

# Thomas B Gleaves B ,1836 - To Thomas Gleaves, abt 1700

## First Generation

1. **Thomas Benjamin Gleaves "Blunt"** was born on 9 Oct 1836 in Williamson, Dyer Co., TN. He died on 4 Mar 1911 in Valley Springs, Roger Mills Co., Ark. He was buried in Brookside Cemetery, Grimes, OK.

The following draws heavily on research provided by Jean Gleaves and Lois D. Gleaves.

There are conflicting reports regarding Thomas' birth date. The date of birth for his brother Felix brings the most frequently reported date of birth (1830) into question and most likely it is actually 1836. He is listed in the 1850 Census Record for Williamson County, Tennessee living with his parents as "T, 14 years old".

Thomas married twice. The first marriage was to Lucinda Wright. No record of the marriage has been found and may have been destroyed when the county courthouse was burned down during the Civil War. They had at least three children.

Lucinda appears to have been married to a man named Alfred Jones before she married Thomas. It appears that she was double counted in the 1860 Dyer County, Tennessee census. "Lucinda Jones" is listed as living with her parents and later that same year is recorded as "Lucinda Gleaves wife of T. B.

Gleaves:

married within the year".

Thomas sold his lands in Tennessee in 1863 and appears to have moved from the area. It is not clear what motivated this sale. A copy of the agreement follows.

T. B. Gleaves Deed To Jacob Wright

Registered April 14, 1863

By G. B. Miller R.D.C.

Know all men by these presence that T. B. Gleaves of the County of Dyer and State of Tennessee for and in consideration of the Sum of Two hundred and Ten Dollars. One Hundred and thirty Dollars Cash in hand paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged and the further Sum of eighty Dollars promised and evidence by promissory note dated herewith for the Sum of Eighty dollars and due the 25th December 1863 has this day bargained sold and conveyed unto Jacob Wright the following described property to wit a tract of Land Beginning at the North West corner of a 1000 acre tract of Land belong to W. B. Gleaves and part of the same on a Black Oak with thence White Oaks. Dogwood an cucumber pointers runs thence South and with the East line of the Original tract 127 poles to a red oak and mulberry corner with white oaks,

sweet gum and Horn bean pointers then East 70 poles to an ash corner with Hickory Elm and Black Walnut pointers then North 127 poles to a Stake in the North line of the original tract to the beginning. Also my interest in John Gleaves Deceased Land. To have and to hold the said described property to the Said Jacob Wright his Heirs and assigns for ever and the Said T. B. Gleaves for himself his heirs and assigns to forever Warrant and defined the Title to the above described property against the lawful claims of all persons whosoever.

In Witness where of the Said T. B. Gleaves has hereunto set his hand and Seal this 11th day of February 1863.

T. B. Gleaves (seal)

Attest: J. B. Hunt

Pen Stubbs

Personally appears before me Stephen D. Whitten Clerk of the County of Said Dyer County, County Court of Said County. James B. Hunt and B. Stubbs subscribing witnesses to the above Deed who being first duly sworn depose and say that they are personally acquainted with T. B. Gleaves the above named. Bargained and that he signed and acknowledged the execution of the same in their presence for the uses and purposes thence contained.

Witness my hand at Office this the 14th day of April A.D. 1863.

G. B. Miller R.D.C.

Stephen D. Whitten Clerk

Copied from certified copy of Deed, Roll No. 120, Book N, page 83 and 84.

Tennessee State Library and Archives

Family oral history states that Lucinda was killed on August 14, 1864 in Effingham County, Illinois. She is reported to have been shot by someone on horseback that was aiming at Thomas. An infant son she was holding was also killed. The location of this incident is unknown to this author. The report states that Thomas left his remaining sons with family and followed Lucinda's killer to the Oklahoma panhandle where he hung the man. This incident would have occurred during the Civil War but it is unclear if it was related to this conflict.

We do know that Thomas was at odds with the Confederacy and shortly after his return from Oklahoma, was pursued by Confederate troops, escaping by hiding in a hollow log. He eventually moved north and on March 25, 1865 enlisted in the Union Army in Chicago, Illinois. He was medically discharged three months later due to an aneurysm of the aorta of the stomach.

Thomas returned to Tennessee after the war and married Nancy Ann Burnham on September 19, 1866. Nancy is reported to have been of Choctaw decent and spoke little English. It is reported that hardly anyone could

understand her. Thomas' marriage to Nancy Burnham is recorded in the

International Genealogical Index.

Shortly after the birth of their first child in 1867, Thomas and Nancy headed west. For the majority of the next 20 years, they lived at various times in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. The growing family finally settled in the Grimes, Oklahoma area around 1890. The 1890 City Directory for Guthrie, Logan County, Oklahoma lists Thomas and tow of his daughters but Nancy and the other children are not listed. <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ok/logan/history/dir/smiths1890ga.txt>

In 1908 Thomas won the right to homestead 160 acres in Roger Mills County (Application #18589 and Homestead Certificate #306). It is reported that they built a sod house on the farm and lived there until the bank foreclosed on the property. Thomas had mortgaged the property for \$300.00 to finance his youngest son's move to California. The son never repaid the loan and Thomas and Nancy were forced to live their last years in the home of their daughter, Minnie.

