

Lambeth Lassiter Upchurch

XID – 104

Commentary: Lambeth aka Lamberth Lasiter Upchurch was born on 26 July 1830 and died on 31 Dec 1905. He was the son of Gilbert and the grandson of Nathan I, head of Upchurch clan #3. Lamberth was partially blind and never married.

Acknowledgements: This Biofile was transcribed by UAFA Volunteer Coordinator and long-time Cary, NC resident, Carla J Michaels.

(1) Tombstone in Inwood Baptist Church shows **Laster Upchurch** born 26 July 1830 died 31 Dec 1905 (21)

(2) Plaque inside Inwood Baptist Church shows church organized 25 Feb 1877 and shows 3 Upchurches among founders **Lamberth Lasiter Upchurch**, Mariah Upchurch and Aurora Ray Upchurch (25).

(3) 1850 Census of Wake Co shows Lamberth at home with family and age 18 on day of census 17 Aug 1850 (hence born 1832 +1). His name garbled to read **Laten**. See Gilbert Upchurch for listings.

(4) Notes from Gettys Upchurch shows **Lass Upchurch** as son of Gilbert Upchurch (XID – 82) and as being single and part blind.

(5) See Deed File – on 1 Oct 1881 B J Upchurch and W G Upchurch and wives filed a Wake Co NC deed giving 1-acre land to Inwood Baptist Church. **Lassiter Upchurch** was listed as a Trustee along with John Strain & Anderson Betts.

(6) See notes of 25 Feb 1978 visit by RPU to Lena Perry home
 A. Thinks Grandpa did not join church right away but **Uncle Lass** and Aunt Mariah joined promptly
 B. Uncle Lass was sent to Blind School

(7) See 1860 Census – Wake Co, NC
Lasillor (Lasiter) Upchurch age 29 was in home headed by his mother Lucretia Upchurch age 59. Brother Bartley Upchurch was also there.

(8) See 1870 Census – Wake Co, NC – Barton's Creek Township
Laseter (Lasiter) Upchurch age 45 was in home headed by his brother Jefferson Upchurch age 26.

(9) See 1880 Census – Wake Co, NC – Swift Creek Township
Lambeth Upchurch age 50 was in home headed by his brother Bartley Upchurch age 39.

(10) See 1850 Census – Wake Co, NC – Western Division

Laseter Upchurch age 18 M blind was in home headed by his mother Creecy (Lucretia) Upchurch age 46 F.

(11) See notes of RPU 24 Feb 1979 visit to Edna Lois Upchurch

Page 8 – Uncle **Lass** died 31 Dec 1904.

(12) On 27 Feb 1985 RPU visited Eleanor Upchurch Martin and obtained the walking stick that had belonged to **Lamberth Lasiter Upchurch**. This had been given by her niece Eleanor Marks Upchurch, II to her son James Martin who in turn gave it to Eleanor Upchurch Martin for safe keeping who in turn gave it to RPU.

(13) Extract of letters 10 & 23 Oct 1980 Frank Jefferson Upchurch, Sr to RPU

[Note: blind brother – **Lamberth Lassiter Upchurch** – CJM 17 Sep 2020]

During the civil war, Uncle Las, the blind brother and the ladies of the house got along as well as could be expected. After the war, there was a lot of trouble with carpet baggers and run away soldiers and other "trash" robbing homes. One night someone knocked on the door and continued to bang on it as though to knock the door in. Uncle Las, who could see very little but could see as well as anyone else in the dark, went out the back door and slipped up on the three carpet baggers who were trying to get into the house. Uncle Las had with him a walking stick that he had made and had bored a hole in the head of the stick and filled it with lead. He knocked two of them down with the stick and the other one ran. One of the men knocked down did not leave. They buried him in the hog pen so that the mud and hog tracks would erase any sign of a grave.

