

**The**  
**Murchland**  
**Family**  
**of Brooke County, WV**  
**History and Genealogy**

**From the files of Albert Miller**  
**July 1993**

*Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society*

THE  
MURCHLAND  
FAMILY

of  
Brooke County, W. Va.

HISTORY &

GENEALOGY

From The Files of

ALBERT MILLER

JULY, 1993

Compiled from the MURCHLAND FILES of ALBERT MILLER - July, 1993

[ The following observations are taken from letters, documents, manuscripts, and notes used in previous attempts by members of the MURCHLAND CLAN to fit together the pieces of the puzzle concerning the beginnings of the Murchland family in America as well as a more accurate genealogy of those early generations. ]

In the writings of an unnamed descendant who indicates that her great-grandmother was Sarah Henderson, she states:

" The name of Murchland was originally pronounced Murckland due to the Scotch accent in which "ch" has the sound of "k". The information which has been handed down from generation to generation is that the original Murchlands and Steens were cousins. Their embarkation from Ireland might well have been together. ....Three brief wills are our only source of AUTHENTIC information. "

In a manuscript entitled "Probable Murchland Genealogy" the writer, Zoe Steen Moore, states:

" I have always heard from older members of the STEEN family that the Steens and Murchlands were cousins, and the Lawthers were cousins, too. I do not know what year my ancestor, James Steen, came into the Panhandle. He had been married to Margaret Reynolds in or near Philadelphia and they had three children when they "came across", as he called crossing the mountains. The baby rode on her mother's lap, and the two older children rode in the pockets of the saddle bags across her horse. The Panhandle land had been given him in part payment for Revolutionary army service. He was present, as was his wife, at the Yorktown surrender. On this land he built a stone house - a "fort house" as they called it. There were holes in the walls for guns, and at one time all the families of the neighborhood were there for two weeks while the Indians were all around outside. He and his wife are buried in the Tent Church burying ground."

In a letter dated 1931, Mina Applegate writes:

" One descendant of the original Murchland family was Ambassador to India from England and was in the British Parliament as late as 1910 from Ireland. THEY ALL CAME FROM IRELAND. "

In a letter from Lillian Murchland, who was, from the context of the letter, deeply into her family roots, she wrote this paragraph: ( letter dated 1930)

" I have learned that the Murchlands of early days all came from Ireland. Several brothers settled in West Virginia at one time. They owned many acres of land in Brooke County from where it joins Washington County toward the mouth of Cross Creek. "

In a 1940 letter written by Bertha McConnell, she states again the information that there were over 1000 acres in the original tract of land and then goes on to say :

" I have been told many times by my teachers that George Washington went up along the little valley down below our old graveyard.....The Murchlands all were religious, honest, and very proud."

( If this information is correct, it would be referring to the old Indian Mingo Path which George Washington followed overland from Mingo Junction to Pittsburg on his return trip down the Ohio. This trip is well documented in many of the early histories including his day-by-day diary of the ~~happenings~~ along the way." )

Joan Murchland Tefertillar discovered the following information in a 1992 issue of the magazine, IRELAND OF THE WELCOMES. It is reproduced on the following page for the reader's perusal. It would most certainly appear that this article would indicate beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Robert Murchland who signed the letter dated June 13, 1773, was indeed, OUR Robert Murchland. A co-signor was Thomas Ferguson and it is interesting to note that one of the witnesses to Robert's will in 1797 was a James Ferguson. Whether or not Robert's brother William Murchland, from whom we all descend, accompanied him on this first voyage is entirely speculation. The same is true of his sister, Christin, who married a Lawthers. It does, however, give us a good indication of when the FIRST Murchland came to America. It now remains for us to track him across the wilds of Pennsylvania into the snake-infested virgin forests of Brooke County, Virginia.

Newcastle, 13th June, 1773.

