

Harrington Graveyardby Kay Clerc-Fakhar - April, 2017

Across the creek and up the hill from my childhood home on Andrew Street in Pevely, MO (near the Trautmann/Bussen quarry) was the Elias B. Harrington Family Graveyard.

Surrounded by a small black wrought iron pipe fence, several gravestones stood nestled under a shaded canopy. This tranquil area was watched over by chirping song birds happily and was a stopping point during my frequent walks along the wooded trail. I recall a toppled over gravestone, and another marker that was leaning, but I'm no longer certain exactly how many graves there were in all. A gate existed at one point, and leaned off to the side. The view from this graveyard overlooked fields on opposite sides; both were actually a combination of fields.

At times, I noticed a farmer driving his tractor in the field. A wire fence separated that property from the area where I could see him - its physical address bordered a home at 1928 Hwy Z Pevely, MO (approx. halfway between the quarry exist and Burke's Pony Farms Road, both off Z Highway - see map below).

Slightly downhill from the Harrington graveyard was the other field (it was in the direction of the Achter home and quarry office, although neither building was within sight of the graveyard). This field rested along a sloped hillside, where I would often sit for hours, amidst wild violets and clover, as I daydreamed and watched clouds form images up above. It was the field that always beckoned me to the area – it was so very peaceful. There was also a resident longhorn bull that roamed on occasion, and although he never actually bothered me, his massive horns were worrisome. He did manage to sneak up and surprise me on more than one occasion, but thankfully he allowed me to slowly leave his domain.

My parents cleared the brush around the graves in the Harrington Graveyard during the Spring, and it was the season when I'd take small bouquets of wild violets or braided clovers gathered from this nearby sloped field. One day, while searching for clovers, and hoping for the special 4 leaf variety, I stumbled upon another small tombstone. Physically it was discovered many dozens of yards away from the graveyard, and located not quite, but nearly in the middle of the field. The stone was too small for a full name, and only contained someone's initials, along with a death date in the early 1860's. It may have been a footstone, and the headstone sunken nearby. I wasn't that inquisitive at that age to probe for anything below ground. The initials didn't match the names in the graveyard, and the stone still remains a mystery. How I wish I had at least photographed it, along with all the Harrington gravestones, so that this history was not lost.

Years later, the quarry purchased the Achter property, and encroached upon this graveyard. Their large equipment also leveled a long wooded ridge hillside that ran opposite from Z hiway, near Burke's Pony Farms Road. Unbeknownst to me, not too far away from the Harrington graveyard, another burial area existed. It was along the side of the ridge, which now no longer exists. Tony Renneke, who currently lives on Andrew Street, described the additional burial location he had seen in the late 1980's. It was a small leveled area (unusual on the side of a ridge) where 6 to 8 field stones were evenly spaced and surrounded by a square broken down wire fence. The located was about 150 feet from the top of the ridge, near a large pond, and not far from the driveway area that led to the Achter home. That pond is also now filled in with dirt, and the entire ridge with the row of field stones is demolished. Research indicates these fields stones were the burials of Harrington slaves,

and the story passed down to each land owner who purchased the property. Additionally, based on the estate/will of William Harrington, (1788 – 1862), his man servant slave, Anthony [known as Tony], was to be freed upon his death. (I have transcribed this will below).

I had moved from the area, and many years passed before I visited this Harrington graveyard again. It was disheartening to find that a 2 story foot high wall of dirt had been pushed to the very edge of the cemetery (likely, the dirt from the ridge). The sloped sunny field had also disappeared, now fully covered by that wall of dirt. Long gone was any sign of the tranquil graveyard. A few broken parts of the iron fence, including part of the broken gate, were found, along with 3 damaged tombstones (these same three stones are now documented on the JCHHS website). Another stone is still there - somewhere. It belonged to Charles Edward, died 1862, the same year as his younger brother, William T., and just months prior to his father, Elias B, and his grandfather William C's 1863 deaths. (Charles Edward's death and burial has been validated by Harrington family records).

Elias B. Harrington Cemetery:

1. Harrington William T [Nov 19 1861-Dec 13 1862] (Son of E. B. & H. J. Harrington)
2. Harrington Wm [----- 1788-Mar 23 1863]
3. Harrington Elias B [Sep 23 1829-Jul 15 1863]
4. Per Elias' Bible, and family members who have visited the grave, another son, Charles Edward, b. 1859, is also buried here He died in 1862, at the age of 3.

