

# Texas Family Land Heritage



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Smith, Royal D  
Feb. 25, 1958

Application No. 72-14-124740  
Case No. 2

**FARM AND HOME MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
Part VI - HOME SECTION  
OUR PLAN FOR FOOD (Table D)

Item	Quantity	Unit	Value	Quantity	Unit	Value
Whole milk	365	gal	36.50	40	lb	9.00
Cheddar	145	lb	36.50	32	lb	4.50
Butter	80	lb	6.00	2-200#	beef	
Tortas	80	lb	35.00	1-300#	beef	
Table fat and oil	160	lb	15.00			
Lard, fat pork, lardon	150	lb	30.00			
Tortas	100	200 lb	26.50			
Leaf and veal	410	lb	3.00			
Mutton and lamb	183	dx	15.00			
Fish and game						
Poultry						
Tortas						
Eggs	90	75 lb	3.50	15		3.00
Dried beans, peas, and nuts	150	350	7.00	5	ba	8.00
Tomatoes	500	500	10.00			
Citrus	500	500	10.60	60	lb	3.00
Leafy, green, and yellow veg	500	500	12.40	6	ba	7.90
Other	16	1.4	2.80	40		

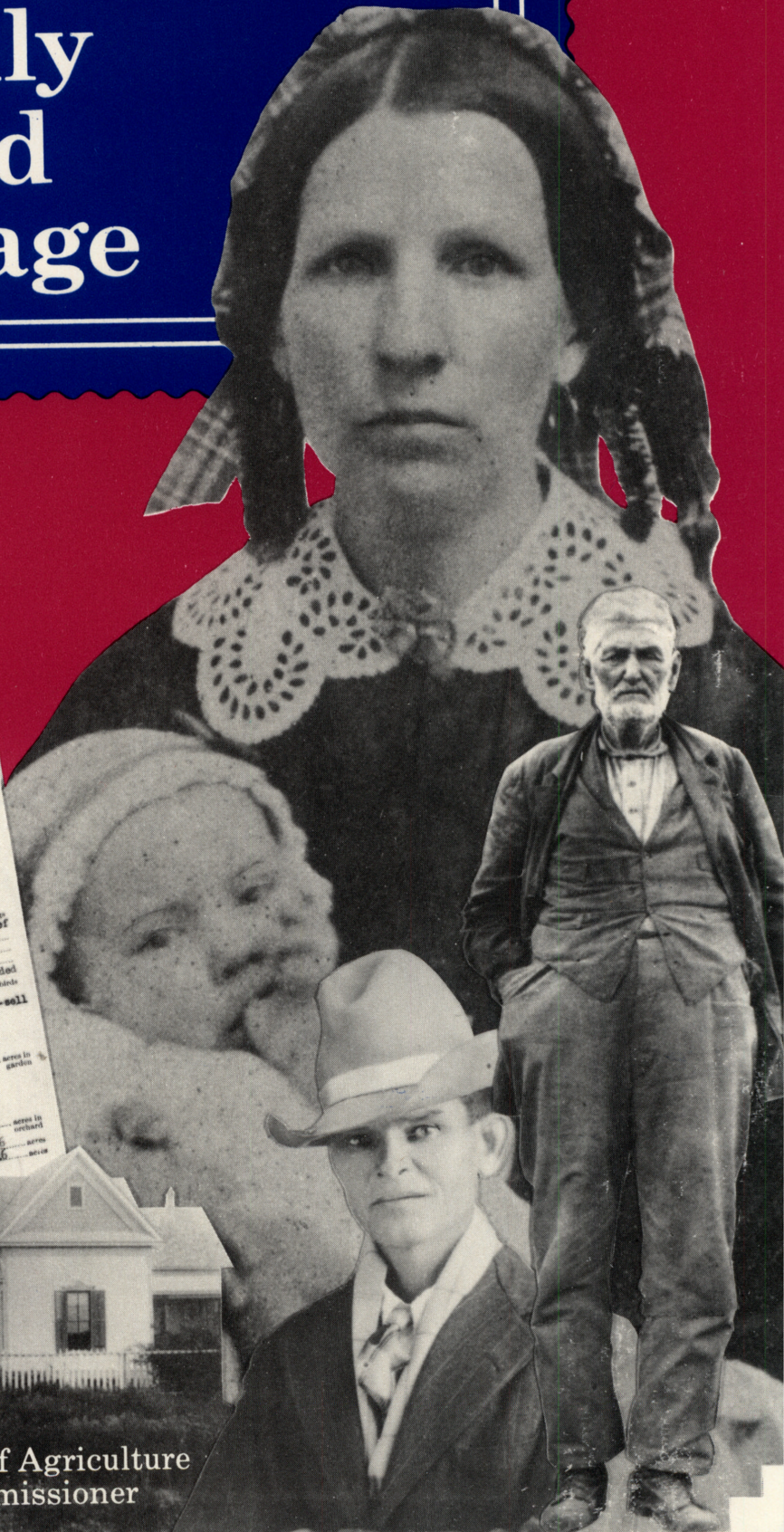
70 brooded  
172  
904 ds-sell

1 acre in garden

1/2 acre in orchard  
1/16 acre  
1/16 acre



Texas Department of Agriculture  
Rick Perry, Commissioner









**Texas  
Family Land Heritage  
Program**

**1986-1990**

**Texas Department of Agriculture  
Rick Perry, Commissioner**







# Table of Contents

1986 .....	5
1987 .....	69
1988 .....	107
1989 .....	149
1990 .....	185
Photo pages .....	227
Index .....	232







*Texas*  
*Family Land Heritage*  
*1986*





# J. Rip Cook Homeplace Plantation

Anderson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-two miles northwest of Palestine on FM 321

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1933	James Ripley Cook	Grandfather
1933-1980	Annie Pearl (Cook) Colley	Mother
1980-1986	John Ripley Colley	

*James Ripley Cook came from Tennessee in search of fertile land to develop new cotton plantations. J. Rip's second wife, Mary Pearl, bore him four children. In 1933, daughter Annie Pearl and her husband, Homer Leland Colley acquired 162 acres of J. Rip's ranch. Their only son, John Ripley, acquired the property in 1980. He stocked the ranch with the first Charolais brought to Anderson County.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 6,737 **Acres still retained:** 162

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, grain, horses, cattle, and hogs; 1986 - Cotton, corn, peanuts, and hay.

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# Rockbrook Farms

Anderson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles south of Athens on FM 837

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1899	James Monroe Stafford	Grandfather
1899-1968	John Horace Stafford	Father
1968-1986	James Horace and Mamie R. Stafford	

*James Monroe Stafford and his wife, Fannie Leonard (Kinabrew), started Rockbrook Farms in 1884 with the purchase of 250 acres. Before the turn of the century, the land was passed to Fannie and the couple's children when James was killed. In the 1930s, son John Horace reestablished the original ranch. With his wife, Alma Ellen, he raised two sons, James Horace and Charles Wayne. In 1968 after the death of his father, James acquired ownership of the original acreage that dated back to 1884.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 250 **Acres still retained:** 250

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, hogs, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle.

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# BWD Ranch

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-two miles west of Bellville on Bednar Wolf Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1892	Anna Bednar	Grandmother-in-law
1892-1909	Peter and Cyril Bednar	Father & uncle-in-law
1909-1950	Peter Bednar	Father-in-law
1950-1981	Frank Bednar	Husband
1981-1986	Angelina Bednar and children	

*Anna Bednar and her husband, Joseph, came to America from their Austrian homeland in 1873. Ten years later Anna bought 195 acres of land in Austin County, originally granted to Stephen F. Austin by the Mexican government. In 1892, Anna deeded part of the property to her two oldest sons, Peter and Cyril. In 1950, the soil had been depleted through continuous row crop farming. With technical assistance of the Austin County Soil and Water Conservation Service, the land was returned to pasture.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 195 **Acres still retained:** 195

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and hay; 1986 - Cattle and hay.



# Old Kiesewetter Place

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles east of Bellville on Kiesewetter Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1935	F. A. Kiesewetter	Grandfather
1935-1963	Edwin August Kiesewetter	Father
1963-1986	Ervin Lee Kiesewetter	

*In 1884, F. A. Kiesewetter came from Germany to start a new life in Texas, purchased 115 acres of land. He added 34 acres and grew corn, hay and raised cattle. In 1935, son Edwin and his wife, Clara, acquired the 149 acre property and operated a dairy. Their son Ervin acquired the ranch in 1963 and expanded it to 260 acres. Today, he lives on the ranch with his wife, Ann, his children, a daughter-in-law, and a granddaughter.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 149 **Acres still retained:** 149

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Corn, hay, and livestock; 1986 - Cattle and hogs.

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# Henry Wolf Farm

Bastrop Co.

**Location of Farm:** On Knobbs Road, three and one-half miles northeast of McDade

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1930	August Jr. and Marie Wolf	Grandparents
1930-1985	Henry Wolf	Father
1985-1986	Lawrence A. and Ernestine (Wolf) Schulz	

*August Wolf Jr. purchased 119-1/2 acres of farmland in 1886. Cotton was his chief crop, along with corn and grain. Eventually he added 102-1/2 acres. August had a blacksmith's skills and used his talent for making many of his own farm tools. In 1930, son Henry acquired 141 acres of his father's farm and grew cotton and peanuts for truck farming. He also planted a pecan grove. Daughter, Ernestine, became owner of 61 acres of the family's land in 1985 and lives on the land with her husband, Lawrence A. Schulz.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 222 **Acres still retained:** 61

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn and grain; 1986 - Coastal Bermuda grass and hay.

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# Voss Ranch

Bastrop Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile southeast of Cedar Creek Post Office on Farm Road 535

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1851-1885	Alexander (Sandy) Murchison	Great-grandfather
1885-1943	Alexander Daniel Murchison	Grandfather
1943-1965	Merle Virginia (Murchison) Voss	Mother
1965-1986	James Milton Voss	

*Alexander Murchison arrived in Texas in 1839. He purchased a 370-acre ranch in 1851 and raised hogs and cattle. Son Alexander Daniel acquired the ranch in 1885 and grew cotton and corn in addition to hogs and cattle. Granddaughter, Merle, acquired the spread in 1943. Her son, James, became the owner in 1965 and expanded the farm's crops to include Coastal Bermuda grass, oats, hay and pecans.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 370 **Acres still retained:** 370

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1851 - Hogs and cattle; 1986 - Grass, oats, hay, pecans, horses, chickens, and cattle.

# Bruemmer Ranch

Blanco Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles south of Blanco

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1909	Henry Bruemmer Jr.	Grandfather
1909-1975	Albert and Ella Bruemmer	Parents/grandparents
1975-1986	Udo and Vera Bruemmer Arlon W. and Carol Lynn Bruemmer Virginia Bruemmer (Hanz)	

*A native Texan, Henry Bruemmer Jr. purchased 265-1/2 acres of land in 1881. He eventually added 867 more acres and cleared the land to raise cattle, grain and cotton. Son Albert acquired 253 acres in 1909 and added 1,597.6 more. He operated the ranch with an eye for modern machinery, similar to his father. In 1975, Udo, the oldest of Henry's seven children, acquired the original 265-1/2 acres cultivated by Udo's grandfather. Today, Udo and his wife live on the ranch with their son and daughter.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,232.5 **Acres still retained:** 1,232.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Corn, cotton, and cattle; 1986 - Wheat, oats, sorghum, hay, and cattle.

# Jonas Ranch

Blanco Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles south of Blanco

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1872-1890	August Jonas, Sr.	Grandfather
1890-1943	August Jonas	Father
1943-1986	August Jonas, Jr.	

*August Jonas Sr., a native of Germany, purchased 65-1/2 acres from the state of Texas in 1872. He grew corn and wheat and raised livestock. He and his wife, Sophie, had six children. The eldest son, August, acquired his father's property in 1890 and expanded the ranch to include poultry. The youngest of August and wife Martha's seven children, August Jr. and his wife, Irene, live in the house August Sr. built in 1888.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 65.5 **Acres still retained:** 65.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Corn, wheat, horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and hogs; 1986 - Cattle, sheep, and poultry.

# Koch Farm

Blanco Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles south of Blanco on Highway 281

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1866-1895	Hermann and Louise Koch	Great grandparents
1895-1954	Edward and Emma Koch	Parents/grandparents
1954-1986	Debbie Koch Haas, Alton Elo and Kathleen B. Koch, Helmuth Max and Joyce Koch, June Koch Maner	

*Born in Germany, Hermann Koch came to America as a child with his family. In 1866, he acquired land to raise crops and livestock. Their son, Edward, and his wife, Emma, acquired the farm in 1895 and added 120 acres. Max, son of Edward, married Nelda Bartels and in 1954 acquired 313-1/2 acres. The family lives in the same rock house Hermann Koch built in 1867 and still uses a log smoke house. Part of the barn, which was built during the farm's first year, still stands.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 303.5 **Acres still retained:** 303.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1866- Cotton, corn, hay goats, sheep, and cattle; 1986 - Hay and cattle.

# Prochnow Farm

Blanco Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south of Blanco on County Road 102

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1917	Fritz Prochnow	Grandfather
1917-1966	Arthur and Nellie Jane Prochnow	Parents
1966-1986	John H., Jr. and Rosa Prochnow Winn	

*Fritz Prochnow came to Texas from Germany. In 1873, the state of Texas sold him 160 acres to which he later added 151-3/4 acres. Along with raising crops and livestock, Prochnow also operated a flour mill in Blanco. Arthur, one of four sons, acquired the farm in 1917. Daughter Rosa Nell inherited 156 acres in 1966 and added 48.67 acres. Today Rosa Nell and her husband, John Henry Winn Jr., live on the farm with their daughter, Jo Nell, and her husband, William J. Haas Jr.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 311.75 **Acres still retained:** 204.67

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cotton, corn, various grains, cane, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and chickens; 1986 - Oats, cattle, sheep, horses, and chickens.

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# Gardner Farm

Bosque Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles northwest of Kopperl on Hwy. 174

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1943	W.J. Gardner	Grandfather
1943-1962	Guy and Ada Katherine Gardner	Parents
1962-1986	William Cliff Gardner	

*The search for farmland brought W.J. Gardner to Texas from Tennessee. In 1886, he purchased land partly bordering on Raymond Creek. He and his wife, Mudge, were parents to seven children. In 1943, their son, Guy, acquired 81 acres of the farm. He raised cattle, cotton and corn and maintained an active community life. In 1962, William acquired the property which today produces oats, wheat and hay. He is active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other community organizations.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 175 **Acres still retained:** 81

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton and corn; 1986 - Cattle and Quarter horses.

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# Strain Farm

Bowie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles northwest of Dekalb

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1894	James Strain	Grandfather
1894-1968	Felix and Julia Mapp Strain	Parents
1968-1986	Ruby Strain Carson, Barbara Strain Greenwell Joseph L. Strain	

*James Strain brought 576 acres to operate a cotton farm. He and his wife, Nancy, had seven children. One of the sons, Felix, and his sister, Martha, received 144 acres from their father in 1894 and bought 224 acres more from family members. Clemon acquired 135 acres of the property in 1968 and continued to grow cotton. Today, the farm is owned by Clemon's wife, Ruby, and her two children, Barbara and Joseph. Joseph operates the farm and raises cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 125 **Acres still retained:** 107

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, hogs, cattle, and poultry; 1986 - Cattle.



# Los Caballos

Brooks Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles east of Falfurrias on Hwy. 285

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1910	Juan and Concepcion Garza	Great-grandparents
1910-1935	Juan Lino and Maria Ignacia Garza	Grandparents
1935-1983	Pedro and Maria Jesus Zamora	Parents
1983-1986	Paul Z. Garza, Rebecca G. Perez, Florence G. Powell, Alonzo G. Zamora, Pedro Garza Zamora	

*Juan Garza came to Texas as a child some time around 1860. At the age of nine, he was abducted by Indians and taken to Oklahoma until age 18. In 1885, he bought the property now known as Los Caballos. Today, great-grandson, Pedro Jr., lives on the land with his mother, his wife, Juanita, and his siblings.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 381.22 **Acres still retained:** 381.22

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, squash, sugarcane, and cattle; 1986 - Hay, grain, and cattle.

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# Cook's Lost Creek Farm

Brown Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles west of May on County Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-unknown	George Henry Cook	Grandfather
unknown-1948	William Henry Cook	Father
1948-1986	William Benjamin Cook	

*George Henry Cook, a sympathizer with the Confederacy, came to Texas, and in 1886 bought 160 acres of land. He grew cotton, corn and grain in addition to raising cattle and horses. When the oldest son acquired the farm, he expanded the livestock to include hogs, sheep and poultry. In 1948, George Henry Cook's grandson added vegetables, peanuts, corn, milo, hay, castor beans and melons.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and horses; 1986 - Cattle, hay, and grain.

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# John Bledsoe Dabney Ranch

Brown Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles northeast of Blanket on Hwy. 67

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1918	John Bledsoe Dabney I and Elizabeth C. Scoggins Dabney	Grandparents
1918-1966	Creath G. Dabney	Uncle
1966-1969	Roy and Davidee Dabney, M.G. and Maude Milner	Cousins
1969-1971	DAvidee Dabney, M.G. and Maude Milner	Cousins
1971-1972	Larry and Gwendolyn Jann Dabney Henry	Daughter, son-in-law
1972-1986	John Bledsoe Dabney II and Blanche Mildred Dabney	

*Born in Christian County, Kentucky, John Bledsoe Dabney settled with his family in Austin County in 1853. In 1880, he moved to Comanche County where he purchased land in 1884 and farmed grain crops, cotton and vegetables. Soil conservation was very important to his son, Creath, and he participated in grass preservation project and an agricultural soil conservation program to build earthen water tanks.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 15

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton, corn, wheat, cattle, and poultry; 1986 - Cattle and horses.

# Barrier Farm

Caldwell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles west of Lockhart on Hwy. 142

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1868-1983	E.V. and Otelia Barrier	Father
1983-1986	Nell Barrier Dickerson	

*In 1868, E.V. Barrier began raising cattle, corn and cotton on 149.6 acres. He and his wife, Otelia, had seven children. E.V. was elected county commissioner around the turn of the century. E.V. and Otelia's only surviving child, Nell, inherited the farm in 1983. She, husband William Lee, and their son-in-law and daughter, live on the farm half the year.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 149.6 **Acres still retained:** 149.6  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1986 - Unknown.

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# Westbrook Farm

Cass Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eleven miles northwest of Linden on FM 1399

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1856-1871	Thomas S. Westbrook	Great-grandfather
1871-1908	John Henry Westbrook	Father-in law/grandfather
1908-1972	Edgar H. Westbrook	Husband/father
1972-1986	Minnie Ola (Fitts) Westbrook and children	

*In 1852, Thomas S. Westbrook came from Georgia to Texas, where he planned to acquire land and pursue better opportunities. Four years later he bought 848 acres on Flat Creek, about 26 miles from Jefferson. In 1871, Thomas deeded his property to his children. John Henry Westbrook and his brothers and sisters were cotton farmers. In 1972, at the age of 79, Edgar died and his wife, Minnie Ola, and children inherited the property, where they live today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 848 **Acres still retained:** 614  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Cotton, corn, hogs, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, hay, and timber.

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# Finch Ranch

Chambers Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles south of Stowell on Hwy. 124

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1905	James Taylor White II	Great-great-grandfather
1905-1927	James Taylor White III	Great-grandfather
1927-1955	James Taylor IV	Grandfather
1955-1970	Marjorie Frances and George Way Sr.	Parents
1970-1986	Gary Laird and Myrna Way Finch	

*James Taylor White came to Texas from Louisiana to expand his cattle business. During the War for Independence, he supplied beef to the Texas Army. Between 1873 and 1881, he acquired the property now known as Finch Ranch. James Taylor White II ran the first barbed wire in Southeast Texas and attempted to establish the English Devon breed on his ranch, but they didn't survive. Rice farming was started on the ranch in 1945 by George Way Sr.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 90,000 **Acres still retained:** 3,000  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle.

# Dickey Farm

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of Alto on FM 241 and FM 851

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1867-1890	William and Carmelleete Martin	Great-grandparents
1890-1933	Helena and Robert Calvin Dickey	Grandparents
1933-1974	William and Evie A. Hugh	Parents
1974-1986	Hudie Harland Dickey, Miller B. Dickey	

*William Martin came to Alto, Texas in 1846. He served in the Confederate Army and took a leading role in the community's social and business activities. In 1890 and 1901, a tomato packing shed was operated on the farm by daughter, Helena, and her husband. In 1933, a grocery was added to the tomato packing shed along with growing cotton, corn, sorghum, hegari, tomatoes and watermelons. Today, the land is planted with hay, pecan trees and pine trees.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 250 **Acres still retained:** 250

**Crops or livestock raised:** - 1881 Cotton, corn, and tomatoes; 1986 - Coastal Bermuda hay.

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# Dr. W.R. Tennison Estate

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** In New Summerfield, six-tenths mile north of Highway 110

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1855-1903	Mathew Tennison	Great-grand-uncle
1903-1936	W. R. Tennison	Grand-uncle
1936-1945	John William Gill	Father
1945-1986	Reba Mertis (Sessions)	

*In 1855, Mathew Tennison bought approximately 373 acres and built a house, as well as barns, corrals, wells and ponds. After Mathew's death, 106-1/2 acres were added to the land and the house enlarged. W. R. also owned and operated a store. Later, Reba added 134-1/10 more acres. Black Brangus bulls are used and land has been cleared to accommodate large herds. The soil has been limed and fertilized, and the use of insecticides has been checked and certified by the state.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 373 **Acres still retained:** 373

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1853 - Cotton, corn, grains, and garden crops; 1986 - Cattle.

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# Glass Bottom Ranch

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles northwest of Rusk, one mile east of FM 2138

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1853-1881	David and Mary Felps	Great-grandparents
1881-1906	Rita and Sam T. Benge	Great aunt, uncle
1906-1914	John Glass	Father
1914-1986	Paul Glass	

*David Felps purchased 320 acres in 1853. With assistance of a slave and his eldest son, he built a double-log, two story house on the farm and started a cotton and corn commercial enterprise. Family members occupied the house until the early 1930s, when the building was dismantled. The turn of the century brought several changes to the farm. Rail fences finally gave way to steel wire fences and the first barbed wire fence was stretched across the property's north boundary line. Elberta peaches were also introduced to the region.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 50.75

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1853 - Cotton and corn; 1986 - Hay.



## Troit Dotson Place

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of Alto on FM 241 and FM 851

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1932	D.T. "Troit" and Eliza Dotson	Great-grandparents
1932-1941	Annie Dotson Boss	Aunt
1941-1986	W.B. "Belton" and Marjory Farley	

*D.T. "Troit" Dotson came to Texas during the final stages of Cherokee County's recovery from the Civil War. On 115 acres, he raised livestock and vegetables and operated a cotton gin and gristmill for local farmers. He and his wife had five children, and when the parents became old and feeble, daughter Annie and her family moved into the home to care for them. The farm was deeded to each of the children. Over the years, Marjory Dotson (Farley) and her husband acquired 78 acres of the original homestead from other kin.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 115 **Acres still retained:** 78

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Pigs, cattle, chicken, corn cotton, and ribbon cane; 1986 - Beef and cattle.

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## Allen Ranch

Coke Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles east of Robert Lee on Hwy. 158

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1921	Wiley Travis and Nannie Byrd Caraway	Great-grandparents
1821-1929	James Clayton Caraway	Uncle
1929-1957	Hawley Cecil and Amelia (Caraway) Allen	Parents
1957-1986	Gerald and Nancy Allen	

*Wiley Travis Caraway came to Texas in 1847. In the early 1880s he and his wife moved to Coke County and in 1885 purchased land for grazing cattle, as well as sheep and horses. Wiley established the first school in Coke County and its first pupils were the Caraway children. Daughter Amelia's husband, H.C., was the sheriff of Coke County and for many years served as a director of the Federal Land Bank Association of San Angelo. The present owners are active in ranching and in church, civic and community affairs.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,120 **Acres still retained:** 1,120

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Sheep, horses, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, sheep, horses, and grain sorghum.

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## Little Pecan Ranch

Coleman Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile north of Burkett

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1906	Col. Thomas Allen Burns	Great-grandfather
1906-1940	William T. Burns	Grandfather
1940-1981	Charley Clayton Burns	Father
1981-1986	Wanda Jean (Burns) McAnally	

*Col. Thomas Allen Burns came to America from Ireland in search of a better life in the New World. He served as a member of the county board of education for 11 years and in 1917 was appointed enrolling officer of the U.S. Army. William T., who was a Texas Ranger and a school trustee, acquired the farm in 1906 and added 439 acres to raise cattle and grain. Charley Clayton added to the acreage and continued to produce grain and cattle. Under the operation of Wanda Jean and her husband, Byron J. McAnally, the business has prospered.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 492 **Acres still retained:** 492

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle, horses, cotton, wheat, and oats; 1986 - Cattle, and oats.

