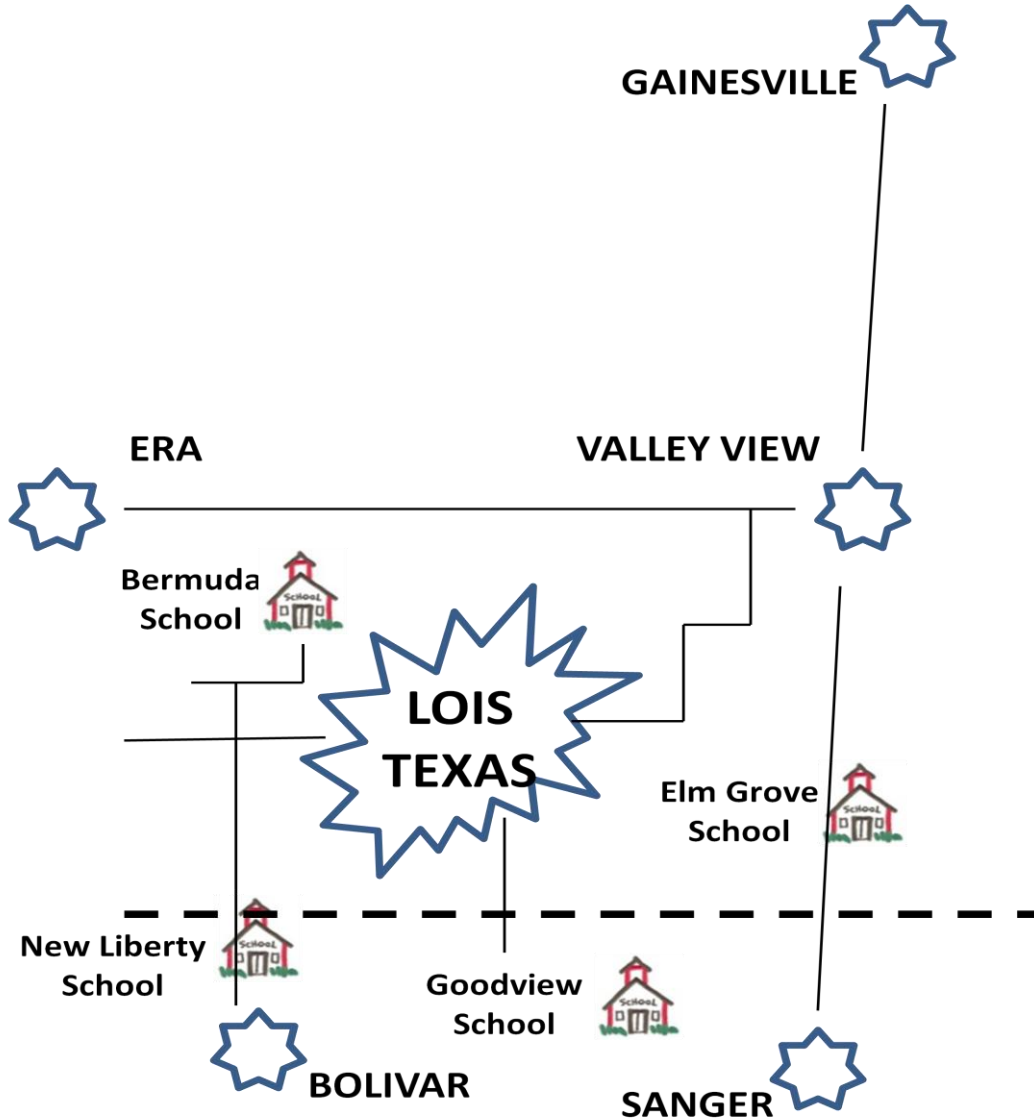


MEMORIES OF LOIS



MEMORIES FROM FORMER RESIDENTS

COMPILED BY MIKE MASTEN
OCTOBER, 2012

MEMORIES OF LOIS

A few years ago, Norman Newton shared an old photograph of the Lois School (see *later section "Lois School"*). I sent the picture to my cousins – and we began to share family memories. In the process, we also reminisced about the history of Lois – the beloved community of our childhood.

What began as a family recollection grew to encompass several friends and former neighbors who also shared their childhood memories of Lois. This document is a summary of those memories. (A first draft was completed in January, 2011; this version is amplified - and corrected - thanks to several contributors.)

Assembling these recollections has been most interesting. It raised questions about which I had never thought – such as *when* did Lois begin, how did she get the *name* “Lois”, who started the *Lois Store* – and the *Lois Gin*? The research revealed several surprises; for example, I didn’t know that early settlers described the area as “a vast land covered with very tall grasses – as high as a man’s head – with very few trails.”

Several friends and neighbors have commented upon what pleasant memories we all have of Lois – and just how great our neighbors were. These were indeed happy times and Lois was truly a nice place to live! Discussing memories with everyone has brought back some of that happiness.

When this document was finally assembled, I discovered that the largest part is *family histories*. That’s appropriate - because the families who comprised Lois are indeed what made it such a special place. Many readers will probably “pick and choose” to only read about the families they remember – nevertheless, several families have very interesting histories which reveal much about the special area we all remember as “Lois”.

This summary of Lois history begins around 1840 – as far back as we could find information. The history of some of the Lois families is much older. However, this document doesn’t contain much *recent* history – not much after about 1960 when I moved from the community. So, apologies to those who came after 1960 – there have no doubt been many significant developments in those 50 years since 1960 – but we’ll let others document the recent events.



Mike Masten
October, 2012

CONTRIBUTORS

This document is the result of many friends and former neighbors who eagerly shared their memories of Lois. The following are some of those contributors. I've probably overlooked some - to which I sincerely apologize.

My cousins *Georgia Shoemaker, Mary Gilbreath, Ginger Read, and Jan Huffman* were the original contributors to supplement my own personal memories. I also used a family document that another cousin – the late *Tom Masten* – wrote in 1996 when he recorded some of our family history.

Former neighbors and friends who shared information include:

<i>Lanora (Aston) Potts</i>	<i>Nancy (Kemplin) Taylor</i>
<i>Peggy Aston</i>	<i>Frank Lorne</i>
<i>David Aston</i>	<i>Charles & Dianne (Martindale)</i>
<i>David & Cindy Barthold</i>	<i>Haley</i>
<i>Roy & Pat Scott Belz</i>	<i>Robbie (Masten) Crain</i>
<i>Charles Bentley</i>	<i>Tim & Linda Masten</i>
<i>Joe Christian</i>	<i>Bill Maughan</i>
<i>David Clifton</i>	<i>David Miller</i>
<i>Patsy (Davidson) Beasley</i>	<i>Lori Miller</i>
<i>Raima (Davidson) Sparkman</i>	<i>Troy Miller Jr.</i>
<i>Glenn Davis</i>	<i>Linda (Morrison) Christensen</i>
<i>Virginia (Dugger) Langford</i>	<i>Norman Newton</i>
<i>C.W. "Pete" Gillum</i>	<i>Debbie Powley</i>
<i>Linda Carol (Gillum) Schafer</i>	<i>Becca Rhea</i>
<i>Susan (Gillum) Morrison</i>	<i>Clydene (Roane) Wilkerson</i>
<i>Yuton & Joan Harris</i>	<i>Dianna Roseberry</i>
<i>Don Hobbs</i>	<i>Tim Sparkman</i>
<i>Jim Hobbs</i>	<i>Sue (Spindle) Luthi</i>
<i>Patti (Hobbs) Wilson</i>	<i>Lela (Springer) Amyx</i>
<i>Bill Hunter</i>	<i>Bill & Sandy Vann</i>
<i>Nancy (Idell) Bentley</i>	<i>Daryl Wilson</i>
<i>Betty (Inmon) Carson</i>	<i>Mike Wilson</i>
<i>Alonzo W Jamison Jr.</i>	<i>Ray Young</i>

Our personal memories were supplemented by several other sources – particularly Census Records. Extensive use was also made of *Norman Newton's* WWW site devoted to Valley View – especially the cemetery lists to which Norman has added several historical notes. <http://valleyview1872.com/> I also have copies of the two documents: *Valley View Centennial 1872-1972* and *Era Centennial 1878-1978*.

Special thanks to *Mike Wilson*, who provided copies of the application for the first Lois Post Office (1896) and a later application to move the Post Office to the site we all remember as the Lois Store (1902). Special appreciation also goes to *Debbie Powley* and *Dianna Roseberry* who loaned the 1949 *Abstract of Title* for the farm owned by their great-grandfather (Jesse Masten). This abstract provided details of the original 1842 Edward Daniel land grant by the Republic of Texas. It also enabled the precise location of the first Lois Post Office (at the Daniel J. Wilson farm).

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EARLY HISTORY

I haven't found anyone who knows exactly when the first residents of Lois arrived, but it was a vibrant and active community during the time that my grandparents were there. It had a General Store, a Cotton Gin, School, and at least two Churches. This was the time before Americans began "leaving the farm", and there were several families living within the community. Furthermore, many of the farms had more than one house on the property – and most of those additional houses were fully occupied.

Land Grants: The first non-Indian settlers for much of Cooke County came as part of *Peters' Colony*, which received an *Empresario Grant* from the Republic of Texas in August, 1841. An empresario - the Spanish word for entrepreneur - was a contractor who recruited "colonists" to come to the Texas frontier. Colonists, who came and satisfied various requirements, received land grants – or headrights. A typical requirement was that each land owner must place at least 15 acres into cultivation, and a typical headright was 640 acres for heads of families and 320 acres for single men. In the original plan, the empresario received 10 sections of prime land for each 100 colonists –plus the empresario usually received a portion of each colonist's land as payment for services rendered (surveys, legal titles, planting seeds, farm implements, maybe even some construction of houses & barns).

Peters' Colony was the first Empresario Grant after the *Republic of Texas* gained independence from Mexico – only four grants were issued during the entire Republic era. Financial backing was provided by 20 investors – half from England and half from America – led by William S. Peters. The original 1841 boundary lines for the Peters' Colony lands began at the Red River, progressed south for 60 miles, then west for 22 miles, north back to the Red River, and then east with the river to the point of origin. The first families arrived in December, 1841. The contract with the Republic of Texas was later amended and the boundaries were extended another 40 miles south, 10 miles west, and 12 east. Later contracts extended the boundaries even further.

Unfortunately, the colony was troubled – squatters moved in without legal claim, disagreements arose between the colony directors and the colonists, laws were changed, and several lawsuits were brought by colonists, politicians, and land brokers. Disagreements between the colonists and the company weren't settled until the late 1870's. Thus the colony that had helped settle North Texas brought little if any profit to William Peters' and his fellow investors - and left much disgruntlement among the settlers.

The original land grants – or *surveys* - for the lands we know as Lois were located in Peters' Colony. My great grandfather owned three tracts of land between Lois and Era, and the original grantee/colonist for a large part of this land was *Edward Daniel*. Daniel was granted a 1,181 acre tract on January 14, 1842 by the Republic of Texas (Certificate Number 49).

There were several other individuals like Edward Daniel who received land grants in the area – probably about the same time. These include Bushnell Garner, James Bourland, S.E. Clement, Albert Martin, R. Trevino, A. Houston, and A.W. Noble. (The Bushnell Garner lands were in fact granted earlier than the 1842 Daniel lands because the Daniel grant describes the location of Daniel’s land relative to the already existing Bushnell survey. *Part of the farm where I grew up – just west of the Lois store – was a portion of the original Bushnell Garner survey.*)

I suspect that Edward Daniel probably never lived on his Cooke County land, because he died around 1847 (in Central Texas) – only five years after his land grant. Likewise, I suspect that his heirs probably didn’t live in Cooke County either, but they were nevertheless active in using the land as security for loans and other business transactions. These early transactions typically concerned “*my interests in the lands of the Edward Daniel Survey ...*” but the documents didn’t identify specific farms or sub-tracts of the land. However, by 1872, the Daniel heirs were selling specific plots of land. As a result of these various transactions, it was pretty easy for more than one person to claim ownership to any given tract of land. In 1877, there was a trial to sort out all of the conflicting claims. The trial took seven years – and by 1885, there were no Daniel family members left as owners.

On March 2, 1885, my great-great grandfather, Wiley Masten, bought a 65-acre farm that was originally part of the Daniel survey (cost \$1,040). A few months later (November 7, 1885), his son – my great grandfather – J.B. Masten bought a nearby 50-acre tract. J.B. Masten eventually purchased more property (in the Daniel, Garner, and other surveys), and by 1927 – at the time of his death – he owned 906 acres in three tracts between Lois and Era.

Formation of Lois Community: Establishment of a Post Office is frequently cited as the official date for the formation of a township. However, such communities obviously must have existed prior to that event – to generate sufficient population and activity to justify the post office.

Gainesville: The first of our neighboring towns to be formed was Gainesville. The first settlers came in the 1840’s as part of the Peters’ Colony – and the township was formed in 1850 on a 40-acre tract. Cooke County had been formed by the Texas Legislature just two years earlier on March 20, 1848 – the county was much larger than today encompassing the present Cooke County plus what eventually became Montague, Clay, Wise, and Jack Counties.

The official formation of the Gainesville Post Office occurred October 31, 1851. William Fitzhugh, commander of a stockade 3½ miles SW of town, suggested the name to honor *General Edmund Pendleton Gaines*, who had been sympathetic with the Texas Revolution. Gainesville became a stop on the Butterfield Overland Mail route in 1858. However, frequent Indian attacks retarded growth until after the Civil War.

Bolivar: In 1859, Hiram Daily opened a general store, laid out the town, and named it “New Prospect”. Two years later, Ben Brown, a farmer from Bolivar, Tennessee suggested renaming and persuaded residents to vote for the name “Bolivar” by providing them free drinks. Bolivar was only three miles east of the Chisholm Trail, and cowboys on the trail came to stay at its hotel and patronize its saloons. In 1886, the Bolivar merchants decided to move their businesses to Sanger, near the railroad.

Valley View: About ten years after formation of Bolivar, the first settlers came from Missouri to the Valley View area. After stopping to winter in Sherman in the fall of 1869, the leader of the group – *Captain L.W. Lee* – and his family came on ahead and arrived in February, 1870. A few months later, more families arrived (Jones, French, McCubbin, Hill, Reavis, Obuch). Captain Lee laid out the town and named it for the “beautiful view of Spring Creek valley”. Two years later, in 1872, Captain Lee submitted a petition to request a Post Office. When the petition was sent to Congress, the post office department claimed it was in bad condition and couldn’t establish any new offices at that time. Captain Lee then promised to carry the mail free of charge, and authority for the office was then granted. Valley View therefore became official on March 26, 1872. The railroad came in 1886.

Era: Era has a similar history. Although some settlers came in the early 1850s, growth accelerated during the 1870s when tracts carved out of the early land grants – including some of the Edward Daniel land granted by the Republic of Texas – began to be bought and sold. The population subsequently increased, and in 1877-78, six acres were donated for a school and church. The residents decided to apply for a post office. In order to submit an application, the settlers selected the name “Era” in 1878 – named after *Era Hargrove*, the daughter of A.H. Hargrove. The application was submitted in March, 1879, and approval was granted April 10, 1879. The postmaster was required to furnish suitable quarters and equipment for the office without expense to the Postal Department. The Era Post Office was located in several different buildings – usually with some other business – over the years.

Sanger: Sanger is the youngest of our neighboring towns. It was founded in 1886 explicitly as a stop on the Santa Fe Railroad (mid-way between the stops at Valley View and Denton). Santa Fe selected the name “Sanger” to honor one of its customers, Alexander Sanger, who owned stores in Waco and Dallas – and who had been influential in bringing the railroad to the area. (The *Sanger Brothers* stores eventually became the premier department store in North Texas. The chain later became *Sanger-Harris* - which was acquired by *Foley’s* in 1987 - and then renamed *Macy’s* in 2006.) The town was laid out on land owned by Elizabeth Huling, and the F.M. Ready family came in October, 1887 as the first residents. The state highway connecting Gainesville and Dallas came through Sanger in 1920.

Lois: Lois no doubt has similar history. We know that land grants were issued in the 1840s to people such as Edward Daniel, Bushnell Garner, James Bourland, S.E. Clement, Albert Martin, R. Trevino, A. Houston, and A.W. Noble. And we know of

specific families – like my great grandparents - who came in the 1880s and purchased some of these lands.

The first “official” date for Lois is December 24, 1897, when a Post Office was established (*Handbook of Texas Online*). The first Postmaster, Daniel J. Wilson, served until November, 1901; the next Postmaster was Hugh L. Aston, who served until April 14, 1904, when the official Post Office disbanded.¹ Population was reported as 50 during the 1930s and 1940s, as 60 in 1960, and only 20 in the year 2000.

LOIS POST OFFICE

The name “Lois” most likely became official in 1897 when the first Post Office was established. However, that first Post Office was not located at the site we all remember as the Lois Store.

Daniel J. Wilson filed the application for the first Lois Post Office.

Daniel J. Wilson: Daniel James Wilson was born October 14, 1844 in Cumberland County, North Carolina. He used the name "Dan" or "D. J.". His parents were Charles Gillis Wilson and Margaret Ann McCraney. Sometime prior to 1860 Dan moved to Newton County, Mississippi. His mother died in late 1860; sometime afterward, he enlisted in the Confederate Army. In 1911, he wrote a handwritten 10-page account of his service - in which he stated that he was only 15 years old when he enlisted. (Other records indicate he might have been 16 or 17 - whichever, indeed very young!) He served four years in the war, and eventually ended up back in North Carolina where he was wounded and convalesced in a hospital in Raleigh, NC.

After the end of the war, Dan and his father - who also served - returned to Newton County, Mississippi. In 1865, Dan married Addie Willis and two daughters were born (Rowena Amada - 1866 and Nola Julia Adeline - 1868). In late 1868, Addie died - probably from Typhoid Fever. A year later, December 19, 1869, Dan married the widow Mary Francis Kennedy Temple - who had been born December 22, 1842 in Pike County, Georgia. Her first husband, James Sparks Temple (1840-1861), had been killed in the war - shortly after she had given birth to their daughter, Georgia Ann Amanda "Maggie" Temple (10/14/1861). Mary's parents were Jesse Kennedy (1787-1863) and Mary E. McClanahan.

¹ One report claims that Lois was once a station on the Southern Pacific Railroad. Although there was indeed a north/south line for this rail system, I don't believe it came through Lois; if there had ever been a rail line through our community I believe there would still be some evidence of the infrastructure (elevated roadways, etc.) and I'm certainly not aware of any such evidence. The Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe Railway built a rail line from Fort Worth to Gainesville via Valley View in 1886.



D. J. WILSON.

Shortly after the marriage, the 1870 Newton County census listed Dan & Mary and the daughters, Georgia & Julia (but not Rowena who was living with an aunt). Dan & Mary bore two more children while they were in Newton County, Mississippi - Joseph Martin Wilson (10/14/1870 - 7/15/1947) and Effie Pearl Mae Wilson (12/20/1872 - 1948).

On October 20, 1874, Dan & Mary and the children Georgia, Julia, Joseph, and Effie left Mississippi in an ox-wagon heading for Texas. (Rowena stayed in Mississippi with an aunt.) The move took six weeks, and by December they had settled near Hillsboro, Texas. Two years later, another daughter, Minnie Alma (10/30/1876 - 1974) was born and two months later, the family moved to a farm between Era and Lois. Two years later (1878) another son was born - Benjamin James "Jimmy Love" Wilson; he died three years later of Scarlet Fever.

The 1880 Census lists Dan & Mary - and the children (Rowena, Nola, Joseph, Effie, Alma, & James) - living in Precinct 6, Cooke County. Daniel is also listed in an 1880 Agriculture Enumeration - his farm was valued at \$500; he owned farm implements valued at \$50 and livestock worth \$100. The Wilson farm - about 3.5 miles NW of the "heart" of Lois - was immediately south of the first property purchased by my great-grandfather (John B. Masten) in November, 1885.² My great-grandfather later purchased the Wilson property and built a fairly large house on the boundary between his first purchase and the Wilson property.

² Only one family name was listed in the 1900 census between the names for Dan & Mary Wilson and the names for my great-grandparents, J.B. & Celia Masten. Clearly they were nearby neighbors - next-door in fact. The Wilson farm was owned by Dupree & Leona Clampitt in the 1930s and 1940s.

On December 24, 1897, Dan - who had lived in the community for 20 years - was appointed as the first Postmaster for the Lois Post Office. The Application for the post office - submitted by Dan over a year earlier on December 16, 1896 – is copied on the next page. There are several interesting things to note,

- Lois would be a new Post Office
- Location would be “Wilson” (in Cooke County) – meaning at Wilson’s home
- Initial proposed name was “Nola”, but marked out and replaced with “Lois”
- Location was 3 miles from Route #50993 (Valley View to Era)
- Nearest Post Office was Era (4 miles NW of the location)
- Next Nearest Post Office was Valley View (6 miles SW – *should be “NE”*)
- Next Nearest Post Office was Bolivar (8 miles South of the location)
- Location was ½ mile West of Duck Creek
- Population served was 200
- Application Signed by Daniel J. Wilson December 16, 1896
- Application Certified by M.A. Stamper, Era Postmaster

Note that “Nola” was the name of one of Daniel’s daughters – it’s unknown why this initial choice of “Nola” was changed to “Lois”. Nevertheless, the “1/2 mile west of Duck Creek” location clearly shows that the location was not the same site we remember as the Lois Store. Furthermore, Dan's occupation was listed in the 1900 census as “farmer” – even though we know he was also Postmaster. This suggests that Dan served as Postmaster from his farm.

The 1900 census also listed two new children for Dan & Mary Wilson: John E. (1881-1941) and Elsie Velma (1883-1955). Their older daughter, Alma - who had been born in Hillsboro - still at home (age 23), was listed as a “school teacher” – probably teaching in Era.

Dan & Mary Wilson may have left Lois the next year (1901) when Hugh Aston was appointed as the second Lois Postmaster. In any event, by the time of the 1910 Census, Dan & Mary lived in the town of Stratford in Sherman County (about 80 miles north of Amarillo – on the Texas/Oklahoma border). In July, 1911 when Dan wrote his 10-page account of Civil War experiences (for his grandsons), he used stationary with the letterhead, “D.J. Wilson County Treasurer for Sherman County”.

Daniel J. Wilson was still serving as Sherman County Treasurer when he died July 26, 1915 while on a visit to his old home in Mississippi. Mary died April 21, 1919. Mary is buried in the Spring Creek Cemetery. Dan & Mary Wilson lived several places - including Lois - but didn't stay in Cooke County. Nevertheless there's been part of this Wilson clan here ever since (see “*Joseph Martin Wilson*”).

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL,

APPOINTMENT DIVISION,

NOV 18 1896

WASHINGTON, D. C., 1896

Sir: Before the Postmaster General decides upon the application for the establishment of a post office at Wilson County of Cooke State of Texas

it will be necessary for you to carefully answer the subjoined questions, get a neighboring postmaster to certify to the correctness of the answers, and return the location paper to the Department, addressed to me. If the site selected for the proposed office should not be on any mail route now under contract, only a "Special Office" can be established there, to be supplied with mail from some convenient point on the nearest mail route by a special carrier (see section 702, Postal Laws and Regulations of 1893), for which service a sum equal to two-thirds of the amount of the salary of the postmaster at such office will be paid by the Department.

You should inform the contractor, or person performing service for him, of this application, and require him to execute the inclosed certificate as to the practicability of supplying the proposed office with mail, and return the same to the Department.

Very respectfully,

M. C. Mead
Fourth Assistant Postmaster General.

To Mr. J. Wilson
care of the Postmaster of Era who will please forward to him.

STATEMENT.

The proposed office to be called Lois

Select a short name for the proposed office, which, when written, will not resemble the name of any other post office in the State.

It will be situated in the North quarter of Section 34 Township 10 N Range 10 E (East or West) in the County of Cooke State of Texas
It will be on or near route No. 2993 being the route from Valley View to Era on which the mail is now carried 3 times per week.
Will it be directly on this route? Yes
If not, how far from it? 1/2 mile.
If not on any route, is a "Special Office" wanted? Yes To be supplied from Era
The name of the nearest office to the proposed one, on one side is Era its distance is 4 miles in a North West direction from the proposed office.
The name of the nearest office, on the other side, is Valley View its distance is 6 miles in a South West direction from the proposed office.
The name of the other nearest office to the proposed one is Bellevue its distance by the most direct road is 1/2 mile in a South direction from the proposed office.
The name of the most prominent river near it is Snake
The name of the nearest creek is Snake
The proposed office will be 1/2 miles from said river, on the West side of it, and will be 1/2 miles from said nearest creek, on the West side of it.
The name of the nearest railroad is Rocky Mountain & Santa Fe
If on the line of or near a railroad, on which side will the office be located; how far from the track; and what is, or will be, the name of the station? Side
(Give the population to be supplied by the proposed office. 200)
If it be a village, state the number of inhabitants. 200
A diagram, or sketch from a map, showing the position of the proposed new office, with neighboring river or creek, roads and other post offices, towns, or villages near it, will be useful, and is therefore desired.
A correct map of the locality might be furnished by the county surveyor, but this must be without expense to the Post Office Department.

ALL WHICH I CERTIFY to be correct and true, according to the best of my knowledge and belief, this 16th day of December, 1896

(Sign full name.) Daniel James Phillips Proposed P. M.

I CERTIFY that I have examined the foregoing statement, and that it is correct and true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(This must be signed by Postmaster at nearest office.)

M. A. Stauffer

Be careful to answer the inquiries fully and accurately, or the case will not be acted upon.

Applications for post offices should be accompanied by petitions of the citizens interested.

1896 First Application for Lois Post Office

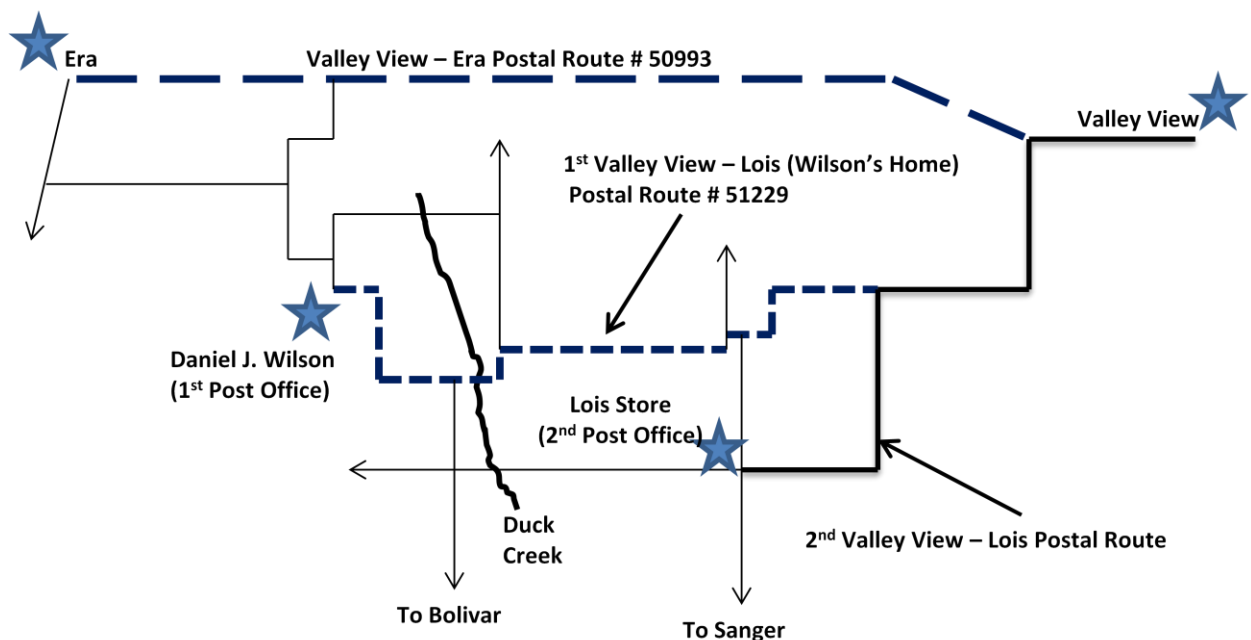
Application for "... establishment of a post office"
Location: Wilson Home - 1/2 mile West of Duck Creek
Four miles to Era; Six miles to Valley View
Initial Name: NOLA ... marked out; changed to LOIS

Hugh L. Aston: According to a 1992 letter from the U.S. Postmaster General, Daniel J. Wilson served as Lois Postmaster until approximately November 26, 1901. Hugh L. Aston (see “Hugh L. Aston”) was then appointed the next Postmaster.

On July 29, 1902 Hugh Aston – as the “Appointed Postmaster” - filed an Application to move the Post Office from the Wilson farm to the site we remember as the Lois Store. That application is copied on the following page. Note,

- Application is for a change in location of the Lois Post Office
- Nearest route was #51229 – the route from Valley View to Wilson’s farm
- Proposed new location was 1 mile South of Route #51229
- Nearest Post Office would become Valley View (5 miles NE of new location)
- Next Nearest Post Office would become Era (6 miles NW of new location)
- Next Nearest Post Office would become Sanger (8 miles SE of new location)
- Location is one mile East of Duck Creek
- Population served was 200
- Application signed July 29, 1902 by Hugh L. Aston, Appointed Postmaster

Combining the 1896 initial application of Daniel Wilson with Hugh Aston’s 1902 application to move the location, we can map the two locations of the Lois Post Office,



Although the Lois Store is not explicitly mentioned in the 1902 application to move the Post Office, the location described in the application clearly corresponds to the location we remember for the Lois Store. Note in particular the new location was east of Duck Creek whereas the first Post Office at Wilson’s farm was west of the creek.

Mc

NO. 1019, NEW SERIES.

Post Office Department,

OFFICE OF THE FOURTH ASSISTANT P. M. GENERAL,
APPOINTMENT DIVISION,

Washington, D. C.,

AUG 4 1902
POST MASTER GENERAL

SIR: Before the Postmaster General decides upon the application for a change of site of the post office at Lois, County of Cook, State of Texas, he requires that the following questions be carefully and correctly answered, and returned to this Department. The contractor or station agent will also answer the queries addressed to him.

Very respectfully,

J. P. ...
Fourth Asst P. M. General.

To Mr. _____ care of the Postmaster of _____, who will please forward to him.

STATEMENT.

The office to be called Lois

How far, and in what direction do you propose to move the office?—Ans. 1 1/2 mi South
The new site will be situated in the County of Cook, State of Texas
It will be on or near route No. 51229, being the route from Walley View to L. O. ... on which the mail is now carried 4 times per week.
Will it be directly on this route?—Ans. No
If not, how far from, and on which side of it?—Ans. 1 mi South
How much will it increase the distance necessarily traveled by the carrier in going once over the route?—1 mi

The name of the nearest office to the proposed site, on the same route, is Valley View its distance is Five miles, in a North East direction.
The name of the nearest office on the same route, on the other side, is Era its distance is Six miles, in a North West direction from the proposed site.
The name of the nearest office to the proposed site, not on this route, is Sanger distance by the most direct road Eight miles, in a South East direction.

The name of the most prominent river near it is _____
The name of the nearest creek is Black Creek
The proposed site will be _____ miles from said river, on the _____ side of it, and will be One miles from said nearest creek, on the East side of it.
If on the line of or near a railroad, state the name, on which side the office will be located, how far from the depot, and what is, or will be, the name of the station.—Ans. _____

If it be a village, state the number of inhabitants.—Ans. _____
Also, the population to be supplied by proposed office.—Ans. Two Hundred
ALL OF WHICH I CERTIFY to be correct and true, according to the best of my knowledge and belief, this 29th day of July, 1902.
(Sign full name.) Hugh L. Carter Assistant P. M.

1902 Application to Move Lois Post Office

Application for "... change of site"
Location: One mile East of Duck Creek
Five miles to Valley View; Six miles to Era

THE “LOIS” NAME

Daniel J. Wilson submitted the application for the first Post Office so he obviously played a pivotal role in the selection of the “Lois” name. Several have noted that “Lois” is sometimes chosen as a name for a woman. Therefore, our community - like our neighbor Era - could indeed have been named for some female resident.

Assuming Lois was named for someone who had links to our community, there are several locations where we might search for such person,

- Cemetery Lists
- Census Lists
- Families of Prominent Citizens

Cemeteries: A search of the Valley View, Era, Spring Creek, Bolivar, and Sanger cemeteries yields only one person named “Lois” who was living in 1897 - at the time the Post Office was established. **Lois Lee Fennie** (2/7/1880 - 8/26/1898) is buried in Spring Creek – she died at age 18 – the wife of J. H. Fennie. Research (including the 1880 census) hasn't yielded any additional information that would link her to Lois, and there's no record that the Fennie family remained in Cooke County after her death.

Census Lists: The 1880 census for Precinct 6 (which includes Lois, Era, and areas around Valley View) contains no one named Lois - neither adult nor child. There are however two people named Lois in the 1900 Precinct 6 census,

Lois Roane (born March, 1894) was a six-year old daughter of James H. & Mary F. Roane. James & Mary were the great-grandparents of Clydene Wilkerson. They owned property within walking distance of downtown Valley View - as far as Clydene knows, they never lived in Lois. Thus it seems unlikely that Lois Roane was the namesake for our community. Mary Roane died in 1905, and James soon left the county. In 1910, he lived in Montague County, and in 1920 he was still in Montague County living with Lois - who had married Lester C. Russell.

Lois A. Stamper (born April, 1893) was a seven-year old daughter of Martin A. & Elizabeth Stamper. *We'll come back to her later.*

Families of Prominent Citizens: It seems reasonable that the name “Lois” was selected by the prominent residents - this was indeed the case for Era when major community leaders selected a name in order to file their Post Office application. In the case of Lois, there are at least three prominent citizens who might have been involved in the selection,

*Daniel J. Wilson
Hugh L. Aston
Martin A. Stamper*

Daniel J. Wilson (Postmaster 1897-1901) Clearly, Daniel Wilson was involved in the selection of the name – his was the first application filed for the Post Office. Daniel J. & Mary Frances Wilson raised nine children,

Georgia Ann Amanda "Maggie" Temple (1861) - born to Mary, with her first husband

Rowena Amanda Wilson (1866) - born to Addie Willis, Dan's first wife

Nola Julia Adeline Wilson (1868) - born to Addie Willis, Dan's first wife

Joseph Martin Wilson (1870)

Effie Pearl Mae Wilson (1872)

Minnie Alma Wilson (1876)

Benjamin James Wilson (1878)

John E. Wilson (1881)

Elsie Velma Wilson (1883)

The 1896 Application filed by Daniel Wilson initially listed the name as “Nola” – the name of *one of his daughters*. However, for some reason, the name Nola was later marked out and “Lois” was the second choice. (Perhaps Wilson changed his mind and decided against the name “Nola” because Nola was nearly 30 years old; or perhaps Nola herself didn’t want her name to be selected?)

In any event, there is no child named "Lois" in the Wilson children. Furthermore, as far as we can tell, none of the spouses of the Wilson children were named Lois – and there were no Wilson grandchildren with the name.³

Hugh L. Aston (Postmaster 1901-1904) Hugh Aston came to the Lois area (from Collin County) as early as 1893 so he would have been available to work with Daniel Wilson when the first Post Office application was filed in 1896. However, he had not been in the area for an extended time, so it’s not obvious that Wilson and Aston would have worked together on the first application.

Hugh L. & Margaret "Maggie" Aston raised six children,

Mary Jane "Jennie" Aston (1866)

William Edward Aston (1869)

Victoria Carlton Aston (1871)

Minnie D. Aston (1873)

Elizabeth A. Aston (1877)

Beva A. Aston (1885)

³ Records have been located for six of the nine Wilson children - from these six, there were five grandchildren born before 1897, the date of the Lois Post Office - but none were named "Lois". The grandson, Charles E. Wilson - son of Joseph Martin Wilson - later married a lady named Lois Theal Clay. However, Lois Theal Clay was not born until January, 1904 - well after the Lois community had received its name.

Like Daniel Wilson's family, there's no one named "Lois" in Hugh Aston's children - nor in the names of their spouses.

However, there was an Aston granddaughter named "Lois". Hugh's oldest daughter, Mary Jane "Jennie" Aston (10/24/1866 - 8/20/1964), married John Wesley Damron (10/30/1855 - 9/19/1946). Both Mary Jane and John were born in Collin County, where they lived until around 1900. Mary Jane & John raised ten children – the sixth child, born in 1892, was named **Mamie Lois Damron**. This granddaughter of Hugh Aston was about 8 years old when the Lois Post Office was established, but she didn't live in the Lois area. By the time of the 1920 and 1930 censuses, the Damron family lived in Bryan County, Oklahoma - where Mary & John (and several of their children) lived the rest of their lives. Thus Mamie Lois Damron doesn't seem to have strong ties to the Lois community – she probably never lived there - so I suggest that she was not the namesake for the Lois community.

M. A. Stamper (Era Postmaster 1889-1896) Martin Alexander Stamper was certainly a prominent – and early - citizen of the area. He was born March 29, 1853 in Mississippi.

Martin A. Stamper came to Cooke County when he was young. He was a participant in the 1877 trial to sort out various conflicting claims to the lands originally granted to Edward Daniel – the Daniel heirs complained that Stamper & others had “seized Daniel lands in 1875”. However, when the trial finished, Stamper and his partner were in fact granted 315 acres – of which my great-grandfather later purchased 213 acres. (Thus Stamper was a near neighbor of Daniel J. Wilson, whose farm was also later purchased by my great-grandfather. The 1880 Census listings for Stamper and Wilson are separated by only four families.)

According to the 1880 Census, Martin A. Stamper and his first wife, Mary had three young children. Mary likely died because 20 years later at the 1900 Census, Martin's wife was Elizabeth Lee – they had married in 1886 - and they had three young children.

Martin A. Stamper is well documented in Era's history. He is reported to have been the first medical doctor in Era. The dates of his medical practice are unknown, but the second doctor is reported to have arrived in 1882. Stamper served as a School Trustee in 1885-86, and he was an early member of the Baptist Church – the same church of which Daniel Wilson was a member. In March, 1885 the Baptist Church – after services had periodically been disrupted by “ruffians” - requested that Deputy Sheriff Stamper take actions to “see that worship was held in peace”.

Stamper may in fact have been one of the Era citizens who had met earlier in 1879 to file for a Post Office application when the name “Era” was selected. In any event, Stamper served as Era Postmaster from 1889 to 1896 (and his wife, Elizabeth then served in the position from 1896 to 1901). This was probably the time when Stamper operated a small hotel and a store named “The Grange”. By the time of the 1900

census, he had moved from his farm near Daniel Wilson into the town of Era proper – and was listed as a “merchant”.

Stamper was also among the 1901 charter members of the Era Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), and he was a Mason - and Daniel Wilson was among the 1896 petitioners for formation of the Masonic lodge.

Martin A. and Elizabeth Stamper left Era by 1910 when they lived in Bell County, Texas. In 1920, they were in Reeves County. Nevertheless, when Martin died on June 7, 1923 he came back to Cooke County to be buried in Fairview Cemetery in Gainesville. Elizabeth (4/2/1862 – 10/22/1935) is also buried in Fairview Cemetery.

The most interesting fact for us is that Martin & Elizabeth Stamper had a seven-year old daughter named Lois A. Stamper at the time of the 1900 Census. Born in April, 1893, she would have been three-years old in 1896 when the first Lois Post Office application was submitted.

Conclusion: I believe **Lois A. Stamper** is the namesake for our community. Daniel J. Wilson - who ultimately selected the name for the first Lois Post Office application - had come to the area in 1876-77. Martin A. Stamper had come to the area as early as 1875 - the date the Daniel heirs claimed he became an owner of Daniel lands. In the early years, Wilson and Stamper were “next door” neighbors on farms located between Lois and Era. Both Stamper and Wilson attended the Era Baptist Church, and both were Masons. Thus Stamper and Wilson had known each other – as neighbors, fellow Baptists, fellow Masons, and likely friends - for at least 20 years. Also note that Stamper - as the Era Postmaster in 1896 – certified and signed the application for the Lois Post Office filed by Wilson.

In contrast, Hugh Aston - who had a granddaughter living in Collin County named Lois – was a relative newcomer having come to the Lois area only three years earlier in 1893.

The name “Nola”, initially selected for the Post Office, was the name of one of Wilson’s daughters. Thus Wilson was certainly inclined toward such naming convention. However when the name “Nola” was rejected, Wilson’s good friend Stamper had a 3-year old daughter named “Lois” – and she became the namesake for our community.

Note: The families of Wilson and Stamper may have known each other even longer – back in Mississippi. Daniel Wilson left Newton, Mississippi in 1860 to serve in the Civil War; after the war, he returned to Newton before later coming to Cooke County. Martin Stamper was born in Mississippi, and there’s a Lt. Martin W. Stamper (1838-1918) buried in Newton – Lt. Martin W. Stamper may have been a relative of Martin A. Stamper of Era?

Whatever happened to Lois A. Stamper? Lois Annette Stamper was born in Era April 18, 1893 to Martin Alexander Stamper and Elizabeth Lee Wiles. By the time of the 1910 Census, the Stamper family had left Era and moved to Belton (Bell County), Texas. The Belton County Library has six books - *Nannie's Scrapbooks* - in which early articles from local newspapers had been pasted. The articles cover various news items from 1905 to the early 1920s – there are a few articles about the Stamper's.

- The Stamper family was in Belton at least by January 21, 1908 when a Dr. Jerette Delesley Law died. An eloquent tribute to Dr. Law - a fellow Mason – was written and published by M. A. Stamper.
- On July 1, 1910 the *Bell County Democrat* listed several Belton businessmen – which included M. A. Stamper.
- Another article listed the Class of 1910 graduates of Belton High School - included among the 23 graduates was Lois Stamper.
- Following High School graduation, Lois prepared herself to become a teacher. Ten years later, as part of the 1920 Belton High School graduation festivities, a program organized by Lois was presented on Saturday prior to the next day's Baccalaureate service. The article reported,

“Belton, May 15 – One of the most enjoyable events that has ever been held at the high school was the style show given yesterday morning in the auditorium by the students of the Domestic Arts Department. It was so good, and reflected so much credit on the department and its director, Miss Lois Stamper, that it is too bad that every patron of the Belton schools was not present to witness it, school authorities state. The musical accompaniments were played by Mary Margaret Goepfinger, and the descriptions of the styles were given by Vera Stamper.”

Vara (Vera) was Lois' younger sister, who was also reported in the same article as having won the 1920 “honor” cup for spelling.

- Vara Stamper is listed among the 1921 Belton High School graduates – salutatorian of her class, she “delivered a gracious welcome”.

According to the 1920 census, M.A. & Elizabeth Stamper had left Belton and lived in Reeves County - perhaps Pecos. However, from the newspaper articles in *Nannie's Scrapbooks*, it's obvious that Lois had stayed in Belton where she taught school. Although her sister, Vara, was in Reeves County during the January, 1920 census, she probably also lived with Lois in Belton – where Vara assisted in the “style show” in May, 1920 and where she graduated in the class of 1921.

Prior to teaching in Belton, Lois was a teacher at Simmons College in Abilene; according to a 1917 Abilene City Directory she apparently lived on campus.

How long Lois lived in Belton (after 1920-21) is unknown. By 1927, Lois, Vara, and their widowed mother (Elizabeth) all lived in Mineral Wells, Texas. According to the 1927 Mineral Wells City Directory, they all lived at 1415 SE 4th Avenue – Lois was a teacher at Mineral Wells High School and Vara was a stenographer for M W Brk Co – which was probably “Mineral Wells Brick Company”. Mineral Wells’ brick factory was a major industry for many years.

Lois apparently participated in various social events. According to the November 11, 1928 issue of the *San Antonio Express*, “Miss Lois Stamper of Mineral Wells” was a guest at a meeting of the Crescendo Club in San Marcos on November 6. (The Crescendo Club discussed and enjoyed singing of selections from the opera “La Boheme” by Puccini.) The same newspaper reported later in the same month that Lois was among the hostesses for a formal dinner in San Marcos honoring the President of *SW Texas Teachers’ College*.

Miss Lois Stamper is also listed in the 1929 Brownwood City Directory – where she was serving as a teacher at Brownwood High School. She would have been 36 years old.

No other records of Lois Stamper have been located. It appears that she never married and probably spent her career as a teacher – probably dedicated to her students - and perhaps pretty sophisticated in manner. *We should be proud to claim her as the name sake for our community.*

LOIS STORE

The Lois Store is probably the most vivid Lois memory for most of us. None of us know exactly when the store began, but it was there as early as any of us can remember.

The store was located directly at the intersection of the two roads that form the “heart” of Lois. The store owners lived in a house behind the store (to the west), and there was also a few chicken houses and a small barn on the property. The north side of the store property adjoined the Cotton Gin property; the west side of the property adjoined T.J. Masten’s farm in a yard that was used to store bales of cotton during the ginning season.

Unfortunately, no one has yet been able to locate a good photograph of the *front* of the store. Nevertheless, I found a poor photo from which I was able to sketch the following illustration; note the double front door, gasoline pumps, and the kerosene dispensing tank on the front porch.



The inside of the store was one large room – with a small storage room attached on the NE side. Most of us remember the store’s layout, especially the large case with glass windows that contained all the candy! The outside of the entire store was “covered” with a red tar-asbestos siding with a simulated red brick pattern – that gave the appearance of a brick building. Behind the store was a large cane plant – some folks used the canes for fishing poles. The photo at the right shows Clifton & Verna Ruth Spindle and their daughters (Jeanette, Sue, & Annette) in the yard of the home behind the store during the time when Verna Ruth’s parents (Edd & Dora Pharr) owned the store. The red “brick” siding is visible, as well as the cane plants behind the store and one of the gasoline pumps at the front.