Thomas died on March 4, 1911 and Nancy the following February. Thomas and Nancy are both buried in the Brookside Cemetery near Grimes,Oklahoma. Also buried there are three unnamed infant children that do not appear to be accounted for in this family group.<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ok/rogermills/cemeteries/brookside.txt>

DEATH NOTICE: T. B. Gleaves, of Grimes, Oklahoma, died March 4, 1911 of kidney trouble. He had been sick for a year before death claimed its own. But only three weeks before his death he was taken violently ill; he suffered intense agonies, but bore his suffering patiently until he slept the last long sleep in the arms of the Savior.

All was done for him that loving hands could do, but to no avail. God called him to answer his name to the roll call and all had to submit. It was for the best,

but it is so hard to give him up.

Gods will, will be done and not ours, for our loss is Gods gain, in this, our greatest loss, he has found joy.

He slept his last hour peacefully, he slept his soul away to Jesus and his last sleep was a though it was peaceful rest.

My parent was born in Tennessee, October 9, 1830. He was 80 years 4 months, and 26 days old at the time of his death. He departed this life March 4, 1911 at 12 o'clock, midnight. On Sunday March 5, his body was laid to rest in the Brookside Cemetery.

Those of his own, present at the interment was his loving companions two sons, Arthur and Andy, both of Grimes, Oklahoma; two daughter, Mrs Gracy Crow of Marysville, Texas, and Mrs. E. F. Thompson, of Grimes, Oklahoma.

His remains were preceded to the cemetery by Rev. Wilson, the pastor of the Baptist church, H. M. Coffey and T. S. Wilson. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Wilson. The singing services were conducted by Bro. T. S. Wilson. (From either the Grimes or Sayre, Oklahoma Newspaper.) (copied by

Lois Gleaves, 1984)

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Thomas married **Lucinda Wright** daughter of Jason Wright and Mary Unknown about 1860 in Dyer County, Tennessee. Lucinda was born about 1834 in Tennessee.

## Second Generation

2. **William B. Gleaves** was born in 1797 in Davidson Co. TN. He died in 1857 in Dyer Co., VA. He married Harriet Simpkins on 20 Nov 1826 in Wilson County, Tennessee.

Lived in Wilson Co. TN

William appears to be the oldest son of Thomas Gleaves. He is mentioned in his Father's will, dated 1846. He received the sum of twenty dollars, much less than the slaves and property given to his siblings. William appears to have already established himself by that time and may not have needed any help further from his father. It was the custom at the time for large landholders to bequeath property to their heirs before they died. The father and son appear to be on good terms since later in the will Thomas mentions that he is serving as Security for his son in an unnamed court case.

The following entry in Davidson County records appears to account for why he was treated less generously in the will.

Thomas Gleaves...to William B. Gleaves

Written 4-23-1827...registered 8-28-1827...208 acres...Price: for the love and affection he hath for his son, William B. Gleaves, doth give,grant...on waters of Stones River...it being a part of a tract of land that I purchased from John Crozier of Knoxville...Test: Gilliam Hallum & Chas. Wilkinson /s/ Thomas Gleaves

Davidson County Deeds Register, Book R., Page 408

In 1831 and 1835 William B. Gleaves had already received four Land Grants

from the State of Tennessee. These grants, totaling more than 100 acres of unclaimed land, appear to be in Dyer County (grants #11081-2 and 13150-1). A fifth grant, (#23367) for nearly 140 acres in Williamson County occurred in 1854. A sixth grant, also in 1831 was for 37 acres in Sumner County. This grant (#11116) was recorded in the name William "F." Gleaves and probably was a transcription error. Tennessee Land Grants

William was married twice and his second wife Louisa survived him. Both of his marriages are documented in Early Middle Tennessee Marriages.

Harriet's maiden name is sometimes listed as Lumpkin. Her first name is recorded on the marriage license as "Harriot". Her date of death comes from a letter written by her father-in-law, Thomas Gleaves. She appears to have died in childbirth. Harriet is buried in a small graveyard in Davidson County.

William and Louisa's marriage is listed in Early Middle Tennessee Marriages.

The birth dates of Louisa's children make her year of birth questionable since she would have been over 50 years old when the youngest was born.

William is reported to have been a successful farmer and his will suggests

that to be the case. After his death, an 1863 land deal references a parcel that was part of a 1,000 acre tract belonging to "Wm. B. Gleaves". This author possesses information on a number of his land grants and deeds, too numerous to list here. He wrote his will on September 25th of 1857 and appears to have died shortly thereafter since the will was entered into court during the October term that year. The will mentions Louis a by name as well as three daughters. The remainder of the children are referenced, although not by name. Dyer County, Tennessee Will Book A

After William's death Louisa appears in the 1860 Tennessee Census with a number of the children from William's two marriages. The surname is spelled incorrectly as "Gleares". The family is found living in Dyer County.

## LAND GRANTS

Davidson County, Tennessee

To: 14 1/2 acres on Waters of Suggs Creek...Davidson County,  
Tennessee boundaries: Benjamin Castleman, William Donelson, Stockley  
Donelson.

