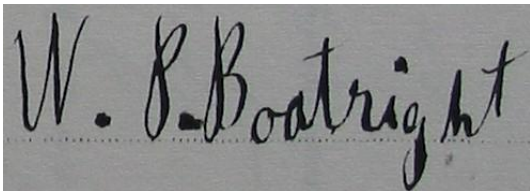


William Pinckney Boatright & Mary T. Anna Ham
of
Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana
&
Hamburg, Ashley County, Arkansas



by Timothy Dean Hudson

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Will Boatright's Early Life in Farmerville

William Pinckney Boatright, known by his family as “Will,” was born on 10 November 1857 [1], the son of [James Boatright](#) (c1820–29 Nov 1862) and [Jane E. Stiles](#) (c1824–Aug 1896). Will was born shortly after his parents returned to north Louisiana after living in south Arkansas for about thirteen years. They settled on the farm of Will's grandfather, Powhatan Boatright, located about two miles north of Bayou Corney in what is now known as the Zion Hill community. It is located a few miles northwest of the village of Farmerville, in Union Parish, Louisiana. In 1860, Jane Boatright's parents lived with them, perhaps having accompanied them from Arkansas in 1857. By this time, the Stiles were an elderly couple, with Will's grandfather, John Stiles Jr., aged seventy-six years and his grandmother, Rebecca Cooper Stiles, aged sixty-six. As Jane had a house full of children, Rebecca probably cared for Will, then merely a toddler [2].

The Civil War had a drastic effect upon the extended Boatright family, even more so than for most Southerners. Five of Will's uncles perished while serving in the Confederate military, as well as one of his older brothers and at least two first cousins. Most significant for the course of Will's life, the Civil War claimed the life of his father in November 1862 [3]. This made Will's mother a widow at the age of thirty-eight, leaving her responsible for raising their children and managing the farm James Boatright had purchased from his father earlier that year [4].

Will grew up on the Boatright farm in the Zion Hill community with his mother and siblings, with his elderly grandfather, Powhatan Boatright, aunts, Charity Boatright Price and Mary Boatright Mears, and uncle, Jesse Boatright, all living nearby [5]. Will presumably remained on the farm with his mother and younger siblings at least until his latter teens, but in 1880, his mother's household only included his older brother, George W. Boatright, and younger sister, Fannie [6]. Will is not listed elsewhere in Union Parish, nor has he been definitively located elsewhere. He reached the age of eighteen in November 1875 and twenty-one in November 1878, the typical marriage age for young men in that era. Union Parish marriages do not exist for the 1874–1879 period, but none of the family stories passed down to his grandchildren suggest a marriage earlier than 1884.

In the early 1870s, two of Will's married sisters emigrated from Union Parish with their husbands. Emily Octavia Boatright Purdy and her husband, James Benton Purdy, left Louisiana and moved to Texas. In 1880, they lived in Van Zandt County, located between Tyler and Dallas [7]. About the same time, Mary Ann Boatright Johnston and her husband, Perry Taylor Johnston, moved northwest and settled in Yell County, Arkansas, and in 1880, they lived in the village of Petit Jean. Will may have moved with one of his sisters and worked in either Texas or Arkansas for a

few years in the latter 1870s or early 1880s. In fact, in 1880, a "*W. Boatwright*," aged nineteen years, worked as a U. S. mail carrier in Yell County, Arkansas, operating out of the town of Danville [8]. Although the age and birthplace do not precisely match, this could have been Will.

In 1880, neither Will nor his older brother, George W. Boatright, were assessed a poll tax by the Union Parish Tax Assessor. In 1881, George paid his poll tax, but again, Will was not listed despite his age of twenty-three years that year. In 1882, Will Boatright was assessed a poll tax, plus property taxes on animals valued at \$2 and "*guns & pistols*" valued at \$3. In 1883, he was assessed taxes on animals valued at \$51 and household goods at \$11, and in 1884, for animals valued at \$40 [9]. These records suggest that Will Boatright had left Union Parish and lived elsewhere in the latter 1870s and early 1880s. Perhaps he had indeed worked as a mail carrier in Yell County, Arkansas near his sister. In any case, Will Boatright returned home to Union Parish in late 1881 or early 1882.

On 7 September 1882, Will's younger sister, Fannie Boatright, married John Fowler Albritton, the son of George Washington Albritton and Sarah Ann Fowler [10]. The Albrittons lived about ten miles east of the Boatright farm, on the south side of Bayou d'Loutre northeast of Farmerville, in what is now known as the Wards Chapel neighborhood. The Albritton farm adjoined that of the late Noah Scarborough, whose wife, Samantha Fowler Scarborough, was the sister of Sarah Ann Fowler Albritton. This made Samantha the aunt of John F. Albritton.

Soon after Fannie's 1882 marriage to John F. Albritton, Will Boatright and his older brother, George, left their Zion Hill farm and settled near their sister in the Wards Chapel neighborhood. It appears the Boatright brothers worked the Scarborough farm for a few years. On 25 January 1884, the pair witnessed the transaction in which Samantha and her children sold part of the Scarborough farm to William A. Albritton, the brother of John F. Albritton [11]. Shortly afterwards, George W. Boatright contracted an illness that progressed into fatal pneumonia. Later that year, Will, his mother, and siblings sold the land George had bought along the Ward's Chapel Road the previous year [12].

In 1882 or 1883, Jane E. Stiles Boatright left her old farm in the Zion Hill community and joined her children in the Wards Chapel neighborhood. She moved in with the widowed Samantha Fowler Scarborough on the old Scarborough farm, and they lived there together for the next decade, with Jane's daughter, Fannie Boatright Albritton, living on the adjoining farm [13]. This brought Will Boatright into close contact with Samantha's granddaughter, Mary T. Anna Ham [Anna, Mittie] (Nov 1867–13 Dec 1900), daughter of [Hillory Herbert Ham](#) [Sr.] (1828/1829–12 Apr 1889) and [Samantha Elvyann Scarborough](#) (15 Sep 1842–6 Apr 1922).

Anna's parents had separated in 1874 when she was only seven, and this tragedy divided the Ham children among Anna's mother's relatives. In 1880, Anna lived in the household of her grandparents, [Noah and Samantha Scarborough](#), along with her younger brother, John Hubbard Ham [14]. In January 1881, after several years of having her children divided among her siblings, Anna's mother, Samantha Elvyann Scarborough Ham, had a log house built on a tract of vacant government land that adjoined her parents' 400-acre farm, and Anna and her younger siblings settled there with their mother [15].

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Marriage, Economic Struggles, & Tragedy

On 7 April 1884, Will Boatright married the sixteen-year-old Anna Ham, with Baptist minister Hillory H. Ward performing the ceremony. The dissolution of her parents' marriage caused Anna to grow up in difficult circumstances. It may have impacted her education, as she made her mark to her marriage record rather than signing her name [1]. Anna's childhood stands in stark contrast to that of her father. As the son of William Ham, one of the wealthiest planters and the largest slaveholder in the parish, her father had a privileged upbringing. As a young adult during the 1850s, Hillory H. Ham built one of the largest cotton plantations in Union Parish during the 1850s. Tragically, in the aftermath of the social upheaval wrought by the War, he turned to alcohol and allowed his addiction to slowly destroy his life. In the early 1870s, he ceased his focus on his planting operation and lost his farm as well as his marriage and family. His downward spiral effectively eliminated any semblance of financial security for his children, leaving them all in dire financial straits well into the twentieth century.

