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Fairfield County Chapter

South Carolina Genealogical Society

Research Document

Surname(s): GIBSON Target: / /
Started: / / Ready to File Completed: 12/17/14

Start research using Request, Family Group & Pedigree Sheets
Check off each item as research is completed

(oh)
See 12/13²⁰

- **BookCat (Online Card Catalog)**
 - Key in surname being researched
 - FB = Family Books
 - FF = Family Files
 - VF = Vertical Files
 - VF Church = Vertical Files labeled Churches
 - VF Fairfield = Vertical Files labeled Fairfield
 - VF Plats = Vertical Files labeled Plats
 - VF Wills = Vertical Files labeled Wills
- **Computer with Large TV Screen**
 - Check **ICON** labeled Research Room
 - African American Folder
 - Books Folder
 - CDs Folder
 - Church Cemeteries Folder
 - Family Books Section Folder
 - Family Researched Files Folder (also check Master List Spreadsheet)
 - Funeral Homes Folder
 - Maps, Map Information Folders
 - Obits Folder
 - Plats Folder
 - Wills Folder
 - Check Online Research Sources Folder
 - Other web resources available, like USC Libraries, etc.
- **Main Room – Southwest Corner (Stonewall Jackson, Robert E. Lee Portraits)**
 - Local Church History & Denominational Church History
 - Deeds
 - Wills
 - Equity Court
 - Cemeteries
 - Birth Scrapbook
 - Marriage Notices & Scrapbook
 - Death Notices & Scrapbook

Genealogy Resource Library

From: Fairfield Museum [fairfieldmus@truvista.net]
Sent: Monday, November 03, 2014 2:25 PM
To: 'Danielle Cruz Torres'
Cc: 'fairfieldgenealogy'; Yvette Howard
Subject: RE: Researching Center Gibson

There are a number of black Gibson families from the Ridgeway area. I think the white Gibsons first came to the area around the south west part of the county around Little River in the 1780s or 90s. Rev. Jacob Gibson founded Gibson's Meeting House which evolved into Little River Baptist Church.

I will ask around if there is anyone in the present Gibson families who is a keeper of family history. Hoping Yvette H. might help find that out. I'm not sure if Alex Gibson of Gibson's Funeral Home is from our area, but you may want to call him at 803-635-9884. His wife is Ruth Harrison from the Ridgeway area and she might know a contact.

Copying this to Eddie.

-Pelham

From: Danielle Cruz Torres [mailto:cruz_danielle_torres@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, November 03, 2014 11:12 AM
To: FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUSEUM FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUSEUM
Cc: fairfieldgenealogy; y123howard
Subject: Re: Researching Center Gibson

The Library of Congress website had a few small articles on the Hook and Ladder team in Winnsboro. I can send you what I found when I get home. I have found Center in the census except for 1870 which is sort of weird. I never dreamed there would be any mention of him in the paper and was pleasantly surprised he was part of this organization. I've been searching, hoping to find mention of him anywhere else. I don't have any known relatives in Fairfield County and I don't think I've messaged Mr. Killian before, but I will definitely reach out.:-)

Here is a little info on Center:

Center Gibson was born around 1845 on the Gibson Plantation or Farm. He was owned by Henry and Sabra Gibson.

He had two sons: Jasper and James.

He moved to Sumter in his later years He died November 16th 1918 in Sumter, SC.

Thanks for all your help,

Danielle Torres

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 1, 2014, at 1:04 PM, FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUSEUM FAIRFIELD COUNTY MUSEUM <fairfieldmus@truvista.net> wrote:

Danielle,

Thank you for finding and sending these articles which we will add to our file. I don't know if you and Mr. Killian in our genealogy research room have been corresponding on specifics, but

suggest that you write him with specific details about tracing your ancestor if not. He handles most of the research for incoming genealogical queries, as presently, we are short on the services of additional needed volunteers to help with look ups. He keeps an ongoing list of queries to try to find time to get to and yours may be in the queue if you have written to him at fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net.

