

# 2022 Annual Report

George Gordon Battle Cemetery Trust  
(Old Town and Elisha Battle Cemeteries)



## About the Cover

Looking northward at day's end, a view of the Elisha Battle Cemetery with its stately oak in the background and the granite ledger describing Elisha's accomplishment in the foreground.

Photo from Rocky Mount Telegram

## George Gordon Battle Cemetery Trust

### Annual report for 2022

#### INTRODUCTION

2022 was a busy year for our 2 family cemeteries. The cemetery trustees decided in early 2022 to consolidate our 2 cemeteries by disinterring the remains from the older and inactive cemetery, (called Elisha Battle Cemetery) reintering them into the larger and active one (called Old Town Cemetery). This means our NC Battle ancestors will all be buried in one cemetery

In pre-Revolutionary America, Elisha Battle (1723-1799) settled in Edgecombe County from Virginia; we are all his direct descendants. James Smith Battle (1786-1854), Elisha's grandson, also our direct ancestor, was a successful planter owning more than 2,000 acres. Thanks to our cousin George Eatman's initiative and hard work, *Battle Book Updated*, published in 2001, brought genealogy up to date from the original Battle Book (1930) for the James Smith Battle branch, from which we are all descendants. To keep these records current, subsequent changes are now recorded on the Battle family website. See [www.thebattlebook.com](http://www.thebattlebook.com)

This report is divided into 2 sections:

- Early Battle history- The main section in this report is the history of Elisha and the early Battles before James Smith Battle, specifically:
  - Battle family in England and in Virginia;
  - Elisha and his wife Elizabeth;
  - Elisha's son Jacob and his wife Penelope.
- Financials:
  - The financials for 2021 and 2022;
  - The 2022 Gifts and Expenses broken out between *Regular* and *Special*.
- 3 Appendices:
  - Appendix A- All Living Descendants of Jacob Battle
  - Appendix B- Direct Descendants: John Battle to Jacob Battle
  - Appendix C- Time Line for the Elisha Battle and Old Town Cemeteries

Appendices A and B are updates from prior years' reports; Appendix C provides historical dates as well as cemetery plans for 2023.

**EARLY HISTORY and RELIGION** Information on early Battle history is sparse and often second hand. It is therefore helpful to look at this early period of Battle history through a wider lens, describing historical events at the time. As with most emigrants, the driving forces for the Battles coming to America were twofold: economic opportunity and religious freedom.

**Economic opportunity**- Following the establishment of the Jamestown colony, emigration continued from England to Virginia. Outside of some Scots and Scotch Irish, most were English. They consisted of families as well as single males (to secure passage, many became indentured servants); in addition, a few secured land grants before emigrating.

By the middle of the 17th century, the British economy was prospering, resulting in a decline in the number of indentured servants. This caused a labor shortage in Virginia. With fewer indentured servants coupled with a decline in the cost of slave labor, wealthy planters began buying slaves; soon less wealthy planters followed suit. With this addition of slave labor, Virginia's economy continued to prosper. Of the three pillars of economic growth (land, labor and capital), Virginia (and also North Carolina) had abundant land, cheap slave labor and an agrarian economy, requiring less capital than New England's more manufacturing-based colonies.

The colonies were established as separate entities and each colony was governed by a colonial governor appointed by the king. Initial trade barriers were established but were soon reduced; people moved from colony to colony, trade flourished between them and a post office was established for all the English colonies in America.

**Religious freedom**- The English break from the Catholic church began with the passage by parliament in 1534 of the Act of Supremacy, making the king not the pope, the head of the English church (which became known as the Anglican Church). Although most English accepted this change, there was a segment that remained faithful to Rome. The Catholic church regained English control in 1553 under Mary I (aka "Bloody Mary"); she began a campaign of persecuting protestants, but that was brief and ended badly for her when her Protestant half-sister Elizabeth, had her executed in 1558.

During this time, a more radical form of Protestantism swept the continent, then England; John Calvin (1509-1564) was its spiritual leader. From Calvinism sprouted different protestant sects, including rapid growth in England of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist churches. In America, growth of these sects was especially strong in the southern colonies. This period of religious change continued into 17<sup>th</sup> century England with the execution of King Charles I (1649) by the Puritan Oliver Cromwell. As a protestant and member of Parliament, Cromwell declared himself Lord Protector of Parliament (1653), abolished the monarchy and forced Charles II (Charles I's son) to flee. Cromwell maintained Puritan rule over England until his death in 1658. (*We are yet to see how the current Charles III fares*).