Anna and Will Boatright began their married life in a difficult era for Southern farmers, a period plagued with extremely low farm prices that contributed to severe economic hardships. Like many farmers during the immediate post-Reconstruction period, the hard times forced Will and Anna to enter into the vicious cycle of sharecropping for the first seven years of their marriage. In 1884 and 1885, they only owned \$40 worth of animals, and in 1886, Will paid the taxes on the 160 acre-farm that he rented. In 1888, he only paid property taxes on animals valued at \$15, but in 1889, he owned a mule, two cattle, and five hogs valued at \$55. In 1888–1889, Will and Anna settled on a vacant track of land and made improvements worth \$25, the first step towards filing an application to homestead the land. However, by the next year, they had moved away did not pursue their application [2].

On 29 July 1891, Will Boatright purchased a 120-acre tract of land further east of the Albritton/Scarborough farms. His new property was located near the modern Crossroads community, on the north side of Highway 2 near its intersection with Highway 143 and along Phillips Ferry Road. He paid \$350 for the tract, payable in annual installments between 1892 and 1894 [3]. Will and Anna settled their family on the land and appear to have worked hard to make his new farm a success, given the increasing value of their livestock holdings over the next few years. The tax assessor valued the Boatrights' livestock and personal property as follows between 1892 and 1896 [4]:

Union Parish LA Tax Assessments William P. Boatright		
Year	Taxable Property	Value
1892	Livestock	\$15
1893	Livestock	\$84
	Other property	\$2
1894	One mare, one colt, three cattle, ten hogs	\$75
	One gun	\$3
1895	One horse, one mare, six cattle, five hogs	\$75
	One gun	\$5
1896	One mare, three cattle, five hogs	\$40
	One gun	--
	Bonds, etc.	\$70
	Other property	\$5

The financial difficulties of the early 1890s caused many Union Parish residents to delay payments of their annual tax assessments. On 12 May 1894, Union Parish Sheriff and Tax Collector E. Lawrence Daniel advertised a large delinquent tax sale for those who had failed to pay their 1892 and 1893 taxes. He scheduled the sale for Saturday, June 16th. Will Boatright failed to pay his 1893 taxes of \$7.73 on his 120-acre farm, and so Sheriff Daniel included that property among that scheduled for auction. Like many of those listed, following Daniel's advertisement, Boatright paid his tax bill to the parish prior to the sale, and he thus retained ownership of the land [5].

In its Act of 3 June 1856, the U.S. Congress designated certain vacant public lands along a planned east/west railroad route as belonging to the Vicksburg, Shreveport, and Pacific Railroad Company. On 11 March 1857, the Louisiana General Assembly ratified Congress' act but required the railroad company to lay a certain amount of tract before they could be awarded a final patent to the land. The Vicksburg, Shreveport, and Pacific Railroad failed to lay the specific amount of the railroad line, and so on 19 February 1879, the General Assembly declared that the railroad company had forfeited their right to the property. Several large tracts of land in Union Parish were included in that awarded to the railroad line in 1856, with most of it located in eastern Union Parish between Bayou d'Loutre and the Ouachita River near Sterlington [6].

After the Louisiana Legislature's 1879 action, public officials returned the lands reserved for the railroad company to the public domain, making them subject to settlement. In the 1880s or early 1890s, Robert Howard settled on a 160-acre tract of land in eastern Union Parish that lay about two miles southeast of the land that Will Boatright bought in 1891. Howard made a few

improvements to the property, and in 1893, Boatright purchased Howard's improvements, giving Boatright the legal right to file a homestead application to obtain the land from the government. Boatright stated that in 1894, he made the following additional improvements to the land that *"have enhanced the value"* of the property:

- \$180: *"That he cleared eighteen acres of land and fenced same"*
- \$40: *"fenced in a pasture 4000 rails"*
- \$100: *"Built One Dwelling house"*
- \$50: *"Built one Kitchen"*

Settlers across north Louisiana flocked to the railroad lands they believed had opened for settlement following the 1879 Act of the Louisiana Legislature, including many vacant tracts in eastern Union Parish. The Vicksburg, Shreveport, and Pacific Railroad Company objected and soon filed legal challenges against these settlers, claiming they were trespassing on the company's lands. On 3 April 1895, the company filed suit in the Union Parish District Court against Will Boatright, claiming that they were the legal owners of the land, and Boatright was a trespasser. Their attorney declared to the Court that Boatright had cultivated the land for the past two years and continued to cultivate it, ignoring their demands for him to leave. They claimed that he had cut timber valued at \$50, and that his use and occupancy of the land was worth \$75 per year. They sued him for a total of \$125.

The Farmerville legal firm of James D. Everett & Charles B. Roberts represent most settlers in their legal battle with the railroad company, including the handling of the suit against Will Boatright. In their response to the railroad company's lawsuit, Everett & Roberts stated to the Court that Boatright had had placed improvements on the land *"in good faith,"* for following the Louisiana Legislature's 1879 act, the land again became part of the public domain, and thus making it subject to settlement. Boatright denied having destroyed any timber on the land *"except to make improvements on the place,"* and that,

...as he is a possessor in good faith he is not entitled to pay nor is he due for any rents and he is entitled to reimbursements for his improvements.

Everett & Roberts requested that the District Court reject the demand of the V. S. & P. Railroad and decree that they are not the owner of the property. However, in case the Court found that they did own the land, they requested that Boatright recover the sum of \$370 plus interest for the value of his improvements placed on the land [7].

In August 1896, the District Court subpoenaed witnesses in anticipation of hearing arguments in Boatright's case, presumably at their court session held that month. The District Court's final verdict in the case is missing from the file, but that fall, the Court heard numerous similar lawsuits

filed by the railroad company against Union Parish settlers who had made settlements on lands in eastern Union Parish as Boatright had. Between August 12–18, the District Court heard arguments in five lawsuits and at their October session, they decided on at least an additional fifteen lawsuits filed by the V. S. & P. Railroad against settlers who had made improvements on public lands following the 1879 Act of the Louisiana Legislature. Although the Court dismissed two of the suits, in all others, they decided in favor of the V. S. & P. Railroad Company and required that the settlers pay the company rent for their use of the land. The District Court made a similar judgement in the case against Boatright, and they probably denied his request for reimbursement for his improvements [8].

Back in 1894 when he bought the improvements that Robert Howard had made on the railroad land, Will and Anna had settled their family there, and so they no longer lived on the 120-acre farm that they purchased in 1891. On 13 November 1895, Will sold the tract to S. J. Wall in return for Wall assuming the \$350 in notes that Boatright owed for his purchase of the tract three years earlier [9]. Thus, in late 1896 when the District Court decided in favor of the V. S. & P. Railroad in their suit against Will Boatright, he and his family no longer had any land on which to live.

As the legal drama between Will Boatright and the V. S. & P. Railroad Company played out in the Union Parish Courthouse in 1896, what resulted in the worst natural disaster ever visited upon Union Parish, Louisiana slowly began to form across the north Louisiana hill country: the drought of 1896–1897.

