



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Silas H. Ledford

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Silas H. Ledford was a Confederate veteran who lived in the Keller area and who was buried in Bourland Cemetery in 1910. In that year, he told the federal census taker that he was a veteran of the Southern Army.

Silas Ledford was born in North Carolina on October 16, 1821. Family genealogists say he was a son of John Ledford and Sarah Graves Israel, of Burke and Buncombe Counties, North Carolina. Silas was married in Union County, Georgia on February 21, 1843 to Vianna Curtis. Union County, Georgia and Cherokee County, North Carolina share a boundary, even though that boundary is also the Georgia-North Carolina boundary.

Vianna (Curtis) Ledford was born April 14, 1822 and died at Keller, Texas on November 27, 1898. She lies buried in Bourland Cemetery in Keller.

In 1850 “our” Silas Ledford was living in Cherokee County, North Carolina, with his wife Vienna, and children: Virgil S. Ledford (born about 1844), Sarah J. 1846; Millie A., 1848, and one female born in early 1850 who had not been named when the census was taken. There was another contemporary Silas Ledford who was about the same age who lived in adjacent Union County, Georgia. Some internet genealogists have confused the two.

In 1860 Silas and his family lived in Big Springs Township in Benton County, Arkansas. Silas was a merchant in that year. With him was his wife, Vianna Ledford, and their children: Vergil Ledford (born about 1844); Sarah Ledford (born about 1846); Milly Ledford (born about 1848), Mary Ledford (born about 1850); Sellitha [Telitha or Tabitha] Ledford (born about 1852); Julie Ledford (born about 1854); William Ledford (born about 1856); and Robert Ledford (born about 1859). Apparently the family moved to Arkansas between 1856 and 1859.

The National Park Service's Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System lists only one Silas Ledford in the Confederate Army; he was in Young's Company, Georgia Cavalry (Alleghany Troopers). This man's official records only indicate that he had a tie to Blairsville, Georgia. No other information in this scant file gives any further clue to his identity. He may or may not have been the Silas Ledford who later came to Keller. The Silas Ledford listed in the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Union County, Georgia is not the man who came to Keller. The Silas in Union Co., Georgia census has a wife named Dully in 1850 and children whose names do not correspond to those known for the Silas Ledford who later moved to Keller. By 1860, "our" Silas Ledford had moved to central Arkansas, so it seems more likely that the man in Young's Company was the Union County, Georgia man. The marriage of Silas and Dolly Bowling is recorded there on December 19, 1843.

Silas and Viannah Ledford were in Precinct 3 in Dallas County, Texas in 1870. His wife's birthplace was shown as North Carolina. With them in that year were their children: Mary Ledford (born about 1851); Tabitha (born about 1852); William Ledford (born about 1856 in North Carolina); Robert Ledford (born about 1859 in Arkansas); Jefferson Ledford (born about 1862 in Arkansas); and Emma Ledford (born about 1864 in Texas).

The family was in Tarrant County's Precinct 4 in 1880 with three of their children: William Ledford, Jefferson Ledford, and Emma Ledford. In 1885, Silas owned two acres of Samuel Needham survey (on which much of the old downtown and residential area of Keller is situated, and some town lots in Keller.

When the 1900 Tarrant County census was taken, Silas was living nearer Haslet, next-door to Bruno and Tabitha Lavoice, who lived there on a survey bearing Lavoice's name. Tabitha Lavoice was his daughter. Ten years later, in 1910, he was living in the same household with Mr. and Mrs. Lavoice. Also living with them was another Confederate veteran, a hired man named Richard Binon.

Silas Ledford died June 18, 1910, and was buried beside his wife in Bourland Cemetery. He has no death certificate on file.

