

JOHN T. SWAIN, Sr. FAMILY HISTORY

Including the Memories of
Richard Lee Swain
Genevieve Swain Delauney
Juanita Swain Renner
Linda Ann Raver Bigsby

Reviewed by Marcia E. Swain, b. 1948
& H. Marcellus (Mark) Swain, b. 1921
(Benjamin Swain, Sr., b. 1824 Family
Washington County, MD)

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Swain Family History

PREFACE

Clifford Charles Swain gave the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park (C&O Canal NHP) five oral histories, in 1965 and 1973. Those have now been transcribed into electronic form; the oral histories are available on CDs from the C&O Canal NHP and the transcriptions are also available in both printed and electronic form from the C&O Canal NHP. After the oral histories were transcribed, Clifford's youngest son, Richard Lee Swain and his wife, Patricia Ann Swain, listened, in 2009, to each of the recordings of his father to provide the best "ear" to preserve the dialect and accent of Clifford C. Swain. (Note: This dialect is specific to people who lived and worked on the C&O Canal and in and around the Potomac River area in Washington County, MD. The Benjamin Swain family also had a significant local dialect. Only recent generations have lost most of this dialect.)

Clifford's older brother, Robert D. Swain, married Mary Thomas (Mamie) McKelvey who also gave the C&O Canal NHP an oral history, Sept. 1973. Their daughters, Genevieve Swain DeLauney and Juanita Swain Renner listened, in 2009, to their mother's recording for the same purpose.

Subsequently an effort was undertaken to verify Clifford C. Swain's memories with the participation of Richard and Patricia Swain. Not only did the effort resolve questions of spelling in the several oral history transcriptions but evolved into a Swain Family History.

Tables of vital statistics are provided at the end of this story. The tables were initially built from census data. Then as subsequent census reports provided different data, the tables were revised. When obituaries, family bibles or tombstones were found, the data was again refined. Thus the data in the tables is believed to be the most accurate. The correspondents supporting this effort are highlighted in yellow. Swain family members we have identified as canal boatmen are highlighted in light blue.

Readers will occasionally find information on persons in the family but not related to this history, e.g. Newton Ausbury Swain. They are included to help other Swain family researchers.

All canal photographs are courtesy of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park while the family photographs were from the Richard Lee Swain Collection, unless otherwise footnoted.

Swain Family History

The 1850 census listed Wm. Swain, age 38, living in Subdivision No. 2, Washington County, Md.¹ Living with him were: Martha, age 19, wife [they had married on April 5, 1845]; Mary Swain, age 3, daughter; and George, age 1, son. William Swain and Martha Smith were married by Rev. Conrad at St. John's German Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, April 5, 1845. Their son George William Swain married Frances Eugenia Kidwell, daughter of John W. Kidwell (1831 – 1902), boatman and bridge keeper of Shepherdstown, WV.

Emma C. Swain, daughter of William and Martha Swain, died on Sep. 10, 1855, aged 4 years, 3 months, 25 days. She was buried in Salem Lutheran Church Cemetery, Bakersville, Md.

The 1850 census reported George H. Swain, age 30, a Laborer, living in Subdivision No. 2, Washington County, Md.² Living with him were: Elizabeth, age 27, wife; James, age 9, son; John, age 6, son; and Martha, age 0, daughter. The son, James, later was listed as Frank; Martha was born on Aug. 25, 1849 and was thus just less than one year old.

The 1850 census reported John T. Swain, age 30, an engineer, living in Bladensburg, Md.³ Living with him were: Elizabeth E., age 22, wife [they had married on Jan. 8, 1847]; Trepheinia, age 3, daughter; John P.[T], age 1, son; and William E. Dorsey, age 22, relationship not recorded, a laborer. The daughter, Trepheinia, must have died prior to 1860; at least no further records of her have been found.

The 1850 census reported Samuel Swain, age 24, a laborer, living in Washington County.⁴ Living with him were: Sarah, age 22, wife [they had married on Jan. 11, 1848]; and Ann, age 1, daughter.

The 1850 census listed Benjamin Swain, age 28, a laborer, living in Washington County.⁵ It appears that he and seven other men laborers were all living in a house with Margaret Bickley, age 40, a single mother, and her five children.

The 1850 census listed Samuel Boyer, age 37, a miller, living in Subdivision No. 2, Washington County, Md.⁶ Living with him were: Minerva, age 22, [they had married on April 6, 1850] second wife; Susan, age 16, daughter [she subsequently married Benjamin Swain, Sr. on June 22, 1851]; Samuel, age 13, son; Margaret, age 11, daughter; Juliana, age 10, daughter; Virginia, age 8, daughter; and Mary, age 4, daughter. All these children were by Samuel Boyer's first wife, Elizabeth Dun-a-wha, a Native American, from Illinois.

Anne Amelia Swane [Swain], daughter of Samuel and Sarah Swain, died on Oct. 6, 1852, aged 4 years, 10 days. She was buried in Mt. Calvary Lutheran Cemetery, Sharpsburg, Md.

¹ 1850 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Subdivision No. 2, enumerated on 9/14/1850, p. 65.

² 1850 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Subdivision No. 2, enumerated on 8/21/1850, p. 72.

³ 1850 Census, Maryland, Prince George's County, Bladensburg, enumerated on 6/28/1850, p. 15.

⁴ 1850 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Subdivision No. 2, enumerated on 8/19/1850, p. 68.

⁵ 1850 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Subdivision No. 2, enumerated on 8/30/1850, p. 110.

⁶ 1850 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Subdivision No. 2, enumerated on 8/22/1850, p. 75.

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The 1860 census listed George Swain, age 46, a Laborer, with real estate valued at \$300 and a personal estate valued at \$75, living in Sharpsburg.⁷ Living with him were: Elizabeth, age 39, wife; Frank, age 20, son, a Boatman; John, age 17, son, a Boatman; Martha, age 10, daughter; and Charles, age 3, son.

The 1860 census reported John T. Swain, age 40, a laborer with real estate valued at \$200 and a personal estate valued at \$50, living in Sharpsburg.⁸ Living with him were: Elizabeth, age 35, wife; John, age 10, son; Elizabeth, age 9, daughter; Charles, age 8, son; Ellen, age 5, daughter; Virginia, age 3, daughter; and William, age 1, son.

The 1860 census also reported Samuel Swain, age 41, a Boatman, with real estate valued at \$300 and a personal estate valued at \$75, living in Sharpsburg.⁹ Living with him were: Sarah, age 34, wife; Fanny, age 5, daughter; and Hiram, age 3, son.

The 1860 census listed Benjamin Swain, age 30, a Boatman, with a personal estate valued at \$50, living in Sharpsburg, Md.¹⁰ Living with him were: Susan, age 25, wife; Isabella, age 8, daughter; Samuel, age 5, son; and Emily [*sic.* Emma Traphenia?], age 2, daughter. Their son, Charles Reuben Swain, has been born and died in 1853.

The Civil War started on April 12, 1861.

William Swain died on Nov. 23, 1861 and was buried in Keedysville. [Believed to be the William Swain who married Martha Smith in 1845 and had, Mary, George and Emma.]

Benjamin Swain, age 41, Boatman, registered for the Civil War Draft; he was living in Sub-District No. 24, Tilghmanton, Md.¹¹ Prior to the draft, Benjamin Swain, Sr., was captured in his front yard by the Union Army. He was thought to be a Confederate spy. His wife, Lizzie, was baking bread that morning. He was held for three days before he was released. He later served for a short time (the Hundred Days' recruits?) in the Union Army.

John W. Swain, age 19, enlisted as a private on Aug. 12, 1862; he was transferred on Apr. 8, 1865 to Company H, Maryland 13th Infantry Regiment; he was mustered out on May 29, 1865 at Baltimore, Md. as a private.

The Civil War ended on April 9, 1865.

The 1870 census reported Samuel Boyer, age 57, a Forwarding Merchant [i.e. forwarding mercout, French translation, ferryman over short water] with real estate valued at \$14,000 and a personal estate valued at \$21,000, living in Bakersville, Md.¹² Living with him were: Minerva, age 42, wife; William H., age 19, son; Charles E., age 14, son; Nanny A., age 9, daughter;

⁷ 1860 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 9/1/1860, p. 227.

⁸ 1860 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 9/1/1860, p. 230.

⁹ 1860 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 9/5/1860, p. 243.

¹⁰ 1860 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 8/31/1860, p. 220.

¹¹ U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations, Maryland, 4th Congressional District, enumerated 8/1863, p. 388.

¹² 1870 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Bakersville, enumerated on 6/24/1870, p. 29.

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Edmonia, age 7, daughter; Isaac M., age 5, son; Thomas J., age 2, son; and a female domestic servant. All these children were by Samuel's second wife, Minerva McCoy of McCoy's Ferry family.

The 1870 census listed John T. Swaine, age 48, Boating on the Canal, with real estate valued at \$200 and a personal estate valued at \$600, living in Sharpsburg.¹³ Living with him were: Elizabeth, age 43, wife; John T., age 21, son, Boating on Canal; Charles H., age 17, son, Boating on the Canal; Ella, age 14, daughter; Virginia, age 12, daughter; William F., age 10, son; Ida F., age 6, daughter; Abbie, age 4, daughter; and Jesse A., age 8/12, son.

The 1870 census also listed Samuel Swaine, age 49, Boating on the Canal, with real estate valued at \$500 and a personal estate valued at \$100, living in Sharpsburg.¹⁴ Living with him were: Sarah Swaine, age 34, wife; Fannie, age 16, daughter; Hiram, age 14, son; and William H., age 6, son.

The 1870 census also reported John W. Swaine, age 26, Boating on the Canal, with a personal estate valued at \$600, living in Sharpsburg.¹⁵ Living with him were: Georgiana, age 20, wife; and Charles E., age 4, son.

In 1870 Henry Thomas Weld sold to Thomas Donnelly the canal boat *S. S. Cunningham*.¹⁶ This is of interest, because in 1873 Charles Henry "Hen" Swain and Frisby Renner borrowed \$400 from Samuel Johann Boyer,¹⁷ to buy the four mules (Duckett, Sis, Patrick and Beck) with their rigging from the *S. S. Cunningham*.¹⁸ Presumably Charles Swain needed the mules and rigging for his canal boat. Samuel J. Boyer was the father-in-law of Benjamin Swain, Sr., and the father of Elizabeth "Lizzie" Boyer Swain whose mother was Native American Elizabeth Dun-a-wha. Elizabeth was brought from Niantic, Illinois, Northwest Territory to Hagerstown, Md. by a Hershberger family. The Boyer and Hershberger families are found to be neighbors in the census in south Hagerstown. Both families attended St. John's Lutheran Church on South Potomac Street. Elizabeth was baptized at the age of five. Her birth name was Colloneneeskee Chashetstah DUN-A-WHA, [i.e. later Elizabeth Hershberger]. She is buried in the Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery in Bakersville, Md. with her Indian name, Elizabeth Dun-a-wha Boyer, on the tombstone.

In August, 1870 we read: "**Child Drowned** - A child aged about 5 years, son of John Whittington, was drowned in the C. & O. Canal, near Mercerville, a few days ago. A jury was empaneled by Mr. Samuel Boyer, who rendered a verdict of accidental drowning."¹⁹ Based on that article, it seems that Samuel Boyer was a Justice of the Peace, Washington County in 1870.

During the decade of 1870, canal boats named after family members made the following number of trips from Cumberland to Georgetown or Alexandria, carrying coal:

¹³ 1870 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 8/3/1870, p. 16.

¹⁴ 1870 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 8/2/1870, p. 6.

¹⁵ 1870 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 8/2/1870, p. 7.

¹⁶ Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD, Deed Book WMcKK 1, p. 450, recorded 4/23/1870.

¹⁷ Photograph from the H. Marcellus Swain Collection, with permission.

¹⁸ Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD, Deed Book WMcKK 5, p. 485, recorded 3/18/1873.

¹⁹ *Shepherdstown Register*, Shepherdstown, W. Va., newspaper, Saturday, 8/13/1870, p. 2

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Boat Name	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879
Samuel Swain	1	9	11	17	11	10	13	0
Samuel Boyer	1							
Minerva Boyer			8	14	19	10	5	
William H. Boyer	1	10	14	2				
Isaac M. Boyer		6	4	16	17	10	11	1
Thomas J. Boyer		12	17	19	11	13	18	1
Annie May Grove				2	16	12	17	

Of note is that most of these boats were captained by other Sharpsburg residents; Capt. Grove took the canal boat A. M. Grove most of the time, 1875 – 1878. Capt. Spong took the canal boat Isaac M. Boyer, a son of Samuel J. Boyer, all 10 times in 1877. And, William H. Boyer did take the canal boat Minerva Boyer on 9 of its 10 trips in 1877.

On April 2, 1872, William H. Boyer, age 21, married Martha A. Mose, age 19, in Sharpsburg, Washington County, Md.²⁰

The canal boat *William Hill* was registered on 3/1/1873 as owned by John Swain, Sr., of Sharpsburg.²¹ The boat made 7 trips in 1873, 9 trips in 1874 and 3 trips in 1875, presumably with Capt. John Swain, Sr., but the records do not indicate the captain's name.

In 1876, a Capt. Swain took the canal boat Wm. Hill on 14 of 15 trips, with Capt. Grove taking her on the one other trip. Also in 1876, a Capt. Swain took the canal boat A. F. Lantz on 15 of 15 trips; F. F. Davis on 7 of 7 trips. And in 1876 the S. S. Howison made 11 trips with a Capt. Swain, for the American Coal Company and one trip for the Consolidation Coal Company, presumably with Capt. John T. Swain.

The next record we have found of John T. Swain, was in the 1878 Boat Register²² wherein the canal boat *S. S. Howison* was captained by John T. Swain, owned by American Coal Company, built by Doerner & Bender in 1872 and employed by American Coal Company. From a newspaper of the same year, 1878,²³ we find:

Departure	Name of Boat	Destination
April 30	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
May 15	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
June 1	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
June 22	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
July 24	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
Sep. 18	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
Oct. 7	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
Nov. 1	S. S. Howison	Alexandria
Nov. 18	S. S. Howison	Alexandria

²⁰ Washington County Free Library, Marriage Records.

²¹ "Registers Issued to Boats to Navigate the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, 1873, 1874, 1875." available from www.candocanal.org/histdocs/index.html

²² *Register of Boats Employed on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Jan 1st 1878*, available from www.candocanal.org/histdocs/index.html.

²³ *Daily Alleganian and Times*, Cumberland, MD, newspaper, 1878.

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The first three trips appear normal, taking about 17 days for the round trip; suggesting normal daylight operations. The June 22 to July 24 round trip was 32 days. The same newspaper reported the *S. S. Howison* arriving in Alexandria on July 10 and departing on July 11. That would mean 18 days to descend and 13 days to ascend, which was not a very fast pace. Then the July 24 to Sept. 18 round trip was 56 days. During that trip the same newspaper reported: the water was drawn off at Seneca to repair a lock gate; heavy rains damaged two culverts which had to be repaired; a canal boat got imbedded in the silt washed down with the heavy rains into Rock Creek closing navigation; American Coal Co. suspended shipments of coal from Cumberland to Alexandria owing to the large stock on hand at their wharves in that city; there was a break at the log wall; and navigation was interrupted due to repairs on an Aqueduct. The *S.S. Howison* arrived in Alexandria on Sept. 9th and departed the same day. That was 47 days to descend and 9 days to ascend. The remaining three trips averaged 20 days per round trip, 13 days to descend and 7 days to ascend, on average.

John T. Swain, Sr., born 1820, had a son, John T. Swain, Jr. born 1848. So, when we look in the 1878 Boat Register we find the canal boat *A. F. Lantz*, captained by John Swain and owned by John Swain, built by Consolidation Coal Company in 1874 and employed by Consolidation Coal Company, however, a Bill of Sale has not been found. John, Sr. would have been 58 years old and John, Jr. would have been 30 years old. The *A. F. Lantz* was probably owned and captained by John Sr. with John, Jr. being the captain for the *S. S. Howison* mentioned above; the 1870 and 1880 censuses list both as “boatman.” From the same newspaper for 1878 we find:

Departure	Name of Boat	Destination
May 4	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
May 21	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
June 6	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
June 27	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
July 18	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
Aug 22	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
Sept. 3	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
Sept. 17	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
Oct. 9	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
Oct. 25	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown
Nov. 8	A. F. Lantz	Georgetown

The first four trips appear normal, taking about 19 days round trip; suggesting normal daylight operations. Then the July 18 to Aug. 22 round trip was 35 days. The interruptions to navigation mentioned above probably contributed to the long trip. However, since this Capt. Swain was freighting for Consolidation Coal Co. to wharves in Georgetown there was not a suspension of shipments. The remaining five trips averaged 15.6 days per round trip; a little faster pace but still daylight hours.

The 1878 newspaper also records canal boats named: *W. M. Hill*, *F. F. [Frisby Frances] Davis* and *Wm. Young* with Capt. Swain, freighting coal. The 1878 Boat Register does not list *W. M. Hill* or *F. F. Davis* as canal boats but rather canal boat captains. The 1878 Boat Register for the canal boat *Wm. Young* lists Capt. Charles Reeves as in charge. So, the identity of this other Capt. Swain is unknown, although we suspect it could have been Charles Henry Swain, per Mark Swain, this person was known as “Hen.”

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The next record we have found, in 1879, was an account of Baptism by Immersion:

"Baptism by Immersion

On Thursday last at 2 P.M. quite a number of persons assembled in Rushville, about one mile west of town, on the Potomac River, to witness the baptism by immersion of twenty-one candidates who had made application for admission into the denomination known as the Wmebrennarian [*sic*, Winebrenner], or Church of God. The exercises consisted of the singing of a hymn, followed with prayer, and an address by the pastor, Rev. S. W. Naill. The mode of baptism is as follows. The candidate is led into the water and immersed once backward in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The following are the names of those who were baptized: W. H. [William Henry] Boyer and wife [Martha Ann Mose Boyer], John [William] Swain and wife [Georgiana Brashears Swain], . . Franklin Swain . . ."24

The 1880 census reported George Swain, age 63, Laborer, living in Sharpsburg.²⁵ Living with him were: Elizabeth, age 58, wife; Martha, age 30, daughter; and George, age 19, son, Laborer.

The 1880 census reported Samuel Swain, age 57, Farm Laborer, living in Tilghmanton District.²⁶ Living with him were: Sarah, age 52, wife; W. H., age 15, son; and Hiram, age 22, son.

