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GHOLSON CEMETERY
HISTORY 1871 1981 M

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GHOLSON CEMETERY HISTORY

1871-1981

McLennan County, Texas

LELIA McDUGAL

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W.F. UMBERSON

Mr. W. F. Umberson came from Winston County, Mississippi and for several years served his Uncle W.R. Kellum as an overseer. In 1860 he settled in Gholson Valley and was, until his death, which occurred in 1898, identified with every movement made by the people of his community in the line of progress.[1]

In October of 1885, W.F. Umberson legally set aside a two-acre tract, a part of the Narcisso Dees survey, to be used as a public burying ground. Wesley Franklin, Henry Weaver, and W.F. Umberson signed the document as representatives of the Gholson Community Cemetery. [2].

In a prior transaction on December 24, 1869, Mr. W. F. Umberson had purchased ninety-eight (98) acres from Mr. W.J. Clements for four hundred dollars ($400.00). That ninety eight (98) acres was a part of the 1/3 League originally granted by the State of Texas to Narcisso Dees. [3].

In January, 1950, an adjoining acre of land from the same tract was purchased from James A, and Afton Walker for the sum of eighty-six ($86.00) dollars. [4]

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1. 1906 THE WEST TIMES -Section 1
2. Vol. 45, pages 547-548 McLennan County Records
   W.F. Umberson to Gholson settlers for cemetery
3. Vol. N. page 821 McLennan County Records
   W.J. Clements deed to Wm. Umberson
4. Vol 646, pages 466-467 McLennan County Records
   James A. and Afton Walker to Gholson Cemetery

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GHOLSON CEMETERY

The two-acre Gholson Cemetery tract contained a one room cabin known as the Kellum School, which was used for religious services by both the Baptist and Methodist.* The grounds were fenced and were being used as a burial ground as early as 1871.

Sarah Kiker, wife of B.T, Kiker, was born October 1802 and died August 6, 1877, was buried there and a marker was erected to her memory. The marker has remained intact. Beside Sarah are graves of C,L, Kiker and wife, Nannie Kiker. The three graves are inclosed within an ornamental iron fence. [1].

The first person known to be buried in the cemetery was an infant twin girl, March 27,1971, daughter of Thomas William (Uncle Tom) and Charlotte Rozell, ome of the first settlers in Gholson before the Civil War.

The T.W. Rozell surviving twin daughter, Henrietta Rozell March 27, 1871-July 30,1951, a daughter Sallie Ann, daughter Jane Rozell Quillian, and sons Mitt Rozell and Frank "Shorty" Rozell were active in the Gholson Cemetery all of their lives and were buried there among friends.

Frank "Shorty" Rozell had a low-wheel wagon, and two big bay horses, which was used to carry the casket to the cemetery.

Lon Ashley built the coffins and boxes in his shop at his home. He kept black cloth in which he neatly lined the inside of the caskets.

A.J. Sparks has a one-horse wagon, which used a single leather lines horness. He would take the leather straps

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from the rig and they would use them to lower the wooden box into the ground.[2].

Before the turn of the century, W.F. Umberson and several other members of the Umberson family had been buried there, as well as members from the Bressler, Chambers, Chatham, Doyle, Franklin, High, Hill, Kellum, Kiker, McAdam, McMilliam, Morgan, Massengale, Payne, Rozell and Walker families.

The Gholson Cemetery is located on a sandy hill. The driveway into the cemetery is a steep upgrade. For several years it was almost impassible, to drive into the cemetery. In 1956 Ed Slough, the McCartney brothers, Clinton Kelly, Albert York and other faithful settlers made a concrete driveway, which improved the looks and the service entrance, This delighted the funeral homes. with respect to their hearses and limousines.

Graves were dug by hand with shovels, by relatives and friends. of the deceased. The digging is easy, however the shifting sand must be blocked off or it will fill the holes as fast as it is thrown out. Bridge lumber was kept in the cemetery for blocking and lining the grave. It was removed as the grave was filled in.

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* Elder W.W. Smith and Elder John Dunn, with W.F. Umberson, H.S. Dunn, J.C. Minnix, R.H. Phillips, and their wives, and Elizabeth Umberson (mother of W.F.), September 1, 1872 met at the Kellum School and organized the Caladonia Church, later changed to Gholson Baptist (taken from church Minutes recorded by W.F. Umberson.) The cabin burned later-the date is not known.

1. Gholson Cemetery markers-1980
2. Carroll Sparks to Lelia McDugal

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JOINES *

William Jessie Joines (86) -July 19, 1861-May 26, 1948

Margaret Louise Joines (86) - Jan. 16, 1861-April 26, 1947

KELLEY *

Lillie Kelley - Feb. 17, 1872 - Dec. 16, 1967

A. B. Kelley - Sept. 20, 1873 - April 25, 1943

KELLUM *

L. J. Kellum - Mar. 22, 1875 - Feb. 28, 1918

Rutha Lee Kellum - Died 1902

Emma Mae Kellum - Died 1896

E. D. Kellum - Died March 7, 1891 (age 63)

Thomas Edward Kellum - Feb. 29, 1859 - April 8, 1915

William H. Kellum - May 19, 1890 - Jan. 18, 1960

Ruth E. Kellum - July 17, 1893 - June 13, 1966

Willie Jr. Kellum (Infant) 1914

Luriea Kellum - 1914-1918

Bonnie Bert Kellum - June 14, 1912 - Nov. 13, 1940

KELLY *

Millie A. Kelly - Aug. 16, 1852 - July 9, 1929

J. T. Kelly - Pvt. 38 GA. INF CSA - Jan. 13, 1847-Sept.27,1923

Joseph S. Kelly - Sept. 5, 1882-Dec. 29, 1911 (Woodman Lodge)

