

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Virginia Davis Scarborough - 2011**

Virginia Davis Scarborough's ancestors were part of the Old 300 group organized by Stephen F. Austin to settle in Fort Bend County. William Little and Henry Jones were direct ancestors of Virginia Davis Scarborough. Virginia talks about her kinfolk and her life as a child in Richmond, Texas

21 Pages

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Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Virginia Davis Scarborough

William Little- Old 300 Ancestor of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Husband of Jane Little; Father of Martha Jane Little; Came from Pennsylvania; Only child of John Little & Hannah Hamilton; Traveled from Pennsylvania to Illinois and then to St. Louis Missouri; From St. Louis to Texas with the Old 300

Jane Little- Wife of William Little; Mother of Martha Jane Little

Henry Jones- Old 300 Ancestor of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Husband of Nancy Styles; Father of James Jones

James Jones- Husband of Martha Jane Little; Son of Henry & Nancy Styles Jones

Nancy Styles- Wife of Henry Jones; Mother of James Jones

Martha Jane Little- Daughter of William & Jane Little; Married to James Jones

Walter Little Jones- Son of James & Martha Jane Jones; First married to Jennie; Married second to Archietta Davis

Jennie- First wife of Walter Little Jones; Died 1872 at seventeen years old

Archietta Davis- Second wife of Walter Little Jones; Daughter of William Kinchen Davis & Jane Pickens

William Kinchen Davis- Husband of Jane Pickens; Father of Archietta Davis

Jane Pickens- Wife of William Kinchen Davis; Mother of Archietta Davis

Kinchen W. Davis- Father of William Kinchen Davis; Grandfather of Archietta Davis Jones

Jennie Jones- Oldest daughter of Walter Little & Archietta "Archie" Davis Jones; Wife of T.B. "Tony" Wessendorff; Grandmother of Virginia Davis Scarborough

Tony Wessendorff- Aka T.B. Wessendorff; Husband of Jennie Jones; Son of Antone "Tony" B. Wessendorff or A.B. Wessendorff

Lizzie Wessendorff- Wife of Syd Davis; Oldest daughter of T.B. "Tony" & Jennie Jones Wessendorff; Mother of Virginia Davis Scarborough

Syd Davis- Husband of Lizzie Wessendorff; Father of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Non-related to Archietta Davis' family

Gabriel & Jane Davis- Grandparents of Syd Davis; Parents of James Lewis Davis; Came from South Carolina to 1850 Alabama; Came to Brazoria County Texas in 1860; Came to Wharton County Texas in 1870

James Lewis Davis- Oldest Child of Gabriel & Jane Davis; Father of Syd Davis; Husband of Emma Darst

Emma Darst- Wife of James Lewis Davis; Mother of Syd Davis; Ancestor of Daniel Boone
Daniel Boone- Ancestor of Emma Darst; Husband of Rebecca Bryan; Father of Jemima Boone

Claude Davis- Older brother of James Lewis Davis; Son of Gabriel & Jane Davis

Lida Davis- Younger sister of James Lewis Davis; Married Dyer Moore; Daughter of Gabriel & Jane Davis

Dyer Moore- Married Lida Davis younger sister of James Lewis Davis

John Little- Father of William Little; Husband of Hannah Hamilton

Hannah Hamilton- Mother of William Little; Wife of John Little

Stephen F. Austin's father- Moses received permission to settle 300 families in Texas

Sowell- Wrote History of Fort Bend County; Says William Little was the skipper of the Lively

Wharton- Wrote History of Fort Bend County; Says William Little was the skipper of the Lively

Jane Edwards- Wife of William Little; Daughter of Jonathan & Nancy Edwards

Jonathan Edwards- First Husband of Nancy Edwards; Father of Jane Edwards

Nancy Edwards- Wife of Jonathan Edwards; Mother of Jane Edwards

William Morton- Second Husband of Jane Edwards; Morton Cemetery named for him

Clint Drake- Member of Fort Bend County Historical Commission

Grace Briscoe- Friend of Mary Dee Moore the researcher for DAR information

Mary Dee Moore- First cousin of Syd Davis, the Father of Virginia Davis Scarborough

