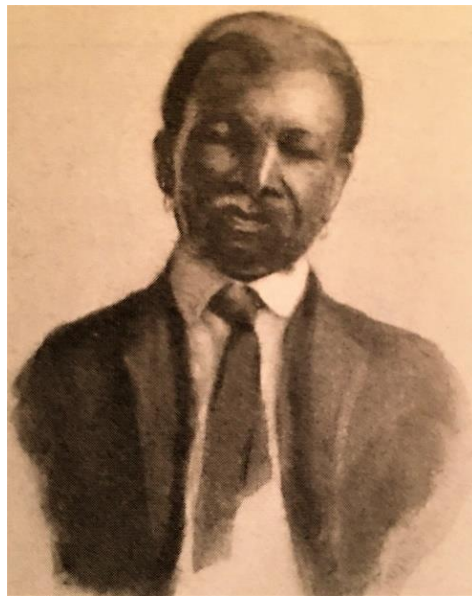


# **The Polee, Rose and Lucy Allen Lines: Genealogical Descents from Africa, the Slave Ship *Clotilda*, and Africatown, Alabama to the Present**

by

**Llewellyn (Lew) M. Toulmin, PhD, FRGS, FN '04**  
Africatown, Alabama and Silver Spring, Maryland  
April 2022



**Polee Allen:**  
*Clotilda* Survivor and Co-founder of  
Africatown, Alabama

This report has the following sections:

- Acknowledgements
- Introduction and biographical material
- Methodology
- Genealogical charts
- Assertions and proofs
- Annexes:
  - Annex 1: Interviews: Vernetta Henson, Darron Patterson and Brehon Allen, Sr.
  - Annex 2: Information on possible memberships in lineage organizations
  - Annex 3: Calculation of the possible number of descendants
  - Annex 4: Various relevant obituaries and articles
  - Annex 5: Possible previously unknown *Clotilda* survivors
  - Annex 6: A song about Kupollee Allen
  - Annex 7: Information on the author.
- Supplement #1: The Polee and Rose Allen Lines: Supplement #1 with Funeral Programs on the Descendants of the Slave Ship *Clotilda* and Africatown, Alabama
- Supplement #2: The Polee and Lucy Allen Lines: Supplement #2 with Funeral Programs on the Descendants of the Slave Ship *Clotilda* and Africatown, Alabama

The two Supplements are presented as separate, stand-alone documents. They draw on the amazing collection of funeral programs and obituaries belonging to Vernetta Henson of Mobile, Alabama, a Polee Allen descendant.

## Acknowledgements

This report was requested by Mr. Darron Patterson, President of the *Clotilda* Descendants Association, and is being submitted to the Association and to various genealogical repositories. I wish to thank the Association and Darron for this opportunity. Any errors are my own.

I wish to thank Vernetta Henson of Africatown, Alabama for her very substantial help in undertaking this research. Her remarkable memory and collected family documentation were invaluable in this effort. I also wish to thank the other descendants who assisted in the effort and who posted valuable clues in on-line family trees and the Polee Allen Facebook Group.



**Vernetta Henson**

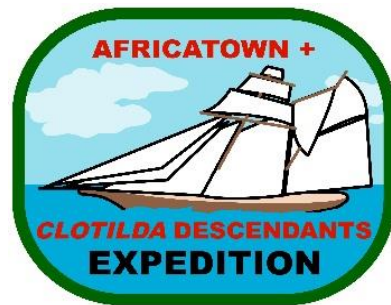
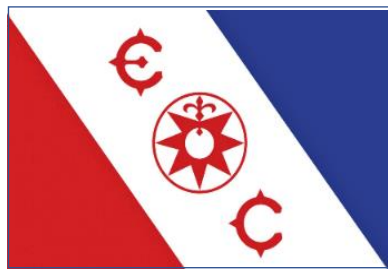
This report was developed as part of an Explorers Club Flag Expedition. The Explorers Club (see explorers.org) is one of the world's premier multi-disciplinary organizations for exploration and field research. Members were first to the North and South Poles, first to summit Mt. Everest, first to the deepest ocean depths, first to fly around the world in a solar-powered plane, and

first to the Moon. It was James Delgado of SEARCH Inc., Fellow of the Explorers Club, who led the team of marine archaeologists that conclusively identified the wreck of the *Clotilda* in 2019. For this separate Expedition, Flag #212 of the Club was carried to Africatown to assist the *Clotilda* Descendants Association. A separate Flag Expedition Report details the various activities of the effort; this genealogical report is an Attachment to that Expedition Report. Explorers Club members Ryan Crutchfield, RPA, FN '20 and Jasmine Burr, SM '21 undertook valuable research which contributed to this genealogical report.

The cover drawing of Polee ("Poleete") Allen was done by Emma Roche in her book *Historic Sketches of the South* (Knickerbocker Press, 1914), partially reprinted as *The Last Voyage of the Clotilda* (Coppell, Texas, 2022).

It has been a privilege and an honor to work on this important research.

Below are the Flag of The Explorers Club and the logo of this Flag Expedition.



## Introduction and Biographical Material

This report traces eight generations of an historic African American family, from Africa to the present. Over 160 persons are charted and documented, and in this report and the two Supplements hundreds more are traceable. The analysis was requested by the President of the *Clotilda* Descendants Association (CDA), Mr. Darron Patterson. The line focuses on descendants of Polee and Rose Allen, who were both kidnapped in the African interior in or near what is now Benin or Nigeria, brought to the coast at what is now Ouidah, Benin, and then transported in 1860 on the last slave ship to arrive in the United States – the infamous *Clotilda*. Information is also provided on Lucy Turner Allen, Polee's second wife, and her parents and descendants.



Darron Patterson, President of the CDA, and Polee and Rose Allen Descendant

No biography of Polee (or Pollee or Pole) and Rose Allen (or Lucy Turner) has been written, but several sources, including Sylviane A. Diouf, *Dreams of Africa in Alabama* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007), Natalie S. Robertson, *The Slave Ship Clotilda and the Making of Africatown USA* (Praeger: Westport, CT, 2008), Ben Raines, *The Last Slave Ship* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2022), Mary McNeil Scott, “Affika Town,” *Wilcox Progressive Era*, 4 June 1894, [www.newspapers.com/image/308670655/?terms=affika&match=1](http://www.newspapers.com/image/308670655/?terms=affika&match=1), Henry Romeyn, *Little Africa* (Hampton, Virginia: Hampton Institute, 1897), and Emma Roche, *ibid.*, provide some information, mainly on Polee, as follows:

- Polee’s African name was KuPollee, and “Ku” meant “death” in Yoruba, while his whole name meant “one born after the death of the chief of the house.” He was an initiate and servant of the Yoruba gods, as indicated by his earrings – one small hoop in each ear—and his two upper front teeth, which were “pecked off to form an inverted V”. His “African” name, and then his later American name of Polee were actually initiate names, given to him in his teens, not his original birth name, which is now unknown.
- Polee’s tribe or sub-tribe was called the Tarkar, and it was “many days from the water” (the sea) said Polee (according to Roche). They were a “peaceloving, agricultural people, raising hogs, sheep and cows, and planting corn, beans and yams. Their chief industry was the production of palm oil.” The Tarkar dwellings were of superior quality and had the advantage of withstanding fire. They were build of mud, with a circular trench and a four foot-high wall of mud, 1.5 feet thick. This was left to thoroughly dry. Then a second and a third similar layers were built, making the walls twelve feet high. Finally a branch, thatch and mud roof was constructed. The group had strict laws, rigidly enforced. There was virtually no stealing, everyone worked, and all had what they needed. Men had up to three wives, and the first wife selected the second, and the second selected the third. Men who committed adultery were severely punished. Women owned property in their own right, and were protected by their husbands. Tribal members believed in a spirit of good, called Ahla-ahra, and a spirit of evil, Ahla-bady-oleelay, whose fearsome power was present in thunder and lightning.
- Polee was kidnapped into slavery at about age 18, in 1860. He came from the same town in Africa (likely in central Nigeria) as at least two other *Clotilda* captives, Cudjo Lewis and Abache (later Clara Turner). The correct name of that town and its exact location is not clear. The suffering on board the *Clotilda* and the fact that Polee had some town-mates helped him form a bond of solidarity and support with the other captives. The terrible trans-Atlantic voyage lasted about seventy days (according to Cudjo Lewis, but fifty-five according to Romeyn’s second-hand account), and this voyage was illegal even at the time, since the trans-Atlantic slave trade to the US had been outlawed in 1808. Upon arriving in Alabama in July 1860, Polee and Rose were enslaved in the Mobile area, and were kept in slavery until about April 1865, when they were

freed by Union Army forces. They then became co-founders, with about 30 other Africans, of Africa Town, now Africatown, a neighborhood in north Mobile.

- Polee could read and write as an adult, having been taught these skills by his children. However, the only book he could read was the Bible. Polee, Rose and the other African residents generally did not learn to speak English fluently and spoke their native African tongues at home. Rose was able to teach Yoruba to her children, but since Lucy was not fluent in this language, her children spoke English.
- Polee and some of the other African *Clotilda* survivors were reported to walk in a very erect way, with more confidence, hardness, and a fierceness different from the local, enslaved or formerly enslaved population.
- Polee and the other Africans had arrived in a group, some of whom, including Polee and Rose, were able to form the community of Africatown, and were rather isolated culturally, socially and politically from the rest of Mobile.
- Polee, Rose and the other *Clotilda* survivors wanted to return to Africa, and attempted to get accepted into a return program organized by the American Colonization Society (ACS). But this attempt failed and in 1868 Polee and other Africatown males formally announced their intention to become naturalized US citizens. (It is not clear if this intention was realized, and it is not clear what the status of the women was. Likely the women would have gained US citizenship through their relationship with their husbands.)
- As proud Africans, none of the *Clotilda* survivors adopted the names of their enslavers, which often happened among African-Americans at the time. Kupollee adopted a version of his African name, and became Polee Allen.
- Polee, Cudjo Lewis and Charlie Lewis attempted to vote for the first time, in the contentious election of 1874 at the polling location nearest their homes. There Timothy Meaher, owner of the *Clotilda*, got election workers to turn the three men away, stating that they were not eligible to vote. They went to a second location but Meaher again prevented them from voting. So the three went to Mobile, to a polling place on St. Francis Street, and paid one day's wages, \$1, in poll tax, and voted for the party that at the time was the party of Lincoln and full rights for blacks – the Republican Party.
- Polee became one of the main leaders of Africatown, and was a hard worker and a provider for his people. In his garden, which he worked assiduously, he grew onions, garlic, pears, plums, apples, figs, scuppernong grapes, peanuts, watermelons, canteloupes, bananas and okra. He raised bees and extracted and used the honey for medicine and nutrition. He raised chickens, cows, hogs and horses, and sometimes did work as a carpenter. Articles and obituaries of the time described all the Africans of Africatown as having a “high reputation for honesty and industry.”
- Romeyn's account (dated 1897 but likely reflecting a visit in about 1890) described “Little Africa” as high on broken ground, three miles from Mobile and about half a mile from the Mobile River, surrounded by a pine forest in which still could be seen the

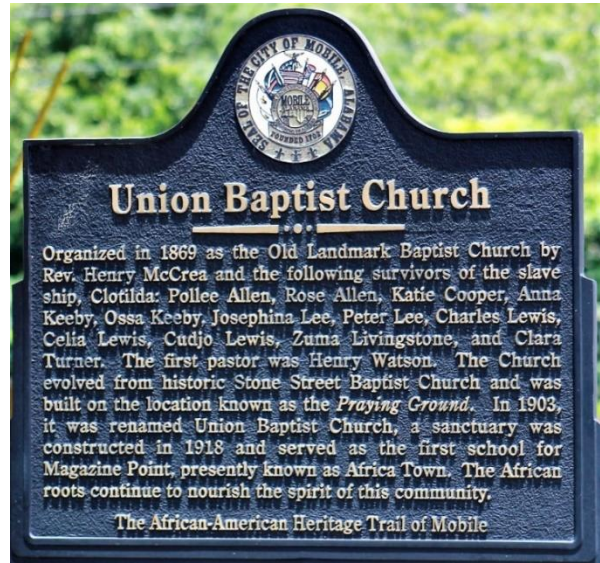
heavy earthworks (built mainly by enslaved people) from the Civil War. About “thirty small houses” were scattered irregularly over about forty or fifty acres, “many of them quite comfortable structures compared with the ordinary cabins of the country.” [Here Captain Romeyn was apparently comparing the Africatown cabins to the usual very small ex-slave cabins in Mobile.] The houses were built cooperatively and quickly after the war. The inhabitants of Little Africa did not socialize much with the non-“Africans.” There were two churches in the settlement, one Methodist, frequented by the non-“Africans,” and one a Baptist “Mission Chapel” of a city church, frequented by the “Africans.” The Baptist church had about 30 to 40 of the “original ones” (apparently *Clotilda* captives) who were members, and about 60 children in the Sunday school.

- Romeyn also provides a small glimpse of Rose Allen late in life: “Maum’ Polee says she was about nineteen when she was brought over, and differs in appearance from all the others, says she was A’tarco (query “Tavrick”?) and ‘came over long way from Dahomey,’ probably from the vicinity of Lake Tchaad.” [Lake Chad is on the border between present day Nigeria and Chad.]
- A plat map from the 1920s shows that Polee Allen was a close neighbor of Ossa Keeby, Cudjo Lewis and Gumpa (African Peter, or Peter Lee). All four were leaders of the community, and each had about two acres of land, adjacent to each other.
- Land belonging to Polee, Gumpa (Peter Lee) and Cudjo Lewis was purchased in 1927 to build the two-lane Bay Bridge Road. In the 1990s more of this land was seized by eminent domain and a massive bridge and five lane highway was built to carry large trucks from the Port of Mobile. This highway cut the community in two and destroyed much of the commercial heart of the community and most of the houses of the original settlers, including Polee’s.
- Polee Allen and Cudjo Lewis gradually accepted Christianity, but merged Christian beliefs with their African ones. They became Elders of the Union Baptist Church which they helped to found, and Rose/Rosalie Allen became its first Sunday School teacher. Elder Polee preached in church, but avoided “fire and brimstone” preaching, and instead used the power of persuasion to convey his spiritual messages. (See the historical marker photo below, listing Rose and Pollee Allen as co-founders of the church.) Polee took his Christianity seriously, and his “constant companion” was a small, worn copy of the New Testament. Church services were held every Sunday night, Wednesday night, and Friday night, with Sunday school on Sunday morning.

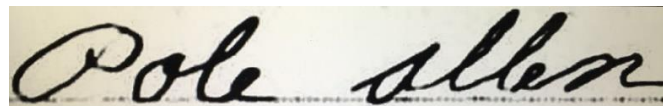
Some biographical items can be gleaned from the genealogical records presented below. These include:

- Polee worked as a laborer, lumber stacker in a sawmill, and farmer most of his life.

- He made and saved enough that by 1872 he was able to buy land worth \$200 from his former owner. He likely built a house and owned it free and clear shortly after that – certainly by 1910 he is recorded as owning his house with no mortgage attached. According to Robertson, *ibid.*, p. 143, Polee modeled his house on the “shotgun” style, about 12 feet wide and 16 feet long, and Polee’s grand-daughter Ivory Hill stated that Polee “carried the wood on his back” from the Meaher’s sawmill where he worked, to his housesite, and built the house himself. In Zora Neale Hurston’s book *Barracoon* (New York: Harper-Collins/Amistad, 2018, ed. Deborah G. Plant), p. 68, Cudjo Lewis states that the residents of Africatown helped each other build their houses, and did not pay anyone for this labor.



- Polee married twice, first to Rosa Allen and then Lucy Turner, who was 30 years his junior. With these two women Polee fathered about 19 children.



The signature above is on the marriage license of Polee (a.k.a. Polee) Allen and Lucy Turner.

- Polee Allen, *Clotilda* survivor and co-founder of Africatown, was born in about 1840 in Africa and died in 1922 in Mobile, at about the age of 82. He spoke until the day he died of his desire to return to Africa.



The *Clotilda*, painted on tiles near the entrance to Africatown

- Polee’s first wife was Rose Allen, also on the *Clotilda* and a co-founder of Africatown. She was born in about 1841 in Africa, possibly near Lake Chad in what is today northeast Nigeria or southwest Chad, and died in 1889/90 in Mobile County, at about age 48. Polee’s second wife Lucy Turner was born in 1870 in Alabama, and her mother was on the *Clotilda* and was a co-founder of Africatown. Polee and Lucy married in 1891. Lucy Turner Allen died in or soon after 1939/40, likely in Mobile, at about the age of 69 to 71.



Rose Allen & her grandson Leonard Ellis

This report provides information on the some of the descendants of these remarkable people, so that other relatives can link into these lines, and prove their descent from the *Clotilda* and Africatown.

## Methodology

This report attempts to prove the asserted lines to high genealogical standards. In the analyses below, the most important items are the proven linkages between one generation and another, and the proven marriage/liaison linkage between the asserted parents of a child. Dates and locations of birth, death and marriage are also important, but it is understandable that in difficult circumstances and early periods not all dates and locations may be exact or even available.

If a key linkage is deemed to be weak in terms of proof, then a **NOTE** (in bold type) will be inserted. Such a note does not necessarily mean that the link did not exist, it may just mean that at present, insufficient proof (paper trail, testimony, affidavit, DNA, etc.) has been amassed to make a confident assertion. If no **NOTE** is inserted, then the linkage and assertions are deemed to be at least reasonably proven, and if numerous overlapping and confirming proofs are present, then the assertion can be judged to be confirmed to a high standard. The key linkages of the main descent lines in sets of evidentiary items are underlined; non-underlined items may not appear on all the charts for reasons of space, but are still viable and should be considered proven. (NOTE: a NOTE not in bold type is just something to take NOTE of, it is not necessarily a serious problem.) A **NOTE** may also be inserted if a record appears erroneous or misleading. For example, it is **NOTEd** below that Julia Allen is probably erroneously listed as “Eula” Allen in the 1880 Census, and that in reality there is no such separate person as “Eula.”

Most genealogical articles and report only cite sources briefly, and do not list all the information provided by each source. Here, since the tracing of the links, dates, places, etc. is challenging, all the relevant information provided by each source is shown, so that the reader can see and evaluate the quality of the information and does not have to obtain the original sources. Biographical information (e.g., occupation, income, religion) obtained from the sources is presented here, for interest but also because such items can also help establish proof



of linkages. (For example, if Paul Smith is, say, a lumber worker and an AME deacon in Record A and also in Record B, then the chances that the two Records point to the same Paul Smith are markedly increased.)

The site for obtaining the original sources in this report is Ancestry.com, unless otherwise specified. This source has dramatically improved in scope and depth over the last decade, but of course is not truly comprehensive. This research effort was somewhat hampered by the closure of libraries, courthouses, Family Research Centers and various repositories during the Covid-19 pandemic. And in a document with numerous assertions and statements, some errors are almost inevitable. Corrections and suggestions are welcome and can be sent to the author at LewToulmin@aol.com.

This report focuses mainly on tracing a few blood lines down to the present, and does not document in detail the descendants of all the many siblings of the main line persons. These siblings are often mentioned in the proof items, especially US Census records, and are usually shown in the charts, but are usually not further discussed here. Further research to fill out those lines is encouraged, to discover other descendants of Polee, Rose and Lucy Allen and the *Clotilda* and Africatown.

Persons in the discussion below who are known or likely to be alive in 2022 are highlighted in yellow the first time they are mentioned, so that they may be traced and informed of their descent from Polee and Rose or Lucy Allen and the *Clotilda*, and their eligibility for membership in the *Clotilda* Descendants Association. It is quite possible that some of these persons do not know of this historic connection and heritage.

For privacy reasons, the names but not the birth dates of living descendants and relatives are provided here.

Abbreviations used in this report include the following:

<b>abt.</b>	about	<b>aft.</b>	after
<b>a.k.a.</b>	also known as	<b>b.</b>	born
<b>bef.</b>	before	<b>c.</b>	circa
<b>d.</b>	died	<b>d.c.</b>	died circa
<b>Gen.</b>	Generation	<b>n.d.</b>	no date available

## Genealogical Charts

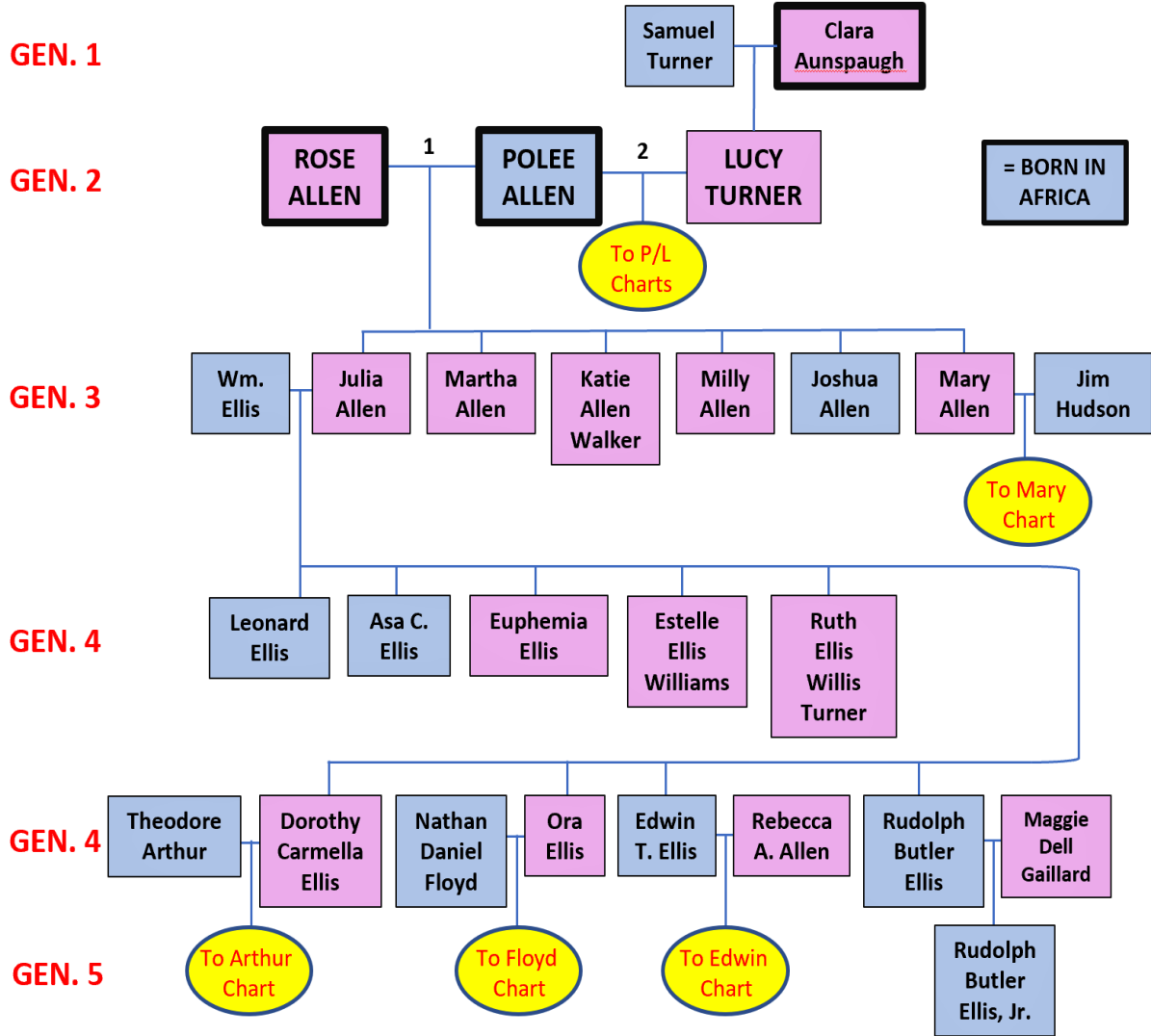
The charts below cover the assertions in the subsequent section; the longest lines cover eight generations (shown as “Gen.1”, “Gen. 2”, etc. below). Several lines go down to the present. Men are shown in blue, women in pink. Circles in yellow direct you to another chart. A heavy black line around a person’s box shows that he/she was born in Africa.

The first chart shows the initial generations from Polee and Rose Allen downwards. The subsequent "P/R" charts show later Polee/Rose generations. After that the Polee and Lucy ("P/L") charts show the descendants of Polee Allen and Lucy Turner Allen. Of course these charts do not show nearly all the descendants of Polee and his two wives.

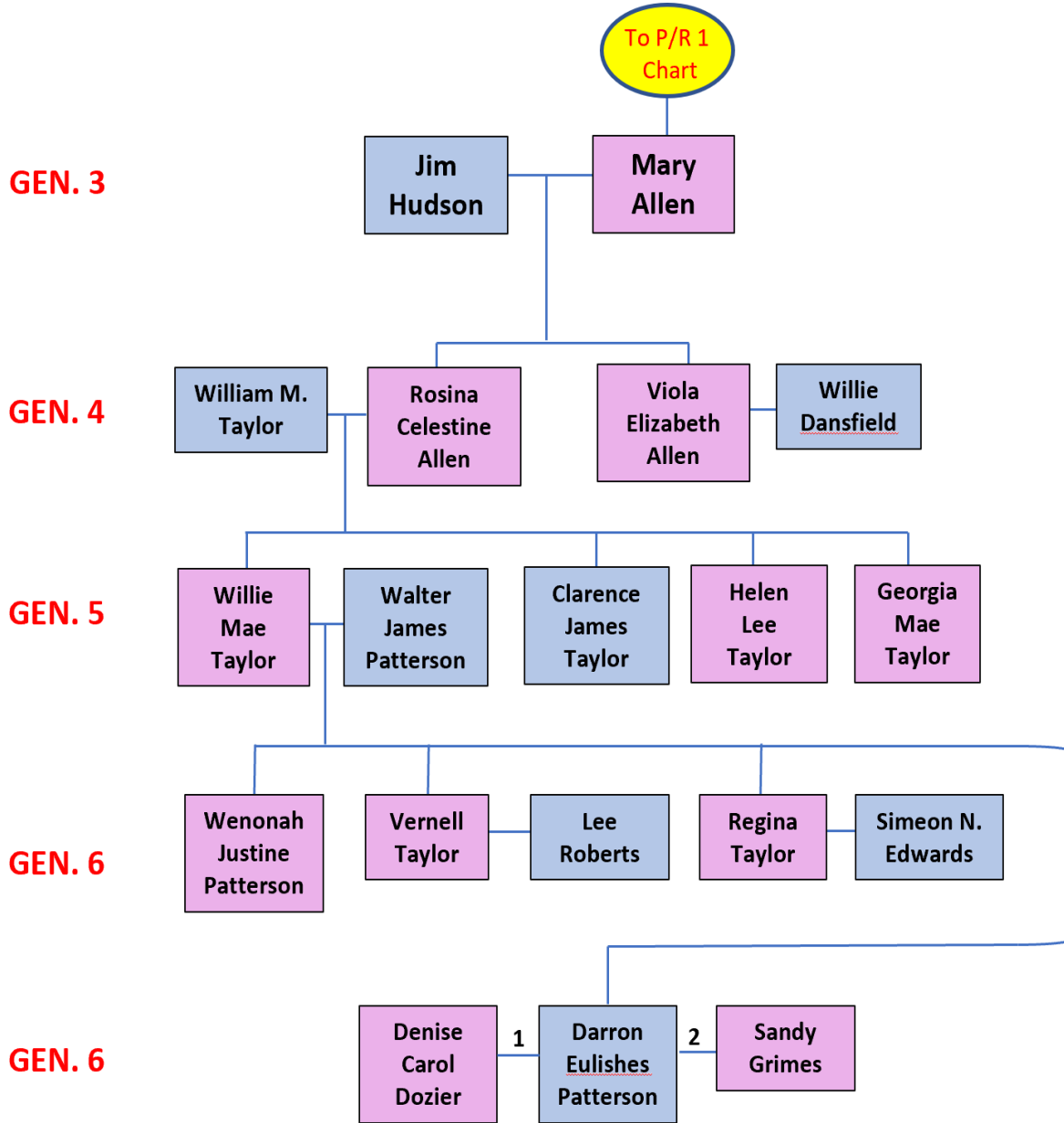
To search for your ancestor in this report, if you think you are descended from Polee, use the "Control F" function on your computer or the Search function for the pdf to look for your furthest back ancestor's name (for example, your grandfather or grandmother). If you find that person in an "Assertions" area, then look for that person on one of the charts. Then you can trace back up the generations to Polee and either Rose or Lucy. And the Assertions and Proofs can provide more information on each person and generation. Good luck!

There are thirteen charts below, covering over 160 individuals.

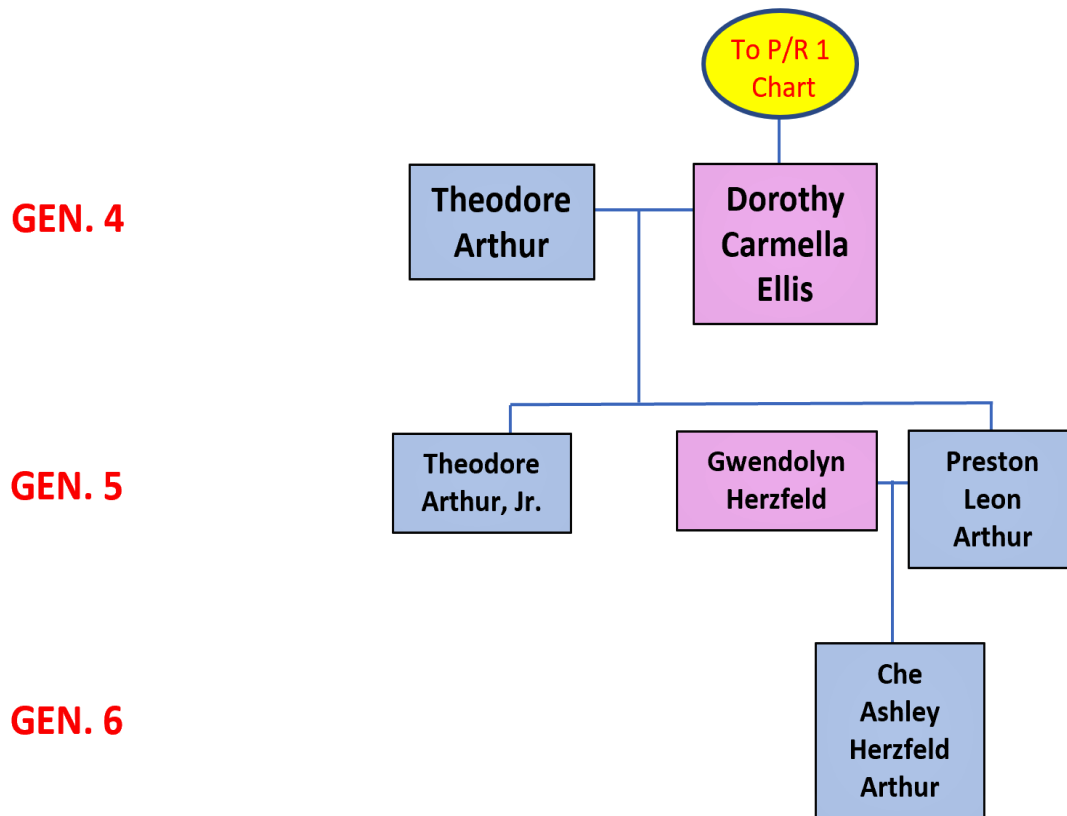
**CHART P/R 1**  
**POLEE AND ROSE ALLEN MAIN PAGE**



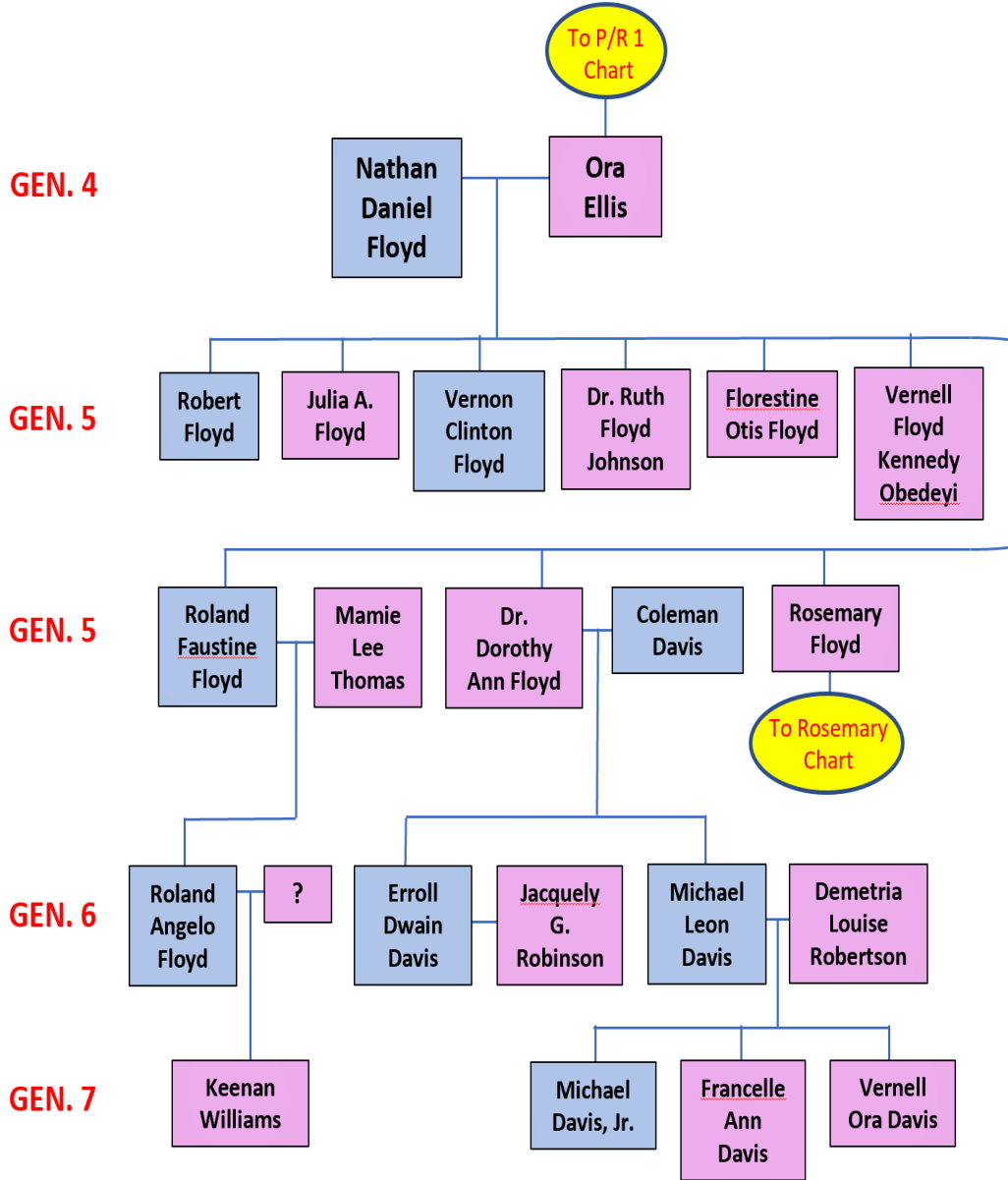
**MARY CHART**  
**DESCENDANTS OF MARY ALLEN & JIM HUDSON**



