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Interview with Obie Ellison as conducted by Jason Bordeaux

Subject: Re: Ellison family

I just spoke with Mr. Obie Ellison for about 25 minutes. He told me he is 95 years old, but he sounds great. The following is what I learned.

Willis Ellison (1834-1903) was mulatto. His father was slave master George King and his mother was a slave, Himba King. Willis married Dollie King (1838-1922). Obie told me that Dollie had Indian heritage. According to the death certificate that I found for her, her parents were Benjamin and Elsie King.

Willis chose the name "Ellison" as a surname. He refused to adopt the King name.

Willis was a carriage driver and Dollie was a mid-wife.

Willis' youngest son, Alton purchased the part of plantation lands known as the "George King field". The land has been divided among Alton's children. The property is near Carver's Creek about 10 miles before you get to East Arcadia.

According to Mr. Ellison, a stream named Plummer's Run separated the George King plantation and the Jack King plantation. Obie says that George and Jack King were brothers. The creek supposedly got its name from a Mr. Plummer who had ridden through on horseback and died from drinking the water in the stream.

Obie's mother was Lessie Hall Ellison. He says that her father was Jack Hall who was also a mulatto. Obie tells me that Jack's father was slave master Jack King who had been brother to George King. He said this information had not been documented but was told to him by his mother.

Mr. Ellison has been writing a book for many years and he has titled it "Plummer's Run". He hopes to finish the book before he dies.

I think that Jack King must be John Wesley "Jack" King (1803-1897), the son of Alexander King and grandson of Duncan King. Who is George King??? Alexander King did not name a son George and Alexander is the only known son of Duncan King who lived in Bladen County. My ancestor George King had died prior to 1820 and he could not be the father of Willis Ellison who was born in 1834.

Mr. Ellison has also looked for records of George King and he says he cannot find any.

One of Mr. Ellison's brother's had the middle name of Ashford.