

AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY *QUARTERLY*



2013 VOL. 54 No. 3

AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 10010

AUSTIN TEXAS 78766 -1010

[HTTP://AUSTINTXGENSOC.ORG](http://austintxgensoc.org)

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2013 AGS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AGS meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm (except December). Meetings typically include time to get acquainted with other researchers, announcements and notification of upcoming activities. Meetings also feature a speaker on a genealogical topic.

September 24

Join us as KLRU and Josh Taylor share an advance screening of **Genealogy Roadshow** featuring the Austin edition.

October 22

"Texas Archive of the Moving Image"
Elizabeth Hansen

November 26

Fall Festival -- "I Bet You Didn't Know That"
AGS Members

INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY TWO-DAY WORKSHOP

PRESENTED BY AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Nancy R. Stevens and Jacquie Demsky Wilson, Instructors

Saturday, October 19th and Saturday, October 26th
9 am to 12:30 pm

Held at Triumphant Love Lutheran Church
9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin, TX 78759

If you are just starting out or want to brush up on your skills, this is the workshop for you!

Topics covered: Research Process, Organization & Planning, Maps, Atlases, and Vital, Census and Probate Records

Your \$15 fee covers both class days as well as all printed material.

Nancy R. Stevens has a B.A. in government, an M.A. in American studies, an M.L.I.S., and is a Certified Genealogist®. She has over 30 years of work experience as an archives specialist, government documents librarian, and researcher.

Jacquie Demsky Wilson has been researching her family history for over 40 years. She has a B.A. in Historical Studies and an M.L.S. She worked for the National Archives for over 25 years, both in Washington, D.C., and at the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library in Austin.

For more information, please contact Leslie D. Inman at education@austintxgensoc.org

REGISTRATION: Register online with a [credit card](#); or [download the registration form](#) and return with your \$15 payment to: Austin Genealogical Society,
PO Box 10010, Austin, TX 78766-1010

SURROUNDING GENEALOGICAL EVENTS

TEXAS CZECH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

GREAT INGREDIENTS (Individuals) = GREAT CASSEROLES (Families)

A Day of Learning How to Research the Individuals Who Make Up Our Families

4 sessions with special guest speaker, Dr. Miroslav Koudelka from Olomouc, Czech Republic

**September 28, 2013
Caldwell Civic Center
103 Presidential Corridor
Caldwell, Texas**

Registration – 8:00 a.m.
Registration Fees, Including Lunch:

Before September 18, 2013 – Member \$35 / Non-Member \$40

After September 18, 2013 – Member \$40 / Non-Member \$45

All Attendees at the Door - \$45

For more information, contact Bennie Stasny – 512-497-6007

13th Annual Genealogy Lock-In – Discover History for Yourself

Sponsored by the Waco-McLennan County Library
Genealogy Center in cooperation with
the Central Texas Genealogical Society

**West Waco Library
& Genealogy Center**
5301 Bosque Blvd Suite 275
October 18, 2013

HIGHLIGHTS
~ Genealogy Beginner's Class 12:30 pm / 6:30 pm ~
~ Meet Members of Local Hereditary Societies ~
~ DEMO Showcase Discussions: ~
(website tutorials, re-enactors, product discussions)
~ Lectures on the Resources of:
Texas State Library • Ancestry • FamilySearch.org
Texas General Land Office
~ Reference Assistance ~
~ Consult Visiting Genealogy Professionals ~
~ Snacks & Door Prizes ~

For more information call
254-750-5945
or visit
www.wacolibrary.org / www.ctgs.org

In celebration of “Family History” month in October, the Genealogy Center of the Waco-McLennan County Library System, in cooperation with the Central Texas Genealogical Society (CTGS), will be sponsoring the 13th Annual Genealogy Lock-in on Friday, October 18, 2013, from 12:30 p.m. -11:00 p.m. at the West Waco Library & Genealogy Center, 5301 Bosque Blvd., Suite 275 in Waco. This event is free and open to any members of the public who have an interest in genealogy.

The purpose of the event is to showcase the Library's genealogy collection and provide an awareness of the hereditary and historical societies represented in this area. It's a great opportunity for both the novice and the experienced researcher to learn more about genealogy, pursue their individual family's history, and to learn about local hereditary and historical societies. The Lock-in will include genealogical advice, instruction, snacks, and door prizes.

This is the third year the Lock-in has shared “virtual programming” with other libraries and genealogical societies from across the State of Texas. This year's participants include: **Texas State Library and Archives Commission**, Denton Public Library, Plano Public Library, Clayton Library Center (Houston Public Library), San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society, El Paso Genealogical Society, Amarillo Public Library and **Round Rock Public Library**.

Programming includes in-house and virtual classes. There will be a virtual Genealogy Beginner's class (12:30 p.m.) as well as an in-house Beginner's class at 6:30 p.m. Other virtual classes include a lecture on the genealogy resources available at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission; a discussion of "Unusual Resources" by Sue Kaufman, Manager of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research; a look at the new interface of FamilySearch.org; a lecture on online county records (in-house); a demonstration of the HistoryGeo.com database from Arphax.com; an update of what is new at Ancestry, and a discussion of resources available from the Texas General Land Office.

Early registration for the Lock-in begins at 12:15 p.m. in the foyer at the West Waco Library & Genealogy Center. Security will be provided.

Library facilities other than Genealogy will not be available for use after 6:00 p.m. during the Lock-in. Children under the age of 16 attending the event must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information contact Bill Buckner, Genealogy Center Manager of the West Waco Library & Genealogy Center at (254) 750-5945 or e-mail bbuckner@ci.waco.tx.us or visit www.wacolibrary.org / <http://www.ctgs.org>

FROM THE EDITOR

Where has the time gone? It is so hard to believe we are three months away from Christmas and on the third issue of the 2013 AGS *Quarterly*.

I have been extremely busy since the last issue of the *Quarterly*. We moved back home to Waco, Texas, from Oregon in early August and have spent a lot of time getting settled in and spending quality time with family. I also started my new part-time job as a Genealogy Library Technician at the Waco McLennan County Library & Genealogy Center, my husband has opened his new leather working shop, and I can't even begin tell you how happy I am to be back home.

Let me close by sharing the deadline for the December issue, which will be **November 15, 2013**, so please start submitting your items now.

With kindest regards,

Lisa Smith-Curtean

JACOB PETER SCHNEIDER AND HIS MERCANTILE STORE

By: Ann Dolce

On the southwest corner of Second and Guadalupe, surrounded by modern glass and steel, sits the old J. P. Schneider general mercantile store. The Austin skyline rises above, overshadowing the old two-story fired brick building. The store that was a hub of activity in the days of horse and wagons is still a hub of activity, sitting directly in the middle of the popular Second Street District, surrounded by the CSC building, across the street from the City Hall and home to the popular Lambert's Restaurant.



Jacob Peter "Jake" Schneider

Jacob Peter "J.P." Schneider (also known as Jake and Papa Jake) lived in Austin from 1859 until 1925 and was a merchant in the city for most of his life. He was the oldest son of Jean and Margaretha Groben Schneider, born 12 Jun 1852 in New Braunfels, Comal County, Texas, and came to Austin with his family at age seven.¹ He lived at 402 West 2nd Street in Austin for the remaining 66 years of his life. He was hard working, resilient, determined, dependable and honest and, as a result, lived the proverbial American dream.

Jake was a young boy during the Civil War when his father, a brewer by trade and a Fischer-Miller colonist who left Germany to find a new life in Texas, was killed in a wagon accident in 1862.² His mother, Margaretha, was left to raise five children: Jacob Peter, Albert, John Dominic, Mary Isabaele and Adolph Herman. Jake was in the fourth grade at the time of his father's death and left school to help the family make ends meet, working in the Confederate ammunition business molding bullets.³ It was a short-lived occupation for the Confederates soon surrendered and the Yankees moved into Austin, leaving Jake without a job. He told his son, Edward T. Schneider, "I never fought, but I measured lots of bullets; I molded lots of bullets."⁴ Following the end of the war, Jake enrolled in the German Free School⁵ and briefly attended Henry Burke Kinney's school.⁶ Kinney came to Austin in 1868 and coached advanced Latin and Greek classes and opened a school at the southeast corner of Pecan and Nueces streets.⁷ "During vacation I went to work again, living with J. L. Buaas for whom I worked. He gave me the run of his library, and insisted that I read ancient history and Greek mythology. I was a Catholic and the Greek mythology confused my young brain until I ran away from the place, although the family was very good to me."⁸

Jake's next career was that of a "dog-robber," an odd-job man doing menial tasks around the camp of the occupation army. The major of the company that he worked for liked young Jacob and managed to secure him a more promising spot under William Brueggerhoff. Mr. Brueggerhoff was one of the leading general mercantile men in town.⁹ Jake worked for several years at the Brueggerhoff Grocery Store at 10th and Congress Avenue.¹⁰ At one point, he doubled his job load by working as a legislative page for Major Cobb, the owner of the Great Northern Railroad right-of-way. He was paid \$500 for this part-time job¹¹ and was obviously a very industrious young man.

¹ 1925 Obituary newspaper clipping; Austin History Center; AF Biography Schneider J P

² Newspaper article on Austin politics, 1925 (with photo); Austin History Center; AF Biography Schneider J P

³ Schneider, Edward Thomas; recorded and transcribed interview by Hart, Katherine at the Austin Public Library on 11-Sep-1968, Austin History Center AF Biography Schneider, J P.

⁴ Schneider, Edward Thomas; recorded and transcribed interview by Hart, Katherine at the Austin Public Library on 11-Sep-1968, Austin History Center AF Biography Schneider, J P.

⁵ The Journal of The German-Texan Heritage Society; Vol XXIX; Number 3; Fall, 2007; p 242

⁶ Newspaper article on Austin politics, 1925 (with photo); Austin History Center; AF Biography Schneider, J P

⁷ Brown, Frank; "Annals of Travis County and the City of Austin (From Earliest Times to the Close of 1875)" (35 vols; typescript, Archives Division, Texas State Library); XV, 24

⁸ Newspaper article on Austin politics, 1925 (with photo); Austin History Center; AF Biography Schneider, J P

⁹ Schneider Frances L.; "The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History"; 15 Oct 1984

¹⁰ Schneider, Edward Thomas; recorded and transcribed interview by Hart, Katherine at the Austin Public Library on 11-Sep-1968, Austin History Center AF Biography Schneider, J P.

¹¹ Schneider Frances L.; "The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History"; 15 Oct 1984

Mr. Brueggerhoff had an arrangement with Jake for his salary. He did not pay Jake all of the salary, only a part of it, and instead gave him credit. When Jake was twenty-one years old, he went to "Old-Man" Brueggerhoff and said that he wanted to go into business for himself. Mr. Brueggerhoff replied, "Well, I owe you some money. I'm not going to pay you that money, I'm going to stock your store for you."¹² With \$500 and an open invitation from Mr. Brueggerhoff, Jake started a general mercantile business of his own. His mother, Margaretha, was his first and only partner and the store at 400 West 2nd opened around 1873. It was a small, one-story, frame building located over his father's limestone beer vaults, bordered on one side by Guadalupe Street and on the other by the family home. The business expanded quickly and soon outgrew the little frame building.



First Schneider Store called the "Flour House". Note Capitol in the background.

