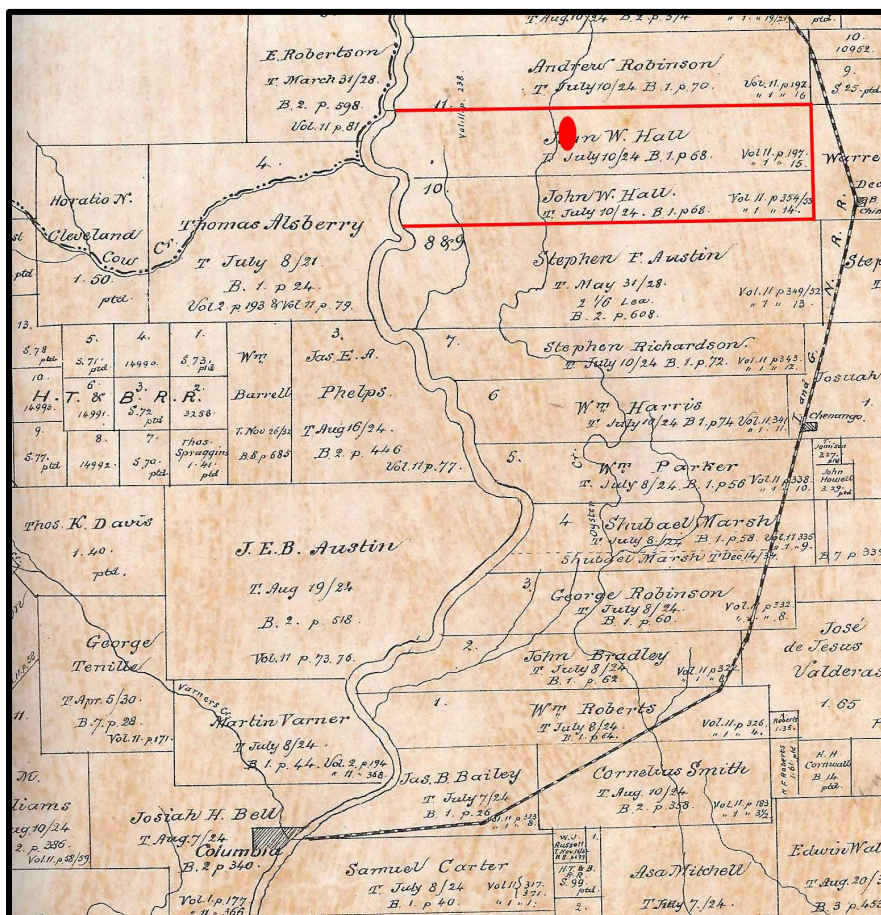


Alexander John W. Compton Louis Martin Strobel Plantation  
Brazosport Archaeological Society



John W. Hall Leagues 10 & 11 Map 1879 The General Land Office of the State of Texas

The Alexander Compton Plantation located above the town of Columbia on the east of the Brazos River on the east side of Oyster Creek was formed from lands taken from John W. Hall League 11. Warren D. C. Hall who owned a major portion both 10 & 11 leagues after purchasing them from his brother John W. Hall sold ~830 acres from League 11 in November 1842 to Alexander Compton from Louisiana. Having a large family Compton settled on his land building a cotton plantation which ran until ~ 1859-1860. Louis M. Strobel became the owner from 1863 until after the Civil War. It was auctioned to William Masterson to pay debts of the Elizabeth G. Compton estate in 1868. Compton had lived from mortgage to mortgage and crop to crop barely keeping his creditors at bay for all these years. He would remain in Brazoria County until his death in 1872. William Masterson sold the plantation along with other tracts of land to Branch T. Masterson and Travis L. Smith in 1896. Branch T. Masterson become the sole owner and sold a large amount of acreage including the Compton Plantation to the Prison Commission of the State of Texas, February 19, 1918. This increased the size of the Ramsey Prison Farm which is still in operation today.

John W. Hall<sup>1</sup> received title to Leagues 10 & 11 and two labors of land July 10, 1824. The 1826 census lists him as a farmer and stock raiser with a wife Patsy, two young sons, four servants, and twenty slaves. He settled at Washington-on-the-Brazos and established a ferry there. The two leagues of land granted him by the Mexican government, however, lay east of the Brazos River on both sides of Oyster Creek above the town of Columbia. His brother Warren D. C. Hall<sup>2</sup> with his wife Julietta came to Texas in 1828 and settled on the eastern end of his brother's League 10 building China Grove Plantation.

Alexander John W. Compton and his wife Elizabeth Grace Compton arrived in Texas by the later part of 1840 with a large family from Rapides Parish, Louisiana. They had seven daughters and one son born to them while living in Louisiana. Their oldest daughter Mary Ann Compton wed William R. Collins before the family removed to Texas. As with many others, Alexander Compton moved to Texas not only to seek new land, but also, to escape something of a debt ridden past. His family would become neighbors to the George A. Smith family. Warren D. C. Hall had initiated a purchase agreement with George A. Smith of Virginia February 15, 1837 to buy 3111 acres of land in Leagues 10 & 11.<sup>3</sup> (See George A. Smith plantation report)

Alexander Compton arrived in Texas with a number of slaves with which he tried to raise money in order to purchase lands. Later he would claim to have used \$5000 of his wife's personal funds from an inheritance to purchase his lands so that he would be able to hold his plantation in her name and away from his creditors. Alexander Compton sold 35 slaves to King Holstein for \$20,000 in November 1840.<sup>4</sup> This transaction was not completed by one or the other of the parties involved. Later the same year he sold one female slave 16 years old, Caroline, to his brother-in-law Coleman M. Calvit for \$800.<sup>5</sup>

Alexander Compton purchased ~830 acres out the John W. Hall league 11 from Warren D. C. Hall for \$4160 November 9, 1842.<sup>6</sup> This land was made up of two tracts which lay above Columbia and east of Oyster Creek in the northern part of Brazoria County.<sup>7</sup> The family may have already been on the land the prior year. Compton had negotiated a mortgage with Theodore Bennet and Edward Purcell for \$2000 using the cotton crop he was producing in 1842 as security.<sup>8</sup> Throughout 1842, 1843, and 1844 Alexander Compton was able to secure funding for planting his crop and to keep his cotton plantation running by a series of mortgages using his slaves as security. Most of these notes ranged \$1200-\$2500.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> John W. Hall born South Carolina ~1786 and died January 1, 1845.

<sup>2</sup> Warren D. C. Hall born North Carolina 1788 and died 1867 Galveston Island.

<sup>3</sup> Brazoria County Deed Records : A 6 See George A. Smith Plantation report.

