

Who was Missouri Buffington?

John A. Clinard



MISSOURI BUFFINGTON

(by. John Clinard, Tellico Village, Loudon TN, January 2010)

Who was Missouri Buffington? First, she lived in the Cherokee Nation in southeastern America from 1795 to 1835 with her father being a Buffington and her mother being a Fields, both parents half-breed Cherokees. Both the Buffingtons and the Fields were important families in American history as the country's growth intersected the Cherokee people. The Buffingtons and Fields were woven into times as the Cherokee moved from prominence in America to a people in the way of American progress, resulting in many tragedies, most significant being the 1838-39 "Trail of Tears" or, "The Trail Where They Cried" ("*Nunna daul Tsuny*").

But Missouri, who married the son of a Cherokee Town Chief, was dead at the age of 40, three years before the "Trail of Tears". Killed in Brasstown NC in 1835, along with two of her sons, by prospectors over a cow, we see the tragedy of Missouri as representative of many American Indian tragedies. Further, Missouri happens to be my 4th great-grand mother. Cherokee blood is in my veins and in the veins of many Americans, and we should not forget this. Indeed, I feel I must review Missouri's life, as far as it can be reconstructed, helping to make her life more of a reality that can be embraced.

The Cherokee were/are a Native American people historically settled principally in Georgia, the Carolinas and Eastern Tennessee. In the 19th century, the Cherokees were known as one of the "Five Civilized Tribes", because by then they had assimilated numerous cultural and technological practices of European-American settlers. Mixed marriages with whites were common.

Life in the Nation was changing rapidly during the times of Missouri Buffington and her family. The Nation was coming to an end in the eastern U. S. * Whites with governmental power wanted rid of these Cherokee and mixed-blood Cherokee. Land occupation and Sovereign Nation status were major issues. Forced by southeastern states, particularly Georgia, the U. S. government provided for a "legal" removal of the Nation through treaties that paid and relocated American Indians and mixed-blood Indians to western territories in AR and OK. While Native American removal was, in theory, voluntary, in practice great pressure was put on Native American leaders to sign removal treaties. Feeling the necessity to finally resolve the Georgia crisis, Pres. Andrew Jackson led the U. S. in the signing of the 1835 Treaty of New Echota, the final straw with resulting confusion and controversy among the Cherokee. Interestingly enough, 1835 is the climax of Missouri Buffington's life and the start of a new life for her family.

* Before/during removal, 300-400 Oconaluftee Cherokee hid in the wooded mountains of western NC. Led by Yonaguska, some of these families had claimed US citizenship and land in their own names under the Treaties of 1817 & 1819. Other families had not and were treated as fugitives during the removal. After the Cherokee Euchella and his men helped the troops hunt down and execute the renegade Tsali, these non-US citizen Cherokee were allowed to stay in the mountains with the US citizen Cherokee. Aided by William Holland Thomas, Yonaguska's adopted white son and a lawyer, the Oconaluftee Cherokee gained legal claim to the Qualla Boundary lands, and became the ancestors of today's Eastern Band of Cherokee.

CREROKEE TIMELINE (including *events of Missouri's life*)

1721 First Cherokee treaty with whites (South Carolina).

1738 Smallpox eradicates 25% of the Cherokee Nation. Nancy Ward is born.

1740 Ezekiel Buffington, Missouri's granduncle, is born in PA.

1742 Oborn Buffington, Missouri's grandfather, is born in PA. Ezekiel and Oborn are brothers and are English-descent white men. By 1757 they are living near Turkey Creek in South Carolina with their parents, Thomas and Mary Harlan Buffington.

1744 Richard Fields, Missouri's maternal grandfather, is born in England. He comes to America with his father, Richard. In southeastern America he becomes a well-known trader. He first marries Susannah Emory, a mixed-blood Cherokee, and has 7 children in the Nation in eastern TN.

1770 Missouri's father, Ellis Buffington, is born in Tugaloo SC to Oborn and an unknown Cherokee woman. Ellis' older siblings include Dave, Jenny, and Charles. (The Tugaloo River forms part of SC-GA boundary. See map on last page.)

1771 Sequoyah is born. The Ridge (Major Ridge) is born. Ridge is not kin to Missouri's future husband, Thomas Ridge (White).

