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# JOHNS HOMESTEAD TUCKER, GEORGIA

PRESERVATION PLAN  
DRAFT JANUARY 2023

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# Introduction

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This report was commissioned by the City of Tucker, Georgia in fall of 2022. Work was performed winter and spring of 2023.

## The project team included:

City Staff: Jason Collins and Rip Robertson

## Steering Committee Members:

### *Report preparers:*

Brandied History, LLC – Team lead, architect and historic preservation professional. Brandy Morrison and David Kelly Bittenbender conducted field measurements.

Wiregrass Daughter Consulting - Carole Moore – Genealogist and historic researcher

Willett Engineering – Structural engineers

John David Bray – Historic interiors specialist. David conducted a site visit with his inputs and observations on historic materials and construction practices.

Special thanks to descendants Heather M. Davis and Patricia McDonald for their help in identifying photographs and filling in missing information.

## Methodology

This report follows recommendations made by the National Park Service in Preservation Brief # 43 “The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports”.

Multiple site visits were conducted to document, assess and analyze the existing structures on site, and to identify possible opportunities for archaeological research. The full structural report and existing condition drawings have been included as appendices to this report.

Site research was complemented by historic research. Carole Moore led this effort, with supplemental efforts by Brandy Morrison. Credit must be given to Christy Atkins who performed much of the initial research which served as a basis for subsequent research. Resources researched included family photographs, historic maps, census information, agricultural schedules, newspapers and books found at the DeKalb County Archives as well as the Georgia Archives. A complete list of sources has been included in the genealogy study as an appendix to this report.

The site and archival research were used to generate a list of treatment recommendations. Recommendations follow the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the treatment of historic properties.



# DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

# SITE HISTORY – INTERPRETING THE SITE

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Due to the extreme age of the site, documentation of its evolution over time is limited. At the likely time of construction, the 1830s, records in frontier Georgia are scarce. However, with sufficient understanding of the Johns family, period construction techniques, and historic records, we can piece together a likely chronology of the Homestead.

Three items complicate the physical assessment of the property's chronology. One is that the Johns family appears to have had a history and pattern of creating building materials on site using their own manual labor. Identifying precisely when this practice ended will be challenging, though based on the presence of late 19<sup>th</sup> century manufactured materials, it is a practice that likely ended in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, when materials became available. Supporting this timeframe are his grandson Ernest John's reports that John B. Johns Sr used to travel to two days each way to Atlanta in an oxen pulled wagon to pick up supplies (The Eagle, 1964). It is therefore likely that this transition was made within his lifetime.

Also complicating the site interpretation is that the family has a documented history of salvaging building materials from one location to build another. Chamfered columns shown on a front porch in a Victorian era photograph show up on the back porch in photos from the 2000s.



Photo of creek



# SITE HISTORY – INTERPRETING THE SITE

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Finally, the site interpretation is complicated due to the demolition or collapse of several structures on site. Two wings of the main house were demolished or dismembered. Also, there is a reference to several outbuildings that are no longer extant – a barn, a sorghum mill, outhouses, and an underground shelter. Additionally, Patricia Johns McDonald references log cabin construction that used to be on site – her description mentions it was “topped with logs” and with “grooves and mud put in between the spaces”. Foundations remain in the woods to the north and east of the house.

**STRUCTURES ON THE PROPERTY:** Several of the structures are standing as of the writing of this paper on the “Johnses” property. There is an “Earth Structure” made of mud and logs, which is still standing located across from the wellhouse. It was like the “smoke House” which housed the curing meat for the winter. It was also used for the churns. Churning was a method used for placing milk in a large container to make buttermilk. The lid had a round hole in the top and you inserted a stick (that looked like a short broom handle), into the hole which we called a “churn stick”. The “churn stick” was then pushed in an up and down fashion to churn the milk and after about 35 minutes, you would have “buttermilk”. When they skimmed off the top, there was butter. Later on cheese was developed by storing the milk-product in a dark place for mold to take its form. This storage house was used for all kinds of food needs for the Johns household.

Other structures that were on the land (not standing now), were put together like a cabin would be, topped with logs, and grooves and mud put in between the spaces. They had to cut down their own trees for wood to build, as well as fuel for heat during the winter months, and fuel for the open fire places to prepare the meals. (Later on they had stoves, but they still had to fuel it with either coal or wood. During the summer months that must have been a pleasure to have a stove heating up the house, trying to prepare the family’s meals, seven days a week, three times a day and it 80-90 degrees inside and outside. There was never air-conditioning in the homes. Life was very difficult, but everyone had to do their share to “survive”.

Testimony of Patricia McDonald, “RE: Proposed Name “Johns Heritage Park” or “Adelle Johns Preserve” page 7



# SITE HISTORY – INTERPRETING THE SITE

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To determine the most likely evolution of the site, multiple sources were used and cross referenced. There is the obvious testimony of the descendants, such as Patricia McDonald and Ernest Johns. This was invaluable in illustrating how the family lived and what they built. This helped to narrow down likely periods of construction. The family history is supported by an understanding of the development of Tucker and DeKalb County.

Historic photos were also extremely helpful. Photos exist as far back as circa 1890, and up until the park began in the 2000s. This helped to document the evolution of the site.

Finally, there are clues in the site itself. This homestead has developed from a frontier house - in which all materials would have been hand made on site - to early manufacturing, to the modern day period of mass manufactured materials. Building materials from each period have their own distinctive techniques and characteristics.

By piecing all of the above together, we can determine a plausible timeline for site development. It is likely that the understanding of this timeline will change as more information is found. To that end, we recommend further archaeological and historic research, and that this document be treated as a “living” document that can change as the understanding of the site changes.



Circular sawn lumber – identifiable through the rounded saw marks – was common from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century to the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. These most likely date from ca 1860-1940. Image from Well House.



Pit sawn lumber – identifiable through the cross hatched saw marks. These are hand sawn and most likely predate 1860. Image from Well House.

# SITE HISTORY – JOHNS FAMILY

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John B. Johns is one of the early settlers of DeKalb County, which was created December 9, 1822, after the Creek Indians ceded to the state of Georgia a large tract of land that included present-day DeKalb County. Although many of DeKalb County's early residents came from Gwinnett County, John B. Johns migrated from Wilkes County, where he was born 19 March 1806.

The Johns family had migrated to Georgia from Virginia in the late 1700s. John Johns was a Revolutionary War veteran. He married Ann Smith and together they had five children: daughters Orry G., Nancy G., and Elizabeth W. and sons John B. and Gustavus G.

John Johns won tracts of land in DeKalb County Georgia in the land lottery of 1821. The property, Land Lot 143, District 18, was a tract of 202.5 acres. John Johns never lived in DeKalb County, passing away around 1829 before the land was occupied.

The DeKalb County property was left to his son John B. Johns. He followed in his father's footsteps and began acquiring land for himself, through the lottery and purchases. He acquired lots in Muscogee County, Panthersville in south DeKalb County, and he expanded the family holdings at what would become the family homestead in Tucker. It is not known at this time if Johns ever lived or visited the property in Muscogee County. It is, however, recorded that he kept slaves at the Panthersville property, and **had an agricultural farm there**. It has not been recorded why he chose the Tucker location to become the family home, though obviously there were amenities he saw as valuable. An early purchase of Land Lot 165 - a lot that had road access - is a possible clue. It is possible he chose it for easy access to a transportation route.

About 1830 in Wilkes County, he married Susannah "Susan" Caroline White. They quickly began creating their own family. Their first child, Francis "Frank," is likely to have been born in Wilkes County in 1831, and their second child, Jesse Jeremiah, also was born in Wilkes County two years later, according to his burial record.

It would have been around this time that the Johns family began to plan their move to DeKalb County.



# SITE HISTORY – PLANNING THE MOVE

John B. Johns' father, John Johns, won the land lottery in the 1821 Land Lottery. He passed away in 1827 and the lot passed to his son John B. Johns. Tax records show that in 1830, John B. Johns had traveled from Wilkes County to DeKalb County to pay taxes. It is logical that he would have used this time to survey the property and begin planning for the move to come. Perhaps the biggest clue that he stayed for an extended time is found underneath the house. There is a large flat platform under the western room of the house. It appears to be manmade of packed mud, a technique found throughout other areas of the site. It is possible that this was a flat area created to accommodate a sleeping area or tent while he and any traveling companions were getting the lay of the land. The mud could have been carried from the nearby creek to create the platform. If this is so, then it is likely the oldest evidence of the Johns family on site.

It appears that as part of this process, John B. Johns chose to locate the home close to a creek and a road, opting to purchase land lot 165 from Reason Whitehead. It had direct access to Lawrenceville-Decatur Rd, now Lawrenceville Highway. This would have been a logical choice, as at the time DeKalb County would have been wilderness, with few other people around. The native Creek civilization had recently been removed from the land, meaning the only other humans around would have been the other landowners beginning to trickle in as a result of the land lottery. Access to water and a road would have been critical. Johns appears to have prioritized both of these amenities. If they stayed long enough, it is possible that they also began clearing the land and other site preparation at this time.



This flattened area underneath the house has been built up out of mud. It is possibly the oldest evidence of human habitation on site. While its use was unknown, it was possibly an area for an early tent or sleeping structure, or a work area.

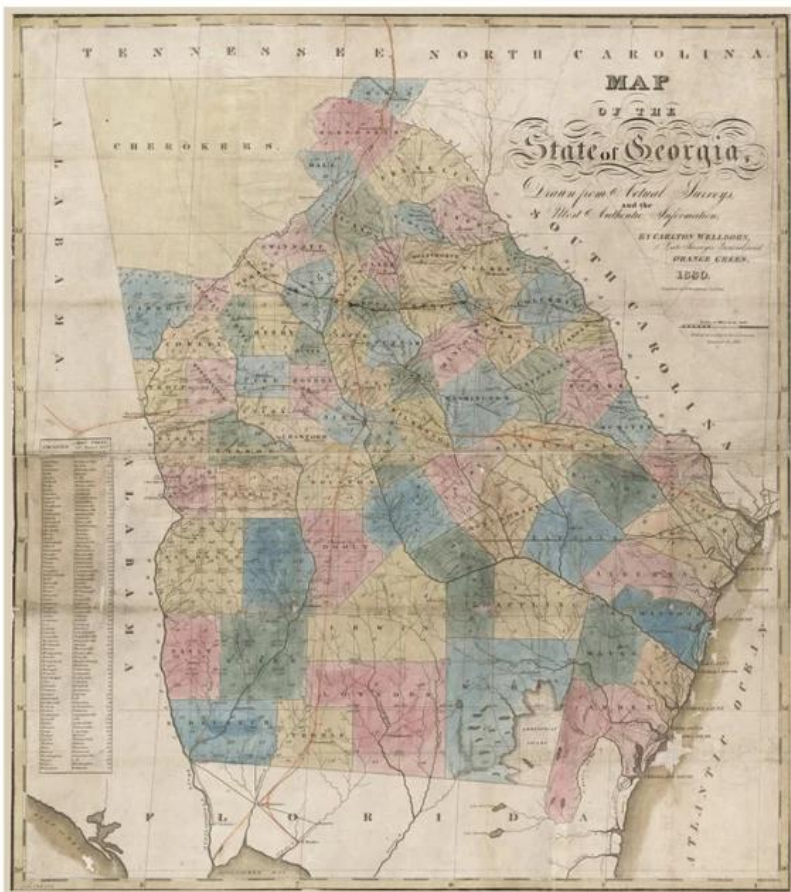


The Johns family located their home near this stream. The stream would have provided water for people and animals, and would also likely have made the soils fertile.

# SITE HISTORY – PLANNING THE MOVE

When they moved, they would likely have brought portable supplies with them. Personal belongings, food and utensils, clothing and linens, and building supplies. Evidence on site indicates they would have brought hand tools including axes, shovels and saws, and likely other tools for farming and construction. It is also likely that they would have brought some number of livestock and seeds with them to begin establishing a homestead. A wagon and some animals to pull it would have been necessary.

Sometime in the early 1830s, the Johns family began the move to DeKalb County. It is likely that John B Johns had begun clearing the land prior to arrival. While there is no specific record, it is likely that the family arrived with slaves. John Johns had left 6 slaves to Ann Johns upon his death around 1830. Ann passed herself by 1838. It is therefore likely that some of these slaves would have made the journey with John B. Johns, and would have helped to build the farm.



Map of Georgia in 1830. The Johns family would have moved from Wilkes County Georgia, to DeKalb County.



# SITE HISTORY – CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Once moved to this frontier region, it would have been imperative for the family to quickly establish a farm to support themselves. With few other people around to trade with, self sufficiency would have been critical to survival. The Johnses would have immediately begun clearing land, building shelters, planting crops and raising animals and their family. As a result, by the 1850s, the farm was a fully functioning farm with a wide variety of livestock and crops. The 1850 agricultural schedule shows they had 4 horses, 1 ass/mule, 2 working oxen, 5 milk cows and 9 other cattle, 11 sheep, and 30 swine. In addition to this extensive livestock farm, they had 60 bushels of wheat, \_\_\_\_\_ of rye, 800 bushels of corn and 250 bushels of oats.

Many hands would have been required to sustain that farm. In that year, the Johns family had grown to include many teenage children that would have been able to help. This included 18 year old Francis, 17 year old Jesse, 13 year old Robert, 11 year old Betsy, and 7 year old Sarah, who would likely have begun helping as well. While the 1850 census lists John B. Johns as owning 8 slaves, these are reported at a nearby property in South DeKalb. It is unknown if any would have been at the homestead at this time.

A farm that extensive would have required buildings to support it. In addition to the house, there would likely have been at least one barn, an outhouse, a corn crib for drying corn, and a smoke house for curing meats. There would also have been storage buildings for equipment and grain, and possibly workshops.

There are clues on the site itself as to how they would have constructed the site. The most consistent and obvious clue is the presence of natural edge lumber, axe hewn lumber, and saplings. All of these are hand techniques used for milling lumber. The lumber would have been found on site. This process would also have had the advantage of clearing the land as they were building their farm. These tasks would have been performed by the Johns and likely their accompanying male slaves. The home, well house, Dairy Barn and Equipment Building all have evidence of hand prepared lumber. Patricia Johns McDonald, great granddaughter of John B. Johns, testifies that the buildings were hand made, log cabin type structures.



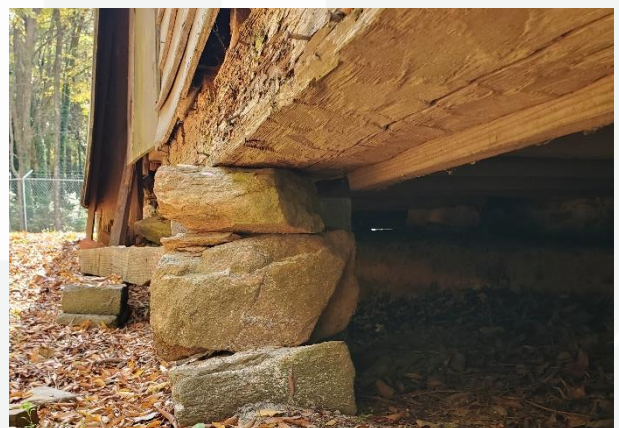
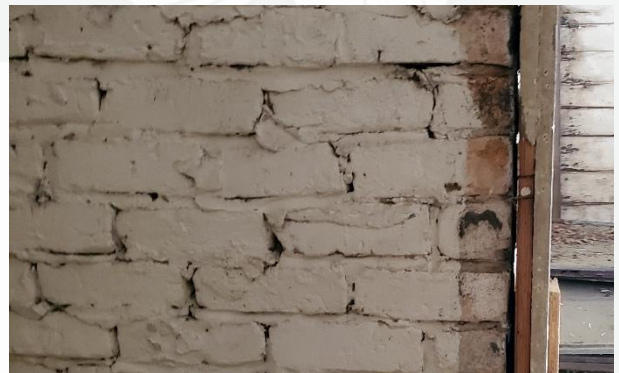
Some of the log cabin type construction found on site. Photo of Equipment Building.

# SITE HISTORY – CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Three buildings on site, the house, the well house and the dairy barn, contain boards that have pit saw marks. As its name implies, a pit saw was a saw that used a pit. It required two people to operate it – one standing above the ground and the other in the pit. The saw was long and extended between the two people. They would saw up and down in tandem, with the log moving between the two of them. The back and forth motion resulted in telltale zigzag sawmarks. The presence of pit sawn lumber indicates that the family not only hewed its own logs and made their own bricks, but sawed their own lumber on site. This means that there was a pit somewhere on site. . I would recommend inspecting the existing buildings using non-invasive archaeology (ground penetrating radar) to see if any of them housed the pit.

Bricks for the chimney were hand pressed. Ernest W. Johns, grandson of John B. Johns, reported that they were made by John B. Johns. He stated that he dug his own mud and fired the bricks himself. This indicates that a firepit would have been on site. The fireplace bricks are made of local red clay, and are irregularly shaped, though loosely rectangular. These would have been pressed in molds.

Foundations are made of dry stacked stones. These would have been found on site, and would have helped in clearing the land for farming. Buildings with stacked stone foundations include the house, equipment shed and well house.



Evidence of hand craft: Pit saw marks (top), hand pressed brick (middle), hand hewn beams and stacked stone foundations (bottom).



# SITE HISTORY – CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Wood shingles are found on the house, and were likely also made on site. It is possible that the other structures at one point had hand made wood shingles.

There are several hand crafted doors and one window shutter that are also on site. The doors are created from wide plank vertical boards held together by horizontal bars. These bars are roughly hewn, and secured with blacksmith nails. In the attic loft, facing into the unoccupied attic space, is a hand crafted board shutter. This is likely original to the one room house, and would have allowed light and ventilation of the attic loft. It is possible that there was a corresponding opening on the other side of the loft, which was enlarged to become the present window.

Finally, the craftsmanship of the buildings indicates a level of sophistication and care. It is likely that a workshop would have been built early on in the property development, to establish a secure location to store materials and supplies, and to work outside of the weather



The house contains hand made shutters (top), doors (bottom) and shingles (left).

# SITE HISTORY – CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

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Pairing these known construction techniques with the documented expansion of the family and farm, it is possible to determine which buildings likely were built in these early years on the site.

The house is known to have been built in the 1830s as a one room structure. It would have expanded quickly as the family grew. In its early years, it expanded to include a kitchen and likely a rear room. It is uncertain when the loft was built, but the window opening to the unoccupied attic indicates it was original. It likely housed the slaves that traveled with them, as it has its own separate access. Hand crafted construction techniques found on the home include axe hewn lumber, sapling rafters, pit sawn lumber, dry stacked stone foundations, hand pressed brick chimney, hand created doors and shutter, hand hewn shakes, and blacksmith nails.

The well was reported to have been dug by John B. Johns, by his offspring Patricia Johns McDonald. A well would have been an important part of farm life, allowing easy access to water for both the residents and animals and crops. It has sapling rafters and log posts, which are early construction techniques.

The dairy barn is reported to have been built in the 1850s, and a barely legible date of “August 1852”, found to the left of the entry door, supports this timeframe. However, dates appear to have been inscribed regularly on the dairy barn. There is also a date of 1887 above the door, plus several penciled dates on the interior. So dates are not conclusive evidence of construction date. Patricia Johns McDonald reports that dairy was used to cure meats, churn butter, and later make cheese. The agricultural census of the day certainly shows that the family would have had a need for a dairy barn and smokehouse. Additionally the building has sapling rafters and pegged construction typical of the other structures from this period.

Additionally, the configuration of the southeast room of the dairy barn is consistent with a corn crib. Corn cribs were structures used to dry corn. They had cross ventilation and a raised platform to keep the corn off the ground. The southeast room has both of these features. This room has hand hewn beams with mortise and tenon construction, and pit sawn lumber. The family is known to have farmed corn, so a corn crib was a likely use for this space.

Finally, the equipment shed was likely built early on, and evolved later in the century. Descendant Ernest W. Johns reported that John B. Johns had an oxcart, and the 1850 census shows 2 oxen. It is therefore likely that this building originally housed the cart and other equipment. While the lower walls of the shed are manufactured lumber, the roof appears to be of handmade materials. The roof has sapling rafters, natural edge lumber, stacked stone foundations, and blacksmith nails

It is probable that four buildings on site date to the frontier era of the house. The four buildings that exhibit hand made construction techniques are the main house, the well house, the dairy barn and the equipment shed.



# SITE HISTORY –

## The Homestead during War

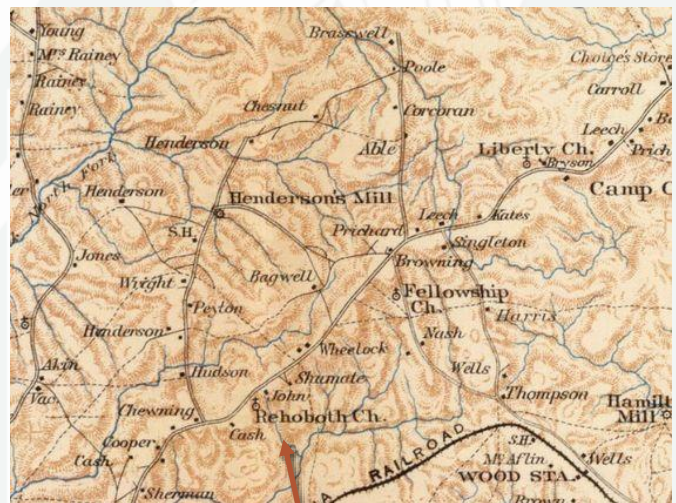
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By the time of the Civil War, the family dynamic had adjusted. John B. Johns had several new children with a new wife, [REDACTED]. He had reduced the number of slaves he owned from 8 to 1. It is unknown if this was due to sales, death or emancipation. His livestock and stores had also dwindled by half, though this could be due to grown children moving off site and taking them with them.

While 3 sons joined the Confederate Army, John B. Johns himself never did. He was reported to have been a Union man, and according to the “History of DeKalb County”, was one of four Tucker men to remain loyal to the Union. According to this book, during the War, Johns “visited” a refugee camp for men who didn’t join the Confederate army. This is corroborated by an 1864 census performed by the Confederate government to find unenlisted men. He is noted in this census as a farmer, aged 58.

Union loyalties notwithstanding, the Union army still took many of Johns’ goods, including food and livestock. They set up camp across the street. According to family lore, Johns hid corn in the walls of the house, and would uncork holes for access when he needed it.

The impact of the war is clearly seen in official records. By 1870, his livestock holdings and crops are severely diminished from 1860. He no longer owned any horses or sheep and only 4 pigs. This down from his peak in 1850.



Johns Homestead and Rehoboth Church, as seen in *Atlas to Accompany the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. 1861-1865 (courtesy Wikimedia.org)

# SITE HISTORY – TRANSITION TO MANUFACTURED MATERIALS

By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the family dynamic had again changed. Farm production had dwindled significantly. Children were now grown and were farming nearby land and establishing their own businesses. One son lived in Texas. The war had depleted the livestock counts.

By 1870, the farm seems to have transitioned to primarily wheat production. John B. Johns had more bushels of wheat (66) than in any previous census. His livestock was significantly depleted, at least in part due to pillaging during the war.

In 1880, John B. Johns was 74. He had 4 children remaining on site: Thomas, 21, Mark 19, Ora 17 and John B 15. The agricultural census reports that no hired labor assisted the family. Only 40 acres are being farmed in this year, with 150 as woodland and forest. Older son Samuel is farming nearby.

At some point in this period, the Johns family stopped relying on their own hands to produce building materials, and instead began using manufactured materials. While the exact date of this transition is unknown, it likely occurred over a period of years, and likely within John B. Johns lifetime. By the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, other towns were established that had manufacturing operations. Ernest W. Johns, John B. Johns' grandson, reported that John B. Johns traveled to Atlanta for supplies in a wagon drawn by oxen (Eagle, 1964), so it is likely that this transition occurred during his lifetime, during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Johns still had 1 ox reported in the 1870 census. With John B. Jones aging, and fewer children living at home to help, it is likely that it was in the mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> century that the family began relying on manufactured goods.



Manufactured doors and windows would have been available in the mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

# SITE HISTORY – TRANSITION TO MANUFACTURED MATERIALS

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Common materials in this period included circular sawn lumber, manufactured wood windows and doors, tongue & groove flooring, beaded board, manufactured bricks, metal roofing and manufactured nails, or wire nails. All of these can be found on site.

Circular sawn lumber is distinguishable from pit sawn lumber by the regularity of the saw marks. A circular saw leaves regular marks in a large round pattern, whereas a pit saw leaves zig-zag marks. Another distinguishing feature of lumber in this period is its consistency of size. Through manufacturing, lumber sizes became standardized. The hand hewn lumber of earlier generations are asymmetrical and irregularly sized.

Interior wood finishes also changed in this time. Common materials from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to early 20<sup>th</sup> century include tongue & groove flooring and beaded board for walls and ceilings. Both can be found in the house, and tongue & groove lumber is found on the well house and the potting shed. In the house, it appears to have primarily been used as a patching material, installed primarily on the front wall of the house.

Another indication of the transition to using manufactured goods is the presence of manufactured brick. Manufactured brick is regular in size and density, and often has holes or indentations drilled into it. They often have manufacturer's stamps. Bricks on the front porch are stamped with the name [REDACTED].

During this period the family transitioned from wood roofs to metal roofs. This is evident on the house. The oldest roofing, visible from the attic loft, is wooden shakes. Layered above that is a series of alterations beginning with corrugated metal roofing, transitioning to standing seam metal roofing, and finally asphalt shingles. All of the existing outbuildings currently have either standing seam or corrugated metal roofing. It is important to note that both corrugated metal roofing and standing seam metal roofing would have been easily available in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. The limiting factor for this property would have been availability in local markets.

# SITE HISTORY – TRANSITION TO MANUFACTURED MATERIALS

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Also easily identifiable is the presence of manufactured windows and doors. The earliest manufactured windows are multi-pane 4/4 or 6/6 windows. These likely date to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, and appear in a grainy photo from 1951. Later windows, likely installed in the 1920s or 1930s, are 3/1 or 4/1 in a Craftsman style. The potting shed has a 12 lite window facing east.

Door styles and configurations are varied, and include a door with 6 vertical panels, one with 4 vertical panels, and one with 6 horizontal panels. The front door has a manufactured screen door. The side entry door has 2 panels below and a void for a single glass lite above.

The presence of some doors that are hand made, but built out of manufactured tongue & groove materials, illustrates the complexity of this period. The family was still self sufficient and relying heavily on their own labor to build their site, but they were using manufactured products.

Site changes in this period likely include altering and expanding the house, altering the equipment shed, building the potting shed, and installing electricity.

The house was remodeled to include craftsman windows and front porch, bead board and tongue & groove patches, and a large front wing addition. While the addition is no longer there, the chimney appears to date to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This is consistent with the construction of the porch, with Craftsman columns, manufactured brick, dimensional lumber and tongue & groove porch flooring.

It appears that the equipment shed was significantly altered in this time. The roof is constructed of hand made materials, while the walls are machine made, standardized circular sawn lumber. It is probable that the shed was enlarged, possibly to store the tractor that is shown in a site photo from circa 2000. While it is possible that the equipment shed was all built at one time, the stark contrast between construction types and materials indicates an alteration to an earlier structure.

The cold frame is the only structure on site that does not have any hand made materials on it, aside from the rammed earth – or possibly concrete - foundation. The lumber is dimensional lumber. The roofing material is corrugated metal. The window is a manufactured window. It is therefore likely that the cold frame is the youngest building on site.



# SITE PHOTO-HISTORIC

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This photograph shows the Homestead circa 1890. Shown in this photograph are [REDACTED]. You can see the house at this time the house was still a symmetrical front façade with two rooms around a central chimney. It is likely that the rear room was in existence but not pictured. It had a folk Victorian front porch with turned columns, which are currently in storage. It had a wood shingle roof, lap siding, and six over six wood windows.



# SITE PHOTO-HISTORIC

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Ollie (or Orrey) and Amanda Johns. The structure in the background is possibly the Equipment Building, based on the chamfered entrance and size. It has a shingle roof in this picture.



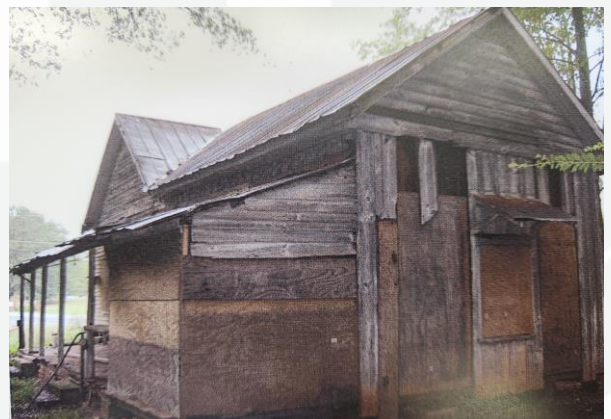


# SITE HISTORY – MODERN AMENITIES

While major construction was completed by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the property continued to be adapted and altered.

Sometime in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, two wings were added to the house. These appear to have been done loosely in a Craftsman style. This included a z-shaped front porch, a front room with a chimney, a side porch, and a rear addition that had a kitchen and bathroom. The front porch had Craftsman type columns and brick piers. It is likely that the current craftsman windows were installed in this time. The columns from the old front porch, seen in the circa 1890 photograph, were repurposed on the new side porch. This side porch appears to have run full length of the house. The front and rear additions had vertical board and batten siding.

Anne Haddix, advisor for the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, believes that the front addition could have been built as a separate kitchen, separated by a breezeway. She indicates this in a letter dated 2005.



Photos showing rear addition, since demolished.  
Photos taken ca 2000-2004.



# SITE HISTORY – MODERN AMENITIES

Electricity was installed sometime in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as well. The house has a small electrical panel located on the exterior wall, which would have been protected by a porch at that time. The well house equipment was also electrified, as seen in a porcelain tube, and in photos showing mechanized well equipment. The porcelain tube dates the electrical to early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

It is likely that electricity was added at around the same time that the plumbing was added, as the electricity was used to operate the well.

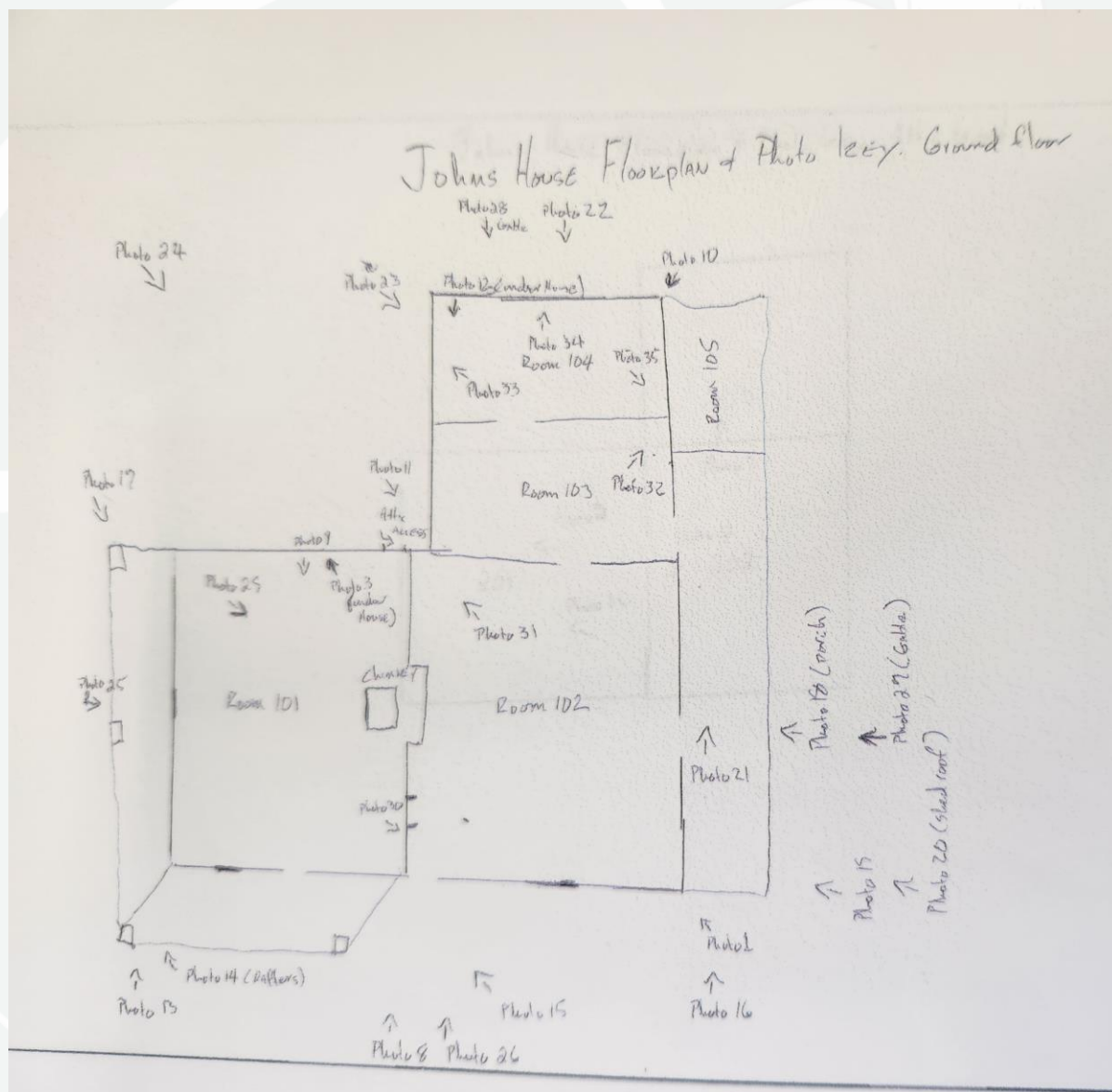
Other modifications in this period were largely maintenance related. A concrete footing was added to one corner of the Equipment Building, and a concrete slab was poured in the well house.



