

Family and Descendants of Benjamin F. Dunagin

By [Clarence Crocker](#)

Enumerators listed the names and dates as they understood the registrant who oft times could not read or write which led to numerous errors in name and dates. I have tried to copy the census as recorded, where errors occur, I apologize.

Benjamin Dunagin was the only Dunagin registered in the South Carolina 1880 Federal Census. He was registered as a single 26 year old farm laborer living in Spartanburg County, Sloan's Grove/Zion Hill area.

The 1900 Spartanburg Township (Sloan's Grove/Zion Hill Area) Census listed the family under the name Dunagan. He had married Vashti (Sarah) Kirby, the daughter of Uriah and Elizabeth Kirby who lived in the community. They had been married 18 years and were the parents of 5 children, 4 living.

The household was listed as;

Benjamin F. Dunagan 45, born January, 1855/farmer Wife; Vashti 47, born January, 1853

Children; Charley 17, born December, 1882 Alvin 15, born February, 1885
 Minnie 12, born September, 1887 Landrum 10, born February, 1890

Obviously Vashti died somewhere between 1900 and 1910. No records of her death were found.

The 1910 Spartanburg/Glendale census showed that Ben had married the widow Mary Maggie Whittaker Weeks, the daughter of H.J. and Ann Whittaker. The household was listed as;

Ben. F. Dunagin 55, husband/farmer Wife; Maggie 42

Children; Landrum J. 20 Estes 4

The 1920 Spartanburg/Sloan's Grove Census listed the household as;

B. P. Dunagin 64, husband/farmer Wife; Maggie 52

Children; Estes 14 Mary 7 Brice 6

Excerpts from the Obituary of Maggie Weeks Dunagin published Thursday, July 12, 1951; "Mrs. Mary Weeks Dunagin, 83, died in the General Hospital Wednesday following a brief illness. She had lived in the Sloan's Grove area and was a member of the Sloan's Grove Baptist Church.

Mrs. Dunagin was twice married. Survivors by her second marriage are; two sons, Estes and Brice Dunagin; one daughter, Mrs. Leonard Wheeler. Survivors by her first marriage are; two sons, B.H. and Leonard Weeks; one daughter, Mrs. E. C. Anthony; also three stepsons, A.U., Landrum and Charles Dunagin; 29 grand and 19 great grandchildren; also 15 great-great grandchildren; M. W. Bobo to announce arrangements."

No records of Benjamin's death were found.



**The Family of Charley Dunagin, son of Benjamin F. and Sarah Kirby Dunagin
No census records were found.**

**Excerpts from the Obituary of Mary Ellen Dunagin, wife of C. E. (Charley) Dunagin
published Saturday, November 26, 1960;**

**“Word has been received here of the death Friday of Mrs. Mary Ellen Dunagin, 82,
formerly of Spartanburg, in a Washington, D. C. hospital following a long illness. She had
been living with a daughter, Mrs. Pauline V. Wells, in Maryland.**

**Surviving besides her daughter are; her husband, C. E. Dunagin; one other daughter, Miss.
Bertha Dunagin; one son, Percy Dunagin; eight grandchildren.**

Funeral arrangements are to be announced by J.F. Floyd Mortuary”



The Family of Alvin U. Dunagin Sr., son of Benjamin F. and Sarah Kirby Dunagin;

The 1910 Spartanburg Township Census listed household as;

Alvin Dunagin 25, husband/farmer

Wife; Eunice 18

The 1920 Spartanburg Township Census listed the household as;

Alvin U. Dunagin 34, husband/farmer

Wife; Eunice 28

Excerpts from the Obituary of Alvin U. Dunagin Sr. published Monday, August 11, 1969;

**“Alvin U. Dunagin Sr. 84, husband of Mrs. Eunice Cannon Dunagin, died in the General
Hospital Sunday following a long illness. He was a member of the Sloan Grove Baptist
Church and the son of B. F. and Sarah Kirby Dunagin.**

**Other survivors were; daughter, Mrs. Ruth Bennett; son, Alvin U. Jr.; brothers, C.E. of
Asheville, Estes of Greenville and Brice Dunagin; sister, Mrs. Mary Wheeler of Startex.**

Funeral arrangement to be announced by Floyds”

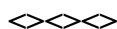
Interment was in the Sloan's Grove Baptist Church Cemetery.

