

**HISTORY
OF THE
JOHN A. McHUGH
FAMILY**
(and connections)

THE McHUGH FAMILY

(This was originally compiled in 1951 by Lena Carmena, then supplemented by her in 1959 with additional data on the McHugh, Shaw and Bridges families. All information is 1959 vintage. It was retyped in January 2000.)

The McHugh family of Zachary, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, descended from Philip and Mary McHugh, and in connection with their origin, excerpts from a letter of Bishop Gerow of Natchez, Mississippi, dated April 1, 1946 are given below:

"Dear Miss Carmena:

In reply to your letter of March 26, I will say the following:

I have gone over, one by one, each of the entries in our record of Baptism of Whites as kept by the priests of the Spanish jurisdiction and I find only two entries of baptism of children of Philip McHugh, as follows:

On page 39 there is a record showing that on May 4, 1795, there was baptized Philip, the son of Philip and Mary, aged one month.

On page 73 there is an entry to the effect that on May 9, 1797, Catherine, (born May 6 of the same year), daughter of Philip McHugh and Mary, both natives of Ireland, was baptized."

As stated in the Bishop's letter, Philip and his wife, Mary, were natives of Ireland. The marriage of Philip and Mary McHugh was obtained as per a copy of letter from Christ Church in Philadelphia, dated October 25, 1962:

"Dear Miss Carmena:- There is only one mention of the name McHugh in the records of Christ Church in Philadelphia, and that is one of the marriage of Philip McHugh and Mary McClenan on November 25, 1780 by Bishop White. It would appear that none of their children were baptized here. You will notice that her name is recorded as Mary McClenan."

McHugh is a Scotch name spelled Mac Hugh, and it is said the McHughs went from Scotland to Ireland to avoid religious persecutions, and other internal disturbances. In a Scottish book listing the clans, etc., the Mac Hughs are shown as a sept¹ of the Mac Donald Clan, the most powerful of all of the Highland

¹ Clan septs were of two classes: Clansmen of the clan who were related by blood and who formed separate branches of the clan; and "broken men", individuals or groups, from other clans who sought and obtained the protection of the clan. This custom resulted in a clan having septs of different surnames.

clans. The Clan Donald takes its name from Donald, grandson of Somerled, King of the Isles. There's a Clan Donald Society in Glasgow, Scotland.

Court records, copies of which are given below, state Philip McHugh as an old resident of Natchez, and due to baptismal records of the children noted above, he evidently lived in that vicinity for several years at least: - (proof of this is shown in references to Philip McHugh found in Natchez records after the compilation of this in 1951.)

*"Senor Don Manuel Gayosa de Lamos -
Brigadier of His Majesty's Army, Governor General, and Vice-Patron
of the provinces of Louisiana and West Florida, and Inspector of the
troops and militia of His Majesty, etc., etc., etc.*

Governor Intendent General -

*Philip McHugh, an old inhabitant of Natchez of Irish
Nationality, professing the Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church,
presented himself before me and said that his family which
consisted of his wife and seven children, desired to continue under
the jurisdiction of his Most Catholic Majesty (by the Grace of God)
and further: -*

*He supplicates your Worship to accede to him a grant of
ground situated in the District of Baton Rouge, that Your Worship
would consider sufficient to cultivate enough to produce the
products of subsistence.*

*To the interested in this instance, you may give, if Your
Excellency see fit, 550 arpents of ground in the place indicated in
the certificate of the surveyor.*

Baton Rouge, April 15, 1799

Carlos, the Grand"

*Hon. Vincente Sebastian Pintado, Surveyor-General of West Florida for His
Majesty*

*This is to certify: On this day, the 22nd of January, 1805, was
surveyed and marked for Philip McHugh, a piece of flat ground of
550 arpents, measured by means of a Parisian perch equal to 18
feet of Parisian measure, being 100 perches of area equal to one
square arpent of area. As usual, gradetic measurements utilized in
this province; the ground being situated in the jurisdiction of Baton
Rouge; in the place called San Juan in the suburb commonly*

known as de Buhler, less than 8 miles from the West bank of the Mississippi to the western edge of this ground, and to the middle of the ground 14 English miles from the fort at Baton Rouge due North, (surrounding this property) is northwest the property of Don Santiago Roual and Don Christobal and Don Miguel de Arms. On the northeast by the heirs of Patricio Solovan, and Edward Sullivan on the East. (The property of Don Christobal and Don Miguel de Arms spoken of above being on the West) and with that of Thomas Breman completes the survey as shown preceding, in which is also shown the description of the ground and dimensions, together with a scale of the Parisian Perch, and the dedication north east at this time. The limits of this property are marked by trees and stone benchmarks.

These surveys were made by a decree dated 19th of October 1804, made by Don Vincente Folch Teran, Colonel of the Army and Governor of this province, as ordered by His Royal Highness. The interested party is ordered to stay on his premises until all arrangements in connection with the title are finished, as was solicited from the Intendent General for the 550 arpents surrounded on three sides by 3150 arpents of ground owned by Don Christobal and Don Miguel de Arms. This survey has to be presented at the proper time to the Intendent of the Province after the property has been surveyed and marked so that Mr. McHugh will not have trouble in taking possession. It should be presented to a competent Tribunal so he can have possession.

Given at the Fort of Baton Rouge the 9th day of January 1809.

Vinceinte Sabastian, Pintado

Photostat copies of these documents, which show a map, are in our possession. The land in question, 550 arpents, remained in the possession of the McHugh family until recent years. It is about a mile from the town of Zachary and now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Bond (Mrs. Bond is a direct descendent of Philip McHugh through her maternal great grandmother, Jane McHugh Neville.)

The above court records show Philip and his wife Mary as having seven children. In the Probate Records, East Baton Rouge Parish Court House, No. 533, Old Series No. 2, filed July 18, 1836, the heirs of Philip McHugh were shown as:

Jeremiah McHugh, Jane (or Jeane) McHugh, Mary McHugh, John A. McHugh, son of John McHugh, deceased, and Catherine McHugh, the widow, McChristy.

This accounts for six children, so one must have died before 1836.

John McHugh, our ancestor, and one of his brothers, married two sisters, by the name of Shaw. (See lines of Philip McHugh and William Shaw attached.)

Nothing is known of Mary, Catherine (the widow McChristy) and the other brother who did not marry a Shaw. Jeane or Jane, as per signed statement from Thomas Lawson, Judge, married James Nevil or Neville, in Rapides Parish, March 17, 1806. One of her daughters, Ellen, married William Shaw, Jr., and the Weis family of Zachary and Clarence Shaw are descendents of this union, as well as the Borskeys of Alvin Texas.

Exact dates of death and burial places of Philip McHugh, his wife and children, (with the exception of John) are still unknown, but it is presumed most of them were buried in what is now known as the Johnson Cemetery near Zachary. This place joins the old McHugh place and originally might have been a part of it.

John McHugh, our ancestor, married Susanna Shaw, and in December, 1814, soon after the birth of their only child, John Anthony McHugh, joined the army under General Jackson (as a militia man) to aid in the defense of New Orleans, and continued in the services of the United States until his death on the 10th of March, 1815. The place in New Orleans of his burial is still unknown, nor do we know the place and date of his birth. See American Papers, Public Lands, page 602, Vol. V covering petition of Susanna McHugh, No. 706. This petition was denied, but it is stated that John McHugh and his family settled and made improvements on a tract of land on White's Bayou in the Parish of East Baton Rouge, State of Louisiana, in the month of March 1813, where they continued to reside until he joined General Jackson. Petition states that shortly after the death of her husband, Susanna and her family left the settlement and went to reside with her parents.

