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OLD CITY CEMETERY, Caldwell, Burleson County ,Texas

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According to members of the Burleson County Historical Commission who researched the county minutes, the Old City Cemetery was laid out in 1840, the year the town was founded. There is a historical marker in front of cemetery erected in 1971, that states, " Old City Cemetery: Created in 1840 (the same year Caldwell was laid out) when lots 3 and 12 were made a "Grave yard and church lot" forever. Town founder, Lewis L. Chiles (d. 1864) is buried there. Oldest legible stone is for Margarette A. King and infant (d.1843) Now maintained by City. "

This graveyard is on West Buffalo Street, which runs east and west, in the city limits of Caldwell. It lies between South Thomas and South Hill Streets, which run north and south. It has many old markers, sadly several are broken, toppled over, neglected or have been vandalized. The City is supposed to keep this cemetery, but even then, there are times it has been so overgrown, markers are lost in the brush and weeds. The whole cemetery is enclosed with old type wire fencing, which is damaged in some areas. There are many beautiful, large, obviously old trees in the cemetery itself.

There is also a small triangular shaped graveyard behind the Old City Cemetery. This area is totally overgrown. Two markers near the fence have apparently been placed there within the last 10 years or so. They are inside an older curbing, but regrettably, one is not correctly named, as the deceased is interred in the Masonic cemetery and has an older marker over the grave. Several monuments, parts of monuments, hidden and not hidden have been located in this forgotten area and are included in this transcription. After this cemetery has been cleaned, maybe other graves and/or markers will be found.<sup>20</sup> There were several tombstones transcribed for the Cemeteries of Burleson County Book, printed in 1988 that were not located in 1997. These names have been included as well in this project. Entering the gate at the front of the cemetery (facing north) graves were first transcribed on right side and worked and then middle and then left side. Even then, some may be out of sequence. As always, do not take information on stones as verbatim.

Martha T. DELAMATER  
1841 - 1926  
Mother

(from KY, married to B. F.)

Stone broken, repaired  
FAREWELL  
In memory of  
Benjamin F. DELAMATER  
B Nov. 1, 1837  
D Apr. 28, 1879

(B. Franklin was a Confederate veteran)

Only a piece of a metal funeral home marker, no name visible anymore:  
Ann D. JENKINS (nee: DELAMATER) (born: Sept. 14, 1875) (husband: J. W. Jenkins)  
Died Apr. 23, 1959  
Aged 83 yrs. 6 mos. 8 days (this name was transcribed previously & presume this is where it belongs)  
~~~~~end of curbed area~~~~~

Inside a curbed area:  
HARRIS on top of stone  
Brother

\* James Addison Harris (J. A. Harris married Carrie WATSON on Apr. 14, 1875 ??)  
Dec. 23, 1847  
Sept. 27, 1887

Lilies are planted on this area. No marker.  
(this name was transcribed previously & presume this is where it belongs)

\* A. Judson HARRIS (Adoniram J.)  
Died Mar. 31, 1939 (born: July 4, 1850 in GA)  
Aged 88 yrs 9 mos 27 days

~~~~~end and beginning of another curbed area~~~~~

Large double stone, HARRIS on top

Father

Mother

\* Jessie Harris \* Louisa C. Harris (nee: Rainwater)  
Sept 3, 1809 April 30, 1821  
Dec 13, 1878 July 8, 1910

~~~~~end of curbed area~~~~~

BROTHER

Henry G. LACKEY  
1880 - 1912

Semi - tall stone, top ornament broken off, on the back side, a hand pointing up  
Nancy GHENT (nee: LACKEY)  
Born Mar. 5, 1796

#1678

Died Feb. 18, 1872  
"Rest Mother, rest in quite sleep  
While friends in sorrow o'er thee weep"

Hands clasping  
Jno. Daniel,  
son of W. S. & M. M. LACKEY  
Born Mar. 8, 1868 Died Nov. 23, 1881  
He is not dead but sleepeth

(Rev. William Stone Lackey & Martha GHENT  
married Jan. 22, 1856. He was a Conf. vet.  
and a pastor of Dove Baptist Church 1869-74)

Inside a curbed area:  
Stars, picket fence, archway and dove  
\* Dr. A. H. DAVIDSON  
Born Aug. 19, 1863  
Died Nov. 2, 1902  
"Resting in hope"  
DAVIDSON on base

(Alexander Hamilton, son of Lt. Col. Davidson, CSA)  
(in Columbus, Texas)

In this same area, a foot stone with initials C. O. A. inscribed. (?)  
Claude O. Albritton on page 5?

\* Adolph TESTARD  
Born Dec. 19, 1829  
Died Dec. 10, 1889

Fern leaf decoration

\* Celeste DAVIDSON (nee: TESTARD, married Dr. Davidson Oct. 2, 1893)  
Aug. 30, 1866 (native of Brenham, Texas)  
June 24, 1915 (from pellagra)  
~~~~~end of curbed area~~~~~

