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The Cater–Davis Connection: John, Israel and George Davis and their relationships to Sarah (Cater) Virden and James Cater

**Of Union and Newberry Counties, South Carolina,
Warren County, Kentucky,
Posey and Vanderburgh Counties, Indiana and
Bond County, Fayette and Montgomery Counties, Illinois**

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Acknowledgments

We all have Ruth Mather to thank for contacting me with the notion that Israel Davis (whom years ago I had covered briefly in a book that I wrote about the family of Simon Williams of Posey County, Indiana) had moved from Warren County, Kentucky to Montgomery County, Illinois. It was that revelation that led me to write this book. And her help in evaluating my logic and reasoning in the early drafts of this book has proved invaluable.

Thanks are also due to Ruth Mather for her help with proofreading, and for her and Joseph Richard Davis inviting me to view their AncestryDNA results. And to the latter for his research assistance at Newberry Library in Chicago.

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Like all of my books, this book is hereby placed in the public domain, in the hopes that it can provide valuable clues to others attempting to solve their own family enigmas.

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Introduction

My interest in the Caters and Davises stems from a book that I wrote in 2014 about my direct ancestor Simon Williams, which details the several families that his children had married into.¹ His son Lewis had married Elender Cater, who, as the following shows, was the sister-in-law of John and Israel Davis (bulleted list added for greater clarity).

*"Common Pleas of the Court
"Newberry County, South Carolina*

"William Cater vs. Daniel Cater

"October 1810

"James Cater died in 1800. He had a tract of land on Enoree River bounded by John Epps, Levi Casey, William Neighbours, and Peter Braselmann containing about 187 acres. James left the following children:

- **William Cater,**
- **Daniel Cater,**
- **Mary the wife of John Davis,**
- **Elizabeth the wife of Israel Davis,**
- **Elen[d]er the wife of Lewis Williams, and**
- **Joseph Cater, a minor.**

*Petition for a guardian for the minor **Joseph Cater**, who is residing in Kentucky, names **Thomas Duckett** as guardian. The land to be sold by the sheriff on the 1st Monday in May 1811." (Box 1, Folder A-15)*

Israel Davis and John Davis paid the poll tax in Warren County, Kentucky in 1809,² and Elender Cater had married Lewis Williams there on 16 Jan 1810. They very clearly are the same people who are mentioned in the above.

The above shows that John Davis had married Mary Cater, and that Israel Davis had married Elizabeth Cater. They were brothers - sons of Thomas Davis, Senior - as will later be proven. Of the above siblings, Daniel Cater remained in South Carolina. Ellender, William and Joseph eventually moved on to Posey County and/or Vanderburgh County, Indiana. The two Davis brothers and their wives remained in Warren County after their wives' siblings had left. John died there in the mid 1830s, though Israel and some of John's children moved to Montgomery County, Illinois starting around 1829 or so.

Before leaving South Carolina, James Cater's family had lived on the southside of the Enoree River in Newberry County, on a 187-acre land grant from the state of South Carolina that he had

¹ *The Pioneer Williams Families of Smith Township, Posey County, Indiana* by Steve Malone (2014), page 80.

² *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1809, FHL microfilm #007835952, image 535 of 1340.*

received in 1785.³ His property abutted one of the grants of Levi Casey, and was located on the east side of US Highway 176, between Duncan Creek and Sulphur Spring Branch. His sister, Sarah, had married James Virden, who had received a 200-acre state land grant to the south of grant of his brother-in-law, on the south shore of the Enoree River, immediately opposite the eastern half of the 483 ½-acre state land grant of Nathaniel Davis (which was located across the river in Union County, South Carolina). About half, 256 acres, of Nathaniel's grant was later sold to Thomas Davis, Senior.⁴ Thus, that is where John and Israel were from.

The property in Union County did not have a road access to the north, which cut it off from the rest of Union County. Access was initially gained by fording the shallow Enoree River, near where the Caseys and James Cater had their land grants. Despite being in different counties and being separated by an often shallow, 100-foot wide river, they were close neighbors. They likely attended the same church.

John Davis and Israel Davis were involved in a deed for land in Union County on 22 Nov 1808.⁵ In the deed, they assigned to Thomas Davis (Junior, their brother) their interest in the property of their deceased father, Thomas Davis, Senior, "it being part of a tract of land granted to Nath'l Davis lying on the north side of the Enoree River." In the next section, we'll discuss Thomas Davis, Senior. Nathaniel Davis, Senior will be discussed in *Appendix 1*. They were likely brothers, though the identity of their father is not known.

Thomas Junior, John and Israel match the ages of Thomas Davis, Senior's sons in the 1790 and 1800 Census records for Union County, South Carolina. He also had a daughter, Elizabeth, who was the wife of Alston Wiggins.⁶ The three sons and one daughter appear to account for all of his children, based upon the members described in those Census households.

There are two other Davises of interest to us, George and Uriah, though we'll mainly deal with Uriah in *Appendix 3*. Both men are found briefly in records of Warren County, Kentucky, and Uriah is also found briefly in records of Vanderburgh County, Indiana. George Davis and Israel Davis are found living side-by-side in the 1830 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois, and, incredibly, they both had daughters named Sarah who had married James Card there. In addition, George Davis married Elizabeth Virden, the daughter of James and Sarah (Cater) Virden. So George was clearly first cousin to John and Israel, and their children were second cousins to each other. That leaves us to ponder how Uriah Davis fits into this Davis clan. The most likely possibility is that he, too, was a first cousin of George, John and Israel, though there seems to be insufficient facts to establish that clearly.

It is necessary at this point to confront what appears to be a red herring about Uriah Davis - that he went by the nickname of Hugh. No public source was found to establish this as a fact. In

³ *Land Grant Maps of South Carolina* by Union County Historical Foundation (1976), map 3.

⁴ *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book D*, page 539, Nathaniel Davis and Elizabeth his wife to Thomas Davis.

⁵ *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book K*, page 160, John & Israel Davis to Thomas Davis.

⁶ *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book K*, page 159, Alston Wiggins to Thomas Davis.

every record from his 1809 arrival in Warren County, Kentucky until his death in 1840, he is known only as Uriah. In records of South Carolina prior to this date, living near the other principal characters of this book, is a person called Hugh Davis. But he is noted in an 1810 survey (discussed in the next paragraph) as residing in Union County, South Carolina. A further complication is that in 1815, Hugh Davis (along with Samuel Harris and James Lane) was a witness to the will of William Long in Union County, South Carolina.⁷ It seems more likely that these were two different men of the same Davis clan, since there is an overlap of several years where the two men are found in records in different states.

The notion that George Davis was closely related to the children of Thomas Davis, Senior is reinforced by an 1812 deed in Union County, South Carolina where George Davis sold to James McKee a 37-acre tract laid out by survey dated 29 Oct 1810, being part of a 334-acre tract that had originally been granted to Henry Davis. The deed was signed by George Davis (who made his mark) and Thomas Davis (who signed his name). The fact that Thomas Davis, Junior signed the above deed along with George is significant. It implies that Thomas somehow had an interest in the land - that somehow Henry Davis' grant overlapped the portion of Nathaniel Davis' grant that Thomas Davis had purchased. There are too few available facts to clearly know what this means, but it is most likely that Henry had contracted to purchase a portion of Thomas Senior's property and hadn't managed to complete the sale before his death.

A copy of the stated grant to Henry Davis could not be found, and no other record of the disposition of the remainder of Henry's grant is known. The property was bounded on the north by Josiah Darby, on the west by Thomas Davis, on the south by the Enoree River and "last by Hugh Davis."⁸ We already know that Thomas Davis, Junior acquired all of his father's 256 acres in 1808, which had originally been part of Nathaniel Davis' 483 ½ acres. And Josiah Darby was Nathaniel's northern neighbor for the western half of that property. We also know that neither Thomas Davis, Senior (who will be discussed in the next section) nor Nathaniel Davis, Senior (see *Appendix 1*) had sons named George, Uriah or Hugh.

Henry Davis is found in the 1790 Census for Union County, South Carolina. His household includes one male under age 16, one male over age 16 and three females, and it was six households from that of Josiah Darby. It appears that George Davis is a match for his son in that Census - that he and Henry were likely father and son. It also means that there is no match for Uriah Davis in Henry's household. Hugh Davis is thus the only remaining suspect who may have been the father of Uriah Davis.

There are Revolutionary War indents that were issued to Henry Davis, including ones for 350 and 400 pounds of beef, which he had supplied to the troops of Major General [Nathaniel] Greene. One of the indents was requested to be delivered to John McKee, Esq on 10 Aug

⁷ *South Carolina, Union County, Probate Records, Box 8, Package 15, William Long.*

⁸ *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book L, page 202, George Davis to James McKee.*

1795.⁹ No further record of Henry Davis was found, though if he had a 334-acre grant next to the grant of Nathaniel Davis, and had a son of about the same age as the sons of Thomas Davis, Senior, he was likely a brother of theirs. Presumably, Hugh was yet another brother.

John Davis, Israel Davis, and their brother-in-law Lewis Williams are all found in the 1810 Census for Warren County, Kentucky, where Lewis' father was living in the vicinity of Allen Springs. It was located on what would become the dividing line a few years later between Warren County and Allen County, when part of Warren County was lost to become part of the newly created Allen County. Just west of Allen Springs would remain Warren County, and the area to the east would become part of Allen County. The village lies approximately halfway between Bowling Green, the county seat of Warren County and Scottsville, the county seat of Allen County.

In the 1810 Census for Warren County, Uriah Davis and John Davis were listed consecutively, whereas Israel Davis was listed next to Henry W. Davis (see *Appendix 2* for more information about this person, who hailed from Virginia).

In 1811, listed in sequence paying taxes in Warren County were Uriah Davis, John Davis and John Davis.¹⁰ How the second John Davis fits into this clan of Davises is anyone's guess. Our John Davis was likely too young to have a son who would have been of age in 1811, so this was perhaps another cousin or an uncle.

On 24 Dec 1812, John Davis had 200 acres surveyed in Warren County, with Levi Casey and George Davis as chain carriers.^{11,12} It was typical for family members to act as chain carriers. We already know that George was John's first cousin. The following shows that Levi Casey (Junior, the son of Senior, who was James Cater's neighbor in South Carolina) was the brother-in-law of Thomas Davis, Junior (the brother of John and Israel Davis - bulleted list added for greater clarity):

"John Casey vs.

"Elizabeth Casey, Jacob Rhodes, & Thomas Davis

"March 1811

"General Levi Casey died in 1807 intestate with a tract of 75 acres on Hunting Fork a branch of Indian Creek, being a tract originally granted to **James Hughes**, and a tract containing 100 acres on the drafts of Enoree River and Duncan's Creek on a small branch called Casey's branch, originally laid out to **James**

⁹

<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/ArchivesImages/S108092/S108092003100304000/images/S108092003100304000.pdf>

¹⁰ Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1809, FHL Microfilm # 007835952, image 614 of 1340.

¹¹ Kentucky, Warren County, Surveyor/Processioner Records, Book B, page 98, FHL Microfilm # 008272171, image 726 of 1185.

¹² Kentucky Secretary of State, South of Green River Land Grants, Grant Book 19, page 339, Survey # 11328, recorded 28 Dec 1812, grant issued on 4 Dec 1816.

McCracken, and a tract containing 715 acres on Duncan's Creek and Enoree River. **Levi Casey** left a widow, **Elizabeth Casey** and the following children:

- **John Casey**,
- **Liner** the wife of **Jacob Rhodes**,
- **Nancy** the wife of **Thomas Davis**, and four minors —
- **Elizabeth Casey** the younger,
- **Levi Casey** the younger,
- **Jacob Casey**, and
- **Samuel Casey**.

Thomas Duckett appointed guardian of minors. Land was divided between heirs. 3 plats included. (Box 1, Folder A-16)"

[Levi Casey and George Davis were near neighbors in the 1820 Illinois State Census for Bond County, Illinois. Levi Casey's mother was Elizabeth Duckett. Recall that it was Thomas Duckett whom Joseph Cater had selected as his guardian. Was Thomas Duckett Joseph's grandfather or uncle? Or was he simply a trusted member of the community? This clue was explored, but to no benefit.]

In the 1816 tax list for Warren County, John Davis was taxed for 100 acres on Trammels Fork, and appears to be listed as John Davis, Jr. Since John's father is known, this would imply that there was an older, unrelated John Davis living nearby. This is also the only tax list in which George Davis appears in Warren County.¹³

The following shows that George Davis' and Israel Davis' daughters were cousins:

*"Log Cabin Hillsboro by Judge **Hiram Rountree***

*"**James Card**, one of our first settlers of Montgomery County[, Illinois], still living, informs me that he was 86 years old the 14th day of December last [in 1873]. He was born in Wake County, North Carolina. He was married to **Cynthia Brit** in the 21st year of his age, and in the same year [1809] emigrated to Warren County, Kentucky,¹⁴ and in 1818 emigrated from Kentucky to this county [Montgomery],¹⁵ and settled and improved a farm on the East Fork of Shoal Creek. [snip]*

*"When he first came to the county, his second wife was **Sarah Davis**, daughter of **George Davis**, one of our early settlers. His third wife was also **Sarah Davis**, daughter of **Israel Davis**, an early settler, his second and third wives having been*

¹³ Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1816, FHL Microfilm # 007835952, image 909 of 1340.

