

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1816–aft. 1861)

Spouses:

1. (Rhoda Ann?) Williams

2. Elizabeth Cooksey

RESEARCH NOTES

FAMILY SUMMARY

Shadrack Odom

Born: 1815–19¹ Mississippi (conflicting data: 1814–15,² 1815–16,³ 1810–15,⁴ 1810–15⁵)
Married: (1) ca. 1837,⁶ **(Rhoda Ann?) Williams**, Newton County, Mississippi (daughter of Neal Williams and wife Mary “Polly” Sessums⁷); died June–September 1840⁸;
(2) ca. June–September 1840,⁹ **Elizabeth Cooksey**,¹⁰ Newton County, Mississippi
Died: ca. 1861–65, Newton County, Mississippi¹¹
Widow died: 27 May 1917, Leake County, Mississippi¹²

Children by (Rhoda Ann?) Williams:

1. **Samuel E.**, born 10 February 1838, Newton Co.; d. 12 June 1909, in home of Ben and Carrie (Odom) Jeffcoat, Dossville, Leake Co., Miss.; married 1856, Newton, Elizabeth Jane Boyd.¹³

¹ An 1819 date is suggested by the fact that he was omitted from Newton’s poll tax rolls in 1838 and 1839, although his father was taxed; Shadrack’s first poll taxation was 1840. An 1814–16 birth is suggested by census data. His parents married 13 May 1814 (Marion Co., Miss., Marriage Book 1: 45; Circuit Court Clerk’s Office, Columbia. Their first child, Cynthia, was born 9 October 1814 according to her 1890 tombstone (“Cynthia Ann Cooksey, wife of Samuel Cooksey, d. 1 May 1890, age 75 ys, 6 Ms, 22 Ds”), Hillcrest Cemetery, Temple, Bell County, Texas.

² 1860 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., population schedule, post office: Decatur, p. 142, dwelling 951, family 961, “Fredrick Odem,” age 45, placing his birth between 2 June 1814 and 1 June 1815.

³ 1850 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., pop. sch., p. 184 (verso), dwelling/family 427, Shadrack “Odham,” age 34, placing his birth between 2 June 1815 and 1 June 1816.

⁴ 1840 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., p. 141 (stamped), “Shadrack Odum,” age 20–25, placing his birth between 2 June 1816 and 1 June 1820.

⁵ 1830 U.S. Census, Madison Co., Miss., p. 103 (penned), line 2, Wm. “Odum (indexed as “Adum” at *Ancestry*); the age bracket of the eldest son places Shadrack’s birth between 2 June 1810 and 1 June 1815.

⁶ Period of marriage extrapolated from the documented birthdate of his first son, Samuel. See “Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974,” database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), “Oakes–Ormond,” images 97–100, E. J. Odom, Widow (Samuel Odom, Pvt., Co. D, 3d Cav.), affidavits 16 July 1909 and 4 September 1916; also images 156–63, Samuel Odom (Pvt. Co. D., Wiley Johnson), affidavits of 5 August 1905 and 7 September 1908.

⁷ For the proof argument identifying Shadrack’s first wife, see Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Identifying a Teenaged Mother in Rural Pre-1850 America: atDNA Confirms What the Fan Suggests for Shadrack Odom’s First Wife,” *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 111 (December 2023).

⁸ Extrapolated from the documented birthdate of his first son, Samuel. See “Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974,” database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), “Oakes–Ormond,” images 97–100, E. J. Odom, Widow (Samuel Odom, Pvt., Co. D, 3d Cav.), affidavits 16 July 1909 and 4 September 1916; also images 156–63, Samuel Odom (Pvt. Co. D., Wiley Johnson), affidavits of 5 August 1905 and 7 September 1908.

⁹ Extrapolated from age of eldest daughter of second marriage, as shown on the 1850 and 1860 censuses, cited above.

¹⁰ Mississippi Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death Certificate of Elizabeth Odom, née Cooksy, 1917, State File No. 24406. Some online trees identify her as *Margaret* Elizabeth Cooksey. However: (1) None identify a source for the name Margaret. (2) No document created by or about Elizabeth during her lifetime calls her anything other than Elizabeth; nor does her death certificate. (3) None of the daughters of Zilpha and/or William Cooksey carried double given names.

¹¹ Esrom Odom (son of Robert Alexander; grandson of Shadrack and Elizabeth) letter to Elizabeth Shown Mills, 1972. Esrom, whose letter carries no return address, stated that his grandfather died during the Civil War. That is compatible with his absence from post-1865 records of Newton County.

¹² Mississippi Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death Certificate of Elizabeth Cooksy Odom, 1817, State File No. 24406.

¹³ “Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974,” database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), “Oakes–Ormond,” images 97–100, E. J. Odom, Widow (Samuel Odom, Pvt., Co. D, 3d Cav.), affidavits 16 July 1909 and 4 September 1916; also images 156–63, Samuel Odom (Pvt. Co. D., Wiley Johnson), affidavits of 5 August 1905

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)

Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams

Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

2. **John V.**, born 2 February 1840; d. after 23 June 1900, probably in Oktibbeha Co., Miss.; married Eliza J. Hall, 20 March 1862, Newton County.¹⁴

Children by Elizabeth Cooksey:

