

THE POWELL FAMILY  
OF  
NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA; BIBB COUNTY, GEORGIA; AND PARKER COUNTY, TEXAS<sup>1</sup>

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ABSALOM<sup>1</sup> POWELL was born about 1815 or 1816 in New Brunswick, Canada;<sup>2</sup> died between 23 August 1886 and 3 March 1888 in Parker County, Texas.<sup>3</sup> When Absalom came to America is uncertain, but he had become a citizen by 1870.<sup>4</sup> He may have arrived in the States before 18 September 1850. On that date an Absalom Powell along with two other men lived or boarded with a Peyton family in Roswell, Cobb County, Georgia. This Absalom Powell was a thirty-year-old stonemason born in Maine.<sup>5</sup> Border disputes between Maine and New Brunswick had been ongoing since the 1780s and were not resolved until the 1840s, long after Maine had become a U.S. state.<sup>6</sup> So although this Absalom in 1850 might have been born in Maine, if he were born in the area of the border disputes, that portion of Maine might have eventually become New Brunswick.

Absalom married sometime before 1853, when the couple's oldest daughter Frances was born, SALLIE A. —.<sup>7</sup> She was born 14 July 1825 in Georgia; died 29 June 1883; buried in the Holder Cemetery, Parker County, Texas, along with son William.<sup>8</sup> Sallie's parents may have been from South Carolina.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Researched by Marcia Wyyett.

<sup>2</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842; 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi, Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103; 1880 federal census, A. "Powel" household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443. Familysearch.org shows two records for an Absalom Powell: 1. Absalom Powell, born 4 May 1828, New Brunswick, parents Sylvanus Powell and Sarah Schellock; 2. Absalom Powell, born about 1818 New Brunswick, parents Israel Powell and Elizabeth Jamie Lewis. The first Absalom is probably too young to be "our" Absalom, but the second is closer in age, and he named a son Israel.

<sup>3</sup> Release from Absalom Powell to J.M. Pierce, 16 August 1886 (recorded 23 August 1886), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 19:369-370, FHL 1536183; guardianship application of William Powell for estate of Sallie Powell and Nettie and Fanny Combs, April 1888, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 2:513-513, FHL 1025736.

<sup>4</sup> 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi, Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103.

<sup>5</sup> 1850 federal census, Louisa Peyton household, Georgia, Cobb Co., Roswell, p. 110, #286-286. Household consists of Louisa Peyton, age 26, Rebecca, age 22, Cintha, age 13, William, age 12, Absalom Powell, age 30, b. Maine, stone mason, M. Newman, age 30, b. Ireland, stone mason, Samuel Peyton, age 8, Franklin Allero, age 22, no occupation.

<sup>6</sup> See "The Border Dispute: How the Maine-New Brunswick border was finalized," <[www.upperstjohn.com/history/northeastborder.htm](http://www.upperstjohn.com/history/northeastborder.htm)>. See also the map, "Maine Boundary Controversy, 1782-1842," <<http://history.sandiego.edu/gen/maps/86129.jpg>>.

<sup>7</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842.

On 1 September 1857, Absalom was the last and best bidder, at \$1,000, on a parcel of land being sold at public auction. The land, located in the city of Macon, Bibb County, Georgia, consisted of about one acre, known in the plan of that city as part of Lot #1, Block 12, including all of the lot except for a small strip on the west side, which was part of the schoolhouse lot. In payment for the property, Absalom offered three promissory notes: the first payment was due 25 December 1857 for \$400, the second payment on July 1858 for \$300, and the final payment of \$300 on 1 January 1859. The deed was recorded on 14 September 1857 and again on 18 January 1861, and on 18 January 1861, Absalom sold this parcel of land to James A. Ralston for \$2,000.<sup>10</sup>

A few days before Absalom sold this land to James A. Ralston, he purchased from him a total of 180 acres in Bibb County. Five acres of land were part of Lot #306 in the 13th District (originally in Monroe County), and 175 acres known as Lot #77 in the 4th District (originally in Houston County). Absalom purchased the land for \$2,000 and sold it nearly a year and half later for \$3,000.<sup>11</sup>

As Absalom sold one piece of land he purchased another. He purchased ten acres of land lying in the Macon Reserve, then sold this piece of land just days after the purchase, although the deed was not recorded until nearly a year later.<sup>12</sup>

In 1860, Absalom and Sallie were enumerated in the federal census in Macon. He was forty-four, born in New Brunswick. She was thirty-four, born in Georgia. Absalom was a stone cutter, who owned real estate worth \$1,500 and personal property worth \$1,000. Also in their household, born in Georgia, were Elizabeth (seven), Nancy (five), John (four), Israel (two), and Mary E. (eight months).<sup>13</sup>

The Powell family resided within the city limits of Macon, Georgia, where their neighbors included an attorney at law, other stonecutters, and carpenters.<sup>14</sup> In September 1860, their daughter Elizabeth Powell, age seven, was enumerated in the Bibb County, Georgia, school census.<sup>15</sup>

In May 1862 Absalom was the defendant in two cases brought before the Bibb County Superior Court. In the first case, the complaint was Manheimer and Weil. Absalom confessed judgment to the

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<sup>8</sup> 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi, Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103; 1880 federal census, A. "Powel" household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443; *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 4 vols. (Weatherford, Tex.: Parker Genealogical Society, 1998), 1:129, 131; Holder Cemetery, Holder Road North of Buckner Road, Parker Co., Tex., Southwest Quadrant.

<sup>9</sup> 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi, Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103.

