

Descendants of George French

Generation 1

1. **GEORGE¹ FRENCH^{1,2}** was born between 1790-1792 in South Carolina^{1,2}. He died in Oct 1859 in Randolph County, Alabama, USA². He married **NANCY (ELIZABETH) CORR** before 1818 in Anderson County, SC, daughter of John Corr and Mary "Polly" Zachery. She was born in 1798 in Caswell County, NC. She died after 1860 in Randolph County, AL.

George: George French was born in 1790 in South Carolina, USA². He died between Dec 1856-Oct 1857 in Randolph County, AL. He died in Oct 1860 in Randolph, Alabama, USA¹.

Notes for George French:

The parents of George William French have not been proved. However, based on family traditions and later census data, it is presumed his father's name was George, born in South Carolina about 1790-1800. One candidate is a George French born January 20, 1802 in Greenville, SC, the son of John Peter French and Anna Stone. However, one proven descendant of John Peter is Raiford French, now living in Aberdeen, Washington. Research by Raiford has revealed that this George French only had one child, William Arnold French, and this family moved to Mississippi.

It is known from other sources that George French married Nancy Corr before 1818. By the census of 1820, a George French is a farmer living in Greenville County, SC with a wife and two young sons; this family appears to match later known data. Based on the 1820 census, this George French was born between 1794 and 1802; his wife was born between 1794 and 1804. Also based on this census, George French married between 1810 and 1820. Based on the ages of this family, this must be the next generation after George P. French and

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George probably is the son of George P.

The sons of John Peter French, James and Jesse, are living in Greenville in 1830. Also living in Greenville are Jacob and Jonathan French. Jacob has not been identified, but Jonathan also appears to be a son of John Peter. Also living in Greenville at this time is the family of Anna Amanda Avary who later married George William French. Her uncle Thomas Avary and his wife Lucinda moved to Chambers County, Alabama about 1835, the same county where George William and Anna married and settled in 1846.

A George French also is found in the 1830 Anderson County, South Carolina Census. The ages of George, his wife and the children fit later census data exactly. There is an "extra" male younger than five and he could be one of the extras later shown in the 1840 Georgia census. John and Polly Corr, parents of Nancy, also lived in Anderson County at this time. The move from Greenville southwest to Anderson would be a logical route going from South Carolina to the newly opened Indian territories in Georgia and Alabama. There also are two George Frenches in Laurens County, South Carolina in 1830, but their ages and children do not fit known information.

Based on the years and locations when and where his children were born, our George would appear to have left South Carolina after 1833, lived in Georgia, and arrived in Alabama by 1843. In 1841, his son John married Lucinda Bachelor in Campbell County, Georgia and John owned land in Campbell during the 1840s. In 1840, there are no George Frenches in either South Carolina or Alabama. The only George French in Georgia is in Campbell County (annexed by Fulton in 1932). However, the ages and sexes do not quite match his

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later family. Instead of nine members in the family, there are eleven, including two extra males under 5 and one extra male 5-10. In a time when infant deaths were prevalent, the uncounted young males may have died before the family reached Alabama, or other family members may be staying with them. Inconsistent and irregular census taking also might account for these discrepancies. One male between 15 and 20 is missing, but this may be explained by the scenario below.

Family legend has it that George William French worked on the first railroad to reach Atlanta, so he may be living away from home. "In December 1833, only three months after completion of the Charlestown-Hamburg line, the state of Georgia had chartered three railroads in a single week - and by the close of 1842 the 104-mile Georgia Railroad reached from Augusta to Madison and was moving toward White Hall, the future Atlanta. . . . [However, b]y 1845 Atlanta existed only as a remote railroad station, which the Georgia Railroad from Augusta had reached with its first locomotive drawn by oxen, an ignominious beginning for the future rail center of the Southeast." [Davis, Burke. "The Southern Railway," UNC Press, Chapel Hill, 1985. Pp. 103-105.] Since the location of Campbell County follows the general direction of the westward movement, it is likely that this is the family of our George (the Elder), and he also may have worked on the railroad. It is even possible that he had worked on the earlier 136-mile South Carolina line, built 1829-33, the first railroad in America of more than one hundred miles in length.

A George French (age 60, born in SC) appears in the 1850 census of Randolph County, Alabama as a farmer with real estate valued at \$200. Elizabeth (52, SC), Willis (17, GA), Elizabeth (15, GA) and Ann (12, GA) are living with him. The older Elizabeth would appear to be

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the mother and her age fits that in the 1820 Greenville, 1830 Anderson and 1840 Campbell Censuses.

According to other family researchers, George is the father of George William, James, John and Pinkney French, all of whom live in adjacent Chambers County.

George seems to be alive in 1856 when the will of Mary Polly Corr is probated, but he does not appear in the 1860 Census. He may have passed away between December 1856 and October 1857, since he is not mentioned in the letter from Laban Corr cited in Nancy's notes. However, the 1860 U. S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules Index shows George French died in October. Since this is an index of "those who died in the twelve months prior to the enumeration" and the enumeration occurred on July 26, 1860, this confirms George's death date as October 1859. The cause of death is indicated as "lungs inflamed." No grave sites have been found, but George and Nancy may be buried in the Old Wedowee Cemetery where there are 200 unmarked graves dating from the 1800s.

Of interest is the fact that in the 1840 and 1850 Alabama Censuses, there also are two other Frenches who might be related to George. John C. French, age 59 and born in South Carolina is in DeKalb County, while James French, age 61 and born in South Carolina, is in Marshall County. Both these counties are about 100 miles north of Randolph County, but all three were part of the Indian cessions of the early 1800s. It is possible that these Frenches could have acquired their land through the Land Lotteries of that time, but no record has yet been found.

Nancy (Elizabeth): Nancy (Elizabeth) Corr was born in 1800 in South Carolina, USA¹. She died in 1860 in

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Randolph County, Alabama, USA¹.

Notes for Nancy (Elizabeth) Corr:

Nancy Corr's father John is listed on the 1805 Tax Rolls of Caswell County, North Carolina. Her younger brother William, was born in North Carolina in 1801. Therefore, it would appear that Nancy was born in North Carolina, probably in Caswell.

There is some confusion about Nancy's name. In the 1850 census, she appears to be Elizabeth. However, in 1860, Nancy French is head of a household with George French's children nearby and she would appear to be their mother. It seems that her full name must be Nancy Elizabeth with her first name omitted in 1850. In some sources, John Corr and Mary Zachary are shown with two daughters, Nancy and Elizabeth, but no information has been found for Elizabeth. Perhaps this is a mistake and the two are the same person. It also was a common practice of the time to name the first daughter after a grandmother, and her first granddaughter is Nancy Elizabeth (daughter of George William and Amanda French). There also is some question about her age in the 1850 census record. However, a careful reading of an enlarged copy, and comparisons of the enumerator's writing has convinced the author that her age is 52 and not 32 as some sources indicate.

In an October 10, 1857 letter in the Probate papers for the will of Mary Polly Corr, Samuel Caldwell of White Plains, Alabama wrote to his his brother-in-law Laban Corr concerning money still owed. Portions read as follows: "your sister Nancy came to my house ___ nite" and "Write soon so I may know what to do for it seems you had not notified Nancy French of anything for her at all at any time." [Grammar edited by author.] This indicates that Nancy Corr lived near White Plains and

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was the wife of George French and probable mother of George William French, both living in Wedowee, Alabama 35 miles away. In the Probate itself, George and Nancy French are listed as the first distributees. Since no other record of a George French marrying a Nancy Corr has been found, this would seem to firmly establish that they are our ancestors. This presumption is further strengthened by the fact that her sister and brother-in-law, Milly and George Brooks, were living in adjacent Chambers County when their son James Harrison was born in 1832, and died in that county.