3. **Rhoda**, born June 1841, Newton Co.; died after 23 June 1900;¹⁵ married George W. Moore.¹⁶
4. **Cader Price “Cade” Odom**, born 17 October 1843; died 11 January 1916;¹⁷ married Emily F. Young, 1867, Newton Co.¹⁸ (Apparently named for his mother’s half-brother, Rev. Cader Price.)
5. **Neal Odom**, born c1845; died before 1850.¹⁹ (Apparently named for Shadrack’s first father-in-law, Neal Williams.)
6. **William C[ooksey?] “Bill” Odom**, born February 1846, Newton Co.; died after 31 August 1900;²⁰ married Martha A. [—?—], before 5 August 1870, Newton Co.²¹ (Apparently named for his grandfather, William Cooksey.)
7. **William Eli Odom**, born 18 March 1848, Newton Co.; died 14 March 1889, Thomastown;²² married Margaret Harlee Young, 1867, Newton County.²³ (Apparently named for his Odom grandfather and uncle.)
8. **James Odom**, born ca. March 1850; died after 1860 census.²⁴ (Apparently named for Elizabeth’s brother James William Cooksey.)
9. **Calvin A. (S.?) “Cal” Odom**, born October 1852, Newton Co.; died after 29 April 1910;²⁵ married Sarah E. “Sallie” Stevens, 6 November 1872, Leake Co.²⁶ (Possibly named for mother’s first cousin Calvin Rayburn, son of Mark and Mary Watts Rayburn.)

and 7 September 1908. Sam’s death place is from Thulmar (Jeffcoat) Shown, born 1906, who reported in 1970 that her grandfather Sam died in her parents’ home when she was small.

¹⁴ 1900 U.S. Census, Oktibbeha Co., Miss., pop. sch., Beat 4, ED 93, sheet 13, dwell./fam. 245, John Odom Also 1860 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., population schedule, post office: Decatur, p. 142, dwell. 952, fam. 962, John “Odem” in Samuel “Odem” household. Eliza’s surname is given in Esrom Odom letter to Elizabeth Shown Mills, 1972. For marriage date, see “Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974,” database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), “Oakes–Ormond,” images 101–4, E. J. Odom, Widow (John Odom, Pvt., Co. E, 4th Cav, Featherstone’s Brigade), affidavit 30 August 1913 and 10 August 1916.

¹⁵ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., pop. sch., S½ Beat 3, ED 34, sheet 14, dwell./fam. 229, George W. & Rhody Moore.

¹⁶ Esrom Odom letter to Elizabeth Shown Mills, 1972.

¹⁷ Tombstone of Cader P. Odom, Wake Forest Cemetery, Thomastown (Leake Co.), Miss.; reading by E.S. Mills, 1970.

¹⁸ For the maiden name of Cade’s wife, see Mrs. Myrtle Lepard (granddaughter of Cade), Rt. 2, Sallis, Miss., 1971 letter to Elizabeth Shown Mills. For the year of marriage, see “Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974,” database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), “Oakes–Ormond,” images 95–96, Mrs. E. F. Odom, Wid. (C.P. Odom, Pvt., W. B. Johnson’s Co. [3d regt.]), affidavit of 15 August 1916.

¹⁹ Esrom Odom’s letter listing Shad’s children as Samuel, John, Bill, Cade, Cal, Neal (“died young”), “Tomie,” Jimmy, Alex, “Marine” [Marion], “Rodie” [Rhoda] and “Sis” [Eliza]. The list corresponds to Shad and Elizabeth’s children on the censuses of 1850–80, with the exception of Neal whose birth and death apparently occurred between censuses.

²⁰ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 33, pp. 258-A,B, sheets 1,2, dwell./fam. 9, W. C. Odom.

²¹ 1870 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., pop. sch., Newton, p. 240, T8 R12, dwell./fam. 20, Wm. C. Odom. “Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974,” database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), “Oakes–Ormond,” images 168–71, William C. Odom (Pvt., Co. D, Chunky Heroes), affidavit 31 August 1900.

²² Tombstone of Eli Odom, Wake Forest Cemetery, Thomastown. 1970 reading by Elizabeth Shown Mills.

²³ “Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974,” database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), “Oakes–Ormond,” images 144–47, Margaret P. Odom, Widow (Eli Odom, Pvt., Capt. Hunter’s Co. D., Myster’s Batt.), affidavits of 27 August 1900 and 1 September 1917. Margaret’s maiden name is found in W. E. Odom Jr. (Rt. 2, Box 293, Gladewater, TX 73647) letter to Elizabeth Shown Mills, 1971.

²⁴ Period of birth extrapolated from 1850 and 1860 census data, cited above for his parental household.

²⁵ 1910 U.S. Census, Leake Co., N½ Beat 3f, ED 68, sheet 11 (stamped p. 122), dwell. 160, fam. 164, Calvin S. Odom, living between McMillons. Also 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 33, p. 258-A, sheet 1, dwell./fam. 2, Cal Odom.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)

Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams

Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

10. **Thomas “Tommie” Odom**, born ca. 1855, Newton Co.; died after 25 August 1860.²⁷ (Perhaps named for Thomas Sessums, Elizabeth’s brother-in-law.)
11. **Alexander Robert “Alex” Odom**, born September 1857, Newton Co.; died after 2 June 1900, probably in Leake Co.;²⁸ married after 5 December 1876, Frances Simpson, Leake Co.²⁹ (The source of the name *Robert* is unknown; Alexander is said by some researchers, albeit without evidence, to be the middle name of Elizabeth’s half-brother Samuel Cooksey.)
12. **Elias Marion Odom**, b. May 1860; died after 1 June 1900, probably in Leake Co.;³⁰ married Nora Simpson after 8 June 1880.³¹ (Apparently named for his uncle Elias Marion Odom.)
13. **Eliza E. “Sis” Odom**, born ca. 2 June 1861–1 June 1862; died after 8 June 1880.³² married W. R. Stevens, Leake Co.³³

CA. 1816–19

PIKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack Odom to William Odom and Jane Johnson.³⁴

COMMENT:

Birth period: See Note 1.

