

**BLAKE BAKER THACKSTON JR.**

(1840-1896)

By Edward L. Thackston

History of Smith County Tennessee -1986

Smith County Homecoming '86 Heritage Committee

F745, pgs. 719-720.

**Blake B. Thackston, Jr.**, was a successful farmer and millwright of Sullivan's Bend, near Maggart. He was the **son of Blake B. and Sally Pate Thackston**, both of whom were raised in Jackson Co., but moved to Smith Co., about 1830.

At the age of 21, he joined the Confederate Army, and was mustered into Co. B, 7<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry, at Camp Trousdale. **His brother, Benjamin**, was in the same company. The 7<sup>th</sup> fought in the West Virginia mountain campaign in the winter of '61-62, then at Seven Pines and the seven days' battles before Richmond, after which Blake was promoted to sergeant.

At the battle of Cedar Run, Blake was firing from behind a rotten stump. As he raised up to withdraw his ramrod to tamp another round into his musket, a minie ball struck him in the chest. Because it had been slowed by its passage through the stump, it did not penetrate, but lodged in his breastbone. He recovered quickly, but the ball was never removed. After a short furlough home, during which he brought his family a pair of field glasses given to him in return for his kindness by a Union officer he had captured, he rejoined his unit.

In December, 1862, the 7<sup>th</sup> was on the right flank of Lee's army at Fredricksburg. A charge by Union troops under **Gen. George Meade** broke the Confederate line, and the 19<sup>th</sup> Georgia, the 14<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, and most of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tennessee gave way, leaving the remainder of the 7<sup>th</sup> with an exposed left flank. However, in spite of the Union forces in their front, on their flank, and in their rear, the 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee, and Co. Band a few other companies of the 7<sup>th</sup>, under the leadership of **Lt. Francis Timberlake**, held their ground, then charged the enemy in their front and drove them back. As a result of his steadfastness, Blake was hit from the flank by a shot which cut a deep and permanent gash through his calf muscle, which ended his active service. After months of hospitalization, he was detailed as a hospital guard and carpenter until the end of the war.

Blake and his friend, **W. C. Boze**, who were delivering horses to the army when Lee surrendered, went to Winchester, hoping for paroles and free transportation home. They were paroled, but denied free transportation unless they took the oath of allegiance. They refused. They walked all the way to Smith Co., arriving in August, after boarding with a farmer in Pulaski Co., Virginia, until sentiment in East Tennessee cooled down enough to allow safe passage.

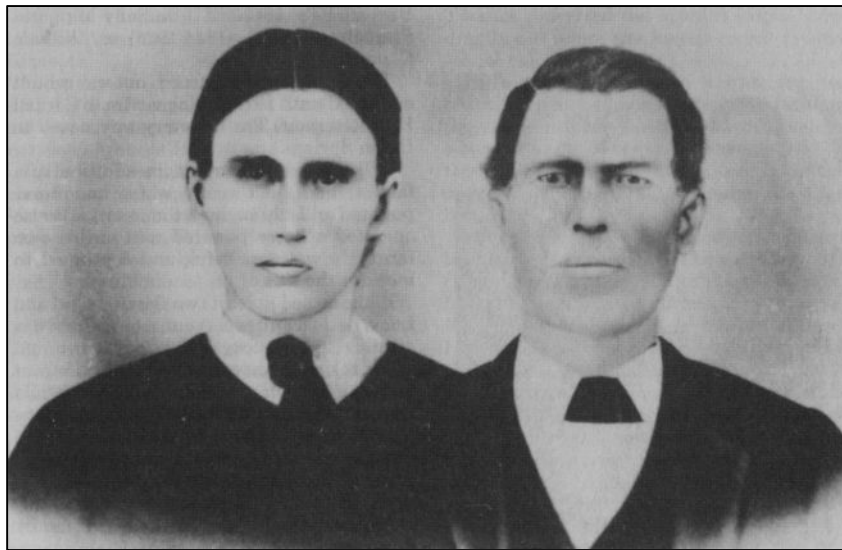
After returning to his father's farm, Blake quickly became a successful farmer and millwright also. He was asked to come to the farm of **Snoden Maddux** in Buffalo Valley, to rebuild his mill. Maddux had a daughter, **Mary**, whose suitor, **Bob Scruggs**,

was a friend of Blake. Scruggs gave Blake a box of apples to take to Mary. However, during the months which Blake spent at the Maddux house working on the mill, **Mary** turned her attention to Blake. They were married October 22, 1868.

