



**FAMILY
LAND
HERITAGE**

**2017
COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM**

PRESENTED BY
TEXAS AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER
AND THE
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE





2017 Family Land Heritage Ceremony



November 7, 2017

Dear Family Land Heritage Honorees:

It is my great pleasure and honor to welcome you to Austin for your well-deserved recognition as part of the 42nd Annual Texas Department of Agriculture's Family Land Heritage ceremony.

Today, in this historic House Chamber, I am reminded of our ancestors who came to Texas in search of a better life for themselves and their children. They created the foundation upon which generations of Texans have been able to build their dreams. They survived adversity through courage, their ingenuity and grit, and their stories of survival and success make Texas what it is today — a nationwide leader in agriculture, an industry that provides more than \$110 billion to our state's economy.

For more than a century, you and those who came before you, have made agriculture a way of life and, in so doing, have made Texas a state rich in history and productivity.

Congratulations on receiving this momentous designation. I am pleased to add your name to our honor roll of Family Land Heritage recipients. You join an elite group of hardworking Texas men and women who produce the safest, most abundant and most affordable food and fiber in the world.

On behalf of the Texas agriculture industry and the Texas Department of Agriculture, thank you for your tireless contributions. Best wishes to each of you as you continue to nurture the agricultural legacy of Texas with the next chapter of your historic operation.

Your servant,

Sid Miller
Texas Agriculture Commissioner





FAMILY LAND HERITAGE CEREMONY



MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Bob Tallman

INVOCATION

Werth Mayes
Cowboy Church of Erath County

PLEDGE TO THE FLAGS

Bubba Harris and John Ryan Rodriguez
Texas FFA State Vice Presidents

REMARKS

John Paul Dineen III
Texas Agriculture Memorial Day

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

Sid Miller
Texas Commissioner of Agriculture

CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

Family Land Heritage Honorees

ENTERTAINMENT

Red Steagall

BENEDICTION

Red Steagall



OUR SPEAKERS



COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

An eighth generation Texas farmer and rancher, Sid Miller is the 12th Commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture. He has devoted his life to promoting Texas agriculture and rural communities.

Since taking office in January 2015, Commissioner Miller has brought real, common sense reform to the Texas Department of Agriculture. He increased consumer protection in everything from fuel pumps to commercial scales to organic certifications. A former ag teacher and school board member, Commissioner Miller has also led the fight against childhood obesity through nutrition programs for Texas schoolchildren, including Farm Fresh Fridays and other farm-to-school initiatives.

Commissioner Miller is the state's leading advocate around the world for Texas agriculture. He and his staff have visited every continent on the globe representing Texas agriculture and the GO TEXAN marketing program. Commissioner Miller is on a mission to spread the word about Texas' world-renowned agriculture industry and showcase the best Texas has to offer to the world.

Commissioner Miller breeds and trains American Quarter Horses and is a recognized rodeo cowboy with nine world championship titles.

Miller and his wife, Debra, have been married for more than 40 years. They have two sons, two daughters-in-law and four grandchildren.



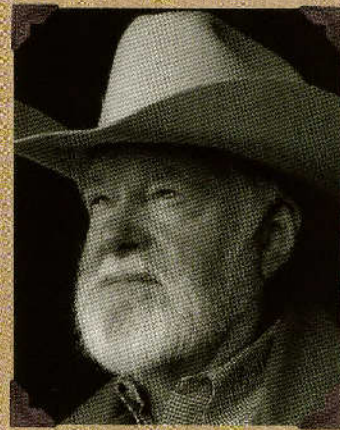
BOB TALLMAN

Bob Tallman is known far and wide for his voice. He uses it to entertain and educate people about rodeo and the Western lifestyle at rodeos across North America and through his agricultural endeavors.

Bob was born and raised in Nevada, lived in California, Montana and Oregon, and while all those places have a special place in his heart, he is now proud to call Texas home. He and his wife, Kristen, live west of Poolville in Parker County where they raise registered Angus cattle and all-natural beef.

Bob has received numerous awards and been inducted into nearly every hall of fame that involves rodeo and being a cowboy. However, all the awards and accolades are not nearly as important as his faith, his family and his friends. He loves children and headlines several fundraisers each year for charities.

Bob is a proud American who is busy with business endeavors day-in and day-out. No matter what, he always makes time for God, family and friends, because in his opinion, "That's the cowboy way."



RED STEAGALL

For more than 40 years, Red Steagall has entertained people around the globe as a recording artist, songwriter, television and motion picture personality, and cowboy poet.

In 1991, the Texas Legislature named Red the Official Cowboy Poet of Texas. By 1994, he launched his one-hour syndicated radio show, "Cowboy Corner," which is now heard in approximately 165 markets across 43 states.

Musically, Red has won eight Wrangler Awards from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. He has also authored four books.

In recognition of Red's significant contribution to the western way of life, he was inducted into the Texas Trail of Fame in October 1999. In 2003, he joined the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum's Hall of Great Westerners. A year later, Red was inducted into the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame.

In 2006, Red was awarded the prestigious Charles Goodnight Award and also was named the Poet Laureate for the State of Texas.

Red's television show, "In the Bunkhouse with Red Steagall," first aired in 2009. His current show, "Red Steagall is Somewhere West of Wall Street," airs nationwide on RFD-TV.



2017 Family Land Heritage Ceremony



150 Year
of Honorees



HALM RANCH

COMAL COUNTY

17 miles north of New Braunfels in Sattler

FOUNDED: 1865

FOUNDER: Friedric Pantermuehl

CURRENT OWNERS: Barney S. Halm, Leslie R. Halm and Phyllis (Halm) Jones

Friedric Pantermuehl and his family sailed to America from Germany in 1850 and landed in Indianola, Texas. He would travel to Comal County near the Guadalupe River. In 1865, Friedric bought 480 acres, and he continued acquiring more land where he raised cotton, corn, oats, cattle and horses.

Friedric and his wife, Ernestine, had five children: Carl, Robert, Heinrich, Hugo and Pauline. Robert acquired a separate 160 acres of land from the State of Texas Survey No. 952 in 1890, and in 1907, Robert inherited 968 acres.

Pauline married Hugo Halm, and they had five children: Arthur, Lydia, Erna, Robert "Bob" and Walter. Hugo purchased 1,128 acres from his brother-in-law, Robert, in 1916 and continued to add acreage. Walter would later purchase the land from his father

in 1955. Walter and his wife, Verde Lee, raised four children: Barney, Joe, Leslie and Phyllis.

Barney and his wife, Sharon, have three children: Monica, Melissa and Matthew. Leslie and his wife, Barbara, have two children, Josephine and Jessica. Phyllis and her husband, Joseph, have two children, Kevin and Paula.

Barney, Leslie and Phyllis inherited the land in 2000, and today, they raise cattle and hay.

As told by Leslie R. Halm, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

480 acres

PRODUCTION

1865 Cattle, Corn, Cotton,
Horses and Oats
2017 Cattle and Hay



DER ARNOLD PLATZ

DEWITT COUNTY

13 miles south of Cuero on HWY 183

FOUNDED: 1867

FOUNDER: Paul Arnold

CURRENT OWNER: Clemens F. Waskow

Paul Arnold immigrated from Alsace, France, to DeWitt County in 1867. Paul and his wife, Mary, had four children. Their son, Joseph Blaise (JB), purchased his three siblings' shares of the land in 1913. JB and his wife, Ella, had one child, Claude. Together, JB and Claude worked the land until JB's death in 1956.

Claude continued to work and improve upon the land. He married Mildred, and they had four children. Their daughter, Doris, married Clemens F. Waskow in 1964, and they had three daughters: Valerie, Gayle and Grace. Claude passed away in 1985, and in 1987, Doris inherited 286 acres from her father's estate.

Together, Clemens and Doris continue to maintain and improve the land, including purchasing Brahman cattle and Hereford bulls to raise and crossbreed. Doris passed away in 2008, and her family has continued to farm and ranch the land, just as she requested.

As told by Valerie Waskow-Chinnery, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

171 acres

PRODUCTION

1867 Cattle, Corn, Onions,
Potatoes and Sheep
2017 Cattle and Coastal
Bermuda Grass



2017 Family Land Heritage Ceremony



SPRING RANCH

GONZALEZ COUNTY

1.5 miles west of Belmont on HWY 90A

FOUNDED: 1867

FOUNDER: William Walker Sorell

CURRENT OWNERS: Susan Spring Prause and Sally Spring Naivar

William Walker Sorell purchased this land in March 1867; it was an undivided half interest in 400 acres. William and his wife, Lucy Ann, had 13 children. They raised cotton and sugar cane on the land. In 1889, William's son, Thomas, acquired the land. Thomas and his wife, Susan, had one child, Cecil.

Cecil and his wife, Bessie, had one child, Kathleen, who was born in 1915. Before Kathleen was two years old, Cecil was involved in an accident in which he was thrown from a horse. He passed away a few months later in San Antonio.

Kathleen and her husband, Bruce, helped Bessie manage the ranch.

After Kathleen's passing, the land was left to her two daughters, Susan and Sally. Susan's daughter, Tracee, lives on the land with her husband, Kyle, and son, Cooper.

Pictured is Lucy Ann Flynt Sorell.

As told by Susan Spring Prause, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

200 acres

PRODUCTION

1867 Cotton and Sugar Cane
2017 Pecans



BROWN RANCH

LAVACA COUNTY

6 miles southeast of Ezzell off CR 450

FOUNDED: 1855

FOUNDERS: Reuben and Rhoda Billings Brown

CURRENT OWNER: Travis W. Brown

Rueben Brown bought 320 acres in the Arch McMillan survey from Edward Linn in 1855. In 1856, Rueben sold 143 acres to his son-in-law, Aaron Watts. Rueben ran cattle and farmed the land. His first wife passed away, and he later remarried. Among his children, he had a son, Rueben Jr., who acquired title to the land in 1895.

Rueben Jr. ran cattle on the land. He passed away, and the land was given to his son, Samuel Travis Brown. When Samuel passed away in 2000, his son, Travis, inherited the land and continues to run cattle on it.

As told by Travis William Brown, great-grandson of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

320 acres

PRODUCTION

1855 Cattle
2017 Cattle



ABOUT THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Created by the Texas Legislature in 1907, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is a state agency with a diverse mission to keep Texas a national leader in agriculture, protect consumers, fortify our economy by promoting Texas-made products, businesses and services, empower rural communities and encourage healthy lifestyles for Texas children.

Through our many responsibilities and programs, TDA touches the lives of almost every Texan every day. Some of the agency's more public responsibilities include ensuring the safe use of agricultural and structural pesticides, checking measuring devices like scales and fuel pumps for accuracy, administering federal

school nutrition programs and helping to regulate and promote agriculture commodities. Our GO TEXAN program helps promote Texas businesses and their products across the state and around the world. Through Commissioner Miller's global marketing initiative, TDA has visited every continent on the globe, except Antarctica.

Texas agriculture is a \$110 billion industry that helps feed and clothe the world, and our goal at TDA is to ensure the agriculture industry continues to flourish.

Learn more at www.texasagriculture.gov and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.



ABOUT THE TEXAS AGRICULTURE MEMORIAL DAY

Last year, by state proclamation, November 21 was named Texas Agriculture Memorial Day. It is a day to remember the lives and honor the sacrifices of our farmers and ranchers who produce the food and fiber for Texas families.

Each year, applications will be accepted to nominate honorees to the agriculture memorial through three categories: memorial, honor and memorial service.

The memorial category honors men and women who have lost their lives while engaged in agricultural-related pursuits such as working livestock, transporting agricultural goods or operating machinery.