As noted already, the Lois Post Office was moved to the Lois Store – probably in late 1902. Mail delivery came from Valley View via horse & buggy. From Lois, the buggy went west to Era and then returned to Valley View – there was no delivery south or north of the store. However, the “official” Lois Post Office closed in 1904 – so full-service postal functions with an official Postmaster ceased. Since the “route” from Valley View didn’t include each individual house, residents off the route had to pick up mail at another location. Even into the late 1940s, I remember several residents who mounted their individual mailboxes in a row on a rail at the Lois Store so that their boxes were located on the mail carrier’s route. Our long-time postman was *Clarence Willis*, from Sanger. In 1941 or 1942, he served in the Army - after the war, he bought a jeep which he used to deliver the mail. Willis retired in 1969, and *Robert Windle*, also from Sanger, became the next carrier.

The Store was the first place in Lois to have electricity and a telephone. Electricity came to the store in 1935 from Denton County as a result of *The Rural Electrification Administration (REA)* – a project similar to the WPA. (In 1935, only 10% of the nation’s farms had electricity – and in Texas, it was only 2.3%.) Communities had to convince the REA that electricity was justified for each community, and one of the critical parameters was the number of members-per-mile of electrical line. As a result, not everyone received electricity at the time. The Store was one of the few points to receive power when service initially came to the community.

The telephone probably came about the same time – and the Store had the only telephone for a period of time. In fact, I vividly remember going to the Store to use the (old crank-type) phone whenever we wanted to call anyone in Valley View or any other area. Even when the telephone came to our individual homes, we were connected via a “party line” (in which several neighbors used the same line). Everyone could hear whenever anyone else received an incoming call – each family had a special “ring” to identify when a call was specifically for their family. (Our “ring” was a Long – then Short – then Long ringing interval.) Whenever you wanted to use the phone for an outgoing call, you had to first “pick up” to verify if someone else might already be using the line. Of course, most of us were very careful what we said on the phone – because some neighbor might be “eavesdropping” on our conversation. I didn’t like to use the phone.

Lois Store Formation: *When* was the Lois Store established - and *who* was the first owner? Post Offices in new communities were frequently located in existing businesses. If this was the case for Lois; then the Lois Store might have existed as early as 1896-97 when Daniel J. Wilson was appointed as the first Postmaster. However, Wilson applied for the Post Office to be located in his home – not at the site we remember for the store. This suggests that the store in fact did not exist in 1896-97. (For certain, if there was already a store, it likely didn’t carry the name “Lois” – because when Wilson applied for the first Post Office, the “Los” name was not certain – indeed he initially chose “Nola”.)

The Lois Store therefore likely *began around the time when Hugh L. Aston was appointed as Postmaster (November, 1901) or when he filed the application (July, 1902) to move the Post Office from Wilson’s farm to the location we know as the Lois Store.*

Lois Store Owners: Whereas there's an absolute link between Daniel J. Wilson and the *Lois Post Office*, there's no such link between Wilson and the *Lois Store*. Thus Daniel Wilson probably never owned the store. On the other hand, there's strong evidence that *Hugh L. Aston was the first owner of the Lois Store* – and in the explicit location we all remember.

According to the 1900 Census, Hugh and his wife Margaret "Maggie" lived in Precinct 6, Cooke County next door to G.W. Gillum – obviously in the vicinity of the future location of the Lois Store. Hugh was listed as "farmer" in the Census, so the store may not have yet existed in 1900. However, Hugh Aston became the Lois Postmaster a year later in November, 1901 – the store probably existed by that time.

The evidence that Aston was the first owner of the Lois Store is more evident ten years later. According to the 1910 Census, Hugh and Maggie Aston were still listed as neighbors of G. W. & Mary E. Gillum - plus Jeff & Mamie Masten, J.B. & Minnie Sluder – and others that we know were living in the heart of Lois. Furthermore, Hugh's occupation is now listed in the 1910 census as "Grocer". In addition, Norman Newton reports in the Valley View cemetery listing that Hugh L. Aston "*at one point operated a country store not far from Valley View*". Therefore, Hugh L. Aston was certainly the owner of the Lois Store in 1910!

The following were the owners of the Lois Store – and the approximate dates,

<p><i>Hugh L. & Margaret Aston: Established the store in 1900-02; Margaret died 1916</i> <i>Isham & Fannie Mikeal: Purchased around 1916; Fannie died in 1928</i> <i>James J. & Beulah Lockhart: Purchased around 1928</i> <i>Joe & Lou Springer: Purchased early 1930s</i> <i>Edd & Dora Pharr: Purchased 1942-43</i> <i>Rob & Flora Wilson: Estimated purchase 1947- 48</i></p>

- **Hugh L. & Margaret Aston:** Hugh L. Aston was born in Alabama in 1839, and his family moved to Texas in 1857-60 (see "*Aston Family*"). Hugh served in the Texas Confederate Army. Margaret K. "Maggie" Sanders was born in Mississippi in 1848; her family moved to Grayson County, Texas in 1855. Hugh and Maggie married in 1866 in Collin County where they lived at the time of the 1880 census. They moved to Lois in 1893 where Hugh farmed, ran a saw mill, and eventually opened the Lois store. They were living in the heart of Lois at the time of the 1900 and 1910 censuses.

Hugh and Maggie Aston raised six children. Maggie died in 1916, and Hugh sold the store around that time. By 1920, Hugh (widower) was living with his daughter in Throckmorton, Texas. He died in 1930 at the age of 90. Both Hugh and Maggie are buried in Valley View.

Hugh Aston was a member of the Methodist Church, so he was also likely involved in the formation of the Methodist church (see “*Methodist Church*”) – located immediately across the road from the Lois Store. In addition, Hugh and Margaret’s son, William Edward Aston was the first owner of the Lois Cotton Gin (see “*Lois Cotton Gin*”).

- **Isham & Fannie Mikeal:** In the 1920 Cooke County Census (precinct 6), Isham Mikeal (age 65) and his wife Fannie (age 61) are the next entries in the census list immediately following Jeff and Mamie Masten, so the Mikeal family was clearly living in the heart of Lois. Furthermore, Isham’s occupation is listed as “merchant, grocery store”, therefore the Mikeal’s were indeed the owners of the Lois Store in 1920.

Isham Mikeal is reported to have been born in North Carolina in July, 1854, and Frances “Fannie” (Montgomery) is reported to have been born in Texas in February, 1859. The Montgomery family lived in the Mt. Springs community (eastern Cooke County mid-way between Valley View and Tioga) as early as 1870; and Isham Mikeal had come to the same area by 1880 – where he probably lived with his sister. Isham & Fannie married in 1882, and they continued to live in the Mt. Springs area in both 1900 and 1910 - before purchasing the Lois Store prior to 1920. They had eight children and Isham worked as a farmer prior to buying the Lois Store. They apparently sold the store no later than 1928 since Fannie died in December, 1928 in Henderson County. In 1930, Isham (age 75) was living with a son in Henderson County, and he is reported to have died in October, 1936. Fannie Mikeal was a great-aunt of Betty Carson. The following photograph of the Mikeals was taken in 1913 at a family reunion.



Isham and Frances (Fannie) Mikeal

- **James J. & Beulah Lockhart:** According to the 1930 Census, James J. Lockhart (age 64) and his wife Beulah (age 54) are listed as a “dry goods merchant” – they explicitly did *not* live on a farm, and they owned their home

(valued at \$4,000 – probably includes the value of the store). The Lockharts are listed in the census between T.J. & Mamie Masten and Howard & Lela Springer, so like the Mikeal's in 1920, the Lockhart's clearly lived in the heart of Lois, and we can be confident that they owned the store. Pete Gillum has also confirmed that the Lockhart's were owners of the store – in fact, Pete remembers that the Lockharts installed a door on the store with a “lock” and a “heart” carved into the face.

James Jackson Lockhart was born December 5, 1865 in Macon County, Alabama. He and Beulah married in 1894, and they eventually had seven children. James lived in Plano during the 1880 Census (age 14). By the 1900 Census, he and Beulah lived in Precinct 6, Cooke County; however in 1910, they lived on their own farm in Concho County, Texas. By 1920, the Lockharts had moved to Sanger where his occupation was listed as, “sold groceries”. As noted above, James J. Lockhart purchased the store from the Mikeals sometime in the late 1920s. The Lockhart's owned the store until Joe Springer. James J. Lockhart died in Collin County December 13, 1931 at age 66.

- **Joe & Lou Springer:** The earliest owners of the Lois Store that most of us remember were Joe & Lou Springer (see “*Springer Family*”). Joseph (Joe) Thomas Springer, born in Guntown, Mississippi, was a half brother to Howard, Arch, John, and Mabel (Maughan) – all of which lived in Lois at some time. (There were other Springer brothers, sisters, and half brothers living in Terrell, Texas who never moved to Lois.) We don't know exactly when Joe and Lou moved to Lois, but it was in the early 1930s. (At the time of the 1930 Census, they were still living in Kaufman, Texas.) When they bought the store, Joe asked his sister, Mabel to come with them from Terrell and help run the store & keep books. Mabel had just graduated from Tyler Commercial College. They served meals at the store for the cotton gin employees and the local farmers. (Mabel met Carl Maughan at the store; later they married in December, 1933.)



Joe and Lou Springer raised two boys (Raymond Milton Norman and Fred Ray Springer) but, neither was ever legally adopted. Fred Ray was left as a baby on their doorstep – since they didn't know the mother or father, they just assumed the name “Springer”.

The Springer's owned the store for more than 10 years. When they sold the store, they bought a farm in the northern part of Denton County, north of Sanger on the Lois road.

- **Edd & Dora Pharr:** We also don't know exactly when Joe and Lou Springer sold the store. During the 1930 Census, Roy E. (age 24) and Dora Ethel (age 21) Pharr – along with their daughter, Verna Ruth – were renting a farm in Precinct 6 (although probably in the Era direction). Edd's father, William A. Pharr (age 62) was living with Edd and Dora. Later during the time while the Springer's owned the store, the Pharr's moved to one of the houses on the Howard Springer farm. Edd and Dora Pharr then bought the store from Joe Springer, probably about 1942-43. Edd and Dora's daughter, Verna Ruth, married Clifton Spindle (in the Lois Baptist Church) on November 16, 1940. (Verna Ruth remembers that her parents purchased the store after she and Clifton married.)



Edd & Dora Ethel Pharr

Royal Edgar Pharr – who always went by “Roy Edd” - was born in Brinker, Texas on May 21, 1905. In 1920, he lived in Sulphur Springs, Texas (age 14). Dora Ethel Alford was born July 31, 1908 (in Kentucky). Edd died February 27, 1959 and Dora died April 17, 1978; they are buried in Valley View.

- **Rob & Flora Wilson:** Robert and Flora Wilson lived in the J.B. Masten homeplace in the mid-1940s. While they were living there, the house burned – probably about 1947 or 1948. We don't know if they bought the Lois Store from Edd Pharr at that time, or if it was later. Nevertheless they were the next – *and last* – owners of the Lois Store. Flora (Sharp) was my Aunt Rosa Masten's step-

sister; perhaps that's why my mother suggested I call the Wilsons *Uncle Rob* and *Aunt Flora* when they bought the store and moved to Lois. Or perhaps it was just a custom?

At the time of the 1930 Census, Robert (age 39) and Flora (age 35) lived in Washington township, Love County, Oklahoma. Rob's occupation was listed as farmer. Their children were: Homer (15), Ethel (12), Sibel (9), Patsy (7), Willie (2), and Helen (10 months). (Patsy was later killed at age 16 in an automobile accident. Willie is "Willie Jim", which we

remember. Another daughter, Edith, was born in 1932 – after the 1930 Census.) Both Rob and Flora were born in Texas.



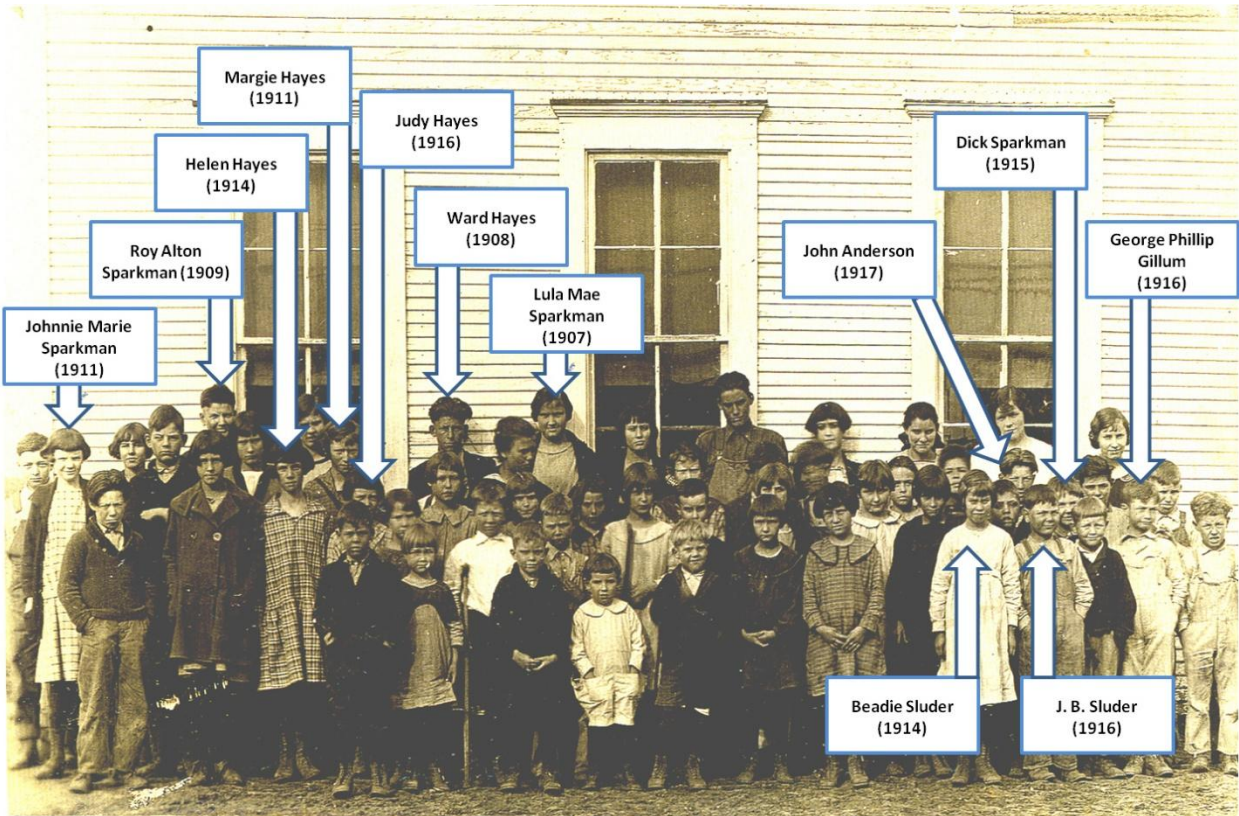
Another Business: Although many of us remember the Lois Store, W.B. Hudspeth reported that at one time his father, Jeff Hudspeth, also operated a Hamburger joint next to the Methodist Church across from the gin. (Jeff married Willie Aston, the daughter of Edward Aston, who once owned the gin.)

LOIS SCHOOL

We don't know exactly when the Lois School began. However, my father and all of his siblings attended the Lois school. His older brother, my Uncle George Masten, completed ten years at the school; assuming he began when he was six years old, then he started school in 1906. Therefore, we may assume the school was in existence by the early 1900s – about the same time as the Lois Store.

The Lois School offered education for Grades 1 through 10.

First Lois School: The *first* Lois School was located about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south of the Lois Store on the west side of the road across from the Baptist church. Pete Gillum recalls that the land was "low" and frequently quite muddy. Troy Miller Jr. reported that his mother, Edna, began her attendance at this first school in late 1913 – and she probably completed her schooling in the "new" school.



***First Lois School circa 1921-22
 Definite Identification Sparkman children - all others "guesses"
 Birth Years in Parenthesis***

Some suggest the above photo may have been made across the road at the Baptist Church – the windows certainly resemble those in the church. Of course, the school could have had the same type windows. Note the shoes of the children; they were pretty rugged – perhaps to better deal with the muddy terrain. The above photo was made before the fall, 1924 - the date when the Sparkman family moved to the Wolf Ridge community near Gainesville.

Second Lois School: Pete Gillum, born February 9, 1920, attended the first Lois School when he was 5 years old (1925); he went to the “new” school the next year. Therefore, the second Lois School – the one most of us remember - must have opened in the fall, 1926.

The second Lois School was built by the families within the community. It was located in the field on the SE corner of the cross-roads that marks the center of Lois. (The building was a pier and beam structure with wooden floors – the outer perimeter of the foundation was made of concrete, and you can still today see the concrete perimeter in satellite photos.) When I was growing up, the land for the school was owned by Howard Springer – but there had been prior owners before the Springers moved to the community. At the time of construction, the land was probably owned by Pete or Phillip Miller.



The Second Lois School

The building faced west and had double doors, but most of the time only one door was used. There were basically three rooms – probably used in different ways throughout the years depending upon the mix of students. The front doors opened into a short hall. Off to the right (south), there was a classroom which in the mid-1930s was used for the smaller students, e.g. grades 1 to 5. The teacher’s desk was immediately inside the room – facing south (with the teacher’s back to the classroom door). The First Grade students sat in the first row on the west side of the room; the Second Grade students sat in the second row, etc.

Off to the left (north) from the main hallway was another room used as the “manual” room some years – a room where students could do manual woodworking projects. This may have also been used as the lunchroom where the students ate lunches they brought from home.

The door straight ahead from the hallway opened into a larger room that occupied the entire width (along the east side) of the building. This room was used for classes for the larger children. The room also had an elevated platform/stage at the south end of the room – used for various “performances”.

There was a water fountain outside in front of the building. The water was piped over from the Gillum house across the road. There was also a flag pole ... each day before

classes began, the students went outside for flag-raising and for the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Outside toilets were provided for both the boys and girls.

There was also a barn located northeast of the school building. Some of my cousins - the daughters of Edward L. Sluder - came to school in a horse & buggy; during inclement weather, the horse stayed in the barn. Bobby Hobbs (son of Charley and Thelma) rode a Shetland pony which was also kept in the barn.

Teachers: Throughout parts of the school's history there were two teachers – perhaps there were two teachers for most of its history? We don't know who the teachers were when my father and his siblings were in school. However, we've noted that the 1900 Census listing for the Daniel J. Wilson family included his daughter, *Alma Wilson* (age 23), who was a "school teacher". Due to the location of the Wilson home, I assume Alma taught in Era, but it's certainly possible that she was at the Lois School? Also in the 1900 Census, there is a Lafayette & Annie Stansbury family living in the heart of Lois (near the G.W. Gillum family). One of their daughters, *Ella L. Stansbury*, was single age 23, listed as "school teacher". Thus Ella Stansbury must certainly have been one of the teachers.

In the 1920 Census, there is a *Rodie K. Robertson*, age 26, single "school teacher" listed near other Lois residents – perhaps Rodie was one of the teachers in 1920? The Era, Texas Centennial book reports that *Laconia Colwell* taught in the Lois School – prior to 1929, when she married Rich Kirby.

Pete Gillum reported that Sol Carpenter and his wife were probably Lois teachers in the late 1920s, early 1930s. "Brother" Sol Carpenter was pastor at the Lois Baptist Church from 1929-1933 – and he and his wife also taught at the Lois school at least part of that time.

My cousins remember the later teachers. By 1930 – when my oldest cousin started school – *Miss Ruby Moore* was teaching the elementary classes. In the 1930 Census, Miss Ruby is listed as age 23 employed as "school teacher" (see "*Richard Moore*"). Her parents were Richard & Jessie Moore; another of my cousins reports that the Moore family lived in one of the Wells houses north of Lois - this house burned sometime after 1934.

The teacher that's most remembered by my cousins – and by me - as well as several others from both Lois and Valley View is *Miss Eula Stinson*. In the 1930 census, Miss Eula, age 19, was living in Lois with her parents, William & Sallie Stinson (see "*William Stinson*"). Later that fall – just short of 20 years old - she began her teaching career in Dexter, Texas (north of Callisburg). Four years later, in June, 1934, a news item from Dexter in the *Gainesville Daily Register* reported,

DEXTER June 6, 1934: Miss MARIE COLLUM entertained some young people at her home with a social to honor Miss EULA STINSON, who has been a teacher here for the past four years and now leaving for her home at Lois.

Thus, after Miss Eula began her career in Dexter, she moved to the Lois School in the fall, 1934. She probably served initially as the Jr. Teacher while Miss Ruby – who was four years older - was the Sr. Teacher.

In 1935-36, Miss Ruby left the Lois school, so Miss Eula was the only teacher for the rest of the time the school was in operation. (Perhaps Miss Ruby left Lois when her parent's home burned?)

We believe my grandfather, T.J. Masten, served on the School Board for the Lois School, as well as the committee responsible for conducting elections in the community – which were held in the school building. One of our family stories is that – as School Board member – he was concerned about hiring Miss Eula as a teacher, since she was quite young, inexperienced, and single at the time. Since her parents lived in Lois, I assume her first choice (in 1930) would have been to teach in Lois – thus I expect my grandfather's concerns may have been only in 1930, but by 1934, with four years experience (in Dexter), the Lois school then offered her employment. We all know that Miss Eula became a highly respected teacher – both in Lois and later in the Valley View School District.



***Miss Eula B. Stinson
(3/6/1911 - 12/15/1982 Buried in Sanger, TX)***

The Lois School closed after the spring semester, 1938. Valley View had just completed construction of a new school, and several of the smaller schools in the

district were consolidated into Valley View. Although my cousin (Georgia Masten Shoemaker) and her family had moved to Callisburg in early 1938, Miss Eula nevertheless asked her to come back to Lois and participate in the “closing ceremony”. Georgia gladly accepted the invitation and sang a song as part of the ceremony; it was a sad occasion to see the school closed where so many of our family had attended.

Beginning in the fall, 1938, Miss Eula Stinson also moved to Callisburg where she taught for one year. The next year, 1939, she moved to the new Valley View School, where she taught the first grade for several more years. Miss Eula meant a lot to my family; as it turned out, she moved between schools about the same time that my cousins moved around within the county. As a result, Miss Eula was the first grade teacher for me and seven of my cousins – either in Lois, Callisburg, or Valley View! (Miss Eula left the Valley View School in 1948. I don’t know where she moved, but in 1968, she was teaching in Palmer, Texas – south of Dallas.)

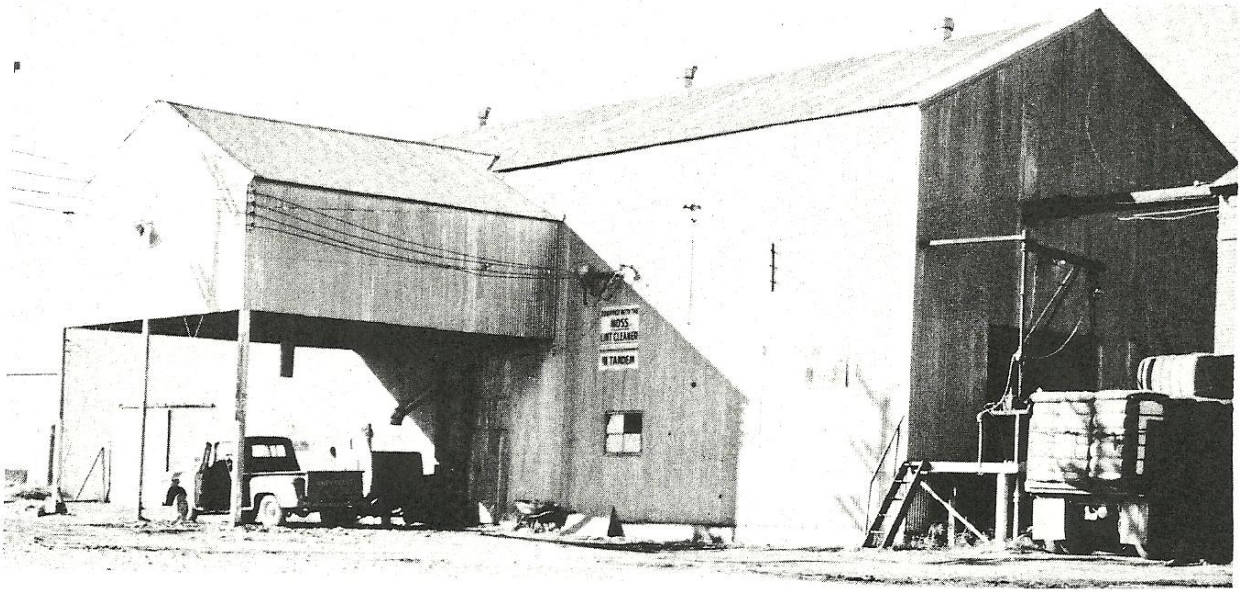
My cousins report that the Lois School building was not torn down, but was moved to the new Valley View School complex. They report that the building was refurbished to become the Home Economics building – located on the west side of the new Valley View School. However, the *Valley View Centennial Book* reports that the Elm Grove School was the one which was moved to become the Home Economics building. I believe both schools were similar, thus the confusion is not surprising.

After the Lois School closed, the land on which the building had been located reverted back to Howard & Lela Springer.

Other Community Schools: There were also other schools located near the Lois community (*see map on front cover*). The *Bermuda School* was about three miles NW from the Lois School; it consolidated into the Era School District in October, 1936. The *Elm Grove School* was about four miles SE of Lois; it consolidated into the Valley View School district - probably in 1938 when the new Valley View School was built. The *New Liberty* and the *Goodview* schools were located across the county line in Denton County.

LOIS GIN

Just like the School, no one knows exactly when the Lois Cotton Gin was built. I believe that my Grandfather, T.J. Masten, gave – or sold – part of his farm for building (or expanding) the gin.

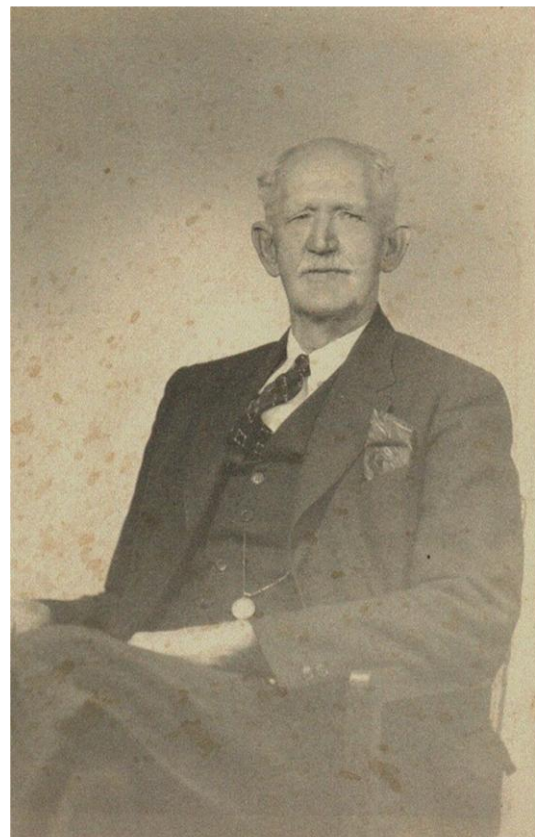


The Lois Cotton Gin – 1960s

Edward “Mr. Ed” Aston:

Although the date is unknown, we nevertheless know that William Edward Aston (1869-1953) built the first Lois Cotton gin (see “*Aston Family*”). He was the son of Hugh L. Aston, who was the first owner of the Lois Store (see “*Lois Store*”). Mr. Ed – as he was called – was born near Van Alstyne in Collin County; he was a farmer who also loved machinery and spent most of his life with some sort of equipment (cotton gins, threshing machines, flour mills). In 1900, he built his first cotton gin in Valley View, the most modern of its kind in Valley View. After selling the gin, in 1916 he built an even more efficient eight-stand gin with a capacity of eighty bales in twelve hours – perhaps this was the Lois Gin?

Although we don’t know when Mr. Ed built the first Lois Gin, at some point in time, it burned and he had to build a replacement. It is believed that the Lois Gin was Aston’s last association with cotton gins.



William Edward “Mr. Ed” Aston

Charles F. and Clarence Dickeson: Charles F. Dickeson moved his family from Crowley, Texas to Valley View in 1932. Sometime later, he bought the Lois Gin from Ed Aston. In 1942, Charles' son, Clarence Dickeson, also moved his family to Valley View and joined his father in the family business. They continued as business partners in the gin and cotton buying & selling until the elder Dickeson passed away in June, 1957. At some point, the son purchased the gin from his father.

Charles F. Dickeson was born in Mississippi in 1870; in 1900, he and his new wife Sarah Ida (born 1876) were living on a farm in Johnson County. They were still in Johnson County in 1910 – along with sons: Clarence, age 9 and Wilbourn, age 4. Charles & Sarah remained in Johnson County, until 1930, when they moved to Valley View. Sarah died in 1955, and Charles passed away in 1957 – they are both buried in Valley View.

Charles & Sarah's son, Clarence Burson "C.B." Dickeson was born in Johnson County on February 2, 1901. He married Ollie Stevens who was born 1897. They raised one daughter, Lois Nell. After Ollie died in 1955, Clarence married Mildred McLarry of Fort Worth. C.B. Dickeson died December 7, 1987; he and Ollie are both buried in Valley View.



C.B. Dickeson

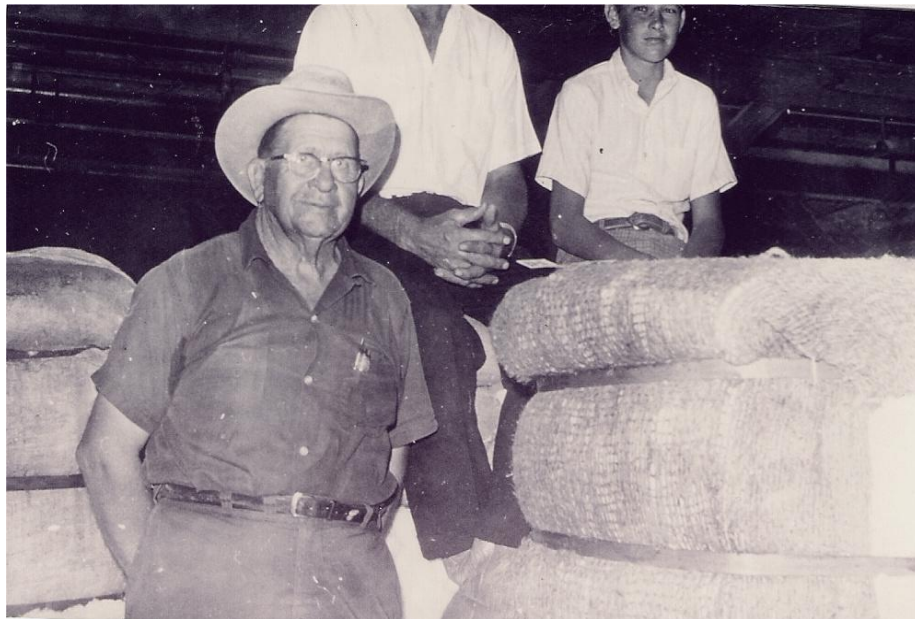
In addition to owning the cotton gin, Clarence "C.B." Dickeson also farmed the Hudspeth land in Lois for ten years; he also bought grain for the Burriss Milling Company in Fort Worth. In 1946, he purchased his first grain elevator in Valley View; in 1963, he bought a second grain elevator. Some of us remember the summer of 1953, when so much wheat was harvested that the elevators couldn't hold it – so wheat was piled on the ground as high as a house on the Valley View town square.

The gin was originally just one large building that contained the steam engine (to power the gin machinery), the "suction" (that picked up the farmer's cotton from his wagon and transferred it to the gin mechanism), the "saws" (that separated cotton fiber from the hulls and cotton seeds), the "compress" (that compressed the separated cotton fiber into "bales of cotton"), and other related equipment. Each farmer brought his "raw" cotton picked from his field to the gin, sold his bale of cotton, and returned home with his cotton seed. Sometime in the 1930's a "seed house" was built into which the seed could be transferred and stored (for later sale or to return to the farmer). This enabled the farmers to delay dealing with the seeds so it greatly simplified the overall cotton-picking process for the farmers at harvest time, which was particularly time-critical.

Cotton ginning season was a very busy time for farmers and for those who worked at the gin. It was not uncommon for the farmers to hire seasonal workers to “pick cotton”. For example, my Grandfather frequently made arrangements to move some African American families from Oklahoma to his farm for this work. They lived in Granddad’s dirt floored grainery and cooked their food on campfires outside beside the grainery. Other farmers made similar arrangements with other temporary workers.

Over the years, several of my relatives worked at the Lois gin – including my father and his brother, George. Others that I remember working there included: Carl Maughan, Herb Hobbs, David Hobbs, Yuton Harris, and Buck Collins.

The original power source for the gin was a steam engine, powered by burning coal. I remember seeing the burner glowing bright orange – especially at night when it was often necessary to operate into the night hours during the rush of the season. I don’t know when the steam engine was replaced with an internal combustion engine, but I remember that there was a major renovation and expansion of the gin – with a new diesel engine – in the late 1950s. My father worked very closely with C.B. Dickeson during the renovation. The last owner up until when the gin finally ceased operations was R.L. Massey from Pilot Point. My father served as manager for several years – for both Dickeson and Massey, even after we moved to Denton in the mid-1960s.



Lois Gin – Raleigh Masten, Manager with Cotton Bales (early 1970s)

A small house stood between the Lois Store and the Cotton Gin. (I assume the house was part of the gin property and rented to the resident. Perhaps the resident always worked at the gin.) Over the years, numerous families lived in the house including Herb & Beulah Hobbs (who lived there on several separate occasions), George & Rosa

Masten, Weldon & Leta Hobbs, and Lester (Buck) & Nell Collins. Today, the Brad Jackson family lives at that location in one of the newest homes in Lois.

LOIS CHURCHES

Methodist Church: The Lois Methodist Church was located directly across the road from the Lois Store on the SW corner of a farm owned by Jasper Wells. The church was founded by G.W. Gillum in 1911. As noted earlier, the Aston family was most likely among the earliest members. It was a one-room building with an elevated pulpit area at the front of the room. Individual Sunday School classes were set up by using hanging curtains to divide the large room into smaller units. No doubt, this was a noisy environment when multiple classes were underway. No air-conditioning in the summer, but there was a large wood-burning stove for the winter.

One of my cousins reports that my grandmother, Mamie Masten, was “secretary” for the church for some period of time; we have an *Attendance Register* from 1921-22 that was kept by our grandmother. The register contains several familiar Lois family names listed as the Lois Missionary Society (1921),

Mamie Masten	Edna Miller	Mae Aughtry	Sallie Stinson
Jennie Habern	Della Masten	Fannie Masten	Nola Stinson
Mrs.Lou (Habern) Martin			

The register also contains a list of church services with names of the preacher, sermon text & title, attendance, contribution, etc. for the six months June, 1921 to January, 1922. The preachers listed during this period were: J.E. Aughtry, A.C. Habern, and W.H. Stinson – each of which preached on more than one occasion. A.C. Wobern was listed as speaker for only one service. We recognize Aughtry, Habern, and Stinson as Lois residents. Wobern was possibly a “circuit rider” preacher who circulated among the various churches from Sunday to Sunday – the Lois residents filled in when there was no circuit rider.

Note: My Aunt Della - the daughter of Mamie Masten - later used the blank pages of the *Attendance Register* as a recipe book. It’s interesting to read these old recipes – that list ingredients and how to mix them, but there’s NO description of the *cooking temperature* or the required *time to cook*. Wood or kerosene stoves had no temperature control – you simply fired it up and cooked as long as necessary! These old time cooks knew how to tell when something was ready. *Did you ever see your mother stick a toothpick into a baking cake to determine when it’s “done”?*

The Lois Methodist church closed in 1941; the building was sold and the proceeds were given to the Valley View Methodist church. The building was moved to the farm owned by Bill Davis (and later by Lawrence Miller) where it was used as a workshop / barn. It

was used for many years, but last year a wind storm blew off the top. David Miller reports that the inside still looked like a church – a fairly large building without any interior walls.

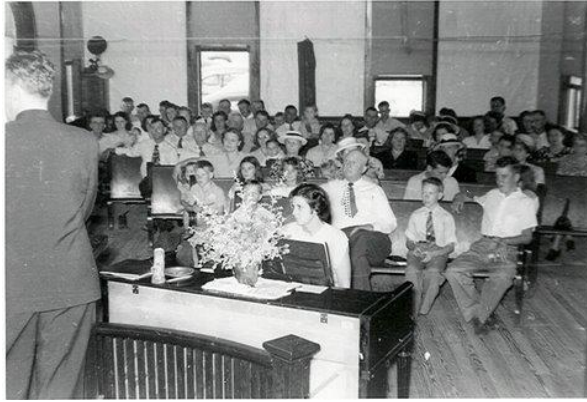
Baptist Church: The Lois Baptist Church was about a mile south of the Lois Store, on the NW corner of another farm owned by Jasper Wells. It was founded in 1913 by Phillip Miller. In the 1930s, attendance was around 135 each Sunday – later in the 1950s attendance was 80-90.



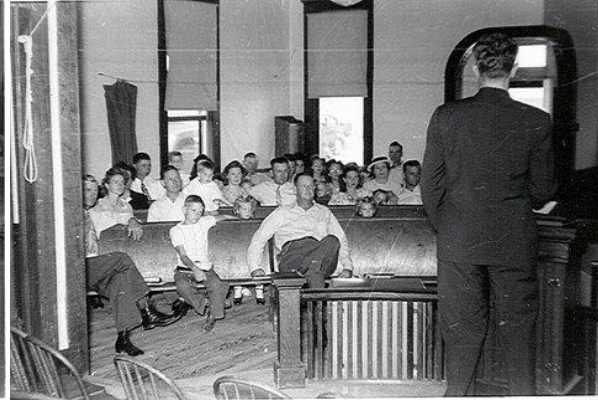
Lois Baptist Church

The Lois Baptist Church was the site of many events – including where,

- Alma Vann married Bill Knight in 1919
- Verna Ruth Pharr married Clifton Spindle in 1940
- Raima Jo Davison and Dudley Sparkman married in 1966
- Linda Carol Gillum married Dan Schafer in September, 1966
- Susan Ann Gillum married Marion B. Morrison in February, 1973
- Janie Elaine Gillum married Jerry L. Neighbors in June, 1973
- Pete & Louise Gillum celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1990.



**Joe Springer (front row, white shirt with tie)
Anne Jo (Browning)Chisam (piano)
J.W. Gillum last row at left**



Note curtains & cables used to separate into individual classrooms

I remember being in the building during the summers for Vacation Bible School, and on several occasions for Christmas Programs. I remember one Christmas in particular when we went to the building for the program – when we got home, we discovered that Santa Claus had left a Shetland Pony, completely outfitted with saddle and bridle, tied up for me at our garage! When I was a bit older, I remember playing *Jingle Bells* on the piano for the Christmas program. The highlight of the Christmas Program was always when Santa made his appearance.



**TEACHERS: Lela Springer, Louise Gillum, Berniece Blair, & Mildred Gillum
GIRLS: Front Row - Elaine Tipps, Annette Spindle, Mary Sue Maughan, Linda Carol Gillum Second Row - Sue Spindle, Barbara Tipps, Charlotte Blair(?)**



TEACHERS: Left - Louise Gillum, Mildred Gillum, Lela Springer Back Left – Lou Springer Back Right – Nora Gillum & perhaps Mabel Maughan (turned head talking to Nora) Right (near cars) - Helen Springer & Annie Jo Chisam.

One of the provisions whereby the Wells family provided the land for the Baptist Church was that if the church ceased, then the land would go back to the Wells family. In the 1970s, the Church purchased the property from Alonzo Jameson, heir of the Wells property, so that the church had clear title. The cost was \$3,500.

The Lois Church building functioned as a church up until fairly recently when it disbanded since there were only a few members left in attendance. The building has now been converted into a private residence.

POOLE TOWN

At one time, there was another community in the Lois area – named “Poole Town”. This community was located a few miles SE of the Lois school – north of the Schmidt & Hassenpflug properties. Poole town consisted of several houses, all of which were probably owned by Bruce Poole – thus the name “Poole Town”. There were no commercial businesses or churches in the community, and the children all attended the Lois School.

Cebern Bruce Poole was born in North Carolina on June 3, 1867 (or perhaps 1869).

- In the 1880 census, Bruce was listed as 11 years old living in Taylorsville, Alexander County, NC, with his 45-year old widowed mother *Ava Celena Poole* (born March 16, 1834). Celena was working in a factory.
- By 1900, Bruce, age 30 and single, had moved to Precinct 6, Cooke County, probably to the location which was – or later became – Poole Town. He owned his farm “free & clear”. His widowed mother, age 66, had also moved from North Carolina and was living with Bruce. The census reports that Celena had given birth to 3 children – all of which were living. Since Bruce was the only child listed in the earlier 1880 census and since Celena was already a widow at that time, Bruce must have been the youngest child.
- In 1910, Bruce, still single, and his mother were still listed in the Lois area.
- Celena died March 16, 1924, and she is buried in Valley View. Bruce died March 1, 1939; he is buried next to his mother. He probably never married.

Pete Gillum reports that Bruce Poole owned lands east and southwest of Lois - in addition to the 300 acres where Poole Town was located. Bruce was “well off” but no one could tell by looking. He didn’t believe in banks so he kept his money hidden or carried around in a tow sack (burlap bag). Bruce once wanted to purchase a new thrashing machine, but none was available like he wanted in Gainesville – so he *walked* to Dallas. Seems the first place he went wouldn’t talk to him – because he didn’t appear to be someone who could afford a thrasher. However, Schad & Pulte from Gainesville had called ahead to the next place he shopped and told them that Poole could definitely afford a thrasher! After paying cash – from his tow sack – he had but one condition for the sale: that he be allowed to ride with it on the train back to Valley View.

Pete also tells the story about when his father purchased a wood burning stove from Bruce Poole. The next day, Bruce – literally in tears - showed up at J.W. Gillum’s place

to explain that he had left something in the ashes of the stove. J.W. reached into his pocket and pulled out a \$10 bill, to which Bruce shouted, "That's it, that's it!"

One of the families who lived in Poole Town was John & Ella McDaniel (with children, Elvis, Merle, & Opal). Ella McDaniel was the sister of Edd Pharr - this was the connection which prompted Edd Pharr to move to Cooke County from Pickton, Texas some years before he eventually owned the Lois Store.

LOIS RESIDENTS

Much of the Lois story is revealed from the histories of the people who lived in the community – and there are indeed some interesting stories! Of course, most of the early residents were farmers, so they endured the hardships that are associated with living off of the land. Some of the families were children of relatively recent immigrants – or in some cases, they were themselves immigrants. There were good times (school days, marriages, births) as well as sad occasions (untimely deaths, funerals). Some of our neighbors had grown up as orphans – and some eventually acquired sizable properties. Indeed, these were good – hard working – religious - people who contributed to both the Lois community and to the welfare of each other.

Since there are no "city limits" to mark the boundaries of Lois, it's difficult to identify exactly who lived within the community. Nevertheless, the United States Census which identifies residents at specific time intervals provides a good starting point. The Lois community is located in "*Part of Precinct 6 - Cooke County*". This part of the precinct also includes Era and the Elm Grove community (south of Valley View), so further work is required to separate the Lois residents from these other communities. (Another "*Part of Precinct 6*" covered Valley View and its immediate surroundings.)

1930 Census: However, we are extremely fortunate. The censuses for the Valley View portion of Precinct 6 specifically indicate the location was "Valley View" - so there's no confusion between Valley View and Lois. Furthermore, the 1930 Census enumerator for the "*Part of Precinct 6*" that covered Lois was *Columbus C. Eastin*, a cattle farmer (and later a truck driver) who lived on Flat Creek Road – near Era. Unlike most enumerators, Columbus Eastin also identified the *road names* on which residents lived in the margins of the census pages – what a great help! Although you may not recognize every name on every road, there is at least one family on each road in the Lois community which we recognize – and whose home location we remember. Therefore we can confidently identify which roads belonged in the Lois community. Thank you, Columbus!

Since Columbus Eastin has left such a valuable record, the 1930 Census becomes our primary focus to identify Lois residents. The 1930 Census for the "*Part of Precinct 6*" that covers Lois contains 33 pages – and nine pages contain recognizable Lois roads. In total, there are 80 families on the Lois roads. (*Some of the families may have*

actually lived closer to Era or Elm Grove than to Lois, but all of the families are nevertheless located on roads that are part of Lois.)

The Lois roads identified by Columbus Eastin in the 1930 Census – and the names of the residents on those roads - are listed below.

