

McAllister Interest Group

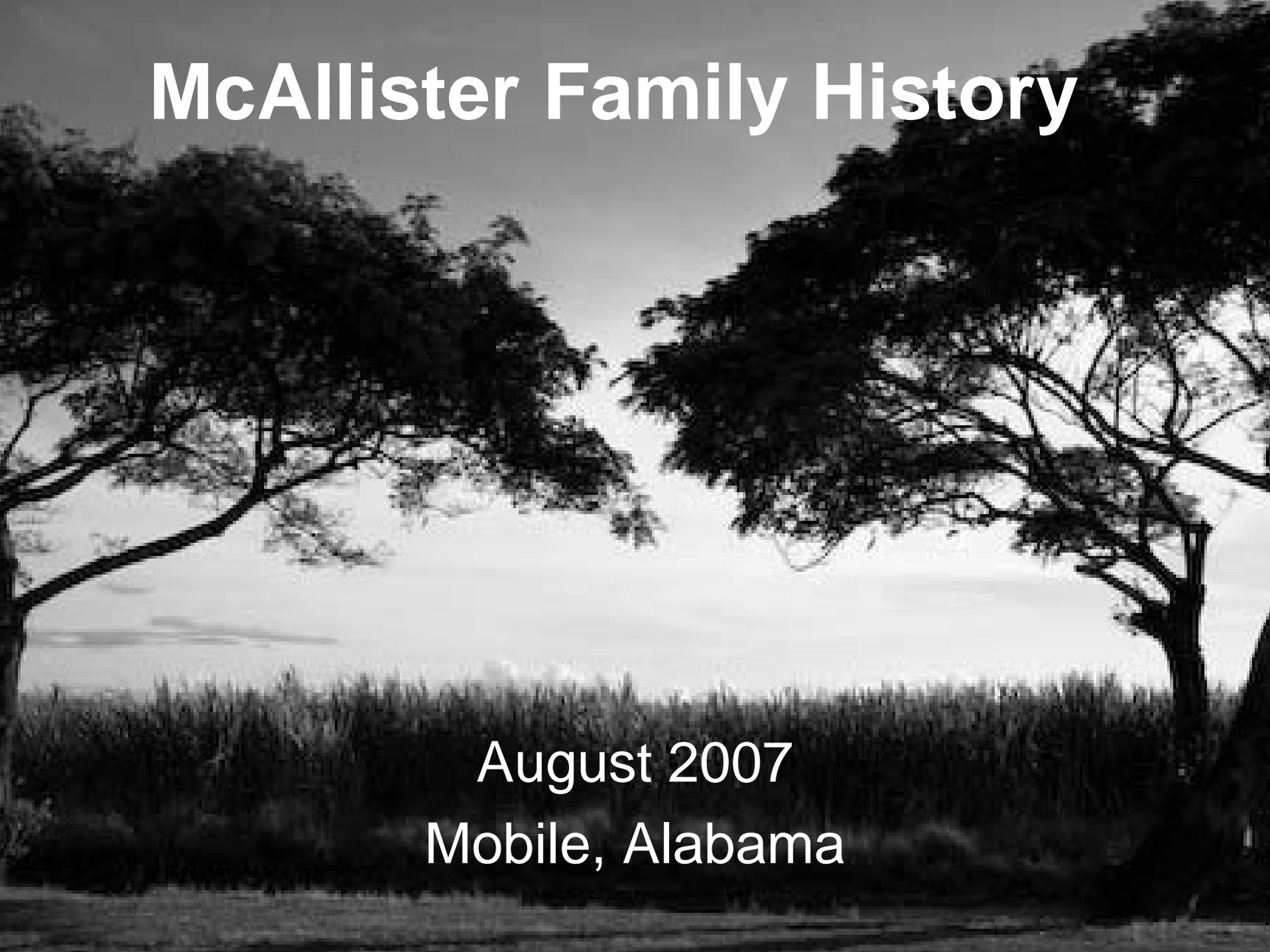
A black and white photograph of a landscape. In the foreground, there are two large, leafy trees on either side, their branches reaching towards the center. Below the trees is a dense field of tall grasses or reeds. In the background, a body of water is visible under a bright, hazy sky. The overall scene is serene and natural.

August 2007
Mobile, Alabama

Agenda

- Opening Prayer
- Langston Hughes Reading
- Family History
- Next Steps
- Events on Sunday

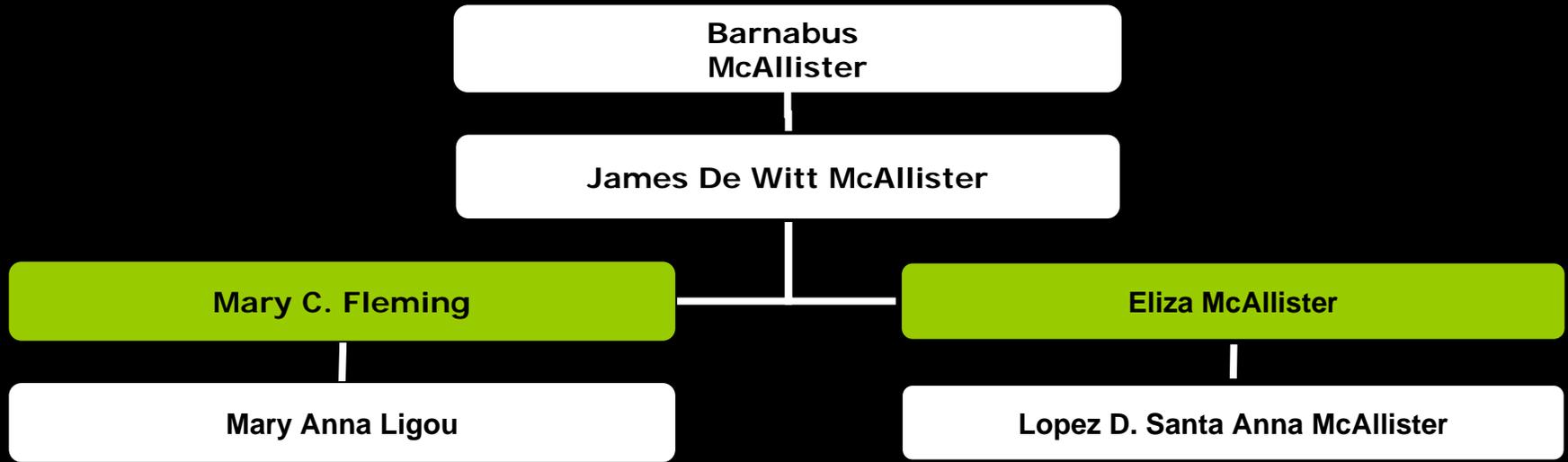
McAllister Family History

A black and white photograph of a landscape. In the foreground, two large, leafy trees are silhouetted against a bright sky. The trees are positioned on either side of the frame, with their branches extending towards the center. In the background, a body of water is visible, with a low, hazy horizon line. The overall scene is serene and natural.

