

CHAPTER 9

Jeremiah D. Lusk
(1850)

1870 Arkansas Census

Jeremiah D. Lusk and Sarah (Sally) Ann York, daughter of Andrew and Cynthia (Harmon) York, were married in 1869 or 1870. No printed record of the marriage has been found. They are listed twice on the 1870 Arkansas Census, Independence Co., living as a married couple next door to Jeremiah's widowed mother, Catherine Lusk, and his brother, James Joseph, ("Jim Bud") in Green Briar Township. (1)

The second enumeration finds Jeremiah and Sallie in Washington Township on November 8, 1870. Jeremiah was listed as being 22 years old and should be 21 as his birth month was May. He worked a farm, which might have been the land that belongs to his father-in-law, Andrew York. Sarah A. was 21 years old and kept house. (2)

York Island

Lyn McSpadden of Mountain View, AR, a distant cousin, told Barbara Wagner that there is an island called York Island in the White River that divides Independence and Stone Counties. Jeremiah and Sarah may have been living in Green Briar town ship, got enumerated there and weeks or months later they were living in Washington Township and York Island would be in that township and got enumerated there. Lyn McSpadden is related to the Yorks through the Harmon. Sally Ann York Lusk's mother was a Harmon. (3)

March 1870 Petition

About March of 1870 Jeremiah petitioned the court to remove him from the Guardianship that he was in "because he was near his majority and was married". He was given \$50 as his share of the guardianship.

"In Independence County Court Probate Court March term through AD 1870

To the Hon. Hamblen Hogan Judge XO:

Your petitioner Jeremiah D. Lusk (following words unreadable)

Respectfully show unto your honor that he is a minor aged twenty years and one month and as such is the ward of Wesley Clark Said Clark as such guardian of your petitioner has in his hands about the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) that is your petitioner's share of the legacy to the heirs of Robert M Lusk deceased.

In view of the fact that your petitioner is so nearly attained his majority and is married and working for himself, he respectfully asks your honor to make an order authorizing and directing said Wesley Clark as guardian of your petitioner to pay over to him--petitioner--his distributive share as aforesaid and that his petitioning receipt may be good (word unclear) to said Clark in his settlement of his guardianship of our petitioner as aforesaid.

Very respectfully submitted

Jeremiah X Lusk

His mark

Witness: Robert Neill."

This is the only record that indicates that Jeremiah was married other than the Enumerations on the 1870 Arkansas Census. (4)

Jeremiah Sells His Portion of Father's Land

In 1875 Jeremiah and Sally sold his 118 share of his father's land.

"To IN Reed and C.P. Burr:

Know all men by these present that I Jeremiah D. Lusk of Independence County, Arkansas for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and twelve dollars to me in hand paid by Isaac N Reed and Charles P. Burr do hereby grant bargain, and sell unto the said Reed and Burr and unto their heirs and assigns forever the following lands, lying in the County of Independence and State of Arkansas to my undivided one Eight (118) interest in land to the South West quarter of section Thirty-three (33) in Township Thirteen (13) north Range seven (7) West containing one hundred and sixty (160) acres more or less. To have and hold the same unto the said Isaac N Reed and Charles P. Burr And unto their heirs and assigns forever with all (text hard to read). (The next paragraphs are very hard to decipher)

Witness our hands and seals this 13th day of March 1875.

*John Middleton, E.T Burr Jeremiah D. X (his mark) Lusk
Sally X (her mark) Lusk "*

With this large family, Jeremiah had trouble making ends meet for he and Sally signed with Xs as their signature on a legal document promising that their next year's com crop and cotton crop would go to pay their bill at the general store. (5)

Court Appearance

On May 25, 1876, Jeremiah was taken to court and ordered to plant on Andrew York's land 4-5 acres of cotton and 9-10 acres of com. Both Jeremiah and Andrew signed the paper. If Jeremiah did not repay the cost of seeds, etc., Andrew's land might be sold at auction.