<sup>4</sup> BCDR: A 410/11

<sup>5</sup> BCDR: A 412/13

<sup>6</sup> BCDR: B 184/86

<sup>7</sup> BCDR: B 184/86

<sup>8</sup> BCDR: B 126

<sup>9</sup> BCDR: B 187, B 233, B 325, & B 377/78



issued a deed to Manadue releasing his claim to the plantation. Manadue would “become the assignee and owner of several judgments rendered against Compton in favor of divers persons, amounting to about \$1700.” Manadue then signed a contract with Alexander Compton in which he would lend the plantation lands to Compton allowing the plantation to still be cultivated but holding the cotton crops for his own use.<sup>13</sup> Warren H. Manadue then deeded the property over to Elizabeth G. Compton “for the love and affection for her” with the provision that Manadue would “remain in the quiet and unmolested possession of the said property, until the net profits arising from the sale of the crops...after applying a sufficient amount for the support of the said Compton’s family, and for keeping up the plantation, would discharge the amount due on certain notes and judgments...”<sup>14</sup> The Compton’s were to remain on the property and farm the land thanks to their son-in-law. All of this according to some was a ruse to once again hide property from the creditors of Alexander Compton. Warren H. Manadue and Ann Elizabeth Compton had been wed September 28, 1844 and lived with their children near the Compton Plantation. Manadue owned 1260 acres in the Andrew Robinson and Edward Bradley leagues.

In 1850 the Alexander Compton family was listed in the 1850 Federal Census. Notice that he does not list himself as a “planter” nor does he have an overseer. R. Hodges the carpenter on the property could have been hired for the building of their large home:

Alexander Compton	Farmer	50M	Maryland
Elizabeth G. Compton		42F	Louisiana
Henrietta J. Compton		20F	Louisiana
Elnora L. Compton		17F	Louisiana
Martinze L. P. Compton		13F	Louisiana
Alexander J. Compton		11M	Louisiana
R. Hodges	Carpenter	35M	Kentucky

In a household nearby was the Manadue family. Warren H. Manadue and his oldest daughter Laura had passed away earlier in the year:

Ann E. Manadue	Farmer	22F	Louisiana
Harriet Manadue		3F	Texas
Leila Manadue		2F	Texas
Jeptha Howard		25M	Louisiana <sup>15</sup>

Ann E. Manadue would wed Overton C. Young May 13, 1852. They would raise a large family together while living in Galveston and Brazoria Counties.

In Fort Bend County was the Compton’s oldest daughter Mary who had remarried Elias P. Pilant, a physician, after the loss of her first husband, William R. Collins:

Elias P. Pilant	Physician	29M	Tennessee
Mary C. M. Pilant		29F	Louisiana

<sup>13</sup> BCDR: E 29/33 & E 34/35

<sup>14</sup> BCDR: F 283/85

<sup>15</sup> Also in the neighborhood is the Isaac Calvit family which could be related to Elizabeth G. Compton.



Alexander Pilant		10/12M	Texas
William Collins		10M	Louisiana
Mary C. Collins		8F	Louisiana
Ann E. Collins		6F	Louisiana
T. Collins		5M	Louisiana
A. _____	Laborer	45M	Mexico

In 1850 Agricultural Census Alexander Compton listed 300 acres improved and 550 acres unimproved with \$2000 worth of farm equipment on the property. There were 9 horses, 11 mules, 20 milch cows, 9 work oxen, 40 head of cattle, and 250 hogs on the plantation. In 1849 he produced 500 bushels of corn, 200 of Irish potatoes, 1000 of sweet potatoes, 600lbs. of butter, 7 tons of hay, and 136 bales of cotton.



Alexander Compton Home Unknown Date

By 1855 Alexander Compton was again in need of operating capital. He took out a note for \$1057.71 with Joseph E. Wilson using part of his cotton crop as security.<sup>16</sup>

At the end of 1855 Alexander and Elizabeth G. Compton finally settled their dealings with the Warren H. Manadue estate.<sup>17</sup> Alexander Compton Jr. was a cadet at the Texas Military Institute in Galveston in 1856.<sup>18</sup> By 1857 the Compton's had to borrow \$3283.24 from R. &

<sup>16</sup> BCDR: G 296/97

<sup>17</sup> BCDR: G 469/71 & G 502/03

<sup>18</sup> *Galveston Weekly News*, March 25, 1856, Galveston, Texas

D.G. Mills “for supplies for the family and plantation” and to pay for an existing note of \$250 using his cotton crop for 1857 as security.<sup>19</sup> One of the suits that had been hanging over the family was finally settled in the U. S. Supreme court. In the suit *Commercial Bank of New Orleans vs Elizabeth G. Compton et al* the court found in favor of the defendants much to the relief of the Compton’s. However, they still had the legal bill from William Pitt Ballinger from Galveston of over \$1600 to deal with.<sup>20</sup>

The next year Alexander and Elizabeth G. Compton borrowed \$1500 from Agabus Winters using their 1858 cotton crop and their plantation as security.<sup>21</sup> They were able to pay off this note and in the year 1859 Alexander Compton sold his interest in the plantation and slaves for \$1500 to his son-in-law Overton Young, who had married Ann Elizabeth after the death of her husband Warren H. Manadue.<sup>22</sup>

~June 12, 1859 Elizabeth G. Compton passed away. She had been attended by Samuel A. Towsey who charged her estate \$10.00 for his night call. Benedict Cecil, her son-in-law was executor for her estate, which was appraised at \$54,882.50 including the plantation, 34 slaves, and a summer property on Chocolate Bayou. This at first hand appears to be a substantial estate to be left to her heirs. Looking at the notes due, the amount of money owed reached over \$21,211.00 fairly quickly with additional debts still to be accounted for. The property was rented the next year to Alexander J. W. Compton Jr for \$1500.<sup>23</sup>

After the crops of 1859 had been harvested, January 1860 the 27 slaves that were in good health were sold at auction to relatives and neighbors for \$29,095. The same month all the household furniture, farm equipment, produce, and livestock were sold off raising \$2952.00 for the estate. In March the remainder of the slaves Prudy, Cely, Lucinda and her three children for a total of \$2345.00 to different individuals to raise cash to pay debts. These women had been on the plantation since the Compton’s bought the property. (See Appendix C & E)<sup>24</sup>

The Alexander Compton household was listed in the 1860 Federal Census. His recently widowed daughter and her children were living with him at the time of the census:

Alexander Compton	Planter	64M	Louisiana [Maryland]
Eveline Holland		32F	Louisiana
Alexander Compton Jr.		21M	Louisiana
Jane Holland		11F	Texas
Frank P. Holland		7M	Texas
Overton Young	Planter	35M	Georgia
Ann E. Young		30F	Louisiana
Leila Manadue		12F	Texas
Lee Young		7M	Texas

<sup>19</sup> BCDR: H 233/34

<sup>20</sup> Elizabeth G. Compton Probate Case 720, Brazoria County Clerk’s Office, Angleton, Texas

<sup>21</sup> BCDR: H 462/63

<sup>22</sup> BCDR: J 19/20 & J 195

<sup>23</sup> BCDR: J 362

<sup>24</sup> Elizabeth G. Compton Probate Case 720, Brazoria County Clerk’s Office, Angleton, Texas

