FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

[Mary Polly Lucas Part I](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/john-thomas-holliman-survivor-and.html)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Family histories are put together with work and support from many people. My daughter, Grace, and I are pleased to collect writings, photos and memoirs of others and share them with a growing extended family. In this posting we present the writings of our cousin Dr. Rhodes Holliman, Dublin, Virginia, on Mary Polly Lucas Holliman, John Thomas Holliman and James Franklin Holliman.

Rhodes notes that he is building on the work of others; specifically from the research of his father, Cecil Rhodes Holliman and a distant cousin, Walter Orien Holliman. A great deal of what we know of the John Thomas Holliman siblings, and recent ancestors, comes from the work of these men.



*Rhodes Holliman at home in Dublin, VA*

Walter Orien Holliman, a meticulous family researcher, passed away in 2003. Walt's father was Moses Holliman, who was the son of Warren C. Holliman, who was the son of Charles Holliman, who was the son of James Grantson Holliman (1750-1836), a common grandfather to almost all reading this blog.

Another cousin with whom we have been in contact is Ron Hollimanof Dothan, Alabama. For several decades he has researched theHolliman tree and has amassed considerable information. He is a grandson of Greene Holliman, a son of John Thomas and Martha JaneHolliman. We look forward to his contributions in future blog posts.

Glenda Norris of Alabaster, Alabama, a great great granddaughter of John Thomas Holliman, is preparing an article on Samuel Taylor Walker. Walker is the father of Martha Jane Walker Holliman, her great great grandmother, and wife of John Thomas.

We look forward to continuing contact and compiling memorabilia from other members of the extended family.

**Feature Story: Mary Polly Lucas Holliman**

*In 21 years of married life, Mary Polly and Uriah Holliman would produce 13 children – seven boys and six girls. Polly could hitch up a mule to a plow and till the soil as well as any man. While maintaining her farm, she became the only source of medical assistance in her community. Often she had to travel many miles by mule to help those in need.*
**A COMPASSIONATE HEROINE**

Part I – The Story of Mary Polly LucasHolliman (pictured here in 1913) by Dr. Rhodes Holliman, originally published in *Southern Times Magazine of Tuscaloosa and West Alabama*, issue no. 125.

The daughter of Charles Daniel Lucas and Mary Hastings (see [Blog vol. 1](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/family-lineage.html)) was born in South Carolina on January 2, 1819. She died at Vernon, Alabama on July 5, 1913. She married Uriah Holliman in Tuscaloosa County on August 29, 1836 and together they had 13 children, all delivered by herself. She is buried in Springhill Baptist Cemetery, in Bluff, Alabama.

Very little has been published on the privations suffered by southern farm housewives who were widowed by their husband’s deaths in the Civil War. The following story is a documented history of one such woman, this writer’s great-great grandmother, who lived 94 years in poverty by our current standards, yet became the post-war heroine of her backwoods county in northwest Alabama.

Mary Polly Lucas Holliman of Marlboro County, South Carolina, as noted was the daughter of Charles Daniel Lucas, born in South Carolina on July 30, 1771. Charles Lucas died in Newtonville, Alabama on May 31, 1853. Her mother was Mary Hastings, born in South Carolina on September 10, 1786 and died in Fayette County, Alabama on January 21, 1867. Charles Daniel Lucas and Mary had 10 children.

Charles was reputed to be a large man (6’4” to 6’6”) and had great strength. May Polly loved to tell the story of how he killed a panther with his bare hands. He was also a man of hot temper and a disciplinary tyrant, but that is another story. He was a tailor by trade and after moving to Alabama, a Federal Indian Agent and stock dipper. Charles Daniel was buried in an Indian burial ground on top of a wood hill about seven miles south of Fayette, Alabama.

This writer can remember that graveyard from my childhood (1930s), but it was accessible only by a long hike with a guide over cultivated fields and forests, several miles from the nearest road. Charles Daniel and Mary came to the Newtonville, Alabama community in the 1830s, and purchased land patents from the government.

Mary Polly Lucas married Uriah Holliman in Tuscaloosa County on August 29, 1836. The marriage was performed by the Rev. John Walters, M.G. Uriah Holliman was born in Lancaster County, South Carolina on July 6, 1816 and died at Okolona, Mississippi on May 8, 1862 while in the service of the Confederate Army.

