

Willis T Spivey

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1887-1972

Philanthropist Educator Engineer



Short Biography

Born in rural west Georgia, the only child of merchant Robert Spivey and Mary Willis, "Tim" as he was known graduated with a degree in architecture from Georgia Tech in 1908 and in mechanical engineering from Cornell University in 1910. He then became an architect and construction supervisor in the southeastern US. He hustled contracts and expanded his skills in Atlanta, Augusta, Savannah, Charleston, Birmingham, Boston, and more. According to journals he kept at the time, he preferred YMCAs for traveling accommodations. Those journals also reveal an accomplished dancer and golfer. He developed a taste for opera, which was his preferred listening in his last years.



He was a direct descendant of William Spivey, a soldier of the line from North Carolina in the Revolutionary War. Willis's aunt Jessie married Joseph Terrell, who became governor of Georgia in 1902. This gave Willis the chance to visit the governor's mansion, where he remembered



Dorothy Elizabeth Auten Rundle, 1896-1944 was born June 25 1898 in Harvey Illinois.

Parents were Fred Auten Rundle, born in Plymouth England, and Eva Laine Logie, born in Ontario Canada.

Willis and Dorothy most likely met in Harvey Illinois while Willis was consulting with Fred.

Dorothy was an art history major at Wellesley College, pulled on the rowing team, designed fashions both contemporary and for college plays. She graduated in 1916.

In the 1930s and 40s, she was active in voter registration and was president of the League of Women Voters on several occasions. In 1937 she was state chairman of the League's department of government and economic welfare.

Dorothy's Quaker social conscience was undoubtedly what spurred Willis to devote the second half of his life to the less fortunate.

meeting guests such as former Confederate generals.

Willis served in the Engineers in World War 1, promoted to Lieutenant the Quartermaster's Corps in Washington. On New Years Day 1919, he married **Dorothy Rundle** of Harvey, Illinois, a graduate of Wellesley - her Quaker beliefs had a profound influence on his life. They had 3 children, James, Joel and Dorothy (aka Sunny). He taught civil engineering at Cornell from 1908-1910, industrial engineering at Drexel University and was head of Drexels night school from 1919-1946.

*Department of Public Relations
WILLIS T. BRIDAY, B.S. in U. E., C. E.
Dip. in
University of Georgia Institute of Technology, B.S. in C.E.
Covington, Ga.
As Chief since 1919*

In every large organization it is necessary to have some of our most active in the public relations of the organization. This function is naturally performed as Chief Engineer by the Department of Public Relations. The Department of Public Relations endeavor to have all necessary copies typed and printed. The reports of students in the course published in the local newspapers. In addition this department keeps in touch with the things of students and also receives the reports of those who intend to work with it.



1st Lt US Army Engineers

The family settled in the suburbs of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - Radnor, Wallingford and Westtown - as Willis built his manufacturing company in Philadelphia. The Spivey Company was a primary supplier of material handling systems to United Parcel Service, the US Customs department, Keebler, and later to FedEx. In World War 2, he organized nationwide technical training programs for the Defense Department.

Dorothy died in 1944. Willis then formed The Dorothy Rundle Foundation, also known as the Community Workshop Association. He turned his home, an old mansion he purchased at a good price from a local broke bigwig, into the CWA's headquarters, and renovated the mansion's stone carriage house for himself. A central philosophy of CWA was that education and training provide more benefits to the poor than handouts, and that trainees could become trainers and educators.

His children grown or in college, in 1946 Willis married school teacher and author **Lenore Wallace** from Bellingham Washington, who worked for CWA. Nearing retirement age but still head of his company, he turned the Foundation's sights towards Florida. In 1951 they sold their mansion to the local arts association, which had used part of the house for its programs for several years. From 1952-55, Willis' grandson Tim lived with them. Willis and Lenore moved to

Dorothy died of cancer, and was cremated according to Quaker tradition.

Babson Park, Florida, then settled in Clearwater, Florida by 1954.