Cecil Young		5M	Texas
Overton Young Jr.		4M	Texas
William Young		2M	Texas
Frank M. Potts	Planter	24M	Georgia

Benedict Cecil	Planter	47M	Kentucky
Martinese Cecil		24F	Louisiana
Owen Cecil		7M	Texas
Ola Cecil		4F	Texas
Oscar Cecil		3M	Texas
Ophelia Cecil		2F	Texas
Overton Cecil		6/12M	Texas

#### In Fort Bend County:

Elias P. Pilant	Physician	38M	Tennessee
Mary M. Pilant		30F	Louisiana
Linda C. Pilant		2F	Texas
William Collins	Merchant	20M	Louisiana
A.E. L. Collins		16F	Louisiana
T. Collins		14M	Louisiana
Floyd McCarty	Druggist	18M	Georgia

Dr. Gustavus A. Holland had served as a surgeon during the war with Mexico and on his return he married Evelina Compton October 24, 1847. He died earlier in 1860 and in the 1860 Agricultural Census the plantation is listed under Compton & Holland. There were listed 300 improved acres and another 600 unimproved with \$800 worth of farm machinery on the property. The livestock on the plantation consisted of 20 horses, 1 mule, 20 milch cows, 8 work oxen, and 50 hogs. The plantation produced 800 bushels of corn, 60 of Irish potatoes, 100 sweet potatoes, 500 lbs. of butter, 5 tons of hay, and 150 bales of cotton in 1859. There were now 18 slaves living in 10 dwellings on the property according to the 1860 Slave Census. This reference may be to the Holland Plantation and not the Compton Plantation as most of the assets to the Compton Plantation were sold off early in 1860. According to the probate records 138 bales of cotton were sold from October 1859-March 1860 for a total of \$6337.99 net.<sup>25</sup>

April 1860 Leonard W. Groce won a civil suit against the heirs of Elizabeth G. Compton due to a mortgage of \$6000 plus interest that was owed him. Overton Young as trustee for the heirs issued ~\$7000 in notes as a mortgage to satisfy the judgment.<sup>26</sup>

During the Civil War in 1863 the heirs of Elizabeth G. Compton were forced to sell the whole plantation with improvements, which included a good dwelling and gin house, for \$35,000

<sup>25</sup> Elizabeth G. Compton Probate Case 720, County Clerk's Office, Angleton, Texas

<sup>26</sup> BCDR: K 31/33

to Louis Martin Strobel, stepson of Abner Jackson of the Lake Jackson Plantation.<sup>27</sup> Louis M. Strobel, son of John and Margaret (Inabonite) Strobel, was born near Charleston, S. C., September 16, 1831. In 1841, the Jackson family removed to Brazoria County, Texas, where he prepared for college. He entered the Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont in 1847, and graduated with a B.S. degree in 1851. Norwich was actually a private military academy. Strobel was married February 14, 1854, to Elizabeth Washington of Nashville, Tennessee, daughter of Gilbert Gray Washington, a relative of the Washington family of Virginia. Her mother, Elizabeth Wharton, was sister to William H. and John A. Wharton of the Eagle Island Plantation.



*Norwich University, 1819-1911; Her History, Her Graduates, Her Roll of Honor* (Printed 1911 by Capital City Press (Vol. II), p 497. (Pictures of Louis from this book)

With the beginning of the Civil War, Louis M. Strobel entered the Confederate service and raised a company for the 8<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry or Terry's "Texas Rangers." He was commissioned captain of Co. F, and on September 1, 1861, was sworn into the service at Houston, Texas, for the war, by J.W. Sparks. He served in Kentucky, and for a time was in command of the regiment. Resigning his commission, he returned to Texas by 1862. It was during his return to Texas that the Compton Plantation was purchased.

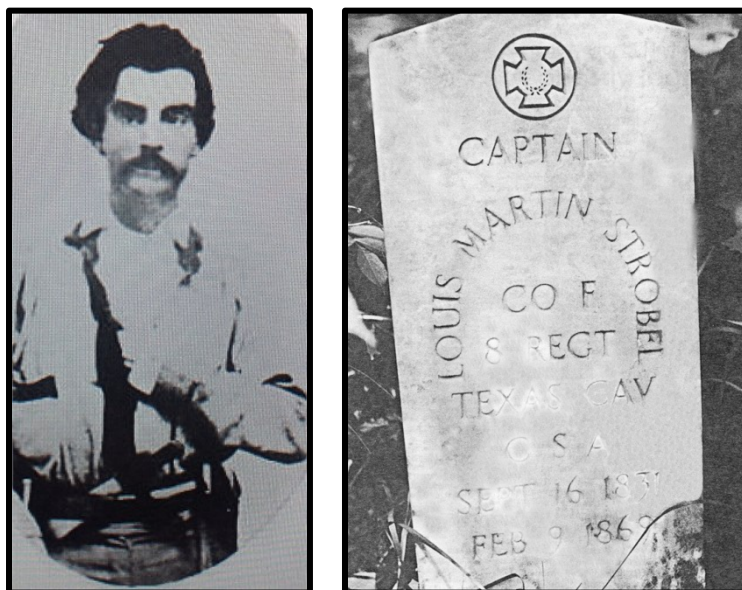
Louis and his wife, Elizabeth Washington, had one child alive at this time, Abner, and their second daughter Asenith Strobel was born February 9, 1863 on the Compton Plantation. Of course, this purchase fell through by the end of the Civil War with Strobel barely able to make ends meet for his own family. Strobel again enlisted with the Confederate forces in late 1863-1864. Special Requisition "the command is destitute of all the necessary articles" signed Louis M. Strobel, received Houston 7-14-1864. Though he resigned 11-28-1864, he was on the roster in Dalton, Georgia 5-7-1865. At the close of the war, he moved with his family to Mexico, where they resided for some time.

<sup>27</sup> BCDR: K 346 This may seem to be a large amount but in the middle of the war the value of the Confederate dollar was low.