By 1860, Nancy is shown as a farmer in Randolph County, age 60, born in South Carolina. Living with her is a 19 year old female, Nancy A. French. The farm is valued at \$950 with a personal estate of \$700. There is some confusion about the location shown on the census roll, but her farm is adjacent to W. J. French while Pinkney G. French and George William French live nearby. It would appear that W. J. of 1860 is Willis of 1850 since they are the same age. This further strengthens the case for Nancy being his mother. Since George has died, Nancy Ann, as the youngest (and unmarried) daughter would logically be living with her mother. Again, as with her mother, Nancy Ann's first name is omitted in the 1850 census record. Neither Nancy has been found in the 1870 rolls.

George French and Nancy (Elizabeth) Corr had the following children:

2. i. JOHN² FRENCH was born on 18 Jul 1818 in Greenville County, South Carolina. He died on 29 Jan 1905 in Morris County, Texas. He married LUCINDA BACHELOR on 06 May 1841 in Campbell County, GA, daughter of William Bachelor and Sally Smith. She was born in 1823 in Georgia. She died between

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1854-1860 in Chambers County, Alabama.

3.
 - ii. GEORGE WILLIAM FRENCH I¹ was born on 31 Dec 1820 in Greenville, Greenville, South Carolina, USA¹. He died on 17 May 1911 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married ANNA AMANDA "MANDY" AVARY on 11 Dec 1846 in Chambers Co., AL, daughter of William Avary and Elizabeth Poor. She was born on 19 Jun 1822 in Anderson District, South Carolina, USA³. She died in 1896 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL³.
 - iii. JAMES FRENCH was born in 1823 in South Carolina. He died about 1850.

Notes for James French:

In the 1850 Census, James, age 27, is working as a farmer on the farm of John Caw in Chambers County, AL. Mr. Caw was born in South Carolina, is 44, and has a wife and seven children. His farm is valued at the substantial sum of \$3,000. No reason has been found for this employment. James may be living near his brother John in Lee County during the 1860 and 1870 Alabama censuses, but this is uncertain.

- iv. PINKNEY G. FRENCH was born in 1826 in South Carolina.

Notes for Pinkney G. French:

In both the 1850 Chambers County and 1860 Randolph County Censuses, Pinkney is shown living with his brother George William French, apparently as a farm laborer. He does not appear in the 1870

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Alabama Census.

I have an initial muster roll of Company G, Randolph County, Al at Camp Shorter near Loachapoka, Al, 14 May 1862. This company was part of the 47th Alabama Infantry Regiment. On this roll there is a J.G. French showing burial in Confederate Section, Old City Cemetery, Lynchburg, Va grave 9, row 23, lot 146. Also on the muster roll is Pinckney G. French, no other information shown.

4. v. WILLIS J. FRENCH was born in 1833 in South Carolina. He died between 1864-1865 in in Civil War Prison. He married SAMANTHA E. HARRIS on 24 Nov 1858 in Randolph Co., AL. She was born in 1842 in Georgia. She died on 28 Jan 1922 in Newell, Randolph Co., AL⁴.
- vi. ELIZABETH FRENCH was born in 1835 in Georgia.
- vii. NANCY ANN FRENCH was born between 1838-1841 in Georgia.

Notes for Nancy Ann French:

In 1850, a 12 year old female named Ann French is living with George French. In 1860, a 19 year old female, Nancy A. French, is living with Nancy French. Although there is some discrepancy in dates, this would appear to be the same person. If George has died by this date, Nancy Ann, as the youngest (and unmarried) daughter would logically be living with her mother. Nancy cannot be found in the 1870 rolls.

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2. **JOHN² FRENCH** (George¹) was born on 18 Jul 1818 in Greenville County, South Carolina. He died on 29 Jan 1905 in Morris County, Texas. He married **LUCINDA BACHELOR** on 06 May 1841 in Campbell County, GA, daughter of William Bachelor and Sally Smith. She was born in 1823 in Georgia. She died between 1854-1860 in Chambers County, Alabama.

Notes for John French:

John French owned land in Campbell County, Georgia in the 1840s. He and Lucinda were married in Campbell County which was annexed by Fulton County in 1932. In the 1850 Alabama Census, John has a farm valued at \$150 in Chambers County but its value decreased to \$100 by 1860. His wife, Lucinda, apparently died sometime after 1854 and before the 1860 census. John and Lucinda lived in the Beulah Community, a part of Chambers County which later became Lee County, where he is found in the 1870 census. He is living with his son Joseph Hilliard French (known as Hilliard but erroneously identified as H. C. French in this census), Hillard's wife, Mary Louisa, and three children. Two teenage sons by Mary Louisa's previous marriage, Robert and Thomas Adams, also live in the household. By 1880, Hilliard's family had moved to Morris County, Texas, and John probably moved with them. In 1900, he is living with Thomas Adams in Precinct No. 1 of Morris County where he is shown as Step Father. His gravestone in Bradfield Chapel Cemetery, Morris County, Texas, shows his birth as July 18, 1818, as does the 1900 Morris County census, but that year does not match some earlier census data.

Notes for Lucinda Bachelor:

George French and William Bachelor were neighbors in the 1840 Campbell County, Georgia and the 1850 Chambers County, Alabama censuses. Lucinda and

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John continued to live near the Bachelors in the Beulah Community of Chambers County.

John French and Lucinda Bachelor had the following children:

5. i. JOSEPH HILLIARD³ FRENCH was born in 1843 in Chambers Co., AL. He died on 03 Dec 1926 in Daingerfield, TX. He married (1) MARY LOUISA PORCH on 08 Oct 1866 in Chambers County, AL. She was born in 1830. She died about 1898 in Daingerfield, TX. He married (2) ARENA LUVENIA GILMORE CAMP after 1898 in Daingerfield, TX. She was born in 1866. She died in 1939.
6. ii. JAMES WASHINGTON "JIM" FRENCH was born on 17 Mar 1846 in Beulah, Chambers Co., AL. He died on 30 Jan 1891 in Cherokee County, TX. He married NANCY ELIZABETH TREADAWAY on 11 Nov 1872 in Cherokee County, TX, daughter of Richard Buffington Treadaway and Matilda A. Stipling. She was born on 11 Oct 1855 in Alabama. She died on 25 Oct 1886 in Cherokee County, TX.
- iii. GEORGE M. FRENCH was born in 1849 in Chambers Co., AL.
- iv. SUSAN FRENCH was born in 1852.
- v. FRANCES FRENCH was born in 1854.
3. **GEORGE WILLIAM² FRENCH I** (George¹)¹ was born on 31 Dec 1820 in Greenville, Greenville, South Carolina, USA¹. He died on 17 May 1911 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married **ANNA AMANDA "MANDY" AVARY** on 11 Dec 1846 in Chambers Co., AL, daughter of William Avary and Elizabeth Poor. She was born on 19 Jun 1822

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in Anderson District, South Carolina, USA³. She died in 1896 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL³.

George William: George William French I died on 17 May 1911 in Wedowee, Randolph, Alabama, USA (Union Baptist Church Cemetery ~ Newell, Randolph, AL)¹.

Notes for George William French I:

"Little Grandpa" was George's nickname because of his small stature. It is said that he migrated to Alabama by way of Georgia, where he worked on the first railroad that came to Atlanta. Descendant Charles Cone has a copy of a handwritten record of the marriage of George William and Anna Amanda from the files at the Chambers County Courthouse. In the 1850 Census, George appears to be working a farm as a sharecropper since no value is shown for his farm in the 19th District of Chambers County. His younger brother, Pinkney, is working with George while John has a farm nearby. The census shows that all three were born in South Carolina. Land Patents were granted to George W. French for 80.3 acres and 40.15 acres on January 1, 1859, and for 40.17 acres on February 1, 1868.

By 1860, George and Mandy have a farm in the Rockdale District valued at \$1,300 with a personal estate of \$300. The tale has been told that "Little Grandpa" hid out in a cave or hollow log during the Civil War, and wore a woman's dress when he worked in the fields. Like many Southerners after the Civil War, his real estate value had diminished to \$300 and his personal estate to \$250 by 1870. George's great-grandson, Rev. Joe Amos French, remembers him as a small, stooped man using a hickory walking stick, which was in Joe's possession when he passed away at age 98 in 2000. [Some notes above were taken from the writings of Josiah Amos French in "The Heritage of Randolph County, Alabama."]