The honor category recognizes those who

have had a severe debilitating accident while engaged in agricultural-related pursuits.

Those who passed away due to natural causes or in a non-agricultural accident but had an active role in an agricultural operation will be honored in the memorial service category.

Future plans include an interactive kiosk in the Agricultural Museum in the Texas State Capitol. The kiosk will allow visitors to search for honorees, read about their contributions to Texas agriculture, as well as nominate a new honoree. The kiosk will also include accident prevention and safety education provided by The Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention, and Education at the University of Texas in Tyler.



2017 Family Land Heritage Ceremony



100 Year
of Honorees



Uriah Monroe Stafford was born in 1841 and was the youngest of seven children. In 1874, Uriah married Margaret Anna Seaglar and they had six children together, three of whom lived.

the farm. In 2012, Ann H. Slattery inherited the Stafford's Meadow Farm and lives on the land today.

Pictured is Seymour S. Stafford in his Army uniform.

Seymour Seagler Stafford, along with his two siblings, inherited the farm. Seymour later bought his siblings' shares. Seymour opened a Buick dealership in Palestine in 1920, while he continued to tend to the farm.

As told by Ann H. Slattery, great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

210.6 acres

PRODUCTION

1889: Cattle, Cotton, Hay, Sugar Cane and Wheat

2017: Cattle and Hay

STAFFORD'S MEADOW FARM

ANDERSON COUNTY

5 miles northwest of Montalba

FOUNDED: 1889

FOUNDER: Uriah Monroe Stafford

CURRENT OWNER: Slattery Family

By the 1960s, Seymour's operations expanded from hay to cattle. In 1968, his daughter, Elisabeth Stafford Hutchinson, inherited



Monteville Ray came to Bell County, Texas, from Tennessee in a covered wagon. In 1892, Mont married May Ranne, a descendant of Stephen F. Austin's "Old 300 Colony."

took over the land in 2001. At age 89, she continues sustainable agricultural practices.

As told by Nancy Gage Allen, great-granddaughter of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

741.57 acres

PRODUCTION

1917: Cotton, Oats, Wheat and Yearling Beef Cattle

2017: Commercial Beef Cows and Calves, Oats and Wheat

RAY RANCH

ARCHER COUNT

12 miles west of Archer City

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: Monteville Blanton and May Saludie Ranne Ray

CURRENT OWNERS: Robbie Ray Gage Prideaux, Nancy Jane Gage Allen, Billie Marie Gage and Mary Beth Gage Simpson

In 1917, the couple purchased 741 acres and eventually moved their eight children to the ranch. In 1938, May passed away, and Mont sold the farm to his son Wayne Ray.

Wayne and his wife, Flossye, successfully ran stocker yearlings for more than 40 years, while accumulating adjoining acreage. Wayne's daughter, Robbie Gage,



HARRELL RANCH

ARMSTRONG COUNTY

22.5 miles southwest of Claude on FM 1258

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: Edward Dow Harrell and Newton Samuel Harrell

CURRENT OWNERS: Samuel E. Harrell, Mary R. Hands Harrell, Helen Grace Harrell and Samantha Faith Harrell

Edward Dow (Edd) Harrell, along with his wife, Samuella (Sammie) Barks Harrell, and his son, Newton Samuel Harrell, bought 34,775 acres of land from the JA Ranch in 1917. Edd and Sammie worked their cattle operation together until Edd turned over the operation to Newton after his college graduation.

Newton married Helen Croson in 1924, and the couple had two children, Shirley and Edward (Ed) Charles. Ed eventually joined Newton on the ranch and took over operations in 1991 after Newton's passing.

Ed married Carol Flynn in 1957 and they had three children, the youngest of whom was Samuel Edward. Later, Sammie incorporated her portion of the ranch into the "Home Camp

Company," and she gave shares to Ed, Carol and their three children.

Samuel and his wife, Mary, had two daughters, Helen Grace and Samantha Faith. In 2005, Samuel took over operations, and he continues to ranch and farm the land today.

Pictured are Faith, Mary, Samuel and Helen Harrell.

As told by Mary Hands Harrell, wife of the great-grandson of the founders.



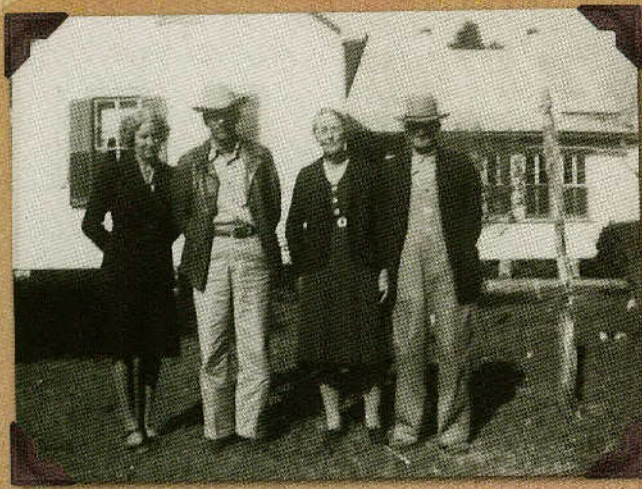
ORIGINAL ACREAGE

34,775 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cattle and Horses

2017 Cattle, Dryland Corn, Hay, Milo and Wheat



4T RANCH

AUSTIN COUNTY

1/2 mile north of Kenney on HWY 36

FOUNDED: 1915

FOUNDER: Edward Discher

CURRENT OWNERS: Troy Allen Tesch and Dorothy Lee Tesch

Edward Discher immigrated to America from Germany in the late 1800s. He met and married Martha Broeker Discher in the early 1900s, and they had one daughter, Adele Discher Haar. In September 1915, the Dischers purchased 69 acres of property in Austin County from Fritz Glaser. They raised cotton, corn, hay, tobacco and livestock.

Adele met and married Fritz W. Haar in 1929 and had one daughter, Dorothy. After the death of her parents, Adele inherited her family's property and raised cattle and feed products. In 1962, Fritz and Adele bought an additional property nearby. Dorothy and her husband, Albert Tesch Jr., acquired the title to this property in 1971 and built a home on it to be closer to her parents. Dorothy

and Albert had two children, Brenda Tesch Dunn Goggans and Troy A. Tesch.

Dorothy still lives on the property today, and her son, Troy, has taken over the cattle operation.

Pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Ed Discher with Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Haar.

As told by Dorothy Tesch, great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

69 acres

PRODUCTION

1915 Cotton, Corn, Hay, Horses,

Mules and Tobacco

2017 Cattle and Hay



ASHORN FARM

AUSTIN COUNTY

15 miles west of Brenham

FOUNDED: 1910

FOUNDER: Edmund and Emma Ashorn

CURRENT OWNER: Lillian Wilhelm

Edmund Ashorn married Emma Findeisen and bought the land that is known as Ashorn Farm in 1910. Together with their five children, the Ashorn family added on to their property in 1915, increasing the acreage to 381 acres.

Edmund always strived to improve his knowledge of farming as a business and pursued adult education classes. He instilled a love of learning and farming into his children. His youngest daughter, Lillian Ashorn Wilhelm, inherited parts of the farm and bought the remainder of the land from her siblings. Lillian still lovingly owns and manages the Ashorn Farm today.

Pictured are Marguerite Wilhem Humphrey, Lillian Wilhelm, Jak Wilhelm and Marjorie Wilhelm Doyle.

As told by Lillian Ashorn Wilhelm, daughter of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

370 acres

PRODUCTION

1910 Cattle, Corn, Cotton, Hay, Maize, Poultry and Sorghum

2017 Cattle and Hay



MAREK FARM & RANCH

AUSTIN COUNTY

2 miles north of New Ulm on HWY 109

FOUNDED: 1910

FOUNDERS: Ladislav Ludwig Marek and Mary Koch Marek

CURRENT OWNERS: Harold G. Marek Sr. and Ben D. Marek.

Cenek Marek and Theresa Gimmigrated to the United States from Czechoslovakia in 1860. Ladislav Ludwig Marek, a descendent of Cenek Marek, purchased 147.5 acres of land with his wife, Mary, in 1910. They had 10 children and raised cattle and crops.

Ladislav passed away in 1914, leaving the land to Mary and their nine surviving children: V.L., Mary, Annie, Olga, Martha, Ludie, Ben, Nora and Rubie. Ben bought his mother's and siblings' interests in the land in 1938. Ben and his wife, Mary, raised two sons, Ben Darold and Harold Gene, on this land.

Ben Darold and his wife, Joyce, have three daughters: Marie, Linda and Nancy. Harold Gene, and his wife, Carmon, have two sons, Harold Jr. and James Thomas. The families continue to live on the land and raise cattle.

As told by Ben and Harold Marek, grandsons of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

147.5 acres

PRODUCTION

1910 Cattle, Corn, Cotton, Hogs, Horses and Mules

2017 Cattle



THREE B FARM & RANCH

BAYLOR COUNTY

3.5 miles southeast of Bomarton

FOUNDED: 1908

FOUNDERS: Simon and Marie Bartos

CURRENT OWNERS: Carolyn Marie Bartos Waterfield, Bobbie Faye Bartos Loving and Melanie Gayle Bartos Gooch

Simon and Marie Bartos immigrated to Texas from Czechoslovakia and married in 1890. In 1908, the couple purchased 128.75 acres in Baylor County and moved there with their ten children. Milton Bartos was the first of two sons to be born on the land.

In 1916, Simon and Marie bought an additional 101.13 adjacent acres. On the land, they built a home, grew crops and tended to livestock. They even raised hens that were "Baba's grocery money."

In 1969, Faye and Milton Bartos bought the 229.88 acres to combine with 207 acres they had purchased in 1949. Milton farmed and ranched on the land until his death in 2000. Milton's children, Carolyn, Bobbie and Melanie, inherited the farm and

ranch. Today, Three B Farm and Ranch is managed by Bobbie, her husband, Dean Loving, and their son, Tommy.

Pictured are founders Simon and Marie Bartos.

As told by Carolyn Marie Bartos Waterfield, Bobbie Faye Bartos Loving and Melanie Gayle Bartos Gooch, granddaughters of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

128.75 acres

PRODUCTION

1908 Cattle, Cotton, Hay Grazer, Oats and Wheat
2017 Cattle, Hay Grazer, Oats and Wheat

As told by Clintia B. Williams, granddaughter of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

3,200 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Livestock
2017 Livestock



DORWARD RANCH

BORDEN COUNTY

10 miles west and 1 mile north of Gail

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: James Clinton Dorard and Hattie Corsett Dorward

CURRENT OWNERS: Clintia Blackard Williams and Frank Menix

James Clinton Dorward was born in Burleson County in 1875. In 1904, James married Hattie Crossett Dorward, and the couple had two daughters, Ophelia and Estine.

In 1951, James passed away and Hattie conveyed sections of the land to Ophelia over the following years. In 1967, Ophelia conveyed her interest to Clintia Barbara Blackard Williams. The land is currently owned by the Ophelia Blackard Trust and the Clintia B. Williams Revocable Trust.



DAVIDSON RANCH

BRAZOS COUNTY

2 miles west of FM 974 on Edge Cut Off Road

FOUNDED: 1913

FOUNDER: C.W. George

CURRENT OWNER: Mary Ruth Patranella

In 1913, C.W. George bought 1100 acres from E.W. Crenshaw in Brazos County. This purchase began the George/Davidson/Patranella family ownership of the Davidson Ranch.

In 1921, Robert Lee Davidson, nephew of C.W., purchased the acreage and moved his family there. The Davidson family raised cattle, cotton and corn on the land. Later, Robert ran a cow-calf operation.