Birth place: Shadrack’s parents were married in Marion County in 1814, but Marion was split in 1815 to create Pike. William appears on the Pike County tax rolls from its first roll through 1824.³⁵

1830

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

U.S. Census, p. 103 (penned), line 2

Wm. Odum	1 male	40–50	1 female	30–40
			1 female	15–20 [Cynthia]
	1 male	15–20 [Shadrack]	1 female	10–15 [Susan Evaline]
	1 male	0–5 [Eli]	2 females	5–10 [Cynthia and Cemantha]
			1 female	0–5 [Nancy]

NEIGHBORS:

²⁶ Leake Co., Miss., Marr. Book E:270.

²⁷ The only record of this child is the 1860 census entry for his parental household.

²⁸ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 33, Sheet 2, dwell./fam. 34, “Alex R. Odom.”

²⁹ Leake Co. Marr. Book E:519; the license is dated 5 December 1876; no minister or j.p. return is on file.

³⁰ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 33, p. 258-A, sheet 1, dwell./fam. 3, Marion Odom.

³¹ Leake Co. Marr. Book F:330; the marriage record appears to give her surname as “Simpson.” However, “Mary Singleton, m[other]-in-law,” appears in the 1900 census household of Eli and Nora.

³² 1870 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., pop. sch., Newton Post Office, p. 240, T8 R12, dwell./fam. 20, Elizabeth Odom household.

³³ Leake Co. Marr. Book F:194; the nickname by which her family called her was provided by her nephew W. E. Odom Jr. in his 1972 letter. 1880 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 50, p. 11 (stamped p. 394-C), dwell./fam. 104, W. R. and E. E. Stephens. Eliza lived in a family cluster; next door to her mother and brother Elias Marion.

³⁴ Marion Co., Miss., Marriage Bond No. 45, William Odom (x) to Jane Johnston, 13 May 1814, with Shadrack Odom (x), as bondsman; Clerk’s Office, Columbia, Miss.

³⁵ Pike Co., Miss., 1818–24 Tax Rolls (Combination Personal and Land, semi-alphabetized); Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

Carson, John
Moore, Thos.
Raferty, Robert
Carson, Joseph
Walker, James
Joslin, Samuel
Carson, McClendon?
[Cont'd in next column]

Wm. Odom
Robinson, Thomas

Thomas, Michael
Russel, Irvin
Moore, Gibson

Becky?, Henry
Lock, John
Belvin, Samuel

1834

NESHOPA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Tax Roll: Wm. Odom 1 white poll; \$.375 tax³⁶

COMMENT:

Shadrack would be too young for this poll roll; the minimum age for poll-tax liability was 21. The settlement of the southern half of Neshoba (modern Newton County) began in this year 1834. Shad's future brothers-in-law, Samuel and John Cooksey, also appear on this 1834 roll.

26 FEBRUARY 1836

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi's legislature created Newton on this date from the southern half of Neshoba County. A county seat named Decatur was created, reportedly on land donated by a Cooksey-Odom neighbor, Isham Hollingsworth. Building began on the town in late 1836. The courthouse itself would have been created late 1836 and record-keeping would not have begun until early 1837.³⁷

1837

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Marriage of Shadrack Odom to first wife. Time of marriage extrapolated from documented birthdate of the first child, Samuel Odom, on 10 February 1838.³⁸

10 FEBRUARY 1838

CHUNKY, NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Samuel Odom, to Shadrack Odom and first wife.³⁹

³⁶ Neshoba Co., Miss., 1834 Tax Roll, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

G. R. and J. S. Fall, *Revised Statutes of Mississippi* (Jackson: G. R. and J. S. Fall, 1836), Chap. XII, pp. 230–55, sets forth the prevailing tax laws. The usual dates on which lists were to be turned in by individuals and certified by the assessor are left blank, leaving unanswered the question of what time of the year the tax data applies. A supplemental volume, G. R. and J. S. Fall, *Notes to the Revised Statutes of Mississippi* (Jackson: G. R. and J. S. Fall, 1836), contains nothing more on the tax law.

The 1823 compilation of statutes, which was the basis of the 1836 revision, stipulated that the assessor was to acquire between 1 March and 1 June of each year, a list of taxable property from each individual who held taxable property on 1 January of that year. See *The Revised Code of the Laws of Mississippi, in Which Are Comprised All Such Acts of the General Assembly, of a Public Nature, as Were in Force at the End of the Year 1823* (Jackson: F. Baker, 1824), 287–88. From this, we may deduce that William was in Newton by 1 January 1838.

³⁷ Alfred John Brown, *History of Newton County, Mississippi, from 1836 to 1894* (Jackson, Miss.: Clarion-Ledger, 1894), 1, 37–38, 45–46.

³⁸ "Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974," database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1 August 2013), "Oakes–Ormond," images 97–100, E. J. Odom, Widow (Samuel Odom, Pvt., Co. D, 3d Cav.), affidavits 16 July 1909 and 4 September 1916; also images 156–63, Samuel Odom (Pvt. Co. D, Wiley Johnson), affidavits of 5 August 1905 and 7 September 1908.

³⁹ "Mississippi Confederate Pension Applications, 1900–1974," database, *FamilySearch* (www.FamilySearch.org : 1

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

1 JULY 1839

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1838 Land and Personal Tax Roll, showing:⁴⁰

Wm. Odum 0 white polls, 0 slaves, \$200 money loaned at interest, tax: 50¢

COMMENT:

Shadrack does not appear. Although he was newly married, he would not be liable for poll tax until he reached 21 years.

CA. 1 JANUARY 1840

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1839 Land and Personal Tax Roll⁴¹

Odom: None shown.

COMMENT:

The maximum age for the payment of poll tax was 50. William apparently turned 50 in 1839 and was dropped from the roll, while no son is yet 21.