The Community Service Foundation as it was now known opened a library and community center in a minority neighborhood called Ridgecrest, ran a mobile library, trained VISTA volunteers in 1965, and worked with migrant labor and poverty issues. CSF still serves residents of Pinellas County.

Willis and family did not confine themselves to a narrow world. In 1928, he and Dorothy made the Atlantic crossing on the steamship SS Mauretania, in 1937 the family did the "Grand Tour of Europe", in 1938 Dorothy and eldest son Jim crossed the Atlantic on the SS Berengaria. In 1949, Willis and Lenore boarded the Queen Mary, and in 1958 splurged on a 6-month world tour of which their time in India stood out.



In 1962, Willis suffered a stroke which forced his retirement as active head of CSF. Lenore took over guidance of the Foundation, which she handled until her death in 1978. Willis died in 1972. Both are buried at Serenity Gardens in Largo, Florida. In 1986, CSF built and dedicated the Willis Spivey Apartments in Clearwater.



Ardis Lenore Wallace, 1900-1978 was born in 1900 in Hill City Kansas to William and Hilie Wallace. The family moved west, settling in Boulder Colorado, where the senior Wallaces worked as physicians.

They then moved to Bellingham Washington, where Lee taught for many years in the public schools.

By 1945, she had migrated East, and took a job as a staff assistant at the Community Workshop Association in Wallingford.

There she and CWA founder Willis Spivey decided in 1946 to tie the knot, an intellectual union by all accounts.

A former English teacher and fierce defender of both the Community Service Foundation and her husband, Lee frequently butted heads with local journalists – including a running feud with the Clearwater Sun.



Largo Florida

All text by Tim Spivey, eldest grandson, with invaluable input from Cousin Dorothy Ann Spivey, eldest granddaughter who used to jump out of airplanes for fun.

Some Spiveys in the southeastern USA

The origin of the name Spivey (pronounced SPY-vee) is typically murky - theories include Scotland, and a Yorkshire word spivy meaning crippled. One US GI in England during WW2 was surprised to hear the English slang word "splv" meaning a hustler of dubious integrity. The name Spivey is still found in Yorkshire.

In 1643, Col Thomas Dew was granted 450 acres of land in the new Virginia territory on the border of what would become Virginia and North Carolina. The land grant was for transporting 9 fresh colonists from England - including one George Spivey/Splvie from Barnsley, Yorkshire, probably an indentured servant. Dew's ship likely sailed from Hull in Yorkshire, a popular embarkation point for adventurers to the new English colonies. George later got 150 acres for paying to transport 3 people.

Gaining a foothold along the streams and swamps of the Nansemonde River, the Spiveys spread westward in North Carolina, gathering land and farming as they went. Along the way, they produced 2 pig thieves and 2 sabbath breakers - the same 2 individuals. Colonial-era records in NC have suffered from courthouse fires over the centuries, but there is a discernable trail. Families of the period had a nasty habit of re-using the same first names, and middle names were a luxury, making geneological sleuthing tricky. A small North Carolina community named Spivey's Corner has



For the Foundation, she wrote short biographical books on famous Black figures for use by the mobile library and community center.

Lee died in 1978 and is buried alongside Willis in Largo Florida.

been the home of an annual "hollering contest" since 1969.

In 1750, one William Spivey was born in Sampson County in east central North Carolina. In 1777 he decided to pick a fight with the English and enlisted in the militia, then as a Soldier of the Line in the Colonial army.



One of William Spivey's pay vouchers, 1782

As European settlers chased the native Creek and Cherokee out of the Georgia territories, the natives being not altogether crazy about the idea, 8 land lotteries were created, 1805-33, to distribute the land. Veterans were given extra draws in the early lotteries. As the lottery lands moved west, so did the Spiveys.

William settled in Putnam County, central Georgia, and raised a farming family northeast of Eatonton. He died in 1820; his will and inventory of property is in the county courthouse. The will of his son Henry leaves funds to have the graves of himself, his father and mother "enclosed in brick". And not far from the old Eatonton racetrack is an old cemetery, most likely Crooked Creek Church, containing Spivey markers. A low fieldstone wall encloses an area large enough for 3 graves, though there are no headstones. The cemetery is on private land and is watched over by the property owner.