Among other passengers by the Hewes yesterday morning, we noticed the arrival of Mr. Lewis M. Strobel with his wife and two children. They came direct from Tepic on the Pacific shore of Mexico, some few miles south of San Francisco, where he has spent upwards of a year. They sailed from Tepic to San Blas, and thence crossed the Isthmus to Aspinwall - thence by steamship to New York, thence Cairo and thence down the Mississippi to New Orleans. We understand Mr. Strobel has been induced to return to Texas chiefly in consequence of the unsettled condition of that country. Our readers will probably remember that Mr. Strobel left Texas in company with Col. David Terry and others soon after the surrender and traveled overland to the Pacific. We have heretofore given our readers occasional information of the adventures and fortunes of Col. Terry and his company. Col. Terry stopped in the vicinity of Guadalajara, where we believe he purchased a large body of land and now resides. We learn through Mr. Strobel that they are all well, though Mr. Strobel did not long remain at Guadalajara, but proceeded on to the coast at Tepic.<sup>28</sup> (See Terry Report)

The son of Louis, Abner J. Strobel related that: "When my father left for Mexico in 1865, he left his home, the old Compton Plantation...completely stocked and furnished—library, piano, furniture, etc., in care of a supposed friend. It was reported back home that we had been murdered in Mexico—it was during the Maximilian era. When we returned in 1866, we had nothing—all gone. So much for Reconstruction!"<sup>29</sup> The Strobel family moved to the Lake Jackson Plantation where Abner J. Strobel was a witness to the murder of John C. Jackson by his brother George W. Jackson. According to some sources Louis M. Strobel died at the Lake Jackson Plantation in 1869 and was buried in the family graveyard across the lake from the Jackson mansion. (See Appendix E)



Louis Martin Strobel

This Tombstone was removed from the Abner Jackson Family Cemetery

<sup>28</sup> *Galveston Daily News*, July 4, 1866, Galveston, Texas

<sup>29</sup> Strobel, Abner J., *The Old Plantations and Their Owners of Brazoria County, Texas*, Lake Jackson Historical Association, 2006, p. 52. This indicates the Strobel family were on the property during the last years of the Civil War. The scenario may not be exactly as Abner J. Strobel related but the family did lose the property. Of course, his inability to pay his notes meant that the Compton heirs were not able to meet their financial obligations to the Groce heirs. So in turn the Compton's were sued and lost their only interest in the plantation.

It is now broken at the Lake Jackson Historical Museum

After the Civil War a civil suit by the estate of Leonard W. Groce forced the sale of the plantation at public auction to William Masterson for a mere \$150.50 which ended any ownership by the Compton family.<sup>30</sup>

Alexander Compton had moved to the plantation of his daughter Martinez Harrington in the Andrew Robinson league. This property had been originally owned by her first husband Owen Benedict Cecil who had died in 1860. O. Benedict Cecil had married Henrietta J. Compton in 1850. After Henrietta's death Cecil married her younger sister, Martinez, in 1855. Martinez Cecil married John Harrington in 1862 but by 1870 he had also died. The 1870 Federal Census lists the Harrington household:

Mary Harrington	36F	Louisiana
John Harrington	5M	Texas
Florence Harrington	7F	Texas
Ola Cecil	14F	Texas
Oscar Cecil	12M	Texas
Ophelia Cecil	10F	Texas
Overton Cecil	8M	Texas
Alexander Compton	73M	Maryland

Alexander Compton had been living with his daughter since he left his plantation and he died a few years after the census, May 28, 1872. Unknown if he was buried at the plantation or at Sandy Point Cemetery. By 1880 Mary Harrington and her family were living in Harrisburg, Texas.

William Masterson retained possession of the Compton Plantation for several years. In 1896 he sold the property along with several other tracts to T. L. Smith and Branch T. Masterson.<sup>31</sup> Branch T. Masterson became the sole owner the next year and held the property until it was sold as part of several large tracts, to the Prison Commission of the State of Texas, February 18, 1918.<sup>32</sup> It became part of the Ramsey Prison Farm as it is today.

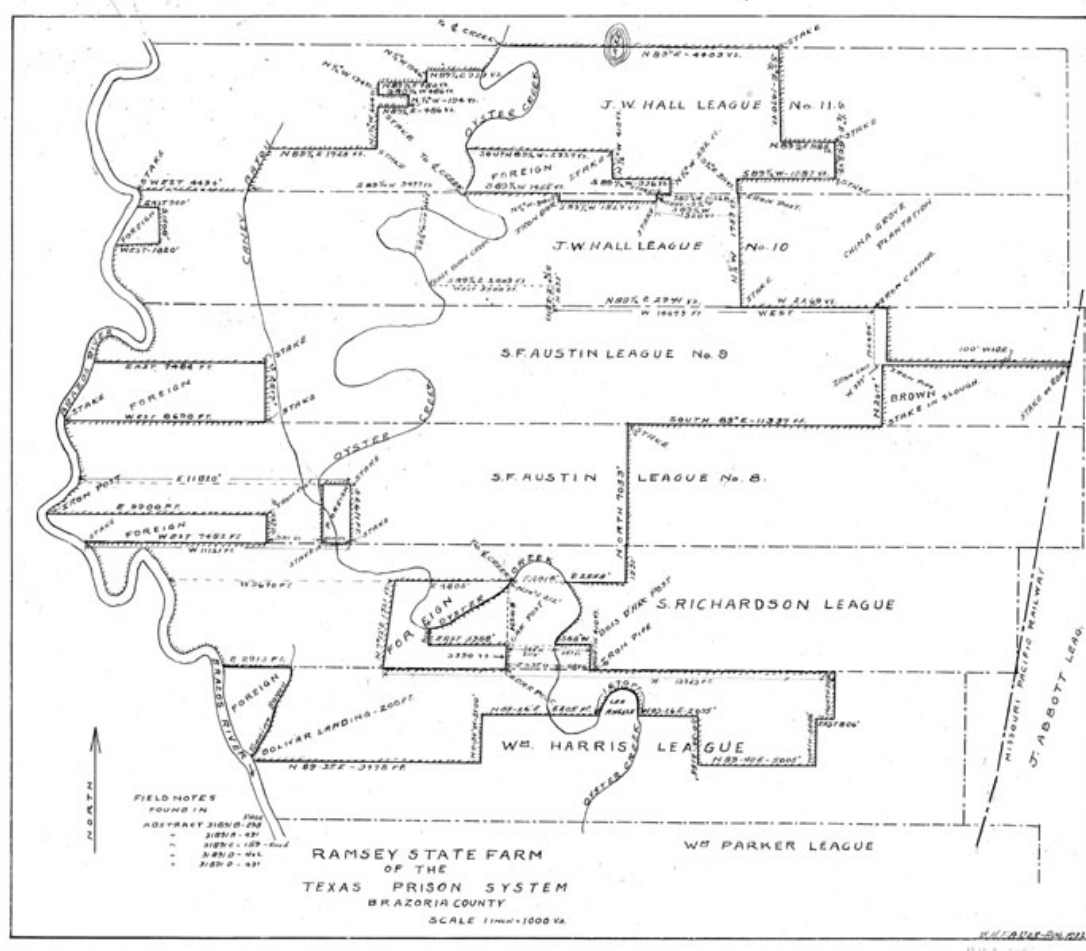
No archeological work has been done in the area. There could be a family cemetery on the property with the grave of Elizabeth G. Compton. Some of the family could be buried at the Sandy Point Cemetery in unmarked graves.