The 1880 census reported Benjamin Swain, age 56, a farm worker, living in Tilghmanton, Md.²⁷ Living with him were: S. Elizabeth, age 44, wife; Samuel L., age 24, son, works on a farm; Emma, age 21, daughter, domestic; Benjamin, age 14, son, works on farm; Charles L., age 11, son; and James E., age 9, son.

The 1880 census listed John W. Swain, age 36, Boatman, living in Sharpsburg.²⁸ Living with him were: George Ann, age 32, wife; Charles E., age 14, son, works on boat; Bertha A., age 8, daughter; Edna C., age 4, daughter; and Harvey V., age 1, son.

The 1880 census reported William H. Boyer, age 29, Laborer, living in Sharpsburg.²⁹ Living with him were: Martha A., age 27, wife; Clarence N., age 7, son; Nannie L., age 5, daughter; Harry M. C., age 2, son; and John S., age 6/12, son.

We find that Capt. John Swain captained the canal boat *J. P. Hewitt* in 1887 as follows:³⁰

Departure	Name of Boat	Destination
April 5	J. P. Hewitt	Williamsport
Apr. 15	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
May 26	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
June 9	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
July 14	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
Aug. 17	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
Aug. 27	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
Sep. 15	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown

²⁴ *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, April 2, 1879, p. 2.

²⁵ 1880 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 6/1/1880, p. 1.

²⁶ 1880 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Tilghmanton, enumerated on 6/12/1880, p. 19.

²⁷ 1880 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Tilghmanton, enumerated on 8/1/1880, p. 2.

²⁸ 1880 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 6/3/1880, p. 11.

²⁹ 1880 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 6/1/1880, p. 1A.

³⁰ *Compilation of Canal Trade Articles – 1887*, available from www.candocanal.org/histdocs/index.html.

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Sep. 30	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
Oct. 12	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
Oct. 31	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown
Nov. 22	J. P. Hewitt	Georgetown

All the coal was consigned by Consolidation Coal Co., excepting only the 9/30/1887 load. The trips appear to take at least ten days, usually longer, suggesting only daytime freighting. That same year, 1887, a Capt. Swain captained the canal boats: H. Roussel 12 trips, Fred Williams once, Allan Campbell 6 trips, James E. Dyer & Bro. once and Elbe River 9 trips. We haven't found which Capt. Swain captained which canal boat.

On Feb. 23, 1889, Charles E. Boyer had the adjacent studio portrait made.

On Jan. 20, 1890, William H. Boyer was appointed U. S. Postmaster for Sharpsburg, Md. and remained at that post until July 5, 1892.³¹

Samuel Swain died on Apr. 3, 1890. His obituary read: **"DIED – SWAIN** – On Thursday night, April 3, at his home in Sharpsburg, Mr. Samuel Swain, aged 68 years, 4 months and 22 days."³² A week later the newspaper reported: "Tuesday, April 15, 1890 – Letters of administration on the personal estate of Samuel Swain, deceased, granted unto Charles S. Wade."³³

George H. Swain died on Dec. 11, 1890. His obituary read: **"DIED – SWAIN** – On Thursday, December 11, at Sharpsburg, at his home, Mr. George H. Swain, aged 71 years, 5 months and 23 days."³⁴



In 1891, we have the death of Samuel Johann Boyer reported:

"Death of Samuel Boyer. - Mr. Samuel Boyer died at ten o'clock last Friday night at his residence near Mercerville. His illness was of brief duration - not over twenty-four hours; death resulted from a severe attack of cholera morbus. Mr. Boyer was a native of Virginia, and was born December 29, 1813. He was therefore, 77 years, 5 months and 13 days old. He was twice married, and was the father of fourteen children, seven by each wife. Two of his first wife's children are dead. His other twelve children survive him, and they are all married but a son, Thomas. They are Mrs. Elizabeth Swain, W. H. Boyer, Mrs. Ettie Brashears, Isaac M. Boyer, of Sharpsburg; Samuel W. Boyer, of California; Mrs. Margaret Mongan, Thomas J. Boyer, Mrs. Mollie C. W. Heck, of Bakersville; Mrs. Ellen Knode, Mrs. Virginia Harper, Charles E. Boyer, of Mercerville, and Mrs. Nannie A. Whittington, of Roanoke, Va. Mr. Boyer lived in this county for

³¹ *Appointments of U. S. Postmasters, 1832-1971*, Vol. #62, p. 541.

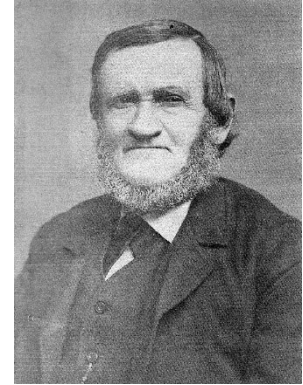
³² *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, April 10, 1890, p. 3.

³³ *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, April 17, 1890, p. 3.

³⁴ *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, December 18, 1890, p. 2.

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sixty years. Before the war, he was engaged in buying and selling flour, corn, etc., in partnership at different times with Messrs. Watson & Emmert. Since the war, he was a grain merchant at Mercerville, until within the last few years. He was also a justice of the peace and road supervisor for a number of years. He was a Whig until the outbreak of the war, when he became a Republican and was identified with the latter party until his death. He was also a member of the Church of God. His funeral occurred Sunday afternoon. Services were conducted at the church at Bakersville, where his remains were interred."³⁵



The adjacent photograph was taken late in his life.

The John T. Swain, Sr. family had some financial difficulties; they were unable to pay the 1888, 1889, 1890 and 1891 State and County taxes. Then John Swain had a stroke, reported in the newspaper:

"Mr. John T. Swain, of Sharpsburg, suffered a stroke of paralysis on his canal boat recently, a few miles below Williamsport. He is seventy years old and has been a boatman ever since the canal has been in operation."³⁶

The home was sold at Public Auction to Aaron C. and Annie Pry. On March 17, 1893, the Circuit Court of Washington County proceeded to ratify and confirm the sale on April 14, 1893.³⁷ Later in 1893 we read: "Mr. John Swain, Sr., is quite ill with little hope of recovery."³⁸ And then the obituary:

"Death of John Swain

Mr. John Swain died in Sharpsburg on Wednesday from the effects of paralysis. He resided on Chaplain Street and was over seventy years old. The deceased was well known and for many years was a canal boatman. Several years ago, he was paralyzed and has been in feeble health ever since. The deceased leaves a wife and a large family of children, all grown. Funeral Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock."³⁹



In 1895, Charles Luther Swain married Cora Elizabeth Colbert. The adjacent studio photograph may well be their wedding photograph.

³⁵ *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, June 18, 1891, p. 3.

³⁶ *The Shepherdstown Register*, Shepherdstown, WV, newspaper, Nov. 13, 1891.

³⁷ *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Mar. 23, 1893, p. 6. See also Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD, Deed Book 102, p. 120, dated 5/8/1894.

³⁸ *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Dec. 7, 1893, p. 6.

³⁹ *The Herald and Torch Light*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Dec. 21, 1893, p. 7. See also *Ibid.* p. 6 in the stories from the Sharpsburg Correspondent, dated Dec. 21, '93 which reports: "Mr. John Swain died today, will be buried Friday at 2 o'clock p.m." We use 12/20/1893 in deference to the local correspondent.

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"The same rains which caused the historic Johnstown Floods of June 1889 left the canal a total wreck. The canal company was unable to raise sufficient funds to repair the canal and found it necessary to declare bankruptcy. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (as the major bondholder) offered to restore the canal, knowing that a railroad competitor was likely to buy the canal if there was a forced sale. The Maryland Circuit Court for Washington County at Hagerstown, Maryland, authorized the B. & O. Railroad to complete repairs and to operate the canal as a 'last ditch' effort. The railroad completed repairs to the canal in 1891 and it was back in operation in 1892. The receivers then organized a subsidiary corporation, the Canal Transportation Company, as a device to enable the canal (through funds received from the railroad) to show a profit each year as required by the court order. The new transportation company agreed to provide any additional boats required and to keep the canal navigable. The contract, dated 1894, went into effect on 1 January 1896."⁴⁰ Thus by the time Clifford C. Swain went on the canal, the canal was in the receivership period. Clifford Swain remembered going on the canal in 1895 at about 6 years of age.⁴¹ He also remembered starting to drive mules when he was about 10 years old. At this point it is appropriate to insert some historical photographs taken on the canal in the area of Snyder's Landing. The photograph below is of an unidentified canal boat family tied up



on the berm side of the canal; that white building visible through the trees is the store/warehouse at Snyder's Landing. We suspect the family swimming in the canal, shown below, is the same

⁴⁰ Hahn, Thomas F., *THE C. & O. CANAL BOATMEN · 1892-1924*, © 1980, p. 9.

⁴¹ *Interview with Clifford Swain by Ross Holland, CHOH #46 OHT, 7/8/1965, pp. 2, 3.*

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family. The boat looks to be Canal Towage Co. Boat No. 42.

The Benjamin Swain, Jr., Howard Milton Swain and Boyer family farms were located along the canal/river between Snyder's Landing and Boyer's Landing (now called Taylor's landing). There are related families still living in the area. Marcellus relates he went to Snyder's Landing and watched the men pull his cousin, George Richard Poffenberger, a teenager about 14 years old, out of the canal. He had fallen in and drowned in 1930. Marcellus said George got his foot caught on a rock and couldn't get loose. Very few canal people could swim.

For a light boat ascending the canal the view would be as shown adjacent. Notice the suspension bridge across the canal. The town of Sharpsburg, where the Swain family lived, was to the right. Canal mothers would bring clean clothes and a hot meal to their families by crossing the suspension bridge to the towpath, on the left, where the packages could be passed up to her husband and son(s) without the boat coming to a full stop. If feed or other supplies were needed the suspension bridge gave access to the store on the berm side. When a light boat wanted to carry a back load to Cumberland it could pull over on the berm side, tying up right at the



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warehouse where bulk quantities or sacks of grain or other agricultural products, e.g. bales of hay could be loaded.



The Canal Company required a 14' clearance between the water surface and the lowest portion of any overhead structure. With a light boat and the awning up, as shown in the adjacent photograph, the requirement was continued by the receivers.

Notice the flags flying from the front of the foreword cabin. These were a help to the steersman in keeping the bow of the boat away from the berm bank.

Also notice the stockpiled coal on the far side of the warehouse; the coal for sale to Sharpsburg citizens.

The adjacent photograph is of the suspension bridge stairs and landing on the towpath side, actually the towpath also goes under the suspension bridge. Walking down from Sharpsburg to view the passing boats was an outing for the family.

The widow, Elizabeth E. Swain, still had financial difficulties. In July 1896, she bought the home place back from Aaron and Annie Pry for \$85⁴² but also had to mortgage that home place for \$260.⁴³ The mortgage was released on Feb. 12, 1904.⁴⁴

During July 1897, Annie Swain was instrumental in saving the life of Mr. Frisby T. Staubs, who attempted



⁴² Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD, Deed Book 105, p. 311, recorded 7/15/1892

⁴³ Washington County Courthouse, Hagerstown, MD, Deed Book 105, p. 312, recorded 7/15/1892.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

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suicide as related in a newspaper article attached at the back of this report.



Circa 1899, the Benjamin S. Swain, Jr. family posed for the adjacent photograph. Identified left to right: Benjamin, Elmer Lester, wife Margaret A., baby John Luther, Howard M. and an unidentified male in the shadows.

The 1900 census reported John W. Swain, age 56, widowed, a Boatman, living on Chaplin street, Sharpsburg.⁴⁵ He was living with Benjamin Highberger, age 34, son-

in-law; Edna S., age 24, daughter; and Harvey V. Swain, age 22, son.

The 1900 census reported William H. Boyer, age 49, a Boatman, living in Sharpsburg, Md.⁴⁶ Living with him were: Martha A., age 47, wife; Clarence N., age 27, son, a Boatman; Nannie L., age 25, daughter; Harry L., age 22, son, a Farm Laborer; John S., age 20, son, a Bill Clerk;



Charles M., age 18, son, a Boatman; Thomas, age 15, son; Eva, age 11, daughter; Bessie, age 8, daughter; Martha, age 6, daughter; William H., age 3, son; and Mary J. Mose, age 68, mother-in-law.

The 1900 census listed Benjamin Swain, [Jr.], age 30, a Farmer, living in Tilghmanton, Md.⁴⁷

Living with him were: Margaret A., age 28, wife, who had 3 children and all were then still living; Elmer, age 9, son; Howard M., age 7, son; John L., age 1, son, and Susan E. age 65, mother, who had 11 children, 6 of whom were then still living.

Circa 1905, the adjacent photograph of the Charles L. and Elizabeth C. Swain children, from left to right: Myrtle, Pearl and Hugh, was taken in a studio.

In 1906 Robert D. Swain married Mary Thomas (Mamie) McKelvey.

⁴⁵ 1900 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 6/21/1900, p. 20.

⁴⁶ 1900 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 6/19/1900, p. 12B.

⁴⁷ 1900 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Tilghmanton, enumerated on 6/9/1900, p. 7A.

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That same year a newspaper reported: "**WASHINGTON BOY DROWNED. - Was Mule Driver on William Swain's Canal Boat.** - CUMBERLAND, Md., June 28. - The body of Humphreys Davis, aged sixteen years, of Washington, D. C., was found floating in the Chesapeake and Ohio canal Tuesday afternoon, just below Oldtown. Coroner George Martz went to Oldtown and made an investigation yesterday. The drowning, it is thought, was the result of accident. Davis was in the employ of William Swain, of Sharpsburg, who runs a canal boat, as mule driver. As the boat of Swain was being taken through the lock Sunday night Davis was missed. Swain said he could not account for the sudden disappearance of the boy unless he ran away. Nothing further was thought of the matter until the discovery of the body. The boy has an aunt in Washington, D. C. His body was interred at the cemetery in Oldtown yesterday.

"There is some criticism of Swain for not looking more into the sudden disappearance of the boy. From what persons who were about the lock at the time say, the boy, while no one saw him fall into the water, must have walked right in, through a gate left open, but was thought to have been closed. Relatives in Washington will be hunted up by the canal authorities."⁴⁸

Later that same year James Franklin Swain died; his obituary read:

"**Franklin Swain**, a well-known resident of Sharpsburg, was found dead in bed at 7 o'clock Friday a.m., by his wife. He had been dead for several hours. Death was due to a stroke of paralysis. Mr. Swain was paralyzed 13 years ago and had been an invalid since and was only able to go about in a wheelchair.

"He had formerly been a boatman on the canal and was a member of the Lutheran church.

"He is survived by his wife and several sons and daughters.

"Funeral Sunday at 4 o'clock; interment in Mountain View Cemetery."⁴⁹

The Benjamin Swain Jr. family farm was near Sharpsburg; the family gathered circa 1908 for the following photograph.⁵⁰ They are identified, left to right, as: son Howard Milton Swain, son John Luther Swain, mother Elizabeth Boyer Swain, son Raymond Emanuel Swain, wife Margaret Poffenberger Swain, Benjamin Samuel Swain, Jr., and son Elmer Lester Swain.



⁴⁸ *Evening Star*, Washington, D. C., Thursday, 6/28/1906, p. 10.

⁴⁹ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, Md., newspaper, August 3, 1906.

⁵⁰ Photograph from the H. Marcellus Swain Collection, with permission.

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In 1908, the newspaper reported the death of Clifford Swain's mother:

"Death of Mrs. Swain

Mrs. Annie Swain, wife of Henry Swain, a boatman on the C. & O. canal, died Sunday morning at her home, Sharpsburg, from paralysis, aged about 45 years. Mrs. Swain was stricken while on her husband's boat Saturday morning, and was unconscious nearly all the time up to the time of her death. She was a native of Sharpsburg and was a member of the Lutheran church. Surviving are her husband and eight children."⁵¹

Clifford Swain remembered leaving the canal in 1909 when he was 19 years old.⁵² At the time he hated life on the canal, he wanted to do something else. Years later he realized life on the canal was an easy life but he did not regret leaving as he bettered himself, picked up some education, had some good jobs and raised his family.

In 1910 Charles H. Swain and family were living on Antietam Street in Sharpsburg, MD.⁵³ He was a widower; his occupation was reported as Laborer, Boatman C & O. Son, Lloyd H. Swain, age 25, had the same occupation while son, Clifford C. Swain, age 19, had his occupation reported as Laborer, Dying Mill (he had already left the canal). Daughter, Mamie F. Swain, age 17, was running the household; daughter Grace M. Swain, age 13, and son Leonard Swain, age 11, were presumably going to school.

The 1910 census reported William H. Boyer, age 59, a C. & O. Canal Boatman, living in Sharpsburg.⁵⁴ Living with him were: Martha A., age 57, wife; Nannie L., age 35, daughter; Charles M., age 27, son, a C. & O. Canal Boatman; Edna J., age 21, daughter; Bessie L., age 18, daughter; Martha M., age 16, daughter; and William H., age 13, son.

The 1910 census reported Benjamin Swain, age 43, a Farmer, living in Downsville.⁵⁵ Living with him were: Margaret A., age 38, wife, she had 4 children all of whom were then still living; Elmer L., age 19, son, working on home farm; Howard M., age 17, son, working on home farm; John L., age 11, son; Raymond E., age 4, son; and Susan E., age 75, mother, she had 11 children of whom 6 were then still living.

⁵¹ *The Evening Times*, Cumberland, MD, newspaper, Tuesday, June 9, 1908, p. A-1.

⁵² *Interview with Clifford Swain by Ross Holland*, CHOH #46 OHT, 7/8/1965, pp. 9, 10.

⁵³ 1910 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 5/6/1910, p. 18 B.

⁵⁴ 1910 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 5/21/1910, p. 12B

⁵⁵ 1910 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 5/4/1910, p. 7B

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The adjacent photograph of Charles Henry Swain was taken in Dec. 1912. In 1912 Clifford C. Swain married Helen Forrest DeLauney and Marjorie Cliffordene Swain was born on June 26, 1916.

On Sept. 29, 1913 a newspaper reported:

"Lock Tender Found Drowned in Canal

"Floating in the lock which he had tended for many years, the body of John Swain, [Jr.] sixty years old, keeper of No. 14 lock, of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, was found yesterday. How the aged man was drowned nobody knows. It is believed, however, that Swain, whose station is at the head of the seven locks, a short distance above Cabin John, got up during the night to attend to something about the canal, lost his balance, and fell overboard. An investigation by the coroner resulted in a certificate of accidental death being issued."⁵⁶ Another newspaper had the following story: "Missed by his wife when she went to his room to call him to breakfast, the body of John Swain, veteran keeper of

Lock No. 14 of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, early yesterday morning was found floating in the canal a hundred feet below. How Swain was drowned no one seems to know.