In Vol. VI of the same set of books, page 145, Susanna McHugh, widow of John McHugh, again petitions for a grant of land as a donation. This petition is very similar one give above, except that it states John's death on March 10th, 1815 was caused by a "great exposure and the severe duties he had to perform." A bill, was, therefore, reported for her benefit. Jeremiah McHugh and William Shaw certify to the facts in said petition.

The records in the State land Office show that the representatives of John McHugh got 640 acres (Vol. 6, page 494, Sections 62 and 65, T4S, R1E). The land surveyed out as 618.94 acres. This was in the early 1850's. American Papers on Public Lands will show quite a bit about this land, which was given for the services of John McHugh and his death in the War of 1812.

A homemade table (rather crude and large enough to accommodate four) that belonged to John and Susanna McHugh is still in existence as well as an arithmetic he studied in. It is said that John A. McHugh and Amanda Bridges ate their wedding supper on this table, and a little slave girl told Amanda that Mrs. John made the sweet potato pie that formed a part of their meal.

Susana Shaw, John A. McHugh's wife was born April 12, 1787 and died October 8, 1841. See headstone at her grave in Shaw-McHugh Cemetery near Zachary.

In 1946, by family subscription, \$400 was raised and a monument erected in this cemetery (Shaw-McHugh) to commemorate the services of John McHugh in the Battle of New Orleans and John A. McHugh, III, in World War II, both of whom lost their lives. On this monument, the date of death of John McHugh is not given as it was not known until 1951 when research by Charles Owen Johnson of Monroe (a descendent of Catherine Shaw) discovered it in the American Papers on Public Lands. The record in the War Department on John McHugh is as follows:

WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington 25, D.C.

19 December 1945

AGRO-O 201 McHugh, John

-----"The military record of John McHugh who is said to have participated in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815 is as follows:

The records show that John McHugh, a member of Captain Russ' company in the 10th Louisiana Militia, served in the Federal Military Service during the War of 1812 as a private in Captain Samuel Leaven's Consolidated Company, in the 10th and 20th Louisiana Militia from December 24, 1814 to March 15, 1815. This organization was stationed on the right bank of the Mississippi River near New Orleans. No record has been found of the service of any other man of this name who is shown to have been present at the Battle of New Orleans."

(Signed) EDWARD F. WITSELL,
Major General
Acting the Adjutant General

Below are copies of two letters written by John McHugh to his wife Susanna:

(GRAMMAR & SPELLING ON ALL LETTERS FOLLOWING ARE AS WRITTEN)

Camp Jackson
Six Miles Below Orleans
January 29, 1815

Most Beloved Wife:

I will inform you that I am tolerable well but has been a good part of my time very unwell being exposed to all kinds of weather, but I hope that this scribble will find you and my little boy well and likewise all of our friends. Daniel Wall was taken sick when we first come to Orleans and I heard he was discharged from the hospital

on the 11th of this month and we have not heard from him since and does not know what has become of him if he has not gone now.

The British has retreated and there is no more to be heard of them and expects I shall see you for General Thomas says he will be discharged in a few days. It seems as if Divine Providence had enterposed for our safety for on the 8th of this month the British came rushing on us when 3,500 of them was killed and wounded and on our side there was 6 killed and 7 wounded. It was a shocking sight to see cut and mangled as the British were for the ground was covered with the slain.

When I am so happy as to see you again will tell you the particulars, so I will conclude and subscribe

Your affectionate husband,
(Signed) John McHugh.

Copy of original.

Camp Morgan

February 12, 1815
On the Right Bank of the
Mississippi River, 5 miles
Below Orleans

Dear Partner of My Cares

I can inform you that I am still alive and in tolerable health, thanks be to God for preserving me among such numbers that has died since we have been here and am in hopes that these few lines may find you and all our friends in the same state.

Tommy and myself has been both sick but has recovered. (Sickness is very great here, numbers daily dies. 8 died yesterday and every day more or less.) I can yet hear no account of Daniel nor can I think what has become of him when the doctors register says he was discharged fit for duty from the Hospital on the 11th of January. James Sullivan received a few lines from Jerry with some clothes which is the last I heard from you. Am a little surprised that you did not try to write me when there is such opportunity by the post. By the post every week, but I hope that we will not be many weeks here, but some says we will not be discharged until the 23rd of March and others say in the course of this week. I know not for what we are detained for the British is all gone and no more to be proud of them.

I could wish if you can to stay on the place and try to keep our little things together and patiently wait until I return.

If you write to me send it out to the Plains on the day the post comes down and direct it to me in Captain Sevens Company at the camp above mentioned. We have been transferred to another Company and all the Company consists of 100 men and all the supermmery officers sent home.

I have nothing more to add in particular but that you will patiently wait and sincerely pray to Him that is able to protect us till we return for he is all my hope and confidence.

In the meantime, I am your

Affectionate and Loving Husband,
(Signed) John McHugh

The little boy referred to in John McHugh's letter of January 29, 1815, was John Anthony McHugh, born November 20, 1814, and died April 2, 1874 at the age of 60 years. Not too much is known of John's upbringings, early youth, etc., but it is understood that his mother Susanna Shaw McHugh sent him to Baton Rouge where he stayed at the priests' house and studied under them. He was 27 years of age when his mother died and 36 when he married Amanda Jane Bridges of Greensburg, St. Helena Parish. Copies of letters he wrote Amanda are given below and quite a lot can be learned of John from these letters:

"February 17, 1850 - Dear Miss - Having had the pleasure of your acquaintance, I take the liberty of requesting you to attend to some business for me. Mr. Redmond informed me that some of your relatives, Mr. Day, I believe, wishes to move into this neighborhood. I have bought a place from Mr. Harrison, one mile below Mr. Shaw's. It has a house almost as good as the one I lived in above here; has a good kitchen, corn crib and about twenty acres of land cleared up and the logs ready to roll. Mr. Harrison has moved away to Washitaw (*could he mean Ouachita Parish*) and I bought it from him at less than half the cost of the improvements, together with his preemptive right to the land. It cost me \$155.00 and I would sell it for a reasonable price, or I would rent to anyone this year rent free. If you know anyone that would buy, send him on, or if one wishes to move here send him on. It is time enough yet to make it ready for a crop. This is the best stock range in the State, but the mud and water is a drawback on its advantages.

My health is not better than when you saw me. I am in need of some one to sympathize with me and to treat me with love and kindness. I would be happy to see you. If you can come down, I will make a proposal to you that I am sure you would not refuse to accept. I will not name it until I see you as letters are liable to get miscarried. It would be to your advantage in more ways than one to take it up.

'Your friend,
(Signed) John A. McHugh"

February 24, 1850. Dear Miss: - I wrote to you a week ago requesting your attention to a business matter I wished you to arrange for me. I expect to hear from you soon. That letter closed with a request that you would come down to this neighborhood as I wished to make you a proposal which I thought would be to your advantage. I will now explain it. I stated my health was no better. I have a little property, and as you know have no parents, brothers or sisters. I am anxious to make an arrangement so that if I do not recover, it may fall to someone who has some interest in my welfare. I flatter myself that you once thought of me favorably. I am perfectly satisfied with you from our acquaintance, and if you are willing to become the wife of a man in my present situation, I will make this agreement: - I will enter into a marriage contract with you, by which if you outlive me, you shall have the one-half of whatever property I may leave, and if any children should be the result of this marriage, they would of course, heir my property, but I will so arrange it so that one-half shall be yours in any case. I have still the means of living comfortably, and if you are willing to do this, the sooner it is done the better; and if you agree, come to your uncle's immediately, and I will be prepared to enter into the final arrangements. I make this proposition to you in preference to any one in this neighborhood, because I know that you are affectionate and kind, and would be a wife that would be better to me than any other I know.

