

Descendancy Register for Henry SIMMONS

First Generation

1. **Henry SIMMONS**^{1,2} was born^{3,4} about 1844 in , , Alabama. He died⁵ in 1910/1920.

Note: A correspondent has this to say regarding the "Dominicker" origins:

"As for the theories, one deals with the Thomas Family and the other is on the Simmons family. . . . The thought was, there was more to the Dominicker community than the black & white (slave married white woman). It appears there was some observation [by the FWP writers; see notes under Joe Thomas] of the Simmons family of Ponce de Leon, that Henry Simmons was Indian, raised by whites, and brought to FL where he married & had 8-9 children."

--WCH, 20 Aug. 2005.

Note: According to the first article on "The Dominicker Settlement" (see my notes under Joe Thomas), Henry Simmons was about 30 years old at the beginning of the Civil War. However, a Simmons family descendancy register furnished by a correspondent gives a birthyear of about 1844 for Henry. I am using this latter date, but I do not know for certain which source is more correct.--WCH, 3 Sept. 2005.

Henry married^{9,10,11} **Mary Catharine COOLEY** "Cass"^{6,7,8} daughter of Martha FOUNTAIN about 1883/1884. Mary was born¹² in 1863. She died¹³ in 1946.

Note: One correspondent says this: "[Mary Catherine Cooley's] father was made a slave by his half-brother when his white father died pre-civil war. His mother was part Indian & mulatto (tri-racial), and born either in NC or SC. This is documented in his civil war records. His biological father took a young half-breed from Darlington SC into AL around 1820-30, then into FL after 1830. There's even a court document about this half-breed "slave" and this rich land/slave owner who abandoned his wife in SC. . . .

"I believe she was only 1 of many that made their way into the panhandle in the early 1820-40s because some white man brought them there as their slave or consort. If you look into the Ward line, you will find the same scenario to hold true, though they won't say they have black in their line--only Creek. No one wants to believe they descended from any African slave."

The same correspondent also says, "[Mary Catherine always claimed] her family was from NC and they were Cherokee Indian. (NO written prove) I've seen pictures of her and some of her siblings and I must admit, they look Indian to me. One of her sisters took the State of FL to court over her race, and supposedly won the case, they were called "W" after that. All of her sisters and brothers that went to MS went from being "M" to "W" on the census records.

The same correspondent also says, "Cass is the one who ALWAYS told her kids and grandkids she was of Cherokee descent. Her father was part Indian and who knows what else, he was the one I think I told you about, made a slave by his half-white Irish brother when the old man died after 1850."

--WCH, 20 Aug. 2005.

Note: The same correspondent adds this: "Also, Mary Catharine Cooley, married to Henry Simmons, was not related to Gillis Cooley as the family always thought. She was 3 years old when Martha Fountain married Gillis. So no one is for sure who her biological father was. Since her photos showed a strong resemblance to native American and Spanish, I will only speculate as to his heritage. Martha was definitely a white woman."--WCH, 3

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Sept. 2005.

Note: Appears as "Mary K." in 1870 Holmes census.--WCH, 3 Dec. 2005.

Henry and Mary had the following children:

- + 2 F i. **Mary Elizabeth SIMMONS** was born in 1885.
- 3 M ii. **James SIMMONS** "Jim"^{14,15,16} was born¹⁷ in 1888. He died¹⁸ in 1959.
James married²¹ **Sarah FOREHAND** "Sallie or Sally"^{19,20} daughter of Daniel Horace FOREHAND and Epsey Elizabeth CURRY. Sarah was born²² about Feb 1886 in , , Florida.
- + 4 M iii. **Henry Wesley SIMMONS** was born in 1892.
- 5 F iv. **Martha Jane SIMMONS**²³ was born²⁴ in 1893.
Martha married **Arthur YATES**²⁵ son of Vandy YATES and Emma COOLEY. Arthur was born²⁶ in 1897.
- 6 M v. **Eligah SIMMONS**^{27,28} was born²⁹ in 1895.
Eligah married **Rebecca Jane WHEELER**³⁰. Rebecca was born³¹ in Jun 1898. She died³² on 13 Nov 1989 in , Bay, Florida.
- 7 M vi. **Thomas Jefferson SIMMONS** "Tom"³³ was born³⁴ in 1899.
Thomas married **Lelia Mae CARNLEY**^{35,36} daughter of Alexander CARNLEY and Lucinda BLOCKER.
- + 8 F vii. **Eliza SIMMONS** was born on 15 Jan 1904. She died on 29 Sep 1989.
- 9 M viii. **Robert Steve SIMMONS** "Bob"³⁷ was born³⁸ in 1907.
Robert married **Lizzie WHEELER**³⁹.

