

---

## MAZE 2014 February Edition

---

Submitted by: Leonard Middlebrooks

### Hiram Middlebrook (1800-1887)

#### A Connecticut Yankee in Columbus, Georgia

At the age of 34, Hiram came to Columbus from South Carolina. He operated a successful saddlery (def) business in this southwest Georgia city for at least fifty years. He died childless and a widow in 1887.

Hiram Middlebrook was the third of eleven children of Samuel Wheeler Middlebrook and Jerusha Mills. He was born on 10 September 1800 and his tombstone indicates he was a native of Bridgeport, Connecticut, though the 1909 Middlebrook Register states he was born in Woodbury, Connecticut. In the short biography presented in the *Biographical Souvenir of the States of Georgia and Florida*, his birth place is given as Westchester, New York, a county adjacent to the Connecticut Fairfield County. Hiram's birth place may never be known, but it is known that his father was from Fairfield County and died in Bridgeport.

Hiram married Clara Hand about 1838. He is noted as the original owner of a Guilford, Conn Italian villa style house built in about 1849. The house still exists and was originally a double residency. Hiram and Clara are enumerated there in 1850 and 1860. Clara appears alone in Guilford in 1870 and is not found in 1880, four years prior to her death. Clara was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

His wife Clarissa [Clara] E. Hand (1813-1884) was the daughter of Elon Hand and Ruth Parmalee. It appears Clara may have moved south with Hiram in the early part of their marriage, but returned to Guilford before 1850. She remained there until her death. Some Internet statements indicate that Hiram did not move south until after Clara's death, but census and mercantile records indicate otherwise. In 1840 a H. Middlebrook, age 30-39, is enumerated in Columbus. With him is a male, age 20-29, and a female, age 20-29. This may be Hiram as the age brackets for him and Clara would be correct, but the couple had no children. It is not known who the younger male is. For an unknown reason it appears Hiram is living in both Columbus and Guilford.

From the *Biographical Souvenir of the States of Georgia and Florida*, Hiram's journey to Georgia is found. At the age of fifteen he is learning the tanning and currying trade at New Haven. New Haven is a town about ten miles from Bridgeport and midway between Bridgeport and Guilford on the Connecticut Long Island Sound coast.

In the fall of 1826 he went to Wilmington, N.C., where he continued his tanning trade. In Wilmington he opened a saddle, harness and shoe shop. His next move in 1834 brought him to his Columbus, Georgia home where he opened a saddle, harness and leather shop, which he successfully conducted until 1886, when he retired.

Leading to the war era, in 1854 Hiram Middlebrook was the business manager of the Columbus branch

of saddlers, Wade, Crosby and Company, a Bridgeport firm. In the post war era of 1865-66, IRS tax assessments note Hiram as the owner of H. Middlebrook and Co, a manufacturer and retail seller in Muscogee County. The business was located on what is now Broadway Street in Columbus.

On 8 July 1867 the Georgia Returns of Qualified Voters and Reconstruction Oath Books show Hiram taking the oath of allegiance to the United States. Whether Hiram was a genuine convert to the Confederate cause is not known. He did contract with the Confederate government to provide saddles, harnesses and other leather goods. He was able to continue his business as Columbus was one of the few main manufacturing centers that was not razed by advancing Federal forces.

Hiram's life as a Free Mason is equally well recorded and at the time of his death, it was said he was oldest Free Mason in the State of Georgia. He took the first degree in the Bridgeport St. John's lodge No. 3 in the fall of 1822 and in 1823 he took the chapter and council degrees at the Jerusalem Chapter No. 13.

In Columbus, Georgia, Hiram took the commandery degrees in 1858 and was the eminent commander of the St Aldamar Commandery # 3 for twenty years. In his eighty-seventh year, his mind was thought to be perfectly clear and his eyesight and hearing good. He was regarded as one of the best citizens of Columbus and was of amiable and genial disposition. He lived through an eventful period, and in his advanced years had many friends and was held in universal esteem.

On 13 Feb 1887 Hiram died at the age of 87 years in Columbus, Georgia. He is buried in the Columbus Linwood Cemetery and is the only Middlebrook, with or without an ending s, in the cemetery.

end



Submitted by: Charles S. & Jo Middlebrooks

Leonard and Toni Middlebrooks visited Linwood Cemetery in Columbus, Georgia and the grave site of Hiram Middlebrook in 2013. In the background and to the right is the Lummus Chapel where the MFA will meet on their visit to Hiram's grave site at the Middlebrooks Family Association Annual Meeting October 30 – November 1, 2014.