Robert and his wife, Emma, had five children: Mary Ruth, Agnes, Marjorie, Edgar and Robert Duard. After Robert passed in 1976, his heirs continued to farm the land.

Later the land was divided between Mary Ruth and Marjorie. Mary

Ruth's son, Mark, also helps her tend to the land and maintain the property. The family is committed to keeping the land for generations to come.

Pictured are Robert Lee Davidson and Emma George Davidson.

As told by Mary Ruth Davidson Patranella, great-niece of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

100 acres

PRODUCTION

1913 Cattle, Corn and Cotton

2017 Cattle



JAY WILLIAM HARRIS FAMILY RANCH

BRAZOS COUNTY

16 miles northeast of Texas A&M University

FOUNDED: 1909

FOUNDER: Jay William (J.W.) Harris

CURRENT OWNERS: Julie and Larry Ford

Jay William Harris (J.W.) was born on January 2, 1871 in Upshur County, Texas. His family moved to Brazos County the same year and settled on a farm that was across the road from the land that J.W. would purchase 38 years later.

In 1908, J.W. and his wife, Lucy Sample Harris, moved to Young County and rented a farm. However, the couple missed living in Brazos County and decided to buy 121 acres of land by mail from W.G. Reynolds in 1909. J.W. and Lucy had eight children: Edna, Victor, Dua, Guy, Norman, Winnie, Henry and Mary Frances. The family was involved with daily farm chores and attended Harris School, which was located on the farm.

Mary Frances Harris Robert, the youngest child, and her husband, Walter Lee Robert, acquired the land in 1961 after the death of J.W. and Lucy. The two had four children: Jean Robert Watts, Jay Bob Robert, William Ronald Robert and Julie Harris Robert Ford. Today, Julie and her husband, Larry Ford, raise cattle and hay on the land.

As told by Julie Harris Robert Ford, granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

121 acres

PRODUCTION

1909 Cattle, Chickens, Horses,

Pigs and Watermelon

2017 Cattle and Hay



WUENSCHER/WEISSE RANCH

BURLESON COUNTY

1 mile west of Snook

FOUNDED: 1886

FOUNDERS: Richard F. Wuenscher and Dora Giesenchag Wuenscher

CURRENT OWNERS: Frank Weisse, Charles Wuenscher, Patricia Wiese-Handsaker, Paul Handsaker, Kevin Sanchez, Michael Sanchez and Crystal Drewry

Richard F. Wuenscher moved to the Snook area in the 1880s where he married Dora Giesenchag. The newlyweds purchased 200 acres in 1886. Richard and Dora had eight children: Annie, John, Herman, Adolph, Louis, Rube, Richard and Frances.

The land was passed down to the children over the years, and they even operated a general store and a blacksmith shop during the early part of the 20th century. They also raised cattle, cotton and corn on the land.

As time went on, the land continued to be passed down through the family and has

been converted to a beef cattle operation.

As told by Frank Walter Weisse Jr., great-great nephew of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

200 acres

PRODUCTION

1886 Cattle, Chickens, Corn,
Cotton and Hogs
2017 Beef Cattle



COOK FARM

CALLAHAN COUNTY

2.5 miles north of I-20 on CR 604

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Leonard Towers Bagwell

CURRENT OWNERS: Gene and Vickie Cook

In October 1917, Leonard Towers (L.T.) Bagwell purchased 320 acres in Callahan County. He and his wife, Ova, moved there with their five children: Claude, Flim, Jewel, Clyde and Edith. The family raised livestock, grain sorghum, cotton and wheat.

After the death of Ova, L.T. moved to town and rented out the farm to his daughter, Edith, and her husband, Hiram Cook. The couple had four children: Bernie, Betty, Gene and Beth. The family continued the mixed livestock-farm operation and even added sheep to the mix, which Beth and Edith started by bottle-feeding orphan lambs from a neighbor. Edith maintained a large garden that provided much of the family's food.

In the 1970s, Hiram turned over most of the farm work to Gene,

and eventually, Hiram sold Gene the cattle and equipment so that he could lease the land. Hiram and Edith continued to live in the home for more than 50 years. After they passed, Gene and his wife, Vickie, bought his siblings' interest in the farm and continued to raise cattle and hay. They have three children: Traci, Bryan and Brad.

Pictured is Claude Bagwell. The barn in background is still in use.

As told by Vickie Cook, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

320 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cattle, Cotton, Milo
and Wheat
2017 Cattle and Hay



GORDZELIK FARMS

CARSON COUNTY

1/2 mile north of White Deer on FM 294

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: William Gordzelik

CURRENT OWNER: Janelle Stevens

William Gordzelik was born in Szevrik, Prussia in 1867 and came to America to find a better life. In 1889, he married Frances Kokott, and they moved to Texas in 1909. It wasn't until 1912 that William purchased the land that would later become Gordzelik Farms.

After William's passing in 1937, his son, Joseph, acquired the land. Joseph was the youngest of seven children and married Nelda F. Petty a year before he attained the land. Nelda and Joseph had three children: Wynona, Joseph Jr., and Janelle. In 1954, the original farmhouse burned down, but Joseph rebuilt a home in the same place. In 1961, Joseph purchased 185 more acres. He raised wheat

and milo on the land. In 1972, Joseph passed away, and Joseph Jr. took over the land.

In 2006, Joseph Jr. passed away, and his sister, Janelle, acquired the land. Janelle and her husband, Jerry Stevens, have two children, Selena and Rhett. Janelle and Jerry have operated the farm since 2006.

As told by Janelle A. Stevens, granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

160 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Wheat
2017 Milo and Wheat



GORES-LEWIS RANCH

CARSON COUNTY

5 miles north of White Deer on FM 294

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: John Gores

CURRENT OWNERS: Dalton and Omajeane Lewis

John Morris Gores was born in Colorado in 1874 and came to Texas in 1893. John bought 640 acres of land on Cotton Wood Creek in Carson County in 1916. John and his wife, Emma, moved onto the land in 1917 and raised ten children: Ida, Katherine, John, Pauline, Charlie, James, Melvin, Louise, Riemer and Carla.

After John's passing, Emma continued to work the land, raising cattle and growing wheat. However, in 1969, Emma sold the ranch to her son, James, and his wife, Marjorie. The couple continued to raise cattle and grow wheat with the help of James' nephew, Dalton Lewis.

After James' passing in 2000, Marjorie sold the ranch to Dalton and his wife, Omajeane Geraldine Lewis. Dalton and Omajeane continue to grow wheat and raise cattle on the land today.

As told by Dalton Brenton Lewis, grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

640 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Cattle and Wheat
2017 Cattle and Hay



RAPSTINE FARM

CARSON COUNTY

2 miles south and east of White Deer

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: Jerome Rapstine

CURRENT OWNERS: Gregory Rapstine and Douglas Rapstine

Jerome Rapstine was born to immigrants from Poland in Panna Maria, Texas. Jerome and his wife, Mary, had ten children: Henry, Emil, Theresa, Regina, Julia, Edward, Margaret, Lillie, John and Ben. In 1916, Jerome acquired 320 acres of land and raised wheat and livestock.

After Jerome's passing in 1939, Mary acquired title to the land. In 1951, Ben acquired the land and continued to raise livestock and crops along with his wife, Mabel. The couple had four children: Philip, Gregory, Douglas and Kathleen.

In 2002, after Mabel's passing, Gregory and Douglas inherited the land. Gregory and his wife, Carolyn, have five children: Michael, Chris, Theresa, Andrew and Angela. Douglas and his

wife, Jennifer, have four children: Benjamin, Alexander, Emil and Jennifer Victoria.

Gregory's son, Chris Rapstine, farms the original 320 acres today. Chris and his wife, Linda Kay, have three children. They are active in the American Agriculture Movement and the Carson County Farm Bureau.

As told by Christopher Rapstine, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

320 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Livestock and Wheat

2017 Cotton, Milo and Wheat



ACKER FARMS

CASTRO COUNTY

5 miles west of Nazareth

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: Herman and Caroline (Tabling) Behrens, and Philip and Gerturde (Behrens) Acker

CURRENT OWNERS: Kevin and Christine Acker

In 1917, Herman and Caroline Behrens, along with their daughter and son-in-law, Philip and Gertrude Acker, purchased 658 acres of land in Nazareth. The land was farmed on a partnership basis, even though Herman and Caroline never actually moved to Texas.

Philip and Gertrude raised 11 children on the farm. In 1924, the couple bought Herman and Caroline's half of the land. In 1962, Philip and Gertrude deeded a portion of the land to their children.

Kevin and Christine Acker bought portions of the land over the years

and currently raise livestock and crops. Kevin and Christine have seven children, and they have fostered more than 60 children throughout the years.

As told by Christine (Wilhelm) Acker, great-granddaughter-in-law of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

658 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Milo and Wheat

2017 Cattle, Cotton, Forage, Hay, Milo and Wheat



TWIN OAKS FARM

CHEROKEE COUNTY

7 miles east of Troup

FOUNDED: 1910

FOUNDER: A.P. Clem

CURRENT OWNER: Sherman Clem

A.P. Clem purchased land in 1910 in Cherokee County. He raised cattle, corn, hay and cotton.

In 1947, his son, Roy H. Clem, purchased part of the land. Roy and his family continued to raise cattle, hay, cotton and corn on part of the land.

Sherman Clem inherited the land along with his brothers. Today, he manages 24 of the original 98.11 acres.

As told by Sherman Clem, grandson of the founder.

ORIGINAL ACREAGE

98.11 acres

PRODUCTION

1910 Cattle, Corn,
Cotton and Hay

2017 Hay



GILL ANGUS

CLAY COUNTY

4.5 miles southwest of Bellevue

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: Oscar Lee and Mary E. (Wesner) Gill

CURRENT OWNERS: Marcia Gill Miller and Carol Gill Smith

Oscar Lee Gill was born in Kentucky, and his wife, Mary, was born in Missouri. The couple moved to Texas, and in 1917 they purchased 280 acres of land from S.B. and Effie Edwards. Mary and Oscar had eight children: Pete, John, Mellie, Lee, Ray, Ruby, Ben and Ruth.

In 1931, Oscar sold 120 acres to Clifton Ray and Jettie Gill. Jettie and Clifton had three children: Gordon, Jane and Billy Ray. After Clifton's death in 1977, Jettie decided to sell the land and divided it among her children.

Gordon and his wife, Gearldyne, raised registered angus cattle. The couple had two daughters, Marcia and Carol.

Marcia and Carol are now the owners of Gill Angus, which includes 140 acres of the original 280 acres. They raise registered Angus cattle and are members of the American Angus Association.

Pictured is founder Oscar Lee Gill and his turkey crop.

As told by Marcia Gill Miller, great-granddaughter of the founders.

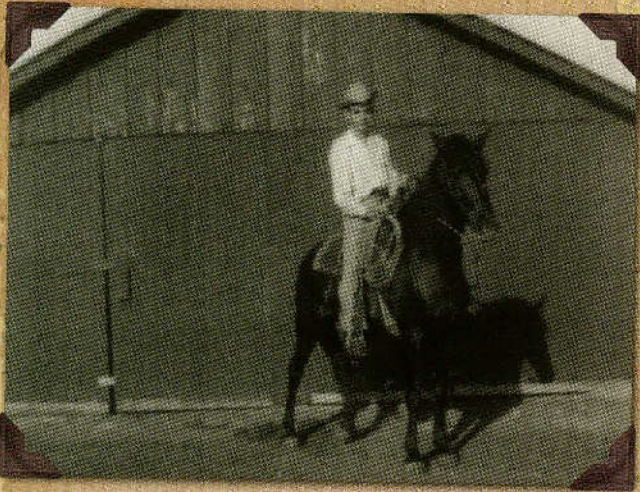
ORIGINAL ACREAGE

280 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Chickens, Cotton, Corn,
Dairy Cattle, Hogs and Turkeys

2017 Angus Cattle



GILL-BROWNING RANCH

CLAY COUNTY

4.5 miles southwest of Bellevue

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: Oscar Lee and Mary E. (Wesner) Gill

CURRENT OWNERS: J.T. and Jane Browning

Oscar Lee and Mary E. Gill purchased 280 acres southwest of Bellevue, Texas, in July 1917. They had eight children: Burton Elbert, John James, Mary Marie, Lee Otho, Clifton Ray, Ruby Cinde Jane, Ben and Mary Ruth.