To: Will B. Gleaves...7 acres and 24 poles...Suggs Creek, Davidson County  
bounded by Richard Jones and William Donelson.

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## LAND GRANTS

Wilson County, Tennessee

To: William B. Gleaves...31 acres 106 poles...11-16-1853...on waters of Big  
Harpeth...Civil Dist. #23, Williamson County, Tennessee Book 8, Occ. #23367  
age 295...recorded 2-11-1854

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## LAND DEEDS

Davidson County, Tennessee

Book Q, page 837

Moses Brown to William B. Gleaves and John G. Gleaves

Written 6-4-1825, recorded 8-23-1825...\$200...21 acres 80 poles. Witnesses:



Thomas Gleaves & James R. Gleaves. Between Stones River & Suggs Creek.  
Beginning on bank of Suggs Creek in said Gleaves' N. boundary of a 3 acres  
tract.../s/ Moses Brown

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## LAND DEEDS

Davidson County, Tennessee

Book Q. page 208

Wilshere Bandy (of Wilson County, Tennessee) to Thomas Gleaves  
Written 12-14-1820...registered 2-27-1823...\$110 - 20 acres. Witness: Wm.  
Creel and William B. Gleaves

Book Q, page 151

Case of : Washington Pulliam...selling to Wm. B. Gleaves and John G. Gleaves  
in December 1819 - on Suggs Creek. "probate" is shown...(nothing found in  
probate court).

Book R., Page 408

Thomas Gleaves...to William B. Gleaves

Written 4-23-1827...registered 8-28-1827...208 acres...Price: for the love and  
affection he hath for his son, William B. Gleaves, doth give, grant...on waters of  
Stones River...it being a part of a tract of land that I purchased from John  
Crozier of Knoxville...Test: Gilliam Hallum & Chas. Wilkinson /s/ Thomas  
Gleaves

(cross-refer: Book N, page 431--374 A. (Crozier to Gleaves)3-9-1820...and  
Book Q, page 388

Book S, Page 441

William B. Gleaves to John G. Gleaves

written 4-28-1829 recorded 3-11-1830...cost (none shown)...acres: 124 1/2.

Wit:

John Ramsey & Johnstone Williams. Refers to land conveyed tous by Moses Brown...Suggs Creek

Book S., page 442

John G. Gleaves to William B. Gleaves...(same date as Book S, page441... mentions Moses Brown to Suggs Creek) (appears John G. is now sole owner of the entire tract).

3. **Harriet Simpkins** was born before 1810 in Tennessee. She died in Jul 1845 in Williamson County, Tennessee.

## Third Generation

4. **Thomas Harvey Gleaves** was born on 18 Mar 1771 in Cripple Creek, Wythe VA. He died in 1849 in Hermitage, Davidson Co., TN. He married Sarah Smith , "Sally" on 13 Mar 1797 in Davidson Co. TN.

Thomas is the oldest child of William and Elizabeth and the only one definitely born in Augusta County, Virginia. His parents moved to the present day Wythe County area when he was less than two years old.

Sometime prior to 1797, Thomas moved to Davidson County, Tennessee near present day Nashville. His uncle, Michael Gleaves had settled there in the late 1780s and had acquired significant property in the region. Michael is detailed in the next chapter. Several Wythe County historical sources list a number of families that moved to Davidson County in this same time frame. Two of Thomas' brothers also moved to the Nashville area although it appears that Thomas moved to Tennessee before they did.

"Thomas GLEAVES" married "Sally Smith" in March of 1797 although researchers differ on the exact date. The Marriage Bond was issued 13 March 1797 in Davidson County, Tennessee. Early Middle Tennessee Marriages

Some family researchers have Identified Thomas as "Thomas Harvey Gleaves" . This author has not found any documents that confirm this middle name.

"Thomas GLEAVES" first appears in court records in April 1805, when he is mentioned in his Brother Matthew's Will. Matthew's will is included in its entirety later in this chapter. The court appointed Thomas as Administrator of

the estate and on May 30, of that same year, he filed an inventory of Matthew's possessions, which included a bible. On January 9, 1813 he reported to the Court that Matthew's land in Kentucky had been sold for \$690 of which \$615.45 was due the estate.

Davidson County Will Books

From about 1810 until 1831 it becomes more difficult to positively document Thomas since his Uncle; Michael Graves had a son by the same name born in 1789. Although both were in the same area, the other Thomas appears to have lived in Wilson County adjacent to Davidson. The other Thomas died in 1831 and is profiled in the next chapter.

Thomas and Absalom GLAVES (his brother) are listed among the buyers at the estate sale of William Stuart recorded February 19, 1810. Thomas GLAVES appears again on November 8, 1813 at the sale of the estate of George W. Payne. This second entry may pertain to the other Thomas although not likely due to his young age. A third entry for Thomas GLEAVES, January 23, 1816 regarding the estate of Benjamin Seabourne is also inconclusive. Davidson County Will Books

On November 12, 1821 Thomas GLEAVES appeared in Court selling 48+ acres to Benjamin Castleman for the sum of \$112.50. This author is quite confident that this is the subject of this sketch since Thomas' son William B. Gleaves sold Benjamin Castleman an additional 37+ acres ten years later on May 10, 1831.