**W**E the undernamed Persons, who came Passengers in the Ship Peggy, Charles Mc. Kenzie, Master, from Belfast to Philadelphia, think it our Duty to advise our Friends and the Publick, that we had a Passage of seven weeks and that in Honour to our said Commande; he behaved to us during the whole Voyage with the utmost Kindness, and contributed every Thing to make us happy; that we had sufficient Room, and allowed us Provisions of the best Kind in Plenty, with a Liberty in every Part of his Ship, (not often tolerated by Seamen) and that his Humanity to the Sick can never be forgot: He also took the greatest Care of our Chests and Goods, that there was not any Part of them destroyed. We also return our sincere Thanks to Mr. Waddell Cunningham, the Owner of said Ship, for his good Provisions and Water: We strenuously recommend all our Friends to come in his Ships, You'll please give this a Place in your useful Paper, and you'll oblige your humble Servants.

To Messrs. Henry and Robert Joy, Printers, Belfast.

Wm. Mc. Cauley,

John Milling,

Samuel Willson,

John Service,

Thomas Ferguson,

James Moore,

John Smith,

Wm. Mc. Kee,

Robert Murchland,

Archibald Allison,

John Matthes,

Nath. Mc. Clelland,

John Fawlds,

David Gordon,

John Till,

Andrew Marrow,

Alex. Frazer,

John Morrison,

James Hanna,

Charles Montgomery,

Henry Boyd,

Samuel Brown,

John Stewart,

George Shearer,

John Mc. Clean,

Robert Mitchell,

Thomas Bailie,

James May,

William King,

Capt. Thos. Ash.

*Letters of thanks for crossings successfully completed – as published in this Belfast newspaper of 1773 – were also a reliable and cheap way of telling the family back home of the emigrant's safe arrival.*

## PROBABLE EARLY GENEALOGY

### 1st Generation:

- #1 ROBERT MURCHLAND.....unmarried.....came to America in 1773... first will in Brooke County probated May, 1797. Tombstone says he died March 17, 1798. Since this stone was not set until AFTER 1863 when it was mandated in the will of his nephew, Robert Murchland, son of his brother William, there was apparently a mistake of a year in cutting the death date.
- #2 WILLIAM MURCHLAND....brother of Robert (#1)...married to JANE \_\_\_\_\_.  
Father of the second generation Murchlands in Brooke County. Will proven MARCH, 1813, and was written in February of that year. His grave stone says he died in 1821, but once again it was not set until after 1863, so another error is evident. William appears in the 1810 census but not in the 1820. His wife, Jane, probably died in 1804.
- #3 CHRISTIN MURCHLAND...sister of Robert #1 and William #2.....married to \_\_\_\_\_  
Lowthers or Lauthers.....is named as his sister in the will of Robert #1. James, Robert, and Alexander Lauthers are all named in the Will. The remainder of his estate is to be equally divided between the children of Alexander Lothers and James Steen. James Lowthers is settled on his estate and is not to be disturbed until his 7 years are up. His silver buckles are to go to Robert Lowthers.
- \*\* Inasmuch as the bulk of Robert #1's estate is left to the children of his brother, William, and the remainder is to be divided between the children of Alexander Lawthers and JAMES Steen, one might presume that his sister Christin was married to Alexander Lowthers and another unnamed sister was married to James Steen. This is, however, not quite the case since it has been documented by the Steens that the wife of James Steen was MARGARET Reynolds. They also seem to be convinced that it was James Steen's son, Robert who was a small child in his mother's saddle bag crossing the mountains after the revolution, who married an Ellen Murchland- probably a daughter of William #2. This might mean that Christin was married to James Lowthers who may have been a son of Alexander. In such instance,

Robert #1, in leaving so much of his estate to the children of FIRST Generation Steens and Lowthers children would scarcely have done so had the Murchlands not been related to both families back in Ireland. A person might well leave an estate to nieces and nephews and children of cousins, but it would be most unusual to leave an estate to the brothers and sisters of ones brothers-in-law!!

