

Daniel Robert Gill and Ethel Elma Little Gill
are my maternal grandparents.

The Gill Family

Being we do not know the origin of our name, except for maybe Scotch or Irish, I am including them all. It could be English, gil; Scottish and Irish, Gille; Scottish and Irish, Ghoill; Norwegian, gil; Dutch, Giles; Jewish, gil 'joy'; German, Aegidius or even Indian (from India) (Panjab): gil 'moisture', also meaning 'prosperity'. There is a Jat tribe that bears this name; the Ramgarhia Sikhs also have a clan called Gill.¹

Also, being we do not know our Gill line past William Thomas Gill I, it could be short for other names such as Gilligan, O'Gill, McGill, Gillis, or others. One source says it is McGill, but no proof is shown so far.

Daniel Robert Gill, son of William Thomas Gill II and Sarah Rebecca Cason was born 10 Mar 1897 in Offerman,² Pierce, GA. He married **Dellia Courson** 20 Dec 1915.³ ⁴ Dellia, dau of John W. Courson and Lizzie Thornton, was born 19 May 1896. Their son, Raborn,⁵ was born and died 14 Oct 1916.⁶ Dellia died 19 Oct, 1916.⁷ She and her parents are buried in Ramah Cemetery in Mershon, GA. GPS Coordinates: Latitude: 31°41.110', Longitude-082°28.830'.



Daniel Robert joined the military 5 September 1918.⁸ World War I was over 11 Nov 1918. According to the Registration, D. R. at age 21, was medium built, slender, had gray⁹ eyes and dark brown hair. He was in the Army, Company I of the 6th Replacement Infantry at Camp Gordon, GA.¹⁰ His discharge was 16 December 1918.¹¹ Later papers are dated 15 March 1948 because that is when Ethel got a copy of them. His military # 4879006. His signature is on the form.¹²



¹ Condensed from: <http://www.ancestry.com/name-origin?surname=gill>

² DR Gill Army service record form # 724-1 & World War I draft registration card # 1558465

³ Marriage date found in Marriages of Pierce Co Ga 1901-1925 # 0841 page 20 has her name as Dellie and has marriage as 12/20/1915.

⁴ W. T. Gill II Bible family notes

⁵ Raborn Gill's Grave is in Mill Creek Cemetery. Mill Creek Rd / Chancey Rd . Patterson, Pierce County, GA. GPS Coordinates: Latitude: 31.450516 Longitude: -82.137782

⁶ W. T. Gill II Bible family notes

⁷ W. T. Gill II Bible family notes

⁸ World War I draft registration card # 1558465; also for proof, use 1930 census.

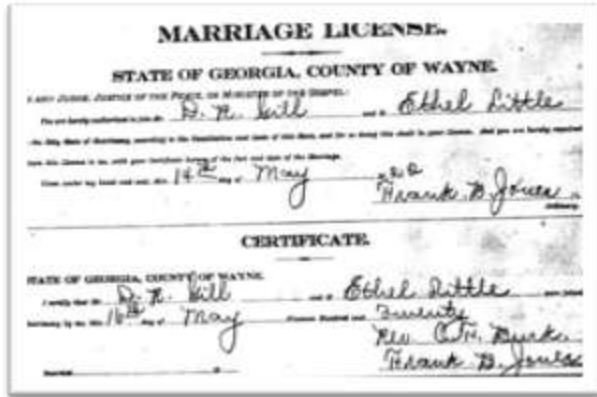
⁹ Jo Floyd said his eyes were hazel.

