

The Rezin Bowie Family of Louisiana

Documents supporting corrections
and additions concerning
the Rezin Bowie Family of Louisiana
and suggestions for further research

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Dear Bob -

I promised you a copy of the Bowie Book. I gave the article to the State Genealogical Society for publication in their quarterly. They chose to do it this way. I have nothing to do with the publishing, selling or compensation in any way. It is selling for \$5.00. They say it is moving well - you will see many of the reasons that we do not always agree - If you have comments, corrections with proof or additions I would so love to have them. You might suggest that your state library get a copy - The address is in the book - Looking forward to hearing from you -

Virginia Jennings

Born 1914 Louisiana Died Jan 22, 2010 Zachary Louisiana

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by

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PART I

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOWIE FAMILY

An article on the Bowie family was never anticipated. Now that I no longer do research, I have been encouraged to organize the material that has been collected about them during the past thirty-five years. Some of the information was found while doing genealogical work on other families, and carelessly tossed into a file marked "Bowies." Now, in this rather extensive collection, occasionally the source of the statement is obscure; every attempt, however, has been made to be as accurate as possible. Hopefully some of the confusing issues of the Louisiana Bowies will be put to rest. No attempt has been made to delve into their land speculation or slave trading days. Those unfortunate dealings, engaged in by many prominent families at that time, have been well publicized. There are many, many deeds to property transactions. Not being as knowledgeable as I should be of the ever changing boundary lines, only those that contribute to their habitation and genealogy have been included. Hopefully other Bowie genealogists will continue the search for accuracy and truth about this remarkable pioneer family.

The genealogy of the Louisiana Bowie family as presented by Walter Worthington Bowie in "The Bowies and Their Kindred", published in 1899, and reprinted by Polyanthos Press, Inc., in 1971, was gleaned from traditional family information by descendants of Rezin Bowie, Sr. who settled in the county of Rapide, Louisiana about 1800. The data presented to Mr. W.W. Bowie was void of any documentation such as wills, early letters of correspondence, court records or family Bibles and includes numerous unreliable statements. Responses to Mr. Bowie, from the Prince George County, Maryland family about their genealogy, is documented and more accurate except for James Bowie, the asserted ancestor of the Louisiana Bowies. Extensive research by numerous genealogists has failed to find any reference to him after he received his inheritance in 1760 in Maryland. From information that was sent to Mr. W.W. Bowie by Mrs. Joseph H. Moore, Mrs. Eugene Soniat and other family members, Mr. Bowie concluded:

The current tradition among all the branches of the family who are sprung from these first Bowie settlers in Louisiana, is that the father of the elder emigrant was James Bowie, who removed from Maryland where he left two brothers, and located in South Carolina prior to the Revolution, married, and died there. Further, that the brothers whom he left behind him were members of the well known 'Bowie family of Maryland' . . . It may be significant that he had two brothers, Allen and John, who lived in Maryland and left numerous posterity. There is also a tradition

*among the Maryland Bowies that those of Louisiana were nearly related to them.*¹

James "Jim" Bowie, the son of Rezin, was killed at the Alamo in 1836, and became a Texas hero. After his death, many people with the Bowie name in their genealogy, attempted to prove a relationship to him, and some even claimed descent inaccurately. Because of his prominent name he and his family have been credited with many deeds, both good and bad, that may rightfully belong to others of their name, who were early inhabitants of Louisiana and nearby Mississippi. This article is not about "Jim" Bowie. It is an attempt to correct the errors in the Rezin Bowie history, to include additional information with documentation, and further emphasize some of the areas where future research should be directed. It is regrettable, that even in recent histories published about "Jim" Bowie, the errors that occur in the "The Bowies and Their Kindred" have been perpetuated.

There were three distinct Bowie families that we now know of, who settled early in Maryland. The following introduction to them will show why it is necessary to broaden Rezin Bowie research for proof of his ancestry. John Bowie, Sr., the first of his name, came to Maryland about 1705-1706 at the invitation of his uncle, John Smith, who had come to the states some years before, and acquired land on the Patuxent River. John Smith left his will dated September 23, 1707 and died that year, leaving his land called Brookewood, and other property, to "my nephew John Bowie." They became known as the Prince George County Bowies.²

As early as 1808 some of the descendants of the Prince George County family began moving into the Natchez, Mississippi area that is just across the Mississippi River from Louisiana. John Fraser Bowie, a noted duelist, who "took the life of his adversary on the field of honor,"³ arrived that year and married into a prominent Mississippi family. He died in Washington, Mississippi May 6, 1823;⁴ most of his descendants moved to Texas. In 1836, Dr. Allen T. Bowie settled at Port Gibson, Mississippi, and in 1838, he married Jane Routh, daughter of John Routh, a member of a wealthy and influential Mississippi family. Soon after their marriage they moved across the river into Louisiana where he became the owner of Franklin and Glen Allen plantations that were along the banks of Lake St. Joseph in Tensas parish. The destructions of these two beautiful estates during the Civil War are vividly described in "The Bowies and Their Kindred".⁵

Rezin Bowie and his family were well known in Natchez, it being the major source of needed supplies, and his sons had business dealings there. "Jim" Bowie spent several weeks in Natchez while he recuperated from injuries he acquired during the Sandbar melee. Mrs. Lulu Nelson, granddaughter of John J. Bowie, the son of Rezin Bowie, wrote numerous letters to Mr. W.W. Bowie and to members of the family. Her information from memory is not always accurate, but she has provided the researchers with many clues. She says:

*My Grandfather lived at Port Gibson at one time and my Grandmother also lived there and his oldest daughter, the aunt in Texas was married there . . . Mother says that when old Dr. Bowie was married that Grandfather was at the wedding and spoke of it often to her in her child-hood. Grandfather died in 1859.*⁶

Small references, such as the above, establish the fact that the Allen Bowie and Rezin Bowie descendants were at least acquainted. With both families claiming Maryland as their home state, it is understandable that they considered themselves "nearly related" to one another just as today when a person meets someone with their family name they just might, with a friendly smile, say: "Hi Cuz," when there is really no known relationship.

In 1810, Neill Bowie was in Adams County, Mississippi with a large family and is found in Catahoula Parish, Louisiana soon after; Daniel Bowie, with a 21 year old son, was also in Adams County.⁷ Their relationship to the other Bowies is not known. Mrs. Nelson also says that near Vicksburg, where she lived, there were several Mulatto families with the name of Bowie.⁸ After the Civil War many of the Bowie slaves took the name of Bowie, and there are still African Americans of that name in Louisiana.

John T. Bowie, the brother of Dr. Allen T. Bowie also came to the Natchez area. He was a lawyer, "had red hair and an impulsive disposition." John T. was involved in several duels. Two of them on the sandbar opposite Natchez -- the same one made famous by Jim Bowie and the notorious sandbar duel in 1827. He had a duel with Governor Allen of Louisiana that was fought with shotguns and resulted in the governor being wounded. Mr. Bowie died in 1840 at Grand Gulf, Mississippi; he was unmarried and only thirty-one years of age,⁹ but his reputation was long remembered.

There was another Maryland Bowie family. They descended from Abraham Boey (Bowie) who emigrated from Scotland and settled in Durham Parish, Charles County, Maryland. Mr. W.W. Bowie was disappointed at their lack of response to his inquiries. They left many descendants, and he refers to them as the Charles County Bowies. Hezekiah Bowie, the great grandson of Abraham, was born about 1778 in Charles County and died 1845 in South Carolina. Around 1852, his eight children moved from their home in South Carolina to McCool, Mississippi.¹⁰ His nephew, Hezekiah, son of Eli Bowie, also moved to McCool and had a number of children. As far as I know of they were never connected to or had dealings with the Rezin Bowie family,¹¹ but their descendants are found in the Mississippi and Louisiana area. Then, in the latter part of the 19th century, George M. Bowie moved into Lafourche Parish, Louisiana and operated a large sawmill. The town of Bowie developed there and from 1895 until 1917 was a thriving community.¹² These Bowies were late-comers, and there was no relationship to the Louisiana family. The mill and community are no longer in existence.

In 1986, the librarian at the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library gave my name to Mrs. Patricia Crisler, and she introduced me to the third line of Bowie research in Maryland. It tied into the information found in the Georgia records on James Bowie, the father of Rezin Bowie. (Refer to the sections on James and Rezin Bowie). Mrs. Crisler and Mr. Dan Davis of Alabama have done extensive research into the Lincecum/Bowie connection and have generously shared some of their findings that document the close relationship between the Lincecum and Bowie families. Both of them are dedicated genealogists and present their evidence in accurate and

precise accounts of their findings.

Pascal Lincecum was the son of a young Englishman "Linseycomb." He was born 1689 in England. At the age of 16 he went to France (ca. 1705), changed his name to Lincecum, married and had a son, Gideon, who was an infant when they came to Maryland.¹³ He was an outstanding botanist and wrote a series of letters to his nephew in 1871 that became his autobiography. In his manuscript, the following relationship of the Lincecum/Bowie families is found.

About the time Gideon Lincecum came to manhood, James Bowie -- grandfather of the celebrated desperado who originated the Bowie knife -- and his sister Miriam, a beautiful Scotch lass, settled near the Lincecum family. The beauty of the young girl attracted the attention of the young Frenchman. In the course of time they entered into a matrimonial agreement. But the friends of both parties were violently opposed to their union. The elder Lincecum was a little touched with aristocratic pretensions and he did not relish the idea of his son's uniting himself with a stranger from Scotland. On the other side, Mr. Bowie said that he could not consent for his beautiful and accomplished sister to become the wife of a frog-eating Frenchman. The young couple soon settled the matter, however, by an elopement. They then settled on the Saluder river in the colony of North Carolina where they remained fifteen years.¹⁴

While in North Carolina, five children were born to Gideon and Miriam. Two sons, Edward and John, both killed in the Revolutionary War, and three daughters, Sally, Dolly and Nancy. They moved to Warren County, Territory of Georgia, where their son Hezekiah was born. Gideon was killed by Indians while he served as captain of a company of rangers during the Revolutionary War. Miriam then lived for a time in Abbeville District, South Carolina,¹⁵ but moved back to Georgia and died in 1813 at age 88.

Mrs. Crisler has found in the holdings of The Texas State Library a pair of spectacles that belonged to James Bowie I and the documentation with them reads:

These spectacles were the property of James Bowie who came from Scotland, and settled in Maryland Anno Domini 1742. He was the oldest of eight brothers and sisters. He died soon after his arrival in America leaving the spectacles to his youngest sister, Miriam Lincecum. She at her death left them to Sarah Lincecum, the wife of her youngest child, Hezekiah Lincecum. And Sarah Lincecum gave them to her oldest son Gideon Lincecum, who is the writer of this in the year 1847.¹⁶

Records show that James Bowie also moved to Orange County, North Carolina. Some of the pertinent entries found in the records there, and sent to me by Mrs. Crisler and Mr. Davis, are as follows: James Bowie called to jury duty - July 1754; Samuel Bowie called to jury duty - October 1754; Mark recorded for James Bowie in June 1755; James Bowie appointed as under

sheriff in September 1757; James Bowie accused of aiding a jail break in June 1758; James Bowie provided security for Stephen Merrit along with W^m Few in May 1763; James Bowie's effects ordered sold to settle a debt in November 1763.

I had informed Mrs. Crisler of the possible relationship of Reason Bowie to Reason Whitehead in Georgia, and she added this note: "Here's another Reason to wonder about. Reason Ricketts was also called to appear before the court of November 1763." Records of Bailey vs. Bowie law suit dated November 1763, and continuing through May 1765, shows that Gideon Lincecum, W^m Dunnagan, Reason Ricketts and Joseph Dunnagan were summoned as Garnishees; Christopher Vandegrift says he has no part of the estate of James Bowie; Court of November 1764 James Bowie appeared three times and Reason Ricketts appeared twice.

It appears that James Bowie was having financial troubles in North Carolina. He was next found in Georgia, when in December 1764, he applied for a land grant and was given land near the Reason Whitehead family. This was the same area where Gideon and Miriam Lincecum settled when they moved to Georgia before the Revolutionary War. The connection between the Bowie and Lincecum families is strengthened for when on February 14, 1785, Miriam Lincecum sold 200 acres of land in the county of Wilkes to Richard Childress, one of the witnesses to the sale was "Jas. Bowie."¹⁷ Once again when the inventory of Gideon Lincecum was taken on the 10th day of February 1784, "Rezan Bowie" was one of the appraisers.¹⁸ Mr. Davis in a letter dated October 25, 1991, says: "The Orange Co, N.C. records also included various listings of Gideon Lincecum. Since both families were involved in the same area and in some cases parties to the same instruments, I feel the James Bowie in Orange County is the brother of Miriam Bowie Lincecum."