2nd Generation: children of William #2 and Jane Murchland:

- #4 JAMES MURCHLAND.....born in Ireland between 1765 and 1770, married to Isabelle Hamilton ( born September 21, 1772 and died March 14, 1852 ) circa 1798. James and Isabelle had 13 children, eleven of which were alive at the death of James in August, 1846. James died without a will but Francis Patterson and William Wiggins agreed to appraise his personal estate which was completed by Dec.,1846. Agreement of Dower between his widow and 11 children and their spouses is dated March 26, 1847, and is filed in Deed Book #16 pg. 43, Brooke County.
- #5 WILLIAM MURCHLAND, JR....probably born around 1768 or 1770. Died June 20, 1818. Unmarried - at least to all indications.
- #6 JOHN MURCHLAND.....born in 1775 and died in his 91st year on January 4, 1866. Unmarried. *(Bossy)*
- #7 MARY MURCHLAND.....birth date unknown - perhaps circa 1778. Died unmarried on March 20, 1844. The date has been copied from the stone as being both 1884 and 1844, but 1884 is impossible since in her brother Robert's will of 1863 he directs the erection of her gravestone. Three persons copied it as 1844.

- #8 SUSANNAH MURCHLAND.....born ca 1780. Died unmarried April 29, 1838.
- #9 ROBERT MURCHLAND.....born 1783, <sup>in Ireland</sup> married Sarah Henderson ( born November 10, 1787 and died February 10, 1850 ). Robert and Sarah Henderson Murchland had 10 children. Robert died December 12, 1863 in his 81st year.
- #10 ELIZABETH MURCHLAND.....Elizabeth is named in the Will of her uncle, Robert #1 as being a daughter of his brother William #2. There is no other mention of Elizabeth. She is NOT named in the Will of her brother, Robert #9 although her other sisters, Mary and Sussanah are designated to be given gravestones. This would indicate that either Elizabeth is still living in 1863 when her brother Robert made his will or else she is married and her husband is responsible for her tombstone. Inasmuch as the STEen genealogy emphatically states that Robert Steen who was born in 1784 married Ellen Murchland, and this Ellen cannot be accounted for in any other way, is it possible that Elizabeth's name was Elizabeth Ellen??? Her birth date as the youngest daughter of William would place it somewhere around 1784 which would make her the correct age to be the wife of Robert STEen. This Robert STEen is buried at the Tent Church graveyard as having died January 9, 1864, age 80 years. The son of Robert and Ellen Murchland Steen, William Murchland Steen, his wife and five children are all buried at the Tent. No mention is made of Ellen. It is interesting to note that two of these five children are: Ellen STEen and Elizabeth STEen.



\*\*NOTE: There have been at least 6 different records made of the burials in the Murchland family cemetery over the years. Each time the elusive writings on the stones are copied, some changes seem to occur. A few dates and names remain the same on all lists, but there are many discrepancies. In 1991, Carolyn Bolès, a lineal descendant of William's son James Murchland, took the four lists which she had access to and made a thorough analysis of them, arriving at a beautiful description of whom she believed to be buried there and her reasons for believing it. Since that time, among the notes of Albert Miller, at least two other lists have surfaced as well as partial listings by a few older members of the family who visited the old burial ground and jotted down a few notes. In the summer of 1993 a final attempt was made to read the few remaining stones and a listing compiled. From these manuscripts a composite listing has arisen. Of the first ten persons listed in this "PROBABLE EARLY GENEALOGY", the following facts are noted:

From Generation #1, Robert and William are buried in the family plot but Christin Lawthers is not. ( She is apparently buried in an unmarked grave with her husband.)

From Generation #2, James Murchland is not listed on any of the lists but the stone which marks the grave of his wife, ISabelle, is still visible in 1993. Would he not also be buried in this family plot?? Where is his grave stone???

On one list or another, the siblings of James are all listed as having been buried in the family graveyard except Elizabeth. Is Elizabeth really Elizabeth Ellen, wife of Robert STEen??? If so, why is her grave not marked in the Tent Church Cemetery beside her husband, son, Daughter-in-law, and five grandchildren???? If she werenot the wife of Robert STEen, and if she were unmarried, why is there no mention made of a stone for her by her brother Robert when he mentioned her two sisters? ?? Or why would she be buried in the family plot without a stone when the others, except for James, were provided for???

