

Cross Timbers Post

Editor: Shana Powell

December 2023

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Cross Timbers Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 197
Gainesville, Texas 76241-0197

Cross Timbers Genealogical Society was organized in 1977 to provide a forum for those interested in genealogical research and preserving records for the future generations.

For more or additional information, please contact any of the officers listed:

President:

Ronnie **Howser**

940-665-4430 hob2gen@yahoo.com

Vice President: Linda Jonas

ljonas@gmail.com

Secretary:

Norman **Newton**

940-726-3414 normannewton@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Perlene **Newton**

940-726-3414 perlene.newton@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor:

Shana Powell

940-612-9269 shanapowell97@yahoo.com

The Cross Timbers Post is published four times a year: March, June, September, and December. Subscription is by membership in the Society. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 yearly per household. The memberships run from June 1st to May 30th the next year. All correspondence and material relative to the Cross Timbers Post should be directed to: The Editor, P.O. Box 197, Gainesville, Texas 76241-0197.

Note: The Editor of the Cross Timber Post will not be responsible for the accuracy of material printed herein since no proof is required.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month except for January and July beginning at 6:30 with refreshments followed by the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Meetings take place at the FamilySearch Center, 1503 W. California Street, Gainesville, Texas.

Editor's Corner:

Amazingly another year is about to end, and Christmas will arrive as it always does whether we are ready for it or not. As I was contemplating the approaching arrival of Christmas, I started thinking about Christmas memories and stories. Everyone and every family have some. As our Society has been stressing the importance of stories and recording them during the past few meetings, the question arises—do you have your stories and memories from Christmas pasts written down or recorded? What are your traditions? Are you still following traditions that your family had when you were a child, or did you create new ones when you left home or when you had children or grandchildren? My mother vividly remembered being at her grandparents' house on a Christmas Eve during the Great Depression in the 1930s when she was a child. All her aunts and uncles and cousins were there, and it was loud and rowdy with children running all over the place. The adults kept trying to get the children to settle down and go to sleep telling them that Santa was on the way and if he caught them up, he would not leave anything for them. But the children continued to play. Suddenly, there was a knock at the door and when one of the adults opened the door there stood Santa Claus who, on seeing the children still up, announced that since they had not gone to sleep, he would just go to the next house! Mother remembered that she and her cousins all made a mad dash for the beds, with some falling into the beds and some sliding under them. They all promised their parents they would go right off to sleep, and their parents said that if they did maybe Santa would return. She said they were all relieved when the next morning came and there were presents for everyone. No one in the family ever confessed to being Santa that night. It was a memory my Mother never forgot.

I see wonderful photos of children opening their gifts from Santa on Christmas morning with their parents and siblings gathered around. I have photographs of my sister and I in front of our Christmas tree, but it was not on Christmas morning. Before I was born my sister on each Christmas eve would wait until she thought my dad was asleep (he always went to bed after my mom) and then she would sneak into the living room and open her presents from Santa. The idea was to do it quietly so that Mother and Daddy would not wake up. When she was a child, she thought Daddy and Santa worked together, with Daddy letting him into the house (we never had a chimney) and then when Santa was finished, Daddy would go to bed. When I was born, she showed me the ropes and we did the same thing—sneak into the living room, open the presents, and go back to bed.

online and you can do that through FamilySearch. Their promotion states that “there will be 200+ online sessions. Join keynote sessions live from the comfort of your own home. Chat online with other attendees worldwide. Get digital syllabi and class handouts.” I have participated in it for the last couple of years and have already registered for this convention. They also have a section where you can connect with cousins and other relatives. Last year I connected with a cousin who I have not seen in over thirty years. I have listened to sessions on doing German genealogy, New England genealogy, military records, church records, land records, analyzing photographs and many more. They are emphasizing stories just as we have been so there may be some interesting insights that come out of some of the sessions that we can use.

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Christmas and December Happenings from the Past as they appeared in the Daily Hesperian and the Register:

From 1904:

“The Happenings of a Day Told in Brief
 For Busy People
 And now he blows the coin on her
 For which he toiled so hard.
 He’ll give an eighty-dollar fur
 And get a Christmas card.”

