

William Gean of Chatham & Orange Co., NC Theory

This area is UNDER CONSTRUCTION. Please watch your step in this department.

William Gean of Chatham Co., NC

Born: About 1775

Died: Feb 1850



Mother: Mourning Seymore

Father: Philip Geane

1810 Census: household of Wm. Jean {Note: Mastin Cheek is on the same page}
sheet 207, page 112, line 5, Orange Co., NC
one male 26 - 45; 3 males under 10
one female over 45; one female 16 - 26; & 1 female under 10

1820 Census: household of Wm. Jane {Note: Same pg as John Kirk, several Cates & Brewers}
page 230, line 17, Orange Co., NC
one male 45 & up; one male 26-45; one male 10-16; ? (2?) males to 10
one female 45 & up; 2 females 10 - 16; and 1 female to 10

1830 Census: household of William Gean
sheet 419, line 18, Chatham Co., NC
one male age 50-60; one male 10-15; one male 5-10
one female age 50-60; and one female 5-10
line 10 is that of James Seymore
line 17 is that of John Seymore
line 18 is that of this William Gean
line 19 is that of Harland Beaver

1840 Census: household of William Jeans, Sr.
Sheet 47, page 24, Chatham Co., NC
one male age 60-70;
one female age 60-70, one female age 15-20 and one female under 5

Sheet 193, page 113
line 21 is that of Mary Knight (Cornelius Knight's mother?)
line 27 is that of James Semore
line 28 is that of Brittain Gross



From the 1810 Census we know: He was age 26-45 (born 1765 – 1784) and his wife was 16-26 (born 1784 – 1794) > They had at least four children by 1810 >

- M ? b. 1800-1810 1804-1810
- M ? b. 1800-1810
- M ? b. 1800-1810
- F ? b. 1800-1810 1804-1810

From the 1820 Census we know: He was 45 & up (born before 1776) the wife he was married to in 1810 is now deceased – there is a female in his household of 45 & up (but she could be a 2nd wife or his mother or ?)

- M ? b. 1775-1794 (male 26-45) – Now this could be William, and there could be an unknown male 45 & up in the household.
- M ? b. 1800-1810 M 1804-1810
- M ? b. 1800-1810
- M ? b. 1800-1810
- F ? b. 1800-1810 F 1804-1810
- F ? 1804-1810 Was this child born about 1810? Or is it not William's child
- M ? 1810-1820 M 1815-1820
- M ? 1810-1820 ???NOT SURE CAN'T MAKE CENSUS out
- F ? 1810-1820

From the 1830 Census we know: He is 50-60 years old (born 1770-1780) and his wife (?) is 50-60 (born 1770-1780).

- F ? 1804-1810 Was this child born about 1810? Or is it not William's child
- M ? 1810-1820 M 1815-1820
- M ? 1810-1820 ???NOT SURE CAN'T MAKE CENSUS out
- F ? 1810-1820
- M 1820-1825
- F 1820-1825

From the 1840 Census we know: He is 60-70 years old (born 1770-1780) and his wife (?) is 60-70 (born 1770-1780).

- F 1820-1825 1820-1825
- F 1836-1840

Everyone lost? We hope we have kept everything lined up enough that it makes sense.

We know that William Gean was born about 1775 (Orange Co., NC Court records show that he was 15 years of age in May of 1790), which is reflected in the census records of Chatham & Orange Counties, and coincides with the year of birth he gave in a statement in Philip Gean's Rev. War

Pension File. He married Patsy Yarbrough on 1 Feb 1806 in Orange Co., NC which would make him 31 when he married Patsey (which was commonly used as a nickname for Martha).

The big question – **Is William the father of Albert, Bird, Edward & Martha Gean?**

Here is what we do know about Albert, Bird, Edward & Martha:

Albert – was born 1808 – He first appears on the 1830 Census in Chatham Co., NC, about a year after his marriage to Cynthia Harmon in Feb 1829. She was the daughter of George Harmon & Amelia Polk. The Rev. War Pension File of Solomon Seymore tells us that George Harmon purchased the home of William Petty, from William's daughter Martha Petty-Seymore-Sanders.