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An interesting but confusing side note: in the 1880 census, George lists his parents as born in Virginia. He appears to be referring to his grandparents, since his father came from South Carolina and his mother North Carolina. However, this gives more credence to the family legend that the Frenches initially came from Virginia. In the 1900 Census, George I is shown living with his widowed daughter, Pinkney G. Davis. He has not been located in the 1910 Census, but he may still be living with "Pinkie."

Anna Amanda "Mandy": Anna Amanda "Mandy" Avary was born in 1826 in South Carolina.

Notes for Anna Amanda "Mandy" Avary:
Anna Amanda is known as Mandy to her family. The name on her gravestone is spelled "Andy Armanda" and her birth year is shown as 1822. Both the name and date appear to be incorrect. The author has a copy of the handwritten 1846 marriage license bond of Geo. W. French and Ann. A. Avery on file at the Chambers County Courthouse, LaFayette, Alabama. "Ann." abbreviated with a period, appears several times in the document. This would seem to be evidence that her name is Anna, and this appears in other family records. Adding to the confusion is her nickname Mandy, which may have been misspelled Andy at times. A family tree written by the wife of James Monroe French, Mary Ella Sikes, lists his grandparents as George French and Mandy Avery. In any event, in the current genealogy she is referred to as Anna Amanda. She is buried with her husband at Union Baptist Church, Randolph County, Alabama.

In "The People of Chambers County, Alabama" Vol. II, John Peavy Wright (1850 Chambers County, Alabama, census) lists Anna Amanda (French) as a daughter of

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Thomas Avary and Lucinda Brown. Thomas Avery's will of 1850 also mentions his daughter, Anna French. Since Thomas Avary is Mandy's grandfather, this obviously refers to her aunt, Anna Catherine Avary, who married Aaron French in 1827.

It also is interesting to note that, in 1870, an Elizabeth Avary, 64 year old midwife born in South Carolina, lived next door to Mandy. This would appear to be her mother, Elizabeth Poor. If so, her death date of 1857, shown in other sources, must be incorrect.

George William French I and Anna Amanda "Mandy" Avary had the following children:

7. i. NANCY ELIZABETH³ FRENCH was born on 04 Dec 1847 in Alabama. She died on 23 Sep 1911 in Randolph County, AL. She married WILLIAM M. REAVES in Jan 1870 in Randolph County, AL, son of John Reaves and Rebecca Hunner. He was born on 11 Jul 1850 in Georgia. He died on 30 Oct 1926 in Randolph County, AL.
8. ii. AMANDA JANE FRENCH was born on 01 Mar 1850 in Randolph County, Alabama. She died on 27 Feb 1927 in Texas. She married JOHN FRANCES MARION HIGGINBOTHAM.
- iii. LAVONIA W. FRENCH was born in 1852 in Alabama.
9. iv. GEORGE WILLIAM FRENCH II was born on 10 Dec 1853 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 26 Oct 1920 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married JEMIMA BASS on 23 Mar 1876 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL, daughter of Solomon Bass and Sarah Ann E(lizabeth) George. She was

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born on 27 May 1856 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 18 Dec 1919 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.

- v. PINKNEY G. "PINKIE" FRENCH was born on 17 Mar 1855 in Alabama. She died on 14 Oct 1912 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She married JOHN W. DAVIS.
 - vi. MARY F. FRENCH was born on 22 Nov 1857 in Alabama. She died on 12 Mar 1938 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She married JAMES REAVES.
 - vii. LUCINDA M. FRENCH was born in Apr 1860 in Alabama. She died on 06 May 1958 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She married (UNKNOWN) BOYD. He was born about 1860.
 - viii. SARA EMILY FRENCH was born about 1861. She married JEFF LIPHAM.
 - ix. JOHN R. FRENCH was born about 1862.
 - x. LOUISA J. FRENCH was born about 1864.
4. **WILLIS J.² FRENCH** (George¹) was born in 1833 in South Carolina. He died between 1864-1865 in in Civil War Prison. He married **SAMANTHA E. HARRIS** on 24 Nov 1858 in Randolph Co., AL. She was born in 1842 in Georgia. She died on 28 Jan 1922 in Newell, Randolph Co., AL⁴.

Notes for Willis J. French:

A middle name of Joseph has been found for this son. In the 1850 Census of Randolph County, Willis is living on a farm with his father, George. In 1860, a W. J. French is a farmer living next to Nancy French. His farm is valued at \$300 with a personal estate of \$50. It is presumed that Willis and W. J. are one and the same.

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Willis entered the Confederate Army in September 1862 as a Private in Company F, 22nd Regiment of the Alabama Volunteers in Lt. Walthall's battalion. He trained in Talladega and, sometime early in 1863, was sent to the regular army in Tennessee. He was wounded in battle and died in a prison camp (in Illinois?) about 1864-65.

Samantha E.: Samantha E. Harris died after 1921 in Newell, AL.

Notes for Samantha E. Harris:

Samantha's husband, Willis, died in a Civil War prison. In 1870, she is raising three children alone in Randolph County, including Joseph, shown as T. J. in 1860. Her real estate is valued at \$300 and her personal estate at \$100. According to the February 12, 1875 issue of the "Randolph Enterprise," her property in Township 19, Range 4 was sold to the highest bidder at public auction on March 1, 1875. [Historical Records of Randolph County, Alabama 1832-1900. p. 110]

About 1887, she began applying for a war widow's pension. On her application she states she owns a log dwelling on 40 acres of land, ten of which is cleared. The property is valued at \$100 with household and kitchen furniture valued at \$30. After several tries, she was awarded a pension in 1889 and retained it until 1910. She moved to Texas to live with her children, but was reinstated to the Pension Rolls when she returned to Alabama in 1921. By then, her property had no value, she had no income, and she was "feeble and unable to travel." [Pension Application]

Willis J. French and Samantha E. Harris had the following children:

- i. T. JOSEPH³ FRENCH was born in May 1860 in Alabama.

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- ii. SALLIE FRENCH was born in 1862 in Alabama. She died after 1921 in Newell, AL. She married G. H. TRAYLOR. He died after 1921 in Newell, AL.
- iii. MARY FRENCH was born in 1865 in Alabama.

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5. **JOSEPH HILLIARD³ FRENCH** (John², George¹) was born in 1843 in Chambers Co., AL. He died on 03 Dec 1926 in Daingerfield, TX. He married (1) **MARY LOUISA PORCH** on 08 Oct 1866 in Chambers County, AL. She was born in 1830. She died about 1898 in Daingerfield, TX. He married (2) **ARENA LUVENIA GILMORE CAMP** after 1898 in Daingerfield, TX. She was born in 1866. She died in 1939.

Joseph Hilliard French and Mary Louisa Porch had the following children:

- 10. i. ALFONSO CLAUDE⁴ FRENCH was born in 1867 in Alabama. He died in 1932 in Daingerfield, TX. He married LILLIE OLD. She was born in 1873. She died in 1917.
- 11. ii. JOHN WESLEY FRENCH SR. was born in 1869 in Alabama. He died in 1932 in Lubbock, TX. He married (1) CLAUDIA JONES before 1889. She was born in 1872. She died in 1892. He married (2) FLORENCE JOSEPHINE SKELTON TEMPLETON between 1893-1897. She was born in 1870. She died in 1930.
- 12. iii. JAMES HILLIARD FRENCH was born in 1871 in Alabama. He died in 1940 in Texas. He married ORA HAYWORTH before 1904. She was born in 1875. She died in 1942.

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13. iv. STILES ARTHUR FRENCH was born in 1873 in Alabama. He died in 1943 in Texas. He married INA OLIVIA LILLEY in 1937. She was born in 1878.

Joseph Hilliard French and Arena Luvenia Gilmore Camp had the following children:

- v. LETAH FRENCH was born in 1906.
- vi. INFANT SON FRENCH was born in 1909.
6. **JAMES WASHINGTON "JIM"³ FRENCH** (John², George¹) was born on 17 Mar 1846 in Beulah, Chambers Co., AL. He died on 30 Jan 1891 in Cherokee County, TX. He married **NANCY ELIZABETH TREADAWAY** on 11 Nov 1872 in Cherokee County, TX, daughter of Richard Buffington Treadaway and Matilda A. Stipling. She was born on 11 Oct 1855 in Alabama. She died on 25 Oct 1886 in Cherokee County, TX.

