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ESCAMBIA ECHOES

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Historical Society
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Edited by -
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McLendon,
Secretary/Editor

* Annual Dues - \$6.00

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NOTICE OF MEETING -

August 28, 1979, Fourth Tuesday

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Jefferson Davis State Junior College,
Thomas E.McMillan Museum located in
Fine Arts Building

Speaker: The Honorable Martha Kirkland
Judge of Probate Court, Escambia.
County, Alabama

Topic: THE COUNTY COURTHOUSES AT BREWTON

The Honorable Martha Kirkland, Judge of Probate of Escambia County, Alabama, in presenting the program for the August meeting, will give the illustrious history of the county courthouses at Brewton from the removal of the county seat from Pollard to Brewton, after an election and protracted court battle arising from the fact that Pollard won the first election by voting deceased residents; the "stealing" of the courthouse records by night to bring them to Brewton; the retaliation of the people of Pollard with a boxcar loaded with cats, building and condemnation of Brewton's first courthouse, building of the second more ornate courthouse, the removal of its leaking steeple, and its final demolition; and the building of the third courthouse with its declaration "COURT HOUSE" in two words on its facade. Mrs. Kirkland. was appointed to fill the unexpired term of her late husband, Reo Kirkland, as Probate Judge, an office he had held from 1953 to his death on October 20, 1969, prior to which he was Clerk of the Circuit Court of this county for twelve years. The late Judge Reo Kirkland was the son of George W. Kirkland, a lifelong resident of this area. To the marriage of Reo and Martha Kirkland, Nee Martha Terry of Greensboro, Hale County, was born three children--Jean Barrineau, now on the counseling staff of Western Carolina University at Cullowhwe, North Carolina (the mother of three children); Reo Kirkland, Jr., our State Senator for this district, and Karl Kirkland now working on his doctorate in Clinical Psycology at Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Judge Kirkland is a charter member of this Society. Come and bring a friend.

ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN DOWN for the past few months meetings and we need to all make a great effort to bring new enthusiasm to the group. John Powell, the new curator for the museum, is making great strides in developing the museum more professionally and working toward establishing it as a teaching facility for the entire southeast region for museum sciences, enlarging the research area and materials, and redesigning the display cases so that they can be more easily rotated. More descriptive cards will be put in the cases with the displayed items with the donors names placed on them. If you have or know of anyone who has historical or genealogical material that they might make available for the research center, encourage them to do so or have John Powell contact them. Also, more items are needed for the displays so that they can be rotated periodically. This Society voted at its last meeting to contribute \$500.00 for purchasing needed materials and supplies for cleaning, preserving and storing items for the museum.

MEMORIAL RECEIVED FOR MUSEUM FUND -

IN MEMORY OF NORMAN FINLAY

By

Mr. and Mrs. Gould Beech,
Magnolia Springs, Alabama

INFORMATION REGARDING THE KIRKLAND FAMILY

Furnished by Mrs. John H. Kirkland, Jr.,
145 Rutledge Road
Forest Hills, Route 6,
Greenwood, South Carolina 29646

In researching the Kirkland family I came across something interesting on page 424 of Picket's History of Alabama concerning an Indian murder of some Kirkland men. I think the murder actually took place around 1787. This book says this occurred in the territory of the present county of Conecuh which would be next door to yours. However, since my map showed Kirkland, Ala. so close by, I thought perhaps this might be the location.

It seems that one Col. Kirkland, his son and a nephew were on their way to Pensacola, Fla. to obtain passports to settle in the Spanish province of Louisiana. They encountered a packhorse party on a large creek, or within a mile of a large creek that flows into the Conecuh River. Here all three were slain and the creek became known as "Murder Creek."

We have some records that indicate that these men were from Fairfield County, South Carolina and would like to have some more information on this. In case anyone there is interested, I am sending some census of Conecuh Co., Ala. that will show who Mark Kirkland was. This is probably the rural mail carrier. In 1870 he was age 15 and shows as a son of Mathew Kirkland. His father Mathew, is listed as an heir of Caleb Kirkland in Henry Co., Ala. 1883. Caleb was born in S.C. in 1803, probably being a son of one of the sons of Benjamin and Alce Kirkland of Barnwell Dist., S.C. They had sons Ben Jr., Caleb, Richard,

Moses, Jonathan and William. Most of these boys were having their own children about the same time and named them the same, it seems. To make matters worse, three of them took off to Henry Co. about the same time. Their brother Jonathan probably stayed here and died in Edgefield Dist., S.C. in 1837, but I can't prove that Jonathan is the same as the John that died there. Anyway, I do feel that Mathew Kirkland is from my husband's Kirklands.

