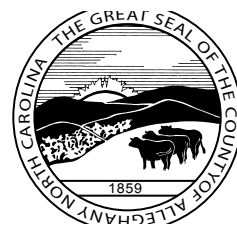


Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, Inc.



President
Vice-President
Secretary-Treasurer

Jeff Halsey
Roy Hunt
Irene R. Wagner



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Bulletin No. 93

Hints, Tips, and Information for Preserving Your Family Photographs

With proper storage, care, and handling your family photographs could last for 150 years! It's never too late to begin!

Keep in mind the following while you are creating your preservation plan:

Inspect your photographs regularly for any problems, such as fading, cracking, etc.

Photographs age just like people. The aging process is accelerated or reduced depending on what we do to them.

Photographs are fragile and can have inherent problems from the developing process whether it is the print, dyes, ink, mounting papers, or adhesive. Sometimes deterioration cannot be prevented but it can be slowed down.

Original negatives are important. Save them!

Never do anything to a photograph that cannot be "undone."

Continued on page 4- Photographs



Sparta-Alleghany Fire Department c.1948

(l-to-r) Eugene Higgins, Paul Irwin, Oliver Sidden, Homer Edwards, Tom Truitt, Lawrence Tayson, Web Miller, Clarence Hendricks and Clete Choate.



1933 Sparta Fire destruction as seen from the roof of (what is now) Farmer's Hardware looking northeast in downtown Sparta. Photo submitted by Bill Irwin.

More Microfilm of N.C. Estates Record Available for Loan From State Library

With the final acquisition of New Hanover County reels, the State Library of North Carolina's for loan Services completes its collection of microfilmed North Carolina estates records available for loan **to north carolina residents** through their local libraries.

These records, filed first by county and then alphabetically by name of the deceased and date of probate, have been microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah at the State Archives. There are **not** microfilmed estates records for the counties of Avery, Dobbs, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Swain, Tyron, and Vance.

North Carolina residents should see their local librarians to request interlibrary loan of this film. The State Library will continue to lend up to six (6) reels per request for each borrower. Name of county and surname must be provided. The loan period is one month. Borrower should expect to receive the film within a week's time, depending on U.S. Post Office schedules and whether the reel is already out on loan.

Continued on page 3- Microfilm

Message from the President

Dear Members,

Who are you? Since moving to the Blue Ridge, four-years ago, we have been asked that many times. It's a basic question but it means more than, "What's your name?" Folks aren't being rude or nosey when they ask "Who are your people?" They're really asking, "How do we connect?"

After one of the his first days at Alleghany High my son come home, threw down his books and said, "Everybody in this county is related!" He's almost right. Tracing families and family lines is more than a hobby in an area like ours. In any family discussion, it is as important to figure out who we are talking about, as it is to hear the actual story. ("Is that Jim from Piney Creek or Potato Creek?" "Neither. The one who's Alice's older brother. Walked with a limp." "Oh, yeah. Go on with the story...")

Well, here goes- My grandparents were Greek and Clara Halsey of New Hope. Most of our family came from Piney Creek and land below the forks on New River. Our family (probably like yours) has been traced back to the Mayflower by the Smiths; the original pioneer, Andrew Baker; Thomas Halsey who came to Lynn, Massachusetts in 1633 and several native American Indians.

Some people say that genealogy doesn't mean much and that we're all descended from Adam and that's true, mostly. Unless you are looking for health reasons or to blame someone for an ancient feud, genealogy doesn't mean much, in our everyday lives.

But, nothing has ever made me more interested in history than finding my ancestors' place in it. When we went to Gettysburg it meant a lot knowing Granddaddy Elijah Smith was there. When you can tell your kids their Great-Great-Great Granddaddy ran across that field with a gun in his hand, they listen, too.

Genealogy is about connections. It's about where do you and I fit in and how did Grandma's daily life compare to mine? It's about stories. Every photo, date, or location adds to your story or sparks a story from someone else. It's about history and individuals who lived it.

Who are you? Rest assured, whoever you are, you're my cousin and we are connected however distant. Now that we have gotten that out of the way, Say hey to your folks and tell them to come see us.

