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# The Goodwin Gazette

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News of the extended Goodwin Family

V1 #1

March 1998

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## WELCOME FAMILY

Hello;

If you are reading this, it means that you are either related to Solomon Goodwin or in some way have expressed an interest in the activities of the Goodwin House Foundation.

We at the Goodwin History Foundation are very pleased to welcome all Goodwin descendants and other interested persons to our endeavor. While we are concentrating on the Solomon Goodwin line, we wish to incorporate all members of the extended family.

The only sibling of Solomon (1765-1849) that we are sure of is brother Theophilus T. (1764-1837) of Mud Creek, Jefferson County, Alabama.

Solomon's parents remain a mystery. Family lore has mentioned two possible fathers, Franklin and Thomas. Ron Goodwin of Florida, who has done extensive research on various Theophilus Goodwins believes the father to be a Theophilus Goodwin Sr. Hence the need to search through all Goodwin lines in hopes of finding an accurate answer. If you have any ideas, information or proof, please contact us.

Help us cut costs. If you want to continue receiving this missive and have a fax or email address, please send it to us and we can save on postage and printing.

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## THE GOODWIN HOUSE FOUNDATION FORMED

In 1995 there was concern as to the future of the old Solomon/Harris Goodwin Home in Brookhaven in DeKalb County. Harris's GGGrandson Albert Martin wanted to do something to assure that an accurate history of the family and home was researched and documented. It was also hoped that the old house, built circa 1832, and the family cemetery could be preserved.

He drew up the necessary documents and created a Georgia not-for-profit corporation with the objective of saving the home, cemetery and history.

Late in 1996, Dr. Elisabeth Martin Darlow, Albert's aunt, and owner of the home and the surrounding property, transferred the ownership to Albert's three daughters, Lynda Martin, Elaine Leppa and Monique Whorton. They became the seventh generation to own what is left of the original Goodwin homestead. Their goal is to preserve it for the next seven generations.

For more information on how you may help the Foundation attain its goals, please contact us.

## HELP

Historian/Genecologist Al needs any documentation that will help find who were Solomon's parents and siblings. Also anything about the families experiences in the war between 1860 and 1870.

## THE DEKALB CO GEORGIA GOODWIN HOMESTEAD HISTORY

1821 - Thomas Riggins of Sweargents District, Laurens Co SC drew land lot 239 18<sup>th</sup> Dist in the 4<sup>th</sup> land grant for Henry County, GA.

10 Jan 1826 - State of Georgia deeded property to Mr Riggins.

@1829 - William B. Malone purchased LL 239.

25 Feb 1831 - John Dobbs bought lot for \$600.

@1834 - Harris Goodwin and his bride Emily moved on to the land, possibly living in a log cabin earlier built by Mr. Dobbs. They proceeded to enlarge the home and add a second story.

10 Jan 1937 - Solomon, Sr. sold his lands in Laurens SC and moved in with son Harris.

18 Sep 1838 - Solomon, Sr. purchased LL239 and others from Mr. Dobbs for \$1200.

@1840 - The East wing was added to the house to accommodate a growing family.

16 Jul 1842 - Solomon, Sr. sold the East half of LL 239 to Harris for \$275.

@ Sep 1864 - the house was occupied by Federal troops.

8 Apr 1865 Harris sells 200 foot right of way behind house to Georgia Air Line Railway.

1876 - Micajah & Lydia Goodwin Hall start the Goodwin Family cemetery with the burial of infant son.

21 Oct 1890 - Harris sells land to J. A. Scott and Isaac Liebman for \$5800, but retains occupancy.

7 Feb 1893 - Isaac Liebman sells homestead area (5 acres) to Lydia Hall for \$250.

29 Jun 1898 - Lydia Hall sell homestead to C. T. Ladson of Atlanta for \$600.

Aug 1906 - Alfred Martin, husband of Oma Childress, Harris's granddaughter, buys the homestead back from Ladson for \$1200 in the name of the Goodwin Home Club.

1928-1937 - Alfred Martin repurchased all shares of the homestead from the Goodwin Home Club members for a total of \$9000.

1937-1959 - Various members of the Martin family live on the homestead.

3 Sep 1959 - A. J. Martin dies and the property is divided and sold.

1961 - Elisabeth Martin, A. J.'s daughter has the house moved about 500 feet to homestead property she retained which included the family cemetery.

1962-1996 - House and property used for a variety of commercial purposes, including an Antique shop, Health Center and Architect's office.

1996 - Property, House and cemetery deeded to Elisabeth Martin Darlow's nieces, Lynda Martin, Elaine Leppla and Monique Whorton.

## FAMILY REUNIONS

We will list any related family reunions in future issues. Send us your announcements.

**GOODWIN:** Descendants of John & Nellie Crosslow Goodwin, Sat/Sun 16/17 May 1998 - Fitzgerald GA Contact Roy or Frances Peacock PO Box 2, Lindale, GA 30147 (706) 234-8985

**GOODWIN:** Descendants of Solomon & Bessie Goodwin, in the early fall, details in the next news letter. On the grounds of the Goodwin graveyard at the old homestead.