Flanders Callaway- Husband of Jemima Boone

Jemima Boone- Wife of Flanders Callaway; Daughter of Daniel Boone & Rebecca Bryan

Rebecca Bryan- Wife of Daniel Boone; Mother of Jemima Boone

Tabatha Callaway- Daughter of Flanders Callaway & Jemima Boone; First wife of Abraham Darst; Died having her fifth child; Children left in the Boone's care

Abraham Darst- Husband of first wife, Tabatha Callaway; Husband of second wife Jemima Brownfield

Jemima Brownfield- Second wife of Abraham Darst

Emory Holman Darst- Son of Abraham Darst & Tabitha Callaway; Married to Mary Ann Moore

Mary Ann Moore- Wife of Emory Holman Darst; Daughter of Elisha Moore & Jane Gillette

Elisha Moore- Husband of Jane Gillette; Father of Mary Ann Moore

Jane Gillette- Wife of Elisha Moore; Mother of Mary Ann Moore

Emma Darst- Fourth child of Emory Holman Darst & Mary Ann Moore; Wife of first husband James Simpson; Wife of second husband James Lewis Davis

James Simpson- First Husband of Emma Darst; Buried in Snake Creek Cemetery with his only child

James Lewis Davis- Second Husband of Emma Darst

Fannie Pleasants- Wife of Kinchen W. Davis; Mother of William Kinchen Davis

John Harris Pickens Davis- Son of Kinchen W. Davis & Jane Pickens; Aka J.H.P. Davis; Husband of Lizzie Ryon; Father of Mamie Davis

Lizzie Ryon- Daughter of Col. William Ryon & Polly; Wife of John Harris Pickens Davis; Mother of Mamie Davis

Col. William Ryon- Father of Lizzie Ryon; Husband of Polly

Polly- Mother of Lizzie Ryon; Wife of Col. William Ryon

Eleanor Davis- Daughter of Kinchen W. Davis & Jane Pickens; Married to B.A. Hinson

Kinchen Davis- Son of Kinchen W. Davis & Jane Pickens; Married to Rachel Glasscock

Archietta Davis- Daughter of Kinchen W. Davis & Jane Pickens; Married to Walter Little Jones

Zachariah Moore- Father of Elisha Moore; Grandfather of Mary Ann Moore

Mier- Leader of the Mier Expedition into Mexico in 1842

Mamie Davis- Daughter of J.H.P. Davis & Lizzie Ryon; Wife of

Hattie Jones- Daughter of Walter Little Jones & Archietta Davis; Married to Tom Wessendorff

William Jones- Son of Walter Little Jones & Archietta Davis

Joe Jones- Son of Walter Little Jones & Archietta Davis

Walter Jones- Son of Walter Little Jones & Archietta Davis

Antone Wessendorff- Grandfather of Virginia Davis Scarborough; He and two brothers came to America in 1854; Died in 1930

Chester William Geue- Author of New Homes in a New Land

Johanna Jenentsky- Aka Johanna Janentzy; Wife of Antone Wessendorff

Joe G. Wessendorff- Older brother of Antone Wessendorff

John M. Moore, Sr. - Texas Congressman; Father of Etta Mae Moore

Etta Mae- Aka Etta Mae Moore- Daughter of John M. Moore, Sr.; Friend of Lizzie Wessendorff

President Taft- Lizzie Wessendorff and Etta Mae Moore attended President Taft's event in Washington, D.C.

Claude Davis- Brother of Virginia Davis Scarborough

Virginia Davis- Aka Virginia Davis Scarborough

Antoinette Davis- Older sister of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Born in 1919

Syd Davis- Brother of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Born in 1923

Tony Davis- Brother of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Born in 1926

Frank Davis- Brother of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Born in 1928; Attorney

Tommy Davis- Brother of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Born in 1931

Lynne Scarborough- Older daughter of Virginia Davis Scarborough

Marie Scarborough- Younger daughter of Virginia Davis Scarborough

Aunt Nettie- Nettie Wessendorff, Virginia Davis Scarborough's Aunt; Lived with Virginia's grandfather in the Wessendorff home