Jeff Halsey
March 2, 2007



Continued from page 1- Microfilm

Guide to Research Materials in the North Carolina State Archives: County Records (11th revised edition, 1997; downloadable at: <http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/archives/arch/FindingAids/guide.htm>) is not a reliable source to use in ordering these because many of these records have been microfilmed since its publication. It will, however, indicate the range of years of the original estates records available for each county so that the borrower can learn, for instance, that Anson County though created in 1750 has no surviving records in this group until 1805. Listings of the estate folders for some of the North Carolina counties can be found on the State Archives online Finding Aid at: <http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/archives/arch/FindingAids/Estates.htm>. At this time the listings of names do not link to images of the actual documents but serve to indicate what decedent's folders exist for that county.

Out-of-state researchers may request loan of the microfilm of the North Carolina estates records through local LDS Family History Centers (to find a center nearest you:

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC/frameset_fhc.asp

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC/frameset_fhc.asp

Purchased for a specific county or for a specific surname within that county at \$ 12 per reel from Public Services Branch, Office of Archives & History, 4614 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-4614 or contact by e-mail at: archives@ncmail.net.

The addition of this microfilm significantly enriches the State Library's existing Core Collection of circulating North Carolina county records and federal population census schedules for our state.

Pam Toms

**Genealogical Services Supervisor
State Library of North Carolina**

Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4641
919-807-7460

pamtoms@library.dcr.state.nc.us



MANUFACTURER OF

BUSINESS AND PLEASURE VEHICLES LOOK! LOOK!! HERE!!

AND DON'T FORGET when in need of a first class Cart, Buggy, or Carriage buy from L H Huff, who will give you a Rock Bottom Low Hard Time price on all styles of work. Every piece is warranted to be made of the best material—wheels are of the best second growth white hickory, Soran Patent—axles are steel of the best make. Tire of the finest quality. Any one giving me an order for a job will guarantee them more work and better work for the money than any man in the country. Now is your time to buy while the price is right. Buggy harness from \$5.00 to \$10.00.

— Address all orders to —

L. H. HUFF, East Bond, N. C.

Who will take pleasure in quoting low prices.

“The John Shermanizing of our currency has sent more people to hades in the last twenty years than the devil has been able to coax there in that time”—till we can correct this let everybody buy Hardware of N. M. Allen at North Wilkesboro, N. C.

-Ad from Alleghany Star Dec. 6, 1894



We have just received a nice line of NEW GOODS to which we invite all our customers and the public generally to call and see. We have a nice line of Dress Goods Remnants which we are offering CHEAP.

We call the special attention of the public to our line of

CHINA, GLASSWARE, ETC.

We have a FEW SHOES which we are offering at unprecedented low prices. Call and see them. For all kinds of General Merchandise call and see us.

GROSECLOSE BROS.

MARION, VIRGINIA

-Ads from Alleghany Star Dec. 6, 1894

John Sherman lived May 10, 1823 to October 22, 1900. He was General William Tecumseh Sherman's younger brother and was in the House of Representatives from 1855-1861. In 1861, he started his first term in the Senate. From 1877-1881, he was Secretary of the Treasury for President Rutherford B. Hayes. He tried to run for President in 1880, but James A. Garfield was the Republican nominee instead. He then went back to the Senate, until 1897, when he became Secretary of State under President William McKinley. He stayed in this position until 1898.

Information found at: <http://www.answers.com/topic/john-sherman-politician>

Continued from page 1- Photographs

Types of Photographs

Daguerreotype, 1839-1860
Ambrotype, 1851-1880
Tintype or ferrotype 1854-1930
Early paper prints, 1855-1910
Cartes-de-visite and cabinet photos, 1860-1910
Black and White photographs, 1885-present
Color photographs, 1935-present
Polaroid prints, 1948-present
Electrostatic prints (photo copies), 1959-present
Inkjet prints, 1985-Present
Digital Images, 1991-Present

Processing

Film and traditional silver photographs are the medium of choice for long-term storage. Film is a stable, non-volatile medium and doesn't take a machine to interpret it, unlike a digital photo stored in a certain defined format, on a magnetic or digital medium that has to be interpreted by a computer for display or printing. Think about all the data (music) recorded on 78 rpm records that is not easily accessible, today, because of the obsolescence of 78 rpm record players.

Threats

There are many threats to the lifespan of photographs.

- * Moisture
- * Heat and light exposure
- * Scratching
- * Fingerprints
- * Mold & Mildew
- * Water damage
- * Humidity
- * Cracking

Handling Photographs

Professionals recommend handling original and/or historic photographs as little as possible. Fingerprints with acids and oils will eventually be-

come stains. Wearing cotton gloves (available from archival products companies) or handling photographs by the edges can reduce wear and tear. If a photograph is exceptionally weak, support it with a rigid material like acid-free cardboard. Physical damage like tears, creases, abrasion, scratches, and breakage are all caused by incorrect handling.

