

## **History of Grandfather & Grandmother Virgil Timothy & Audra Camilla (Anderson) Denny's House & Farm - deeds ca. 1800's**

By Audrey June Denny Lambert –  
d/o Tim Denny & Geraldine Loftis

Tracing family deeds: names found of owners of all or part of farm owned by Virgil & Audra Denny -1919; 11<sup>th</sup> Civil District (Putnam Co.) Tennessee or the names of the people who bordered the land of Virgil Timothy Denny. Once called the Gentry-Buffalo Valley Rd, now called Hopewell Rd. (Rt. 1). A creek runs through the property called Little Indian Creek. Two natural springs on the old Timothy Denny farm (later owned by Virgil & Minnie Denny) ran into what was called Muddy Indian Creek that ran into Big Indian Creek under Hopewell Rd. into Little Indian Creek, that runs in front of the Virgil & Audra Denny farm. The original dwelling was built in the early 1880's, home of William Taylor "Bill" & Martha (Hendley) Maxwell. Later owned by Robert Filmore Maxwell. Virgil Timothy & Audra (Anderson) Denny moved here about 1920.

James Nelson Maddux  
James W. Sutton  
Solon Maddux & Daisy Dean Jared  
Fred Miller Maddux  
Josiah & Mary Bartlett  
Felix Patterson McGinness  
William Taylor "Bill" & Martha (Hendley) Maxwell  
Robert "Bob" Filmore Maxwell & Callie Dora Judd  
Ralph Jared  
Virgil Timothy & Audra Camilla Denny  
Vernon & Barbara Markel



Audra Camilla; Tim & Virgil Timothy Denny

The house was a big old farm house. It was situated in a valley off Hopewell Rd. You had to cross Little Indian Creek on a makeshift foot log bridge. In case the creek flooded there was another bridge on high land to cross the creek. Later a metal bridge was built. You would cross a big yard to the house. The entrance was a big porch with a swing. The house had a parlor with a fireplace, living room with a bay window and a pot belly stove. One large bedroom with two beds & cabinets. One bedroom upstairs and one in a sunken room downstairs. There was a private wash room off the living room. Through two glass doors was a dining room and a door leading to the country kitchen. In the kitchen was a separate pantry room. The kitchen had a small kitchen table, wood burning stove, icebox and a pie safe. Off the kitchen was a screened in back porch. Out the back porch was a hand pump for water and a storage room built into the side of the hill right behind the house. In the back yard was a swing, rain water tower and outhouse. By the water tower was some buildings, one for storage, a smoke house and a fruit cellar. There was a fence with a gate leading to the side of a hill we would explore as children. On other side of the house was a vegetable garden. Further on that side was three barns. One for the horses, mules and

hay, one with supplies and seed corn, one with chickens. At one time there were pens for cows and hogs. They raised corn, tobacco, wheat, potatoes and vegetables. At the top of the road was a storage building for the tractor later purchased. Further down the road is where the Carr's, the tenant farmers lived.

### Family Knowledge on the Virgil Timothy Denny House

Matilda (Wallace) Anderson who md Lewis Monroe Anderson used to stay at a old log cabin that was built on the property that Virgil Timothy Denny owned years later. Their daughter Audra Camilla (Anderson) Denny md Virgil Timothy Denny.

The property used to be owned by William Taylor "Bill" Maxwell, (s/o Gordon C. Maxwell & Josephine M. Shanks) and his wife, Martha L. (Hendley) Maxwell, d/o Aden Hendley & Elizabeth Jane "Besty" Gentry. Martha L. was the aunt of Matilda (Wallace) Anderson. Matilda Wallace's parents, McDonald & Juliann "Julia" Ann (Henley) Wallace, died when she was young and so she was raised by her Aunt Lucretia Matelia "Creese" (Henley) Wells who md William Byrd Wells. They lived in Boma, TN not far from William Taylor "Bill" & Martha Maxwell.

The property was sold to Robert Filmore Maxwell, b/o William Taylor "Bill" Maxwell. Robert Filmore Maxwell was md 1<sup>st</sup> to Martha Ann Maddux, 2<sup>nd</sup> Martha Jane Pullan & 3<sup>rd</sup> Callie Dora Judd. He sold the property to my grandfather, Virgil Timothy Denny. There is a small cemetery across the road that several Maxwell's are buried.