Saturday, December 24, 1904:

- 1) “one night only gorgeous \$10,000 production of the musical success of two continents, Murray & Mack tonight at the Opera House.”
- 2) The banks will observe Monday as a holiday. Joe Riley, African American, yesterday killed an alligator two feet long, found on the banks of Elm.
- 3) Rain is greatly needed throughout the county. A plentiful downpour would be a magnificent present for everyone.
- 4) The public schools of the city closed yesterday to resume on January 9. Prettily arranged programs were recorded at all of the schools, each grade participating.
- 5) Sheriff Ware received a phone message yesterday from Sherman stating that a dry goods store had been burglarized Thursday night and merchandise to the value of \$1500 stolen. A \$200 reward is offered for the arrest of the robbers.

- 6) R. Ewing Thomason and the people of Myra made up a purse to defray the expense of Mrs. R.L. Brown of Myra to her home in Virginia. Mrs. Brown stated that last week her husband took their child and deserted her, leaving her with no money.
- 7) No fireworks would be allowed in Gainesville for the holiday.

Saturday, December 24, 1905:

- 1) Air rifles, targets, footballs, pocketknives, velocipedes, and bicycles for Christmas presents at H.F. Smith's.

December 17, 1916:

Thirty years later in a Christmas issue for the Register in 1946 A. Morton Smith included an account from the newspaper archives in 1916. He wrote the following:

“Holiday shopping was a last-minute affair. The big Christmas shopping edition of the Register appeared December 17, 8 days before the glad day...and there was a wide selection of gift goods suggested.

Kinne, the jeweler, had watch chains, icy-hot bottles, la vallieres, nutcrackers, cuff buttons, dinner rings, cigar cases, and bib-holders...Jake Feltz's Model store suggested night shirts, automobile gloves, silk shirts, fancy vests and mackinaws...The Manhattan offered umbrellas, silk hats, reefers, and smoking jackets...S. Zacharias showed kimonos, skating sets, half hose and silk petticoats...The Mecca café urged “Gainesvilleites” to eat dinner there, turkey, oyster dressing, cranberry sauce and other accessories, 25 cents per person.

There were Christmas tree distribution of gifts at St. Paul's Episcopal rectory, Dixon Street Christian, First Baptist and Whaley Memorial Methodist churches and First Presbyterian Church took an offering for starving children of war-stricken countries. Knights Templar had their own Christmas day service at the Masonic Temple.

Social events included the Christmas night dance at the Knights of Columbus hall honoring the young college set...and the dancing party given by A & M college students to which “the smart set” was invited...and the annual Elks' New Year's Dance in the club rooms was set for New Year's Eve.

Destitute families were not forgotten for the Associated Charities sponsored a municipal tree on the courthouse square, where carols were sung and gifts distributed and the inmates of the county jail thanked Mrs. J.O. Leeper, Mrs. W.H. Keller and Owen Davis for the Christmas remembrances sent them.

The Register said everybody is rejoicing over the Christmas present the M-K-T railroad arranged to drop in Gainesville's Christmas sock in the way of a big division point of the railroad.

The weather was cold, with the temperature down to 12 degrees and Pecan Creek was heavily frozen over, the first time of the season. The sky was clear.

Nine persons were fined for vagrancy, fighting and disturbance over the Christmas weekend...man claiming to be from Dexter, hired a team of mules at Whitesboro to haul grain to town, and sold the mules to a Gainesville man for \$100...and Sheriff Tom Ford reported two gunmen shot up Dexter during the Christmas tree program at the church. There was not damage and a general peacefulness soon reigned again....One child was hit in the eye by a roman candle ball.

And so passed another Christmas.”

Friday afternoon, December 24, 1926:

1) Beautiful Scene:

One of the prettiest and most unusual Christmas manifestations ever seen in Gainesville is the large, illuminated tree in the yard of Mr. & Mrs. George Carroll on North Dixon Street. The lighting effects are extraordinarily beautiful at night and even in the daylight hours the color combinations are attractive. Tinsel and glass ornaments also add to the beauty of the tree.

One similarly decorated but smaller in size, also may be seen at Mr. Carroll's undertaking parlors on North Commerce Street.

Mr. & Mrs. Carroll take great interest in spreading Christmas cheer among the destitute children of the city this year and their magnanimity has been further exemplified by their having placed a Christmas tree in their yard, where everybody passing that way may enjoy its beauties.

2) An icy Christmas appears in prospect for Gainesville and vicinity, following the sleet, snow and rain which fell during Friday morning, as the mercury dropped to a minimum of 26 degrees, six degrees below the freezing point.