Labeling Photographs

Correct and complete identification of photographs is not only helpful today but 50 years from now! Never use a ballpoint pen because it can eventually bleed through to the front of the photograph. Rather use a No. 2 pencil and lightly write on the back of the photograph.

Try to include names, dates, and other details when labeling photographs.

Remember not to do things to photographs that cannot be "undone."

The use of adhesives like tape and rubber cement can damage photographs as well as paperclips, staples, pins, and rubber bands.

Storage

Storage not only includes what you use to house the photographs but also the environment of the storage area.

Store photographs in a clean and dry place.

Two storage options exist: archival document boxes and albums. Photograph storage supplies should be acid-free, lignin-free, and buffered.

Good storage practices include providing several layers of protection by placing photographs in sleeves or envelopes, then inside folders, and then into document storage boxes.

Some types of photographs work best with specific storage techniques. It is recommended to store daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and tintypes in

acid-free paper envelopes and house flat.

For other photographs store them upright not flat. This will prevent them from sticking together. However, make sure these photographs are properly supported. Too many photographs housed together can cause damage as well as too few photographs that can cause bending and warping.

Try to store color and black and white photographs and negatives separately to avoid chemical contamination. Also, consider storing photographs and negatives separately. If one doesn't survive, hopefully the other will. Storing newspaper clipping within a photograph collection can also cause damage.

We commonly use albums for storage of photographs. In fact, it is the most popular means of long-term storage. It is possible to find albums that are made of archival-quality materials. Try not to use albums with highly colored pages.

Always keep photos away from sunlight and in a cool dry place. Try to keep the temperature lower than 75 degrees with a relative humidity of 20-50%.

Many photographs are stored in a basement or an attic. However, it is not the best option for storage. Photographs are like people. They like the same environment as us. If necessary, use an air-conditioner or a dehumidifier in the area where your photographs are stored.

If you decide to store photographs at home, make sure you can access them quickly in case of emergency. Consider storing originals in a safe deposit box at your bank.

Display

There are many options for display. Do you want to display photographs in a frame or in a creative scrapbook? If a photograph is exceptionally

special to your family history make a copy rather than use the original for either display option.

For special family photographs use frames made of aluminum, stainless steel, or archival plastics. Wood isn't a good material due to its ability to expand and contract. The wood naturally contains resins, which can also cause damage.

Try to keep airspace between the photograph and the glass by using a high-quality matboard to create the buffer. Remember that spray cleaners on the glass can seep through the cracks and cause damage too. If a photo sticks to the glass because of moisture, don't try to remove it. Scan it through the glass, if necessary, but have a professional look at it. It might be impossible to remove it at all.

Never display photographic materials in direct sunlight or near a heat source like a lamp. Damage by light can only be prevented and never reversed. This type of damage is only noticeable in time, when it is usually too late. Display in damp locations such as kitchens and bathrooms increase risk of water damage, mold, and mildew.

Do not use self-stick or magnetic albums because those pages are coated with an adhesive that stains the photographs and makes them fade over time. Removal of the photograph can be difficult and can actually cause more damage than leaving them in there.

Always use acid-free products including archival plastic sleeves and/or mounting corners on paper.

Digital Photographs

After a photograph has been scanned it can easily be viewed in electronic form. However, don't throw away the original negatives and prints. Digitized images should not be a replacement for originals. Technology always changes so keep in mind that images can be lost when the storage

media deteriorates or is obsolete and making the retrieval of these images impossible.

Useful Definitions

Acid-free: Acid causes paper and photos to disintegrate. This aging process is slowed significantly when acid is removed from paper during the manufacturing process.

Lignin-free: Lignin is the natural bonding element, which holds wood fibers together. Like acid, lignin can be removed during processing.

Recommended Sources

Check your local library or historical society for books and information on photograph preservation.

Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov/preserv>

National Archives and Records Administration

<http://archives.gov/preservation>

University of North Carolina

Libraries

<http://www.lib.unc.edu/ncc.pha>

Any one who has children will rejoice with L. B. Mulford, of Plainfield, N. J. His little boy, five years of age, was sick with croup. For two days and nights he tried various remedies recommended by friends and neighbors. He says: "I thought sure I would lose him. I had seen Chamberlain's Cough remedies advertised and thought I would try it as a last hope and am happy to say after two doses he slept until morning. I gave it to him next day and a cure was effected. I keep this remedy in the house now and as soon as any of my children show signs of croup I give it to them and that is the last of it." 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by Fields, Carson & Bro., Sparta; Dr. Geo. Doughton, North Wilkesboro.