¹⁴ He only appears in tax records there in 1815 and 1816, though not all such records are legible. Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1815-1816, FHL microfilm # 007835952, images 852 and 907 of 1340.

¹⁵ In 1818, Montgomery County was still part of Bond County, Illinois. James Card is listed in household 32 of the 1818 Illinois State Census, per *Illinois State Census Returns, 1810 and 1818* by Margaret Cross Norton (1935), page 55.

*cousins. He was the father of twenty four children, five by his first wife, seven by his second, and twelve by his third. He can now count eighty-nine grandchildren and fifty great grandchildren. He and his first wife lived together happily for thirteen years, his second wife thirteen years, and he has been living with his third wife now, for 38 years."*¹⁶

The above facts are confirmed by James Card's marriage to the first Sarah Davis in Montgomery County, Illinois on 12 Nov 1822,¹⁷ and to the second Sarah Davis there on 1 Dec 1836.¹⁸ As noted above, George Davis was first to arrive in Montgomery County, Illinois, when it was still part of Bond County.

John and Israel Davis were usually found living next to one another in Warren County, Kentucky tax lists from 1818 to 1828. Those same tax lists help to show when various sons of John Davis and Israel Davis had come of age. Those records will be shared later, once we turn our focus to their families.

Israel Davis left Warren County, Kentucky after 1828 and was enumerated in the 1830 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois, where he was listed next to George Davis. John remained in Warren County, and his last tax record was in 1835. In 1837, his widow Mary was taxed for his 200-acre grant.

¹⁶ From an undated newspaper clipping from the *Hillsboro Democrat* of an article originally published on 2 Apr 1873.

¹⁷ *Illinois, Montgomery County, Marriages, Volume 1*, page 3, FHL Microfilm #005203002, image 342 of 435.

¹⁸ *Illinois, Montgomery County, Marriages, Volume 1*, page 48, FHL Microfilm #005203002, image 391 of 435.

Thomas Davis, Senior

On 22 Feb 1796, Thomas Davis purchased from Nathaniel Davis and Elizabeth, his wife, for £100, 256 acres of land, being part of a 483 ½ acre tract granted to Nathaniel Davis in 1785 on the north side of the Enoree River. Witnesses were Josiah Darby, Joseph Caldwell and John Vollentine.¹⁹ John Vollentine (or Valentine) had received a 300-acre grant on the opposite shore of the Enoree River that same year, suggesting it was an easy river to cross.

The description of Thomas' 256 acres is insufficient to determine exactly which part of Nathaniel's 483 ½ acres were sold, but the former property did have about 1,400 feet of frontage on the Enoree River, suggesting it was the western part of the property. That part of the property was bounded on the west by a grant to Daniel Lipham.

Nathaniel's land surrounded the 1754 grant of Isaac Pennington, whose frontier home was known as Pennington's Fort, which is shown on an 1825 atlas by Robert Mills. It was just downstream on the Enoree River from an 11-foot falls. Either above or below the falls was a ford used by those on the north side of the river to access the early road network on the south side of the river. Unlike other fords upstream and downstream, in 1825 it did not connect to other roads to the north. Thus, access to the property was initially only possible by fording the Enoree River.

There is a Thomas Davis in the 1800 Census for Union County, South Carolina, who is over 45 years old (born by 1755), who would appear to be the above Thomas Davis, Senior. Also in the neighborhood were Joseph Davis (26-44 years old with a son and daughter under age 10, who was the son of Nathaniel Davis, Senior), plus various Leveretts, Rogers, Darbys (including Josiah), Jenkins and others who are found in other records clearly related to Thomas Senior. Thomas' household included himself and a wife over the age of 45, plus two sons aged 16-25, who were likely John and Israel.

There are two Thomas Davises in the 1790 Census for Union County, South Carolina. One is listed 19 lines before Nathaniel Davis, and the other is listed nine lines after him. The latter appears to be the best match to Thomas Davis, Senior. In addition to having two sons under the age of 16 (John and Israel), there was one son aged 16 or older in the household (Thomas Junior), plus his wife and a daughter (Elizabeth, who would become the wife of Alston Wiggins).

The estate of Thomas Davis, Senior was probated in early 1807, and was administered by Joseph Davis (Nathaniel's son) and Thomas Davis (Junior). Those who made purchases at the estate sale included the following Davises: George, Israel, James, Thomas, Joseph, Hugh, and Jane (the only woman making a purchase from the estate, and thus likely Thomas' widow).²⁰ Neighbors at the sale included Pery Evins [Perry Evins/Evans], James Virden, John Pruitt, Britton Mitchell, James Darby, Thomas Whitmire, Eloi Gorden, David Pruitt, Robert Rogers, James Gutry [Guthrie], James Flinn [Flynn], Thomas Hill, Thomas Dason, William Rogers, John

¹⁹ *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book D*, page 539, Nathaniel Davis to Thomas Davis.

²⁰ *South Carolina, Union County, Probate Files, Box 5, Folder 15*, Thomas Davis.

Diskit, Robert Rogers, Daniel Cater, William Abernathy, Nathan Neighbors, James Jenkins and Garot Bannester [Garrett Bannister].

On 13 Oct 1809, Thomas Davis, Junior put his interest in his father's estate up as collateral for a loan of \$51.56 from Bernard and Alexander Glenn. Witnesses were Samuel Darby and Park Dugan.²¹

As noted earlier, there is clear deed evidence that John and Israel Davis had sold their interest in the land of Thomas Davis, Senior to Thomas Davis, Junior.²²

On 30 Dec 1809, Thomas Davis, Junior purchased the interest of Alston Wiggins of Union County, South Carolina that he had in "part of a tract of land originally granted to Nathl Davis, it being on the north side of the Enoree River." Elizabeth Wiggins released her dower right to the property.²³ This suggests that Alston's wife was Elizabeth Davis and the daughter of Thomas Senior. Investigation into Alston Wiggins shows his children born after this time were born in North Carolina.

The above deeds appear to fully account for the children found in the 1790 and 1800 Census for Thomas Davis, Senior. Thus his known family includes:

Thomas Davis, Senior m. Jane			
Thomas Davis, Jr m. Nancy Casey	John Davis m. Mary Cater	Israel Davis m. Elizabeth Cater	Elizabeth Davis m. Alston Wiggins

²¹ *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book K, page 42.*

²² *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book K, page 160, John & Izreal Davis to Thomas Davis.*

²³ *South Carolina, Union County, Deeds, Book K, page 159, Alston Wiggins to Thomas Davis.*

Sarah (Cater) Virden

Sarah Cater was the sister of James Cater, and their parents are unknown. She was the aunt of Mary Cater and Elizabeth Cater, whose husbands were John Davis and Israel Davis, respectively.

Others have sufficiently documented the family of James and Sarah (Cater) Virden with primary records research, so I won't attempt to replicate their efforts here.²⁴ For the purposes of this book, it is sufficient to replicate the contents of the family bible record, which was submitted as part of a widow's pension application based upon James Virden's Revolutionary War service. Starred entries (*) are the heirs who were still living when Sarah died on 30 Sep 1845 in Fayette County, Illinois. The county of residence of the surviving children, and the married surnames of the surviving married daughters, are noted in the application in 1846 (as heirs, they split an annual payment of \$50 which was due their mother):²⁵

1. **Elizabeth Virden**, b. 4 Jul 1785, m. [**George**] **Davis**, they lived in Montgomery County, Illinois.*
2. **James Virden**, b. 8 Jul 1787, he lived in Shelby County, Illinois.*
3. **Jane Virden**, b. 3 Nov 1789, m. [**John**] **Gordon**, they lived in Christian County, Illinois.*
4. **Sarah Virden**, b. 25 Dec 1791.
5. **William Virden**, b. 23 Mar 1794, he lived in Christian County, Illinois.*
6. **Levi Virden**, b. 1 Apr 1796, he lived in Fayette County, Illinois.*
7. **Margaret Virden**, b. 13 Jun 1798.
8. **Mary Merick Virden**, b. 14 Oct 1800.
9. **Charity Cater Virden**, b. 5 May 1803, m. [**Daniel Fran**]**Ciscoe**, they lived in Shelby County, Illinois.*
10. **Ann Cater Virden**, b. 25 Sep 1805.
11. **Hugh Radford Virden**, b. about 1807, he lived in Montgomery County, Illinois.*

²⁴ <http://www.familycentral.net/index/family.cfm?ref1=6241:7802&ref2=6241:7803>, the family of James Virden and Sarah Cater. Accessed 1 Mar 2022.

²⁵ <http://revwarapps.org/w22485.pdf>, James Verdin (Virden). Accessed 1 Mar 2022.

Nancy (Martin) Davis

Nancy Martin was the wife of John Davis' son Thomas. Before continuing on, I want to focus very briefly on her ancestors, who I researched very extensively several years ago.²⁶ Though the Martins are not an ancestral line of mine, I became very intrigued by the significant number of primary source records that were available to document Elder James' life, which I recorded in that book and in two other publications of mine:

- [*Elder James Martin of the Districts of Orangeburg, Lower Ninety-Six, Edgefield and Barnwell, South Carolina; Warren County, Kentucky; and Knox, Gibson, Posey and Vanderburgh Counties, Indiana Territory/Indiana, and his brother, Simon Martin of the Same Districts in South Carolina \(2019\)*](#)
- [*Colonel James Martin of Edgefield County, South Carolina: Disproving an Indiana Connection \(2020\)*](#)

All three publications can be downloaded for free from archive.org.

Nancy's grandparents were Elder James and Millie (MNU) Martin. Nancy was born, if we can believe the 1850 Census, in 1810 in South Carolina. Having married in 1824, it's more likely that she was born a bit before that, perhaps around 1808, maybe as early as 1806. The latter would put her at the more typical age of 18 when she married. But Nancy was an orphan, so marrying at age 16, or even a tad younger, would have been very common.

Nancy's parents were Medford and Sally (MNU) Martin. Her mother had remarried in Knox County, Indiana Territory (the precursor county to Gibson, Posey, Vanderburgh and other counties) on 24 May 1811, to John Rodgers, in a ceremony performed by Elder James Martin. Thus, Medford likely died around 1810 in Indiana Territory. He does not appear to have participated in the westward migration with the rest of the family after his father had sold his property in Barnwell District, South Carolina in late 1802. When the others migrated first to Tennessee, then Warren County, Kentucky and finally Indiana, he stayed behind in either South Carolina or Tennessee.

The only direct evidence of Medford's existence is found in the minutes of Big Creek Baptist Church in Posey County, Indiana. He is not found in the 1810 Census for Barnwell District, and no 1810 Census was performed for Indiana Territory. Since he did not follow the others to Warren County, Kentucky, no tax lists are available there to document his life.

How do we know that Medford was Nancy's father? Because prior to her marriage in Vanderburgh County, Indiana in 1824, the only Martin family in that area was that of Elder James Martin. His same-named son, James Martin, Junior, was also old enough to have fathered Nancy, but all of his children are clearly identified in his 1825 will. Elder James' next oldest son John was not married until 1813, leaving Medford as the only other possible candidate.

With that out of the way, let's get back to the Davises...

²⁶ *The Pioneer Williams Families of Smith Township, Posey County, Indiana* by Steve Malone (2014), page 116.

The Quandary of Davis Intermarriages

It is time to return to John Davis, Israel Davis and George Davis. But before jumping into the process of identifying their children, it is first necessary to spend some time pondering two early Davis intermarriages in Montgomery County, Illinois.

- The first was between John Davis and Jane Davis on 3 Aug 1831.
- The second was between Joseph Davis and Mary Davis on 23 Dec 1835.

In that time period, Israel and George Davis were the only Davises living in the eastern portion of Montgomery County, Illinois who had children who were old enough to marry. Unless there was a recent in-migration of other Davises (for which there is no evidence in later Census records), the two above marriages likely involved cousins, provided we can be certain that the women in the above marriages were maidens.

Early marriage records of Warren County, Kentucky and Montgomery County, Illinois were reviewed to determine if either a Jane or Mary had married a Davis there, in case either woman was a widow when the above marriages took place. No such marriage was found in either location, suggesting that both women were very likely maidens in the above marriages.

You will soon learn that all of John Davis' children can be clearly identified, thus the individuals discussed above are almost certainly children of either Israel Davis or George Davis. They, and two sons of John Davis, were the only Davis families living in eastern Montgomery County, Illinois in the early 1830s (the children of John Davis' sons would have been far too young in this time period, so they were not possible suspects). Jane, Joseph and Mary are found in later Census records near known members of Israel's and George's families. Jane's husband John died before seeing another Census, so their marriage record is the sole evidence of, and only clue to, his existence.

The Marriage of John Davis to Jane Davis

Based upon the date of their marriage, the safest presumption is that John had married at 21 years of age, and was thus born around 1810, but we have no Census records or other information to confirm that suspicion. And we would presume that Jane likely married at age 18, and was thus born around 1813, which is validated by later Census records.