Following Cromwell's death and with parliament's support, Charles II returned to England and became king; he ruled until his death (1685), at which time his younger brother, James II, a professed Catholic, became king. Once again, the monarchy lurched towards Catholicism. The possibility of a Catholic monarchy finally ended in the Glorious Revolution (1688). With the backing of parliament, the royal couple: William (of Orange) and Mary (James II's daughter), both protestants, jointly ascended to the throne. This weakened the monarchy which, in turn, empowered the North American colonies.

**EARLY BATTLE HISTORY** Most of the early Battle history is taken from the three introductory chapters of the original (1930) Battle book: *The Battle Book: A Genealogy of the Battle Family in America* (1930). Chapter I (entitled: *Westward Ho!*) was by H. B. Battle, the author/chief editor of the book; Chapters II and III were papers written in 1820 by William Sumner Battle and Jeremiah Battle respectively. Since the writings of both were done in the same year, most likely, were a coordinated effort. All three chapters can be found in [www.thebattlebook.com](http://www.thebattlebook.com).



Yorkshire England

**In England-** The historical reference of the Battles emigrating to Virginia is in Chapters I and II of the original Battle book. In 1650, John and Sarah Battle with their 2 children (William and Asley) plus several other neighboring families (Sumner, Baker & Hunter) moved from the English district of Yorkshire to Ireland which at that time, was under English control. According to Jeremiah Battle's account, it was because John Battle was "disgusted by ecclesiastical edicts". It is unstated to whom this "disgust" was directed but most likely, it was Cromwell who gained control of Parliament and executed Charles I the year before; Cromwell then defeated the Royalists still loyal to the monarchy. Following Charles I's execution, Cromwell invaded and quickly conquered Ireland, compensating his soldiers by granting them Irish land grants.

After 2 years in Ireland and experiencing "the same offensive edicts", these families set sail for Virginia, arriving in 1654. There is no mention of John Battle's religion; as with most English, he probably was an Anglican. Few other specifics were given about John's life, although records show that he was in "good circumstances" (i.e., a man of some means).

**In Virginia (Nansemond County)-** In 1654, the ship landed near the village of Norfolk and the family settled nearby on the southeastern tip of Virginia in Nansemond County on the west branch of the Nansemond River (Nansemond County ceased to exist as a county in 1974). Except for the occasional Indian village, the land was continuous forest. John Battle had acquired a King's Patent for 1,000 acres. Battle and the other families settled into farming but John continued to expand his landholdings, moving his family about 50 miles south, settling on the banks of the Pasquotank River near what is now Elizabeth City (North Carolina). William, John's son, was born there.

When William was only eight, John died. William was returned to Nansemond County under protection of a guardian. He settled into farming on a tract near his father's original land and married Elizabeth Hunter. William did not have the same adventurous spirit as his father, remaining there for the balance of his life. William and Elizabeth had five children; Elisha, our direct ancestor, being the middle child and youngest son.

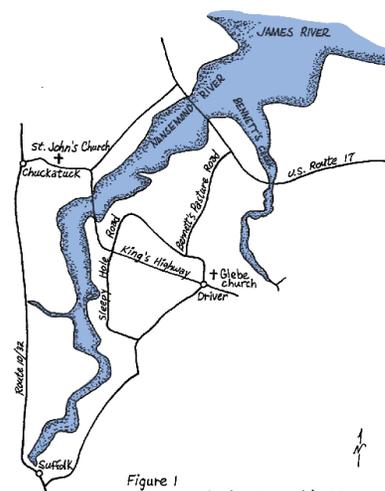


Figure 1  
The Nansemond River In Virginia 1983

Scale 0 1 2 3 Miles

Nansemond River flows into the Charles River

**NOTE:** The Battle genealogy from the original Battle book (1930) gives strong circumstantial evidence that a generation is missing between John Battle and William Battle. If true, the account on the preceding page of John's move to the Pasquotank region is not correct.