# Burle Tillerson Farm

Collin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles northeast of Celina, off Hwy. 289

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1855-1908	Richard Henry Tillerson	Grandfather
1908-1963	William Henry Tillerson	Father
1963-1986	Burle and Nora Tillerson	

*In 1855, Richard Henry Tillerson of Kentucky purchased a 242-acre tract of land to grow crops and raise livestock. William acquired 128 acres and continued to produce the same crops and livestock as his father. Burle and his wife, Nora, have terraced the land and built roads, ponds, barns and fences. Burle is a former member of the Farm Bureau.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 242 **Acres still retained:** 119

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1855 - Wheat, oats, corn, cotton, cattle, horses, and hogs; 1986 - Milo and wheat.

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# Collinsbrook Farms

Collin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles west of McKinney on Rock Hill Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1855-Unknown	John H. and Charlotte Collins	Great-grandparents
Unknown-1910	Charlotte Collins	Great-grandmother
1910-1927	Emily (Collins) and Glen J. Barlow	Grandparents
1927-1959	Henry and Mary Barlow	Parents
1959-1986	Mary Ann (Barlow) and Benjamin H. Vowan	

*In 1848, John and Charlotte Collins arrived in Texas from Missouri. In 1855, they received a land grant signed by the governor and raised corn, grain, sorghum, and later cotton. After the death of John, Charlotte, with the help of her five children, maintained the homestead. Eventually, the youngest daughter and her husband acquired the farm and added 279 acres to operate a cotton plantation. In 1927, Henry expanded the farm to a total of 1,052 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1855 - Corn, grain, sorghum, and cotton; 1986 - Milo, maize, Coastal Bermuda grass, native pasture grass, cross-bred cattle, and horses.

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# Heritage Farm

Collin Co.

**Location of Farm:** About six miles north of McKinney on FM 206 in the Chamberville Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1901	Charles Bingley Moore	Grandfather
1901-1916	Mary Ann Moore	Grandmother
1916-1919	Linnet (Moore) and Claude Duval White	Parents
1919-1930	Claude Duval White	Father
1930-1986	Ruth White Frazier	

*Desiring to acquire land and join relatives, Charles Moore left Tennessee in 1856 and came to Texas. A skilled millwright, Charles took jobs building mills and used the capital to improve his farm. After Charles' death, his wife, Mary Ann, continued to raise corn, wheat, and cattle. In 1919, Claude White improved the pastureland and raised purebred Poland China hogs and Jersey cattle. Under the present owners' supervision, the cropland has been terraced and the waterways sodded.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 360 **Acres still retained:** 209

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Wheat, corn, cattle, and horses. 1986 - Maize, corn, wheat, soybeans, and Hereford cattle.

# Braden Ranch

Colorado Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight and one-half miles northeast of Columbus

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1938	Joe Braden	Grandfather
1938-Unknown	Leo Braden	Father
Unknown-1986	Reuben Braden	

*Joe Braden left his native Germany to come to the United States in search of a better life. Beginning with a 173.5 acre parcel of land, he expanded the ranch to 1,045 acres by 1925. Braden leased some of his property for oil drilling. Leo Braden acquired 332 acres of his father's property and raised corn, cotton and potatoes. Today, the grandson and his wife operates the Braden Ranch, 83 acres of which date back to Joe Braden's purchase in 1879.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,045 **Acres still retained:** 190

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Corn, cotton, hay, cattle, and horses. 1986 - Hay and cattle.

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# Glen Vogelsang Ranch

Colorado Co.

**Location of Farm:** About eight miles northwest of Columbus and about two miles west of FM 109

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1865-1913	Dietrich and Wilhelmina Vogelsang	Great-grandparents
1913- 1929/1933	George and Theresa Vogelsang	Grandparents
1933-1973	Lee and Ida (Brokmeyer) Vogelsang	Parents
1973-1986	Glen G. and Mary B. Vogelsang	

*After leaving Germany, Dietrich Vogelsang settled in Texas and purchased 960 acres of land. He built a house, blacksmith shop and outbuildings; put into cultivation 78 acres; and fenced 30 acres of pastureland. In addition, they built and operated a gristmill and a sawmill, as well as a cotton gin and water well and pump. Son George eventually added 125 more acres of land and watermelons. Today, the hundred-year-old cotton gin house still stands on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 960 **Acres still retained:** 303

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cotton, corn, hay, hogs, cattle sheep, horses, and mules; 1986 - Coastal Bermuda grass and livestock.

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# Rocky Top Ranch

Comal Co.

**Location of Farm:** Approximately twelve miles north of New Braunfels on River Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1901	Heinrich and Dorothea Erxleben	Great-grandparents
1901-1917	Emma (Erxleben) and Gustav Kanz	Grandparents
1917-1948	Hilmar H. and Emma K. Kanz	Parents
1948-1986	Gladys (Kanz) and Roland W. Erben	

*Heinrich and Dorothea Erxleben came to Texas in search of a better life. Proud farmers, they grew corn and cotton — enough to feed the family and to sell for survival. In 1901, the ranch added goats, sheep and cattle. Like his parents and grandparents, Hilmar was a proud landowner and continually improved the property. He added 421.542 acres to the original farm. Today, Gladys and her husband have improved the land by terracing and irrigation. Roland was named Comal County Rancher of the Year in 1987.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 177 **Acres still retained:** 177

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Corn and cotton; 1986 - Cattle and Coastal, Kline, Medio, and Kleberg grasses.

# Soefje Farm

Comal Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of New Braunfels on IH 35 East

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1896	Heinrich Soefje	Grandfather
1896-1952	Albert Soefje Sr.	Father
1952-1986	James U. Soefje	

*Heinrich Soefje came from Germany to Texas in search of a prosperous new life. Heinrich did blacksmith and horseshoe work. He also owned a molasses cooking press and established the first cotton gin in the Hortontown community. Albert Sr. adopted new developments in farming, such as crop rotation, fertilization, ground silos and terracing. He also improved his cattle by buying a registered Holstein cow and bull from Wisconsin. Today, James lives on the property his grandfather founded and operates the farm himself.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 190 **Acres still retained:** 62

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, oats, sorghum, wheat, and livestock; 1986 - Corn, wheat, milo, Sudan grass, and cattle.

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# Barbee Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles south of Dublin on FM 1702

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1959	John Franklin Barbee	Grandfather
1959-1977	Emma (Erleben) and Gustav Kanz	Father
1977-1986	H. J. Barbee	

*John Franklin Barbee was a native Texan descended from a pioneering homesteader of the 1850s. He was a co-owner of the steam-driven co-op cotton gin established by his grandfather in the Edna Hill community. To prevent soil erosion, Walter terraced the land and built two tanks for water conservation. He also saw the inauguration of the first rural mail route travelled by horse and buggy. H. J. has dug a new water well, built fences, restored the farmhouse and preserved out-buildings.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 220 **Acres still retained:** 46

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Oats, corn, hay, and cotton; 1986 - Livestock.

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# Edwards Ranch

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles south of Comanche on FM 573

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1936	Tom M. Edwards	Grandfather
1936-Unknown	Zett Tom Edwards	Father
Unknown-1986	James L. Edwards	

*A native Texan, Tom Edwards cleared his land in 1886 for cultivation and using only hand tools and mules, dug the first stock pond. He also built a one-room house and a lean-to kitchen and dug by hand a water well. A community called "Harmony" was eventually developed on his property. Zett continued to operate the place much as his father had before him. One of his biggest contributions to the ranch's development was the initiation of water and soil conservation practices. Today, James and his wife, Hilda, a descendent of Pocahontas, operate the ranch which they increased to over 700 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 120 **Acres still retained:** 120

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, small grains, cattle, horses, and mules; 1986 - Cattle.



# Geye Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** East of Hwy. 36 at Lamkin

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1904	Nicholas Geye	Uncle
1904-1944	Abraham Geye	Father
1944-1986	Martin L. Geye	

*Originally from Switzerland, Nicholas Geye and his wife, A.E., brought land from G.W. Lamkin to raise crops, as well as workhorses and mixed breeds of cattle. His brother acquired the farm in 1904 and produced the same crops and livestock as his brother. Today Martin and his son, Coman, live on the land. An old log barn, still on the property, recalls the farm's early days.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 426.66 **Acres still retained:** 138

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, Coastal Bermuda grass, peanuts, and small grains.

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# Hall Ranch

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven and one-half miles east of Comanche

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1910	Drewry F. Hall	Great-grandfather
1910-1941	D. Nute Hall	Grandfather
1941-1981	Carl N. Hall	Father
1981-1986	Carl Dwain Hall	

*In 1878, Drewry F. Hall of Georgia purchased 160 acres of land in Texas. Over the years, he added 135 acres to grow crops and raise cattle and horses. D. Nute Hall added 110 acres and raised the same crops as his father in addition to pecans. Carl Dwain has improved the pastures and developed an irrigation system and conservation and brush control measures. He operates the farm and lives on the property with his wife, Betty Jean.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 295 **Acres still retained:** 207

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cotton, corn, melons, sorghum, cattle, and horses; 1986 - Horses, Coastal Bermuda hay, sorghum, and cattle.

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# J. Dean Pounds and Family Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles west of DeLeon on FM 587

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1912	Newman Jackson and Evy Huckabee Pounds	Grandparents
1912-1969	Newman William Pounds	Uncle
1912-1985	Merriman Jackson Pounds	Father
1969-1986	J. Dean Pounds	

*Newman Jackson Pounds came to Texas from Alabama in 1867 and settled in Comanche County in 1872 where he later purchased land to operate a cattle ranch. The land was later divided between his two sons. Newman William cleared the land for farming. He practiced conservation by terracing and planting cover crops. Merriman Jackson was one of the first in the community to use a tractor and a peanut combine. J. Dean has sown cover crops and continue to follow the family's conservation practices.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 526

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle; 1986 - Peanuts, milo, wheat, hay, and cattle.

# Mary Jo Pounds Boswell and Family Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight and one-half miles west of DeLeon on FM 587

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1912	Newman Jackson and Evy Huckabee Pounds	Grandparents
1912-1969	Newman William Pounds	Uncle
1912-1985	Merriman Jackson Pounds	Father
1985-1986	Mary Jo Pounds Boswell	

*Newman Jackson Pounds came to Texas from Alabama in 1867 and settled in Comanche County in 1872 where he later purchased land to operate a cattle ranch. The land was later divided between his two sons. Newman William cleared the land for farming. He practiced conservation by terracing and planting cover crops. Merriman Jackson was one of the first in the community to use a tractor and a peanut combine. Mary Jo has sown cover crops and continue to follow the family's conservation practices.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 526

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle; 1986 - Peanuts, milo, wheat, hay, and cattle.

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# Wendell J. Pounds and Family Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles west of DeLeon on FM 587

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1912	Newman Jackson and Evy Huckabee Pounds	Grandparents
1912-1969	Newman William Pounds	Uncle
1912-1985	Merriman Jackson Pounds	Father
1985-1986	Wendell J. Pounds	

*Newman Jackson Pounds came to Texas from Alabama in 1867 and settled in Comanche County in 1872 where he later purchased land to operate a cattle ranch. The land was later divided between his two sons. Newman William cleared the land for farming. He practiced conservation by terracing and planting cover crops. Merriman Jackson was one of the first in the community to use a tractor and a peanut combine. Wendell has sown cover crops and continue to follow the family's conservation practices.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 526

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle; 1986 - Peanuts, milo, wheat, hay, and cattle.

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# Corbett Ranch

Cooke Co.

**Location of Farm:** 20 miles northeast of Gainesville on FM 678

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1911	George Summy	Great-great-grandfather
1911-1948	W.T. Nelson	Great-grandfather
1948-1948	Leslie C. Nelson	Grandfather
1948-1975	Linden and Ina Corbett	Cousin
1975-1986	Larry Corbett	

*George Summy bought 460 acres near Dexter in 1873, and grew cotton and corn and raised livestock. In 1911, grandson, W.T. Nelson, acquired about 208 acres from George. In 1948, W.T. and Lalla's son, Leslie C., acquired the land, selling about 208 acres to cousins Linden and Ina Corbett. Linden worked with the local ASCS office planting Coastal and Bermuda grasses and terracing the farm to prevent erosion. In 1954, the Corbett family was selected farm family of the month. Son Larry and wife, Sandra, operate the farm today, producing cattle and hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 360 **Acres still retained:** 755

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cotton, corn, livestock, and hay; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

# Jack Berry Farm

Cooke Co.

**Location of Farm:** 23 miles west of Gainesville on FM 922

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1868-1911	William Thomas Berry, Jr.	Grandfather
1911-1959	Hollis Milton Berry, Sr.	Father
1959-1986	Jack Berry	

*William Thomas Berry, Jr., and wife Eliza Cleo, added 1,258 acres to their original 160 acre parcel in 1868, where they grazed cattle and grew cotton, corn and wheat. Hollis Milton, one of William and Eliza's seven children, acquired the land in 1911, added 910 acres more, and continued to farm the same crops. In 1915, Hollis was killed in an automobile accident and wife, Zuma, raised the six children. Son Jack acquired 135 acres of the original tract in 1959, where today Jack, wife Odessa and son James Olen operate the 513-acre farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,418 **Acres still retained:** 513

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1868 - Cotton, cattle, corn, and wheat; 1986 - Coastal and King Ranch Bluestem grasses.

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# Nabors Farm

Delta Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 10 miles east of Cooper on Lake Creek.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1914	Hudson A. and Elizabeth S. (Phillips) Nabors	Great-grandfather
1914-1934	James M. Nabors	Grandfather
1934-unknown	Herbert Lee Nabors	Father
unknown-1948	James M. Nabors	Grandfather
1948-1969	Herbert Lee and Golden Ann Nabors	Father, mother
1969-1986	Golden Ann Nabors and Shirley A. Smith, Grover L. Nabors and Carolyn K. Malone	

*Hudson and wife Elizabeth bought 100 acres in 1873 and ran Charleston, a store named after his South Carolina home. One of their 11 children, James Madison, acquired the farm in 1914 and grew corn, cotton and raised cattle. One of James' and wife, Linnie Mae's (Duncan) 10 children, Herbert Lee, acquired the farm in 1934. Herbert Lee and wife, Golden Ann, re-acquired the farm in 1948, expanding it by 105 acres. Golden Ann and children acquired the farm in 1969, which still produces cattle and hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 274

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cotton and livestock; 1986 - Beef cattle and hay.

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# Dock Neal Place

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles east of Cuero and 10 miles south of Yoakum

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1912	Andrew Jackson and Mary (Alexander) Neal	Grandparents
1912-1971	Harrison August Neal	Parents
1971-1986	Edward M. Neal	

*Andrew Jackson "Dock" Neal came from Louisiana with his family in 1855. He purchased a total of 812 acres over a 14-year period. He donated land to build the first public school in the area and rode as a trail boss on several cattle drives to Kansas. In 1912 Harry, a son from his second marriage to Mary (Alexander), took title to the ranch where he raised livestock and various crops. Harry also took part in the building of a public school in the area. Harry's son, Edward, acquired the property in 1971. He raises cattle today and lives on the family farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 812 **Acres still retained:** 156

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Livestock, cotton, and corn; 1986 - Cattle.

# Wuzagully Ranch

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six and one-half miles south of Yorktown on Hwy. 119

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1856-1866	Johann Wilhelm and Mary Alice Menn	Great-grandparents
1866-1884	Wilhelm Heinrich and Anna (Kohler) Menn	Grandparents
1884-1948	Fred and Theresa Menn	Parents
1948-1986	Herman and Ella Lee Kerlick	

*Johann Wilhelm Menn came to Texas from Prussia to join family members who were already here. In 1856, he purchased 465 acres and raised Hereford cattle with his wife, Mary Alice. In 1866 their son, Wilhelm, acquired 170 acres. Wilhelm served as a private under Josiah Taylor in the Texas Mounted Riflemen of DeWitt County. In 1884, his son, Fred, took title to 63 acres and built the first concrete dipping vat in the area. Fred's daughter, Ella, and her husband, Herman Kerlick, own the farm today and oversee its daily operation.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 465 **Acres still retained:** 63  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

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# Leonel Oliveira Ranch

Duval Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ramirez

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1855	Rafael and Zinfuriana Ramirez	Great-great-grandparents
1855-1875	Santos and Ursula (Ramirez) Garcia	Great-grandparents
1875-1915	José and Anselma (Salinas) Garcia	Grandparents
1915-1971	Juan and Maria (Garcia) Canay	Parents
1971-1986	Leonel and Isabel (Canay) Oliveira	

*In 1852, Rafael Ramirez obtained 22,584 acres through a Spanish land-grant. He cleared brush, dug water wells and developed a cattle and sheep ranch. In 1855, his daughter, Ursula, inherited 3,763 acres. She and her husband raised cattle and a variety of crops. In 1875, Ursula's son, José, took title to 913 acres where he built a brick factory and raised cattle. In 1915, Maria, José's daughter, took title to 93 acres. She raised livestock and grew various crops. In 1971, her daughter, Isabel, and her husband, Leonel Oliveira, took title.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 22,584 **Acres still retained:** 200  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cattle, sheep, and crops ; 1986 - Beefmaster cattle and watermelons.

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# San Pedro del Charco Redondo Ranch

Duval Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ramirez

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1855	Rafael and Zinfuriana Ramirez	Great-great-grandparents
1855-1875	Santos and Ursula (Ramirez) Garcia	Great-grandparents
1875-1915	José and Anselma (Salinas) Garcia	Grandparents
1915-1971	Juan and Maria (Garcia) Canay	Parents
1971-1986	Robert and America (Canay) Leo	

*In 1852, Rafael Ramirez obtained his 22,584 acres through a Spanish land-grant. He cleared brush, dug water wells and developed a cattle and sheep ranch. In 1855, his daughter, Ursula, inherited 3,763 acres where she and her husband raised cattle and a variety of crops. In 1875, Ursula's son, José, took title to 913 acres, where he built a brick factory and raised cattle. In 1915, Maria, José's daughter, took title to 93 acres. She raised livestock and grew various crops. In 1971, her daughter, America, and her husband, Robert Leo, took title.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 22,584 **Acres still retained:** 200  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cattle, sheep, and crops ; 1986 - Cattle, hay, corn, and watermelons.

# Sepulveda Ranch

Duval Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six miles west of San Diego on Hwy. 44

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1916	Ramon and Placida Sepulveda	Great-grandparents
1916-1943	Valentin G. and Simona (Vela) Sepulveda	Parents
1943-1986	Leopoldo V. Sepulveda	

*In 1877, Ramon Sepulveda, a native of Mier, Tampico, Mexico, obtained a land grant for 160 acres from the state of Texas where he and his wife grew cotton and raised cattle. In 1916, Ramon's grandson, Valentin, acquired title to the land where he raised dairy and beef cattle in addition to cotton and grain. Valentin served as Duval County sheriff until his death in 1943. His only child, Leopoldo V., acquired title to the land in 1943. He served for 16 years as a member of the ASCS County Committee and now raises beef cattle on the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cattle and cotton; 1986 - Cattle.

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# The JO-BAR Farm and Ranch

Eastland Co.

**Location of Ranch:** In the Okra community, one-half mile west of FM 1027

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1933	Fernando Cortes and Mary Emily (Edwards)	Great-grandparents
1933-1961	Robert William and Ina Maggie Cortes	Grandparents
1961-1970	Edgar and Bessie Marie McCollum	Parents
1970-1986	Joe Frank and Barbara Ann McCollum	

*Fernando Cortes and Mary Emily Edwards came to Eastland County in 1884 and purchased 160 acres of land. Fernando died soon after and left Mary with five small children. In 1933, Mary's son, Robert, acquired the farm. He served as constable of Okra and the sheriff of Eastland County. In 1961, Robert's daughter took title. She and her husband, Edgar, raised peanuts, wheat and cattle. In 1970, Joe Frank took title to the farm, which has expanded to 3,000 acres. Still active in the community, Joe Frank lives on the ranch with his wife and children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle, hay, and wheat.

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# Andrews Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles southwest of Ennis on FM 985

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1915	Timothy Pickering	Grandfather-in-law
1915-1961	Minnie Ola (Pickering) Andrews	Mother-in-law
1961-1986	Thomas Cass Andrews	Husband
1961-1986	Mary Noel Andrews	

*Timothy Pickering was sent away from Dayton, Alabama, after the death of a slave. He bought his land and gave part of it for the Byrd School. He and his wife, Cora Pattie, had three children. His daughter, Minnie, bought the land from Cora Pattie. Minnie's son, Thomas, and his wife, Mary Noel, kept the farm in production and practiced soil conservation, and Thomas' widow continues the family tradition.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Timber, cotton, and grain; 1986 - Timber, cotton, wheat, and milo.



# B.P. Stock Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirteen and one-half miles southwest of Waxahachie on FM 916

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1866-1880	J. M. Miller	Great-grandfather
1880-1953	Henrietta (Miller) Porter	Grandmother
1953-unknown	Henry and Lillie (Sisk) Porter	Parents
unknown-1986	W.G. Porter, Mrs. H. H. Porter	

*J.M. Miller, a Confederate soldier, came to Texas from Georgia during the Civil War. He and his wife, Geraldine, established the farm. In 1880, their daughter, Henrietta Porter, acquired 228 acres. She and her husband, Hugh, founded the bank at Maypearl. Her son, Henry, and his wife, Lillie, acquired the farm in 1953. Henry helped found the ASCS office of Ellis County and the Mountain Peak water system. Their son, W.G. Porter, his daughter, Karen (Porter) Parish, and her children now live on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 501 **Acres still retained:** unknown

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1844 - Cattle, sheep, hogs, grain, cotton; 1986 - Cattle, grain, and hay.

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# Grimes Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles north of Hwy. 287 on Longbranch Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1917	Nathan Plummer Grimes	Great-grandfather
1917-1941	Louisa Jane (Stacy) Grimes	Great-grandmother
1941-1947	Alma Grimes (Head)	Aunt
1947-1981	Norfleet (Grimes) and Fred Elliott	Parents
1981-1986	Alma (Elliott) Seale	

*Nathan Grimes came from Tennessee after the Civil War. He was the area's wheelwright and helped found the Sardis Methodist Church. When he died, his wife and two older daughters ran the farm. Alma paid taxes on the land by sewing and selling eggs, and she helped her sisters go to college. Her sister, Norfleet, married Fred Elliott, a cotton specialist with Texas A&M who was named "Man of the Year in Agriculture" in the 1960s. Norfleet's daughter, Alma Ann, and her husband, Frank Seale, live on the farm with their son, Samuel Stacy.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Cotton and horses; 1986 - Brangus cattle, hay, and wheat.

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# Hawkins Meadows

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** One-half mile south of Midlothian on FM 663

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1886	Marcellus T. Hawkins	Great-grandfather
1886-1938	Benjamin and Ruth Ann (Barker) Hawkins	Grandparents
1938-1954	Frankie May (Hawkins) and Walter Stephenson	Parents
1954-1986	Wilbur Lee and Joe Marie (Dickson) Stephenson	

*Marcellus T. Hawkins came to Texas from Indiana for free land. He and his wife Amanda Newton settled on a large spring on Waxahachie Creek now known as Hawkins Spring. He served as justice of the peace and postmaster. His son Benjamin terraced the land, introduced new grasses and built a feedlot barn. Benjamin's daughter, Frankie May, acquired the land. Her husband, Walter, was a road builder and county commissioner. Their son, Wilbur Lee, has planted improved grasses and made other improvements.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 155

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Corn, oats, wheat, cattle, and hogs; 1986 - Cattle, grain, and hay.

# Sims Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles southwest of Waxahachie

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1879	John Dabney Sims	Great-grandfather
1879-1909	Mary Ann (Sims) Sims	Grandmother
1909-1928	William P. Sims	Father
1928-1986	William P. Sims, Jr.	

*John Dabney Sims was from Virginia. He received a state land grant of land said to have been crossed by the Chisholm Trail. John co-founded the Bethel Methodist and Greathouse Churches. His daughter, Mary Ann, inherited the farm and married Pinkney Sims and had six children. Her son, William, a physician, was very active in the church and the community. His son, William Jr., initiated diversification, rotation and contour farming. A cousin, J.B. Sims, manages the operation.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 308.2

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cattle and corn; 1986 - Cattle, maize, wheat, corn, and oats.

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# Frey Crossing

Erath Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven-tenths of a mile from the Erath County Courthouse on the east side of the Bosque River

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1870-1885	Henry Counts	Great-grandfather
1885-1911	Ruth (Counts) Frey	Grandmother
1911-1937	Ruth Frey estate (run by John Frey)	Father
1937-1986	Joe B. Frey	

*Henry Counts came to Texas from Tennessee in 1857. His daughter, Ruth, married John Frey in 1869, and Henry bought land across the river from Frey's land in 1870. Henry gave the place to his daughters, and Ruth bought out her sister's share. Ruth helped establish the Presbyterian Church in Stephenville. When she died her son, John, who helped start Farmers National Bank, continued to run the farm. When he died, his sons settled the estate, and Joe was deeded 52.65 acres, on which he planted 100 pecan trees.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 110 **Acres still retained:** 52.65

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Corn, oats, feed, and pecans; 1986 - Simmental cattle, Sudan grass, and pecans.