On 19 Oct 1839, Jane Davis married for the second time in Montgomery County, Illinois, to John D. Crow. We know this is the correct Jane Davis because, in John D. Crow's 1850 Census household of Christian County, Illinois, we find his wife Jenny, born 1812, as well as five of his own children (including one which was from an earlier marriage), plus two stepchildren: Joseph G. Davis, born 1832, and Elizabeth A. Davis, born 1835. Land patents of his 1850 neighbors suggest he was living due south of Pana, about three miles east of the northeast corner of Montgomery County.

Later, proof will be presented that Israel Davis had a daughter Jane, who had married Calvin Card, and that John Davis' daughter Jane had married George O. Holland. That leaves George Davis as the only possible father-in-law of John D. Crow. And, if Jane was George's daughter, that also means that John Davis was Israel's son, since the senior John Davis did not have a same-named son.

These two new findings help to improve the clarity of how everyone relates. Let's keep our fingers crossed that our luck continues.

The Marriage of Joseph Davis to Mary Davis

Found in the 1850 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois is Joseph Davis, b. 1810 in South Carolina. He is important because he had a role in marriage licenses being granted to Milla Davis (his sister) and to Nancy Davis (whom we will soon deduce was his sister-in-law).

He presents a quandary for several reasons. First, his own marriage there on 23 Dec 1835 was to Mary Davis. No consent was required from the parents of either one of them, because they were “both of lawful age.”²⁷ Thus, there is no direct evidence of the parentage of either person.

Second, descendants believe that Mary Davis was actually Mary Dobbs, though in the past 190 years, nobody has provided any proof of this assertion. The nearest evidence that may have mistakenly led to this conclusion was that a different Joseph Davis (who lived for a time in Christian County, Illinois) had married a woman named Charlotte Dobbs. This man was almost certainly from a different Davis clan: he was most definitely not our Joseph Davis.

The third quandary involves the 1850 Census, where Joseph and Mary were enumerated in Montgomery County, Illinois. It states that he was born 1810 in South Carolina and she was born 1816 in Kentucky. Mary's year of birth makes it equally possible that she could have been the daughter of either Israel Davis or George Davis, as that is a period in time where both men were living in Warren County, Kentucky.

Also living in their household was Elizabeth Davis, born 1783 in South Carolina. Both George Davis and Israel Davis had wives with the given name of Elizabeth (Virden for the former, Cater for the latter). The Revolutionary War widow's pension application of Sarah (Cater) Virden shows that her daughter Elizabeth, b. 4 Jul 1785, was alive in 1846 when her final pension payment was split between her surviving heirs, whereas the last direct evidence of the latter's existence was her father's 1811 estate settlement. Early Census records tell us that both women were approximately the same age. Which Elizabeth was living with Joseph? His mother, or his mother-in-law?

A fourth quandary has to do with the fact that Joseph helped to prove consent for two marriages, those of Nancy Davis and Milla Davis. When Milla Davis married Wiley Anderson on 27 Feb 1840, the record includes the note:²⁸

“W. Anderson of lawful age & lady by oath of Jos. Davis her brother.”

That is certainly crystal clear: there is nothing ambiguous about that statement. But when Nancy Davis married Benson Card on 6 Feb 1839, their record states:²⁹

²⁷ *Illinois, Montgomery County, Marriage Records, 1821-1841*, page 44, record 265, FHL microfilm #005203002, image 388 of 435.

²⁸ *Illinois, Montgomery County, Marriage Records, 1821-1841*, page 67, record 426, FHL microfilm #005203002, image 414 of 435.

²⁹ *Illinois, Montgomery County, Marriage Records, 1821-1841*, page 59, record 370, FHL microfilm #005203002, image 406 of 435.

"B. Card of lawful age & consent of Nancy Davis' mother proven by Jos. Davis' oath."

That is a tad ambiguous. Was Nancy Davis' mother also Joseph Davis' mother? Or was Nancy's mother the mother-in-law of Joseph Davis?

Typically, the father would be the one to give consent. George Davis was alive in 1840, but it appears that Israel Davis was not. Since George was living when Nancy married, her mother's consent implies that she was the daughter of Israel Davis. But it still doesn't tell us if Milla and Joseph were her siblings, or her siblings-in-law. Next, we'll seek a way to solve the latter puzzle.

Milla Davis, Nancy Davis & Margaret Davis

In later analyses, the composite Census households of John Davis, Israel Davis and George Davis will be presented. Each household member will be uniquely identified by the father's initials and a serial number (ID1, for example for the first child in Israel's household). Joseph Davis was clearly not a son of John Davis. And both George's and Israel's households have a male or males who could be a match for Joseph Davis.

In Israel's household there are six daughters. Margaret was the oldest. The second oldest was only enumerated in the 1810 Census, and thus likely died young. The next two oldest were Jane and Sarah, for whom direct evidence will later be presented which proves they were his daughters. That leaves two unknown daughters, one born between 1815-1820 (ID13) and one born between 1820-1825 (ID14).

George's composite Census household had four daughters. Sarah was the oldest, and there is biographical evidence proving that relationship. The other unknown daughters were born 1810-1815 (GD6), 1820-1825 (GD8) and 1825-1830 (GD9).

Thus, we need to attempt to identify five women who fit into these two households. Only four potential suspects have thus far been identified in this section. The fifth potential suspect, derived from analysis of marriage records found in *Appendix 4*, is Margaret Davis, who married Hamilton J. Brown on 29 Mar 1846 in Montgomery County, Illinois. Her marriage was performed by Calvin Card, the husband of one of our four other suspects. Thus we have:

- Jane, born either 1811 (1850 Censu), 1815 (1860 Census), 1807 (1870 Census) or 1810 (1880 Census),
- Mary, born 1816 (1850, 1860, 1800 and 1900 Census),
- Milla, born either 1822 (1850 Census) or 1826 (1870 Census),
- Nancy, born either 1827 (1850 Census) or 1825 (1860 Census), and
- Margaret, born either 1827 (1850 census), 1831 (1860 Census) or 1825 (1870 Census).

Jane and Margaret are the low-hanging fruit here. Israel Davis had daughters of those names for whom there is direct proof that he was their father. That means that this Jane and Margaret were George's daughters, and they are matches to GD6 and GD9, respectively. And, if Jane was George's daughter, then her husband John Davis was Israel's son.

The only two possible matches for Mary are ID13, or a somewhat awkward match to GD6. Since we have just proven that Jane was GD6, Mary could only be ID13, and she was thus Israel's daughter. That also means that her husband, Joseph Davis, had to have been the son of George Davis. And since Milla was Joseph's sister, that means that she was George's daughter, and thus a match to GD8.

By process of elimination, we are left with only one remaining suspect, Nancy. The inescapable conclusion is that Nancy was Israel's daughter, ID14. If she was born in 1825, as reported in the 1860 Census, and had married in 1839, then she was married at a VERY early age. In that time

period, such an early marriage, with the consent of her mother being provided by her oldest brother, would mean that Israel Davis was already dead and that his widow's health was too precarious for the journey to the county courthouse. With her mother in failing health, it was better to marry Nancy off early, to someone whom she knew would be able to support her, than to leave her to an uncertain fate.

With Israel's wife in failing health, and George's wife known to have been alive in 1846, the Elizabeth Davis in Joseph Davis' 1850 Census household almost certainly was the widow of George Davis. Elizabeth (Virden) Davis was Joseph's mother.

The following table summarizes the preceding analysis of the possible matches for these five women in the households of Israel or George Davis. Those possibilities which were eliminated are shown in ~~strike through~~ text. The resultant logically-concluded relationships are shown in **bold text**.

	Israel's Daughters	George's Daughters
Jane, b. about 1810	[impossible]	GD6
Mary, b. 1816	ID13	Almost a match to GD6
Milla, b. about 1824	ID14, almost a match to GD9	GD8
Nancy, b. about 1825	GD8 ID14	GD9
Margaret, b. about 1827	[impossible]	GD9

Now that we've deduced the identities of the above five previously unidentified daughters of Israel Davis and George Davis (and also identified a son of each man), now is a good time to see if we can determine the identities of their five remaining unidentified sons.

James Davis & Jesse Davis

We started this section by making sense of two confusing Davis intermarriages. That had the unintended benefit of identifying the five daughters of Israel Davis and George Davis, whose father had not been directly proven by a marriage record, biography or other source. And it proved that Joseph Davis (GD2) was the son of George Davis, and that John Davis (ID10) was the son of Israel Davis.

Looking ahead to the composite Census households of these men, we find five as-yet-unidentified sons with the age ranges shown in the table below. Direct evidence of the identity of their father has not yet been found:

ID5	1805-1810
ID6	1805-1810
ID9	1810-1815
GD4	1815-1820
GD7	1820-1825

Based upon the above age ranges, we would expect these men to have married between 1826 and 1846, since in this time period men nearly always married when they came of age, at age 21. That leaves just a very small possibility that one or two of Israel's sons might have married before leaving Warren County, Kentucky. Review of marriage records there reveal only two other possible Davis marriages of possible interest: those of Nathan Davis and Robert Davis. Later Census records for both men reveal that they were born in Virginia, and thus are not of interest to us. If any of the above men survived, they most likely married in Montgomery County, Illinois.

Appendix 4 contains a compilation of Davis marriages in Montgomery County, Illinois up to the end of 1850. Each was reviewed to determine whether or not the marriages took place in the eastern part of the county, where Israel Davis and George Davis had settled. This was often accomplished by finding these people in later Census records and then determining how closely they had lived to our Davises. And when such records could not be found, the minister was located in Census records, to determine if he had lived in the same neighborhood as our Davises. Three marriages of possible interest were found.

On 16 Jun 1841, James Davis married Martha Russell. He did not live to see the 1850 Census, but at that time his widow and two children were found living in her father's household. She was born in 1819 or 1820, in Missouri. Martha's neighbor then was Radford Virden, George Davis' youngest brother-in-law. The marriage suggests that James was born around 1820, and is thus a possible match only to GD4 or GD7. He had to have been a son of George Davis.

A more speculative individual was Jesse Davis. He married Peggy Anderson on 10 Jul 1840, and then married Amanda Jane Anderson on 8 Sep 1845. They are found in the 1850 Census for the southwest part of Montgomery County, Illinois, not particularly close to any of our other Davises. But George's daughter Milla had married Wiley Anderson early in 1840, and both her marriage and Jesse's first marriage was performed by John Barry, J.P., suggesting they were living in the same neighborhood in 1840. Born in 1818, the best match to Jesse is GD4, meaning that James' best match was to GD7. Jesse almost certainly was George's son, though there is less additional circumstantial evidence to help prove that, than there has been for the other eight people whom we've just identified.

That leaves three sons of Israel Davis who remain unidentified. And all three came of age around the time of Black Hawk's War, suggesting a possible fate for one or more of them, though only around 70 white soldiers/settlers died in that war. Land rushes to Iowa Territory and Michigan Territories are other possible explanations for what became of them. As are infectious diseases and other hazards of daily living.

Next, we'll pick up where we had left off earlier for each of the families of Israel Davis, John Davis and George Davis. Each section that follows will start off with some basic facts about each of these men, and will then discuss the available proof of the identities of their children. Each section will conclude by comparing these children to each of their fathers' composite Census households.

The Israel Davis Family

In the introduction, we looked at the Warren County, Kentucky tax records of John Davis, often finding that Israel was his neighbor. There is record of him giving consent for his oldest daughter Margaret to be married there on 12 Sep 1820. But only a few of his tax records give any hint about any sons who could have come of age while he was living there.

In 1826, Israel Davis was taxed for 100 acres on Bays Fork, which had been entered by Ryal Potter, who was an abutting property owner to John's 200 acre grant on Trammel Fork. That suggests that the two properties were likely near one another, but drained by different watersheds. After him, and paying only the poll tax, was Daniel Davis, suggesting they were father and son, and that Daniel had recently come of age (and thus born around 1805).³⁰

1828 was Israel's last tax record in Warren County, Kentucky, where he, John (his brother), James, Thomas and Daniel Davis (his son) were all listed sequentially.³¹

On 3 Aug 1829, William J. Davis was married to Mahala Wright in Warren County, Kentucky. They were enumerated in the 1830 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois.

On 4 Mar 1830, Jane Davis married Calvin Card in Montgomery County, Illinois, with Israel Davis giving his consent. This is the first record of Israel living there.

The 1830 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois is the last record of Israel Davis discovered while researching this book. He is not found not in the 1840 Census, and the following hints that he likely had died by 1836.

