the County of Wilkes on the Virginia line – thence six miles south of the Virginia line, thence due west to the ridge of the Great Iron Mountain, which heretofore divided the hunting grounds of the Overall Cherokees from those of the Middle settlements and Vallies, thence running a Southwestwardly course along the said ridge to the Ureka Mountain where the trading path crosses the same from the Valley to the Overhills, thence south to the line of this state, adjoining the State of South Carolina, thence due West to the Great River of Mississippi, thence up the said River the courses there of, to a point due West from the Beginning – And it is hereby declared, that, that part of the State contained within the lines aforesaid shall from henceforth be and remain the County of Washington.

\*Observations

It is to be observed that the Entries made in the County of Washington, as well as Sullivan, prior to the month of August 1783, were made under an Act, Intitled (sic), “An act for establishing offices for receiving Entries of Claims for lands” in the Several Counties within the State of North Carolina for ascertaining the method of obtaining grants to the same & ... passed in the year 1785 amending the said Land Act, and that by the fith (sic) section of the same, many of the Entries made in the County of Washington are declared void but it is believed that no regard has been paid to this section by the public officers, and that grants issued on such Entries declared void, in the same manner as if such declaration had never been made. And there are the Entries provided against...in the second condition of the Act of Session. July 27,

CITY OF WASHINGTON: July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1805

I, Samuel S. Hamilton do hereby certify that I have transcribed a book containing an account of the quantity of land entered in the entry taker's office in Sullivan County and also in Washington County, formerly in the State of North Carolina, but now in the State of Tennessee, and have duly examined said transcript, and compared it with the original and find it a correct copy verbatim of the book in the Office of the Secretary of State of the United States...this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 1805  
Signed: Samuel S. Hamilton

Pg. 18: 1778

807: Charles Gentry 250

810: Robert Gentry 375

811: Decr 28<sup>th</sup> Robert Gentry 200

812: Robert Gentry 100

pg. 27: 1779

1314: March 30<sup>th</sup> Robert Gentry 200

pg. 53:

2650: Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> Robert Gentry 100

pg. 55: 1781

2792: Robert Gentry 640

2884: Robert Gentry 150

**Source:** Early Tennessee Tax Lists, Transcribed and Indexed by Byron and Barbara Sistler, Evanston, IL, 1977.

Introduction: Research in Tennessee for the period prior to 1830 poses some difficult problems because no complete schedules for the state exist before that date. The 1800 census schedules were entirely lost or destroyed, and for 1810 only Rutherford Co. has been saved. The 1820 lists for almost all the eastern counties are missing.

For genealogists seeking county of origin of early settlers the only feasible approach is through the county tax lists, petitions and newspaper accounts. To facilitate this search and simplify the pin-pointing of county of residence we have prepared this index to those early lists.

This is a single index to 68 county tax lists, petitions, voter lists, and newspaper lists of inhabitants in 34 Tennessee counties. There are about 46,000 entries in all. We believe we have taken all known tax lists into consideration. The earliest list included is from 1787 and the latest 1827.

Jefferson Co., TN: 1800, 1822 Jefferson County, TN: Created: 1792 – Parent County or Territory: Greene, Hawkins

Pg. 74

**GENTRY:**

Ayers, Jefferson Co., TN: 1800

Bartlett, Jefferson Co., TN: 1800

Charles, Jefferson Co., TN: 1822 & Jackson Co., TN: 1802

Martin, Jefferson Co., TN: 1800 & Jefferson Co., TN: 1822

**Robert, Jefferson Co., TN: 1800**

**Source:** Thomas Jarnagin by Lee L. Powers 1746-1802, 1985 Edition

Pg. 35: **Robert Gentry** entered 475 acres located on the south side of the French Broad River above Dandridge on October 21, 1783. He settled previously on a boundary of land in Washington County entered December 28, 1778. This was only nineteen days after our **Thomas Jonakin** entered his first boundary of 640 acres on Cedar Creek also in Washington County.

Pg. 71: John McNabb entered 300 acres above the mouth of Nolichucky in the early 1780's, and later claimed 442 acres on Big Pigeon. Peter Huff claimed 300 acres near the mouth of big Pigeon; **Robert Gentry** entered 475 acres south of the French Broad on October, 1783, having moved there earlier, and William Clark entered a claim for a boundary on the south side of the Nolichucky near the French Broad in 1778.

