

ANDY WOODVILLE ROGERS

From John Rogers Genealogy (56, Pg 106-118)

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GREEK ROGERS

Born July 10, 1858 — Warren County, Tennessee
Died October 16, 1943 — Warren County, Tennessee

Married Maggie Carson — January 13, 1881

Born 1861
Died July 7, 1900

Children:

Andy ↑ Born February 10, 1885 — Warren County, Tennessee
Died July 6, 1943 — Birmingham, Alabama

Claudus Born November 3, 1881
Died May 6, 1947

Mary Born June 26, 1883
Died May 8, 1947

Lucy Born September 28, 1886
Died April 25, 1956

Susie Born March 26, 1888
Died March 22, 1964

Abner Born October 4, 1889
Died December 15, 1917

Jeannie Born June 20, 1891
Died March 7, 1977

Reece Born January 29, 1893
Died February 18, 1956

Maudie Born November 25, 1894
Died August 26, 1902

Walter Born February 20, 1896
Died April 30, 1968

Gertrude Born May 16, 1898
Died August 26, 1963

Hassie Born June 17, 1900
Died October 29, 1971

Pg 116 shows picture of AWR ↑ in 1939

ANDY WOODVILLE ROGERS

○ From John Rogers Genealogy (56)⁽¹⁾, pg 120 - 131

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ANDY WOODVILLE ROGERS¹

Born February 10, 1885 — Warren County,
Tennessee

Died July 6, 1943 — Birmingham, Alabama

Married Bonnie Staton — December 26, 1909

Born

Died April 21, 1919

Children:

Malcolm Born March 8, 1911
 Died October 30, 1984

Haskell Born September 17, 1913
 Died September 27, 1977

Married Annie Falsom Thorne — August 4, 1920 —

Birmingham, Alabama

Born February 8, 1893

Died November 11, 1984

Children:

Edward Maurice Born March 18, 1926

Madelyn Born April 22, 1922

Andy Wilmer Born December 21, 1923
 Died August 22, 1978

Jeanette Born March 10, 1928

Paul Earl Born August 31, 1934

ANDY WOODVILLE ROGERS (1885-1943)

ANDY WOODVILLE ROGERS was born on February 10, 1885 in Warren County, Tennessee in the log cabin pictured on page 109. As many as one dozen of his immediate family lived in this small home that consisted of two rooms downstairs and a loft room upstairs. The cabin had a porch adjoining the kitchen that contained a cistern, that is, a well that collected rainwater from the tin roof of the building. The only sources of heat were a large fireplace and wood stove in the kitchen. He was the first person in our Rogers' line to have a middle name so far as we know and he hated the name Woodville. We do not know the origin of this name and we have not found this name previously among our ancestors. We also do not know of any previous Andy or Andrew in the family clan from whom his name may have been taken.

Andy was raised in a very rural area about twelve miles from the county seat of McMinnville. There were no paved roads near the homeplace until the late 1930's. He received a very limited education with no more than seven years of formal schooling, as we recall from conversations with him. He could, however, read and write fairly well and probably got much of his education after his schooling ended.

He was born when Grover Cleveland was President of the United States and this era was the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. It was a time when many of the great inventions were patented. As we have discussed previously, it is almost certain that none of the benefits of the progress being made in the East and in large cities ever trickled down to the farms of Warren County before Andy migrated to Alabama. We can personally recall from many visits to the farm prior to World War II that there were almost no homes with electricity and streetcars were unknown to many of our kin. So far as we know Andy Rogers never ventured far from the farm home until he migrated south when he was about 23 years of age.