Tombstones:



William T Harrington
Nov 19, 1861 – Dec 13, 1862



Elias B. Harrington
Sep 23, 1829 – Jul 15, 1863



William Harrington
1788 – Mar 23, 1863

[illegible]

Children of Bartholomew & Elizabeth Herrington:

Isaac (1780 PA -1822 MO; md Sarah Hildebrand)

Samuel (1786 KY- 1849 MO; md Susannah Wickerham)

Jane (early 1790's KY – late 1820's; md John Hildebrand)

Joshua (1800 IL – 1884 MO; md Sarah Drennan)

- William Herrington married Ruth Conner, d/o John Conner & Catherine Houston. Ruth died 1838 - 1840, based on the birth of the last child and her absence in the 1840 census, but it is unknown where she is buried – possibly in the Harrington Graveyard.

Children:

2 Russell Herrington 1820ish – 1840

3 Eliza Herrington 1825ish -

5 Stephen B. Herrington 1832 – after 1880; md1. Caroline Demarre; md2 Rebecca Bradshaw

6 Lewis J. Herrington 1835 –

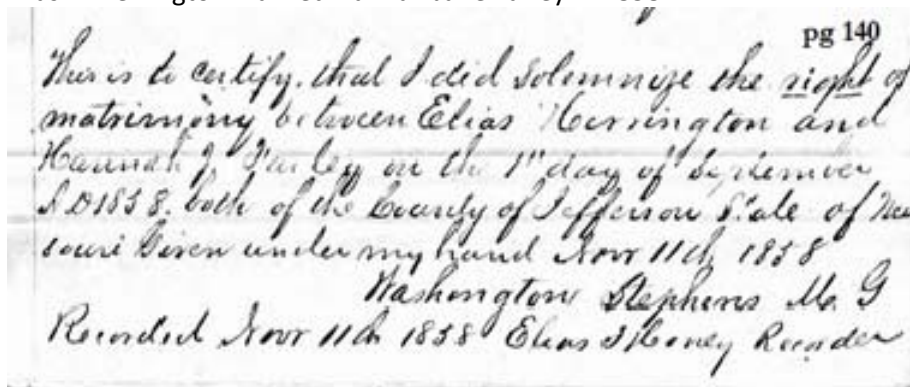
Timeline:

1850 District 42, Jefferson, Missouri
William Herrington 62 widowed
Elias Herrington 20 MO (single)
Louis Herrington 12

1860 Joachim, Jefferson, Missouri
- William Herrington resided with Elias B & Hannah Jane Herrington

Background for Elias B. Herrington (Harrington) (1830- 1863):

Elias B. Herrington married Hannah Jane Farley in 1858:



At the time of Elias' death in 1863, he and his wife were caring for a 9 mth old orphaned baby, named James Franklin Axley, b 1862, (per Elias' 1863 will, written just a few days before his death, he left \$50 to whoever became the orphan's caretaker). It is unknown what became of the orphaned Axley infant.

-See *Elias B. Herrington Estate record* below.

Elias & Hannah Herrington also had 2 sons of their own, Charles Edward and William T.

Both died in 1862 and are buried in the Elias B. Herrington Graveyard.

Elias' widowed father, William, lived with them during the 1860 census. He also died in 1862, just 4 mths prior to Elias' death.

Hannah Jane Herrington was expecting at the time of Elias' death. The new baby, named John Elias (after Hannah's own father & her decd husband), lived a successful life in TX.

-More about John Elias Herrington below.

In 1869, 6 years after Elias' death, Hannah married Thomas Robinson, and by 1880, they moved to TX, where they remained.

Note: Members of the Farley family remain in Jefferson Co, Mo.

-More about Hannah Jane Farley Herrington Robinson below.

Estate of Elias B. Herrington, deceased

I Elias B. Herrington of the County of Jefferson and State of Missouri, being of sound mind and disposing mind, do hereby make and publish this my last will and testament, as follows to wit:

First I give and bequeath unto my said wife to be paid, then Second I give and bequeath unto James Frankelion Caddy an orphan child aged about nine months now living with my family the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) to be paid to the person that may be appointed his guardian by the County Court of the above said County of Jefferson and State of Missouri, for the sole use and benefit of the said orphan child, James Frankelion Caddy.