Contact with Mrs. Crisler has been lost, but it is our hope that she has found the proof needed to establish the Rezin Bowie/Lincecum connection and that with modern technology it will be available. Mr. Davis' research is also inconclusive; neither of them had found, nor has this compiler, a relationship between Miriam Bowie's family and those of the Prince George County or of the Charles County, Maryland families. It is interesting, however, that the name Hezekiah appears several times in both the Lincecum and Bowie families of Charles County, Maryland, and that Hezekiah Lincecum and Hezekiah Bowie both moved to Abbeville District of South Carolina. The descendants of Rezin Bowie in Louisiana, of which this researcher is one, do not relish the idea of giving up relationship to the prominent families of St. George County, Maryland. At this time, however, the evidence proves that Rezin Bowie descends from James Bowie, who was from Orange County, North Carolina, and that he may be connected to the Abraham Boey (Bowie) family of Charles County in Maryland. Further research needs to be directed to this possibility; as well as to the statement by Gideon Lincecum that James Bowie came to Maryland from Scotland "Ano Domini 1742".

ENDNOTES

1. Bowie, Walter Worthington, "The Bowies and Their Kindred", published 1899, Reprint 1971, Polyanthos, Inc., Cottonport, LA., p. 259.
 2. *Ibid.*, p. 21.
 3. *Ibid.*, p. 120.
 4. *Ibid.*, p. 118.
 5. *Ibid.*, pp. 183-184.
 6. Letter from Lulu Nelson to a cousin. November 12, 1896, copy obtained from Library of Daughters of the Republic of Texas at the Alamo, San Antonio, TX.
 7. Adams County, MS Census Records for 1810.
 8. Letter of Lulu Nelson from Vicksburg, MS dated July 14, 1891. There were a number of free persons of color who came into Louisiana in the early eighteen hundreds, some of whom worked on the plantations and took the American name of their employer. A recent book by Vincent and Kenneth Roue called "Louisiana Households of Free People of Color" as given in the 1810 and 1820 census of Louisiana, Pub. 1995 has been examined. The title mistakenly infers that all the inhabitants were Free Persons of Color when only one, most likely an employee, was actually listed. On page 33 a f.m.c. was found in the household of John J. Bowie, and on page 54 in household of Rezin Bowie, Jr. Both Bowies also had several slaves. Conveyance records of Catahoula Parish, Book C, No. 474 records a James Bowie f.m.c. who purchased a slave for \$500 and the document witnessed by John J. Bowie and David Posey. On April 5, 1824 in Original Book C, page 513, John J. Bowie acknowledges debt to James Bowie f.m.c. for \$110 and mortgages a Negro boy, Antoine about 12 years old. "In Marriages 1808-1900" by Murray Vol. I, part I Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana on page 28 gives marriage of Albert Bowie f.m.c. to Juliette Berzat f.w.c. February 9, 1860 and James Bowie f.m.c. to Marie Berzat on January 10, 1860. Origin of these Bowies is not known.
 9. Bowie, Walter Worthington, "The Bowies & Their Kindred", published 1899, Reprint 1971, Polyanthos, Inc., Cottonport, LA., p. 258.
 10. *Ibid.*, pp. 243 and 253.
 11. *Ibid.*, p. 251.
- The Mississippi Archives at Jackson, MS has records on the families of the McCool Bowies.

12. Cortez, Martin Lynn and Lee Roy Rybiski. "Memories - The Story of Raceland and Bowie", published by Raceland Jaycees, 1980, Raceland, LA., p. 43.
13. Riley, Franklin L., Editor. "The Autobiography of Gideon Lincecum", published by Mississippi Historical Society and compiled from letters written by Dr. Gideon Lincecum to his grandson from Tuxpan, Mexico, beginning November 3, 1871, p. 444.
14. *Ibid.*, p. 444.
15. *Ibid.*, p. 445.
16. Reproduced copy of document and letter to Charles Long, curator of Daughters of Republic of Texas Library. From Texas State Library, Box 12927 Capitol Station, Austin, TX. to Mrs. Patricia Crisler who shared it with me, March 3, 1986. Mrs. Crisler gave me permission to share her information and to publish her address in 1986 that was 1002 East College, Seguin, TX. She has since moved and Mr. Dan Davis nor I have her present address. The letter to Mr. Long included a copy of a letter from William P. Doran to Mrs. L. Tomplet from Hempstead, dated March 2/84 or 2/94 evidently in the 1800s. "Your letter rec'd. Send the slip of writing of Dr. Gid and letter with request for return at once (not the Specs.) Refer Mr. Hollingsworth to Banker James H. Raymond, Austin who knew the Dr. well and his handwriting. The slip has no name signed. You will have to explain that it has not. We have letters of Dr. Gid which if _____ is not satisfied will send you to identify the Dr's handwriting, that is if necessary. All H wants is to make sure of genuineness of specs. Dr. Gid came to Texas in 1848. The specs had been in the family before coming to Texas, age requiring another pair as usual with people growing old. These specs were not in the Alamo according to the slip.

W.P.D."

17. Wilkes County, Georgia Mortgage Book A, 1785-1786, p. 53, from Mrs. Crisler March 3, 1986.
18. Wilkes Co., Georgia, Record of Probate, Wills and Administration Book B, p. 13, from Mrs. Crisler March 3, 1986. Several years ago, an attempt was made by Virginia Jennings to obtain copies of the Bowie deeds in Orange County, North Carolina only to find that the deeds were all destroyed by British Army in 1781. However, a thoughtful Clerk of Court in a separate volume had extracted a record of deeds found in the court minutes, but most entries are void of description. They have been published in "Register of Orange County, North Carolina Deeds 1752-1768, and 1793." Transcribed by Eve B. Weeks. Published by Heritage Papers, Danville, GA. 30633 and copyrighted by Mary B. Warren, the same as given by Mrs. Crisler are cited.

PART II

JAMES BOWIE I

James Bowie from North Carolina was first found in Georgia on December 1, 1764, when he applied for a grant of land. Bowie stated that he had been in the province from North Carolina about a year; that he is desirous of land to cultivate and has a wife, three children, and three negroes and would like 100 acres of vacant land between John Adam Truetlin and John Dinkins.¹ He made several other requests for land, and in April 1767, James Bowey(sic) said that he had asked for 100 acres of land, but it was not vacant, and 150 acres on Lamberts creek about two miles from Reason Whitehead. At that time "he had a wife, four children and a negro."² There were several members of the Whitehead family who owned land in that area as well as the family of Elizabeth Burney, a widow with six children, who, in September 1765, said that she was from Orange County, North Carolina, "lately to Georgia." They were good friends of James Bowie and his family. In February 1768 he asked for 150 acres in St. George Parish and on May 3 of the same year requested 150 acres bounded on east by John Burney, and vacant land.³ It is not known if he received either piece, but he was granted 200 acres bounded on the northeast and northwest by William Case and on the southeast by Briar Creek.⁴ Shortly after he requested another 200 acres adjoining Daniel Douglas and William Case at which time he said "he had a wife and four children."⁵ On September 8, 1770, "James Bowie of St. George Parish, Planter and Sarah his wife, sell land to Ann Whitehead of the same parish, 200 acres on Brier Creek bounded by W^m Case and Daniel Douglass, granted to James Bowie June 5, 1770."⁶ Why the land changed hands so quickly is not known. In 1772 he was seeking land again and petitioned for a grant in St. George Parish and mentioned "2 children for whom he never received any land."⁷

James and Sarah Bowie were apparently married in North Carolina before moving to Georgia. Research has revealed that his wife was Sarah Whitehead, the daughter of Thomas and Alice Whitehead. She was married to James Bowie before the eighteenth day of July 1765 and is mentioned as the wife of James Buoy in her father's will (Refer to Rezin Bowie Endnote No. 3).

Will of Thomas Whitehead⁸

In the name of God Amen this eighteenth day of July one thousand seven hundred sixty and five. I Thomas Whitehead of the parish of St. George in the province of Georgia. Planter, calling to mind the mortality of my body and that it ordained for

all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last will & Testament in manner & form following . . .

It is my will that all my just debts & funeral Expenses be paid & Discharged by my Executors hereafter named.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Reason Whitehead the sum of five Shillings Sterling to be paid him by my Executors within six months of my Disease(sic) [decease].

Item. I give and bequeath to my Son Thomas Whitehead the sum of five Shillings Sterling to be paid him six months after my Disease(sic).

Item. I give and bequeath to my Daughter Sarah Buoy the wife of James Buoy the sum of five Shillings Sterling to be paid here after named.

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Jacob Whitehead one cow and calf to be delivered him by my Executors

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Amos Whitehead one cow and calf to be Delivered him in six months my disease(sic).

Item. I give and bequeath to my son Charles Whitehead one hundred acres of Land including my plantation whereon I now live his heirs & assigns forever.

Item. I give & bequeath to my son Caleb Whitehead the remains of my land which will be one hundred to him his heirs & assigns forever

Item. I give and bequeath to my son John Whitehead a negro boy named Frank(?)

Item. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Alice Whitehead all the Rest of my personal Estate to be here enjoyed During her natural life & after her Disease(sic) to be Equally Divided between my Sons Jacob, Charles, Caleb & John & it is my will that my said wife shall have her maintenance and use of my plantation while she lives & also to live on it & I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my beloved wife Alice Whitehead and my son Charles Whitehead Joint Executors of this my last will and testament & I do hereby Disallow, Revoke, Dismiss all other & former wills, legacies by me at any time heretofore made named, will Bequeathed _____? _____ & confirming this and no other to be my last will & Testament _____? _____ my hand seal the day & year above written.

Signed: Thos Whitehead (Seal)

---Signed Sealed and declared

*by the Testator this last will &
Testament in the Presence of us.*

David Emanuel Sen'

David Emanuel Jun.

Levi Emanuel

Georgia

*Before His Excellency James Wright
Esq. Captain General and Governor
in Chief of his Majestys said
Province and Ordinary of the same.*

*Personally appeared David Emanuel Sen'. Esq. one of the Subscribing witnesses
to the within written last will and Testament of Thomas Whitehead late of the
Parish of St. George Planter deceased who being who being duly sworn on the
Holy Evangelists of Almighty God made oath that he was present and did see the
said Testator sign seal Publish pronounce and declare the same to be and contain
his last will and Testament and that he was of sound and disposing mind and
memory to the best of his knowledge and belief and that he with David Emanuel
Jun and Levi Emanuel Subscribed their names as witnesses hereto at the request
and in the presence of Testator and in each others presence.*

*At the same time Charles Whitehead one
of the Executors named in the will
Qualified as such. Given under my
hand this 16th June 1769.*

Ja. Wright

Recorded 17 June 1768

On March 6, 1769, Bowie's livestock brand was registered for his animals and a separate brand for his children:

*James Bowie of the Parish of St. George Planter enters his Ear mark a crop in the
left Ear and a hole in the right his Brand per Margine.*

*James Bowie for his children named Reason, - Sallie & Nancy and Alice Bowie
enters their Ear Mark Crop and under keel in the right Ear and crop and Slit in the
Left their brand as per margine.⁹*

From the Whitehead will and the names of the children listed with their cattle brand in 1769, we are presented with several other possible clues for research. Sarah Buoy had a brother also named Reason, a daughter named Sallie for her and a daughter named Alice for her mother; and it appears that all four children are hers. With the given name of Reason appearing in both families, should the Reason Ricketts family mentioned in the Orange County, North Carolina records be researched? Perhaps Alice Whitehead was a Rickett before her marriage.

James Bowie was appointed Justice of the Peace of Richmond County prior to May 6, 1782, for on that day he signed the payroll for John Hill's Company as J.P. In 1783, he was Justice of the Peace for Wilkes County¹⁰ and in February 1784, he was again appointed to serve in Richmond County.

Washington County, Georgia was formed from part of the Indian land; and among the landholders listed as having been granted 287-1/2 acres for service in the Revolutionary War was James Bowie. His son, Reason was also granted land by the Governor on October 1, 1784.¹¹ James and Sara Bowie continued to live in Washington County, Georgia and on February 2, 1796, James, perhaps in ill health, sells land in Orange County, North Carolina and appoints Daniel Whatley as his attorney in this matter. The land was "on both sides of Ellerbey Creek, joining his old plantation."¹² Bowie died soon after, leaving Sarah and their nine children. Sarah (Whitehead) Bowie, according to Mr. Karr's testimony died the same year as her husband. She is not mentioned in the following estate records and may have predeceased him.