"It is thought that during the night Swain went out to turn the water into the lock, and accidentally fell. His watch had stopped at "12:50" o'clock.

"Shortly after 6:30 Mrs. Swain went to her husband's room. Not finding him there she searched in other parts of the house. Alarmed at her failure to find him, she went to Lock No. 12 several hundred yards below, and asked Keeper Stephenson whether her husband had been there. Together Mrs. Swain and Stephenson began a search for the veteran keeper. His body was found floating in the canal, not far from his home."⁵⁷

Circa 1915, Hugh L. Swain would be 20 years old and had the adjacent studio photograph taken.

World War I came along and men had to register for the draft, including:

Harvey Vister Swain, born Jan. 31, 1878, then living at 233 Virginia Ave., Cumberland, Md.,



⁵⁶ *The Washington Times*, Washington, D.C., newspaper, Monday, 9/29/1913, p. 4.

⁵⁷ *The Washington Herald*, Washington, D. C., newspaper, Monday. 9/29/1913, p. 2.

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and working as a Steel Worker for N. & J. Taylor, Cumberland, Md.⁵⁸ His nearest relative was Minnie Swain of the home address. He was tall in height, stout of build, with blue eyes, and brown hair.

Newton A. Swain, born July 22, 1873, then living at 344 South Second Street, Dauphin, Pa., and working as a Laborer at B. S. Co., Steelton, Pa.⁵⁹ His nearest relative was Mrs. Clara Swain, of the home address. He was of short height, medium build, light blue eyes, and dark brown hair. He had already served in the Army from 6/28/1898 until 4/10/1899, during the Spanish – American War, and was discharged as a Private, 2nd Regiment, W. Va. Infantry. and died 4/11/1948, he was buried in Baldwin Cemetery, Steelton, Pa.⁶⁰ He was apparently married twice: the first marriage was to Anna Margaret **Cormany**, b. 1868, d. 1916, and then to Clara ---, whom he married on Sep. 8, 1917, days before he registered for the draft. They had one child, Newton Ausbury Swain, Jr., b. 1921, d. 2000.

Robert Swain, born Nov. 27, 1879. then living in Williamsport, Md. and working as a Laborer at Keystone Lime Stone Co., Hinesburg, Pa.⁶¹ His nearest relative was Mamie Swain, [wife], Williamsport, Md. He was short of height, stout build, blue eyes and black hair.

Lloyd H. Swain, born May 1884, then living at 420 Salem Ave., Sharpsburg, Md. and working in his own store, restaurant on Salem Ave.⁶² His nearest relative was Henry Swain, Sharpsburg, Md. He was short of height, stout build, blue eyes and light hair.

Clifford Charles Swain, born June 4, 1890, then living at 512 W. Church St., Hagerstown, Md. and working as a Travelling Machine Erector for Pangborn Corp.⁶³ He was married with a wife and child. He was medium of height, medium of build, blue eyes and brown hair. Because he was married with one child, he was exempted from service.

Leonard Swain, born Oct. 26, 1899, then living at Virginia Ave., Hagerstown, Md. and working for the Western Maryland Railroad Co., Hagerstown, Md.⁶⁴ His nearest relative was Annabell Swain [an older sister b. 1882] of Virginia Ave. Hagerstown, Md. He was of medium height, stout build, with blue eyes and light hair.

Bertram Earl Swain, born May 17, 1892, then living in Sharpsburg, Md. and boating on the C. & O. Canal for his father [William F. Swain].⁶⁵ He was single with a child. He was of medium height, medium build, with blue eyes and light brown hair.

Clyde Elias Grove, born May 20, 1879, then living in Sharpsburg, Md. and was boating on the C. & O. Canal.⁶⁶ He had a wife living in Sharpsburg, Md. He was of medium height, medium build, with blue eyes and black hair.

Oliver Murphy Grove, born April 20, 1881, then living in Sharpsburg, Md. and working as a Boatman on the C. & O. Canal, out of Washington, D. C.⁶⁷ His nearest relative was Lulu Grove (Wife), of Sharpsburg, Md. He was of medium height, slender build, with blue eyes and black hair.

⁵⁸ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2825, Order A3438, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

⁵⁹ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2476, Order A3109, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

⁶⁰ U. S. Headstone Application for Military Veterans, Dauphin County, Pa., dated 5/4/1948.

⁶¹ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 684, Order 633, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

⁶² WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2375, Order 275, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

⁶³ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2225, Order 73, dated Sept. 5, 1918.

⁶⁴ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 3027, Order 1851, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

⁶⁵ WW-I Draft Registration Card Number 17, dated Sept. 5, 1918.

⁶⁶ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 48XX, Order 1897, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

⁶⁷ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2989, Order 1873, dated Sept. 7, 1918.

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John Thomas Murphy, born June 3, 1888, then living in Sharpsburg, Md. and working at Remington Guns Co., Eddystone, Pa.⁶⁸ He was single and supporting his mother [Virginia F. Swain Murphy]. He was of medium height, medium build, with gray eyes and dark brown hair.

Bertram Earl Swain, born May 17, 1892, then living in Sharpsburg, Md. and working for his father, boating on the C. & O. Canal. He was of medium height, medium build, with blue eyes, light brown hair and not bald.⁶⁹

John David Bell, born Apr. 29, 1885, then living at 1245 22nd St. NW, Washington, D.C. and working as a foreman at the Treasury Dept., Washington, D.C.⁷⁰ His nearest relative was Annie G. Bell [mother], of the same address. He was of medium height, medium build, with gray eyes and light brown hair.

Charles Edward Swain, born Jan. 14, 1892, then living in Williamsport, Md., and working as a Laborer at W. D. Bynum & Sons.⁷¹ He was married with two children. He was short in height, slender in build, with blue eyes, light hair, and not bald.

Elmer Lester Swain, born Mar. 18, 1891, then living in Sharpsburg, Md., and farming for himself in Downsville, Md..⁷² He was married. He was medium in height, stout in build, gray eyes, light hair and not bald.

Howard Milton Swain, born Nov. 25, 1893, then living on Route 1, Sharpsburg, Md., and farming for his father at the same address. He was single. He was tall in height, medium in build, blue eyes, light hair and not bald.

John Luther Swain, born July 19, 1898, then living on Route 1, Sharpsburg, Md., and farming for his father, Benjamin Swain.⁷³ His nearest relative was Margaret Swain of the home address. He was medium in height, medium in build, with brown eyes and brown hair.

1918 was the year of the Spanish flu which killed millions of people world-wide and in the U. S., about 28% of the population became infected, and 500,000 to 675,000 died. The highest mortality rates were among the young adults.⁷⁴ Two of which were Helen Forrest Swain and her second daughter Virginia DeLauney Swain. Clifford was heartbroken and unprepared to raise an infant while maintaining a job. The solution was to send Marjorie C. Swain to live with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas DeLauney, in Sharpsburg.

The 1920 census reported John W. Swain, age 76, widowed, living on Mechanic Street, Sharpsburg.⁷⁵ He was living with: Benjamin Highberger, age 54, son-in-law; Edna S., age 44, daughter; and four servants.

The 1920 census reported [Charles] Henry Swain, 67 years old, widowed, no occupation, living on Antietam Street (census dwelling #1), Sharpsburg, MD.⁷⁶ The same census reported Clifford

⁶⁸ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 1689, Order 34, dated June 5, 1917.

⁶⁹ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 735, Order 17, dated June 5, 1917.

⁷⁰ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 960, Order 449, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

⁷¹ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 1605, Order 54, dated Jun. 5, 1917

⁷² WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2286, Order 64, dated Jun. 5, 1917.

⁷³ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 167, Order 1025, dated Sept. 12, 1918

⁷⁴ *Control of Communicable Diseases Manual*, by Abram S. Benenson, Ed., 1995, p. 246.

⁷⁵ 1920 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 1/8/1920, p. 9A.

⁷⁶ 1920 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 1/2/1920, p. 1 A.

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Swain, 29 years old, widowed, as a Roomer with the William A. Bears family on West Washington Street, Hagerstown, MD.⁷⁷ His occupation was reported as a Machinist, Railroad.

The same census reported Thomas Clay and Laura Belle (Fisher) DeLauney as living on Antietam Street (census dwelling #21), Sharpsburg, MD, with: son Mervin Thomas, age 21; daughter, Mary Savilla, age 17; son, Lloyd W., age 14; granddaughter Margery Cliffordene Swain, age 3-6/12; and father-in-law, John W. Fisher, Sr., age 81 and widowed.⁷⁸

Then in Potomac, Montgomery County, MD the 1920 census listed Jessie Anderson Swain, 49 years old, widowed, living on River Road, occupation: Lock Tender, Canal [Lock 21].⁷⁹ This would have been [Charles] Henry Swain's youngest brother, and uncle to Clifford C. Swain.

The 1920 census also listed Benjamin Swain, age 53, a Farmer, living in Sharpsburg.⁸⁰ Living with him were: Margaret, age 48, wife; Howard, age 27, son, working on home farm; John, age 21, son, working on home farm; Raymond, age 14, son; and Inez, age 28, daughter-in-law.



By 1920 the children of Charles L. and Elizabeth C. Swain were all grown up and had a studio portrait taken, as shown to the left. Identified, left to right: Myrtle E., Hugh L. and Pearl L. Swain.

In 1922, William H. and Martha A. Boyer were living on Main street, Hagerstown; his occupation was Boatman.⁸¹ Their son, William H. Boyer, Jr., had a residence on Main street and he was a conductor. Their son Charles M. Boyer, also had a residence on Main street and he was a clerk.

Sometime about 1923 Clifford Swain married Mary Savilla DeLauney, sister to Helen Forrest DeLauney. By then Clifford had a job at a shoe factory and was able to bring his daughter, Marjorie, to live with them. Son, Maxwell Leo Swain was born to the couple on May 3, 1924, followed by son, Alfred Eugene Swain on Nov. 3, 1929;⁸² and lastly a son, Richard Lee Swain on Oct. 19, 1936.

⁷⁷ 1920 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Hagerstown, enumerated on 1/-/1920, p. 7 B.

⁷⁸ 1920 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 1/2/1920, p. 1 B.

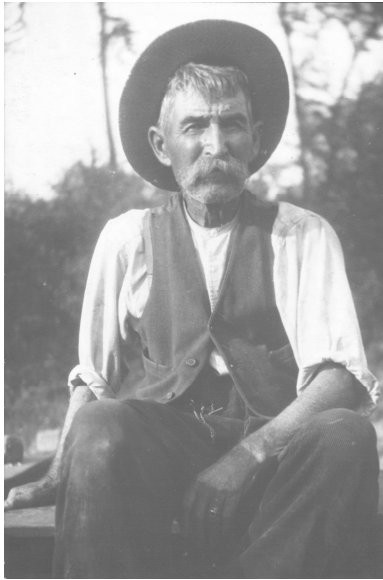
⁷⁹ 1920 Census, Maryland, Montgomery County, Potomac, enumerated on 1/8/1920, p. 3 A.

⁸⁰ 1920 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 1/13 & 14/1920, p 12B.

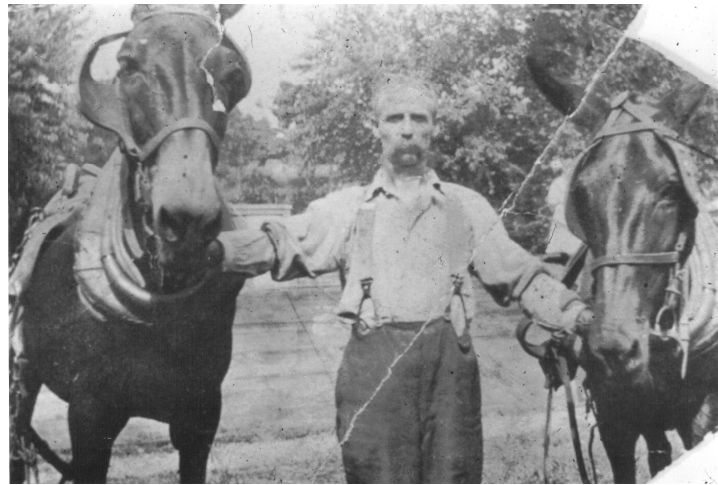
⁸¹ Hagerstown, Maryland, City Directory, 1922, p. 959.

⁸² *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD., newspaper, Monday, Nov. 4, 1929, p. 2.

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Marcellus stated the adjacent photo looks like his grandfather, Benjamin Swain, Jr., who he knew very well. And that the man in the adjacent photo and the photo below do not look like the same person. Marcellus and his family also knew Charles Henry Swain. The adjacent photograph was taken of Charles Henry Swain ca. 1925. The photograph below was taken about the same time.



John William Swain died on Mar. 16, 1925 and was buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Sharpsburg, Md. His obituary read: "JOHN W. SWAIN, aged resident of Sharpsburg, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frank Highberger, in Sharpsburg yesterday. Death resulted from a complication of diseases. He was 81 years, two months and five days old.

"Mr. Swain was a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church of Sharpsburg and was one of the oldest members of Magnolia Lodge, Knights of Pythias, of Sharpsburg.

"He is survived by three sons, Charles, Sharpsburg; Harvey, Cumberland; and Rodney, Harrisburg; one daughter, Mrs. Frank Highberger, Sharpsburg; and one brother, George, of Sharpsburg; and six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

"Funeral services were conducted at the Lutheran Church of Sharpsburg; burial was in Mountain View Cemetery; pallbearers were members of the Knights of Pythias of Sharpsburg."⁸³

William H. Boyer died on April 10, 1926 and was buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Sharpsburg, Md. His obituary remains to be found.

In May 1929 in **Sharpsburg Letter** we read: Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Swain and daughters, Edwina and Arvella, visited Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Swain and brother Howard.⁸⁴

The 1930 census listed Benjamin Swain, age 63, a Farmer, living in Sharpsburg.⁸⁵ Living with him were: Margaret A., age 58, wife; Raymond E., age 24, son, a Farmer; Annie M., age 20, daughter-in-law; and Herbert Renner, age 20, a lodger, working as a farm laborer.

⁸³ *Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, Md., newspaper, Tuesday, 3/17/1925.

⁸⁴ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, May 6, 1929, p. 7.

⁸⁵ 1930 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 4/19/1930, p. 8A.

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The 1930 census reported Clifford C. Swain, 39 years old, living on S. Cannon Avenue, Hagerstown, Md. where he worked as a laborer in a shoe factory.⁸⁶ He owns the home, which has a value of \$2,600 and they own a radio set. Living with him were: Mary S., 28 years old, wife; (they married when he was 22 and she was 20 years old); Marjorie C., 13 years old, daughter; Maxwell, 5 years old, son; and Alfred E., 5/12 years old, son.

The 1930 census reported Jessie A. Swain, 58 years old, still living on River Road [in Potomac], then his occupation was School Bus Driver; the canal had closed in 1924 and he continued to live in the lock house [Lock 21] with: Otho, 27 years old, son; Attica, 18 years old, daughter; and Jessie A., Jr., 15 years old, son.

The 1930 census also reported Bertram C. Swain, age 38, working as a foreman at an electric plane, living on Back Street, Sharpsburg.⁸⁷ Living with him were: Margaret M., age 32, wife; Mary M., age 10, daughter; Lottie V., age 7, daughter; Elwood L., age 5, son; Bertice E., age 3-5/12, daughter; Evelyn A., age 1-4/12, daughter; and William F. Swain, age 71, father.

From the **Downsville Letter** we read: Mrs. Benjamin Swain, Sharpsburg, was with the family of Lester Swain. And Mrs. Elmer Swain was on the sick list.⁸⁸ Then in April we read: Mrs. Benjamin Swain spent the week with her son, Elmer.⁸⁹ And in June we read: Edwina and Arvella Swain are spending the week with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Swain, Sharpsburg.⁹⁰

In August 1930, a newspaper reported:

"**Mrs. Ella Grove** - Mrs. Ella Grove, aged 75, died yesterday at 6:10 p.m. at her home at Sharpsburg.

She is survived by: Children, Mrs. Edward Mose, Mrs. Raleigh Bender, Clyde and Oliver Grove, Webber McGraw and Mrs. A. B. DeLauney, Sharpsburg; brothers and sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Cramer, Williamsport; Henry and William Swain, Sharpsburg; Mrs. Jeannie Murphy, Sharpsburg; Mrs. Thomas Bell, Keedysville; and Jessie Swain, Rockville.

The funeral will be held from the house on Monday at 2 p.m. by Rev. M. A. Ashby, pastor of the Lutheran church at Boonsboro. Interment in Mountain View Cemetery, Sharpsburg.

Note: Marcellus Swain was on the Mountain View Cemetery (Sharpsburg, MD) Board of Directors for several decades until 2013. Most of the local Sharpsburg families later in the 19th and the 20th centuries are buried in this "town" cemetery.

From the **Downsville Letter**, we read: Mrs. Blanche Boyer, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Swain and family visited the family of Benjamin Swain, Sharpsburg.⁹¹

Mary Savilla Swain was the only surviving daughter of Thomas and Laura DeLauney, Sharpsburg. The Hagerstown newspaper had a Sharpsburg correspondent who reported on local

⁸⁶ 1930 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Hagerstown, enumerated on 4/4/1930, p. 3 B.

⁸⁷ 1930 Census, Maryland, Washington County, Sharpsburg, enumerated on 4/4/1930, p. 5A.

⁸⁸ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Feb. 21, 1930.

⁸⁹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Apr. 25, 1930.

⁹⁰ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, Jun. 30, 1930, p. 2.

⁹¹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Feb. 20, 1931.

Swain Family History

events. In those days, it was eventful when the Clifford Swain family came to Sharpsburg to visit her parents, which they did on Mar. 25,⁹² April 8,⁹³ May 13,⁹⁴ Oct. 28, 1932,⁹⁵ and on June 2, 1933.⁹⁶ Perhaps the visits became so regular as to not be worth mentioning because the reporting of them was interrupted until April 7, 1939.⁹⁷ Although a newspaper did report that Mrs. Benjamin Swain of Sharpsburg was at the Irven home helping to care for Mrs. Irven.⁹⁸

In 1933 Clifford Swain's father died, the newspaper gave the following report:

"**Charles Henry Swain** died Saturday morning at 11 o'clock at the home of his daughter, Mrs. R. T. Staubs, 1111 Virginia Avenue, aged 81 years.

He was a retired boatman on the C. and O. Canal and was formerly from Sharpsburg.

