

Pattersons or Rusks at the Battle of San Jacinto?

By Patrick A. Patterson

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When I was a young lad of about eight years old, my father Vernon Lee Patterson, took us to the San Jacinto Battlefield Memorial as well as the USS Texas on display nearby. The memorials which are located in Houston, Texas certainly were a wonder to me as such a small boy. While we were inside the San Jacinto Memorial my father took me to a large brass plaque that was on the wall. He pointed to the right side of the plaque containing many names and said "that is your kin". Naturally at such a young age I had no idea as to what name he was pointing to but many years later while trying to piece together my family history, I developed a deep curiosity as to how I was connected to the battle that won independence for the new Republic of Texas. As a matter of fact it took me many years to determine who my paternal grandfather was as he had died many years before my birth. My father was only about 13 years old at the time of his father's death so I don't remember many conversations with my father about his family. In that my father left us when I was very young I never received any information from him about his family history. While stationed in Washington DC as an adult many years later and having access to the US archives, I began researching the nooks and crannies of the Patterson family. And what a puzzle it was.

My mother remembered certain pieces of information that my father had shared with her but I learned later it was infused with many inaccuracies. For instance my mother recalled that a person by the name of Rusk was related to my father and died at the Alamo. In reality it was the individual my father pointed to on the brass plaque at San Jacinto who actually fought at the Battle of San Jacinto following the Alamo. But who was this individual and what was his name?

My Patterson line comes from what are referred to as "Ulster Scots" who moved from Scotland to Ireland and then onto Virginia, sometime before 1738. Lines of descendants then moved through North Carolina, South Carolina and finally into Ivey, Georgia where my grandfather's family finally settled. My paternal grandfather **William Bartholomew Patterson** [1861-1936] was born at the beginning of the Civil War in Georgia on 26 December 1861 to **Joseph Denton Patterson** [1838-1863] and **Nancy Jenkins Patterson** [1835-1929].¹ [*Joseph Denton Patterson was killed at the Battle of Vicksburg on 20 Jun 1863 with the 57th Georgia Infantry and his father William Craven Patterson, Sr. was killed at Jonesboro, Clayton, GA during the Atlanta Campaign, so William Bartholomew Patterson never knew his father or grandfather.*] Following the Civil War my grandfather married a woman by the name of **Louisiana Willis** and the couple had at least five children. Louisiana was the daughter of **Thomas Willis** [1817-1878]

¹ "1850 US Federal Census, 85th District, Union, Georgia; William and Elizebeth Patterson Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009). See also: "1860 US Federal Census, Milledgeville, Baldwin, Georgia; Thomas and Jane Jenkins Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009). In 1860 Joseph D. Patterson was married to Nancy Jenkins and they were living with her father's family. Nancy and her family were listed as being born in Ireland. Also, Civil War Widow Pension, for Joseph D. Patterson to Nancy Patterson, Milledgeville, GA. [Co. D. 57th GA Infantry]. "1870 US Federal Census, Milledgeville, Baldwin, Ga; Thomas Jenkins Household and Nancy Patterson," (Ancestry.com, 2009). 1870 Census reflects "Bartlew" [sic] is the son of Nancy Patterson a probably misspelling of Bartholomew.

and **Elizy A. Willis** [1820-1890] of Ramah, Wilkinson, GA.² Sometime between 1900 and 1910 Mr. Patterson left his well-established family in Georgia and found his new home in the Nacogdoches, Texas. In 1910 the 48 year old William B. Patterson married **Susan Jane Simpson**³ at Nacogdoches Texas, my paternal grandmother, who was 18 years old at the time. My research concluded Mr. Patterson never bothered to divorce his first wife nor did his first family probably ever know what happened to him.^{4 5}

William Bartholomew Patterson's new wife was the daughter of **John Randolph Simpson** [1851- 1933] and **Cornelia Jane Fussell** [1872-1950]. John and Cornelia were married in Sabine Parish, Louisiana 11 August 1888 and eventually moved their way into the Nacogdoches, Texas area.⁶ This was John Randolph Simpson's second marriage. The Simpson's had eight daughters including Susan Jane Simpson. I learned that Susan's mother **Cornelia Jane Fussell**, had five siblings, one of whom was **Paralee Fussell** [1881-1950].^{7 8} She was one of six children born to **Warren L. Fussell** [1852-1919] and **Dicy Ellen Slocum** [1855-1909].⁹ Historical records reflect

² "1860 US Federal Census, Ramah, Wilkinson, Ga, p. 901; Thomas and Elizy A. Willis Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009).

³ "Marriage Certificate, W. B. Patterson and Susie Simpson, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX; No. 245," (Nacogdoches County Clerk's Office, 5 Jun 1910).

⁴ "Georgia, Marriage Records from Select Counties, 1828-1978; Wilkinson County, Marriage Records, Book A [1865-1882], p. 402; W. B. Patterson and Louisiana Willis, 11 May 1881," (Ancestry.com, 2013).

⁵ "1900 US Federal Census, Bethel Precinct, Wilkinson, Ga, ED 105, Sheet 24; William B. And Louisiana Patterson Household," (Ancestry.com, 2004). Reflects William B., Louisiana Patterson with their Children Attie H., Lonnie D., Tommie E., and Sydney L. Patterson. See also: "1910 US Federal Census, Ivey, Wilkinson, Georgia, ED 124, Sheet 9a; Lou Patterson Household," (Ancestry.com, 2006). Lou Patterson is listed as a widow with her sons Tommie, Sidney and Willie. Willie was listed as 9 years of age and must have been born just after the 1900 census. Attie and Lonnie were no longer listed in the household. See also: "1920 US Federal Census, Ramah, Wilkinson, Ga, ED 157, Sheet 7b; Lula Patterson Household," (Ancestry.com, 2010). Louisiana was again listed as a widow.

⁶ "1910 US Federal Census, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX, ED 95, Sheet 4b; John R. And Cornelia J. Simpson Household," (Ancestry.com, 2006). "1900 US Federal Census, Melrose Precinct No. 3, Nacogdoches, TX, ED 43, Sheet 11; John R. And Jane Simpson Household," (Ancestry.com, 2004). "Texas, Death Certificates, 1903-1982, Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Certificate of Death #24637; Cornelia Simpson, 27 May 1950," (Ancestry.com, 2013).