## HELP

We need someone to help maintain our MFA Family Register for our Middlebrooks family history information in other countries. The job would entail simply inputting Middlebrooks information, as it becomes available in a genealogy software program such as Family Tree Maker, Legacy etc. Almost any genealogy software program now days can be used for this purpose. We do not anticipate this job to be very time consuming. With the help of Ian Middlebrook, in England and others we now need to make sure this information is readily available for the MFA Register update, to our members and others. So far, this would include limited Middlebrooks family history information from Canada, Peru, England, New Zealand and Australia.

Please contact Neal Middlebrook [nealmidbrook1@frontier.com](mailto:nealmidbrook1@frontier.com) or Leonard Middlebrooks [gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com) if you would be interested in helping with this project or if you have additional questions.

---

### Edward Middlebroughe (circa 1570-1627), Dewsberry Parish, Yorkshire, England

Based on the research of Ian Middlebrook, partially funded by the MFA, we suspect our emigrant ancestor Joseph b. 1613, was the son of Edward Middlebroughe. Joseph, baptized in 1613, was the earliest record for this given name discovered in England parish records thus far. This given name was also not very common in England. The Joseph Middlebrook b. 1610, listed in the Register of the Middlebrook Family, 1909, emigrated to America in 1635, from England. We have not been able to locate Joseph b. 1613, in other English parish records, meaning he either emigrated to America, his death, marriage or children were not recorded or we have not found the correct parish. Many of the Yorkshire parish records have been searched, but more work is needed. Please let us know if you would like to help.

### Family of Edward Middlebroughe of Ossett, Dewsberry, Yorkshire<sup>1</sup>

Edward Middlebroughe of Ossett married, first, Alice \_\_\_\_\_ in or before 1592, they had 6 children:

1. John, baptized December 21, 1592, Dewsberry, died February 10, 1617.
2. William, baptized March 25, 1593/94, Dewsbury, died February 25, 1602.
3. Agnes, baptized March 20, 1596/97, Dewsberry, died January 1, 1598.
4. Jonye, baptized November 10, 1601, Dewsberry, married Nicholas Hargraye, January 1626, Dewsberry.
5. William, baptized December 26, 1603, Dewsberry, married Sarah Rawson/Ransom, February 1629.
6. Alice, baptized October 10, 1606, Dewsberry, married John Gamall, April 25, 1630.

Alice, the wife of Edward, was buried on October 10, 1606, Dewsberry. Edward, married Alice Brouke, January 30, 1608, Dewsberry, they had six children:

7. Elizabeth, baptized December 28, 1609, Dewsberry, married William Milner, April 30, 1632, Dewsberry.
8. Edward, baptized July 28, 1611, Dewsberry.
9. **Joseph, baptized September 12, 1613, Dewsberry.**
10. Dorothe, baptized August 24, 1615, Dewsberry, married Mathew Speight of Gawthorpe, July 1, 1635, Dewsberry.
11. Sara, baptized September 25, 1617, died October 20, 1617, Dewsberry.
12. John, baptized May 9, 1619, Dewsberry.

Alice the second wife of Edward, died April 9, 1621, Dewsberry. Edward married Margaret Medlay, November, 23, 1624, Dewsberry. They had 2 children:

13. Andrew, baptized December 4, 1625, Dewsberry, died December 25, 1625.
14. An unbaptized daughter, died August 12, 1627, Dewsberry.

Edward was buried December 1, 1627, Dewsberry, his widow Margaret married John Mitchell, May 27, 1628.

---

<sup>1</sup> Personal research of Ian Middlebrook, Weymouth, Dorset, England.