On 19 Nov 1836, the following people were recruited for the purpose of drafting the constitution of a new church in Montgomery County, Illinois:³²

- Calvin Card
- Jane [Davis] Card [Israel's daughter]
- Micajah Lynch [Israel's son-in-law]
- Elizabeth Davis [likely Israel's wife]
- James Walker [an unrelated neighbor to the west]
- Millington Allen [brother of John Allen, who was a son-in-law of John Davis]
- Sary Davis [Israel Davis' daughter, who two weeks later would become James Card's third wife]

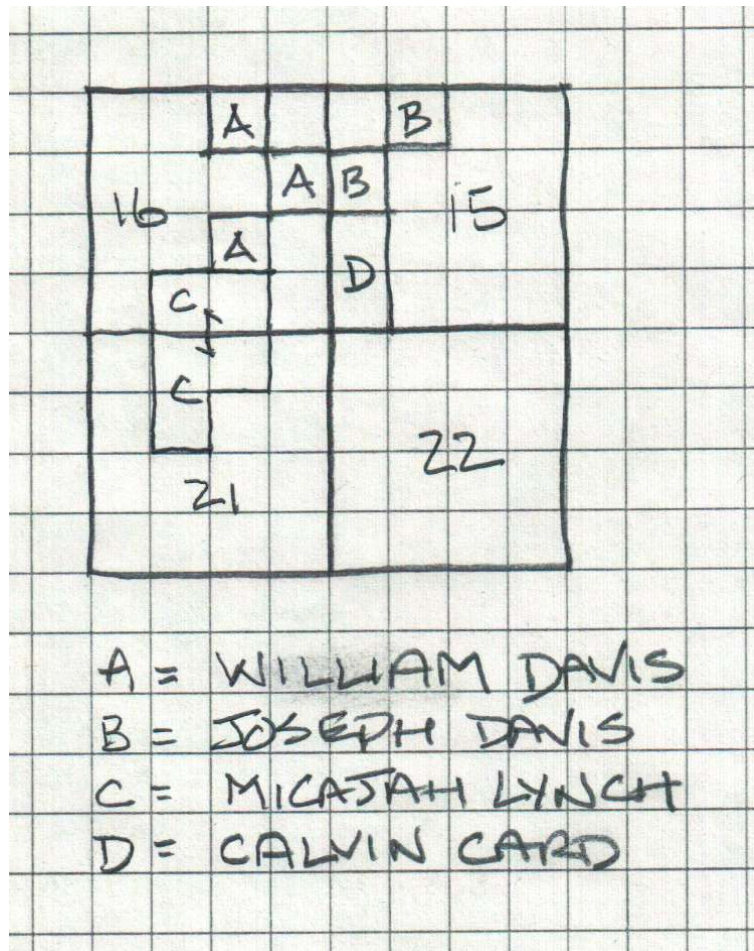
This was likely the founding of Bost Hill Church, which was located about a mile away from a land entry that Calvin Card had made on 24 Oct 1836. His land entry was near those made within the next two years by Joseph Davis, William J. Davis and Micajah Lynch.

³⁰ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1826, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 338 of 1134.*

³¹ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1828, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 413 of 1134.*

³² *Old Hurricane Church: Primitive Baptist of Montgomery County, Illinois* by Eileen Gochenour and W. W. Aller (1986), Book 1, page 14.

Those land entries are shown on the map below (each square measures one quarter mile on each side). Thus, the properties of William Davis, Joseph Davis and Calvin Card each shared a common corner, while Micajah Lynch's property was within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of that shared corner. Bost Hill Church was located $\frac{1}{2}$ mile due north from the northwest corner of Section 16.



Land Entries in Township 8 North, Range 2 West of Montgomery County, Illinois.³³

The church and the land entries help to validate the earlier conclusions reached about Joseph Davis' wife having been the daughter of Israel Davis. Both William Davis and Joseph Davis were born about 1808. One possibility is that they were brothers, but Mary Davis (Joseph's wife) could not have been George's daughter. The only way the pieces of the puzzle fit (remember that Joseph was living with George's widow in 1850) is if Mary was Israel's daughter. That would mean that Joseph was George's son, and that William was Israel's son.

We've exhausted our research on Israel, so it is time to review his known children.

³³ Illinois Secretary of State, *Illinois Public Land Tract Sales Database*.

Margaret Davis

On 12 Sep 1821, Israel Davis consented to the marriage in Warren County, Kentucky of his daughter Margaret to Micajah Lynch. They moved to Montgomery County, Illinois by 1830.

Jane Davis

On 4 Mar 1830, Israel Davis gave consent for his daughter Jane Davis to marry Calvin Card in Montgomery County, Illinois.³⁴ Calvin was a son of James Card by his first wife Cynthia Britt, and James Card at one time lived on the farm of Austin Whitten, which was located just north of Section 15 in the above map. Calvin was a minister of the gospel and performed the marriages of several of his siblings, cousins and children.³⁵ He was the center of a Davis neighborhood that included Israel's children and those of John Davis' son, Thomas (who lived a couple of miles north of him).

Sarah Davis

As noted in the Introduction, on 1 Dec 1836, Israel Davis' daughter Sarah was married in Montgomery County, Illinois to the widower James Card (who had earlier married her uncle George's daughter of the same name).

Mary Davis

As recently stated, it was logically inferred that Mary Davis, wife of Joseph Davis, was the daughter of Israel Davis, and that her husband was the son of George Davis.

Nancy Davis

On 6 Feb 1839, Nancy Davis married Benson Card,³⁶ a son of James Card by his first marriage to Cynthia Britt. Analysis in the preceding section has logically inferred that Nancy must have been the daughter of Israel Davis. That fits, given that Benson's brother Calvin had married Israel's daughter Jane.

John Davis

As noted in the preceding section, George's daughter Jane Davis had married John Davis. We already know that all of Israel Davis' brother John's children will be identified, and he had no son

³⁴ *Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940, FHL Microfilm #005203002*, image 358 of 435. Record number 370, Calvin Card to Jane Davis. Book 1821-1841, page 17, record 98.

³⁵ Calvin Card performed his first marriage on 21 Mar 1840. *Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940, FHL microfilm #05203002*, image 416 of 435, Record number 44/439, Joseph F. Liticker to Elizabeth Clark.

³⁶ *Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940, FHL Microfilm #005203002*, image 406 of 435. Record number 370, Benson Card to Nancy Davis.

named John. Thus, John could only have been a son of Israel Davis (he would not have married his own sister).

William J. Davis

William's proximity to the others in the land entries discussed earlier, the fact that he married Mahala C. Wright on 3 Aug 1829 in Warren County, Kentucky, and that he left Warren County at the same time as Israel Davis, all helped to prove that he was Israel's son. And while George Davis did have a son of the same age range (and only one), that son was clearly Joseph Davis. William and Joseph could not have been brothers.

Daniel Davis

Daniel Davis married on 24 Nov 1833 to Louisa Caroline Elmore in Montgomery County, Illinois. Like William J. Davis, Daniel is a match for one of Israel's as-yet-unidentified sons, as described in his composite Census household (which will be presented next). His proximity to William Davis, Mary (Davis) Davis, Margaret (Davis) Lynch and Jane (Davis) Card in the 1840 Census infers circumstantially that he was the son of Israel Davis. As does the 1826 Warren County, Kentucky tax record discussed earlier, and the facts that we'll soon learn about John Davis' son Daniel being in Kentucky in 1840, from whence he soon after moved to Lafayette County, Missouri.

Israel Davis' Composite Census Household

The table below is a composite of the age and gender attributes of individuals described in census records for Israel Davis' households, together with his clearly proven or logically deduced children.

ID	Sex	1810	1820	1830	Child
ID1	M	1795-1800			Died young.
ID2	F	1800-1810	1785-1804		Margaret Davis, b. 1800 m. Micajah Lynch 1821
ID3	F	1800-1810			Died young.
ID4	M	1800-1810	1805-1810		William J. Davis, b. 1804 m. Mahala Wright 1829
ID5	M	1800-1810	1805-1810	1800-1810	?
ID6	M	1800-1810	1805-1810	1800-1810	?
ID7	M	1800-1810			Died young.
ID8	M		1810-1820	1810-1815	Daniel Davis, b. 1812 m. Louisa Elmore 1833
ID9	M		1810-1820	1810-1815	?
ID10	M		1810-1820	1810-1815	John Davis, b. 1810? m. Jane Davis 1831
ID11	F		1810-1820	1810-1815	Jane Davis, b. 1812 m. Calvin Card 1830
ID12	F		1810-1820	1810-1815	Sarah Davis, b. 1814 m. James Card 1836
ID13	F		1810-1820	1815-1820	Mary Davis, b. 1816 m. Joseph Davis 1835
ID14	F		1810-1820	1820-1825	Nancy Davis, b. 1821 m. Benson Card 1839

Israel Davis' Descendants

Israel Davis was the son of Thomas and Jane (MNU) Davis, Senior. The following are the children that we have just identified for Israel's family, plus any grandchildren who were recorded in the 1850 Census.

1. **Israel Davis**, b. around 1779, d. mid-1830s.
He married **Elizabeth Cater**, b. around 1782, d. circa 1840.
 - a. **Margaret Davis**, b. 1800. She married **Charles Micajah Lynch** on 12 Sep 1821.
 - i. **George Lynch**, b. 1836.
 - ii. **Elizabeth Lynch**, b. 1838.
 - iii. **Jane Lynch**, b. 1841.
 - b. **Daniel Davis**, b. 4 Sep 1802, d. 13 Feb 1884 in Dade County, Missouri.³⁷
He married **Louisa Caroline Elmore** on 24 Nov 1833.
 - c. **William J. Davis**, b. about 1808, d. 22 Oct 1879.³⁸
He married **Mahala Wright** on 3 Aug 1829.
 - i. **Rebecca Davis**, b. 1832.
 - ii. **Daniel Davis**, b. 1834.
 - iii. **William Davis**, b. 1836.
 - iv. **Joseph Davis**, b. 1844.
 - v. **St. Clair Davis**, b. 1846.
 - d. **John Davis**, b. about 1810, d. about 1838.
He married **Jane Davis** on 3 Aug 1831.
 - i. **Joseph G. Davis**, b. 1832.
 - ii. **Elizabeth C. Davis**, b. 1835.
 - e. **Jane Davis**, b. about 1812.
She married **Calvin Card** on 4 Mar 1830.
 - i. **John Card**, b. 1833.
 - ii. **Emesiah Card**, b. 1837.
 - iii. **Henry Card**, b. 1841.
 - iv. **Sylvester Card**, b. 1843.
 - v. **Hamilton Card**, b. 1845.
 - vi. **Levi Card**, b. 1847.
 - vii. **Elizabeth Card**, b. 1850.
 - f. **Sarah Davis**, b. 1814, d. 1874.³⁹
She married **James Card** on 1 Dec 1836.
 - i. **John Card**, b. 1837.
 - ii. **Mary Card**, b. 1838.
 - iii. **Thomas Card**, b. 1839.
 - iv. **Ewing Card**, b. 1841.
 - v. **Micajah Card**, b. 1842.

³⁷ Find A Grave, Memorial #66975215, Daniel Davis (headstone photo). Accessed 4 Mar 2022.

³⁸ Ancestry.com's Web: *Illinois, Select Deaths Index, 1877-1916*, William J. Davis, Volume 1, page 34.

³⁹ Find A Grave, Memorial #58005349, Sarah Card (headstone photo). Accessed 4 Mar 2022.

- vi. **Francis Card**, b. 1843.
- vii. **Margaret Card**, b. 1845.
- viii. **Henry Card**, b. 1847.
- ix. **Louisa Card**, b. 1849.
- g. **Mary Ann Davis**, b. Apr 1816, d. 14 Aug 1905.⁴⁰
She married **Joseph Davis** on 23 Dec 1835.
 - i. **George Davis**, b. 1840.
 - ii. **Israel Davis**, b. 1842.
 - iii. **Margaret Davis**, b. 1842.
 - iv. **Elizabeth Davis**, b. 1845.
- h. **Nancy Davis**, b. about 1821.
She married **Benson Card** on 6 Feb 1839.
 - i. **Calvin Card**, b. 1841.
 - ii. **Daniel Card**, b. 1843.
 - iii. **James Card**, b. 1845.
 - iv. **Levi Card**, b. 1847.
 - v. **Cyntha Card**, b. 1848.
 - vi. **William Card**, b. 1850.

⁴⁰ Ancestry.com's Web: *Illinois, Select Deaths Index, 1877-1916*, Polly Davis, Volume 2, page 153.

The John Davis Family

Let's start by picking up where we left our discussion of John Davis in the Introduction, as this helps to verify his children, and it infers something about their ages. The two facts together are the keys to correctly identifying his heirs, and distinguishing them from same-named individuals in Israel Davis' family.

In 1820, Thomas Davis was taxed just prior to John Davis and his 200 acres on Trammel Fork.⁴¹

In 1821, John Davis was taxed for his 200 acres, immediately followed by James Davis and then Israel Davis.⁴²

In 1822, John Davis was again taxed for his 200 acres, immediately followed by Israel, James and Thomas.⁴³

In 1823, no relatives were taxed near John Davis.⁴⁴

In 1824 and 1825, Israel Davis was taxed for 100 acres, followed by John Davis being taxed for 200 acres.⁴⁵ James and Thomas are not listed nearby. On 23 May 1824, Joseph Davis married Elizabeth Cox in Warren County, Kentucky, on 20 Jun 1824, Thomas Davis married Nancy Martin in Vanderburgh County, Indiana, and on 25 Jan 1825, James Davis married Mary Pearson in Warren County, Kentucky.