Second Generation

2. **Mary Elizabeth SIMMONS**^{40,41} (Henry) was born^{42,43} in 1885 in , , Florida.

Note: Mary is listed with middle name Jane on the 1910 Holmes census, but with middle name Elizabeth in a Simmons family descendancy register furnished by a correspondent.--WCH, 3 Sept. 2005.

Mary married^{49,50} **Mack GODDIN**^{44,45,46,47,48} son of Reddick GODDIN and Elizabeth BRAXTON on 25 Dec 1902 in , Holmes, Florida. Mack was born^{51,52} on 24 Nov 1878. He died⁵³ on 2 Mar 1960. He was buried⁵⁴ in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Ponce de Leon, Holmes, Florida.

Note: Mac Goddin, age 18, born 1882, son of Reddic and Elizabeth Goddin, is shown on the 1900 census for Ponce de Leon, Holmes Co. However, his parents are shown as age 50 and 49, respectively; right age for the mother, but much too young for the father, unless the census taker made a bad mistake, or estimated the father's age without seeing him.--WCH, 11 Aug. 2005.

Note: In 1930 Holmes census, "Mallie," age 19, is shown living with her father, Mack; no mother or siblings shown.--WCH, 28 Aug. 2005.

Mack and Mary had the following children:

- 10 F i. **Alma GODDIN**⁵⁵ was born⁵⁶ about 1903 in , , Florida.
Alma married⁵⁸ **Charlie GODDIN**⁵⁷ son of John Wesley GODDIN and Elizabeth CURRY.
- 11 F ii. **Molly GODDIN**⁵⁹ was born⁶⁰ about 1906 in , , Florida.
- 12 F iii. **Lucy GODDIN**⁶¹ was born⁶² about 1907 in , , Florida.
- 13 F iv. **Mallie GODDIN**^{63,64,65} was born^{66,67} on 12 Feb 1908 in , , Florida. She died⁶⁸ on 17 May 1980. She was buried in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Ponce de Leon, Holmes, Florida.
Mallie married⁷³ **Gettis Jefferson GODDIN**^{69,70,71,72} son of Joseph Reddick GODDIN and Mary BRYANT. Gettis was born^{74,75,76} in 1915/1916 in , , Florida.

Note: according to a survey of Mt. Zion Cemetery in my possession, the following information appears:

Gettis Goddin -- Mallie

b. ? b. Feb 12 1908
d. Feb 28 1916 d. May 17 1980

However, it seems obvious from census records that 1916 is Gettis's year of birth, not death; apparently the survey taker made a mistake here.--WCH, 3 Sept. 2005.

Note: In contradiction to the above, the 1920 Holmes (Westville) census does not list a Gettis in this family; however it does show, between Rosa Lee and Maggie Lou, a child named Jefferson, age 4 3/12 in January, 1920, which would give a birthdate of about October, 1915.--WCH, 4 Sept. 2005.

4. **Henry Wesley SIMMONS** "Wes"^{77,78,79} (Henry) was born⁸⁰ in 1892.

Note: I am assuming without proof that Henry Wesley Simmons was a son of Henry Simmons.--WCH, 20 Aug. 2005.

Henry married⁸⁵ **Martha BLAND**^{81,82,83,84} daughter of John B. BLAND and Martha May CURRY. Martha was born on 6 Apr 1897. She died in Mar 1975 in Panama City, Bay, Florida.

They had the following children:

- 14 F i. **Anna Lou SIMMONS**⁸⁶.
Anna married⁸⁸ **Arie Alexander MCLEAN**⁸⁷.

8. **Eliza SIMMONS**^{89,90} (Henry) was born⁹¹ on 15 Jan 1904. She died⁹² on 29 Sep 1989.

Eliza married⁹⁵ (1) **Boney THOMAS**^{93,94} son of Christian THOMAS. Boney was born^{96,97} on 5 Apr 1889. He died⁹⁸ on 14 Feb 1930.