In 1934, the land was sold to Clifton Ray and his wife, Jettie. They leased the land to Clifton Ray's brother, Ben, and his family until 1941. After that, Clifton Ray and Jettie moved to the land and raised three children: Gordon Lee, M. Jane and Billy Ray. They raised beef cattle, pigs and chickens, while farming oats and corn.

Clifton Ray passed away in 1977, and Jettie sold 140 acres to

her daughter, M. Jane, and her husband, J.T., in 1978.

Jane and J.T. planted improved grass on the land and continue to raise cattle today.

Pictured is Gordon Lee Gill in front of the tractor and tool barn.

As told by Jane (Gill) Browning, granddaughter of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

280 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Chickens, Corn, Cotton,
Dairy Cattle and Pigs
2017 Cattle



LUSCOMBE FAMILY FARM

COLLIN COUNTY

2 miles south of Anna

FOUNDED: 1913

FOUNDER: D.F. Luscombe

CURRENT OWNER: Luscombe Family Trust

D.E. Luscombe was born in Collin County in 1876 and married Ida Lee Knox in 1896. In 1913, D.F. acquired 39 acres from J.D. Ratten to start the Luscombe Family Farm. D.F.'s children, Hosea and Beacher, were successful farmers and acquired adjoining land to comprise 320 contiguous acres.

Hosea married Mattie Roper in 1921, and they raised four children on the farm. Their youngest daughter, Martha, was born on the farm and lives there today.

Hosea and Mattie's great-grandson, Jim Luscombe, lives on the farm with his wife, Robyn, and they own Foster Crossing

Pecans. Jim is active in the Texas Pecan Growers Association.

Four Luscombe families reside on the land today and maintain the heritage of the Luscombe Family Farm.

As told by Jim Luscombe, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

39.15 acres

PRODUCTION

1913 Angus Cattle, Corn,
Oats and Wheat
2017 Corn, Pecans and Wheat



SCHNIEDERJAN DAIRY

COOKE COUNTY

5 miles south of Gainesville on FM 2071

FOUNDED: 1909

FOUNDER: Herman Henry Schniederjan

CURRENT OWNER: Mary Jo Schniederjan

Herman Henry Schniederjan was born in Sigel, Illinois. In 1898, he married Maria Caroline Brumleve and had eight children: Winifreda, Bernadine, Eleanor, Philomena, Nelli Frances, Theodore, Marceline and Herman Frank. In 1909, the family moved to Texas and purchased 220 acres of land where they raised dairy cows and grain crops.

In 1917, the Schniederjans sold their property to A.J. Zettler and his wife, Genevieve. They had five daughters: Freda, Veronica, Genevieve, Florence and Laura Elizabeth. Laura Elizabeth married Herman Frank Schniederjan in 1920. Laura and Herman had four sons: Ted, Paul, Louis and David. Ted and David continued to organize and modernize the dairy and bought more land.

Ted passed away in 1966, and David acquired part of Ted's property in 1967. He and his wife, Mary Jo, continued to update the dairy and grow grain crops. They had four children: Kirk, Tim, Alan and Renee.

After David's passing in 2005, Mary Jo now owns the farm, which is run by their youngest son, Alan.

As told by Mary Jo Schniederjan, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

220 acres

PRODUCTION

1909 Cattle, Hay and Wheat

2017 Cattle, Hay, Milo, Oats and Wheat



LAZY R RANCH

CRANE COUNTY

10 miles east of Monahans on I-20

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Glenn Allen

CURRENT OWNERS: Helen McDaniel Henderson and Joseph Williams

Glenn Allen was working out of the Fort Worth Stockyards in 1910 as a cattle buyer in West Texas. He knew he wanted his own ranch to raise Herefords, because he appreciated their ability to survive regardless of the terrain.

Glenn married his wife, Helen, in 1915. Glenn and Helen homesteaded property in Ector County and then lived in Odessa so their daughter, Helen, could attend school. Glenn built a large ranch house for the family in 1936 using sandstone from the old Ector County Courthouse.

Bud and Helen's oldest daughter, Helen Ann, moved to the ranch with her husband, J.W. McDaniel, and their three daughters in 1966. J.W. raised cattle on the land until his death in 2005. Helen continues running the ranching operations today. The house that Glenn Allen built still stands today.

Pictured is founder Glenn Allen.

As told by Leslie McDaniel, Helen McDaniel and Lyn McDaniel Ice, great-granddaughters of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

5,771 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cattle

2017 Cattle

Helen Allen, Glenn and Helen's daughter, married F.L. "Bud" Williams in 1936. They had six children. Bud took over running the ranch after Glenn's death in 1959.



APPLING FARM

CROSBY COUNTY

14 miles north of Crosbyton on CR 215

FOUNDED: 1915

FOUNDER: Joel Edward Appling

CURRENT OWNER: Norma Jean Appling

Joel Edward Appling was born in Kentucky, and at the age of 4, he traveled with his family to Crosby County. In August 1915, Joel acquired 220 acres of land from G.W. Gilley. He raised horses, cows, cotton, hay and wheat on this land. Joel and his wife, Ollie, had three children: Ola, Samuel and Joe.

In 1944, Joel passed away, and Samuel Gordon ("S.G.") acquired his father's land. S.G. and his wife, Birdie, had three children: Joe, Phillip and Catherine. In 1972, Joe acquired the land. Joe and his wife, Norma Jean, had three children: David, Mark and Robbye.

Norma took over the family farm after Joe passed away in 2016. Her sons, David and Mark, manage the farm operations, and the land continues to produce cotton and wheat.

As told by Robbye Appling, great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

220 acres

PRODUCTION

1915 Cattle, Cotton, Hay, Horses and Wheat

2017 Cotton and Wheat



JLM RANCH

FAYETTE COUNTY

7 miles southwest of Schulenburg

FOUNDED: 1889

FOUNDER: Joseph Emmanuel Smith

CURRENT OWNER: John L. Marek

Joseph Emmanuel Smith immigrated to the United States from Ireland. He settled in Fayette County on Mulberry Creek around 1850. Joseph and his wife, Prudence, had nine children: John, Emma, Maggus, William, Mattus, Bloom, Thomas, Otis and Alice.

During the Civil War, Joseph served for the Confederacy in the Texas 3rd Cavalry. In 1889, he purchased land from the W.F. Upton Estate. He raised livestock, cotton, corn, sorghum and sugarcane on the land. In 1915, his son, Otis, purchased the land. Otis and his wife, Mary, raised six children: Leon, Elvira, Fred, Marie, Beatrice and Isabella. The family continued to work the land.

In 1950, the land was divided between Leon, Fred, Elvita and Beatrice. Later, in 1984, Beatrice

and her husband, John A., would acquire the land. John and Beatrice had three children: John, Thomas and Beatrice. They raised livestock, corn, peanuts, watermelon and hay.

In 1999, the current owner, John Leon Marek, inherited land from his grandmother, Beatrice, and grandfather, John A. He continues to raise livestock on the land.

As told by John L. Marek, great-great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

125.75 acres

PRODUCTION

1889 Cotton, Corn, Livestock, Sorghum and Sugarcane

2017 Livestock



SMITH MAREK MULBERRY CREEK RANCH

FAYETTE COUNTY

7 miles southwest of Schulenburg

FOUNDED: 1889

FOUNDER: Joseph Emmanuel Smith

CURRENT OWNER: Thomas Marek

Joseph Emmanuel Smith immigrated to the United States from Ireland, and he would settle in Fayette County. He purchased 125 acres of land from the W.F. Upton Estate in 1889. Joseph raised livestock, cotton, corn and sugar cane on the land. He and his wife, Prudence, raised nine children: John, Emma, Maggus, Will, Mattus, Bloom, Tom, Otis and Alice.

In 1915, Otis purchased his father's land and continued to raise livestock, cotton, corn and sugarcane. Otis and his wife, Mary, had six children: Leon, Fred, Elvira, Marie, Beatrice and Isabela. The kids were raised on the land. Beatrice inherited 32 acres of land in 1950. She and her husband, John, had three children: John Otis, Thomas Vernon and Beatrice.

Thomas V. inherited the 32 acres in 1999 and continues to raise livestock and hay on the land. He has two children, Thomas James and Rosalie Marie.

Pictured are O.L. Smith and band members before a performance.

As told by Thomas V. Marek, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

125 acres

PRODUCTION

1889 Corn, Cotton, Livestock,

Sorghum and Sugar Cane

2017 Hay and Livestock



JERRY STUART FAMILY FARM

FISHER COUNTY

4 miles east of Roby on FM 1085

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: William Perry Teel

CURRENT OWNER: Jerry Stuart

William Perry "W.P." Teel was born in Alabama and traveled with his family to Texas. W.P. acquired 432 acres from J.G. Hambright in 1917. W.P. and his wife, Jennie, had seven children: Mamie, Charlie, John, Elsie, Jessie, Fannie and Bertha. All of the children were raised on the farm.

W.P. passed away in 1921, and the land was divided equally between his children. Then, in 1924, Mamie purchased all of her siblings' portions of the land. She raised cattle, maize and cotton on the land. Mamie and her husband, J.D., purchased an additional 200 acres of land,

which brought the family's total acreage to 642.

Pictured are Mamie Stuart and Emma Lee.

As told by Emma Lee Stuart Gilmore, granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

432 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cotton

2017 Cattle, Hygear, Sudan and Wheat



WARREN FAMILY TRUST

FLOYD COUNTY

8 miles northwest of Floydada on HWY 207

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: William Archie Huckabee

CURRENT OWNERS: Ed Warren, Joyce Russ, Don Warren, Mychelle Sims, Natalie Duran and Barbie Grimes

William Archie Huckabee was born in Pontotoc, Mississippi, in 1866. W.A. moved to Texas as a young man, and married Gertrude in 1890. They began raising their family of nine children. The family moved around in search of better farmland, finally settling in Floyd County, where W.A. raised wheat, cotton and livestock to support his family.

In 1939, after W.A.'s death, Gertrude took over the property. Her daughters, Ola and Eula, lived on the land with Gertrude, as did Ola's son, Thomas. Ola and Thomas worked the land, while Gertrude and Eula kept the home.

Gertrude passed away in 1957, and the land was divided between Ola and Eula. Thomas continued to farm the land, raising wheat, cotton, milo and livestock. He eventually ventured into the

vegetable market, raising onions, peppers, carrots and cucumbers.

Prior to Thomas' passing in 2005, the land was placed into a family trust with his wife and four children: Elaine, Edwin, Joyce and Don. The original 320 acres has grown to 1,760 and is still owned by the family trust.

Pictured is the extended Warren family.