In 1826, John Davis was taxed for his 200 acres, immediately followed by Joseph Davis, who based upon the 1824 marriage noted above, had recently come of age and was thus likely John's son.⁴⁶

In 1828, John Davis was taxed for 200 acres, Israel Davis was taxed for 100 acres, James Davis was taxed for 150 acres, followed by Thomas Davis and Daniel Davis.⁴⁷ Again, it was after this that Israel and his family moved to Montgomery County, Illinois. And we've determined that this Daniel Davis was Israel's son.

⁴¹ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1820, FHL microfilm # 007835952, image 1189 of 1340.*

⁴² *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1821, FHL microfilm # 007835952, image 1278 of 1340.*

⁴³ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1822, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 45 of 1134.*

⁴⁴ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1823, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 84 of 1134.*

⁴⁵ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1824-1825, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 195 and 275 of 1134.*

⁴⁶ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1826, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 338 of 1134.*

⁴⁷ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1828, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 413 of 1134.*

In 1829 to 1831, John was again taxed for his 200 acres, but no sons were listed next to him.⁴⁸ On 28 Aug 1830, Nancy Davis married John Allen in Warren County, Kentucky. On 14 Sep 1830, Mary Frances Davis married Thomas J. Kirby in Warren County.⁴⁹

In 1833, John Davis was taxed for his 200-acre grant, with William C. Davis listed before him, and Daniel and Joseph Davis listed after him.⁵⁰ This record implies that Daniel Davis had just come of age, since the Daniel found in earlier tax records had moved with his father Israel to Montgomery County, Illinois prior to 1830. Thus, he was born around 1812, as was William C. Davis.

In 1834, John Davis was again taxed for 200 acres, with Joseph Davis listed after him.⁵¹ On 10 Jun 1834, William C. Davis married Ailsey Hill in Warren County, Kentucky.

John was last taxed for his 200-acre grant in 1835, with Daniel Davis listed after him.⁵²

In 1837, Mary Davis was taxed for John's 200 acres on Trammel Fork, suggesting that John had died between 1835 and 1837.⁵³ On 10 Aug 1837, Daniel Davis married Frances Holland in Warren County, Kentucky, and on 13 Nov 1837, Jane Davis married George Overton Holland there.

In the 1840 Census for Warren County, Kentucky, John's widow was likely living in the household of her son Daniel, as was her youngest daughter, Elizabeth. In the 1850 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois she was living in the household of her son-in-law Frederick C. Wright, who had married her daughter Elizabeth there on 14 Feb 1848.

Mary (Cater) Davis was not found in later Census records, suggesting that she had died prior to the 1860 Census.

After John Davis' death, the proceeds of a deed for his 200 acres on Trammel Fork were distributed among his heirs.⁵⁴ Thus, there is no doubt about the given names of all of his children who were either alive when he died, or who had left heirs of their own. For most, there is no doubt when these people were born. But there were children of George and Israel Davis who shared the same given names as some of John's children, complicating the matter of clearly determining which child belonged to which father. But there appear to be sufficient clues to figure that out with a high degree of certainty.

⁴⁸ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1829-1831, FHL microfilm # 007834518, images 485, 525 and 612 of 1134.*

⁴⁹ *Kentucky, Warren County, Marriage Bonds, Box 9, Folder 9 (1830), item 2.*

⁵⁰ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1831, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 705 of 1134.*

⁵¹ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1833, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 747 of 1134.*

⁵² *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1835, FHL microfilm # 007834518, image 847 of 1134.*

⁵³ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1837, FHL microfilm # 007834518, images 1016 of 1134.*

⁵⁴ This deed (cited later) was subject to the dower right of "Nancy [sic: Mary, a transcription error] Davis, widow of John Davis, decd." Other sources, including the chancery suit, clearly show that John's widow Mary was alive in 1842, and we'll soon learn she lived until at least 1850.

The estate deed mentioned in the preceding paragraph was for “200 acres agreeable to patent dated 4th December 1816,” which matches the earlier mentioned patent that was issued after the 1812 survey involving George Davis and Levi Casey. There is no doubt that this is the correct John Davis. The deed was executed on 1 Dec 1840, as the result of a suit in chancery brought by Daniel Davis against his siblings in 1838.⁵⁵ The deed identifies the following children of John Davis. The suit specifically names the locations of those who were not living in Warren County, Kentucky at the time it was filed:

1. Daniel Davis.
2. Joseph Davis.
3. James Davis, who was living in Illinois.
4. William Davis.
5. Jane Davis, wife of George Holland.
6. An unnamed son (identified in the chancery suit as Thomas, who died in Illinois) with four surviving children:
 - a. Nancy A. Davis.
 - b. Ruth M. Davis.
 - c. Sarah J. Davis.
 - d. Joseph Davis.
7. Mary Davis, wife of Thomas J. Kirby.
8. Elizabeth Davis.
9. Nancy Davis, wife of John Allen, who was living in Illinois.

Thus, the only sons to have migrated to Illinois were James and Thomas, which is a huge help in sorting everyone out. The chancery suit also notes that Daniel Davis had migrated to Missouri a short time later. Therefore, John's sons William, Joseph and Daniel cannot be confused with the men of these names found in the early records of Montgomery County, Illinois.

Let's now learn a bit about John's children. After that has been done, the children will be compared to John's composite Census households. Each will be matched to the age ranges and genders of the children described in those early Census records. A good match to each of them will validate the conclusions reached about the identities of the children named in his estate deed.

Jane Davis

Her father's estate deed states that Jane Davis' husband was George Holland. They were married on 13 Nov 1837 in Warren County, Kentucky. Her 1850 to 1880 Census records in Warren County, Kentucky state that she was born in either 1814 or 1815.

⁵⁵ *Kentucky, Warren County, Chancery Court, Case Files, Box 42, Folder 20, Case 1311, Daniel Davis vs Thomas J. Kirby: Sale of John Davis' land, MSS-137, Western Kentucky University.*

Nancy Davis

Her father's estate deed states that Nancy Davis' husband was John Allen. The chancery suit states that she was then living in Illinois. They were married on 28 Aug 1830 in Warren County, Kentucky, with Frederick Casey helping to post the marriage bond.⁵⁶ On 17 Oct 1838, John Allen of Montgomery County, Illinois sold his interest in John Davis' 200 acres for \$30, leaving no doubt that he was the correct person.⁵⁷ In Census records in Montgomery County, Illinois, her year of birth is given as either 1803, 1804, 1807 or 1810. Her headstone states that she died in 1884, at 81 years of age. Thus she was born in 1803.

Thomas Davis

Thomas Davis had married Nancy Martin on 20 Jun 1824 in Vanderburgh County, Indiana, a point in time when he had briefly disappeared from Warren County, Kentucky tax records. Prior to and after his marriage, tax records there showed him living near John and Israel Davis.

In the 1850 Census, Nancy Davis, b. 1810 in South Carolina (widow of Thomas Davis), is found living with her children: Ruth Davis, b. 1834, and Joseph Davis, b. 1830. The household just before hers was that of her sister-in-law, Nancy (Davis) Allen, the wife of John Allen.

John Davis' estate deed states that Thomas Davis' children at the time of his death were Nancy A., Ruth M., Sarah J. and Joseph Davis, all of whom are found together in the following land records.

On 10 Mar 1843, Nancy Davis patented the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 32, Township 9 North, Range 2 West. On 20 Dec 1849, Sarah Jane Davis married William L. Tingle in Montgomery County, Illinois. And on 10 Jul 1851, he patented the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 33, Township 9 North, Range 2 West, which was across the street and a half mile northeast of Nancy's patent. On the same day, Nancy's son Joseph patented the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the same Section.

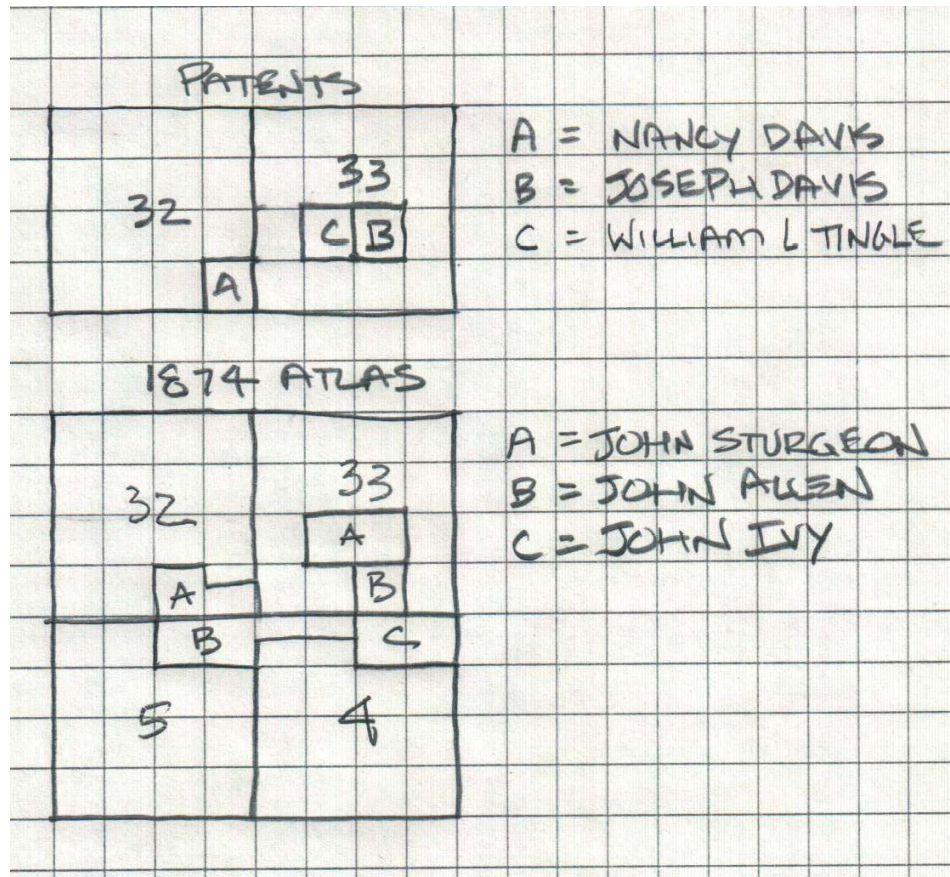
An 1874 atlas shows how ownership in the vicinity of these three patents had changed, and who other adjoining property owners were. John Sturgeon married Sarah Jane Davis on 2 Apr 1854 in Montgomery County, Illinois. In 1874, he possessed the bottom half of Nancy Davis' patent, plus the adjoining 40 acres to the west. He had also acquired the patents of William L. Tingle and Joseph Davis. His neighbor to the south of both properties was John Allen. And abutting both of John Allen's properties was the property of John Ivy, who had married Nancy A. Davis on 1 Nov 1849 in Montgomery County, Illinois.

The map below shows the properties described above.⁵⁸

⁵⁶ *Kentucky, County Marriages, 1797-1954, FHL microfilm #005771974*, image 345 of 505.

⁵⁷ *Kentucky, Warren County, Deeds, Book 17*, page 155, John Allen to Daniel Davis.

⁵⁸ *Illustrated Atlas Map of Montgomery County, Illinois* by Brink, McCormick Company (1874).



Mary Davis

Mary Davis married Thomas J. Kirby on 14 Sep 1830 in Warren County, Kentucky.⁵⁹ They were living together in the 1850 Census for Warren County, Kentucky, where it is stated that she was born in 1807 in South Carolina. Her tombstone confirms this, as it states she was b. 11 Nov 1806.⁶⁰ The chancery suit does not mention where she was living, which suggests she was living in Warren County, where the suit was filed.

Elizabeth Davis

In a deed dated 19 Jul 1838, Elizabeth Davis sold her interest in John Davis' 200-acre property for \$30 to her brother Daniel. In it, she confirmed that she also conveyed her "interest in and to the dowry of my mother Mary Davis."⁶¹ Her mother is found in the 1850 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois living in the household of Frederick C. Wright, who on 10 Feb 1848 had married Elizabeth Davis. The 1850 Census shows that she was born in 1817 in Kentucky, and was thus John Davis' youngest child.

⁵⁹ Western Kentucky University, Manuscripts & Folklife Archives, MSS230, Warren County, Kentucky Marriage Records, Box 9, Folder 6 (1830), page 109.

⁶⁰ Find A Grave, Memorial #28436101, Mary Frances Kirby (tombstone photo).

⁶¹ Kentucky, Warren County, Deeds, Book 17, page 113, Elizabeth Davis to Daniel Davis.

