

MARY ABBOTT OWEN and FAMILY
Daughter of Joseph Abbott of Halifax County, Virginia

Research Report by Joan Horsley
Based on Research as of December 2013
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MARY ABBOTT

Daughter of Joseph Abbott and wife Frances
Born: Abt. 1767, Halifax County, Virginia
Married: 16 Oct 1787, Halifax County, VA to Hatcher Owen
Died: Bet. 1804 - 1820, Halifax County, Virginia

HATCHER OWEN

Son of William Owen and Lucy Wootton
Born: Bef. 1761, Virginia
Died: 1829, Halifax County, Virginia

CHILDREN of MARY ABBOTT and HATCHER OWEN

Drury Owen (m. Nancy Vaughan), William Owen (m1 Martha Owen, m2 Judith Penick),
Rebecca Owen (m. Edwin Vaughan), Beverly Owen (unmarried), Elizabeth Owen (m. Royal
Daniel), Moody Owen (m. Martha Jane Johnson), Mary "Polly" Owen (m. John Abbott)

MARY ABBOTT is named first among "my four youngest daughters namely Mary, Elizabeth, Frances and Paty" in her father Joseph Abbott's will written 30 Mar 1787. [HWWB2:298] Mary married six months later, and her father gave the formal consent required for those marrying under age 21. By that and the known or approximated ages of her siblings, Mary Abbott was born abt. 1767. Apparently Mary was Joseph Abbott's first child with his last wife, Frances (maiden name unknown). Mary's father, Joseph Abbott, died within seven months after Mary's marriage, but her mother, Frances, lived beyond Mary's death and died in 1823.

Mary Abbott married Hatcher Owen 16 Oct 1787 in Halifax County, VA, where Mary was born. They were married by the Methodist minister Rev. Hawkins Landrum, who later officiated at the marriage of Mary's younger sister Frances in 1795. Hatcher Owen's bond to marry Mary is dated 10 Oct 1787. His bondsman was Mary's oldest full brother Richard Abbott, who became acting head-of-house after their father's death several months later even though Richard was abt. 18 years old. A bondsman who was not yet of legal age was unusual, although by that time not unique. However, the only way Richard would be responsible for the bond fee was if the marriage did not take place and if Hatcher reneged on paying the bond fee himself. In this case, the chance of either happening was nil. The witnesses are listed as Elizabeth Abbott, who was Mary's next younger sister, and Frances Abbott, either Mary's mother or her next sister after Elizabeth. Although Mary's sisters were also under age 21, witnesses were not required to be of legal age. [Source: Halifax Co, VA Marriage Bonds Register, No. 1, 1753 - 1889 and Ministers Returns. LVA Reel 82.]

Hatcher Owen was widowed when he married Mary Abbott. By a bond of 27 Jul 1781, Hatcher married Elizabeth Roberts, with bondsman Benjamin Hall and witness Henry Goare.

She signed her own consent (recorded as "Betsy Roberts"), so she was over age 21 by then. *[Knorr, p. 70]* Hatcher also was then over 21, thus born before 1761. Elizabeth Roberts was a daughter of John Roberts and Janne/Jane Levereau (of multiple spellings), whose parents were French Huguenot immigrants to Manakin Town, Henrico County, VA. John Roberts died in Halifax shortly before 15 Feb 1776, when his will was proved, and his daughter Elizabeth's name is recorded there as "Betty Roberts." *[HWB1:145]* About the same time that Hatcher married Elizabeth, her sister Sally Roberts married John Fulkerson, who lived next to the Abbots at Difficult Creek. Sally and John's daughter Catharine Fulkerson later married Mary Abbott Owen's brother Richard Abbott.

The Owen family land was on a part of lower Terrible Creek just west of Winns Creek, where the Roberts family lived. Both lived a short distance southwest of the Abbots and Fulkersons at Difficult Creek, close to where Elizabeth's and Sally's brother Daniel Roberts later moved. William Owen's 1806 will called Mary Abbott Owen's brother John Abbott "my neighbor," and all the families remained closely involved throughout the years.