10 FEBRUARY 1840

CHUNKY, NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of John Odom, to Shadrack Odom and unknown first wife.⁴²

CA. FEBRUARY–SEPTEMBER 1840

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Death of Shadrack's first wife and his remarriage to Elizabeth Cooksey.

COMMENT:

A prompt remarriage was common in their society for widowers with small children.

August 2013), "Oakes–Ormond," images 97–100, E. J. Odom, Wid. (Samuel Odom, Pvt., Co. D, 3d Cav.), affidavits 16 July 1909 and 4 September 1916; also images 156–63, Samuel Odom (Pvt. Co. D., Wiley Johnson), affidavits of 5 August 1905 and 7 September 1908.

⁴⁰ Newton Co., Miss., 1838 Tax Rolls (Combination Personal and Land, semi-alphabetized), certified 1 July 1839; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss. The list carries no title, header, or date. The state archives has labeled it 1838.

G. R. and J. S. Fall, *Revised Statutes of Mississippi* (Jackson: G. R. and J. S. Fall, 1836), Chap. XII, pp. 230–55, sets forth the prevailing tax laws. The usual dates on which lists are to be turned in by individuals and certified by the assessor are left blank, leaving unanswered the question of what time of the year the tax data applies. A supplemental volume, G. R. and J. S. Fall, *Notes to the Revised Statutes of Mississippi* (Jackson: G. R. and J. S. Fall, 1836), contains nothing more on the tax law.

The 1823 compilation of statutes, which was the basis of the 1836 revision, stipulated that the assessor was to acquire between 1 March and 1 June of each year, a list of taxable property from each individual who held taxable property on 1 January of that year. See *The Revised Code of the Laws of Mississippi, in Which Are Comprised All Such Acts of the General Assembly, of a Public Nature, as Were in Force at the End of the Year 1823* (Jackson: F. Baker, 1824), 287–88.

⁴¹ Newton Co., Miss., 1839 Combination Tax Roll that begins with a header, "A List of the Taxable Property in Newton County for the Year A.D. 1839" (semi-alphabetized); roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss. Curiously, this roll—which carries no certification date—is only about half the size of the 1838 roll. No county had been cut from Newton in the meanwhile. Either the county was sub-divided into two tax divisions and one list is lost or else the county lost an extraordinarily large number of inhabitants during 1838. A comparison of the names on the 1839 list with those of 1838 shows that most names are duplicated, suggesting that the "1838" list, which carries no header, was not a missing part of the 1839 list.

⁴² 1900 U.S. Census, Oktibbeha Co., Miss., pop. sch., Beat 4, ED 93, sheet 13, dwell./fam. 245, John Odom, showing birth month and year. Also 1860 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., population schedule, post office: Decatur, p. 142, dwell. 952, fam. 962, John Odem in Samuel Odem household.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

3 DECEMBER 1841
NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
1841 Land and Personal Tax Roll⁴⁵

Shadrack Odom 1 white male poll, 0 land, 0 clock, 0 cattle (in excess of the first 20, untaxed⁴⁶),
0 slaves, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.50

Wm. Odom 80 acres valued at \$600, 0 clock, 25 cattle (in excess of 20),
0 poll, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$1.75

COMMENTS:

On 27 February 1841, William received patents to two tracts of federal land:

- SW½ NW¼ Section 20, Township 8N, Range 12E, Choctaw Meridian, 40 acres
- E½ NE¼ Section 19, Township 8N, Range 12E, Choctaw Meridian, 79.93 acres

As typically happened, *several* years had passed since William had “entered” this land at the Columbus land office, paying in cash the mandated \$1.25 per acre for government land.

The patents state that he was, at the time he purchased the land, a resident of Neshoba County.⁴⁷ The typical pattern was for a yeoman family to first settle a tract of unoccupied land and make a small clearing for home, garden, and the start of a cash crop. After one or two years of testing the productivity of the soil, they applied for the land at the federal land office that served their district. This pattern conforms to the 1834 Neshoba County tax data, showing that William paid a personal poll tax but not a land tax.

Shadrack made no purchase of government land—not in Neshoba or Newton. Newton County’s deeds have been destroyed by fire, eliminating the discovery of a potential land purchase from another individual.

1 JULY 1842
NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
1842 Personal Tax Roll⁴⁸

Shadric Odum 1 white male poll, 0 land, 0 clock, 0 cattle (in excess of the basic allotment),
0 slaves, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.50

common practice among Southern families—especially when, as in Shadrack’s case, the first marriage produced no daughter to carry on that first wife’s name and memory.

⁴⁵ Newton Co., Miss., 1841 Combination Tax Roll, certified 3 December 1841; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss. This 1840 tax roll is again reduced in size.

⁴⁶ A. Hutchinson, *Code of Mississippi, Being an Analytical Compilation of the Public and General Statutes of the Territory and State ... from 1798 to 1848* (Jackson: Price and Fall, State Printers, 1848), 182.

⁴⁷ Bureau of Land Management, *General Land Office Records*, database and images (<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx>; accessed 2 September 2002).

⁴⁸ Newton Co., Miss., 1842 Personal Tax Roll, certified 1 July 1842; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

Wm. Odum 0 land, 0 clock, 15 cattle (in excess of basic allotment),
0 poll, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.15

1843

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1843 Personal Tax Roll⁴⁹

Shadrick Odum 1 white male poll, 0 clock, 0 cattle (in excess of 20),
0 slaves, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.50

Wm. Odum 0 clock, 15 cattle (in excess of 20),
0 poll, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.15

17 OCTOBER 1843

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth's second child: Cader P[rice?], 17 October 1843.⁵⁰

1 JULY 1844

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1844 Personal Tax Roll⁵¹

Shadric Odum MISSING

Wm. Odum 0 clock, 15 cattle (in excess of 20),
0 poll, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.15

C1845

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Probable period of birth for the child Neal Williams, said by his nephew Esrom Odom to have "Died young."

