

# WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS:

## Its History and Its People

COMPILED AND EDITED  
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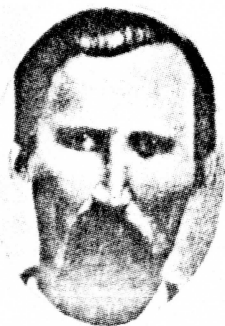
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# 4 Families of Williamson County Past and Present



*Emanuel M. Aderholt and Saphronia Elizabeth Stone*

## EMANUEL M. ADERHOLT

By Frances Aderholt Smith

Emanuel M. Aderholt, son of Frederick William Aderholt (1800–1879) and Anna Baker (born circa 1819), was born in Calhoun County, Alabama, 9 October 1846. As a volunteer at age eighteen in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, Emanuel was enrolled in Company H, Sixty-third Alabama Infantry Regiment. He was captured at Blakely, Alabama, on the Eastern side of Mobile Bay on 9 April 1865 and paroled at Meridian, Mississippi 13 May 1865. Being a prisoner of war for a brief time, he received beatings he never forgot, and for which he never forgave the perpetrators.

Emanuel married Saphronia Elizabeth Stone (1851–1885) in Springville, Alabama, 17 August 1866. Eleven children were born to this union. Following the birth of the eleventh child, Saphronia died 26 March 1885. Emanuel married Amanda Jane Jones, a cousin of Saphronia, 20 August 1885. Of this marriage, four children were born.

Early in 1891 Emanuel sold his holdings in Springville and moved to Texas, settling near Taylor, Williamson County, Texas, in a little place called Waterloo, which was located across a little creek from the general store and post office operated by Josiah Wilson Rainwater. Here Emanuel operated a cotton gin.

Though Emanuel and Josiah were neighbors, and two of Emanuel's sons married two of Josiah's daughters, the two men never spoke to one another; the probable cause being that Emanuel had been a Confederate Veteran and Josiah Rainwater, a Union Veteran.

In 1905 Emanuel moved to Lubbock, Texas, where he ran a cotton gin. He later returned to Taylor, Texas, and resided there until his death on 2 July 1916. He is buried in the City Cemetery in Taylor. Amanda, his surviving wife died 16 December 1940, and is also buried in the City Cemetery.

Emanuel was tall of stature, with black eyes, auburn hair and a flaming red beard. He always carried



*John Pinkney Aderholt and Lucy Isadore Rainwater*

## JOHN PINKNEY ADERHOLT

By Frances Aderholt Smith

John Pinkney Aderholt was born in Springville, St. Clair County, Alabama on 21 June 1871, the second child of Emanuel M. Aderholt (1846–1916) and Saphronia Elizabeth, Emanuel's first wife (1851–1885) and the daughter of James F. Stone and Nancy T. Jones. Pink Aderholt came to Texas with his family about 1891, working as an engineer at the cotton gin, which was operated by his father, and as a carpenter in the off seasons.

He married Lucy Isadore Rainwater (1872–1963) on 14 December 1892 in a double-ring ceremony with Lucy's sister, Dorretta (1874–1966) and Rnaza Lee Luttrell (1872–1972). Five children were born to Pink and Lucy, the first three being Joseph Walter, Esta Mary and Howard Wilson. These three were all born at Taylor, Texas.

In 1893 Pink Aderholt joined the Baptist church. In 1907 Pink moved his family to Wilbarger County, Texas, where he purchased farmland in the Waggoner Colony and built a house with two friends.

A member of the Oddfellows, he was a successful farmer, active in church and community affairs in and around Oklaunion, Harrold, and Vernon, Texas. John Pinkney Aderholt died in Vernon, Texas, on 6 July 1946 and is buried in Eastview Cemetery.

His wife, Lucy, passed away 12 January 1963 in Vernon and is buried beside her husband at Eastview Cemetery.

## JOSEPH WALTER ADERHOLT

By Frances Aderholt Smith

Joseph Walter Aderholt was born in Taylor, Williamson County, Texas 11 November 1893, the first of five children born to John Pinkney Aderholt (1871–



*Joseph Walter Aderholt and Dollie Annie Nichols*

1946) and Lucy Isadore Rainwater (1872–1963). In 1907 he moved with his family to Wilbarger County, Texas, where he joined the Baptist Church in 1912.

After completing high school, Walter moved to Waco where he was apprenticed as a pharmacist. On 1 April 1915, he married Dollie Annie Nichols (1891–1975), the youngest of ten children of John Tyler Nichols (1844–1917) and Frances Jane Freeman (1844–1926).

In 1917 Walter and his wife moved to Dallas where he attended Baylor School of Pharmacy until the pharmaceutical school was moved to Waco. He was employed by the Wholesale Drug Company in Dallas, and later earned his pharmaceutical license, which he retained actively until his death.