August 2007

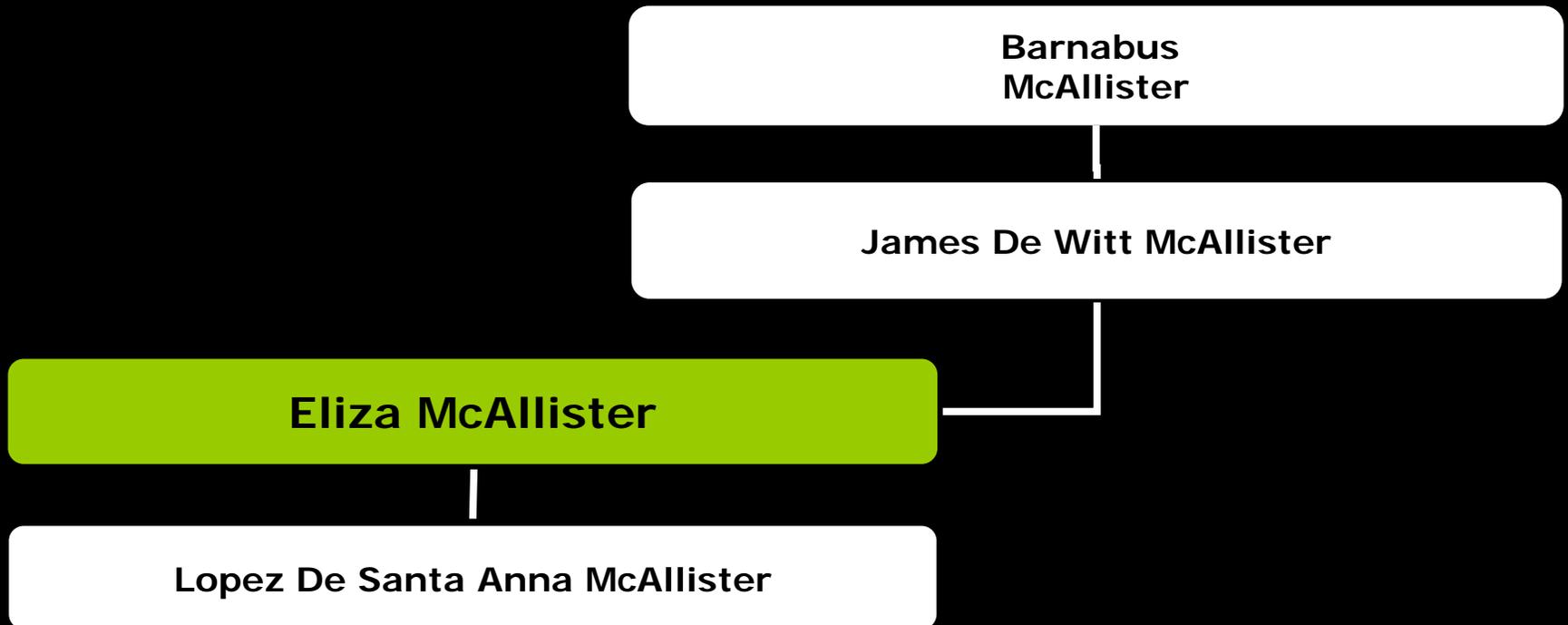
Mobile, Alabama

McAllister Origins



Barnabas McAllister lived in Scotland went to America via Gibraltar. He started a wagon hauling business and worked his way to Aberdeen, Miss where he settled. His wife was from Ireland, born on the journey across the Atlantic to America. He had a total of 14 children. The only records we have are the following: James DeWitt- Born in S.C. November 16, 1802-1891 who married Mary C. Fleming (1809-1870) on July 8, 1836) They adopted a daughter Mary Anna Ligou born 1840 in Alabama Ulysses- Born in S.C. January 20, 1807-August 19, 1880 (married Sarah Frances Fortson (1818-1897) on July 18, 1836) They had two children: John N. (1838-1862) he died in the Civil War and Mary Eugenia (1842-1905). She married Edward J. Higgason and they had four children all born in Monroe, Miss.: George Ulysses, J.McAllister, Edmonia, Burgess Burkett. Barnabas G.- Born in Bedford, Tenn 1816; Hugh Wilson- Born in Bedford, Tenn in 1811- (married Elizabeth A. Holland from Kentucky in1857) They had three children: Sarah Elizabeth, B. R. (male) and Stella Wilson.

Eliza McAllister



Eliza was a slave owned by De Witt. She was light-skinned and from the Islands. She was part Spanish and part Indian. She was brought to Mississippi from Virginia. After giving birth to Lopez at 14 years old, she was sold. She had been the seamstress and cook and had lived in a house in the yard. She was almost white.

Rev. Lopez De Santa Anna McAllister



Rev. Lopez D. Santa Anna McAllister (1849 -1932) Lopez was the son of James De Witt McAllister and Eliza.

Rev. Lopez Desceante Santa Anna McAllister

Rev. Lopez D. Santa Anna McAllister (1849 -1932) Lopez was the son of James D. McAllister and a slave named Eliza. Lopez was raised by the wet nurse in the house of James D. McAllister and treated as his son. He did not know he was part Negro and that he was a slave. Lopez was educated in a school in Aberdeen with white children. He was first made aware that he was part Negro when the war ended and his mother returned and claimed him. He was thus torn between two families. Lopez was sent to school in Maine. He married a black girl when he returned to Mississippi. Her name was Emmaline Thompson, the sister of H. Mark Thompson. The Thompson's had a lot of Indian blood and it showed in their fine features. Lopez meet his wife when he taught her in school. Many Negro's were jealous of Lopez' white connections; from a photograph you cannot tell he was part Negro. Lopez preached in Baptist churches. He taught in the county. He retired some years before his death. He was never a robust man. After the tornado destroyed his house in April 20,1920 in Aberdeen ,he moved into the Ville (Baptistville). Lopez died in the Spring of 1932. At his funeral there were as many whites as there were Negroes. Mary Anna McAllister Jordan (Lopez adopted sister) wept and said, " I've lost my only brother". (this information retrieved from a telephone conversation with Mrs. Orlean Ricco of Pittsburgh, Pa in 1979, daughter of Sarah McAllister and granddaughter of Lopez McAllister)

