



By Gary Telford  
Genealogist



# Family Roots

## John B. and Samuel C. Beard Family Mound, Walker & Stracener Cemeteries



Mayflower



John B. Beard was a prosperous and well-known farmer and ginner of Howell Station, Woodruff Co., Arkansas, a native of Arkansas and was born January 30, 1851. He was the son of Samuel and Eliza (Beauy) Beard. Samuel Beard came to Arkansas from Mississippi, at an early day and settled in Woodruff County. He was an industrious and enterprising farmer and citizen, and his death which occurred in 1857 was mourned by many. His wife survived him about fifteen years. Of a family of seven children, John B. and one other, Samuel C. Beard (1845-1916), were the only surviving members in 1889, John being the younger.

Samuel C. Beard was born in 1845 in Arkansas and married Jeannette Parker on May 1, 1873 in Woodruff Co., AR. Their marriage is recorded in Book A, Page 278. They were the parents of three known children; a son, Cary A. Beard, born 1875 and died 1927 in Cotton Plant, AR and is buried in Cotton Plant Cemetery; a daughter, Hope Beard, born 1877; and a daughter, Num S. Beard, born 1877. Jeannette (Parker) Beard died April 28, 1887 and Samuel C. Beard died in 1916. Both died at Cotton Plant, Woodruff Co., AR

and are buried in the Mound Cemetery at Cotton Plant, Woodruff Co., AR.

John B. Beard was reared by his widowed mother, and as the school facilities of his boyhood were few, his education was of necessity neglected, but by constant reading and his keen sense of observation he became a well-informed man.

On September 8, 1881 in Woodruff Co., AR, John Beard was married to Mary Elizabeth "Mollie" Berry. Their marriage is recorded in Book C, Page 195. Mary E. "Mollie" Berry was the daughter of Thomas Hunt Berry (1838-1918) and Esther (Stracener) Berry (1841-1886). Mrs. "Mollie" (Berry) Beard was a native of Arkansas, her birth occurring about 1865 in Woodruff County, where her aged father lived, her mother having died April 26, 1886. Easter (Stracener) Berry was buried in the Stracener Family Cemetery at Wiville, Woodruff Co., AR. Thomas H. Berry was one of the early settlers of this portion of the country and related many interesting episodes of the first experience of the pioneers, what they were obliged to submit to, their privations and inconveniences without number; these now seem almost improbable. Thomas Hunt Berry died January 1, 1918 in Van Buren Co., Arkansas.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Beard owned 600 acres of land with 300 under cultivation, and in connection with the substantial buildings of his farm he owned a fine town residence. His farm was only three miles from town, which of course made it very much more valuable. He was certainly justified in feeling proud of his possessions, for they were his only by personal efforts and hard work. He was a Democrat and voted for Greeley in 1872. He was a liberal contributor, and lended his support to all worthy movements for the good or growth of the county. Mrs. Beard was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

John B. Beard died November 24, 1922 in Woodruff Co., AR and is buried in the Walker Cemetery south of Patterson, Woodruff Co., AR. Mary Elizabeth "Mollie" (Berry) Beard died February 6, 1948 in Memphis, Shelby Co., TN.

To Mr. and Mrs. John B. Beard a family of five known children were born in Woodruff Co., AR, four sons and one daughter,

(1) Samuel Jerome Beard, born September 27, 1897 and died June 23, 1977 and is buried in Augusta Memorial Park Cemetery, Augusta, Woodruff Co., AR.

- (2) Ed H. Beard
- (3) Charles Beard

(4) A daughter who married F. L. Bittle  
(5) Carl C. Beard  
**Mound Cemetery**  
(Sometimes called Shady Grove)

Location of the cemetery: it is about three miles north of Cotton Plant on Highway 306 on a farm presently belonging to Lester Davis. It is located behind his home a short distance. Legal description: West part of the West (W 1/2) Half of the Northwest (NW 1/4) Quarter of Section 244, T5N, R3W. Beard, Samuel C., b. 1845, D. 1916

Beard, Jeannette, b. 1850, d. April 28, 1887  
Note: There are many other people buried in this cemetery.

**Walker Cemetery**  
The cemetery is located one and a half miles west of Highway 17, six miles south of Patterson, Arkansas. Legal description: There are no land line marks visible near the cemetery, but it is believed to be on the south side of the Southwest (SW 1/4) Quarter of the Southeast (SE 1/4) Quarter of Section 1, T6N, R3W.

Beard, J. B., born January 30, 1851, died November 24, 1922

Note: There are many other people buried in this cemetery.

**Stracener Cemetery**

This cemetery is located about one half mile north of Wiville Station on Highway 17 and west about three eighths mile. Legal description; on South (S 1/2) Half of Northwest (NW 1/4) Quarter of Section 8, T6N, R2W.

There seems to be many graves in this cemetery with no markers and it is guessed that the last burial was about 40 years before listing in 1978.

This cemetery was listed by Curtis A. Houston with the help of Wayne Madison.

Beasley, Joe Annah, mother of John Gideon, grandmother of Mrs. Wayne Madison, born June 20, 1863, died Feb. 24, 1935.

Beasley, John Albert, born April 18, 1887, died Jan. 22, 1929

Berry, Easter (Stracener), (daughter of Jonathan and Minerva Jane (Seals) Stracener), wife of T. H. (Thomas Hunt Berry), born Nov. 9, 1841, died April 26, 1886

Henderson, J. W., husband of R. L., born May 2, 1850, died Feb. 8, 1904

Stracener, M. J. (Minerva Jane (Seals) Stracener), (wife of Jonathan), born 1809, died April 31, 1861

Stracener, Jonathan, (husband of Minerva Jane (Seals) Stracener) born Feb. 10, 1812, died age about

75. Stracener, Millie, born April 12, 1839, died April 22, 1886

Note: Additional information added by Gary Telford, Family Roots, Woodruff County Monitor, [wgt@centurytel.net](mailto:wgt@centurytel.net)

This is a complete listing of all marked graves in this cemetery as of 1978.

The cemetery lists Minerva Jane (Seals) Stracener's death as April 31, 1861, however there were only 30 days in April of 1861!

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If you have comments or additions to this story you may contact me at [wgt@centurytel.net](mailto:wgt@centurytel.net) or Woodruff County Monitor, Atten: Gary Telford, FAMILY ROOTS, P. O. Box 898, McCrory, AR 72101. Don't miss a single issue of FAMILY ROOTS, interesting, sometimes amusing, always informative and always found in the Woodruff County Monitor-Leader-Advocate. Take the time and subscribe today! Rates for a one year subscription are only \$18.00 in Woodruff County- \$22.00 in-state-\$25.00 out-of-state. Make check payable to Woodruff County Monitor. Mail to Atten: Gary Telford.

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- William James

# Family Roots

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