1771 Oborn Buffington is killed by Indians on a trading mission north to Scioto in present-day southern Ohio. He leaves a Cherokee wife and young children in SC. Others will help raise his offsprings. (Granddaughter Missouri's birth is some 24 years later when most memories of Oborn are erased.)

1775-1783 American Revolutionary War. The Cherokee side with the British in hopes of pushing the unwanted settlers out and taking back what was rightfully theirs.

1780 Richard Fields is working with Ezekiel Buffington at Dewes Corner in SC. Richard marries a Cherokee woman, and soon Betsy, Missouri's mother, is born. Richard's first wife Susannah marries Gen. Joseph P. Martin.

1782 Though not officially a soldier, Richard Fields, a loyalist, is killed in a Revolutionary War skirmish in GA. He is 38 years old. He leaves behind his young wife and daughter, Betsy. No doubt, his Cherokee wife remarries. Betsy's line to Richard becomes blurred.

1785 Thomas Ridge (White), Missouri's future husband, is born in Brasstown NC to Ridge Whitepath, Town Chief, and an unknown Cherokee woman. Brasstown is some 50 miles from Tugaloo and just north of SC and GA.

1790 John Ross is born.

1791 Treaty of Holston - Cherokee cede land in eastern Tennessee in exchange for President Washington's guarantee that the Cherokee Nation will never again be invaded by settlers. This treaty forces Americans to obtain passports to enter Cherokee lands, and grants Cherokee the right to evict settlers.

1792 John Sevier, former Gov. of the State of Franklin and future Gov. of TN, leads brutal attack on the Cherokee town of Hightower near present-day Rome, Georgia.

1794 Chickamauga Cherokee (Lower Towns) cease fighting & begin westward move.

1795 Missouri Fields Buffington, daughter of Ellis and Betsy, is born in Tugaloo SC.

1799 Formation of the Lighthorse, a loose knit Cherokee police force headed by The Ridge and James Vann.

1799-1804 Building of the Augusta-to-Nashville Road, later known as the Federal Road.

1801 Return J. Meigs appointed "indian agent." Morovians start mission at Spring Place.

1802 Pres. Thomas Jefferson agrees with the state of GA to the removal of all American Indians in exchange for surrender of GA's claim to lands in present-day MS and AL.

1804 Cherokee cede Wafford's Tract in GA by narrow vote.

1806 Start of a complex series of events known as Revolt of the Young Chiefs.

1807 Death of Doublehead at the hands of Major Ridge, James Vann and Alexander Saunders.

1809 James Vann is killed by an executioner at Buffington Tavern on Federal Road northwest of Frogtown GA.

1811 New Madrid earthquake. Actually 3 separate earthquakes with an epicenter near the town of New Madrid, Missouri in the southeastern border with Kentucky. The quakes were felt throughout the Cherokee Nation and sparked what is best described as a religious revival among the Cherokee. Writer James Mooney would call this movement the "Ghost Dance," after a similar Western Indian revival.

1811 Missouri marries Thomas Ridge (White) in Brasstown NC. They settle in northern GA not far from Brasstown on land belonging to Whitepath Ridge.

1812 Shawnee warrior Tecumseh agitates American Indians on the frontier to rise up and destroy the settlers. A faction of the Creek Indians, the "Red Sticks," revolt, attacking Fort Mims, Alabama and massacre 250 men, women and children.

1812 John Ridge (White), Missouri's 1st son, is born in GA. John and all of Missouri's children are half-breed Cherokee.

1813-1814 Cherokee warriors fight alongside future president Andrew Jackson during two campaigns (5 major battles) against the Red Stick Creeks, saving both his army and his life in separate battles.

1814 Thomas Ridge serves in Capt. Russell's Cherokee Spies at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend (against the Creeks) on the Tallapoosa River in AL and becomes a bodyguard for General Andrew Jackson.

1814 Jackson demands cessions of 2.2 million acres from the Cherokee.

1814 James Ridge (White), Missouri's 2nd son, is born in GA.

1816 Richard Fields Ridge (White), Missouri's 3rd son is born in GA.

1817 Cession of land east of the Unicoi Turnpike. (Treaty of Turkey Town, instead of the 2.2 million acres demanded by Jackson.)