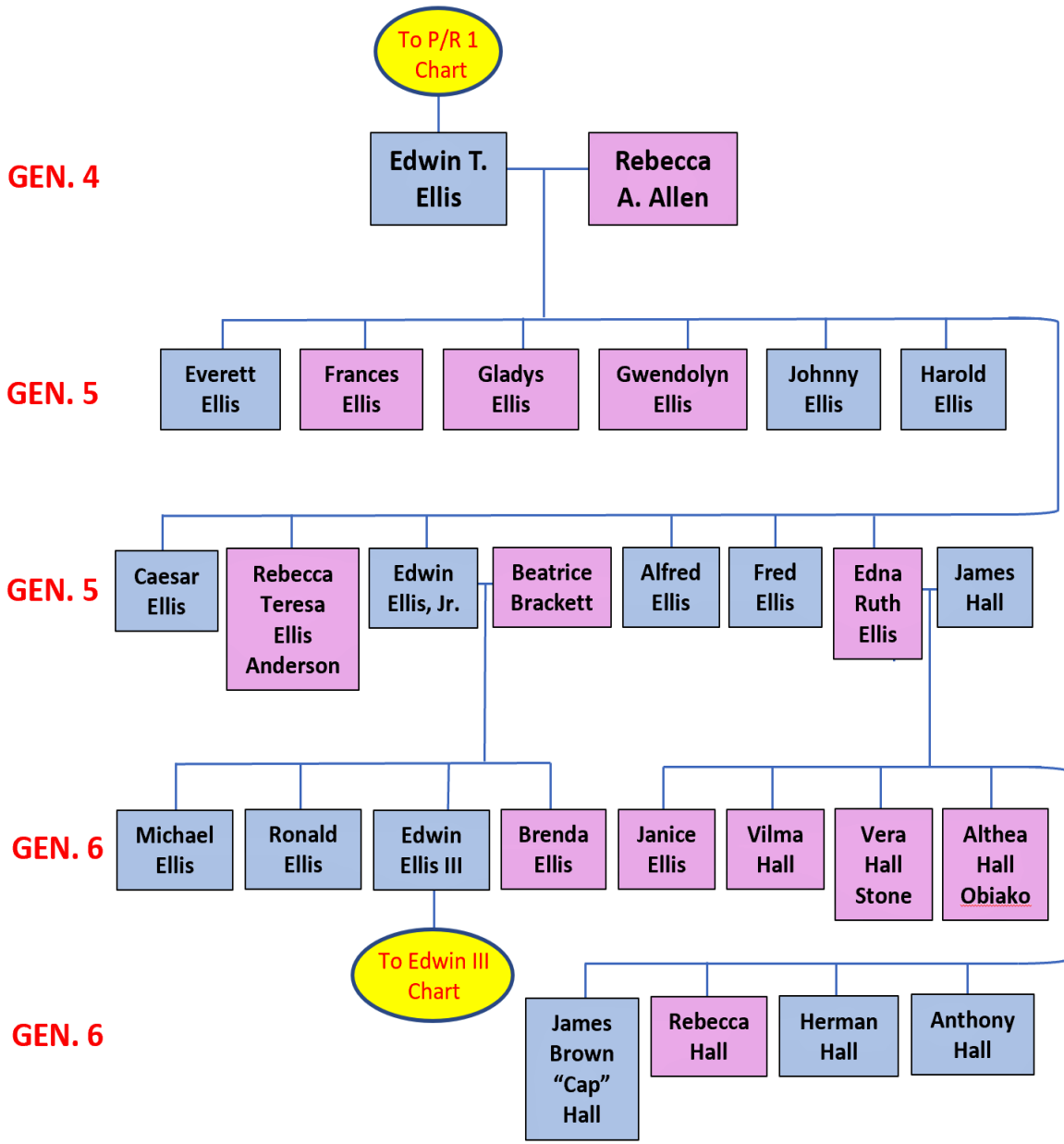
**ARTHUR CHART P/R  
DESCENDANTS OF THEODORE ARTHUR AND  
DOROTHY CARMELLA ELLIS**



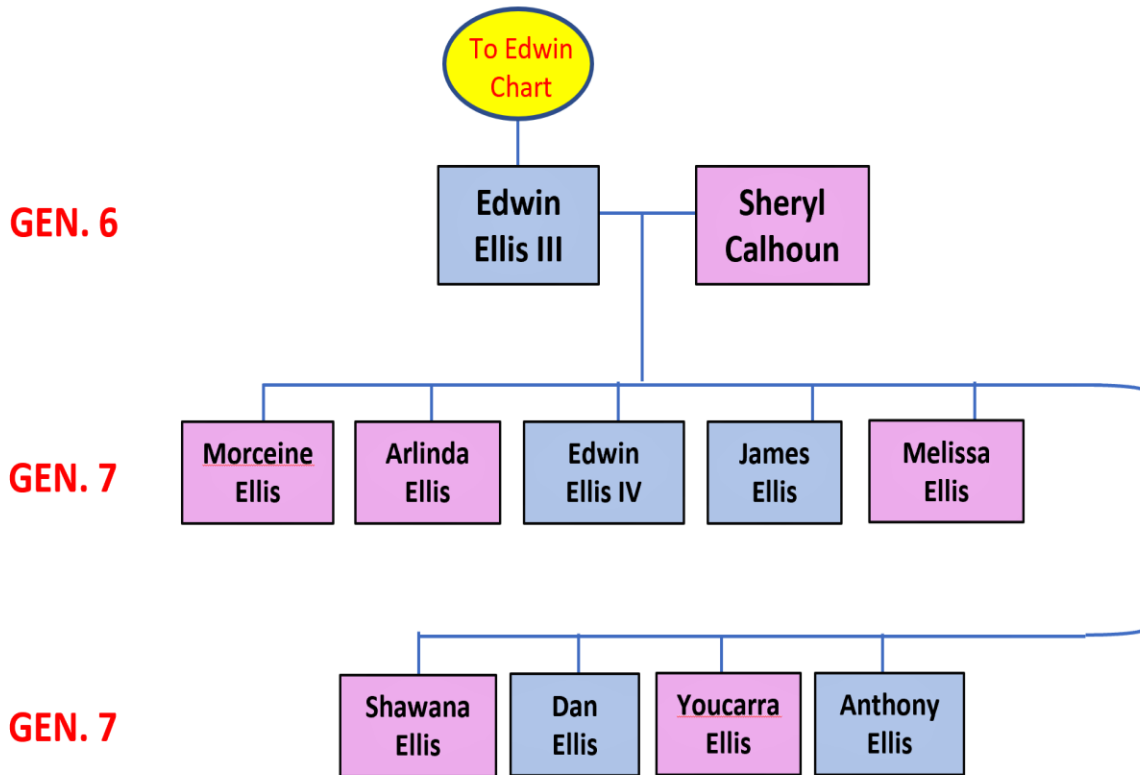
**FLOYD CHART P/R**  
**DESCENDANTS OF NATHAN DANIEL FLOYD AND ORA ELLIS**



**EDWIN CHART P/R**  
**DESCENDANTS OF EDWIN T. ELLIS AND REBECCA A. ALLEN**

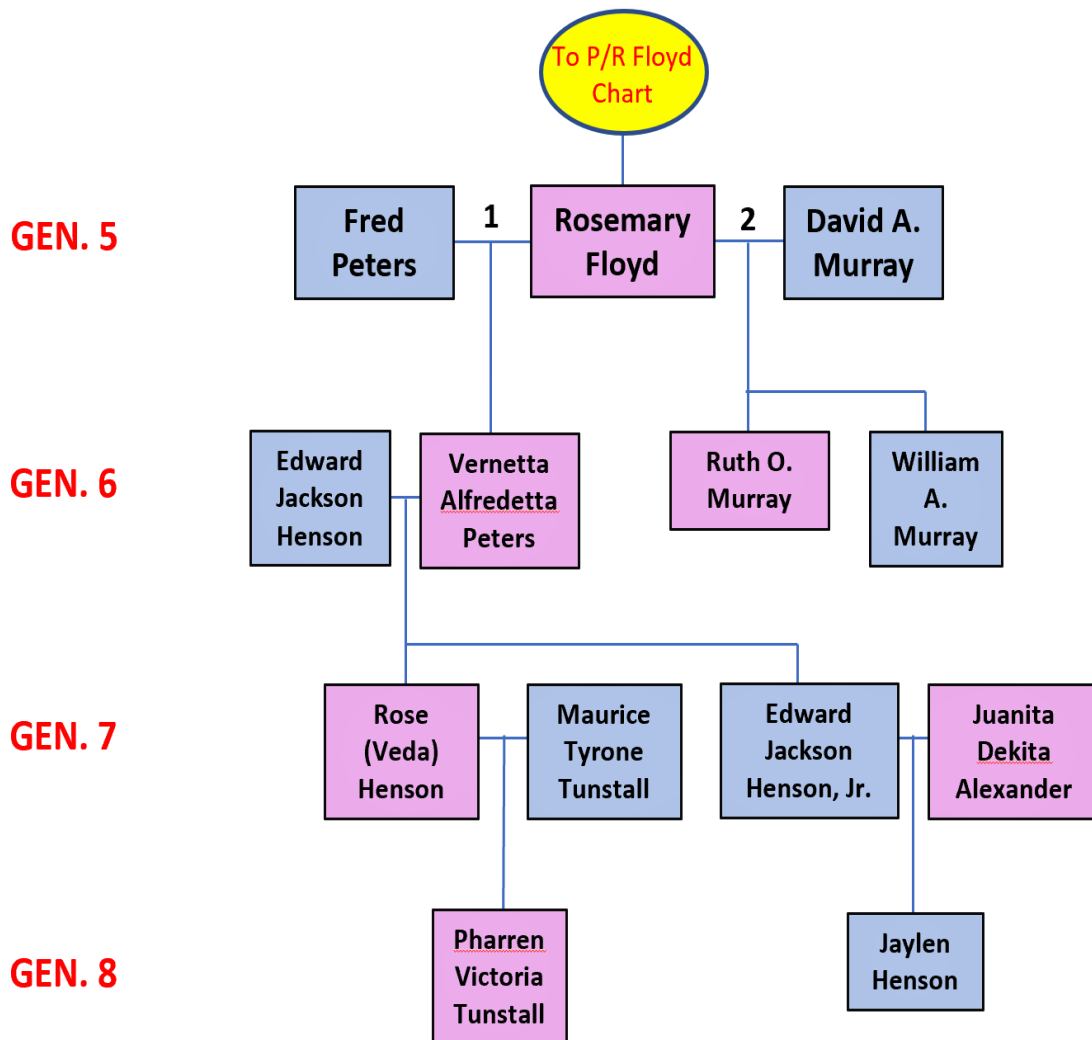


**EDWIN III CHART P/R  
DESCENDANTS OF EDWIN ELLIS III  
AND SHERYL CALHOUN**

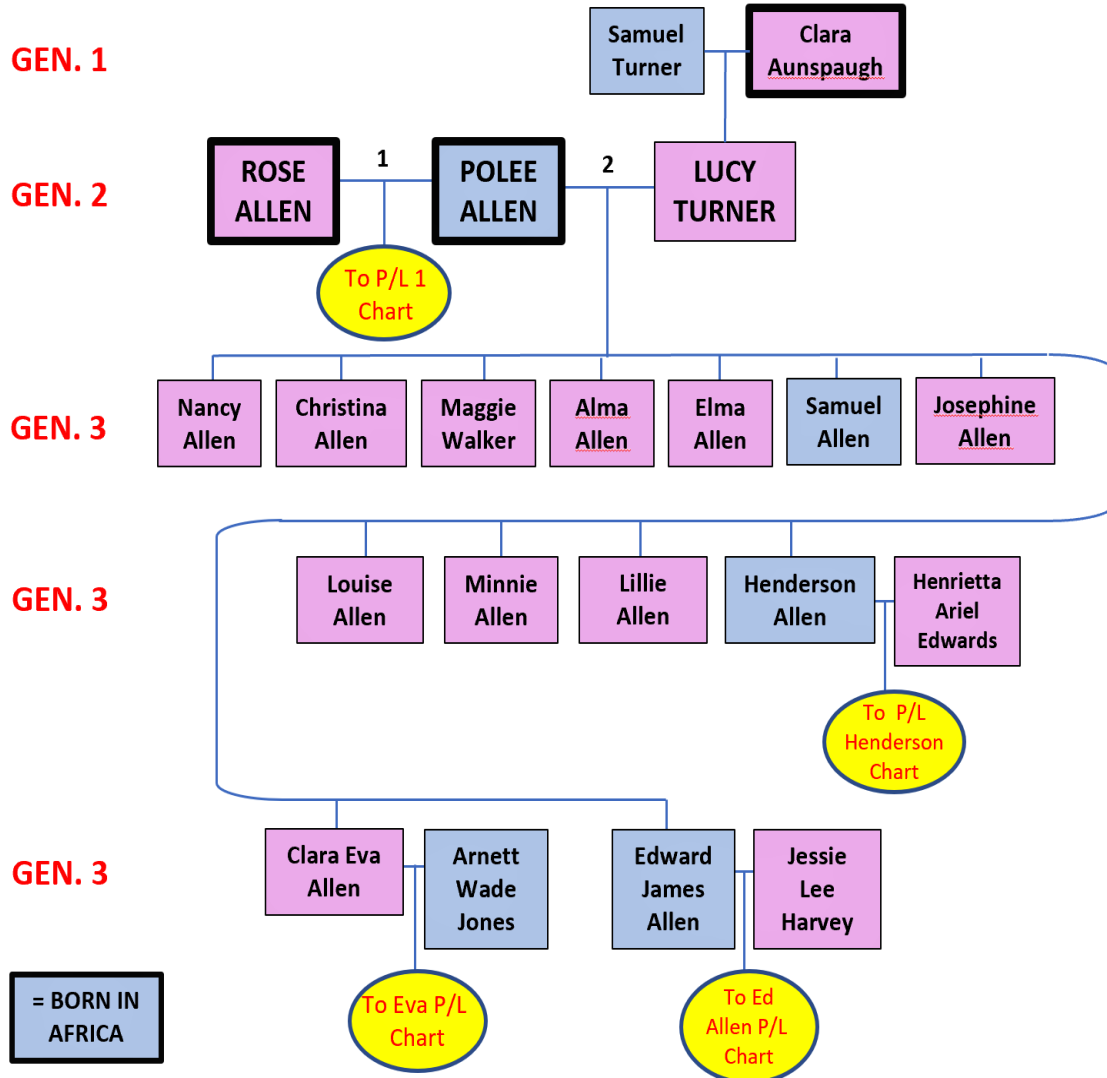




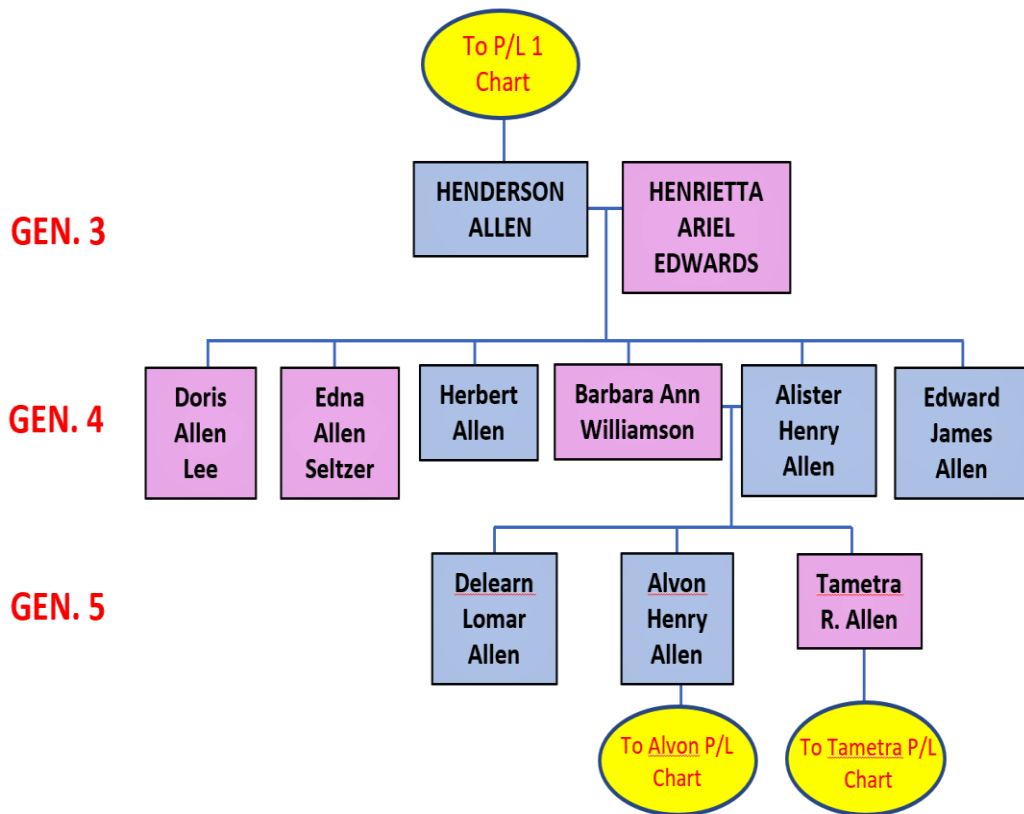
**ROSEMARY FLOYD CHART P/R  
DESCENDANTS OF ROSEMARY FLOYD,  
FRED PETERS, AND DAVID MURRAY**



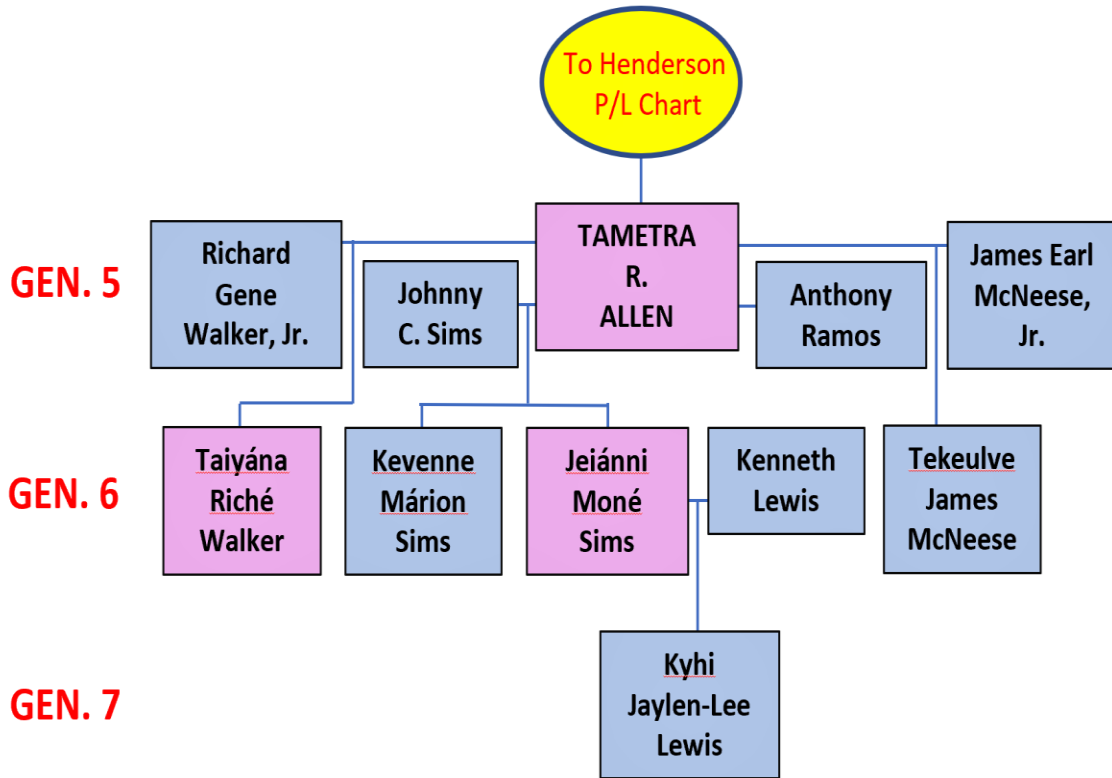
**CHART P/L 1**  
**POLEE ALLEN AND LUCY TURNER ALLEN MAIN PAGE**



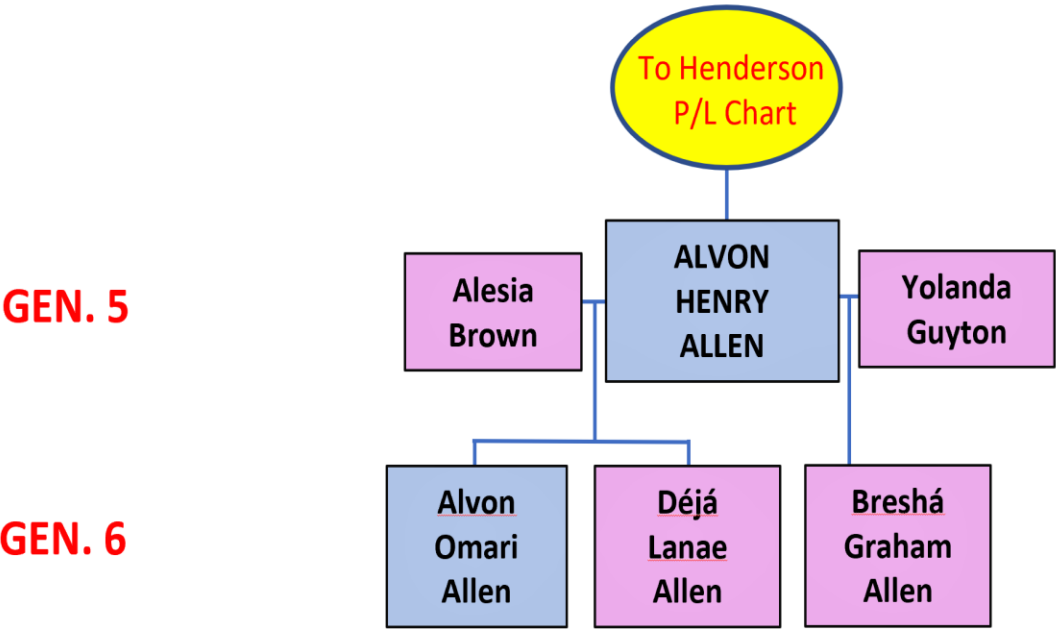
**HENDERSON CHART P/L**  
**DESCENDANTS OF HENDERSON ALLEN & HENRIETTA EDWARDS**



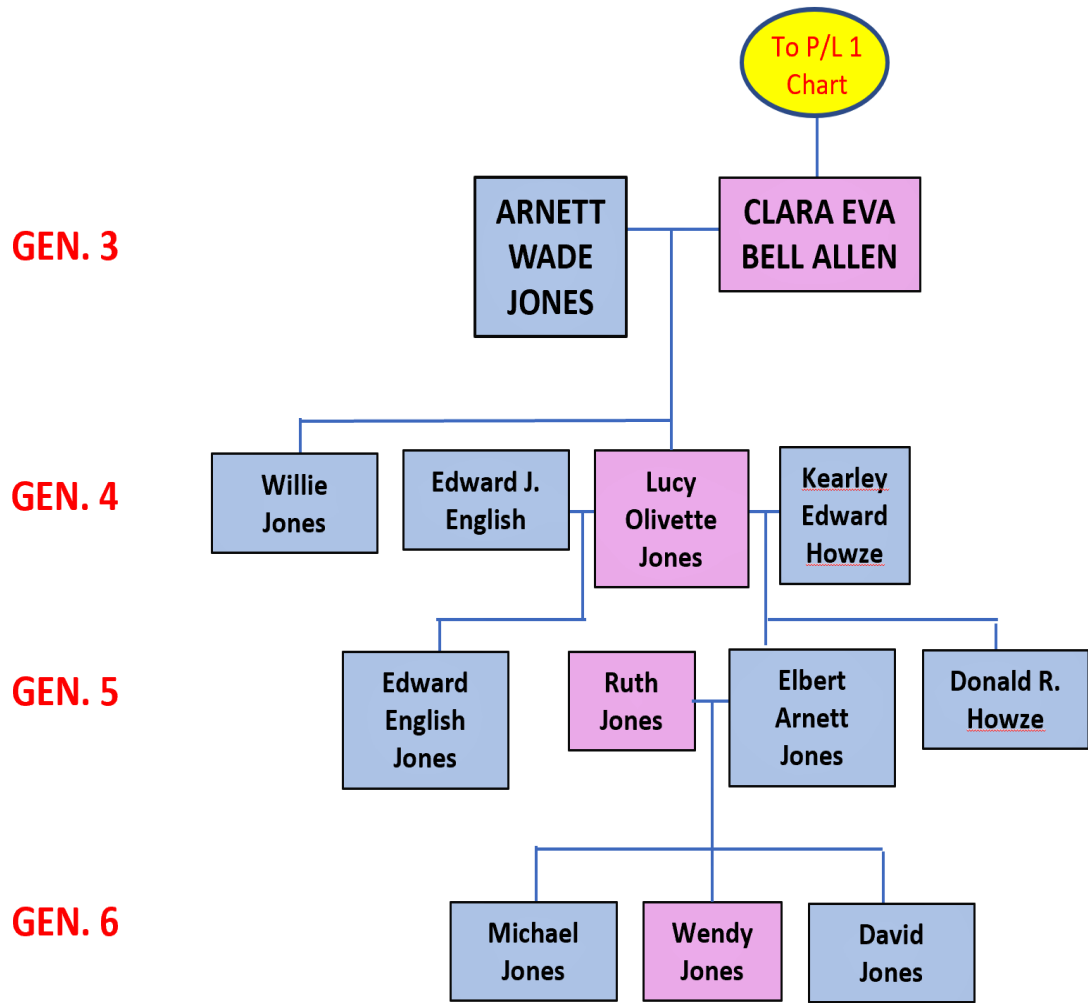
**TAMETRA P/L CHART**  
**RELATIVES OF TAMETRA R. ALLEN**



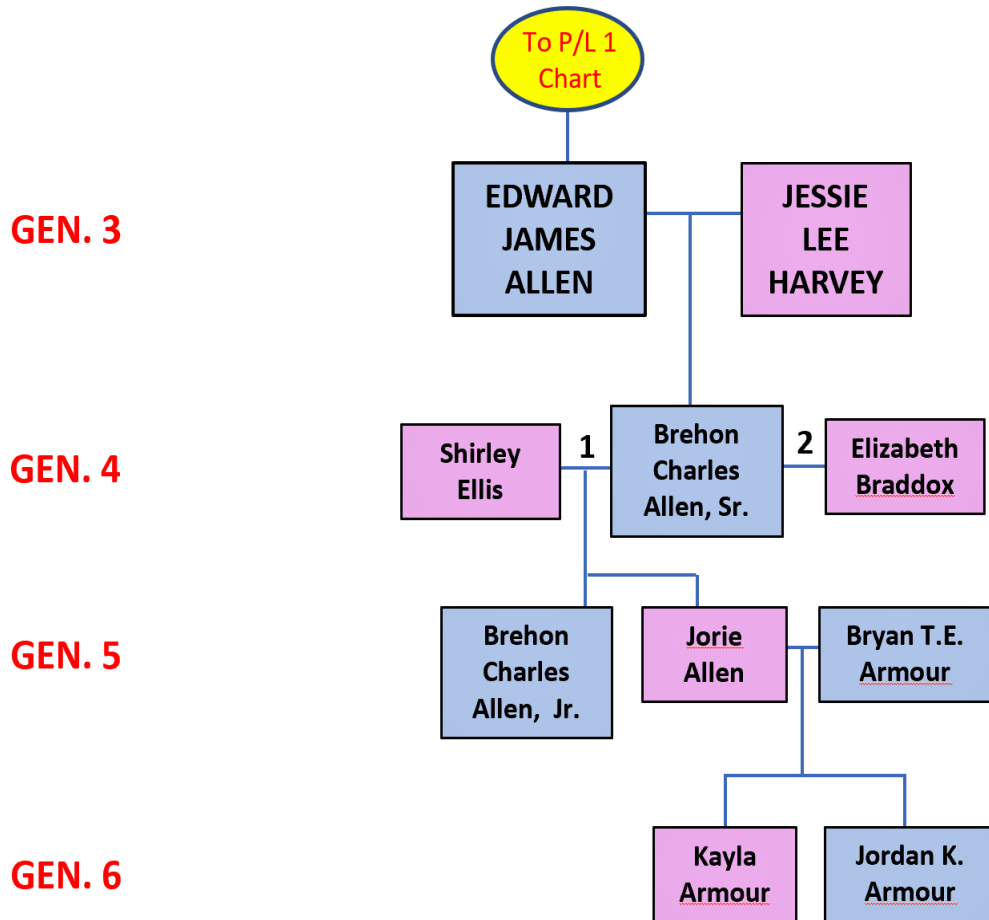
**ALVON P/L CHART**  
**RELATIVES OF ALVON HENRY ALLEN**



**CHART EVA P/L**  
**DESCENDANTS OF CLARA EVA ALLEN & ARNETT JONES**



**EDWARD ALLEN P/L CHART  
DESCENDANTS OF EDWARD ALLEN & JESSIE HARVEY**



## Assertions and Proofs

### Generations 1 and 2

#### Assertions:

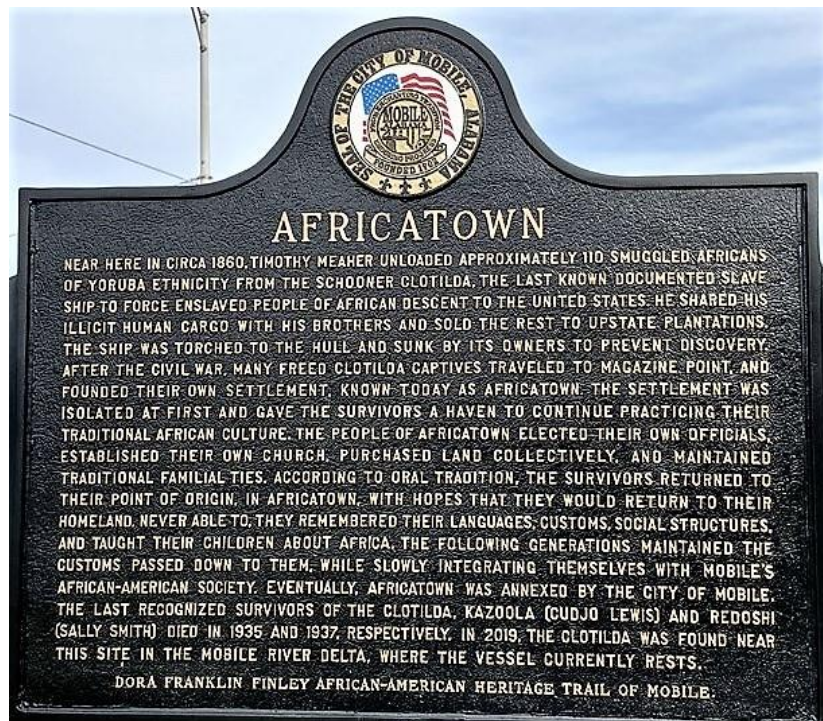
Polee Allen, (Gen. 2) b.c. 1840-2 in Africa, likely in what is now Nigeria, of the Yoruba tribe, d. 17 August 1922 in Mobile County, Alabama. He was a *Clotilda* survivor, declared his intent to become a US citizen in October 1868, and married on 15 March 1880 in Mobile County, Alabama to Rose/Rosa/Rosalie Allen, (Gen. 2) b.c. 1841 in Africa, also a *Clotilda* survivor. Rose died c. 1889/90, in Mobile County, Alabama. The names and other information on the parents of Polee and Rose are unfortunately unknown. Rose apparently used no last (or maiden) name other than Allen.

Polee married (his second marriage) to Lucy Turner (Gen. 2) on 17 December 1891 in Mobile County, Alabama; she was b. 15 October 1870 in Magazine, Alabama and d. between 1940 and 1952, likely in Mobile County, Alabama. The mother of Lucy was Clara (“Abache”) Aunspaugh Turner (Gen. 1), a *Clotilda* survivor and one of the founders of Africatown, b.c. 1835 in Africa, and d. probably aft. 1910 in Mobile County, Alabama; and Lucy’s father was Samuel Turner (Gen. 1), a founder of Africatown, b.c. 1832 in Virginia and d. probably bef. 1910 in Alabama. Samuel and Clara had married on 6 March 1880 in Mobile County, Alabama.

