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Caroline McKissack
1825-aft. 1892/bef. 1900
Enslaved at Rippa Villa

1825 Caroline McKissack was born in North Carolina.

1830 The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Person County, NC listed William McKissack as head of household. The rest of the household members were listed with slash marks in their category designated by age, gender and race. The household consisted of nine free White people and twenty-three enslaved Black people. Seven female slaves under the age of ten, fitting Caroline's age, were listed.

1835 (abt) William McKissack moved his family and slaves from Person County, NC to Tennessee.

¹ This photo was submitted to Ancestry.com on April 3, 2023 by Evelyn Johnson, a descendant of the infant in the photo, Linnie McKissack.

1840 The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Maury County, TN listed William McKissack as head of household. The rest of the household members were listed with slash marks in their category designated by age, gender and race. The household consisted of ten free White people and forty-two enslaved Black people. Eight female slaves between ages 10 & 23 were closest in age to Caroline.

1850 William McKissack was enumerated as a slave owner in three different Counties: Lawrence County, Giles County and Maury County. He owned mills in Giles and Lawrence. Caroline was most likely at the Spring Hill farm.

***According to a later deposition, Caroline stated that most of her time was spent in Spring Hill during the 1850's.²

1852 (abt) Caroline gave birth to son William Alexis "Lex" McKissack.

***After the war Lex was a Freedmen's Bureau assistant teacher and then a teacher. He attended Central Tennessee College and became a minister.

1854 (abt) Caroline gave birth to daughter Mahulda Ann "Huldah" McKissack."

***Huldah attended Central Tennessee College.

1856 After William McKissack died in 1855, his human property was listed in an 1856 inventory in the courts in Maury County, TN. The slaves were split into six lots and distributed to William's six children in January of 1856. Caroline was listed in the court records as being given to William's daughter Jessie McKissack along with her husband Madison, however in July of 1892, in a deposition for her sister-in-law Harriet's pension Caroline stated "*I am the wife of Madison McKissack and the sister-in-law of Harriet McKissack. Lem and Harriet and myself all belonged to the same owner, namely Col. Wm. McKissack of Giles Co., Tenn. After his death and upon the division of his estate Lem and Harriet fell to Jim McKissack and I to Major Nat Cheairs.*"³

1859 (abt) Caroline gave birth to son Dublin P. McKissack.

1860-1862 Madison McKissack, not owned by the same owner as Caroline was moved

² McKissack, Lem [and Harriet], Deposition of Caroline McKissack, U.S. Military Pension Application, NARA, Washington D.C.

³ McKissack, Lem [and Harriet], Deposition of Caroline McKissack, U.S. Military Pension Application, NARA, Washington D.C.

to Arkansas to work for two years. He was most likely at the Peters plantation in Arkansas, as Jessie McKissack had married George Peters in 1858.

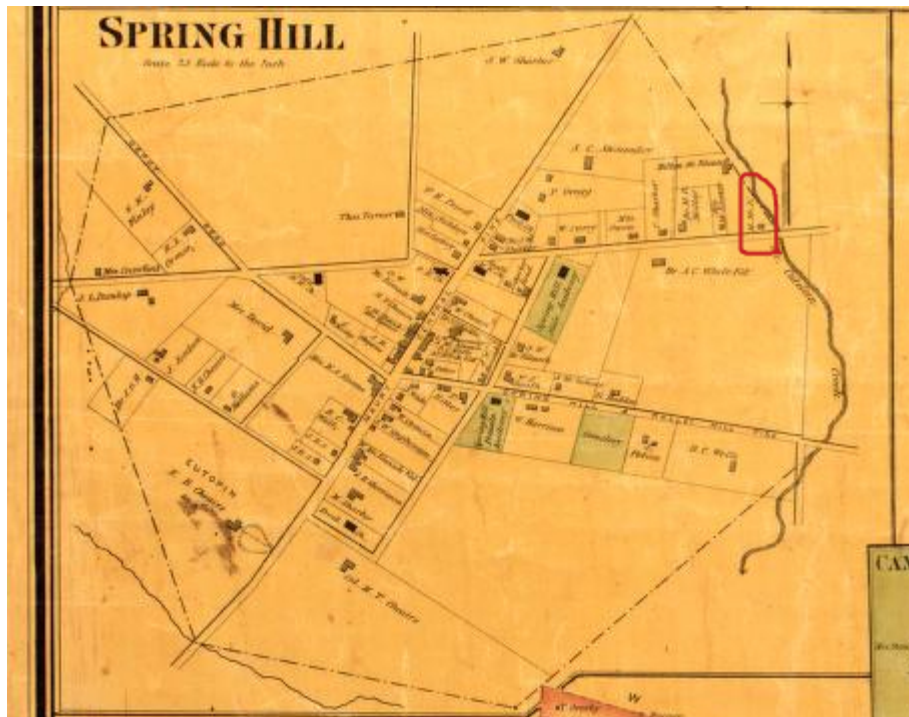
1861 (abt) Caroline gave birth to son Madison “Matt” McKissack Jr..