The records of Washington County, Georgia were destroyed during the Civil War. Fortunately for the genealogist, some of the original records of the estate of James Bowie were requested to be used at a legal hearing in West Florida. Copies from the probate files of Washington County are found in Louisiana among the records of West Florida and reveal that James Bowie's son, John, the executor of his father's estate, was involved in a law suit in West Florida for selling a slave that he actually did not have title to. Some of the depositions that were taken at the time of the hearing were in Spanish; but the original proceedings have been translated into English by the W.P.A. The following entries retain the quaint spelling and document the names of James Bowie's children:

*[Written in English - copied verbatim]
Conditions of Sale of the Estate
of James Bowie Deceased Viz:*

The sales commences at ten o'clock on the forenoon [p. 604] of the day the eleventh of March 1797. The whole of the estate to be sold for cash all or any part of the estate sold this day the money to be paid the same day, the property not to be altered or changed before the money is paid any person or persons being the highest bidder and the property struck off to him or them not complying with the terms of the sale the property so purchased shall be sold again and any deficiency in the last sale shall be paid by the defaulting purchaser. The highest bidder (complying the terms of this sale) is the buyer.

*JOHN BOWIE, Executor
SALLEY MENASCO, Executor*

Written in English - copied verbatim.

Copy of the bill of sale of Jas. Bowie De^d [P. 598]

Sold the 11th day of March1797

Ignatius Few Bot seven negroes to wit - Jack a negrow man Dill a woman Dinah
a Wench also a boy Isaac a boy Bett a gal Febe a garl sold at10125 Dollars

24 Hed of Cattle56.25

4 Head of horses at78.25

8 Beds & all their furniture also all
The household & kitchen furniture at64.3-1/2

John Bowie bot farming tules loom wheel
Cards Harniss & 'c.....13.02

:32/2 swamp land also 200 pine213.0

James Menasco bot
45 head of hogs - 21/50 [illegible word].....28.50

Books whip saw carpenter & coopers tools12.
40.50

Brimstone & Handmil stones

Totle1490.3-1/2

returned in my office by

John Bowie Executor of James Bowie deceased

This 25th of September 1797

DAVID BURNEY

Mississippi Territory)

County of Adams)

Came before me the undersigned one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace,
David Burney who being duely sworn, deposeth that the above ano. was entered
at his office and signed by him, when he acted as register of probate in the County
of Washington, State of Georgia, and is a sufficient proof that the negro wench
named Dinah [P. 599] proceeding from the Estate of the Deceased, James Bowie,
was legally sold by the Executors of said Estate to Ignatius Few.

DAVID BURNEY

Sworn the 3rd day of June 1800, before me

WILLIAM DUNBAR

Written in English - copied verbatim.

Georgia

Articles of agreement made and agreed to This [P. 600] Eleventh day of March one Thousand Seven Hundred and ninety seven. Between Ignatius Few of Columbia County of the one part and John Bowie of Washington County witnesseth that the said Ignatius Few doth this day hire unto the sd. John Bowie sd. negro To wit Jack Dill Dinah Abe Isaac & Bet until the first day of January next for sum of two hundred and twenty Mexican Dollars also hires the sd. John Bowie two head of horses until the first day of January next for the sum of twenty Mexican Dollars and delivers the sd. John Bowie Twenty four head of cattle which sd. Bowie is to have the use of this ensuing summer and then oblige himself to drive them up to the sd. Fews Beach Creek tract of land. Between the north fork of Oconu and Appalacha Rivers in Jackson County formerly traveling there to deliver the sd. thirty four head of cattle with their increase on or before the first day of October next. The sd. John Bowie obliges himself to pay unto the sd. Few his heirs or assigns the above two hundred & forty Mexican dollars for hire of sd. negroes & horses here on or before the first day of January next & deliver sd. six negroes with the child Febe and the horses at the same amounts excepted in good order in witness whereof the [P. 601] parties hath hereunto set their hands & seal.

The day and year written within

Signed in the presence of

JOHN FREEMAN

his

SAMUEL X MORRIS

mark

I. FEW (Seal)

JOHN BOWIE (Seal)

Written in English - Copied verbatim.

Georgia

Know all men by these presents that I Ignatius Few of the County of Columbus said State. Do in plain and open market sell and deliver unto James Menasco and his lawful heirs and his assigns and for their sole use one negro woman named Dinah, being a negro bought at the sales of James Bowie, deceased on the Eleventh day of March last. I do hereby for and in consideration of the sum of three hundred and

fifty dollars and by virtue of sd. sale of sd. estate of James Bowie Deceased make over all my right & title of said negro woman unto said James Menasco and the lawful heirs and his assigns as above and will warrant and forever defend the said negro from me my heirs or assigns. In witness whereof I set my hand and seal this 22d. September 1797, seven.

Test

his
ROBERT R HOPER
mark

(Seal)
I. FEW

Mississippi Territory)
County of Adams)

Came before me the undersigned, one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace in the said County. David Burney who being duly sworn deposeth that the above signature he is inclined to think and believe in the true & actual signature of Ignatius Few; altho' his recollection is not so good as to induce him to swear to it as an absolute certainty.

Sworn this 3rd day of
June 1800 Before Me
WILLIAM DUNBAR

DAVID BURNEY

[Written in English - copied verbatim.]

Georgia

Know all men by these presents that I Ignatius Few [p. 602] of the County of Columbia do in plain open market sell make over and deliver unto Nancy Criswell during her natural life for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred dollars a negro girl named Phebye and will warrant and forever defend the said negro girl and her assigns unto the said Nancy Criswell during her natural life and after her decease the said girl and her assigns to be the property of her the sd. Nancys sole wright and at her disposal in witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this 28th day November 1797 seven

Test. N. B. said negro girl was bought at the sale of James Bowie deceased by said Few and he I. Few only fills and warrants sd. rights from himself and his heirs only. Agreeable to sale of purchase he made.

I. FEW
(SS)

Test

[P. 614]
Mississippi Territory)
Adams County)

Know all men by these presents that I, John Bowie of the County, and Territory, aforesaid, For and in consideration of Three hundred Dollars to me in hand paid, have bargained and sold and by these presents, do bargain & sell, convey & confirm unto Mrs. Tomsey Montgomery, all my rights title claim & demand to a certain negro wench Dianah & child, also some furniture a horse & etc., now in the Spanish Dominions, in the hands of James Manascoes, which property I will warrant & forever defend unto the said Tomsey Montgomery, her Heirs Excrs. Admors & assigns for ever, Witness my hand this 12 January, 1800.

Sign'd JOHN BOWIE

Witness

Sign'd JOHN MOORE
Sign'd JOHN MAY

Adams County, SS

Before me the undersigned one of the justices [P. 615] of the Court of Common Pleas for said County, personally came John Moore who made Oath that he saw John Bowie at the time within mentioned sign, seal & deliver the within Bill of Sale as his free and voluntary Act and Deed for the purposes therein mention'd - Given under my hand & seal this 10th day of April A.D. 1800 -

Sign'd WM. KENNER (LS)

Enter'd on Record at Natchez in the County of Adams Mississippi Territory, in Lib B Fol^o 14, this 12th day of April 1800.

Sign'd JOHN HENDERSON Recorder

*Deposition of Henry Karr relative to
the Bowie family.*

Written in Spanish.

New Feliciana, 4th District, April 18, 1800

Before me, John O'Connor, Alcalde of the said [P. 606] district, appeared Henry Karr, and having taken an oath on the Holy Gospel, he declared that he has known James [Diego] and Sara Bowie, in the State of Georgia, United States of America, for about twenty years, more or less, and that he knew nine children that they had, named: [named] Reason, John, Reece, Ana, Sara, Mary, Elay, Martha and Comfort. That all the said children were alive in the year nineteen hundred and ninety-eight [evidently an error - should be seventeen ninety-eight] and he believes that the said parents, James and Sara Bowie, died five years ago; that Sara, the daughter, lived as wife with James Menasco in the City of Augusta, in Georgia, the said Sara staying with the deponent for a month in his home, and that she told him that she had been informed that the said Menasco, her husband, had another living wife, and that she was very sorry that through ignorance she had married a married man. That they had a daughter about six months old or older, who died in his presence in Augusta, and he says that the said James Menasco showed him a young man eighteen years old or older whom he said was his bastard son, and he says that he knew a negress named Diana or Dinah since she was born, belonging to the said James and Sara Bowie, who at present must be about eighteen years old, more or less. That some of the children as well as the said Sara and James Menasco have told him that she belonged to the said Sara, by testament of her said father and mother. That the deponent was informed by the said James Menasco, and by a letter from her brother named Reason, that the said Sara, his sister, died in New Madrid in the year nineteen hundred ninety-nine [evidently seventeen hundred ninety-nine]. That the said James Menasco had informed him that he brought the said Dinah with him to this district, and that he left her at the house of John Bartelay with her mulatto son about sixteen months old until his return from the city of New Orleans, and that he believes [P. 607] that the said negress, together with her daughter, is found in the house of the said John Bartelay. He said he is forty-eight years old and swore not to have made this deposition through malice, but because it has been necessary to do so. He signed this with me and the witnesses of assistance, Cuth Norton Woodbridge and John Taylor, Jr. on the date above stated.

*JOHN O'CONNOR
Witnesses:*

H. KARR

CUTH NORTON WOODBRIDGE
JOHN TAYLOR JR.

Deposition of David Burney.
[Written in English - copied verbatim].

Mississippi Territory
County of Adams

[P. 610]

Came before me the undersigned, one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace in said County, David Burney, who being duly sworn, deposeth that during his residence in the State of Georgia having acted as Register of Probates, a certain John Bowie came before the deponent to prove the will and qualify as Executor to the will of his father James Bowie; that among other property which fell into the possession of the said John Bowie proceeding from the estate of his father, was a certain negro named Dinah, which the deponent has seen in this country & which wench he understands to have been laterly sold by the said John Bowie to Mrs. Montgomery.

Sworn before me the
30th day of May 1800
WILLIAM DUNBAR

The above deponent further declares, that it is false that he this deponent ever witnessed any sale of the said wench Dinah in favor of a certain James Munasco, which the deponent is informed has been asserted by the said Munasco.

Sworn as above
before me
WILLIAM DUNBAR

DAVID BURNEY

[Written in English - copied verbatim].

I do certify that John Bowie was a lawful [P. 612] Executor to his fathers Estate apointed by his father James Bowie and qualified before me and if Mr. Manasco purchased the negrow wench from person _tis more than I no but as for my being a witness to the bill of sale it is rounq this I will qualify to aney time when cauled on leagelly from under my hand this 28th of May 1800.

DAVID BURNEY

Written in Spanish.

I, Don Carlos de Grand-Pre, Colonel of the Royal Armies, Military and Political Governor at the Post and District of Baton Rouge and its Districts, etc., certify that the present copies conform with the original which at the request of the interested parties we returned to them.¹³

Bowie moved to Natchez, Mississippi about 1799. It was under Spanish control at that time, and the suit was filed in West Florida, where some of the others involved also lived. Governor de Grand-Pre' reviewed the evidence . . . and concluded from the documents that the original sale of the slave was to Thomassina Sigvalt by "a certain transient individual, named John Bowie" for the amount of three hundred pesos, the said negress not being in his possession. The second document shows that at public auction in Georgia she was sold by Ignatius Few to James Menasco for 350 pesos. That and by comparing handwriting on all the legal documents, proves that the slave did not in any manner belong to the "adventurer" John Bowie and that John Bowie did sell Dianah twice without her being in his possession. It is interesting, that in the final settlement of the controversy, Dinah was sold by James Menasco to Governor Don Carlos de Grand-Pre'.¹⁴

From the above, it is found that James Bowie's estate sale was held on March 11, 1797 and that he left a widow named Sarah. Henry Karr in his testimony named the nine children of the Bowies "that he knew," Reason, John, Reece, Ana, Sara, Mary, Elay, Martha and Comfort, and that "all the children were alive in 1798".

ENDNOTES

1. "Colonial Records of Georgia," Minutes of the Governor and Council, December 1764, p. 249. This was in the Ecclesiastical St. George Parish that became Burke County in 1777. He also received grants in St. Paul Parish from which Richmond County was erected in 1777. In 1790 Columbia was taken from Richmond.
2. "A History of Burke County, Georgia 1777-1950", Hillhouse, Albert M., Swainsboro, GA: Magnolia Press, Spartenburg, SC: Reprint Co. 1985, p. 96.
3. *Ibid.*, p. 17 and Grant Book G, p. 93.
4. "Families of Burke County 1755-1855", Davis, Robert Scott & Silas E. Lucas Jr., Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, p. 17. Original Grant, Book I, p. 15.