Photos of electrical supply (top) and the interior of the rear addition, which housed a kitchen and bathroom.

# SITE HISTORY – MODERN AMENITIES

Plan of the house in 2009, from an historic structure report prepared by David Westbrook for GSU.



# SITE PHOTO-HISTORIC

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Photo dated May 1951, courtesy of Patricia McDonald. The vantage point appears to be from the driveway, facing the front wing addition. This photograph shows the house (center), a barn (right) and possibly another barn (left). The 2004 survey by CERM indicates a collapsed barn behind the house, which appears to be the structure shown at right. It is likely that a slab from this barn remains, as there is a large rectangular space behind the equipment shed that does not have significant vegetation.

The 2004 survey does not indicate a large structure to the north of the house, as shown at the left of the photo. This structure appears to be a gable roofed structure with a shed roof porch. It is possible it was either a barn or another house. Marge Roberson, in a 2001 letter to the County parks planner, mentions two houses on the property, one built ca 1905. It's possible the building at left is that house. The main house at this point has the craftsman styled front porch and the front wing addition. You can see another porch to the right side of the house.





# SITE HISTORY – DETERIORATION & STABILIZATION

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In 2001, descendant Patricia McDonald generously donated the Homestead to DeKalb County and plans began to be made to turn the property into a park. The property began to be noticed for its unique character as an early farmstead. In 2005, Anne Haddix, advisor to the board of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, visited the property and performed an assessment. She confirmed the belief that the earliest parts of the house date to the 1830s. In 2006, an article by Chris Lutz describes “Tucker’s New Greenspace: Johns Family Homestead”. In 2008, preparations began to submit it to the National Register of Historic Places, and Bill Hover of the State Historic Preservation Office performed a site visit with his assessment. He describes the house at its full size, as t-shaped with five rooms in a row, with the short leg of the t projecting toward the front. He noted the buildings to be in fair shape, but with areas of deterioration, most notably the front south end of the porch and portions of the roof.

Unfortunately, at the same time that the property was gaining traction for a public park, it also began to deteriorate. In 2008, a tree fell on the house, destroying the front addition. Items from this addition were salvaged and placed into storage in the house and outbuildings.

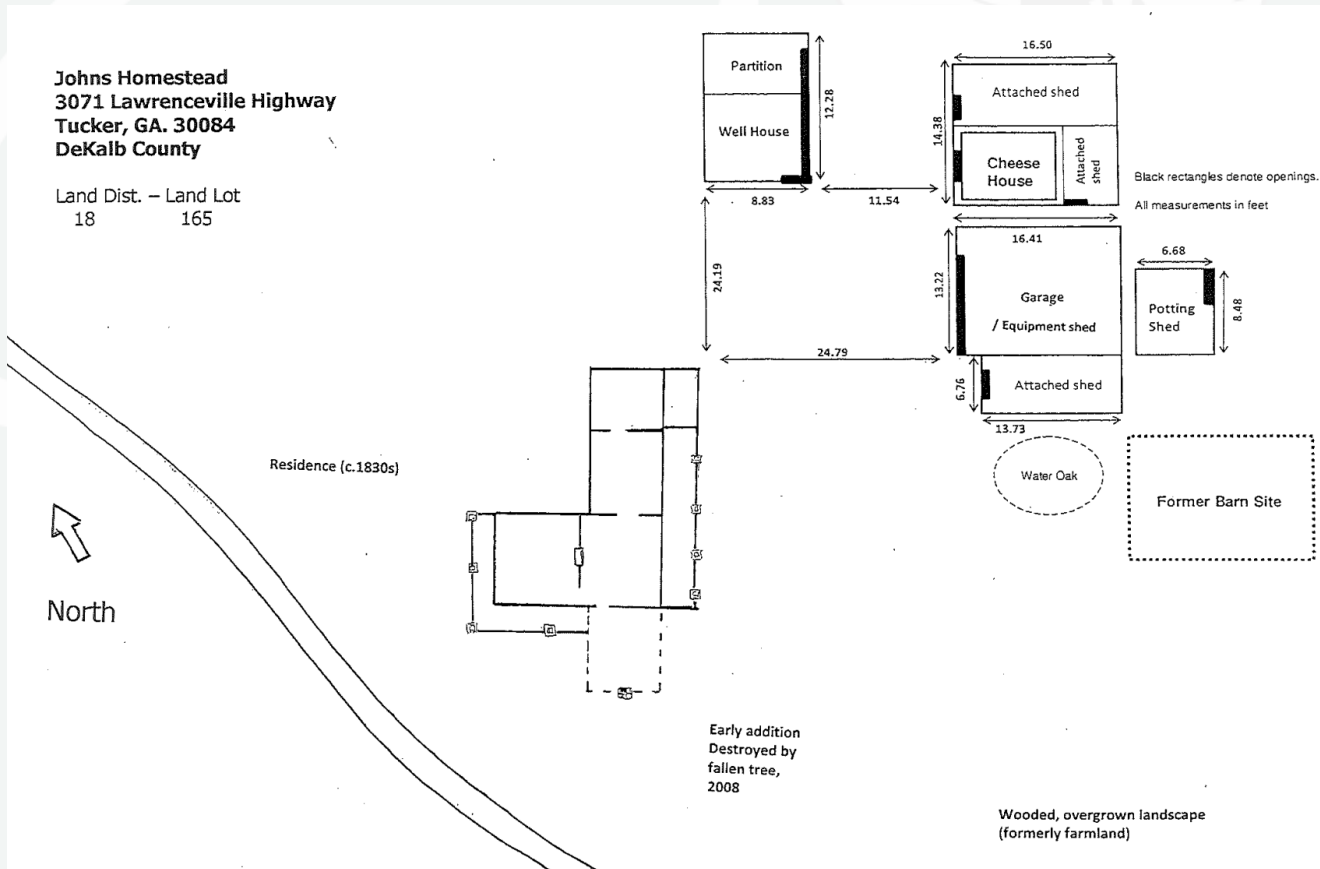
The rear addition was in a heavily deteriorated condition, as seen in multiple reports by Georgia State University students in 2009. Their descriptions and photographs show a building with substantial moisture and termite damage, due to the foundations being set directly on the ground. This was dismantled in \_\_\_\_\_. There is still an active roof leak at the intersection where this addition used to connect to the main house. Items from this have also been placed in storage.

The preservation of this increasingly rare property continued to be lauded and appreciated, thanks in no small part to the efforts of Friends of Johns Homestead, and Christy Atkins in particular. Ms. Atkins stated that they were working to secure the property, and that there was a lot of community interest in making the site a living history museum. She cited the biggest threat to the building being its prominent location, and the threat of development.

The property was placed on the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation’s Places in Peril in 2016. That same year, Friends of Johns Homestead engaged Morrison Design (now Brandied History) and Willett Engineering to prepare a treatment plan for the property. They provided treatment recommendations for emergency stabilization for the buildings. Stabilization drawings were prepared by Palmer Engineering in 2019. These were used to brace the buildings against collapse. Techniques used were modern materials including pressure treated lumber, steel ground anchors and fence posts, and plywood.

# SITE HISTORY – DETERIORATION & STABILIZATION

Map of site from an historic structure report prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ for Georgia State University in 2009.  
Note the presence of a “former barn site” and the front addition that was destroyed by a tree in 2008.



# SITE PHOTO-HISTORIC

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This undated photo shows the house (left) well building (center) dairy and equipment shed (right). This likely dates to the circa 2004 report. The DSC number shows that it is a digital photograph, validating this time frame.

The photograph shows the house at left. You can see a long porch running a long the side, and the roof of the rear room addition. The addition and the porch are no longer standing. The front addition collapsed ca 2008 due to tree damage. Portions of both are in storage in the outbuildings and the house.

You can see the equipment shed, dairy barn and well house in the background. This photograph shows the site is much more extensively overgrown than present day.





# SITE PHOTO-HISTORIC

This photo from the 2004 CERM report shows the remnants of an underground shelter. This photograph location is not indicated on the map in the report.

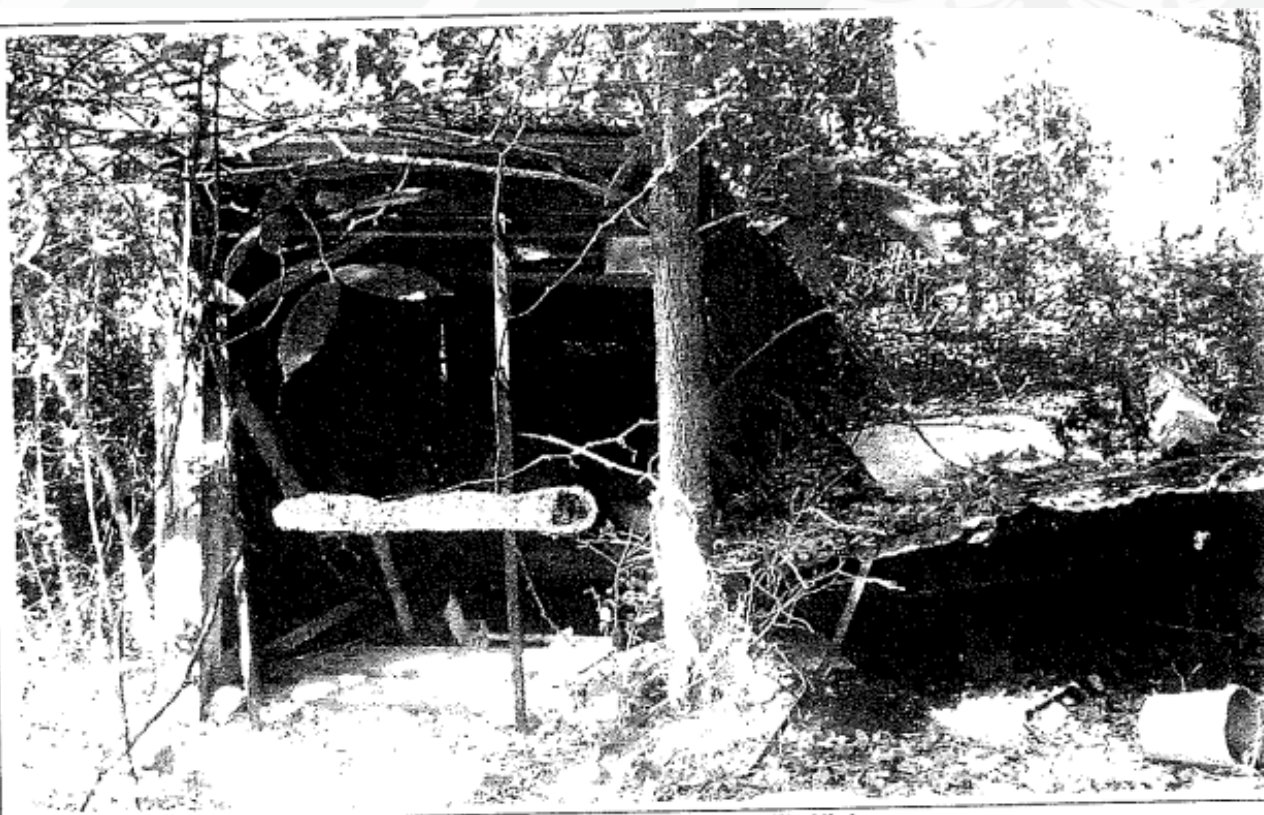


PHOTO 24: Entrance to underground shelter next to 3071 Lawrenceville Highway.

## SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs taken by Shawn Askew

C.E.R.M. Project # 110862-019

## CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT, L.L.C.

2115 MONROE DRIVE, SUITE 110  
Atlanta, GA 30324

(678) 999-0173 Fax:(678) 999-0186

John Homestead Properties  
3071, 3117, & 3143 Lawrenceville  
Highway  
Tucker, Georgia 30084





## DESCRIPTION & CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT



# SITE OVERVIEW

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The Johns Homestead is a picturesque farming complex developed by the Johns family over the course of over 100 years. From the 1830s through the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the property was expanded and added to, and altered by the family. In the last decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the property was unoccupied and many of the structures were damaged or destroyed entirely.

The remaining buildings help to tell the story of the development of the site. These include two remaining rooms of the main house – likely the first two rooms to be built; an equipment shed; a dairy barn; a well house; and a cold frame. Other structures are documented in photographs and maps, but are no longer in existence. These include two barns, an underground shelter, outhouses and a treehouse.

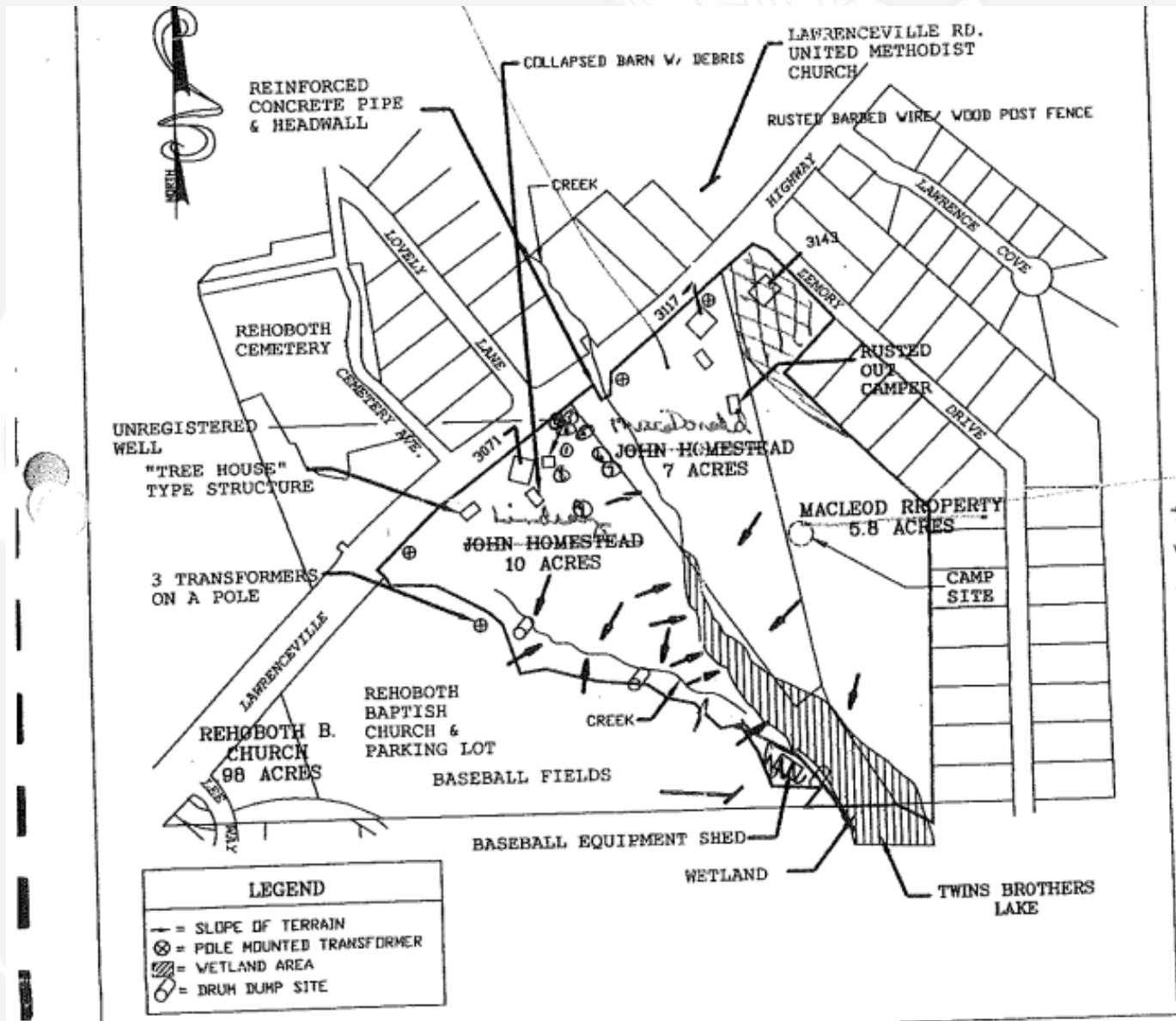
The Johns Homestead fronts onto Lawrenceville Highway, which runs to the northwest of the property. It is set on a steep hill overlooking the highway. A driveway runs along the south end of the property. A woodland surrounds the remaining three sides of the property to the north, south and east. A creek runs along the north, leading to a wetlands or lake to the east.

The most visible structure on site is the house. This faces roughly toward Lawrenceville Highway, though at an angle to the road. The outbuildings are situated in a cluster behind the house. The well house is almost directly behind it to the north. To the east is the equipment shed. A cold frame is behind that, facing the woods. The dairy barn is to the north of the equipment shed.





# SITE OVERVIEW - MAP



This portion of a map prepared by CERM shows the site as it was in 2004. Note the location of the creek and lake and the positioning of the buildings. Also note the presence of a "collapsed barn w/ debris" behind the house.

# SITE OVERVIEW

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Most of the trees on site are relatively young, reflecting the recent transition from farmland to woodland. There are two large trees remaining around the house. One is to the south. The other is to the north in front of the well house. Stumps remain of larger trees that fell since 2004. These trees appear in recent photographs.

The site holds evidence of past buildings. In the woods behind the well house is a concrete foundation. This foundation likely belonged to the building shown to the left of the 1950 photograph of the site.

Behind the equipment shed and dairy barn is further evidence of a building. This is a large flat area with no large vegetation. It likely indicates the presence of a concrete slab. A 2004 map of the property indicates that there was a barn there at one point.



# SITE OVERVIEW

Condition & Treatment  
Recommendations

The site is integral to the Johns Homestead history and character. Retaining it and enhancing it is critical to preserving the environment.

There is evidence, on site, in writing and in photographs, of a much more extensive farm with more buildings. We recommend in the future seeking archaeological evidence of the following:

- Pit saw location
- Outhouse (Patricia McDonald indicated this used to change locations)
- Barns (shown to left and right of house and mentioned in CERM survey)
- Underground shelter
- Treehouse
- Trash locations – some are mentioned in CERM survey



# HOUSE

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The Johns Homestead is among the oldest in the metro Atlanta area, and DeKalb County. Its construction highlights nearly 200 years of building techniques and styles. In its earliest years, it was a single room house, hand made. A second room was added shortly after. By the 1890s, it was a two room Victorian cottage with turned columns. By the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it had adapted again into a Craftsman styled house, with a wrapping front porch and front and rear additions, electricity and plumbing. It remained this way until the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, in which the front and rear additions were damaged and removed. The remaining building is a two room house with a partially wrapping front porch.

It remains in that state today – effectively returned to its early 19<sup>th</sup> century two room configuration, with partial 20<sup>th</sup> century modifications.

## CONFIGURATION

- The house was originally built as a single room with a loft. However, almost immediately a second room was added on the other side of the chimney. This configuration is called a saddlebag.
- It has a partially remaining porch. At one point, it would have been z shaped around the front addition. Currently it is l-shaped.
- The attic loft is accessed from the exterior via an attic stair.
- Two wings would have projected to the north (rear) and south (front). All that remains now is a chimney on the south side.



Side of gable facing in toward the property.



Front of house. Note roofing change where addition would have been..



Rear of house showing saddlebat configuration.



Side of house facing street.



## FOUNDATION

- The foundation is typical of a frontier house. The house is set on piers made of loosely stacked stone (stone without mortar).
- The piers are doubled at center – this is indicative of 2 distinct construction phases
- The porch has brick piers instead of stone.
- There are fragments of brick and stone porch foundations to the east of the house, facing the equipment shed.



Two piers at the center of the building indicate where the original single room cabin ended and the second room was added. Photo at front of house. Joist to left is from porch.



Juncture at the rear of the house is temporarily supported on concrete blocks..



Pier at north of house from side..



Northwest corner of house. Note man-made berm under house.



## STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

- The house is made of hand-hewn lumber. Its major structural members are heavy timber sill beams with axe marks.
- They are pegged together with mortise & tenon joints. There is k-bracing at the corners.
- Seams at the central piers indicate the 2 distinct construction phases.
- Attic joists are 8" @ 26" o.c. with rough edges
- Rafters are 3-4" saplings at 24" o.c.
- Pit sawn, rough edged purlins span between the rafters
- These construction techniques can be found on the well house, equipment shed and dairy barn. This suggests that those buildings may have been built in the same time period as the house.



Saw marks on the purlins or decking indicate they are pit sawn – two men with a saw.



Mortise and tenon joint at southeast corner. This is an interior detail, but the siding is missing, so it is visible. These were hand hewn with an axe..



Floor framing consists of wood joists..



The rafters are logs or saplings. They are supported on hand hewn lumber. The purlins or decking is also hand hewn with natural edges.



## EXTERIOR MATERIALS

The exterior of the house is comprised of a number of siding materials, indicating changes in building periods and techniques.

- There is cove siding at first floor
- Lap siding is at attic level
- 6" butt jointed boards are located at the back where rear wing was – likely indicating an interior uses.
- There is modern lap siding on the rear at the northwest corner of the house.
- Flashing on the east wall provides evidence of the missing porch.



Cove siding. This is found on the first floor at the front and sides.



Lap siding is found in the gables and on the northwest corner



Wide board siding is on the northeast end, showing where the north addition used to be.

## ROOF

The roof tells the tale of the evolution of the house and its materials.

- It is a side gable configuration with a central chimney.
- The original roof was wood shingles. These can still be seen in the attic, and are visible in the circa 1890 photograph of the house.
- Subsequent layers included
  - Corrugated metal roofing. This was likely the second roofing material, as it was found under the front facing addition.
  - Standing seam galvanized metal roofing. This was likely installed after the corrugated metal roofing, as it extends over the edges of the corrugated metal. It is the predominant roofing material, and is found on both the main house and the porch. Photos from the Preservation Plans prepared by GSU students indicate it was the roofing for the additions as well.
  - Asphalt shingle. This appears to be a modern patch installed. It is found only on the southwest corner of the front roof.



Roof as seen from front. This angle shows the layers of materials.



Roof from rear showing standing seam material.



Porch from side showing gable configuration



## PORCH

The porch was Originally z-shaped. It is now l-shaped due to the deterioration of one leg of the porch.

- It has brick piers with concrete caps and square posts. There is brick infill latticework remaining between some of the piers. The cap is a simple 1x board with a bed mould.
- The roof is a standing seam shed roof.
- The flooring is tongue & groove flooring
- The floor joists are true 2x6 joists, indicating pre World War II construction. Rafters are 1.5x4, indicating the same. There is a 7x8 hand hewn beam 4' from the southwest corner of the house. It shows the end of the porch that appears in the 1890 photograph, and helps to determine its size and location.
- 45 degree angle concrete stairs remain at the corner, showing where the porch used to turn.
- There is a handmade concrete item in front of the porch, likely used as a planter or bird bath.



Porch overview from north



Porch from street.



Porch overview from east.



Porch from front steps. Note front steps wrapping where a portion of the porch is missing.



## PORCH

- The porch has suffered extensive damage.
- One column has collapsed, caused by a tree root.
- Most of the flooring on the south side is gone, as is much of the framing.
- The entire southern leg of the ell is missing.
- There is one segment of brick latticework infill remaining. The rest is missing.
- Several columns are missing trim details.
- The roofing is overall sound, though there are some areas of warping.



Porch detail showing brick pier, brick latticework, and tongue & groove flooring



Porch damage from north



Porch damage. Note original beam from original porch in the center. Also note joist pockets in brick at right.



## CHIMNEYS

- The house has two chimneys.
- The central chimney is original to the house. It is built of hand made brick. John B. Johns' descendants say the bricks were hand made by John B. Johns himself.
- It is a double-sided fireplace. The fact that it is double sided is a clue that the house was always intended to be two rooms, and that the second room likely would have been built shortly after the first room.
- It is separated from wall by approximately 6".
- The fireplace opening in the kitchen has rounded edges, and is sheathed in 2.5" tongue & groove boards. There is the shadow of a shelf mantel above it.
- The firebox in the living room is covered over, so is inaccessible. There is the shadow of a mantel above it.
- The second chimney is a freestanding chimney, a remnant of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century addition that used to face the road. It is red brick with a steel lintel. It appears to have been plastered at one point. It is in need of repairs.



Fireplace in living room. Not outline of mantel.



Fireplace in kitchen



Detail of kitchen fireplace.



Freestanding chimney. Lawrenceville Highway beyond



## WINDOWS

- Windows are in a Variety of configurations, indicating the era in which they are built.
- There are (2) 6/6 at kitchen facing remnants of porch (east). These are manufactured windows. Similar style windows in the 1890 photograph indicate they likely date to this period.
- (1) window was filled in at kitchen to become shelves – boards at back of wall facing south
- (1) pair 4/1 wood Craftsman at living room facing porch (south) adjacent to front door. These are manufactured windows, and are likely the most recent windows.
- (2) 3/1 wood Craftsman in living facing side porch (west) and rear yard. These, combined with the other craftsman windows and other materials, indicate an extensive remodel in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- (1) 4/4 wood in attic loft facing west. This likely dates to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century..
- (1) hand made board shutter facing from loft to attic. This is likely the original attic window covering. It is hand made, and would originally have opened to the exterior.



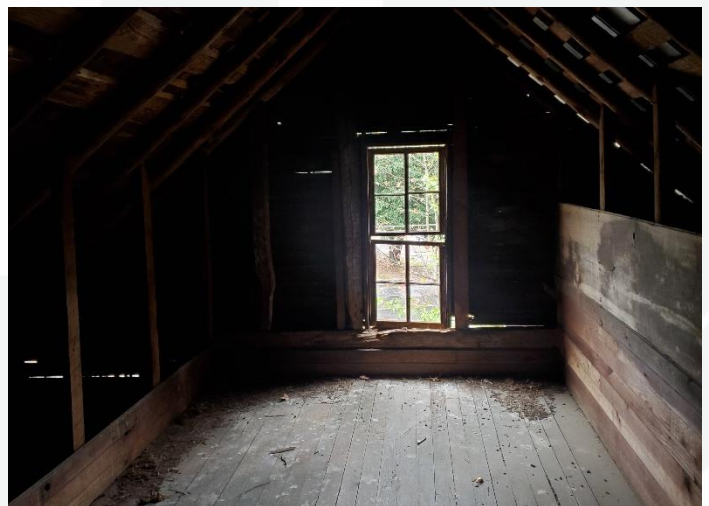
Infilled window in kitchen at right. Facing south.



3/1 craftsman window in living room. This is on the rear of the house facing north.



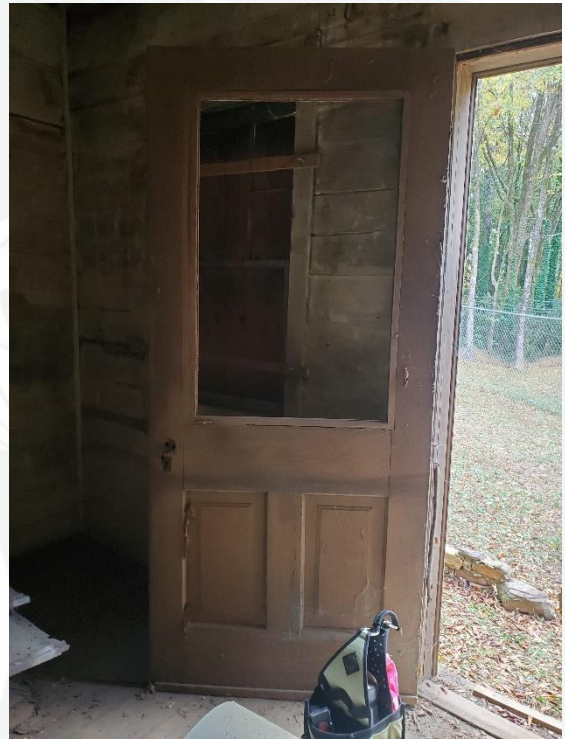
Shutter leading to unoccupied attic. Likely original to the one room house.



2/2 attic window in loft

## DOORS

- Some doors are still in their original positions. There are other doors that have been removed and are loosely stored on site.
- Doors In place
  - 27.25x 78.5 4, panel vertical between kitchen and living - manufactured
  - 27.25x75, 3 board door to front wing- hand made
  - 34x79.25, screen door to front porch – manufactured (broken)



Side door in kitchen. Likely dates to Victorian era.



Front door at right. Only screen remains. It is damaged. Door between living room and kitchen at left. It is manufactured.



Door leading from kitchen to front facing addition. Handmade. Likely early or original to the house.



## DOORS

- The following doors are In storage inside the house, and likely come from other buildings that have been dismantled.
  - 24x70 2 board – hand made. This fits the opening for the cold frame, so likely came from that location.
  - 32x71.5 5 varying boards – hand made
  - 34x81, 3" tongue & groove – hand made
  - 33.5x79, 6 panel horizontal – manufactured
  - 34x81, 6 panel vertical – manufactured
  - 32.5x78, 3" tongue & groove - handmade



Manufactured doors in storage.



Two handmade doors. Note varying plank sizes.



Handmade door, but built out of manufactured wood. Note regularity of board sizes.



## FLOORS

- The house has tongue & groove wood floors in both the attic and the first floor. These are manufactured materials and are more common in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century than the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- The attic flooring species is unfinished pine. The first floor has a painted finish, but grain visible through the paint indicates pine as well.
- While the area is covered by building supplies, so not visible, I would expect to find floor damage in the northwest corner of the kitchen.



Attic flooring



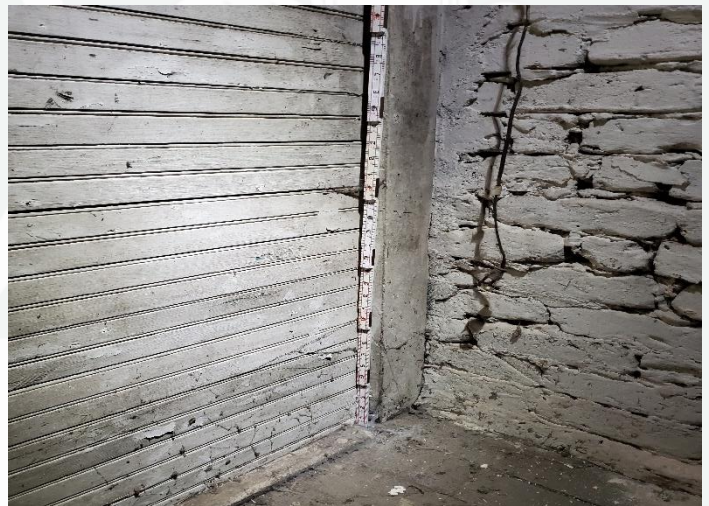
First floor flooring. Old porch columns are at right.

## INTERIOR WALL FINISHES

- Wall finishes vary through the house, not only room by room but wall by wall. This is evidence of not only stylistic changes, but building changes and repairs.
- 3", 6" and 10" wide plank boards are on the kitchen walls. Larger planks are at the north wall. The southwest corner of kitchen was repaired or altered with bead board.
- 3" board walls in living room – there is a bead board patch in southeast corner
- Loft walls are fragmented. Some boards are 3" tongue & groove. Others are 16" extremely wide plank tongue & groove boards
- Attic walls are painted lap siding – likely original exterior wall
- The kitchen chimney is faced with 2.5" shiplap siding.
- There is a significant area of deterioration at the northwest corner of the kitchen. As these are wide plank boards, this is likely an original area of the house. It appears to have been patched before.



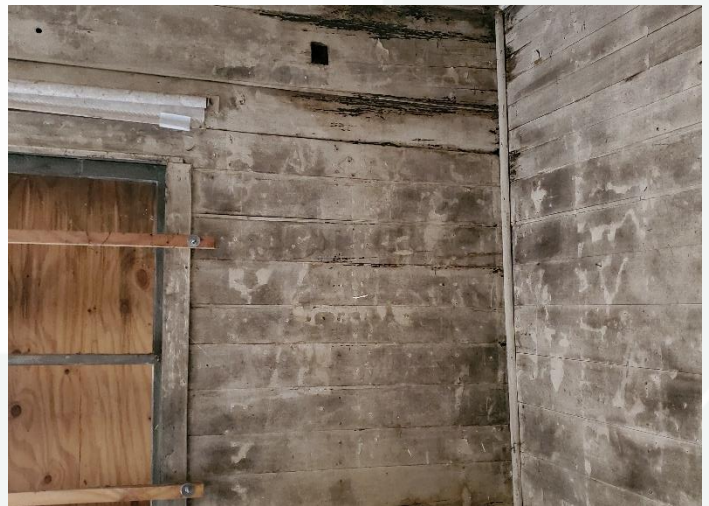
Kitchen chimney. Patched and damaged area at right. Wall boards are 10" plank boards.



Bead board next to kitchen chimney.



Living room looking toward kitchen. Bead board finish.



Southeast corner of kitchen. Boards are uniform plank boards, narrower than the 10" at the north. Note the corner bead.



## INTERIOR WALL FINISHES



Unfinished attic. Board walls used to be exterior planks.



Boards in knee wall at attic. Note 16" board at top..



Living room. Consistent wall finish on north wall indicates a more recent early 20<sup>th</sup> century remodeling.



Living room. Consistent wall finish on west wall.



Living room. Patch in northeast corner indicates a repair or remodel.

## CEILINGS

- The first floor has 3" board ceilings. Their regularity implies that they are a manufactured material.
- There is significant water damage in the central north portion of the house.
- Loft ceilings are exposed log rafters with visible decking and wood shingles. There is no obvious evidence of other finishes having been installed, although the walls were finished at one point, so it is possible there was a board ceiling.



Attic ceiling and details.



Kitchen ceiling. Note water damage in northwest corner of room.