- The reasoning:
  - o In the original Battle book, John is the earliest Battle mentioned (mid-17<sup>th</sup> century in England) and details about his life are brief.
  - o Based on records, John was 48 when his 1st child, William was born (1682). Not impossible but fathering a first child that late in 17<sup>th</sup> century colonial America was unusual.
  - o More salient, if John and his wife (Elizabeth) were contemporaries, she would have been beyond child bearing age when William was born.
  - o In 1663 John was granted 640 acres in the Pasquotank region of NC; it is believed that John wanted this land for a son.
  - o Based on the above, the reason given for John's move to Pasquotank is weak. Before sailing to America, John had been granted 1,000 and later 250 acres in Nansemond County; according to accounts, he moved 50 miles further south to the Pasquotank region because of an "adventurous spirit".
- Here is an alternate version of this piece of early Battle history:
  - o John remained in Nansemond and had at least one child ("X Battle").
  - o John secured a land grant of 640 acres (1663) in Pasquotank for his son, "X Battle" to farm there;
  - o While In Pasquotank, "X Battle" had at least one child, a son William (1682).
  - o John died in 1690 and "X Battle" inherited his father's land in Nansemond County;
  - o "X Battle" and his family (including William) returned to Nansemond to run the larger farm.
- What is known:
  - o After returning to Nansemond, William settled into farming and at the time, lived a relatively long life (died in 1749 at age 67).
  - o William Battle, had 5 children, the middle child was Elisha, his youngest son.
  - o In 1747, Elisha moved his young family to Edgecombe County.

It is highly unlikely that any new information will be found, so this will probably remain a Battle family mystery!

### **In North Carolina (Edgecombe County)**

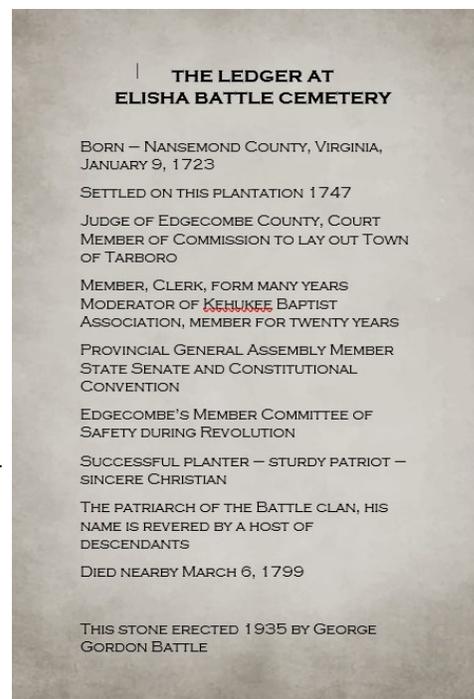
**Elisha Battle-** in 1741, when Elisha was 18, he married Elizabeth Sumner. After having two children, in 1747, Elisha and his pregnant wife moved over 100 miles southwest from Nansemond County to Edgecombe County in what is now North Carolina. By then, the Tuscarora Indians had been driven from the area. The land was fertile and he became a successful farmer, purchasing land on both side of the Tar River, raising crops and livestock. Elisha had a full life with many accomplishments.

These are recorded on a granite ledger, given to the family in 1935 by Elisha's 3X grandson, George Gordon Battle (1868-1949). The ledger is currently located in the Elisha Battle Cemetery (EBC) but will be moved to Old Town Cemetery (OTC) in 2023.

There is no portrait of Elisha but descriptions in Chapter III by his grandson, Jeremiah, give a sense of the man:

- “industrious and economical”
- “a strictly religious man”
- “free to reprove or censure sin or imprudence”
- “no orator”
- “very little education, but preserved order in his public and private business”
- “never embarrassed with debts or business”
- “a free and bold spirit”

Although considered prudish and straightlaced by today’s standards, Elisha was a man of remarkable character and accomplishments. Three generations separate Elisha from his great grandson George Gordon Battle but there are striking similarities in both temperament and accomplishments (*DNA?*); for details on George Gordon’s illustrious life, see the 2020 Annual Report.



*Ledger of Elisha’s accomplishments*

**Jacob Battle** - Elisha and Elizabeth had 8 children, all reached maturity which was a remarkable feat in colonial America. Jacob Battle (1754—1814) was Elisha’s 6<sup>th</sup> child and our direct ancestor. Although Jacob had 3 older brothers, it is believed that they had left the area resulting in Jacob inheriting the land. He married a widow Penelope Edwards and built a family house about ½ mile east of Elisha’s, on a deserted Indian village, called Old Town. In 1980 this house was restored and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. Jacob and Penelope had 4 children, the oldest being James Smith Battle (1786-1840), our direct ancestor and pater of the Battles that are buried at Old Town Cemetery.