Jake built a brick building at 401 West 2nd and moved the store across the street. He designed the building and his brother, John Dominic Schneider, did the contracting and carpentry work.¹³ The actual date of the construction of the brick building is not settled but data from family records, the Texas Historical Commission, Sanborn Maps, Kock's Bird's Eye View maps, and Austin City Directories suggest that the building was constructed between 1887 and 1894.^{14 15 16 17 18}

From the time the new brick building was finished, the first frame building was used for storage and nicknamed "the flour house." The new building was well constructed, as were most buildings of the time. The wooden floor was raised 36 inches above ground to permit good ventilation and to keep out the mud. The walls were hand-made brick 18 inches thick, referred to today as "Austin common" brick.¹⁹ Two-by-twelve-inch ceiling joists supported the two-story ceiling and roof. Jacob had an eye on the hotel business and had windows with small slots for stove pipes installed along the outer walls of the 2nd floor. He planned to add partitions for rooms later. However, his mother did not want the added responsibilities

¹² Schneider, Edward Thomas; recorded and transcribed interview by Hart, Katherine at the Austin Public Library on 11-Sep-1968, Austin History Center AF Biography Schneider, J P.

¹³ Graham Lee W.; "The Schneider Store", Study paper prepared for the University of Texas Course ARC 373; Professor Alexander, 18 Apr 1977

¹⁴ Schneider Frances L.; "The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History"; 15 Oct 1984

¹⁵ Texas Historical Commission; Memorandum titled "Schneider Building, Austin", from Peter Maxon to Joe Oppermann; August 9, 1977

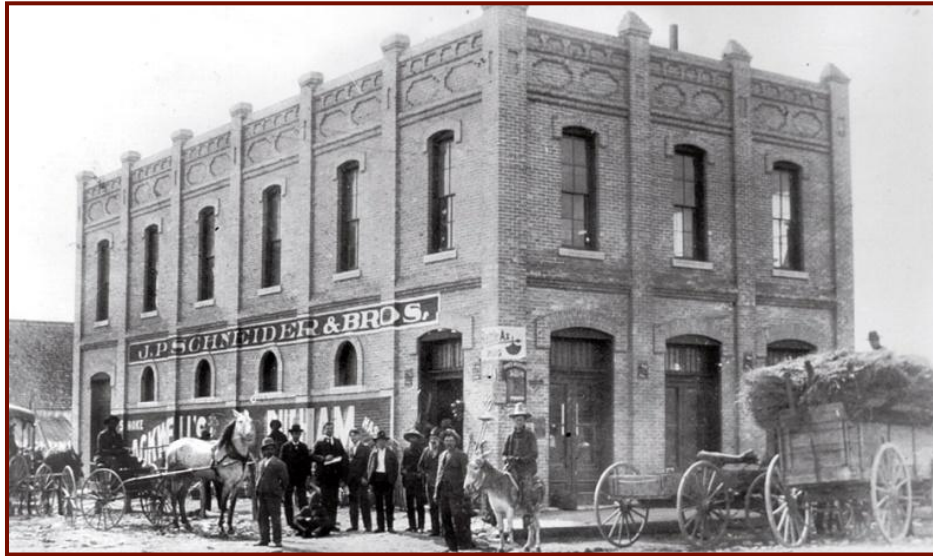
¹⁶ Austin City Directory 1893-1894

¹⁷ Koch, Augustus; "BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS 1873"; 1873; Lithograph (hand-colored), 19.7 x 28.1 in. Published by J. J. Stoner, Madison, Wis. Center for American History; The University of Texas at Austin.

¹⁸ "Schneider, JP Store Building: A Historic Structures Report and Preservation Plan"; General Services Department, City of Austin; January, 1989

¹⁹ Denton, Mark; Texas Historical Commission; Conversation 2007

and confusions of running a boarding house and put a stop to Jacob's idea.²⁰ He did have a wagon yard next to the store where customers who came from out of town could stay overnight.



Schneider Store 1890

Photo Courtesy of: Austin Public Library, Austin History Center # C00130



Interior of general store believe to be original Schneider store (Flour House). Austin Public Library, Austin History Center PCIH 03551

The Schneider store had an ideal location at 401 West 2nd. A bridge did not cross the Colorado River in the 1880s. Wagons coming in from south of the river forded near the present-day Nueces Street and processed up Live Oak Street (West 2nd) to the Schneider's Wagon Yard.²¹ The wagon yard was to the south and west of the store building and was surrounded by a three-foot wall and accommodated up to 50 wagons. The yard had two camp houses for the travelers that were simple one-room frame buildings divided in the middle by a double fireplace. The travelers brought in eggs, rabbits, squirrels, cedar, goats, sheep, cattle, and the fur of foxes, bobcats, 'coons, ringtails and skunks to exchange for Jake's wares. The camp

²⁰ Johnston, Virginia Schneider; Conversation 2006

²¹ Schneider, Edward Thomas; recorded and transcribed interview by Hart, Katherine at the Austin Public Library on 11-Sep-1968, Austin History Center AF Biography Schneider, J P.

houses furnished the customers with a free roof and warm fire for the duration of their stay while they traded with Jake Schneider.²²



Colorado River Crossing near Schneider Store
Photo Courtesy of: Austin Public Library, Austin History Center # C01694

A letter, written by an ancestor of John McClish, includes a remembrance of tales about the Schneider store and wagon yard:

The most exciting event of all was the annual, or sometimes semi-annual, trip to Austin [from Smithwick, near Marble Falls]. For this trip they went in the wagon because it was a “trading trip.” They took three days for it – one to go, one to trade and one for the return. A friend or neighbor took care of the livestock and chickens while they were gone away. Sometimes another family made the trip with them. They took camping gear and when they got to Austin they stayed in Schnider’s [Schneider’s] Wagon Yard. I think it was located at 2nd and Congress. I’m not sure of the exact location but it was in that general area. Daddy was introduced to the marvel of the flush toilet there. The water tank was high up on the wall above the commode and Daddy said it made such a racket the first time he flushed it that he ran out in a hurry because he thought he’d done something wrong.

They did their trading at Schniders General Mercantile and E.M. Scarbrough’s. Grandpa also went to places like Walter Tipps for farm implements that he couldn’t buy in Bertram or Liberty Hill.

Then at night Grandpa got together with some of the fellows to play dominoes. He dearly loved to play dominoes, but that was high on Grandma’s list of vices; so he never missed an opportunity when he was away from home. If he indulged in other forms of city recreation, I never was told about it. After all, dominoes were evil enough.

²² Schneider Frances L.; “The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History”, 15 Oct 1984

As a general mercantile store, the Schneider store furnished everything from cotton and fur to flour and fish. The large room was well organized and each item had its place. The west wall was for groceries. Here the 50 lb. bags of cornmeal, flour, sugar and salt were stacked after they were carried across the street from the “flour house”. Various canned goods filled floor-to-ceiling shelves. Clothing and sewing items lined the east wall; fruits and vegetables filled the area in the middle. The selection of vegetables varied according to the season of the year and what customers brought to trade. Black ripe bananas hung from one of the ceiling joists. Everyone knew that yellow ones were harmful! A mezzanine floor housed hats, boots and shoes while the upstairs at one time stored tombstones and coffins. Jake’s mercantile dealt in a wide variety of wares.²³

The back room was the haunt of the shop-boys and the owner. It was here that all the behind-the-scene activities took place. A hand-operated elevator and a large pot-bellied stove filled the room. Green coffee was roasted here once weekly. The boys would add half a barrel of water and burnt sugar to the barrels of white vinegar to make it more appealing in taste and color. They also broke up hard sugar with a pick or an axe until the sugar separated.

The elevator led to the basement where the meats, particularly hams and bacon, hung from ceiling beams in the cool underground room. Vats of wine and whiskey sat fermenting with the cheeses. Once, J.P. ordered some dried lutefish for his Swedish and Norwegian customers. The strong fish smell permeated the entire store from basement on up so that for a time even the smell of the skunk hides was overcome!²⁴

Farm implements and cotton bales lined the outside walls and crowded the yard. Very often a sawdust path led from the store across the street to the “flour house” and to the homestead as a mud guard on the unpaved roads. Items were ordered by the boxcar and wagons from the train station deposited the large quantities in the “flour house.” It was not surprising to find 100 lb. sacks of salt, 25 lb. lead containers of tea, sacks of bran, and the ever-present cotton bales stored floor to ceiling.²⁵



Jacob Peter Schneider and Mary Katherine Kirschvink wedding portrait

Jake Schneider was not only interested in building his business; but he was also interested in establishing a family. In 1880 he married **Mary Katherine Kirschvink** who was born 9 Apr 1856²⁶ in Raeren, Prussia, now Belgium, and immigrated “on a pillow” as a baby in a sailing ship in 1857.²⁷ Mary Katherine was the daughter of Leonhard J. and Anne Marie Hansen Kirschvink. She and her family first settled in Fredericksburg, Gillespie County, Texas²⁸ and then moved to Austin about 1868. By 1872 Mary Katherine’s father, Leonhard, was established as a shoe and boot maker in Austin.²⁹ Mary Katherine lived with her family and worked as a dressmaker³⁰ and married Jacob on 24 Nov 1880.^{31,32} They raised a family of five children: Leonard John, born 18 Nov 1882, Charles Joseph born 26 May 1884, Anna Margaret born 22 Dec 1886, Edward Thomas born 30 Jun 1889, and Francis Ralph born 8 Aug 1901. As their family flourished, so did the business.

²³ Schneider Frances L.; “The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History”, 15 Oct 1984

²⁴ Schneider Frances L.; “The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History”, 15 Oct 1984

²⁵ Schneider Frances L.; “The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History”, 15 Oct 1984

²⁶ Tombstone; Mt. Calvary Cemetery; Austin, Texas

²⁷ Park, Jeanne Schneider; Schneider, Mary Ann; Recollections recorded and transcribed by Park, Phocion Jr.; 30 Jan 1988.

²⁸ US Census 1860; Gillespie County, Texas

²⁹ Austin City Directory 1872

³⁰ US Census 1880; Travis County, Texas

³¹ Catholic Archives, Diocese of Austin, Marriage Record, St. Mary’s Cathedral Parish

³² Austin Daily Statesman; 26 Nov 1880; pg 4, col 2

The Schneider store was not only a center for commerce; but it was also a place for social interaction. Schneider was a generous, easy-going person and he genuinely cared for people.³³ "He would give a hungry man bread and cheese the first time. If they came back a second time, they would have to do chores to eat the food."³⁴ One of the buildings in the wagon yard was known as "Schneider's hospital." The Austin newspaper reported in 1890 that "when any of Jake's mountain friends were sick and needed medical attention, they were welcome to room in the 'hospital' free of charge while being treated by Austin's skillful doctors."³⁵

Politics was often the topic of conversation as people gathered at the store and there was no one better to discuss it with than Jake Schneider. He served as an alderman (city council member) for over 25 years from 1884 through 1897 and from 1899 through 1905 and served with six different mayors, beginning with Republican Mayor DeGress.³⁶ Jake was a member of the first group of volunteer firefighters in Austin and part of the Austin Hook and Ladder Company #1, serving many years as vice-president of the company.³⁷ He served as a member of the Fire Commission for many years, and when the Central Fire Bell was installed in a tower behind the City Hall in 1887, Jake's name was inscribed on the bell along with Monroe Miller, fire chief; William Von Rosenberg, assistant chief; John A. Miller, recorder; J.W. Roberston mayor; J.W. Graham and F.E. Jones, fire committee.³⁸ In 1895 Jake was on the Austin Water and Light Commission that set rates for the Waterworks and Electric Plants.³⁹ He was also instrumental in building the original dam on the Colorado River that was later lost in the flood of 1900.⁴⁰ Religion was an important part of life in the Schneider household. Jake was a charter member of the Knights of Columbus Instituted Council No. 1017.⁴¹ "Austin history has certainly been a part of my life. A quarter of a century I did my best to give service to my neighbors and friends."⁴² There was never a lack of topics to discuss at the general store.⁴³