James Washington "Jim" French and Nancy Elizabeth Treadaway had the following children:

14. i. ELLA MAY⁴ FRENCH was born about 1874 in Cherokee County, TX. She married ROBERT L. "BOB" PEARMAN on 12 Aug 1891 in Cherokee County, TX.
15. ii. JOHN WILL FRENCH was born on 27 Oct 1875 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 05 Jul 1949 in Anderson County, TX. He married (1) NELLIE DURRETT about 1895 in Texas. She was born on 20 Dec 1877. She died on 13 Aug 1900 in Cherokee County, TX. He married (2) STELLA MAE LLOYD on 09 Nov 1905. He married (3) VELMA JORDAN about 1921 in Texas. She was born on 24 Apr 1892. She died on 02 Apr 1967 in Anderson County, TX.

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- iii. JOE BEN FRENCH was born in 1877.
 - 16. iv. ANNIE FRENCH was born on 20 Jan 1880 in Cherokee County, TX. She died on 11 Jan 1967 in Jacksonville, TX. She married JOHN ASBERRY SHERMAN on 26 Nov 1895 in Cherokee County, TX, son of James Robert Sherman and Sarah Jane Jones. He was born on 23 Oct 1872 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 19 Feb 1958 in Cherokee County, TX.
 - v. JAMES ARTHUR FRENCH was born in 1882.
 - 17. vi. RICHARD AUGUSTUS "GUS" FRENCH was born on 26 Dec 1883 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 21 Jan 1960 in Cherokee County, TX. He married VESTHA SHERMAN on 10 Jan 1904 in Cherokee County, TX, daughter of James Robert Sherman and Sarah Jane Jones. She was born on 04 Apr 1880 in Cherokee County, TX. She died on 23 Jun 1950 in Cherokee County, TX.
7. **NANCY ELIZABETH³ FRENCH** (George William² I, George¹) was born on 04 Dec 1847 in Alabama. She died on 23 Sep 1911 in Randolph County, AL. She married **WILLIAM M. REAVES** in Jan 1870 in Randolph County, AL, son of John Reaves and Rebecca Hunner. He was born on 11 Jul 1850 in Georgia. He died on 30 Oct 1926 in Randolph County, AL.

Notes for William M. Reaves:

In the 1870 Randolph County Census, William and Nancy are living next to George William French (her father) and William is a farm laborer, probably on George's farm. His personal estate is valued at \$100. William and Nancy are buried at Union Baptist Cemetery,

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Randolph County, Alabama.

William M. Reaves and Nancy Elizabeth French had the following children:

- i. MANDY⁴ REAVES.
 - ii. GEORGIA REAVES I.
 - iii. EDDIE REAVES.
 - iv. CHARLIE MONROE REAVES.
 - v. WEBSTER REAVES.
 - vi. BETTIE REAVES.
 - vii. GEORGIA REAVES II.
 - viii. WILLIAM JEFFERSON REAVES was born on 14 Jun 1871 in Randolph County, AL. He died in 1876 in Randolph County, AL.
 18. ix. MATTIE ELLEN REAVES was born on 27 Oct 1877 in Newell, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 07 Oct 1914 in Randolph County, AL. She married SMILEY BARTOU CREWS on 07 Nov 1897 in Newell, AL, son of Ciscero Crews and Sarah Lipham. He was born on 30 Sep 1875 in Newell, AL. He died on 07 Jan 1950 in Randolph County, AL.
 - x. MAMIE REAVES was born on 14 Jan 1885.
8. **AMANDA JANE³ FRENCH** (George William² I, George¹) was born on 01 Mar 1850 in Randolph County, Alabama. She died on 27 Feb 1927 in Texas. She married **JOHN FRANCES MARION HIGGINBOTHAM**.

John Frances Marion Higginbotham and Amanda Jane French had the following child:

19. i. BETTIE⁴ HIGGINBOTHAM. She married (UNKNOWN) YOUNG.

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9. **GEORGE WILLIAM³ FRENCH II** (George William² I, George¹) was born on 10 Dec 1853 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 26 Oct 1920 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married **JEMIMA BASS** on 23 Mar 1876 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL, daughter of Solomon Bass and Sarah Ann E(lizabeth) George. She was born on 27 May 1856 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 18 Dec 1919 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.

Notes for George William French II:

George William II owned a general store on what is now old U.S. Hwy 431 north of Wedowee, the county seat of Randolph County, Alabama. Family lore has it that he was left-handed and had left-handed scissors at the store. At last account, a family member owns those scissors today. In 1910, sons Charles, Homer and Dewey are still living at home. George II donated the land for the Ava Methodist Church nearby, and he and his wife Jimmie are buried in the cemetery there.

In 1888, he was a Justice of the Peace for Randolph County, and served as a County Commissioner from 1892 to 1896. A history of Randolph County, written by Editor J. M. K. Guinn, appeared in the Wedowee "Randolph Toiler" from 1894-1896. In it, Mr. Guinn gives thumbnail sketches of County Officials from 1833 to 1892. His comments about George W. French, Jr. are interesting, particularly in light of the fact that George was still in office when the story was written. The sketch follows in full.

"George W. French lives 2 miles north of Wedowee; a Methodist, Populist and farmer. George has a long head; generally digs deep and builds a good foundation, but sometimes the material is not first class and the wall gives and roof leaks and the inmates complain.

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Robinson, the contractor for the Iron Bridge on the Little Tallapoosa river, said to the writer; 'Commissioner French got closer after me than anyone I have ever contracted with, and' said he, 'I have a varied experience in the business.' He was re-elected in 1894, and is serving his second term of two years."

Notes for Jemima Bass:

Known as Jimmie, she is a direct descendant of Nathaniel Bass, immigrant and founder of Basses Choice in Isle of Wight, Virginia, 1619. A Bass descendant is still the chief of the Nansemond Tribe today. The 1900 Census shows her birthdate as July 1855, but in 1910 she is 53 years old.

George William French II and Jemima Bass had the following children:

20. i. GEORGE WILLIAM⁴ FRENCH III was born on 23 May 1877 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 05 Oct 1970 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married SARAH ANNA (TEXIE) SMITH on 17 Aug 1897 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL, daughter of Benjamin H. Smith and Martha Ann Wilson. She was born on 21 Feb 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 02 Apr 1962 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.
21. ii. JOHN ROBERT FRENCH was born on 16 Oct 1878 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He died on 14 Mar 1975 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married MARTHA LEOLA "OLA" SIKES on 26 Oct 1900 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL, daughter of Alfred Pierce Sikes and Mary Frances "Frank" Fincher. She was born on 09 Apr 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She

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died on 02 Dec 1971 in Wedowee,
Randolph Co, AL.

22. iii. LULA FRENCH was born on 09 Oct 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 19 Apr 1947 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She married CHARLES MCMANUS. He was born on 25 Apr 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He died on 20 Oct 1953 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.
23. iv. CHARLES AUGUSTUS FRENCH was born on 13 Mar 1882 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 14 Jan 1968 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married (1) EVA PEARL KIRBY. She was born on 02 Feb 1887 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 13 Jan 1921 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He married (2) MARY ELIZABETH CROUCH.
24. v. JAMES MONROE FRENCH was born on 13 Mar 1884 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 25 Mar 1947 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married MARY ELLA SIKES on 05 Jul 1904 in Bowden, Carroll Co, GA, daughter of Alfred Pierce Sikes and Mary Frances "Frank" Fincher. She was born on 10 Jan 1889 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 15 Jan 1962 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.
25. vi. MARY ALICE FRENCH was born on 05 Dec 1885 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 22 Aug 1974 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, Al. She married ROBERT L. FOSTER.
26. vii. HOMER FELIX FRENCH was born on 27 Oct 1887 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He

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died on 06 Jan 1956 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married EXA MATILDA KIRBY. She was born on 19 Nov 1892 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 15 Jan 1962 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.