Water damage at kitchen ceiling



Ceiling in living room is painted blue.



## STAIR

- Steep open tread stair. 9" rise, 8.5" tread with 4.5" overhang (resulting 4" run)
- Exits to exterior. This implies it wasn't used for human habitation, or it was a separate living space, possibly for slaves.
- The door is missing.
- 1" metal pipe handrail. This is a modern material.



Stair from living room.



Stair looking up toward loft.



Stair looking down toward exterior.



Stair detail



Stair detail showing pipe rail.



## SITE REMNANTS

The following fragments provide clues as to how the house used to be configured.

- Chimney – 25'9" from house. Brick with steel lintel. 25"x56". Part of front addition.
- Stairs to old rear porch at east side of house – concrete, 2 treads. 44" wide.
- "slab" – manmade of compacted dirt/mud under living room of house.
- Concrete planter next to front porch - handmade



Mud "slab" under main house.



Chimney shows location of front facing gable addition.



Side stairs and foundation show size of side porch.



Ell shaped concrete steps show configuration of front porch.



# HOUSE

## Condition & Treatment Recommendations

General notes: Due to the unique evolution of the property, including handmade 200 year old features, we recommend that each feature be treated as an artifact that helps tell the story of the house. Replacement should only be made when the original is not salvageable, and then it should only be partially replaced if possible. When replacement is necessary, new elements should be made to match the member they are replacing in all respects, up to and including species and crafting techniques.

Siding – The siding is in overall good condition. We recommend cleaning and painting. A paint analysis could be used to determine original paint colors. Boards should only be replaced if absolutely necessary.

- Note: The northeast corner of the property is clad in old interior butt jointed boards that are currently exposed to the elements. We recommend regular maintenance and painting, and monitoring to avoid deterioration. If deterioration is found, we recommend considering reconstructing the rear addition per the existing photographs and plans.

Roof – The roof tells the story of the house's evolution. We recommend

- removing the asphalt shingle patch and repairing the wood shingles beneath. Retain as many original hand split shingles as possible. Where replacement is necessary, match original size and material.
- Retain areas of corrugated metal and standing seam metal. Remove improper flashing at juncture between standing seam and corrugated metal. Replace with appropriate and water-tight flashing in like metal to avoid corrosion.
- Only replace metal panels that have corroded through and are allowing water in. Panels that are bent may be straightened if necessary. Surface rust that has not worn through the material is a protective coating and is not a reason for replacement.

Porch – We recommend repairing the existing porch to a stable condition. This includes

- Repairing columns and reinstall missing trim to match original
- Reset fallen pier using existing materials. Grind tree stump.
- Recreate missing brick latticework, reusing existing brick where possible. New brick to match existing in size, color, texture and placement.
- Repair damaged joists and rafters (we recommend sistering new members rather than replacing existing).
- Tongue & groove flooring should be used to match original, including diagonal seam at corner.
- Original concrete steps and planter to remain

Windows – Repair existing windows. Each window is to be viewed as a reflection of its own time, and should not be made to match the other windows. Reset loose or missing glass using glazing putty and points. Recreate missing wood muntins, mullions and sash. These are to match existing in species, profile and size. Install flashing at headers of exposed windows.

Doors – Determine locations of original stored doors where possible, and rehang. Repair screen door using aluminum screen. All new members are to match existing. Reinstall glass in kitchen door.

# HOUSE

## Condition & Treatment Recommendations

Strutural: The following recommendations are from the structural engineers:

- The sill to the window in the loft needs to be protected from further deterioration caused by precipitation. The window needs to be repaired so that it can close properly, and flashing placed over the sill to keep precipitation off it.
- The side opening into the kitchen has significant damage to it. The roof over the door, the header over the door and the sill under the door all have need support. We recommend adding pressure treated 2x members above and below the opening, a 2x rafter and roofing over the damaged area to protect it from precipitation.
- A corner portion of the roof has been damaged and needs repair to keep it from deteriorating more. We recommend that pressure treated 2x outriggers be added to support the soffit board and roofing over the damaged area.
- Some of the temporary shoring may be removed from the porch if a ledger board is placed under the rafters along the house and attached to each stud. The ends of the porch floor joist can be supported differently than currently done to level the porch deck and provide a more permanent foundation. We also recommend providing bracing at the end of the porch to brace it from a lateral force event.

Flooring – Floors are in good shape, where visible. We recommend a light cleaning only.

Walls - We recommend damaged areas be repaired. Existing materials should be retained to the greatest extent possible. This is especially critical for this property since the individual boards all tell the story of the house's evolution. New boards should match the boards they replace in size, species, and textures (including sawmarks).

Ceilings – The ceilings have areas of significant damage. As with the walls, we recommend that existing boards be retained to the greatest extent possible. Where replacement is necessary, new boards should match in size, species and texture.

Chimneys – The freestanding chimney is in critical need of repointing. We recommend it be repointed with mortar to match existing. The central chimney has several loose or fallen bricks. We recommend loose or missing bricks be reset using original or replicas to match. We recommend re-flashing with step flashing using a metal to match the existing roofing materials to avoid corrosion.



# DAIRY BARN

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The Dairy Barn is a truly unique structure. It contains the only documented rammed earth structure in the state of Georgia. According to Patricia Johns McDonald, the building served multiple purposes. She describes it as being used to smoke meats in the winter, churn butter, and create cheese.

Rammed earth is a construction technique in which mud is compacted in forms and allowed to harden. Once a lower layer is hardened, the form is lifted to the next layer, a process called a “lift”. This results in visible lines where the lifts are made. The rammed earth structure is located at the southwest corner of the building. It is composed of a red clay mud with large aggregate. It was built in 13” lifts marked by a slight outward bowing of the earth. Wood ties are found at the corner. To the rear is a

## CONFIGURATION

- 3 room structure
  - Enclosed rammed earth room at southwest. Door faces east.
  - Enclosed wood framed room at southeast. Door faces south.
  - Semi-enclosed space to north with shelving, likely a work room. Open to west.
- Gable roof – asymmetrical with evidence of change in pitch



Side room to south. Rammed earth in front.



Rear of dairy barn.



Dairy barn from the north. Equipment shed in background



Front of dairy barn. Rammed earth at right, work room to left.



## CONFIGURATION



North work room from front



Interior of back room at southeast corner



North work room from rear



Interior of rammed earth room showing shelving.



## STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

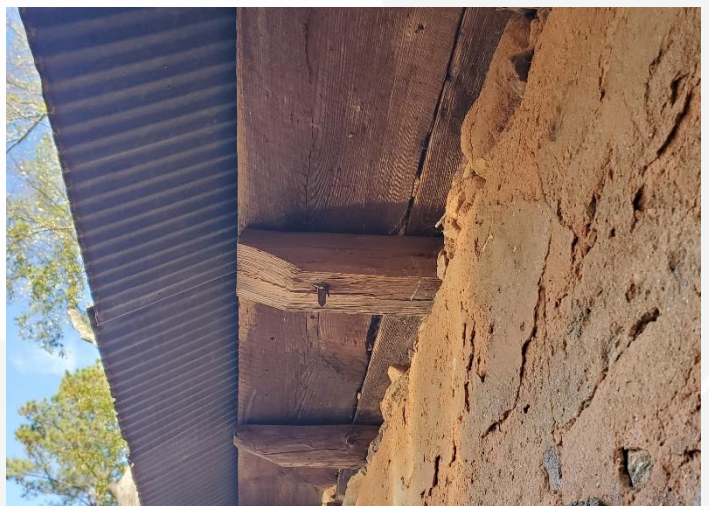
- Rammed earth room in front – red clay was compacted into 13” forms, or “lifts”, which would have been reused once the last lift was solidified. Large stones were used as aggregate.
- A timber framed mortised and tenon room to rear of rammed earth room. Lumber was hand hewn with an axe. The posts are of varying sizes. It is braced using both horizontal bracing and k-bracing. Sizes vary between 4x6-6x6.
- The northern open air work room is framed with miscellaneous lumber, varying from modern dimension 2x4s (1.5x3.5s) to 4x4s (3.5x3.5). These are likely alterations based on changes to roof pitch. Lumber types indicate this change was likely early-to-mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. These are the only machine made elements on the structure – all else is hand made.
- Ceiling joists are saplings at 13-22” o.c. They have pegged connections to top plates. Ceiling joists removed at southeast room, with end fragments remaining.
- Rafters are saplings. These are supported on kickers at center bearing wall, which is evidence of a change in roof pitch.



Inside rammed earth structure. Ceiling is supported on saplings. There is a row of bracing beneath. Note lifts in rammed earth.



Roof details at north end of rammed earth, in work room. Kickers supporting the rafters are evidence that the roof pitch was changed.



Pegged connections at south wall.



## STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS



Hand hewn mortise & tenon timbers at southeast room.



View of kickers supporting raised roof – note that the boards don't meet the roof. View from work room toward rear corner..



Pegged connections



## EXTERIOR MATERIALS

- Rammed earth with exposed pegged rafters. Vertical boards at western gable, nailed to rafters and ceiling joists. Irregular ends.
- Pit sawn and circular sawn vertical boards at southeast room and eastern wall. Some missing/damaged.
- Modern dimensioned **(verify)** horizontal 1x12 boards at northern wall.





## ROOF

- The roof is an asymmetrical gable facing east-west
- At some point the northern roofline was raised and the rafters supported on kickers braced to the central wall – a ghost location still remains in the north-south walls of the rammed earth structure. This was likely mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, as the structural supports for the northern room are mostly modern dimensioned lumber (nominal lumber).
- The roofing material is corrugated metal, galvanized.



Intersection of old wall with raised roof. Note the concavity in the wall showing where the rafter used to sit. Not kickers supporting changed roof pitch.



Roof from front showing asymmetry. The boards at the north end of the rammed earth likely cover the gap caused by alterations to the pitch.



Roof from north showing corrugated metal.

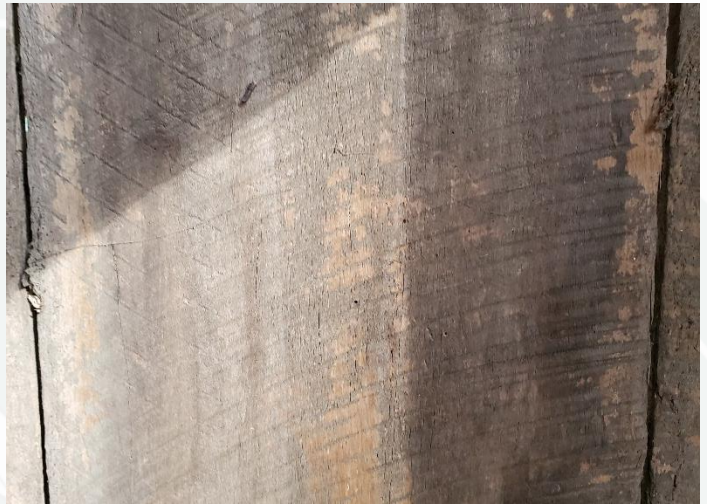


## INTERIOR MATERIALS

- Rammed earth with horizontal lines every 13", indicating lifts from formwork. The interior coating is a whitewash.
- There is a shelf at eastern end of rammed earth room with hole to southeastern space. The hole is located directly above shelf, indicating it is possibly purposeful, potentially created for access between the spaces.
- Pit sawn and circular sawn vertical boards at southeast room and eastern wall. This indicates that the building was built with hand sawn lumber, but patched with manufactured lumber. Some boards are missing/damaged.
- There are modern dimensional horizontal 1x12 boards at northern wall. This indicates modern alterations.



Large boards to the north (left).



Pit saw marks at southeast corner



Interior of rammed earth showing lifts, white wash, and shelf.



Large aggregate in the walls.



## FOUNDATION/FLOORING

- The foundation is a stacked stone foundation located at the corners of the building.
- The rammed earth structure continues to grade, with no visible foundation.
- The southeast room has an unusual flooring system. It consists of raised, compacted dirt with 4x4 sleepers. It is overlaid with wide planks, which have circular saw marks. The sleepers have rounded edges, indicating they are saplings that were dressed as sleepers, meaning they likely date to the earliest years of the property. This unusual floor system is consistent with what you would find in a corn crib, so it's possible that corn was stored in this space at one point.



Stacked stone foundation visible at north wing.



Raised, compacted mud floor in dairy room.



Dirt floor in northern work room.



Sleepers with boards in southeast room. The system is consistent with corn storage.

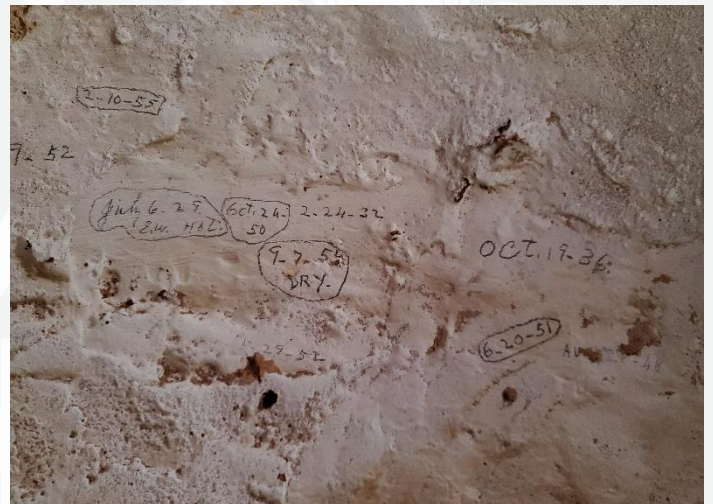


## NOTES

A variety of dates exist on both the interior and exterior of the building. Some are written in pencil or pen, others are engraved into the rammed earth. Recommend searching to find oldest dates.



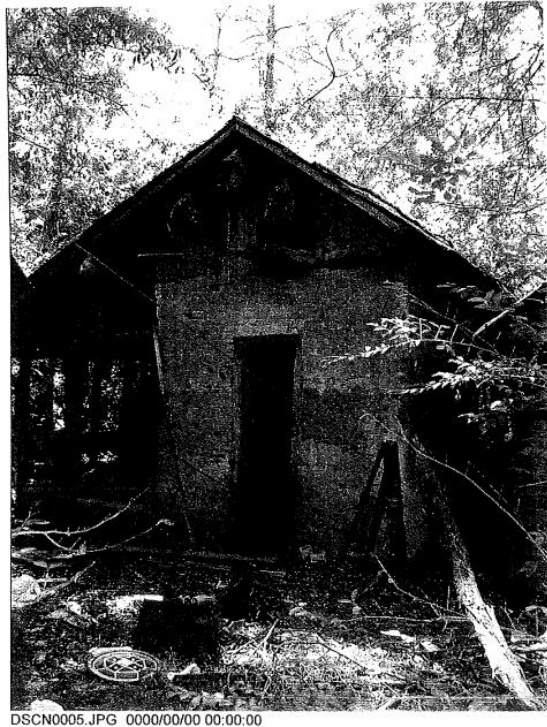
Barely legible date carved in exterior wall. The oldest dates date to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.



Newer dates are written in pencil on the interior. These mostly date to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



## HISTORIC PHOTOS



Undated, likely circa 2004.



PHOTO 23: View of wood & stone storage structure behind 3071 Lawrenceville Highway (facing east).

2004 PHOTO FROM CERM REPORT



2016, from research by Morrison Design



2016, from research by Morrison Design

# DAIRY BARN

## CONDITION & TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Obtain mortar samples from rammed earth. Use to patch per structural.

Obtain paint samples from whitewash or limewash.

Reinstall missing exterior boards, both vertical and horizontal. Boards to match width, material and sawmarks. Consider noting replacement boards with metal tag.

Floor – replace missing exterior sleeper. Leave remaining open to see floor construction system.

Clear stored materials from northern room.

Consider using north room as outdoor classroom space or demonstration space, possibly for garden club. Its setup with the shelves and counters at 3' height, with openings above that, is well suited for a demonstration space. Demonstrators could be inside the work room and viewers could surround the outside.

Look for paint evidence.

Structural recommendations:

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, Willett Engineering recommends the following:

- Patch the front wall of the front room under and to the side of the door opening to mitigate the deterioration of the base of the wall.
- Provide pressure treated wood post with steel ground anchor and bracing at the rear corner of rear room.
- Add pressure treated 2x lumber to support existing framing members that have deteriorated on the rear and side walls.



# EQUIPMENT BUILDING

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The Equipment Building is a roughly square, single room structure, with a lean-to shed roofed addition to the rear. It has a standing seam metal roof, and its siding transitions from wide horizontal boards at the walls, to vertical boards of varying widths in the gables. Recent photos indicate that the front façade used to have this same siding pattern, and the wide entry door used to have beveled corners.

Its construction technique changes from the walls to the roof structure. The roof structure matches the frontier type construction techniques of the main house. It has hand cut nails, sapling rafters and top plates, and natural edge purlins. It also has stacked stone foundations. All of this is indicative of construction that is handmade on site, meaning the roof and foundations likely date to the earlier years of the homestead. The walls, on the other hand, are of manufactured lumber. The vertical posts are 4x4 lumber and with 2x4 k-bracing. These members have circular saw marks, indicating they were manufactured in a mill using a circular saw. The fact that they were not planed smooth (sawn for size) means that they are likely pre-World War II. It is therefore likely that the roof dates to the earlier years of the homestead, and that the walls were replaced prior to World War II. Whether they were replaced due to deterioration or to accommodate building alterations is unknown.

The historic materials of the lean-to have an advanced state of decay. They have been replaced in modern years with temporary supports.

## CONFIGURATION

- The main room is a rectangular space with lean-to shed addition to south.
- The entry faces west. There are fragments of boards on the northwest corner indicating the former opening size.
- The gable roof runs east-west
- The shed roofed addition to south side was formerly used as a workspace.



Front of equipment building. Note wall fragments at left.



View from south showing lean-to. The lean-to is in poor condition and is braced with modern lumber.



Interior of the main space..



The rear of the building. The potting shed was built directly behind it.



## FOUNDATION & FLOOR

- The original foundations are stacked stone footings, consistent with the earlier buildings on site.
- There is a concrete footing at northeast corner
- The floor is a dirt floor



Stacked stone foundation



Stacked stone foundation



## STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

- Construction techniques change from walls to roof
  - Posts are circular sawn 4x4 posts with k-bracing at corners
  - Roof rafters are saplings @ 21" o.c.
  - 2" saplings act as collar ties.
  - Purlins are natural edge planks of varying sizes. Some are in poor condition.
  - The structural members of the lean-to addition are in poor condition. It is largely supported by modern lumber.

Blacksmith nails found at northeast corner of roof

The two different systems between the walls and roof indicate construction in two different periods. The roof system is consistent with the older buildings on site – the house, dairy barn and well house. The walls are late 19th early 20th century materials. These indicate the building was altered, either for repairs or reconfiguration, in that time frame.



Interior of work area.



Rafters and top beam are of rounded logs., hand hewn. The lower members are milled lumber.



Closeup detail showing damaged purlins, beam, and transition in construction techniques.



Detail of rafter/beam intersection showing logs. Note blacksmith nail at upper right corner.



## EXTERIOR MATERIALS

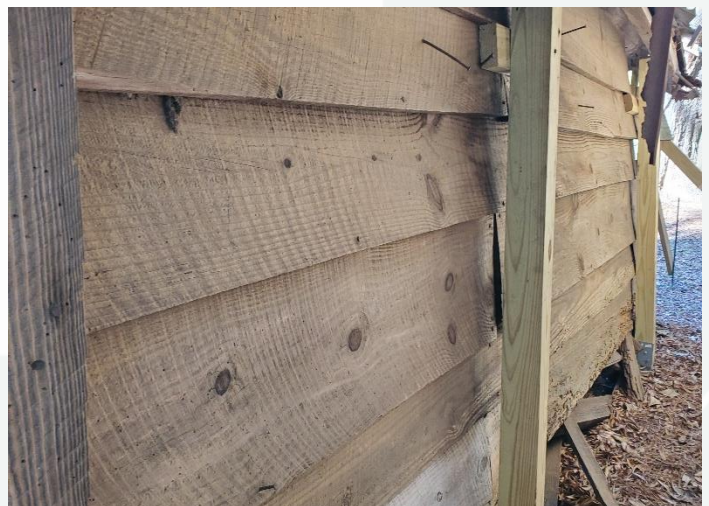
- Horizontal boards from ground to eave. 9" reveal, typical.
- Hand hewn vertical boards at rear gable, with an irregular edge. Widths vary 7-9"
- Gable roof with standing seam metal. Lean-to has corrugated metal roof.
- Historic photos show front elevation had wide board to eave, a beveled corner at the door head, and vertical boards above the door in the gable.



Hand hewn vertical shake siding. Collar tie visible.



Transition in roofing material from standing seam to corrugated metal.



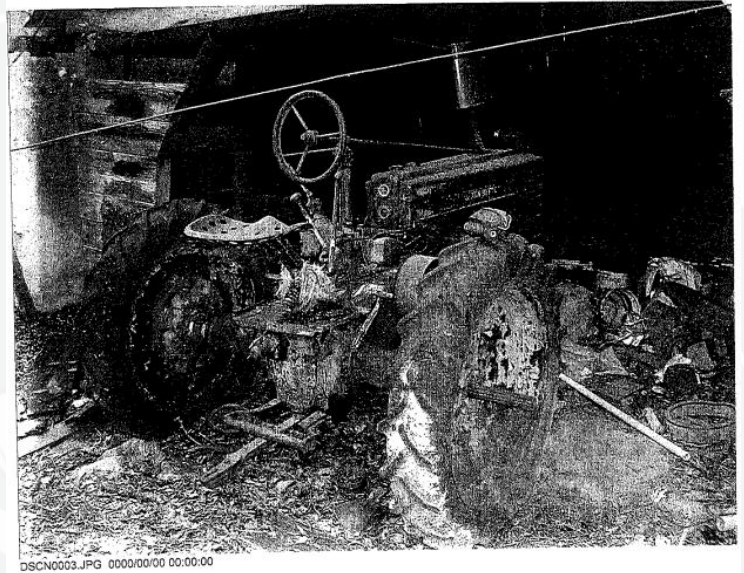
Circular saw marks on siding show this was manufactured rather than hand made.



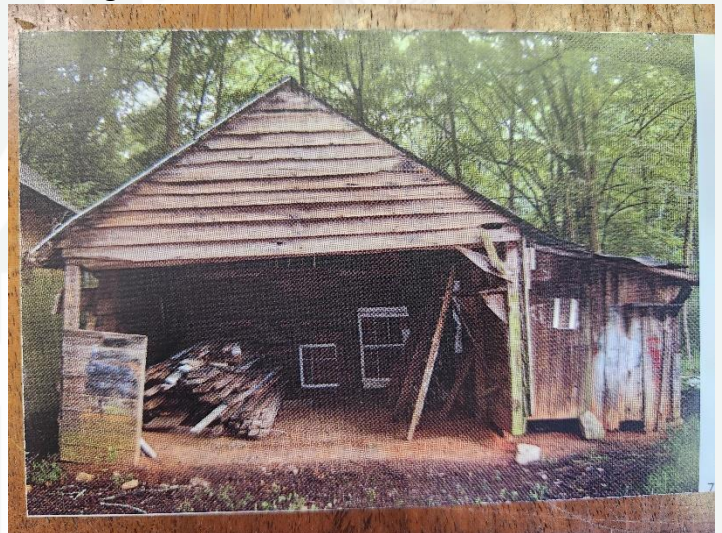
## HISTORIC PHOTOS

The following photos show the Equipment shed from 2004 (black and white) to 2015/16 (color photos). They show the construction of the lean-to shed addition, as well as the materials and configuration for the front façade.

Comparing these photos to current photos shows the rapid deterioration of this building, especially the lean-to addition.



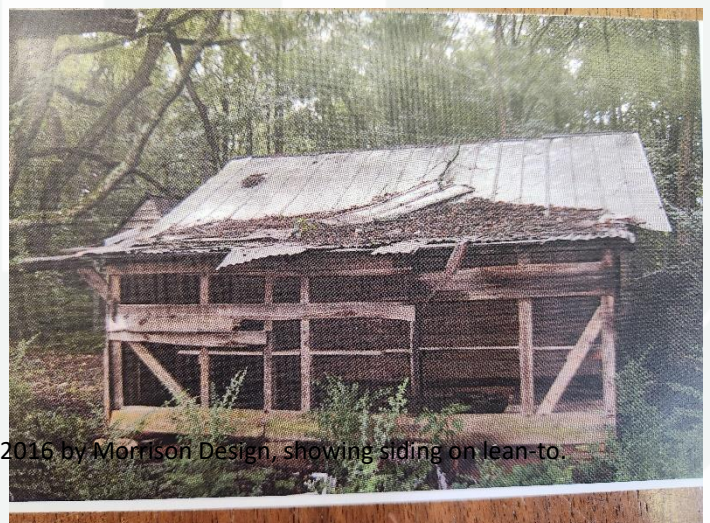
Ca 2004 photo showing tractor and beveled edge framing at entrance.



(above and below) Undated, likely between 2000-2004. Note configuration of entrance and lean-to.



2016 by Morrison Design showing boards at entrance.



2016 by Morrison Design, showing siding on lean-to.



# Equipment Building

## Condition & Treatment Recommendations

The south facing shed addition is collapsing, and is currently braced with modern lumber.

- Reconstruct based on historic photos and archaeological evidence. Use lumber that matches the historic materials, sawmarks and sizes, to the extent possible. Photos from ca 2000 show the original board sizes and configuration.

The center room is full of stored materials from the collapsed house additions. These should be relocated to a new, secure location to allow restoration work to begin, and to protect both the equipment shed and the stored materials.

Siding – retain existing siding to the extent possible. Recreate siding at the front entrance and at the lean-to and the workshop. Reinstall siding in sizes that match fragments and historic photos.

The original siding is missing from the front façade.

- Reconstruct based on historic photos. Reconstruct beveled edges. Match materials including transition from wide board siding (below) to narrow lap siding (above). Match materials types found on existing siding.

Roofing – the roof is standing seam metal transitioning to corrugated metal. We recommend repairing rather than replacing. Replace panels that have open holes or have rusted through. Install flashing Secure ridge flashing using appropriate fasteners for the metal to avoid corrosion.

### Structural

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, we recommend the following:

- Provide a brace at one corner of the wall of the equipment building like what has been done in the front. Brandied History recommends this match the historic photos.
- Provide an additional wood post and ground anchor near the front of the shed to support the corner. Brandied History recommends the original perimeter beam remain intact and be supported as needed.
- Provide new roofing needs over the shed to protect it from further deterioration. Brandied History recommends the roofing be repaired rather than replaced.

Uses: Due to its size and open air configuration, we recommend you consider using as classroom space.

# WELL HOUSE

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The well is one structure that is documented to have been built by John B. Johns. Grandson and family historian, Ernest W. Johns, reported that "... Johns also dug his own well, which still was being used by his descendants as late as 1962". (Exhibit J, John B. Johns of Tucker, Georgia, Tucker Historical Society). The well itself therefore dates to the earliest years of the site, as you would expect since water is essential to a home. It is also likely that, while heavily patched, the well house is one of the earlier structures on site.

The well house is unusual in size and configuration for a building of this type. Wells are typically covered by a simple square or round roofed structure just big enough to keep debris out. This building is 20 feet long and over 8 feet wide. It contains two rooms. One contains the well and apparatus. The other is a work or storage room. (The Johns Family: Johns Heritage Park Pages 8 & 10) A gable extends lengthwise across the building.

The structural system is similar to the other buildings found on site. It has saplings as its main rafters and top plates. The vertical supports are a mixture of techniques, from frontier primitive to 20<sup>th</sup> century. The apparent oldest support is a live edge quarter sawn log. Most other vertical members have been replaced over time with newer lumber, including modern 2x4s. Handmade nails are found on the building, which is further evidence that it predates modern wirecut nails.

The primary difference between the construction of this structure and the others of similar construction on site is the quality. The other structures demonstrate that time was taken to build them. Lumber was dressed, even if on site. Rafters are consistent and evenly spaced. The well house shows no such pattern. Members are irregularly spaced, and far apart, and are left in a more raw or natural state. Many structural members have been replaced through the years, and many that remain are deteriorated. This is evidence of a quickly built structure without benefit of a workshop, and leads me to believe that this is among the earliest buildings on site. It was possibly used as a work area itself to dress lumber for the other structures.



## CONFIGURATION

- The well house is unusually long and large for a well house (8'8"x20'4")
- It is a semi-enclosed/open air structure
- It has a gable roof facing north-south
- It is loosely divided into 2 spaces – well room and work room with shelves.



Well house from west. Dairy barn in background.



Front of well house.



Work room looking toward well room.



Well house from southeast.



## FONDATION/FLOOR

- The floor is a concrete slab raised above dirt. It is recessed within the posts.
- Posts rest on stacked stone piers
- There is a brick pier at the southeast corner



Slab visible. Brick pier at corner.



Work room in well house. The slab is covered by loose debris.



## STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

- The structural system is patched together through the years. It is made of a variety of materials from different eras, including:
  - 4" radius quarter round log post at center of western edge
  - 4.5x4.5 post with pit saw marks
  - (3) 4x4 posts
  - (2) 3x4 posts
  - 6" log post
  - 8" diameter telephone pole on brick pier at southeast corner
  - Sapling rafters at north end. 1.75x3.75 rafters at middle – 5 ft centers
  - Top plates are 5" diameter saplings
  - 1x6 purlins
- All this indicates that the well house is an older structure that has been patched and repaired over time.



Intersection of rafter and log beam.



Sapling rafters



Note spacing between rafters. Note log posts.



Log with blacksmith nail



## EXTERIOR MATERIALS

- Sheathing materials vary in size and era.
- Some members are very deteriorated
- Wide plank vertical boards at northern end. Two have pit saw marks.
- Wide plank horizontal boards at western and southern ends, with varying widths.
- Small window in northern room faces west
- Hinge provides evidence of former door on east wall that leads into northern room.
- Manufactured tongue & groove boards on eastern wall
- Open air around well area currently covered by chain link fence. A few boards remain indicating it was once enclosed, or partially enclosed.
- Standing seam metal roof



Deteriorated siding s at northwest corner of building.



Well house from west showing varying boards and thicknesses.



Well house from east showing tongue & groove at right, and open air at left.



## WELL

- It is possible the well was initially dug as the pit for the pit saw, and then dug farther to reach water. The well apparatus/hoist could have been where lumber was suspended. We recommend archaeology to verify.
- There is evidence of power. Porcelain knobs remain from knob and tube wiring, which would date to the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- The hoist is a rough cut sapling laid horizontally across saplings at either end. It has a hole cored in the center above the well, presumably used for winding a rope. There is a knob on the side, indicating power was installed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- The well itself is currently poured concrete.



Well hoist from below. You can see the natural edge of the lumber, and a porcelain insulator at the right.



Well house from east. It is currently protected by chain link fence, though this has been opened.



Well is poured concrete.



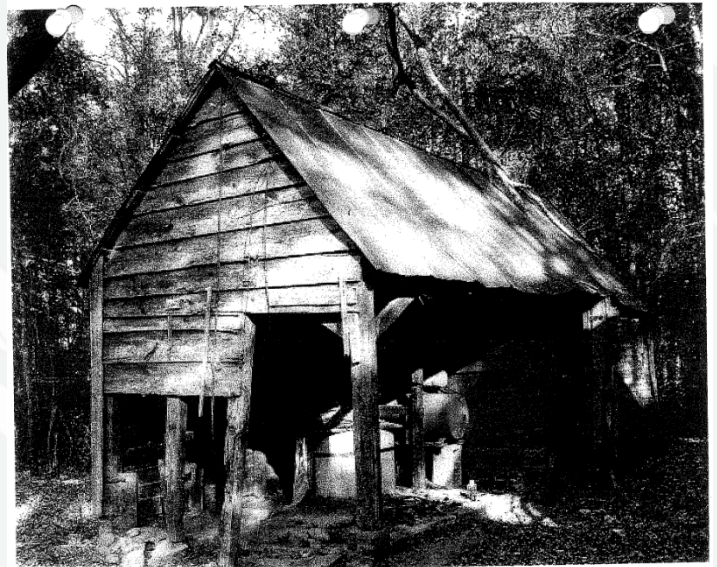
Well hoist from above. It is a log supported by posts at either end.



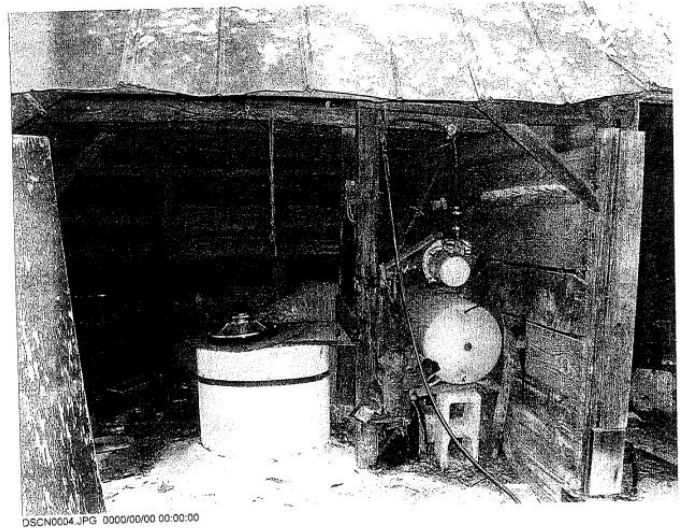
## HISTORIC PHOTOS

The following photos are undated, though they appear to be additional photos from the 2004 report by CERM. They show the well house to be relatively unchanged since that time.

They show well equipment to the right of the well. They also show boards extending to the ceiling, dividing the two rooms.