BOLIVAR – ERA ROAD: (Census pages 13-14)

Toney & Rachel Miller
Andrew J. & Effie Morrow
Jesse E. & Mary Masten
Charles E. & Grace Bentley
Clinton & Lou Ella Masten
Celia Masten (widow of John B. Masten)
Dupree & Leona Clampitt
John R. & Malinda Lambert
Percy E. & Fannie Parker

Walter & Mattie Stephenson
William Piper
Thomas & Callie Hobbs
John Henderson
Jasper B. & Sue Wells
Samuel & Willie Grundy
Bama Grundy (widow of Jack Grundy)
Kirby & Carla Wilder
Willie & Kittie Wade

SANGER – ERA ROAD: (Census pages 16-17)

William & Sudie Bentley
Charlie & Mattie Cockrill
Ted & Ruby Austin

Ermin & Shirley Lambert
Rosy (Rory) & Fannie Pitcock

BERMUDA ROAD: (Census pages 17-18)

Carl & Olga Reiter
John W. & Ada Roberson
James T. Roberson
Virgil & Christine Hudspeth

Louranna Hudspeth (widow of Brac
Hudspeth)
Doyle & Ivy Selby
Johnie & Fannie Masten

BERMUDA – VALLEY VIEW ROAD: (Census page 18)

James J. & Bertha Brown
Daniel & Gladur Griffith
Thomas S. & Murl Stephenson
Frank “Lon” & Mary Stephenson
Willie & Johnnie Vann

Grace & Clara Roberson
Richard & Jessie Moore
Hubert W. & Maud Hudspeth
Walter H. & Lucy E. Hudspeth

LOIS – ERA ROAD: (Census pages 18-19)

Gilbert F. & Pearl Serviss
Isa Hudspeth (widow of Clifford Hudspeth)
Rich & Ethel Gali
Harry & Hattie Norton
Arthur Masten

Edward L. & Myrtle Sluder
Walter P. & Gertie Blankenship
Raymond & Lillian Malone
Willie & Alma Blankenship

LOIS – DUCK CREEK ROAD: (Census pages 19-20)

Will & Mae Anderson
James & Mable Kearns
James D. & Minnie Sluder

James H. & Nanny Hobbs
Charles & Thelma Hobbs
Herbert & Beulah Hobbs

Henry & Ada Hamilton

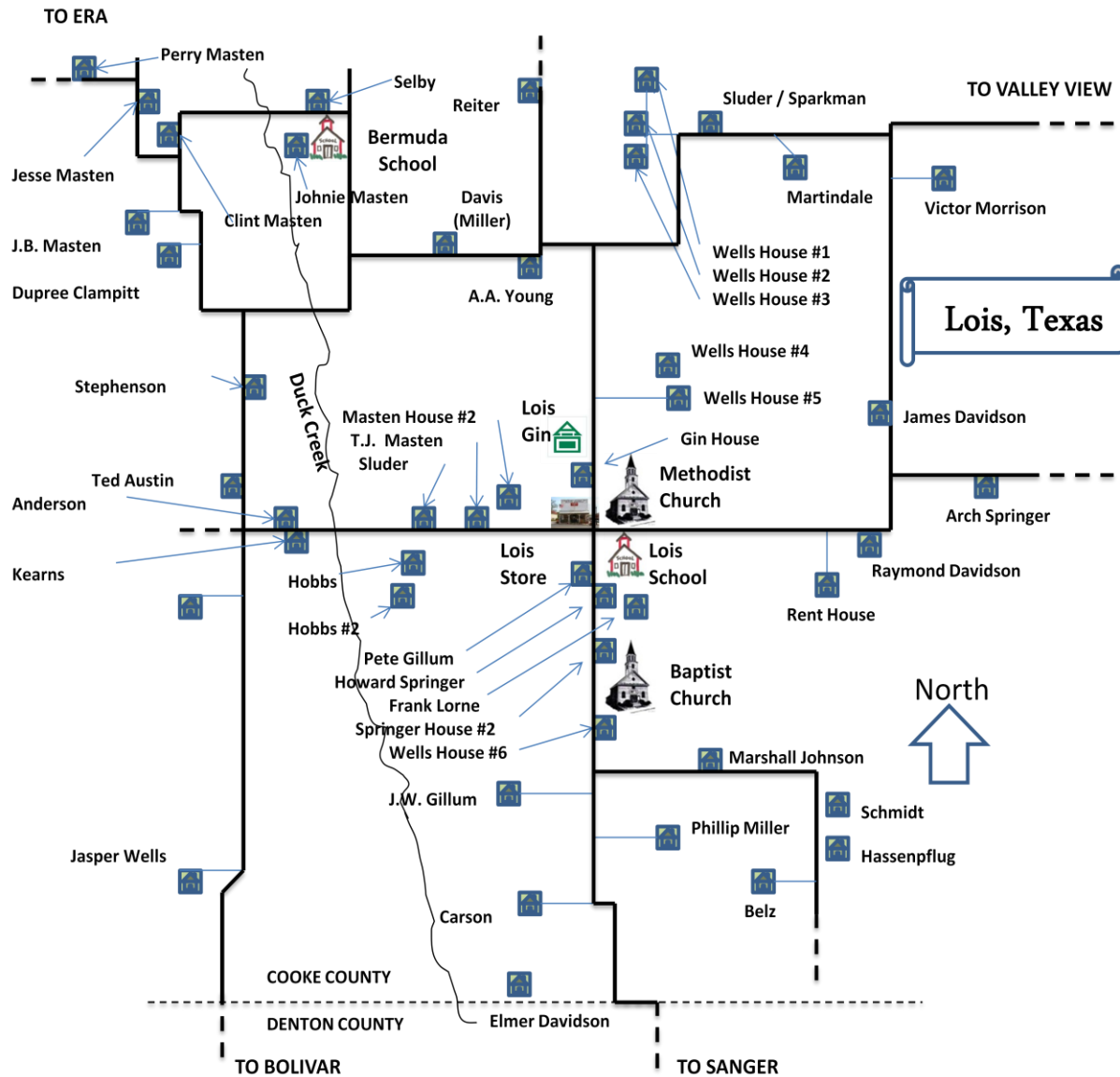
LOIS ROAD: (Census pages 20- 22)

**John N. & Mattie Hayes
Lloyd F. & Della Hayes
Thomas J. "T.J." & Mamie Masten
George & Rosa Masten
James J. & Beulah B. Lockhart (Lois Store)
Howard & Lela Springer
Frank & Sennie Lorne
Jacob B. & Eunice Farrell
Lonnie & Mary Lewis
James & Ida Aughtry
Berry & Mae McDaniel
William H. & Sallie Stinson
Archie & Minnie Howard**

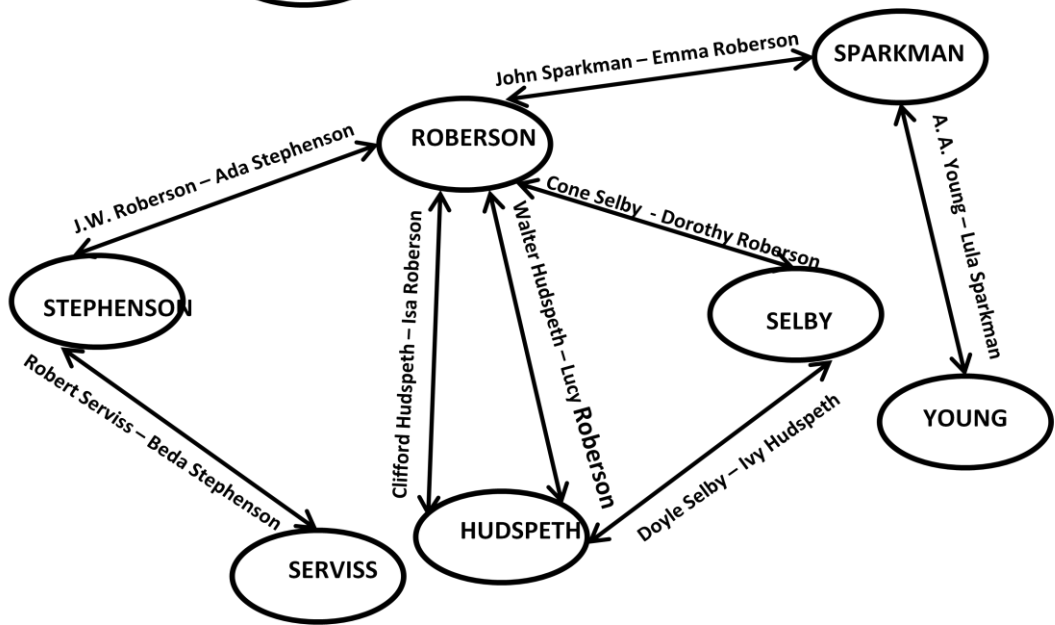
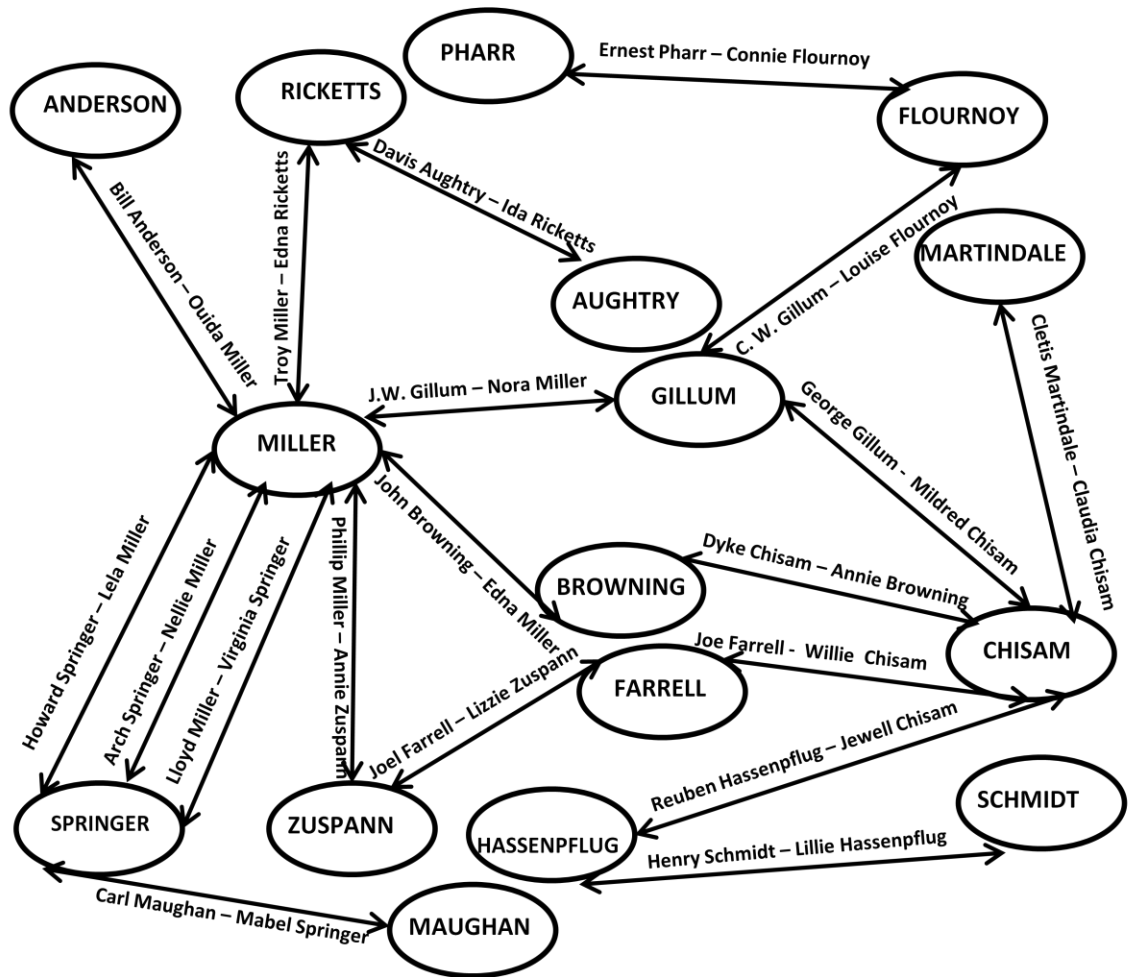
**George W. & Mary E. Gillum
John W. & Nora L. Gillum
James & Clara Cach
Arch & Nellie Springer
James S. & Eva Bagwell
Charles E. & Jetty Bagwell
William J. & Hattie Austin
Marshall & Stella Johnson
Henry L. & Lillie Schmitt
Tilman & Millie Farrell
Loren & Eunaway Masten
Perry & Mittie Masten**

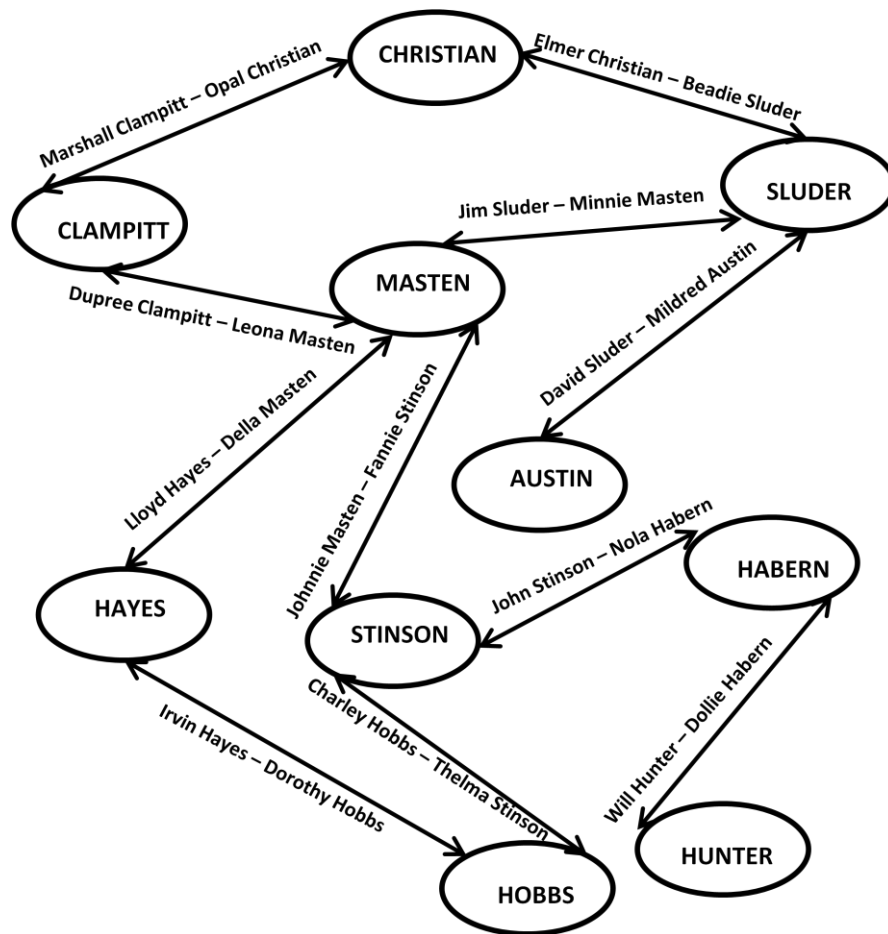
The map on the next page provides the approximate location of some of the Lois residents which I remember. The map doesn't correspond to any specific date - because different families lived in some of the homes at different times. For example, some of the people who owned – or lived - in some of the homes at various times include,

- Wells House #1 – Arthur Masten
- Wells House #2 – R.L. Masten, George Masten
- Wells House #3 – Richard Moore Family
- Wells House #4, #5 – John N. Hayes, Lloyd Hayes, Will Hunter, Weldon Hobbs, Frank Flournoy
- Gin House – George Masten, Herb Hobbs, Weldon Hobbs, Buck Collins
- Lois Store – Hugh Aston, Isham Mikeal, James Lockhart, Joe Springer, Edd Pharr, Robert Wilson
- Howard Springer House – G.W. Gillum, Toney Millier, J.W. Gillum, Pete Miller, Howard Springer
- Pete Gillum House – J.W. Gillum, Phillip Miller, John Browning, George Phillip Gillum, Pete Gillum
- Springer House #2 – Zoe Springer, Johnnie Hayes, Edd Pharr, Carl Maughan
- Wells House #6 – John Springer, Davis Aughtry, Alvin Barthold, Lawrence Miller
- Rent House East of Store – George Masten, Marshall Clampitt, Saunders Family



Marriage Interconnections: Lois was a relatively small rural community, and travel was not as easy as it is today. Furthermore, Lois residents were hard workers with not a lot of leisure time to venture great distances from home. As a result, it's only natural that many of the young people in the community would marry nearby neighbors. It was not unusual for siblings in one family to marry siblings of another Lois family. The following figures illustrates some of these "interconnected" marriages among Lois citizens. These figures obviously don't illustrate all of the interconnections; a complete figure would be too complicated.





Family Histories: Brief biographical sketches follow for each of the 1930 Lois resident families. In addition, there are a few other families – not listed in the 1930 census - who nevertheless were part of the early history of Lois. Some had deceased, some had moved elsewhere, and some had not yet come to the community.

Although the Aston family had left Lois by 1930, this family nevertheless played large roles in the early development of the Lois community - and was probably the most visible among the early residents. So let's begin with the Astons.

ASTON FAMILY

Hugh L. & Margaret Aston: Hugh L. Aston was the first owner of the Lois Store (see “Lois Store”). Hugh L. Aston was born November 18, 1839 in Marion County, Alabama. His father, Samuel W. Aston (1815 - 1879) was born in Tennessee, and his mother, Mary Ann Preston (1822 - ?) was born in Alabama. Hugh and his siblings were born in Alabama, Mississippi, and Cherokee County, Texas - the Aston family moved from Chickasaw County, Mississippi to Cherokee County, Texas between 1857 and 1860. They later moved to Collin County - where both Samuel & Mary Ann are buried.

Hugh enlisted in the Texas Confederate Army (Company I, 10th Cavalry Regiment) September 15, 1861 in Rusk, (Cherokee County) Texas and was in battles on both sides of the Mississippi; he was neither wounded nor captured.

Margaret K. "Maggie" Sanders was born in Mississippi March 11, 1848. Her father, William Sanders was born in South Carolina and her mother June Flin Thompson (? - 1858) was born in Virginia - they moved to Grayson County, Texas in 1855. Both William and Flin died in Texas.

Maggie Sanders and Hugh Aston married January 7, 1866 in Collin County, and they eventually had six children,

*Mary Jane "Jennie" Aston (1866-1964) married John Damron
(see "The 'Lois' Name")*

William Edward Aston (1869-1953) (see "Lois Gin")

Victoria Carlton Aston (1871- ??) married William Young Damron

Minnie D. Aston (1873 - ?) married ___?___ Webster

Elizabeth A. Aston (1877 - ?) married ___?___ Walker

Belva A. Aston (1885 - 1930) married Raymond George McLaughlin

At the time of the 1880 Census, Hugh & Maggie Aston lived in Collin County. They moved to Lois in 1893 where Hugh farmed, ran a saw mill, and established the Lois store. He also served as the second Lois Postmaster (1901-1904). They were living in the heart of Lois at the time of the 1900 and 1910 censuses.

Hugh was a member of the Methodist Church, so the Aston's may have also been influential in the formation of the Methodist church – located immediately across the road from the Lois Store (see "*Methodist Church*").

Maggie Aston died December 17, 1916, and Hugh sold the Lois Store about this time. In 1920, Hugh (widower) was living with his daughter Victoria in Throckmorton, Texas. He died March 14, 1930 at the age of 90. Both Hugh and Maggie are buried in Valley View.

William Edward & Jennie Aston: William Edward "Mr. Ed" Aston built the first Lois Cotton Gin (see "*Lois Cotton Gin*"). He was the first – and only - son of Hugh and Maggie Aston born July 11, 1869 near Van Alstyne in Collin County, Texas.

Jane Frances "Jennie" Pace, also a native of Collin County, was born December 17, 1869, the daughter of David W. and Rebecca (Hampton) Pace.

Edward and Jennie married February 3, 1889 in Collin County. They raised ten children – five sons and five daughters – many remained in the Valley View area,

Eula Mae Aston (November, 1889 – 3/5/1911)

Verna D. Aston (3/22/1892 – 3/25/1968)

Texie Ann Aston (6/27/1894 – 4/19/1981)
Willie Eunice Aston (11/29/1895 – 12/16/1964)
Lona Aston (12/23/1897 – 3/6/1979)
William Edward Aston II (5/15/1901 – 5/13/1958)
Roscoe R. Aston (6/3/1903 – 11/13/1920) died age 17
Ewing Wright “Red” Aston (12/24/1905 – 12/25/1978)
Frances Victoria Aston (12/7/1908 – 7/1/1987)
C. L. “Tex” Aston (5/21/1914 – 3/24/1987)

Eula Mae married James Davis Aughtry (see “*James Davis Aughtry*”) and they lived in Lois until her death at age 21.

Verna married Avice Blanche Cook (1889-1985); their daughter, Bossie Blanch Aston, died at or shortly after birth (1930). They are buried in Fairview Cemetery in Gainesville.

Texie and her husband Owen L. Habern (1893-1960) (see “*A.C. Habern*”) are buried in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Willie married Thomas Jefferson Hudspeth (1898 - 1961) (see “*William Benton Hudspeth*”).

William Edward Aston II married Lucille Selby (1903-2003) (see “*Selby Family*”).

Ewing Wright Aston married Emma Martin Siegmund (1904-1988); their children are Lanora (Aston) Potts and David Aston.

Frances Aston is buried in Chico, California.

C.L. “Tex” Aston married Berndetta “Bernie” ___?___ (1918-2004). They are buried in Chico, California.

Eula Mae, Willie, Lona, William Edward II, Roscoe, and Ewing are all buried in Valley View.

Although William and Jennie married in Collin County (1889), they were living in Cooke County by the time of the 1900 Census. They may have moved to the county in 1893 – the same year when William’s parents arrived. They may have lived in Lois for some time, but they eventually lived in Valley View – for the remainder of their lives. William worked as a cotton ginner, flour mill operator, and farmer. In 1900, he built his first cotton gin in Valley View, the most modern of its kind in Valley View. It is believed that the Lois Gin was Aston’s last association with cotton gins.

Jennie Aston died October 26, 1945, and William died March 31, 1953. They - as well as several of the Aston children - are buried in Valley View.

MASTEN FAMILY

John B. “J.B.” & Celia Masten: John Baxter Masten was born July 2, 1846 in Tennessee. He and his father, Wyle Masten, moved the Masten family from Missouri to Era / Lois in 1884.

Celia Ann Spain was born September 19, 1849 in Dade County, Missouri. Her mother was Martha (Penn) Spain; Celia claimed that they were descendents of the Penn family which founded the state of Pennsylvania.

Celia & J.B. were married May 23, 1869 in Lockwood, Missouri, and she gave birth to 15 children – of which 14 grew to raise their own families. They worked hard and eventually acquired 906-acres of farm-land between Era and Lois. Following the death of J.B. on June 24, 1927, Celia continued to "oversee" the entire Masten lands for 13 more years until her death on April 26, 1940. Following Celia's death, the lands were divided among the children.

J.B. and Celia's fifteen children – several of which lived their entire adult life in the Lois / Era community - were,

Gillar Masten (1870-1951) - who married John Henard
Thomas Jefferson "T.J." Masten (1872-1951) - who married Mamie Neislar
Minnie Masten (1873-1966) - who married Jim Sluder (see "James Sluder")
Viola Mae Masten (1874-1955) - who married Welcome Gower
Lewis Masten (1876-1970) - who married Bertha Holder
Wylie Masten (1877-1963) - who married Laura Jane LeGear
Jesse E. Masten (1878-1966) - who married Mary Elizabeth Brewer
Clinton "Clint" Masten (1880-1966) - who married Lou Ella Wiggs
Perry Masten (1881-1947) - who married Mittie Pearl Wheeler
Monroe Masten(1882-1970) - who married Nannie Steadman
Henry Masten (1884-1941) - who married Claudia Brooks
Arthur Masten (1886-1969) - who married (1) Mary Snell & (2) Norma Chapman
Buddy Masten (1887-1888) - who died less than one year old
Johnie Masten (1889-1931) - who married Fannie Stinson
Leona Masten (1890-1963) - who married J.D. Clampitt (see "Dupree Clampitt")

Gillar & John Henard lived just west of downtown Era and raised five children.

Viola & Welcome Gower lived in New Mexico and raised six children.

Lewis Masten & his wife Bertha Holder lived in Era where he operated a black-smith shop; Bertha died when only 45 years old – nevertheless she bore Lewis eight children.

Monroe Masten & his wife Nancy Steadman lived in Ft. Worth and raised one daughter.

Henry Masten lived in Valley View, Bolivar, and Springtown; he and his wife Claudie Brooks raised one daughter.

The remaining children of J.B. and Celia continued to live in the Lois area – *their stories follow.*

J.B. and Celia Masten are buried in the Era cemetery.

Thomas Jefferson “T.J.” & Mamie Masten: T.J. Masten was born in Dade County, Missouri on January 3, 1872 - the first son of J.B. and Celia Masten. In 1884, he walked - at age 12 - most of the journey to Texas. Mary Virginia “Mamie” (Neisler) Masten, born March 19, 1880, in Statesville, North Carolina, was the daughter of George Locke and Laura Anne Neisler. Their family moved to Texas in 1885 and settled in the Oak Grove community east of Gainesville. Jeff and Mamie were married July 9, 1899, and they lived virtually all of their married life in Lois. They lived in Precinct 6 (Lois area) during each of the 1900 -1930 censuses. In 1902, they bought their 100-acre farm adjacent to the main road intersection that marks the *center* of Lois. He later received 35-acres from his father’s estate. At some point in time, he sold (or granted) 2½ acres to the Lois Cotton Gin – so that he finally owned 132 ½ acres. In celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary in 1924, Jeff and Mamie built a new home which stood until just a few years ago.

Over the years, Jeff farmed a variety of crops, including a number of livestock and a fruit orchard. Mamie had a reputation as an excellent cook. Although they owned automobiles and at least one tractor, none of my cousins remember them ever using a tractor. They had at least two teams of horses, which were used for the farm work. By 1929, they had over 200 acres under cultivation.

Mamie died November 20, 1935 and Jeff died October 12, 1951 – almost 80 years old. They raised three children,

George Baxter Masten (1900-1959)

Raleigh Lee Masten (1902-1976)

Della Virginia Masten (1904-1949) who married Lloyd Hayes (see “Lloyd Hayes”)

All three children grew up in Lois and lived there, as adults, at various times. Raleigh lived the majority of his life in Lois.

Wylie & Laura Jane Masten: Wylie Masten was the third son of J.B. and Celia Masten. He was born September 10, 1877 in Dade County, Missouri – like his older brothers, he walked most of the way to Texas.

Laura Jane “Janie” LeGear was born August 20, 1878 in Hancock County, Tennessee. Wylie & Laura married in 1900-01 and raised four children,

Clarence Franklin Masten (10/3/1901 - 6/1/1982)

Sadie Opal Masten (7/19/1904 – 11/15/1961)

Charlie Lester Masten (7/2/1906 – 6/25/1971)

Charner Vester Masten (7/2/1906 – 4/3/2000)

Opal married Fredrick Jenkins Cowling (3/15/1900 – 10/25/1966). Charlie & Charner were twins. Charner lived most of his adult life in Era.

Wylie & Janie lived in the Lois area immediately after they were married and until at least 1906 when their twin sons were born in Lois. However, by the time of the 1910 census, they were in the Bolivar area and by 1940, they moved to Sanger - where they lived the rest of their lives. Although Wylie received a portion of the J.B. & Celia Masten estate in 1942, he never moved back to Lois to take ownership.

Wylie Masten died May 14, 1963, and Janie passed away July 21, 1966. They are both buried in Sanger – as are Clarence, Opal, & Charlie.

Jesse E. & Mary Masten: Jesse E. Masten was the fourth son of J.B. and Celia Masten. He was born in Dade County, Missouri December 10, 1878.

Mary Elizabeth Brewer was born in Tennessee January 12, 1886; Mary and Jesse married around 1901. They lived on part of the land initially acquired by J.B. Masten – immediately north of the Masten home-place. They had seven children – including twin daughters – of which Thelma died at age 11 of typhoid. Apparently their water well became contaminated and the whole family was quite ill. The family expected that the remaining twin daughter, Zelma, would likewise die - but she lived to age 89!

*Ruby Lee Masten (9/21/1902 – 1/26/1989) who married Edward Boswell
Ples Curtis Masten (6/22/1904 – 12/18/1976)
Alta Mae Masten (11/15/1906 – 2/26/2003) who married Orville Cowling
Thelma B. Masten (10/20/1916 – 7/15/1928) twin who died at age 11
Zelma Masten (10/20/1916 – 4/23/2006) twin who married ___?___ Taylor
J.E. Masten Jr (11/27/1922 – 9/17/2007)
Frank E. Masten (3/24/1928 – 2/6/1997)*

Mary Masten died January 12, 1952, and Jesse passed away January 25, 1966. They are both buried in Era – along with four of their children (Ruby, Ples, Alta Mae, and Thelma).

Clinton “Clint” & Lou Ella Masten: Clint Masten was the 5th son of J.B. and Celia Masten – born March 10, 1880 in Dade County, Missouri. Around 1905, he married Lou Ella Wiggs (1889-1958). They lived on part of the Masten land just northeast of J.B. and Celia’s home-place. They raised four children – three have living descendents,

*Nona Lee Masten (1/31/1908 – 2/19/1996) who married ___?___ Vaughn
Maulcie Marie Masten (12/11/1912 – 6/4/1997) who married ___?___ Hall
Cecil Emeline Masten (6/20/1917 – 9/21/1996)
J.B. Masten (12/16/1918 – 12/26/1986)*

Cecil Masten and John Bundy owned the B&M Grocery store in Valley View in the 1950s.

Lou Ella Masten passed away in 1958 and Clint died March 27, 1966. They – and their son, Cecil – are buried in Era.

Perry & Mittie Masten: Perry Masten, born August 25, 1881 in Dade County, Missouri, was the sixth son of J.B. and Celia Masten. He married Mittie Pearl Wheeler around 1903; she was born in Texas March 20, 1894. They lived on one of the Masten farms located just northwest of the home-place. They raised three children of which two have living descendents,

Loran Gifford Masten (1/12/1906 – 3/3/1985)

Agnes Masten (3/31/1908 – 4/21/2008) who married ___?___ Pearce and ___?___ Watson. She was 100 years old when she died in Louisiana – living with her daughter.

Luttie E. Masten (10/3/1910 – 3/16/1991) who married ___?___ Smith

Loran married and lived in Lois in 1930-40 but later moved to Kansas. The other children did not live significant periods as adults in the Lois area.

Perry Masten died October 15, 1947, and Mittie died December 28, 1975. Although they lived between Lois and Era, they are nevertheless buried in Sanger, Texas.

Arthur Masten: Arthur Masten was the ninth son of J.B. and Celia Masten - their first child to be born in Texas after the family moved from Dade County, Missouri. Arthur was born February 18, 1886, and married Mary Snell. However, by the time of the 1930 Census, the marriage had dissolved.

Arthur later married Norma Chapman and lived on Wells property north of Lois. They eventually moved to Gainesville where they lived the rest of their lives. Arthur and Norma raised one child,

Jerry Ray Masten (9/21/1937) who lives in Parker County

Arthur Masten passed away in August, 1969. He is buried in the Fairview cemetery in Gainesville.

Johnie & Fannie Masten: Johnie Masten was the last son born to J.B. and Celia Masten. Born March 12, 1889, he married Lenora Frances “Fannie” Stinson, also born in 1889 – she lived in an orphanage in Corsicana until she was 8 or 10 years old when she moved to Lois to live with her brother (see “*William H. Stinson*”).

Johnie died in 1931 – before the death of his mother, Celia. Fannie, his widow, nevertheless continued to live on their farm which was part of the original Masten property. Johnie and Fannie had four children,

Johnie Lee Masten (11/7/1913 – 5/26/1960)

Edith Frances Masten (7/18/1915 – 2/5/2005) who married ___?___ French

Anna Florene Masten (9/15/1917 – 10/6/1996) who married ___?___ Howard

Billye Masten (9/28/1922 – 7/7/2009)

Johnie Lee – the son – married Winona Lark and lived between Lois and Valley View – they are buried in Valley View.

The three daughters - Edith, Anna, & Billye - lived in Amarillo.

Johnie Masten died in 1931, and Fannie passed away in 1944; they are buried in Era.

Dupree & Leona Clampitt: Leona Masten was the last child born to J.B. and Celia Masten; she was born in Texas September 13, 1890. J.D. "Dupree" Clampitt was born October 18, 1884 in Texas. Leona and Dupree married around 1910, and they lived on the adjoining farm just south of J.B. and Celia's home-place – property which was part of the 906–acres owned by J.B. & Celia. This farm had been owned by Daniel J. Wilson in 1897-1901- when he served as the first Lois Postmaster. Leona & Dupree Clampitt raised six children – and there are living descendents for all,

Marshall Clampitt (7/14/1911 – 10/22/1984) who married Opal Christian (see "James D. Sluder")

Dorothy M. Clampitt (10/10/1916 – 7/20/2003) who married ___?__ McClendon J.D. Clampitt (9/7/1921 – 11/9/2003)

Opal Clampitt (10/20/1923 – 2/23/1990) who married ___?__ Haze and ___?__ Hanks

Emmitt Logan Clampitt (9/30/1927)

Willie Lee Clampitt (12/6/1931 – 10/10/2007)

Leona died March 25, 1963, and Dupree died January 20, 1965. They are buried in Valley View – as are their children, Marshall, Dorothy, and Opal. J.D. is buried in Denton and Willie Lee is buried in Sanger. Emmitt lives in Lubbock.

George & Rosa Masten: Let us now turn to the grandchildren of J.B. & Celia Masten. George Baxter Masten was born August 10, 1900, the first child of T.J. and Mamie Masten – and the first grandson of J.B. & Celia. He attended Lois School for ten years – the maximum number of years offered. On May 23, 1925, he married Rosa Mae Salsman. Rosa was born April 4, 1906 in Whitesboro, Texas. Rosa Salsman was the sister of Minnie Salsman - who married Johnnie Hayes (see "John N. Hayes").

George and Rosa Masten's children are,

Julia Marie Masten (1926-1996) – married Don Kendall

Georgia May Masten (1928-2012) – married Cecil Shoemaker

Mary Cordelia Masten (1930) – married Billy Gilbreath; lives in Yantis, TX

Wilburn Thomas (Tom) Masten (1932-2004) – married Wally Pitts

Finis Eugene Masten (1935-1981) – never married

At the time of the 1930 Census, George and his young family lived in the second house on the Lois farm owned by his parents, T.J. & Mamie Masten. In 1938, they moved briefly to Callisburg - but they soon moved back to Lois into a rent house just off the road east of the Lois Store. A year later they moved into the small house at the Cotton Gin. A couple years later they moved to Gainesville, but in 1946, they moved back to live on the home-place of George's grandparents, J.B. and Celia Masten west of Lois.

In 1949, they moved briefly to Bolivar – the next year, they moved to California, where George worked at McClellan Field, a US Air Force Base.

George Masten died September 3, 1959. Rosa passed away May 4, 1974. They are buried in Sacramento, California.

Raleigh “R.L.” & Dollye Masten: Raleigh Lee “R.L.” Masten was born October 10, 1902, the second child of T.J. and Mamie Masten. On December 3, 1930, Raleigh married Dollye Mae McFarlin. She was born February 6, 1907 to Henry Robert & Cornelia McFarlin - she grew up north of Sanger just off Lois Road. After their wedding, Raleigh and Dollye farmed part of the Wells property in Lois for several years. In 1944, they purchased the T.J. Masten farm from Raleigh’s father – and continued to rent the Wells lands. Combining his own farm along with rental property, they sometimes had over 500-acres under cultivation. They also expanded the Masten farm into a dairy farm, and Raleigh worked just about every “cotton season” at the Lois Cotton Gin. *(Yes, indeed I remember the life of a dairy farmer – those cows never take off a weekend or a holiday!)*

In 1965, Raleigh and Dollye sold the Masten farm – which had been in the family over 60 years - and moved to Denton. Raleigh died January 13, 1976 – at age 73. Even though he was living in Denton, he was still working as manager for the Lois Cotton Gin when he died. He also served as a Deacon at the Pearl Street Church of Christ in Denton. Dollye Masten died in Denton on June 10, 2002 – at age 95! Before she and Raleigh moved to Denton, she had begun to work at the Denton State School – work which she continued up to between 1978 & 1980. Both she and Raleigh are buried in Valley View along with their daughter, Bobbye Sue, who died as a six year old in 1938. They raised two other children: Mike Masten (11/11/1939 - lives in Parker) and Tim Masten (12/8/1950 - lives in Denton).

Charner & Ettie Masten: Charner Vester Masten was one of the twin sons of Wylie & Janie Masten. He was born July 2, 1906 in Lois; after the family moved to Denton County he went to school in Bolivar. On May 12, 1928, he married Ettie Estelle “Bubba” Brackney. Ettie was born August 12, 1909. At the 1930 Census, Charner & Ettie were living in the Bolivar area, but by at least 1937 they had moved to Era where they raised two daughters,

Patsy Rhunelle Masten (3/7/1932) - married Leonard Thomas DeLisle (1928-1995)
Robbie Charlene Masten (12/8/1933) - married Kyle Crain

Patsy lives in Garland, and Robbie lives in Richardson, Texas.

Ettie Masten died November 2, 1995 and Charner Masten passed away April 3, 2000. I believe that Charner was the last descendent of J.B. & Celia Masten – with the “Masten” name – to live in Cooke County. Ettie & Charner are both buried in Era.

Loren & Eunaway Masten: Loren Gifford Masten was the first born (January 2, 1906) to Perry and Mittie Masten. In 1928, he married Eunaway ___?___ – born in Texas

around 1910. In 1930 and 1940, they lived in Lois near his parents. They later moved to Kansas, where they lived the remainder of their lives.

Loren and Eunaway's children are,

Ela Mae Masten (11/5/1929) who married ___?___ Enfield

Rachel Chlorene Masten (11/17/1931) who married ___?___ House and ___?___ Murrell

Thressia Eulalia Masten (10/14/1934 - 6/3/2011) who married ___?___ Coleman

Thearl Fate Masten (9/22/1937 – 5/7/1976)

Winfred Loran Masten (3/24/1941 – 5/29/2003)

Bonnie Ruth Masten (11/29/1943) who married ___?___ Dies and ___?___ Kerr.

Ela Mae, Rachel, and Bonnie all live in Kansas. Thearl is buried in Kansas and Winfred is buried in Virginia.

Loren died March 3, 1985. He was living in Wichita, Kansas.

SLUDER FAMILY

James D. “Jim” & Minnie Sluder: Jim and Minnie Sluder lived in Lois virtually all of their married lives. James Daniel Sluder was born in Missouri – probably in Webster County - on June 3, 1878. His parents were probably S.T. and Elizabeth Sluder - both born in Tennessee.

Minnie Masten was the third child of J.B. and Celia Masten (see “*John B. Masten*”). She was born April 3, 1873 in Dade County, Missouri. The Masten and the Sluder families may have known each other in Missouri since Dade and Webster are neighboring counties.

The J.B. Masten family moved to Texas in 1884. Parts of the Sluder family likely moved here about the same time. Although no records have been located to show S.T. and Elizabeth Sluder in Texas, three of their four children born in Missouri by 1880 appear to be buried in Valley View (James D., John C., and Charles W.)

Jim and Minnie married December 23, 1899, and they moved onto part of her parent's Lois land around 1908. In 1941, Minnie inherited the land as part of her parent's estate. Jim & Minnie also purchased other adjoining portions of the estate which were inherited by her siblings to eventually complete their total farm holding. Their farm adjoined the land of her brother, T.J. Masten (whose farm was immediately west of the Lois Store).

Jim and Minnie Sluder had eight children,

Lucile Sluder (1900-1986) who married ___?___ Cochran

Edward Lee Sluder (1901-1993)

Marvin Luther Sluder (1904-1918)

Buddy Sluder (1906-1906) who died as an infant
Irene May Sluder (1908-1980) who married ___?___ Young and ___?___ Falls
Albert Daniel Sluder (1912-1980)
Beadie Cecil Sluder (1914-1973) who married Elmer Christian
J.B. Sluder (1916-1990)

Marvin was killed by lightening when he was 14 years old, and J.B. almost lost a foot when he was 6 in a machine being used to cut grain.

Opal Christian, the sister of Beadie's husband (Elmer Christian), married Marshall Clampitt, who was Beadie's cousin (see "Dupree Clampitt").

Jim and Minnie Sluder lived on their Lois farm until Jim died on July 17, 1955. Minnie died in a nursing home in Sanger on May 11, 1966 – at age 93 years. Jim and Minnie – and three of their children (Marvin, Albert, & Beadie) - are buried in Valley View.

Edward L. "Eddie" and Myrtle Sluder: Edward Lee Sluder was the second child of Jim and Minnie Sluder. He was born December 28, 1901.

Myrtle Marie Wilkinison was born in Texas on July 2, 1900. Edward Lee and Myrtle were married around 1924-25. In 1930, they lived north of Lois with three of their children – all of which later attended the Lois School. The family later moved to Grand Prairie, Texas where Edward Lee and Myrtle lived the remainder of their lives. Their children are,

Dainah Lee Sluder (1925) who married Robert Gregory
Nita Faye Sluder (1927) who married William Hilliard
Betty Jo Sluder (1929 - 2008) who married Arthur Keisler
Edna Earl Sluder (1931) who married Johnny Cole
Peggy Ann Sluder (1937) who married James Poage
Billy Edwin Sluder – twin (1939)
Jimmy Everett Sluder – twin (1939 - 1994)

Myrtle died August 20, 1983 and Edward Lee passed away May 17, 1993. They are buried in Grand Prairie, Texas.

HAYES FAMILY

John N. & Martha "Mattie" A. Hayes: John Newton Hayes was born on September 22, 1873 to Robert Seaborn Hayes and Harriett (Hattie) Hollingsworth; both John and his parents were born in South Carolina. Martha (Mattie) Ann Brown was born in Birdwell, Kentucky on February 20, 1879 to James Brown and Mollie Jenings – both of whom were born in Kentucky. John N. and Martha A. were married around 1898.

John & Martha Hayes' children were,

Whitt M. (Monte) Hayes (1898-1923)
James R. Lloyd Hayes (1900-1965)
E. Irvin Hayes (1903-1968)
John (Johnnie) L. Hayes (1905-1973)
Ward Hayes (1908-1968)
Margie Hayes (~1911) who married Philip Moore
Helen Hayes (~1914) who married Delbert Harris
Alma Jewel "Judy" Hayes (1916-2006) who married Marion Langley

Whitt Hayes died at age 24 – perhaps from pneumonia. He never married. He is buried in Valley View.

Lloyd Hayes married Della Masten - the daughter of T.J. and Mamie Masten (see "*Thomas J. Masten*").

Irvin Hayes married Dorothy Hobbs – daughter of James H. Hobbs (see "*James H. Hobbs*"). They lived in Tulsa, but are buried in Valley View.

Johnnie Hayes married Minnie Salsman - the sister of Rosa Salsman who married George Masten (see "*George Masten*"). Around 1927, Johnnie and Minnie lived in Lois in the Springer house near the Baptist Church. By 1930, they lived in Gainesville.

Ward & Floy Hayes lived in Chickasha, Oklahoma. However, they are buried in Valley View.

Margie Hayes married Philip Moore; they both died in California, where they are buried.

Helen Hayes married Dee Martin, who died following surgery a year later. She later moved to Midland, where she met and married Delbert Harris. They moved to his home north of Tupelo, Mississippi, where they both died and are buried.

Alma J. "Judy" Hayes married Marion Langley. She operated her own beauty shop in Gainesville. Both Judy and Marion are buried in Valley View.

It is reported that Whitt Hayes – the oldest child – was born in Whiteright, Fannin County, Texas. If true, then the family was in Fannin County as of 1898. According to censuses, the family was in Grayson County in 1900 and 1910 - at least part of this time they farmed land near Gene Autry's home in Tioga. By 1920, the Hayes family was in Cooke County, but not yet in the Lois Community. In 1930, John N. and Mattie – along with the four youngest children - lived on the Wells property just NE of the Lois cotton gin. The Wells rental house burned sometime around 1933. At that point, they moved to Hood, Texas. (It's interesting to note that Jasper Wells also owned land in Hood, so it may be that the Hayes moved from a Wells house in Lois to a Wells house in Hood?)

John N. Hayes died 8/24/1946 and Martha A. Hayes died 1/18/1949. Both died in Gainesville and are buried in Valley View. In addition, Martha Hayes' mother (Mary – Mollie - Brown) is buried on the Hayes plot.

Lloyd & Della Hayes: James R. Lloyd Hayes was the second child of John N. and Martha A. Hayes. He was born September 7, 1900. Della Virginia Masten was the

only daughter of T.J. and Mamie Masten; she was born December 13, 1904 (see “*Thomas J. Masten*”). Lloyd and Della were married July 15, 1923. In 1930, they lived in the second house on the Wells land NE of the Lois store – while Lloyd’s parents, John N. and Martha lived in the first house.

Lloyd and Della’s children are,

Jewel Virginia “Ginger” Hayes (1924) married William Read; lives in Tulsa, OK
Floye Jannette “Jan” Hayes (1930) married Richard Huffman; lives in Moore, OK

Around 1932, the family moved to Dallas – and later lived briefly in central Texas. Around 1934, they returned to the Lois community. Both Ginger and Jan attended the Lois School, but in early 1936, they moved to Gainesville - the family never again lived in Lois. Lloyd and Della eventually divorced. Around 1946, Della moved to California – while there, she married Frank Latham.

