

## ROBERT (“BOB”) LEE SCOTT

Robert Lee Scott was known as “Bob” among his family and friends. He was born on August 15, 1866 to David Ammons Scott and Sallie Ann Revell. He married Emma “Emily” Holland on January 11, 1888 in the Great Swamp Township of Wayne County. Both were 21 years old. Emily was the daughter of Exum Haywood Holland and Sallie Sasser. Bob and Emily had nine children:

1. **Franklin (“Frank”) Winfield Scott** (born November 10, 1888 in Wilson County, died May 25, 1971 in Wilson County, NC)  
married 1) Victoria Kirby on February 24, 1909 in Wilson County  
2) Minnie Pittman Gardner on November 16, 1957 in Wayne County
2. Sallie Scott (born April 2, 1890 in Wilson County, died April 12, 1952 in Wilson County)  
married Julius Bunyan Boswell on October 12, 1910 in Wayne County
3. Robert (“Bobby”) Lee Scott, Jr. (born January 4, 1892 in Wilson County, died May 11, 1952 in Wayne County)  
married Patience Mae Barnes on June 8, 1913 in Wilson County
4. Elijah Scott (born November 21, 1893 in Wilson County, died January 14, 1970 in Wilson County)  
married Emma Stancil on February 15, 1917 in Wilson County
5. David Ammons Scott (born June 1, 1896 in Wilson County, died November 15, 1927 in Wayne County)  
married Sarah Pittman on April 16, 1927 in Johnston County
6. Emma Diane Scott (born August 17, 1898, died June 5, 1979)  
married 1) Arthur Newsome on September 23, 1916  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ Schaefer before 1937  
3) Arthur Hubert Claypole in Massachusetts
7. Mary Elizabeth (“Lizzie”) Scott (born February 1, 1901 in Wayne County, died March 6, 1901 in Wayne County)
8. Cora Scott (born November 26, 1902 in Wayne County, died July 2, 1964 in Wilson County)  
married Sanford (“Jim”) Kirby on December 18, 1920
9. Senie Mae Scott (born October 15, 1907 in Wayne County, died November 23, 1991 Mecklenburg Co, NC)  
married Thomas B “Blenn” Hinnant, Jr on April 16, 1927 in Johnston County

On December 11, 1888, Bob purchased his first land, consisting of 200 acres and 52 acres on Contentnea Creek and the new road. The land was next to Bob’s father’s land. Bob and his father, David, borrowed \$2,750 from Herbert Rountree and James E. Rountree, comprising the firm of M. Rountree & Co. The loan required annual payments at 8% interest until 1897. <sup>1</sup>

In January 1893, Silas Lucas, Jr. and his wife Charity sold ten acres to Emily and son Frank W. Scott for \$100. The land was in the Crossroads Township at the intersection of the Wilson Road and David Scott’s wood shop. <sup>2</sup>

Bob's father, David, died in November 1892. After Bob missed the January 1893 payment for the two tracts on Contentnea Creek, the loan company foreclosed in February. The land was sold at public auction on January 1, 1894, when Bob's brothers David J. and Seth were the highest bidders.<sup>3</sup> The cost of the judgment was rendered against Bob and taken out of his assets in his father's estate. Bob and Emily conveyed all their right, title, and interest to his father's lands and estate on November 15, 1894.<sup>4</sup>

That same day, Bob's mother sold him and Emily the 178¼ acres she received from her mother's estate (i.e., the Peele-Revell lands) for \$515. The land was located in Wilson and Wayne counties, adjoining Jesse Kirby, George F. Watson (formerly Bennett Barnes), and the Juniper Swamp.<sup>5</sup>

Bob and Emily established their homestead on the land his mother sold him. In November 1895 Bob and Emily asked the Wilson County Superior Court to allow them to sell the ten acres they had purchased from Silas Lucas, Jr. in 1893. They had to go to court because their seven-year-old son Frank was an owner. Bob had a buyer for the land and he wanted to use the proceeds from the sale to purchase a tract from L.F. Lucas near his Juniper Swamp tract. The court approved the transaction, indicating it was in the best interest of the child, F.W. Scott.<sup>6</sup>

Bob, Emily, and Frank sold the ten acres to J.W. Godwin on November 8, 1895 and that same day, they purchased a 40-acre tract from L.F. Lucas and his wife Leora for \$200. The new tract, known as the Jack Davis tract, was located in Wilson, Wayne, and Johnston counties adjoining Bennett Pope, the heirs of Bennett Barnes, and the land Bob had purchased from his mother.<sup>7</sup>

