



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

Copyright © 2011-2012. All rights reserved.

## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

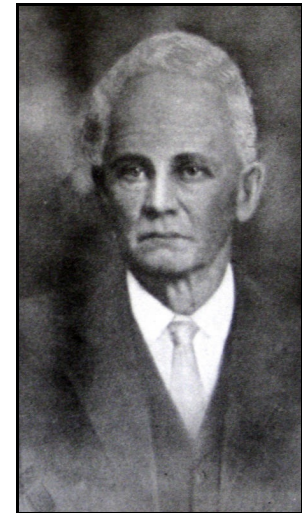
### Robert Bailey

Compiled by Michael Patterson  
Copyright © 2011-2012. All rights reserved.

Robert Bailey was a native Kentuckian who came to northeast Tarrant County in the early 1860's. He told the census taker in 1910 that he was a Confederate veteran. He became a prominent stockman and businessman both here and in Schleicher County, Texas. He died in Tarrant County in 1919 and lies buried in Birdville Cemetery.

Robert was born February 18, 1848 in Woodford County, Kentucky. He was a son of Preston Bailey and his wife, a widow named Louisa Virginia Perry Samuels. They were married in Woodford County, Kentucky on April 17, 1845. They appear in the 1850 census of Woodford County's District 1, where the Mr. Bailey worked as a tavern keeper. Robert was three years old at the time.

A lengthy account of Mr. Bailey's life, including several photographs, appeared in A History of Schleicher County, published by Anchor Publishing Company in San Angelo, Texas in 1979. Several excerpts from it will be included in this sketch.



Robert Bailey

Robert's father died during the mid-1850's and by 1860 his mother was remarried to a widowed cousin named Lewis Berry Brown. This large blended family lived in Liberty Township of Clay County, Missouri where Mr. Brown was a rope maker. Robert and his siblings, Preston and Louisa, are with the family in the 1860 census enumeration.

About 1862 Robert Bailey came to Tarrant County to settle. From the History of Schleicher County:  
*"...when he was fourteen, the family moved to Tarrant County, Texas, and settled on a farm near the village of Smithfield, truly a pioneer family of Tarrant County. He was too young for active duty in the Civil War but was Aide-de-camp for Colonel Quale and Captain Terrell, driving*

*wagon teams or cattle to the supply centers. In 1867 his stepfather, Lewis Brown, died, so he accepted the responsibility of his mother and the children of the home.”*

Mr. Bailey married Mary Ann Calloway, the daughter of Shadrick Calloway, one of the pioneers of the Birdville community. She was born in North Carolina on November 21, 1852. Again from Schleicher County: *“...Our young grandfather, like many others who were reared in this area, “punched cattle” and went on many long cattle drives, often over the old Chisholm Trail to Abilene or Kansas City. During the Christmas Season of 1867, on December 26th, at age nineteen Robert Bailey was married to Mary Ann Calloway, the daughter of Shadrick Calloway and his wife Catherine Baker Calloway. They lived on his Mother’s farm in one of the little houses that had been in the slave quarters...”*



Mary Ann Calloway Bailey

On November 14, 1869 Robert Bailey registered to vote in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County, saying he’d been in Texas and Tarrant County for seven years, and in Precinct 3 for two years.

Robert Bailey and his wife and daughter appear in the 1870 Tarrant county census in Precinct 3. Mr. Bailey owned real estate worth five hundred dollars and personal property worth six hundred dollars. A black boy named E. Doil, ten years old, was boarding with the family. Robert’s mother, Mrs. L. V. Brown, lived only a few houses away from them in the census.

Mr. Bailey is found in the 1870 tax list of Tarrant County as the owner of one hundred sixty-three acres of the Landon C. Walker survey, worth one thousand dollars. He also owned fourteen horses worth three hundred fifty dollars and twenty-five cows worth one hundred twenty-five dollars.

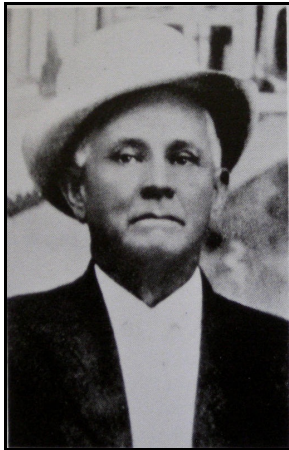
There are two Landon C. Walker surveys in Tarrant County, each of three hundred twenty acres. They are adjacent. The one on the north is one mile east-west by one-half mile north-south. The other is the same shape and size as the first, rotated ninety degrees, and south of the first. Their west lines are in a straight north-south line which passes through the intersection of Grapevine Highway and Harwood Road. Part of the east line of the north survey lies along Precinct Line Road; the northern survey’s northeast corner lies at the intersection of Precinct Line Road and Martin Drive. This property lies in present-day North Richland Hills, and would have been considered to be in Smithfield in the late 1800’s.