Della (Masten) (Hayes) Latham died November 6, 1949 – not quite 45 years old. She is buried in Valley View on the same plot as her parents, T.J. and Mamie Masten. Lloyd died October 6, 1965; he lived in Chouteau, Oklahoma and is buried in Skiatook, Oklahoma.

WELLS FAMILY

Jasper B. & Susan T. Wells: Many of the farms within the Lois community were owned by the Jasper B. Wells family. Jasper was born in Barren County, Kentucky April 22, 1844; he fought in several Civil War battles where he received “a broken leg and bullet hole through his hand” - as reported on the large Wells monument in the Valley View cemetery.

Susan Terrell Gillum was born August 13, 1853, in Lincoln County, Missouri. Her brother was G.W. Gillum (see “*George W. Gillum*”). In 1860, Susan (age 6) and G.W. (age 3) were living in Lincoln County with their young widowed mother, Catherine B. Gillum (age 26). Sometime during the next ten years, Catherine married Andrew Nolen, so that in 1870, G.W. & Susan then lived in the Nolen home. The next year, Jasper Wells and Susan Gillum married on March 29, 1871 in Lincoln County, Missouri.

Susan and G.W.’s stepsisters: After Andrew Nolen and Catherine Gillum married, they bore three additional daughters: Minnie P. Nolen (~1867), Zenobia Nolen(~1871), and Elbertha “Bertha” Nolen (~1876). By 1880, the Nolen family was living in Gainesville, Texas. We’ll come back to Bertha Nolen later in our story (see “*G.W. Gillum*” and “*Troy P. Miller*”).

After their marriage, Jasper and Susan Wells moved to Fannin County, Texas, where he briefly taught school near Bonham. In 1872, they started buying land in Cooke County – and Denton County. Jasper and Sue eventually purchased several thousand acres – it’s unclear what the total acreage may have been; some estimate over 4,500-

acres including acreage within the city limits of Denton. Their largest holdings were nevertheless in Lois and Bolivar. Some of the land was bought for \$2 an acre. It's reported that Jasper and one of his – we don't know who - neighbors frequently discussed / bragged about which of them paid the most property taxes to Cooke County.

Jasper and Sue moved to the Lois community no later than 1878. They lived in Precinct 6 – between Lois / Era and Bolivar during the 1880 Census and they remained there for the next 50 years. The lumber for the Wells' home was brought in from East Texas. Jasper and some hired hands modified several wagons to consist only of the running gear so that the maximum amount of lumber could be transported. The round-trip took several days; while they were gone, the last Indian raid in the area occurred. Sue saw the Indians approaching and took her girls to a spring house by the creek – she stood in the door with an axe and faced the Indians across the creek. After several minutes staring at each other, the Indians turned and rode away. The next day, the Indians killed a man and one or two of his sons near Bridgeport.

The children of Jasper and Sue Wells were,

Lola Claudine (1872-1942) who married William Egbert Rogers
Evie Elsie (1878-1963) who married Charles "Charlie" Samuel Henderson
Cecil Jennyl (1882-1949) who married Alonzo Wesley Jamison Sr.

William Rogers was an attorney, but he and Lola never lived any extended time within Cooke County – they apparently divorced before their deaths. They had no children.

Charlie and Evie Henderson had three daughters: Cecilia Sue (1900-1977), Elsie Ruth (1902-1977), and Stella Burgess (1906-1995). They lived in Sanger; Charlie "managed" a large part of the Wells land after Jasper & Sue Wells passed away. None of the daughters married.

Cecil married Alonzo Jamison Sr. in 1916. They lived in Collin County, Texas where Alonzo was a banker - he also managed parts of the Wells property. Cecil and Alonzo raised two children: Alonzo W. Jamison Jr. (1918-2011) and Celia Claudine Jamison (1920-2008). Alonzo Jr. married Elisabeth McCullar, and he was elected seven times to 2-year terms in the Texas House of Representatives. Celia married Clifford H. Sankey, and she taught art at TWU for several years. Neither Alonzo Jr. nor Celia had any children.

Jasper Wells was instrumental in getting a flour mill in Sanger. He also introduced hard wheat (Turkey Red) for the mill by requiring tenants on his farmland to plant the variety. Jasper supplied the initial seed for planting – probably not totally free to the tenants – and also required the tenants to reserve seed for subsequent planting in later years.

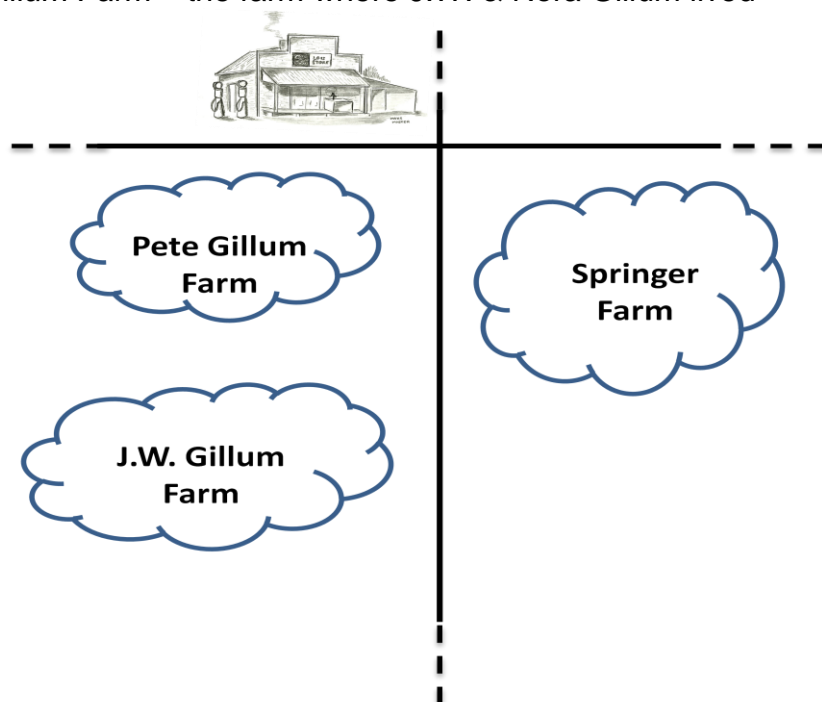
Although Jasper & Sue lived in Lois, their later years centered more on Denton County. They lived in Cooke County up until around 1932 when they decided to move into Denton. Jasper died - age 90 - in December 6, 1934 and Sue died - age 87 - in June

16, 1941. They are buried in Valley View. A very large monument marks their burial location.

GILLUM, MILLER, & SPRINGER FARMS

Before we look at more Lois residents, there's an interesting story concerning three Lois farms – if I understand correctly, the following is an approximate history. For reference, the following notation will be used,

- *Springer Farm* – the farm where Howard & Lela Springer lived
- *Pete Gillum Farm* – the farm where Pete Gillum lives today
- *J.W. Gillum Farm* – the farm where J.W. & Nora Gillum lived



From time to time, each of these farms contained more than one house. The early owners of the “*Springer Farm*” are unknown, but sometime after 1910, Toney Miller became the owner. G.W. & Mary Gillum may have rented a home on the property prior to 1910. J.W. & Nora Gillum also rented one of the homes on the property as early as 1912 – they were there when their first son, George Phillip, was born in February, 1916.

A few years later, J.W. & Nora Gillum moved across the road from the Springer place to the property we now know as the “*Pete Gillum*” farm. They built a new house in 1918 – and their second son, Pete, was born in the new house in 1920.

Either G.W. & Mary or J.W. & Nora Gillum later bought a farm on Lois road further south – the farm we now know as the “*J.W. Gillum*” farm. The home on that farm is believed

to have been built around 1898. J.W. & Nora moved to the new location in 1924; at the time of the 1930 census, G.W. owned the farm and J.W. was renting a nearby home.

After the Gillum's moved to their new farm, they sold the "*Pete Gillum*" property to Phillip Miller. However, Phillip Miller probably didn't move into the house since he already lived further south on Lois road. Sanford Browning, the son-in-law of Phillip Miller, and perhaps others lived brief times on the property – including George Phillip & Mildred Gillum who were there from 1936-1941.

Pete & Louise Gillum married in 1940 – and they lived in a 3-room house south of the main house on the "*J.W. Gillum*" farm. In November, 1941 they moved to the "Pete Gillum" farm.

After Phillip Miller's death (1950), his daughter, Nora (Miller) Gillum inherited the "*Pete Gillum*" farm, thus the Gillum family now owned the farm for a second time. The farm was later purchased (or inherited) by Nora's son, Pete – who lives there today.

In the meantime, the "*Springer*" farm was owned by Philip, Pete, and Toney Miller each at some time or other. Several families lived there at one time or another – Charlie Bentley, ___?___ Edwards, and Toney Miller. Toney Miller eventually sold the "Springer" place to his brother Pete Miller – who, sometime before 1930, sold it to his son-in-law Howard Springer – therefore we associate the "Springer" name with the property today.

Note: There is another farm located between the Pete Gillum Farm and the J.W. Gillum Farm. This midway farm was the site of the original Lois School – it was later owned by Howard Springer.

GILLUM FAMILY

George William "G.W." & Mary E. Gillum: G.W. Gillum was born February 24, 1857 probably in Lincoln County, Missouri. He was three years younger than his sister, Susan T. Gillum, who married Jasper B. Wells (see "*Jasper B. Wells*"). G.W. and Susan's father was perhaps Melville Gillum – who had died sometime after G.W. was born. Their mother was named Catherine. In 1860, Catherine, along with G.W. and Susan was living in Lincoln County – she was probably a widow. Ten years later (1870) - after Catherine had married Andrew Nolin - G.W. and Susan were living in the Nolin home in Lincoln County. By 1880 - ten more years - Andrew & Catherine Nolin had moved to Gainesville, Texas, and they now had three additional daughters (Minnie, Zenobia, Bertha). In the meantime, G.W. Gillum had married his first wife Ida May ___?___, who had died prior to 1880 – thus G.W., a 22 year old widower, was also living with his mother and step-father. G.W. was working in Gainesville as a "dealer in books". (Ida May Gillum and Catherine Gillum Nolin are both buried in Fairview Cemetery in Gainesville.)

Mary Emma Brown was born March 1, 1863 in Kentucky. Mary used the name "Emma", and she and G.W. Gillum married around 1888. Their location in 1900 is

unknown – this may have been the time when they lived on (rented) the farm later owned by Howard Springer. (The Gillum family doesn't believe G.W. Gillum ever owned this particular farm.) Nevertheless, by the time of the 1910 Census, G.W. and Mary – along with their two children - were definitely in Precinct 6 (Lois/Era) where they owned their farm (mortgage).

G.W. and Mary's children – both born in Texas - were,

Ida May Gillum (1888 - 1921) who married Bert B. Browning
John W. Gillum (1892 – 1975)

Ida died in Cooke County, near Sanger – two children, Katherine & Laverne.

Although G.W. and Mary Gillum are not listed in the 1920 Census, they still lived in the Lois area. By the time of the 1930 Census, they lived across from Howard & Lela Springer – on the farm now owned by their grandson, Pete Gillum.

Mary E. Gillum died December 24, 1933, and G.W. Gillum died June 16, 1941. Prior to his death, his sister, Susan Wells, was also very ill. Nevertheless, G.W. was able to go visit her. When G.W. came home after the visit, he said, "We are going to die on the same day." Sure enough, both he and his sister died – on the same day - a few days later; their burials were also held on the same day in the Valley View cemetery.

John William "J.W." & Nora L. Gillum: John William "J.W." Gillum was born April 4, 1892 - the son of G.W. and Mary Gillum. He was most likely born in Cooke County – perhaps in the Lois area.

Nora L. Miller was born February 24, 1896, the daughter of Phillip and Annie Miller (see "*Phillip Miller*") – probably in Kaufman County, or perhaps west Texas (near Palo Duro Canyon). J.W. and Nora were married probably around 1914-15. They raised two sons,

George Phillip Gillum (2/4/1916 - 9/10/1992)
Cecil Wayman "Pete" Gillum (2/9/1920)

While living in the Miller rental house, J.W. and Nora bought the farm across the road (where Pete Gillum currently lives). Pete's current house was not yet built on the farm. However there was a house up on the hill across from the T.J. Masten home. Unfortunately, that house burned before J.W. and Nora could move in. So in 1918, J.W. built a new house (Pete's current house). Water was pumped from the Miller well across the road to the Gillum house until a well could be dug. J.W. & Nora's last child, Cecil Wayman "Pete" Gillum was born in the new house on February 9, 1920.

Sometime later, J.W. and Nora bought another farm further south – the farm and house that we remember today as the J.W. Gillum farm. When J.W. and Nora moved to the new farm, the house where Pete was born was then occupied by Sanford & Edna Browning. After the Brownings, George Phillip Gillum and his wife Mildred Elizabeth

“Bob” lived there for a brief period of time before Pete and his wife, Louise, moved there in 1941.

After J.W. and Nora moved to their new “further south” farm, they sold the farm (where Pete was born) to Nora’s father, Phillip Miller. Nora later inherited it from the estate of her father (Phillip Miller).

Nora (Miller) Gillum died in March, 1966, and J.W. Gillum died in November, 1975. They had lived virtually all of their lives in the Lois community – especially their married lives.

George Phillip & Mildred Gillum: George Phillip Gillum was born February 4, 1916 – the first son of J.W. & Nora Gillum. He was born on the farm we’ve labeled “*Springer Farm*”.

Mildred Elizabeth “Bob” Chisam was born May 10, 1920; her parents were Clabourne & Olivia Chisam (see “*Clabourne Chisam*”). George Phillip and Mildred married December 24, 1936 and moved onto the farm we’ve labeled the “*Pete Gillum Farm*”. After their first child was born in 1938, they moved in 1941 to a house farther down the Lois-Sanger road just past the Denton County line.

George Phillip and Mildred’s children are,

*Elizabeth Jean Gillum(1938) who married Joe Higgs of Sanger
Don Gillum (1944-45) who married Lou Ann Moody of Valley View*

Although George Phillip and his family didn’t live in Lois proper after 1941, they were definitely considered to be a part of Lois. They were very active members of the Lois Baptist Church.

George Phillip died September 10, 1992; he is buried in Valley View.

C.W. ”Pete” & Louise Gillum: Cecil Wayman “Pete” Gillum was born on February 9, 1920 – in the same Lois house where he currently lives! His parents were J.W. and Nora Gillum.

Ruby Louise Flourney was born June 16, 1920 in Pickton, Texas to Franklin Harvey & Jessie Elizabeth Flourney (see “*Frank Flournoy*”). She graduated from Valley View School in 1939. Pete and Louise were married June 30, 1940 at the Highland Baptist Church in Denton. “Brother” Sol Carpenter conducted the ceremony – Sol had served the Lois Baptist Church from 1929-1933 (and taught in the Lois School). Pete & Louise briefly lived with Pete’s parents, but soon moved into a second 3-room house just south of the main house on J.W. and Nora’s farm. They later moved into the house where Pete was born – and where he currently lives.

Pete and Louise’s children are,

Linda Carol Gillum (October 26, 1942) who married Dan Schafer
Susan Ann Gillum (December 31, 1950) who married Marion Morrison (see
“Morrison Family”)
Janie Elaine Gillum (October 23, 1954) – twin - who married Jerry Neighbors
Jimmy Wayne Gillum (October 23, 1954) – twin

Louise Gillum passed away June 9, 2008. She had served as a longtime Sunday School Teacher at the Lois Baptist Church, until it disbanded and she moved her membership to the First Baptist Church in Sanger.

MILLER FAMILY

Immigrants – Peter & Christina Miller: The Miller family has a rich heritage in Lois. The first American ancestors for this family were Peter and Christina (Shalk) Miller who emigrated from Germany. Peter Miller was born May 19, 1829, and Christina Shalk was born September 7, 1832. They and their first two daughters were living in Harrison township, Hamilton County, Ohio in 1860. They moved to White County, Illinois where they lived in both 1870 and 1880 – the 1870 Census lists them in the township of “Grayville” while the 1880 Census identifies the township as “Gray”.

All three censuses list Christina’s birth as Wittenberg, Germany. However, Peter’s birth is listed variously in the three different censuses as Rheinbier (a territory west of the Rhein River belonging to Bavaria), as Prussia, and also as Bavaria – whichever may be the exact location, it was *Germany* in any case. (The *Find-a-grave* internet site reports his birthplace as Rhinefels, Germany.) The 1860 and 1870 censuses both list Christina’s name as “Christina” whereas she is listed as “Ellistina” in 1880 - all later censuses in Texas (1910, 1920) list her simply as “Stella”.

Peter and Christina Miller were the parents of,

Mary (1857), Elizabeth (1859) – probably born in Ohio - perhaps Indiana
Sophia (1862), Phillip (1864), Peter (1867) - all born in Ohio
Thomas (1870), Lawrence (1873), Antoine (1876) - all born in Illinois

Elizabeth is not listed with the rest of the family in 1880 – perhaps she was married or she may have died? A Miller family story reports that Peter & Christina were members of the Catholic Church until the death of one of their daughters – the Catholic Church wanted to charge the family a sizable sum to conduct a funeral, while the Baptist Church required no such charge, so the Miller family became members of the Baptist Church.

Sometime after the 1880 Census, Peter and Christina and some of their family moved to Texas. All of the Miller “boys” eventually moved to Texas – but none of the “girls” came since they were already married.

Peter died March 14, 1899 in Terrell, Texas. The Dallas Morning News reported,

Dallas Morning News [Dallas, Texas] March 18, 1899
Terrell, Mar. 15th - Peter Miller, age 70 years, died at his home eight miles north of here yesterday of heart failure. His remains were interred here today. He has lived in this county for over 20 years.

In the 1900 Census, Phillip & his wife (Annie), Peter & his wife (Ethel Maud), Thomas & his wife (Emma), and Lawrence & his wife (Nellie) are all listed in Kaufman County. The youngest son (Antonie – also called Tony or Toney), who never married, isn't listed in the 1900 Census, but he may also have lived in Texas at that time. For sure, he and his mother, Christina (Stella), lived together in Kaufman County in both 1910 and 1920.

Stella died August 31, 1923. She and Peter are buried in Oaklawn Memorial Park in Terrell, Texas.

The oldest son, Phillip moved to Lois in 1906, but the remaining brothers (Peter, Thomas, Lawrence, and Toney) all stayed in Kaufman County. By 1930, Christina – who would have been 97 - had apparently passed away since Toney was listed alone still in Kaufman County.

Phillip and Annie B. Miller: Phillip and Annie Miller were probably the first of the Miller family to move to Lois. They – and all of their children – lived at some time in the community. Phillip was born in Ohio March 7, 1864 – the oldest son of Peter and Christina Miller, who had emigrated from Germany.

Annie B. (Zuspann) Miller was born in Illinois December 17, 1877. Annie's parents were Jacob Zuspann and Anna Magdalena Lohman (see "*Jacob Zuspann*"). Annie's older sister was Elizabeth "Lizzie" Zuspann, who married Joel Thomas "Joe" Farrell (see "*Joel Farrell*").

The children of Phillip & Annie Miller were:

Edna M. Miller (1894) who married John S. Browning (see "John Browning")
Nora L. Miller (1896) who married J.W. Gillum (see "J.W. Gillum")
Nellie Ann Miller (1898 - 1947) who married Arch Springer (see "Arch Springer")
Troy P. Miller (1900) who married Edna R. Ricketts (see "Troy P. Miller")
Toney L. Miller (1903) who married Rachel Martin (see "Toney Miller")
Stella Miller (1910) who married Marshall Johnson (see "Marshall Johnson")

Toney was named after his Uncle Antonie. Stella was probably named after her grandmother - and Nellie may have been named after the wife of her Uncle Lawrence.

When Phillip and Annie first moved from Illinois, they settled in the Terrell, Texas area (where they lived during the 1900 census). From there, they moved to west Texas and cattle-ranched up to three sections of land east of Happy, Texas (west of the Palo Duro Canyon). In 1906, they sold the land and moved to Lois. They purchased a farm south of Lois where they lived the remainder of their lives – located on the east side of the

main road (across from where J.W. and Nora Gillum later lived). The main house was located some distance up a lane from the main road. (*Troy Miller Jr. – grandson of Phillip and Annie - lives there today.*) Phillip & Annie also had another house, or two, on this land that some of the other family members lived in prior to buying their own homes.

Phillip & Annie also bought several other farm properties in nearby locations – at one time, they owned all of the Lois land we think of as the lands of Miller, Gillum, & Springer. Phillip bought land for his brothers and later transferred it to them. He also gave each of his children a farm when they married - and helped them get started for two years. All three of the Miller brothers - Phillip, Pete, & Toney – owned (or at least lived on) the farm we today know as “the Howard Springer” farm at various times. We’ve already noted that the Gillum’s once sold their farm – across the road from “the Howard Springer” place – to Phillip Miller when they moved to a new farm “farther south”. Meanwhile, Phillip and Annie’s daughter Edna and son-in-law, John Browning lived on another Denton County farm owned by Phillip and Annie – and their son Toney and his wife Rachel lived on a farm between Era and Lois owned by Phillip and Annie.

Annie Miller died July 6, 1944, and Phillip died April 27, 1950. Both are buried in Valley View.

Pete & Ethel Maud Miller: Although Phillip Miller moved to Lois, all of his younger brothers (Peter, Thomas, Lawrence, & Antonie) stayed in Kaufman County – probably on farms. Phillip’s brother, Peter (Pete) and his wife Ethel Maud Miller, lived at least part of their life in the town of Forney. Pete never moved to Lois, but after his death, his wife, Ethel Maud lived the rest of her life in Lois with their daughter Lela (Miller) Springer.

Pete Miller was born in Ohio in November, 1867. Ethel Maud was born in Alabama about 1878. They married in 1896. Their children were:

Lela Mae Miller (1897) who married Howard Springer (see “Howard Springer”)

Peter Allen Miller (1/14/1899 – 8/1969)

Elton Russell Miller (1905)

Lloyd C. Miller (1913)

Lela Mae married a man named Arthur(?) Samuals sometime before 1920. Unfortunately, he died of some type of fever shortly after their marriage. Later in 1923, she married Howard Springer.

Lloyd married Virginia Springer – the daughter of John & Mae Springer (see “*John Springer*”).

John Sanford & Edna Browning: Edna M. Miller was the oldest child of Phillip and Annie Miller. She was born March 26, 1894, and she married John Sanford Browning (1896-1976). At one time, they lived briefly in the home where Pete Gillum currently lives. They later lived – much longer - on land owned by Phillip & Annie just over in

Denton County – near the county line east of the railroad between Valley View and Sanger. They had at least two daughters,

Annie Jo Browning (10/23/1920-7/22/2010) who married Dyke Chisam (see “Clabourne Chisam”)
Ruth Browning (8/31/1922-7/2/1994) who married A.C. Tipps.

Annie was born in Lois. She married Dyke Chisam on December 29, 1937; they lived on Chisam Road just north of Sanger for 69 years. They have one daughter, Nelda, who married Jerry Hudspeth.

Ruth married A.C. Tipps and they lived in Lois for 2 - 3 years in the 1940s on one of the houses on the Miller property. They had two daughters, Barbara and Elaine – who married Billy McFarlin. Elaine died in childbirth in 1971.

Edna Browning died June 18, 1968; John passed away March 27, 1976 – they are both buried in Valley View.

Troy P. & Edna R. Miller: Troy P. (Phillip) Miller was the oldest son of Phillip and Annie Miller; he was born in Texas on August 21, 1900. He purchased his farm on Lois Road in Denton County, just a few miles south of the Cooke/Denton county line. He bought the farm around 1921 before he married and lived there the rest of his life. Edna Ruth Ricketts was born in Texas on March 23, 1903. Her mother was Bertha Ricketts,

Mother: Bertha Ricketts was the youngest daughter of Andrew Nolen & Catherine Gillum – and the stepsister of G.W. Gillum and Sue Wells (see “*Jasper Wells*” and “*G.W. Gillum*”). Bertha married Wesley A. Ricketts, and on March 25, 1913 – at age 37 - she died in Mena, Arkansas. Bertha left four young children – Roy F. (age 19), Mae (age 16), Edith (age 14), and Edna (age 10). Wesley Ricketts was unable to care for the daughters so the Gillums and Wells moved them from Arkansas to Lois. The two older girls lived with G.W. & Mary Gillum and the youngest daughter – Edna Ruth - lived with Jasper & Sue Wells.

While living with the Wells, Edna attended New Liberty School - south of the Wells home – with the Well’s granddaughters (Cecilia, Elsie, Stella). However, Edna didn’t live with the Wells for an extended time. Her older sister, Mae, married Davis Aughtry in November, 1913 (see “*Davis Aughtry*”), and Edna then moved in with Mae & Davis. Edna probably finished school at the *first* Lois School – west of Lois road NW of the Baptist Church. (The other sister, Edith, died of appendicitis.)

The children of Troy P. and Edna Miller are,

Ouida Wynell Miller (12/8/1924 – 4/6/2011) who married Bill Anderson (see “Will Anderson”)
Troy P. Miller Jr. (10/14/1932)

Troy P. Miller Sr. died May 11, 1975 and Edna died February 28, 1989. Although they lived just over in Denton County, they are buried in Valley View.

Toney L. & Rachel L. Miller: Toney Lewis Miller was the second son of Phillip and Annie Miller – named after his Uncle Antonie. He was born in July 25, 1903. He married Rachel Leah Martin who was born January 29, 1905. Their children are,

Lawrence W. Miller (2/1/1925 – 2/7/2009)
Ethelda Faye Miller (1/9/1927 – 9/12/2003) who married Joe Burditt Yeats
Martin Lewis Miller (12/20/1928 – 4/19/2010)
Elnora Miller (11/25/1930) who married David Smith
Louise Annette Miller (10/26/1933)
Pat Miller who married Paul “Bud” Ford

Toney & Rachel farmed briefly in San Juan, Texas (near McAllen) for about a year – at the time of Lawrence’s birth. Ethelda and Martin Lewis were born in Sanger, so Toney & Rachel must have lived in Denton County at some time. However Toney and his family lived much of their life about 2 miles east of Era – toward Lois - on land owned by Phillip and Annie Miller. The children attended Era school.

Toney Miller died August 15, 1975. Rachel died March 30, 1981. They are buried in Valley View.

Marshall & Stella Johnson: Stella T. Miller was the last child of Phillip and Annie Miller – probably named after her grandmother, Christine “Stella” Miller. She was born December 5, 1910. She married Marshall O. Johnson December 27, 1926. Marshall was born September 18, 1907. Their children are,

Evelyn Johnson (1931) who married Chester Calhoun
Pat Johnson who married Kenneth Couch

They lived in Lois SE of the Baptist Church – north of the farm owned by her parents, Phillip & Annie Miller. Later they moved into Valley View. Stella passed away November 2, 1973 and Marshall died August 26, 1985. They are both buried in Valley View.

Lawrence W. & Clara Frances Miller: Lawrence Wilmuth Miller was the first son of Toney and Rachel Miller; he was born February 1, 1925 in San Juan, Texas. Clara Frances Sherrill was born in Flat Creek August 5, 1926 to Roy A. and Wilma Sherrill. (Flat Creek is another small Cooke County community outside of Era.) Lawrence and Clara attended Era school; they married January 23, 1944. Their children are,

David Lawrence Miller (11/3/1946) who married Judie Brownlee
Gary Dale Miller (9/29/1948 – 5/8/2002) who married Jan McCollum
Diane Marie Miller (1/12/1951) who married Johnny McCollum - sibling of Jan
Mark Edward Miller (9/26/1963) who married Beth Hitchcock

All of the children attended Valley View School.

Lawrence & Clara also had a daughter, Frances, who died as an infant.

At one time, Lawrence & Clara and family lived in the house immediately south of the Baptist Church. They later moved to Ponder for a few years until December, 1960 when they purchased the dairy farm previously owned by Bill & Bessie Davis - where they lived until their recent deaths. Their son, David, today lives on the south side of the same road - at the corner with the north-bound road from the center of Lois. Their son, Mark, lives on the northeast corner of Lawrence & Clara's farm. Diane lives in Gainesville.

Clara died July 4, 2008, and Lawrence died February 7, 2009. They are buried in Valley View.

Troy P. (Jr.) & Greta Miller: Troy Phillip Miller Jr. is the son of Troy P. and Edna R. Miller. He was born in Denton County on October 14, 1932. He married Greta Gene Hughes from Sanger. Since 1963, they have lived on the Lois farm owned by his grandparents, Phillip & Annie Miller. Their children are,

Steven Douglas Miller

Andrea Hughes Miller who married ___?___ Bohlig

Troy worked at Texas Instruments for six years, then taught at an eastern New Mexico Jr. College, before moving back to Texas. He taught part-time at the University of North Texas for four years and then full-time – for over 25 years – at North Central Texas College (formerly named Cooke County College).

ZUSPANN FAMILY

Jacob & Anna Zuspänn: Jacob Zuspänn was born March 12, 1843 in Bayern, Germany. His parents were Adam Zuspänn (1826-1902) and Rosina Schwartz. He immigrated to the USA in 1853 and lived in Evansville, Indiana for a time; he entered the Civil War as a Union soldier.

Anna “Annie” Magdalena Lohman was born February 16, 1847 in Bartholomew County, Indiana. Her parents were Pete Lohman and Elizabeth Holderberg.

After the Civil War, Jacob and Anna married, began their family, and eventually moved to Texas. Jacob owned his own farm and also worked as a blacksmith. In 1900 and 1910, they were living in Rockwall, Texas.

Jacob and Anna Zuspänn's children were,

Elizabeth Zuspänn (1/11/1867 – 9/30/1944) who married Joel Thomas Farrell

Barbara Zuspann (1868-1932)
Louis Allen Zuspann (1870-1940)
Jacob Zuspann (1871- ?)
Adam Zuspann (1873-1950)
John Phillip Zuspann (1875-1947)
Anna "Annie" B. Zuspann (12/17/1877 – 7/6/1944) who married Phillip Miller
Emma Zuspann (1877 -?)
William Fredrick Zuspann (2/3/1879 – 6/4/1947)
Callim Zuspann (1880 - ?)
Rebecca J. Zuspann (1884-1967)
Joe Zuspann (1886 - ?)

The oldest child, Elizabeth Zuspann was born in Vanderburgh County, Indiana in January 11, 1867. She married Joel Thomas "Joe" Farrell (1856-1915) and they lived most of their life in Rockwall, Texas (see "*Jacob B. Farrell*"); their children were,

William Oliver "Bud" Farrell (1887-1959)
Robert Farrell (1889-1963)
Maggie M. Farrell (1890-1960)
Richard Lee Farrell (1894-1963)
Joel Thomas Farrell (1894-1960)
Jacob Beaugard "Jake" Farrell (12/28/1895 - 1975)
James E. Farrell (1897 - ?)
James Augustus Farrell (1899-1960)
Alabama Farrell (1900-1948)

Jake Farrell - the "middle" child of Elizabeth & Joe Farrell lived just inside Denton County, south of Lois.

Anna "Annie" B. Zuspann was born December 17, 1877 in Wabash County, Illinois. She married Phillip Miller (1864-1950) and they moved to Lois in 1906 – where they lived the rest of their lives (see "*Phillip Miller*"). Their children – all of which lived significant parts of their lives in Lois - were,

Edna M. Miller (1894) who married John S. Browning
Nora L. Miller (1896) who married J.W. Gillum
Nellie Ann Miller (1898 - 1947) who married Arch Springer
Troy P. Miller (1900) who married Edna R. Ricketts
Toney L. Miller (1903) who married Rachel Martin
Stella Miller (1910) who married Marshall Johnson

William Frederick Zuspann was born February 3, 1879 in Clinton County, Illinois. He married Rosa Ada Welch (1881-1951). He lived in Rockwall County (1900), Denton County (1910), and was in Lois at the time of the 1920 Census. He was back in Denton County in 1930 and died in Rockwall County.

Anna Zuspahn (the mother) died November 24, 1917 in Rockwall. At the 1920 Census, Jacob was still living in Rockwall; he died there on January 25, 1925.

SPRINGER FAMILY

Zorobabel “Zoe” & Jimmie Virginia Springer: There were several Springer families in Lois – who were descendents of Zorobabel “Zoe” Springer who moved his family to Texas from Mississippi. The parents of Zoe Springer – perhaps John and Virginia - are buried in Itawamba County, Mississippi (on the Mississippi-Alabama state line). The adjacent Mississippi County is Lee - with Tupelo as the county seat.

Zoe, listed as “Joe” in some census, was born March 23, 1858 in Mississippi. He married Francis Boothe who was also born in Mississippi. After several children were born, Francis passed away. Zoe later married Jimmie Virginia Sandlin, a widow with two of her own children - and several more children were then born to Zoe and Jimmie. Jimmie, listed as “Jinnie” in some census, was born in July 28, 1858 in Alabama.

Sometime between 1898 and 1900, the family moved from Mississippi to Texas. By the time of the 1900-1930 censuses, Zoe and Jimmie lived in Kaufman County; Zoe was a farmer. The children were,

Born to Francis (Boothe) Springer:

Joe Springer (1882 - 1959)

James Springer (1886)

Lowery Springer (1888)

Benjamin Springer (1890 - 1967)

Born to Jimmie Virginia (Sandlin) Springer:

*Lucy Monaghan (Step-daughter for Zoe) who married Joe Westmoreland in
Tupelo, Mississippi*

*Jodie Monaghan (Step-daughter for Zoe) (1884) who married Henry Shumpert in
Terrell*

Howard Springer (1893 - 1978)

Archie Springer (1895 - 1979)

Edna Augusta Springer (July 2, 1896) who married Arthur Shumpert in Terrell

John Springer (1897 - 1987)

Mabel Springer (1903 - 1998) who married Carl Maughan (See “Carl Maughan”)

Some have wondered if Zoe had older children than Joe Springer. However, Zoe married Francis Booth December 23, 1880 and Joe was born 18 months later in June, 1882 – thus Joe was most likely the first child.

Joe was born in Guntown, Mississippi – about 10 miles north of Tupelo. Fourteen years later, Edna was born in Tupelo, Mississippi, so all of the children

born *before* the move to Texas were probably born in Mississippi. (Mabel is the only child born in Texas.)

All of Zoe's children born to Jimmie Sandlin – except Edna – eventually moved to Lois. Edna, who married Arthur Talmadge Shumpert December 12, 1913, lived in Terrell, Texas until her death – at age 91 – on September 7, 1987. She and Arthur are buried in Terrell.

Zoe and Jimmie Springer – both approaching 75 years old - moved from Kaufman County to Lois sometime in the early 1930s. They lived in “Springer House #2” where Zoe died October 4, 1936. Jimmie remained there – living with her daughter and son-in-law, Mabel & Carl Maughan – until she died January 26, 1949.

Zoe and Jimmie Springer are buried in Valley View on the same cemetery lot as their son and daughter-in-law, Howard & Lela Springer.

Joe & Lou Springer: Although Joe was the oldest child of Zoe and Jimmie (step-mother) Springer, he was not the first Springer to move to Lois.

Joseph Thomas “Joe” Springer was born in Guntown, Mississippi on June 13, 1882. He married Mattie Lou Masters, who was born in Texas around 1885. At the time of the 1930 Census, they were still living in Kaufman County, Texas – on a farm which they owned. Shortly thereafter, in the early 1930's, they bought the Lois Store, which they operated for over ten years (see “*Lois Store*”).

Joe and Lou Springer raised two boys, neither of which was ever legally adopted,

Raymond Milton Norman (1904-1989)

Fred Ray Springer (1925-2005)

Fred Ray was left as a baby on their doorstep - since they didn't know the mother or father, they just assumed the name Springer. Raymond Norman became Vice-President of the First National Bank of Portland, Oregon. Fred Ray was in sales (encyclopedia, etc.) – he lived at least part of his life in Nevada.

The Springer's owned the Lois Store for more than 10 years. When they sold the store, they bought a farm in the northern part of Denton County, north of Sanger on the Lois road. They later moved back to Kaufman County and lived in Terrell. Joe died October 25, 1959 in Terrell – and he is buried in Terrell. Lou died in California while living with Fred Ray; she is buried somewhere around Menlo Park, CA.

Howard & Lela Springer: Howard Springer was the son of Zoe and Jimmie Springer. He was born December 29, 1893 in Lee County, Mississippi and grew up in Kaufman County, Texas. He was a Sergeant in the Army Balloon Corps. (During World War I, more than 16,000 airmen went through Balloon School; they later provided Forward Observations for artillery.) In 1923, Howard married Lela Mae Miller – the daughter of Peter and Ethel Maud Miller (see “*Peter Miller*”); Lela was born September 24, 1897.

Howard and Lela moved to Lois in 1927 – Pete Gillum remembers Howard’s 1927 Ford Model T (the last year made) and that Howard later bought a 1928 Model A. As virtually everyone remembers, Howard and Lela lived on their farm at the SE corner of the main Lois cross-roads. They also provided their land directly at the corner – diagonally across from the Lois Store - for the Lois School. All three of the Miller brothers - Phillip, Pete, & Toney – owned (or at least lived on) the farm at various times. Pete Miller is the brother who eventually sold it to his son-in-law, Howard Springer. The family reports that Pete Miller provided “a very generous” financing plan to his son-in-law for purchasing the farm.

Howard and Lela had no children. Lela’s mother – Ethel Maud - lived the rest of her life with them after her husband, Pete Miller, died in Kaufman County.

Howard died September 1, 1978; Lela passed away on May 2, 1992. They are buried in Valley View.

Arch Springer: Arch Springer was the son of Zoe and Jimmie Springer - born April 2, 1895. Like his older brother, Howard, he was born in Lee County, Mississippi and grew up in Kaufman County. He served in the Army Infantry. Arch’s first wife was Nellie Ann Miller – daughter of Phillip and Annie B. Miller (see “*Phillip Miller*”). Thus, Arch and his brother, Howard, both married “Miller cousins”. Nellie was born June 22, 1898; she and Arch married around 1925. They moved to Lois sometime before the 1930 Census – perhaps about the same time as Howard and Lela. In 1930, they were renting a farm in Lois, but they eventually owned their farm - on top of a hill - about two miles east of the Lois Store on the “south” road to Valley View. Nellie Ann passed away on January 25, 1947. Arch later married Vera A. Blaine – from Kaufman County - who was born December 14, 1899. Vera passed away March 26, 1961. Arch then later married his third wife, Naomi Blaine (who passed away January 30, 1974).

Arch had no children.

Arch died March 30, 1979. He and his first two wives – Nellie, Vera - are buried in Valley View. (His third wife – Naomi - is buried in Kaufman County, next to her first husband.)

John & Mae Springer: John Orr Springer was the last son of Zoe and Jimmie Springer - born July 11, 1897. He is also the last child born in Mississippi before Zoe and Jimmie moved to Texas. He married Mae Bell Green around 1920. Mae Bell was born in Texas on June 23, 1902. At the time of the 1930 Census, they were still living in Kaufman County – next door to Zoe and Jimmie Springer. Later they moved to Lois and lived in the house just south of the Baptist Church. They later moved to a farm owned by Howard Springer just over in Denton County.

John and Mae Bell’s children - all born in Texas - are,

Helen Elizabeth Springer (1921- 2007)
Virginia Springer (1923) who married Lloyd Miller

Dorothy Springer (1929) who married Sam Mann
John David Springer (1938)
Lela Mae Springer (1940) who married Ralph Amyx

Helen Elizabeth Springer never married; she was a telephone operator for GTE in Denton. She is buried in Valley View.

Virginia Springer currently lives in Sanger. Her husband, Lloyd Miller was a brother of Lela Mae Miller, who married Howard Springer (see "*Pete Miller*"). Virginia and Lloyd mostly lived in Terrell - he is deceased.

Sam Mann, who married Dorothy, was from the Valley View – Pilot Point area.

Lela Mae and her husband, Ralph Amyx recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Sanger. Ralph has numerous relatives in Denton County.

John Springer died November 13, 1987. Mae Bell passed away June 5, 1991. Both are buried in Valley View.

MAUGHAN FAMILY

Carl & Mabel Maughan: Willie Carl Maughan was born in Paradise, Wise County, Texas on February 27, 1902 - the son of A.S. Maughan and Annie Guinn. The Maughan family has traced its roots back to the mid-1600s in North and South Carolina – their ancestors came to America from Germany.

Mabel Ruth Springer was the last child of Zoe and Jimmie Springer. She was born in Terrell, Texas on July 1, 1903 – the only child of Zoe and Jimmie to be born in Texas. Carl and Mabel met when she moved to Lois to help her brother, Joe Springer, operate the Lois Store – Carl was working at the Lois Gin. Carl and Mabel married December 24, 1933 in Terrell.

Carl and Mabel's children - all born in Cooke County - are,

William "Bill" Howard Maughan (October 12, 1935)
Mary Sue Maughan (October 24, 1943) who married Loyd Price Walters

In the early 1940s, the Maughan family lived about three miles west of Lois on the hill just west of and overlooking Duck Creek, so Bill started to school in Era. However, shortly after school started in 1942, they moved to House #2 on Howard Springer's farm immediately north of the Baptist Church. They took care of Mabel's mother, Jimmie Springer until her death. The family lived in this home throughout all of Bill's school years; they later moved into Valley View.

Carl was a commercial bus driver for Continental Trailways. He died March 11, 1967. Mabel passed away April 27, 1998. Both are buried in Valley View.

FLOURNOY FAMILY

Frank Flournoy: Franklin Harvey Flournoy was born February 26, 1876 in Pickton, Hopkins County, Texas to James Harvey Flournoy (1824-1889) and Elizabeth Catherine Hewett.

Parents: James Harvey Flournoy was born in 1824 in North Carolina. Based on the 1880 census, it appears that he married sometime around 1850 and he & his wife bore four children by 1866 – all of the children were born in Alabama. James' first wife probably died sometime thereafter - he later married Elizabeth Catherine Hewett (born in 1842 - 19 years younger than James). They moved to Texas around 1871; by 1880, Elizabeth had bore four children (including Franklin Harvey). In 1880, James & Elizabeth were living in Hopkins County, Texas with 11 other family members: the four children born to the first wife, four children born to Elizabeth, and three granddaughters born to James' oldest son (age 30) – who was a widower. James Harvey Flournoy died in 1889 and Elizabeth Catherine died in 1922; she is buried in the Pickton Cemetery.

In 1900, Franklin Harvey, age 24, was living with his widowed mother, Elizabeth, in Hopkins County.

Jessie Elizabeth Keener was born in Texas in 1879. She and Franklin Flournoy married in 1902 in Hopkins County. Their children – all born in Hopkins County - were,

Connie Murl Flournoy (12/26/1903 – 9/25/1976)
James H. (Jim) Flournoy (1906 -1916)
Nellie Elizabeth Flournoy (4/24/1917 – 7/1/1997)
Ruby Louise Flournoy (6/16/1920 – 6/9/2008)

Connie married Ernest Lee Pharr (8/13/1903 – 2/15/1986) on November 19, 1922 in Hopkins County. Both Connie and Ernest are buried in Pickton cemetery. Ernest was the older brother of Edd Pharr, one-time owner of the Lois Store.

James H. Flournoy died as a ten year old infant; he is also buried in Pickton.

Nellie married Lester T. "Buck" Collins (2/10/1907 – 8/1/1978) on February 2, 1935. The Collins lived in Lois during the 1950s when Buck worked at the Lois Cotton Gin. They raised a son, Frank Henry Collins (1/10/1941 – 10/16/2005) who attended Valley View School. Nell and Buck are both buried in Como, Hopkins County, Texas. Frank Henry is buried in Forney.

Ruby Louise married Cecil W. "Pete" Gillum (see "*J.W. & Nora Gillum*")

Frank and Jessie Flournoy – with the first two children - lived in Hopkins County in 1910; Jessie died there in 1922. In 1930, Frank (widower) and the youngest daughters – Nellie and Louise – still lived there. In 1938 – after Nellie married - Frank and the remaining daughter, Louise moved to Lois; they lived in Wells House #4. Louise attended Valley View High School; she graduated in 1939.

Frank Flournoy died March 21, 1961 in Dallas. He – and Jessie – are buried in the Pickton Cemetery.

LORNE FAMILY

Frank & Sennie Lorne: Frank Lorne, an African-American, was born in Texas March 7, 1882. His parents may have been Alexander & Lucinda Lorne – and they may have lived in the Chickasaw Nation in 1900.

Frank's wife, Sennie Potts, was born July 29, 1885 in Denison, Texas. According to the 1910 Census, Frank & Sennie probably married around 1906-07. In 1910, they were living in Grayson County and Sennie had given birth to three children, of which two were living. Frank registered for the WW I draft in Grayson County in 1917-18. They are not listed in the 1920 Census. Nevertheless, the family moved to Lois in the late 1920s.

In the 1930 Census, Frank & Sennie lived in Lois – they are listed immediately following Howard & Lela Springer because they lived on the Springer farm. Frank listed his occupation as "Farm Laborer" – rather than "Farmer" as was used by most of the Lois residents.

Frank & Sennie raised four children,

Beatrice Lorne (~1902)

James Lorne (~1908 – 1/31/1962)

Lawrence Lorne (2/5/1910 – 12/11/1987)

Clarence Lorne (~1914)

James, Lawrence, & Clarence grew up in Lois – but left after they were grown.

Beatrice's burial location is unknown; James is buried in Dallas.