William's grandson Thomas made his way to western Georgia, landing as a planter and slave owner in Harris County in the community of Beech Springs. Perhaps overly enthusiastic about the idea of "large farm families", he and wife Molly produced 13 children. They were married in 1839. After serving with the Georgia State troops during the Civil War, including a stint at Andersonville (outside the fence), he migrated to Texas where he died at the end of 1904.

Thomas left at least 2 of his youngest children behind in Georgia - Jessie Lee and Robert, who are mentioned earlier here. Robert married Mamie Willis; she died in 1903. In 1912 he married the widow Emma Keller Keith who had 2 children. As a merchant, Robert had followed the expanding railroad north out of Columbus and planted his roots in Greenville; he died in 1925 and is buried in the town cemetery.



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Willis T Spivey

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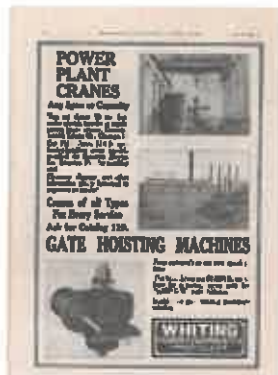
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DESCENDANTS OF WILLIS SPIVEY

Fred and Eva Rundle



Wedding register, 1890, from a larger original



1915 ad for the factory where Fred worked for 25 years



Only known photograph of Fred Rundle, holding a citrus tree branch

Fred and Eva

Fred Auten Rundle was born in Plymouth England in 1865, Eva Lang Logie was born in Ontario Canada in 1871. As of the 1930 US Census, neither had been naturalized.

After 25+ years in the foundry industry - starting as a pattern maker & progressing to factory superintendent - and with many patents to his name, Fred retired in 1919. By 1920, the couple had moved to Orlando Florida, where he became a citrus grower.

After Fred died in 1934, Eva moved to Pennsylvania to be near her daughter. She died in 1943 and was



**Funeral home
record,
Fred, Florida, 1934**



Eva, 1893

**cremated, following
Quaker tradition.**



**Eva Rundle, date unknown, marked "Mumsie" on
the reverse side**



Dorothy at Wellesley

Dorothy Rundle Spivey



Dorothy at Wellesley



Dorothy and Jim



Dorothy, possibly with Jim



White & Berry, Jim (L) & Judy



Dorothy & Jim



1941

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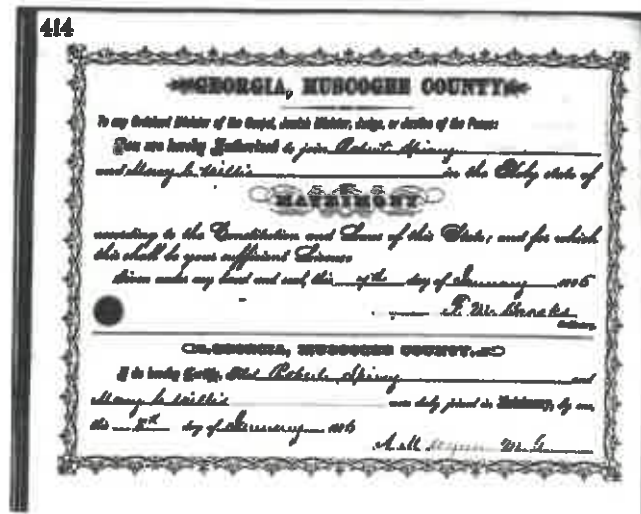
MORE FAMILY ALBUM

DESCENDANTS OF WILLIS SPIVEY

Robert and Mary Spivey



Newspaper ad for Robert's store, 1885



Robert & Mary's marriage record, 1885



Robert's death certificate 1925



Two residences on Lagrange Street.



One of Robert's stores, in 1977



Original newspaper obituary, Mary 1903

A car load of grouse sent to Greenville through Atlanta was held up all night before the regular train, and the grouse was consequently spoiled. It was reported that they had sold at once.