Children of Lopez & Emmaline



Sarah McAllister

Hattie McAllister

Georgia McAllister

Harvey James McAllister

Clifton Lopez McAllister

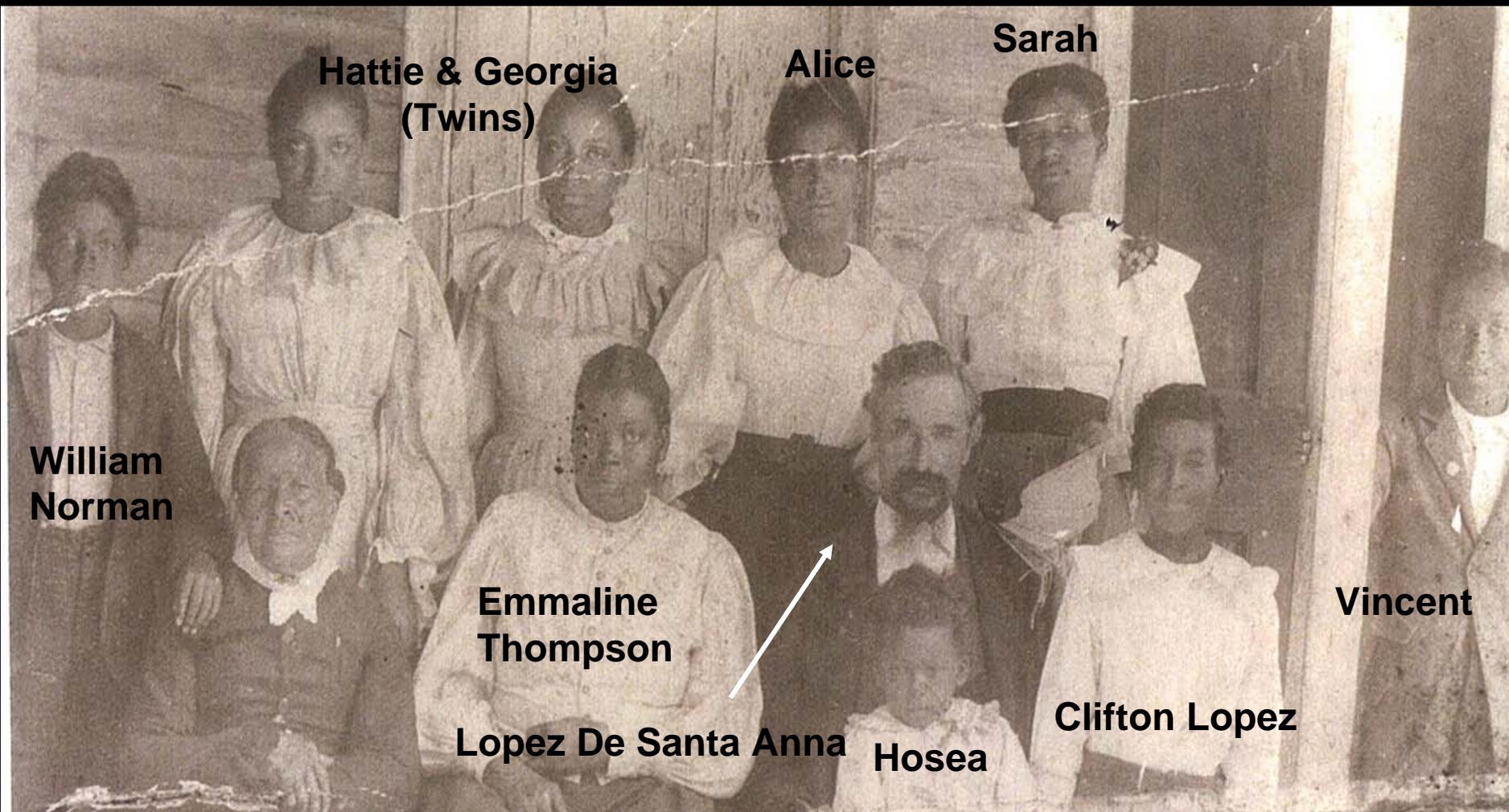
Alice McAllister

Hosea McAllister

Vincent McAllister

William McAllister

Rev. Lopez D. Santa Anna McAllister & Family 1896 Aberdeen, Miss



Harvey James McAllister Not in Picture – Away at School

James DeWitt McAllister

Eliza McAllister

Lopez McAllister

Emmaline Thompson

Sarah McAllister

Alice McAllister

Hattie McAllister

Hosea McAllister

Georgia McAllister

Vincent McAllister

Harvey James McAllister

William McAllister

Clifton Lopez McAllister

Emmaline Thompson



Emmaline Thompson's parents were Henry Thompson (1812) and Harriet Reynolds (1827-1878) who lived near Aberdeen. She was half Choctaw Indian. The Thompson's had 11 children: Harry, Edmund, Emmaline, King McFarland, George S. Well, Margaret, Eliza, Maria, Jefferson, Isaiah, and John Marshall. Emmaline's grandparents were Harry Thompson (1760's-) and Violet (1770-1867) from Richmond, VA and Phillip Reynolds (1775-1867) and Siney (1780-)

William Norman McAllister

1885 - 1966



Attended school in Memphis, Tenn, and was a classmate of Mordecai Johnson. After graduating he began teaching in the schools of Aberdeen, Miss. He visited the Word's Fair in St. Louis (1944) and decided to remain in the city. He began working as a Pullman Porter and Dining Car Waiter until he took the Postal Service Exam for railway clerk. Promoted to clerk in charge in 1920 and he remained in that position until 1951. He remained in St. Louis until his death in 1966. Married in 1922, he was the father of two children, William A. and Elizabeth.

Hosea McAllister

1894 - 1973



Hosea - Youngest child of Lopez and Emma. Born 1894-1973 in Queens, N.Y. (Florence last of 3 wives) Migrated to NY City at an early age and became a sleeping car port and was very active in forming the sleeping car porter's union with A. Philip Randolph. He attended Meharry Medical College for 3 years before returning to New York to become the First Black Motorman. He subsequently taught others operational techniques and thus more blacks were hired. (See museum on Hall of Fame in NYC). He was affectionately known as "Mac" and was very good looking. Some of his close friends were Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and more. Hosea left a legacy as he had 3 wives and 13 children. (Oral History given by his daughter Alice)

Clifton Lopez McAllister



DR. C. LOPEZ McALLISTER,
President,
SELMA UNIVERSITY,
Selma, Alabama.

Clifton Lopez (married Ruth from Rome, GA) lived in Kansas in the 40's. He was a Minister and educator. He was a high school principal in Chattanooga and later became President of a Seminary in Kansas City. He had one daughter, Maude. In his declining years he was a recruiter for the Baptist church. He died around 1955.

Alice McAllister

Alice 1876- oldest daughter (school teacher) married John Williamson who was a very wealthy cotton farmer in Miss. When bad weather destroyed crops, the family subsequently moved to Memphis, Tenn. and had four children:

Juanita V. Williamson (1917-1993) Professor of English at LeMoyne-Owen College and consultant, adviser to many other universities. She was recognized for her outstanding contributions and listed in Two Thousand Notable American Women, Who's Who of American Women, Who's Who in the Word, Who's Who in the South and Southeast and American Women in Business and Education.

Emma Ruth Williamson Johnson- (1910-1996) Born in Shelby, Miss but the family moved to Memphis, Tenn where Emma attended the Memphis City Schools. Short term employment called her to Cleveland, Ohio as a secretary and Washington DC where she was a file clerk during World War II. In 1953, Emma began a twenty nine career as a schoolteacher with the Memphis city Schools.

Harvey M. Williamson (1908-1995) Also born in Shelby, Miss and attended school there and in New Orleans. He came to Cleveland, Ohio in 1924 and was the predecessor to Jessie Owens, as the one hundred yard dash man on the track. In 1962 he was elected a member of Western Reserve's Board of Governors where he served for six years. He was a Life Member of the NAACP. For more than 30 years he was married to the late Katharine P. Williamson, Chief of the Division of Social Administration for the State of Ohio and a well known social worker.

Leonard – No Information available.



John Williamson

Sarah McAllister

1878

Sarah (married John Collins-who was a Pullman porter) had two children, Orleans Rico of Pittsburgh, and John Jr.

Hattie & Georgia McAllister

1880-

Hattie and Georgia were twin sisters. They cared for Lopez in his elder years. Neither had any children. Little additional information is known about Hattie and Georgia.

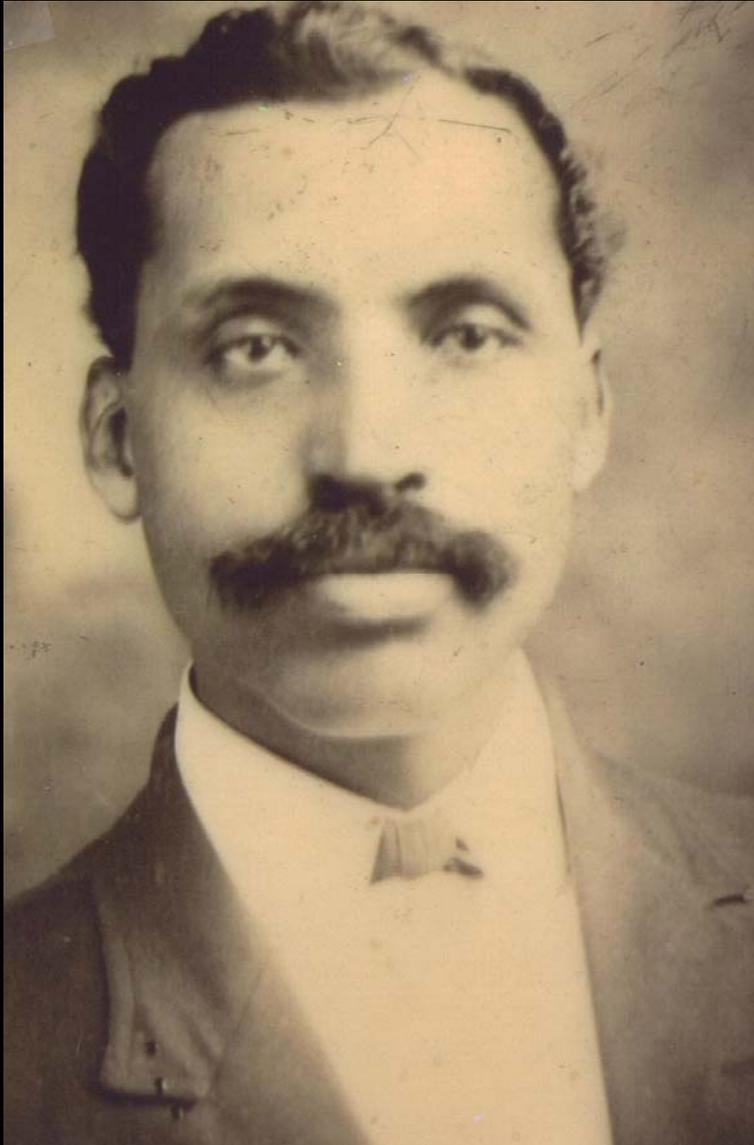
Vincent McAllister

18XX -

Died at age 17 during a tooth extraction.