Pg. 72: Dandridge, the county seat of Jefferson County, was a small village on the north side of the French Broad River formed soon after it was ordained by William Blount in 1792.

**Source:** Thomas Jarnagin by Lee L. Powers 1746-1802, 1985 Edition. Pgs. 186 & 187:

**Rhoda Carson, d/o Samuel Carson & Anna Jarnagin**, born October 23, 1807. Married December 7, 1829 to **Charles Gentry**.

James Harvey Carson, Lavinia's husband, was appointed administrator of the estate of Samuel Carson, deceased. His report presented to the Court of Jefferson County, sworn to and subscribed before James Nicholson, Clerk, June 7, 1852, is a precise instrument covering six large pages. It was accepted and duly recorded in the office of the County Court Clerk at Dandridge, TN.

The Administrator and the heirs entered into an agreement whereby the several heirs accepted as correct the amounts each had received from Samuel Carson during his life time which apparently compiled with his records. The advances were reported as follows: "It appears under an article of agreement under seal which said Administrator has this day exhibited to me that the several heirs of Samuel Carson, deceased, have received advancements of the following amounts, to wit.

That he advanced in his life time to James Carson \$1,795.00

That he advanced in his life time to William C. Carson 112.00  
That he advanced in his life time to **Rhoda Gentry** 1,985.00  
That he advanced in his life time to G. W. Drake & wife 1, 763.00  
That he advanced in his life time to William Harrison & wife 1, 716.00  
That he advanced in his life time to B. R. Inman & wife 1, 980.00  
That he advanced in his life time to Jas. H. Carson & wife 1, 270.00

**Source:** Thomas Jarnagin by Lee L. Powers 1746-1802, 1985 Edition. Pgs. 127 & 128:

Settlement of the estate of Chesley Jarnagin, deceased, husband of Martha Barton:

Those attending the sale not connected with the family include Isaac Jester, John Maize, James Cannon, **Charles Gentry**, William Bettis, William McDermot, Thomas Rogers, William Fry, William Bragg, C.G. Satterfield, Joseph Talley, John Shelton, Thomas Dean, William Haynes, Joseph Johnson, John Turner, George Reid, James White, William Kelly, Michael Branner, William Cox, William Parker, George Rogers, James Felkner, Joseph Moser, Baldwin Harle, and Barclay McGee. Those connected with the family at the sale were William Barton, Harmon Graves Lea, Caswell Lea, Samuel Carson, Rhoda Jarnagin Lea, Preston B. Jarnagin, Mary Witt Jarnagin, Daniel Witt and Pompey, a slave. Members of the family included Martha, Spencer, Thomas Barton, Hampton Lea, and Bynum Jarnagin, and Dr. William Montgomery, son-in-law.

\* **Source** Note from pg. 105 of Tennessee Cousins - 1950

A History of Tennessee People By Worth S. Ray

Author of "The Lost Tribes of North Carolina"

Chesley Jarnagin died prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1826, in Jefferson County, and the following persons were present at the sale of the property of his estate on that date. The list of names included his neighbors, relatives and intimates and is of great interest in the history of the Jarnigan Family and Tennessee, some of the buyers afterwards playing important roles in public affairs. John Maize, James Cannon, **Charles Gentry**, William McDermot, Thomas Rogers, William Fry, C.G. Satterfield, William Haynes, William Kelly, Michael Branner, William Cox, Joseph Moser, Baldwin Harle, Barclay McGee, Mary Jarnigan, Martha Jarnigan, Alex McDonald, W.H. Montgomery, John Maize, Spencer Jarnigan, Dr. Montgomery, Spencer Jarnigan, T.B. Jarnigan, H.G. Lea, Daniel Reams (Reavis), Caswell Lea, Rhoda Lea, James Shelton, James White, William Austin, T.B. Jameson & Samuel Carson.