Doris Wessendorff- Aunt of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Lived with Virginia's grandfather in the Wessendorff home; Teacher in Houston; Married to Dick Goodwin

Marie Wessendorff- Aunt of Virginia Davis Scarborough; Lived with Virginia's grandfather in the Wessendorff home; Married Bill in '32 and moved to California; Died in 2001

Bill- Husband of Marie Wessendorff; Died in 1970

Dick Goodwin- Husband of Doris Wessendorff

Alfred Young Scarborough- Aka Sonny; Husband of Virginia Davis

Alfred Young, Junior- Son of Alfred Young Scarborough & Virginia Davis; Born in '45

Davis- Aka Davis Scarborough; Second child of Alfred Young Scarborough & Virginia Davis; Born in '47

Lynne- Third child of Alfred Young Scarborough & Virginia Davis; Born in '50

James- Aka James Scarborough- Son of Alfred Young Scarborough & Virginia Davis; Born in '57

Marie- Youngest child of Alfred Young Scarborough & Virginia Davis; Born in '58

Walter Minkwitz- Secretary to the George office

Georges- Bought several properties to add onto the Morton Cemetery

Violet Poncik- Secretary of the George Foundation

Bob Crosser- Searched out of the way cemeteries in Fort Bend County with Virginia Davis Scarborough

Wille Ann McCulloch- Aka Willie Ann; Searched for cemeteries with Bob Crosser and Virginia

Wincie Campbell- Helped search for cemeteries with Bob Crosser, Virginia & Willie Ann

McCulloch

William Little- Aka William Little Jones

Dianne Wilson- Fort Bend County Clerk

Moore- The Moore family moved into the Wessendorff home

Places / Businesses

Fort Bend County- County in Texas

Old 300- Group of Settlers organized by Stephen F. Austin; William Little & Henry Jones ancestors of Virginia Davis Scarborough

Texas

South Carolina- Where Virginia Davis Scarborough's Davis family originated

Green County, Alabama- Davis family there in 1850

Brazoria County, Texas- Davis family there in 1860

Wharton County, Texas- Davis family settled there in 1870

Pennsylvania- Where William Little was born

Illinois- Where William Little traveled to first

St. Louis- Where William Little moved to and first learned of Stephen F. Austin's Texas settlement

Missouri- Where some of the Old 300 traveled from

Louisiana- Where some of the Old 300 traveled from

Skipper of the Lively- William Little brought some of the settlers on this boat

Brazos River- Runs through Fort Bend County

Riverstone subdivision- Located on the east side of the Brazos River

Georgia- Where Jonathan and Nancy Edwards lived

Morton Cemetery- Named for William Morton

DAR- Daughters of the America Revolution

Washington, D.C.

Snake Creek Community- Abraham Darst settled here with Jemima Brownfield and children

Snake Creek Cemetery- Where James Simpson and his child are buried

Brazos Bend Park- Location of Kinchen W. Davis' land grant of 1831

Davis Estate Road- In the area of Brazos Bend Park

Wake Co, NC- Where Kinchen W. Davis & Fannie Pleasants married in 1815

Morgan County, Alabama- Where William Kinchen Davis was born in 1822
Wharton County- Where Elisha Moore had his land grant
Richmond- Where most of the Darst family lived
Damon- Small community where Abraham Darst had a land grant
Damon public Cemetery- Where Abraham Darst is buried
Mexico- Location of the Miers Expedition in 1842
Perote Prison- Prison in Mexico where William Kinchen Davis, of the Miers Expedition was held
Colorado River- Location where men of the Lively were to meet Stephen F. Austin
Brazos- Brazos River
“Bend in the river”- Place on the Brazos River where a small fort was built
Riverstone subdivision- Location of where Mr. Little aka William Little’s league
George Ranch- Location of Henry Jones’ land grant
Germany- Where the Wessendorff’s & Janenty’s originated
Galliot Concordia- The ship the Wessendorff family took from Germany
Galveston- Where the Galliot Concordia landed in 1854
Mormon Church- Records
Bellville- Where Johanna Jenentsky’s (Janenty) family settled
Lubeck- Community in northern Germany where the Janenty’s originated
Fort Bend County- Where Antone Wessendorff settled
Museum- Fort Bend County Museum
Funeral parlor- Opened by Antone Wessendorff
California
Insurance business- Opened by Joe G. Wessendorff
Farmers or Ranchers- Occupation of Fort Bend County residents
Doctors or Lawyers- Occupation of Fort Bend County residents
Pharmacists- Occupation of Fort Bend County residents
College- Located in Washington, D.C. where Lizzie Wessendorff attended
Congressman- Mr. John M. Moore, Sr.
Sherman, Texas- Location of the college where Syd Davis attended
Dairy- Syd Davis owned
Rivercrest Farm- Name of Syd Davis’ dairy; Located between Richmond & Rosenberg

