

Leonard H. Huff left land to his heirs, one of whom was daughter Julia (Huff) Hargis. Julia died and a dispute arose over her land between the children of her first husband, James Hargis, & her second husband, Tom Hargis. Contains genealogical info and peers into the sad life of Julia who became addicted to morphine. It is mentioned in the record that Julia had "female" problems, and I speculate that she was treated with morphine due to a medical condition and consequently became dependent.

PEOPLE MENTIONED: Leonard H. Huff, Pendleton Huff *Erroneously referred to as P. Hull, Julia Huff Hargis, James Huff, Clarissa Huff Williamson, C. A. Williamson, Elizabeth Huff Collier, C. C. Collier, James Overton (Obi/Obe/Obey) Hargis, W. T. 'Tom' Hargis, Martha Jane Hargis, Jim Hargis, Lassie Hargis Carter, Jno. Carter *J. W. Carter?, Shelby Hargis, Samantha Hargis Mayberry, B. B. Mayberry, A. J. Hargis *Alta Hargis?, Berry Willoby (Willoughby), *T. B. Willoughby (*Thomas Bertran), John C. Clemons, James Guess, George G. Haile, G. W. Guinn, T. D. Guinn, Wash Montgomery, F. A. Kelly, M. G. Butler

Jackson Co., TN Loose District/Chancery Court Papers

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NEW: MAYBERRY, B. B. ET. AL. VS. HARGIS, W. T. ET. AL. CHANCERY, 1910.

DEED: 20 April 1901. Summary:

James Overton Hargis (Obi) sells to **F. A. Kelly**, for \$50, his undivided interest, or one fifth, of a tract of land in District No. 5 of Jackson Co. TN, the same land that **W. T. Hargis** now lives on. **This is the land which belonged to his mother, Julia Huff Hargis, by virtue of her heirship in the Estate of L. H. Huff, dec'd, and descends to him by virtue of being her legal son and heir.** It is bounded by **C. A. Williamson's** and **C. C. Collier's** lands on the West, **J. W. Carter** on the South and East, and East by **Guess** and **Carter** and North by Cumberland River and contains 100 acres, more or less.

James Overton Hargis (his mark)

Depositions taken, no date:

DEPOSITION: C. C. COLLIER.

Age 71. Live near Granville TN.

Quest. Did you know **Leonard Huff** in his lifetime? If so, is he living or dead?

Ans. Yes. He is dead.

Quest. Where or about where did he die and what lands, if any, did he own at the time of his death?

Ans. He has been **dead about fifteen years**. He owned a general boundary of land, something over 200 acres in this district.

Quest. What disposition was made of his lands after his death?

Ans. It was divided among his children by agreement among themselves.

Quest. Give the number and names of his [Leonard] children and who his daughters married.

Ans. P. Hull [Pendleton Huff], Elizabeth Collier, Julia Hargis and Clarisa Williamson. Elizabeth married C. C. Collier, Julia married Jas. Hargis first, he died and she married Tom Hargis. Clarisa married C. A. Williamson.

Quest. What portion, if any, of his lands fell to his daughter Julia in said partition?

Ans. The tract of land that Tom Hargis now lives on.

Quest. Give the names of her [Julia's] children and heirs by her first and also by her second husband.

Ans. By her first, Obe Hargis, Martha Jane Hargis and Samantha Mabry, wife of B. B. Mabery and by Tom Hargis, Jim Hargis and Lassie Hargis, wife of Jno. Carter.

She [Julia] lived some seven or eight years after the deed [of the Leonard Huff land to her and Tom] was made, I reckon. She had a female trouble. She used morphine for a number of years before her death, and when she would get out of it she would be wild.

Quest. . . say whether or not this James Overton Hargis is commonly known as Obey Hargis and is he or not a son of Julia Hargis, dec'd?

Ans. He is commonly known as Obey Hargis and is a son of Julia Hargis, dec'd.

C. C. Collier (his mark)

DEPOSITION: SAMANTHA MABRY.

Age 36 years.

Quest. Who were your father and mother?

Ans. James Hargis and Julia Hargis.

Quest. Are you a stepdaughter of defendant W. T. Hargis?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. When did your mother die?

Ans. August--fourteen years ago next August.

Quest. What was the condition of Julia Hargis' health for a number of years before her death?

Ans. Mighty bad.

She took morphine for about five years before her death to my knowledge.

Quest. About how long did your mother live after her marriage to Tom Hargis?

Ans. She lived about fourteen years after they were married.

. . . my husband and his father, who is now dead. [This father was living five years ago. -bp.]

Smatha Mabery (her mark)

DEPOSITION: MARTHA HARGIS.

Quest. Who was your father and mother?

Ans. James Hargis and Julia Hargis.

/s/ [too smeared to read -bp.]

DEPOSITION: B. B. MABERY.

Age 40 years; I live near Granville.

Quest. What is your wife's name and whose daughter is she?

Ans. Samantha Mabery, a daughter of James and Julia Hargis.

/s/ B. B. Mabery

DEPOSITION: JOHN C. CLEMONS.

Age 42 years. I live in Brook's bend, 5th District, Jackson Co. TN.

I was Constable of the Granville District for four years and I think it was in 1902-3-4 & 5.

/s/ J. C. Clemons

Depositions taken, no date:

DEPOSITION: W. T. HARGIS.

I am 53 years old.

Quest. Were you the husband of Julia Hargis?

Ans. Yes, Sir.

Quest. When were you and her married?

Ans. Nov. 22, 1883.

Quest. When did she die?

Ans. The 2nd day of Aug. 1894.