Davidson County Deed Book Q page 406

Several entries in 1827 list a Thomas GLEAVES although limited detail makes it impossible to identify the Thomas referred to.

A court entry dated November 28, 1828 deals with what appears to be the County's support for a widow and her family. "Absalom GLEAVES, Thomas GLEAVES and James R. GLEAVES, (Thomas' Son) Commissioners to set apart one years provisions for Drusilla Johnson and her family". Davidson County Will Book

Thomas may have received a number of Land Grants from the State of Tennessee. Three issued to Thomas Gleaves during the period 1813-1819 cannot be definitely attributed to our subject. A fourth Land Grant(#13152) for 661 acres, was issued in 1835, after the death of his cousin. This grant was in Davidson County. Tennessee Land Grants

Thomas died sometime in 1848/1849 at approximately 88 years of age and his will was recorded on March 22, 1850. The will was dated December 5, 1846 and delivered to the Davidson County Court during its April Term in 1849. The will is quite lengthy and mentions all of his children. Wife Sally is not mentioned and had probably died before the will was written.

Thomas appears to have been a fairly wealthy man since he bequeathed several large tracts of land to his sons. At least 15 slaves are mentioned by name in his will. While most of his property was given to specific children, one provision directed a sharing by his descendants."Item #11: I give to all my children the use in common of my still and tubs and not to be sold"

Some of his sons received more than a proportionate share of his holdings and Thomas appears to have felt compelled to explain this in his will."Item 17: I have given to Felix R. and Benjamin F. Gleaves more than the rest of my children in consideration of their trouble and kinship in running and taking care of me in my old age."Davidson County, Tennessee Court Records

Sarah "Sallie" Smith  
(About 1776 - Before 1846)

There is no known documentation identifying Sallie Smith's family although some family records give her birth date as 1776, location unknown.

Davidson County marriage records identify Sallie as marrying a Thomas Gleaves in March of 1797. The Matthew Gleaves Will (included in the next section) positively identifies her as the wife of his brother Thomas, son of

William Gleaves.

Matthew's will also identifies two other individuals; his cousin, Matthew Gleaves Jr. (son of Michael Glaves) and a woman named Betsy Smith. If any relationship to Betsy exists, it is not documented in the will. This author believes there is a high probability that Betsy is a younger sister of Sallie's. Five years later Cousin Matthew and Betsy Smith married in Davidson County, August 19, 1809.

Matthew's will does not identify any land he owned in Davidson County so it is possible that he was living with Thomas and Sallie at the time of his death.

According to researcher Robert Milnor Gleaves, there is a letter from James Turk Gleaves, brother of Thomas Gleaves, which states that Sally "Smith" was the daughter of Felix Robertson. This either means that Thomas was married twice or that Sally Robertson was first married to a Mr. Smith before she married Thomas Gleaves. This author has not seen the letter and can offer no further information on this subject. Bob Gleaves tends to discount this information as being incorrect.

The exact date of Sallie's death is not known. Sallie is not mentioned in Thomas Gleaves' Will, so she is assumed to have died before it was written in 1846. The youngest child of Thomas and Sallie Gleaves was born in 1819.

A will written on January 10, 1822 by a man named Ezekiel Smith offers some interesting possibilities to consider. The will was contested by a son from the family of his second wife and is somewhat confusing although several facts are clear. Ezekiel willed land to his "sons" with each being mentioned by name "on White's Creek...within the boundary of Stull's runoff". The Will goes on to mention several women by their married names but does not identify which, if any, are daughters. One mentioned is Elizabeth Gleaves. Davidson County Will Book

This author believes that Elizabeth Gleaves mentioned here is Betsy Gleaves, the wife of "Cousin" Matthew. Cousin Matthew's Father, Michael Gleaves left land on White's Creek to a son in his will and had dealings with several members of the Stull family. If Sallie Smith Gleaves and Betsy were sisters, Sallie is not mentioned in The Ezekiel Smith Will and may have died between 1819 and 1822. No proof, just a theory.

THOMAS GLEAVES, Dec'd Will  
Recorded March 22, 1850

Will dated 5 Dec1846

#### THIS IS MY LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

I Thomas Gleaves of Davidson County and State of Tennessee, do make and establish this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all others by me at any time made.

1st I hereby give and bequest unto my son William B. Gleaves the sum of twenty Dollars to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

2nd I hereby give and bequeath unto my son John G. Gleaves my Negro girl named Ellen, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

3rd I hereby give and bequeath unto my son John G. Gleaves my Negro boy Moses to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

4th I give and bequeath unto my daughter Elizabeth Hill my Negro woman Chainy and her two children now in her possession. Also one bed and furniture to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

5th I give and bequeath unto Felix R. and Benjamin F. Gleaves, the executors, and administrators, my Negro woman Jane and all her future increase to be held in trust by them for the support and benefit of my daughter Emeline Wright and her natural life, and at her death to be conveyed to her children then living or the issue of such living or this issue of such as maybe dead and such issue to take as the parents would have done if living. But if the said Emeline Wright and her family during her natural life, and at her death to be conveyed to her children then living, or the issue of such as may be dead, and such issue to take as the parent would have done if living. But if the said Emeline Wright should die without children or the issue of such children, then and in that case Jane and all her future increase shall go to and belong to my children their living or the issue of such as may be dead, and said issue to take as the parents, would have done if living. Always excepting my son William B. Gleaves, whom I have heretofore given all that I intend giving him.