<sup>10</sup> Mortgage, Timothy N. Mason, admin., estate of Marvin M. Mason to Absalom Powell, 1 September 1857 (recorded 14 September 1857), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book P15:127-128, FHL 0382011; release, Timothy N. Mason, admin., estate of Marvin M. Mason to Absalom Powell, 1 September 1857 (recorded 18 January 1861), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book Q16:210-211, FHL 0382012; deed of sale, Absalom Powell to James A. Ralston, 18 January 1861 (recorded 18 January 1861), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book Q16:211-212, FHL 0382012.

<sup>11</sup> Deed of sale, James A. Ralston to Absalom Powell, 15 January 1861 (recorded 5 November 1862), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book Q16:652, FHL 0382012; deed of sale, Absalom Powell to William A. Cherry, 24 October 1862 (recorded 5 November 1862), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book Q16:652-653, FHL 0382012.

<sup>12</sup> Deed of sale, William A. Cherry to Absalom Powell, 25 October 1862 (28 November 1863), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book R17:299, FHL 0382013; deed of sale, Absalom Powell to Peter Shone, 31 October 1862 (recorded 28 November 1863), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book R17:300, FHL 0382013.

<sup>13</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842.

<sup>14</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842.

<sup>15</sup> 1860 Georgia, Bibb Co., school children's schedule, marked returns, p. 51, FHL 394587.

plaintiff in the sum of \$221.10.<sup>16</sup> The second complaint was Richard H. Hutchings, and again Absalom confessed to the judgment to the plaintiff in the sum of \$162.50.<sup>17</sup>

The Powell family was still residing in Bibb County, Georgia, in November 1863,<sup>18</sup> but by June 1870, Absalom had moved his family to Booneville, Prentiss County, Mississippi. The family may have moved from Macon by 1864. The “1864 Census for Re-organizing the Georgia Militia” for Bibb County, twenty-second Senatorial District, 564th Military District, listed names of men in the area, but Absalom was not listed.<sup>19</sup>

In June of 1870, Absalom was a farmer in Booneville, but when he had lived in Bibb County, Georgia, he was a stonecutter. Then later, in Parker County, Texas, he was a brick mason.<sup>20</sup>

In 1870, Absalom and Sallie A. were enumerated in the federal census in Booneville, Prentiss County, Mississippi. He was fifty-five, born in New Brunswick. He was a farmer with \$700 worth of real estate, and a personal estate valued at \$500. Sallie was forty-five, born in Georgia. Their household, born in Georgia except the youngest, who was born in Mississippi, included Francis E. (seventeen), Nancy (sixteen), John A. (fourteen), Israel (twelve), Emma (ten), William (nine), and Sallie A. (three).<sup>21</sup>

The family moved to Parker County, Texas, about 1873.<sup>22</sup> On 13 January 1876, Absalom bought 80 1/6 acres of land in Parker County from Gabe Hart for \$1,340. The land was located about ten miles south of Weatherford, Parker County, Texas.<sup>23</sup> (Absalom might have bought land in that area previous to 1876, but the Parker County courthouse burned in May 1874 and all land deeds recorded up to that date were destroyed.<sup>24</sup>)

While living in Parker County, Absalom continued to buy and occasionally sell land. Absalom and Sallie sold to J.M. Pierce 145 acres on the waters of the Trinity River, about seven miles from Weatherford. Absalom sold this land for \$900, \$500 of which was paid in cash with the balance of \$400 plus 10 percent per annum due in twelve months.<sup>25</sup>

In 1880, the Absalom and Sallie (listed as Celia) and their family were enumerated in Parker County, Texas. He was a sixty-four, born in New Brunswick of parents born in New Brunswick. Sallie was fifty-five, born in Georgia of parents born in South Carolina. Absalom was a brick mason. Children were F.E. (daughter, twenty-seven), John (son, twenty-six, farmer), I. (son, twenty-two, farmer), E. (daughter,

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<sup>16</sup> Absalom Powell, defendant, vs. Manheimer and Weil, plaintiff, Superior Court Minutes Bibb Co., Ga., Book 10:157, FHL 382094.

<sup>17</sup> Absalom Powell, defendant, vs. Richard H. Hutchings, plaintiff, Superior Court Minutes Bibb Co., Ga., Book 10:198, FHL 382094.

<sup>18</sup> Deed of sale, Absalom Powell to Peter Shone, 31 October 1862 (recorded 28 November 1863), Bibb Co., Ga., Deed Book R17:300, FHL 0382013.

<sup>19</sup> Nancy Jones Cornell, *1864 Census for Re-organizing the Georgia Militia* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2000).

<sup>20</sup> 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103; 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842; 1880 federal census, A. “Powel” household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443.

<sup>21</sup> 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi, Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103.

<sup>22</sup> Obituary, William Powell, *The Weatherford Democrat* (Weatherford, Tex., 15 January 1944); *History of Parker County* (Dallas, Tex.: Parker County Historical Commission, 1980), 503.

<sup>23</sup> Deed of sale, Gabriel Hart to Absalom Powell, 13 January 1876 (recorded 13 January 1876), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 2:524, FHL 1025733.

<sup>24</sup> John S. Grace, *A New History of Parker County* (Weatherford, Tex.: Parker County Historical Commission, 1987, reprint, originally published by the Democrat Publishing Co., 1906), 146-147.