Like Elisha, there is no portrait of Jacob but again, a description of the man by his great nephew Jeremiah:

- “early member of the Baptist Church and led a consistent Christian life”
- “great industry in the transaction of business”
- extremely liberal in his views” (*not sure how much the definition of liberal has changed since 1820*).
- “rather under the size of Battles generally but possessed health and good constitution so that he could take much exercise”
- natural suavity of his manner was so striking that he performed all his duties without suspicion or wrong doing”.

In comparing father and son from these brief descriptions, Elisha was a man of many accomplishments but formal and plainspoken while Jacob who didn’t have Elisha’s resumé, was more polished and relaxed. Both devoted themselves to farming and a love of the land.

## BATTLE BAPTISTS

- Elisha Battle became part of a religious movement in the colonies, known as The Great Awakening.
  - In the early part of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, church attendance in colonial America had declined; many felt the Anglican church was too formal and did not relate to the average person.
  - In the 1730s and 1740s, this changed when The Great Awakening movement swept the colonies; religion became personal with an emphasis on preaching and evangelism; Elisha became a fervent Baptist. As were the majority of the colonists, it is believed he had been an Anglican.
  - The Baptists being part of this movement, aligned into two different camps: the Particular Baptists (sometimes called Primitive or “original” Baptists) adhered to a rigid Calvinist theology (no drinking, no work on Sunday) emphasizing piety and the Separate Baptists emphasizing saving souls through evangelism.
- In 1757, Elisha Battle joined the newly formed Falls of the Tar Church, a Particular Baptist Church.
- In the early 1770’s Elisha helped form the Kehukee Baptist Association, a group of likeminded Baptist churches throughout eastern NC; he served as its moderator for 25 years.
- In early letters and other written accounts, there are frequent references to God and religion; for Elisha, faith was central to his everyday life.

## EIGHT LORD PROPRIETORS/ GRANVILLE DISTRICT

The governance of each of the American colonies was by a Royal Governor appointed by the king. In the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the area known as Carolina, was less populated than many of the other colonies. England under Charles II (1663) decided to award the Carolina province, not to a Royal Governor, but to 8 English aristocrats who had remain loyal to the crown during the Cromwellian period; this also avoided the expenses of England developing a governing apparatus.

These 8 Lord Proprietors all remained in England (only one even set foot in America). They hired agents to govern and more importantly, to collect quitrents (land taxes). Oversight was poor and there were frequent accusations by settlers of incompetence and corruption. Since the Lord Proprietors didn’t purchase the land, the settlers had full rights, including selling their interest to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party or leaving it to an heir (usually the eldest son).

During this time, the northern and southern regions of Carolina developed differently:

- The northern section’s population consisted of small farmers coming from Virginia (mostly planting tobacco);
- The southern section developed large tract plantations, relying on slave labor; it also developed lucrative trade with the West Indies, through the port of Charleston.



NC Highway Marker for Falls of the Tar Church

Recognizing these differences, in 1712 George I negotiated with the proprietors to divide the Carolina province into North and South Carolina.

In 1729 under George II's reign, the Privy Council (the executive body for the king) negotiated with the Lord Proprietors (or their successors) to sell their shares in NC back to the crown. All agreed except Lord Carteret who was the great grandson of an original Lord Proprietor (in 1744, he became an heir, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Granville).

In 1742, after protracted negotiations, the Privy Council agreed to form the Granville District within NC; Granville in turn, agreed to surrender any participation in colonial government. The district ran east to west with northern border being the NC-VA line, eventually running south 60 miles. It included Edgecombe County.

During the period of the Granville District, records were still poorly maintained and obtaining clear title became difficult. The impending War of Independence also led many to question why the English still controlled such a large swath of NC land. In 1777, the newly formed Provisional Assembly of NC confiscated all land of persons supporting the English. Granville's District was seized later that year.



*Dividing line between Granville District, Royal Territory  
1729-1776  
Copyright 2008 UNC School of Education*

### **GRANVILLE DISTRICT/ ELISHA BATTLE**

In 1747, Elisha and his family moved to Edgecombe County. He privately purchased 400 acres from a Samuel Holliman; this began the Battle family's acquisition of land in Edgecombe County. In 1760, he reached an indenture (agreement) with the Privy Council of Lord Granville for a land grant of 930 acres contiguous to his existing land.