6th I hereby give and bequeath unto my daughter Nancy Ann Cherry my Negro John and Elizabeth and all her future increase to her and her heirs and assigns forever.

7th I hereby give and bequeath unto my son Americus D. Gleaves my Negro boy Phillip, 2 cows, 10 head of sheep, and 2 beds, bedsteads and furniture, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.



8th I hereby give and bequeath unto my son Felix R. Gleaves, my Negro man Benjamin and Negro girl Theresa and her future increase and I also give and bequeath unto him the tract of land on which he now lives. Beginning at a Rock,

John G. Gleaves north west corner in Stewart's east boundary line, thence east with John G. Gleaves line to a Rock corner. thence north to a Walnut marked as a corner and being John G. Gleaves north west corner. thence northwesterly to two white oak saplings both standing on the same stump, marked as corners. thence in a direct line to the center of the spring and through the center of said spring down the branch with the fence as it now stands to the public road: all west of said line owned by me is what I intend to

convey to the said Felix R. Gleaves. I also give to the said Felix R. Gleaves all that part of the Baker tract as it is called, lying east of the following lines, viz: Beginning at a corner stone in the middle of the dry fork, two cedar stumps marked as pointers running thence southeastward a crooked line to a corner stone with a black oak, white oak and elm trees marked as pointers, thence southwardly to a black walnut corner thence eastwardly to a black oak & Elm marked as corners standing on Wilshire Bandy's line. I give to the said Felix R. his heirs and assigns forever a right of way for a Wagon from said Spring to the said part of the Baker tract of land above given to him. I also give to him one Bed, bedstead & furniture & one shot gun. To have and to hold said Negro and increase, and said lands & right of way and said other property unto him the said Felix R. Gleaves, his heirs and assigns forever.

9th I give and bequeath to my son, Benjamin F. Gleaves Negro man Minor and Negro woman Margare and their increase. I also give to him all the balance of my land on which I now live, and all the balance of the Baker tract of land not above given to F. R. Gleaves. Also 2 beds and bed steads & furniture & all my house hold and kitchen furniture of which I may die possessed. One wheat fan and cutting board, one rifle gun, 10 head of cattle

to be his choice of any I may have at the time of my death. 10 head of sheep, my cotton wheels, spinning machine, loom, reel and all the fixtures of said loom and machine. Also a very old Negro woman named Milley. To have and to hold said Negro and increase, said lands, and other property unto him the said Benjamin F. Gleaves, his heirs, and assigns forever.

10th I give and bequeath unto Felix R. and Benjamin F. Gleaves in joint tenancy my cedar tract of land near Seaborns Ferry containing about six acres. My four horse wagon & gun & four horses said horses are to be the choice out of any of my stock at the time of my death; each three axes and 3 plows with their fixtures to be the choice out of my stock, all of the crop of every kind, all the corn fodder & grain & all the stock of hogs and the provisions on hand at the time of my death & the soap, one two horse wagon, one cross cut saw, 2 mattock, 6 hoes, blacksmith tools, one pair steel yards, 1 log chain, 1 fifth chain, 2 pair stretches, 2 iron wedges. To have and hold said land and other property divided in this clause to them the said Felix R and Benj F. Gleaves in equal proportions, their heirs and assigns forever.

11th I give to all my children the use in common of my still & tubs & not to be sold.

12th I hereby authorize my executors herein after named to sell my Negro man Lewis either publicly or privately and to sell all the residue of my personal property not herein disposed of either for cash or on such time as they may deem best, and apply the proceeds to the payment of all my just debts and the balance to be divided amongst all my children excepting Wm. B. Gleaves.

13th It is my will that my executors herein after named shall, either sell my Negro man Henry at public or private sale for cash or in such time as they deem best; or if they shall choose to do so they may take the said Henry as

and for their own property, by becoming responsible to my estate for the sum of five hundred dollars, and in either case the proceeds be held by them until the suit is decided in which I am bound with others as security for William B. Gleaves, and in case of any liabilities shall arise against my estate in consequence of said security, the said proceeds to be applied to the payment of my proportion of the same, and the balance if any to be applied to the payment of the share of my co-sureters in said liability, but if said suit shall be settled or decided and no such liability arise, then the said proceeds to be held by my said executors and applied to the payment of any liabilities that may arise from any suits that may be brought hereafter against my estate, but if everything should be settled, and no suits should be brought, then said proceeds or the balance of any proceeds that may be left after satisfying any liabilities, to be equally divided amongst all my children always excepting William B. Gleaves.

14. It is my will that my Negro shall remain on the farm until the 25th of December next after my death for the purpose of making, gathering and taking care of the crop.

