

My surnames I was researching in Fairfield County were O'Neal, McGraw, Rometry, Ederington, Martin, Nietz and Stearns (Starnes).

The O'Neal family in Jenkinsville is fascinating to me. To think that a post-civil war Southern white woman would have the children of a former slave and not be disowned (to say the least) by her family is almost unbelievable. However, she inherited from her mother (and her mother stayed with her till her death). And from all indications, her brothers worked the logging mill with her children and signed over their share to her.

I have not worked on this family in years, but just 2 weeks ago my sister Wanda received a letter from Sterleita Green Caldwell (age 93??) that she had located and been to the old O'Neal cemetery. She found the graves of Godfrey and Rebecca O'Neal and also of Isaac and Frances O'Neal.

My ancestor's (Chesley O'Neal) brother, J.G. O'Neal married Elizabeth Holly. They are both buried at Little River Baptist Church. J.G. O'Neal had several slaves and one was named Isaac. I believe Isaac, who was mulatto, was the son of J.G. – but I have no proof.

Chesley and J.G. had another brother in the Jenkinsville area: Godfrey O'Neal who married Rebecca Frances Martin, daughter of Robert & Mary Martin. Godfrey was J.G.'s overseer. Among Godfrey's and Rebecca's children was daughter Frances. I have found no marriage for Frances, but she was the mother of several mulatto children. According to Sterleita Green, Isaac O'Neal, former slave of J.G. O'Neal, was the father.

Yes, I have much on this family.

Sheila

From: Fairfield Museum [<mailto:fairfieldmus@truvista.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2012 2:59 PM

To: BEATTYKROUT@suddenlink.net