#### Proofs:

Sylviane A. Diouf, *Dreams of Africa in Alabama* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007) p. 6, shows a list of known *Clotilda* survivors, with Pollee Allen as his American name, Pollee/Kupollee as his African name, and his origin as Yoruba. Also listed is Clara Turner, “Abache,” of the Yoruba tribe.

Natalie S. Robertson, *The Slave Ship Clotilda and the Making of Africatown USA* (Praeger: Westport, CT, 2008) pp. 141 and 218, shows Polee Allen and other male Africatown residents





approaching the City Court of Mobile and declaring their intention to becoming naturalized US citizens, in October 1868.

Diouf, *ibid.*, p. 295, cites the naturalization request records as 24 October 1868, City Court of Mobile, City Court Minutes, book 8, p. 47.

Alabama Voter Registration for 1867 (Return of Qualified Voters, Vol. 2), transcription of an almost illegible document states: Pauli Allen, African-American (Black) [the actual document says “C”, for colored], Mobile County, Election District 02 and Precinct 03.

US and Canada Passenger and Immigration Lists, Naturalization Entries, Court Minute Books, Mobile, Alabama, from the *Deep South Genealogical Quarterly*, February, May and November 1982, show Polee Allen, 21, arriving in Mobile County, Alabama in 1868, b.c. 1847. [NOTE: It is clear that this arrival date and likely the birth year and age are all incorrect; they may be intentional



mis-statements of the facts, or the “arrival date” may reflect the 1868 naturalization efforts of Polee and the other Africatown residents, cited above. Diouf, *op. cit.*, p. 165, states that numerous errors were made in the court records, likely due to misunderstandings and honest mistakes. She notes that the impetus for approaching the Court was likely the fact that on 28 July 1868 the Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, making African-Americans US citizens. But this Amendment did not apply to the African residents of Africatown, who were considered foreigners, and had to apply to become citizens of the country they had been forcibly and illegally brought to, with no hope of return.]

US Census for 1870 for Mobile, Alabama, Beat 3, shows Polee Allen, 30, [hence b.c. 1840] in Africa, black married male laborer, mother and father foreign born, cannot read or write, citizen over 21; with inferred wife “Bose” or Rose Allen, 20, [b.c. 1850] in Africa, black female homewife, mother and father foreign born, cannot read or write, marked with a “+” in the box for “deaf, dumb, blind, insane or idiotic;” with inferred daughter Julia Allen, 3, [b.c. 1867] in Alabama, black female, with both parents foreign born. [NOTE: this daughter Julia Allen is almost certainly listed as “Eula” Allen in the 1880 Census below.] [Note: beside the Allen’s listing in this Census is John and Ernest(ine?) Auro, both b. in Africa, Cudjenle and Philly Adams, both b. in Africa, and Clara Turner, b. in Africa; all from the *Clotilda*.]

Henry Romeyn, *Little Africa, ibid.*, p. 17, states that “Maum” Polee (clearly Rose Allen, wife of Polee) said that she was “about nineteen” when she was brought over from Africa in 1860; that

would make her birth year about about 1841. Romeyn gathered that she was born far from Dahomey, likely near Lake Chad. This birth year seems more reliable than a Census-taker date.

US Census for 1870 for Mobile, Alabama, Beat 3, shows Samuel Turner, 30 [hence b.c. 1840], black male laborer, b. in Miss. [?], male US citizen, cannot read and write. His wife is Clara Turner, 23 [hence b.c. 1847], black female housewife, b. in Africa, with father and mother of foreign birth, cannot read and write. Children are Ed Turner, 3, black male, b. in Alabama, with a foreign-born mother; and Susie Turner, 3, black female, b. in Alabama with a foreign-born mother. [Ed and Susie are almost certainly twins; the Yoruba tribe has a very high rate of twinning.] The Samuel and Clara Turner home is on the same Census page and within three houses of the home of Polee and Rose Allen.

Diouf, *ibid.*, pp. 142 and 295, shows Polee (“Paulee”) Allen buying two acres of land at a cost of \$200 in the St. Louis tract from Timothy Meaher on 21 October 1872, citing Deed Book 30, p. 643 of the Mobile County Probate Court.

Alabama Marriage Records, Mobile County, 1865-1950, book 6, p. 238 (computer printout of information) shows Polle Allen marrying Rosa Allen on 15 March 1880.

Diouf, *ibid.*, p. 300, cites a marriage license between Clara (Abache) Aunspaugh and Samuel Turner, 6 March 1880, Mobile County Probate Court, CML 6, 432. [These are the apparent parents of Lucy Turner, second wife of Polee Allen. Lucy was b. in 1870, before this marriage license was issued, but it seems possible that this marriage license was obtained after the liaison began.]

Mobile County, Alabama Marriage Records show Samuel Turner marrying Clara Aunspaugh on 6 March 1880 (mis-transcribed in the covering typed page as 8 March).

Diouf, *ibid.*, p. 180, states that Clara Aunspaugh and Samuel Turner were married in early March 1880 in Mobile County by Elder Benjamin Burke, who had baptized many of the people in Africatown. Diouf also states that Clara and Samuel already had a pair of twins, Ed and Susie, who were thirteen years old. On p. 43 Diouf states that Clara, known in Africa as Abache, was kidnapped from Africa with Cudjo Lewis (of the *Clotilda* and Africatown), and that she had “slight tattoos, and six of her upper front teeth had been chipped away in the form of a convex opening” to signify her tribal origin, and that these signs could be easily read by anyone familiar with tribal markings.

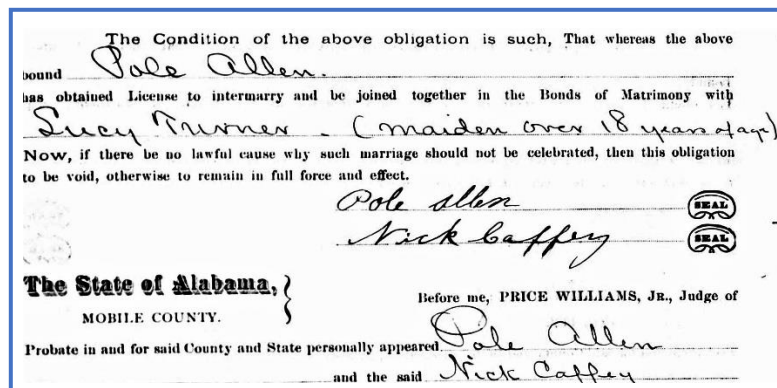
US Census for 1880 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler Precinct, shows Pollyon Allen, 40, b.c. 1840, black married male, works in sawmill, can read but cannot write, b. in Africa with mother and father b. in Africa; with wife Rosallie, 34, b.c. 1846, black married female, keeps house, cannot read or write, b. in Africa with mother and father b. in Africa. Children listed are: Eula, 14; Mary, 7; Milly, 5; Joshua, 2; all children b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Africa. [NOTE: as mentioned above, this “Eula” Allen is almost certainly “Julia” Allen. Both were born around

1866, there was no child Eula in the 1870 Census, only a Julia, and Eula disappears after this Census, while Julia Allen continues on to become Julia Allen Ellis.]

US Census for 1880 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler Precinct, shows Samuel Turner, 48 [hence b.c. 1832], black male laborer, cannot read and write, b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama; with wife Clara Turner, 45 [hence b.c. 1835], black female housewife, cannot read and write, b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama. [NOTE: from other sources it appears that these latter items are incorrect, and should read that Clara was b. in Africa, as were her parents.] Children listed are Eddie Turner, 15, black male laborer; Josephine Turner, 13, black female; and Lucy Turner, 8, black female. None of the children can read and write, and all are listed as b. in Alabama with both their parents b. in Alabama [this latter item is apparently incorrect].

Diouf, *ibid.*, p. 189, states that Rose Allen, Pollee's wife of 24 years, died after more than thirty years in Alabama, that she left him five children, and that soon thereafter, at age fifty-one, Pollee married Lucy, the daughter of Abache and Samuel Turner, when Lucy was only twenty-one (a thirty-year age difference). This all implies that Rose Allen likely died c. 1889/90. Diouf also states that in short succession, Lucy and Pollee had ten children.

Mobile County, Alabama Marriage Records show Pole Allen married Lucy Turner on 17 December 1891.



Marriage license for Pole Allen and Lucy Turner;  
note the actual signature of Pole Allen in the "SEAL" line.

US Census for 1900 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler District, shows Polle Allen, 40, b. January 1860 in Africa, black married male day laborer, immigrated in 1859, 41 years in the US, owns his house with no mortgage, both parents b. in Africa, can read and write and speak English, married 9 years; with wife Lucie Allen, 30, black married female, b. October 1869 in Alabama, 3 children born with all 3 living, married 9 years, both parents b. in Alabama, can read and write and speak English. Others in household listed are: daughter Nancie S. Allen, 7, b.

November 1892; daughter Clara E. Allen, 5, b. September 1894; daughter Maggie Allen, b. July 1898, 2; daughter Mary Allen, 27, b. August 1872 (with 2 children born and both living); daughter Martha Allen, 18, b. February 1882; granddaughter Viola Allen, 8, b. July 1891; and grandson Clarence Allen, 3, b. September 1896. [It appears from this record that Viola (likely Viola) and Clarence (Clarence) are likely the children of Mary Allen; and it appears certain that Mary and Martha Allen are the children of Polee and his first wife, Rosa. It is also possible to infer a death date range for Rose Allen of after February 1882 (the birth of Martha Allen) and before December 1891 (Polee's marriage to Lucy Turner.)] [NOTE: Robertson, *op.cit.*, p. 146 states that Polee and Rosalie had "six daughters and one son (Clara, Maggie, Martha, Mary, Nancy, Viola and Clarence)." This appears to be an error derived from this 1900 Census, which as discussed here, shows in fact that only Mary and Martha in this record are the children of Polee and Rosa, and all the others are children of Lucy or are grandchildren.]

US Census for 1900 for Whistler, Mobile County, Alabama shows Sam Taylor, [???] 65, head of household, b. April 1835, married black farm laborer, married 25 years, b. in Virginia with both parents b. in Virginia, not employed 1 month in the last year, cannot read and write, can speak English, owns his own house with no mortgage; wife Clara Taylor, [???] 55, b. January 1845, black female, married 25 years, had 4 children and 3 are living, b. in Africa with both parents b. in Africa, immigrated in 1859, in the US 41 years, cannot read and write, can speak English; Josaphen Hearper [Harper?], 32, daughter [apparently the daughter of Clara and Sam Taylor], black widowed female, b. July 1867 in Alabama, had 4 children of whom 4 are living, father b. in Virginia and mother b. in Africa, cannot read and write, can speak English; and sons [of Josaphen] Philip Hearper, 14, b. May 1886, day laborer; Nathaniel Hearper, 11, b. November 1888; Joe F. Hearper, 5, b. July 1894; Charles W. Hearper, 1, b. February 1899; all sons b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama, none can read and write, all can speak English. [NOTE: a comment was inserted by a researcher that this family of Sam and Clara "Taylor" is actually Clara and Sam Turner, and that they had a daughter Josephine ("Josaphen") who married Nathan Harper; all this is unverified. However, the statement that the first names are the same, that Clara is from Africa and immigrated in 1859, and that they have a daughter Josaphine/Josaphen makes it possible or even likely that this family is actually the Turners, not the Taylors.]

Mobile City Directory for 1908 shows Lucy Allen, "c" for "colored," living at "555 s Hamilton." [Note that Polee Allen apparently is not listed in this City Directory.]

US Census for 1910 for Mobile County, Alabama shows Polee Allen, 69, b.c. 1841 in Africa [then a partially illegible word and "unknown" – perhaps "location unknown"?], black married male, head of household, living on Magazine Pt. Rd. in Precinct 9, father and mother b. in Africa ["unknown"?], laborer in a lumber mill, 4 weeks out of work in 1909, able to read and write, native tongue: English [?], immigration year and naturalized status box are blank [should be filled in], present marriage: 18 years [hence married c. 1892], owns his house with no

mortgage, no immigration year listed; with spouse Lucy Allen, 39, black married female seamstress, wife of 18 years, b. in Alabama c. 1871, with father b. in Virginia and mother b. in Africa ["unknown?"], with 9 children of whom all 9 are living, native tongue: English, can read and write. Children listed are: Christina, 17; Eva, 15; Maggie, 12; Alma, 9; Elma [a female, likely a twin of Alma], 9; Samuel, 7; Josephine, 5; Henderson [a male], 2; Louise, 4/12. [Note that wife Lucy is listed as b. in Alabama but her daughter Christina says "mother b. in Alabama and also in Africa ("unknown")"]. All the children are black, b. in Alabama, with father b. in "Africa (unknown)" and mother b. in Alabama (except for Christina, as discussed in the previous sentence).

US Census for 1910 for Mobile, Alabama, Precinct 9, E.D. 69 (from FamilySearch.org) shows Clara Turner, 60, head of household, widowed black female, gardener on a private estate, b. in Africa ("unknown") with both parents also born there; immigrated to the US in 1861, owns her own farm, cannot read and write, had two children with both living; with son Freddie Harper, 15, single black male laborer in a lumbermill, b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama, can read but not write, did not attend school; and grandson Charlie Harper, 11, single black male, b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama, can read and write and has attended school. [From this record it can be deduced that husband Samuel Turner is likely deceased by 1910, and of course that Clara d. aft. 1910.]

Mobile City Directory for 1914 shows Polee Allen, laborer, home on Magazine Point, Mobile, Alabama.

Mobile City Directory for 1920 shows Polee Allen, laborer, home on Magazine, Mobile, Alabama.

US Census for 1920 for Mobile, Alabama, Whistler, shows Poe L. Allen, 70. b.c. 1850 in Africa, black male married head of household, owns his own house with no mortgage, laborer in a lumber mill, native tongue: African "OL," [apparently "other language"] can read and write, mother and father both b. in Africa "OC" [apparently "other country"] and speaking African "OL." Wife is Lucy Allen, 49, b.c. 1871 in Alabama, black female laundress, can read and write, mother and father both b. in Alabama. [Note that Lucy's father was actually b. in Virginia, per the 1910 Census and other information.] Children listed are: Minnie Allen, 19, laborer in a lumber mill, Lillie Allen, 19, laborer in a lumber mill, Samuel Allen, 16, Josephine Allen, 14, Henderson Allen, 12, Louise Allen, 10, Edward Allen, 8. All children have their father b. in Africa with their father's native tongue being "African," and with their mother b. in Alabama, and all are black and can read and write. [NOTE: A review of the Census instructions for 1920 showed that "OL" and "OC" were not standard instructions for this year, and in fact "Africa" was not even listed as a possible source of origin and language! Apparently this particular Census enumerator simply made up these items to fit the circumstances.]

Alabama Death Certificate for Polee Allen, shows a death date of 17 August 1922. Cited but not presented in full in Diouf, *op. cit.*, p. 295. [NOTE: on p. 222 Diouf states the death date was 19 August 1922. Diouf also mentions that he was “in his eighties,” was the “father of fifteen,” and that “even to the day he died” he spoke of returning to Africa.]

Ancestry.com/Find-a-Grave presents a full death certificate for Polee Allen, 58, no exact b. date given, b. in Africa, colored married male, resident of Plateau, Alabama, d. 19 August 1922 at 10:55 a.m. in Mobile County of pneumonia [hard to read] which he had had for 20 days, sawmill laborer, spouse is Lucy Allen; father and mother’s names listed as “don’t know,” both father and mother born in Africa. Buried in Plateau by Johnson-Allen. Respondent is Lucy Allen. [NOTE: If the previously estimated birth date of about 1840 is correct for Polee Allen, then this death certificate stated age of 58 is quite erroneous, and should be 82.]

Alabama Deaths and Burials Index shows Palee Allen, 58, b.c. 1864 in Africa, d. Plateau, Alabama on 19 August 1922, burial in Plateau, saw mill laborer, black, married male, his mother b. in Africa, spouse is Lucy Allen.

US Social Security Applications shows Lucy Turner Allen, black female, b. 15 October 1870 in Magazine, Alabama, with parents Samuel Turner and Clara T. The “Notes” state: “April 1939, name listed as LUCY TURNER ALLEN.” [NOTE: It is not clear if this 1939 date is the date of death; oddly, there is no listing that clearly indicates the death date.]

Mobile City Directory for 1939 shows Lucy Allen (“c” for colored), cook, home in “Shelby Hill (Magazine Point).”

US Census for for 1940 for Mobile, Alabama, Plateau district, shows Lucy “Allon” [very likely a transcription error for “Allen”], 69, black widowed female, attended 8<sup>th</sup> grade, b. in Alabama, does not have a job; with son Sammie P. Allon [Allen?], 37, married black male laborer, out of work 32 weeks in the last year, now working on a WPA project (sic? Likely the Federal Works Progress Administration). Also Louise Nyson [the original shows this word is more likely “Grayson”], widowed, and four children of Louise. [It appears that Louise “Nyson” is Louise Allen, daughter of Polee Allen and Lucy Turner, and that Louise was b. 26 November 1909, and d. 12 November 1991 as Louise A. Grayson (see Social Security Death Index under this name and with those dates). Louise Allen married Choiccy Grayson, per Mobile County Marriage Records, book 37, page 365. Annoyingly, the computer printout for this page states “License Not Retained” so the marriage date is uncertain, but that book and page is likely from about 1930. Per SSDI, Choiccy Grayson was b. 16 August 1902 and d. March 1971 in Alabama. NOTE: If this Choiccy Grayson is the husband of Louise Allen Grayson, then Louise could not have been “widowed” in 1940, since Choiccy lived until 1971. This contradiction is unresolved.] The details on persons listed in the 1940 Census other than Lucy Allon (Allen) and Sammie are: Louise Grayson (“Nyson” in the erroneous transcription), 28, daughter, widowed Negro female, not attending school now, completed the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, b. in Alabama, resident of Plateau, Mobile

County, not working in the economy but seeking work, doing housework, no income in the last year; Robert Grayson (“Nyson”), 8, single Negro male, in school, attending school, completed the first grade, b. in Alabama, resident of Plateau; Ira Bell Grayson (original very hard to read), 7, single Negro female, attending school, completed the first grade, b. in Alabama, resident of Plateau; Marion Grayson, 6, single Negro male, has not attended school, has not completed any grade, b. in Alabama, resident of Plateau; and Mary Ethel Grayson (original very hard to read), 2, single Negro female, has not attended school, has not completed any grade, b. in Alabama, resident of Plateau.

Zora Neal Hurston, *Barracoon* (New York: HarperCollins, 2018) pp. 145-6, lists Samuel and Clara Turner as among the founders of Africatown. The 1910 US Census above shows that Lucy Turner’s mother was b. in Africa. And the Social Security information immediately above shows that Lucy’s parents were “Samuel Turner and Clara T.” Diouf, *ibid.*, p. 6, shows a list of “Known Africans Deported to Mobile on the *Clotilda*,” and this list includes Clara Turner (whose African name was Abache and was of Yoruba origin). Robertson, *ibid.*, p. 189, states that “Lucy was the daughter of Abache and and Samuel Turner” and on p. 6 Robertson states that Clara Turner had the African (Yoruba) name of “Abache.” Putting all this information together, it is clear that Lucy Turner was the daughter of Samuel and Clara Turner, and that Clara was on the *Clotilda* and was a co-founder of Africatown, while Samuel Turner was likely b. in Virginia, not Africa or Alabama, but was a co-founder of Africatown.

US Census for 1940 for Tuscaloosa, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama shows Lucy Turner, 70, b.c. 1870, black female widowed housekeeper, living on Hargrove Alley, no related family members in this household, no education, no income. The head of household is Major Pedrick, 57. [NOTE: It is not clear if this person is the correct Lucy Turner, since this is a common name, it seems likely that Lucy died in 1939, and it seems unlikely that she would move away from her numerous children in Mobile.]

Find-a-Grave states that Lucy Allen was b. 1872 in Mobile County, and d. 1952 in Mobile County, buried in Plateau Cemetery, with spouse Kupollee Allen, and children Christina Fields, Josephine Anniebell Sherman, Edward Allen, Henderson Allen and Clara Eva Bell Jones. Unfortunately, this assertion re her death date does not provide any proofs. Therefore the death date for Lucy Turner Allen cannot be narrowed down to more than: between 1940 (per US Census) to 1952 (Find-a-Grave assertion).

Interview with Vernetta Henson, *Clotilda* descendant; see Annex 1 (hereinafter listed as “Vernetta Henson interview”).

Email of 2 March 2022 from Vernetta Henson to Lew Toulmin re the Polee Allen down to Jeremy Ellis line; see Annex 1 (hereinafter listed as “Vernetta Henson 3/2/22 email”).

Tametra R. Allen interview by phone with Lew Toulmin, 3 April 2022, shows descent from Polee and Lucy Allen down to Henderson Allen, Alister Henry Allen, Tametra R. Allen, and Tametra’s

partners, children and a grandchild. See Appendix 1. Hereinafter called Tametra R. Allen interview.

### Generation 3

#### Assertions:

Polee Allen and Rose Allen had:

Julia Allen, b. 12 January 1867 in Alabama, d. 29 October 1946 in Mobile County, Alabama, who married on 18 March 1886 in Mobile, Alabama to William Ellis. He was b. January 1860 (or c. 1871?) in Alabama, d. 14 December 1916 in Mobile County, Alabama.

Polee Allen and Rose Allen also had:

Mary Allen, b. 29 August 1873 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, d. 5 January 1957, Magazine Point, Mobile, Alabama; had a liaison (apparently not a formal marriage) with Jim Hudson in about 1900 in Mobile County, Alabama.

Polee Allen and Rose Allen also had:

Martha Allen, Katie Allen Walker, Milly Allen and Joshua Allen.

Polee Allen and Lucy Turner had:

Clara Eva Bell Allen, b.c. 1894 in Mobile County, Alabama, d. 4 February 1992 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in West Penn Hospital, married Arnett Wade Jones in Plateau, Alabama on 24 November 1914. Arnett was b. 25 August 1891 in Chastang, Washington County, Alabama, and d. 25 July 1961 in Mobile County, Alabama.



**William Ellis and Julia Allen Ellis**

Polee Allen and Lucy Turner also had:

Edward James Allen, b. 27 February 1912 in Mobile, Alabama, d. 21 March 1991, who married Jessie Lee Harvey on 24 August 1949 in Cook County, Illinois.

Polee Allen and Lucy Turner also had:

Henderson Allen, (a male) b. in Magazine Pt., Alabama on 25 June 1907, and d. 20 June 1952 in Plateau, Mobile County, Alabama. He married Henrietta Ariel Edwards, who was b. 17 May 1912, d. 29 August 1983 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, and buried in Plateau Cemetery. Henrietta was the daughter of Elmore Edwards and Fannie Boswell.

Polee Allen and Lucy Turner also had:



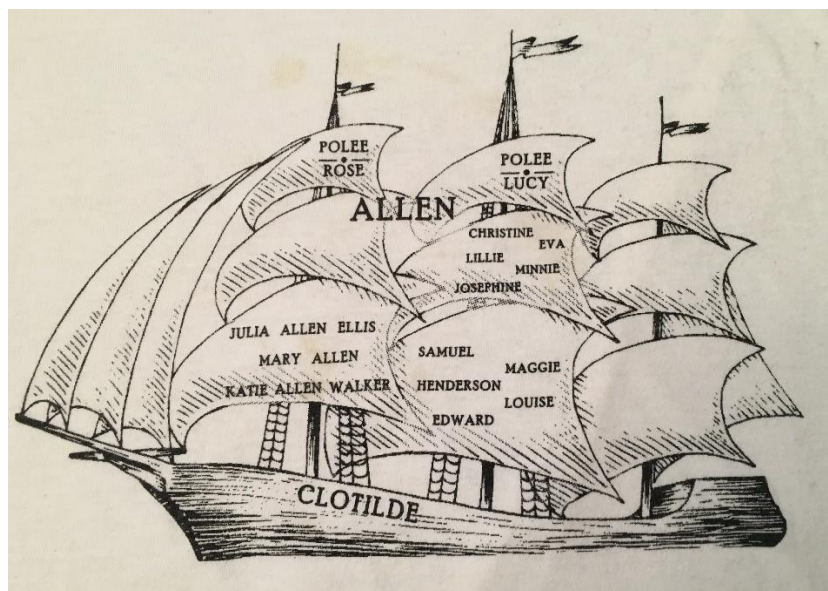
Nancie Allen, Christina Allen, Maggie Allen, Alma Allen, Elma Allen [a female, likely a twin of Alma], Samuel Allen, Josephine Allen, Louise Allen, Minnie Allen, and Lillie Allen.

**Proofs:**

US Census for 1870 for Mobile, Alabama, *ibid.*, shows Julia Allen at age 3.

US Census for 1880 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler Precinct, *ibid.*, shows Pollyon Allen and Rosalie Allen with daughter Mary Allen, 7.

Robertson, *ibid.*, pp. 146 and 219, states that Polee and Rosalie had children Clara, Maggie, Martha, Mary, Nancie, Viola and Clarence. **NOTE**, however, that specific proof seems to be lacking, as the 1880 Census apparently cited by Robertson does not provide those children's names. See the 1880 Census information presented above for "Pollyon Allen."



A partial family tree image for Polee, Rose and Lucy Allen, on a family reunion T-shirt

Alabama Marriage Records for Mobile County, Alabama show Julia Allen, "maiden, over 18 years of age," marrying William Ellis on 18 March 1886 at the "residence," likely of Julia's parents.

US Census for 1900 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler District, shows Julia Ellis, 33, black married female, b. October 1866, married 14 years, with 7 children born and 5 living, both parents b. in Africa, can read, write and speak English; with spouse William Ellis, 40, b. January 1860 in Alabama, head of household, black male carpenter, married 14 years, both parents b. in Alabama, can read, write and speak English, renting his house. Children listed are Leonard

Ellis, 13, b. September 1886, Euphemia Ellis, 9, b. May 1891, Acie Ellis, 5, b. October 1894 (a male), Orrana Ellis, 3, b. December 1896, and Estelle Ellis, 1, b. September 1898. All children are black with both parents b. in Alabama. [Later Census information makes it reasonably clear that “Acie” is actually “Asa,” a male.]

US Census for 1900, for 1910 and 1920, *ibid.*, showing the children of Polee Allen and Lucy Turner. The 1900 Census shows Mary Allen, 27, b. August 1872, child of Polle Allen and Rosa Allen, as discussed above.



US Census for 1910 for Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, Precinct 9, shows Julia Ellis, 44, b.c. 1866 in Alabama, black female laundress, living on Magazine Pt. Rd., able to read and write, with father and mother b. in Africa (at “unknown” exact location), married 24 years [hence married c. 1886] and this is the first marriage, 11 children born with 7 living; wife of William Ellis, 45, head of household, black male, b. in Alabama, both parents b. in the US, ship’s carpenter, 20 weeks without work in the last year, can read and write, owns his home without mortgage. Children listed are Euphemia, 19; Asa, 15; Ora, 13; Estella, 11; Edwin, 8; Rhodolph, 3; and Dorothy Ellis, 9/12; all children are black, all b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama.

Alabama Marriage Records for Mobile County for 1912 shows Elmore Edwards marrying Fannie Boswell on 8 February in Mobile.

Alabama Colored Marriage Records for Mobile County show Eva Allen marrying Arnett Jones on 24 November 1914 in Plateau, Alabama. Arnett is 22, 5’8”, 150 pounds, b. in Alabama, does sawmilling, Baptist, resident of Plateau, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage. Eva is 19, 5’, 120 pounds, b. in Alabama, no occupation, Baptist, resident of Plateau, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, no blood relation to the groom.

Alabama Deaths and Burials Index shows Wm. Ellis, 45, b.c. 1871 in Alabama, of Magazine, Mobile, Alabama, residence “9 Bx 2,” black male laborer, d. 14 December 1916, buried in Plateau Cemetery.

Arkansas Birth Certificates show Jessie Lee Harvey, female b. legitimately on 2 January 1918 in Portland, Ashley, Arkansas, with father Lee Harvey, 31, colored, b. in Louisiana, farmer, and mother Esther Moore, 24, colored, b. in Arkansas, housewife, both resident of Portland. [NOTE: it is not certain that this is the correct Jessie Lee Harvey Allen.]

US Census for 1920 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler district, shows Julia Ellis, 53, b.c. 1867 in Alabama, black female, widowed, laundress, renting, able to read and write, mother and father b. in Africa “OC” [other country] with tongue of both as African “OL” [other language]. Children listed are: daughter Oriana Ellis, 23, b.c. 1897 in Alabama, single black female, can read

and write, veneer layer in a lumber mill, both parents b. in Alabama; son Acie Ellis, 24; son Edwin Ellis, 18; son Rudolph Ellis, 13; daughter Dorothy Ellis, 10; daughter Ruth Willis, 29; and daughter Estelle Turk, 20. [It is clear from the b. date and similarity of names that "Oriana" is "Ora" and/or "Ori Anna".]

US Census for 1920 for Whistler, Mobile County, Alabama shows Henrietta Edward (*sic*), 8, b.c. 1912 in Alabama, black female, (daughter of Fannie [Boswell] Edward, 26, black married female, and granddaughter of Wiley and Julia Boswell), attended school, can read and write, both parents b. in Alabama.

US Census for 1930 for Alabama, Mobile, Whistler and Plateau, shows Arnett Jones, 36, head of household, married Negro male, b. in Alabama with both parents b. in the US, value of his owned home is \$1000, first married at age 21, can read and write, river man on a tow boat, not a veteran; wife Eva Jones, 34, married Negro female, b. in Alabama with her father b. in Africa and her mother b. in Alabama; daughter Olivet [should be Olivette] Jones, 14, single Negro female, b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama, can read and write; son Willie Jones, 6, single Negro male, b. in Alabama with both parents b. in Alabama, attending school.

US Census for 1930 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler and Plateau district, shows Julia Ellis, 61, b.c. 1869 in Alabama, Negro female, widowed, living at 10 Child's Lane, age 19 at first marriage, able to read and write, did not attend school, mother and father b. in Alabama, mother of the head of household. The head of household is listed as Rudolph Ellis, 21, b. c. 1909 in Alabama, single Negro male, owns his home worth \$1200, laborer in a veneer mill, did not attend school, can read and write, both parents b. in Alabama, not a veteran. Also listed is Asa Ellis, 28, b.c. 1902, brother of the head of household, Negro male, married at age 25, did not attend school, can read and write, both parents b. in Alabama, laborer in a veneer mill, not a veteran.

US Census for 1930 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler and Plateau district, shows Lucy Allen, 58, head of household, b. c. 1872 in Alabama, widowed Negro female, owns her home worth \$1000, father b. in Virginia and mother b. in Africa, laundress working on her own account. Other persons are daughter Lillie Allen, 25, b.c. 1905 in Alabama, single Negro female, father and mother b. in Alabama, laundress working on her own account, can read and write; son Samuel Allen, 26, b.c. 1904 in Alabama, single Negro male, father and mother b. in Alabama, can read and write; daughter Louise Allen, 20, b.c. 1910 in Alabama, single Negro female, father and mother b. in Alabama, can read and write; son Edward Allen, 18, b.c. 1912 in Alabama, single Negro male, father and mother b. in Alabama, laborer in a saw mill, can read and write; granddaughter Johnie Bell, 8, b.c. 1922 in Alabama, single Negro female, father and mother b. in Alabama; grandson Johnie Lee Bell, 8, b.c. 1922 in Alabama, single Negro male [apparently a fraternal twin of Johnie Bell], father and mother b. in Alabama; and grandson Fred D. Caldwell, 8, b.c. 1922 in Alabama, single Negro male, father and mother b. in Alabama.

US Census for 1930 for Arkansas, Sebastian, Fort Smith, shows Louis Harvey, 68, Negro married male, head of household, rents his home, married when 24 years old, can read and write, b. in Arkansas, both parents b. in the USA, no occupation; wife Medora Harvey, 50, Negro married female, married when 16, cannot read and write, b. in Louisiana with both parents b. in the USA, son Leo Harvey, 30, Negro male, married at age 20 but now divorced, can read and write, b. in Louisiana with father b. in Arkansas and mother b. in Louisiana, employed as a janitor in a high school, veteran; granddaughter Jesse Lee Harvey, 12, Negro female, single, attending school, can read and write, b. in Arkansas with father b. in Louisiana and mother b. in Arkansas; grandson Warren G. Harvey, 10, Negro male, single, attending school, can read and write, b. in Arkansas with father b. in Louisiana and mother b. in Arkansas. [NOTE: it is not certain that this is the correct Jessie Lee Harvey Allen.]

World War II Draft Cards for Young Men (1940) shows Rudolph B (“initial only” – no middle name?) Ellis, 34, of Magazine, Mobile, Alabama, b. 9 October 1906 in Alabama, employed in the W. Horace Williams Co. aluminum plant in Mobile, 5’ 10”, 150 pounds, dark brown complexion, brown hair and brown eyes, with mother Mrs. Julia Ellis.

US Army World War II Enlistment Records shows Edward J. Allen, b. 1912 in Alabama, resident of Cook County, Illinois, separated, with dependents, rank of private, grammar school education, semi-skilled foundry worker, enlisting 12 January 1943 in Chicago, height 70 and weight 199. [NOTE: this is likely the correct Edward J. Allen but this assertion is not proven.]

Alabama Death and Burials Index shows Julia Allen Ellis, 73, b.c. 1873, d. 28 October 1946 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, married to William Ellis, with father Polie Allen and mother Rosetta.



Find-a-Grave Index shows Julia Allen Ellis, b. 12 January 1867 in the USA, d. 29 October 1946 in the USA, buried in Plateau Cemetery, Mobile County, Alabama.

Cook County, Illinois Marriage Index shows Edward J. Allen marrying Jessie Harvey on 24 August 1949 in Cook County. [NOTE: it is not clear if this is the correct Edward J. Allen.]