(14) The Naaman Mills Family by W A Mills – page 93

[Note: **Lamberth Lassiter Upchurch** – CJM 17 Sep 2020]

5. **LAMBERTH LASSITER UPCHURCH**, son of Gilbert Upchurch and Lucretia Mills, was born 26 Jul 1830 in NC, and died 31 Dec 1905. He is buried at Inwood Bap. Ch. Cem., Wake Co., NC. Lamberth was *blind*, according to FC/1850. He resided in Wake Co., NC (White Oak Twp.) with his mother on FC/1850-1860; (Barton's Creek Twp.) with his brother, Bartley and family on FC/1870 and (Swift Creek Twp.) on FC/1880. Lamberth was one of the founding members of Inwood Baptist Church, Wake Co., NC. He lived to age 75.

(15) Input from Miley Albert Perry "Monk" to RPU on 4 Oct 2005

Monk showed RPU two walking canes [presumably owned by Uncle Lass **Lambert Lassiter Upchurch**]. They were given to him by Sister Perry [Lena Perry]. One is an elaborately carved item showing an alligator claimed to have been created by Uncle Lass. Considering that Uncle Lass was blind Monk and RPU agree that is unlikely he did the carving.

(16) RPU theory regarding the possible relationships between the Upchurch – Lambeth – Lassiter – Johnson Families of Chatham & Wake Counties, NC
 [Lambeth AKA Lambert; Lassiter AKA Lasater; Lassater, Lassister – all filed as Underlined]

A. Known Family Relationships:

I. John Lambeth born () died 1803 (Chatham Co, NC)

A. Thomas Lambeth born about 17XX – will probated 1836 (Chatham Co, NC)

1. Martha Lambeth

married () Dempsey Johnson son of John Johnson born about 1758 () died about 1848

a. Thomas Lambeth Johnson

i. Annie Maria Johnson

married () Charles Fabius Williams son of John Williams, died 25 Apr 1884

 X. John Lasater born about 1797 () died about 1844

married () Catherine Lambeth born () died about 1837

A. Joseph Bell Lasater

married 1852 () Quinett Upchurch daughter of Sims Upchurch

 Y. RPU Comments as of 13 Dec 2003 – Possible relationships related to I & X above: Nathan Upchurch, I head of Clan married () Mackey --- ---, thought to have been Mackey Johnson, possibly daughter of Julius Johnson. I speculate that somehow the proposed Mackey Johnson could be related to the above families of Johnson, Lambeth, and Lasater considering that she had grandchildren with given names of Mariah, Lambeth & Lasater. More especially note that Mackey had a grandson (my great uncle) **Lambeth Lasater Upchurch** – an unlikely combination of given names unless tied to earlier related family members.

(17) Inwood Baptist Church Cemetery, Wake Co, NC, Swift Creek Township – Rhamkatte – Inscriptions recorded by RPU 19 Jun 2006. RPU notes below details on stones 7 church list printed 16 Feb 2000. Later inputs shown by [].

Family: Upchurch

No.	Name	Dates	Relationship
168	Rex E Upchurch	4 May 1894 – 31 Aug 1968	
169	Ruth S Upchurch	4 Nov 1900	wife of 168
170A	Allen Rex Upchurch	25 Aug 1923 – 5 Aug 1996	
170B	Samuel H Upchurch	10 Apr 1921 – 14 Apr 1921	
170C	Jaclyn Holk Neal	23 Mar 1948 – 24 Dec 2003	
475	William Clinton Upchurch	7 Dec 1888 – 22 Apr 1963	son of 507