Bird – was born ? – His year of birth is a little hard to determine: in 1850 he was 38 (b. abt 1812); in 1860 he was 52 (b. abt 1808); in 1870 he was 67 (b. abt 1803); in 1880 he was 76 (b. abt 1804); so, at best he was born 1803-1812 give or take a few years. Quite a gap. – He first married Martha Seymore about 1834, and then married Sarah A. Brantley about 1842. Her age seems to stay basically the same 1850-1880, and basically confirms that she was born 1821. We know that he first married about 1834, if he was 25, that would place him born about 1810 or so. Using that same age estimate he was about 32 when he married Sarah, which means that 8 years later, in 1850, he should have been about 40, just off a few years, and really pretty common. I tend to lean towards the 1850 census being more accurate and believe that the time frame of his birth was more like 1808-1812 (and not 1803-1812). I really think he was probably born right about 1809/1810.

Edward – was born After 1809 – he married abt 1836 to Milberry Groce, daughter of Britton Groce/Gross – I have yet to find any record of him after 1838 (which is the year of birth for his last child), his widow Milberry can be found living at home with her father in 1850 and married Robert Phillips in 1852. Milberry was born 1816, and if he was 5 years older than her that would place him born about 1811, which would make him about 25 when he married, and that was pretty much the norm, so that would seem to jive.

Martha – was born 1821-1824 – she married in 1842 to Cornelius Knight, son of Mary Knight – The 1850 census places her born about 1824; the 1860 & 1870 census place her born about 1821 (which we know depending on when a census taker showed up, how accurately it was done, and several other variables will throw off a large number of people's ages +/- 2 years). Now, to me...if Albert, Bird & Edward are William & Patsey's, then Martha was born closer to 1820, and was named after her mother Patsey. I would say that Patsey died either in childbirth, as a result of or within a few years of Martha's birth.

Separating the Upper Regiment Gean family from the Lower Regiment Gean family.

First lets look at the elder Byrd, and his family, as that is important to figuring out the rest.

{For simplicity we will call the elder Bird Gean, Byrd Gean – he is the one who m. Mourning Cates – we will refer to the younger Bird Gean as Bird Gean. Along those lines...William Sr is the elder William Gean who was the son Philip Geane & Mourning Seymore. William Jr is the son of Byrd Gean.}

1. Byrd states in the rejected Rev. War Pension File of Philip Geane that he grew up in the neighborhood where Mourning lived, which was south of Pittsboro, on Lick Creek, that was off the Cape Fear River. He states that he was a close relative of Mourning, and that she died at his house.

2. Byrd shows up in Orange County as early as 1810 witnessing a deed for a McDannel, the McDaniel family were neighbors of William Gean. Bird would have been 20 by 1804, and married in 1805 to Mourning Cates, in Orange Co., but he isn't in a census record for 1810.
3. Byrd bought the property on or near the Haw River, near Orange County line 1818. Deeds for William Gean Jr. state "to his fathers line". Anderson's land also joined this land of Byrd's. William Gean Sr., does not at this time (1840's and 50's) own property in Orange, nor is there a record of him owning any property in this area of Chatham. (Note: Estate records indicate that Robert Cates owned land on the Haw River very near to where Byrd later bought property. Mourning Cates is supposed to be the daughter of Robert Cates).
4. Anderson, William Jr. and John Franklin Gean are all on road crews together, and that would mean that they lived in that area to be on that crew. (people in a district, worked on road crews in that district) There is no doubt that Anderson, William Jr. & John Franklin Gean were the sons of Byrd Gean and Mourning Cates.