The newlyweds made their home with her father for two years. A boy, named **Anthony** for Blake's older brother who was killed in the war, was born and died. He was buried in the Maddux cemetery. They then moved to Sullivan's Bend to live with Blake's parents, where another boy was born. He also died after 3 years. Their next children lived to adulthood, however, before the last died young. They were: **Lee Hampton** (1875-1963); m. **Annie Lizzie Cardwell**; **Snoden Maddux** (1878-1964) m. **Alice Medora Rogers**; **Lucy Alma** (1880-1921) m. **Willie McDonald**; **Sallie Pate** (1881-1957); **Virginia Cleveland "Virgie"** (1884-1967); Henry Benjamin (1887-1943) m. **Lydia Duke**; **Mary Lillian** (1894-1894).

**Blake** was killed November 21, 1896, when he accidentally fell through a window of the Masonic Lodge in Snow Creek. He had arrived late, took a straight chair, and went to the back, where he leaned back against what he thought was a curtain-covered wall. However, it was an open window. He fell 20 feet to the ground and died about midnight of internal bleeding. He was buried the next day in the family cemetery, with Masonic honors. **His wife, Mary**, died two years later.

His friend, **W. C. Boze**, writing in the January, 1897 *Confederate Veteran*, said "He was a noble man, of sterling qualities, and of rare mental abilities...I never knew a more courageous, loyal and honorable man, one who was never swayed by public sentiment, but always dared to follow the dictates of his heart."



Pictured: Blake Baker Thackston, Jr. 3/20/1840 – 11/21/1896 & his wife Mary Marshall (Maddux) Thackston 11/4/1848 – 7/28/1898, married 10/22/1868, both buried in the Thackson Cemetery, 11th Civil Dist., Smith Co., TN

Picture made ca. 1870.

**Mary Marshall (Maddux) Thackston**, d/o Snowden Horton Maddux 12/9/1812 – 4/16/1875 & Lucy Ann Leftwich 1810 – 12/7/1886, both buried in the Maddux Cemetery, Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN. Snowden Horton Maddux, s/o Craven Maddux (1782-1850) & Elizabeth Davis. Lucy Ann Leftwich, d/o William Thomas Leftwich Sr. (1790-1845) & Martha Bates.

**BLAKE BAKER THACKSTON SR.**

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F746, pg. 720

**Blake B. Thackston, Sr.**, was the first Thackston to settle permanently in Smith Co. His father, **Zadock B. Thackston**, a noted Methodist minister born in Prince Edward Co., Virginia, was in Smith Co. in 1802. He then settled on Martin's Creek in southern Jackson Co.

Blake was born December 22, 1799, probably in Sumner Co., where Zadock is believed to have lived between 1790 and 1802. **His mother was Susana Paylor**. He grew up on the farm on Martin's Creek, helping his mother, with his **older brother, Paul**, and **younger sister, Mary**, while his father was away from home for months at a time, "riding the circuits."

In early 1822, Zadock moved to Scottsville, Kentucky, where he lived until he died in 1852. Paul followed later that year. Mary married **David Apple**, and Blake moved to Smith County.

On November 28, 1828, **Blake married Sarah "Sally" Pate**, from Flynn's Lick, in Jackson Co. She was 22 and he was nearly 29, both relatively old for that day. In 1830, Blake purchased 50 acres in Sullivan's Bend, "where he now lives," from **Michael Shoemake**. In 1843, he bought 43 more acres from Anna Sullivan. Blake had seen the rich bottom land, small spring-fed creek, and nearby hilltop earlier, while traveling from Granville to Nashville by steamboat, thought it was the prettiest site for a house he had ever seen, and resolved to return and live there someday.

Blake and Sally had 8 children, all of whom they raised to adulthood. They also raised several grandchildren after one or both parents died. The children were: **Amanda Frances** (1829- ) m. **Temple Birdwell**; **Anthony Pate** (1830-1862) m. (1) **Elizabeth Dillard**, (2) **Elizabeth Duke**; **Susan P.** (1833- ) m. (1) Green Duke, (2) Felix Dickens; **Elvira "Babe"** (1835-1920) m. (1) **Octavus Graves**, (2) James Pulley; Henry (1837-1901) m. **Pate**; **Blake Baker, Jr.**, (1840-1896) m. **Mary Marshall Maddux**; **Benjamin F.** (1842-1884) m. **Sally Margaret Franklin**; **Mary** (1844-1926) m. **William Conditt**.

The original house burned, but was rebuilt and stood until 1973, falling victim to Cordell Hull Reservoir. The cemetery was moved to Dixon Springs.

Blake was a millwright, in addition to a farmer, and built many water and horse powered mills throughout the county. He also operated a horse powered mill on his own farm. He was successful, and continued to increase the size of his landholdings.

Blake owned at least two slaves, **David** and **Lucy**, both acquired as youngsters. Lucy was acquired in Kentucky in 1822, at age two, and rode back to Tennessee on the saddle

in front of Blake. She was raised almost as a family member and married **Sam Strother**, a slave from an adjoining farm. When the slaves were freed by the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment after the war, Blake gave them a house and 5 acres. Her birth is recorded in the family Bible, as was David's, and she was buried in the family cemetery.