Undated, likely 2004 photo from CERM report



2004 Photo from CERM report. NOTE WELL HOIST EQUIPMENT TO RIGHT OF WELL, supported on concrete blocks.



## HISTORIC PHOTOS

The following photos were taken in the 2016 report by Morrison Design, LLC. They show that the well house has remained relatively unchanged in the years since.



# Well House

## Condition & Treatment Recommendations

The Well House has substantial deterioration of the wood siding, most notably at the rear (north) wall. Several boards are missing.

- Replace missing boards
- Replace boards that are so damaged as to be unstable.
- Leave boards with minor damage as they contain some of the clues about the structure.
- New boards to match construction of existing boards in size, material and saw technique.

The concrete slab is in sound condition.

The interior is full of debris.

- Remove debris

The well is extremely deep and is uncovered.

- Treatment recommendation – cover well with glass or plexiglass cover to protect it while allowing visibility. Secure in a tamper proof fashion.
- Consider reinstalling well apparatus

The door is missing

- Investigate the doors in storage to see if one of them matches the opening size, indicating it likely came from the cold frame. If so, reinstall.
- If no stored doors match the opening size, custom create a door to fit the opening. This likely would have been a handmade vertical board door, similar to those found in storage.

Archaeology – consider non-invasive archaeological techniques to determine the presence of a pit for a saw in the structure, under the concrete slab.

The exterior siding is substantially deteriorated and/or missing.

- Replace missing with new to match existing in width, material and sawmarks.
- Replace those members that are significantly deteriorated with new to match existing in width, material and sawmarks.

Structural recommendations:

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, we recommend the following:

- Provide a pressure treated post and steel ground anchor to the front post and brace it to the ground using diagonal bracing.
- Add pressure treated 2x lumber to support rear wall existing framing members that have deteriorated.



# POTTING SHED/COLD FRAME

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The cold frame is the smallest, simplest structure on site, and also likely the newest. A cold frame is essentially a miniature greenhouse, used to create a solar warmed space for growing plants, thereby extending the growing season. They work under the principle of the greenhouse effect, in which solar heat is refracted by glass in such a way that it is harder for it to exit through the glass. The solar heat is therefore trapped behind the glass, creating a warmed environment. They are typically used for growing seedlings prior to planting them, and also for protecting young plants from insects.

Located behind the Equipment building, it is a shed roofed structure with a glass wall facing east. This orientation and design assists in its function as a simple greenhouse. The size of this indicates it likely would have been used for establishing a small garden, rather than major crops. The east facing window at one point would have let in sunlight, before the trees surrounded the property.

Construction techniques and materials indicate that this structure was likely built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It has a 12 pane window facing east. The lumber is circular sawn, which means it was built after milled lumber was readily available in the area, but before structural lumber was sawn for size (ca 1940). The roof is corrugated metal, which is also consistent with this time frame. There are hinges on the north end of the eastern side, indicating a door was installed for access. The sides are sheathed in vertical tongue & groove 3/4x3.5" boards, also consistent with early 20<sup>th</sup> century construction.

The base of the cold frame is a 4" wide monolithic structure, similar in construction to the dairy barn. It is either constructed of or coated in a stucco or concrete type material. It is likely that underneath this exterior coat is a rammed earth system similar to the dairy barn. This monolithic system would have helped to provide insulation to conserve heat. This insulating characteristic is likely why the construction technique was used both here and at the dairy barn.

## CONFIGURATION

The cold frame is a small square structure with shed roof. High part facing east, enclosed in glass. This sloped layout is typical of a cold frame. Typically the roof would be a sloped glass system that could be raised or lowered for access to plants. The Johns, however, built the eastern wall out of a glass window to allow sunlight in, and the roof is metal.



Cold frame from north. Most original posts are missing, and it is currently braced with modern lumber.



Cold frame from south.



Cold frame from east.



## STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

- The base is made of rammed earth, possibly mixed with cement – different color and texture than Dairy Barn. Only 4" wide. Slopes up to rear.
- Framing
  - Fragments of 2x4 vertical posts remain. One 2"x3.75" remains.
  - Rafters are 2x4 at 30-32" on center. South rafter missing entirely.
  - Deck boards are 8"



Roof framing



Rammed earth foundation, possibly mixed with concrete.



Deteriorated posts have been supported with modern lumber.



## EXTERIOR MATERIALS

- Glass window faces east – formerly 12 lite window.
- Evidence of door at northern end of east wall (hinge)
- North and south sides formerly covered in vertical 1x4 boards (3/4"x3.5", modern dimensioned)
- Corrugated metal roof
- 1x4 nominal (3/4x3.5" actual) tongue & groove board siding. Steps down to front.



1x4 tongue & groove boards create the upper wall. There is building felt behind this. The lower wall is concrete.

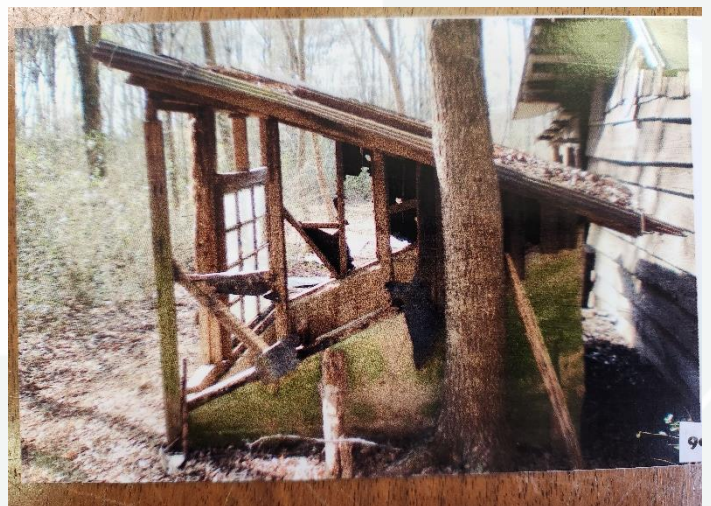
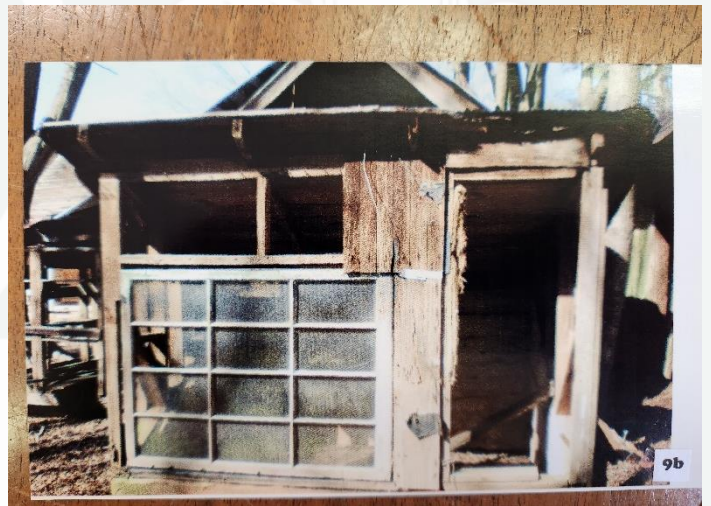
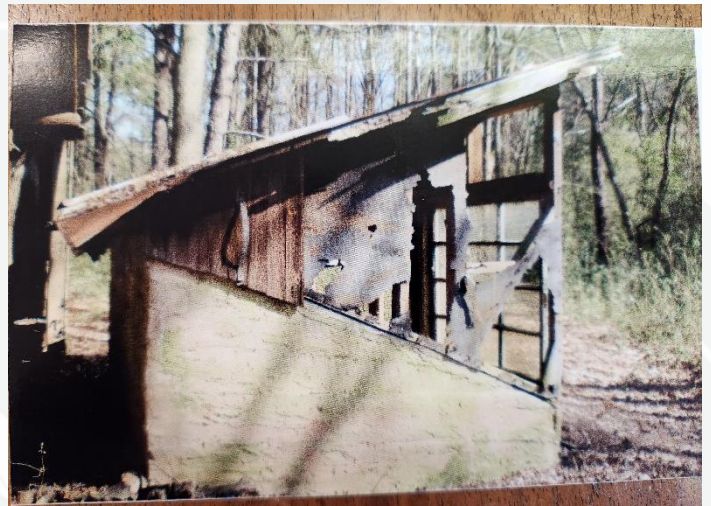


The window is missing panes, but was at one point a 12 lite window. Boards were above the window.



## HISTORIC PHOTOS

The following are undated, but likely 2000-2004 when the property was being acquired by the County. They show the window was intact, and that there was a board over the post at the right. The door opening is clearly visible.



## HISTORIC PHOTOS

The following photos were taken from a 2017 condition assessment by Morrison Design (now Brandied History). They provide further evidence for the construction of the Cold Frame, as the building has deteriorated significantly since that time. This information can be used to accurately restore the building to a stable state.

The photos indicate boards on the south wall, as well as the presence of a vapor barrier or building wrap on the inside of the building.



This photo shows building felt or tar paper under the boards on the south side, and shows that there were boards on the south side at one point.



# Cold Frame

## Condition & Treatment Recommendations

The lumber for the Cold Frame is extensively deteriorated. The bottom plate and one rafter at south side are missing. Bottom plates at the east and north side are extensively rotten. Most vertical studs are either deteriorated or missing entirely. Many of the tongue & groove board siding are missing on the north side, and on the south they are entirely removed.

- Rebuild wall framing. Reinstall tongue & groove boards to match original in size and species. Install period appropriate tar paper or building wrap to match existing.
- Paint. Review existing boards to see if any original paint can be found. If so, match original in color and composition.
- Reinstall vertical trim board at corner of door frame.

The window is damaged and many glass panes are missing. Some muntins are missing or damaged.

- Replace glass with new to match existing. Use glazing putty and glazing points.
- Replace missing and damaged mullions to match existing in material and profile
- Clean existing glass. Replace damaged putty as needed.
- Paint

The door is missing.

- One door in storage in the house matches the opening size. It is likely to be the missing door. If so, reinstall.
- If no stored doors match the opening size, custom create a door to fit the opening. This likely would have been a handmade vertical board door, similar to those found in storage.

The roof decking is deteriorated at the south side

- Repair damaged decking. Retain original decking to the extent possible.

Uses

- Continue using as cold frame. Demonstrate establishment of seedlings.

## Appendices

Preservation briefs: The following hyperlinks will take you to Preservation Briefs found online via the National Park Service.

- 2: [Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings.](#)
- 4: [Roofing for Historic Buildings.](#)
- 9: [The Repair of Historic Wooden Windows.](#)
- 10: [Exterior Paint Problems on Historic Woodwork.](#)
- 17: [Architectural Character—Identifying the Visual Aspects of Historic Buildings as an Aid to Preserving Their Character.](#)
- 18: [Rehabilitating Interiors in Historic Buildings—Identifying Character-Defining Elements.](#)
- 20: [The Preservation of Historic Barns.](#)
- 28: [Painting Historic Interiors.](#)
- 36: [Protecting Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment, and Management of Historic Landscapes.](#)
- 45: [Preserving Historic Wooden Porches.](#)



## JOHNS HOMESTEAD STRUCTURAL DAMAGE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### HOUSE

- Description of existing structure:

The house is approximately 34-feet long by 18-ft wide one-story wood framed with a loft over half of house that is accessible by stairs exiting the house.

The roof over the loft consists of different types of roofing (i.e. asphalt shingles, metal roof and wood shingles) over flat wood purlins on 3-4" round rafters spaced at approximately 30-inches on center. The rafters are attached to a 1-inch board at the ridge and supported at the perimeter with a 4-inch by 6 ½-inch wood beam. Some rafters are braced approximately 5-ft from the sides of the building with wood vertical members. The loft floor consists of ¾-inch by 3 ½-inch tongue and groove wood deck over the middle 7 ½-feet of the 2-inch by 7 ½-inch joists spaced at approximately 30-inches. The end wall and the wall dividing the loft from the attic are comprised of approximately 4-inch by 4-inch vertical wood posts with a maximum spacing of 36-inches with wood siding attached on one side. There is one window that is located at the end wall of the loft. The walls that support the roof rafters and loft floor joists are 4-inch by 4-inch wood post at each rafter and joist. There are 4-inch by 8-inch wood posts in each corner with 4-inch by 6 ½-inch kickers within the walls. The floor below the loft consists of ¾-inch by 3 ½-inch tongue and groove wood deck over 2-inch by 6-inch wood joists spaced approximately 24-inches on center. The wall posts and the floor joists bear on a 7-inch by 9 ½-inch wood perimeter beam. There is a 2-inch by 6-inch wood beam in the center of the floor joists that bears on rock piers spaced approximately 5-feet. The wood perimeter beam is supported by rock piers and concrete block piers.

The roof over the other half of the building consists of mainly metal roof over flat wood purlins on 3" round rafters spaced at approximately 24-inches on center. The rafters are attached to a 1-inch board at the ridge and supported at the perimeter with a 4-inch by 6 ½-inch wood beam. Some rafters have a collar tie approximately 3-ft above the ceiling joists. The end wall has approximately 4-inch by 4-inch vertical wood posts with a maximum spacing of 36-inches with wood siding attached on one side. The ceiling joists in the attic are 2-inch by 7 ½-inch joists spaced at approximately 36-inches. The walls that support the roof rafters and ceiling joists are 4-inch by 4-inch wood post at each rafter and joist. There are 4-inch by 8-inch wood posts in each corner with 4-inch by 7 ½-inch kickers within the walls. The floor below the attic consists of ¾-inch by 3 ½-inch tongue and groove wood deck over 2-inch by 8-inch wood joists spaced approximately 18-inches on center. There is a 9 ½-inch by 8 ½-inch wood beam parallel to the floors joists that is approximately 2-ft from the chimney. The wall posts and the floor joists bear on a 7-inch by 8-inch wood perimeter beam. The wood perimeter beam is supported by rock piers and concrete block piers.

The porch roof consists of metal roofing over wood deck on 1 ½-inch by 3 ½-inch roof joists spaced at 24-inches on center. The roof joists are toenailed to the face of the house and rest on 1 ¾-inch by 5 ½-inch wood beams along the perimeter. The wood beams bear on 4-inch by 4-inch posts that are on masonry piers. The porch floor consists of different types of wood deck (i.e. strips of plywood, ¾" tongue and groove deck) over 2-inch by 6-inch wood floor joists spaced at 24-inches on center and span parallel to the house. The joists are supported by concrete blocks and rock piers at mid-span. The perimeter joists span from the masonry piers that support the wood posts.

- Description of current structural stabilization:

Palmer Engineering company provided a design for temporary shoring parts of the house that deteriorated and required stabilizing. Interior wood sheathed on wood studs shear walls were constructed at the end wall under the loft portion of the house to mitigate the movement of that end of the house in the event of wind or seismic movement. 8-inch by 16-inch solid cap block with 2x pressure treated shims are placed along the perimeter beams of the house at locations where existing rock piers crumbled and where the beams have significant termite damage. A temporary wood stud shoring wall is constructed under the approximate mid-span of the porch's roof rafters. A corner post was added to support the end of the edge beam where the masonry pier crumbled. A portion of the roof over the porch has a new metal deck over the rafters to protect the framing from further deterioration. A wood post with diagonal bracing was added to stabilize that end of the porch's roof.

- Description of additional stabilization recommendations:

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, we recommend the following:

- The sill to the window in the loft needs to be protected from further deterioration caused by precipitation. The window needs to be repaired so that it can close properly, and flashing placed over the sill to keep precipitation off it.
- The side opening into the kitchen has significant damage to it. The roof over the door, the header over the door and the sill under the door all have need support. We recommend adding pressure treated 2x members above and below the opening, a 2x rafter and roofing over the damaged area to protect it from precipitation.
- A corner portion of the roof has been damaged and needs repair to keep it from deteriorating more. We recommend that pressure treated 2x outriggers be added to support the soffit board and roofing over the damaged area.
- Some of the temporary shoring may be removed from the porch if a ledger board is placed under the rafters along the house and attached to each stud. The ends of the porch floor joist can be supported differently than currently done to level the porch deck and provide a more permanent foundation. We also recommend providing bracing at the end of the porch to brace it from a lateral force event.



- Current Photos:



*Roofing framing over loft*



*Roof framing over attic*



*Loft window sill*



*Loft window sill*





*Stairs to loft*



*Brace at corner of house*



*Temporary shoring of porch roof*



*End condition of porch floor*





*Corner of house with roof damage*



*Floor framing on side with loft*



*Support on side of house*



*Transition between the two parts of the house*





*Damaged area over side door from attic*



*Damaged area over side door from room*

### Equipment Building

- Description of existing structure:

The equipment building is approximately 13 ½-feet wide by 16 ½-feet long one-story wood framed with a 7-feet by 14-feet shed to the side.

The building consists of a metal roof on flat wood purlins over 2-inch round wood rafters. There are wood collar ties at every other rafter and the rafters bear on 6-inch round wood beams. The round beams are supported by 4-inch by 4-inch wood posts that are buried in the ground. The end wall of the building has a 6-inch round wood beam 6-7-feet above the ground with 4-inch by 4-inch wood posts below the beam with one located in the middle of the beam and one approximately 4 ½-feet from one end. There are 2-inch by 4-inch wood kickers from the bottom corners of the back wall to the beam. Most of the front of the building is gone with approximately 3-ft of the lower wall still there.

The shed has a metal roof over 2-inch by 4-inch wood rafters supported by a 2-inch by 4-inch wood beam and 4-inch by 3-inch wood posts that rest on either stones or the ground.

- Description of current structural stabilization:

Palmer Engineering company provided a design for temporary shoring parts of the equipment building that deteriorated and required stabilizing. The front wall has been shored with 2x dimensional lumber with wood bracing on the corners. There are horizontal braces from the front wall to the side walls. Near the front wall, a new metal roof has been placed over part of the existing roof and the new



front wall. On one side of the building the existing wood posts are being supported by pressure treated wood posts that are fastened to the side of the existing wood posts and anchored into the ground with steel ground anchors.

The shed has a wood stud shoring towards the end of the rafters to support the existing roof structure. New pressure treated 2x lumber has been attached to the outer frame to stabilize it with bracing to the ground. On one end of the shed a wood post with a steel ground anchor is placed to support the roof and brace the outer wall.

- Description of additional stabilization recommendations:

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, we recommend the following:

- Provide a brace at one corner of the wall of the equipment building like what has been done in the front.
- Provide an additional wood post and ground anchor near the front of the shed to support the corner.
- Provide new roofing needs over the shed to protect it from further deterioration.

- Current Photos:



*Current condition of the equipment building*





*Current condition inside the equipment building*



*Corner of building supported by new lumber*



*Front end of building*



*Current condition of shed*



## Dairy Barn

- Description of existing structure:

The dairy barn consists of 3 rooms with different wall structures. The front room consists of rammed earth walls that support a loft above which floor is comprised of 1-inch wood planks on 4-inch round floor joists spaced approximately 20-inch apart. The rear room consists of a heavy timber wood frame. The walls are framed with varying sizes for the top beam that supports the roof structure, for the four corner posts, for the sill plates and for the kickers. The floor of the rear room is 1-inch wood planks on 3-inch by 4-inch wood joists that rest on the ground. The side room consists of walls constructed with 2-inch by 4-inch posts spaced approximately 3-feet with a 1 ¾-inch by 5 ½-inch top and bottom plate. The lower part of the walls is braced with kickers on the outside corners.

The roof over the three rooms consists of a metal roof over 1-inch flat wood purlins on 2-inch round wood rafters at approximately 2-ft on center. The roof overhangs the front approximately 30-inches and the sides approximately 14-inches.

- Description of current structural stabilization:

Palmer Engineering company provided a design to temporary shore parts of the dairy barn that deteriorated and required stabilizing. Several existing posts to the rear and side rooms have been shored with new pressure treated wood posts and steel ground anchors. The outside corners of the side room have bracing to stabilize the side wall from moving during a lateral force event.

- Description of additional stabilization recommendations:

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, we recommend the following:

- Patch the front wall of the front room under and to the side of the door opening to mitigate the deterioration of the base of the wall.
- Provide pressure treated wood post with steel ground anchor and bracing at the rear corner of rear room.
- Add pressure treated 2x lumber to support existing framing members that have deteriorated on the rear and side walls.

- Current Photos:



*Front of dairy barn*



*Inside the front room*





*Rear corner of rear room*



*Floor of rear room*



*Condition under front room door*

*Rear corner of side room*



*Side wall of side room*

### Potting Shed/Cold Frame

- Description of existing structure:

The potting shed/cold frame is 8-feet wide by 8 ½-feet long and consists of a metal roof on ¾-inch flat wood purlins over 1 ¾-inch by 3 ½-inch wood roof rafters. The rafters are supported by a wood frame in the front consisting of 1 ¾-inch by 3 ½-inch wood studs with top and bottom wood plates and bears on a rammed earth wall. The back of the rafters' rest on a wood plate on top of a rammed earth wall. The side walls consist of 1 ¾-inch by 3 ½-inch wood studs with top and bottom wood plates and bears on a rammed earth wall.

- Description of current structural stabilization:

Palmer Engineering company provided a design to temporary shore parts of the potting shed/cold frame that deteriorated and required stabilizing. Wood posts and steel ground anchors are at the corners of the front wall. One of the posts is attached to an existing wood post and the other is under the top plate of the front wall supporting the corner.

- Description of additional stabilization recommendations:

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, we recommend the following:

- Provide pressure treated posts and steel ground anchors at the back corners to support new pressure treated 2x6 beams around the perimeter that can support a new metal roof to protect the existing structure from precipitation. Add pressure treated 2x lumber to support existing framing members that have deteriorated.



## Current Photos:

*Side of potting shed/cold frame**End of roof*Well House

- Description of existing structure:

The well house is approximately 9-feet wide by 20-ft long one-story wood framed structure with a room over the well and room behind the well. The roof consists of a metal roof over 1-inch flat wood purlins on 2-inch by 4-inch wood rafters. The room with the well has walls on three sides. Three of the corners of the well room have round wood posts. The front corner with the open wall is 7-inches in diameter and the two next to the back room are 5-inches in diameter. The other front corner has a 3 ½-inch by 3 ½-inch wood post. The two exterior walls in the room with the well were rectangular wood posts that support round perimeter beams that support the roof rafters. The room behind the well has a similar wood frame but instead of round wood posts the posts are rectangular. There are wood kickers in the four corners of the building. The wood posts bear on either masonry or rock piers.

- Description of current structural stabilization:

Palmer Engineering company provided a design to temporary shore parts of the well house frame that deteriorated and required stabilizing. Pressure treated posts with steel ground anchors are fastened to five of the wood posts. One of the rear corners has been braced in both directions.

- Description of additional stabilization recommendations:

In addition to the current stabilization designed by Palmer Engineering, we recommend the following:

- Provide a pressure treated post and steel ground anchor to the front post and brace it to the ground using diagonal bracing.
- Add pressure treated 2x lumber to support rear wall existing framing members that have deteriorated.

Current Photos:



*Front of well house*



*Roof over well*





*Rear wall of well house*





## **JOHN B. JOHNS: LEGACY OF A DEKALB COUNTY PIONEER**

Prepared for the

City of Tucker

By

Carole M. Schenck, Wiregrass Daughter Consulting

John B. Johns is one of the early settlers of DeKalb County, which was created 9 December 1822, after the Creek Indians ceded to the state of Georgia a large tract of land that included present-day DeKalb County. Although many of DeKalb County's early residents came from Gwinnett County, John B. Johns migrated from Wilkes County, where he was born 19 March 1806, according to his cemetery marker.<sup>1</sup>

It was the allure of available land that drew John B. Johns and other early settlers with names that included Bagwell, Cash, Chewning, Dabney, Henderson, Leavell, Nash, and Whitlock, who would become his neighbors and whose sons and daughters would marry his children. John B. Johns would go on to establish a successful yeoman farming homestead, one that would endure for three generations as his love of the land and farming would be passed on to most of his 11 children and they, in turn, to their own children. Although not farmers, the fourth generation—his great-children—also came to gain an understanding of and appreciation for the historical significance of their great-grandfather's legacy, demonstrated by their actions 175 years after John B. Johns arrived in DeKalb County.

### **John B. Johns' Parents**

Although Wilkes County began to be settled in 1773 after the Indian Treaty that year, it was not created as Georgia's first county until 5 February 1777. Many Revolutionary soldiers, some of whom were from Virginia and had fought at the Battle of Kettle Creek, returned to settle in Wilkes County and encouraged other Virginians to settle there also.<sup>2</sup> John B. Johns' father, John Johns, was one of those soldiers.<sup>3</sup> His grandson, Ernest W. Johns, who confirmed this story in a 1962 interview with *Atlanta Constitution* journalist Paul Hemphill, said, "My great-grandfather was a Virginian. He fought in the Revolutionary War and watched Cornwallis Surrender to General Washington in 1781. After that he came to Wilkes County, here in Georgia."<sup>4</sup>

John Johns was born in 1856 in Virginia and served for three years in Virginia's 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment commanded by Christian Febiger, Esquire.<sup>5</sup> Tax records indicate that he had settled on land along Kettle Creek in Wilkes County by 1790 and paid taxes through at least 1805,

while court documents wherein he is a jurist or justice of the peace indicate he was a Wilkes County resident from 1791 to at least 1817.<sup>6</sup> In 1804, John Johns added 10 acres to his Kettle Creek property, when he purchased land from John Miller for \$100.<sup>7</sup> In 1821 John Johns also won DeKalb County's Land Lot 143, District 18, a tract of 202.5 acres, in the Georgia Land Lottery, as mentioned in his will.<sup>8</sup>

Although a Wilkes County marriage bond for a license was issued on 20 December 1799 for John Johns to marry Elizabeth Tuggle, there are no court records to indicate this marriage ever took place.<sup>9</sup> Instead, 44-year-old John Johns married, circa 1800, 25-year-old Ann Smith, whose parents also originally were from Virginia and where she was likely born.<sup>10</sup> Ann's father, Griffin Smith, bought property along Fishing Creek in Wilkes County, so it is likely the two men would have known each other.<sup>11</sup>

John Johns wrote his will in 1827 and listed his five children: daughters Orry G., Nancy G., and Elizabeth W. and sons John B. and Gustavus G.<sup>12</sup>

Because his will was sworn before the court on 4 January 1830 and recorded 5 May 1830, it can be inferred that John Johns died sometime in late fall 1829.<sup>13</sup>

He left his six slaves, named "Ellie and Stephen and Dennis and Nancy and Nicy and Eliza," and his DeKalb County

property to his "beloved wife, Ann," and left his remaining property to be divided equally among his children.<sup>14</sup> An 18<sup>th</sup> February 1830 inventory of John Johns' property included one quart of wine, four and one-half gallons of whiskey, 40 pounds of sugar, and 12 pounds of coffee among other miscellaneous household items, for which his son John B. Johns, executor, paid the court \$18.25.<sup>15</sup>

Item 3<sup>d</sup> - I lend to my wife beloved wife Ann Johns during of her natural life or widowhood the following property viz the tract of Land wherein I now live containing two hundred and thirty five acres with all the appurtenances, also all my stock of Cattle Hogs sheep horses all my household and kitchen furniture also all the plantation tools also all including six negroes - Ellie Stephen and Dennis Nancy and Nicy & Eliza also one tract of Land containing two hundred and one half acres in DeKalb County formerly known if my wife should think proper to move to this last named tract my will is that my executors see the tract wherein I now live and appropriate the money to the best of their judgment

Figure 1: Excerpt from 1827 will of John Johns listing the names of his enslaved "negroes" and his property in DeKalb County, Court of Ordinary, Wilkes County, Will Book Hh, 1819-1877, Georgia, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, 1742-1992, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

## **John B. Johns' Early Life**

John B. Johns' maternal grandmother was Ann Bolling (wife of Griffin Smith and daughter of Alexander and Susannah Bolling), and his middle initial likely stood for this name.<sup>16</sup> Census and tax records and other documents indicate that he used John B. Johns as his legal signature, but several documents provide clues that he was "Bolling" to family and friends: 1) an 1896 obituary for "Mr. Bolton [sic] Johns";<sup>17</sup> 2) death certificates for two of his children—



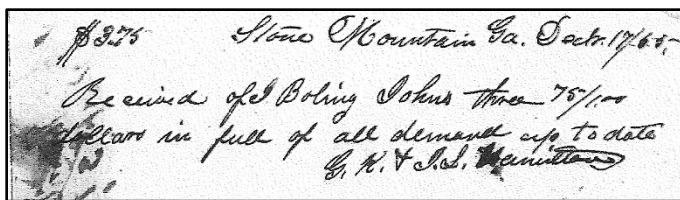


Figure 2: 1865 tax receipt from DeKalb County to J. Boling Johns for \$3.75, photocopy of receipt from John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.

Samuel Johns and Elizabeth Johns Eller—list their father's name as "Boling Johns;"<sup>18</sup> and 3) a DeKalb County tax receipt, dated September 17, 1865, for \$3.75 is made out to J. Boling Johns.<sup>19</sup> Dropping the "g" sound on Bolling likely

led some people to believe that his middle name was Bolen, not Bolling.

At the age of 21, on 30 April in Wilkes County, John B. Johns drew Land Lot 95 in the 26<sup>th</sup> District of Muscogee County, through the 1827 Georgia Lottery.<sup>20</sup> It is unknown if he ever visited this property or what he later did with it. About 1830 in Wilkes County, he married Susannah "Susan" Caroline White, daughter of Jesse White (also a Revolutionary War veteran who served with Francis Marion in South Carolina)<sup>21</sup> and Elizabeth Wells.<sup>22</sup> Their first child, Francis "Frank," is likely to have been born in Wilkes County in 1831, and their second child, Jesse Jeremiah, also was born in Wilkes County two years later, according to his burial record.<sup>23</sup>

## **John B. Johns in DeKalb County**

### **1830-1840**

After the 1829 death of his father and the probable death of his mother sometime before 1838<sup>24</sup>, John B. Johns subsequently inherited his father's land in DeKalb County<sup>25</sup> and migrated there with family sometime around 1833. However, according to a tax receipt for \$2.67 he paid DeKalb County on behalf of his father for the 1829 tax year, he must have previously traveled there sometime in early 1830 to pay the taxes due on his father's property.<sup>26</sup> During this time, he also may have visited his father's property at Land Lot 143, discovering that the property had no road access.<sup>27</sup> John B. Johns subsequently purchased a parcel from Land Lot 165, with its desirable Lawrenceville-Decatur road diagonally bisecting the property, from Reason Whitehead, who had won the land in the 1821 Georgia Lottery.<sup>28</sup> The Lawrenceville-Decatur Road was the third road to be built about 1823 in DeKalb

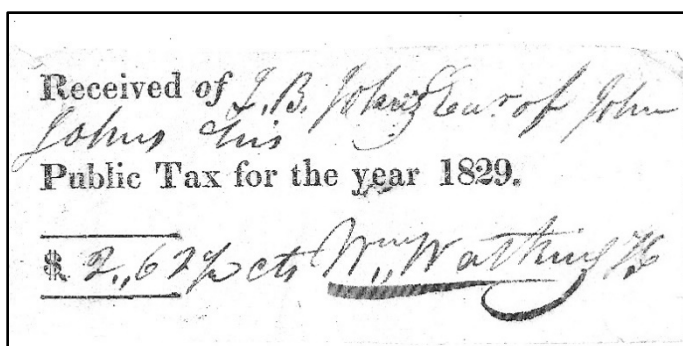


Figure 3: 1829 tax receipt to John B. Johns for his father, John Johns' property, photocopy from John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.

County, and it extended westward from Gwinnett County, crossing over current-day LaVista Road, to the intersection of Fellowship Road, down Bancroft Circle to Brockett Road, then continuing on its current route to Decatur.<sup>29</sup> This area later came to be known as the Pea Ridge Community.

John B. Johns later purchased the remainder of Land Lot 165 from Reason Whitehead. According to his great-grandson, Ernest W. Johns, he paid \$10 per acre for Land Lot 165.<sup>30</sup> However, due to the DeKalb County Courthouse fire in 1842, many of the early deed records were lost, including his transactions with Reason Whitehead, so the exact years and the amount he paid is unknown. It is believed, however, that he made his first purchase of a portion of Land Lot 165 at least by 1830, according to a DeKalb County tax receipt to John B. Johns of \$.75 for the 1830 tax year.<sup>31</sup>

Sometime prior to purchasing the entirety of Land Lot 165, John B. Johns likely began to build a one-room house, which he expanded over the years and portions of which remain standing today. On 8 June 1833, John B. Johns paid DeKalb County \$.99 for the 1832 tax year; the original of this receipt was still held by his grandson, Ernest W. Johns, who shared it in a 1964 newspaper interview.<sup>32</sup> These tax receipts may have been for both Land Lot 143 and Land Lot 165. Interestingly, Land Lot 165's southeast corner joined Land Lot 143 in its northwest corner.<sup>33</sup> John B. Johns, his brother Gustavus, and brother-in-law John Johnson, later sold Land Lot 143 on 3 October 1838 for \$1.20 to Garland Dabney.<sup>34</sup>

Perhaps because John B. Johns may have been traveling between Wilkes and DeKalb counties in the spring of 1830 (the best weather conditions for travel in Georgia), he missed being counted in the 1830 U.S. census, taken in June 1830. However, we do find him in the 1840 U.S. Census which reveals that he and his wife had settled on Land Lot 165 in DeKalb County and three more children have joined siblings Francis and Jesse since their move to DeKalb-- Robert born in 1835, Joseph born in 1837, and Elizabeth "Betsy," later "Bettie," born in 1839.<sup>35</sup>

Sometime in 1839, John B. Johns dedicated one acre for a cemetery, now called Rehoboth, according to a marker at the brick entrance to the cemetery, confirmed by his grandson Ernest Johns, who said in the 1964 interview his grandfather had given "one acre for a cemetery," across the road from his house.<sup>36</sup> Many years later, in a 2005 interview with John B. Johns' great granddaughter



*Figure 4: Rehoboth Cemetery marker, photo by Carole M. Schenck, January 2023*



Syble Johns Lindsay, who was the current manager of the cemetery at the time, she confirmed that it was still owned by the family.<sup>37</sup>

## **1850-1856**

By the 1850 U.S. Census John B. Johns, now age 44, valued his property at \$2,000.<sup>38</sup> One more child had joined the family—Sarah Elizabeth “Eliza”, born in 1844.<sup>39</sup> Although some sources have claimed that John and Susannah had a seventh child, Susan, no record of her existence has been found in census or burial records. John’s wife, Susannah, is not included in the 1850 census, so she would have died sometime between 1844 when their last child was born and 3 September 1850, when the census was taken.<sup>40</sup> Susannah “Susan” is buried next to her husband in Tucker’s Rehoboth Cemetery.