**Source:** First Families of Tennessee - East Tennessee Historical Society: ISBN: 0-94119-12-6 - pg. 248.

**James Randolph:** Born, 1796, Chesterfield Co., VA - Died, ca. 1795, Jefferson Co., TN married **Sarah Gentry**.

County Settled: Washington Co, TN, 1779 - Proof: Tax List

Descendants of James Randolph:

Janella Ann Carpenter

Margaret Janella Hooper Carpenter

Jennifer Lee Jowers

Sara Kay Carpenter Jowers

Donald Moore

Max Moore

**Source:** Albemarle County in Virginia by Rev. Edgar Woods, 1901 – Giving some account of what it was by nature, of what it was by man, and of some of the men who made it.

Pg. 205: GENTRY

The different Gentry families in Albemarle seem to have sprung from the same head. **Nicholas Gentry** died in 1779, leaving eleven children, Moses, David, Nicholas, Mary Hinson, **Robert**, Benajah, Nathan, Martin, Elizabeth Haggard, Jane Timberlake, and Ann Jenkins. Moses bought land in 1778 from Sanuel Gay on the old Lynchburg Road north of Garland's Store. He was a ruling elder in the Cove Church. He died in 1810. His children were Claiborne and Nichols, who married sisters, Jane and Mary, daughters of Bezaleel Maxwell, Frances, the wife of Thomas Fitzpatrick, and Joanna, the wife of Joseph Walters. Addison, a son of Nicholas, married Lucy, a sister of Shelton F. Leake.

Prior to 1778 David and Martin were owners of land on Doyle's River, which they afterwards sold to Benajah Brown. A son of one of these brothers probably was Richard Gentry; who in 1784 married Jane, daughter of James Harris, and removed to Kentucky, and whose descendants held a reunion at Crab Orchard in August 1898. And from one of them in all likelihood came George Gentry, who died in 1818, whose home was not far from Free Union, whose wife's name was Elizabeth, and whose children were James, George, William, Frances, the wife of Nathaniel Tate, Austin, Aaron, Christopher, Martha, the wife of John Walton, Elizabeth, the wife of Edward Ballard, and Nancy, the wife of Edward Walton. The children of Christopher and his wife Sarah, were Martha the wife of Joel Maupin, Mary, the wife of Henry Via, Frances, the wife of Thomas Gibson, Elizabeth, the wife of James Dunn, Paschal, Henry, and Dicey, the wife of Garrett White.

Benajah lived on Biscuit Run, where he commenced to purchase land in 1764. In 1817 he transferred his property to his son Robert, although his death did not occur till 1830. Martha, the wife of Elijah Dawson, son of Rev. Martin, who removed to Callaway County, Missouri, and Elizabeth, the wife of William Goodman, were daughters of Benajah. Robert married Mary, daughter of Francis Wingfield, and was the father of Albert.

**Robert Gentry**, believed to be the son of Nicholas, bought in 1766 from Martha, widow of Samuel Arnold, a place on the head waters of Ivy Creek, which he and his wife **Judith** sold in 1776 to John Woodson. **Philip Joyner**, whose daughter was the wife of **Robert Gentry**, and who once owned the land the University stands on, devised the land to his two grandsons, and **Jesse Gentry**. They sold, the one in 1775, and the other in 1783, and appear to have emigrated to North Carolina. Where the Robert mentioned was the same with the son of Nicholas, is unknown.

**Source:** JACKSON COUNTY, 1802 TAXES: <http://www.jacksonco.org/misc/1802tax.htm>

The list comes from Roll 5, Tennessee State Archives. The first number is the NP and the last number is the number of Acres. List of Taxables and Taxable Property in

CAPT. BENJAMIN TOTTON'S District:

**Charles Gentry 0-1200**

This is a true copy from the original Tax list and recorded in Jackson County for the year 1802. John Bowen - Clerk by A. Rawlings his Deputy Clerk.

The land in the return that was reported and sold was not returned to the Treasurer, when the list and the amount of the Taxes was sent forward to him. John Bowen by A. Rawlings his Deputy Clerk.