I am enclosing a record from Ga. sent to me by a friend in Atlanta which might shed some light on the Col. Kirkland of S.C. that was murdered at Murder Creek. We don't know yet why this record is there, because these Kirklands were from Fairfield Co., S.C. There was a Col. Joseph Kirkland from Fairfield who had a son Obediah, but he was certainly not a loyalist in S.C. records. This Joseph had a brother William for in Fairfax Co., Va. there is a record that says they are in S.C. and they are sons of a Wm., deceased, of Fairfax Co. This record was made in the early 1750's. If we could find the names of those who were murdered, it would help us prove which Wm. was the brother to Joseph, providing it was Col. Joseph that was murdered. There were several Williams here at that time. Joseph's estate is being administered around 1790 and he fails to show in the 1790 census - not even his wife. The only other Col. Kirkland of S.C. that I know of is Moses, the famous Tory. He supposedly drowned at sea in 1789, according to his wife's testimony. His oldest son, Moses, Jr., died in La. His second son by his second wife was only three when his father drowned. So we have eliminated Moses as being the Col. that was murdered.

If you ever learn the names of these Kirkland men that were murdered, my Kirkland friends and I would like to have them.

LINCOLN CO., GA., DEED BOOK A, p. 58-59

Know all men by these presents that I OBADIAH KIRKLAND of the state aforesaid do nominate and appoint Mr. Jacob Townsend of the Creek Nation, Trader, my lawful attorney for me and in my name to ask, demand, sue and recover a certain negro boy of the name of Jim formerly taken from my father JOSEPH KIRKLAND upon his way to WEST FLORIDA by the murderers of my said father and now unlawfully detained by a certain Robert Greason of the Creek Nation, and I do empower my said attorney to bargain, sell and deliver the said negro and receive payment as fully as I could do was I there personally present myself for the better performance of the above. I do hereby bind myself, my heirs and assigns to abide by the above power of attorney given under my hand and seal this 14 day of Jan. 1797.

Obadiah Kirkland, seal

Basil Lamar, J.P.

R.F.Winn

Registered June 7, 1797

Note: Lincoln Co., Ga. was made 20 Feb. 1796 from Wilkes. Jacob Townsend died by 20 Feb. 1798 and an appraisement of his property in Ga. was ordered in Jefferson Co. No property was found. He died intestate and probably in Ala. The Jeff. Co. record does not say.

CONECUH CO., ALA. 1*&) census

Kirkland, Mathew	age 41	b. Ala. makes shoes
Martha A.	46	N.C.
Mark	15	Ala. (probably the Postmaster at Kirk-
George	13	Ala. land, Ala.)
Florence	10	Ala.
Moore	8	Ala.
Lee	3	Ala.
Coleman	?	Ala.
Kirkland, Edy E.	age 22	Ala. (HH of Doretha Ready, age 50 b.S.C.)
Kirkland, George	23	Ala.
Geniltia	22	Ala.
Floer	8/12	Ala. (dau.)

CONECUH CO., ALA. 1880 Soundex

Kirkland, Mathew	age 52	Fla. (?)
Martha	47	Ala. (?)
Marc (?)	19	Ala. (pro. Moore)
Lee	13	Ala.
Coleman	11	Ala.
Fanny	6	Ala.
Albert	3	Ala.
Kirkland, Mark	age 27	Ala.
Nancy	22	Ala.
Mincy	1	Ala.

HENRY CO., ALA. Caleb Kirkland estate, Bk. Z, page 57, Nov., 1883

Heirs: Levi Kirkland
Mathew C. Kirkland of Conecuh Co., Ala.
 Ethalinda, wife of Isaac Brackin
 Anna (?) C., wife of Richard Johnson
 Joseph Kirkland
 Sidney Kirkland
 Mary E., wife of Joseph S. Worrell
 Rachel, wife of Z.T. Knowles
 Margaret, wife of Pleasant B. McAlvaine
 Ransom C. Kirkland
 All over 21, all of Henry Co., Ala. except Mathew C. Kirkland
 Son Isaac W. Kirkland who died since his father leaving widow
 Elizabeth A. and children (names not copied by researcher)
 Elizabeth E. Kirkland, widow of Caleb Kirkland, dec/d.

HENRY CO., ALA. 1850 census

Kirkland, Caleb	age 47	b. S.C.
Elizabeth	43	S.C.
Levi	26	Ala.
Martha	22	(must be Mathew)
Sarah	21	Ala.
Ethelander	16	Fla.
Isaac	17	Fla.
Catherine	13	Fla.
Joseph	11	Ala.
Wilson	10	Ala.
Sidney	7	Ala.
Mary	5	Ala.
Ransom	3	Ala.
Rachel	1	Ala.
Margaret	11/12	Ala.