Relationship	No.	Name	Dates
[s/o = son of; w/o = wife of; d/o = daughter of]			
s/o 961	386 ¹	[2] Gilbert Upchurch	1792 - 1845
w/o 386	387	[3] Lucretia Upchurch	3 May 1807 – 26 Sep 1877
d/o 386	588	[4] Mariah Upchurch	19 Jul 1820 – 30 Dec 1900
s/o 386	389	[5] <u>Laster Upchurch</u>	26 Jul 1830 – 31 Dec 1905
d/o 419	390	[6] Lena Upchurch LJU	1870 – 1947
s/o 419	391	[7] Wis Upchurch	1884 – 1959
s/o 419	430	[8] Maude Upchurch M Ray Upchurch	21 Jul 1886 – 2 Dec 1975
w/o 430	419	Bessie Upchurch B Elnora Upchurch	29 Sep 1898 – 18 Mar 1984
s/o 419	430	Robert Upchurch R Jefferson Upchurch	28 Jan 1880 – 13 Apr 1948
s/o 386	419	Jeff Upchurch	1841 – 1929
w/o 419	420	Aurora Upchurch A Ray Upchurch	1849 – 1904
d/o 419	421	Pattie Upchurch P A Upchurch	1878 – 1935
s/o 419	422	Malcom Upchurch	1874 – 1938
s/o 419	423	G H Upchurch	28 Feb 1822 – 8 Jul 1957
s/o 425	424	Bennie Upchurch B J Upchurch	22 Aug 1932 – 10 Feb 1956
s/o 425	425	Frank Upchurch F J Upchurch	2 Oct 1888 – 31 Oct 1968
w/o 425	425	Edna W Upchurch	2 Feb 1896 – 16 May 1988

¹[Gilbert Upchurch is not buried here but a stone has been placed here in his honor – RPU]

(18) New inputs about RPU ancestors from Cousin William Alan Mills.

In a 25 Jul 2009 email W A M reports to RPU that there is lots of circumstantial evidence to show that our mutual ancestor Naaman Mills married Penelope Lassiter. On 26 Jul 2009 Cousin Billy Mills followed up with more details:

Subject: Penelope Lassiter & Naaman Mills.

From: "William A. Mills" <wa-mills@juno.com>

Date: Sun, Jul 26, 2009 10:34 am

Cousin Phil,

← To: phil@upchurchstory.com

Consider the following:

The Will (prior to 1820) of James Lassiter (Northampton or Edgecombe Co., NC), lists among his heirs, "Penelope Mills".

Penelope Lassiter had brothers, such as Elijah, Shadrack, Green Lassiter, and others ... all names that Naaman Mills' children had.

Elijah Lassiter was the witness on Naaman Mills' Revolutionary War pension application in the 1830s.

Matthew Mills named one of his sons, Elijah Lassiter Mills. James Lassiter's ancestors were from Nansemond Co., VA.

There is a Lassiter Road in the same vicinity of the property that Naaman Mills owned in Northampton Co., NC.

I am reciting this from memory only, but there are many other gleanings of circumstantial evidence to add meat to the bare bones of this potential Lassiter tree.

I have surmised much of this online since 1999, and a search online thru google or various genealogical data bases may provide many other variations by now.

Take care,

Cousin Billy

My interpretation- RPU – 31 Aug 2009

I. James Lassiter (originally of Nansemond Co, VA) of Northampton & Edgecombe Counties, NC wrote his will prior to 1820 and listed Penelope Mills as an heir – presumably his daughter.

Billy provides names of sons of James Lassiter... So:

*A. Elijah Lassiter – signed Revolutionary War Pension application for his brother-in-law Naaman Mills in 1830s.

*B. Shadrack Lassiter

*C. Green Lassiter

D. Penelope Lassiter

married () Naaman Mills whose mother was reputedly nee Smith → (Naaman Mills owned land in Northampton Co, NC near which is a Lassiter Rd)

1. Matthew Mills

a. Elijah **Lassiter Mills

2. Lucretia Mills

married () Gilbert Upchurch

a. Bartley Jefferson Upchurch

i. Robert Jefferson Upchurch

(I) Robert Phillip Upchurch

b. **Lamberth **Lassiter Upchurch**

c. Nathaniel **Smith Upchurch

*These names used for sons of Naaman Mills

**Names that cam from earlier generations

From book: The Naaman Mills Family of North Carolina 1757 – 1996 by William A Mills
On Page 16 and beyond the author implies that Richard Smith might have been the grandfather of Naaman Mills which presumably implies that the mother of Naaman Mills was nee --- --- Smith.