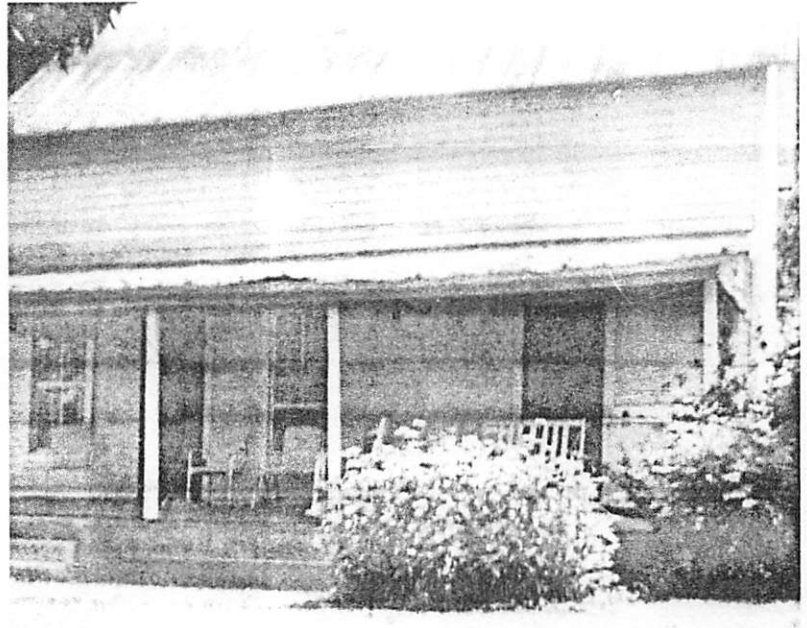
The only entrance to the Rogers' farm, consisting of 200 acres, more or less, was through a creek for about 300 yards and this access is the only passage available to this date. When there was a moderate rainfall automobiles could not reach the homeplace at all. It leads one



Photo of Andy taken 8-22-32



Annie & Andy Rogers



Andy Rogers' home at Ardmore, Tennessee

to wonder why such difficulty was desired in reaching the house — was it to protect the moonshine operation or hide from the revenuers or just for security? This property became the Rogers' farm about 1814 so there had been ample time to establish a roadway.

We know that Andy was in Lincoln County, Tennessee in 1918 as we have the deed wherein he purchased 19½ acres which cost \$487.50. Surprisingly, he had \$287.00 cash in hand to pay on the property and signed a \$200.00 note which was payable in less than twelve months. We cannot imagine where he honestly came into such a large amount of money but we suspect it was from his wife's inheritance or sale of her interest in family property.

Andy married Bonnie Staton on December 26, 1909 and apparently her home was in Lincoln County. In 1919 she sold one third of her family farm of 57 acres to Grady Staton, a fine man and good friend of the Rogers family in Birmingham for many years. Grady Staton was a brother to Bonnie Staton Rogers and he is buried next to Bonnie and another sister Belle in Blanche Cemetery at Ardmore, Tennessee in Lincoln County. Ardmore is a very small town located precisely on the Alabama-Tennessee border.

Andy ostensibly did not stay in Lincoln County very long as we know that he went to work for the Birmingham Electric Company in Birmingham in 1910. He was primarily a motorman on a streetcar for 33 years although he may have been a conductor some of the time. His beginning wages were only a few cents an hour and when he first took this job the motorman on the streetcar stood on a platform out front unprotected from the weather except for an overhead canopy. There was no labor union although the company was unionized after Franklin Roosevelt became president in 1932. Obviously no one made a lot of money operating a streetcar but we recall our father saying that he was never laid off during his entire 33 years with this company and this was something to boast about in the Great Depression. He never had a paid vacation, but he took off one week every other year.

In his neighborhood, known as Rising Station, where he built a frame house with rock columns in 1921 at 1314 Fourth Court West, there was much unemployment and a number of people who barely got enough to eat. The house was partially built by Andy and a brother, Claudus, who came to Birmingham just before Andy arrived and who also worked for the Birmingham Electric Company. It consisted of five small rooms, a bath and a large front porch. The property was 50 feet wide and 140 feet deep. There was very little government assistance but a lot of neighborly help. This section was

located at a point central to Legion Field football stadium, the Fairgrounds, and the Birmingham Barons' baseball park. Andy probably never went to any of these places. His only real interests were family, church and work. The only entertainment he ever talked about was riding a streetcar to Eastlake where there was a lake with various recreational facilities in the early 1920's.

Andy's first wife Bonnie died in 1919 and he had two sons by this marriage; Haskell Rogers who passed away on September 27, 1977 and Malcolm Rogers who died on October 30, 1984.

Haskell was a decorated disabled veteran of World War II who served in the Navy and experienced two warships being blown out from under him in Pacific Ocean naval battles. He had one child, Bonnie Sue, and his first wife was Margaret Hinson.

The other son, Malcolm Rogers, was an electrician and he lived the latter decades of his life in Mobile, Alabama. He married Evelyn Boykin and they had two daughters, Faye Lancaster and Kim Highsmith.

Andy Rogers did not serve in World War I because he had two sons and he was about 33 years of age when the United States got into this war. He was a very patriotic person and supporter of President Woodrow Wilson and President Franklin Roosevelt during the two world wars. It could well be noted here that there were almost no dissenters during either of these two conflicts. Tennessee had gained recognition as the Volunteer State as a result of the high percentage of young men volunteering for service in the Mexican War. We distinctly recall that sacrifices required of the civilian population in the second World War such as heavy taxes, rationing of sugar, meat, gasoline, automobile tires and many other staples were cheerfully accepted with very little dissent in the community where Andy Rogers lived.