5. *Ibid.*
6. From Mrs. Patricia Crisler April 1, 1986. Source unidentified.
7. Unidentified notes from my files.
8. Georgia Department of Archives and History. Microfilm Roll 223/1 Will Book A, 1754-1772 pp. 273-274 and letter of Administration Roll 40/31 Book D, 1755-1772 pp. 273-274.
9. Georgia Records - Livestock Marks and Brands, pages unidentified.
10. Copy of Original Document in Georgia Department of Archives & History. "Payroll of Capt. John Hill Company of Militia commanded by Josiah Dunn. Colonel of the upper Division of Richmon(d) County for duty from twenty-six of June 1781 to twenty-six of January 1782" and he signs the payroll as James Bowie, J.P.
11. Minutes of the Executive Council from January 14, 1778 to January 6, 1785.
12. Correspondence with Dan Davis, October 25, 1991. Reference Green County, GA, Deed Book A, p. 102. Establishes the fact that James Bowie, father of Rezin Bowie was from North Carolina.
13. "Records of West Florida, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA Courthouse, Vol. IV, pp. 213 thru 220. During 1936-1939 the Spanish records were translated into English by the W.P.A. under the supervision of Mr. Stanley Clisby Arthur, State Superintendent of Federal Archives in Louisiana, and five copies of the badly deteriorated original volumes of the Spanish records were made. These five copies were bound into 19 volumes. The original books and one set of the transcribed volumes are in the Courthouse of East Baton Rouge Parish, LA. West Feliciana Parish at St. Francisville, LA, Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, University of Southeastern Louisiana at Hammond, LA, and the State Library of Louisiana also have copies. The Church of Latter Day Saints Library in Utah has a microfilm of the records.
14. *Ibid.*, p. 221.

PART III

Children of James Bowie I and Sarah Whitehead

The first four children are listed in the Georgia Livestock Mark and Brand Book.

Rezin (Reason) Bowie born Cr 1762 died 1821. *

Sallie Bowie born before 1769 died 1799 in New Madrid. *

Nancy Bowie born before 1769 probably died young - Not known by Mr. Henry Karr unless he knew her as Ana.

Alice Bowie born before 1769 probably died young. Not known by Mr. Henry Karr.

John Bowie born _____ living in 1800 probably died 1816 in Catahoula Parish, Louisiana. *

Ana Bowie living in 1798.

Reece (Rhesa) Bowie died Catahoula Parish, Louisiana. *

Mary Bowie living in 1798.

Elay Bowie living in 1798 and mentioned in Patsy Bowie's will.

Martha Bowie called Patsy living in 1799 and left her will in Logan County, Tennessee. *

Comfort Bowie died after September 10, 1811 in Catahoula Parish, Louisiana. *

David Bowie - Confused with David, son of Rezen Bowie, no record. *

*Further information included

REZIN (REASON) BOWIE

The spelling of his name has been much disputed and is found as Rezin, Reason, Reson and Reisen. It was frequently spelled differently in the same document, but most often his is found as Rezin or Reason Bowie with no middle name. Was he named for the Biblical Rezin, the King of Syria¹ as suggested by Mr. Sam Mims? He was born about 1762², the son of James Bowie who died in Washington County, Georgia in 1796. Family tradition, as related in the W.W. Bowie Genealogy, incorrectly gives his mother's name as a Miss Mirabeau. He also states that her sister married Sir Caesar Ashley who moved to the southwest, but just where has not been determined.

Mrs. Lulu Nelson, in one of her letters referring to Rezin Bowie's wife, Elva Jones, says "my great grandfather's wife was born in Savannah, Georgia of Welch parents -- three brothers of Jones came to this country from Wales -- two settled in the north and one came south the latter was the father of my great grandmother. She had several sisters and brothers -- One of sisters married a McDaniel and one a Lamar -- Mother or Grandmother of our own L.Q.C. Lamar."³ Hoping to find some Mirabeau clue, the family names of Elva's two sisters were researched and it is to the Lamar family that the name belongs and not to the Louisiana Bowies as so long attributed.

More recent research indicates that his mother was actually Sarah Whitehead. It is not known by this researcher, when James Bowie and Sarah Whitehead were married, but she is mentioned as "Sarah Bouy(sic) the wife of James Bouy" in the will of her father in 1765⁴ (Refer to James Bowie I). They were probably married several years prior to then as four of James Bowie's children, Reason, Sallie, Nancy and Alice were listed by him in the 1769 "Registration of Georgia Livestock and Brands."⁵ There is no documented evidence as to his place of birth, however, in December of 1764, when his father applied for land in Georgia he stated that "he was one year from North Carolina." If we accept 1762 for his date of birth, he would have been born prior to the family arriving in Georgia.

Resin Bowie entered the Continental Army in December 1780 in the Company of Militia under Capt. John Hill, commanded by Joseph Dunn, Colonel of the Upper Division of Richmond County.⁶ On July 1, 1781, he was issued 10 bu. of corn for his horse and was designated as a "Spie" with seven months of service.⁷ According to his granddaughter, Mrs. Joseph Moore, he was injured during the war and "his hands was scared by a sabre cut received in defending himself from a blow aimed at his head." Bowie was nursed by Elvira "Elvie" Jones, the comely daughter of John Jones, who was assisting in caring for the injured soldiers at Savannah, Georgia. He and Elvie Apcatesby Jones fell in love and were married on March 8, 1782 in Burke County, Georgia.

She was born April 3, 1766.⁸ Mrs. Moore in her story of the family says, "Elve Jones was a native of Savannah, Georgia, but her parents were Welsh. She possessed an active mind, correct judgement, a sympathetic nature and sweet temper, combined with a view of earnest religious feelings."⁹ The only first hand account of the Bowie's life is from an article attributed to their son, John J. Bowie. From his reminiscences and with various documents, lawsuits and family stories that have been handed down, one becomes familiar with these two remarkable pioneer people. --- John J. Bowie says:

My father and mother were both born in the state of Georgia. They were married in 1782 in the county of Burke of the same state; my mother's maiden name being ELVIRA JONES; my father's name was REZIN BOWIE. During my infancy, or about the year 1787, my parents moved from Georgia to the state of Tennessee, where they remained for six or seven years. During this sojourn my father had frequent skirmishes with the Indians, and was engaged in the conflicts then common in that devoted country. After this he removed to Logan County, Kentucky, where my brother James was born in the spring of 1796 In the year 1800 he removed to the state, or rather province of Missouri, and in 1802 he came and settled on the Bushley Bayou, in what was then the district of Rapides Louisiana, and under Spanish rule. Here he remained till 1809, when he again, and for the last time, took up the line of march, and finally, settled in the district of Opelousas, where he remained until he died in 1819, in the fall of the year. He sleeps with the common mother earth without any stone or inscription to mark the resting-place of him whose bosom was so often bared, and whose hand was so often raised for the defense of his family, and the homes and firesides of his countrymen, against the secret and deadly attacks of savage foes. At his death he left four sons, myself being the eldest, Rezin, James and Stephen, and Two daughters.

James Bowie, with the rest of my father's family was raised mostly in remote and wild regions, and consequently grew up but with little education, or other advantages besides those inherited by natural endowment, or acquired from paternal instructions. . . . We certainly were greatly indebted to our dear mother for much of the information we possessed. She was a sincerely pious woman, and always inculcated the pure principles of the religion of that Savior whom she so faithfully served.¹⁰

Rezin Bowie, a true Scotsman, was a farmer and wheelwright, having been blessed with a mechanical mind. He built and operated sawmills and gristmills at various times and probably a sugar mill (sugarhouse) while he lived in sugarcane country. Rezin passed his knowledge on to his boys, Stephen and Rezin Pleasant Bowie, who are credited with building the first steam powered cane crushing sugar mill in Louisiana at Acadia Plantation in Lafourche Parish about 1828.¹¹

•
After the Revolutionary War, men who had seen service were given grants of land in the

old Indian Lands, and Reason Bowie in 1784 received two grants of 287-1/2 acres each in Washington County, Georgia.¹² James Bowie, Reason's father, also received 287-1/2 acres there in the same year.

The Washington County, Georgia records were all destroyed during the Civil War, but deeds to lands that were recorded in other counties prove that Rezin was there in 1787. On May 26 of that year he witnessed a sale of land from David Creswell and his wife, Ann, of Washington County to William Wallis and Adam Maning in Wilkes County, Georgia. On the same day the Creswells of Washington County sold 100 acres in Washington County to Joseph Pannell of Wilkes County; and Reason Bowie again signed as a witness.¹³ Family tradition gives the year 1789 as the approximate time when Reason Bowie sold his land and moved to Tennessee. While in Georgia they became the parents of their first six children: David, twins Lavinea and Lavisia who died as infants, John J., Sarah and Mary Bowie whose date of birth is given as 1789 in Georgia. The family was not sure where David belonged, and frequently added his name at the end of the list of children. This compiler thinks it should be first.

Documentation on just where he spent the next three years is lacking, but their daughter Margaret was born in 1791 in Tennessee; and on April 20, 1793 he was a witness to a sale of land in Sumner County, Tennessee between Philip Shacker and David Shelby.¹⁴ On November 10th of the same year Reason purchased 640 acres of land from James and George Winchester on Station Camp Creek, one mile west of Gallatin, Tennessee.¹⁵ This area is known today as Elliott Spring. While there Rezin Pleasant Bowie was born on September 8, 1793. Mr. Ben Prather, a Jim Bowie enthusiast, visited there years ago and left an interesting description of the region.

Guided to the spot by George Wynn of Sumner Co. - His family sold land to Bowies in 1793 conveyed to Bowies by Gen. James Winchester and his brother George. The farm was later owned by the Odom family which had along with the Elliotts settled the area west of Gallatin before 1800.

One of Elliott's homes a mile south of Bowie's home, was famous for its "wall spring." The stones from the foundation of Bowie home were used many years ago to build the foundation for livery station in Gallatin. A hundred and fifty yards to the south of the spring stands bare walls of a mighty house built in 1829.¹⁶

By January of 1794 Rezin's restless nature and interest in land speculation beckoned him to a new frontier, and he sold part of the 640 acres to Thomas Edwards.¹⁷ Several days later he sold two other tracts of land, one to James Odum for \$400, the other to James Harrison for \$100,¹⁸ and this was followed by the sale of the last recorded sale of his acreage to John Neeley on January 27, 1794.¹⁹ The other portion of his 640 acres was sold but to whom is not recorded.

We do not know just when Rezin Bowie moved his family to Kentucky, but he appears on the tax roll of Logan County on April 10, 1794 as owner of three slaves and five horses.²⁰ He is also listed on March 20, 1795 with eight slaves, 11 horses, 23 head of cattle and one stud horse.²¹

Sometime early in 1795 he received a grant of 200 acres of land on Tarripin Creek from the State of Kentucky.²² This land was surveyed on October 7, 1796. It was here that he built another mill²³ and was ordered to help survey and mark a road from the Ohio River to Green River.²⁴ On April 1, 1796, he is listed on the tax roll with eight slaves, seven horses, 11 head of cattle, one stud horse.²⁵ Evidently Tarripin Creek ran into Read River, for in 1797 his 200 acres of land on the waters of Read River is listed with 9 slaves, 11 horses, and on September 16, 1799, he is shown with the same property.²⁶

Some of Elva Bowie's family had also moved to Kentucky where her brother, Stephen Jones, became involved in trouble of some kind. We find that "Reason Bowie, Jacob Scott and Absolom Bryant did bind themselves to the Government in the Penal sum of one hundred dollars each until further appearance of said John Neeley and Stephen Jones at the next court."²⁷

Rezin apparently had some stature in the community as his name appears several times in the minutes of Logan County. He was asked, in 1797, to appraise the estate of Richard Prior.²⁸ We assume that they lived the life of hardy pioneers, and it was here on Tarripin Creek that Elva gave birth to her sons, James Bowie in 1795 and Stephen in 1797.

Bowie's taxable assets remained the same over the next two years. He probably heard about the land that was opening up in the territory of Louisiana and may have even gone to inspect the area. He liked what he heard or saw, and on February 19, 1800 sold his land grant to Burket Ragar and Ralph Low.²⁹

Joseph Musso of Hollywood in his unrelentless search for the birthplace of James Bowie has established the fact that he was born in what is now Simpson County, Kentucky, its boundary line having been taken out of Logan County in 1819. Records of deeds for some reason, were not transferred to Simpson County until about 1849. When Musso visited Franklin, the county seat of Simpson County in 1989, he picked up the trail of the Bowie property. Now both Logan and Simpson counties claim to be his place of birth.³⁰

Rezin Bowie lost no time in moving his family to the District of Missouri in Louisiana Territory where on the 19th of December 1800, he obtained permission to settle from the Commandant of New Madrid. The land was surveyed on the 8th of June, 1801 and was transferred by Bowie to Charles Lucas on 28th October 1802. In 1806, when Lucas was trying to prove his claim, the land was described as three hundred and eighty arpents on Fish Lake, district of New Madrid. William Cox, in his testimony taken that day, says that "Rezin Bowie arrived in the country in August 1800; that he immediately proceeded to the building of a house, which he completed; that he sowed turnips, and gathered the same."³¹ John Tucker, also duly sworn, says that when he arrived in 1802 "he found the said Rezin Bowie on said land, and cultivating the same . . . had a wife and eight children."³²

It is amazing how much traveling was done by the men searching out new fertile fields. "Wanderlust" Bowie was anticipating another move, and this time we find him receiving grants

of land and making purchases of large tracts in that part of the Louisiana Territory that became Orleans Territory. On May 2, 1801, Reason, David, John, and Rhesa Bowie all subscribed to the oath of allegiance under the Spanish Government at Rapides District.³³

He may have returned to Tennessee briefly to settle some business matters and accompany several families out to the Madrid District where he had left Elvie and the children. We find that Malachi Jones was "on a list of families arrived at Tywapity for the purpose of settling themselves, said list presented to Mr. Henry Peyroax (the commandant) on the 12th of January 1802 by Mr. Reason Bowie."³⁴ Unfortunately the list is not included and Jones is the only name mentioned.