Sarah Henderson Murchland, wife of Robert #9 was not on any of the four early lists. However her name appears on two of the later ones as having died in 1850. Why was her stone visible at the later copyings but not for the early ones????

**\*\*NOTE:** Second Generation children listed in this manuscript are all descendants of WILLIAM MURCHLAND #2. It is a fact that his sister, Christen, who married a Lowthers also had children. However, in none of the notes in the files of Albert Miller did any of the old Murchlands give even one scrap of information about this branch of the family tree. The writer has checked cemetery listings and actual gravestones in a number of the burial plots in the area where it is most likely the Lowthers family would have been buried, but not a single grave seems to exist marking the resting place of the Lowther branch. Until these graves are located and records produced displaying the births, marriages, and deaths of the Lowther family, the Murchland family history of the Brooke County Murchlands must remain very incomplete.

Of the second generation descendants of William Murchland #2, it is believed that William, Jr., #5, John, #6 ( affectionately known to the family as "BOSSY" ), Mary, #7 and Susannah, #8 remained unmarried. As has been previously stated, Elizabeth ( ELLEN ????) or whatever Murchland married ROBERT Steen had at least one son, William Murchland Steen who also had descendants. This branch of the family can be traced as records do exist in the Tent Church Burial Ground, courthouse, etc. However, at this writing ( 1993) this gigantic task still remains to be done. Therefore, the Third Generation will be limited to the children of JAMES MURCHLAND #4 and ROBERT MURCHLAND #9.

**3rd Generation: Children of James #4 and Isabelle Hamilton Murchland**

#11 WILLIAM MURCHLAND.....born July 12, 1799. Unmarried.  
Died September 16, 1883. Buried  
beside his sister, Ellen, in the  
Ebenezer Cemetery, Brooke Co.

- #12 MARY MARGUERITE MURCHLAND....born February 28, 1802. Married James Neal December 11, 1828. Died April 11, 1888. Buried in Williams Cemetery, Josephine County, Oregon.
- #13 JANE MURCHLAND.....born April 10, 1803 Married John Headington September 11, 1828. Died October 30, 1889 age 86 Buried at Pfiester Cemetery, Brooke Co.
- #14 ISABELLE MURCHLAND.....born <sup>about 1820</sup> ???.. Married James Johnston June 15, 1848. Died??? Buried ???
- #15 MARY MURCHLAND.....<sup>11 Mar 1805</sup> born ???..Married James Puntney Died ~~???~~ Buried ~~????~~ - Ebenezer <sup>18 Feb, 1885</sup>
- #16 JOHN MURCHLAND.....born 1808. Unmarried. Died January 7, 1837. Buried in Murchland family burial ground.
- #17 SUSAN MURCHLAND.....born 1811. Married Cornelius Boles. Died 1894 age 83. Buried in Eldersville Methodist Cemetery, Washington Co., PA
- #18 JAMES MURCHLAND.....<sup>1818</sup> BORN ~~????~~ Married Martha (Davis)?. Died ~~???~~ Buried ~~????~~ <sup>4 Dec 1883 Monroeville, Indiana - has records for children</sup>
- #19 ELIZABETH MURCHLAND.....<sup>June</sup> born ~~January~~ 17, 1815. Married Aaron Boles November 30, 1838. Died January 7, 1901. Buried Pine Grove Cemetery, Mason Co., WV
- #20 SARAH MURCHLAND.....born ~~???~~ Married Andrew Dimit. Died ?? Buried ~~???~~ <sup>1820</sup>
- #21 ELLEN MURCHLAND.....born 1817. Unmarried. Died November 21, 1876 Buried beside her bachelor brother, William, in Ebenezer Cemetery, Brooke Co.

#22 UNKNOWN MURCHLAND MALE.....according to Census records there was another male child born to this union. He died before March, 1847 since he is not named in the Agreement of Dower between his mother and the eleven living children and their spouses.

#23 ALEXANDER H. MURCHLAND.....born July 22, 1822. Married Amy Carman February 16, 1854. Died July 10, 1902. Buried Virginia Dale Churchyard, Larimer County, Colorado.