PTA- Virginia Davis Scarborough's mother Lizzie was active

Richmond Garden Club- Formed in 1935

City Hall- Location in Richmond where some of the Richmond Garden Club meetings were held

Methodist church- Located in Richmond; Lizzie Wessendorff Davis was very active

Women's Missionary Society- Lizzie Wessendorff Davis was very active

Chevrolets & DeSotos- Cars that Syd Davis drove

Life Check Drug Store- On 11th Street in Richmond

Wessendorff home- Big, two-story house with 5 bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, breakfast room, music room and a sun parlor

Lamar Hotel- Located in Houston where Virginia's Aunts moved

San Jacinto High School- Location where Doris Wessendorff taught

20th Century- Studio in California where Marie Wessendorff's husband bill worked as a film editor

Richmond high school- Located where the current Elementary school sits; Tan building with 2 levels

Elementary school- Tw-story red brick building with 6 grades

TSCW- College located in Denton Texas where Virginia Davis Scarborough attended for a half-year

Texas Women's University- Name changed from TSCW

Denton- Location of TSCW/Texas Women's University

Sam Houston- Aka Sam Houston State Teacher's College in Huntsville Texas

Sam Houston State Teacher's College- Located in Hunstville Texas where Virginia Davis Scarborough graduated; Alfred "Sonny" Young Scarborough attended

Lamar schools- Virginia Davis Scarborough taught for twenty-one years in the Lamar district

Dallas- Sonny enlisted in the Naval Air Corps

Pilot- Alfred "Sonny" Young Scarborough in WWII

Naval Air Corps - "Sonny" enlisted

San Diego- Where Virginia & Sonny moved to after getting married

Oakland- Sonny sent here before being sent to the Aleutian Islands

Seattle- Sonny sent here for 2 weeks; Virginia joined him

Air Station- Located in Seattle; Where Sonny flew out

Millbrae, California- Virginia & Sonny Scarborough moved to after Seattle

Lighter-Than-Air- A base in Palo Alto California

Palo Alto- Location of the base, Lighter-Than-Air

Hawaii- Alfred "Sonny" Young Scarborough stationed there

New Orleans- Where Sonny & Virginia Scarborough moved after WWII

McCormick Steel Company- Company where Sonny first worked as a pilot

Navy- Alfred "Sonny" Young Scarborough was a pilot

Russia- Planes patrolled the area during WWII

Waukesha Pearce Industries- Located in Houston where Sonny was a pilot until retirement at age 65

Plane salesman- Sonny Scarborough sold planes

Teachers- Daughters of Alfred "Sonny" Young Scarborough & Virginia Davis Scarborough, Lynne Scarborough & Marie Scarborough taught

Stephen F. Austin- College in Nacogdoches Texas

A & M- University in Bryan-College Station Texas

Winston Terrace- Subdivision in Richmond where the Scarborough's lived

Thompson Highway- Location of Winston Terrace in Richmond

Smith School- Located close to Winston Terrace

Episcopal Church- Located near Winston Terrace

Fort Bend County Historical Commission- Virginia Davis Scarborough, member

Masonic Cemetery- Located in Richmond Texas; Aka Morton Cemetery

Mason's- Owned the Masonic Cemetery aka Morton Cemetery

Masonic Cemetery East- Section of the cemetery

Masonic Cemetery North- Section of the cemetery

Masonic Cemetery West- Section of the cemetery

Addition One- Property of the Georges to be added to Masonic Cemetery/Morton Cemetery

Secretary- Violet Poncik of the George Foundation

George Foundation- At the time the office was located behind the Drug store

Drug store- Located in the Richmond down-town area close to the railroad tracks; George Foundation offices located behind the building

Wessendorff Insurance office- Current records for Morton Cemetery located here

"genealogy society"- Richmond Texas

W.O.W. - Woodmen of the World cemetery; Aka Rosenberg City Cemetery

Woodmen of the World - Aka W.O.W.