From Schleicher County: *“...He continued to “boss’ cattle drives, and being from Kentucky he loved horses which he bought and traded, one being a fine stallion named Rattler. Grandpa loved racing and matched Rattler against Jennie, the mare of Sam Bass, to be held in Denton. Rattler won—that night Bass and his men raided their horses but Rattler was safely tied to Grandpa’s bedroll.*

*Being successful with his stock farming, our Grandfather expanded his business interest to the mercantile business in Fort Worth long before there were railroads. All of his merchandise was brought by mule train from the river docks at Jefferson, Texas. Soon after this he bought a larger farm near Bedford and built a large colonial home to accommodate his family of nine and also*

*included a long narrow room called the “gun barrel” which was for the men who worked for him...”*

He appears as Bob Bailey in the 1875 tax list in Precinct 4, owning one hundred fifty acres of the George Akers survey in the immediate area of the old townsite of Birdville. The original George Akers survey was a square, one mile on each side, containing six hundred forty acres. The survey now lies in both Richland Hills and Haltom City. Its northeast corner lies at about the intersection of Baker Boulevard and Rufe Snow Drive in Richland Hills. He also owned a considerable amount of livestock and personal property.



Robert Bailey

Robert Bailey and his family appear in the 1880 census of Tarrant County in Precinct 4. Five of the Bailey’s children were with them: Lou Virginia, Pearlie May, Nora Ellen, Addie Belle, and John Robert Bailey. There were also two laborers living with the family. Their next-door neighbors were Louisa V. Brown, Mr. Bailey’s mother, and her family.

Robert appears in the 1880 agricultural census of Tarrant County. He owned a farm consisting of fifty-five acres of cultivated ground, seventy-five acres of permanent pasture, and twenty-five acres of woodland. He estimated the value of his farm at one thousand eight hundred dollars, his farming implements at two hundred dollars and his livestock at seven hundred fifty dollars. He estimated the value of all his farm production in 1879 to be three hundred dollars. He owned fifteen horses and one mule.

He had eight milk cows and twenty-seven cattle of other classes. Seven calves had been dropped on his farm in the past year. He had sold and purchased nine hundred head of cattle in 1879. He had slaughtered one animal and twenty had died, strayed, or otherwise been lost. He had produced two hundred pounds of butter. He owned three hogs and eight chickens. He had fifteen acres of Indian corn which had produced one hundred bushels, and fifteen acres of cotton which had made five bales. He had cut fifteen cords of wood on his land, worth two dollars per cord.

A notice appeared in the Fort Worth Gazette on January 2, 1883 announcing Robert Bailey’s mother’s death: **“Grandma BROWN died Jan. 1 at her home in Smithfield. Mother of Robt. Bailey and Louisa Brown.”** She lay in an unmarked grave for many years. Her grandson, John R. Bailey, finally had a stone placed for her in Birdville Cemetery containing only her name “Louise V. Bailey,” and his, naming himself as her grandson.

From Schleicher County: **“...After helping to conquer the wilderness of Tarrant County, the pioneer spirit called the Baileys further west. In the Spring of 1890 they sold their property in Tarrant County and moved to Dublin, Texas in Erath County. There he was in the mercantile and cattle buying business.**

***Our dad, John Bailey, told us of the trip. He was eleven and Uncle Albert was a little boy of eight. They helped the men drive the horses and mules from Bedford to Dublin. When they came to the***

***Brazos River near Granbury it was deep, swift and had lots of quicksand, but the horses and mules were so thirsty they rushed into the river and started swimming. The little pony that Uncle Albert was riding just followed right in and swam across. Uncle Albert hung on and made it across, much to the fear and consternation of all the older men...***

Robert and Mary Ann Bailey are mentioned in an 1895 published biography of her sister, Mrs. Charles Hardisty. According to it, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey were living at Dublin in Erath County, Texas at that time. By 1900 Robert had moved the family to Schleicher County, Texas and was ranching there. Mary said she had given birth to nine children, seven of whom were still living. Their sons, Albert and Thomas, were still with them. Their son, John R. Bailey and his wife, Bertie, were their next-door neighbors.

From Schleicher County: ***“...In the late 1890’s there was a great land sale in Schleicher County. Grandpa went out for it and liked he grassland and the price so he bought 27 sections located eight miles southwest of the present town of Eldorado. This was known as the Bailey School Settlement. In October 1898 he bought two more sections which adjoined him from Stone Brothers for \$2,000.00. This became the home place, now known as the Albert Bailey place.***

***Soon after the Baileys moved to Eldorado a negro, Bill Sims, who had worked for the Humlongs, came to work for them and soon became Grandma’s right hand man with her garden and chores, and Uncle Tom’s side kick. He idolized Uncle Tom and they would sing, dance, and play the guitar. After Uncle Tom went back to Fort Worth, Bill also moved there and he and Uncle Tom kept in touch for many years...***

Mr. Bailey’s success in business made him see the necessity of a strong bank in the community. In 1907 he became one of the leaders in establishing the Eldorado State Bank. At a stockholders’ meeting on February 4 he was elected one of the original five directors, and invested \$5,500 capital in the venture, more than any other single investor. Later that day he was elected president of the bank.