It began in the late spring of 1896, just as the corn, cotton, and other crops sprouted and began growing. Typical spring showers continued through mid-May, giving the crops a good start for the season, but then the skies cleared, and the rain ceased. In addition to the hot sun, a continual drying wind began to blow, so by June 10th, the Farmerville newspaper wrote that *“corn is twisting up from the effects of the sun’s parching rays.”* By July 8th, it had become clear that the drought had destroyed the corn crop, and to feed stock through the next winter, as soon as the rains returned, farmers needed to immediately plant substitute crops such as millet or potatoes, on which the animals could graze that fall, and oats, on which livestock could graze in the early spring.

Unfortunately, the rains never came. The sun continued to beat down mercilessly, accompanied by parching east winds that dried up the soil and created continual dust clouds. By August, the drought had completely destroyed the corn crop and severely damaged the cotton. Many Union Parish farmers did not even make enough to pay for the seed they planted in April. The blistering sun and drying winds burned up crops of every description, with a New Orleans newspaper reporter stating that he passed by field after field of parched plants containing no green

vegetation whatsoever. The region's oldest inhabitants did not recall such a prolonged drought. Many trees began to die, and as streams dried up, livestock wandered for miles searching for water. To compound the already dire situation, drought's severity even caused a complete failure of the mast, the fruit of the hardwood trees (such as acorns) on which hogs and cattle ordinarily subsisted during prolonged droughts by foraging in the swamps. Without anything to feed upon, cattle and swine began to starve to death in August.

Like many natural disasters, the drought across north Louisiana played havoc with those who could least afford it. Many of the farmers east of the Ouachita River managed to get by, as their fields often bordering swamps or bottom lands and allowing livestock to survive. But the hill farmers, those in Union, Lincoln, Claiborne, and Jackson, and Union County, Arkansas, watched helplessly as their livestock starved and their own families had to subsist upon bread and water beginning in July due to the lack of garden vegetables [10].

As winter approached, the famine intensified, and for the first time in living memory, many poorer hill farmers faced the real possibility of starvation. The state government organized relief agencies to solicit philanthropists to donate grain to feed the hungry and starving livestock across north Louisiana. Although they managed to collect supplies, the drought's effects hampered their efforts to distribute them. Railroads and steamboats provided the only viable means of transportation in 1896. The relief agencies shipped supplies to regions in Lincoln and Jackson with access to railroads, but Union and Claiborne Parish did not yet have rail access, leaving steamers the only means to transport goods to those parishes.

In another cruel twist of fate, the drought had lowered the water levels in the bayous to the point that steamboats could not navigate through the bayous, leaving the supplies grounded at the landings at the mouth of Bayou D'Arbonne in northern Ouachita Parish. As if the situation could not be made worse, the 1896–1897 winter proved severely cold, and many livestock that survived the lack of food the previous summer and fall now froze to death due to their weakened condition and the poor-quality grain brought in from Kansas and fed to the cattle [11].

The drought and subsequent famine took a severe toll on many of the poorer farmers across north Louisiana, including Will and Anna Boatright. His mother died in early August 1896, possibly from the effects of the heat and hunger. At least some of Will's livestock survived the 1896–1897 disaster, for in 1897 he paid taxes on one mule, two geldings, and five cattle valued at \$65 [12].

The drought persisted throughout the 1897 planting season, although not quite as severe as that of 1896. By mid-1897, the combined effects of the loss of the suit with the railroad company,

subsequent loss of their home and farmland, and the 1896–1897 crop failures proved overwhelming for Will and Anna. This led them to make a radical life change for their family.

Will and Anna Boatright decided to quit farming and move away from the region where they had both been born and their families had lived for the previous six or seven decades. They appear to have disposed of their livestock in late 1897 or early 1898, or else it had all perished from the lingering effects of the drought. In 1898, Union Parish assessed Will for one poll tax but no livestock. The Boatrights packed up their five children sometime in 1898 and left drought-stricken Union Parish behind. They moved northeastward across the state line and settled in Hamburg, Ashley County, Arkansas, where Will took a job as a plainer for at a sawmill [13].

In July 1900, Will and Anna lived in Hamburg, and by that time, he worked as a night watchman [14]. In only two years, Will and Anna managed to save enough money to allow them to purchase a home. On 26 October 1900, he paid \$80 cash for a four-acre lot in Hamburg containing a house [15]. By all indications, the move to Hamburg, Arkansas put Anna and Will on the path to providing a far better life for themselves and their children than they had experienced as struggling Union Parish farmers.

Tragically, fate ended any hopes of a “*happily ever after*” chapter for Will and Anna Boatright. Merely six weeks after Will bought their new home in Hamburg, an illness spread throughout their family. For Anna, the malady turned into pneumonia, and she succumbed to it on 13 December 1900. The Farmerville newspaper published this notice of her demise:

Mrs. Anna Boatright, wife of W. P. Boatright, died at her home in Hamburg, Ark., December 13. She was the daughter of H. H. Ham. Deceased leaves a husband and five children to mourn her death.

Anna Ham Boatright was only thirty-three years of age [16].

Will Boatright contracted the same disease, becoming ill on 5 February 1901. His case also progressed into pneumonia, which led to his death February 8th. Although only a young child of 3½ years, eight decades later, Will and Anna’s youngest son, Bethel, remembered a one-horse delivery wagon arriving at their house to haul his father’s casket to the cemetery for burial. Bethel also recalled accompanying the wagon to the cemetery for his father’s funeral.

William P. Boatright and Anna Ham are buried in the Hamburg Cemetery, Ashley County, Arkansas. Will belonged to the Woodmen of the World Society, a fraternal organization founded in 1890. After his death, they had one of their distinctive tree stump headstones erected over Boatright’s grave. Anna’s name is inscribed on the side of the marker, but no dates were inscribed for her [17].

Until the Boatright children's Louisiana relatives arranged for their care, Mr. William Henry Tebbs, a Hamburg merchant and acquaintance of Will and Anna, took care of the orphans. On February 13th, five days after Will's death, Tebbs posted \$2000 bond with the Ashley County Court to serve as the guardian for five Boatright children [18]. The eldest, Jewel Boatright, chose to remain in Hamburg with Mr. Tebbs. Eighty years later, the youngest, Bethel Boatright, recalled his mother's brother, John Hubbard Ham, making the trip to Hamburg soon after his parents' deaths and taking the four youngest children back home to Union Parish, Louisiana. They took a steamboat down the Ouachita River from Arkansas to Monroe and then switched to another steamer for the trip up Bayou D'Arbonne to Farmerville [19].

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Children of William P. Boatright & Mary T. Anna Ham

The 1900 federal census shows that Will and Anna Boatright had six children, with five surviving early childhood [1]. This matches personal recollections made by their children during the twentieth century [2]. The children of William P. Boatright and Anna Ham include:

1. **Jewell Emmett Boatright** (22 Jan 1885–15 Jul 1971) married Idabel Sims (20 Feb 1890–25 Nov 1938).
2. [**George William Boatright**](#) (6 Sep 1886–24 Dec 1934) married on 22 January 1912 to Elizabeth Dean [Lizzie] (24 Nov 1885–20 Jan 1959).
3. **Frances Alice Boatright** (10 May 1890–27 Aug 1950) never married.
4. **John Elliott Boatright** [Johnnie] (6 Aug 1893–4 Mar 1936) never married.
5. **Bethel Boatright** (28 May 1897–7 Nov 1987) married on 11 November 1917 to Mattie Grace Brazzeal (16 Oct 1898–14 Apr 1992).
6. **Ethel Boatright** (28 May 1897–1897) died as an infant.