¹⁰ Application for stone at grave

¹¹ DR Gill Army service record form # 724-1

¹² History of Pierce co GA p 429

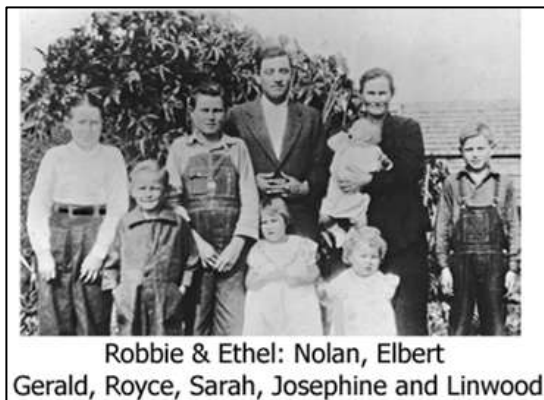
Rob then courted **Ethel Elma Little**. They married 16 May 1920¹³ in Wayne, County GA at her parents' home. Ethel was 14 years old when they married. Rob was 23.



Ethel Elma Little, dau of Ernest Linwood Little Sr. and Queen Victoria Crosby was born 13 Feb 1906 in Browntown, Wayne, GA.

Ethel Elma Little and Daniel Robert Gill had the following children: Nolan Archie, Elbert Leroy, Mildred E.,¹⁴ Gerald Presley, Daniel

Royce, Sarah Queen, Josephine Lois, Thomas Linwood, Robert Lester, Willard Franklin,¹⁵ James Theron, John Dempsey, Franklin Delano, Ethel Eleanor and Enoch Ray. Note: Linwood was born on Josephine's second birthday.



Robbie & Ethel: Nolan, Elbert Gerald, Royce, Sarah, Josephine and Linwood



Robbie & Ethel: Linwood Robert James John Buck Eleanor and Ray

Franklin Delano and Ethel Eleanor are twins. Rob was gone and Ethel had no way to go town to name the children, so the doctor went to the courthouse and gave them their names. He named them after Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor Roosevelt and Ethel Gill.

Note: D. R. Gill's children and his sister, Martha Jane's children are double cousins. Robbie and Martha are brother and sister so, their children are first cousins. Martha Jane Gill married Barnwell (Barney) Crosby, who is an uncle to D.R. Gill's wife, Ethel, so they are cousins on that side, also.

D. R. was ordained deacon in New Hope Church in Browntown, GA in 1925. In 1928, he became a preacher. Ethel was the first person he baptized.

The 1900 USA Census has Daniel R. Gill at age 3 and living with his parents in Patterson, GA. He is a white male. Both parents were born in GA.

The 1910 USA Census has Ethel, age 4, living with her parents, S L W¹⁶ and Queen Little.

The 1920 USA Census has Daniel Robert living with B. G Lee and family at 334 District, Wayne, GA as a boarder. Burie Gard Lee was married to Susie Eliza Gill, D.R.'s sister. Willie, their youngest

¹³ Marriage License State of GA.

¹⁴ Mildred is buried in the Little Cemetery in Browntown, GA (GPS - **Latitude: 31.35666, Longitude: -81.76661**)

¹⁵ Willard is buried in New Home Cemetery, Offerman, Pierce County, GA (Latitude: 31.43860, Longitude: -82.10500)

¹⁶ Ernest Linwood Little Sr.

brother, also lives with them. D. R. is a 22 yr. old, white, male who is a farm laborer. He can read, write and speak English.

In 1920, Ethel is living in Gardi, Wayne, GA. She is 13 and dau to E. L. and Queenie Little. She can read, write and speak English.

Note: D. R.'s 1920 USA Census was dated 6 Feb & Ethel's 20 Jan. They married 16 May.

The 1930 USA Census has them in Blackshear, GA. D. R. is 33, a farmer and was in military during WWI.¹⁷ His wife is Ethel. They and both their parents were born in Georgia. Their sons are: Noland (Nolan), age 8; Elbert, 7; Gerald, 3; and Royce at 3 months. They live on Blackshear and Hortense Road. He rents his farm which is \$1000.00¹⁸ a month.) The form asks if they have a radio set and the answer is 'no'.