As told by Edwin Warren, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

320 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Cattle, Cotton, Chickens, Hogs, Milo and Wheat
2017 Cattle, Corn, Milo and Wheat



JACK & NORMA JAGGERS FARM

FRANKLIN COUNTY

1/2 mile west of Winfield on I-30

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Robert L. Jagers

CURRENT OWNERS: Jack and Norma Jagers

Robert L. Jagers was born in 1880 in Marion County, Alabama. He later moved to Texas and purchased 111.5 acres of land in Franklin County in 1917. Robert married Angeline in 1904, and they had one son, Worth. In 1941, Robert passed away.

In 1931, Worth married Loretta, and together, they had three sons. In 1933, Worth's parents deeded him their land, where he raised cotton, Jersey cows, cattle, hay and breed pigs. Worth passed away in 1967. His three sons inherited a portion of the land in 1973 and then more when Loretta passed in 1987.

In 1962, Jack Donald Jagers purchased cattle and began his own herd on what would become his portion of the Jagers' land. He maintains this operation

today. Jack and his wife, Norma, have been married for 60 years. They have lived on the family farm for 37 years, where Jack continues to raise Black Angus cattle and hay.

Pictured are Robert L. Jagers with wife Angeline Tollison Jagers and son, Worth Jagers.

As told by Norma Lawrence Jagers, granddaughter-in-law of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

111.5 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cattle, Cotton, Dairy Cows and Hay
2017 Cattle and Hay



JAGGERS FAMILY TRUST

FRANKLIN COUNTY

4.5 miles east of Mt. Vernon

FOUNDED: 1893

FOUNDERS: Jesse M. and Sarah Jane Pollard Jagers

CURRENT OWNERS: Marjorie Dickson Jagers, Kenneth Michael Jagers, Deana Lynn Jagers and Clay Worth Jagers

Jesse M. and Sarah Jane Pollard Jagers moved their family, which included eight children, from Alabama to Mississippi to Texas in 1889. Once in Texas, they had three more children. Jesse purchased 200 acres in 1893 from the original John Humphrey Survey A-215. The land is home to the historical marker of the Ripley Massacre.

In 1905, R.L. and Angelina Tollison Jagers bought 71.75 acres from Jesse and Sarah; they would later acquire the rest of the original 200 acres in 1916. R.L. and Angelina had one son, Worth.

Worth and his wife, Loretta, were deeded the land, and they raised three sons: Charles, Don and Jack. Worth passed in 1967, and the land went to Loretta and their sons.

In 1973, Don and Marjorie Jagers purchased part of the 200-acre plot and began a dairy business

while also producing silage and hay. They had four sons: Kenneth, David, Joe and Clay.

In 2003, Don and Marjorie retired from the dairy business and began cattle and hay production. In 2016, the land became part of the Jagers Family Trust.

Pictured are Clay Worth, Kenneth Butch, Marjorie and Kenneth Michael Jagers.

As told by Marjorie Ann Dickson Jagers, wife of the great-grandson of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

200 acres

PRODUCTION

1893 Breed Pigs, Cattle, Cotton, Dairy Cows, Hay and Silage
2017 Cattle and Hay



THE LAZY J FARM

FRANKLIN COUNTY

4.5 miles east of Mt. Vernon

FOUNDED: 1893

FOUNDER: Jesse M. Jagers

CURRENT OWNER: Kay Louwayne Jagers

In 1893, Jesse M. and Sarah Jane Pollard Jagers moved their family, including their eight children, from Alabama to Franklin County, Texas. They had three more children once in Texas. The family purchased 200 acres from what was the original John Humphries Survey A-215.

Over the years, succeeding generations continued to use the land for agricultural purposes, raising dairy and beef cattle, producing cotton and hay, making silage and breeding pigs. In 1973, Charles Stanley and Kay Louwayne Jagers became the fourth generation to own part of this land. Charles' brother, Don, and nephew, Kenneth, helped with the production side of the farm, as Charles' family didn't live in the area.

When Don retired, Kenneth took over management of the property. Kenneth was named the 2016 Franklin County Agriculturalist of the Year and has been an excellent steward of the land.

Pictured are founders Jesse M. and Sarah Jane Jagers.

As told by Patricia Jagers Hayes, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

200 acres

PRODUCTION

1893 Cotton, Hay and Livestock
2017 Hay, Livestock and Silage



MOORE RANCH

FRANKLIN COUNTY

15 miles southeast of Mt. Vernon

FOUNDED: 1909

FOUNDERS: Isaac Martin (Ike) and Darthula (Darthie) T. Alexander Stocks

CURRENT OWNERS: Gaylon and Jean Moore

Isaac (Ike) Stocks was born in 1880 to Thomas and Lucy Stocks. He married Darthie Alexander in 1902. In 1909, at the age of 29, Ike purchased 100 acres from J.R. Keener. For nearly 40 years, he raised livestock on this land. Ike and Darthie had five children: Lokey, Myrtle, Winne, A.D. and Audrey.

Darthie passed away in 1959, and Ike passed away in 1962. They left the land to Lokey and Myrtle. Audrey's children, Bennie and Gaylon, would later purchase the land, 40 acres from Lokey and 60 acres from Myrtle. In 1981,

Gaylon purchased Bennie's half of the farm. Gaylon still raises livestock and hay at the age of 75.

Pictured is founder I.M. (Ike) Stocks.

As told by Gaylon Moore, grandson of the founders.

ORIGINAL ACREAGE

100 acres

PRODUCTION

1909 Livestock

2017 Hay and Livestock



McGEHEE FARMS

GARZA COUNTY

At the corner of CR 105 and CR 210

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDERS: Benjamin Franklin (B.F.) and Stella McGehee

CURRENT OWNERS: Heath and Julie McGehee

When B.F. and Stella McGehee first acquired this land, they lived in a dugout, because there was no lumber in the area. The lumber was shipped in to build the barn and later the house. B.J. and Stella had eight children: Jewell, Leroy, Weldon, Mary, John, Anna Belle "Bill," Raymond and Annetta "Net."

After B.F. retired and moved to Lubbock, his son, Weldon, continued operating the farm. Upon Stella's passing, the land was divided among the eight children, with Weldon continuing to operate the farm and purchasing land from his siblings. By 1979, Weldon had acquired all of the acres from his siblings.

Weldon and his wife, Lorene, had four children. Their son, Dennis, and his wife, Libby, are still owners and operators of the McGehee Farms Partnership. Weldon retired

from farming in 1987. Dennis' son, Heath, began farming the land in 1994, and in 2007, Heath and his wife, Julie, acquired the title to the land from Weldon. Heath and Julie have five children: Price, Ben, Drew, Meghan and Rex.

Along with Dennis and Libby, Heath and Julie continue to operate the land, which has been worked on and cared for by six generations of family members.

As told by Dennis McGehee, grandson of the founders.

ORIGINAL ACREAGE

176.6 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Cattle, Chicken, Cotton and Milo

2017 Cattle, Corn, Cotton and Milo



FRANK (FRANZ) KLEIN RANCH
GILLESPIE COUNTY

3 miles northwest of Stonewall

FOUNDED: 1911

FOUNDER: Frank Klein

CURRENT OWNERS: Gina (Klein)
Koennecke and Barret Klein

Frank Klein, the son of Christian and Gertrude (Knopp) Klein, was born in Gillespie County near Tivydale. In 1911, he purchased land in Stonewall and began raising cotton, corn, hay, cattle and goats. Frank passed away in 1921, and the farm was left to his wife, Maria, and their eight children: Helmuth, Erwin, Harry, Francis, Louis, Erna, Eulalia and Zita. Maria and Frank had another son, Arnold, who died in infancy.

In 1940, Maria sold the land to two of her sons, Erwin and Louis. Erwin purchased 505 acres. He and his wife, Hulda, had five children: Lucille, Rubin, Hubert, Clarence and Alton.

Clarence continued to farm with Erwin, and in 1971, Clarence was deeded 100 acres. Clarence and his wife, Anne Mae, had two children, Gina and Barret. In 2000, Gina and Barret were deeded the property, and Clarence continues to raise cattle on the land.

As told by Barret Klein, great-grandson of the founder.

ORIGINAL ACREAGE
1,011.72 acres

PRODUCTION
1911 Cattle, Corn, Cotton,
Goats and Hay
2017 Cattle



ACKER FARMS
GRAY COUNTY

11 miles south of Pampa

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: JS Mackie

CURRENT OWNER: Donna Acker

JS Mackie moved to Gray County in 1911 and purchased land in 1916. JS farmed the land, and later, his son-in-law, Ol Crossman, would take over. In 1944, JS passed away and left the land to his three daughters: Bertie, Faye and Opal.

Bertie and her husband, Ol, would continue to farm the land. Ol passed away in 1957, and at that time, Wayland Acker was honorably discharged from the Army and came home to help farm this land. In 1975, Faye made an agreement with Wayland to purchase her portion of the land when she passed away. In 1977, Wayland and Donna were owners of 213.3 acres. When Bertie passed away in 1979, Donna inherited the other 213.3 acres.

Donna and Wayland continued farming the land until Wayland's passing in 2015, at which time, Greg and Lisa Acker took over operations.

Pictured is founder JS Mackie.

As told by Greg Acker, great-grandson of the founder.

ORIGINAL ACREAGE
640 acres

PRODUCTION
1916 Cattle, Grain Sorghum,
Pigs and Wheat
2017 Cotton, Grain Sorghum
and Wheat



THE PLACE

GRIMES COUNTY

3 miles south of Plantersville on CR 201

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Mitchel Thompson

CURRENT OWNERS: Dorothy Nell Thompson
Tullos and Dave Preston Tullos

Mitchel Thompson was born in Louisiana. His wife, Margaret, was also a native of Louisiana. Around 1900, they moved their family to Texas, and in 1917, Mitchel purchased 66 acres near Plantersville. Mitchel passed away in 1930, and the land was left undivided to his surviving children.

The youngest son, Charlie, married Hattie Mae, and they started a family in Plantersville. Over the years, Charlie purchased portions of the land from his siblings or their surviving heirs. Charlie and Hattie Mae raised cattle and produced hay until Charlie passed away in 1983. With the help of her children, Hattie Mae continued operating the land.

Upon Hattie Mae's passing in 2004, the land was left to her

daughters, Vivian and Dorothy. Vivian also passed away in 2004. Dorothy and her husband, Dave, continued operations.

In 2009, Dorothy and Dave bought Vivian's share of the land from her children, and they became the sole property owners. In 2014, they built a home on the land and retired there permanently. Today, cattle, horses and donkeys roam the land, and hay production continues.

*As told by Dorothy Thompson
Tullos, granddaughter
of the founder.*



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

66 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Livestock
2017 Hay and Livestock



MCDONOUGH FARMS

HALE COUNTY

7.5 miles north of Petersburg

FOUNDED: 1904

FOUNDER: John Franklin McDonough Sr.

CURRENT OWNERS: Charles Clifton
McDonough, Dorothy Inez McDonough Burkert,
John Franklin McDonough Jr. and Alice Virginia
McDonough Hoggins Estate

John Franklin McDonough Sr. was born in Mississippi and moved to Grayson County, Texas, with his mother after his father's passing. He purchased land in 1904 with A.T. Williamson. Later, in 1910, A.T. and John would split the land in half with John taking the northern section.

In 1915, John married Minnie Lee Saunders, and they moved to the farm in 1917. John and Minnie raised their six children on the farm: Juanita, Dorothy, John Jr., Virginia, Charles and Earle. After John's death in 1956, Minnie acquired the farm and continued operations with her sons.

Minnie passed away in 1973, and the farm was divided equally among the six children, with

Charles managing the farm. In 1976 and 1988 respectively, Charles purchased Juanita and Earle's shares of the land. Charles and his wife, Nadine, raised four children: Beverly, Diane, David and Richard. Charles continues to farm the land with David.