Third I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Hannah Jane Herrington all of my estate, real, personal and mixed, and all interest therein.

Provided however, that if any issue shall be born to me after my death, such issue shall be entitled to have and receive an equal part or parts of all my estate, real, personal and mixed, and all interest therein, to be equally divided between my said wife Hannah Jane and such issue, but if no such issue be born to me after my death, then and in that case my said wife Hannah Jane Herrington is to have and enjoy all my estate real, personal and mixed, and all interest therein.

I do hereby appoint my beloved wife Hannah Jane Herrington the executor of this my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twentieth day of July Eighteen hundred and sixty three.

Elias B. Herrington Seal

Attested in the presence of
the testator by
David W. Bryant
John B. Craft.

State of Missouri) In vacation of the County Court,
County of Jefferson) Be it remembered, that on the twenty fifth day
of July A.D. Eighteen hundred and sixty three personally appeared before
me the undersigned Samuel H. Kipp, Clerk of the County Court of the
County of Jefferson, David W. Bryant and John B. Craft, the subscribing
witnesses to the foregoing will of Elias B. Herrington and being by me
duly sworn, depose and say, that the said Elias B. Herrington the testator sub-
scribed the same in their presence and declared the same to be his last
will and testament. That the said testator was at the time of publishing
and signing his said will of sound mind, and more than twenty-one
years of age, and that they the said deponents attested the said will as writing
in their presence, and by subscribing their names to the same, at the request and
in the presence of the testator and of each other. David W. Bryant
Sworn to and subscribed before me, the } John B. Craft.
day and year last above written

Timeline for Hannah Jane Farley:

1850 District 42, Jefferson, Missouri

John Farley 35

Margaret P Farley 24

Hannah Jane Farley 12 NJ (single)

Thomas F Farley 10

Emma J C Farley 8

Elza W Farley 6

Eva J Farley 3

Sarah Ann Farley 0

Marriage: 1 Sep 1858 Jefferson, MO [Elias Herrington - Hannah J Farley]

1860 Joachim, Jefferson, Missouri

E B Herrington 30

Hanah J Herrington 25

Charles E Herrington 6/12

Wm Herrington 68 wid'd; father

John Volsher 30

1870 Joachim, Jefferson, Missouri

Thomas Robinson 31

Jane Robinson 30

George Robinson 5 mths

John Harrington 6

Sarah Williams 2

Marriage: 19 Apr 1869 Jefferson, Missouri (Thomas Robinson - Hannah Herrington)

1880 Weston, Collin, Texas

Thomas Robinson 42

Hannah J. Robinson 41

John E. Herrington 16 (b 1864)

George Robinson 10

Joseph Robinson 8

Margaret A. Robinson 4

Thomas Robinson 1

Hannah Jane Farley Herrington Robinson:

Born: 5 Dec 1837; Age at Death: 83; Died: 21 Apr 1921 Collin Co, TX; Burial: Van Alstyne, Grayson Co, TX
(Thomas Robinson (1837 NJ – 1921TX))

More About John Elias Herrington:

John Elias, son of Elias B Herrington, was born shortly after his father, Elias, died. He appears to have had a good life, despite starting off his first few years with a widowed mother.

Herrington Obit:

Van Alstyne, Grayson County, Texas, June 15, 1926

The funeral of John E. Herrington, 63 years old, who died here, was held at the First Methodist Church, conducted by the Rev. C. B. Fielder, pastor of the First Methodist Church. Burial was in the Van Alstyne Cemetery. Mr. Herrington had lived in Northern Collin and Southern Grayson Counties for many years. He was vice president of the Continental State Bank of Van Alstyne and up until recently was president of the Van Alstyne Roller Mills. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. C. M. Hays of Weston and Mrs. Lee Kinard of Van Alstyne, and by two half-brothers, George Robinson of Van Alstyne and J. T. Tollins of Celina.