Spanish was the recognized language in the southern part of the Territory and the Catholic religion was the only faith recognized by the government that required all marriages and baptisms be solemnized by a Catholic priest. It has been said that Elvie objected to the move because of her difference in religious beliefs, but being a dutiful pioneer wife, she and the children joined Rezin in Catahoula Parish, Rapides District of Louisiana Territory, north of the Catahoula Lake in 1802 or early 1803.

There was probably quite a Bowie Settlement of wagons and campers that first year, for Rezin was joined in Louisiana by brothers, Rhesa and John Bowie, as well as his sister, Comfort who was married to Jesse Bowden. Mr. W.W. Bowie, in the Bowie Genealogy, claims that another brother, David, was also there, but this compiler thinks that most likely the David referred to was Rezin and Elva's son, David, who at age eighteen would have been old enough to obtain a grant of land (see David Bowie). They were all busy acquiring land and building their new homes and Rezin Bowie immediately began building a large log house for his family that was probably built on the following piece of property. He bought and sold numerous pieces of land in the area.

In the claim of Thomas Hubbs, the evidence of William Roe, taken on 9th of Nov., 1812, before James Macom, justice of the peace for the parish of Catahoula . . . state that he is well acquainted with the land, which is situated near the Big Prairie, about three miles from the Washita River, and about four or five miles from the Catahoula court-house, adjoining lands originally owned by Resin Bowie, now the property of Abraham Bird . . . actually settled and in cultivation on or before the 20th day of December, 1803, being first settled in the summer of 1803 by Resin Bowie, and afterward by Thomas Hubbs & always known as property of said Hubbs-- The evidence of William Mock . . . adjoining land formerly claimed by Resin Bowie & that it was actually inhabited and in cultivation on and before the 20th day of December 1803, being first settled & cultivated, to his knowledge by R. Bowie, for about eleven or twelve years; afterwood, about one year, Thomas Hubbs claimed the land, by purchase from Bowie and continued to occupy the said land without interference by other claimants." Today part of this land is owned by Mr. G.C. Womock.³⁵ Rezin Bowie also held a claim to the following land grant.

Western District - Orleans Territory
Register No. 21 - Rapides

By the Commisioner appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the rights of _____ to lands within the district and Territory aforesaid. It is hereby certified that Reason Bowie of the County of Rapides, is confirmed in his claim to a tract of land containing Seven hundred and fifty Six and 27/100 Superficial Arpents equal to Six hundred and forty American acres founded in Settlement Commenced in the year 1802 by Frederick Stillfields and others to the present time as appears by the testimony of Wm. Rowe taken in this claim situate in the _____ County of Rapides at the big Prarie(sic) To have so much front _____ with the depth of forty Arpents including the aforesaid quantity of land having such form and Marshs natural and artificial as shall be represented in a flat thereof to be returned by the principal deputy surveyor of the district Wherefore agreeably to the provisions of an act of Congress _____ the third day of March 1807 An Act respecting the Claims to land in the Territories of Orleans and Louisiana the claimant is entitled to a patent from the United States for the above described tract of land or as much thereof as is not rightfully by any other person _____ the same shall be found to include either a lead mine or salt spring-- This certificate being filed with the Register of the land office for the said District within twelve months from the date hereof, Shall entitle the claimant to the certificate of the said Register on which a patent shall issue. Given under our hands at Opelousas Church this 25th day of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and eleven and in the Thirty fifth year of the independence of the United States. Attent--John Thomston, Clerk of the board.

Wm. Garrard)

Levin Wales)---Commissioners³⁶

Gederia Fitz)

Reason Bowie B no. 559--Received and recorded in Book A of Commissioners Certificate page 373, 25th May 1811. Levin Wathy, Register.

Mary Bowie the daughter of Rezin and Elva married Abraham Bird and this may have been when Rezin transferred this piece of land to Bird for \$1. They later lived at Hollywood Plantation (now a part of L.S.U.) in East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana.

Before me Charles W. Crawford Notary Public in and for the Parish of East Baton Rouge personally appeared Abraham Bird Esq. of said parish who declares that he has granted, bargained and sold to Mr. Resha Bowie of the Parish of Catahoula in this state a tract of land on waters of Bushby in Parish Catahoula containing six hundred & forty acres being the same acquired by this appearer, from Reason Bowie by agreement under private signature dated 13 July 1808 & by the said Raison (Reason) Bowie by virtue of a certificate of the land office at Opelousas

Church (No. 559) dated 25th May 1807

The present sale & conveyance is made & in behalf of . . . this appearer estimates the value of land herein conveyed at the price of \$400; the purchaser bind himself to deliver to Mr. Manuel White, merchant of City of New Orleans this as soon as the same can be shipped-- Three Thousand pounds of picked & ginned cotton packed in merchantable bales 24th day of May 1834.³⁷

Signed A. Bird

Elva and Rezin had received the rudiments of education, but it was Elva who insisted that their children learn to read and write and take advantage of any educational and religious opportunities available. She is given credit for being their "best" teacher. Elva was delighted when in 1802 the Methodist Church circuit riders began journeying into what became Catahoula.

The first ministers to arrive were informed of Elva's interest in and love of her religious beliefs and that the Bowie home would probably be available for services. Rev. Thomas N. Lasley who succeeded Rev. Elisha Bowman in 1807 says in his autobiography: "My next point was the Catahoula Settlement. Here I established two appointments, one at Brother Wiggins and the other at Brother Bowie's whose wife I found to be of the excellent earth. I am sorry that their son is the inventor of that weapon called the Bowie Knife. With this young man I was then acquainted . . . at that time a civil young man."³⁸

In 1808 Rev. Jacob Young visited the Catahoula area and recorded some of his experiences in his autobiography that Rev. Robert Harper has edited:

Young writes that he had a miserable swamp to cross, forty-five miles wide, to get to Catahoula Lakes. On the way he overtook a forlorn looking fellow whom he had known before. They rode on together and toward nightfall came to a little log cabin in the middle of a canebrake, on the bank of a small bayou. Young says: 'We covered ourselves with our great coats and spent the night in the best manner we could.' That next day he reached the home of Captain Bowie. There he met James Axley, and the first Quarterly conference for the year was held in 'the Captain's large log house.' Following the conference, Young and Axley preached alternately, day and night, for nearly a week.³⁹

They then completed their round of the circuit and when they returned to the Bowie home, Rev. Young in his autobiography has this to say: 'We concluded, upon the whole, that religion was very low throughout the Louisiana Territory. Brother Axley was much discouraged--out of money, and his clothing very ragged. By this time the waters had risen, and he was confined to the Catahoula Settlement. He had no place to preach there. Captain Bowie had fallen out with him, and would not let him preach any longer at his house, saying 'He had preached so much

about hell, that his chimney had fallen down, and he would have him there no longer!' ⁴⁰

Rev. Axley remained in the settlement after Young departed and cut enough timber for a small log building that he built. It was called Axley Chapel, and became the first Protestant church west of the Mississippi River. He says that the Bowies were among their early members.

The source of the following story, if true, has not been found but brings to mind the difficulties faced in settling a new territory. It was probably handed down in the family and told to Mr. W.W. Bowie by Rezin's granddaughter, who provided him with most of the information on the early Louisiana Bowies. One can readily picture these strong-minded individuals reacting to just such a situation.

In those early days Louisiana was filled with turbulent characters, who, attracted by the possibilities of the new region flocked there in great numbers. There was little semblance of law, and the strong right hand was often called upon to protect both life and property, but Rezin Bowie was equal to such emergencies, and the turbulent class soon learned he was not to be intimidated. He is described as a man of fine physique, tall, red-headed, and possessing a determined, fearless disposition. He was fond of hunting, and his rifle ball seldom missed its mark. His wife also was a women(sic) of rugged character, and endowed with masculine courage. Raised in the rough school of border life, she was a fit partner for her sturdy spouse. Many stories are told of their struggles with their aggressive neighbors. On one occasion Rezin Bowie was compelled to defend his property against a set of reckless squatters encamped near him. In the conflict which took place he killed one of his adversaries, and a few days later he was arrested by a sheriff and charged with manslaughter; he was confined in an insecure wooden structure used as the "calaboose," or jail, to await trial. Mrs. Bowie knowing the constable to be an enemy of her husband, suspected he would allow his prisoner to be foully dealt with. Mounting her horse, and accompanied by a Negro servant on another fleet animal, she rode to the jail and demanded admittance to her husband's room. She was allowed to enter, and in a few moments re-appeared at the door accompanied by Rezin Bowie, each with loaded pistols in their hands. While the jailer sought a place of safety, they mounted the horses in waiting and rode away. It is not recorded that he was again molested.⁴¹

Rezin Bowie, like so many others at that time, seemed obsessed with the ownership of land. Even after he decided to settle the family in the Rapides area, he continued his search for forest primeval in the more remote area of the territory and began acquiring land down in the Attakapas Region. Leaving the boys in charge of the farm and sawmill he would be gone for long periods of time while he camped out, logging and trying to establish a valid claim to his new land. In 1812 when the United States began approving or rejecting claims, the appointed commissioners took depositions from neighbors to see if the land had been inhabited or cultivated by the claimer.

as prescribed by law. Although their memories may not have been completely accurate after so many years, the information is invaluable and indicates that the Bowies moved to the Attakapas about 1809, but owned land adjoining that of John Grecian prior to that time.

*Resin Bowie, Sr. of the county of Attakapa, claims a tract of land of six hundred and forty acres situated on the right bank of the River Vermilion on which the claimant now resides and which he purchased from a man named Grecian. Notice filed 9th Sept. 1812.*⁴²

*The evidence of several persons was taken in their claim in 1812, from which the following facts are drawn. 1st that John Grecian, of whom the claimant purchased, had been in the practice of getting timber on the land, for the purpose of boat-building for 15 or 20 years past. 2nd that no improvement were made to the Vermilion, below Little Bayou, until about four years ago.*⁴³

*The deposition of George Cummin, sworn the 15th of October, 1812 says . . . 'that he knows the land in question was the residence of said Grecian three or four years ago, and that it has been constantly inhabited and cultivated by said Grecian and the present claimant ever since.'*⁴⁴

Basnaby Beale, aged thirty-six years, deposeth: That he removed to and settled in the neighborhood of said Bowie in December 1801, at which time he found him residing on the land claimed, and a man by the name of Grecian (whose first name he does not recollect) residing about a quarter of a mile below Bowie. That soon after the deponent settled in the neighborhood, being at the shop of said Grecian (who was a blacksmith), said Bowie being also present, he heard Grecian agree to relinquish his claim to the land where he resided to said Bowie; Grecian being then about to remove to one of the Spanish provinces to the westward. That said Grecian did in some short time after actually set out on his contemplated journey, since which time said Bowie has occupied and cultivated the land on which Grecian resided, having removed his fencing so as to embrace the former habitation of said Grecian. That Grecian received corn and pork from Bowie, which this deponent supposes to have made a part of the consideration for the land in question, 'tho he never heard Grecian acknowledge so much, nor does he believe there was any written transfer of the land to said Bowie.

Sworn the 19th September 1812

In presence of Levin Wailes, Registrar

*Cabinet No. 12, Book not numbered, No. 167, p. 20.*⁴⁵

Rezin Bowie, Sr. also purchased 640 acres lying in the old neutral zone on the west side of the Quelqueshue River about six miles north of Lake Charles from William Andrus. There is no evidence that he ever lived on the land and it was probably bought for the timber. This grant

was assigned to Jacob E. Self of St. Landry Parish whose claim was granted in 1812.⁴⁶

The years they spent in Catahoula Parish were hard, busy years for the Bowies. The children were growing up and as in any large family, there were times of joy and sadness. John Jones married early and began his family. Mary married Abraham Bird. Rezin was helping David with his mill and Elva was busy with a new baby. Apparently their daughter, Martha, who was born in 1791, had died and in 1806 when Elva's "late in life" baby arrived, she was given the name of Martha (see Martha Sterrett). Rezin once again was recognized as a responsible citizen and served as a Justice of the Peace in 1807 and 1808.⁴⁷ The cultivation of sugarcane was becoming an important money crop in south Louisiana and around 1809, Rezin, with his knowledge of milling began to think of moving permanently to the Attakapas Region. John J. Bowie says that "his brother James spent the most important part of his life in Catahoula Parish between the years 1802-1809"⁴⁸ suggesting that the move to the Attakapas region was about 1809.