15 OCTOBER 1845

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1845 Personal Tax Roll⁵²

Consecutive entries:

⁴⁹ Newton Co., Miss., 1843 Personal Tax Roll [no certification date]; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

⁵⁰ Tombstone of Cader P. Odom, Wake Forest Cemetery, Thomastown (Leake Co.), Miss.; reading by Elizabeth Shown Mills, 1970.

⁵¹ Newton Co., Miss., 1844 Personal Tax Roll, certified 1 July 1844; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

⁵² Newton Co., Miss., 1845 Personal Tax Roll, certified 15 October 1845; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)

Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams

Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

Wm. Odum 0 clock, 15 cattle (in excess of 20),
0 poll, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.15

D. M. Overstreet [*Overstreet separates the two Odums; he has same data as Shadrack*]

Shadrack Odum 1 white male poll, 0 clock, 0 cattle (in excess of the basic allotment),
0 slaves, 0 money loaned at interest, 0 slaves
tax: \$.50

EARLY 1846

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1846 Land Tax Roll⁵³

Unalphabetized; cites exact legal description

Odom, William E½ of NE¼ S19 T8 R12 79.92 acres @ \$3.75 = \$299.73¾
W½ of NW¼ S20 T8 R12 79.93 acres @ \$3.75 = \$299.73¾

COMMENT:

Since 1842, William has acquired another 40 acres by purchase: the NW¼ NW¼ S20. This land had been patented in 1841 to James Barber. No other Barbers took out federal land in Newton County. By 1840, no Barbers remained in the county.

This is William Odom's last appearance in the county. Before 1850, he relocated his family on the Gulf Coast, county of Hancock, amid Breland relatives. No known record accounts for the disposition of his Newton County land. He does not appear to have sold it to Shadrack. By the date of the 1850 census, Shadrack did own land, but the 1857 land tax roll places him in ownership of a different (though nearby) tract: W½ SE¼ S29 T8 R12.

FEBRUARY 1846

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth's son William C[ooksey?] "Bill" Odom, February 1846.⁵⁴

1848

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Membership List, Pinckney Baptist Church (founded 1847)⁵⁵

[47 names, including ...]

John Cooksey [brother-in-law of Shadrack]	Martha <u>Miller?</u> [in-law of James Cooksey]
Henry Gill [in-law of Cookseys]	Elizabeth Johnson
Owen Pinson	Lucinda Pinson
Thomas Sessums [brother-in-law of Shadrack]	Lavina Johnson
Harrison Johnson	Zilpha Cooksey [mother-in-law of Shadrack]

⁵³ Newton Co., Miss., 1846 Land Tax Roll [no certification date]; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

⁵⁴ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 33, pp. 258-A,B, sheets 1,2, dwell./fam. 9, W. C. Odom.

⁵⁵ Records of Pinckney Baptist Church, Chunky (Newton Co.), Miss.; abstracts provided 1987 by Dr. Susan Slaymaker (11463 Mother Lode Circle, Gold River, CA 95670) to Elizabeth Shown Mills; 8 typed pages, without identification of the present whereabouts of the records. Dr. Slaymaker identifies her connection to the Odoms as follows: Susan (Clark) Slaymaker, daughter of Rev. Woodrow Wilson Clark Sr., son of John Arthur Hendrix Clark and Ina Elnora Breland, daughter of Rev. Francis Marion Breland, son of Rev. Oliver Franklin Breland and his cousin Manerva Odom, daughter of William Odom (whose mother was Millie Breland) and wife Jane Johnson.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)

Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams

Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

Shadrack Odom

Henry J. Johnson

William C. Sessums [in-law of Cookseys]

Jesse Miller [in-law of James Cooksey]

Rheuben Price [brother-in-law of Shadrack]

David Gill [brother-in-law of Shadrack]

Zilpha Sessums [sister-in-law of Shadrack]

Catherine Gill [sister-in-law of Shadrack]

Delaney Barefoot

Sarah Miller [wife of Jesse, mother of Kader]

Fanny Gill [wife of Henry Gill]

Elizabeth Odom [wife of Shadrack]

18 MARCH 1848

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth's son William Eli Odom, 18 March 1848.⁵⁶

1848–50

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Membership List, Pinckney Baptist Church, 1848–50⁵⁷

[Includes ...]

John Cooksey

Shadrack Odom

Henry Gill

Thomas Cessoms "Excluded"

David Gill, "rec. by baptism"

William C. Cessums

Owen Pinson

Reuben Price, "excluded from Ebenezer Church,
received in fellowship"

Zilpha Cooksey

Elizabeth Odom

Catherine Gill

Zilpha Cessoms

Catherine Gill

Elizabeth Parks

Lucinda Pinson

Elin Price

Hannah Price, rec. by letter

"Delaney Gill, dead"⁵⁸

MARCH 1850

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth's son James Odom, age 3 months on official census date (1 June).⁵⁹

13 SEPTEMBER 1850

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1850 U.S. Census

p. 184 (verso), dwelling/family 427

Shadrack Odham	34	male	white	farmer	\$500	b. Miss.
Elizabeth	22	female	white			b. Miss.
Samuel	13	male	white			b. Miss.
John	11	male	white			b. Miss.
Rhoda	8	female	white			b. Miss.

⁵⁶ Tombstone of Eli Odom, Wake Forest Cemetery, Thomastown, 1970 reading by Elizabeth Shown Mills.