The 1940 USA Census has B Robbie Gill listed. They live on Patterson Big Creek Road, Patterson Town, 1181, Pierce, GA. He is a white male, age 42. His wife is Ethel, age 34, a white female. Their children listed are: Elbert, 17; Jerald (Gerald), 13; Royce, 10; Sarah Queen, 8; Josephine, 6; Lynwood, 4; Robert, 3 and Nolan A., 18. They live on a farm that they rent for \$10.00 a month. The highest grades completed in school were: Robbie 7 and Ethel H4.

At one time, they lived where Gilman's is now (GPS N. 31° 19.208' W 082° 13.155'). While they lived there, the children had to cross the railroad tracks to go to school. One morning, it was foggy. They looked as far as they could see and crossed the tracks. Just as the last child crossed, the train went by. The engineer probably never knew what could have happened; but the children have not forgot it.

In 1945, when Ray was born, they lived on what is now 4259 Trudie Road near GPS N31° 18.604 W 082° 12.741'. Then Rob bought what is now called Gill Hill and moved his family there. GPS N. 31° 17.022' W 082° 11.491'

Rob was a Primitive Baptist preacher, going from church to church as a circuit preacher, sharing the words he received from God to the churches. He and his sons cleared the woods for fields and grew tobacco to support his family. He died at the Chamberly Veteran's Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia 03 Mar 1951 at age 53, after a long battle with cancer.¹⁹

When I, his granddaughter, moved to Blackshear, would meet the older citizens and ask if they knew of Preacher Robbie, most would smile and say, "Yes." Then I'd proudly reply, "He is my grandfather."

Rob and Ethel had been married almost 31 years and had 15 children when he died. Mildred and Franklin died young, six had left home and Ethel was left with seven children to care for at age 45. She was able to see them all grown and married before she died 08 Jun 1972 in Blackshear, Pierce, GA²⁰ of diabetes.²¹

Rob and Ethel are buried at Shiloh Primitive Baptist Church^{22 23} Cemetery: From HWY 84 heading north, turn left onto County Farm Rd., and then turn left on Shiloh Rd. The cemetery is at end of road. GPS Coordinates: N 31°19.504' & W 082°13.502'.²⁴



¹⁷ Then, it was listed as WW – for there had not been a second one, yet.

¹⁸ Rent seems high for back then. Maybe the census worker put in value of property.

¹⁹ GA Death cert # 5646

²⁰ History of Pierce County I by Broome p. 436

²¹ GA Death cert # 017402

²² Oldest church in Pierce County.

THE BLACKSHEAR TIMES ~~~~ Thursday,
March 8, 1951 (sic)



Elder Robbie Gill Passes Away After Extended Illness

Funeral services for Elder Daniel Robbie Gill, who died Saturday morning, March 3, in a Veteran's Hospital in Atlanta after an extended illness, were held Monday morning, March 5, at 11 o'clock at the Shiloh Primitive Baptist Church with Elders Barney Crosby and Oliver Lewis officiating.

Elder Gill was a veteran of World War I. A native of Pierce county, he had been in active ministry for a quarter century. He was one of the leading elders of the Shiloh Church.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Ethel Little Gill; three daughters, Mrs. Sarah Dyal, Waycross, Mrs. Joseph D²⁵. Harris, Macon, Miss Eleanor Gill, Blackshear; ten sons, Nolan A., Elbert L. and Royce Gill, all of Fernandina, Fla., Gerald P., Lynwood²⁶, Robert, Theron, Johnny, Delenor²⁷ and Ray Gill, all of Blackshear; six sisters, Mrs. Barney Crosby, Mrs. Lula Manning and Mrs. Lizzie Chauncey, all of Blackshear, Mrs. Frank Lee, Fernandina, Fla., Mrs. Alvin Weathers, Mershon and Mrs. Henry Braudy of Patterson; four brothers, Will Gill, Blackshear, Joe Gill, Folkston, and Ruby Gill and Jack Gill of Orange, Texas. Pallbearers were members of the church. Interment was in the church cemetery.