(19) Upchurch Insanity Records – on 8 Sep 2011 Kay Lind Slappey sent RPU 6 emails regarding insanity of four members of the Nathan Upchurch I clan which I have coded to show pages = A10, B6, C15, D13, E55, F34. The pages are filed in the biofiles of the four as shown in the boxed names below. All four were declared legally insane an INDIGENT and committed to the Florida Asylum for the insane (Florida State Hospital) at Chattahoochee, Gadsden, Florida. The documents were shared with Margaret Louise Harris on 10 Sep 2011.

RPU – Extract 29 Nov 2013

More research would be required to conclude that an “insanity” genetic trait existed in the Nathan Upchurch I clan. In any family + and – traits are distributed unevenly. With today’s medicines some or all of the four might have led more or less normal lives outside of an institution. At this remove we cannot know what environmental conditions may have contributed to their ill health. It is a surprise that all four were declared indigent in view of the wealth of the family – but we judge from afar. The available records fail to show much family concern for those incarcerated (except for Rebecca) but more evidence is needed.

I. Nathan Upchurch, I – Head of Clan

A. Gilbert Upchurch

1. Nathaniel Smith Upchurch

a. Fred Bradford Upchurch 1882 – 1954

A 1-7 committed (Paranoia) at age 42, 31 Dec 1924, died in the Asylum. His brother Dr. N.A.Upchurch = Guardian and on board to commit.

b. Nathaniel Swan Upchurch 1870 – 1931

B 1-6; C 1-15 committed at age 61 on 2 Mar 1931 – Loss of memory/time/place. Mrs. Frank Drew Upchurch, Sr., Guardian – N.A.U. on board to commit. Died in asylum. Body to Jacksonville.

c. John Jones Upchurch, Sr.

i. Susan Eleanor Upchurch 1898 – 1937

D –7-13; F 1-34 Committed 5 Oct 1920 at age 29 for chronic congenital imbecility. Had severe epilepsy bouts. Started as pay patient but judged indigent 4 Jun 193X Brother J. J. Upchurch, Sr.= GDN – upon death her mother Bell had her buried at asylum.

2. William George Upchurch

a. William Garland Upchurch

married 1902 () Rebecca Pearl Hankins 1882-1932
 A 8-10; D 1-6; E 1-55. [Rebecca] committed 16 Apr 1915 at age 33.
 Died in asylum. Body to brother G. F. Hankins, Lexington, North
 Carolina. See her biofile for more comments.

3. Bartley Jefferson Upchurch
 - a. Bessie Estille Upchurch
 - i. Lena Upchurch Perry
 - (I) Frances Holt Tilley – went blind as an adult.
4. **Lamberth Lassiter Upchurch** 1830 – 1905 Blind (from birth?)
5. Mariah Elizabeth Upchurch 1820 – 1900 Blind (from birth?)

Re: Frances Holt Tilley, Lamberth Lassiter and Mariah Elizabeth Upchurch: Was their blindness related to above insanity? See their biofiles.

(20) Was blindness among the descendants of Nathan Upchurch, I related to the cases to the cases of insanity in the family. (See RPU Extract 29 Nov 2011) – RPU 30 Nov 2011.

By reference to the 29 Nov 2011 Extract Sheet it will be seen that the insanity / blindness cases all involved descendants of Nathan's son Gilbert Upchurch.

Gilbert's son Nathaniel Smith Upchurch had two sons and one granddaughter declared insane (Susie).

Susie was also a granddaughter of Gilbert's son William George Upchurch (due to intermarriages in the family.)

[In the Extract I explain how these cases of insanity could have been the "luck of the draw" and how modern medicine might have made unnecessary the pejorative term "insanity". However, in the case of Susie, one cannot overlook the two close marriages of four of her ancestors (two couples). Susie and her full siblings did not show robust health records.]

The blindness involved the other sons of Gilbert – Bartley, **Lamberth**, and Mariah. The latter two were blind (completely or partially?) (from birth?). My unsubstantiated guess has always been that the blindness of these two could have traced to venereal disease introduced by Gilbert as he had some known weakness of character. These two children had different mothers.