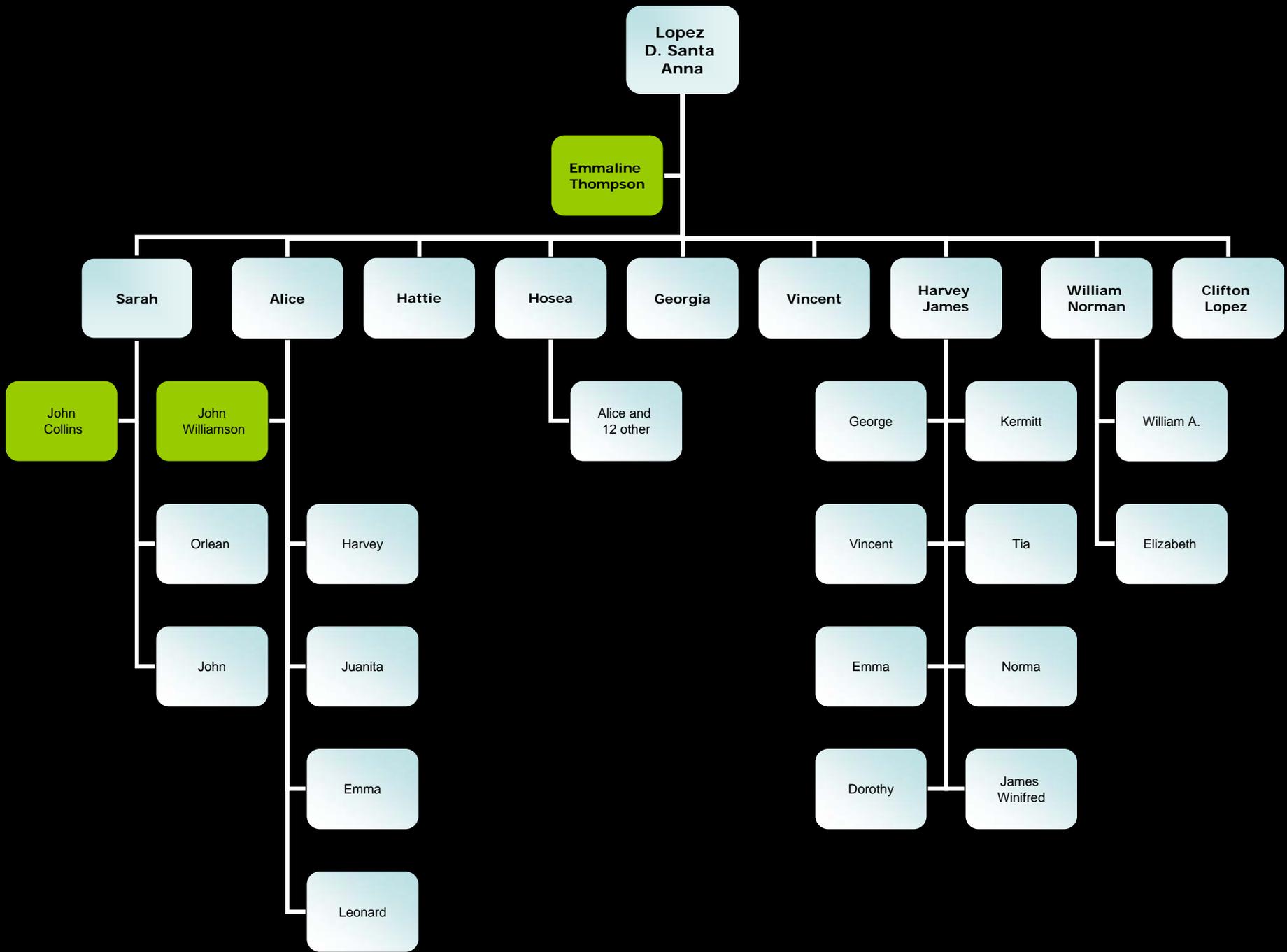
Harvey James McAllister

1874 - 1954

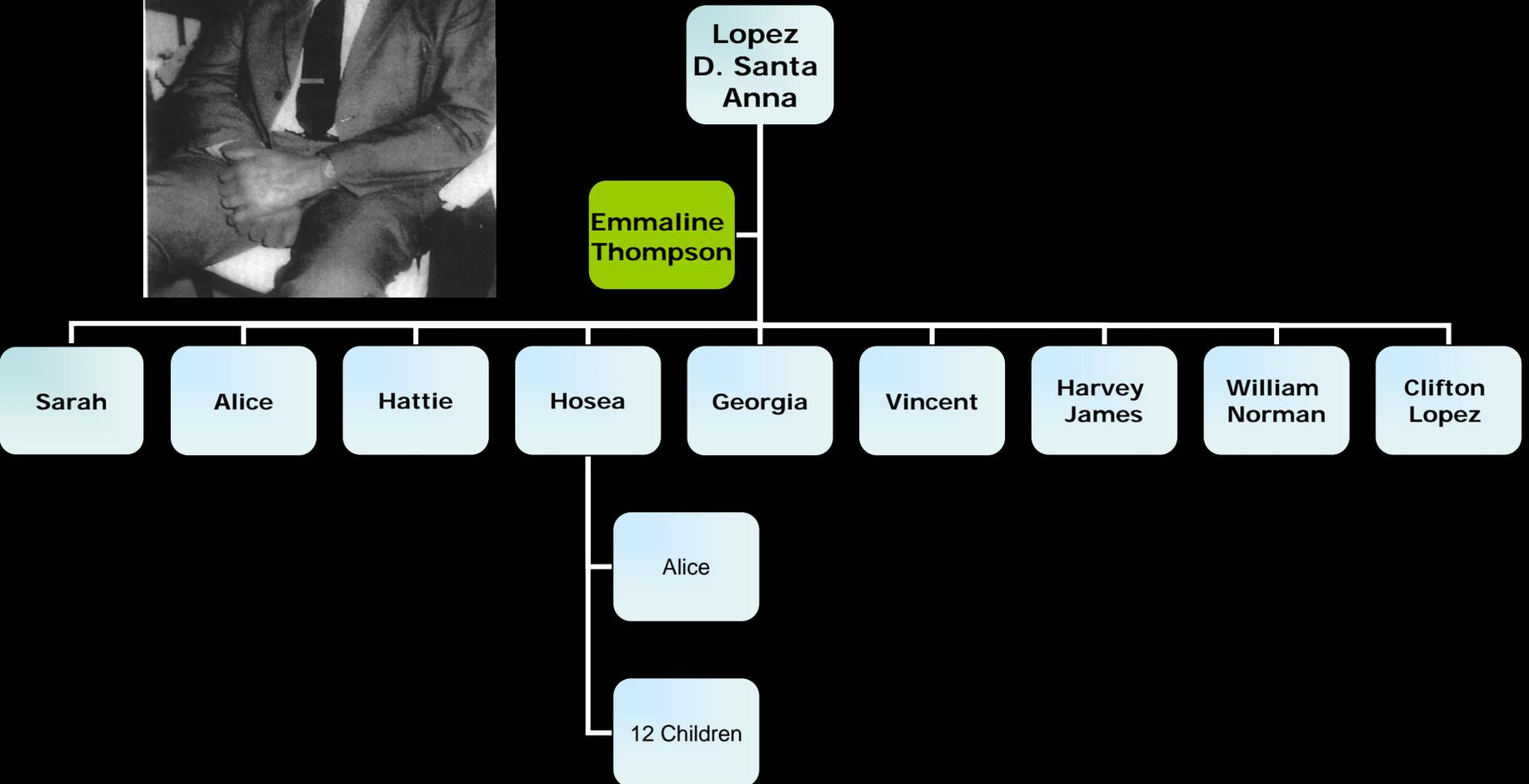


Harvey James 1874-1929 (married Aline Kelker and later married Edna Pickens). He lived in Mobile, Alabama and worked as a railway mail clerk. He was first married to Sallie Aline Kelker. They had four children, George, Vincent, Emma, and Dorothy. Sallie died in her early 40's and the younger children were raised by Ms. Kelker.