Rosenberg City Cemetery- Formerly the W.O.W. cemetery in Rosenberg Texas

'Around The Bend'- A "little" magazine published by the genealogy society; Published a list of the W.O.W. cemeteries in the county with list of burials

"courthouse"- Fort Bend County

U.D.C. - The United Daughters of the Confederacy; Virginia Davis Scarborough, member
Needville Public Cemetery- Cemetery in Needville, Fort Bend County, Texas

Needville Methodist Cemetery- A Methodist cemetery located in Needville, Fort Bend County, Texas; Located next to the Needville Public Cemetery

Henry Jones' cemetery- Location of burials nearly all known, including some Old Three Hundred settlers

County Clerk's office- Fort Bend County Clerk's Office; Location of death records

George Memorial Library- Located in Richmond, Fort Bend County, Texas

Genealogy Department- Located in the George Memorial Library

Thompson- Small community located on Thompson highway in Fort Bend County Texas

Booth- Small community located on Thompson highway in Fort Bend County

Sugar Land- Once a small company town located between Richmond and Houston

90A- Highway that runs through Richmond to Sugar Land and into Houston; Highway 90A at the time was the route to Houston from Richmond

Moore home- Was the Wessendorff home place

Events

James Jones married Martha Jane Little, daughter of William & Jane Little

Walter Little Jones was born; Son of James Jones & Martha Jane Little

Jennie died in 1872; First wife of Walter Little Jones

Jennie Davis married Tony Wessendorff

Archietta Davis died in 1930

Walter & Archie had seven children

Lizzie Wessendorff married Syd Davis

Lizzie & Syd Davis had six children

Virginia's father's family came to Texas from South Carolina

James Lewis & Emma Darst Davis died when Syd four years old

Claude & Lida Davis raised by their brother Frank B. Davis and sister Margaret Britt

Ancestry traced to Daniel Boone

Lida Davis married Dyer Moore

William Little born in Pennsylvania

William Little went to Illinois and then to St. Louis

In St. Louis William Little found out about Stephen F. Austin's father given permission to settle 300 families in Texas

Stephen F. Austin's father became ill and died

Stephen F. Austin takes over for his father and gets families from Missouri and Louisiana to settle in Texas

The Lively, skippered by William Little brought first settlers from Louisiana to Texas

William Little came to Texas in 1821 and received a land grant from the Spanish Government in 1824

William Little met his wife, Jane Edwards who lived across the Brazos River from him

Jonathan Edwards, father of Jane Edwards died young

Nancy Edwards, wife of Jonathan Edwards married William Morton

Virginia learned family history from the Quarterly

Morton Cemetery named for William Morton

90 in May, Virginia Davis Scarborough's birthday

Virginia joins DAR

Flanders Callaway married Jemima Boone, daughter of Daniel Boone

Tabitha, daughter of Flanders Callaway married Abraham Darst

Tabitha died having fifth child

Abraham left children with the Boones

Abraham Darst married Jemima Brownfield and came to Texas

Emory Holman Darst married Mary Ann Moore, daughter of Elisha Moore & Jane Gillette

Emory & Mary Ann had eight children

Emma Darst, daughter of Emory Holman Darst & Mary Ann Moore, married James Simpson

Emma & James Simpson had one child

James Simpson died and is buried with only child in Snake Creek Cemetery in Fort Bend County

Emma Darst married James Lewis Davis

Five Ancestors of Virginia Davis Scarborough received Mexican land grants

Kinchen William Davis received land grant in 1831

Kinchen Davis married Fannie Pleasants in Wake County, North Carolina in 1815

William Kinchen Davis born in Morgan County, Alabama in 1822

William Kinchen Davis married Jane Pickens

William & Jane Davis had four children

John Harris Pickens Davis married Lizzie Ryon, daughter of Polly & Col. William Ryon