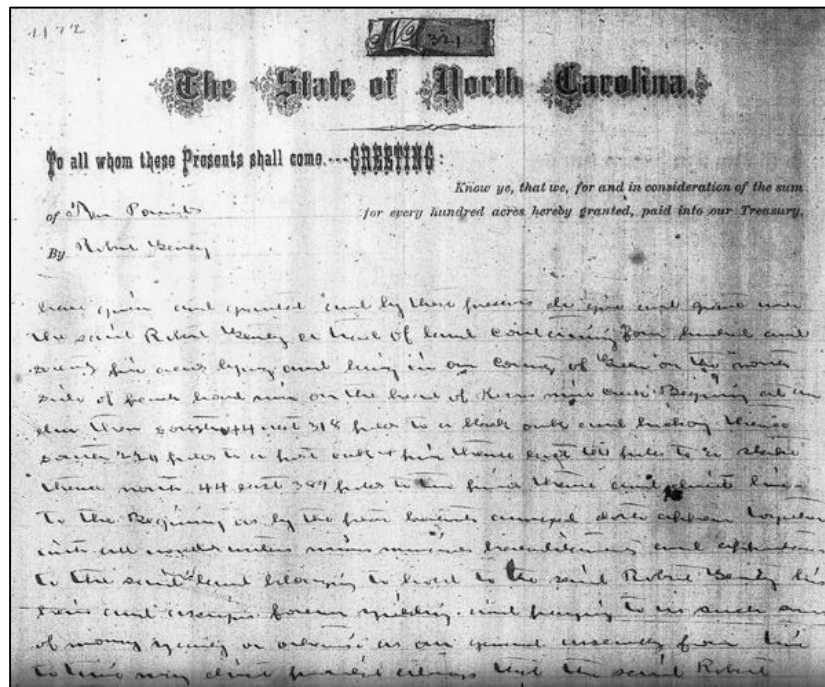
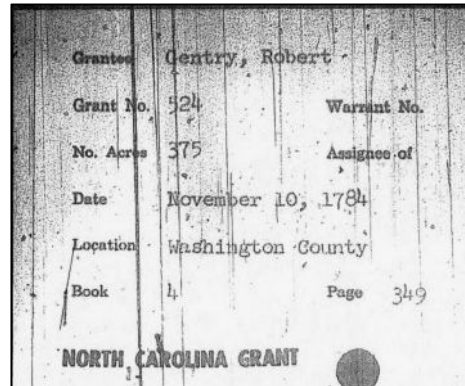
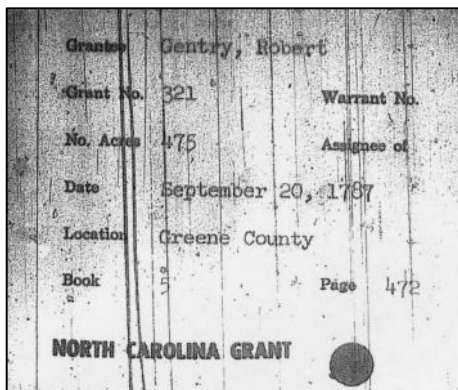
**Source:**

Register of Deeds, Volume A, September 1792 – September 1793.

North Carolina Grant No. 321: **Robert Gentry**: Book 5, pg. 472: No of Acres: 475: Date: 20 September 1787: Location: Greene County: THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

To all whom these Presents shall come GREETING: Know ye, that we, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Pounds for every hundred acres hereby granted, paid into our Treasury by Robert Gentry have given and granted and by these present do give and grant unto the said Robert Gentry a tract of land containing four hundred and seventy five acres lying and being in the county of Green on the north side of French Broad river on the head of Kelso's Mill Creek .....

16 February 1796 20 September 1787 475 Acres: 10 Pounds for every 100 acres. County of Green on the north side of French Broad River on the head of Kelso's Mill Creek. State of North Carolina at Kingston. Jas Glasgow, Secretary /s/ Richard Caswell  
 Certify the foregoing to be a copy of the records altered in the Secretary Office pursuant to an order of Green County Court this 30 September 1795. /s/ Jas Glasgow, Secretary



**Source:** The Reconstructed 1810 Census of Tennessee: 33,000 long-lost records from tax lists, court minutes, church records, wills, deeds and other sources, by Charles A. Sherrill: Published by Charles A. Sherrill, 1023 Waster Edge Circle, Mt. Juliet, TN 37211: 2001.