The terms of the indenture are spelled out in a subsection of Chapter V of the original Battle book: *Indenture by Earl Granville to Elisha Battle (Edgecombe County, NC, Dec 10, 1760)*. Consistent with other grants, there was a nominal sale price (10 shillings) and an annual quitrent payable in perpetuity of 3 shillings per 100 acres; for Elisha, this was 28 shillings, payable semi-annually.

### **AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

- The Great Awakening had political implications: it contributed to the colonists feeling more independent from England, its church and monarchy.
- Overall, however, the relations between the colonists and England were good during the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This ended with the French and Indian War (1754-1763) which was a theater in Europe's larger Seven Year War; in North America, it was fought over territory between England and France.

- In 1763 the war ended with France no longer having a significant American presence on the eastern seaboard but leaving England badly in debt. In order to raise revenue, Parliament passed a series of taxes (e.g., stamp and tea) on the colonies.
- Although the French and Indian War was not fought in the southern colonies, the taxes were imposed on all. This resulted in increased anti-English sentiment, leading the colonies to declare independence in 1776.
- At 53, Elisha was too old to fight but he was a “sturdy” patriot for independence, serving as Edgecombe’s member on The Committee of Safety during the revolution. Elisha’s son Jacob was of fighting age but there is no mention of his service.

## FINANCIALS - 2022 Investment results

In contrast to 2021 which was a strong investment year, 2022 was not. The combination of COVID, war in Ukraine, a high-rate of inflation with the Fed responding by raising interest rates, all contributed to negative returns. The trust’s results were no exception.

**The financials for 2021 and 2022:** cash basis (not reflecting payables or receivables). The following are the results for 2021 and 2022 taken from the investment statements of the trust.

	Year Ending	
	12/31/2021	12/31/2022
Cash	3,604	22,869
Mutual Funds	114,662	87,984
	118,266	110,854
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Beginning Account Value	105,738	118,266
Deposits/Gifts (+)	400	17,778
Withdrawals/Expenses (-)	(4,630)	(11,650)
Dividends & Interest (+)	4,778	3,144
Net Change in Portfolio	11,980	(16,684)
Ending Account Value	118,266	110,854

## 2022 Gifts & Expenses: “Regular & Special”

The trustees’ agreement to proceed with interment was conditional on those expenses not diluting the financial strength of the trust; in other words, interment expenses must be covered by gifts. This was especially important in 2022 due to the general stock market decline.

Financials on the next page show the 2022 gifts and expenses, broken out between regular gifts (meaning those that help cover expenses in the normal course of maintaining the cemeteries) and *special* gifts (meaning those that cover *special* expenses that are of a one time nature). For 2022, *special* expenses that needed to be covered by *special* gifts were costs associated with disinterment plus fees for securing tax exempt status. The overall effect on 2022, including investment results, was a 7.4 % decline in the 2022 asset value of the trust; this compares favorably with the 2022 decline in the S&P stock index of just under 20%.

	<b>Year Ending 12/31/22</b>		
	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Special</b>	<b>Total</b>
Deposits/Gifts (+)	200	17,578	17,778
Withdrawals/Expenses (-)	0	11,650	11,650
NET (+/-)	200	5,928	6,128

**Regular**- Gifts and Expenses associated with annual maintenance of cemetery plus regular expenses occurring less than annually (e.g. power washing monuments & storm clean-up).

**Special**- Gifts and Expenses associated with Internment process and securing favorable tax status

*2022 Deposits/ Gifts were made by  
George Eatman & Frank Wilkinson*

During 2023, there will be additional *special* expenses, principal ones being expenses of reinternment and purchasing monuments for the reinternment area. Before proceeding, the trustees will again review and approve the plan. After the internment process is completed in 2023, a more detailed report will be distributed to the cousins.

#### **FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE CEMETERY**

- Since the disinterment process began in 2021, extra expenses for 2022 were anticipated and planned for; actual 2022 expenses ran close to plan. Although knowing that a down market was inevitable, the timing as to when, was not.
- As of, May 2022, annual gifts to the cemetery became tax deductible. We therefore urge all of you to consider making a cemetery gift in 2023.

To do this, please make gift payable to GGB Cemetery Trust and mail to:

Richard Battle, GGBC Trustee  
2905 Montpelier Court  
Raleigh , NC 27609

You will receive an acknowledgement letter from the trustees which confirms deductibility. If any questions, email Richard at RBATTLE@CAPITAL-INVEST.COM. He can also help in making the cemetery trust part of your annual giving.