Large rock (no name)

Large rock (no name)

Flat newer type stone  
Frances L. RAGSDALE (mother of C. C. Ragsdale)  
1821 - 1900 (died suddenly)

Mary (M. A.) HOLLEYMAN (C. F. Holleyman marries Mary TEAFF, Oct. 15, 1876??)  
Died December 8, 1913  
(new marker)

Frances JOHNS YOUNGBLOOD  
1818 - 1878  
(new marker)

Hiram Henry,  
son of H. H. & Lula I. DARR (H. H. & Lula I. CHILES married Nov. 7, 1881)  
Born Nov. 26, 1882 Died Aug. 3, 1888  
"Gone but not forgotten"

"Alas, she has left us, her spirit has fled  
Her body now slumbers along with the dead  
Her Savior hath called her to him, she is gone  
Be ye ready to follow her soon".

Ella L.

daughter of J. T. & S. E. REEVES (J. T. Reeves, brother of Edward)

Born July 31, 1876 Died Sept. 14, 1880

Age 4 yrs 7mo 14 d

"She lives with Jesus"

White stone service marker

James Henry REEVES

(possibly Henry Reeves, son of Edward Reeves)

CO. I

1 TEX INF SP AM WAR

~~~~~End of fenced in area ~~~~~

Brick tomb, slab on top has name

Tolbert REEVES

(uncle of Edward Reeves)

Born in Bladen Co. NC

June 6, 1814

Died April 2nd 1866

"The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away

Blessed be the name of the Lord"

Medium size, four sided monument

Side one: Gladys,

daughter of William & Mattie REEVES

Born Jan. 24, 1885

Died Sept 15, 1885

Side two: In memory of our babies

Myrtie,

Born March 17, 1882

Died April 5, 1882

Side three and four are blank.

"They are waiting at the portal"

Double - arched monument, on top: "Awaiting the resurrection"

In loving remembrance of our sister

Jennie REEVES COLLINS,

wife of J. H. COLLINS

Born Sept. 5, 1860 Died Jan. 8, 1885

"None knew thee but to love thee"

Other half of arched monument:

In loving remembrance of

Fannie H.

wife of W. T. CARRINGTON,

(Fannie REEVES married W. T. Feb. 1, 1882)

Born Feb 1, 1863 :

Died April 4, 1892

"She wrought till the Master called to rest

Then fell asleep on his loving breast

On the base: Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord"

#1078

Broken brick tomb, no name, at one time had sea shell decorations all over it.

Broken marker

In memory of Sallie A.,  
dau of R. E. & A. E. McARTHUR (R. E. was one of 1st aldermen)  
Died -----??

Lilly type flower on stone

Wm. Tryon CHILES (son of Lewis L. Chiles & Emily HITCHCOCK)  
Born in Burleson Co. TX  
Dec. 12, 1854 Died May 10, 1895  
"They who knew him best will bless his name  
And keep his memory dear while life shall last.

In loving memory of M. E. (nee: M. E. HESLEP)  
wife of W. T. CHILES (married William Tryon Chiles, son of L. L. Chiles, Dec. 12, 1854)  
Died Jan. 24, 1890  
Aged 29 year & 17 day  
"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints"  
Back side:  
"She is not dead but sleepeth well  
A new star shines in the home of the blessed  
In the beautiful city where her spirit dwells  
Our darling is now at rest"

★ Virginia CHILES HIGGASON (married Rueben A. Higgason, [CSA] Sept. 27, 1860)  
1843 - 1925  
Daughter of L. L. CHILES (Lewis L. Chiles & Emily Hitchcock)

Tall, four sided marker  
Emma C. wife of C. S. WILLIAMS (also referred to as Emily)  
Born Feb 13, 1862 (daughter of Lewis. L. Chiles & Emily Hitchcock)  