## **INTRODUCTION:**

Scope of the Project and Dates of Records: This project provides a substitute for the 1810 Tennessee census, nearly all of which was destroyed many years ago in a Washington, D.C., warehouse accident. The initial objective was to locate a tax list of this time period for each county. Where those were not available court minutes, deeds and other records were consulted. In addition, a number of statewide sources including legislative acts and petitions and militia commissions were scoured for references to citizens of the period.

Records dating from 1809 to 1811 were used to create this list, so it shows a different picture from the single-moment snapshot provided by a federal census. Because a range of dates is covered, some Tennesseans who migrated during these years will be listed in more than one county.

DEEDS: When tax lists were not available, deeds were used to identify people living in Tennessee in 1809-1811. In some counties, deeds are the only surviving early records. Although not an ideal source for identifying residents, deeds were used because they sometimes contain names not found in other records. Slaves, wives and minors, who would be invisible in tax lists and federal census records, are often mentioned in deeds. Grantors and grantees in both real and personal property deeds were extracted, as were the names of adjoining property owners and witnesses. In some cases these parties may not have been a resident of the county where the deed was recorded. Land speculators may be listed in many counties. Readers should consult the original deed to investigate the clues it may give regarding place of residence.

Reconstructed 1810 Tennessee Census: page 196

## **Gentry, Robert: Jefferson Co., executor of James Randolph: Source #21**

**Source #21: Holdaway, Boyd J. *Land deeds of Jefferson County, Tennessee 1792-1836*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1982. Records of 1809-1811 were extracted from pp. 18-21. 287 entries.**

**The surname JOINER or JOYNER** was first attached to one who was an expert craftsman, who did woodwork for the interior of houses, ships, and etc....by joining pieces to timber by mortise and tenon, and by panels fitted in groves, all without nails.

Among the troops that came into England with William the Conqueror in 1066 there was an 'Alan Le Joygnour' who was a chief carpenter.

## **JACK'S CONVENACE TO RANDOPH'S HEIRS**

Registered June 23, 1796

This Indenture made this third day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninety six between **Samuel Jack** of one part and **Robert Gentry** and **Bartlet (Gentry)** Executors & **Sarah Randolph** Executrix of the last will and testament of **James Randolph** deceased of the other part, each of the County of Jefferson and territory of the United States south of the river Ohio. Witnesseth the said **Samuel Jack** and in consideration of the sum of sixty six dollars and two thirds to him in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath and by these presents doth grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff and confirm unto the said **Robert Gentry & Bartlet Gentry** Executors and **Sarah Randolph**, Executrix of the last will and testament of **James Randolph** deceased in trust and for the use and benefit of **James Randolph** estate and to be disposed of agreeable to his last will and testament a certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred acres be the same or more of less, lying and being in the county of Jefferson and South western territory Beginning at a Black Walnut and Pine on the top of a ridge thence North fifteen degrees East fifty poles to a stake near a Pine thence North sixty Easts seventy four poles to a Pine thence North fifty Easts sixty five poles to a red Oak thence South fifty Eight Easts one hundred and sixty six poles to a stake thence South thirty one West one hundred poles to a stake near a Black Oak thence South ninety five poles to a stake near a Black Oak thence West Seventy three poles to a stake thence North one hundred and forty-four poles to a Black Oak thence West one hundred and fifty poles to the Beginning. Together with all and singular the woods waters water courses profits commodities Hereditaments and appurtenances whatever to the Land Belonging or any wise appertaining and tho reversion and reversions remainder & remainders rents & issues thereof and all the Estate right title claim intrust profit and demand of him the said **Samuel Jack**; his Heirs of in and to the same and every part and parcel thereof Either in Law or Equite to have and to hold the said two hundred acres of land with the appurtenances' unto the said Executors & Excutrix in trust and for the use and purpose herein before mentioned against the lawful claim title and demand of person or persons whatsoever shall and will warrant by these present in witness whereof the said **Samuel Jack** hath hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year first above written. Signed sealed and delivered in presence of:

**Joseph Hamilt** Olh Ack:      /s/**Sam. Jack**      Seal

Note: This was copied from a photstat of the original made by **Mr. Ray Bostick**.

<http://www.ajlambert.com>