1817 Russell Ridge (White), Missouri's 4th son is born in GA.

1819 Final cession of land in Georgia, and part of a much larger cession, the Cherokee give up claims to all land east of the Chattahoochee River.

1821 Sequoyah finishes his work on a written language (syllabary) for the tribe. Within six months more than 25% of the Cherokee Nation learns how to read and write.

1822 Georgia begins press for cession of remaining Cherokee lands, citing Jefferson.

1823 Thomas and Missouri relocate to Wills Valley, AL (present-day Ft Payne).

1823 Margaret White, Missouri's 1st daughter, is born in AL.

1823 The Supreme Court hands down a decision which states that Indians could occupy lands within the United States, but could not hold title to those lands.

1825 Thomas White, Missouri's 5th son is born in AL.

1826 Lettieann Ridge White (my 3rd great-grandmother), Missouri's 2nd daughter, is born in AL.

1828 Gold discovered in GA. This discovery is on Cherokee land ceded in 1817 to the U. S. (Duke's Creek); however, gold is soon found inside the Nation.

1828 Publication of the Cherokee Phoenix begins with Elias Boudinot, editor.

1830 Cherokee evict encroachers in Beaver Dam on Cedar Creek, a few miles south of present-day Rome, GA.

1830 Passage of the Indian Removal Act led by Pres. Andrew Jackson. Some Native American leaders who had previously resisted removal now began to reconsider their positions.

1831 Chief Justice John Marshall rules that the Cherokee have no standing to file suit in the United States in Cherokee Nation vs. Georgia. He then instructs attorney William Wirt on how to correctly file. Samuel Worcester and others are arrested for violation of Georgia law requiring whites to get permits to work in the Cherokee territory.

1831 Missouri's sons John (19 yrs.) and James(17 yrs.) are in Brasstown on the property of grandfather Ridge Whitepath with their Cherokee wives and unknown number of Missouri's grandchildren. Whitepath occupies a 30-acre tract of good land at the junction of Brasstown Creek and the Hiwassee River.

1832 Strongly supported in the South, Jackson is re-elected President by a landslide.

1832 The Supreme Court of the United States declares the Cherokee Nation to be sovereign (Worcester vs. Georgia). This has constitutional implications, disallowing the state of Georgia from passing any law governing the Cherokee. Elias Boudinot resigns as publisher of the Cherokee Phoenix under pressure from John Ross because of Elias' editorial support for removal. GA holds sixth land lottery and the gold lottery.

1833 The Evaluations of 1833 show Thomas and Missouri still in Wills Valley AL with family name of White. They are sharing a parcel occupied by Ellis Buffington, not Missouri's father, however. This Ellis Buffington, son of Ezekiel, is there with wife Lydia. Thomas' taking of the name White signals his idea of living in the east as a non-Cherokee family avoiding relocation to the west.

1834 In May, Ellis and Lydia Buffington and family depart Wills Valley for AR. Thomas and Missouri do not follow.

1834 The Georgia Guard destroys the printing press in the offices of The Cherokee Phoenix.

1834 Missouri's father Ellis dies in Brasstown. Two of Missouri's younger siblings, a brother and a sister, are living there with Ellis and Betsy at the time. Missouri, Thomas, and their other children return to Brasstown from Wills Valley. There is discussion of relocation of the entire family, including Thomas' father and Missouri's mother.

1835 In Oct. the Cherokee Council appoints a committee to go to Washington City to negotiate a removal treaty.

1835 In Nov. Ross and John Howard Payne, in Red Clay, Tennessee, are illegally detained by the Georgia Guard.

1835 In Brasstown, Missouri and sons John and James are killed by gold prospectors over a cow. This event is enough to convince Thomas to leave the Nation to protect his family.

1835 In Nov. Thomas departs Brasstown for Head of the Coosa to meet in council with Major Ridge to discuss his family's relocation and opportunities to live outside the Nation.

1835 In Dec. Thomas forms a group of Cherokee and mixed-Cherokee-white families to relocate to AL. The group departs the Head of the Coosa, and arrives in the spring of 1836 in Coosa Co. AL (central AL). They will live there as whites.