Business and politics were not always easy for Schneider and he endured bankruptcy, bank failures, and illness. The Austin City Directory indicates that Jacob's mercantile business was shared with his brothers in 1898 when the directory listing shows "Albert Sr. and John D." added to the business name as "Jacob P. Schneider and Bros."⁴⁴ However, conversations with Olga Schneider, wife of Jake's youngest son F. Ralph Schneider, reveal that the "Schneider Brothers were never in business together. The brothers were close and Poppa Jake was being sued by the Cuero (actually DeWitt) County Commissioners to finish the courthouse because the contractors and sub-contractors went broke. He (Jake) was one of the co-signers on the note. He did what he could but then had to take bankruptcy in order to save the store, hence the 'Bros.' was added and the reasons were forgotten."⁴⁵ Close scrutiny of photographs of the store substantiates that the "& Bros." portion of the painted sign on the building face is an addition to the original. The DeWitt County Courthouse was designed and built by Austin architect, Arthur Osborne Watson. According to courthouse historical information, Watson had a difficult time funding the project and in 1896 the unpaid workers walked off the job and left the courthouse unfinished. Watson went broke on the project and the building was finally finished by Eugene Heiner.⁴⁶

In the early 1900s Jake suffered another financial setback when the bank with which he did business, James H. Raymond & Company Bankers, suddenly closed the doors and Jake lost \$10,000 that he had

³³ Johnston, Virginia Schneider; Conversation with author 2000

³⁴ Schneider, John P.; Conversation with author: 2000

³⁵ Austin Statesman; 27 Jul 1890

³⁶ Austin History Center; AF Biography Schneider J P; newspaper article on Austin politics, 1925 (with photo)

³⁷ Barkley, Mary Starr; "History of Travis County and Austin 1839-1899", 1963, pg. 232

³⁸ "Annual Reports of the Mayor and Other Officers of the City of Austin, Texas 1887-1896"; Austin History Center

³⁹ Austin Fire Department Museum NOTE: The bell was removed and the tower torn down in 1926. The bell currently hangs in the steeple at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church at 1206 E. 9th St.

⁴⁰ Barkley, Mary Starr; "History of Travis County and Austin 1839-1899", 1963, pg 247

⁴¹ 1925 Obituary newspaper clipping; Austin History Center; AF Biography Schneider J P

⁴² Austin History Center, AF Churches Catholic, Knights of Columbus C3550(7)

⁴³ Schneider family (Schneider, Jacob P.); AF Biography, Austin History Center.

⁴⁴ Austin City Directory 1898-1907

⁴⁵ Schneider, Olga; Conversation; November 17, 1988 quoted in "J. P. Schneider Store Building: A Historic Structures Report and Preservation Plan"; General Services Department, City of Austin; January, 1989

⁴⁶ www.texasescapes.com/TRIPS/GreatAmericanLegendTour/DeWittCountyTx/DeWittCountycourthouse.htm

on deposit with the bank.⁴⁷ The bank closing was due most likely to the Bank Panic of 1909 when many banks failed. This was a considerable sum of money in those days and certainly had an impact on the financial stability of the family and the business.

The neighborhood surrounding the Schneider store underwent a major transformation in the early 1900s and after 1919 became almost an entirely industrial area. Wagons gave way to the automobile, and the wagon yard became a thing of the past. As Jake approached 70 years of age, his wife, Mary, assisted in managing or managed the store herself.⁴⁸ After Jake's death from a stroke in 1925, the store was run by his son, Ralph, who added a saloon in the rear of the building in 1933 following the repeal of prohibition. Operation of the Schneider store ceased completely in 1935. In later years the structure housed electrical and lumber companies, an art gallery, and engraving company, and was damaged twice by fire.⁴⁹

The recent history of the store is more political. In 1974 at the start of a short-lived building boom, the city began buying land along Second Street for a city hall. The Schneider family did not want to sell, but the city used its power of eminent domain to force a sale. After the city began eminent domain proceedings, members of the family began counter proceedings to stop the sale and sought historical landmark status from the state. The building received historical designation from the Texas Historical Commission in 1974. The City of Austin granted it historical landmark status in 1975. The store, along with the remains of the underground brewery across the street, received an historic medallion from the Texas Historical Commission and were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. By 1979, when the legal wranglings had ended and the City of Austin owned the property, the building boom had halted and the city hall project was shelved. In 1984 the city considered tearing the building down, but because of the historical designation, the city left the building intact. Next, city officials tried and failed to remove the historical zoning so they could move the building to Waterloo Park. In 1988 the city proposed a plan to restore and renovate the store, but no funds were approved. The building sat vacant and abandoned until 2000 when the software company, Computer Sciences Corporation, came to Austin with plans for two large office buildings on the property, one wrapping around the Schneider store. Architect Emily Little, in partnership with the Texas Historical Commission, renovated the store in 2001. Little "directed the removal of layers of paint from the Austin common brick, stabilized walls, identified original openings and fabricated new windows and doors to match the original design."⁵⁰

Today the Schneider store, a gem of old Americana, shares the street with Austin City Hall and a Computer Science Corporation building. Across Second Street on the North West corner in the AMLI building, remains of Jean Schneider's (Jake's father) underground brewery can still be seen. Jake would be proud that his store, a symbol of an earlier bustling Austin economy is surrounded by modern political, economic and social symbols of Austin in the popular Second Street District.

⁴⁷ Schneider, Edward Thomas; recorded and transcribed interview by Hart, Katherine at the Austin Public Library on 11-Sep-1968, Austin History Center AF Biography Schneider, J P.

⁴⁸ Austin City Directory 1918-1924

⁴⁹ Schneider Frances L.; "The J.P. Schneider Store (1873-1973) A Centennial History", 15 Oct 1984

⁵⁰ Ballou, Julliane, "Bridging Preservation and Innovation: Architect Emily Little sees her work as a civic duty"; Austin Woman Magazine; November 2011

HELENA & ROBERT ZILLER HOUSE

Compiled by Phoebe Allen

The following text is taken from the historical narrative submitted to the Texas Historical Commission.

Robert Ziller, member of a respected pioneer Austin family, and his wife, Helena, constructed their remarkable Mediterranean Revival home at 800 Edgecliff Terrace in Austin in 1937. The Travis Heights house is situated on a cliff overlooking downtown Austin at the point where Blunn Creek enters the Colorado River. The Ziller's home was a haven for animals; they were benefactors of Austin's Humane Society. Before it reverted to single-family status in 1999, the Ziller House was a bed-and-breakfast; its clientele including such luminaries as Clint Eastwood, Walter Cronkite, Linda Ellerbee, Meg Ryan, Dennis Quaid and Lyle Lovett.

Designed by architect Lee M. Smith of Calcasieu Lumber Company, the Ziller House features characteristics of the Spanish Eclectic style. Mediterranean Revival stylistic features are seen in the asymmetrical stucco façade, prominent front gable, cantilevered window, dramatic entry (almost a Triumphal Arch) and ornamental ironwork, some of which is attributed to Weigl Ironworks. The house also exhibits characteristics of the Colonial Revival style, in particular its six-over-six windows with shutters.



ZILLER HOME

Ziller Family History

Robert Ziller's German grandparents, **Michael** (1803-1858) and **Catharine Keisel Ziller** (1824-1862) immigrated to Texas from France, perhaps as early as 1834, after Michael received an honorable discharge from the French army⁵¹ in 1831. Michael began hauling freight from Galveston to Austin by ox-cart⁵² and operated one of the first hotels in the city, the old **Missouri House** at the southeast corner of Brazos and Sixth (201 E. 6th). In 1849 he built the first stone building⁵³ on Congress Avenue at the northeast corner of 6th and Congress, now the site of the Littlefield Building. There he ran a general merchandise store, selling and trading stock, especially pelts⁵⁴. By 1850, with property valued at \$12,800, Michael Ziller was the fourth most prosperous⁵⁵ individual in Austin; he served as an Alderman⁵⁶ the year before his death in 1858.



ROBERT ZILLER SITTING AT HIS DESK

The Zillers had five children. **Henry Harry Ziller** was the second son (1853-). Bertha Sterzing & Henry Harry Ziller's 1881 Eastlake style home at 1110 Blanco in the Castle Hill neighborhood, sometimes referred to as the Steamboat House, is a City, State and National Register Landmark. Henry was a tinner

⁵¹ AF-Biography File—Ziller Family, Austin History Center, includes a copy of Michael Ziller's discharge papers.

⁵² Noah Smithwick, *The Evolution of a State: or, Recollections of Old Texas Days* (Austin: The Steck Company, 1900), pp. 264-65; Davis, v. III, p. 2113.

⁵³ Frank Brown, *Annals of Travis County and of the City of Austin from the Earliest Times to the Close of 1875* (manuscript), Austin History Center, v. VI, pp. 76-77; Smithwick, p. 262.

⁵⁴ Mary Starr Barkley, *History of Travis County and Austin, 1839-1899* (Austin: The Steck Company, 1963), p. 53.

⁵⁵ United States Census of Travis County, 1850, no. 350.

⁵⁶ David C. Humphrey, *Austin, an Illustrated History* (Northridge, CA: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1985), inside cover.

for a stoves and tinware dealer in the 1870s and became an assistant tax assessor and collector, serving for 43 years under his brother-in-law, Fred Sterzing, the city's chief tax assessor and collector.⁵⁷

Michael Ziller's eldest son, **August Ziller** (1846-1918) and his brother **William**⁵⁸ were born in Austin and attended Bastrop Military Academy. August left school at the age of 16 to join the Confederacy. After the war ended, August ran a confectionery store for a short time and was a volunteer fire chief before becoming a deputy city tax assessor. He served with the State government in public works the remainder of his career.⁵⁹ August, his wife Marie (Mary), son Robert, and several other family members were Christian Science practitioners.

August and William married sisters Marie (1848-1934) and Theresa (1852-) Adam Hertel, daughters of **Augusta Adam**, who arrived in Austin by 1857 in an oxcart with her Prussian-born young daughters.⁶⁰ In 1857, Augusta Adam obtained two lots from the State of Texas on which she built a two-story rock house, now 403 West 14th Street, where August's and Marie's only child, Robert Ziller, lived after his birth in 1871. Robert Ziller, who inherited the property when his grandmother died, remembered his grandmother as a pioneer spirit, full of endurance during trying times: along with her husband's and father's deaths, her two brothers were killed at war, and their family fortune was depleted. She came to America to escape political unrest in Germany, bringing with her the family silver and other effects, which she sold gradually to support her children.⁶¹ A house Augusta built in Austin sometime between 1857 and 1868 at 1306 Guadalupe is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. At the time it was built, what is now the University of Texas was a Native American camping site. Robert Ziller remembered from stories told that the native people would come to Augusta Adams' house to exchange bear meat for spring water and other goods.⁶²

Augusta lived nearby at 403 Walnut/West 14th Street with her new husband, German stonemason **Herman Hertel**, and Augusta's two daughters, and later with her daughters' families. Both sisters were schoolteachers at one of the first private girls' school in Austin, built adjacent to the Adams-Hertel-Ziller home. Their students included Margaret Pease, granddaughter of Governor Marshall Pease, and Ima Hogg, daughter of Governor Stephen Hogg.

Robert Lee Ziller (1871-1961) was born in Austin and educated at the Jacob Bickler School on West 14th at Lavaca.⁶³ He was sent, about the age of 13, to an academy in Berlin, Germany. He attended the University of Texas and was awarded a certificate denoting his accomplishments in the fields of chemistry and physics, though he did not graduate. "He devoted much of his early life to inventions and obtained many patents on various items in countries throughout the world. Most outstanding of his efforts have been his contributions to irrigation projects and to non-explosive fuel⁶⁴ containers. In recognition

⁵⁷ AF-Biography File – Sterzing, Theodore, Austin History Center; W. J. Weeg, "Fifty Years in the Public Service," Austin Statesman, November 23, 1924, p. 8.

