The origin of our Cole Surname

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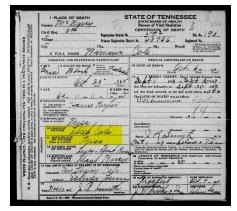
Back in 1986 I asked my Mom to write down our family history. I had asked her to tell me the family history from time to time but could not write fast enough to keep up her diction. In the text on the right, she mentions that her Cole grandparents came from Bethel Springs, TN. I did not act on this information until 2021. I found out that my 2gp Ann 's sisters name was Winnie. With the help of the McNairy Tennessee Office of County Archives I have traced Ann Cole back to Macon, MS in Noxubee County in the 1870 Federal Census. As you can see in the snippet of the 1870 censes (click to enlarge all images), Ann is 24, Winnie is 16, and Monroe is 6 years old.



It's worth noting that Ann and Winnie were born in Alabama, and Monroe was born in Mississippi; also, that

Winnie was a Mulatto.

Ann Cole's death certificate doesn't provide any new information, however Winnie's death certificate does. Winnie's death certificate lists her father as Dick Cole. Placing several pieces of information together I have formed the hypotheses that Rich Cole who lived in Noxubee County, Mississippi was the last enslaver of our Cole surname. Looking at the 1860 Slave Schedule for Rich Cole in Noxubee County, Mississippi, we see that, of the twenty one enslaved, a fourteen year old Black female and a six year old



Mulatto female are included; Ann and Winnie.