- Grayson County, Texas Death Cert. no. 21589; 18 Oct 1863 MO -12 Jun 1926;
Cause of death: Pneumonia and chronic nephritis;
Father- Elias B. Herrington. Mother -'unknown'; Informant: G. Douglas of Van Alstyne
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WILLIE AND THE INDIANS

During the winter of 1799-1800, Bartholomew left his pregnant wife, Elizabeth, and the younger children in Illinois near Cairo to spend the winter and await the birth of the new baby. He took his older children and his slaves to his new land grant in Jefferson County, Missouri, near today's town of Pevely. When they arrived, they cleared trees and built houses. With the arrival of spring, they planted crops. Leaving his eldest son in charge, Bartholomew returned to Illinois to retrieve the rest of the family.

Indians still lived in the area and roved this territory. The Delawares and Shawnees, who were peaceful and friendly, were to the south, in Ste. Genevieve, Perry, and Cape Girardeau Counties. The Osage, a savage, warrior tribe, were near Union, Missouri, and the Cherokee, another friendly tribe, were on the White River.

Both the settlers and the Indians relied on hunting for meat and for the skins which were used for clothing. Buffalo, elk, and deer were abundant.

Not long after the family settled in Pevely, Willie, who was about 12 years old, joined a group of neighbors to form a hunting party. They were going to travel several miles north to hunt along the Missouri River, near Osage territory. While they were gone, the men broke into smaller groups during the day and then reunited for safety at night. One day, Willie and his hunting partner noticed a large bear coming toward them at the same time that they were noticed by a group of Indians on ponies. Willie and his friend primed and loaded their flintlock rifles as they prepared to defend themselves. The Indians withdrew to a small hill where they could still observe both the boys and the bear. The boys watched and waited to see what would happen. When the bear came within range, one of them lifted his rifle and fired. The bear tumbled over, and the Indians came quickly. They took possession of the bear and the hunters, who were required to accompany them.

The party of Indians and captives traveled some distance up the Missouri River, at last arriving at the Indians' permanent camp. Once there, although the hunters were free wander around the camp as they wished, their captors watched them closely. Since they were expert

WM CHAMBERS HERRINGTON, NEPHEW OF WILLIAM HERRINGTON & RUTH CONNER
RESTATE OF STARK

hunters with firearms and good marksmen as well, they were valuable captives. The Indians did not have firearms and were pleased that the hunters had killed the bear for them. The captives were well-treated, but they were not allowed to return home. (Willie's fellow captive is not mentioned further in this story.)

When word reached Bartholomew that his son was being held as a captive by the Indians, he and his eldest sons sat down to plan his rescue. Bartholomew promised to give 100 arpents—a French land measure worth about 80 acres—to whichever of his sons would find his brother and return safely home with him. They discussed various methods and plans that could be used to effect a rescue.

About two years later, the family learned that Willie was living with the Indians. One of his older brothers, probably Sam, began making plans to bring him home. He soon left home and went to the trading post frequented by that tribe. He explained his mission to the trader and secured his cooperation with the rescue plan.

The trader explained to the Indians that this man was a brother to the man who was living with them and that he wanted to go with them so that he could live with his brother. Surprised that a white man was volunteering to live with them, the Indians agreed and took him to their camp. For a long time, the Indians watched the Herrington men carefully and would allow them only short absences together. When they left the camp to go hunting, the Herringtons were always careful to return to the Indians within the time set by the Indians. Gradually, they gained the Indians' trust and good will, and the Indians relaxed their vigilance. Sometimes they permitted the Herringtons to be gone for a few days at a time.

After the men had been together with the Indians—making Willie's captivity one of four years—they decided that they could, with careful planning, safely leave and return home to the rest of their family. When spring came, they explained to the Indians that they wanted to go on a big hunt which would last for several days. Since they had always returned after being gone for a few days, the Indians agreed that they could go.

As soon as the brothers were out of sight and sound of the Indian camp, they headed straight for the Missouri River. When they arrived there, they found a large birch tree. They cut through the bark around the base of the tree and just below the limbs, as they had seen the Indians do. Then they split the bark straight down one side of the trunk and peeled it off in one large piece. By pulling the bark together at each end and tying it together with bark, they soon had a lightweight, serviceable canoe.

Putting the canoe into the river, they climbed into it with their meager belongings. They

paddled along with the current for the rest of that and all of the following night. When morning came, they pulled their canoe onto an island in the river and slept through the day. Knowing that they could be gone for three or four days without arousing the Indians' suspicions, they resumed their journey that evening. They assumed that they would be in little danger of being recaptured by the time the Indians realized that they had escaped.