1835 Dec. 29 Treaty of New Echota is signed by members of the Treaty Party including Major Ridge. Knowing the inevitability of losing their eastern lands, Ridge has sought the best Treaty for the Nation's westward relocation. John Ross refuses to sign.

1838 May 23 Deadline for voluntary removal. Georgia Guard had begun round-up 5 days earlier. U. S. forces under command of Winfield Scott begin roundup in Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, and North Carolina. Cherokee are herded into "forts," gradually making their way north to the Cherokee Agency in southeastern Tennessee.

1838-1839 "Trail of Tears". Some 4,000 Cherokees (25%) die in the march. Chief John Ross loses his wife, Quatie, in the march.

And so a country formed fifty years earlier on the premise "...that all men are created equal, and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, among these the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness..." brutally closes the curtain on a culture that had done no wrong.

Many in Missouri's and Thomas' families make the march. Some die, but Betsy Fields Buffington and Ridge Whitepath survive the march living for a while in the new Nation West where they die.

None of Missouri's children make the march thanks to husband Thomas. The price paid includes the necessity of denying heritage.

1839 Richard White marries Morning Cloud Thompson in Coosa Co. AL. Morning Cloud is of the Fields family. Richard is half 2nd cousin of Morning Cloud.

1839 In western AR Cherokee factions supporting John Ross kill Major Ridge, his son John, and Elias Boudinot for signing the Treaty of New Echota.

1840 Thomas signs consent-for-marriage in Coosa Co. for son Russell, now 23, and Jane Thompson. Jane is Morning Cloud's sister. Russell is eventually killed in Civil War in 1864.

1841 Thomas Ridge White dies in Coosa Co. AL of the "fever". He is 56 years old.

1844 Orphan and youngest daughter, Lettieann White, marries John Driver (my 3rd great-grandfather) in Coosa Co. John, also a half-breed, may have made the trip down the Coosa with the White and Thompson families.



**Artist's Concept of Missouri Buffington at Age 16,
the Year of her Marriage to Thomas Ridge**

FOOTNOTE: As you might know, I have Howard P. White to thank for much of my information. Missouri is his 3rd great-grandmother. Based on significant research Howard has published several articles about the White family.

But I also have had dozens of conversations with Nelda Crowe as we tried to place Missouri in the Buffington family. Nell has recently published a book about the times and family of Ezekiel Buffington titled “Oatmeal, Samp, and Cornpone”. It is a sell-out.

Nell alludes to Missouri in her book, but she has completely avoided printing speculation about Missouri’s ancestry. Parts of my information above are certainly speculative. Let’s call Missouri’s descendency from the Buffington and Fields families my “Missouri Legend”.

Without doubt, Missouri was the wife of Thomas Ridge White. But there remains some doubt about her parents. Her father was an Ellis Buffington... but which Ellis Buffington? Ellis Buffington, son of the above Ezekiel, had two wives, Catherine Wofford Daniel & Lydia Wright, neither one of which fits well in age to be Missouri’s mother. It is reported several places that Missouri was of the Fields family. This also raises question about her mother, since Catherine, Lydia, and her Buffington father are not of the Fields family. After discussions with Nell I feel “certain” that Ellis, son of Ezekiel, did not have children with yet a third wife, one of the Fields family.

I evolved my “Missouri Legend” using Oborn Buffington, brother of Ezekiel, about whom very little is known. This Oborn, who lived in the Nation until his untimely death at age 29, certainly had Cherokee wife(s). He could be the father of the hard-to-place Buffingtons: Dave (who lived in Sitting Down Creek GA), Jenny (who married Texas Dick Fields), Charles (who married Sallie Spears), and Ellis Buffington, the father of Missouri. (Ellis was a common Buffington surname, linking to Trader Ellis Harlan, Oborn’s uncle.)

