

## THE GREATHOUSE FAMILY Pulaski County Pioneers

Several members of PCHS have recently received letters from Capt. Jack M. Greathouse, of Route 3, Fayetteville, requesting information about his family. Mr. Claude A. Rankin, after extensive research, supplied Capt. Greathouse with a great deal of the information he sought. The Greathouse genealogy is of interest to us because this family was among our county's earliest settlers. Gabriel Greathouse and his wife Ruth came to Arkansas from Kentucky in 1819 or 1820, settling in Pyeatt township, Pulaski County. Gabriel was the second sheriff of Pulaski County, serving from 1821 until 1823. It is believed he did not live long after his arrival in Arkansas. Ruth died about April 20, 1841.

Gabriel and Ruth were the parents of three children: Daniel, John and Mary. Daniel married Miss Elizabeth Magness in Little Rock in 1825. She was one of the first girl children born in the state of Arkansas, her birth having occurred near Little Rock in 1806. Her father was Robert Magness, who became a prominent citizen of Lawrence County (now Independence County).

The Arkansas Advocate of April 8, 1836 reported the death of Daniel Greathouse at the Crossroads community, Pulaski County. This community is now a part of Faulkner County, and is located eight miles east of Conway on Highway 64. The cemetery in which Daniel is buried is located about two miles east of there, and is known as "Old Liberty". Daniel's widow is mentioned in the Journal of Travels of William N. Wyatt and J.F. Gaines: "Started on the morning of the 13th (November 13, 1836) and rode over some poor barrens and post oak glades, 30 miles to Widow Greathouse's----a good accomodation and bills one dollar each. This was 20 miles north of Little Rock at the crossing of the Batesville Road." The widow of Daniel Greathouse married Col. Jonathan Hardin of Conway County (now Faulkner County) in 1838. Both are buried in the old Hardin cemetery eight miles east of Greenbriar in Faulkner County.

John Greathouse married Miss Lydia Rankin in 1834. Of this union four children were born: Missouri Ann (who married William H. Nelson), Robert, Lydia J., and Junetta. In 1850, John lived in Maumelle Township. He died about 1867.

Mary, the daughter of Gabriel and Ruth, married Samuel H. Hinkson. Ruth's will was made in favor of Mary and her children, but little is known of their history. Capt. Greathouse is now attempting to locate their graves, and also the graves of Gabriel and Ruth Greathouse, his great-great grandparents.

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Are you a descendant of an early Pulaski County family? If so, REVIEW is interested in their story. Send your genealogical data to the editor, Margaret Smith Ross, 2008 Battery Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. We are also interested in letters and diaries and other similar material that has a bearing on Pulaski County's history.