Find-a-Grave asserts (but does not have proofs or grave photos) that Lucy Turner Allen was b. 1872 in Mobile County, Alabama and d. 1952 in Mobile County, and was buried in Plateau Cemetery.

Alabama Deaths and Burials Index shows Arnet Jones, 69, b.c. 1892, d. 28 July 1961 in Mobile, Alabama, married to Eva Jones. His father is Alex Jones and mother is Lucy Hampton.

Find-a-Grave shows Arnett Wade Jones, male, b. 25 August 1891 in Chastang, Washington County, Alabama, d. 25 July 1961 in Mobile County, Alabama, buried in Plateau Cemetery (has photo of gravestone with dates), husband of Clara Eva Bell Jones.

Jeff Hardy, "Mobile's Africatown Experiencing Renewal," *Birmingham Post-Herald*, 14 February 1983, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/794849356/?terms=africatown&match=1>, states that 84-year-old "Mama" Eva Allen Jones says she is the daughter of Polee Allen and Lucy Allen, a "private school teacher" and Polee's second wife, that Polee had "11 girls and 3 boys" by his two wives, and gives a description of life in Africatown. [NOTE: this total of 14 children is more than found in the current research.] She states that "Poppa" [Polee] was making only 50 cents per day working, so that the family had to make everything themselves. On their farm they had "vegetables and cows and chickens." Polee grew "watermelons and popcorn because of all the kids I used to love popcorn and hear it shoutin' all over that metal pot. I still do." She would harvest watermelon and drop one "accidentally on purpose" to "get sloppy full" from the broken one.

Mobile County Circuit Court, Case No. CV-84 002066, notice published c. 17 August 1984 (apparently in the *Press-Register*) states that William Ellis, d. 1916 married Julia Ellis, d. 1946, and that their children were: Asa C. Ellis, Ruth Ellis Turner, Ora Ellis Floyd, Edwin T. Ellis [Sr.], Estelle Ellis Wilson, Rudolph B. Ellis, and Dorothy Ellis Arthur. Further states that Edwin Ellis [Sr.] had children: Everett Ellis, Caesar Ellis, Edna Ellis Hall, Frances Ellis, Johnnie Ellis, Rebecca Ellis Anderson, Gladys Ellis Lee, Harold Ellis, Alfred Ellis, Frederick Ellis, Gwendolyn Ellis Patterson, and Edwin Ellis, Jr. Further states that Edwin Ellis, Jr., had children: Brenda Ellis, Ronald Ellis, Michael Ellis and Edwin Ellis, III.

Cook County, Illinois Death Index shows Jessie Lee Allen d. 29 December 1985 in Cook County. [NOTE: it is not certain that this is the correct Jessie Lee Harvey Allen.]

Barbara Drummond, "... A Rich Heritage," *Mobile Press-Register*, Sunday, 23 February 1986, Port City 7-1 (from Find-a-Grave) shows short bio of Eva Jones (b. Clara Eva Bell Allen), 91. States that she was b. 26 September 1894 in Magazine, Alabama, with parents Lucy and Polee Allen; that Polee was a lumber stacker and a farmer, and "believed in hard work." Eva, known as "Jo-Ko" for "love" in her father's African language, was married in 1914 to Arnett Wade Jones of Chestang, Alabama, in an arranged but loving marriage which lasted 47 years, ten months and two weeks, and had one child, Lucy Olivette Howze. Eva stated that when she was growing up Polee "raised everything from potatoes to peanuts. We had cows, hogs, chickens and horses. We never wanted for anything. There was always plenty." She stated that her father and the other African settlers would speak to each other in their native tongue, and were "proud of their African heritage" and that her father "was very happy in Africa and often talked about going back." He would talk about "how tall the mustard greens got in Africa, and how bananas and oranges stayed on the ground year-round," and how he "wished he could take [his children] over there." The article states that Eva is the "niece" of Cudjoe Lewis. [NOTE: from this article it is possible to deduce that Eva's husband Arnett Wade Jones d. c. 1961-2.]

Social Security Applications and Claims Index shows Edward J. Allen, black male, b. 27 February 1912 in Mobile, Alabama, d. 21 March 1991, with father Polee Allen and mother Lucy Turnil [sic].

“Clara E. Jones,” obituary for Clara Eva Bell Allen Jones, 97, [hence b.c. 1895] in *The Pittsburgh Press*, 12 February 1992, p. 20, states that she was buried in Mobile, Alabama, where her father was on the last slave ship to land in the US; that she died of heart failure at West Penn Hospital on 4 February; that she was called “Momma Eva to everyone” and helped raise 63 children; that her daughter was Olivette Howze of Homewood; that Clara Eva’s father Polee Allen nicknamed her “Joco” meaning “love” in his African language; that she was the second daughter of Polee Allen; that he came from Africa on the *Clotilda*; and that she “is survived by four grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren,” in addition to her daughter. [Note that Clara Eva must be the Eva shown in the 1910 US Census as “Eva,” 15, and hence her mother must be Lucy Turner.]

Social Security Applications show Eva A. Jones, a.k.a. Eva Allen Jones, Eva A. Allen, black female, b. 26 September 1894 in Plateau, Magazine, Alabama, d. 4 February 1992 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, US Citizen, with father “Palcie [Polee] Allen” and mother Lucy Turner. [This “Eva” is clearly the Clara Eva shown immediately above.]

World War II Draft Cards for 1940 shows Edward James Allen, black male, 28, b. 27 February 1912 in Mobile, Alabama, resident of Chicago, employed at Carnegie-Illinois Steet, with wife Zephia Lee Allen. Edward is 5’ 9.25”, 185 pounds, Negro, brown eyes, black hair, dark brown complexion, scar on left arm. [NOTE: This Zephia Lee Allen may be a mis-spelling by a draft board clerk of Jesse Lee Allen, the wife of Edward. Or possibly Zephia Lee is a different person, perhaps an earlier wife. This matter is unresolved. Information on “Zephia” is provided below.]

World War II Draft Cards for Young Men, dated 16 October 1940, shows Henderson Allen, 33, of Plateau, Alabama, b. 25 June 1907 in Magazine, Alabama, Negro, 5’10”, 160 pounds, brown eyes, black hair, dark brown complexion; with contact and wife Mrs. Henrietta Allen.

Mobile City Directory for 1939 shows Henderson Allen (“c” for colored), carpenter, with a house on Newman in Plateau, and with wife Henrietta.

Alabama Death Certificate for Henderson Allen (no middle name), 44, married colored male, b. in Magazine Pt., Alabama on 25 June 1907, d. 20 June 1952 of tuberculosis meningitis, warehouse clerk in City Hospital, resident of 607 W. Lincoln Avenue, Plateau; father is Polee Allen and mother is Lucy Turner. Respondent is Henrietta Allen of Plateau, Alabama. Buried at Plateau Cemetery by Smith and Gaston of Mobile.

Mobile City Directory for 1953 shows Henderson Allen, with wife Henrietta E. Allen, and Henderson as a warehouseman at the Mobile Housing Board, and home at 607 Lincoln Ave.,

(P), [Plateau]. [Apparently the Directory staff did not receive the information that Henderson had died in 1952.]

FamilySearch.org shows on-line microfilm of Mobile, Alabama Voter Registration Oath Book, Vol. 1, and Poll Tax Cards, dated approximately 1940s through 1956; image number 899 for Henderson Allen, b. 25 June 1907, colored male in Precinct 9; and image number 900 for Henrietta Edwards Allen, b. 17 May 1912, colored female in Precinct 15.

Headstone of Mary Allen in Plateau Cemetery shows she was b. 29 August 1873 and d. 5 January 1957.

Alabama Deaths and Burials Index shows Mary Allen, 83, female, b.c. 1874, d. 5 January 1957 at Magazine Pt., Mobile, Alabama, with father Poliee Allen and mother Rosia.

Find-a-Grave shows Mary Allen, female, b. 29 August 1873 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, d. 5 January 1957 in Mobile County, Alabama, buried in Plateau Cemetery, with father Kupollee Allen and mother Rosalie Allen.



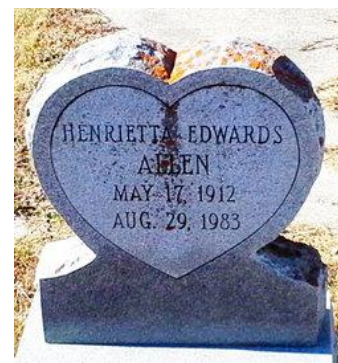
Headstone for Mary Allen in Plateau Cemetery shows she was b. 29 August 1873 and d. 5 January 1957.

Mobile City Directory for 1959 shows Henrietta E. Allen, widow of Henderson Allen, with Henrietta as a teacher in the Union Baptist Church Kindergarten "h607 Lincoln Ave., (P)" [Plateau].

Mobile City Directory for 1960 shows Henrietta E. Allen, widow of Henderson Allen, with Henrietta as a teacher in the Union Baptist Church Kindergarten "h607 Lincoln Ave., (P)" [Plateau].

Social Security Death Index shows Henrietta Allen, b. 17 May 1912, d. August 1983.

Find-a-Grave shows Henrietta Edwards Allen, b. 17 May 1912 in the USA, d. 29 August 1983 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, buried in Plateau Cemetery. (See photo.)



"Eva Jones dies at age 98," *Mobile Press-Register*, 11 February 1992, states that Clara Eva Bell Allen Jones d. 4 February 1992 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and

had a daughter Olivette J. Howze of Pittsburgh and a son Willie G. Sherman of Los Angeles, California; and that Eva Jones' father was "Polette" [Polee] Allen of the *Clotilda*. States that Eva Jones was interred in Plateau Cemetery in Mobile, Alabama.

Social Security Death Index shows Zephia L. Allen, b. 10 August 1915, d. 4 October 1996 in Chicago, Illinois.

Vernetta Henson interview, *ibid.*

Lew Toulmin interview by phone with Darron E. Patterson, 1 December 2021, confirms his line from Polee and Rose Allen down to him (Darron) as presented in this paper; see Annex 1.

Vernetta Henson, five emails to Lew Toulmin in January 2022, which in summary stated that Tametra R. Allen-Ramos is the daughter of Alister Henry Allen and Barbara Ann Williamson of Los Angeles, California. Alister is the son of Henderson Allen and Henrietta Edwards Allen. Henderson Allen is the son of Lucy and Pollee Allen. Tametra has two brothers, and children of her own. Tametra's mother, Barbara Ann Williamson, passed a few months ago (in 2021) in California. The siblings of Alister Henry Allen were: Doris Allen Lee, Edna Allen Seltzer, Herbert Allen, and Edward James Allen. Also stated that Brehon Allen, now alive in North Carolina, is the son of Edward Allen, who was the son of Polee and Lucy Allen.

Interview in 2022 with Brehon Charles Allen, Sr., see Annex 1, describes in detail his ancestry back to Polee and Lucy Allen, and his family and descendants (hereinafter listed as "Interview in 2022 with BCA").

Vernetta Henson 3/2/22 email, *ibid.*

Tametra R. Allen interview, *ibid.*

## **Generation 4**

### **Assertions:**

Julia Allen Ellis and William Ellis had:

Dorothy Clarmile (or Carmelia) Ellis, b. 24 June 1909 in Alabama, d. 29 November 1996 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, married likely bet. 1935 and 1940 to Theodore Arthur (b. 7 March 1907 (or 11 March 1908) in Jackson, Alabama, d. October 1982 in Alabama) and they divorced in August 1957 in Mobile, Alabama.

Julia Allen Ellis and William Ellis also had:



Ora Ellis Floyd, b. 13 February 1897 in Alabama, d. July 1987 in Mobile, Alabama; married on 26 January 1922 in Mobile County, Alabama to Nathan Daniel Floyd. He was b. 27 June 1899 in Plateau (or Choctaw Bluff), Alabama, d. 18 March 1975 in Mobile, Alabama.

Julia Allen Ellis and William Ellis also had:

Edwin T. Ellis, b. 27 September 1901 and d. 6 March 1960 in Mobile, Alabama, who on 28 July 1920 in Mobile, Alabama married Rebecca A. Allen, b. 22 April 1903 in Birmingham, Alabama, d. 20 February 1971 in Maine, buried in Plateau Cemetery, Mobile County.

Julia Allen Ellis and William Ellis also had:

Rudolph (or Rhodolph) Butler Ellis (b. 30 October (or 9 October) 1906 in Alabama, d. 15 February 1977 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, and on 3 June 1938 in Mobile County, Alabama married Maggie Dell Gaillard, b. 1910 in Alabama.

Julia Allen Ellis and William Ellis also had:

Leonard (or Leonard) Ellis, Euphemia Ellis (b. May 1891 in Alabama), Estelle Ellis Williams, Ruth Ellis Willis Turner, and Asa C. Ellis (b. 11 March 1895, d. 25 June 1971 in Plateau, Alabama).

Mary Allen and Jim Hudson had:

Rosina Celestine Allen, b. 8 November 1900 in Mobile, Alabama, d. 19 February 1973 in Mobile, Mobile Co., Alabama, who on 30 March 1918 in Mobile, Alabama married to William M. Taylor, b. 30 August 1896, d. September 1969 in Mobile, Alabama.

Mary Allen and Jim Hudson (or possibly another man) also had Viola Elizabeth Allen, b. 19 July 1891 in Magazine, Alabama, d. 17 March 1966, married probably to Willie Dangerfield (or Dansfield) on 4 August 1919, later reverted to her maiden name of "Viola Allen."

Henderson Allen and Henrietta Edwards had:

Alister Henry Allen (nicknamed "Bubba"), b. 28 August 1937, d. 18 May 2016 in Long Beach, California, who on 16 December 1961 in Los Angeles, California married Barbara Ann Williamson, b. 28 April 1942, d. 2021 in California.

Henderson Allen and Henrietta Edwards also had:

Doris Allen Lee, Edna Allen Seltzer, Herbert ("Sweetums") Allen, and Edward James Allen ("Moon").

Clara Eva Bell Allen and Arnett Wade Jones had:

Willie Jones, b.c. 1924 and Lucy Olivette Jones, (who went by "Olivette") b. 28 January 1916, and d. 27 May 2009 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; she married Kearley Edward Howze, b. 17

February 1909 in Plateau, Alabama, d. October 1971 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Olivette also had a liaison with Edward J. English.

Edward James Allen and Jessie Lee Harvey had Brehon Charles Allen, Sr., still alive in North Carolina in his 70s in 2022. [NOTE: Brehon is the **grandson** of Polee Allen of the *Clotilda*, and is still alive and well!] Brendon Charles Allen, Sr., married first to Shirley Ellis and had two children, and married second to Elizabeth Braddox. This second marriage has no children. Elizabeth Braddox was previously married to James Mason, and they had children.

### **Proofs:**

US Census for 1900, *ibid.*, shows Euphmeia (Euphemia?) Ellis and Leonnard (Leonard?) Ellis.

US Census for 1910 and for 1920, *ibid.*, show Dorothy Ellis at less than age 1 and at age 10 and Ora (“Oriana”) Ellis at 13 and 23.

Mobile County, Alabama Marriage Records for 30 March 1918 show William Taylor, 21, 5’11”, 140 pounds, lumber grader, Protestant, resident of Plateau, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage; marrying Rosina Allen, maiden, 21, 5’ tall, 140 pounds, cook, b. in Alabama, resident of Plateau, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage.

Mobile County, Alabama Marriage Records (computer printout listing, listing book 27, p. 469) for 30 March 1918 show William Taylor marrying Rosina Allen.

World War I Draft Registration Card, dated 12 September 1918, Local Board Division 2, shows Jim Hudson, 39, native-born Negro male, b. 18 September 1878, warehousekeeper in Mobile, Alabama, residing at 110 Plum [? Almost illegible] St., Mobile, medium height and build, blue eyes, sandy hair, nearest relative Hester King of 202 Plum [?] Street, Mobile. [NOTE: this could be the Jim Hudson named below as the father of Rosina Celestine Allen Taylor (see her Social Security death information in this section), but this is not clear. If this is the correct person, then he is James Gorris Hudson, black male, b. 18 September 1878, d. 15 November 1943, with father James G. Hudson and mother Hester King, who married Ellen Johnson on 17 May 1899 in Mobile, per Social Security death records and Mobile County marriage records. However, this is rather conjectural at this point.]

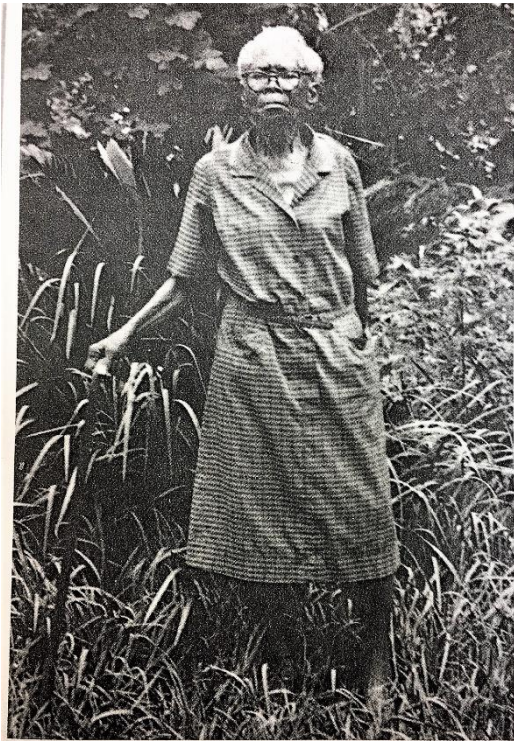
Alabama County Marriage Records for Mobile County, computer printout, no date, show Olivet Jones with marriage license to marry Ed English, but “marriage license not returned.” (!) Vol. 39, p. 308.

Alabama Marriage Records for Mobile County show Willie Dangerfield marrying Viola Allen on 4 August 1919. Willie is 39, 5’3”, 140 pounds, b. in Alabama, works in the L&N (railroad) freight house, Protestant, resident of Pritchard, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage; Viola is 26, 5’, 130 pounds, b. in Alabama, works in a lumber mill, Protestant, resident of Plateau, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage. There is no blood relation between the two. [NOTE: it is very likely but not certain that this Viola Allen is a daughter of

Mary Allen, and that Willie Dangerfield gave his name to Viola, and that her name was misspelled as “Viola Dansfield” in the 1920 Census, below. Later in life she reverted to the name Viola Allen; it is not clear if this is because of divorce, separation or widowhood. For the full marriage record see the Ancestry.com image under “Willie Dangerfield.”]

Alabama County Marriage Records for Mobile County, Alabama shows Ora Ellis marrying Nathan Floyd on 26 January 1922.

US Census for 1920 for Whistler, Mobile, Alabama, shows Mary Allen, 45, black widowed female, b.c 1875 in Alabama, head of household, renting, able to read and write, parents both born in the USA, no trade or profession; with son Clarence Allen, 22, black single male, laborer in a coal company; daughter Viola Dansfield, 26, married black female, veneer layer in a lumbermill; son-in-law William Taylor, 22, married black male, grader in a lumber mill; daughter Rosina Taylor, 19, married black female; Helen Lee Taylor, granddaughter, 1 2/12, single black female; and Georgia Mae Taylor, 0/12, single black female. Also listed is Abraham Martin, “adopted boy,” 13, single black male. All children can read and write, and had both parents b. in Alabama. [This record showing that Mary Allen is “widowed” by 1920 could mean that she did have an unrecorded marriage to Jim Hudson and he died before 1920. Viola Dansfield is clearly Viola Allen, b. in 1891; see photo.]



*Miss Viola Allen, the oldest living descendant of the Africatown settlers. Born on July 19, 1891, she is the granddaughter of Polee and Rose Allen, both Clotilde Africans.*

Alabama Colored Marriage Records for Mobile County show Edwin T. Ellis, 21 [b.c. 1899], who on 28 July 1920 in Magazine, Mobile County, Alabama married Rebecca Allen, 19, [b.c. 1901]. Edwin is 5’10”, 150 pounds, b. in Alabama, a machinist, Protestant, resident of Plateau, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage; Rebecca is 5’11”, 120 pounds, b. in Alabama, lays veneer [in a lumber factory], Protestant, resident of Plateau, 1<sup>st</sup> marriage. There is no blood relation between the two.

Mobile City Directory for 1928 shows Nathan Floyd, “c” for “colored,” a porter, with spouse Ora, with house on Watson near Bronner Ave (Shadowland).

Mobile City Directory for 1930 shows Dorothy Ellis, “c” for “colored,” teacher at Dawes School, address of Box 97, Plateau, Alabama.

Mobile City Directory for 1930 shows Edw. [Edwin] Ellis (“c” for colored) laborer at R.H. Benner and Co., householder at Bay Bridge Rd., Plateau, with wife Rebecca.

US Census for 1930 for Mobile County, Mobile, Alabama, Whistler and Plateau, shows Ora Floyd, 28, b.c. 1902 in Alabama, Negro female, age at first marriage 20, did not attend school, both parents b. in Alabama; wife of Nathan Floyd, 28, b.c. 1902 in Alabama, head of household, Negro male porter, owns his own house, value \$700, age at first marriage 20, did not attend school, can read and write, both parents b. in Alabama. Children listed are: Rosa M. Floyd, 7, Robert L. Floyd, 5, Julia A.E. Floyd, 3, Vernon C. Floyd, 2, and Otis F. Floyd (a daughter), 3/12. All children are Negro, b. in Alabama, with both parents b. in Alabama. [Later Census and other information makes it clear that "Rosa M." is "Rose Mary," a.k.a. "Rosemary."]

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1930 shows Rudolph Ellis ("c" for colored), laborer at R H Benner & Co, in Plateau, Alabama.

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1931 shows Nathan Floyd ("c" for colored), porter at Merchants National Bank, with wife Ora A. Floyd, home near Watson and Bronner Ave. in Chicaksaw, Alabama.

Alabama Marriage Index for Mobile County, Colored Marriage License Index for 1865 to 1967, page 525, shows Rudolph Ellis marrying Maggie Dell Galliard on 3 June 1938.

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1939 shows Rudolph Ellis ("c" for colored), laborer at Shelby Hill, in Magazine Point, Alabama with wife Maggie.

US Census for 1940 for Plateau, Alabama shows Rudolph Ellis, 30, Negro male married head of household, completed second year of high school, employed for pay, worked 40 hours last week, worked 30 weeks last year, earning \$300 as a sack worker [?, almost illegible] in a container factory [?, mostly illegible], owns his own home worth \$4000; living with his wife Maggie Ellis, 30, Negro married female, completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade, worked 40 hours last week as a cook in a cafe, worked 52 weeks last year, earning \$500; mother Julia Ellis, 73, widowed Negro female, attended 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and son Rudolph Ellis Jr., 9, single Negro male, attended 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, recently in school. All four were born in Alabama.

World War II Draft Registration Card dated 16 October 1940 shows Rudolph Ellis, 34, b. 09 October 1906 in Magazine, Mobile, Alabama, employed by W Horace Williams Co in Mobile, Alabama, residing Magazine, Mobile, Alabama, height of 5'10" and weight of 150 with dark brown complexion, brown hair and brown eyes. Next of kin is listed as his mother Julia Ellis.

US Census for 1940 for Mobile County, Plateau, shows Ora Floyd [mis-typed as "Lloyd" in the transcription], 40, Negro married female, did not attend high school, completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade, b. in Plateau, Alabama, wife of Nathan Floyd ["Lloyd"], 40, Negro male "paster" [pastor? or more likely "porter" – see City Directory below], b. in Plateau, Alabama, income of \$600/yr., employed for the last 52 weeks, no other income. Children listed are: Rosemary, 16, Robert L., 15, Julia, 13, Vernon C., 12, Florestine, 10, Dorothy Ann, 8, Ruth A., 5, and Rellan Z. Lloyd, 1. All children are Negro, b. in Plateau, Alabama.

US Census for 1940 for Mobile County, Alabama, Whistler, shows Theodore Arthur, 32 (b.c. 1908 in Alabama), black male married laborer in a sawmill, head of household, owns his own home, worth \$1000, resident in 1935 in Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama, did not attend school recently, completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade, annual income \$252, no other source of income; with wife Dorothy C. Arthur, 30 (b. c. 1910 in Alabama), black female married, resident in 1935 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, did not attend school recently, completed 2<sup>nd</sup> year of college, no income. No children in the household. [This record likely implies that this couple married between 1935 and 1940, since they lived in different cities in 1935.]

World War II Draft Cards for Young Men for 1940 shows Theodore Arthur, 32, b. 11 March 1908 in Jackson, Alabama, resident of Pritchard, Alabama, "Minister of Religion and an employee of Engledale Lumber Company," 6'2", 185 pounds, Negro male, brown eyes, black hair, light brown complexion, "slight scar near left eye, and a little deaf," contact person is wife Mrs. Dorothy Clarmile Arthur.

World War II Draft Cards for Young Men, 16 October 1940, for Lincoln School, Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, shows Kearley Edward Howze, 31, of 230 Carver St., Pittsburgh, b. 17 February 1909 in Plateau, Alabama, self-employed, Negro, 5' 6", 210 pounds, brown eyes, black hair, dark brown complexion, no telephone.

World War II Draft Cards for Young Men for 1940 shows Nathan Floyd, 42, b. 27 June 1899 in Choctaw Bluff, Alabama, resident of Plateau, Mobile, Alabama, with contact person of Ora Floyd.

California Birth Records show Barbara Ann Williamson, [later Allen] with mother's maiden name of Cowling, born 28 April 1942.

US Census for 1950 shows Nathan D. Floyd, 50, Negro male married head of household, b. in Alabama, porter in Federal building; wife Ora A. Floyd, 52, married Negro female, b. in Alabama; daughter Ruth O. Floyd, 15, never married, Negro female, b. in Alabama; son Roland F. Floyd, 11, never married, Negro male, b. in Alabama; and Vernell E. Floyd, 6, never married, Negro female, b. in Alabama.

Cook County, Illinois Marriage Index (from the Cook County Clerk) for 1951 shows Zephia Allen marrying J.B. O'Donnel on 28 December 1951.

Mobile City Directory for 1956 shows Nathan D. Floyd, porter, living at 017 Washington in "Tville" [Toulminville] Mobile, with spouse Ora F. Floyd.

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1955 shows Theo Arthur, with wife Dorothy E. Arthur; Theo is employed at "Ingshrmn Ryan Stevedoring" and the couple's house is at 355 Williams (W).

Alabama Divorce Index for Mobile County, Alabama shows Dorothy Arthur divorced from Theodore Arthur in August 1957.

Alabama Deaths and Burials Index shows Edwin Ellis, 58, b. 1902, d. 6 March 1960 in Mobile, Alabama, married male, spouse Rebecca Ellis. Edwin's father is William Ellis and his mother is Julia Allen.

Headstone for Edwin Ellis in Plateau, Alabama cemetery shows he was b. 27 September 1901 and d. 6 March 1960.



California Voter Registration rolls for 1960 show Mrs. Barbara A. Williamson living on Cedar Avenue in Los Angeles, California, registered as a Democrat. [NOTE: This may not be the right person, since this person is "Mrs." "Williamson" and would normally be "Mrs. Allen," and the marriage did not take place until December 1961 – see below.]

Alabama Voter Registration and Poll Tax Cards, 1834-1981 shows colored male voter registration for Rudolph Ellis b. 09 October 1906.

California Marriage Index shows Alister H. Allen, 24, male, b. 1937, marrying Barbara A. Williamson, 19, female, b.c. 1942, in Los Angeles, California on 16 December 1961.

Social Security Applications and Claims Index shows Viola Elizabeth Allen, b. 19 July 1891 in Magazine, Alabama, d. 17 March 1966 (or possibly 16 March 1966 or 30 October 1984, record is confusing), mother is Mary Allen and father is "no name," black female US citizen, a.k.a. Viola Allen.

Find-a-Grave shows Rebecca A. Ellis, b. 22 April 1903, d. 20 February 1971 in Maine, buried in Plateau Cemetery, in Mobile County.



Find-a-Grave shows Asa Ellis, b. 11 March 1895, d. 25 June 1971 in Plateau, Alabama, with photo of headstone with dates; private, US Army, World War I.

Find-a-Grave shows Nathan D. Floyd, male, b. 27 June 1899, d. 18 March 1975, buried in Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama.



Headstone in Plateau Cemetery shows Rudolph B. Ellis, Sr., b. 30 October 1906, d. 15 February 1977.

Social Security Death Index shows Theodore Allen, b. 7 March 1907, resident of Saraland, Alabama, d. October 1982 in Alabama.

Social Security Death Index shows Ora Floyd, b. 13 February 1897, d. July 1987 in Mobile, Alabama.

Social Security Death Index shows Dorothy E. [Ellis] Arthur, b. 24 June 1909 in Alabama, d. 29 November 1996 in Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama.

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1930 shows William Taylor, “c” for colored, laborer at R H Benner and Co., with implied spouse Rosina, home in Plateau, Alabama.

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1942 shows William Taylor (“c” for colored) laborer, and Rosina living at 11 (9) Flowers MP [Magazine Point].

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1953 shows William M. Taylor, laborer at Aluminum Ore, with implied spouse Rosiana A., home at 304 Chin (MP) [Magazine Point].

Mobile, Alabama City Directory for 1956 shows William M. Taylor, laborer at Aluminum Ore, with implied spouse Rosina, home at 504 Chin (P) [Plateau]

Find-a-Grave shows Deacon William Taylor, male, b. 30 August 1896, d. 4 September 1969, interred at Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama; with spouse Rosina C. Taylor, and children Willie Mae Patterson, Helen Lee Taylor, Georgia Mae Taylor, and Clarence Mae Taylor.

Social Security Death Index shows William Taylor, b. 30 August 1896, d. September 1969 in Mobile, Alabama.

Social Security Death Index shows Rosina Taylor, b. 8 November 1900 in Mobile, Alabama, d. February 1973 in Mobile, Mobile Co., Alabama.

Find-a-Grave shows Rosina C. Taylor, female, b. 8 November 1900, d. 19 February 1973, buried in Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama, with spouse William Taylor and children Willie Mae Patterson, Helen Lee Taylor, Georgia Mae Taylor, and Clarence James Taylor.

Alabama Death Index shows Rosina Celestina Taylor, female, 72, b.c. 1901, d. 17 February 1973 in Mobile, Mobile, Alabama, with mother Mary Allen and father Jim Hudson. (**NOTE:** this is the only record which names Jim Hudson as the father of Rosina. Rosina did not take the Hudson last name.)

Familysearch.org shows obituary record from Genealogy Bank for Mr. Rudolph Butler Ellis, Sr., d. 15 February 1977 in Mobile, Alabama, with son Rudolph Butler Ellis, Jr. and other relatives Mrs. Ora Floyd, Mrs. Estelle O. Wilson, Mrs. Dorothy Arthur and Mrs. Matilda Peoples.

Find-a-Grave shows Lucy Olivette Howze, b. 28 January 1916, d. 27 May 2009 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, buried in Homewood Cemetery; has photo of gravestone with year dates.

US SSDI shows Lucy O. Howze, b. 28 January 1916, d. 27 May 2009 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny, Pennsylvania.

Mobile County Circuit Court Case No. CV-84 002066, *ibid*.

Brehon Allen’s 2022 Facebook page states that his ancestors came to America on the *Clotilda*, and that they were co-founders of Africatown, Alabama.

Vernetta Henson interview, *op. cit*.

Darron E. Patterson interview, *ibid.*

Vernetta Henson, five emails to Lew Toulmin in January 2022, *ibid.*

Interview in 2022 with BCA (see Annex 1).

Vernetta Henson 3/2/22 email, *op. cit.*

Tametra R. Allen interview, *op. cit.*

## Generation 5

### Assertions:

Ora Ellis Floyd and Nathan Daniel Floyd had:

Rose Mary Floyd Peters, b. 31 March 1922 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 9 March 2005, wife of Fred Peters and later wife of David A. Murray.

Ora Ellis Floyd and Nathan Daniel Floyd also had:

Dr. Dorothy Ann Floyd, who married Jesse Ford, Coleman Davis (or Davies?), Chester Bailey, Roy B. Toma Spiff of Nigeria, Frank (?) Jackson, possibly Jack O. Spackman, and one other husband (unknown). She was b. in Plateau, Alabama on 11 January 1932 and d. on 22 May 2009 in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa.

Ora Ellis Floyd and Nathan Daniel Floyd also had:

Robert Floyd; Julia A. Floyd Jones of Los Angeles; Vernon Clinton Floyd of Hattiesburg, Mississippi (an electrical engineer who founded three black radio stations and had three wives); Dr. Ruth Floyd Johnson of Adelphi, Maryland; Roland Faustine Floyd (who married Mamie Lee Thomas); Vernell Floyd Kennedy Obedeyi of Hampton, Virginia; and Otis Florestine Floyd (a female, no children).



**Vernon C. Floyd**



CELEBRATING 63 YEARS IN MUSIC BUSINESS  
THEODORE ARTHUR

Dorothy Carmella Ellis and Theodore Arthur had:

Theodore J. Arthur, Jr., (a famous jazz musician) and Preston Leon Arthur who married Gwendolyn Herzfeld in 1967 in Mobile, Alabama (but later reportedly divorced after having children).

Rosina Celestine Allen and William M. Taylor had:



Willie Mae Taylor, (female) b. 21 February 1921 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 30 April 2004 in Mobile, Alabama; who married Walter James Patterson, b. 19 December 1912, Plateau, Alabama, d. 14 January 1977 in Mobile, Alabama.

Rosina Celestine Allen and William M. Taylor also had:

Clarence James Taylor (b. 1 May 1923 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 2 July 2009 in Bay Minette, Alabama); Helen Lee Taylor (b. 21 December 1918, d. 10 November 1989 in Mobile, Alabama); and Georgia Mae Taylor (female; b. 21 December 1919 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 11 March 2006 in Mobile, Alabama).

Edwin T. Ellis and Rebecca A. Allen had:

Edwin T. Ellis, Jr., b. 6 August 1926 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 6 May 1982 in Mobile, Alabama, who married Beatrice Brackett in Mobile, Alabama on 22 June 1951. Beatrice was b. 1 June 1926, d. 24 May 2011 in Mobile, Alabama.