John B. Johns is included in the 1850 U.S. Federal Slave Schedules as having eight enslaved people at “Panterville,” (now called Panthersville) DeKalb County—four males aged 30, 17, 12, and 1 and four females aged 38, 20, 17, and 3.<sup>41</sup> The Panthersville District is located in District 14, close to where the Panthersville River crosses the South River.<sup>42</sup> Although it is likely John B. Johns inherited at least some of the slaves named in his father’s will (see Figure 2), it is not possible to compare the two lists, as John Johns’ will gives us no ages for his list of enslaved persons. It is very likely that John B. Johns brought the slaves he inherited with him to help him build his homestead in DeKalb County.

His DeKalb County tax records for the years 1848, 1849, and 1850 indicate that he owned 202 acres in District 18, Land Lot 165, and 202 acres in District 84, Land Lot 14 (Panthersville).<sup>43</sup> Land Lot 165 in the tax records is described as containing “oak and hickory” trees, while Land Lot 84 is described as being “river swamp,” with “pine,”<sup>44</sup> which is confirmed by descriptions of the area as “an extensive swamp.”<sup>45</sup> He pays a poll tax for himself and two enslaved persons each of those years, but according to the poll tax laws at this time, he was required to pay a tax on all slaves under age 60, male or female, so it is not clear why he only paid a poll tax for two.<sup>46</sup> In the U.S. Federal Agricultural Schedule for 1850, he values his farm at \$800 and indicates that he has horses, milk cows, sheep, oxen and other cattle, and grows wheat, corn, oats, and sweet potatoes, ginned 28 bales of cotton, and produced 200 pounds of butter.<sup>47</sup>

John B. Johns had spent the first two decades building his home and farm securing a homestead for his children and descendants, but by around 1850 he began to focus his attention on making a difference in his community through philanthropic donations in the areas important

to him—religion and education. As noted above, he had earlier donated land for a community cemetery.

Sometime in the early 1850s, John B. Johns donated two acres of his property as a site for a church, which would be convenient to the J.B. Johns Spring near Lawrenceville Road.<sup>48</sup> In 1854, John B. Johns, who is thought to have been one of the charter members of the Rehoboth church, was hired for \$119 to build a church building “40 feet long by 50 feet wide,” which was completed in December 1854.<sup>49</sup> Today, the Rehoboth Church, one of the largest in the county, is situated on the site of the original church built by John B. Johns and a short distance from the Johns homestead. According to census records,<sup>50</sup> John B. Johns was literate, as were all his children, and education must have been important to him, so about this same time, he also donated land near the church for a school,<sup>51</sup> originally named the Johns School, but later

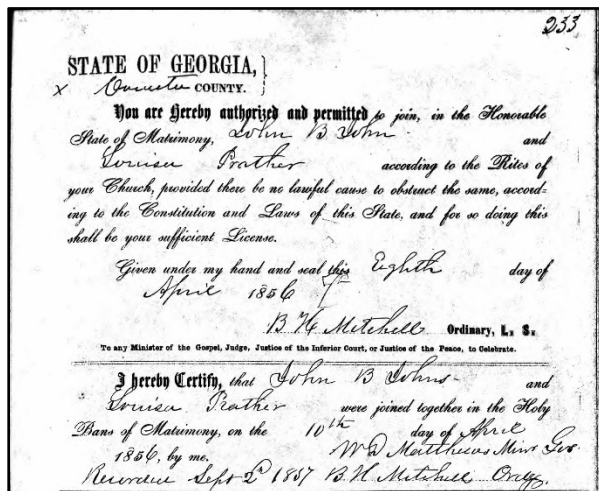


Figure 5: Marriage record of John B. Johns & 2<sup>nd</sup> wife Louisa Prather, Georgia, U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978, from County Marriage Records, 1828-1978, Georgia Archives [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

renamed the Rehoboth School.<sup>52</sup> According to his great-granddaughter Patricia Johns McDonald, “blacks and whites went to this school together,”<sup>53</sup> although at this time it was illegal for slaves to be taught to read and write, and no documentation has yet been found to support this.

After the loss of his wife, John B. Johns must have realized that he needed a partner to help him manage his 200-acre farm and raise his six children. On 10 April 1856, at age 50, he married Louisa Prather in Coweta County.<sup>54</sup>

Louisa’s parents were William W. Prather (b. 1798 in Wilkes County)<sup>55</sup> and Sydney N. Glaze (born 1824 in Lincoln County<sup>56</sup>), who were married in Lincoln County, Georgia in 1821.<sup>57</sup> Louisa’s parents lived in Wilkes County, where their daughter Louisa was born,<sup>58</sup> until at least 1850,<sup>59</sup> but by the 1860 U.S. Census, the family was living in Meriwether County.<sup>60</sup> Meriwether County took land from Coweta County in 1856, likely changing the boundaries of the Prather family’s location to Coweta County.<sup>61</sup> It is not known how John B. Johns and Louisa Prather met, but the families may have known each other in Wilkes County.



### **John B. Johns During the Civil War Era 1858-1867**

Between 1858 and 1861, John B. Johns expanded his property by close to 200 acres.

In 1858 Rufus Cash sold his neighbor John B. Johns 50 acres in the northeast corner of Land Lot 144 for \$6.<sup>62</sup> In 1860, he made two more purchases of land. One was for 135 acres in Land Lot 167 for a price of one penny from Sheldon Campbell.<sup>63</sup> A second purchase was for a half-acre in Land Lot 144 from W.F. Hardman, also for only one penny.<sup>64</sup> The next year, in January 1861, John B. Johns again purchased property from Rufus Cash, who sold him an additional two and one-quarter acres running along the border of Land Lot 165 between their two properties and five additional acres in Land Lot 144.<sup>65</sup>

By the 1860 U.S. Census, we find John B. Johns, now age 54, living with his new wife, Louisa, age 36, and they have two young sons—Samuel age 3, and William, age 1. Only two daughters from his first marriage, 20-year-old Elizabeth and 16-year-old Eliza Jane are living with the family.<sup>66</sup>

The 1860 Agricultural Schedule indicates that although he increased his farming acreage from 202 to 250 since 1850<sup>67</sup>, the cash value of his land remained at \$800, but his animal stock had decreased from four horses to one, from five milk cows to two, from 11 sheep to three, and from 60 swine to 13.<sup>68</sup> Similarly, his produce output has decreased by about half. He is down to 30 bushels of wheat from 60, 400 bushels of corn from 800, 100 bushels of oats from 100, and 100 bushels of sweet potatoes from 300.<sup>69</sup>

According to the 1860 Slave Schedule, John B. Johns had reduced the eight slaves he owned in 1850 to only one male, aged 38.<sup>70</sup> This could, perhaps, be the same slave who was listed in the 1850 schedule as being 30 years of age, who would have been 40 in 1860, and John was approximating his age for each census. It is unknown if he sold, or emancipated the other seven enslaved people, or if they had died. If he did emancipate them, it is clear that he valued giving them their freedom over the productivity of his farm, based on a comparison of the 1850 and 1860 agricultural schedules above. According to DeKalb County historian, Vivian Price, John B. Johns and his Tucker neighbors Ambrose Chewning, Billy Johnson, and Abram Benino all were Union sympathizers.<sup>71</sup> This is confirmed by an 1878 Federal inquiry into a claim filed by Ambrose Chewning, wherein witness John B. Johns, said, "I was a Union man and filed a claim (#7573) myself."<sup>72</sup> He also testified that he had hidden in a Union camp to avoid entering the Confederate Army.<sup>73</sup>

John B. Johns and Louisa had three more children, all born during the Civil War—Mark born in 1861, Ora born in 1862, and John B. Johns, Jr. born in 1864.<sup>74</sup>

Although all four of John B. Johns sons from his first marriage—Francis, Jesse, Robert, and Joseph—were born in the 1830s and would have been of an age to serve in the Confederate military, only three sons enlisted. Unlike their father, they may not have been Union supporters. Robert enlisted as a private in the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment Georgia Infantry, as a private.<sup>75</sup> Joseph enlisted as a private on 4 March 1862 in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, Company D, E, Georgia Infantry, and mustered out as a private on 26 April 1865.<sup>76</sup> Jesse had

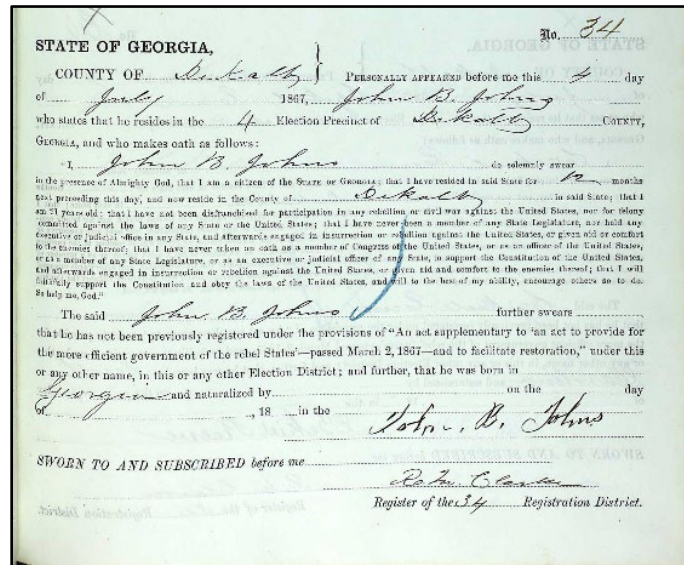


Figure 6: John B. Johns' oath of allegiance to the the U.S. Constitution after the Civil War, Georgia, U.S. returns of Qualified Voters and Reconstruction oath Books, 1867-1869, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

migrated to Texas by 1860 where he enlisted as a private in the 17<sup>th</sup> Texas Calvary.<sup>77</sup> John B. Johns' oldest son Francis Johns disappears after the 1850 census and leaves no paper trail. Perhaps he died at a young age and is in an unmarked grave in the Rehoboth Cemetery. In 1864 Georgia undertook a census to reorganize its militia, and John B. Johns appears in the census, listed under DeKalb County, as "58 yrs., Farmer b.GA."<sup>78</sup> This census was a count of all white males between the ages of 16 and 60 who were not serving in the Confederate military. After the war, on 4 July 1867, John B. Johns took the oath of allegiance to the United States Constitution and was, therefore, able to vote again in federal elections.<sup>79</sup>

## **John B. John's Senior Years**

### **1870-1879**

In the 1870 U.S. census, John B. Johns is now 64 years old, and his wife, Louisa, is 46 years old. Although the children from his first marriage are no longer living with them, sons Robert S. and Joseph G. are living and farming in adjacent households with their wives and children.<sup>80</sup> John and Louisa's four sons and one daughter are living with them and include Samuel, age 13; William age, 12; Mark, age 10; Ora, age 8; and the youngest, John, age 5.<sup>81</sup>

The 1870 Agricultural Schedule, taken in June of that year, reveals that the cash value of the farm, still at 250 acres has been reduced from \$800 in 1860 to \$700, and he has not replenished livestock that likely was taken by Union soldiers during the Civil War.<sup>82</sup> He had only



one milk cow, one oxen, four “other cattle,” and four pigs.<sup>83</sup> He also produced less wheat and corn than he did in 1860.<sup>84</sup>

The 1873-1876 Tax Digest for DeKalb County indicates that John B. Johns no longer owns property in Land Lot 14, but still has 183 acres in Land Lot 165 and 50 acres in Land Lot 144, for a total value of \$1,200.<sup>85</sup> In the 1877-1880 Tax Digest for DeKalb County, John B. Johns claims 230 acres in Land Lot 144, valued at \$1,100.<sup>86</sup> John’s son Samuel R. Johns is listed in the 1877-1880 Tax Digest as owning 10 acres in Land Lot 165, valued at \$50, and which reflects his father’s 1877 deed transfer of 10 acres to him.<sup>87</sup> Samuel Johns married neighbor Lucy Chewning on 24 December, 1876,<sup>88</sup> so this transfer of land may have been a wedding gift to the couple. John B. Johns’ son Joseph G. is also listed in the 1877-1880 Tax Digest as having 55 acres in Land Lot 144, valued at \$400, and reflected in deed transfers of 17 acres from John to Joseph in 1877.<sup>89</sup> It is not known when he acquired the other 38 acres.

### **1880-1889**

Only two of John B. Johns’ sons from his second marriage—Samuel R. and John Jr.—remained on the property as farmers, joining the two sons from his first marriage—Robert S. and Joseph G. These were his four sons who would become the next generation of farmers on the property through the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

At the time of the 1880 U.S. census, John B. Johns is age 74, his wife Louisa 56, and their children at home are Thomas, age 21; Mark, age 19; Ora, age 17; and John Jr., age 15.<sup>90</sup> In the 1880 U.S. Agricultural Schedule, John B. Johns is listed as farming 40 acres with 30 acres of woodland, valued at \$900; his son Samuel is farming 11 acres with six acres of woodland valued at \$200; his son Joseph G. is farming 15 acres with 40 acres of woodland, valued at \$500; and his son Robert is farming 25 acres with 140 acres of woodland, valued at \$1,000.<sup>91</sup> Along with traditional farm crops, John B. Johns and Samuel produce butter, while Joseph and Robert produce cheese.<sup>92</sup> Louisa died sometime after the 1880 census, when she disappears from the paper trail, but she is buried next to John B. Johns in Rehoboth Cemetery.<sup>93</sup> Due to the 1890 U.S. Census fire in 1921, we cannot know if she died before or after 1890.

In 1889, John B. Johns, now aged 84, wisely began to transfer, “for love and affection,” and sometimes for a small dollar amount, his remaining property, totaling about 200 acres, to these four sons and two of his daughters. Beginning on 26 October 1889, he conveyed to his oldest daughter Betsy (Elizabeth Ann), who had married Eli Eller,<sup>94</sup> seven acres in Land Lots 144 and 165.<sup>95</sup> On 30 October he conveyed 52 acres in Land Lots 144 and 165 (the area where

the homestead was located) to his youngest son, John B. Jr.;<sup>96</sup> 45 acres in Land Lot 165 to his son Samuel R. Johns;<sup>97</sup> and 46 acres in Land Lots 144 and 165 to his youngest daughter Ora Johns Chewning and his son-in-law Jordan Chewning.<sup>98</sup> John B. Johns, Jr. had married Mary Catherine Jackson on 1 August 1889<sup>99</sup>, so the transfer of property to him may have been a wedding gift and a way to ensure the farmstead would endure through the next generation. His final deed transaction, on 2 November 1889, was to give his son Robert S. Johns 25 acres in the northwest corner of Land Lot 165.<sup>100</sup>

Why didn't John B. Johns' other children receive gifts of property from him? His oldest son Francis had most likely died young; his second-born son Jesse had migrated to Texas before the Civil War and remained there the rest of his life, dying in Oklahoma on 21 June, 1916.<sup>101</sup> Sarah Elizabeth, "Eliza," Jane disappeared after the 1860 census, and it is not known whom she married, but she must have died prior to 1889 when her father conveyed his land to his other children. William T. moved to East Point, Georgia, and died there on 26 December 1934; he is buried in Hillcrest Cemetery.<sup>102</sup> Mark M. was institutionalized at Central State Hospital in Milledgeville, Georgia, sometime after 1880 and died there at age 63 of "pulmonary tuberculosis" on 4 June 1925.<sup>103</sup>

### **1890-1896**

All of John B. Johns' 1889 gifts of property were not recorded until over a year later in 1890, with the exception of his gift to daughter Ora Johns and her husband Jordan Chewning, (the brother of Samuel's wife Lucy Chewning), which was recorded on 14 April 1900.<sup>104</sup> The 1890 Georgia Tax Digest lists the Johns family as owning a total of 234 acres in Land Lots 144 and 165.<sup>105</sup> Although John B. Johns is shown to own no property in 1890, he nevertheless pays a tax of \$2,006, most likely for the taxes owed by his children Joseph, Samuel, and Robert.<sup>106</sup> John B. Johns, Jr. paid his taxes of \$1,312, and his sister Bettie Eller paid her taxes of \$147.<sup>107</sup> Interestingly, Bettie Eller is shown as owning 49 acres, 42 more than seven given to her by her father in 1889. It is not known when he gave . Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current her the additional acreage.

Sometime before 1892, John B. Johns and his sons Samuel and Robert, had conveyed property to the Georgia Carolina & Northern Railroad Company for the "right of way" as listed in the DeKalb County Grantor Deed Index Book.<sup>108</sup> The railroad built a station in Tucker, and the first train passed through with 150 passengers on 24 April 1892.<sup>109</sup>



After a long and successful life as a farmer, John B. Johns died at 2 p.m. on January 1896, after being run over by a calf, according to his obituary in the *Atlanta Constitution*.<sup>110</sup> He was buried the next day in Rehoboth Cemetery, for which he had donated the land, in between his two previously wives.<sup>111</sup>

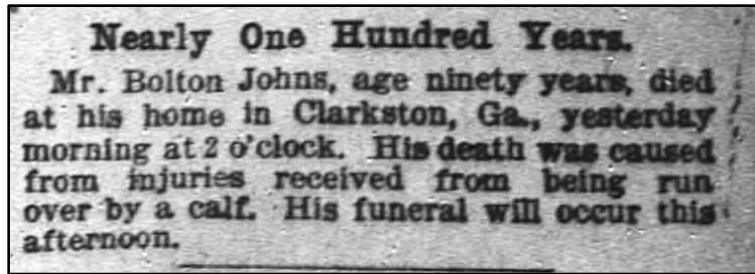


Figure 8: Death and funeral notice for John B. Johns. *The Atlanta Constitution*, January 20, 1896, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com)



Figure 7: Grave marker for John B. Johns at Rehoboth Cemetery in Tucker, Georgia. U.S. Find A Grave 1600s-Current, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

## **The 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

### **1900-1939**

By 1900, we find John B. Johns' son Robert S. Johns had moved to Marietta in Cobb County, Georgia, with his second wife, Susan Leavell Pankey, whom he had married in 1888, after the death of his first wife, Ruth Whitlock, in 1886.<sup>112</sup> Susan and Robert would have known each other growing up as their families were close neighbors. He must have decided that he would not return to farm in DeKalb County, so in 1900 he deeded to his half-brother, Samuel R. Johns, the same 25 acres in Land Lot 165 that his father had given to him in 1889.<sup>113</sup> In 1888, after his marriage and move to Cobb County, he also deeded property in Land Lot 189 to his married daughter Mary Johns Henderson.<sup>114</sup> Robert was widowed once again in 1919,<sup>115</sup> and we find that by 1920 he had returned to his birthplace after all, living with the widow of his now-deceased brother Joseph, who had died in 1903.<sup>116</sup> Robert later died in 1923 and is buried in Rehoboth Cemetery.<sup>117</sup>

In the 1900 federal census, four years after John B. Johns' death, the siblings Joseph, Samuel, John Jr., and Ora remained living and farming on property originally belonging to their father. According to his great-grandson, Marion Luther Johns, his uncles "all had farms up on both sides of the highway."<sup>118</sup> In the federal census that year, Joseph is south of John B. Johns, Jr. in Land Lot 144, listed as living at dwelling #106, with his wife Mary Elizabeth and two daughters, Amanda and Ollie.<sup>119</sup> Samuel is on the north side of Lawrenceville Highway, at

dwelling #102, living with his second wife, Ida, and two children from his first marriage—Luther Martin and Viola “--and a son, William F., from his second marriage.<sup>120</sup> His daughter Sidney had married George Washington Mitchell in 1898 and had left home<sup>121</sup>. His first wife Lucy Chewning, had died in 1891.<sup>122</sup> Samuel’s house was said to be a frame building, very similar to the John B. Johns homestead and located on the north side of Lawrenceville Highway.<sup>123</sup>



*Figure 9: L to R-William F. "Frank" Johns, Samuel Johns, Viola Johns, Sidney Johns Dora Bagwell Johns, and Luther M. Johns. They are likely standing in front of Samuel's house, circa 1887, photo from John B. Johns Archive, courtesy, DeKalb History Center.*

John B. Johns Jr. is at dwelling #101, living with his wife Mary Catherine, and their three children, Clarence, Ernest W. and Leila, in the original house built by John B. Johns.<sup>124</sup> In the 1905 and 1908 DeKalb County Tax Digest, he is listed as owning 52 acres of land, in Land Lot 165, at a value of \$1,006.<sup>125</sup> Ora Johns is living with her husband Jordan Chewning and their six children at dwelling #103, on the north side of Lawrenceville Highway across from Rehoboth Baptist Church.<sup>126</sup> In the 1905 and 1908 DeKalb County Tax Digests, she is listed as owning 44 acres in land lots 165 and 144.<sup>127</sup> Betsy/Bettie Johns Eller moved to Alabama sometime after the 1890 Georgia Tax Digest report, where she died in 1909 and is buried at the Wynnville Cemetery in Blount County, Alabama.<sup>128</sup>

The brothers Samuel and John B. Johns, Jr. continue farming on the property in 1910, but Joseph had died in 1903, and Robert remains in Cobb County, although his widowed daughter Mary Johns Henderson continues to farm at dwelling # 204 with her four children.<sup>129</sup>



Joseph's widow, Mary Elizabeth, is listed in the 1905 and 1908 DeKalb County Tax Digests as owning 60 acres in Land Lot 144 at a value of \$800.<sup>130</sup>

In the 1910 federal census 52-year-old Samuel is living at dwelling #205 with his 43-year-old wife, Ida and his sons Luther and William, who likely assist him with his farming.<sup>131</sup> His brother, 45-year-old John B. Johns, Jr., continues to live in their father's homestead, dwelling #202, with his 38-year-old wife Mary Catherine and has added their fourth and youngest child, Charlie S.<sup>132</sup> Their widowed sister, 48-year-old Ora Johns Chewning, has married Amos T. Wilson, who has moved into her home with his four children, thus becoming a blended family of seven children (Ora's three other Chewning children had already left home by this time).<sup>133</sup>

By the 1920 federal census, Samuel Johns, now age 62, is still farming at dwelling #113 and living with his wife, Ida.<sup>134</sup> Next door at dwelling #114, his son William F. Johns, age 22, is living in his own household, with his wife and young son.<sup>135</sup>

Samuel's brother, John B. Johns, Jr. age 53, is listed at dwelling #116 with his wife, Mary Catherine, age 42, and his four children.<sup>136</sup> Their sister, Ora Johns Chewning Wilson, age 57, is widowed for a second time and listed at household #117, living with her 24-year-old daughter Annie. At household #120, Mary E. Johns, widow of Joseph, is living with her two daughters and her brother-in-law, Robert.<sup>137</sup> Samuel's oldest son, Luther Martin, age 41, has married and now has his own household, listed as #113 with his young 17-year-old wife Willie Mae and a toddler and an infant.<sup>138</sup>

Luther's house was located on the northeast corner of Lawrenceville Highway, across from where Montreal Road came from Clarkston, very close to where I-285 is today.<sup>139</sup> Luther and his cousin Ebb Chewning also operated a filling station/grocery store at the northwest corner of Lawrenceville Highway and north Montreal Road, with a large sign, "Hello World" printed on the side of the building.<sup>140</sup> Luther farmed land that is now Floral Hills Cemetery.<sup>141</sup>

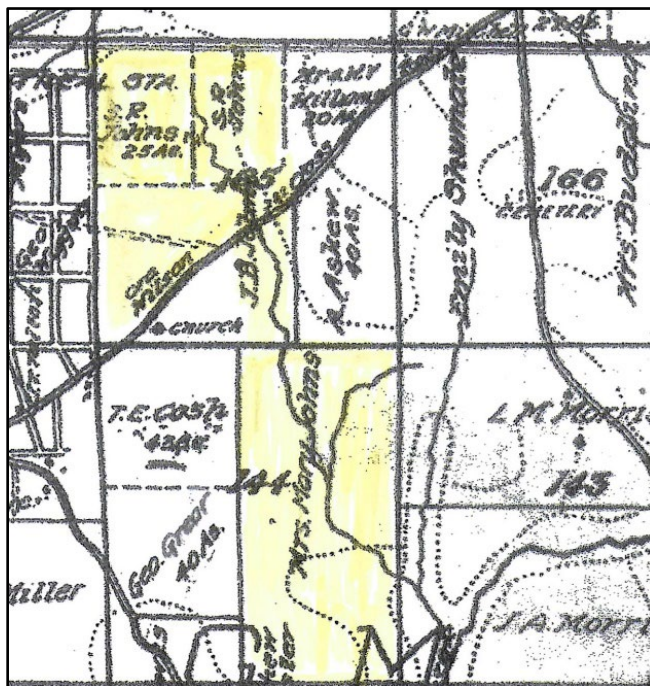


Figure 10: 1915 plat map of Johns family parcels in Land Lots 165 and 144, DeKalb County, DeKalb County Courthouse.

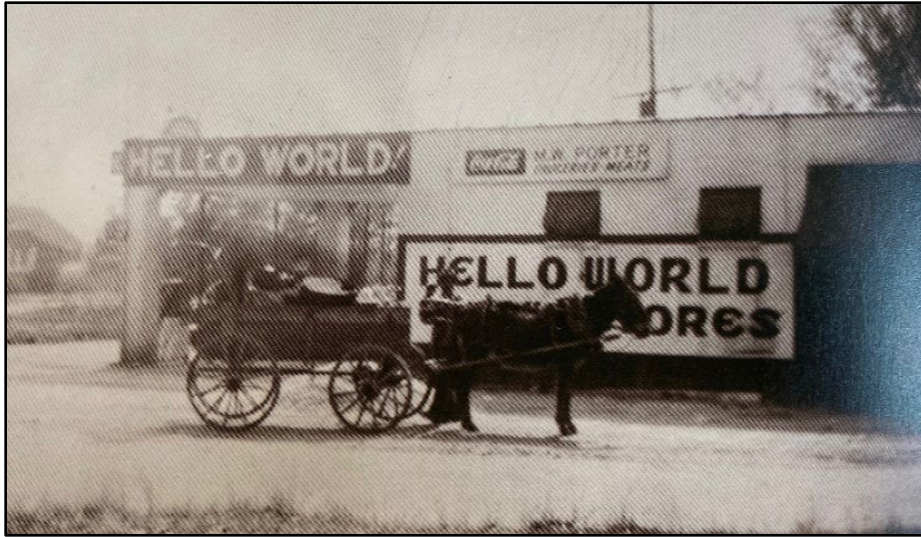


Figure 11: Luther M. Johns' and Ebb Chewning's filling station and grocery store, located on Lawrenceville Highway and Montreal Road, *Vanishing Georgia: A Pictorial History* (Decatur, DeKalb Historical Society, 1985), DeKalb History Center.

He also had a blacksmith shop, grist mill, saw mill and cotton gin, located immediately across from the Hello World station.<sup>142</sup>

As his father had done before him in 1889 and in an effort to pass on the legacy of his father's homestead, Robert B. Johns, Jr.,

for "love and affection" and a small token dollar amount, began to convey his property in Land Lot 165 to his children, beginning in 1924 and continuing to 1927. On 21 November 1924, he gave for \$5 property to his sons Ernest W. and Clarence M.; the deed does not give an acreage total in the legal description of the property.<sup>143</sup> About 15 months later, on 27 March 1926, he conveys 7.30 acres to his son Charlie S. Johns for \$25, "property adjacent to J.B. Johns" in Land Lot 165.<sup>144</sup> On 16 July 1927 he again conveys property to his sons Clarence M. Johns and Ernest W. Johns for \$5.<sup>145</sup> He also conveyed sometime between 1921-1928, additional property to Clarence M. Johns et. al.<sup>146\*</sup>

These grandchildren of John B. Johns would continue to play a role in his property into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century and beyond.

In 1928-1929, the Lawrenceville Road was re-routed (and most likely widened), as reflected in the DeKalb County Grantor Deed Index Book from 1921-1928. John B. Johns, Jr., his sons Ernest W. Johns and Charlie S. Johns, and his nephew Luther M. Johns all convey property to the "State Highway Department" for the right of way.<sup>147\*</sup>

Living on Lawrenceville Highway in the 1930 federal census we find 72-year-old Samuel Johns, who continues to live with his 63-year-old wife Ida and has now turned exclusively to dairy farming.<sup>148</sup> He is listed at dwelling #104, while his son William F. Johns is at dwelling #103 with his wife and two young sons<sup>149</sup> and farming 25 acres in Land 165 at a value of \$925.<sup>150</sup> According to the tax digest, he has a carriage and/or wagon, cattle, horses and mules.<sup>151</sup> Samuel's brother John B. Johns, Jr. is at dwelling #101, while John Jr.'s son Charlie is at dwelling #102.<sup>152</sup> The two unmarried daughters of Joseph G. Johns, 62-year-old Amanda and



60-year-old Ollie, are listed as farming at dwelling #98.<sup>153</sup> Samuel's other son, Luther Martin, is listed at Dwelling #85 with his wife Willie Mae and their now four children.<sup>154</sup>

Four years after the 1930 federal census was taken, Samuel R. Johns died on 15 July 1934 of "apoplexy and paralysis," according to his death certificate.<sup>155</sup> Joining his father, two brothers and other family members, he is buried in Rehoboth Cemetery.<sup>156</sup> Sometime after his death, his widow Ida Johns conveyed to their son William F. 25 acres in Land Lot 165, the same 25 acres Robert S. had given his son Samuel in 1900, and John B. Johns had given to Robert in 1889.<sup>157</sup>

### 1940-1979

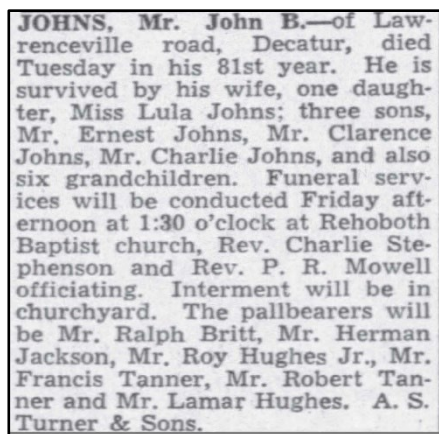
By the 1940 census on Lawrenceville Highway, John B. Johns, Jr., is now age 73, and his wife Mary Catherine is 69. Their three oldest children, who are unmarried, continue to live at home with them—49-year-old Clarence, 48-year-old Ernest, and 42-year-old Leila.<sup>158</sup> Their youngest and only married child—39-year-old son Charlie is living with his wife Adelle and their six children; Charlie is a laborer for the WPA Project.<sup>159</sup> In a 2013 interview with Luther Martin Johns son Marion, he stated that "Charles and Adelle and their family lived in a house down the hill, east of his father's [John B. Johns, Jr.] house on the south side of Lawrenceville Highway."<sup>160</sup> Marion also stated that Charlie terrace-farmed vegetables and operated a store on Lawrenceville Highway, about 50 feet west of John B. John, Jr.'s house, where he sold his produce.<sup>161</sup> Charlie's daughter Patricia Johns McDonald later said in 2004 that this store was called Johns Grocery Store, and it was demolished in the 1970s when Lawrenceville Highway was expanded to five lanes.<sup>162</sup>

Samuel R. Johns' youngest son William F.—now widowed-- also continues to live on Lawrenceville Highway with his mother and two sons; he has taken over the dairy farming for his deceased father.<sup>163</sup> Joseph's two daughters by his first marriage, Amanda and Ollie, are farming on the nearby Johns Road.<sup>164</sup> Samuel's son Luther Martin, age 62, is living with his wife Willie Mae and their four children.<sup>165</sup>



*Figure 12: Johns B. Johns, Jr. (center) with his grandsons Charlie, Jr. (left) and Byron W. (right), in front of his and Charlie Sr.'s grocery store on Lawrenceville Highway, circa 1928, photo from John B. Johns Archive, courtesy of DeKalb History Center.*

On 15 October 1942 John B. Johns, Jr. conveyed with “love and affection” to his wife Mary Catherine Johns and his daughter Leila Belle his property in Land Lot 165.<sup>166</sup> The deed does not give the acreage, but describes the boundaries as touching “Clarence Johns property” and “E.W. and C.M. Johns property.”<sup>167</sup> This was the property that included the house.



**JOHNS, Mr. John B.**—of Lawrenceville road, Decatur, died Tuesday in his 81st year. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Miss Lula Johns; three sons, Mr. Ernest Johns, Mr. Clarence Johns, Mr. Charlie Johns, and also six grandchildren. Funeral services will be conducted Friday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at Rehoboth Baptist church, Rev. Charlie Stephenson and Rev. P. R. Mowell officiating. Interment will be in churchyard. The pallbearers will be Mr. Ralph Britt, Mr. Herman Jackson, Mr. Roy Hughes Jr., Mr. Francis Tanner, Mr. Robert Tanner and Mr. Lamar Hughes. A. S. Turner & Sons.

Figure 13: John B. Johns Jr.'s obituary, 17 January 1946, *Atlanta Constitution*, 19, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com).