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Brief Biographical Sketches of Will Boatright & Anna Ham's Children

1. Jewell Emmett Boatright

Jewell Emmett Boatright (22 Jan 1885–15 Jul 1971) remained in Hamburg after his younger siblings returned home to Union Parish with their uncle in 1901. In 1910, he lived in a hotel on Main Street, living very near Mr. William H. Tebbs [3]. In 1918, Jewel worked as the superintendent of the "*Light Plant*" at Hamburg. He listed his younger brother, George, as his nearest relative [4].

On 19 April 1925, Jewel Boatright married in Ashley County, Arkansas on 19 April 1925 to Idabel Sims (20 Feb 1890–25 Nov 1938), daughter of Major Beavers Sims [Mage] (1851–1937) and Elida Bell Tharp (1860–24 Feb 1942) [5]. In 1930, Jewel and Idabel lived on Second Street in Crossett, Ashley County, and he worked as the manager of the telephone company [6].

In the 1930s, Jewell and Idabel adopted two boys, renaming them Jewel Boatright Jr. and Howard Boatright. They returned to Wilmar, Drew County, Arkansas, Idabel's birthplace, where Jewel worked with the Soil Erosion Office. In November 1938, Idabel went to the Morehouse General Hospital in Bastrop, Louisiana for an operation. Her brother, Dr. Smith Sims, worked at the hospital. Her recovery from the operation did not go well, and she died of a heart condition there at 4:00 a.m. on Friday, November 25th [7].

In 1940, Jewel and his sons, aged twelve and nine years, lived in Wilmar, with his mother-in-law, Elida Bell Sims, living with him, presumably caring for the boys. Jewel worked as a bookkeeper [8]. Sometime after 1940, Jewel moved his sons to Little Rock, Arkansas, where he worked until his retirement. He died in Little Rock in 1971. Jewell and Idabel Boatright are buried in the Oakland Cemetery, Monticello, Drew County, Arkansas, in Block 2 of the Old Cemetery Section [9].

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2. [George William Boatright](#)

A separate biography describes the life of George William Boatright (6 Sep 1886–24 Dec 1934).



3. Frances Alice Boatright

Frances Alice Boatright (10 May 1890–27 Aug 1950) was the only daughter of Will and Anna Boatright to survive infancy. Alice grew into a healthy and normal toddler on her parents' farm near Farmerville. According to her niece,

Aunt Alice was a perfectly normal child up until she was two years old. She had measles with the rest of [her] family including the mother, Anna. Aunt Alice's grandmother was there waiting on and caring for the family. Aunt Alice, then 2 years old, slipped out of bed, went out on the porch while it was raining and fell in a puddle of water. She relapsed with the measles and was left deaf and dumb.

Measles is known to cause severe complications in children under age five, and this appears to explain Alice Boatright's lifelong health issues. Doctors later stated that Alice had suffered from "*Epilepsy grand mal*" since the age of two, so besides causing her to become deaf, the measles also caused lifelong epileptic seizures [10].

After her parents' death, Alice Boatright lived with relatives in Union Parish, Louisiana for the next quarter-century. Between 1906 and 1915, the Union Parish Police Jury provided financial support to assist with Alice's upkeep. In 1906 they paid Alice \$7.50 per quarter, and from 1907 through 1915, they paid her between \$7 and \$10 each quarter as part of the charity funds provided by the Union Parish Police Jury [11].

According to family members, Alice functioned well at routine household chores, and her niece reported that she performed kitchen duties with remarkable speed. Sadly, in that era, her medical condition left her regarded as "*afflicted*" and unfit for society, and she was mostly kept hidden away from outsiders. She spent much time living with her first cousin, Emily Purdy Dean, and her husband, Joseph W. Dean. Joe Dean liked to have Alice live with them since his wife, Emily, was somewhat slow to perform kitchen duties. Alice was extremely efficient in the kitchen and having her in the household with so many children helped it function better.

In 1924, Alice went to live in the Louisiana Hospital for the Insane of Louisiana in Pineville. That year, the facility's name was changed to Central Louisiana State Hospital. Many patients at the Central Louisiana State Hospital suffered severe afflictions and did not have the ability to perform any work. However, Alice was highly functional, and after years of helping care for her

cousin's family, she performed very well at kitchen duties. The hospital tasked Alice with setting the table and serving food to the patients there.

Alice continued to make periodic extended visits home to Union Parish. In mid-1930, she returned home to Union Parish, again living with Mary and Joe Dean next to the household of her brother, George. Her visit that year proved extended, for on March 11th, the Union Parish Police Jury unanimously approved a measure paying Alice \$5.00 each month beginning that month, *"and each month thereafter until further notice."*

After his military service, Alice's brother, Johnnie, traveled extensively, but he made trips home each year to Union Parish. During his visits, Alice would either come home to Farmerville or else he would go to Pineville to visit her. In 1934, she suffered from poor health, and so Johnnie Boatright and his niece, Fabrice, went to the Central Louisiana State Hospital to see Alice, who *"was so proud to see us."*

After suffering with them for fifty-two years, *"Aunt Alice Boatright"* died at the Central Louisiana State Hospital of an epileptic grand mal seizure in 1950. Her body was buried in the cemetery on the hospital grounds in Pineville, Rapides Parish, Louisiana [12].

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4. John Elliott Boatright

John Elliott Boatright [Johnnie] (6 Aug 1893–4 Mar 1936) never quite seemed at home anywhere during his short life [13]. In 1910, he lived near Farmerville with his first cousin, Mary Emily Purdy Dean, helping on her farm [14]. He continued farming as he reached adulthood, and on 1 February 1916, Johnnie and his older brother, George, jointly purchased a 90-acre tract of land several miles east of Farmerville on the Farmerville-Port Union Road (now the Wards Chapel Road). The brothers paid \$486 for the tract [15].

The United States entered World War I on 6 April 1917, and John E. Boatright registered for the World War I draft the following June 5th, making his mark to the registration record. He was assigned draft #18 [16]. On July 20th, the United States held the first drawing of the draft numbers that would make up the first draft army of the United States. Among the numbers drawn was #18: John Elliott Boatright. He one was of seventy-five young men from Union Parish who passed the physical examination and did not file for exemption, and so he was accepted into the army. He was formally inducted into the U. S. Army on September 18th as a private in Company I, 347th Infantry, and he and forty-eight inductees left Union Parish on Wednesday, September 19th, for the training camp at Camp Pike, Little Rock, Arkansas. Boatright's unit demobilized on 28 January 1918, and he received an honorable discharge [17].

During the service, Johnnie developed lung problems, referred to as tuberculosis by the family. After his military discharge, he did not perform any known type of work during his adult life. In 1920, he was a patient at the base hospital at Camp Beauregard, Rapides Parish, Louisiana [18].

After his discharge from the U. S. Army, John E. Boatright travelled widely. On 2 November 1922, he sold his brother, George, his interest in the 90 acres they owned jointly for \$300 cash. At that time, John gave his residence as Las Cruces, New Mexico [19].

"Uncle Johnnie" never married, and he spent the rest of his life traveling. Family photographs showing him at Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, visiting his great-uncle, Matt A. Scarborough, and his children, after they moved there in 1921. He also visited Littleton, Colorado, Kansas, and Missouri. In 1930, he lived in a boarding house on North Main Street in Smith Center City, Kansas, where he spent most winters. He tended to spend the summer months in Perryville, Missouri, and he died there in 1936 at the age of forty-two. His brothers had his body shipped by railroad for burial beside their brother, George [20].