Rezin is not found in the 1810 census for Catahoula but he is found in the one for Attakapas Region as Reisen Boyer(sic).⁴⁹ He and the family were probably living at the time on the plantation that he bought from Grecian. Rezin raised sugarcane, cut logs for his sawmill, planted corn for his gristmill and also raised cattle for his livelihood.

On September 27, 1812 Rezin Bowie, State of Louisiana, County of Attakapas, sold 320 acres to John J. Bowie for \$300 . . . "all my plantation on Stockleys Creek in Ouachita." The deed was signed Rezin Bowie and witnessed by Jesse Bowden and David McClure. Some question arose concerning which Rezin Bowie was transferring the property and David McClure was called to testify. He said that "he saw Rezin Bowie, Jr. sign, seal and acknowledge the instrument and not Rezin of Attakapas."⁵⁰

On March 22, 1817 Resin Sr. sold four slaves to Resin Jr. They were Ben about 40 years; Joe, a boy aged about 12; Rachel, a girl about 10 years, and Lynda, a girl about 7 for \$1,700, and on April 1, 1817 he sold slaves to James Bowie for the same price.⁵¹ He may have been anticipating another move for on May 17, 1817, he is found buying 320 acres from Robert Rogers in the western part of St. Landry Parish.

No. 79 R. Rogers to R. Bowie - Sale of Land - Filed May the 17th 1817. Recorded in Book D pages 29 & 30 of the Records of Sales & Mortgages for the Parish of Saint Landry this 17 day of May 1817. Signed Geo. King, P. Judge Charge to Purchaser.

Known all men by these presents that I Robert Rogers of the Parish of St. Landry and State of Louisiana have this day the Eleventh of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Seventeen bargained sold and set over, and by these presents do bargain sell and set over unto Risin Bowie Senr[sic] of the Parish and state aforesaid and undivided piece of a tract of six hundred and forty Acres and lying on the lower side of the aforesaid tract of land and on the Bayou Gut on

Ne' Piquet that quantity of land sold by the said Rogers to the said Bowie being three hundred and twenty Acres--it being well understood between the parties that the saw mill and grist mill and the Mill seat on the said land aforesaid is to remain the joint property of the said Rogers & Bowie for and in consideration of work and Labour done and performed by the said Bowie on the said Saw & grist Mills aforesaid and which the said Rogers acknowledges to have been performed according to contract which land the said Rogers doth warrant and defend the said Land to the said Bowie from the legal . . . of all and every person whatever--

On testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals at Opelousas the year and day aforesaid in presence of the undersigned witnesses and I George King judge of the Parish of St. Landry--

Witnesses:
Julian Lezassier
L. Lesapies(?)

Signed:
Robert Rogers
*Reason Bowie*⁵²

Mr. Keith Fontenot has abstracted the interesting chain of title to the Bowie property at Bayou Gut.⁵³

The assessment roll for St. Landry Parish for 1818, lists Reazin Bowie, Sr. assessed with three hundred and twenty acres of second quality land at Boggy Gut. Mr. Bowie also had ten slaves and 40 horned cattle.⁵⁴

There has been confusion as to where Rezin Bowie lived in St. Landry Parish. In 1977 an historical marker was placed in the center of the town of Opelousas, Louisiana to identify the home site of Rezin Bowie, Sr. where Jim Bowie lived as a young man, but the statement on the marker is not correct and it should be rectified.

Site of Bowie Residence

*James Bowie lived here with his family from 1815 to 1824. The Bowies operated several Sawmills along the bayous of St. Landry parish. The Famous Bowie knife became a legend in Opelousas prior to his heroic death at the Alamo.*⁵⁵

Harnett Kane and Dr. John H. Loos officiated at the dedication ceremony and the marker was unveiled by Leo Bowie of Thibodaux who was said to be a descendant of Jim Bowie. Jim Bowie left no heirs and the Thibodaux Bowie's ancestor was a John Bowie. There were two other John Bowies in Catahoula Parish in addition to John Jones Bowie who left no known male heirs. Mr. Leo Bowie may descend from one of these two John Bowies who were frequently designated as John Sr. and John Jr. in documents; but proof of their descendants is lacking. The John Sr. was probably the brother of Rezin Bowie who joined the Bowies in Catahoula Parish about 1802.⁵⁶

The Rezin Bowie plantation marker should be placed approximately one half mile farther south along highway 182 from where it is and the home was located, between present day Smiley and Anders streets. Once again we find that the Rezin Bowies have been confused and documents prove that the plantation was actually the home of Rezin Pleasant Bowie who had purchased it from William Jackson on May 11, 1815⁵⁷ and it was not the home of Rezin Bowie Sr. (see Rezin Pleasant Bowie). Family tradition says that Jim Bowie probably visited the home frequently, however, as he and Rezin Pleasant were closely associated in business and devoted brothers.

On the 13 day of July 1818 Rezin became the security signer of a bond with Andrew Weaver who was licensed to operate a night club and to sell alcoholic beverages. It is not clear as to just where in the Opelousas District the club was located. Apparently Bowie had no part in the operation of the business but may have been a silent partner.

Know all men by these present that Andrew Weaver and Rezin Bowie Sen^{or} of the State of Louisiana and Parish of Saint Landry are held and firmly bound unto George King Judge of the Parish & to his successors in office the sum of two hundred dollars for the payment of which sum well & truly to be made they & each of them bind themselves their heirs executors and administrators ----- each have hereunto signed and affixed their seals at Opelousas this thirtieth day of July one thousand and eight hundred and Eighteen.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above bound Andrew Weaver has this day obtained a license to keep a public house of entertainment and to retail spiritous liquors, wine, beer, ail & now therefore if the said Andrew Weaver shall well and truly conduct himself as a public housekeeper and retailor as aforesaid according to Law, then this obligation to be voided otherwise to remain in full force and virtue and law --

*Andrew Weaver (Seal)
Reason Bowie (Seal)⁵⁸*

*Signed & Sealed
in Presence of
James Ray*

Rezin's health was probably failing for on May 15, 1821, when their young daughter, Martha, wanted to marry, Elva appeared alone at the courthouse in Opelousas and gave her consent to the marriage. She said that she also "gave the consent of her husband"⁵⁹ (see Martha Bowie). The Bowies must have lived in a remote part of St. Landry Parish for the information for the 1820 census was not taken until February of 1821.⁶⁰ The exact time of Rezin's death is not known, but he probably died soon after Martha's marriage. He and Elva probably may have lived at the plantation on Bayou Gut, in what is now Acadia Parish, until his death in 1821. Elva is next found in Lafourche Parish living near Stephen and Rezin Pleasant Bowie who were engaged in the sugar business at Acadia Plantation. The 1830 census of Lafourche Parish shows her as being between 60-70 years old (she was probably 74). There were three little boys between the ages of

5 to 10 years of age and two slaves.⁶¹ None of Elva's known grandsons fit into the age bracket of the census and we can only surmise as to whom they might be.

Elva, well into her twilight years of life, was once again faced with a change. The boys sold Acadia Plantation; Stephen died; Rezin Pleasant was spending more time in New Orleans, and Martha, who had accompanied her mother to Lafourche, married Mr. Alexander Sterrett and moved to Shreveport. Elva, growing weary after her strenuous life, went to make her home with Martha. She died in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1838, and was interred at the Sterrett's plantation, Fairfield.⁶²

ENDNOTES

1. Several genealogists, including Mr. Sam Mims, suggests that he was named, Rezin, after the fighting King of Syria. In 2nd Kings, Chapter 15, verse 37 we find "Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah, the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but they could not conquer it". Rezin is also found in Chapter 16, verse 5, and Isaiah, Chapter 8, verse 6 and chapter 7, verse 1. This researcher thinks that further study will probably reveal that the name, Rezin was a family name already established as such. In this article the spelling is used interchangeably; after he moved to the state of Louisiana, the name is most frequently spelled Rezin or Reason.

2. Mrs. Joseph H. Moore nee Matilda Eleanor Bowie, granddaughter of Rezin and Elva Bowie, in her family history written shortly before her death, published in Frontier Times, gives 1762 as his date of birth. Several D.A.R. records give 1756 without proof. Family records say that "he was not yet twenty when he married." Census records vary depending on who gives the information. Census records for St. Martin Parish, Territory of Orleans 1810, lists Reisen Boyer(sic). Microfilm M252, Roll 10, East Baton Rouge Parish Library, Baton Rouge, LA and Records of Attakapas District 1739-1811 by Mary Elizabeth Sanders, published in 1962.

- 1 Male at least 10 but not over 16 years of age
- 1 Male at least 16 but not over 26 years of age
- 1 Male at least 26 but not over 45 years of age
- 1 Male at least 45 years or older
- 1 Female at least 1 but not over 10 years of age
- 1 Female at least 10 but not over 16 years of age
- 1 Female at least 45 years or older
- 19 Slaves

The census of St. Landry Parish 1820, taken on February 8, 1821, page 422, Louisiana State Archives, Baton Rouge, LA:

- Rezin Bowie Sr. 1 Male over 45
- 1 Female over 45
- 1 Female at least 10 but not over 15 years

3. "Trail of the Bowie Knife", Homer, La: "The Guardian Journal", 1967, p. 8. Mr. Sam Mims gives her fictitious name as Jeanne Mirabeau. The W.W. Bowie Genealogy on p. 259 says that her sister married Sir Ceasor Ashley and that he moved to the southwest. The letter of Mrs. Lulu Nelson of Vicksburg, MS, June 21, 1896 on file at the Alamo Library of Republic of Texas, San Antonio, TX. Mrs. Nelson's information has not always been reliable. Mrs. Dorothy Thrawley of North Carolina whose ancestor James McDaniel married Orpha Bowie has done extensive McDaniel-Bowie-Jones family research trying to prove a relationship to Jim Bowie of the Alamo as given in her family tradition. She was unable to find any connection to the Louisiana Bowies and she found no Mirabeau family. See "The McDaniel Family Record" by Charles G. Harris and Hettie C. O'Conner, Pub. by The Franklin Printing Company, Inc., Louisville, KY, 1929. Research by this writer into the Lamar family was more rewarding. The L.Q.C. Lamar, mentioned by Mrs. Nelson, was a congressman from Mississippi, brother of Mirabeau Bounaparte Lamar and a cousin of the Louisiana Bowies through the sister of Rezin Bowie's mother. Several published genealogies of the Lamar family prove that the name Mirabeau rightfully belongs in their family and the W.W. Bowie Genealogy is in error in stating that Rezin's mother was a Mirabeau. There are several children named Mirabeau Lamar who appear in different branches of the family and much has been written about Mirabeau Bounaparte Lamar who appears prominently in Texas history. Dorman H. Winfrey says: "Mirabeau Bounaparte Lamar, the son of John and Rebecca (Lamar) Lamar, was born on a plantation near Louisville, Jefferson County, Georgia, on August 16, 1798. The elder Lamars, who were first cousins, were descended from Huguenots who fled religious persecution in France and settled in Maryland and Virginia in the mid 1600s. One would infer --- that Mirabeau Bounaparte carried in his veins the hot blood of 'La Belle France' and that his parents had a tender loyalty to their homeland and a devotion to the cause of human liberty." A study of the Mirabeau Family in France would be of interest. Also refer to "Directory of Georgia Biography" by Kenneth Coleman and Charles Stephen Gurr, Vol. II, pp. 591-598, Un. of Ga. Press, Athens, GA; "Descendants of Thomas and Ann Lamar of Maryland"; and "Georgia Genealogical Gleanings, Pub. 1895, republished 1984, p. 229.
4. Will of T. Whitehead, July 18, 1765 and Livestock Brands 1769. Refer to Part II, endnote No. 8.
5. "Registration of Georgia Livestock and Brands" - Georgia State Archives, Atlanta, GA.
6. "Roster of Georgia's Roster of Military Affairs" Vol. I, 1775-1793, p. 40, Georgia Department of Archives and History, September 16, 1954. I found no record of service under Francis Marion in South Carolina for Rezin (Reason) Bowie as given by family tradition.
7. *Ibid.*, 40.
8. D.A.R. records number 468359, 450599 and 353310 give complete dates of her marriage and birth date, but they do not give the source of the information.