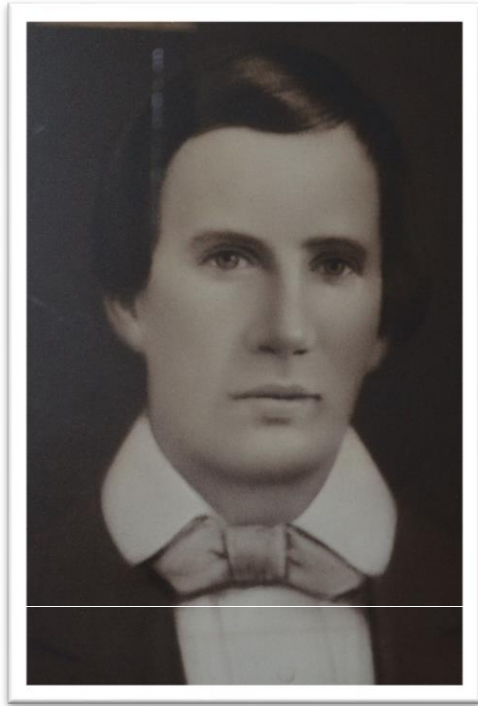
⁷ "1880 US Federal Census, Waco, McLennan, TX, ED 114. p. 6; Warren and Dicey E. Fussell Household," (Ancestry.com, 2010). "1900 US Federal Census, Melrose Precinct No. 3, Nacogdoches, TX, ED 43, Sheet 9; Warren and D. S. Fussell and Lawrence and Paralee Rusk Households," (Ancestry.com, 2004). See also: "Simpson, Janie C., Memorial #53586444; Atoy Cemetery, Rusk, Cherokee, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010). Cornelia Jane *Fussell* Simpson was also known as Janie Simpson and Janie C. Simpson is listed on her gravestone.

⁸ "US City Directories, 1822-1995; Fort Worth City Directory, 1943; Paralee Rusk, Widow of Lawrence, 1124 N. Main St.," (Ancestry.com, 2011), p. 614.

⁹ "Louisiana, Marriages, 1718-1925; Index; Rapides, Louisiana; Warren Fussell and Dicey Ellen Slocumb, 9 Nov 1869," (Ancestry.com, 2004). See also: "Fussell, Warren L., Memorial #10376388; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2005).

that Paralee Fussell married an individual by the name of **John Lawrence Rusk** [1876-1942].^{10 11}

¹² It appeared that I didn't actually have a blood relative connected to the battle of San Jacinto but a sibling of my paternal grandmother who married into the Rusk family. Here was the Rusk family I had been searching for that my mother thought died at the Alamo in 1836.



In researching the Rusk family I determined that John Lawrence Rusk was the son of **John R. Rusk** [1843- 1928] and **Henrietta L Chapman** [1844-1907]¹³ and the grandson of **David Rusk** [1814-1877] and **Elizabeth Reid Rusk** [1822-1908].¹⁴ David and his brother **Thomas Jefferson Rusk** were born in South Carolina, the sons of **John Rusk** [1750-1844] and **Mary Sterritt Rusk** [1785-1860].¹⁵ Their father was born in Ireland and their mother was born in Oconee County, SC. Both parents are buried together in Clemson, Pickens, SC. Thomas and his younger brother David Rusk went to Texas from Georgia in search of a business partner who had embezzled all of their business profits. Although they never were successful in recovering the funds, they were afforded land grants in Cherokee

¹⁰ "Rusk, John Lawrence, Memorial #10377256; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2005). The memorial reflects the marriage of John Lawrence Rusk to Paralee Fussell, lists 7 siblings and parents John R. Rusk [1843-1928] and Henrietta L. *Chapman* Rusk [1844-1907]. John Lawrence and Paralee *Fussell* Rusk share a headstone. See also: "Rusk, Paralee *Fussell*, Memorial #10377259; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2005).

¹¹ "US, World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918; John Lawrence Rusk, Serial #1146, Dob 4 Mar 1876," (Ancestry.com, 2005). Registration card reflects John Lawrence Rusk DOB as 4 Mar 1876, married to Paralee Rusk and a farmer by trade at Nacogdoches, TX.

¹² "1910 US Federal Census, Nacogdoches, TX, Justice Precinct 1, ED 93. Sheet 16a; Lawrence and Paralee Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2006). Census data reflects children David, Velma, Etta and Gladys Rusk. See also: "1930 US Federal Census, Melrose Justice Precinct 3, ED 174, Sheet 6a, Nacogdoches, TX; John L. And Paralee Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2002).

¹³ "Texas, Death Certificates, 1903-1982; Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Nacogdoches County, Certificate # 50684; John Lawrence Rusk, 13 Nov 1942," (Ancestry.com, 2013). See also: "Rusk, John Lawrence, Memorial #10377256; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX." See also: "Rusk, John R., Memorial #63192585; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX,," (Find-A-Grave, 2010). This memorial reflects John R. Rusk had eight children including John Lawrence Rusk and that his parents were David and Elizabeth *Reid* Rusk. "1870 US Federal Census, 1st Precinct, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 43; John and Henrietta Rusk and David and Elizabeth Rusk Households," (Ancestry.com, 2009). John and Henrietta Rusk were living next door to David and Elizabeth Rusk. See also: "Rusk, Henrietta L. *Chapman*, Memorial #63192315; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

¹⁴ "1850 US Federal Census, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 69; David and Elizabeth Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009). Census data reflects children John age 7, Mary age 6, Elizabeth age 2, and Ofelia age 6 months. See also: "1860 US Federal Census, Beat No. 1a, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 20; David and Elizabeth Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009). "Rusk, David, Memorial #68195995; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

¹⁵ "Rusk, John, Memorial #42498840; Old Stone Church Cemetery, Clemson, Pickens County, SC," (Find-A-Grave, 2009). Memorial notes his wife as Mary Sterritt and sons Thomas Jefferson Rusk and David Rusk.

County, Texas and eventually settled in Nacogdoches, TX. At the outbreak of the Texas Revolution both brothers served in Sam Houston's army.¹⁶ David Rusk and his brother Thomas Jefferson Rusk [1808-1857] were the individuals that actually fought at the Battle of San Jacinto.¹⁷ Not exactly kissing cousins but a connection to the early history of Texas nonetheless. Thomas Jefferson Rusk was trained as a lawyer and wrote many descriptions of the battle in his correspondence with Sam Houston. David Rusk is calculated to be the paternal grandfather of the husband of my 1st grand aunt Paralee *Fussell* Rusk.

David Rusk served as Sheriff of Nacogdoches County, TX from approximately 1836 through 1847 and was the first sanctioned sheriff in the State of Texas probably at the young age of about 23 years.¹⁸ He and his brother Thomas Rusk were described as tall men, but David took it to an extreme. He was reported to be eight foot tall. The following is a quote from **Mrs. Bobi Glyn Greer Rusk** [15 Mar 1937-2010], widow of **James Cullen Rusk** [4/21/1935- 8/19/1999],¹⁹ a descendant of David: "... *I have seen and held the muslin shirt and pants that belonged to David Rusk, and if you have heard or read that he was a large man, believe it. I am 5'10" and I could hold his shirt at my eye level and it drug the ground. I can remember my husband's dad, whom we called Keith, saying that David was uncomfortable with his height of 8' and always told anyone asking, that he was 7'12"*. The members of the Mexican Army he faced must have thought he was the biblical Goliath charging across the battlefield at them. [See p. 16, vii, *Cecil Keith Rusk and James Cullen Rusk relationship*].