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# L.H. Martin Farm

Erath Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Dublin on FM 219

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1933	L.H. Martin	Grandfather
1933-1952	Allie (Martin) Barton, Augustus Martin, Daniel B. Martin, Dryden Martin and Mattie (Martin) Grissom	Aunts, uncles
1952-1986	Daniel L. and Leona (Trice) Martin	Father

*L.H. Martin came from Fannin County, Texas, seeking a better life. He and his wife had six children, who all worked on a farm and went to school in Lingleville. The children acquired the farm in 1933. Daniel Boone Martin and his wife, Carrie, lived in the main house. When he died in 1952, his son, Daniel L., began buying the land from the other heirs. They practice contour farming and stock rotation and have also planted grasses and built stock tanks. The main room of their house was built in 1882 by the founder.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881- Hay, vegetables, cotton, corn, oats, cattle, mules, horses; 1986 - Hay and cattle.

## R.F. Caraway, Sr. Farm

Erath Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles south of Stephenville on Alexander Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1934	Robert Foster Caraway Sr.	Grandfather
1934-1969	Robert F. Caraway Jr.	Father
1969-1986	Martha W. (Caraway) and J.R. Gaskey	

*Robert Foster Caraway and his wife, Martha Ann, acquired their farm in 1886, raised their family of four children and helped the community with roads and schools. Robert Jr. acquired the farm, terracing the land and adding 103 acres. He was also active in the community. His daughter, Martha, her husband, J. R. Gaskey, and their son, Jerry, now operate the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 207 **Acres still retained:** 207

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, grain, cotton, cattle, horses; 1986 - Cattle.

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## David B. Fenske Farm

Falls Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eleven miles north of Marlin

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1924	Henry Fenske	Great-grandfather
1924-Unknown	Leopold Fenske	Grandfather
Unknown-1975	Otto Fenske	Father
1975-1986	David and Operea Fenske	

*Henry Fenske came to Texas from Germany to find a better life. Besides farming, he was a blacksmith. He also built the area's first Lutheran Church and made coffins. His wife, Otilie, was a midwife. Leopold, a son who acquired 76 acres, owned and ran a steam engine and thresher for the community's farmers.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 76

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Corn, cotton, oats, barley, cattle and sheep; 1986 - Corn, milo, wheat, oats, and cattle.

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## Vasser Farm

Falls Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles northeast of Chilton on FM 434

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1938	George R. Vasser	Great-uncle
1938-1959	Alpha and May Vasser	Uncle
1959-1986	Hollis Vasser	

*Mississippi native George Vasser cleared part of his land by hand. He and his sons sharpened sweeps and other plows for neighbors at a blacksmith shop in an elm grove near the farm's well. He and his son helped to build county roads, and he and his wife, Alice Lula, owned a mercantile store in Chilton. They reared three of his brother's children, Charlie Gibson, Salley and George, and their own son, Alpha. George's cattle brand, "GV," has been modified to "V" by the present owner.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 109.68 **Acres still retained:** 109.68

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, sorghum, millet, oats, peaches, hogs, horses, and cattle; 1986 - Oats, wheat, corn, milo, hay, and pecans.

# Old Whisenhunt Home Place

Fannin Co.

**Location of Farm:** In New Hope about 15 miles northeast of Bonham

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1861-1871	Noah Whisenhunt	Great-grandfather
1871-1924	William and Minerva Jane Batten Whisenhunt	Grandparents
1924-1937	Wise Allen Whisenhunt	Father
1937-1963	Ethel Whisenhunt and children	Mother
1963-1986	Jimmie, Forest and Floyd A. Whisenhunt, Willorene Whisenhunt Barton, Lela Whisenhunt Morris, Mary Whisenhunt Fogle and Johnnie L. Whisenhunt Dickey	

*Noah Whisenhunt left Georgia by wagon train in 1849 and spent 10 years in Arkansas before moving to Texas. He raised fruit, fine mules, and cattle. He and his wife, Eliza Ann (Ballard) had 11 children. Forest Whisenhunt's home includes a one-room log cabin the founder built more than 100 years ago.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 308.6 **Acres still retained:** 104.4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1861 - Fruit, mules, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, peanuts, corn, and hay.

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# Arrowhead Ranch

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five miles northeast of Flatonia

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1924	Albert Jochen	Grandfather
1924-1977	Henry Jochen	Father
1977-1986	Mabel Jochen Bruns	

*Albert Jochen bought land from Gottlieb Jochen. Albert and his wife, Elise, had 10 children: Olga, Elvina, Hattie, Erna, Minnie, Louis, Alfred, Herbert, Ervin, and Henry. Henry bought 90.5 acres of the ranch and raised feeder cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 31.25

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle and feed.

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# Eugene J. Krupala Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles northwest of St. John's on Fayette County Road 340

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1918	Joseph Krupala	Great-grandfather
1918-1949	John F. Krupala	Grandfather
1949-1974	Jerome L. Krupala	Father
1974-1986	Eugene Krupala	

*Freedom and fertile soil encouraged Joseph Krupala to immigrate to Texas from Bohemia with its massive crop failures and political and religious oppression. Though threatened by rustlers, horse thieves and hostile ranchers, Joseph, with the security of barbed wire, in time established a productive farm. He was active in developing his community and St. John's Catholic Church. A school built on his property was named Krupala School. He and his wife, Johanna (Schramek), had nine children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 82.1 **Acres still retained:** 70.23

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Corn, cotton, sugarcane, vegetables, tobacco, cattle, horses, and poultry; 1986 - Coastal Bermuda, Kleingrass 75, Gordo Bluestem, beef cattle, and catfish.

# Jochen Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles north of Schulenburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1870-1914	Gottlieb and Henriette Voight Jochen	Great-grandfather in-law
1914-1920	Gustav Jochen	Grandfather in-law
1920-1948	Emil and Marie (Roitsch) Jochen	In-laws
1948-1984	Gilbert Jochen	Husband
1984-1986	Thelma Jochen	

*Gottlieb and Henrietta Jochen, natives of Germany, had eight children. Gottlieb helped others like himself to immigrate. He was a blacksmith at his residence. A horse stable and a small chicken house built more than 100 years ago still stand. Patricia and James Mazoch, the owner's daughter and son-in-law, live on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 106

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Grain, cotton, hay, and horses; 1986 - Grain, hay, and cattle.

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# John T. Stryk Sr. Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles north of Praha on Farm Road 304

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1912	Josef and Terezia Stryk	Great-grandparents
1912-1964	John Charles and Anastasia Stryk	Grandparents
1964-1986	John T. and Rose Stella Stryk	Parents
1983-1986	Robert, Mary Ann and Janice Stryk	

*In 1881, Josef and Terezia Stryk of Czechoslovakia bought 154 acres. They had seven children. Their son, John Charles, and his wife, Anastasia, acquired 141.3 acres in 1912. In the 1930s, they bought the farm's first tractor and a gasoline engine for cutting wood.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 154 **Acres still retained:** 96.77

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton, corn, beef, and dairy cattle; 1986 - Dairy heifers, hay, and prairie hay.

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# Pavlicek Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles west of Schulenberg on U.S. Highway 90

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1919	John and Mary Urbis	Great-grandparents
1919-unknown	Agnes (Urbis) and Joseph Peters	Grandparents
Unknown-1973	Vlasta (Peters) and I.J. Pavlicek Sr.	Parents
1973-1986	Margaret and I.J. Pavlicek Jr. Earline (Pavlicek) and Richard O'Brien Joe Kurtz	

*Czechoslovakian native John Urbis bought 150 acres in 1879 where he built a house and operated a blacksmith shop. He helped establish, and was a shareholder in, the Engle cotton gin. John and his wife, Mary, had five children. A daughter, Agnes, acquired the property in 1919 and raised beef cattle, cotton, and corn. She and her husband, Joseph Peters, had one child, Vlasta.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 90

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cotton and corn; 1986 - Beef cattle and grain.

# Robert Bohot Farm & Ranch

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles northwest of LaGrange on Boone Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1903	Hermann and Johanna Herbrich Lehmann Sr.	Grandfather
1903-1951	Paul Bohot	Father
1951-1986	Robert Bohot	

*Hermann Lehmann Sr. came to Texas from Germany in search of a better life. In 1886, he purchased 191 acres from M. and Anna Peese, who had obtained the title from James Seaton Lester, a veteran of San Jacinto and a Texas statesman. Lehmann and his wife, Johanna, had eight children, Willie, Mary, Paulina, Paul, Hermann Jr., Eddie, August and Emma.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 191 **Acres still retained:** 191

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, feed grains, forage, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, feed, hay, and vegetables.

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# Sumbera Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles southwest of La Grange on Farm Road 3233

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1908	John and Marianna Sumbera	Grandparents
1908-1946	Anton and Angela Sumbera	Parents
1946-1986	Jerry Ivan and Antonia Sumbera	

*John and Marianna Sumbera came to Texas for socio-economic reasons. John Sumbera was a blacksmith, carpenter, and farmer. He helped his neighbors with their building projects and the forging of their farm tools. The Sumberas had seven children. One of their sons, Anton, inherited the land. Like his father, Anton was a blacksmith and a carpenter, in addition to being a farmer. He also was a musician and a mechanic.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 130.125 **Acres still retained:** 130

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cotton, corn, cattle, horses, hogs, mules, chickens, turkeys, and geese; 1986 - Cattle, chickens, and feed.

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# Wolle Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles northwest of Round Top on County Road 109

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1896	Charles August and Dorothea Wolle	Great-grandparents
1896-1942	Ernest and Marie Wolle	Grandparents
1942-1983	Oliver and Evelyn Wolle	Parents
1983-1986	Wayne Edward Wolle Marie Evelyn (Wolle) and Lloyd Nelius Jr.	

*Little is know about Charles August Wolle of Germany, who bought 120 acres in 1878. He and his wife, Dorothea, had two children, Linna and Ernest. His son, Ernest, inherited the land and managed the Farmers' Union in Carmine. The founder's grandson, Oliver Wolle, was the next generation to inherit the land, and he was exempted from World War II military service to run the farm and look after his mother, Mary.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 120 **Acres still retained:** 95.4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cotton, corn, milo, hay, cattle, hogs, chickens, and horses; 1986 - Coastal Bermuda grass.

# 5 M Farm

Freestone Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northwest of Fairfield on Interstate 45

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1871-1876	John Franklin and Malinda Seely Manahan	Great-great-grandparents
1876-1922	William Edward and Mary Manahan	Great-grandparents
1922-1971	Samuel and Terry Manahan	Grandfather and great-uncle
1942-1971	Harry Adolphys and Rosemary Manahan	Parents
1971-1983	Lynda Gail (Manahan) Holder	
1971-1986	Charles and Deb Manahan	

*John Franklin Manahan, a captain in the Confederate Army, came to Texas in 1868. He acquired 300 acres in 1871. The Manahans were known for some of the best peaches of the time. John and his wife, Malinda, had six children. One son, William Edward, inherited 141 acres and eventually owned 400 acres. The home of William Edward, known as "Mr. Ed," was a favorite gathering place for friends, neighbors, and traveling strangers, who were always welcome to water and graze their horses.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 300 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1871 - Cotton, corn, grain, hogs, cattle, vegetables, fruit, grapes, blackberries, and peaches; 1986 - Crossbred cattle, registered Quarter horses, and Coastal Bermuda hay.

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# George Martin Volk 20-Bar Ranch

Galveston Co.

**Location of ranch:** On the banks of Highland Bayou in Hitchcock

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1867-1890	George Martin and Christina Volk	Great-grandparents
1890-1926	George Martin Robert and Pauline Volk	Grandparents
1926-1958	George Lee and Jonnie Volk	Parents
1958-1986	Jonnie Shearin Volk (mother), Merle (Volk) Freyer Thelma Lee (Volk) Winters	

*George Martin Volk came to Texas from the kingdom of Wertenberg. His produce was taken by sailboat across Galveston Bay to market in Galveston. A skilled carpenter, George Volk, built a home on the bend of Highland Bayou and a cistern, the foundation of which is a prominent landmark on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 83

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1867 - Corn, sweet potatoes, melons, cattle, horses, mules, hogs, and chickens; 1986 - Vegetables, chickens, hay, cattle, and bees.

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# Elizabeth Sieckmann-Ellebracht Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles northwest of Fredericksburg on FM 638

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1906	Johann Martin Dittmar	Great-grandfather
1906-1948	Karl Ludwig Dittmar	Grandfather
1948-1969	Albert and Leila Dittmar Sieckmann	Parents
1969-1986	Elizabeth Ann Sieckmann Ellebracht	

*Johann M. Dittmar immigrated to Texas from Germany for political and religious freedom. He and his wife Elizabeth Eckert had 11 children and operated a sheep ranch. Karl L., the oldest son, and his brothers fenced the property and built stock pens and a goat shed. Three children were born to Karl and his wife, Anna Elizabeth. Daughter Leila and her husband, Albert Ludwig, built a four-acre conservation dam on the property. Elizabeth Ann and her husband, Sidney, operate the ranch today, all of which can be traced to the ranch's founder.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 10,829.15 **Acres still retained:** 829.15

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Sheep; 1986 - Cattle.



# Levy Kusenberger Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of ranch:** Ten miles east of Fredericksburg on U.S. Highway 290

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1890	Jacob and Auguste Kusenberger	Great-grandparents
1890-1925	Albert and Emma Kusenberger	Grandparents
1925-1950	Erwin and Selma Kusenberger	Parents
1950-1986	Levy and Dorothy Kusenberger	

*Jacob and Auguste Kusenberger left Nassau, Germany, and came to Texas in search of freedom and peace. An opponent of slavery, Jacob served as a Union officer during the Civil War. He employed a free black man at his ranch and built a cabin for his family near the Pedernales River. He also was a Gillespie county commissioner from 1882-1886. The Kusenbergers had seven children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** About 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 286

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle, sheep, goats, and small grains.

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# Rogers Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile southwest of Harper off U.S. Hwy. 290 West

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1917	John A. Rogers	Grandfather
1917-1961	John H. Rogers	Father
1961-1986	Charles and Beoma Rogers	

*John A. Rogers came to Texas from Rogersville, Tennessee and purchased 1,920 acres from the state and Wirt Rose. He later sold 1,418.67 acres. John and his wife, Mary D. were the parents of seven children. Oldest son John H. acquired the land and raised livestock. Charles Henry and his wife, Beoma, operate the land and raise sheep and cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 501.33 **Acres still retained:** 257.333

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cattle and horses. 1986 - Sheep and cattle.

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# Weinheimer Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles of Stonewall on FM 1623

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1896	John Weinheimer	Great-grandfather
1896-1918	Jacob Weinheimer	Grandfather
1918-1954	Herman Weinheimer	Father
1954-1959	Anna Weinheimer	Mother
1959-1986	Weinheimer Ranch, Inc.	

*John Weinheimer, a native of Germany, immigrated to Texas and in 1829 he purchased land. In addition to farming, he served as a commissioner for 10 years. Upon acquiring the property, Jacob established a general store and helped found the Stonewall Farm Mutual Insurance Co. Herman helped organize the Blanco County Hereford Breeder's Association. In 1959, Weinheimer Ranch was incorporated, and the land was deeded to the family corporation.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 487 **Acres still retained:** 487

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and sheep; 1986 - Registered cattle, sheep and goats, oats, wheat, and improved grasses.

# Danforth-Wheeler Ranch

Goliad Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles northeast of Goliad on Danforth Rd. and FM 622

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1924	Thomas W. and Sarah A. Danforth	Great-grandparents
1924-1950	Charles B. and Ellyn Danforth	Grandparents
1950-1974	Frank A. and Martha Danforth Wheeler	Parents
1974-1986	Frank A. Wheeler Jr.	

*Thomas Danforth came to Texas with his widowed mother in 1835 from Missouri. Charles B., one of Thomas' sixteen children, acquired the land and like his father, raised beef cattle. Martha and her husband, Frank Wheeler, acquired 571.84 acres of the original land and cleared 210 acres for cultivation. They grew grain and hay in addition to cattle. Frank Jr. and his father live on the ranch; they have continued and upgraded brush control measures, as well as erosion and forage programs.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,476 **Acres still retained:** 626.52

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle, grain, and hay.

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# Golden Oakes

Grayson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles north of Whitesboro on Hwy. 377

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1904	C.L. O'Bryan	Great-grandfather
1904-1949	John G. and Nettie O'Bryan Golden	Grandparents
1949-1986	C.R. and Alvin Golden, Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Golden, Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Golden	

*A native of Missouri, C. L. O'Bryan came to Texas and worked as a brand inspector for C Bar Branding. After his death, daughter Nettie and husband, John Gentry Golden, acquired the property. They sold 74.93 acres to the U.S. government that became part of Lake Texoma. The present owner improved the land with terraces and bought a wind charger to furnish electricity to the farmhouse. They also bought the first combine in the area and wired tractors with lights, allowing them to work at night during harvest season.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 118 **Acres still retained:** 118

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cattle, corn, and oats; 1986 - Hereford and Hereford-Brangus cross cattle.

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# Flying H Ranch

Grimes Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Spiro on Hwy. 30

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1860-1890	Alfred Ferdinand Rea	Great-grandfather
1890-1955	Mattie Florence Wilson	Great-aunt
1955-1985	Lillian Christine Brooks	Aunt
1985-1986	Sharon Sue Harrell	

*Alfred Rea of Columbus, Mississippi, was a county judge and school teacher. He and his wife had four children. Daughter Mattie acquired the land and added game chickens to the crops her father had grown. Lillian and her husband added 190.8 acres and raised Hereford cattle and cotton. The couple had no children. In 1985, a niece, Sharon Harrell, acquired the land, including 12.368 acres which can be traced back to the founder. Sharon's husband, Richard, operates the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 573 **Acres still retained:** 62.368

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1860 - Cattle, cotton, and vegetables; 1986 - Cattle, vegetables, and hay.

## Dowdy Farm

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles east of Seguin on FM 1150 and Dowdy School Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1844-1875	Col. French Smith	Great-grandfather
1875-1936	Mary Ann (Smith) and William Dowdy	Grandparents
1936-1964	John Erastus Dowdy and Mamie (Troutz) Dowdy	Parents
1964-1986	Virginia (Dowdy) Hale, Mary Louise (Dowdy) Corder	

*French Smith of Payisburg, Virginia, was a founder of the city of Seguin, donating land and surveying roads. He and his wife Elizabeth (Hector) had nine children and raised cattle on the original farm. His daughter, Mary Ann, with her husband William Dowdy, acquired additional land and added corn and horses. The Dowdy family deeded land for public schools in Seguin. Mary Ann and William's son, John, acquired the farm in 1936. His two daughters, Virginia Hale and Mary Louise Corder, now own the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** unknown **Acres still retained:** 414

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1844 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle, hay, and oats.

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## Gantz Farm

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Near the townsite of Marion

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1856-1902	Heinrich and Henrietta (Voight) Stolte	Great-grandparents
1902-1921	Wilhelmina (Stolte) and Jacob Wetz	Grandparents
1921-1939	Selma and Carl Ruedrich	Cousin
1939-1958	Albert and Amanda Ruedrich	Parents
1958-1986	Linda (Ruedrich) Gantz	

*The Stoltes purchased 680 acres from J.T. Butler in 1856. Henrietta left the land to her daughter, Wilhelmina, who deeded part of it to her daughter, Selma Ruedrich. Selma grew corn, cotton, hay and raised cattle, chickens and turkeys. The Ruedrichs donated land for roads, railroad, and the Green Valley Water Supply. Selma's son Albert and his wife, Amanda, deeded the land to their daughters, Viola Schaefer and Linda Gantz; the farm now comprises the Schaefer and Gantz Farms.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 680 **Acres still retained:** 102

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Corn, hay, cotton, cattle, horses; 1986 - Cattle, hay, and maize.

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## Hoermann's Lucky 4 Ranch

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles southwest of Seguin, four miles off FM 467

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-unknown	Johann Heinrich Hoermann	Grandfather
unknown	Helen, Albert, Paul, Otto and Eddie Hoermann.	Father, aunt, uncles
unknown-1986	Sidney and Wanda Kaye (Townsend) Hoermann	

*Johann Heinrich and Helena (Schwiebert) Hoermann came from Wittdorf, Germany in the late 1870s. In 1884, he became a U.S. citizen and changed his name to Henry. They bought 210 acres. They had eight children; when Helena died in 1893, Henry married her niece Anna Katherina Schwiebert and had eight more children. The 550 acre ranch was bought by grandson Sidney Hoermann, who is also a partner in Southwest Seed Co.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 210 **Acres still retained:** 210

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton, corn, cattle, hogs, and chickens; 1986 - Cattle, oats, and ryegrass.

# Manford Ranch

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles southwest of Luling on County Road 217B, off FM 1150

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1928	James Q. and Emma Manford	Grandparents
1928-1964	Jimmie and Margie (Rogers) Manford	Parents
1964-1986	Ed and Bettie C. (Manford) Kiolbassa, Knox E. and Jean S. Manford Margie (Rogers) Manford, Margie Lee (Manford) Schultz	

*James Q. Manford, a native Texan, and his wife, Emma, bought 345 acres in 1885. Their children, Ennis, Marshall, Ella and Jimmie inherited that land; Jimmie and his wife Margie bought his siblings' interests in 1932. Jimmie served on the school board and was a trustee for Bethany Baptist Church. Margie and their children, Margie Lee, Bettie Cecilia, Knox and James, continue to operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 345 **Acres still retained:** 345

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, cotton, and cattle; 1986 - Cotton, corn, hay, and livestock.

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# Schaefer Farm

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Near the town of Marion

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1856-1902	Heinrich and Henrietta (Voight) Stolte	Great-grandparents
1902-1921	Wilhelmina (Stolte) and Jacob Wetz	Grandparents
1921-1939	Selma and Carl Ruedrich	Cousin
1939-1958	Albert and Amanda Ruedrich	Parents
1958-1986	Linda and Louis Gantz, Viola and Marvin Schaefer	

*The Stoltes purchased 680 acres from J.T. Butler in 1856. They deeded land to the railroad and for the construction of Highway 78. Selma Ruedrich grew corn, cotton, hay and raised cattle, chickens and turkeys. The Ruedrichs donated land for a county road and for the Green Valley Water Supply. Her son Albert, and his wife, Amanda, deeded the land to their daughters, Viola Schaefer and Linda Gantz; the original farm comprises the Schaefer and Gantz Farms.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 680 **Acres still retained:** 102

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Corn, hay, cotton, cattle, and horses; 1986 - Corn, wheat, hay, and cattle.

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# Guest Farm

Hamilton Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Hamilton in the Olin Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1892	M.A. Fulbright	Grandparents
1892-1929	Cinnie (Fulbright) and William Mart Guest	Parents
1929-1986	Cecil Guest	

*M.A. Fulbright came from Fulbright, Oklahoma. He and his wife, Emily, acquired the farm, raised their family and helped establish the Olin school, cotton gin, freight line and post office. Each child received 200 acres as a wedding gift. Cinnie married William Guest in 1892 and upgraded the stock and equipment. Cecil acquired 200 acres in 1929 and improved farming methods. He and his wife, Dora (Berkley), had three children. His grandson, James E. Blackwell, runs the farm, living in the house built by William and Cinnie.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 350 **Acres still retained:** 200

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, grain, cattle, oxen, and horses; 1986 - Hay, cattle, and horses.

# Jack Hunter Farms

Hardeman Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles northwest of Quanah on FM 1166, one mile east and south of the North Groesbeck Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1910	David Crocket Hunter	Grandfather
1910-1942	Martha (Hunter) Murriel	Aunt
1942-1986	Jack Hunter	

*David Crocket Hunter came from Claiborne County, Tennessee, and acquired 1,280 acres from the state of Texas. He helped establish schools and churches in the North Groesbeck Creek community. He died in 1910 and left 57 acres to each of his children, who had the house piped for gas and built a water cistern. In 1942, Jack Hunter, a nephew of the owners, acquired the 171 acres. He installed the first irrigation well in North Groesbeck. He operates the farm with his son, Jack W., and grandson, Ty. Part of David Crocket Hunter's house still stands.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 171

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, maize, cotton, wheat, cattle, and hogs ; 1986 - Wheat, alfalfa, hay, and cattle.

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# Weiman Dairy Farm

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** North of Bear Creek Park, one mile from Houston city limits

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1939	Albert Weiman	Grandfather
1939-1986	Albert Weiman, Robert Weiman	Uncle and father-in-law
1986	Inez Weiman	

*Albert Weiman, a native of Harris County, acquired 200 acres, added 537 and sold 212. He and his wife Mary had eight children. Sons Albert and Robert acquired 240 acres in 1939 and raised dairy stock, hay, Coastal Bermuda and oats. Robert helped build his church and local school, and his son Vernon was local president of Harris County Farm Bureau and on the American Milk Producers board. His son, Boyce, now runs the farm and lives there with his mother Inez, his wife Mary and daughter Elaine.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 525 **Acres still retained:** 240

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton and corn; 1986 - Dairy stock, hay, and oats

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# Arnold Hills Ranch

Henderson Co.

