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MARY ANA STEGALL RESEARCH REPORT

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**Research Objective:**

Extend the pedigree of Mary Ana Stegall of Lumpkin, Georgia who married Henry Thomas on 3 Oct 1841 in Dahlonega, Lumpkin, GA

**Background Information:**

Little is yet known about Mary Ana Stegall prior to her marriage to Henry Thomas in Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, GA in 1841. Her mother’s name is thought to be Sally. Under normal circumstances I would ask the client to verify information already uncovered such as whether or not Mary Ana’s marriage information came from her marriage certificate or copy of microfilm record of the marriage to see if any additional information on her parents had been or could be gleaned from that document. All of the background information has been reviewed thoroughly and the best course of action for researching further has been carefully chosen based on the available information.

**Research Plan:**

The plan is to uncover additional information from the available records such as the census and then review and find additional information from the records available at the FHL such as court records that will help extend the pedigree. In this case since the client already has the marriage information I will focus on documentation other than the marriage record even though it is on microfilm at the FHL7. Her father’s name will be the top priority and it is determined that reviewing Stegall family names in the 1840 Census found in Lumpkin County, GA is the first place to start the research. This will narrow down the choices of who to research to discover who her parents were. Then I will follow the plan as outlined in this following chart:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Priority** | **Sources to be searched** | **What I hope to obtain from the source** | **Why this step is important** |
| 1 | Census for 1840 Lumpkin, GA | To show what Stegall families were living there at the time and to narrow down possibilities of who her father was. | Establish the possible father of Mary Ana Stegall by reviewing the closest census record to her marriage in 1841. From there we can find other records. |
| 2 | Census for 1850 | To show additional information on her possible father, mother, and siblings. | This is the first census to show names of the entire household. If we can find her parents and siblings it will allow us additional names to research for connecting pieces of the family tree. |
| 3 | History books of the areas found in the research, such as Lumpkin, GA | Mentions of the family and there biographical information, original source material. | Many local histories during this time period included biographical sketches that contain valuable information. |
| 4 | County Vital Records – B,M,D | Original source information. | Information missed by biographies. Details that will lead to other original records. |
| 5 | Court Records | Original source information included in Wills and Probate that will give details of the family. | These will on many occasions provide names of the family that were not otherwise included in Census records. |
| 6 | Cemetery Records | Death information and burial location. | Help establish timelines of births and deaths. |
| 7 | Land Records | Additional locations where the family lived. | Help establish locations of other possible records and relationships to names mentioned. |
| 8 | Military Service and Pension Records | Original record of service and family history contained in the pension record. | Identify additional information that will lead to other records and or confirm dates. |
| 9 | Tax Lists | Other locations where the family members lived. | Identify additional locations where the family lived in between census records. |

**Research Findings:**

On the 1840 Census records for Lumpkin County, GA I was able to only find two Stegall families listed. One for Blackwell Stegall1 born before the turn of the century and the other family listed is that of G W Stegall2, but G W was only in his twenties and not old enough to be Mary Ana’s father, so the focus now will be on Blackwell Stegall born between 1790 -1800.

In the 1850 Census3 we find Blackwell Stegall with his family of four (wife Sarah and two children, Jane and son Tanta V.) living in Cass County, GA (also known as Bartow County after name change in 1862). Blackwell Stegall and his wife Sarah were both born about 1797 in South Carolina. Their children were both born in South Carolina also. Jane is age 16 and son Tanta V. is age 14. Listed below this family is the family of 10 of Hensley Stegall. These preliminary findings were crucial in knowing where to search among the remaining history.

**The Stegall Family Uncovered**

Nothing of great interest was found in reviewing the history books of Lumpkin, GA but while reviewing history books and court record details for Cass County I was able to discover Blackwell Stegall’s will4 dated 8 Aug 1859 and recorded 21 Jun 1861 in Probate Court in Cass County/Bartow and it names his wife Sarah and 10 living children including a married daughter “Mary Thomas”. It also names the eldest son “Ensley” as the executor.

The other siblings to Mary are listed as Ensley (or Hensley), Martha, Margaret Lawhorn, John Stegall, Elizabeth Brooke, Harriett Payne, Jane Congo, Sarah Cox, and Tandy.

This is a key finding showing a match to Mary Stegall Thomas, her parents, and nine siblings, including the married names of five of her sisters. It did not however tell us the maiden name of Sarah, the wife of Blackwell.