**Excerpts from the Obituary of Mrs. Alvin Dunagin Sr. published Sunday, February 21,
1971;**

**“Mrs. Eunice Cannon Dunagin, 79, widow of Alvin U. Dunagin Sr., died Saturday in a
Columbia Hospital after a long illness. Native of Spartanburg County, member of the
Sloan's Grove Baptist Church and the daughter of the late Vinson and Lydia Huntsinger
Cannon.**

Survivors were; daughter, Mrs. Ruth Bennett; son, Alvin Dunagin Jr.; six grandchildren.

**Services at Floyds Greenlawn Chapel with burial in Sloan's Grove Baptist Church
Cemetery.”**



The Family of Alvin Uriah Dunagin Jr. son of Alvin Sr. and Eunice Cannon Dunagin;

No census records were found.

Excerpts from the Obituary of Alvin Dunagin Jr, published Thursday, January 19, 1984; “Alvin Uriah Dunagin Jr., 63, died Wednesday in the Spartanburg General Hospital. Native of Spartanburg County, he was the son of Alvin Uriah Sr. and Eunice Cannon Dunagin. He was a member of the New Hope Baptist Church. (Formally Sloan’s Grove) He was a graduate of Spartanburg High School and a former employee of Whiteside Construction Co.

Survivors were; daughter, Brenda Hyatt, Spartanburg; sons, Hal Dunagin, Key West, Fla., Brian Hardin and Gary Alvin Dunagin, Spartanburg; sister, Mrs. Ruth Bennett, Spartanburg and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were to be held at Floyd’s Greenlawn Chapel with interment following in the New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery.



The Family of Ruth Dunagin Bennett, daughter of Alvin Sr. and Eunice Cannon Dunagin; Ruth Dunagin married J. Wallace Bennett; No Census records were found;

Excerpts from the Obituary of J. Wallace Bennett published Saturday, December 6, 2002; “Wallace Bennett Sr., 87, died Thursday December 5, 2002 at the Spartanburg Regional Medical Center. A native of Spartanburg, he was the son of B.B. and Iola Scott Bennett, and the husband of Ruth Dunagin Bennett.

He was a former car salesman and was a lifelong member of the Cannon’s Camp Ground Methodist Church. He was a former member of the Southern Pioneers, an active member of Cannon’s Camp Ground Ruritan Club, and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Surviving in addition to his wife are; a daughter and son in-law, Peggy and David Robinette, Spartanburg; a son and daughter in-law, Wally and Traci Bennett, Spartanburg; four grandchildren, Stephanie, Jennifer and Adam Bennett and Steven Robinette; a brother, Claude Bennett, Spartanburg.

Funeral services were to be held at the Cannon’s Camp Ground United Methodist Church with interment to follow in the Church Cemetery. “



The Family of John Landrum Dunagin, son of Benjamin F. and Sarah Kirby Dunagin; J. Landrum Dunagin married Mamie Poole, daughter of Noah and Hattie Poole.

The 1920 Spartanburg, Sloan’s Grove/Zion Hill Census listed the household as;

J.L. Dunagin 29, husband/farmer	Wife; Mamie 29
Children; Clyde 7 Sarah 5 Ralph 4 Charles 1 month	

Excerpts from the Obituary of Mrs. J. L. Dunagin published Tuesday, October 25, 1955;

“Mrs. Mamie Poole Dunagin, 65, wife of J. L. Dunagin, died unexpectedly Monday morning at the Mary Black Hospital. Mrs. Dunagin was born and reared in Spartanburg County and was a member of the Sloan’s Grove Baptist Church.