**Location of Farm:** East of the Trinity River, about 25 miles northeast of Athens

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1887	James Marion and Elizabeth Jane Gardner	Great-grandparents
1887-1930	Mary Jane and Bently Dee Arnold	Grandparents
1930-1974	Bertram and Exie Dell Arnold	Parents
1974-1986	Billy and Dorotha G. Arnold	

*James Marion Gardner, a North Carolinian, came to Texas from Mississippi. His daughter, Mary Jane, and her husband, Bently Dee Arnold, built the Arnold school. In 1930, their son, Bertram, and his wife, Exie Dell, added additional acreage. Bertram ran a country store and was a Mason and a deacon in Providence Baptist Church. Their son, Billy, sold 135 acres to the Tarrant County Water and Improvement District, which became part of Cedar Creek Lake in 1964.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1854 - Cattle, hay, cotton, corn, and peas; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

# JB Ranch and Davis Farms

Henderson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles east of Athens in the Baxter community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1856-1893	Joel S. and Sarah Ann Jane (Matthews) Hughes	Great-great-grandparents
1893-1945	Margaret Jane (Hughes) and John L. Davis	Great-grandparents
1945-1972	Daisy (Davis) and Millard S. Avant	Grandparents
1972-1981	Iva Nell (Avant) and Harold C. Clark	Parents
1981-1986	James C. Jr. and Sarah Ann Jane (Clark) Brown, Harold Clyde Clark Jr.	

*Joel and Sarah Ann Jane Hughes came to Texas on a wagon train. After Joel died, Sarah married C.C. Troublefield. Her daughter, Margaret Jane, married John L. Davis, who helped feed other families during the Depression. John wrote for the Athens Review. Margaret's sister, Daisy, farmed the adjacent land and also wrote for the Athens Review. Her daughter, Iva Nell, and husband Harold Clyde Clark continued the farm. Sarah Ann Jane, named for the founder, and her brother, Harold C. Clark Jr., now own the two farms.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 47.7 (JB); 115.8 (Davis)

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Corn, hogs, cattle, sheep, and bees ; 1986 - Corn, melons, peanuts, peas, hay, and cattle.

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# Rocking Horseshoe Ranch

Hidalgo Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eighteen miles north of Edinburg on Hwy. 281

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1876	Manuel and Maria Luisa (Flores) Chapa	Great-grandparents
1876-1910	Felix and Agustina (Montalvo) Chapa	Grandparents
1910-1962	Maria Luisa (Chapa) and Santiago Garza	Parents
1962-1985	Gilberto A. and Delfina A. (Canales-Gonzales) Garza	

*Manuel Chapa and his wife, Maria Luisa, bought 4,428 acres of land in 1876, raising cattle, horses and goats and growing cotton, corn, beans and vegetables. Handed down through the generations, the original farm became two, San Manuel Farms and Rocking Horseshoe Ranch. Gilberto Alfonso Garza had a cattle feeding operation and developed a registered herd of American Red Brahman. He taught in the Edinburg schools. Since his death, his widow, Delfina, and son Ricardo Carlos operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 414

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Cattle, horses, goats, cotton, beans, and vegetables; 1986 - Registered Brahman cattle.

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# San Manuel Farms

Hidalgo Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eighteen miles north of Edinburg on Highway 281

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1876	Manuel and Maria Luisa (Flores) Chapa	Great-grandparents
1876-1910	Felix and Agustina (Montalvo) Chapa	Grandparents
1910-1941	Miguel and Adelina Chapa	Parents
1941-1983	Miguel and Joe Chapa (brothers)	
1983-1986	Joe Chapa	

*Manuel Chapa and his wife, Maria Luisa, came from San Miguel de Camargo, Mexico in 1876 and bought 4,428 acres in South Texas. His son, Felix, named the ranch "San Manuel" after his father. His son, Miguel, and Miguel's wife, Adelina, added acreage in 1910 and helped establish the area's first post office, telephone system, cotton gin and elementary school and built a country store. Their sons, Mike and Joe, formed a partnership in 1937. Since Mike's death in 1983, Joe runs the farm with his son, his son's wife and their children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 480

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Cattle, horses, goats, cotton, and vegetables; 1986 - Cattle, horses, cotton, and sorghum.

## Buie Farm

Hill Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile west of Mertens off Highway 22

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1885	Isaac Newton Buie	Great-grandfather
1885-1922	William C. and Mary (Goodman) Buie	Grandparents
1922-1964	John G. and Louise (Cooper) Buie	Parents
1964-1986	Donald F. Buie, Johnnie G. Buie, Harold H. Edwards, Carolyn Buie Hearne	

*Isaac Newton Buie and his wife, Margaret (Patterson), left Mississippi during the Civil War and bought 320 acres in Hill County. He shipped his cattle on the International/Great Northern Railroad, which had loading pens on his property. He helped found the Milford and Hillsboro Presbyterian Churches. Son William used steam power to drill a 900-foot well, one of the earliest deep-water wells in the area. His son, John, bought one of the first tractors and a three-disc plow. Donald and Helen (Giles) Buie now operate the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 880 **Acres still retained:** 518

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Grain, cattle, and horses; 1986 - Cattle, milo, what, oats, corn, and hay.

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## Cleveland Farm

Hood Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles east of Granbury on FM 4

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1922	L.C. and Mary Cleveland	Grandparents
1922-1950	Carlton and Katie Cleveland	Parents
1950-1986	John and Margaret Cleveland	

*L.C. and Mary Cleveland came from Alabama to Texas to buy land. Their son, Carlton, and his wife, Katie, acquired the property in 1922 and developed soil conservation methods. Their son, John, donated land for road improvements. He and his wife, Margaret, live on the farm with their son, David, his wife, Leneta, and their daughter and son-in-law, Deaun and Marshal Raines.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 173 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cotton, corn, fruits, vegetables, cattle, hogs, and horses; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

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## "Uncle Bob" Stewart Ranch

Hood Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles northeast of Acton, off County Rd. 305

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1863-1900	Isaac and Catherine (Cox) Stewart	Grandparents
1900-1954	Robert S. and Rachel C. (Green) Stewart	Parents
1954-1986	Mark and Lillie Stewart	

*Isaac and Catherine Stewart came from Knox County, Kentucky in 1863. They had seven children. Isaac was killed in 1865 when he and other settlers followed Indians to retrieve stolen horses. Robert Scott, known as "Uncle Bob," acquired the farm in 1900. He was a school trustee and contributed to the World War II effort. His son, Mark, terraced fields, built stock ponds, and planted a fruit and nut orchard. A black walnut tree on the property grew from a walnut that Isaac brought from Kentucky. Mark and his wife, Lillie, now run the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 280

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1863 - Cows, horses, mules, sheep, cotton, and corn; 1986 - Cattle, hay, and grain.



# JF Stock Farm

Hopkins Co.

**Location of Farm:** In the Weaver community, 13 1/2 miles east of Sulphur Springs

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1916	John and Sarah Margaret (Penn) Sparks	Great-grandparents
1916-1962	Mrs. Tom Bell	Grandmother
1962-1982	Joe Warren Bell	Father
1982-1986	Frank R. Bell	

*John Sparks fought in the Civil War and was the last custodian of the Battle Flag of Texas' Ross Brigade, which his descendants donated to Texas A&M University. He and his wife, Sarah, had eight children. Daughter Mrs. Tom Bell built a house and a barn in 1918 and raised cotton, oats, corn, milo and beef and dairy cattle. Her son, Joe, inherited the property in 1962, and gave 17.5 acres to the state for Interstate 30. Joe's son, Frank, acquired the property in 1982, and raises commercial F-1 Brahman Hereford cross beef cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 604 **Acres still retained:** 120

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle, horses, and sheep; 1986 - Brahman Hereford cross cattle.

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# Rancho de Paraíso Viejo

Hopkins Co.

**Location of Farm:** Sixteen miles west of Sulphur Springs on FM 275

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1858-1887	Michael C. Garrouette	Great-uncle
1887-1910	Texana and John Alexander	Aunt, uncle
1910-1955	Kyle S. and Ludie Alexander	Parents
1955-1986	James and Mamie (Alexander) Callan	

*Michael Garrouette acquired 320 acres in a grant from the state in 1858. He and his wife had three children. His daughter, Texana, and her husband, John Alexander, sold the farm to John's nephew, Kyle Alexander, in 1910. In 1926 the public school was built on the farm, and Kyle's wife, Ludie, was a teacher there. She also organized the community's first Home Demonstration Club at a time when home economics was not taught in the schools. Mamie and her husband, James Callan, received the farm from her parents in 1955.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 75

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1858 - Cotton, corn, and oats; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

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# Billy Patton Place

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles northeast of Ratcliff

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1912	Jacob Patton	Grandfather
1912-1963	William O. and Cora Patton	Parents
1963-1986	Mary (Patton) Craig, Phoebe (Patton) Julian, Vera (Patton) Pate	

*Jacob Patton, a native of Houston County, and his wife, Phoebe (McKinney), had two sons, William and Samuel. After Phoebe died, he married Nancy Turner and had four more children. William acquired the property in 1912 and donated an acre of land for the public school. Three of his daughters divided the land in 1963, and each now farms her own 56 acre tract.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 168.2 **Acres still retained:** 168

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Sugarcane, corn, cotton, peanuts, vegetables, and timber; 1986 - Hay, fruit, livestock, and timber.

## Breazeale (John Davis) Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirteen miles southwest of Crockett and three miles northwest of Porter Springs

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1902	William and Charity (Cox) Breazeale	Grandparents
1902-1958	Lawrence N. and Lucy Jane (Callier) Breazeale	Parents
1958-1986	William G. and Loraine (Briscoe) Breazeale	

*William Griffin Breazeale was a Civil War veteran and organized the Democrats in the area. Son Lawrence acquired the property in 1902 and produced cotton, corn, small grains, vegetables, honey, syrup, beef and pork. By 1958, when son William took over the farm, it had grown to 120.52 acres. He and his wife, Loraine, have a cow-calf operation and raise high-quality hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 40 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cotton, corn, feed, and honey; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

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## Stell Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eleven miles northwest of Crockett on FM 229

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1917	Johnson and Amanda Stell	Grandparents
1917-1957	Willie and Mary Elizabeth Stell	Parents
1957-1986	Harold Stell, John W. and Doris Stell Dona Hue (Stell) Walker	

*Johnson and Amanda Stell added 33-1/2 acres to their original 125 soon after buying the property. Their only son, Willie, built stables, sheds, family dwellings and drilled a deep water well. Harold Stell and Dona Hue Walker acquired 152 acres in 1957, and Dona Hue now co-owns the farm with Harold's son, John, and his wife, Doris. They have cleared the land of timber and added a registered bull to improve the herd.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 125 **Acres still retained:** 125

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Corn, watermelons, peas, cotton, sugarcane, potatoes, horses, cattle, and swine; 1986 - Grasses and cattle.

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## Troy L. Pennington Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southwest of Grapeland off FM 227 on Calhoun Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1898	Henry A. and Mary Ana (Beeson) Pennington	Great-grandparents
1898-1962	Daniel Boone Pennington	Grandparents
1962-1983	Wade L. and Edna (Cummings) Pennington	Parents
1983-1886	Troy and LaWanda (Thetford) Pennington	

*Henry Allen Pennington was the son of Texas settlers from Tennessee. Son Daniel Boone Pennington (a grandnephew of his namesake) built a house on the property that still stands. His son, Wade, served in World War II, then returned to help his father with the farm. He was an organizer of the Grapeland Peanut Growers Association. His son, Troy, is now a partner in the family business and is active in the Houston County Young Farmers, the Grapeland Peanut Growers Association and other farm organizations.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 558 **Acres still retained:** 114.89

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton; 1986 - Cattle, peanuts, watermelon, small grain, corn, and hay.

# William G. Steed Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles off Hwy. 7 on Hagerville Road and Cochino Bayou

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1860-1880	William and Emiline (Adair) Steed	Grandparents
1880-1938	William and Adelia (Burnett) Steed	Parents
1938-1986	Dovie (Steed) Adams, Blue Eyes (Steed) Smitherman, Joe Edd Smitherman, Mattie (Steed) Story, Annette Walker	

*William and Emiline Steed came from Brunswick County, Virginia, to farm new land. Their son, William, helped build a levee to control overflow from Cochino Bayou and helped build roads in the county. Five family members now co-own the property. Mattie Story and Blue Eyes Smitherman live on the property. Blue Eyes' son, Joe Edd, and Tom Steed's daughter, Dovie Adams, operate the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1860 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, fruit, vegetables, peanuts, horses, and cattle; 1986 - Hay, fruit, vegetables, cattle, and timber.

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# J.H. Murphy Estate

Hunt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three-fourths mile east of Wolfe City on FM 1563

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1856-1860	Green Murphy	Great-great-grandfather
1860-1904	Gabrel and Nancy (McElrath) Murphy	Great-grandparents
1904-1926	Leonidas and Pauline (Walker) Murphy	Grandparents
1926-1985	John H. and Mittie (Stidham) Murphy	Parents
1985-1986	Nancy Beth (Murphy) Mashburn	

*Green Murphy acquired 170 acres from the state of Texas. His son, Gabrel, raised cows, horses, cotton, grains and fowl. His son, Leonidas, acquired the farm in 1904. His granddaughter Nancy, the current owner, remembers helping her grandmother grind pork to make sausage, drying fruit and riding the cotton wagon to the gin. Her father, John, bought a tractor. After John died, Mittie hired a manager, Bethel Henslee, who still operates the land. Nancy's husband, Billy Mashburn, has been active in soil and water conservation.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 170 **Acres still retained:** 55.3

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Cotton, grain, cows, horses, pigs, and fowl; 1986 - Ranching and pecans.

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# Charlie W. Potts Farm

Jack Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fourteen miles southwest of Jacksboro on Hwy. 4

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1927	Charlie W. Potts	Grandfather
1927-1947	Mary Ola Potts and Alma (Potts) and E.P. Caldwell	Aunts, uncle
1947-1978	C.W. and Inez (Sparks) Potts	Parents
1978-1986	Thomas and Bertie (Green) Potts	

*Charlie Potts ran away from home at a young age and came to Texas. He and his wife, Ida (Armstrong), raised nine children and brought the farm into the 20th Century. Daughters Mary and Alma and Alma's husband, E.P. Caldwell, acquired the property in 1927, but neither had children so their brother C.W. Potts and his wife Inez acquired the land. His son, Thomas, now owns it and is a member of the Texas Farm Bureau. He lives on the farm with his wife, Bertie, and his son, Charles Edwin, great-grandson of the founder.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** unknown

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cattle and wheat; 1986 - Cattle and wheat.

# Martindale Ranch

Jasper Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southwest of Jasper on Camp Ground Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1894	Margaret Jane Martindale	Great-grandmother
1894-1937	Albert and Lucy Ann (Muse) Martindale	Grandparents
1937-1972	Henry E. and Vernie L. (Koonce) Martindale	Parents
1972-1986	Vernie L. Martindale and William D. Martindale (mother and son)	

*Margaret Jane Martindale left Arkansas when her husband died, and bought 453 acres on which she raised cattle with her seven children. Son Albert took over in 1894. He also worked on the building of the Camp Ground School. His son, Henry, and Henry's wife, Vernie, acquired the land in 1937; Henry also worked for the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service. Vernie and son William still operate the farm with William's wife, Nelda, and their sons.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 453 **Acres still retained:** 168

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle, timber, and truck crops; 1986 - Cattle and timber.

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# Springhill Farm

Jasper Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles southwest of Jasper on FM 252

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1903	Abel Adams, Jr.	Grandfather
1903-1952	F.P. and Myra C. Adams	Parents
1952-1986	Joseph Abel Adams	

*Abel Adams, Jr. and his wife, Susan (McFarland), came to Texas and bought 357 acres in 1878. They had seven children and raised cattle. Son F.P. acquired 150 acres in 1903 and grew timber. He and his wife, Myra (Trotti), had six children. Their son, J. Abel, and the other children acquired the land in 1952. In 1965, the land was partitioned and J. Abel Adams continues to raise cattle and row crops. He and his wife, Virginia, have two children, Ramona C. Davis and Jane P. Johnson.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 357 **Acres still retained:** 150

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cattle and row crops; 1986 - Polled Hereford cattle and row crops.

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# R. S. Sproul Ranch

Jeff Davis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Approximately 10 miles northwest of Fort Davis

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1936	Robert and Arabella (Hiler) Sproul	Grandparents, parents
1936-1950	McCann Sproul, Franklin Sproul, Alice Sproul, Ruth (Sproul) Miles, Mary Margaret Sproul, Roberta (Sproul) Williams	Aunts and uncles
1950-1978	Ruth (Sproul) Johnson, Robert L. Sproul, William O. Miles, Herbert E. Sproul, Elizabeth (Sproul) Ramsey,	Aunts and uncles
1978-1986	Franklin L. Sproul, Jr. Robert E. Miles, Alice (Sproul) Davisson Roberta (Sproul) Williams, Herbert E. Sproul, Kerith Johnson	

*The Sprouls settled the ranch in 1886, eventually acquiring a total of more than 12,000 acres. They sold supplies to the U.S. Government at Fort Davis, and Robert was Democratic Party Chairman of Precinct 1 in Jeff Davis County. The children acquired the property in 1936. Their daughter, Roberta, continues to live on the ranch. Her nephew, Herbert, his wife Inell, and their granddaughter, Kerith Johnson, run the ranch. The Harvard Radio Astronomy Station is also located on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Sheep and cattle; 1986 - Cattle.

# Leona Ranch

Jim Wells Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles southeast of Orange Grove on Cemetery Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1898	John and Sarah (Beynon) Wade	Grandparents
1898-1981	Gertrude (Wade) and Ernest Miller	Parents
1981-1986	Ernest E. Miller and Charm M. Miller	

*John Wade was among the first English immigrants to arrive in Corpus Christi. He established the town site of Wade City, later called Casa Blanca. Their daughter, Gertrude Miller, and her husband, Ernest, were very active in the American Hereford Association. Their son, Ernest E., his sister-in-law, Charm Miller, and Faun Miller acquired the land in 1981. Ernest's nephew, Richard Wade Miller, operates the land with his wife, Mary. A cypress cistern built around 1888 is still on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 20,000 **Acres still retained:** 200

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cattle, sheep, corn, grain, watermelons, and vegetables; 1986 - Cattle, corn, wheat, grains, and hay.

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# Nopalera Beefmasters Ranch

Jim Wells Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirteen miles southwest of Ben Bolt and one mile east of Ben Bolt on FM 2508

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1865-1891	Jose Maria and Josefa Garcia Valadez	Great-grandparents
1891-1935	Romana and Luciano Garcia	Grandparents
1935-1975	Victor, Zaragoza and Alfredo Garcia	Uncles, father
1975-1986	Nelda L. Garcia	

*Jose and Josefa (Garcia) Valadez acquired land which they named "La Laguna de las Calaveras," for human skeletal remains on the land. They had nine children. When Jose died, the children divided the land. Romana and her husband, Luciano Garcia, named their section La Nopalera for the cactus on the land. Three of their children acquired the land and improved the herd. Alfredo's daughter, Nelda, now operates the ranch, having added improvements and practicing soil and wildlife conservation.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** unknown

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1865 - Sheep, cattle, horses, and corn; 1986 - Beefmaster cattle, horses, and sorghum.

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# Bodden Ranch

Karnes Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Runge, just west of FM 627

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1948	Mary (Stanchos) Kerlick	Grandmother
1948-1968	Lula (Kerlick) Bodden	Mother
1968-1986	John G. Bodden Jr.	

*David Stanchos gave his daughter, Mary, 512 acres in 1885, and she and her husband, William Kerlick, built a house, barn, sheds and dug a well and stock tank. Their daughter, Lula Bodden, acquired 146 acres in 1948. She and her husband, John, built another house. Their son, John G. Jr., acquired 40 acres in 1968 and raises cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 512 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, sheep, and hogs; 1986 - Cattle.

# Ryan Ranch

Karnes Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Runge, just west of FM 627

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1948	Mary (Stanchos) Kerlick	Grandmother
1948-1968	Lula (Kerlick) Bodden	Mother
1968-1986	Etta Jane (Bodden) Ryan	

*David Stanchos gave his daughter, Mary, 512 acres in 1885, and she and her husband, William, built a house, barn, sheds and dug a well and stock tank. Their daughter, Lula Bodden, acquired 146 acres in 1948. She and her husband, John, built another house. Today, her daughter, Etta Jane, and Etta Jane's husband, Arthur Ryan, raise cattle and hay on their 106 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 512 **Acres still retained:** 106

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, sheep, and hogs; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

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# John Richard Tison Farm

Kaufman Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles south of Kemp on Hwy. 274 in the Tolosa community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1877	John Richard and Mary (Bradford) Tison	Grandparents
1877-1939	John and Nora Rose Tison	Parents
1939-1986	John Richard Tison	

*John Richard Tison was a native of Georgia and purchased 100 acres in 1876. His son, John Richard, acquired 100 acres in 1877 and sold land for the construction of a county road to Baker Cemetery still in use today. He and his wife, Nora Rose, were active in the Tolosa Methodist Church. Their son, John Richard, acquired the land in 1939, and his son, John Robert Tison, operates and lives on the farm. A log barn at least 100 years old still sits on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 30

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Cotton, corn, hay, cows, and horses; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

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# Wood Farm

Kaufman Co.

**Location of Farm:** In Cobb Switch, 10 miles east of Terrell on Hwy. 80

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1853-1894	R.D. Wood, A.J. Wood	Great-uncles
1894-1949	S.D. Wood	Grandfather
1949-1973	R.B. Wood	Father
1973-1986	Raymond G. and Sue Wood	

*The Wood brothers came to Texas from Norfolk, Virginia. Another brother, S.D., joined them, along with his eight children. They were all active in community affairs. R.B.'s son, Raymond, acquired 191 acres in a series of transactions, and he and his son, Danny, operate the farm. Danny has planted nearly a thousand peach trees in the farm's best sandy loam.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 191

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1853 - Cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, vegetables, and sugar cane; 1986 - Hay, grain, vegetables, and peaches.

# Colorado Ranch

La Salle Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles southeast of Artesia Wells

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1919	Raymond Martin	Grandfather
1919-1957	Joseph Claude Martin	Father
1957-1972	Minnie (Bruni) Martin	Mother
1972-1980	J.C. Martin, Jr. and Dora (Martin) (Bunn) Russell	Brother
1980-1986	Dora (Martin) (Bunn) Russell	

*Raymond Martin, a native of France, became a Laredo businessman. He was a leader in both the cattle and sheep industries and was important to the development of Laredo. Joseph Claude acquired 11,461 acres upon the death of his parents, making improvements to the ranch. He was also a community and political leader. When he died his widow, Minnie, took over the ranch, and when she died in 1972, their two children ran the ranch. In 1980, Dora became sole owner and runs the ranch with the assistance of her son-in-law, J.J. Haynes.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 130,000 **Acres still retained:** 11,461

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cattle and sheep; 1986 - Cattle.

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# Frank J. Pesek Farm

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles south of Praha on FM Rd. 1295

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1879	Philip and Johana Bucek	Great-great-grandparents
1879-1923	Frank and Marie (Bucek) Pesek	Great-grandparents
1923-1937	Adolf Pesek	Grandfather
1937-1943	Adolf Pesek Jr. and Frank Pesek	Father, uncle
1943-1984	Adolf Pesek Jr.	Father
1984-1986	Johnnie and Elaine (Pesek) Hoffman	

*Philip and Johana Bucek came from Silesia in 1877. Two years later their daughter, Marie, and her husband, Frank Pesek, inherited the farm. Frank taught and helped establish a school in the community. They had 13 children; their son, Adolf, acquired the farm in 1923. He and his wife, Marie (Bohuslav), were also active in the community. Adolf Jr. and his brother, Frank, acquired the farm in 1937, and Adolf bought out his brother in 1943. Daughter Elaine and her husband, Johnnie Hoffman, now operate the farm with Elaine's brother, Jimmie.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 181 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cattle, horses, mules, hogs, and corn; 1986 - Cattle, hay, and poultry.

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# Hackberry Hill Farm

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles north of Hallettsville on FM 532

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1941	Frederick and Otelia Schulz	Great-uncle
1941-1968	Charles L. Schulz	Cousin
1968-1986	Steve DeBord	

*Frederick and Otelia Schulz came from Germany and bought 112 acres in Lavaca County. They had two children, John, who died in childhood, and Charles, who acquired the farm in 1941 and sold one acre. He had no children and his cousin, Steve, acquired the property in 1968. A fireplace from the original homestead still stands.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 112 **Acres still retained:** 111

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton, corn, hay, fruit, vegetables, cattle, hogs, and chickens; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

# Lester Ziegler Ranch

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles south of Hallettsville on Old Ezzell Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1917	Adolph Berkovsky	Grandparents
1917-unknown	Robert and Maude (Berkovsky) Ziegler	Parents
unknown-1986	Lester Ziegler	

*Adolph Berkovsky, a native of Romania, in addition to ranching built the first telephone lines from Ezzell to Hallettsville. He and his wife, Frances, had nine children. Daughter Maude and her husband, Robert Ziegler, added 300 acres and grew corn, cotton, maize, chickens and cattle. Their son, Lester, now farms 700 acres with his wife, Justine. A shed and one-room house from the original homestead are still in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 400

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Corn, cotton, cattle, and horses; 1986 - Chickens, cattle, corn, and feed.

