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# District in Hall once named for Hardage

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For many years in the middle 1800s a large area in the eastern part of Hall County was called "Hardages District." As the custom in that day was to name a district for a prominent family residing in the area, it is presumed that the Hardages were well-known in the pioneer days of the county's history.

John Hardridge is listed in the 1820 U.S. Census of Hall County. His marriage is recorded in "Book A Marriages 1819-1839", Hall County, Cert. No. 7.

John Hardridge — Margaret Kerr. Issued Aug. 20, 1819. Returned and marriage executed by Alexander Crawford, no date given.

John T. Hardage was born in South Carolina about 1795. It is believed that James Hardage of Fairfield County, S.C., whose will was proven April 16, 1795 is the ancestor of the Hardages who came to Hall County. The first wife of John Hardage died and he married Jane Robeson on April 3, 1828, executed by Hugh Kerr J.P., possibly father of first wife.

Three brothers of John Hardage followed him to Hall County. James D. Hardage

became sheriff of the county around 1850. Jesse Daniel Hardage was a member of the Georgia State Legislature and president of the First Hall County School Board for the Education of Children of the Poor, a position he held until his death in 1843. The third brother was George Washington Hardage who became a prominent farmer. George W. and John T. Hardage later moved to Cobb County.

James D. Hardage was born

in South Carolina about 1797 and his marriage to Mary B. Clements, Oct. 24, 1829, is recorded in Hall County. After his term as sheriff of the county he moved with his family to Cobb County and many of his descendants are mentioned in the History of Cobb County.

George Washington Hardage was born in South Carolina about 1806. He came to Hall County as a young man and his marriage to Mary Ann Cook,

daughter of Neverson Cook and Margaret Greer Cook, Sept. 1, 1831, is recorded in Hall County. Many of the descendants of George W. and Mary Ann Hardage are residents today in Fulton, Cobb and DeKalb counties. The family has been written up in the Centennial History of Cobb County.

Washington Hardage owned a prosperous farm of 700 acres at Kennesaw Mountain where he was a leader in the progressive farming practices of his day. During the Civil War, part of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain was fought over this farm. The youngest daughter, Miss Lucinda Hardage, said "that no Yankee could keep her from having a mess of beans for dinner" and she calmly proceeded to gather beans with bullets whizzing past her head. She lived until the 1940s and was pictured in many papers and national magazines at the time of the premiere of Gone with the Wind.

Jesse Daniel Hardage was born in South Carolina about 1800 and migrated to Hall County in the early 1820s. He married the oldest daughter of Neverson and Margaret Greer Cook. The marriage is recorded in Hall County; (Certif. No. 310)

"Jesse D. Hardridge — Mahala Cook. Aug. 15, 1826. Marriage executed by John Eberhart J.T.C."

Jesse Daniel Hardage and Mahala Cook Hardage were parents of the following children:

married and moved to Cobb County, Ga. His children were: Jesse; Frank; James; and William.

(3) James Monroe Hardage, born about 1832. Married Louisa Thompson and moved to Atlanta after the Civil War. He died about 1872 from an illness contracted during the War. The children of James M. and Louisa Hardage all died in infancy and they reared Jesse and Marion Cook Buffington after the death of the boy's parents.

(4) Nancy Hardage, born Jan. 1, 1834. Her marriage to Ezekiel P. Buffington, March 4, 1858, is recorded in Hall County. She and Ezekiel had two sons: Jesse W. and Marion Cook Buffington. Ezekiel P. Buffington, the husband and father, was captured by northern troops at the Battle of Bakers Creek, Miss., in 1863. He was taken to Fort Delaware Prison and died July 8, 1863 from measles and is buried in the sand banks along the nearby New Jersey Coast, now a National Cemetery. Nancy Hardage Buffington died about 1867 from grief and typhoid Fever. The two sons, Jesse and Marion, inherited a farm from their mother and father which

they later sold. Jesse Buffington married Mary Frances Cagle and reared a large family. Marion Cook Buffington married Frances L. Moss.

(5) Mary Hardage, born 1836, married March 3, 1859 Oborn Buffington, brother to Ezekiel P. Buffington. Mary died a year later at the birth of her daughter, Mary. The daughter was reared by aunts, Sarah, Parilee and Orline Buffington. Mary married a first cousin, Benjamin Buffington, and many descendants of this couple live in Hall County today.

(6) Martha Hardage, born 1839, married Noah Martin a Baptist minister. Martha and Noah are both buried in Timber Ridge Baptist Church Cemetery between Lula and Gillsville.

Noah Martin, born April 18, 1840, died March 10, 1885; Martha Hardage Martin, born July 23, 1839, died March 10, 1885.

They were parents of: Tom; Emma; Walter; Jonatha; John Daniel; Jasper Monroe; and Marion. The son, John Daniel Martin, was one of the best known conductors on the Southern Railway. Many descendants of Martha and Noah Martin are present day residents of Hall County.

(1) Margaret Hardage, born Dec. 9, 1827, died Aug. 28, 1910. She married Alfred Bailey C. Goode in 1846 and moved to St. Clair County, Alabama about 1857. Their children were: Jesse Hardage; Robert R.; M. Ophelia; Hetty M.; Nancy Mahinda; Sarah Florida; Thomas J.; Alfred Bailey C., Jr.; John Edward M.; and Dalton D. Goode.

(2) William Neverson (Nebbie) Hardage, born about 1830,

