

ANTHONY BOBBITT SENIOR 1796 - 1847
 Son of John Richard and Elizabeth Bobbitt

Anthony Bobbitt was born in 1796 in Warren County North Carolina. He was the first child and son of John Richard and Elizabeth (Dowtain) Bobbitt. He was a grandson of Randolph and Elizabeth (Harris) Bobbitt.

Anthony is an unusual name in the Bobbitt family. In this case Anthony Bobbitt was named for his maternal grandfather Anthony Dowtain. The Dowtain family is in the early records of Granville County, Bute County, and Warren County North Carolina. The family lived near the Bobbitt family on Reedy Creek in what is today Warren County.

We have not been able to prove the marriage of Anthony Bobbitt, but believe that he married a Martha Dowtain who was a daughter of John Dowtain and a first cousin to Anthony Bobbitt. He was married in 1812 and his first son was named Anthony Bobbitt Junior. Junior was born in 1813 probably in Warren County.

Anthony Dowtain a first cousin of Anthony Bobbitt Senior was a slave merchant. He apparently taught the business to Anthony Bobbitt Senior and he in turn taught the business to Anthony Bobbitt Junior. The center of this business in North Carolina was in Hillsborough, in Orange County, North Carolina. When Anthony Bobbitt was not away on business he made his home in Orange County.

The first mention of an Anthony Bobbitt in the records was in the 1830 census of Warren County. The record is of Anthony Junior who was living in the home of his grandmother Elizabeth (Dowtain) Bobbitt. His grandfather had died in 1823. Although Anthony was only 17 years of age he was listed as head of household.

Anthony Bobbitt: (Junior)

1 male 10 - 15	(1815-1820)	1 female 20 - 30	(1800-1810)
1 male 15 - 20*	(1810-1815)	1 female 50 - 60	(1770-1780)

*This is Anthony Bobbitt Junior and the male listed with him was William Dowtain Bobbitt, his brother. The female from 20 to 30 was a daughter of John R. Bobbitt. The female 50 to 60 was Elizabeth (Dowtain) Bobbitt aged 50, born in 1780.

In 1835 or 1836 Anthony Bobbitt Junior left North Carolina and we believe that he first went to Montgomery County Alabama where he had numerous relatives. He married Abigail Townsend on November 8, 1838 in Carroll County, Mississippi.

When Anthony Bobbitt Junior left North Carolina, Elizabeth (Dowtain) Bobbitt moved to Orange County North Carolina and lived near her son, Anthony Bobbitt Senior. The 1840 census record of Orange County is virtually the only positive record of Anthony Bobbitt Senior.

We know there were other Bobbitt families living in Orange County in 1840. The only families recorded in the census were the three listed below. We cannot find Anthony Bobbitt in Orange County tax lists or any court records.

Martha Bobbitt: (page 206)
 1 male 5 - 10 (1830-1835) 1 female 30 - 40 (1800-1810)

Elizabeth Bobbitt: (page 249)
 no males 1 female 50 - 60 (1780-1790)

Anthony Bobbitt: (page 249)
 1 male 10 - 15 (1825-1830) 1 female 10 - 15 (1825-1830)
 1 male 40 - 50 (1790-1800) 1 female 15 - 20 (1820-1825)
 1 female 20 - 30 (1810-1820)

In 1840 Anthony Bobbitt Senior was a widower and is listed here with one son and three daughters. We know that he had two sons who were born after 1812 and are not listed in this census record. One was Anthony Bobbitt Junior born in 1813 and one was William Downtain Bobbitt born in 1817.

Many correspondents have provided clues to the family of Anthony Bobbitt Senior. Particularly Wilma Johnson, Edith Goodson, and Betty Poe. From these correspondents we know the family lived in Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas. The first stop after leaving North Carolina was Montgomery County Alabama.

The first Bobbitt family of record in Montgomery County Alabama was Lemuel Bobbitt and his family. He was a son of William and Susanna (James) Bobbitt of Warren County, North Carolina. William and his family moved to South Carolina in 1800. Lemuel Bobbitt moved to Montgomery County Alabama between 1814 and 1820. Lemuel was a first cousin once removed to Anthony Bobbitt Senior.

Mrs. Betty Bobbitt Poe copied the marriage records of Montgomery County for members of the Bobbitt family. The list below are all the recorded marriages between 1830 and 1870.

John G. Bobbitt *	to Elizabeth McElwain	Feb. 9, 1832
Wiley Bobbitt *	to Matilda Motes	Nov. 11, 1838
Henry Bobbitt	to Elvia F. Dandy	Jul. 30, 1839
Selina Bobbitt	to John J. Callam (Kellum)	Jul. 26, 1842
Elizabeth Bobbitt	to James A. Adams	Jan. 25, 1844
L. D. Bobbitt	to Nancy Windham	Jan. 1, 1846
W. D. Bobbitt	to Arabella C. Callaway	Oct. 26, 1847
Susanna J. Bobbitt*	to William R. Thornton	Feb. 10, 1849
Wiley I. Bobbitt *	to Ann W. Lewis	Oct. 29, 1849

*These are known descendants of Lemuel Bobbitt. The others are likely descendants of Anthony Bobbitt Senior and Anthony Junior.

Wilma Johnson and Edith Goodson wrote about Anthony Bobbitt Junior, with records of his marriages in Carrol County Mississippi. They have some records of the family in Anderson and Cherokee Counties of Texas. Mrs. John R. Holcomb wrote this information.

"Tempie (Temperance) or Salana Bobbitt was born April 19, 1818 in North Carolina, and died January 20, 1903 in Cherokee County, Texas. She married William Kellum (Callam) in Alabama. They moved to Texas about 1854 or 1855. William Kellum died in Cherokee County in 1856. On October 19, 1859 Tempie married William A. Wallace, my great grandfather. William A. Wallace died in April 1864. Tempie or Serena and her seven children moved to Houston County Texas. Serena had a brother about ten years older than she, who moved to Houston County. In about 1895 Serena moved back to Cherokee County, where she died in 1903."

From the Montgomery County marriage records, Selina Bobbitt (a common Bobbitt name) married John J. Callam or Kellum, depending on the court clerk. I believe there was another daughter named Temperance (a common Bobbitt name in both the Bobbitt and Downtain families), who married William Kellum.

John Greer Bobbitt and his family moved to Houston County Texas after a brief stay in Mississippi. There were several Bobbitt families recorded in Houston County Texas between 1860 and the present day.

It seems that the family of Anthony Bobbitt Senior had the following children, who may be identified from the records.

<i>Anthony Bobbitt Junior</i>	<i>born 1813</i>
<i>William Downtain Bobbitt</i>	<i>born 1817</i>
<i>Temperance Bobbitt</i>	<i>born 1818</i>
<i>Selina Bobbitt</i>	<i>born 1821</i>
<i>Elizabeth Bobbitt</i>	<i>born 1826</i>
<i>Lewis D. Bobbitt</i>	<i>born 1828</i>

In time the exchange of correspondents may solve some of the mysteries of the Anthony Bobbitt Senior family.

There is a tax list in Orange County in 1846 which lists an "A. Bobbitt" which I am taking to be Anthony Bobbitt Senior. The name does not appear again in the records. We record the death of Anthony Bobbitt Senior as being in 1847 in Orange County, North Carolina.