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# Sansom JH Limousin Ranch

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles east of Yoakum off FM Rd. 318

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1897	Vincent Hagan	Great-grandfather
1897-1942	Manuel and Elvira Hagan	Grandparents
1942-1983	Ruby (Hagan) and Jerome Harbich	Parents
1983-1986	Ruby E. (Harbich) Sansom	

*Vincent Hagan and his wife, Mathilda, came from Missouri. Their son, Manuel, acquired 25 acres of the ranch in 1897, raising cotton, corn and cattle. His daughter, Ruby, gained the ranch in 1942 and received the Lavaca County Homemaker award in 1955. Her husband, Jerome Harbich, chaired the committee to organize the Lavaca Soil and Water Conservation District. Their daughter, Ruby, raises cattle on the ranch with her husband, Douglas, and her son, Clifford.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 50 **Acres still retained:** 25

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1986 - Registered Limousin cattle, and grasses.

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# Sommerlatte Farm

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Shiner on Hilltop Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1905	Frederick Pfeil	Great-grandparents
1905-1944	Selma (Pfeil) and Gustav Zander	Grandparents
1944-1977	Emilie (Zander) and Homer Sommerlatte	Parents
1977-1986	Lanelle (Sommerlatte) Kasper, Glorie (Sommerlatte) Weber	

*Frederick Pfeil, a German immigrant, bought 204 acres in 1885. His daughter, Selma, and her husband, Gustav Zander, who acquired the property in 1905, were members of the Farmer's Cooperative Association, learning crop rotation and fertilization. Their daughter, Emilie, and her husband, Homer Sommerlatte, were in the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service and terraced fields and made improvements to the farm. Their two daughters, Lanelle and Glorie, now own the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 204 **Acres still retained:** 29

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, horses, mules, and cows; 1986 - Cattle, sheep, and goats.



# Cottrell Ranch

Lee Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One and one-half miles north of Dime Box

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1911	Joseph and Rosina Blaha	Great-grandparents
1911-1935	John and Mary Cottrell	Grandparents
1935-1951	Mary Cottrell	Grandmother
1951-1976	John and Margaret Dusek Cottrell	Uncle, aunt
1976-1986	Virginia Cottrell Hervey	

*On December 1, 1885 Joseph and Rosina (Kotrka) Blaha, immigrants from Hovezi, Czechoslovakia, bought a parcel of farmland from F.M. and S.E. Wood. In addition to farming, Blaha ran a molasses press. He and his wife raised nine children, four sons and five daughters, two of them adopted.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 140.97    **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, hogs, cattle, chickens, and sugarcane; 1986 - Red Poll cattle.

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# Cooley-Van Winkle Acres

Limestone Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles south of Mexia off FM 39

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1897	John T. and Mary Morrow Gardner	Great-uncle, great-aunt
1897-1946	James E. and Martha Jane Morrow Cooley	Grandparents
1946-1984	J.R. and Eather Cooley Van Winkle	Parents
1984-1986	Curtis and Mary Katherine Compton Van Winkle	

*John T. Gardner bought land to farm from B. W. Rogers in 1884. He and his wife, Mary E. (Morrow), had eight children, John Rubin, Troy, Nathan, Charlie, Tom, Grace and Fannie Pearl.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 68    **Acres still retained:** 32.72

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton and corn; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

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# Fairbairn Farm

Limestone Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles northwest of Kosse

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1892	Andrew Jackson Fairbairn	Grandfather
1892-1928	Mary Emily Cornelia Wolfe Fairbairn	Grandmother
1928-1977	Andy Grady Fairbairn	Father, husband
1977-1986	Jean Buckley, Garland T. Fairbairn, Grady L. Fairbairn, Ida R. Mitchell Fairbairn, James M. Fairbairn	

*Andrew Jackson Fairbairn of Laurens County, South Carolina, bought land in Texas originally granted to Henry B. Longley. He and his wife, Mary Emily, had six children, three girls and three boys. When Andrew Jackson died in 1892, his wife took over the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 109    **Acres still retained:** 109

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn and hogs; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

# LeNere Camp Smith Ranch

Limestone Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One mile northwest of Coolidge

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1906	L. E. and Laura Camp	Great-great-grandparents
1906-1974	LeNere Camp Smith	Great-grandmother
1974-1986	Robert Pat Smith Jr., Shelli Ann Smith, Blake Smith IV, Virginia Jill Smith	

*L. E. and Laura Camp moved west from Louisiana after the Civil War. In 1885 they bought ranchland in Limestone County from J.U. Collett. They had four children, LaNere, Teffis, Daphney and LaFay. A barn built on the ranch more than 100 years ago is used to store hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 259 **Acres still retained:** 259

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, wheat, corn, oats, and cattle; 1986 - Wheat, oats, and cattle.

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# Todd Ranch

Limestone Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles east of Kosse on Moss Springs Rd., 5 miles north on Gunter Rd.

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1880	James Todd	Great-grandfather
1880-Unknown	John Todd	Grandfather
Unknown-1962	John R. Todd	Father
1962-1986	Milton Whaley Todd	

*James Todd of Oconer County, South Carolina, purchased ranchland from A.J. Sowders. Until the railroad came through, he and his sons drove cattle to market in Kansas. James and his wife, Mary (Whaley), had six children, John, Cater, William, Elizabeth, Jane and Mrs. M.E. Brown.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 acres **Acres still retained:** 77

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Corn, hay, cotton, hogs, beef, and dairy cattle; 1986 - Beef cattle, hay, and grass.

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# Buie Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twenty-six miles south of Llano on Hwy. 16

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1923	James Burris and Lavinia Crownover Buie	Grandparents
1923-1984	Arron Floyd and Carrie Ella Click Buie	Parents
1984-1986	Earl Gantner Buie	

*James and Lavinia Buie came to Texas from Boon County, Arkansas, and bought nearly 2,000 acres of ranchland from James Baxter. The Buies bought and sold land until their holdings settled at 661 acres. Members of the Baptist church, the couple had seven children. James also had three children by his second wife, Lillie (Wagner), one of whom died in infancy. Lillie had two children by a previous marriage.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,920 **Acres still retained:** 526

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Wheat, corn, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle and hogs.

# Dr. Reuben Westmoreland Ranch

Madison Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seven miles northeast of Madisonville on FM 271

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1871-1919	Dr. Reuben and Julia V. Connor Westmoreland	Great-grandparents
1919-1933	William and Maude E. Floyed Westmoreland	Grandparents
1933-1969	Reuben and Millie R. Arrant Westmoreland	Parents
1969-1986	Patsy Westmoreland Strawther Richard P. Westmoreland	

*After serving as a surgeon in the Confederate army, Reuben Westmoreland left Georgia to settle in Texas. In 1873, he recorded his brand, #114. The family's house is a dog-trot design with two fireplaces and chimneys, a hand-planed ceiling, a separate kitchen, and an underground cistern. Westmoreland and his wife, Julia Victoria (Connor), frequently entertained Sam Houston in their home. Descendants have carvings whittled by Houston.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 802 **Acres still retained:** 45.7

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1871 - Cotton, sugar cane, corn, vegetables, hay, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle.

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# J Bar L Windy Hill Ranch

Madison Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One mile north of North Zulch on Farm Rd. 426

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1891	J. J. Martin and Joseph Fuller Jinkins	Great-grandfather, grandfather
1891-1941	Joseph Fuller Jinkins	Grandfather
1941-1979	Julius Luther and Wiley J. Fuller	Father, uncle
1979-1986	William Rugeley and Kittie Sue Jinkins Livesay	

*J. J. Martin probably came to Texas as an infant with his parents in 1836. Joseph Fuller Jinkins arrived at 14 by wagon with his family. J. J. and his wife, Sophia (Searcy), had five children. A daughter, Annettie Susan, married Joseph Fuller. In 1886, J. J. and Joseph each bought 100-acre tracts, and in 1891, Joseph bought his father-in-law's land. Annettie died, and Joseph resigned the school board and other duties to rear his children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 200

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton and corn; 1986 - Registered and commercial Brangus and hay.

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# Moses Rushton Fannin Ranch

Madison Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles west of Madisonville on FM 978

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-Unknown	Moses and Zebiah Fannin	Grandparents, great-grandparents
Unknown-1925	Zebiah Fannin	Grandmother, great-grandmother
1925-1974	Furman Fannin	Father, grandfather
1974-1986	Ralph Cole, King Cole	

*Moses and Zebiah Fannin came to Texas from Alabama and bought land on which to grow cotton and corn. While building his house, Moses became sick with measles and died. His sons, Furman, William, Thomas, Morgan, and Luther, finished the house. There were also two daughters, Ella and Marcella. A 100-year-old building used to store hay remains on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 129 **Acres still retained:** 129

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Corn and cotton; 1986 - Hereford and crossbred cattle and Coastal Bermuda hay.

# Fritz Durst Ranch

Mason Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles north of Art on RR 1900

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1892	John and Katharine Strackbein Durst	Great grandparents, great-great grandparents
1892-1924	Fritz and Lena Bonnet Durst	Grandparents, great-grandparents
1924-1930	Fred Theodore and Minna Medora Leifeste Durst	Father, grandfather
1930-1958	Fred Theodore and Emma Elizabeth Leifeste Durst	Parents, grandparents
1958-1986	Clinton and Anna Grace Kidd Durst	
1975-1986	Teddy Edward and Deborah Jean Wellborn Durst	

*John and Katherine Durst of Germany immigrated to Texas. They lived in Fredericksburg and ran a cattle ranch in Mason. They had six children, Gottlieb, Frederick, William, Linda, Louise and Edward. One room of their old six-room German farmhouse is a log cabin more than 100 years old.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 576.75 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle, sheep, goats, Coastal Bermuda grass, small grains, hay, and peanuts.

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# Hay Branch Ranch

Mason Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Fifteen miles southeast of Mason on RR 152

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1899	Heinrich Fredrich Kothmann	Great-grandfather
1899-1913	August Kothmann	Grandfather
1913-1979	Walter Kothmann	Father
1979-1986	Warren Kothmann	

*Heinrich Fredrich Kothmann of Germany was 10 when he came to America with his parents. He became a surveyor and sheriff of Mason County. To market his cattle, he made three cattle drives to Kansas. His ranch was the first in area to be fenced. Stone was quarried on the ranch and wire purchased for 18 cents a pound. Heinrich was married, first to Sophie (Hartwig) and then to Mary (Eversberg). He had 11 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,605 **Acres still retained:** 201

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cattle, hogs, and horses; 1986 - Crossbred Simbrah-Simmental cattle and registered Hereford cattle, Sudan and Klein grasses.

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# J.W. Leifeste Farm

Mason Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile west of Castell on FM 152

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1884	August Leifeste	Great-grandfather
1884-1921	Frederick Leifeste	Grandfather
1921-1967	James Wesley Leifeste	Father
1967-1986	Olita Mildred and Jimmie Dean	

*August Leifeste came to Texas from Broistedt, Germany, in search of freedom and better living conditions. He bought 1,000 acres, originally part of the John Sutherland Survey, from J.A. Hoerster. He and his wife, Elizabeth Henrietta (Viedt), had nine children, Sophie Christine Henrietta, Friedericke Henrietta Elizabeth, Heinrich August Conrad, Wilhelmina, Johanna Dorothea Friedericke, Sophia Conradina, Augusta, Friedrich William and Charles Herman.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 294.1

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Sheep, pigs, cattle, corn, cotton, and feed; 1986 - Cattle and Coastal Bermuda grass.

# Roddie Draper Ranch

Mason Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twelve miles northeast of Mason on RM 2618

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1930	Samuel Branson and Mary Frances M. Capps	Great-grandparents
1930-1961	Mary Belle Capps Draper	Grandmother
1961-1986	Roddie Paul Draper	

*Young Sam Capps of Bexar County broke horses and sold them to the army at Fort Sam Houston. Looking for a place to settle, he scouted West Texas and, deciding on Mason County, returned with his wife, Mary Frances, and two small sons. The Capps had a 20,000-acre ranch. During the great cattle drives, Sam went up the "Western Trail" nine consecutive times, usually as trail boss, while Mary Frances and the children took care of the livestock and sold bacon and lard. During the fever tick outbreak, cattlemen used the Capps' dipping vat.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cattle, horses, hogs, and feed grains; 1986 - Cattle, horses, and Spanish goats.

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# F. Cornelius Ranch

Matagorda Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles east of Midfield on FM 2431

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1946	Friedrick Casper Cornelius Sr.	Grandfather
1946-1966	Friedrick Casper Cornelius Jr.	Father
1966-1986	Mrs. Elvira Maxine Cornelius Johnson, Mrs. Lula Grace Cornelius Chiles	

*Friedrick Casper Cornelius immigrated from Rothensee, Germany, to Texas. He and his first wife, Annie (Downer), built their first home and their furniture on the 30-acre ranch, later expanded to 2,070 acres. Cornelius endured blizzards, hail, four major hurricanes, floods and illness but continued to ranch. He had seven children by Annie and six by his second wife, Lula (Gainer). Cornelius was a member of the Texas Cattle Raisers Association and the Old Trail Drivers Association of Texas.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1882 - 30 **Acres still retained:** 30

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cattle and corn; 1986 - Livestock.

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# John Nelson Willis-Hilliard Ranch

McCulloch Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Sixteen miles southeast of Brady

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1908	John Nelson Willis	Great-grandfather
1908-1935	W.J. Willis	Grandfather
1935-1942	Louisiana Catherine Willis	Grandmother
1942-1944	Fannie Willis Jordan	Mother
1944-1954	J. Lewis Jordan	Father
1954-1986	Catherine Jordan Hilliard	

*John Nelson Willis of Tennessee came to Texas to raise cattle and horses. He started his ranch with a land grant from the state of Texas. The founder helped to organize the Masonic Lodge at Camp San Saba. He and his wife, Elizabeth Ann (Webster), had eight children. A house, buggy shed and hand-dug well constructed more than 100 years ago remain on the land, as does part of the founder's one-room log cabin, built before the house.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 480 **Acres still retained:** 315

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle and horses; 1986 - Cattle.

# John Nelson Willis-Jordan Ranch

McCulloch Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Sixteen miles southeast of Brady

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1908	John Nelson Willis	Great-grandfather
1908-1935	W. J. Willis	Grandfather
1935-1942	Louisiana Catherine Willis	Grandmother
1942-1944	Fannie Willis Jordan	Mother
1944-1954	J. Lewis Jordan	Father
1954-1986	D. R. Jordan	

*After settling on a land grant in McCulloch County, John Nelson Willis bought an additional 1,920 acres on which to raise cattle and horses. Little is known about the founder. He and his wife, Elizabeth Ann (Webster), had eight children: W.J., D.D., James, Sarah, John Leroy, Matthew Shook, Mary Ann, and Amelia Texana.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 480   **Acres still retained:** 320  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle and horses; 1986 - Cattle

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# Boehle Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine and one-half miles northeast of Hondo

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1915	F.L. Boehle	Grandfather
1915-Unknown	George and Lisetta Boehle	Parents
Unknown-1986	Lewis R. Boehle	

*Born in Quihi, Texas, F.L. Boehle purchased 320 acres of ranchland from Charles DeMontel and Jacob Fritz in 1880. He sold five acres and raised cattle and horses. He and his wife, Antje, were the parents of seven children: Emil, Willie, Henry G., Johanna (Saathoff), George L., Louisa (Kurka) and Wilhamina (Graff).*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320   **Acres still retained:** 315  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cattle and horses; 1986 - Crossbred cattle.

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# Gerdes T4 Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles northeast of Hondo

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1899	Paul Oefinger Sr.	Great-grandfather
1899-1910	Paul Oefinger Jr.	Grandfather
1910-1923	William and Emilie Oefinger Saathoff	Uncle, aunt
1923-1928	Paul Oefinger Jr.	Grandfather
1928-1969	Herman and Elsie Oefinger Gerdes	Parents
1969-1986	Archie Gerdes	

*Paul Oefinger, a German immigrant, bought land from Jean Baptiste Schmidt. Oefinger had several encounters with Indians. During one raid when all the horses were stolen, Paul Jr., the oldest child, was hidden under the bed for protection. Paul Sr. and his wife, Anne Marie, had nine other children: Sophia, Anne Marie, Kathrena, Christina, Louisa, Jacob, Ada, Carl and another son named Jacob, who died in early childhood. A barn and part of the founder's house, both more than 100 years old, are still used.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320   **Acres still retained:** 320  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton and cattle; 1986 - Maize, corn, and cattle.

# Tim Wiemers Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of ranch:** Nine miles north of Hondo on Hwy. 173

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1917	Bernhard and Marie Brucks	Great-great-grandparents
1917-1956	John Brucks	Great-grandfather
1956-1976	Robert L. and Nellie (Brucks) Mumme	Grandparents
1976-1986	Tim Wiemers	

*Bernhard Brucks and his parents emigrated from Germany when Brucks was a child. In 1886, he bought two tracts of land from the state of Texas. A blacksmith as well as a rancher, Bernhard plied his trade on the family's town property in Quihi. He also owned a lumberyard and hardware store, was a Texas Ranger, a county commissioner, justice of the peace and first judge of Medina County. A self-taught man, he designed and built the county's first official public school. He and his wife, Marie Antoinette (Gerdes), had 13 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,120 **Acres still retained:** 220  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle and horses; 1986 - Cattle.

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# Cunningham Ranch

Milam Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Near Gause on Hwy. 79

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1924	James W. Cunningham	Grandfather
1924-1929	Libbie Mae (Cunningham) Boyd	Mother
1929-1986	Brooksie Nell (Boyd) Wolfe	

*James Cunningham came to Texas from Tennessee. He purchased his original 570 acres in 1885. He and his wife, Sally, grew cotton and grain. In 1924, their daughter, Libbie Mae, took title to the land. Libbie Mae and her husband, David, had a daughter, Brooksie Nell, who took title to the land from her mother in 1929. A cousin of Brooksie Nell operates the ranch today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 570 **Acres still retained:** 482  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, grain, and garden crops; 1986 - Feed crops.

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# L.D. Childress Farm

Montague Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles northeast of Saint Jo on Hwy. 677

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1919	William Anderson Childress	Grandfather
1919-1976	Lorenzo Dow and Nell Childress	Parents
1976-1981	Mable Hanson, Mildred Luckey, Maurice Childress, Milton Childress	Brothers
1981-1982	Mable Hanson, Mildred Luckey, Milton Childress	Brother
1982-1986	Mable Hanson, Mildred Luckey	

*William Anderson Childress of Atlanta, Georgia, bought his land from L S. Bowles. Childress built a one-room schoolhouse, Mountain Creek School, on land cleared by two of his sons. He and his wife, Missouri Amazon (Oliver), had eight children, William Otis, Eula, Electra, Ora Jane and William Olin, who were twins, Lorenzo Dow, Eugene H. and Viola. A windmill, barn and part of the original homestead, all built at least 100 years ago, still stand on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 228 **Acres still retained:** 228  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, cotton, sorghum molasses, cows, and chickens; 1986 - Seedless grapes, pecan trees, and fish.

## Brit T. Burk Homestead

Nacogdoches Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles northwest of Nacogdoches on FM 698

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1920	Britton Tucker Burk	Grandfather-in-law
1920-1951	Jesse Brit and Gertrude G. Burk	Uncle
1951-1959	Bryan and Pauline Burk	Cousins
1959-1978	Maury Robin Burk	Husband
1978-1986	Mary Ann Burk	

*Britton Tucker Burk was a blacksmith and lumber mill owner. He supplied lumber to build Rock Springs Church, Texas' oldest Presbyterian church, which still has services. The Burk house, halfway to Cushing, offered travelers warm hospitality. Burk's wife, Sallie Wynne (Watkins), was a midwife who provided other medical services as well, once saving a life by dislodging venison from a victim's throat. The Burks had nine children. A 100-year-old hand-hewn log barn on a boulder foundation remains in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 321.5 **Acres still retained:** 99.66

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton, corn, ribbon cane, sweet potatoes, fruit, Longhorn cattle, hogs, geese, and oxen; 1986 - Beefmaster and Brangus cattle.

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## Ebony Valley Angus Farm

Nacogdoches Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of Nacogdoches on Applebysand Rd., near Loop 224

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1897	Bennett Blake	Great-great grandfather
1897-1943	Mary Addie Blake Bowler McKnight	Great-grandmother
1943-1963	Ellazina Bowler Summers	Grandmother
1963-1978	Jesse William Summers	Father
1978-1986	William Frank Summers II	

*Bennett Blake, a settler from Sutton, Vermont, acquired large tracts of land in a series of transactions. A prominent statesman, Judge Blake was county court chief justice from 1850 to 1862 and a state legislator from 1862 to 1867. He was also a member of the Congress of the Confederate States of America and a delegate to the Texas Constitutional Convention in 1875. The father of four, Bennett had three wives, Mary (Lewis), Keziah C. Fenly (Harrison) and Ellazina (Harris).*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,800 **Acres still retained:** 195

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Corn, cotton, timber, and cattle; 1986 - Purebred Angus, hay, and cover crops.

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## Harris Ranch

Navarro Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles west of Streetman

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1898	Jonathan and Mary Jane Tisdale Cooper	Great-grandparents
1898-1948	Mary Alice Cooper Harris	Grandmother
1948-1971	Jonathan Cooper Harris	Father
1971-1986	JuneDwenell Harris Smith	

*Jonathan Cooper came to Texas with his parents. He purchased his original 354 acres in 1879. He and his wife, Mary Jane, had eight children. In 1898, their daughter, Mary Alice, inherited 150 acres. She and her husband, Alexander Harris, had three children. In 1948 their son, Jonathan, took title to the ranch, where he raised cotton, hay, and cattle with his wife, Neoma, and their three children. In 1971, their daughter, June Dwenell, took title to the property, 100 acres of which can be traced to the founders.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 353 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cotton, corn, hay, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, oats, and hay.



# Dan Meany-Dunn Ranch

Nueces Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five miles west of the courthouse in Corpus Christi

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1851-1889	John Dunn, Sr.	Great-grandfather
1889-1941	John Dunn, Jr.	Grandfather
1941-1948	Mary Dunn Meany, Helen, Katie and Alice Dunn	Mother, aunts
1948-1986	Dan Meany	

*Leaving famine-stricken Ireland, John Dunn settled in Corpus Christi and bought land from Col. H.L. Kinney, the city's founder. During the Civil War, Union troops raided the ranch, which was the site of the county's first cotton gin. In 1874, the Corpus Christi and Rio Grande Railroad Co., in which Dunn held stock, was formed. That same year, a Dunn hired hand was hanged in Corpus Christi's second legal execution. Dunn and his wife, Annie (Hyland), had nine children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 171 **Acres still retained:** 17

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1851 - Cattle, horses, cotton, and vegetables; 1986 - Horses.

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# Winfree Ranch

Orange Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five miles west of Orange at Winfree Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1831-1866	Abraham Winfree	Great grandfather, great-great grandfather
1866-1920	William Arthur Winfree	Great-grandfather, grandfather
1920-1954	Will Winfree	Father, grandfather
1954-1986	Mary Ellen Winfree Ratcliff, Jesse Lawrence and Lester M. Winfree	

*Abraham Winfree came to Orange County from Louisiana in 1830 or 1831. In 1833, he brought his wife, Millie, and their five children to join him. Winfree registered his cattle brand, two 3s back to back, in use today, in 1836. He built his house on Cow Bayou, now known as Winfree's Crossing. The Old Spanish Trail crossed here, and cattle herds going to New Orleans passed through. A house and a smokehouse built in 1854 still stand.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 168

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1831 - Cattle and horses; 1986 - Cattle and horses.

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# Wilmer Crum Ranch

Palo Pinto Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine miles northwest of Jacksboro on FM 2190

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1929	C.C. Weir	Great-grandfather
1929-1971	W.C. Weir	Grandfather
1971-1986	Wilmer Crum	

*A veteran confederate soldier, C.C. Weir moved to Texas from Alabama in 1880 with his wife, Eliza Powell (Mize), and three children. The Weirs homesteaded on land purchased three years later. C.C. later added 400 acres to the property. He helped established a school and church in the Union Point Community and played an active role in community affairs. He and Eliza had 14 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1831 - Cattle and goats; 1986 - Cattle and forage crops.

# Claude L. Williams Ranch

Parker Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seven miles west of Weatherford on the Old Millsap Hwy.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1929	E.J. Williams	Great-uncle
1929-1948	Wade Hampton Williams	Uncle
1948-1986	Claude L. Williams	

*Looking for prosperity, E.J. Williams moved to Texas. He farmed with oxen, later switching to horses. Williams married Mollie Toland and had eight children. The Williams family and other members of the Fox community organized and chartered Beulah Baptist Church. In 1920, the coast-to-coast U.S. Highway 1 was built across Williams' property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, and mules; 1986 - Beef cattle, Coastal Bermuda hay, and other grasses.