<sup>25</sup> Deed of sale, Absalom and Sallie A. Powell to J.M. Pearce [sic], 13 December 1880 (recorded 15 December 1880), Parker Co., Tex. Deed Book 9:481, FHL 1536178.

twenty), William (son, nineteen), and Sallie (daughter, thirteen), all born in Georgia except Sallie, who was born in Mississippi.<sup>26</sup>

Absalom died sometime between 23 August 1886, when he received the final payment on land he had sold to J.M. Pierce,<sup>27</sup> and 3 March 1888, when T.J. Combs filed for letters of guardianship for his daughters Nettie and Fannie. (T.J. Combs later withdrew his application and requested William Powell be granted their guardian.)<sup>28</sup> At the time of his death, Absalom owned one tract of 100 acres and another tract of 80 acres both located about thirteen miles southwest of Weatherford, Parker County, Texas.<sup>29</sup>

Absalom also owned, at the time of his death, a span of mules (a pair of matched or harnessed animals), one two-horse wagon and harness, one ferryboat on the Brazos River at Buckner Crossing, twenty-six head of stock cattle, and fourteen head of stock hogs. The two tracts of land were divided between daughters Frances, Emma, and Sallie, and sons William and John. John also received the ferryboat. Son Israel received the mules, wagon, harness, twenty-six head of cattle, and three head of hogs. The rest of the hogs were divided between the other heirs. Since daughter Nancy had died before her father, her two daughters received her portion of Absalom's estate.<sup>30</sup> William was appointed guardian for his nieces, Nettie and Fannie Combs, until they became of age.<sup>31</sup>

In October 1889, William, as guardian for his sister Sallie, appeared in Parker County Court to file his annual report on the estates of Sallie Powell, and Nettie and Fannie Combs. At that time, he reported that Sallie had reached age twenty-one and received her portion of her father's estate. She received \$410 in real estate, cash from Absalom's life insurance policy \$24.37½, cash from the estate \$17.50, and profits from the corn crop in 1889 of \$47 for a total of \$498.87½. Expenses were \$8.45 for work on the well and \$27.85 for clothing.<sup>32</sup>

After filing his report, William still held in the estate for Nettie and Fannie \$419.92. Some expenses incurred by this estate were fence repair of \$2, schoolbooks of \$2, and labor on the orchard of \$1.<sup>33</sup> A year later in October 1890, William again filed an annual account of the estate for Nettie and Fannie Combs. Profits to the estate were \$49.44 for 555 pounds of lint cotton, \$20 for twenty bushels of corn, and forty bushels of cottonseed at \$2. Some of the expenses were a bill at N&Z for goods, school books \$1.50, dress goods \$2.30, and hauling the cotton to market, \$2.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> 1880 federal census, A. "Powel" household, Texas, Parker Co., Prct. #1, p. 58/283B, #433-443.

<sup>27</sup> Release, A. Powell to J.M. Pierce, 16 August 1886 (recorded 23 August 1886), Parker Co., Tex. Deed Book 19:369-370, FHL 1536183.

<sup>28</sup> Guardianship application of William Powell for estate of Sallie Powell and Nettie and Fanny Combs, April 1888, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 2:513-513, FHL 1025736.

<sup>29</sup> Partition of estate of A. Powell to heirs at law: Frances Osborn, Emma Cogdill, John Powell, Wm. Powell, I. Powell, Sallie Powell, and Nettie and Fannie Combs, 27 June 1889 (recorded 4 October 1889), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 27:406-411, FHL 1536186.

<sup>30</sup> Partition of estate of A. Powell to heirs at law: Frances Osborne, Emma Cogdill, John Powell, Wm. Powell, I. Powell, Sallie Powell, and Nettie and Fannie Combs, 27 June 1889 (recorded 4 October 1889), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 27:406-411, FHL 1536186.

<sup>31</sup> Guardianship application of William Powell for estate of Sallie Powell and Nettie and Fanny Combs, April 1888, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 2:513-513, FHL 1025736.

<sup>32</sup> Annual report, Guardian William Powell, estate #428, Parker Co., Tex. Probate Minutes Book 3:102-104, FHL 1547869, item 3.

<sup>33</sup> Annual report, Guardian William Powell, estate #428, Parker Co., Tex. Probate Minutes Book 3:102-104, FHL 1547869, item 3.

<sup>34</sup> Annual report, Guardian William Powell, estate #428, Parker Co., Tex. Probate Minutes Book 3:274. FHL 1547869, item 3.

Children of Absalom and Sallie (–) Powell:

- i. FRANCIS ELIZABETH POWELL, b. 1853, Georgia;<sup>35</sup> d. 5 October 1922,<sup>36</sup> nine miles north of Weatherford, Parker County, Texas, at the home of her son Vance; buried in the Fox/Cox (newspaper called it Fox Cemetery but a Parker County cemetery book lists the cemetery as Cox Cemetery);<sup>37</sup> m. 26 February 1885, Parker County, Texas, H.G. OSBORN.<sup>38</sup> In 1910, Francis E. and Henry G. were enumerated in the federal census in Parker County, Texas. She was fifty-seven, born in Georgia, with her father born in Canada and her mother born in Georgia. He was seventy-six, born in North Carolina of parents born in North Carolina. They had been married (her first, his second) twenty-five years. She was the mother of four children, two of whom were living. Also in the household were Newton R. (son, twenty), and Vance (son, eighteen) both born in Texas.<sup>39</sup> In 1920, Francis, a widow, was enumerated in her son Vance's household in Parker County. She was sixty-six, born in Oklahoma with her father born in Canada and her mother born in Georgia.<sup>40</sup>
- ii. NANCY POWELL, b. between 1854 and 1855, Georgia;<sup>41</sup> d. before 2 July 1880;<sup>42</sup> m. by 1875, T.J. COMBS.<sup>43</sup> Children: *Nettie Combs*, b. about 1875 in Texas;<sup>44</sup> *Fannie Combs*, about 1877, Texas.<sup>45</sup> In 1880, T.J. and his daughters were enumerated in the federal census in Parker County, Texas, next door to his father-in-law Absalom Powell. He was twenty-five, born in Kentucky of parents born in Kentucky. He was a farmer. N. L. (five) and M.F. (three) born in Texas were also listed.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842; 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103; 1880 federal census, A. "Powel" household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443.