The cold wave struck shortly after dark Thursday evening and the temperature continued to fall throughout the night, and well into Friday morning, a drop of 35 degrees being registered from 6 o'clock Thursday evening, when the mercury stood at 61 degrees.

3) Merry Time in Prospect for Local People

The first and one of the most appealing observances of the Yuletide will be the community Christmas tree at the old Elks Hall at 1:30 o'clock

this afternoon when hundreds of poor kiddies will be made glad about gifts made possible through the liberality of Gainesville citizens and the energetic efforts of Associated Charities officials. More than \$200 were subscribed for the affair, a large gaily decorated tree is ready for the youngsters and Santa Claus will be present to assist in the distribution of gifts.

At 7 o'clock this evening, Santa will make another visit to Gainesville for the community tree at the courthouse, where 1500 children, all of the students at the local public schools, will give a program of Christmas carols under the direction of Miss Grace Hardy. The public is especially given an invitation to be present and enjoy this unusual sight.

An hour later, at 8 o'clock, Christmas tree programs will be held at the Grand Avenue Baptist Church, First Baptist Church, and Whaley Memorial Methodist Church when the children of the Sunday School classes will receive presents from Santa Claus and their teachers.

Another brilliant event of the evening will be at the Elks Lodge dance at their club rooms at 9 o'clock, when the Sorin-White Texas Hotel orchestra of Ft. Worth will play, the festivities continuing until the wee hours of Christmas morning.

At 10 o'clock Christmas morning, Manager A.V. Wade of the Majestic Theater will entertain all the children of the city with a special matinee at the theater.

Thursday, December 24, 1936:

Christmas Program for Mission Group

Valley View, December 17—an inspiring program was enjoyed by some 15 members of the Methodist Missionary Society at the church Monday afternoon with the president, Mrs. C.B. Johnson, leading the program. Several Christmas hymns were sung, and Mrs. G.T. Myers gave the invocation. Mrs. Dave Lowe read a poem, "Eternal Christ, Ride On" and Mrs. Wilis Mallicote in an impressive manner sang "The Holy City", accompanied at the piano by Mrs. John Lowe. The Christmas lesson was read by Mrs. W.H. Vail, who also told of the "Ministry of Jesus". After the business session, the Lord's Prayer was said in unison. There will not be another meeting of the society until January 4.

Santa Letters from 1946 that appeared in the Gainesville Daily Register:

Dear Santa: I am seven years old. Please, will you bring me a doll, a jumping jack, a color book, a cut out book and colors. Lots of nuts, apples, oranges, and candy. Don't forget my twin brother and sister. Mary Tom Ratliff, Valley View.

Dear Santa: Please bring me a doll, a little horn to blow, a cut out book, a color book and colors and scissors, nuts, apples and oranges and candy. I am three years old. Youvonne Ratliff, Valley View.

Dear Santa: I am a little boy, four years old. I live at 1414 East Pecan Street. Will you please bring me a cowboy gun set, blackboard, fruit, candy, and nuts. Please don't forget my little nephews, Jimmy Wayne Cole, Grand Prairie and Tommy Miller of Hanford, California. Your little friend, Dennie Welch.

Dear Santa: I am a little girl, two years old and live at 706 South Clements Street. Mother says I have been very good. Please bring me a doll, a doll buggy, and a little tricycle. I will leave you a piece of fruit cake under the tree. Be good to all the little boys and girls. With love, Jane Gayle Farr.

Dear Santa: I am a little boy, five years old. I have tried to be a good little boy. Please bring me a tricycle, a train, some fruit and nuts or anything you want to bring. Santa, I will leave you're a little sandwich under the tree. I live at 706 South Clements and will leave the front door unlocked Christmas night. Remember all the little children all over the world. With love, Billy Cecil Farr.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In almost every letter written to Santa that appeared in the newspaper, the child requested nuts, apples, oranges, and candy.

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While the following isn't Christmas related, the article did appear in the December 24, 1946, issue of the Gainesville Daily Register and the headline is "Toy" Hotel Sold to Mrs. Kosier.

"Mrs. Irene Hathaway this week sold the Toy Hotel, 400 ½ East California street to Mrs. K.F. Kosier. Mrs. Hathaway opened and operated this hotel for the past 22 years.