THE BLACKSHEAR TIMES p. 15 ~~~~ Thursday, June 8²⁸, 1972

Mrs. Ethel Little Gill, 66, of Rt. 1, passed away early Thursday afternoon in the Pierce County Hospital following a long illness.

A native of Wayne County, she had lived in Pierce County most of her life. A daughter of the late Lenwood²⁹ and Queenie Crosby Little, she was the widow of the late Elder Robbie Gill. She was a member of the Enon Primitive Baptist Church.

Survivors are three daughters; Mrs. Sarah Dyal, Waycross, GA, Mrs. Josephine Floyd, Fernandina Beach, and Mrs. Eleanor Melton, Blackshear; ten sons, Nolan and Elbert Gill, both of Fernandina Beach, Daniel Gill of Atlanta, Gerald, John D., Franklin D., and Ray Gill, all of Blackshear, Thomas and Robert Gill, both of Waycross, and James Gill of St. Marys, GA; four sisters, Mrs. C. C. Patten, Mrs. Alvin Arnette, and Mrs. Richard Douberly, all of Hortense, and Mrs. Aaron King of Key West; 3 brothers, Rev. Dalton E. Little of Jesup, Reynold Little and Earnest Little, both of Hortense. There are 58 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and a number of other relatives. (sic)

²³ History of Pierce County I by Broome p. 488

²⁴ From our own Garmin.

²⁵ Should be Josephine Lois.

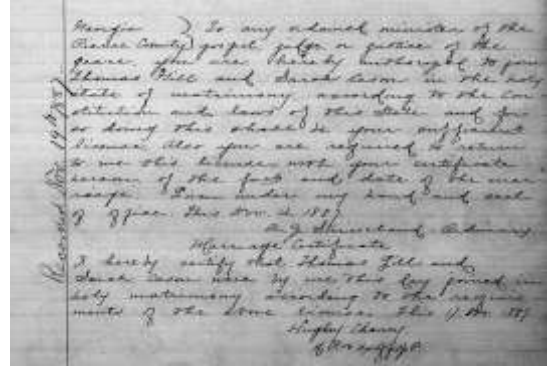
²⁶ Should be Linwood.

²⁷ Should be Delano.

²⁸ Obit may say June 15

²⁹ Should be Linwood.

William Thomas Gill II (Willie, Tom), son of William Thomas Gill I and Sarah Saphronia Caldwell was born 13 Jan 1864³⁰ in Ludowici, Pierce,³¹ GA (Offerman,³² Pierce, GA). He died 03 Sep 1946.³³ The form shows the license and certificate of marriage and the date it was posted in the records for W. T. and **Sarah Rebecca Cason**. They married 17 Nov 1887^{34 35 36} in Pierce County, GA.³⁷ Sarah Rebecca Cason, dau of David E. Cason and Martha Thomas was born 19 Jul 1862 or 63 in Brantley Co, GA.



Note: There is a World War I Draft Registration attached to his name.³⁸ Most of the information matches, however ... this must be WT III who was born in 1899 (D.R.'s brother). His occupation was farming and his employer was his father, WT II.³⁹

Photo is of William Thomas Gill II.

Sarah Rebecca Cason and William Thomas Gill II had the following children: Martha Jane 1888-1984 m. Barney W. Crosby 1909; Lula Saffronia 1891-1956 m. George Manning 1908; Mary Ellen 1892-1982 m. Frank A. Lee; Susie E. 1894-1930 m. Burie Gard Lee 1911⁴⁰; Daniel Robert b. 10 Mar 1897 d. 03 Mar 1951 m. 1. Dellia Courson 1915 2. Ethel Elma Little (our line) 1920; William Thomas Gill III (Willie) 1899-1960 m. Marie Clark; Sarah Belle 1901-1923 m. Virgil Manning; Lizzie Mozelle 1903-1986 m. Vann Chancey⁴¹; Ida Mae 29 June 1907 - 3 July 1907 -- died at 5 days old.⁴² ⁴³ and, Pearl Lavanda 1909-2000 m. 1. Henry Brauda⁴⁴ 2. Elzie Strickland 3. Irvin Dubose.⁴⁵