He was the son of Cornelius Holliman, born in Lancaster County, South Carolina on September 25, 1792. Cornelius married ElizabethPlyler in 1813. She was born in South Carolina in the late 1700s, and died in Fayette County in 1838. She is buried in as tack-rock grave at the Springhill Cemetery in northern Tuscaloosa County, near Moore’s Bridge, just off Route 171. They had five children. He is buried at Old Blooming Grove Cemetery in eastern Lamar County, Alabama. As a veteran of the War of 1812, a memorial stone has been placed in that cemetery to his memory.

Over a period of several years, Uriah obtained a total of 320 acres of government patent homestead land in northwest Fayette County and developed a large, productive farm. It would prove essential to feed his rapidly expanding brood. In 21 years of married life, Mary Polly and Uriah would produce 13 children. All reached adult life except the first, Mary, who lived four years. With medical assistance unavailable and the remoteness of their farm, Mary Polly delivered all of her own children, which gave her valuable experience for events to come.

As the clouds of the Civil war appeared, five of her family joined the Confederate Army: her husband, Uriah at age of 46, and sons, James Franklin, Charles Daniel, John Thomas and Elijah. Her daughter, Sarah Jane, married an Italian immigrant who volunteered as a Confederate soldier.

Only two of her military family would survive the war: her sons Lt. James Franklin Holliman, Company B, 58th Alabama Infantry Regiment, and Pvt. John Thomas Holliman, Company H, 41st Alabama Infantry Regiment. James Franklin is buried in the Holliman-Steward cemetery south of Bluff, Alabama and John Thomas, this writer’s great grandfather, is buried at Caine’s Ridge Cemetery just south of Fayette, Alabama.

*End of Part I.*
*In our next post, Polly loses a husband and works desperately to survive the War and economic hard times.*
**The Grandfather and Father of Mary Polly Lucas Holliman**

Source: *Genealogy of the Dodson, Lucas, Pyles, Rochester and Allied Families*
By: S. Emmett Lucas, Jr. Privately printed 1959, Birmingham, Alabama.

There seems to be no information concerning the Lucas family prior to these great grandfathers. Emmett Lucas speculates the family may have been Welsh in origin and from Pennsylvania.

Charles Lucas, Sr. b before 1755; d ca 1805-1810. Wife: Dorcas, b before 1755; d ca. 1805-1819. Lived in Marlboro Co., SC, known as a tailor.

Charles Daniel Lucas, son of Charles Lucas, Sr., b 6/30/1771; d 5/31/1853. Wife Mary Hastings, b 9/10/1786; d 1/21/1867.

Posted by Glenn N. Holliman at [6:00 AM](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/john-thomas-holliman-survivor-and.html) [0 comments](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/john-thomas-holliman-survivor-and.html#comment-form) [](http://www.blogger.com/post-edit.g?blogID=919246125180879490&postID=7990503862318943302&from=pencil)

Labels: [Polly Lucas](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Polly%20Lucas), [Rhodes Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Rhodes%20Holliman)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2010

[Blog Launch and Newsletter Vol 2](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/welcome-to-holliman-history-blog.html)

Last week the [Holliman Family History Newsletter, Vol 1](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/family-lineage.html) was emailed to many family members in a Word document. While this method was well received, my daughter has talked me into posting family history on the Internet in a blog format. Many of you know I am not computer savvy, yet I have discovered there are quite few advantages to blogging:

- Pictures are easy to upload and view
- Previous information and photos are automatically archived for future reference
- You can visit this blog at your leisure and easily access it on the Internet
- Websites of interest and other blogs, such as the one [Grace  Holliman](http://life2seriously.com/) writes, can be easily linked to this site

Please bear with me as I discover the ins and outs of blogging. No doubt there will be a few glitches along the way. This blog is a work in progress. Your comments, questions, and any information you have on family history is most welcome here.

Glenn N. Holliman, Compiler

**In this post we focus on the Daly and Herrin families:**
Vena Holliman (1909-1990) was the first born daughter of Ulyss and Pearl Caine Holliman. In 1928, she married Robert Daly, an up and coming banker in Irondale and Woodlawn. They had two children, Mary Daly Herrin, Irondale and Dr. Robert Daly, Florence, AL.


*In this photo ca 1954 (clockwise from top):*

*Clayton Herrin, Pearl Caine Holliman, Vena Holliman Daly, Mary Daly Herrin, Lula Hocutt Caine*

In the unpublished memoirs of H. Bishop Holliman, a brother of Vena Daly, we found these observations. Bishop captures a time and place of a family in Alabama in the 1920s and 30s and the generosity of Robert and Vena.