Some 25 years ago she leased several thousand acres of land around Callisburg, 12 miles northeast of Gainesville, where she interested the Big Indian Oil & Development Co. of Kansas City, Kansas in drilling a well, the first

producer to be completed in Cooke County on the Bud Davis farm at a depth of 3120 feet, November 9, 1924. This was the start of the big oil development that has continued throughout Cooke County since that time.

Mrs. Hathaway has always been a public-spirited citizen and contributes liberally to everything that is worthwhile. She has made many friends, both in Gainesville and throughout Cooke County and adjoining counties, during her residence here. She now resides at 501 South Morris street.”

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Any Unusual Names in Your Family Trees?

All our family trees contain hundreds if not thousands of names. Do you have any unusual ones in your family lines? I have a Susan Hercilla who had a sister name Jerusha. When Susan Hercilla got pregnant her sister Jerusha said that if it was a girl that she would leave the child an inheritance if Susan Hercilla would name the baby after her. So, Susan Hercilla did that naming her daughter LaRusha, and the little girl always went by the name Rusha (she was my grandmother). The twist to the story is that when her aunt Jerusha died, there was no inheritance! I have a Wilhelmina which isn't too unusual since she immigrated from Prussia. But it is her entire name that is a mouthful: Wilhelmina Caroline Marx Zillmer Emde. Marx was her maiden name. She first married Ludwig Zillmer and then after his death Charles Emde. If you have any unusual names in your family tree, please send them to me and I will include them in the next newsletter.

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1911 Voters List Cooke County:

Thank you to Ronnie Houser for preserving a book with a list of the voters in the county from 1911. I am going to print the names of the people who are listed as well as info that I may find for some of them over the course of the next several newsletters. In the September newsletter I started with the second ward in Gainesville. In this newsletter I will include Precinct 20 Valley View.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Post Office</u>
Allen, E.E.	39	Ranching	Sterling City
Allman, A.	56	Farmer	Gainesville

Armstrong, J.B.	56	Laborer	Valley View
Aughtry, J.D.	27	Farmer	Valley View
Aughtry, N.E.	40	Farmer	Valley View
Baker, N.B.	45	Minister	Valley View
Barber, T.D.	52	Farmer	Valley View
Baugh, M.C.	25	Farmer	Sivels Bend
Bentley, C.E.	45	Farmer	Valley View
Bentley, G.E.	44	Farmer	Valley View
Bels, A.	54	Farmer	Valley View
Bels, Louis	25	Farmer	Valley View
Blanton, J.W.	27	Carpenter	Valley View
Blanton, C.H.	52	Merchant	Valley View
Blanton, L.M.	27	Public Weigher	Valley View
Branch, F.W.	22	Farmer	Valley View
Breckenridge, J.W.	28	Farmer	Gainesville
Brownlee, T.G.	46	Hotel Keeper	Valley View
Brown, Walter	27	Farmer	Valley View
Bowen, J.B.	31	Farmer	Pilot Point
Bybee, S.L.	57	Farmer	Valley View
Calhoun, N.B.	48	Farmer	Valley View
Capp, V.B.	30	Farmer	Sivels Bend
Carpenter, W.M.	41	Farmer	Valley View
Carter, N.O.	21	Farmer	Valley View
Carson, T.A.	56	Farmer	Valley View
Cannon, E.	38	Farmer	Valley View
Cannon, A.B.	59	Farmer	Valley View
Campbell, W.H.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Cannon, E.D.	24	Farmer	Mossville
Cavett, E.H.	42	Butcher	Valley View
Chaney, J.W.	51	Farmer	Valley View
Chaney, B.O.	28	Farmer	Valley View
Chaney, C.F.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Christian, C.D.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Clack, H.P.	42	Merchant	Valley View
Clayton, J.M.	49	Farmer	Valley View
Colwell, W.G.	41	Farmer	Valley View
Compton, G.R.	39	Farmer	Gainesville

