

Family of Thomas Brigham

1774 – 1849



Fig. 1 - Above photo taken by Carl T. Feagans, at Brigham Cemetery, Land Between The Lakes (LBL) National Recreation Area, United States Forest Service on June 6, 2023.

As documented by Brigham family historian Cleo Cherry Grogan¹, Thomas Brigham was born Mar. 17, 1774 probably near Muddy Creek, near present-day Blountville, Tennessee) in then Fincastle County, Virginia (became Sullivan County, Tennessee). He was likely named for his maternal grandfather, Thomas Looney. His parents James Brigham and Louisa Looney Brigham had moved to this area from the Augusta County, Virginia area sometime in the mid-1700s². Thomas Brigham was the 4th oldest of James and Louisa's children, all apparently born in then Fincastle County, Virginia before becoming Sullivan County, Tennessee. Their names were Jane Brigham (b. 1766), David Brigham (b. 1769), John Brigham (b. 1771), William Brigham (b. July 24, 1776), James Brigham Jr. (b. 1778), Elizabeth Brigham (b. 1778), Mary "Polly" Brigham (b. ?), and Louisa Brigham (b. ?). Recent research shared by Brigham-Brigance family historian Jeff Brigance indicates that the name David Brigham was in Bucks County, Pennsylvania area during the 1740s and suggests a familial connection to James Brigham³.

Thomas Brigham's father James was a soldier during the Revolutionary War and served in the Fincastle County Virginia Militia commanded by his wife's uncle, then Captain David Looney^{4,5,6}. After the Revolutionary war, on, Dec. 11, 1792, James Brigham deeded 30 acres to John Anderson, George Maxwell, and Richard Gammon - the Commissioners of Sullivan County – for the construction of the county courthouse and jail; this land is the site of present-day Blountville, Tennessee^{7,8,9,10}.

Shortly thereafter, Thomas Brigham, his sibs, and parents relocated to Montgomery County, Tennessee near the Cumberland River in 1796; however, there are documents indicating that they may have been in the area earlier than that. On Sept. 2, 1797, James Brigham purchased 1,200 acres from John Shelby, the son of Evan Shelby¹¹. This land on the north bank of the Cumberland River is apparently in what became District No. 8 of Montgomery Co. TN¹²; this is near the mouth area of Blooming Grove Creek on the side opposite Corbandale, which is down river from Palmyra, Montgomery Co. TN¹². It should be noted that the two older brothers of Thomas, William and David Brigham witnessed this land deed in April 1798¹¹.

At this time, Thomas Brigham would have been 23 years old and may have relocated his wife Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" and young family downriver on the Cumberland River around this time. Their first-born child, Luna Louisa Brigham (Byrd) was born in 1797 probably in Montgomery County, Tennessee and not in Sullivan County, Tennessee as previously documented by family historians¹². It appears that Thomas Brigham married Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" (b. Mar. 8, 1775) in 1794, apparently in the future Sullivan County, Tennessee. In 1792 when James Brigham deeded the 30 acres in Sullivan County for Blountville, Sullivan County was then part of the Territory South of the River Ohio (which existed from 1790-1796). For sure, when Thomas and Mary married in 1794, there was no Tennessee yet.¹³ Family historians have claimed that Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" was a full-blooded Cherokee, but recent research suggests that she was Shawnee¹⁴. More details are provided later in this document.

According to Cleo Cherry Grogan, the children of Thomas Brigham and Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" were: Luna Louisa Brigham (b. 1797), Richard Brigham (b. 1799), Albert Brigham (b. 1800), Lucinda Brigham (b. Jan. 8, 1806), Mary "Polly" Brigham (b. 1809), William Brigham (b. ?), Minerva Brigham (b. ?), unknown Brigham Daughter (b. ?), and Harriet Brigham (b. ?)¹⁵. In 1803, Stewart County, Tennessee was formed from Montgomery County, Tennessee¹⁶; therefore Lucinda, Mary "Polly", William (likely named for Thomas' older brother), and the three younger daughters were all born in Stewart County, Tennessee.

Stewart County genealogist Jim Long recently shared an 1806 Stewart County tax list indicating that Thomas Brigham and Shadrack Byrd (future father-in-law of Luna Louisa Brigham) were both in Captain John Allen's District at that time¹⁷. Thomas Brigham is documented as owning 340 acres along the Cumberland River. This indicates that Thomas and Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" Brigham were likely living along the West (South) side of the Cumberland River near the Kentucky line. Stewart County Court Minutes of February 7, 1810 indicate that Thomas Brigham had a creek named after him at that time: "*Ordered by the Court that a road be marked, William Pryor, Joseph B. Neville, Thomas Brigham, Henry*

Jackson and John Jones, from the mouth of Brigham's Creek on towards Neville's Creek, to intersect the Dover Road."¹⁸.

Thomas Brigham is also well documented in early Stewart and Montgomery County documents compiled by Iris Hopkins McClain (1965)¹⁹. These and other documents indicate that Thomas Brigham also operated a ferry on the Cumberland River between 1811-1815. Genealogist Jim Long shared the following: *"The earliest mention I find for Thomas Brigham's ferry is this entry from the August 6, 1811 County Court Minutes: "Ordered by the Court that Nathan Skinner, David McNatt, Benjamin McNatt, Solomon McNatt, John Hodges, John Jones view and mark a road from Thomas Brigham's ferry to intersect a road at Nathan Skinner's leading from George Brandon's to Dover and make return to next term." At this time, Nathan Skinner lived on Shelby Creek, which was on the north side of Cumberland near the Kentucky line (current-day Tobaccoport). So Thomas Brigham's ferry presumably crossed the Cumberland River near the Kentucky line. There is a creek roughly across Cumberland River from Shelby Creek, now called Acree Creek. That may be what was, early-on, called Brigham's Creek*²⁰. The 1811 Montgomery County will for Thomas Brigham's father James Brigham suggests that another Cumberland River ferry run by Thomas' brother David Brigham was located upriver at the mouth of Blooming Grove Creek²¹. It appears that Cumberland River ferries were a business that the Brigham brothers were familiar with. These early ferries typically consisted of rafts pulled or propelled from one side of the river to the other by men or mules²².