He remarried to Ms. Edna Pickens. They had four children, Harveyette, Kermit, Winfred, and Norma.



Descendants of Hosea McAllister



Descendants of William McAllister



Lopez
D. Santa
Anna

Emmaline
Thompson

Sarah

Alice

Hattie

Hosea

Georgia

Vincent

Harvey
James

William
Norman

Clifton
Lopez

**William A. and Elizabeth
(Here Today)**

William A.

Elizabeth

William A. McAllister (In Person)

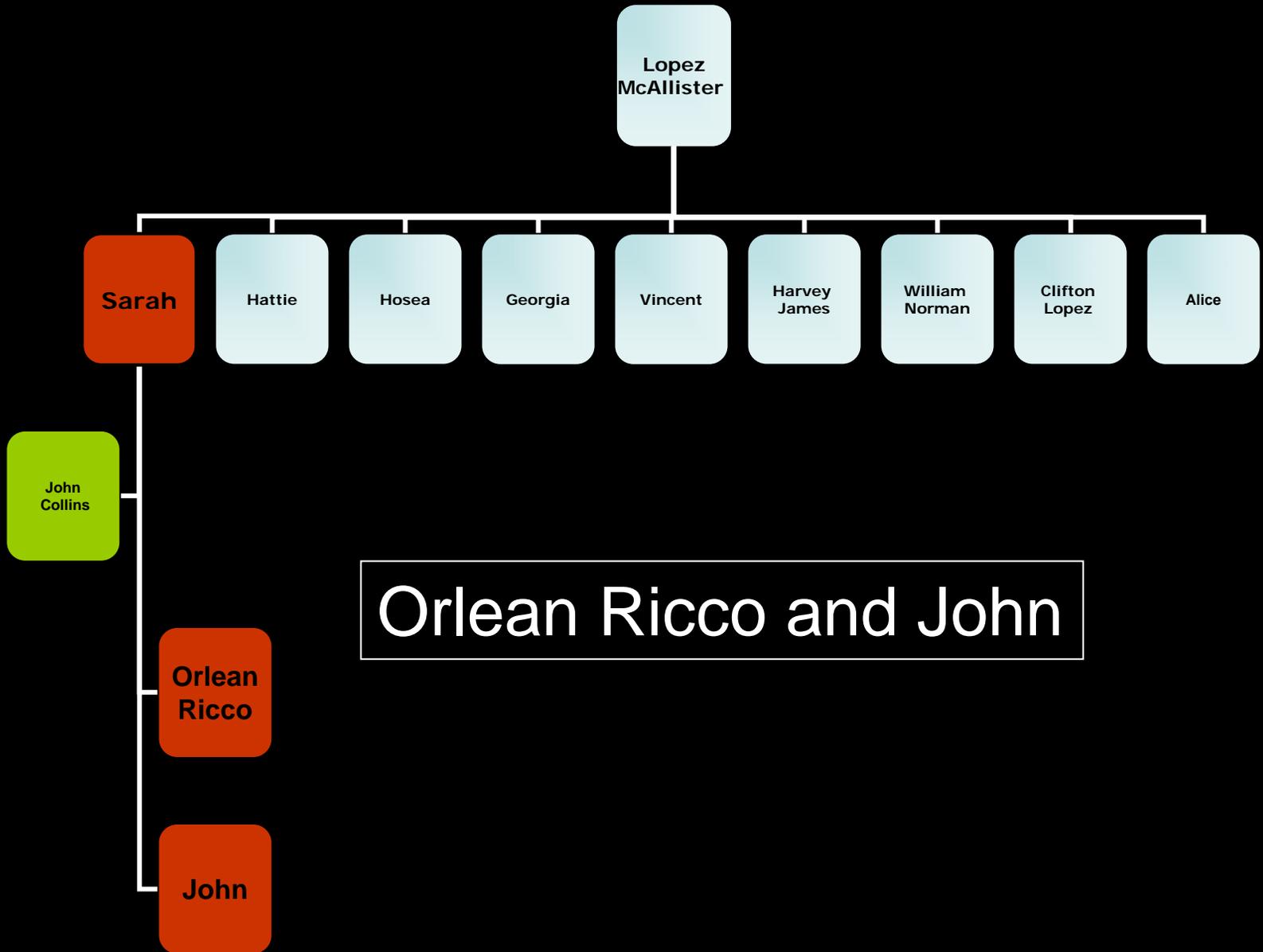


William has dedicated his life's work to advancing the mission of the YMCA. His first exposure to the YMCA came during the Depression. He frequented the Pine Street YMCA in St. Louis to gain access to the Y's Knothold Gang, a special group that allowed boys and girls to see Cardinals games for free. He has served as executive of the West Bank YMCA in Chester, PA where he established many programs serving young adults and teens. He and his wife Mary, also a graduate of the Brown School, reside in St. Louis and remain active in programs offered by the YMCA.

Elizabeth McAllister



Descendants of Sarah McAllister



Orlean Collins Ricco



Born in Aberdeen, Mississippi, she was the daughter of Sara McAllister Collins and John Collins and was married to Louie Ricco. The Hill District was Orlean Ricco's home for 85 of her 89 years. For more than half a century, she lived in the same house on Dinwiddie Street, but her travels took her to Russia, South America, and Europe, and over the years she has counted among her many friends poet Langston Hughes and theologian Howard Thurman. Her vision helped to define the meaning of social work in Western Pennsylvania.

Orlean Collins Ricco

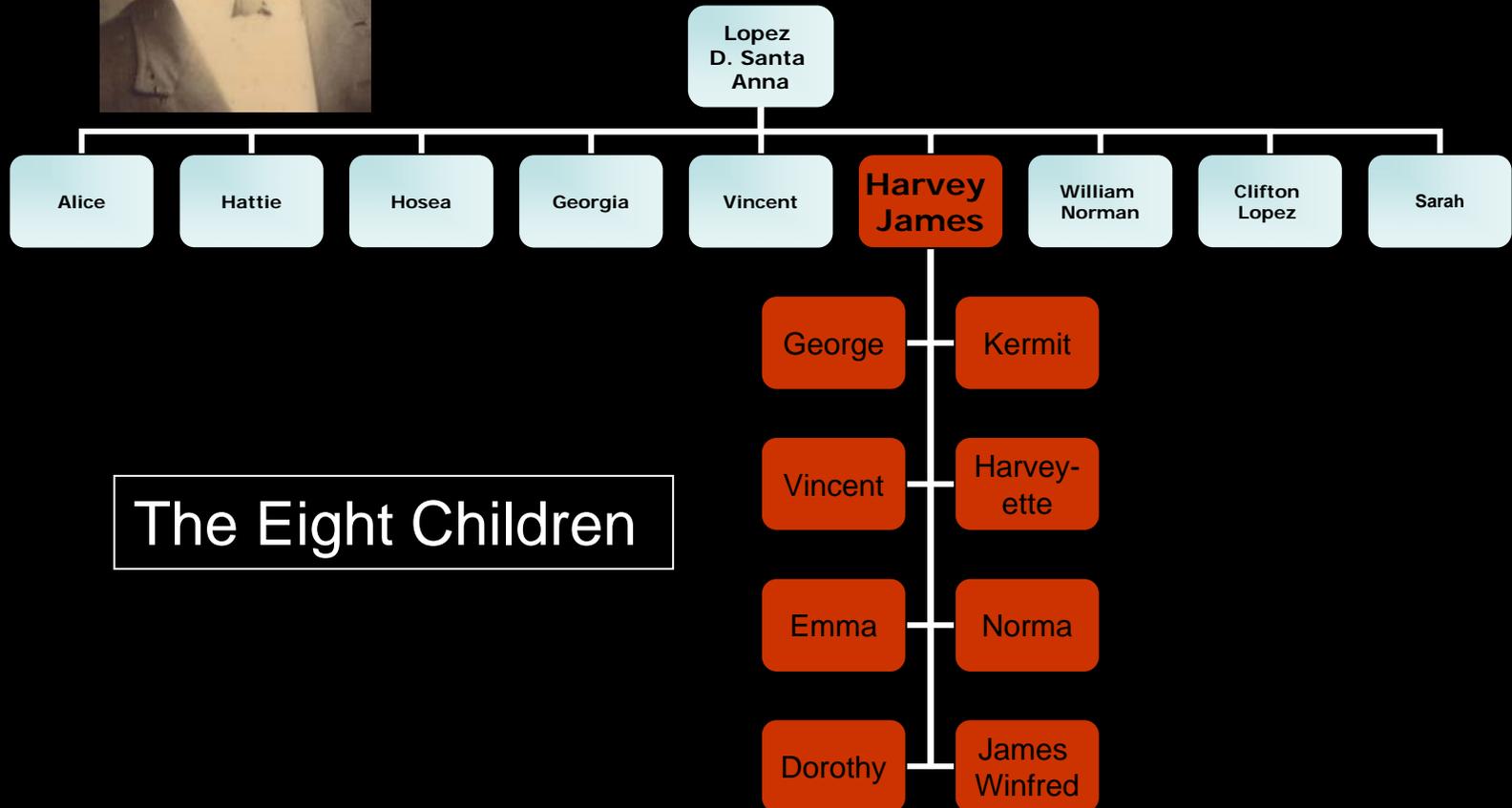
Born in Aberdeen, Mississippi, she was the daughter of Sara McAllister and John Collins and was married to Louie Ricco. The Hill District was Orlean Ricco's home for 85 of her 89 years. For more than half a century, she lived in the same house on Dinwiddie Street, but her travels took her to Russia, South America, and Europe, and over the years she has counted among her many friends poet Langston Hughes and theologian Howard Thurman. Her vision helped to define the meaning of social work in Western Pennsylvania. A graduate of Fifth Avenue High School and the University of Pittsburgh (Class of 1929), she was a case worker and home visitor during the Depression for the Mothers' Assistance Fund and Children and Family Services. After receiving the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1944, she headed a series of social service agencies. She ended her professional career as Magee-Womens Hospital's first director of social work, a position from which she retired in 1974. Orlean was committed to racial justice and dignified services for the poor. She was a founder of the undergraduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha at the University of Pittsburgh and of the Pittsburgh Urban League Guild. In the 1970s and '80s, she served as a board member of Comprehensive Health Planning Association, the Urban League and Lemington Center. She received the 25-year Equal Opportunity Award from the Urban League in 1983 and the YWCA Racial Justice Award in 1993. In an interview with the Post-Gazette, Mrs. Ricco told the reporter that she had remained in the Hill District because "one of the ways of stabilizing a community is not to desert it." She recognized then that age might eventually force her to move to "an apartment or a nursing home." (That move came in 1994.) "It's inevitable," she added, "but we don't need to be afraid, even of death."