On the 7th of June 1876 Jeremiah agreed to plant and seed 7 acres of cotton and com on the Robert Lusk place in Green Briar Township and promised to deliver on or before December 15th 3 aals of cotton, average weight of 450 pounds to Wycough General Store for his indebtedness of \$125. (6)

1880 Arkansas Census

In 1880, Jeremiah and Sarah were listed on the Arkansas Census, Independence Co., Washington Township on June 14. They lived in Dwelling number 150 and were Family 153. Jeremiah was 31 years old, head of the household, married, and a farmer. Sally A. was also 31 years old, and kept house. Their children were Robert A., 8 years old; James M., age 7; John W., age 5; Jeremiah D., age 3, and Cynthia, age 1. It is also noted that the age listed is the age prior to June 1, 1880. (7)

Their neighbors were Andrew York and Louisa York, Sally's father and his second wife. Jeremiah and Sally had five children by the 1880 Census. (7)

Lonnie Leo was born on 31 December 1880 but his death certificate lists his birth year as 1881. His WWI Draft Registration lists his birth date as 1880. Loucretia or Lou was next, born in 1882. According to Joseph's death certificate his birth date was listed as May 1879. His WWII Draft Registration shows that his birth date is May 1883 and this is considered a primary source. Then there was George, b. 1885, Benjamin, b. 1889, and Arthur, b. 1890. All were born in Independence Co. Cynthia died as an infant. (8)

Indian Territory

As to why they decided to move to the Indian Territory of Oklahoma, in what is now Greer and Jackson Counties, is not known. Several older sons of Jeremiah's had married and stayed in

Independence Co. Several half-brothers of Jeremiah's had gone to Texas. Dan/Jerry was only seventeen in 1894 when the family traveled to the Indian Territory. Deward F. Lusk said that Dan had moved to Oklahoma and then to Texas. The only indication that Dan/Jerry lived in Texas may be that he married a girl there and their oldest daughter was born in Texas. (9)

When the youngest son, Arthur, was about two years old, Jeremiah and Sally moved to Oklahoma in 1892. They settled near Olustee, Greer County, now Jackson County, and lived in a dugout. Dugouts were half under the ground and half above. Arthur told his son, Deward, about the move, the dugouts, and the trips that they took. (9)

School Enumeration

Two School Enumeration reports of 1898 and 1899 show that Jeremiah's family was in Greer County at that time. They did not seem to own land. Olustee eventually was in Jackson County.

ENUMERATION REPORT-Enumeration Reprt of all persons between the ages of Six and Twenty-one years, residing in School District #32 in Greer County, Oklahoma, on the 15th day of January 1898.

NAME	AGE	WHITE		
		MALE	FEMALE	
Benjamin Lusk	8	X		(correct age)*
Arther Lusk	7	X		(correct age)*
Loucretia Lousk	10		X	(age should be 15)*
George Lusk	10	X		(age should be 12)*
Lonnie Lusk	16	X		(correct age)*
Joe Lusk	14	X		(age should be 18)*

(*Notes in the last column are Barbara Wagner's. Loucretia's last name is misspelled.)

ENUMERATION REPORT-Enumeration of all persons between the Six and Twenty-one years residing in School District #32 in Greer County, Oklahoma, on the 15th day of January 1899.

NAME	AGE	WHITE		
		MALE	FEMALE	
L.L. Lusk	19	X		(age should be 17)*
J.L. Lusk	16	X		(age should be 19)*
G.W. Lusk	14	X		(age should be 13)*
L.C. Lusk	12		X	(age should be 16)*
B.K. Lusk	9	X		(correct age)*
A.Lusk	7	X		(age should be 8)*

(Notes in the last column are Barbara Wagner's) (11)

School was Willow Vale in Olustee, once in Greer County, but now is in Jackson County. (10)

Jeremiah and Sally and their family have not yet been found on the 1900 Oklahoma Census. Jeremiah and Sally separated sometime around 1909. Jeremiah did stay with Lon and his family who according to Deward F. Lusk tried to help Jeremiah with his alcohol problem. (11)