Note: Lula married George Manning. Sarah Belle married Virgil Manning. George and Virgil were brothers⁴⁶. AND Susie and Mary Ellen Gill are sisters. Burie and Frank Lee are brothers. So, twice in this instance, brothers in one family married sisters in another.^{47 48}

³⁰ 1890 and 1900 census affirm this date.

³¹ POWG Book 12 page 168 only says Pierce.

³² DR Gill Army service record form # 724-1 & World War I draft registration card # 1558465

³³ GA Deaths, 1919-98 #19096

³⁴ Date from W. T Gill's Bible. Note: Mr. Huxford has the date as 11th, but I go with the Bible listing.

³⁵ GA, County Marriages, 1785-1950, Thomas Gill and Sarah Cason, 17 Nov 1887; citing Pierce, GA, United States; FHL microfilm 211930.

³⁶ I found a copy of the license and certificate from the gov. book at the LDS Family Search site.

³⁷ GA Marriages, 1851-1900

³⁸ This one was confusing, until I looked at it closer again. Ex. of being careful with Ancestry.com etc.

³⁹ I had a time with this entry because it was with WT Gill II, and thus confusing. The problem with Sr. and Jr. titles!

⁴⁰ Date from W. T Gill's Bible and was written 19011 same as for WT and Serena marriage year.

⁴¹ Jo Floyd said she did not marry, but she married for a short time. POWG vol 8 p 120

⁴² Another good source for the Gill side is from Ellie Jane Drawdy Loudermilk

⁴³ Birth death dates found in Thomas book and verified online at find a grave and death certificates at Ancestry.com

⁴⁴ Henry's mother is Belinda's 1st cousin 4x removed on Harris side. His parents: J. Henry and Levicie Altman Brauda.

⁴⁵ PWG Book 12 page 168-170

⁴⁶ Cousins to Gills. George and Virgil are sons of Isham Brady Manning and Janie Elizabeth Crosby.

⁴⁷ Birth death dates found in Thomas book and verified online at find a grave and death certificates at Ancestry.com

⁴⁸ PWG Book 12 page 168-170



After Sarah's death 3 Dec, 1909,⁴⁹ William Thomas married Serena Elizabeth Johns⁵⁰ 2 July 1911.⁵¹ Serena was a 31 year old single lady. Serena Elizabeth Johns and William Thomas Gill Jr. (Tom) had the following children: Jewel 1912-2001 m. A.C. Weathers; James Ruby 1913-1982 m. Edna Vickers; Joseph Marrel 1914-1974 m. Annie Maude Dixon; and Andrew Jackson⁵² (Jack) 1916-1955 m. Era Miller.^{53 54 55}

On the 1880 USA Census taken 18 June, (William Thomas II) W. T. is listed as living with his brother, R. A. Gill (Robert Alexander and his wife, Geanette). W.T. is a white male age 15⁵⁶ who is a farmer and born in Georgia, as were his parents.⁵⁷ They live in District 1181, Pierce, GA.

The 1900 USA Census has Sarah Cason married to William T Gill for 12 years. His birth date is Jan 1864 and hers July 1863. They are both 36 years old. Their children are: Martha J, age 11; Lula S., 10; Mary E., 8; Souse E., 5; Daniel R., 3 and William T. III, 1. They live in Patterson, Dowlings, Pierce, GA. All except younger ones can read and write and all speak English. All were born in Georgia.