3rd Generation: Children of Robert #9 and Sarah Henderson Murchland

#24 WILLIAM MURCHLAND.....born May 17, 1813. Married Mary Ann Boyle who died in either 1859 or 1860 at age 43. Died November 17, 1875. Buried in Murchland Family Burial Plot. Wife, Mary Ann, also buried there.

#25 JOHN H. MURCHLAND.....born May 26, 1815. Married Sarah (Sallie) Ann Deever on March 29, 1842. Sarah was born February 25, 1821 and died August 22, 1862. John H. died November 9, 1887. They are both buried in the Bethel Methodist Cemetery, Jefferson Twp., Washington Co., PA.

#26 JANE MURCHLAND.....born \_\_\_\_\_, 1816. Married George Miller, Jr. who was born in 1805 and died July 2, 1883. Jane died July 27, 1876. Both are buried in the Cross Creek Graveyard, Washington Co. PA.

- #27 ROBERT MURCHLAND, JR.....born May 14, 1819. Married Harriet Hindman  
November 25, 1849. Harriet was born July 30,  
1828 and died September 12, 1903. Robert died  
February 5, 1873. Both are buried in the Tent  
Church Graveyard, Brooke Co.
- #28 ANDREW MURCHLAND.....born December 13, 1820. Married Elizabeth Jones  
who died December 4, 1849.  
Married 2nd: Hannah Jane McCrea who died  
April 13, 1857 age 23 years. Andrew died  
January 24, 1865. All three are buried in  
the Murchland Family Burial Plot.
- #29 NANCY MURCHLAND.....born <sup>ca 1830</sup>????? Married Robert Boyd August 15, 1850.  
Died????? Buried ????????
- #30 MARY MURCHLAND.....BORN ?????? Married John White. Died???
- Died prior to her father's death in 1863  
as she is not mentioned in his Will but her  
son is named. Buried?????????
- #31 DAVID H. MURCHLAND.....born January 19, 1825. Married Susannah ( born October 25,  
1829  
Morrison on October 24, 1850 who died January 3,  
1861. On June 1, 1862 he again married. This  
2nd wife was Josephine Buckalew who was born  
July 18, 1843 and died November 3, 1873. David H.  
died April 9, 1882. All three are buried in the  
Murchland Family Burial Plot.
- #32 SARAH MURCHLAND.....born January 18, 1827. Married Thomas Wheeler  
March 12, 1846. Thomas was born February 16, 1814  
and died August 28, 1894. Sarah died June 29, 1882.  
Both are buried in St. John's Cemetery, Brooke CO.
- #33 MARTHA MURCHLAND.....born \_\_\_\_\_, 1831. Died November 10, 1847  
age 16 years. She is buried in the Murchland  
Family Burial Plot.

#### Fourth Generation

\* NOTE: Of the 13 children of James #4 and Isabelle Hamilton Murchland, the following remained unmarried and therefore have produced no 4th Generation descendants: William #11, John #16, Ellen #21, and the Unknown Murchland Male #22. Of those who married, information on the following is apparently non-existent in the files of any of the Murchland descendants working on the genealogy to this date:

Isabell #14 who married James Johnston, Mary #15 who married James Puntney, James # 18 who married Martha Davis, and Sarah#20 who married Andrew Dimit. (It is hoped that anyone having knowledge of their offspring will make it available to the writer for inclusion in a revised edition of this genealogy another year.) Information on the children of the following is available, but not in the hands of this writer at this point in time and will therefore be included in the next revision: Mary Marguerite #12 who married James Neal, Susan #17 who married Cornelius Boles, and Elizabeht #19 who married Aaron Boles. The 4th generation , descendants of the two remaining children, follows.