Aug 1827 - Bird Gean is appointed overser of the road by Walkers Mills, Captain O. Henderson's district and the following hands to work under him viz Peter Pickard, William Pickard, William Gean, William Arms, Henry Martin, ?, Benjamin Copeland, Ashford Copeland, and James A. ? {This is Byrd Gean, and these families are from the Upper Regiment area of Chatham Co., NC}

Feb 1834 - James Griffith is appointed the following hands to work under him Nathaniel Robertson, Samuel Perry, John F. Gean, A. Gean, William Gean and hands. Green Brett, Alfred Glosson and hands, William Glosson and hands, William Ellington, Benj. Thomas, Ruffin and Chesley Moore and his own hands. {Again, these families are in the Upper Regiment area of Chatham – in the area close to where Alamance, Orange & Chatham now meet.}

5. Records for **Mt. Olive Baptist Church** Records for this church apparently no longer exist these were obtained in 1961 (this record ties this family together)
 William Gean (Jr.) was selected deacon. William, Byrd, and Anderson were early members.
 Elizabeth Gean (daughter of William) joined church "by experience" Sept 1849.
 Benton Gean (Jesse Benton, Williams son) joined Oct 1844
 William Gean died January 13, 1847 (a sudden death)
 Anderson Gean was elected Deacon to fill Williams place
 Anderson Gean died July 11, 1849 of Lung Hemorrhage
 Byrd Gean was appointed to NC Conference for Mt. Olive Baptist Church 1844
6. Byrd, along with Jesse Benton Gean his grandson, moved to Monroe Co., AR after the 1850 Census, and probably after Mourning Cates died. Byrd last appears on the 1860 Census, living with his son John F. Gean – Jesse Benton Gean is also in the household (which is the household of not only this unclce...but his future father-in-law as in Dec of the same year he married his first cousin Telitha Gean, daughter of John F. Gean).

While we can't be sure how many sons Byrd had, census records do not indicate that he had 5 sons that lived to adulthood. For him to be the Father of Albert and Edward, that would make 5. We don't believe he is the father of Bird simply because, the Goodspeed article of Bird's son John Brantley Gean states that his grandfather was William, and that he died in NC. While we know the dates and facts are somewhat mixed up, we think they'd know Byrd died in AR if he was Bird's father. In fact it would have been about the time Bird Gean moved to Arkansas

that Byrd and grandson Jesse Benton moved to Tennessee or Arkansas to meet up with John F. Gean, and highly possible that they traveled that far, together. We know the elder William in fact died in Chatham County.

There is nothing that ties Albert or Edward to the elder Byrd. Albert did serve as an administrator in the estate of William Jr. for a while, but he was involved in the administration of several estates. So that alone does not prove anything. Additionally, Albert became the administrator of William Jr.'s estate after William Jr.'s brother Anderson died (John Franklin had already moved out of the area, the elder Byrd apparently declined as he would have been the 1st logical admin. when his son died (however he posted bond for his son Anderson), and when Anderson died it became Albert).

Proof we have that connects Albert, Edward, Martha and Bird to William Sr. (or William Gean of Orange Co., NC & Lower Regiment, Chatham Co., NC)

1. William moved to Chatham from Orange sometime between 1823 and 1826. He lived on land that his brother John lived on before moving to TN.
2. Albert married Cynthia Harmon in Chatham Co., NC in 1829, the Harmon's were neighbors of William Gean Sr.
3. Bird married Martha Seymore, who as well as we can ascertain is the daughter of James Seymore, William's neighbor, as well as the granddaughter of Solomon Seymore, the brother of William Sr.'s mother. He then married Sarah Brantley, daughter of Kirk Brantley who also lived in the area. A deed puts Kirk Brantley as a neighbor of the Gilmores, Nathan Stedman, and the Harrington's. Property on the Deep and Rocky Rivers.
4. Edward married Milberry Groce, also a fairly close neighbors of William Sr.
5. According to the Beaver family history, Elizabeth, first wife of Harlan Beaver was a Gean. Harlan Beaver does live right beside William Gean Sr. in 1830. We think that the Polly Gean Cheek he later married was the daughter of Byrd.
6. The 1837 deed between John Harmon and William Gean says "William Gean Sr.". This was for the Stinking Creek property. Edward and William Sr. are involved in a deed (for goods) with John Neal. Albert borrowed money from John Neal.

Note: The Clegg, Knight, Gilmore, Stedman, Avent, Harris, Seymore, Petty, Harman/Harmon, Groce/Gross, Brantley, Mathis, Harrington, and Gean/Jean families all lived in the same corner of Chatham (This is the Lower Regiment of Southern portion of Chatham, primarily the Southeast corner – East and South of Pittsboro).

