

• TREE TALK •

Volume 39 Issue 1

Fall 2013

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Editor's Letter

We are sorry to learn of the deaths of two people:

Funeral services for John W. "Billy" Cates, 81, of Alto was at Sun., Oct. 13, at 3 p.m. at the O.T. Allen and Son funeral home chapel with Bro. Gary Pridmore and Chaplain Roy Hall officiating. Burial will follow at Lynches Chapel Cemetery. Mr. Cates died Thursday in Alto. He was born Dec. 29, 1931. He was the brother of our member Dan Cates.

Willie Harold Acker's obituary appears on page 32. He was an active member of the Cherokee County Genelological Society since June 1990. He served as First Vice President and Program Manager for several years. He served as President from September 2011 through August 2012. He and his late wife, Sylvia Booth Acker compiled Providence Cemetery Cherokee County Texas. His leadership will be sorely missed.

Thanks to Ira Gaylon White for introducing me to "The Mystery of the Stones."

Richard Robertson once again tells us a story of one his family, David Leroy Swift.

I have again published records from the archives of Ogreta W. Huttash in the Genealogy Section of the Jacksonville Public Library.

We welcome material to be considered for publication in Tree Talk and we request it concern Cherokee County and/or surrounding counties, especially those that were formed from the original Nacogdoches County. Copyrighted material must be accompanied by written permission to reprint from the copyright holder.

Gordon Bennett
Editor

My Uncle Leroy
by Richard Robertson

Everyone should have an Uncle Leroy. Mine was a large man for his generation, a jovial person with a zest for life, and nearly always with a cigar in his mouth. Born David Leroy Swift in 1887 near Nacogdoches in Swift, Texas, which was named after his father, he married my mother's sister, Bess Sory in Jacksonville, Texas. They had no children. Uncle Leroy always told everyone: "Bess had no children." (As though he were uninvolved) This left my sister and I the life-long recipients of his attention. He was funny, exciting,



and unconventional according to many of my mother's standards. Sometimes her disapproval made him seem all the more fun to me.



Uncle Leroy

Aunt Bess was the basic breadwinner of the family. She was a telephone operator for Western Union until retirement. In the meantime, I recall, he sold filing cabinets, was a "Texas Ranger" during the Texas Centennial in 1936, worked for a Railroad Commissioner, and during WWII worked for the IRS. However, there were apparently a lot of gaps in his employment and he spent them playing dominoes, and going to the horse races with a fellow named Col. Daniel.

When I was five, our family joined Uncle Leroy and Aunt Bess on a trip from Dallas to Corpus Christi. During part of the trip I was allowed to ride with Uncle Leroy. He drove a car at two speeds: stop and fast. It was very exciting to ride with him and one thing that intrigued me was that every time we passed a train he waved and hollered "Hi ya Newt!". The engineers always waved back. I was impressed that he knew every single one and I assumed that they all had the same name. At Corpus we stayed at his cousin Robert Hall's tourist court on the north beach where the cabins were built over the water. Uncle Leroy insisted that we go out in the "big boat" which turned out to be a great adventure when "Dutch" the deckhand, hooked and caught a huge tarpon. It was probably eight feet long because it was twice my height when they displayed it for pictures

My Uncle Leroy



Later that year at a family gathering at our house in Oak Cliff, my father and the uncles wanted to go inspect lots owned by my father which were about two blocks away. My father, having grown up on a farm in Wisconsin, still liked to grow things and had corn and other vegetables planted. The men were going to walk and I said that I wanted to ride. Uncle Leroy whipped out his keys and gave them to me and said, “OK here’s the keys”. His Essex had the new feature of starting when you turned the key. So as the men started walking up the street, I started the car, which was in gear, and began “driving” toward them. They quickly hopped on the running boards and steered me into the curb. Embarrassed, I hid behind the sofa the rest of the afternoon. That was probably the last time Uncle Leroy invited a five year old to drive his car.

Daddy, Dutch, Richard, June

Men were hired during the Texas Centennial to be “Texas Rangers”, riding horses over a certain territory to guide the public around the grounds, keep order, and generally be an official presence. Uncle Leroy managed to become a “Texas Ranger” which made going to the Centennial much more fun for me. As a nearly nine-year old I would catch the Seventh Streetcar in Oak Cliff, deposit my three cents, and ride all the way across town to the Fair Grounds. I had a forty-punch pass to get in, three cents for car fare home, and ten cents in my pocket to spend, so, once in, I would go looking for Uncle Leroy. When I found him, he would help me up on his horse and I would ride his beat with him. When I was ready to get down, he would usually give me a dime to spend, and I would entertain myself all day at the Centennial with my twenty cents, saving back my three cents to ride the street car home. This arrangement was alright with my parents as Dallas was safe for young boys in 1936. However, my mother did get somewhat disturbed when she found that one

My Uncle Leroy

day Uncle Leroy took me with him as he walked through the Big Apple-- a girlie show.

As a youngster I was a finicky eater, which disturbed some of our relatives at family gatherings. Uncle Leroy felt he had the solution, however. He would bribe me! If there was something I didn't want to eat, he would offer me a nickel to eat it. My parents didn't believe in bribing young souls, but didn't like making a scene at family gatherings. The bribery didn't work. However, Uncle Leroy had one trick up his sleeve that did. One time he tried to get me to bet him on something. Once we agreed on a bet he said: "Will you pay if you bet?" I naively said of course I would, so he reached out his hand and said "Pay me." That trick worked only once, although he tried it on me many more times.

He was a great tease and one way of teasing us was to confront us with the question: "Do you suppose you'll ever amount to anything?" The first few times he asked me, I didn't know what to say. Through the years I decided to tell him I did think I would amount to something. The truth was that he was quite proud of us and as my sister and I went through high school, college, careers, marriage and kids, he would tell us he was so proud of us that he was about to "bust his buttons."

I'm sorry my ten grandchildren didn't get to know Uncle Leroy. My five kids did and enjoyed him. When my older son, Rick, brought his fiancée, Kevyn, to see Uncle Leroy, he told Rick he was glad to meet his "chum". So many years later Kevyn still occasionally calls her husband her "chum."