The 1910 Arkansas Census

The 1910 Arkansas Census now adds how long a person has been married, how many children living and how many died. John, Jeremiah's son, was listed as head of the household, 36 years old, and married for 8 years. His wife Adda was 36 years old, and has had 4 children born and living. The children were Anie, age 6; Edgar, age 5; Milburn, age 3, and daughter, Mirtle, is 8 months old. Living with John, was Jeremiah, age 60, and married 40 years. This enumeration was taken in April of 1910. (12)

The 1910 Oklahoma Census

Sally was on the 1910 Oklahoma Census living with her son, Jerry D., and his family in Greer Co. She is listed as a "widow" and the census was taken on May 7th. (13)

The family said that Jeremiah had gone back to Independence County, AR, and died there. He was listed there with his son John, and family, in Oil Trough Township in April of 1910, a month before Sally, and listed himself as "married". He evidently died between the two enumeration dates of April and May. (14)

It is not known where he is buried. He had two other sons in Independence County. His son, "Bud", and wife Rhody, are buried in the Old Campground Cemetery in Bethesda in Green Briar Township. He is not listed in the printed cemetery book of Independence County. In each of the cemeteries, there are several unmarked stones on graves.(15)

Lizzie Lusk Letter

In a letter known as "The Lizzie Lusk Letter", Lizzie (Elizabeth Blevins) Lusk, wife of Hugh Boyd Lusk, the older half-brother of Jeremiah, wrote the following letter to Jeremiah from Arleta, OR, before her death in 1908. There was no date on this and Essie Flinn Lusk had copied this letter in her own handwriting.

In Chapter 7, the Lizzie Lusk Letter is printed. She told of traveling with Robert, John and his family by flatboat from Tennessee to Arkansas. She said that John and his family went on to Missouri. This letter answers the question that Lon's children had about their "grandfather being cheated out of his inheritance". Beatrice said that none of her uncles trusted one another enough to go to Missouri and check on this.

The 1920 Oklahoma Census

In 1920, Sarah was listed with her daughter, Lou and husband, Hampton James on the 1920 Oklahoma Census. She was listed as "Jenne Lusk", mother-in-law. This is a mistake made by the enumerator. She died in Shawnee, OK, at the age of 74 in 1921. This was the age listed on the death certificate which information was given by her son, Lon. Age is slightly off. In 1920 she should have been 70 if born in 1850. She is buried in Shawnee, OK. (16)

1. *1870 Arkansas Census Independence County, Green Briar Township*
2. *1870 Arkansas Census Independence County, Washington Township; Barbara Wagner*
3. Lyn McSpadden, Mt. View, AR
4. *Documents from Will Box 35, Probate, Old Independence Regional Museum, Probate Court, Independence County, Arkansas, Guardianship papers, 2003, Petition to be Released from Guardianship papers, Probate Court, Independence Co., AR, 2003*
5. *Independence County, AR, Documents Will Box 35, Probate, Old Independence Regional Museum, Batesville, AR.*
6. *Independence County Court Minutes, May 25, and June 7, 1876*
7. *1880 Arkansas Census Independence County, Washin'gton Township; Barbara Wagner*
8. Barbara Wagner; George Boyd Lusk
9. Deward F. Lusk, son of Arthur
10. *School Enumeration Reports* sent by Jodean Martin, Western Trails Genealogical Society, Mangum, OK
11. Barbara Wagner
12. *1910 Arkansas Census, Independence County, Oil Trough Township, Series T624. ROLLs, Part 3, pg. 181A*
13. *1910 Oklahoma Census Greer County, Tilley Township; T624, Roll1253, Part 2, p. 147A*
14. Barbara Wagner
15. *Independence County, AR, Cemetery Book; Sarah Lusk Mathews*
16. *1920 Oklahoma Census Pottawatomie County, Shawnee, Roll T 625 #1485, Pg. 3, Ed 232*