Newspaper ad for Robert's store, 1885



Dr Pinkston's hospital and boarding house, where Mary died after an illness.



Grave of Emma Keller, Robert's second wife



Sister Jessie Lee and husband Governor Joe Terrell, c. 1904

Thomas Spivey

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 Census of 1870, Georgia - Thomas and 11 of 13 children, Jesse the youngest

Family No.	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Marital Status	Occupation	Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate	Value of Real Estate owned by others	Value of Personal Estate owned by others
100	Thomas	37	M	W	Married					
101	Eliza	35	F	W	Married					
102	Jesse	11	M	W	Single					
103	John	9	M	W	Single					
104	William	7	M	W	Single					
105	George	5	M	W	Single					
106	Elizabeth	3	F	W	Single					
107	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
108	James	1	M	W	Single					
109	John	1	M	W	Single					
110	William	1	M	W	Single					
111	George	1	M	W	Single					
112	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
113	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
114	James	1	M	W	Single					
115	John	1	M	W	Single					
116	William	1	M	W	Single					
117	George	1	M	W	Single					
118	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
119	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
120	James	1	M	W	Single					
121	John	1	M	W	Single					
122	William	1	M	W	Single					
123	George	1	M	W	Single					
124	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
125	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
126	James	1	M	W	Single					
127	John	1	M	W	Single					
128	William	1	M	W	Single					
129	George	1	M	W	Single					
130	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
131	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
132	James	1	M	W	Single					
133	John	1	M	W	Single					
134	William	1	M	W	Single					
135	George	1	M	W	Single					
136	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
137	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
138	James	1	M	W	Single					
139	John	1	M	W	Single					
140	William	1	M	W	Single					
141	George	1	M	W	Single					
142	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
143	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
144	James	1	M	W	Single					
145	John	1	M	W	Single					
146	William	1	M	W	Single					
147	George	1	M	W	Single					
148	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
149	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
150	James	1	M	W	Single					
151	John	1	M	W	Single					
152	William	1	M	W	Single					
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186	James	1	M	W	Single					
187	John	1	M	W	Single					
188	William	1	M	W	Single					
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193	John	1	M	W	Single					
194	William	1	M	W	Single					
195	George	1	M	W	Single					
196	Elizabeth	1	F	W	Single					
197	Thomas	1	M	W	Single					
198	James	1	M	W	Single					
199	John	1	M	W	Single					
200	William	1	M	W	Single					

1870 census, Georgia - Thomas and 11 of 13 children, Jesse the youngest

Thomas in Texas
 By 1880, Thomas had moved his family to Texas. In 1886 after his wife Emily's death, Thomas married Eliza. In 1900, the US census showed them living in Waco Texas; aged 79, his occupation was listed as furniture salesman.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

Confederate Remembrance Appropriately Part of Their Comrades, Recently Deceased.

Stating Price Camp met in regular session yesterday afternoon. Commander J. H. Taylor presided and Adj. G. Stebbins kept the minutes.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Comrade J. N. Todd.

The relief committee made a detailed statement of the sick listed and relieved by it during the past week, which was printed.

The following was adopted:

"Rapidly our ranks are becoming depleted and soon the only answer to our roll call will be from the mysterious beyond. A veritable 'Felix in Israel' Comrade Thomas Spivey, on the 6th of December, 1864, was beloved of the heroes of this War and shared upon that 'rest prepared for the people of God.' Comrade Spivey was born in Farm County, Georgia, and at the time of his death was 36 years 6 months and 5 days old. Though over age, he offered himself for enlistment in the Confederate Army, but so that account was rejected. Determined, however, in the narrowest of spirits, and finally with great patriotism, when the then Governor of Georgia, Joseph E. Brown, organized the State Troops, he was among the first to enlist and filled the shoes of a veteran, on post and garrison duty mainly, among others, as guard for two years at the captured city of Andersonville prison. After the war he came to Texas, settling first in Collin County, where he moved to Dallas, where he lived until he entered that 'city which has foundations of gold' and maker of God. He has, however, four sons, who

inspired by the same lofty spirit of patriotism that inspired their father, entered the army, two of whom fell upon the battle-field while fighting.