- viii. JAMES FRENCH was born on 03 Mar 1889 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 12 Sep 1889 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.
- ix. LENORA PEARL FRENCH was born on 30 Jul 1890 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 12 Aug 1890 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.

Notes for Lenora Pearl French:

In the 1900 Census, she is listed as Louisa N.

- x. SOLOMON DAVID FRENCH was born on 07 Oct 1891 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 07 Feb 1892 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.
- xi. JOSIAH CHARLES FRENCH was born on 30 Apr 1894 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 04 Sep 1894 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.
- xii. DEWEY F. FRENCH was born on 01 Dec 1898 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 26 Sep 1942 in Atlanta, Fulton Co., GA. He married DELIA POLLARD. She died in Atlanta, Fulton Co., GA.

Generation 4

- 10. **ALFONSO CLAUDE⁴ FRENCH** (Joseph Hilliard³, John², George¹) was born in 1867 in Alabama. He died in 1932

Generation 4 (con't)

in Daingerfield, TX. He married **LILLIE OLD**. She was born in 1873. She died in 1917.

Alfonso Claude French and Lillie Old had the following children:

- i. LILLIE MAE⁵ FRENCH.
 - ii. JOSEPH JORDAN FRENCH was born in 1899.
 - iii. CLAUDE OLD FRENCH was born in 1910.
 - iv. ROBERT L. "BOBBY" FRENCH was born in 1915.
11. **JOHN WESLEY⁴ FRENCH SR.** (Joseph Hilliard³, John², George¹) was born in 1869 in Alabama. He died in 1932 in Lubbock, TX. He married (1) **CLAUDIA JONES** before 1889. She was born in 1872. She died in 1892. He married (2) **FLORENCE JOSEPHINE SKELTON TEMPLETON** between 1893-1897. She was born in 1870. She died in 1930.

John Wesley French Sr. and Claudia Jones had the following children:

- i. OTIS HILLIARD⁵ FRENCH was born in 1889. He died in 1954.
- ii. ALICE LOUISE FRENCH was born in 1890. She died in 1968.
- iii. CLAUDE FRENCH was born in 1892. He died in 1942.

John Wesley French Sr. and Florence Josephine Skelton Templeton had the following children:

- iv. MARY ELIZABETH FRENCH was born in 1898. She died in 1988.
- v. BESSIE MAE FRENCH was born in 1899. She died in 1994.
- vi. JOHN WESLEY FRENCH JR. was born in

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1900. He died in 1965.

12. **JAMES HILLIARD⁴ FRENCH** (Joseph Hilliard³, John², George¹) was born in 1871 in Alabama. He died in 1940 in Texas. He married **ORA HAYWORTH** before 1904. She was born in 1875. She died in 1942.

James Hilliard French and Ora Hayworth had the following children:

- i. **GEORGE EMERY⁵ FRENCH** was born in 1904. He died in 1951.
 - ii. **JAMES HILLIARD FRENCH JR.** was born in 1908. He died in 1975.
13. **STILES ARTHUR⁴ FRENCH** (Joseph Hilliard³, John², George¹) was born in 1873 in Alabama. He died in 1943 in Texas. He married **INA OLIVIA LILLEY** in 1937. She was born in 1878.

Stiles Arthur French and Ina Olivia Lilley had the following children:

- i. **INA MAUDE⁵ FRENCH** was born in 1897. She died in 1979.
 - ii. **MARY LOU FRENCH** was born in 1902. She died in 1982.
 - iii. **JAMES ARTHUR FRENCH** was born in 1905. He died in 2000.
 - iv. **JOE LILLEY FRENCH** was born in 1908. He died in 1971.
14. **ELLA MAY⁴ FRENCH** (James Washington "Jim"³, John², George¹) was born about 1874 in Cherokee County, TX. She married **ROBERT L. "BOB" PEARMAN** on 12 Aug 1891 in Cherokee County, TX.

Robert L. "Bob" Pearman and Ella May French had the following children:

Generation 4 (con't)

- i. JEWELL⁵ PEARMAN.
 - ii. JEWETT PEARMAN.
 - iii. TRACY PEARMAN.
 - iv. THEDA PEARMAN.
 - v. DELLA FAY PEARMAN.
 - vi. THELMA PEARMAN.
15. **JOHN WILL⁴ FRENCH** (James Washington "Jim"³, John², George¹) was born on 27 Oct 1875 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 05 Jul 1949 in Anderson County, TX. He married (1) **NELLIE DURRETT** about 1895 in Texas. She was born on 20 Dec 1877. She died on 13 Aug 1900 in Cherokee County, TX. He married (2) **STELLA MAE LLOYD** on 09 Nov 1905. He married (3) **VELMA JORDAN** about 1921 in Texas. She was born on 24 Apr 1892. She died on 02 Apr 1967 in Anderson County, TX.

John Will French and Nellie Durrett had the following children:

- i. JAMES J.⁵ FRENCH was born on 28 Sep 1895 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 18 Mar 1899 in Cherokee County, TX.
- ii. VERNON FRENCH was born on 16 Oct 1896 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 22 Sep 1930.
- iii. ESTHER MAE FRENCH was born on 05 Jan 1899. She died about 1980.
- iv. INFANT SON FRENCH was born on 11 Aug 1900 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 11 Aug 1900 in Cherokee County, TX.

John Will French and Velma Jordan had the following child:

- v. JOHN JORDAN FRENCH was born on 22 Apr

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1922. He died on 30 May 1938 in Anderson County, TX.

16. **ANNIE⁴ FRENCH** (James Washington "Jim"³, John², George¹) was born on 20 Jan 1880 in Cherokee County, TX. She died on 11 Jan 1967 in Jacksonville, TX. She married **JOHN ASBERRY SHERMAN** on 26 Nov 1895 in Cherokee County, TX, son of James Robert Sherman and Sarah Jane Jones. He was born on 23 Oct 1872 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 19 Feb 1958 in Cherokee County, TX.

John Asberry Sherman and Annie French had the following children:

- i. **BERTHA MAE⁵ SHERMAN** was born on 01 Dec 1896. She died about 1980.
- ii. **BERNICE GLADYS SHERMAN** was born on 04 Apr 1898. She died about 1980.
- iii. **NANNIE LENORA SHERMAN** was born on 15 Jul 1900 in Cherokee County, TX. She died on 28 Jan 1906 in Cherokee County, TX.
- iv. **MARL E. R. SHERMAN** was born on 25 Dec 1902 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 20 Jan 1996 in Cherokee County, TX. He married **HENRIETTA MEIER** on 26 Apr 1924. She was born on 24 Jan 1902. She died on 25 Apr 1981.
- v. **BESSIE JUANITA SHERMAN** was born on 11 Jun 1908.
- vi. **MARVIN RICHARD SHERMAN** was born on 25 Aug 1908.
- vii. **ASSIE MORRIS SHERMAN** was born on 05 Apr 1911. He died about 1990.
- viii. **RALEIGH ELRAY SHERMAN** was born on 16

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Sep 1918.

17. **RICHARD AUGUSTUS "GUS"⁴ FRENCH** (James Washington "Jim"³, John², George¹) was born on 26 Dec 1883 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 21 Jan 1960 in Cherokee County, TX. He married **VESTHA SHERMAN** on 10 Jan 1904 in Cherokee County, TX, daughter of James Robert Sherman and Sarah Jane Jones. She was born on 04 Apr 1880 in Cherokee County, TX. She died on 23 Jun 1950 in Cherokee County, TX.