If this proposal suits you, come; if not, let me know immediately and I shall make the same proposal to some other one as soon as I hear that you refuse to accept.

When you answer me (but if you agree, no answer is necessary, but come down as soon as you can) just write the news of the neighborhood without saying a word about the contents of this, as your letter might be read by those I would not wish to see it; in short, someone might get it before I do and expose it. I will know by receiving your letter that you refuse, if not, don't write.

I know you will think this a strange manner of making a proposal, but if I see you I will explain it to your satisfaction.

Yours truly,
(Signed) John A. McHugh

To Miss A.J. Bridges

P.S. If you think proper to write me in regard to my first letter, do so, as it was only a business letter and I would not care if others did see it. You might add a line at the bottom, which I only could understand, saying 'Your second letter needs no answer', if the

above suits you, and if it does not say 'this answers your second letter'. Upon reflection, I wish you write and answer in this plain and short manner."

March 31, 1850. "Dear Miss: - I have sent you two letters through the post office quite recently on a matter that I am much interested in, and I am quite certain that one or both have been received. I am anxious to hear your reply and am quite sorry that you have not answered and I hope you will give me an answer immediately. I am very much in hopes the proposition may suit you and that you will do as I requested. It will be to the advantage of both of us. I have not time to write more at the moment. Only the plan I wrote to you about getting me a purchaser is not now for sale or rent this year. Your friends are well and anxious to hear from you as soon as you receive this.

Yours truly,

(Signed) John A. McHugh

To Miss Amanda J. Bridges,
Greensburg, La."

If Amanda answered any of the above letters, they were not preserved, but on April 29, 1850, she and John were married, and a copy of the marriage contract is given below:

"State of Louisiana, Parish of East Baton Rouge: - Be it known that on this the twenty-second day of April in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and fifty, we the undersigned parties have made and entered into the following marriage contract, in the presence of witnesses hereinafter named: - To wit: - John A. McHugh of this Parish of the first part, do make and confirm by these presents a full guaranteed title to the undivided one-half part of all the property, real and personal, rights and credits, that may belong to me at the time of my decease, and the other half to be disposed of according to the provisions of my last will and testament, on record in this parish - unto Amanda J. Bridges of the Parish of St. Helena. Said property to be divided betwixt the said Amanda and the legatee or legatees mentioned in said will, as to them may seem right and proper, and the said Amanda on her part agrees, she being of the lawful age of twenty-one years to become the lawful wife of the said McHugh, renouncing in his favor all rights as wife to the community of acquits and gains, using to each party the right to administer and control - whatever property they may bring into the said marriage and further that if the said Amanda should die without children the issue of said marriage then the property conveyed by the foregoing contract is to remit back to my estate,

and then the legatee or legatees above alluded to. This document is made authentic in the manner provided by law for acts under private signature, given under our hands in the presence of William Alexander and John T. Eccles on the day and year above written.

(Signed) John A. McHugh
Amanda J. Bridges

Witnesses:

William Alexander
John J. Eccles"

On April 29, 1949, 99 years later, Mary Patricia Carmena (great granddaughter of Amanda and John McHugh) and Robert Lee Holt, both of Houston, Texas, were married.

John and Amanda were the parents of six children, as follows:

John J. McHugh, born August 28, 1851, died June 30, 1869, at the age of 18 years.

William S. McHugh, born June 15, 1853, died September 3, 1867, aged 14 years.

James Babin McHugh, born December 19, 1856, died May 3, 1944 aged 88 years.

David Samuel McHugh, born October 8, 1858, died June 12, 1926, aged 68 years.

Thomas Edward McHugh, born December 1, 1861, died November 3, 1947, aged 86 years.

Susanna McHugh, born March 11, 1866, died June 3, 1951, aged 85 years.

Note that William, James, Thomas Edward and Susanna all died on the 3rd day of the month. John and Amanda McHugh and all of their children, with the exception of Thomas Edward, are buried in the Shaw-McHugh Cemetery near Zachary. Thomas Edward and his wife are buried in the Roselawn Cemetery in Baton Rouge.

James and David McHugh married two sisters, Sarah and Rachel Shaffett. James and his wife Rachel were the parents of 17 children. David and Sarah had 12. Thomas Edward married Nettie Brown and they had 2 children. Susanna married Simeon Carmena and their children numbered 7.

Another insight into the character of John A. McHugh is given below in copy of letter to his brother-in-law, Guy Bridges, concerning in part, the leaving home of his son John.

"Baton Rouge, La. March 14, 1869. Friend Guy:-I have not been at the Post Office for about two weeks and did not get your letter of 21st of February until a few days ago. Glad to learn that you are well, and in good business. I hope William may find relief from the

doctor he intends trying in the City. This leaves us all well. Grand pap (Joseph Bridges, the father of his wife) is still alive and well, but very deaf of late; he can hear very little now.

We have had an usually rainy winter, and the spring is backward. No corn planted in this neighborhood that I know of.

There is prospect of a railroad from Ponchatoula to Baton Rouge, and from there up to Vicksburg, passing near on the line of the Plank Road, but I don't know when it will be finished or even commenced.

I reckon you were somewhat surprised to see Johnny come as he did; his leaving home surprised every one and many would not believe it. I hope he may do well, but I doubt very much if it don't take him sometime to get hold of as much means as he started with for I was informed that he soon got clear of all he took in New Orleans. I hope the information was not correct, and as a good horse and saddle and as much money as he took with him is not picked up without a good deal of scratching, even at my business. He does not write to me to explain matters, nor what he left for. It is very true I can get along without him, but when he left I was laid up with a sore leg and could not get through the woods to see after my hogs, etc., etc., but I made out, perhaps better than he has by leaving us. Many boys would gladly have swapped chances with him here; but if he can do better all right.

I have no hands this year, only Mose-him and his wife will work about 14 acres. I give them half they can make; they find themselves, and I find team and tools and feed for team. I may tend about five acres in corn on my own hook, and maybe not, as my stock will take up all my time, as the little boys are at school now, and I don't wish to stop them. Bob Monteguedo has offered his services to help me drive cattle, and he is a No. 1 hand. With him and Bill Shaffett, I will make out to get along.

Jimmy has given all the news in his letter to Johnny.

Write soon.

Your friend'
(Signed) John A. McHugh"

A check on the succession of John A. McHugh will reveal his possessions at the time of his death, but all of the land, which surrounded his home place, remains in possession of his descendents. The old homestead is owned by the heirs of David S. McHugh.

John was known during his lifetime as "Squire McHugh" and he was a justice of the peace and notary public. A copy of one of his acts of marriage is given below:

servant, and was known for his good works as a man and citizen. He leaves a large family and circle of friends to mourn and regret his loss.

His remains were conveyed to his residence at the Plains, and from thence were conveyed to the family burial ground, where the body was interred, surrounded by a large concourse of sorrowing relatives and sympathizing friends. Being a member of Plains Lodge, F. & A. M. the deceased was buried with Masonic honors. April 2, 1874"

"Hall of the Plains Lodge, #135, F. & A. M.,
East Baton Rouge Parish, April 8, 1874

Whereas an alarm has been given at the outer door of our temple by an All Wise Providence, and in His Wisdom, summoned from his earthly labors, Brother John A. McHugh to 'the narrow house appointed for all living.'

