In or about 1745, Andrew McClure was born. He married Mary Wilson on June 13, 1769 in Rowan County. Andrew and Mary then moved to Burke County where records show that they produced seven sons and four daughters.

William was born to Andrew and Mary in 1784. While living in Macon County he married Nancy Strain, a daughter of Andrew and Mary Strain. William and Nancy were the parents of nine children. Two of their daughters later came to be known as expert weavers and were often called upon to weave for neighbors. (G. Hal McClure, of Franklin, has a coverlet they wove.)

On February 13, 1807 a son, George, was born. George married Mary M. Howard, a descendant of Katherine Howard - fifth wife of King Henry VIII, on November 14, 1837 and moved to Cherokee County. While living in Cherokee County, George and Mary produced five children - the youngest being George Samuel who was born on June 17, 1847 and then married Laura Platt on January 11, 1862. (The Platte River out west was named after one of Laura's brothers).

George and Laura had six children one of which was Zed Howard (this is the first McClure child to carry the Howard name, a tradition that continues to date.) Zed Howard married Jeannie Coleman at the turn of the century and Jeannie gave birth to eleven children - one dying at birth.

George Howard was the fourth child born to Zed and Jeannie on September 7, 1915 and he married Sue Daisy Byers on February 18, 1934. Of this union, six children were to be born and four raised to adulthood: Zed Howard, born February 25, 1935/died August 12, 1988; married Thelma Gibson; Den Harold born February 25, 1935, married Velma Miller; Joyce Loretta, born December 2, 1936, married T.V. Smith; Virginia, born January 21, 1938 and died January 21, 1942; Elizabeth June, born June 5, 1940 and died June 4, 1941; George Jr., born July 9, 1940, married Jean Cobo; and Teresa Sue, born October 3, 1955 and died October 31, 1987. There are as of this date ten grandchildren, seventeen great grandchildren, and three great great grandchildren.

George Howard retired from the State Highway Dept. and Sue was a professional woodcarver for over 40 years. She was also one of the original Brasstown Carvers. Several of Sue's carvings are on permanent display at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. and she has been featured in numerous books on carving, Appalachian traditions, and the Folk School. Sue built and furnished the home she still resides in with the revenues from her carvings. Once a gentleman ordered a dozen life size turkeys carved to give as gifts and she used that money to buy a new car. Submitted by: Mrs. G. Hal McClure (Jan Cabe-McClure).

Sources: Family records and personal knowledge.