Orlean Collins Ricco and Family

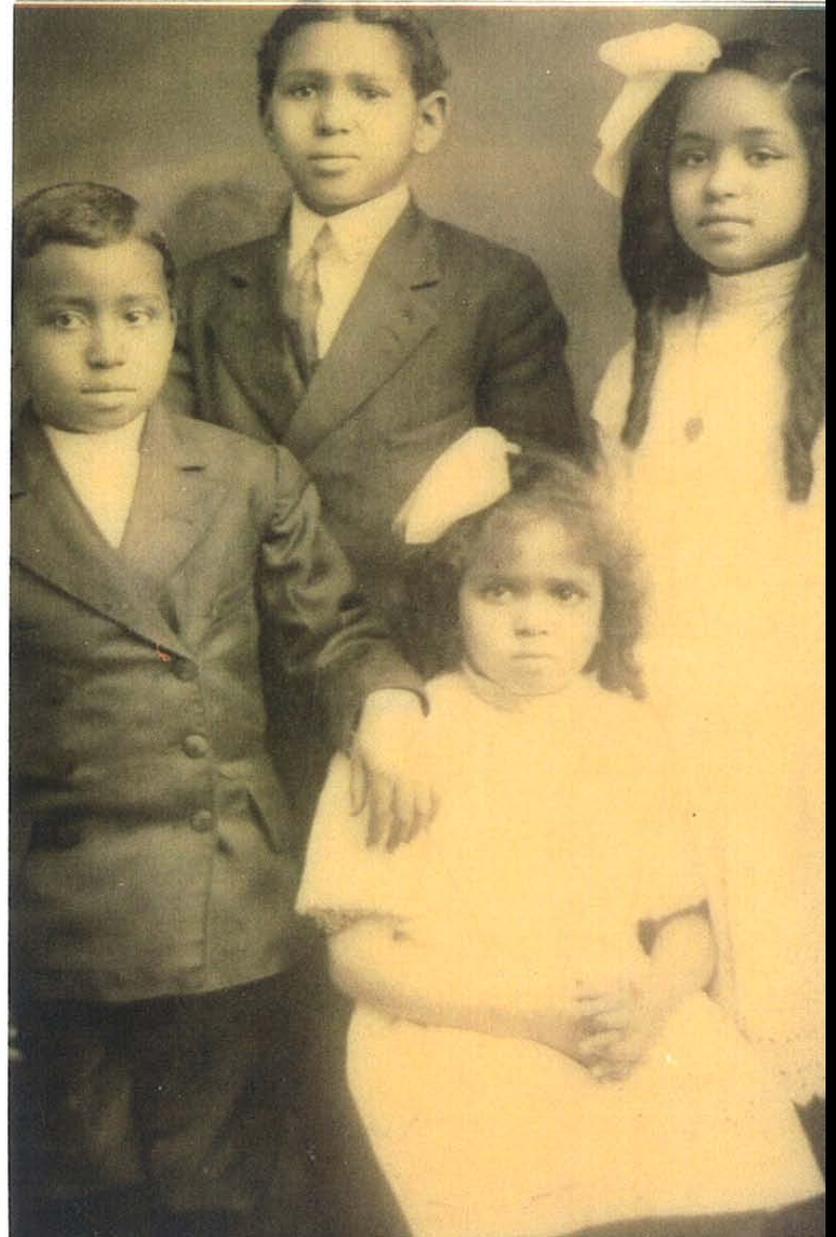


Orlean Ricco (center), William McAllister,
Elizabeth McAllister, Jan, Mary McAllister, and
Sissy