Resolved, that in the death of our well beloved Brother, this lodge has lost one of its most useful members, society a worthy citizen, but the loss to his distressed wife and bereaved family is incalculable.

Resolved that his faithful adherence to the principles of Masonry (under the surroundings of his church and friends - Catholic) challenges the admiration of the fraternity.

Resolved, that we, members of the Plains Lodge No. 135 deeply sympathize with his bereaved family and commend them to 'Him, who tempers the wind to the shorn land.'

Resolved, that in token of respect for his memory and sorrow for his death, the lodge be draped in mourning and the members wear the usual badge for thirty (30) days.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions (with seal attached) be transmitted to the family of the deceased, also a copy be furnished the Baton Rouge Advocate for publication.

Fraternally submitted,
A. G. Carter
R. T. Young
A. Z. Young, Committee

(Seal) The foregoing resolutions are a true and correct copy of that passed by Plains Lodge No. 135, F. & A. M. on the 8th day of this month.

E. L. Woodside,
Secretary"

AMANDA JANE BRIDGES, wife of John A. McHugh, was born June 5, 1826, and died January 8, 1905 at the age of 79 years. Amanda was the daughter of

Joseph Bridges and Nancy Redmond of Greensburg, St. Helena Parish. In her young girlhood Amanda Bridges attended the Greensburg Female Academy, and while there made a sampler dated 1842, which is still in existence, along with her spinning wheel, parasol, four post bed, sideboard, safe, bureau and bedside table. Amanda grew up in a protestant community, but sometime after her marriage to John McHugh she forsook the Baptist religion and became a convert to Catholicism. After the death of her husband in 1874, she lived on at the old homestead until her death. After the marriages of her children, her sister, Lucy Jane Hunt, who was also a widow, lived with her for many years.

Other letters preserved and left by Amanda are copied here, as they sort of typify times a hundred years ago.

Letter from Catherine Neville (Granddaughter of Philip McHugh) to Amanda J. Bridges.

"Whites Bayou, May 29, 1849. Dear Friend: - It seems like you have entirely forgotten and forsaken us. I have wrote to you since you left here, and my cousin, Mary McHugh has wrote to you and never answered our letter. I would think very hard of you if I believed you received our letters, but I do not believe you did, else you would have wrote us. You must answer this letter as soon as you receive it. Myself and all the rest of your friends in this neighborhood are all in good health at present and I hope this letter may find you and all your friends there enjoying this greatest of God's blessings. I have no news to write that is worth relating; there has been but one wedding since you left here. That was Miss May Sullivan and Mr. Oswald from the Bayou Grostate. You know I told you when you left here that I would write to you and let you know what Samuel Shaffett's excuse was for not coming to go to the sugarhouse with us. He says they were out of meat and had been for several days and he was obliged to kill some hogs that day, as it was Saturday. He says he was very sorry he could not go with us. Will you take that for an excuse, Amanda? I think it is a pretty good one. He says you must come next fall and he will be sure to go with you then. I believe I must close this letter as I have nothing more at present that is worth your attention. Squire McHugh has still got the hippo as bad ever. All your friends here join with me in sending their best respects to you and all want to see you again. You must come and see us as soon as you can. I could go and see you if I had it in my power. Give my respects to your father and mother, and receive for yourself the best wishes and warmest prayers of your affectionate friend,

Catherine Neville,

Added:

I need not wish thee beauty; I need not wish thee grace,

Already both are blushing in thy gentle form and face.
I will not wish thee grandeur,
I will not wish thee wealth,
But only a contented heart, peace, competence and health.
Fond friends to love thee dearly,
And honest friends to advise thee,
And faithful friends to cling to thee,
Whatever may betide.

Catherine Neville"

Letter from Mary McHugh (Daughter of Jeremiah McHugh and Anastasia Shaw) to Amanda J. Bridges.

"Plains, April 5, 1849. Dear Amanda: - From some unknown cause, I have delayed writing to you for so long a time that I have become almost ashamed to write - but I am in hopes you will excuse me when I assure you that it has not been from any want of respect or that I have not the greatest desire to for a continuation of your friendship.

I have no news of importance with which to engage your attention. The best, and indeed pretty much all that I have, is that your friends and acquaintances in this part of the country are all well. There has been no deaths or marriages among them, and to write news of strangers, of course, you would not consider interesting. I should like for you to visit us again as your interesting company is always to me, a source of happiness. Please let me hear from you immediately on receipt of this, as cruel fate has separated us so far that I can seldom have the happiness of your company. You must, at least, let me have the satisfaction of frequently receiving one of your interesting letters. The family all send their respects.

With the hope that this may soon reach its destination and find you enjoying the blessings of health and prosperity,

Your sincere friend,

(Signed) Mary McHugh"

Another letter from Catherine Neville to Amanda J. Bridges.

"White's Bayou, August 13, 1849. Dear Friend: - Your letter was received in due time and I was glad to hear of the good health of yourself and friends. I am happy to inform you that I am well and the neighborhood generally healthy. Some few are sick but not many.

You said in your letter to Mary McHugh that you were sorry I

did not like your letter to me last fall. I can't imagine what made you think it displeased me, for I assure you it did not as there was nothing in it that could displease anybody. The remarks you made in it about bringing me a beau after saying there was no one there worthy of yourself, I suppose must be the part you thought I disliked, but when the person you meant for my beau was a near relative of yours, of course even that remark could not offend. -----

I am not able to give you any news of importance. Nobody has been married that you know, excepting Miss Mary Sullivan to a Mr. Oswald sometime in January last. There is no prospect of any others taking place soon among the people you know.

I am much obliged to you for the invitation to attend the association meeting. I should like very much to be there, but I do not expect to meet with an opportunity of going. I will make known your invitation to your acquaintances, and it may be that some of the young men may go, but I am not anything like certain that any of them will go.

A great revival has taken place in the Presbyterian Church in the Plains; about all the young ladies have joined, and a great many of the young men. It would be almost impossible now to find enough out of the church to make up a ball, where it was so easily done two years ago.

The men in an around the Plains have organized themselves into a division of the "Sons of Temperance" and a great many have taken the pledge to drink no more; among the rest of your old friends, James Sullivan. I hope that they may all hold fast to their promise and that much good will come from it.

The season has been a very rainy one, and the cotton crops are very much injured, the corn is good and the sugar cane is good. You must try and make it convenient to come down during the sugar-making season (if not sooner) and pay them another visit.

Mr. Devall is now a candidate for the Legislature, but he is a Whig and this is a Democratic Parish, I suppose he will not succeed.

Your old friend, the Squire, is still in very bad health, not any better than when you saw him, but rather worse. He authorized me to give you his best wishes and says he would be glad to see you. (*The 'Squire' is John A. McHugh.*)

I have nothing more, but remain your friend,

(Signed) Catherine Neville"

Letter from Nancy Bridges to her daughter, Amanda Bridges McHugh.

"La. St. Helena Parish, October 8, 1851. Dear Daughter: - I arrived at home on the 6th of October and found my family all well.

Your uncle William Day died about the middle of September. Higgaion and Druscilla have moved to your Aunt Eliza's to live. There has been a great deal of sickness and not many deaths in this neighborhood.

You have requested me to let you know what for a crop we have made. I think we have made a plenty to live on; cotton, 3 bales, potato crop and rice are tolerable. Mr. Bridges swept my mare away for a ronehorse, a natural pacer. Your Pappy and Thomas can't come till sometime in December. Our crop is all to gather and it will be out of the question for them to come any sooner.