The War Between the States brought tragedy to the Thackstons, as it did to so many families. All three remaining boys (Henry had moved to Texas in 1857) went off to fight for the Confederacy. Only two came back. Anthony, a lieutenant in the 28<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, was killed at Baton Rouge. Benjamin and Blake, Jr., who was wounded twice, were in the 7<sup>th</sup> Tennessee.

As an old man, Blake was rough and gruff looking, and most of the neighborhood children were afraid of him. However, he was really soft inside, and loved children.

At age 82, Blake fell while walking in the yard, and broke his hip. The doctor was sent for, but Blake refused to let him attempt to reset the hip. His nephew, **Jack Apple**, urged him, obviously now dying, to make his peace with God. Blake replied, "By God, I didn't know we ever had any falling out." Apparently they hadn't, for Blake died peacefully soon after. Two of his most precious possessions survive – his family Bible and the cradle he made with his own hands, and in which were rocked his 8 children and most of his 26 grandchildren.



Blake Baker Thackston, Sr. 12/22/1799 – 11/17/1881 and wife Sally (Pate) Thackston 3/27/1806 – 11/20/1874.

Picture made ca. 1848.

\*See Virtual Cemetery, Maddux Cemetery, History Putnam County, TN and other related files at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>

**Lois V. (McDonald) Bond Obt.**

BOND, Lois V. – Age 88, passed away August 17, 2004. She was the daughter of the late Willie Ellis and Lucy Alma Thackston McDonald. She was a homemaker and a member of First United Methodist Church, Lebanon. She is preceded in death by her husband, James V. “J.V.” Bond, a partner of the former Lebanon Drug Company; several sisters and a brother. Survived by son, Jimmy (Janice) of Goodlettsville, TN; grandson, Andy (Tracey) Bond of Mt. Juliet, TN, Tim Bond of Nashville, TN; several nieces and nephews; several great nieces and nephews. Graveside services will be conducted 11 a.m. Friday, August 20, 2004 at Cedar Grove Cemetery, with Rev. Billy Craighead officiating. Flowers accepted, or memorials may be made to Shriner’s Hospitals for Children, c/o Al Menah Shrine Center, P. O. Box 78545, Nashville, TN 37207. Visitation with the family will be from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, at Bond Memorial Chapel, North Mt. Juliet Road and Weston Drive, Mt. Juliet, TN (615) 773-2663; 24-Hour Obituary Line, (615) 641-2663.

**Mary Maddux (McDonald) Dickens Obt.**

On the morning of October 24, 1922 about 4 o’clock the death angel made a sad visit to the home of Reginald Dickens and bore the spirit of his loving companion back to God who gave it. Mary was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie McDonald both of whom preceded her to the grave some time ago. She was married to Reginald Dickens about 18 months ago and to this union one son was born. Mary was about 21 years of age and was an intelligent young woman, just in the bloom of youth. Mary leaves a husband, one son, 5 sisters and 1 brother.

Carthage Courier, Smith Co., TN: 23 November 1922, by Leone Proffitt.

**Willie Ellis McDonald Obt.**

Willie McDonald of the Maggart neighborhood was found dead in the field last Thursday. Being a subject of apoplexy, it is thought that Mr. McDonald succumbed to an attack of this disease. The remains were laid to rest in the Snowden Thackston graveyard the following Friday. He leaves a wife and several children to mourn their loss.

Cartage Courier, Smith Co., TN: 18 April 1918, front page.

**Annie Lizzie (Cardwell) Thackston Obt.**

Mrs. Thackston Dies in Nursing Home. Mrs. Annie Lizzie Cardwell Thackston, 90, a native of Smith County, died in a Lebanon nursing home Friday afternoon. Funeral services were conducted at Lebanon Saturday by the Rev. Elma Broyles. Burial was in Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Her husband was the late Lee Thackston. She had lived in Lebanon several years.

Survivors are 2 daughters, Mrs. E. A. Kerr, Donelson; Mrs. D. W. Stone, Beebe, AR; 2 sons, Blake Thackston, Bradenton, FL; Guy Thackston, Lebanon, TN; 8 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren.

Carthage Courier, TN: Thursday, 31 October 1968.

**Blake "Bill" Chapman Thackston Obt.**

THACKSTON, Blake “Bill” Chapman, Age 81, of 322 Tyne Avenue, Murfreesboro, TN. Died Saturday, February 20, 1999 at National Health Care Center. He was a native of Smith County. Survived by his wife, Marguerite Odil Thackston; daughters, Elizabeth (Gerry) McComas and Lou (William) Edwards, Nashville; step-grandchildren, Clay McComas and Laura McComas. Mr. Thackston was a graduate of MTSU, served in the Army Air Corps in WWII, a member of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church where he served as Vestryman, Lay Reader, and Chalice Bearer, a member of the Murfreesboro Downtown Kiwanis Club,

**SAR**, and life member of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. He was retired from the Tennessee Department of Transportation. Mr. Thackston donated his body to Vanderbilt Hospital.