Aunt Bess died ten years before Uncle Leroy. When he died in 1980 at the age of 92 and we went to the services at the funeral home, the handful of people (including two older sisters) were visiting just like we were at a family picnic. That would have been just the way he wanted it. He loved everyone and loved to visit. And as far as I'm concerned he enriched my life and certainly did "amount to something."

The Mystery of the Stones

On Saturday, August 17, 2013, Gaylon White drove me west out of Jacksonville on Kickapoo Street to the home of Grayson Foreman and his family.

Grayson had contacted Gaylon because Grayson had found two stone grave markers on his land. Grayson had moved his family to the new house on the 7.99 acres site a few years ago. He had contracted foresters to harvest trees and clear brush when the foresters found the stones. The Gerza stone was near the west property line.



Grayson is the son of Doyle Foreman, a retired funeral director. Grayson knew that grave sites are sacred and should not be disturbed. But were these grave sites or were these stones part of the trash dumped on his land?

Grayson knew that Gaylon had, in the past, listed the names of many graves in several cemeteries in the local area and had the data published.. Could Gaylon make a determination of the facts?

Since the time he had surveyed the cemeteries in the area, Gaylon had married, transferred his data to the Cherokee County Genealogical Society and moved from the area for several years, before recently returning. Gaylon felt the Genealogical Society (meaning me) would better be able to make the determination.

The Mystery of the Stones

To prepare me for the visit, Gaylon had given me the data from the stones: Rollie Robertson, Mar 13, 1917, Apr. 12, 1953 ; Frank Garza 1905-1965. My preliminary search found no data on these people in the Cherokee County History, Cherokee County Historical Commission, 1986, ISBN 0-936431-00-8; Grave Marker Index for Cherokee County Texas, 2000, Ira Gaylon White, ISBN 0-9703085-7-4; or Newspaper Obituaries Index of Cherokee County, Texas 1836-2001, by Helen Wooddell Crawford, ISBN 1-9361167-36-2.

Grayson led Gaylon and me on foot to the stones where I took photos of the stones without moving them.

The Robertson stone was on the east side of the property and was upside down in the soil. The property had apparently been used as a trash dump site before Grayson bought the property. Grayson stated he had taken several truck loads of debris to the land fill to help clear the home site.



On Sunday, August 18th, I searched Ancestry.com and found the death record for Rollie Robertson, in Dallas County, dated 4-12-53, file number 16171 OR 18171; and also Web: Texas Find a Grave index, 1961-2012, Burial place, Jacksonville, Cherokee county, Texas, USA. On Tuesday, August 20th, I met with Betty Thompson, Jacksonville City Secretary, who

The Mystery of the Stones

furnished me with a map showing the location of the grave in the Jacksonville City Cemetery. The lot is described as the 1948 addition, Block 4, Lot 14. I followed the map and found the gravesite of Rollie Robertson next to Lela Robertson and took a photo of their joint gravestone.



The Mystery of the Stones



I found for Frank Gerza: Texas Find a Grave, Burial place Baytown, Harris County, Texas. I clicked on the site and found further information of Cedar Crest Cemetery and the record added http://image2.findagrave.com/photos/2012/235/95853603_134578094656.jpg. Note the similarity of the design to the abandoned stone.

Frank Gerza, Birth 1905, Age at Death 60, Death Date 1965, Burial Place, Baytown, Harris County, Texas USA

Source Information: Ancestry.com. *Texas Death Index, 1903-2000* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006.

Original data: Texas Department of Health. *Texas Death Indexes, 1903-2000*. Austin, TX, USA: Texas Department of Health, State Vital Statistics Unit.

My conclusion is that there are no graves on the site. I contacted several monument companies and determined that there is no market for used stones as the cost to resurface the face is more than the cost of obtaining a new stone.

The answers to who dumped the stones, when they were dumped, and why they were made in the first place remains a mystery.

Gordon Bennett

Richardson
by Ogreta W. Huttash

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Ogreta W. Huttash
Address 1502 South Jackson
City, State Jacksonville TX 75766-3026
Date 30 May 2001

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. on chart No.

Chart No. 1

4 Abner Jewel Richardson (Father of No. 2)
b.
p.b.
m. 1929
d. 11 Mar 1989
p.d.

2 Jack Kenneth Richardson (Father of No. 1)
b. 31 July 1932
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.

5 Ila Erma McConnell (Mother of No. 2)
b. 14 Sep 1907
p.b. Louisiana
d.
p.d.

1 Jack Kenneth Richardson, Jr.
b. 15 Jan 1964
p.b. Angelina County, Texas
m.
d.
p.d.

6 Tommie Manning Fitts (Father of No. 3)
b. 15 May 1904
p.b. Cherokee County, TX
m. 09 Dec 1926
d. 11 Dec 1991
p.d.

3 Syble Marie Fitts (Mother of No. 1)
b. 17 Jan 1937
p.b. Alto TX
d.
p.d.

7 Dott Alldredge (Mother of No. 3)
b. 03 June 1904
p.b.
d.
p.d.

Jana Parker (Spouse of No. 1)
b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

8 James R. Richardson (Father of No. 4)
b. 16 Sep 1862
p.b. Alto, TX
m. 1 Dec 1892
d. 28 Oct 1913
p.d. Alto, TX

9 Sarah Elizabeth Acrey (Mother of No. 4)
b. 20 Jun 1872
p.b. 7 Mar 1954
d.
p.d. Alto TX

10 Horace McConnell (Father of No. 5)
b. 24 May 1877
p.b.
m.
d. 20 Jan 1963
p.d. li at Alto TX

11 Elma (Mother of No. 5)
b. 14 July 1888
p.b.
d.
p.d.

12 Thomas Hollis Fitts (Father of No. 6)
b. 4 Sep 1866
p.b. Nacogdoches Co. TX
m. 19 Jan 1890
d. 29 July 1906
p.d.

13 Anna Laura Manning (Mother of No. 6)
b. 05 Dec 1869
p.b. Texas
d. 27 Jan 1951
p.d. Alto TX

14 Allredge (Father of No. 7)
b.
p.b.
m.
d.
p.d.

15 (Mother of No. 7)
b.
p.b.
d.
p.d.

