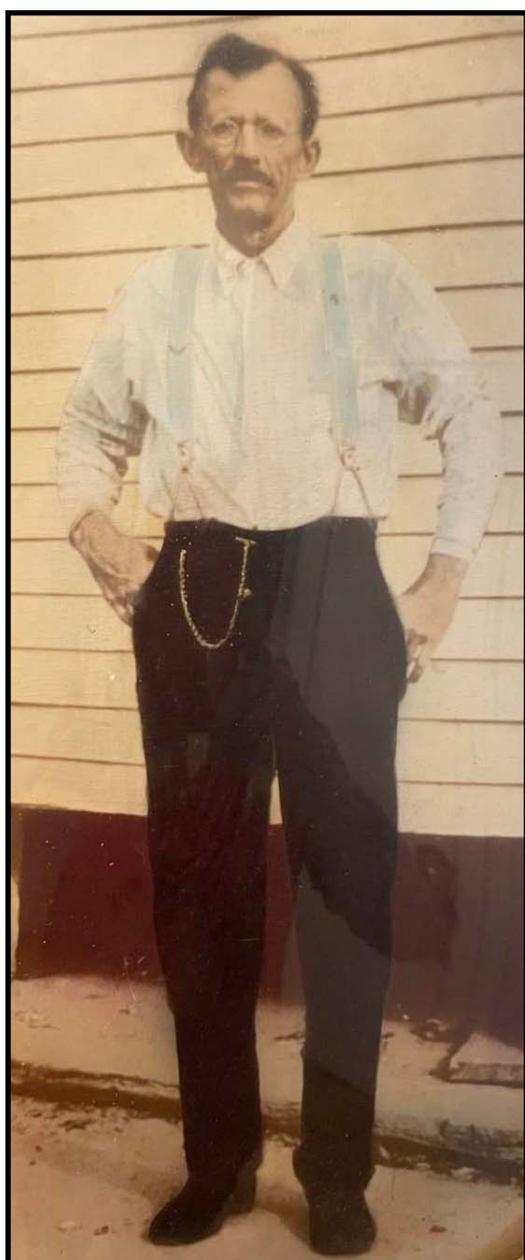


[Reunion was held on July 16, 2022. Click on this link to read the story and see photos.](#)

Brown Family and Reunion

Benjamin Brown and Leticia (Tish) Horne Brown are my great grandparents. They moved to Pacolet Mills in about 1908 and lived there the rest of their life. Two of my cousins, Louise Rochester and Shelley Sawyer, are organizing a Brown family reunion. They have asked me to place the following announcement about the reunion on this website:

To the family of Ben and Tish Brown: Several of the Brown cousins, are interested in having a Brown family reunion. These cousins are descendants of Ben and Tish Brown who lived at 9 Green Street Pacolet Mills, SC. If you and your family are descendants of Ben and Tish and you are interested in coming to a reunion please contact Louise Rochester (Louiserochester@yahoo.com) or Shelley Sawyer (shelleysawyer47@yahoo.com).



Ben - probably in the 1920s or 30s.



Tish - probably in the 1940s.

There is a detailed written history of Ben and Tish's Brown Family. It was written by family member, Louise Blanton, in the 1980s. It can be read at [The Brown Family Story](#).



This family picture was probably taken in the 1930s at the house on Green Street in Pacolet Mills. It includes some of Tish's sisters and her brother. Starting from the left, Ben Brown. He is carrying a cane because in his later years he was severely afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis. In the last few years of his life he was almost totally bedridden. Next is Annie Horne Lackey, a sister. Next, in the back is a daughter of Ben and Tisha, Mattie Brown Fowler. She is my grandmother and married Tillman Fowler. In the middle, in the front is Leticia Brown. Directly behind her is her brother, Archie Horne. Next to him is Lillie Horne Griffen, another sister. On the extreme right is also a sister, Effie Horne Little.

Annie, Archie, Lillie and Effie did not raise their families in Pacolet Mills.