Andy married Annie Falsom Thorne on August 4, 1920 in Birmingham and they had five children with spouses shown in parentheses:

1. Madelyn L. Rogers Poole (George Poole) was born April 22, 1922 and attended Athens College in Athens, Alabama and became an accomplished piano player as a child. She was director of music for many years at Clark Memorial Theater in Birmingham. She has one child, Janice Sutherland, who was born on September 27, 1948.

2. Andy Wilmer Rogers (Caroline Baker Rogers) was born December 21, 1923 and died August 22, 1978. He was a graduate of

For and in consideration of the sum of Four hundred eighty seven & 50/100 Dollars, of which the sum of Two hundred eighty seven & 50/100 Dollars is to be cash in hand paid the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged and the balance of said consideration to wit, Two Hundred Dollars, is represented by a certain promissory note of even date herewith and due on or before the 1st. day of September, 1916, and executed by A.W.Rodgers and payable to the order of A.H.Rodgers, and bearing interest from date, I, A.H.Rodgers have this day bargained and sold and do hereby sell, transfer and convey unto A.W.Rodgers, the following described tract or parcel of land lying and situated in the 2nd. Civil District of Lincoln County, Tennessee, and bounded and described as follows:-

Beginning at a hickory stump, a corner of the Davidson Tract, from thence with said Davidson's Line North $11-3/4$ Degrees East $14-3/4$ Poles to a rock pile on the South Side of a gill, with a small hickory pointer; thence North 77 Degrees East 39 Poles to a stake at the branch; with Ash Pointers; thence South $7-1/4$ Degrees West 16 Poles to a stake on the West side of the branch; thence South 21 Degrees West 11 Poles to a stake on the West side of a branch; thence South $11-1/2$ Degrees West 14 Poles to a stake on the West side of the branch; thence South $6-1/2$ Degrees East $24-1/10$ Poles to a stake on the East side of an old road, $3-1/2$ Feet from a hickory pointer, and in A.W. Rodgers' North Boundary Line; thence North $66-1/4$ Degrees West $56-6/10$ Poles to a stake Rodgers' Northwest corner and in Mrs. Margaret S. Davidson's East Boundary line; thence with same North 1 Degree West $37-3/4$ Poles to a stake her corner; thence North $61-3/4$ Degrees East $22-1/2$ Poles to the Beginning, containing $19-1/2$ Acres, and being the same tract or parcel of land conveyed to the undersigned A.W. Rodgers by deed of Miss Fannie Carpenter of date September 6, 1916, and of record in the Register's Office of Lincoln County, Tennessee, in Deed Book K-4 pages 320 et seq. to which deed no recorded reference is here had for full particulars.

I DO HAVE AND DO HOLD said above described tract or parcel of land to him the said A.W. Rodgers, his heirs and assigns forever.

Deed for 57 Acres to A. W. Rogers

For and in consideration of the sum of Five Dollars (\$5.00)

To us Cash in hand paid, receipt of which is here by acknowledged
I Bonnie Rogers Have bargained and sold, and do hereby transfer and convey to G.E. Staten my one third interest in certain tract of land together with dwelling and other out buildings, and improvements thereon located, and lying and situated in the 2nd Civil Dist of Lincoln Co Tenn and bounded as follows.

Beginning at a stake in Herten's Carpenter's East Boundry Line, (New Andy Rogers) Same being in the center of Fort Hampton Road, running from thence South 10* East 172 Peles to a stake with pointers; Thence South 77* East 34 Peles to a stake with pointers; thence North 190 peles to a stone set in the ground; thence North 81* West at 33 peles to a stake; thence South 48* West 23.4 peles to a stake in the center of the Road; thence South 75* West 12 peles to the Beginning; Containing 57 Acres more or less.
And being the same tract belonging to Mrs S.A. Staten now deceased,

To have and to hold said tract of land together with frame dwelling and other improvements there on located, to the said G.E. Staten his heirs and assigns forever.

I Bonnie Rogers Covenant with the said G.E. Staten that I am lawfully seized and possessed of said tract of land
Being one of the Three sole heirs of the Said S.A. Staten.

