

Descendants of Holley Owens

Generation No. 1

1. HOLLEY¹ OWENS was born Abt. 1826 in North Carolina¹, and died Apr 1860 in Coffee County, Alabama². He married MARTHA JANE POWELL 25 Sep 1848 in Barbour County, Alabama³, daughter of ELIJAH POWELL and NANCY COX. She was born 11 Aug 1831 in Georgia^{4,5}, and died 02 Nov 1903⁶.

Notes for HOLLEY OWENS:

Note: Many items in these notes refer to a book entitled **Possums Run over their Graves**, by Rebecca Newsom Dobson, orig. pub. 1985, reprinted 1995, Dobson Genealogy Consultants, Ozark, Alabama. All references to **Dobson** mean this book. Dates in this book are often suspect, with many typos. The book provides little or no documentation of sources.

Barbour County, Alabama Marriage Licenses, 1838-1930 by Warrine Sheppard Hathaway, 1995, pg. 277: ***Martha POWELL m Hally OWENS 09/25/1848 (clerical error of "a" for "o")

His name is reported to have been Hollis; see Dobson pgs 50, 111-112, 258-259. Grandson James H's middle name also reported to have been Hollis (see Owens/Weeks family charts).

1850 Pike Co, Al census, 28 Nov, pg 215B, #1099:

Holly Owen	24, farmer, real estate worth \$200, b NC
Martha	22, b Ga
Samantha	1, b Al

also

Hariett Owen 21, b Ga

(At #1076: Thomas Owens 45, farmer, b Ga. (illit) & Luisa 38, b Ga + chld.

At #1092: William Cope 29, farmer, NC, & Sarah A 22, Al + 3 chld.

in household of Eliz. Carington/Covington? 65, NC, and Nancy, 26, Ga)

Alabama Mortality Schedule 1860; Persons who died during the year ending June 30, 1860, compiled by Marilyn Davis Barefield: page 28, Coffee County:

Holley Owen age 37, married, born in NC, a laborer, died in April, suddenly, of apoplexy.

Dobson says he is buried in Holmes Co, Fl, Stephens Ferry Cem., near Leonia, according to her source, Mona C Spears, of Orange Park, Fl, and that his father was possibly a William Owens. There is no marker for Holley Owens at Stephens Ferry (McDuffie) Cemetery. Since he died in upper Coffee County, he may have been buried somewhere there with no marker.

Old Sparta and Elba Land Office Records and Military Warrants 1822-1860 by Marilyn Davis Hahn, p.65: Register of Certificates, Sparta Land Office 1836-1852: Holley Owen, resident of Pike Co, 12/19/1849.

BLM land record:

HOLLEY OWEN (of Pike Co., Al) 6/1/1850 40.15 acres Cash Entry Doc# 9069 Land Office: Sparta SESW 3/ 11-N 24-E St Stephens AL Bullock Co. ***They sold this land in Dec 1852

Pike Co deed book I-86 shows a deed dated 2 Dec 1852 from Holley and Martha Owen (no 's' on deed; index shows Owens) to Thomas Owens (with an 's') for 40 acres (SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Sec 3 TWP 11 Rng 24), subject to sale at Sparta, for \$200. Witnessed by Daniel Powel (signed with 'x') and Wilson A Cope, JP.

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***Is this Owens relevant to Holley?

Cemetery Record of Confederate Veterans Buried in Geneva County, compiled by Homer T Jones, SCV, Ozark, AL, 100 Meadowlake Drive, Ozark, AL 36360, 334-774-6590; surveyed during Spring and Summer 1995:

pg 7: **Mt Gilead (Eight Mile) Church Cemetery**, Co Rd 1, SW of Samson at the AL/FL line:
Owens, J E 15th Confederate Cavalry dates?

Notes for MARTHA JANE POWELL:

Middle name Jane is taken from Pike County deed from Holley and Martha Jane Owen (no 's') to J and J?M Lampley for 40 acres (SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 S3 %11 R24) on 14 Feb 1852.

Death date from tombstone at Hurricane Creek Cemetery (HWY 2A, east of HWY 81, across from Hurricane Creek Baptist Church). Birth year on stone is 1831, but her age on 1850 census was 22; 1828 may be closer to correct. Birthdate given as Jan 1827 on 1900 census, but much of her info was incorrect, so all is suspect.