⁵⁸ Davis, v. III, p. 2113 (August); Barkley, p. 168-170 (William). August attended the Bastrop Military Academy, which was renamed the Texas Military Institute in 1868 and moved to Austin in 1870. On Bastrop Military Academy, see Walter Prescott Webb, ed., The Handbook of Texas (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1952), v. I, p. 121.

⁵⁹ August Ziller, New Encyclopedia of Texas. Compiled by Davis & Grobe. 1929. Texas Development Bureau, Dallas. Pg. 2113.

⁶⁰ The 1880 census lists Augusta Hertel as head of household, daughter Teresa Adam, born in Prussia; son-in-law August Ziller, 34, born circa 1846 in Texas; daughter Marie, 28, born in Prussia, and grandson Robert.

⁶¹ Wadene C. Harrison, History of 1306 Guadalupe (Austin, Texas), p.3.

⁶² Harrison, p. 3.

⁶³ Mr. Robert Ziller. From a 1961 questionnaire filed in the Austin History Center.

⁶⁴ He patented a non-exploding can for kerosene and gasoline.

of his work in the field of irrigation, Mr. Ziller was awarded a medal at the National Irrigation Exposition, Pueblo, Colorado, in 1910.”⁶⁵

Ziller and his first wife **Elizabeth ‘Bessie’ Harrison** (1872-1917), who were married in 1897, had one daughter, **Angela** (1907-1953). Robert and Bessie were friends of **Mary Baker Eddy** (1821-1910), who organized the Church of Christ, Scientist, in 1879. According to a church manual, August and Mary Ziller were admitted to membership in July of 1893; Robert and Theresa Ziller were admitted to membership on Sept. 30, 1893. When Robert began to deviate from Eddy’s teachings, she personally excommunicated Robert and Bessie from the church before her death in 1910.

Robert managed a number of real estate properties he had inherited from his father and grandfather, some of it on Congress Avenue, and had several hobbies that used the workshop in his basement. He corresponded with Woodrow Wilson and other well-known people all over the world. The Zillers numbered among their personal friends Governor Colquitt, Governor Jim Hogg, and Col. E. M. House. Robert Ziller was a Master of the Austin Masonic Lodge #12 in 1910-11. He received his Scottish Rite Degrees in 1908 and was a charter member of both the Council and Consistory in Austin. He was created a Noble in Ben Hur Temple in 1908.

In 1925 Robert entered into a “spiritual” marriage with his second wife **Helena ‘Lena’ Layne** (1881-1973), an opera singer born in Tennessee. Following the death of Robert’s mother, they built this house in 1937. They called the property **Edgecliff Gardens** and practiced organic gardening, building terraces on the steep banks of the river.

According to some writings left with family members, Robert Ziller became deeply religious or spiritual in his own way. It is said that he performed rituals of an unknown nature on the high point now occupied by the gazebo. At some point, Robert, Lena and Angela began receiving communications from persons long dead, which resulted in a number of written volumes dictated to and transcribed by Lena and Angela⁶⁶: *The Spear of the Feteialist*, *Melana of the Legions*, *Marcus the Gladiator*, and *Over the Eagles*. Robert went to great lengths in *Rekindled Fires* to explain that these were not novels or fiction, nor did they result from séances. It was said that Lena had communication with a ghost that lived in the closet of the library room, which she kept locked; she sculpted a likeness of the ghost’s head, which was sold in an estate sale.⁶⁷

Angela was about 18 at the time of her father’s remarriage. An accomplished artist, she wanted to become a professional ballet dancer; Robert and Lena did not approve, and Angela eventually parted ways with the Zillers. An only child, she died in 1953 at the age of 46.

The Zillers were great animal lovers. Their home was a haven for pets, including, at various times, ten French Alpine goats, six cats, birds and even a bobcat. Following Angela’s death, the Zillers gave \$25,000 in her memory toward building the Town Lake Animal Shelter – half the total cost.⁶⁸

Another instance of Robert’s generosity was the Christmas Eve he walked around town giving out silver dollars to strangers along the way. He, Lena and Angela were active in the WWII effort to collect scrap metal in a truck; photographs show scrap piled up along the front wall.

⁶⁵ “Shriner of the Month.” Undated clipping from unknown source.

⁶⁶ Unpublished manuscripts in family files.

⁶⁷ Estate sale was managed by Lucky Attal.

⁶⁸ “Pet Shelter Benefactors Are Named.” American Statesman, undated clipping, Austin History Center.

Lena was a member of the Board of Directors of the Humane Society at her death, and active in the Heart Association and American Cancer Society.⁶⁹ Robert had been a member of the Board of Directors of the old Austin Humane Society. In addition to being an opera singer and pianist, Lena was a painter of flowers, landscapes and pet portraits. After her husband's death, Mrs. Ziller bought a yellow Corvette and began wearing leopard-skin-print Capri pants, her red hair adding flair to her artistic appearance. After Mr. Ziller's death, Ruth Layne, the widow of Lena's brother Valtai, and Gladys Riddel, a friend of the family and receptionist at the Humane Society, lived with Mrs. Ziller from 1963 until her death in 1973. Both Robert and Helena are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. The house was returned to a single-family residence by the current owners, Pam & Tim Walker, who stayed at the B&B periodically for over ten years prior to purchasing it in February of 1999.

Michael Ziller Descendants

John Michael Ziller (-1858) m. Catherine Keisel →

1. **August** (1846-1918) m. Mary/Marie Adam Hertel

a. Robert L. Ziller (1871-1961) → Angela (1907-1953)

2. Anna (1847-) m. ___ Jacoby

3. Mary (1850-) m. ___ Price

4. **Henry Harry** (1853-) m. Bertha Sterzing

a. H.H. Jr

b. Theodora Leslie m. Bertha Kofp → Leslie, Jack, Michael, Rebecca, Melinda

c. Edward

5. **William** (1857-1915) m. Theresa Adam Hertel

6. Pearl m. ___ Moreland

⁶⁹ Obituary, American Statesman. Feb. 20, 1973

JOHANNES (JOHN) NILSSON GÖK

Kay Dunlap Boyd

In the family Swedish records, he was named Johannes. In the United States he was called John.

John is another of my family members who had no children to record his life. So it is left to me to tell his story.

John was my great-grandmother's brother. He was born 30 August 1845 in Bondarp, Åsenhöga, Jönköping, Sweden, to Nils Svensson Gök and his wife, Caisa Petersdotter. He was the sixth of nine children in the family.

Four or five of the siblings immigrated to America. John, Adelina and Adolph came to Austin. Sarah followed her husband to Denver. It is recorded in family notes that brother Peter died "somewhere in America." Several of the children used the surname Nilsson or Nelson and the others went by Gök.

John came to the United States with his sister Adelina on the ship *Wisconsin* on 22 November 1870. The family story is they landed in Indianola and traveled by cart to Austin.



JOHN GÖK

Few documents are available on John's life. In 1875, he was recorded living with Adelina and her husband, R. E. Stromberg, and their two children. In June of 1877, Adelina and her family returned to Sweden to visit family. It appears that John remained in Austin.

An issue of a May 1879 Austin newspaper reported that Gök left Paggi's employment for mining in New Mexico. There are few Austin city directories before 1881; however, in the 1872 city directory, Michael Paggi was shown as a manufacturer of soda water and syrup, and his establishment was located on the northeast corner of Pecan (6th) and Brazos. In 1881, Paggi was listed as a blacksmith and manufacturer of buggies, carriages and wagons with a "two-story stone commercial structure faced by elaborate brickwork". After living with his sister's family in 1875, John could have lived at either of these addresses where he worked.



JOHN ON THE FARM

The 1880 census recorded Gök in the mining town of Lawson, Clear Creek County, Colorado, as a 34 year old laborer. This was silver mining country and many other men are listed here. These mines closed in 1893. By 1900 he lived in Custer County, Idaho, where he worked as a quartz miner. This mountainous area is in the center of Idaho where gold was first discovered about 1876, and silver, copper and quartz were also mined. The *Weekly Democratic Statesman* of 17 May 1893 shows that his attorney sold 250 acres of land in Travis County in his name for \$75.

By 1908, John had returned to Texas. His sister Adelina resided in Austin but he lived with his niece and her husband, Ada and Ed Raney, on their farm in Mendoza where he helped work the land. My mother told me his living quarters were above the barn near the big house. John kept up with some of his old mining friends because I have some letters mailed from George in Ketchum, Idaho, who mentions his cabin there.

John died on 8 November 1919 of Bright's disease. He was buried with his brother-in-law, R. E. Stromberg, in the family lot at Oakwood Cemetery.



PHOTO BY ROBERT SAGE

As little as I know about John, I know even less about his youngest brother Adolph Nelson. Immigration records show that he arrived from Sweden in 1880 and sexton records state that he was buried 15 October 1886 in lot 453 in the older section of Oakwood Cemetery after dying from consumption.



PHOTO BY ROBERT SAGE

LIZZIE JOHNSON, CATTLE QUEEN OF TEXAS



LIZZIE JOHNSON WILLIAMS
PHOTO COURTESY OF
EMMETT SHELTON, AUSTIN, TX.

Lizzie E. Johnson Williams, 1840-1924, schoolteacher, cattle dealer, and investor, was born on 9 May 1840, in Cole County, Missouri, the second of the seven children of Thomas Jefferson and Catharine (Hyde) Johnson. About 1844 her family moved to Texas; they lived in Huntsville, Lockhart, and Webberville, where Thomas Johnson taught school, before settling on Bear Creek in Hays County. Lizzie received her basic education at the Johnson Institute and earned a degree in 1859 from the Chappell Hill Female College in Washington County. She began her career as a schoolteacher at the Johnson Institute, a private coeducational school founded in 1852 in Hays County by her parents. Before establishing her own primary school in Austin, she taught at Lockhart, Pleasant Hill School (at that time south of Austin), Parson's Seminary in Manor, and Oak Grove Academy in Austin.

In 1873 she purchased a lot in Austin, where she later resided in a two-story home and conducted classes on the first floor. She later kept books for cattlemen and invested in cattle and land. She was teaching in Austin as late as 1880. Through her bookkeeping and her acquaintance with prominent cattlemen and investors of the day, including George W. Littlefield, William H. Day, and Charles W. Whitis, she recognized the profits to be made in cattle.

On June 1, 1871, she registered her cattle brand under the name of Elizabeth Johnson. Two days later she made her first real-estate transaction by purchasing ten acres of land in Austin from Whitis for 3,000 gold dollars. She achieved legendary status as an early Texas "cattle queen" and is thought to be the first woman in Texas to ride the Chisholm Trail with a herd of cattle that she had acquired under her own brand.

Before her marriage to Hezekiah G. Williams on June 8, 1879, the couple signed a premarital contract allowing her to retain control of her financial affairs and keep her property separate. Although much of the land she eventually acquired was originally owned by her husband, she was thought to have been the controlling influence in his business dealings. She presumably assisted her husband in his attempt to take the county seat away from San Marcos after the Hays County Courthouse burned in 1908. The couple built a town called Hays City on their ranch in Hays County, but their colonization scheme failed and the town ceased to exist. Hezekiah ostensibly conveyed all of his property to Lizzie on July 30, 1896, but the document he had signed was not officially recorded and filed until seventeen years later, when he was in poor health.