On 5 June 1917, he registered for the World War I draft, but was never called to active duty. Through the depression years he made several moves throughout Texas due to hard times. He was the father of two children.

A faithful Baptist, he was a charter member of the Optimist Club in Sherman, Texas, while living there. A Master in the Weslaco, Texas Masonic Lodge, a 32° degree and Knight Templar Mason, Past Master, Past High Priest, Past Thrice Illustrious Master and Past Commander, he also served as Worthy Patron of the Eastern Star in Weslaco, Texas.

Joseph Walter Aderholt died 29 November 1982 and is buried in the Restland Cemetery at Dallas, Texas. His wife, Anna, preceded him in death on 19 December 1975 and is also buried in Restland.

#### WILLIAM AKE

By Ruth Cline

William Ake, Sr., was born 23 December 1790 in Tennessee. He probably also married in Tennessee as at least five of his seven children were born in Tennessee. His seventh child was born in Arkansas.

The 1840 census lists him in Madison County, Arkansas, with two sons and two daughters in his household. Apparently, his wife was already deceased by this time. Before 1850, he and some of his family moved to the Georgetown area in Williamson County, Texas, where he engaged in farming. Living with him were his sons, Joseph and Cashelton C. "Cash" and a daughter, Penelope. Later "Cash" married Margaret C. Tuggle and Penelope married Joseph T. Mileham. Not listed in William Ake's household at the time of the 1850 census enumeration were Melvina, who married a Mr. Smith and John J. "Jack" Ake and his wife, Jane, who operated the Ake Hotel in Georgetown.

the Georgetown area by 1800. They were Claiborn "Clabe" Ake and his wife, Phoebe, and William Ake, Jr. and his wife, Mary Ann (Williams).

William Ake, Sr. died about 25 February 1870 or 1871. He is buried in the Old San Gabriel Cemetery in Georgetown.

William Ake, Jr., and Mary Ann "Polly," his wife owned a farm northeast of Georgetown on Willis Creek. They had three children that were born in Arkansas and three who were born in Williamson County, Texas. The first five all married in Williamson County. Cynthia Ann married James R. Roberts; Penelope married Benjamin Franklin Bridges; William Denson "Bill" married Martha Jane Alice Livengood; Melvina Elizabeth married Madison Clark Bolding; David Samuel married Catherine B. "Cassie" Robertson; Mary died unmarried at the age of twenty-four years.

William Ake, Jr., died 27 September 1879; Mary Ann Ake died 11 July 1880; their daughter, Mary, died 11 October 1889. All three are buried in the Ake Cemetery on Willis Creek. One descendant reported in 1976 that the headstones had been broken into pieces by vandals and used to make a fire ring.

Penelope Ake and Benjamin Franklin Bridges married in Williamson County, Texas, in September 1868. They had nine children, all born at Corn Hill. William Gilford "Gilf" married Fanny Donaldson or Donnell; James Henry "Jim" married Lenora Bell Finley; Joe A. married Nell Dempsey; Isaac Milton "Mitt" married Lucy Ann Wright; Emzy Taylor married Emma Nixon; David Samuel "Sam" married (1) Veda Dempsey, (2) Mary Olson, (3) Kate Lightfoot; Emmett B. married Emmy ———; Minnie Neota married (1) John Washington Vernon, (2) Walter John Greig; Franklin Polk "Frank" died unmarried at the age of twenty-three years.

Penelope (Ake) Bridges died 17 January 1932. She is buried in Bartlett Cemetery in Williamson County. Benjamin Franklin Bridges died 3 February 1890. He is buried in Corn Hill Cemetery.

#### WILLIAM AKE, SR.

By Christine and Joe Ware, Sr.

The Ake family came to Texas from Kentucky and Arkansas. William Ake, Sr., (1790–1871) married Penelope Cunningham. The surviving children listed in the Estate is the only information on John Jake and Penelope that has been found.

The 1850 Federal Census lists: William Ake, 59, farmer, \$300; John J., 35, Hotelkeeper, wife Jane, 28, daughter, Penelope, 10; Joseph Ake, 27, farmer; Casleton, 24, farmer; Penelope, 15.

John Jake and wife, Jane Williams, built the first log house in Georgetown proper. Frank Nash sold his hotel to J. J. Ake in 1853. Penelope married Jack Steel, son of Moses E. Steel and Nep. Ake Steel. The Steel's were early bankers in Georgetown. The record shows the firm to be Steel and Sparks.

The other Penelope, daughter of William Ake and aunt to Penelope (Ake) Steel, married Joseph T. Mileham, Jr.



then Queen Hill Ranch. From 1882 to 1888, W. C. Shaw worked with his Uncle Elias, Sr., bringing horses from Mexico with as many as forty men. At one time there were over 1,000 mares on the ranch.