Edwin Ellis and Rebecca Allen also had:

Edna Ruth Ellis (married James Hall, Sr.), Gladys Ellis (Lee), Gwendolyn ("Gwen") Ellis, Johnny Ellis, Harold Ellis, Caesar ("CD") Ellis, Rebecca Teresa Ellis (Anderson), Everett Ellis, Frances Ellis, Alfred Ellis, and Frederick Ellis.

Lucy Olivette Jones and Kearley Edward Howze had:

Elbert Arnett Jones, b. 28 December 1932 and d. 20 February 2011 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Donald R. Howze.

Lucy Olivette Jones and Edward J. English had:

Edward English Jones, b. 16 March 1935 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 8 January 2005.

Alister Henry Allen and Barbara Ann Williamson had a daughter:

Tametra R. Allen-Ramos, who married or had liaisons with: Johnny C. Sims, James Earl McNeese, Jr., Richard Gene Walker, Jr., and Anthony Ramos.

Alister Henry Allen and Barbara Ann Williamson had son, Alvon Henry Allen, who married or had a liaison with Yolanda Guyton and Alesia Brown.

Alister Henry Allen and Barbara Ann Williamson had another son, Delearn Lomar Allen.

Rudolph Butler Ellis and Maggie Dell Galliard had:

Rudolph Ellis Jr., b. 1931 in Alabama.

Brehon Charles Allen, Sr. and Shirley Ellis had:

Brehon Charles Allen, Jr. who married Shon \_\_\_\_\_; and they had Jorie Allen who married and divorced Bryan T.E. Armour.

**Proofs:**

US Census for 1940, *ibid.*, shows Rose Mary Floyd at 16, Dorothy Ann Floyd and other children.

US Census for 1940 for Alabama, Mobile, Plateau, shows Edwin Ellis, 39, black male head of household, did not recently attend school, completed 4<sup>th</sup> grade, b. in Alabama, employed 40 hours per week as a laborer in a veneer mill; income last year of \$700. Edwin owns his home, valued at \$1000. Wife Rebecca Ellis, 37, black female, did not recently attend school, completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade, b. in Alabama, no income or employment. Children include: Everett Ellis, 20, completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade, laborer in a veneer mill, out of work 25 weeks last year, made \$500 last year; Cecil Ellis, 18, completed 7<sup>th</sup> grade, out of work for 67 weeks, laborer at a CCC reforestation program, Eleanor Ruth Ellis, 16, Edwin Ellis, Jr., 13, Francis Ellis, 11, Johnnie Ellis, 9, Theresa Ellis, 8, Harold Ellis, 6, Frederick Ellis, 3, Gladys Ellis, 2, and Alfred Ellis, 1.

World War II Draft Cards show Walter James Patterson, 27, b. 19 December 1912 in Plateau, Alabama, US citizen, contact person Mrs. Mary Williams, mother, in Plateau. Walter is Negro, 5'7", 134 pounds, with brown eyes, black hair and dark brown skin. Employer Paul Renner. Registration date: 16 October 1940.

World War II Draft Cards for 1940 show Edwin Ellis [Jr.], 18, Negro male, b. 6 August 1926 in Plateau, Alabama, resident of Bay Bridge Rd., Plateau, employed by Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Co. Edwin is 5'4", 149 pounds, brown eyes, black hair, dark brown complexion. Contact person is Rebecca Ellis of Magazine Point.

U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995 for Mobile, Alabama in 1953 show Rudolph B Ellis Jr. living at 950 S Magazine Rd, Mobile, Alabama.

Mobile County, Alabama Marriage Records shows Vernon Clinton Floyd marrying Evelyn Andrida Williams on 12 June 1955.

Mobile City Directory for 1956 shows Ora F. Floyd and Nathan D. Floyd, porter, Seaman's Club of Mobile, residing at 1017 Wellington in "Tville" [likely Toulminville].

"Forgive Me," song written by Elbert Arnette Jones, *Library of Congress, Catalog of Copyright Entries, Third Series, Music, Vol. 16, Part 5, Number 5*, July-December 1962, p. 1448.

Mobile County, Alabama Marriage Records shows Roland Faustine Floyd marrying Mamie Lee Thomas on 26 May 1967.

"Hensfield [should be Herzfeld] Engagement is Told," *The Montgomery Advertiser*, 17 December 1967, p. 52, shows Gwendolyn Herzfeld, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Herzfeld of Minter, to Preston Leon Arthur, son of Mrs. Dorothy Arthur of Mobile, Alabama. The article

states that Mr. Arthur has a B.S. in Music Education from Knoxville College and is a band director at Harper High School in Jackson, Alabama, and Gwendolyn Herzfeld also has a B.S. in Music Education from Knoxville College, and is a chorale director at Camden Academy. The wedding will take place 28 December 1967 at Faith Lutheran Church in Mobile.

Social Security Death Index shows Kearley Howze, (apparently known as “Curley”) b. 17 January 1908, d. October 1971 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

Find-a-Grave shows Kearley Howze, d. 1971, buried in Homewood Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

Find-a-Grave shows Walter J. Patterson, b. 19 December 1912 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 14 January 1977 in Mobile, Alabama, buried in Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama; states spouse is Willie Mae Patterson. Grave marker photo shows “TEC 3, US Army, World War II.” (Hence descendants may qualify for the Sons and Daughters of World War II Veterans lineage society.)

Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS database shows Walter J. Patterson, b. 19 December 1912, d. 14 January 1977, enlistment date 6 May 1941 and discharge date 10 November 1945.

Social Security Death Index shows Walter Patterson, b. 19 December 1912, d. January 1977, with last residence in Mobile, Alabama.

Mobile County Circuit Court, Case No. CV-84 002066, *op. cit.*

“Ellis: Edwin T. Ellis, Jr.” Undated obituary notice clipping from Vernetta Henson, in a Mobile newspaper, likely the *Mobile Press-Register*; states that Edwin T. Ellis, Jr. d. 6 May 1982 at a local [Mobile] hospital, survived by wife Beatrice Ellis and two daughters, Mrs. Brenda (Howard) McMillan and Miss Renea Major, also three sons, Mr. Ronald (Mary) Ellis, Michael Ellis, Edwin III Ellis (Debra), 5 sisters and 7 brothers, and others. Edwin Jr. will have a service at Union Baptist Church and will be interred in Lawn Haven Cemetery.

US Department of Veterans Affairs, BIRLS Death File, shows Edwin Ellis, b. 6 August 1926, d. 6 May 1982, US Army enlistment date: 21 March 1945 and discharge date: 29 October 1946.

Washington State Marriage Records show Dorothy A. Floyd of Multnomah County, Oregon, b. 1 February 1932, marrying on 26 April 1968 in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington to Jack O. Spackman of Multnomah County, Oregon, b. 31 March 1926. [NOTE: This is likely the correct couple, since Dorothy was known to be active in Washington and Oregon, but it is not certain since the birth date does not exactly match the death date shown below in her obituary.]

Washington State Marriage Records show Dorothy A. Spackman of Multnomah County, Oregon, b. 1 February 1932, marrying on 24 March 1969 in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington to Richard E. Floyd of Multnomah County, Oregon, b. 5 February 1929. [NOTE: This is likely the correct couple (with “Dorothy A. Spackman” (see previous marriage information) being Dorothy

Ann Floyd (1932-2009), but it is not certain since the birth date does not exactly match the death date shown below in her obituary. If this marriage is correct, then for a time Dorothy Ann Floyd was actually Dorothy Ann Floyd Floyd!]

California Divorce Index shows Dorothy A. Floyd, b. 1932, married in 1971 to Frank A. Jackson, b. 1920, received a preliminary marriage dissolution in August 1977 in county #19, Los Angeles County. [NOTE: this is very likely the correct couple but this is not absolutely certain.]

Social Security Death Index shows Edwin Ellis [Jr.], b. 6 August 1926 in Alabama, d. May 1982 in Mobile, Alabama.

Find-a-Grave Index shows Edwin T. Ellis, Jr. b. 1926, d. 1982, buried Lawn Haven Memorial Gardens, Mobile, Alabama. (Record contains photo of dual gravestone with Beatrice B. Ellis, 1926-2011; see photo in this report.)

Opencorporates.com shows Clotilde International incorporated as a close corporation in Alabama on 5 December 1985, with Dorothy Davies as the agent. [This person is likely Dorothy A. Floyd Davies Ford, who died in Liberia in 2009; see her obituary below.]

Opencorporates.com shows the Ora A. Floyd Foundation incorporated as a non-profit in Alabama on 7 May 1986, with Dorothy Davies as the agent. [This person is likely Dorothy A. Floyd Davies Ford, who died in Liberia in 2009; see her obituary below.]



Funeral program for Mrs. Ora Anna Floyd (13 February 1897-3 July 1987) shows that one of her nine children was “Mrs. Dorothy Davies-Spiff (Roy B. Toma Spiff, Nigeria).” This Dorothy is clearly Dorothy Ann Floyd, who married Coleman Davis (or Davies?) and who also married a “chief” from Nigeria – presumably Roy B. Toma Spiff. See Supplement Report for a copy of the funeral program.

Social Security Death Index shows Roland Faustine Floyd, black male, b. 17 May 1938 in Plateau, Mobile, Alabama, d. 15 March 1989; with father Nathan D. Floyd and mother Ora A. Ellis.

Find-a-Grave shows Helen Lee Taylor, b. 21 December 1918, d. 10 November 1989 in Mobile, Alabama, buried in Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, with father William Taylor and mother Rosina C. Taylor.

Public Records Index shows Elbert A. Jones b. 28 December 1932 living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1989 and 1992. [NOTE: it is not certain that this is the correct person.]

Public Records Index shows Dorothy A. Floyd, b. 1 February 1932, residing in 1992 in Roseburg, Oregon, in 1996 in La Conner, Washington and Mt. Vernon, Washington. [NOTE: this is likely the correct Dorothy A. Floyd but this is not certain.]

Public Records Index shows Edward English Jones, b. 16 March 1935, living in Pittsburgh in 1996.

Public Records Index shows Edward English Jones, Sr., b. March 1935, living in Pittsburgh from 1976 to 2020, and in Greensboro, Alabama in 2000.

Obituary notice clipping from 2001 re James Brown "Cap" Hall, supplied by Vernetta Henson (see Annex) shows he was b. 1 August 1951 in Plateau, Alabama and d. 26 September 2001. He was the son of Edna Ruth Ellis Hall and James Hall, Sr. Notice lists "Cap"'s sisters as Janice Ellis, Vilma Hall, Mrs. Vera (Ray Charles) Stone, Mrs. Althea (Boniface) Obiako, all of Mobile, and Mrs. Rebecca Hall of Ingleside, Texas, and brothers Mr. Herman (Yolanda) Hall of Mobile and Anthony Hall of Detroit, Michigan.

Find-a-Grave shows Willie Mae Patterson, b. 28 February 1921 in Mobile County, Alabama, d. 30 April 2004 in Mobile, Alabama; buried in Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama; with parents William Taylor and Rosina C. Taylor, and spouse Walter J. Patterson.

Social Security Applications and Claims shows Edward English Jones, b. 16 March 1935 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 8 January 2005, black male, with father Edward J. English and mother Olivette L. Jones.

Social Security Applications and Claims Index shows Rose Mary Floyd (a.k.a. Rose Mary Murray and Rose Peters), black female, b. 31 March 1922 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 9 March 2005, with father Nathan D. Floyd and mother Ora A. Ellis. SS shows her name as Rose Mary Floyd in June 1940; as Rose Mary Murray in November 1962; and as Rose Mary Peters, apparently in 2005.

"Rose Mary Floyd Peters Murray," obituary in *The Washington Post*, March 13/14, 2005; see Annex. Gives names of one husband, her siblings and children.

Find-a-Grave shows Georgia Mae Taylor, b. 21 December 1919 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 11 March 2006 in Mobile, Alabama; buried in Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama; with parents William Taylor and Rosina C. Taylor.

“Dr. Dorothy Floyd (Jackson) Ford,” obituary, *Gwinnett Daily Post* on Jun. 16, 2009, states that she was b. in Plateau, Alabama on 11 January 1932 and d. on 22 May 2009 in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa. It states that her husband is “Elder” Jesse Ford, and is survived by two sons, Erroll Dwain Davis of Los Angeles, CA and Michael Leon Davis of Washington, D.C. It states she is survived by three sisters: Julia A. Floyd Jones of Los Angeles, CA, Ruth Floyd Johnson of Adelphi, MD, Vernell (Bunny) Floyd Obadeyi of Newport News, VA; one brother, Vernon C. Floyd of Hattiesburg, MS; seven grandchildren: Frenchie Davis of American Idol, Ora Vernell Davis and Michael Leon Davis, Jr. of Los Angeles, California; Amir Davis, Ayman Davis and Ahab Davis of Alexandria, Virginia, and Kathleen Davis of Los Angeles, CA; and three great-grand children: Kamal and Kamaya Davis and Michaela Maria Davis. The obituary has extensive biographical information on this businesswoman and philanthropist – the executive director of the Ora A. Floyd Foundation. It states she is a descendant of Cudjo Lewis of the slave ship *Clotilda*. (See Annex and assertions above for more details on her seven husbands.)



**Dr. Dorothy Ford in 2006**

People Legacy, at [https://peoplelegacy.com/lucy\\_olivette\\_howze-1w3V2H](https://peoplelegacy.com/lucy_olivette_howze-1w3V2H), states that Lucy Olivette Howze was b. 28 January 1916, and d. 27 May 2009, at age 93, and is buried in Homewood Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Section 38, Lot 302, Grave 1.

Find-a-Grave shows Clarence James Taylor, b. 1 May 1923 in Plateau, Alabama, d. 2 July 2009 in Bay Minette, Alabama, buried in Oaklawn Memorial Cemetery, Mobile, Alabama; with parents William Taylor and Rosina C. Taylor.

US Obituary Collection shows Beatrice Ellis, female, d. 24 May 2011, buried 28 May, obituary date 27 May, children: Ronald Ellis, Brenda McMillan, Michael Ellis.

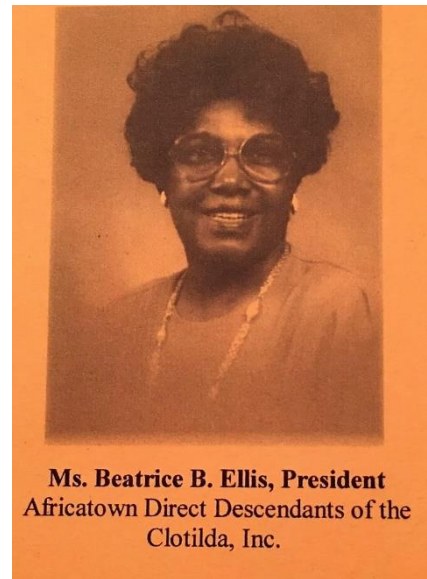
Find-a-Grave shows Beatrice Ellis, female, b. 1926, d. 24 May 2011, buried Lawn Haven Memorial Gardens, Mobile, Alabama.

Social Security Death Index shows Beatrice B. Ellis, b. 1 June 1926, d. 24 May 2011 in Mobile, Alabama.

US Obituary Collection shows Julia Alfredetta Jones Floyd, 85, b. 6 May 1926 in Plateau, Mobile County, Alabama, married in 1951, d. 21 August 2011, with father Nathan Daniel Floyd, mother Ora Anna Floyd, spouse Rupert John St. Jones, child Harvey Tyrone Jones, and siblings Vernell Floyd Obadeyi, Ruth Floyd Johnson, and Vernon C. Floyd.

“The Interview: Theodore Arthur,” gives a musical biography of Theodore Arthur, jazz and blues musician for 50 years. See: [https://www.fox10tv.com/news/the-interview-theodore-arthur/article\\_4f4518e3-be1c-58ec-a637-cbee499b0e7b.html](https://www.fox10tv.com/news/the-interview-theodore-arthur/article_4f4518e3-be1c-58ec-a637-cbee499b0e7b.html)

Find-a-Grave shows Vernon Clinton Floyd, b. 20 November 1927, d. 24 November 2018 in Baldwin County, Alabama, buried at Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery.



“Broadcasting Pioneer Vernon Ford Passes Away,” on-line obituary, available at: <https://www.wlox.com/2018/11/26/broadcasting-pioneer-vernon-floyd-passes-away/>. See Annex.

Unicourt.com shows that in 2019 Jorie Allen (a.k.a. Jorie Allen-Armour) divorced Bryan T.E. Armour in Hillsborough County, Florida.

The *Clotilda* Descendants Association Facebook page for 8 October 2021 advertises a program at the Local on Government St. in Mobile, with Theodore Arthur, Jr., “Mobile’s Own Mr. Saxophone,” for his “63<sup>rd</sup> year in music.”

Public Records Index for 2020 shows Leon Arthur b.c. 1940-50, living in Mobile, Alabama.

PeopleSearchExpert.com shows Preston Leon Arthur and Gwendolyn Herzfeld Arthur living in Mobile, Alabama, in 2021, with relatives Che Arthur, Jason D. Arthur, and Theodore J. Arthur.

Opencorporates.com shows that Dorothy Davies was the agent and incorporator for Clotilda International, Inc. of Alabama and Africatown Landmark Association, Inc., and the agent for the Ora A. Floyd Foundation of Alabama. (**NOTE:** it is not clear if this “Dorothy Davies” is actually “Dorothy Floyd Davis.”)

Obituary of Willie Mae Taylor Patterson (see Annex) shows that she married Walter James Patterson, she was b. 21 February 1921 and d. 30 April 2004 in Mobile, Alabama, that her parents were Rosina Allen and William Taylor, and that her children were Darron E. Patterson, (married Denise Carol Dozier), Vernell Taylor Roberts (Lee), Regina Taylor Edwards (married to Simeon), and Winonah Patterson.

Social Security Death Index shows Willie Mae Taylor Patterson, black female, b. 21 February 1921 in Plateau, Alabama and d. 30 April 2004 in Mobile, Alabama, that her parents were Rosina Allen and William Taylor.

US Obituary Collection shows Elbert Arnett Jones, 78, b. 28 December 1932 and d. 20 February 2011 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

US Social Security Death Index shows Elbert A. Jones, b. 28 December 1932 and d. 20 February 2011 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny, Pennsylvania.

Spokeo.com shows Vernell F. Obadeyi in 2021 residing in Corona, California, listed as a.k.a. Vernell Floyd and Vernell Kennedy.

Vernetta Henson interviews, *op. cit.*, provides information on this generation, and states that Dr. Dorothy Floyd (Jackson) Ford (“Dorothy Floyd Davies” in the interview), had seven husbands in total, including one a chief or Prince from Nigeria and also Jesse, her last husband. Vernetta also provides information on the nine children of Edwin Ellis (the line carrier) and Rebecca Allen of Birmingham.

WhitePages.com in 2022 shows Alister Allen living in Long Beach, California and related to Tametra R. Allen and Alvon Henry Allen. [**NOTE:** this White Pages listing is erroneous, since Alister Allen died several years before 2022.]

PeopleFinder.com in 2022 shows Alvon H. Allen living in Long Beach, California.

Unmask.com in 2022 shows Alvon Henry Allen living in Long Beach, California.

Unmask.com in 2022 shows Tametra Allen (or Tametra R. Allen-Ramos) living in Long Beach, California.

Darron E. Patterson interview, *op. cit.*

Vernetta Henson, five emails to Lew Toulmin in January 2022, *op. cit.*

Interview in 2022 with BCA (see Annex 1).

Vernetta Henson 3/2/22 email, *op. cit.*

Tametra R. Allen interview, *op. cit.*

## **Generation 6**

### **Assertions:**

Rose Mary Floyd Peters and Fred Peters had:

Vernetta Alfredetta Peters, who married Edward Jackson Henson.



Rose Mary Floyd Peters and her second husband David A. Murray had:

Ruth O. Murray and William A. Murray (wife: Gail)

Willie Mae Taylor and Walter James Patterson had:

Darron Eulishes Patterson (President of the *Clotilda* Descendants Association), who first married Denise Carol Dozier and then Sandy Grimes.



**Darron E. Patterson**

Willie Mae Taylor and Walter James Patterson also had:

Vernell Taylor Roberts (husband Lee Roberts) of Columbia, SC; Regina Taylor Edwards (husband Simeon N. Edwards); and Wenonah Justine Patterson.

Dr. Dorothy Ann Floyd and Coleman Davis had two sons:



**Michael Leon Davis**

Erroll Dwain Davis, who married (and divorced) Jacquely G. Robinson; and Michael Leon Davis, who married and divorced Demetria Louise Robertson (and had a second wife).

Roland Faustine Floyd and Mamie Lee Thomas had a son:

Roland Angelo "Lo" Floyd, b. 8 March 1964 and d. 9 December 2012 in Mobile, Alabama.

Preston Leon Arthur and Gwendolyn Herzfeld had a son:

Che Ashley Herzfeld Arthur.

Jorie Allen and Bryan T.E. Armour had:

Jordan K. Armour (a male) and Kayla Armour (a female).

Brehon Charles Allen, Jr. and Shon \_\_\_\_\_ had:

Matthew Allen and Brehon Charles Allen, III.

Edwin T. Ellis, Jr. and Beatrice Brackett Ellis had:

Ronald Ellis, who married Mary \_\_\_\_\_; Edwin Ellis III, b. October 4, 1957, d. April 2009, who married Sheryl Calhoun; Brenda Ellis; and Michael Ellis.

Edna Ruth Ellis Hall and James Hall had:

James Brown "Cap" Hall, Janice Ellis, Vilma Hall, Mrs. Vera (Ray Charles) Stone, Mrs. Althea (Boniface) Obiako, all of Mobile, Mrs. Rebecca Hall of Ingleside, Texas, Mr. Herman (Yolanda) Hall of Mobile, and Anthony Hall of Detroit, Michigan.

Elbert Arnett Jones and Ruth Jones had Michael Jones, David Jones and Wendy Jones.

Tametra R. Allen and Johnny C. Sims had Kevenne Márion Sims (a male) and Jeiánne Moné Sims (female). Tametra R. Allen and James Earl McNeese, Jr. had Tekeulve James McNeese (male). Tametra R. Allen and Richard Gene Walker, Jr., had Taiyána Riché Walker (female).

Alvon Henry Allen and Yolanda Guyton had a daughter, Breshá Graham Allen. Alvon Henry Allen and Alesia Brown had a son, Alvon Omari Allen, and a daughter, Déjá Lanae Allen.

### Proofs:

“Ellis: Edwin T. Ellis, Jr.” obituary notice from 1982, *ibid.*, lists Ronald Ellis as son of Edwin T. Ellis, Jr. and his wife Beatrice, and notes Ronald has wife Mary.

Mobile County Circuit Court Case No. CV-84 002066, *op. cit.*

US Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002, shows Brehon C. Allen, Jr. living in Chicago, Illinois in 2001-2.

Obituary notice clipping from 2001 re James Brown “Cap” Hall, *op. cit.* (see Annex)

California Marriage Index for Los Angeles City shows Erroll D. Davis marrying Jacquely G. Robinson in 1972.

Nevada Marriage Index for Clark County shows Michael Leon Davis of California marrying Demetria Louise Robertson of California.

Nevada Divorce Index for Clark County shows Michael L. Davis divorced by Demetria R. Davis.

US Phone and Address Directories for 2002 show Vernetta Henson living in Mobile, Alabama with spouse Edward Henson.

“Elbert A. Jones,” *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* obituaries online, shows Elbert A. Jones, b. 28 December 1932 and d. 20 February 2011 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. States wife was Ruth Jones, and children were Michael, David and Wendy, and step-son was Michael J. Buried in Homewood Cemetery.

Obituary Guest Book 2012 copy for Roland Angelo “Lo” Floyd, clipping provided by Vernetta Henson, shows Roland was the son of Roland F. Floyd (deceased) and Mamie Floyd (living), and that Roland was b. 8 March 1964 and d. 9 December 2012 in Mobile, Alabama. [NOTE: clipping shown in the Annex lists various brothers and sisters of Roland “Lo” Floyd, but it is not clear if these are full siblings or possibly step-siblings.] Clipping states that Roland “Lo” Floyd had a daughter, Keenan Williams, but does not name the mother.



Current land use map of Africatown; purple is for heavy industry

Checkpeople.com shows Vernetta Peters Henson, living in 2021 with Edward Henson, Rose Tunstall and Kindard Henson in Mobile, Alabama.

“Rose Mary Floyd Peters Murray,” obituary in *The Washington Post*, *ibid.*; see Annex.

Public Records Index shows Darron Eulishes Patterson living in Mobile, Alabama 2011-2020.

Opencorporates.com shows Darron Patterson added as an officer of the *Clotilda* Descendants Association in 2019.

Obituary of Willie Mae Taylor Patterson, *ibid.*, see Annex.

Searchpeoplefree.com shows Regina Taylor Edwards married to Simeon N. Edwards and living in Mobile, Alabama in 2021.

Linkedin.com shows Wenonah Patterson working for the Mobile City Treasurer’s Office in 2021.

Unmask.com shows Wenonah Justine Patterson living in Mobile, Alabama in 2021.

PeopleSearchExpert.com shows Preston Leon Arthur and Gwendolyn Herzfeld Arthur living in Mobile, Alabama, in 2021, with relatives Che Arthur, Jason D. Arthur, and Theodore J. Arthur.

Che Arthur, musician, audio engineer and producer, has a website with professional but not personal information at [chearthur.com](http://chearthur.com), and a Wikipedia entry under his name. These state he was born in Mobile but moved to Chicago in the 1990s.

Whitepages.com states that Che Ashley Herzfeld Arthur was b. in Mobile, Alabama (Milkhouse) and is in his 40s in 2021-2.

Peoplefinders.com in 2022 shows Bryan T.E. Armour in Gardena, California and other locations, with relatives Jorie Allen, Jordan K. Armour, Kayla Armour, Allen Brehon, and others.

TruePeopleSearch.com shows that Sheryl Ellis of Chickasaw, Alabama was Sheryl Calhoun.

Vernetta Henson interview, *op. cit.*

Darron E. Patterson interview, *op. cit.*

Interview in 2022 with BCA (see Annex 1).

Vernetta Henson 3/2/22 email, *op. cit.*

Tametra R. Allen interview, *op. cit.*

## Generation 7

### Assertions:

Vernetta Peters Henson and Edward Henson had:

Rose (Veda) Henson Tunstall, wife of Maurice Tyrone Tunstall; and Edward Jackson Henson, Jr., husband of Juanita Dekita Alexander.

Michael Leon Davis and Demetria Louise Robertson had three children:

Son Michael “Mike” Davis, Jr., and daughter Franchelle “Frenchie” Ann Davis (no spouse or descendants), and daughter Vernell Ora Davis.

Ronald Ellis, who married Mary \_\_\_\_\_, had Jeremy Ellis.

Edwin Ellis III, who married Sheryl Calhoun, had children:

Morceine Ellis, Arlinda Ellis, Edwin Ellis IV, James Ellis, Melissa Ellis, Shawana Ellis, Youcarra Ellis, Dan Ellis and Anthony Ellis, all of Mobile, Alabama.

Roland Angelo “Lo” Floyd and \_\_\_\_\_ had a daughter, Keenan Williams.

Jeiánne Moné Sims and Kenneth Lewis had a son, Kyhi Jaylen-Lee Lewis.



Frenchie Davis in 2010



Jeremy Ellis

### Proofs:

Vernetta Henson interview, *op. cit.*

Vernetta Henson 3/2/22 email, *op. cit.*

“Ellis: Edwin T. Ellis, Jr.” obituary notice from 1982, *op. cit.*

Edwin Ellis III obituary notice, 1 May 2009, *Mobile Press Register* (see Annex).

Obituary Guest Book 2012 copy for Roland Angelo “Lo” Floyd, clipping, *ibid.*

Tametra R. Allen interview, *op. cit.*

## Generation 8

### Assertion:

Maurice and Rose Tunstall had:

Pharren Victoria Tunstall (a girl) b. 29 October 1991, d. 30 August 2016 in Mobile, Alabama.

Edward Jackson Henson, Jr. and Juanita Alexander had:

A son named Jaylen Henson.

**Proofs:**

Frenchie Davis, Wikipedia page, provides extensive biographical information.

Vernetta Henson interview, *op. cit.*

Pharren V. Tunstall obituary notice, clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, likely from the *Mobile Press-Register*, c. September 2016. (See Annex.)

## Annex 1

### Interviews with Vernetta Henson, Darron E. Patterson, Brehon Charles Allen, Sr., and Tametra R. Allen

#### Polee and Rose Allen Descendants, per Vernetta Henson Interview

The seven-generation line of descent below is based largely on a lengthy telephone interview between Lew Toulmin and Vernetta Henson (*Clotilda* descendant) on 9/26/2021, a short phone conversation on 10/3/2021, a lengthy phone conversation on 11/20/2021, and another call on 12/1/2021. Persons in the main blood lines of descent are underlined. This is a non-detailed “skeleton” descent without birth, marriage and death dates or places or any proofs derived from records, but is very useful in future research and can also serve as a primary proof due to Ms. Henson’s remarkable memory, extensive family research, and intimate knowledge of the Allen family’s oral history. [NOTE: The generations below start with Generation 1 being Polee and Rose Allen. The generations in the main paper above start with Polee and Rose being Generation 2, since Polee’s second wife’s parents are in Generation 1, and are above Polee in a family tree chart.]

#### Generation 1

Polee Allen, *Clotilda* survivor, married Rose/Rosa Allen, also a *Clotilda* survivor. Polee also later married Lucy Turner (and had descendants not discussed here).

#### Generation 2

Polee and Rose Allen had:

Mary Allen; Julia Allen Ellis, wife of William Ellis; and Katie Allen Walker

#### Generation 3

Julia Allen Ellis and William Ellis had:

Estelle Ellis Williams; Ruth Ellis Turner; Dorothy Ellis Arthur, wife of ??? Arthur; Rudolph Ellis; Asa Ellis; Edwin Ellis (who married Rebecca Allen of Birmingham); and Ora Ellis Floyd, wife of Nathan Daniel Floyd

#### Generation 4

Edwin Ellis and Rebecca Allen had:

Edwin Ellis, Jr., Edna Ruth Ellis (Hall), Gladys Ellis, Gwendolyn (“Gwen”) Ellis, Johnny Ellis, Harold Ellis, Caesar (“CD”) Ellis, Rebecca Teresa Ellis (Anderson), Everett Ellis, and possibly three other children.

Dorothy Ellis and ?????? Arthur had:

Theodore Arthur (a famous jazz musician) and Preston Leon Arthur

Ora Ellis Floyd and Nathan Daniel Floyd had:

Rosemary Floyd Peters (who first married David Murray), later wife of Fred Peters; Robert Floyd; Julia Alfredetta Floyd Jones; Dorothy Ann Floyd Davis (who had about 7 husbands, including a Prince or chief from Nigeria); Vernon Clinton Floyd (an electrical engineer who founded 3 black radio stations); Ruth Floyd Johnson (alive in 2021); Roland Floyd; Vernell Ellis Floyd (later Obaydeyi); and Otis Florestine Floyd (a female, never married, no children).

Robert Floyd married and divorced three times. His first wife was Elizabeth Powe; they had a son Stanford Clement Floyd.

Robert Floyd's second wife was Kathleen \_\_\_\_\_; they had a daughter Quinita Kim Floyd (deceased), who married \_\_\_\_\_ McCreary.

Robert Floyd's third wife was Vera \_\_\_\_\_; they had no children.

Julia Alfredetta Floyd Jones and \_\_\_\_\_ Jones had a son, Harvey Tyron Jones; he was murdered in a robbery in Los Angeles in about 2000; he had no children.

Vernon Clinton Floyd was b. in 1927, went to the Tuskegee Institute, d. in 2018, married 4 or 5 times, and had 2 children. His first wife was Evelyn \_\_\_\_\_, and their child was Marjorie Floyd. Marjorie married twice, first to Chico Bivens and second to an unknown man. That second marriage produced a daughter, Christina \_\_\_\_\_, who married Jaie Love.

Vernon Clinton Floyd's second wife was Sylvia \_\_\_\_\_; they had no children.

Vernon Clinton Floyd's third wife was unknown, that union produced a son, Victor Floyd. Victor and an unknown woman produced Victor Floyd, Jr.

Vernon Clinton Floyd's fourth and possible fifth wives are unknown.

Ruth Floyd Johnson (alive in 2021) married once, to Wilson Johnson (deceased). They had 3 children:

Anthony Johnson, Walter Johnson, and Anna Camille Johnson McKelphin

Roland Floyd (son of Ora Ellis Floyd and Nathan Daniel Floyd), had three wives and had children by each. His first wife was Rosielee \_\_\_\_\_; they had a son Reginald Lee Floyd (alive in OH in 2021), married but wife unknown)

Roland Floyd's second wife was Mamie \_\_\_\_\_ Floyd; they had two children: Roland Angelo Floyd (deceased); and Michelle Floyd Johnson, who had two children: Tony Johnson and one other teenager, name unknown. Michelle and her two children are alive in Mobile as of 2021.

Roland Floyd's third wife was Valerie \_\_\_\_\_ ; they had a child Courtney Floyd, but she died as a baby.

Vernell Ellis Floyd is still alive in 2021. She had three husbands:

\_\_\_\_\_ Moore, with a child Yolanda Moore, still alive; Yolanda has two children.

\_\_\_\_\_ Kennedy, with a child Stacy Estelle Kennedy (who has one child)

\_\_\_\_\_ Obadeyi, with no children.

Rudolph Ellis married Louise Nettles and had Rudolph Butler Ellis.

### **Generation 5**

Rosemary Floyd Peters and Fred Peters had:

Vernetta Alfredetta Peters [the interview respondent], who married Edward Jackson Henson

Rosemary and her other husband David A. Murray had:

Ruth Murray and William Murray

Preston Leon Arthur and Gwendolyn Herzfeld Arthur of Mobile, Alabama had a son Che Arthur (but Preston and Gwendolyn later divorced).