Four years after conveying this property to his wife and daughter, John B. Johns, Jr., aged 81, died 15 January 1946.<sup>168</sup> His funeral was held at Rehoboth Church, and he was buried near other family members in Rehoboth Cemetery.<sup>169</sup>

According to a 2004 memo to the DeKalb County Commission from Patricia Johns McDonald, Charlie and Adelle Johns divorced in 1942, mainly due to his alcoholism, and received their house and about seven acres of land as a settlement.<sup>170</sup> She did not receive it however, until five years later on 19 March 1947, when Charlie Johns Sr.

conveyed to his ex-wife Adelle Johns, and their children, Johnnie, Syble, Conrad, and Patricia the same 7.30 acres that had been given to him by his father John B. Johns, Jr. in 1926.<sup>171</sup> In 2005, Syble Johns Lindsay claimed that she still had a 1940s tractor from the homestead, “likely one used by her father, Charlie which she kept in her backyard.”<sup>172</sup>

On 16 January 1950, Mary Catherine Johns conveyed the same property her husband had conveyed to her in 1942 to their son Charlie S. Johns, for \$5 and “love and affection.”<sup>173</sup> The deed describes the property conveyed as “being the former home place of property of J.B. Johns, now deceased.”<sup>174</sup> Mary Catherine “reserves for herself a life estate in said property and the right to occupy and enjoy the same during her natural lifetime.”<sup>175</sup>

The divorce of Charlie and Adelle Johns is reflected in the June 1950 federal census. Mary Catherine Johns is living with her unmarried children—Ernest, Clarence, and Leila—while her divorced son Charlie Sr. (who now owns the property) has also moved in, along with his son Charlie, Jr.<sup>176</sup> Charlie’s ex-wife Adelle continues to live in their family home with their other children.<sup>177</sup> Charlie’s cousin, Luther Martin, is a little further up the road, age 72 and “unable to work,” living with his wife, Willie Mae.<sup>178</sup> Luther’s half-brother, William F., has migrated to Florida sometime after the 1940 federal census and is living there with his mother and his two sons.<sup>179</sup>

Sometime around 1950, Guy Zemory Davis bought property in Land Lot 165 from one of the Johns, possibly from William F. prior to his move to Florida. \* His two daughters, Betty



MacLeod and Opal Blackwell, would join John B. Johns' great-grandchildren over 50 years later in deciding the future of the property. Zemory Drive, just to the east of this property, is named for Mr. Davis.

On 11 June 1957 E.W. Johns and C.M. Johns conveyed to their brother Charlie S. Johns Sr. and his son Charlie S. Jr. for \$100 some of their property in Land Lot 165.<sup>180</sup> On 16 March 1965 the brothers conveyed to their sister for \$10 and "love and affection," additional land in Land Lot 165.<sup>181</sup>

On 9 May 1961 Luther M. Johns died<sup>182</sup> and two years later, on 9 January 1963, his Uncle John's wife, Mary Catherine, also passed away.<sup>183</sup> Both Luther M. Johns and Mary Catherine Johns are buried in Rehoboth Cemetery.<sup>184</sup>

By 1962, the Johns family still held 12 acres of John B. Johns' original property,<sup>185</sup> and John B. Johns, Jr.'s three unmarried children, Clarence, Ernest, and Leila and divorced son Charlie Sr., continued to live in the homestead into the 1970s, at the address by this time called 3071 Lawrenceville Highway.<sup>186</sup> John B. Johns, Jr.'s three sons all died in the 1970s. Ernest died first in 1971,<sup>187</sup> then Clarence in 1973,<sup>188</sup> By 1979 just Charlie and Leila Johns were living in the homestead, according to February/March article that year in *The Eagle*.<sup>189</sup> Charlie died a few months later in October 1979.<sup>190</sup> They are all buried in Rehoboth Cemetery.<sup>191</sup>

## **1984-1991**

In 1984, Syble Johns Lindsay, daughter of Charlie Johns, Sr., granddaughter of John B. Johns, Jr. and great-granddaughter of John B. Johns, conveyed with "love and affection" to her son William Michael Lindsay, her property in Land Lot 165, the same land that had been conveyed by C.S. Johns, Sr. to his wife Adelle Johns and their children in 1947 after their divorce and before that in 1926 from John B. Johns, Jr. to Charlie S. Johns, Sr.<sup>192</sup> The deed states, however, that the previous 7.3 acres had been reduced to 7.12 acres when the Georgia Department of Transportation "extended Right of Way easements to widen the Lawrenceville Highway to five lanes, taking 7,971 square feet of area."<sup>193</sup> On June 1, 1990, Syble Johns Lindsay, as the Administratrix of the Estate of Johnny Lamance Johns, granted to her younger sister, Patricia Johns McDonald, for \$10, a 5.33% interest in the same property.<sup>194</sup>

On 19 January 1991, John B. Johns, Jr.'s only daughter, Leila, who had never married and had continued to live on in the homestead alone, died at age 83; she is buried in Rehoboth Cemetery.<sup>195</sup> She was John B. Johns' last surviving grandchild and had outlived even some of the great-grandchildren. The house has stood vacant since that time.

## **The 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

On 14<sup>th</sup> November 2003 Syble Johns Lindsay, et. al, granted for \$1 to the Georgia Department of Transportation the right of way to 0.067 acres of her property in Land Lot 165.<sup>196</sup> About this time, the heirs of John B. Johns' property and his legacy, his great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren must have started thinking about what to do with the remaining property that once had been over 200 acres owned and farmed by John B. Johns. Guy Zemory Davis' remaining heir, Betty Jean Davis MacLeod, owned 5.8 acres of John B. Johns' original property was also thinking about what to do with her property. Each heir could have sold their property to a real estate developer for several hundred thousand dollars, but not surprisingly for a family that had loved and farmed their land for over three generations and had deep roots in the community, they decided to sell the remaining homestead property to DeKalb County to be preserved as a historic site and park. Betty Jean MacLeod joined the Johns family in this decision.

On 8 April 2005 the remaining property of just under 23 acres in Land Lots 165 was conveyed by Syble Lindsay and Patricia Johns McDonald (daughters of Charlie S. Johns Sr.); Syble's son Michael Lindsay; Marion B. Pulliam Johns (widow of Byron W. Johns) ; M. Lee Johns, David Byron Johns, Karen Johns Gaddis and Patricia Johns Ledbetter (children of Byron W. Johns and granddaughters of Charlie S. Johns Sr), Syble Lindsay, as guardian of her brother Conrad Willis Johns; and Betty D. MacLeod (daughter of Guy Z. Davis), individually and as executor of the estate of her deceased sister, Opal D. Blackwell, to DeKalb County for \$1.<sup>197</sup>

Thus, the philanthropy of John B. Johns' heirs has preserved the legacy of his original homestead and portions of his land, making it possible for present and future generations to learn about the history of a county that was once a rural landscape dotted with many farms such as his. Through a visit to his homestead, with its remaining residence and outbuildings, we can gain a glimpse back in time of the typical 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century subsistence or yeoman farmer lifestyle. Across the street from the homestead, a visit to the quiet Rehoboth Cemetery, where John B. Johns is buried along with most of his family members, also is like taking a step back in time. The cemetery, with its winding dirt road and large trees, evokes a sense of the once pastoral 19<sup>th</sup>-century DeKalb County. Here we can see and be reminded of so many of the county's early settler families-- Bagwell, Cash, Chewning, Mitchell, Nash, Leavell, Wells, Whitlock, and more—who all contributed to the early history of DeKalb County and are laid to rest.



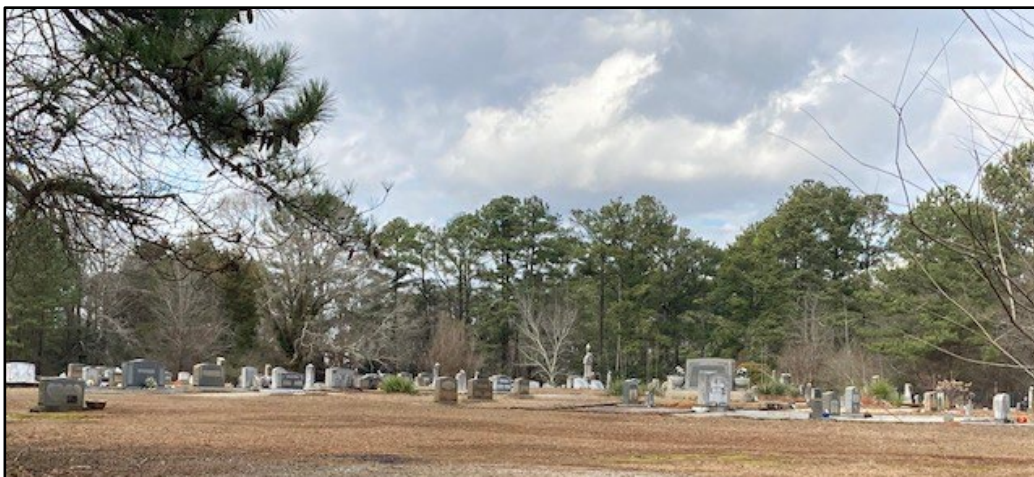


Figure 14: View of Rehoboth Cemetery from the main gate,  
photo by Carole M. Schenck, January 2023

*\*Due to the DeKalb County Courthouse closure through early April 2023, in order to repair water damage resulting from the December 2022 burst pipes, some deeds and documents were not able to be retrieved for more specific information for this report.*

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> John B. Johns, U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

<sup>2</sup> Warren *Chronicles of Wilkes County*, 39.

<sup>3</sup> U.S., Revolutionary War Rolls: 1775-1785; Revolutionary War Records Virginia, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

<sup>4</sup> Photocopy of "This Old House," article, unknown publication, John B. Johns Archives, DeKalb History Center.

<sup>5</sup> U.S., Revolutionary War Rolls: 1775-1785.

<sup>6</sup> Frank Parker Hudson, *Wilkes County, Georgia Tax Records, 1785-1805* vol 2 (Atlanta: Frank Parker Hudson, 1996) 1388; Robert Scott Davis, Jr., *The Wilkes County Papers: 1778-1833* (Easley: Southern Historical Press, Inc., 1979) 76, 180, 202, 227, 241, 249, 252, 265, 268.

<sup>7</sup> Superior Court Deed from John Miller to John Johns, Georgia Archives Virtual Vault, Wilkes County Court Records, ac 1978-0528m.

<sup>8</sup> Georgia Land Lottery, photocopy of Georgia Archives microfilm, John B. Johns Archive, 1821, DeKalb History Center.

<sup>9</sup> Davis, *Wilkes County Papers*, 261.

<sup>10</sup> Elias W. Timmons, *A History of Tucker: 1821-1942* (Tucker: Tucker Historical Society, 2013) 219.

<sup>11</sup> Davis, *Wilkes County Papers*, 76.

<sup>12</sup> Court of Ordinary, Wilkes County, Will Books, Hh, 1819-1877, Georgia, U.S. Wills and Probate Records, 1742-1992, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.

<sup>16</sup> Virginia, U.S. Extracted Vital Records, 1660-1923 [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); DAR Online Genalogy Database, DAR Online Genealogy File, <https://www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy>

<sup>17</sup> John B. Johns Obituary, *Atlanta Constitution*, January 20, 1896, 9, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com).

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- <sup>18</sup> Elizabeth Johns Eller, Alabama, U.S. Deaths and Burials Index, 1881-1974; Samuel Robinson Johns, Georgia, U.S., Death Records, 1914-1940, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>19</sup> Photocopy of a tax receipt, John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>20</sup> Georgia Land Lottery, 1827, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>21</sup> Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution, 1783, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); Bible record of Jesse White, DAR Online Genealogy File.
- <sup>22</sup> Susannah's headstone inscribed with her name and "wife" lies next to John B. Johns in Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb County
- <sup>23</sup> Jesse Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>24</sup> Wilkes County Court of Ordinary, will of John Johns; John B. Johns and his siblings sold this property in 1838, inferring that his mother had died prior to 1838 and her children had inherited the property (see also #32 below).
- <sup>25</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>26</sup> Photocopy of a tax receipt to J.B. Johns for his father John Johns, John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>27</sup> Notes in John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>28</sup> An undated/unsourced map of "Original Land lottery Winners" indicates the small parcel north of the Lawrenceville Road as belonging to John B. Johns, Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 2; Georgia Land Lottery, 1821, 33 John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center
- <sup>29</sup> Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 29.
- <sup>30</sup> "Third Generation of Family Lives in Old Home," *The Eagle*, October 1964, Vol. 8, No. 8, John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>31</sup> Photocopy of a tax receipt to J.B. Johns, John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>32</sup> "Third Generation of Family Lives in Old Home."
- <sup>33</sup> 1915 plat map of DeKalb County Land Lots in District 18, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>34</sup> Deed Book O, p. 101, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>35</sup> John B. Johns, U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1840; Census Place: DeKalb, Georgia; Roll: 40; Page: 52, Family History Library Film: 0007043, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); Robert, Joseph and Betsy birthdates, U.S. Find A Grave Index 1600s-Current.
- <sup>36</sup> "Third Generation of Johns Family Lives in Old Home."
- <sup>37</sup> Photocopy of transcription of 2005 interview of Syble Johns Lindsay by David Butler, with DeKalb County Parks and Recreation, City of Tucker Archive.
- <sup>38</sup> John B. Johns, U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1850, DeKalb, Georgia; Roll 67, page: 131a, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>39</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>40</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>41</sup> John B. Johns, 1850 U.S. Federal Census-Slave Schedules, The National Archive in Washington DC; NARA Microform Publication: M432; Title: Seventh Census of The United States, 1850; Record Group: Records of the Bureau of the Census; Record Group Number: 29, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>42</sup> Vivian Price, *The History of DeKalb County*, 64, 93, 96, 229.
- <sup>43</sup> John B. Johns, 1848, 1849, 1850 Georgia, U.S. Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>44</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>45</sup> Price, *The History of DeKalb County*, 230.
- <sup>46</sup> Ibid; [https://www.georgiaarchives.org/research/tax\\_records\\_faq](https://www.georgiaarchives.org/research/tax_records_faq)
- <sup>47</sup> John B. Johns, 1850 U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, Census Place: Town, DeKalb, Georgia; Archive Collection Number: T1137; Roll: T1137:2; Page: 71; Line: 33; Schedule Type: Agriculture, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>48</sup> Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 65.
- <sup>49</sup> John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>50</sup> Photocopy of jury summons to the DeKalb County Superior Court, John B. Johns Biographical File, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>51</sup> Timmons, *A History of Tucker* 65.
- <sup>52</sup> Photocopy of "Tucker's New Greenspace: Johns Family Homestead," Up Close & Personal in Tucker," vol. 4, issue 1, 58, Johns Archive, City of Tucker.
- <sup>53</sup> Patricia Johns McDonald, memo to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, 24 August 2004, City of Tucker Johns Archive.



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- <sup>54</sup> Georgia, U.S. Marriage Records from Selected Counties, 1828-1978, from County Marriage Records, 1828-1978, Georgia Archives, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>55</sup> William P. Prather, U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>56</sup> Sydney N. Glaze, U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>57</sup> Georgia, U.S. Marriage Records from Selected Counties, 1828-1978.
- <sup>58</sup> Louisa Prather Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>59</sup> William W. Prather, U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1850, Division 94, Wilkes, Georgia, Roll:87, Page 321B, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>60</sup> William W. Prather, U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1860; Record Group Number 29, Series Number M653, Meriwether, Georgia, Roll: M653\_130; Page:104, Family History Library Film 8031, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>61</sup> Bryant, *Georgia Counties*, 80.
- <sup>62</sup> Photocopy from Selected Online Land Records, Deed Book 0, 299, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>63</sup> Ibid., 493.
- <sup>64</sup> Ibid., 503.
- <sup>65</sup> Deed Book P, page 148, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>66</sup> John B. Johns, U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1860; Census Place: Browning, DeKalb County; Record Group Number 29; Series Number M653\_119; page:277, Family History Library Film, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>67</sup> John B. Johns, 1850 U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, Census Place: Casey, DeKalb, Georgia, Archive Collection Number:T1137; Roll: T1137:2; Page: 81; Line 14; Schedule type: Agriculture, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>68</sup> John B. Johns, 1860 U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, Census Place: Browning, DeKalb, Georgia, Archive Collection Number: T1137; Roll: T1137: 4; Page: 07; Line:8; Schedule Type: Agriculture, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>69</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>70</sup> John B. Johns, U.S. Federal Census-Slave Schedules, The National Archives in Washington DC; USA; Eighth Census of the United States 1860; Series Number M653; Record Group 29, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>71</sup> Price, *The History of DeKalb County*, 335.
- <sup>72</sup> Photocopy of Southern Claims Commission Cases/George Washington Cash interview, (Claim #7399).National Archives, John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>73</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>74</sup> John B. Johns, U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1870; Census Place: Browning, DeKalb, Georgia, Roll: M593\_147; Page 272A; U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>75</sup> Robert S. Johns, U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865, Film#M226, roll 32, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>76</sup> Joseph G. Johns, U.S., Civil War Solider Records and Profiles, 1861-1865, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865, National Park Service, Film Number M226, Roll 32, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com);
- <sup>77</sup> Jesse Johns, Confederate Pension Index Cards Collection, Oklahoma State Archives, <https://digitalprairie.ok.gov/digital/collection/pensioncard/id/1859/rec/1>
- <sup>78</sup> John B. Johns, 1864 Census for Re-Organizing the Georgia Militia, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>79</sup> Georgia, U.S. Returns of Qualified Voters and Reconstruction Oath Books, 1867-1869, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>80</sup> John B. Johns, 1870 U.S. Federal Census.
- <sup>81</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>82</sup> John B. Johns, Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880; Census Year: 1870; Census Place: Evans, DeKalb, Georgia, Archive Collection Number: T1137; Roll: T1137:7; Page: 05; Line: 39; Schedule Type: Agriculture, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>83</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>84</sup> Ibid,
- <sup>85</sup> John B. Johns, 173-1876, Georgia, U.S. Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
John B. Johns, 1870, Georgia, U.S. Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>86</sup> John B. Johns, 1877-1880, Georgia, U.S. Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>87</sup> Samuel Johns, 1877-1880, Georgia, U.S. Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892; Deed Book T, p. 507, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>88</sup> Georgia, U.S., Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1878-1978, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>89</sup> Joseph G. Johns, 1877-1880 Georgia Tax Digests; Deed Book DD, pages 47,48, DeKalb County Courthouse.

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- <sup>90</sup> U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1880; Census Place: Cross Keys, DeKalb, Georgia; Roll: 143; Page:455C; enumeration District:055, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>91</sup> John B. Johns, Samuel Johns, Joseph G. Johns, U.S., Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880, Census Year: 1880; Census Place: District 572, DeKalb, Georgia; Archive Collection Number: T1137; Roll:T1137:12; Page:02; Line: 4; Schedule Type: Agriculture, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>92</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>93</sup> Louisa Prather, U.S. Find A Grave, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>94</sup> Bettie Johns, Eller, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current,
- <sup>95</sup> Deed Book DD, p. 167, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>96</sup> Deed Book DD, p.84-85, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>97</sup> Deed Book FF, p. 583, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>98</sup> Deed Book RR, p. 239 DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>99</sup> DeKalb County, Georgia, U.S., Marriage Index, 1840-1908, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>100</sup> Deed Book EE, p. 341.
- <sup>101</sup> Jesse Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current,
- <sup>102</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>103</sup> U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1910; Census Place: Militia District 321, Baldwin Georgia; Roll T624\_170; Page: 2B; Enumeration District 0009; FHL microfilm: 1374183, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>104</sup> Deed Book RR, p. 239.
- <sup>105</sup> 1890, Georgia, U.S. Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>106</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>107</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>108</sup> John B. Johns, Deed Book AA, 394; Samuel R. Johns, Deed Book AA, 393; R.S.Johns, Deed Book DD, 310, DeKalb County Grantor Tax Index Book through September 1, 1900. (Due to the courthouse closure because of water damage from burst pipes at the time of this writing, these deeds cannot be looked up for actual date and acreage).
- <sup>109</sup> Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 114; <https://www.tuckerparks.org/post/history-tucker-depot>.
- <sup>110</sup> "Nearly One Hundred Years," *The Atlanta Constitution*, January 20, 1896, 9, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com).
- <sup>111</sup> John B. Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>112</sup> Robert S. Johns, U.S. federal census, Year: 1900; Census Place: Marietta Cobb, Georgia; Roll: 188; Page:17; Enumeration District: 0036; FHL microfilm 1240188; Rutha Whitlock Johns, U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s to Current; Georgia, U.S., Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>113</sup> Deed Book SS,332, DeKalb County Courthouse
- <sup>114</sup> Selected Land Records online record photocopy, Deed Book BB, 137, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>115</sup> Susan Ann Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>116</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>117</sup> Robert S. Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current; Georgia, U.S., Death Records, 1914-1940, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>118</sup> "Marion Luther Johns," Up Close and Personal, photocopy of article from unnamed/undated publication from City of Tucker Johns archive.
- <sup>119</sup> John B. Johns, Jr., Samuel Johns, Luther Johns, Ora Johns, U.S. Federal Census: Year: 1900; Census Place: Clarkston, DeKalb, Georgia; Roll: 192; Page:26; Enumeration District 0018; FHL microfilm:1240192, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>120</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>121</sup> DeKalb Co., Georgia, U.S. Marriage Index, 1840-1908, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>122</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>123</sup> Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 220.
- <sup>124</sup> 1900 U.S. Census
- <sup>125</sup> 1905 DeKalb County Tax Digest, 13; 1908 DeKalb County Tax Digests, 12, DeKalb History Center,
- <sup>126</sup> 1900 U.S. Census.; 1915 Plat map, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>127</sup> 1905 and 19098 DeKalb County Tax Digests.
- <sup>128</sup> Bettie Johns Eller, Alabama, U.S., Deaths & Burials Index, 1881-1974, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)



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- <sup>129</sup> John B. Johns, Jr., Samuel Johns, Mary Johns Ora Johns, U.S. Federal Census: Year: 1910; Census Place: Clarkston, DeKalb, Georgia; Roll: T624\_184; Page: 12B; Enumeration District 0030; FHL 1374197, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>130</sup> 1905 and 1908 DeKalb County Tax Digests.
- <sup>131</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>132</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>133</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>134</sup> Samuel Johns, William Johns, John B. Johns, Jr., Ora Johns, Luther Johns, U.S. Federal Census: Year: 1920; Census Place: Clarkston, DeKalb, Georgia; Roll T625\_249; Page: 13A; Enumeration District: 23, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>135</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>136</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>137</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>138</sup> Luther Johns, 1920 U.S. Census, 14A.
- <sup>139</sup> "Marion Luther Johns," City of Tucker archive.
- <sup>140</sup> Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 221.
- <sup>141</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>142</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>143</sup> Deed Book 194, 332, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>144</sup> Deed Book 221, 361.
- <sup>145</sup> Deed Book 259, 326.
- <sup>146</sup> Deed Book 249, 309.
- <sup>147</sup> John B. Johns, Jr. Deed Book 258, 180; Ernest W. Johns, Deed Book 254, 449; Charlie S. Johns, Deed Book 254, 248; Luther M. Johns, Deed Book 237, 76, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>148</sup> Samuel Johns, William Johns, U.S. Federal Census, Year: 1930; Census Place: Militia District 1327, DeKalb, Georgia; Page: 6A; Enumeration District: 0037; FHL microfilm: 2340086.
- <sup>149</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>150</sup> 1925 DeKalb Tax Digest, 11 DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>151</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>152</sup> John B. Johns, Jr., 1930 U.S. Census, 5B.
- <sup>153</sup> Amanda Johns, Ollie Johns, 1930 U.S. Census, 5B.
- <sup>154</sup> Luther Johns, 1930 U.S. Census, 5A.
- <sup>155</sup> Samuel R. Johns, Georgia, U.S., Death Records, 1914-1940, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>156</sup> Samuel R. Johns, U.S. Find A Grave, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>157</sup> DeKalb County Grant Deed Index Book 1921-1928; Deed Book 136, 564
- <sup>158</sup> John B. Johns Jr., Samuel Johns, U.S. Federal Census, Census Year: 1940; Census Place: Scottdale, DeKalb, Georgia; Roll: m-t0627-00665; Page: 21B; Enumeration District: 44-43, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>159</sup> Charlie Johns, 1940 U.S. Census, 21A; Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 223.
- <sup>160</sup> Elias W. Timmons' interview with Marion Johns as cited in Timmons, *A History of Tucker*, 323.
- <sup>161</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>162</sup> Patricia Johns McDonald, memo to DeKalb County Board of Commissioners.
- <sup>163</sup> William F. Johns, 1940 U.S. Census, 21
- <sup>164</sup> Amanda Johns, Ollie Johns, 1940 U.S. Census, 22A
- <sup>165</sup> Luther Johns, 1900 U.S. Census, 21A
- <sup>166</sup> Photocopy of deed recorded in Deed Book 559, 406, John B. Johns File, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>167</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>168</sup> "John B. Johns," *The Atlanta Constitution*, January 17, 1946, 14, 19, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com)
- <sup>169</sup> Ibid., John B. Johns, Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>170</sup> Patricia Johns McDonald, memo to the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners.
- <sup>171</sup> Photocopy of deed recorded in Deed Book 685, 9, John B. Johns File, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>172</sup> Butler interview of Syble Johns Lindsay.
- <sup>173</sup> Photocopy of deed recorded in Deed Book 796, 351, John B. Johns Archive, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>174</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>175</sup> Ibid.

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- <sup>176</sup> Mary Catherine Johns, Adelle Johns, Luther Johns, U.S. Federal Census: Record Group: Record of the Bureau of the Census, 1790-2007; Record Group Number:29; Residence Date: 1950; Home in 1950: Clarkston, DeKalb, Georgia, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>177</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>178</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>179</sup> William F. Johns, 1900 U.S. Census Hillsborough, Florida.
- <sup>180</sup> Photocopy of deed recorded in Deed Book 292, n.p, John B. Johns File, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>181</sup> Photocopy of deed recorded in Deed Book 1982, 258, John B. Johns File, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>182</sup> Luther M. Johns Obituary, *The Atlanta Constitution*, May 10, 1961, 27, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com).
- <sup>183</sup> Mary Catherine Johns, Georgia, U.S., Death Index, 1919-1998, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com); U.S. Find A Grave Index.
- <sup>184</sup> Luther Johns, Mary Catherine Johns U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600-Current.
- <sup>185</sup> "Tucker's New Greenspace," 60.
- <sup>186</sup> "Third Generation of Johns Family Lives in Old Home."
- <sup>187</sup> Obituary and Funeral Notice for Ernest W. Johns, *The Atlanta Constitution*, November 1 1971, 29, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com).
- <sup>188</sup> Obituary for Clarence Mercer Johns, *The Atlanta Constitution*, November 27, 1973, 39, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com).
- <sup>189</sup> "Tucker's Oldest Occupied House," *The Eagle*, February/March 1979, n.p., Vol. 24, No. 5.
- <sup>190</sup> Obituary and Funeral Notice for Charlie Summie Johns Sr., *The Atlanta Constitution*, October 25, 1979, 70, October 26, 1979, 51 [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- <sup>191</sup> Ernest Johns, Clarence Johns, Charlie Johns, U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>192</sup> Photocopy of deed recorded in Deed Book 5116, 298, John B. Johns File, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>193</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>194</sup> Photocopy of deed recorded in Deed Book 6770, 473, John B. Johns File, DeKalb History Center.
- <sup>195</sup> Leila Johns Obituary, *The Atlanta Constitution*, 20 January 1991, 33; U.S. Find A Grave, 1600s-Current.
- <sup>196</sup> Deed Book 15457, 390, DeKalb County Courthouse.
- <sup>197</sup> Deed Book 17346, 44, DeKalb County Courthouse.



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## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

- 1) **John B. Johns' Enslaved Persons:** Research DeKalb court documents and other sources to discover if he emancipated or sold his slaves. Try to learn what their names were.
- 2) **Deed Research**
  - a. When/to whom did JBJ sell his 135 acres in District 18, LL167?
  - b. When did he purchase and when/to whom did JBJ sell his 202.5 acres in District 14, LL 84?
  - c. When/to whom did JBJ sell his property in District 26, LL 95 in Muscogee County?
  - d. When/to whom did his daughters Ora and Betsy sell their parcels in LL 165?
  - e. When/to whom did his grandson Luther Johns sell his parcel(s) to what later became Floral Hills Cemetery?
  - f. When/to whom did Luther's son William F., sell his parcel to?
  - g. Which Johns sold property to Guy Zemory Davis (and when)?
- 2) **John B. Johns Children**-expand the research on and write detailed narratives for his children.
- 3) **John B. Johns' Siblings**-expand the research on his siblings. Whom did they marry? Did they all stay in Wilkes County or migrant elsewhere?
- 4) **John B Johns' Ancestors**-expand the research on Johns Parents, Grandparents and Great-Grandparents.
- 5) **Elusive Records**—continue to look for records not yet found, including death records, obituaries, or death notices for John B. Johns two wives, his sons Francis (actually any records for him after 1850), Robert S., and Joseph G., and his daughter Eliza; a marriage record with his first wife.



**JOHN B. JOHNS CHRONOLOGICAL TRANSACTIONS  
FOR LAND LOTS 143, 144 165, 167, 189**

**CIRCA 1830**

John B. Johns arrives in DeKalb County and purchased LL165 (202 ½ acres) from Reason Whitehead, who had won the land in the 1821 Lottery. Courthouse record cannot be found due to 1842 courthouse fire.

**3 October 1838**

**Deed Book O, page 101**

John B. Johns, his brother Gustavus Johns, and other heirs sell LL 143 (202 acres) in District 18 to Garland Dabney. This is the property that John Johns described in his 1827 as having won in the 1821 Georgia Lottery and leaving it to his wife, Ann. This land lot adjoins LL 165 at its southeast corner.

**1858**

**Deed Book O, page 299**

John B. Johns purchased for \$6 50 acres in LL 144 District 18 from Rufus Cash,

**1860**

**Deed Book O, page 143**

John B. Johns purchases for one penny 135 acres in LL 167 District 18 from Shelton H. Campbell

**1860**

**Deed Book O, page 503**

John B. Johns purchases for one penny half an acre in LL244 District 18 from W.F. Hardman.  
*(Could this possibly be a transcription error, and should be LL144?)*

**1 January/25 Feb. 1861**

**Deed Book P, p. 148**

*(according to Pruitt Deed Abstracts and copy of deed/DHC)*  
Rufus Cash conveys to John B. Johns for \$50, 2.25 acres joining LL 165 and 5 acres in LL 144.

**John B. Johns begins to convey property to his sons:**

**10 March 1877**

**Deed Book T, page 507**

John B. Johns conveys to his son Samuel R. Johns, for \$5 and "love and affection," 10 acres of LL 165.

**1877**

**Deed Book DD, page 47**

*John B. Johns conveys 3 acres and 2 acres (2 deeds?) in LL 144 to his son Joseph G. Johns*

**1877**

**Deed Book DD, page 48**

John B. Johns conveys 12 acres in LL 144 to his son Joseph G. Johns

**1888**

**Deed Book BB, page 137**

Robert S. Johns conveys to his daughter Mary Johns Henderson for 1 penny, property in LL 189.

**30 October 1889**

**Deed Book DD, page 84**

John B. Johns conveys for "love and affection" to his son John B. Johns, Jr. 52 acres in LL 144 and 165 52 acres. (retake photo of page 1 of this deed). Recorded 14 November 1890.

**26 October 1889**

**Deed Book DD, page 167**

John B. Johns conveys for "love and affection" to his daughter Betsy A. [Johns] Eller 7 acres in LL 144 and 165. Recorded 4 December 1890.

**30 October 1889**

**Deed Book RR, page 239**

John B. Johns conveys for "love and affection" to daughter Ora F. [Johns] Chewning, and his son-in-law Jordan Chewning, 46 acres in LL 144 and 165. Recorded 14 April 1900.

**30 October 1889**

**Deed Book FF, page 583**

John B. Johns to his son Samuel R. Johns 45 acres in LL 165 (*image of page 2 missing*). Prob. Recorded 1890.

**2 November 1889**

**Deed Book EE, page 341**

John B. Johns conveys for "love and affection" to his son Robert S. Johns 25 acres in northwest corner of LL 165. Recorded 28 November 1890.

**Circa 1890**

**Deed Book AA, pages 393-394**

John B. Johns and Samuel R. Johns convey land to Georgia Carolina & Northern Railway Co. for **right of way**.

**John B. John's sons and/or their widows convey property:**

**Circa 1890**

**Deed Book DD page 310**

*R.S. Johns conveys land to Georgia Carolina & Northern Railway Co. for **right of way***

**30 July 1900?**

**Deed Book SS, page 183**

Robert S. Johns conveys to ½ brother Samuel R. Johns 25 acres, nw corner of LL 165.



**21 November 1924**

**Deed Book 194, page 332**

John B. Johns Jr. to sons E.W. and C.M. Johns, for \$5 and "love and affection," LL 165. Deed does not give acreage sum in the legal description of the property.

**27 March 1926**

**Deed Book 221, page 361**

John B. Johns Jr. conveys to his son C.S. Johns for \$25 property adjacent to J.B. Johns in LL165

**192?**

**Deed Book 249, pg. 309 (book missing from shelf on day of visit)**

J.B. Johns, Jr. to C.M. Johns, et.al, E.W., et.al.

**16 July 1927**

**Deed Book 259, page 326**

J.B. Johns, Jr. to C Johns et. al. and E.W. Johns et. al, for \$5 and "love and affection" LL 165, 3117 Lawrenceville Hwy.

**Circa 1935**

**Deed Book 136, page 564**

Ida Bagwell Johns (widow of Samuel R. Johns) conveys to her son William F. Johns 25 acres in LL165.