15th It is my will and I hereby direct that if any of my children or any person interested under my will or in my estate shall attempt to set aside this will or contest the title to any property devised or interfere try to thwart my intention as herein expressed in any way whatever, or shall throw any obstacles in the way of it being carried into effect according to the true intent and meaning, such person shall forfeit all claim to any property devised in this will, and the same shall revert to my estate and go to the rest of my heirs.

16th Where as Mathew Gleaves by his will dated 27th Nov. 1803 and recorded in the Clerks Office of Davidson County Court Term April 3rd 1805 devised to Sally Gleaves my wife during her life and then to remain to her children afterwards, Negro boy Green if he was not redeemed and eighty five

dollars of the price to be paid to Absalom Gleaves. And whereas said Negro boy was redeemed on the 25th day of Dec. 1803 at two hundred dollars eighty five of which has been paid by me to Absalom Gleaves the balance is now and has been ever since in my hands ready for distribution whenever the Court should have settled to whom it belonged and the demand was made; but no demand has been made, and there being a question as to the rightful owner of said money, whether it belongs to the children of my wife or otherwise, I leave the decision to the Courts of Justice whenever a demand shall be made on my Executors, for the same; it is ready for distribution when legally demanded.

17th I have given to Felix R. and Benjamin F. Gleaves more than the rest of my children in consideration of their trouble, and kindness in nursing & taking care of my old age.

18th I hereby nominate and appoint my two sons Felix R/ and Benjamin F. Gleaves my sold executors of this my last Will and Testament. Witness my hand and Seal this 5th day of December 1846

Signed sealed and acknowledged in presence of

James B. Gleaves

Sarah S. Gleaves

I. H. Armstrong

John Terry Dec. 14, 1846

James B. Hardy, Dec. 14, 1846

acknowledged to us

Recorded in Book No. 14. Pages 490. 491, 4920

1784-1787 Roll 1: DAVIDSON COUNTY: Register of deeds Tennessee  
State Library and Archives

July 26, 1796

Thomas Glaves This Indenture made this eleventh day of January in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and ninety six between John Donelson of the County of Tennessee of the one part and Thomas Gleaves of the County of Withe and state of Virginia of the other part witness's that the said John Donelson for an din consideration of the sum of six hundred Dollars to him in hand paid by the said Thomas Gleaves the receipt whereof the said John Donelson doth hereby acknowledge. He the said, John Donelson hath bargained and sold and by these presents doth sell unto Thomas Gleaves his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or parcel of land situate lying and being in Davidson County adjoining the East of William Stewart's preemption and on both the sides of a sinking branch of Stones creek and bounded as follows. Beginning at the said Stewart s corner a poplar, thence along his line with onehundred and forty poles to to a white oak, thence a new line east Three hundred and sixty three poles to a stake. Thence north two hundred and sixty poles to a stake, thence west four hundred and forty three poles to a white oak on stones's lick survey thence along the said line south one hundred poles to three small white oaks on William Stewart line thencealong his line east eighty poles to the beginning. Also all trees, woods and underwoods tytles commons common of pasture profits commodities advantages emoluments & hereditaments whatsoever to the said tract of land above mentioned, belonging or in anywise appertaining or in or upon the same tract growing happening or Arising also all the estate right title interest claim & demand whatsoever of him the said John Donelson of in and to the same premises and every part thereof. To have and to holdall and singular the above premises, above mentioned and every part and parcel thereof, with the

appurtenances unto the said Thomas Glaves his heirs or assigns to the only proper use and be hoof of the said Thomas Glaves his heirs and assigns forever. And the said John Donelson for him and his heirs the said tract Tythes and premises and every part thereof against him and his heirs and against all and every other person & persons shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness whereof he the said John Donelson hath hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year first above written.

John Donelson LS

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of Joseph Davis, John Hays & John Enochs. The execution of which deed of conveyance above recited was in open court held for the county of Davidson.

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THE GLEAVES HOUSE from A Past Remembered by Paul Clements, a collection of Antebellum Houses in Davidson County, Tennessee, 1987

Thomas Gleaves was born in Virginia in 1771, grew up during the revolutionary war, and had come from Wythe County, Virginia, to Davidson County by 1796, when he bought a tract of land on the east side of stones River near the land a William Stuart. He married Sally Smith the following year, and their first child, William, who would grow up to help two disenfranchised slaves reclaim their inheritance, was born soon afterward. Thomas and Sally Gleaves would have a number of other children, and in addition to William, both John, who was born around 1801, and Felix, born around 1816, would have connections to the Stuart tract. Felix Gleaves was still growing up on his father's farm when his older brother John married in 1828, and by the time Felix married eighty ears

later, John had several children. Sally Gleaves died in the 1840's, not long before the death of her husband Thomas, and in 1854, her son, Felix Gleaves, who had taken care of his father in his last years and had been rewarded with a large share of his estate, bought 128 acres of the Stuart tract from the former Stuart slaves, David and Moses. Felix Gleaves probably built the stylish two-story house soon after buying the land and apparently lived there with his wife until the autumn of 1860, when the property was sold to his nephews, Richard and John Bell Gleaves, sons of his older brother John, who had died in the early 1850s.