Deeds of Interest

- 2 Jan 1836 – William Jeans of the 1st part & Jacob Hadley of the 2nd part, and Robert Love of the 3rd part >> Witness forth that whereas the said W^m Jeans has become justly indebted unto the said Jacob Hadley in the sum of one hundred fifty six dollars and twenty five cents. Dollars

due by note with interest, which note will show, and whereas the said W^m Jeans is anxious and willing to settle, that for and in consideration of the promises and for the further sum of five shillings to the said W^m Jeans, in hand paid by Robert Love to the said W^m Jeans. W^m Jeans doth this day grant, bargain and sell unto the said Robert Love the following property to wit, one tract of land lying on the waters of *Stinking Creek on a branch of Deep River* joining Solomon Brown & others.

Witnesses:	{{{Seal}}}	William {X his mark} Jeans
Hezekiah Henderson	{{{Seal}}}	Jacob Hadley
Henry Rogers, Sen ^r	{{{Seal}}}	Robt. Love

Note: This would appear at first to be William Jr., with the Hadley and Love names, however a look at the 1870 Chatham Map, has two Hadley's Mills shown, and one is very near Stinking Creek, also a look at deeds for Robert Love shows that he often purchased the debts of others. Additionally, Solomon Brown was a neighbor of William Sr. and was the husband of the widow Sarah Jane Harman (widow of Rhoderick Harmon who was a brother to Cynthia Harmon and brother-in-law to Albert Gean). Solomon was the final purchaser of the last known land transaction of William Jeans Sr.'s on Stinking Creek. Question? How do they get Stinking Creek on a branch of Deep River.... Stinking Creek appears on the map to run off of the Haw River. This could be important if we could figure this out, because of the property on Gulf Road and Birds land on the South Side of Deep River.

- Chatham Co., NC Deed Records – Volume AD, page 305
5 Jan 1836 – W^m Gean of the first part & John Neal of the 2nd part & Edward R. Gean of the third part all of the county of Chatham and the state of NC. Whereas W^m Gean is indebted to Edward R. Gean for \$136.16 by note with interest. W^m Gean is desirous to pay debt, and for the further consideration of one dollar to said W^m Geans, in hand, paid by the said John Neal, W^m Gean doth hereby grant, bargain, and sell one bay mare, 2 yrs old, one red cow (?), seven head of hogs, 500 # of pack four (flour?), feather beds, tables, and kitchen furniture of every kind to John (Johann?) Neal.

Witness:	W ^m Gean	{{{Seal}}}
A. Gunter	John Neal	{{{Seal}}}
	Edward R. Gean	{{{Seal}}}

- Chatham Co., NC Deed Records – Volume AD, page 423
19 Sept 1836 – Albert Gean borrowed money on 16 Aug 1836 from John Neal for \$40 – W^m & Spencer M^cClenehan posted security.
- Chatham Co., NC Deed Records – Volume AD, page 511
23 Jan 1837 – Wm Gean Sr. to John Harman, both of Chatham Co., NC. 203 1/2 acres for \$196. Adjoining, Richard Johnston, Thomas and others, Brewer (Beavers?) corner, Brewers Springs, Wesley Hanks, Old Road. Wit:W. Hanks
- Chatham Co., NC Deed Records – Volume AE, page 160 – 161
16 Jan 1838 – Between John Harman of the first part and William Jean of the 2nd part, all of Chatham Co., NC. In consideration of \$196 – John Harman has bargained, and by the presents, doth grant, bargain, sell and deliver to the said W^m Gean his heirs forever, etc. – tract of land on Stinking Creek adjoins Richard Johnston's corner
filed May 1838
Signed John Harman {{{Seal}}}

- Chatham Co., NC Deed Records- Volume AD, page____
1838 (1-23) Wm Gean to Solomon Brown property on Stinking Creek 203 1/2 acres for \$400. Adjoining, Richard Johnston, Thomas, and others, Brewers Corner.

Wit: Bird (+) Gean W. Hanks

Note: proved in court the same day the Albert, Nathaniel Clegg and William Thomas deed (below) was.