Bob and Emily continued to purchase land on the Juniper Swamp during the late 1800s and early 1900s. In 1899 B.F. and Sally Aycock sold them 50 acres adjoining George Boyett, Alvin Ballance, and John T. Revel.<sup>8</sup> This tract might be the same tract Bob sold to son Frank in 1914. In 1902 James H. Kirby and his wife Mary sold them 36.375 acres on the Juniper Swamp and the new road (known today as Frank Road) for \$545.62. James Ballance and Bob himself were listed as neighbors.<sup>9</sup>

Emily's father, Exum Holland, died in 1905. She received 95 acres on the Great Swamp in Wayne County in the division of her father's land.<sup>10</sup> She and Bob gave part of this land to their son Robert L. Scott, Jr. in 1921.<sup>11</sup>

In 1914 Bob and Emily sold 50-5/16 acres on Juniper Swamp in Wilson and Johnston counties to their son Frank for \$1,600. The deed listed W.T. Bailey, Zeno Langley, and Robert L. Scott himself as neighbors.<sup>12</sup> Beginning in 1918 and continuing through the mid-1920s, Bob and Emily gave land totaling nearly 275 acres to their sons Elijah, David, and Robert, Jr. and their daughters Sallie, Emma, Cora, and Senie Mae.

On January 15, 1927, Emily died at the age of 62 from a heart problem.<sup>13</sup> Her son David died of influenza on November 15 of the same year, only seven months

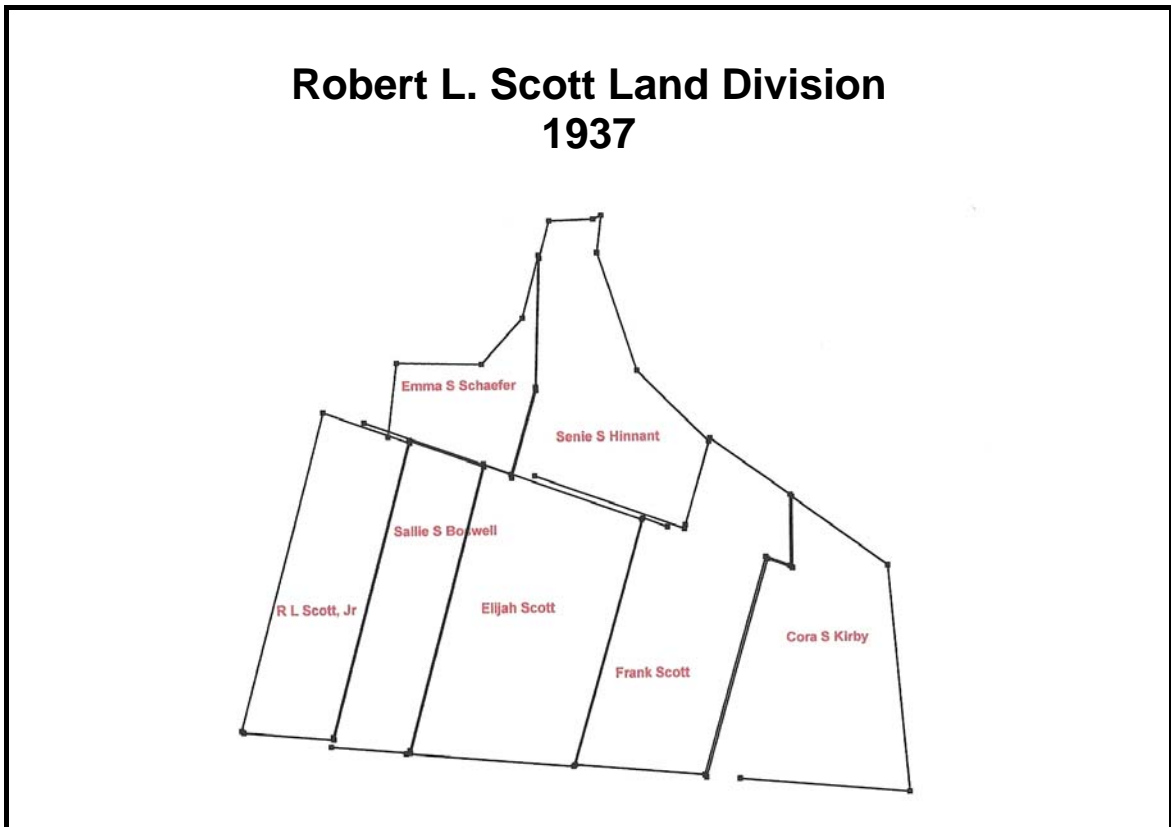
after he had married Sarah Pittman in April. He was age 31.<sup>14</sup> Both Emily and David were buried in the Scott family cemetery.