A Halifax deed dated 17 Jan 1782 to "George Adington" (probably George Anderton) from Richard Ashlock for 36 acres on branches of Winns Creek names Elizabeth's and Sally's widowed mother "Jean Roberts" (Janne/Jane Levereau Roberts) as a "bound" (ie, adjacent landowner) on the land being sold. The deed was witnessed by Jane Roberts' son-in-law Hatcher Owen and by her sons Daniel Roberts (who later moved near the Abbots on Difficult Creek), Moses Roberts, and Peter Roberts. *[HDB12:168]* A Halifax court session of 22 Jul 1785 names Hatcher Owen on the same road order with Jane Roberts and her sons Daniel, Moses, and Peter for maintenance of the road from the Terrible Creek Bridge to Peter Roberts. *[HPB11:189]* On 24 Jul 1794, Hatcher Owen sold 10 acres on the bank of Terrible Creek to John and Jane's son William Roberts, witnessed by William's brother Thomas Roberts and by Hatcher's father William Owen and brother Thomas Owen. *[HDB16:208]* Personal property tax lists indicate it was Hatcher's brother Thomas Owen (among several of that name) who, by bond of 3 Dec 1793, married Jane Roberts, daughter of Moses Roberts on Winns Creek.

Elizabeth Roberts Owen died within a year of her marriage to Hatcher. The 1782 head-of-house enumeration lists Hatcher Owen with only one white person (himself) and one slave in his household. Thus, Hatcher and Elizabeth apparently had no surviving children, and none were named in her mother Jane/Janne Roberts' 1794 will. *[HWB3184]*

The Abbots and Owens had lived near each other for years by the time Mary Abbott and Hatcher Owen married in 1787. Their families' mutual friends and neighbors in addition to the Roberts and Fulkerson families run through the record books. For example, in Nov 1781, Mary Abbott's later husband Hatcher Owen along with her father Joseph Abbott and her older brother William Abbott purchased from the estate of Edward Tuck. *[HWB2:387]* One of the appraisers of Edward Tuck's estate was Thomas Lacy, whose daughter Magdaline married Mary Abbott's older brother Joseph Abbott Jr. abt. 1778. Thomas Lacy sold land on Winns Creek to Joseph Abbott Jr. in 1791 *[HDB15:156]*, and in 1809, Joseph sold the same land to Hatcher's brother Thomas Owen. *[HDB22:266]*

Two years after Mary Abbott and Hatcher Owen married, by a deed dated 12 Mar 1790 William Owen deeded to his son Hatcher Owen a tract of 100 acres on the north side of Terrible ("Turable") Creek bounded by Hunt, Johnson, and (Smith) Johnson's spring branch.

[HDB14:638] The deed describes the land as the balance of a tract William Owen purchased from John Sparrow. According to another deed from William to Hatcher in 1783 [HDB12:265], this was the land patented by John Sparrow on 3 Mar 1760 for 403 acres on both sides of Terrible Creek, bounded by Nelson and Echols. [VPB33:756] The witnesses to William's 1790 deed to Hatcher were John Echols, Lucyanah Echols, and Caty Echols.

Hatcher Owen with his wife Mary Abbott raised their family on the part of Terrible Creek two to three miles north of today's courthouse town of Halifax, VA near his father and brother Thomas and not far from her widowed mother and most of her siblings on Difficult Creek. Prior to Hatcher's brother Thomas Owen's 1809 purchase on Winns Creek, Thomas is identified in personal property tax lists as "Thomas Owen TC" to distinguish him on Terrible Creek from one or more other Thomas Owen in the area. Hatcher's land was just to the west of Winns Creek where the Roberts lived across the main north-south road between Crystal Hill and Halifax Town. In Abbott deeds over time, the road was called "the Old Courthouse Road," then Coles Ferry Road, and roughly today's Anderson Road. [HDB15:156, 21:680]

That road was the western bound on land Mary's brother Joseph Abbott Jr. purchased in 1791, and sold in 1809 to Thomas Owen. [HDB22:266] The eastern bound was Winns Creek and the southern bound was William Roberts. (Nathaniel Manning's land was on the north.) In 1800, Hatcher Owen was appointed as road surveyor to supervise and coordinate the road maintenance work required of the neighboring landowners, and Joseph Abbott Jr. was assigned to Hatcher's group:

Feb 1800 - Halifax Court - Road Order

HATCHER OWEN is appointed surveyor of the "road leading from Martins Mill to the fork of the road leading to Colonel Woodings old place." He with the following landowners and their "male labouring tythes" are ordered to clear and keep the road in good repair according to law: Joseph Nelson, Lewelling Williamson, George Anderton, John Crittenden, JOSEPH ABBOTT [JR], George Nelson junr, and William ROBERTS.

[HPB19:274. LVA Reel 62. Abstract by J. Horsley.]