Memorial service will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 28, 1999, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church with Father Gene Wise officiating. Visitation with the family will be from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, February 27, 1999, at his home, 322 Tyne Avenue, Murfreesboro, TN, and from 3-5 p.m. Sunday in Ferguson Hall at St. Paul's Episcopal Church following his memorial service. Honorary pallbearers will be the Vestry, Chalice Bearers, and Lay Readers of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and members of the Murfreesboro Downtown Kiwanis Club. Memorials in memory of Mr. Thackston may be made to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 315 E. Main St., Murfreesboro, TN 37130. Woodfin Memorial Chapel, 893-5151.

**Fred J. Thackston Obt.**

b. 1930, Sullivan's Bend, Smith Co., TN – d. 29 June 1993, s/o **Henry Benjamin Thackston** (1887-1943) & **Lydia Duke**.

\*See Lucille R. Thackston Obt.

Wednesday evening funeral services were conducted at 8:00 p.m. from the Carthage Chapel of Sanderson Funeral Home for Fred J. Thackston of E. Tn. Ave. in Oak Ridge. Graveside services and burial were conducted Thursday morning at 10:00 in the Dixon Springs Cemetery. Bro. Ed Spiva officiated at both services.

Mr. Thackston died Tuesday morning June 29, 1993 at 7:49 a.m. in the Alvin C. York Hospital in Murfreesboro at the age of 63 following an extended illness.

Born in the Sullivan's Bend Community of Smith County, the son of the late Henry Benjamin and Lydia Duke Thackston, he was a Korean War veteran in the US Army. He was a Methodist in belief and a retired truck driver.

Surviving are 2 sisters, Lucille Thackston of Oak Ridge, Helen Lynch of Gordonsville; a brother Harry Thackston of Knoxville. Sanderson Funeral Home, Directors.

Carthage Courier, Smith Co., TN: 8 July 1993.

**Lucille R. Thackston Obt.**

b. 1925 – d. 6 July 1994, Oak Ridge, TN, d/o **Henry Benjamin Thackston** (1887-1943) & **Lydia Duke** (1892-1973).

\*See Fred J. Thackston Obt.

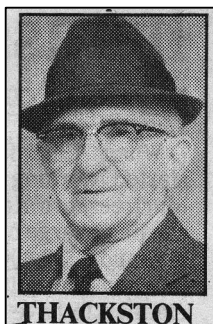
Lucille R. Thackston, 69, 185 Raleigh Road, Oak Ridge, Tenn., an accounting clerk, died yesterday, Methodist Hospital. Services 8 p.m. today. Sanderson Funeral Home, Carthage, Tenn. Survivors: sister, Helen Lynch, Gordonsville, Tenn.; brother, Harry Thackston, Knoxville.

7 July 1994, TN

**Guy Carleton Thackston Sr. Obt.**

b. 17 September 1907, Wilson Co., TN – d. 2 February 1993, md **Sydney Virginia (Adams) Thackston**, b. 1 November 1910 – d. 16 April 1994. Guy Carleton Thackston Sr., s/o **Lee Hampton Thackston** (1875-1963) & **Annie Lizzie Cardwell** (1878-1968).

LEBANON, TN – Guy Carleton Thackston Sr., 85, a former member of the Tennessee House of Representatives and a former president of the Tennessee Jaycees, died from heart failure at his home yesterday.



Mr. Thackston was born in Wilson County where he lived most of his life. His parents were Lee Hampton and Lizzie Cardwell Thackston.

He served one term in the General Assembly from 1953-54. Immediately following World War II, he was active in civic club work when he was president of the Tennessee Junior Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Rotary Club, and Lebanon Masonic Lodge, the Royal Arch Masons and the Knights Templar.

Mr. Thackston was a member of the United Methodist Church and a graduate of Cumberland University, where he earned both the bachelor of arts and bachelor of laws degrees. After college, he taught school at Castle Heights Military High School.

Subsequently, he worked for the Tennessee Department of Employment Security. During World War II, he was office manager of the War Production Board in Nashville.

Later, Mr. Thackston farmed and developed a residential subdivision on the Sparta Pike.

Services will be at 11 a.m. tomorrow at Lebanon First United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Nave Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia Adams Thackston; daughter Gemma Thackston Roberts, West Palm Beach, FL; sons Dr. Edward Thackston, Nashville, and the Rev. Carleton Thackston, Smithville, TN; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

3 February 1993, TN

**Henry Benjamin Thackston Obt.**

b. 28 November 1887, Smith Co., TN – d. 19 May 1943, md **Lydia (Duke) Thackston**, b. 30 December 1892 – d. 8 May 1973, Oak Ridge, TN. Henry Benjamin Thackston, s/o **Blake Baker Thackston Jr.** (1840-1896) & **Mary Marshall Maddux** (1848-1898).