*As told by Beverly McDonough,
granddaughter of the founder.*



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

640 acres

PRODUCTION

1904 Cattle, Chickens, Cotton,
Guineas, Turkeys and Wheat
2017 Cattle, Cotton, Hay Grazer,
Milo, Rye and Wheat



GRANDDADDY'S PLACE

HALL COUNTY

3 miles west and 2.5 miles south of Plaska

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: John W. Molloy and Ethel Molloy

CURRENT OWNERS: Jimmy Don and Marcene Molloy, Chris Molloy and Stevie Molloy

John William Molloy was born in Montgomery, Alabama. He left home at the age of 16 on horseback and worked on various ranches as a cowboy before ending up in the Texas Panhandle. John and his wife, Ethel, purchased 134 acres on the beautiful banks of the Red River in 1917. They had five children: Floy, Lois, Ozone, Alvin and Vena.

Over the years, John and Ethel continued to acquire land, eventually accumulating a total of 465 acres. This land has remained in the family.

Around 1950, John and Ethel built a new home and moved to Memphis. Alvin took over operations until his untimely death in 1970. John's grandson, Jimmy Don, then took over operations. He raised cotton and cattle.

In 1995, Jimmy Don and Marcene bought the land and raised mostly cotton. Later, the farm land was put into CRP for a period of 20 years, where it remains today.

Pictured with Ethel and John William Molloy at their 50th Anniversary in 1962 are Lois Lowe, Alvin, Ozone and Vena.

As told by Jimmy Don Molloy, grandson of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

134 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cattle, Cotton and Wheat

2017 Conservation Reserve Program



2-7 FARM

HANSFORD COUNTY

6 miles northeast of Gruver on FM 1261

FOUNDED: 1903

FOUNDER: C.J. Thompson

CURRENT OWNERS: Timber Diane Barkley, Timothy Lee Barkley, Teresa Beck Barkley, Daniel Andrew Barkley, Scott Arnold Barkley and Vireta Mae Tomlinson Knight

Charles Joseph (Charlie) Thompson was born in Kentucky in 1869. At the age of 28, he set out to make it on his own. His uncle, Jack, followed along and ran the hotel in Beaver, Oklahoma. That's where Charlie first met Essie Pearl Benson. She was a great cook, and her cookies were famous among the ranch hands.

Charlie and Essie Pearl married in 1900, and they had nine children: Elvira, Ruth, Ethel, Beulah, Jo, Mildred, Charlie Benson, Rose and Dollie. They raised their children on 2-7, which also was the site of the first school in the area. The land was named 2-7, because two school districts — District 2 and District 7 — shared the costs.

In 1920, Elvira married Roma David Tomlinson and they purchased the 2-7 Farm from Charlie in 1923. In 1944, Charlie

passed away. Essie Pearl was 95 years old when she passed away in 1972. The farm remains undivided among the Tomlinson family today.

Pictured (standing) are Ethel Johnson, Elvira Tomlinson, Beulah Stefen, Dollie Hanson, Rose Bratton, Mildred Gore, (seated in front) Essie Pearl and Charlie Thompson and only son, Charles Benson Thompson.

As told by Timothy Lee Barkley, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

320 acres

PRODUCTION

1903 Maize, Sorghum and Wheat

2017 CRP Grass, Sorghum and Wheat



PRAIRIE HOME FARM

HANSFORD COUNTY

14 miles northeast of Gruver on FM 1261

FOUNDED: 1912

FOUNDERS: Daniel Andrew Tomlinson and Roma David Tomlinson

CURRENT OWNERS: Alma Jean Tomlinson McCleerey, Vireta Mae Tomlinson Knight, Essie Pearl Tomlinson Walker Roberts, Timothy Lee Barkley, Teresa Diane Beck Barkley, Daniel Andrew Barkley, Arlene Frances Barkley Biebesheimer, Scott Arnold Barkley, Roger Dean Barkley, Jennifer Tomlinson and Joel Tomlinson Estate

In 1904, Daniel Andrew Tomlinson and his wife, Delilah Bell, were moving their family by covered wagon from New Mexico to Missouri. They were pretty impressed with Hansford County, and after arriving in Missouri, they decided Texas was the place to be. On the family's journey back, Delilah Bell had her eleventh child in Oklahoma, and the family would farm land there for two years.

In 1907, the family left Oklahoma for Hansford County, where they purchased land and made their permanent home. Daniel and his oldest son, Roma David, bought the land together. Roma David added more land to the parcel in 1912. He and his wife, Elvira, would make this land the Prairie Home Farm. They had seven children: Verna, Roma David Jr., Alma Jean, Vireta

Mae, Essie Belle, "Buddy" Elmer Dale and Glen Cleo.

Roma David would eventually buy the farm from Elvira's parents and continued adding acreage. Three families eventually lived on the land, and it has always been a safe haven for family members.

Family photo taken at the home of R.D. and Elvira Thompson Tomlinson after funeral in honor of "Lil Grandma," Essie Pearl.

As told by Timothy Lee Barkley, great-grandson of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE
320 acres

PRODUCTION
1912 Milo and Wheat
2017 Corn, Milo, Soybeans and Wheat



MARTIN FAMILY RANCH

JACK COUNTY

12 miles northwest of Jacksboro on HWY 281N

FOUNDED: 1902

FOUNDER: Francis Marion Martin

CURRENT OWNER: Billie Jenell Patton Martin

Francis Marion Martin was born in Jefferson County, Georgia, and after he married his wife, Mary Lula, he brought his family to Texas in 1902. Francis and Mary Lula had nine children. After Francis' passing in 1904, Mary Lula acquired the land. Their son, James "Jim," helped his mother with land. They raised cows and chickens and sold cream and eggs.

Jim and his wife, Mary, had six children. After Jim's passing in 1954, their son, Joe, bought the land. Joe and his wife, Effie, had three sons. In 1980, after Joe's passing, the land was left to Effie and her sons. In 1981, Effie deeded the land to her oldest son, Richard.

In 1998, Richard passed away, and the land was willed to his wife, Billie, who is the current owner.

Pictured are James Bedell Martin and Mary Narcissa (Whitlock) Martin.

As told by Tracie Martin Pippin, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE
265 acres

PRODUCTION
1902 Cattle, Chickens, Goats, Hay, Horses and Wheat
2017 Cattle, Coastal and Wheat



BIERMANN RANCH

KENDALL COUNTY

2 miles east of Comfort on FM 473

FOUNDED: 1912

FOUNDER: William Biermann

CURRENT OWNERS: Carlton and Anita Biermann

Wilhelm Biermann was born in 1839 in Germany. He and his family immigrated to Texas after the American Civil War in 1870. They first landed in New Orleans on a sailboat, then went onto Galveston before embarking on their journey to Comfort.

Wilhelm acquired land from the Fishers, who were relatives from Germany, in 1911. He bought the land for his son, Carl, who was too young to sign real estate notes at the time. In 1917, when he reached proper age, Wilhelm transferred the land to Carl. He raised cotton, oats, wheat and hay, along with a dairy herd and sheep.

Carl and his wife, Albertine, would eventually split the land among two children, Dorothy and Carlton. Carlton and his wife, Anita, continue to raise hay and cattle on the land.

As told by Carlton Biermann, grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE
273.6 acres

PRODUCTION
1912 Cattle, Oats and Wheat
2017 Cattle and Hay



BELL FAMILY FARM

LIMESTONE COUNTY

5.5 miles south of Point Enterprise

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Frank B. Bell

CURRENT OWNERS: Bell Descendants

In 1917, Frank Bell purchased 22 acres of land approximately 12 miles outside of the Mexia city limits. Frank and his wife, Beatrice, had 11 children: F.B., W.B., Nealon, Arthur, Hattie Mae, Ophelia, Henry, Kary, Frankie Lee, Jessie and Kathie Ruth.

This land has been passed down through six generations of the Bell family, of which the first and second generations have all passed away.

Each year, on the last Saturday in July, the Bell Family Reunion

is held to celebrate the family's legacy and the blessings that have been left for future generations.

As told by Shirley Bell Proctor, granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE
22 acres

PRODUCTION
1917 Greens, Okra, Peas, Sweet Potatoes, Squash and Watermelons
2017 Chickens, Cows and Horses



PEERY RANCH

LIPSCOMB COUNTY

11 miles southwest of Lipscomb

FOUNDED: 1898

FOUNDERS: Thomas and Fannie Waters

CURRENT OWNERS: Hollene and Jerry Peery

Thomas Waters was born in South Carolina. He was one of 10 children. The Waters family followed the tide of emigration from South Carolina to Texas. Thomas bought land in Lipscomb County on Sand Creek, where he raised his family. Thomas raised cattle, while also working as a banker. Thomas and Fannie had 10 children.

Pictured are Christie, Melanie, Sammy, Hollene, Jerry, Bre and Alana.

As told by Hollene Peery, granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

160 acres

PRODUCTION

1898 Cattle

2017 Cattle

Hollene Waters Peery, granddaughter of Thomas and Fannie, has lived on the ranch with her husband since 1974. Hollene has two children, Sammy and Christie. Sammy and his wife, Melanie, have two children, Alana and Breanne. The ranch now has 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ sections.



OESTREICH RANCH

LLANO COUNTY

12 miles west of Llano on HWY 29

FOUNDED: 1900

FOUNDERS: Friedrich Wilhelm (F.W.) Earl Oestreich and Caroline (Carolina) Schneider Oestreich

CURRENT OWNERS: Kelly and Sandy Oestreich

Friedrich Wilhelm (F.W.) Earl Oestreich was born in Llano County in 1867. In 1897, he married Caroline (Carolina) Schneider. In 1900, F.W. acquired 320 acres of land from Gottlieb and Louise Simon, while Caroline acquired 293.4 acres of land from Dina Schneider.

Jerry acquired the land in 1987. Upon Jerry's death in 2005, his son, Kelly, and Kelly's wife, Sandy, acquired the land. Today, the ranch is in the commercial and registered cattle business, producing primarily black Angus cattle.

As told by Sandy Oestreich, great-granddaughter of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

613.4 acres

PRODUCTION

1900 Cattle, Chicken,

Hay and Hogs

2017 Cattle, Grass, Hay

F.W. and Caroline had six children: Emma, Martha, Wilhelm, Max, Friedrich and Caroline. All of the children were raised on the ranch. Max acquired the land in 1954. He and his wife, Ruthie, continued to raise livestock and produced grass and hay on the ranch. Max and Ruthie have two children, Ruth and Jerry.



PERRY & CHARLINE EUBANK FARM

LUBBOCK COUNTY

2 miles north of Idalou on Walnut Street

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Mitchell Alexander Evitt

CURRENT OWNERS: Charlotte Janiece (Eubank) Brown and Marge (Eubank) Hopper

Mitchell Evitt moved from Georgia to Texas because the land was cheap in Lubbock County. He bought land with the vision to provide a legacy for his future heirs. Mitchell had eight children, including a daughter, Offie.

Offie's son, Perry, acquired the land north of Idalou and lived in the house once occupied by Mitchell. He built another house, which still stands on the original farmland. Perry grew cotton and grain sorghum, and raised horses, cows and swine.

Perry and his wife, Mary, raised five children on the land, working hard to provide for them. Today,

the land still produces cotton and grain sorghum.

Pictured is Janiece Brown.