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# Newberry Ranch

Parker Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three and one-half miles east of Millsap on Bankhead Hwy. at Grindstone Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1906	James Campbell and Angeline Baxter Newberry	Great-grandparents
1906-1942	George Washington Newberry	Grandfather
1942-1977	J.C. Newberry	Father, husband
1977-1986	Patricia Newberry Huitt, Mabel Newberry	

*In 1859, James Campbell and Angeline (Baxter) Newberry left Tennessee with their children, a few household possessions and a milk cow tied to their ox-drawn covered wagon. Settling in Parker County, the Newberrys raised cattle, retaining the heifer calves. Cattle grazing at Grindstone Creek descend from the original milk cow. The Newberrys had nine children. The family was active in Newberry Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Newberry School. A small log barn and two other log structures built more than 100 years ago stand on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1859 - Cotton, corn, and beef cattle; 1986 - Commercial Polled cattle.

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# Little B Farm

Polk Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen and one-half miles southeast of Livingston on FM 2798

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1853-1853	John Van and Matilda C. Williams	Great-great-grandparents
1853-1874	Robert Lucious Williams	Great-grandfather
1874-1936	John Wesley Williams	Grandfather
1936-1982	A.B. Williams	Father
1982-1986	Maxine Williams Brackin	

*Little is known about John and Matilda Williams, settlers from North Carolina, who acquired land in a grant from Gov. H.P. Bell. They had three children, James, who died in infancy, Robert Lucious and Mary Ann. A few months after his parents received the land grant, Robert obtained half, or 320 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 25.116

**Crops or livestock raised:** Corn and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, pecans, and hay.

# Ford Land Farm

Red River Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles north of Bogata and 1/2 mile west of Hwy. 37

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1863-1870	John W. Ford	Great-grandfather
1870-1884	George Washington Ford	Grandfather
1884-1965	John Kennedy Ford	Father
1965-1986	George D. Ford, Joe A. Ford, Justine Ford,	

*John Ford came to Texas from Tennessee in search of land. He and his wife, Mary, raised seven children and grew corn and cotton on the 98 acres they acquired in 1863. In 1870, their son, George, took title to the land, where he raised the same crops as his father. George and his wife, Martha, had six children. In 1884, their son, John, took over the farm. John and his wife, Lula, had seven children. Today, their children share ownership of the land and raise wheat and milo on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 98 **Acres still retained:** 98

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1863 - Corn, cotton, and native prairie grass meadow; 1986 - Prairie grass meadow, wheat, and milo.

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# G.B. Lyles Survey

Reeves Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirty-six and one-half miles southwest of Pecos

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1911	Robert E. Lyles	Father
1911-1986	Robert F. Lyles	

*Robert Lyles, son of G.B. Lyles, acquired acreage through a Texas land grant. His father, a native of Ireland with property in El Paso and Presidio counties, farmed the land. San Salmon Springs, which today irrigates all the area farms, was donated by G.B. and two others. Four miles south of Balmorhea, the spring is often called the world's largest swimming pool. Robert, one of 10 children born to G.B. and Jessica, was shot by Apaches and left crippled, but lived to father four children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 28

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, beans, wheat, and potatoes; 1986 - Alfalfa, Sudan grass, garden crops, cows, and horses.

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# 7L Ranch

Robertson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles north of Franklin on Leamon Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1900	N.C. Leamon	Great-grandfather
1900-1946	L.L. and Katie Leamon	Grandparents
1946-1967	E.H. Leamon, Artie Leamon, Dora, Reamer Leamon, Curtis Nester Leamon	Father, uncles, aunts
1967-1986	Nester Lawson Leamon	

*N.C. Leamon came from Georgia and bought 295 acres, where he grew cotton, milo and other crops and raised five children. His son, L.L. Leamon, inherited 180 acres, 80 of which passed on to three of his nine children. The land has continued to be passed down, and Nester changed the name to 7L Ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 295 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, milo, corn, tobacco, potatoes, peanuts, ribbon cane, beans, and peas; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

# AR Ranch

Robertson Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile west of Hwy. 6 and about six miles south of Bremond

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1923	Files Love	Grandfather
1923-1972	Irene (Love) Jones	Mother
1972-1986	Frankie Mae (Jones) Rigsby	

*Files Love was born in Robertson County. He built a house, which was destroyed by fire in 1950. He also gave easements for public roads. His daughter, Irene, and son, Charlie, maintained the farm and raised cattle. Frankie Mae built barns and fences, planted grass, and implemented soil conservation projects. The present house was built by Charlie Love.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, peas, potatoes, watermelons, vegetables, poultry, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

# Double J Ranch

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Laneville on Farm Road 1798

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1835-1889	James and Sarah McCune	Great-great-grandparents
1835-1889	James L. and Deliah McCune	Great-grandparents
1889-1936	James Leonard and Elizabeth McCune	Grandparents
1936-1973	Gracie (McCune) and Oscar Jones	Parents
1973-1986	Billy Joe Jones	

*James and Sarah McCune came to Texas from Williamsburg, N.Y. to settle in the village of Nacogdoches with the David G. Burnet Colony. In 1835, they acquired 4,428 acres from the state of Coahuila and Texas. James died not long after obtaining the land. According to family legend, James was killed in a fight with Indians to protect his land and the colonists' rights. He and Sarah had eight children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 17.4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1835 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, and dairy cows; 1986 - Cattle.

# The Homer McCune Ranch

Rusk Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles east of Laneville on Farm Road 1798

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1835-1889	James and Sarah McCune	Great-grandparents
1835-1889	James L. and Deliah McCune	Grandparents
1889-1936	James Leonard and Elizabeth McCune	Parents
1936-1986	Homer Matthew and Gussie McCune	

*James and Sarah McCune came to Texas from Williamsburg, N.Y. to settle in the village of Nacogdoches with the David G. Burnet Colony. In 1835, they acquired 4,428 acres from the state of Coahuila and Texas. James died not long after obtaining the land. According to family legend, James was killed in a fight with Indians to protect his land and the colonists' rights. He and Sarah had eight children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 69

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1835 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, and dairy cows; 1986 - Cattle.

# Jones' Redland Farm

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Laneville on Farm Road 1798

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1835-1889	James and Sarah McCune	Great-great-grandparents
1835-1889	James L. and Deliah McCune	Great-grandparents
1889-1936	James Leonard and Elizabeth McCune	Grandparents
1936-1973	Gracie (McCune) and Oscar Jones	Parents
1973-1986	Allen Ray Jones	

*James and Sarah McCune came to Texas from Williamsburg, N.Y. to settle in the village of Nacogdoches with the David G. Burnet Colony. In 1835, they acquired 4,428 acres from the state of Coahuila and Texas. James died not long after obtaining the land. According to family legend, James was killed in a fight with Indians to protect his land and the colonists' rights. He and Sarah had eight children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 17.4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1835 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, and dairy cows; 1986 - Cattle.

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# Todd Farm

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** About seven miles northeast of Henderson on Farm Road 872

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1927	F.M. and Lottie Todd	Grandparents
1927-1947	James and Bessie Todd	Parents
1947-1986	J. Orville Todd	

*F.M. Todd came to Texas from Alabama as part of the 19th Century's movement westward. He originally bought 52 acres and later purchased another 200 acres. Todd built and operated a general store. He was a leader in the community, a Millville Baptist Church deacon and a cemetery committee member. He and his wife, Lottie, had six children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 52 **Acres still retained:** 10

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, cattle, hogs, goats, and other farm animals; 1986 - Beefmaster cattle and Coastal Bermuda hay.

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# Troy Garrison Farm

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles east of Chapman on U.S. Highway 79

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1903	T.D. and N.M. Garrison	Grandparents
1903-1980	Edward T. and Bonnie Garrison	Parents
1980-1986	Troy E. Garrison	

*T.D. Garrison and his wife, N.M., came to Texas from Rock Hill, S.C., after the Civil War and in 1886 bought 271 acres of the John Hallam Survey from J.C. Hickey and W.J. Crow. Garrison was a member of the Sacred Harp singers of the Chapman community. He and his wife had six children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 271 **Acres still retained:** 59.4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, and horses; 1986 - Cattle.

## Loves' Retreat

San Jacinto Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles northwest of Coldspring

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1870-1925	Henry and Julia Love	Great-grandparents
1925-1980	John and Margaret Valentine Love	Grandparents
1980-1986	Margaret K. Love and Mary C. Love	

*Henry Love came to Texas in 1856 as an overseer of the Moses Davis Plantation. When the Civil War began, he joined the First Texas Infantry. He was wounded and captured at Gettysburg, Pa. When the Confederates surrendered on April 9, 1865, Love was exchanged as a prisoner and paroled at Appomattox, Va. He returned to Texas in 1870 with his new wife, Julia, and bought the 275-acre Moses Davis Plantation. The Loves had five children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 275 **Acres still retained:** 65

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Cotton, corn, hay, poultry, and dairy cattle; 1986 - Horses, Brahman and Hereford cattle.

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## Waller Place

San Saba Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles south of Cherokee

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1925	Robert and Mary Waller	Great-grandparents
1925-1944	Mary (Waller) and Robert Estep	Grandparents
1944-1986	Clyde and Elizabeth Estep	

*Robert and Mary Waller came from Georgia to Texas in search of land. They bought 320 acres in 1882, cleared the land to farm, built a house and dug a water well. Robert Waller was a Methodist preacher who traveled on foot throughout the county. He and Mary had five children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 220

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton, feed, cattle, hogs, and horses; 1986 - Cattle, hogs, and turkeys.

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## Col. Edmund Thomas Corley Farm

Shelby Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles southwest of Tenaha on Farm Road 2141

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1858-1871	Col. Edmund Thomas and Clarkey Corley	Great-great-grandparents
1871-1916	Gabriel Rudolphus "Dolph" and Sarah Corley	Great-grandparents
1916-1951	Maude (Corley) and Wiley Harrison	Grandparents
1951-1979	James and Beatrice Harrison	Parents
1979-1986	George and Linda Harrison	

*In 1832, Col. Edmund Thomas Corley of Tennessee married Clarkey Hayney Beasley. In 1856, Corley came to Texas in search of land and in 1858 he bought 727 acres. Corley was a progressive farmer who practiced crop rotation and established peach, pear, pecan and apple orchards. Along with farming, he taught school. The Corley's had eight children and lost two of their four sons who served as Confederate soldiers during the Civil War.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 727 **Acres still retained:** 280

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1858 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, peaches, pears, pecans, apples, and cattle; 1986 - Hereford cattle and pine plantation.

## Harris Farm

Shelby Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles west of Timpson

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1910	M.J. and Dollie Harris	Grandparents
1910-1946	Alice (Harris) Solomon, William and Evie Harris	Parent Uncle, Aunt
1946-1986	Larrie and Lucille (Solomon) Windham, L.V. Solomon, Charles and Oleta (Solomon) Peace	

*M.J. Harris came to Texas from Tennessee with his parents when he was a child. In 1882, he bought 185 acres at \$3 an acre. Harris and his wife, Dollie, helped keep the area livestock healthy by building dipping vats for cows. The couple had three children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 185 **Acres still retained:** 185

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton, corn, hay, cows, hogs, mules, and horses; 1986 - Hay, cattle, pine seedlings, and pasture.

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## N.T. January Farm

Shelby Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles from Center between State Highway 7 west and Farm Road 711

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1886	William Morris	Great-grandfather
1886-1923	Sarah (Morris) and Nehemar Thomas January	Grandparents
1923-1976	Samuel Lonzo January	Uncle
1976-1986	Wanda (January) Ramsey	

*William Morris came to Texas seeking a better way of life. In 1880, he acquired title to a 160-acre land grant from the state of Texas. Morris sold another land grant to help establish the Mt. Pleasant community, which was on the road between Shelbyville and Nacogdoches. He also help found the Mt. Pleasant Church of Christ and local cemetery. His only child, Sarah Elizabeth Morris, became owner of 120 acres in 1886.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 70

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cotton, corn, watermelons, sugarcane, feed, cattle, and hogs; 1986 - Pine timber.

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## The Baird Ranch

Smith Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles north of Arp on Farm Road 271

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1851-1865	Caleb and Elizabeth Barron	Great-great-grandparents
1865-1891	Sallie (Barron) and Frank Baird	Great-grandparents
1891-1912	John T. and Sallie Baird	Grandparents
1912-1965	Frank and Hattie Baird	Parents
1965-1986	Frankie (Baird) Sherman and John Billy Baird	

*Caleb Barron bought 1,000 acres in Smith County in 1851. In 1865, Sallie Barron Baird inherited 130 acres from her parents, Caleb and Elizabeth. Sallie Barron Baird and her husband worked the land and in 1884, Frank Baird purchased most of Sallie's brothers' and sisters' shares of land for a total of 255 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 280

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1851 - Cotton, wheat, mules, hogs and pigs, oxen, horses, and cows; 1986 - Cattle and Quarter horses.

# Black Brothers Muleshoe Ranch

Stephens Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles northeast of Breckenridge on the Yellow Fork Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1906	William Henry Harrison and Sarah Black	Grandfather
1906-1928	Jack and Eddie Black	Father
1928-1986	Henry Jack Black and William Randolph Black	

*William Henry Black and his second wife, Sarah, started out in a one-room cabin. Through hard work the couple prospered enough to require a move farther into the western frontier for more grazing land. The Blacks prospered by trading fine shirts and gloves made by Sarah for horses and cattle. Also, Henry forded herds across the Red River for payment in more cattle. Henry settled 1,000 head of cattle and 500 horses on Bufford Creek in August 1877.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 1,280  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cattle and horses; 1986 - Hereford cattle.

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# Bill Fields Ranch

Sutton Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Sonora on Farm Road 1691

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1889	Dr. John Davidson and Mary Fields	Great-grandparents
1889-1953	William John and Viola Fields	Grandparents
1953-1961	William John and Justine Fields Jr.	Parents
1961-1986	Mary Francine (Fields) and Mark Hardeman	

*William John Fields passed a portion of his land onto his namesake, William John Fields Jr., in 1953. The senior Fields was a founder of Southern Methodist University and a county commissioner from 1910-1916. William John Fields Jr. owned a scouring plant in Ballinger. He was an active wool buyer and won state and county conservation awards.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 19,840 **Acres still retained:** 3,840  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle, goats, sheep, and horses; 1986 - Angora goats.

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# Fields Ranch

Sutton Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Sonora on Farm Road 1691

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1889	Dr. John Davidson and Mary Fields	Grandparents
1889-1953	William John and Viola Fields	Parents
1953-1986	Herbert Wardlaw and Loise Fields	

*A graduate of Tulane Medical School and Civil War veteran, Dr. John Davidson Fields came to Texas from Abingdon, Virginia. He worked as a medical doctor in Manor and Austin and sent the first diphtheria serum to Sonora by horseback. In 1883, he bought 19,840 acres. He added another 9,600 acres and eventually sold 10,240 outside the family. He and his wife, Mary, had four children, but one died a year after birth.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 19,840 **Acres still retained:** 5,384  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle, goats, sheep, and horses; 1986 - Cattle, sheep, goats, hay, and eggs.



# Fields Ranch

Sutton Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Sonora on Farm Road 1691

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1889	Dr. John Davidson and Mary Fields	Great-grandparents
1889-1953	William John and Viola Fields	Grandparents
1953-1974	Thelma Frances (Fields) and Alvis Johnson	Parents
1974-1986	Dr. Alvis Francis Johnson Jr. and John W. Fields	

*William John Fields' land was given to four of his seven children. Fields, a founder of Southern Methodist University in Dallas, gave a portion to his daughter, Thelma Frances Johnson, in 1953. Mrs. Johnson helped found the Sutton County unit of the American Cancer Society, which she chaired for 32 years. Her husband, Alvis Johnson, served as county judge from 1923-1946.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 19,840 **Acres still retained:** 6,000

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle, goats, sheep, and horses; 1986 - Cattle and goats.

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# John Fields Ranch

Sutton Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles east of Sonora off Old Junction Highway

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1889	Dr. John Davidson and Mary Fields	Great-grandparents
1889-1953	William John and Viola Fields	Grandparents
1953-1977	John David and Odessa Fields	Parents
1977-1985	John David Jr. and Carla Fields	

*John David Fields was the fourth child of William John Fields to acquire land in 1953. In 1985, John David Fields was named Conservationist of the Year at the age of 85. He ranched his land until his death on Sept. 30, 1985. His son, John David Fields, acquired title to part of the land in 1977 and inherited the rest in 1985. His wife, Carla Fields, serves as county judge.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 19,840 **Acres still retained:** 3,840

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle, horses, goats, and sheep; 1986 - Cattle, horses, and Angora goats.

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# J.J. Carlton Ranch

Travis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles west of Austin, one-half mile north of Old Burnet Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to Current Owner</i>
1881-1893	Lucinda Levitt and her son R.J. Levitt	Grandmother, uncle
1893-1928	J.F. "Frank" and Frances Ann (Levitt) Carlton	Parents
1928-1986	J.J. Carlton	

*Lucinda Levitt and her son, R.J., purchased their 160 acres in 1881. Following the death of R.J. in 1890, title to the ranch passed to his brother-in-law, J.F. Carlton. J.F. and his wife, Ann, had three children. Upon his death in 1928, the property was divided between them. In 1930, title was returned to J.J. and his wife, Ellen Marie. The couple had three children; Ellen Marie died in 1962. J.J. raises cattle on the ranch today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 46.48

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881- Corn, sugarcane, cattle, hogs, and sorghum; 1986 - Cattle.

## *"Big Daddy's" Pecan Corner*

Van Zandt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight and one-half miles south of Canton on Route 4

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1905	William Napoleon and Margaret Mayfield Foster	Great-grandparents
1905-1960	Sallie Sarah Fair (Foster) and Elbert Walsh	Grandparents
1960-1972	Eunice Irene (Walsh) and Floyd Stout	Parents
1972-1986	Gilbert Dwain and Katie Stout	

*William Napoleon Foster came to Texas with his family from North Carolina. He purchased his original 86 acres in 1875. William married Margaret (Mayfield) and the two were very active in the community and church. In 1905, their daughter, Sally, took title to the land. She and her husband, Elbert, were also very active in the community. In 1960, their daughter, Eunice, took over the farm. Her son, Gilbert, is presently the owner, along with his wife, Katie, and their children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 86.5 **Acres still retained:** 36

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, hogs, and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, corn, hay, vegetables, and peanuts.

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## *Doris and Todd's "1875" Farm*

Van Zandt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight and one-half miles south of Canton on Route 4

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1880	John J. and Sarah Ann Foster	Great-great-grandparents
1880-1918	William Napoleon and Margaret Foster	Great-grandparents
1918-1960	Sallie Sarah Fair (Foster) and Elbert Walsh	Grandparents
1960-1972	Eunice Irene (Walsh) and Floyd Stout	Parents
1972-1986	Doris Marie (Stout) and Toddie Burns	

*John J. and Sarah Ann Foster were first cousins who married in 1849. They had planned to come to Texas in 1859, but the outbreak of the Civil War delayed their departure from Wilkes County, North Carolina. On Oct. 11, 1875, the Fosters bought 227.5 acres in Van Zandt County. The Fosters had nine children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 227.5 **Acres still retained:** 86.7

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, hogs, and cattle; 1986 - Coastal Bermuda and Bahia grass for hay.

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## *Martin Pollard Ranch*

Van Zandt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles south of Canton on Farm Road 1256

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1918	James and Rachel Martin	Grandparents
1918-1970	Minnie May (Martin) and Jessie Pollard	Parents
1970-1986	Lavona Vermell (Pollard) Blackwell	

*James Henry "Jack" Martin purchased his original 144 acres in 1885. He and his wife, Rachel, had two children. In 1918 their daughter, Minnie Ray, took title to 94 acres. She and her husband, Jessie, did much to improve the land by adding fences and fertilizing. They were very active in the community and had four children. In 1970 their daughter, Lavona, took title to the land, where she raises livestock today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 144.4 **Acres still retained:** 22.8

**Crops or Livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1986 - Livestock.

# Ellermann Ranch

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles northeast of Brenham on Farm Road 2621

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1895	F.G. Schulze	Great-grandfather
1895-1947	Henry Schulze	Great-uncle
1947-1959	Martha Ellermann and Lydia Fischer	Mother, Aunt
1959-1986	Henry Al Ellermann	

*F.G. Schulze of Germany immigrated to Texas seeking opportunity and a new life. On Nov. 1, 1880, he received title to 200 acres from C.C. Hemming. Schulze was married to Wilhelmine, who bore him four children. Henry Schulze, who took over 126.17 acres in 1895, was unmarried and left the land to his two nieces, Martha Ellermann and Lydia Fischer.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 64.66

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cattle and cotton; 1986 - Livestock feedlot and pasture operation.

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# Gueldner Farm

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles southwest of Brenham on County Road 34

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1914	Robert and Caroline Hurtig	Great-grandparents
1914-1949	Augusta (Hurtig) and Fritz Gueldner	Grandparents
1949-1974	Robert and Annie Gueldner	Parents
1974-1986	Harold and Edna Gueldner	

*Robert and Caroline Hurtig, natives of Germany, purchased their original 200 acres in 1877. The couple had six children and in 1914 their daughter, Augusta, took title to approximately 40 acres. August and her husband, Fritz, had three children and their son, Robert, took over the property in 1949. Robert's only son, Harold, is the present owner of the property. Harold and his wife, Edna, raise Hereford cattle on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 69.05

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Corn, cotton, vegetables, hay, cattle, hogs, and chickens; 1986 - Hereford cattle.

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# Homeyer Ranch

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles northwest of Brenham on Farm Roads 390 and 2679

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1866-1927	Emil J. and Wilhelmina Neinast	Great-grandparents
1927-1929	Frederick Neinast and Paul Neinast	Great-uncles
1929-1974	Emma (Neinast) and Dan Homeyer	Parents
1974-1986	Florence Mae (Homeyer) Kelm and Mae Dell (Homeyer) Christinek	

*Emil J. Neinast enlisted in the First German Company, Washington County, during the Civil War. He was taken prisoner on July 4, 1863. On December 19, 1866, he bought 3,300 acres. He was the first person to ship cattle from Washington County to the St. Louis market. He also received a government commission to haul cotton from Texas to Mexico. He and his wife, Wilhelmina, had nine children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3,300 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1866 - Cattle, corn, cotton, and pecans; 1986 - Cattle.

# Hubert Ranch

Washington Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles northeast of Somerville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1869-1939	Oliver and Ellen Barton	Great-grandparents
1939-1972	Ola Barton	Great-aunt
1972-1986	Roy Leon and Listene Barton	

*Oliver and Ellen Barton acquired title to 100 acres from William C.J. Hill. The land had been part of I.K. Hawkins' original grant in Washington County. The Bartons had four children. Daughter Ola inherited 40 acres of the ranch in 1939. She never married or had children, and willed her land to her great-nephew, Roy Leon Barton, in 1972. Roy Leon and his wife, Listene, raise livestock on the ranch today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1869 - Cotton, corn, and livestock; 1986 - Livestock.

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# Landua Farm

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles northwest of Long Point on County Road 44

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1916	Paul and Mary Landua	Grandparents
1916-1965	Paul Jr. and Olivia Landua	Parents
1965-1986	Lespa C. and Adeline Landua	

*Paul Landua started his family farm with 64 acres, purchased in 1883. Paul, his wife, Mary, and six children depended on the produce of the land for their livelihood. They raised livestock, poultry, cotton, corn, and hay. Paul Jr. inherited the farm in 1916 and expanded it by 150 acres. His family also depended solely on the production of farm products for a living. Paul Jr. and his wife, Olivia (Broesche), had four children. Son Lespa and his wife, Adeline, acquired title to the farm in 1942. Today, Adeline runs the farm, which includes the original acreage and 300 acres that she rents.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 64 **Acres still retained:** 64

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Livestock, poultry, cotton, corn, and hay; 1986 - Cattle, hay grazer, oats, and Coastal Bermuda hay.

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# Tochter's Hundert Ranch

Washington Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Northwest of Burton on County Road 7

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1910	Carl and Elise Renck	Great-great-grandparents
1910-1920	Mary (Renck) and Carl Marth	Great-grandparents
1920-1961	Annie (Marth) and Walter Wagner	Grandparents
1961-1971	Elbirda (Wagner) and Alfred Boeker	Parents
1971-1986	Birdie (Boeker) and Howard Sommerfeld	

*Carl and Elise Renck left Germany to make a better life and began their ranch in 1884. In 1910, the land passed to daughter Mary and her husband, Carl Marth. The Marths grew crops and raised horses and cows on 100 acres and willed the land to their daughter, Annie, and her husband, Walter Wagner, in 1920. Annie and Walter ranched the property until 1961, when daughter Elbirda and son-in-law Alfred Boeker took over. Their daughter, Birdie, and her husband, Howard Sommerfeld, own and operate the ranch. The name in German means "This is the daughter's hundred." In each turnover, the property always went to a daughter.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 157 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle, horses, corn, sugarcane, and potatoes; 1986 - Coastal hay and commercial cows.