In 1796, Hatcher Owen sold a small tract of land on Terrible Creek that his father had sold him 16 Jan 1783. [HDB12:265] Two witnesses to Hatcher's deed of sale were his brother Thomas Owen and his brother-in-law Leonard Abbott, Mary's younger brother, who then was living with their widowed mother and unmarried siblings at Difficult Creek. A son of Leonard Abbott later married a daughter of Mary and Hatcher Owen, as we shall see.

Date: 14 Jul 1796

From: HATCHER OWEN

To: Richard Martin

For: £60

Description: 40 acres on the lower side of Terrible Creek

Bounds: George Anderton near the old meeting house, Robertson, Spring Branch, Terrible Creek, Hunt, Alman Guinn [also sp. Almon Gwin]

Signed: Hatcher Owen

Witnesses: Thomas OWEN, John Light, LEONARD ABBOTT, Rezin Porter Jr.

Release of Dower: None

Recorded. 25 Jul 1796 - Acknowledged by Hatcher Owen

[Source: Halifax Deed Book 16, p. 675-676. LVA Reel 7. Abstract by J. Horsley. Comments in brackets added.]

The Abbott and Owen close association is further exemplified by the will of Hatcher's father William Owen. William wrote his will 11 Aug 1806 and died before 22 Sep 1806, when his will was first presented in Halifax Court (recorded 28 Oct 1806). [HWB7:263] William Owen appointed his executors to be his "sons" Hatcher Owen and Thomas Owen along with his "neighbor" John Abbott, and John also witnessed the will. John Abbott (b. c1773) was Mary's younger brother who never married. It was this John's nephew John Abbott who married Hatcher and Mary's daughter Mary "Polly" Owen in 1832. Polly Owen's husband, the younger John Abbott (b. c1806), was a son of Mary Abbott Owen's brother Leonard Abbott (who witnessed Hatcher's 1796 deed above) and wife Susanna Ferguson. [HDB40:258]

Hatcher's brother Thomas Owen was born bet. 1771-1772 (as proved by his father's personal property tax lists). Both Hatcher and Thomas had sons named William, and their father's 1806 will names them both. Hatcher and Mary Abbott Owen's son William Owen was born abt. 1794, and Thomas and Jane Roberts Owen's son William Owen was born abt. 1796 (ages again proved by tax lists). The tax lists designate the two Williams as "son of Hatcher" and "son of Tom" and later name Hatcher's son as William Owen "Sr.," meaning the elder or senior of the two. (Thomas Owen's next son after William was born abt. 1802, as he is first enumerated in Thomas' tax list as a "white tithe" age 16+ in 1818, but this son did not appear by name at age 21 before 1821, when this district's tax lists stopped enumerating white tithes.) William Owen's 1806 will names Hatcher's other siblings besides Thomas as John Owen, Susanna Brady, Lucy Powell, and Agnes Thomas (who married Joel Thomas in Halifax by bond of 4 Sep 1787).

Halifax County personal property tax lists that began in 1782 show Hatcher Owen and his father and brother to be highly prosperous relative to the average Halifax resident. By 1804, Hatcher Owen was taxed for 4 slaves age 16 and over; his father William Owen "Esq." was taxed for 6 slaves age 16+; and his brother Thomas was taxed for 3 slaves age 16+. Each also had 3-4 horses. By 1815, Hatcher and Thomas each had 14 slaves over age 12, and they were taxed for 4 horses and 7 horses, respectively. [Source: Halifax Personal Property Taxes. LVA Reels 148 & 1749.]

The first surviving U. S. census for Halifax County, Virginia was for the year 1820, and no female of Mary Abbott Owen's age is enumerated in Hatcher Owen's household:

1820 - Halifax Co, VA - Meadsville Dist.

HATCHER OWEN - Males: 1(16-18), 2(19-25), 1(26-44), 1(45+); Females: 1(16-25) - 24 slaves

Note:

This year's census has a separate column for males between age 16 and 18 and then includes them in a category for males age 16 through 25. The summary above shows the actual age breakdown of Hatcher's family rather than the double entry for the male 16-18. The actual census lists 1 male 16-18 and 3 males 16-25. The second male age 19-25 is not known and probably is a farm hand, laborer,

boarder, relative, etc. In any case, he is not apparent as a son among the enumerated white tithes in Hatcher's tax lists for 1787 through 1820.