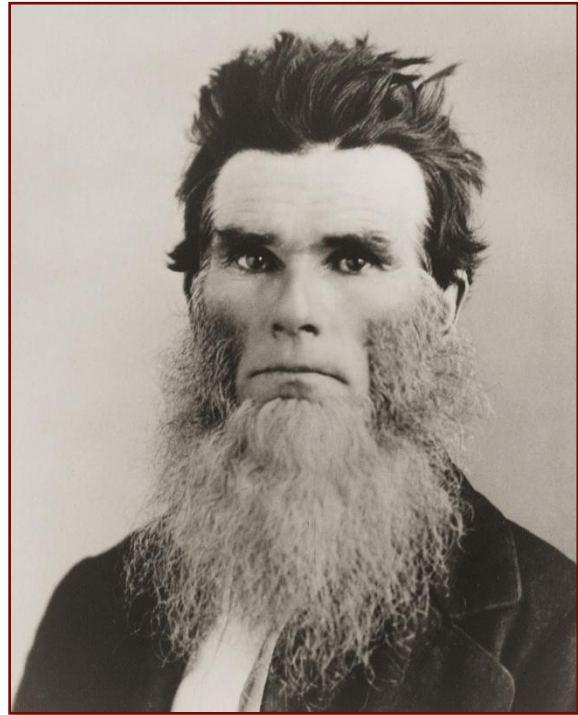
After her husband's death in 1914, Lizzie grew increasingly reclusive and eccentric. She also had a reputation for being miserly. Because she sometimes appeared to be impoverished, Austinites were startled to learn after her death that Lizzie Williams had amassed almost a quarter of a million dollars. Her holdings included property in Travis, Llano, Hays, Trinity, Culberson, and Jeff Davis counties. She died on October 9, 1924, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Austin.

Roberta S. Duncan, "WILLIAMS, ELIZABETH ELLEN JOHNSON [LIZZIE]," HANDBOOK OF TEXAS ONLINE (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fwixg>), accessed August 21, 2013. The Handbook of Texas Online is a project of the Texas State Historical Association.

JOHNSON, THOMAS JEFFERSON (1805–1868).

Thomas Jefferson Johnson, school founder and teacher, was born near Norfolk, Virginia, on October 8, 1805. After his education at Augusta College in Kentucky, he taught in Jefferson City, Missouri, where he met Catherine Hyde; they were married on May 7, 1837, and moved to Texas in 1844. Jefferson taught school in Huntsville, Lockhart, and Webberville before he founded Johnson Institute in 1852 on Bear Creek sixteen miles southwest of Austin in Hays County.

He founded the school as a boys' school, but soon girls were admitted. Johnson ran the school with the help of his family. His wife, known as Aunt Katy, taught piano, cooked, and watched over the girls who boarded at the school. Four of Johnson's six children taught at the school, including his daughter Lizzie, who later rose to prominence in the cattle business. Johnson, known as "Old Bristle Top" to his students because of his unruly hair, was well-liked but remembered as a stern disciplinarian. Two hundred students were enrolled at the school when he died unexpectedly at the institute on September 2, 1868.



THOMAS JEFFERSON JOHNSON

He was buried on the grounds, where his grave is marked with his reputed last words: "Glory, glory, all is bright ahead." Johnson, a devoted Methodist, invited preachers of different denominations to hold services at the institute and on Sunday mornings local residents attended services there where Johnson himself taught Sunday school. After his death his son, Benjamin F. Johnson, operated the school until it closed in 1872. Walter Prescott Webb later purchased the site for a boys' camp, Friday Mountain Ranch.

Connie Patterson, "JOHNSON, THOMAS JEFFERSON," *Handbook of Texas Online*

(<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fjo28>), accessed September 11, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association

THE HUGH TINNIN FAMILY

Compiled by Phoebe Allen

I have been researching a very interesting early Austin family and would appreciate any additional information about the Tinnins or their 1850s property on Shore District Drive (formerly Arena Drive), which runs from East Riverside to Tinnin Ford Road and is currently under development. Please contact Phoebe Allen at phoebezink@gmail.com if you have information about the area or the family. I need more information to obtain a subject marker from the Texas Historical Commission honoring the family.

The son of **John Tinnin** (c1769 Orange Co. NC) and **Elizabeth Moore**, **HUGH TINNIN** was born in 1799 in Sumner County, Tennessee and died 13 December 1869, in Burleson County, Texas. Hugh Tinnin moved his family from Hinds County, Mississippi, to Arkansas between 1836 and 1839. His first and second wives both died. He met and married his third wife, **Helen Mary Kilpatrick**, in Washington County, Arkansas, circa 1844-48. Her family had moved from Kentucky to Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Hugh Tinnin is listed in the **1830** Hinds County, Mississippi, census with three slaves. In **1838** Tinnin's amount of Taxable Property indicates he owned 16 slaves over 5 years old @ \$300 each or \$4,800; 5 horses @ \$40, 6 mules @ \$40, 13 head cattle @ \$5 and [unreadable] land.⁷⁰ Letters circa 1839 from his mother and family in Mississippi were addressed to Boonsboro, Arkansas.

Tinnin is found in the **1840** Mountain, Washington, Arkansas, census with 12 slaves (roll 20, page 260); and in the **1850** Washington County, Arkansas, census, Mountain Township, #33/33 as a 51-year-old farmer from Tennessee with property worth \$2,760.

The **1850** Slave Schedule in Arkansas indicates he held 26 slaves. A bill of sale on 20 September 1850 shows a purchase by Tinnin of \$350 plus \$300 owed for a Negro boy by the name of Tom aged about 39, warranted to be a slave for life (no location indicated).⁷¹

John A.P. Carr, Tinnin's brother-in-law who had traveled the more southerly route to Austin, encouraged Tinnin to come to Texas. The Tinnins are said to have taken a northern route to avoid swollen streams in the south and evade Indian attacks as much as possible. His granddaughter stated that in order to finance the trip they stopped off along the way to buy supplies for soldiers quartered at various camps. The family and some of the slaves fell ill with malaria fever, extending the journey.

The Tinnins arrived in Texas by April of 1852. A dental bill from Austin dentist James M. Litten dated 25 December 1852, for tooth extractions on his son on **April 16**, a Negro boy on May 8, and a black woman on May 21, was paid on 4 August 1853. A Sampson & Henricks invoice for \$13.37 was paid July 6, 1852 in Austin. The Tinnin's daughter, Cleopatra, was also born in Austin in 1852.

According to his granddaughter in a chapter of *Women in Early Texas*⁷², Hugh bought 500 acres of bottomland on the south bank of the Colorado River, with "about two miles of river frontage." This is backed up by several deeds, the first being **12 April 1852**, (F14) for **400 acres of land from the Santiago Del Valle Grant**, purchased from Texas Revolutionary soldier **Albert C. Horton**⁷³, and **21 June 1853**, (F260) for **230 acres from James G. Swisher**.

⁷⁰ Tinnin Papers. AR.R.011. (3 boxes of papers, small accounting notebooks, receipts) Austin History Center. Donated in 1980 by Allen H. Ilfrey.

⁷¹ Tinnin Papers. AR.R.011. Austin History Center.

⁷² Evelyn M. Carrington, editor. Jenkins Publishing Company, 1975.

⁷³ Albert Clinton Horton (1798 GA -1865) was the first Lieutenant Governor of Texas (1846-47), under Governor James Pinckney Henderson.

In an **1852** Austin bill of sale⁷⁴, Tinnin purchased flour, corn, shoes, salt, whiskey, two ploughs, and lime. In a **tax receipt** for **1852**, Tinnin paid \$31.26 on Mar. 28, 1853, for 400 acres of land, part of the ten-league grant to Santiago Del Valle, 23 negroes, 27 horses, nine head cattle, and two wagons.

In a tax receipt for **1853**, Tinnin paid \$29.78 in taxes on Oct. 6, 1853 for 400 acres of land, part of the Santiago Del Valle Grant, 22 negroes, 23 horses, nine head cattle, two wagons and teams, and one poll. In an **1854** bill of sale from Sampson and Henricks in Austin, Tinnin purchased muslin, tweed, red flannel, one plow, steel hoe, pail, bed tick, an axe, bridles, and a hog collar.

For the year **1856** he paid \$39.38 in taxes on Feb. 21, 1857, for **400 acres of Santiago Del Valle land, 234 acres of Isaac Decker land, 246 acres of Sparks land**, 24 negroes, 18 horses, 30 head of cattle, two wagons and carriages. The following year, **1857**, he paid \$36.96 on Aug. 7, 1858, for State and County taxes on **400 acres of land from the Santiago del Valle grant, 234 acres of the Isaac Decker grant, 246 acres of the Sparks grant**, 24 negroes, 16 horses, 38 head of cattle, and two wagons.

The **1860 census** lists Hugh Tinnin in Austin, page 298b, family 931, a farmer with personal property valued at \$8,500 and real estate valued at \$20,000. The 1860 Slave Schedule indicates he held 30 slaves.

In December of **1863**, Tinnin recorded 3,400 lbs. of hay valued at \$900 and 400 lbs. of fodder valued at \$178. Mrs. H. Tinnin paid the \$54.39 for **1883** State and County taxes on Jan. 30, 1884, on 460 acres of Santiago Del Valle land and 100 acres of Santiago Del Valle Sand bar.

On December 13, **1869**, Hugh fell ill, died and was buried in Burleson County, Texas, while on a trip with his wife to check on property they owned there. After his death, a son by his first wife came to claim his part of the estate, and a general division was made to Tinnin's heirs, thus breaking the large estate into parts.

Mrs. H. Tinnin is shown as the property owner of a 400-acre tract south of the Colorado River on a **March 1891 map** of the City of Austin and Surrounding Properties. Members of the Tinnin family owned property in this tract until at least the 1960s.

TINNIN FORD

South of Waco, the **Chisholm Trail** was identical with the earlier Shawnee Trail. The Rio Grande was the southernmost point at which cattle were gathered for the drive north through Austin, Fort Worth, and into Oklahoma, where the trail joined the original Chisholm Trail into Kansas. According to Hugh Tinnin's granddaughter, cattle on the Chisholm Trail crossed the river at **Tinnin Ford**, which was a short distance west of the more frequented Montopolis crossing. Crossings varied because of weather, size of herds, and various other factors.

"After the Civil War, about 1866, the cattle drives to market started and lasted about 20 years, when the advent of railroads furnished shipping. Cattle drives through Austin were a common sight, and the cattle bawled as they crossed at the two main crossings, Montopolis and Shoal Creek."⁷⁵

Also, "At Austin, the cowmen found easy crossings of the Colorado River. Some crossed just above the town, but most of them used a better ford a little below, near Montopolis."⁷⁶

⁷⁴ Tinnin Papers. AR.R.011. Austin History Center.

⁷⁵ Barkley, Mary Starr. History of Travis County and Austin, 1839-1899. Steck Company, Austin. 1963.

⁷⁶ Wayne Gard, *The Chisholm Trail* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1954). Pg. 78. (crossed 3 miles below Austin, p. 230.)

HUGH TINNIN FAMILY TREE (compiled from census records, Ancestry.com, FamilyTreeMaker.genealogy.com, Tinnin Treks⁷⁷, and various online Tinnin family trees)

Wife #1: **Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ Rutherford** (b1795 TN, married circa 1826, d circa 1836)

Children: Rachel (1826 MS - c1904)

Lucy Jane (1829 MS – 1893 AR)

Elizabeth (c1830 MS, listed as white female, idiot, age 20 in 1850 census)

John (7 Jul 1836 MS-)

It is believed that this John Tinnin in 1883 bought a two-story Italianate house, the 1879 Dilley-Tinnin House in Georgetown; the house is now on the National Register but there is little information about John or his family.