Surviving are: Daughters, Mrs. R. T. Staubs, this city; Mrs. Reuben Koontz, Johnstown, Pa.; Mrs. Oliver Crampton, this city; Mrs. Melvin Butts, this city; Mrs. Guy Stockslager, Downsville Pike, and Miss Lila Swain, this city; sons, Lloyd and Clifford Swain, this city; Robert Swain, Williamsport, and Leonard Swain, Sharpsburg; sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Creamer, Williamsport; Mrs. Jenny Murphy, Sharpsburg, and Mrs. Abbie Bell, Keedysville; brothers, William Swain, Sharpsburg, and Jesse Swain, near Washington, D.C.

Thirty-six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren also survive.

The funeral will be held Monday afternoon, leaving the late home, 1111 Virginia Avenue, at 2 o'clock, services in the Lutheran church at Sharpsburg at 2:30 o'clock by Rev. Mr. Chapman. Internment in Mountain View Cemetery."⁹⁹

In January 1936, Benjamin Swain was confined to his home with a severe attack of Grippe.¹⁰⁰

On May 8, 1939 Jessie A. Swain of Potomac, MD [Lock 21] died;¹⁰¹ he was a brother to Charles Henry Swain, see above obituary. Jessie's son, Robert Lee and Virginia Mae Swain (married in 1930) continued to live in the lockhouse, paying \$5 per month rent. They started a family.

Clifford C. Swain was an independent grocer as recorded in the city directory for 1937-38,¹⁰² 1940-41,¹⁰³ 1942-43¹⁰⁴ and 1945-46.¹⁰⁵ In each reference the retail grocery and the residence had the same address, 112 S. Cannon Ave., which would suggest the Swain family lived above or behind their grocery store, it being one structure. He had probably left the shoe factory job.

Howard Marcellus Swain, son of Howard Milton Swain, grandson of Benjamin Swain, Jr., great-grandson of Benjamin Swain, Sr., and great-great-grandson of Samuel Johann Boyer, grew up in Sharpsburg, graduated from Boonsboro High School in 1943 and Columbia Business College in

⁹² *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, March 25, 1932.

⁹³ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, April 8, 1932.

⁹⁴ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, May 13, 1932.

⁹⁵ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, Oct. 28, 1932, p. 10.

⁹⁶ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, June 2, 1933, p. 2.

⁹⁷ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, April 7, 1939, p. 9.

⁹⁸ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, Sep. 27, 1933, p. 8.,

⁹⁹ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, Nov. 13, 1933, p. 10.

¹⁰⁰ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Jan. 23, 1936, p. 6.

¹⁰¹ *The Washington Post*, Washington, D.C., newspaper, Obituary, 1939.

¹⁰² *Polk's HAGERSTOWN CITY DIRECTORY, 1937-38*, R. L. Polk & Co., Pub., Balt., MD, pp. 449 & 675.

¹⁰³ *Polk's HAGERSTOWN CITY DIRECTORY, 1940-41*, R. L. Polk & Co., Pub., Balt., MD, pp. 378 & 588.

¹⁰⁴ *Polk's HAGERSTOWN CITY DIRECTORY, 1942-43*, R. L. Polk & Co., Pub., Balt., MD, pp. 399.

¹⁰⁵ *Polk's HAGERSTOWN CITY DIRECTORY, 1945-46*, R. L. Polk & Co., Pub., Balt., MD, pp. 509 & 569.

Swain Family History

Hagerstown, MD in 1943. Marcellus lived in Washington County, MD all of his life and knew many of the people in this story.

Then World War II came along and men had to register for the draft, including:

Clifford Charles Swain, born June 4, 1890, living at 112 S. Cannon Ave., Hagerstown, Md. and self-employed.¹⁰⁶ Roy Mowen, 1452 Oak Hill Ave., Hagerstown, Md. would always know his address. He was 51 years old, height 5'-5", weight 160, blue eyes, brown hair, with light complexion.¹⁰⁷

Clyde Elias Grove, born May 20, 1879, living in Sharpsburg, Md. and not employed. Allen Grove, Sharpsburg, Md. would always know his address. He was 62 years old, height 5'-5", weight 150, gray eyes, black hair, with light brown complexion. He had a scar on his right fore-finger.¹⁰⁸

Oliver Murphy Grove, born Apr. 20, 1881, living in Sharpsburg, Md. and not employed. Argyl Grove, Sharpsburg, Md. would always know his address. He was 61 years old, height 5'-4", weight 150, blue eyes, black hair, with a light complexion. He had a broken left wrist.¹⁰⁹

John Thomas Murphy, born June 3, 1888, living at 5127 7th street, NW, Washington, D.C. and working for H. Abramson, 7th and L street, NW, Washington, D.C. Anna Murphy, 5702 Wyngate Drive, Bethesda, Md. would always know his address. He was 53 years old, height 5'-7½", weight 147, gray eyes, gray hair, with a light complexion.¹¹⁰

Bertram Earl Swain, born May 17, 1892, living in Keedysville, Md. and worked at Federal Security Agency, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Anacostia, D.C. Thomas Muck, Glen Echo, Md. would always know his address. He was 49 years old, height 5'-4", weight 168, blue eyes, brown hair, with a ruddy complexion. He had a mole on his left hand.¹¹¹

John David Bell, born Apr. 29, 1885, living at 3743 W street, NW, Washington, D.C. and working for the District Water Department, District Building, Washington, D.C. Mrs. John D. Bell, of the home address, would always know his address. He was 56 years old, height 5'-6½", weight 198, blue eyes, brown hair, with a ruddy complexion. He had a scar across the bridge of his nose.¹¹²

Howard Milton Swain, born 11/25/1892, living near Sharpsburg, Md. and working for his father, Benjamin Swain, tenant farmer, Sharpsburg, Md. Minerva Swain, Sharpsburg, Md. would always know his address. He was 49 years old, height 5'-11", weight 155, blue eyes, gray hair, with a ruddy complexion. He was missing a finger off his left hand.¹¹³ [Correction: Howard owned his own farm, was not a tenant farmer. Minerva was his adult daughter. He wasn't missing a finger, but a fingertip on the 4th digit of his left hand. Howard requested and was granted an exemption for H. Marcellus Swain from the draft because he needed his adult son to stay and work the farm, along with his grandfather Ben, Jr's farm as they had no other sons to work the 182 acre Howard Milton Swain farm and the 218 acre Ben Swain, Jr. farm located on Mondell Road, Sharpsburg, MD.]

¹⁰⁶ Draft Registration Card Serial No. U2576, Local Board No. 3, Mont. County, MD, dated April 27, 1941.

¹⁰⁷ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U2576, dated Apr. 25, 1942

¹⁰⁸ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U3293, dated Apr. 25, 1942

¹⁰⁹ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U2469, dated Apr. 26, 1942

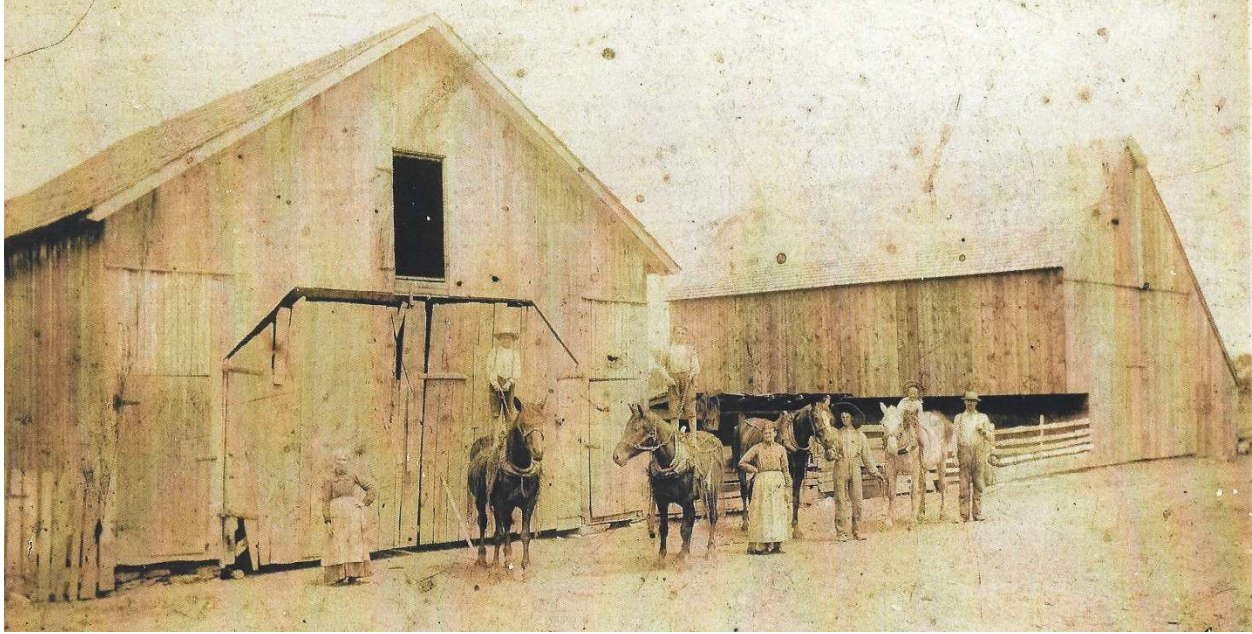
¹¹⁰ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U2123, dated Apr. 27, 1942

¹¹¹ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U1956, dated Apr. 27, 1942

¹¹² WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U1436, dated Apr. 27, 1942.

¹¹³ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U0330, dated Apr. 27, 1942.

Swain Family History



While the above Benjamin S. Swain, Jr. family photograph is out of chronological sequence, it is relevant to show that the 218 acre farm was large and required several men to operate it. Identified, left to right are: mother Elizabeth B., son John L. (standing on a horse), son Howard M. (also standing on a horse), wife Margaret A., oldest son Elmer L., youngest son Raymond E. (sitting on a horse), and Benjamin S. Swain, Jr.

Mervin Thomas DeLauney, born Feb. 24, 1888, living in Sharpsburg, Md. and working as a self-employed painter. Allan Poffenberger, Sharpsburg, Md. would always know his address. He was 54 years old, height 5'-11½", weight 185, brown eyes, gray hair, with ruddy complexion.¹¹⁴

Frederick Joseph DeLauney, born Nov. 5, 1889, living at 1207 Dale Ave. SE, Roanoke, Va. and working for Norfolk & Western Railway Co., Roanoke, Va. Mrs. Macy May DeLauney, of the home address, would always know his home address. He was 52 years old, height 5'-7½", weight 130, brown eyes, gray hair, with a light complexion. The big toe on his right foot was crooked.¹¹⁵

Elbert Crockett DeLauney, born Aug. 3, 1896, living at 217 Berkley Ave., Va. Heights, Roanoke, Va. working in the General Office, Norfolk & Western Railway Co., Roanoke, Va. Mrs. Anna G. DeLauney, of the home address, would always know his address. He was 45 years old, height 5'-4", weight 140, blue eyes, black hair, with a light complexion.¹¹⁶

Elwood Luther Eugene Swain, born Oct. 2, 1924, living in Keedysville, Md., working at Victor Products Corp., Pope Ave., Hagerstown. George S. Line, of Keedysville. would always know his address. He was 18 years old, height 5'-7", weight 130, blue eyes, blonde hair, with a light complexion.¹¹⁷ He did serve in WW II and Korea.

¹¹⁴ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U3212, dated Apr. 26, 1942.

¹¹⁵ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U1747, dated Apr. 27, 1942.

¹¹⁶ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number U2274, dated May 20, 1942.

¹¹⁷ WW-II Draft Registration Card Serial Number 00922, Order No. 13C77, dated Dec. 24, 1942.

Swain Family History



The adjacent photograph taken circa 1940 is of Benjamin S. Swain, Jr. and Margaret A. Swain on the porch of their 218 acre farm on Mondale Road, Sharpsburg, Md.

On July 27, 1941, Robert D. Swain died; his obituary read: "**Robert Swain** died at his home, 33 Conococheague street, Williamsport, at 4 o'clock Sunday morning after a short illness of kidney trouble, aged 61 years.

"He was the son of the late Henry and Annie Swain of Sharpsburg where he was born and raised.

"He is survived by his wife Mary (McKelvey) Swain and children: Robert, of Detroit; Nobel, Martinsburg; Mrs. Pauline Shipley, Williamsport; Mrs. William Byers, Williamsport; Mrs. J. W. Pinkston and Mrs. Charles Pinkston both of Salisbury, N. C.; Misses Genevieve, Juanita and Ruth, all at home; sisters and brothers, Leonard and Clifford Swain, Hagerstown; Mrs. Roy Stubbs, Hagerstown; Mrs. Lila Hebb,

Hagerstown; Mrs. Guy Stockslager, Maugansville; Mrs. Melvin Butts, Hagerstown; Mrs. Reba Crampton, Fairplay; also 12 grandchildren.

"Funeral services on Tuesday afternoon meeting at Leaf funeral home, Williamsport at 1 o'clock where short services will be held at 1:30 with further services at the Lutheran Church, Sharpsburg, at 2 o'clock with Rev. Mr. Chapman officiating; interment in Mt. View cemetery, Sharpsburg. The body may be viewed at the Leaf funeral home from 7 until 10 o'clock this evening."¹¹⁸

On March 19, 1942, Maxwell L. Swain, joined the Army.¹¹⁹ The local newspaper subsequently reported: "Pvt. Maxwell L. Swain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford C. Swain, 112 Cannon avenue, has been promoted to private first class. His address is Co. H, 423 Inf. 106 Div., APO 443, Fort Jackson, S.C."¹²⁰ Later that same year the local newspaper reported: "Maxwell L. Swain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford C. Swain, has been assigned to Pennsylvania State College as an air crew trainee under the Army Air Force college training program."¹²¹

From the **Sharpsburg Letter** we read: Mrs. Laura DeLauney visited over the week-end with her daughter, Mrs. Clifford [Mary Savilla DeLauney] Swain, Hagerstown. Mrs. Raymond Swain

¹¹⁸ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, July 28, 1941, p. 2.

¹¹⁹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, March 19, 1942, p. 10.

¹²⁰ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, Jun 18, 1943, p. 8.

¹²¹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, Dec. 17, 1943, p. 12.

had been ill for several weeks. Mrs. Benjamin Swain has been visiting in Hagerstown with Mr. and Mrs. John Swain. Mrs. Howard Swain, who has been ill, is improving slowly.¹²²

In January of 1944, Benjamin Swain was confined to his home by illness.¹²³

The War went on; then came the fateful news:

"Mr. and Mrs. Clifford C. Swain, 112 South Cannon avenue, have received a telegram from the War Department stating that their son, Staff Sgt. Maxwell L. Swain, is reported missing in action in Germany since December 21. Sgt. Swain entered the service immediately after graduating from Hagerstown High School in 1942 and has been overseas about six months."¹²⁴

Early the next year there was a follow-up telegram as reported in the newspaper:

"Parents Notified of Sgt. Swain's Death Local Soldier Dies in Action, War Department Reports

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford C. Swain, 112 South Cannon avenue, have received word from the War Department that their son, Sgt. Maxwell L. Swain, who was reported as missing in action in Germany in December 1944, is now officially listed as dead, as of that date.

Sgt. Swain, who was 20 years old, attended Hagerstown High School and graduated in 1942. He entered the service in March 1942 and after receiving his basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., he entered Pennsylvania State College for a six month course under the Army Specialized Training Program, and finished his training at Camp Atterbury, Ind.

He went overseas in October 1944, with the 106th 'Golden Lion' Infantry Division, a unit that participated in three major engagements, the Rhineland, Ardennes and Central Germany. Sgt. Swain was entitled to wear the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and European Theater of Operations ribbon with three battle stars.

Besides his parents, he is survived by one sister, Mrs. Charles J. Klahr, Washington, D.C.; brothers, Eugene and Richard, at home, and grandmother, Mrs. Laura B. DeLauney, Sharpsburg."¹²⁵

S/Sgt. Maxwell L. Swain remained listed as missing in action for some time. His parents maintained a scrap book of newspaper clippings about Washington County war casualties for many of the war months. The State Veterans Commission initiated an effort to permanently list all of Washington County casualties in World War II. Mr. & Mrs. Swain loaned their scrap book to the Commission. At that time there were eight local men still listed as missing.¹²⁶

Life had to go on and the Sharpsburg correspondent noted the Clifford Swain family visit to Mrs. Laura DeLauney on Sept. 6, 1946.¹²⁷ Another newspaper reported: "Elmer Lester Swain, well-known quarry operator and a Republican leader of the Williamsport district, will be named county roads superintendent by the Board of County Commissioners in formal meeting this afternoon. Swain, a brother of John L. Swain, local insurance agent, and son of Benjamin Swain, well-known Sharpsburg farmer, is said to have had little opposition for the appointment."¹²⁸

¹²² *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, May 21, 1943, p. 10.

¹²³ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Jan. 20, 1944, p. 11.

¹²⁴ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, Jan 15, 1945, p. A-1.

¹²⁵ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Jan 3, 1946, p. 3.

¹²⁶ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Jan 31, 1946, pp. A-1 & A-2.

¹²⁷ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, Sept. 6, 1946.

¹²⁸ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, Dec. 13, 1946, p. 1.

The next year the Red Cross and Veterans Commission acknowledged Mrs. Clifford Swain as a Gold Star Mother.¹²⁹

In March 1949 we read in **Sharpsburg Letters** we read: Benjamin Swain has returned to his home after treatment at the hospital. His wife has also been a hospital patient. Both are now improving. And Mr. and Mrs. Robert Swain, Hagerstown, Miss Martha Poffenberger, Washington, visited Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Poffenberger on Sunday.¹³⁰

1949 was a difficult year for the Clifford Swain family. In May the local newspaper reported:

"Remains Of Four County War Dead Are Coming Home

The remains of four county men are being returned to this country for reburial aboard the Army Transport Haiti Victory. The war dead are being returned from Army graveyards in the European Theatre of Operations. The Army listed the following county men, with their next of kin: . . . S/Sgt. Maxwell L. Swain, Army, Clifford C. Swain, 112 South Cannon avenue, Hagerstown."¹³¹

Details were unknown until the newspaper reported:

**"S-Sgt. Swain To Be Reburied June 15th
Local Man Killed in Battle Of The Bulge In 1944**

Funeral services for S. Sgt. Maxwell L. Swain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford C. Swain, 112 S. Cannon avenue, who was killed in action overseas, will be held from A. K. Coffman funeral home on Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock with the Rev. Donald Stonesifer and the Rev. John Aurand officiating. The re-burial will be in Antietam National Cemetery, Sharpsburg.