. . . **four heirs [of Leonard Huff], Pendleton Huff, Clarrisa Williamson, wife of C. A. Williamson, Elizabeth Collier, wife of Calie Collier and Julia Hargis, who is my wife.**

If she [Julia] ever took any morphine or opium, either, in her life, I never knew it.

She [Julia] had **three children, Samantha, Martha Jane and Oby**. Samantha was born Oct. 25, 1873. Martha Jane was born Jan. 11, 1877. Oby was born July 7, 1879. This is the record from her Bible.

My brother James Hargis was my guardian . . .

/s/ W. T. Hargis

DEPOSITION: BERRY WILLOBY.

I have known him [W. T. Hargis] all along. We were raised up together.

Berry Willoby (his mark)

DEPOSITION: SHELBY HARGIS.

/s/ Shelby Hargis

DEPOSITION: JAMES GUESS.

/s/ James Guess

DEPOSITION: GEO. G. HAILE.

I am 55 years old. I am a lawyer and reside in Gainesboro TN.

He testifies that Julia Hargis asked him, about 1892-1895, to write a Bill of Divorce for her, charging cruel and inhuman treatment. She then changed her mind, and the bill was never filed. -bp.

/s/ G. G. Haile

Deposition taken, 2 Oct. 1909:

DEPOSITION: C. A. WILLIAMSON.

Granville is my residence and I am 63 years old. Am hotelkeeper.

She [Julia] was in bad health after her first husband died. She then went to her father's and lived there as one of the family.

/s/ C. A. Williamson

Depositions taken, 31 May 1910:

DEPOSITION: B. B. MAYBERRY.

/s/ B. B. Marbery

DEPOSITION: W. T. HARGIS.

/s/ W. T. Hargis

Depositions taken, no date:

DEPOSITION: JAMES GUESS.

My age is 43 years old, farming is my occupation. I live in about 300 or 400 yards of the line of the land in controversy and have lived there all my life.

I know the financial condition of the parties above named [the Hargis family]. They are poor, poor people.

/s/ James Guess

DEPOSITION: G. W. GUINN.

I am 65 years old. I live near Gainesboro and am a farmer.

G. W. Guinn (his mark)

DEPOSITION: T. D. GUINN.

I am 27 years old.

/s/ T. D. Guinn

DEPOSITION: W. T. HARGIS.

I live on the lands in controversy and have lived on it probably 30 years, more or less.

I am about 53 years old. I am not in very good health.

/s/ W. T. Hargis

Deposition taken, no date: JOHN CALE.

I have known W. T. Hargis nearly all his life.

/s/ John Cale

Deposition taken: 13 April 1910 at Nashville TN.

DEPOSITION: C. A. WILLIAMSON.

Quest. Are you the same C. A. Williamson who gave your deposition heretofore?

Ans. Yes.

She [Julia] was addicted to the morphine habit for a number of years prior to her death. Her husband knew of it and would not buy it for her at all times. I have often furnished her money to buy morphine.

When she was without this drug she was nervous and at times seemed like she could hardly live. She would come to my house and stay several days at a time, and she finally died at my house.

She [Julia] charged in the bill [for divorce] that she was sick and in bad health; that Tom was failing to provide her with medicine and medical attention and the necessities of life generally for her and the children . . .

/s/ C. A. Williamson

Depositions taken, no date:

DEPOSITION: JAMES HUFF.

I am 48. I live near Granville in the 5th District, Jackson Co. I am a farmer.

I have known the land [in litigation in this case] all my life.

Quest. What is your **relationship to Julia Hargis' children?**

Ans. We are **cousins**.

/s/ James Huff

DEPOSITION: T. B. WILLOUGHBY.

I am 33. I live near Granville and am a farmer.

/s/ T. B. Willoughby

DEPOSITION: A. J. HARGIS.

Age 38, [live in] 5th District, Jackson Co., a farmer.

Quest. What is your **relationship to Julia Hargis' children?**

Ans. **Cousins.**

Quest. What of kin [sic] are you **to W. T. Hargis?**

Ans. He is **said to be my uncle.**

DEPOSITION: WASH MONTGOMERY.

I am about 22 years old. I live in the 5th District of this county on an adjoining farm.

Mrs. **Alta Hargis** and her children and Jim Hargis are very poor . . .

/s/ Wash Montgomery

OPINION: 24 June 1910.

The heirs at law of Julia Hargis, dec'd, are given decree for one half the lands involved in this case, including the **Pruit** lot of about one acre. The deed of W. T. Hargis to his **present wife, Alta Hargis**, and others, dated May 17, 1909, insofar as it attempts to convey the one half interest in said land belonging to the heirs at law of Julia Hargis, dec'd, is a nullity, and, to that extent only, is cancelled.

REPORT OF SALE: 31 Jan. 1911.

Summary: the land was sold on 3 Dec. 1910 to **F. A. Kelly** for \$500. On 17 Jan. 1911, the Court ordered that the land be resold and on 31 Jan. 1911 it was sold to **Alter [Alta] Hargis** for \$547.

REPORT OF SALE, 15 Oct. 1912:

Summary: the land in the case of B. B. Maberry et. al. vs. W. T. Hargis et. al. was sold at public sale on 15 Oct. 1912, subject to the life estate of Thomas Hargis, to **M. G. Butler** for \$271.19.

THE JOINT AND SEPARATE ANSWER OF W. T. HARGIS & HIS WIFE ALTA to the Bill of Complaint filed against them & others by B. B. Maberry & others.

No date.

It is true that said Julia had been married to one James Hargis, a brother of respondent W. T. Hargis, before she married respondent . . .

http://www.tngenweb.org/jackson/court_reels/court_reel_97.htm