**15 October 1942**

**Deed Book 559, page 406** (photocopy of deed/DHC)

John B. Johns, Jr. to Mary Catherine Johns and Leila Belle Johns , LL 165

**John B. John's grandchildren and John B. John Jr.'s widow convey property to their heirs:**

**19 March 1947**

**Deed Book 685, pages 9-10** (photocopy of deed from DHC)

Charlie S. Johns to Adelle Johns, Johnny Johns, Syble Johns, Conrad Johns and Patricia Johns, LL 165

**26 January 1950**

**Deed Book 796, page 351** (photocopy of deed/DHC)

Mary Catherine Johns [widow of J.B. Johns, Jr.] to her son C.S. Johns for \$5 and "love and affection," LL165. Deed refers to this property as deeded to Mrs. Mary Catherine Johns and Leila Belle Johns, **15 October 1942** and recorded in Deed Book 559, page 406. Refers to this being the "former home place of J.B. Johns." Property is bounded on the westerly side by paved highway, the southwesterly side by E.W. Johns and C.M. Johns property, on northeasterly side by Adel Johns and children (formerly known as Clarence Johns property). Grantor reserves right for life estate of the property.

**John B. John's great-grandchildren begin to convey property to their heirs:**

**22 November 1955**

**Deed Book 1270, page 373** (photocopy of deed from DHC)

Syble Johns to Adelle Johns, LL 165. (*this is a transcription error; it would have been mother to daughter/Adelle to Syble*)

**11 June 1957**

**Deed Book 292?** Page? (photocopy of deed/DHC)

E.W. Johns and C.M. Johns convey for \$100 to Charlie S. Johns Sr and Charlie S. Johns Jr. LL 165

**16 March 1965**

**Deed Book 1982, page 258** (photocopy of deed from DHC)

E.W. Johns and C.M. Johns to their sister Leila Belle Johns, for \$10 and "love and affection," LL165.

**30 November 1984**

**Deed Book 5116, page 298** (photocopy of deed from DHC)

Syble Johns Lindsay to her son William Michael Lindsay, "love and affection," LL165, 3117 Lawrenceville Hwy.

**1 June 1990**

**Deed Book 6720, page 473** (photocopy of deed from DHC)

Syble Johns ad administratrix of estate of Johnny L. Johns to Patricia Johns McDonald, for \$10, LL165. (refer to 2 previous entries above—all information on same deed/DHC)

**17 November 2003**

**Deed Book 15457, page 390**

Syble Johns Lindsay to GA Dept. of Transportation, right of way for I-285 interchange for \$1, LL 165, .067 acres. Previously dated 25 June 1999 and revised 2 July 2003.

**8 April 2005**

**Deed Book 17346, pg. 44**

Johns heirs (Syble Lindsay for Conrad Willis Johns), W. Michael Lindsay, Patricia Johns McDonald, Ben Marian Pulliam Johns, Marion Lee Johns, David Byron Johns, Karen Johns Gaddis, Patrician Johns Ledbetter, and Betty MacLeod) to DeKalb County for \$1.00, LL 144 and 165





# John B. Johns Family Tax Records

49 572 D 9 M

NAMES.	Poll.	Slaves.	Profession.	Oak and Hickory Upland.			River Swamp.			Pine.	Number.	District.
				1st.	2nd.	3rd.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.			
<i>Brownings</i>												
Dicken Mrs					76						182	18
Dicken William D	1				50						181	18
Dum Abram D	1				101						137	18
Howass Strother	1											
Howass John y	1	1										
Gahlot Naulon	1											
Gorgia Aaron	1				202						266	18
Gorgia John	1											
Gorgia Bird	1				420							18
Gullidge William	1											
Gullidge Jackson	1											
Henderson Greenville	1	7				40					266	3
					202	202					229	18 230
					202	202					248	18 210
					101	101					209	18 250
					101	80					191	18 249
Harris John L.	1					252					215	18 216
Henderson William G	1											
Henderson M A	1											
Henderson Rufus	1											
Hardman John	1	1				202					183	18
Hendrick William B	1											
Hudman William J	1											
Johnson Robert W	1											
Johnson Thomas D	1											
Johnson Lehandlar	1											
Juppras John E	1											
Johns John B	1	2				202					165	18
Johns John											202	84 10
Johnson William B						150					214	18
Johnson William D	1					160					151	8
Jackson William	1					202					223	18



50

672

NAMES.	Poll.	Slaves.	Profession.	Oak and Hickory Upland.			River Swamp.			Fine.	Number.	District.
				1st.	2nd.	3rd.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.			
<i>Pawnings</i>												
Flowers John Y S J	/					405	18	228				
Reeve George W	/											
Gullege William	/											
Gozea John L	/											
Gullege E J	/					202	18	123				
Gozea Aaron	/					40						
Gabbot Newton	/					400						
Gunter James B	/											
Gozea Bird	/											
Hendrick William B	/											
Hudman William	/											
Henderson Greenville	/	9				40	3	246				
					202	202	18	229	230			
					101	202	18	210	248			
					202	85	18	249	250			
Harris John C	/					253	18	215				
Henderson M A	/											
Henderson Rufus	/											
Henderson William S	/											
Hardman John	/	/				202	18	185				
Johns John B Ex	/	2				202	18	165				
Johns John	/						202	14	84			
Johnson Chandler A	/											
Johnson Thomas L	/											
Johnson Robert W	/											
Inge Charles	/											
Inge Noel	/											
Jeffries John E	/											
Jackson Asberry	/											
Johnson William B		2				150	18	214				
						100	8	150				
Johnson William H	/					202	18					
Johnson William J	/											









Name of Militia District <i>Burnings</i>		REAL ESTATE.										President or other Officer can make the Return for Shareholders, whether resident or non-resident.			
No. <i>572</i> District.	GEORGIA MILITIA.	Roll of White.	Lavages.	Debtors.	Debtors, Disputed, Disputed, or Pool.	Debtors, Disputed, Disputed, or Pool.	Debtors, Disputed, Disputed, or Pool.	Debtors, Disputed, Disputed, or Pool.	Debtors, Disputed, Disputed, or Pool.	Debtors, Disputed, Disputed, or Pool.	Debtors, Disputed, Disputed, or Pool.	No. of Shares in any State or National Bank in this State.	Value of Shares in any State or National Bank in this State.	Value of Shares in any State or National Bank in this State.	Value of Shares in any State or National Bank in this State.
NAMES—(First Names in full.)							ACRES.			DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.		DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	
<i>Henderson William R.</i>							1 0 0	151 15							
<i>Hopkins Mrs Margaret H.</i>							3 0	196 14		7 0 0					
<i>Hopkins Green S.</i>							1 0 0	2 12 "							
<i>Henderson Mrs Emily</i>							1 0 0	2 13 "		6 0 0					
<i>House Thomas J.</i>							1 0 2 3	76 "		2 0 0 0					
<i>Harris Mrs Anna</i>							6 0	238 "							
<i>Henderson William E.</i>							7	230 "		1 2 0 0					
<i>Johnson Mrs Mary H.</i>							1 0 1	2 18 "		1 8 0 0	1 0 0				
<i>Jolley Robert</i>							7	230 "							
<i>Jolley Robert Agnes</i>															
<i>George Jones</i>															
<i>Jolley James</i>															
<i>Justice James W.</i>															
<i>Justice James H. Agnes</i>															
<i>Roberta Justice</i>															
<i>Jolley J.</i>							1 8 7 1/2	155 18		1 2 0 0					
<i>Jackson J. H.</i>							8 0	117 "		4 0 0					
<i>Jones Daniel</i>															
<i>Jeffers Mrs Parasadi</i>							4 3	394 18		2 5 0					
<i>Jones George</i>															
<i>Johns Joseph R.</i>							5 5	146 "		4 0 0					
<i>Johns Samuel R.</i>							1 0	165 "		5 0					
<i>Johns John B.</i>							23 0	146 "		1 1 0 0					
<i>Jordan F. W.</i>															
<i>Johns R. S.</i>							2 0 2 1/2	185 "		1 3 0 0					
<i>Kellum William A.</i>															
<i>Kettridge Edward W.</i>							1 1 9	147 18		9 5 0					
<i>Knight William J.</i>															
<i>Sanford Baden E.</i>							1 2 9	215 18		8 0 0					
<i>Sanford Andrew J.</i>															
<i>Soyel Jabe M.</i>							2 0 0	204 18							
<i>"</i>							2	259 "							
<i>"</i>							2 0 0	234 "							
<i>"</i>							1 7 5	235 "							
<i>"</i>							1 5	236 "		3 6 0 0					
<i>Seavell A. E.</i>															
							22	1 2 8 0 1/2		1 6 2 5 0	1 0 0				



PERSONAL ESTATE.														
Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.	Value of Shares in any Bank or Savings Institution, when the same are not included in the preceding items.
DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS
Merchandise of every kind.	Capital invested in Shipping and Tonnage.	Stock and Bonds.	Cotton Manufactories.	Iron Works, Foundries, etc.	Capital invested in Mining.	Value of Household and Personal Effects, Furniture, etc.	Watches, Silver Plate, and Jewelry, and other articles worn by owner or family.	Horses, Mules, Hogs, Sheep, Cattle, and all other stock.	Plantation and Mechanical Tools, and all other articles of every kind.	Clothes, Carriages, and other articles of personal use, valued for sale 1st of April.	Value of all other property not before enumerated.	Value of Property of Deceased, when not included in the preceding items.	A gross Value of Whole Property.	Amount of Tax on Pro- perties.
DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS	DOLLARS
						5.00	1.00	1.00	3.00			1	5.15	1
						1.00		1.00				2	3.25	
						3.00		1.50			20.00	3	15.10	
												4		
												5		
												6		
						15.00		25.00	2.00		15.00	7	47.86	1
											8.00	8	2.075	
												9		
								4				10	12.9	1
												11		
												12	14.00	
						2.00		1.20			4.00	13	7.2	
						2.50		6.50	3		5	14	9.01	1
						2.50		5				15	1.20	1
						5.00		10.00	1.00		5.00	16	2.010	1
								5.00	2		1.50	17	5.67	1
												18		
						10.00		3.70	1.00			19	6.47	
												20		
												21		
						2.50		1.23	2		2.50	22	6.55	1
												23		1
												24		
						1.50		2.50	5			25	4.50	1
								5				26	5	1
												27		
						10.00		2.00	1.00			28	7.30	
						2.40		17.50	5		2.50	29	5.40	1
												30		
												31		
						1.20		1.20				32	2.2	1
												33		
						5.00		12.00	3		5	34	11.78	
						2.00		2.50				35	1.55	1
												36		
						3.00		10.00			1.00	37	3.40	1
						4.00		10.00	5		2.00	38	13.65	1
						2.50		5.00	5		2.00	39	1.40	1
								5.00				40	5.00	1
						3.00		10.00	5		1.00	41	1.445	1
												42		
												43		
												44		
						86.7	1.2	135.7	8.0		187.5		2084.7	1.8

John B. Johns, 1877-1880 DeKalb County Tax Digest, p. 2, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

Joseph G. Johns, 1877-1880 DeKalb County Tax Digest, p.1, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)



John B. Johns, 1885-1886, DeKalb Tax Digest, 1885-1886, p. 1, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)







REAL ESTATE.										President or other officer can make the Return for Shareholder, whether resident or non-resident.									
NAME OF MILITIA DISTRICT. <i>Dawson</i>										Lands, (including improvements (hereon.) Mills, Machinery, Toll Bridges and Ferries.									
No. <i>572</i>	DISTRICT,	Georgia Militia.	Post-Office <i>Chickatun</i>	Roll of Whites.	Digitized or other Artist.	Lawyers.	Doctors.	These figures represent the Number of hands employed by you between 12 and 60 years of age.	Total number of Acres of Land.	Number.	District.	Section.	Aggregate Value of Land.	Aggregate Value of City or Town Property.	No of Shares in any State or National Bank in the State.	Value of Shares in any State or National Bank of this State.	Building and Loan Association, Stock of Non-Resident, and other such property and similar business.	Amount of Money and Solvent Bonds of all kinds, including Notes, A.C.B., etc.	Manufacture of every kind.
NAMES—(First Name in Full.)										ACRES.			DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.		DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.
<i>Henderson James A</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>1</i>											
<i>Henderson George H.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>2</i>											
<i>Henderson William W.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>3</i>											
<i>Henderson James S.</i>								<i>4</i>											
<i>Henderson Elizabeth W.</i>								<i>5</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>264</i>	<i>18</i>								
<i>John W. Miller</i>								<i>6</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>800</i>						
<i>Henderson Francis W.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>7</i>											
<i>Henderson John M. G.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>8</i>											
<i>Henderson Greenwood</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>9</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>291</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>500</i>					<i>15</i>	
<i>Horton William L.</i>								<i>10</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>215</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>400</i>						
								<i>11</i>											
								<i>12</i>											
								<i>13</i>											
								<i>14</i>											
								<i>15</i>											
								<i>16</i>											
								<i>17</i>											
								<i>18</i>											
								<i>19</i>											
								<i>20</i>											
<i>Jones George</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>21</i>											
<i>Johns Robert S. Supt.</i>								<i>22</i>	<i>202</i>	<i>189</i>	<i>18</i>		<i>2000</i>						
<i>Wife</i>								<i>23</i>											
<i>Johns Robert S.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>24</i>										<i>50</i>	
<i>Johnson Edward</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>25</i>											
<i>Johnson Henry R. S. Supt.</i>								<i>26</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>2200</i>				<i>5500</i>		
<i>Mrs. Lucy F. Dickerson</i>								<i>27</i>											
<i>Jeffers Bennett W. S.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>28</i>											
<i>Jordan James H.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>29</i>											
<i>Jordan Francis W.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>30</i>											
<i>Jones Dallas</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>31</i>											
<i>Jones William B.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>32</i>											
<i>Jackson John H.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>33</i>											
<i>Jeffers Mrs. P. R. H.</i>								<i>34</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>261</i>	<i>"</i>							<i>1300</i>	
								<i>35</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>262</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>700</i>						
								<i>36</i>											
								<i>37</i>											
								<i>38</i>											
<i>Kelly Washington L.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>39</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>249</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>400</i>					<i>250</i>	
<i>Kimbrell John D.</i>	<i>1</i>							<i>40</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>18</i>			<i>600</i>						
<i>Kilgore Mrs. Mary J.</i>								<i>41</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>388</i>	<i>"</i>		<i>450</i>						
								<i>42</i>											
								<i>43</i>											
								<i>44</i>	<i>906</i>	<i>1</i>			<i>800</i>				<i>8200</i>		

PERSONAL ESTATE													
Capital invested in shipping and Tonnage.	Stocks and Bonds.	Cotton Manufactories.	Iron Works, Foundries, etc.	Capital invested in Mining.	Value of Household and Personal Effects, such as Furniture, Clocks, Organs, etc.	Watches, Silver Plate and Jewelry of all kinds, worn by owner or not.	Houses, Mills, Harbors, Cattle and all other things.	Plantations and Mechanical Tools, Law or other Licenses, School Patents, etc.	Cotton, Corn, Annual Crops and other things, held for sale 1st of April.	Value of all other Property not before enumerated.	These figures are to direct the assessment of the Value of Property of the Builders and doubled.	Aggregate Value of Whole Property.	Amount of Tax on Probation.
DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.
					2.5	7.5	3		1.0	1	11.3	/	
					2.0	7.5	2		2.0	2	11.7	/	
					6.5	2.87	3.0		4.5	3	4.31	/	
					4.0					4	4.0		
										5			
										6	3.00		
					8.0	1.34	1.0		3.2	7	2.67	/	
					2.0	7.5	3		2.5	8	1.06	/	
					4.0	2.3	1.5		2.9	9	7.12	/	
										10	4.00		
										11			
										12			
										13			
										14			
										15			
										16			
										17			
										18			
										19			
										20			
					8.0	3				21	2.3	/	
										22	20.00		
										23			
					5.0	1.24	5		7.7	24	3.06	/	
					1.5	2.0				25	2.3	/	
										26	7.700		
										27			
					2.0	1.30	5		4.0	28	1.95	/	
					2.0	4.5	5		8	29	7.5	/	
					3.5	2.0	5		2	30	6.2	/	
					3.5	2.2	5		1.0	31	7.1	/	
					3.5	7.1	5		3.5	32	1.47	/	
					5.0	1.04	5		6	33	1.63	/	
										34			
					3.5	2.5			1.0	35	5.93		6.77
										36			1.24
										37			1.576
										38			1.2
					2.5	1.2	7.0	1.3	2.0	39	3.90	/	6.33
					1.5	1.70	1.0		4.0	40	8.68	/	9.0
					3.0	5.7	3		1.0	41	5.50		57.2.0
										42			80.3.0
										43			16.6.57.1005
					6.33	1.2	14.76	1.2.0	4.77	44	14.687	1.7	

Robert S. Johns, 1885-1886 DeKalb County Tax Digest, p. 2, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).





PERSONAL ESTATE.																		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	Merchandise of every kind	Capital invested in shipping and commerce	Stocks and Bonds	Cotton Manufactures	Iron Works, Foundries, etc.	Capital invested in mining	Value of Household and Kitchen furniture, pictures, etc.	Watches, Silver, Jewels and personal property of every kind owned by owner or rent	Horses, Mules, Hogs, Sheep, Cattle and all other stock.	Furniture and Mechanical Appliances	Cotton, Corp. Annual Capital, Dividends, etc. held on account of Agent	Value of all other property not before enumerated	Value of property of decedent not herein enumerated	Aggregate value of whole of property	Amount of tax on Probate estate	Amount of tax on Polls	Total Amount of Taxes	
RS	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	Dols.	Dols.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	Dols.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	Cts.
1.0							2.0	4	58	11.0		5	1	5-6.7				
							2.5		12.5	1.5		1	2	1.66				
							2.0		2.0				3	4.0				
													4					
													5					
													6					
													7					
													8					
													9					
													10					
							4.1		10.0	2			11	1.48				
							2.0						12	2.0				
							5.5		5.0	9.0		5	13	1.75				
1.00							7.5		1.75	4.5		18	14	3.75				
							4.0		1.00	3			15	1.43				
									3.0				16	4.30				
							2.4		7.8				17	1.00				
							11.0	5	1.49	1.3			18	4.15				
													19					
													20					
							2.5		1.45	3.5			21	1.75				
1.0							3.8		1.57	3.0		5	22	8.37				
							3.0		2.0	1.8			23	4.80				
													24					
													25					
							6.2	2.5	1.38	3.1		2	26	2.317				
													27					
													28					
							3.4		8.8	1.7		5	29	1.143				
													30					
							2.0		3.10	3.5		5	31	1.435				
													32					
7.0							1.00		5.25	3.2		3	33	3.130				
							2.5		3	2.0			34	8.05				
													35					
													36					
3.00							1.00		3.05	2.5		5	37	2.683				
							1.5		1.0	2.0			38	4.70				
							2.0	2	2				39	2.4				
6.5							5.0		1.40	5.0			40	3.25				
							2.5						41	8.25				
													42					
													43					
5.55							5.02	3.1	2.60.11	3.30		5.2	44	17.84.11				

John B. Johns, 1890 DeKalb County Tax Digest, p. 2, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)



NAME OF MILITIA DISTRICT <i>DeKalb</i>										REAL ESTATE.				President or other Officer can make the Return for Shareholder, who then relieves or non-resident.			
No. <i>572</i> DISTRICT										Lands (including improvements thereon, Mills, Machinery, Toll Bridges and Ferries)							
GEORGIA MILITIA,																	
Post Office <i>Clarkston</i>																	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
NAME.—(First Name in Full.)	Full of Whites	Lawyers	Doctors	Deputies	Agents or Firm	President R. R. Co. etc.	President of R. R. Co. etc.	These persons to object to any in trading the land.	Number of hands employed on the land between 12 and 6 p.m. of Sept.	Acres.	DOLLARS	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	Dols.	Dols.	DOLLARS	
<i>Harris Hyman G.</i>	1							1	47	249	18	2	00				10
<i>Hindman Thomas</i>								2									
<i>Hazley Benjamin B.</i>	1							3									
<i>Hazley Matthew A.</i>	1							4									
								5									
								6									
								7									
								8									
								9									
								10									
<i>Jones William B.</i>	1							11									
<i>Johnson Edmund</i>	1							12									
<i>Jackson John H.</i>	1							13									
<i>Johnson Robert S.</i>	1							14	25	160		2	50				100
<i>Jackson William J.</i>								15									
<i>Jackson William M.</i>	1							16	50	275	1	2	00				
<i>Jackson Rufus J.</i>	1							17									
<i>Jeffers Samuel S.</i>	1							18	26	253		2	68				
								19									
								20									
<i>Knight William J.</i>	1							21									
<i>Kimbrell John B.</i>	1							22	85	136		6	00				10
<i>Kilgore Mrs Mary J.</i>								23	50	288		24	12				
								24									
								25									
<i>Langford William B.</i>	1							26	200	170		2	000				
<i>Lawson James J.</i>								27	100	250							
								28	1	229							
<i>Lacey Mr Theophilus S.</i>								29	14	249		1	000				
								30	29	142	6						
<i>Loyd James J.</i>								31	228	253	18	1	100				
								32	200	200							
<i>Lewis James M.</i>	1							33	75	235		2	600				70
<i>Lewis Robert S.</i>								34	65	190		8	00				
								35	50	191							
								36	85	162							
<i>Litch Mrs Sarah J.</i>								37	100	192		1	900				300
<i>Langford William J.</i>	1							38	100	223		2	00				
<i>Lovel Mrs Sallie P.</i>								39									
<i>Lovel Mrs Mary C.</i>								40									65
								41	140	286		8	00				
								42									
								43									
	16							44	1606		12970						555

Robert S. Johns, 1890 DeKalb County Tax Digest, p. 1, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

PERSONAL ESTATE.																		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	Merchandise of every kind	Capital invested in shipping and commerce	Stocks and Bonds	Cotton Manufactures	Iron Works, Foundries, etc.	Capital invested in mining	Value of Household and Kitchen furniture, pictures, etc.	Watches, Silver, Jewels and jewelry of all kinds, worn by owner or not	Horses, Mules, Hogs, Sheep, Cattle and all other stock.	Furniture and Mechanical Appliances	Cotton, Corp. Annual Capital, Dividends, etc., held on account of Agent	Value of all other property not before enumerated	Value of property of decedent, not enumerated, being the value of property of decedent, as not divided.	Aggregate value of whole of property	Amount of tax on whole of estate	Amount of tax on Polls	Total Amount of Taxes	
RS	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	Dols.	Dols.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	Dols.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	DOLLARS.	Cts.
1 0							2.0	4	5.8	11.0		5	1	5-6.7				
							2.5		12.5	1.5		1	2	1.66				
							2.0		2.0				3	4.0				
													4					
													5					
													6					
													7					
													8					
													9					
													10					
							4.5		1.00	2			11	1.48				
							2.0						12	2.0				
							5.5		8.0	9.0		5	13	1.75				
1 0 0							7.5		1.75	4.5		1.5	14	3.75				
							4.0		1.00	3			15	1.43				
									3.0				16	4.30				
							2.4		7.8				17	1.00				
							11.0	5	1.49	1.3			18	4.15				
													19					
													20					
							2.5		1.45	3.5			21	1.75				
1 0							3.5		1.57	3.0		5	22	8.37				
							3.0		2.0	1.8			23	4.80				
													24					
													25					
							6.2	2.5	1.38	3.1		2	26	2.317				
													27					
													28					
							3.4		8.8	1.7		5	29	1.143				
													30					
							2.0		3.10	3.5		5	31	1.435				
													32					
7 0							1.00		5.25	3.2		3	33	3.130				
							2.5		3	2.0			34	8.05				
													35					
													36					
3 0 0							1.00		3.05	2.5		5	37	2.683				
							1.5		1.0	2.0			38	4.70				
							2.0	2	2				39	2.4				
6 5							5.0		1.40	5.0			40	3.25				
							2.5						41	8.25				
													42					
													43					
5 5 5							5.02	3.1	2.60.11	3.30		5.2	44	17.84.11				

Robert S. Johns, 1890 DeKalb County Tax Digest, p. 2, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)







e the return for  
non-resident.

2

17





Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> John B. Johns	
Born:	19 March 1806 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Married:	circa 1830 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Died:	19 January 1896 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage:	Louisa Prather (1824-after 1880?) 10 April 1856, Coweta Co., Georgia
Husband's Father:	John Johns (1756-1829)
Husband's Mother:	Ann Smith (1775-1830) not verified
<b>Wife:</b> #1 Susannah "Susan" Caroline White	
Born:	13 March 1809 probably Clarke Co.
Died:	before 1850 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	Jesse White (1762-1849)
Wife's Mother:	Elizabeth Wells (1776-1837)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Francis "Frank" W. Johns Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	12 September 1831 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Died:	before 1860? DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	unknown
Spouse:	n/a Date of Marriage:
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> Jesse Jeremiah Johns Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	5 May 1833 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Died:	21 June 1916 Tucumseh, Pottawatomie Co., Oklahoma
Buried:	New Hope Cemetery, Tucumseh, Pottawatomie Co., Ok.
Spouse:	#1) Nancy A. Sherman #2) Anna Evans Date of Marriage: #1 1856, GA or TX; #2 1914, OK
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> Robert S. Johns Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	16 March 1835 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died:	13 March 1923 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Spouse:	#1) Ruth E. Whitlock #2) Susan A. Leavell Pankey Date of Marriage: #1 1856; #2 1888-both in DeKalb Co., GA
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1920 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com	

Prepared by / Date:



Name and/or Date	Place
4 <sup>th</sup> Child: Joseph G. Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 5 February 1837	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 14 December 1903	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: Mary Elizabeth Cooper	Date of Marriage: 7 December 1865
5 <sup>th</sup> Child: Elizabeth "Betsy" Ann Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 3 April 1839	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 31 March 1909	Jefferson Co., Georgia
Buried:	Wynnville Cemetery, Blount Co., Alabama
Spouse: Eli Eller	Date of Marriage: unknown
6 <sup>th</sup> Child: Sarah Elizabeth "Eliza" Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 1 July 1844	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died:	unknown
Buried:	unknown
Spouse: perhaps Rogers?	Date of Marriage:

Sources: (continued)

Davis, Robert Scott, Jr. The Wilkes County Papers: 1783-1833 (Easley, South Carolina, 1979)

Hudson, Frank Parker, Wilkes County, Georgia Tax Records, 1785-1805, Vol. 1 and 2 (Atlanta, 1996)

DAR Online Genealogy Database

Notes: In several uncited family accounts, a possible 7th child, Susan, is mentioned, born circa 1841. I could find no record of this child in any or burial record so I did not include her in the family group.

Prepared by / Date: Carole M. Schenck/Wiregrass Daughter Consulting December 2022





Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> John B. Johns	
Born: 19 March 1806	Wilkes Co., Georgia
Married: 10 April 1856	Coweta Co., Georgia
Died: 19 January 1896	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage: Louisa Prather (1824-after 1880?)	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Husband's Father: John Johns (1756-1830)	Husband's Mother: Ann Smith (1775-1830) not verified
<b>Wife:</b> #2) Louisa Prather	
Born: circa 1824	Wilkes Co., Georgia?
Died: after 1880?	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage: Susannah "Susan" C. White	circa 1830 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Wife's Father: William Walsh Prather (1798-1884)	Wife's Mother: Sydney Norman Glaze (1804-1876)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Samuel Robinson Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 17 April 1857	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 15 July 1934	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Spouse: #1) Lucy Chewning #2) Dora "Ida" Bagwell	Date of Marriage: #1 1876; #2 1893, both DeKalb Co.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> William Thomas Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 23 March 1859	DeKalb County, Georgia
Died: 26 December 1934	DeKalb County, Georgia
Buried:	Hillcrest Cemetery, East Point, Fulton Co., Georgia
Spouse: unknown	Date of Marriage:
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> Mark M. Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 4 August 1861	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 4 June 1925	Central State Hospital, Milledgeville Baldwin Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Spouse: never married	Date of Marriage:
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1940 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources found on www.ancestry.com	

Prepared by / Date:



# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
4 <sup>th</sup> Child: Ora Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 25 November 1862	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 21 December 1944	Cobb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: 1) Jordan T. Chewning (1854-1902) 2) Amos T. Wilson	Date of Marriage: 1) 22 December 1883, DeKalb Co., GA 2) bet. 1900-1910
5 <sup>th</sup> Child: John B. Johns, Jr.	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 10 October 1864	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 15 January 1946	DeKalb County, Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb County, GA
Spouse: Mary C. Jackson (1871-1963)	Date of Marriage: 29 July 1889 DeKalb Co., GA.
6 <sup>th</sup> Child:	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

Sources: (Continued)

Davis, Robert Scott, Jr. The Wilkes County Papers: 1783-1833 (Easley, South Carolina, 1979)

Hudson, Frank Parker, Wilkes County, Georgia Tax Records, 1785-1805, Vol. 1 and 2 (Atlanta, 1996)

Notes: Lucy Chewning is the sister of Jordan T. Chewning

Prepared by / Date:





Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Robert S. Johns	
Born:	16 March 1835
Married:	12 November 1856
Died:	13 March 1923
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	Susan Leavell Pankey (1840-1919)
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
	DeKalb Co., Georgia
	DeKalb Co., Georgia
	DeKalb Co., Georgia
	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
	4 October 1888 DeKalb Co., Georgia (no children)
	Husband's Mother: Susannah "Susan" Caroline White (1809-bef 1850)
<b>Wife:</b> Rutha E. Whitlock	
Born:	27 July 1837
Died:	26 August 1886
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	
	DeKalb
	Henderson Family Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
	Wife's Mother:
1 <sup>st</sup> Child:	Mary C. Johns
Born:	16 March 1857
Died:	19 August 1932
Buried:	
Spouse:	Marion Henderson
	Decatur, DeKalb Co., GA
	Fellowship Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
	Date of Marriage:
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child:	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child:	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
Sources:	U.S. Federal Census 1840-1930 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com

Prepared by / Date: Carole M. Schenck/Wiregrass Daughter Consulting December 2022



Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Joseph G. Johns	
Born:	5 February 1837
Married:	7 December 1865
Died:	14 December 1903
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA.
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
Husband's Mother:	Susannah "Susan" Caroline White (1809-before 1850)
<b>Wife:</b> Mary E. Cooper	
Born:	1 May 1843
Died:	26 September 1928
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA.
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	
Wife's Mother:	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Amanda Johns <span style="float: right;">Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>	
Born:	6 June 1868
Died:	2 August 1947
Buried:	
Spouse:	never married
Date of Marriage:	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> Ollie Johns <span style="float: right;">Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>	
Born:	2 December 1869
Died:	7 June 1954
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse:	never married
Date of Marriage:	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> <span style="float: right;">Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
Date of Marriage:	

**Sources:** U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950  
DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908  
Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978  
Georgia Marriages 1699-1944  
U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current  
all sources above found on [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

Prepared by / Date: Carole M. Schenck/Wiregrass Daughter Consulting December 2022





Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Samuel Robinson Johns	
Born: 17 April 1857	DeKalb Co., GA
Married: 24 December 1876	DeKalb Co., GA
Died: 15 July 1934	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Other Marriage: Dora "Ida" Bagwell	1893 DeKalb Co., GA
Husband's Father: John B. Johns (1806-1896)	Husband's Mother: Louisa Prather (1825-after 1880)
<b>Wife:</b> Lucy Ann Chewning	
Born: 26 November 1856	Carroll Co., GA
Died: 26 December 1891	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father: Thomas E. Chewning (1830-?)	Wife's Mother: Sa[ronia Chewning (1833-?)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Luther Martin Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 6 June 1878	DeKalb Co., GA
Died: 9 May 1961	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: Willie Mae Maddox (1902-1991)	Date of Marriage: 31 December 1916, Fulton Co., GA
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> Sidney Ann Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 24 July 1880	DeKalb Co., GA
Died: 30 June 1953	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: George Washington Mitchell	Date of Marriage: 17 April 1898, DeKalb County, GA.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> Viola Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 21 April 1886	DeKalb County, Georgia
Died: 8 June 1980	DeKalb County, Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA.
Spouse: William Pittman Williams (1882-1933)	Date of Marriage: circa 1903 DeKalb Co., GA.
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com	

Prepared by / Date: Carole M. Schenck/Wiregrass Daughter Consulting



# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date

Place

Male: ☒ Female: ☐

4<sup>th</sup> Child: Leslie Johns

Born: 20 February 1888

DeKalb County, GA.

Died: 29 August 1897

DeKalb County, GA.