The local soldier was killed in action during Battle of the Bulge, Dec. 21, 1944. His body was not located until May, 1947, when an elderly German located the graves of five American soldiers in a cemetery at Bleialf, Germany. The local soldier's body was re-buried at a military cemetery in Belgium.

Sergeant Swain was a member of the famous 106 Golden Lion Infantry Division of the 423rd Regiment. He took his training at Fort Jackson, S.C. and Camp Atterbury, Ind. He went overseas in October, 1944.

He was a graduate of the local high school class of 1942. He was 20 at the time of his death. He was awarded the combat infantry badge E.T.O. ribbon with three stars and Purple Heart, all posthumously.

Besides his parents he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Charles J. Klahr, Washington, D.C.; brothers Pfc. Alfred Eugene, with Army Air Forces, Scott Field, Ill.; Richard Lee, at home; grandmother, Mrs. Laura B. DeLauney, Sharpsburg; one niece and a nephew."¹³²

A few days later the family printed a "Card of Thanks" to their many friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy.¹³³

They got through the summer and returned to Sharpsburg to visit her mother in the fall.¹³⁴

¹²⁹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday. Wed., May 28, 1947, p. 2.

¹³⁰ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, March 24, 1949.

¹³¹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday. May 9, 1949, p. A-1.

¹³² *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday. June 13, 1949, p. 16.

¹³³ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday. June 17, 1949, p. 26.

¹³⁴ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, Sep. 1, 1949, p. 3.

Swain Family History

In May of 1949 a newspaper had the following obituary:

“**Mrs. Margaret Swain** – Mrs. Margaret (Poffenberger) Swain, wife of Benjamin Swain, died Sunday morning, aged 77 years.

“She was a life long member of the Lutheran Church, Bakersville. Surviving are: sons, E. L. Swain, Williamsport; John L. Swain, Hagerstown; Howard and Raymond Swain, Sharpsburg; six grandchildren and three great grandchildren; brothers and sisters, John C., Harvey L., Thomas R., Allen L., Alex V. and Mrs. Hugh Spielman, all of Sharpsburg.

“She will be at her home 5 p.m. Monday and at the Lutheran Church, Sharpsburg from 10 a.m. Tuesday until 2 p.m. Funeral service will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m. at the Lutheran Church, Sharpsburg by the Rev. Dr. William A. Wade. Interment in cemetery adjoining.”¹³⁵

Summer of 1950 saw, Alfred Eugene Swain, who had already enlisted in the Air Force receive a promotion as reported in the newspaper:

"Alfred E. Swain, of Hagerstown, has been promoted to corporal, effective March 15, it was announced at Brooks Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, where he is now stationed. He attended radio mechanics school at Scott Field, Illinois. His parents reside at 112 South Cannon Avenue."¹³⁶

Several of the Swain family resided in or near Hagerstown: A. Eugene, USAF, residence 112 S. Cannon, Ave.; Clifford C. (Mary S.) grocery 112 S. Cannon Ave., residence ditto; Elmer L. road engineer for Washington County Roads Dept., residence in Williamsport; Elwood E. L. (Betty J.), welder Victor Products Corp., residence 941 Maryland Ave.; H. Marcellus, junior accountant Robert C. Triesler, residence in Boonsboro; and Robert (Betty) air conditioner installer, residence 113 Belview Ave.¹³⁷

In the **Sharpsburg Letter** the correspondent reported: Benjamin Swain, who has been a patient at the county hospital, is now a patient at the convalescent home in Williamsport. And Mr. and Mrs. Robert Swain, Hagerstown; Miss. Martha Poffenberger, Washington, were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Poffenberger.¹³⁸

The years passed, presumably with continued visits and the children growing up. In early 1951 Mrs. Laura DeLauney observed her 83rd birthday and many of the family came to help her celebrate.¹³⁹ By 1951, Alfred Eugene Swain, had gotten married while still in the Air Force. The Sharpsburg correspondent reported: "**Sergeant Swain here.** S/Sgt. and Mrs. Eugene Swain returned to San Antonio, Texas, after a furlough in their respective homes in Hagerstown. Sergeant Swain is on duty at Brooks Air Force Base. The couple have an apartment at 306 Berkshire Road, San Antonio, Texas. Mrs. Swain is the former Miss Margaret Jane Baker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Baker, Hagerstown. Swain is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Swain, South Cannon Avenue, Hagerstown. While on furlough they visited Sergeant Swain's grandmother here, Mrs. Laura DeLauney."¹⁴⁰

¹³⁵ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, May 23, 1949, p. 20.

¹³⁶ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Tuesday, Mar. 7, 1950, p. 2.

¹³⁷ *U. S. City Directory*, Maryland, Hagerstown, 1950, p. 470.

¹³⁸ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, April, 12, 1950.

¹³⁹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1951.

¹⁴⁰ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Saturday, Nov. 24, 1951.

Swain Family History



In early 1950s, the photograph to the left was taken of, from left to right: Mary Smith Showe Roulette, Howard Milton Swain and his wife Inez Myrtle Smith Swain.

The DeLauney and Swain families got together, to celebrate Mrs. Delauney's 85th birthday.¹⁴¹

Mysteriously, the families celebrated her 85th birthday, again, one year later.¹⁴² The Sharpsburg correspondent continued to report

the Clifford Swain family visits to Mrs. DeLauney on April 12, 1955¹⁴³ and on April 10, 1958.¹⁴⁴

On Aug. 9, 1955, Benjamin Swain died, his obituary read: "**Benjamin Swain**, well-known farmer of the Sharpsburg district, died at Williamsport Sanitorium Monday following an illness of five and one-half years. He was 89 years of age.

"The son of the late Benjamin and Elizabeth (Boyer) Swain of Sharpsburg, he was the last surviving member of his immediate family, and was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Sharpsburg.

"Surviving are: sons, E. Lester Swain, Williamsport; Howard M. Swain, Sharpsburg; John L. Swain, Halfway; Raymond E. Swain, Sharpsburg; cis grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

"Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Leaf Funeral Home, Sharpsburg, with the Rev. Dr. William Wade officiating. Interment will be in Mountain View Cemetery, Sharpsburg. The body may be viewed at the funeral home Tuesday evening from 7 to 10, and on Wednesday until the time of the service."¹⁴⁵

Several of the Swain family remained in or near Hagerstown: Alfred E. (wife Jane M.) was an electrician at Miller-Liskey Electric Co., residence 331 S. Cannon Ave.; Clifford C. (wife Mary S.) grocery 112 S. Cannon Ave., residence ditto; Elwood L. (wife Betty), aircraft worker, residence 301 Reynolds Ave.; H. Marcellus, Jr., accountant Edward G. Shipley & Co. and Secretary Saunders Home Improvement Co. Inc., residence Boonsboro.¹⁴⁶

Then came the wedding as reported in the Hagerstown newspaper:

"Miss Patricia Taylor and Mr. Richard Swain Marry

A pretty summer wedding on Sunday, the tenth of August, united in marriage Miss Patricia Ann Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon W. Taylor, Highfield, and Mr. Richard Lee Swain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Swain, Hagerstown.

The young couple were married before an alter embankment of white gladioli and pom poms intermingled with glowing tapers in cathedral candelabra in St. Stephen's Reformed Church, Highfield. The Reverend Claude Corl officiated at the double ring service at seven o'clock in the evening in the presence of a large assemblage of relatives and friends.

¹⁴¹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, Feb. 25, 1953, p. 4.

¹⁴² *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Saturday, Mar. 6, 1954, p. 5.

¹⁴³ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Tuesdays, April 12, 1955, p. 9.

¹⁴⁴ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Thursday, April. 10, 1958, p. 5.

¹⁴⁵ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Tuesday, Aug. 9, 1955, p.18.

¹⁴⁶ *U. S. City Directory*, Maryland, Hagerstown, 1956, p. 544.

Swain Family History

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a charming waltz-length gown of French Schiffli embroidery over gleaming bridal satin. The Basque bodice, designed with a portrait neckline and off the shoulder sleeves, was complemented by a bouffant skirt of Schiffli embroidery over tiers of nylon tulle. She wore satin elbow mitts and a pure silk illusion veil attached to an Aleneon lace shell trimmed with satin and seed pearls. She carried a white prayer book topped with a white orchid nestled in a shower of satin ribbons.

The bride chose her sister, Miss Donna Dell Taylor, as maid of honor. She was attired in a gown of Dior blue with all-over white embroidery and a matching blue silk braid bandeau with a tiny nose veil. A corsage of pink and white carnations complemented her ensemble.

Miss Bonnie Taylor, sister of the bride, was the bridesmaid, wearing a pink gown like that of the maid of honor and a matching pink Bandeau adorned with white flowers. She also added a corsage of pink and white carnations.

Mr. John P. Randolph, Emmitsburg, served as best man for Mr. Swain.

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Taylor chose a frock of pale blue linen, adding white accessories and a corsage of white carnations. Mrs. Swain, mother of the bridegroom, attended in a royal blue and white print dress, which she also accented with white accessories and a corsage of white carnations.

Reception Given

A reception was given immediately following the ceremony in the church reception room.

The bridal table, laid with a lace cloth, was centered with a four-tiered wedding cake in a circle of ivy and lighted candles. Mrs. Gene Swain, sister-in-law of the bridegroom, served the cake, and Mrs. Henry Gilland, cousin of the bride, presided at the punch bowl, which was placed on a table appointed with ivy and lighted tapers around a centerpiece of white carnations and asters.

The couple planned a wedding trip to an unannounced destination. For traveling, Mrs. Swain changed into an aqua and white dress, with matching accessories and the orchid lifted from her prayer book. On their return, they will reside in their newly-furnished apartment at 16 West Wilson Boulevard, this city.

Mrs. Swain is a graduate of Smithsburg High School, class of 1956, and Waynesboro Business College, class of 1957. Prior to her marriage, she was employed at Frick Company in Waynesboro.

Mr. Swain graduated from Hagerstown High School in the class of 1954, and served four years with the United States Air Force, completing a tour of duty in Labrador. He is employed as an electrician with Miller-Liskey Electric Company, Inc., in this city.

The bridegroom's parents were hosts to members of the wedding party at their home following the rehearsal on Saturday evening."¹⁴⁷

Several of the Swain family continued to live in or near Hagerstown: Alfred E. (Jane M.), electrician Miller-Liskey Electric Co. Inc., residence 331 S. Cannon, Ave.; Clifford C. (Mary S.) home 112 S. Cannon Ave.; Elwood L. (Betty), aircraft worker Fairchild Aircraft, residence 301 Reynolds Ave.; H. Marcellus, junior accountant Edward G. Shipley & Co., residence Boonsboro.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁷ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Tuesday, August 19, 1958, p. 8.

¹⁴⁸ *U. S. City Directory*, Maryland, Hagerstown, 1958, p. 677.

Swain Family History

The Sharpsburg correspondent reported, in the fall of 1959, that: "Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Swain and son, Hagerstown, visited Mrs. Laura DeLauney and Mr. and Mrs. M. T. DeLauney."¹⁴⁹ The next issue of the newspaper reported the death of:

"Mrs. Reba E. Crampton

Mrs. Reba Elizabeth Crampton died yesterday at 5:30 a.m. at her home, Fairplay, Route One, after a short illness, aged 70 years.

Born and reared at Sharpsburg, she was the daughter of the late Henry and Annie (Wilson) Swain, Sharpsburg.

Surviving are her husband, Oliver; daughters, Mrs. Martha Henson, Hagerstown; Mrs. Mary Ruth Rager, Hagerstown; Mrs. Virginia Rager, Hagerstown; two sons, William, Hagerstown; Raymond, Fairplay; Chester, at home; sisters, Mrs. Lila Hebb, Hagerstown; Mrs. Grace Butts, Sharpsburg Pike; Mrs. Mamie Stockslager, Hagerstown; brother, Clifford Swain, Leonard Swain, Sharpsburg; and 28 grandchildren.

The funeral will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at the Leaf Funeral Home. Interment will be in Mountain View Cemetery.

Friends may call at the funeral home from 7 o'clock this evening until the time of the service. Rev. Charles Birx of Sharpsburg will officiate."¹⁵⁰

This was the first mention found of a sister older to Clifford Swain. The obituary also provides the married name of Clifford's other sisters, although the spelling of names remains to be verified.

In the fall of 1959 the National Park Service tried to raise the rent [at Lock 21] from \$5 per month to \$21 per month.¹⁵¹ Robert Swain complained to Justice William O. Douglas, who intervened with Director Wirth, and the rent was adjusted to \$10 per month.¹⁵²

In the fall of 1960 the death of Mrs. DeLauney was reported:

"Mrs. Laura Belle Delauney

Mrs. Laura Belle Delauney of Sharpsburg died at her home yesterday evening after a long illness, aged 92.

Born and raised in Sharpsburg, she was the daughter of the late John W. and Helen (Hines) Fisher, and was a member of the Sharpsburg Trinity Lutheran Church and the Order of the Eastern Star, Areme Chapter.

Surviving are the following: sons, Mervin and Lloyd, Sharpsburg, and Fred, Roanoke, Va.; a daughter, Mrs. Clifford Swain, Hagerstown; sisters, Mrs. J. D. Kemp, Tilghmanton; Mrs. Helen James, Hyattsville, and Mrs. W. E. Allison, Roanoke; a brother, Lloyd Fisher, Roanoke; 11 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. from the Leaf Funeral Home at Sharpsburg, the Rev. Charles Birx officiating. Burial will be in Mountain View Cemetery, Sharpsburg.

Friends may call at the funeral home after 3 p.m. Thursday, until the time of service."¹⁵³

¹⁴⁹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Saturday, April 4, 1959, p. 6.

¹⁵⁰ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, April 15, 1959, p. 20.

¹⁵¹ Mackintosh, Barry, *C & O CANAL, THE MAKING OF A PARK*, History Division, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., 1991, p. 158.

¹⁵² Letter, Conrad L. Wirth to Douglas, May 13, 1959, Swain Lockhouse 21, Contract file C38, C & O Canal NHP.

¹⁵³ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, October 26, 1960.

Swain Family History

From this obituary, we obtain the date Mrs. DeLauney died and confirm her birth year, 1868, despite reports of the family celebrating her 85th birthday twice. Marcellus Swain relates that he used to pick up Clifford Swain, Jr., from Prince George's Co. when he was working at the Rosecroft Race Track in the 1960's and take him to and from Sharpsburg to visit the DeLauneys. He said Clifford, Jr., had a restaurant and pizza place.

On Sunday, July 16, 1961, the 9th reunion of the Poffenberger Clan was held at Taylor Memorial Park, Keedysville. 112 relatives and friends gathered in the pavilion for a picnic lunch and program. President Marcellus Swain welcomed the group. Benjamin Swain had the largest family in attendance.¹⁵⁴

Except for a 1964 story about Mrs. Clifford Swain's foot surgery,¹⁵⁵ the family stayed out of the news for the next several years, until interest in the C & O Canal revived in the latter half of the decade as reported:

"Area Men To Be In C&O Canal Movie

"Two area men, former workers on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, will be featured in 'The Magnificent Ditch,' a television documentary on the history of the canal next Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

"Ralph [*sic.* Raleigh] S. Bender, 73, of Sharpsburg, a former C&O boat captain and Clifford C. Swain, 75, of Hagerstown, will appear on the special of the 185-mile waterway on WMAL-TV, channel 7.

"Swain, who lived and worked on the canal for the first 20 years of his life, will take viewers on a hike along the towpath from Cumberland to Georgetown. The show will be telecast in color."¹⁵⁶



THROUGH HIS EYES—Clifford Swain takes viewers on a nostalgic trip along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Wednesday on WMAL-7.

A similar story appeared early the next year:

"A Lingering Look At the Old C and O

One of Washington's most picturesque natural landmarks, the historic Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, is the subject of WMAL 7's first color documentary this Wednesday (7:30 p.m.).

John Batchelder will narrate the half-hour film, which includes a history of the 185-year-old waterway and report on its current status as a national monument.

His special guest will be one Clifford C. Swain, 75, who lived and worked on the canal as a youth and will conduct viewers on a towpath tour from Cumberland to Georgetown.

Also featured on the program will be two former lock-keepers of the canal, 94-year-old Dennis Crabtree of Oldtown, Md., and 67-year old Robert D. Swain (Clifford's nephew) of Swain's Lock near Great Falls, Md."¹⁵⁷

¹⁵⁴ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, July 18, 1961.

¹⁵⁵ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, April 29, 1964, p. 8.

¹⁵⁶ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD; *Cumberland Evening Times*, Cumberland, MD; *The Frederick Post*, Frederick, MD; and *The News*, Frederick, MD, newspaper, Wednesday, December 29, 1965 and *The Cumberland News*, Cumberland, MD, Thursday, December 30, 1965.

¹⁵⁷ *The Sunday Star TV Magazine*, Washington, D. C., January 2, 1966, p. 35.

Swain Family History

Marcellus and Marcia Swain viewed the television documentaries about the Swains and the canal at that time.

And two days later in the regular newspaper we read:

"Old Canal Days Recalled

Washington County men who used to work on the C & O Canal will participate in a televised documentary on the famous waterway Wednesday.

'The Magnificent Ditch' is the title of the telecast at 7:30 p.m. on Channel 7.

The program on the history of the canal and its present status as a park will feature 75-year old Clifford C. Swain, Hagerstown. He lived and worked on the canal for the first 20 years of his life. Swain will take viewers on a hike along the towpath from Cumberland to Georgetown.

A former C & O Canal boat captain, 73-year old Raleigh S. Bender, Sharpsburg, will also be featured.

Two former lockkeepers will be participants. They are Dennis Crabtree, 94, Oldtown, and Robert Swain, 67, Great Falls.

Ross Holland, historian for the C & O Canal National Monument, served as historical advisor.

The Williamsport C & O Canal Club called the attention of the public to the telecast of local interest. The club was organized a decade ago to assist with development of the canal into a national park, and has a large membership throughout the East.

John Batchelder of WMAL-TV will narrate the program."¹⁵⁸

The astute reader will notice that Clifford Swain never tended a lock on the C & O Canal. He worked on the canal for many years and would have locked through Swain's Lock [Lock 21] in Montgomery County, MD many times. A Swain family history of the lockkeepers at Lock 21 remains to be compiled.

In January 1967, it was reported that Clifford Swain was a surgical patient at the Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown, MD.¹⁵⁹ He recovered and the photograph to the right of Clifford and Mary Swain was taken at their home in Hagerstown, MD, 1970.



