

# A Return to Spring Valley

**Authored by Joanne Vaughan Boucher  
with Introduction by Samuel J. Burris**

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**Ross Burris, standing by his mother Lena Tabitha Byrd Vaughan Burris.  
This photo was taken in Southwest Virginia about 1905.**

Following are several different photos taken by my cousin Joanne Vaughan Boucher. She took the pictures because she had learned her great grandmother and grandfather were married and had two children on that land along Cripple Creek, northwestern Virginia.

Many folks have come to know the difficulties faced by the Lena and William Vaughan family. The story was recently published in the Grayson County Historical Society (Virginia) winter, 2019 Newsletter, "Glimpses of Grayson", Pages #6 and # 7.

Please scroll down and gaze at these treasures, imaging what the two people's lives may have been like in those days over 120 years ago. At the end of the photos, you will find a poem written by Joanne expressing her own feelings.

Please continue on.....



**The Cabin as it looks in the summer season**

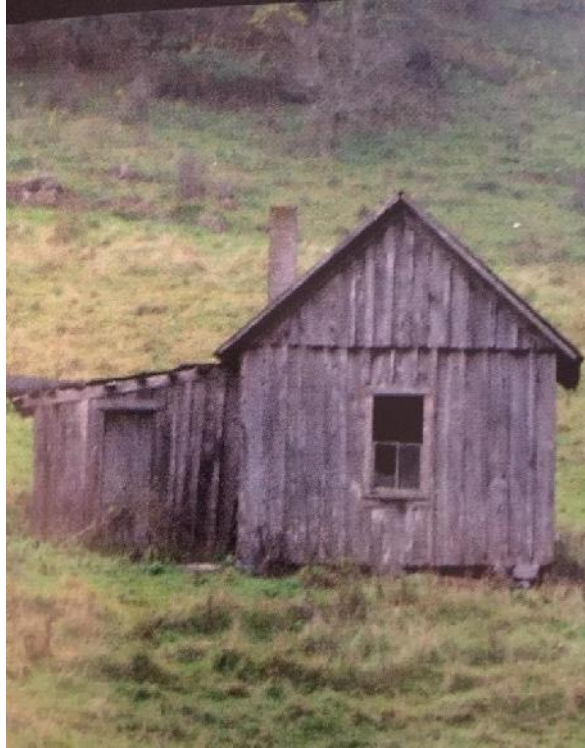


**The cattle grazing above Cripple Creek**



**As the water flows in the creek, the cabin waits in the distance**





**Close range**



**Cabin on the slope**



**Seen here, the cabin has wood along the side and slats nailed over one window.**

# Life on Cripple Creek

A Cabin stands out in a field  
 On the other side of Cripple Creek  
 Where in eighteen hundred and ninety eight  
 A family lived, humble and meek

A man, young and strong  
 Committed to his wife and son  
 A growing family,  
 Another child soon to come

The new child is born  
 Deep down in the fall;  
 And then upon that young man  
 A sickness calls

Rest in peace,  
 William A. Vaughan  
 Now, alone the young woman  
 Must find a way to carry on

Out the window  
 She watches and waits  
 For help to come  
 Is it her fate?

As the woman and children  
 Leave their home  
 She sets a flower  
 By his stone

The young widow married another man  
 Motherhood continued to call  
 Her family grew,  
 Seven children in all

After rearing her large family  
The woman chose to stay;  
From the hills of Virginia  
She never moved away

The hills of Virginia  
The place that forever holds  
Her life, her home, her all.

The young, strong man was William A. Vaughan  
Born on August 15, 1868 and died in this cabin on Cripple Creek in Speedwell,  
Virginia on November 10, 1898.

The young mother was Lena Tabitha Byrd Vaughan.  
Lena was born on March 10, 1878 and died November 10, 1952.

The new child was William Jerome Vaughan,  
Born in this cabin on October 14, 1898 and died in Astoria, Oregon on May  
26, 1951.

**Joanne Vaughan Boucher – Writer** Born, raised and lived in California until relocating to Texas  
in early 2019. Joanne is very interested in family history with a knack for research.

*Lena was her great grandmother.*



**Samuel J. Burris-Editor** Born and raised in Northeast Nebraska.  
He has a B. A. in history from Boise State. Sam taught history and is now retired  
in Thailand. He loves the study of family history.

*Lena was his grandmother.*