Lawrence Lorne and his wife, Clara Lucille Miles, lived in Gainesville and raised eight children – seven of which were born in Lois,

Lawrence Lorne Jr. (8/8/1950)

Louise Bailey Lorne (6/13/1952)

Frank Lorne (1954)

Eloise Jean (Lois) Lorne (3/20/1956)

Gary Lorne (8/14/1960)

Helen R. Lorne (11/1962)
Christine Lorne (?)
Loretta E. Lorne (8/28/1964)

Frank is the current preacher for the Corinth Baptist Church (for 29 years), a realtor (for 14 years), and has been president of the Cooke County Democrat Club for three years (as of 2010).

Lawrence Jr., Frank, and Gary all live in Gainesville. Helen lives in Sanger while Louise, Lois, Christine, & Loretta live in Denton.

Frank Lorne died at home in Lois in 1949; Sennie later moved to Gainesville in 1962. Sennie died August 23, 1976 in a Denton Hospital, but she was living in Gainesville. Frank, Sennie, and two of their children (Lawrence & Clarence) are buried in Fairview Cemetery in Gainesville.

AUGHTRY FAMILY

James E. & Sallie F. Aughtry: James Edwin Aughtry was born in Union County, South Carolina in 1845 - the son of A.R. (Alfred) and Ana Aughtry. Around 1867, he married Sallie F. Davis, who was born ~1844 in Tennessee.

Their children were,

William (Willie) Aughtry (~1868 - ?)
Robert Erasmus Aughtry (1871-1942)
Carrie L. Aughtry (1875-?)
Frances Aughtry (1878-?)
James Davis Aughtry (1885-1942)

James E. & Sallie and their family lived in Goshen Hill, Union County, South Carolina during the 1870 and 1880 censuses, however records for Robert indicate that he was born in Paris, Texas (in 1871) while James Davis was born (1885) in South Carolina. Therefore, the family must have moved back and forth from S. Carolina to Texas? In any event, by the time of the 1900 Census, they had moved to Cooke County, Texas – living in Precinct 1 (east of Gainesville). The only children living at home in 1900 were Carrie and James - Robert was married, and living nearby.

The date of Sallie's death – and her burial location - is unknown, but by the time of the 1920 Census, James, age 74, was a widower living as a boarder in the William Zuspann family home near the Lois Store. Ten years later, in 1930, he lived with his son, Robert E. either in Lois or Valley View.

James E. Aughtry died in 1935; he is buried in Valley View.

Robert E. & Alice B. Aughtry: Robert Erasmus Aughtry was born in Paris, Texas in October, 1871 - the son of James E. and Sallie F. Aughtry. Around 1895, he married Alice B. ___?___, who was born ~1873.

Their children were,

Robert C. Aughtry (~1896-1980?)
James E. Aughtry (~1897-?)
Harry A. (Henry) Aughtry (1900-1980)
Eula Madine Aughtry (~1902-?)
Anna Low Aughtry (~1908-?)

Robert C. Aughtry lived in Conroe; Harry A. Aughtry lived in Gainesville.

Robert E. and Alice lived briefly in Lois – perhaps more than once. They lived east of Gainesville in 1900 – as a neighbor to his parents, James & Sallie. At the time of the 1910 Census, they lived in the Lois/Era area – but by 1920, they lived in Valley View. By 1930, they had moved back to a farm location – probably in Lois. Robert’s aged and widowed father - James E. Aughtry - lived in their home.

Robert Erasmus Aughtry died April 2, 1942; he was living in Gainesville. Neither he nor his wife, Alice are buried in Valley View.

James Davis & Ida Mae Aughtry: James “Davis” Aughtry was born January 23, 1885 in South Carolina. His parents were James Edwin Aughtry and Sallie F. Davis. On Nov 20, 1909, Davis married Eula Mae Aston in Cooke County. Eula Mae, born in 1889, was the daughter of William Edward and Jane Aston. As previously noted, William Edward Aston built the first Lois Cotton gin (see “*Lois Cotton Gin*”). The 1910 Census lists Davis and Eula in the Lois community. Unfortunately, Eula passed away in 1911 – at age 21; she is buried in Valley View.

On Nov 27, 1913 Davis Aughtry married Ida Mae Ricketts. Ida Mae, born February 25, 1896 in Kansas City, Missouri, was the sister of Edna R. Miller (see “*Troy P. Miller*”). Her parents were Wesley Alonzo Ricketts and Bertha Nolen. (Bertha Nolen was the step-sister of G.W. Gillum and Sue Gillum Wells - see “*G. W. Gillum*” and “*Jasper & Sue Wells*”.)

Davis and Ida Mae lived in Precinct 6 – Lois - during both the 1920 and 1930 censuses. Davis was a farmer. They lived in the Wells House #6 SE of the Baptist church – the first house south of the church.

Davis and Ida Mae’s children are,

Mildred E. Aughtry (November, 1914 - ?)
James D. Aughtry (~1917- ?)
Carrie Sue Aughtry (~1921)

Dale Aughtry (6/25/1923 – 10/27/2008)
Maydell Aughtry (~1925 - ?) who married ___?___ Stewart
Joan Aughtry (4/6/1930)

Three of the four youngest children graduated from Valley View School: Carrie Sue (1937), Dale (1941), and Maydell (1942) – Joan graduated from Grand Prairie. Dale joined the Navy around 1942, and served in Okinawa and Iwo Jima. Joan and Sue are still living.

Edna Ruth Ricketts - Ida Mae's younger sister – also lived some time with Ida Mae and Davis – since Edna and Ida Mae's mother (Bertha) had passed away (see "Troy P. Miller").

Davis Aughtry died May 27, 1942 – age 57. He was killed in a tractor-automobile accident in the Sanger area. In 1943, Ida Mae – and the three youngest children - moved to Grand Prairie / Dallas, where Ida Mae lived for 33 years. She died August 28, 1976 in Dallas – age 80. Both Davis and Ida Mae Aughtry are buried in Valley View.

SCHMIDT FAMILY

Henry & Hulda Schmidt: Henry Schmidt - was born in Hamburg, Germany May 25, 1865. Hulda ___?___ was born in Germany on December 6, 1863. According to the 1910 Census, Henry immigrated to the USA in 1878, and Hulda came here in 1881. It's unknown if Henry and Hulda knew each other back in Germany. In any event, Henry and Hulda married around 1889, and at the time of the 1900 Census, they lived in central Texas in Fayette County.

Ten years later (1910) Henry and Hulda lived in Lois along with seven children – all born in Texas,

Walter R. Schmidt (12/8/1892 – 5/30/1965)
Matilda Schmidt (~1893)
Dora Schmidt (~1895)
Henry L. Schmidt (10/2/1896 – 4/7/1975)
Clarie Schmidt (~1898)
Augustia Schmidt (~18990)
John Schmidt (~1901)

According to the census, another child was already an adult living away from home – this may have been Paul C. Schmidt (1889-1943). And another son may have been born after the 1910 Census – Jess Edwin Schmidt (1911-1992).

Henry & Hulda are not listed in the 1920 or 1930 censuses. However, they may have been here since they are buried in Valley View. Hulda Schmidt died on August 8, 1920, and Henry died November 24, 1937. Also buried in Valley View are their sons,

Walter R. and Henry L. – as well as Paul C. and Jess Edwin who may have been their children.

Henry L. & Lillie Schmidt: Henry L. Schmidt was born in Taylor, Texas October 2, 1896. The 1910 Census lists him as “Junior”, but other records don’t indicate such. In any event, his father – as noted above - was indeed named Henry Schmidt. Henry L. registered for the WW I draft in Cooke County and then served in the US Army.

Lillie Hassenpflug was born in Texas September 22, 1898 to Henry and Anna Hassenpflug (see “*Henry Hassenpflug*”). Like Henry L. Schmidt, both of her parents had been born in Germany. At the 1920 Census, she was living with her parents in Valley View. Later that year, Henry L. Schmidt & Lillie Hassenpflug married.

In 1930, Henry L. and Lillie Schmidt owned a farm in Lois near Marshall & Stella Johnson. They had two children,

Evelyn Schmidt (~1921)

Clyde Schmidt (1/28/1924 – 3/11/1988)

Since Henry L. and Lillie were in their early 30s at that time, they likely had more children later.

Lillie Schmidt died January 6, 1936 and Henry L. died April 7, 1975. They are both buried in Valley View – as well as their son, Clyde – and Paula J. (Schmidt) Mowery (9/22/1930 – 3/25/1971), who may have been their daughter.

CARSON FAMILY

Thomas A. & Eva Carson: Thomas Archival Carson, born December 11, 1850, came to Texas about 1878. In the 1880 Census, he was an unmarried farmhand living in Cooke County (precinct 6). In 1883, he bought the first part of a 160-acre farm in the Elm Grove community – south of Valley View adjacent to the current interstate highway I-35. Two years later, in 1885, he purchased the balance of the farm. He then rode the open range near Vernon, Texas until 1903 when he returned to Cooke County. In 1906, he married Eva Lou Fryer - a widow with three children – who had previously married C.W. Pilkinton and M. Dobson. Eva Lou, born in Valley View May 14, 1874, was the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Reason Fryer.

Tom and Eva’s children were,

Ida May Pilkinton (1894-1990) who married Edward F. Knight

Bessie Lee Pilkinton (1898-1967) who married Bill Davis (See “Bill Davis”)

Herbert Dobson (1900-1981)

William Tommie Carson (1907-1995) who married Minnie Tidwell

Pauline (Polly) Carson (1910-1997) who married Jack S. Hollingsworth

Ernest Leroy Carson (7/2/1913 – August, 1978)
Johnny Lloyd Carson – twin (6/24/1916 – 5/25/1993)
Edward Floyd “Kit” Carson – twin (6/24/1916 - 3/20/2000) who married Regina Mitchell

Although Tom and Eva didn't live precisely in Lois, they and most of their family - Ida May, Bessie, Herbert, Tommie, and Kit – all lived within the Valley View/Lois area. Kit lived on the original Tom Carson home-place in the Elm Grove community, and Tommie lived in Lois. Pauline lived in Denton, Ernest lived in Louisiana, and Lloyd lived in Fort Worth.

Tom Carson died March 4, 1931, and Eva passed away February 17, 1959. Both are buried in Valley View – as are Ida May & Edward Knight, Bessie & Bill Davis, Herbert Dobson, Tommie & Minnie, Pauline & Jack, and Kit & Regina.

Tommie & Minnie Carson: William Tommie Carson, born July 18, 1907, was the first son of Thomas A. Carson. On July 18, 1928, he married Minnie Tidwell. Minnie was born January 15, 1904 in Bolivar to Dee Tidwell and Henrietta Sartin. Henrietta's father, Jesse Sartin, operated a hotel/stage-stop in Bolivar.

Tommie and Minnie's children are,

T.J. Carson (4/30/1929 – 6/5/2009)
Ray S. Carson (11/30/1931)
Charles Dee Carson (December, 1939)
Larry Wayne Carson (1947)

In 1930, Tommie, Minnie, and T.J. were living on Valley View Road – perhaps on the home-place of Tom and Eva Carson. They later moved to their farm south on Lois Road – at the first jog in the road. They lived the remainder of their lives in their Lois home. Two of the sons moved to the farm several years ago - T.J. and Ray. Dee lives north of Sanger, and Larry lives in Denton.

Tommie passed away on August 15, 1995, and Minnie died June 15, 2000. Both are buried in Valley View.

T.J. & Betty Carson: T.J. Carson was the first son of Tommie and Minnie Carson. He was born in Valley View on April 30, 1929. He married Betty Inmon on April 7, 1950. Betty's parents were Homer E. Inmon and Eva Walker; she was born October 29, 1933. T.J. and Betty lived most of their married life in Garland, but they moved to the Lois family farm after retirement.

T.J. and Betty's children are,

David Ray Carson
Alan Dee Carson

T.J. passed away June 5, 2009. Betty currently lives on the family farm.

Ray Carson: Ray S. Carson was born November 30, 1931 to Tommie and Minnie Carson. He taught in the Garland School District until retirement. He then moved to part of the Carson home-place which Tommie and Minnie had owned in Lois where he currently lives. Ray hasn't married.

DAVIS FAMILY

William Marvin & Martha Davis: William Marvin "W. M." Davis was born in January, 1872 in Alabama. His wife, Martha C. Davis, was also born in January, 1872 – also in Alabama. They married around 1890. In 1900 and 1910, they lived in Precinct 2 Denton County – in the northern part of the County adjoining Cooke County. In 1920, they lived in Collin County. Some of their children lived in the Lois/Sanger area.

Their children were,

Ida Davis (1891 - 1971)

John Davis (1893-1959)

William James "Bill" Davis (1897-1980)

Buell S. Davis (~1903-?)

Beulah Davis (~1905-?)

Mabel Davis (~1906-?) who married ___?___ Goacher

Herman Davis (~1908-?)

Ireland Davis (~1911-?) who was also known as "Doc" Davis

Ray Davis (~1914-?)

Ida was probably "Mary I." born October 28, 1891- married to Grover C. Sebastian Sr. John was probably John L. born August, 1893. Ida, Grover, and John are all buried in Sanger. It's unknown if any of the children – except Bill – lived in Cooke County.

I haven't located death records for William M. or Martha Davis – perhaps they are buried in Denton or Collin County.

Bill & Bessie Davis: William James "Bill" Davis was born in Alabama on October 5, 1897 to William Marvin and Martha C. Davis. Three years later - in 1900 and later in 1910 - the family lived in Precinct 2, Denton County. Thus Bill Davis grew up in Denton County.

Bessie Lee Pilkinton was born February 28, 1898, the daughter of C.W. and Eva Lou Pilkinton (see "Thomas & Eva Carson"). She grew up in the Valley View area, graduated from Valley View High School in 1916, and also attended North Texas State Normal College (now University of North Texas).

Bill and Bessie married November 6, 1917, probably in Cooke County. Soon thereafter, they moved to Kansas where their first two sons were born. In 1930, they were living in western Kansas (Wallace County) where Bill worked as a farm laborer. Sometime before 1935 - the year of their third son's birth in Gainesville – they moved back to Cooke County. They initially lived on a 40 acre farm south of the Sherman Clifton place. This was probably when Bessie taught school for a couple years at the neighboring Elm Grove School. Around 1941 or 1942, they bought their farm in Lois. Later they converted it into a dairy farm.

Bill and Bessie's children are,

William Marvin Davis (1918-1997)

Clyde Elden Davis (1922-1975)

Harold Glenn Davis (1935-2011)

Charles Gene Davis (1937-2001)

All four sons graduated from Valley View High School: William M. (1937), Clyde (1940), Glenn (1953), & Gene (1956). William served in the US Air Corp. He was an accountant, and lived in Farmer's Branch.

Clyde also served in the US Air Corp and was M-Sgt. during WW II. He arranged financing for consumer purchases; at one time, he worked for the Dallas City Employees Credit Union.

Glenn served in the US Marine Corp; later he worked as a school teacher, principal, and superintendent in California schools. He also served 1970-1978 as Associate Superintendent of K-8 Public Instruction for the State of California. He was living in Dallas at the time of his recent death (August 21, 2011); he provided some of the Davis history during the last two years.

Gene worked for General Motors Parts Division for several years until a severe automobile accident left him disabled; he later served as a GM Union representative for disabled workers.

Bessie developed severe hardening of the arteries within her brain; as a result she spent her last seven years in hospital care. They sold their Lois dairy farm to Lawrence Miller in 1960, and Bessie began her hospitalization. Bill moved near the Carson home-place for a couple years. After Bessie died September 4, 1967, Bill moved to Valley View for a few years. He later moved to Farmer's Branch to live with his son, William M. and his wife, Mary. Bill passed away January 15, 1980. Both Bill and Bessie are buried in Valley View.

HOBBS FAMILY

James H. & Minnie A. Hobbs: James Henry Hobbs was born June 24, 1865 in Warren County, Tennessee. Both of his parents were born in Tennessee and his mother's name was Mary Rogers - haven't located his father's name.

Minnie Alice Blaine was born December 3, 1874 in Jack County, Texas – SW of Cooke County. She used the name “Nanny” for the 1930 Census, but all prior censuses as well as her gravesite use Minnie. In 1880, she and her parents lived in Knox County, Texas – SW of Wichita Falls.

We don't know when James H. Hobbs came to Texas. Nevertheless James met Minnie, they married in 1891, and they lived in Precinct 7 of Cooke County during the 1900 and 1910 censuses years. All of their children are reported to have been born in Woodbine, Texas. By the time of the 1930 Census, they lived in Precinct 6 (Lois) – across the road neighbors to Jim & Minnie Sluder.

Their children were,

Irene Hobbs (October 1892 – January, 1980) who married John Lee Burch
Charles Hobbs (1894-1963)
William Russell Hobbs (1896-1965)
Clara Renda Hobbs (1898-1992) who married Asa Cox
Herbert H. Hobbs (1900-1978)
Ruth Hobbs (March 1905-February 1998) who married Doc B. Allred
Dorothea Belle Hobbs (May 1907- December 1938) who married E. Irvin Hayes
James Edward Hobbs (1910-1986)
Weldon Hobbs (1915-1992)

Several of the children - Herb, James, Weldon, & (perhaps) Charley lived much of their lives in Lois and nearby communities. Dorothy married Irvin Hayes, the son of John and Mattie Hayes - another family that lived in Lois (see “*John N. Hayes*”). William Russell may have also lived in the community. In any event, Herb, James, Weldon, Dorothy and William Russell (and their respective spouses) are all buried in Valley View. Irene died in Lewisville. Clara died in Port Lavaca. Ruth died in Gainesville.

James Henry Hobbs died February 23, 1941. Minnie Alice died December 10, 1949 in Denton. They are buried in the Valley View cemetery.

Charley & Thelma Hobbs: Charles “Charley” Hobbs was born October 19, 1894 in Texas, the first son of James H. and Minnie A. Hobbs.

Thelma Stinson was born in 1909-10 in Texas; she was an adopted daughter of William & Sallie Stinson (see “*William H. Stinson*”).

Charley and Thelma married in 1924-25. In 1930, they lived on the same farm as James & Minnie Hobbs – across the road from the Sluders.

Charley and Thelma had at least two children,

Bobby Stinson Hobbs (August 24, 1927)

Billie Jim Hobbs (April 29, 1935)

One of my cousins remembers Bobby riding his Shetland pony to the Lois School. Perhaps Charley and Thelma had other children as well?

It's unclear how long Charley and Thelma lived in Lois – Bobby graduated from Valley View High School in 1944, so they were still in the area at that time. Charley died in March, 1963 in Arizona. The date of Thelma's death is unknown. Their burial site is also unknown.

W. Russell & Ella Hobbs: William Russell Hobbs was born December 8, 1896, the second son of James H. and Minnie A. Hobbs. Ella D. Sumpter was born August 19, 1899. They were married in 1915-16.

Their children were,

Melba Dean Hobbs (1917-1997)

Mary Ellen Hobbs (~1920)

Weldon Russell Hobbs (1922 – February, 2010)

There's no Texas census record for Russell & Ella after their marriage - in fact, their son, Weldon Russell was born in Fox, Oklahoma and at the 1930 Census, the family lived in nearby Graham, Oklahoma – NW of Ardmore. Furthermore, Russell died in Idabel, Oklahoma. Thus William Russell Hobbs probably never lived in Lois after he was grown. Nevertheless, Russell and Ella – as well as their son Weldon Russell (and his wife, Ray Jean) are all buried in Valley View.

William Russell Hobbs died February 11, 1965 in Idabel, Oklahoma, and Ella passed away May 27, 1992.

Herb & Beulah Hobbs: Herbert H. Hobbs was the “middle child” of James H. and Minnie A. Hobbs. He was born in 1900 in Woodbine, Texas. Beulah Ann Hill was born 1901 in Texas. Herb and Beulah married January 16, 1921 in Cooke County.

Their children were,

Herbert H. “Junior” Hobbs Jr. (1922-1995)

Louise Hobbs (~1924)

Charles Rodney Hobbs (9/23/1928 – March, 1982)

Joan Hobbs (1931-1939) – passed away when eight years old

David Franklin Hobbs (7/23/1937 – 4/15/2008)

Herb worked at various jobs, including many years at the Lois Cotton gin. The family lived in the small house next door to the gin on several different occasions, although they lived on his father's farm across from the Sluders at the time of the 1930 Census. Herb died August 7, 1978 in Cooke County; Beulah died in 1975. They are both buried in Valley View.

James E. & Leatryce Hobbs: James Edward Hobbs is the next to last son of James H. and Minnie A. Hobbs. He was born in Woodbine, TX on June 22, 1910. Leatryce Gertrude Kidd was born November 15, 1911 in Cooke County. Her parents were Will and Ollie Kidd. James E. and Leatryce married November 9, 1934, and they were lifetime residents of Lois.

Their son is *Donald Edward "Don" Hobbs* (September 19, 1938).

James worked as both farmer and rancher for all of his life. For about 20 years, he and Charlie Roeder also operated a "custom harvesting" business to supplement their farm income. With their combines, trucks, and other equipment, they "followed" the wheat harvest (as the crops ripened) from Valley View through West Texas – into Kansas - and finally ending in Nebraska.

James E. Hobbs passed away January 1, 1986 and Leatryce died August 31, 1989. They are buried in Valley View.

Weldon & Leta Hobbs: Weldon Hobbs was the last child of James H. and Minnie A. Hobbs. Like the other children, he is reported to have been born in Woodbine; his birth was April 14, 1915. Leta Inez Wilson was born July 23, 1916 in Leo, Texas, the daughter of Carl and Minnie Wilson. Weldon and Leta were married April 7, 1934 in Cooke County. Weldon's most used nick-name was "Son" – especially while he was living in Lois, but he was also called "Shorty" by others. When he worked on bomber aircraft for Consolidated (Convair) Aircraft, he was small enough to crawl into the fuel tanks and rivet them together.

Weldon & Leta's children are,

Dwain Douglass Hobbs (3/22/1935 – 10/9/2010)

Jimmie Conn Hobbs (January 19, 1941)

Patti Lou Hobbs (October 9, 1959) who married Mike Wilson (see "Joseph Wilson")

Dwain established God's World Church in Dallas in 1980 where he spent the rest of his life as a minister. He also enjoyed riding his Harley and playing his guitars.

Weldon and Leta lived in Lois during most of the years when Dwain and Jimmy were in school, but later moved to Valley View. Weldon also hauled mail for Alan Ritchey.

Weldon Hobbs died December 3, 1992. Leta died February 4, 2002. They are both buried in Valley View.

AUSTIN FAMILY

Ted & Ruby Austin: Theodore Roosevelt “Ted” Austin was born in Lawrence County, Alabama on April 5, 1901. His parents were Sterling Tucker Austin (1852-1920) and Susie Waldrep (1869 - 1954) – they lived and died in Alabama. In 1910, his family lived in Goddard (Marion County), Alabama. In 1920, they lived in Bear Creek (Marion County). Ted had eight siblings, two of which also moved to Texas.

Ruby Estelle Faulkner was born June 8, 1906 in Wiley Branch (Marion County), Alabama. Her parents were James R. Faulkner and Minnie Lee Melton.

Ted Austin and Ruby Faulkner married October 1, 1922 in Franklin County, Alabama. Their first daughter was born in 1924 in Alabama. They moved to Texas sometime before 1926 - when their second daughter was born in Texas. In 1930, they were living on their farm in the western part of Lois – where I assume they lived until Ted’s death in 1979.

Their children were,

*Mildred Christine Austin (2/24/1924 – 4/23/1997) who married David Leon Sluder
Bettie J. Austin (August 13, 1926)*

David Leon Sluder was the grand-nephew of James D. “Jim” Sluder of Lois (see “James Sluder”).

Ted’s brother, William Thomas Austin (1896-1972), also born in Lawrence, Alabama, moved to Texas and lived in both Lois and Denton (see *next family*). Ted’s sister, Lena Bell Austin (1894-1981), also moved to Texas; she married Willie Howard, and she died in Ira, Texas.

Ted Austin died January 4, 1979 in Cooke County. Ruby Estelle Austin died February 21, 1962 in Sanger. They are buried in Sanger.

William T. & Hattie Austin: William Thomas Austin was born in Lawrence County, Alabama on May 3, 1896 - the fourth child of Sterling Tucker Austin & Susie Waldrep. He was an older brother of Ted Austin (see *above*) - as noted, the family lived in Goddard (Marion County) Alabama in 1910.

Hattie Samantha Green was born April 25, 1892 in Comanche, Texas to David Isom Green (1869-1939) and Mary Elizabeth Walker (1872-1974). William and Hattie were married September 4, 1919 – probably in Alabama. In 1920, they – and William’s parents – still lived in Marion County, Alabama. Sometime later, William & Hattie –

perhaps in the same trip with his brother and sister-in-law Ted & Ruby - moved to Texas. In any event, both brothers were in Lois by the 1930 Census – Ted & Ruby were west of Lois, while William & Hattie lived south of Lois, near the Bagwells and Marshall & Stella Johnson.

Two children are listed for William T. and Hattie Austin in the 1930 Census,

*Faye Lois Austin (6/18/1920 – 11/1995) who married Leo Chester Fox
Billie Austin (~1929)*

Faye and Leo Fox married in Tarrant County, and she died in Ft. Worth – thus I assume she lived in Tarrant County her adult life. Billie's location is unknown.

William T. Austin died May 28, 1972 in Denton. Hattie died August 20, 1988 in Sanger. They are both buried in Sanger.

FARRELL FAMILY

Jacob B. & Eunice Farrell: Jacob Beaugard “Jake” Farrell was born December 28, 1895 in Rockwall County, Texas.

Parents: Jake's parents were Joel Thomas “Joe” Farrell and Elizabeth “Lizzie” Zuspahn - the sister of Annie Zuspahn, who married Phillip Miller (see “*Phillip Miller*”). In 1910, Joe, Lizzie, and family lived in Precinct 3, Rockwell County – where Joe and Lizzie probably remained; Joe died in Terrell in 1915.

Jake Farrell lived most of his adult life in Cooke & northern Denton Counties. He served in the Army during WW I; after the war, he married Eunice Oreal Giles on December 17, 1921 in Cooke County. Eunice was born August 8, 1903.

Jake and Eunice had two children,

*Joseph B. (Joe Bob) Farrell (7/24/1923 – 1/21/1995)
James A. Ferrell (1/24/1925 – 12/5/2002)*

Joe Bob Farrell married Willie Ruth “Bill” Chisam 9/13/1942 in Valley View (see “*Clabourne Chisam*”). Willie Ruth (3/15/1923 – 10/11/1985) was born in Valley View - several of her siblings were also long time citizens of Valley View. At one time, Joe Bob owned Valley View Builders, served on the Valley View Cemetery Association, and was on the Board of Directors of Bolivar Water Supply. Joe Bob and Willie had three children (Ronald D., Robby J., & Billy Bob) – all of which attended Valley View School.

James A. Farrell lived in Gainesville in 1987, but moved to Temple sometime prior to 1993. He was a veteran of both WW II and Korea.

By 1923 - at the time of Joe Bob's birth - the Jake Farrell family had moved from Rockwell to Myra, Texas. By the 1930 Census, the Farrell's lived in Lois, somewhere south of the Lois store. They later moved further south – just over into Denton County - where they lived just north of Troy & Edna Miller. They lived on that farm until Jake's death. Although they lived in Denton County, they remained active members of the Lois Baptist Church.

Jacob B. "Jake" Farrell died November 30, 1975. Eunice passed away August 22, 1995. They are buried in Valley View.

ANDERSON FAMILY

Will & Mae Anderson: William Elmore "Will" Anderson was born September 28, 1886 in Tennessee. Tressie Mae Anderson was born in Texas on March 21, 1897. They married around 1915-16. Haven't located any definitive census records except for 1930 when they lived west of Lois just past Duck Creek on the north side of the road.

Their children – as of 1930 Census – were,

John Marce Anderson (8/31/1917 – 6/18/1990)
Ruby L. Anderson (~ 1918)
William Harding "Bill" Anderson (11/4/1921 – 4/3/2006)
Eula F. Anderson (~ 1925)
Ross Anderson (~ June, 1925)
Bobby J. Anderson (~ September, 1929)

William H. "Bill" Anderson married Ouida W. Miller, daughter of Troy & Edna Miller (see "Troy Miller"). He enlisted in the service in November, 1942 – while still living in Cooke County; he then served in WW II with the 104th Timberwolf Division in Belgium & Germany – in the Battle of the Bulge.

Will Anderson passed away on January 31, 1960 & Mae died November 29, 1973. They are both buried in Valley View. In addition, two of their sons - John M. and William H. - are buried in Valley View.

KEARNS FAMILY

James & Mable Kearns: James Harper Kearns was born in Oklahoma on February 22, 1894. Mable Ann Walker was born in Hunt County, Texas on June 12, 1895. James H. and Mable were married in 1911.

In 1920, they lived in Valley View. At the time of the 1930 Census, they lived across the road from Will & Mae Anderson - west of Lois just past Duck Creek.

Their children – all born in Texas, perhaps in Valley View - are,

James D. Kearns (6/24/1914 – 1/27/1992)
Lena Faye Kearns (3/9/1916 – 10/7/1997) who married ___?___ Gilmore
Mary Jo Kearns (9/10/1919 – 7/10/2000) who married ___?___ Williford
James K. Kearns (10/20/1921 – 7/19/1997)
Kenneth Calvin Kearns (8/22/1923 – 9/15/2004)
Walter Louis Kearns (9/12/1931 – 6/1/2005)

James D. Kearns lived and died in Denton.
Lena Faye Gilmore lived in Midland.
Mary Jo Williford lived in Fort Worth.
Kenneth attended the University of Arkansas, where he received All-Conference and All-American recognition in basketball; he later lived in Houston. My cousin, Jan Huffman recalls when her family lived in Fayetteville, AR that Kenneth – while a student at the university – came for a visit, “He was so tall ...”
Walter lived in Tucker, Georgia.

None of the children graduated from Valley View; Kenneth graduated from Denton High School – perhaps the other children also attended Denton school. The family probably moved to Denton following the death of the father.

James H. Kearns passed away shortly after the 1930 Census – on April 22, 1934. I assume they were still living at their home west of Lois when he died. Mable died November 14, 1972; she was living in Tarrant County – probably with her daughter, Mary Jo. They are both buried in Valley View. In addition, one son, James K. is also buried in Valley View.

HUDSPETH FAMILY

The Hudspeth family has a rich heritage in Lois, Era, and Valley View. There are at least two early Hudspeth clans,

John & Jane Hudspeth
Ayers & Sarah Hudspeth

The ancestral lines of John Hudspeth and Ayers Hudspeth converge in Virginia and North Carolina prior to the American Revolutionary period. Although John Hudspeth never lived in Texas, some of his descendents lived at least some periods in Lois - and several descendents became prominent citizens of Valley View. The second clan - Ayers & Sarah Hudspeth – as well as several of their descendents lived significant periods in Lois and Era.

First Hudspeth Clan - John & Jennie Hudspeth: John (Jr.) & Jane “Jennie” Hudspeth were the ancestors for the Hudspeth clan that settled - especially in Valley

View. John Hudspeth Jr. was born around 1784-86 in Granville County, North Carolina (on the North Carolina-Virginia border). His father, John Hudspeth Sr. (~1753 - 1831), was also born in Granville County. Around 1820, John Sr. - and other relatives - moved from North Carolina and settled near Tompkinsville (Monroe County), Kentucky on the rich Cumberland River bottomland.

Jane "Jennie" Lovell was born in 1802 in North Carolina. She married John Davis when she was in her early teens. Unfortunately, after bearing two sons, she became a widow. Later, she and John Hudspeth Jr. married in Tennessee around 1827. John & Jennie lived near Celina (Jackson County), Tennessee. They also kept the 150-acre Monroe County, Kentucky farm - a few miles north across the state line.

John & Jennie had several children – all of whom were born in Tennessee – probably in the Celina vicinity,

Kathryn "Kate" Hudspeth (1828 - 1910)
Lucinda Hudspeth (1830 - ?) married ___?___ Turner
William J. Hudspeth (3/7/1830 – 6/19/1890)
Thomas Jefferson "Jeff" Hudspeth (9/25/1836 – 6/11/1896)
Andrew Jackson "Jack" Hudspeth (6/26/1839 – 5/8/1917)
Levisa F. Hudspeth (1842 - ?) married ___?___ Sewell
Clarinda F. Hudspeth (1844 - ?)

Kathryn Hudspeth, born in 1828, married ___?___ Stone in Tennessee. She came to Texas as a widow and in 1900 was living in the Lois precinct with a grandson (Thomas McCarver). She lived her later years in Valley View, where she is buried.

It's unknown if the other daughters - Lucinda, Levisa, and Clarinda - ever came to Texas. In 1870, Clarinda, Lucinda (with her three children) - and their mother - were living in Monroe County with their brother, Jack.

All three sons fought for the Confederacy. The Tennessee-Kentucky border was one of mixed loyalties – the county courthouses of both Jackson, TN and Monroe, KY were burned during the war.

The oldest son, William J. Hudspeth, married Mary E. Whitesides (6/15/1839 – 8/20/1904) from Monroe County, Kentucky. After the Civil War, William & Mary – along with other friends and relatives – moved en masse (wagon train) to Texas. Several settled in Celina, Texas (named after Celina, Tennessee from which they had come). William and Mary settled in nearby Whitewright, Texas. They raised ten children – seven of whom were born after they came to Texas. William died in Whitewright June 19, 1890 and Mary died there August 20, 1904.

The other sons, Jeff and Jack Hudspeth, came to Cooke County – *we'll look at their stories next.*

John Hudspeth Jr. died from a “fever” in 1859-60 (in Monroe County, Kentucky). His property was left to Jennie and the three sons: William, Jeff, & Jack. Jane “Jennie” later moved to Texas, where she died in 1894; she is buried in Valley View.

Jeff & Ruth Hudspeth: Thomas Jefferson “Jeff” Hudspeth was the second son of John & Jennie Hudspeth. He was born September 25, 1836 in Jackson County, Tennessee.

Ruth Gearhart was born July 26, 1842 – also in Jackson County, Tennessee. Ruth and Jeff were married in Jackson County, Tennessee on January 10, 1867.

Jeff & Ruth and their infant children moved to Valley View in the early 1870s, shortly after the original Missouri settlers to Valley View (Lee, McCubbin, Obuch, etc.), but then returned to Tennessee in the mid-1870s. Later they returned permanently to Valley View around 1880.

The children of Jeff and Ruth – all born in Jackson County, Tennessee - were,

Ida Hudspeth (4/12/1869 – 10/15/1874) passed at only five years

William Benton Hudspeth (9/9/1872 – 2/8/1949)

Allie “Sally” Hudspeth (8/19/1875 – 1/6/1960)

Jennie Ethel Hudspeth (9/16/1877- 2/26/1956)

William Benton Hudspeth married Alice Pearl York and they lived most of their life in the Valley View area – *see next family.*

Allie Hudspeth married William Sherrod Pace (1871-1945) on January 22, 1899 in Cooke County. During the 1900 census they lived north of Valley View; next door neighbors were her Uncle Jack & Ann Hudspeth. Allie and William are buried in Valley View.

Jennie Ethel Hudspeth married John Beasley Ratliff in 1895 and Walter B. Allen in 1936. She died in Phoenix, Arizona. She had one child, Edith Ratliff (10/31/1901 - ?).

Jeff Hudspeth died June 11, 1896 and Ruth passed on August 12, 1919. Both are buried in Valley View.

William Benton & Alice Hudspeth: William Benton Hudspeth was the only son born to Jeff and Ruth Hudspeth. He was born in Jackson County, Tennessee September 9, 1872 before Jeff & Ruth finally settled in Texas.

William Benton married Alice Pearl York (1877-1950) on March 21, 1897 in Cooke County and they lived the rest of their lives in the area. At the time of the 1900 and 1910 censuses they lived on a farm in Precinct 6 (probably the Lois area); in 1920, they lived in Valley View and they lived south of town on the “state highway” in 1930.

The children of William Benton and Alice Hudspeth were,

Thomas Jefferson "Jeff" Hudspeth (9/14/1898 – 12/82/1961)

William H. Hudspeth (March, 1900 - ?)

Ashley J. Hudspeth (4/17/1902 – 1/12/1992)

Lucy R. Hudspeth (~1904 - ?) married ___?___ Woods

Weldon B. Hudspeth (6/28/1906 – October, 1982)

Jeff Hudspeth, born September 14, 1898, was named after his grandfather. He married Willie Aston September 14, 1917 – on his birthday! Eunice Willie Aston was born November 29, 1895 - the daughter of William Edward & Jane Aston of Lois (see "*Lois Gin*"). Jeff Hudspeth was a farmer, rancher, and owner of the Hudspeth Trucking Company in Valley View. (His son, W.B. reported that Jeff also once operated a Hamburger joint across from the Lois Gin - this certainly seems reasonable since Jeff had married the daughter of the gin owner.) Jeff & Willie were members of the Valley View Methodist Church.

Jeff & Willie had twin sons and a daughter,

W.B. Hudspeth (10/6/1923–9/9/2003)

W.E. Hudspeth (10/6/1923–5/8/1987)

Eula Pearl Hudspeth (7/20/1920 – November, 1982)

While Jeff had been named for his grandfather, he & Willie followed the tradition when naming their twin boys: W.B. was named after the Hudspeth grandfather: *William Benton Hudspeth* and W.E. was named for the Aston grandfather: *William Edward Aston*.

W.B. Hudspeth married Mary Jo Chisam (1927- 2010) - see "*Clabourne Chisam*" - on May 18, 1944. He was Cooke County Commissioner 1962-70, owner & operator of Hudspeth Trucking Company, and operated Hudspeth Fertilizer in Valley View & Era. W.B. & Mary's children are: Bill Hudspeth and Nancy Graves.

W.E. Hudspeth married Velma Box. He was a rancher and owner of the Pilot Point Livestock Commission. W.E. & Velma's children are: Warren Hudspeth, Don Hudspeth, and Cindy Tilton.

Eula Pearl Hudspeth married H.T. Schafer - they are the parents of Dan Schafer who married Linda Carol Gillum (see "*C.W. Gillum*").

Whereas Jeff Hudspeth – and his children - lived their whole lives in Cooke County, the other three sons of William Benton & Alice Pearl perhaps lived in California. During the 1930 census, William H. Hudspeth lived in Calexico (Imperial County) California – with his wife, Velma and daughter, Mary. Weldon

Hudspeth died in Imperial County, California and Ashley Hudspeth's social security was issued in California. Lucy Hudspeth Woods probably lived in Dallas.

William Benton Hudspeth died February 8, 1949. Alice Pearl passed in 1950; they are buried in Valley View.

Jack & Ann Hudspeth: Andrew Jackson - "A.J." or "Jack" - Hudspeth, the last son of John & Jennie Hudspeth, was born June 26, 1839 near Celina, Jackson County, Tennessee. After his father died in 1859-60, he and his brothers helped his mother operate their farms –with an interruption as they all served in the Confederacy during the Civil War. (Jack spent most of the war locked up in Rock Island Union prison after being captured in Monroe County. Unlike many others, he managed to avoid smallpox and starvation; he apparently refused offers of release in exchange for a loyalty oath.) After his brothers moved to Texas following the war, Jack continued to operate the Tennessee/Kentucky farms.

Ann Rebecca Hill was born October 6, 1849 in Monroe County, Kentucky – just across the Tennessee state line from Jackson County where Jack was born. Her parents were William Wright & Martha Caroline Bedford Hill. (Her great-grandfather was Benamin Halsell, an early pioneer of Monroe County who owned most of the McFarland Creek watershed along the Cumberland River.) Jack and Ann married in Monroe County March 16, 1879. As newlyweds, they moved to the Duck Creek area of Lois – and lived in a covered wagon while they build their house. Based on the 1880 census, it appears that they brought his widowed mother with them (and probably his older sister, Kate Hudspeth Stone).

Jack & Ann probably lived in Lois around ten years - sometime around 1890, they moved to Valley View where they built the house we remember as the "Ralph Couch" house. In 1898, they bought another farm north of town and built a new home there in 1899; we remember this as the "Keith & Lela Kemplin" home.

Jack and Ann Hudspeth raised two daughters,

Martha Jane "Mattie" Hudspeth (6/6/1882 – 5/13/1951)

Mary Ruth Hudspeth (December 12, 1891 – May, 1977)

Martha Jane married Warren Solly McCubbin (9/11/1877 - 7/23/1944) on October 29, 1901. Warren McCubbin was born in Valley View, the son of Richard & Mary Jane (Mollie) McCubbin - one of the founding families of Valley View. Jack & Ann built the newlyweds a small house on the farm north of town. Their daughter Lela McCubbin (1/1/1918 – 11/04/1999) married Keith Kemplin (1919-1998) on February 10, 1946 - the parents of Nancy Kemplin Taylor and Martha Kemplin Justice.

Mary Ruth “Sissy” Hudspeth married Joseph Ussery Yarborough (10/27/1886 – 5/1963). They lived in Dallas where he taught at SMU. They had two children: Ann (3/28/1929) and Joseph (7/22/1931) – neither are living today.

Jack and Ann Hudspeth eventually owned three farms – one north of Valley View, another east of Valley View, and the Lois property. Jack also operated a general store in Valley View, was a banker, on the school board, and one of the first elders of the Valley View Church of Christ. After his death, his estate was split evenly between Ann and the two daughters: Mattie took the place north of town, Mary Ruth took the place east of town (which she later sold), and Ann kept the Lois place.

Jack Hudspeth died May 8, 1917 and Ann died May 30, 1947 – at age 98. During her later years, Ann lived (in the house she and Jack had built) with her daughter and son-in-law – Mattie & Warren McCubbin and then later with her granddaughter and grandson-in-law – Lela & Keith Kemplin. Her great-granddaughter, Nancy Taylor, remembers family stories from Ann – including how her parents hid her & her sisters in the attic of their Kentucky home during the Civil War when Union troops came through - and how she had ridden her horse from Lois to Valley View through grass that came up to the stirrups. Ann was tiny, feisty, and rode well into her 70s; when she was in her mid-90s she wrote letters to her granddaughter where she praised the *new* electric lights that had been installed in the house in the mid-1940s and where she mentioned the absence of men in Valley View during WW II when so many had gone to war. Jack and Ann are buried in Valley View.

Second Hudspeth Clan - Ayers & Sarah Hudspeth: Ayers & Sarah Hudspeth were the ancestors of the Hudspeth clan that settled particularly in Lois and Era. Ayers Hudspeth was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina on April 9, 1834. His father was probably George Washington Hudspeth (~1785 – 1849) – although some report John Wesley Hudspeth (1772-1850) to have been Ayers’ father. Ayers served in the Civil War in Company C, 5th Regiment Confederate Army.

Sarah Ann Hoke was also born in Lincoln County, North Carolina – on December 14, 1845. Her parents were Jacob Hoke and Barbara Shireman. Ayers and Sarah married in Salem, N.C. on July 26, 1866, and they were living in Lincolnton, N.C. during the 1870 Census. According to the census, neither Ayers nor Sarah could read or write.

In 1875, Ayers and Sarah left North Carolina with their first five children. Another son was born - perhaps in a covered wagon on the way to Arkansas. In 1880, they lived in Washington County, Arkansas – but perhaps for only about a year. They then lived in Bonham, Fannin County until around 1890 when they moved to Cooke County – east of Era toward Lois, where they lived the rest of their lives.

Ayers and Sarah’s eight children were,

Robert Edward “Ed” Hudspeth (6/4/1867 – 4/1/1935)
Jacob Daniel “Jake” Hudspeth (11/15/1868 - 3/25/1938)

Mary Elizabeth Hudspeth (6/10/1870 – 10/19/1910) who married Mort Parker
William Burton “Bert” Hudspeth (1/29/1872 – 1/19/1948)
George Braxton “Brac” Hudspeth (5/31/1874 – 1/19/1926)
Walter Hoke Hudspeth (4/12/1876 – 1/14/1965)
Clifford Bennett Hudspeth (8/6/1879 – 1919)
Albert Earl Hudspeth (6/26/1886 – 12/8/1968)

During the 1900 Census, Ayers, age 66, was working as a farmer. Sarah, age 54, had given birth to 8 children – all living, and four of the children were still living at home. In 1910, Ayers - then a 76 year old widower - was living next door to his son, Walter.

Sarah Ann (Hoke) Hudspeth died January 15, 1906. Ayers died December 14, 1928 at age 94. They are both buried in Valley View.

Five of the children of Ayers & Sarah lived in the Lois community – and are buried in Valley View. Before we look at those who were Lois citizens, let's summarize those who lived elsewhere,

- Mary Elizabeth Hudspeth married Mort Parker. Both are buried in Era, so they probably lived in our area, but I don't have any specific information.
- In 1895, William Burton Hudspeth married Effie Wilson (who was born in Michigan); they both passed away in Cooke County, but are not buried in Valley View or Era.
- Albert Earl Hudspeth married Mable Belcher and Ethyl Ellen Hodges. He died December 8, 1968 in Dallas. His son was Charlie Arlie Hudspeth, born in 1905.

Robert Edward “Ed” & Lizzie Hudspeth: Robert Edward “Ed” Hudspeth, born 6/4/1867 in N.C., was the first child of Ayers & Sarah Hudspeth. Ed married Elizabeth Tennessee “Lizzie” Hodges October 15, 1891. Elizabeth was born 12/28/1873 in Ector, Fannin County, Texas.