5. Bethel Boatright

Bethel Boatright (28 May 1897–7 Nov 1987) and his twin, Ethel, were born near Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana. Despite being not quite four years of age when his father died in February 1901, he had vivid memories of the tragic events after his father's death. Eight decades later, he recalled a one-horse delivery wagon arriving at their house to haul his father's casket to the cemetery for burial. Shortly afterwards, his mother's brother, his Uncle John Ham, came by steamboat from Farmerville up the Ouachita River to retrieve Bethel and his three youngest siblings. Bethel lived with John H. Ham for a few years, but Ham had a house full of his own young children and struggled to care for them. Bethel said that two of his uncles wanted him, Enoch Albritton and Amos McLemore, but since Enoch came for him first, Bethel lived with him from 1904 until 1911. At that point, Enoch Albritton gave him some land to farm and from that point onward, he lived on his own [21].

Bethel married on 11 November 1917 in Union Parish, Louisiana to Mattie Grace Brazzeal (16 Oct 1898–14 Apr 1992), daughter of Noel Gorden Brazzeal (27 Aug 1873–16 Jul 1949) and Martha Harriet Patterson (20 Feb 1875–26 May 1961). Bethel was inducted into the United States Army on 24 October 1918 as a private in the Utilities Branch Cons. Division and served at Camp Green, North Carolina. He received an honorable discharge from the army on 10 December 1918, after serving less than two months [22].

In 1920 and 1930, Bethel and Grace Boatright lived on her parents' farm east of Farmerville, which Bethel helped to operate [23]. Between 1930 and 1933, they moved from Farmerville to Monroe, where Bethel began working at the power plant. In 1940, they lived at 116 Maple Street in Monroe, but they soon bought a house around the corner at 500 McKinley Ave, where they lived for the next four decades [24]. Bethel and Grace Boatright are buried in the Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery [25].

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6. Ethel Boatright

Ethel Boatright (28 May 1897–1897) was a twin to Bethel. She died only a few days after her birth. She is reportedly buried in the Rocky Branch Cemetery, located about fifteen miles southeast of Farmerville, Union Parish, Louisiana [26].

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WILLIAM
PINCKNEY
BOATRIGHT
(1857–1901)



(L TO R) GEORGE W. BOATRIGHT,
JEWEL E. BOATRIGHT, UNKNOWN



BACK: GEORGE W. & JOHNNIE E. BOATRIGHT
FRONT: DOVER JOHNSTON, JEWEL E. BOATRIGHT



**JOHN ELLIOTT
BOATRIGHT
(1893-1936)**





**BETHEL
BOATRIGHT
(1897–1987)**



**BETHEL BOATRIGHT &
GRACE BRAZZEAL**

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Notes

Will Boatright's Early Life in Farmerville

1. Hamburg Cemetery (Hamburg, Ashley County AR), tombstone of [William P. Boatright](#).
2. 1860 Union Parish LA Federal Census, P.O. Farmerville, p. 587, Dwelling #528, line #23: "James Boatrite" (age: 38; Farmer; born: Ark); #24: "J. E. Boatrite" (age: 36; female; Housekeeper; born: "Tenn"); #31: "W^m Boatrite" (age: 2); #32: John Stiles (age: 76; Farmer; born: Virginia); #33: Becca Stiles (age: 66; "House Keeper;" born: Virginia). 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #229, line #27: "Jane Boatwright" (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia); #30: "William Boatwright" (age: 13; born: Louisiana). Union Parish LA Old Deeds & Patents 1, pp. 341–343 (Jane E. Boatright and children to David S. Auld, 2 December 1884). The deed was made by
Jane E. Boatright widow (a femme sole), John N. Boatright, Mrs. Rebecca Jane Phelps, wife of David Phelps, William P. Boatright, Emily O. Purdy, wife of James Benton Purdy, J. Frances Albritton wife of John Albritton, all residents of Union Parish La, and Mrs. Mary Ann Johnston, wife of Perry T. Johnston, residents of Yell County, Arkansas...and we the aforementioned parties being the sole heirs of the Succession of George W. Boatright deceased.
3. Compiled Military Service Records, James Boatright (private), Co. H, 31 Louisiana Infantry Regiment, Civil War (Confederate). For more details on the deaths of Will Boatright's relatives in the Confederate Army, see the biography of parents, [James Boatright and Jane E. Stiles](#).
4. Union Parish LA Conveyance Record K, pp. 85–86 (Powhatan Boatright to James Boatright, 27 March 1862). Powhatan sold James the E½ of NW¼ and NW¼ of NE¼ of Section 5, Township 21 North, Range 1 West.
5. 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, p. 66a/34, Dwelling #225, line #11: Perry Johnson (age: 24; Farmer; born: Alabama); #12: Mary Johnson (age: 20; Keeping House; born: Arkansas); Dwelling #228, line #24: "John Boatwright" (age: 26; Farmerville; born: Louisiana); Dwelling #229, line #27: "Jane Boatwright" (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Virginia); #28: "Emily Boatwright" (age: 16; born: Arkansas); #29: "George Boatwright" (age: 15; born: Arkansas); #30: "William Boatwright" (age: 13; born: Louisiana); #31: "Fannie Boatwright" (age: 7; born: Louisiana); p. 66b/35, Dwelling #237, line #28: Charity Price (age: 40; Keeping House; born: Louisiana); p. 67a/36, Dwelling #239, line #1: "William Mayes" [sic-Mears] (age: 26; Farmer; born: Mississippi); #2: "Mary Mayes" (age: 31; Keeping House; born: Louisiana); Dwelling #240, line #9: David Phelps (age: 26; Farmer); #10: Rebecca Phelps (age: 24; Keeping House); p. 69b/41, Dwelling #272, line #1: "Powhatan Boatwright" (age: 80; Farmer; born: Virginia); #2: "Nancy Boatwright" (age: 72; Keeping House; born: Georgia); Dwelling #273, line #4: "Jesse Boatwright" (age: 36; Farmer; born: Louisiana). Three of Will Boatright's married older siblings and their families lived nearby in 1870: John Nolan Boatright, Rebecca Jane Boatright Phelps, and Mary Ann Boatright Johnston. The wife of Powhatan Boatright, Nancy, was not Will's grandmother, for Powhatan had remarried in 1826 following the death of James Boatright's mother.
6. 1880 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 3, ED #87, p. 471b/35, Dwelling #311, line #48: Jane E. Boatright (age: 50; widowed; Keeping house; born: "(Arks);" father's birth: "(Ga);" mother's birth: "(Miss)"); #49: George W. Boatright (age: 25; Son; single; Farming); #50: Frances Boatright (age: 18; Daughter; single).
7. 1880 Van Zandt County TX Federal Census, Precinct No. 1, ED #119, p. 29a/60, Dwelling #520, line #20: James B. Purdy (age: 33; Farmer; born: Alabama); #21: Emily O. Purdy (age: 24; wife; Keeping house; born: Arkansas); #23: William J. Purdy (age: 8; son; born: Louisiana); #24: James P. Purdy (age: 4; son; born: Texas); #25: Mary E. Purdy (age: 1; "D" [daughter]; born: Texas).
8. 1880 Yell County AR Federal Census, Spring Creek Township, Town of Danville, ED #221, p. 370a/4, Dwelling #42, line #42: J. M. Parker (age: 30; occupation: "Atty at Law;" #47: Joshua Webster (age: 60; occupation: "U. S. m. carrier;"); #48: Daniel Webster (age: 17; occupation: "U. S. m. carrier;"); #49: W. Boatwright (age: 19; occupation: "U. S. m. carrier;"); #50: A. Bazzo (age: 17; occupation: "U. S. m. carrier;"); Village of Petit Jean, ED #222, p. 387a/2, Dwelling #15, line #27: "Perry Johnson" (age: 35; Farmer; born: Ala; father: Ohio; mother: Ala); #28: "Mary Johnston" (age: 31; wife; Keeping house); #29: "James Johnson" (age: 12; Son; works on farm; born: Ala [sic]); #30: "Geo Johnson" (age: 10; Son; works on farm; born: La); #31: "John Johnston" (age: 8; Son; born: Ark); #32: "William Johnston" (age: 6; Son; born: Ark); #32: "Leander Johnston" (age: 3; Son; born: Ark).
9. 1880–1884 Union Parish LA Tax Assessment Rolls, Louisiana States Archives, Baton Rouge, LA.
10. Union Parish LA Marriage Book 6 (1880–1883), p. 408 (John F. Albritton to Fannie Boatright, 7 September 1882).
11. Union Parish LA Conveyance Book U, pp. 246–247 (Widow and heirs of Noah Scarborough, deceased, to William Arnett Albritton, 25 January 1884; witnesses: G. W. Boatright, W. P. Boatright).
12. Union Parish LA Old Deeds & Patents 1, pp. 341–343 (Jane E. Boatright and children to David S. Auld, 2 December 1884). The statement that George W. Boatright died of pneumonia comes from family information related to Fabrice Boatright Hudson, grandniece of George W. Boatright, by her uncle and father, Jewel and George W. Boatright.
13. Hudson, Fabrice Boatright. *Ancestors and Descendants of Powhatan Valentine Boatright*. G&R Publishing: Waverly, IA, 1981, p. 14. Statements made about Jane E. Stiles Boatright moving in with Samantha Fowler Scarborough on