Lastly, 1850 census listings by Iris Hopkins McClain indicate the following: "Mary Brigham [*"Stake-si-nes-kim"*, widow of Thomas Brigham], Household 185; John Bird [Byrd, husband of Luna Louisa Brigham and son-in-law of Thomas Brigham] Household 179; Albert Brigham [son of Thomas Brigham], Household 186; John Bayley [Bailey, husband of Lucinda Brigham and son-in-law of Thomas Brigham], Household 191"²³. These listings indicate that the children of Thomas Brigham, their spouses, and his widow Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" were all living in proximity to each other at the time.

The 1849 and 1857 Stewart County wills and transcriptions for Thomas Brigham²⁴ and his wife Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*"²⁵ provide valuable information about the interactions between the Brigham, Byrd, Bailey, McDonald, and Sanders families.

Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" Brigham

Byrd, Brigham, and Futrell family historians have long asserted that the wife of Thomas Brigham, Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" Brigham was a Native American, specifically a member of the Cherokee tribe²⁶. Cleo Cherry Grogan wrote in a 1997 letter that Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" (sometimes spelled "*Stake-si-nes-skim*") Brigham was "*a member of the Cherokee Horse Ann Tribe*". No source for this information was provided in writing, however family historian Lester Acree was mentioned by Cleo at that time as the possible source for the *Stake-si-nes-kim* name. Fellow descendant of Thomas Brigham and family historian, Albert Brigham Futrell Jr. has also confirmed stories about Thomas' wife Mary Brigham being a Cherokee woman²⁶. Indeed, the 1847 Stewart County marriage document for the granddaughter of Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" Brigham documents her name as Horse Ann

Caroline Brigham²⁷. This confirms the story told by Byrd, Brigham, and Futrell family historians that Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham desired that her son Albert Brigham Sr. name his newborn daughter “horse” so the name of Mary’s clan would not be forgotten. However, research has revealed that there is no Horse Clan in the Cherokee tribe; but there is a Horse Clan in the Shawnee²⁸. Interactions with Native American linguists indicated that the anglicized name “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” appears to be Shawnee and not Cherokee²⁹. Lastly, mitochondrial DNA analyses for several female descendants of Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*”

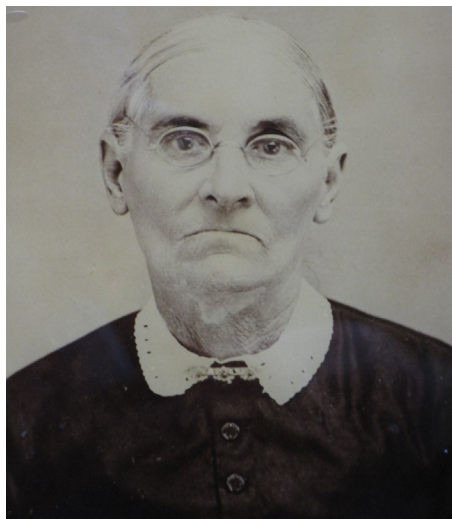


Fig. 2 - Photo of Caroline “Horse” Ann Brigham Futrell courtesy of Albert Brigham Futrell Jr., Oct. 6, 2018 (also see: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/10407790/caroline-futrell> .)

TENNESSEE
 RECORDS OF STEWART COUNTY
 MARRIAGE RECORDS VOL. 4
 1838 - 1848
 HISTORICAL RECORDS PROJECT
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Thomas J. Woolf to Sarah Frances Clifton	Oct. 28 1847		
Solemnized	Oct. 28 1847	W. T. Weston	J.P.
Albert Rougemont to Rebecca Wells	Nov. 1 1847		
Solemnized	Nov. 4 1847	Jas. T. Morris	J.P.
George McIntosh to Martha Williams	Nov. 1 1847		
N. B. Acree to Mary M. Rowlett	Nov. 5 1847		
Solemnized	Nov. 7 1847	C. Brandon	J.P.
(p 106)			
James M. Wilkinson to Mary Ann Futrill	Nov. 8 1847		
Solemnized	Nov. 7 1847	P. Herndon	J.P.
O'Bryan Futrill to Horse Ann Caroline Brigham	Nov. 8 1847		
Solemnized	Nov. 11 1847	B. Herndon	J.P.
William Bailey to Charlotte Tayloe	Nov. 13 1847		
Solemnized	Nov. 14 1847	Wm. Bell	J.P.

Fig. 3 – 1937 WPA transcription of Nov. 8, 1847 marriage document for Horse Ann Caroline Brigham and O'Bryan Futrill [sic]. Courtesy of Jim Long, Stewart County Archives.

were not conclusive; although some of the tested women showed Native American ancestry, others did not. Perhaps DNA testing for specific Shawnee DNA markers will become available in the future³⁰.

Children of Thomas Brigham and Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham

Cleo Cherry Grogan lists the following children of Thomas Brigham and Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham as follows³¹:

Luna Louisa Brigham (b. 1797 – d. Dec. 5, 1875); married John Wesley “Jack” Byrd on Oct. 27, 1814; see: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18125877/louisa-byrd>). Their children were: William Carroll Byrd (b. Aug. 23, 1815); Evaline Olivia Byrd (b. July 25, 1817); Thomas Brigham (b. Feb. 7, 1819); Nancy Young Byrd (b. Oct. 5, 1820); John Ashley Byrd (b. Sept. 23, 1822); Louisa Villars Byrd (b. Aug. 2, 1825); Sarah Ann Byrd (b. Aug. 8, 1827); George Wesley Byrd (b. Feb. 15, 1829); Elizabeth Jane Byrd (b. Mar. 23, 1831); Robert Payne Byrd (b. Mar. 10, 1833); Penelope Byrd (b. Feb. 12, 1835); Riley Marion Byrd (b. Feb. 26, 1837) and Rhodcan Byrd (b. Sept. 23, 1839); all was born along Lick Creek, later Byrd Creek, Stewart County Tennessee. The name Luna Louisa was given in honor of her paternal grandmother, Louisa Looney Brigham³².