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<sup>30</sup> BCDR: L 270/71

<sup>31</sup> BCDR: 34 99/102

<sup>32</sup> BCDR: 40 168/70 & 34 304/ 08



## Appendix A

### Alexander John W. Compton Family

Alexander Compton b. 1798 Charles County, Maryland (Phillip Briscoe Compton & Margaret E. Briscoe)  
d. May 28, 1872 Sandy Point, Texas

m. 1820 Rapides Parish, Louisiana

Elizabeth Grace Calvit b. December 5, 1804 Amite, Mississippi (Anthony Calvit & Mary Mayes)

d. June (12), 1859 Brazoria County, Texas

A. Mary Margaret Compton b. March 1, 1821 Rapides, Louisiana

d. August 10, 1910 Harrisburg, Texas

m. 1<sup>st</sup> Louisiana

William R. Collins b. 1805

d. September 1847 Brazoria County, Texas

1. William John Calvit Collins b. December 20, 1839 Louisiana d. 1865

2. Mary Celeste Collins b. May 27, 1841 St. Landry Parish, La. d. ~1863 Fort Bend Co.

3. Anna Eliza Laura Collins b. 1843 La. d. ~1863 Fort Bend Co. Texas

4. Theophilus James Collins b. June 15, 1845 Richmond, Texas d. November 11, 1923

m. 2<sup>nd</sup> March 13, 1849 Brazoria County, Texas

Dr. Elias T. Pilant b. May 14, 1821 Davidson, Tennessee

d. After 1900 Harris County, Texas

1. Alexander Pilant b. 1849 Fort Bend County, Texas

2. Tilford Pilant b. 1852

3. Joseph Pilant b. 1855

4. Linda C. Pilant b. 1858 Richmond, Texas d. ~1863 Richmond, Texas

B. Evelina Compton b. June 20, 1824 Rapides, Louisiana

d.

m. October 24, 1847 Harrisburg, Texas

Dr. Gustavus A. Holland b. 1819 Stuttgart, Wurttemberg, Germany

d. 1860 Galveston, Texas

1. Ione Jane Holland b. 1849

2. Franklin Pierce Holland b. September 22, 1852 Galveston d. January 18, 1928 Dallas

C. Ann Elizabeth Compton b. March 7, 1827 Rapides, Louisiana

d. July 21, 1884 Sandy Point, Texas

m. 1<sup>st</sup> October 2, 1844 Brazoria County, Texas

Warren Henry Manadue b. 1817 Louisiana

d. March 9, 1850 Brazoria County, Texas

1. Laura Manadue b. 1846 d. April 1850 Brazoria County, Texas

2. Harriet Manadue b. 1847 Brazoria County, Texas

3. Leila M. Manadue b. March 2, 1849 Brazoria County, Texas

d. May 5, 1910 Stephenville, Texas

m. 2<sup>nd</sup> May 13, 1852 Galveston, Texas

Overton C. Young Sr. b. September 26, 1826 Lawrenceville, Georgia

d. September 18, 1877 Galveston, Texas

1. Lee Jefferson Young b. 1853 d. 1914

2. Henry Cecil Young b. 1854 d. 1880

3. Overton C. Young Jr. b. 1855 d. 1898

4. William S. Young b. 1857 d. 1905

5. Ann Young b. 1862 d. 1884



- 6. Ina Young b. 1865 d. 1933
- 7. Madora Dora Young b. 1868 d. 1946
- 8. Austine Prentiss Young Sr. b. 1871 d. 1941

D. Henrietta J. Compton b. July 12, 1829 Rapides, Louisiana  
d. before 1854

m. August 29, 1850 Galveston

Owen Benedict Cecil Sr. b. 1815 Lexington, Kentucky  
d. August 30, 1860 Sandy Point, Texas

1. Owen Benedict Cecil Jr. b. 1852 d. 1901

E. Elenora L. Compton b. June 1831 Rapides, Louisiana  
d.

m. May 1, 1860 Calvary Church, Richmond, Texas

Henry Kyle b. 1830

1. Grace E. Kyle b. November 1861 Fort Bend County, Texas

2. Sarah Jane Kyle b. 1867

3. Henry Kyle b. February 1870

F. Louisiana Rebecca Compton b. December 7, 1833 Rapides, Louisiana  
d. November 16, 1863 Harrisburg, Texas????

m. August 18, 1859 Harrisburg, Texas

Joseph E. Perry b. 1834 Georgia

d. 1865 Harrisburg, Texas

1. Female June 1860

G. Martinez E. Compton b. July 2, 1836  
d. ~1914

m. 1<sup>st</sup> February 22, 1855 Brazoria County, Texas

Owen Benedict Cecil Sr. b. 1815 Lexington, Kentucky  
d. August 30, 1860 Sandy Point, Texas