When the weather was bad Matilda (Wallace) Anderson used to stay at William Taylor "Bill" & Martha (Hendley) Maxwell's log cabin so she could attend school. The school called Denny's seminary, near Buffalo Valley was for many years the only school in the west end of the county.

Located on Big Indian Creek Road east of Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN. The school is no longer there, and the church that was next to

the school is gone.



These are pictures of the property and house that was on the Virgil Timothy Denny farm. The house used to be a old log cabin owned by William Taylor "Bill" & Martha (Hendley) Maxwell. First the old log cabin was sided over and a dog trot built. Later the dog trot was enclosed. The house was changed several times.

The house as it appears in the two pictures above was built before 1900 on the Hopewell and Buffalo Valley Road on Little Indian Creek, this was the home of Robert Filmore "Bob" Maxwell. Virgil and Audra Anderson Denny moved here about 1920.



Tim Denny's children sitting on a rock wall built on the bank of Little Indian Creek that ran in front of the Virgil Timothy Denny farm on Rt. 1, Silver Point, Putnam Co., Dist. 11, TN. As children the creek was the best part of visiting their grandmother on the Denny farm.



The Denny farm was sold and new owners moved in. In 1993 the Virgil Timothy Denny house was demolished and a new house, pictured left, was built on the property by Vernon & Barbara Markel. 14880 Hopewell Rd., Silver Point, TN 38582.