We have got you a couple of bells made. We don't know how your Aunt Eliza's property will be managed yet. There is a racket about the property.

I want you to write me as soon as you receive these lines how your health is as I am very uneasy to hear from you. Lucy Jane has outgrown most all of the clothes you made her. I want you to write me word if Mr. McHugh is teaching of school, and whether we can send Thomas down there to school. When you all get able to travel you must come and see us. I think that would be a good thing as you can do. I want you to write me what you call the baby's name, and how much he has grown. I have no more at present.

(Signed) Nancy Bridges"

Letter from Nancy Bridges to her son-in-law, Mr. John A. McHugh.

Tangipahoa, St. Helena Parish, La.

June 27, 1854.

"Mr. McHugh, Dear Sir: - Yours of June 11th come safely to hand a few days ago. I returned to my home in safety and found all doing as well as might have been expected. We are all as well at present as we might expect. My own health is not so good as by far as it might be. I am thankful that it is as good as it is-it is still improving slowly, and has been since I began the use of the mutton suet, rhubarb and loaf sugar, etc.

We had an unfortunate occurrence not so far from here a few days ago. Bird Wall shot William Wall, the preacher, with a rifle gun - killed him dead upon the spot. The cause of the difficulty between them, I think we have not fully ascertained - Some saying some things about it and some another. Some report William to have been at fault and others report Bird to be entirely at fault. Perhaps we may ascertain the truth of the matter more fully and I will tell you. One thing is certain, William Wall is dead and buried and Bird has absconded; and some of William's friends have gone after him.

Eliza is getting rather restive. She wishes to make Henry Day quit off - he won't do it, he says. It appears that she wants to get the whole generation into 'hot water'; I don't know what else she can mean, for she says she is going to write you for to be a witness against Mr. Bridges concerning what you heard him say, but I want you to have nothing to do with it let her comply with her bargain, and likely all will be right.

A man got killed at Osyka a few days ago by the cars running over him. He lived a short while after the occurrence and called for a pint of brandy. A short while before the breath left the poor fellow, they say he hollered loudly from pain so supposed.

D. B. Roberts and family are well. Your books have not come. When they come I will let you know. Your bibles that I brought with me are three of them sold; one to Barrett Travis, one to Mr. Bridges; the other to Elizabeth Bridges.

The health of our neighborhood is good in general. I have nothing else of importance to communicate. I remain as ever,

Your affectionate mother,

(Signed) Nancy Bridges

P.S. Elizabeth Tate and Immanuel Cutrer got married a few days ago. They went up to Osyka to have the nuptials celebrated and did not return, I believe, so her mother went after her to get her to come home, but she would not. Old Joe says write oftener. N.B."

Little is known of the background of Joseph Bridges and his wife Nancy Redmond. The 1850 census shows Joseph Bridges as being born in Georgia and his wife Nancy Redmond in Virginia. Her father was John Redmond. The 1840 census showed Jos. Bridges, Thomas Bridges, and J. T. Bridges but gave no further data concerning them. Thomas and J. T. Bridges were possibly the brothers of Jos. Bridges. It has been said that Jos. Bridges came to Louisiana from Kentucky the same time the Griffiths of Port Hudson did.

In the court records of St. Helena Parish the succession papers of Nancy Redmond Bridges show that Joseph Bridges, sometimes during his marriage to her, received a bounty and warrant for 40 acres of land from the United States Government in consideration of his having served in the armies of the United States Government before said marriage. These 40 acres were a subject of a dispute in settling the estate of Nancy Redmond Bridges in 1857. On January 9, 1952, the War Department (Department of the Army, Office of the Adjutant General) in Washington, D.C. advised as follows:

"The records show that one Joseph Bridges served during the War of 1812 as a private. Captain Dudley Williams' Company of Mounted Riflemen, Kentucky Volunteers. His service commenced 14 October 1812 and ended 5 November 1812."

(Signed) Wm. E. Bergin,
Major General, USA,
The Adjutant General

The known children of Joseph and Nancy Bridges were Amanda Jane, Lucy Jane, William, Guy and Thomas. The Hunts, Leon and Louis, of Baton Rouge and the Kirkwoods of Zachary are descendents of Lucy Jane Bridges Hunt. Some of the Guy Bridges descendents live around Alexandria, and those of William Bridges are the W. H. Bridges family of Greensburg, and the J. F. Bridges family of Baton Rouge. It is our understanding that Thomas Bridges was either killed in the Civil War or died soon there after.

A newspaper clipping dated January 30, 1857 notes as follows the death of Mrs. Nancy Bridges:

"DIED - At her residence in this parish on Friday the 30th inst. After an illness of many months Mrs. Nancy Bridges in the 53 year of her age. Mrs. Bridges had been a resident of this parish for the last 25 years, and was personally known to almost every family in it. Though moving in a humble sphere of life, her mission here was literally one of mercy; and many a dying pillow, has she smoothed while whispering words of comfort and peace to the departing sufferer. But she is gone! Gone rejoicing in the Christian's hope of a blessed immortality beyond the grave. May she rest in peace."

After the death of Nancy Bridges, whom we suppose is buried somewhere around Greensburg, Joseph Bridges came to live with his daughter, Amanda Bridges McHugh, until his death many years later. It is said he lived to be 104 years old. He is buried in an unmarked grave in a little known cemetery on the west side of Zachary. In this cemetery, his daughter, Lucy Jane Bridges Hunt, is buried, also his grandson, Thomas L. Hunt, and the first wife of his son Guy Bridges.

With further reference to Joseph Bridges, The Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, Kentucky, wrote on January 18, 1952, in part as follows:

"----- I am sorry to write that I can add little to the Department of the Army report on this War of 1812 soldier. He is listed in our Adjutant General's Roster essentially as reported by the War Department.

One Joseph Bridges, Mason County, Ky., was a Lieutenant in the 15th Regiment, Kentucky Militia, 1815. (Manuscript record, Commissioned Officers, Kentucky Militia. Ky. Hist. Soc.) ----

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Further information on Joseph Bridges and his wife Nancy Redmond was obtained from the Bible of David Kirkwood of Zachary, La., and a Bridges

descendent. The bible owned by him was the property of Susie J. Hunt, daughter of Lucy Jane Bridges and Washington Hunt.

This information gives the birth of Joseph Bridges as December 25, 1775, and that of his wife Nancy Redmond as April 1805. The death of Joseph Bridges occurred on June 8, 1874, and that of Nancy Bridges as Jan. 30, 1857 also as previously noted.

The marriage records in the Court House at Greensburg, St. Helena Parish, show that Joseph Bridges and Nancy Redmond were married on August 24, 1823.

Confederate Veterans Records in the East Baton Rouge Parish Library show that Thomas Bridges, (son of Jos. Bridges and Nancy Redmond) died in December 1864.

The 1850 Census of Louisiana shows Joseph Bridges as being born in Georgia, and his wife Nancy Redmond born in Virginia.

References to Philip McHugh and William Shaw as taken from public records, including their lines.

PHILIP McHUGH LINE

The Natchez Court Records 1767-1805, May Wilson McBee, Vol. II.

Page 195, Inventory of effects of the late deceased John Fowler, taken February 10, 1795. Signed: John Tear, Philip McHugh

Page 157, To His Excellency, the Gov. Pro Tem. Daniel Fowler of this government represents that by the loss of his brother, he is become sole heir, etc., ---- just a minor ---- prays that Gerard Brandon be made his guardian. November 22, 1797. Deceased were John Fowler, father, and Patrick Fowler, brother. Inventory on oath of Philip McHugh, valued by Major John Williams and William O'Connor, ---- St. Catherine's District.