Richard Augustus "Gus" French and Vestha Sherman had the following children:

- i. **OWWETA MAY⁵ FRENCH** was born on 05 Dec 1904.
 - ii. **LIZZIE NAOMA FRENCH** was born on 05 Jan 1907. She died about 1990.
 - iii. **JAMES EDWARD FRENCH** was born on 08 Jul 1910 in Cherokee County, TX. He died on 03 Mar 1921 in Cherokee County, TX.
 - iv. **RICHARD ELTON FRENCH** was born on 17 Jul 1912. He died about 1990.
 - v. **BENJAMIN LEROY FRENCH** was born on 27 Aug 1917.
 - vi. **ALONZO GUSTINE FRENCH** was born on 09 Oct 1921.
18. **MATTIE ELLEN⁴ REAVES** (Nancy Elizabeth³ French, George William² French I, George¹ French) was born on 27 Oct 1877 in Newell, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 07 Oct 1914 in Randolph County, AL. She married **SMILEY BARTOU CREWS** on 07 Nov 1897 in Newell, AL, son of Ciscero Crews and Sarah Lipham. He was born on 30 Sep 1875 in Newell, AL. He died on 07 Jan 1950 in Randolph County, AL.

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Smiley Bartou Crews and Mattie Ellen Reaves had the following children:

- i. HESTER⁵ CREWS was born on 16 Jul 1898. She married UNKNOWN STEWART.
 - ii. WILLIAM CLEVELAND CREWS was born on 17 May 1900.
 - iii. DAISY CREWS was born on 26 Dec 1901.
 - iv. LESSIE CREWS was born on 31 Mar 1904. She married UNKNOWN COEFIELD.
 - v. NOVELLE CREWS was born on 05 Jul 1906.
 - vi. BABY CREWS was born on 21 Jan 1907.
 - vii. VESSIE MAE CREWS was born on 31 Dec 1908.
 - viii. HURSELL CREWS was born on 03 Oct 1910.
 - ix. DEWEY CREWS was born on 22 Aug 1912.
 - x. MATTIE CREWS was born on 07 Oct 1914.
19. **BETTIE⁴ HIGGINBOTHAM** (Amanda Jane³ French, George William² French I, George¹ French). She married **(UNKNOWN) YOUNG**.

(Unknown) Young and Bettie Higginbotham had the following child:

- i. BOBBIE⁵ YOUNG. She died in Angleton, Texas. She married W. BERNARD MOODY.
20. **GEORGE WILLIAM⁴ FRENCH III** (George William³ II, George William² I, George¹) was born on 23 May 1877 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 05 Oct 1970 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married **SARAH ANNA (TEXIE) SMITH** on 17 Aug 1897 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL, daughter of Benjamin H. Smith and Martha Ann

Generation 4 (con't)

Wilson. She was born on 21 Feb 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 02 Apr 1962 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.

Notes for George William French III:

Will and Texie lived in Randolph County and LaGrange, GA. He was a textile worker. On September 4, 1894, an infant daughter of G. W. French died of dysentery.

Notes for Sarah Anna (Texie) Smith:

In the 1900 Census, her birth year is shown as 1881, age 19. My grandmother, Texie French never wanted or watched tv until sometime in the late 1950's she opened an account at a new Savings and Loan branch office in her town. They had a Grand Opening with the usual refreshments and prize entries. Of course she entered for the prizes and ended up winning a new Tv. Her attitude about tv changed then.

George William French III and Sarah Anna (Texie) Smith had the following children:

- i. STILLBORN⁵ FRENCH was born about 1898.
- ii. STILLBORN FRENCH was born about 1899.
- iii. ARTHUR HAMES FRENCH was born on 07 Jun 1899. He died on 12 Aug 1901 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.
- iv. MINNIE LEE FRENCH was born on 09 Jun 1901. She died on 15 Mar 1976. She married VIRGIAL JACKSON.
- v. EUNICE MAE FRENCH was born on 26 Jul 1904. She died on 12 May 1986. She married GUY CRENSHAW.
- vi. ANNA JO FRENCH was born on 28 May 1906. She died on 12 Sep 2001. She

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married (1) COY PAYNE on 01 Apr 1923. He died on 01 Sep 1934. She married (2) JAMES CARL BOOZER on 16 Jan 1937.

- vii. WILLIE PEARL FRENCH was born on 30 Aug 1908. She died about 1990. She married (1) CECIL MATTHEW LANGFORD on 23 Dec 1925, son of Francis Marion (Barlo) Lankford and Laura Francis Steans. He was born in 1907 in Tallapoosa County, AL. He died in 1945 in LaGrange, Troup Co., GA. She married (2) WARREN VINCENT about 1965.
- viii. GEORGIA RAE FRENCH was born on 05 Aug 1911. She married (1) JAMES W. ADAMS. She married (2) HOKE SIMPSON on 13 Aug 1950. She married (3) NATHAN STEPHENS.
- ix. LILA REE FRENCH was born on 18 Dec 1911. She died on 01 Aug 2003. She married (1) EMORY WILLIAMS on 07 Apr 1929. He died on 22 Sep 1965. She married (2) HOP MILLS.
- x. LUCILLE FRENCH was born on 22 May 1915 in 4/14/2007. She married GRADY FOLDS on 18 Feb 1936.

Notes for Lucille French:

One daughter, born in 1902, is identified as Minnie in the 1910 Census. While uncertain, Lucille seems to be the logical candidate.

- 21. **JOHN ROBERT⁴ FRENCH** (George William³ II, George William² I, George¹) was born on 16 Oct 1878 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He died on 14 Mar 1975 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married **MARTHA LEOLA "OLA" SIKES** on 26 Oct 1900 in Wedowee, Randolph Co.,

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AL, daughter of Alfred Pierce Sikes and Mary Frances "Frank" Fincher. She was born on 09 Apr 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 02 Dec 1971 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.

Notes for John Robert French:

John Robert appears to be the first in the family to receive higher education with a BCE from Elon College, and an MCE and DD from Vanderbilt University. Bob farmed, built chimneys, and helped build the Rockdale Telephone Company in Randolph County. He and his brother James Monroe French married sisters Martha Leola and Mary Ella Sikes. On October 26, 1971, he and Ola celebrated their 71st anniversary.

John Robert French and Martha Leola "Ola" Sikes had the following children:

- i. JOSIAH AMOUS⁵ FRENCH was born on 30 Apr 1902 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, AL. He died in 2000. He married ANNA MAE TAYLOR on 12 Aug 1936 in Scarritt College, Nashville, Cumberland Co., TN, daughter of Ollie Vanderver Taylor and Marion Lee. She was born on 14 May 1904 in Cumberland Co., TN. She died about 1990.
- ii. JIMMY FRANKLIN FRENCH was born on 12 Nov 1904. He died on 24 Apr 1953 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He married (1) GLEMA CALHOUN. He married (2) VELMA MOORE. She was born on 15 Apr 1907. She died on 31 Jan 1991 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.
- iii. TRUMAN LARKIN FRENCH was born on 11 Oct 1907. He died on 05 Jan 1978. He married RUBY ADA PARKER in Oct 1928. She was born on 15 Sep 1908. She died

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on 09 Apr 1996.

- iv. MARY BURMICE FRENCH was born on 23 Nov 1909 in Randolph County, AL. She died on 18 Feb 1940 in Randolph County, AL. She married WALTER J. STEWART on 10 Sep 1932 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.
- v. CORA LEE FRENCH was born on 09 Aug 1911 in Randolph County, AL. She died about 1990. She married ODIE DANIEL.
- vi. ALICE LOYETT FRENCH was born on 21 Mar 1913 in Randolph County, AL. She died on 18 Jan 2004 in Roanoke, Randolph Co., AL. She married JOSEPH LEWIS MCMANUS on 21 Oct 1931 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died about 1990.
- vii. NONA MAE FRENCH was born on 07 Jan 1916 in Randolph County, AL. She died on 16 Aug 2008 in Randolph County, AL. She married (1) JACK BENEFIELD. She married (2) HULON PARRISH.
- viii. ROBERT FLOYD FRENCH was born on 31 Aug 1917 in Randolph County, AL. He married BERTHA CALHOUN.
- ix. ELLA LOIS FRENCH was born on 23 Jul 1919 in Randolph County, AL. She married (1) PATON LAWRENCE WOODHAM about 1960. He was born on 22 Oct 1919. He died on 02 Dec 1996 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She married (2) JOHN HAROLD HARMON SR. about 1945. He was born in 1908. He died in 1958.
- x. HENRY ALTON FRENCH was born on 13 Feb 1922. He married CHRISTINE STEWART.