Mary Abbott Owen died in Halifax between 1804 (when the youngest child by age category could be born) and the 1820 census. Mary would be abt. 37 years old in 1804 and still of childbearing age. Since Hatcher's 1820 family shows no younger children, Mary probably died closer to 1804 than to 1820.

Hatcher Owen died in Halifax shortly before 10 Apr 1829, when the inventory and appraisal of his estate was taken. [HWB15:132] Hatcher and Mary's son oldest son, Drury Owen, was administrator of Hatcher's estate, as shown by his signature on the inventory and appraisal above the three appraisers' signatures. (Information simply contributed by a family member was noted differently.)

Inventory and appraisal of the Estate of HATCHER OWEN, dec'd

Dated 10 Apr 1829

Items include: 1 waggon & cover, 1 cariall [carryall] & gear, 2 sorrel horses, 1 bay horse, 12 head of hogs, 2 hilling hoes, 1 axe, 1 set waggon bucking[?], 3 pr. of hames & traces, 3 bridles & 3 collars, 1 black cow with white, 1 Spinning wheel, 2 pots & oven hooks, 1 pr. side irons, 1 pigin [piggin] & strainer, 1 pot rack, 1 sifter, 2 shot guns, 2 slays, 1 folding table, parcel earthenware, 1 candle stick, knives & forks, 1 water pail, 1 cupboard [cupboard], 5 chairs, 1 yearling, saddle bags

List of slaves dated 28 Dec 1829:

man Ellick, woman Tiller, woman Edy, woman Sary, Chany & child, Matilda & child, man Robert, man Aboroom [meaning Abraham?], boy Simon, girl Sarah, girl Taimor, girl Phillless [Phyllis], girl Rhody, girl Jula, girl Marry, boy George, boy James, girl Martha, Chany's Mary Total appraisal for slaves: \$4,460.00

Signed by DRURY OWEN

"We the undersigned being sworn agreeable to law did appraise the Estate of Hatcher Owen dec'd agreeable to this list."

Signed by appraisers Benjamin Anderton, Hardaway Chandler, Matthew Winfree

Recorded: 27 Jan 1830

[Source: Halifax Will Book 15, p. 132-133. LVA Reel 42. Abstract by J. Horsley. Comments in brackets added.]

Note:

The appraisers were close neighbors, but two of them also had family connections with both Hatcher Owen and Mary Abbott. Appraiser Hardaway Chandler was the husband of Betsy Fulkerson, a sister of Catharine Fulkerson who married Mary Abbott Owen's brother Richard Abbott in 1818. Betsy and Catharine Fulkerson's mother, Sally Roberts, was a sister of Elizabeth Roberts, first wife of Hatcher Owen. Appraiser Benjamin Anderton's first wife, Susanna Roberts (a daughter of Moses Roberts), was a niece of Sally Roberts Fulkerson. Benjamin Anderton's second wife, whom he married in 1821, was Sally C. Baker Roberts, widow of Peter Roberts Jr., son of Peter Roberts who was a brother of Sally Roberts Fulkerson. Hatcher's brother Thomas Owen married Jane Roberts, a daughter of Moses Roberts and a sister of Susanna Roberts, first wife of George Anderton. (Online files give conflicting dates for Thomas and Jane's marriage: 3 Dec 1793 and 29 Nov 1794. Apparently Hatcher's brother Thomas was the one who married Nancy Hill in 1797, although but I have not seen the evidence to evaluate it. Another Halifax marriage is recorded in 1790 for a Thomas Owen and Mary Ann Chandler, an aunt of the appraiser Hardaway Chandler, but tax lists show this Thomas was

not Hatcher's brother Thomas. There were at least two named Thomas Owen, possibly a third, in Halifax North District tax lists during this time period, and more documentation is needed to identify them correctly. The South District tax lists for Owen were not checked.)

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CHILDREN of MARY ABBOTT and HATCHER OWEN

Seven children of Hatcher Owen and Mary Abbott have been identified by a combination of records, including personal property tax lists, wills, deeds, and marriage records. No missing sons are apparent from white tithes in Hatcher's tax lists; however, Hatcher and Mary could have unidentified daughters already married by the 1820 census.

Their known children are: Drury Owen, William Owen, Rebecca Owen, Beverly Owen, Elizabeth Owen, Moody Owen, and Mary "Polly" Owen.

Below is an overview of each child. For other details and census records, see their separate Individual Notes.