Ed & Lizzie's children were,

Ninnie Rae Hudspeth (8/15/1892-7/20/1926) who married Joseph Ransom
Waggoner
Charles Ayers Hudspeth (Unknown Date – 8/13/1923)
George Ayers Hudspeth (2/19/1896 – 8/16/1943)
Winnie Mae Hudspeth (3/17/1898-7/1/1992) who married Ernest Switzer
Blanche Myrtle Hudspeth (11/24/1901 – 2/2/1991) who married Morgan C.
Browning
Claudia Elizabeth Hudspeth (9/9/1903 – 2/21/1992) who married Percy “Price”
Bragg

Charles Ayers Hudspeth is somewhat of a mystery. Some researchers list a “Clarence Hudspeth” - born 6/15/1894 - as a child of Ed and Lizzie. Since Lizzie died in early 1904, it's tempting to assume 1894 as the birth year for Charles.

However, Charles - or Clarence - is not listed in the 1900 Census (when he would have been age 6 if born in 1894). Nevertheless, Charles Ayers Hudspeth is buried in Valley View (without a birth date) – and he is specifically identified as the son of Ed and Lizzie.

George Ayers Hudspeth married Lena Mildred Newman on August 6, 1916. George, Lena, and their daughter Ava Ruth lived in the Lois vicinity on Valley View Road at the time of the 1930 Census. Ava Ruth later married ___?___ Kennedy.

Morgan Browning – who married Blanche Hudspeth – began his career in Valley View as a barber in 1929, when he worked with Willis Mallicote. In 1938, Morgan purchased the Barber Shop – which he then operated until he retired in 1972.

At the 1900 Census, Ed & Lizzie Hudspeth – along with Rae, George, and Winnie – were living west of Lois next door to George & Elizabeth Stephenson (and children Tom & Lula). Unfortunately Lizzie died four years later – at age 31 - on January 20, 1904. Ed is not listed in the 1910 Census, but in 1920, he – along with his two youngest daughters Blanche and Claudia - was still in Lois.

Robert Edward “Ed” Hudspeth died April 1, 1935 in Cooke County. He, Lizzie - and all of their children - are buried in Valley View.

Jacob Daniel “Jake” & Nellie Hudspeth: Jacob Daniel “Jake” Hudspeth, born 11/15/1868 in N.C., was the second child of Ayers & Sarah Hudspeth. Jake married Nellie Arizona Hodges February 3, 1895. Nellie was born 6/17/1871 in Fannin County, Texas. Nellie Arizona Hodges was the sister of Elizabeth Tennessee Hodges - who had earlier married Jake’s brother, Robert E. “Ed” Hudspeth (*see previous family*). (By the way, the youngest brother of Ed and Jake - Albert Earl Hudspeth – eventually married a younger sister of Nellie and Elizabeth - Ethyl Ellen Hodges. *Thus three Hudspeth brothers married three Hodges sisters.*)

Jake, Nellie, and family are listed in Precinct 6 for 1910, 1920, and 1930 Census. In 1930, they lived on the Era-Valley View road.

Jake and Nellie’s children were,

Clifford Hudspeth (~1899)

Ethel H. Hudspeth (~1900)

Ewing Daniel “Speck” Hudspeth (7/15/1902 – 2/10/1980)

Henry Clay Hudspeth (~1908)

Charles S. “Clarence” Hudspeth (~1911)

Jake and Nellie also had a 7-month old daughter who died in 1909.

In 1920, "Speck" Hudspeth married Clara Belle Hatcher (3/25/1905 – 11/23/1998) from Valley View. They lived in Era most of their married life, and they are buried in Era. I believe E.J. Hudspeth is their son.

It's unclear where the other children of Jake and Nellie lived as adults.

Jake died March 25, 1938; Nellie passed away in 1961. They are buried in Valley View.

George Braxton "Brac" & Lourana Hudspeth: George Braxton "Brac" Hudspeth was born May 31, 1874 in Lincoln N.C. - the fifth child of Ayers and Sarah Hudspeth. In 1904, he married Lourana C. McLaughlin who was born September 9, 1884 in Texas.

Brac and Lourana had twin daughters and two sons,

Frank Lee Hudspeth (3/25/1905 – 1976)

George Virgil Hudspeth (~1909)

Daisy D. Hudspeth (5/27/1911 – 7/3/1990) twin who never married

*Ivy Hudspeth (5/27/1911 – 12/17/1995) twin who married Doyle Selby
(see "Doyle Selby")*

Frank Hudspeth married Lillie Belle Christian (born August, 1907).

George Virgil Hudspeth married Christine Sebastian. They lived on Bermuda Road – perhaps next door to his mother - at the time of the 1930 Census.

As a child, I remember seeing Daisy and Ivy several times – I had never seen twins before, and I was amazed to see two people who *looked exactly alike*.

Brac died January 19, 1926. Based on the 1930 Census, Lourana continued to live with her daughter Daisy on Bermuda Road in the Lois/Era community. Lourana's other daughter and son-in-law (Doyle and Ivy Selby) and son (Virgil and his wife Christine) all lived nearby.

Lourana died November 30, 1948. Brac & Lourana, Daisy, Ivy - and husband, Doyle Selby, and Frank - and wife Lillie Belle - are all buried in Valley View.

Walter Hoke & Lucy Hudspeth: Walter Hoke Hudspeth was born April 12, 1876 – perhaps in a covered wagon on the way from North Carolina to Arkansas or maybe in Fannin County, Texas - the sixth child of Ayers and Sarah Hudspeth. On January 11, 1903, he married Lucinda "Lucy" Elizabeth Roberson, who was born October 17, 1882 in Era (see "*J.W. Roberson*").

Walter and Lucy's children were,

John Ayers Hudspeth (12/17/1903)

Hubert Weldon Hudspeth (1/31/1909 - 1988)

Susie Winona Hudspeth (3/16/1914 – 6/2/1916 only two years old)

John Ayers Hudspeth married Loretta Ervin (9/15/1912 – 1/16/1977). Loretta was raised – but never adopted – by Henry and Claudia Masten. John later married Lorene Harvey and Irmana Wilson.

Hubert Weldon Hudspeth married Beulah Irene Gosnell and Maude Ruth Martindale. Hubert and Maude had a daughter, Winona Margerie (Margean) born in August, 1930 who attended the Lois school with my cousin.

In 1930, Walter & Lucy lived in Lois near their son, Hubert and his wife, Maude, on Valley View-Bermuda road.

Lucy Hudspeth died January 24, 1933. Walter died January 14, 1965; he was a retired farmer living in Gainesville. Walter, Lucy, John – and his wife, Loretta, and Susie Winona are all buried in Valley View.

Clifford Bennett & Isa Hudspeth: Clifford Bennett Hudspeth was born August 6, 1879 in Fannin County, Texas - the seventh child of Ayers and Sarah Hudspeth. On March 28, 1907, he married Mary Isa Robertson, who was born January 11, 1884 in Era. Mary Isa was the sister of Lucy Robertson, who married Walter Hudspeth - the brother of Clifford (see “*J.W. Roberson*” and “*Walter Hoke Hudspeth*”).

Clifford and Isa’s children were,

Lottie Belle Hudspeth (8/1/1908 – 2/22/1998) who married Fred M. Hollingsworth

Cecil Edward Hudspeth (12/23/1909 – 11/29/1967)

Ruby Irene Hudspeth (November 5, 1917) who married Henry Herbert Moody

Lottie Belle and Fred Hollingsworth (3/16/1908 – 3/17/1979) married December 22, 1929. They had no children. They are buried in Valley View.

Cecil Edward Hudspeth married Ruby Golden Sherrill on August 11, 1934 – in Cooke County. Cecil farmed and raised cattle; Ruby was the Era Postmaster. They had two sons: C.E. – who married Nora Jo Christian and Jerry – who married Nelda Chisam. Cecil Edward is buried in Era.

Ruby Irene Hudspeth and Henry Herbert “Herb” Moody (8/2/1910-3/13/1995) had two children: Tommy Don Moody and Mary Louanna Moody – who married Don William Gillum, the son of George Phillip and Mildred Gillum (see “*George Phillip Gillum*”). Herb Moody is buried in Era; Irene is still living.

Clifford Hudspeth died in 1919 – at age 40 in Era. At the time of the 1930 Census, Isa was widowed, living in Lois on the Lois-Era road with her son, Cecil, and daughter, Irene.

Clifford's widow, Isa died August 29, 1968. Clifford and Isa, as well as Lottie Belle - and husband, Fred Hollingsworth - are buried in Valley View.

STINSON FAMILY

William H. & Sallie A. Stinson: William Henry Stinson, born in November, 1871, was the son of John Calvin Stinson Sr. and Mary Frances Aston. William Henry's childhood was probably somewhat sad; he and several of his siblings were virtually orphans.

John Calvin Stinson Sr.: William Henry's father, John Calvin Stinson Sr. was born to Willington Stinson & Ester Griffin in February, 1843 in Marshall County, Tennessee.

William Henry's mother, *Mary Frances Aston*, was born to Samuel W. Aston & Mary Ann Preston in January, 1844 in Chickasaw, Mississippi. Her 5-year older brother was Hugh L. Aston (see "*Lois Store*" and "*Lois Gin*").

John Calvin Stinson Sr. and Mary Frances Aston married in Cherokee County, Texas in September, 1866. Three children were born to John & Mary,

Laura Jane Stinson (1868 – 1871 lived only 3 years) born in Navarro County
William Henry Stinson (1871-1943) born in Rusk, Texas
Mary Bell Stinson (1876 - 1974) married Lee Charles Hampton in 1896.

In November, 1876 – after the baby Mary Bell was born in August - Mary Frances Aston died in Kerens, Texas. John Stinson Sr. was thus left with two infants – one a new-born. Therefore, the oldest child, William Henry was probably raised by relatives. At the 1880 census, 9-year old William Henry was living in Precinct 8, Collin County with his uncle and aunt - Jerry & Samwella McMinnimy. So far as we know, William Henry never again lived with his father.

Nine years after Mary Frances' death, John Stinson Sr. married Emma Whatley in 1885, and they bore three more children – all born in Navarro County,

Laura Frances (Fannie) Stinson (1889 – 1944)
John Calvin Stinson, Jr. (1892 – 1950)
Ruby Stinson (1894 – deceased sometime before 1903)

John Calvin Stinson Sr. died in 1898 in Navarro County and Emma died the next year in 1899. Although the oldest children, William Henry and Mary Bell, were married at that time, the three youngest children were left as orphans.

We don't know the parents of Sallie Ann Hayes. She was born in December, 1879 in Kerens, Navarro County, Texas. In 1880, she probably lived in Franklin, Robertson County, Texas.

In 1898-99, William Henry Stinson - age 27 - and Sallie Ann Hayes - age 20 - married. In 1900, they lived - probably for about a year - in Tishomingo Chickasaw Nation (Oklahoma). Sallie's brother, James, was living with them at the time. By 1910, they had moved to Lois and two of William's orphaned siblings – Laura Frances (Fannie) - age 21 and John Calvin Jr. - age 17- lived with them at that time.

William's Siblings: William's sister, Fannie's full name was Lenora Frances Stinson – born March 12, 1889. Whereas William had lived with an uncle & aunt, Fannie lived in an orphanage in Corsicana until she moved to Lois to live with William & Sallie. Fannie later married Johnie Masten (see “*Johnie Masten*”).

William's younger brother, John Calvin Stinson Jr. (8/22/1892 – 9/23/1950) may have also lived in an orphanage. In any event, he lived with William & Sallie in 1910, but he didn't live in Lois later. He married Nola Mae Habern (see “*A.C. Habern*”), and they lived south of Lois just inside Denton County. In 1930, they had five children (including twins, Coy & Foy). In 1931, another daughter, Mary Kathern, was born - who later *walked* to Goodview School with Troy P. Miller Jr. John Calvin Jr. and Nola Mae Stinson are buried in Sanger.

William and Sallie not only had some of their siblings living with them – they also raised six of their own children – and they also adopted three more children after the parents of the children had died. Thus William and Sallie raised nine children,

*Margaret Mae Stinson (11/12/1900 – 8/3/1949) who married Lewis McDaniel
Troy C. Stinson (~1903 – 1992?) – Adopted by William & Sallie
William L. Stinson (~1904) – Adopted by William & Sallie
Hubert Cecil Stinson (4/4/1906 – 12/29/1989)
Thelma Stinson (~1910) – Adopted by William & Sallie; married Charley Hobbs
Eula B. Stinson (3/6/1911 – 12/15/1982)
Pansy Marie Stinson (6/30/1914 – 12/27/2005) married Fred Calender
Andrew J. Stinson (~1918)
Hazel Frances Stinson (10/3/1919)*

Margaret Mae Stinson was born in 1900 in the Indian Nation. She married Lewis Berry McDaniel (1/13/1899-1/10/1955) who grew up in Denton County. After their marriage around 1919-20, they lived in Denton County, but by the time of the 1930 Census, they lived in Lois – near Davis & Ida Aughtry and her parents. Margaret and Lewis' children were:

*Anna L. McDaniel (2/14/1920-7/13/1980) – who married Thomas Conner
Derah Quida McDaniel (1923-1972) – who married ___?___ Van Dyke
Guy L. McDaniel (2/15/1930-12/15/1937 age 7).*

Margaret and Lewis – and all of their children – are buried in Sanger.

Hubert C. Stinson attended Lois school with one of my aunts. Hubert was two years older than my Aunt Della (Masten) Hayes – as young school kids, they

were “so in love”. He registered for Social Security in California and later passed away while living in Duncanville, Dallas County, Texas. Therefore, he probably never lived in Lois after his childhood. He is nevertheless buried in Sanger.

Thelma Stinson married Charley Hobbs, and they lived in Lois for some time (see “*Charley Hobbs*”). One of their sons, Bobby Stinson Hobbs, attended Lois School with another of my cousins.

Miss Eula B. Stinson never married. She was the *last* teacher in the Lois School. In 1938-39, after the Lois School closed, she taught in the Callisburg School, but moved to Valley View the next year where she remained until 1948. (In 1968 – her 38th year of teaching - she was in Palmer, Texas.) As far as I know, she always taught first grade in Valley View. She was a truly beloved teacher that many of us remember with very fond memories. She is buried in Sanger.

Pansy Marie Stinson was born in Lois – seventh of the nine children. She attended Lois School and completed high school in Gainesville. After completing a Bachelor’s degree from North Texas, she taught in Sanger schools. During WW II, she worked for Lockheed Aircraft where she met her husband, Fred Calender. They were married in April, 1945, and in 1947, they moved to his home state of Colorado, where they lived the rest of her life.

As noted above, the Stinson family came to Lois prior to 1910. By the time of the 1930 Census, William and Sallie – with the younger children - lived on Lois Road near the heart of Lois.

William H. Stinson passed away October 10, 1943 in Cooke County; Sallie A. Stinson died June 9, 1949. They are both buried in Sanger.

BENTLEY FAMILY

Several Bentley families have lived in the Lois/Era area. Elisha and Malinda Bentley – with roots in Indiana and Missouri – moved to Bolivar, Texas around 1868. Several of their offspring – and their descendents – later lived in Cooke County, some within the Lois area. Other Bentley families probably originated in Tennessee and/or Mississippi – and may not have been related to Elisha & Malinda. Only one of these “other Bentley” families lived specifically in Lois – and their stay was probably temporary.

Elisha W. & Malinda A. Bentley: Elisha William Bentley was born in Indiana to Benjamin R. & Harriett Bentley on November 13, 1836. In 1859, he married Malinda A. Boatman (also born in Indiana – on April 28, 1837). They had six children – one daughter & five sons. Some of the older children were born in Indiana; later ones, in Missouri – and the last child was born in Bolivar, Texas. Based on family stories regarding the ages of the children when they arrived in Texas, it appears that the family arrived in 1868–69.

Although Elisha and Malinda probably never lived in Cooke County, at least three – maybe more - of their children lived here.

Elisha taught school during the school term and farmed the rest of the year. He died February 22, 1875 in Bolivar – only 38 years old. In 1880, Malinda and the 5 sons were still in Bolivar (Precinct 5), where she remained the rest of her life.

Elisha and Malinda's children were,

Lillian Annette Bentley (10/22/1860 – 11/14/1945) married Edwin Taylor Broun

Francis Marion “Frank” Bentley (3/11/1862 – 4/2/1943)

Benjamin Robert Bentley (12/24/1863 – 3/16/1953)

Charles Edwin Bentley (1/31/1866 - 7/17/1945)

Gerald Elmer Bentley (4/22/1868 - 2/14/1951)

William Albertie Bentley (9/19/1870 – 2/9/1949)

Lillian and Edwin Taylor Broun probably lived in the Bolivar area during 1884-91 since three of their children who died as infants during that time are buried there. However, neither Lillian nor Edwin is buried in Bolivar, Era, Sanger, or Valley View. Nevertheless, Lillian is reported to have died in Denton County.

Similarly, Francis Marion Bentley is reported to have died in Cooke County, but he isn't buried in either Era or Valley View. Thus we don't know where he lived as an adult?

Benjamin Robert Bentley, and his wife Arista M, are buried in Bolivar – thus he apparently stayed in Bolivar.

Charles Edwin and Gerald Elmer Bentley both lived in the Lois area – *we'll come back to their story shortly.*

William A. Bentley, and his wife Lena Rivers Sawyer, also lived in the Lois area – but perhaps not as long. William and Lena were here during the 1900 Census. But they probably moved fairly soon thereafter since one of their children was born in Oklahoma in 1905. Later he lived in Lampasas County (1910), San Marcos (1920), and San Antonio (1930); he died in DeWitt County.

Malinda Bentley died in Bolivar September 15, 1898. Both Elisha and Malinda are buried in Bolivar.

Charlie E. & Gracie Bentley: Charles Edwin Bentley was the fourth child of Elisha and Malinda Bentley. He was born in Missouri on January 31, 1866. In 1888, Charlie - age 22 - married Gracie Harriett Holland - age 16 - the daughter of Lesander Holland & Harriet Narce. Gracie was born in Texas February 11, 1872.

Sometime after their 1888 marriage, Charlie and Gracie moved to Lois – where they lived at the time of the 1900 Census. They were still there in late 1907 at the birth of

their tenth child. It is reported that Charlie and his family moved from Lois to Era in 1913 - where he purchased two farms. However, according to the 1920 Census, they were living in Valley View. In any event, by 1930, Charlie & Gracie lived SE of Era near the farms of Jesse Masten and Clint Masten. They lived at that home-place the rest of their lives.

Charlie and Gracie had seven sons and five daughters,

Edward R. "Ray" Bentley (1889 – 1970) lived in Lakeland, Florida
Rosa Bentley (1893-94 - 1965) who married O.M. Reynolds, a Church of Christ minister
"Infant" Bentley born before Robert - deceased by 1900
Robert A. Bentley (11/18/1895 – 4/21/1973) lived in Era all his life
"Infant" Bentley born after Robert - deceased by 1900
Chester (also Charley B) Bentley (~1899 – 3/14/1924)
Richard C. Bentley (1901-1962)
Minnie M. Bentley (1/24/1903 – 2/6/1906 only age 3)
Charlie E. "C.E." Bentley Jr. (1905-06 - 1976)
Hattie Clara Bentley (9/19/1907 – 10/7/2010) who married Forrest M. Baker
Lela Mae Bentley (1911) who married ___?___ Moore
William W. "Bill" Bentley (3/2/1915 - 2/7/1952) lived on the home place

The birth-order for the third and fifth "infant" children who deceased is known since the 1900 Census reported that Gracie had given birth to six children, of which four were living (Ray, Rosa, Robert, & Chester) and Robert is reported to have been the fourth child. One of these infant children was a son while the other was a daughter.

Robert A. Bentley lived in the Era community all his life; in 1916, he married Della A. Bush (2/23/1898 – 3/18/1993). He was a farmer and civic leader until his death in 1973; he served on the Era School Board for 35 years. Robert and Della had three sons and a daughter,

- Charles L. "C.L." Bentley married Emma Jene Knight and lived in Duncan, Oklahoma
- Crystal Bentley married Theodore D. Hughes and lived in Gainesville
- Jack Bentley lived in Houston
- Eugene Bentley married Nancy Idell of Valley View, was a dairyman & farmer- also served on the Era School Board.

Chester Bentley lived in Era and Birmingham, Alabama. He is buried in Bolivar.

Richard C. Bentley was a retired aviation instructor who lived in Lakeland, Florida.

Charlie E. Bentley "C.E." Jr. was a farmer & rancher who lived in Detroit, Texas.

Hattie Clara (Bentley) Baker was born in Lois; she lived to age 103 as a longtime resident of Fort Worth. When she died in 2010, she was the last of Charlie and Gracie's children.

Lela Mae (Bentley) Moore lived in Georgetown, Texas

Charlie E. Bentley died July 17, 1945. Gracie passed away on November 8, 1948. Both are buried in Era.

Gerald E. & Jennie Bentley: Gerald Elmer "Elmore" Bentley - brother of Charlie Bentley - was the fifth son of Elisha and Malinda Bentley. He was born April 22, 1868 in Missouri, and he was about six months old when the family moved to Bolivar, Texas. On September 14, 1893, he married his neighbor, Jennie Davis; she was born April 8, 1875.

After their marriage, Elmer and Jennie lived in Bolivar with his widowed mother – Malinda - for a few months before they bought 80 acres from Jennie's father and built their own home. After his mother died (1898), he bought – and moved into - the Bentley home place. In 1901, they sold out and moved to Oklahoma – but stayed only two years before coming to Lois. It is reported that they moved from Lois to Valley View in 1905 and then to Era in 1915 – however, they were still in Valley View according to the 1920 Census. They are reported to have moved to Denton around 1923, but by 1933-34, they moved to Era where they lived until Elmer died 2/14/1951.

Elmer and Jennie's children were,

Gerald Earl Bentley (1894-1969)

Inis Edith Bentley (10/27/1896 – 11/29/1987)) who married Bard Anderson

Iris Elsie Bentley (3/27/1898 – 8/16/1973) who married Robert Little (7/7/1895 – 8/24/1980)

Frankie Fay Bentley (11/23/1900 – 11/19/1997) who married Fount Hire (7/22/1896 – 2/14/1980)

Charles Aubrey Bentley (2/3/1905 – 6/11/1988)

Elvie Bentley (1907 - ?) married Lacy Jo Parker of Texarkana in 1936

Gerald Earl Bentley married Rachel Anderson – both Gerald and Rachel were born in 1894 and both died the same year, in 1969. In 1930, they lived on Era Road with sons, Gerald E. Jr. and Milton. Another child, Lesley Hugh, was born in 1932. When Elmer and Jennie moved to Denton, Earl and Rachel moved into the Era home-place.

Inis Edith Bentley married Bard Anderson in 1916 and they moved south of Valley View. She died in Denton County.

Iris Elsie Bentley married Robert Little in 1918. They lived – and are buried - in Era.

Frankie Fay Bentley married Fount Hire in 1918 – on the same day that her sister, Elsie married Robert Little. Fay and her husband, Fount also lived – and are buried - in Era.

Charles Aubrey Bentley married Marie Taylor of Hood, Texas in 1933. He died in Kern County, California. Their daughter, Peggy Marie, was born in Cooke County in August, 1934.

Elmer Bentley died February 14, 1951. Jennie later moved to Gainesville until her death June 21, 1966. Both are buried in Era.

William W. & Hester Bentley: William W. “Bill” Bentley was the last child of Charlie & Gracie Bentley. He was born March 2, 1915. He and his wife, Hester Robertson, lived on Charlie & Gracie’s home-place (between Perry Masten and Jesse Masten).

Bill and Hester’s children are,

Billy Bentley (Dates U/K)

Nita Bentley (Dates U/K)

William W. Bentley died February 7, 1952; he is buried in Era.

William F. & Sudie Bentley: William F. and Sudie Bentley lived in Lois near Ted and Ruby Austin at the time of the 1930 Census. William F. Bentley – as well as both of his parents – was born in Tennessee. Thus it doesn’t appear that William F. Bentley was related to the Elisha & Malinda Bentley family – whose roots were Indiana and Missouri – as described above.

Sudie (or perhaps Sadie) Whitaker – and her parents were born in Georgia.

William F. Bentley was born around 1887 and Sudie was born around 1893. William F. and Sudie Bentley lived in Fort Worth in 1920 – along with a two year old daughter, Opal Lula. In August, 1929, another daughter – Elizabeth S. - was born in Cooke County.

No additional information has been discovered concerning William F. or Sudie Bentley – they are not buried in Era or Valley View. They may have lived in our area for only a short time – just at the time of the 1930 Census.

Other Bentley Families: *The above Bentley families are the only ones with clear ties to Lois.* However, several other Bentley families lived within Era and other surrounding areas.

- *Alexander Gilmore “A.G.” Bentley* was apparently the patriarch of another Cooke County based Bentley clan – that came from Tennessee. He was born

September 29, 1849, in Frankfort, Tennessee, and married Arminda Copeland (1847-1882) in McNairy, Tennessee. Later in August, 1896, he married Ella M. Canaday in Russellville Pope, Arkansas. Ella was born in Hardin County, Tennessee on May 3, 1876. The children of A.G. and Arminda include Thomas F. Bentley (11/24/1882 – 2/18/1916) and William F. Bentley (August, 1889 - 1960). Thomas F. Bentley was born in McNairy County, Tennessee; he died – and is buried in Era. William F. Bentley was also born in McNairy County; in 1920, he and his wife, Myrtle, lived in Valley View – along with children (Chester W. age 13, Jim Alix age 10, & Elbert F. age 7). He died in Caddo County, Oklahoma. A.G. Bentley died in Era on November 11, 1914. Ella passed away in Era on October 21, 1958. They are both buried in Era.

- *Henry Franklin “H.F.” Bentley* was apparently the patriarch of another Cooke County based Bentley clan. He was born March 18, 1867. Some claim he was born in Hardin County, Tennessee – if so, he may have been a younger brother (or even a son) of Alexander G. Bentley. However, in the 1930 Census, he reported that he – and his parents - was born in Mississippi. Henry married Margaret Flanagan, born in 1869, in Hardin County, Tennessee. Henry F. Bentley died September 12, 1952 in Cooke County – no doubt in Era. Margaret died in 1953 in Era. They are both buried in Era. Henry F. Bentley may have been earlier married to Jewell Ellis – they are listed as the parents of Douglas Duard Bentley, born in Cooke Count in March, 1934.
- *Edgar Mose “E.M.” Bentley* was born in 1872, apparently in Mississippi. He died in 2/15/1953. His wife was Sarah Jane Bentley (1/17/1873 - 1/24/1930). They – along with daughter Lola - lived in Era on the Valley View Highway in 1930. E.M., Sarah, and a son, Walter Lynn (1/9/1905 - 1/27/1928) are buried in Era.
- *Egbert H. Bentley* (2/8/1893 – 1/7/1973) lived on Duck Creek Road at the time of the 1930 Census. He reported that he was born in Tennessee. He lived in Mississippi in 1900 and in Love County, Oklahoma in 1910. His first wife was Grace Elizabeth (1895-1928) – born in Iowa, and his second wife was Nola Darlene (1906-1930). Egbert, Grace Elizabeth, and Nola Darlene are all buried in Era.
- *Elizabeth Ann “Lizie” Bentley* (2/12/1904 – 1/5/1997), born in Tennessee married Warner Reese Trew (12/19/1894 – 1/6/1987) and they lived in the Era area at the time of the 1930 Census. The connection to other Bentley’s is unknown. They are both buried in Era – so they likely lived in the area for most of their lives.
- *Jackie C. Bentley* was also born in Tennessee around 1905 – perhaps related to A.G. Bentley. He and his wife, Ruth, lived in Era at the time of the 1930 Census; he was a school teacher. Neither Jackie nor Ruth are buried in Era.

VANN FAMILY

Demps & Emma Vann: Demps Edward Vann was born in Tennessee on May 23, 1875. Emma Worthington Sparkman was born - also in Tennessee - on March 17, 1882. They married around 1900. The date for their move from Tennessee in Texas is unknown, but their second child (Alma) was born in Farmers Branch, Texas in 1902. Eight years later, at the 1910 Census, they were still living in Farmers Branch, Texas. It's likewise unknown when Demps and Emma moved to Lois. Nevertheless, their daughter, Alma, married in Lois in 1919. By 1930, they were living in Precinct 8 of Cooke County - perhaps east of Valley View. They worked as farmers for many years in the Lois and Era communities.

Demps and Emma's children are,

Ethel Vann (~1901)

Alma Vann (12/18/1902 – 9/23/1997) who married William Turner “Bill” Knight

Elmer Vann (12/18/1902 - who died almost 2 years old)

Willie Vann (2/7/1905 – 8/16/1998)

Sparkman Vann (6/17/1908 – 8/15/1981) who married Ruby T. King

D.E. Vann Jr. (12/12/1915 – 5/20/1932)

Winfred Vann (9/8/1918 – 9/22/1918)

Elmer Vann, twin brother of Alma, is buried in Webb Chapel cemetery in Carrolton, Texas. The last child, Winfred, died after only 14 days; he is buried on the Vann plot in Valley View.

Alma Vann met William Turner “Bill” Knight (2/28/1899) on one of his frequent trips to Lois to play baseball. They were married in Lois on 9/14/1919 and lived the rest of their lives in the Era community. Alma and Bill Knight's children are: Emma Jene – who married Charles L. Bentley, Mozelle – who married Francis R. Brown, Johnnie Marie – who married Kenneth McDonald, William Houston “Billy”, Edwin Demps, and Patricia Gale – who married Don Newton. Alma and Bill are buried in Era.

Willie Vann and his wife, Johnnie lived in Lois / Valley View. (*see next family*)

Sparkman Vann and his wife, Ruby, lived in Cooke County, near Myra and moved to Gainesville in their later years. Sparkman is buried in Valley View.

Demps Vann died November 30, 1966; Emma passed away on January 28, 1969. They are both buried in Valley View – along with their children, Willie, Sparkman, D.E. Jr., and Winfred.

Willie & Johnnie Vann: Willie Vann was born in Farmers Branch, Texas on February 7, 1905, the third child – and first son - of Demps E. and Emma Vann. He married Johnnie M. Chaney on June 1, 1927; Johnnie was born in Gainesville September 1,

1907. Willie attended school at the Lois School - as well as Valley View. He was a member of the first Valley View football team.

In 1930, Willie and Johnnie, along with their daughter, John Ann, lived in the Lois vicinity on the Valley View – Bermuda road (near the Stephenson's).

Willie & Johnnie's children are,

*John Ann Vann (12/11/1929 – 4/11/2001) who married Robert Eagleson
Betty Vann (2/20/1937 – 6/14/1994) who married Frank Highsmith
Billy Vann (1/11/1939) who married Sandra Ray.*

Willie Vann died August 16/1998; his wife Johnnie preceded him in death on September 21, 1996. They are buried in Valley View. Billy & Sandy live in Valley View.

HABERN FAMILY

A.C. & Jennie Habern: Andrew Cowan (A.C.) Habern was born to Benjamin Franklin Habern (1837- 6/6/1920) and Mary Emily Wilson (1/8/1840 – 3/24/1910) in Lee County, Virginia on December 31, 1861. Both parents were born in Lee County, Virginia – so the family had deep roots in Virginia. A.C. married Laura B. Blanton on February 5, 1885 - their first child was Grover William Habern, born February 17, 1886. Unfortunately, Laura passed away two years later in March, 1888.

The date when A.C. and his young son moved to Texas is unknown, but it was prior to September 18, 1892 when he married Jennie Dean McClendon in Denton. Jennie McClendon was born March 22, 1872; her parents were John Martin McClendon (1850-1917) and Katherine Barbara Smith (1853-1920). A.C.'s parents probably moved to Texas at the same time, because they were registered in Denton County, Precinct 8 at the 1900 Census – and they are buried in Sanger.

The date when A.C. and Jennie Habern moved to Lois is likewise unknown. It is reported that their daughter, Dollie, was born in Lois in 1898. However, at the time of the 1900 Census, they were living in Denton County, Precinct 5 – and they were still in Denton County at the 1910 Census. An attendance record for the Lois Methodist Church for 1920-21 lists A.C. Habern as a frequent “preacher” for the church. His service in this capacity was probably because the church didn't have a full-time preacher, but rather depended on “circuit riders” who circulated among the various churches. In addition, Jennie Habern and their daughter, Lou (Habern) Martin, are listed as members of the Missionary Society at that time.

The children of A.C. and Jennie Habern were,

*Grover William Habern (2/17/1886 – 10/30/1967) born in Virginia to Laura Blanton
Owen Lois Habern (8/4/1893 – 10/21/1960) first born to Jennie McClendon*

Nola Mae Habern (3/15/1895 – 8/11/1987) who married John Calvin Stinson
Louella Habern (9/12/1896 – 6/10/1971) who married Fred Morris Martin
Dollie Lee Habern (1/21/1899 – 12/4/1989) who married William Hayley Hunter
Charles Hendrix Habern (1/24/1903 – 5/3/1974)
Ruth Ann Habern (5/25/1909 – 3/20/1936) who married Forrest L. Adair

Grover Habern was a fireman in Wichita Falls. He is buried in Wichita Falls.

Owen L. Habern married Texie Aston (June, 1894 – April, 1981), the daughter of William Edward Aston and Jane (Pace) Aston, who was the owner of the first Lois cotton gin (see "*Lois Gin*"). Although many of the Aston family members are buried in Valley View, Texie and Owen Habern are not; Owen and Texie both died – and are buried - in Wichita Falls.

Nola Mae Habern married John Calvin Stinson (8/22/1892 - 9/23/1950) (see "*William H. Stinson*"). They lived on Lois Road south of Lois just inside Denton County. John died in Sanger, and Nola Mae died in Godley, Johnson County, Texas. They are both buried in Sanger.

Louella Habern was born in Denton County, Texas. She married Fred Morris Martin (9/1/1893 – 8/31/1955) who was born in Hill County, Texas. Fred served in the 142nd Infantry, 36th Division, Machine Gun Company in WW I – which consisted of several men from Cooke County. The company was also known as the "Gainesville Machine Gun Company". On October 8, 1918 – after several days of intense fighting - the Company took the town of St. Etienne, France from the German army. Fred, and his brother Lyle, were wounded; the company suffered 35 casualties during the fighting. Louella and Fred's daughter was Wanda Lou Martin, who married Sherman Clifton. As a young girl, Lou played the piano for the Lois Methodist Church. Both Louella and Fred are buried in Valley View.

Dollie Lee Habern was born in Lois. She married William Hayley "Will" Hunter (1/23/1894 – 4/2/1986) on October 24, 1920 (see "*B.L. Hunter*"). The marriage took place at the Methodist Church in Lois - the story goes that during the afternoon they went to see the Circuit Rider Preacher at the church. He was holding a funeral when they arrived, so they waited until the funeral was finished - the preacher then came out and married them while they sat in their buggy in front of the church. Dollie & Will are both buried in Valley View.

Charles Habern is buried in Pueblo, Colorado.

Ruth Habern died young of pneumonia – buried with her husband Forrest L. Adair in Wichita Falls.

Jennie died March 21, 1924 and A.C. died February 4, 1926. They are both buried in Sanger. The parents of A.C. (Benjamin F. & Mary E. Habern) – and the parents of Jennie (John M. & Katherine B. McClendon) - are also buried in Sanger as is Charlie

Hendrix Habern (1888 - 1902) and William Franklin Habern (1865 - 1888) - younger brothers of A.C.

HUNTER FAMILY

B.L. & Irma Hunter: Benjamin Lafayette "B.L." Hunter was born in Tennessee on March 25, 1845. His parents were John A. Hunter (1813) and Comina Kincer (1820). Sometime between the 1850 and 1860 censuses, the family moved from Greene County, Tennessee to Collin County, Texas. In 1870, the family lived in another precinct - but still in Collin County. In 1880, B.L. was a student living in yet another Collin County precinct.

Irma Sue Cannon was born in Mississippi May 25, 1867. Although 22 years difference in age, Irma and B.L. married around 1888. Benjamin was a farmer and a Presbyterian minister. He preached for the Corinth Presbyterian Church in Parker – less than a mile from what would later become the "South Fork Ranch" featured in the TV show *Dallas*. Irma was a piano teacher. Family "history" reports that the family moved from Parker to Lois when their son, Will, was one year old – roughly 1895. However, the 1900 Census lists them still in Collin County; Irma had given birth to six children - of which five were living. Ten years later in 1910, they lived in Lois – and another of their children (Walter) had passed away. They lived on the Wells #5 property just NE of the Lois store.

The children of B.L. and Irma Hunter were,

James Lafayette Hunter (1889 – 1889 died as an infant)

Robert Cannon Hunter (9/15/1890 – 6/4/1974)

Benjamin Giles Hunter (September, 1892 – Around 1980)

William Hayley "Will" Hunter (1/23/1894 – 4/2/1986)

Walter Mayes Hunter (12/14/1897 – 8/4/1908 ten years old)

Irma Sue Hunter (April, 1900 - 1973)

Robert Cannon Hunter married Julia Elizabeth Knight on March 9, 1918. Julia was born October 20, 1896 in Freemound, Cooke County, Texas. (Freemound is north of Rosston, Texas.) Robert and Julia's children were:

Billie Sue Hunter (5/10/1919 – 7/4/1981)

Robert C. Hunter Jr. (12/13/1920 – 7/21/1999)

Billie Sue married Joe McLaughlin (1915 – 1999); they lived and raised their family in Valley View.

Robert C. Jr. passed away in Carpentersville, Kane County, Illinois. His widow is still living at age 93.

Robert Cannon Sr. – the father – died in Denton in 1974. Julia died in April, 1984.

Benjamin Gillespie Hunter lived in Ardmore, OK. He and his wife, Cleva had one daughter, Kathryn (1/22/1932-1977) – who married Glede Vaughn of Tulsa.

Will H. Hunter served in the Army during WW I and married Dollie Lee Habern (see “A.C. Habern”) October 24, 1920. Dollie was born in Lois January 21, 1899. Will and Dollie’s children are,

Dorothy Dean Hunter (7/9/1921)

Irma Ruth Hunter (8/20/1924)

William S. Hunter (1/22/1932)

Dorothy lives in Temple, Texas.

Irma married Andrew T. Enderby of Era. She has continued living on their farm between Era and Gainesville since Andrew’s death in 1983.

William S. Hunter lives in Richardson, Texas.

Will always enjoyed telling the story of when he and Dollie were dating – he called it “spooning”. They went to a service at the Lois Methodist Church one winter evening – when the road was still merely a dirt road. On the way home, the buggy slid off the road into the ditch – the horse couldn’t pull it out, so Will walked a mile or two to the Habern home for help, leaving Dollie alone in the buggy covered with a blanket. After they freed the buggy, Mr. Habern looked at Will and said, “Will, don’t let this happen again or she’ll be your ex-girl!”

Will died March 2, 1986, and Dollie passed away December 4, 1989. Both Will and Dollie’s roots were in Lois; they are buried in Valley View.

Walter Mayes Hunter died of tetanus after stepping on a rusty nail when he was 10 years old.

Irma Sue Hunter married Emory Henderson, lived in Clovis, N.M. and then Wichita Falls. They had one son, Emory Raymond Henderson. She retired to Gainesville in the late 1960s and died in 1973 - buried in Fairview cemetery in Gainesville.

Irma Sue Hunter – the mother - passed away July 24, 1912, and Rev. Benjamin L. Hunter died the next year on November 20, 1913. Irma and B.L. – as well as two children, Walter and Will (and his wife, Dollie), are buried in Valley View. Ben & Irma’s first child, James, had died as an infant, and their fifth child, Walter had died in 1908 (at age 10). As a result, the only family members left at the time of the 1920 Census were Robert, Benjamin, Will, and Sue. Robert was married, so he and his wife Julia were listed as head of the household - and Will & Sue were living in the same house – all in Lois. A few months later, Will married Dollie Habern; Irma Sue also married soon thereafter and moved away – perhaps to New Mexico. Benjamin also moved away, so Robert and Will were the only family members left in the area. At the time of the 1930

Census, Robert & Julia were living on Lois Road and Will & Dollie were living on the State Highway south of Valley View.

STEPHENSON FAMILY

George & Elizabeth Stephenson: This branch of the Stephenson family traces its roots to Yorkshire, England – as early as 1066. They lived in the village of Arksey, and their earliest ancestors made their living from the North Sea. George Stephenson was born in Almholme, England April 13, 1832; his wife, Elizabeth Farmery was born – also in England – February 8, 1834. Around 1867, George, Elizabeth, and their seven children migrated to the USA – in a hectic stormy 14-day trip. After clearing customs in New York, the family established a home in Towanda, Illinois. During the next 11 years, seven more children were born – one of which died as an infant.

George and Elizabeth's oldest child was James Stephenson. When he was 21, he left their Illinois home and headed for California; however, he became discouraged and stopped in Texas – arriving in Gainesville November 2, 1877. In 1878, he bought a 90-acre farm west of Lois – for \$4/acre - as well as some nearby land for his father. The rest of the family then moved to Texas.

The 1880 Census lists George and Elizabeth's children living on the Lois farm as,

James Stephenson (10/2/1855 - ?) – the oldest child
Mary Stephenson (~1858 - ~1924) married Asa Allen, in California
John Stephenson (~1859)
Mary Elizabeth “Lizzie” Stephenson (1/8/1861-6/14/1916) married George Volney McLaughlin
Ada Stephenson (11/10/1862 – 11/10/1933) married J.W. Roberson
Walter Stephenson (5/14/1864 – 10/8/1937) married Elfleda Piper, 2nd marriage
Mattie Butler
Beda Stephenson (4/1/1866 – 4/27/1897) married Robert Serviss
Rose Stephenson (~1868) married Lambert Fleenor
Salina Stephenson (~1872) married Frank Kerns, 2nd marriage Dan McCraney
Frederick T. Stephenson (12/8/1872 – 2/2/1907) married Lula Mae Robinson
Thomas Stephenson (~1875) married Betty Johnson
Lula M. Stephenson (12/2/1878 – 3/19/1974) married Harve Wright
Alice Stephenson (~1879-6/29/1955) married Stephen McKee

James, the first-born, lived on the Lois farm he purchased in 1878 – *we'll return to his story shortly.*

Mary moved to California.

John moved to New Mexico where he was poisoned by hostile Indians.

Elizabeth “Lizzie” married George Volney McLaughlin and built a home near her parents; George eventually served as an Elder in the Era Church of Christ. Lizzie and George are buried at Spring Creek cemetery. They had four sons and a daughter; their son, Joe V. McLaughlin (1/11/1887 – 12/25/1918) died of pneumonia & Spanish influenza during the 1918 flu epidemic. Joe is buried in Era.

Ada married John W. Roberson (2/9/1851 – 10/9/1934) and they also built a home near her parents where they lived the rest of their lives. They are listed in every census 1900-1930; they are both buried in Era (see “*J.W. Roberson*”).

Walter and his first wife, Elfreda (1870-1899) had two sons – an unnamed infant who died at 7 months and Gaines who died at age one. After Elfreda died at age 29, Walter married Mattie Jane Butler (1862-1953). In 1920, Walter and Mattie lived in Valley View; in 1930, they lived near Dupree and Leona Clampitt on the Stephenson’s Lois home-place. Walter & Mattie – as well as Elfreda and her two sons - are buried in Era. John T. Stephenson (1908-1970), buried on the same plot, was probably a son of Walter and Mattie.

Beda was the last of George & Elizabeth’s children born in England. She married Robert Serviss December 25, 1890. They bore one son, Gilbert F. Serviss (1894) prior to Beda’s death – at age 31 in April, 1897. *We’ll return to her story shortly.*

Rose married Lambert Fleenor. Like her sisters - Lizzie and Ada - Rose also had a home near their parents.

Fred T. was killed accidentally while sawing wood behind a power machine. He is buried in Valley View; so he probably also lived in the area – passed away at age 34. His son, Fred Jr. (1904-1954), is also buried in Valley View.

Lula remained single for several years, but eventually married Harve Wright – she lived to age 95. She is buried in Valley View - as Lula M. Stephenson beside her brother, Fred.

George Stephenson died December 27, 1904. In 1910, Elizabeth was living in Lois with her grandson, Gilbert Serviss. Elizabeth died March 21, 1916. George & Elizabeth are both buried at the old Spring Creek cemetery NW of Valley View (see “*James Stephenson*” story – below).

James & Mary Stephenson: James Stephenson – called Jame or Jeems by his friends – the oldest child of George and Elizabeth Stephenson, was born October 2, 1855 in Arksey, England. After the family migrated to the USA, they first moved to Illinois. When James was 21, he left Illinois for California, but detoured to Texas (1877) where he bought a 90-acre farm west of Lois in 1878. James’ parents – and his siblings – then moved to Texas.

Sometime after the 1880 Census, James Stephenson decided to finally make his previously-delayed move to California. But very soon he was back to the 90-acre farm saying that Texas was the better place to live. Shortly thereafter in 1882, he married Mary Nancy Piper. Mary Nancy was born to Samuel A. Piper May 31, 1856 in Kentucky; she acquired a liberal education and was a teacher before she came to Texas with her father. (Her mother had died earlier in Missouri; her father is buried in the old Valley View cemetery.)

James and Mary purchased more land – this time at prices around \$15/acre - eventually owing 241 acres. After Mary died – at age 48 - James decided he had enough land, so he moved to Valley View. The home-place nevertheless remained occupied by his children.