\*See Lydia (Duke) Thackston Obt.

Funeral services for Henry B. Thackston, 55, who died unexpectedly at his home near Elmwood last Wednesday, were conducted at the home on Thursday by the Rev. Phocian Gibbs and the Rev. R. D. Angel. Burial was in the family cemetery.

A native of Smith Co., Mr. Thackston was a member of a prominent family of this section. He was a farmer.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lydia Duke Thackston; 3 daughters, 2 sons, 2 sisters, and 2 brothers. Carthage Courier, TN: Thursday, 27 May 1943, front page.

**Lydia Duke Thackston Obt.**

b. 30 December 1892 – d. 8 May 1973, Oak Ridge, TN, md **Henry Benjamin Thackston**, b. 28 November 1887, Smith Co., TN – d. 19 May 1943, s/o **Blake Baker Thackston Jr.** (1840-1896) & **Mary Marshall Maddux** (1848-1898).

\*See Henry Benjamin Thackston Obt.

THACKSTON, Mrs. Lydia Duke – Age 80, of Oak Ridge, formerly of Sullivan's Bend Community, passed away Tuesday May 8, 1973 at Oak Ridge Methodist Hospital. Survived by 3 daughters, Mrs. Helen Lynch of Gordonsville, Mrs. Elizabeth Sloan, Marcus, Texas, Miss Lucille Thackston, Oak Ridge, Fred Thackston, Oak Ridge, Harry Thackston, Fountain City, TN; 6 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren. The remains are at the Chapel of Sanderson Funeral Home where services will be conducted Thursday morning at 11:00. Rev. Phocian Gibbs will officiate. Active pallbearers: Ben Lynch, David Sloan, Xin Sloan, Jr., Xin Sloan, III, Ben Thackston, John Gannaway, Lloyd Duke, Charles Duke, Steve Adamski. Interment in the Dixon Springs Cemetery. Sanderson Funeral Directors of Carthage, Directors.

Tennessean, TN: Thursday, 10 May 1973.

**Sidney Virginia (Adams) Thackston Obt.**

b. 1910 – d. 16 April 1994, Lebanon, Wilson Co., TN, md **Guy Carleton Thackston Sr.**, b. 17 September 1907, Wilson Co., TN – d. 3 February 1993, Lebanon, Wilson Co., TN, s/o **Lee Hampton Thackston** (1875-1963) & **Annie Lizzie Cardwell** (1878-1968). Sidney Virginia (Adams) Thackston, d/o **Edward E. Adams & Gemma Gause**.

THACKSTON, Sidney Virginia Adams – Age 83. Saturday, April 16, 1994. Survived by three children, Dr. Edward L. Thackston, Nashville, Gemma T. Roberts, West Palm Beach, FL, and Rev. Guy Carleton Thackston Jr., Smithville, TN. Remains are at Nave Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held 3:30 p.m., Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at the 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church conducted by Bishop Robert Spain and Rev. Gerald Noffsinger. Burial will be in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Lebanon. Family requests visitation 2 p.m., Monday until 3:30 p.m. at the 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church. Family request memorial contributions may be made to the 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church, Lebanon, TN or Cumberland University or the Lebanon Wilson County Library. Nave Funeral Home, Lebanon, TN.

Library lover lives on through her support: By Warren Duzak, Staff Writer, Lebanon, TN: **LEBANON** - Sydney Virginia Adams Thackston will be remembered at the Lebanon Public Library.

“She was always coming in, and she always had a smile on her face,” said Librarian Mary Williams.

Thackston, an avid reader and dedicated supporter of the library, was buried yesterday. She was 84.

Both Thackston and her husband Guy C. Thackston, who died last year, found time and money to improve the county’s library system, Williams said. The pair often donated a book to the library in memory of a friend or relative.

“They were constantly supporting the library financially,” Williams said.

Thackston, born in 1910, was always around books, reading, and words. Her father, Edward E. Adams, was the founder, publisher and editor of *The Lebanon Democrat*. Her mother, Gemma Gause Adams, was the society and literary editor of her husband’s paper.

Thackston attended then Cumberland College and graduated after majoring in French. She taught French, Spanish, German and English at Lebanon High School from 1961 to 1975. Thackston also taught French at Cumberland.

Thackston’s friends are expected to carry on her tradition. Williams said she expects the library to receive books as a memorial to one of its best friends.

**Snoden Maddux Thackston Obt.**

b. 1878 – d. 18 October 1964, Lebanon, Wilson Co., TN, md **Alice Medora (Rogers) Thackston**. Snoden Maddux Thackston, s/o **Blake Baker Thackston Jr.** (1840-1896) & **Mary Marshall Maddux** (1848-1898).