1862 Wartime letters from Nat mentioned many names of his slaves.

April 22: Hello to..Uncle Dick and his wife⁴, **Caroline**, Nancy, Pet, Dub, Rich and William.

1866 (abt) Caroline gave birth to daughter Mary Ella McKissack.

1867 February 4: Madison “Peters⁵” purchased land, along with James W. Williams from Robert McLemore. His property is circled in red below.



1868 January: Caroline gave birth to daughter Leura Elmira McKissack.

1870 Throughout the year of 1870, Caroline and Madison’s son Lex was working with

⁴ Dick and Anna were aged slaves owned by William McKissack and falling to Susan Cheairs when her father died. Anna and Dick were Caroline’s inlaws.

⁵ A new freedman, Madison used the name Peters, later court documents show him as Madison Peters McKissack or M.P. McKissack.

⁶ Spring Hill, Maury County, TN, Beers Map, 1878 (accessed library of congress)

for the Freedmen's Bureau in Spring Hill as a teacher with Henry Eddy. The school he taught at was initially a barn, but a building was built near the colored church in the little town of Spring Hill. It was built by the colored people of Spring Hill, most likely this would have included Madison McKissack, as a builder.

July: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in District 22 of Maury County, TN⁷ showed Caroline and her husband Madison, a brick mason, living with their children: Alexis [Lex], 18 yrs, Mahulda, 16, Dublin, 11, Madison, 9, Mary Ella, 4, Leura, 3 and Dick, 6 months. Madison and Caroline were noted as being illiterate, while Mahulda, Dublin and Madison Jr. were noted as attending school. Madison owned \$500 in real estate and had \$250.00 in personal property. Living in the household directly next to Madison and Caroline was another former slave of the Cheairs family, James Williams, who was also a brick mason and owned property. [note 1867 both men purchased property from Robert McLemore]

The agricultural census showed that Madison owned five acres of his own property. He was farming most likely for his family, not for sale. Livestock worth \$300.00 included: 1 horse, 1 mule, 2 milch cows, 2 working oxen, 3 other cows, 6 pigs, 300. The only crop of measure mentioned was 10 bushels of Irish Potatoes.

1873 March 3: A Freedman's Bank account was opened for Dublin McKissack by Washington McKissack. Listed were Dublin's family.

⁷ District 22 was the same District that Rippa Villa was in, so they lived close.

No. 5598 RECORD for *Dublin M. McKissack*

Date, *March 3rd 1870*

Where born, *Maury Co Tenn*

Where brought up, *'*

Residence, *'*

Age, *14* Complexion, *'*

Occupation, *'*

Works for *'*

Wife or Husband, *'*

Children, *'*

Father, *Madison*

Mother, *Caroline*

Brothers and Sisters, *Huldah, Lex, Madison, Louer, Mary, Dick*

REMARKS: *Deposit made by Washington M. McKissack*

(abt) Caroline gave birth to son Milton McKissack.

1876 (abt) Caroline gave birth to daughter Malinda "Linnie" McKissack.

1880 June 3: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in the town of Spring Hill, Maury County, TN showed Caroline and her husband Madison, a stone mason, living with their children: W.A. [Lex], D.P. [Dublin], 20, Mad. Jr. [Matt], 19, Mary E, 15, Leura, 13, Rich, 10, Milton, 7 and Malinda, 4. Lex's new wife Alice was also living with the family. Occupations listed for the family were interesting. Beside Dublin was listed "not able to do." It is certain what this meant, perhaps he was ill? Matt Jr. was a laborer and Lex was a teacher. Caroline was the only member of the family who was noted as illiterate, everyone else has learned to read and write by this time, or were attending school currently. James Williams and his family were still next door neighbors.

1888 July 4: Caroline and Madison gave their first depositions for his sister, Harriet, to get her widows military pension.

1891 Caroline's husband and two of her sons, Matt Jr. and Milton, registered to vote in Maury County.

List No 22

ENUMERATION of male inhabitants of Twenty-one Years of Age and upward, citizens of Tennessee, January 1, 1891, as provided for by an Act of General Assembly of Tennessee, passed January 15, 1891, and approved January 22, 1891.

No.	Dist. or Ward.	NAME.	COUNTY.	Age.	White.	Colored.
280		McKissack J.W.	Maury	15	"	
281		" Jack	"	18	"	"
282		" W.H.	"	24	"	"
283		" Lehas	"	21	"	"
284		" Peter	"	23	"	"
285		" Lem	"	65	"	"
286		" Anderson	"	38	"	"
287		" Henry	"	44	"	"
288		" Matt	"	60	"	"
289		" Matt Jr	"	28	"	"
290		" Milton	"	40	"	"

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Note all of the McKissack men listed above with the exception of the first name, J.W. McKissack, were Black men.

1892 July 6: Caroline and Madison both gave depositions for his sister, Harriet McKissack's widows pension application.

After this 1892 deposition, Caroline and her husband Madison disappear from historic record. Most likely both died before the 1900 census was enumerated.

⁸ McKissack, Matt, Tennessee, U.S., Enumeration of Male Voters, 1891 (accessed ancestry.com)