



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

William Robertson Doak

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William Robertson Doak served the Confederacy in a frontier unit in the Parker County area, protecting settlers and their property from the Comanches and Kiowas during the Civil War years. He lived in northeast Tarrant County for a time, and eventually died in Scurry County, Texas at Snyder.

Several genealogists have placed information on Mr. Doak and his family at ancestry.com. Mr. Doak was born May 14, 1837. One researcher placed a query online for Parker County, Texas, and wrote that his middle name was "Robinson." Family sources say he was born in Tuscumbia, Colbert County, Alabama, and was a son of David Doak and his wife, Mary Elizabeth Rogers. In 1837, the area now making up Colbert County was a part of Franklin County, Alabama. The family is found in the 1840 census of Madison County, Arkansas. William told pension authorities he was taken to Arkansas when he was young.

When the 1850 census was taken, William Doak was listed in the family headed by John Grimes in King's River Township of Madison County, Arkansas. William's widowed mother and his siblings were living in a separate family enumerated on the same page of the census. Many years later William Doak said he came to Texas about 1856.

Mr. Doak and his wife, Mary Elizabeth (some family sources say Emaline) Hines, were married September 15, 1861 in Parker County, Texas. She was born in Collin County, Texas near Weston on August 14, 1845. Her parents, Solomon and Malinda Hines, died in Parker County, Texas in 1893 and 1892, respectively.

Mr. Doak may have moved to Parker County because his brother, Joseph Melvin Doak, was living there in 1860. The Doaks' sister, Margaret, was also living with the family. Boarding there with them was one Francis Denney, who married Margaret Doak and later moved to present-day

Southlake in Tarrant County. Denney's presence in Southlake may explain William R. Doak's presence there for a few years. Joseph M. Doak's wife, Martha J. Denney, was Francis Denney's sister.

William Doak said he enlisted in October, 1862 and served until May or June of 1865. He served in Captain Jack Culwell's Company of Col. J. W. Throckmorton's Regiment of Cavalry. He told pension authorities his company disbanded at or near Springtown in Parker County when they received word that the War had ended. Affidavits of two fellow soldiers, D. A. Miller and A. Taylor, both of Parker County, said ... "said serving being rendered here in Parker and adjoining counties keeping back the Indians..." They also said that Simps Crawford was the lieutenant of the company in which Doak served.

The Doak family appears in the 1870 census of Tarrant County. Judging from the names of their neighbors, they must have been living in the Southlake area. He was working as a mechanic, and told the census taker he was born in Indiana.

In 1871 William Doak owned twenty acres of land in the B. J. Foster survey in Tarrant County, Texas. He also owned three horses or mules worth sixty dollars, and four cows worth fifty dollars. In modern-day terms, the B. J. Foster survey is located in Southlake. The survey's southeast corner lies at the intersection of Peytonville Road and FM 1709/Soutlkake Boulevard. The survey's west line parallels Randol Mill Road. The survey's northwest corner lies along Randol Mill Road at about where Kingswood intersects it from the east. No other modern-day streets lie along the survey's lines.

By the time the 1880 census was taken the Doaks had moved to neighboring Wise County, Texas, where they appear in that year's census in Precinct 8. The original schedule very clearly says Mr. Doak was born in Indiana.

In 1900 the Doak family appears in the census of Precinct 5 of Fisher County, Texas. Again Mr. Doak said he was born in Indiana, and that his parents were both natives of Tennessee. In that year, the Doaks were farming on rented land. Mrs. Doak said she had given birth to nine children, six of whom were still living.

William R. Doak applied for and received a Confederate pension from the State of Texas. He told pension authorities he was not able to work at all.

When the 1910 census was taken, Mr. and Mrs. Doak were living in Snyder, Texas in the home of their son-in-law, Mr. Samples. Mr. Doak died in the home of his son-in-law, G. F. Samples in Snyder at 11 p.m. on November 7, 1917. His death certificate gives his cause of death as Bright's disease and senile disability. He was buried in Snyder Cemetery the next day.

On January 8, 1918, Mrs. M. E. Doak applied for a Confederate widow's pension from her home in Snyder, Texas. She said her husband had died November 7, 1917 in Scurry County. She said they had moved to Scurry County about 1899. A notation on her pension file says "dead Feb. 6, 1925." Family sources say she died on January 13, 1925 in Mission, Hidalgo County, Texas.

Seven of the nine Doak children included John D. Doak, Malinda Elizabeth Doak, Thomas Francis Doak, Charles Henry Doak, George A. Doak, James Melvin Doak, and Ira Seaman Doak. Family statements suggest one of the other children was born between James and Ira. Both the eighth and ninth children must have been born and died between the census cycles for which records have survived.

The only readable headstone for a Doak in Wise County is in the Kincannon Cemetery and marks the grave of Effie Doak, a daughter of John D. Doak. No readable Doak headstones are to be found in any cemetery in northeast Tarrant County.

John D. Doak was born in September, 1862. He married Elizabeth M. Kincannon in Wise County, Texas on October 10, 1884. He was a blacksmith, and died in Scurry County, Texas in 1931.

Malinda Elizabeth Doak was born December 9, 1869. She died June 5, 1953 at her home at 410 Mesquite Street in Rio Hondo, Cameron County, Texas. She was buried in Roselawn Cemetery in McAllen, Texas. She was first married in Wise County on October 17, 1886 to Olin O. Wellborn, who died in or before 1900. She was next married to George F. Samples. By 1930 they had moved to Hidalgo County, Texas. She had children in both marriages.

Thomas Francis Doak's death certificate records that he was born at Grapevine, Texas on August 29, 1871. He died July 8, 1956 at the Gaines County Hospital in Seminole, Texas, near his home. He was buried in Seminole Cemetery. Mr. Doak worked as a rancher and farmer. He married Maggie Lee Hines in Wise County, Texas on August 25, 1892.

Charles Henry Doak was born October 5, 1873. His wife's name was L. Alice, and they were married about 1895. Mr. Doak and his family later settled in O'Donnell in Lynn County, Texas. He helped organize Lynn County, and was among its first officials. He served as Lynn County's first tax assessor and sheriff, and laid out the original townsite of O'Donnell.

George A. Doak was born about 1877. He was still alive in 1880.

James Melvin Doak was born in Wise County on October 24, 1879. He died on March 31, 1938 at his home in Precinct 1, southeast of Snyder, Scurry County, Texas. He was the seventh of nine children born to William R. Doak. He was buried in Snyder Cemetery. J. M. Doak and his wife, Elizabeth "Bessie" Doak, were married in Snyder on March 23, 1901.

Ira Seaman Doak was born in Wise County, Texas on July 22, 1884. He was a barber for many years. He married Minnie Stokes and had several children. When the 1930 census was taken he was living at Lubbock, Texas. He died in Lynn County, Texas on July 21, 1957.



MARY E.
HIS WIFE
AUG 14 1845
JAN 18 1925

W. R. DOAK
MAY 14 1837
NOV 7 1917