1) Hatcher and Mary's son DRURY OWEN is first enumerated as a "white tithe" (ie, male age 16+) in his father Hatcher Owen's yearly personal property tax list dated 25 Mar 1805. Thus, Drury was born 1788-1789, which matches his 1850 census age of 62. He remains enumerated in Hatcher's tax lists through 1810, then appears by name in 1813, when he returned his list the same day as Hatcher. Drury and Hatcher continue to be listed next to each other and to turn in their lists the same day each year, as would be expected, since the 1820 census indicates Drury was still part of his father's household. (Hatcher's son William Owen is also listed the same day as Hatcher and Drury prior to William's marriage in 1818.)

In Nov 1819, Drury Owen was security (ie, bondsman) on the marriage bond of Edwin Vaughan to marry Drury's sister Rebecca Owen, "daughter of Hatcher Owen." Several years later, Drury married Edwin Vaughan's sister.

Drury Owen married in Halifax County, VA by bond dated 3 Jan 1823 to Nancy Vaughan (b. c1801), daughter of James Vaughan and Sarah Legrand. Nancy was then the widow of Samuel Jordan and thus named as Nancy Jordan on Drury's marriage bond. When Nancy Vaughan married Samuel Jordan 9 Oct 1816, her "father" James Vaughan signed his consent. When Nancy (Vaughan) Jordan married Drury Owen in 1823, the bondsman was her "father" James Vaughan. (The marriage bond register for Drury's marriage to Nancy lists him as "Drury H. Owen." However, except for one tax list in 1821 where he is listed as "Drury P. Owen," no other records found for Drury list him with any middle initial, including when he and wife Nancy signed an 1833 deed by signature. None of Hatcher and Mary's children had middle names/initials, which was normal for their time and place. As middle names became more common in Virginia after the War of 1812, some people born earlier created their own, but most, like Drury, dropped them as unnecessary.)

There is an interesting series of family bondsmen. When Mary Vaughan, "daughter of James Vaughan," married Thomas Pointer in 1817, the bondsman was her brother Edwin Vaughan (son of James Vaughan), and the witnesses were Edwin Vaughan and Samuel Jordan (then husband of James Vaughan's daughter Nancy). When Edwin Vaughan married Hatcher and Mary's daughter Rebecca Owen in 1819, the bondsman was Rebecca's brother Drury Owen, who married James Vaughan's daughter and Samuel Jordan's widow Nancy

Vaughan Jordan in 1823 with her "father" James Vaughan as bondsman. By the mid-1830s, the families of Nancy Vaughan Owen and Mary Vaughan Pointer were living near each other in Alabama.

When Drury's father, Hatcher Owen, died in Halifax in 1829, Drury Owen signed the inventory and appraisal of Hatcher's estate along with the three court-appointed appraisers. [HWB15:132] Drury obviously signed as the estate administrator, though not stated as such. (Administrators frequently signed with the appraisers, but any relevant information from other family members was stated separately in the appraisal.)

Drury's household is included in the 1830 census in Halifax, and Drury and Nancy Vaughan Owen were still living in Halifax in 1833. By a deed dated 8 Aug 1828, Drury Owen purchased the share of land that Drury's cousin Thomas Abbott inherited from his deceased father Joseph Abbott Jr., a brother of Drury's mother, Mary Abbott Owen. [HDB36:423] On 18 Jan 1833, Drury Owen with his wife Nancy (by her dower right to Drury's land) and two of Thomas Abbott's siblings sold their combined shares of Joseph Abbott Jr.'s former land. [HDB41:25] The 1828 and 1833 deeds together prove that Drury's wife Nancy was not a daughter of Joseph Abbott, as some online files mistakenly say. The 1833 deed also disproves online family files that say the Drury Owen who married Nancy Jordan (*née* Nancy Vaughan) was the Drury Owen of adjacent Pittsylvania County who married Jane Mayhue 1 Jun 1832 in Pittsylvania. This cannot be, since Drury Owen and wife Nancy Vaughan Jordan Owen were still married as of the 18 Jan 1833 deed. (See deeds in Notes for Drury Owen.)

Shortly after selling this land in 1833, Drury and Nancy moved their family from Halifax County, VA to Lawrence County, AL. In the 1840 census, Drury Owen is listed next to Thomas Pointer, whose wife Mary Vaughan was a sister of Drury's wife Nancy Vaughan. Between 1840-1848, Drury moved his family to De Soto County, MS, just south of Memphis, TN. Nancy Vaughn Jordan Owen died between 1840-1850. Drury Owen died in De Soto County, MS bet. 1850-1860.