At the beginning of the Civil War the household apparently included Richard and John Bell Gleaves, their widowed mother, and a younger sister and brother, and although the farm was small, there were some twenty slaves living on the place. Although the house was not damaged during the war, the Gleaves farm suffered significant losses to foragers, and of those who had been living in the house in 1860, only John Bell Gleaves was still living there by the end of the decade. In 1866, the year before the death of his brother, Richard, John Bell Gleaves had married Annie Ridley, a descendant of early Davidson County settler George Ridley, and by 1870 two daughters had been born in the house. Four additional children were born over the next few years, but Annie Ridley Gleaves died in 1876, and her husband's cousin, Charity Gleaves, came to help him raise the children. Most of the Gleaves children grew up and left home during the latter years of the century, but two daughters, Carrie and Blanche, remained in the house after the death of John Bell Gleaves in 1909. The house stayed in the family for a number of years, and in 1967, after several changes in ownership, the Gleaves house became the property of Jerry D. Nelson. The house remained in Nelson's possession for nearly twenty years, but in the spring of 1986 Nelson sold it to the Chapel Road SASA Apartment Company, a business concern located in Texas. The GLEAVES HOUSE was razed soon afterward.

5. **Sarah Smith , "Sally"** was born in 1776 in Cripple Creek, Wythe VA. She died on 24 Dec 1845 in Hermitage, Davidson County, Tennessee.

6. **John Simpkins** .



## Fourth Generation

8. **William Benjamin Gleaves** was born about 1748 in Reportably, Cambridgeshire, England. He died on 30 Mar 1820 in Cripple Creek, Wythe County, Virginia. He married Elizabeth Turk , "Betty" on 3 May 1770 in Staunton, Augusta, Virginia.

Records for William list him at various times under four different spellings of his last name (mostly Gleaves). The extensive documentation makes it clear that they are all one person.

In 1771, William was appointed guardian of his minor brothers and sisters although only Ester appears in court records. (Augusta County, VA courtr ecords). Matthew's descendants are always listed with the surname of "Glaves" while William and his descendants are usually listed as "Gleaves". Another brother, Michael, appears to have gone by both spellings of the name.

Fayette County, KY records reveal that William acquired 562 acres of land and recorded the deed on March 13, 1783. Pendleton was a part of Fayetteat that time. There is no record of William ever living on this land. This may be the land that his brother, Matthew Jr. moved to in 1784-5.

Information on William and Elizabeth's births comes from Ann Rogers whois doing the Turk family line. BRogers386@aol.com. This information lists William's birth date as 1752.

Gleaves, William

Also spelled Glaves

Born 1745, Augusta Co., VA, son of Matthew Gleaves born about 1715, d.

1760 Augusta Co., VA and Esther

1774 - In William Herbert's Company, Lord Dunmore's War.? I did not find him on the pay lists.

1779 - Entered bond to collect taxes, Montgomery Co., VA; On jury of trial of Duncan O'Gullion "for maintaining the authority of the King of Great Britain and levying war against the people of the state"

7 Nov 1781 - Proposed as a first lieutenant in Capt. Newell's company - took oath 5 March 1782

2 April 1782 - presents bill for services to Virginia during the Revolution - supplied Capt. Campbell's Company Light Horse Militia of Montgomery County with 16 diets, 16 shelves of oats, also with 200 lbs of beef, and more...

1782 Montgomery Co., VA personal tax list. - 1 tithe, 2 slaves, 20 horses, 33 cattle; also Michael Glaves 1-0-5-6

23 Nov 1790 - Wythe Co., VA - William Glaves, Lieutenant of militia

13 Dec 1797 - made Captain of militia

7 Jan 1809 - William and wife Peggy deed 420 acres on Cripple Creek to Joseph Bell and Andrew Kincannon

Died 20 May 1820

Married 3 May 1770 in Botetourt (now Wythe) Co., VA: Elizabeth Turk, born 1753, probably in Augusta Co., VA d/o Thomas Turk and Margaret Grove.?

Thomas Turk the son of Robert Turk b. northern Ireland and Margaret.

Children: James Turk (d. 1862, Capt. And Major, War of 1812, m. Melvina Crockett); Mary Martha 1774 (b. Fincastle Co., VA d. 1832 Wythe Co., VA m. Andrew Porter b. 1773 Fincastle Co., VA);? Sally (m. Nathan Allen)

Source: Michael Sheppard's World connect database; New River Notes tax lists

9. **Elizabeth Turk , "Betty"** was born in Jun 1753 in Augusta County, Virginia. She died on 10 Jul 1840 in Cripple Creek, Wythe County, Virginia.

Elizabeth Turk's birth date is established in the Augusta Co., VA lawsuit of James Turk v. Thomas Turk in which there is an Indenture dated 7 April 1758 in which Elizabeth Turk is described to be age 5 years and 2 months.

From Chalkey's Chronicles:

Turk vs. Turk.--James and Thomas Turk were brothers, April 3, 1772. Debt on account during 1764-65, to 1771. James Turk's wife was Mary, and they had a daughter, Elizabeth. Robert Turk deposes, 15th April, 1772. James Turk paid out #10 for Elizabeth Finley's education in Carolina. Thomas paid Henry Foster, husband of Elizabeth Finley, #40 out of his father's estate.