16 John W. Richardson (Father of No. 8)
b. 23 May 1826
m. 23 Oct 1851
d. 17 May 1896-Alto, TX
17 Ann Catherine Watters (Mother of No. 8)
b. 28 Aug 1833
d. 10 Sep 1906-Alto, TX

18 Acrey (Father of No. 9)
b.
m.
d.
19 (Mother of No. 9)
b.
d.

20 McConnell (Father of No. 10)
b.
m.
d.
21 (Mother of No. 10)
b.
d.

22 (Father of No. 11)
b.
m.
d.
23 (Mother of No. 11)
b.
d.

24 Edward Melton Fitts (Father of No. 12)
b. 26 Jun 1826
m. 15 Jun 1848 Nacogdoches
d. 15 January 1913
25 Belinda Groce Lee (Mother of No. 12)
b. 16 Feb 1831
d. 15 Feb 1874 (Texas)

26 Willoughby L. Manning (Father of No. 13)
b.
m.
d.
27 Rebecca Meredith (Mother of No. 13)
b.
d.

28 Allredge (Father of No. 14)
b.
m.
d.
29 (Mother of No. 14)
b.
d.

30 (Father of No. 15)
b.
m.
d.
31 (Mother of No. 15)
b.
d.

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Richardson

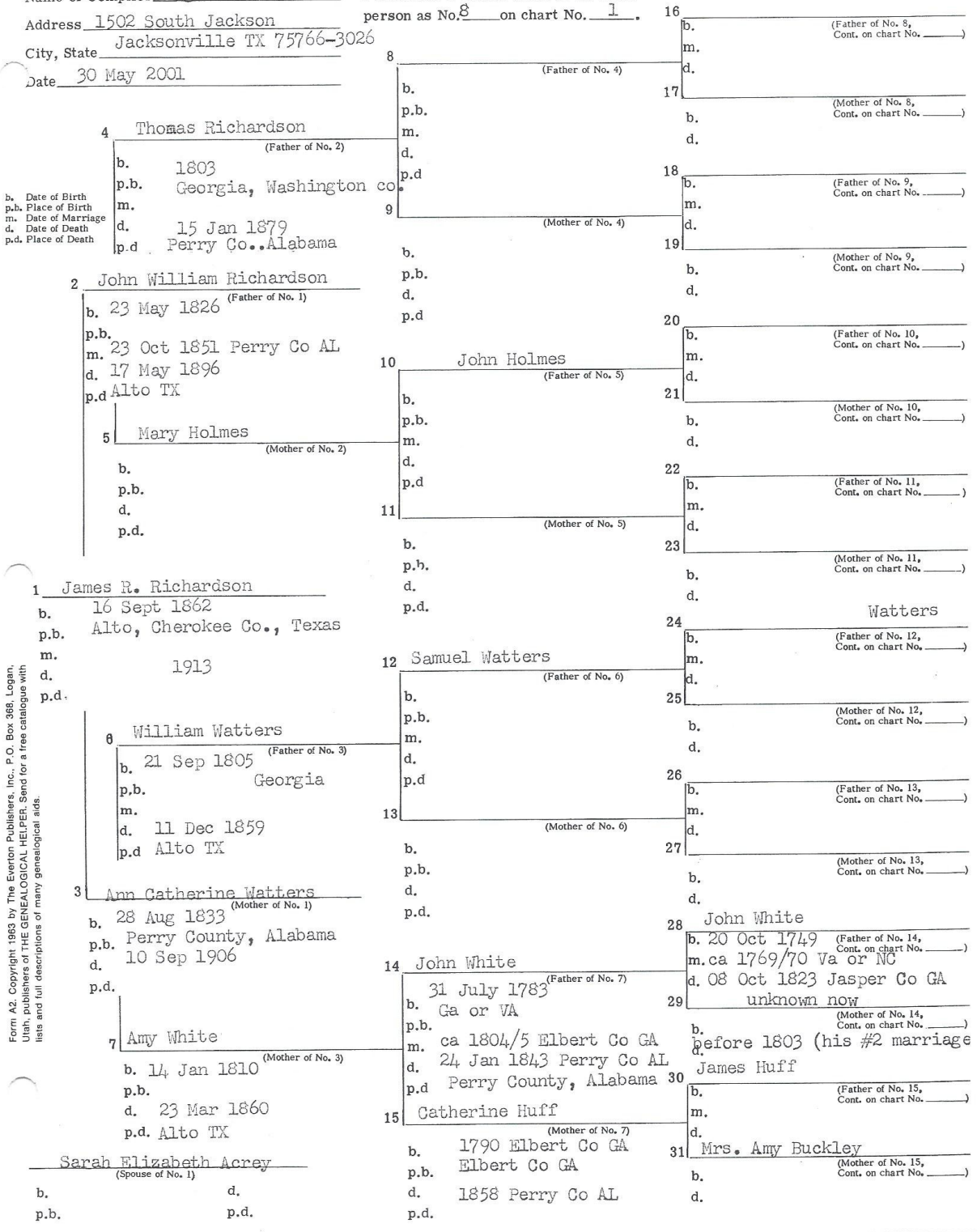
Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Ogreta W. Huttash
Address 1502 South Jackson
City, State Jacksonville TX 75766-3026
Date 30 May 2001

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 8 on chart No. 1.

Chart No. 2

b. Date of Birth
p.b. Place of Birth
m. Date of Marriage
d. Date of Death
p.d. Place of Death



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Richardson

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Ogretta W. Huttash

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 12 on chart No. 1.