⁵⁷ Records of Pinckney Baptist Church, Chunky (Newton Co.), Miss.; abstracts provided 1987 by Dr. Susan Slaymaker (11463 Mother Lode Circle, Gold River, CA 95670) to Elizabeth Shown Mills; 8 typed pages, without identification of the present whereabouts of the records.

⁵⁸ This is perhaps the "Delaney Barefoot" who appears on the 1848 roll under her maiden name and is still carried on the 1853 cumulative list as "Delaney Barfoot (alias Gill)." The later clerk who went back and entered the "dead" notation for her may have put it on the wrong list.

⁵⁹ 1850 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., pop. sch., p. 184 (verso), dwelling/family 427, Shadrack "Odham," age 34, placing his birth between 2 June 1815 and 1 June 1816.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)

Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams

Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

Kader	7	male	white	b. Miss.
William	5	male	white	b. Miss.
Eli	3	male	white	b. Miss.
James	3/12	male	white	b. Miss.

NEIGHBORS

[*Begin line 1; names of children are shown when they parallel Odom-Cooksey names; the “Sessions” households are those of Thomas Sessums and his sons William and Jacob.*]

Houston, William (26, b. SC), Harriet (17, b. Miss.), child 1/12

Jordan, Lovit (47, b. S.C.), Margaret (36, b. SC), children (18 to 8, b. S.C.; 3 & 1 mo., b. Miss.)

Laird, Archibald (35, b. Ky.), Lindy (35, b. Miss.), children (8 to 2 mos., b. Miss.)

Johnson, Henry (60, b. Ky.), Anne (53, b. Ireland), children (13 to 18 b. Miss. & Ala.)

Sessions, William (19, b. Miss.), Anne (21, b. Miss.), children Margaret 2 & *Zylphie* 6 mos.;

French, George, 6, b. Ireland, shares the household

Parks, William (23, b. Miss.), Elizabeth (18, b. Miss.), Elisha 6 mos.

Sessions, Jacob (17, b. Miss.), Anne Jane (17, b. Miss.)

Smith, John (54, b. N.C.), Martha (49, b. S.C.); children (22 to 5, b. Miss.)

Oldham, Shadrack

Walton, Henry (27, b. Miss.), Mary (24, b. Miss.), children 6 to 4 mos.

Johnson, Harrison (25, b. Miss.), Elizabeth (26, b. Miss.), children 6 to 2

Pinson, Owen (34, b. Tenn.), Cynderella (25, b. Miss.), children 6 years to 6 mos.

Sessions, Thomas (43, b. Ky.), *Zilphy* (37, b. Ga.), *Kader* (15), *John* (13), *Elizabeth* (11), Solomon

(9), Ellis (7), Celia (2) [*Zilpha* was née Cooksey; Celia was name of Haden Watts’s mother]

McIntyre, John (26, b. Al.), *Eveline* (20, b. Miss.), children 3 and 1

Godwin, William (57, b. Ga.), *Bathsheba* (41, b. Ga.), children 16 to 2 [*Bathsheba* was a Watts name, borne by one of *Zilpha* Cooksey’s proposed sisters]

Davison, George (21, b. Ireland), Hester (23, b. Al.)

Bradley, John (46, b. N.C.), *Dicey* (46, b. N.C.), children 15 to 2

Johnson, George (49, b. Tenn.), Anne (46, b. Ga.), children 2 to 27, including *Lodowick*⁶⁰

Martin, Mary (48, b. Al., lived alone)

Pullen, Henry Jr. (37, b. Miss.), Louisa (37, b. Miss.), children 18 to 4

[*skip 5 houses*]

Miller, Michael (20, b. Miss.); *Zylphie* (16, b. Miss.), Susan (60, b. Va.)

OCTOBER 1852

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth’s sixth child: Calvin A. [S?] “Cal” Odom.⁶¹

1853

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1853 Membership List, Pinckney Baptist Church⁶²

[*Includes ...*]

John Cooksey

Shadrack Odom

Zilpha Cooksey

Elizabeth Odom

⁶⁰ The name *Lodowick* was quite rare in Southern society. It originated in Newton with one Lodowick Lard who, a couple of decades earlier, had been a Cooksey-Watts neighbor in Tattnall Co., Ga.

⁶¹ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., pop. sch., Beat 3, ED 33, p. 258-A, sheet 1, dwell./fam. 2, Cal Odom.

⁶² Records of Pinckney Baptist Church, Chunky (Newton Co.), Miss.; abstracts provided 1987 by Dr. Susan Slaymaker (11463 Mother Lode Circle, Gold River, CA 95670) to Elizabeth Shown Mills; 8 typed pages, without identification of the present whereabouts of the records.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

Henry Gill
Thomas Cessoms “d. Sept. 17 ...”
David Gill
William C. Sessums
James Boyd
Thomas Parks
John Parks [brother-in-law of Shadrack]
Ruben Price [brother-in-law of Shadrack]
Jacob Sessums
O. F. Breland [brother-in-law of Shadrack]
Michael Miller [in-law of James Cooksey]

Catherine Gill
Zilpha Cessoms
Catherine Gill
Elizabeth Parks
Lettice Raburn [sister-in-law of Shadrack]
Mary Wooten [sister-in-law of John Boyd]
“Delaney Barfoot (alias Gill)”
Elin Price
“Hannah Price alias Odum”
Minerva Breland [née Odom]
Catherine **Watts**

CA. 1854

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth’s son Thomas “Tommie” Odom, cited as age 6 on 1860 census.⁶³

1856

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1856 Personal Tax Roll⁶⁴

Odom, Shadrack 1 white poll; \$70 in savings or bonds; taxed \$1.54

1857

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1857 Land Tax Roll⁶⁵

Odom, Shadrack W½ SE¼ S29 T8 R12, 80 acres @ \$5 acre = \$400 value

COMMENT:

This land was granted to Richard Abbey in January 1841—but it adjoins several tracts granted February 1841 to Samuel Hubbard. Newton County deeds of this period are destroyed. Presumably Shadrack bought the land from Abbey, but there could have been intervening owners.