the old Scarborough farm come from conversations between “*Cousin Wilson Albritton*” (Lloyd Wilson Albritton) and Fabrice Boatright Hudson, who conducted extensive interviews with family members between the 1940s and 1970s. She collected family information and published it in her 1981 book, and she also related these conversations in letters to her grandson, Timothy D. Hudson, written in the 1980s.

14. 1870 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward No. 1, P.O. Farmerville, p. 20b/47, Dwelling #312, line #1: Hillory H. Ham (age: 41; Farmer); #2: Elva Ann Ham (age: 27; House Keeper); #8: Mary T. Ham (age: 3). 1880 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward One, ED #84, p. 400b/23, line #3: Noah Scarborough (72; Farmer); #4: Symantha Scarborough (61; wife; House Keeper); #6: John Ham (11; “*Gr son*,” “*works in farm*”); #7: Anna Ham (13; “*Gr daughter*,” “*works in farm*”). Louisiana Death Certificate #15142, 1934, George Boatright, Union Parish (died: 24 December 1934; father: “*Will Boatright*,” mother: “*Mittie Ham*”).
15. New Orleans Land Office, Homestead Application #7768, Semantha E. Scarborough, filed 10 December 1883, cancelled 24 September 1894.

Marriage, Economic Struggles, & Tragedy

1. Union Parish LA Marriage Book 7 (1883–1889), p. 172 (William P. Boatright to Anna Ham [“*M. T. A. Ham*”], 7 April 1884; “*Eld. H. H. Ward*,” witnesses: G. W. Stewart, J. R. Albritton, M. L. Albritton). The marriage bond referred to the bride as “*Miss Anna Ham*,” as did the marriage license and minister’s return. However, she made her mark to the minister’s return at the time of marriage as “*M. T. A. Ham*,” showing that she could not write, while Will signed his name as “*W. P. Boatright*.” The Albritton witnesses were first cousins of Anna’s mother, Samantha Elvyann Scarborough Ham, both sons of Sarah Ann Fowler Albritton and brothers of Will’s brother-in-law, John Fowler Albritton.
2. 1884–1890 Union Parish LA Tax Assessment Rolls, Louisiana States Archives, Baton Rouge, LA. In 1887, William P. Boatright was only assessed one poll tax. The tax assessor included “*Improvements on Pub. land*” valued at \$25 on Boatright’s 1889 assessment.
3. Union Parish LA Conveyance Book Z, pp. 477–478; Mortgage Book I, pp. 105–107 (Earnest L. Dodd to William P. Boatright, 29 July 1891). Boatright bought the $S\frac{1}{2}$ of $SW\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12 & $SE\frac{1}{4}$ of $SE\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 11, Township 20, North Range 2 East, a total of $119\frac{1}{2}$ acres (the deed excluded $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre). Boatright bought the land for \$350, with \$100 due 1 January 1892, \$100 due 1 January 1893, and \$150 due 1 January 1894.
4. 1892–1896 Union Parish LA Tax Assessment Rolls, Louisiana States Archives, Baton Rouge, LA.
5. “*The Gazette*” (Farmerville, LA), 23 May 1894, p. 4, column 2.
6. United States Tract Book, Township No. 20 North, Range No. 3 East, District of Ouachita, p. 82 (Section 19). Louisiana Legislature. *Acts Passed by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, at The First Session of the Sixth Legislature, Begun and Held in the City of New Orleans, January 6, 1879*. New Orleans: Democrat Publishing Co., 1879, pp. 59–61 (No. 39: “*An Act Donating certain lands to the Red River and Mississippi Railroad Company, and declaring the forfeiture of said lands by the Vicksburg-Shreveport and Texas Railroad Company*,” approved 14 February 1879).
7. Union Parish LA Civil Suit #4064: V.S. & P. R.R. Co. vs. W. P. Boatright, filed 17 April 1895. Boatright’s attorney stated that in 1893, Boatright purchased this tract from Robert Howard: $NW\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 19, Township 20 North, Range 3 East, 160 acres. In the railroad company’s petition, they claimed the tract was valued at \$640. The civil suit file contains both the railroad company’s original petition and the response filed by Boatright’s attorneys, as well as subpoenas delivered by the deputy sheriff to Boatright and Francis Marion Roan, both of whom lived fifteen miles from Farmerville. The subpoenas are dated April 1895 and August 1896. However, the final judgment is missing from the file.
8. “*The Gazette*,” August 19 (p. 3, column 2) and October 28 (p. 3, column 2), 1896. The newspapers did not specifically mention Boatright’s case like it did twenty other cases, and it is unclear if this were merely an omission, or if the Court heard his case at another session.
9. Union Parish LA Conveyance Book 3, pp. 604–605 (W. P. Boatright to S. J. Wall, 13 November 1895). Boatright sold the precise land he had bought from Dodd in 1891.
10. “*The Gazette*,” June 10 (p. 3, column 1), July 8 (p. 2, column 2), 15 (p. 3, column 1), 1896. “*The Daily Picayune*,” August 10 (p. 7, column 2) and 18 (p. 6, column 1), 1896. “*The New York Times*,” 25 August 1896, p. 7, column 2.
11. “*The Daily Picayune*,” February 7 (p. 6, column 5), 19 (p. 4, column 2), 22 (p. 4, column 4; p. 9, column 6), 1897. “*The Gazette*,” 2 June 1897, p. 3, column 1.
12. “*The Gazette*,” 5 August 1896, p. 3, column 1. 1897 Union Parish LA Tax Assessment Rolls, Louisiana States Archives, Baton Rouge, LA. The Farmerville newspaper reported on August 5th that “*Mrs. Boatright, mother of Mrs. John F. Albritton, died this week*.” This puts Jane Stiles Boatright’s death sometime between Thursday, July 29th and Wednesday, August 5th.
13. 1898 Union Parish LA Tax Assessment Rolls, Louisiana States Archives, Baton Rouge, LA. Hudson, Fabrice Boatright, p. 74. Will and Anna Boatright’s son, Jewell Boatright, told his niece, Fabrice Boatright Hudson, that