Daniel Davis

There are clear records of Daniel Davis. In the chancery suit is a letter by Daniel Davis of "Lafaat" County, dated 12 Feb 1842. It was signed "Daniel and Francis" and was postmarked from Lexington, MO on 15 Feb 1842 (Lexington is located in Lafayette County, Missouri). He had married Frances Holland on 10 Aug 1837 in Allen County, Kentucky, and other Hollands, presumably including her siblings, had moved to the same vicinity in Missouri. In the 1850 Census he was living in Lafayette County, Missouri. By 1860 he had moved nearby to Pettis County, Missouri. His tombstone establishes that he was born 11 Jul 1811.⁶²

James Davis

The chancery suit states that James Davis was living in Illinois, and there is only one James Davis living in Montgomery County, Illinois in 1840 (the general time period of the suit). And he was also enumerated there in 1830, living between Israel Davis' son-in-law Micajah Lynch and William J. Davis. The 1850 Census shows that he was born in 1796 in South Carolina, and John Davis' household is the only one with a son born before 1800. It also states that his wife was Mary and their eldest child was born in 1835. On 25 Jan 1825, James Davis had married Mary Pearson in Warren County, Kentucky. The 1840 Census shows three children, two sons and a daughter, born between 1825 and 1830 - the daughter was Permelia Jane Davis, who was the first wife of Frederick C. Wright (who soon after married James' youngest sister Elizabeth).⁶³

William C. Davis

Many descendants believe that William J. Davis, husband of Mahala Wright, was the son of John Davis, but autosomal DNA results suggest very strongly that John's son was William C. Davis. And the few available facts clearly support this notion.

In 1833, Wm. C. Davis paid the poll tax in Warren County, Kentucky. Next was John Davis, who was taxed for his 200 acres, and then Daniel Davis and Joseph Davis, neither of whom was taxed for any land.⁶⁴

William C. Davis had married Ailsey Hill on 10 Jun 1834 in Warren County, Kentucky, with Thomas Hill posting bond. In the 1850 Census, Ailsey is found living in Thomas Hill's household with her four sons. There is no evidence that Thomas Hill and John Davis had lived in the same neighborhood in Warren County, but there were Hills who were close neighbors of the Davises when they lived in South Carolina. Thomas Hill owned properties on both sides of Barren River, whereas John Davis owned property near Trammel Creek. The two bodies of water are about six miles apart from John Davis' neighborhood.

It is claimed that William C. Davis had died during the Mexican War.

⁶² *Find A Grave*, Memorial #50608486, Daniel Davis (tombstone photo).

⁶³ *Illinois, Montgomery County, Probate Files, Box E, File 18*, James Davis.

⁶⁴ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1833, FHL microfilm #007834518*, image 705 of 1134.

The 1833 tax record and 1834 marriage record in Warren County, Kentucky, especially in light of autosomal DNA evidence at Ancestry.com, strongly suggests that William C. Davis was John Davis' son.

Joseph Davis

There is a Joseph Davis who married Elizabeth Cox on 23 May 1824 in Warren County, Kentucky. And in 1826, Joseph was listed as paying the poll tax immediately after John Davis was taxed for his 200 acres there.⁶⁵ His whereabouts were unknown until 1833, when he and Daniel Davis (Israel's son, who had just come of age) were listed as paying taxes immediately after John Davis was taxed for his 200 acres.⁶⁶ Joseph also paid taxes after John in 1834, but Daniel was not living with them.⁶⁷

A deed in the chancery suit states that, on 17 Nov 1837, Joseph Davis had sold his interest in his father's land to his brother Daniel. Witnesses were John Skiles and J. F. Harney. Harney appears to be listed in the 1840 Census for Warren County, Kentucky, as were several Skiles households (but no John). It was likely that Joseph had been in Warren County in 1837, but his residence after that is a mystery.

There is no further record of him until, at age 62, he married 27 year old Nancy Mize on 15 Dec 1859 in Allen County, Kentucky (presuming this truly was John's son). He was buried there in 1874, at a cemetery located a few miles southeast of Allen Springs. His headstone states that he was born on 19 Dec 1800.⁶⁸ Knowing Joseph's whereabouts in 1830, 1840 and/or 1850 would be necessary to clearly establish him as John Davis' son. Autosomal DNA results provide no clue, though it is not known if he had descendants who have been tested (at least at Ancestry.com).

The case for the Joseph Davis who married Nancy Mize being a son of John Davis is very tentative. There are too few available records to determine a clear connection that proves that he is the correct Joseph Davis.

⁶⁵ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1826, FHL microfilm #007834518, image 338 of 1134.*

⁶⁶ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1833, FHL microfilm #007834518, image 705 of 1134.*

⁶⁷ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1834, FHL microfilm #007834518, image 747 of 1134.*

⁶⁸ *Find A Grave, Memorial #81178113, Joseph Davis (tombstone photo).*

John Davis' Composite Census Household

The following table evaluates how well the age and gender attributes of John Davis' 1800-1830 Census households match with the preceding analysis. This is a very inexact process, given that the births of many of his children are guesstimated, and a few are not yet fully proven. The important thing to observe is that it appears that John had only nine children, and his estate deed established the names of all nine of them.

ID	Sex	1800	1810	1820	1830	Child
JD1	M	1790-1800	1795-1800	1795-1805		James Davis, b. 1796 m. 1825 Mary Pearson
JD2	M	1790-1800	1795-1800	1795-1805		Joseph Davis, b. 1800 m. 1824 Elizabeth Cox m. 1859 Nancy Mize
JD3	F	1790-1800	1795-1800	1795-1805		Nancy Davis, b. 1804 m. 1830 John Allen
JD4	M		1800-1810	1805-1810		Thomas Davis, b. 1803 m. 1824 Nancy Martin
JD5	F		1800-1810	1810-1815	1810-1815	Mary Frances Davis, b. 1806 m. 1830 Thomas J. Kirby
JD6	M		1800-1810	1805-1810		Daniel Davis, b. 1811, m. 1837 Frances Holland
JD7	F			1810-1820	1810-1815	Jane Davis, b. 1814 m. 1837 George O. Holland
JD8	M			1810-1820	1815-1820	William C. Davis, b. 1812 m. 1834 Ailsey Hill
JD9	F			1810-1820	1815-1820	Elizabeth Davis, b. 1817 m. 1848 Frederick Wright

JD3 and JD5 are the two most significant mismatches in the above. The discrepancy most likely is in the sources for their dates of birth, as there is no doubt that these were John's daughters.

John Davis' Descendants

John Davis was the son of Thomas and Jane (MNU) Davis, Senior. The following are the children that we have just identified for his family, plus any grandchildren who were recorded in the 1850 Census or who were identified earlier.

1. **John Davis**, b. about 1770, d. about 1837.
He married **Mary Cater**, b. about 1773, d. after 1850.
 - a. **James Davis**, b. about 1798.
He married **Mary Pearson** on 23 Nov 1818.
 - i. **Emily Davis**, b. 1835^l
 - ii. **Thomas Davis**, b. 1836.
 - iii. **Emasiah Davis**, b. 1838.
 - iv. **Mary Davis**, b. 1840.
 - v. **Nancy Davis**, b. 1841.
 - vi. **Cyntha Davis**, b. 1845.
 - vii. **Daniel Davis**, b. 1847.
 - viii. **William Davis**, b. 1849.
 - b. **Joseph Davis**, b. 19 Dec 1800, d. 19 Feb 1874.⁶⁹
He married first **Elizabeth Cox** on 23 May 1824.
He married second **Nancy Mize** on 15 Dec 1859.
 - c. **Thomas Davis**, b. about 1803, d. about 1838.
He married **Nancy Martin** on 20 Jun 1824.
 - i. **Joseph Davis**, b. 1827.
 - ii. **Sarah Jane Davis**, b. 1831.
 - iii. **Nancy A. Davis**, b. 1832.
 - iv. **Ruth M. Davis**, b. 1834.
 - d. **Nancy Davis**, b. 1804, d. 1884.⁷⁰
She married **John Allen** on 28 Aug 1830.
 - i. **Josephine Allen**, b. 1831.
 - ii. **Nancy Allen**, b. 1833.
 - iii. **Mary Allen**, b. 1834.
 - iv. **Isaac Allen**, b. 1837.
 - v. **Sovilla Allen**, b. 1839.
 - vi. **John T. Allen**, b. 1839.
 - vii. **James S. Allen**, b. 1843.
 - e. **Mary Frances Davis**, b. 11 Nov 1806, d. 20 Mar 1892.⁷¹
She married **Thomas Jefferson Kirby** in 1830.
 - i. **Nancy J. Kirby**, b. 1831.
 - ii. **Jasper E. Kirby**, b. 1833.

⁶⁹ Find A Grave, Memorial #81178113, Joseph Davis (headstone photo). Accessed 4 Mar 2022.

⁷⁰ Find A Grave, Memorial #21865503, Nancy Allen (headstone photo). Accessed 4 Mar 2022.

⁷¹ Find A Grave, Memorial #28436101, Mary [Frances Davis] Kirby (headstone photo). Accessed 4 Mar 2022.

- iii. **Leonard J. Kirby**, b. 1834.
- iv. **Daniel W. Kirby**, b. 1837.
- v. **William H. Kirby**, b. 1839.
- vi. **Thomas J. Kirby**, b. 1841.
- vii. **Cornelia E. Kirby**, b. 1844.
- viii. **Mary F. Kirby**, b. 1846.
- ix. **Edward Kirby**, b. 1850.
- f. **Daniel Davis**, b. 11 Jul 1811, d. 16 Jul 1879.⁷²
He married **Frances Holland** on 10 Aug 1837.
 - i. **James Davis**, b. 1847.
 - ii. **Mary Davis**, b. 1849.
- g. **William C. Davis**, b. about 1812, d. about 1847.
He married **Ailsey Hill** on 10 Jun 1834.
 - i. **Sidney S. Davis**, b. 1835.
 - ii. **Thomas Davis**, b. 1837.
 - iii. **Albert W. Davis**, b. 1839.
 - iv. **John W. Davis**, b. 1842.
- h. **Jane Davis**, b. 1814.
She married **George Overton Holland** on 13 Nov 1837.
 - i. **Samuel V. Holland**, b. 1840.
 - ii. **Mary C. Holland**, b. 1844.
 - iii. **James H. Holland**, b. 1846.
- i. **Elizabeth Davis**, b. 1817.
She married **Frederick Cook Wright** on 10 Feb 1848.

⁷² *Find A Grave*, Memorial #50608486, Daniel Davis (headstone photo). Accessed 4 Mar 2022.

The George Davis Family

George Davis left Union County, South Carolina later than the other Davises. He was enumerated there in 1810, and he sold property there just before he showed up in records of Warren County, Kentucky around 1812 or so (these records have been previously discussed).

George Davis was the first to arrive in what would become Montgomery County, Illinois. Though it is claimed he arrived in 1818, he was not enumerated in a Census there until the 1820 Federal and Illinois Censuses. Living next to him at that time were his brothers-in-law, Levi and William Virden.

In the 1830 Census, he and Israel Davis lived side-by-side. But sometime between 1835 and 1840 George had moved to Fayette County, Illinois, where George was a close neighbor to several of his in-laws. He does not appear in later Census records.

In the 1850 Census, in Joseph Davis' household was Elizabeth Davis, b. 1783 in South Carolina. Since Israel and George Davis both had wives named Elizabeth who were born around the same time, this potentially could have been either George's mother or his mother-in-law. The former is far more likely, given that George's wife was living in Montgomery County, Illinois in 1846, per her mother's Revolutionary War widow's pension application file, while in 1840, Israel's wife was too infirm to travel to the courthouse to consent to her daughter's marriage.

Joseph Davis

As already noted, on 23 Dec 1835, Joseph Davis married Mary Davis in Montgomery County, Illinois. And in an earlier analysis the logic was explained for why Joseph Davis was most likely George's son, because his wife Mary only had a possible match in Israel's composite Census household, and because he and his sister Milla fit perfectly in George's composite household.

A biographical account published in 1874 states that in the early 1830s Joseph Davis, James Card, Bazil Hill and Thomas Hill had started a new settlement in North Audubon Township.^{73,74} This was near the village of Audubon, which was about 15 miles to the north and east of where Israel's children had settled.

Sarah Davis

When George Davis was enumerated in the 1825 Illinois State Census, he was the only Davis listed. Living not far away was "Sairy Verdin" (his mother-in-law) and "James Chard" (the husband of his daughter Sarah). Sarah is the only child of George Davis who is directly proven, in her case by the 1870's biographical account of her husband.

⁷³ http://genealogytrails.com/ill/montgomery/history_townships.html. Accessed 27 Feb 2022.

⁷⁴ This was likely the beginnings of the Village of Audubon. See the map in *Postscripts*.

Jane Davis

We have already learned that both John Davis and Israel Davis had daughters named Jane, so this Jane Davis could only have been George Davis' daughter. She was married in Montgomery County, Illinois on 2 Aug 1831 to John Davis. And on 19 Oct 1839, she married John D. Crow. The 1850 Census for Montgomery County, Illinois suggests that this was the same woman, as she had two Davis children born prior to her second marriage: in the household of John D. Crow and his wife Jenny are found Joseph G. Davis, b. 1832, and Elizabeth C. Davis, b. 1835, as well as four children by the second marriage and a daughter of John Crow by an earlier marriage. In the 1840 Census, their close neighbors in Audubon Township were James Card and Joseph Davis.

Milla Davis

On 27 Feb 1840, Milla Davis married Wiley Anderson in Montgomery County, Illinois. Proof that she was of age was provided by her brother, Joseph Davis. John Barry, J.P. performed the ceremony.