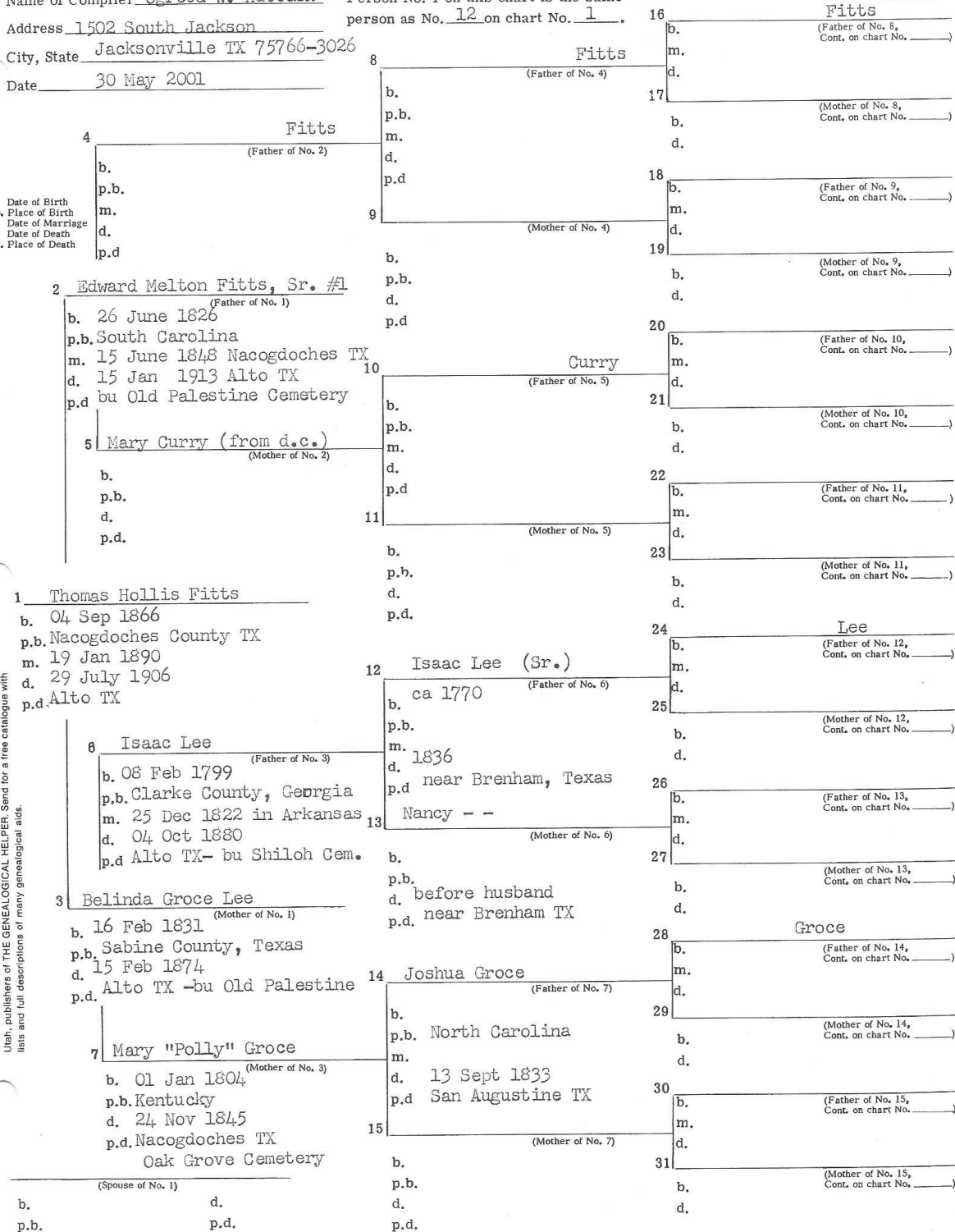
Chart No. 3

Address 1502 South Jackson

City, State Jacksonville TX 75766-3026

Date 30 May 2001

b. Date of Birth
p.b. Place of Birth
m. Date of Marriage
d. Date of Death
p.d. Place of Death



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Richardson

(Entries before 1896 may be incomplete~ My purpose is to try to locate the William Watters land. My opinion is that he never owned or lived east of present FM 851, even though descendants thought it had been in the family since the 1850s. When writing the narrative for Family Land Heritage in 1997, I learned our land came from William C. Watters, not William Watters, the father.



The Government of Coahuila and Texas granted Jose Maria Mora 9 leagues of land 30 October 1833, Deed Record M-IOI. A league is 4,428 acres, a vast amount of land, over 40,000 acres. Jose Maria Mora sold to James Bradshaw 18 January 1835 three leagues of land. This is recorded in L-697. This includes the Hardy Wilson Farm located on Fm 241 at Central High.

In January 1845 Neoma Ware applied to probate the will of James Bradshaw. It was dated 23 November 1844 and was witnessed by W. W. Frizzell, William S. Musick, and Dr. A. C. Denson, all respectable citizens. He left Neoma Ware all his property and lands in Texas. This was a deathbed will as Bradshaw had been shot in the stomach by Isaac Reynolds.

Many lawsuits followed, 38 pages of our abstract. This part of the league we are following fell to General James P. Henderson. He died in 1858 and his property fell to his heirs. There are documents signed at the U. S. Consulate in Bordeaux, France and in the Kingdom of Bavaria in Munich, in 1868 and 1870.

At that time, 1870, it was still in that family. His widow deeded this land to her daughter Julia H. Adams, wife of E. W. Adams. The other heir was the daughter Baroness Von Pruschen, wife of Baron Clemens von Pruschen. Later on papers were signed in New York, New York. Still later, the Adams lived in Iberville Parish, Louisiana.

Early in 1872 Julia and E. W. Adams gave power of attorney to James Harper Starr and James F. Starr to sell their lands, and, on 4 June 1872 the Adams and their attorneys sold to William C. Watters 149.7 acres of land for \$748.50.

This was the first time a local person ever owned the land, but William C. Watters built his home on the west half of the tract, for which his descendants received the Family Land Heritage designation years ago. This was a dog trot structure which burned in the 1930s.

Now to a sister of William C. Watters, Sarah Etta Watters who married Robert Jordan Ramey in December 1871. They bought from her brother William C. Watters the east half of his tract of land, being 75 acres for \$369 on May 24, 1873. This is recorded in Deed Records Y- 401 of

Richardson

Cherokee County, Texas. We understand all their children were born on the farm here in the log room on the southeast corner. They used to come by to see where they were born and they always went, upstairs to look around.

The Rameys were the first ones to live on the land. They lived there many years before going up into Indian Territory, before finally settling in Dimmitt, Texas.