- Will moved to Hamburg to work as a plainer at a sawmill in Hamburg. Jewell also stated that the family moved from Union Parish to Hamburg in 1898, which matches tax records showing that Will did not pay 1898 taxes on any Union Parish property that year, only a poll tax.
14. 1900 Ashley County AR Federal Census, Carter Township, Hamburg Town, ED#10, pp. 206b/12b-207a/13a, Dwelling #219, line #99: William P. Boatright (Nov 1856; age: 43; "*Night watchman*"); #99: Anna Boatright (Nov 1867; age: 32; wife).
 15. Ashley County AR Deed Book PP, p. 386 (Charles H. and M. L. Bradley to W. P. Boatright, 26 October 1901 [sic]). Charles H. Bradley and his wife sold a tract of four acres to W. P. Boatright. The date on the deed was 26 October 1901, yet Will Boatright died in February 1901. The record was filed in the County Clerk's office at 9:00 a.m. on 29 January 1901, and undoubtedly, the clerk recording the item put the current year, instead of the 1900, which the record was apparently made.
 16. "*The Gazette*," 19 December 1900, p. 3, column 2. The newspaper notice did not mention the cause of death, but Anna's granddaughter, Fabrice Boatright Hudson, wrote in her family history that "*Anna was taken ill with pneumonia*." Fabrice Hudson gave the incorrect date of death for Anna, stating that she died after Will, while the newspaper notice proves that she died prior to her husband.
 17. Hamburg Cemetery (Hamburg, Ashley County AR), tombstone of [William P. Boatright](#). Hudson, Fabrice Boatright, p. 74. The events following the February 1901 death of William P. Boatright at Hamburg were related in a personal conversation between Bethel Boatright and Timothy D. Hudson held on 18 April 1984 at Mr. Boatright's home in Monroe, Louisiana. The statement that Will Boatright became ill on 5 February 1901 comes from information given to Fabrice Boatright by her uncle, Jewel Boatright. However, she also related dates on which Anna supposedly became ill and died that are incorrect, as the newspaper article verifies Anna's death the previous December.
 18. Ashley County AR Guardian Book B, p. 127 (W. H. Tebbs, guardian of "*Jewell, Johnie & Bethel Boatright & George & Alice Boatright & the Estate of said minors*," filed 13 February 1901). 1900 Ashley County AR Federal Census, Carter Township, Hamburg Town, ED#10, pp. 201a/7a, Dwelling #109, line #9: William H. Tibbs (born: Nov 1855; age: 44; born: Missouri; occupation: Merchant); #10: Mary E. Tibbs (born: Jun 1868; age: 31; born: Arkansas). Hamburg Cemetery (Hamburg, Ashley County AR), tombstones of [William Henry Tebbs](#) and [Mary Lowrey Tebbs](#).
 19. Mr. Bethel Boatright recalled these events in a personal conversation with Timothy D. Hudson held on 18 April 1984 at Mr. Boatright's home in Monroe, Louisiana.

Children of William P. Boatright & Anna Ham

1. 1900 Ashley County AR Federal Census, Carter Township, Hamburg Town, ED#10, Sheet#12B, pp. 206b/12, Dwelling #219, line #99: William P. Boatright (Nov 1856; age: 43; "*Night watchman*"); #99: Anna Boatright (Nov 1867; age: 32; wife; given birth: 6; children living: 5); #100: "*Jule E. Boatright*" (Jan 1885; age: 15; son); p. 207a/13, line #1: "*George W. Boatwright*" (Sep 1886; age: 13; son; attended school two months; can read, write, and speak English); #2: "*Francis A. Boatwright*" (Mar 1889; age: 11; Daughter; no school; cannot read, write, or speak English); #3: "*John E. Boatwright*" (Sep 1893; age: 6; Son); #4: "*Bethel Boatwright*" (May 1897; age: 3; Son).
2. Hudson, Fabrice Boatright. *Ancestors and Descendants of Powhatan Valentine Boatright*. G&R Publishing: Waverly, IA, 1981, pp. 74-82. Fabrice Hudson had numerous personal conversations with her father, George W. Boatright, and her uncles, Jewel and Johnnie Boatright, during their lifetimes, including a description of all the children of Will and Anna Boatright. This information was also conveyed in a personal conversation between Bethel Boatright and Timothy D. Hudson at Mr. Boatright's home in Monroe, Louisiana on 18 April 1984.
3. 1910 Ashley County AR Federal Census, Hamburg Town, ED #5, p. 49a/8a, Main Street, Dwelling #140, line #8: W^m H. Tebbs (age: 54; occupation: Planter; Genera farm; born: Missouri); #143: Mittie Hill (age: 52; widowed; occupation: "*Keeper, Hotel*"); #26: "*Jewell Boatwright*" (age: [blank]; single; occupation: "*None*").
4. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, LDS Film #5150421, Image #396, "*Jewel Emmett Boatright*," Serial #249, order #195, registered 12 September 1918 (born: 22 Jan 1885; nearest relative: "*Geo. Boatright, Farmersvill [sic], Union, La*").
5. Ashley County AR Marriage Book 3 (1925-1927), p. 3 (J. E. Boatright to Miss Idabel Sims, 19 April 1925). 1920 Drew County AR Federal Census, Saline Township, Wilmar town, ED #61, p. 257a/3a, Dwelling #47, line #10: Mage B. Sims (age: 68; occupation: Mechanic, Lumber mill); #11: Belle Sims (age: 58; wife; occupation: None); #12: Idabel Sims (age: 27; Daughter; occupation: None). Oakland Cemetery (Monticello, Drew County AR), tombstones of [Mage Beavers Sims](#) and [Elida Bell Sims](#).
6. 1930 Ashley County AR Federal Census, Bryant Township, Crossett Town, ED #10, p. 79a/15a, Second Street W., Dwelling #344, line #22: Jewell E. Boatright (age: 45; occupation: Manager, Telephone Co.); #23: Ida B. Boatright (age: 39; wife).
7. "*Morehouse Enterprise*" (Bastrop, LA), 1 December 1938, p. 1, column 3.