Wife #2: **Frances ‘Fanny’ Rutherford** (b1795, married circa 1838 probably in AR)

Children: Harriet (1839 AR-)

William (1840 AR-)

Emaline (1842 AR-)

Hugh (1843 AR-1846?) [Hugh Tinnin was age 16 in 1850 census #36, student]

Wife #3: **Helen Mary Kilpatrick** (1825 KY-1893), married in Washington County, Arkansas circa 1848

Children: Albert (May 8, 1849 AR-1875)

Mary Melvina (1850-1851)

Cleopatra (Aug. 15, 1852 TX-)

Pinckney P. (Mar. 12, 1854 TX-1918)

Susanella (1855 TX-before 1860 census)

Madison (Feb. 1857 Austin, TX-1931)

→ *Madison’s daughter Helen Mary Tinnin (1885-1979) taught at the Texas School for the Deaf from 1920 to 1957.*

Eddie (1860-1861)

1850 Census, Washington Co, Arkansas, Mountain Township, #33/33

35. Hugh Tinnin w/m 51 yrs Farmer \$2,760 TN

36. Helen Tinnin w/f 24 yrs KY

37. Elizabeth Tinnin w/f 20 yrs (Idiot) MS

38. John Tinnin w/m 14 yrs MS - S

39. Harriet Tinnin w/f 11 yrs AR - S

40. William Tinnin w/m 9 yrs AR - S

41. Emiline Tinnin w/f 7 yrs AR - S

42. Albert Tinnin w/m 2 yrs AR

1860 The City of Austin, Travis Co. TX, p. 298b, family 931

TINNIN H (male) 62 TN (farmer \$8500 real estate, \$20,000 personal estate),

E.M. (wife) 33 KY

W. 20 AR (farmer)

E. (fem) 17 AR

A. (male) 11 AR

C. (fem) 8TX

P.P. (male) 6 TX

M. (male) 3 TX

⁷⁷ Norris, Dorothy Tinnin & Mary Tinnin Barber. *Tinnin Treks*. 1989. 190 pages. Maurice, Louisiana. Call #929.2 T496N, Texas State Archives.

There is a considerable amount of discussion about Hugh Tinnin on Ancestry.com, but I have not been able to contact a family member.

SANTIAGO DEL VALLE GRANT

McKinney Falls State Park and Pilot Knob, an extinct volcano, lie in the center of this early Texas land grant that originally fell within the contract of Empresario **Ben Milam**. In 1832 ten leagues of the land were conveyed to **Santiago Del Valle**.⁷⁸ The grant was located roughly east of what is now IH-35, bordered on the north by the Colorado River, running east to the mouth of Onion Creek and south along the creek to the point where Cottonmouth Creek enters Onion Creek and more than twice that far south before cutting back west to the western property line, which ends just south of Onion Creek. Bluff Springs, Rinard, Williamson and Slaughter Creeks were also located within the grant. The property to the west of the Santiago Del Valle grant included the Isaac Decker, William Cannon, and S.F. Slaughter grants. (See various attached maps for details.)

Santiago Del Valle was the secretary of the Mexican government of Coahuila and Tejas at the time; he had previously served as a member of the Mexican Congress and was a hacendado (property owner) in the Monclova area of Coahuila. He had served as president of the Congreso Constituyente of the state of Coahuila and Texas in 1825 and as counselor to the governor.

Del Valle was associated with **Thomas F. McKinney** and **Samuel May Williams** through the Banco de Comercio y Agricultura and the Galveston City Company.

In 1835, Del Valle sold nine leagues of the land through Williams to **Michel Menard**. Thomas McKinney, one of Menard's associates, purchased the Del Valle Grant in **1839** and was probably the first of the property owners to live on the land, beginning in the late 1840s. The remaining league was sold by Del Valle to Bartlett Sims. McKinney sold all but about 2,800 acres by the time of his death in 1873. The lands within the grant were largely agricultural, with primary crops being cotton and grains. Communities such as Bluff Springs, Pilot Knob, Creedmoor, and Del Valley began to develop during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, while the northern part of the Del Valle grant became increasingly urbanized. The southern portion remains largely rural and is preserved in the State Park.

MAPS indicating property:

City of Austin and Surrounding Properties, 1891. Austin History Center.

Maps of Del Valle Grant, Texas State Archives.

⁷⁸ Charles H. Harris, *A Mexican Family Empire: The Latifundio of the Sánchez Navarros, 1765–1867* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1975). And John W. Clark, Jr., "DEL VALLE, SANTIAGO," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fde63>), accessed February 14, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

FAMILY GROUP SHEET FOR FRANCIS MARION ASHCRAFT

Submitted by Leslie D. Inman

Husband:		Francis Marion Ashcraft
	Birth:	15 Sep 1852 in Tippah, Mississippi, USA
	Death:	01 Mar 1926 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Influenza
	Burial:	Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA
	Marriage:	21 Jan 1875 in Bell, Texas, USA; G W Joiner Minister of the Gospel
	Father:	Ephraim Ashcraft
	Mother:	Mary Ann Long
Wife:		Susan "Sudie" Frances Legg
	Birth:	04 Jan 1857 in Colorado, Texas, USA
	Death:	17 Jun 1929 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Cancer
	Burial:	Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA
	Father:	John Gover Legg
	Mother:	Nancy Matilda Haney
Children:		
1	Name:	Wess Ashcraft
M	Birth:	20 Nov 1875 in Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	22 Mar 1932 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA; Acute Intestinal Obstruction
	Burial:	Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery
	Marriage:	12 Jan 1897 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol L Page 517 BY John Rice
	Spouse:	Julia Ada Watson
	Other Spouses:	Mary Dell Durham (01 Aug 1905 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol P Page 385 BY TJ Lockland MOGa
2	Name:	James E Ashcraft
M	Birth:	08 Jun 1876 in Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	27 Jun 1942 in Cleburne, Johnson, Texas, USA
	Marriage:	1898 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol M Page 395
	Spouse:	Lee Edds
3	Name:	Lillie B Ashcraft
F	Birth:	Sep 1878 in Texas, USA
	Death:	20 Dec 1905 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA
	Burial:	Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery
4	Name:	Minnie Ashcraft
F	Birth:	Abt. 1880 in Bell, Texas, USA
5	Name:	Charlie Clay Ashcraft
M	Birth:	11 May 1882 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	19 Aug 1960 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Carcinoma of the Lungs
	Burial:	Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery
	Marriage:	24 Dec 1908 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol R Page 259. By Minister of Gospel
	Spouse:	Addie Guess
6	Name:	Henry Thomas Ashcraft
M	Birth:	01 Sep 1884 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	19 Apr 1963 in Texas City, Galveston, Texas, USA; Texas City Nursing Home: Cerebra Vascular Accident
	Burial:	Wharton, Wharton, Texas, USA; Wharton City Cemetery
	Marriage:	18 Nov 1906 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol Q Page 218 BY TJ Lockland MOGa
	Spouse:	Ella James

7 M	Name:	Samuel Elic Ashcraft
	Birth:	18 Aug 1887 in Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	16 Mar 1959 in Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas, USA; Saint Joseph Hospital
	Burial:	Fort Worth, Tarrant, Texas, USA; Laurel Land Cemetery
	Marriage:	01 Sep 1915 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol U Page 369 By TJ Lockland MOGa
	Spouse:	Dennie Myrtus Henson
<hr/>		
8 F	Name:	Glenda Mae Ashcraft
	Birth:	10 Dec 1888 in Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	16 Mar 1972 in Dallas, Dallas, Texas, USA; Dallas Osteopathic Hospital: Acute Cardio Vascular Collapse
	Burial:	Kemp, Kaufman, Texas, USA
	Marriage:	06 Mar 1909 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol R Page 330 BY TJ Lockland OMG
	Spouse:	David Norton Asberry
<hr/>		
9 M	Name:	Emmett Ashcraft
	Birth:	02 Jan 1892 in Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	17 Dec 1951 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA; Kings Daughters Hospital: Acute Coronary
	Marriage:	24 Mar 1932 in Bell, Texas, USA; Book 29 Page 461 BY BB Braylock MOG
	Spouse:	Mollie F Ashcraft
<hr/>		
10 F	Name:	Margaret Valentine Ashcraft
	Birth:	14 Feb 1894 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	24 Mar 1971 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA; Kings Daughters Hospital: Cardiac Arrest
	Burial:	Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery
	Marriage:	05 Oct 1912 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Vol T Page 191 BY John S Huckabee Pastor
	Spouse:	Frank J Richey
<hr/>		
11 F	Name:	Fannie Ashcraft
	Birth:	06 Jan 1896 in Temple, Bell, Texas, USA
	Death:	06 Jan 1933 in Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Influenza
	Burial:	Rogers, Bell, Texas, USA; Rogers Cemetery
	Marriage:	1915 in Bell, Texas, USA; Vol U Page 40
	Spouse:	Clarence Herbert Bradshaw

OBIT--TEMPLE DAILY TELEGRAM, MARCH 6, 1926--Rogers, Texas, March 5.- F.M. Ashcraft, who died here at his home Monday morning, March 1, at 6:30 o'clock, was a long-time resident of this section having been 78 years old at the time of his death.

Some very high tributes were paid at his funeral by friends and loved ones and there were also many beautiful floral offerings.

Surviving Mr Ashcraft are his widow and nine children: Jim Ashcraft of Cleburne; Mrs Frank Rickey of Cameron; Mrs Dave Asberry of Hunt County; Emmett Ashcraft of Temple; Tom Ashcraft, Wess Ashcraft, Charlie Ashcraft and Sam Ashcraft and Mrs Fannie Bradshaw, all of Rogers.

He is also survived by three brothers: W.J. Ashcraft of Rogers, E.J. Ashcraft of Matagorda County, F.U. Ashcraft of Rogers and one sister, Mrs Sallie Faulkenberry of Hamilton County, and other relatives.

FAMILY GROUP SHEET FOR JAMES HAYS PIPER WALLIS

Submitted by Leslie D. Inman

Husband:		James Hays Piper Wallis
	Birth:	08 Apr 1831 in Tennessee, USA
	Death:	03 Jun 1890 in Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA
	Marriage:	04 Dec 1854 in Arkansas, USA
	Occupation:	Physician
	Father:	John Henry Wallis
	Mother:	Margaret Van Zandt
Wife:		Sarah Jane Wolf
	Birth:	03 Nov 1835 in Arkansas, USA
	Death:	18 Feb 1906 in Rockdale, Milam, Texas, United States; Pneumonia
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Father:	George Washington Wolf
	Mother:	Melinda
Children:		
1	Name:	Robert C. Wallis
M	Birth:	29 Oct 1855 in Mountain Home, Baxter, Arkansas, USA
	Death:	17 Jan 1922 in Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Acute Indigestion
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Marriage:	31 Mar 1909 in El Paso, Texas, USA
	Occupation:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Physician
	Spouse:	Lottie Jean Simms
2	Name:	George W. Wallis
M	Birth:	02 Sep 1857 in Mountain Home, Baxter, Arkansas, USA
	Death:	16 May 1902 in Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Severe Hemorrhage
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Marriage:	16 May 1888 in Milam, Texas, USA; Vol 4 Pg 259 by B.B. Baxter Jr.
	Occupation:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Pharmacist
	Spouse:	Mattie S Hale
3	Name:	Duncan R. Wallis
M	Birth:	26 Feb 1860 in Mountain Home, Baxter, Arkansas, USA
	Death:	11 May 1935 in Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Influenza
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Marriage:	01 Feb 1887 in Independence, Arkansas, USA
	Occupation:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Physician
	Spouse:	Lillie Crouch
4	Name:	Ella Shelby Wallis
F	Birth:	14 Jul 1864 in Mountain Home, Baxter, Arkansas, USA
	Death:	05 Mar 1955 in Kerrville, Kerr, Texas, USA; Cerebral Thrombosis
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Marriage:	29 Mar 1885 in Mountain Home, Baxter, Arkansas, USA
	Spouse:	Thomas Hicks Paul

5	Name:	Maud Wallis
F	Birth:	07 Nov 1873 in Mountain Home, Baxter, Arkansas, USA
	Death:	07 Aug 1929 in San Antonio, Bexar, Texas, USA; Breast and Lung Cancer
	Burial:	Austin, Travis Texas, USA; Oakwood Cemetery Annex Section E Lot 6 Plot 5
	Marriage:	05 Dec 1893 in Milam, Texas, USA; Vol 6 Pg 229 By Samuel O Mitchells Pastor
	Spouse:	John Perry Hale
6	Name:	Nell Wallis
F	Birth:	13 Jun 1876 in Mountain Home, Baxter, Arkansas, USA
	Death:	15 May 1961 in San Antonio, Bexar, Texas, USA; Cardiac Failure
	Burial:	San Antonio, Bexar, Texas, USA; Sunset Memorial Park
	Marriage:	20 Apr 1899 in Milam, Texas, USA; Vol 6 Pg 229 by T G Alfred Minister of Gospel
	Spouse:	George Marion Ryan

Jane Wallis nee Wolf

Cameron Herald, March 1, 1906.