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22. **LULA⁴ FRENCH** (George William³ II, George William² I, George¹) was born on 09 Oct 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 19 Apr 1947 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She married **CHARLES MCMANUS**. He was born on 25 Apr 1880 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He died on 20 Oct 1953 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.

Notes for Lula French:

Lula and Charlie lived next door to Ava United Methodist Church and their daughter, Eva, later lived there.

Charles McManus and Lula French had the following child:

- i. **EVA⁵ MCMANUS**.

23. **CHARLES AUGUSTUS⁴ FRENCH** (George William³ II, George William² I, George¹) was born on 13 Mar 1882 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 14 Jan 1968 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married (1) **EVA PEARL KIRBY**. She was born on 02 Feb 1887 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 13 Jan 1921 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He married (2) **MARY ELIZABETH CROUCH**.

Notes for Charles Augustus French:

Charlie and Eva (Pearl?) operated the old French General Store, which was next to their home. The store is now a real estate office.

Charles Augustus French and Eva Pearl Kirby had the following children:

- i. **CHARLES WILLIAM⁵ FRENCH**. He died on 24 Nov 2001. He married LEE BECK on 01 Jan 1937 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.
- ii. **JAMES DOUGLAS FRENCH** was born on 30 Aug 1913 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. He died on 29 Jun 1969 in Wedowee,

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Randolph Co., AL. He married MARY KATE BURDETTE. She was born on 11 Dec 1916 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.

- iii. DOROTHY CUMI FRENCH was born in 1915. She married GUY ALFRED SEARS SR..
- iv. EVA HELEN FRENCH was born on 03 Jan 1921 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 25 Aug 1921 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.

Charles Augustus French and Mary Elizabeth Crouch had the following children:

- v. MARTHA KATE FRENCH.
- vi. MYRTLE FRENCH was born on 06 Oct 1925. She married RIDLEY B. BUTLER. He was born on 30 Oct 1923. He died on 27 Nov 1980.
- vii. MEVOLENE FRENCH was born on 15 Nov 1927. She married A. J. BROWN. He was born on 03 Feb 1923. He died on 20 Apr 1983.

24. **JAMES MONROE⁴ FRENCH** (George William³ II, George William² I, George¹) was born on 13 Mar 1884 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 25 Mar 1947 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married **MARY ELLA SIKES** on 05 Jul 1904 in Bowden, Carroll Co, GA, daughter of Alfred Pierce Sikes and Mary Frances "Frank" Fincher. She was born on 10 Jan 1889 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 15 Jan 1962 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.

Notes for James Monroe French:

"Monroe" French played the harmonica, Banjo and Jews harp. He and his brother John French married sisters Mary Ella and Martha Leola Sikes. From about 1904

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through 1924, he was a farmer in Randolph County, Alabama. The 1920 Census indicates he could read and write and rented a farm in High Shoals. In a 2004 interview, daughter Doris recalled that they had a beautiful Pierce Arrow automobile. However, in the 1920s, the post-war depression in agriculture, deepened by a glutted market and a continuing slump in crop prices, created havoc for farmers throughout the nation. When hard times came, the family had to sell the car and could not maintain their farm. They moved across the river to LaGrange, Troup County, Georgia from 1925 to 1934 where Monroe worked at Callaway Mills.

In 1934 and 1935, Callaway Mills suffered two employee strikes. Eventually management won out and strikers left the area, but the economic stresses of the decade took its toll. Monroe French was an independent "cuss" who strongly disliked unions. He took his family back to Wedowee where they built a new house and barn, according to daughters Mary Jim and Helen in 2004. He again farmed and ran a country store with a "filling station" until his death in 1947.

Notes for Mary Ella Sikes:

"Ella" was a member of the Noon Day Congregational Church. After the death of her husband in 1947, she was a very independent woman, living alone in the New Hope Community until her death in 1962.

James Monroe French and Mary Ella Sikes had the following children:

- i. BERNICE WALKER⁵ FRENCH was born on 10 Aug 1905 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 19 Dec 1981 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married VERDIE ELIZABETH WILDER on 25 Jul 1925 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL, daughter of

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John Wilder and Ellen Elizabeth "Betty" Hadley. She was born on 04 Jun 1907 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 04 Aug 2001 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.

- ii. BESSIE PEARL FRENCH was born on 13 May 1907 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 26 Aug 1992 in Cullman, Cullman Co, AL. She married CHESTER GRAY MCMANUS on 24 Dec 1922 in Randolph County, AL. He was born on 21 Sep 1902 in Randolph County, AL. He died on 07 Mar 1980 in Cullman County, AL.
- iii. CASSIE LOYETTE FRENCH was born on 26 Apr 1910 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 25 Jan 1999 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, Al. She married (1) ODIE FINCHER about 1927. He died before 1947. She married (2) LONNIE WILSON about 1947. He died before 1994.
- iv. GEORGE ALFRED FRENCH was born on 20 Feb 1913 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 01 Oct 1993 in Orangeburg, Orangeburg Co., SC. He married (1) ANNIE LOUISE TURNER on 12 Jul 1930 in LaGrange, Troup Co, GA, daughter of James Arthur Turner and Gladys Lanett Tolbert. She was born on 20 Sep 1913 in West Point, Troup Co, GA. She died in 1969 in West Point, Troup Co, GA. He married (2) ANNIE GRACE HARVEY on 14 Jan 1938 in Thomaston, Upson Co, GA, daughter of Moses Howell Harvey and Dora Mae Matthews. She was born on 10 Jan 1911 in Thomaston, Upson Co, GA. She died on 12 Feb 2003 in Tallahassee,

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Leon Co., FL. He married (3) ADA LOUISE MOORE on 28 Sep 1940 in Conyers, Rockdale Co, GA, daughter of John Allen Moore and Ada Louise Pitts. She was born on 05 Nov 1921 in Topeka Junction, Upson Co, GA. She died on 08 May 1995 in Macon, Bibb Co, GA. He married (4) LETTIE MORGAN ZIEGLER on 06 Jun 1946 in Orangeburg, Orangeburg Co, SC. She was born on 04 Jun 1923 in St. Matthews, Calhoun Co, SC. She died on 01 Dec 1999 in Orangeburg, Orangeburg Co., SC.

Notes for George Alfred French:

Alfred, as he was known by his family, was a member of a local band in West Point, Georgia early in the 1930s. Later in that decade, he attended summer school at Gordon College in Barnesville. In Macon, he worked at White Flash Service Station and was a salesman for Stansell Potato Chip Company (7/5/43). On March 20, 1944, he enlisted in the Marine Corps where he served with 4th and 9th Marine Aircraft Wings in the Pacific Theatre in World War II until his discharge about April 7, 1946. Upon moving to Orangeburg, South Carolina after the war, he first worked at Gressette's Auto Supply, wholesale jobbers. He then became a clothing salesman, buying and selling from his car as he drove from location to location. About 1954, he became an auto salesman for Wannamaker Chevrolet in Orangeburg. He was called Pete by his customers and friends in Orangeburg and, in 1962, opened "Pete's Used Cars" which

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he owned until 1978. His lifelong love of cars must have been in his genes. Six of his seven sons have been involved in collecting and/or racing automobiles.

- v. JAMES CLIFFORD FRENCH was born on 01 Apr 1915 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 02 May 1917 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL.
- vi. CURTIS MONROE FRENCH was born on 24 May 1918 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 15 Mar 1987 in Forsyth, Monroe Co, GA. He married JANET WILBANKS on 28 Aug 1940 in Georgia. She was born on 14 May 1924 in Sycamore, Turner Co., GA. She died on 31 Oct 2007 in Forsyth, Monroe Co., GA.
- vii. MARY JIM FRENCH was born on 06 Jul 1920 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 23 Nov 2009 in Atlanta, GA. She married (1) ROBERT KEITH CONE on 12 Feb 1938 in West Point, Troup Co, GA, son of Robert Cone and Iris Perry. He was born on 10 Dec 1914. He died on 06 Jun 1997 in Smyrna, Cobb Co, GA. She married (2) SAMUEL WILLIAM KEATON on 10 Aug 2003 in Atlanta, Fulton Co., GA, son of Charlie Gordon Keaton and Pauline Mildred Burks. He was born on 02 Jan 1931 in Cullman, Cullman Co., AL.

