

## Chapter 9 The Clara Julia Humphrey Foscue Family

**Clara Julia Humphrey**, the daughter of John Humphrey, was born on January 2, 1886 in Clarks and died on July 24, 1980 in New Bern, NC. A teacher who lived in their home educated Clara, along with his older brothers Jay Lee and John. They also attended Reedy Branch School.<sup>1</sup> Clara married Haliburton Josephus Foscue on November 5, 1906 in Craven County.<sup>2</sup> Hal Foscue was born on August 25, 1881 in Jones County and died on January 23, 1939 in New Bern, NC.<sup>3</sup> Hal and Clara Foscue do not appear in the 1910 census of the Clarks area. It is not known where they made their first home, however after the death of Julia's mother, Julia Arnold Humphrey in 1912, they lived in the John Humphrey home on Deep Branch with Clara's father.



**Figure 49** *Photo of Clara H. Foscue Family, c. 1912.*

*Left to right are Hal J. Foscue, Clara H. Foscue, John Humphrey, and Sarah Julia Foscue. Photograph taken circa 1912 of the John Humphrey home on Deep Branch in Clarks.*

In the 1920 Craven census, Hal and Clara Foscue are listed with daughters Sarah and Clara in Clarks, NC. Hal's occupation is listed as farmer. Also listed in the household is Rosa Lee Bland, a boarder and local schoolteacher, who later married Henry Bryan Pittman in 1921.<sup>4</sup>

In the 1930s Hal and Clara Foscue moved to New Bern. Hal Foscue worked as a rural mail carrier for the postal service.<sup>5</sup> They made their home on East Front Street in New Bern, and eventually the home became a series of apartments and the daughters and family also lived in the E. Front Street home. Hal and Clara Foscue are buried in the new extension of Cedar Grove Cemetery in New Bern.<sup>6</sup>



**Figure 50** *Clara and Haliburton Foscue Home*

*Located on East Front Street in New Bern, this was the residence of Haliburton and Clara H. Foscue, and their daughters, Sarah Julia Foscue Jacobs and Clara Humphrey Foscue Bennett.*

**The children of Clara Humphrey and Haliburton Foscue were:**

- A. **Sarah Julia Foscue** was born on October 20, 1911.<sup>7</sup> She married John Lee Lancaster on February 27, 1936 in Craven County.<sup>8</sup> John Lee Lancaster was from Edgecombe County, NC. One of the marriage witnesses was John ‘Jack’ P. Humphrey. Sarah Julia later married Floyd Jacobs. There were no children by either marriage, however Floyd Jacobs had children by a previous marriage. Sarah Julia Jacobs died on January 14, 1972 in New Bern, NC and is buried in the new extension to Cedar Grove Cemetery in New Bern.<sup>9</sup>
- B. **Clara Humphrey Foscue** was born on January 19, 1914 in Clarks.<sup>10</sup> She married Elliott Ardrey Bennett on June 17, 1938 in Craven County.<sup>11</sup> Elliot Ardrey Bennett was born on June 3, 1907 and died on August 3, 1984 in New Bern.<sup>12</sup> There were no children by the marriage. Elliott and Clara are buried in the new extension to Cedar Grove Cemetery in New Bern.<sup>13</sup>

*Figure 51 Photo of Clara Julia Humphrey Foscue*



*Figure 52 Photo of Sarah Julia Foscue*

*Figure 53 Photo of Clara Humphrey Foscue*



From the local newspaper, 1906: <sup>14</sup>

### ***A Pretty Noon Wedding.***

*The M E. Church at Clarks was the scene of a beautiful wedding Wednesday at 12 o'clock when Miss Clara Julia Humphrey and Mr. Haliburton Foscue plighted their troth, the ceremony having been performed by the pastor, Rev. George Webster.*

*Miss Hattie Carmen of Lima, attended by Mr. Macon Foscue, of Trenton, presided at the organ, and at the appointed hour the soft strains of the bridal chorus from Lohengrin filled the church, and the bridal party entered. First came Miss Bessie Carmen of Lima, first bridesmaid, attended by Mr. Bogey Richardson of Bellair, who was first groomsman, then Miss Lizette Hanff and Jay Humphrey, a brother of the bride, Miss Rosa Wooten and Mr. John Humphrey, also a brother of the bride; Miss Louise Dixon, who was maid of honor and Mr. Wilbur Foscue, best man preceded the bride and groom. While the ceremony was being performed, Hearts and Flowers was softly played. The words having been spoken making them man and wife, the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march filled the building and the bridal party retired in perfect order.*