#### CHILDREN OF JANE #13 & JOHN HEADINGTON:

ISABELLE HEADINGTON	b.1829, m. JOHN WIGGINS 19 Sept. 1849
	d. 1912 Buried at Ebenezer Cemetery, Brooke Co.
NICHOLAS HEADINGTON	b. 1831 m. REBECCA BUCHANAN . 3 Feb. 1859
	d. 1917 Buried at Pfister Cemetery, Brooke Co.
MARY HEADINGTON	b. 1833 m. WILLIAM SUTHERLAND 17 Jan. 1854
	d. Buried
SARAH HEADINGTON	b. 1835 alive in 1850 m. <i>Anderson Liggett</i>
<i>James M.</i>	<i>b. 1837 d. 1840 b. Pfister</i>
JOHN HEADINGTON	b. ca. 1842 m. 1st: MARTHA LOUISA CARTER !# Jan. 1870
	m. 2nd: MARGARETTA MAGEE
	d. 1923 Buried at Ebenezer Cemetery, Brooke Co.

MARGARET ELLEN HEADINGTON      b. 1845    m. JOSEPH CASSIDAY @ \$ Oct. 1871  
d. 1876      Buried at Ebenezer Cemetery

RACHEL HEADINGTON                b. 1847    m. WILLIAM SCOTT 27 Feb. 1868  
d. 1919      Buried Bethel Methodist Cemetery,  
Jefferson Twp., Washington Co.

**CHILDREN OF ALEXANDER #23 & AMY CARMAN MURCHLAND**

SARAH MURCHLAND                    b. 1854    m. D.O. OSBORN  
d. 1884

FRANCES MURCHLAND                b. 1856      unmarried  
d. 1872 or 1873

ALEXANDER MURCHLAND               b. 1858      unmarried  
d. 1929

JOSEPH NAREN MURCHLAND            b. 1860    m. JOSEPHINE TALBOT 15 Oct. 1888  
d. 1939

ISABELLE MURCHLAND                b. 1862    m. JOSEPH F. OSBORN # Oct. 1880  
d. 1905

JOHN MURCHLAND                    b. 1864      unmarried  
d. 1931

VIRGINIA MURCHLAND                b. 1867    m. \_\_\_\_\_ PREISS  
d.

JESSE MURCHLAND                    b. 1869  
d. 1876

JONAS MURCHLAND b. 1872

d. 1876

EDWARD MURCHLAND b. 1874

d. 1875

#### FOURTH GENERATION

From the children of Robert # 9 and Sarah Henderson Murchland

NOTE: Due to the number of descendants in the fourth generation from this branch of the Murchland family, statistical data will not be included in this listing. It is to be hoped that at a future date this list would be updated and all vital statistics included.

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM #24 and Mary Ann Boyle Murchland:

BOYLE MURCHLAND

SARAH MURCHLAND

WILLIAM MURCHLAND

MARY A. MURCHLAND

} These 3 children died in October, 1862  
between the ages of 9 and 16

CHILDREN OF JOHN H. #25 and Sarah Ann Deever Murchland

ROBERT H. MURCHLAND m. Jessie Ferguson

MARY CAROLINE MURCHLAND m. John Cooper

SARAH JANE MURCHLAND unmarried

JOHN H. MURCHLAND, JR. m. Emma Gillespie

MARTHA ANN MURCHLAND m. W. S. Moore

LYDIA ALICE MURCHLAND m. George Chalmers Miller

ELIZABETH EMMELINE MURCHLAND unmarried

NANCY ADALINE MURCHLAND died age 11

HANNAH AMANDA MURCHLAND died aged 2 yrs.



CHILDREN OF JANE MURCHLAND #26 and George Miller, Jr.