As told by Janiece (Eubank) Brown and Marge (Eubank) Hopper, great-granddaughters of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

160 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cotton, Cows, Grain Sorghum and Swine

2017 Cotton and Grain Sorghum



HUBERT WEYNAND RANCH

MEDINA COUNTY

8 miles north of D'Hanis on FM 1796

FOUNDED: 1883

FOUNDER: Hubert Weynand

CURRENT OWNERS: Henry J. Lutz, Lillie Lutz Bohlen, Donald J. Morgan and Dennis J. Morgan

Hubert Weynand was born in Butgenbach, Prussia, and immigrated to Texas at the age of 23 in 1846. He served in the Mexican American War and received Texas land grants. He and his wife, Angela, settled in the Seco Settlement near Ft. Lincoln and had 16 children.

In 1883, Hubert purchased 2,300 acres and built a house and barn on the land. He sold parcels of the land to his children in 1896, with 216 acres being sold to his daughter, Catherine, and her husband, Sebastian. Catherine and Sebastian had one child, Catherine Bischler Lutz, who inherited the land upon her parents' passing.

Catherine and her husband, Joseph J. Lutz, raised seven children: Hubert, Margaret, Alphonse, Alfred, Edward, Raymond and Mary Ann. They would inherit the land upon their parents' passing. Hubert had three children: Henry, Thomas and Lillie; Mary Ann had two children, Donald and Dennis.

The remaining aunts and uncles did not have children, and they lived their lives out on this land. Donald, Dennis, Henry, Thomas and Lillie acquired title to the property in 2000. Then, in 2013, Thomas transferred his ownership to the current owners who continue to raise cattle, while improving and maintaining the ranch.

Pictured are Catherine Weynand Bischler holding granddaughter, Margaret Lutz, Hubert Lutz, Joseph Lutz Jr. and Catherine Bischler Lutz.

As told by Lillie Bohlen, great-great-granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

2,300 acres

PRODUCTION

1883 Cattle, Corn and Hogs

2017 Cattle



CHAS & SOPHIE KOTHMANN RANCHES VINEGARROON PASTURE

MENARD COUNTY

8 miles east of Menard on FM 2092

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Chas. Kothmann

CURRENT OWNERS: Carl G. Kothmann, Dora Kothmann-Wright, Kathryn Wright Mews and William Wesley Wright

Chas Kothmann was 52 years old when he bought the Vinegarroon Pasture from R. R. Russell in 1917. Chas built wolf-proof fencing and created earthen dams throughout the ranch to improve water sources. Chas' daughter, Dora, purchased the land in 1924, and her brother, George, managed the ranch, built picket pens and drilled the main water well.

Dora began gifting the land to George's children — Jane, Carl and Gail — starting in 1958. They operated as the Vinegarroon Ranch Company. Carl began gifting the land to his daughter, Dora L., in 1976. Later, Carl would buy Jane and Gail's portion of the land.

In 2008, the Chas. & Sophie Kothmann Ranches, LLC was created to hold the family land for all generations. The owners are Carl, Dora, and Dora's children,

Kathy and Willy. The land is used to raise cattle and goats, as well as for hunting.

As of January 2017, Carl operates the Vinegarroon Ranch Company with his great-grandchildren: Makenzie, Roy, Kallan, Daphne and Gus.

Pictured (standing) are Damon, Kinney, Dora N., Wilkes, (sitting) Chas., George and Sophie.

As told by Carl George Kothmann, grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

6,355.7 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Angora Goats, Cattle, Horses and Sheep
2017 Cattle, Hunting and Spanish Goats



W.J. MORTON RANCH

MOORE COUNTY

23 miles east of Dumas

FOUNDED: 1902

FOUNDERS: W.J. and Laura E. Morton

CURRENT OWNERS: W.E.M. Estate Partnership: Harold Dean Morton, Rex Crossland, Kent Crossland, Mortonville Ag, LLC; James "Jed" E. Morton Jr. and Anissa Morton Purswell

Three days after their wedding in 1892, W.J. and Laura Morton left Tennessee for Texas by train. They first settled in Greer County, which would later become the town of Hollis, Oklahoma. Looking for greener pastures, W.J. traveled to the Texas Panhandle with a friend. It was there that he acquired land in eastern Moore County.

In March 1902, W.J. and Laura moved their family, livestock and household goods by wagon to Texas. In 1943, W.J. and Laura passed their land down equally to their six children. The land would be traded amongst the children until W.J. Morton Jr. and his wife, Willie, retained ownership of the original homeplace. W.J. Jr. and Willie had three children: Jim Ed, Genevieve and Harold Dean.

After Willie's death in 1987, the W.E.M. Estate Partnership was formed to continue the Morton family's farming and ranching tradition. The Partnership is managed by Harold who still owns the land. Three generations of the Morton family live on this land today.

As told by Anissa Morton Purswell, great-great-granddaughter of the founders.

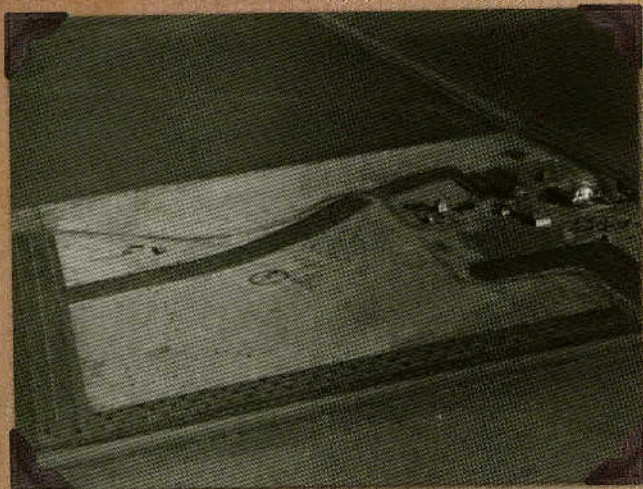


ORIGINAL ACREAGE

1,280 acres

PRODUCTION

1902 Cattle, Corn, Sorghum and Wheat
2017 Cattle, Cotton, Sorghum, Soybeans and Wheat



BRILLHART FARM

OCHILTREE COUNTY

5 miles east of Perryton

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: Grover C. Brillhart Sr.

CURRENT OWNER: Marvin R. Brillhart Sr.

Grover C. Brillhart Sr. was born in 1884 in Wise County, Texas, to Samuel and Amanda Brillhart. They moved to Ochiltree County in 1886. In 1909, Grover married Mary Cropper, and they had nine children: Howard, Mary Louise, Rowena K., Grover Jr., Harold, James, Mildred, Charles and Amy.

In 1954, Howard acquired the homestead. Howard and his wife, Grace, had three children: Marvin Ross Sr., Martha Faye and Mary Alice. In 2000, Marvin Sr. acquired the homestead. Marvin Sr. and his wife, Eunice, had three children: Stephanie, Linda and Marvin Jr.

Marvin Sr. farmed the land, raising wheat and milo, and later, cattle. He currently still lives on the homestead.

As told by Marvin Ross Brillhart Jr., great-grandson of the founder.



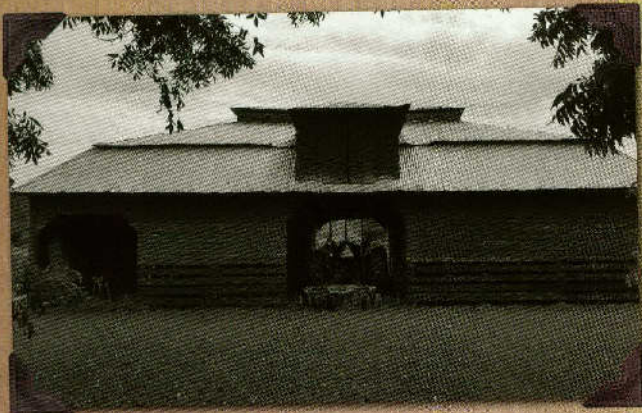
ORIGINAL ACREAGE

446 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Cattle and Wheat

2017 Cattle and Feedstock



AUSTIN FARM

PANOLA COUNTY

12 miles west of Carthage on CR 153

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Charles Albert Austin

CURRENT OWNERS: Donna Austin Marler and Don Austin

Charles Albert Austin was born in Pike County, Alabama, in 1891. When he was just six years old, his family moved to Texas and settled in Nacogdoches. Charles served in World War I and was stationed in France. After his discharge, he returned home and purchased 125 acres of land in 1917.

In 1920, Charles married Lucy Zelma Browning, and they had two children, Dennis Truett and Dottie Juanez. Truett acquired title to the land in 1962. Truett and his wife, Cathryn, had two children, Donna Lynn and Dennis Don.

In 2003, Donna and Don became the co-owners of Austin Farm.

They produce pine trees, olive trees, bees, honey, fruits and vegetables. They are proud to continue the legacy of the Austin Farm.

As told by Donna Lynn Austin Marler, granddaughter of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

125 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cattle, Chickens, Corn,

Cotton, Hogs, Horses,

Maize, Mules and Peas

2017 Bees, Fruits, Honey, Olive Trees, Pine Trees and Vegetables



BUSHONG RANCH

REAL COUNTY

9 miles northeast of Leakey

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDER: Clarence C. Bushong

CURRENT OWNER: Luther C. Bushong

Clarence Clifton "Cliff" Bushong was born in 1885 in the Mary Meade Community of Kerr County, Texas. At age 10, he started working on local farms to help support his family. Cliff would later work as a ranch hand and save his money to purchase a place of his own, which he did in 1917 when he bought 800 acres on Cypress Creek.

Cliff married Jewett Mear, and they moved to the ranch on their wedding day. They had two children, Lucille and Luther, who were both born on the ranch. In 1930, they added 640 acres to the ranch.

When Luther graduated high school in 1946, he began working full-time on the ranch. In 1954, he acquired title to the land and became a partner with his parents. In 1956, Luther married Lois, and they had one daughter, Martha.

At 88 years old, Luther is still actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the ranch. His nephew, Jesse C. Luxton, and his wife, Betty, lease part of the land for their cattle operation. Martha and her husband, William, moved to the ranch in 2014 and also help with operations.

Pictured during hog processing are Jewett and Cliff Bushong.

*As told by Luther Bushong,
son of the founder.*



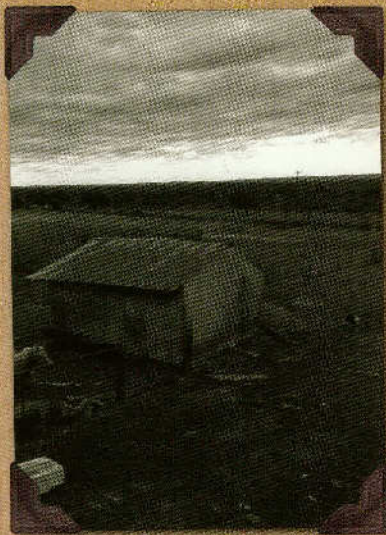
ORIGINAL ACREAGE

800 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Angora Goats, Cattle,
Hay, Hogs, Horses, Mules and
Vegetables

2017 Cattle, Cedar Posts/Stump
Wood and Wildlife



SPIVEY HEREFORD RANCH

SAN SABA COUNTY

12 miles east of San Saba on FM 416

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: Edward Franklin Means

CURRENT OWNER: Clay John Spivey

Edward Franklin Means was born in 1879 to pioneering parents with strong roots in San Saba County. In 1916, Edwards bought 100 acres in the Colony Community. He and his wife, Della, raised five children: Tommie Louise, Clara Leslie, Edna Mirle, Mildred Virginia and Rosale.

Edward passed away at the age of 56, and Della managed the ranch until 1957 when her daughter, Clara Leslie, and husband, Alvin, acquired title to the land. In 1986, their only son, Warren A., was given deed to the land, and he managed the ranch's Hereford cattle, sheep and goats.

In 2009, Warren and Sandra's son, Clay J. Spivey, received ownership of the ranch. He continues to raise cattle and sheep, while also working to continually improve the land.