I sent you the old newspaper photo of the H&L because that was the only reference we had on file on the organization. Your attachments will be invaluable additions to that documentation. Have you done any research through the census records yet? Do you know of any distant relatives who may be living in Fairfield County at present? We also have some cemetery records which may yield information. Mr. Killian also has access to other types of records which may help. I'll look forward to hearing of what comes of this search!

-Pelham

From: "Danielle Torres" <cruz_danielle_torres@yahoo.com>
To: "Fairfield Museum" <fairfieldmus@truvista.net>
Cc: "fairfield genealogy" <fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net>, "Rev. Eddie J. Woods" <eddiejwoods@yahoo.com>, "John Withers" <jwithersjr@yahoo.com>, "Chuck Neil" <cneil2@windstream.net>, "Yvette Howard" <y123howard@juno.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 1, 2014 12:39:56 PM
Subject: Re: Researching Center Gibson

Hi Everyone,

Hope you are well. My name is Danielle Torres and I've been researching information about my ancestor Center Gibson who was born around 1845 and was apart of the colored Hook's and Ladder team. I'm just curious if any new information has been found concerning them.

Here are a couple of news paper clippings I found.

Any help would be much appreciated.

Thank,

Danielle Torres

On Wednesday, September 11, 2013 4:29 PM, Danielle Cruz Torres <cruz_danielle_torres@yahoo.com> wrote:

This is really cool. Thank you so much for showing this and I will be sure to share what I find. I can't help but feel that my ancestor Center Gibson was the man up front farthest to the right. Something about his demeanor. He played a major role in the Corps can't help but believe he would be on the front row.:-)

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 11, 2013, at 2:44 PM, "Fairfield Museum" <fairfieldmus@truvista.net> wrote:

> Dear Danielle,

> Here is the photo I told you about. AS I mentioned, we have not found the
> original from which this image was made but, as you are looking online at

> old newspapers, you might come across the photo and article and I would love
> for you to share what you find. The house in the background in this picture
> is the old Neil house which dates back to around 1810-1820 and still stands
> on the block behind the museum. Judge Neil lived here at the time and there
> may be a connection as to why they posed in this location. I am copying
> this to John Withers and Chuck Neil who are descendants of the Judge.
> I will check into where I may have read about this, but I believe there was
> this African American team in addition to a white team. John Smart, a black
> carpenter who worked on the shoring up of the town clock tower in the 1880s
> and the building of St. John's Episcopal Church, was also a member of this
> hook and ladder corps. Note the ages on some of the boys on the front row.
> I think the black corps was highly regarded and helped the white corps,
> although I'm am not sure the attention was reciprocated when a black
> family's house caught fire. Typical of that age, I'm afraid...
> I am also copying here to Yvette Howard who used to volunteer at the museum
> and has done a good bit of research on African American notables in the
> area. I hope she will join us in this discussion.
> -Pelham

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Danielle Cruz Torres [mailto:cruz_danielle_torres@yahoo.com]
> Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2013 11:52 AM
> To: fairfieldgenealogy@truvista.net; fairfieldmus@truvista.net
> Subject: Researching Center Gibson

>
> Hello,

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> I was wanting to learn more about Center Gibson who was born in Winnsboro in
> 1845. He was a mulatto slave whose father was the slave owner's son George
> Washington Gibson and his mother was a slave named Celia. George was listed
> on Center's death certificate and DNA companies has confirmed this
> connection as well. George W Gibson's father was Henry Gibson and Sabra.
> Henry's father was Stephen Gibson and Martha Pope. Center's occupation in
> 1880 was listed as a carpenter, but I have seen him in multiple historical
> Winnsboro papers as a part of the Hooks and Ladder Company between
> 1880-1894. I believe in 1891 or 94 he was voted President then later became
> Solicitor. He also was apart of the committee to help to get funding for
> public schooling. I love to learn more about this company and the
> Gibson/Gibson Plantation.

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> Thanks,
> Danielle Torres

>

> Sent from my iPhone

> <Hook and Ladder.jpg>