Spanish West Florida Records.

Vol. VIII, page 337. Philip McHugh and Charles Weekly witness the deed of Nehemiah Powers to John Kennard.

Vol. XVIII, page 325, Cristoval de Armas, Captain of the Provincial Militia, a merchant of this Port, sells to Pierre Allain 3, 150 arpents of land, bounded by the land of Gilbert Andrew, Thomas Calvit, Cornelius Shaw, Thomas Urquhart, Adam Boyd, David Bradford, Nicholas Courtois, Hacques Raoul, Philip McHugh, Patrick Sullivan and John Skinner.

Vol. XVI, page 152, Philip McHugh was a witness to the partition of the property of Patrick Sullivan.

Vol. XVI, page 153, Philip McHugh administered the Succession of John Savage, a bachelor residing in the District of Natchez.

Vol. XVI, page 154, In a letter to Don Carlos Duhault de Lassus, who succeeded Don Carlos de Grand Pre as Governor, Thomas Lilley, a syndic of

Springfield, writes in connection with the John Savage Estate, "I have known Mr. McHugh for some years and am confident that he will do the strictest justice to any charge that may be committed to him." 1809

Records East Baton Rouge Parish Court House.

In a conveyance Record, John A. McHugh is mentioned as the son of John McHugh, Sr. and Susannah McHugh. Notary Book 0, page 24, filed August 1840.

The following are listed as heirs of Philip McHugh; - Jeremiah McHugh, Jane McHugh, Mary McHugh, John A. McHugh, son of John McHugh, deceased, and Catherine McHugh, the Widow McChristy. Probate Records, Number 533, Old Series, No. 2, filed July 18, 1836.

Philip McHugh, Sr., sells to Jeremiah McHugh, Mary McHugh, and Catherine McChristy, a piece of land. Witnesses to the deed are William Shaw, Sr., and William Shaw, Jr. Judges Book 0, page 176, filed September 30, ????

American State Papers

Philip McHugh Original claimant of land settled by him in 1801, the land being west of the Pearl River. Volume 3, page 47.

Court and Land Records pertaining to the **William Shaw Family**, obtained mostly by Charles Owen Johnson, a descendent of William Shaw through his daughter, Catherine Shaw.

Records from East Baton Rouge Parish Court House.

Mary A. Shaw, wife of William Shaw, died in 1837. Probate Records Number 580, Old Series No. 2.

Catherine Shaw or Caty Shaw donates land to Juliana McGill, whose husband is John McGill, Judges Book I, page 251, filed June 27, 1821.

William Shaw, Jr., was undertutor to Mary Ann And Rachel Landfair, Sheriff's Book C, page 26, oath taken November 26, 1837.

William Shaw, Jr., the maternal uncle of Mary Ann And Rachel Landfair, was their undertutor, Probate Records, Number 597, Old Series No. 2.

Catherine Shaw, wife of William Landfair, died in October of 1833 and her succession is opened in the Parish of East Baton Rouge. William Landfair is named tutor to the two minor daughters, Mary Ann Landfair and Rachel Landfair. William Shaw, Jr., their maternal uncle is named undertutor. A family meeting is held which lists John McHugh, Philip McHugh and Jeremiah McHugh as relatives. Probate Records No. 597, Old Series No. 2.

William Shaw, Jr., given land by his father, William Shaw, Sr., in return for his promise to support his father and mother, William and Mary A. Shaw.

Judges Book, page 137, filed in June 1836.

William Shaw, Sr., sells land to his son, William Shaw, Jr., this land having been granted to William Shaw, Sr., by the Spanish Government. This document names Mary Anney Shaw as the wife of William Shaw, Sr. The act also recites that William Shaw, Jr., has attained the age of majority between the dates of signing of this act, October 28, 1823 and November 20, 1824. (This would show that William Jr. was born in 1802 or 1803.)

William Shaw, Sr., sells land to his daughter, Mrs. Susanna McHugh, a widow, Judges Book L, page 311, filed December 10, 1823.

William Shaw, Sr., sells land to Mrs. Susanna McHugh, Judges Book 1, page 421, filed June 11, 1831.

William Shaw, Jr., and his wife, Ellen Neville Shaw, sell to John A. McHugh, land originally granted to William Shaw, Sr., by the Spanish Government, Conveyance Book C, page 267, February 15, 1850.

The following persons sell land that they inherited from William Shaw, Sr.: James C. Jackson and his wife Mary Northam, Mary Shaffett of East Feliciana Parish; Daniel Shaffett and his wife Mary Houston; Catherine Shaffett, wife of John Brashears and William Shaffett. Conveyance Book C, page 463.

American State Papers, Public Lands.

William Shaw granted 320 acres of land on Cole's Creek, west of Pearl River, Vol. 2, page 215.

William Shaw granted 600 acres of land in St. Helena Parish in 1804, by the Spanish Government, Vol. 3, page 38.

Note by Lena Carmena. I am inclined to believe that the listing in St. Helena Parish was really intended to be in the Greensburg Land District, St. Helena Parish, and offer the following as proof thereof; from the book of Spanish Land Titles in the State Land Office, State Capitol, Baton Rouge, La.

"I, Don Carlos Trudeau, Royal and Particular Surveyor, of the Province of Louisiana, etc., certify that there was measured and bounded in favor and in the presence of William Shaw with the assistance of witnesses and the neighboring colonists, a tract of 600 arpents, plain measured by the perch of the City of Paris of 18 royal feet of the said City and 100 perches plain to the arpent according to the Agrarian custom in the Province which tract of land situated in the District of Baton Rouge of 8 miles to the east of River Mississippi and 12 miles to the N.N.E. of the fort is bounded on the south by land of the widow O'Connor; on the west by that of Cornelius Shaw and John Savage; and on the other sides by lands Royal of the domain of His Majesty - the boundaries are parallel and forming right angles running N and S and E and W by the needle without noticing its variations, this being 8 degrees and 30 minutes to the N E in which boundaries there were designated for the trees and land marks represented on the plan which serve for land-marks natural

and artificial and the survey was made in virtue of the decree of the then Governor General Don Manuel Gayosa de Lamos to him directed, dated the 7th day of November, 1798, and that all the aforesaid may appear I give the present with the figurative plan which preceded forward in conformity with the returns of the survey of the 17th and 18th of May of the last year. The minutes were signed: Mr. Ricardo Deval, Syndic; Cornelius Shaw, John Savage, Christofal Bolling, and Du Vincente Pintado, Surveyor, all of which I accredited.

July 1, 1800 Carlos Trudeau, Eg. In Book B. Fol. 145, under No. 1427 of the Dispatcho of survey.

Carlos Trudeau."

Cert, No. 4, Claim 171, Section 39, T 5, R 1 E.

In pursuance of the Act of Congress passed 3rd March, 1819, entitled "An Act for Adjusting the Claims to Land, to Establish Land Offices in the District East of the Island of New Orleans", we certify that Claim No. 171 in the report of the Commissioners marked 'A Claim by William Shaw, Original Claimant; William Shaw is recognized by the said Act as valid against any claims on the part of the United States or right derived from the United States. The said claim being for 600 arpents, situated in the Parish of East Baton Rouge and claimed under a Spanish Patent dated (This date was not given)

Given under our hands this 23rd day of November, 1819
Signed Charles S. Cosby, Reg., and Fulwar Skipwith.

Recv.