*As told by Warren A. Spivey,
grandson of the founder.*



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

100 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Cattle, Cotton and Goats
2017 Cattle and Sheep



YELLOWJACKET RANCH (MCGREGOR PLACE)

SAN SABA COUNTY

4.5 miles east of Richland Springs

FOUNDED: 1905

FOUNDER: William Henry Gibbons

CURRENT OWNERS: Sheila Faye McGregor
Carroll and Jack W. Carroll

William H. (Billy) Gibbons immigrated from Ireland in the late 1800s. He would later become one of the largest landowners in San Saba County. When Billy's daughter, Mary Adelia, married Forrest E. McGregor, he gifted her some of the land east of Richland Springs.

Forrest passed away at an early age, and Mary and their five children managed the ranch. After Mary's passing, her oldest child, John Clarke McGregor, bought the ranch from his siblings. Just four years later, John passed away, and the ranch was left to his wife, Cora, and daughter, Shelia.

Shelia and her husband, Jack, took over management of the ranch in 1978, and they continue operations today. They have three sons: John, Monte and George Thomas.

*As told by Sheila McGregor
Carroll, great-granddaughter
of the founder.*



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

1,302 acres

PRODUCTION

1905 Cattle, Draft and Saddle
Horses, and Sheep
2017 Cattle



VINEYARD FARM

SCURRY COUNTY

4 miles southwest of Hermleigh on CR 743

FOUNDED: 1916

FOUNDER: J.L. Vineyard

CURRENT OWNERS: Don Vineyard,
Michael Kruger and Cody Rankin

J.L. Vineyard was born in Georgia and traveled to Texas with his young family. They settled in Scurry County in 1903. In 1916, J.L. acquired 200 acres from the estate of W M Prescott. J.L. farmed the land with his brother, I.M., and two eldest sons, M.C. and L.E., until 1926. After this time, his youngest son, Bishop, became the sole tenant of the land.

Bishop was married in 1927 and moved to the farm in 1928, where he lived as a tenant until he acquired ownership of the land in 1942.

Bishop and his wife, Dovie, raised three children on the farm: Douglas, Nelda and Don. Each of the children inherited 1/6 interest of the land when Bishop passed away in 1978. Dovie would retain control and management of the 200 acres during this time. Eventually,

in 1988, Dovie gifted her share of the land equally to her children.

Upon Douglas' passing in 1999, his interest was given to his children and ultimately gifted to J.L.'s great-great-grandson, Cody. Nelda gifted her portion of the land to J.L.'s great-grandson, Michael. Don is still the owner and operator of his share of the land.

*As told by Cecil Don Vineyard,
grandson of the founder.*



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

200 acres

PRODUCTION

1916 Cattle, Cotton, Gooseneck
Maize, Mules, Redtop Cane
and Wheat
2017 Hay/Forage, Oats and Wheat



H5 INGRAM RANCH

TRINITY COUNTY

2 miles west of Apple Springs on HWY 94

FOUNDED: 1889

FOUNDER: Mary Elizabeth (Moore) Salser

CURRENT OWNERS: Wayne Hollis Jr.
and D. Michelle Lockhart

Mary Elizabeth Moore was born in 1829 in Alabama. She traveled to Texas with her family, and acquired 137 and 3/4 acres of land from a patent issued to her by the State of Texas. She put down roots on this land and raised her family here. She raised mostly corn and garden items to feed her family, along with raising cattle.

Mary Elizabeth passed the land to her daughter, Martha Ann, and husband, James Robert Ingram, in 1922. Their son, John Edgar "J.E.," and his wife, Lillie, continued the family traditions on the land. J.E. was the first in his family to receive a college degree when he graduated from Sam Houston State Teacher's College in 1916.

J.E. and Lillie had a daughter, Elaine, who inherited the land in 1958. They also deeded land to Elaine's sons, Wayne and John. Elaine continued to love the land and cattle, as did her predecessors. Elaine also deeded property to her daughter, Denise. The family has always valued the importance of land conservation and continued to improve upon their land.

*As told by Michelle Lockhart,
great-great-granddaughter
of the founder.*



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

137.75 acres

PRODUCTION

1889 Cattle and Corn

2017 Cattle, Hay and Horses



DAVE YOUNG ESTATE

VAN ZANDT COUNTY

Prairie Creek Community off FM 4910 and FM 4911

FOUNDED: 1901

FOUNDER: Dave Young

CURRENT OWNER: Dave Young Estate

Dave Young arrived in the United States via a slave ship to Virginia. Records show he moved to Oklahoma as a freed slave. When Dave moved to the community of Prairie Creek, Texas, he had the opportunity to purchase land. Originally covered in timber, the land would be cleared by hand, and crops were grown to provide food for Dave's family.

After Dave's passing, his son, Phillip, became caretaker of the land. Phillip added sugar cane with a syrup mill and timber production to the family's operation. Phillip's son, Lewis, became caretaker of the land after Phillip's passing. While what is grown on the land has changed, the mainstay of corn and cattle continue to exist on the

property. Today, Lewis continues to oversee the land with help from his siblings and their children.

The Dave Young Estate has been in existence for 116 years, and the family is determined to keep the property in the family for generations to come.

Pictured is founder Dave Young.

As told by Reginald Young, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

200 acres

PRODUCTION

1901 Cattle, Corn, Cotton,
Sugar Cane and Vegetables

2017 Cattle and Timber



MANGAN FARM

VAN ZANDT COUNTY

9 miles southwest of Canton on CR 2416

FOUNDED: 1885

FOUNDER: Lawrence Mangan

CURRENT OWNERS: Paul Hutcherson and Perry Hutcherson

Lawrence Mangan was born in Ireland in 1840. At age six, he traveled to America with his family, settling in Ohio. Lawrence moved to Tennessee and then later to Texas with his wife, Mary Jane. In 1885, Lawrence purchased 200 acres of land in southwest Van Zandt County.

Until his death in 1906, Lawrence farmed the land, which he would leave to his children. His son, John Lawrence, and wife, Oda, owned and continued to farm approximately 130 acres of the land. John Lawrence passed away in 1949. His son, Clarence, inherited a portion of the land after his father's passing.

Clarence operated a dairy, and he and his wife, Thelma, lived on the farm until their deaths in 1983.

Their two daughters, Virginia Ruth and Betty Jo, inherited the land. Virginia continued to operate the farm with her sons, Paul and Perry. In 2000, Paul and Perry were deeded 59.75 acres. They continued to operate the land and purchased back portions of the original tract that had been lost over the years.

The seventh generation of the family lives on the farm today.

As told by Preston Hutcherson, great-great-great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

200 acres

PRODUCTION

1885 Cattle, Corn, Hogs, Tomatoes and Vegetables
2017 Cattle and Hay



ENGELBRECHT RANCH

WASHINGTON COUNTY

2 miles north of Burton on FM 390

FOUNDED: 1912

FOUNDER: Henry Engelbrecht

CURRENT OWNER: Clyde Engelbrecht

Henry Engelbrecht was born in Washington County in the Prairie Hill Community. He later moved to Burton and purchased 164 acres of land in 1912. Henry and his wife, Louise, had eight children: Louise, Mary, Alvina, Lorine, Corina, Charlie, Henry and Hattie. They raised their children on the farm.

In 1948, Louise acquired the property after Henry's passing, and with the help of her children, continued operations. She raised livestock, cotton and corn. In 1949, Louise's son, Charlie, acquired title to the land, and he lived on the property with his wife, Dora. They had two children, Clyde and Gloria.

Charlie lived on the land until his death in 2003. After their parents' passing, Clyde and Gloria inherited the land. Clyde received 60.4 acres, and the rest went to Gloria. Clyde and his wife, Lois, continue to raise cattle and live on the land.

As told by Clyde Charles Engelbrecht, grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

164 acres

PRODUCTION

1912 Cattle, Corn and Cotton
2017 Cattle



KRIEG RANCH

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

5 miles east of Coupland off CR 464

FOUNDED: 1900

FOUNDER: William Henze Sr.

CURRENT OWNERS: Glenn Ray and Cynthia Sue Krieg

William Henze Sr. was born in Bergwitz, Germany, in 1855. His sisters had already settled in America, so William, along with his wife, Auguste and their children immigrated to America. William purchased several farms after arriving in Texas, amassing more than 1,000 acres. In 1900, he purchased the 110 acres now known as the Krieg Ranch.

William and Auguste lived on the farm until 1920, when they decided to let their son, Herman and his wife, Elfrieda, live there. Shortly after, Auguste passed away.

In 1931, he deeded the 110 acres to William Jr., Fritz, Herman, and Otto's children: Robert, Ozell and Carl. In 1936, Herman sold his interest in the land back to his family. In 1941, William Sr. passed away, leaving his one-fourth interest in the land to Herman. Shortly after, in 1949, William Jr. died of a heart attack. Between July and November 1949, Fritz and his wife, Lena, would purchase 100 percent interest in the family's 110 acres. They had three

children: Lydia, Walter and Frances.

In 1970, Fritz passed away, and his estate was left to Lena. In 1973, Lena gave each of her children a farm, with the 110 acres going to her daughter, Lydia. She rented the farm to her nephew, Glenn, who was already living on the land with his wife, Cindy, and their children, Kevin and Lisa. Eventually, in 1976, Lydia sold the land to Glenn and Cindy. They would build their home and raise their family on this land.

Pictured (standing) are Otto, Fritz, William Jr., (sitting) William Sr., Herman and Auguste.

As told by Glenn Krieg, great-grandson of the founder.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

110 acres

PRODUCTION

1900 Cattle, Corn, Cotton, Hay and Milo

2017 Cattle and Hay



CLARA SMITH FARM

WILSON COUNTY

3 miles east of Stockdale on FM 1107

FOUNDED: 1917

FOUNDERS: Clara Reed Smith and Louise Drucilla Smith

CURRENT OWNERS: Larry and Judy Akin Childress

Andrew Wesley Smith and Clara Reed Smith were married and blessed with eight children. In 1917, Wesley passed away due to a complication during surgery. At the time of his death, their children ranged in age from three weeks to 13 years old. Wesley had been a farmer and provided for his family through crops and farm production.

Wesley's mother, Louise Drucilla Smith, decided she needed to help Clara and her eight grandchildren after her son's death. Together, Louise and Clara purchase land in 1917. Clara and the children moved to the farm, and the farm has

remained in the Smith Family ever since. Clara's granddaughter, Judy, and her husband, Larry, currently own the farm. Cattle production is the mainstay on the farm today.

As told by Judy Akin Childress, granddaughter and great-granddaughter of the founders.



ORIGINAL ACREAGE

147 acres

PRODUCTION

1917 Cotton, Peanuts and Wood

2017 Cattle



Sponsors



Austin County Historical Commission



Texas Cotton Producers, Inc.





CONGRATULATIONS!

EVERY TEXAN LIVING TODAY OWES A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO THE GENERATIONS OF TEXAS FARMERS AND RANCHERS WHO HAVE KEPT OUR AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE ALIVE. TODAY, WE HONOR THESE HARD WORKING MEN AND WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES. THESE ARE THE TRUE HEROES OF TEXAS AGRICULTURE. THEY RAISED THE LIVESTOCK, PLOWED THE LAND AND HARVESTED THE CROPS THAT MAKE THE LONE STAR STATE WHAT IT IS TODAY. IT IS BECAUSE OF THEM THAT TEXAS IS THE LAST BEST PLACE. MAY GOD BLESS THEM AND THE WONDERFUL LEGACY THEY LEAVE BEHIND.

COMMISSIONER SID MILLER



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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