DON'T

Forget when in Mt. Airy to
— drop in and see —

THE JEWELER

And bring along your RE
PAIRS if you want First
Class Work.

FINE REPAIRING A SPECIALTY,
and work always GUARAN
TEED. All I ask is a trial

I also have a complete line of Fine Watch
es, clocks, silverware, musical instruments,
spectacles and jewelry of every description.
In fact I'm Headquarters for anything you
want in my line.

Don't forget the place

Joyce Block, next

door to Bank.

Yours Very Respectfully,

J. A. Pulliam,

The Mt. Airy Jeweler.

June 21 6mo.

Notice.

TAXES!!!! TAXES!!!!

Taxes are due for the year
1894 and must be paid.

I will meet the people at
the following places at the
times mentioned below for
the purpose of collecting
taxes:

Glade Creek, (Higgins & Hale's Store)	December 17, 1894.
Glade Creek, (Snow Hill)	" 18, 1894
Cherry Lane, (Hutchison's Store,)	" 19, 1894
Sparta,	" 20, 1894
Sparta, (Whitehead,)	" 21, 1894
Cranberry, (L S Academy)	" 22, 1894
" (Laur'l Springs)	" 24, 1894
Prather's Creek, (Jones & Shepherd's Store)...	" 25, 1894
Prather's creek, (cheek's Store)	" 26, 1894
Piney creek, (W S & A M Edwards' Store).....	" 27, 1894

All who fail to settle their
taxes on this round may expect
to pay cost.

W S GAMBILL, Sheft.
Dec. 4; 1894,

Items For Sale

The following items are available for sale, directly from the Society or may be purchased at the Alleghany County Public Library or the Alleghany County Chamber of Commerce:

HISTORY OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY, NC 1859-1976 - This 272-page book, which had been out of print for many years, was re-published by the Society in August 1999. It was originally published in 1976 during the Nation's Bicentennial. This book is not indexed. The book may be purchased from the Society for \$45, plus \$3 for shipping & handling, plus (for NC residents only) \$3.04 tax.

ALLEGHANY COUNTY HERITAGE - This 555-page book was published by the Society in October 1983 and is broken down into three sections: county, township, and community histories; over 700 family histories; and a 13-page pictorial heritage. This book is completely indexed. The book may be purchased from the Society for \$48, plus \$3 s&h, plus (for NC residents only) \$3.24 tax.

ALLEGHANY COUNTY CEMETERIES THROUGH 1986 - This 261-page book was published in October 1988 and contains burial data from nearly 300 family, church and community burial plots through 1986. The names are in alphabetical order with a code showing the location of the cemetery. The book may be purchased from the Society for \$15, plus \$2.75 s&h, plus (for NC residents only) \$1.01 tax.

ALLEGHANY ARCHITECTURE: A PICTORIAL SURVEY - This 101-page book was originally published in 1983 by the Alleghany County Historical Properties Commission. The book was re-published in May 2004 by the Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society. Jean Sizemore was the principal investigator and photos were taken by Brant Burgiss and Tammy Blevins. The communities covered are: Cherry Lane, Cranberry, Gap Civil, Glade Creek, Glade Valley, Piney Creek, Prathers Creek, Roaring Gap, Sparta, and Whitehead. Although architecture is the principal focus of the book, it contains much information useful to the family historian. This book is not indexed. The book may be purchased from the Society for \$30.00, plus \$3.00 s&h, plus (for NC residents only) \$2.03 tax.

ALLEGHANY COUNTY, NC MARRIAGES: 1849-1900 - This 354-page book was published in 1996 by local resident George Henry Latham. These marriage records are arranged alphabetically by the groom's surname, typically showing for each marriage the day, month, and year it took place; the groom's name, age, residence and the names of his parents; and the bride's name, age, residence and the names of her parents. An index of brides is also included. The book may be purchased for \$30.50 plus \$5 s&h from Heritage Books Inc., 1540-E Pointer Ridge Pl., Bowie, MD 20716. Their phone number is 1-800-398-7709. Their website is <http://www.heritagebooks.com>.