# Turkey Track Ranch

Wharton Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles west of Wharton

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1957	R.H.D. Sorrel Jr.	Grandfather
1957-1974	Frank D. Sorrel and Martha (Sorrel) Lack	Father and Aunt
1974-1986	Frank D. Sorrel Jr.	

*R.H.D. Sorrel Jr. bought 1,889 acres of land that was heavily timbered with native pecan and red elm. About 700 acres had to be cleared by hand to plant corn and cotton. He grazed cattle on the dense bottomland. His cattle brand, the half circle S bar, is among the oldest registered in the county. He served in the Texas legislature and was very active in local affairs. His eldest son, Frank D., helped manage the land, and he registered his brand as the Turkey Track. Today, the cattle still carry both brands.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,889 **Acres still retained:** 1,496

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1986 - Corn, pecans, oak trees, and cattle.

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# Streit Farm

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and one-half miles south of Farm Roads 2073 and 2074

<i>Date of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1926	Fred Streit	Great-grandfather
1926-1983	John, Albert, Oscar and E.P. Streit	Great-uncles
1983-1984	Ernest Streit	Father
1984-1986	Gary Streit	

*To escape mandatory military conscription, Fred Streit and his male relatives came to Texas from Switzerland in 1883. Streit married Rosina Guggisbert, who bore 12 children. Streit and his sons organized a band that played for county functions, including a visit by President Teddy Roosevelt on his famous wolf hunt.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 480

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Wheat, oats, and mixed-breed cattle; 1986 - Wheat and mixed-breed cattle.

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# Ilse-Persky Farm

Williamson Co.

**Location of Farm:** On Interstate 35 between Jarrell and Georgetown

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-Unknown	Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Ilse	Grandparents
Unknown-1979	Louis Gus and Bertha Ilse	Parents
1979-1986	Virginia (Ilse) and Gus Persky	

*Wilhelm Ilse and his wife bought 168 acres of land in 1878, and later expanded their property, adding 1,500 acres. They had six children, and one son, Gus, acquired title to 80 acres of the land, raising cattle, corn, milo, oats, and cotton. He contributed part of his property to build Interstate 35. In 1979, the founder's granddaughter, Virginia, inherited 86 acres of the original property. Part of the land her grandparents bought for 50 cents an acre was donated to expand the interstate highway.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 168 **Acres still retained:** 86

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cattle, hogs, chickens, corn, and cane; 1986 - Wheat and cattle.

# Isaac "Ike" Newton & Willie Etta Woodard Farm

**Location of Farm:** Four miles west of Florence

**Williamson Co.**

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1931	Isaac Newton and Willie Etta Woodard	Parents
1931-1986	Minnie Lee Woodard	

*Isaac "Ike" Woodard and his wife, Willie Etta, bought 160 acres of Central Texas land in 1882. Childbirth did not hold Willie Etta back from her farm chores. Her first child, Thomas Claude, was born Oct. 25, 1882, and in the spring she helped plant the first crop by dropping corn seed from an ox-drawn plow. The couple had six children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cattle, horses, mules, hogs, ducks, geese, fruit, cotton, corn, millet, oats, wheat, cane, and small grain; 1986 - Oats, wheat, and hay.

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# Ramblin' Acres Farm

**Williamson Co.**

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles southeast of Taylor on Farm Road 112

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1938	Howard Bland	Grandfather
1938-1949	Roy Hoxie and Leah Bland	Parents
1949-1986	Roy Hoxie Jr. and Norma Bland	

*Howard Bland came to Texas from Zanesville, Ohio. Along with agriculture, he was involved in selling real estate, trading, processing wheat, beginning the Taylor Light Co. and serving in the Texas Legislature in 1916-17. With partners, Bland built the first multi-story building in Taylor, the Blazilmar Hotel. He also was involved in the oil business.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 392.5 **Acres still retained:** 392.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Sheep, cattle, cotton, corn, and hay; 1986 - Cotton, milo, wheat, sheep, and cattle.

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# Richter Homeplace

**Williamson Co.**

**Location of Farm:** One mile west of Walburg on Farm Road 972

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1916	Christian and Magdalena Richter	Grandparents
1916-1965	Traugott and Hulda Richter	Parents
1965-1986	Lydia (Richter) and John Neitsch	

*Christian and Magdalena Richter left Germany to escape the harsh political conditions of the time. Like other immigrants, they sought a better life that included the freedom lacking in their native country. They bought 237 acres of land that had once been part of the M.J. Garcia Spanish land grant. They were founders and supporters of the Zion Lutheran Church in Walburg. One of their sons, Traugott, inherited part of the land in 1916, and today, a granddaughter, Lydia, and her husband operate 81 of the original acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 237 **Acres still retained:** 81

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle, horses, mules, poultry, oats, barley, corn, and cotton; 1986 - Cattle, hay, grain sorghum, wheat, oats, and pecans.

# Jesse H. Carpenter Farm

Wise Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five and one-half miles northwest of Bridgeport

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1946	Jesse H. and Alice Carpenter	Grandparents
1946-1969	Jim and Agnes Carpenter	Parents
1969-1986	Bobby C. Carpenter	

*Jesse Houston Carpenter, a descendant of North Carolina revolutionary patriots, was born in Gilmer County, Georgia in 1854. At 26 he arrived in Texas with \$19 in his pocket. He made a living as a carpenter in Parker County for a while and then moved to Wise County in 1884 and purchased 202 acres to farm. In 1946, Jim Carpenter, youngest son of Jesse and his wife, Alice, acquired 100 acres. His operation consisted of peanuts, watermelons, small grains, and beef cattle. The founder's grandson, Bobby Carpenter, lives on the farm and continues to raise small grains and beef cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 202 **Acres still retained:** 86

**Livestock or crops raised:** 1884 - Corn, peanuts, hay, and cattle; 1986 - Small grains, cattle, and Coastal Bermuda grass.

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# John T. Whitley Ranch

Wise Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles north of Bridgeport on Farm Road 1658

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1897	Paralee Burgess	Great-grandmother
1897-1928	Rose Altha (Burgess) King	Grandmother
1928-1972	Nellie Bernice and Benjamin Oize Whitley	Parents
1972-1986	John T. and Agnes V. Whitley	

*Paralee Burgess, born July 27, 1822, in Mississippi, married Washington William Burgess of Alabama and settled on his farm near Huntsville in the late 1840s. Broken by the Civil War in which he served as a Confederate soldier, Burgess developed a drinking problem. In 1866, the family farm was sold at a tax auction and Paralee, her husband, and their children walked to Texas.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 270 **Acres still retained:** 283

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Horses and cattle; 1986 - Cattle, wheat, and hay.

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# Olive Branch Farm

Wise Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northwest of Chico

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1927	William and Margaret Stone	Great-grandparents
1927-1957	Mary (Stone) and John McGuire	Grandparents
1957-1973	Brady and Hazel McGuire	Parents
1973-1986	Jerry and Edith McGuire	

*William Bailey Stone came to Texas in the early 1880s from Flat Creek, Tennessee and bought 140 acres in 1882. He and his wife, Margaret, had eight children. The couple also gave part of their land to enlarge the Olive Branch Cemetery and helped establish the Willow Springs School.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 140 **Acres still retained:** 300

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton and cattle; 1986 - Cattle and hay.

# Cloud Ranch

Young Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles south of Murray

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1933	Jesse and Nannie Cloud	Grandparents
1933-1977	Jesse Jr. and Anna Cloud	Parents
1977-1986	Jerry D. Cloud	

*Tennessee native Jesse Wall Cloud and his wife, Nannie Ann, raised cattle on the 225 acres they bought on Oct. 26, 1885. The Clouds had 11 children. Jesse Cloud Jr. and his wife, Anna Rose, acquired title to 2,995 acres, which included the original 225 -acre ranch. Like their predecessors, they raised cattle. Jesse Jr. was named Outstanding Conservation Farmer in 1977 by the Young County Soil and Water Conservation District. Today, Anna Rose and her son, Jerry D., raise cattle, wheat, and hay on the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 225 **Acres still retained:** 225

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cattle; 1986 - Cattle, wheat, and hay.



*Texas*  
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*1987*



# Buchala Farm

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles southeast of San Felipe

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1902	Joseph and Marianna Buchala	Grandfather
1902-1948	John and Aloisie Buchala	Father
1948-1980	William C. and Victoria Buchala	Husband
1980-1987	Victoria Buchala	

*After their arrival from Czechoslovakia, Joseph and Marianna Buchala settled 231 acres of farm land as part of the original Stephen F. Austin grant. Active in the religious community, Joseph founded the St. Mary's Catholic Church and was a builder of the church cemetery in Frydek. Joseph and Marianna had five children and several of their family members still occupy the Buchala farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 231 **Acres still retained:** 142

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, sugarcane, corn, hogs, and cattle; 1987 - Corn and milo.

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# Krueger Farm

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile northeast of FM 2502 on Krueger Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1923	Henry F.C. Krueger and son Henry	Great-grandfather
1923-1964	Willie E. Krueger	Grandfather
1964-1982	Elton Henry Krueger and Emma Krueger	Father/grandmother
1982-1987	Laura (Boecker) Krueger, Laura Jean (Krueger) Schumann and Dalton Henry Krueger	

*German immigrants Henry F.C. Krueger and son Henry were co-founders of the original 102 acres purchased in 1875. Henry served as a charter member and trustee of the German Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Welcome. Henry and wife Auguste had nine children who carried on a tradition of church and school involvement. Upon the death of Willie Krueger in 1964 there was a division of the farm between Elton Krueger and his mother, Emma. Joint title was acquired in 1982 among the widow and children of Elton Krueger.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 102 **Acres still retained:** 102

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Cotton, corn, hogs, cattle, and chickens; 1987 - Cattle and pecans.

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# Mosley Ranch

Austin Co.

**Location of Ranch:** FM 109 in the Welcome Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1866-1903	Christoph and Charlotte Thielemann	Great-grandfather
1903-1969	William C. and Louise Thielemann	Grandfather
1969-1987	Verlyn L. and Charles Mosley	

*Christoph Thielemann began purchasing small tracts of land after his arrival from Oppendorf, Germany. The original parcel totaled 129 acres, but another 400 acres were later added to support his production of cotton, corn, and dairy cattle. Christoph and his wife, Charlotte, had five children. Their son, William, operated the farm from 1903 to 1969. Currently, the Mosley Ranch is owned and operated by Verlyn Mosley, the great-granddaughter of Christoph, and her husband, Charles, who raise cattle and produce hay on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 129 **Acres still retained:** 76

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1866 - Cotton, corn, and dairy cattle; 1987 - Cattle and hay.

# Foster Ranch

Bandera Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles west of Vanderpool on Highway 187

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1920	John P. and May Jane (Wilmot) Foster	Grandfather
1920-1965	Louis Stephen and Ella (Clayton) Foster	Father
1965-1987	Hoyt Milton and Doris A. Foster	

*A teamster originally from Gilford, New Hampshire, John Foster found his way to Central Texas in 1886 where he purchased 160 acres of land. His main crop was cotton, which was grown on 25 acres he cleared himself. John and his wife, May Jane, had 16 children. Their son, Louis, obtained title to the property in 1920 and added some 850 acres. In 1965 he was posthumously named to the Outstanding Soil Conservation Group in the Vanderpool area. Today the land is owned by Hoyt Milton Foster, the grandson of John Foster, the founder.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton and Angora goats; 1987 - Angora goats and cattle.

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# Dan Wolf Farm

Bastrop Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles north of McDade on Knobbs Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1916	August Ludwig Wolf	Grandfather
1916-1964	Martin Ludwig and Martha Wolf	Father
1964-1987	Dan and Evelyn Wolf	

*The son of immigrants from Germany, August Ludwig Wolf was a native Texan. At the age of 22 he purchased the original 119.5 acres of land. He eventually added 102.5 more acres. August did blacksmith work and built his own tools in his shop. August and his wife, Marie, had five children. His son, Martin, acquired 80 acres in 1916, where he grew blackberries, pears, and peanuts. In 1940, Martin purchased one of the first tractors in the McDade area. Martin's son, Dan, runs the farm today with his wife, Evelyn, and their four children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 119.5 **Acres still retained:** 76.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, cows, and hogs; 1987 - Pears, blackberries, corn, and cattle.

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# Muehlhause Farm

Bell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles north of Bartlett on Highway 95

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1927	Nicholas and Auguste Muehlhause	Grandfather
1927-1962	Gerhardt and Wilhelmine Muehlhause	Father
1962-1987	Benjamin and Leola Muehlhause	

*Nicholas and Auguste Muehlhause came to Texas from Germany in order to avoid military conscription. In 1877, Auguste purchased 1,000 acres of land in Bell County from D.C. Freeman on which he produced cotton, corn, hay, and livestock. Nicholas and Auguste had ten children. Their son, Gerhardt, acquired 240 acres in 1927. He improved the land by adding terracing, fencing, and a stock pond. Today Benjamin, the son of Gerhardt, farms the land along with his wife, Leola.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 144

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cotton, corn, hay, and livestock; 1987 - Cotton, grain, and livestock.

# Whitney Farm

Bosque Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles northeast of Valley Mills, near Cayote

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1903	Mason G. and Jennie (Chase) Whitney	Great-grandfather
1903-1941	Charles and Alberta (Warrington) Whitney	Grandfather
1941-1981	Homer and Elsie (Kleine) Whitney	Father
1981-1987	Alton Wayne Whitney, Raymond Homer Whitney and Elsie Jean (Whitney) Wortham	

*The promise of cheap land and warm weather brought Mason Whitney to Texas from Gardiner, Maine. He purchased 721 acres in 1887 and began raising sheep, cattle, and cotton. Mason built a large two-story home on the site, a new home, and the church and pews for the Cayote church. In 1963, the Whitney Farm was recognized as an Outstanding Conservationist by the Bosque County Conservation District.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 721 **Acres still retained:** 371

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, sheep, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle and grass for grazing.

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# Garza Ranch

Brooks Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Sixteen miles west of Falfurrias, off State Highway 285

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1929	Claudio and Urbana (Guerra) Barrera	Great-grandparents
1929-1958	Francisco and Virginia Barrera (Villareal)	Grandparents
1958-1964	Heirs of Francisco and Virginia	Uncles, aunts, cousins
1964-1987	Octavio and Felisa (Flores) Garza and daughter	

*In 1885, Claudio Barrera, originally from Mier, Mexico, purchased back the land that had once belonged to his great-grandfather. He raised cattle and watermelons. His daughter, Virginia, acquired title in 1929 and made significant improvements, including a water well and windmill. In 1964, Felisa Flores Garza, the granddaughter of Virginia and Francisco, improved the land by installing a second well system, planting buffalo grass, and cross-fencing cattle pastures. Felisa F. Garcia and her daughter, Felisa, raise cattle on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,108 **Acres still retained:** 807

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Watermelons and cattle; 1987 - Cattle.

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# Los Braziles Ranch

Brooks Co.

**Location of Ranch:** 18 miles west of Falfurrias

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1882	Jose Anastacio and Rafaela (Hinojosa) Barrera	Great-grandparents
1882-1890	Placido and Ruperta (Guerra) Barrera	Grandparents
1890-unknown	Ruperta (Guerra) Barrera	Grandmother
unknown-1981	Felix and Isabel (Garcia) Barrera	Father / mother
1981-1987	Hector Barrera, Elmina (Barrera) Hagy and Manuel Felix Barrera	

*Jose Anastacio Barrera and his wife, Rafaela, left their home in Mier, Mexico, to work 19,148 acres in Brooks County. They raised agricultural goods with the seed stock they brought from Mexico. Two of Anastacio's sons were excellent trackers who were often employed by Texas Rangers to find stolen livestock. Under the ownership of Felix Barrera, most of the land was cleared of brush and planted in Coastal Bermuda grass. Cattle rotation was implemented to improve the land's productivity. The original adobe home is still in use on Los Braziles.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 19,148 **Acres still retained:** 528

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Corn, beans, cotton, goats, sheep, cattle, and horses; 1987 - Hay and cattle.

# Byrd Ranch

Brown Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eight miles northeast of Brownwood on County Road 333

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1922	Samuel Joseph and Margie Ann (Willbanks) Byrd	Grandparents
1922-1924	Liberty Patton, Samuel Nicodemus and William Silas Byrd	Uncles
1924-1985	William Silas and Eula (Sears) Byrd	Parents
1985-1987	Dorothy Jean (Byrd) Milam and Margie Marie (Byrd) Reese	

*S.J. Byrd and his wife, Margie Ann, purchased their original 160 acres in Brown County in 1881. They used the land to raise cotton, cattle, and grain until Samuel drowned trying to cross rain-swollen Pecan Bayou. After the death of Margie Ann in 1922, the three sons of Samuel Byrd acquired the land. William Silas bought out his brothers for full title to the land and had soon built a new ranch house to raise his family. He was a deacon in the local Baptist church and a school board member. The two daughters of William today share the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton, cattle, and grain; 1987 - Registered Polled Herefords.

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# Melvin A. Giesenschlag Place

Burleson Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles northwest of Snook on FM 2039

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1886	Johann Joachim and Anna (Schulze) Giesenschlag	Great-grandfather
1886-1947	Adolph and Caroline (Eberhardt) Giesenschlag	Grandfather
1947-1984	John William and Amelia (Schoenemann) Giesenschlag	Father
1984-1987	Melvin Adolph Giesenschlag	

*Johann Giesenschlag left Prussia for America to obtain economic freedom. He purchased his original 1,114 acres in 1879. He and his wife, Anna Schulze, had six children. He used the "G6" brand on his cattle in their honor. Adolph acquired 189 acres in 1886 and built a family home known as "Giesenschlag Hill." In 1947, under the ownership of John William, the family went from mules to tractors. John was an innovator in the areas of land and water conservation. Melvin Adolph, the son of John and Amelia, owns the ranch today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,114 **Acres still retained:** 67

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Corn, cattle, and livestock ; 1987 - Cotton, cattle, and corn.

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# Stefka Farm

Burleson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles northeast of Caldwell on FM 210

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1911	John and Teresa Trcalek	Great-grandparents
1911-1961	John and Rosie (Trcalek) Stefka	Grandparents
1961-1972	John E. and Lydia Stefka	Parents
1972-1987	Daniel J. and Rosalie Stefka	

*Freedom drew John and Teresa Trcalek from their native Czechoslovakia to Central Texas. The original farm consisted of 70.6 acres. They lived in a one-room log cabin that is still in use today, but later built a three room house. Rosie, daughter to John and Teresa, took title in 1911 and purchased the Stefka's first tractor in 1938. Their son, John, took over the farm in 1961 and brought modern farm techniques to the operation. John's son, Daniel, took over in 1972. Like his father, he and his wife are helpful neighbors and church leaders.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 70.6 **Acres still retained:** 70.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cotton, corn, hogs, cattle, and horses; 1987 - Cattle, maize, and hay crops.

# W.S. Barnett Sr. Farm

Burleson Co.

**Location of Farm:** West of Hull street in Caldwell

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1929	William S. Barnett Sr.	Father
1929-1950	Carrie Florence (Krohne) Barnett	Mother
1950-1987	Curtis H.W. Barnett	

*W.S. Barnett came from Lytton Springs, Texas, to Caldwell in 1886. He purchased his original 39 acres at the age of 28. He was married soon after and built a seven room home for his wife, Carrie Florence. The couple had four children, one of which died very young. In 1929, W.S. was killed in a horse accident and title passed to his wife, Carrie. Upon her death in 1950, her son, Curtis H.W., inherited the land. At over 90 years of age, he is still the owner and operator of the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 39 **Acres still retained:** 19

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, hogs, goats, sheep, cattle, and grass; 1987 - Grass and hay.

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# Ballew Ranch

Caldwell Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles northeast of Luling on C.R. 141 in the Tilmon Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1946	Albert Ballew	Grandfather/father-in-law
1946-1977	Thomas Hurd Ballew	Father/husband
1977-1987	Tommie Nell Ballew and Pearl Perry Ballew	

*Albert Ballew came from Louisiana to Texas in the 1850s. In 1883, he bought 125 acres of Central Texas farmland and began growing cotton and corn. He also raised cattle, hogs, and poultry. Albert served as justice of the peace at Tilmon for several years. He and his wife, Anna, had six children. In 1946, Thomas Hurd Ballew acquired the land. He implemented the use of bulldozers to dig stock ponds and served as Democratic precinct chair for over 60 years. Today the farm is run by his daughter, Tommie Nell Ballew, and his widow, Perry Pearl Ballew.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 125 **Acres still retained:** 107

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, hogs, cattle, and poultry; 1987 - Cattle.

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# The J.C.M. Ranch

Caldwell Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seven miles north of Luling on F.M. 1322

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1949	Thomas G. and Laura (Lavina) Jackson	Great-grandparents
1949-1961	William Allen and Mattie Ola (Jackson) Mitchell	Grandparents
1961-1984	John Covilla and Alma Yvonne (Powell) Mitchell	Parents
1984-1987	Leah (Mitchell) Brown and Jane Ann Norrell	

*Thomas G. and Laura Lavina Jackson purchased their original 416 acres from Laura's aunt and uncle. Thomas had worked as a drover before his marriage to Laura. After the death of Thomas in 1910, Laura moved to Austin. She died in 1949, and her daughter, Mattie Ola, inherited the ranch. Mattie and her husband raised cattle for many years and ran the Ward Motel in Luling. Their son, John, and his wife took over the place in 1961, raising cattle, hay, and watermelons. Their two daughters, Jane Ann and Leah Yvonne, own the farm today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 416 **Acres still retained:** 311.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle; 1987 - Cattle.

# The William Schulz Farm

Caldwell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles west of Lockhart on FM 142

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1908	William Valentin and Augusta (Schaefer) Schulz	Grandfather
1908-1969	Otto and Frieda (Schulz) Strandtmann	Parents
1969-1987	Russell W. and Mary Ruth (Chance) Strandtmann	

*William V. Schulz was born in New Braunfels in 1854, he purchased his original 150-acre tract in 1879. He and his wife, Augusta, had four children, three of whom died before the age of four. William himself died at age 37. The sole surviving daughter, Frieda, took title in 1908, along with her husband, Otto Strandtmann. They improved the land by terracing, adding stock ponds, and by digging water wells. They were the first in the area to use four-row farm equipment. Today the farm is run by Russel and Mary Ruth Strandtmann and their son.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 92

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cotton, corn, and red-top sorghum; 1987 - Cotton, milo, maize, and cattle.

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# Greenwood Bottom Ranch

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles southeast of New Summerfield on FM 235

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1911	Jasper and Sarah Jane (Sanderson) Greenwood	Grandparents
1911-1977	Stanley and Lula (Fitch) Greenwood	Parents
1977-1987	Stanley Jr. and Ruth (Burton) Greenwood	

*Jasper Greenwood and his wife, Sarah, purchased the first half of their land in 1883 and the second in 1888. Jasper was active in the Masonic Lodge and the Myrtle Springs Church. Sarah kept busy raising 16 children, 12 of whom lived to adulthood. Stanley, the eldest son, inherited the ranch in 1911. He switched from mule plowing to mechanical methods. He was a deacon of the First Baptist Church and a school trustee. He and his second wife, Lula, had a son named Stanley Jr., who with his wife, Ruth, took over the ranch in 1977 and still operates it today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 275

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, horses, mules, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle.

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# Warner Farm

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Wells

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1912	Daniel Carl and Elizabeth (Eubanks) Warner	Grandparents
1912-1938	Thomas Bascum and Carrye (Reeves) Warner	Parents
1938-1987	Bonnie Nell Warner and Norma Bell Warner	

*Daniel and Elizabeth Warner came to Texas to visit family, liked what they saw, and decided to settle in Cherokee County. The family learned early that hard work and good management are part of agriculture. Daniel and his daughter, Laura, died of pneumonia soon after purchasing the farm. In 1912 the eldest son, Thomas, acquired title to the land. The farm borders the Angelina River, and religious baptismal services were often held there. The farm is now owned by the daughters of Thomas and Carrye, and operated by a cousin, E.F. Hicks.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 143 **Acres still retained:** 143

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, cattle, and hogs; 1987 - Hay and timber.



# Henry Radde Ranch

Coke Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eighteen miles west of Robert Lee on Highway 158

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1943	Henry William and Alice Medora (Chapman) Radde	Grandparents
1943-1984	Leo Adolph and Zula (Burke) Radde	Father/stepmother
1984-1987	Delmer Adolph and Helen Radde	

*Henry Radde, a native of Germany, came to Texas from Illinois. Lured by the promise of cheap land, he purchased his original 160 acres in 1886. By the time of his death in 1936, Henry owned 2,622 acres. His wife, Alice, ran the farm until her death in 1943. At that time title passed to her son, Leo Adolph, who went on to buy out his sibling's interest in the ranch. Leo was married twice. Upon his death, his second wife, Zula, took title. Leo's son inherited the ranch upon her death. Delmer and his wife, Helen, operate the ranch today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Wheat, oats, corn, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle, sheep, wheat, and oats.