Descendants of John Rusk

Generation 1

1. **JOHN¹ RUSK** was born about 1750 in Ulster, Ireland. He died in 1844 at Pickins, South Carolina.²⁰ He married (1) **Mary Sterritt**. She was born about 1785 in Pendleton, Anderson, South Carolina. She died on 02 May 1860 at Pickens, Pickens, South Carolina.²¹

John Rusk and Mary Sterritt had the following children:

¹⁶ Stephen L. Moore, *Eighteen Minus: The Battle of San Jacinto and the Texas Independence Campaign* (Dallas, TX: Republic of Texas Press, 2004), pp. 119, 333, 63, 406, 46. David Rusk is noted on these pages and Thomas Rusk is noted throughout the book because of his significant contributions to independence and the development of Texas as a state.

¹⁷ "Rusk, David, Veterans Biographies #110 [Original Biograhry Compiled by Lewis W. Kemp Bet. 1930-1952]," (Houston, TX: San Jacinto Museum of History, 1013), pp. 110-11. See also: "Rusk, Thomas Jefferson, Biography #113 [Compiled by Lewis Kemp Bet. 1930-1952]," (Houston, TX: San Jacinto Museum of History, 2013), pp. 113-22. et al Edward B. Baker, *The Bicentennial Commemorative History of Nacogdoches* (Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX: Nacogdoches Jaycees, 1976), pp. 70-72, 122, 28, 63, 83-85.

¹⁸ *The Bicentennial Commemorative History of Nacogdoches*, pp. 183-85.

¹⁹ "Rusk, James Cullen, Memorial #10377254; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2005). Reference confirms his marriage to Bobi Glyn Rusk.

²⁰ "Rusk, John, Memorial #42498840; Old Stone Church Cemetery, Clemson, Pickens County, SC." See also: "1830 US Federal Census, Pickens, SC; John Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2010). There were 7 individuals listed in this household. "1840 US Federal Census, Pickens, Pickens, SC; John Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2010). Only head of household names are listed in these census years.

²¹ "Rusk, Mary *Sterritt*, Memorial #42498861, Old Stone Church Cemetery, Clemson, Pickens, SC," (Find-A-Grave, 2009).

2.
 - i. **THOMAS JEFFERSON² RUSK** was born on 06 Dec 1808 in South Carolina.²² He died on 29 Jul 1857 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.²³ He married **Mary Francis Cleveland** on 04 Jan 1827 at Habersham, GA.²⁴ She was born on 14 Aug 1809 in South Carolina. She died on 26 Apr 1856 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.²⁵

3.
 - ii. **DAVID RUSK** was born about 1814 in South Carolina. He died on 01 Sep 1877 at Orange County, Texas.²⁶ He married (1) **Elizabeth Reid** on 26 Jan 1843 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She was born on 27 Dec 1822 in South Carolina. She died on 16 Dec 1908 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.²⁷

4.
 - iii. **MARY MELISSA RUSK** was born in 10 Feb 1823 in South Carolina and she died 22 Feb 1897 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX.²⁸ She married **John Bruce** on 22 Oct 1844 at Habersham, Georgia.²⁹ He was born in 4 Jul 1822 at Habersham, Georgia and died 8 Oct 1899 at Ackerman, Choctaw, Mississippi. He was the son of **Johathan Bruce** [1788-1857] and **Mary Elizabeth Armstrong Bruce** [1798-1873].³⁰ The couple had at least 4 children that survived to adulthood listed as: **A. Bruce** [b. abt. 1845]; **E. Bruce** [b. about 1848]; and **Mary Melissa Bruce Commander** [1852-1915] married **William Isaac Commander** [1850-1902].^{31 32} The 1860 Census disclosed 6 children: **Rachel Bruce Hood** [1847-1913] married **Wesley Hood** [1848-1917];³³ **Ellen Bruce** [b. abt. 1851]; **Martha Bruce Densmore** [1850-1925] married **William R. Densmore** [1852-1934];³⁴ **David Bruce** [b. abt. 1854]; **A. Bruce** [b. abt.

²² "1830 US Federal Census, Habersham, Ga; Thomas J. Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2010).

²³ "Rusk, Thomas Jefferson, Memorial #6258942; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2002). This citation reflects his birth year as 1803, but upon examination of the headstone, the year is clearly 1808.

²⁴ Jordan Dodd, "Georgia Marriages to 1850, Index," (Ancestry.com, 1997). Various indices also reflect they were married in South Carolina.

²⁵ "Rusk, Mary Francis "Polly" *Cleveland*, Memorial# 6259012; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2002).

²⁶ "Rusk, David, Memorial #68195995; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX."

²⁷ "Rusk, Elizabeth *Reid*, Memorial #68196011; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

²⁸ "Bruce, Mary Melissa *Rusk*, Memorial #76579302; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

²⁹ "Georgia, Marriages Records from Select Counties 1828-1978; Habersham Marriages, Book B [1841-1874]; John Bruce to Mary Rusk," (Ancestry.com, 2013).

³⁰ "Bruce, John A., Memorial #37997354; Enon Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Ackerman, Choctaw, MS," (Find-A-Grave, 2009).

³¹ "1850 US Federal Census, District 3, Habersham, Ga; John and Mary Bruce Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009).

³² "Commander, Mary Melissa *Bruce*, Memorial# 76579311; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

³³ "Hood, Rachael *Bruce*, Memorial #40960107; South Union Cemetery, Fentress, Choctaw, MS," (Find-A-Grave, 2009).

³⁴ "Densmore, Martha *Bruce*, Memorial #40982129; South Union Cemetery, Fentress, Choctaw, MS," (Find-A-Grave, 2009).