The Valley View Centennial book lists seven children of James and Mary – all born on the 90-acre farm west of Lois,

Frank Alonzo (“F.A.” or “Lon”) Stephenson (2/1/1886 – 6/25/1978)

Roy Edward Stephenson (~1889)

William Wallace Stephenson (11/1/1890 – 1/20/1917)

Burton Fredrick Stephenson (2/20/1893 – 1/14/1983)

Thomas Sterling Stephenson (4/19/1896 – 3/31/1985)

Bessie Stella Stephenson (1898 – 1988)

Mamie B. Stephenson (6/21/1902 – 2/14/1989)

Other sources identify three additional children who died young or as an infant,

George Stephenson

Rowena Stephenson

Ethel Stephenson

F.A. “Lon” Stephenson married Mary Ella McCollum (2/5/1885 – 1/2/1964). Lon and Mary lived on the 90-acre farm that James Stephenson had originally purchased in 1878 - they are listed there on the Valley View – Bermuda road in the 1930 Census. Nearby neighbors included Lon’s brother, Thomas and his wife Murl and Willie & Johnie Vann. Lon and Mary Ella are both buried in Valley View.

Roy Edward Stephenson married Lizzie Fulton, and then left for California. He lived in Bakersfield.

William Wallace Stephenson married Martha McCollum – believed to be sister to Mary Ella McCollum who married Lon Stephenson; William Wallace died soon thereafter at age 26. He is buried in Valley View.

“Burt” Fred Stephenson was a farmer and a railroad man; he lived – and is buried in Valley View.

Thomas Sterling Stephenson married Murl D. Biggerstaff (1/7/1900 – 3/18/1982); like his brother, Lon, he and his family lived on parts of the original farm property in Lois. Tom and Murl’s son, James Sterling Stephenson (2/7/1925 – 9/20/1944) was killed in The Netherlands during WW II. After the son’s death, Tom and Murl moved to Valley View. They are buried in Valley View. Their Purple Heart hero son is listed as buried at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten, Netherlands; there is also a military marker for him in the Valley View Cemetery.

Bessie Stella Stephenson married Claude Harris (1892-1974); they raised two children, Claudine and Yuton.

Mamie B. Stephenson never married; she was a career school teacher. She is buried in the Spring Creek Cemetery.

Mary Nancy Stephenson died at age 48 – around 1904 - following the birth of her last child, Mamie. Mary is buried in the Spring Creek cemetery NW of Valley View. (This old cemetery is located 7 miles south of Gainesville on IH-35, then 2 miles west on Spring Creek Road. The earliest grave in the cemetery is dated 1875.)

In 1910, James, now a widower – and all seven children – were living at the Lois home-place. In 1920 and 1930, James was living with his daughter, Mamie in Valley View.

James Stephenson died January 5, 1936. He is buried in Spring Creek Cemetery beside Mary.

Gilbert F. & Pearl Serviss: Gilbert Farmer Serviss was born in Gainesville, Texas July 4, 1894.

Parents / Grandparents: Gilbert’s father was Robert Serviss – who may have been born in France. His mother was Beda Stephenson, the daughter of George & Elizabeth Stephenson – Beda was the last Stephenson child born in England before the family came to America (see “George Stephenson”). Robert Serviss and Beda were married December 25, 1890 in Cooke County. Unfortunately, Beda died April 27, 1897 – at age 31 when Gilbert was not yet three years old. It’s unknown what became of Robert – in any event, by the time of the 1910 Census, Gilbert was living in the Lois area with his grandmother, Elizabeth G. Stephenson (the widow of George Stephenson), and his aunt, Lula Stephenson.

Gilbert F. Serviss married Pearl B. Dunn around 1915-16 Pearl was born around 1896. In 1920, Gilbert & Pearl were living in the Lois area; Gilbert’s 42-year old Aunt Lula Stephenson was living with them. They had two children in 1920: Marjorie, age 2, and Evelynna, only one month old. Ten years later - in 1930 - Evelynna was not listed in

the census, thus she apparently passed away as an infant. In 1930, Gilbert and Pearl lived on Lois-Era Road near Isa (Roberson) Hudspeth; an additional daughter had been born, such that there were two daughters by 1930,

Margery (Marjorie A.) Serviss (~1918)
Gilbert Joice Serviss (11/5/1927)

Gilbert Joice Serviss was born in Cooke County. She married Harriman W. Williamson in July, 1969 in Tarrant County, and she currently lives in east Tennessee.

Gilbert F. Serviss appears to have died in Bristol, Tennessee in August, 1978. Pearl's death date is unknown as is the location of their burials.

ROBERSON FAMILY

J.W. & Ada Roberson: John Wesley "J.W." Roberson was born in Loudon, Tennessee on February 9, 1851 - the son of James Roberson and Lucinda Robinson (note similar names, but different spelling for Lucinda). The following is summarized from *Fort Worth & the Texas Northwest* Volume III, Lewis Publishing Company, 1922, edited by Capt. B.B. Paddock,

The Father: James Roberson was born in Tennessee in 1822; his wife, Lucinda was born in October, 1824. They were farmers about two miles from the Tennessee River. During the Civil War, they left the state in order for James – and the oldest son - to serve in the Union Army. After many battles during the war, they returned to their home-place in Tennessee where James sometime later owned a distillery. James and Lucinda Roberson had seven children. Four of the children – William Henry, John Wesley "J.W.", Nancy (Carson), and Joseph M. – all eventually ended up in the Lois/Era area. James died at age 74 in Tennessee and Lucinda then joined the children who had moved to Texas, where she died 8/23/1907. James is buried in Tennessee; Lucinda and the four children who moved to Texas are buried in Era.

The Son: The education of John Wesley "J.W." Roberson - the son who eventually brought the family to Texas - was delayed due to onset of the Civil War and his father's decision to leave Tennessee to serve in the Union Army. Nevertheless, J.W. attained his formal education as an adult – paying his tuition by sweeping the school house. After completing his education, he taught school for two terms in Loudon – at \$35.00 per month. He also served as a Deputy Sheriff and was elected – by a landslide vote – as Constable and Collector in Loudon County.

J.W. Roberson came to Texas when he was hired to deliver a car load of horses & mules to Major Rhea, an extensive land owner in north Texas. He arrived in Ft. Worth August 14, 1877 – and delivered the stock to Valley View seven days

later. With \$60 in his pocket, he became a tenant farmer for three or four years for Major Rhea. He then purchased a 90-acre farm in the Bermuda community. For the next 40-years he purchased additional farms on every occasion as soon as he could afford them. In 1918, he finally stopped buying land – at that time, he owned 1,600 acres divided into 11 farms – with 15 houses. At one time, he was the only Republican in Era.

J.W. Roberson was also known as “Dick” or “Uncle Dick”. Three years after coming to Texas, he married – on January 18, 1881 - Ada Stephenson, the daughter of George Stephenson (see “George Stephenson”). Ada was born November 10, 1862. They are listed in Precinct 6, Cooke County for every census 1900-1930 – living in Bermuda vicinity where they lived for the rest of their lives.

J.W. and Ada Roberson had twelve children,

Lucinda Elizabeth “Lucy” Roberson (10/17/1882-1/23/1933) who married Walter Hoke Hudspeth (see “Walter Hudspeth”)

Mary Isa Roberson (1/11/1884 – 1968) who married Clifford B. Hudspeth (see “Clifford Hudspeth”)

Melissa “Lissie” Emma Roberson (12/13/1885 - 9/18/1973) who married John Buck Sparkman (see “John & Melissa ‘Lissie’ Sparkman”)

James Thomas “J.T.” Roberson (1888 – 1/15/1976) - we’ll come back to him next

David Datson “Dave” Roberson (~1891) who married Minnie Smith

Clara Mae Roberson (1/2/1893 – 8/27/1973) who married John Grace Roberson - we’ll come back to her later

Rosa Katherine Roberson (12/11/1894 – 1/30/1984) who married George Canaday

Susanna Bell “Susie” Roberson (1896 – 1973) who married Ernest Clement

Ruby Anna Roberson (5/13/1899) who married Byron W. Shipley

Lyda Pearl Roberson (6/4/1901 – 3/9/1987) who married Clarence Horton

John Henry Roberson (11/20/1902 – 7/15/1992) who married Chloe McCollum

Nancy Jane Roberson (4/15/1905 – 11/17/1989) who married Luman Kath Shirley

Lucinda Elizabeth and Mary Isa Roberson married two Hudspeth brothers, Walter & Clifford. They are both buried – along with their husbands - in Valley View.

Melissa “Lissie” Emma Roberson – is buried along with her husband, John Buck Sparkman (7/8/1884 – 6/2/1947) – in Era.

Rosa Katherine married George Lee Canaday (7/1/1885 -1/3/1964); they are buried in Era.

Susie married Ernest J. Clement (1889- 1969); they are buried in Era.

Ruby is buried at City of Lubbock Cemetery

Lyda is buried in Era. Clarence is buried at Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Collin County.

John Henry Roberson (11/20/1902 – 7/15/1992) married Chloe McCollum (1912-1979) from Valley View. Like his father, he believed in education – he majored in mathematics in college, taught school in Plano & Era, and farmed several hundred acres near the Roberson home-place. They are buried in Era.

Nancy Jane is also buried in Era. Luman Kath is buried at Resthaven Memorial Park in Lubbock.

Ada (Stephenson) Roberson died November 10, 1933; John W. “J.W.” Roberson died the next year on October 9, 1934. They are both buried in Era.

J.T. “Jim” Roberson: James Thomas “J.T” (Jim) Roberson, the fourth child – and first son - of J.W. and Ada Roberson, was born in 1888. On January 4, 1911, he married Nellie Page Underwood who was born June 13, 1890. Three children were born to Jim and Nellie. The Era Centennial reports, “*Tragedy came to this young couple and young children, and Jim and the children lived with his parents as long as the parents and grandparents lived.*” In the 1920 Census, Jim and the three children are indeed living with his parents - Jim is listed as “married” but no wife is identified. In 1930, he and the children are living next door to his parents on Bermuda Road.

Jim and Nellie Roberson’s children are,

*Dorothy Ada Roberson (3/1/1912 – 2000) married Cone Selby
James Wesley Roberson (8/31/1915 – 1/26/1981) married Helen Alexander
Nellie Hester Roberson (July, 1917) married Bill Bentley*

Dorothy Roberson married Cone Johnson Selby (see “*Selby Family*”) and they had two children: Joyce Lee passed away at age 15 and James Newton “Jimbo” Selby eventually lived on the home-place of his great-grandparents, J.W. and Ada Roberson. The land – originally purchased in 1877 - had been in the family for four generations. Dorothy and Cone are buried in Era.

James Wesley Roberson is also buried in Era.

Jim and Nellie’s story is not entirely clear. In the 1940 census, Nellie was listed as a resident in a Wichita Falls hospital - where she also lived in 1935. She died November 2, 1942. At some point – perhaps 1938 - Jim married Lola Bentley.

Jim was a school teacher for several years and was active in church work.

James T. “Jim” Roberson died in 1976. He – as well as his wives Nellie (1890-1942) and Lola (1902-1979) – is buried in Era.

Grace & Clara Roberson: Clara Mae Roberson, born January 2, 1893, was the sixth child of J.W. and Ada Roberson. She married John Grace Roberson (yes, *same spelling*) who was born August 11, 1882.

At the 1930 Census, Grace and Clara lived in Lois on the Valley View – Bermuda Road next door to Willie and Johnnie Vann.

Grace and Clara's children are,

Thomas Hershall Roberson (3/6/1914)
Grace M. Roberson (11/29/1921)
Claud Roberson (11/12/1922)
Samuel Roberson (11/27/1928)

In addition, two additional infants were born and died in 1933 and 1941.

Grace died July 21, 1964; Clara Mae passed away April 27, 1973. They are buried in Era.

SELBY FAMILY

Doyle & Ivy Selby: Olin Doyle Selby was born in Texas on February 29, 1908 to Henry Newton Selby and Beulah Lee Dillon.

Doyle's Parents: Henry N. Selby was born in Texas in 1880; Beulah Dillon was born in Tennessee in 1879. In 1920, they lived in Precinct 8 Denton County. Their children were,

Leonard Elwood Selby (1901 - 1976)
Gwendolyn Lucille Selby (1903 - 2003) who married William Edward Aston II; after his death, she married E.B. Parkhill
Olin Doyle Selby (1908-1991)
Cone Johnson Selby (1910 – 1982) who married Dorothy Ada Roberson (see "J.T. Roberson")
Edith Selby (1915) who married Clif Gregory
Mildred Selby (1918) who married ___?___ Biffle

Henry N. Selby died in 1956, and Beulah died in 1961; they are buried in Valley View – as are their children Leonard, Gwendolyn, and Doyle.

Ivy Hudspeth was one of the twin daughters of G. B. and Lourana Hudspeth (see "*George Braxton Hudspeth*"); she was born May 27, 1911. Doyle Selby and Ivy Hudspeth married in 1928.

In 1930, Doyle and Ivy were living on Bermuda Road, near Johnie & Fannie Masten and Lourana & Daisy Hudspeth. (Daisy was Ivy's twin sister.) George C. McLaughlin was living with them; he was listed as "father", but he was probably Ivy's grandfather (the father of Lourana).

Doyle and Ivy's children are,

Ola Belle Selby (5/4/1929 – 5/8/1929 ... four days old)

Kenneth Elwood Selby (3/26/1931)

Marvin Leon Doyle Selby (12/5/1932)

Wayne Selby (5/9/1935 – 11/26/1987)

Doyle Selby died May 5, 1991; Ivy passed away December 17, 1995. They are buried in Valley View.

SPARKMAN FAMILY

Andrew J. & Emma Sparkman: Andrew Jackson Sparkman was born October 3, 1857 in Tennessee.

Parents: Andrew Jackson Sparkman's father - William Buck Sparkman Sr. - born (1828) in Van Buren County, Tennessee served in Petersburg, Virginia during the Civil War. He died of measles sometime prior to the Battle of Petersburg in June, 1864. As a widow, Andrew Jackson's mother, Elizabeth Neal (9/7/1829 – 10/2/1898), also born in Tennessee, moved her family of at least five children to the Lois area sometime before 1880.

Sarah A. Sparkman (1853 -?)

John Henry Sparkman (8/24/1854 – 1/11/1935)

Andrew Jackson Sparkman (10/3/1857 – 11/2/1899)

William Buck Sparkman Jr. (1862)

Nancy Sparkman (1864)

By the time of the 1880 census, Elizabeth – then a 50-year old widow - was living in Precinct 6 with the four youngest children. Elizabeth Neal Sparkman died October 2, 1898 at age 69 and is buried in Era – as are her sons, John and Andrew.

Emma Vienna (or "Vinnia") Kerr was born March 28, 1856 in Bradley County, Tennessee. Her parents were David Kerr and Elizabeth Ann Tulloch. She and Andrew Jackson Sparkman married in Texas – probably Lois or Era - around 1881. They lived in the Lois area and bore seven children,

Bettie Sparkman (1882 - 1947) married Robert H. Keith, Charles Turner, and Lester Seagraves

John Buck Sparkman (1884 - 1947) married Melissa Emma Roberson
Miller M. Sparkman (1886-1957) married Annie Bone
Sally Vie Sparkman (1889-1912) was about to be married, but died before the marriage took place
Hamp Neal Sparkman (~1891-1958) married Ruby Cunningham
Lula M. Sparkman (6/15/1893 – 12/11/1903)
Robert Lee Sparkman (1897-1945) married Berneice Cook

John Buck and Melissa, Miller and Annie, Sally, and Lula are all buried in Era.

Andrew Jackson Sparkman died November 2, 1899. In 1900, Emma - a new widow - was living in Precinct 6 with six children – the youngest was just 3-years old! They are listed as the next family after Daniel J. & Mary Wilson (first Lois Postmaster) – so we know approximately where they lived in western Lois community near the Bermuda School.

Emma died September 16, 1917. Both Andrew and Emma are buried in Era - as well as Miller M., Sally Vie, Lula M., and John Buck Sparkman.

John B. & Melissa “Lissie” Emma Sparkman: John Buck Sparkman was born in Era, Texas July 8, 1884 - the first son of Andrew J. Sparkman & Emma Kerr.

Melissa “Lissie” Emma Roberson was born December 13, 1885 in the Lois/Era community to J.W. Roberson & Ada Stephenson (see “*J.W. Roberson*”).

Both John Buck and Lissie attended the Bermuda School. They married April 2, 1905, and they raised six children,

Lula Mae “Ned” Sparkman (1907-1975) married A.A. “Dutch” Young
(see “A.A. Young”)
Roy Alton “Bill” Sparkman (1909-1986) married Alma Lou Tuggle
(see “Roy Sparkman”)
Johnnie Marie “Buck” Sparkman (1911-1981) married Weldon Bailey “Joe”
Hemphill, brother of Pearl Hemphill Kemplin, who we all remember
Charles Richard “Dick” Sparkman (7/19/1915 – 2/13/2000) married Wanda Marie
Ward
Samuel Arthur “Sam” Sparkman (9/2/1921 – present) married Pearl Inez Ramsey
Rosa Belle Sparkman (1925-1995) married Henry Terrell Collins

Lula Mae Young and Dick Sparkman are both buried in Era. Bill and his wife are buried in New Hope Cemetery in Mountain Springs. Johnnie Marie and her husband are buried in Fairview Cemetery in Gainesville. Rosa Belle and her husband are buried in Bluebonnet Hills Cemetery in Colleyville.

In December, 1905, soon after their marriage, John Buck & Lissie bought a 125 acre farm north of the heart of Lois – the farm where Dutch and Lula Mae Young later lived in

1925-1946. They built a new house and dug a water well. In addition to farming, John also cooked at a café and a hotel in Era. Lula Mae and Roy Alton – the oldest children were born at this location where they were recorded for the 1910 census. The family subsequently moved to other locations within the community including a farm south of Lois. In 1918, when John registered for the WW I draft, he reported that they lived in Sanger – perhaps he registered in Denton County because of proximity rather than actually living there - because we've already seen in the early photo of the Lois School that the four oldest Sparkman children attended the Lois School in the early 1920s.

In the fall, 1924, John Buck & Lissie moved to the Wolf Ridge community NW of Gainesville where they built a large house with ample furnishings; the last child, Rosa Belle, was born at the Wolf Ridge home. Some of the children attended Gainesville schools. In 1942, the farm was sold to the U.S. Army for building the Camp Howze military site. At that time, they moved onto an 80 acre farm west of the Cletis Martindale farm, where they lived most of the remainder of their lives. Their youngest daughter Rosa Belle graduated from Valley View High School in 1944.

John Buck Sparkman died June 2, 1947. Lissie and the youngest daughter, Rosa, lived there until Rosa married in 1953. Lissie continued to live there alone until some health complications in 1963. She died September 18, 1973. John Buck and Lissie are buried in Era.

Roy & Alma Sparkman: Roy Alton ("R.A." or "Bill") Sparkman was born May 25, 1909 in Texas, the first son of John Buck & Emma Sparkman. He was a Navy veteran of WW II aboard the U.S.S. Haywood.

Alma Lou Tuggle was born in Texas January 2, 1913 to William Henry Tuggle (12/26/1873 – 10/7/1953) and Tex Ella Humphries (10/8/1895). William was born in Kentucky and Tex Ella was born in Louisiana, but they nevertheless lived in Cooke County by 1900. In 1910, they lived in Hall County, Texas – but were back in Cooke County by 1930.

Roy Sparkman and Alma Lou Tuggle married in Marietta, Oklahoma July 19, 1930 and raised five children,

*Sallie Marie Sparkman (7/21/1931 – 11/4/1998) married Edward Oliver Lones
Tex Emma Sparkman (2/8/1935) married Joseph Shelton Doughty
Judith Merle "Judy" Sparkman (3/20/1941 – 8/25/2009) married Claude Eugene Meyer
Tom Sparkman (2/6/1943) married Patsy Patrick
Tim Sparkman (8/25/1947) married Brenda Kizzar 7/1/1966*

Although Roy grew up in Lois, by 1935, the family lived in the Mountain Springs area, SE of Valley View. Sallie graduated from Valley View in 1948; Tex Emma, 1953; Judy, 1959; Tom, 1961; and Tim, 1965.

Roy worked as a carpenter for Valley View Builders. Alma Lou Sparkman died December 18, 1978 in Valley View, and Roy died July 2, 1986; both are buried in the New Hope Cemetery at Mountain Springs.

YOUNG FAMILY

A. A. & Lula Young: Aldewin Ashford (“A. A.” or “Dutch”) Young (10/25/1903 – 4/23/1976) was one of several Oklahoma-born sons of Robert S. & Rosa I. Young. By 1920, the Young family had moved to Bolivar, Texas.

Lula Mae Sparkman (2/12/1907 – 3/4/1975) was the daughter of John Buck & Melissa Emma Sparkman (see “*John & Melissa ‘Lissie’ Sparkman*”); she was born & raised in Lois.

A. A. Young and Lula Mae Sparkman married March 21, 1925 in Gainesville, and they lived in Lois from that time until March 6, 1946 when they moved to Hood. They lived on the farm north of the Lois Store just east of the farm eventually owned by Bill & Bessie Davis. After five years in Hood, they moved east of Valley View on November 25, 1951 to a farm which I remember visiting prior to 1958. Lula later lived in Valley View. Dutch and Lula’s children – all born in Lois - are,

Billy Joe Young (4/26/1927 – 6/29/1994)
Gerald Dean Young (2/4/1929 – 7/7/2004)
Evelyn Ann Young (11/4/1933)
Johnnie Loraine Young (4/19/1935)
Jerry Wayne Young (11/14/1939 – 1/7/1989)
Valeta Faye Young (8/19/1944) – twin
James Ray Young (8/19/1944) - twin

Gerald Dean Young attended the Lois School with one of my cousins in 1936 – they were the only students in the first grade that year.

Jerry Wayne and I were the same age – I remember playing at his house in Lois when we were children (before we started school); when the family moved back to Valley View in 1951, we were class-mates throughout our school days. Jerry’s Uncle Dick Sparkman gave him the nickname “Pete” – although none of the family used this name, his classmates at Valley View did indeed use the name.

Evelyn, Jerry Wayne, and Ray & Faye all graduated from Valley View School.

Several of the Young family are buried in Sanger (Robert S., Rosa I., A.A., and Gerald Dean); Lula Mae is buried in Era with her parents – John Buck & Melissa Emma Sparkman. Billy Joe is buried in Colleyville, and Jerry Wayne is buried in Blodgett, Titus County, Texas.

GRUNDY FAMILY

Jack & Bama Grundy: Robert Adley “Jack” Grundy was born February 6, 1860 in Cooke County. His parents were Felix Grundy and Mary Jane Rodgers (or perhaps Mary Jane “Hodges”).

Jack’s Parents: Felix Grundy was born December 28, 1818; Mary Jane Rodgers was born September 14, 1823 – both were reared in Nelson County, Kentucky. Felix and his brother-in-law, William Gregory, arrived in Sherman, Texas in November, 1852 – after a six week journey. Six years later, they moved to Cooke County. In 1859, Felix bought 160-acres SW of Era - the famous *Chisholm Trail* ran just behind his property. Felix and Mary Jane Grundy raised a large family: William M. (1845-1923), Sarah F. (~1847), Margaret S. (~1848), Andrew J. (~1850), Felix Taylor (~1852), Samuel P. (~1854), Priscilla, Robert Adley “Jack” (1860 – 1923), Christopher Columbus (~1861), Issac P. (1866-1930), and John A. (~1868). The oldest daughter, Sarah served as a nurse for the community. In 1865, they build a new house – which was recognized in the 1970’s as the oldest house in Cooke County that was still occupied. Felix Grundy died January 9, 1900 and Mary Jane died on October 28, 1893. They are buried in the Gregory Cemetery – probably named for Felix’s brother-in-law.

Alabama Ann “Bama” Pace was born in Collin County on November 29, 1874 to David Pace and Rebecca Hampton. Jack Grundy and Bama Pace married November 25, 1895 in Bolivar. They then settled on their farm west of Lois on Bolivar/Era road – near J.B. & Celia Masten. In 1900, Jack and Bama built a new house – which stood for many years. Jack was killed August 19, 1923. At the 1930 Census, Bama and her son, Ewing was still living on the home-place.

Jack and Bama had five children,

Clyde Grundy (~1897) married Climet Tracy and lived in Lawton, Oklahoma
Owen Ray Grundy (~1898 - 1913) who died young
Ewing Weldon Grundy (5/4/1899 – 1/24/1962)
Samuel Pollard Grundy (2/17/1902 - 1/11/1937)
Marguerite E. Grundy (~1908) married Warner Maddox and lived in Lubbock

After Jack Grundy was killed, Ewing continued to live with his widowed mother, Bama, on the Grundy home-place. In the meantime, Ewing’s younger brother, Samuel, married Willie Mae Bratcher in 1924; unfortunately, Samuel died 13 years later in 1937.

In 1954, Ewing married his widowed sister-in-law, Willie Mae (Bratcher) Grundy. After Ewing died in 1962, Willie Mae continued to live on the home-place until her death in 1988.

Jack was killed on August 19, 1923; Bama died on August 15, 1955. Jack is buried in Gregory Cemetery – Bama is probably also buried there.

Samuel & Willie Grundy: Samuel Pollard Grundy was the fourth son of Jack and Bama Grundy; he was born February 17, 1902. Willie Mae Bratcher was born May 17, 1901. Samuel and Willie Mae married October 3, 1924. In 1930, they lived in Lois on Grundy land – near his widowed mother.

Samuel and Willie Mae's children are,

Samuel P. Grundy Jr. (~1925)
Marilyn Grundy (7/25/1927)
Robert Andrew Grundy (12/7/1928)
Jo Ann Grundy (4/11/1932)

Samuel Grundy Sr. died at age 35 on January 11, 1937. This left Willie Mae to raise the four children. She taught school and served as Cooke County treasurer for eight years. Later, on October 25, 1954, she married her brother-in-law, Ewing Grundy and moved to the Grundy home-place, where she lived the rest of her life. She died June 1, 1988. Samuel and Willie Mae are both buried in Era; Ewing is also buried in Era.

REITER FAMILY

Carl & Olga Reiter: Carl Reiter was born in Russia on September 17, 1889. He and his father arrived in Galveston, Texas via S.S. Cassel on September 30, 1906 – when Carl was 17.

Parents: Carl's father was Ludwig Louis Reiter, born in Russia about 1857. Carl's mother was Amelia Hammell, born in 1860 - probably also in Russia. While in Russia, Ludwig and Amelia bore six children: Wilamena (1882-1951), Carl (1889 -1963), Christena (1892-1978), Emile (1893-1978), Emil (1898-1980), and August (1900-1948). When Ludwig and Amelia were around age 50, the family migrated to America. As noted above, Ludwig and the oldest son, Carl, arrived in Galveston in September, 1906. Seven months later (April, 1907) Wilamena, Christena, Emile, and perhaps Emil arrived in Galveston; another seven months later (November, 1907) Amelia and the infant son, August, arrived in Galveston via S.S. Frankfurt. Ludwig's death date and burial location is unknown, but Amelia, who died September 9, 1937, is buried in Era. In addition, Ludwig & Amelia's youngest son, August, is buried in Era.

Olga Belz was born in Texas June 8, 1898; her parents were born in Germany. Carl Reiter and Olga married around 1914. In 1920, Carl and Olga – and three children – were living in Williamson County in central Texas. They moved to the Lois area in late 1929 or early 1930. After the family moved to Lois area, the children attended Bermuda School – which was located on their farm. In 1930, they lived in Lois on Bermuda Road, then with eight children. In total, they raised 15 children,

Freida Reiter (10/10/1914 – December, 1977) married _?_ Gensler
Rudolph Philip Reiter (5/16/1917 – 3/13/1994)
Elizabeth Reiter (1919-1999) married _?_ Massey
Reuben Reiter (10/6/1920 – 8/9/2004)
Betty Reiter (1923 - 2002) married _?_ Hallsted
Louis William Reiter (8/20/1925 – 2/20/1948)
Minnie Reiter (~1927) married _?_ Skidgel
Annie Reiter (1929 - 1997) married _?_ Young
Doris Reiter (~1931) who married _?_ Sadau
Lillie Reiter (~1934) who married Maynard Erwin (or Irvin)
Leonard Reiter (~1936)
Marvin James Reiter (1939 - 2003)

With unknown birth dates,

Manuel Reiter (deceased prior to 2004)
Mildred Reiter - who married Frank Wills (or Willis)
Mary Ann Reiter – who married Richard Brown

Reuben Reiter claimed he was the fifth child – if so, one of the children with unknown birth date would have been born before 1920. However, only three children were reported in the 1920 census – “Freda”, Rudolph, & ”Lizzie”, and all the first 8 above are listed in the 1930 census. Thus it appears that all of the others – with unknown birth dates - were likely born after the 1930 census.

I remember Reuben Reiter since we farmed Wells land adjacent to his farm. In 1968, Reuben earned the title, “*Cotton King of Cooke County*” since he brought in the first bale of cotton in the county for the fifth time in six years. Reuben married Maxine Henley April 13, 1946; they raised four children: Daniel R. Reiter (2/1/1947 – 5/9/2004), Carroll Rodney Reiter (6/17/1950 – 3/26/1982), Eugene Reiter, and Randy Reiter - who owns a farm between Valley View & Era.

Carl Reiter died January 10, 1963; Olga died February 25, 1983. They are buried in Sanger, Texas. Carl & Olga’s son, Rudolph Philip, is buried – along with his wife, Gertrude Ross Reiter – in Valley View. Another son, Louis is buried in Era. After living in Lois, Reuben Reiter died August 9, 2004. He – and two of his sons, Daniel & Carroll - is buried in Era.

MOORE FAMILY

Richard & Jessie Moore: Richard J. and Jessie Moore - and their family – lived in Lois on Valley View/Bermuda road at the 1930 Census. Richard was born in Texas in September, 1871. Jessie Cline was born in Georgia in June, 1877. They were married December 20, 1896. Their children were,

Ethel Moore (1898)
Claude D. Moore (1901)
Phillip Moore (1904)

Ruby Moore (1906)
Edith Opal Moore (1910)
Oena Moore (~1912)
Daniel Moore (~1915)

Claude married Ernestine Idell (7/13/1908 to 2/13/1989) of Valley View. Their children were Claudette June (3/21/1934 to 10/25/1997) and Richard. Claudette & Richard both graduated from Valley View High School. Richard lives in Krum.

Ruby's occupation was listed as "school teacher" in the 1930 Census – we've already noted that "Miss Ruby" was indeed a teacher at the Lois School. One of my cousins recalls that the Moore's lived on Wells #3 property; she also recalls that the Moore's home burned. Perhaps this is the reason that Miss Ruby was not teaching in Lois at later dates.

We don't know much more about the Richard J. Moore family. Although they were in Lois in 1930, ten years earlier (1920) they were in Precinct 3 Cooke County and in 1910, they lived in Oklahoma. Ruby's birth – in 1906 – is reported as Mt. Sylvan, Smith County, in east Texas.

Neither Richard nor Jessie is buried in Era or Valley View. It appears that they didn't remain in the area – perhaps after their home burned? Claude's wife (Ernestine) and daughter (Claudette) are however buried in Valley View.

Other Moore Families: There was a George Moore – a water well driller - who came to Texas around 1880. His son, Marvin Lee Moore (1889-1947) – and grandson, Charley L. Moore (1913-1991) – followed in the water well business. In 1924, Marvin and Charley moved to Era and lived the rest of their lives in the area. However, there's no established link between Marvin & Charley and the Richard & Jessie Moore who lived in Lois in 1930.

BLANKENSHIP FAMILY

Willie & Alma Blankenship: Willie Blankenship was born in Texas June 15, 1895.

Parents: Willie's parents were Albert W. "A.W." Blankenship (1868-1940) and Nancy Jane ___?___ (4/15/1871 – 11/15/1955). In 1910, A.W. and Nancy lived in Wichita County, Texas; they had been married 22 years and Nancy had given birth to 8 children – of which 5 were living. Four of the five were still living at home: Willie, Alva D., Myrtle, and Lillie. By 1920, A.W. and Nancy had moved to Precinct 1, Cooke County - and Willie and Alva were the only children still at home – Myrtle (age 20) & Lillie (age 18) had possibly married. Ten years later, in 1930, A.W. and Nancy were still in Precinct 1 – and Alva was still at home.

When they were 24 years old, Willie Blankenship married Alma Gertie ___?___ who was born in Missouri July 3, 1895 – the same year as Willie. Their marriage was sometime after the 1920 Census since Willie was still at home at the time of the census. In 1930, Willie & Alma - without children - lived in Lois on Lois-Era road. Perhaps they had children later – after the 1930 Census. In any event, Alma died December 22, 1965 and Willie passed away July 16, 1966. They are buried in Valley View so they possibly lived in the area during all of their married lives.

Also buried in Valley View are Willie's parents (A.W. & Nancy Jane Blankenship) and Willie's brother and sister-in-law - Alva D. Blankenship (9/6/1897 – 3/29/1979) & Alice (Belle) Blankenship (1896-1968).

Walter & Gertie Blankenship: Walter P. Blankenship was born in Texas around 1871. His wife, Nettie Gertrude "Gertie" Gage was born in Eastland County, Texas February 19, 1880. Gertie's parents were Robert William Charles Gage (1841-1898) and Emily Tennessee Bishop (1841-1889).

In 1930, Walter and Gertie Blankenship lived on Lois-Era Road very near Willie & Alma Blankenship – which suggests that Walter and Willie may have been related. However, they were obviously not brothers since Walter was born in 1871 – the same year as Willie's mother, Nancy Jane Blankenship. Perhaps, Walter was related to Willie's father, Albert, but no such link has been discovered.

Unlike Willie & Alma Blankenship, there's no evidence that Walter & Gertie Blankenship lived for any significant time in Lois after the 1930 Census. The date & location of Walter's death is unknown; Gertie passed away in September, 1954 in California.

HASSENPFUG FAMILY

Henry & Anna Hassenpflug: George Henry Hassenpflug was born February 20, 1867 in Obervorschutz, Germany. As a 19-year old, "Heinr" Hassenpflug arrived in New York from Bremen, Germany in August, 1886. He married Anna Martha Louise Hinz, who was born May 2, 1878 – also in Germany. How they moved from their ports of immigration to Texas is unknown. Nevertheless, they were in Lois by 1910 – where they probably lived the remainder of their lives. They lived SE of Marshall & Stella Johnson.

The children of Henry and Anna Hassenpflug were,

William G. Hassenpflug (9/5/1889 – 5/21/1963)

Henry J. Hassenpflug (1891 – 1968)

Edward Hassenpflug (1897 – 1976)

Lillian "Lillie" Hassenpflug (9/22/1898 - 1/6/1936) who married Henry L. Schmidt

Alvin Richard Hassenpflug (1901 - 1987)

Martha Hassenpflug (1903 – 1979)

Reuben Fred Hassenpflug (2/23/1905 – 8/5/1994)

Lydia Hassenpflug (1906-1998)
Benjamin L. Hassenpflug (1908 – 2000)
Ellen Nora Hassenpflug (1911 -1980) twin
Helen Flora Hassenpflug (1911 – 1981) twin
Rosale “Rosa” Hassenpflug (1915)
Anna M. Hassenpflug (1917)
Joseph Lee Hassenpflug (4/6/1924 – 11/4/2007)

William G. Hassenpflug married Dorotha A. ___?___ (6/26/1896 - 3/20/1977). In 1930, they also lived in Precinct 6 (Lois) with four children,

Florence (~1918)
Lawrence A. (6/16/1920 – 6/18/2001) who married Thelma ___?___
Wallace V. (11/18/1922 – 9/11/1994) who married Minnie Dee ___?___
Beatrice (~ 1929) who married ___?___ Jones

William G. and Dorotha – as well as their sons, Lawrence and Wallace (and their wives) – are buried in Valley View.

Henry J. Hassenpflug married Dora ___?___ (1895 – 1955). They also lived in the Lois area in 1930, along with two sons,

Elmer (~1915)
Melvin (~1920)

Lillie Hassenpflug married Henry L. Schmidt in late 1920 (see “*Henry L. Schmidt*”). They lived in Lois in 1930 near Marshall & Stella Johnson.

Reuben Fred Hassenpflug married Jewell Margaret Chisam – sister of Mildred “Bob” Chisam (who married George Phillip Gillum) and Willie Ruth Chisam (who married Joe Bob Farrell) (see “*Clabourne Chisam*”).

Benjamin Hassenpflug was a preacher.

Joseph Lee Hassenpflug married Bessie R. Dillard (5/23/1927)

Henry Hassenpflug died April 24, 1942; Anna died April 5, 1955. They are buried in Valley View. Several of their children are also buried in Valley View: William G. & Dorotha, Henry J. & Dora, Edward, Lillie & Henry (Schmidt), Reuben & Jewell, and Joseph & Bessie.

BELZ FAMILY

Albert & Bertha Belz: Albert Belz was born in Germany on May 19, 1858 to Karl Friedrich Belz (born 1818) and Hanna Maria Kleier (born 1822). When Albert was 23,

he departed from Bremen, Germany via SS Strassburg and arrived in Baltimore, Maryland in October, 1881.

Bertha Kruger was born August 31, 1863 – also in Germany. (She may have also been called “Bettie”.)

Albert and Bertha’s children were,

Louis Harman Belz (9/8/1886 – May, 1963)

William Otto Belz (1888-1968)

Henry J. Belz (1889-1966)

Alfred A. Belz (1891-1965)

Walter C. Belz (1893-1952)

Dora Belz (1895)

Lillie Belz (1901)

Louis (Louie) Harman Belz married Maria Riffel. Although they lived in Armstrong, TX in 1930, it appears that they lived most of their life in Oklahoma – probably in Garfield County. They had at least seven children; one daughter, Viola Lorreta (2/9/1914 – 1/24/1990) married Phillip Jake Hoehn (1907-2003) and they lived in Sanger. Viola is buried in Valley View.

Henry, Alfred, and Walter Belz all lived in the Lois area.

In 1910, the family lived in Precinct 6 (Lois) with all the above children except Louis – who was married. Albert & Bertha lived the remainder of their lives in the community. In 1930, three of the sons were raising their own families in the Lois vicinity (see *next three families*).

Albert died July 5, 1918. As a result, Bertha was living with her son, Alfred, in 1930. She died August 19, 1937. Both Albert and Bertha are buried in Valley View – as is several of their children.

Henry & Hannah Belz: Henry J. Belz was born in Texas on May 6, 1889. His parents were Albert & Bertha Belz.

Hannah Gomar was born in Russia October 12, 1886; she came to the USA in 1890 when she was four years old. Henry J. and Hannah married 10/16/1912. In 1918, Henry registered for the WW I draft in Clay County, Texas. Nevertheless, they lived in Lois by 1930.

The children of Henry and Hannah are,

Albert W. Belz (~1920)

Cleoma E. Belz (~1923)

Eugene H. Belz (~1925)

Leroy Belz (8/18/1926 – 12/27/1994) married Margaret L. Bond (11/14/1927)

Leroy is listed as "Lee R." in the 1930 Census.

Henry J. Belz died October 12, 1966 – on Hannah's 80th birthday! Hannah died the next year in 1967. They are buried in Valley View. Their son, Leroy is also buried in Valley View.

Alfred & Gertie Belz: Alfred A. Belz was born to Albert & Bertha Belz in Texas on May 17, 1891. Gertrude L. "Gertie" Brandt (Brant) was born in Texas September 11, 1905. In 1930, they were living near the state highway in the Elm Grove area; Alfred's mother, Bertha Belz, was living with Alfred and Gertie.

Alfred & Gertie's children are,

Roy Lee Belz (12/23/1926)

Ervin Franklin "Frank" Belz (6/13/1931 – 1/5/2006)

Geneva Belz (4/13/1933) who married Vern "Coach" Lane

Roy Lee has one son, Roy Lee Belz Jr. born December 17, 1956.

Frank Belz was born in Valley View; he married Josephine Annette Spindle (2/25/1935) in December, 1954. He formed his own wholesale jewelry company, *FB Gold Company*. (Children: Donna Jean & Mark Franklin Belz)

Geneva Belz married "Coach" Lane (3/18/1925 – 4/13/1997) in June, 1962.

Alfred Belz died October 17, 1965. Gertie passed away February 17, 1973. They are both buried in Valley View – as is their son, Frank.

Walter & Clara Belz: Walter C. Belz was born in Texas on August 4, 1893. His parents were Albert & Bertha Belz. Clara Schmidt was born April 1, 1895. Walter and Clara, were renting a farm on Elm Grove Road at the 1930 Census. Their children were,

Walter C. Belz Jr. (10/4/1917 – 9/30/1971)

Marvin Alvin Belz (1919 - 1939)

Weldon K. Belz (2/26/1931- 10/25/1987)

Junior Belz married Lorene Belz (7/4/1923 – 2/15/2003) – part of another Belz clan.

Weldon was a Korean veteran.

Walter C. Belz died January 12, 1952. Clara died September 13, 1959. They are both buried in Valley View.

CHISAM FAMILY

Clabourne & Olivia Chisam: The Chisam family is clearly associated with Valley View; the patriarch of the family lived south of Valley View – on Elm Grove Road. However, several of the Chisam children married Lois citizens, so Lois can certainly lay some claim to the Chisam family.

Clabourne Harrison Chisam was born in Henrietta, Clay County, Texas September 13, 1887 to Clemuel & Elizabeth Ann (Rice) Chisam. He attended school at Valley Creek School west of Marysville, Texas. He was a cotton farmer and a carpenter.

Oleavia “Olivia” Eldora Pierce was born June 14, 1893 in Leon, Indian Territory (Oklahoma) to Issac Ferdinand and Margaret (Gardner) Pierce. Olivia and Clabourne married January 12, 1912 in Marysville, Texas. In 1920, they purchased their farm south of Valley View, where Clabourne lived for the next 51 years.

Clabourne & Olivia’s children are,

*Claudia Eldora Chisam (1/31/1913 – 7/10/1998) who married Cletis Martindale
Wilbur Clabourne “Buster” Chisam (7/25/1914 – 3/2/2003)*

Issac Ferdinand “Ferd” or “Snokes” Chisam (10/9/1915 – 1/12/1970)

Clemuel “Dyke” Chisam (2/10/1917 – 4/18/2007)

Jewel Margaret Chisam (12/17/1918) who married Reuben Fred Hassenpflug

Mildred Elizabeth “Bob” Chisam (5/10/1920) who married George Phillip Gillum

Willie Ruth “Bill” Chisam (3/15/1923 -10/11/1985) who married Joe Bob Farrell

Mary Jo Chisam (5/2/1927 – 5/20/2010) who married W.B. Hudspeth

Shirley Ann Chisam (After 1930, I presume) who married Wilbur Barthold

Claudia E. Chisam was born in Marysville, Texas before the Chisam family moved to our community. On January 7, 1933, she married Cletis D. Martindale (see “Cletis Martindale”). They lived in Lois all of their married life; they operated a Dairy Farm until Cletis retired.

Buster Chisam was born in Marysville, Texas. On November 27, 1938, he married Willie Dora Anderson (10/19/1920 – 3/22/2007). Willie was born in Cooke County, the daughter of William James & Dora (Marlin) Anderson; she graduated from Era High School. Buster served in the U.S. Air Force 1942-1946; he was a Dairy Farmer from 1947 – 1974 on the Anderson farm which they purchased. He was also a well known carpenter. They have two daughters, Kathy (Chisam) Anglin and Karen (Chisam) Austin.

Ferd Chisam, like his father – and his two brothers – was a carpenter. He married Dorothy Ary; they had two sons, Gary and Bobby Chisam.

Clem “Dyke” Chisam was born in Marysville, Texas. On December 29, 1937, he married Annie Jo Browning (10/23/1920 – 7/22/2010) - the daughter of John & Edna (Miller) Browning (see “*John Sanford Browning*”). Annie was born in Lois. Dyke and Annie lived on Chisam Road just north of Sanger for 69 years, but they remained active in the Lois Baptist Church. . They have one daughter, Nelda, who married Jerry Hudspeth.

Jewel Margaret Chisam, also born in Marysville, married Reuben Fred Hassenpflug (1905 – 1994) (see “*Henry Hassenpflug*”).

Mildred Elizabeth “Bob” Chisam married George Phillip Gillum (2/4/1916 – 9/10/1992) on December 24, 1936 (see “*George Phillip Gillum*”).

Willie Ruth “Bill” Chisam was probably the first Chisam child born in our community; she married Joe Bob Farrell (see “*Jacob Farrell*”) on September 13, 1942. They raised three sons, Ronald D., Robby J., and Billy Bob Farrell.

Mary Jo Chisam married W.B. Hudspeth on May 18, 1944 (see “*William Benton Hudspeth*”). They had a son, Bill Hudspeth, and a daughter, Nancy (Hudspeth) Graves.

Olivia Chisam died July 19, 1947. Following her death, Clabourne married his second wife, Marie ___?___. Clabourne died October 3, 1971. Both Olivia and Clabourne are buried in Valley View. Several of their children are also buried in Valley View: Claudia, Buster, Ferd, Dyke, Mildred, Willie Ruth, and Mary Jo.

Note: Clemuel C. Chisam, born in 1890 three years after Clabourne was likely a brother of Clabourne Chisam? He married Vera M. Smith and they had a daughter, Leta Muriel, who was born in Marysville – the same community in which Clabourne and Olivia had lived before coming to our community. Leta Muriel Chisam married Daryl Wyatt. Clemuel & Vera Chisam and Leta, and Daryl Wyatt are all buried in Valley View. There doesn't appear to be any link to Lois.