Eleanora Davis married B.A. Hinson

Kinchen Davis married Rachel Glasscock

Archietta Davis married Walter Little Jones

Elisha's father, Zachariah Moore fought in the American Revolution

Abraham Darst buried in Damon Public Cemetery

The Mier Expedition went into Mexico in 1842

William Kinchen Davis draws the white bean; Was a prisoner in the Perote Prison in Mexico

Kinchen Davis survived the Mier Expedition

Archietta & Walter Little Jones had five children

Hattie married Tom Wessendorff

Jennie born first to Archietta & Walter

Walter son of Archietta & Walter died young

Joe Jones, child of Archietta & Walter died fairly young

The Lively brought settlers to the area

Settlers found a bend in the Brazos River

A small Fort was built at the bend in the Brazos River

Settlers planted a corn crop and shot wild game

Virginia Davis Scarborough's extended family settled in Fort Bend County

Wessendorff grandfather died in 1930

Antone Wessendorff and his two brothers came to America in 1854

Antone's mother and father, sister and twin brothers died in Germany

Galliot Concordia, the ship that carried the Wessendorff brothers, took 75 days to cross the ocean

Galliot Concordia lands in Galveston

Antone married Johanna Jenentsky aka Johanna Janentzy

Johanna's family settled in Bellville after coming from Germany

Two brothers of Antone stayed in Galveston

Antone brings father's carpenter's chest

Antone opened a funeral parlor; he did the embalming and built hearses

Joe G. Wessendorff came back to Fort Bend County after his wife died and went into the insurance business

Virginia's mother, Lizzie goes to college in Washington, D.C. for one year

Lizzie lived with her friend, Etta Mae and her father Congressman John M. Moore, Sr. and family in Washington, D.C. while attending college

Lizzie and Etta Mae invited to President Taft's event in Washington, D.C.

Virginia Davis Scarborough born May 6, 1921

Built rice canals during Virginia's lifetime

Richmond Garden Club formed in 1935

Richmond Garden Club published book about the formation of the club and the original members

Virginia Davis Scarborough gets driver's license at age 14

Antoinette Davis born in 1919

Syd Davis, Jr. born in 1923

Tony Davis born in 1926

Frank Davis born in 1928

Tommy Davis born in 1931

The Aunts move to Houston after Virginia's grandfather died

Virginia graduated Richmond High School in 1938

Virginia attended TSCW aka Texas Women's University in Denton Texas; Transferred to Sam Houston State Teacher's College and met husband Alfred "Sonny" Young Scarborough

Virginia graduated in 1941 and married Sonny in May of '42

Sonny joins the Navy Air Corps

Sonny & Virginia moved to San Diego, then Oakland and Sonny given orders for the Aleutian Islands

Virginia joined Sonny in Seattle

Sonny & Virginia move to Millbrae California

Sonny stationed at the Lighter-Than-Air base in Palo Alto

After the war Sonny gets a job in New Orleans

Sonny flew as a private pilot for McCormick Steel and Waukesha Pearce where he retired

at age 65

Virginia & Sonny had five children

The three older children graduated from Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches

The two younger graduated from A & M in College Station Texas

Virginia's family lived in Winston Terrace in Richmond

Virginia Davis Scarborough listed all burials in Morton Cemetery

Virginia named all the sections and additions of Morton Cemetery

Morton Cemetery records digitized with the help of Violet Poncik, secretary of George Foundation

All W.O.W. cemeteries recorded and listed by Virginia Davis Scarborough

Genealogy Society in Richmond published cemetery records in the magazine 'Around the Bend'

Eight met at Needville Public Cemetery & Needville Methodist Cemetery in Needville Texas

Virginia Davis Scarborough & Willie Ann McCulloch list death records in the County Clerk's office

County Clerk's office digitized their records

Moore's moved from country to the Wessendorff home in Richmond

Wessendorff Aunt's moved to Houston

Monopoly played after high school at the Moore home