### **Generation 6**

Vernetta and Edward Henson had:

Rose Henson Tunstall, wife of Maurice Tyrone Tunstall; and Edward Jackson Henson, Jr., husband of Juanita Alexander.

### **Generation 7**

Rose Henson Tunstall and Maurice Tyrone Tunstall had two children:

Pharren Victoria Tunstall (a girl, d. 2016); and Jonathan Maurice Tunstall, who recently attended Auburn University and is now working in marketing in Birmingham, Alabama.

Edward Jackson Henson and Juanita Alexander had a son:

Jaylen Henson

\*\*\*\*\*



The children of Polee Allen and Lucy Allen included Henderson Allen, who married Henrietta, and had children: Doris, Edna, Allister, Hubert and Edward

\*\*\*\*\*

Misc.: Cudjo Lewis is not the brother or other relation of Polee Allen [as is sometimes asserted].

\*\*\*\*\*

Information on Dorothy Floyd (later Ford) from Vernetta Henson:

Dorothy Floyd went into pharmacology and owned drugstores in California. Later she worked in Africa for the foundation she created, the Ora Floyd Foundation. Later in life she got a higher degree from the University of Wisconsin.

Dorothy Ann Floyd had about seven husbands:

**First**, Coleman Davis.

Coleman and Dorothy had two sons: Michael Leon Davis (an attorney and lobbyist in Washington, DC). Michael Leon Davis and Demetria Robertson had a daughter, Franchelle "Frenchie" Ann Davis. Frenchie went to Howard University, worked on Broadway in NYC, and danced until the third round of "American Idol," but was pulled because of a problem with some photographs. Michael Leon Davis and Demetria Robertson also had a son, Michael "Mike" Davis, Jr. and a daughter Vernell Ora Davis.

The other son of Coleman Davis and Dorothy Floyd was Erroll Dwain Davis, a chiropracter in California. Erroll was married and had a child, and is now divorced.

**Second**, Chester Bailey. No children.

**Third**, \_\_\_\_\_ Jackson. No children.

**Fourth**, an unknown Nigerian man, possibly a chief or tribal prince

**Fifth** and **Sixth**, unknown men, no children

**Seventh**, Jesse Ford, no children by this union.

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**Email from Vernetta Henson, 2 March 2022, to Lew Toulmin,  
re the Polee Allen to Jeremy Ellis Line**

**Vernetta Henson**

To lewtoulmin@aol.com

Good afternoon, it was such a pleasure meeting you. I completely forgot to pour out the bag of funeral programs, but we can spend a few minutes next time. I need to correct the Jeremy Ellis info. His dad is Ronald Ellis and his grand parents are Edwin and Beatrice Ellis and his great grandparents are Edwin and Rebecca Ellis and his great great grandparents are Julia and William Ellis and his great great great grandparents are Pollee and Rose Allen. Thanks so much.

\*\*\*

**Facebook Posting by Vernetta Henson in the Descendants of Polee Allen  
(Clotilda), Private FB Page, 27 February 2018**

Good morning Family, my name is Vernetta Peters Henson. Polee and Rose Allen are my Great, Great Grandparents, who were among those who founded Union Baptist Church. Julia Allen Ellis and William Ellis are my Great Grandparents., Ora Anna Ellis Floyd and Nathan D. Floyd are my Grandparents. My Mother is Rose Mary Floyd Murray. I have two children, Veda and Eddie and I have 3 Grandchildren. I will sending more info soon. Be blessed.

The Brothers and Sisters of Ora Anna Ellis Floyd are Edwin Ellis, Sr. Ruth Ellis Turner, Asa Ellis, Rudolph Ellis, Sr., Estelle Ellis Wilson, and Dorothy Ellis Arthur.

**Polee and Rose Allen Descendants, per Darron Patterson Interview**

A short phone interview below took place on 1 December 2021 between Lew Toulmin and Darron E. Patterson. A readout summary is as follows:

First, Darron confirmed that the following line, sent to him via email (from Lew Toulmin) on 26 November 2021 was correct:

*Polee and Rose Allen had Mary Allen.*

*Mary Allen married Jim Hudson [although Darron had not heard of Jim Hudson], and had Rosina Celestine Allen.*

*Rosina Celestine Allen married William M. Taylor and had Willie Mae Taylor.*

*Willie Mae Taylor married Walter James Patterson and had Darron Eulishes Patterson.*

*Darron Eulishes Patterson married Denise Carol Dozier.*

Second, Darron stated that his first wife was Denis Carol Dozier but that his second, current wife is Sandy Grimes Patterson.

Third, Darron stated that he does not know much about Jim Hudson, and that Vernetta Hudson may know more.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Interview with Brehon Charles Allen, Sr., *Clotilda* Descendant**

Below is a summary of a phone interview between Lew Toulmin and Brehon Charles Allen (BCA) that took place on 1 February 2022.

Mr. Allen stated that:

Polee Allen and his wife Lucy had a son, Edward James Allen. Edward James Allen (EJA) married first to a woman, but EJA did not reveal that name to his sons. So her name is unknown. BCA believes that there were no children from that marriage. EJA married second to Jessie Lee Harvey, who took on the last name of Allen. EJA had a sister named Eva Allen. EJA was one of ten children born to Polee and Lucy Allen.

Thus BCA is the grandson (not the great-grandson or other relative) of Polee and Lucy Allen.

BCA was named for an Argentine fighter who twice beat the famous fighter Joe Louis. The Argentine was named Cesar Brion, but that got modified to the Irish-style name of Brehon. [NOTE: Later research on Google shows that Cesar Brion of Argentina fought Joe Louis twice, in 1950 and 1951, and that Louis (aged 36 and 37) won both 10 round matches, but that he stated that “those were the toughest ten-round fights he ever had.”]

BCA does not know the names or details re his mother’s parents, except that his mother’s father was a white Irishman and his mother’s mother was black.

EJA was a steelworker in Chicago. His wife Jessie Lee Harvey Allen (JLHA) was a homemaker but sometimes worked as a salad lady for the Chicago Bar Association and other employers. JLHA’s mother loved music and her father owned a music “juke joint” of some kind – their names are unknown. JLHA had a brother named Warren Harvey.

BCA recalls that JLHA was b. on Xmas Day, 25 December 1917, and d. in 2017, at age 99 or 100. BCA is not familiar with the name "Zephia Lee Allen" and does not think that is his mother's name or a corruption of it. He does not know how that person seems to be listed as a wife of his father, Edward James Allen.

JLHA was previously married to another man, but BCA does not know his name.

BCA recalls that his father briefly served in the Korean War, but does not recall any WW II service. BCA is interested in the evidence which seems to show that EJA did serve in WW II. His father (EJA) was very private, did not share information, used corporal punishment, and carried a gun at all times.

BCA's brothers' names were Edward James Allen, Jr. (BCA's younger brother), and Brian Allen (fraternal twin of BCA). BCA has five living siblings in total now.

BCA confirms the details shown on the WW II 1940 Draft Card of EJA, stating that EJA had a scar on his arm, was a steelworker ("foundry worker" on the card) and had the birth day and location shown on the WW II card. [But this card shows Zephia Lee Allen as the wife of EJA.]

BCA has a first cousin, John Baco, who worked for the Cleveland Indians and is also a Polee and Lucy Allen descendant.

BCA's full name is Brehon Charles Allen, Sr.

BCA married in February 1970 to his high school sweetheart, Shirley Ellis. They had two children: Jorie Allen (a female) and Brehon Charles Allen, Jr. Jorie is in the USAF, and Brehon, Jr. is a Lt. Col. in the US Army and is in line for promotion to full Colonel. [See the article about him in the Annexes.]

Jorie Allen married (and divorced) Bryan Amour [Armour]. They had two children: Jordan Amour [Armour] (a male) and Kayla Amour [Armour] (a female).

Brehon Charles Allen, Jr. married Shon \_\_\_\_\_. They had two children: Matthew Allen and Brehon Charles Allen, III. The latter child wants to be a mechanical engineer, and is already on that educational path.

BCA married second to Elizabeth Braddox. They have no children. However, Elizabeth Braddox was previously married to James Mason, and they had children.

BCA graduated from high school and attended college ten years later. He had a long and varied career which included: order filler for Certified Groceries, driver for the Chicago Transit Authority, a health practitioner, working for an ice cream company, health inspector, and

various union jobs. He was bought out of his job in 2004 and retired early. He has an E-bay store that sells vinyl records, which he collects. He no longer lives in Chicago, but rather in Durham, NC.

## **Interview with Tametra R. Allen**

Tametra R. Allen was interviewed by phone by Lew Toulmin on 3 April 2022. She stated:

Polee Allen and Lucy Turner had Henderson Allen. Henderson's middle or perhaps first name was likely Madison. Hence likely: Henderson Madison Allen [**NOTE:** Since this name is somewhat uncertain, and "Madison" does not appear in any written documents found to date, just "Henderson Allen" will be used in this report in charts and elsewhere.]

Henderson Allen had Alister Henry Allen, who married Barbara Ann Williamson.

Alister Henry Allen and Barbara Ann Williamson had Tametra R. Allen [the respondent, a female] and Delearn Lomar Allen [male] and Alvon Henry Allen (male).

Alvon Henry Allen married Yolanda Guyton (female) and had Breshá Graham Allen (female).

Alvon Henry Allen and Alesia Brown had Alvon Omari Allen (a male) and Déjá Lanae Allen (a female).

Tametra R. Allen married first to Johnny C. Sims, and had Kevenne Márion Sims (a male) and Jeiánni Moné Sims (a female).

Jeiánni Moné Sims married Kenneth Lewis and had Kyhi Jaylen-Lee Lewis (a male).

Tametra R. Allen and James Earl McNeese, Jr. had Tekeulve James McNeese (a male).

Tametra R. Allen married Richard Gene Walker, Jr. and had Taiyána Riché Walker (a female)

Tametra R. Allen married Anthony Ramos, took the name Tametra Allen-Ramos, but later divorced and dropped the Ramos; they had no children.

Tametra R. Allen's uncles and father had the following nicknames, which they used almost exclusively instead of their real first names: Edward James Allen: "Moon"; Herbert Allen: "Sweetums"; and Alister: "Bubba."

## Annex 2

### Information on Possible Memberships in Lineage Organizations

Lineage and heritage organizations celebrate the family heritage of their members, and encourage research into genealogy and history. A fairly comprehensive list of such organizations is available at [http://www.hereditary.us/about\\_hsc.htm](http://www.hereditary.us/about_hsc.htm). There are several such organizations which persons discussed in this report or their descendants may qualify for, as follows:

- Clotilda Descendants Association: This society is open to men, women and children who descend from the approximately 110 persons enslaved and held captive on the schooner *Clotilda*, the last illegal slave ship to reach US shores, which departed the Bight of Benin in West Africa, and arrived in Mobile Bay, Alabama in 1860. See: <https://theclotildastory.com/>.



- Sons and Daughters of the United States Middle Passage: This society is open to men and women 18 or older whose African-American ancestors were enslaved or held in indentured servitude in colonial and ante-bellum years, up through December 1865. See: <https://sdusmp.org/join/>.
- Sons and Daughters of World War II Veterans: This society is open to descendants of persons who served in WW II through 31 December 1946. Some persons in the descents discussed in this report may qualify. For example, living descendants of Walter J. Patterson, who served in the US Army in WW II, would qualify. See: <https://www.pacificwarmuseum.org/join-give/society-sons-daughters>.



### Annex 3

## Calculation of the Possible Number of Descendants

The table below provides a rough guesstimate of the number of descendants from Polee Allen by his two wives. In each generation it is assumed that some children die before reaching adulthood, or are infertile. It is also assumed that the number of children produced on average by each woman declines by one child, with each successive generation.

With these (admittedly unsupported) assumptions, it is possible to estimate that by Generation 6 (encompassing people who are roughly 70 and younger today), there are about 435 Polee descendants, and there are perhaps another 740 in the next generation, for a total of 1175 (as an order of magnitude estimate).

The main driver of these high estimates is the high number of children than Polee had by each wife. Adding in Generation 8 (not addressed below) and subtracting deaths in Generation 6, there are likely more than 1000-1300 potential members for the *Clotilda* Descendants Association from the Polee lines alone. Probably many of these persons have no idea that they have such an interesting and courageous ancestral line.

Generation	From Polee & Rose	From Polee & Lucy	Known or Estimated
3	6	13	K
4	5x5=25	11x5=55	E
5	20x4=80	50x4=200	E
6	65x3=195	80x3=240	E
7	170x2=340	200x2=400	E
TOTAL in Gen. 6+7	195+240+340+400 = <b>1175</b>		E

## Annex 4

### Various Relevant Obituaries and Articles

#### ROSE MARY FLOYD PETERS MURRAY

MRS. ROSE MARY FLOYD PETERS MURRAY died on Wednesday, March 9, 2005. She was born on March 31, in Plateau (Africatown), AL. She was the oldest child of 11 siblings born to Nathan Daniel and Ora Anna Ellis Floyd. Rose was baptized at an early age at Union Baptist Church in Plateau where she remained a member for 72 years. Rose attended a number of churches including Shinning Star Freewill Baptist Church in Seat Pleasant, MD with current membership at First Baptist Church of Glenarden, MD.

Rose Murray attended public schools of Mobile County, Alabama. She graduated from Tuskegee University where she received her Bachelors Degree in Nursing. She received her Masters Degree and Nurse Practitioner Certification from Georgetown University. She was also an Ordained Minister.

During her career as a Registered Nurse, which spanned over 60 years, she worked in many capacities which ranged from Charge Nurse to Nurse-Practitioner to Director of Nurses at various hospitals, health care facilities, and educational institutions in Louisiana, Alabama, North Carolina, Washington, DC, Prince George's County, Maryland, and Virginia. Rose Murray just recently retired from the Prince Georges County Public School System as a Registered Nurse in December 2004.

Family members who will preserve the heritage of her accomplishments and rejoice in her memory are her husband David A. Murray, one son, William A. Murray (Gail), two daughters, Vernetta A. Henson (Edward) of Mobile, AL and Ruth O. Murray, one brother, Vernon C. Floyd of Hattiesburg, MS, four sisters, Julia A. Jones of Los Angeles, Dr Dorothy F. Ford (Jesse) of Mobile, AL, Dr. Ruth F. Johnson of Adelphi, MD, and Vernell F. Obedeyi of Hampton, VA, a host of grandchildren, great- grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and a former co-worker and dear friend Mrs. Mary E. Cain.

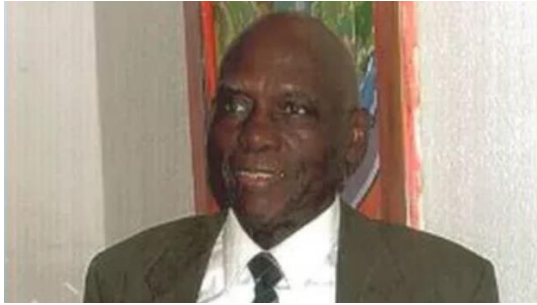
The funeral service will be held on March 16, 2005 at First Baptist Church of Glenarden, located at 3600 Brightseat Road, Landover, MD 20785. Viewing will be at 10 a.m. and Service at 11 a.m. Interment will be at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Suitland, MD.

Published by *The Washington Post* March 13/14, 2005.

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## Broadcasting pioneer Vernon Floyd passes away



An icon in the Hattiesburg area and in the broadcasting industry, Vernon C. Floyd passed away early Saturday morning. (Circuit Broadcasting Company staff | Source: Circuit Broadcasting Company staff)

By [Chris Thies](#)

*Updated: Nov. 26, 2018 at 1:11 PM EST*

HATTIESBURG, MS (WDAM) - An icon in the Hattiesburg area and in the broadcasting industry, Vernon C. Floyd passed away early Saturday morning.

A representative with the company Floyd founded, [Circuit Broadcasting Company](#), confirmed Floyd's death.

Floyd, a native of Mobile, AL, founded Mississippi's first African-American owned and operated radio station in 1969. Nearly 50 years later, that radio station, WORV-AM, can still be heard over the airwaves in Hattiesburg.

According to representatives with Circuit Broadcasting Company, Floyd created WORV to cater to the black community in the Hattiesburg area.

Floyd, a U.S. Army veteran and graduate of Tuskegee Institute, will be remembered for being a mentor, a pioneer in the broadcasting industry and for his accomplishments in Mississippi.

Floyd is survived by two children. Friends and family are planning a memorial service in Floyd's honor.

Source of above: <https://www.wlox.com/2018/11/26/broadcasting-pioneer-vernon-floyd-passes-away/>

\*\*\*\*\*

**(JACKSON) FORD.** **Dr. Dorothy Floyd (Jackson) Ford**, Businesswoman and Philanthropist, dead at age 77.

Dr. Dorothy Ann Floyd Ford passed away on Friday, May 22, 2009 in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa. Born January 11, 1932, she was a native of Plateau, Alabama and is a direct descendant of Cudjo Lewis, founder of what is now known as Africatown and a survivor of the last slave ship "Clotilda". She was a graduate of Mobile County Training School. She attended Alabama State University in Montgomery and

received her professional Pharmacy Degree from Xavier University in New Orleans. She received her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Economics from the University of Wisconsin. She did additional graduate work in multiple disciplines. She was affiliated with many organizations including being a Life Member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Dr. Ford enjoyed being a world traveler and was instrumental in numerous cultural exchanges with African Performing Arts groups. Her mission in Liberia was as Executive Director of The Ora A. Floyd Foundation and beginning the work of building a complete village with American style amenities.

During her life's work she lived in a number of communities for extended periods of time, including Dallas, Texas, Los Angeles, California and Mobile, Alabama.

A Memorial Celebration of her life will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2009 in her last American hometown of Dacula, Georgia. Telephone contact: 240-432-9282.

She is survived by her husband, Elder Jesse Ford; two sons, Erroll Dwain Davis of Los Angeles, CA and Michael Leon Davis of Washington, D.C. She is also survived by three sisters: Julia A. Floyd Jones of Los Angeles, CA, Ruth Floyd Johnson of Adelphi, MD, Vernell (Bunny) Floyd Obadeyi of Newport News, VA; one brother, Vernon C. Floyd of Hattiesburg, MS. Seven grandchildren: Frenchie Davis of American Idol, Ora Vernell Davis and Michael Leon Davis, Jr. of Los Angeles, California; Amir Davis, Ayman Davis and Ahab Davis of Alexandria, Virginia, and Kathleen Davis of Los Angeles, CA. Three great-grand children: Kamal and Kamaya Davis and Michaella Maria Davis. Several favorite Nieces: Vernetta Henson of Mobile, Alabama, Camille (Johnson) McKelphin of Temple Hills, Maryland, Yolanda (Moore) Stewart and Stacy Estelle Kennedy of Newport News, Virginia. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews, cousins and a host of other relatives and friends.

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

Published in the *Gwinnett Daily Post* on Jun. 16, 2009.

Obituary available on-line at:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/gwinnettdailypost/obituary.aspx?n=dorothy-floyd-ford&pid=128497439>;

\*\*\*\*\*

# Plateau native dies in Liberia

Staff Report

Dorothy Ann Floyd Ford, a Plateau native, died May 22 in Monrovia, Liberia. She was 77.

Ford worked in the African nation with the Ora A. Floyd Foundation.

In addition to the Mobile area, she had lived in Dallas, Los Angeles and most recently in Dacula, Ga., before going to Liberia.

She was instrumental in cultural exchanges with African performing arts groups and had been involved with building a village in Liberia with American-style amenities.

She had returned to Eight Mile with her husband a number of years ago. While she worked as a substitute teacher, the couple began operating a food pantry from their home.

"A family came to our local church and was asking for groceries," Ford said in a 2003 interview with the Mobile Press-Register. "The church wasn't set up for that, so we went home and got some of our personal groceries to share."

The Fords began helping more families and set up a pantry in a workshop in their backyard. They named the nonprofit orga-



Ford

nization the Ora A. Floyd Foundation in honor of her late mother.

Ford had also been involved in efforts to establish a local history museum in Pritchard. She was a descendent of Cudjo Lewis, a survivor of the Clotilde, the last known slave ship to arrive in America. He also was a founder of the Africatown community in Plateau.

A 1948 graduate of Mobile County Training School, Ford attended Alabama State University in Montgomery and received her professional pharmacy degree from Xavier University in New Orleans. She received her doctorate in economics from the University of Wisconsin.

Her affiliations included Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

She was author of a book titled "The Lost Angels: Children."

Survivors include her husband, Jesse Ford; two sons, Erroll Dwain Davis of Los Angeles and Michael Leon Davis of Washington, D.C.; three sisters, Julia A. Floyd Jones of Los Angeles, Ruth Floyd Johnson of Adelphi, Md., and Vernell Floyd Obadeyi of Newport News, Va.; one brother, Vernon C. Floyd of Hattiesburg, Miss.; seven grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

Burial took was June 2 in Liberia. A memorial service was June 17 in Dacula.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, *Mobile Press-Register*, n.d.

**Roland Angelo "Lo" Floyd**  
Obituary

**Guest Book**

*Be the first to share your memories or express your condolences in the Guest Book for Roland Angelo "Lo" Floyd.*

[View](#)

[Sign](#)



FLOYD Roland Angelo "Lo" Floyd, born March 8, 1964, departed this life on Sunday, December 9, 2012. He was the son of the late Roland F. Floyd and a 1982 graduate of Murphy High School. He also, served in the United States Army as a combat engineer. He leaves to cherish his memories, a loving daughter, Keenan Williams; a loving mother, Maimie L. Floyd and stepfather, Samuel Tate; sisters, Cora T. (Percy) Butler, LaRosa Thomas, Michell Floyd (Tony) Johnson, Ramona (Lorenzo) Evans, Melody L. (Napoleon) Bracy and Erica Floyd; brothers, Robert E. Floyd and Donozan L. Floyd; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. His remains will lie in state on Thursday, December 13, 2012 from 1pm until 8pm at Small's Mortuary, Mobile, AL. Visitation will be held on Friday, December 14, 2012 from 9am until the 10am funeral hour at Mt. Calvary MBC, 505 Mt. Calvary Ave. Prichard, AL. Interment SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO SMALL'S MORTUARY, 950 S. BROAD ST., MOBILE, AL 36603. Condolences may be offered at <http://www.smallsmortuary.com/>



**FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**JONES, Julia Alfredetta Floyd**

Sunrise: May 6, 1926  
 Sunset: August 21, 2011  
 Julia Floyd Jones, dead at age 85. She was born May 6, 1926 in Plateau, Mobile County, Alabama, number three of eleven children, to Ora Anna (Ellis) Floyd and Nathan Daniel Floyd. She is a direct descendant of Cudjo Lewis, who came to this country as human cargo in 1853 aboard the last slave ship to the United States, "The Clotilda". She was preceded in death by her only child, Harvey Tyrone Jones who passed away in December of 1999.

Affectionately known to family and friends as "Dette", Julia accepted Christ at an early age and became a member of Union Baptist Church in Plateau, Alabama. She was an outstanding student throughout her school years and graduated with honors from Mobile County Training School in Plateau in 1943. Following high school she joined the United States Cadet Corps for Nurses and graduated with her Registered Nurses Degree (RN) in 1946 from Columbus Hospital School of Nursing in Columbus, Georgia. Her first employment was at Tuskegee General Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama. During her tenure there, she met and married Rupert Saint John Jones of Chicago in 1951. They became the parents of one son.

Later she returned to Mobile briefly and by 1955 she had moved to California where she continued to work as a Registered Nurse in several hospitals. In addition to working in her profession, she became an entrepreneur and businesswoman who owned several group homes for developmentally challenged youth.

In the meantime, she became enthralled with and for over 50 years, until this very day, had attached her religious membership to First A.M.E. Church of Los Angeles, where she sang in the Choir, praised the Lord, loved its members and its leadership, and made many friends. Additionally, she sang for many years with the world renowned Crystal Cathedral Choir in Garden Grove, California.

During the Watts Riots of 1965, Julia served as a volunteer First Responder helping to save the lives of others. In the process, she herself suffered life threatening gun shot wounds. As a result she was issued a permanent, lifetime permit to carry a concealed weapon.

Julia Floyd Jones lived life on her own terms. She was an adventurer and did not allow anything to stop her from doing the things she wanted to do. She followed her passion and became a world traveler. She has visited most of the great places of note in Europe as well as the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, and was baptized in the River Jordan. She also toured the great Pyramids of Egypt, the Taj Mahal of India, The Vatican in Rome and the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Great Christo of Sugar Loaf Mountain in Brazil to the

**KAYTON, F**

Survived children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Jewish Home for the Aged, 1000 Broadway, New York, NY 10003. www.jewishhome.org or The Jewish Home for the Aged of Light (310) 441-1111.

**KING, EDDY**

March 8, 1926 - March 8, 2011  
 Eddy King, 85, of San Francisco, California, passed away peacefully on March 8, 2011 at the age of 85. Eddy began his career in television as a news anchor, reporter, and dramatist. He worked for KGOV in Portland, Oregon, and KGOV in San Francisco. Eddy's career was a result of being at the right place at the right time. He made the first flight to the North Pole to land in Siberia to make an announcement to the officials. While waiting for the flight, Eddy got a television job in Vancouver. He worked for Pearson Field and announced the arrival of the officials. Though no one was live on air, his announcement was a result of being at the right place at the right time. KPO-San Francisco.

For a short time, Eddy joined the military as a writer. In 1950, he went overseas as a member of the AFPS, he stationed in the Mosquito Net and announced the arrival of Henderson Field. He was the only spot on Guadalcanal. He then went with the Philippine tour of duty in the occupation of the Philippines. He then went to Hachinohe, Japan before returning to San Francisco in 1951. He worked in Hollywood in 1952.

Resuming his career, he went on to announce special events such as, The \$100,000 Hope Show, RKO Dick Powell, The Dick Powell Show, An Evening with Dick Powell, and Dragnet and others.

As a television personality, he became

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Julia Floyd Jones lived life on her own terms. She was an adventurer and did not allow anything to stop her from doing the things she wanted to do. She followed her passion and became a world traveler. She has visited most of the great places of note in Europe as well as the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, and was baptized in the River Jordan. She also toured the great Pyramids of Egypt, the Taj Mahal of India, The Vatican in Rome and the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Great Christo of Sugar Loaf Mountain in Brazil, to the Glaciers of Canada. Notwithstanding, she visited many remarkable places within the United States such as Mount Rushmore, The Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, The Big Apple and The Big Easy, to name a few.

Those who continue to cherish her memory include three siblings: One brother, Vernon C. Floyd, owner of three radio stations in Hattiesburg, Mississippi; two sisters: Dr. Ruth Floyd Johnson, an Educator and Executive Director of the family business, The Ora A Floyd Foundation; and Vernell (Bunny) Floyd Obadeyi, a retired Pharmaceutical Specialist. Also a favorite nephew, Michael Davis, an Immigration Legal Expert of Washington, D.C. Other nieces and nephews include: Camille Johnson McKelphin of Temple Hills, Maryland, Vernetta Henson of Mobile, Erroll Davis of Los Angeles, Walter Johnson of Hattiesburg, Anthony Johnson of San Bernardino, Quinita Johnson Owens of Baltimore, Annette Johnson of Adelphi, Maryland, Quinita Floyd McCreary of San Diego, Yolanda Stewart of Hampton, Virginia, Stacey Kennedy of Richmond, Virginia, Marjorie Ann Floyd Bivens of San Francisco, Victor Floyd of Hattiesburg, Ruth Murray of Philadelphia, William Murray of Bowie, Maryland; and Angelo Floyd, Michelle Floyd Johnson and Reginald Floyd, all of Mobile. A devoted landlady, Jacqui Parish of Los Angeles; and several close friends at First AME Church: Irma Jones, Ruby Bell and Gloria Lightner. Also a host of other relatives and friends.

Memorial Services scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2011, 12:00 noon. Officiating, Rev. Eduardo Vickers, Associate Pastor, First A.M.E. Church, 2270 South Harvard Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90018. Arrangements by **Angelus-Rosedale Mortuary, Los Angeles, California.**

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Above from the *Los Angeles Times* of 7 September 2011, p. AA7

## TUNSTALL-HENSON

The wedding of Rose Arveda Henson and Maurice Tyrone Tunstall was solemnized May 9 in Union Baptist Church. The Rev. A.J. Crawford officiated.

The bride, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Henson Sr., was given in marriage by her father. The Rev. Marshall Tunstall and Mrs. Sallie Tunstall are the bridegroom's parents.

Gayla Powe and Lacia Black were maid and matron of honor, respectively. Other bridal attendants were Tamara Dailey, Felicia English, and Marcia Westry.



Mrs. Tunstall

Willie Earl Brown and the bride's brother, Edward Henson Jr., were best men. Others attending the bridegroom were Archie Williams, Joe Jackson, and Ron Tarvin.

Kendra Williams and Roslyn Tower were flower girls. Leonard Moore was ring bearer and Kenneth Herron was Bible bearer.

A reception followed in Gerald Wallace Auditorium. After a honeymoon in Navarre Beach, Fla., the couple will reside in Mobile.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d., likely from the *Press Register*

**In Loving Remembrance**  
**Of Your Birthday**  
 We Love And Miss You Dad.  
 Karen, Steve, Greg, David, Essie and Philip.

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**TUNSTALL**  
 Rev. Marshall Joseph Tunstall — A native and lifelong resident of Mobile, AL was born June 12, 1929 passed Wednesday, September 20, 2000 at a local hospital. He was a member of Big Zion A.M.E. Zion Church where he served as an Associate Pastor. He was former pastor of other churches in the Mobile area which include, Little Zion A.M.E. Zion Church in Mt. Vernon, AL, Bethlehem A.M.E. Zion Church in Mobile, AL and Crockett Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church in Prichard, AL. He was a retired employee of International Paper Company. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Stephanie Grisson. He leaves to cherish his memory eight children, Gloria (Joseph) Collins, Martin C. (Joy) Tunstall, Joseph L. Tunstall of Detroit, MS, Marshall Baldwin, Angetta (Ronald) Brownlee, Loretta Tunstall (Michael) Donaldson, cherish her memories, a loving and supportive grandmother, Mrs. Willie Ester Lucky of Mobile, AL; father, Ralph J. Lucky; mother, Brenda J. Sykes; sisters, Shafania (Jermaine) Hill, Jacqueline A. Sykes, all of Mobile, Tina M. Sykes, Baton Rouge, LA; brothers, Darren, Hillie and Aubrey Sykes, all of Mobile; niece, LaShanna; nephew, Quanterious Lucky; aunts, Mary (Buster) Boykins, Patricia (Anthony) Watts, Bronx, NY, Flora (Willie) Scott, Jacqueline and Roberta Sykes, all of Mobile, Marilyn (Willie) Johnson, Birmingham, AL; uncles, Jesse (Yolanda) Jerry, Samuel Paul Lucky, all of Mobile, William Lucky of Miami, FL, Ronald Hampton of Fayeville, NC; a host of relatives, cousin and friends. Visitation will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2000 at St. Paul AME Church, from 9:00 AM until the 11:00 AM funeral. With Rev. G. L. Washington, pastor and officiating minister. Interment will follow in the Whispering Pines Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to HODGES CHAPEL, LLC, 701 Dr. M. L. King Jr. Ave, Mobile, AL 36603.

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Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d., from the *Press Register*





**Pharren V. Tunstall**  
*Oct. 29, 1991 - Aug. 30, 2016*

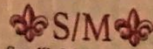
Pharren Victoria Tunstall, affectionately known as "PharBear", was born on October 29, 1991 to Maurice Tyrone and Rose Henson Tunstall. She gained her angel's wings on Tuesday, August 30, 2016. Pharren was a graduate of Baker High School Class of 2010.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, Rev. Marshall Tunstall.

Pharren is survived by her parents, Maurice and Rose Tunstall; brother, Jonathan Tunstall; grandparents, Edward and Vernetta Henson and Sallie Tunstall; devoted boyfriend, Johnnie Williams; uncles, Edward (Juanita) Henson, Martin (Joy) Tunstall and Leon (Betty) Tunstall; aunts, Loretta (Michael) Donaldson and Angetta (Ronald) Brownlee, Meichelle Williams; four great-uncles; two great-aunts; five cousins; and many other loving relatives and friends.

Her remains will lie in state on Friday, September 9, 2016, from 5-8pm at Small's Mortuary, Mobile. A visitation will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016 from 9am until the 11am funeral hour at Mt. Hebron Church Ministries, 2531 Berkley Ave., Mobile, AL. Interment will follow in Mobile Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Mobile, AL.

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Undated clipping from Vernetta Henson, likely *Mobile Press Register*

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**Mrs. Willie Mae Taylor Patterson** -- a native Mobilian born February 21, 1921 departed this life April 30, 2004 at a local hospital. She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter James Patterson and parents, William Taylor and Rosina Allen-Taylor. She is survived by her daughters, Verdell Taylor-Roberts (Lee), Columbia, SC, Regina Taylor-Edwards (Simeon), New Haven, CT, Wenonah Patterson, Mobile, AL; one son, Darron E. Patterson (Denise), Detroit, MI; six grandchildren, six great grandchildren; one brother, Clarence Taylor and one sister, Georgia Mae Taylor, both of Mobile, AL; a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral service will be Saturday, May 8, 2004 at Yorktown Baptist Church at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. C.L. Daniels, presiding, Bishop Levy Knox, eulogist. Interment will follow in Oaklawn Cemetery. Arrangements by: CHRISTIAN BENEVOLENT FUNERAL HOME, 201 N. Hamilton Street, Mobile, AL 36603.