Attested by A. Nerault, Clerk

Howard's British Development of West Florida, 1763-1769

William Shaw and Henry Stuart granted lots 18 and 17 in Pensacola, Florida, Feb. 7, 1765, page 57.

Governor George Johnstone thinks William Shaw a fit person to be a member of his majesty's Council. Page 107.

Natchez Court Records - 1767-1805, May Wilson McBee, Vol. 2, page 398.

p. 398, p. 525, Claim 514, Miss. Terr., Jefferson Co., 18 Feb. 1804. Esther Hackler, agent and attorney for Jacob Jrokel to William Shaw 475 acres on the north fork of Cole's Creek, actually settled and cultivated by J. Jrokel, Sr., in 1797, being the tract that William Shaw now lives on, for \$50.00. Wit. John Dennis and Conrad Young.

The above data from the Natchez Court Records given by Mrs. Bertha Neff of Covington, La. Who says "there are several other references to

William Shaw other than the above. Also several of other Shaws. It would appear that a trip to the Court House in Natchez would be worthwhile."

Excerpt of letter from C. Owen Johnson to Lena Carmena. 5/10/57

"You will be interested to know our ancestor, William Shaw, was a founding father of the State of Louisiana. He signed the following letter, which you may read in the printed version in Mr. Carter's Territorial Papers of the United States, Vol. 9, Orleans Territory, and pages 970-972.

Inhabitants of the County of Feliciana, to John Bollinger, 1811.

To Col. John Bollinger:

Sir: The undersigned inhabitants of the County of Feliciana in the territory of Orleans in behalf of themselves and of a respectable number of people inhabiting the different parishes on the said county, authorize you as our agent to represent to the General Government of the United States in such manner as you may find eligible and convenient, our situation and wants, our attachment to the Government of our Country, and the grievances which we wish and hope may be redressed consistently with the honor and interest, as well as the policy of that Government - We depend such on your judgment, both as to the subjects and manner of this representation; and will only request that we may neither be exhibited as refractory or turbulent or so object as to be insensible of our rights as American citizens --

The admission of the territory of Orleans into the Union with the limits and boundaries under the late Act of Congress; Great political consideration may have required the division of Louisiana, but the faith of government stands too seriously pledged to admit of subdivisions without our consent; The subjecting the land claims of the honest cultivators of the soil who settled here since the year 1803 to the same laws which have been provided for that part of Louisiana since that year and saving many of our citizens who made large advances of money, property and personal service to effect our emancipation from foreign oppression, without hope or remuneration.

Relying on your prudence and perseverance on the discharge of this trust, we are your fellow citizens.

Signed, William Shaw and other listed citizens of Feliciana."

From Spanish West Florida Records

Vol. 5, page 183, Thomas Martin, "born in Kingdom of Ireland, the son of Hugh and Mary Martin" willed a small amount of property to William Shaw, dated January 20, 1802.

Vol. 25, page 158, William Shaw and his wife Mary Anney Shaw, make a

deposition stating they have known John Savage, deceased, for 18 years; that he was a native of the County of Dowry Province of Ulster, Ireland. Later in the same document it is stated that Philip McHugh administered the estate.... This is dated 1809.

Other Miscellaneous References in Spanish West Florida Records

Vol. 17, Pedro Hernandez sued Catherine Shaw for rent. She filed a counter claim stating her husband, Andrew Shaw built the house for which he was never paid. She won the suit. This was in 1810.

Vol. 19, page 711, Cornelius Shaw has land bordering that of Philip McHugh.

Vol. 8, page 337, Charles Weakley and Philip McHugh acted as witnesses to a sale of land.

A George Weakley is mentioned a few times in the records (Spanish West Florida).

Miscellaneous

In the State Land Office, Baton Rouge, there are records of Catherine Shaw, Cornelius Shaw 400 acres, and a Darius Shaw, but these have not as yet been run down. These Shaws must be relatives of William Shaw.

It has been handed down in the family that the Shaws, McHughs, and Sullivans came down the Mississippi River in a flat boat from Pennsylvania. At night, they would draw up along the river banks where wild geese could have been killed, had they not feared the Indians would hear the gun shots.

Mrs. Laura Weis Whitehead (a descendent of William Shaw, Jr.) says her recollection is that the old Shaw home was near where the cemetery is and that as children, they found broken bits of flowered china that had been plowed up when farming the ground.

LINE OF

William Shaw and **Mary Anney Weakley** married November 3, 1781. Their children so far as known:

Mary Shaw, born January 15, 1784, married John Shaffett,

Catherine Shaw, born _____, died October 1833, married William Landfair,

Susanna Shaw, born April 12, 1787, died October 8, 1841, married John McHugh,

Anastasia Shaw, born in 1793 in Mississippi, married Jeremiah McHugh,

William Shaw, Jr., born in 1803, married Ellen Neville Hubbs, widow of Hubbs.

The date of the marriage of William Shaw, and the date of the birth of Mary Shaw were taken from a prayer book that was in the possession of Mrs. Elizabeth Anastasia Shaw Weis. The date of birth and death of Susanna Shaw were taken from her headstone in the Shaw-McHugh Cemetery. The other dates were furnished by Owen Johnson, descendent of Catherine Shaw, which he obtained from court and census records.

LINE OF

Mary Shaw, daughter of William Shaw and Mary Anney Weakley, as per census records:

Mary Shaw married John Shaffett, and they had the following children:

Catherine Shaffett, born in 1817 or 1818, married John Brashears ¹

William Shaffett, born in 1825, married Mary J. Godden,

Daniel Shaffett, born in 1809, married Mary Houston,

Mary Shaffett, born in 1823 or 1824, married James C. Jackson

Further descendents of Mary Shaw and John Shaffett, must be quite numerous and those interested in bringing the line up to date, may consult census records which are probably on file in Baton Rouge Libraries.

LINE OF

Catherine Shaw, daughter of William Shaw and Mary Anney Weakley.

Catherine Shaw was born _____, died October 1833, married William Landfair, and left according to court records Mary Ann and Rachel Landfair. Their father, William Landfair was named tutor, and their uncle, Wm. Shaw, Jr., named undertutor. As complete a line as possible may be

¹ Catherine Shaffett and John Brashears had the following children:

Phillip Brashears, born in 1833 or 1835, married Joanna (?)

Susan Brashears, born in 1841 or 1843, married Thos. L. Norwood ²

Robert Brashears, born in 1844 or 1845, married Estelle Babin

Green Brashears, born in 1846 or 1848, married Victoria Babin,

²Susan Brashears and Thos. L. Norwood had the following children:

William Norwood, born in 1864, married Mary Frances Devall

Catherine Norwood, born in 1868, married J. E. Carpenter

Milton Norwood, born in 1870,

Robert Norwood, born in 1873,

John Norwood, born in 1878, married Mary Selser,

Susan Norwood, born in 1878,

Chapel C. Norwood, born in 1859.

obtained from C. Owen Johnson, whose home address is 504 Forsythe Ave., Monroe, La.¹

LINE OF

Susanna Shaw, daughter of William Shaw and Mary Anney Weakley. Susanna Shaw married John McHugh who served in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815 and died there on March 10, 1815. They had one son, John A. McHugh.