Coop, D.R.	41	Farmer	Valley View
Cowen, P.G.	53	Farmer	Valley View
Cowen, J.M.	29	Farmer	Valley View
Crider, E.W.	35	Farmer	Valley View
Crumley, J.W.	29	Merchant	Valley View
Cunningham, J.A.	25	Farmer	Valley View
Cunningham, O.W.	40	Physician	Valley View
Cunningham, T.J.	52	Postmaster	Valley View
Curtis, M.A.		Farmer	Valley View
Daniel, J.W.	30	Farmer	Valley View
Davis, W.J.	57	Farmer	Valley View
Davis, Sam	46	Laborer	Valley View
Davis, J.S.	46	Carpenter	Valley View
Dougherty, A.J.	44	Farmer	Valley View
Dayton, F.H.	39	Farmer	Valley View
Dillion, H.W.	38	Farmer	Valley View
Dickenson, W.E.	37	Farmer	Valley View
Dickenson, Ed	29	Farmer	Valley View
Dyer, L.D.	24	Farmer	Valley View
Enis, W.R.	44	Farmer	Valley View
Estes, R.P.	39	Farmer	Valley View
Faulkner, C.A.	57	Laborer	Valley View
Fitzgerald, Joe	48	Farmer	Valley View
Fletcher, W.A.	24	Farmer	Gainesville
Fletcher, J.E.	22	Farmer	Gainesville
Flint, Sam	24	Merchant	Valley View
Foreman, Clint	48	Farmer	Valley View
Gaston, L.R.	26	Farmer	Gainesville
Gregory, J.W.	40	Farmer	Valley View
Grisson	28	Painter	Valley View
Gillion, G.W.	54	Farmer	Valley View
Gimple, C.E.	44	Farmer	Gainesville
Glasgow, J.J.	39	Farmer	Valley View
Hancock, G.M.	53	Farmer	Valley View
Harvey, P.	60	Farmer	Valley View
Hasenplug, Wm.	42	Farmer	Valley View
Hasenplug, H.	45	Farmer	Valley View
Houston, A.	53	Farmer	Valley View

Harris, S.B.	49	Farmer	Valley View
Harris, L.M.	25	Farmer	Valley View
Hatcher, John	44	Farmer	Valley View
Heard, J.L.	30	Farmer	Valley View
Head, R.P.	55	Banker	Valley View
Hoshn, Philip	33	Farmer	Valley View
Hollingsworth, E.	30	Farmer	Valley View
Hollingsworth, F.P.	26	Farmer	Sanger
Holland, C.F.	35	Well driller	Valley View
Holland, C.J.	48	Farmer	Valley View
Holley, W.B.	34	Farmer	Valley View
Hudspeth, R.E.	43	Farmer	Valley View
Hudspeth, W.B.	39	Farmer	Valley View
Humphries, S.E.	50	Lumber dealer	Valley View
Honeycutt, J.T.	39	J.P.	Valley View
Hunter, J.W.	43	Farmer	Valley View
Huston, Wm. E.	44	Druggist	Valley View
Idell, W.A.	38	Farmer	Valley View
Idell, John	31	Laborer	Valley View
Jones, H.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Jones, Jay	22	Farmer	Valley View
Johns, B.F.	51	Farmer	Valley View
Kavanaugh, O.H.	34	Merchant	Valley View
Keel, M.W.	44	Farmer	Valley View
Keel, J.W.	59	Grain Dealer	Valley View
Keel, J.S.	49	Farmer	Valley View
Kelley, C.D.	37	Farmer	Valley View
Kerr, E.G.	31	Farmer	Woodbine
Kerr, J.A.F.	53	Farmer	Era
Kerr, R.D.	49	Farmer	Valley View
Kile, J.P.	47	Farmer	Valley View
King, R.V.	40	Farmer	Valley View
King, E.D.	43	Farmer	Valley View
King, B.F.	40	Farmer	Valley View
King, A.Q.	56	Farmer	Valley View
Kinglesmith, T.S.	41	Farmer	Valley View
Knight, E.F.	22	Farmer	Valley View
Krueger, Julius	47	Farmer	Valley View