Published by *Press-Register* on May 7, 2004. (see original clipping below with photo)

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**PATTERSON**  
Mrs. Willie Mae Taylor Patterson — a native Mobilian born February 21, 1921 departed this life April 30, 2004 at a local hospital. She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter James Patterson and parents, William Taylor and Rosina Allen-Taylor. She is survived by her daughters, Verdell Taylor-Roberts (Lee), Columbia, SC, Regina Taylor-Edwards (Simeon), New Haven, CT, Wenonah Patterson, Mobile, AL; one son, Darron E. Patterson (Denise), Detroit, MI; six grandchildren, six great grandchildren; one brother, Clarence Taylor and one sister, Georgia Mae Taylor, both of Mobile, AL; a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral service will be Saturday, May 8, 2004 at Yorktown Baptist Church at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. C.L. Daniels, presiding, Bishop Levy Knox, eulogist. Interment will follow in Oaklawn Cemetery. Arrangements by: CHRISTIAN BENEVOLENT FUNERAL HOME, 201 N. Hamilton Street, Mobile, AL 36603.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson; published by *Press-Register* on May 7, 2004.

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**Ms. Georgia Mae (JarJa) Taylor** -- A native of Plateau, Alabama and resident of Mobile died Saturday, March 11, 2006. Ms. Taylor was an elementary school teacher, whose career spanned 38 years, beginning in Ozark, Alabama and ending in the Mobile County School System. She taught at Whitley

Elementary in Plateau for 23 years before retiring in 1979 from Glendale Elementary in Prichard, Alabama. Ms. Taylor graduated Mobile County Training School and earned Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts Degrees in Elementary Education from Alabama State Teachers College (now Alabama State University) in Montgomery, Alabama. Ms. Taylor was preceded in death by her parents Rosina and Deacon William Taylor and sisters Helen Taylor and Willie Mae Patterson (Walter). She is survived by a brother, Mr. Clarence Taylor of Bay Minette, Alabama; three devoted nieces, Verdell Roberts (Lee) of Columbia, SC, Regina Edwards (Simeon) of New Haven, Connecticut, and Wenonah Patterson of Mobile, as well as three other nieces, Bernadine Taylor-Knighton, Leticia Taylor and Marion Taylor of Chicago, Illinois. She is also survived by two devoted nephews, Darron Patterson (Denise) of Detroit, Michigan and Lorenzo Jones (Barbara) of Mobile. Her remains will lie in state at Christian Benevolent Funeral Home Friday, March 17, 2006 from 12:00 until 5:00 p.m. and continued Saturday, March 18, 2006 at Yorktown Baptist Church in Plateau after 11:00 a.m. Funeral service will be at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Christopher Williams presiding. Interment will follow in Oaklawn Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to CHRISTIAN BENEVOLENT FUNERAL HOME, 201 N Hamilton St., Mobile, AL 36603

Published by *Press-Register* on Mar. 17, 2006.

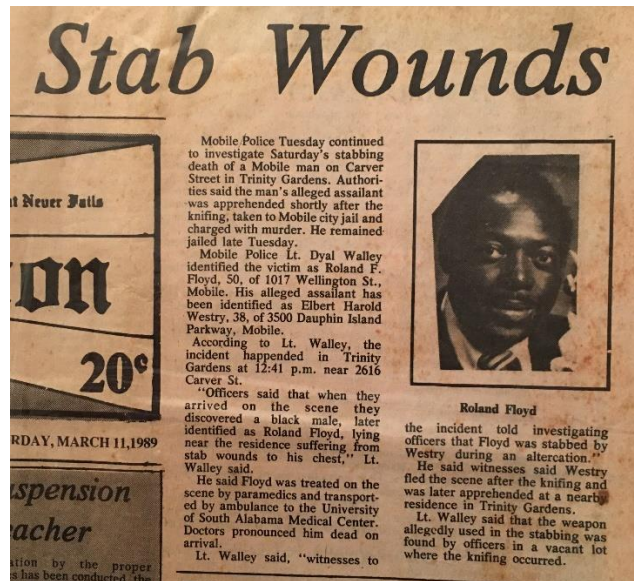
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**TAYLOR, Clarence ""Big Daddy" Taylor: God's Chef"- Special to the *Press Register*.**

Even if you'd never met Clarence Taylor in person, you've probably still come in contact with his work around Mobile many, many times over. "Big Daddy," as he was known all along the Gulf Coast, was the longtime executive chef at Mobile Greyhound Park and a prominent fixture in Mobile's culinary community for years. He had a rare talent for preparing food in ways that made people forever remember his dishes. Taylor, 86, a native of Plateau and a longtime resident of William F. Green Veterans Home in Bay Minette, died Thursday at North Baldwin County Hospital. "He was just an all around good man and an excellent chef," said Cozy Brown, former owner of Brother's Seafood and now proprietor of Cozy Brown's Kitchen in Whistler. "Any time he could help, he would. He was truly God's Chef." Taylor graduated from Mobile County Training School in 1940 and moved to Chicago shortly thereafter where he began his cooking career at Campbell's Soup Company. He later joined the United States Navy where he honed his cooking skills, before returning to Mobile after his discharge and going to work on the luxurious Pullman Railroad cars during a time when "real food" was prepared and served on passenger trains. From there, Big Daddy later became head chef at Skyline Country Club before assuming the same role at the swank Admiral Semmes Hotel in downtown Mobile. He later became head chef at the Greyhound Park, and even had a role in security at the track during his later years. One of his most famous recipes ... Big Daddy's Mobile Bay Seafood Gumbo ... has been imitated but never completely duplicated at restaurants throughout the Port City, and was even featured in a Ford Motor Company cookbook that chronicled the favorite dishes of relatives of the company's many employees. Taylor was preceded in death by his mother and father, Rosina and William Taylor, and his three sisters Helen Taylor, Willie Mae Taylor Patterson and Georgia Mae Taylor. He is survived by three daughters, Bernadine (John) Knighton, Letitia Taylor and Marion Taylor of Chicago, IL, and a step daughter Evelyn (William) Gullette of Mobile; a son, Lorenzo Jones also of Mobile. He is also survived by nieces, Dr. Verdell (Lee) Roberts, of Columbia SC, Regina (Simeon) Edwards and Wenonah Patterson both of Mobile; Great nieces Tarah (Walt) Davis and Leigh Roberts both of New Haven CT, and a nephew Darron (Denise) Patterson of Mobile; Great nephews Delvin (Kerry) Patterson, Kendal Odom and Josef Simmons

all of Mobile, and Dezant Odom of Detroit MI. He is further survived by seven grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and 15 great, great grandchildren. The family would like to extend a special debt of thanks to his close friend Mr. Jessie Bell of William F. Green Veterans Home as well as to the entire staff of the facility for the kindness, care and friendship shown toward Mr. Taylor during his time there. Homegoing services for Big Daddy Taylor will be held at 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, July 8, at Christian Benevolent Funeral Home, 201 N. Hamilton St., preceded by public viewing and visitation beginning at 9 a.m. Interment will be in Oaklawn Cemetery. Arrangements by CHRISTIAN BENEVOLENT FUNERAL HOME 201 N HAMILTON ST. MOBILE, AL 36603. Published by *Press-Register* on Jul. 7, 2009.

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Clipping re murder of Roland F. Floyd, supplied by Vernetta Henson; from the *Mobile Beacon*, 11 March 1989

**JONES, Julia Alfredetta Floyd.** Sunrise: May 6, 1926 Sunset: August 21, 2011 Julia Floyd Jones, dead at age 85. She was born May 6, 1926 in Plateau, Mobile County, Alabama, number three of eleven children, to Ora Anna (Ellis) Floyd and Nathan Daniel Floyd. She is a direct descendant of Cudjo Lewis, who came to this country as human cargo in 1853 aboard the last slave ship to the United States, "The Clotilda". She was preceded in death by her only child, Harvey Tyrone Jones who passed away in December of 1999. Affectionately known to family and friends as "Dette", Julia accepted Christ at an early age and became a member of Union Baptist Church in Plateau, Alabama. She was an outstanding student throughout her school years and graduated with honors from Mobile County Training School in Plateau in 1943. Following high school she joined the United States Cadet Corps for Nurses and graduated with her Registered Nurses Degree (RN) in 1946 from Columbus Hospital School of Nursing in Columbus, Georgia. Her first employment was at Tuskegee General Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama. During her tenure there, she met and married Rupert Saint John Jones of Chicago in 1951. They became the parents of one son.

Later she returned to Mobile briefly and by 1955 she had moved to California where she continued to work as a Registered Nurse in several hospitals. In addition to working in her profession, she became an entrepreneur and businesswoman who owned several group homes for developmentally challenged youth. In the meantime, she became enthralled with and for over 50 years, until this very day, had attached her religious membership to First A.M.E. Church of Los Angeles, where she sang in the Choir, praised the Lord, loved its members and its leadership, and made many friends. Additionally, she sang for many years with the world renowned Crystal Cathedral Choir in Garden Grove, California. During the Watts Riots of 1965, Julia served as a volunteer First Responder helping to save the lives of others. In the process, she herself suffered life threatening gun shot wounds. As a result she was issued a permanent, lifetime permit to carry a concealed weapon.

Julia Floyd Jones lived life on her own terms. She was an adventurer and did not allow anything to stop her from doing the things she wanted to do. She followed her passion and became a world traveler. She has visited most of the great places of note in Europe as well as the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, and was baptized in the River Jordan. She also toured the great Pyramids of Egypt, the Taj Mahal of India, The Vatican in Rome and the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Great Christo of Sugar Loaf Mountain in Brazil, to the Glaciers of Canada. Notwithstanding, she visited many remarkable places within the United States such as Mount Rushmore, The Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, The Big Apple and The Big Easy, to name a few.

Those who continue to cherish her memory include three siblings: One brother, Vernon C. Floyd, owner of three radio stations in Hattiesburg, Mississippi; two sisters: Dr. Ruth Floyd Johnson, an Educator and Executive Director of the family business, The Ora A. Floyd Foundation; and Vernell (Bunny) Floyd Obadeyi, a retired Pharmaceutical Specialist. Also a favorite nephew, Michael Davis, an Immigration Legal Expert of Washington, D.C. Other nieces and nephews include: Camille Johnson McKelphin of Temple Hills, Maryland, Vernetta Henson of Mobile, Erroll Davis of Los Angeles, Walter Johnson of Hattiesburg, Anthony Johnson of San Bernardino, Quinita Johnson Owens of Baltimore, Annette Johnson of Adelphi, Maryland, Quinita Floyd McCreary of San Diego, Yolanda Stewart of Hampton, Virginia, Stacey Kennedy of Richmond, Virginia, Marjorie Ann Floyd Bivens of San Francisco, Victor Floyd of Hattiesburg, Ruth Murray of Philadelphia, William Murray of Bowie, Maryland; and Angelo Floyd, Michelle Floyd Johnson and Reginald Floyd, all of Mobile. A devoted landlady, Jacqui Parish of Los Angeles; and several close friends at First AME Church: Irma Jones, Ruby Bell and Gloria Lightner. Also a host of other relatives and friends.

Published by *Los Angeles Times* from Sep. 6 to Sep. 7, 2011.

## Obituaries and Stories re Clara Eva Bell Allen Jones, her daughter Olivette Howze, Olivette's husband Kearley Howze, and other Allens



Eva Jones

### Eva Jones dies at age 98

Clara Eva Bell Allen Jones, 98, the daughter of an African brought to Mobile aboard the slave ship Clotilde, died Feb. 4 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Clotilde was the last slave ship to land in America. By 1859, when the ship arrived in Mobile, it was illegal to bring people into the United States to be sold into slavery.

But the captain of the Clotilde, with about 30 kidnapped Africans aboard, tried to sneak the Clotilde into Mobile. He was spotted, but slipped through a blockade and made his way up the Mobile River.

Just north of the new Cochrane Africatown USA Bridge, he scuttled the ship, and the Africans made it to shore. Discovering that they were free, the Africans began a settlement which became known as Africatown.

Ms. Jones's father, Polette Allen, was among the freed Africans. With Allen aboard the Clotilde was his first wife and their four children. She died shortly after arriving in Mobile, and Allen remarried and had 10 more children.

Ms. Jones was the sixth of Allen's 14 children. She was born Sept. 26, 1894.

She was a charter member of Union Missionary Baptist Church in Plateau and a member of Leah Chapter No. 33 OES.

Survivors include a daughter, Olivette J. Howze of Pittsburg; a son, Willie G. Sherman of Los Angeles, Calif.; four grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Reese Funeral Home in Prichard handled the funeral arrangements. She was interred Monday in the Plateau Cemetery.

Note that there are some errors in the Jones obituary above, including “Polette” Allen (which should be Polee Allen); the fact that there were not 30 enslaved on board the *Clotilda*, but about 110; the fact that the enslaved did not “make it to shore” and were in fact not freed (by the US Army) until five years after they arrived in 1860.

### **Clara E. Jones**

Clara Eva Bell Allen Jones, 97, whose father was on the last slave ship to land in America, was buried Monday in Mobile, Ala., in the area where her father helped establish a settlement for former slaves.

Mrs. Jones, known as Momma Eva because she frequently took care of the children of others, died of heart failure on Feb. 4 at West Penn Hospital. She had been living in Homewood since November.

“She was Momma Eva to everybody. Nobody called her Mrs. Jones,” said her daughter, Olivette Howze of Homewood.

“Anybody who was going anywhere or had to leave the area, they left their children with Momma Eva. She helped raise 63 other children.”

Her father, Polee Allen, nicknamed her “Joco,” which means “love” in his African dialect.

She was the second daughter of Allen, who was on the slave ship *Clotilde*, which attempted to deliver slaves to Mobile in 1859 after the slave trade had been outlawed. When the ship was refused docking in Mobile, it went up the Mobile River, where Allen and a number of other slaves broke away from the ship and swam to shore.

When they realized they were free men, Allen and the others established a community that is now a national historic site known as Africatown.

Mrs. Howze said her mother was active until she became sick last fall. For example, she led exercise classes at her church and told stories about her family history to anyone who would listen, Mrs. Howze said.

In her earlier years, she was a designer and seamstress whose work was recognized throughout Alabama, and she was “a born singer,” her daughter said.

Besides her daughter, Mrs. Jones is survived by four grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.



Above obituary is from *The Pittsburgh Press*, Wednesday, 12 February 1992, p. 20.

CITIES-AL - Africatown Descendants

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**JONES, EVA ALLEN**  
Mrs. Eva Allen Jones—born September 26, 1894 in Plateau, AL passed this life for eternity on February 4, 1992 in Pittsburgh, Penn. She was the second child born to the union of the late Polee Allen and Lucy Turner. She was a charter member of Union Missionary Baptist Church in Plateau and a popular community and Africatown USA figure. She was also a member of Leah Chapter #33 OES. She leaves to mourn her passing a devoted daughter, Mrs. Olivette J. Howze of Pittsburg, Penn.; her adopted son, Willie G. (Mary) Sherman of Los Angeles, CA; three grandsons, Elbert A. (Ruith) Jones, Edward E. (Rachel) Jones and Donald R. (Gloria) Howze; one granddaughter, Ariel Johnson; 14 great grandchildren; four great great grandchildren; three sisters in law, Jessie Allen, Hanna Allen and Amanda Jones; three god children, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Visitation at the Reese Funeral Home Sunday, February 9, 1992 from 12 noon until 5 p.m. at which time her remains will be carried to the Union Missionary Baptist Church for visitation after 6 p.m. The family will receive friends from 7 until 9 p.m. Funeral services will be held from the church on Monday, February 10, 1992 at 11 a.m. with Rev. A. J. Crawford, pastor and officiating minister. Interment will follow in the Plateau Cemetery. Funeral arrangements by REESE FUNERAL HOME, 925 Bessemer Avenue, Prichard, Alabama. Police escort for funerals.

Mobile Press Register  
9 Feb 1992  
p. 13C  
"Mama Sue"

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## Homewood woman recalls growing up in Africatown

By **George Aspiotes**

TRIBUNE-REVIEW [of the Pittsburgh area]

Sunday, February 9, 2003

*Olivette Howze, of Homewood, holds a scrapbook of the history of Africatown USA. In 1860, an illegal slave ship brought Africans to Alabama's Gulf Shore. Africans who avoided sale settled in Africatown USA, which is now part of a suburb of Mobile, Ala. Howze's grandfather and great-great-grandmother were among its original settlers.*

The ship brought as many as 160 African slaves illegally to Mobile, Ala., from the Gulf of Guinea in western Africa. On board were Clara Turner and her grandson, Polee Allen, the great-great-grandmother and grandfather of Olivette Howze, 86, of Homewood. Her relatives and some of the others on board founded their own community; Africatown USA; which still exists today.

"They came here, and they made something," Howze said. "Because of them, we had a deeper culture, a better culture than most."

Howze will speak about her ancestors and her upbringing at noon Saturday in Mobile and at Phipps Conservatory in Oakland on Sunday as part of programs for Black History Month.

Clara Turner and Polee Allen, Howze's maternal grandfather, were taken to America because of a bet. In 1808, the federal government outlawed the importing of slaves. Fifty years later, wealthy ship owner Timothy Meaher made a bet with friends that his ship could deliver African slaves to the United States anyway, said James Lockett, a professor at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Federal authorities heard of the ship's impending arrival. They waited in Mobile, ready to seize its human cargo. To avoid capture, ship Capt. William Foster transferred the Africans to a riverboat, then burned and sank the *Clotilde*.

The Africans were transported up the Spanish River where they were hidden, Lockett said. Some were sold. But 33 people avoided sale and traveled back to Mobile, where they established Africatown USA, a home for the people who had been forcibly taken from their homes.

The most noted of the original 33 was Cudjoe Lewis, who Howze said was her great-uncle. Lewis joined Allen and others to build churches, homes and schools. They built a community during a time of racial strife that has now survived nearly 150 years.

Records are not clear whether Africatown was ever formally incorporated as a town. It is now part of Pritchard, Ala., a suburb of Mobile. Africatown has more than 12,000 residents.

Today, most of Howze's family still make the area their home. They attend the Second Union Baptist Church. The First Union Baptist Church, where Howze's grandfather once preached, was replaced with the newer building. The residents are proud of their ancestors' accomplishments and their strength in establishing a thriving community in the South.

Howze doesn't dwell on the hardships her ancestors endured. She just remembers the opportunities she had in Africatown USA. She thinks about how it grew, the opportunities that the community provided for her and her family, and the values she learned.

"We had beautiful home, beautiful schools, wonderful churches, good teachers and good parents," Howze said while gazing at a picture of her church in Mobile. "We had land, we had family, we lived well. I'm glad I was raised there."

As a girl, Howze attended the Mobile County Training School, a segregated public school.

Howze recalls how her mother was "the best seamstress around" and how her father's skills as a mechanic were well-known in the area. Her parents taught her to excel in whatever she did, a

value that would eventually allow Howze to share the same success that her parents had.

Howze most remembers how the Mobile area seemed immune to the rampant racism found in America in the early 1900s.

"I know it was bad in other places, but I never seen all the bad things people had done," Howze said. "We had white doctors, we had black doctors. We could go into any store we wanted, and my parents owned two stores of their own. Nothing happened in Mobile."

In the early 1930s, Howze and her husband, Curley, moved from Mobile to Pittsburgh. They settled in the Hill District and opened Curley's Place, the first of three restaurants that the couple owned in the area.

The two were successful in their ventures in Pittsburgh, but Howze said sadly that Pittsburgh did not always have the racial harmony of her hometown.

Howze has made Pittsburgh her home for almost 70 years. She and her husband, who has passed away, raised three sons and a daughter here. She loves the friends she has made here, but is quick to point out that she will always hold Mobile in her heart.

Today, Howze lives with son Elbert Arnette Jones in Homewood. Like any mother, she has no problem bragging about her family, especially her three sons.

"I got three of the best boys in the world. They take care of me like I was a baby," Howze said. "I'm so grateful for all of my family."

Every night she reads from her Bible and every Sunday she walks one block to attend services at the Baptist Temple Church on Race Street. Growing up the granddaughter of a preacher has made her a deeply religious person, and she will proudly tell you that her faith in God has provided her with a wonderful life.

"My grandmother once asked me if I knew what right was. I said yes," Howze said with a smile. "She told me that if you do right, right will follow you, and it's true. I treat people like I want to be treated, and I have had a beautiful life, all my life."

In 1858, steamboat baron Timothy Meaher bet friends \$100,000 that he could defy the federal government and bring a ship of slaves to Alabama from Africa. Beginning in 1808, federal law prohibited importing slaves into America.

Meaher bought the *Clotilde*, a schooner owned by Capt. William Foster. At the time, the *Clotilde* was touted as the fastest ship of its kind. Meaher felt it was perfect for his needs. The ship set sail to western Africa, an area that now is Ghana. Foster bought 116 to 160 Africans; historians disagree on the exact number, and paid \$50 to \$60 each.

When the ship returned on July 9, 1860, federal agents were stationed in Mobile, Ala., waiting. To avoid capture, Foster transferred the Africans onto a steamboat owned by Meaher and then

sank the Clotilde.

The Africans were taken to a plantation near Montgomery, Ala. Shortly after the ship's arrival, Meaher was arrested and charged with illegally supporting the shipment. Then the Civil War broke out, and the government didn't try Meaher.

After selling or releasing most of the Africans, Meaher took the 33 that he had set aside for himself and freed them near Mobile.

The freed Africans adopted American names and developed their own colony; Africatown USA. The community survives to this day.

Many of the residents can trace their roots to the original 33 settlers. The people and buildings have changed, but the residents have preserved their heritage as the descendents of the last known Africans taken as slaves and brought to America.

*Source: James Lockett, a professor at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Ala.*

Source of this clip: <https://www.lipstickalley.com/threads/africatown-and-other-african-african-american-facts.391540/>

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CITIES-AL- AFRICA-TOWN DESCENDANTS

see Bio-Mobile-JO-JU

News Article - Mobile Register (published as MOBILE PRESS REGISTER) - February 16, 1992 - page 21  
February 16, 1992 | Mobile Register (published as MOBILE PRESS REGISTER) | Mobile, Alabama | Page 21

# 'Mama Eva' a treasure

By BARBARA DRUMMOND  
Press Register Reporter

A grand lady died during this Black History Month. There was very little fanfare on the local evening news announcing her passing in Pittsburgh, Pa., only a Press Register obituary.

Clara Eva Bell Allen Jones, affectionately known as "Mama Eva," may not be listed in the pages of Mobile area history books, but believe me, this woman of strength had a worthwhile story to tell.



I remember the moment I met Mama Eva in her Plateau home. There I was, a frustrated rookie reporter, who had spent over an hour trying to locate her huge wood frame house.

By the time I luckily wandered onto her street, after taking directions from a man in the old Plateau Cemetery and a woman walking along the street, I was fit to be tied.

### My turn

They both knew where Mama Eva lived, but the name of her street had escaped them. "Just go down there, take a left and ask anybody... she lives in that big house. Everybody knows Mama Eva," she said. As I drove up to the house, wearily getting out of my car, a strong voice yelled, "Come on in child."

When I pulled the screen door back, there sat this woman in a flowery duster dress, shelling peas. Although she was advanced in years, I somehow expected to see this woman getting around with a cane and being a little senile. Mama Eva was just the opposite of everything I had expected.

While extending a greeting, Mama Eva continued to shell those peas, never missing a beat. As a matter of fact, she invited me to help.

Being this professional reporter, I felt it would be inappropriate for me to indulge in such activity.

I was so amazed at the memory of this woman that before long I was sitting there shelling peas.

With a little smile and eyes that sparkled with excitement she talked about the moral values and the pride inherited from the Africans who were aboard the last slave ship, "The Clotide," to arrive in Mobile.

Mama Eva went on talking about the Africans that settled in the "Africa Town" community.

"We were close-knit then. If one got in trouble, the other ones was in trouble too," she said.

In the settlement days, Mama Eva said it was a tradition for the Africans to get together daily in their homes, singing and praying for each other. They wanted to return to their native homeland, but Mama Eva said, "They worked hard and made the most of what they had."

Mama Eva was 98 when she died. A lifetime of Mobile history died along with this woman of courage.

## **Henrietta Edwards Allen**

Henrietta Edwards Allen, superintendent of the elementary Sunday School department at Union Missionary Baptist Church in Plateau, died at a local hospital Monday.

A lifelong Plateau resident, Mrs. Allen was a member of the church's Missionary Society and was active in other church activities. She also was one of the founders and was treasurer of the Progressive League of Plateau, which is working to preserve that community as Africa Town USA.

Among her survivors are two daughters, Doris Allen Lee of Whistler and Edna Allen Seltzer of Creola; three sons, Alister Allen of Compton, Calif.; Herbert Allen, of Washington, D.C.; and Edward Allen of Oxon Hill, Md.; and 11 grandchildren.

Reese Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

**HODGE'S FUNERAL CHAPEL***(Successors to Smith & Gaston)*

Taylor H. Hodge Sr., Mrs. Phoebe K. Hodge Secty

Virgil L. Sanders, Mrs. Sharon Hodge Sanders

Taylor H. Hodge, Jr.

**TAYLOR, HELEN LEE**

Miss Helen Lee Taylor (Bunchie)—A native and lifelong resident of Plateau, AL for a number of years. Helen was the oldest daughter of the late Deacon William and Rosina C. Allen Taylor. She accepted Christ at an early age under the pastorship of the late Rev. J.S. Hannon. She was a graduate of Mobile County Training School. Helen departed this life on Friday, November 10, 1989 in a local hospital. She was a faithful member of the Yorktown Baptist Church. She served as recording Secretary of the Senior Usher Board and a Council of the Junior Usher Board and a Sunday School member. Helen was a member of Leah Chapter #33 Order of Eastern Star, a member of Alameda G.S. Wilkerson Federated Club. She leaves to cherish her memory two devoted sisters, Miss Georgia M. Taylor and Mrs. Willie M. Taylor Patterson; one devoted brother, Mr. Clarence James Taylor all of Mobile, AL; three devoted nieces, Mrs. Verdel Taylor (Lee) Roberts, Mrs. Regina Taylor (Simeon) Edward all of New Haven, CT and Miss Wenonah Patterson of Mobile, AL; two nephews, one devoted, Mr. Darron Patterson of Detroit, MI and Mr. Lorenzo Jones of Mobile, AL; two nieces of Chicago, IL, Bernadine Taylor Knight and Letitia Taylor; two great nieces, Tarah Roberts and Leigh Roberts both of New Haven, CT; one great nephew, Delvin Patterson of Mobile, AL; One aunt, Miss Viola Allen; two great aunts, Mrs. Eva Jones and Mrs. Louise Bacoff; one great uncle, Mr. Edward Allen; three devoted cousins, Mrs. Dorothy Arthur, Miss Maggie Fields and Mrs. Olivett Howze; other relatives, cousins, and many numerous friends to mention, devoted ones Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Bradley, Mrs. Virginia Keyes, Mrs. Anna Monette Crum, Mrs. Mary Hines, and Mrs. Flora Gibbs. Her remains will lie in state after 5 pm on Tuesday, November 14, 1989 at Yorktown Baptist Church. Family will receive friends from 7-9 pm Funeral services will be Wednesday, November 15, 1989 at 1 pm from the church with Rev. C.L. Daniel pastor and officiating minister and Rev. R.L. Hope, associate minister. Interment in Oaklawn Cemetery. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Hodges Funeral Chapel (Successors to Smith and Gaston) 701 Dr. M.L. King Ave., Mobile, AL.

**LOVETT'S FUNERAL HOME**

433-5302

404 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AVE.

MRS. L. N. LOVETT — OWNER

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

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**GRAYSON, MARION HENDERSON**  
 Mr. Marion Henderson Grayson (Baby Rae Duke)—A native of Mobile, AL, and a resident of Philadelphia, PA, passed Tuesday, July 29, 1989 in Philadelphia. He leaves to cherish his memory, one devoted daughter, Sharron Grayson and fiance Carrol Bennett, both of Philadelphia, PA; mother, Louise Grayson Bacot; two brothers, Robert (Ann) Grayson of Sacramento, CA and John (Vivian) Bacot; two sisters, Ivory Herron Hill and Mary Pogue; aunt, Eva Jones; uncle, Edward Allen; a host of other relatives and friends. There will be no wake services held on Friday at the family's request. Funeral services will be held from the Union Baptist Church (Bay Bridge Road) on Saturday, August 5, 1989 at 2 p.m. with Rev. A.J. Crawford, officiating minister. Mr. Grayson will lie in state at the church on Saturday from 10 a.m. until service time. Interment will follow in the Plateau Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are by REESE FUNERAL HOME, 925 Bessemer Ave, Prichard, AL. Police escort for funerals.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

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**Obituary of Elbert A. Jones**



**JONES  
ELBERT A.**

Of Homewood, departed peacefully February 20, 2011. He leaves to cherish his memory loving wife, Ruth Jones; devoted father of Michael, David, and Wendy; beloved stepfather of Michael J.; caring grandfather of three. Visitation Friday, 3-7 p.m. **SPRIGGS & WATSON FUNERAL HOME, INC.**, 720 N. Lang Ave., E.E., where services will be held Saturday, at 11 a.m. Interment Homewood Cemetery. *Send condolences at post-gazette.com/gb*

Above from the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Thursday, 24 February 2011, p. 22.

**Howze**

Suddenly on Thursday, Oct. 28, 1971, Kearly of 7230 Idlewild St.; beloved husband of Olivette; father of Ariel Johnson, Donald Howze, of Pgh., Elbert Jones of Pgh., Edward Jones of Montgomery, Ala.; brother of Thelma Williams of N. Y. Elizabeth McRae, Lula Graham, Theresa Williams, Albert, Leonard, Benjamin and Robert Howze, all of Mobile, Ala.; John of Toronto, Canada and Qualie Howze of Apalachicola, Fla.; eight grandchildren, three daughters-in-law, one son-in-law and mother-in-law. A host of other relatives and friends. Visitations 7-9 p.m. at the **GEORGE A. WARDEN FUNERAL HOME**, 1100 N. Homewood Ave., where funeral services will be held Tuesday at 1 p.m. Interment Homewood Cemetery.

Above from the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Monday 1 November 1971, p. 31.

Note that "Pgh" means "Pittsburgh"

From: <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?n=lucy-howze&pid=127848530>:

**HOWZE LUCY**

93 of Pgh. on Wed. May 27, 2009; loving mother of Elbert (Ruth) Jones, Donald (the late Gloria) Howze and the late Edward Jones (Rachel Jones) and the late Ariel V. Jones (Ernest G. Johnson); also survived by a special cousin Willie G. Sherman and a host of grandchildren, great-

grandchildren and cousins. Friends received Mon. 2-4 & 6-8 at RAPP FUNERAL HOME, 10940 Frankstown Rd., Penn Hills. 412-241-5415. Services will be held Tues. 1 pm at Baptist Temple Church, 7241 Race St. Send condolences at [post-gazette.com/gb](http://post-gazette.com/gb)

[NOTE: It is not entirely clear how this Lucy Howze, 93, fits into the family tree. It appears she may be a previous, first wife of Kearly Howze.]

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## **Article on Major (later Lt. Col.) Brehon Charles Allen, Jr.**

From: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/367239/eldridge-iowa-nurse-practitioner-mobilized-support-covid-19>

## **Eldridge, Iowa nurse practitioner mobilized in support of COVID-19**

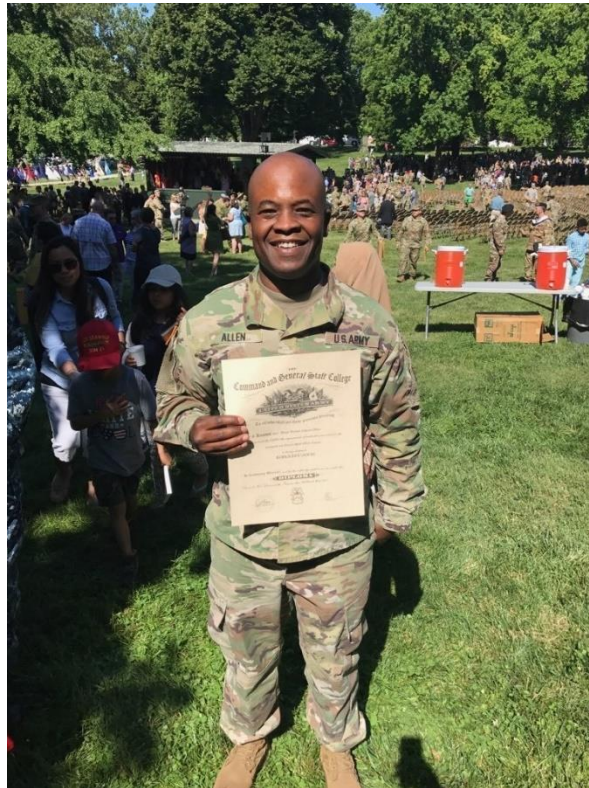


Photo By [courtesy asset](#) | Maj. Brehon Charles Allen, Jr. , now mobilized in an Urban Augmentation Task Force in... [read more](#)

IOWA CITY, IA, UNITED STATES

04.13.2020

Story by [Staff Sgt. Eric W. Jones](#)

[Army Reserve Medical Command](#)



While the majority of Americans are staying at home to protect the health of our nation, medical professionals of America's Army Reserve are mobilizing to assist local communities in this time of national emergency.

"This was perhaps the easiest decision in my life . . . There can never be a better opportunity to serve the American people who are, in many cases, in desperate need of healthcare" shared Maj. Brehon Charles Allen, Jr. an Army Reserve Soldier who is mobilizing in his role as a, 66P, nurse practitioner.

Allen, the officer in charge of the 7404th Troop Medical Clinic based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa is employed by the Iowa City branch of Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care System in his civilian capacity. He is one of more than 1200 Army Reserve medical professionals that have been assembled into Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces (UAMTF) as part of the Department of Defense response to COVID-19.

Specifically created to respond in this time of crisis, each UAMTF will augment the civilian medical community by delivering a wide range of critical medical capabilities, including medical providers, nurses, respiratory therapists and an infectious disease specialist. While UAMTFs do not perform surgeries on trauma patients, each 85-Soldier team is capable of supporting 250 low-acuity patients.

Allen initially joined the military to assist with his college expenses.