1859] and **Margarette Levenia Bruce McKnight** [1861-1927] married **James Andrew Jackson McKnight** [1864-1952].³⁵

- iv. **RACHEL W. RUSK McWHORTER** was born 1828 in South Carolina. She married **Samuel McWhorter** in Pickens, South Carolina.³⁶ They had 4 children:³⁷ **Marietta McWhorter** [b. abt. 1850]; **Dorietta McWhorter** [b. abt. 1852]; **Thomas J. R. McWhorter** [b. abt. 1857]; and **Udera J. McWhorter** [b. abt. 1857].
- v. **ESTER STERRITT RUSK** was born 17 Apr 1811 at Pendleton, South Carolina³⁸ and died 16 Jun 1886 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She married **Nolan Lewis Maroney** 22 Jan 1835 at Habersham, Georgia.³⁹ He was born 22 Jan 1813 in South Carolina and died 21 Jan 1867 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁴⁰ They had four children: **Mary Jane Maroney King** [24 Jan 1838-18 Oct 1912] married **W. A King** [16 Apr 1840-24 Mar 1913];⁴¹ **William John Maroney**;⁴² **Thomas Jefferson Maroney**;⁴³ and **Benjamin Cleveland Maroney**.⁴⁴
- vi. **NANCY RUSK** was born abt. 1810 in South Carolina. She married **Nathan Dodd** [b. abt. 1810]⁴⁵ who was the son of **William Dodd** [1763-1847] and **Frances Henderson Dodd** [1765-1850]. The couple had five children, all born

³⁵ "1860 US Federal Census, Milton, Ga; John and Mary Bruce Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009). See also: "Bruce, John A., Memorial #37997354; Enon Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Ackerman, Choctaw, MS." Memorial listed several of the children of John A. Bruce and Mary Melissa Rusk. Also, "Mcknight, Margarette Lavenia "Maggie" Bruce, Memorial #76268686; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave).

³⁶ "1850 US Federal Census, Western Division, Pickins, SC; Samuel and Rachel Mcwhorter Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009).

³⁷ "1860 US Federal Census, 2nd Regiment, Malhalla, Pickens, SC; S. Y. Mcwhorter and Rachael Mcwhorter Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009).

³⁸ "1850 US Federal Census, Shelby, Alabama, p. 387; Nolan Lewis and Ester Maroney Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009). See also: "Marony, Esther Sterritt Rusk, Memorial #76268424; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Ancestry.com, 2011).

³⁹ "Georgia Marriages to 1850, Index; Ester Rusk to N. L. Marony, Habersham, Georgia," (Ancestry.com, 1997). "1840 US Federal Census, Habersham, Ga, Dist. 666; Nolan L. Maroney Household," (Ancestry.com, 2010). "1860 US Federal Census, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX, Beat No 1a, p. 25; Nolan and Ester Maroney Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009). "US Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865, 1st Lieut. N. L. Maroney, Co. E, Texas 12th Infantry ", (Ancestry.com, 2009).

⁴⁰ "Marony, Nolen Lewis, Memorial #76268975; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁴¹ "King, Mary J. Maroney, Memorial #76579346; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Ancestry.com, 2011).

⁴² "1850 US Federal Census, Shelby, Alabama, p. 387; Nolan Lewis and Ester Maroney Household." Probably died during the Civil War 1862 at Orange, VA.

⁴³ Ibid. Probably died during the Civil War 1863, Jackson Arkansas.

⁴⁴ "Maroney, Ben C., Memorial #76579352; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁴⁵ "1850 US Federal Census, 1st District-37th Subdivision, Habersham, Ga; Nathan and N. Dodd Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009).

in South Carolina: **William John Earnest Dodd** [6 Jun 1832-23 Sep 1902]; **David R. Dodd** [1839-19 Aug 1861];⁴⁶ **Susan Rosetta Dodd** [13 Apr 1840-1915] married **Henry Columbus Gable**; **Albert M. Dodd** [31 Jul 1842-14 Mar 1898] married **Susan [maiden name unknown]**;⁴⁷ and **May Dodd** [b. abt. 1856-unknown].⁴⁸

- vii. **JANE B. RUSK** was born 16 Jun 1821 and died 12 Aug 1891 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX.⁴⁹ She married **John J. Thrift** who was born 21 Sep 1821 and died 10 Mar 1891.⁵⁰ They are buried next to each other in the Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, TX. They had four children; **Sara Thrift** [1845]; **Josephine Thrift** [1846]; **Mary Allena Thrift** [1848-1902]; and **Narcissa Thrift** [1850].

Generation 2

2. **THOMAS JEFFERSON² RUSK** (John¹) was born on 06 Dec 1808. He died on 29 Jul 1857 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He married **Mary Francis Cleveland** on 04 Jan 1827 in South Carolina. She was born on 14 Aug 1809 in South Carolina. She died on 26 Apr 1856 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.



Thomas Jefferson Rusk and Mary Francis Cleveland had the following children:

- i. **HELENA ARGIN³ RUSK** was born on 27 Nov 1845 in Nacogdoches, Texas. She died in 1863 at Nacogdoches, Texas.⁵¹
- ii. **ALONZO RUSK** was born on 12 Aug 1837 in Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 17 Aug 1838 at Nacogdoches, Texas.⁵²
- iii. **CICERO RUSK** was born on 05 Oct 1834 in Clarkesville, Habersham, Georgia. He died on 02 Mar 1864 in Louisiana during the Civil War and his burial location is unknown.⁵³

⁴⁶ "Dodd, Pvt. David R., Memorial #137959229; Huntersville Confederate Cemetery, Huntersville, Pocahontas, West Va ", (Find-A-Grave, 2014). Memorial notes he enlisted in Co. E, 14th Georgia Infantry and was killed at Huntersville, Pocahontas, WV. It also notes his brother William J. E. Dodd was in the same unit but survived the war.

⁴⁷ "Dodd, Albert M., Memorial #42396230; Mount Vernon Baptist Church Cemetery, Dawson, Ga," (Find-A-Grave, 2009).

⁴⁸ "1860 US Federal Census, Mt. Yanah, White, Georgia, p. 2; Nancy and Nathan Dodd Household," (Ancestry.com, 2009).

⁴⁹ "Thrift, Jane B., Memorial #76269100; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁵⁰ "Thrift, John L., Memorial #76269047; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁵¹ "Rusk, Helena Argin, Memorial #149509970; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2015).

⁵² "Rusk, Alanzo, Memorial #149513802; Burial Location Unknown, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2015).

⁵³ "Rusk, Cicero, Memorial #149514413; Burial Location Unknown," (Find-A-Grave, 2015).