9. Moore, Mrs. Joseph H., nee Matilda Eleanor Bowie. Her article on the Bowie family was submitted by Bessie Bird (Moore) Bryant to J. Marvin Hunter on December 2, 1941, and published in "Frontier Times." Library of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, San Antonio, TX.
10. DeBow cited above. DeBow, J.D.B., "DeBow's Review", Vol. XIII, pp. 185, 378-79, "The Bowies" by Dr. Kilpatrick of Trinity, LA. He attributes the sketch to John Jones Bowie who is describing, primarily the life of his brother, James Bowie. John Jones Bowie, in other documents, does not appear to be the scholar that this article portrays him to be. Evidently it was edited by Dr. Kilpatrick to some extent.
11. Beavers, Richard C., principal investigator, "Preliminary Archaeological Reconnaissance and Assessment of Acadia Plantation", Lafourche Parish Library, published August 1983, p. 22. This project was administered by the Division of Archaeology, Office of Cultural Development, State of Louisiana and should be consulted by anyone interested in the Bowie family or Acadia Plantation.
12. "Georgia Roster of the Revolution (Bounty Surveys)", Georgia Department of Archives and History, pp. 199 and 252:
- Bowie, Reason - 287 1/2 acres, Washington County, bounded N. Williamson's swamp, E. Vacant, S. William Jones, W. John Jones, Lot 391 May 17, 1784.
- Bowie, Reason - 287 1/2 acres, Washington County bounded N. Thornton, E. Fitzgerald, S. Wheeler, W. Ramsey on Richland Creek. Surveyed Oct. 19, 1794.
13. Lucas, Rev. Silas, Jr., "Some Georgia County Records" Vol. 2, p. 205 from Green County Conveyance Records, pp. 454-5.
14. Murray, Joyce Martin "Sumner Co. Tennessee Deeds Abstracts" 1793-1787, Vol. 1, Murray, 1988, p. 2, Indenture April 20, 1793, Original Vol. 1, p. 81, Philip Shackler, First Part and David Shelby, 64 pound, tr. (track) on North side of Cumberland or Shackler Creek, now called Defeated Creek, beginning 1/4 mile below large spring and forks of said creek being 640 acres. Witnesses: Reason Bowie and Ruffin Dislike.
15. Recent research for Joseph Musso by Judy Lyne, Joseph Hays and John Garrott have proven that this property is today owned by Joe and Ben Neeley, next to John B. Garrott. Rezin Pleasant was born at the end of Baker Lane about a mile west of Gallatin, TN. Their research is on file at Russellville, TN and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas library, San Antonio, TX.
16. Prather, Ben of Silsbee, TX. "Texan Hunts Bowie's Birth-place", November 7, 1867. Although Mr. Joe Musso of Hollywood, CA has proven by his expensive and thorough examination of records that Jim Bowie of Alamo fame was born in what is now Simpson County, KY, Prather's description of Rezin Bowie's homesite is of interest.

17. Murray, Joyce Martin, "Sumner County, Tennessee Deed Abstracts" Vol. I, p. 7 - Original Vol. I, p. 32, January 10, 1794:

Reason Bowie to Thomas Edwards L (lb) 100 tr (tract) on N. side of Cumberland River on Middle fork of Station Camp being 100 acres beginning on William Edwards line and being 100 acres part of 640 acre tr bought by Bowie of James Williams and George Winchester. Witnesses: Robt. Ellis and William Hariston.

18. *Ibid.*, pp. 11-14, Vol. I, pp. 11 & 12, Original Vol. I, p. 125.

19. Tennessee State Library and Archives Roll No. 108, Book 1, p. 128, Deeds of Sumner County, TN, Bk. I, p. 160.

This Indenture made this twenty seventh day of January in the year one thousand Seven Hundred & ninety four between Reason Bowie of Sumner County & territory South West of the Ohio on one part & John Neeley of the County and Territory aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that the said Reason Bowie for & in Consideration of the Sum of one Hundred Dollars to him the said Reason Bowie in hand well and truly paid the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged Hath given, granted alined Enfeoffed[sic] and confirmed & by these presents do Give Grant alien enfeoff & confirmed unto the Said Jn. Neeley all that tract or parcel of land situated in the County of Sumner aforesaid and on the water of Station Camp Creek Beginning at a Ironwood & Dogwood thence North one hundred & sic(six?) poles to a white ash Elm & Dogwood thence west Eighty poles to a stake thence South one hundred and sic poles to a Slothe thence East Eighty poles to the Beginning containing by Extemation(sic) fifty three acres more or less to have and to hold the said tract of land with all the appurtenances thereto Belonging to the said Jn P. Needy(sic) his heirs & assigns forever & the said Reason Boovie(sic) convents to & with the aforesaid Jn. Needy(sic) to wont and forever Defend the within Granted primeses(sic) unto the said Jn. Needy(sic) his persons whatever in witness whereof the said Reason Bowie hath hereunto set his hand & affixed his seal the day and date first above written.

Signed Sealed & Delivered

In the presents of Reason Bowie (Seal)

Cornelius Herndon

William Needy

Interlined before signed

20. Thorp, Raymond W., "Bowie Knife", Published by University of New Mexico Press, 1948, p. 118, Logan County, KY tax books.

21. *Ibid.*, p. 118.

22. Lyne, Judy, "Abstract History of Reason Bowie's Property on Terrapin Creek in Logan County, Kentucky (Now Nelly Road, Franklin, in Simpson County.)" Logan County, KY Deed Book 1A (copy of original deed from Judy Lyne). "Two hundred acres obtained by Certificate

N. 167 granted by State of Kentucky in the year 1795 on South side of Green River to aforesaid mentioned Reason Bowie . . . Lying and being in Logan County . . . " Logan County, KY Order Book 1A, p. 28, July 28, 1795.

23. "On motion of Reason Bowie he is granted writ of *adquodramnum* to summons the jury to view and condemn a Mill Seat on the lands of Reason Bowie having returned that it neither will injure the Commonwealth or anyone It is ordered that said mill be established." Logan County, KY Order Book 1A, p. 29, August 25, 1795.

24. Logan County, KY Order Book 1A, p. 17, Ordered "Morton Maulding, William Gates, Reason Bowie and Mext Maulding appointed to survey and mark a Road - the nearest and best way from the Red Banks of the Ohio to this place keeping on the South side of Green River as an additional number appointed last court and that the same be allowed a Reasonable Compensation out of the County leavy for the same and that they report to January court."

25. Thorp, Raymond W., "Bowie Knife", published by University of New Mexico Press, 1948, p. 118 - Logan County, KY tax books.

26. *Ibid.*

27. Logan County, KY, Order Book A, p. 58. Reference is found in Bowie correspondence to a relationship of Commodore Thomas ap Catesby Jones, a hero of the War of 1812, and Rezin Bowie's wife, Elva ap Catesby Jones. Commodore Jones came from a distinguished Virginia family of Welsh origin. The "ap" means son of. The first of his ancestors was Captain Roger Jones who came to America in 1680. His son Thomas married Elizabeth Pratt, daughter of Dr. William Pratt and Elizabeth Catesby. Their third son was named Catesby Jones born 1730. Catesby appears in the name of each future generation. Stephen Jones is believed to be a brother of Elva Jones and on July 5, 1794 at Logan County, Kentucky the heirs of John Jones, their father, sold a slave. The heirs signing the indenture were Pheriby Jones, Stephen Jones, James McDaniel and Reason Bowie. No relationship to the Catesby family of Virginia and Elva ap Catesby Jones has been established at this time.

28. Logan County, KY Order Book 1A, p. 91, November 14, 1797. Ordered "that W^m Foyason, Reason Bowie and Edward Hall or any two of them be appointed to aprase(sic) the Estate of Richard Prior, Dec."

29. Logan County, KY, Deed Book 1A, p. 300
"Lying and being in Logan County and bounded as follows to wit: Beginning at a Stake near Tarripin Creek Running thence dew north 253 poles to a Stake on Barrens Thence South 54 East 150 poles to Corner post oak Thence due South 253 poles to corner post oak Thence North fifty four West 150 poles to its appertenancy. To have and To hold said Tract of land duly asigned and confirmed to Burket Ragar & Ralph Low for Concederation of 125 dollars for the aforesaid Reason Bowie his heirs & assigne"

30. Crossley, Cynthia, Newspaper clipping from Russellville, KY newspaper 1891, "Logan and Simpson Both Lay Claim to Frontiersman Jim Bowie."
31. Ericson, C.R. and Frances Ingmire. "First Settlers of Missouri Territory", distributed by Ericson Books, 1614 Redbud St., Nacogdoches TX 75961, 1983, Vol. I, p. 82.
32. American State Papers, Vol. II, 1809-1815, p. 497.
33. Pintado Papers from "Miscellaneous Records of U.S. Land Office Indian Claims & Reports", Louisiana Collection HD 181, G7596, Louisiana State University Archives, pp. 43 & 44.
34. American State Papers, Vol. 8, 1835-37, Public Lands p. 37 "Final Report of Commissioners", Louisiana State Library, Baton Rouge, LA.
35. American State Papers "Claims in the Western District of Louisiana." 1816 Rapides Parish, p. 247, Claim 1275, Original 80. Part of this land is owned by G.C. Womock.
36. B, no. 559 the Original Deed is lost. Copy from Catahoula Parish Deeds, Bk. B, No. 22, taken from Western District, Orleans Territory Register No. 21, Rapides. Shown as section 27 on Catahoula Parish Maps. Now owned by G.C. Womock.
37. State of Louisiana, East Baton Rouge Parish, Book of Conveyance Records, NE, p. 29, May 24, 1834.
38. "The Register", publication of Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, Baton Rouge, LA, 1979, Vol. XXVI, No. 3, p. 222, copied from "The Times-Signal", Jena, LA, 1 Dec 1979, originally published in "Western Christian Advocate" of 1840.
39. Harper, Robert H. "Louisiana Methodism", Kaufmann Press, Washington, D.C. 1949, p. 49-50. Rev. Young's autobiography by author, 1857.
40. *Ibid.*, p. 52.
41. Bowie, W.W. "Bowie Genealogy", published 1899, Reprint 1971, Polyanthos, Inc., Cottonport, LA. p. 261. Also told in "Tales of Old Louisiana" by Thomas J. Carruth, pp. 16-17. Mr. Bowie places it in Louisiana, could have happened in Tennessee or Missouri as well.
42. Survey at Louisiana State University--Works Progress Administration of Louisiana, Opelousas Land Claims (Attakapas Region) Bk. I, part 2, p. 43, Claim 167.
43. American State Papers, Vol. III, p. 204, No. 376, original 167.
44. *Ibid.*, p. 45.

45. *Ibid.*, p. 46.
46. United States Papers, Public Lands, Vol. 4, p. 146, Claim No. 260, Deposition of James Simmons.
47. Knight, Carol Young, "The First Settlers of Catahoula Parish 1808-1839" Aledo, TX: Knight, 1983, p. 1, No. 3A, Nov. 8, 1808. Indent between James Wallace and Robt. Kirkwood, Signed Reason Bowie, J.P. as witness and No. 6A, 1807 land sale between John Henery and John Hebrand. Wit: Reason Bowie, J.P.
48. DeBows Review, Dr. Kilpatrick, "The Bowies", Vol. I, 1852, pp. 378-411.
49. Census Record for 1810, Attakapas Region (St. Martin Parish). St. Martin was out of Attakapas. East Baton Rouge Parish Library, Microfilm Copy M2-52, Roll 10. 1 Male 10-16; 1M 16-26; 1M 26-45; 1M 45 & up; 1 Female under 10; 1F 10-16; 1F 45 & up; 19 slaves.
50. Catahoula Parish Conveyance Bk. B, p. 17, No. 22.
51. St. Landry Parish Conveyance Record Bk. C, p. 433, March 22, 1817 and Bk. D, p. 2.
52. St. Landry Parish Conveyance Records Bk. D-1, pp. 29-30, Microfilm 001892.
53. Mr. Keith Fontenot, Archivist for St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court office at Opelousas, LA. Mr. Robert Rogers was confirmed with land on Bayou Nezpique in Section 37, Township 7 South, Range 2 West; and also in Section 43, Township 8 South, Range 2 West. Moreover, an Acadia Parish Plat located in Book 1, p. 25, depicts Bayou Rogers, as a western tributary of Bayou Nezpique. The best educated guess is that Boggy Gut was apparently located in sections 37 and 43 of present day Acadia Parish. We have been unable to locate a plat depicting Boggy Gut. . . . Mr. Robert Rogers and Mr. William Darby purchased the above land from Denis and Jacques Lemelle, April 2, 1806 for one hundred dollars. . . . forty by forty arpents on both sides of Bayou Nezpique or a total of three thousand two hundred French acres . . . inherited the estate . . . from their father . . . who received the grant in 1777 from Bernardo De Galvez. Subsequently, William Rogers conveyed his interest to Robert Rogers July 14, 1802.
54. Assessment Rolls, St. Landry Parish 1818, Microfilm #2168.
55. "The Daily World", Opelousas, LA, 33rd year of publication No. 101. Copied at Daughters of Republic of Texas Library at the Alamo, 1983.
56. Correspondence with Mrs. Leo Kearns of Thibodaux, LA, February 17, 1983.
57. St. Landry Parish Conveyance Records Bk. C-1, p. 225, No. 88, W^m B. Jackson to Rezin Bowie, November 15, 1815 and proven in St. Landry Parish District Court Suit No. 550, Margaret Nevill vs. Rezin Bowie.