Robert’s business ventures continued to be successful. An article appeared in the Fort Worth newspaper describing the sale by Mr. Bailey of three sections of land for \$80,000 to J. C. Stribling of Llano County. Mr. Stribling planned to subdivide the property to aid in the growth of the town of Eldorado.

When the 1910 census was taken they had moved back to Tarrant County. Robert and his wife and their single son, Thomas M. Bailey, were living in a home they owned at 1401 Pruett Street. Mr. Bailey confirmed that he was a Confederate veteran. We have not been able to locate Mrs. Bailey in the 1920 census.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Robert Bailey applied to the State of Texas for Confederate veterans’ benefits. *There was one Mary J. Bailey of Tarrant County who applied for a Confederate widow’s pension based upon the service of her husband, Robert Wesley Bailey. This compiler has examined this pension file and these two people are not Robert and Mary Ann (Calloway) Bailey who lie buried in Birdville Cemetery.*

Robert Bailey died in the Birdville community on February 6, 1919. He was buried near his two daughters who had died as small children several decades before. His and Mrs. Bailey's graves are marked by a large double upright granite headstone.

An extensive obituary for Mr. Bailey appeared in the Fort Worth Record on February 7, 1919: ***“PIONEER TEXAN DIES THURSDAY MORNING AFTER OPERATION. Robert Bailey was One of the Organizers of Schleicher County and Prominent Stockman. Robert Bailey, 71 years old, pioneer banker and stockman, died early Thursday morning, following an operation performed last Saturday. He is survived by a wife, six children and a sister, who resides in Smithfield, Tarrant county. The children are John Robert Bailey, a stockman at Azona; Albert Preston Bailey, stockman at Eldorado; T.M. Bailey of the Bailey-Womack Motor Company, Fort Worth; Mrs. Scott H. Mack of Ballinger and Mrs. Nora Gee and Addie Robert of Fort Worth.***

***The funeral will be held Friday afternoon from the First Christian church. Rev. L. D. Anderson and Superintendent M. H. Moore of the Fort Worth city schools officiating. Interment will follow in Birdville cemetery.***

***The death of Robert Bailey removes one of the pioneers of Texas and of Tarrant and Schleicher counties. He was a native of Versailles, Ky., born Feb. 18, 1848. When 4 years of age his parents moved to Liberty, Mo., where he received his education at the old William Jewell college. From Missouri the family removed to Kansas City and in 1867 came to Tarrant county and settled near Birdville.***

***The Bailey family has been one of pioneers. When a lad Robert, like all the others reared in this country, “punched” cattle and drove herds over the old Chisholm trail to the Kansas City market. He marketed large herds for the late Captain M. B. Loyd, founder of the First National bank. Making a success of the cattle business, he engaged in the mercantile business in Fort Worth long before railroads were thought of—when they had to freight their merchandise from Jefferson, Texas.***

***MOVES FARTHER WEST. After helping to conquer the wilderness of Tarrant county the pioneer spirit called him further west and he moved to that section of Concholand near old Fort Concho that is known as Schleicher county. He was one of the organizers of that county and helped to build the town of Eldorado. He founded and owned the Lazy 7 brand and ranch, which brand and ranch are now owned by one of his sons. Later he moved back to Fort Worth and in the later years of his life spent part of his time here and part in the West. He was ever on the go, despite his age, and usually drove his own car.***

***Robert Bailey was a typical Texas. His heart was as large as his body. He not only assisted and helped all his kin, but had a “weakness” for educating deserving boys and girls. Men who worked for Bob Bailey and then started out for themselves looked to him for advice which he freely gave, besides other assistance if they needed it. He was ever on the lookout to help some deserving people one way or another.***

***The honorary pallbearers are some with whom he was associated in business—Major K. M. Van Zandt, George B. Hendricks, J. T. Pemberton, B. H. Martin, and Ed Elliott. The active***

***pallbearers will be his nephews—D.G. Brown, Arthur Davis, Tom Hardisty, Lewis Brown, Louis Hightower, Walter Brown, Julian Davis, and Dr. Leon Cloud.”***

In 1930 Mrs. Bailey lived with her daughter, Mrs. Scott H. Mack, at 611 Broadway Street in Ballinger, Runnels County, Texas. She died there six years later.