I reviewed possible matches for death and burial information for Blackwell on the database FindaGrave but did not find a match for him among those records or for his wife or of any of his children.

A marriage record5 on Ancestry for Blackwell shows him marrying a Sarah “Calagia” and it also matches with their known birth information of being from South Carolina. This would indicate that the maiden name of Sarah was Calagia.

1 United States Census, 1840, index and images, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XHBN-66M : accessed 30 Nov 2012), Blackwell Stegall, Adams, Lumpkin, Georgia; citing p. 257, NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 45.

2 United States Census, 1840, index and images, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XHBN-62B : accessed 30 Nov 2012), G W Stegall, Adams, Lumpkin, Georgia; citing p. 258, NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 45.

3 United States Census, 1850, index and images, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/MZYV-WVZ : accessed 30 Nov 2012), Blackwell Stegall in household of Blackwell Stegall, Cass county, part of, Cass, Georgia, United States; citing dwelling 310, family 310, NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 63.

4 *Cass/Bartow County, Georgia : Abstract of will book A, will book B, 1836-1922*, compiled by Imogene Basham Belew, page 24, showing abstract of will for Blackwell Stegall found on original pages 213-215, FHL Book 975.8365 P29.

5 Yates Publishing, U.S. and, International Marriage Records, 1560-1900 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2004.

6 Cass/Bartow County, Georgia : Will book A, Will book B, 1836-1922, compiled by County Clerk of Cass County Georgia, FHL Film #[283524](https://familysearch.org/films/lookup/product/view/?id=2&film=283524)

## 7 Lumpkin County Georgia Marriages, 1828-1880, 1884-1908, compiled by County Clerk of Lumpkin County Georgia, FHL Film #[281676](https://familysearch.org/films/lookup/product/view/?id=2&film=281676)

## 8 *Notes on the Stegall and Stigall families of southern states*, 1735-1965, by A.C. Trapp, FHL 929.273 A1 no. 1533, p. 21

## 9 *The History of Bartow County (GA), Formerly Cass*, by Lucy Josephine Cunyus, 1933, Tribune Publishing Co., p. 93-94 (accessed on 30 Nov 2012, [www.gagenweb.org](http://www.gagenweb.org))

## 10 *The History of Pickens County (SC)*, by Lucy Josephine Cunyus, 1933, Tribune Publishing Co., p. 93-94 (accessed on 30 Nov 2012, [www.gagenweb.org](http://www.gagenweb.org))

**Summary and Future Research**

This 3 hour research project was very productive in learning more about Mary Ana’s family in Georgia and in discovering not only the names of her parents Blackwell Stegall and Sarah Calagia but several of her siblings including the married names of five of her sisters.

From the research we learned that Blackwell Stegall and Sarah Calagia were both born about 1796 in South Carolina and there will likely be more records to be found for them in SC.

It is likely that the first name of “Sally” for her mother as supplied by the client could be an error, or a nickname, or actually does indicate a previous unknown marriage for Blackwell. This and other theories such as G W Stegall being a relative can be examined more closely in future research, which remains very promising in identifying more family information for Mary.

Suggestions for future research on these families include the following—

1. Search additional records on microfilm found at the FHL including court and land records of Cass/Bartow County, GA for any records of the family of Mary Ana Stegall.

2. Search for other possible Stegall family members living in and around Georgia and South Carolina during the time period of her parents for possible named grandparents.

3. Search the other census records and tax lists for Blackwell Stegall and other possible Stegall family members as well as the Calagia family.

4. Write to the Bartow County, GA County Clerk’s office for any records they may have copies of relating to Blackwell Stegall and to get a copy of his probate.

5. Write to Bartow County Genealogical Society; PO Box 993; Cartersville, GA 30120- 0993; [www.geocities.com/Heartland/Park/9465/bartowcoga.html](http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Park/9465/bartowcoga.html) and see what additional help they may be in locating information on the family.

6. Continue the investigation on who G W Stegall was and his connection to Blackwell.

7. Check for any additional biographical sketches found in history books8 on the Stegall and Calagia family members for additional clues to grandparents of Mary Ana Stegall to help extend her pedigree chart. HeritageQuest.com is a good resource as is Google Books and Archive.org for finding written histories online.

8. Contact the Georgia Archives and use their “Ask an Archivist” service for additional help in finding anything regarding the Stegall and Calagia family. <http://www.sos.ga.gov/archives/InformationForGeneralPublic/ask_an_archivist/default.htm>

9. Conduct a more extensive search, 20 hours minimum is recommended.