*The bride wore a becoming gown of white lace over white taffeta, maid of honor looked very pretty in white aeolian silk. All the bridesmaids were beautifully attired in white organdies.*

*After the marriage the bridal party returned to the home of the bride's parents where a dinner was given, and to which a large number of friends were invited. The home was tastefully decorated with palms, ferns, and potted plants for the occasion. The presents received were many, and very handsome.*

*The bride is the accomplished daughter of Mr. John Humphrey and Clark's most attractive young lady. She has a host of friends in this community, who wish her much happiness. On Wednesday afternoon a brilliant reception was given to the bridal party at the beautiful home of the groom. The present home of Mr. and Mrs. Foscue is at Pollocksville.*

*The groom is the oldest son of Mr. C Foscue, is a very accomplished young man, having graduated from A. & M. College with high honors. He is now a very prosperous liveryman at Pollocksville.*

A. E. W.

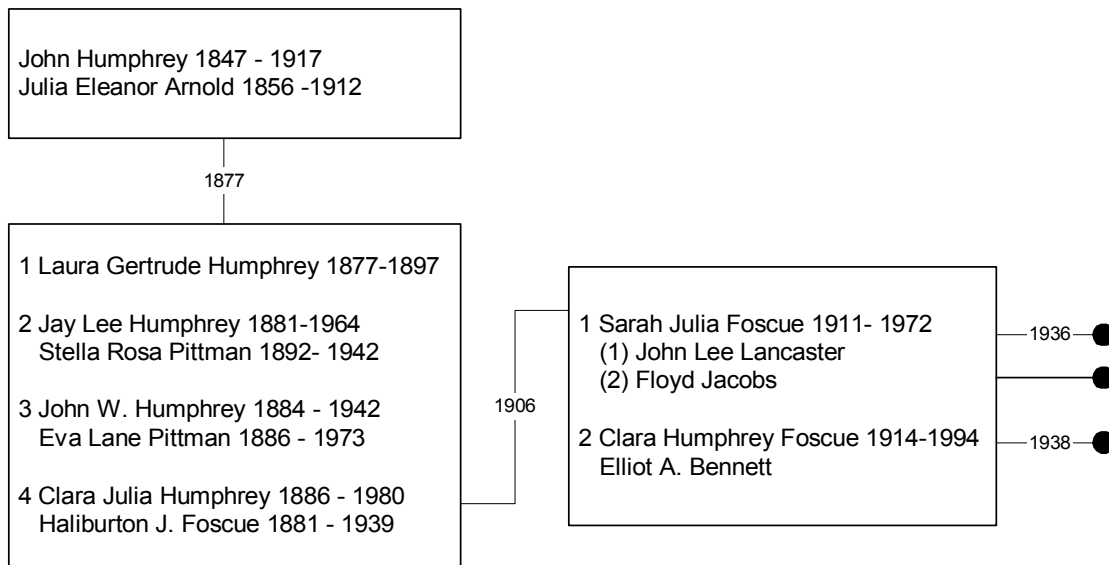
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**Figure 54 Foscue Family Photos**  
(From top, Haliburton J. Foscue, Clara  
Humphrey Foscue, Sarah Julia Foscue)



## Overview of Clara Humphrey Foscue Family



**Figure 55** Overview of the Clara Humphrey Foscue Family

### Endnotes Chapter 9 The Clara Julia Foscue Humphrey Family

- <sup>1</sup> Reedy Branch is a tributary on the south side of the Trent River. The Craven – Jones County boundary.
- <sup>2</sup> Craven County Marriage Register, Volumes 2-7. Microfilm. Craven County Library.
- <sup>3</sup> Craven County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 1. Craven County Library.
- <sup>4</sup> 1920 Craven County Census. 8<sup>th</sup> Township. Microfilm. Craven County Library.
- <sup>5</sup> New Bern Sun Journal. January 1939. Obituary. Microfilm. Craven County Library. (See Chapter 20).
- <sup>6</sup> Craven County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 1. Craven County Library.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> Craven County Marriage Register, Volume 8. Microfilm. Craven County Library.
- <sup>9</sup> Craven County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 1. Craven County Library.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>11</sup> Craven County Marriage Register, Volume 8. Microfilm. Craven County Library.
- <sup>12</sup> New Bern Sun Journal. August 1984. Obituary. Microfilm. Craven County Library. (See Chapter 20).
- <sup>13</sup> Craven County, NC Cemeteries, Volume 1. Craven County Library.
- <sup>14</sup> Papers from the Foscue estate in the possession of H. B. Humphrey. 2002.