Our Battle family cemetery is the centerpiece of how our family members stay connected and a place to honor our ancestors. Any financial help will be appreciated!

**MEMORIAM**

We remember Liz Battle who died at her home in Charleston on February 26, 2022, shortly before her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Although her family name was Battle, she was not a descendant of Elisha Battle but of Elisha's brother John. Her partner for over 40 year was Tread Covington who is a direct descendant of Elisha. Tread died in 2014. It is believed that Tread and Liz were 8<sup>th</sup> cousins (*do Battles attract?*). They were fun, urbane and are sorely missed. Details on each, are in the Obituary section of [www.thebattlebook.com](http://www.thebattlebook.com).

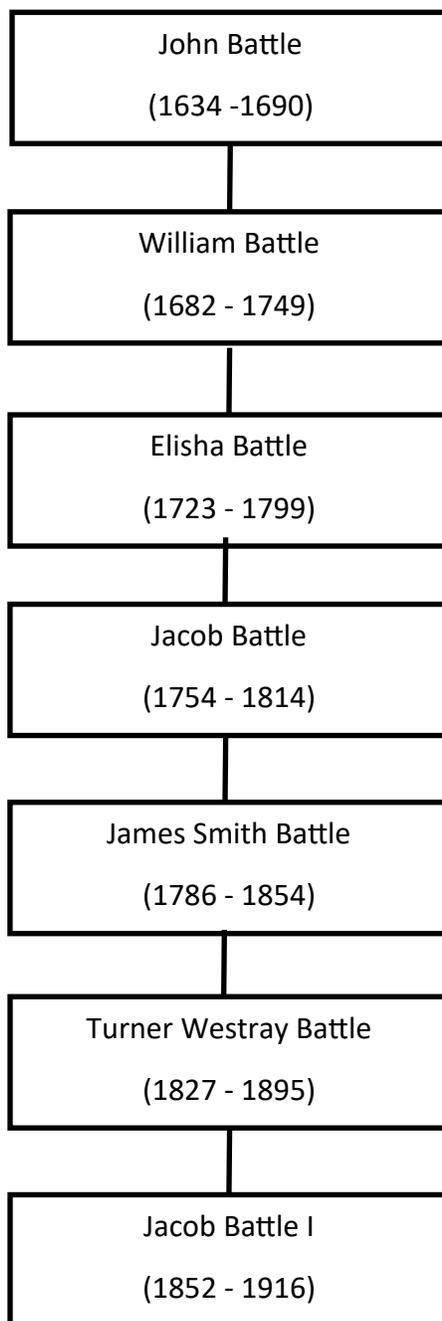


APPENDIX A				
2022 Annual Report				
Contact List for Direct Descendants of Jacob Battle I				
(as of February 15, 2023)				
	Initials	Full Name	State	Age
1	SN	Stacy Nicholas	OR	63
2	TWB	Turner Westray Battle VI	FL	76
3	TWB	Turner Westray Battle III (VII)	DC	48
4	TWB	Turner Westray Battle IV (VIII)	DC	10
5	TWB	Madison Elizabeth Battle	DC	8
6	TWB	Isla Latham Battle	DC	3
7	TWB	Sloan Barksdale Battle	FL	35
8	SSB	Stephen Shackelford Battle	NC	72
9	SSB	Kristen Elizabeth Sebastian	NC	38
10	RSB	William Richardson Staats Battle	NC	63
11	RSB	Cameron Shackelford Battle Leonard	NC	34
12	RSB	Turner Battle Leonard	NC	4
13	RSB	Davis Coleman Leonard	NC	2
14	RSB	Walker Robins Leonard	NC	0
15	RSB	Sterling Battle Stilley	NC	32
16	RSB	John Bryan Stilley IV	NC	1
17	RSB	William Richardson Staats Battle Jr	NC	29
18	RSB	Eliza Wells Battle	NC	1
19	ELE	Edward Laughtin Eatman Jr.	SC	78
20	ELE	Edward Laughtin Eatman III	FL	52
21	ELE	Shannon Gay Eatman	NC	57
22	ELE	Amanda Nicole Long	NC	35
23	ELE	Jonathan Tyler Long	NC	32
24	GHE	George Hackney Eatman	VA	76
25	GBE	Gordon Battle Eatman	NM	74
26	GBE	Sara Rose Eatman	TX	40
27	GBE	Theodore Carson Toohey	TX	2
28	GBE	Maxwell Sawyer Toohey	TX	2
29	NBE	Nell Battle Eatman	VA	69
30	NBE	Andrew Christian Edwards	VA	41
31	NBE	Richard George Battle Edwards	MD	42
32	NBE	Mary Elizabeth Edwards	MD	10
33	NBE	Joshua Zachary Edwards	MD	8
34	GWF	Gordon Wilkinson Folger	NC	87
35	GWF	Lee Alphonso Folger IV	NC	60
36	GWF	Lee Alphonso Folger V	NC	23
37	GWF	Alison Wilkinson Newbold Folger	NC	20
38	GWF	Francis Wilkinson Folger	NC	57
39	GWF	Caroline Jourdan Folger	NC	22
40	GWF	David Alexander Folger	NC	20
41	GWF	Kathryn Carlyle Battle Folger	NC	16
42	FSW	Frank Smith Wilkinson Jr	MN	83
43	FSW	Smith Kemp Wilkinson	MN	41
44	FSW	Westray Battle Wilkinson	MN	2
45	FSW	Eloise Battle Ratan	MN	40
46	FSW	Scarlett Battle Ratan	MN	5
47	FSW	Josephine Kemp Ratan	MN	3
48	FSW	Charlotte Scannell Heins	MN	36
49	FSW	Benjamin Carter Wilkinson	MA	30
	<b>NOTES:</b>			
	1	Jacob's 1st marriage was to Iva Steele who had one child, Jacob Battle II; his only living descendant is Stacy Nicholas (#1).		
	2	Jacob's 2nd marriage was to Nell Gupton which includes the 48 remaining living descendants.		
	3	List includes step & adopted children.		