All info on her parentage is unverified and taken from Rebecca Newsom Dobson book **Possums Run Over Their Graves**, 1995, Ozark, Al. Dobson was a greatgranddaughter of Martha Jane's brother Daniel F Powell. According to her, two of Daniel F and Martha Jane Powell's brothers died in the Civil War. She also wrote to me that "Martha Jane Powell Owens lived & worked as housekeeper for Judge McAlilly, Geneva County." *****See 1870 and 1880 census entries below for Nelson and McAliley -- this appears to be a different Martha Powell . *****

1850: see Holley's notes

1860 US Census, Coffee County, Alabama, 14 July, P.O. Elba, page 830-831 #549:

Martha J Owen 28, weaving, Real prop.=\$200, pers. prop.=\$200, Ga., cannot R/W
Nancy A 11
Daniel J 9
Elizabeth A 7
John H H 4***definitely 2 H's present
Martha A 2 all born Ala

(Daniel's middle initial is definitely J, not I. Census taker's I's are distinctly above the line and J's below. Also, John definitely has two H's, not one, as middle initials.)

Note: They appear to be living in or very near town, as most of the neighbors have town occupations including doctors, lawyers, druggist, merchants, carriage maker, shoemaker, etc, and some farmers. There are hotels at #542 and #526, and the jail is at #519.)

(At #594 is Nancy Powell 61, weaving, no prop. value listed, b. Ga.

James E 16, George 13, John 12 all born Ala.)

(Did not find this Nancy in 1850 Coffee, Pike or Barbour County.)

Are these people (only 2 and 4 entries away from Martha) kin to her? Martha reportedly had a brother William Hanson, born abt 1830, and a brother named John.

545 Harrison POWELL 40 grocer, \$4500, \$15000 Ga
Mary 35 Ga

547 John W POWELL 26 blacksmith, \$300, \$50 Ga
Joanna 21 Al
James A 4 Al
Mary E R 2 Al
Albert 2mo Al
Alva 2mo Al

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1866 Alabama State Census: Martha is listed in Coffee County, 7 entries from Alfred Leddon, who received a patent in Sect 27 T1N R21E in 1858, Marl area, which became part of Geneva County in 1868.

Note: **1870** numbering starts over at 1, with no hundreds indicator, after each 100 households. Also, in order to present the pages by TWP and Range when the original pages were microfilmed, they were rearranged and stamped with numbers to reflect the new grouping.

1870 US Census, Coffee County, Alabama, 27 August, TWP 5 R19 (just west of Elba), P.O. Elba, page 417A (orig pg 122, T5 R19), #(8)16/16:

Owens, Martha	44	(listed as male)	farm laborer, no property values	Al
Elizabeth	16	Al	none in household can R/W	
Danniel	19	Al		
John H	12	Al		
Martha A	11	Al		

They do not appear to be living in the same place as in 1860. The neighbors' names are all different. At #(8)12: William (63) and Secily (61) Danely (both b. SC) with Washington 15 b. Al. (Acie Washington Danley?)

(**1880** same people?:

Celia DANNELLY	Self	W	Female	W	72	SC	Keeps House	SC	SC
W. H. DANNELLY	Son	M	Male	W	53	AL	Farmer	AL	AL
Census Place Dannelys Cross-Roads And Elba, Coffee, Alabama									
Page Number 275C)									

At #(8)15: William (48) and Mary E (25) Danely (both b. Al) and 6 children - he received land patent in S8 T5 R19 1860
At #(80)6 on 416B (orig pg 121, T5 R19): John Harrison 73 - land in S26 T5 R19 1837 (at #14, another John Harrison 30)
At #(80)5 on 416B (orig pg 121, T5 R19): P V Bodiford 33 - Vincent Bodiford received land patent in S26 T5 R19 1848
At #(80)4 on 416B (orig pg 121, T5 R19): Andrew (31, b. Al) and Catherine (34, b. NC) Danely.