"I joined the Army Reserve and enrolled at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where I earned my initial bachelor's degree in psychology. I never forgot how the Army helped me. Since then I have always held a special place in my heart for the Army and want to give back to an organization that has benefitted myself and my family. It's a duty," commented Allen.

A husband and father of three, Allen shared that although his family is concerned for his own health, they recognize that his Army work has to be done. Maj. Allen has mobilized in the past, serving as a nurse case manager with a Community Based Warrior Transition Unit (CBWTU) at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois. Allen attended nurse practitioner school while serving the returning Soldiers in the

CBWTU.

"I grew as a Soldier, a professional, and an American serving the men and women who returned from conflicts abroad and assisted them entering the next stage of their life. This is the time I decided to become a nurse practitioner. I wanted to do more for soldiers. Do more than what an RN can do," stated Allen.

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Albert Reese, Sr. Founder

**HALL, JR.**  
Mr. James Brown "Cap" Hall, Jr.—Son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James (Edna Ruth Ellis) Hall, Sr., born August 1, 1951 in Plateau, AL, departed this life Wednesday, September 26, 2001. He confessed Christ at an early age and was baptized at Union Missionary Baptist Church under the Pastorate of the late Dr. H. H. Smith. He leaves to cherish his fond memories five sisters, Ms. Janice Ellis, Ms. Vilma Hall, Mrs. Vera (Ray Charles) Stone, Mrs. Althea (Boniface) Obiako, all of Mobile, AL, and Mrs. Rebecca Hall of Ingleside, TX; 2 brothers, Mr. Herman (Yolanda) Hall, Mobile, AL and Mr. Anthony Hall of Detroit, MI; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Visitation will be at the Reese Funeral Home on Thursday, October 4, 2001 from 10:00 AM until the 11:00 AM funeral hour. Rev. Edwin Ellis will officiate. Interment will follow in the Plateau Cemetery. Funeral arrangements entrusted to REESE FUNERAL HOME, 925 Bessemer Avenue, Prichard, Alabama 36610.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d. but from September/October 2001, likely the *Mobile Press-Register*

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Albert Reese Sr. Founder

**ELLIS**  
Brother Johnnie E. Ellis — a native of Magazine (Mobile), AL, was the sixth child of twelve, born to Edwin and Rebecca Allen Ellis on September 21, 1930. Bro. Ellis was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Myra Ellis, one sister, Edna Hall, five brothers, Edwin Jr., Everett, Harold, Francis and Ceasar "C.D.". Johnnie was a direct descendant of the late Cudjo Lewi and Polee Allen, two of the last African slaves brought from Benin (Dahomey) Togo in West Africa. They settle in Plateau, AL in 1859. He confessed Christ at an early age and was baptized at the Union Baptist Church, under the Pastorage of the late Dr. H.H. Smith. Johnnie's gift and love for singing was discovered as a youth singing in the Junior Choir. He sang with the Union Star Singers, Mt. Gilliard Quartet and the Union Baptist Church Male Chorus until his health failed. Bro. Ellis exchanged time for eternity and leaves to lament and cherish his memory three sons, Phillip (Babbett) Baggins and Larry Pickens, of Mobile, AL, and Jared Ellis, Prichard, AL; three sisters, Rebecca Anderson, Mobile, Gladys Lee, and Joyce (Calvin) Patterson, Ponte Verda Beach, FL; two

*Thoughts and memo*  
Death notices listed in today's paper, and

Partial clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d. Dated from another typescript version (see below) as from the *Mobile Register* of 26 February 2004.

### **Johnnie E. Ellis**

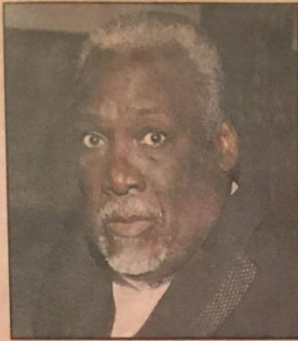
Brother Johnnie E. Ellis -- a native of Magazine (Mobile), AL, was the sixth child of twelve, born to Edwin and Rebecca Allen Ellis on September 21, 1930. Bro. Ellis was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Myra Ellis, one sister, Edna Hall, five brothers, Edwin Jr., Everett, Harold, Francis and Ceasar 'C.D.'. Johnnie was a direct descendant of the late Cudjo Lewi and Polee Allen, two of the last African slaves brought from Benin (Dahomey) Togo in West Africa. They settle in Plateau, AL in 1859. He confessed Christ at an early age and was baptized at the Union Baptist Church, under the Pastorage of the late Dr. H.H. Smith. Johnnie's gift and love for singing was discovered as a youth singing in the Junior Choir. He sang with the Union Star Singers, Mt. Gilliard Quartet and the Union Baptist Church Male Chorus until his health failed. Bro. Ellis exchanged time for eternity and leaves to lament and cherish his memory three sons, Phillip (Babbett) Baggins and Larry Pickens, of Mobile, AL, and Jared Ellis, Prichard, AL; three sisters, Rebecca Anderson, Mobile, Gladys Lee, and Joyce (Calvin) Patterson, Ponte Verda Beach, FL; two brothers, Frederick (Shirley) Ellis, Prichard, AL, Alfred (Cecelia) Ellis, Jasper, FL; eight grandchildren; several aunts and uncles, one devoted, Johnnie Mae Culpepper; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Visitation will be at the Reese Funeral Home on Friday, February 27, 2004 from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m, and then at the Union Missionary Baptist Church, Bay Bridge Road, Plateau, on Saturday, February 28, 2004 from 1:00 p.m. until the 2:00 p.m. funeral hour. Rev. A.J. Crawford, Pastor and officiating minister. Interment will follow in the Plateau Cemetery. Arrangements by REESE FUNERAL HOME, 925 Bessemer Ave., Prichard, AL.

Published in the Mobile Register on 2/26/2004.

Flowers & gifts • Charities

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson

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**ELLIS**

Brother Frederick D. Ellis, Sr.—  
Born May 20, 1937, a native and  
resident of Mobile, AL  
exchanged time for eternity on  
Tuesday, May 11, 2004. He  
leaves to cherish his memories  
a loving and devoted wife of 34  
years, Shirley Bailey Ellis; one  
loving and devoted son,  
Frederick (Rosa) D. Ellis, Jr.;  
one brother, Alfred (Cecelia)  
Ellis of Jasper, FL; four sisters,  
Yvonne Thompson of Detroit,  
MI; Rebecca Anderson of  
Mobile, AL, Gladys Lee and  
Joyce (Calvin) Patterson of  
Ponte Verda Beach, FL; one pre-  
cious grandson, Frederick D.  
Ellis, III of Tallahassee, FL; sev-  
eral sisters-in-law, three devoted,  
Lula Bell Ellis, JoAnne B.  
Williams and Carol B. (Winice)  
Brandon; several brothers-in-  
law, one devoted, Curtis M.  
Bailey and a host of nieces, one  
devoted, Dosha Ellis Beard,  
nephews, one devoted, Rev.  
Edwin (Sheryl) Ellis, III other  
relatives and devoted friends,  
Govenor (Sarah) Feagin,  
Delores Herrera, Bettye  
Johnson, Ozetta Taylor, Rev.  
Nathaniel (Glenda) Turbow all  
of Mobile, AL, Robert Ruffin of  
Los Angeles, CA and Annette  
Holland of Boston, MA.  
Visitation will be held on  
Saturday, May 15, 2004 from  
10:00 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m.  
funeral hour at the Union  
Missionary Baptist Church with  
Rev. A.J. Crawford pastor and  
Rev. Edwin T. Ellis, III officiating.  
Interment will follow in the  
Plateau Cemetery, Plateau, AL.  
Sympathetic and professional  
services are by:

**MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME**  
1302 St. Stephens Rd.  
Prichard, AL 36610

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

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**ELLIS, SR.**  
 Mr. Harold C. Ellis Sr. —A native and lifelong resident of Mobile, AL, departed this life on Tuesday, December 24, 1996 at a local hospital. Mr. Ellis is survived by a loving and devoted family, Lula McNeil Ellis, Jacqueline, Cynthia (Roger) Evans, Sharon, Harold Jr., Darryl, Mary and William; sisters and brothers, Rebecca E. Anderson, Joyce (Calvin) Patterson, Alfred, Ceasar, Francis (Beatrice), Gladys Lee, Johnny, Frederick (Shirley), Janice Ellis and Yvonne Thompson; two grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, one devoted niece, Velma Hall, uncles, aunts, other relatives and friends, three devoted friends, Freddie Campbell, Willie Robinson and Jimmy Houston. Visitation will be at the Union Missionary Baptist Church, Bay Bridge Rd., Plateau on Sunday, December 29, 1996 from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. Funeral services will be held from the church on Monday, December 30, 1996 at 11:00 A.M. Rev. A.J. Crawford, Pastor and officiating minister. Interment will follow in the Plateau Cemetery. REESE FUNERAL HOME, 925 Bessemer Avenue, Prichard, Alabama.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

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Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

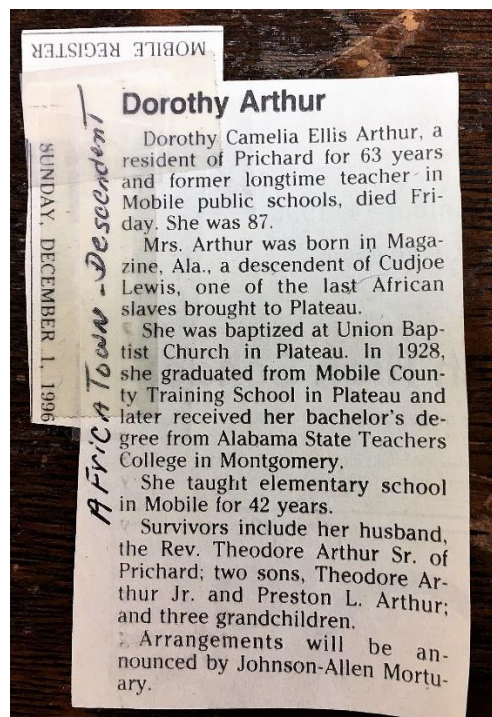
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ELLIS: Rev. Edwin T. Ellis III - A native of Chicago, IL was the youngest of four children. Born October 4, 1957 to Edwin T. Ellis Jr., and Beatrice Ellis. He was preceded in death by his father. He confessed Christ at an early age and was Baptized at Union Missionary Baptist Church, Plateau, AL, under the Leadership of the late Dr. H.H. Smith. He was called into the ministry under Rev. A. J. Crawford. He was the founder and Pastor of New Faith Missionary Baptist Church, Prichard, AL. Rev. Ellis exchanged time for eternity and leaves to cherish his memories,

a devoted wife, Sheryl Ellis; his mother, Beatrice Ellis of Mobile, AL; children, Morceine, Arlinda, Edwin, James, Melissa, Shawana, Youcarra, Dan and Anthony all of Mobile, AL; sixteen grandchildren; two brothers, Ronald Ellis and Michael (Dorothy) Ellis of Mobile, AL, one sister, Brenda Ellis McMillian of Mobile, AL; one uncle, Alfred (Cecelia) Ellis of Jasper, FL; two aunts, Gladys Lee and Joyce (Calvin) Patterson of Jacksonville, FL; one great aunt, Johnnie Mae Culpepper, Birmingham, AL; aunt-in-laws, Anna Bell (Julius) Broussard, Lula Ellis; brother-in-laws, Jerry, Joe and Roy Calhoun all of Mobile, AL; John Calhoun of New Orleans, LA; sister-in-laws, Vivian and April Calhoun, Constance (Jessie) Constantine, Clotiel (Jimmy) Hunter all of Mobile, AL, Andretta Williams of Pascagoula, MS, Erin (Arthur) Greer, Nashville, TN; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Devoted friends, Brother Eddie Allen, Rev. Dennis Stallworth, Rev. Nathaniel Turnbow and Rev. Anthony Gayles; devoted cousins, Joseph Lewis, Larry Pickens and Harold Ellis, Jr. Visitation will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 9:00 am until the 11:00 am funeral hour from the Union Missionary Baptist Church, Plateau, AL, Rev. A.J. Crawford Pastor Rev. Michael Howard officiating. Interment will follow in Prichard Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements by Memorial Funeral Home, Prichard, AL.

Published by *Press-Register* on May 1, 2009.

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## FLOYD, ORA ANNA

Mrs. Ora Anna Floyd—Widow of the late Nathan D. Floyd and the daughter of the late William and Julia Allen Ellis. Born February 13, 1897 in Plateau, AL. She departed this life on Friday, July 3, 1987 in a local hospital. She is survived by nine children, Mrs. Rosemary (David) Murray of Maryland, Mr. Robert L. Floyd of Mobile, AL, Mrs. Julia A. Jones of California, Mr. Vernon C. Floyd of Hattiesburg, MS, Ms. Florastein Floyd of Mobile, AL, Mrs. Dorothy Davies/Spiff (Roy B. Tomo Spiff Nigeria) of Mobile, AL, Dr. Ruth O. Johnson of California, Mr. Roland F. (Valerie) Floyd of Mobile, AL and Mrs. Vernell (Lark) Worthy of California; a devoted granddaughter, Mrs. Vernetta (Edward) Henson of Mobile, AL. Vernetta who resided with Ora from six weeks old devoted her total life to caring for Ora during her period grave illness until her aunt came home. She is Ora's daughter in every sense of the word except by birth. She is also survived by one sister, Mrs. Dorothy E. Arthur of Mobile, AL; one sister-in-law, Mrs. Fannie Floyd Woods; two great-aunts, Mrs. Eva Jones and Mrs. Louise Bako; 20 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews of the Edwin Ellis Son family; nieces and nephews of the Dorothy E. Arthur family; nephew of Rudolph Ellis family; nieces of Emily Bently, Robertson Floyd and Charlie Floyd families and a host of other

relatives and friends. Visitation will be held from the Union Baptist Church, (Bay Bridge Rd., Plateau, AL) on Tuesday, July 7, 1987 after 5 p.m. The family will receive friends from 7 until 9 p.m. Funeral services will be held from the Church on Wednesday, July 8, 1987 at 1 p.m. with Rev. A. J. Crawford officiating minister. Interment will follow in the Plateau Cemetery. Arrangements by Reese Funeral Home, 925 Bessemer Ave, Prichard, AL. Police escort for funerals.

CHAW SP. WILLIAM F

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

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**FLOYD**

Ms. Otis Florastein Floyd—  
Born December 19, 1929 to  
Nathan Daniel and Ora Anna  
Ellis Floyd in Plateau, AL, she  
passed away from this earthly  
life on February 14, 1995. Flo,  
as she was affectionately  
known, was reared in the Mo-  
bile area where she attended  
public school and graduated  
from Mobile County Training  
High School in Plateau. Her  
higher education goals took  
her to Alabama State Teacher's  
College where she graduated  
with honors and received her  
Bachelor of Arts degree with a  
double major in Music and Lit-  
erature. She taught at the high  
school level in the public  
schools of several counties in  
Alabama. Florastein confessed  
Christ at an early age and  
joined Union Baptist Church  
where she retained her mem-  
bership for many years. She is  
survived by 5 sisters, Rose  
Mary Murray, Lanham, MD; Ju-  
lia Jones, Los Angeles, CA; Do-  
rothy Davies, Pottstown, PA;  
Ruth Johnson, Rialto, CA and  
Vernell Worthy, Mobile; 2  
brothers, Robert L. Floyd, Mo-  
bile and Vernon C. Floyd, Hat-  
tisburg, MS; a devoted niece,  
Vernetta Henson, Mobile; a  
host of other nieces, nephews,  
cousins, other relatives and  
many friends. Funeral services  
will be held on Thursday, Feb-  
ruary 23, 1995 at 2PM from  
the chapel of Serenity Funeral  
Home. The family will receive  
visitors from 1PM until service  
time. Interment will be at  
Lawn Haven Memorial Gar-  
dens. Funeral arrangements by  
SERENITY FUNERAL HOME,  
8663 Old Pascagoula Rd.

Clipping supplied by Vernetta Henson, n.d.

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 Cecil Simpson, Jr. Mgr. 456-2257

**FLOYD**  
 Mr. Robert Lee Floyd—A resident of Mobile and a retired brick mason died on Thursday, June 20, 1996 at a local hospice. He leaves to mourn his passing one son, Hassan Ahmad (Stanford C. Floyd) of Atlanta, GA; one daughter, Quinita Kim McCrary of California; five sisters, Rosemary Murray of Lanham, MD, Julia F. Jones of Los Angeles, CA, Dorothy Ford of Potts Town, PA, Ruth Johnson of Rialto, CA, Vernell Obadeyi of Potts Town, PA and one brother, Vernon C. Floyd of Hattiesburg, MS; niece, Vernetta Henson of Mobile, AL; aunt, Mrs. Dorothy Arthur; a host of nieces, great nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, June 26, 1996 in the Ossiedeian Reese Memorial Chapel of the Reese Funeral Home from 10:30 a.m. until the 11:30 a.m. funeral hour with Father Henry E. Dickson, SSJ Celebrant. Interment will follow in the Lawn Haven Memorial Gardens. Arrangements by REESE FUNERAL HOME, 925 Bessemer Avenue, Prichard, Alabama. Police escort for funerals.

**Robert L. Floyd**  
 6-23-96  
 Robert L. Floyd, a retired brick mason and native of the Plateau area, died Thursday. He was 71.

Clippings supplied by Vernetta Henson, apparently both dated 23 June 1996

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## Annex 5

### Possible Previously Unknown *Clotilda* Survivors

The following is a list of persons whose profiles make it likely or possible, but not certain, that they are *Clotilda* survivors. Future research could perhaps prove their status.

The method of finding these persons was to:

1. Go to Ancestry.com, to the 1870 US Census;
2. Enter the search terms of a particular likely county (e.g. Dallas County, Alabama, around Selma), and also enter the terms “born in Africa”
3. Do not enter any first or last name or other information,
4. Hit “search” and examine the results, eliminating anyone born before about 1815 (on the assumption that they were brought legally from Africa before 1808, or that they were too old at the time of being brought illegally (between 1808 and 1815) to have been a target for the *Clotilda* captain, who reportedly focused on young captives.
5. Undertake a “brute force,” exhaustive search of all pages in the 1870 US Census for Mobile, Alabama, Beat 3, for all persons born in Africa with “both parents foreign born,” presumably in Africa.
6. Undertake selective similar searches in the 1880 and 1900 US Censuses. (The 1890 Census was of course burned and is not available except for a few irrelevant counties.)

Some of these persons who are listed below could of course have been brought from Africa on other illegal ships, not the *Clotilda*. For example, Ben Raines in his *The Last Slave Ship* (New York, Simon and Schuster, 2022) pp. 14-15, states that some estimates are that up to 10,000 illegal slaves per year were being smuggled in to the US in the years before the Civil War. He also states that the owners of the famous yacht *Wanderer*, on which 471 captive Africans were illegally smuggled into South Carolina in 1858, sent about 50 of their captives to Montgomery, Alabama and points south.

Perhaps the most interesting person in the list is shown last. This is Sol Pruitt (or Pruett), who is shown in the 1900 US Census for Alabama, Bullock County, Midway, as 70 years old (hence b.c. 1830), born in Africa, with both parents born in Africa, and he immigrated to the US in 1860! Of course this is the year that the *Clotilda* arrived in Alabama. Perhaps more work with the 1900 Census, which shows this datum, would be useful.

The list below does not purport to be exhaustive. Only some likely Alabama counties were searched, and no counties outside of Alabama were searched. The effort was undertaken mainly to test the viability of such a search technique, and it worked surprisingly well. It was instructive that the technique did yield some persons who were listed in the long list of *Clotilda*

captives presented in Diouf, *op. cit.*, p. 6, as persons who are “known Africans deported to Mobile on the *Clotilda*.” But it was even more interesting that a number of candidates were yielded who were not on Diouf’s list, but who seem likely candidates for being on the *Clotilda*.

Unfortunately, Diouf does not exactly specify her methodology for finding each person on her long list. There is a general statement at the bottom of her list that the sources used were the US Censuses for 1870, 1880, and 1900; “Religion of Dahomans”; Emma Langdon Roche, *Historica Sketches of the South*; Zora Neale Hurston, *Barracoon*; and informants: Aroua Adenle, Deen Badarou, Leon F. Degny, Oba Onitako Oyiguin Adedounloye, Salimata Orou, and Elisee Soumonni. These latter informants were in Africa. The “Religion of the Dahomans” is shown in her bibliography as an undated, unsigned manuscript by a contemporary, giving original names of 26 Africans in Mobile, held at the Museum of Mobile. It is not possible from her book to track from an individual on her list to each source.

Next steps in this effort might include the following:

1. Undertake a more exhaustive search
2. Trace some of the likely candidates down to the present, if possible
3. Contact those present descendants to see if they have any family oral history of being on the *Clotilda* – or perhaps on other illegal ships.

The list is as follows, in no particular order, except they are grouped by Census year:

John Auro is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, as a 22-year-old [hence b. c. 1848] black male laborer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, US male citizen over 21. [**NOTE:** Diouf, *op. cit.*, p. 6, lists this person as a “known African deported to Mobile on the *Clotilda*.”]

Ernest Auro is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, in the household of John Auro, immediately above, as a 20-year-old [hence b. c. 1850] black female housewife, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, US male citizen over 21, deaf or dumb or idiot. [**NOTE:** it is not clear how this person with a male name can be a female housewife and also a “male US citizen.”] [**NOTE also:** Diouf, *op. cit.*, p. 6, lists this person as a “known African deported to Mobile on the *Clotilda*.”]

Cudgenle Adams is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, as a 23-year-old [hence b. c. 1847] black male laborer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, US male citizen over 21. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Phily Adams is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, in the household of Cudgenle above, as a 23-year-old [hence b. c. 1847] black female housewife, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. [NOTE that Cudgenle and Phily have two children, Alice, 3 a black male (*sic?*) and an unnamed male child of 7 months. ] This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

[NOTE also that the two couples immediate above, the Adams and the Auros, live in between Polee and Rose Allen and Clara Turner, all proven *Clotilda* survivors and co-founders of Africatown.]

John Africem [African?] is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, as a 30-year-old [hence b. c. 1840] black male laborer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, US male citizen over 21. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Lancer Africem is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, in the household of John, immediately above, as a 25-year-old [hence b. c. 1845] black female housewife, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. [NOTE: Lancer Africa is listed in Diouf, *op. cit.*, p. 6 as on the *Clotilda*, but John Africem is not.]

William Smith is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, as a 55-year-old [hence b. c. 1815] black male, no occupation shown, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, is a US male citizen. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Sallie Smith is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Beat 3, as a 50-year-old [hence b. c. 1820] black female, wife of William Smith above, no occupation shown, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor. William and Sallie have a child Leasy Smith, 8, female, b. in Alabama. [NOTE: Sally Smith, also known as Rendoshi, had been identified as a *Clotilda* survivor, but she was b.c. 1848 and lived in Dallas County, Alabama. Hence this appears to be a different woman.]

Martha Martin, spouse of Joe Martin, is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Wilcox County, Prarie Bluff, as a 40-year-old [hence b. c. 1830] black female, farm laborer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor. Wilcox County is of interest because it is known that some *Clotilda* survivors were sent to the Selma, Dallas County area, and some may have gone from there to the Wilcox County, Gee's Bend area.



Lucy Hunt, spouse of Jem Hunt, is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Wilcox County, Prarie Bluff, as a 25-year-old [hence b. c. 1845] black female, keeping house, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. She has a “condition” that is unreadable; this column refers to people who are deaf, dumb, blind, “idiots” or similar. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor. Lucy and Jem have three children, Sandy, 6, Harriet, 3, and Jo, 2.5, Hunt.

Quilla Hutchinson, partner of Fred Dickenson, is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Wilcox County, Camden, as a 23-year-old [hence b. c. 1847] black female, farm laborer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor. Quilla and Fred have seven children, all b. in Alabama, with the oldest being 5.

Ordy (Orsy?) Hunt is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Wilcox County, Prarie Bluff, as a 24-year-old [hence b. c. 1846] black male, farm laborer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, attended school in the last year, cannot read, male US citizen over 21. [It seems possible that the Census enumerator meant to mark the “cannot read and write” columns instead of the “attended school” column.] This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Mary Haywood, partner of John or Jonathan Haywood, is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Wilcox County, Prarie Bluff, as a 24-year-old [hence b. c. 1846] black female, farm laborer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Peggy Crear is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Wilcox County, Prarie Bluff, as a 30-year-old [hence b. c. 1840] black female, washer, b. in Africa, with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor. It seems probable that she is related to the Crear/McCrear family previously partially documented in the 2021 Toulmin report, which did not list a Peggy Crear. If she is such a relation, and was b.c. 1840, she is perhaps a sister of Gracie McCrear (who is listed separately in the 1870 Census as living in Dallas County, Alabama.)

Pat Bradley is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Marengo County, Jefferson, as 31 years old [hence b.c. 1839], black male, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, male US citizen. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Joseph Tison is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Barbour County, Township 11, Range 27, as 26 years old [b.c. 1844], black male, works on a railroad, b. in Africa with both parents

foreign born, cannot read and write, male US citizen. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

John Smith is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Montgomery County, Ward 2, as 21 years old [b.c. 1849] black male, painter, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, male US citizen. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Anna Scott is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Ward 6, as 38 years old [b.c. 1832] black female, keeping house, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Jacob Sango is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Russell County, Hogg Island, as 25 years old [b.c. 1845] black male, farm laborer, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, male US citizen. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Sam Malance is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Russell County, Hogg Island, as 26 years old [b.c. 1844] black male, farm laborer, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write, male US citizen. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Mary Malance is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Russell County, Hogg Island, as 25 years old [b.c. 1845] black female, farm laborer, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, cannot read and write. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Toma Rose is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Elmore County, Township 17, as 50 years old [b.c. 1820] black female, farm laborer, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Beart Porter is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Elmore County, Township 17, (in the same household as Toma Rose above) as 50 years old [b.c. 1820] black male, no occupation shown, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Appy Royle is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Washington County, 20, St. Stephens, as 50 years old [b.c. 1820] black female, works on a farm, b. in Africa with both parents foreign

born. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Cesar Rice is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Greene County, Clinton, as 25 years old [b.c. 1845] black male, works on a farm, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Tom Rice is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Greene County, Clinton, as 40 years old [b.c. 1830] black male, works on a farm, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, male US citizen over 21. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Lee Oden is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Talladega County, Township 21, Range 4, as 25 years old [b.c. 1835] black male, farm laborer, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born, male US citizen over 21. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Clawy Newsam is shown in the 1870 US Census for Alabama, Tallapoosa County, Eufaula, as 45 years old [b.c. 1825] black female, keeping house, b. in Africa with both parents foreign born. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor.

Ardassa Brunston is shown in the 1880 US Census for Alabama, Mobile, Manvilla as a 35-year-old black female, keeping house, cannot read or write, b. in Africa with both parents b. in Africa. Zimmer Leveston is shown in the 1900 US Census for Alabama, Mobile, Whistler as a 77-year-old black female, b. April 1823, married 35 years to John Leveston, had 8 children of whom 3 are living, b. in Africa with both parents b. in Africa, arrived in the US in 1859, 41 years in the US, farm laborer, 6 months unemployed recently, cannot read and write, can speak English. [NOTE: this may be the Zuma Livingston/Levinson listed in on p. 146 of Zora Neale Hurston, *op. cit.* as a co-founder of Africatown.]

Hattie Cooper is shown in the 1900 US Census for Alabama, Mobile County, Whistler district as a black female head of household, b. January 1850 [hence c. 50 years old], widowed, one child, none living, b. in Africa with both parents b. in Africa, immigration year 1859, 41 years in the US, farm laborer, 6 months recently unemployed, cannot read and write but can speak English, owns her own home clear of mortgage. [NOTE: this may be the Kattie or Katie Cooper of African origin whose African name was Monabee (Omolabi) and who is listed on p. 145 of Zora Neale Hurston, *op. cit.*]

Sol Pruitt (or Pruett) is shown in the 1900 US Census for Alabama, Bullock County, Midway, as 70 years old, b. in May 1870 [NOTE: one of these two numbers must be in error], black married

male, married for 20 years, b. in Africa with both parents b. in Africa, immigrated in 1860 [!], 40 years in the US, farmer, cannot read and write but can speak English, renting a freehold house. This person has apparently not been identified before as a likely or possible *Clotilda* survivor. His wife is Ziller Pruett, 50, b. in Alabama. Sol appears to be the same Solomon Pruett who appears in Midway in Bullock County in the 1870 and 1880 Census, and in the 1880 Census of Agriculture as renting and tilling 35 acres in that county.

## Annex 6: A Song about KuPollee Allen

### IN THAT SLAVE HOLD BELOW

By Lew Toulmin, 2021, to the tune of "Sugar in the Hold Below;" DUDU  
Written about Polee & Rose Allen, enslaved *Clotilda* survivors, and co-founders of Africatown, Alabama

Intro: **Dm C G G7 Dm**

Well, **[G]** my Africa **[C]** name is **[G]** KuPollee  
**[G7]** In my native land I was **[Dm]** free!  
**[C]** But those slave catchers -- they caught **[G]** me  
**[G7]** Below, below, **[Dm]** below.

**Chorus:**       **[Dm]** Hey, **[C]** ho, **[G]** below, below; In that slave hold **[G7]** below  
                  **[Dm]** Hey, **[C]** ho, **[G]** below, below; In that slave hold **[Dm]** below

They **[G]** put me **[C]** in hell on the **[G]** *Clotildee*  
**[G7]** for my shackles I had no **[Dm]** key  
**[C]** 70 days in our crap and **[G]** pee  
**[G7]** Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

Here **[G]** in Alabama **[C]** they **[G]** sold me  
**[G7]** I was chained in **[Dm]** slavery  
**[C]** But the Union Army gave us our **[G]** free  
**[G7]** Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

I'm **[G]** stuck here next to **[C]** Mobile **[G]** Bay  
**[G7]** Stackin' lumber all the **[Dm]** day.  
And I just wants to **[C]** get **[G]** away,  
**[G7]** Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

My **[G]** main joy **[C]** is my Rosa- **[G]** lee  
**[G7]** and the babies on my **[Dm]** knee.  
But in Africa I **[C]** still wants to **[G]** be  
**[G7]** Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

We **[G]** built for us **[C]** our Africa-**[G]** town  
**[G7]** mighty strong, I'll be **[Dm]** bound.  
Our church and school **[C]** are very **[G]** sound  
**[G7]** Below, below, **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

Well the **[G]** next generations **[C]** will have to **[G]** fight  
'Cause **[G7]** slavery, it's still got some **[Dm]** bite.  
Our young folks better work **[C]** for the **[G]** right  
Break **[G7]** that slave hold **[Dm]** below. **CHORUS**

## Annex 7

### Information on the Author

Llewellyn “Lew” Toulmin was asked by the *Clotilda* Descendants Association (CDA) for this effort to document the genealogical descents of Polee and Rose Allen of the *Clotilda* and Africatown. He previously published a report for the CDA on the descendants of Matilda McCrear – a *Clotilda* survivor -- of Selma and Dallas County, Alabama.

Lew holds a PhD in public administration and economics from American University in Washington, DC, an MPA from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University, and a BA in sociology, anthropology and political science from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. He worked for over 40 years in 30 developing countries and the US in public administration reform, telecommunications policy, disaster response and management analysis. For three of those years he served as a senior policy advisor in e-government in the Prime Minister’s Office of the Republic of Vanuatu, sponsored by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs.

Lew has over twenty-five years of experience in genealogy, is a member of over 40 genealogical and lineage societies, and was the President of the Hereditary Order of the Families of the Presidents and First Ladies of America, and Governor-General of the Hereditary Order of the Descendants of the Loyalists and Patriots of the American Revolution. He has published in various professional and academic journals in the areas of history, genealogy, exploration, emergency management and public administration, and is the author of the non-fiction book *The Most Traveled Man on Earth*.

Lew is the author of the first major genealogical study (a 134-page report) on the Henson clan, focused on Reverend Josiah Henson, the heroic inspiration for *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, and on explorer Matthew Alexander Henson, co-discoverer of the North Pole and the first black member of The Explorers Club. He is also the author of an eleven-generation genealogical analysis of the Hemings-Freeman-Shorter line, covering enslaved service at Monticello, Montpelier and the White House, Union Army war service in the Civil War, and World War II service, down to the present.

Lew is a descendant of Judge Harry Toulmin (1766-1823), one of the founders of Alabama, and his son Theophilus Lindsay Toulmin (1796-1866), the founder of Toulminville, now part of Mobile. Through a related line Lew can trace and prove his roots back to the founding of Old Mobile by the French in 1702 and to the founding of New Orleans in 1718. He is a member of the Mobile Genealogical Society and has published in the MGS *Deep South Genealogical Quarterly*.

Lew is a Fellow of The Explorers Club and has carried the Flag of the Explorers Club on eleven expeditions in archaeology and anthropology to Vanuatu, England, Alabama, Maryland, Virginia and South Carolina, and led or participated in other anthropological and archaeological expeditions to Thailand, Malaysia, Kiribati, Vanuatu and various US states. Most of his expeditions have involved extensive genealogical and historical research. He is the research director of the private Missing Aircraft Search Team, a Knight of the Sovereign and Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem (the modern Knights Templar), a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He volunteers at the University of South Alabama Archaeology Lab and at the Montgomery County (Maryland) Parks Archaeology Division.

Lew's website is [www.themosttraveled.com](http://www.themosttraveled.com), and the page on that site "Adventures in Genealogy" provides popular and academic articles he has written about that topic. His "Travel Tales" columns regularly appear in Montgomery Community Media at: <https://www.mymcmedia.org/category/access-voices/local-blogs/travel-tales/>.

Corrections to or comments on this report are welcome and can be submitted to [LewToulmin@aol.com](mailto:LewToulmin@aol.com).

**#end of Polee Allen genealogical report#**

NOTE: two Supplemental Reports are available separately