Jesse Davis

On 10 Jul 1840 Jesse Davis married Peggy Anderson in Montgomery County, Illinois. His marriage was also performed by John Barry, J.P., just four and a half months after Milla's marriage. Thus he was living in the same neighborhood as Joseph and Milla, and he is a match to the age range of a son in George Davis's composite Census households. Jesse married again to Amanda Jane Anderson on 8 Sep 1845, also in Montgomery County. They were enumerated there in the 1850 Census with two young children.

Margaret Davis

On 29 Mar 1846, Margaret Davis married Hamilton J. Brown in Montgomery County, Illinois.⁷⁵ She could not have been Israel's daughter, since he had a daughter of that name. And she is not listed as one of John Davis' children. Thus, she could only be George Davis' daughter, which is consistent with her living in the same neighborhood as his other known children.

James Davis

On 16 Jun 1841, James Davis married Martha Russell. She was widowed by 1850, and living next door to George Davis' brother-in-law, Radford Virden. Thus he was likely George Davis' son, and he fits the age range of an as-yet-unidentified son in George's composite Census household.

⁷⁵ *Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1840, FHL microfilm #005204680, image 39 of 714. Record 115/711.*

George Davis' Composite Census Household

Analysis of George's composite households reveals that he perhaps had nine children: one is clearly proven and the others have been logically deduced based upon available facts and through a process of elimination as described in analysis presented earlier.

ID	S e x	1810	1820	1825 ⁷⁶	1830	1840	Child
GD1	M	1800-1810					Died young.
GD2	M	1800-1810	1810-1820	After 1804	1800-1810		Joseph Davis, b. 1808 m. Mary Ann Davis 1835
GD3	F	1800-1810	1794-1804				Sarah Davis, b. 1804, m. James Card 1822
GD4	M		1810-1820	After 1804	1815-1820		Jesse Davis, b. 1818 m. Peggy Anderson 1840 m. Amanda Anderson 1845
GD5	M		1810-1820	After 1804			Died young.
GD6	F		1810-1820	After 1804	1810-1815		Jane Davis, b. 1812, m. John Davis 1831 m. John D. Crow 1839
GD7	M				1820-1825	1820-1825	James Davis, b. 1820 m. Martha Russell 1841
GD8	F			After 1804	1820-1825		Milla Davis, b. 1822 m. Wiley Anderson 1840
GD9	F				1825-1830	1825-1830	Margaret Davis, b. 1827 m. Hamilton J. Brown 1846

⁷⁶ 1825 [State] Census of Montgomery County, Illinois by Walter R. Sanders (undated, typescript). It listed three males under age 21 and three females (one was his wife).

George Davis' Descendants

George Davis was possibly the son of Henry Davis. The following are the children that we have just identified for George's family, plus any grandchildren who were recorded in the 1850 Census.

1. **George Davis**, b. about 1780, d. late 1840s.

He married **Elizabeth Virden**.

a. **Sarah Davis**, b. about 1804, d. about 1836.

She married **James Card** on 13 Nov 1822.

- i. **George Card**, b. 1831.
- ii. **Joseph Card**, b. 1833.
- iii. **Elizabeth Card**, b. 1834.

b. **Joseph Davis**, b.

He married **Mary Ann Davis** on 23 Dec 1835.

- i. **George Davis**, b. 1840.
- ii. **Israel Davis**, b. 1842.
- iii. **Margaret Davis**, b. 1842.
- iv. **Elizabeth Davis**, b. 1845.

c. **Jane Davis**, b.

She married **John Davis** on 3 Aug 1831.

- i. **Joseph G. Davis**, b. 1832.
- ii. **Elizabeth C. Davis**, b. 1835.

d. **Jesse Davis**, b. about 1818.

He married first **Peggy Anderson** on 10 Jul 1840.

He married second **Amanda Jane Anderson** on 8 Sep 1845. All children by the second marriage.

- i. **Nancy Davis**, b. 1847.
- ii. **James Davis**, b. 1850.

e. **James Davis**, b. about 1820, d. about 1847.

He married **Martha Russell** on 16 Jun 1841.

- i. **Elizabeth A. Davis**, b. 1844.
- ii. **Charlotte J. Davis**, b. 1847.

f. **Milla Davis**, b. about 1822.

She married **Wiley Anderson** on 27 Feb 1840.

- i. **Martha Anderson**, b. 1841.
- ii. **Mary E. Anderson**, b. 1842.
- iii. **Benjamin Anderson**, b. 1843.
- iv. **James Alexander Anderson**, b. 1847.
- v. **Sarah Anderson**, b. 1849.

g. **Margaret Davis**, b. 1827.

She married **Hamilton J. Brown** on 29 Mar 1846.

- i. **Susan Brown**, b. 1847.
- ii. **George Brown**, b. 1849.

Conclusion

Final Table of Proven Children

	John Davis	Israel Davis	George Davis
Daniel	JD6, b. 1816 m. Frances Holland 1837	ID8, b. 1802 m. Louisa Elmore 1833	
Elizabeth	JD9, b. 1817 m. Frederick Wright 1848		
James	JD1, b. 1796 m. Mary Pearson 1825		GD7, b. 1820? M. Martha Russell 1841
Jane	JD7, b. 1814 m. George O Holland 1837	ID11, b. 1812 m. Calvin Card 1830	GD6, b. 1812 m. John Davis 1830 m. John D. Crow 1839
Jesse			GD4, b. 1818 m. Peggy Anderson 1840 m. Amanda Anderson 1845
John		ID10, b. 1810? m. Jane Davis 1830	
Joseph	JD2, b. 1800 m. Elizabeth Cox 1824 m. Nancy Mize 1859		GD2, b. 1808 m. Mary Davis 1835
Margaret		ID2, b. 1800 m. Micajah Lynch 1821	GD9, b. 1827 m. Hamilton Brown 1846
Mary	JD5, b. 1806 m. Thomas Kirby 1830	ID13, b. 1816 m. Joseph Davis 1835	
Milla			GD8, b. 1822 m. Wiley Anderson 1840
Nancy	JD3, b. 1803 m. John Allen 1830	ID14, b. 1821 m. Benson Card 1839	
Sarah/Sally		ID12, b. 1814 m. James Card 1836	GD3, b. 1804 m. James Card 1822
Thomas	JD4, b. 1803 m. Nancy Martin 1824		
William	JD8, b. 1813 m. Ailsey Hill 1834	ID4, b. 1808 m. Mahala Wright 1839	
	9 of 9 children	8 of 14 children	7 of 9 children

Summary of Findings

The findings are fairly self explanatory, but here goes.

We started by determining that John Davis and Israel Davis were the sons of Thomas Davis, Senior. And from there we inferred that Thomas Davis, Senior was likely the brother of Nathaniel Davis, Senior. And these two men likely had two other brothers: Henry and Hugh. The former was probably the father of George Davis.

In a book that I wrote in 2014, there are facts which document that James and Ellender (MNU) Cater were the parents of Mary (Cater) Davis and Elizabeth (Cater) Davis. What has been added is the circumstantial evidence that James Cater's sister was Sarah Cater, the wife of James Virden and mother-in-law to George Davis.

That same book documents the grandfather of Nancy (Martin) Davis: Elder James Martin of Vanderburgh County, Indiana. Scant clues and simple logic helped to prove that her father was James' son, Medford.

An estate deed and chancery suit provided the names of John Davis' children, as well as invaluable clues to help in teasing those individuals apart from the children of Israel Davis and George Davis. Those clues, plus a handful of sources directly proving parental relationships, Census records, some land records, and a church record helped to logically deduce the majority of the children of both John Davis and Israel Davis.

Sufficient circumstantial evidence was documented to prove that George Davis' wife was Elizabeth Virden, the oldest daughter of James and Sarah (Cater) Virden. The Virden family is well documented by Bible records found in Sarah's Revolutionary War pension application. The locations of her surviving children at the time of her death were given because, as her heirs, her final pension payment was split between them.

There are three overall lessons of this book:

1. Particularly in the era between the Revolutionary War and the 1850 Census, learning as much about the entire family is nearly always the key to making sense of what otherwise can be a tangled, confusing pile of inter-related people.
2. Well reasoned logic is the key to making the best use of scarce clues.
3. Proximity in time and space, especially over time, almost always equals relatedness. The closer people lived to one other, the more likely they were related. Using land records to see who the close neighbors were is a huge help in understanding family groups.

Postscripts

Israel Davis' Missing Sons

The preceding narrative tells us that three additional sons of Israel Davis remain unidentified. The age ranges of these men as determined from his composite Census households are given in the table below:

ID5, Male	1805-1810
ID6, Male	1805-1810
ID9, Male	1810-1815

No other males were found in records of Montgomery County, Illinois or Warren County, Kentucky who were likely to have been matches to these men.

If, after reading this short book, you have a male Davis ancestor born between 1805 and 1815, whom you can trace back to southeastern Montgomery County, Illinois before 1850, it is possible that he might just be a missing son of Israel Davis. The question will be, how can you prove that?

Martin Davis

Sometime between 1850 and 1860, Martin Davis moved away from several of his siblings in Moultrie County, Illinois. He was a merchant, born 1810 in Kentucky, and in 1860 he was enumerated in Montgomery County, Illinois. The two households following his were those of James M. C. Ishmael (the son-in-law of George's daughter Jane) and John D. Crow (Jane's second husband). George's son, Joseph Davis, was listed on the preceding page of that Census.

The image below, taken from the 1874 *Atlas of Montgomery County*, shows the property of Martin Davis' heirs in relation to the properties of Joseph Davis and Benjamin Ishmael (James M. C. Ishmael's brother, and the husband of James Card's daughter Sarah). Thus, Martin was a merchant in the village of Audubon.



Martin was the son of Charles Davis (middle name said to be Greenberry, though no record exists to prove that as fact), who wrote his will in Harrison County, Kentucky in 1833.⁷⁷ In 1834,

⁷⁷ Kentucky, Harrison County, Wills, Book D, page 427, FHL microfilm #004818763, image 509 of 830.

his widow was taxed for his property.⁷⁸ All of Martin's siblings are identified in an 1839 deed, and it does not include Jane (which eliminates the possible suspicion that Jane was his daughter and not George's).⁷⁹

Charles Davis had arrived in Harrison County, Kentucky in 1806, which is when he married Martha Snodgrass there. He and his brother James owned tracts of land on Beaver Creek. Charles is said to have been born in Augusta County, Virginia, though no direct source is known to confirm that as fact.

It could be that there were greater opportunities in Jane's neighborhood for a merchant, so a cousin was enticed to move and set up shop in Montgomery County, Illinois. It seems quite possible that Martin was part of the same Davis clan that included John, Israel and George Davis. Presumably, Martin was likely no more distant than a second cousin, but there is no way to know that with any certainty.

⁷⁸ *Kentucky, Harrison County, Tax Lists, 1834, FHL microfilm #007834452, image 267 of 933.*

⁷⁹ *Kentucky, Harrison County, Deeds, Book 23, page 630, FHL microfilm #007896484, image 322 of 654.*

Appendices

Findings that are a bit outside of the scope of this book are included here, in the hope that they may facilitate someone else's future research.

Appendix 1: Nathaniel Davis

Nathaniel Davis was granted 483 ½ acres of land on the Enoree River in Ninety Six District, which had been surveyed by Bernard Glenn on 4 Jan 1785.⁸⁰

In 1790, Nathaniel Davis was enumerated in Union County, South Carolina as the head of a household over age 16, with two males under the age of 16 and two females. There were two Thomas Davises living nearby - one 19 lines before and the other 9 lines after.

On 2 Feb 1796, Nathaniel Davis and Elizabeth, his wife, sold to Thomas Davis for £100 236 acres of his 1785 land grant.

On 18 Jan 1797, Nathaniel Davis prepared his will, with his wife Elizabeth and friends John Valentine and James Caldwell, Jr as executors. It named his seven heirs, who were to receive part of his lands "as they come of age."

1. Margaret,
2. Joseph,
3. Sarah,
4. Nathaniel,
5. Ephraim,
6. James and
7. Elizabeth.

It was recorded on 3 Apr 1797.⁸¹ The file shows that, prior to 6 May 1806, his daughter Margaret had married Robert Leverett and his daughter Sarah Davis had married James Hunter. And, after 2 Dec 1811, his widow Elizabeth had married Ellison Mitchell.

Only his son Joseph is found enumerated in the 1800 Census for Union County, South Carolina, as was Margaret's husband, Robert Leverett. That suggests that likely none of Nathaniel's children had come of age prior to the 1790 Census, which would mean that three of the children named in his will were born after that date. From the preceding facts, it seems that Joseph was Nathaniel's eldest son, and the other children named in the will were possibly listed in birth order.

On 16 Dec 1807, Elizabeth Davis filed for letters of administration for the estate of Joseph Davis. Whether this was his widow or his mother is unclear, though it was likely the latter, since she was required to post a \$400 bond.

⁸⁰ *South Carolina, Ninety Six District, Plat Books, Volume B*, page 40.

⁸¹ *South Carolina, Union County, Probate Files, Box 3*, file 30.