LEBANON, TN – Snowden Maddux Thackston, 86. Survived by 1 daughter, Mrs. Carl Fry, others, Mrs. Clyde Page, Trenton, TN, Mrs. R. K. Bell, Chevy Chase, MD, Mrs. R. K. Murphy, Morristown, Mrs. Harry Vickers, Birmingham, AL, son, Glen Thackston, Elmwood; sister, Miss Virgie Thackston, Carthage, TN. Interment: Wilson County Memorial Gardens, TN. Ligon-Bobo Funeral Home.

Nashville, TN: Tuesday, 20 October 1964.

<http://www.ajlambert.com>



<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~patefamily/Bibles/bib004.htm>

Bib004-TNX

TENNESSEE, MISC

THACKSTON-PATE FAMILY BIBLE

TN Archives, Call Bible #67-85, MS Div (14 Oct 1976)

Copy of original Bible, gift of Mrs Clyde Page, 6720 Church St, Trenton, TN

ZEADOCK B THACKSTON (1766-

SALLY PATE was born 27 Mar 1806

ZEADOCK B THACKSTON was born 21st Feb 1766

SUSANA THACKSTON was born 22nd Feb 1762,  
wife of above Zadok

PAUL THACKSTON was born 20 March 1796

BLAKE B THACKSTON was born Dec 22nd 1799

MARY THACKSTON was born Jan 5th 1802

The above is the family of Zadok B Thackston and wife, Susana Thackston

THACKSTON FAMILY BIBLE

B B THACKSTON (1840-1881

B B THACKSTON, SR died 17 Oct 1881

SALLEY THACKSTON died 20 Nov 1874, aged 68 yrs, 7 mos, 23 days

BLAKE B THACKSTON & SALLY PATE was married 25 day of Nov 1828

THACKSTON FAMILY

Call #1266, Gen MS Div, TN Archives

BLAKE B THACKSTON Pvt, Co B, 7th Reg TN Inf, CSA

JAMES THACKSTON Lt Col, recVWarr #2225 for 500 ac bounty land issued  
15 Nov 1791 for service in NC Line of Revolutionary War

ZADOCK BAKER THACKSTON born 21 Feb 1766 married 1st SUSANA TAYLOR, 19 June 1794 she died 1829. In 1832 he married ELIZABETH NORRIS who died 1849

NOTE BY JINKS PATE LEE:

Sally (Pate) Thackston is the daughter of Esabah Pate and unknown wife, sister to Perleamon Pate who moved to IL and Anthony Pate who moved to LA. (FGS #32.10)

NOTES BY AUDREY J. LAMBERT: Blake B. Thackston, Sr., was the first Thackston to settle permanently in Smith Co. His father, Zadock B. Thackston, a noted Methodist minister born in Prince Edward Co., Virginia, was in Smith Co. in 1802. He then settled on Martin's Creek in southern Jackson Co., TN.

The original house burned, but was rebuilt and stood until 1973, falling victim to Cordell Hull Reservoir. The cemetery was moved to Dixon Springs.

Blake was a millwright, in addition to a farmer, and built many water and horse powered mills throughout the county. He also operated a horse powered mill on his own farm. He was successful, and continued to increase the size of his landholdings.

Blake owned at least two slaves, David and Lucy, both acquired as youngsters. Lucy was acquired in Kentucky in 1822, at age two, and rode back to Tennessee on the saddle in front of Blake. She was raised almost as a family member and married Sam Strother, a slave from an adjoining farm. When the slaves were freed by the 13th Amendment after the war, Blake gave them a house and 5 acres. Her birth is recorded in the family Bible, as was David's, and she was buried in the family cemetery.

Below are the census and other information about the families of Blake Thackston Sr. and Judd Strother who owned the slaves Lucy Thackston and Samuel "Sam" Strother.

THACKSTON CEMETERY From Sullivans Bend Rd 11th Dist of Smith Co. TN

<http://www.ajlambert.com>

1830 census Jackson Co., TN

Blake B Thanton

[Blake B Thaxton]

Home in 1830 (City, County, State): Jackson, Tennessee

Free White Persons - Males - 20 thru 29: 1

Free White Persons - Females - Under 5: 1

Free White Persons - Females - 20 thru 29: 1

Slaves - Males - 10 thru 23: 1

Slaves - Females - Under 10: 1

Free White Persons - Under 20: 1

Free White Persons - 20 thru 49: 2

Total Free White Persons: 3

Total Slaves: 2

Total - All Persons (Free White, Slaves, Free Colored): 5

1840 census Smith Co., TN

Name: Blake Thaxton

Home in 1840 (City, County, State): Smith, Tennessee

Free White Persons - Males - Under 5: 2

Free White Persons - Males - 5 thru 9: 1

Free White Persons - Males - 40 thru 49: 1

Free White Persons - Females - 5 thru 9: 2

Free White Persons - Females - 10 thru 14: 1

Free White Persons - Females - 30 thru 39: 1

Slaves - Males - 10 thru 23: 1  
 Slaves - Females - 10 thru 23: 1  
 Persons Employed in Agriculture: 3  
 Free White Persons - Under 20: 6  
 Free White Persons - 20 thru 49: 2  
 Total Free White Persons: 8  
 Total Slaves: 2  
 Total All Persons - Free White, Free Colored, Slaves: 10