## "THEOPHILUS"

After many years of research, Ron Goodwin has produced a historical novel about the Theophilus Goodwin family. It is complete with indices listing all known Goodwin descendants and details of how Ron made some of the assumptions in his book.

While a work of fiction about his predecessors, Ron has presented a very readable and informative history of how our forefathers lived in the early days.

We highly recommend this book to all our Goodwin family. \$16.00 plus \$4.00 shipping per book. Order from Ron Goodwin PO Box 543 McIntosh, FL 32664.

### PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

- ▶ **Cemetery Guidebook**, a ten page guide to the Goodwin Family Cemetery by historian Albert Martin. Contains map, inscriptions, relationships and history.  
Suggested donation.....\$5-\$10.
- ▶ **Genealogy Charts and Research**, by special order and priced according to complexity, length and time needed to prepare.
- ▶ **Quarterly Newsletter**, A report of activities, history items, building, repair details and genealogy progress.....\$15/yr donation.

## PROGRESS REPORT

**ARCHIVES AND HISTORY** - The Goodwin Family Archive has been established under auspices of the Foundation. The records, photos and artifacts are currently stored in a concrete bunker with heat and humidity control. Over 400 documents and 50 photos have been put into the data base. Many more are waiting their time. Most originals have been put into archive quality containers and duplicated for use by researchers. Several family artifacts have been acquired and are also under protection. If you have photos, documents or any memorabilia that you would like us to archive, please get in touch with Albert Martin.

Note: our oldest and most prized documents are 1834 letters from brother Theophilus and sons Starling and Harris to Solomon in Laurens County SC.

We use Family Tree Maker by Broderbund for the genealogy records and have more than 3000 names so far and growing. Our special thanks to Elisabeth Martin Darlow, Ray and Ruby Goodwin, Ron Goodwin, Louise Stokes Harris, Myrtice Norris and Pauline Garmany Vaughn just to name a few who have made major document and photo contributions to the archives.

**CEMETERIES** - Albert Martin took over the care of the Solomon/Harris cemetery about two years ago. His first chore was to remove loads of garbage left by itinerant tramps who had been living on the grounds. The tramps themselves also had to be discouraged from using the cemetery as a toilet and hangout. This has finally been accomplished with the help of the DeKalb Police. Tombstones have been cleaned and most straightened. This spring wood chip paths were formed and many bulbs are coming up. These were planted some time in the distant past. A guide has been produced (see publications available). Still to come: Fence repairs, landscaping, finish grave straightening and information markers. Funds needed for all.

The Solomon Jr. graveyard on Chantilly Dr. is in sad shape. It has been used as a dump for the Marcus building landscapers. Needs a fence, major cleanup and accurate mapping (We have a sketch on file).

The Guess cemetery at the end of Edison Way is now accessible through the yard of Elaine Taylor-Klaus. It needs of fence repairs, general cleaning and mapping.

The Reuben M. plot in Hollywood cemetery in South Atlanta is well hidden, overgrown and difficult to access. Needs clearing and mapping.

There are others that we have not located that probably need attention. If you can help with the clean-up or know of other plots, not under perpetual care, let us know.

**GROUNDS** - A hedge of Leland Cyprus has been planted between the MARTA tracks and the house. This will eventually provide a sound and vibration damper from the trains. A garden of bulbs is blooming along the front porch and beside the drive. Tons of wood chips and dirt have been brought in to try to replace some of the damaged soil. Several dead trees were removed. A workshop was built to allow work to continue on the house without disturbing the office users. Drainage lines were laid and the basement is now dry for the first time since the house was moved. Still to do: Major landscaping and repair to the grounds. The area behind the cemetery will become a restful garden and refuge. Driveway and parking areas need to be established. The old well shed needs to be rebuilt and while the well can never be operational, it will look just as it did in the early 1900's. As before, most of this work is dependent on funding.

**HOUSE** - The refurbishing of the interior of the house is nearing completion. All five office spaces are occupied and work is progressing on the main rooms for use for small group gatherings. A new roof has been donated and work will begin soon. This will allow removing of the blue tarp that now covers a portion of the roof. Still to come: The rebuilding of the front porch (funds needed). Upstairs heat and cooling system. Repairing/replacing the outside weather board (funds needed). Thanks to Lynda Martin and her husband, Jim Rule' and many others for the excellent job and many volunteer hours spent..

## WANTED

Your records, documents, letters, photos or any thing else relating to the Goodwin extended family- originals preferred but copies accepted.

Do you have old letters, certificates, news articles, obituaries, or ? that you would like to have preserved for future generations. We offer safe archival storage and protection for these irreplaceable items. Copies are made of all items received for review and research so as to protect the originals.

### Become a Sponsor:

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