58. St. Landry Documents. Genealogical Society of Utah P85-4, Reel 16, 16 Dec 1816 - 1 Jul 1819, Retail Bond, Louisiana State Archives.
59. Marriage Records at Opelousas Courthouse, May 15, 1821, No. 20.
60. Refer to Reference No. 2.
61. 1830 Census of Lafourche Parish, Louisiana State Archives.
62. Bowie, W.W., "Bowies & Their Kindred", published 1899, reprinted 1971, Polyanthos Press, Cottonport, LA, p. 261.

Virginia Lobdell Jennings 1914-2010

Obituary for Virginia Lobdell Jennings

Virginia Lobdell Jennings, 96, a resident of Zachary, died at her home in Oakwood Village on **Friday, Jan. 22, 2010**.

She was the author of several books: "The Plains and the People," "By These Stones," "**The Rezin Bowie Family of Louisiana**," "Narrative History of the Settlement at Thompson Creek 1716-1832" and countless published historical and genealogical manuscripts.

There will be a graveside service at **Young Family Cemetery** in the Plains on Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 9 a.m., followed by funeral service at the Plains Presbyterian Church at 10 a.m., conducted by the Rev. R. Woodson Markert. Visitation with the family will follow directly after the services at the church hall.

She is survived by two daughters, Jo Ann Jennings Hackenberg and her husband, Edwin M. Hackenberg, of Jackson and Elizabeth Jennings Mills and her husband, Wilmer Riddle Mills, of Zachary; a sister, Eleanor Lobdell McVea and her husband, Coleman McVea, of Provo, Utah; numerous nieces and nephews; eight grandchildren, E. Scott Hackenberg, Gregory J. Hackenberg, Wilmer H. Mills, John J. Mills, Robert Jennings III, Virginia Lyle Colombo, Virginia Mills Gueltig and Evelyn Kate Irby; and great-grandchildren, Benjamin Mills, Phoebe Agnes Mills, Anastasia Gueltig, John Mark Gueltig, Evelyn Mills, Peyton Mills, Virginia Mills, Emma Jennings, Audrey Paige Colombo, Charles Irby and Andrew Irby.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert B. Jennings; son, Robert B. Jennings Jr.; parents, William A. Lobdell and Virginia Lilley Young Lobdell; sister, Eva Mae Lobdell; and brothers, William Y. Lobdell and Warren Russell Lobdell. Pallbearers will be her grandsons. Honorary pallbearer is Russell Lobdell.

She was a member of the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, The Study Club, The Novel Club, The Colonial Dames of America, The Daughters of the American Revolution, Harness Club, Louisiana Historical Society, The West Florida Rebellion Society, a docent at Magnolia Mound, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Baton Rouge, an LSU graduate and a member of the Delta Gamma sorority.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Young Family Cemetery in care of Melinda White of the Bank of Zachary, or the Plains Presbyterian Church Heritage Room. Thanks to the staff of Oakwood Village and St. Joseph Hospice, especially Mary Davis, Randy Dixon, Christine Williams and Iona Veal.

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See Also findagrave MEMORIAL ID 47270163

Virginia Adelia Lobdell Jennings, 16 Jan 1914 (Louisiana) to 22 Jan 2010 Louisiana

burial: Young Family Cemetery, Zachary, East Baton Parish, Louisiana

with husband LTC Robert Bernard Jennings 1911-1993

links to son Robert Bernard Jennings jr 1938-2008

parents William Abram Lobdell 1882-1947, Virginia L "Jennie" Young Lobdell, 1883-1924

and four siblings

Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society <http://www.louisianaghs.org/>

This Chart is based on the research of Virginia Lobdell Jennings as reported in "The Rezin Bowie Family of Louisiana." Published in 1998 by Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Society
Charted by Arthur F Bowie, Bentonville , Arkansas
Reformat & Extended 15 April 2012

James Bowie 1
d 1796 Washington Cty, Georgia

From NC and in Georga Dec 1, 1764
with wife and 3 children

Married Sarah Whitehead in NC before July 18, 1765
she was from Orange Cty, NC'

Consider descent fromThree Bowie lines in Maryland:
1. John Bowie Sr, Prince George Co, Maryland
James received inheritance in Maryland in 1760.
2.. Abraham Bowie, Hezekiah Bowie, Charles Co, Maryland
3. James Bowie migrated from Scotland to Maryland in 1742,
numerous records in Orange County, North Carolina 1754 to 1764
in Georgia 1764 & 1785 near Gideon & Miriam Bowie Lincecum

1850 Census Henderson Cty, Dist 11, Tenn m/f page 388
Family #74 David Bowie 51 m farmer born NC with
John 22m, Sarah 20f, James 16m, Nancy 13f, Catherine 11f,
and Margaret 9f all born in Tenn

Family #66, Dist 14, page 430
William Bowie 28 m farmer born Tenn, Elizaberh 29f born NC,
Levolats N 2f, and Martha L 1f both born Tenn.

Family #65, Dist 14, page 430
David Bird 62m farmer and Rebecca 40f, both born NC
James Bird 18m, Lafayette Bird 17m, and Empson Bird 1 m, all born Tenn

1840 Census, Hardin Cty Tenn, m/f 0051, ledger page 253 has
John Buie, Sr 70-80 yrs and John Buie, Jr 40-50 yrs.
Ages of John Jr and family match with David Bowie and family in 1850.

1. Reason (Rezin) Bowie 1762-1821
born probably NC 1762
entered Contintental Army Dec 1780, Richmond Co Georgia
M. 3/8/1782 Elvie Apcatesby Jones in Burke Co Georgia
b4/3/1766 Savannah, Georgia d 1838 Shrieveport, La
five children born on Plantation in Burke Cty, Ga
1787/89 moved to Tenn for 6 or 7 years
then to Logan County, Kentucky
1800 to New Madrid District, Msiouri Territory
1802 to Bushley Bayou, Rapides district, La
5/2/1802 oath of allegiance in Rapides district , La
1809 moved to Opelousas Parish, La
John J reports father died in the fall of 1819.
d after Feb 8, 1821 near Opelousas, St Landry Parish, La.

2. Sallie (Sara) Bowie b before 1769
m James Menasco & lived in Augusta, Georgia
had one daughter who died at 6 months old
d 1799 in New Madrid

3. Nancy (Ana?) Bowie b before 1769
may have died young.

4. Alice Bowie b before 1769
may have died young

5. Reece (Rhesa) Bowie b after 1769 bef 1799
died before 1810 not a twin.
5/2/1802 oath of allegiance in Rapides district , La
named in sister Martha"s will Dec 1799
1800 in Cape Giradeau District, single with a sister
see pages 46 -49

6. John Bowie
executor of father"s estate 3&9 /1797
in Washington Cty Georgia &
Jan & May 1800 Adams Cty, Mississippi Territory
& seems to have sold slave twice without possession
July 1799 accused of selling stolen horse in Logan Cty, Ky
5/2/1802 oath of allegiance in Rapides district , La
d 1816 Catahoula Parish, La
Jennings unable to identify which of many John Bowies is which!
one, but not sure which one, married Nancy Scoggins p 42 & 65

7. Mary Bowie 1768
living in 1798

8. Elay Bowie1768
living in 1798, mentioned in Patsy"s will

9. Martha (Patsy) Bowie 1768
living in 1798,
Dec 1799 left will in Logan Cty KY

10. Comfort Bowie, b 1768
m Feb 26, 1799 , Jesse Bowen, Logan Cty Ky
1810 census Catahoula Parish, La
d after Sept 10, 1811, Catahoula Parish, La

1. David Bowie b maybe 1779 Georgia
5/2/1802 oath of allegiance in Rapides district , La
living in 1811, not found later, more p 58 &61
John J doesn"t include in 1819 list of brothers
might also be last of children, not first'

2. Twins Lavinia & Lavissa Bowie
b 1783 Georgia, died as infants'

3. John Jones Bowie b1785 Georgia
married 3 times, 1st is unknown
another John who d 1817 m Nancy Scoggins
2nd m: Mary C Oliphant
3rd m: America Watkins Kirkland 8/31/1831
b 1798 Ky, d May 18, 1891 Issaquena Cty, Miss

4. Sarah Bowie b1787 in Georgia
m 8/16/1814 William Davis, Opelousas, La
died at birth of first child

5. Mary Bowie b1789 in Georgia
m Abraham Bird, Jr 1784-1860
Lived near Baton Rouge, La
d 1842 Baton Rouge, La

6. Margaret Bowie b1791 in Tenn
d before 1806

7. James Rezin Pleasant Bowie
twin b Sept 8, 1793, Elliotts Spring, Tenn
m 9/15/1815 Margaret Neville of Nelson Cty, Ky
dropped name James, d Jan 1, 1841 New Orleans
see pages 46-49

7a. Rhesa Bowie II
twin b Sept 8, 1793, Elliotts Spring, Tenn
legitimated son James Scoggins in 1831 and 1845.
died Catahoula Parish, La. Will opened May 18, 1848
son James Bowie b 1820 m Mary Jane Wood 9/16/1847
see pages 46- 49

8. James Bowie born 1796 Logan Cty, Ky
m 4/25/1831 Ursula de Veramenda, d 9/1833
3/8/1831 power to sell land names brother Rezin P Bowie
9/1831 Rezin"s bill of sale names brothers John J and James
10/31/1833 will signed at Natchex Miss.
d March 6, 1836 at the Alamo

9. Stephen Bowie b 1797 Logan Cty, Ky
m 1819
Mary Ann Elizabeth Compton b 1804 -1831
1830 appointed shefiff in Lafourche Parish, La
died Jan 29, 1833 Adams Cty, Miss

10. Martha Bowie b 1806- d about1869
1m 1821 Edmund Nugent d 1822?
2m 1830 Alexander Boyd Sterrett d 1840

Reese Bowden, in Chicot Cty, Ark 1840
m 2, with several children
Jesse Bowden, in Chicot Cty, Ark 1840
Merrell (Myra) Bowden??
Martha Bowden
m Zeater
Sally Bowden
m Smith
more on page 56

Mary Bowie 1810-1896
m Moses Burrett 8/30/1834
Nancy Bowie1810-1896
m James Theodore Sanford

Sarah Bowie 5/12/1812-3/27/1863
m 1827 John Stuart 1807-1873

Rezin Pleasant Bowie II, 1815-1853
m 1/15/1843 Nancy Lattimore Ferebee

Matilda Bowie 1819-
m 10/30/1834 Theodore C. Hornor 1810-1853

Harriett E. Bowie 1831-
1 m 10/4/1849 Joseph C Hollingsworth 1812-1858
2m? Mr Fuqua
Martha "Mattie" Bowie 1833-1913
m 1853 Dr Zachariah Leatherman 1813-1875
of Issaquena Cty Miss, in Ark during Civil War

John R Bowie 1835-1859

James W Bowie 1838-1864 - KIA Wilson Creek MO

Mary Bird 1819-1879
m Gilbert Daigle
Thompson W Bird
m 1836
Arthemise Esnard of West Baton Rouge
John Abraham Bird 1816-1866
m 6/15/1840 Winifred Pipes

John (Jean) Bowie 1/17/1815-1/1/1816

Matilda Eleanor Bowie 8/13/1816-5/19/1892
m 4/15/1841
Joseph Hickman Moore 1807-1873

Jim Rezin Bowie 10/8/1817 d young
Seyborne Bowie 1818-1821

Elve Anna Bowie 9/11/1819 - 7/22/1873
m 6/1841
John Taylor Moore

Martha Andremella Bowie 2/13/1831-1842

Mary Ann Bowie 1/5/1821-9/1878
m 1/20/1845
Charles Sydor Leckie 1816-1855

James Bowie II 1826
m Elizabeth Kirkland
George Washington Bowie1828-1865'

William A Sterrett 1830-1859
m 1/18/1854 Elizabeth Smith
Rezin B Sterrett 1832-1855

Matilda Sterrett 1836-about 1859
m2/15/1855 Miss
John Lee Gooch b 1828

Mary Emily Sterrett 1839-
1m 1859 Fountain P Austin
2m Mr Ivy'