Lane, C.P.	26	Farmer	Valley View
Lane, R.	58	Farmer	Valley View
Lane, J.I.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Lanier, J.W.	49	Farmer	Valley View
Langford, G.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Leach, G.W.	32	Farmer	Valley View
Leach, E.M.	35	Farmer	Valley View
Leach, A.R.	59	Farmer	Valley View
Ledford, J.S.	37	Farmer	Valley View
Light, W.M.	51	Farmer	Valley View
Lovelady, C.H.	42	Farmer	Valley View
Love, J.F.	53	Farmer	Valley View
Love, Harvey B.	22	Farmer	Valley View
Maddox, W.J.	48	Farmer	Valley View
Mallicote, John	31	Farmer	Valley View
Mann, B.S.	39	Farmer	Valley View
Mann, G.W.	44	Farmer	Pilot Point
Martin, J.E.	56	Farmer	Valley View
Martin, T.J.	31	Farmer	Valley View
Martin, J.T.	31	Farmer	Valley View
Maston, Lewis	34	Blacksmith	Valley View
Maston, J.L.	50	Farmer	Valley View
Maston, Monroe	28	Blacksmith	Valley View
Miller, C.D.	42	Minister	Valley View
Miller, P.	47	Farmer	Valley View
Milford, W.F.	34	Farmer	Valley View
Meyers, R.D.	34	Farmer	Farmersville
Moss, J.B.	35	Farmer	Valley View
Moss, W.C.	38	Farmer	Valley View
Murrell, R.E.	35	Farmer	Valley View
Murray, J.W.	25	Farmer	Haskell
Myers, G.T.	54	Farmer	Valley View
McCullum, F.D.	47	Farmer	Valley View
McCullum, C.J.	56	Farmer	Valley View
McCullum, W.T.	25	Farmer	Valley View
McCullum, T.M.	47	Cotton Buyer	Gainesville
McCullum, J.E.	34	Farmer	Valley View
McCullum, Dan	22	Farmer	Valley View

McCracken, Eugene	41	Farmer	Valley View
McGubbin, W.S.	34	Farmer	Valley View
McGubbin, L.N.	29	Farmer	Valley View
McGuistian, C.H.	48	Physician	Valley View
McLaughlin, R.G.	29	Farmer	Valley View
Neagle, G.A.	36	Farmer	Valley View
Neal, H.	51	Farmer	Gainesville
Neal, P.L.	46	Farmer	Gainesville
Nichols, R.L.	45	Farmer	Valley View
Nichols, R.W.	55	Farmer	Valley View
Nichols, J.W.	32	Farmer	Valley View
Nichols, C.R.	53	Farmer	Valley View
Nichols, W.C.	44	Farmer	Valley View
Nichols, C.P.	40	Blacksmith	Valley View
Newman, H.G.	37	Farmer	Valley View
Newton, Clay	31	Banker	Valley View
Newton, P.O.	24	Banker	Valley View
Newton, Frank K.	27	Merchant	Valley View
Nowell, W.B.	52	Minister	Valley View
Nowell, D.G.	25	Farmer	Valley View
O'Buck, E.W.	50	Carpenter	Valley View
O'Buck, R.	47	Farmer	Valley View
Odneal, R. C.	35	Farmer	Valley View
Odom, H.H.	26	Farmer	Valley View
Odom, W.H.	26	Farmer	Valley View
Oldham, W.E.	35	Farmer	Valley View
Overshiner, J.W.	60	Blacksmith	Valley View
Owens, C.C.	30	Merchant	Valley View
Pace, W.S.	40	Farmer	Valley View
Parmley, H.	50	Farmer	Valley View
Pillman, H.P.	26	Farmer	Gainesville
Puny, J.M.	58	Farmer	Valley View
Puny, Charles E.	22	Clerk	Valley View
Perryman, A.D.	43	Farmer	Gainesville
Pettit, J.D.	52	Farmer	Valley View
Piper, Will	39	Farmer	Valley View
Pool, C.B.	43	Farmer	Valley View
Roberson, G.A.	38	Farmer	Valley View