MARTINDALE FAMILY

Cletis & Claudia Martindale: Cletis D. and Claudia E. Martindale weren't yet married at the time of the 1930 Census, but they were living in the Lois area. Cletis was living with his parents, Robert Thad & Emmitt (Wright) Martindale, near Elm Grove road. Claudia was likewise living nearby with her parents, Clabourne & Olivia Chisam (see “*Clabourne Chisam*”).

Cletis Danel Martindale was born in Marietta, Oklahoma December 15, 1912. Claudia Eldora Chisam was born in Marysville, Texas on January 31, 1913. Cletis and Claudia married January 7, 1933. We all remember the location of their Dairy Farm in the NE part of Lois – some of their children still live on parts of the Martindale farm.

Cletis and Claudia's children are,

Robert Harrison Martindale (1/19/1936 – 12/2/2009)
Gynelle Martindale (~1938) who married Earl Lemons
Glenda Kay Martindale (~1941) who married Earl Ray Spears (1938 – 2010)
Billy Martindale (~1942)
Larry Martindale (1945)
Max Martindale (1947)
Sandra Dee Martindale (1949) who married Wayne Kyle
Dianne Martindale (1951) who married Charles Haley
Rita Martindale (1953) who married Davis Cowling

Robert Martindale married Mary Lou Palmer (4/22/1938) in 1957. In 1963, he opened Martindale Feed Mill in Valley View which he operated until 1988. In 1986, he purchased North Texas Bank & Trust and began a banking career for the rest of his life. Robert & Mary Lou have a daughter, Debra (Martindale) Norwood and a son, Danny Martindale.

Billy Martindale married Ellen Sue McLaughlin, daughter of Joe and Billie Sue McLaughlin. He is a veterinarian in Sherman/Denison area.

Larry Martindale married Linda Roeder. They operate a dairy east of the original Cletis & Claudia Martindale farm.

Cletis & Claudia were members of the Valley View Church of Christ, where he served as Elder for 40 years. He also served as a member of the Valley View School Board for 20 years. Cletis died May 13, 1997; Claudia passed away the next year on July 10, 1998. They are buried in Valley View.

MORRISON FAMILY

Victor P. & Kizzie Morrison: Victor Paul Morrison was born February 8, 1902 in Cooke County, Texas. Kizzie L. Lawson was born in Sneedville, Hancock County, Tennessee February 15, 1900.

Victor's Grandparents: Victor's grandparents were Milton L. Morrison and Nancy Ann Samples. Milton was born June 17, 1818 in Monroe County, Tennessee, and Nancy was born June 4, 1921 also in Tennessee. In the mid-1870s the entire family moved to the Reed Community (SE of Myra – west of Gainesville). A later descendent reported that Milton & Nancy gave each of their children 50 acres when they came to Texas. By 1880, Milton & Nancy – and their children all lived next to each other,

Jane "Jennie" and husband, John Minnis

Sarah and husband, J.T. Hemphill
Caleb Casual "C.C." or "Ca" and his first wife Addie Cauldwell
Harvey and second wife Rebecca Harvey (first wife, Ester Minnis – sister of John Minnis – had died during childbirth)
Thomas
Issac and wife "Mattie" Cauldwell (sister of Addie Cauldwell)
Layette "Fate" (born ~ 1858 still living at home)
Victoria "Vickie" (born ~ 1869 still living at home)

By 1900, Issac was the only child living in the Reed Community. Milton L. Morrison had died February 23, 1884 and Nancy later died July 29, 1905 in Cooke County.

Victor's Parents: Victor's father was Caleb Casual "C.C." or "Ca" Morrison, born June 19, 1855 in Athens, McMinn County, Tennessee. Ca married Margaret Adeline "Addie" Cauldwell February 25, 1875 in McMinn County. Addie was born April 7, 1857 in Tennessee. The children of Ca and Addie were,

Luther Martin Morrison (1878-1957)
Claude Vernon Morrison (1/1/1884 - 1/28/1954)
Nena Bell Morrison (9/19/1887 - 11/8/1898 - died of diphtheria age 11)
Rhoda L. Morrison (~1892)
Zella Lucille (Morrison) Carmichael (11/1/1896 - 1/10/1969)
Nina P. Morrison (~1899).

After living in the Reed Community (next door to his parents), Ca and Addie - in 1891 - moved east of Gainesville (Precinct 1). Addie died September 3, 1900.

Ca's second wife was Miss Josie Alice Woods, born September 16, 1865 in Tennessee. Ca and Josie were married March 13, 1901, in Monroe County, Tennessee - just six months after Addie had died. Since Ca was living in Texas, yet married in Tennessee, Ca must have known the Woods family from his earlier times in Tennessee. (McMinn County - where Ca was born and where he married Addie - is adjacent to Monroe County - where he married Josie.) Ca certainly had motivation to marry again after Addie's death - since he had several infant children. Ca and Josie in turn bore three more children,

Victor Paul Morrison (2/8/1902 - 4/3/1959)
Naomi Alice (Morrison) Daugherty (11/23/1903 - 1/4/1979)
Ava Lee Morrison (9/29/1905 - 3/28/1994)

In 1910, Ca and Josie were still in Precinct 1 Cooke County, along with their children: Rhoda, Zella, Nina (from the first marriage) and Victor, Naomi, and Ava (from the second marriage). Unfortunately, after being married just over ten years, Josie passed away on July 25, 1911.

After Josie's death in 1911, Ca married another lady who had been born in Tennessee - Ida Kellar - born May 7, 1892. This marriage bore two additional children. In 1920, Ca and Ida still lived in Precinct 1 Cooke County along with children: Victor & Ava Lee - born to Josie - and Joshua (Josh) & Cecil - born to Ida.

Ca Morrison died November 13, 1926 in Cooke County, and in 1930, Ida was still in Precinct 1 along with her sons Josh and Cecil and an older (age 20) daughter, Grace Stewart (from an earlier marriage). Ida died October 31, 1946 in Gainesville. Caleb Casual "Ca" Morrison - and all three of his wives (Addie, Josie, & Ida) - as well as several children (Claude Vernon, Nena Bell, & Victor) are all buried in Fairview Cemetery, Gainesville.

Kizzie's Parents: Kizzie's father was Richard Martin "Dick" Lawson. He was born in Sneedville, Tennessee June 8, 1870. Kizzie's mother was Orpha Jane Carrell, born June 15, 1874 - also in Sneedville, Tennessee. Kizzie was one of eleven children – the oldest of 7 daughters. In 1900, the Lawson family lived in Hancock County, Tennessee. Later - after living briefly in Missouri - the family moved to Texas and arrived in Cooke County October 10, 1910. They lived in various locations in Cooke County before settling on a farm about 2 miles SE of Hood – where the parents lived the remainder of their lives. Victor & Kizzie's son, Milton, eventually bought that Lawson farm and moved there in 1954. The children of Richard & Orpha Jane were,

Emmett Lawson (3/24/1897 – 5/17/1983)
Richard Lawson (9/15/1898 - 7/16/1971)
Kizzie (Lawson) Morrison (2/15/1900 – 4/13/1979)
Ewen Lawson (1/23/1902 – 10/22/1979)
Ollie Lawson (6/15/1903 – 9/24/1984)
Katie (Lawson) Gaston (3/3/1906 – 10/14/1982)
Maudie (Lawson) Eason (2/15/1908 – 6/17/1951)
Nell (Lawson) Taylor (3/22/1910 - 6/24/1992)
Vinnie (Lawson) Smith (5/15/1912 – 10/1/2003)
Vedie (Lawson) Moss (9/14/1914 – 2/16/2003)
Willie Ruth (Lawson) Jackson (2/18/1918 – 2/11/2010)

Richard M. Lawson lived in Hood when he died September 8, 1954 in Gainesville. Orpha J. Lawson had died January 20, 1948. They are both buried in the Hood Cemetery – along with children, Emmett, Ollie, & Maudie. Their son, Richard is buried in Era and their daughter, Nellie Taylor, is buried in Fairview Cemetery, Gainesville.

As a teenager, Victor P. Morrison moved to the Hood community about 1919-1920. He met and married Kizzie L. Lawson November 11, 1924 in Cooke County. Victor & Kizzie resided in the Hood community - along with their children - until about 1946 when they moved to their Lois farm. Their children are,

*Milton Edward Morrison (September 23, 1925 - August 5, 1991)
Bobbie Ruth Morrison (June 19, 1932) who married George Lyle Wilson
An infant daughter born - and deceased - July 5, 1934.*

Milton Edward Morrison met Katy Mae Mathews in Hood; they married November 26, 1944. Katy is the daughter of William Asbury "Bill" Mathews and Nellie Cook who had moved to the Myra community (from the San Angelo area) in 1917. Milton & Katy lived in both the Era and Lois communities - in 1954, they purchased the Lawson farm in Hood. Later they purchased a farm in Lois adjoining Arch Springer in the mid 1960s - and moved onto the farm in 1968. Today, Katy lives in De Soto, Texas. Milton & Katy's children are,

Marion B. "Bill" Morrison, graduated from Era High School (1967) and North Texas State University (NTSU) (1971), married Susan Gillum - who grew up in Lois ("see C.W. 'Pete' Gillum"). They have two children: Josh and Staci

Linda Kay Morrison graduated from Valley View High School (1973) and NTSU (1977), married John Christensen

Carolyn Ann Morrison, graduated from Valley View High School (1976) and NTSU (1981), married Steve Martin. They have two children: David and Brian.

Bobbie Ruth Morrison was valedictorian of the 1949 Valley View class. She married George Lyle Wilson - born February 23, 1928 - to Ruel and Lena Lyle Wilson (see "*Wilson Family*"). Ruth & George lived in Gainesville until the late 1950s or early 1960s when they briefly moved to Gladewater and then on to Odessa. They bought the "House of Seat Covers" in Odessa; Ruth was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame as "2010 Entrepreneur of the Year". George died February 1, 2008 in Midland. George and Ruth's children are,

*Daryl Wilson
Darwin Wilson
Teresa Wilson
Kevin Wilson*

Victor Paul Morrison died at home in Lois April 3, 1959 unexpectedly from a heart attack. Kizzie continued to live on the farm until the mid-1970s when she moved to Gainesville where she lived until her death. Kizzie L. Morrison died April 13, 1979 in Odessa while visiting her daughter, Ruth. Victor and Kizzie - as well as their son, Milton Edward - are buried in Fairview Cemetery, Gainesville.

DAVIDSON FAMILY

James C. & Lillie M. Davidson: James Columbus Davidson was born January 4, 1878 in Exeter, Barry County, Missouri. He was also known as "Lum". His parents were William Jesse Davidson (1854-1926) and Ama Caroline Brashears (1857-1938). In 1900, he was still single living in Liberty, Barry County, Missouri.

Lillie Mae Purcell was born October 7, 1880 in Frankfort, Texas. Her parents were George Thomas Purcell (1855-1924) and Sarah E. Hustis (1859-1941).

James moved from Missouri to Texas sometime after 1900 - he and Lillie married December 24, 1904 in Hood, Texas. At the time of the 1920 and 1930 census, they lived in Precinct 8 of Cooke County in the Myra-Hood-Era area where they owned a store. James closed the store during the depression - he had offered credit and accepted all kind of things for payments. After closing the Myra store, they moved to Bolivar - where he owned another store in the mid-1940s. When they later came to Lois, they purchased a farm east of the Lois Store (on the north-south road south of the Martindale farm).

James & Lillie's children - all born in the Era/Hood/Myra area - were,

Elmer William Davidson (3/26/1906 - 1/1/1952)
Mary Elvira Davidson (8/12/1909 - 1/10/1993)
Raymond Lewis Davidson (8/13/1912 - 9/4/1982)
James Ralph Davidson (5/22/1916 - 3/22/1973)
Joseph Marvin Davidson (12/11/1918 - 12/10/1941)
Emma Belle Davidson (6/12/1921)

Elmer William Davidson was born in Era; he married Anna Mae Brewer (9/12/1910 - 6/13/2002) on April 22, 1940. They lived in Lois on the Cooke - Denton county line immediately south of Tommy & Minnie Carson. Elmer died on New Year's Day January 1, 1952 of a massive heart attack - while sitting in his chair in their living room. This was one of the earliest deaths that I remember in Lois - aside from my grandfather who had died 3 months earlier. Elmer & Anna had an adopted son, Marion William Davidson (9/29/1945). After Elmer's death, Anna moved to Gainesville. Today Marion is an art teacher in Gainesville.

Raymond Lewis Davidson also lived in Lois - *see next family.*

Joseph Marvin "Buck" Davidson was born in Hood; he married Eunice Brewer on March 9, 1941. (Eunice Brewer was a younger sister of Anna Mae Brewer who had married Elmer Davidson - brothers marrying sisters.) Less than a year later, Joseph Marvin was killed December 10, 1941 in a train wreck in Myra. He is buried in Hood.

Emma Belle Davidson was born in Myra; she married Robert Cleveland Truitt (3/15/1919 – 10/12/2002) on January 27, 1941. Today, she lives in a nursing home in Gainesville.

Lillie Mae Davidson died July 31, 1956, and James C. Davidson died October 8, 1962. They are buried in Rest Haven Cemetery in Gainesville – as are two of their children, James Ralph and Mary Elvira.

Raymond & Ruby Davison: Raymond Lewis Davidson was the second son of James C. and Lillie Mae Davidson; he was born in Hood on August 13, 1912.

Ruby Viola Hargrove was born in Farmersville, Texas on August 28, 1915. Her parents were Robert Lee Hargrove (1873 -1956) and Mary Elizabeth Wagner (1880 -1960). Raymond and Ruby met each other in Bolivar and then married in Era on October 13, 1936.

The children of Raymond and Ruby Davidson are,

Patsy Lou Davidson (1938) who married Bob Beasley
Raima Jo Davidson (1946) who married Dudley Sparkman
Linda Beth Davidson (1948) who married Phillip Marris

Patsy & Bob live in Lonoke, Arkansas; Raima Jo & Dudley live in Saint Jo, Texas; and Linda & Phillip live in Crystal Lake, Illinois.

The children were all born while Raymond and Ruby lived in Bolivar. The family moved to Lois in 1953 – following the 1952 death of Raymond’s brother, Elmer Davidson - especially to assist Raymond’s parents (James & Lillie) with their farm. Raymond and Ruby moved into a house east of the Lois Store - at the first turn in the road to the north. After the death of Raymond’s father - in 1962 - Raymond & Ruby moved up the road to James’s farm.

Raymond Lewis Davidson died September 4, 1982 and Ruby later moved to Sanger. She died September 7, 2006. They are buried in Bolivar.

BARTHOLD FAMILY

Alvin & Lillie Barthold: Alvin Otis Barthold was born March 27, 1906 in the Plainview community (near Krum) to Charlie Herman & Nettie Rosa (Mahler) Barthold. In 1930 – when Alvin was 24 years old – he was living in Denton County, with his widowed mother and younger brothers Raymond and Elmer.

Alvin's Grandparents: Alvin's grandparents were Herman Christian Barthold Sr. (8/22/1827 – 1/25/1914) and Maria “Mary” (Zipple) Sippel (9/7/1838 – 9/3/1925). Herman was born in Weimar, Saxon, Germany and Mary was born in Berlin,

Germany. Herman came to America in 1849, arriving in New York City. Herman & Mary married in St. Louis, Missouri prior to 1860. In the 1860 & 1870 census, Herman's occupation was "cooper" – maker of barrels. After two children were born in St. Louis, they moved to Illinois before their third child was born in 1864. During the 1870 Census, they lived in Bridgeport township (Okaw Post Office), Washington County, Illinois. According to *Ancestry.com*, at some point, Herman left his family in Illinois and *walked* to Texas stopping at the Army fort in Ft. Worth where he earned his keep for about 6 weeks taking care of horses. He then *walked* to the Blue Mound area (south of Sanger) – thru grass as high as his head. He liked what he saw – *walked* back to Springfield for his family – and they all came to Texas in 1877. They lived in the Dallas area for about a year; in 1879, they moved to a 320-acre farm in Denton County – the trip from Dallas took five days. Herman and Mary's ten children were,

Fred Barthold (8/15/1859 – 2/17/1937) – born in St. Louis, MO
Augusta Barthold (5/7/1861 – 1/4/1944) – born in St. Louis, MO married John
Henry Miller
Charlie Herman Barthold (2/15/1864 – 5/11/1923) – born in Okawville, IL
Emma Barthold (2/16/1867 – 8/29/1873) – born in Okawville, IL
Lena Pauline Barthold (5/16/1869 – 3/3/1952) – born in Springfield, IL married
William Lewis Grabbe
Anna Barthold (4/9/1871 – 11/8/1891) – born in Illinois married W. M. Huffmayer
Herman Christian Barthold Jr. (1/25/1874 – 3/12/1966) – born in Illinois
August Frederick Barthold (1/6/1877 – 1/3/1949) – born in Okawville, IL
Elizabeth "Lizzie" Marie Barthold (12/25/1879 – 4/4/1964) – born in Dallas
married John Voth Heiden
Ida Barthold (6/7/1883 – 9/2/1964) – born in Denton married Charlie William Wolf

Although the children were all born in America, several married spouses who were born in Germany. Herman & Mary Barthold are buried in the Blue Mound Cemetery south of Sanger. Several of the children remained in northern Denton County and are buried in Krum, Blue Mound, & surrounding areas.

Alvin's Parents: Alvin's father was Charlie Herman Barthold born in Okawville, Illinois on February 15, 1864. Charlie married Nettie Rosa Mahler born November 7, 1877. Nettie's father was Louis Mahler (6/29/1831 - 6/24/1913); her mother was Christina _?_ (1836) . Charlie and Nettie married September 8, 1895. They lived in northern Denton County. Charlie and Nettie's children were:

Charlie Herman Barthold Jr. (2/12/1897 – 10/18/1968)
Mary Leona Barthold (11/5/1898 – 8/30/1899) – less than one year old
Lizzie Rosa Barthold (3/27/1900 – 11/30/1955) married Preston Turner Yeary
Frank Louis Barthold (11/11/1902 – 6/6/1991)
Alvin Otis Barthold (3/27/1906 – 8/17/1997)
Grace May Barthold (9/15/1909 – 8/24/1958) married Edwin Christal Yeary
Raymond Clarence Barthold (8/13/1913 – 8/20/2000)
Elmer Richard Barthold (6/24/1917 – 10/28/1977)

Charlie died May 11, 1923, and Nettie died July 28, 1944; both are buried in Krum.

On July 19, 1930, Alvin married Mary Alice Bowery – born February 27, 1913 in Weatherford, Texas to Jesse Clifton Bowery and Erah Blanche Stephens. Shortly thereafter, they had two children. Unfortunately, Mary Alice died May 26, 1933 – only 20 years old - about a month after the birth of the second child.

Fifteen years later, on July 4, 1948, Alvin married Lillie Elenora Miller, the daughter of William Clarence Miller and Annie Shwadlenak. Lillie was born in Dexter, Texas (NE Cooke County) on January 5, 1913.

Alvin Barthold's children are,

Born to Mary Alice (Bowery) Barthold:

*Wilma Jean Barthold (11/27/1931 – 2/7/2006) who married Eugene Miller
Clifton Otis Barthold (4/27/1933) who married Mary L. Mitchell*

Born to Lillie Elenora (Miller) Barthold:

*David Alvin Barthold (4/15/1951) who married Cynthia Gayle Kirby
Rita Lynell Barthold (10/13/1954) who married John Gordon Gray
Clarence Ardel Barthold (7/5/1956) who married Kayla Gail McKay*

The children born to Mary Alice were born in Krum; those born to Lillie were born in Valley View. Alvin & Lillie also had a daughter, Leona Kay, who died as an newborn infant in November, 1957.

Wilma Jean Barthold married Earnest Eugene "Sonny" Miller (11/27/1929 - 1/26/2011) on April 17, 1951. She attended Valley View School and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Valley View. She had a son, Darrell Miller (3/20/1959), and three daughters, Gayla Ann (Wolf) (11/26/1952), Linda Gayle (Blessing) (9/14/1954), and Pamela Kay (Cope) (8/27/1960). Darrell married Lori Neu; Gayla married Larry Wolf; Linda married Ryan Blessing; and Pamela married Bobby Cope.

Otis Barthold has two children: Jerald Clifton (9/17/1956) & Cynthia Consuelo (3/11/1962).

David Barthold has three sons: David Keith (3/7/1980), Daniel Thomas (7/14/1983), & Jared Dale (8/11/1987). David Keith is married to Summer Dawn Huffman; they have three sons: Ayden Keith, Landon Rain, & Korbin Jayce.

Rita has three daughters: Christy Ann, Jennifer Lynette, & Rebecca LeeAnn.

Ardel has two sons: Preston Claude & Avery Spencer and 2 step-daughters (Kenna Gail Mize & Kerri Lea Mize).

Alvin was not in Lois by the 1930 Census, but I remember when the Barthold family lived in Wells House #6 south of the Baptist Church. Alvin Barthold died August 17, 1997. Lillie Barthold died September 29, 1998. They are both buried in Valley View. Alvin's first wife, Mary Alice (Bower) Barthold is buried in Bolivar.

Siblings: Several of the Barhold family settled in Valley View & Lois area. Alvin had at least two brothers who are buried in Valley View – Frank and Raymond Barthold. Lillie's brother, Elwyn Albert Miller operated a service station in Valley View and another brother, Raymond Miller was a photographer. Her sister, Marguerite Virginia, who married Raymond Doss, worked as a postal clerk.

WILSON FAMILY

Joseph Martin & Katie Wilson: Joseph Martin Wilson was born October 14, 1870 in Newton County, Mississippi, the son of Daniel J. & Mary Wilson. The family moved to Hillsboro, Texas in 1874 and then on to Lois in 1876 where Daniel was appointed as the first Postmaster for the Lois Post Office in December, 1897(see "*Lois Post Office*"). Joseph Martin Wilson therefore spent most of his youth in the Lois area.

Katie Matilda Stevens was born March 17, 1873, the daughter of Issac William Stevens (5/24/1848 - 6/6/1926) and Matilda Ermina Beck (10/16/1849 - 7/7/1938) of the Spring Creek community. Katie and Joseph married in Spring Creek on March 18, 1894; they lived in the Spring Creek area and in Valley View - all of their children were born in these communities,

Martha B. Wilson (9/13/1895 - 2/14/1988) who married ___?___ Herin
Lee Roy Wilson (10/21/1897 - 9/30/1978)
Charles E. Wilson (11/16/1900 - 8/18/1973)
Reuben Daniel Wilson (6/20/1903 - 9/13/1965) - Twin
Ruel L. Wilson (6/20/1903 - 4/4/1984) - Twin
Ermina Matilda Wilson (9/26/1905 - 12/31/1990)

Lee Roy Wilson lived in Valley View. He married Izetta Laraino White (5/4/1897 - 8/17/1974) and many of us remember the small café they operated on the corner across from the Valley View School - what great pies Izetta baked! Lee Roy and Izetta's son, Joe M. Wilson II (3/15/1920 - 6/10/2001), married Glessie Mae Coin (8/5/1927 - 8/21/2008). Joe II was a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Navy where he served in WW II, Korea, & Vietnam. Joe II & Glessie in turn had a son, Mike Wilson who lives in Valley View (married to Patti Hobbs - see "*Weldon Hobbs*"). Thus parts of the clan of the Daniel J. & Mary Wilson - who came to Lois in 1876 - still live in the Valley View area.

Reuben Wilson also lived in Valley View; he married Eileen A. Cullen (12/15/1907 - 5/4/1994) December 6, 1942. Reuben & Eileen raised two

daughters in Valley View: Reublene (who married Van Knight of Gainesville) and Janie (who married Gary Lewis). Both Reuben and Eileen are buried in Valley View.

Ruel Wilson and his wife, Lena M. (11/3/1905 - 4/27/2001), lived in Sanger; they are buried in Bolivar. Ermina also lived in Sanger; she is buried in the Spring Creek cemetery. Martha left Valley View around 1930; she died in Garland. Charles married Lois Theal Clay and lived in Arizona & California - he is buried in the Spring Creek cemetery.

Joseph Martin Wilson died July 15, 1947 and Katie Stevens Wilson died October 11, 1962. Both died in Valley View - Katie had lived her entire life in the area. They are both buried in the Spring Creek Cemetery. Although Joseph Martin Wilson's parents left Lois around 1901, Joseph Martin and Katie nevertheless remained in the Valley View area - where some of their clan remains today.

BAGWELL FAMILY

James S. & Eva Bagwell: James Sidney Bagwell was born around 1875 in Mississippi. His parents were Abner B. Bagwell (1837-1917) and Mary E. Brantley (1848-1917). Abner & Mary apparently had seven children – all born in Mississippi.

Eva Lewis was born in Texas around 1881; she and James Bagwell married around 1896. It's unknown when James Bagwell came to Texas, but based on census records, he and Eva were here at least by 1914. In 1930, they lived near Arch Springer in Lois.

James and Eva are reported to have had four children (all born in Texas) - three of which are listed in the 1930 Census,

Lee R. Bagwell (~1914)

Nona Bagwell (~1916)

Woodrow "Woodie" Bagwell (~1919)

James S. Bagwell died April 29, 1965 in Cooke County; Eva's death date and location is unknown. Neither James nor Eva are buried in local cemeteries – nor are any of their children.

Charlie & Jettie Bagwell: The next listing (neighbor) after James & Eva Bagwell in the 1930 Census is Charlie and Jettie Bagwell. Based on the information in the census, it appears that Charlie may have been the son of James & Eva. Like the other children, Charlie was born (around 1909) in Texas.

Jettie ___?___ was born in Texas around 1910. Charlie and Jettie married around 1927, and they had a two month old daughter at the time of the 1930 Census,

Ima G. Bagwell (~1930)

The dates of death for Charlie and Jettie are unknown. As noted above for James & Eva Bagwell, there's none of the Bagwell family buried in local cemeteries.

PIPER FAMILY

William Piper: William M. Piper was born December 9, 1872 in Missouri; his parents were S.A. Piper and Tabetha Robbins. Around 1898-99, William married Mary M. ___?___ who was born August 6, 1873. A son, James Sterling Piper, was born the next year on October 8, 1899; unfortunately James died June 26, 1900 - only 8 months old. At the time, William and Mary were living on Bolivar-Era road near George Stephenson. One year later, September 16, 1901, Mary died – at only 28 years old.

Five years later, in 1906, William married Susie T. Buckner, who also lived in the area. Susie was born September 7, 1887 in Franklin County, Tennessee. William and Susie Piper bore at least three children,

Bernice Lee Piper (Birth unknown – passed August 25, 1911)

Arthur R. Piper (~1909)

Minnie Vee Piper (10/15/1914 – 4/24/1994) who married August Herman Esch

Unfortunately, Susie passed away on February 10, 1916 – about ten years after she and William were married. As a result, the 1930 Census lists only William and the two surviving children (Arthur & Minnie) – they are not listed in the 1920 Census.

William Piper died January 2, 1932. William, Mary (first wife), Susie (second wife), and the infant children (James Sterling & Bernice Lee) are all buried in Era.

LAMBERT FAMILY

John R. & Malinda Jane Lambert: John Right Lambert was born in Hot Springs, Arkansas March 6, 1877. His parents were Francis Marion Lambert (12/12/1850 – 10/1/1929) and Rhoda Elizabeth Watson (1/24/1856 – 1/29/1940). Both parents - buried in Era - may have lived their last days in Texas; however, they probably lived most of their life in Arkansas. As late as 1920 - around 70 years old - they were still in Amity, Clark County, Arkansas.

Malinda Jane Ewing was born in Montgomery County, Arkansas July 22, 1877. Her father was W.A. Ewing. After John and Malinda married, they continued to live in Arkansas at least until 1910; at the 1920 Census, they lived to Frisco, McCurtain County, Oklahoma. At that time they had seven children – an eighth was born in late 1920 or early 1921,

Issac Ervin Lambert (2/6/1901 – 8/4/1980)
Annie Lambert (~1905)
Nellie Lambert (~1907)
Marinda Lambert (~1910)
Carrie Lambert (~1913)
Watson T. Lambert (~1915)
Ivy Louise Lambert (3/29/1917 – 7/6/1994) married _?_ Secor
Norman Lambert (~1920)

By 1930, the Lambert family – including four of the younger children (Marinda, Watson, Louise, & Norman) as well as John's widowed mother, Rhoda (age 77) - had come to Lois. They were living on Bolivar-Era road near Dupree & Leona Clampitt. Apparently the Lambert's lived the remainder of their lives in the Lois/Era area since John and Malinda – as well as one daughter (Ivy Louise) plus John's parents - are buried in Era.

Malinda Lambert died April 21, 1958 and John died April 27, 1968.

Issac Ervin & Shirley Lambert: Issac Ervin Lambert was born in Hot Springs, Arkansas February 6, 1901. He was probably the first child of John Right Lambert and Malinda Jane Ewing – both of which had also been born in Arkansas.

Shirley Gertrude McKay was born February 13, 1907 in Emory, Rains County, Texas. Both of her parents, Joe McKay and Elizabeth Adams, were also born in Texas.

Ervin and Shirley married in 1928, and by 1930 they lived in Lois on a farm near Ted & Ruby Austin (on Sanger-Era road). Their daughter Betty Jean was two years old. They were still in Lois in 1940 then with two additional children: Ervin Jr. and Pansy Ruth. Pansy Ruth married Hancel Jesse Cearley Jr.; they lived in Cooke County in 1957 when a daughter (Shirley Annette Cearley) was born.

Shirley G. Lambert died in Emory, Rains County, on May 12, 1969; she is buried in Sanger. Issac Ervin Lambert died in San Antonio August 4, 1980.

Issac Ervin Lambert also married Martha Jane Freeman (1904 – 1975) - probably after Shirley passed away. In any event, Martha J. and Issac are both buried in Sanger – with “matching” tombstones.

WILDER FAMILY

Kirby & Carrie Wilder: Kirby Charles Wilder was born May 3, 1889 in Hancock County, Tennessee; his parents were Charles Wilder (7/30/1843 – 8/3/1924) and Frances M. Yount (5/15/1853 – 8/22/1915), both of which were also born in Hancock County, Tennessee. In 1920, Kirby was a laborer in Hamblen County, Tennessee.

Carrie Lillian Chamberlain was born in Tennessee August 23, 1896. She was born to Peter Chamberlain and Katie Noe.

Kirby Wilder & Carrie Chamberlain married around 1920, and by 1930, the family lived on Bolivar-Era road near Bama Grundy. They had a son and daughter,

Charles Willard Wilder (4/22/1921 – 8/7/1972)

Thelma Wilder (~1925)

Charles Willard Wilder was born in Sanger; he married Gladys Estella Baker (12/3/1919 – 1/1/2001) also born in Sanger. Their children are Billy Charles (1/13/1941 – 12/17/2005), Sherry Lynn (9/7/1950), and Donald Layne (1/20/1958 – 12/15/1994). Charles Willard was killed in an automobile accident in Dallas.

Thelma Wilder's story is unknown; however she and her parents were still in Lois (near Bama Grundy and I.E. & Shirley Lambert) at the 1940 census.

Kirby Wilder enlisted for the draft in 1942; he registered in Sanger but it's unknown if they had actually moved to Sanger. In any event, Kirby died September 5, 1952 in Sanger. Carrie also died in Sanger on June 18, 1967. They are buried in Sanger as is their son and part of his family: Charles Willard, Gladys Estella, & son Billy Charles.

OTHER 1930 FAMILIES

There were several families living in Lois in the 1930 Census who are not listed in prior Cooke County censuses. In some cases, there are no family members - nor obvious relatives - buried in local cemeteries (Valley View, Era, Sanger). Thus, these families may have been relatively *short-term* residents. The following are in this group,

- **Raymond & Lillian Malone** lived on Lois-Era road between Willie and Walter Blankenship. Raymond was born around 1908 and Lillian was born about 1914. In 1930, they were newly-weds with a 4-month old son, Billie R. Raymond was an unemployed ironworker (smelter).
- **Andrew J. & Effie Morrow** – with seven children - lived on Bolivar-Era road near Jesse & Mary Masten. Andrew was 20 years older than Effie; they were both born in Tennessee. After living in Oklahoma and Tennessee, they were in Hill County, Texas by 1920 and then in Lois in 1930. Andrew (1868-1949) and Effie (1887-1971) – and perhaps one son (William) – are buried in Era.
- **Percy E. & Fannie M. Parker** were born in Texas, but lived in Oklahoma for a short time around 1915. In 1920, they lived in Grayson County, and by the time of the 1930 Census, they lived on Bolivar-Era road near Walter & Mattie Stephenson. Percy (1891-1971) and Fanny Mae (1895-1980) are both buried in Bolivar, as are two (Virgil, Irene) of their at least seven children.
- **Thomas G. & Callie Hobbs** lived on Bolivar-Era road near William Piper. They had been married six years, but had no children. Thomas was born in Texas in

1902, but there's no obvious link to the other Hobbs families in the Lois area. Thomas died in 1972; he and Callie P. (1902-1985) are buried in Idabel, Oklahoma.

- **John Henderson** was a 43-year old divorced father who – along with his 14-year old son, Earl - lived on Bolivar-Era road near Jasper & Sue Wells. Although Jasper Wells had a son-in-law named Charley Henderson, there's no obvious link to this Henderson family.
- **Willie & Kittie Wade** lived on Bolivar-Era road near Kirby & Clara Wilder. Willie, age 25, and Kittie, age 20, had been married 2-years - and they had an infant son, Clarence. Willie possibly lived in Denton County prior to his marriage - there are several Wade families buried in Sanger, but Willie & Kittie don't appear to be buried anywhere in our area.
- **Charlie & Mattie Cockrill** lived on Sanger-Era road near William & Sudie Hudspeth and Ted & Ruby Austin. Charlie R., who grew up in Cooke & Denton counties, was 27-years old and Mattie M. was 30. They had been married about nine years, but no children are listed with them in the 1930 Census – two infant sons had died in 1928 and 1929. Charlie (1903-1972) and Mattie (1899-1964) – as well as the two infant boys - are buried in Pilot Point.
- **Roy W. & Fannie M. Pitcock** lived on Sanger-Era road near Ted & Ruby Austin. Roy was 38-years old and Fanny was 33. They had seven children. Roy (1892-1945) and Fannie (1895-1970) are buried in Roselawn Cemetery in Denton. They were not listed in Lois in earlier census lists.
- **Rich R. & Ethel Gali** lived on Lois-Era road near Isa Hudspeth. Rich was 48 and Ethel was 30. Their children were: Richard R. Jr., Marie, Juanita, & James D. No other information has been discovered.
- **Harry & Hattie Norton:** Harvey Houston "Harry" Norton was born in Texas in December, 1880. In 1900, he lived in the Gainesville area. In 1905, he married Lulu Ann Hart; they had one child, Lonora, born in 1906 in New Mexico. Unfortunately, Lulu died in December, 1906 at age 22 – she is buried in Valley View. Harvey later married Hattie Cooley (June, 1893 – January, 1963) from the Ardmore, Oklahoma area. Harvey and Hattie had seven children: Osie Leon (1912-1976), Nimrod Houston (1914-1964), Benjamin F. (1916), Nailor Wilson (1918-1979), Opal (1918-1984), Frank T. (1923), and Joy (1929-1969). In 1920, the Norton family lived in Oklahoma, but in 1930, they lived on Lois-Era road. They probably didn't live in Lois very long; none of the family – except Harry's first wife - is buried in the area. Harry died in 1951 in the panhandle of Texas (Hutchinson County).
- In 1930, **James J. & Bertha A. Brown** lived on Bermuda-Valley View road near the Stephenson families. In 1920, Bertha's name was listed as "Alice B.", and

they lived in Valley View. Bertha was 24 years younger than James; they had a daughter, Ruby A. Brown. James is buried in Valley View (1868-1937), but none of the rest of the family is buried in our local area.

- In 1930, **Daniel & Gladur Griffith**, who had been married 3 years, lived on Bermuda-Valley View road near the Stephenson families. They had a young son, Noland W. Griffith, and Daniel's brother, Glen, lived in the household. Both Daniel and Gladur were born in Texas; however in 1920, Daniel and his parents lived in Bryan County, Oklahoma (just across Red River from Fannin County, Texas). None of the family is buried in the local area.
- **Henry & Ada Hamilton** was an African-American family who lived near Jim & Minnie Sluder – perhaps on the Hobbs farm across the road. They had four children. They are not listed in prior census registers, and none of their family is buried in local cemeteries.
- **Lonnie & Mary Lewis** was a young African-American family who lived near the Aughtry family on Lois road. They had three children. They are not listed in prior census registers, and none of their family is buried in local cemeteries.
- **Archie A. “Albert” & Minnie Howard** lived on Lois road near George W. Gillum. They were an African-American family with four children. Archie was 45 years old; Minnie was 29. They are not registered in other year census, and none of their family is buried in local cemeteries.
- **James & Clara Cach** was a young African- American family who lived on Lois road near John Gillum and Arch Springer. They had three young children. They are not listed in other census nor are any of the family buried in local cemeteries.
- **Tilman & Millie Farrell** was a young African- American couple who lived on Lois road near Henry Schmidt. They did not yet have any children. Tilman was born in Oklahoma where he and his widowed mother lived with his grandfather. None of his family is buried in the local area.

SHORT TERM RESIDENTS

As previously noted, the 1930 Census was the primary focus used to identify the above Lois residents. However, there are no doubt other families that came before – or after – the 1930 census who played significant roles in Lois history. The following are two families who came to Lois, but only stayed briefly.

Homer & Martha Roane: Thomas Asbury Roane (1880-1947) came to Cooke County in 1893. In 1906, he married Lillie Rachel Leach (1882-1954) and they lived most of their lives on their farm east of Valley View. They raised eight sons, seven of which served in WW II – their son Orville was killed in a B-26 crash.

Homer Clyde Roane (1910-1992) was one of the eight sons of Thomas & Lillie Roane. In 1933, he married Martha Ashley (1910-2008). Like his parents, Homer & Martha never lived in Lois, but they nevertheless owned acreage west of the Lois store for several years - Duck Creek ran through their farm. They had planned to build a home on the hill, but it never materialized.

Arthur L. & Louella Dugger: Arthur Lee Dugger (2/23/1908 – 2/17/1989) was born in Dexter, Texas (Cooke County - north of Callisburg). By 1920, his family lived just across the Red River in Love County, Oklahoma.

Louella Idell (12/20/1909 – 6/3/2005) was born in Illinois. Arthur & Louella married around 1928 and probably lived initially in Oklahoma. By 1930 when Louella's parents lived in west Texas (Foard County), Arthur & Louella had also moved there. However, by 1935, they were back in Oklahoma where their daughter Rosalea was born. In 1946, they were in Cooke County where their son Tony Arthur was born. Other children were Reatha (deceased) and Virginia (who today lives in Ardmore, Oklahoma).

The Duggers did not live very long in Lois – Virginia grew up mostly in Valley View. Arthur was a bus driver for the Valley View School – and he drove the route that included the Lois community. He also worked as janitor for the Valley View schools before moving to Gainesville in the early 1950s. Both Arthur & Louella died in Gainesville; they are buried in New Resthaven in Gainesville.

P.S. 1940 CENSUS

The 1940 USA Census was recently released to the general public - it contains several familiar families from the Lois community. In 1940, Lois was located in Census Enumeration District 49-23 defined as, “SW of Spring Creek and S of Rosston-Era-Valley View Road, and Part of Era”

The 1940 Census information is not incorporated into our story; suffice to simply say that *the following families who lived in Lois in 1930 - which has been our “target” - were still living there in 1940!*

Handwriting in the census is sometimes hard to read, so there's bound to be spelling errors. Nevertheless, the following is the names – in the order in which they appear in the census. In some cases, this serves to identify “next door neighbors” – although the census taker probably had to make repeated visits to some households who were absent on the first call. So there's nothing absolute about the *order* of the listings.

PARENTS

R.F. & Jewell Hassenpflug
W.J. & Dortha Hassenpflug
Bill & Bessie Davis
(in Elm Grove)

CHILDREN

Clyde E. Davis
Glynn Davis

Walter & Clara Belz	Charles Gene Davis
Henry & Anna Hassenpflug	Weldon K. Belz
	Ellen Hassenpflug
	Helen Hassenpflug
	J. Lee Hassenpflug
W.H. & Dollie Hunter	Dorothy Dean Hunter
	Irma Ruth Hunter
	Billy Sam Hunter
T.J. & Willie Hudspeth	W.E. Hudspeth
	W.B. Hudspeth
Robert E. & Julia Hunter	Billie Sue Hunter
	Robert E. Hunter Jr
Arch & Nellie Springer	
H.J. & Hannah Belz	Albert Belz
	Cleoma Belz
	Eugene Henry Belz
	LeRoy Belz
Alfred & Gertrude Belz	Roy Lee Belz
	Franklin Belz
	Geneva Belz
Marshall & Stella Johnson	Evelyn Johnson
	Patricia Carol Johnson
Phillip & Anna Miller	
J.W. & Nora Gillum	Cecil Gillum
	G.W. Gillum (father)
Frank Flournoy	Louise Flournoy
A.R. & Laddell Hassenpflug	
H.J. & Dorthy Hasssenpflug	
H.L. & Hazel Schmidt	Clyde Schmidt
G.B. (George) & Rosa Masten	Julia Marie Masten
	Georgia Mae Masten
	Mary Cordelia Masten
	Thomas Wilburn Masten
	Finis Eugene Masten
R.E. & Dora Pharr	Verna Ruth Pharr
Howard & Lela Mae Springer	
Frank & Cimie Lorne	Lawrence Lorne
	Clarence Lorne
J.L. & Mattie Lou Springer	Ray Springer
Charlie F. & Thelma Hobbs	Bobby Stinson Hobbs
	Billie Jean Hobbs
	James & Minnie Hobbs (Parents)
James G. & Leatryce Hobbs	Donald E. Hobbs

Weldon & Leta Hobbs
James D. & Minnie Sluder
W.C. & Mabel Maughan
W.E. & Mae Anderson

T.L. & Rachel Miller

I.E. & Shirley Lambert

Kirby & Carrie Wilder
Bama Grundy (widow)
Cletis & Claudia Martindale

Herbert & Beulah Hobbs

R.L. & Dollie Masten
John & Maybell Springer

Tom & Murl Stephenson

Mary Isa Hudspeth (widow)
Johnie Lee & Winona Masten

Olin D. & Ivy Selby

Dwain Hobbs

Billy Howard Maughan
Ruby Lee Anderson
Billy Anderson
Eula Fay Anderson
Ross Anderson
Bobby Joe Anderson
Lawrence Miller
Ethelda Miller
Martin Lewis Miller
Elnora Miller
Louise Annette Miller
Betty Jean Lambert
Irvin Lambert Jr.
Pansy Ruth Lambert
Thelma Wilder
Ewing Grundy
Robert Martindale
Gynelle Martindale
Herb Hobbs Jr.
Louise Hobbs
Charles R. Hobbs
David Franklin Hobbs
Michael Keith Masten
Helen Springer
Virginia Springer
Dorothy Nell Springer
John David Springer
Sterling Stephenson
Lavern Stephenson
Wallace Stephenson
Nelda Stephenson
Rae Ann Stephenson
Bert Stephenson
Ruby Irene Hudspeth
Fannie Masten (Mother)
Billye Masten (Sister)
Florine Harris (Sister)
Shirley Ann (Daughter)
Kenneth Elwood Selby
Marvin Douglas Selby
Henry Wayne Selby

	Lourana Hudspeth (mother-in-law)
	Daisy Hudspeth (sister-in-law)
Jesse E. & Mary Masten	Jesse E. Masten Jr.
C.E. & Gracie Bentley	William H. Bentley (son)
	Hester Bentley (daughter-in-law)
Clinton & Ella Masten	Cecil Masten
	J.B. Masten
Mrs. C.A. Masten (widow)	Weldon Masten (grandson)
Dupree & Leona Clampitt	J.D. Clampitt
	Opal Clampitt
	Emmitt Clampitt
	Willie Lee Clampitt
Cecil E. & Ruby Hudspeth	C.E. Hudspeth Jr.
	Jerry Hudspeth
Perry & Mittie Pearl Masten	
Loran G. & Imavae Masten	Ela Mae Masten
	Chlorene Masten
	Florene Masten
	Therrel Masten
Carl & Olga Reiter	Ruben Reiter
	Betty Reiter
	Louis Reiter
	Minnie Reiter
	Annie Reiter
	Doris Reiter
	Lillie Reiter
	Leonard Reiter
	Marvin Reiter
J.G. & Clara Roberson	Claud Roberson
	Sam Roberson
Thomas J. & Beatrice Masten	B.E. Chaddick (step son)
	Donna Chaddick (step daughter)
George P. & Elizabeth Gillum	Elizabeth Jean Gillum
J.D. & Ida May Aughtry	J.D. Aughtry Jr.
	Edward Dale Aughtry
	Maydell Aughtry
	Joan Aughtry
C.H. & Olivia E. Chisam	Willie Ruth Chisam
	Mary Jo Chisam
	Shirley Ann Chisam
A.A. & Lula Mae Young	Billy Joe Young
<i>(in Era)</i>	Gerald Dean Young
	Evelyn Ann Young

Johnny Loraine Young
Jerry Wayne Young

Of course, several new families had come to Lois since 1930, but they aren't included in the above list.