Name: Judah Strother

[Judd Strother]

Home in 1840 (City, County, State): Smith, Tennessee

Free White Persons - Males - 20 thru 29: 1  
 Free White Persons - Males - 30 thru 39: 1  
 Free White Persons - Males - 60 thru 69: 1  
 Free White Persons - Females - 15 thru 19: 2  
 Free White Persons - Females - 20 thru 29: 1  
 Free White Persons - Females - 60 thru 69: 1  
 Slaves - Males - Under 10: 4  
 Slaves - Males - 10 thru 23: 4  
 Slaves - Males - 24 thru 35: 5  
 Slaves - Females - Under 10: 1  
 Slaves - Females - 10 thru 23: 2  
 Slaves - Females - 24 thru 35: 2  
 Slaves - Females - 55 thru 99: 1  
 Persons Employed in Agriculture: 12  
 Free White Persons - Under 20: 2  
 Free White Persons - 20 thru 49: 3  
 Total Free White Persons: 7  
 Total Slaves: 19  
 Total All Persons - Free White, Free Colored, Slaves: 26

(1850 census North of the Cumberland River/East of Caney Fork River, Smith Co., TN: Blake B. Thaxton is head of household, 51 yrs. old, TN, (Occupation: Millwright), (Estate Value: 1000), md to Sarah, 45 yrs. old, TN. Children: Anthony, 19 yrs. old; Susan, 17 yrs. old; Elvira, 15 yrs. old; Henry, 13 yrs. old; Blake B., Jr., 13 yrs. old; Benjamin 7 yrs. old & Mary Thaxton, 5 yrs. old. All born in TN).

(1850 census North of the Cumberland River/East of Caney Fork River, Smith Co., TN: Elizabeth Strother is head of household, 71 yrs. old, NC. Children: Henry Strother, 47 yrs. old, TN. Also living in the household: Harriet Vaden, 16 yrs. old, TN & Franck/French S. Vaden, 14 yrs. old, TN).

(1860 census 11th Civil Dist., Smith Co., TN: Dwl: 843 - B. B. Thaxton is head of household, 60 yrs. old, TN, (Occupation: Millwright), (Value of personal estate: 2750), md to Sarah, 56 yrs. old, TN. Children: Benjamin, 18 yrs. old; Mary, 16 yrs. old & Robert B. Thaxton, 20 yrs. old. All born in TN).

(1860 census 11th Civil Dist., Post Office Dixon Springs, Smith Co., TN: Dwl: 829 - Elizabeth Strother is head of household, 80 yrs. old, NC. Child: Henry Strother, 35 yrs. old, TN).

(1870 census 11th Civil Dist., Smith Co., TN: Dwl: B. B. Thaxton is head of household, 70 yrs. old, TN, md to Sarah, 65 yrs. old, TN. Children: George, 16 yrs. old, TN & Sarah G. Thaxton, 11 yrs. old, TN).

(1870 census 11th Civil Dist., Post Office Chestnut Mound, Smith Co., TN: Dwl: 23 - Henry Strother is head of household, 47 yrs. old, TN, MW. Living in the household, Elizabeth Strother, 92 yrs. old, NC, FW; Mary Strother, 28 yrs. old, TN, FW & John E. Strother, 1 yr. old, MW, TN).

(1870 census 11th Civil Dist., Post Office Chestnut Mound, Smith Co., TN: Dwl: 24 - Sam Strother is head of household, 65 yrs. old, TN, MB, (Occupation: Farmer), (Value of Personal Estate: 100), md to Lucy, 65 yrs. old, TN, (Occupation: House Keeper), FB. Also living in the household: Eliza, 20 yrs. old; Bet, 16 yrs. old; Calviso, 74 yrs. old; Martha, 12 yrs. old; Lav? 9 yrs. old; Hiram, 8 yrs. old; William 1 yr. old & Dick Strother, 1 yr. old. All Black and bron in TN).