The Rameys sold the 75 acres to my grandmother, Mrs. Bodecia R. Blakey, for \$1,150 on 30 November 1897, and the deed plainly states that she paid for it out of her own separate means!

.....

Richardson

CHEROKEE COUNTY, TEXAS

- 3 -
COUNTY BLOCK NO. 626

JOSE MORA

SURVEY

ABSTRACT No. 36

COPY NOT TO SCALE

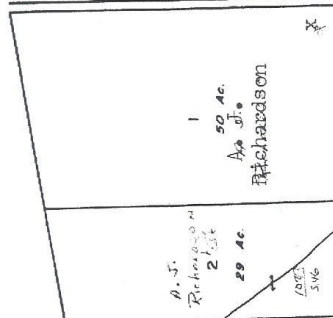
SCALE - 1" = 500 Feet

REV 4.90

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BLOCK 511

Jack's House on FM 851



BLOCK 625

J. M. McClure

167.99AC

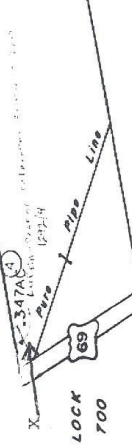
JWR's first home should be somewhere in here

BLOCK 627



This does not show the road N of the house but is as close as I can figure -

Second home of John W. Richardson & now X-Satterwhite home or McClure Home



BLOCK 700

Richardson
When Was Jack's House Built?

James R. Richardson built Jack's House and this is an effort to come close to determining the date.

James R. Richardson was born 14 September 1862 and died 28 Oct 1913. He married Sarah Elizabeth Acrey ("Cousin Lizzie") 1 December 1892. She was born 20 June 1872 and died 7 March 1954. They are buried at Harrison- Armstrong Cemetery at Alto, Texas.

James R. would have been age 21 in 1883. Marriage and birth dates. are important as that is when people go out on their own and make their own homeplace.

Sept 1893 he would have been age 31.

Dec 1892 he and Lizzie married. Where did they live? John William and Catherine had been in their new home on present day US 69 for 20 years.

In February 1891 John William Richardson deeded James R. Richardson 50 acres for \$350 paid, same 50 acres in the Mora grant that Willoughby Manning had sold John W. Richardson in 1870.

The 1910 Census shows

James R. Richardson	47	married 17 years, married only once
Sarah E.	39	" , 2 children, 2 living
John W.	16	
Abner J[ewel]	10	

He would have owned the land before building. So one date is 1891. Probably did not start building until he married in 1892. no land on tax roll
1893. rendered one horse
1894. rendered 69 acres in Mora, valued at \$345. This is the year John William was born.
1895. he rendered 50 acres in Mora. Must have sold the 19 acres.
1896. He rendered 50 acres in Mora, 4 horses and mules, 6 cattle, 13 hogs, 1 wagon, tools etc for a value of \$448.

Abner Jewel was born about 1900 and never lived any other place.

Looks to me like it was built 1894 or thereabouts, 1894-1899.

Richardson

Then there were additions, as it is a very large house.

This is the land and house owned by Jack Richardson today , and the house is "one of a kind." They are fading fast from the scene.



For further information, see the red history book of Cherokee County, 1985. The Watters book in Alto Library has Watters and Richardson information. The article by Taritha Richardson in the Uvalde paper in Alto Library was the one source to make it clear about when and where John William Richardson lived, and when he built his new log house (1872) on the highway 69. Also, there is an article, a long one, by Guynell Kennedy in Records of East Texas, a publication by John W. Wilkins of Lufkin years ago.

The exact location of William Watters home is not clear, but it appears to be near what we called the Lucius Rogers home of a few years back. Maybe one day a map or an abstract will show up. There is proof that he never owned land east of FH 851. He left a vast estate when he died in 1859, but the Civil War changed that and many other things. It was worth about \$30,000, as bond was twice the value of the estate at that time, and bond was \$60,000. He named his 12 children, also, or the settlement did.

Richardson

-4-

From a copy of The Uvalde Leader News, Sunday, May 16, 1954 in the Stella Hill Memorial Library in Alto, Texas. This was an interview by Florence Fenley of Mrs. Taritha Ann Odom.



THE "NEW HOME" BUILT IN 1872

Seated are Mrs. Ann Catherine Richardson, mother of Mrs. T. Ann Odom, and grandchildren. Standing at rear are Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Satterwhite. Mrs. Satterwhite is Mrs. Odom's sister. In-

side the yard is Irene, the colored girl who had been with the family many years. Photo was taken 10 years after Captain Richardson's death.