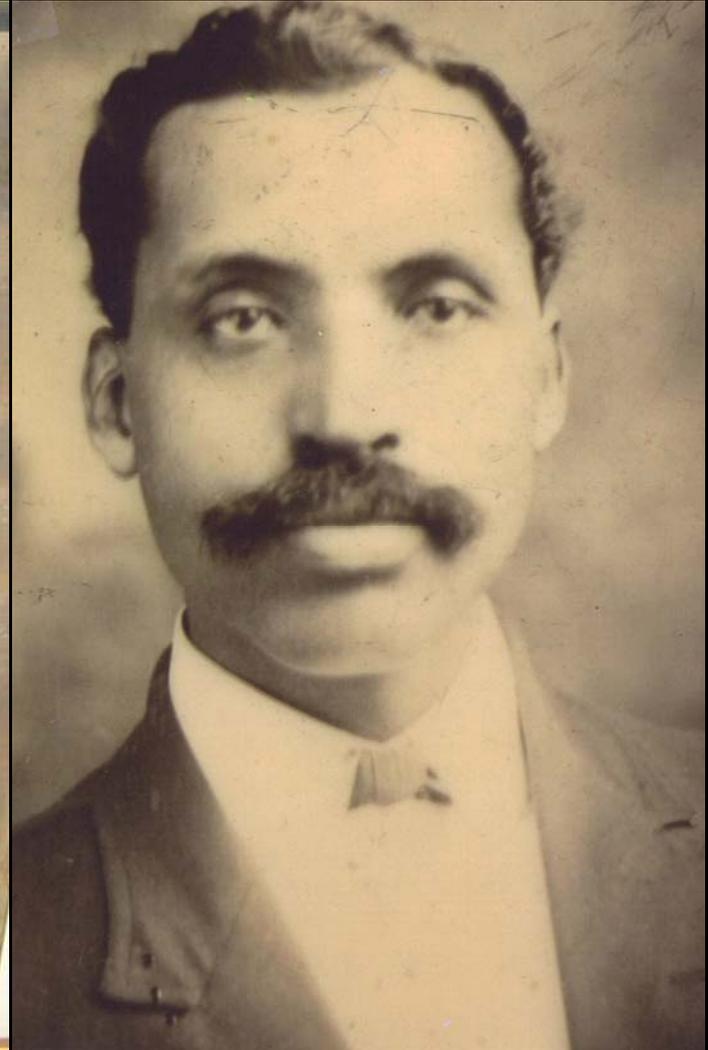
Descendants of Harvey James McAllister



Harvey James McAllister Children



Sally Kelker & Harvey James McAllister

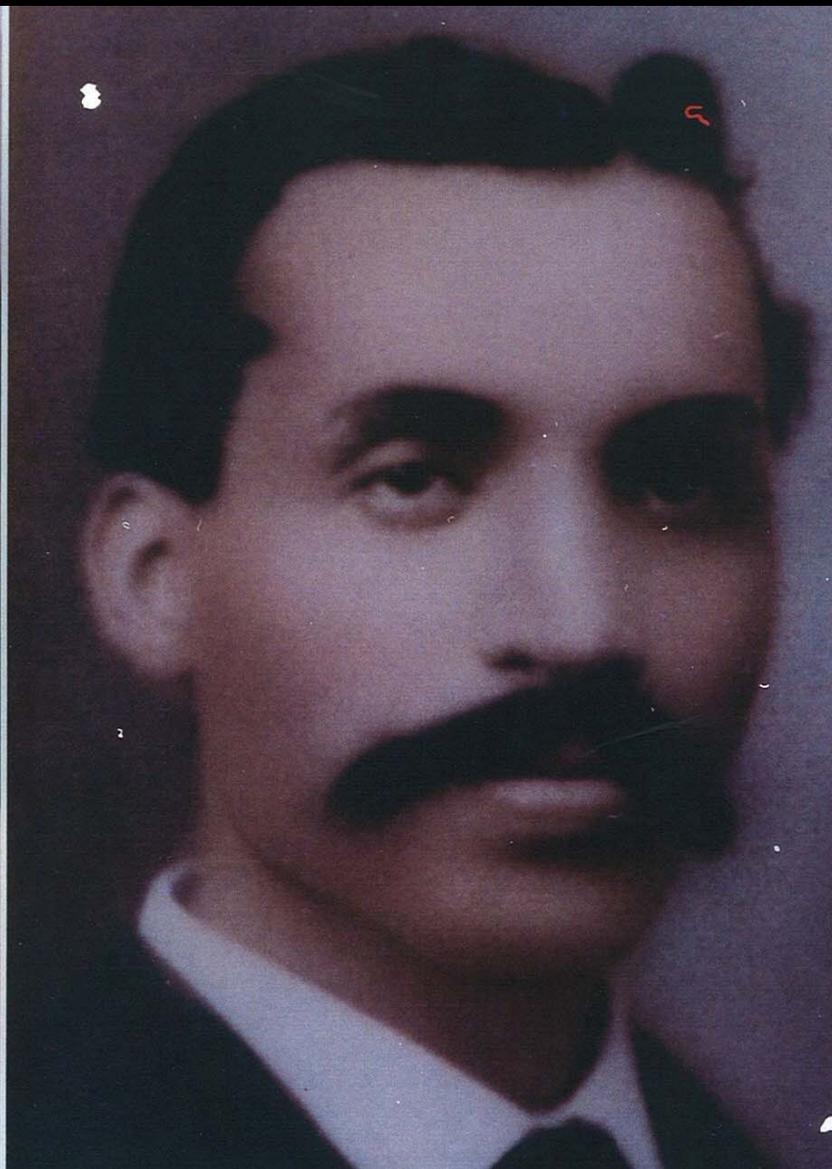


Mrs. Eily Kelker



- Mother of Sallie Kelker
- Grandmother of Emma, George, Vincent, and Dorothy
- Raised the kids after Aline's death

Edna Pickens & Harvey James McAllister



605 Savannah Street Mobile, Alabama



Home where Harvey, Herman, Sissy and Jimmy were born. Built in the 1870 as The original home of George Kelker. It was a majestic two bedroom home in its time with transoms and a double-wide outhouse. The lap of luxury.

Vincent Broxton McAllister

1906 - 1984



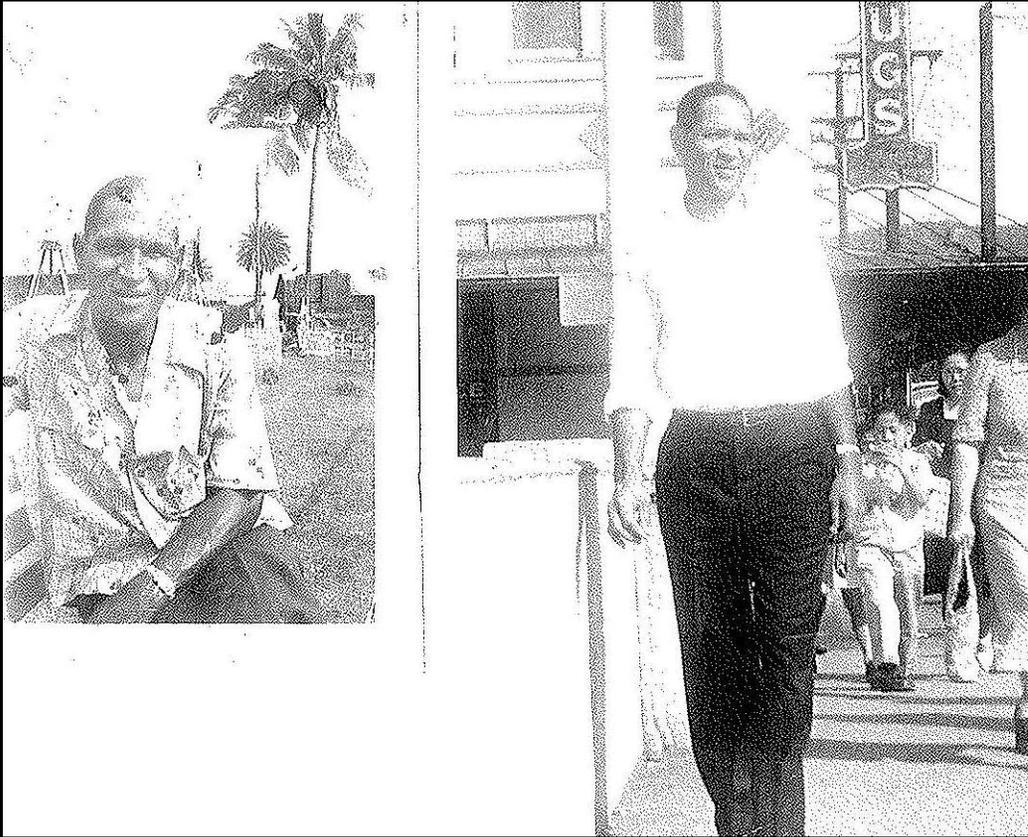
Vincent Broxton McAllister was born in Mobile, Alabama on April 20, 1906, where he lived for approximately 15 years. Vincent was eager to explore the world (and was a little mischievous) so he left home at the tender age of 15. He traveled and lived in many different states before settling down in Norfolk, Virginia sometime in the late 1920's. Vincent was called Mack by his friends. Mack married Celestine Lucille Williams in September of 1947 at the ages of 41 and 25 respectively. Their union produced three children, Terry (1954), Kay (1955) and Patrick (1958).

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George McAllister



George McAllister was born in Mobile, Alabama on April 20, 1906. He moved to California, and then Honolulu, where he lived most of his life.