Thanks to Shelley Chesney Sawyer we are adding a new section to the Brown Family page of the Pacolet Memories website. This section will allow family members to add the story of how they fit into the Brown family. You can access this new section by clicking on [Brown Family Individual Stories](#).



Granny Brown (Tish) with an unidentified child.



Granny Brown giving a demonstration of cotton or wool carding to members of [Pacolet Mills Girl Scout Troop 17](#) in the early 1950s. Her daughter, Jessie Brown Paige, was the Scoutmaster of the troop for several years.

One Big Family

When I was growing up, I frequently heard that the people living in the Upstate textile towns were like one big family. One thing I have learned working on the Pacolet and Glendale websites is that they seem like this because they ARE one big family. It appears that almost everyone is related by either blood or marriage. The towns are a complex network of cousins and “cousins in law”. Granny Brown’s family is an example of that.

I was reminded of that a few years ago when I was contacted by a lady named Cindy Pruitt Jones. She lives in NC but her Dad and his family grew up in Glendale, SC. She had some photos and a write up about her Dad and wanted to know if we would like the information to go on the Glendale website. Her Dad was the late, Harold “Buddy” Pruitt. My wife, Mary, grew up in Glendale with Buddy and he was one of her childhood boyfriends.

Cindy sent me the information and I was getting it ready to go on the website. I noticed that Buddy’s grandmother was Susan Horn Pruitt. Since my maternal great grandmother, Leticia Brown’s maiden name was also Horn(e). I looked it up in my family records and lo and behold, Susan and Leticia were sisters. Susan’s family settled in Glendale and Granny Brown’s settled in Pacolet. Cindy and I are cousins as our great grandmothers were sisters. Back in the day, my Granny Brown had been Buddy’s great aunt. Neither Cindy nor I knew about the family connection. Cindy’s article for the Glendale website is at :

<https://glendalesc.com/HaroldPruitt.pdf>

Grandpa Ben died in 1943. I had just started the first grade and remember traveling from Charleston to attend his funeral. There is more at:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/74980110/marion-benjamin-brown>

Original Obituary appears in Spartanburg Herald Journal Obituary Section on, Sunday, Oct. 24, 1943, on page 2.

Marion Benjamin Brown died at 2:30 o'clock Saturday, Oct. 23, 1943, at the residence in Pacolet Mills, SC following a lengthy illness. Native of Spartanburg County, SC and was born on July 17, 1861. He was a resident of Pacolet Mills, SC for the past 25 years and was a member of the Pacolet Mills Baptist Church. Survivors included: his wife, Mrs. Mae Tecia Brown; six daughters, Mrs. B. M. Bake, Mrs. Mattie Foster, Mrs. Blanche Arnold, Miss Clara Brown and Mrs. Marcus Bales, and Mrs. Jessie Paige; three sons, the Rev. W. T. Brown, Boyd and Victor Brown; 27 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He was 82 years of age at his demise and interment was in the White Rose Cemetery.

Granny Brown died in 1963. There is more at:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/74980132/mary-leticia-brown>

Mrs. Mary Brown
PACOLET MILLS — Mrs. Mary (Ticia) Horne Brown, 90, widow of M. Ben Brown, of 9 Green Street, died at her home at 10:45 a. m. Tuesday after a long illness. Mrs. Brown was a native of Forest City, N. C., and was a daughter of the late James and Priscilla Horne. She was a member of the Pacolet Baptist Church. Surviving are: five daughters, Mrs. Mattie Fowler, Miss Clara Brown and Mrs. Blanche Arnold, all of Pacolet Mills, Mrs. Esther Bates of Converse and Mrs. Jesse Page of Detroit, Mich.; two sons, Boyd of Rhode Hiss, N. C. and Victor Brown of Pacolet Mills; four sisters, Mrs. Annie Lackey of Bessemer City, N. C., Mrs. Carrie Harrill of Charlotte, Mrs. Effie Little and Mrs. Lillie Griffith, both of Dallas, N. C.; 20 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren. The J. F. Floyd Mortuary is in charge.