Survivors were; her husband; two daughters, Miss Sarah Dunagin and Mrs. Cary Pridgeon; five sons, Cleve, Hilliard, Ralph, John and Ben Dunagin, all of Spartanburg; two sisters, Mrs. Mattie Cooksey, Mrs. Paul Mabry; two brothers, W.I. Poole and P.S. Poole; twelve grandchildren.

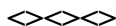
Services were to be held at the Sloan’s Grove Baptist Church with burial in the Church Cemetery.”

Excerpts from the Obituary of J.L. Dunagin published Thursday, May 11, 1967;

“John Landrum Dunagin, 77, died Wednesday in the Mary Black Hospital. Son of the late Ben F. and Vashti Kirby Dunagin, retired farmer and was a member of the Pierce Acres Church of the Brethren.

Survivors were; daughters, Miss Sarah Dunagin, Mrs. Carey Pridgeon; sons, Cleve, Ralph, Ben and Hilliard Dunagin, all of Spartanburg, John Dunagin, Roanoke Rapids, N. C.; brothers, Charles, Alvin, Estes Dunagin, Greenville, and Brice Dunagin, Gastonia; sister, Mrs. Mary Wheeler, Startex; nineteen grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Services to be held at Pierce Acres Church of the Brethren with burial in the Church Cemetery.” (Church of the Brethren was previously the Sloan’s Grove Baptist Church)



The Family of Charles Leroy Dunagin, son of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin; No census records were found.

Excerpts from the Obituary of C.L. Dunagin, published Tuesday, May 11, 1948;

“Charles LeRoy “Roy” Dunagin, 28, died early Monday morning at a local hospital following a brief illness. Prior to his illness, he was a foreman with Fiske Carter Construction Co. He was a lifelong resident of the Sloan’s Grove section.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Bertha Dunagin; three sons, Harold Dean, Roy Keith and James Earl Dunagin, Spartanburg; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Dunagin, Spartanburg; five brothers, Cleve, Ralph, John, Hilliard and Ben Dunagin, Spartanburg; two sisters, Miss Sarah Dunagin and Miss Carey Dunagin, Spartanburg;

Funeral services were to be held at the Sloan’s Grove Baptist Church with interment in the church cemetery.”



The Family of Cary Dunagin Pridgeon, daughter of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin;

Cary married Walter L. Pridgeon.

No census records found.

Excerpts from the Obituary of Mrs. Carey Pridgeon published Sunday, July 3, 1983;

“Carey Dunagin Pridegon, 56, wife of Walter L. Pridgeon, died Friday after a long illness. A native of Spartanburg, she was the daughter of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin. She was a member of the Fernwood Baptist Church.

Also surviving; daughters, Mrs. Lynn Ballard, Greer, Miss. Amie Pridgeon of the home; son, Kenneth Pridgeon, Charleston, S. C.; brothers, Alvin Cleve, Hilliard, Ralph and Ben Dunagin, Spartanburg and John Dunagin, Eden, N. C.; Sister, Miss. Sarah Dunagin, Spartanburg; two grandchildren.

Funeral Services were to be held at M.W. Bobo Funeral Chapel with interment following in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.”



The Family of John Landrum Dunagin Jr., son of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin;

No Census records found.

Excerpts from the obituary of John L. Dunagin Jr. published Tuesday, September 15, 1987; “John Landrum Dunagin, 66, died Sunday in the Moreheard Memorial Hospital. He was a native of Spartanburg County, the husband of Louise Chapman Dunagin. He attended the St. Mary By The Highway Church and was a member of the VFW. He operated the Rockingham Insulation Co.

Survivors include two step daughters, Peggy G. Vinson, Roanoke Rapids, Margie G. Atkins, Spartanburg; one sister, Sarah Dunagin, Spartanburg; four brothers, Cleve, Ben, Ralph and Hilliard Dunagin, Spartanburg; eight grand and seven great grandchildren.