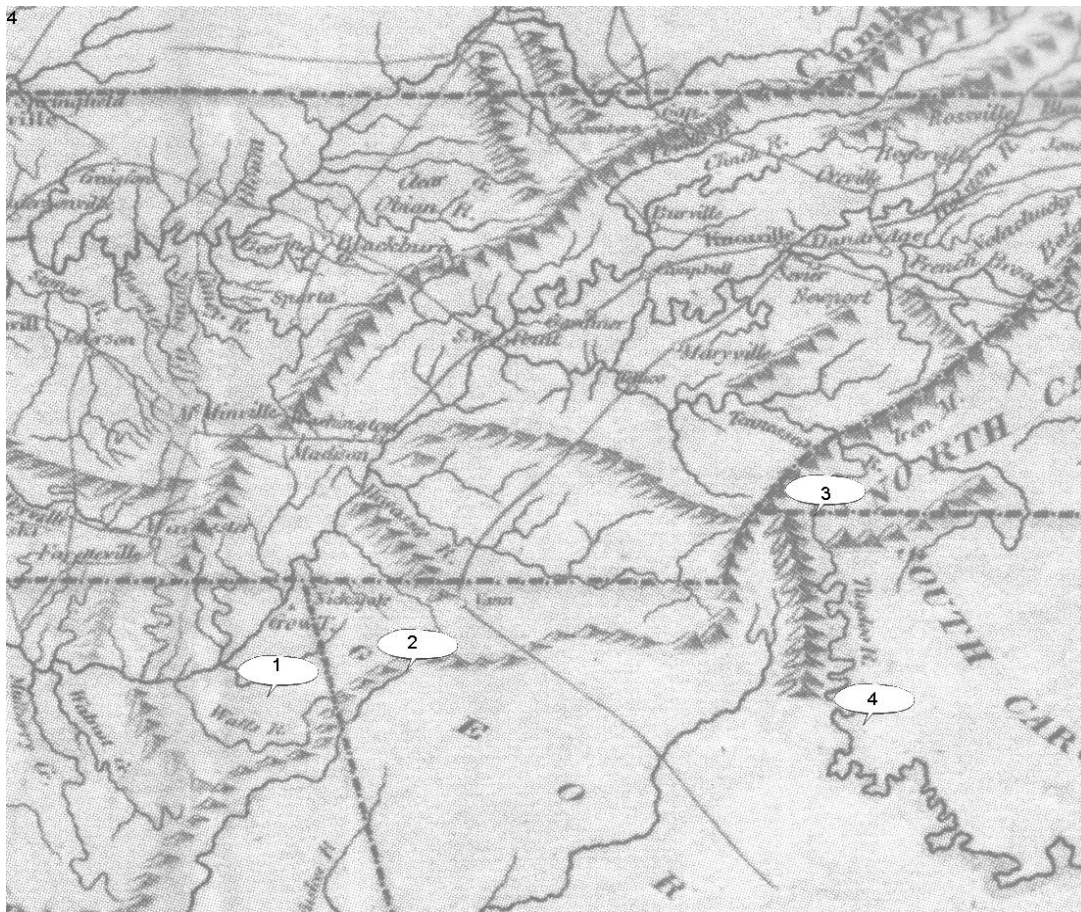
Ellis, son of Oborn, married a woman of the Fields family. I have selected Elizabeth (Betsy) Fields, a daughter of the Richard Fields (b. 1744). Betsy shows up at the right places, including the Henderson Rolls at Brasstown in 1835. (Betsy’s line to Richard is blurred because of his early death in 1782; speculation has been substituted in the absence of records.) Ellis was dead by 1835; indeed, Betsy was the head of the household with two children: a male over the age of 18 and a female under the age of 18. These were likely a brother and sister of Missouri. Also, Charles, Ellis’ brother, was at Brasstown in 1835 with 12 in the household. Eighty year-old Ridge, Thomas’ father, was there with 9 in the household including 5 males over 18 and 2 females over 18. I have assumed this count includes Missouri’s sons, John (23 years old) and James (21 years old), their 2 wives, and two or so of Missouri’s grandchildren. Surely John and James were married and producing offsprings by 1835. The other two males over 18 in Ridge’s household could have been Missouri’s sons, Richard (19 years old) and Russell (18 years old). I don’t know. Whether Thomas and Missouri were counted in the 1835 rolls is not certain. Perhaps they wished not to be counted.

Missouri and Thomas could have returned to Brasstown just before 1835 to check up on mother Betsy following Ellis’ death. Also, this visit provided an opportunity to reunite with Thomas’ father and with sons, John and James.