Note: We are in the process of comparing the "marks" of the two Birds. We have three for the Elder Bird Gean. In all three he makes his mark as an X. In the deed above the mark is a t or +plus sign. We have no other records for the younger Bird Gean to see a mark of his.

Comment:: We do not have several deeds of Bird Gean's from AR, and have learned that his signatures are not the same from one document to the next, but are not "X's". Byrd Gean does not appear in probate or deed records in AR while living with his son John F. Gean, however Chatham Deeds by him have all been signed the same with an "X".

- Chatham Co., NC Deed Records- Volume AE page 175-176
1838 (1-28) Edward Gean to Britton Groce, a tract of land on Rocky River, Algers Creek, 90 ac for \$150. Joining Wm. Stedmans line, Sears line, Gilmores line, Harrington's line, Nathan Stedmans Line. Wit: William C. Harris, H.B. Harris

- Chatham Co., NC Deed Records – Volume AE, page 173 – 175
7 May 1838 – Between William C. Thomas of the 1st part, Nathaniel Clegg of the 2nd part & Albert Gean testators of the 3rd part. All of Chatham Co., NC. Wittnesforth that the said William C. Thomas, justly indebted to Solomon Brown, dated 23 Mar, payable 25 Dec 1838, with interest, from the dates. Nathaniel Clegg lent \$53.55 and whereas the said William C. Thomas is desirous to settle debt, in consideration and fifty cents to William c. Thomas, paid by Albert Gean, the said William C. Thomas doth grant, convey, sell unto the said Albert Gean a parcel of land lying on Stinking Creek adjoining the land of John Harmon, David Johnson

Witness:	William C. Thomas	{{{Seal}}}
M. D. Carlross	Nathan Clegg	{{{Seal}}}
William Pendergrass (X)	Albert Geane	{{{Seal}}}

Chatham Co., NC Superior Court Minutes

Break from deeds for a moment, but inserted here to flow in a timeline fashion.

1838-1839 William Gean was in court, he and a Joseph Buchanan were charged with assault and battery, William was found guilty, Joseph Buchanan was not. William was fined \$4.00 and it was ordered that he remain jailed until it was paid. Albert was also in court the same day, and was to appear the next term, Nathaniel Clegg gave bond(?) for Albert. Appears to be the same matter??? Don't know if William and Joseph were charged with assaulting someone else, or each other??

Comment:: This must surely be William Gean Sr. Our first thought was that he would be too elderly for this, but Joseph Buchanan was older also. This is the same time period that William Sr. was selling his Stinking Creek land back and forth with John Harmon, and eventually out right to Solomon Brown, the time of this mother's death and what we also believe was the time of his son Edward's death.

{Note: Bird Jean Snr. was on jury duty the week of these cases. He appears on the jury panel for the cases before and after this one, on the same day...as well as the day before and the days

after. The first day he was referred to as Bird Jean, subsequent days he was referred to as Bird Jean Snr. There is no doubt that Bird was related in some form or another to William Gean Snr., it is just not known how. He would not have been excused from being on the Superior Court jury those days without there being a relationship.}

Deeds of Interest (continued)

- 1850 (7-18) Albert Gean Land Patent on Rocky Branch 24 1/2 acres, joining, Thomas Gunter, Jackson Martin, Simon Webster, John A. Johnson's corner.
 Note: Kirk Brantley 1860 lives next door to Simon F. Webster dw. # 127 fam. # 120.
 Simom dw 128 fam 121 Henry Webster dw 129 fam 122 John Farrish dw # 125 fam # 118. Obediah Farrar dw 130.
- 1856 (9-13) Bird Gean to David Womble S. Side of Deep River 88ac for \$350 joining Robert Rives. Wit: Robert E. Rives, W.C. Harris

All deeds for these Albert, Bird & Edward, plus Neal Knight (Martha's husband) are in the area that William lived in. Stinking Creek, Deep and Rocky River's. (Except some where Albert was administrating estates). All are neighbor's of (according to census records, and deeds. Also Chatham County 1870 map proves the locations.) W.G. Harris, the Stedman's, Gilmore's, and Knights, Seymores, etc.