Died June 9, 1886  
"A devoted wife, a fond mother and a sincere Christian"  
On base:  
"Separation is our lot, meeting our hope"

Broken marker, base is all that shows

T. D. W. CHILES (Thomas Davis Waldrige, son of Lewis. L. Chiles & Emily Hitchcock)  
Born April 13, 1858 (married Lula J. FIELDER)  
Died Oct. 15, 1880  
22 years 5 mos 1d

Flat upright stone

Robert E.  
son of J. B. & Frances McARTHUR  
Born June 13, 1879  
Died Mar. 31, 1881  
"Sleep on son for there is no sorrow beyond the grave"

#1078

Many footstones were found hidden in leaves and dirt and some were found next to a large oak tree where they had evidently been placed in years past, perhaps to allow easier mowing or cleaning. No notations were taken then so, the place and to whom they once belonged has been lost. Footstones were placed by the proper headstone when it could be done with a fair amount of certainty. The following stones still have not been placed by a grave:

A. C.  
E. V.  
- K  
- S  
- G  
F. F. H.

????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????

Judge Andrew Sidney. BROADDUS, who brought the famed Broaddus colony to Texas from Virginia in 1854 is said to be buried in the Old cemetery at Caldwell, but this can not be confirmed 100%. Some reports have him buried at Carr / Broaddus cemetery, in the country, near Cook's Point, Burleson County. His wife, Jane is buried there. Others speculate he is buried at Salem Cemetery, near the Salem Baptist church, that he started, also in the same area. Judge Broaddus died April 23, 1891. His obituary found in the Galveston newspaper and a funeral notice, owned by a descendant, both state he was buried at Old City Cemetery. A write-up in the county history book also states his burial was at this cemetery. Mr. Broaddus was a lawyer as well as a member of the Legislature. He has many descendants still living in the area.

NOTE: The following names were taken from obituaries in old Caldwell newspapers that stated they were buried at Old City Cemetery. If anyone can verify actual place of burial for these or any other individuals in Old City Cemetery, please contact me.

ADAMS, infant. Parents Mr. & Mrs. J. W. ADAMS. Died 1905.

BARNETT, Mrs. H. C. died in Brownwood, Texas, 1920.

BROADDUS, Leland (64) Confederate veteran, son of Judge A. S. Broaddus, died 1903

DEUTSCH, Frankie (a child) died 1903

FARMER, Joseph W. (74) Confederate veteran. 1st married Emma PARKHILL, 2nd Lucy BURTON. Died 1907.

FARMER, Thomas (77y 1m 8d) Confederate veteran. One of Broaddus party. Married Miss Mary SMOOT. Died in 1905.

GAY, W. F. (48y 9m 10d) died 1906.

GAY, Infant of W. F. Gray. (7m) died 1900.

\*HARRIS, Adoniram Judson (88) died 1939.

\*HARRIS, Mrs. Mary HIGGASON (83) oldest child of Rueben & Virginia CHILES Higgason. Died in 1944.

HILL, James A. (63) Confederate veteran. Died 1906.

\*HILL, Mrs. Dr. John (38) 1st married to Ad HARRIS, died 1898.

HOTCHKISS, Harriet (a child) died 1899.

LACKEY, J. D. (16m) died 1903.

LUTHER, Robert (57) sign painter, died in 1939.

MAHONEY, Mrs. Anna HOUSTON (58y 6m 5d) daughter of Clairborne HOUSTON, came to Burleson Co with BROADDUS colony. Married J. C. Mahoney in 1875. Died 1911.

#1078