Local funeral services will be held at the M.W. Bobo Funeral Chapel with interment following in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.”

Edna Louise Chapman Dunagin died at the age of 71, February, 1991.



The Family of Alvin Cleve Dunagin, son of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin;

“Cleve” as he was known and called married Fay [McKinney](#), daughter of Albert and Emma [McKinney](#).

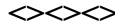
No Census records found.

Excerpts from the obituary of A. Cleve Dunagin published Wednesday, February 23, 1994; “Alvin Cleve Dunagin, 81, died February 21, 1994 at the Spartanburg Regional. A native of Spartanburg County, he was the son of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin.

He was a member of the Drayton Baptist Church where he served as a deacon, teacher and member of the 3R Club. He was retired from the Fiske Carter and Daniel Construction Co. and was a veteran of World War II

Survivors were his wife, Fay [McKinney](#) Dunagin; daughter, Sara Pope, Huntersville, N. C.; a son, Randal Dunagin, Statesboro, Ga.; a sister, Sarah Dunagin, Spartanburg; three brothers, Ralph, Hilliard and Benjamin Dunagin, Spartanburg; six grandchildren.

Funeral services were to be held at Bobo Funeral Chapel with interment to follow in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.”



Sarah V. Dunagin, daughter of John L. and Mamie Poole Dunagin;
Sarah never married.

Excerpts from the Obituary of Sarah V. Dunagin published Saturday, April 15, 1995;
“Sarah V. Dunagin, 81, died April 13, 1995. A native of Spartanburg, she was the daughter of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin.

She was a member of the [Glendale Baptist Church](#) where she was a member of the Fidelis S.C. Bible Class. She had retired from Mary Black Memorial Hospital where she was “Volunteer of the Year 1995”

Survivors were; three brothers, Ralph, Ben and H. Hilliard Dunagin.
Funeral arrangements to be announced”



The Family of Ralph K. Dunagin, son of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin;
Ralph K. Dunagin married Mary Ellen Hatchette, daughter of Sumter and Lillie Koon Hatchette;
No census records were found.

Excerpts from the Obituary of Ralph K. Dunagin published Saturday, November 22, 1997;
“Ralph K. Dunagn, 81, died November 21, 1997 in the Magnolia Place. He was the son of John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin. He was of the Baptist faith and had retired from the Harley Bag Company.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Ellen Hatchette Dunagin; two daughters, Barbara D. Burrell and Jacquelyn Carolyn McAbee; two sons, James and Dennis Dunagin; two brothers, Hilliard and Ben Dunagin; eleven grand and five great grandchildren.

Graveside service will be held in the New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery” (former Sloan’s Grove Baptist Church)

Mary Hatchett Dunagin died at the age of 83, December 2, 2002



The Family of David Hilliard Dunagin Sr., son of John L. and Mamie Poole Dunagin;
Hilliard Dunagin married Sarah Whitt. They became the parents of four or more children;

Sarah Whitt Dunagin died in July, 1994

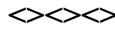
Excerpts from the Obituary of David H. Dunagin Sr. published Tuesday, February 28, 2006;

David Hilliard Dunagin Sr, 81, died Sunday, February 26, 2006. He was married to the late Sarah Whitt and was the son of John L. and Mamie Dunagin. He was a retired farmer and of the Baptist faith.

Survivors were; two sons, David H. Dunagin Jr. and wife Elizabeth, Danny and Pam Dunagin; two daughters, Margaret D. Wilson and husband Howard, Susan D. Parker and husband Tommy; a brother, Ben Dunagin; nine grand and 7 great grandchildren.

Mr Dunagin was predeceased by four brothers, Roy, Ralph, Cleve and Johnny Dunagin; two sisters, Sarah Dunagin and Carey Pridgeon.

Services to be held in M.W. Bobo Funeral Chapel with interment following in the New Hope Baptist Cemetery”



The Family of Benjamin P. Dunagin, son of John L. and Mamie Poole Dunagin; Benjamin (Ben) Dunagin married Barbara [McKinney](#). They became the parents of four children.