1. Ola May Cecil b. 1856 d. 1916

2. Oscar Benedict Cecil b. 1857 d. 1936

3. Ophelia Agnes Cecil b. 1858 d. 1879

4. Overton Ludovica Cecil b. January 1860

m. 2<sup>nd</sup> October 24, 1862

John Harrington b. 1833

1. Florence Harrington b. 1863

2. John Harrington b. 1865

H. Alexander John W. Compton Jr. b. 1839 Rapides, Louisiana  
d. August 18, 1867 Galveston, Texas

m. March 7, 1861 Galveston

Catherine Harrington b. 1836 Ireland

d. 1872 Harrisburg, Texas

1. Minerva Elizabeth Compton b. August 5, 1862 d. December 21, 1920 Houston

2. William Alexander Compton b. June 27, 1864 d.

3. Margaret Compton b. January 5, 1868 Galveston

Appendix B  
Deed Record Alexander Compton Plantation

GRANTORS	GRANTEES	Kind of Instrument	Book	Page	Month	Day	Year	Acres	Description
Mexican Government	John W. Hall	Deed	SR		July	10	1824		2 Leagues 10 & 11
Warren D. C. Hall	George A. Smith of Virginia	Bond	A	6	Feb	15	1837	3111	Agreement to purchase 3111 acres
John W. Hall	Warren D. C. Hall	Deed	A	13	March	3	1837	4428	To his brother League 10 \$5000 on which W.D.C. Hall resides
John W. Hall	Warren D. C. Hall	Deed	A	14	March	3	1837	1111	\$1000 acreage in League 11
John W. Hall	Warren D. C. Hall	Deed	A	15	March	3	1837	1000	\$2000 acreage just east of 1111 acre tract
John W. Hall	Warren D. C. Hall	Deed	D	594/95	May	4	1837	2400	\$13500 remainder of League 11 which hadn't been sold the league is actually 1 ½ leagues
Alexander Compton	King Holstein	Deed	A	410/11	Nov	10	1840	Slaves	\$20,000 35 slaves
Alexander Compton	Coleman M. Calvit	Deed	A	412/13	Dec	18	1840	Slave	\$800 1 female slave Caroline 16yrs old
Alexander Compton	Theodore Bennet Edward Purcell	Mortgage	B	126	April	7	1842		\$2000 note used to purchase goods, wares, merchandise-cotton crop as security
Warren D.C. Hall	Alexander Compton	Deed	B	184/86	Nov	9	1842	830	\$4160 2 Tracts John W. Hall League 11
Alexander Compton	William T. Austin	Mortgage	B	187/88	Dec	6	1842	Slaves	\$2587.60 note 4 slaves as security David-35 Betsy-30 Sam-28 Ann-22
Alexander Compton	Edward Purcell	DT	B	233	March	29	1843	Slaves	\$2213.53 note 7 slaves as security Jack-22 Henry-35 Ann-30 Lucinda-14 Bill-18 Sam-28 Eliza-20
Alexander Compton	Collin Coke	Deed	B	280	Aug	1	1843	Slave	\$185 1 slave George-15
Alexander Compton	Edward Purcell	Mortgage	B	325	Nov	7	1843	Slaves	\$1403.40 3 slaves as security Ishmael-55 George-30 Morgan-35
Alexander Compton	John G. McNeel Robert J. Townes	DT	B	377/78	Feb	27	1844	Slaves	\$1248.81 note owed to Smith & Adriance 3Slaves as security Minor-30 Rueson-22 Lucindy-18
Alexander Compton	Coleman M. Calvit	DT	B	380/81	Dec	6	1842	832	Had used \$5000 of his wife's money-land in trust to her brother for her
Alexander Compton	S. M. Westervelt King Holstein Trustees	DT	B	388/89	March	8	1844	832	\$8070.99 4 notes-Edward Purcell land, cotton crop, 34 slaves as security
Alexander Compton	William P. Morton	Deed	B	389/90	March	20	1844	Slaves	\$1000 2 slaves Big Ned-22 Little Ned
Alexander Compton	Tod Robinson Alexander Crittenden	Mortgage	B	536	July	1	1845		\$200 part of his cotton crop as security

Stephen M. Westervelt Trustee	Warren Manadue	Deed	E	29/33	Aug	14	1848	830	Manadue bought plantation & slaves at auction \$4380 & Manadue assuming \$1700 notes divers persons
Warren Manadue	Alexander Compton	Contract	E	34/35	Aug	14	1848	830	Lend the plantation to Compton to cultivate plantation
Warren H. Manadue	Elizabeth G. Compton	Deed	F	283/85	Aug	14	1848	830	To have possession property- crop of cotton to go to paying Manadue's debt
Alexander Compton	Joseph E. Wilson	Mortgage	G	296/97	March	9	1855		\$1057.71 Part of 1855 Cotton Crop as security
Manadue Estate	Elizabeth G. Compton	Deed	G	469/71	Dec	5	1855	830	Paid debts in full & received title
Alexander Elizabeth G. Compton	Manadue Estate	Mortgage	G	502/03	Dec	5	1855		\$1880 x 2 notes 9 slaves as security
Alexander Elizabeth G. Compton	R. & D. G. Mills	Mortgage	H	233/34	July	25	1857		\$3283.99 note Cotton crop consigned over to Mills Bros.
Alexander Elizabeth G. Compton	Agabus Winters	Mortgage	H	462/63	March	1	1858	830	\$1500- land & 1858 cotton crop as security
Agabus Winters	Alexander Elizabeth Compton	Release	J	19/20	Jan	4	1859	830	Release H 462/63 Paid in full
Alexander Compton	Alexander J. Compton Jr.	Deed	J	86/87	May	3	1858	Slave	\$1400 1 male slave Napoleon-20
Alexander Compton	Overton Young	Deed	J	195	June	27	1859		\$500 all personal effects & implements & livestock \$1000 int in land & slaves
Overton Young	Alexander J. W. Compton	Deed	J	362	Feb	4	1860		\$1500 sold to son
John Compton	G.G. Tankersly	DT	J	474	May	21	1860		\$450 3 slaves as security
Sheriff Auction	C. M. Calvit	Deed	J	540/42	Aug	10	1860	832	\$300
Leonard W. Groce et al	Overton Young	Mortgage	K	31/33	April	11	1860	832	As trustee for heirs ~\$7000 debt assumed note
Heirs of Elizabeth G. Compton	Louis M. Strobel	Deed	K	346/47	April	20	1863	832	\$35000 by W. E. Kendall trustee
		Abstract of Judgement	L	497/99	April	4	1867	832	Leonard W. Groce et al vs Heirs E. G. Compton
Sheriff Auction	William Masterson	Deed	L	270/72	Aug	15	1868	832	\$150
Groce Heirs	William Masterson	Deed	O	639/41	Dec	21	1873	832	
William Masterson	W. B. Botts	DT	O	702/04	April	1	1875	832	
W. B. Botts	William Masterson	Release	Q	676					Release O 702
A. B. Masterson	William Masterson	Deed	X	12/26	Jan	15	1870	832	\$1040 His interest in plantation
Thomas W. Masterson	William Masterson	Deed	X	129/30	Jan	15	1870	832	\$1000 His interest in plantation
William Masterson	T. L. Smith Branch T. Masterson	Deed	34	99/102	Jan	8	1896	832	Plantation + several other tracts
T. L. Smith	Branch T. Masterson	Deed	40	168/70	April	12	1897	832	Plantation + several other tracts
Branch T. Masterson	Prison Commission State of Texas	Deed	145	304/08	Feb	19	1918		\$136,500 Several Tracts 2473.4 acres in John W. Hall League 11

Appendix C  
Alexander Compton Slaves Sold November 10, 1840

November 10, 1840	March 8, 1844	December 5, 1855	July 30, 1859
Henry 35	Henry 35	Henry	Henry
Wife Ann 35	Wife Ann 30	Mary Ann	St. Anna
Lucinda 12	Lucinda 15	Lucinda George Irene Eveline	Lucinda Irene Eveline George
Mat 6	Mat 10	Mat	Matt
Dave 35	David 35	David	Dave
Wife Betsy 30	Wife Betsy 28	Betsy	Betsy
	Sam 2		
Sam 22	Sam 27	Sam	
Little Ann 20	Wife Little Ann 25	Little Ann	
John 8	John 10	John	John
Toby 4	Tabby 5	Tabby	
Burk 40	Burke 45	Burke	Burke
Wife Becky 30	Wife Becky 37	Becky	Becky
Mary 7	Mary 10	Mary	
Louisa 3	Toney 8	Toney	Tony & child
Presley 25	Presley 27	Presley	Presley
Sely 35	Wife Schy 35	Seley	Cely
Ann 15	Mary Ann 15-mulatto	Mary Ann Sam Henrietta	Mary Ann Children Alex Jim Net Gertrude
Dick 10	Dick 13-mulatto		
Dicy 6		Dicey	Dicy
Gaeston 2	Gaeston 7-mulatto	Gaeston	
Minor 35	Stephen 50	Stephen	
Wife Prude 35	Wife Prude 37mulatto	Prude	Prude
Maria 4	Maria 5	Maria	
Jim 38	Jim 35	Jim	
Wife Rachael 40	Wife Rachael 50		
	Big Ned 21	Big Ned	Ned
Ned 16	Little Ned 18	Little Ned	Little Ned
Little Bill 15	Bill 15		
Lizzy 18	Lizzy 20		
Caroline 16	Sold		
George 12			
Jack 22	Jack 27	Jack	
	Minor 27		
July 20	July 22	July	
Polion 4	Polian 7	Polian	Napolean Sold 1858
Stephen 50			
Ransom 20	Ransom 21-mulatto	Ransom	Ransom
		Clara	Martha
		Sam son of Clara	Austin
		Steve	Minna
		Mary Burke Emily Infant	Julia
		George Anna Lantz	Georgiana Child Lantz
BCDR: A 410/11	BCDR: B 388/89	BCDR: G 469 71	Elizabeth. G. Compton Probate Case 720