And hereby bind myself and personal representatives, to forever defend the title to said described property to him, the Said G.E. Staten, his heirs and assigns. Against the lawful claims and demands of all persons whomsoever.

In testimony of all which, we have hereunto set our hands, This Aug. 31st 1918

Bonnie Rogers
Andy Rogers
Husband

State Of Tennessee Lincoln County;ss

Personally appeared before me L.W. Slean A Notary Public for Said county and State The within Named Bonnie Rogers And Husband Andy Rogers The Bargainers with whom I am personally acquainted and acknowledged that they Executed the above Deed. The Said Bonnie Rogers acknowledgeing same privately and apart from said Husband Andy Rogers.

Witness My hand and official Seal at Taft Tenn.

This Aug. 31st 1918

L.W. Slean
Notary Public.

Birmingham Southern College and worked most of his life in the business machine field. He had one adopted child, Patty Rogers. At the time of his death he was president and part owner of Electronic Processors, a computer service company in Birmingham. He was a veteran of World War II.

3. Edward Maurice Rogers (Peggy Williams Rogers) (See the following chapter of this book.)

4. Jeanette Rogers Lowe (Donald Gene Lowe) was born March 10, 1928 and has worked in the family jewelry business in Demopolis some forty years. She has two adopted children, Donald Gene Lowe, Jr. and Linda Lowe Ray. She also has two grandchildren who are Nicole and Andy Lowe.

5. Paul Earl Rogers (Judy Johns Rogers) was born August 31, 1934 and he is a graduate of David Lipscomb College in Nashville, Tennessee. Paul has been a minister of the Gospel all of his adult life and has been at Centerville Church of Christ for more than thirty years. He has done a marvelous job in establishing a large church in a small town and is widely respected in the church brotherhood. He has four children, Larry, David, Susan and Emily Rogers. Larry has a child named Carson and David has a child named Rachel. Larry owns a landscaping business in Nashville and David is a lawyer in Nashville. Susan is a secretary and she and her brothers are graduates of David Lipscomb College.

Annie Thorne was born and raised in Cuba, Alabama and she also was from a large, poor, farming family. She was a very intelligent person who had the capacity to remember almost everything she ever learned, even into her final years, when she died at age 91 on November 11, 1984. Annie received whatever elementary schooling was available in her community and then got a job as a waitress at the school cafeteria to work herself through two years of credits at Livingston State College. She received a teacher's certificate there and taught school for a time in a rural county and then again part-time in Jefferson County after Andy's death in 1943.

Andy and Annie were introduced by Claude and Sally Orman, long time friends in the neighborhood. Andy worked a minimum of six days per week and about twelve hours per day so there was not much time in his life for recreation or hobbies. After the union got a foothold in the company these hours were reduced somewhat but not a great deal.

As to worldly possessions, Andy Rogers never had very much but he did take pride in owning three automobiles during his lifetime. We

do not know what type vehicle the first one was, but he had a 1931 Plymouth and finally a 1939 Chevrolet. Other than his homeplace, which was paid for, the only other thing of real value was a Hamilton gold pocket watch which was required at his job.

Andy Rogers was a strict disciplinarian and was very much a fundamentalist in his Christian beliefs. He was a member of the Church of Christ from at least the early 1920's and it was his firm conviction that this church advocated the one and only correct doctrine. Andy was a deacon at the West End Church of Christ until a new church was started in downtown Birmingham in 1941 known as Central Church of Christ. He was a trustee at this church and during all these years it was absolutely imperative that every member of the family go to church services a minimum of three times each week or every time the church doors opened. His idea of a wonderful afternoon would be an exhausting religious argument with his Baptist brother-in-law, Jessie Thorne. All Andy's children were members of the Church of Christ and remain so to this day except Andy Wilmer Rogers who is deceased.

Andy Woodville Rogers passed away on July 6, 1943 from an apparent heart attack while picking blackberries at a place called Clay, Alabama located in his home county of Jefferson. He is buried next to his wife, Annie Thorne, and his son, Andy Wilmer Rogers, in Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham, Alabama.