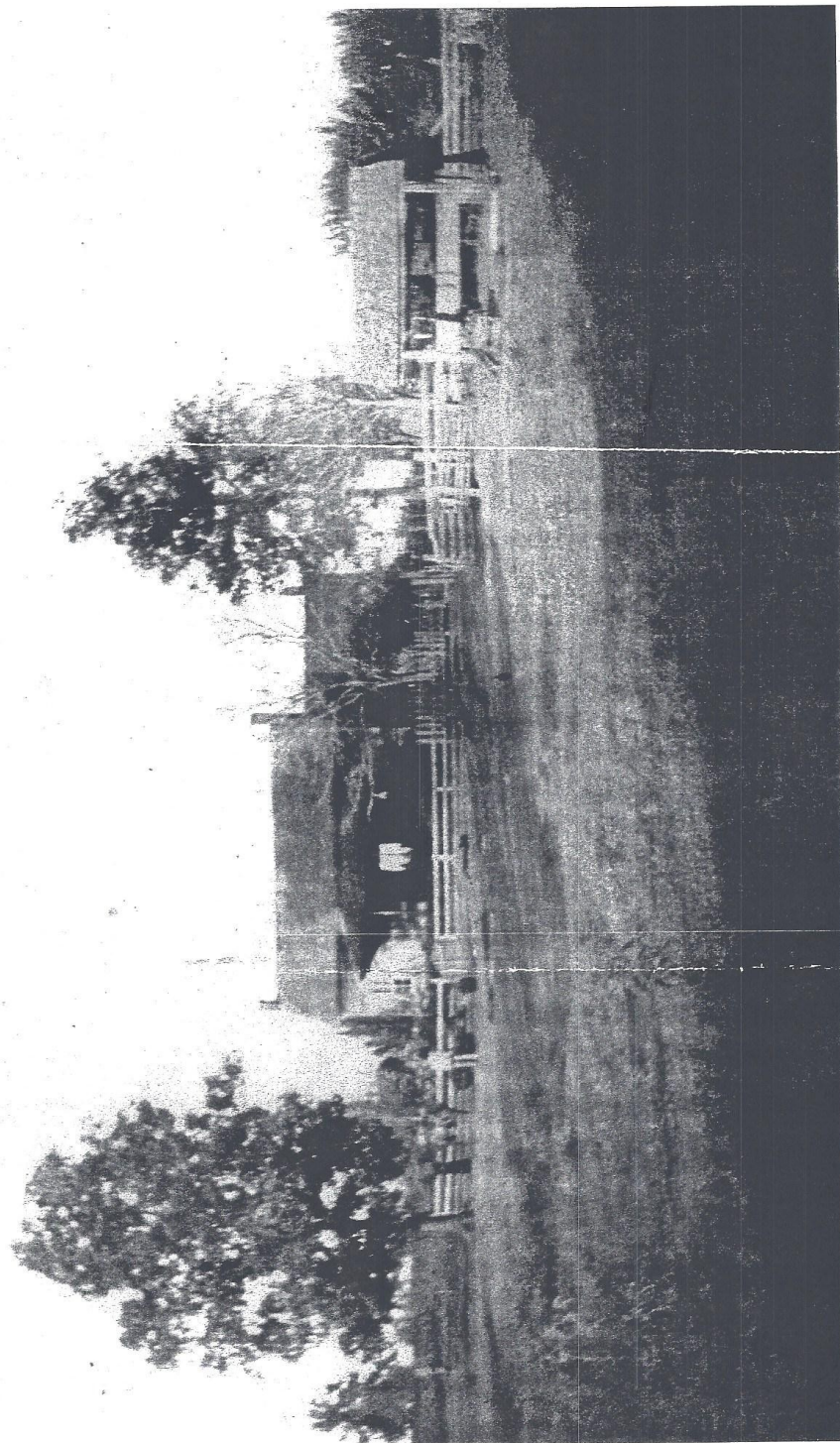
"It was about seven years after he [John William Richardson, her father] came from the War that I was born," she continued, "and when I was six months old, we left the old log house where I was born and which was the first house Papa built. He moved us over to the new house he built on the public road."

.... "On November 14, 1872, when I was 7 months old my two oldest sisters married. Mama said it was freezing cold, and ice all over everything. We used to have some awfully cold winters."

(Most of the interview - but not all - begins on page 357 of the Watters book.)

Ogreta W. Huttash
9 Feb 2001

-5-



"Our old home in East Texas"

Richardson

Some Deed Records of Interest - in Cherokee County, Texas

20 Nov 1854 Joseph S. and Margaret Able (X her mark) deeded to William Watters for \$2,100 paid, receipt acknowledged, 700 acres beginning at NW corner of Jose Mora 11 leagues and adjoining 1/3 league survey of Elihu D. Cook, then S to the 300 acres of land sold by Joseph S. Able to R. F. Mitchell, then E then N then to place of beginning, so as to make 700 acres. After the deed was signed, this follows: "Survey of 700 acres of land made for William Watters and part of a league of land granted to Jose Maria Mora on the N side of San Antonio Road. Beginning on NW corner of said League Thence South 1735 varas to a stake ••• bears W 35 varas distant a post oak thence N 79 degrees E 2280 varas to W boundary line of Rusk and Henderson survey of 2,000 acres a stake from which a black jack 8" in diameter bears N 75 degrees W 7 varas distant then N 1735 varas to NW corner of said Rusk and Henderson survey then S 79 degrees W 2280 varas to beginning. 23 day of November 1854." J-186

NOTE: This Rusk and Henderson survey of 2,000 acres was what they received for working on the Bradshaw case! I overlooked it at first. It is east of present day Texas 851. It reads West Boundary line of Rusk and Henderson survey. This was Thomas J. Rusk and Pinckney J. Henderson, both famous in early Texas. This land was in Jose H. Mora grant, and Bradshaw bought it, plus lots more.

15 Dec 1854 Hiram B. and Martha A. Stephens sold to S. T. Harrison part of the Tillman Walters headright, 163 acres for \$560 paid. Witnesses were Peter King and William Watters. J-341-2

NOTE: a son of S. T. and Ann Harrison was killed when a tree fell on him while their home was being built, 26 October 1855. He was Samuel Mirza, age 7. I think Martha A. Stevens was daughter of Peter King and second wife of Hiram B. Stephens, a veteran of the Texas Revolution, buried at Shiloh Cemetery, Alto, Texas.

26 Nov 1856 William and Amy Watters deeded to William Richardson a 100 acre tract west of William Watters survey of 700 acres purchased from Joseph Ables of the 11 league survey made for Jose M. Mora. The deed was notarized before Sam T. Harrison, [brother-in-law of William Watters, who married Ann White.]

NOTE: The White girls were daughters of John and Catherine (Huff) White of Perry County, Alabama. Another sister, Fanny Margaret, married George Washington Blakey. They stayed in Alabama until the White estate was settled and came in 1856. They were not in the great wagon train and his name was not George Grover Blakey, as has been twice printed.

Richardson

"In the matters pertaining to the Estate of William Watters Decd Ordered by the Court that the sale of 753 acres of land belonging to said estate filed in office Dec. 24th 1868 by R. J. Watters one of the Executors the same is examined and approved and ordered to be recorded. It is further ordered by the Court that R. J. Watters and J. W. Richardson Exetrs of the last will and testament of Wm Watters Decd make title to the purchaser mentioned of said report of sale for the respective lots of land purchased by them on the purchaser complying with the Law in such cases made and provided."