Fig. 4 – Luna Louisa Brigham Byrd grave marker in LBL Bailey Byrd Cemetery; placed by Lester Acree and lists her husband and children. Photo by Valerie Byrd Richards.

Richard Brigham (b. 1799 – d. ?); wife and children not known at this time.

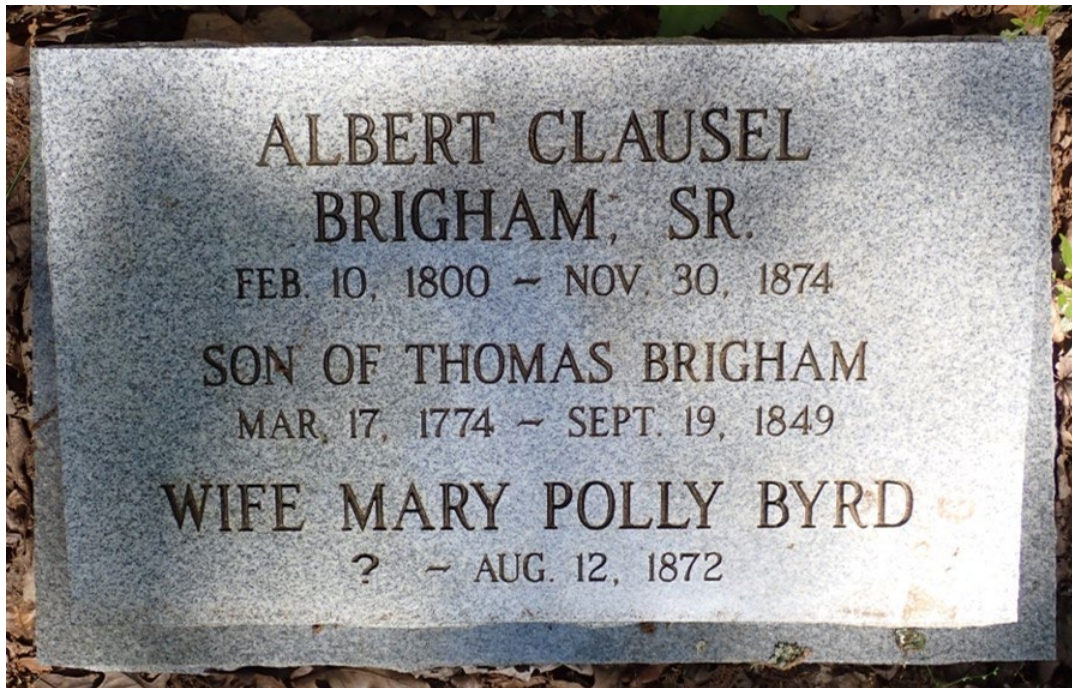


Fig. 5 - Above photo taken by Carl T. Feagans, at Brigham Cemetery, Land Between The Lakes (LBL) National Recreation Area, United States Forest Service on June 6, 2023.

Albert C. Brigham Sr. (b. Feb. 10, 1800 – d. Nov. 30, 1874); married Mary “Polly” Byrd; see: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/255074618/albert-clausel-brigham>). Their children were: Horse Ann Caroline Brigham (b. Mar. 25, 1827); Mary Brigham (b. Jan. 27, 1828); Thomas L. Brigham (b. Oct. 11, 1829); Semira H. Brigham (b. Dec. 19, 1830); Quintus C. Brigham (b. Feb. 4, 1832); Harriet A. Brigham (b. Mar. 25, 1834); James H. Brigham (b. Jan. 26, 1836); Albert Clausel Brigham Jr. (b. Feb. 1, 1838); Marion McDonald Brigham (b. Apr. 21, 1840); Minerva Jane Brigham (b. July 29, 1842); Constantine Polk Brigham (b. Sept. 27, 1844); Arcanthus Missouri Brigham (b. Aug. 17, 1845); John Wesley Brigham (b. Mar. 7, 1848); Elizabeth Tennessee Brigham (b. Apr. 15, 1851) were all born in District No. 8 near Lick Creek (now Byrd Creek), Stewart County, Tennessee next to the Tennessee River, in what is currently Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area (LBL). See:
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/255074618/albert-clausel-brigham>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/62214881/albert-clausel-brigham>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/62213531/james-howard-brigham>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/62213617/marion-mcdonald-brigham>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/196704228/elizabeth-brigham>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/19017024/john-wesley-brigham>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/10407790/caroline-futrell>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/15455720/semira-h-hicks>



Fig. 6 – Photo of Albert Clausel Brigham Sr., wife Mary Byrd Brigham sitting next to him, and family members: Missouri "Zue" Brigham Wilkinson (daughter of A.C. Brigham Sr.), William "Bud" Wilkinson (husband of Missouri), Mary Brigham (wife of A.C. Brigham Sr.), Albert C. Brigham Sr. (with Bible and wearing glasses); from left to right, standing: Letsie Wilkinson, Lutie Caroline Wilkinson, Tennie Wilkinson, Dessie Wilkinson (on crutches) taken in Stewart County, Tennessee. Photo courtesy of Sarah Hillyard White and husband Charlie White.

A family story re Albert Brigham Sr., his brother-in-law John Wesley Byrd, Luna Louisa Brigham Byrd, her infant son William Carroll Byrd, and a panther can be viewed at:
<https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/tale2.htm#The%20Panther%20Story> .