ALLEGHANY COUNTY COURTHOUSE ORNAMENT - This attractive, gold-colored metal ornament depicts the county courthouse, which was re-built following the fire of 1933. Profits from the sale of this ornament fund various activities of the Society. The ornament is available from the Society for \$11.21 plus (for NC residents only) \$0.76 tax; no shipping & handling is charged for this light item.

MARY'S MEMORIES - This 74-page book was published by Mary Lyon Harless in 2000 on the occasion of her 100th birthday. The book is a collection of stories and reminiscences about her long life in Alleghany County. It contains many photographs as well as illustrations by Arzetta Mimbs. The first printing quickly sold out and Mrs. Harless permitted the Society to re-publish the book. The book may be purchased from the Society for \$8.00, plus \$1.50 s&h and (for NC residents only) \$0.54 tax.

FOOT PRINTS ON THE SANDS OF TIME - This 75-page book, subtitled "A History of Southwestern Virginia and Northwestern North Carolina," was first published in Sparta, NC in 1900 by Dr. Aras B. Cox. Dr. Cox was a physician and Methodist preacher who was born in Floyd Co., VA and later lived in Alleghany and Ashe Counties, NC. The book consists of historical and biographical sketches of the following counties: Carroll, Floyd and Grayson, VA; and Alleghany, Ashe, Surry, Watauga and Wilkes, NC. One chapter recounts the Battle of King's Mountain. Our Society reprinted this book in 2002, and it now includes an every-name index. The book may be purchased from the Society for \$15.00, plus \$2.00 s&h and (for NC residents only) \$1.01 tax.

1938 VIDEO OF SPARTA, NORTH CAROLINA - This 20-minute VHS tape, mostly in black and white (but some scenes in color), was filmed by Ben Reeves in downtown Sparta, at the Roaring Gap Fish Hatchery, and at the Alleghany Co. Agricultural Fair. Identified persons include Edwin Duncan, Alton Thompson, Glenn Nichols, Coy Richardson, Eltie Richardson, Preachers R. L. Berry and Howard Ford, Troy Irwin, Will Reeves, Virginia Reeves and son Bennie, C. R. Roe, F. H. Jackson, Floyd Crouse, Guy Duncan, Dr. Thompson, Duke Bledsoe, R. L. Doughton, Walter Irwin, Kyle Nichols, Lester Waddell, Jay Hardin, Sam Brown, Porter Collins, Rufus Doughton, and Ross and Earl Richardson. The tape begins with Ben Reeves' trip to the 1939 Worlds Fair in New York, which makes an interesting contrast with 1938 Sparta. The tape includes a musical background. This VHS tape may be purchased from the Society for \$10.00, plus \$1.50 s&h and (for NC residents only) \$0.68 tax.

NEW - PREORDER RECIPES THAT RAISED US - This 230 page book is a memorial cookbook featuring favorite recipes of friends and family who have passed away. Proceeds from this book go to the building project of the Alleghany County Public Library. These books may be purchased from the Society for \$20, plus \$3.00 s&h, plus (for NC residents only) \$1.35 tax or (3) books for \$45.00, plus \$7.00 s&h, plus (for NC residents only) \$3.04 tax.

For items ordered from the Society, send your check, payable to Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, to the following address: Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, P.O.Box 817, Sparta, NC 28675.

Note:

If you have interesting photos, old-timey family stories, local historical information (*or even a good tall tale*), consider letting us print it in this newsletter. Questions about the newsletter can be addressed to: jeff@imagingspecialists.net or call **336-372-3002**. Website: Contact Gary Felts: ahgs@ls.net

Membership Form

Please enroll me as a member of the Alleghany Historical-Genealogical Society, Inc. in the classification below:

New Renewal

Individual \$10.00 annually

Business, Institutional or professional \$20.00 annually

Sustaining \$ 50.00 annually

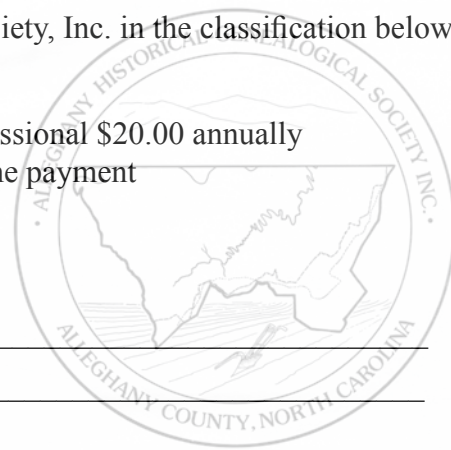
LIFE MEMBER \$100.00 in one payment

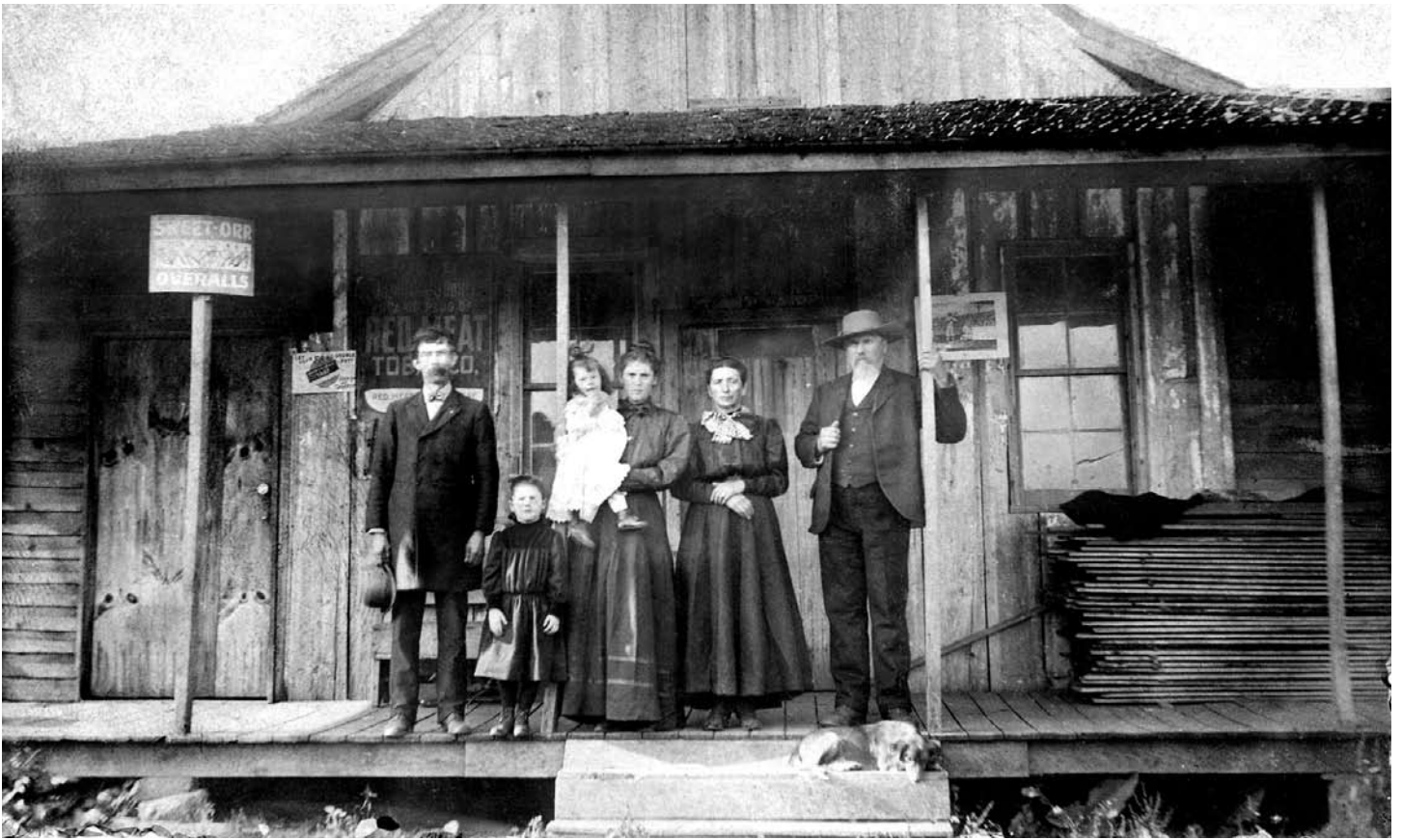
Enclosed is a check or money order for membership.

Please send membership card to:

Name- _____

Address- _____





(L-to-R) Reverend J.R. Smith, Daughter Ruby Smith, Vertie McCann Smith holding daughter, Vera, Cynthia Spurlin McCann and William Lewis McCann, Vertie's parents at Wm. L. McCann's old country store at Roaring Gap, c. 1908. Submitted by: Pauline S. Meals

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