Roone, T.A.	30	Farmer	Valley View
Rudolph, J.E.	50	Farmer	Valley View
Savage, W.M.	27	Farmer	Sanger
Sclinker, C.H.	43	Farmer	Valley View
Schmidt, Henry	47	Farmer	Valley View
Schmidt, Paul	22	Farmer	Valley View
Seabastian, H.	29	Farmer	Valley View
Seabastian, G.C.	27	Farmer	Valley View
Seabastian, L.C.	32	Farmer	Valley View
Seabastian, C.P.	27	Farmer	Valley View
Seabastian, M.R.	33	Farmer	Sanger
Selzer, Willie	24	Farmer	Valley View
Self, J.H.	55	Farmer	Valley View
Sheley, G.L.	40	Physician	Valley View
Shotwell, Geo	45	Farmer	Valley View
Shockley, John	22	Farmer	Valley View
Slinker, W.L.	23	Farmer	Valley View
Sluder, J.C.	36	Farmer	Valley View
Sluder, J.D.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Sluder, C.W.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Shockley, E.S.	30	Farmer	Gainesville
Sieger, Mike	53	Farmer	Gainesville
Sieger, M.P.	22	Farmer	Gainesville
Simpson, W.A.	24	Farmer	Gainesville
Smiley, D.A.	36	Farmer	Valley View
Smith, G.C.	22	Farmer	Valley View
Smith, R.L.	43	Farmer	Valley View
Smith, T.F.	30	Farmer	Valley View
Steadman, G.A.	49	Farmer	Valley View
Steadman, Charles	27	Farmer	Valley View
Steadman, J.G.	25	Farmer	Valley View
Steger, R.C.	27	Farmer	Valley View
Stephenson, Jas	55	Farmer	Era
Stephens, J.F.	50	Farmer	Valley View
Stephenson, Walter	47	Farmer	Valley View
Stephenson, F.A.	25	Farmer	Era
Stephenson, John	23	Farmer	Era
Stewart, J.C.	45	Carpenter	Valley View

Stinson, W.H.	40	Farmer	Valley View
Sparkman, J.N.	50	Farmer	Valley View
Sparkman, J.M.	43	Farmer	Gainesville
Teague, F.G.	33	Laborer	Valley View
Touchton, J.A.	27	Barber	Valley View
Ussery, J.B.	39	Farmer	Valley View
Ussery, C.C.	42	Farmer	Valley View
Vanderslice, E.W.	33	Farmer	Valley View
Wade, J.M.	37	Drayman	Valley View
Wallace, E.A.	33	Farmer	Gainesville
Walker, J.H.	54	Farmer	Valley View
Walker, Joe	25	Farmer	Valley View
Walker, W.R.	29	Farmer	Valley View
Wallace, F.E.	27	Farmer	Gainesville
Wheeler, T.J.	28	Farmer	Valley View
Wheat, M.	47	Cotton Buyer	Valley View
Willis, E.F.	48	Farmer	Valley View
Willis, J.B.	50	Farmer	Valley View
Wilson, Tom	25	Farmer	Valley View
Wilson, J.B.	28	Farmer	Valley View
Willock, J.M.	45	Merchant	Valley View
Wisdom, W.W.	36	Farmer	Valley View
Wren, G.D.	41	Teacher	Miami
Woodard, W.R.	44	Farmer	Valley View
Underwood, R.W.	24	Farmer	Valley View

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And, finally, the photograph below is of a display panel included in an exhibit at the Oklahoma Territorial Museum in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Notice the mention of Gainesville. The railroad was so important to Cooke County and North Texas and undoubtedly impacted many of our ancestors, including the many farmers included in the list above, in one way or another.

RAILROADS

ATCHISON
TOPEKA
SANTA FE

Following the Civil War, Indian nations reluctantly granted right-of-ways to railway companies into the Indian Territory.

The Santa Fe Railroad Company was a major influence in opening the Unassigned Lands for settlement. The railroad built a north-south rail line through the area from 1884 to 1887, with the main line running from Arkansas City, Kansas, to Gainesville, Texas. The line formed an important link for the Santa Fe.

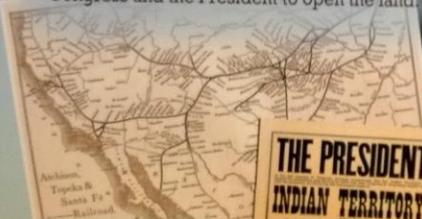
The *Boston Transcript* stated that the line "will inevitably open up the long coveted Oklahoma land to settlement by whites." Eager to use the Unassigned Lands as potential markets for goods, railroad attorneys and lobbyists spent enormous energy and money to persuade Congress and the President to open the land.



Elias C. Boudinot, a mixed blood Cherokee and Attorney for the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, published a letter in the February 17, 1879 issue of the *Chicago Times*, identifying several million acres of land in the Indian Territory as open for settlement.



Santa Fe President Cyrus Holliday reflected that if the opening did not happen, he would be the only man "who ever built a railroad 250 miles through a tunnel."



On the day of the land run, the Santa Fe carried about fifty percent of the participants and most of the building supplies that flooded into Guthrie, Oklahoma City, Norman, and Edmond.