After Robert D. Swain, Jr. died on June 3, 1967¹⁶⁰, the Park Service negotiated a higher but still modest annual fee reflecting their occupancy and income from canoe and boat

¹⁵⁸ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, January 4, 1966.

¹⁵⁹ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Friday, January 6, 1967, p. 8.

¹⁶⁰ *The Washington Post*, Washington, D.C., newspaper, Obituary, 6/5/1967.

Swain Family History

rentals and refreshment sales. The Swains installed utilities and modernized the interior of the lockhouse themselves.¹⁶¹ During flooding of the Potomac River and the Canal, the first floor of the lockhouse flooded. The house had markings on the outside showing how high the water level was and the year.

Marcia Swain visited the lockhouse about 1986 when she was living in Montgomery County, MD. Robert D. Swain, Jr., had died in 1981. His widow was still living in the lockhouse. Marcia spoke with Mrs. Robert D. Swain, Jr., for some time and met their son, who was running a canoe rental business at the lock.

Several years passed and in 1971, a sister to Clifford C. Swain died as reported:

"Mrs. Grace M. Butts

Mrs. Grace M. Butts, 73, Hagerstown, Rt. 3, died at the Washington County Hospital Sunday evening.

She was born in Sharpsburg, daughter of Henry and Anna Wilson Swain.

She is survived by husband, J. Melvin Butts; son, Melvin A. Butts, Hagerstown; brother, Clifford Swain, Hagerstown; sisters, Mrs. Lelia Hebb, Mrs. Mamie Stockslager, both of Hagerstown; two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the Minnich Funeral Home, Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., the Rev. John Lebo officiating; burial in Mountain View Cemetery, Sharpsburg. The family will receive friends at the funeral home this evening from 7 to 9."¹⁶²

Later that fall, 15 C & O Canal workers held their first reunion at Barron's Museum and General Store in Snyder's Landing, near Sharpsburg, MD. The attendees included: Levi and Nora Bender, Hagerstown; William O. and Mary Lee DeLauney, Sharpsburg; Nellie and William Saylor, Martinsburg, W. Va.; Clifford C. Swain, Hagerstown; Martin Stevens, Shepherdstown; Lester Ronald and Mary Schroeder, Rockville; Lester and Mary Mose, Sharpsburg; Hazel Colbert, Hagerstown; Nellie P. Weller, Cumberland; and Geneva Poffenberger, Sharpsburg.¹⁶³

In February 1972, the Washington County Museum had an exhibit of the C & O Canal artifacts and paintings. Sunday afternoon shows were presided over by Hooper Wolfe and Clifford Swain, the featured personality



¹⁶¹ Angus Phillips, "Life in a Lockhouse on the C & O Canal," *The Washington Post*, Jan. 10, 1985, p. Md. 1.

¹⁶² *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, September 21, 1971.

¹⁶³ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, October 11, 1971. See also *The Frederick Post*, Frederick, MD, Monday, October 11, 1971, pp. A-1 & A-5.

Swain Family History

in the C&O Canal film, "The Magnificent Ditch."¹⁶⁴ Mr. Barron wrote the article and probably loaned several artifacts.

In May 1972, it was reported that Clifford C. Swain was a patient at Washington County Hospital.¹⁶⁵ He did recuperate and on July 4, 1973 gave Woody Wineholt Park Ranger on the C & O Canal the first of what turned out to be five oral histories. In the previous photograph, Clifford C. Swain is standing beside one of his artifact display cases, in the basement of his home. Note the photograph on the wall just above Clifford's head is the one of his father, taken in 1925 and included earlier.



About that same time, 1970 – 72, Clifford C. Swain revisited Snyder's Landing as shown in the adjacent photograph. Note that with the canal no longer being in operation the Park Service had replaced the suspension bridge with a conventional bridge using the historical foundations. Look closely to see the graffiti "H. Swain" written on the concrete foundation.

Here Clifford was kneeling beside the concrete foundation to inspect his father's handiwork.

In Sept. 1973, a newspaper had the following obituary: "**Howard M. Swain** – Howard Milton Swain, 80, of Sharpsburg, died Tuesday at Washington County Hospital.

"He was born near Downsville, a son of Benjamin and Margaret Poffenberger Swain. He was an active an active farmer in the

Sharpsburg area, and a member of the Eagles Club of Hagerstown; Farm Bureau of Washington County. He was a director of the Livestock Exchange of Boonsboro.



¹⁶⁴ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, February 15, 1972.

¹⁶⁵ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Tuesday, May 30, 1972, p. 9.

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“He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Minerva Snyder of Sharpsburg; a son, H. Marcellus Swain of Williamsport; one grand-daughter; and two great-grandchildren; brothers, John L. Swain of Halfway, and Raymond E. Swain of Sharpsburg.

“Services will be held on Friday, at 2 p.m. at the Leaf Funeral Home in Sharpsburg. The Rev. H. S. Churchey will officiate; burial will be in Mt. View Cemetery.

“The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Thursday evening from 7 to 9.”¹⁶⁶

On Saturday, September 15, 1973, Barron's C & O Canal Museum and General Store organized the 3rd Annual Canal Worker Reunion at their place. Boat captains expected included: Orville Delauney, Ronald Schroeder, Lester Mose and Will Saylor. Boat crew members expected included Clifford Swain of Hagerstown, the most senior in his mid-eighties.¹⁶⁷ A week later, two newspapers reported on the event (identical articles under Harold Muddiman's name), without mentioning Clifford Swain's name. Jacob Myers of Hancock was reported as the oldest man at Saturday's reunion; it seems reasonable that Clifford Swain did not attend.¹⁶⁸ Later that same year, Frank Zimmerman, a former boatman recalled his days on the canal and the sound of mule bells.¹⁶⁹ Again, no mention of Clifford Swain was found.

Apparently, Clifford Swain's health was deteriorating because the next entry was his obituary:

"Clifford C. Swain

Clifford C. Swain, 84, of 112 South Cannon Ave., died on Sunday at the Washington County Hospital.

Born in Sharpsburg, he was a son of Henry and Anna Wilson Swain. He was a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Sharpsburg. He was a retired independent grocer and had boated on the C&O Canal.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary DeLauney Swain; a daughter, Mrs. Marjorie C. Klahr of Clinton; sons Alfred E. Swain of Maugansville, Richard L. Swain of Hagerstown; sisters Mrs. Lila O. Hebb of Hagerstown, and Mrs. Mamie F. Stockslager of Hagerstown, and 11 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at the Minnich Funeral Home, 415 East Wilson Blvd., at 10 a.m. on Wednesday. The Rev. G. Edward Whetstone and the Rev. John B. Mills will officiate; burial will be in Mt. View Cemetery in Sharpsburg.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Tuesday evening from 7 to 9.”¹⁷⁰

Marcia Swain relates that there are many descendants of the Sharpsburg, Md. C. & O. Canal families who have held a family reunion every year for the past 65 years. The Otho J. Poffenberger Family Reunion is held each year in July in the Taylor Park, Keedysville, Md. There are descendants from the following canal families: Poffenberger, Swain, Boyer, Mose, Renner and Bender. These families have intermarried for several generations and many still live along the canal.

¹⁶⁶ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, September 18, 1973.

¹⁶⁷ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, September 10, 1973.

¹⁶⁸ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, September 17, 1973, p. 1. See also *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Monday, September 17, 1973, p. 3.

¹⁶⁹ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, Saturday, November 10, 1973, p. 6.

¹⁷⁰ *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, December 17, 1974.

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These canal families are mainly buried in two Washington County, Md. cemeteries: Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bakersville, Md. (founded about 1820) and the Mt. View Cemetery, Sharpsburg, Md. (founded after the Civil War, about 1880).

From a local newspaper the following obituary: “**John L. Swain, real estate firm owner dies at 80.** – John L. Swain, 80, of 1917 Virginia Ave. [Hagerstown, Md.], died at the Washington County Hospital on Tuesday morning.

“He was born in Washington County, the son of the late Benjamin and Margaret (Poffenberger) Swain. He was a member of the Church of the Brethren.

“He owned and operated the John L. Swain Real Estate Business for 50 years, and was a member of the real estate board.

“He was an appraiser for Governmental properties, Banks, and the Maryland State Roads Commission for many years.

“He was a member of the Washington County Historical Society, the Hagerstown Fair Board, and the Halfway Fire Company.

“He is survived by his wife, Oma L. Carter Swain, of Hagerstown, one brother, Raymond Swain, of Hagerstown, and a number of nieces and nephews.

“Services will be held at the Coffman Funeral Home on Thursday at 2 p.m. The Rev. Dean M. Miller and the Rev. Rowland Reichard will officiate. Burial will be in Rest Haven Cemetery.

“The family will receive friends at the funeral home tonight from 7 to 9.”¹⁷¹

Lastly, we found the following obituary: “**Elwood Luther Eugene ‘Bert’ Swain, 82,** of Ravenwood Lutheran Village, Hagerstown, and formerly of Keedysville, died Thursday, Nov. 9, 2006, at Washington County Hospital. Born Oct. 2, 1924, in Williamsport, he was the son of the late Bertram Earl and Margaret May Cornwell Swain. He was employed by Fairchild Aircraft for 38 years, as a stationary engineer. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the army. He was a member of Grace Brethren Church in Hagerstown. He was a member of Morris Frock American Legion Post 42. He is survived by his wife, Betty Jane Smith Swain, whom he married Nov. 21, 1942; two daughters, Eugenia L. Vincent of Hagerstown and Elizabeth A. Moore of Martinsburg, W. Va.; one sister Evelyn Hudson of Washington, D.C.; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four sisters, Mary Snyder, Birdie Rubright, Lottie Eckstine and Bessie Custer; and one brother, John Swain. Services will be Monday at 11 a.m., at Bast Funeral Home in Boonsboro. The Rev. Dean P. Pryor will officiate. Burial will be in Boonsboro Cemetery. The family will receive friends Sunday from 3 to 5 p.m. at the funeral home.”¹⁷²

¹⁷¹ *The Daily Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, December 26, 1978.

¹⁷² *The Morning Herald*, Hagerstown, MD, newspaper, November 10, 2006.

Swain Family History

VITAL STATISTICS OF SWAIN FAMILY

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
Father Swain	hus	Abt. 1780		
Mother Smith	wife	Abt. 1785		
<i>William Swain</i>	son	11/23/1812	4/5/1845	11/23/1861
<i>George H. Swain</i>	son	1/18/1816	5/13/1839	12/11/1890
<i>John T. Swain, Sr.</i>	son	1820	1/8/1847	12/20/1893
<i>Samuel Swain</i>	son	3/12/1822	1/11/1848	4/3/1890
<i>Benjamin Samuel Swain, Sr.</i>	son	1824	6/22/1851	1/21/1886
Samuel Johann Boyer	hus	12/29/1813	12/24/1833	6/14/1891
Elizabeth Dun-a-wha (1 st)	wife	8/11/1816		5/15/1849
<i>Susan Elizabeth Boyer</i> (Swain)	dau	1/4/1835	6/22/1851	12/24/1915
<i>Samuel Heinrich Wilkin Boyer</i>	son	5/25/1837	1/10/1861	12/18/1896
<i>Margaret Evelyn Boyer</i> (Mongan)	dau	12/8/1838	9/16/1858	5/25/1923
<i>Julia Ann Boyer</i> (Munson)	dau	1/14/1840	9/16/1858	5/28/1868
<i>Mary Elenore Boyer, I</i>	dau	2/22/1842	infant	11/1/1845
<i>Martha Virginia Boyer</i> (Harper)	dau	12/31/1843	6/2/1866	5/5/1927
<i>Mary Elenore Boyer, II</i> (Knode)	dau	5/13/1846	5/31/1846	10/28/1926
Samuel Johann Boyer	hus	12/29/1813	4/6/1850	6/14/1891
Minerva Ann McCoy (2 nd)	wife	10/9/1830		12/29/1895
<i>William Henry Boyer</i>	son	3/22/1851	4/2/1872	4/10/1926
<i>Charles Emory Boyer</i>	son	2/19/1856	11/5/1876	7/13/1931
<i>Nancy Alice Boyer</i> (Whittington)	dau	6/4/1860	1882	12/28/1939
<i>Edmonia "Ettie" Boyer</i> (Brashear)	dau	10/27/1862	1882	1/22/1957
<i>Isaac Mervin Boyer</i>	son	12/3/1864	7/24/1884	11/8/1939
<i>Thomas Jefferson Boyer</i>	son	10/28/1867	twice	3/21/1950
<i>Molley Catherine W. Boyer</i> (Heck)	dau	6/27/1870	1891	4/28/1950
End of 1st Generation				
William Swain	hus	11/23/1812	4/5/1845	11/23/1861
Martha Jane Smith	wife	1831		
<i>Mary Swain</i> (Fisher)	dau	1847	11/20/1867	
<i>George William Swain</i>	son	1849	1875	4/24/1912
<i>Emma C. Swain</i>	dau	6/16/1851	infant	9/10/1855
George H. Swain	hus	6/16/1816	5/13/1839	12/11/1890
Elizabeth Harper	wife	7/10/1821		10/3/1910
<i>Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Swain</i>	son	7/1840	1/17/1866	7/27/1906
<i>John William Swain</i>	son	8/11/1843	1/17/1866	1925
<i>Martha E. Swain</i>	dau	8/25/1849		11/24/1915
<i>George Charles Swain</i>	son	9/30/1860		1928
John T. Swain, Sr.	hus	1820	1/8/1847	12/20/1893
Elizabeth Ellen Anderson	wife	3/1825		10/1910
<i>John T. Swain, Jr.</i>	son	8/1848	twice	9/28/1913
<i>Elizabeth Ann Swain</i> (Cramer)	dau	9/1849	1878	4/19/1942
<i>Charles Henry "Hen" Swain</i>	son	1853	12/21/1875	11/11/1933
<i>Ellen Ella Swain</i> (Grove)	dau	9/1857	9/25/1873	8/15/1930
<i>Virginia F. Swain</i> (Murphy)	dau	9/1857	7/2/1878	7/13/1936

Swain Family History

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
<i>William F. "Bill". Swain</i>	son	10/1859	5/14/1889	9/7/1935
<i>Ida F. Swain</i> (Stride)	dau	1/1865	1886	8/20/1910
<i>Abbie E. Swain</i> (Bell)	dau	9/1868	3/18/1884	7/7/1949
<i>Jesse Anderson Swain</i>	son	1/22/1869	5/15/1889	5/8/1939
Samuel Swain	hus	3/12/1822	1/11/1848	4/3/1890
Sarah Ann Smith	wife	7/17/1828		12/27/1888
<i>Anna Amelia Swain</i>	dau	9/26/1848	infant	10/6/1852
<i>Francis "Fanny" Swain</i> (Fox)	dau	1855	8/20/1872	
<i>Hiram J. Swain</i>	son	9/1856	1887	
<i>William Hiram Swain</i>	son	1864		
Benjamin Samuel Swain, Sr.	hus	1824	6/22/1851	1/21/1886
Susan Elizabeth Boyer	wife	1/4/1835		12/24/1915
<i>Isabella Swain</i> (Myers)	dau	9/17/1851		5/22/1928
<i>Charles Reuben Swain</i>	son	9/14/1853	infant	11/11/1853
<i>Samuel Lewis Swain</i>	son	3/4/1855	6/22/1851	3/8/1939
<i>Emma Traphenia Swain</i> (Scheideman)	dau	12/2/1857	abt. 1884	4/24/1885
<i>John P. Swain</i>	son	3/11/1859	infant	5/9/1860
<i>Manzella Virginia Swain</i> (Magaha)	dau	10/8/1861	3/23/1880	11/3/1932
<i>William Benjamin Swain</i>	son	12/14/1863	infant	2/2/1864
<i>Infant Swain</i>	unk	Abt. 1864	infant	Abt. 1865
Benjamin Samuel Swain, Jr.	son	8/17/1866	10/16/1890	8/9/1955
<i>Charles Luther Swain</i>	son	6/24/1868	1892	5/19/1949
<i>James Eleven Swain</i>	son	8/20/1871	1895	8/24/1936
William Henry Boyer	hus	3/22/1851	4/2/1872	4/10/1926
Martha Ann Mose	wife	1856		1924
Clarence Newton Boyer	son	1872		1931
<i>Nannie L. Boyer</i> (Kidwiler)	dau	1874		1934
<i>Harry McComas Boyer</i>	son	1877		1930
<i>John Samuel Boyer</i>	son	1879		1966
Charles Melvin Boyer	son	1882		1970
Gillespie Boyer	son	1884		1903
<i>Ena Jane Boyer</i> (Allen)	dau	1888		1978
<i>Bessie Leota Boyer</i> (Moats)	dau	1891		1976
<i>Martha Minerva Boyer</i> (Knode)	dau	1894		1948
William Howell Boyer	son	1896		1961
End of 2 nd Generation				
George William Swain	hus	1849	1875	4/24/1912
Frances Eugenia Kidwell	wife	1854		1905
<i>Rhoda L. Swain</i> (Wolfensberger)	dau	1880		1961
<i>Blanche May Swain</i> (Wright)	dau	1881		1931
William Millard Swain	son	1884		1933
Lloyd George Swain	son	1885		1930
<i>Julia Butler Swain</i> (Lynn)	dau	1887		1920
Theodore Swain	son	7/12/1891	infant	10/19/1891
<i>Nora D. Swain</i> (Butler)	dau	1893		1978

Swain Family History

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
<i>John Carlton Swain</i>	son	1895		1948
<i>Frances Nancy Swain</i> (Lynn)	dau	1895		1979
<i>Urma C. Swain</i> (Smith)	dau	1898		1974
James Franklin Swain	hus	7/1840	1/17/1866	7/27/1906
Mary Catherine Brashears	wife	1845		1930
<i>Zella E. Swain</i> (Hines)	dau	1867		1895
<i>Robert Clinton Swain</i>	son	1867	1889	1943
<i>Harry Marcellus Swain</i>	son	1870		1928
<i>Thomas R. Swain</i>	son	1872		1961
<i>Helen S. Swain</i> (Hebb)	dau	1875		1928
<i>Nora Mary Swain</i> (Cramer)	dau	1875		1902
<i>Dora B. Swain</i> (Knode)	dau	1875		1917
<i>Vessa Julia Swain</i> (Twiggy)	dau	1887		1971
John William Swain	hus	8/11/1843	1/17/1866	3/16/1925
Georgianna Brashears	wife	4/21/1848		4/6/1900
<i>Charles Emory Swain</i>	son	3/26/1866		1946
<i>Bertha A. Swain</i>	dau	7/3/1871	child	10/3/1885
<i>Edna C. Swain</i> (Highberger)	dau	1/8/1876		1955
<i>Harvey Vister Swain</i>	son	1/31/1878 ¹⁷³		1949
<i>Rodney Ellsworth Swain</i>	son	10/7/1880		6/19/1959
John T. Swain, Jr.	hus.	8/1848	5/3/1873	9/28/1913
Malissa Alice S. Geisey (1 st)	wife	1855		10/8/1888
<i>Newton Ausbury Swain</i>	son	7/22/1873 ¹⁷⁴	twice	4/11/1948
<i>Lillian Virginia Swain</i> (Walker)	dau	4/1877	1/2/1890	
<i>Howard Cleggett Swain</i>	son	4/25/1884	1916	1958
John T. Swain, Jr. (2 nd)	hus	8/1848	1/29/1889	9/28/1913
Ann Clugston Smith (2 nd)	wife	9/1848		1923
<i>Roy Smith Swain</i>	son	5/1884		
<i>Jessie C. Swain</i>	son	10/2/1888	child	5/6/1893
<i>Bessie E. Swain</i>	dau	1/29/1891	child	4/30/1893
Charles Henry "Hen" Swain	hus.	1853	12/21/1875	11/13/1933
Annie Wilson	wife	9/1848		6/7/1908
<i>Jane Janie Swain</i> (Koontz)	dau	1877	1898	1/6/1938
<i>Robert D. Swain, Sr.</i>	son	11/27/1879 ¹⁷⁵	1905	7/27/1941
<i>Anna Belle Swain</i> (Staubs)	dau	1882	1941	1957
<i>Lloyd Henry Swain</i>	son	5/1884 ¹⁷⁶	1919	7/27/1940
<i>Lila Omega Swain</i> (Hebb)	dau.	1886	1905	9/21/1985
<i>Reba Elizabeth Swain</i> (Crampton)	dau.	1889	1907	4/12/1959

¹⁷³ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2825, Order A3438, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

¹⁷⁴ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2476, Order A3109, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

¹⁷⁵ WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 684, Order No. 633, dated 9/12/1918.