Now therefore know all men by these presents that in consideration of the foregoing and for the further consideration of the two hundred and forty five (\$245) Dollars in hand this day by Willoughby Manning executing his certain promissory note for the same, We, R. J. Watters and J. W. Richardson Extrs as aforesaid of the Estate of Wm Watters Decd has in and to the tract of land above described unto Willoughby Manning his heirs and assigns forever to hand and to hold all the rights hereditaments and improvements thereunto belonging and we R. J. Watters and J.W.. Richardson Ex'trs of aforesaid do warrant the title of said land unto him the said Willoughby Manning his heirs and assigns in as full and complete a manner as we ought or could do as Executors and no further. Given under our hands and seals using scrawl.s for seals. This 5th day of January A.D. 1869.

Attest

R.H. Guinn
E. L. Gregg

R. J. Watters (seal)
J. W. Richardson (seal)
Executors of last will of William Watters, Decd

The State of Texas)
County of Cherokee)

Before me W. L. Byrd, Clerk of the District Court in and for the County of Cherokee, personally appeared E. L. Gregg, well known to me, and whose genuine signature appears to the foregoing deed as a subscribing witness and upon oath states that he Saw R. J. Watters and J. H. Richardson Executors of the Estate of William Watters deed sign seal and deliver the same for the purposes and considerations therein expressed, and that he signed the same as such witness at th:frequest of the said R. J.Watters and J. W. Richardson, Executors aforesaid.

Given under my hand and seal of office this November 28, A.D. 1870.

H. L. Byrd, C.D.C.

Richardson

The State of Texas)

County of Cherokee)

I hereby certify that the foregoing deed was filed in my office for record the 28th November 1870 at 4 o'clock p.m, and was duly recorded the 19th day of December 1872 at 4 o'clock p.m, in Book X deeds &c pages 500 and 501.

Given under my hand and official seal at office in Rusk this 9 December A.D. 1872.

H. L. Byrd C.D.C.



Today we may wonder why it took four long years to get this on record. One place mentions County Court and one reads District Court. Many estates were in probate for many years. One thing to consider is that this was the end of the Reconstruction period following the Civil War.

This deed very specifically states that 753 acres of land of William Watters were sold to the highest bidder at the Courthouse, which goes against all the family stories of each child receiving generous amounts of land!! My first clue was when I learned the son William C. Watters bought land in 1872 from the Adams family, just across the road, so to speak, from the land of his father. If he had inherited land, why would he be out buying?

So it goes. Ogreta W. Huttash

Deeds

_____ From Zachariah Watters to Stephen Hiller. C2-341.

_____ From J. J. Spain to P. E. Watters, land in E. D. Cook Survey [He was her father] H2-422

25 Oct 1870 From H. L. Manning to J. W. Richardson, for valuable consideration not named, 50 acres out of the SE corner of 700 acre survey for William Watters. Mentions also SE corner of R. J. Watters. I2-232

NOTE: This is the first time I've found the land coming into the Richardson family. See also X-500 and Volume 6 page 397.

_____ R. J. Watters, administrator of estate of J. M. Watters deceased, land in Alto S of Old San Antonio Road.[James Madison Watters died March 1862 in Civil War.] They were brothers. I2-250

Richardson

1893 (Continued)

J.W. Richardson as agent for Pollie Martin, 325 acres in Mora	\$ 1,625
Willis Richardson, 1 poll	
James R. Richardson, 1 horse	\$ 40
Edmon Richardson, 1 poll tax	
R. E. Richardson, 68 acres in Mora	500
1 carriage or buggy or wagon	20
Tools, implements	40
3 horses or mules	150
12 cattle	48
14 hogs	14
Miscellaneous	7
	\$ 779

1893 Tax Roll - WATTERS

Zachariah R. Watters, 122 acres in Ruddle Survey,	\$ 122
200 acres in Mora	1,000
William C. Watters, 75 acres in Mora	
Zachariah R. Watters as agent for M.E. Watters	
25 acres (or W.E.)	500
R. J. Watters rendered 100 acres in E. D. Cook (blank)	
150 acres in Mora	1,000
R. J. Watters as agent for J. M. Watters, 12 acres	12

1894 James R. Richardson rendered 69 acres in Mora, \$345

R. E. Richardson rendered 68 acres in Mora	\$500
J.W. Richardson rendered 200 acres in Mora	1,200
J. W. Richardson as agent for Pollie B. Hartin,	
325 acres in Mora	\$ 1,500
J. H. Richardson agent for T. A. Richardson	
60 acres in Tillman Walters	\$ 150.

1895 J. W. Richardson, 200 acres in Mora \$1,000

J. W. Richardson as agent for Pollie B.	
325 acres in Mora	1.500

Richardson

1895 (Continued)	
J. R. Richardson, 50 acres in Mora	250
R. E. Richardson, 118 acres in Mora	900
1896 R. E. Richardson, 118 acres in Mora	800
5 horses and mules	250
5 cattle	60
1 jack and jennets	200
20 hogs	20
waggon or buggy	20
Tools and implements	25
Manufactured articles	20
	1,325
J. R. Richardson, 50 acres in Mora	250
4 horses and mules	100
13 hogs, \$13; 6 cattle, \$30	43
1 wagon	25
miscellaneous	20
manufactured, as tools	20
	448
J. W. Richardson, 219 acres in Mora	1,000
60 acres in Tillman walters	120
6 horses and mules	200
12 cattle	60
15 hogs	15
2 carriages or buggy	60
miscellaneous	10
	\$1,465

This tax roll shows from whom and how acquired
 R. E. Richardson, from Selman and Guinn by deed
 J. R. Richardson, from J. W. Richardson by deed
 J. W. Richardson, from Martin and Ables by deed
 60 acres from Bonner by deed

Richardson

1897	R. E. Richardson, 118 acres in Mora Svy	\$ 600
	5 horses and mules	250
	19 cattle	95
	1 jack or jennet	150
	25 goats	25
	Miscellaneous	5
	1 carriage or .. wagon	50
	manufactured articles	15
	Total taxable	\$ 1,190

	J. R. Richardson, 50 acres in Mora Svy	250.
	4 horses and mules	100.
	8 cattle	40
	10 goats	10.
	2 carriages or wagons	50.
	Miscellaneous	15.
	Total taxable	\$465

	Mrs. J. W. Richardson, 219 ac in Mora	\$ 1,000
	60 acres in Tillman Walters	120
	8 horses and mules	200
	8 cattle	40
	15 hogs	15
	1 carriage or buggy	40
	Miscellaneous	5
		\$ 1,420

This was as far as I copied, as it shows what John W. Richardson owned when he died.