2) Hatcher and Mary's son WILLIAM OWEN is named as "my grandson William Owen son of Hatcher Owen" in the Halifax will of Hatcher's father William Owen written 11 Aug 1806. [HWB7:263] Personal property tax lists for Hatcher Owen show his son William was born abt. 1794. William is first enumerated at age 16+ in Hatcher Owen's tax lists in 1810 and first definitively identified by name at age 21+ in 1815. Prior to his marriage, William turned in his lists the same day with Hatcher and Drury and is listed with them.

William Owen married in Halifax by bond of 22 Dec 1818 to a cousin Martha Owen. He is listed in the bond index (as well as the 1821 tax lists) as "William Owen Sr." to distinguish him from his younger cousin William Owen. The younger or "junior" William Owen, born abt. 1796, was a son of Hatcher's brother Thomas Owen. Hatcher's son William is missing in the 1820 census (as are a number of Halifax residents), but in 1830, he is conveniently listed as "William Owen / son [of] Hatcher" among the numerous William Owens then in the county. Tax lists also list him as "son of Hatcher" or simply with the notation "SH" and his cousin William as "son of Tom."

William's wife Martha died between the birth of her youngest child abt. 1834 and 5 Dec 1836, when William Owen married "Judah Hawkins" (usually called Judith). Her father is

listed as Nathan Penick. Judith was then the widow of Joel Hawkins, who married "Judith Penick" in Halifax by bond of 7 Aug 1820 with Nathan Penick as bondsman.

One proof that the same William Owen married both Martha Owen and Judith Penick comes from William's son Edward J. Owen who is listed in William and wife Judith's family in the 1850 census. Edward was born abt. 1829. In his marriage license to marry Sallie B. Bostick 15 Nov 1859 and on his death record 26 Dec 1883, his parents are listed as William and Martha Owen.

Mary Abbott Owen's brother William Abbott wrote his will in Halifax Co. on 15 Mar 1847. [HWB22:24] He appointed Mary and Hatcher's son William Owen as an executor, and three of William's sons witnessed the will; namely, James M. Owen, William H. Owen, and Edward J. Owen. Sons William H. and Edward J. are still living with William in 1850. His son James M. Owen married 24 Jan 1848 to Lucy J. Robertson, named as Lucy J. Owen in the 1857 will of her father, Christopher Robertson. [HWB25:479] Christopher's second wife and Lucy's mother was Elizabeth Penick, sister of William Owen's second wife, Judith Penick.

The 1850 census lists William as William H. Owen, the only time this William is ever listed with a middle initial, and in 1860, he again is simply William Owen. The 1850 census obviously is merely a census error, probably because he had a son William H. Owen in the household listed as "Jr." (There are two other William H. Owens in Halifax in the 1850 census in addition to numerous other William Owens.) However, as recently as the 1847 will of his uncle William Abbott, the senior William Owen is never named, even by family, with a middle initial. And certainly if he had a middle initial, the earlier records would have used it instead of consistently naming him "son of Hatcher" or William Owen "Sr." (ie, the elder). Middle names did not begin to become common in the South until after the War of 1812, and none of Hatcher and Mary's children were born with middle names.

In the 1850 census, William Owen is listed next to his younger brother Moody Owen. William had 16 slaves in 1840, and in 1850 he had land valued at \$6000, with one son as an overseer and another son a "laborer" on the farm. In 1850, Moody is listed with no land, occupation farm laborer. Moody probably is working with William, sharing the land and combining their slaves, since Moody had 5 slaves in 1840 (likely inherited) and none in 1850 or 1860, while William had 23 slaves in 1850 but 16 slaves in 1840 and 1860.

William Owen died in Halifax County, VA between 1860-1870. In 1870, his widow Judith was living in Halifax with the family of her youngest daughter Tabitha R. Owen and Tabitha's husband Abraham V. Daniel. Judith Penick Hawkins Owen died in Halifax bet. 1870-1880.

3) Hatcher and Mary's daughter REBECCA OWEN was born abt. 1798. Rebecca married Edwin VAUGHAN (b. 1794) in Halifax County by bond of 29 Nov 1819. Her father is listed as Hatcher Owen in the marriage bond register. The bondsman was her older brother Drury Owen, and the witness was her younger brother Beverly Owen.