**Memories of Robert Daly and Vena Vivian Holliman Daly**

by Bishop Holliman (Written 1983).

*Vena Vivian was born December 21, 1909. It was always common knowledge that she, my eldest sister, was exactly ten years older than I. My only memory of Vena being at home in Irondale, Alabama was of her dating Robert Daly. They were married June 12, 1928 at the Irondale Methodist Church. I was 8 years old, but I can recall the event clearly.*

*Vena attended Shades Cahaba, and since she was only 18 at marriage, she would not have done much work outside of the home. It is my recollection that she and Robert dated for three years. Many times on their dates they would have to tolerate Virginia, Ralph or me. Since Robert had been in the family as far back as we three could remember, we assumed he was there to see us as well as Vena!*

*‘Going riding’ was the thing to do in those days, so many, many times, one of us or all three, would be with them. I don’t know why they put up with us as they did. They would take us on picnics and fishing trips to the Cahaba River in the summer.*

*Their honeymoon was spent in Miami, Florida, and believe me, that was a long way from Irondale and not just in mileage. I still recall the excitement of getting post cards from them and having friends know that we had family who could go to Miami!*

*Robert had built the two brick houses on the hill next to our house, but I believe they lived with the Dalys out on the mountain (the east side of Irondale) the first years of their marriage. In 1929, they took a trip visiting Lake Lure in NC and Mammoth Cave in KY. They took Euhal (a brother of Bishop, 1912-1989) with them.*

*At the time Robert drove a Packard roadster---with a rumble seat! In 1933, they went to the Chicago World’s Fair taking Loudelle (Loudelle Holliman Ferrell, 1914-1998) with them. Beginning in 1934, a third vacation became standard fare, and for the rest of his life, they always vacationed on the beach.*

*In 1934, Mary was 3 years old, they began going to Florida on vacations and for some reason they took Virginia and me along. Ralph was considered too young. Virginia was able to babysit with Mary so she was of some value to them. I was of no value, except to go along as a fishing buddy. Virginia and I went with them again in 1935 and 1936. Robert, I suppose, paid all our expenses. We were not old enough to question the source of our support for those trips...they would volunteer to let us go with them and we did - gladly!*

*In 1931, they were living in one of the brick houses next to us, because that is where they were when Mary was born June 15, 1931 (Mary Daly Herrin). Vena and Robert spoiled Virginia, Ralph and me. We made their home ours, and did not hesitate to impose upon them at any hour – day or night – and we expected to be treated royally by them, and we were. I do not know why they were so good to us, but they were.*

*Robert Daly had the greatest influence on our young lives, certainly Virginia, Ralph and me. He was born in August 5, 1901, lived about 3 miles from Irondale, had completed whatever schooling was available to him, and I think, had taken a business course. He then started working at the First National Bank in Birmingham, and by the time we were old enough to remember, he was manager of the Woodlawn Branch, the position he held until his death March 12, 1959 of heart disease.*

*Robert was more than a 'brother' to us. We dearly loved him, all the family did. Even before they were married, he would give us presents, loose change, etc. He was always generous, a very affable person and apparently had great natural ability to deal with people as he did. Even after I was in college I would not hesitate to call on him if I needed help, transportation, etc.*

*As I got older, nearly every night after being out - working, dating, whatever, I would come by their house and chat. As WWII came closer, we would get in heated discussions about world events. He would agitate me purposely to get me stirred up. Robert never got mad. He was always smiling and would help everyone, I guess, who came to him.*

*When I left to go into the Navy on November 13, 1941, Robert, along with Mama, Daddy, Virginia and Vena were at the station to see me off. All during the war, Robert would write cheerful, newsy letters to me, and I treasured them and looked forward to them. After the war of course life changed for all of us, and new concerns and priorities came to the front. Life was never the same again, but Robert's influence on our lives remained strong and had a lasting effect.*

Bishop Holliman now lives in Avilla, Indiana with his wife, Ellen CoxHolliman.