Census Breakdown

William Gean Sr., son of Philip Geane & Mourning Seymore was the husband of Patsey Yarbrough. They married in Feb 1806 in Orange Co., NC, which is where their children were born, and William resided. I believe they were probably living near her family, and by 1830 moved to Chatham where his mother was living and he owned land that belonged to his father, it was also land recently vacated by his brother John Jean. On 14 July 1826, Orange Co., NC deed records indicate that William sold his 324 Acres on Cain Creek to Hart Lewis of Hartford Co., CT (this must surely be the time frame that William moved, it is the last deed we have found for him in Orange Co.). We do think it is highly likely that William was the father of all four of the aforementioned people.

Sex	Born	1810	1820	1830	1840	Comments
Male	1800-1810 1804-1810	X	X			Albert Gean – born 1808
Male	1800-1810	X				Born 1806-1809, Died before 1820
Male	1800-1810 1810-1820	X	X			Born about 1810 – Bird Gean

Female	1800-1810 1804-1810	X	X			Most likely married by 1830 and out of home – Is this Harlan Beaver's first wife Elizabeth?
Female	1804-1810		X			Either omitted from 1810 census, not his child, or was born right at 1810
Male	1810-1820 1815-1820		X	X		Born about 1815 – Edward R. Gean
Female	1810-1820		X			Died before 1830 and/or was born about 1820 – could be Martha?
Male	1820-1825			X		Died before 1840, or not one of their children
Female	1820-1825 1820-1825			X	X	Born 1820-1825 – Martha Gean
Female	1835-1840				X	Seems like this is more like a grandchild and not a child, but not sure whose child.

Edward R. Gean & Bird Gean could very well be flip flopped, at this point an exact year of birth is unknown for both men. We have placed Bird as older than Edward (primarily because he married several years before him, but that is just speculation at this point).

At best William & Patsey had 3 males and 2 females that lived to adulthood. Now, Lucy Jane Williams stated that in Mar of 1877 her father's last and only sister died (according to Martha's tombstone she died in Feb 1876). It is an interesting statement. Does she mean his last sister, or his only sister literally? We think Harlan Beaver's proximity to William Jean Sr. in 1830 leads credence to the family history that his first wife Elizabeth was a Gean. There is no doubt that Harlan's second wife Mary Gean-Cheek-Beaver in 1857 was a Gean, but we don't think they were sisters. We believe that Mary Gean-Cheek-Beaver was Byrd Gean & Mourning Cates daughter. When Harlan was married to his first wife he lived near William Jean Sr., when he was married to his second wife he lived near Byrd Gean.

John Seymore is the resident before William Gean Sr. in 1830, and they are about 7 away from James Seymore. John is too young to be the father of Martha Seymore (Bird Gean's first wife), but we believe he was most likely a son of James Seymore and brother to Martha Seymore. His proximity to William (living closer to William than his own dad, makes me wonder if he too was living on the same land as William Gean & Harlan Beaver, and married an additional daughter of William Gean's. However, we have been unable to positively identify John Seymore after he appears as the bondsman at the 1839 marriage of Isaac Seymore to Polly Dickens.

We have no doubt that Byrd Gean resided in Orange County with William Gean Sr. at some point. Either Byrd Gean was raised by Lewis Kirk, or he lived with William after William was an adult. The first scenario seems more likely. But, who was Byrd the orphan of? The only logical choice is David of Chatham or Edmund of Orange (or they may be one in the same).