Thomas Turk vs. James Turk.--Case writ, 22d August, 1772. Deed by Thomas Turk, 7th April, 1758, apprenticing his daughter, Elizabeth Turk, to James Turk. Elizabeth is aged 5 years and 2 months.

## Fifth Generation

16. **Matthew Gleaves , Sr.** was born about 1725 in Willington, England. He died in 1760 in Augusta Co. VA. He married Esther Unknown before 1746.

17. **Esther Unknown** was born before 1735 in Augusta Co. VA. She died after 1808.

Matthew Gleaves' widow, Esther, married Thomas Rafferty in Augusta Co., VA on 6 June 1762 (Chalkley, II, page 276). Thomas Rafferty died testate in Washington Co., VA in 1780. His will mentions his wife, Esther. Esther made a motion to become the administrator with the will annexed on 20 March 1780. Esther's son, William Gleaves, was one of the securities for the administrator's bond. Esther remarried to Elias Woolman in Washington Co., VA on 14 March 1786. Elias Woolman died in 1795 and his widow, Esther, was granted her motion to administrated the estate in Augusta Co., VA on 15 Dec. 1795. Esther was still alive and living in Buncumbe Co., NC on 19 April 1797 when she executed a Power of Attorney which was later recorded in Washington Co., VA on 19 Feb. 1799. Esther is still alive and living some where on 3 Aug. 1808 when Thomas Turk, Sr., of Augusta Co., VA wrote his will and provided therein for her support "during her natural life or widowhood". There is no record of Esther's whereabouts or death after this reference in Thomas Turk's will. She likely remained close to one of her children until her death. (Allen)

18. **Thomas Turk , Sr.** was born<sup>1</sup> in Mar 1718 in Ulster, Ireland. He died on 26 Jun 1809 in Augusta County, Virginia. He married<sup>2</sup> Margaret Woolman in 1747 in , Orange, Virginia.

There is some confusion about Thomas Turk's birth date. The James Turkbible says "March, 1718". Thomas Turk signed a Declaration in the Estillv.

Ramsey lawsuit in Augusta Co., VA on 12 October 1798 in which he apparently states that he is "aged eighty eight years" which would make him born in 1710. I choose to believe the bible record rather than the Declaration. Thomas Turk signed his mark on the Declaration, indicating that he could not write so that the person who wrote the Declaration could have made a mistake. I have a copy of the actual Declaration and it shows an interlineation and a cross out on the same line as the date.

There is an Orange Co., VA deed from Robert Turk to Thomas Turk dated 23 September 1741 involving 437 acres of his 1313 acre tract in Beverley Manor.

Note that 437 acres is exactly 1/3 of this 1313 acre tract.

His death date is recorded in the James Turk bible.

He wrote his will on 3 August 1808 in Augusta Co., VA and it was proved in Court on 24 July 1809. It mentions his "wife Mary", "wife's mother Esther Woolman", "grandson Thomas Turk McCullouch", "grandson Thomas Turk Rhea", "daughters Esther Johnston, Betsey Coger, Rebecca Anderson", "son James Turk", "my children to wit, Esther Johnston, Betsey Coger, Rebecca Anderson and my James", "my daughter Jane Allen one dollar", "my daughter Betty Glave one dollar", "my son Thomas Turk one dollar". Executors were Andrew Ramsey, William Patrick and Robert Porterfield. Thomas Turk signed by his mark.

Robert Turk was a Scotch Irish Presbyterian for Ulster Province, Northern Ireland (County and City unknown). I believe he emigrated to Boston in 1718. (Bob Allen)

Thomas Turk, Jr., son of Thomas Turk, Sr., vs. Thomas Turk, Sr.--  
Son vs. Father. Chancery. (Executed bond to.) In 1712 Thomas, Sr.,

deeded land to Thomas, Jr., condition, love and affection. Thomas, Jr., married Anne Rhea. Thomas was seventeen years old in 1772.

19. **Margaret Woolman** was born about 1726 in Augusta County, Virginia. She died in 1762 in Augusta County, Virginia.

### Sources

1. Family Search, Ancestral File, AFN: 31ZN-JN.
2. Family Search, Ancestral File, AFN: 31ZN-JN.

## Sixth Generation

32. **Thomas Gleaves** was born about 1700. He died on 22 Jun 1740. He married Anne Sneesby on 29 Sep 1718.

Thomas was baptized on 23 Jan 1680/0081.

33. **Anne Sneesby** .

36. **Robert Turk** was born<sup>1</sup> about 1690 in , Antrim, Ulster, Ireland. He died in Oct 1772 in Augusta County, Virginia. He married Margaret Unknown about 1712.

37. **Margaret Unknown** was born in 1694. She died about 1760.

38. **Matthew Grove** was born<sup>2</sup> in 1700 in , Agusta, Virginia. He married Ester Mrs. Grove.

39. **Ester Mrs. Grove** was born<sup>3</sup> about 1704 in , Augusta, Virginia.

## Sources

1. Family Search, Ancestral File, AFN: G05R-GK.
2. Family Search, Ancestral File, AFN- C1QP-W8.
3. Family Search, Ancestral File, AFN- C1QP-XF.