Mrs. Bailey died at her home at 611 Broadway Street in Ballinger, Runnels County, Texas at 6:30 a.m. on January 29, 1936. Her death was caused by heart failure. Her death certificate says she had been a resident of Runnels County since about 1919. She was buried in Birdville Cemetery on the last day of January 1936.

Two different death notices for Mrs. Bailey appeared in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on January 30, 1936. One read, ***“MRS. MARY BAILEY TO BE BURIED FRIDAY. Mrs. Mary Ann Bailey, 83, widow of Robert Bailey, prominent West Texas rancher, will be buried Friday morning in Birdville Cemetery in a plot which Colonel Bailey donated from part of the old Bailey homestead. Rev. L. D. Anderson will conduct services at 10 a.m. at Gause-Ware Funeral Home.***

***Mrs. Bailey died of pneumonia Wednesday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Scott Mack at Ballinger. Born in Asheville, N. C., Nov. 21, 1852, she moved with her parents to Tarrant County when five years old. She was married to Colonel Bailey, and the young couple moved to Dublin, where they lived 10 years before moving to Eldorado.***

***In 1916 they Baileys moved to Fort Worth, where they lived until Colonel Bailey died several years ago. Mrs. Bailey then went to live with Mrs. Mack at Ballinger.”***

A smaller death notice in the same issue of the paper listed Mrs. Bailey’s survivors, including six children: Mrs. Scott Mack of Ballinger; Mrs. Nora Gee of El Paso; Mrs. Addie Roberts of Hollywood, California; Tom M. Bailey, a garage owner in Fort Worth; Albert P. Bailey of Eldorado, Texas; and John R. Bailey of Ozona, Texas. She was also survived by one brother, Lee Calloway of Fort Worth; fourteen grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren.

According to statements Mrs. Bailey made to two census takers, she gave to birth nine children, two of whom died before 1900 and another of whom died between 1900 and 1910. The following list of their children is complete. Their biographical data was gathered principally from census records, headstones, and Texas vital statistics records.

Louise Virginia Bailey was born October 8, 1869. She married Scott H. Mack (1875-1937). In 1930 they were at the Broadway address where he worked as a retail hardware merchant. She died at 2:30 a.m. on August 27, 1937 at her home at 611 Broadway Street in Ballinger, Texas. She was buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Ballinger the next day.

Pearl May Bailey was born July 28, 1870. She married Ira Thomas Valentine (1869-1933) in Tarrant County on January 12, 1890. She died August 28, 1909 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth. Mr. Valentine lies buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in the Handley section of east Fort Worth.

Nora Ellen Bailey was born December 10, 1872. She married Thomas Lee Gee (1863-1903). She died at 4:35a.m. on April 10, 1968 at Park Plaza Nursing Home in San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas. Her last permanent home was at 602 McCarver Drive in Ballinger, Texas. She was buried in Evergreen Alameda Cemetery in El Paso, Texas.

Katie Lee Bailey was born December 7, 1876. She died May 17, 1878 and lies buried beside her parents in Birdville Cemetery.

John Robert Bailey was born February 9, 1879. He married Roberta Murchison, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Murchison, pioneering ranchers of Schleicher County. He worked for many years in the ranching business, moving to eastern Crockett County in 1901. He died at 11:15 p. m. on April 22, 1963 in the Crockett County Hospital in Ozona, Crockett County, Texas. His last permanent address was 204 Eleventh Street in Ozona. He was buried in Ozona's Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Nina Eva Bailey was born February 21, 1881 and died November 24, 1881. She lies buried in Birdville Cemetery beside her parents.

Albert Preston Bailey was born July 4, 1882. On August 24, 1904 at Sonora, Texas, he married Katherine "Girlie" Robinson (1886-1953), a daughter of Dr. Thomas Payne Robinson (1856-1904) and his wife, Kate Ewing Robinson (1862-1948); he was a pioneer Schleicher County physician. Albert P. Bailey died at 12:15 p.m. on March 17, 1961 in the Shannon Hospital in San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas, where he had been about four days. His last permanent home was at Eldorado in Schleicher County, Texas. He was buried in Eldorado Cemetery.

Thomas Marshall Bailey was born December 4, 1886. He died at 6 a.m. on March 16, 1951 at Harris Hospital in Fort Worth. For many years he was a businessman in Fort Worth, and at the time of his death was a retired rancher. His last permanent address was 912 West Broadway in Fort Worth. He was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in the Handley section of east Fort Worth. His wife, Nell Ryan Bailey (1885-1951) lies buried beside him.





Standing l-r: Pearl Bailey Valentine, Albert Preston Bailey, Addie Bailey Roberts, John Robert Bailey;

Seated: Nora Bailey Gee, Mrs. Mary Ann Bailey, Robert Bailey, Louise Bailey Mack, and Thomas Marshall Bailey on the floor.

Photo made in Dublin, Texas, shortly before the move to Schleicher County.