Buried:

Date of Marriage:

Spouse:

Male: ☐ Female: ☐

5<sup>th</sup> Child:

Born:

Died:

Buried:

Date of Marriage:

Spouse:

Male: ☐ Female: ☐

6<sup>th</sup> Child:

Born:

Died:

Buried:

Date of Marriage:

Spouse:

Sources:

Notes:

Prepared by / Date:





# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Samuel Robinson Johns	
Born:	17 April 1857
Married:	28 March 1893
Died:	15 July 1934
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	Lucy Ann Chewning (1865-1891)
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
	DeKalb Co., GA
	DeKalb Co., GA
	DeKalb Co., GA
	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
	24 December 1876
	Husband's Mother: Louisa Prather (1825-after 1880)
<b>Wife:</b> Dora "Ida" Bagwell	
Born:	1867
Died:	June 1960
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	James M. Bagwell
	Hillsborough Co., FL.
	Wife's Mother: Elizabeth
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> William Franklin "Frank" Johns	
	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	28 May 1897
Died:	28 April 1973
Buried:	
Spouse:	Irene B. Barber
	DeKalb Co., GA
	Tampa, Hillsborough Co. Florida
	Date of Marriage:
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b>	
	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b>	
	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com	

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Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Luther Martin Johns	
Born:	6 June 1878
Married:	31 December 1916
Died:	9 May 1961
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	Samuel Robinson Johns (1857-1934)
Husband's Mother:	Lucy Ann Chewning (1865-1891)
<b>Wife:</b> Willie Mae Maddox	
Born:	23 December 1902
Died:	9 June 1991
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	George Maddox
Wife's Mother:	Mary "Maggie" Goza
1 <sup>st</sup> Child:	Robert William Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	4 October 1917
Died:	1 October 1978
Buried:	
Spouse:	Ethel Mae
Date of Marriage:	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child:	Eula Mae Johns <span>Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	30 January 1919
Died:	22 February 1989
Buried:	
Spouse:	Roy Edwin Mitchell
Date of Marriage:	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child:	Marion Luther Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	29 November 1923
Died:	26 August 2013
Buried:	
Spouse:	Katherine Blanche Burnette
Date of Marriage:	circa 1950
Sources:	U.S. Federal Census 1860-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current U.S. Obituary Collection, 1930-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com

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# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born: _____	
Died: _____	
Buried: _____	
Spouse: _____	Date of Marriage: _____
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born: _____	
Died: _____	
Buried: _____	
Spouse: _____	Date of Marriage: _____
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born: _____	
Died: _____	
Buried: _____	
Spouse: _____	Date of Marriage: _____

Sources: (continued)  
Georgia, U.S. Death Index, 1919-1998, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Georgia, U.S., World War I Service Cards, 1917-1919, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. Army Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Obit for Martin L. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 10 May 1961, p. 27  
Obit for Willie M. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 11 June 1991, p. 52  
Obit for Robert W. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 3 October 1978, p. 24  
Obit for Eula M. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 25 February 1989, p. 103  
Obit for Marion Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 29 August 2013, p. B8

Notes:

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Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> John B. Johns, Jr.	
Born:	10 October 1864
Married:	1 August 1889
Died:	15 January 1946
Buried:	18 January 1946
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
Husband's Mother:	Louisa Prather (1825-after 1880)
<b>Wife:</b> Mary C. Jackson	
Born:	May 1871
Died:	9 January 1963
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	
Wife's Mother:	
1 <sup>st</sup> Child:	Clarence Mercer Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	8 July 1890
Died:	26 November 1973
Buried:	28 November 1973
Spouse:	never married
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child:	Ernest Wood Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	30 December 1891
Died:	30 October 1971
Buried:	2 November 1971
Spouse:	never married
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child:	Leila Johns <span>Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	5 August 1892
Died:	19 January 1991
Buried:	21 January 1991
Spouse:	never marriedC
Sources:	U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current U.S. Obituary Collection,, 1930-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com

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# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
4 <sup>th</sup> Child: Charlie Summie Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 29 September 1900	DeKalb County, GA
Died: 24 October 1979	DeKalb County, GA
Buried: 26 October 1979	DeKalb County, GA
Spouse: Adelle Sallie Bacchus (1908-1963)	Date of Marriage: circa 1923
5 <sup>th</sup> Child:	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
6 <sup>th</sup> Child:	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

Sources: (continued)  
Georgia, U.S. Death Index, 1919-1998, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Georgia, U.S., World War I Service Cards, 1917-1919, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Georgia, U.S. Public Record Index, 1950-1993, Vol. 2., [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Obit for John B. Johns, Jr., [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 17 January 1946, pp.14, 19  
Obit for M.C. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 10 January 1963, pg. 22  
Obit for Ernest Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 1 November 1971, p. 29  
Obit for Clarence Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution 27 November 1973, p. 39  
Obit for Charlie Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 26 October 1979, p. 51  
Obit for Leila Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution 20 January 1991 p. 33

Notes: Clarence, Ernest, and Leila never married and lived on the homestead Charlie Sr. later also lived his last years on the homestead. According to newspaper accounts, she was the last Johns to live on the homestead.

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# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
------------------	-------

## Husband:

Born:	
Married:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	Husband's Mother:

## Wife:

Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	Wife's Mother:

## 1<sup>st</sup> Child:

Male: ☐ Female: ☐

Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Child:

Male: ☐ Female: ☐

Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Child:

Male: ☐ Female: ☐

Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

## Sources:

Prepared by / Date:





# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

Sources:

Notes:

Prepared by / Date:



Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> John B. Johns	
Born:	19 March 1806 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Married:	circa 1830 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Died:	19 January 1896 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage:	Louisa Prather (1824-after 1880?) 10 April 1856, Coweta Co., Georgia
Husband's Father:	John Johns (1756-1829)
Husband's Mother:	Ann Smith (1775-1830) not verified
<b>Wife:</b> #1 Susannah "Susan" Caroline White	
Born:	13 March 1809 probably Clarke Co.
Died:	before 1850 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	Jesse White (1762-1849)
Wife's Mother:	Elizabeth Wells (1776-1837)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Francis "Frank" W. Johns Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	12 September 1831 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Died:	before 1860? DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	unknown
Spouse:	n/a Date of Marriage:
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> Jesse Jeremiah Johns Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	5 May 1833 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Died:	21 June 1916 Tucumseh, Pottawatomie Co., Oklahoma
Buried:	New Hope Cemetery, Tucumseh, Pottawatomie Co., Ok.
Spouse:	#1) Nancy A. Sherman #2) Anna Evans Date of Marriage: #1 1856, GA or TX; #2 1914, OK
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> Robert S. Johns Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	16 March 1835 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died:	13 March 1923 DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Spouse:	#1) Ruth E. Whitlock #2) Susan A. Leavell Pankey Date of Marriage: #1 1856; #2 1888-both in DeKalb Co., GA
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1920 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com	

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Name and/or Date	Place
4 <sup>th</sup> Child: Joseph G. Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 5 February 1837	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 14 December 1903	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: Mary Elizabeth Cooper	Date of Marriage: 7 December 1865
5 <sup>th</sup> Child: Elizabeth "Betsy" Ann Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 3 April 1839	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 31 March 1909	Jefferson Co., Georgia
Buried:	Wynnville Cemetery, Blount Co., Alabama
Spouse: Eli Eller	Date of Marriage: unknown
6 <sup>th</sup> Child: Sarah Elizabeth "Eliza" Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 1 July 1844	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died:	unknown
Buried:	unknown
Spouse: perhaps Rogers?	Date of Marriage:

Sources: (continued)

Davis, Robert Scott, Jr. The Wilkes County Papers: 1783-1833 (Easley, South Carolina, 1979)

Hudson, Frank Parker, Wilkes County, Georgia Tax Records, 1785-1805, Vol. 1 and 2 (Atlanta, 1996)

DAR Online Genealogy Database

Notes: In several uncited family accounts, a possible 7th child, Susan, is mentioned, born circa 1841. I could find no record of this child in any or burial record so I did not include her in the family group.

Prepared by / Date: Carole M. Schenck/Wiregrass Daughter Consulting December 2022



Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> John B. Johns	
Born: 19 March 1806	Wilkes Co., Georgia
Married: 10 April 1856	Coweta Co., Georgia
Died: 19 January 1896	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage: Louisa Prather (1824-after 1880?)	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Husband's Father: John Johns (1756-1830)	Husband's Mother: Ann Smith (1775-1830) not verified
<b>Wife:</b> #2) Louisa Prather	
Born: circa 1824	Wilkes Co., Georgia?
Died: after 1880?	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Other Marriage: Susannah "Susan" C. White	circa 1830 Wilkes Co., Georgia
Wife's Father: William Walsh Prather (1798-1884)	Wife's Mother: Sydney Norman Glaze (1804-1876)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Samuel Robinson Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 17 April 1857	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 15 July 1934	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Spouse: #1) Lucy Chewning #2) Dora "Ida" Bagwell	Date of Marriage: #1 1876; #2 1893, both DeKalb Co.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> William Thomas Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 23 March 1859	DeKalb County, Georgia
Died: 26 December 1934	DeKalb County, Georgia
Buried:	Hillcrest Cemetery, East Point, Fulton Co., Georgia
Spouse: unknown	Date of Marriage:
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> Mark M. Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 4 August 1861	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 4 June 1925	Central State Hospital, Milledgeville Baldwin Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
Spouse: never married	Date of Marriage:
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1940 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources found on www.ancestry.com	

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# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
4 <sup>th</sup> Child: Ora Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 25 November 1862	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 21 December 1944	Cobb Co., Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: 1) Jordan T. Chewning (1854-1902) 2) Amos T. Wilson	Date of Marriage: 1) 22 December 1883, DeKalb Co., GA 2) bet. 1900-1910
5 <sup>th</sup> Child: John B. Johns, Jr.	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 10 October 1864	DeKalb Co., Georgia
Died: 15 January 1946	DeKalb County, Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb County, GA
Spouse: Mary C. Jackson (1871-1963)	Date of Marriage: 29 July 1889 DeKalb Co., GA.
6 <sup>th</sup> Child:	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

Sources: (Continued)

Davis, Robert Scott, Jr. The Wilkes County Papers: 1783-1833 (Easley, South Carolina, 1979)

Hudson, Frank Parker, Wilkes County, Georgia Tax Records, 1785-1805, Vol. 1 and 2 (Atlanta, 1996)

Notes: Lucy Chewning is the sister of Jordan T. Chewning

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Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Robert S. Johns	
Born:	16 March 1835
Married:	12 November 1856
Died:	13 March 1923
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	Susan Leavell Pankey (1840-1919)
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
	DeKalb Co., Georgia
	DeKalb Co., Georgia
	DeKalb Co., Georgia
	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., Georgia
	4 October 1888 DeKalb Co., Georgia (no children)
	Husband's Mother: Susannah "Susan" Caroline White (1809-bef 1850)
<b>Wife:</b> Rutha E. Whitlock	
Born:	27 July 1837
Died:	26 August 1886
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	
	DeKalb
	Henderson Family Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
	Wife's Mother:
1 <sup>st</sup> Child:	Mary C. Johns
Born:	16 March 1857
Died:	19 August 1932
Buried:	
Spouse:	Marion Henderson
	Decatur, DeKalb Co., GA
	Fellowship Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
	Date of Marriage:
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child:	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child:	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
Sources:	U.S. Federal Census 1840-1930 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com

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Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Joseph G. Johns	
Born:	5 February 1837
Married:	7 December 1865
Died:	14 December 1903
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA.
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
Husband's Mother:	Susannah "Susan" Caroline White (1809-before 1850)
<b>Wife:</b> Mary E. Cooper	
Born:	1 May 1843
Died:	26 September 1928
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA.
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	
Wife's Mother:	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Amanda Johns <span style="float: right;">Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>	
Born:	6 June 1868
Died:	2 August 1947
Buried:	
Spouse:	never married
Date of Marriage:	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> Ollie Johns <span style="float: right;">Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>	
Born:	2 December 1869
Died:	7 June 1954
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse:	never married
Date of Marriage:	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> <span style="float: right;">Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
Date of Marriage:	

**Sources:** U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950  
DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908  
Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978  
Georgia Marriages 1699-1944  
U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current  
all sources above found on [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

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Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Samuel Robinson Johns	
Born: 17 April 1857	DeKalb Co., GA
Married: 24 December 1876	DeKalb Co., GA
Died: 15 July 1934	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Other Marriage: Dora "Ida" Bagwell	1893 DeKalb Co., GA
Husband's Father: John B. Johns (1806-1896)	Husband's Mother: Louisa Prather (1825-after 1880)
<b>Wife:</b> Lucy Ann Chewning	
Born: 26 November 1856	Carroll Co., GA
Died: 26 December 1891	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father: Thomas E. Chewning (1830-?)	Wife's Mother: Sa[ronia Chewning (1833-?)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Luther Martin Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 6 June 1878	DeKalb Co., GA
Died: 9 May 1961	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: Willie Mae Maddox (1902-1991)	Date of Marriage: 31 December 1916, Fulton Co., GA
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> Sidney Ann Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 24 July 1880	DeKalb Co., GA
Died: 30 June 1953	DeKalb Co., GA
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
Spouse: George Washington Mitchell	Date of Marriage: 17 April 1898, DeKalb County, GA.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> Viola Johns	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Born: 21 April 1886	DeKalb County, Georgia
Died: 8 June 1980	DeKalb County, Georgia
Buried:	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA.
Spouse: William Pittman Williams (1882-1933)	Date of Marriage: circa 1903 DeKalb Co., GA.
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com	

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# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date

Place

Male: ☒ Female: ☐

4<sup>th</sup> Child: Leslie Johns

Born: 20 February 1888

DeKalb County, GA.

Died: 29 August 1897

DeKalb County, GA.

Buried:

Date of Marriage:

Spouse:

Male: ☐ Female: ☐

5<sup>th</sup> Child:

Born:

Died:

Buried:

Date of Marriage:

Spouse:

Male: ☐ Female: ☐

6<sup>th</sup> Child:

Born:

Died:

Buried:

Date of Marriage:

Spouse:

Sources:

Notes:

Prepared by / Date:



Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Samuel Robinson Johns	
Born:	17 April 1857
Married:	28 March 1893
Died:	15 July 1934
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	Lucy Ann Chewning (1865-1891)
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
	DeKalb Co., GA
	DeKalb Co., GA
	DeKalb Co., GA
	Rehoboth Cemetery, DeKalb Co., GA
	24 December 1876
	Husband's Mother: Louisa Prather (1825-after 1880)
<b>Wife:</b> Dora "Ida" Bagwell	
Born:	1867
Died:	June 1960
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	James M. Bagwell
	Hillsborough Co., FL.
Wife's Mother:	Elizabeth
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> William Franklin "Frank" Johns	
	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	28 May 1897
Died:	28 April 1973
Buried:	
Spouse:	Irene B. Barber
	DeKalb Co., GA
	Tampa, Hillsborough Co. Florida
	Date of Marriage:
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b>	
	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b>	
	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	
	Date of Marriage:
<b>Sources:</b> U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 Georgia Marriages 1699-1944 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com	

Prepared by / Date: Carole M. Schenck/Wiregrass Daughter Consulting December 2022





Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> Luther Martin Johns	
Born:	6 June 1878
Married:	31 December 1916
Died:	9 May 1961
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	Samuel Robinson Johns (1857-1934)
Husband's Mother:	Lucy Ann Chewning (1865-1891)
<b>Wife:</b> Willie Mae Maddox	
Born:	23 December 1902
Died:	9 June 1991
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	George Maddox
Wife's Mother:	Mary "Maggie" Goza
1 <sup>st</sup> Child:	Robert William Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	4 October 1917
Died:	1 October 1978
Buried:	
Spouse:	Ethel Mae
Date of Marriage:	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child:	Eula Mae Johns <span>Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	30 January 1919
Died:	22 February 1989
Buried:	
Spouse:	Roy Edwin Mitchell
Date of Marriage:	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child:	Marion Luther Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	29 November 1923
Died:	26 August 2013
Buried:	
Spouse:	Katherine Blanche Burnette
Date of Marriage:	circa 1950
Sources:	U.S. Federal Census 1860-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current U.S. Obituary Collection, 1930-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com

Prepared by / Date:



# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born: _____	
Died: _____	_____
Buried: _____	_____
Spouse: _____	Date of Marriage: _____
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born: _____	
Died: _____	_____
Buried: _____	_____
Spouse: _____	Date of Marriage: _____
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born: _____	
Died: _____	_____
Buried: _____	_____
Spouse: _____	Date of Marriage: _____

Sources: (continued)  
Georgia, U.S. Death Index, 1919-1998, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Georgia, U.S., World War I Service Cards, 1917-1919, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. Army Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Obit for Martin L. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 10 May 1961, p. 27  
Obit for Willie M. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 11 June 1991, p. 52  
Obit for Robert W. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 3 October 1978, p. 24  
Obit for Eula M. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 25 February 1989, p. 103  
Obit for Marion Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 29 August 2013, p. B8

Notes:

Prepared by / Date:





Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b> John B. Johns, Jr.	
Born:	10 October 1864
Married:	1 August 1889
Died:	15 January 1946
Buried:	18 January 1946
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	John B. Johns (1806-1896)
Husband's Mother:	Louisa Prather (1825-after 1880)
<b>Wife:</b> Mary C. Jackson	
Born:	May 1871
Died:	9 January 1963
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	
Wife's Mother:	
1 <sup>st</sup> Child:	Clarence Mercer Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	8 July 1890
Died:	26 November 1973
Buried:	28 November 1973
Spouse:	never married
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child:	Ernest Wood Johns <span>Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	30 December 1891
Died:	30 October 1971
Buried:	2 November 1971
Spouse:	never married
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child:	Leila Johns <span>Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span>
Born:	5 August 1892
Died:	19 January 1991
Buried:	21 January 1991
Spouse:	never marriedC
Sources:	U.S. Federal Census 1840-1950 DeKalb C., Georgia U.S. Marriage Index 1840-1908 Georgia U.S. Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978 U.S. Find a Grave Index, 1600s-Current U.S. Obituary Collection,, 1930-Current all sources above found on www.ancestry.com

Prepared by / Date: Carole M. Schenck/Wiregrass Daughter Consulting



# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
4 <sup>th</sup> Child: Charlie Summie Johns	Male: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born: 29 September 1900	DeKalb County, GA
Died: 24 October 1979	DeKalb County, GA
Buried: 26 October 1979	DeKalb County, GA
Spouse: Adelle Sallie Bacchus (1908-1963)	Date of Marriage: circa 1923
5 <sup>th</sup> Child:	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
6 <sup>th</sup> Child:	Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

Sources: (continued)  
Georgia, U.S. Death Index, 1919-1998, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Georgia, U.S., World War I Service Cards, 1917-1919, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Georgia, U.S. Public Record Index, 1950-1993, Vol. 2., [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)  
Obit for John B. Johns, Jr., [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 17 January 1946, pp.14, 19  
Obit for M.C. Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 10 January 1963, pg. 22  
Obit for Ernest Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 1 November 1971, p. 29  
Obit for Clarence Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution 27 November 1973, p. 39  
Obit for Charlie Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution, 26 October 1979, p. 51  
Obit for Leila Johns, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com), Atlanta Constitution 20 January 1991 p. 33

Notes: Clarence, Ernest, and Leila never married and lived on the homestead Charlie Sr. later also lived his last years on the homestead. According to newspaper accounts, she was the last Johns to live on the homestead.

Prepared by / Date:





# Family Group Sheet

Name and/or Date	Place
<b>Husband:</b>	
Born:	
Married:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Husband's Father:	Husband's Mother:
<b>Wife:</b>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Other Marriage:	
Wife's Father:	Wife's Mother:
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

Sources:

Prepared by / Date:



# Family Group Sheet

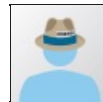
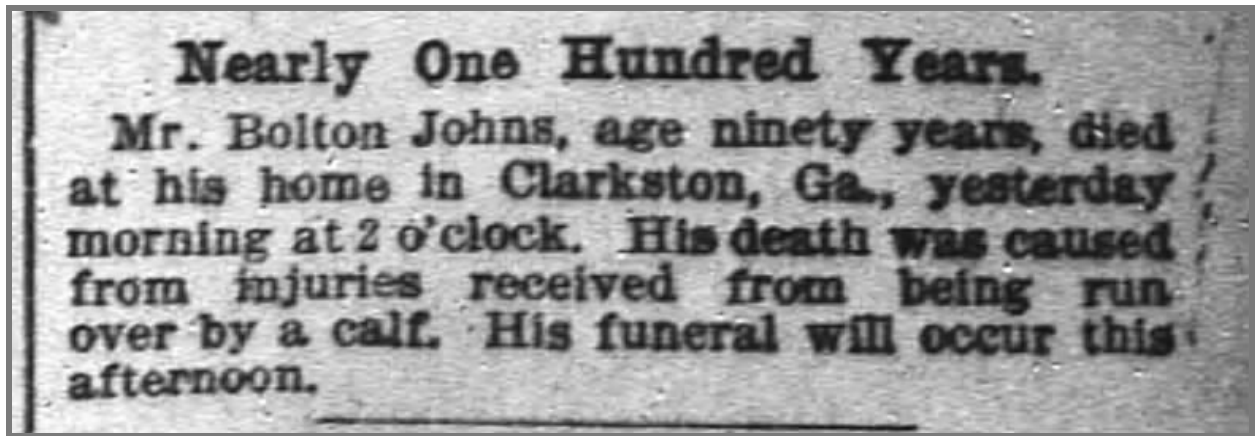
Name and/or Date	Place
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Child:</b> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Born:	
Died:	
Buried:	
Spouse:	Date of Marriage:

Sources:

Notes:

Prepared by / Date:





Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**

Wed, Nov 9, 2022

**CHEWNING, Mrs. Ora Frances—**  
The friends and relatives of Mrs. Ora F. Chewning, Mr. Otis Chewning, Miss Annie Chewning, Mrs. J. D. Smith, 14 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren are invited to attend the funeral of Mrs. Ora Frances Chewning Saturday, December 23 at 2 p. m. from the chapel. Rev. E. E. Cooper will officiate. Interment Rehoboth Baptist churchyard in DeKalb county. Gentlemen selected to serve as pallbearers please meet at the chapel at 1:45 p. m. Yarn Bros. Funeral Home.

## Obituary for Ora Frances CHEWNING



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Mon, Nov 14, 2022



**JOHN B. JOHNS**  
John B. Johns, 81, of Lawrenceville road, Decatur, died Tuesday at a private hospital. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p. m. tomorrow at the Rehoboth Baptist church. The Rev. Charles Stephenson will officiate. Burial will be in the churchyard.



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Mon, Nov 7, 2022

**JOHNS, Mr. John B.**—of Lawrenceville road, Decatur, died Tuesday in his 81st year. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Miss Lula Johns; three sons, Mr. Ernest Johns, Mr. Clarence Johns, Mr. Charlie Johns, and also six grandchildren. Funeral services will be conducted Friday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at Rehoboth Baptist church, Rev. Charlie Stephenson and Rev. P. R. Mowell officiating. Interment will be in churchyard. The pallbearers will be Mr. Ralph Britt, Mr. Herman Jackson, Mr. Roy Hughes Jr., Mr. Francis Tanner, Mr. Robert Tanner and Mr. Lamar Hughes. A. S. Turner & Sons.



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Wed, Nov 16, 2022



## Mrs. Adelle B. Johns

Mrs. Adelle B. Johns of Tucker, active Baptist churchwoman, died Tuesday morning in a private hospital.

Mrs. Johns was a longtime member of Rehoboth Baptist Church and a member of the Women's Missionary Union. She resided at 3117 Lawrenceville Rd.

Surviving are four sons, Charlie S., Byron W., Johnny L., and Conrad W. Johns, all of Tucker; two daughters, Mrs. W. W. Lindsey and Miss Patricia E. Johns, also of Tucker; her mother, Mrs. Lovey Bacchus, Huntsville, Ala., and four brothers, James Bacchus, Huntsville; G. M. Bacchus, Dallas, Tex.; J. P. Bacchus, Columbus, and G. T. Bacchus, Tucker.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Rehoboth Baptist Church. The Rev. Samuel Christopher will officiate. Burial will be at Floral Hills Memory Gardens.

## Obituary for Adelle B. Johns



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Thu, Nov 17, 2022

**JOHNS—Mr. Luther M. Johns,** age 82, of Tucker, Ga., Rte. 2, passed away Tuesday morning May 9, at the residence. He is survived by his wife; two sons, Mr. Robert W. Johns, Mr. M. L. Johns, Tucker; one daughter, Mrs. R. E. Mitchell, Decatur; one sister, Mrs. Ola Williams, Tucker; one brother, Mr. Frank Johns, Tampa, Fla.; 10 grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon May 10, at 2 o'clock from Rehoboth Baptist Church. Rev. Lester Buice will officiate. Interment, Church Cemetery. Couch Funeral Home, Stone Mountain.

## Obituary for L Utlier JM JOHNS



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Mon, Nov 28, 2022



**JOHNS—Mrs. Mary Johns, age 91, of 3071 Lawrenceville Highway, Decatur, passed away Jan. 9, 1963. Funeral arrangements will be announced later. Williams Idlewood Chapel, Tucker.**

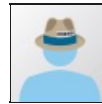
## Obituary for Mary JOHNS



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Wed, Nov 16, 2022

**JOHNS**—Friends and relatives of Mrs. Mary Catherine Johns, Mr. Clarence Johns, Mr. Ernest Johns, Mr. Charlie Johns and Miss Lelia Johns, all of Tucker; grandchildren, Charlie S. Johns Jr., Byron W. Johns, Johnny L. Johns, Syble J. Lindsay, Conrad W. Johns, Patricia E. Johns; great-grandchildren, David and Karen Johns and Mike Lindsay, are invited to attend the funeral of **Mrs. Mary Catherine Johns** Friday, Jan. 11, 1963, at 2 p.m. from Williams Idlewood Chapel. Rev. E. N. Rawlins will officiate with interment in Rehoboth Cemetery. Gentlemen selected as pallbearers will please assemble at the chapel at 1:30 p.m. Williams, Tucker.

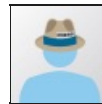


Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Wed, Nov 16, 2022



**JOHNS —** Funeral services for Mr. Ernest W. Johns, will be conducted Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Rehoboth Baptist Church. Rev. Lester Buice will officiate. Interment, Rehoboth Cemetery. A. S. Turner & Sons.



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Wed, Nov 16, 2022

## Ernest W. Johns

Services for Ernest Word Johns, 79, of 3071 Lawrenceville Road, Tucker, will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Rehoboth Baptist Church, the Rev. Lester Buice officiating. Burial will be in Rehoboth Cemetery. Mr. Johns, a retired farmer, died Saturday in a private hospital. He was a native of DeKalb County and a member of the Rehoboth Baptist Church and the DeKalb County Historical Society. He was a veteran of World War I. Survivors include two brothers and a sister.



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Wed, Nov 9, 2022



**JOHNS—Mr. Clarence Mercer Johns, of 3071 Lawrenceville Road, Tucker, died Monday. He is survived by brother, Mr. Charlie Johns, sister, Miss Leila Johns, and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at the chapel of A. S. Turner & Sons. Rev. James Mitchell will officiate. Interment Rehoboth Cemetery. The pallbearers will be; Mr. David Johns, Mr. Lee Johns, Mr. John McDonald, Mr. Charlie Johns Jr., Mr. Johnny Johns, Mr. Bill Goza, and Mr. Michael Lindsey. A. S. Turner & Son.**



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Wed, Nov 16, 2022

## JOHNS

Mr. Byron Wallace Johns, of 1545 Montreal Rd., Tucker died Tuesday, June 28, 1977. Survived by his wife, Mrs. Marian Pulliam Johns, daughters, Mrs. Karen Gaddis and Miss Patricia Fay Johns, sons, Marion Lee Johns, all of Tucker, David B. Johns, Chamblee, father, Mr. Charlie Johns, brothers, Charles, Jr., Conrad and Johnny Johns, sisters, Mrs. Syble Lindsay and Mrs. Patricia McDonald, all of Tucker, several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be Thursday, 3 p.m. from our chapel. Rev. Lester Buice, Rev. Edgar Stevens officiating. Interment Rehoboth cemetery. McLane Funeral Home, 491-3021.

## Obituary for Byron Wallace JOHNS



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**carolemschenck**  
Thu, Nov 17, 2022



**JOHNS**  
Mr. Robert W. Johns, 3194 Lawrenceville Hwy., Tucker, died Sunday. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ethel Mae Johns, Tucker, sons, Mr. Willis Robert Johns, Clarkston, Mr. William Luther Johns, Tucker, Mother, Mrs. Willie Mae Mitchell, step-father, Mr. Calvin B. Mitchell, Tucker, brother, Mr. Marion Luther Johns, Tucker, sister, Mrs. Eula Mae Mitchell, Decatur, granddaughter, Miss Jennifer Rebecca Johns, Marietta, aunt, Mrs. Lois Upshaw, uncle, Mr. Robert Collis Maddox, Tucker, several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the chapel of A.S. Turner & Sons. Rev. Russell Wilkes will officiate. Interment, Rehoboth Cemetery. A.S. Turner & Sons.

## Obituary for Robert W. JOHNS



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Mon, Nov 28, 2022

## JOHNS

Mr. Charlie Summie Johns Sr., age 79 of the Rehoboth Community (Tucker, Ga.), died Wednesday, Oct. 24, 1979 following a long illness. Funeral services will be held Friday, Oct. 26 at 2 o'clock at the chapel of A.S. Turner & Sons. Rev. Lester Buice officiating. Interment, Rehoboth Cemetery. The pallbearers will be, Messrs David Johns, Lee Johns, Michael Lindsay, Mark Faber, Don McDonald, Jerald Bacchus. Mr. Johns is survived by his sons, Mr. Charlie Johns Jr., Mr. Johnny L. Johns, Mr. Conrad W. Johns, all of Tucker; daughters, Mrs. Syble Johns Lindsay, Tucker, Mrs. Patricia Johns McDonald, Loganville; sister, Miss Leila Johns, Tucker; seven grandchildren; a great-grandson; several cousins. A.S. Turner & Sons.

## Obituary for Charlie Summie JOHNS Sr.



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Thu, Nov 17, 2022



## Charlie S. Johns Sr.

Services for Charlie Sammie Johns Sr., 79, of Tucker, will be at 2 p.m. Friday at A.S. Turner & Sons Chapel, burial in Rehoboth Cemetery. Mr. Johns, a retired grocery-store clerk, died Wednesday. He was a member of Rehoboth Baptist Church. Survivors include his daughters, Mrs. Syble Lindsay of Tucker and Mrs. Patricia McDonald of Loganville; sons, Charles S. Johns Jr., Johnny L. Johns and Conrad Johns, all of Tucker; and sister, Miss Leila Johns of Tucker.

## Obituary for Charlie Sammie Johns Sr.



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**carolemschenck**  
Wed, Nov 9, 2022

## JOHNS

Mr. Willis Robert, age 45, of Snellville, died July 26, 1987. He is survived by his daughter, Miss Jenifer Rebecca Johns; mother, Mrs. Ethel M. Johns, Snellville; brother, Mr. William L. Johns, Snellville; grandmother, Mrs. Willie Mae Mitchell, Tucker; several aunts, uncles and cousins. Memorial services will be held 2 p.m. Wednesday the Chapel of A.S. Turner & Sons. Rev. Russell Wilkes, officiate. The family will receive friends from 4 until 9 p.m. Tuesday at A.S. Turner & Sons.

## Obituary for Willis JOHNS



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Mon, Nov 28, 2022



### **Mrs. Eula Mae Mitchell**

**Mrs. Eula Mae Mitchell of Tucker, a homemaker, died of cancer Tuesday at DeKalb Medical Center. She was 70.**

**The funeral will be at 2:30 p.m. today at A.S. Turner and Sons Funeral Home with burial at Rehoboth Cemetery.**

**Surviving are her husband, Roy E. Mitchell Sr.; a son, Roy E. Mitchell Jr. of Clarkston; four daughters, Dorothy Ann Cooper of Stone Mountain, Edna Cooper of Tucker, Shirley Gentry of Winder and Elizabeth Brownlee of Clarkston; her mother, Willie Mae Mitchell of Tucker; a brother, Marion Johns of Tucker; 17 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.**

## Obituary for Eula Mae Mitchell



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**carolemschenck**  
Mon, Dec 5, 2022

## JOHNS

Miss Leila B. Johns, age 93 of Tucker died January 19, 1991. She is survived by her nieces, Mrs. Syble Lindsay, Tucker; Mrs. Patricia McDonald, Loganville; nephews, Mr. Charlie S. Johns, Jr., Tucker; Mr. Conrad W. Johns, St. Petersburg, Fla.; and several great-nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday in the chapel of A.S. Turner & Sons. Rev. Lester Buice will officiate. Interment, Rehoboth Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the chapel of A.S. Turner & Sons.

## Obituary for Leila B. JOHNS



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Wed, Nov 16, 2022



## MURELL

Mrs. Willie Mae Johns Mitchell Murell of Tucker, born December 23, 1902 died June 9, 1991. She is survived by her husband, Mr. Homer Murell, Tucker; son, Mr. M.L. (Marion) and Blanche Johns, Tucker; nine grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, six great-great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and friends. Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Tuesday in the chapel of A.S. Turner & Sons. Rev. Lester Buice and Rev. B.J. Hardy officiating. Interment, Rehoboth Cemetery. A.S. Turner & Sons.

## Obituary for Willie Mae Johns Mitchell MURELL



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**carolemschenck**

Mon, Nov 28, 2022

**WILLIAM LUTHER JOHNS**, 52, of Winder died Wednesday. The funeral was Saturday; A.S. Turner & Sons.

## Obituary for WILLIAM LUTHER JOHNS



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Mon, Dec 5, 2022



## DEKALB COUNTY

**Marion L. Johns**, 89, of Tucker died Monday. Graveside service, 11 a.m. today, Rehoboth Cemetery, Tucker. A.S. Turner and Sons Funeral Home, Decatur.

**Tony Thibodaux Jr.**, 38, of Stone Mountain died Aug. 22. Funeral, 2 p.m. Saturday, Greenforest Baptist Church, Decatur. Flanigan Funeral Home, Buford.

### Obituary for Marion L. Johns Jr.



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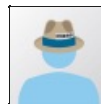
**carolemschenck**  
Mon, Dec 12, 2022

## JOHNS, Marian

Marian Johns, age 85, of Tucker, Ga. passed away Sat. Jan. 4, 2014. She is preceded in death by her wonderful husband, Byron Wallace Johns and two wonderful sons, Lee Johns and David Byron Johns. She is survived by two daughters, Karen Gaddis and Patty Johns; three grandchildren, Byron Gaddis, Ashley Moran and Kyle Ingram; two great grandchildren, Gabriel Gaddis and Alyssa Gaddis. Marian is the sister of the late Tyson Pulliam and the late Jack Pulliam. Premiercrematory.net

**Express condolences at [ajc.com/obits](http://ajc.com/obits)**

## Obituary for Marian JOHNS



Clipped By:

**carolemschenck**  
Mon, Jan 16, 2023