Info re CSA service for sons of Albert Brigham Sr. and Mary Byrd Brigham can be viewed at:
<https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/family/Pvt.%20Albert%20C.%20Brigham%20StewartCo%20TNGenWeb%20bio%20Byrd.pdf>
<https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/family/Pvt.%20James%20H.%20Brigham%20StewartCo%20TNGenWeb%20bio%20Byrd.pdf>
<https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/family/Pvt.%20Marion%20M.%20Brigham%20StewartCo%20TNGenWeb%20bio%20Byrd.pdf>

Lucinda Brigham (b. Jan. 8, 1806 – d. Mar. 4, 1884); married John T. Bailey; see:
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/6994924/lucinda-bailey>). Their children were:
 Minerva Bailey (b. 1831); Mary Bailey (b. 1831); Henry Clark Bailey (b. 1832); Thomas L. Bailey (b. 1835); Emily Lee Bailey (b. 1838); Bailey, John H. (b. 1842); Elisabeth Bailey (b. 1838); all born in Stewart County, Tennessee. See:
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MCD8-7ZX>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24230856/henry-clark-bailey>
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/6994909/thomas-l-bailey>



Fig. 7 – Photo of Lucinda Brigham Bailey headstone. Photo taken by Muriel Brooks.

Mary “Polly” Brigham (b. 1809 – d. 1890); married William T. Bailey; see: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18125599/polly-bailey>).

William Brigham II (b. ? – d. ?); married Sarah Jane Wilkinson, her second husband was apparently William A. Bailey; see: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18125555/sarah-jane-bailey>).

Minerva Brigham (b. ? – d. ?); married Howard Saunders on Oct. 25, 1838).

Brigham daughter (b. ? – d. ?); married Nicholas Bailey).

Harriet Brigham (b. ? – d. ?); married James Byrd as his first wife; see: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/108562492/james-byrd>).

Slaves of Thomas Brigham, Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham, and Albert Brigham Sr.

Dr. J. Milton Henry in his classic history *The Land Between The Rivers* (1979) wrote: “The rugged topography of the area discouraged the formation of large plantation enterprises with a large staff of slaves.” Also: “Slaves that were brought into the area by early settlers were likely to be household servants or operators of the early ferries.”³³ The Cumberland River ferries operated by Thomas Brigham and his brother David described earlier in this document appear to fit these two statements. The 1850 slave schedule for Stewart County³⁴

Thomas Brigham family_Stewart Co. TNGenWeb_vers2

lists Thomas Brigham's widow Mary "*Stake-si-nes-kim*" Brigham with 6 slaves (5 females, 1 male) and their son Albert Brigham Sr. with 2 slaves (1 female, 1 male). The slave "*Harmon*" described in Thomas Brigham's 1849 will (Online posted on Stewart County TNGenWeb at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/family/Thomas%20Brigham%201849%20will%20&%20transcription.pdf>) and given to his daughter Luna Louisa Brigham Byrd is listed as a 12 year old male belonging to John Bird [sic]³⁴. However, some slaves were apparently "rented out" by their owners to work at the iron furnaces in the area. At this writing, there are no extant documents indicating this might have been the case with the Brigham slaves. In the 1860 slave schedule for Stewart County, Albert Brigham Sr. is listed with 3 slaves (1 female, 2 males)³⁵. John T. Bailey, the husband of Lucinda Brigham is documented with a large number of slaves (10 females, 8 males)³⁵.

Related to this is the following text from Dr. Henry's book: "*The Brigham family on Byrd's Creek in Stewart County was notable for the kind treatment meted out to its slaves, while the slaves that belonged to John T. Bailey on the neighboring Hughes (later Bailey's) Creek found him to be what they thought was a cruel taskmaster.*"³⁶ Brunson Brigham was born ~1850 according to the 1900 Stewart County census and is supposedly buried in the LBL Brigham Cemetery³⁷. Fig. 8 below provides additional details re his life as a Brigham and Bailey slave:

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING

1. PLACE OF DEATH 8207
County Stewart
Civil Dis. 7 8207
Village Dover
City Dover
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yes no
2. FULL NAME Brunson Brigham
(a) Residence: No. 1 St. 1 Ward. 1
(b) (Name and address of relatives)
3. SEX male 4. COLOR OR RACE color 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED widowed
6. TRADE, PROFESSION, OR PARTICULAR KIND OF WORK DONE, AS SPINNER, WEAVER, BOOKBINDER, ETC. timberman
7. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) not known
8. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS IN WHICH WORK WAS DONE, AS MILK MILK, SAW MILL, BAKERY, ETC. 1937
9. THIS DECEASED WAS WORKED AT THIS OCCUPATION (month and year)
10. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Tennessee
How long in U. S. of foreign birth? yes no
11. NAME Anty Brigham
12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) not known
13. MAIDEN NAME not known
14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) not known
15. INFORMANT Charles Brigham
(Address)
16. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL Dover
Place Dover
17. UNDERTAKER W. H. Brigham
(Address)
18. FILED 8/4 1938
19. REGISTERED yes 1938
20. FILED 12-17-1938
21. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) Aug 1, 1938
22. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased Aug 31, 1938
I last saw Aug 31, 1938 death in said house occurred on the date stated above, at 100
The principal cause of death and related causes of importance in order of onset were as follows: Old age
Contributory causes of importance not related to principal cause:
23. If death was due to external causes (violence) fill in also the following:
Accident, suicide, or homicide? no
Where did injury occur? 162
Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.
Manner of injury:
Nature of injury:
24. Was person or injury in any way related to occupation?
FROM SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT: Chas R Green
25. FILED 12-17-1938
26. REGISTERED yes
27. FILED 12-17-1938
28. REGISTERED yes

Years ago I remember talking with an old slave on the street in Dover. If I recall correctly his name was Brunson Brigham. He was a Brigham slave and lived on Lick Creek (later Byrds Creek) of District No. 9. He stated that his quarters were comfortable his clothing adequate and his food good and plentiful. He also said that Mrs. Brigham always brought them cake or anything considered extra quite often. His family was sold to a man on Hughes Creek (now Bailey's Creek) the name of the purchaser (intentionally omitted) was not considerate of the welfare of the slaves. In the words of the Brigham slave, "It was like going from Heaven to Hell."