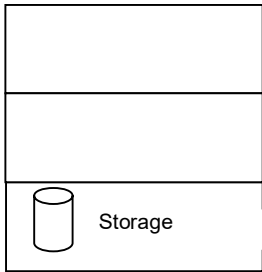




Little Indian Creek



Bridge



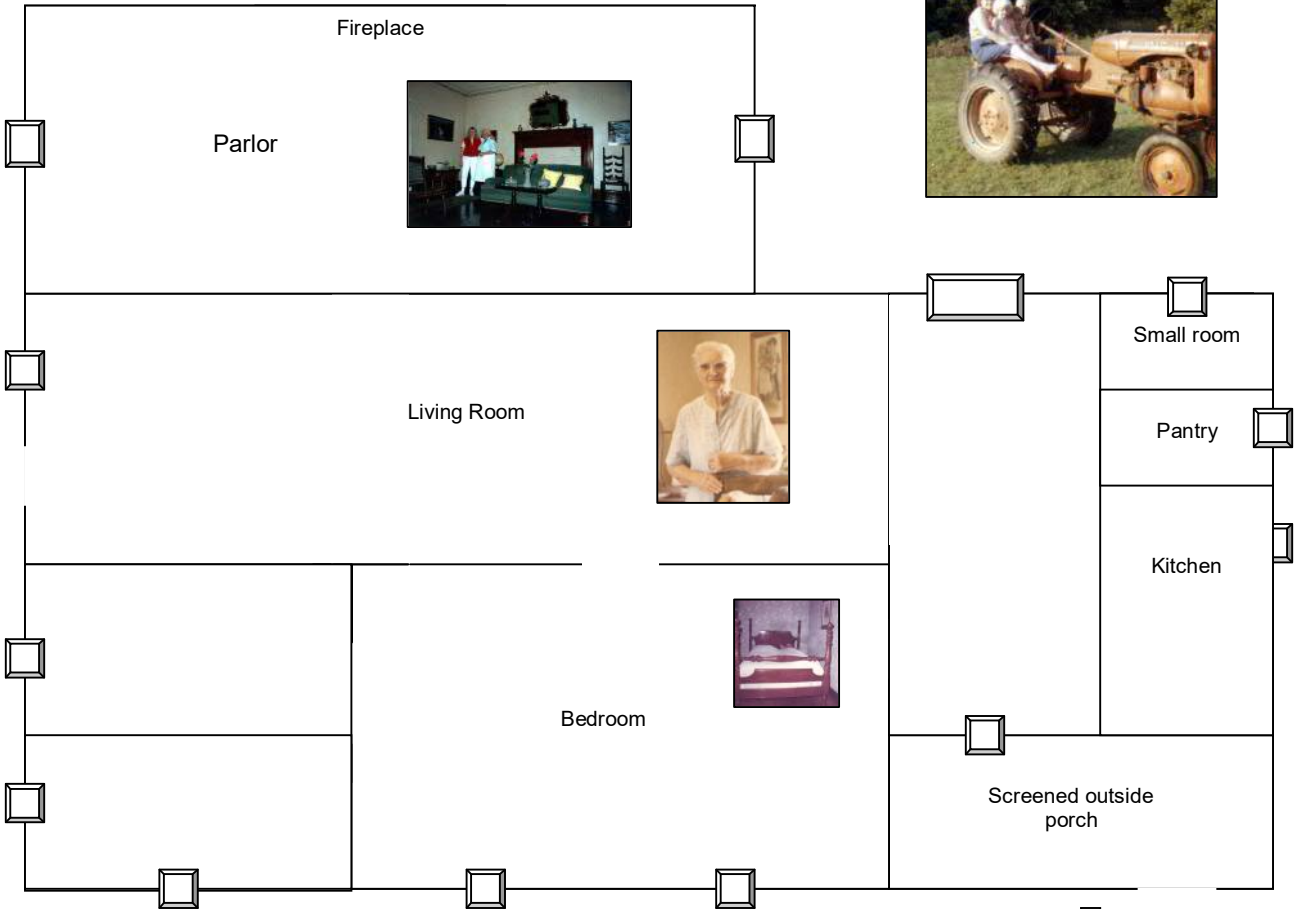
Barn:  
Mules were housed  
& hay



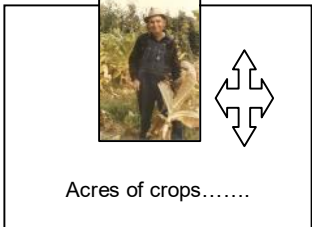
Large  
Vegetable  
Garden



Barn:  
Chickens  
were  
housed &  
equipment



Hill behind the house. The house was situated in a valley.



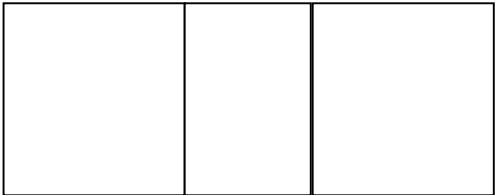
Out House



Cistern to  
collect rain  
water



Storage, Root Cellar, & Smoke House Structures



Wesley Carr's house, across the creek ,  
up the hill and down the road.

## History of Great Grandfather & Great Grandmother Timothy Denny & Elizabeth Hettie (Paul) Denny Farm - deeds ca. 1800's

Tracing family deeds: Names found of owners of all or part of farm owned by Timothy & Elizabeth Hettie Denny-1870, are listed below; 11<sup>th</sup> Civil District (Putnam Co.) Tennessee. Located on Big Indian Creek Road east of Buffalo Valley. On the corner of this road used to be a country school & church called Denny's Seminary & Denny's Methodist Church. The land was donated by Timothy Denny. Down the road was the Timothy & Elizabeth (Paul) Denny farm. There are two natural springs on the property. They had two tenant houses, one barn & a big farm house. Crops and cattle were raised on this farm. By the house the springs ran into Muddy Indian Creek. Timothy & Elizabeth Hettie (Paul) Denny had two children born on this farm. The children's names were Virgil Timothy & Minnie Myrtle Denny. Timothy, Elizabeth Hettie (Paul) Denny & Timothy's sister Elizabeth Ann Denny are buried in the Captain William Jared Cemetery located on the present Robert Shanks farm.

J.W. McDaniel (*owned during the Civil War*).  
 Timothy & Elizabeth Hettie (Paul) Denny  
 Virgil Timothy & Minnie Myrtle Denny  
 Tim & Audra Denny  
 Robert Shanks

Other names listed: People who could of owned all or part of the Timothy Denny farm, or owned lands on the borders of this farm.

Charlie Burton Maddux  
 Robert "Bob" Lee Maddux  
 James Nelson Maddux  
 Ernest Haywood Maddux  
 William Hickman Maddux  
 Fred Miller Maddux  
 John Bell Denny  
 Annie Whitehead  
 George Washington Boyd  
 Allen & David Young (Young's Cemetery)



Timothy Denny House in 1918 – Virgil Timothy Denny in the foreground.