SEPTEMBER 1857

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth’s son Alexander Robert “Alex” Odom.⁶⁶

1858

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1858 Personal Tax Roll⁶⁷

Odom, Shadrack 1 poll; 1 able-bodied white male, 18–43
Per capita tax of \$.50 for military school

⁶³ The only record of this child is the 1860 census entry for his parental household.

⁶⁴ Newton Co., Miss., 1856 Land Tax Roll [no certification date]; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

⁶⁵ Newton Co., Miss., 1857 Land Tax Roll [no certification date]; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

⁶⁶ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 33, Sheet 2, dwell./fam. 34, “Alex R. Odom.”

⁶⁷ Newton Co., Miss., 1858 Tax Roll [no certification date]; roll 5088, Record Group 29, Auditor of Public Accounts; Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

MAY 1860

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth’s son Elias Marion Odom.⁶⁸

25 AUGUST 1860

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1860 U.S. Census

p. 142 (penned number) Post Office: Decatur

dwelling 951, family 961

Fredrick [sic] Odem	45	male	white	farmer	\$2400 (real estate) \$854 (pers.)	b. Miss.
Elizabeth	39	female	white			b. Miss.
Rody	18	female	white			b. Miss.
Cader	16	male	white			b. Miss.
William	14	male	white			b. Miss.
Eli	12	male	white			b. Miss.
James	10	male	white			b. Miss.
Calvin	8	male	white			b. Miss.
Thomas	6	male	white			b. Miss.
Alexander	3	male	white			b. Miss.
Marion	3/12	male	white			b. Miss.

dwelling. 952, family 962

Samuel Odem	23	male	white	farmer	\$550/ \$385	b. Miss.
Elizabeth	20	female	white			b. Miss.
Jane	3	female	white			b. Miss.
Sarah	1	female	white			b. Miss.
John Odem	20	male	white	farm laborer		b. Miss.
Solomon Sessums	18	male	white	farm laborer		b. Miss.

COMMENT:

The identification of Shadrack as “Fredrick” is a copying error on the part of the 1860 enumerator. Between 1840 and 1880, census takers were required to produce the census in triplicate. The original would be posted locally. The two copies would be sent to (a) the state’s secretary of state; and (b) the U.S. Census Bureau. That federal *copy* is the one that has been microfilmed and digitized.

Copying errors are rampant on these federal copies. Census takers were frequently caught in downpours, their saddlebags got wet—including the original census forms that they carried with them—and ink smeared on those forms. When they sat down at home to make the additional copies, names were often unreadable. Other errors and omissions on the federal returns reflected carelessness and a range of other factors.

Some researchers attempt to reconcile this copying error of his name by calling him “Shadrack Frederick.” That creates an error in his identification. Double given names were not common in the era of his birth—unless a child was given the name of a hero such as “Andrew Jackson,” “George Washington,” “Benjamin Franklin,” “John Wesley,” etc. No other record created by or

⁶⁸ 1900 U.S. Census, Leake Co., Miss., Beat 3, ED 33, p. 258-A, sheet 1, dwell./fam. 3, Marion Odom.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

for this man calls him anything other than Shadrack in one of the variants by which it was commonly spelled.

1861–62

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Birth of Shadrack and Elizabeth’s last child: Eliza C. [E?] “Sis” Odom.⁶⁹

1861–65

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Civil War and death of Shadrack Odom

No records document this phase of Shadrack’s life. Two relevant family traditions have been recorded. Both are compatible with (a) the fact that no surviving records documents military service for Shad and (b) known military records of Shad’s sons Samuel, John, Wm. C., and Cader P.⁷⁰

Esrom Odom, son of Shad’s son Robert Alexander, reports that his grandfather Shad “died during the Civil War.” His phrasing did not imply that Shadrack was *killed* in service.⁷¹

Thulmar (Jeffcoat) Shown, granddaughter of Shad’s son Samuel, reports a tradition that her Odom ancestors felt like many Southern yeomen: it was a rich man’s war and a poor man’s fight. Five of Shad’s sons would serve; at least one (Eli) joined when he was just 15. No evidence suggests that Shadrack himself served, though he was still of draft age when the draft law was passed in April 1862. Like many who joined, Shad’s sons are said to have returned home without leave at harvest time; and an occasional muster roll in their service files does cite them as “deserted.” Had they been caught at home, they would have been shot; but Shadrack, who was not a slaveowner, had no one left at home to help plant or gather the crops needed to feed their numerous young children, except his wife and Sam’s. Shad and his AWOL sons, Thulmar reported, avoided capture by digging a brush-covered pit in the woods behind Shad’s house. When the hoofs of horses were heard coming down the road, they headed for the pit and pulled the brush over them. “Rich folks called them *slackers*,” Thulmar said, “but they had no choice.”⁷²

5 AUGUST 1870

NEWTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1870 U.S. Census

p. 240 (penned number)

Post Office: Newton; Township 8 Range 12

Dwelling/Family:

20/20	Odom, Wm. C.	24	male	white	farm laborer		b. Miss.
	Martha A.	26	female	white	keeping house		b. Miss.
21/21	Sessums, Ellis A.	24	male	white	farm laborer	\$275	b. Miss.
	Eliza	19	female	white			b. Geo.