<sup>36</sup> Death certificate, Fannie Osborn, 5 October 1922, file no. 29708, Texas Death Records, 59, Parker Co., FHL 2074636.

<sup>37</sup> Obituary, Fannie Osborne, *The Weekly Herald* (Parker Co., Tex.), Thursday, 12 October 1922; *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 1:74.

<sup>38</sup> Frances Powell entry, Parker Co., Tex. Marriage Index, 1880-1889, Lela Evans, comp., 1997-2004, <[www.rootsweb.com/~txparker/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txparker/)>.

<sup>39</sup> 1910 federal census, Henry G. Osborn household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #1, e.d. 64, p. 3B, #48-48.

<sup>40</sup> 1920 federal census, Vance Osborn household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 75, p. 9B, #183-192. In 1920 Francis's son Newton R. Osborn was enumerated in Oklahoma, Greer Co., Mangum, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward, e.d. 74, p. 5A, #81-94. In 1930 Vance Osborn was enumerated in Texas, Childress Co., Justice Pct. #6, e.d. 38-14, p. 8A, #161-166; in 1930 Newton R. Osborn was enumerated in Texas, Garza Co., Justice Pct. #1, Post City, e.d. 85-1, p. 5A, #103-108.

<sup>41</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842; 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103.

<sup>42</sup> 1880 federal census, T.J. Combs household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. #1, e.d. 135, p. 58, #434-444.

<sup>43</sup> Guardianship application of William Powell for estate of Sallie Powell and Nettie and Fanny Combs, April 1888, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 2:513-513, FHL 1025736; 1880 federal census, T.J. Combs household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. #1, e.d. 135, p. 58, #434-444.

<sup>44</sup> Partition of estate of A. Powell to heirs at law: Frances Osborne, Emma Cogdill, John Powell, Wm. Powell, I. Powell, Sallie Powell, and Nettie and Fannie Combs, 27 June 1889 (recorded 4 October 1889), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 27:406-411, FHL 1536186; 1880 federal census, T.J. Combs household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. #1, e.d. 135, p. 58, #434-444.

<sup>45</sup> Partition of estate of A. Powell to heirs at law: Frances Osborne, Emma Cogdill, John Powell, Wm. Powell, I. Powell, Sallie Powell, and Nettie and Fannie Combs, 27 June 1889 (recorded 4 October 1889), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 27:406-411, FHL 1536186; 1880 federal census, T. J. Combs household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. #1, e.d. 135, p. 58, #434-444.

<sup>46</sup> 1880 federal census, T.J. Combs household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. #1, e.d. 135, p. 58/283B, #434-444.

- iii. JOHN A. POWELL, b. 1856, Georgia;<sup>47</sup> d. after 5 October 1922.<sup>48</sup> In 1910, John A. Powell was enumerated in the federal census in Seger Township, Washita County, Oklahoma. He was fifty-four, born in Georgia with his father born in Canada and his mother born in North Carolina. John, a widower, was a farmer who rented his farm. Also in his household were Fannie Carpenter (daughter, twenty-four, born Texas), John W. Carpenter (grandson, four, born Oklahoma), and Lee J. Carpenter (grandson, three, born Oklahoma).<sup>49</sup>
- iv. ISRAEL POWELL, b. April 1858, Georgia;<sup>50</sup> d. before 5 October 1922;<sup>51</sup> m. about 1885 Sallie—. <sup>52</sup> In March of 1889, Israel was living in Palo Pinto County, Texas.<sup>53</sup> In 1900, Israel and Sallie were enumerated in Palo Pinto County. He was forty-two, born April 1858 in Georgia with his father born in Canada and his mother born in Georgia. She was thirty-six, born July 1863 in Alabama of parents born in Alabama. They had been married fifteen years. She was the mother of seven children, five of whom were living. Israel was a farmer and owned his farm. Also in the household, all born in Texas, were Elsie (daughter, fourteen, born October 1885), Asa (son, twelve, born September 1887), John (son, nine, born February 1891), Slamia (daughter, six, born April 1894), and Sinda A. (daughter, one, born April 1899)<sup>54</sup>
- v. EMMA MARY POWELL, b. 1860, Georgia;<sup>55</sup> d. after 3 April 1930; m. 29 October 1884, Parker County, Texas, Z.T. COGDILL.<sup>56</sup> Z.T. and Emma were enumerated with their son in Garner, Johnston County, Oklahoma, in the federal census of 1930. Emma was seventy, born in Georgia, with her father born in Canada and her mother born in South Carolina. Z.T. was eighty-three, born in North Carolina of parents born in North Carolina.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842; 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103; 1880 federal census, A. "Powel" household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443.

<sup>48</sup> Obituary, Fannie Osborne, *The Weekly Herald* (Parker Co., Tex.), Thursday, 12 October 1922.

<sup>49</sup> 1910 federal census, John A. Powell household, Oklahoma, Washita Co., Seger Twp., e.d. 267, p. 14A/220, #170-171.