L to R: Minnie Myrtle, Elizabeth "Hettie", Virgil Timothy, & Timothy Denny, unknown woman, could be a cousin, niece or neighbor, & Elizabeth Ann "Besty" Denny, sister of Timothy Denny. Besty lived with Timothy & "Hettie" Denny.

Virgil Timothy would have been 12 yrs. old and his sister Minnie Myrtle would have been 14 yrs. old at the time this picture was taken.

Picture taken 1896 by American View Co., Blacksburg, SC

I have been working on the History of the Denny Houses again and found a William Taylor "Bill" Maxwell who md Martha Hendley. She was the d/o Aden Hendley & Elizabeth Jane "Besty" Gentry. I believe William Taylor "Bill" Maxwell and Martha Hendley are the couple that L.H. Gill said Matilda Wallace stayed with and went to school at Denny's Seminary. I believe that William Taylor "Bill" Maxwell then moved to Jackson Co., AL with the Crowell family and sold the farm to Robert Filmore Maxwell his brother.

I found a William T. Maxwell in the 11th District of Putnam Co., TN md to a Martha L. who I believe is Martha L. Hendley. Harry L. Maxwell had Matha L. Kinniard md to William T. Maxwell which I think is wrong. The census lists the same children that Harry L. Maxwell lists in his document on pg. 176. William T. Maxwell was 31 yrs. old and Martha L. was 31 yrs. old - this information matches Harry's.

I also found a Samuel Maxwell md to Betsy A., who is Betsy Ann Boyd living in the 11th civil district of Putnam Co., TN in the 1880 census with their children. In one of your e-mails you have them all listed with dates for me. You stated that you thought Samuel Foster Maxwell who md Betsy A. Boyd owned also the Virgil Timothy Denny farm.

Here are a few of the Deeds I already have that were in my grandmother's papers, I just need to sort them all out. I have transcribed them and now need to put them in order by date, ownership and for what property. I think that these people owned parts of the Virgil Timothy Denny farm at one time.

James Nelson Maddux  
James W. Sutton  
Solon Maddux & Daisy Dean Jared  
F.M. Maddux  
Josiah & Mary Bartlett  
William Taylor "Bill" & Martha (Hendley) Maxwell  
Robert "Bob" Filmore Maxwell & Callie Dora Judd  
Ralph Jared  
Virgil Timothy & Audra Camilla Denny  
Vernon & Barbara Markel

People who owned the Timothy Denny farm.

J.W. McDaniel (owned during the Civil War).  
Timothy & Elizabeth Hettie (Paul) Denny  
Virgil Timothy & Minnie Myrtle Denny  
Tim & Audra Denny  
Robert Shanks

Other names listed: People who could of owned all or part of the Timothy Denny farm, or owned lands on the borders of this farm.

C.B. Maddux, Bob Lee Maddux, J.N. Maddux,  
E.H. Maddux,  
W.H. Maddux, F.M. Maddux  
John Bell Denny  
Annie Whitehead  
Boyd  
Allen & David Young (Young's Cemetery)

List of the Deeds I have:

Deed - Solon Maddux & R.F. Maxwell - 1907  
Deed - Josiah Bartlett & Tim Denny - 1894  
Deed -James N.Maddux to James W.Sutton - 1889  
Deed - Josiah Bartlett & R.F. Maxwell - 1894  
William J.Wallace Deed  
Grant Deed - David Young  
Deed J. W. McDaniel - Timothy Denny  
pp John Bell Denny Deed – name mentioned in a deed.  
pp L. M. Bullington Deed -name mentioned in a deed.  
Deed - F. M. Maddux to R.F. Maxwell  
Deed -R.F. Maxwell-Virgil Denny  
Deed Timothy Denny to Hettie Denny  
Deed -W.T Maxwell - G.H. Maddux  
Deed -Virgil T Denny & Maddux Church  
deed - Virgil Denny  
Deed J.B. Denny & R.F. Maxwell  
Deed -F.P. McGinnis - R.F. Maxwell  
Deed- Mary B. Ballard - G.C. Maxwell  
Deed - Minnie & Virgil Denny \_ Land Document  
Deed - Virgil & Audra Denny  
Deed of Trust.Virgil & Bank,KY