Edwin Vaughan was a son of James Vaughan and Sarah Legrand, who married in Halifax County, VA by bond of 15 Dec 1785. Edwin appears as a "white tithe" age 16+ in James Vaughan's personal property tax lists by 1814. Edwin appears by name at age 21+ in Mar 1816, when James Vaughan, listed next to Edwin, loses his extra "white tithe." The

combination of Halifax marriage records and the 1850 census show some interesting connections between Edwin Vaughan and his siblings who other records prove were children of James and Sarah Vaughan. When James Vaughan's "daughter" Mary Vaughan married Thomas Pointer in Halifax in 1817, the bondsman was her brother Edwin Vaughan, and the witnesses were Edwin Vaughan and Samuel Jordan, then married to James Vaughan's "daughter" Nancy Vaughan. Nancy Vaughan Jordan later married Rebecca Owen Vaughan's brother Drury Owen, who was the bondsman for Rebecca and Edwin's 1819 marriage bond. Edwin and Rebecca's eldest son was James L. Vaughan (b. c1820), and James Vaughan and Sarah Legrand had a son James L. Vaughan (said to be born 30 Mar 1787). Edwin and Rebecca's son James L. Vaughan was a doctor. James and Sarah Vaughan had a son who was a doctor named Milton Vaughan (b. c1808), and Edwin and Rebecca also had a son Milton Vaughan (b. c1840). James and Sarah Vaughan had a son named Craddock Vaughan, and Edwin and Rebecca's second son was Joseph Craddock Vaughan, named as Craddock on his 1846 marriage record and the 1850 census. Edwin's parents are confirmed by a biography of Edwin and Rebecca's son Joseph C. Vaughan written during his lifetime that names his grandparents as James Vaughan and Sarah Legrand. (See individual Notes for Joseph C. Vaughan for details.)

Edwin and Rebecca Owen Vaughan moved from Halifax between 1827-1830 to Tipton County, TN, where they were still living in 1850. Both Rebecca and Edwin died before 1860, when at least four of their children were living in Arkansas, across the Mississippi River from Tipton County, TN. The biography of their son Joseph C. Vaughan says that Rebecca Owen Vaughan died in Tipton in 1852. Two years later in 1854, Edwin Vaughan moved with several of his children to Arkansas (county not given), where he died the same year. Based on where the children lived later, he likely died around Conway County, just north of Little Rock, AR.

4) Hatcher and Mary apparently had a son named BEVERLY OWEN, born abt. 1799, although almost nothing is known about him. Beginning with the 1815 tax lists, Hatcher added a son then age 16+ who remained in his household through the 1820 census and the 1820 tax lists, the last year Hatcher's district enumerated other males in the household. This son presumably is Beverly Owen listed as a witness in Nov 1819 when Hatcher Owen gave consent for his daughter Rebecca to marry Edwin Vaughan and Edwin's bondsman was Hatcher's son Drury Owen. (Witnesses were not required to be fully 21 years old.) Beverly Owen is not found in later censuses, and there is no Halifax marriage record for him. Personal property tax lists after 1820, which list only those residents who owned slaves, horses, or other taxable personal property, have not been checked for him, but it seems Hatcher and Mary's son Beverly Owen died in Halifax in early adulthood in the 1820s.

5) Hatcher and Mary's daughter ELIZABETH OWEN was born abt. 1800. Elizabeth married in Halifax County, VA by bond dated 30 May 1820 to Royal DANIEL. Her "father" Hatcher Owen signed consent. Her husband is named on the bond as "Royall Daniel Jr." ("Royall" was an old Virginia surname that was used later as a given name and usually spelled with two l's until the mid-1800s. Another example is the father of an Abbott spouse consistently recorded as "Royall Lax.")

Elizabeth's husband Royal Daniel appears to be the son of Royall Daniel Sr. who died in Halifax bet. 1820-1830. Royal Sr. married Nancy Willingham in Halifax in 1785. (Some of the Halifax County Willinghams later moved to Alabama where they intermarried with Joseph Abbott descendants in St. Clair County, AL.) According to the Halifax marriage bond register, a Royal Daniel Jr. married by bond of 18 Aug 1819 to Lucinda Edmondson, daughter of Samuel Edmondson. County records used "Jr." and "Sr." to distinguish a younger and older man of the same name and does not necessarily refer to a same-name son and father. However, so far I have found only one Royal Daniel in that generation. If that is correct and there was only one "Royal Daniel Jr.," then Lucinda Edmondson Daniel died shortly after their marriage in order for him to marry Elizabeth Owen in May 1820. (More research is needed to correct or confirm.)