Stewart County, Tennessee death certificate for **Brunson Brigham**, Aug. 1, 1838 (left) and excerpt from article written by Carmon Greenup, *Stewart-Houston Times* newspaper, August 23, 1967 (right).

Fig. 8 – Death certificate for Brunson Brigham and excerpt from 1967 article in *Stewart-Houston Times* newspaper.

Lastly, the slave Emaline (Imaline) Brigham is mentioned in the wills for both Thomas Brigham and Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham. In the 1870 census for Stewart County, the former slave Emaline Brigham is shown living in the household of Austin Wilkinson, the executor of Mary’s 1857 will³⁸.



Fig. 9 – Small cinder block grave marker for “2 Brigham Slaves” in Brigham Cemetery, LBL; at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/19017112/slave-brigham> .

Reunion of Thomas Brigham and Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham descendants in Murray, Kentucky on Oct. 6, 2018



Fig. 10 - Futrell-Brigham-Byrd descendants of Thomas Brigham and his wife Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham shared family documents, photographs, histories, and stories during their “kith and kin” reunion in Murray, Kentucky on Oct. 6, 2018. Above group photo of participants (left to right): Bobby R. Miller Jr., Kenneth E. Byrd, Genie Futrell, Charlie White, Sarah Hillyard White, Wanda Kay McNabb, Albert Brigham Futrell Jr., Christi Nelson, Dorothy Futrell McNabb, Jeffrey Brigance, Eddie Clyde Hale, and Dawn Thompson.

Placement of cenotaph memorials for Thomas Brigham, Albert Brigham Sr., and their wives



Fig.11 – Montage photos of cenotaph memorial stone placement for Thomas Brigham, Mary “Stake-si-nes-kim”, Albert Brigham Sr., and Mary “Polly” Byrd in LBL Brigham Cemetery on June 11, 2019.

Placement of cenotaph memorials for Thomas Brigham, Mary “Stake-si-nes-kim”, Albert Brigham Sr., and Mary “Polly” Byrd was done by (1) LBL Heritage Program Archaeologist Carl T. Feagans and Manager/Archaeologist Christopher L. Thornock; (2) Mike McKinney and staff at Keepsake Monuments, Benton, Kentucky; and (3) Everett Michael “Mike” Byrd on June 11, 2019. Because of the unknown burial sites for Thomas Brigham, Albert Brigham Sr., and their wives, cenotaph memorials were placed in proximity to the Wilkinson plots (see: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/19017041/missouri-a-wilkinson>).

- Kenneth E. Byrd, 4th great-grandson of Thomas Brigham (1774-1849)

Indianapolis, IN June 24, 2023

“The past is never dead. It's not even past. All of us labor in webs spun long before we were born, webs of heredity and environment, of desire and consequence, of history and eternity.”

- William Faulkner (1897-1962)

Acknowledgements:

I would like to acknowledge here and thank the following individuals who made this biography for **Thomas Brigham** and his family possible. In chronological order of help they are: **Cleo Cherry Grogan** (deceased), 2nd great-granddaughter of Thomas Brigham; **Sarah Hillyard White**, 3rd great-granddaughter of Thomas Brigham; **Jeff Brigance**, Brigham-Brigance family historian; **Jill Hastings**, former Archivist, Montgomery County Archives, Clarksville TN; **Jim Long**, Genealogist, Stewart County Archives, Dover TN as well as webmaster for the Stewart County and Montgomery County TNGenWeb sites; **Albert Brigham Futrell Jr.**, Brigham-Futrell family historian and descendant of Caroline Horse Ann Brigham Futrell; **Bobby R. Miller Jr.**, descendant of Caroline Horse Ann Brigham Futrell and family historian; **Eddie Clyde Hale**, also descendant of Caroline Horse Ann Brigham Futrell and family historian; **Valerie Byrd Richards**, descendant of Semira H. Brigham Hicks, Albert C. Brigham Sr., and Thomas Brigham; **Everett Michael “Mike” Byrd**, descendant of Thomas Brigham and Luna Louisa Brigham Byrd; **Christopher L. Thornock**, Manager/Archaeologist, LBL Heritage Program and **Carl T. Feagans**, Archaeologist, LBL Heritage Program, US Forest Service; **Mike McKinney and staff** at Keepsake Monuments, Benton, Kentucky.

Footnotes:

¹ LDS Family Group Record sheets for family of James, Thomas, and Albert Brigham compiled by Cleo Cherry Grogan, Murray KY; copy given to Kenneth E. Byrd [hereafter KEB] ~1995. Notation reads *“From family papers in possession of Walter Lee Brigham, Dover TN now deceased”*. Copy of these documents are in the Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee. Mattie Cleo Cherry Grogan Find A Grave posting at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24086831/mattie-cleo-grogan> .

² See detailed information re James Brigham and his wife Louisa Looney Brigham at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/montgomery/soldiers/JamesBrigham.pdf> .

³ LDS Family Group Record sheets for family of James, Thomas, and Albert Brigham compiled by Cleo Cherry Grogan, Murray KY; copy given to Kenneth E. Byrd [hereafter KEB] ~1995. Notation reads *“From family papers in possession of Walter Lee Brigham, Dover TN now deceased”*. Copy of these documents are in the Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee. Mattie Cleo Cherry Grogan Find A Grave posting at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24086831/mattie-cleo-grogan> . Jeff Brigance emails and documents to KEB re David Brigham connection to James Brigham dated Feb. 13, 2023. The surname Brigham is sometimes spelled as Brigance. It should also be noted that Jeff Brigance’s DNA “matched” with Brigham DNA cousins during earlier testing.