The following sketch will be read with both pleasure and pain by those who knew the subject best: The funeral of Mrs. Jane Wallis, who departed this life Sunday Feb 18th, at 10 o'clock was held Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the residence of her daughter, Mrs. G.H. Paul of Rockdale, interment being in the Old Fellow Cemetery. Services were conducted at the residence of her pastor Rev. A.E. Reimer of the First Baptist church, and were conducted by him at the cemetery, assisted by his choir. The silver mounted casket was laden with emblems of Easter lilies and carnations, and the ___ violet was much in evidence. Almost the entire city came out to pay their last tribute and respect to this godly woman. The pallbearers were R.H. Hicks, L.B. Isaacs, Hon C.H. Coffield, R.C. Ray, Dr. S.B. Renfro and Hon Joe H. Burnett. Mrs. Wallis was a pioneer of the Lone State, having left her native city and state, Little Rock, Ark., in 1884, when she settled in Rockdale, Texas. She soon became prominent in church circles, and her friends were legion. She was esteemed for her sterling qualities of integrity, industry, unflinching charity, unusual modesty, and above all, for her peace-making dispositions and Arcadian appreciation of the beauty and harmony of the simpler life. Mrs. Wallis was prominently connected, being a sister of our aged yet efficient tax collector, J.B. Wolf of Cameron, and of Mrs. Dr. Sap of that city. She was cousin to the late distinguished surgeon, Dr. R.W. Wallis and his son, who inherits his qualities. Being widowed, she reared a large family of children alone, all of whom reside in Rockdale, and are a credit to her they love so well. Those of her children are: Dr. R.C. Wallis, George Wallis deceased, Dr. W.R. Wallis, Mrs. G.H. Paul, Mrs. J.P. Hale, and Mrs. G.M. Ryan. Her case was serious from the beginning- having struggled for ten days with pneumonia, and being later stricken with paralysis. It was touchingly beautiful to see those strong sons and daughters bending hourly over the prostrate form of their mother, concentrating every energy and resorting to every art known to their profession to restore her. But they will be done, oh Father, so they bow in humble submission, having the assurance that "she is not dead, " but only ascended to the church triumphant, where she awaits her beloved, increasing ever in power of spirit and soul, and where her possibilities are as boundless as the Ocean of Eternity.

Robert C Wallis

Texas State Journal of Medicine Volume 17, published in 1922

Dr. R.C. Wallis, Rockdale, died January 17, after a short illness, from acute indigestion. Dr Wallis was born in Mountain Home, Arkansas, October 1, 1855. He graduated in medicine from the Missouri Medical College, St. Louis, in 1881. For several years he practiced medicine in West Plains, MO., removing to Texas in the late eighties and locating at Rockdale, where he enjoyed an extensive practice until a few years ago, when he retired from active practice to look after his oil and lignite interests.

George W. Wallis

Cameron Herald 29 May 1902

On the 16th of this month Geo. W. Wallis died at his home in Rockdale after months of declining health, the spark of life gradually becoming extinct. Deceased was 41 years of age and was born at Mountain Home, Arkansas. He came from that state to Texas and settled at Rockdale in 1884. For a number of years he held position as salesman with the large mercantile house of Scarborough & Hicks and in this capacity he formed an extended acquaintance and was held in the highest esteem by all. Fourteen years ago he married Miss Mattie Hale, who survives him. He severed his connection with Scarborough & Hicks to engage in business for himself, embarking in the drug business. He was the senior member of the firm of Wallis & Giesecke and afterwards of the firm of Wallis & Hale. For a time he was sole proprietor of the business, but ill health forced him to abandon it entirely. He then engaged in the fire insurance business with his brother-in-law, G.M. Ryan, and was thus associated at the time of his death. He was for years a consistent member of the Baptist church, being zealous and active. He carried a number of life insurance policies and left his little family well provided for. We knew George Wallis almost during the entire time of his residence in this county, and admired his true nobility of character. He was always genial and happy and it was ever a pleasure to grasp his hand in friendship's greeting. We join a host of friends in extending condolence to his bereaved family.

Ella Shelby Paul nee Wallis

The Rockdale Reporter March 10, 1955

Mrs. T.H. Paul, age 90, a former resident of Rockdale, died Saturday at Kerrville after being an invalid for two or more years, caused from an accident. Funeral services were held here Monday at 11 a.m. in the Phillips and Luckey chapel. The Rev. W. Stewart McBirnie, pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church, San Antonio, was in charge. Burial was made in the family plot beside her husband at the I.O.O.F cemetery. Mrs. Paul, as Ella Shelley Wallis, was born and reared in Arkansas. She was married to T.H. Paul in Mountain Home, Arkansas, and some time later Mr. and Mrs. Paul came to Rockdale where her family had located. The town at that time was in its infancy. Mrs. Paul's father, Dr. J.H.P. Wallis, established one of the early day drug stores here known as the old Wallis and Giesecke Drug Store. His son, the late George Wallis, was pharmacist, and two other sons of the family located here as young practicing physicians. Mrs. Paul was a member of the Baptist church. Both she and her husband were most active in the first Baptist church during their long years lived in Rockdale. She had taught in the Sunday Schools and been a leader in organizations of the church until Mr. Paul's death in 1935. Mrs. Paul then went to San Antonio where she had since made her home. A letter to her family, penned by Mrs. Paul in 1949, in regard to plans at her death was read by Rev. McBirnie at her service Monday. In it she named a favorite hymn to be sung at the service, requested that the scripture from 14th Chapter of John be read, and also stated she asked no praise for herself. She listed names from whom to choose as casket attendants, explaining that these were sons of mothers who had been her dear friends. The names were: H.H. Coffield, Conn R. Isaacs, W. H. Cooke, P.H. Perry, Jr., T.B. Ryan, Jim Eads, John T. Hale, Ed Prewitt, N.E. Alford, Boswell Newton. Besides giving much time to church interest Mrs. Paul was also active in the life of Rockdale, being a member of social and civic clubs as well as patriotic organizations. She held affection for Rockdale and her many friends here at all times and until recent years she would return for visits at intervals. Mrs. Paul is survived by a son Vaughn Paul, of Dallas; a daughter, Mrs. Roy Campbell, of San Antonio; a sister Mrs. G.M. Ryan, of San Antonio; grandsons, Wallis M. Paul, Jr., and Roy R. Campbell, Jr., of San Antonio; Vaughn Paul Jr., of Odessa; granddaughters, Mrs. W. Laten Thornquest of Coral Gables, Florida and Mrs. Morgan Nesbitt of Austin. Great-grandchildren, Diane and Margaret Ann Paul of Odessa; Tommy and Jo Anne Paul, San Antonio; Ann and Bill Thornquest, Shelly and Edwin Morgan Nesbitt, and Roy Campbell III. Members of the family here Monday were: Mrs. Roy Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Campbell, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Wallis Paul, Mrs. G.M. Ryan, and a nephew Jack Hale of San Antonio; Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn Paul of Dallas, a nephew Russell Wallis of Texas City; Mrs. Morgan Nesbitt of Austin, also a niece Mrs. W.S. Arms, Mr. Arms and their daughter Mrs. Lloyd Fellbaum; friends Mrs. W.A. Hamlett of Austin and Mrs. W.E. White of Dallas.



Maud Hale nee Wallis
From the photo collection of Sue Duncan nee Embleton

Maude Hale nee Wallis

The San Antonio Light, August 8 1929

Mrs. Maud Hale Buried in Austin: Mrs. Maud Wallis Hale, 55, of 128 Jeffrey Street, who died at her home Wednesday, was buried in Austin Thursday. Mrs. Hale was a native of Austin, though she had resided here for the last six years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church here. She is survived by daughter Mrs. R.V. Embleton, and a son, Jack Perry Hale, both of San Antonio; two sisters, Mrs. G.M. Ryan of this city and Mrs. T.H. Paul of Rockdale and one brother Dr. D.R. Wallis of Rockdale.

Nell Ryan nee Wallis

San Antonio Express May 16, 1961

Mrs. Nell W. Ryan, age 84, of 411 E. Quincy, passed away local hospital May 15. She had lived in San Antonio 43 years and was a member of Trinity Baptist Church. Survivors: Daughters, Mrs. Jack Valentine, San Antonio, and Mr. Robert A. McCall, Dallas; son, Milton A. Ryan, San Antonio; 7 grandchildren; 10 great-children; several nieces and nephews. Services 2 pm Tuesday, David Thrift Memorial Chapel, Trinity Baptist Church with Rev. Buckner Fanning officiating. Interment Sunset Memorial Park. Arrangements by Hanavan-McClaugherty.

FAMILY GROUP SHEET FOR WILLIAM JOB HALE

Submitted by Leslie D. Inman

Husband:		William Job Hale
	Birth:	16 Oct 1827 in Georgia, USA
	Death:	23 Sep 1880 in Texas, USA
	Burial:	Independence, Washington, Texas, USA; Old Independence Cemetery
	Marriage:	19 Sep 1860 in Washington, Texas, USA
	Occupation:	Merchant
	Father:	John Hale
	Mother:	Mary Clay Thaxton
Wife:		Mary Susan Norris
	Birth:	20 Feb 1835 in Washington, Texas, USA
	Death:	21 Jul 1920 in Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Injury
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Father:	Joe Norris
	Mother:	Sallie Brown
Children:		
1	Name:	Mary Hale
F	Birth:	16 Dec 1861 in Texas, USA
	Death:	19 Dec 1932 in El Paso, El Paso, Texas, USA; Automobile Accident
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Marriage:	11 Nov 1885 in Milam, Texas, USA
	Spouse:	J T Walker
2	Name:	Mattie S Hale
F	Birth:	09 Jul 1863 in Hearne, Robertson, Texas, USA
	Death:	17 Oct 1951 in Austin, Travis Texas, USA; Cerebral Hemorrhage
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Marriage:	16 May 1888 in Milam, Texas, USA; Vol 4 Pg 259 by B.B. Baxter Jr.
	Spouse:	George W. Wallis
3	Name:	W. Norris Hale
M	Birth:	27 Sep 1865 in Texas, USA
	Death:	27 Aug 1867 in Texas, USA
	Burial:	Independence, Washington, Texas, USA; Old Independence Cemetery
4	Name:	Robert Lee Hale
M	Birth:	07 Jul 1867 in Independence, Washington, Texas, USA
	Death:	12 Jul 1920 in Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Acute Indigestion
	Burial:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Odd Fellows Cemetery
	Marriage:	12 Oct 1888 in Milam, Texas, USA; Vol 4 Pg 302 by Rev W.E. Copelund
	Occupation:	Rockdale, Milam, Texas, USA; Merchant
	Spouse:	Susie Kercheval
5	Name:	John Perry Hale
M	Birth:	05 Oct 1869 in Washington, Texas, USA
	Death:	07 Jan 1922 in Round Rock, Williamson, Texas, USA; Heart Failure
	Burial:	Austin, Travis Texas, USA; Oakwood Cemetery; Section E Lot 6 Plot 3
	Marriage:	05 Dec 1893 in Milam, Texas, USA; Vol 6 Pg 229 By Samuel O Mitchells Pastor
	Occupation:	Austin, Travis Texas, USA; Department Store Manager
	Spouse:	Maud Wallis

PIONEER FAMILIES OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

The Austin Genealogical Society will issue a pioneer certificate to those who can prove their ancestors lived in Travis County, Texas, prior to the close of 1880. To qualify for the certificate, you must be a direct descendant of people who lived here on or before Dec. 31, 1880, proved with birth, death and marriage certificates; probate, census and military records; and obituaries and Bible records.

