

Allen, Fulton

by Bruce Bastin

10 July 1907-13 Feb. 1941



Having spent a brief period in Danville, Va., Fuller settled in [Durham](#) ^[6] in 1929. He seldom moved far from there, although he sometimes played at gatherings of seasonal tobacco workers, as in the market area in [Raleigh](#) ^[7], or at country parties in and around [Durham](#) ^[8] and [Orange](#) ^[9] counties. He had direct influence on only a few friends among younger musicians in and around Durham.

As least as early as 1937 he was suffering from serious kidney trouble, and a doctor's report for the welfare department showed that the restoration of his vision was impossible. Despite increasingly serious illness, there was no evident decline in Fuller's recording talents, and certainly not in his output. He moved to live on Massey Avenue close to the hospital, to which he made frequent trips. Nevertheless, he was still recording within eight months of his death. He died in Durham and was buried there at Grove Hill Cemetery.

He was married in 1926 to Cora Mae Martin in Bennettsville, S.C. There were no children.

References:

Bruce Bastin, *Crying for the Carolines* ^[15] (1971 [portraits]).

John Godrich and Robert M. W. Dixon, *Blues and Gospel Records 1902–1941* (1969).

Mebane Enterprise-Journal, 13 Sept. 1973.

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Careless Love- Blind Boy Fuller, 2009. Youtube video posted by RagtimeDorianHenry. Made available from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oMQgYK95Eco> ^[16] (accessed March 13, 2012).

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From:

Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press.^[24]

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