8. 1940 Drew County AR Federal Census, Wilmar, Saline Township, ED #22-22, p. 225a/5a, Household #79, line #5: J. E. Boatright (age: 51; widowed; born: Louisiana; home owned, valued \$600; occupation: "Bookkeeper; S. C. S"); #6: J. E. Boatright Jr. (age: 12; born: Kansas); #7: Howard S. Boatright (age: 9; born: Kansas); #8: Elida Sims (age: 79; widowed; mother in law; born: Arkansas).
9. Oakland Cemetery (Monticello, Drew County AR), tombstones of [Jewell Emmett Boatright](#) and [Idabel Sims Boatright](#).
10. Louisiana Death Certificate #10163, 1950, Alice Boatright, Rapides Parish. Hudson, Fabrice, p. 80. Details concerning Alice Boatright were told by Jewel, George, and John Boatright to Fabrice Boatright Hudson.
11. "The Gazette" (Farmerville, LA), June 13 (p. 2, column 2) and December 12 (p. 2, column 3), 1906; 13 February 1907 (p. 2, columns 2,5); September 16 (p. 2, column 4) and December 16 (p. 1, column 6), 1908; May 12 (p. 1, column 3) and December 22 (p. 8, column 2), 1909; February 16 (p. 8, columns 1-2), May 11 (p. 5, column 3), and September 21 (p. 1, column 3), 1910; May 10 (p. 1, column 3), September 20 (p. 1, column 4), and December 20 (p. 8, column 1), 1911; February 14 (p. 1, column 4), May 15 (p. 1, column 4), and December 25 (p. 1, column 2), 1912; May 21 (p. 8, column 1), October 22 (p. 4, column 2), and December 17 (p. 1, column 3), 1913; February 18 (p. 1, column 4) and May 20 (p. 4, column 2), 1914; 3 February 1915 (p. 1, column 3).
12. Personal recollections of Fabrice Boatright Hudson about her aunt, Frances Alice Boatright, conveyed to her grandson, Timothy Dean Hudson. "The Gazette," 26 March 1930, p. 5, columns 5-6. 1930 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Colson's Ward 7, ED #56-14, p. 264a/1a, Miller Ferry Road, Dwelling #9, line #39: Joe W. Dean (54; cotton farmer); #40: Emily M. Dean (50; wife); #44: Alice Boatright (37; Cousin); Dwelling #11, line #48: Geo. W. Boatright (43; cotton farmer). Louisiana Death Certificate #10163, 1950, Alice Boatright, Rapides Parish.
13. Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery (Farmerville, Union Parish LA), tombstone of [John Elliott Boatright](#).
14. 1910 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward 1, ED #131, p. 12b/6b, Dwelling #100, line #64: Joe W. Dean (age: 34; Farmer); #65: Mary E. Dean (age: 30; wife); #70: John E. Boatright (age: 17; Boarder; Farm laborer).
15. Union Parish LA Conveyance Record 26, p. 378; Mortgage Book Q, p. 648 (Reuben M. and Docia Taylor Dean to George W. and John [Johnnie] E. Boatright, 1 February 1916). The Boatright brothers purchased the portion of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 23, Township 21 North, Range 1 East "lying north of the Farmerville & Port Union public road," a total of 90 acres.
16. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, LDS Film #5152083, Image #370: John Elliott Boatright, #96. His registration described him as short and slender, with brown eyes and black hair.
17. "The Gazette," July 25 (p. 2, column 2), August 15 (p. 3, column 3), and September 19 (p. 3, column 5), 1917. Union Parish LA Clerk of Court's Office, World War I Military Records, John E. Boatright.
18. 1920 Rapides Parish LA Federal Census, Base Hospital, Camp Beauregard, ED #80, p. 312b/4b, line #68: John E. Boatwright.
19. Union Parish LA Conveyance Record 46, p. 535 (John E. Boatright of Las Cruces, New Mexico, never married, to George W. Boatright, married to Mrs. Lizzie Dean Boatright, 1 November 1922). John E. Boatright sold his brother his interest in the land they had jointly bought from Reuben M. Dean in 1916, described as "that portion of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 23, Twp. 21 N.R. 1 East, lying north of the Farmerville and Port Union Public road."
20. 1930 Smith County KS Federal Census, Smith Center City, ED #92-26, p. 202a/14a, 109 N. Main St., Dwelling #384, line #15: Nora B. Wheatcroft (age: 47; Boarding House Manager); #20: John E. Boatright (age 36; Lodger; single; occupation: "None"). Hudson, Fabrice, p. 81. Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery (Farmerville, Union Parish LA), tombstone of "John E. Boatright" (6 Aug 1893-4 Mar 1936). Fabrice Boatright Hudson, niece of Johnnie E. Boatright, recorded many of her personal observations of visits with her uncle in her book and relayed others in conversations to her grandson, Timothy D. Hudson. Family photographs of the descendants of Matthew A. Scarborough included photos of John E. Boatright in various locations in New Mexico, including at Carlsbad Caverns.
21. Bethel Boatright conveyed these details about his parents' death in a personal conversation with Timothy D. Hudson held on 18 April 1984 at Mr. Boatright's home in Monroe, Louisiana. 1910 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward 1, ED #131, p. 14b, Dwelling #135, line #79: Enoch R. Albritton (age: 66; born: Alabama; occupation: Farmer); #80: Eliza V. Albritton (age: 66; wife; born: Louisiana); #81: Ethel M. Albritton (age: 22; Daughter; Single); #82: Bethel Boatwright (age: 12; Boarder; occupation: None). Enoch R. Albritton was not literally Bethel's uncle, but rather he was the first cousin of Bethel's grandmother.
22. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918, LDS Film #5152083, Image #367: Bethel Boatright, Registration #73. He gave his birthdate as 28 May 1897 at Farmerville, stated that his father was born in Union Parish, he worked for himself about "5 Miles N.E. of Farmerville La," and that his nearest relative was "G. W. Boatright, Farmerville, La R3." Union Parish LA Clerk of Court's Office, World War I Military Records, Bethel Boatright.

23. 1920 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Police Jury Ward 1, ED #123, p. 237a/14a, Dwelling #251, line #13: Gordon Brazzeal (age: 47; Farmer); #14: Martha Brazzeal (age: 44; wife); Dwelling #252, line #20: Bethel Boatright (age: 22; Farmer); #21: Grace Boatright (age: 21; wife). 1930 Union Parish LA Federal Census, Ward 1, ED #56-2, p. 117a/17a, Dwelling #347, line #5: Gordon Brazzeal (age: 59; Farmer, farm operator); #6: Mattie H. Brazzeal (age: 55; Wife); Dwelling #348, line #9: Bethel Boatright (age: 32; Farmer, farm operator); #10: Gracie Boatright (age: 30; Wife).
24. *"The Gazette,"* 27 December 1933, p. 6, column 2. 1940 Ouachita Parish LA Federal Census, Monroe, ED #37-18, p. 271b/1b, 116 Maple (rented), Household #20, line #77: *"Bethel Boatwright"* (age: 42; occupation: *"Oiler, power plant;"* same address in 1935); #78: *"Grace Boatwright"* (age: 41). 1950 Ouachita Parish LA Federal Census, Monroe, ED #37-32, Sheet #2, 500 McKinley Ave, line #30, Dwelling #29: Bethel Boatright (age: 52; occupation: *"Power House Operator, City Power Co"*); Sheet #3, line #1: Grace M. Boatright (age: 51). The December 1933 newspaper article stated, *"Mr. and Mrs. Bethel Boatright and daughter of Monroe are spending the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Brazeal."* This proves they moved to Monroe between 1930 and 1933.
25. Taylor/Liberty Hill Cemetery (Farmerville, Union Parish LA), tombstones of [Bethel Boatright](#) and [Grace Brazzeal Boatright](#).
26. Hudson, Fabrice, p. 81. Ethel's name is also recorded in Bethel Boatright's family Bible, shown to his great-grandnephew, Timothy D. Hudson, on 18 April 1984 at Mr. Boatright's house in Monroe, Louisiana.

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