

November 16, 1999

Dear Peter:

It was good to hear from you a few months ago and have been meaning to answer your letter, but have kept so busy. Summer months for us are more busy than the winter months because of the gardens (veggie and flower) and the yards--both front and back. As we get older, the property seems to stretch and stretch and there are more weeds than there once were! In fact, the weeds are still growing; but, then, so are many of our flowers even though we have had a few frosts. Nature never ceases to amaze me!

Hope you have had a good summer, too, and I know you keep real busy with your garden. Our garden was especially good to us this year and, hopefully, so was yours.

Yes, I believe that my great great grandparents were James and Mary Whitlock. As soon as possible, I will work from that angle and, hopefully, come up with something concrete as to earlier ancestors. Apparently, they resided in the part of Montgomery Co. which was not taken for Stanly Co.

My Alex Whitlock was born in 1826, so in 1850, he would have been the age of 24 and he was a carpenter as the census states. Alex's son, John Ivey (my grandfather) was also a carpenter and my Dad was in his spare time. He made me several toys and play equipment and we had hours of fun playing in my backyard.

About a month ago, I had a wonderful experience when Ron and I traveled to NC and met my cousin and his wife who drove up from Columbia, SC. We hadn't seen each other in 49 years! We met in the small town of Norwood where our parents and grandparents lived. We met at a Hardee's Restaurant in the heart of town, went to the cemetery to see the new tombstone which we had bought for our grandmother, Ida Lee Maner Whitlock, wife of John Ivey Whitlock. From there, we had lunch in the only restaurant that we could find open. Then, we went to see where our family had lived and it is still in excellent shape and had just had siding installed. No one was living there at the time, so we walked around and took pictures. It was perfectly wonderful. My cousin had to leave because he had promised one of his 15 grandchildren that he would try and get back to attend the soccer game. Ron and I then rode down Main Street, stopped by the church which my family had been members, took pictures and then finally found the church out in the country which Alex is buried. We found it and took more pictures. We were shocked that the tombstones in this area were deteriorating so rapidly--more so than in this area where it is wet and damp most of the time. We came to the conclusion that it was the materials which made the difference.

Going back to the church where our family had been members--the Police Station is directly across the street, so I walked over to ask them how to find the church where Alex is buried. Well, the Police Station was closed--the Police car was sitting in the parking lot. I saw a couple of young people walking down the street, so I asked them where the Policeman was. They said, "oh, he is off on weekends." Can you believe this? Norfolk was a small town or city when I grew up, but I can never remember when there weren't Policemen on duty at any time of the day or night! Oh, yes, my cousin is Roy Norman Taylor, Jr. and his mother, Sarah Cornelia Whitlock Taylor, was the sister to my father, William Lawson Whitlock. Roy's birthday is June 10, 1928. We had several other cousins by the last name of Conrad who once lived in Columbia, SC, but haven't heard from them in years. Their mother, Lula Whitlock Conrad was another sister to my father--she was the oldest of the 4 children. Clara Maner Whitlock died as an infant. Will give you the dates which I have on a separate sheet of paper.

Peter, thanks so much for your help. Will keep "digging", but will probably slow down until after the Holidays. We are also having some much-needed repair work done here inside the house, and will be happy when that is complete.

Take care - hope this has helped in your record-keeping.

Sincerely,

*Shirley*

WJS33  
NLAS

John Ivey Whitlock b. d. 3/20/1921 m. Ida Lee Maner 12/23/1890

Children:

1. Lula May b. 10/2/1891 d. m. Walter Conrad

Had 8 or 9 children, one of them Bill or Billy, probably William (named for my Dad, I suppose.

2. William Lawson b. 12/11/1895 d. 2/10/1953 m. Sadie Bell Holland 12/22/1922

1. Shirley Anne b. 6/1/1932 m. Rondel Devada Brendle 6/6/1959

1. Robert Morris b. 2/2/1965 m. Debi Edmonds  
Bad Tolz, Germany Appomattox, VA

1. Joshua b.

2. William Howard b. 6/1/1968 Single Virginia Beach, VA

3. Clara Maner b. 1/20/1898 d. 7/27/1898

4. Sara Cornelia b. 11/30/1903 d. m. Roy Norman Taylor of Atlanta, GA

Resided in Spartanburg, SC

Lincolnton

1. Roy Norman, Jr. b. 6/10/1928 m. Laura McLean of Lincolnton, NC  
They reside in Columbia, SC

They have 5 children and 15 grandchildren. Have info but cannot put my hands on it at this moment.

P. S. While talking via telephone a few months ago with a Mr. Robert Mabry of Norwood, NC, and the g-g-grandson of Amanda Mabry, 2nd wife of Alex, he mentioned a friend of his, Thomas Jefferson Whitlock, age about 77, who is retired from the Capitol Police Force in Washington. He told me he would give me his address, but haven't heard from him recently. Guess I will have to give him a call again.

Enclosing a couple of clippings, one from the newspaper, the other an advertisement. Sorry about the torn out piece on the back which was addressed to my husband (he has a small tax business during the season). After he tore it out, the folder opened and he saw the name of Beanna J. Whitlock.

One of my Maner cousins sent me this several years ago and I cannot remember if I had mentioned it.

*WJA327*  
Montgomery County - James Whitlock was a witness to a will for Archibald and Mary Graham in 1840. She did not tell me where she found the information.

In the 1850 Census of Stanly Co., NC, Alex was age 22 and a carpenter, living in the household of John A. Graham, age 28, also a carpenter, and Robert W. and George A. Graham, all carpenters. They may be sons of the above.