# MIDDLEBROOKS FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.

## 2013-2014 OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT – Joyce Arnold**

**VICE PRESIDENT – Leonard Middlebrooks**

### ANCESTOR TEAM LEADERS

**Isaac b. 1753 –**

Leonard Middlebrooks [gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com)  
and Jean Shroyer [TXJean@aol.com](mailto:TXJean@aol.com)

**John b. 1755 –**

Bob Middlebrooks [mid293@earthlink.net](mailto:mid293@earthlink.net)

**Micajah b. 1758 –**

Sharon Bartlett [sharonbartlett@att.net](mailto:sharonbartlett@att.net)  
and Mary Baker [mmbaker65@hotmail.com](mailto:mmbaker65@hotmail.com)

**Sims b. 1762 –**

Neal Middlebrook [nealmidbroo1@frontier.com](mailto:nealmidbroo1@frontier.com)

**Thomas b. 1763 –**

Jarrellyn Lang [thelangs@hotmail.com](mailto:thelangs@hotmail.com)

**Robert b. 1766 –**

J.A. Middlebrooks [middle3jam2012@gmail.com](mailto:middle3jam2012@gmail.com)

**Joseph b. 1610 –**

Leonard Middlebrooks [gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com)

**Joseph b. 1770 –**

Dave Clark [cdave1000@gmail.com](mailto:cdave1000@gmail.com)

**Virginia Middlebrooks –**

Neal Middlebrook [nealmidbroo1@frontier.com](mailto:nealmidbroo1@frontier.com)  
Phyllis Coleman [philly5030@gmail.com](mailto:philly5030@gmail.com)

**Unknown Ancestor –**

Leonard Middlebrooks [gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com)

**England Research – Ian Middlebrook and Neal Middlebrook**

**MFA Quarterly Newsletter Editor –**

Jarrellyn Lang [MFAeditor@gmail.com](mailto:MFAeditor@gmail.com)

MAZE by Team Leaders and published by Joyce Arnold

\*\*\*\*\*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President ----- -Joyce Arnold, 2011-2014  
[joycenjim@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joycenjim@sbcglobal.net)

Vice President ---- Leonard Middlebrooks, 2013-2015  
[gambol@juno.com](mailto:gambol@juno.com)

Secretary/Treasurer --- Kathleen Hunter, 2013-2015  
[Kathleen@bscn.com](mailto:Kathleen@bscn.com)

Charles Swayne Middlebrooks Sr., 2013 -2015  
[cmiddleb@bellsouth.net](mailto:cmiddleb@bellsouth.net)

Kerry Middlebrooks, 2013 - 2015  
[mbrooks@gci.net](mailto:mbrooks@gci.net)

Joan Miller, 2013 -2015  
[jmill1912@hotmail.com](mailto:jmill1912@hotmail.com)

Bob Middlebrooks, 2011 – 2014  
[mid293@earthlink.net](mailto:mid293@earthlink.net)

Joyce Luck, 2011 – 2014  
[jm.luck50@yahoo.com](mailto:jm.luck50@yahoo.com)

Dale Kidwell, 2013 – 2016  
[Dalekidwell07@gmail.com](mailto:Dalekidwell07@gmail.com)

### ON-GOING PROJECTS

Cemetery..... J. A. Middlebrooks  
and William Sterling [wgs10@embarqmail.com](mailto:wgs10@embarqmail.com)

DNA.....Bob Middlebrooks, Dave Clark  
and Henry Middlebrook, [henrym@hmmx.com](mailto:henrym@hmmx.com)

MFA Website.....Dave Clark  
and Leonard Middlebrooks

Family Repository.....Michael Kerry Middlebrooks

Family Register Update.....Leonard Middlebrooks

Military Register Update .....M. Kerry Middlebrooks

DAR-UDC Project ..... Jean Shroyer

\*\*\*\*\*

**MFA Web Site:** <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~midregerrata>

Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc. (MFA) was founded in 2001 for the purpose of assembling and preserving genealogical and historical material for future generations. MFA has two publications, as below.

THE MAZE, issued each February, May, August, and November, is sent to everyone on the MFA mailing list. It is free to both paid and non-paid members. If you want to be removed from this list, please contact Joyce Arnold, at [joycenjim@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joycenjim@sbcglobal.net).

MFA Quarterly Newsletter is published four times a year (December, March, June, and September) by the Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc., 274 Wilder Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029. Subscription to the Quarterly is included in membership dues. Articles for inclusion in the Quarterly, or suggestions for topics, may be sent to Jarrellyn Lang, Editor, at [MFAeditor@gmail.com](mailto:MFAeditor@gmail.com).

All submissions are subject to editing.

**MFA Membership is \$20.00 per year, September 01 thru August 31. If you would like to become a member, please make check payable to MFA and mail to: MFA, % Kathleen Hunter, P.O. Box 125, Tupelo, AR 72169**