

J. R. Lumsden Family

Jesse Richardson Lumsden was born April 17, 1848 in the Richardson-Lumsden home on Duke's Creek in Nacoochee Valley. His parents were Sophronia Richardson and Thomas Reid Lumsden of Eatonton.

When his mother died, he and his brother John, both under six, were raised by their grandparents, the John L. Richardsons. Their father moved to Talbot County and remarried. Jesse was educated in Nacoochee Valley, Talbot County, and Collinsworth Institute, Hayesville, N.C.

At 16, he joined the Confederate Army serving in the battles around Atlanta. On his return home, he farmed and helped manage the Richardson-Lumsden gold mines. He was elected sheriff at age 22.

December 23, 1873, he married Lusanna Nacoochee Williams, daughter of Edwin P. and Elizabeth Perkins Williams. Their children were: Susan Williams 1874; Walter Branham 1876; Thomas Edwin 1882; Jessie Hardeman, 1884; Robert Grier, 1890; Elizabeth, 1893.

In 1886 he was elected to the state legislature, serving three terms. He was a state senator for two terms. While a legislator, he had passed Georgia's first wild game conservation law. He personally stocked the Chattahoochee River headwaters with speckled trout from the Hiawassee River. He helped organize Nacoochee Institute, serving as trustee from its founding through the merger with Rabun Gap. He was a member of the Cleveland Masonic Lodge.
hospitable

The Lumsden home was a ~~hospitable~~ one, open for long and short stays to relatives old and young, Nacoochee Institute students, summer boarders, and others visiting on church, school, or business matters.

Mr. and Mrs. Lumsden were members of Nacoochee Methodist Church where he served as steward many years. Both are buried in the family section of the church cemetery.

Submitted by Ruth Lumsden Morrison

The R.A. Williams Family

Robert Alexander Williams (1860-1947) youngest son of Edwin Poore and Elizabeth Williams, married Hanie Hardeman Lumsden (1865-1952) of Talbot County in 1888 and began housekeeping in the Valley. They had nine children, all of whom lived to maturity: Harry Johnston (1890-1958); Robbie Annette (1891-) Leonard Perkins (1893 -); Marian (1895 - 1967); Hardeman Starr (1897 - 1976) Robert Alexander (1900 - 1967); Thomas Lumsden (1902-); Edwin Poore (1904-1951); George Adger (1909-1953).