Within a few days, they reached the mouth of the Missouri River and floated with the current around the bend into the Mississippi. When they passed the mouth of the Meramac River, they began to get excited, for they knew they were close to their home. Soon they saw the large rock in the river where the itinerant preacher would tie up his canoe so that he could preach to the crowds that gathered along the riverbank at Kimmswick. Their excitement intensified, for they were only a few miles from home. It wasn't long before they pulled the canoe to shore, climbed out and walked to the house.

There, they knocked on the door. Their mother came to the door, and she saw two Osage Indians with rifles standing there. They asked her for food. Frightened, she turned back into the house to get the food for them, and they followed her inside. When she turned from the fireplace with the plates of food and saw them directly behind her, she fainted. The two men backed away and stood near the door until she awoke.

One of the young children had followed the "Indians" into the house. He said, "Ma, look! That Indian's got Willie's gun with his name on it."

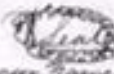
Willie said, "Ma, don't you know me? I'm Willie!" She shook her head and closed her eyes. When she opened her eyes, she stared at him. This Indian had called her Ma? Could it really be Willie? He helped her up, and then Willie and his brother cleaned up and dressed in white men's clothes. It was then that Elizabeth realized that her boys had, indeed, come home.

Willie settled in Jefferson County near his parents. For the rest of his life, he would occasionally leave home for as long as three weeks, but he always returned. When he was home, if he wasn't in the fields, he sat on the porch or where he could see out the open door. After several years, his wife persuaded him to put a wooden door on the cabin. It was there less than two weeks before he tore it off and replaced it with skins.

Estate of William Herrington

I William Herrington, of the County of Jefferson, and State of Missouri; do hereby make and publish this my last will and Testament right-
 lows & wish. First I desire that my funeral expenses and the debt to be paid, then second, I give and bequeath to my Negro man, slave, Anthony, commonly called Duncy his freedom, to take effect, along with in consideration of the long and faithful service rendered to my self and family, and I desire my children Editha P. Herrington, Oliver B. Herrington, Stephen B. Herrington and Lewis J. Herrington will not think the gift of my money or in any way, or manner hinder or oppose this my request, within twelve months from each of them. In making and setting free said negro man, slave Anthony, it is my desire that he should have his freedom at my death, as above stated.

Third, I give and bequeath to my children Editha P. Herrington, Oliver B. Herrington, Stephen B. Herrington and Lewis J. Herrington to be equally divided, amongst them, and money property, and effects that I may be possessing, not hereby disposed of, I hereby appoint my son O. B. Herrington the executor of this my last will and Testament, in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and seal this nineteenth day of December A. D. 1853.

(Signed) William Herrington 
 Witnessed the above and foregoing will by subscribing our names here as witnesses in the presence of William Herrington the testator this eighteenth day of December A. D. 1853.

Witnesses

Charles J. Houston
 Samuel C. Luman
 Nelson M. J. Houston

State of Missouri

County of Jefferson ss. It is remembered, that on this twentieth day of April, in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and fifty three before me, Charles J. Houston, Clerk of the County Court, within and for the County of Jefferson, personally appeared Charles J. Houston, as he being by me duly sworn, upon his oath, deposition and says that he was present, and saw William Herrington sign the foregoing, in above ment foregoing to be the last will and testament, of him the said William Herrington and have him publish and declare the same to be his last will and testament and that at the time of signing the above the said William Herrington of sound and disposing mind, and that this deposition, and Samuel C. Luman, the other attesting witness, subscribed their names thereto, with assent to the same, in the presence of each other and of the undersigned of said Charles J. Houston and Subscribed }
 before me Samuel A. Houston }
 Clerk of Jefferson Co., Mo.



BARN BUILT BY WM HERRINGTON . PEVELY, MO
HUSBAND OF RUTH CONNER



The Herrington Home: "The attached photo is of the original log house completed in 1800, prior to the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. It was located west of U.S. Hwys 61-67 about 1/4 mile north of MO Hwy Z. At present [date unknown] there is a wooden barn with a metal roof quite near Hwys 61-67. North of this barn there is a white wooden cottage. The log house stood north of the barn and south of the cottage. It was nearer to the cottage than to the barn. There is a spring immediately west of the log house location. Photo taken by L. M. Harlow"