Royal and Elizabeth Owen Daniel and family left Halifax County bet. 1835-1840 and moved to Muhlenberg County, KY. They lived for a time in adjacent Trigg County, where Royal was listed as a school teacher in the 1850 census. Also living in Trigg County by that time were children and grandchildren of Mary Abbott Owen's sister Frances Abbott Robertson. Both Royal and Elizabeth Owen Daniel died back in Muhlenberg County, KY bet. 1860-1870.

6) Hatcher and Mary's son MOODY OWEN was the last of Hatcher's sons to be added in his personal property tax lists before white tithe enumerations were discontinued for their district in 1821. Moody was added at age 16 in Hatcher's listed dated 16 Mar 1818; thus, Moody was born abt. 1802. This matches Moody Owen's age in the 1850 census, although later censuses give his age less accurately as born abt. 1804. Like Beverly Owen, Moody is enumerated in Hatcher's lists through 1820, and Hatcher's 1820 census includes a son of Moody's age. Hatcher died in 1829 (Mary died long before), and in 1830, Moody is living with another family, as he is not listed in that census by name. (As to names, Moody Owen may have been named for his mother's younger brother Moody Abbott, born abt. 1775.)

In 1832, Moody Owen was bondsman when his sister Mary Owen married by bond of 16 May 1832 to their cousin John Abbott (as discussed more below). This John Abbott was a son of Mary Abbott Owen's brother Leonard Abbott and wife Susanna Ferguson.

Moody Owen married in Halifax by bond of 16 Nov 1836 to Martha Jane Johnson (b. 1819-1820), listed as a daughter of John Johnson. (Some of Hatcher Owen's original land had bounds of "Smith Johnson's spring branch" and "Johnson's line," probably related to Martha Jane. [HDB12:265]) In 1850, Moody is listed as a farm laborer next to his older brother William Owen. Since Moody has no land listed and William has land valued at \$6000, Moody probably is working with William, sharing the land and combining their slaves. Moody had 5 slaves in 1840 (likely inherited) and none in 1850 or 1860, while William had 23 slaves in 1850 but 16 slaves in 1840 and 1860. By 1860, Moody had his own land in the same area, but is not listed as a slave owner that year.

Moody and Martha Jane Johnson Owen had 13 children, 10 of whom were still living in 1900 and all of whom were born and raised in Halifax County. Moody died in Halifax on 15 Apr 1884 (per his death record), and Martha died there bet. 1900-1910 (per census records). In 1898, their youngest son, Rufus F. Owen, named his first son Hatcher B. Owen.

7) Hatcher and Mary's daughter MARY "POLLY" OWEN was born abt.1804, and apparently she was their last child. Polly's mother died before 1820 (likely long before), and her father died in 1829. Polly (named on the bond as Mary Owen) married in Halifax by bond dated 16 May 1832 to her cousin John Abbott, and her brother Moody Owen was the bondsman.

Polly's husband John Abbott is proved to be a son of Susannah Ferguson and Leonard Abbott, a brother of Polly's mother Mary Abbott Owen. (It was Polly's uncle John Abbott--Mary Abbott Owen's brother--who was named co-executor of William Owen's 1806 will, along with William's sons Hatcher Owen and Thomas Owen.) Polly's husband John Abbott's father Leonard Abbott was a witness when Polly's father, Hatcher Owen, sold land in 1796 with Hatcher's brother Thomas Owen as a co-witness. [HDB16:675]

By a deed dated 31 Oct 1832, John Abbott and wife "Polly" (Owen) sold the Halifax land that John inherited from his grandfather Thomas Ferguson. [HDB40:258] They sold the land to William Vaughan (b. c1765), perhaps related to Edwin Vaughan, husband of Polly's sister Rebecca Owen Vaughan. A week before, by deed dated 23 Oct 1832, John Abbott and his brothers sold the land they inherited from their father Leonard Abbott. [HDB40:257] (See Notes for Leonard Abbott for details.)

This John Abbott leaves the yearly Halifax County personal property tax lists after Feb 1832. Thus, it seems Polly and John left the area after selling both inherited properties later that year. Numerous other Owen and Abbott relations left Halifax in the 1830s. However, John and Polly Owen Abbott have not yet been located after their Oct 1832 Halifax deeds of sale.

See more information on Mary Abbott and Hatcher Owen's children in their individual notes.

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