⁴ Jeff Brigrance, Goodlettsville TN provided copies of NC State Archives Revolutionary War Militia payroll documents held in NC State Archives, Raleigh NC to KEB, Dec. 14, 2014. This document is filed in the Treasurer's and Comptroller's Military papers, North Carolina State Archives. It is titled as follows: "*A Pay Roll of Captain David Looneys Company of Militia on the Frontiers of Fincastle 1776*". Along with Captain David Looney, it lists Lt. John Anderson, Ensign George Maxwell, Sgt. William Rasberry, Sgt. John Cain, and the following Pvts: James McCain, William Craig, Jesse Maxwell, David Smith, Gilbert Glenn(?), Robert Gilliland, James Blythe, Mose Cavet, James Holler Sr.(?), James Abel, Jonathan Jusan(?), John Adams, William McMullin, Jesse More, David Maxwell, John Daves, Gilliam(?) Anderson, Joseph Glinkead, Robert Williams, Robert Gray, **James Brigham**, John Adair, Ephraim Grimes, Thomas McLaughlin, Jno.(?) Looney, Jacob Vanes(?), Benjamin Looney, Thomas Blythe, William McBroom, Peter Looney, John Hearn, David Grimes, Thomas King, John Whitcraft, Alexr. Cavet, Bartlet Hanson, Philip Hanson, James Holles, William Holles, Jesse Adams, and David Glinkead. Apparently 1776 payroll docs for Capt. David Looney's Company are also listed in Fincastle Co. VA militia payrolls, in the Library of Virginia archives, Richmond VA; see: http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/organization_records.htm Virginia. Militia. Fincastle County. Militia payrolls, 1776. Accession 28406. 7 leaves. Photostats (negative).

⁵ Emails and links sent to KEB by Chris Kolbe, Library of Virginia Archives, Richmond VA on Jan. 6, 2015. URL: <http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetDW.pl?dir=0325/B0007&card=21> Title Link **Brigham, James**. Gen. note County: **Fincastle County**. Note Company commander: **Capt. David Looney**. Note Recorded on: p. 270. Note Listed in index: p. xvii. Other Format Available on microfilm (Miscellaneous Reel 78, last item). Photostat copy also available.

⁶ See detailed information re Revolutionary War service of James Brigham at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/montgomery/soldiers/JamesBrigham.pdf> .

⁷ W. Dale Carter and Mary Bowery Carter research in the Sullivan County Historical Society archives and online postings courtesy of Shelia Steele Hunt, Executive Director, Sullivan County Department of Archives and Tourism, Blountville, TN 37617 at: http://www.historicsullivan.com/archives_manuscripts_0062.htm
http://www.historicsullivan.com/archives_manuscripts_0062_box003_item003.htm
http://www.historicsullivan.com/archives_manuscripts_0062_box002_item004.htm
http://www.historicsullivan.com/archives_manuscripts_0062_box001_item005.htm

⁸ **Historic Sullivan: A History of Sullivan County, Tennessee, with Brief Biographies of the Makers of History** by Oliver Taylor (1909, King Printing Company, Sullivan Co. TN), pages 137-138; copy made and sent by Cleo Cherry Grogan to KEB ~1996. Online version at: https://books.google.com/books?id=8fITAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=Historic+sullivan+%2B+oliver+Taylor&hl=en&sa=X&ei=ns_9VKjnJNaOsQSnk4GgDw&ved=0CCIQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=Historic%20sullivan%20%2B%20oliver%20Taylor&f=false .

⁹ **Goodspeed's History of Sullivan County, Tennessee** (1887, Goodspeed Publishing Co., Chicago and Nashville) online at: <http://files.usgwarchives.net/tn/sullivan/history/sullivangspd.txt> and also at: <http://www.combs-families.org/combs/records/tn/sull-gs.htm> .

¹⁰ Tennessee Historical Commission marker for James Brigham at Sullivan County, Tennessee courthouse in Blountville; see: <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=158022> .

¹¹ Montgomery Co. TN Archives microfilm, Sept. 2, 1797 land deed, Montgomery Co. TN Deed Book B, pp. 181-182; 1200 acres to **James Brigham** from "*John Shelby Son of Evan 1200 acres on Cumbr. R.*".

Document found and copied by (1) Gregory S. Miller, Research Historian, Murray KY, (2) Jill Hastings, then Archivist, Montgomery County Archives, Clarksville TN, and (3) KEB on Oct. 13, 2014. Document reads: *"This indenture made this Second day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & ninety seven Between **John Shelby son of Evan** Deceased of the County of Sullivan & State of Tennessee of the one part and **James Brigham** of the County of aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that the said **John Shelby** for and in consideration of the Sum of Twelve hundred Dollars to him in hand paid the receipt where of is hereby acknowledged hath and by these presents doth grant bargain alien(?) enfeoff(?) and confirm until the said **James Brigham** heirs & apigns forever [unreadable here] to said(?) parcel of land containing Twelve hundred acres be the same more less lying and being in the County of Montgomery & State of Tennessee lying [on?] the Cumberland River on the End of **John Shelby's, son of John Shelby** South line strikes said River thence North three hundred & fifty eight poles thence West five hundred & thirty seven poles thence South three hundred & fifty eight poles to the said River thence along the said River according to the meanders thereof to the place of Beginning with all and singular the woods, waters, water course proper(?) commodities hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever to the said tract of Land belong or appertaining and the and the reversions(?) remainder & remainders rents & [unreadable here] thereof all the Estate right title interests property claim and demands(?) of him the said **John Shelby** his heirs etc.(?) of in & to the same Every part of parcel thereof either in law or equity. Too have & to hold the said tract of Twelve hundred acres of land with the appurtenances & unto the said **James Brigham** heirs & apignes forever Against the Lawfull [sic] title claim and demand of all and every person or persons whatsoever shall land(?) will warrant and foever defend by these Presents. In Witness whereof the Said **John Shelby** hath hereunto set his hand & Seal the day and refurbish(?) above written. Signed **John Shelby** – Sealed & Delivered in the presence of **James Brigham, William Brigham, D. Brigham**. The above Deed was proved in open Court at April term 1798 by the oath of **David Brigham** who was a Subscribing Witness. Test. Francis Prina(?) P.R. July 4, 1798."*