¹⁷⁶ WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 2398, Order No. 275, dated 9/12/1918.

Swain Family History

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
Clifford Charles Swain, Sr.	son	6/4/1890 ¹⁷⁷	twice	12/15/1974
Mamie F. Swain (Stockslager)	dau	1893	1919	8/24/1975
Grace M. Swain (Butts)	dau.	1897		9/19/1971
Leonard E. Swain, Sr.	son	10/26/1899 ¹⁷⁸	1918	1/15/1965
Otho William Grove, Sr.	hus	4/1852	9/25/1873	1915
Ella Swain	wife	9/1855		8/15/1930
Annie May Grove (Mose)	dau	1/1875	4/18/1892	1952
Bessie Lee Grove (Bender)	dau	5/1877	1894	7/8/1943
Clyde Elias Grove	son	5/20/1879 ¹⁷⁹	abt. 1901	8/12/1849
Oliver Murphy Grove	son	4/20/1881 ¹⁸⁰	abt. 1901	9/28/1960
Vada Florence Grove	dau	2/24/1883	abt. 1902	11/26/1942
Elnora V. Grove (Delaney)	dau	2/25/1885	abt. 1905	6/15/1963
Otho William Grove, Jr.	son	8/1889	abt. 1909	1918
John H. Murphy	hus	10/11/1854	7/4/1878	4/28/1891
Virginia F. Swain	wife	9/1857		7/13/1936
Essie Agnes Murphy (Robinson)	dau	10/1884	abt. 1908	1/20/1940
John Thomas Murphy	son	6/3/1888 ¹⁸¹	abt. 1925	9/12/1965
William F. Swain	hus	10/1859	5/14/1879	7/7/1935
Margaret A. Leonard	wife	9/1868		7/14/1929
Bertram Earl Swain	son	5/17/1892 ¹⁸²	abt. 1921	8/19/1955
Hazel Louise Swain (Bowers)	dau	4/1896	abt. 1912	8/12/1954
Lottie Virginia Swain (Muck)	dau	9/26/1899	1915	5/26/1968
Samuel H. Stride	hus	11/5/1858	10/28/1886	5/31/1916
Ida F. Swain	wife	1/1865		8/20/1910
Lawrence Victor Stride	son	5/29/1888	abt. 1918	10/28/1958
Thomas L. Bell	hus	1/1864	3/18/1884	4/20/1943
Abbie E. Swain	wife	9/1868		7/7/1949
John David Bell	son	4/29/1885 ¹⁸³	abt. 1909	1/24/1953
Jesse L. Bell	son	1888		1932
Henrietta Bell (Aneser)	dau	3/2/1890	1912	7/23/1969
Rhoda Bell (Wibberley/Devine)	dau	10/1896	twice	2/1970
George Thomas Bell, Sr.	son	4/25/1900	abt. 1929	1/25/1978

¹⁷⁷ WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 2225, Order No. 72, dated 6/15/1917.
¹⁷⁸ WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 3027, Order No. 1851, dated 9/12/1918.
¹⁷⁹ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 42XX, Order 1897, dated Sept. 12, 1918.
¹⁸⁰ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2989, Order 1873, dated Sept. 7, 1918.
¹⁸¹ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 1699, Order 34, dated June 5, 1917.
¹⁸² WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 735, Order 17, dated June 5, 1917.
¹⁸³ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 960, Order 449, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

Swain Family History

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
Jesse Anderson Swain	hus	8/22/1869	5/15/1889	5/8/1939 ¹⁸⁴
Bertha E. Bowers (1 st)	wife	1/1872		2/9/1893
Charles Edward Swain	son	1/14/1892 ¹⁸⁵	7/17/1915	5/21/1960
Agnes May Swain (Crampton)	dau	8/17/1890	9/22/1907	6/29/1921
Jesse Anderson Swain	hus	8/22/1869	10/1898	5/8/1939
Mary Virginia McCutcheon (2 nd)	wife	1/13/1874		8/26/1915
Maude Helen Swain (Barber)	dau	1/14/1898		11/14/1972
Otho Oliver Swain	son	7/24/1901	bef. 1938	6/12/1976
Virgil Kenneth Swain	son	11/28/1904	bef. 1933	12/21/1941
Robert Lee Swain, Sr.	son	9/20/1905	10/29/1930	6/3/1967 ¹⁸⁶
Ruth Ann Swain (Haines)	dau	2/4/1908	4/1928	11/27/1983
Ada Margaret Swain (Getson)	dau	1912	bef. 1940	Aft. 1950
Jesse Anderson Swain, Jr.	son	6/19/1913	never	1932
Benjamin Samuel Swain, Jr.	hus	8/17/1866	10/16/1890	8/9/1955
Margaret Aurelia Poffenberger	wife	8/7/1871		5/22/1949
Elmer Lester "Les" Swain	son	3/18/1891 ¹⁸⁷	1/24/1917	12/24/1962
Howard Milton "Dick" Swain	son	11/25/1892 ¹⁸⁸	1/6/1918	9/18/1973
John Luther Swain	son	7/19/1898 ¹⁸⁹	7/20/1920	12/26/1978
Raymond Emanuel "Tuck" Swain	son	6/3/1905	12/28/1929	1/3/1989
Charles Luther Swain	hus	6/24/1868	3/1892	5/19/1949
Cora Elizabeth Colbert	wife	1874		1956
Myrtle Edna Swain (Whipp)	dau	4/17/1893		12/1944
Hugh Luther Swain	son	11/26/1895		7/21/1941
Pearl Lavinia Swain (Parrish)	dau	2/11/1897		1987
Thomas Clay DeLauney	hus.	1864	1887	1937
Laura Belle Fisher	wife	2/27/1868		10/25/1960
Mervin Thomas DeLauney	son	2/24/1888	bef. 1930	1/1973
Frederick Joseph DeLauney	son	11/5/1889		7/1/1971
George H. DeLauney	son	11/1890		Abt. 1910
Helen Forrest DeLauney (Swain)	dau	1/1892	1913	10/21/1918
Elbert Crockett DeLauney	son	8/3/1896	10/7/1939	4/15/1953
Mary Saville DeLauney (Swain)	dau	7/1/1901	1923	7/1/1993
Lloyd W. DeLauney	son	6/11/1905	1926	12/1974
End of 3 rd Generation.				
Robert D. Swain, Sr.	hus	11/27/1879	1905	7/27/1941
Mary "Mamie" Thomas McKelvey	wife	10/12/1888		10/23/1974
Robert D. Swain, Jr.	son	3/14/1907	2/19/1927	7/7/1981
Pauline Margaret Swain	dau	5/28/1908	twice	1/22/2002
Virginia Mae Swain (Byers)	dau	5/29/1911	abt. 1929	7/8/2002

¹⁸⁴ *The Washington Post*, Washington, D.C., newspaper, Obituary, 1939

¹⁸⁵ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 1605, Order 54, dated Jun. 5, 1917.

¹⁸⁶ *The Washington Post*, Washington, D.C., newspaper, Obituary, 6/5/1967

¹⁸⁷ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 2286, Order 64, dated Jun. 5, 1917.

¹⁸⁸ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 68, Order 63, dated Jun. 5, 1917.

¹⁸⁹ WW-I Draft Registration Card Serial Number 167, Order 1025, dated Sept. 12, 1918.

Swain Family History

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
Noble Swain	son	12/13/1913	bef. 1940	3/19/1972
<i>Jean M. Swain</i> (Pinkston)	dau	12/9/1915		1/9/1973
Genevieve Swain (DeLauney)	dau	7/31/1918	twice	8/19/2013
<i>Mary Marie Swain</i> (Pinkston)	dau	7/24/1922		1/29/2010
Juanita Swain (Renner)	dau	1929		
<i>Ruth Swain</i> (Javier)	dau	Abt. 1932		
Clifford Charles Swain, Sr.	hus	6/4/1890	1913	12/15/1974
<i>Helen Forrest DeLauney</i> (1 st)	wife	1892		1918
<i>Marjorie Cliffordene Swain</i> (Klahr)	dau	6/26/1916	bef. 1935	3/1993
<i>Virginia DeLauney Swain</i>	dau	1918	infant	1918
Clifford Charles Swain, Sr.	hus	6/4/1890	1923	12/15/1974
<i>Mary Savilla DeLauney</i> (2 nd)	wife	7/1/1901		3/23/1993
Maxwell Leo Swain	son	5/3/1924	Never	12/21/1944
Alfred Eugene Swain	son	11/3/1929	1951	12/11/2010
Richard Lee Swain, II	son	10/19/1936	8/10/1958	1/10/2009?
Leonard E. Swain	hus	10/26/1899	1918	1/15/1965
Ollie C. Shoemaker	wife	6/17/1895		2/18/1981
<i>Leonard Henry Swain, Sr.</i>	son	1/2/1920	twice	5/27/2005
<i>Anna Rebecca Swain</i> (Williamson)	dau	8/1/1921		8/27/2008
Calvin Coolidge Swain	son	12/15/1924	3/1959	7/11/2005
Bertram Earl Swain	hus	5/17/1892	1921	8/19/1955
Margaret Cornwall	wife	12/9/1897		10/5/1988
<i>Lottie Virginia Swain</i> (Eckstine)	dau	5/27/1922		9/21/2002
Elwood Luther Eugene Swain	son	10/2/1924	1942	11/9/2006
<i>Bertice Earlene Swain</i> (Rubright)	dau	10/10/1926		2/17/2004
<i>Evelyn Audrey Swain</i> (Hudson)	dau	9/27/1928		2/23/2013
<i>Bessie J. Swain</i> (Custer)	dau	10/25/1931		3/20/2003
Charles E. Crampton	hus	1885	9/22/1907	
Agnes "Aggie" May Swain	wife	8/17/1890		6/29/1921
Paul R. Barker	hus			
Maude Helen Swain	wife	1/14/1898		11/14/1972
Odie Barker	son			
Otho Oliver Swain	hus	7/24/1901	bef. 1938	6/16/1976
Elsie Mae Lee	wife	12/23/1909		8/31/1990
<i>Jesse Webster Swain</i>	son	2/22/1938		12/8/1999
<i>Margaret Virginia Swain</i> (Moulsus)	dau	8/30/1940		1/6/1998
Virgil Kenneth Swain	hus	11/28/1903		12/21/1941
Virginia Mary Virgy	wife	1906		
<i>Virgil Freeman Swain</i>	son	1933		
<i>Francis Claude Swain</i>	son	1934		12/27/1942
Irvin Swain	son	1938		

Swain Family History

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
<i>Mary Virginia Swain</i> (Holston)	dau	1939		
Robert Lee Swain, Sr.	hus	9/20/1905	10/29/1930	6/3/1967
Virginia Mae Stang	wife	10/6/1915		6/6/1992
Robert Lee Swain, Jr.	son	9/15/1932	11/6/1953	5/30/2010
Frederick Otto Swain	son	10/19/1937	8/18/1961	3/19/2001 ¹⁹⁰
Barbara Ann Swain (Raver)	dau	10/26/1941	6/21/1959	
Barbara J. Swain (Sheckles)	dau	4/19/1944		12/18/2007
Theodore A. Haines	hus	6/12/1905	4/1928	8/21/1968
Ruth Ann Swain	wife	2/4/1908		11/27/1983
Barbara Ann Haines (Shipley)	dau	1939		
Franklin Delano Haines	son	4/13/1945		9/8/2010
Kenneth Haines	son			
Donald Haines	son			
Theodore "Bucky" Haines	son			
Richard Haines	son			
Howard Milton "Dick" Swain	hus	11/25/1892	1/6/1918	9/18/1978
Inez Myrtle "Susie" Smith	wife	9/3/1891		7/7/1966
Minerva Inez Swain (Snyder)	dau	4/19/1920	12/6/1952	9/14/1977
Howard Marcellus "Mark" Swain	son	10/14/1921	12/25/1947	6/22/2017
End of 4th Generation.				
David Michael Raver	hus		6/21/1959	
Barbara Ann Swain	wife	10/26/1941		
Karen May Raver (Mobley)	dau	1961		
Linda Ann Raver (Bigsby)	dau	1966	twice	
Howard Marcellus "Mark" Swain	hus	10/14/1921	12/25/1947	6/22/2017
Eula Pearce Huffer	wife	12/17/1924		5/23/2014
Marcia Ellen Swain	dau	1948	twice	

¹⁹⁰

Gazette Regional News, Potomac, MD, newspaper, Obituary, 3/28/2001.

Swain Family History

VITAL STATISTICS OF McKelvey/McKalvey FAMILY

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
Alexander C. McKelvey	hus	9/1842	7/15/1876	6/1913
Mary Ann Singer	wife	6/26/1851		2/1934
<i>Thomas J. McKelvey</i>	son	10/1878		1951
<i>James A. McKelvey</i>	son	11/1879	1898	Aft. 1930
<i>Flossie Lorene McKelvey</i>	dau.	3/1881	6/27/1912	2/9/1966
<i>Anna Vass McKelvey</i> (Renner)	dau	3/1882	1907	6/18/1961
<i>Margaret Blaine McKelvey</i> (Padgett)	dau	8/4/1885	6/14/1913	1972
<i>Mary Thomas McKelvey</i> (Swain)	dau	10/12/1888	1905	10/23/1974
<i>Leona M. McKelvey</i>	dau	10/1890		1946
<i>Susan E. McKelvey</i> (Todd)	dau	8/1892		
<i>Alexander T. McKelvey</i>	son	10/1893		

Swain Family History

VITAL STATISTICS OF BENDER FAMILY

Name	Rel.	Born	Married	Died
Samuel Painter Bender	hus	10/8/1808	9/24/1835	6/4/1880
Elizabeth Domer	wife	1815		6/18/1878
<i>Henry D. Bender</i>	son	1835		10/2/1858
<i>Benjamin Bender</i>	son	4/17/1837		1917
<i>Otho Domer Bender</i>	son	1840	child	7/3/1854
<i>Mary Rosena Bender</i>	dau	1842		8/12/1864
<i>Andrew Bender</i>	son	1852	child	1860
<i>Fannie T. Bender</i>	dau	1858		
End of 1st Generation				
Benjamin Bender	hus	4/17/1837	6/11/1861	4/30/1917
Elizabeth Highbarger	wife	3/1848		3/8/1904
<i>William H. Bender</i>	son	9/14/1865		1/26/1889
<i>Daisy B. Bender</i> (Swain)	dau	3/1871		1957
<i>Raleigh Samuel Bender</i>	son	2/2/1873		1/20/1971 ¹⁹¹
<i>Hattie Bender</i>	dau.	5/6/1876		12/12/1897
<i>Charlie Edgar Bender</i>	son	4/22/1880	1904	9/29/1946
End of 2nd Generation				
Robert Clinton Swain, Sr.	hus	1/26/1867	1889	7/6/1943
Daisy B. Bender	wife	3/1871		10/21/1957
<i>Maude Ethel Swain</i>	dau	7/1893	twice	8/13/1933
<i>Robert Clinton Swain, Jr.</i>	son	3/23/1895		11/1921
<i>Allen V. Swain</i>	son	5/1897	child	1909
<i>Raleigh W. Swain</i>	son	1906	infant	1906
Raleigh Samuel Bender	hus.	2/2/1873	1894	1/20/1971
Jane Bessie Lee Grove	wife	5/1877		7/8/1943
<i>Edith Verbelle Bender</i> (McGraw)	dau	2/1898		8/21/1967
<i>Ray Gardner Bender</i>	son	1901		1/10/1970
<i>Ella E. Bender</i>	dau	3/27/1903	never	9/11/1997
<i>Marjorie Lee "Margie" Bender</i>	dau	9/27/1905		1998
<i>Otho S. Bender</i>	son	7/20/1910		1989
<i>Dorothy L. Bender</i>	dau	3/7/1914		2001
<i>Modessa Mary Bender</i>	dau	8/6/1918		1985
Charlie Edgar Bender	hus	4/22/1880	4/3/1904	9/29/1946
Agnes Mae Stull	wife	1885		1968
<i>Mary Elizabeth Bender</i>	dau	8/5/1904		1985
<i>Rachael Elizabeth Bender</i>	dau	9/5/1906		1990
<i>William Edgar Bender</i>	son	2/22/1910	never	1984
<i>Etta Loretta Bender</i> (Neikirk)	dau	5/13/1912		2001
<i>Geneva Edith Bender</i> (Poffenberger)	dau	6/29/1915		2007
<i>Flo Thelma Bender</i> (Smith)	dau	9/8/1918		2000
<i>Julia Lane Bender</i> (Kline)	dau	11/14/1920		1993
<i>Betsy Ross Bender</i>	dau	6/14/1923	never	2005

¹⁹¹ *The Frederick Post*, Frederick, MD, newspaper, Saturday, 1/23/1971, p. A-6.