Applications for Pioneer Families of Travis County can be found at <http://austintxgensoc.org> or from Kay Dunlap Boyd, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.

Each application is \$20 and the certificates make nice gifts. You don't have to be a Travis County resident or a member of Austin Genealogical Society, although membership in the Society is another fine bargain at \$20 a year.

Austin Genealogical Society	
Travis County Texas	
Pioneer Families Certificate	
This is to Certify that	

is a descendant of	

who was living in Travis County, Texas	
before the close of	
Certificate No. _____	President _____
Date _____	Pioneer Families Chairman _____
	Registrar _____

THOMAS JEFFERSON AND CATHERINE HYDE JOHNSON

Travis County Pioneers #12-063

Proven to be in Travis County in 1850 from Missouri

Generation No. 1

1. THOMAS JEFFERSON¹ JOHNSON was born 08 Oct 1805 in Virginia, and died 02 Sep 1868 in Hays, Texas. He is buried in Wallace Mountain Cemetery. He married CATHERINE HYDE 1837 in Crawford, Missouri. She was born 17 Mar 1810 in North Carolina, and died 12 Feb 1883 in Texas. She is buried in Wallace Mountain Cemetery

Child of THOMAS JOHNSON and CATHERINE HYDE is:

2. i. EMMA CATHERINE² JOHNSON, was born 29 Aug 1843, Texas, and died 05 Mar 1922, Dripping Springs, Hays, Texas.

Generation No. 2

2. EMMA CATHERINE² JOHNSON (*THOMAS JEFFERSON¹*) was born 29 Aug 1843 in Texas, and died 05 Mar 1922 in Dripping Springs, Hays, Texas. She married WILLIAM HENRY GREER 1872 in Hays, Texas. He was born 29 Oct 1848 in Mississippi, and died 14 Nov 1935 in Travis, Texas.

Child of EMMA JOHNSON and WILLIAM GREER is:

3. i. WILLIE IDELLE³ GREER, was born 22 Oct 1876, Hays, Texas, and died 29 Jul 1963, Austin, Travis, Texas.

Generation No. 3

3. WILLIE IDELLE³ GREER (*EMMA CATHERINE² JOHNSON, THOMAS JEFFERSON¹*) was born 22 Oct 1876 in Hays, Texas, and died 29 Jul 1963 in Austin, Travis, Texas. She married JOHN ELBERT SHELTON 1892 in Williamson, Texas, son of JAMES SHELTON and MARY ELLISON. He was born 07 Mar 1871 in Bell, Texas, and died 14 Nov 1928 in Austin, Travis, Texas.

Child of WILLIE GREER and JOHN SHELTON is:

4. i. EMMETT HUGHES⁴ SHELTON, was born 12 Feb 1905, Austin, Travis, Texas, and died 29 Feb 2000, Travis, Texas.

Generation No. 4

4. EMMETT HUGHES⁴ SHELTON (*WILLIE IDELLE³ GREER, EMMA CATHERINE² JOHNSON, THOMAS JEFFERSON¹*) was born 12 Feb 1905 in Austin, Travis, Texas, and died 29 Feb 2000 in Travis, Texas. He married ELBA MAY GILBERT 1929 in Travis, Texas. She was born 05 Feb 1911 in El Paso, El Paso, Texas, and died 29 Sep 1976 in Austin, Travis, Texas.

Child of EMMETT SHELTON and ELBA GILBERT is:

5. i. EMMETT HUGHES⁵ SHELTON, JR.

Generation No. 5

5. EMMETT HUGHES⁵ SHELTON, JR. (*EMMETT HUGHES⁴, WILLIE IDELLE³ GREER, EMMA CATHERINE² JOHNSON, THOMAS JEFFERSON¹*) He married SHELLA JEANETTE ADAMCIK 1951 in Travis, Texas.

Child of EMMETT SHELTON and SHELLA ADAMCIK is:

- i. RICHARD WAYNE⁶ SHELTON.

WILLIAM WESLEY AND EMILY E. RATHER ELLISON

Travis County Pioneers #12-065

Proven to be in Travis County in 1850 from Alabama

Generation No. 1

1. WILLIAM WESLEY¹ ELLISON was born in 1827 in Alabama, and died in 1884 in San Marcos, Hays, Texas. He married EMILY ELIZABETH RATHER in 1847 in Winston, Mississippi. She was born in 1832 in Alabama, and died in 1866 in Caldwell, Texas.

Child of WILLIAM ELLISON and EMILY RATHER is:

2. i. MARY CORNELIA² ELLISON was born 28 Jul 1848 in Winston, Mississippi, and died 14 Nov 1923, Kleberg, Texas.

Generation No. 2

2. MARY CORNELIA² ELLISON (*WILLIAM WESLEY¹*) was born 28 Jul 1848 in Winston, Mississippi, and died 14 Nov 1923 in Kleberg, Texas. She married JAMES KNOX POLK SHELTON in 1866 in Smith, Texas. He was born in Jul 1845 in Mississippi, and died 19 Jan 1884 in Bell, Texas.

Child of MARY ELLISON and JAMES SHELTON is:

3. i. JOHN ELBERT³ SHELTON was born 07 Mar 1871, Bell, Texas, and died 14 Nov 1928, Austin, Travis, Texas.



MARY CORNELIA ELLISON SHELTON

Generation No. 3

3. JOHN ELBERT³ SHELTON (*MARY CORNELIA² ELLISON, WILLIAM WESLEY¹*) was born 07 Mar 1871 in Bell, Texas, and died 14 Nov 1928 in Austin, Travis, Texas. He married WILLIE IDELLE GREER in 1892 in Williamson, Texas, daughter of WILLIAM GREER and EMMA JOHNSON. She was born 22 Oct 1876 in Hays, Texas, and died 29 Jul 1963 in Austin, Travis, Texas.

Child of JOHN SHELTON and WILLIE GREER is:

4. i. EMMETT HUGHES⁴ SHELTON was born 12 Feb 1905, Austin, Travis, Texas, and died 29 Feb 2000, Austin, Travis, Texas.

Generation No. 4

4. EMMETT HUGHES⁴ SHELTON (*JOHN ELBERT³, MARY CORNELIA² ELLISON, WILLIAM WESLEY¹*) was born 12 Feb 1905 in Austin, Travis, Texas, and died 29 Feb 2000 in Austin, Travis, Texas. He married ELBA MAY GILBERT in 1929 in Travis, Texas. She was born 05 Feb 1911 in El Paso, El Paso, Texas, and died 29 Sep 1976 in Austin, Travis, Texas.

Child of EMMETT SHELTON and ELBA GILBERT is:

5. i. EMMETT HUGHES⁵ SHELTON, JR.

Generation No. 5

5. EMMETT HUGHES⁵ SHELTON, JR. (*EMMETT HUGHES⁴, JOHN ELBERT³, MARY CORNELIA² ELLISON, WILLIAM WESLEY¹*) He married SHELLA JEANETTE ADAMCIK 1951 in Travis, Texas.

Child of EMMETT SHELTON and SHELLA ADAMCIK is:

- i. RICHARD WAYNE⁶ SHELTON.

BY SAIL ACROSS THE OCEAN - DAILY LIFE ABOARD

Submitted by: Kay Boyd
Adapted from www.norwayheritage.com

"We placed ourselves in the hands of the Lord and his will, whether we should live or die".
(By Børge Solem)

Daily life for the steerage passengers onboard an emigrant ship consisted of various routines and duties. When weather permitted, the passengers were usually up on deck. Some were busy cleaning and others with games to pass the time. On the "[Sjofna](#)" in 1852, the women were occupied with cooking, sewing and knitting. Some had to look after the children and care for the sick. The captain usually held Sunday services on deck. On ordinary weekdays, there was often dancing on deck. Activities depended on weather conditions, but music instruments could be put to good use even when the weather was bad. Once a ship came into heavy fog off the coast of Newfoundland, and all the instruments on board were used to make as much sound as possible so as to be heard by other ships.

With many passengers gathered in a limited space, rules regarding conduct were no doubt necessary. These rules set boundaries for daily life on board. On the ship "[Fædres Minde](#)" in 1853, rules were posted in the steerage stating exactly what was permitted and what was not. Some captains were strict while others cared little about what the passengers did. While all types of games and entertainment were allowed and encouraged on some ships, such activities were forbidden on others. The following is an excerpt from a set of rules printed in Drammen:

Ship Rules:

1. The fire will be lit on the fire place (stove) each morning at 6 o'clock a.m., and every passenger not hindered by sickness or some other valid reason shall get up no later than 7 o'clock a.m.
2. The fire shall be put out at 8 o'clock p.m. and passengers must be in their bunks by 10 o'clock p.m.
3. The deck in the passengers' quarters and under the bunks shall be swept each morning before breakfast and the sweepings be thrown overboard. Once a week the deck in the passengers' quarters shall be scraped.
4. Each morning before the fire is lit, necessary fuel and water will be distributed to the passengers. This task, and cleaning of the deck and the cabins on deck, will be carried out on a daily basis by a suitable number of men on a rotation basis. This group is also to check the cleanliness of the passengers and adherence to all other regulations.
5. Lamps will be lit in passengers' quarters after dark and be kept burning until 10 o'clock in the evening.
6. Tobacco smoking is not permitted below deck, nor is the use of open flame or hay or straw permitted.
7. All cooking utensils must be washed after use and always be kept clean.

8. All bedding must be taken up on deck once or twice a week and be aired out, and the bunks cleaned each time this is done.
9. Clothing may not be washed or hung up to dry below deck, but each week, as conditions permit, a day will be determined for general washing.
10. All passengers who bring spirits or other alcoholic beverages on board are obligated upon embarking the ship to hand over the same for safekeeping. These passengers may receive a reasonable daily portion. Passengers are forbidden to have gunpowder in their possession, and this as well as guns or other weapons brought on board must be placed in safekeeping with ship's officers. These will be returned to passengers at journey's end.
11. Cards or dice are not allowed on board since these can easily lead to quarrels and disagreements. Passengers should treat each other with courtesy and respect. No quarrelsome or disputatious behavior will be tolerated.
12. No seaman is allowed on the passenger deck, unless he has received orders to do specific work. Nor is any passenger, under any circumstances whatsoever, allowed in the cabin of a crewmember or the ship's galley. It is not permitted to drill holes, do any cutting, pound nails or do any other kind of damage to the ship's beams, boards or decks.
13. It is expected of the passengers that they appear on deck each Sunday in clean clothing and that they, as much as circumstances permit, keep the Sabbath.
14. All manner of games and entertainment are permitted and recommended as contributing to the maintenance of good health during a long journey. Personal cleanliness also contributes a good deal to this and is therefore highly recommended to the passengers.
15. Passengers must not speak to the man at the helm.
16. It is taken for granted that every passenger is obligated to obey the orders of the Captain in all respects.

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