**Richardson
Some Census Records**

Cherokee County, Texas

#30	Farmer			
Richardson, J.W.		34	Born in Ala.	John William
A.	C.	29 f	Ala.	Ann Catherine
E.	J.	8 f	Ala.	Emma
M.	J.	6 f	Texas	Mary Jane
F.	A.	4 f	"	Fidelia A.
E.		3 m	"	Reuben Epamonindas "Bud"
W.	T.	6/12 m	"	William T.

#31	Farmer			
Watters, William		50 m	Georgia	On Mortality Schedule
A.		50 f	"	Amy (White)
John	(waggoner)	27 m	Ala.	John White
Reuben		23 m	"	Samuel Reuben Jackson
H.	E. (idiotic)	20 f	"	Margaret Elizabeth
M.	C.	19 m	"	Malachi Calhoun
P.	P.	18 f	"	Penelope Petura
W.	C.	15 m	"	William Cornelius
Z.	R.	14 m	"	Zachariah Reeves
A.	B.	12 f	"	Amy Balsora
S.	E.	9 6/12 f	"	Sara Etta

#42				
Harrison, S.	T.	50 m	Kentucky	Samuel Turner
Ann		48 f	Georgia	Ann (White)
J.	H. (farmer)	22 m	Alabama	
A.	C. (student)	18 m	"	Absalom Clinton
A.	E.	16 f	"	
H.	E.	13 f	"	
A.		9 f		

1870 Federal Census

#14				
Richardson, John W.		44 m	Alabama	
Ann C.		38 f	"	
Emma J.		17 f	"	
Mary J.		16 f	Texas	
Delia A.		14 f	"	
Reuben E.		12 m	"	
William T.		10 m	"	
James R.		7 m	"	
George S.		4 m	"	
John		5/12 m	"	December
Watters, Hargaret		30 f	Ala.	idiot

#4	Farmer			
Watters, Zachariah		26 m	Alabama	
Mary S.		19 f		
Reuben J. (farmer)		32 m		
William C. (farmer)		24 m		

Richardson

Neighbors are #5 Wm H. Findley, #6 George W. Knox, #7 Halachi Watters and family, #B George W. Pearson, #9 Henry Allison black and mulatto family, #10 Margaret Matthews, #11 Isaac Allison (black family), #12 King Tyler (black family).

1880 Census of Cherokee County, Texas
page 97 - Central High Community area
#272

Manning, Willoughby L	34	Miss.	
Rebecca	27	Texas	
Ida N.	8	"	
Oscar L.	7	"	
Samuel W.	5	"	
Frederick H.	4	"	
Frank	2	"	
* Anna	6 mos.		* Did she marry T. Fitts?

page 155
#277

Richardson, William	54	Ala Ga	
Ann	48	Texas (error)	
William T.	20	"	
James R.	17	"	
Taritha	8	"	
Laura	5	"	
Watters, Margaret	46		

Research Notes from Perry County, Alabama 1850 Federal Census
Res. 65 page 347 Farmer \$700

BLAKEY, George M.	33 m	GA	
Frances M.	33 f	Ga	[Fanny White]
Thurstlen A.	8 m	Ala	[Athelston]
Adolphus P.	6 m	"	[Paleologus Adolphus]
Barbaby C. R.	4 f	"	[Bodecia Rosana] married Dr. A.F. Hilson

#55 Radfordsville Beat, Farmer \$840

WHITE, John	28 m	Ala	
Mary E.	20 f	"	
Pella	9/12 f	"	
WHITE, Catherine	60 f	Ga	

#43

WATTERS, Ann	(9 or) 69	VA	\$3,200
RADFORD, Elizabeth	94	VA	

Above Catherine White in household of John White is the mother of the three White girls who came to Alto, Texas. John is a son, Fanny is a daughter. The Ann Watters and Elizabeth Radford are unknown to me - just look like kinfolks to the Watters family. These are . just a few scattered names of interest.

Note that above John White was the son of John White, who was also the son of another John White, our Revolutionary War ancestor by his first wife whose name is unknown to us. His second wife was Barsheba Gunter (or similar - no time to check now)

Willie Harold Acker, Sr.

Funeral for Willie Harold Acker Sr., 80, of Jacksonville, will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18, at Rocky Springs Baptist Church with the Rev. Jim Slocum and the Rev. John Paul Little officiating.

Burial will be in Providence Cemetery.

Mr. Acker died Sept. 15 in Jacksonville. He was born Sept. 2, 1933, in Dialville to Willie and Ruby Acker.

Mr. Acker served in the U.S. Navy and was a retired school administrator.

He was a member of the Rocky Springs Baptist Church in Dialville, a former member of the Civitan Club and a member of the Cherokee County Genealogical Society.

He was preceded in death by parents; first wife, Sylvia Booth Acker; brothers, Kenneth Earl Acker, Carrol Nathan Acker and Dean Acker.

Survivors include his wife, Delores Acker of Jacksonville; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Willie Harold Jr., Penny Acker and Marvin Acker, all of Jacksonville; three granddaughters, Laura Acker Lambert, Trai Marie Wooddell and April Sylvia Acker, all of Jacksonville; two grandsons, John Leland Acker of Brownwood and Willie Harold Acker III of Gallatin; sisters-in-law, Marva Jean Acker and Linda Allen Acker, both of Jacksonville; numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers will be Willie Harold Acker III, Keith Wooddell, Leland Acker, Robert Cox, Lee Lambert and C. Nathan Acker Jr. Arrangements were under the direction of Autry Funeral Home.

Rusk Cherokeean Herald, September 18, 2013.



Mr. Acker was photographed by Deborah Burkett in early 2009 during an oral history interview she conducted in Providence Cemetery. As a long time member of the Cherokee County Historical Commission, Mr. Acker wanted to share the history of his ancestors with Deborah, a new member of the commission.

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Jacksonville, Texas 75766-1332

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Surnames you are researching: _____

Gift of _____, bill to: _____

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