No census records found.

Excerpts from the Obituary of Barbara M. Dunagin as published Monday, May 20, 2002; “Barbara [McKinney](#) Dunagin, 67, died May 19, 2002 at the Spartanburg Regional Health Care System. A native of Columbus, Ga., she was the daughter of [Hilda Olive McKinney](#) and the late [William Andrew McKinney](#). She was the owner of the Dunagin Greenhouse, a homemaker and a member of the [Glendale Baptist Church](#).

Survivors were her husband, Ben P. Dunagin Sr.; two sons, Ben P. Dunagin Jr., Spartanburg and Billy Dunagin, John’s Island; two daughters, Suzanne D. Dunn, Aiken and Rebecca D. Hopper, Clover; one sister, [Mary Lee McKinney Teaster](#), Summerville; eight grandchildren.

Services were held in the [Glendale Baptist Church](#) with internment following in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.”

([Mary Lee McKinney Teaster](#) is our fine Web Master)

Excerpts from the Obituary of Benjamin P. Dunagin published Tuesday, August 31, 2010; “Benjamin Poole Dunagin Sr., 79, died Monday, August 30, 2010 at the Regional Hospice Home. Born June 10, 1931, he was the son of the late John Landrum and Mamie Poole Dunagin.

As a young man he was involved with the state 4H and was a graduate of Spartanburg High School. He was a dairy farmer and was retired from Union Camp as a Supervisor after 25 years of service. He had joined the Eastside Baptist Church after serving as a Deacon and Sunday School Teacher at the [Glendale Baptist Church](#) where he had been a member for many years.

He was survived by two sons, Ben. P. Dunagin Jr. and wife, Donna and Billy L. Dunagin, of John's Island; two daughters, Suzanne D. Dunn and husband Scott of Easley and Rebecca D. Hopper and husband Matt of Ellenbore, N. C.; three grandsons, Mathew Dunagin, Jake and John Dunn; five granddaughters, April D. Schnibben and husband The Rev. Jonathan Schnibben, Shannon Dunn, Molly and Maggie Hopper and Addie Lee Hopper and one great granddaughter, McKinney Schibben

Mr. Dunagin was preceded in death by five brothers; Cleve, Ralph, Roy, John, Hilliard Dunagin; two sisters, Sarah Dunagin and Carey D. Pridgeon.

Funeral services to be held at Eastside Baptist Church with Interment following in the Greenlawn Memorial Gardens”



The Family of Mary Dunagin Wheeler, daughter of Benjamin and Maggie Weeks Dunagin; Mary had married Leonard K. Wheeler.
No Census records were found;

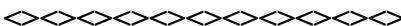
Leonard K. Wheeler died at the age of 48 in September, 1960.

Excerpts from the Obituary of Mary Ann Dunagin Wheeler published Friday, January 8, 1993;

“Mary Ann Dunagin Wheeler, 82, died January 6, 1993 in the Golden Age Nursing Home after several years of declining health. A native of Spartanburg County, she was the wife of Leonard K. Wheeler and the daughter of the late Ben and Margaret (Maggie) Dunagin. She was a member of the Tucapau Baptist Church and a homemaker.

Survivors include; a daughter in-law, Pam Wheeler, Moore; two grandchildren.

Services were to be held in the Tucapau Baptist Church with interment following in the Wood Memorial Park.”



Writer's comments; The Dunagin's were hard working prosperous families. In addition to regular farm crops, the first and second generation raised cattle, operated peach orchards, etc., making great contributions to the growth and stability of their community. Most were loyal members and supporters of the Zion Hill, Sloan's Grove Baptist Churches. While some of the second and third generation continued to work on the farm, many, perhaps the majority, were employed in factories and construction.

Census and Obituary records courtesy of Spartanburg County Library.

Clarence E. Crocker, October 2013

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