⁶⁹ 1870 U.S. Census, Newton Co., Miss., pop. sch., Newton Post Office, p. 240, T8 R12, dwell./fam. 20, Elizabeth Odom household. The 1880 Census identifies Eliza’s middle initial as “E.”

⁷⁰ The federally compiled service records for these five sons who served in the Confederacy are available at the subscription site, *Fold3.com*. All enlisted at Chunky, Newton County, in Capt. Wiley Johnson’s Co. D, nicknamed the Chunky Heroes. All suffered injuries or were otherwise hospitalized during parts of their service. Most also lived to file for pensions; their paperwork is cited in the notes that support the family summary at the start of this paper.

⁷¹ Esrom Odom to Elizabeth Shown Mills, 1972.

⁷² Thulmar (Jeffcoat) Shown to Elizabeth Shown Mills, 1 September 1970.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)**Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams****Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey**

22/22	Odom, Elizabeth	48	female	white	keeping house	\$250/150	b. Miss.
	William C.	24	male	white	farm laborer		b. Miss.
	Calvin W.	17	male	white	farm laborer		b. Miss.
	Robert A.	12	male	white	farm laborer		b. Miss.
	Elias M.	10	male	white			b. Miss.
	Eliza C.	8	female	white			b. Miss.
23/23	Johnston, Robt. A.	22	male	white	farm laborer		b. Miss.
	Mary Ann	18	female	white	keeping house		b. Miss.

1870–72**NEWTON > LEAKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

The landless widow and children of Shadrack abandoned Newton County in this period and relocated in adjacent Leake. The time frame is extrapolated from the fact that Elizabeth's son Cal married Sarah E. "Sallie" Stevens, 6 November 1872, Leake Co.⁷³ Younger siblings would also marry in Leake later in that decade; and all of Elizabeth's offspring, as well as Shad's son Samuel, are enumerated in Leake in 1870.

8 JUNE 1880**LEAKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

1880 U.S. Census

Beat 3, E. D. 50, p. 11 (stamped p. 394-C)

Dwelling/Family:

103/103 [Household of M. Simpson, 67, includes:]

	Odom, R. A.	23	male	white	farmer	can't r/w	b. Miss., f&m b. Miss.
	M. F.	25	fem.	white	keeping house	can't r/w	b. Miss., f&m b. Tn.
	B. F.	2	male	white		"	"
	M. M. 6mos.		fem.	white	b. December	"	"
104/104	Odom, E. [Elizabeth]	58	fem.	white	housekeeping	can't r/w	b. Miss., f&m b. Ga.
	Odom, E. M.	20	male	white	farm laborer	can't r/w	b. Miss., f&m b. Miss.
105/105	Stephens, W. R.	20	male	white	farmer	can't r/w	b. Miss., f&m b. Miss.
	E. E.	18	fem.	white	keeping house		b. Miss., f&m b. Miss.

COMMENT:

Shadrack's and Elizabeth's sons Cal and Cade are in dwellings 113 and 114 on the subsequent census page.

1900–1910 CENSUSES**MISSISSIPPI**

COMMENT:

I have not found the widowed Elizabeth Cooksey in either census year. Also missing:

1900-1910: the daughter Eliza (Odom) Stephens who lived adjacent to Elizabeth in 1880.

1900: Shadrack's son Samuel, who died in 1909.

⁷³ Leake Co., Miss., Marr. Book E:270.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)

Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams

Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

In 1910, Samuel's aged widow Elizabeth (née Elizabeth Jane Boyd, daughter of Elmira Parks Boyd) is found living with her married daughter Carrie Mae (Odom) Jeffcoat. The Jeffcoats, according to their daughter Thulmar (Jeffcoat) Shown, also lived near "Granny Odom," Shad's widow who, Thulmar thought, was "No kin to us, but we loved her like a grandmother."

Thulmar, as she aged, worried that she would end up without a home and, in her words, "just an old woman with a suitcase." This seems to have been a common plight of elderly females in her ancestral line.

MAY 1917

LEAKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

Death Certificate of Elizabeth Cooksy Odom⁷⁴

County:	Leake
Vot. Pct.:	Thomastown
Full Name:	Mrs. Elizabeth Odom
Sex:	Female
Color:	White
Marital Status:	Widow
Died:	Jul. 15, 1917 [<i>sic; should be 27 May</i>]
Aged:	96 years, 11 months, 19 days [b. 8 June 1820]
Occupation:	House wife
Born:	Mississippi
Father:	William Cooksy
Birthplace of father:	Mississippi [<i>sic</i>]
Maiden Name of Mother:	Zilphy Price [<i>sic</i>]
Birthplace of Mother:	Mississippi [<i>sic</i>]
Attended by Doctor from:	May 25, 1917 to May 27, 1917
Last seen alive by Doctor:	May 26, 1917
Cause of death:	Disentery
Name of Doctor:	W. H? Lowe, Kosciusko, Miss., [Signed] June 1, 1917
Place of Burial:	Wake Forest Cemetery
Date of Burial:	May 28, 1917
Undertaker:	?Coffin Medical House?
Death Certificate Filed:	May 28, 1917 , by W. A. Gowan, Registrar
Informant:	J. J. More

⁷⁴ Mississippi Bureau of Vital Statistics, Death Certificate of Elizabeth Odom, née Cooksy, 1917, State File No. 24406.

Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861)
Wife 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams
Wife 2: Elizabeth Cooksey

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Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Shadrack Odom (ca. 1819–aft. 1861) & Spouses, 1: (Rhoda Ann?) Williams; 2: Elizabeth Cooksey: Research Notes,” a working file updated 3 December 2023, p. ____; archived at E. S. Mills, *HistoricPathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com/download/ShadrackOdom.pdf>).

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