Census Place: 1880 District 11, Smith Co., Tennessee

Source: FHL Film 1255280 National Archives Film T9-1280 Page 88A

Dwl: 44

	Relation	Sex	Marr	Race	Age	Birthplace
B. B. THACKSTON	Self	M	M	M	40	TN
	Occ: Farmer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Mary M. THACKSTON	Wife	F	M	W	30	TN
	Occ: Keeping House	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Lee H. THACKSTON	Son	M	S	W	5	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Snowden THACKSTON	Son	M	S	W	2	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Almer THACKSTON	Dau	F	S	W	2M	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Blake B. THACKSTON	Father	M	W	W	80	TN
	Fa: VA	Mo: VA				

Census Place: 1880 District 11, Smith Co., TN

Source: FHL Film 1255280 National Archives Film T9-1280 Page 87D

Dwl: 33

	Relation	Sex	Marr	Race	Age	Birthplace
Samuel STRAWTHER	Self	M	M	B	48	TN
	Occ: Farmer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Lucy STRAWTHER	Wife	F	M	B	49	TN
	Occ: Keeping House	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Elizabeth STRAWTHER	Dau	F	S	B	24	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Martha STRAWTHER	Dau	F	S	B	18	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
David STRAWTHER	Son	M	S	B	14	TN
	Occ: Farm Laborer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Hiram STRAWTHER	Son	M	S	B	13	TN
	Occ: Farm Laborer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Buck STRAWTHER	Son	M	S	B	11	TN
	Occ: Farm Laborer	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Huston STRAWTHER	Son	M	S	B	9	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Matilda STRAWTHER	Dau	F	S	B	7	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Lanorah STRAWTHER	Dau	F	S	B	5	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Henry STRAWTHER	GSon	M	S	B	5M	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Calvin STRAWTHER	GSon	M	S	B	3	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Joseph STRAWTHER	GSon	M	S	B	2M	TN
	Occ: At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			

(1900 census 11th Civil Dist., Putnam Co., TN: Dwl: 110 - Samuel Strother is head of household, 73 yrs. old, b. May 1827, TN, md 35 yrs. to Lucy, 74 yrs. old, b. June 1826, NC, 5 children born, 2 children living.

Grandchildren: Rosa, granddaughter, 12 yrs. old, b. July 1887, TN & Daisy Strother, granddaughter, 10 yrs. old, b. August 1889, TN. Also living in the household: Dudley Cardwell, grandson, 14 yrs. old, b. September 1885, TN).

Name: Sam Strother  
State: TN  
County: Smith County  
Township: Dist. 11 -male Voters-  
Year: 1891  
Page: 104  
Database: TN 1891 Voters List

#### Tennessee, Wills and Probate Records

Name: B B Thackston  
Probate Date: 28 Nov 1883  
Probate Place: Smith, Tennessee, USA  
Inferred Death Year: Abt 1883  
Inferred Death Place: Tennessee, USA  
Item Description: Estate Settlements, Folders 157-257, 1880-1889

NOTE: Elizabeth Sullivan Strother, b. 26 August 1779, NC - d. 3 December 1871, Smith Co., TN, married in 1802 Judd Strother, b. 23 February 1771, Franklin Co., NC - d. 15 December 1857, Sullivans Bend, Smith Co., TN, s/o Christopher Strother (1715-1795) & Ann Kemp (1725-1778). (Judd Strother was married 1st on the 15th of December 1787, Franklin NC to Rebecca Perry, b. 16 April 1767 - d. 1801, NC. Children of Judd & Rebecca (Perry) Judd are: French Strother; William Strother (1798-1861). (Children of Judd Strother & Elizabeth Sullivan Strother are: Harriet (Strother) High (1805-1823) md Harold D. Marchbanks (1805-1874); Parmelia (Strother) Vaden (1809-1845); Amanda (Strother) Cook (1811-1857); Hixie Strother (1813-1874); Luther StoTHER (1816-1831); Eliza J. Strother (1821-1880); Rebecca (Strother) Rascoe; Mary (Strother) Cook; Henry Strother and James Strother).

#### Elizabeth Strother

United States Census (Slave Schedule), 1850  
Owner Name Elizabeth Strother  
Event Type Census  
Event Year 1850  
Event Place Smith county, Smith, Tennessee, United States  
Slave's Gender Male  
Slave's Age 22  
Slave's Birth Year (Estimated) 1828  
Slave's Race Mulatto  
Slave's Race (Original) M

Name: Elizabeth Strother  
State: TN  
County: Smith County  
Township: District 11  
Year: 1860  
Record Type: Slave schedule  
Page: 262  
Database: TN 1860 Slave Schedule

Where is the Thackston cemetery?

Thackston Cemetery and the location may not be under water but owned by the Corp of Engineers. The graves were all moved prior to the impoundment of the lake including the graves of Blake B Thaxton Sr. 22 Dec 1799-17 Oct 1881 & wife Sallie 27 Mar 1806-20 Nov 1874. The COE record shows 21 graves all of

which were marked. These burials and monuments are in a special section of Dixon Springs Cemetery. There is another cemetery #61 a mile or so away that had 32 unknown graves. Over all there were 697 graves moved and 184 tombstones from the reservoir area. I do not see a listing for Strothers...  
John Waggoner

<http://www.ajlambert.com>