In the 1910 USA Census for Patterson, Pierce, GA, William is listed as Thomas Giel age 46 and a widowed, white, male. His children are: Ellen, Susie, Robbie (Daniel Robert, now age 12), Sarah B, Lizzie, Pearl. He speaks English and is a farmer who works on his own account on his own farm that is mortgaged. He can read and write. His widowed mother, Sarah S. lives with them at age 66. It says that Sarah S and her parents were born in Georgia. All but the younger ones can read and write.

The 1920 USA Census has W.T. and his family living in Walkersville, Pierce, GA. He now owns his own home. He is a white male age 56 who is employed at general farming. They live in Militia District 1609. His wife is Elizabeth (Serena) and children listed are: Jura⁵⁸ dau. age 7, James R age 6, Joseph M. age 5, Andrew J. age 3, Lizzie age 15, and Pearl age 10. All but the younger ones can read and write, except for Lizzie, at age 15.

In 1930 W. T. and wife Serena and their 5 children live on Blackshear Steel Bridge Road. It says he is still a general farmer and was not a vetearn. All but the younger ones can read and write, except for Lizzie,⁵⁹ at age 26 cannot.



I don't see William on the 1940 USA Census, but he lived with his son, Robbie, during those years and died at their home in 1946⁶⁰.

He and Serena are buried at New Home Cemetery (3 Miles NW of Offerman, GA.)⁶¹ GPS Coordinates: Latitude: 31.43860, Longitude: -

82.10500.⁶²

⁴⁹ PWG Vol 12 p. 170 Written on her grave "She welcomed death as the fruition of her eternal hopes"

⁵⁰ Serena's brother, Jackson, married Belinda's Aunt Ollie on Harris side, Martin T's sister.

⁵¹ GA, Marriage Records From Select Counties, 1828-1978

⁵² Jack and his sister, Jewel were tall.

⁵³ From book: The Thomas Story Continued by Aaron Thomas page 442

⁵⁴ Birth death dates found in Thomas book and verified online at find a grave and death certificates at Ancestry.com

⁵⁵ PWG Book 12 page 168-170

⁵⁶ According to this date and age, he would have been born in 1865.

⁵⁷ We are not sure where his parents were born, but this could be a clue.

⁵⁸ I assume this must be Jewel for she was born 1912.

⁵⁹ Lizzie was mentally challenged. She stayed with the Robbie Gill family sometimes.

⁶⁰ A friend built his coffin on the porch of their house.

⁶¹ History of Pierce County II by Broome p. 371

William Thomas Gill I is believed to be born about in the 1830s⁶³ maybe in McIntosh County (formerly Liberty County), GA. He is believed to have died and buried in 1873 in McIntosh County.⁶⁴ (see note below)

William married **Sarah Saphronia Caldwell**. Sarah was born about 1843. She died in 1918 in Pierce, GA at age 75.⁶⁵

Sarah Saphronia⁶⁶ and William Thomas I had the following children: Robert Alexander 1859-1931 m. Jeanette Prescott; Ellen⁶⁷ 1861-1943 m. Hiram Wasdin; William Thomas II b. 13 Jan 1864 d. 03 Sep 1946⁶⁸ m. 1. Sarah Rebecca Cason (our line) 2. Serena Johns; Elizabeth Matilda 1867-1946 m. John J. Knowles; James 1870-1878 (he was accidentally killed)⁶⁹ and Letitia 'Lou' 1874-1936⁷⁰ m. Henry Thomas.⁷¹



With William Thomas gone, Sarah loaded the children and belongings in an ox cart and moved them to the Patterson area.⁷² She lived in (and/or) ran a boarding house in Offerman (or was it Zirkle?⁷³) Their son, Robert at age 10, went to work at a sawmill rolling sawdust in a wheelbarrow for \$5.00 a month to help support the family.