¹² Early period map of District No. 8, Montgomery Co. TN; copied and provided by Jill Hastings, then Archivist, Montgomery County Archives, Clarksville TN to Gregory S. Miller, Research Historian, Murray KY and KEB on Oct. 13, 2014. **James Brigham** land location information in email from Jack Masters, Middle Tennessee historian, Gallatin TN to KEB on Oct. 22, 2014.

¹³ LDS Family Group Record sheets for family of Thomas Brigham compiled by Cleo Cherry Grogan, Murray KY; copy given to Kenneth E. Byrd [hereafter KEB] ~1995. Notation reads *"From family papers in possession of Walter Lee Brigham, Dover TN now deceased"*. Copy of these documents are in the Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee. Mattie Cleo Cherry Grogan Find A Grave posting at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24086831/mattie-cleo-grogan> . Email from Jim Long to KEB re Sullivan County, Tennessee dated June 26, 2023.

¹⁴ LDS Family Group Record sheets for family of Thomas Brigham and Mary *"Stake-si-nes-kim"* compiled by Cleo Cherry Grogan, Murray KY; copy given to Kenneth E. Byrd [hereafter KEB] ~1995. Notation reads *"From family papers in possession of Walter Lee Brigham, Dover TN now deceased"*. Copy of these documents are in the Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee. Mattie Cleo Cherry Grogan Find A Grave posting at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24086831/mattie-cleo-grogan> .

¹⁵ LDS Family Group Record sheets for family of Thomas Brigham and Mary *"Stake-si-nes-kim"* compiled by Cleo Cherry Grogan, Murray KY; copy given to Kenneth E. Byrd [hereafter KEB] ~1995. Notation reads *"From family papers in possession of Walter Lee Brigham, Dover TN now deceased"*. Copy of these documents are in the Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee. Mattie Cleo Cherry Grogan Find A Grave posting at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24086831/mattie-cleo-grogan> .

¹⁶ Stewart County, Tennessee at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewart_County,_Tennessee; Genealogical "Fact Sheet" at: <https://sos.tn.gov/tsla/pages/genealogical-fact-sheets-about-stewart-county>; also **A History of Stewart County, Tennessee** by Iris Hopkins McClain (1965).

¹⁷ **Records of Stewart County Tennessee, Minute Docket 1804-1807, Historical Record Project Official Project No. 65-44-1497**, pp. 83-84; copied under Work's Progress Administration (WPA), June 22, 1936. Tennessee State Library copy. Jim Long emails to KEB on Jan. 8, 2020 and Jan. 11, 2020.

¹⁸ Jim Long, Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee emails to KEB on Jan. 8, 2020 and Jan. 11, 2020.

¹⁹ **A History of Stewart County, Tennessee** by Iris Hopkins McClain (1965), LOC No. A-759331; also available at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/McClainBook.pdf> . Viz **Thomas Brigham** and brother **David Brigham** in 1798 Montgomery County tax list (p.5); **Thomas Brigham** appointed as Grand Juror (p.M-1, June 11, 1804); **Thomas Brigham** member of court meeting (p.M-7, Dec. 10, 1804); **Thomas Brigham** witness to land deed on South side of Cumberland River "at the state line" (p.M-3, Dec. 10, 1804); **Thomas Brigham** land deed of 12 acres (p.M-33, Mar. 5, 1805); **Thomas Brigham** witness for land deed on Pryor Creek (p.M-34, Sept. 6, 1805); **Thomas Brigham "Bryham"** [sic] as viewer for "road being laid between Monroe [Dover] down South side of Cumberland River toward Eddyville" (p.M-7, Sept. 9, 1805); **Thomas Brigham** summoned for next Court Term juror duty (p.M-14, Sept. 10, 1806); **Thomas Brigham** listed as member of Grand Jury (p.M-16, Dec. 8, 1806); **Thomas Brigham** ferry mentioned: "...road to from **Thomas Brigham's** ferry to Dover Road at School House." (p.29, Nov. 6, 1815); **Thomas Brigham** ferry operating in 1815 (p. 30); **Thomas Brigham** listed as taxpayer and member in **Captain "Acree"** [sic] (**Acree?**) Company for 1812 (p.129); **Thomas Brigham** witness to Letters of Administration for estate of **Shadrach "Bird"** [sic] **Byrd** (p.M-25, May 2, 1814 and June 18, 1814); **Thomas Brigham** listed with parents and sibs (p.33); **Thomas Brigham** listed in 1836 Civil Districts of Stewart County, District 8 - **Brigham** and **Byrd** area (p. 20); **Thomas Brigham** in 1837 Slave Tax Lists for Stewart County District 8: "2 slaves between 12-50 years old" (p.38).

²⁰ Jim Long, Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee emails to KEB on Jan. 8, 2020.

²¹ Jill Hastings, then Archivist/Director, Montgomery County Archives, Clarksville TN email to KEB on Nov. 17, 2020: "...attached is page from Montgomery County Court Minute Book 3, page 74 - which names **David Brigham's** ferry at the mouth of Blooming Grove Creek as one of the way points on a new road under consideration."

²² Re men drawn ferries and horse drawn ferries, see: <https://www.living-in-the-past.com/ferry.html> and <https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Image/IM90626> .