Bartley had a great-granddaughter, Frances Holt Tilly who developed complete blindness as an adult. Her years of explaining her condition led her to believe that her blindness was hereditary and thus connected to that of **Lamberth** and Mariah.

In conclusion, I have developed no connection that the insanity or blindness cases are genetic in nature or that they are related. Others with more expertise may show genetic causes.

(20) [Repeated number – CJM 17 Sep 2020] Inwood Baptist Church Cemetery – Swift Creek Township – Wake Co, NC – Members of the Upchurch Family
 [Note: Includes **Lambeth Lassiter Upchurch** – CJM 17 Sep 2020]

Upchurch, Allen Rex, b. 25 Aug 1923, d. 5 Aug 1996, mason
 Upchurch, Bennie J., b. 22 Aug 1932, d. 10 Feb 1956, "Bitsy"
 Upchurch, Bessie Elnora, b. 25 Sep 1898, d. 10 Mar 1984
 Upchurch, Birdie, b. 6 May 1897, d. 16 May 1897
 Upchurch, Edna W., b. 2 Feb 1896, d. 16 May 1988
 Upchurch, Eldora Kendall Wright, b. 1860, d. 1943
 Upchurch, Frank J., b. 2 Oct 1888, d. 31 Oct 1968
 Upchurch, G. Malcolm, b. 1874, d. 1938
 Upchurch, G.H., b. 23 Feb 1882, d. 8 Jul 1957
 Upchurch, Gilbert, b. 1792, d. 1845
 Upchurch, Jeff, b. 1841, d. 1929, 1st NC Reg., Co. G
 Upchurch, John W., b. 1855, d. 1935
 Upchurch, Laster, b. 26 Jul 1830, d. 31 Dec 1905
 Upchurch, Lena, b. 1870, d. 1947
 Upchurch, Lucretia, b. 3 May 1802, d. 26 ??? 1872
 Upchurch, Lucretia, b. Mar 1802, d. Aug 1878 OR
 Upchurch, Marian, b. 19 Jul 1820, d. 30 Dec 1900
 Upchurch, Maude Ray, b. 21 Jul 1886, d. 2 Dec 1975
 Upchurch, Pattie A., b. 1878, d. 1935
 Upchurch, Rex E., b. 4 May 1894, d. 31 Aug 1968
 Upchurch, Robert Jefferson, b. 28 Jan 1880, d. 13 Apr 1948
 Upchurch, Ruth S., b. 4 Nov 1900, d. 23 Jul 1959
 Upchurch, Samuel H., b. 10 Apr 1921, d. 14 Apr 1921
 Upchurch, William Clinton, b. 7 Dec 1888, d. 22 Apr 1963
 Upchurch, Wis, b. 1884, d. 1959

Martin, Eleanor Upchurch, b. 1875, d. 1968

Perry, Bessie U., b. 1872, d. 1962

(no number) Lamberth Lassiter Upchurch to RPU from Jay Buck 28 Sep 2016. From The Morning Post, Raleigh, North Carolina 3 Jan 1905.

Newspapers: LAMBERTH LASSITER U X50-104
 TO RPU FROM The Morning Post (Raleigh, North Carolina) · Tue, Jan 3, 1905 · Page
 tps://www.newspapers.com/image/5001578 JAY BUCK 28 SEP 2016 Downloaded on Sep 28, 201

Mr. L. Upchurch Dead

Mr. Lassiter Upchurch, one of the most earnest Christian men in Swift Creek township, died Saturday morning at the home of his brother, Mr. Jefferson Upchurch, after a long illness.

Mr. Upchurch was very near-sighted and this trouble grew on him until he became practically blind. He was never married and he took a keen interest in his brother's children and their education. He was a cultivated man and a pious consecrated Christian. On July 19 last he celebrated his 73d birthday. He is* survived by two brothers, Mr. Nathaniel Upchurch of Florida and Mr. Jefferson Upchurch of Swift Creek.

The funeral took place Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Inwood Baptist Church, of which the deceased was a leading member, and was largely attended.