When Lee was twenty, he went west to Amarillo, worked one day on the Santa Fe construction and returned home. Later he joined the Texas Rangers, beginning his career as a lawman, and was sent to the Panhandle to help clear the XIT Ranch of cattle rustlers.

The Queens married in Channing in 1896 and began their family of six children. In 1900 they were in Williamson County, living with Maggie's aged grandmother, Mary Jane Eubank. They soon returned to Hartley County and moved into her father's house. Lee's brothers, Pomp and David, also moved their families to Channing.

After 1890 Lee made three cattle drives to the Billings-Miles City, Montana area. After he left the Rangers, he became sheriff of Hartley County in 1902, serving six terms in all, and dying in office in 1933. His son, Ralph Lewis, then became sheriff and served until he went into the Shore Patrol in 1942. Ralph bought ranches with Grady Bryant in Montana and Colorado, selling them to retire to his Channing ranch. His widow, Irene Long Queen, lives in Palo Alto, California, with her daughter and family, Neatha (Long) and Gilbert Robinson, and grandson, Steve.

Lee's oldest son, Henry Beale Queen, became a legend in his own lifetime — a cowboy, ranch foreman, and horse fancier. He married Faye Sawyer 9 August 1933, just four days before Mr. Queen died. Faye lives at Earth. The four Queen sisters, Thelma Collins, Virginia Ayers, Lula Belle McMillen and Lee McGarrey were all talented homemakers, enjoying painting and music. Their children are: Tom O'Kane Collins of Hollywood, California; John Lee McMillen of Lockhart, Texas; Lula Margaret McMillen Brisbin of San Antonio; and Richard Lee McGarey of Tucson, Arizona.

#### JOSIAH WILSON RAINWATER

By Frances Aderholt Smith

Josiah Wilson Rainwater was born and reared on a farm near Somerset, Pulaski County, Kentucky. Born 11 October 1843, he was the youngest of thirteen children born to Bartholomew Rainwater (1804–1889) and his wife, Nancy McLaughlin (1807–1883). He volunteered for service in the Union Army of the Civil War 5 November 1861 at Camp Wolford, Kentucky. He was enrolled in Company "D," Third Regiment, Kentucky Volunteers, and discharged as captain 10 January 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky. He received wounds at the Battle of Stone River and again in a battle near Marietta, Georgia.

On 11 January 1866, Josiah Rainwater married Elizabeth Jane Weddle (1847–1943), daughter of Solomon Weddle (1822–1890) and his wife, Martha Tartar (1822–1896). To this union were born seven daughters and two sons.

Josiah was engaged in farming and in the mercantile business in Waterloo, Pulaski County, Kentucky, where he served as postmaster and county tax assessor several years. Raised a Master Mason in Kentucky in



*Josiah Wilson Rainwater*



*Elizabeth Jane Weddle*

1867, he later served as Worshipful Master. He also was a census enumerator each listing from 1870–1910.

Josiah joined the Baptist Church in March 1871, and was active in church affairs until his death. He was a deacon in the First Baptist Church, Vernon, Texas, at the time of his death.

In December 1890, he sold his holdings in Kentucky and moved to Williamson County, Texas. There he settled on a farm outside Taylor, establishing a general store and post office in a little community he called Waterloo after his former Kentucky home. He took an active part in community and school affairs, as well as church and Masonry. He served on the local school board several years.

In 1907 Josiah Rainwater moved from Taylor to Wilbarger County, where he resided on a farm northeast of Oklaunion. He was a director of the First State Bank there from 1914–1927. He left the farm and moved into the nearby city of Vernon, Texas, in 1919. Here he made his home until his death 16 March 1934. He is buried in Eastview Cemetery, Vernon. His wife, Elizabeth Jane, died 25 June 1943, and is buried in Eastview beside Josiah.

#### ERNST GOTTLÖB RAMSAIER

By Ruth S. Parker

Ernst Gottlob Ramsaier (1862–1940) came to the United States in 1888 from Warmbronn, Württemberg, Germany. He had mastered the metal working trade in his native Germany and worked at it a short time in Switzerland before coming to America. Because work in his line was none too plentiful in the late eighties, and as he was a versatile mechanic, he turned his talents into whatever was offered at the moment. He worked for several business establishments in Bartlett before going into business for himself, specializing in plumbing and metalsmithing.

In December 1894, he married Bertha Sdithke (1870–1961) who emigrated to America with the Jan Janacek family. Mr. and Mrs. Ramsaier were the parents of William who lives in Lubbock, and Mary who resides in Waco.

Mr. Ramsaier's shop was located in the building that was used as the first mercantile establishment in Bartlett. It was in this building that Captain John Bartlett and Mr. Tom Fowler operated a general store. In Mr. Ramsaier's business was found the largest and most complete stock of plumbing, roofing, sheet metal and tinnery supplies in the area. He supplied essential hardware for windmills, cisterns, furnaces and similar