We will never know if Thomas knew about the 1835 Treaty “Provisions Respecting Cherokee Adverse to Removal” which intended to allow Cherokee to become citizens of the states in which they resided. As it turned out, these provisions were stricken out by President Jackson from the as-signed Treaty.

So the Legend fits, but it lacks proof. Of course, all stories naming Missouri’s parents lack proof.

1814 Map of Southeastern States (TN, AL, GA, NC, and SC)*



1 - Wills Town; 2 - Head of Coosa; 3 - Brasstown; 4 – Tugaloo

* State boundaries were of little significance to the Cherokee who were more concerned with Cherokee Towns/Settlements. The area just east of southeastern TN had a changing set of state boundaries (GA, NC, & SC) during Missouri’s life.

Ancestors of Letty (Lettieann) Ann Ridge White

Parents

Grandparents

Great-Grandparents

2nd Great-Grandparents

(Ridge) Whitepath, Town Chief

b: 1755 in CNE, probably NC, assumed to be full-blood Cherokee
 m: Bef. 1785 in CNE
 d: Abt. 1843 in CNW, Delaware District, Eastern OK

Thomas Ridge White

b: 20 Jan 1785 in CNE, GA, assumed to be full-blood Cherokee
 m: Abt. 1811 in CNE, probably GA but maybe Brasstown
 d: Bet. 1840 - 1841 in Coosa Co. AL of the "fever"

Unknown Cherokee woman

b: in assumed to be full-blood Cherokee
 d: Bef. 1838 in probably in Brasstown, NC

Thomas Buffington, Jr.

b: 1712 in Concord, Chester Co. PA, a white man
 m: Abt. 1740 in Old Swedes Church, Delaware
 d: Apr 1767 in Turkey Creek, Edgefield Co. SC, during flood

Letty (Lettieann) Ann Ridge White

b: Dec 1826 in CNE, GA, >1/2-breed (why not AL?)
 m: 16 Jun 1844 in Coosa Co. AL
 d: 07 Jan 1911 in Chilton Co. AL, central AL

Oborn (Oborn brother) Buffington

b: 1742 in Chester Co. PA, white man
 m: Bet. 1760 - 1766
 d: Abt. 1771 in on trading mission to Scioto

Ellis (the other Ellis) Buffington

b: Abt. 1770 in CNE, 1/2 Cherokee, probably SC
 m: Abt. 1794 in probably Tugaloo SC
 d: Bet. 1818 - 1833 in probably Brasstown NC, brother Charles there, too

Mary Harlan

b: 1726 in Chester, PA, USA; his 1st cousin once removed
 d: Aft. 1771 in GA, USA

Unknown Cherokee Woman

b: Abt. 1745 in CNE, a full-blood Cherokee
 d: Bef. 1835 in probably Brasstown NC

Missouri Fields Buffington

b: Abt. 1795 in CNE, probably Tugaloo SC, but maybe Brasstown NC
 d: Bef. Nov 1835 in Murdered at Brasstown NC (or Wills Valley AL)

Richard Fields

b: Abt. 1714 in ENGLAND, white man
 d: Aft. 1766 in perhaps Louisiana

Richard Fields, Jr. & Capt. & Trader

b: Abt. 1744 in Wednesbury, Stafford, ENGLAND, white man
 m: Abt. 1780 in SC, if married at all
 d: Abt. 1782 in CNE - , perhaps GA in Rev. War

Elizabeth (Betsy) Fields

b: Abt. 1780 in CNE, SC Pendleton District, Tugaloo, 1/2-breed
 d: Aft. 1835 in probably CNW, she was in Brasstown for Henderson Rolls & went west

unknown Cherokee wife

b: Abt. 1765 in SC, USA, probably full-blood

FAMILY TREE

Lettieann White, married John Driver. Their son, James K. Polk (Jesse) Driver, married Margaret Taylor and had son, John William Driver. John William married Martha Eugenia Baxley and had daughter Sarah (Sallie) Elizabeth Driver, my grandmother. Sallie lived from 1898 to 1984. Interestingly enough, she died in Rome GA near the head of the Coosa River.



Baby Sallie sits with John William Driver and rest of family. She was two years old in 1900, the date of this picture.



