CHAMPION PLACE (aka Catawba Springs)

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Champion Place aka Catawba Springs

The Nolen family came to the Williamson County area in the late 1700's. A broken wagon wheel gave them the opportunity to survey the area and they decided to stay and build their homes near what is now called Nolensville Road.

The village of Nolensville was laid out on William Nolen's land. His brother David settled farther west in areas that are now part of Brentwood. Each of David's three daughters married and settled on land owned by their father. Upon his death, the land was divided between his wife and daughters.

One of the girls had married a George Davis. Their home was originally called Catawba Springs, taking its name from the spring that flowed from under a Catawba tree behind the house.

Catawba Springs was purchased from the Davis heirs by Joel Champion. He and his family lived there until the place was purchased by the Cawthon family. It ended up in the hands of one Jack Cawthon, owner of Jack's Bar-B-Que on Nashville's Lower Broad. He sold the home, which has been known as the Champion Place since the days of Joel Champion, in 1999.

Catawba Springs

The Nolen family came to northeastern Williamson County in the late 1700's. Their wagon train was headed south when one of the wagons hit an object in the road and broke a wheel. During the delay members of the group scouted the local area. They decided that they liked what they saw. They decided to stay and settle there. They went about acquiring land and started building their homes.

William Nolen settled near what is now Nolensville Road. The village of Nolensville was laid out on his land. His brother David Nolen settled further west in an area around Sunset and Split Log Roads. Most of what was his land is at this writing in the city of Brentwood.

David Nolen had three daughters. When they married, they and their husbands built homes on land belonging to their father. When he died, he left a tract of land for his wife, with the balance of his land being divided among his three daughters each tract to include the house in which the daughter and her family were living.

One of the daughters Polly had married George Davis. They were left a tract of land to include their house, which was the log part of what became Catawba Springs. It takes its name from the beautiful spring flowing from under a catawba tree behind the house.

David Nolen also made ample provision for his wife. In addition to the house and 120 acres, he left her all of the kitchen furniture as she may think proper to take, also one negro girl called Mary and her children; also one horse of her choice, two cows and calves of her choice, six head of sheep two sows and pigs, shoats, all the fowls of every description and one years provisions of every description....coffee, sugar, and salt sufficient for one year; also two plows and gear, complete, with double and single trees and all of the gear belonging thereto. These supplies were intended to last her long enough to find a new husband.

Catawba Springs was bought from the Davis heirs by Joel Champion. He and his family lived there until the place was bought by the Cawthon family. It ended up in the hands of Jack Cawthon, owner of Jack's Bar-B-Que on Nashville's Lower Broad. He sold it in 1999.