



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Thomas Henton Powell

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Thomas Henton Powell was a Confederate veteran who spent the last decades of his life on the prairie just southeast of Grapevine. A descendant, Marilyn Shumaker Tucker, wrote a biographical sketch on Mr. Powell and his family, and it was published in the [Grapevine Area History](#) in 1979. Some excerpts from it follow: *“A native of Missouri, Thomas Henton Powell was one of seven children born to Stephen and Sarah (Toliver) Powell. Thomas’s brothers and sisters were Mary, Sally, Jane, Billy, John, and Fayette.*

*“Thomas Powell was born in 1843. He joined the Confederate forces on September 15, 1861 and spent the winter at Springfield, Missouri. After making a raid through eastern Missouri, his company joined another command and took three hundred wagons from the Union forces at Camden, Arkansas. He was at Camden guarding prisoners at the close of the war. He was discharged at St. Louis, Missouri.*

*“Thomas Powell came to Texas from Aurora, Missouri in 1870 with Jessie Mead Wilkes Berry, and Jim Edmondson. Thomas met Martha Ann Borah; they were married in Tarrant County about 1872. Their children were William Thomas (1873-1947); Fannie Maude (1875-1925); Stephen Lee (1876-1877); Joseph Perry (1878-1972); John Lafayette (1879); Sarah Catherine (1881-1969); and Samuel Cleveland (1884-1962). [This list is complete. Mrs. Powell told the 1900 census taker that she had given birth to seven children, six of whom were still living.]*

*“Martha Ann (Borah) Powell was the daughter of Lee and Catharine (Render) Borah. She was a pioneer resident of the Grapevine community, coming to Texas with her parents in 1856. She was born April 24, 1847 in Bowling Green, Kentucky, one of five children. The Borah family settled in the south end of Grapevine Prairie, paying sixty-five cents an acre for prairie and timber land bought from the Governor of Texas...”*

Thomas H. Powell's gravestone at Bear Creek Cemetery in present-day Euless records that he was a member of Co. H, 6<sup>th</sup> Missouri Cavalry. Records of the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth indicate he was a veteran of the 3rd Mississippi Cavalry. The National Park Services website listing Civil War soldiers indicates that the 6<sup>th</sup> Missouri Cavalry is correct. The gravestone lists his dates as May 14, 1843 and August 30, 1935.

Powell's home is shown on the 1895 Sam Street Map of Tarrant County, Texas. In modern-day terms, it sat in Grapevine on DFW Airport land, a few yards west of the parking area for Terminal D, west of International Parkway, more or less in a straight line east from 23<sup>rd</sup> Street SW east of Airfield Drive West.



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Powell

Mrs. Martha Ann (Borah) Powell died on March 3, 1931 in Tarrant County. An obituary for Mrs. Powell appeared in the Grapevine Sun on April 2, 1931: "*MRS. MARTHA ANN POWELL, AGE 83, BURIED WEDNESDAY. Funeral services were held at the Grapevine Baptist Church Wednesday for Mrs. Martha Ann Powell,*

*pioneer resident of this community, wife of T. H. Powell, who died March 31 at the age of 83 years, at her home in Grapevine. Services were conducted by Rev. D. W. Nix, pastor of the Grapevine Baptist Church, assisted by Rev. L. W. Seymour, pastor of the M. E. Church; interment was in the Bear Creek Cemetery. Mrs. Powell was born in Bowling Green, Ky., April 24, 1847. She came to Texas with her parents in 1856, who settled on the W. J. Borah place on the south end of Grapevine Prairie. After the death of her parents she was married to T. H. Powell on March 17, 1872, since which time they have continued to live in this community. Besides her husband, T. H. Powell, she is survived by one daughter, Mrs. John Trigg of Grapevine; four sons, W. T. Powell, Gunnison, Colorado; John Powell, San Fernando, Calif., Dr. J. P. Powell, Dalhart; San [sic] Powell, Fort Worth; two sisters, Mrs. J. B. Boyd, Polytechnic, and Mrs. Parker Terrill, Marietta, Oklahoma."*

An obituary for Mr. Powell appeared in the Grapevine Sun on September 5, 1935: "*T. H. POWELL DIES. Thomas Henton Powell, Confederate veteran and retired farmer, died Friday night at his home in Grapevine. Mr. Powell joined the Confederate forces September 15, 1861, and spent the winter at Springfield, Mo. After making a raid through Eastern Missouri, Mr. Powell's company joined another command and took 300 wagons from the Union forces at Camden, Ark. The Grapevine veteran was at Camden guarding prisoners at the close of the war. He was discharged at St. Louis. Surviving Mr. Powell are four sons, W. T. Powell, Pueblo, Colo.; Dr. J. P. Powell, Dalhart; John Powell, Los Angeles, and Sam Powell, Fort Worth, and a daughter, Mrs. John Trigg, Grapevine. Funeral services were held at 3:00 p.m. Sunday at Minters Chapel with Rev. Floyd Thrash officiating. Interment was made in the Minters Chapel Cemetery."*