"For the green graves of our sires,
 For our sires and our sires,
 And our native land.

"One was a member of Longstreet's, the other of Stewart Jackson's corps.

"In all the seasons of life, whether at home or abroad, in the charmed circle of a happy family or amid the hum of a busy world, he manifested that highest type of manhood yet achieved, the exalted Southern Christian position.

"Only eight years ago he was married to Miss Betty Robinson of the same county and of the same state with himself, who had six brothers in the Army of Northern Virginia, and as the fruits of this marriage there were born to them thirteen children, nine of whom are still living, the youngest daughter being the wife of his Excellency, Gov. Fernald, the present Governor of Georgia. As a husband he was considerate, gentle and devoted; as a father, kind, indulgent and affectionate; as a neighbor, in the shadow of this great affliction, the noblest traits of their hearts so surely attest. For twenty-eight years he was an active member of the Baptist Church, and living in its communion, he is now looking in the effulgent light of divine love which sustains him in the eternal home. Blessed is the death of the righteous, and may our last end be like theirs. To the stricken here we can only say that we weep and pray for and with them, reminding them of the promise that with sorrow endureth for the night but cometh in the morning; therefore be it

"Resolved, That a copy of this memorial be presented to the family of the deceased, a copy be deposited in the archives of the camp, and that the city fathers and the Atlanta (Ga.) Convention be requested to publish the same honorably submitted.

Signed by Milton Park, Chairman; J. F. Frazier and John T. C. Wainwright.



Caleb Spivey's plantation house near Eatonton GA in 1977, no longer standing.

Caleb was Moses' brother and had a large plantation between Eatonton and what is now Lake Sinclair. Rural Georgia plantation houses of the early 1800s were not those of *Gone With the Wind*. They were often

Thomas' 1905 obituary, written by his Confederate War Veterans group in Texas

Moses Spivey

Moses, one of 4 sons of William, is deceased by 1828, according to wills and other records in the Putnam County courthouse, one of which mentions the "orphans of Moses" in 1829. No records have been found to

- William 1750-1817
- Moses 1772-1828
- Thomas 1825-1903
- Robert 1851-1925
- Wills 1887-1972

The male Spivey line 1750-1972

just unpainted "two up,
two down" frame
homes with a large
front porch.

explain his death or its date; the Creek Indians were
active in the county.

William Spivey, Revolutionary War veteran

No.	Name	Date	Amount	No.	Name	Date	Amount
2170	Robt. Bellinger	19 10	...	2194	Robt. Bellinger	20 10	...
2171	Jas. Anderson	10 3 6	...	2195	Jas. Anderson	20 10	...
2172	Henry Lane	12 10	...	2196	Henry Lane	20 10	...
2173	John Thomas	12 7 6	...	2197	John Thomas	20 10	...
2174	Ebenezer Hunt	12 7 6	...	2198	Ebenezer Hunt	20 10	...
2175	Peter Kay	12 7 6	...	2199	Peter Kay	20 10	...
2176	Enock Henry	12 9 6	...	2200	Enock Henry	20 10	...
2177	Jas. Johnson	12 7 6	...	2201	Jas. Johnson	20 10	...
2178	Joshua Johnson	12 7 6	...	2202	Joshua Johnson	20 10	...
2179	Wm. Spivey	6 15 0	...	2203	Wm. Spivey	20 10	...
2180	J. C. Walker	19 10	...	2204	J. C. Walker	20 10	...