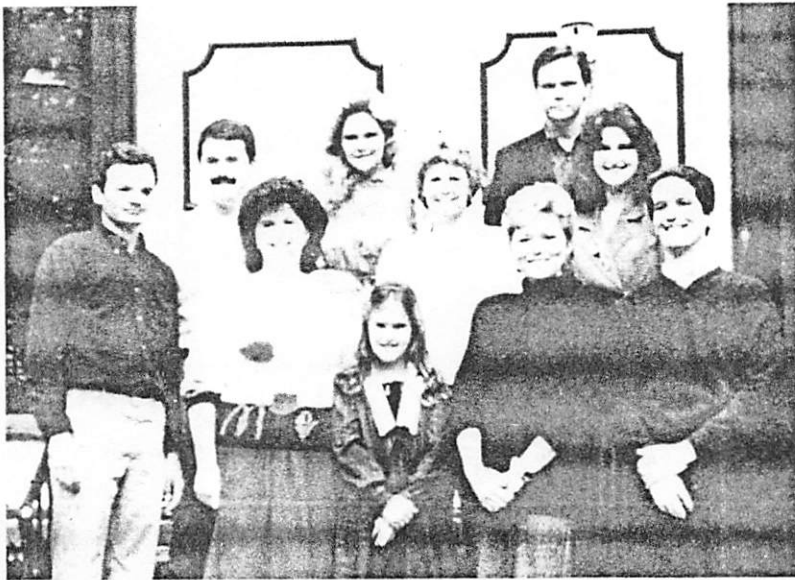
The main goal he had in life was to provide for the world a responsible, successful, achieving family. He sacrificed very much to attain this goal and when he died an appropriate verse was placed on his grave footstone succinctly describing his life: "Faithful to His Trust Even Unto Death."



1977: Paul, Jeanette, Andy,
Annie, Madelyn, Maurice



Family of Paul Rogers — Larry, Susan,
Judy, Emily, Paul, David



Ten Grandchildren of Andy Rogers

Top row: Donnie, Carol, Ed; Middle row: Larry, Marsha, Lynn,
Susan; Bottom row: Emily, Janice, David

THE CENTRAL BULLETIN

Vol. 1

July 15, 1943

No. 36

IN MEMORY OF
BROTHER ANDY W. ROGERS
WHO PASSED TO HIS
REWARD
JULY 6, 1943.
CENTRAL
HAS SUFFERED
A
GREAT LOSS.

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
7th. Ave. & 25th. St. N.
Birmingham Alabama
A. E. Emmons Jr., Minister
Phone 4-1188

The State of Alabama
JEFFERSON COUNTY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That for and in consideration of Five Hundred Twenty Five and no/100 DOLLARS,

to the undersigned grantor Bunice G. Davidson a single man,
in hand paid by A. M. Rogers
the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged & the said Bunice G. Davidson a
do. single man
grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said A. M. Rogers
the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lot Four (4) in Block Dmlre (12) according
to the map and survey of Resin G. Compton as recorded
in Vol. 1 of maps page 83 in the office of the Judge of
Probate of Jefferson County, Alabama, said property being
further described as being near rising station on the
South Cusley car line running between Birmingham
and Cusley, Alabama.

situated in Jefferson County, Alabama,
TO HAVE AND TO HOLD to the said A. M. Rogers, his
heirs and assigns forever.
And I do for myself and my heirs, executors and administrators, covenant with the said
A. M. Rogers, his heirs and assigns, that I lawfully seized in fee simple of
said premises, that they are free from all encumbrances.
And that I have a good right to sell and convey the same as aforesaid; that I will, and my
heirs, executors and administrators shall, warrant and defend the same to the said A. M. Rogers, his
heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims of all persons.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 7 day of August A. D., 1921
Witness: J. J. Harden Bunice G. Davidson
(J. R. 7/12) (SEAL)
(SEAL)
(SEAL)
(SEAL)

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, JEFFERSON COUNTY.
I, Drances C. Oliver a Notary Public in and for said County, in said State, hereby certify that
Bunice G. Davidson a single man
whose name is signed to the foregoing conveyance, and who is known to me, acknowledged before me, on this day, that, being
informed of the contents of the conveyance. He executed the same voluntarily, on the day the same bears date. (Dr. P. Seal)
Given under my hand, this 7th day of September A. D., 1921. Drances C. Oliver Notary Public.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, JEFFERSON COUNTY.
I, _____ a Notary Public in and for said County, in said State aforesaid, do hereby
certify that on the _____ day of _____ 1921, came before me the within named _____
known to me (or made known to me) to be the wife of the within named _____
who, being examined separate and apart from the husband, touching her signature to the within conveyance, acknowledged that she signed the
same of her own free will and accord, without fear, constraint or threats on the part of the husband.
In Witness Whereof, I hereunto set my hand, this _____ day of _____ A. D., 1921 _____ Notary Public.

Deed to Andy Rogers homeplace, 1314 4th Court West, Birmingham, Alabama