

On November 22, 1845, Francis Farish Marshall, wife of Joseph H. Marshall purchased lot #3 in Section 8, on Elm Street, Deed #332. Her husband had died in June of the same year (1845) in Greensburg, Ky Francis had his body transported to Nashville for burial in his final resting place. Francis was the daughter of John and Anne Rogers Farish and was educated at the Nashville Women's Academy on West End Place.

Joseph H. Marshall was born in Powhatan, Virginia in 1796. His grandfather was a Colonel in the American Revolution and he was the nephew of John Marshall, the first United States Chief Justice and signer of the Declaration of Independence. It is unknown when he arrived in Tennessee, but became the owner of City Hotel in Nashville. I have a silver platter that was used at the hotel. It was given to me by my mother (Collen Langley Wagoner) who was the great, great granddaughter of Francis & Joseph Marshall.

Joseph and Francis had four children, two of whom (Elizabeth Jane and Joseph Sanvel died at an early age) They are buried at Old City Cemetery. Their only son who survived to adulthood was Dr. John Luther Marshall. He was educated at Cambridge, England and is also buried at Old City Cemetery.

Their daughter Lucy Anne (buried at Old City Cemetery) was born in 1829 and was married first to Samuel Wilson, son of James Hazard Wilson, owner of Wilson Pike in Franklin, Tennessee. James Hazard Wilson married Emmaline Wilson (they were cousins). The best man at their wedding was Sam Houston who later went to Texas and entered politics there. To honor his good friend Houston, when Wilson built his home, he named it Ravenwood. Houston's nick name was 'The Raven' because of his dark good looks.

James Hazard Wilson built Oak Hall for Lucy Anne and Samuel Wilson on Wilson Pike. It was a three story home with the 3rd floor used as a ballroom. During the 1930's the top portion was destroyed in a storm and was never rebuilt. The home features a magnificent spiral staircase that retains it's glory even today. Oak Hall is now owned by James H. Wilson a direct descent of James Hazard Wilson through his first and oldest son, James H. Wilson who married Virginia Zollicoffer. Virginia Zollicoffer's father was a general in the confederate army and good friend of James H. Wilson. General Zollicoffer is also buried at Old City Cemetery.

Lucy Anne and Samuel Wilson had one daughter Lulie Byrd Wilson who married Joseph Edmund Farish. They also lived at Oak Hall and had three children Lucian, Leslie and Edna. Samuel Wilson died in 1851 and Lucy Anne subsequently married another son of James Hazard Wilson, Franklin Wilson (brother of Samuel).

Although Lucian and Edna both married, Leslie was an adventurer and during his youth went to Utah where he discovered a silver mine. Leslie never married and is also buried at Old City Cemetery along with his sister Edna who was married twice. The first time to Joseph Kennaday DeGraffenried and the second time to James Langley from Banion Springs, Alabama.

Next to Edna Langley who is also buried in Old City Cemetery is her oldest daughter by James Langley, Colleen Langley Wagoner and her husband, Robert Martin Wagoner. Colleen Langley Wagoner's interest and dedication to her family history is documented on her tombstone. "Love of God and family was her essence. May perpetual light shine upon her." Had it not been for her perseverance and love of history, the Marshall Cemetery Plot may have been completely obliterated in the early 1970's. A tree that had grown on the property and was surrounded by the tiny bodies and tombstones of black babies who died on family property fell over during a storm and destroyed most of the old Marshall markers. The Metro Parks Department who disposed of the tree also disposed of all the tiny tombstones. Mrs. Wagoner was able to retrieve parts of the original family markers, and had them lovingly restored using the original capstones on exact sandstone replicas.

The deed to the cemetery has always gone to the oldest daughter since 1845 and I being the oldest daughter am the last female in the direct line and her husband Ralph Taylor White will also be buried in one of the two remaining places in the Marshall Plot.