Notes for Mary Jim French:

On February 12, 1997, Mary Jim and Keith celebrated their 59th Wedding Anniversary. Aunt Jimmie loves to sing, act, and work in the garden.

- viii. DORIS (FAYE) FRENCH was born on 28 Nov

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1922 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 26 Mar 2007 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She married (1) ROBERT VINSON TAYLOR on 15 Oct 1938 in West Point, Troup Co., GA, son of John Taylor and Melissa Mae Belle Barfield. He was born on 06 Aug 1921 in Cragford, Clay Co., AL. He died on 11 Feb 2000 in Wadley, Randolph Co., AL. She married (2) CECIL CROUCH ADCOCK in 1962, son of Unknown Adcock and Lois Ethel Crouch. He was born on 19 May 1920 in Randolph County, AL. He died on 12 Oct 1986 in Carraway M. C., Birmingham, AL. She married (3) EUWELL ARGENE GILES on 15 Oct 1992 in Pigeon Forge, Sevier Co., TN, son of Clyde Giles and Minnie Lea Coleman. He was born on 11 Aug 1931.

- ix. HORACE (RAY) FRENCH was born on 28 Nov 1922 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 07 Jan 2002 in Macon, Bibb Co., GA. He married JENNIE LUCILLE VAUGHN on 22 Mar 1942. She was born on 23 Nov 1923 in Twiggs County, GA. She died on 25 Aug 2001 in Houston County, GA.

Notes for Horace (Ray) French:

Horace and his twin sister were called Doris Fay and Horace Ray when they were young. Doris dropped the middle name later, but Horace never did. He used it in all his legal documents.

When they were children, Horace always would take up for Doris. While they lived in LaGrange, a student would ride a bike to school and the kids would take turns riding

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during recess. One day, a Willingham boy threw Doris off the bike and Horace got into a fight with him. Horace was sent to the Principal's office, but he told the Principal he was not going to take a paddling for defending his sister.

Horace served in the Army in World War II. He was the Manager of a Piggly Wiggly Grocery Store for 17 years. Then, at age 42, he took over management of the commissary at Warner Robins Air Base. After several years, he became unhappy with this position and opened a service station. Finally, he turned to his first love, carpentry and cabinet making. He made many items of furniture for family members in his shop adjacent to his home.

He and Lucille lived on Vineville Avenue near Mercer University in Macon. Helen and Hansard Robertson would stay with them between homes. In his later years, Horace had open heart surgery. Lucille died on August 25, 2001 in Houston County, Georgia. While going to a family reunion after Lucille's death, Horace told his nephew, Doug French, "I guess this will be the last time I see my sisters." He died "of a broken heart" on January 7, 2002 in Macon, Bibb County, Georgia. He and Lucille are buried at the Vaughn family cemetery in Twiggs County.

- x. AGNES LAVELLE FRENCH was born on 21 Feb 1925 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She married (1) GILBERT LANDERS HUEY SR. in Sep 1943. He was born on 05 May

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1920 in Randolph County, AL. He died on 13 Jan 1986 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, AL. She married (2) GAY LANGLEY about 1993 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, AL. He was born on 11 Sep 1917. He died on 03 Jan 2006 in Roanoke, Randolph Co., AL.

- xi. FRANCES ELIZABETH FRENCH was born on 09 Jul 1927 in LaGrange, Troup Co, GA. She married GEOFFREY SYLVESTER JOHNSON SR. on 14 Aug 1947 in LaGrange, Troup Co., GA. He was born on 26 Feb 1927 in LaGrange, Troup Co., GA.
- xii. JOYCE HELEN FRENCH was born on 26 May 1930 in LaGrange, Troup Co, GA. She died on 29 Dec 2010 in Roanoke, Randolph Co., AL. She married (1) HANSARD GAY "BOB" ROBERTSON on 31 May 1947 in Roanoke, Randolph Co., AL. He was born on 27 Oct 1929. He died on 11 Sep 1971 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, AL. She married (2) DOUGLAS MORING on 19 Nov 1977 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, AL. He was born on 29 Jul 1927. He died on 20 Apr 2008 in Roanoke, Randolph Co., AL.
- xiii. HAROLD HAMMETT FRENCH was born on 04 Nov 1933 in LaGrange, Troup Co., GA. He died on 25 Nov 2009 in Orangeburg, Orangeburg Co., SC. He married (1) BETTY JEAN HODSON on 07 Jun 1952 in Orangeburg, Orangeburg Co., SC. She was born on 12 Sep 1934. She died on 10 Jan 1996. He married (2) MARY AGNES GODWIN on 22 May 1976 in Orangeburg, Orangeburg Co., SC, daughter of William Leverne Godwin and Mary Agnes Culler.

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She was born on 16 Sep 1947 in Orangeburg, Orangeburg Co., SC.

Notes for Harold Hammett French:

When Hammett was born, the family was living at 805 Houston Street in LaGrange. Mama French's doctor was Dr. Hammett, so she named her child Harold Hammett. He went to New Hope School. Prior to his passing in 2009, Hammett shared the following memories of his grandmother, parents and siblings.

- Mary Frances Fincher - I vaguely remember her sitting in a large chair.
- James Monroe French - Saturday trips to Wedowee in a one horse wagon for groceries, etc with Papa and sometimes stopping by Aunt Alice's house on the way back for dinner. I remember sometimes following Papa in the fields while he was plowing and walking in his footsteps made in the newly plowed ground. Sometimes he would let me ride the mule back to the barn.
- Mary Ella Sikes - Rough times with her after Papa died for about a year. We ate cornbread and milk for supper a lot.
- George Alfred French - Moving to South Carolina with him.
- LaVelle French - Attending LaVelle's high school graduation in Wedowee and waking up the next morning with the measles.
- Frances French - Frances and Helen walking me around Grandmama

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Sike's house with my brand new pair of shoes.

- Helen French - Running into Helen with a wheel barrow and Papa giving me a whipping for it.

25. **MARY ALICE⁴ FRENCH** (George William³ II, George William² I, George¹) was born on 05 Dec 1885 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. She died on 22 Aug 1974 in Roanoke, Randolph Co, Al. She married **ROBERT L. FOSTER**.

Notes for Mary Alice French:

Alis and George lived on a farm near Wedowee until her husband disappeared, never to be heard from again. Rev. Joe Amos French has identified her husband as George rather than Robert, and he also spells her name Alis, which I have used, rather than Alice.

Robert L. Foster and Mary Alice French had the following child:

- i. **RAYMOND FLOYD⁵ FOSTER** was born on 14 Feb 1919 in Randolph County, AL. He died on 13 Apr 1988 in Randolph County, AL. He married **MOHEE BURROUGHS**. She was born on 14 Jun 1920.

26. **HOMER FELIX⁴ FRENCH** (George William³ II, George William² I, George¹) was born on 27 Oct 1887 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He died on 06 Jan 1956 in Wedowee, Randolph Co, AL. He married **EXA MATILDA KIRBY**. She was born on 19 Nov 1892 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL. She died on 15 Jan 1962 in Wedowee, Randolph Co., AL.

Homer Felix French and Exa Matilda Kirby had the following children:

- i. **WILLIAM⁵ FRENCH**.

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- ii. GLADYS FRENCH.
- iii. BROOKSEY FRENCH.

Sources

- 1 Ancestry.com, Public Member Trees (Provo, UT, USA, Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006), www.ancestry.com, Database online.
- 2 Ancestry.com, Public Member Trees (Provo, UT, USA, Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006), www.ancestry.com, Database online.
- 3 Ancestry.com, Public Member Trees (Provo, UT, USA, Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006), www.ancestry.com, Database online.
- 4 Ancestry.com, Alabama Deaths, 1908-59 (Provo, UT, USA, Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2000), www.ancestry.com, Database online.