At #(4)88 on pg 420B (orig pg 64, T6 R19): Owen T and Samantha Pope
At #(4)96 on pg 421B (orig pg 66, T6 R19): James Warren and Sarah Ann (reportedly sister to Martha Jane Powell)
At #(5)03&4 on pg 422A (orig pg 67, T6 R19): Marlow families - Martha Ann Owen's dau Leila reportedly married a Marlow when they lived in Holmes Co

The only other Owen(s) in Coffee County via index was a **Brice Owens** 23, miller, b. Al and his wife Elizabeth 21 on pg 419A (orig pg 135, T6 R19), #(-)87. The number is on the woman's name, as it is in preceding two households. Also in their household was **Polly Sorrels** 65 and 2 boys: Marshal 17 and George W 15. (Note: Holley and Martha's daughter Martha Ann married Rev. **J N Sorrells** 09 Oct 1911 in Holmes County, Florida. See notes on **J N Sorrells** for this family.

1880 US Census Geneva County, Alabama, 17 June, pg 642B, #203:

Martha J Owens	50	widow	Ga	NC	Ga
Elizabeth (dau)	25		Al	Ga	Ga

At #204 is: Gaynous, John 23 farmer Al -- --
Martha A 21 Al Ga Ga ***This is Martha Jane's daughter.
Joseph H? 2 Al

At #205 is Daniel & Nettie Owens; at #206 is Daniel & Nancy C Powell.

At #200: James N McDuffie, Sr 72; #201: John A Weeks 35; #202 William F McDuffie 49

1900 US Census, Holmes County, Florida, 16 June 1900, Pct 9, Hurricane Creek, pg 84A, #271:

Gainos, Martha A	45	(Mar 1855)	widow, 3 ch/3 living, farmer, owns farm free,	
			cannot R/W	Al Al Al
John (son)	18	(Sep 1881)	sgl, farm laborer, can R/not W	Al Al Al
Leila J (dau)	10	(May 1890)	not in school, cannot R/W	Al Al Al

also:

Owens, Martha J 73 (Jan 1827) widow, mother, 1 child/1 living (sic), cannot R/W Al Al Al (sic)

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Who is this other Martha Powell?

1870 US Census, Geneva County, Alabama, Page 6, Township 1, 15 Jun 1870, #35/35:

Nelson, Thomas W.	58 MW	Black Smith	1000/400	GA
Clara M.	45 FW	KH		SC
Mary L.	11 FW	ATH		FL
Susan E.	9 FW	ATH		FL
Davis, James E.	16 MW	Day Laborer		AL
Davis, Reuben	18 MW	Day Laborer		AL
Davis, Margaret J.	14 FW	ATH		AL
Powell, Martha	40 FW	ATH		AL

Any kin to Cato (Cader, Kedar) Powell (from NC), Emaline and dau Susan at #48, next to Oliver Perry Danley?

1880 US Census, Geneva County, Alabama, 5 June, page 633a, #4:

McAliley, Matthew M	55	clerk of the court	SC SC SC
Sallie J	51	keeps house	Ga Va Ga
Lee	17	son, farmer	

also:

Wells, Laura	13	adopted dau.	
Powell, Martha	46	wid., servant, cannot R/W	Ga Ga Ga

She is not found in 1900 Geneva or Holmes County.

More About MARTHA JANE POWELL:

Burial: Hurricane Creek Cemetery, Holmes County, Florida

Children of HOLLEY OWENS and MARTHA POWELL are:

- i. SAMANTHA A ELLAFAIR² OWENS, b. 02 Sep 1849, Alabama; d. 18 Jul 1918.
- ii. DANIEL IRVIN OWENS, b. 20 Sep 1850, Alabama; d. 18 Oct 1930, Geneva County, Alabama.
- iii. ELIZABETH A. OWENS, b. 15 Dec 1853, Alabama; d. 14 Feb 1918.
- iv. JOHN HAMPTON OWENS, b. 08 Mar 1856, Alabama; d. 04 Mar 1922, Geneva County, Alabama.
- v. MARTHA ANN OWENS, b. 05 Oct 1858, Alabama; d. 24 Oct 1930.

Endnotes

1. US Census 1850 Pike County, Alabama, pg 215B, #1099.
2. Barefield, Marilyn Davis, *Alabama Mortality Schedule 1860, Persons who died during the year ending June 30, 1860*, pg 28, Coffee County.
3. Hathaway, Warrine Sheppard, *Barbour County, Alabama Marriage Licenses, 1838 - 1930*, (1995), pg 109.
4. Tombstone, has 1831 as birth year, but she was 22 on 1850 census, so 1828 may be closer to correct; 1900 census gave Jan 1827 as birthdate.
5. US Census 1850 Pike County, Alabama, pg 215B, #1099, age 22.
6. Tombstone.