Shepherdstown *Register*, Thursday, July 22, 1897, p. 3.

Frisby Tired of Life.

Frisby T. Staubs, of Sharpsburg, attempted suicide Monday about half-past one o'clock by hanging himself in his stable. Fortunately, he was discovered in time and cut down before life was extinct. He placed a long bench on end and leaned it against a rafter. To the upper end of the bench he attached a rope and standing on a box he tied the other end around his neck. When ready he kicked the box away and dangled in space. While so hanging, slowly strangling to death, Mrs. Charles Swain, a neighbor, burst into the stable and found him. She called for help and John Early, who was working in a garden, hastened to the stable and cut Staubs down. He was unconscious when taken down but soon revived, as he was rescued from his dangerous position before he had been hanging more than a moment or two. Staubs is a cripple and earns a livelihood by hauling goods. On Friday he hauled a load of ice from Hagerstown. During the evening someone stole \$18 from him, and this loss, combined with other things, had a very depressing effect on him. He said that unless he found the money by Saturday evening he would put himself out of the way. Monday morning he went down to the hotel and to the crowd standing about said that he had not found his money and wanted them to see that he got a decent burial. While not attributing much importance to his remarks, neighbors watched him more or less, and When Mrs. Swain saw him go into the stable she became suspicious and followed him with the result as told above.

When he revived sufficiently to speak after being cut down, Staubs asked why he had not been left alone, as he wanted to die and would kill himself. A close watch is being kept on him to see that he does not attempt to take his life again. Staubs is about forty-six years old and resides on Antietam street in Sharpsburg with his wife and four children. His crippled condition is a great drawback to him, as it curtails the ways in which he can gain a living, and all who know him are sorry that he was driven to attempt so rash an act.

Staubs was in Hagerstown Tuesday, and to a reporter there he expressed regret that he had tried to kill himself, and said he would do so no more. His eighteen dollars was found under a log where he had placed it for safe keeping while he was indulging in a spree.

Swain Family History

Washington County, MD, Deed Book WMcKK 2, page 726-27, 8/23/1870

At the request of Henry Thomas Weld the following Mortgage was recorded August 23rd 1870.

This Indenture, Made this 12th day of August eighteen hundred and seventy between John T. Swain of Washington County, State of Maryland, of the first part, and Henry Thomas Weld of Allegany County, State of Maryland, of the second part. Whereas the said Henry Thomas Weld has this day sold to the said John Swain the Canal Boat called "William M. Hill" at and for the sum of Two thousand dollars, which the Swain is to pay unto the said Weld and his assigns in installments of Forty dollars each for the first twenty trips and thirty five dollars for each subsequent trip made by said boat from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria, or Washington City or other intermediate points, until the entire purchase money is paid with interest thereon from this date crediting the respective payments thereon, as of the time when such payments shall be made. And Whereas, it was a part of said contract of purchase and sale between the said Swain and the said Weld, that the said Swain shall use the said boat in freighting coal from Cumberland to the points aforesaid, in regular trips with as much expedition and regularity as can be reasonably done with night and day stock and to give a preference in freighting to the coal of such company or persons as said Weld may from time to time direct; provided such person or persons are ready to load him at the current rates of freight payable by the large companies for a like service, within a period of twenty four hours exclusive of Sundays after his reporting for loading, and keep said boat in proper repair; and that the said party of the first part shall not sell, or dispose of, or lease, or mortgage said boat without the written consent of the agent of said Weld, endorsed on this instrument, before the said boat shall have been entirely paid for; all of which said stipulations the said Swain hereby covenants and agrees with the said Weld and his assigns to fulfill and perform.

Provided Always, that if, from any cause whatsoever, said Weld shall not be prepared with coal within twenty four hours of the boat being reported by the captain as ready to receive her load, then all claims of said Weld to the services of the boat for that trip is cancelled, except so far as his right to claim the trip money is concerned. And whereas the said Swain is anxious to secure unto the said Weld and his assigns the regular and due payment of each and every said installment of said purchase money, and also to secure the said Weld and his assigns the regular, prompt and due performance of the covenants aforesaid and the said [Swain] is willing to execute these presents.

Now this indenture Witnesseth, that the said Swain for and in consideration of the premises, hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto the said Henry Thomas Weld, his executors, administrators and assigns, the canal boat called "William M. Hill" to have and to hold the same unto the said Henry Thomas Weld, his executors, administrators and assigns forever.

Provided Nevertheless, and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of these presents that if the said Swain shall well and truly pay unto said Weld, his executors, administrators or assigns, the aforesaid installments of purchase money upon each and every trip as aforesaid, until the whole purchase money with interest as aforesaid shall be fully paid; and if the said Swain shall well and truly do and perform all the covenants on his part to be done and performed as set forth in this mortgage, then this instrument of writing and every matter and thing herein contained, shall cease and be utterly null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law. And this instrument further Witnesseth that it is mutually agreed between the parties aforesaid, that in case of any default upon the part of the said Swain to make regular

Swain Family History

payments on account of said purchase money as herein provided, or in case of a failure to make regular trips as aforesaid with said boat, or in case of a refusal or neglect upon the part of said Swain to freight for the company or person designated by said Weld, or in case of a failure or neglect to use all diligence, care and skill in making such trips with said boat, as before mentioned, or in case said boat is not kept in proper repair, or in case of a failure to perform any of the stipulations or recitals in this mortgage named, to be done and performed on the part of the said Swain then, and in either event the said Henry Thomas Weld or his assigns are hereby authorized to take immediate possession of said boat, and after ten days public notice thereof in a newspaper printed in the City of Cumberland, to sell said canal boat at public sale, as mortgagee, to the highest bidder for cash or on credit; and out of the proceeds of such sale pay first the expenses of such sale and advertisement, and then the balance due to said Weld, or his assigns, of said purchase money and interest. In Witness Whereof the said Swain hath hereunto subscribed his name and affixed his seal on the day and year first above written, Test.

John Snyder Test.

his
John T. x Swain {Seal}
mark

State of Maryland, Washington County, to wit,

I hereby certify that on this 12th day of August 1870 before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for said County personally appeared John T. Swain and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his act and deed.

John Snyder, J. P. {Seal}

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit,

Be it remembered, and it is hereby certified that on this 13th day of August 1870 before me the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Allegany County personally appeared Henry Thos. Weld the mortgagee in the foregoing mortgage and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, that the consideration set forth in the foregoing mortgage is true and bona fide, as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name on the day and year aforesaid.

Andrew Gonder, J. P.

Examined and sent by mail to mortgagee on March 27th 1874.

Swain Family History

Washington County, MD, Deed Book WMcKK 3, page 19-21, 9/1/1870

At the insistence of Henry Thos. Weld, the following Mortgage is recorded September 1st 1870.

This Indenture, Made this 22nd day of August eighteen hundred and seventy between Samuel Swain of Washington County, State of Maryland of the first part and Henry Thomas Weld of Allegany County, State of Maryland of the second part. Whereas the said Henry Thomas Weld has this day sold to the said Swain the Canal Boat called "Samuel Boyer" at and for the sum of Twenty one Hundred Dollars, which the said Swain is to pay unto the said Weld and his assigns in installments of Fifty dollars each for the first twenty trips and thirty five dollars each for subsequent trip made by said boat from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria, or Washington City or other intermediate points, until the entire purchase money is paid with interest thereon from this date, crediting the respective payments thereon, as of the time when such payments shall be made. And Whereas, it was a part of said contract of purchase and sale between the said Swain and the said Weld, that the said Swain shall use the said boat in freighting coal from Cumberland to the points aforesaid, in regular trips with as much expedition and regularity as can be reasonably done with night and day stock and to give a preference in freighting to the coal of such company or persons as said Weld may from time to time direct; provided such person or persons are ready to load him at the current rates of freight payable by the large companies for a like service, within a period of twenty four hours, exclusive of Sundays, after his reporting for loading, and keep said boat in proper repairs; and that the said party of the first part shall not sell, or dispose of, or lease, or mortgage said boat without the written consent of the Agent of said Weld, endorsed on this instrument, before the said boat shall have been entirely paid for, all of which said stipulations the said Swain hereby covenants and agrees with the said Weld and his assigns to fulfill and perform.

Provided Always that if, from any cause whatsoever, said Weld shall not be prepared with coal within twenty four hours of the boat being reported by the captain as ready to receive her load, then all claims of said Weld to the services of the boat for that trip is cancelled, except so far as his right to claim the trip money is concerned. And whereas the said Swain is anxious to secure unto the said Weld and his assigns the regular and due payment of each and every said installment of said purchase money, and also to secure the said Weld and his assigns the regular, prompt and due performance of the covenants aforesaid and the said Swain is willing to execute these presents.

Now this indenture Witnesseth, that the said Swain for and in consideration of the premises, hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto the said Henry Thomas Weld, his executors, administrators and assigns, the canal boat called "Samuel Boyer" to have and to hold the same unto the said Henry Thomas Weld, his executors, administrators and assigns forever.

Provided Nevertheless, and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of these presents that if the said Swain shall well and truly pay unto said Weld, his executors, administrators and assigns, the aforesaid installments of purchase money upon each and every trip as aforesaid, until the whole purchase money with interest as aforesaid shall be fully paid; and if the said Swain shall well and truly do and perform all the covenants on his part to be done and performed as set forth in this mortgage, then this instrument of writing and every matter and thing herein contained, shall cease and be utterly null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law. And this Instrument further Witnesseth that it is mutually agreed between the

Swain Family History

parties aforesaid, that in case of any default upon the part of the said Swain to make regular payments on account of said purchase money as herein provided, or in case of a failure to make regular trips as aforesaid with said boat, or in case of a refusal or neglect upon the part of said Swain to freight for the company or person designated by said Weld, or in case of a failure or neglect to use all diligence, care and skill in making such trips with said boat, as before mentioned, or in case said boat is not kept in proper repair or in case of a failure to perform any of the stipulations or recitals in this mortgage named, to be done and performed on the part of the said Swain then, and in either event the said Henry Thomas Weld or his assigns are hereby authorized to take immediate possession of said boat, and after ten days public notice thereof in a newspaper printed in the City of Cumberland, to sell said canal boat at public sale, as mortgagee, to the highest bidder for cash or on credit; and out of the proceeds of such sale pay first the expenses of such sale and advertisement, and then the balance due to said Weld, or his assigns, of said purchase money and interest.

In Witness Whereof the said Swain hath hereunto subscribed his name and affixed his seal on the day and year first above written.

Test. Samuel Boyer

his
Samuel x Swain {Seal}
mark

State of Maryland, Washington County, to wit,

I hereby certify that on this 22nd day of August 1870 before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for said County personally appeared Samuel Swain and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his act and deed.

Samuel Boyer, J. P. {Seal}

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit,

Be it remembered and it is hereby certified that on this 1st day of September 1870 before me the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Allegany County, personally appeared Henry Tho. Weld the mortgagee in the foregoing mortgage and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the consideration set forth in the foregoing mortgage is true and bona fide, as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name on the day and year aforesaid.

Andrew Gonder, J. P.

Examined and sent by mail to mortgagee on March 24th 1871.

Swain Family History

Washington County, MD, Deed Book WMcKK 5, page 485, 3/18/1873.

At the insistence of Samuel Boyer, the following mortgage is recorded March 18th 1873

We, Charles H. Swain & Frisby Renner of Washington County and State of Maryland being now indebted to Sam'l Boyer of the same County and State in the sum of Four Hundred Dollars with interest thereon from the 14th day of March 1873 in consideration thereof do bargain and sell to the said Boyer the following property: One brown mare mule (Duckett); 1 brown mare mule (Sis); 1 brown male mule (Patrick); one bay mare mule (Beck); four sets of harness rigging on boat *S. S. Cunningham*. Provided that if we the said Renner & Swain shall pay to the said Boyer the sum of four hundred dollars and interest thereon on or before the 14th day of March 1873[4] then these presents shall be void. Witness our hands and seals this 14th day of March 1873.

Charles H. Swain {Seal}

Frisby Renner {Seal}

State of Maryland, Washington County, to wit,

I hereby certify that on this 14th day of March 1873 before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for said County personally appeared Charles H. Swain and Frisby Renner and acknowledged the foregoing to be their act. And at the same time before me also appeared Samuel Boyer and made oath in form of law that the consideration in said mortgage is true and bona fide as therein set forth.

J. H. Grove, J. P.

Swain Family History

Washington County, MD, Deed Book 105, page 311, 7/15/1896.

At the request of Elizabeth E. Swain the following Deed was recorded July 15, 1896.

This Deed made this 14th day of July A.D. Eighteen Hundred and Ninety six (1896) by us Aaron C. Pry and Annie Pry his wife of Washington County, Maryland. Witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of Eighty Five Dollars, we the said Aaron C. Pry and Annie Pry his wife do grant unto Elizabeth E. Swain of Washington County, Maryland, all our right, title and interest being the same which was acquired by the said Aaron C. Pry by deed made to him by Emory A. Pry, Collector, dated the Eighth (8th) day of May 1894, as is recorded in Liber 102, folio 120, one of the Land Records of said County, in and to the following described lot or parcel of ground with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in Sharpsburg, Washington County, Maryland, and being on the South side of Chaplin Street, adjoining the property of Martin Haines, on the West and William Johnson's on the East, and the Cemetery of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a vacant lot belonging to S. S. Lum, on the South, as in fronting on said Chaplin Street with all appurtenances thereto belonging, or in anywise appertaining, and being the same property which was sold by Emory A. Pry, Collector of the State of Maryland, said Washington County, Taxes for the years 1888, 1889, 1890 and 1891, for the taxes due thereon by a certain John L. Swain, and which was conveyed to the said Aaron C. Pry by the Deed aforesaid. Witness our hands and seals.

Test: A. D. Snyder

A. C. Pry {Seal}

Annie Pry {Seal}

State of Maryland, Washington County, to wit,

I hereby certify that on this 14th day of July A.D. Eighteen Hundred and Ninety six (1896) before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for Washington County, personally appeared Aaron C. Pry and Annie Pry his wife and did each acknowledge the foregoing deed to be their respective act.

A. D. Snyder, J.P.

Swain Family History

Washington County, MD, Deed Book 105, page 547, 10/20/1896.

At the request of Charles L. Swain, the following Deed was recorded October 20th, 1896.

This Deed made this thirteenth day of October A.D. Eighteen Hundred and Ninety six by Lydia A. Zimmerman of Washington County, and State of Maryland. Witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of Five Hundred Dollars, cash in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the said Lydia A. Zimmerman doth grant unto Charles L. Swain of said County and State, his heirs and assigns in fee simple all the following described house and lot and premises situated, lying and being in the town of Sharpsburg in the County and State aforesaid and being lot No. 123, on plot of said town, fronting One Hundred and Three feet on Antietam Street and running back in the same model Two Hundred and Six feet to the ally and containing one half acre of land, more or less, and is the same property that was conveyed to the said Lydia A. Zimmerman by Mary Ann Cookerly and others by deed dated November 13th 1883. And the said Lydia A. Zimmerman covenants that she will warrant generally and specifically the property hereby conveyed, and that she will execute such further assurances as may be requisite. Witness my hand and seal.

Test: Moses Poffenberger
Ernest B. Miller

Lydia A. Zimmerman {Seal}

State of Maryland, Washington County, to wit,

I hereby certify that on this thirteenth day of October, in the year A.D. Eighteen Hundred and Ninety six, before me the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for Washington County aforesaid, personally appeared Lydia A. Zimmerman and acknowledged the foregoing deed to be her act.

Ernest B. Miller, J.P.

Swain Family History

At the request of Charles G. Biggs, the following Mortgage was Recorded October 20th 1996.

This Mortgage made this Nineteenth day of October, Eighteen Hundred and Ninety six, by Charles L. Swain, and Cora E. Swain his wife, of Washington County, Maryland. Witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of Four Hundred and Fifty dollars, now due from the said Charles L. Swain and Cora E. Swain, unto Charles G. Biggs of said County, with interest from the date hereof, the said Charles L. Swain and Cora E. Swain do grant unto the said Charles G. Biggs all that improved parcel of land known as lot No. 123 on the Plot of the town of Sharpsburg, in said County, fronting One Hundred and three feet on the North side of Antietam Street and extending back the same width throughout Two Hundred and six feet to an ally, containing one half acre, more or less, of land, and being the same property conveyed [by] Lydia A. Zimmerman, to the said Charles L. Swain by deed of same date herewith. Provided, if the said Charles L. Swain and Cora E. Swain shall pay unto the said Charles G. Biggs the said sum of Four Hundred and fifty dollars, and the interest thereon, on the thirteenth day of October Eighteen Hundred and Ninety seven, then this Mortgage shall be void. And the said Mortgagees covenant that they will pay the money as aforesaid, and that they will keep the dwelling on said premises Insured in at least Four Hundred Dollars for the benefit of the said Mortgager. Provided that until default in payment, the said Mortgagees shall possess the premises, and provided that if default shall be made in any of the Covenants herein contained, it shall be lawful for the said Charles G. Biggs to sell the said Mortgaged premises at public auction in Sharpsburg upon such terms as to him shall appear most expedient after giving three weeks notice of the time, place, manner and terms of sale, in a newspaper published in Washington County immediately prior to the day of sale, to pay its debt, interest, costs, the usual Equity Commission and is Counsel fees, its balance to the said Charles L. Swain. Witness our hand and seal:

Teste: Stella McK. Biggs, Ernest B. Miller

Charles L. Swain {Seal}
Cora E. Swain {Seal}

State of Maryland, Washington County, to wit: I hereby certify that on this Thirteenth day of October in the year Eighteen Hundred and Ninety six, before me, the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for Washington County aforesaid, personally appeared Charles L. Swain and Cora E. Swain, his wife, and acknowledged the foregoing mortgage to be their act, at the same time personally appeared Charles G. Biggs and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the consideration mentioned in the foregoing mortgage is true and bona fide as therein set forth, and did also make oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, that he has not required the mortgagees, their agent or attorneys, or any person for the said mortgagees to pay the Tax levied upon the interest Covenanted to be paid, in advance, nor will he require the same to be paid by the mortgagees, or any person for them during the existence of this mortgage.

Ernest B. Miller, J. P.

I hereby release the within Mortgage. Witness my hand and seal this twenty third day of March in the year Nineteen Hundred and five.

Chas. G. Biggs. {Seal}

(Rec. Mar. 23, 1905)