## APPENDIX B

## 2022 Annual Report: Direct Descendants

## John Battle to Jacob Battle I

**NOTES:**

1. In this year's Annual Report, earlier ancestors of Elisha have been added: John Battle and William Battle; it is believed that a generation is missing between them.
2. Jacob Battle (the last descendant above) is the grandfather of 6 living descendants from Appendix A.
3. Jacob and his first wife, Iva Isabella Steele, had one child, a son, Jacob II (1875-1912).

## APPENDIX C

### Time Line

#### Elisha Battle Cemetery (EBC) and Old Town Cemetery (OTC)

*Note: Some dates are approximate*

**1747-** Elisha Battle & family emigrated from Nansemond County (VA) to Edgecombe County (NC)

**1794-** Elizabeth Sumner Battle and Lucy Battle, are the earliest recorded deaths at EBC. EBC is located in Taylor's Field (near present Cool Spring home).

**1799-** Death year of Elisha Battle.

**1840-** Death year of Sallie Harriett Westray Battle, the wife of James Smith Battle (Elisha's grandson); this is earliest burial at OTC. Henceforth, family burials were done at OTC rather than EBC.

**1908-** Battle family sold most of the Battle farmland to a local businessman (MC Braswell) with a provision in the agreement that the 2 family cemeteries and their access are excluded from the sale.

**1949-** George Gordon Battle, established a trust with a local bank (Planters National Bank) for the maintenance of both cemeteries.

**1995-** The successor to Planters National Bank (Centura Bank) exited the farm trust business; 2 Battle cousins (Richard Battle & Stephen Battle) became co-trustees.

**2021 (late)/2022 (early)-** In late 2021, the trustees studied whether to move the gravesites from EBC to OTC; in early 2022, trustees decided to proceed.

**2022 (May)-** Trustees secured 501(c)13 approval from IRS, so that annual contributions to the cemetery trust are tax deductible to the donor.

**2022 (June)-** Since there were no longer any identifying grave markers at EBC, trustees contracted with Grubb & Assoc to perform a Ground Penetration Analysis (GPA) to determine number of gravesites at EBC; determined to be 7.

**2022 (Nov)-** Steve Ward (& his cemetery team) disinterred 7 remains from EBC; team has a reputation for finding and preserving remains from unmarked gravesites.

2023 (1<sup>st</sup> quarter)- **DONE** - the 7 disinterred graves at EBC are reinterred in a designated area within OTC.

2023 (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter)- EBC Monuments will be installed in OTC within a designated EBC area; boundary hedge for EBC area will be planted.

2023 (4<sup>th</sup> quarter)- Service at OTC will be held for cousins and friends of cemetery to celebrate the reinterment from EBC to OTC.