<sup>50</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842; 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103; 1880 federal census, A. "Powel" household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443; 1900 federal census, "Isreal" Powell household, Texas, Palo Pinto Co. Justice Pct. #3, e.d. 121, p. 17A/136, #309-312.

<sup>51</sup> Obituary, Fannie Osborne, *The Weekly Herald* (Parker Co., Tex.), Thursday, 12 October 1922.

<sup>52</sup> 1900 federal census, "Isreal" Powell household, Texas, Palo Pinto Co. Justice Pct. #3, e.d. 121, p. 17A/136, #309-312.

<sup>53</sup> Release, heirs of Absalom Powell: John A. Powell, William Powell, Sarah [sic] Powell, heirs Nancy Combs nee Powell by William Powell, guardian, Emma Cogdill and husband Z.T., Fannie Osborn and husband H.G., Israel Powell to J.M. Pearce, 27 March 1889 (recorded 10 April 1889), Parker Co., Tex. Deed Book 28:79-81, FHL 1536186.

<sup>54</sup> 1900 federal census, "Isreal" Powell household, Texas, Palo Pinto Co. Justice Pct. #3, e.d. 121, p. 17A/136, #309-312. In 1910, Israel and Sallie their were enumerated in the federal census in New Mexico, Quay Co., Johnson Pct. #9, e.d. 149, p. 8B, #197-197, another daughter, Dophfiner (age 8) had been born to the couple. In 1920 Israel and Sallie and two sons were enumerated in the federal census in Texas, Collingsworth Co., Pct. #2, e.d. 31, p. 13A, #211-231.

<sup>55</sup> 1860 federal census, Absalom Powell household, Georgia, Bibb Co., Macon, p. 113/523, #808-842; 1870 federal census, A. Powell household, Mississippi Prentiss Co., Booneville, p. 15/433, #103-103; 1880 federal census, A. "Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443.

<sup>56</sup> Emma Powell entry, Parker Co., Tex. Marriage Index, 1880-1889, Lela Evans, comp., 1997-2004, <[www.rootsweb.com/~txparker](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txparker)>.

<sup>57</sup> 1930 federal census, H. Cogdill household, Oklahoma, Johnston Co., Garner, e.d. 35-4, p. 1B, #12-13.

- vi. WILLIAM POWELL, b. 21 June 1861, Macon, Bibb County, Georgia; m. (1) SOPHIE COLLINS; (2) OLITH "OLLIE" E. HOLLYFIELD.
- vii. SALLIE A. POWELL, b. 1867, Mississippi;<sup>58</sup> d. after 5 October 1922;<sup>59</sup> m. — JOHNSTON.<sup>60</sup>

WILLIAM<sup>2</sup> POWELL (*Absalom*<sup>1</sup>) was born 21 June 1861 in Macon, Bibb County, Georgia; died 13 January 1944 of coronary sclerosis, which he had suffered for a year. According to one obituary, William was afflicted with a "touch of influenza a few days before he died." William died at 702 West Lee, Weatherford, Parker County, Texas.<sup>61</sup> This was the home of his daughter, Josie Mc Creary, where he had resided for the past several months.<sup>62</sup>

William married (1) 15 November 1888, Parker County, Texas, SOPHIE COLLINS,<sup>63</sup> the daughter of J. DILLARD and ELIZABETH COLLINS. Sophie was born 5 March 1870 in Kentucky;<sup>64</sup> died 10 February 1899, Parker County, Texas.<sup>65</sup>

William married (2) 25 January 1900, Parker County, Texas, OLITH "OLLIE" E. HOLLYFIELD.<sup>66</sup> She was born 11 September 1873 in Texas.<sup>67</sup> Olith had married (1) 25 December 1892, in Parker County, Texas, W.H. Presley.<sup>68</sup> The couple had a son, Byrd Isom Presley, b. 23 December 1894.<sup>69</sup> When Olith died on 13 February 1903 in Parker County, Texas, William became Byrd's guardian,<sup>70</sup> and Bryd was still living

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<sup>58</sup> 1880 federal census, A. "Powel" household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 1, e.d. 135, p. 383B, #433-443.

<sup>59</sup> Obituary, Fannie Osborne, *The Weekly Herald* (Parker Co., Tex.), Thursday, 12 October 1922.

<sup>60</sup> Obituary, Fannie Osborne, *The Weekly Herald* (Parker Co., Tex.), Thursday, 12 October 1922.

<sup>61</sup> Death Certificate, William Powell, 13 January 1944, file no. 4946, Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, P.O. Box 12040, Austin, Tex. 78711-2040; obituary, William Powell, *The Weatherford Democrat* (Weatherford, Tex.), 15 January 1944. Both the death certificate and obituary indicate that William was born in Mississippi, but land records place William's family in Macon, Bibb Co., Ga., at the time of William's birth. Federal census records also place his birth in Georgia not Mississippi.

<sup>62</sup> Obituary, William Powell, *The Weatherford Democrat* (Weatherford, Tex.), 15 January 1944.

<sup>63</sup> Marriage license and return, William Powell and Sophie Collins, 18 November 1888, Parker Co., Tex., Marriage Record Book 3:328, FHL 1025739.

<sup>64</sup> 1880 federal census, J. Dillard Collins household, Texas, Parker Co., Pcts. 6 and 8, e.d. 138, p. 468, #184-193; *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 1:129, 131; Holder Cemetery, Holder Road North of Buckner Road, Parker Co., Tex., Southwest Quadrant.

<sup>65</sup> Probate records, estate #954, William Powell administrator, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 6:544-546, FHL 1547870; *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 1:129, 131.

<sup>66</sup> Marriage license and return, William Powell and Mrs. Ollie Presley, 25 January 1900, Parker Co., Tex., Marriage Record Book 6:28, FHL 1025741.

<sup>67</sup> *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 1:129, 131; Holder Cemetery, Holder Road North of Buckner Road, Parker Co., Tex., Southwest Quadrant; 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 233A/18, #322-323.

<sup>68</sup> Marriage license and return, W.H. Presley and Mississippi Olith E. Hollyfield, 25 December 1892, Parker Co., Tex., Marriage Record Book 4A:418, FHL 1025740.

<sup>69</sup> *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 3:180; 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker, Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 233A/18, #322-323; application to administrator, estate of Effie Powell, et al., minors, William Powell, June 1903, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 8:60, FHL 1547871.

<sup>70</sup> Probate records, estate #1111, William Powell administrator, June 1903, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 8:60-63, FHL 1547871.

with William and his children in April 1910.<sup>71</sup> Byrd served in World War I, and died 13 May 1967; buried East Greenwood Cemetery, Parker County, Texas.<sup>72</sup>

In November 1889, William and Sophie sold to J.A. Powell 9 and 7/10 acres for a \$97 note that was due on or before 1 November 1890 with 12 percent interest. Both William and Sophie signed their names, and Sophie released her dower right.<sup>73</sup> Then on 2 January 1890, William and Sophie sold to Frances Osborn twenty acres of land for \$310.<sup>74</sup> With these two land sales William sold all the land he received from his father's estate. (J.A. Powell was probably his brother, and Frances Osborn was his sister.<sup>75</sup>)

William was a farmer and resided in Texas for most of his adult life, except for a brief time when the family resided in Oklahoma Territory, sometime after August 1895, when Jessie was born in Texas, but before February 1899, when Sophie died in Parker County. Their daughter Berta was born while the family was in Oklahoma Territory in October 1897. According to a family story, William's wife, Sophie, didn't like living in Oklahoma and longed to return to Texas; unfortunately she died shortly after the family's return.<sup>76</sup>

While William lived most of his adult life in Texas, he didn't always reside in Parker County, as sons Aubrey and Jessie were born in neighboring Palo Pinto County.<sup>77</sup>

In 1900, William and Ollie (listed as Allie E.) and family were enumerated in the federal census in Parker County, Texas. He was thirty-eight, born June 1861 in Georgia, with his father born in Kansas and his mother born in Georgia. Ollie was twenty-six, born in Texas of parents born in Tennessee. William and Ollie had been married less than a year. She was the mother of one child: Isom B. Presey (six, born December 1893, Texas), who was living with them. William was a farmer and they rented their farm. William's children, all born in Texas, except the youngest who was born in Indian Territory, were Gracie (daughter, ten, born August 1889), Jessie N. (daughter, nine, born March 1891), Orby H. (son, seven, born June 1892), Pearlie V. (daughter, six, born October 1893), Jessi D. (son, four, born August 1895), and Bertie (daughter, two, born October 1897).<sup>78</sup>

In May 1900 William appeared before the Parker County Court, stating that at the time of Sophie's death in February 1899 the couple owned eighty acres in Parker County. William requested and was granted guardianship of the couple's six children. The land, located about eleven miles southwest of Weatherford, was conveyed by H.G. Osborne on 26 December 1898.<sup>79</sup> William sold this same eighty acres back to Frances Osborn, his sister, on 24 August 1900 for \$400.<sup>80</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> 1910 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. 8, ?Buckner Township?, e.d. 85, p. 6B, #109-110.

<sup>72</sup> *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 3:180.

<sup>73</sup> Deed of sale, William and Sophie Powell to J.A. Powell, 2 November 1889 (recorded 11 November 1889), Parker Co., Tex. Deed Book 30:1, FHL 1536187.

<sup>74</sup> Deed of sale, William and Sophie Powell to Francis Osborn, 2 January 1890 (recorded 28 December 1898), Parker Co., Tex. Deed Book 40:578, FHL 1536192.

<sup>75</sup> Partition of estate of A. Powell to heirs at law: Francis Osborn, Emma Cogdill, John Powell, Wm. Powell, I. Powell, Sallie Powell, and Nettie and Fannie Combs, 27 June 1889 (recorded 4 October 1889), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 27:406-411, FHL 1536186.

<sup>76</sup> 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker, Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 233A/18, #322-323; 1910 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co. Pct. #8, ?Buckner Twp.?, e.d. 85, p. 6B, #109-110.

<sup>77</sup> World War I draft registration card for Aubrey H. Powell, 5 June 1917, Dennis, Parker Co., Tex., FHL 1983501; World War I draft registration card for Jessie Dillard Powell, 5 June 1917, Parker Co., Tex., FHL 1983501.

<sup>78</sup> 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 18/233A, #322-323.

<sup>79</sup> Probate record, estate of Sophie Powell, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 6:545; deed of sale, H.G. Osborn to William Powell, 26 December 1898 (recorded 29 December 1898), Parker Co., Tex., Deed Book 51:134, FHL 1536195. The probate minutes state William purchased the 80 acres from H.G. Osborn on 26 December 1899

When his second wife, Olith, died in February 1903, William again went before the Parker County Court, stating that the couple owned thirty-four acres of land, located about fourteen miles southwest of Weatherford. This was land that had been deeded to Olith from C.P. Holyfield [sic] and valued at about \$450. Olith also owned a fourteenth interest in land in Bowie County, Texas, that was under litigation. An inventory of the rest of the estate included six head of cattle, twenty chickens, three head of horses, two pigs, one set of shop tools, a wagon, one cultivator, and household goods.

After Olith's death, William requested guardianship of the couple's two children.<sup>81</sup> As guardian, William filed yearly accounts with the Parker County Court. In his annual accounting for 1905, William's farm income included the sale of baled cotton, seed cotton, and corn. That same year, William reported that his daughter Effie Belle had died in January 1904 when she was only three years old. Included in the yearly expenses were two bills from Dr. Fritz: one for Effie for \$23, and one for Lester for \$22.<sup>82</sup> Then in December 1906, William found it necessary to sell some real estate in order to educate and maintain Byrd Presley and Lester Powell.<sup>83</sup>

In 1910, William and his children were enumerated in the federal census in Parker County, Texas. William, a widow, was forty-eight, born in Georgia, with his father born in Canada and his mother born in Georgia. He was a farmer, who owned his farm. His household included Gracie (daughter, twenty), Orbin (son, seventeen), Pearl (daughter, sixteen), Bird Presley (step-son, sixteen), Dillard (son, fifteen), Bessie (daughter, twelve), and Lester (son, seven), all born in Texas except Bessie, who was born in Oklahoma.<sup>84</sup>

In October 1917, William and Sophie's children were listed in Parker County, Texas, court records as some of the heirs of J.D. Collins, Sophie's father. J.D. Collins had died evidently intestate and owning three tracts of land, about 287 acres in Parker County. The court determined that the three tracts of land should be sold to the highest bidder. Sophie's heirs were entitled to 1/84 of the sale of the second and third tracts and 1/36 of 2/3 of the sale for the first tract.<sup>85</sup> The case was back in court in April 1918, when William purchased the first and second tracts for \$1,400, paying \$800 in cash with a note for the remaining \$600 from J.W. Stephens and G.A. Holland, trustees of the will of J.R. Couets, deceased. The \$600 note was due in five years, on or before the date of the deed, with 8 percent annum on the note. The first tract was the east half of 160 acres of land on the Brazos River, about fifteen and a half miles south 39 west from the town of Weatherford.<sup>86</sup> The second tract of land was forty-seven acres, also on the Brazos River, about twenty miles south 40 west of Weatherford.<sup>87</sup>

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and that the deed was recorded in Parker Deed Book 51:134. A search of the actual deed indicates the deed was recorded 26 December 1898.

<sup>80</sup> Deed of sale, William Powell to Frances Osborn, 24 August 1900 (recorded 25 August 1900), Parker Co., Tex. Deed Book 51:567, FHL 1536195.

<sup>81</sup> Probate records, estate #1111, William Powell administrator, June 1903, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 8:60-63, FHL 1547871.

<sup>82</sup> Annual account, estate #1111, William Powell administrator, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 8:75-76, FHL 1547871.

<sup>83</sup> Probate records, estate #1111, William Powell administrator, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 9:448-451, FHL 1547871.

<sup>84</sup> 1910 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Pct. #8, e.d. 85, p. 6B, #109-110.

<sup>85</sup> Court case #5323, J.L. Collins, et al., vs. Elizabeth Collins, et al., April term 1918, Parker Co., Tex., Civil Court Minutes 11:18-22, FHL 1548438, item 4.

<sup>86</sup> Court case #5323, J.L. Collins, et al., vs. Elizabeth Collins, et al., October Term 1917, Parker Co., Tex., Civil Court Minutes 11:104-109, FHL 1548438, item 4.

<sup>87</sup> Court case #5323, J.L. Collins, et al., vs. Elizabeth Collins, et al., April term 1918, Parker Co., Tex., Civil Court Minutes 11:18-22, FHL 1548438, item 4.

Another court case involving the heirs of J.D. Collins in April 1918 concerned other land the heirs felt was owned by Mr. Collins, but the original land purchases by Mr. Collins involved liens, which must not have been paid. The heirs lost the case and were required to pay all the court costs.<sup>88</sup>

The fall of 1919 found William and his children back in court. This time B.H. Cogdill, J.H. Denman, M.L. Jones, and C.W. Brooks, defendants, had indicated there was an oil, gas, and mineral lease on three tracts of land (two of the tracts were probably the same land William bought from the J.D. Collins estate), totaling 175½ acres. By the time both parties appeared in court, they had filed a disclaimer and no longer claimed or asserted any lien. The lease dated 3 January 1919 was canceled and set aside, and the defendants were to pay court costs.<sup>89</sup>

Finally, there was yet another court case in which William and his children by his first wife, Sophie, were involved. This time, Byrd Presley, William's stepson, and D.L. "Lester" Powell, William's son by his second wife, were claiming a share in property that belonged to William's first wife. It was proven to the court that Byrd and Lester had no claim to the property.<sup>90</sup>

William, a widower, was living alone and farming on his farm in Parker County, Texas, in April 1930. He was sixty-eight, born in Georgia with his father born in Nova Scotia and his mother born in Georgia.<sup>91</sup> He moved to Weatherford, Texas, about 1934 from south Parker County, Texas, near the community of Dennis.<sup>92</sup>

#### Children of William and Sophie (Collins) Powell:

- i. GRACE POWELL, b. August 1889, Texas;<sup>93</sup> d. after 25 November 1969, possibly on 3 September 1970, Parker County, Texas;<sup>94</sup> m. by 4 October 1917, IRA HUFFSTUTTLER.<sup>95</sup>
- ii. JOSIE N. POWELL, b. 9 March 1891, Texas;<sup>96</sup> d. June 1974, probably in Weatherford, Parker County, Texas;<sup>97</sup> m. 15 April 1909, Parker County, Texas, A.G. "BERRY" MCCREARY.<sup>98</sup>
- iii. AUBREY HARRISON POWELL, b. 16 June 1892, Palo Pinto County, Texas; m. MATTIE STELLA JUDD.

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<sup>88</sup> Court case #5387, E. Collins, et al., vs. F.M. Partin, et al., April term 1918, Parker Co., Tex., Civil Court Minutes 11:109-112, FHL 1548438, item 4.

<sup>89</sup> Court case #5589, Wm. Powell, et al., vs. B.H. Cogdill, et al., Fall term 1919, Parker Co., Tex., Civil Court Minutes 11:560-561, FHL 1548439.

<sup>90</sup> Court case #6146, Wm. Powell, et al., vs. Byrd Presley, et al., Spring term 1920, Parker Co., Tex., Civil Court Minutes 12:6-7, FHL 1548439.

<sup>91</sup> 1930 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #8, e.d. 184-20, p. 7B, #147-147.

<sup>92</sup> Obituary, William Powell, *The Weatherford Democrat* (Weatherford, Tex.), 15 January 1944.

<sup>93</sup> 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 233A/18, #322-323.

<sup>94</sup> Obituary, A.H. Powell, unnamed newspaper, 27 November 1969, original clipping in Powell scrapbook in possession of William Joe Powell; Texas Deaths, 1964-98, Ancestry.com, Texas Department of Health.

<sup>95</sup> Obituary, A.H. Powell, unnamed newspaper, 27 November 1969, original clipping in Powell scrapbook in possession of William Joe Powell; Court case #5323, J.L. Collins, et al., vs. Elizabeth Collins, et al., April term 1918, Parker Co., Tex. Civil Court Minutes 11:18-22, FHL 1548438, item 4.

<sup>96</sup> 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 233A/18, #322-323. Josie McCreary, SSAN 456-20-0885, Social Security Death Index.

<sup>97</sup> Josie McCreary, SSAN 456-20-0885, Social Security Death Index.

<sup>98</sup> Josie Powell entry, Parker Co., Texas Marriage Index, 1905-1910, Lela Evans, comp., 1997-2004, <www.rootsweb.com/~txparker/>.

- iv. PEARL V. POWELL, b. 6 October 1893, Texas; d. 14 January 1990, Parker County, Texas;<sup>99</sup> m. 21 December 1913, Parker County, Texas, W.M. "LOY" MCCREARY.<sup>100</sup>
- v. JESSIE DILLARD POWELL, b. 29 August 1895, Gordon, Palo Pinto County, Texas;<sup>101</sup> d. 9 July 1980, probably in Weatherford, Parker County, Texas;<sup>102</sup> m. 11 August 1916, Buckner Community, Parker County, Texas, UMA MURPHY;<sup>103</sup> Dill and Uma were buried in the Holder Cemetery, Parker County, Texas.<sup>104</sup>
- vi. BERTA POWELL, b. October 1897 in Indian Territory;<sup>105</sup> m. 21 July 1917, Parker County, Texas, ALBERT GUILLES.<sup>106</sup>

Children of William and Olith (Hollyfield) Powell:

- vii. EFFIE BELL POWELL, b. 11 November 1900, Parker County, Texas;<sup>107</sup> d. 15 January 1904 of meningitis, Dennis, Parker County, Texas; buried Holder Cemetery, Parker County, Texas.<sup>108</sup>
- viii. DAVID LESTER POWELL, b. 29 January 1903, Parker County, Texas;<sup>109</sup> d. 15 June 1987 in Seymour, Baylor County, Texas.<sup>110</sup>

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<sup>99</sup> 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 233A/18, #322-323; Pearl McCreary, SSAN 466-26-1533, Social Security Death Index; Texas Deaths, 1964-98, Ancestry.com, Texas Department of Health.

<sup>100</sup> Marriage record, W.M. McCreary and Miss Pearl Powell, 21 December 1913, Parker Co., Tex., Marriage Record Book 10:142, FHL 1536199, item 4.

<sup>101</sup> WWI draft registration card, Jessie Dillard Powell, 5 June 1917, FHL 1983501.

<sup>102</sup> Jessie Powell, SSAN 466-26-1533, Social Security Death Index.

<sup>103</sup> Parker County Historical Commission, *History of Parker County*, 503; marriage record, J.D. Powell and Miss Uma Murphy, 11 August 1916, Parker Co., Tex., Marriage Record Book 10:432, FHL 1536199, item 4.

<sup>104</sup> *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 1:129, 131.

<sup>105</sup> 1900 federal census, William Powell household, Texas, Parker Co., Justice Pct. #5, e.d. 76, p. 233A/18, #322-323.

<sup>106</sup> Marriage record, Albert Guiles and Miss Berta Powell, 21 July 1917, Parker Co., Tex., Marriage Record Book 10:557, FHL 1536199, item 4.

<sup>107</sup> *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 1:129, 131.

<sup>108</sup> Death record, Effie Powell, 15 January 1904, no. 186, Parker Co., Tex., Death Register 1:19; *Trails West, Parker County, Texas Cemeteries, Southern Half of the County*, 1:129, 131.

<sup>109</sup> Probate records, estate #1111, William Powell administrator, June 1903, Parker Co., Tex., Probate Minutes Book 8:60-63, FHL 1547871; David Powell, SSAN 451-40-5567, Social Security Death Index.

<sup>110</sup> David Powell, SSAN 451-40-5567, Social Security Death Index; Texas Deaths, 1964-98, Ancestry.com, Texas Department of Health.