## Appendix D

### Inventory of Mrs. Elizabeth G. Compton's Estate

A certain tract of land being 834 acres of land of which 300 acres of the Land and Known as the plantation of Mrs. E. G. Compton situated on Oyster Creek in Brazoria County----	\$25,000.00
A certain tract of land situated on Chocolate Bayou and known as the summer place of Mrs. E. G. Compton----	240.00
Stock of Cattle, Milk Cows & young stock	350.00
Six yoke of oxen	300.00
15 Head of Plough Horses & Mules	600.00
Farming Utensils & Ploughs	50.00
Two wagons	200.00
Carriage & Harness	400.00
Piano Forte	<u>200.00</u>
Amount brought over \$27,340.00	\$27,340.00
Ned	1,200.00
Presley	700.00
Dave	500.00
Ransom	1,250.00
Matt	1,500.00
John	1,600.00
Becky	250.00
Ben	900.00
Martha	1,100.00
Austin	700.00
Minerva	300.00
Burke	150.00
Tony & child	1,500.00
Julia	1,200.00
St. Anna	1,300.00
Lucinda & 3 children	
Irene	
Eveline	
Clorius	2,200.00
Dicy	1,150.00
Mary Ann & 4 children	
Alex	
Jim	
Ned	
Guntar	2,500.00
Betsy	600.00
Georgiana	1000.00
Lantz	800.00
Jack	5.00
Henry	<u>800.00</u>
	\$52,495.00

	Amount Brought up	\$52495.00
Cesly		100.00
Prude		250.00
A Wardrobe		30.00
3 Painted Wardrobes		22.50
2 Dressing Stands		10.00
9 Matrasses		50.00
2 Beds Feather		50.00
4 Bedsteads		25.00
Lot of Bedding		25.00
Parlor Furniture		75.00
Kitchen Furniture		50.00
Glass China& Silver		<u>100.00</u>
		\$53,282.50
Little Ned		<u>1,600.00</u>
		\$54,882.50

30<sup>th</sup> day July 1859

Appendix E  
Elizabeth G. Compton Estate

The State of Texas } To the Honorable S.  
County of Brazoria } W. Perkins Chief Justice  
of Brazoria County,

Yours Petitioner & legal administrator of the Estate of Mrs E. G. Compton deceased - respectfully represents to Your Honor, that in obedience to a decree of Your Honorable Court rendered at its November regular term for 1859, he advertised for more than twenty days before the first Tuesday in January 1860, by posting notices in three different public places in Brazoria County, no two of which were posted in the same City or Town, and also by publication in the Standard and Planter - a News paper published in Brazoria County, that he would on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of January 1860, offer for sale to the highest bidder, on a twelve months credit, the purchaser to give note with two good securities and a Mortgage on the property sold, the following named Negroes: "To wit" Ned, Presley, Dave, Ransom, Matt, John, Betty, Ben, Martha, Austin, Minna, Burke, Henry, Prince, Lucy & child, Julia, St Anna, Lavinia & 3 children, "my" Irene, Eviline, & children, Lucy Mary Ann & 4 children, "Dy" Alex, Lira, Net & Gertie, Betty, Georgianna, Lanty, Lack, Liddy & Little Ned, that in accordance with said advertisement, he did on the said 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in January 1860, offer in front of the Court House door in the Town of Brazoria to the highest bidder the following named Negroes - when the following named persons being the highest, best and last bidders, at the prices set opposite to their names respectively, became the purchasers. "To wit"

Alex Compton, bid for	Ned	\$1550.00
J. H. Haden	Presley	1380.00
J. H. Haden	Dave & Betty	1405.00
Alex Compton jr	Ransom	1700.00
J. E. Perry	Matt	1900.00
Alex Compton jr	John	2105.00
John Compton	Betty & Burke	600.00
H. S. B. Gask	Ben, Martha, Austin & Minna	3255.00
		22 14195.00

J. Compton bid for Henry	\$ 610.00
Mrs E. Holland <del>Donation</del> Mary " " Lucy & child	1800.00
J. H. Jones " " Julia & Anna	3000.00
O. Young " " Sissy	1420.00
Mrs E. Holland " " Mary Ann & children	6830.00
J. A. Holder " " by ship, Linn, Nuts & Gustine	3460.00
O. Young " " Little Ned, Georgiana & child	4610.00
	80720.00

and that they became the purchasers at the above named prices,

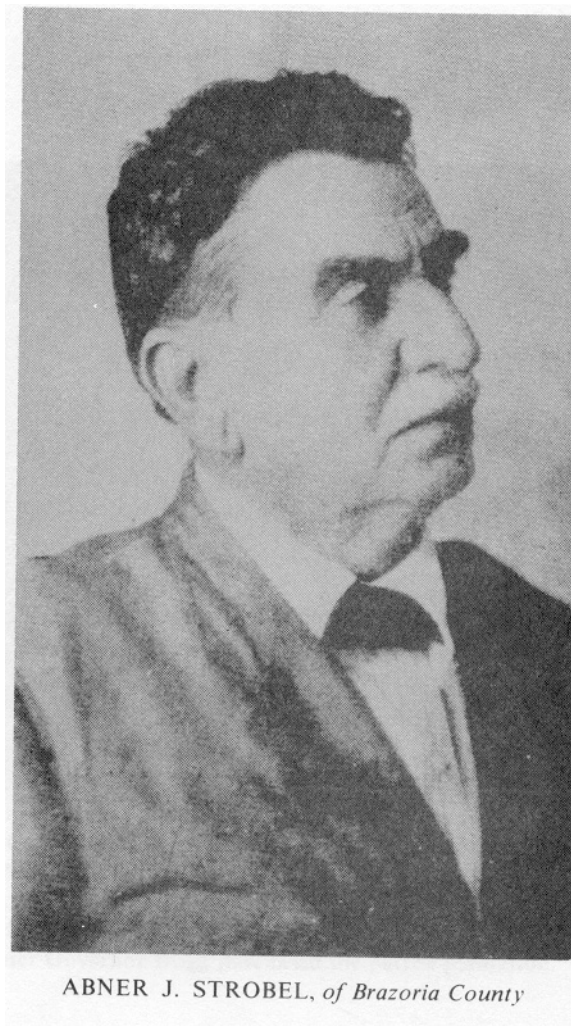
Petitioner further represents that the remainder of said Negroes "Wm Pandy, Lely, Jack, and Lucinda, with her children, being too unwell to be brought to America were not sold, but that they are now advertised to be sold on the first Tuesday in March, 1860,

In view of the foregoing Petitioner prays your Honor to inquire into the manner in which said sale was made, and if satisfied that the same was fairly made and in conformity with law, that you will cause to be entered on the minutes of the Court, a decree confirming said sale, and ordering this account of sales to be recorded by the Clerk and a conveyance to be made to the said above named purchasers.

