

Items in genealogy files of Ann Arnold Hennings

Letter from Margaret Boteler Smith (1913-2007) to Ann Arnold Hennings dated 8 August 1990 regarding her great-grandparents, grandparents and growing up in King George County.

Robert Stoy 12 January 2021

Aug. 8/90

(11)

Dear Ann -

Thank you so much for sending the information on great grandma Mayer - Hayes line. I knew they were originally from Pennsylvania -

→ Isaiah Hayes and Charlotte had three children in Penn; Lawrence, Elvira and Kate - then Nattie, Emma and Ollie - the youngest.

I remember the great grand parents very well, as I was fifteen when they died; and my mother (Edna) used to take me to the farm for visits.

My mother always told me they were Quakers (offshoot of the -
Mennonites) but their church was not available in Shiloh -

Great grandpa
Isaiah always
had a long beard
and hair, which
Grandma 'stood on a
stool to trim. She was



barely 5 feet, but he was 6 foot ⁽²⁾
seven inches tall. They had to have
a special coffin made for him.
Their oldest child, Lawrence, died
in a lumber mill explosion. I
have a copy of the news account
of his death. He left two small
children. I often wonder what
happened to them and their off-
spring.

When my grandmother died
with child-birth, her infant,
David Kern Arnold was given to
great grandmother Charlotte to raise.
Kern lived with us for years after
they died as an adult until he
married.

Great grandma played the piano
and taught several children in
her home, including her grandchildren.
Then they went on to high school
in Fredericksburg. There was no
elementary school close enough.

Aunt Hattie, who married Mr. White
house, lived on Caroline St. in

Fredericksburg. The house is ③
still there, with a picket fence
across the front yard, and still in
good condition. We used to stop by
and have lunch on our way to
Shiloh farm.

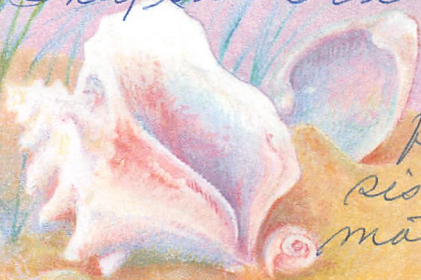
The two great grandparents and
my grandmother, Elvira, are buried
in the Methodist church yard in
King George.

You may already know all this
already but if not, this account may
be of some interest.

I lived with Aunt Emma with my
mother, as a young widow. My father,
Harry Lee Boteler, Jr. died when I was
4 - so I remembered Uncle Will Aunt
Granny, and played with Worth,
Shellock and Louisa. The others were
quarantined around my mother's age.

They lived in Georgetown at the
time - -

The fact that two
brothers married two
sisters made my
mother a double cousin.



There is quite a resemblance amongst them. My brother, Edward, looks a good deal like Edmund, Worth's older brother.

We all appreciated your work in organizing the reunion. My family and I enjoyed it so much. It was so well organized and everything went so smoothly.

Great-grandma Charlotte also raised a little colored boy by the name of Benny Pratt. He was the same age as Kern and they grew up together at Shiloh. Benny came to Washington and worked at Braumley's Candy Store, dipping chocolates. His mother lived in a slave cottage at Shiloh and died in child birth also - She was the daughter of slaves.

Great-grandma Charlotte was a bundle of energy - a wonderful cook. She made her own cream and butter, baked in an old wood stove. They used to catch herring in the bays. They salt it down in barrels for the winter.

I didn't mean to ramble on this way. This started out to be a thank you note but my memories flooded in on me -

They had feather beds all over the house and we would wake up to the smell of hot biscuits, bacon, eggs, home made jams and such herring fried crisp - They raised chickens, corn, watermelons, cantaloupes, strawberries and all kinds of vegetables -

Enough of this nostalgia - I hope I haven't bored you to death - I was so happy to meet one of Wark's own family. He was a dear.

Thanks again for everything

Sincerely

Margaret Smith
(Edna Arnold's
daughter.)



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Margaret Smith
Edna Arnold's
Daughter



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Come by for a visit
anytime!

the
Kings