LAND OF GOOD WATER

Takahue Pouetsu

A Williamson County, Texas, History

Clara Stearns Scarbrough

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Illustrated by J. U. Salvant

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county and he spoke before an audience at Southwestern University.\textsuperscript{162} Shipments of the Walker Ranch cattle were loaded at Walkerton.

**Watermelon Springs**, rural school (see Avery, Norman’s Crossing). Walnut Springs School consolidated with Hutto in 1949.

**Waterloo**, rural village of the late nineteenth century on the prairies east of Circleville, near Wuthrich Hill community. Pioneers in the area included Jacob Thornton Bernard who came in 1878, Christian Gottfried Wuthrich (1888) and Josiah W. Rainwater who arrived in December 1890 and built a grocery store. A church and school in the area was known as Somerset, so when the village applied for a post office the name Somerset was requested. The name had already been granted another place, so Rainwater suggested Waterloo, the name of his old home in Kentucky. (Austin, Texas was briefly called Waterloo before it was chosen as state capital.) Waterloo post office was approved May 12, 1893, with Patrick G. Tartar, postmaster. His successors were Patsie J. Gate (1894), Ranza L. Luttrell (1895), Josiah W. Rainwater (1897), John D. R. Cooper (1899), Robert A. Skeen (1899), Josiah W. Rainwater (1901), and Gusta Tindel (1903). The office was discontinued September 15, 1904. The store was run by Floyd Tindel, by the Bernard family and others; a drug store was combined with it at one time. E. M. Aderholt, a grocer in Alabama, heard that this fine cotton-growing community had no gin, so moved to Waterloo in 1891 and had a gin in operation there that fall. Dr. Charles Land moved there about the same time and had a small drug store in his residence. Hamp Gillis came to Waterloo and put up a blacksmith shop in the 1890s. Other settlers were Tom Gossett and R. Compton, better known as "Uncle Razz," who tamed wild mustangs to pull his sulky plow. A telephone exchange was established about 1900. An early church in the area served both as school and church and German families moving into the community generally attended Lutheran services in Taylor prior to about 1894. A Methodist Church was built between Waterloo and the San Gabriel River about 1896, which was shared alternate Sundays with Baptist, Christian and Presbyterian preachers. A Lutheran church was built at Wuthrich Hill (see). Later businessmen at Waterloo were Henry Hejl (groceries and gin about 1915), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Faykus (store and gin about 1930) with Jerry Drozdak managing the store, and later the Faykus sons, Alvin and Ernest, operating both businesses with their mother. Jim Matyastik, Mrs. Ruth Wolett and Herbert Boehm also ran the store. John and Anna Maresh came to Waterloo in 1913 and Maresh ran a horse powered syrup press. Waterloo and Hoxie School annexed to Thrall in 1949.\textsuperscript{163}

**Water Valley**, see Jonah.

**Weir**, see also Midway and Townsville. Weir was established after the Granger-Georgetown railroad was built and named at the suggestion of Horace M. Weir, first postmaster there, for his father, Calvin Weir, a settler who had lived in the area since 1856. Once during the many decades that the prohibitionist question raged over the nation, Calvin Weir placed a notice in the county newspaper in 1887 stating that "the report...