Note: According to the Cooley-Fountain-Simmons register sent to me by a descendant, "Boney Thomas b. 05 Apr 1889 d. 14 Feb 1930 (buried w/ Christian Thomas – his mother)."--WCH, 15 Sept. 2005.

Boney and Eliza had the following children:

15 M i. **O. C. THOMAS**⁹⁹.

Eliza married (2) **William TYE**¹⁰⁰. William was born¹⁰¹ on 11 Apr 1893. He died¹⁰² on 12 Jun 1972.

Sources

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2. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
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4. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
5. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
6. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 23 March 2005.
7. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 2 April 2005.
8. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
9. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 23 March 2005.
10. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
11. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
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13. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
14. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 29 March 2005.
15. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 23 March 2005.
16. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
17. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
18. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 23 March 2005.
19. 1900 Federal Census, Walton County, Florida, Knox Hill Pct., enumerated 7 June by W. A. McLeod, image of sheet 5 B found on Ancestry.com. Shows J. E. Thomas and wife Rhoda and children; also Jennie [Bland] Hall and children; Harry (Horace?) Forehand family.
20. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 26 Oct. 2005. Information obtained from a grandson of James Simmons and Sarah (Sallie/Sally) Forehand.
21. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 29 March 2005.
22. 1900 Federal Census, Walton County, Florida, Knox Hill Pct., enumerated 7 June by W. A. McLeod.
23. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
24. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
25. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
26. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
27. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 23 March 2005.
28. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
29. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
30. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
31. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
32. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
33. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
34. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
35. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
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38. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
39. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
40. 1910 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Precinct 8, Ponce de Leon, enumerated in May by Adlai E. Stripling, page images found on Ancestry.com. Shows Reddick Goddin's widow Elizabeth; Martha, Stephen, and Rhody Cooley; Joel Cooley family; Monroe Glass family.
41. Annetta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 23 March 2005.
42. 1910 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Precinct 8, Ponce de Leon, enumerated in May by Adlai E. Stripling.
43. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Annetta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
44. Celia Jones, unknown message board posting, 24 Aug. 2000.
45. 1900 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Ponce de Leon Precinct, enumerated 18 June 1900 by W. T. Bludworth, page images found on Ancestry.com. Shows Redick & Elizabeth Goddin, ages 50 and 49, with one child, Mac, age 18; also Andrew Broxton family; Martha Cooley family.

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46. 1910 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Precinct 8, Ponce de Leon, enumerated in May by Adlai E. Stripling.
47. Survey of Mt. Zion Cemetery, near Ponce de Leon, Holmes, Florida, made by a grddau. of Wm. & Nancy G. Bland.(partial survey of Goddins and Blands only).
48. 1930 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Westville, enumerated in April by William H. Crosby, page images found on Ancestry.com.
49. Holmes County Marriage Books, transcribed by Wilda Murphy, found on Holmes County GenWeb site <www.rootsweb.com/~flholmes/Marriages/bk1bride.htm>.
50. 1910 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Precinct 8, Ponce de Leon, enumerated in May by Adlai E. Stripling.
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57. John Goddin, e-mail to Bill Hood, 29 August 2005; includes list, Children of James Wiley Goddin and Elizabeth Prestwood.
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72. 1920 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Westville, Precinct 11, enumerated in January by Clara Harris, page images found on Ancestry.com.
73. John Goddin, e-mail to Bill Hood, 29 August 2005; includes list, Children of James Wiley Goddin and Elizabeth Prestwood.
74. 1930 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Westville, enumerated in April by William H. Crosby.
75. Survey of Mt. Zion Cemetery, near Ponce de Leon, Holmes, Florida, made by a grddau. of Wm. & Nancy G. Bland.
76. 1920 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Westville, Precinct 11, enumerated in January by Clara Harris.
77. Dorothy Davis, e-mail to Bill Hood (undated; probably 2000-2002).
78. Anneta Simmons, e-mail to Bill Hood, 23 March 2005, quoting another unidentified correspondent.
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93. 1900 Federal Census, Holmes County, Florida, Westville Precinct, enumerated in June by W. T. Bludworth, page images found on Ancestry.com.

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94. Cooley-Fountain-Simmons descendancy register, sent by Anneta Simmons to Bill Hood, 29 Aug. 2005.
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