Sallie Driver married James Dudley (JD) Smith in Apr. 1918. The children are pictured above with JD. In the middle is my mother, Dorothy Ann Smith, who was born in 1925.

Her three brothers were James Dudley Smith, Jr., Edward Dean Smith, Sr., and Daniel Driver Smith, Sr.



Dot Smith married Turner Norman Clinard in Dec. 1942 in Rome GA. Sons, Norman Smith Clinard and John Alan Clinard, were born in 1944 and 1946 respectively. The above picture was taken in Greeneville TN in 1953.

Dot Smith Clinard's resemblance to the 16-year-old Missouri Buffington is not an accident. My oil painting of Missouri is based on Dot's general features and pictures of her at a young age.

Both Norman and I have wives, children, and grandchildren of our own.

It's my hope that the grandchildren will appreciate this essay sometime in the future.

Discussion relative to the work of Dr. Emmett Srarr, “History of the Cherokee”

Dr. Starr, born in 1870 in Going Snake District, Cherokee Nation, or in what is now Adair Co. OK, authored several books on the Cherokee people. One is entitled "Early History of the Cherokees," another "Cherokees, West," and a third is "History of the Cherokee Nation". He commenced the collection of material for genealogical and historical work in 1894 when he abandoned his career as a medical doctor. So, he began his work about 100 years after Missouri Buffington was born. Dr. Starr died in 1930.

Dr. Starr's work is considered the best available for tracking Cherokee families. One version of his work/database can be found at the following WEB address:

<http://www.accessgenealogy.com/native/starrgen/>. I will make comments that relate to the database as indexed in this version.

First, it seems fair to say that Dr. Starr's database pays attention mostly to the families that went west. Further, his system starts with what one might call "Primary Families" with examples being Grant, Downing and Thompson. The Buffington and Fields families are not "Primary Families". Thomas Buffington b. 1712 and Richard Fields b. 1714 (Missouri's great-grandfathers) are not in Dr. Starr's database. Richard Fields b. 1744 is in Starr's database because Richard married Susannah Emory (Susannah is of the Grant Family with number 113 and showing up in Grant 1 in the above WEB-based portrayal.). In a similar manner Ezekiel Buffington b. 1740 is in Starr's database because Ezekiel married Mary Emory, number 111 in Grant 1. (Richard and Ezekiel married sisters, 113 and 111.)

Unfortunately, but as expected, Ezekiel's brother Oborn (Missouri's grandfather), and Missouri's father, Ellis, are not in the database. Neither are their wives. Consistently, Ellis' brothers and sister, Dave, Charles, and Jennie, are not in the database... except that Jennie is there as a wife of Richard (Texas Dick) Fields b. ~1771 (1132 in Grant 2).

Finally, Elizabeth (Betsy) Fields b. 1780, Missouri's mother, is not in the database. Betsy's father, Richard Fields, is included only as he relates to first wife Susannah Emory. Richard's descendants with Susannah Emory are included. Any other children of Richard are not included. Needless to say, Missouri is not in the database. She is of the Buffington and Fields families, not of Dr. Starr's "Primary Families".

There has been added confusion about Missouri because she was in Wills Valley with the other Ellis Buffington, b. ~1780, son of Ezekiel and Mary (111). This Ellis is 1117 in Grant 1. Others have assumed that Missouri was a daughter of Ellis (1117). In fact, Missouri is a 1st cousin once removed of this Ellis.

In Dr. Starr's work there are no references to Ridge Whitepath, nor are there any references to the White family.

Dr. Starr's work cannot be used to prove or disprove the ancestors of Missouri Buffington or of her husband, Thomas White.



John Clinard resides in Tellico Village in Loudon Co. TN. His home is on Tellico Lake formed by TVA by damming the Little Tennessee River near Lenoir City TN.

The Little T was also home to most of the major Overhill Cherokee towns, the most prominent of which included Chota, Tanasi, Toqua, Tomotey, Mialoquo (near Rose Island), Chilhowee (at the river's Abrams Creek confluence), Tallassee (near modern Calderwood), Citico, and Tuskegee (adjacent to Fort Loudoun).

I would like to thank two people for all the help they have given me in the writing of this essay.

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CHRISTMAS 2010