**Portion of soldiers pay ledger, from North
Carolina Revolutionary War archives**



**William's estate
Inventory, 1817**



**1817 bill for William
Spivey's coffin, from
Putnam County
archives 1977**



1817 Inventory of William's estate

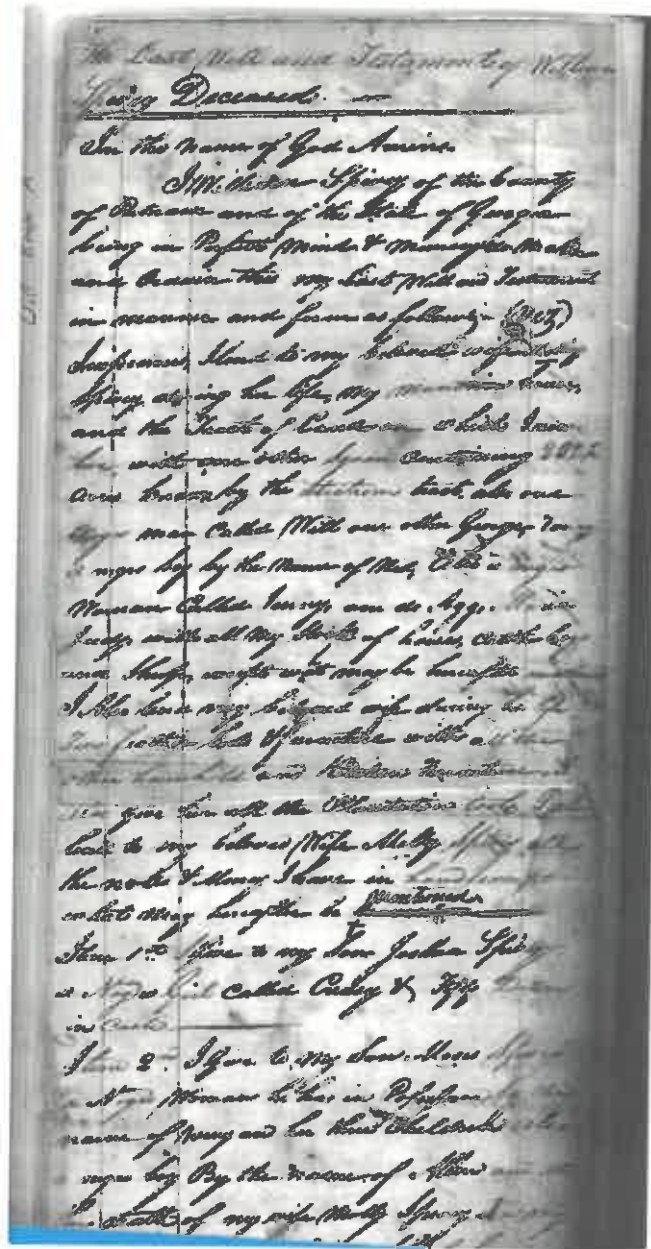


Photo of 1817 will of William Spivey, Revolutionary War veteran, Putnam County GA courthouse



Stone wall surrounding the probable graves of William, his wife, and son Henry; 1977 photo.

Near the site of the old racetrack, multiple Spivey gravesites. There are no headstones inside this rock enclosure. However, the 1828 will of Henry Spivey leaves money to "have my Fathers, my Mothers, and my own grave enclosed in brick". Just outside the enclosure is a Masonic grave marker for Caleb Spivey.

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James Rundle "Jim"
1919-1995

Married Anna Myers



Anna Myers
1920-2011

Daughter: Dorothy Ann 1948-

Son: Robert Myers 1951-



Joel Terrell "Jody"
1924-2017

Married:

1946 Carol Jean Sones

Son: Joel Tillman 1947-present

Married:

1953 Alice Mason

Son: William Howard 1961-present



Dorothy Allison "Sunny"
1927-2013

Married Dr. James B Field

Daughters: Carolyn, Nancy, Susan

Son: Douglas

James Bernard Field 1926-present

Parents -

Abraham Field 1884-1940

Clara Ridner 1886-1978



Carol Jean Sones
1924-1986

Married:

1 Jody Spivey

2 William Springsteel

Son: Matthew Brendan 1957-

Parents:

Ammie Merlin Sones 1898-1964

Gladys Avery Sones 1898-1973
Sister:
Mary Gertrude Sones, 1928-1981

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