²³ **A History of Stewart County, Tennessee** by Iris Hopkins McClain (1965), LOC No. A-759331; also available at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/McClainBook.pdf> . Viz 1850 census listings for Stewart County, Tennessee (p. C-61).

²⁴ August 10, 1849 will and transcription for Thomas Brigham at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/family/Thomas%20Brigham%201849%20will%20&%20transcription.pdf> .

²⁵ August 4, 1857 will and transcription for Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” Brigham at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/family/Mary%20Stake-si-nes-kim%20Brigham%201857%20will%20&%20transcription.pdf> .

²⁶ Letter from Cleo Cherry Grogan to KEB dated Jan. 14, 1997, page 2. Lester Acree info at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/30812041/lester-acree> and also at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/montgomery/byrd/byrdart2.jpg> . Albert Brigham Futrell email to KEB dated July 11, 1999: Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” was “...*a full blooded Cherokee...*”, “...*her descendants are all dark complexion and dark hair...*”. One source claims that Mary “*Stake-si-nes-kim*” was born in Duplin County, North Carolina; see <https://www.genealogieonline.nl/en/mcdonald-wilton-family-tree/l615853.php> .

²⁷ Stewart County marriage document: “*Futrill, O'Bryan to Horse Ann Caroline Brigham, 8 Nov. 1847. Sol. 11 Nov. 1847.*” In **Marriages of Stewart County, Tennessee 1838-1866** compiled by Edythe Rucker Whitley (1982), Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. Baltimore, LOC# 82-81252; page 21.

²⁸ Shawnee Horse Clan *Mseewiwomhsoomi* or *Pe-sa-wä* , see: <https://accessgenealogy.com/native/shawnee-indian-divisions.htm>
<https://www.aaanativearts.com/shawnee-divisions-clans>
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shawnee>; Shawnee Name Groups C. F. Voegelin and E. W. Voegeli, *American Anthropologist New Series, Vol. 37, No. 4, Part 1* (Oct. - Dec., 1935), pp. 617-63.

²⁹ Email interactions between Fran Day, then Executive Director, Haskell Indian Nations University and KEB dated Apr. 22 and Apr. 24, 1997; Fran wrote: “*The name is probably Shawnee*” ... “*I have checked with several folks here at Haskell. It’s not Cherokee; it’s not Creek, we are thinking that it is probably Shawnee...*” “*The Shawno/Shawnee who traded with the Cherokee and who were in Tennessee and Kentucky had a clan named Horse.*” HINU website at: <https://www.haskell.edu/> .

³⁰ Mitochondrial DNA analyses for three female cousins through 23andMe during 2015; unfortunately, none of these three female cousins descended exclusively from the supposed NA proband by female ancestors. KEB emails with DNA anthropologists Amanda Owings and Ripan S. Malhi at the University of Illinois dated June 21 and 22, 2015. <https://anthro.illinois.edu/directory/profile/malhi> . Also see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mitochondrial_DNA and Estes, *Revealing American Indian and Minority Heritage using Y-line, Mitochondrial, Autosomal and X Chromosomal Testing Data Combined with Pedigree Analysis*, **J. Gen. Geneal** 2010, 6(1), page 4. Re possible Shawnee DNA markers, see: <https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/piqua-shawnee/about> , <https://dnaconsultants.com/product/our-tests/shawnee-dna-test/> and a caveat from 23andMe at: <https://customercare.23andme.com/hc/en-us/articles/202906870-Can-23andMe-Identify-Indigenous-American-Ancestry-> .

³¹ LDS Family Group Record sheets for family of Thomas Brigham compiled by Cleo Cherry Grogan, Murray KY; copy given to Kenneth E. Byrd [hereafter KEB] ~1995. Notation reads “*From family papers in*

possession of Walter Lee Brigham, Dover TN now deceased". Copy of these documents are in the Stewart County Archives, Dover, Tennessee. Mattie Cleo Cherry Grogan Find A Grave posting at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24086831/mattie-cleo-grogan> .

³² See detailed information re James Brigham and his wife Louisa Looney Brigham at: <https://www.tngenweb.org/montgomery/soldiers/JamesBrigham.pdf> .

³³ J. Milton Henry, **The Land Between The Rivers**, (1979); Austin Peay University and Tennessee Valley Authority, Clarksville, Tennessee; LOC # 79-126273, page 29.

³⁴ 1850 slave schedule for Stewart County, Tennessee shown online at Stewart County TNGenWeb site: <https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/1850slavecensus.htm> .

³⁵ 1860 slave schedule for Stewart County, Tennessee shown online at Stewart County TNGenWeb site: <https://www.tngenweb.org/stewart/1860slavecensus.htm> .

³⁶ J. Milton Henry, **The Land Between The Rivers**, (1979); Austin Peay University and Tennessee Valley Authority, Clarksville, Tennessee; LOC # 79-126273, page 29-31 & footnote 61 on page 33 re Brunson Brigham, a slave owned by both the Brighams and John T. Bailey.

³⁷ 1900 Stewart County, Tennessee census for Brunson Brigham, online at: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MSZ8-VGJ> ; Find A Grave posting for Brunson Brigham at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/19017109/brunson-brigham> . 1938 death certificate for Brunson Brigham at: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/19017109/brunson-brigham#view-photo=79908604> ; Brunson Brigham excerpt in Fig. 8 from 1967 article in *Stewart-Houston Times* newspaper provided to KEB by Jim Long, Stewart County Archives on June 21, 2023.

³⁸ 1870 Stewart County, Tennessee census for Austin Wilkinson and Emaline Brigham, online at: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MD8W-JR1> . The 1865 Stewart County map shows the location of the Austin Wilkerson [sic] land, due East of Lick (Byrd) Creek and the homesteads of George Bird [sic] and John Bird [sic]; online at: <https://www.longbranchgenealogy.com/uploads/5/8/3/3/58338931/1865mapstewartcounty.jpg> .