Petitioner would further represent that on the said first Tuesday in January 1860 having first made advertisement as the law directs, he exposed to public viewing the Plantation on Bayton Creek, in Boggs river County, upon which Mrs E. C. Compton resided at the time of her death, when they and Compton's bid for the same, \$1500.00 for the term of one year, which was the last but and highest bid made and the same was struck off to him as the bidder at that price. Petitioner represents that said renting was made in an open public and fair manner and in every respect in accordance with law, wherefore Petitioner prays that your Honor will confirm said renting, and order this account of the same to be placed upon the record as



Appendix F  
Abner Jackson Strobel



ABNER J. STROBEL, of Brazoria County

*Author of The Old Plantations of Brazoria County and Their Owners*

I have had a lot of questions asked about how is Abner Jackson Strobel related to William H. and John A. Wharton. Since the republishing of *Autobiography of a Spoon* by Sarah Wharton Groce Berlet, even more questions have arisen. OK. The family chart in *Autobiography of a Spoon* is wrong. **Do not copy it!**

Simply put; Abner J. Strobel is the great nephew of William H. and John A. Wharton. His mother Elizabeth Washington Strobel was a daughter of Elizabeth (Betsy) Wharton Washington, sister of William H. and John A. Wharton who remained in Tennessee and never made the trek to Texas. Strobel's father, Louis M. Strobel was a stepson of Abner Jackson of the Lake Jackson Plantation. Notice how Abner J. Strobel got his name.

Now for a little additional Wharton connection during the 1850's & 1860's, take a look at the Cloman Plantation just across Buffalo Camp Bayou from the Lake Jackson Plantation and you will find Dr. William C. Goodlett who attended many of the slaves on the Jackson Plantation. His wife, Martha Ann Washington Goodlett is Abner Strobel's aunt, Abner's mother's sister from Tennessee. The world is getting smaller.

Now for more confusion look to the old port town of Velasco, one of the Wharton brothers enterprises. General Thomas Jefferson Green was a principal resident from 1836 until he joined the Meir Expedition. He married Sarah Angeline Wharton January 30, 1830. This young lady was the daughter of Jesse Wharton of Tennessee. Jesse Wharton is the uncle that reared William H., John A., and Elizabeth after their parents died February 1816. Sarah Angeline died March 11, 1835 in Florida.

So here is a family chart with the best dates and places that I have at the moment (Any one wanting to fuss or discuss let me know):

	5 CHILDREN All become wards of their Uncle Jesse Wharton After their parents death	Martha Ann Washington B.~1829 m. 14 Dec. 1847 Nashville Dr. William C. Goodlett (Cloman Plantation moved to St. Louis after Civil War)	
	Elizabeth Wharton (Betsy) B.~1801 Va m. Tn Gilbert Gray Washington	Thomas Washington B.~1825	M. E. "Lucy" Strobel B. 1856
	Martha A. Wharton m. June 21, 1824 Tn Sterling H. Lester (no further data)  Thomas Jesse Wharton B. 1804 D. 1819 Drowned Tn	Elizabeth Washington B. 27 Aug. 1835 Tennessee D. 4 July 1915 Chenango Pl Tx m. Feb 14, 1854 Louis Martin Strobel B. Sept. 16, 1831 S.C. D. Feb. 9, 1869 Lake Jackson Plantation, Texas	Abner J. Strobel B. 6 Sept. 1858 Drayton Plantation D. Aug 1931 & Asenath S. Strobel B. 14Feb1863 Compton Pl m. Horace Kelley D. 15Sept1947
William H. Wharton B. 1768 D. Feb. 1,1816 m. Judith Harris D. Feb. 8, 1816	John Austin Wharton B. April 1806 Tennessee D. 17 Dec.1838 Dysentery Houston Tx		
Both died in flu epidemic or cold plague.	William Harris Wharton B. 1802 Virginia D. 14 March 1839 Bernardo Pl Tx m. 5 Dec. 1827 Bernardo Pl Tx Sarah Ann Groce B. 1810 Georgia D. 11 Feb 1878 Galveston Tx	John A. Wharton B. 3 July 1828 Tennessee D. 6 April 1865 Houston Tx m. 25 Feb. 1851 S.C. Elizabeth Penelope Johnson B. 5 May 1827 S. C. D. 15 May 1876 Eagle Island	Sarah Ann Wharton B. Feb. 1852? D. Dec 1852? Eagle Island Tx
		Have letter that says she may have had 2 other children before Kate.	Kate Ross Wharton B. March ?1854 D. 8 Aug. 1872 (possible suicide) Eagle Island Tx

At the end of 1860 Abner Jackson entered into a marriage contract with Sarah Brownlee of South Carolina (Deed:1860, K-37), his 1<sup>st</sup> wife Margaret Inabinet Strobel Jackson having died January 7, 1857. I had often wondered if he actually married her since I couldn't find any record of her in the probate proceedings. However, while searching for some notes on the Civil War I ran across:

We learn from Col. Forshey, who arrived here on Friday evening from Velasco, that Maj. Abner Jackson, an old and highly respected citizen and wealthy planter of Brazoria county, died Monday morning, the 21<sup>st</sup> inst., of congestive chills. He was sick only a few days. His wife, we learn, is with her friends in South Carolina, and the only part of the family at home are three sons, two of whom had joined the company being raised by Hon. John R. [A.] Wharton, and were expecting to leave for Virginia in a few days. *Galveston Tri-Weekly*, August 27, 1861.

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     Compton Family File 103

Texas Agricultural Census 1850

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*Galveston Daily News*, Galveston, Texas

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### GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

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Probate Records Brazoria County, County Clerk's Office, Brazoria County Courthouse, Angleton, Texas

Brazoria County Tax Records on microfilm Brazoria County Historical Museum, Angleton, Texas

Federal Population Schedule, Seventh Census of the United States.

    1850   The State of Texas, Brazoria County  
     "Schedule 2—Slave Inhabitants in the County of Brazoria, Texas"

Federal Population Schedule, Eighth Census of the United States.

    1860   The State of Texas, Brazoria County  
     "Schedule 2—Slave Inhabitants in the County of Brazoria, Texas"

Federal Population Schedule, Ninth Census of the United States.

    1870

Federal Population Schedule, Tenth Census of the United States.

    1880



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