I find no census records for W T Gill Sr. However, there is an 1860 USA Census for Ths I. Gill with a wife named Sarah S. and a son named Robert A. There is also a listing on a ship from Ireland with the name Ths I. Gill. This would go along with the story of an Irish Immigrant coming over and working on the railroad. (though Uncle Nolan said Scottish)

Note: I have a record of a Thomas I. Gill coming to NY from Ireland. According to Aaron Thomas, his birth and death dates are unknown.^{74 75} Aaron says W.T. was much older than his wife and he may have worked on the railroad when it was built through Pierce County. His burial place is listed as Mill Creek, Pierce Co, GA or Boggs Cemetery, Long County GA. Some say he went off to the Civil War and did not return.⁷⁶ He may have been in Company K⁷⁷ from Georgia. We do have a copy of a Wlm Giles wounded in the Civil War, but we don't know if it is our Wlm.

As of Belinda's search August, 2011, at the Long County Library, there is no listing for Boggs Cemetery. There is a Baggs Cemetery, but no listing for a Gill in it. Maybe there is a Boggs cemetery that has grown up in woods somewhere. I also read that it is Boggs Cemetery in McIntosh (formerly Liberty) County.⁷⁸



⁶² Findagrave.com& Mapquest

⁶³ The Thomas Story Continued by Aaron Thomas page 441 & Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia

⁶⁴ Thomas Kith and Kin by Aaron Thomas p. 852

⁶⁵ The Thomas Story Continued by Aaron Thomas page 441

⁶⁶ Photo of Sarah Saphronia is one from the family file. It is also posted online and in the Thomas Story Continued by Aaron Thomas page 441. From somewhere, I had Ellen's middle name as Josephine, but I cannot find that place now.

⁶⁷ PWG Vol. 8 page 120 has 1940, as did Aaron Thomas page 441, but someone changed it to 1946.

⁶⁸ PWG Vol. 8 page 120

⁶⁹ If Robert Alexander worked 7 years 'for his wife to grow up' then marry her 9 Nov 1879, then he would have been born in 1872, after their dad died. I have Mary Letitia 'Lou' Gill born in 1874.

⁷⁰ From book: The Thomas Story Continued by Aaron Thomas page 441

⁷¹ From file name: Gill and Prescott (found online)

⁷² Uncle Buck said that Aunt Pearl said she moved to Zirkle. N. 31° 21.239 W 082° 02.760

⁷³ The Thomas Story Cont. by Aaron Thomas page 441 & Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia Vol. 8 p. 120

⁷⁴ Some say he may have come from Ireland to Charleston, SC as a 2 yr old.

⁷⁵ If this is true, then how do we account for the last 3 children?

⁷⁶ Uncle Robert and cousin Martha said this info in an interview.

⁷⁷ Belinda Jo Adams' personal search at the library in that county.

I have a census record for a Robert Gill living in McIntosh County GA in 1820. I found it on the same census record of another ancestor of mine. However, there were many Robert, William, and Thomas Gills. I also have a file on my computer that talks about a John Gill back in the 1700s, but I see no positive proof to connect him to us.

Sarah Saphronia lived with her son, William Thomas II in 1910 according to the census record. The name is listed as Geil, but all the names are the same as the W.T. Gill II family. Sarah Cason died in December, 1909 so was not on the list.

Sarah is buried at Mill Creek Cemetery in Patterson, Pierce County, GA; Mill Creek Rd / Chancey Rd.; GPS Coordinates: Latitude: 31.450516, Longitude: -82.137782.

Being we do not know where and when W. T. Gill I and S.S. Caldwell were born,⁷⁹ we do not know our family's history before this point. We can speculate, but that is all it would be. EOL for Gill line.

~~~~~

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The historical facts in this document are, of course, not copyrighted. Only the form the author has chosen to present them. Permission is granted to copy portions of this paper for your own personal use but <b>not</b> as a whole for commercial use. Thanks. © 2014 by Belinda Jo Harris Adams.</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

(C) 2015 ~ Belinda Jo Harris Adams ~ belindajo.com

---

<sup>79</sup> A couple census records list Georgia as the birthplace.