Emma Aline McAllister Owens

1903 - 1985

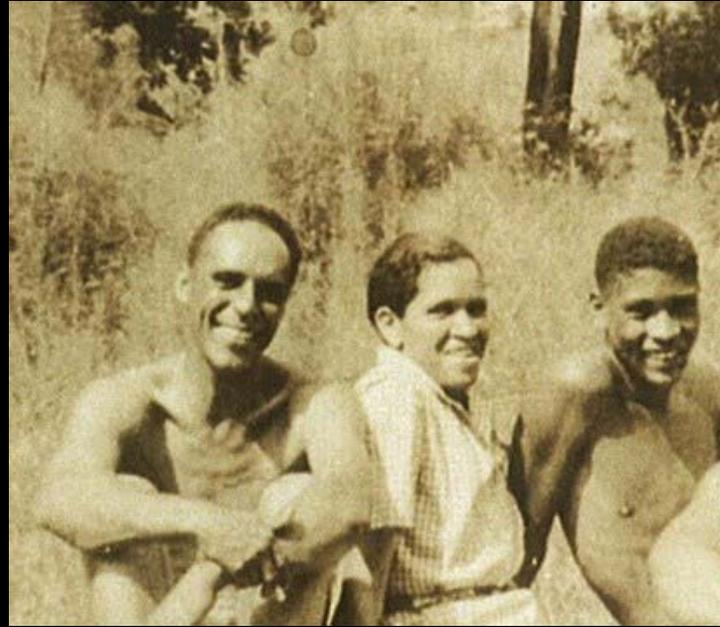


Emma finished high school at Emerson Institute, Mobile, Ala and graduated from Spelman College. She married James Henry Owens of Wilmington, N.C. on December 4, 1930 and her grandfather Rev. L.D. McAllister made the announcement on the wedding invitation. She received her Master of Arts degree from the University of Michigan and completed all of the doctoral degree requirements except the dissertation at Columbia University in NYC. She was involved at all levels of teaching. At the college level she served as an administrator, instructor of prospective teachers and supervised practice teachers. She was a Delta Sigma Theta in the early years of the Atlanta Chapter. She has a son James H. Owens, Jr., and daughters Aline O. Young and Janie O. Peters.

Emma McAllister Owens
and her Husband James Owens, Sr.



Dorothy McAllister Anderson



Dorothy Anderson-Born February 11, 1907 in Mobile, Alabama. She received her education at Hampton University, Spelman College and later at Alabama State. She resided in Mobile until her steps eventually led her to the late Herman T. Anderson of Selma, Alabama in 1932. She taught in the Mobile Public School System for over 35 years. Her role as wife and mother was truly her life's call. She exemplified unselfish and unwavering devotion to her children and their siblings. She loved her church and loved the Lord she served. She had two sons: Herman T. Anderson, Jr. and Harvey J. Anderson.

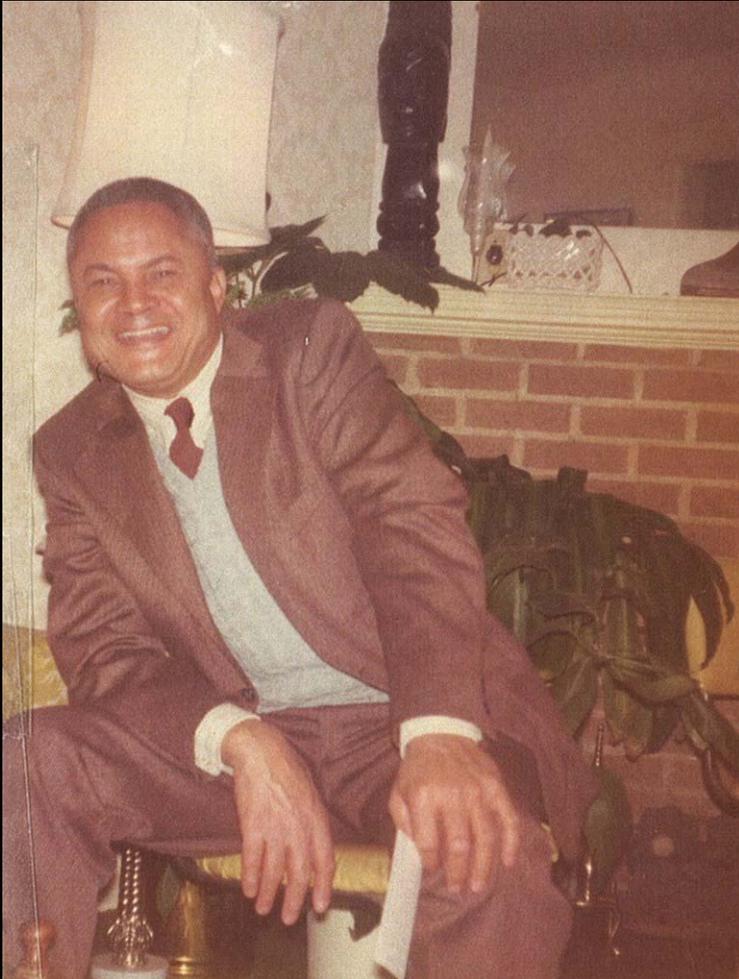
Edna Pickens McAllister and Children



Harveyette (Tia) McAllister

Harveyette McAllister Taylor was a lifelong member of the Franklin Street Baptist Church and went to St. Peter Claver more than most Catholics. She was also charter member of the local chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Ms Mac, as she was known to generations of students in Mobile, taught at Dunbar Junior High School. She retired in 1978 after 39 years in Mobile County School System. Accompanying Tia in Mobile included the constant greeting of “Hey Ms. Mac, remember me, you taught me in 9th grade in 1929.” Tia loved her family, friends, and animals. She had a particular penchant for cats, including Smokey I, Smokey II, Smokey III (ad infinitum). Her passion for teaching extended beyond school. During the summers she implemented mandatory reading programs and summer school for any nieces and nephews nearby, and demanded a work ethic of excellence. Being with Tia always seemed to turn into a reading and writing exercise, ending with writing a letter to someone. She was preceded in death by her husband , Richard Taylor.

Kermit McAllister



Winston Kermit McAllister completed his undergraduate work at tiny Talladega College where he received a full scholarship and graduated while he was still in his young teens. He had all but achieved his doctorate at the University of Michigan when the Army called him to serve during World War II.

For three years, he was in the Quartermaster Corps, which he served in Europe and which enabled him to study briefly at the University of Paris under an armed forces program.

In 1946, he went to Howard University as an instructor, leaving for one semester to complete his PhD at Michigan by the time he was approaching his 20's. In 1947 he met his wife, Frances Jones of Springfield, MA, and the following year they married. Dr McAllister or "Tubbits" as he was affectionately known to many family members was a Professor of Philosophy at Howard. He had two children; Kathleen and Winston.

Norma Elaine McAllister



VARSITY QUEEN

NORMA McALLISTER

Norma Elaine was born to Harvey James McAllister and Edna Louise Pickens McAllister on 6 July 1922 in Mobile, younger sister to E. Harveyette and Winston K., older sister of James W.

Her primary and secondary education was entirely within the Alabama public school system through high school. Norma briefly attended Talladega College and later transferred to Knoxville College where she received her B.A. and met her future husband, Thomas H. Kerr, Jr. of Baltimore, MD.

They were married in June of 1943 in Washington, DC. and had two children, Thomas Henderson III and Judith Elaine.

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James Winfred Alfonso McAllister



James Winfred Alfonso McAllister (1924-1979) was born in Mobile and attended public schools. He then went to Hampton University where he majored in Agriculture. Later he served as a private in the U.S. Army. He attended Howard University School of Law where he met Ann Elizabeth Hughes from Baltimore, Maryland who was an Art Major at the same school. They had four children, Singleton Beryl, Donna Edna Olsa, James W.A. Jr. (Jay) and Leslie Ann.

He was also known affectionately as Wint and Mac, was appointed Assistant United States Attorney in Baltimore. He ran for public office for the City Counsel. He was an extraordinary litigator and is still recognized for his exceptional court room skills.

A black and white photograph of a landscape. In the foreground, there are two large, dark trees with dense foliage, their branches extending towards the center. Below the trees is a field of tall, thin grasses or reeds. The background shows a bright, hazy sky. The text "The End for Now" is overlaid in the center of the image.

The End for Now

Next Steps

- Publish book with updated and complete family photos, bios, etc. Volunteers:
- Create Complete Family Tree. Volunteers:
- Planning committee for next gathering. Volunteers:
- Contact person for communications. Volunteers: