

Good Morning Ms. Pelham Lyles,

I am Gayle Jackson and my sister Frances James spoke with you last week about our great-grandfather, John Benjamin Glenn. According to stories handed down by our ancestors, John Benjamin Glenn taught at several schools in Fairfield County, South Carolina including the one which I have sent you pictures of. His teaching career probably was during the 1880s until his death in 1892. It is said that he died either of TB or pneumonia. He had ten children, the youngest being born after his death. My grandfather was James Watkins Glenn.

The current building is sandwiched between two added structures. We do not know the name of the school

Let me know what other information you may need to create awareness of the history of the school. Please send emails to both my sister and me. Gayle Jackson - [gaylelaticia@aol.com](mailto:gaylelaticia@aol.com) and Frances James - [watkinselm@aol.com](mailto:watkinselm@aol.com).

Thanks so much for your interest.

Gayle Jackson

### **Time Line**

- 1855 - Born in Fairfield County, S.C. to Starling Glenn (1823-1893) and Eliza Glenn (1827 -?)
- 1870 - Lived in Township 4, Fairfield Co.
- 1874 - Graduated from Benedict College
- 1876 - Marriage to Mary McConnell
- 1880 - Live in Township 5, Fairfield Co.
- 1892 - Death. Buried in Shiloh First Presbyterian Church Old Cemetery, Fairfield Co. South Carolina

### **Other Information**

#### Property

1888 Age: 33

[Fairfield County, South Carolina](#)

19 acres in TWP #9 adjacent to Heath and Glenn

#### Property

1891 Age: 36

[Fairfield County, South Carolina](#)

17 acres in Morris Creek purchased from Sarah E. Crawford

## **The School and Property Location Information**

Fairfield County Assessors Office

<http://qpublic.net/sc/fairfield/search.html>

6311 and 6399

Reservoir Rd

George B. Haygood, Jr.

Parcel # 160-00-00-067-000

Act. # 13001





Dear Gayle and Frances,

This is fabulous information!

[http://qpublic5.qpublic.net/qpmap4/map.php?county=sc\\_fairfield&parcel=160-00-00-067-000&extent=1930019+898734+1936639+903622&layers=parcels+roads+parcel\\_sales+streetnum](http://qpublic5.qpublic.net/qpmap4/map.php?county=sc_fairfield&parcel=160-00-00-067-000&extent=1930019+898734+1936639+903622&layers=parcels+roads+parcel_sales+streetnum) shows that the building is conceivably not too far from the farm property where Kelly Miller might have gone to school. Historian Ida Jones of Howard University spent some time in the Museum several years back when researching for her biography on Kelly Miller (<http://www.cambridgehistory.org/content/heart-race-problem> and [http://www.math.buffalo.edu/mad/special/miller\\_kelley.html](http://www.math.buffalo.edu/mad/special/miller_kelley.html) ) and we were able to find a resident of the area who remembered the farm described as the Kelly Miller farm, near the NE edge of the present town reservoir. It appears that there may be a few miles that young K-M may have had to walk to attend your ancestor's building, but the time frame makes it plausible that the school may have this additional piece of important history. Ida's work reveals that he attended W. Richardson's school in the town of Winnsboro, but I remember (I don't have a copy of the book to look this up at the moment) that he was first taught by a local teacher (Thompson). Perhaps Ida can weigh in on the possibility that he might have walked to this building for his first lessons. If we can find evidence of this, I think it might allow us additional ammunition to establish historic registry status, the first step towards giving the site regional and national recognition.

I am copying this to officials of the historical society and genealogical chapter boards, in addition to our county administrator, town mayor, Ida Jones, and Mike Bedenbaugh of the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation to invite their input into a "think tank" for looking into the potential saving of this building.

I went to school with a George Haygood who was killed when in his twenties in a tragic accident while cutting down a tree. I am wondering if the G. H. who owns this property is a nephew or cousin of the George I knew (who would be about 63 now if he had lived).

-Pelham Lyles

PS: I am wondering if Mrs. Josie Glenn Gaston is a relation of yours. She, too, was an educator, and involved in the Presbyterian Church at Blackjack. Ida, which church did KM's family associate within the community?

See <http://www.jsonline.com/news/obituaries/rev-ernest-w-glenn-jr-saw-city-through-rough-times-p491hik-196242241.html> for the recent obituary on Josie's brother.

Hi Pelham,

This is so exciting! Josie Glenn Gaston is our second cousin. We have the same great-grandparents, John Benjamin and Mary McConnell Glenn. My uncle, Rev. Dr. Lawrence Glenn said that Kelly Miller did not live very far from this one room school that my great-grandfather taught at. My family and Kelly Miller's family were members of Shiloh Presbyterian Church in Fairfield County. My Uncle Lawrence says that he remembers talking with a neighbor, Mr. Tom James (wife, Mary James; daughter, Emeline James) who said that Mr. John Benjamin Glenn had been his teacher.

Please let us know how we may work with you to gather the needed information.  
Thanks for all that you are doing.

Best Regards,

Gayle Jackson and Frances James

Good Morning Pelham,

I am forwarding an email that I received from my Uncle, Rev. Casper I. Glenn. He is 91 years old. He has some valuable information to add to the research. We are all so very happy that you are able to help us with this research.

Best Regards,

Gayle and Frances

-----Original Message-----

From: CASPER AND VERNILLIA GLENN <[vernilla@verizon.net](mailto:vernilla@verizon.net)>

To: gaylelatricia <[gaylelatricia@aol.com](mailto:gaylelatricia@aol.com)>; Alvindjackson <[Alvindjackson@aol.com](mailto:Alvindjackson@aol.com)>;

glennvivan <[glennvivan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:glennvivan@sbcglobal.net)>; lori.harris96 <[lori.harris96@yahoo.com](mailto:lori.harris96@yahoo.com)>;

NWANDI <[NWANDI@mindspring.com](mailto:NWANDI@mindspring.com)>; nozenzele <[nozenzele@earthlink.net](mailto:nozenzele@earthlink.net)>

Sent: Tue, Apr 23, 2013 2:37 pm

Subject: Re: Fwd: One room school house in Fairfield County

Dear  
Gayle and Frances,

Many thanks for the information about the research you are doing to get more information about the school near my birthplace where Grandfather Benjamin Glenn taught. I regret so much that as a boy I did not ask more questions. I am sure Grandmama Mary and our dad could have provided much information.

Mention was made of a man named Thompson. The person must have been Joseph Thompson in whose home Shiloh Presbyterian was started as a Sunday school. The Reverend Mr. Richardson, a white northerner, was sent by the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. to start a mission work with recently freed slaves. In addition to starting Shiloh and Calvary Presbyterian churches (the latter in the town of Winnsboro) he started a school that later took his name "Richardson." My mother attended that school. It went up to the 8th grade. Joseph Thompson was the great grandfather of Josie Gaston's late husband. The record indicates that Kelly Miller attended that school and was influenced by the Rev. Mr. Thompson to apply to attend Howard University.

I have a clear memory of Kelly Miller's brother Robert. He was a very active elder in Shiloh. For a time, he was the teacher of a one-teacher school that met in Shiloh Church. I do not know if Kelly Miller was ever a member of Shiloh or not, He certainly received his early mentoring from Presbyterian leadership. According to information I received from my dad, the Miller family lived on the land Papa purchased for some time after the end of the Civil War.

Love you,  
Uncle Casper

**From:** "[gaylelatricia@aol.com](mailto:gaylelatricia@aol.com)" <[gaylelatricia@aol.com](mailto:gaylelatricia@aol.com)>  
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**Sent:** Monday, April 22, 2013 9:40 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: One room school house in Fairfield County  
Dear Uncles,

Below is the communication that we are having with the Fairfield County Museum about the one room schoolhouse that John Benjamin Glenn taught at. Our inquiry seems to have generated a lot of interest.

Love You,

## Gayle and Frances

I will be locked into some projects with deadlines at the museum for the next few weeks but will continue to compile the information you send. I will also try to get out for a look at the building soon. What a wonderful writer your uncle is. My dad turns 94 in June and has exceptionally good mental and physical conditions. See his WWII stories interview at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tik58nQiNQc>. I wonder if he and Rev. Glenn knew each other. In those days, probably not if your uncle moved away after school, as Daddy grew up in town and, in those days, there was not so much mixing of kids raised in the country with town---also race-wise! However, after WWII, my father came home and established his lumber and hardware store in town, and I have always felt that dealing with the public made him a much more modern man. I think he knows about everyone around here and in surrounding towns and counties! Ask your uncle if he remembers "Brother" Lyles and Winnsboro Builders' Supply. Also, my grandfather was the state senator from FC for several years. He was J. M. Lyles.

What is the status of your cousin Josie Gaston? I had heard some time ago that she was not doing so well, but I assume is still living at home. She always volunteered for programs at the museum. Also, she and I applied for jobs at the social services agency together when I moved back to Winnsboro in 1984. Eventually we had offices next to each other. She was a world of stories and I wish I had recorded them as my memory at 62 is beginning to dump its ingredients. I remember her telling about how she worked as a domestic for our Episcopal bishop in Columbia when she was a young woman and I think he helped her with her college expenses. I think that was Bishop Pinkney.

Here is the program I gave last week for my UDC chapter. There are more than one or two Glenn and Thompson houses extant in the Jenkinsville-Monticello community. Whether the surname came into your family due to slavery or whether there was a blood connection, you might enjoy searching through the documents we have on these families, both black and white, in Fairfield County. Right now, our volunteer staffing of the genealogy research room has a difficult time keeping up with research requests, but if you are planning a trip here at some time in the future, make some time to come in and see what we have. Let us know if there is anything, we can begin looking up for you, and please be patient with our pace!

PS: Have you ever seen what Essie said when she received criticism about joining the UDC after Senator Thurmond died? She encouraged other African Americans to participate as well, to learn more about their heritage and add to the full story of American history. There is a good article at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Daughters\\_of\\_the\\_Confederacy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Daughters_of_the_Confederacy) on the history of the organization reflecting the fact that there is misconception in the assumption that the organization is a backward attempt to glorify the mistakes our ancestors made.

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