- iv. **BENJAMIN LIVINGSTON RUSK** was born on 24 Feb 1828 in Clarkesville, Habersham, Georgia. He died in 1885 at Austin, Travis, Texas.⁵⁴
 - v. **THOMAS DAVID RUSK** was born on 03 Apr 1841 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He died in 1875 at Hallsville, Harrison, Texas.⁵⁵
 - vi. **JOHN CLEVELAND RUSK** was born on 09 Dec 1829 in Clarksville, Habersham, Georgia. He died on 24 Feb 1898 at Colfax, Van Zandt, Texas.⁵⁶ He married 1st **Harriet Patton Rusk** [1830-1860] and they had 4 children: **Cornelia Ann Rusk Kellam** [1850-1931; **Thomas Patton Rusk** [1852-1933]; **Mary I. Rusk Kellis** [1854-1947]; and **Harriet Rebekah Rusk Tunnell** [1857-1924]. He married 2nd to **Cornelia E. Garrison Rusk** [19 Jul 1845-7 Nov 1903]. John and Cornelia had seven children together.
 - vii. **THOMAS JEFFERSON RUSK JR.** was born on 12 Jan 1832 in Clarkesville, Habersham, Georgia. He died on 14 Oct 1834 at Clarkesville, Habersham, Georgia.⁵⁷
3. **DAVID² RUSK** (John¹) was born about 1814 in South Carolina. He died on 01 Sep 1877 at Orange County, Texas. He married **Elizabeth Reid** on 26 Jan 1843 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She was born on 27 Dec 1822 in South Carolina. She died on 16 Dec 1908 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.

David Rusk and Elizabeth Reid had the following children:

- i. **JOHN R. RUSK** was born in Oct 1843 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 23 Jul 1928 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁵⁸ He married (1) **Henrietta L. Chapman**, daughter of **H. L. Chapman** and **Matilda Chapman**, on 06 Dec 1867 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁵⁹ She was born on 26 Aug 1844 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She died on 05 Jan 1907 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁶⁰ The couple had eight children: **Charley Monroe Rusk** [1868-1935; **William Thomas Rusk** [1870-1928]; **Robert Henry Rusk** [1872-1957]; **Harriett Helen Rusk** [1873-1935;

⁵⁴ "Rusk, Benjamin Livingston, Memorial #149509668; Burial Location Unknown, Austin, Travis, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2015).

⁵⁵ "Rusk, Thomas David, Memorial #98549456; Burial Location Unknown at Hallsville, Harrison, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2012).

⁵⁶ "Rusk, John Cleveland, Memorial #15573770; Colfax Cemetery, Colfax, Van Zandt, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2006).

⁵⁷ "Rusk, Thomas Jefferson, Jr., Memorial #149514278; Old Clarkesville Cemetery. Clarkesville, Habersham, Ga," (Find-A-Grave, 2015).

⁵⁸ "1860 US Federal Census, Beat No. 1a, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 20; David and Elizabeth Rusk Household." See also: "1870 US Federal Census, 1st Precinct, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 43; John and Henrietta Rusk and David and Elizabeth Rusk Households."

⁵⁹ "Rusk, John R., Memorial #63192585; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX,."

⁶⁰ "Rusk, Henrietta L. *Chapman*, Memorial #63192315; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX."

John Lawrence Rusk [1876-1942]; **Giles Rusk** [1879-1956]; **Eddie Rusk** [1881-1956]; and **George Reagan Rusk** [1883-1920].⁶¹

- ii. **MARY JANE RUSK** was born in 1845. She died in 1871. She married **James A. Day**.⁶² They had one child **William D. Day** born 22 Jan 1871 and died 20 Nov 1871. Mary Jane Rusk Day probably died as a result of childbirth considering she died the same year as her child.
- iii. **ELIZABETH ANN RUSK** was born 5 Feb 1848 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She died on 21 Aug 1868 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She married **John T. White**.⁶³
- iv. **OPHELIA RUSK** was born in 1850 in Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas and died there on 24 Jan 1862.⁶⁴
- v. **DAVID FRANKLIN "Frank" RUSK** was born 25 Jul 1852 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 24 Dec 1911 at Edgewood, Van Zandt, TX.⁶⁵ He was married to **Asalie Bolindie Christopher Rusk**, the daughter of **Demarcus Coleman Christopher** [1852-1911]⁶⁶ and **Nancy Matilda Ann Coats Christopher** [1835-1901].⁶⁷ The couple had at least seven children: **David Demarquis Rusk** [1880-1970] married **Ella M. [maiden name unknown]** [27 Mar 1889-19 Nov 1959];⁶⁸ **Mary Elizabeth "Lizzie" Rusk Gregory** [1883-1918] married **Lee Gregory** [1881-1967];⁶⁹ **William Henry Rusk** [1885-1982] married **Ella Amy McFarland Rusk** [1892-1975];⁷⁰ **Osdwild Lafayette Rusk** [1888-1970] married **Ella Mae Denman Rusk** [1892-1959];⁷¹ **Maggie Aslie "Mug" Rusk** [1890-1985] married **Forrest Belle**

⁶¹ Ibid. Memorial lists their children.

⁶² "Day, Mary Jane Rusk, Memorial #101598769; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2012).

⁶³ "White, Elizabeth Ann Rusk, Memorial #67956685; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁶⁴ "Rusk, Ophelia, Memorial #68196278; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁶⁵ "Rusk, David Franklin "Frank", Memorial #112148070; Small Cemetery, Edgewood, Van Zandt, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2013).

⁶⁶ "Christopher, Demarcus Coleman "Sam", Memorial #49459490; Old North Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁶⁷ "Christopher, Nancy Matilda Ann Coats, Memorial #49459530; Old North Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁶⁸ "Rusk, David Demarquis, Memorial #33154675; Bright Star Cemetery, Wills Point, Van Zandt, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2009).

⁶⁹ "Gregory, Mary Elizabeth "Lizzie" Rusk, Memorial #112144615; Edgewood Cemetery, Edgewood, Van Zandt, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2013).

⁷⁰ "Rusk, William Henry, Memorial #147242417; White Rose Cemetery, Wills Point, Van Zandt, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2015).

⁷¹ "Rusk, Osdwild Lafayette, Memorial #48042679; Walters Cemetery, Walters, Cotton, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

Ains^{72 73} and **Clara Dee Adams White**;⁷⁴ **Christopher "Slim" Rusk** [1892-1984]⁷⁵ married **Lula Rogers Rusk**;⁷⁶ and **Katie Ophelia Rusk Staples** [1892-1972]⁷⁷ married **Columbus L. Staples** [1883-1996].⁷⁸

- vi. **CHARLES H. RUSK** was born 9 Jul 1855 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 03 Aug 1866 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁷⁹
- vii. **HARRIET T. RUSK** was born 15 Oct 1857 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas and she died there on 23 Nov 1885. She married **William Bonaparte McKnight** [1855-1943].⁸⁰ He was the son of **James Marion McKnight** [1818-1897] and **Louisa Harriet Pate McKnight** [1821-1908]. After Harriet Rusk's death he married **Mary Addie Levina McKnight** [1857-1943].⁸¹
- viii. **NICHOLAS J. RUSK** was born May 1860 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.^{82 83}
- ix. **MARTHA H. RUSK** was born 27 Feb 1860 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX and died there 31 Mar 1868.⁸⁴
- x. **WILLIAM H³ RUSK** was born in 1863 in Texas. He died on 12 Mar 1884 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁸⁵

⁷² "Rusk, Maggie Aslie "Mug", Memorial# 49447662; Freeman Cemetery, Angelina , TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁷³ "Rusk, Forrest Belle *Ainsworth*, Memorial #49447675; Freeman Cemetery, Angelina , TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁷⁴ "Rusk, Clara Dee *Adams White*, Memorial# 53361373; Small Cemetery, Edgewood, Van Zandt, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁷⁵ "Rusk, Christopher "Slim", Memorial #60446273; Highland Cemetery, Iowa Park, Wichita, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁷⁶ "Rusk, *Lula Rogers*, Memorial #60446274; Highland Cemetery, Iowa Park, Wichita, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁷⁷ "Staples, *Katie Ophelia Rusk*, Memorial Park Cemetery, Tulsa, Tulsa, OK," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁷⁸ "Staples, *Columbus L.*, Memorial #63479376; Memorial Park Cemetery, Tulsa, Tulsa, OK," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁷⁹ "Rusk, Charles H., Memorial #68195917; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁸⁰ "Mcknight, Harriet Rusk, Memorial #68002499; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁸¹ "Mcknight, William Bonaparte "Bill", Memorial #64382103; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches , TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁸² "1860 US Federal Census, Beat No. 1a, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 20; David and Elizabeth Rusk Household." Nicholas J. Rusk was 5 months old when the census was taken 12 Jun 1860 who he was probably born about Jan 1860.

⁸³ "1870 US Federal Census, 1st Precinct, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 43; John and Henrietta Rusk and David and Elizabeth Rusk Households." Nicholas J. Rusk was no longer listed in the Rusk household so presumably died between 1860 and 1870 at Nacogdoches, TX. There seems to be a conflict with the birth of Nicholas in 1860 and Martha in the same year. I have not been successful in resolving this conflict.

⁸⁴ "Rusk, Martha H., Memorial #68196126; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁸⁵ "Rusk, William H., Memorial #68196351; Oak Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches , TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

4. **MARY² MELISSA RUSK** (John¹ Rusk) was born in 1823 in South Carolina. She married (1) **John Bruce**. He was born in 1820 in Georgia. She married an unknown spouse on 22 Oct 1844 at Habersham, Georgia. [See *Mary Melissa Rusk*, p. 5 above for references of children].

John Bruce and Mary Bruce had the following children:

- i. **A.³ BRUCE** was born abt. 1845 in Georgia.
- ii. **M. BRUCE** was born abt. 1848 in Georgia.
- iii. **Mary Melissa Bruce Commander** [1852-1915].
- iv. **William Isaac Commander** [1850-1902].
- v. **Rachel Bruce Hood** [1847-1913].
- vi. **Ellen Bruce** [abt. 1851-unknown].
- vii. **Martha Bruce Densmore** [1850-1925], probably M. Bruce, ii. above.
- viii. **David Bruce** [abt. 1854-unknown].
- ix. **A. Bruce** [abt. 1859-unknown].
- x. **Margarette Levenia Bruce McKnight** [1861-1927].

Generation 3

5. **JOHN R.³ RUSK** (David², John¹) was born Oct 1843 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 23 Jul 1928 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He married **HENRIETTA L. CHAPMAN**, daughter of **H. L. Chapman** and **Matilda**, on 06 Dec 1867 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She was born on 26 Aug 1844 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. She died on 05 Jan 1907 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.



John R. Rusk and Henrietta L. Chapman had the following children:

- i. **CHARLES MONROE "CHARLEY" "CM" RUSK** was born on 01 Oct 1868 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁸⁶ He died on 11 Jan 1935 at Nacogdoches, Texas.⁸⁷ He married **Josephine "Jessie" Strahan Rusk** [1872-

⁸⁶ "1870 US Federal Census, 1st Precinct, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 43; John and Henrietta Rusk and David and Elizabeth Rusk Households."

⁸⁷ "Rusk, Charley Monroe "Cm", Memorial #63089401; Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

1937].⁸⁸ They had four children: **John Willie Rusk** [1890-1968] married **Elizabeth Elder Rusk** [1892-1984];⁸⁹ **Virgie Rusk Mathis** [1892-1970];⁹⁰ **Odis Rusk** [1897-1955] married **Bessie May Strong**;⁹¹ and **Oren Rusk** [1901-1968] married **Ethel Easley Rusk** [1904-1933] who apparently died in childbirth.⁹²

- ii. **WILLIAM THOMAS RUSK** was born on 05 Aug 1870 in Texas.⁹³ He died on 04 Dec 1928 and is buried in the Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Texas. He married **Anna Lizza Powers Rusk** and they had two children: **J. T. Rusk** [1915-1918]; and **Otis Thomas Rusk** [1918-1964].⁹⁴
- iii. **HARRIETT HELEN⁴ RUSK** was born on 23 Oct 1873 in Texas. She died on 03 Oct 1935 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.⁹⁵
- iv. **ROBERT HENRY RUSK** was born on 23 Oct 1873. He died on 07 Mar 1957 in Abilene, Taylor, Texas.^{96 97} He married **Mary Lou Jennings** [maiden name unknown b. abt. 1894-unknown]. The couple had two children: **Robert N. Rusk** [abt. 1927-unknown] and **Dorothy B. Rusk** [abt. 1929-unknown], in addition to two step-daughters: **Louise Jennings** [abt. 1920-unknown] and **Altha W. Jennings** [abt. 1922-unknown].⁹⁸
- v. **JOHN LAWRENCE RUSK** was born on 04 Mar 1876 at Nacogdoches,

⁸⁸ "Rusk, Josephine "Jessie" *Strahan*, Memorial #63826605; Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁸⁹ "Rusk, John Willie, Memorial #63089478; Cold Springs Cemetery, Garrison, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁹⁰ "Mathis, Virgie *Rusk*, Memorial #68065939; New Prospect Cemetery, Timpson, Shelby, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011). She may also have been married to an individual by the last name of Cook.

⁹¹ "Rusk, Odis, Memorial #99500916; Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2012). See also: "Rusk, O. D., Memorial #80370870; Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches , TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

⁹² "Rusk, Oren, Memorial #80477737; Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011). See also: "Rusk, Infant Son, Memorial #99348644; Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2012). Son of Oren and Ethel Rusk.

⁹³ "1870 US Federal Census, 1st Precinct, Nacogdoches, TX, p. 43; John and Henrietta Rusk and David and Elizabeth Rusk Households." See also: "Texas, Death Certificates, 1903–1982; Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics, Shady Grove, Nacogdoches, Registered No. 169, William Thomas Rusk Death, 4 Dec 1928," (Ancestry.com, 2013).

