

## Betsy Hopkins

Betsy Hopkins was born in Danville, Kentucky on the Springhouse Plantation circa 1808. She was the slave of Thomas Walker Fry. When Thomas Walker's daughter Mary Ann, married Elias Lawrence in Middletown, KY, her father gave Betsy and six other slaves to his daughter Mary Ann. They all relocated to Middletown, Kentucky. Elias owned the land where La Fontenay Apartments are currently.

Betsy had 18 children, but I only have records of nine of them. One of her sons, Charlie Fry, married a Cynthia Taylor (who was a slave of James W. Goslee) the city of Anchorage was named after his home, the Anchorage. Her other son, Jessie, was a servant in 1870 at the home of Joshua Speed. Charlie was buried in Cave Hill Cemetery in 1899. Betsy had a son named Zeke who was a dining room attendant at 3rd and Chestnut. Thomas Walker Fry's sister married John Speed and they had a son, Joshua Fry Speed. He became Abraham Lincoln's best friend.

Thomas Walker Fry's father was Joshua Fry. He was instrumental in starting Centre College in Danville, KY. He came to Danville from Charlottesville, VA in 1897. Joshua Fry was named after his grandfather Joshua Fry who with Thomas Walker and Peter Jefferson made the first maps of Virginia. Thomas Walker was Thomas Jefferson's doctor. Peter Jefferson was his father.

Elias Lawrence died three years after he married Mary Ann Fry and 2/3 of his slaves went to his son Joshua Fry Lawrence, who was called Fry. He owned Betsy until the end of slavery.

Written by Keith Winstead, the 3 x great grandson of Betsy Hopkins. Thank you for sharing your family's amazing story with us Keith! We are proud to be a part of preserving the legacy of Mrs. Hopkins.

Fry papers:

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