Posted by Glenn N. Holliman at [8:10 AM](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/welcome-to-holliman-history-blog.html) [0 comments](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/welcome-to-holliman-history-blog.html#comment-form) [](http://www.blogger.com/post-edit.g?blogID=919246125180879490&postID=5431536985380320452&from=pencil)

Labels: [Bishop Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Bishop%20Holliman), [Herrin](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Herrin), [Robert Daly](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Robert%20Daly), [Vena Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Vena%20Holliman)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2010

[Welcome Family!](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/family-lineage.html)

**Important Notice:**

**Since composing this article in February 2010, additional research has failed to identify John Holyman (1572 - 1650) of Tring as the father of Christopher Holyman, Sr., the believed first generation of Hollimans in America. My interpretation at this time is that Christopher Holyman, Sr. was born in Bedford, Bedfordshire, England in 1618. We have data that he arrived in Virginia in 1650 and died in 1691.**(Written on January 7, 2011.)

This is the story of the Christopher Holyman families from Jamestown, Virginia to the present day. All family members, and those who have married into this family, are invited to join in the exploration.

Through this blog we plan to include interesting facts, family trees, lore, geographical information and first hand memories. This blog is a work in progress. Your comments, insights, corrections, articles, photographs, diaries and old letters are most welcome. In this format we plan to hand off our past, and present, to the future.

Glenn N. Holliman, Complier

Grace A. Hollilman, Editor

**Family Lineage**
What follows is a baseline genealogy of the Holliman paternal family tree through the life of John Thomas Holliman of Fayette County, Alabama and his sons. John Thomas is the father of six sons (photo below). Most of the persons receiving this email are descendants of two of the sons: James Monroe Holliman and Ulysses (usually spelled and pronounced Ulyss) Selman Holliman.

Jim Monroe Holliman, an attorney, and his wife Anna Elizabeth Baker, had two sons who grew to maturity: Cecil Rhodes and Charles Baker Holliman. Ulyss and his wife, Pearl Caine, had seven children: Melton, Vena Holliman Daly, Euhal, Loudelle Holliman Ferrell, Bishop, Virginia Holliman Cornelius and Ralph Holliman.

All the above, and most of you reading this, are descended from an immigrant from a Bedford, England with probable cousins in the Tring, Hertfordshire, area northwest of central London.

Christopher Holyman (b 1618 Bedford, England – d 1691, Isle of Wight Co., Virginia)

Christopher Holyman, Jr. (b 1659, Jamestown, Virginia – d 1731, Isle of Wight Co., Virginia)

Richard Holliman (b 1660s ca, Isle of Wight, VA – d 1711, Surry Co., Virginia)

Samuel Holliman (b 1707, Surry Co., VA – d 1789, Johnston Co., NC)

James Grantson Holliman (b 1750, Johnston Co., North Carolina – d 1836, Mecklenburg Co., North Carolina). Wife was Elizabeth Bryant.

Cornelius Holliman (b 1792, Anson Co., North Carolina - d 1862, Fayette Co., Alabama) First wife and mother of Uriah, Mary Elizabeth Plyler (1793-1835).

Uriah Holliman ( b 1817, Lancaster, Co., South Carolina - d 1862,Okolona, Mississippi after the Battle of Corinth). Wife was Mary Polly Lucas (1819-1913).

John Thomas Holliman (b 1844, Fayette Co., Alabama – d 1930,Fayetteville, Alabama)
Of the marriage to Sarah Corbett, William Perry Holliman (1871-1941) was the surviving child. Of the marriage to Martha Jane Walker, five sons were born: Silas Green Holliman (1876-1943), James Monroe (1878-1938), Thomas Leland (1880-1970), Andrew Eckford (1882-1926) and Ulysses Selman Holliman (1884-1965).

**Sons of John Thomas and Martha Jane Walker Holliman**



Left to right are: Bill, Green, James Monroe, Leland and Ulysses. The vacant spot is for Eckford who died in 1926.

The photo was taken at Fayette Co., Alabama May 1934 by Cecil Rhodes Holliman with an old bellows Kodak on 120 film. Rhodes Holliman, his son remembers the photo and observes the following:

*I remember the sense of necessity that pervaded the crowd to get this historic family photo. It was made at the annual Holliman reunion and ‘eating on the grounds’. With Eck dead, everyone wanted to preserve the remaining family image. I used to play under this old church while services were in progress. I'm surprised that the building didn't collapse while full of people. The ferruginous rock pilings did not have any mortar! The building was literally balanced on these pilings! Uncle Bill’s son, Grady, played the guitar to accompany the singing. This is where I fell in love with the hymn, "Just a Little Talk with Jesus". I remember an over-weight lady whose name was Cousin Maggie Thornton. She came to the reunion in a wagon pulled by a team of mules. She had an old steamer trunk full of food: pies, fried chicken, potato salad, you name it. She was famous for her cooking. I think that she was a spinster. She was distantly related -- collateral family. I think that she is buried at Caine’s Ridge. Uncle Bill could walk to church; his old shack was across the road and a little south, back in the woods. I think that his house site still shows on the USGS Topo maps.*
Bishop Holliman (b 1919), a son of Ulyss, was also present at this reunion, and remembers Maggie Thornton. Ulyss, Euhal and Bishop drove from Irondale (a suburb of Birmingham) to Fayette for the day, a major drive in 1934.

