

Allen Deese I XID-13840

Commentary: Allen Deese (1810 – 1887) married Catherine Upchurch (1810 – 1888) who was the daughter of Allen Upchurch and the granddaughter of Harmon Upchurch, head of Upchurch clan #16. From this union 7 children would be born.

Acknowledgements: This biofile was transcribed by Ginger Sisney, one of UAFA valued contributors.

Included in letter 1 Oct 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU:

Will of Allen Deese I

I, **Allen Deese Senior** of the County of Stanly and _____ with the uncertainty of human life do make and declare this my last will and testament as follows to wit:

Item 1st: That my executor here after named of the procurer of my estate pay my funeral expenses and just debts.

Item 2nd: I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Catharine [Catharine Upchurch] Deese to have and to hold for life all the beds and furniture of all sorts in my possession at my death. All the cattle I have in hand at my death, also my hogs, two mules, two pairs of _____, a two horse wagon, my buggy and harness, all my bees, a years provision for herself and stock, my tract of land when I am now living about 160 acres, one thousand dollars in gold to be held by my executor and paid to my wife as her necessities may demand.

Item 3rd: I will to my daughter Mary A. Deese all the property in Item 2nd after the death of her mother. Also five hundred and sixty-two dollars in gold. Also an equal share of my property left for her brothers A.D. Deese, Allen Deese Jr. and Eliza Smith; in other words she is to come in equal with the above named parties in the remainder of my property after paying the heirs of William Boggan Deese five dollar each. Also the heirs of James A. Deese five dollars each.

Item 4th: I will to my son William Boggan Deese heirs five dollars each.

Item 5th: I will to my son James A Deese heirs five dollars each

Item 6th: I will to my son Atlas D. Deese, Allen Deese Junior, and my daughters Mary A. Deese and Eliza Smith all the property belonging to my estate after this amount has been paid out in the above stated items. The balance to be divided equal among them Atlas D. Deese, Allen Deese Junior, Mary A. Deese and Eliza Smith.

Item 7th: I hereby appoint D.W. Bennett executor to this my last will and testament and I here unto set my hand and affix my seal this 23rd day of January A.D. 1886.

In the presence of witnesses:

D.W. Bennett

Allen Deese

M._. Blalock [Maston Blalock]

W. . Barnhart

RPU added Eliza Smith = nee Elizabeth Catherine Deese

(1) See letter 1 Aug 1980 John Paul Lilly to RPU.

“I was shown two graves in a plowed field about two miles north of Norwood, NC and was told that the woman was an Upchurch before she married. The gravestones read as follows:

1. Catherine: wife of **Allen Deese** died Oct 6, 1888 ages 78 years 4 months 24 days
2. **Allen Deese**: born 10 Apr 1810 died 20 May 1887.

So far I have not been able to learn who she is related to. She was born in 1810 and is likely a granddaughter of Harmon Upchurch. Perhaps you can find a relationship.

(2) See letter 21 Jul 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU

Allen Deese I born 10 Apr 1810 (NC) died 20 May 1887 (Stanly Co, NC) married Catherine Upchurch born 22 May 1810 (NC) died 16 Oct 1888 (Stanly Co, NC) daughter of Allen Upchurch and granddaughter of Harmon Upchurch, head of clan.

“The earliest confirmed ancestor in the Deese line is **Allen Deese (Dees) I** born 1810, husband of Catherine Upchurch, born 1810, found in the 1840 Montgomery Co, NC Census living west of the Pee Dee River. In Montgomery Co, NC deeds, **Allen Dees** is shown owning land along David’s Creek 12 Nov 1839. I have not found him in Montgomery Co, NC at an earlier date. In the 1820 and 1830 Census of Anson Co, NC an Allen Dees is found, however he and a female in the household (presumably his wife) are listed as being born no later than 1804. If this is Allen and Catharine, the birthdates on the tombstones are incorrect.

If **Allen Deese I’s** land did not join that of Allen Upchurch and Howell Upchurch it was definitely in the same area – David’s Creek comes within a couple of miles of Jacob’s Creek.

(3) See letter 17 Sep 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU – “I am including a copy of the death certificate of A.D. (Atlas Dugan) Deese son of as **Allen Deese I** and Catharine Upchurch Deese. It says that the mother of A.D. was “Kattie” Upchurch. A story passed through the descendants of William Bogan Deese maintains that **Allen Deese I** was illiterate and that “Kattie” maintained the financial resources. When **Allen Deese I** wasn’t farming he worked at a sawmill. Instead of counting his wages on payday like everyone else, he would take them home to Catherine to insure he wasn’t shortchanged.

There is a will for **Allen Deese I** dated 23 Jan 1886. In it the spelling Catharine is used for his wife. Same spelling on her tombstone. The families of Allen Upchurch [head of Harmon Upchurch/Allen Upchurch subclan], **Allen Deese I** and John David ??? are found on the roll of Randall Methodist Church.

(4) See letter 1 Oct 1985 David Joe Deese to RPU

a. I feel I have located the Father and Grandfather of **Allen Deese I**. The father is Charles Deese (ca 1785-?) who owned land along David’s Creek in Montgomery County, NC as

early as 1830 and I believe earlier. Charles had at least 9 children. In 1839 Charles sold all his land as did his eldest son Bryant, and presumably with Bryant moved out of the state of NC leaving sons **Allen I**, Milton and William along David's Creek. The Grandfather was Richard Dees (1730-29 Dec 1818) who moved to Stanly Co, NC from Chesterfield Co, SC sometime after 1810.

b. Map provided (see map file) showing gravesite of **Allen Deese I** and his wife nee Catharine Upchurch. David notes the graves are some distance from the land owned by **Allen Deese I** on David's Creek.

c. Stanly Co, NC – 17 Jan 1846. Milton Deese enters 100 acres of land on the Salisbury Road adjoining **Allen Deese** line and others.

d. Stanly Co, NC 9 Nov 1846 – David Blalock, Jr enters 150 acres of land on the waters of David's Creek, adjoining **Allen Deese** and others.

(5) See will file for will of **Allen Deese I** written 23 Jan 1886 Stanly Co, NC (attached)

Note: Allen Deese's will can be found on familysearch.com or Ancestry.com. JB 23 Jan 2021.