Bob died August 27, 1937 at Duke University Hospital. He had entered the hospital to have a hernia operation on July 24. The primary cause of death was peritonitis; pneumonia was a contributing cause. He was buried in the Scott family cemetery. He was almost 71 years old<sup>15</sup>

An inventory of his estate indicated various livestock including shoats, pigs, cows, sheep, goats, mules, and a horse. Farm equipment included 7 tobacco trucks, a one-horse wagon, 3 two-horse wagons, 2 International cultivators, 3 cotton plows, 4 hoes, and more. He had a 1935 Plymouth sedan automobile and an underground gas tank with 50 gallons of gas.

Among his household furniture and provisions were 2 safes, a refrigerator, a washing machine, a piano, a desk, a gold watch, 19 quilts, 3 buggy robes, a gun, 22 pieces of meat, and 4 stands of lard.

The 68-1/16 acres at the home place on the Kenly Road was divided among his seven surviving children, as indicated by the plat below.<sup>16</sup>



Bob also owned a garage and lot in Kenly and a 32-acre farm in Sampson County, which was primarily woodland.

Elgia Scott Farrow remembers seeing her grandfather Bob sitting on the front porch of his home. At the dedication service for the new David Scott cemetery in 1998 in Crossroads Township, Hazel Kirby Barnes wrote the following reminiscences of her grandfather:

“I remember my grandfather Robert E. Lee Scott as a colorful character. He loved to sing hymns and felt that anyone whom he hired to help on the farm could also be counted on to come up on the porch after the work was done to join him in singing.

After our grandmother died, his daughter Senie and her husband, Blenn Hinnant from Buckhorn, moved in with Grandpa to keep him company and to help him take care of his property. On a trip to Sampson [County] to check on a farm with his son-in-law whom he always called ‘Boy’, Grandpa stopped to buy fruit along the way and had a selection from which to choose when the car broke down. Grandpa seemed not to worry about anything while Uncle Blenn fretted over fixing the car; after all, he had his fruit. When it began to look like the problem might cause more delay than he had fruit to eat, he said ‘Boy, fix this car. I want to get home before dark!’

Aunt Senie, whom he had named after his oldest sister, was fond of baking coconut cakes, and Grandpa was fond of any kind of fruit is legendary in our family. She asked him to buy the coconut for her cake on his next trip to town. Grandpa Bob came back home with a 20 to 25 pound container of coconut. When she inquired as to why he had purchased so much, he said that he thought that it came in a nice tin. He often liked the container as much as the contents.

I remember that he was rather stern with me over an apple core that I threw down on the ground after eating the last morsel. He said, ‘Girl, pick up that core and put it in the slop barrel for the hogs.’”<sup>17</sup>

## ENDNOTES

- 
1. Wilson County Deed Books 27:218 and 27:219.
  2. Wilson County Deed Book 33:422.
  3. Wilson County Deed Book 27:218; Wilson County Superior Court Decree: H.C. Jackson vs. R.L. Scott and John T. Revell, Administrator of D.A. Scott, deceased — February Term 1893; Wilson County Deed Book 36:198.

- 
4. Wilson County Deed Book 53:582.
  5. Wilson County Deed Book 36:492.
  6. Wilson County Superior Court, Special Proceedings 3:300.
  7. Wilson County Deed Books 39:289 and 39:399.
  8. Wilson County Deed Book 54:129.
  9. Wilson County Deed Book 49:472.
  10. Johnston County Land Book 5:255.
  11. Wayne County Deed Book 141:394.
  12. Wilson County Deed Book 98:137.
  13. "Emma D Scott." Wayne County Death Certificate 14:680.
  14. "David Scott." Wayne County Death Certificate 14:695.
  15. "Robert Scott." Death certificate # 650, Durham Co., Durham (city), NC, vol. 1968, p. 23. North Carolina Vital Records, North Carolina Dept. of Health and Human Services.
  16. Wayne County Record of Estates, file # 8404 in the Clerk's Office; Wayne County Deed Book 251:217; Wayne County Plat Cabinet C-216 in the Register of Deeds Office, Wayne County, NC.
  17. Memories of Hazel Kirby Barnes, granddaughter of Robert E. Lee Scott and great granddaughter of David Ammons Scott. Service of Dedication: David Ammons Scott Cemetery, Sunday, November 8, 1998, 2:00 p.m., Scott's Primitive Baptist Church.