⁹⁴ "Rusk, William Thomas, Memorial #63089368; Shady Grove Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches , TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁹⁵ "Rusk, Harriett Helen, Memorial #63192256; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches , TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

⁹⁶ "Rusk, Robert Henry, Memorial #13687790; Tahoka Cemetery, Tahoka, Lynn, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2006).

⁹⁷ "Texas, Death Certificates, 1903–1982, Texas Dept. Of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Certificate 16703, Abilene, Taylor, TX; Robert Henry Rusk Death 7 Mar 1957," (Ancestry.com, 2013). There appears to be an error on the death certificate, date of birth listed as 28 Jun 1892. See also: "1910 US Federal Census, Winkler, TX, ED 153, Sheet 4a, Robert H. Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2006).

⁹⁸ "1920 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 1, Lynn, TX, ED 153-3, Sheet 8b, Robert H. Rusk and Lov Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2002). See also: "1940 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 1, Terry, TX, ED 273-2, Sheet 1b; Robert and Mary Lou Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2012).

Texas. He died on 13 Nov 1942 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He married **Paralee Fussell**⁹⁹, daughter of **Warren L. Fussell** and **Dicy Ellen Slocum** about 1896. She was born on 08 Sep 1881 in Texas. She died on 01 Feb 1950 at Tarrant, Texas.¹⁰⁰



Paralee Fussell Rusk & Dicy Slocum Fussell

- vi. **DAVID LARKIN RUSK** was born on 08 Oct 1877 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 15 Sep 1965 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.
- vii. **GILES RUSK** was born on 27 Aug 1879 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.¹⁰¹ He died on 05 Nov 1956 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He married **Lelia Evie Dorsett Rusk** [1883-1956], the daughter of **Calvin Dorsett** and **Evie Crossland** and they had one child **Lionel Giles Rusk** [1908-1983].¹⁰²
- viii. **EDDIE RUSK** was born 11 Jul 1881 at Nacogdoches, Texas.¹⁰³ He died on 19 Feb 1956 at Beaumont, Jefferson, Texas.¹⁰⁴ I found no reference to any marriage.
- ix. **GEORGE REAGAN "GENIE" RUSK** was born on 13 Sep 1883 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 30 Jun 1920 at Nacogdoches

⁹⁹ "Rusk, John Lawrence, Memorial #10377256; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX." See also: "Texas, Death Certificates, 1903-1982; Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Nacogdoches County, Certificate # 50684; John Lawrence Rusk, 13 Nov 1942."

¹⁰⁰ "Rusk, Paralee *Fussell*, Memorial #10377259; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX."

¹⁰¹ "US, World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942, Ser. No. U1756; Giles Rusk, Cushing, Nacogdoches, TX," (Ancestry.com, 2010). Reference confirms birth date, place of birth and wife. See also: "1900 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 1, ED 39, Sheet 16b; John and Henrietta L. Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2004).

¹⁰² "Rusk, Giles, Memorial #58559391; Redland Cemetery, Douglass, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

¹⁰³ "1900 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 1, ED 39, Sheet 16b; John and Henrietta L. Rusk Household." See also: "US, World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942, Nacogdoches, TX, Serial No. U39; Eddie Rusk," (Ancestry.com, 2010).

¹⁰⁴ "Texas, Death Certificates, 1903-1982; Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics; Certificate of Death State File No. 8726, Eddie Rusk, Beaumont, Jefferson, TX, 19 Feb 1956," (Ancestry.com, 2013). See also: "Rusk, Eddie, Memorial #63089311; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010).

County Texas.¹⁰⁵ I found no reference to any marriage.

Generation 4

6. **JOHN LAWRENCE⁴ RUSK** (John R.³, David², John¹) was born on 04 Mar 1876 at Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 13 Nov 1942 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas. He married **Paralee Fussell**, daughter of **Warren L. Fussell** and **Dicy Ellen Slocum**, about 1896. She was born on 08 Sep 1881 in Texas. She died on 01 Feb 1950 at Tarrant, Texas.



John Lawrence Rusk and Paralee Fussell had the following children:

- i. **DAVID⁵ LAWRENCE RUSK** was born on 29 Oct 1899 at Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 20 Jul 1961 at Pasadena, Harris County, Texas.¹⁰⁶ He married **Newell Gazelle Muckelroy Rusk** [1900-1974] on 8 Feb 1923 and they share a headstone in Nacogdoches, TX.¹⁰⁷ The couple had at least seven children: **Evelyn Audrey Rusk** [4 Jun 1921-30 May 2007];¹⁰⁸ **Cecil Ella Rusk** [16 Jan 1924-19 Jun 2001] married 24 Aug 1946 to **Jean Mildred Eckels Rusk** [27 Feb 1927-13 Dec 2011] and were divorced 30 Jan 1980;¹⁰⁹¹¹⁰ **Bennie [Benny] Lee Rusk** [abt. 1926-unknown] married **Linda A. Neumann** at Liberty, TX¹¹² and married **Jimmie L. [maiden name unknown] Rusk** 15 Jun 1966 and divorced 28 Dec 1977;¹¹³ **John Anthony**

¹⁰⁵ "Rusk, George Reagan "Genie", Memorial #63089274; Maroney Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2010). See also: "1900 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 1, ED 39, Sheet 16b; John and Henrietta L. Rusk Household."

¹⁰⁶ "Texas, Death Certificates, 1903–1982, Texas Certificate of Death, Pasadena, Harris, TX; State File #40491; David L. Rusk Death 20 Jul 1961," (Ancestry.com, 2013). See also: "US, World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918; David Lawrence Rusk, Nacogdoches, TX," (Ancestry.com, 2005). Confirms his birth as 29 Oct 1899 and mother Paralee Rusk. "1910 US Federal Census, Nacogdoches, TX, Justice Precinct 1, ED 93. Sheet 16a; Lawrence and Paralee Rusk Household." "1940 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 21, Pasadena, Harris, TX, ED 101-17e, Sheet 62b; David L. And Newel G. Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2012).

¹⁰⁷ "Rusk, David Lawrence, Memorial #10377252; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2005). See also: "Texas, Select County Marriage Index, 1837-1965; Jefferson County, TX; D. L. Rusk to Newell Muskelroy, 8 Feb 1923 ", (Ancestry.com, 2013).

¹⁰⁸ "Serafini, Evelyn Rusk Potempa, Memorial #19642366; Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Bexar, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2007).

¹⁰⁹ "Rusk, Cecil Ellis, Memorial #5797157; Forest Park East Cemetery, Webster, Harris, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2001). Memorial mentions one daughter, Nancy Jean Rusk [1947-1957].

¹¹⁰ "Rusk, Nancy Jean, Memorial #80028170; Forest Park East Cemetery, Webster, Harris, TX," (Find-a-Grave, 2011).