Deeds of William Gean in Chatham Co., NC

- 05 Jan 1836 Deed of Trust William Gean is indebted to Edward R. Gean for \$136.16 by note with interest. He is desirous to pay debt, and for further consideration of one dollar to said Wm. Geans, in hand, paid by John Neal, the said Wm. Gean doth hereby grant, bargain & sell one bay mare 2years old, on red cow (?), seven head of hogs, 500# of pack four (flour?), feather beds, tables and kitchen furniture of ever kind to John (Johann?) Neal.
- 09 Jan 1836 Deed of trust Albert Gean borrowed \$40 from John Neal with Wm. & Spencer McClenehan securities.
- 23 Jan 1837 Bill of Sale Wm. Gean, Sr to John Harman – 203 ½ acres on Stinking Creek (for \$175) borders Browns corner, near Beavers (Browns?) Spring, Richard Johnston’s corner, adjoins Thomas & others
- 16 Jan 1838 Bill of Sale John Harman to William Jean – 203 ½ acres on Stinking Creek (for \$196) borders Richard Johnston’s corner, Beavers corner and Beavers Spring
- 23 Jan 1838 Bill of Sale William Gean to Solomon Brown – 203 ½ acres more or less on Stinking Creek, mentions dogwood near Browns Spring, meanders the creek, Richard Johnston’s corner, adjoining Thomas & others {Wit: Berd “+” Gean – this is a different mark than the elder Byrd Gean has been using – this must surely be the younger Bird Gean}
- 29 Jan 1838 Bill of Sale Edward R. Gean to Britton Grose – 90 Acres on Rocky River (for \$150), adjoins William L. (or S.?) Stedman’s corner, Lea’s line, Gilmores line, Harringtons line and Nathan A. Stedman’s line.
- 25 Mar 1842 Deed of Trust Albert Gean owed John A. Hanks \$39.56 due by note 25 Mar 1842 and is desirous to pay said debt, Oliver L. Burch paid \$1 and the debt, and Albert used personal property as collateral – 3 beds and furniture, 1 bay mare, 15 head of hogs, 2 cows and calves, 1 clock and 1 horse wagon, to have and to hold, Albert has until 1 Jan 1843 to pay the debt to Oliver L. Burch, with interest or said Burch can auction the items to the highest bidder (after advertising said auction for at least 20 days).
- 22 Nov 1855 Bill of Sale Albert Gean to Jehugh Boon – 93 Acres more or less on Harlands (or Harlan’s) Creek (for \$115), begins at David Cleggs corner on the Ramsey Road, along Peoples line
- 13 Sep 1856 Bill of Sale Bird Jean to David Womble (this is not the elder Byrd Gean) – 88 Acres more or less (for \$350), South side of Deep River, adjoins Robert Rives
- 26 Apr 1858 Bill of Sale Albert Geane to William P. Gean – 120 Acres more or less (for \$600) borders David Clegg, S.W. Cottons corner, along Gulf-Road – this must surely adjoin the land Albert sold to Jehu Boon 22 Nov 1855

Is there any significance to the fact that most of the deeds for William Sr. in Chatham seem to be in January? Were they hard winters? Something was definitely up with him. We are under the impression that he really didn’t own land after about 1840, which would well explain why there was no

estate to divide up at the time of his death. For some reason William Sr. appears to really have hit some hard times from about 1837 until at least 1840.

Still need to follow-up

One other thing that needs to be followed up on – in Lucy Jane Williams' book she states that Albert had family that lived in Orange Co. when she was a child. That means there was family in Orange Co. that remained there after William moved to Chatham.

- Was it on the Yarbrough side or the Gean side? The Izzard/Izzell/Ezell family and Pickard family will come in to play (I think). Need to keep an eye out on Philip Alston, Archibald Campbell & Lewis Kirk.
- Also, what was the connection with David Passmore, the Osbournes and the Jefferies?
- Who was Juliana Avent? What was William's connection to their family? Jesse Jean & Philip Jean both seem to have had dealings either directly (or indirectly via children) with the Avent family. It seems highly likely that their mother was the Avent connection.
- Who was Wiley Jean of Chatham County, NC...and what was his connection to these families? What was his connection to Juliana Avent?

We are about 90% sure this theory is accurate, but is it because we want it to be that way? Is the proof there and we are just afraid to say it, or are we way off base?



We have spent over 20 years between the two of us, working independently, on the Gean's of Chatham Co., NC. Through brainstorming and researching the different families the Gean's were involved with, as well as deed records, probate records, Court of Pleas and Quarter Session minutes, Superior Court minutes and Equity Minutes of Chatham Co., as well as several of the surrounding counties (especially Orange Co.) we have been able to learn a great deal about the Gean's in Chatham. We would appreciate and welcome any and all input on these families.

■ *Renee Newman & Mel Harman*

Gean-ealogy.com Co-Hosts