ROBERT MILLER

SARAH V. MILLER m. William Edward Steen

CHALMERS MILLER m. 1st Lydia Murchland 2nd Frances Steen

MARY MARGARET MILLER

MARTHA J. MILLER m. Vance DODds

ALBERT MILLER m. Sarah Ellen Wells

CHILDREN OF ROBERT, JR. #27 and Harriet Hindman Murchland

ROBERT MURCHLAND m. Mary Weaver

KATE MURCHLAND

ELLA MURCHLAND

MARY MURCHLAND

JOHN MURCHLAND

CHILDREN OF ANDREW #28 and Elizabeth Jones

NANCY E. MURCHLAND

ELIZABETH MURCHLAND

ANDREW #28 and Hannah Jane MCCrea

ANDREW MURCHLAND ,JR. m. Emma Murchland

CHILDREN OF NANCY MURCHLAND #29 and Robert Boyd

*Mary M.  
Thomas J.  
Robert M.  
William H*

CHILDREN OF MARY MURCHLAND #30 and John White

JOHN HENDERSON WHITE

CHILDREN OF DAVID #31 and Susannah Morrison Murchland

INFANT SON

MORRISON MURCHLAND m. 1st: Jennie Moore 2nd: Rhoda Pool

ROBERT H. MURCHLAND ( Skip) unmarried  
MARY ANN MURCHLAND m. George Latimer  
SARAH E. MURCHLAND m. William H. Mooney  
JAMES H. MURCHLAND m. Agnes Kidd

DAVID #31 and Josephine Buckalew

EMMA W. MURCHLAND m. Andrew H. Murchland Jr.  
VIRGINIA (MINNIE) G. MURCHLAND m. Frank Flaherty  
GARRETT L. MURCHLAND unmarried  
MITCHELL E. MURCHLAND m. Zella Woods

CHILDREN OF SARAH MURCHLAND #32 and Thomas Wheeler

*Albert*  
*Robert*  
*Thomas*  
*Sarah*  
*Nancy*  
*James*  
*Nettie*  
*Cornelius*  
*William*

MARTHA MURCHLAND # 33 died at age 16 unmarried.

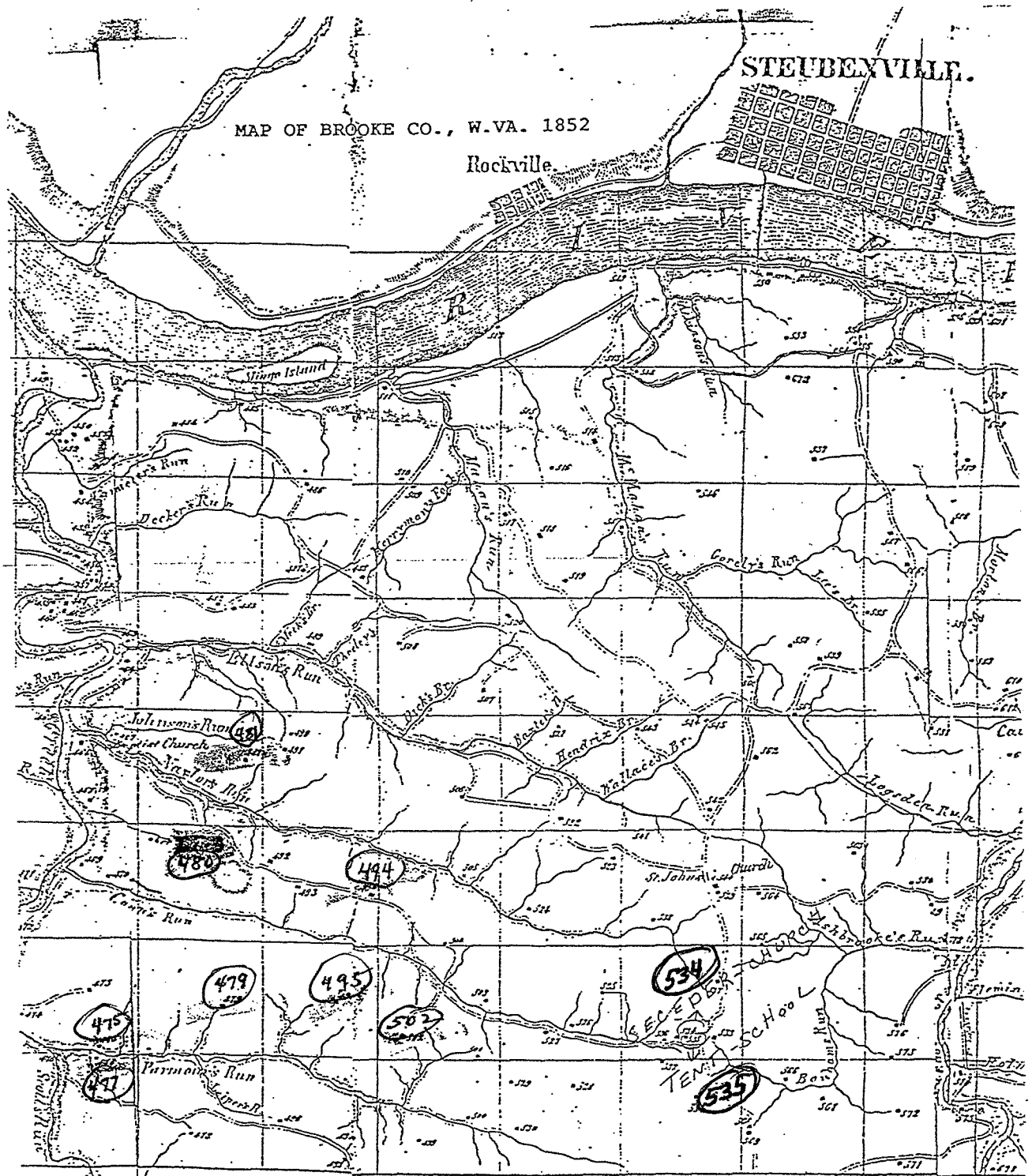
## A FINAL NOTE:

Since compiling this manuscript from the copious notes and pieces of information in the files of Albert Miller ( some of which do not agree with each other) I have had access to some materials from a descendant of the Steen family. Although of course I have no way of knowing the validity of their claims since except for the Revolutionary record of Pioneer James Steen which is thoroughly documented, there is no viable proof for their statements. I am, however, assuming for our purposes at this time, that what they have taken the trouble to write down in many years long since past is as accurate as the early stories of any family can be. The important point in their manuscript is this: Robert Steen, son of Pioneer James STEEN, married **Sarah Ellen Murchland**. This would completely alter the supposition made on page 6 that Elizabeth Murchland who was the daughter of William is **NOT** Elizabeth Ellen who may have married Robert STEEN. This may indicate that Elizabeth had perhaps married and was not buried in the family plot, else her brother, Robert, would have provided her with a tombstone as he did her sisters. Also, no person copying the writings from the old cemetery ever recorded a stone for Elizabeth. Who, then, was Sarah Ellen??? Lillian Murchland, in an old letter, indicated that she had learned that **SEVERAL** Murchland brothers had come to Brooke County together. Could she be the daughter of one of these who is unnamed in any of the wills because he died shortly after arrival???? Since Robert #1 sets aside  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre for the burial plot and establishes a fence to enclose it, is it not probable that someone was already buried there or it would not have occurred to him to do this???? The connection between the Murchlands and the STEENS remains the 64thousand dollar question. The following excerpt from the Steen document gives us the descendants of this branch of our family tree:

1. Robert Steen who married Sarah Ellen Murchland. they had a son, William Steen, who married Sally Cunningham, and their family consisted of: Robert Steen who married Lizzie O'Hare, but they had no children; James Steen, no further record; Fanny Steen married Chalmers Miller and they had a son, William G. Miller, who married Elizabeth Hall; and a daughter Olive Steen.

I have simply organized and transcribed the data in the Miller files in compiling this manuscript. I have not checked the authenticity of any of it except where I had access to cemetery records, census reports, etc. with which to compare it. The credit for the data goes to the many Murchland descendants over the years who tried to piece together the family tree and entrusted it to the care of someone they knew would cherish it - Albert Miller.

June Campbell Grosman, Box 202 R.D.#4, Burgettstown, PA 15021 412-729-3918



MAP OF BROOKE CO., W.VA. 1852  
Rockville.

STEUBENVILLE.

Property owners: William Murchland # 475-477; James Murchland heirs 479; William Murchland son of Robert ~~480~~ Robert Murchland, Sen. 481-494-495-502; Tent School 535 Seceder Church 534; this could be the Tent church.

3-300