**Mary Polly Lucas Holliman (1819-1913)**

****

**The Story of Her Father and Grandfather**

Contributions from Glenda Norris, Rhodes Holliman and S. Emmett Lucas, Jr. Prepared by Glenn Holliman

Mary Polly Lucas, was the daughter of Charles Daniel Lucas (1778- 1853) and Mary Hastings (9/10/1786 - 1/21/1867), all originally from South Carolina. Polly Lucas became the wife of Uriah Holliman on 8/29/1836 in Tuscaloosa, AL. Uriah and Polly had many children, one being John Thomas Holliman, the direct ancestor of most persons reading this information.

Charles Lucas Sr. (1755 - 1810?) was the grandfather of Polly Lucas. Charles was probably a tailor who lived in Marlboro County, SC, along the Pee Dee River near the North Carolina line. Glenda Norris reports that Charles was married to Dorcus (maiden name unknown) who is thought to have been an American Indian. One of their sons was Charles Daniel Lucas, Polly’s father.

Charles Daniel Lucas (1771-1853) stood six-foot-four and according to Polly, he once killed a panther with his bare hands. In 1819 Charles Daniel moved his family from South Carolina to the new state of Alabama (just as the Holliman family did in 1836).

Rhodes Holliman, a great great great grandson of Charles Daniel, reports that Charles had a fierce temper yet managed to serve as a deacon in the 1830s at the Springhill Baptist Church near Moore’s Bridge, Fayette County. Family lore states that Charles Daniel hit one of his sons causing his wife, Mary Hastings Lucas, to move herself and children from Newtonville to the Bluff Community northwest of Fayette.

Charles Daniel died in 1853 after having served as a Federal Indian agent. He is buried in an Indian burial site seven miles from Fayette toward Newtonville. In death, as in life, Charles Daniel Lucas was not completely at peace. In 1870 grave robbers attempted to disinter him but were scared off in the process.

Charles Daniel’s wife, Mary, is buried in an unmarked grave at the Springhill Baptist Church Cemetery in Fayette Co., along with their daughter, Mary Polly Lucas Holliman, and John Thomas Holliman’s first wife, Sarah E. Corbett.

In the picture below Glenda Norris (Alabaster, AL) and her uncle, Dr. Rhodes Holliman (Dublin, VA), visit the gravesite of Charles Daniel Lucas in Fayette Co., AL near Newtonville in 2007



Glenda (b 1959), is the daughter of Cecile Eugenia Holliman Youngblood (b 1937), who is the daughter of Cecil Rhodes Holliman, (1902 – 1986), who is the son of James Monroe Holliman (1878 – 1938) who is the son of John Thomas Holliman (1844 – 1930) who is the son of Uriah and Mary Polly Lucas Holliman. Rhodes (b 1928) is the son of Cecil Holliman, the grandson of James Monroe Holliman, and great grandson of John Thomas Holliman.

Posted by Glenn N. Holliman at [1:39 PM](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/family-lineage.html) [4 comments](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/family-lineage.html#comment-form) [](http://www.blogger.com/post-edit.g?blogID=919246125180879490&postID=4320442755835609779&from=pencil)

Labels: [A. Eckford Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/A.%20Eckford%20Holliman), [Charles Daniel Lucas](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Charles%20Daniel%20Lucas), [Charles Lucas Sr.](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Charles%20Lucas%20Sr.),[Glenda Norris](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Glenda%20Norris), [James Monroe Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/James%20Monroe%20Holliman), [Polly Lucas](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Polly%20Lucas), [Rhodes Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Rhodes%20Holliman),[Silas Green Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Silas%20Green%20Holliman), [Thomas Leland Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Thomas%20Leland%20Holliman), [Ulysses Selma Holliman](http://hollimanfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/Ulysses%20Selma%20Holliman)

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