¹¹¹ "Texas, Divorce Index, 1968-2011, Williamson, TX; Mildred J. Rusk and Cecil E. Rusk, Married 24 Aug 1946, Divorced 30 Jan 1980," (Ancestry.com, 2005).

¹¹² "Texas, Marriage Collection, 1814-1909 and 1966-2011; Benny L. Rusk to Linda A. Neumann, Liberty, TX 2 Nov 1985," (Ancestry.com, 2005).

¹¹³ "Texas, Divorce Index, 1968-2011, Harris, TX; Benny L. Rusk and Jimmie L. Rusk, Marriage 15 Jun 1966, Divorce 28 Dec 1977," (Ancestry.com, 2005).

Rusk [3 Jan 1928-1 May 2012]^{114 115}; **Bytha Nowell Rusk** [abt. 1931-unknown]; **Gladys Marilyn Rusk** [9 Apr 1935-9 Sep 2011];¹¹⁶ and **Bertha Rusk** [abt. 1937-unknown].¹¹⁷

- ii. **VELMA LEE RUSK** was born about 1902 in Texas.¹¹⁸ She died in Apr 1975 at Houston, Harris, Texas. She married **Lamual Coly McEachern** 19 Dec 1925 at Dawson, Texas.^{119 120}
- iii. **ETTA ELLEN RUSK** was born 9 Jul 1904 at Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, Texas.¹²¹ She died on 13 Sep 1992 at Harris, Texas. She married **Earl James Blanton** [1899-1971] and they resided in Harris County, TX.¹²² They had one daughter **Allie Lorraine Blanton Krum** [1933-2014] married **Philip Sheridan Krum** [1932 – 2002].¹²³
- iv. **GLADYS RUSK** was born 12 Jan 1907 in Texas. She died on 18 Mar 1974 at Nacogdoches, Texas. She married **Verneard Pinkney Olds** [1900-1978].¹²⁴
- v. **ELLIS JOHN RUSK** was born 17 Dec 1915 at Nacogdoches, Texas. He died on 31 Jul 1999 in Texas. He married **L. Fay McLain Rusk**.¹²⁵ She

¹¹⁴ "Texas, Birth Certificates, 1903-1932, Texas Dept. Of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Birth Certificate #6646 Goose Creek, Harris, TX; John Anthony Rusk to David Lawrence Rusk and Newel Gazelle *Mucelroy* Rusk, 3 Jan 1928," (Ancestry.com, 2013).

¹¹⁵ "US, Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014; J. Anthony Rusk, born 3 Jan 1928, Died 1 May 2012, Austin, Ga," (Ancestry.com, 2011).

¹¹⁶ "Texas Birth Index, 1903-1997; Texas Dept. Of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics; 1935 Births Gladys Marilyn Rusk to Newel Gazelle Muckelroy and David Lawrence Rusk, 9 Apr 1935," (Ancestry.com, 2005).

¹¹⁷ "1940 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 21, Pasadena, Harris, TX, ED 101-17e, Sheet 62b; David L. And Newel G. Rusk Household."

¹¹⁸ "1920 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 8, Nacogdoches, TX, ED 135, Sheet No. 4b; Lawrence and Paralee Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2010).

¹¹⁹ "Texas, Select County Marriage Index, 1837-1965, Dawson, TX; Velma Rusk to L. C. Mceachern," (Ancestry.com, 2014).

¹²⁰ "Mceachern, Velma Lee Rusk, Memorial #74423269; San Jacinto Memorial Park, Houston, Harris, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2011).

¹²¹ "1910 US Federal Census, Nacogdoches, TX, Justice Precinct 1, ED 93. Sheet 16a; Lawrence and Paralee Rusk Household."

¹²² "1930 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 3, Goose Creek, Harris, TX, ED 101-169, Sheet No. 20a; J. Earl Blanton and E. Etta Blanton Household," (Ancestry.com, 2002). See also: "Blanton, Etta Ellen *Rusk*, Memorial #125207559; San Jacinto Memorial Park, Houston, Harris, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2014). The couple shares a headstone at this cemetery.

¹²³ "Krum, Allie Lorraine *Blanton*, Memorial# 125184446; Crestview Memorial Park, Wichita Falls, Wichita, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2014).

¹²⁴ "Olds, Gladys *Rusk*, Memorial #10376984 ;Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches,Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2005).

¹²⁵ "US, Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007, Ellis John Rusk, Nacogdoches, TX," (Ancestry.com, 2015). Confirms birth, death and death location. See also: "Rusk, Ellis J., Memorial #120424721; Sunset Memorial Park, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2013). "1940 US Federal Census, Houston, Harris, TX, ED 258-126, Sheet 10b; Ellis and Fay Rusk Household," (Ancestry.com, 2012).

was born 20 Mar 1914 at Nacogdoches, Texas and died at Houston, Harris, Texas 29 Dec 2004.

- vii. **CECIL KEITH RUSK** was born on 05 May 1912 in Texas.¹²⁶ He died on 23 Dec 1967 at Nacogdoches, Texas. He married **Verna M. Parker**. She was born on 26 Apr 1920. She died on 20 Mar 2005 at Nacogdoches County Texas. She was the daughter of **Walter Ernest McLain** and **Amenda Jones McLain** who were formerly with the Nacogdoches County Sheriff's Department. The couple had one daughter **Martha Ellen Rusk**¹²⁷ and one son **James Cullen Rusk** [1935-1999]¹²⁸ who married **Bobi Glyn Greer** [1937-2010] daughter of **Robert J. Greer** and **Mary Edna Dobbs Greer**.¹²⁹

¹²⁶ "1930 US Federal Census, Justice Precinct 3, Goose Creek, Harris, TX, ED 101-169, Sheet No. 20a; J. Earl Blanton and E. Etta Blanton Household." Cecil Keith Rusk was living with his sister Etta E. and her husband J. Earl Blanton.

¹²⁷ "Rusk, L. Faye *McLain*, Memorial #120425301; Sunset Memorial Park, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX," (Find-A-Grave, 2013).

¹²⁸ "Rusk, James Cullen, Memorial #10377254; Fairview Church Cemetery, Nacogdoches, Nacogdoches, TX." See also: "Texas Birth Index, 1903-1997; Texas Dept. Of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1935 Births; James Cullen Rusk to Verna Parker and Cecil Keith Rusk, 21 Apr 1935," (Ancestry.com, 2005).

¹²⁹ "Texas Birth Index, 1903-1997; Texas Dept. Of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Crosby County, TX, 1937 Births; Bobi Glyn Greer to Mary Edna Dobbs and Robert J. Greer 15 Mar 1937," (Ancestry.com, 2005).

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