On 30 Dec 1814, Ephraim Davis of Abbeville District “for, and in consideration of the love, good will and affection, which I have and do bear for my loving nephew Joseph Liverette of Union County” gave him 128 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres (Joseph was the son of his sister Margaret Davis), being a fourth part of land originally granted to Nathaniel Davis.⁸²

The above deed suggests that Nathaniel's land contained more than the 483 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres noted in the original grant, since Thomas had purchased 256 acres (approximately double Ephraim's share). That would mean that only one other share of Nathaniel's estate remained (a lot of about 128 acres, for a total of more than 512 acres), yet the land in Nathaniel's estate was to have been equally divided between all of his children. Were only two living, once the youngest finally either came of age or died? Did some of the surviving siblings sell their interests in their father's property to Ephraim and another sibling? Such puzzles are left for others to solve.

⁸² *Union County, South Carolina, Deeds, Book N, page 17, Ephraim Davis to Joseph Leverette.*

Appendix 2: Henry W. Davis

Uriah Davis was living next to Henry W. Davis when the 1810 Census was enumerated for Warren County, Kentucky.

He lived long enough to have claimed a Revolutionary War pension for his service as a private in the Virginia Continental Line. When he first received the pension in 1821, he was 62 years old (born about 1759) and living in Franklin, Williamson County, Tennessee, which today is a suburb of Nashville. He had enlisted in Fluvanna County, Virginia.⁸³

Henry's wife was Judah (or Judith), and they were married on 17 Aug 1786, in Goochland County, Virginia (the county immediately east of Fluvanna). She filed an application for bounty land after Henry's death on 1 Jan 1837, in Davidson County, Tennessee. At the time of the application, in 1843, she was living in Benton County, Tennessee, where she had lived for three years. Prior to that she had lived in Davidson County, Tennessee (where Nashville is located). Her son Henry W. Davis filed an affidavit in support of these facts.

A Bible record of the children of Henry Williams and Judah (Womack) Davis was provided by Thompson Davis as part of a bounty land application. It gives their children as:

1. Thompson Davis, b. 29 Nov 1787,
2. Elizabeth Davis, b. Oct 1784,
3. Nancy Davis, b. 1 Feb 177?,
4. Anderson Davis, b. Jan 16, 179?
5. Nathaniel Davis, b. 12 May 1796,
6. Henry W. Davis, Jr., b. 1797, and
7. Polly Davis, b. 17 Feb 1805. She married a Ragsdale.

Only Thompson, Anderson, Henry and Mary (Polly) were still living in 1843 when Judah died.

There is little to tie Henry Williams Davis to the Davises of the Enoree River of Southern Union County, South Carolina, aside from his proximity to the Davises in Warren County, Kentucky. He offers a possible clue to where Nathaniel Davis and Thomas Davis may have lived before settling in South Carolina. Unfortunately, in those counties, and in that time period, too few records survive to have a realistic chance of learning more about their possible origins.

⁸³ Ancestry.com's *U.S., Revolutionary War and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900*, Henry W. Davis and Judah Davis, W350.

Appendix 3: Uriah Davis

There is a Hugh Davis who made several purchases from the estate of Thomas Davis, Senior, the father of John and Israel Davis. Descendants of Uriah Davis believe that Hugh Davis and Uriah Davis were the same person: that Hugh was a nickname for Uriah. The veracity of this belief is doubtful, because, as detailed earlier, there are records for Hugh Davis in Union County, South Carolina for several years after Uriah Davis shows up in records of Warren County, Kentucky.

With no record of Uriah prior to his arrival in Kentucky, it is impossible to speculate how he relates to Thomas' sons, or to George Davis. But his presence in Warren County, Kentucky and Vanderburgh County, Indiana suggests that there must be some connection to the same Davis clan as Thomas Davis, Senior and Nathaniel Davis, Senior. The most probable scenario is that Hugh Davis was their brother, and that Uriah was his son.

We've already learned that Israel, John and Uriah Davis all paid taxes in Warren County, Kentucky on the same day in 1809.

In the 1810 Census for Warren County, Kentucky, Uriah Davis and his wife were between the ages of 16 and 25. Their household included 2 males and 1 female under age 10. If Uriah married at age 21, as was typical of the time, then he was around 25 years old, and thus born about 1784 or 1785.

In 1811, Uriah Davis was listed sequentially, before two John Davises, paying taxes in Warren County, Kentucky. The latter of these John Davises was taxed for 100 acres on Drakes Creek. It was not known who had made the land entry, survey or patent on the land.⁸⁴

Uriah served as a private in Captain Robert Sturges' Company of Colonel Samuel South's 5th Regiment, Kentucky Mounted Volunteers during the War of 1812, from 18 Sep 1812 to 30 Oct 1812.⁸⁵ His men were sent to the Illinois and Indiana frontier due to Indian problems, where they were based out of Vincennes, Knox County, Indiana. Captain Sturges was from Madison County, Kentucky.

Uriah is found in tax lists of Madison County, Kentucky from 1812 to 1816:

- In 1812, he was taxed for 100 acres of land, with no other Davises in close proximity,⁸⁶
- In 1813, Uriah paid only the poll tax. Listed after him was Edward Davis, who was taxed for 201 ½ acres on Taylors Fork,⁸⁷
- In 1814, he again paid only the poll tax. Listed sequentially before him were Lawrence Davis, William Davis and Joshua Davis. Lawrence was taxed for 80 acres,⁸⁸

⁸⁴ *Kentucky, Warren County, Tax Lists, 1811, FHL Microfilm #07835952*, image 614 of 1340.

⁸⁵ *Kentucky Soldiers in the War of 1812* by the Kentucky Adjutant General's Office (1891) with an added index by Minnie S. Wider (1931), page 247.

⁸⁶ *Kentucky, Madison County, Tax Lists, 1812, FHL Microfilm #07834479*, image 338 of 1200.

⁸⁷ *Kentucky, Madison County, Tax Lists, 1813, FHL Microfilm #07834479*, image 432 of 1200.

⁸⁸ *Kentucky, Madison County, Tax Lists, 1814, FHL Microfilm #07834479*, image 529 of 1200.

- In 1815, Joshua Davis, Joseph Davis, Uriah Davis and William Davis paid the poll tax. They were listed in the 19th Regiment, Estelle's company. Lawrence Davis was listed two lines later and was taxed for 80 acres on Silver Creek,⁸⁹ and
- In 1816, Uriah Davis, Joshua Davis William Davis and Joseph Davis were again listed in Estelle's Company and only paid the poll tax.⁹⁰

What relationship Uriah had to these other Davises is unknown.

On 6 Oct 1814 in Gibson County, Indiana Territory, Uriah Davis was a buyer at the estate of John Robinson. Other buyers were James Martin, Sr (also the administrator), James Martin, Jr, Lewis Williams and William Williams.⁹¹ James Martin, Senior was the grandfather of Nancy Martin who married Thomas Davis. And Lewis Williams was the brother-in-law of John Davis and Israel Davis.

In the 1820 Census, Uriah Davis is found in Vanderburgh County, Indiana. Listed before him was Lewis Williams, husband of Elender Cater, and after him was her brother, Joseph Cater. Uriah's son, James Madison Davis, was born 9 Apr 1819 in Vanderburgh County.⁹² His sons John and Larkin are said to have been born there in 1817 and 1821, respectively.

From there, Uriah migrated to Weakley County, Tennessee, to take advantage of newly opened Indian lands that were being offered for sale. I will end Uriah's story here, since there is no other known connection to the Caters or to John, Israel or George Davis after this point. His family is well documented on the FamilySearch tree.⁹³

⁸⁹ *Kentucky, Madison County, Tax Lists, 1815, FHL Microfilm #07834479*, image 622 of 1200.

⁹⁰ *Kentucky, Madison County, Tax Lists, 1816, FHL Microfilm #07834479*, images 714 & 715 of 1200.

⁹¹ http://ingenweb.org/ingibson/Wills_Probates/Wills/James_Robinson.htm, *Indiana, Gibson County, Wills, Book A*, page 31.

⁹² *A Quick Review of Uriah*, posted by RobertMathews55 on <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/memories/LH1C-7T6>. Accessed 9 Sep 2021.

⁹³ <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LH1C-7T6>

Appendix 4: Davis Marriage Records

Selected Davis Marriage Records Through 1850

The following lists all Davis marriages through the end of 1850 which were deemed likely to have been related to the three Davis males who are central characters in this book. Following this list are the records that were rejected, along with an explanation of why they were likely not of interest.⁹⁴

1822 Nov 13 **Sarah Davis to James Card.**
1830 Mar 4 **Jane Davis to Calvin Card.**
1831 Aug 3 **Jane Davis to John Davis.**
1833 Nov 24 **Daniel Davis to Louisa Caroline Ellmore.**
1835 Dec 23 **Joseph Davis to Mary Davis.**
1836 Dec 1 **Sally Davis to James Card.**
1839 Feb 6 **Nancy Davis to Benson Card.**
1839 Oct 19 **Jane Davis to John D. Crow.**
1840 Feb 27 **Milla Davis to Wiley Anderson.**
1840 Jul 10 **Jesse Davis to Peggy Anderson.**
1841 Jun 16 **James Davis to Martha Russell.**
1845 Jan 6 **Permelia Jane Davis to Frederick C. Wright. GRANDCHILD.**⁹⁵
1845 Sep 8 **Jesse Davis to Amanda Jane Anderson.**
1846 Mar 29 **Margaret Davis to Hamilton J. Brown.**
1848 Feb 10 **Elizabeth Davis to Frederick C. Wright.**
1849 Nov 1 **Nancy A. Davis to John Ivy. GRANDCHILD.**
1849 Dec 20 **Sarah Jane Davis to William L. Tingle. GRANDCHILD.**

⁹⁴ From *Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940*, FHL microfilm #s 05203002 and 05204680.

⁹⁵ *Illinois, Montgomery County, Probate Files, Box E, File 18, James Davis.*

Discarded Davis Marriage Records Through 1850

In reviewing Davis marriages in Montgomery County, Illinois which took place before the end of 1850, the following were evaluated and deemed to involve families other than those of George Davis, Israel Davis or John Davis:⁹⁶

- 1830 Jul 15 **Nancy Davis to Ellison Nussman.**
She was b. 1807 in Tennessee. In 1850, she was living in Dwelling # 352 well away from any of our Davises, and was thus not part of a clan of interest.
- 1830 Oct 5 **Sarah Davis to John Holiday, Sr.**
She was the daughter of Ira Davis of New York, and thus not part of a clan of interest.
- 1831 Mar 23 **John Davis to Nancy Osteen.**
Both of legal age by oath of Jacob Davis. In 1830, Jacob Davis was listed several dozen households away from our clan of Davises. John Davis was not likely part of a clan of interest.
- 1835 Jul 4 **Margaret Davis to Brockstene M. Lowe.**
Both of lawful age. Margaret Davis was proven to be of age by Edward Gossage. In the 1830 Census, Edward Gossage lived several dozen households away from our clan of interest. She was likely the daughter of John Davis, who in the 1850 Census was said to have been born in Virginia.
- 1838 Sep 5 **Ira Davis to Ann Puckett.**
The 1850 Census shows he was born in New York and thus not related to our Davises of interest.
- 1839 Jan 20 **John Davis to Eliza Wiley.**
Both of legal age. Married by Daniel Scherer, who lived far from any Davises of our clan.
- 1839 Feb 5 **Thomas M. Davis to Jane Williams.**
The marriage was performed by J. Barber. This is likely the Thomas M. Davis who is found in the 1850 Census for Bond County, Illinois. If so, he was living at least six miles from our nearest Davises of interest.
- 1840 Jul 16 **Margaret Davis to David Redding.**
In 1850, David Redding was living next to 50-60 year old John Davis, who was likely Margaret's father. While they were in the right neighborhood, it is clear that she is not related to George or Israel Davis, and Israel's brother John Davis had died in Warren County, Kentucky prior to 1840.
- 1840 Dec 8 **Elizabeth Davis to Jacob Holbrook.**
In the 1825 State Census, Jacob Holbrook was listed in West Fork Township, while George Davis was listed in Hurricane Township (thus they were not near neighbors). Elizabeth was likely from an unrelated Davis clan. He is likely the Jacob Holbrook found in the 1850 Census for Bond County, Illinois.
- 1842 May 18 **James Davis to Arminda Jane Holbrook.**
No record of this couple was found. If she is related to Jacob Holbrook, who

⁹⁶ From *Illinois, County Marriages, 1810-1940, FHL microfilm #s 05203002 and 05204680.*

married in 1840, then James is likely not a Davis of interest. On the FamilySearch tree, he is said to be James Monroe Davis, the son of John Davis and Sarah Gorsage, and was thus related to Margaret Davis who married in 1835. He is not a Davis of interest.

1848 Nov 28 **Lydia M. Davis to Ira Millard.**

In the 1850 Census, they were living several dozen households away from any Davises of interest.

1849 Sep 7 **Robert W. Davis to Amanda Jane Shirley.**

In the 1850 Census, Robert W. Davis is found several dozen households away from any of our Davises of interest.