LINE OF

John A. McHugh, son of John McHugh and Susanna Shaw. John A. McHugh was born in 1814 and died in 1874. On April 29, 1850, he married Amanda J. Bridges of Greensburg, La., and they had the following children:

- John J. McHugh, born August 28, 1851, died June 30, 1869,
- William S. McHugh, born June 15, 1853, died September 3, 1867,
- James Babin McHugh, born December 19, 1856, died May 3, 1944, married Rachel Shaffett,
- David Samuel McHugh, born October 8, 1858, died June 12, 1926, married Sarah Elizabeth Shaffett. James and David McHugh and Rachel and Sarah Shaffett were married January 28, 1877.
- Thomas Edward McHugh, born December 1, 1861, died November 3, 1847, married Nettie Brown on December 15, 1889,
- Susanna McHugh, born March 11, 1866, died June 3, 1951, married Simeon Carmena on January 31, 1883.

LINE OF

Anastasia Shaw, Daughter of William Shaw and Mary Anney Weakley. Anastasia Shaw was born in Mississippi in 1793, and married Jeremiah McHugh. According to census and court records, they had the following children:

- Phillip McHugh, born in 1814, married Kesia Ann Sullivan. Records do not show any children.
- Mary McHugh, born in 1821, no record of her death, but letter by her to Amanda J. Bridges dated April 5, 1849, is on file in McHugh family records. No record of her marriage.
- Ann McHugh, born in 1822, no other record,
- Jeremiah McHugh, born in 1822, no other record,
- Elizabeth McHugh, born in 1827, no other record except photo as young woman, and funeral notice with year omitted,
- Joseph McHugh, born in 1829, died September 4, 1903, unmarried,

¹ Mr. Johnson might no longer be at this address as of 1/2000.

David McHugh, born in 1832, died October 2, 1897, unmarried,
Thomas Jefferson McHugh, born in 1837, died in 1908, unmarried.¹

LINE OF

William Shaw, Jr., son of William Shaw and Mary Anney Weakley, was born in 1803, and married Ellen Neville, widow of Hubbs, and the daughter of Jane McHugh and Thomas Neville. They had the following children:

Mary Jane Shaw, born January 11, 1846, died young,
Susan Ellen Shaw, born February 9, 1848, died young,
Laura Ann Shaw, born January 19, 1850, married Jacob Borskey,
Ellen Catherine Shaw, born June 18, 1853, died young,
Elizabeth Anastasia Shaw born December 24, 1856, married Jos. C. Weis,
William Daniel Shaw, born July 9, 1858, married first to Mary E. Brashears, and second to Mary McHugh,
John Joseph Shaw, born April 21, 1861, died young,
James Beauregard Shaw, born January 10, 1864, died young.

LINE OF

Laura Ann Shaw, daughter of William Shaw, Jr., and Ellen Neville.

Laura Ann Shaw, born July 19, 1850, died November 24, 1926. On January 21, 1869, she married Jacob Borskey and their children are as follows:

Hannah E. Borskey, born November 24, 1869, died May 6, 1931. She married a man named Philbrick.
Rosalee Lilly Borskey, born July 24, 1879, married Wm. Cummins,
Nora Alberta Borskey, born January 29, 1881, died July 28, 1955, married a Mr. Purcell,
Bertha May Borskey, born September 12, 1886, died December 1956, married a Mr. L. A. Weyant.
Benjamin A. Borskey, born September 29, 1887, married Mildred Marie Stanton who died March 3, 1956.

¹ With further reference to this family of Jeremiah McHugh and Anastasia Shaw, Philip was (so far as we know) the only one to marry. All of this family are said to be buried in the old cemetery (on Johnson Place) and all are unmarried with the exception of Dave's and Jeff's. As they were Confederate soldiers, their graves are marked with headstones from the United States Government for Civil War Soldiers. It was through the efforts of Thomas Edward McHugh that the Civil War markers were obtained and placed on the graves of David and Jeff McHugh. For their military records, see books on the Confederacy found in most libraries. Joseph, Dave and Jeff all lived to a good old age and were members of the Plains Masonic Lodge. They lived on the Philip McHugh place until their deaths, and it was always designated "The Big McHugh Place" as each member of this family was extra tall and extra stout. It is said that one of the sisters, Betsy, was so big, that she had to have a buggy especially made and pulled by a strong mule to convey her places.

James W. Borskey, born April 4, 1889, died August 1, 1955.
Effie Lula Borskey, born May 22, 1891, married a Mr. Peebles.

(This information furnished by Mr. Ben A. Borskey of Alvin, Texas.)

LINE OF

Elizabeth Anastasia Shaw, daughter of William Shaw, Jr., and Ellen Neville.

Elizabeth Anastasia Shaw married Jos. C. Weis and they had the following children:

Laura Emily Weis, born January 11, 1880, married James A. Whitehead,

Henry Walter Weis, born November 13, 1881, married Ettie Roberts,

Mary Lou Ellen Weis, born March 24, 1884, married Carney Whitehead,

Edna Alma Weis, born April 24, 1886, married first to Joseph Jay Roberts, second to J. B. Batson,

Lillian Marguerite Weis, born January 15, 1888, married to Fred Odom Graves,

Joseph David Weis, born February 9, 1890, married Lillie Alna Loudon,

Alice Elizabeth Weis, born February 7, 1892, married Charles C. Annison,

Effie Agnes Weis, born January 11, 1895, died December 5, 1900,

Clarence James Weis, born January 30, 1898, died August 17, 1901.

LINE OF

William Daniel Shaw, son of William Shaw, Jr., and Ellen Neville.

William Daniel Shaw, born July 9, 1858, was first married to Mary E. Brashears and second to Mary McHugh. One son was born to this second marriage named Clarence W. Shaw on June 20, 1909, unmarried.

LINE OF

Philip McHugh and his wife Mary, which according to Catholic Church records in Jackson, Miss., (transferred from Natchez) were natives of Ireland. No records as yet on their births and deaths. Their children were seven according to his supplication for a grant of land situated in the District of Baton Rouge. Six of those children have been accounted for, as follows:

Jeremiah McHugh, married to Anastasia Shaw,
Jane McHugh, born in 1790 as per 1850 census, married James
Neville March 17, 1806, ¹
John McHugh, married to Susanna Shaw, died March 10, 1815,
Catherine McHugh, born in Mississippi, May 6, 1797, married a Mr.
McChristy, and they had one child named John,²
Mary McHugh, ³

NOTE: ALL OF THE PRECEEDING WAS COPIED FROM THE ORIGINAL PREPARED BY MISS LENA CARMENA IN THE 1950's. ONLY OBVIOUS TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS WERE CORRECTED. TEXT NOW IS AS SHE TYPED IT. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE FOR AUTHENTICITY OTHER THAN THE COUNTLESS HOURS OF RESEARCH SHE PUT INTO IT THEN.

J. N. CARMENA, 1/15/2000

¹ This Jane McHugh is the mother of Ellen Neville (Hubbs), who married William Shaw, Jr. The 1850 census shows at William Shaw, Jr.' home, a Catherine Neville was born in 1820. Letters are on file from her to Amanda Bridges in May and August of 1849, which are very interesting and well written. This 1850 census also shows at William Shaw's home, Jane Neville, his mother-in-law, and Emily and Edward Hubbs who were the children of Ellen Neville by her first husband, Mr. Hubbs. A Lovey Hubbs was also listed but can get no record of her. A William Alexander was also there.

² The births of these two children, or rather their baptisms, were given in letter from Bishop Gerow, of Natchez, Miss. On April 1, 1946.

³ No record of Mary McHugh other than she is listed in Probate Court Record, No. 533, Old Series, as an heir of Philip McHugh on July 18, 1836. The other heirs listed were Jeremiah McHugh, Jane McHugh, Mary McHugh, John A. McHugh, son of John McHugh, and Catherine McHugh, the widow McChristy.