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McADEN **

J. G. McAden - Died Oct. 12, 1888 (51 yrs., 4 mo., 27 days old)

McCARTNEY *

Honie Nathaniel McCartney - 1880 - 1952

Acineth May McCartney - 1893 - 1948

Raymond N. McCartney - Feb. 2, 1911 - Oct. 18, 1965

B. R. McCartney - Oct. 15, 1854 - April 14, 1933

McCLAIN

Vernon Earl McClain - 1901 - June 20, 1979 (husband of Pearl)

McCULLOUGH

Sallie McCullough - May 7, 1894 - Aug. 12, 1936

E. G. McCullough - Aug. 7, 1892 - June 19, 1968

McMILLIAN

Steven A. McMillian - March 22, 1861 - March 16, 1887

Martha C. McMillian - June 27, 1829 - Sept. 6, 1894
(Wife of John C.)

Unmarked stone

McMORROUGH

Tommy McMorrough - Oct. 29, 1944 - Oct. 29, 1952

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PAYNE ** - CONT'D.

Thomas J. Payne - June 1, 1845 - April 26, 1928

Lucinda N. Payne - April 6, 1864 - Jan. 26, 1942-wife of Thos. J.

PETERS *

Mattie E. Peters - 1894 - 1969

Thelma F. Peters - Died July 15, 1929 (5 days old)

James Lawrence Peters - Dec. 4, 1921 - June 28, 1936

**S. E. Peters (Mrs.) 1818 - Jan. 1, 1908 (90 yrs.)

James Ed Peters - died May 11, 1978 - age 82 - WWI vet.

PRESNALL*

Martha E. Presnall - 1863-1932

Elijah C. Presnall - 1854 - 1926

PRICE **

B. F. Price - July 18, 1876 - Sept. 14, 1911

QUILLIAN *

Ruby G. Quillian - Oct. 25, 1903 - Dec. 2, 1968

Jeff Quillian - 1863 - 1940

Mary Jane Quillian - 1880 - 1957

Vernon C. Quillian - Feb. 28, 1902 - Feb. 22, 1946

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TYLER *

James Ray Tyler (Tex) F.N. USNR Aug. 15, 1934 - Dec. 1, 1963

Janice Tyler (Infant) Died June 19, 1960

Tyler Infant - April 27, 1951

James Vee Tyler - 1887 - 1966

Leta A. Tyler - Aug. 20, 1920 - May 14, 1930

Allie Mae Tyler - Age 82 - Died April, 1979 (Wife of Frank)

Frank Tyler- Age 87- Died December, 1980

TYRA *

Infant Tyra (Son of J.B. and Lucy Tyra) April 7, 1891-Jul.17,1891

UMBERSON **

Mable Umberson (Daughter of W.R. and Ola) May 7, 1899-Sept.9, 1900

Ethel Umberson (Daughter of W.R. and Ola) April 17,1897-Sept. 26, 1913

W. R. Umberson (Billy) - Sept. 21, 1867 - Nov. 22, 1932 (Son of W.F.)

Ola Umberson - Jan. 9, 1874 - Sept. 9, 1947 (Wife of W.R.)

Carroll L. Umberson - 1896 - 1955 (Son of W.R.)

Lois Belle Umberson - Died July, 1976 (Age 76 yrs.) (Wife, C.L.)

W. F. Umberson (Father) May 11, 1837 - Oct. 23, 1898

M. J. Umberson (Mother) Oct. 31, 1844 - Nov. 25, 1922

Emma Umberson (Daughter of W.F. and M.J.) June 5, 1879 - Nov. 24, 1888

Eddie B. Umberson (Son of W.F. and M.J.) June 27, 1886-Nov. 8, 1888

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UMBERSON ** - CONT'D.

Ruffie Umberson (Son of W.F. and M.J.) April 9, 1881 - Oct.7,1889

Elizabeth Umberson (Wife of J. C. Umberson) May 30, 1814 - Nov. 19, 1889

*Ann Ophelia Umberson (First wife of W.F.) May 12 - 1843 - Dec. 14,1875

WALKER *

Mary Jane Walker - Jan. 8, 1856 - Nov. 15, 1925

William M. Walker (Mack) - Jan. 2, 1853 - April 8, 1936

Arch Walker (Son of Wm. and M.J.) Oct. 10, 1886 - Dec. 2, 1948

Bly Walker (Wife of Arch) - Jan. 10, 1893 - Nov. 21, 1960

Finley Walker (child of Arch and Bly) March 7, 1918-Jul. 14, 1919

Sarah Ann Walker (Sister of W.M.) Nov. 12, 1857-Jan. 6, 1941

Rachell Walker (Wife of Benjamin Walker) Sept. 25, 1829 - Dec. 6, 1902

Evie Neal Walker (Wife of J.L.) - April 22, 1861 - March 2, 1887

Clyde Walker (Tack) — (Tex) T/SGT. 143 Inf., 36 Div., WWII - Sept. 28, 1915 - Oct. 15, 1944

Winfred Walker - Nov. 8, 1934 - Sept. 7, 1938 (Son of Jess & Jewel)

William Dudley Walker - Dec. 3, 1911 - April 8, 1937 (Son of Jess & Leuner

Jess Walker - April 3, 1888 - June 8, 1974

Leuner Walker - Nov. 9, 1892 - March 14, 1918 (1st wife of Jess)

Mary Estes Walker - June 1, 1945-July 28, 1949 (daughter of Jess and Jewel)

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