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# Helms Farm

Collin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eleven and a half miles northwest of McKinney

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1924	James Helms	Grandfather
1924-1965	William Thompson and Mary Alice (Hamilton) Helms	Parents
1965-1987	Jim Berry Helms	

James Helms purchased his 80 acre farm near McKinney in 1887. James and his wife, Penelope (Null) Helms, had seven children. The oldest son, William Thompson, acquired title in 1924. He and his wife, Mary Alice, had eight children. William was able to add 80 acres to the property before title passed to his oldest son, Jim Berry, who currently serves as executor of his mother's estate, grows wheat and maize, and raises cattle on the farm.

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Wheat, oats, corn, cotton, and livestock; 1987 - Wheat, maize, and cattle.

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# E Bar Ranch

Colorado Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One-half mile north of the south end of Zimmerscheidt Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1860-1891	Joseph Hennecke	Great-grandfather
1891-1944	Jacob and Mary (Braden) Hennecke	Grandparents
1944-1973	Eugene and Jocelyn (Hennecke) Harbich	Parents
1973-1987	Charles and Teresa Harbich, Marilyn Harbich, Dianna Shalin, James Harbich, and Andrew Harbich	

*Joseph Hennecke, a Prussian immigrant, bought his 220 acres in 1860. He became a naturalized citizen and learned to read, write and speak English. He and his wife, Katherine (Burtschell), had seven children. Their son, Jacob Hennecke, acquired 138 acres in 1891. He was a charter member of the Beef Meat Club and active in Hermann Sons. He and wife, Mary, had nine children. Jacob's daughter, Jocelyn, took title in 1944, along with her husband, Eugene Harbich. Jocelyn and Eugene had five children, all of whom have shared co-ownership of the ranch since 1973.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 220 **Acres still retained:** 138

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1860 - Corn, cotton, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle, Bahia seed, and hay.

# Cogburn Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** One-quarter mile south of FM 2421 near DeLeon

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1937	N.J. and Lydia (Moorman) Cogburn	Grandparents
1937-1943	Walter Franklin and Maude (Gregory) Cogburn	Parents
1943-1987	Stella Cogburn Park	

*Looking for a better life, the Cogburns purchased 154 acres in Comanche County in 1885. They were founders of the Ramsey Church of Christ and Trustees of the Oliver Springs School. They had 13 children, and in 1937 their son, Walter, acquired 65 acres. He and his wife, Maude, improved the land by cutting brush, building fences and two houses. In 1943, Stella, the daughter of Walter, acquired the land. She continues to raise registered Longhorns on the farm. The original homeplace has been standing for more than 100 years.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 154 **Acres still retained:** 65

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, cotton, Longhorn cattle, and horses; 1987 - Registered Longhorns.

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# Bugg Farm

Cooke Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Gainesville in U.S. 82

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1917	George Bugg	Grandfather
1917-1931	Melissa (Kent) Bugg	Grandmother
1931-1970	John Franklin Bugg and Allie Grace Bugg	Uncle, aunt
1970-1987	Wendell Proffer	

*George Bugg came to Texas from Tennessee. In 1880, he purchased an 80-acre tract on which he farmed berries, potatoes, cotton, and apples. He and his wife, Melissa, had seven children. George died during the flu epidemic in 1917. His widow owned the farm until she passed title to her son and daughter in 1931. After the death of John in 1970, title passed to a nephew, Wendell Proffer, who is the grandson of the founder. The original home, built in 1882, is still used today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 27

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cotton, apples, berries, and potatoes; 1987 - Cattle and hay.

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# JNL Ranch

Coryell Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twenty miles southwest of Gatesville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1884	J.D. Robinson	Great-grandfather
1884-1957	W.W. and Almeda (Williamson) Robinson	Grandparents
1957-1976	Fred and Mollie (Harman) Robinson	Parents
1976-1987	J. Nelson and Joanne (Robinson) Lee	

*J.D. Robinson purchased his original 500 acres in 1877. He built a log cabin and a barn and converted range land into farm land. J.D. also helped establish the First Methodist Church of Pearl. J.D.'s son, W.W., and W.W.'s wife Almeda, acquired the ranch in 1884. He fenced the land and added another 281 acres. His son, Fred, took over the property with his wife in 1957. He was able to add another 368 acres and continued to farm and raise livestock. He built a dam across Bee House Creek. Fred's daughter, Joanne, lives on the ranch today with her husband, J. Nelson.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 500 **Acres still retained:** 500

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cotton, corn, oats, and livestock; 1987 - Oats, barley, hay, and livestock.

# Wilhelm Farm

Coryell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles northwest of Gatesville in the Ames Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1914	August Christuf Wilhelm	Grandfather
1914-1974	Henry Herman and Martha Ethel (Coward) Wilhelm	Parents
1974-1987	Lucille and J.D. Forrest	

*August Christuf Wilhelm moved to Texas as a child from his native Germany. In 1887, he purchased 100 acres on which he farmed and raised livestock. He helped build the Ames Methodist Church and organize the first community school. August and his wife, Christina Schutt Williams, had five children. His son, Henry Herman, inherited the farm in 1914. Henry and his wife, Martha Ethel (Coward), had four children. Their daughter, Lucille, and her husband, J.D., currently own and operate the farm. The original home still stands.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, and livestock; 1987 - Cattle, milo, and vegetables.

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# Edgar A-Lazy E Ranch

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Fifteen miles north of Cuero on FM 951

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1948	William E. Edgar	Grandfather
1948-1973	Clifford and Lota (Jaegar) Edgar	Parents
1973-1987	Cybril and Chloe (Estes) Edgar	

*William Edgar came to Texas as a boy with his father. He was a teacher until 1885, when he bought his original 703 acres. William and his wife, Lou Anna (Jacobs), had eight children. His son, Clifford, acquired the farm in 948. He and his wife, Lota (Jaeger), had three children. Cybril, the son of Clifford, took title to the ranch in 1973. Today, he and his wife, Chloe (Estes), raise cattle and hay on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 703 **Acres still retained:** 226

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, cattle, horses, and corn; 1987 - Cattle and hay.

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# Gary Lassman Farm

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirteen miles southwest of Cuero on FM 236

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1883	Ehrenfred and Bertha Lassmann	Great-grandparents
1883-1895	Bertha Lassman and children	Great-grandmother
1895-1931	William and Anna (Reinecke) Lassman	Grandparents
1931-1942	Anna Lassman and children	Grandmother
1942-1972	Edwin George and Melba Lucille Lassman	Parents
1972-1987	Gary Lynn Lassman	

*Ehrenfred and Bertha Lassmann came to Texas from their native Germany. They purchased 248 acres where they cleared the land and built a home from logs on the property. After the divorce of the founders, Bertha and her children ran the farm. In 1895 her son, William, took title. He and his wife, Anna (Reinecke), had six children. In 1931, after William's death, Anna ran the farm with her children. By 1948 Anna's son, Edwin, and his wife, Lucille, had title. Their son, Gary, acquired full title in 1986 and raises cattle on the farm today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 248 **Acres still retained:** 241

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cotton, corn, and livestock; 1987 - Cattle.

# Heritage Oaks Ranch

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seven miles southeast of Cuero off FM 236

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1950	Ferdinand C. Hartman	Grandfather
1950-1985	Walter F. Hartman	Father
1985-1987	Virginia Hartman Stoldt and Walter F. Hartman Jr.	

*Ferdinand C. Hartman acquired his original 361 acres in 1884. He raised Hereford cattle, corn, and cotton and became one of the most prominent ranchers in Texas. He and his wife, Mathilde (Schrade), raised five children. Their son, Walter, took title in 1950. He and his wife, Lucille (Bohl), were church leaders and were also involved in local agricultural programs and the FFA. Walter and Lucille had two children, Walter Jr. and Virginia. Today they share co-ownership of the land and have made considerable improvements to the land and livestock.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 361 **Acres still retained:** 361

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, and Hereford cattle; 1987 - Cattle and hay.

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# Hoffmann Bar 4 Ranch

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eight miles southeast of Cuero on South River Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1895	Peter and Hulda Rath	Great-grandparents
1895-1947	Fred and Annie Mary Rath	Grandparents
1947-1978	Annie Mary Rath, Dorathea Hulda Rath, Edward Arthur Rath, Emilia Mary (Rath) Hoffmann, Cornelius Peter Rath	Grandmother, uncles, aunts
1978-1987	Willie Jr. and Ann Elizabeth Rath	

*Peter and Hulda Rath emigrated from Germany to build a future. In 1887, they purchased 140 acres and grew corn and cotton and raised cattle. They had eight children. In 1895 their son, Fred, acquired the ranch from his parents. Fred and his wife, Annie Mary, had four children. After Fred's death, his widow and children shared the land. After changing hands within the family for many years, title came to rest with Willie Hoffmann Jr., the great-grandson of Peter and Hulda, in 1978. He and his wife, Ann Elizabeth, raise cattle on the ranch today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 140 **Acres still retained:** 140

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle.

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# Leck Ranch

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles south of Cuero on Thomaston Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1893	Ambrosia Hans	Great-grandfather
1893-1893	August and Josephine (Hans) Hartman	Great-aunt
1893-1965	Edward Hans	Great-uncle
1965-1978	Nora (Hans) and Alvin J. Doehrman	Grandparents
1978-1978	Elfie (Hans) and Roland Adickes	Parents
1978-1987	Connie (Hans) and Gus Leck	

*Ambrosia Hans left Germany in search of a better life. In 1887, he purchased 250 acres in DeWitt County. He and his wife, Agatha, had six children. In 1893, the husband of Josephine Hans acquired the land. He immediately sold 100 acres to his brother-in-law, Edward, who added 181 acres to his property. Edward and his wife, Sophie, had 11 children. Their oldest daughter, Nora, took title in 1965. Her daughter, Elfie, acquired the property in 1978 and immediately passed it to her daughter, Connie, who operates the farm today with her husband, Gus Leck.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 250 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cattle, corn, and livestock; 1987 - Cattle and hay.

# T.M. Harper Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles west of Palmer on Hwy. 878

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1900	Sam and Elizabeth Harper	Grandparents
1900-1957	Thomas M. and Irma (Hamblen) Harper	Parents
1957-1987	Thomas H. and Irma Harper	

*Sam and Elizabeth Harper came from Ohio in 1885 and bought land from J.H. Davis. They raised cotton, corn, and cattle, were involved in community activities and had five children. Their son, Thomas, began buying the land from his parents in 1900. By 1942, he had acquired the original acreage, plus another 10 acres his parents had purchased. His son Thomas Jr., Thomas' wife, Wynell, and their daughter, Irma, continue to run the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 576 2/3 **Acres still retained:** 576 2/3

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, cattle; 1987 - Cotton, corn, wheat, milo, cattle.

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# Mitchell Ranch

Falls Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirteen miles southeast of Marlin on FM 413

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1867	Martha (Harlan) Mitchell	Great-grandmother
1867-1940	William Henry and Margaret Mitchell	Parents
1940-1987	William Henry II and Gladys Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. Rice III, Mr. and Mrs. William Mitchell Rice	

*Martha Mitchell came from South Carolina and inherited 738 acres in the Blue Ridge Community of Falls County in 1854. She and her husband, Memnon, had four children, but Memnon died soon after they settled. Their son, William Henry, became head of the household in 1867, planting orchards and cultivating tobacco. He and his wife, Margaret (Chamberlain), had 14 children and he helped build roads and served as postmaster of the Harlanville Post Office. Their sons divided the property in 1941; William Henry II operates the 340 acre ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 738 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1854 - Unknown; 1987 - Cattle, oats, and hay.

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# L.B. Tefsteller Home Place

Fannin Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and one-half miles from Bailey on FM 1552

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1929	Leonidas B. and Clarissa (Sudderth) Tefsteller	Grandparents
1929-1965	Tommie (Tefsteller) and William Hale	Parents
1965-1987	Margaret Marie (Hale) McLeod	

*Leonidas and Clarissa Tefsteller settled the land that had been patented to Clarissa's first husband, J.G. London. They were very active in farm organizations and in the Portland community. Their daughter, Tommie, and her husband, William Hale, acquired 40 acres in 1920 and the rest in 1929. During their ownership the farm was modernized, and they were also involved in agricultural activities and in the community. Their daughter, Margaret Marie McLeod, now owns the property, and her brother, Lynwood, operates the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, oats, wheat, cotton, grain, and sweet potatoes; 1987 - Wheat, cotton, and milo.

# AOK Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles east of LaGrange on County Road 217

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1911	Margarette Keilers	Great-grandmother
1911-1950	John Keilers	Grandfather
1950-1976	Otto Keilers	Father
1976-1987	Alois Keilers, Aurleen (Keilers) Kaspar, Alice (Keilers) Schmitt	

*Margarette Keilers purchased 200 acres in 1887. She and her husband, Friedrich, grew cotton, corn, hay, cattle, and hogs, and had six children. Their son, John, and his wife, Emma (Spies), acquired the farm in 1911, and their son, Otto, took over in 1950. Otto and his wife, Lillie (Busch), had three children, Alois, Aurleen, and Alice, who divided the farm and continue to operate the land. Their mother, Lillie, still lives in the original home.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 127

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, and hogs; 1987 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, hogs, and maize.

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# Erwin T. Zoch Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles northwest of Winchester

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1918	Christian and Magdalena Zoch	Grandparents
1918-1963	Emil Zoch	Father
1963-1987	Erwin T. Zoch	

*Christian and Magdalena (Jacob) Zoch came from Germany seeking religious freedom. They bought land in Fayette County and helped organize St. Michael's Lutheran Church. They had seven children; son Emil acquired the farm in 1918 and was also a Fayette County commissioner and a founding member of the county Farm Bureau. He and his wife, Lydia (Kasper), had eight children. Their son, Erwin, now owns the farm and serves on the county Farm Bureau board and has been a 4-H leader.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 146 **Acres still retained:** 146

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, grains, and livestock; 1987 - Peanuts, corn, milo, wheat, cattle, and swine.

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# Kaspar Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles east of LaGrange on County Road 217

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1911	Margarette Keilers	Great-grandmother
1911-1950	John Keilers	Grandfather
1950-1976	Otto Keilers	Father
1976-1987	Alois Keilers, Aurleen (Keilers) Kaspar, Alice (Keilers) Schmitt	

*Margarette Keilers purchased 200 acres in 1887. She and her husband, Friedrich, grew cotton, corn, hay, cattle, and hogs, and had six children. Their son, John, and his wife, Emma (Spies), acquired the farm in 1911, and their son, Otto, took over in 1950. Otto and his wife, Lillie (Busch), had three children, Alois, Aurleen and Alice, who divided the farm and continue to operate the land. Their mother, Lillie, still lives in the original home.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 30.6236

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, and hogs; 1987 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, hogs, and maize.

## Otto Jochen Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles north of Schulenburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1870-1906	Gottlieb Youken	Grandfather
1906-1949	Louis Jochen	Father
1949-1987	Viola and Otto Jochen Sr.	

*Gottlieb Youken came from Prussia in 1860 and changed his name to Jochen. He acquired 400 acres, and he and his wife, Henritta (Voight), raised cotton, grain, and horses, built log cabins, and raised nine children. There was also a school called Walker Branch on the property. Their sons, Louis, Gustav, and Henry, each acquired parts of the property in 1906. Louis gave his three children, Elsa, Alma, and Otto 33-1/3 acres, and in 1949 Otto bought his father's part. His son, Otto Jr., leases the land and raises Limousin cattle and hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 134

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Cotton, grain, and horses; 1987 - Cattle, corn, and hay.

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## Post Oak Hill Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles east of LaGrange on County Road 217

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1911	Margarette Keilers	Great-grandmother
1911-1950	John Keilers	Grandfather
1950-1976	Otto Keilers	Father
1976-1987	Alois Keilers, Aurleen (Keilers) Kaspar, Alice (Keilers) Schmitt	

*Margarette Keilers purchased 200 acres in 1887. She and her husband, Friedrich, grew cotton, corn, hay, cattle, and hogs, and had six children. Their son, John, and his wife, Emma (Spies), acquired the farm in 1911, and their son, Otto, took over in 1950. Otto and his wife, Lillie (Busch), had three children, Alois, Aurleen, and Alice, who divided the farm and continue to operate the land. Their mother, Lillie, still lives in the original home.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 26.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, and hogs; 1987 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, hogs, and maize.

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## Wagner Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles north of Schulenburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1901	Carl Frederick Adam and Wilhelmine (Arnold) Frank	Grandparents
1901-1948	Augustinus "Tinus" and Flora (Windmeyer) Frank	Parents
1948-1987	Hattie (Frank) Wagner	

*Carl Frederick Adam Frank and his wife, Wilhelmine, arrived in Galveston from Germany in 1854. Adam, as he was known, was also a shoemaker and worked as a hatmaker during the Civil War. He was a founder of Evangelical Lutheran Church. His son, Augustinus ("Tinus"), bought the land in 1901 for \$4,000 and was a founder of Farmer's State Bank in Schulenburg. His daughter, Hattie, and her husband, Walter Wagner, bought the land for \$6,750 in 1948; the primary activity now is dairy farming. Hattie and two sons still live on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 152-1/5 **Acres still retained:** 150

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Cotton, corn, livestock, and bees; 1987 - Dairy cattle, chickens, sheep, hay, oats, and hogs.

# W.A. Ullrich Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles southeast of Carmine, near Windedale

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1905	Adam Ullrich	Grandfather
1905-1949	Adam Ullrich Jr.	Father
1949-1987	Willie A. and Verlie Ullrich	

*Adam Ullrich of Germany and his wife, Louise, bought 142 acres in 1885. He sold half the farm and his son, Adam Jr., acquired the remaining half, adding cattle and hogs to his production. He and his wife, Lina, had six children. W.A. and his wife, Verlie, have improved the land with diversion terraces and fencing. He raised championship registered Hampshire and Tamworth hogs, which he marketed throughout the country, and still produces corn, hay, and cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 142 **Acres still retained:** 71

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, and hay; 1987 - Corn, hay, and cattle.

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# Hassell Farm

Fisher Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eighteen miles southwest of Roby

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1942	Mat Schwarz	Father-in-law
1942-1947	Anna Marie (Bilger) Schwarz	Mother-in-law
1947-1981	Frieda (Schwarz) Hassell	Wife
1981-1987	Ethmer C. Hassell	

*Mat Schwarz and his wife, Anna Maria, came to Texas from Germany seeking a better life. They bought 160 acres from the state of Texas and farmed cotton and cattle, adding 1,600 acres. They had 11 children. When Mat died in 1942, his widow acquired the farm. Their youngest daughter, Frieda, and her husband, Ethmer C. Hassell, acquired the land and had four children. Since Frieda's death in 1981, Ethmer has continued to run the farm, raising cotton, cattle, and hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton and cattle; 1987 - Cotton, cattle, and hay.

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# Grobe Farm

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles northeast of Fredericksburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1929	Herman F. Grobe	Grandfather
1929-1965	Arthur and Bertha (Heiner) Grobe	Parents
1965-1987	Bertha Grobe, Ruth (Grobe) Lich (mother and daughter)	

*Herman Grobe was born in Guadalupe County. After his family moved to Gillespie County, his father was killed by Indians and he was raised for room and board, then worked as a freighter for the government. In 1887, he bought a 640-acre tract and camped under a tree while preparing the land. He married Bertha (Ellebracht) and they had six children. His son, Arthur, took over the farm, and he and his wife, Bertha (Heiner), had a daughter, Ruth (Lich), who has owned the land with her mother since her father's death in 1965.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 266

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cattle, cotton, grain, and corn; 1987 - Corn, hay, oats, wheat, cattle, and goats.



# Harlan Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south of U.S. 290 and one mile west of FM 783

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1891	John A. and Mary D. (Williams) (Harlan) Rogers	Grandmother
1891-1948	Thomas P. Harlan II	Father
1948-1986	Thomas P. Harlan III	

*Thomas P. Harlan and Mary Dallas Williams were married in 1869. He died that year, and she bore a son, Thomas P. Harlan II. She returned to Texas from Tennessee and married Thomas' cousin, John A. Rogers Jr. He received a land grant for his service in the Republic of Texas Army, and they purchased 1,600 acres for Thomas. In 1891, Thomas married Emma Alice (Watkins), and they had four children. When he died in 1948, his son, Thomas III, acquired the land. He and his wife, Cleo (Peters), have three sons and continue to raise cattle on the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 244

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Sheep, cattle, and horses; 1987 - Cattle and horses.

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# Loma Alta Ranch

Goliad Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles southeast of Carmine, near Winedale

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1893	Robert E. Nutt	Great-grandfather
1893-1945	Ella (Nutt) May	Grandmother
1945-1982	Sula (May) Cook	Mother
1982-1987	Robert L. Cook Jr., Lucille (Cook) Smith	

*Robert E. Nutt was born in North Carolina. He bought 2,800 acres in 1873 and 1,418 acres in 1874. He and his wife, Amanda (Bird), had nine children. Their daughter, Ella Jane May, acquired the farm in 1893; her husband, David, attended seminars at A&M College to learn the latest animal husbandry techniques. They also built a one-room schoolhouse. Their daughter, Sula, and her husband, Robert Cook, acquired the land in 1945, and their son, Robert, and daughter, Lucille, currently raise livestock on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,800 **Acres still retained:** 175

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Sheep, cattle, horses, corn, hay, and vegetables; 1987 - Livestock.

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# May Farm

Goliad Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northwest of Berclair on FM 883

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1892	Robert E. Nutt	Great-grandparents
1892-1940	Ella Jane (Nutt) and David R. May	Grandparents
1940-1962	Harry Alton May	Father
1962-1987	Lee Ella (May) Bright, LaVerne (May) Webb, Lena Faye (May) Whitely	

*R.E. Nutt settled in Bee County in 1857, helping in the creation of Bee County from Goliad, Refugio, and San Patricio counties. He and his wife, Amanda (Bird) Nutt, had nine children. Their daughter, Ella Jane May, and her husband, Dave, acquired the property in 1892. Their son, Harry, acquired a share of the property in 1940, and about this time a Farmall H tractor was purchased for the farm. Three of Harry and Hilda (Davis) May's daughters now own the farm, which is run by LaVerne and her husband, James Webb.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,418 **Acres still retained:** 228

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Sheep, cattle, and horses; 1987 - Cattle and grain.

# Wheatland

Grayson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles west of Dorchester on FM 902

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1893	Douglas Hunter	Great-grandfather
1893-1933	John Hunter	Grandfather
1933-1972	Ruby (Hunter) Newman	Mother
1972-1987	Frank F. Newman Jr.	

*Douglas Hunter, a native of Scotland, came to Texas from Wisconsin in 1876. He and his wife, Jane, had six children and donated land for Range Creek School and helped organize Community Presbyterian Church. Their oldest son, John, acquired 190 acres in 1893 and worked to get county roads built. When his daughter, Ruby, acquired 160 acres in 1933, she sold eight acres for FM 902. Her son, Frank F. Newman Jr., acquired 76.96 acres and farms it with his wife, Zelma, his son Frank E., his daughter-in-law, Catherine, and their son, Matthew.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 563 **Acres still retained:** 76.96

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Corn, oats, cotton, and cattle; 1987 - Wheat, cattle, and hay.

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# Charles Behrendt Estate

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Geronimo

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1909	Charles Behrendt	Father
1909-1987	Herbert Behrendt, Hertha Behrendt, Malinda Behrendt	

*Charles Behrendt was born in Schumannsville in Guadalupe County in 1860. He bought 190 acres in 1883, and he and his wife, Maria (Soeffje), had five children and raised cotton and corn, chickens, hogs, cattle, and a large garden. Charles built all the buildings on the farm, as well as a blacksmith shop. Charles died in 1909, and Maria moved into the family's current home in Seguin. Herbert, Hertha, and Malinda still owned the property in 1987, retaining a manager to run the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 190 **Acres still retained:** 190

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, chickens, hogs, and cattle; 1987 - Wheat, maize, and corn.

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# Dammann Farm

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** On FM 725 in the William Bracken Survey

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1888	Christian Dammann	Great-grandfather
1888-1920	Christian Dammann Jr.	Grandfather
1920-1967	Christian J. Dammann	Father
1967-1987	Lloyd James Dammann	

*Christian Dammann came to Texas from Germany to avoid military service and find a better life. He served in the Civil War and added acreage to the farm. He and his wife, Rosa, had six children. Christian Jr. acquired about 288 acres in 1888. His son, Christian J., acquired about 152 acres and operated the first commercial pecan shelling plant in the county. His son, Lloyd James, a retired teacher, operates the farm along with his wife, Ethel, daughter, Ione, and son, Aaron. His mother, Augusta, still lives with them.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 50 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1854 - Corn, cotton, and tobacco; 1987 - Brahman cattle, honey, oats, hay, and pecans.

## Erma's Farm

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south of Tomball on Cherry Street

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1915	Christoph and Christine Holderrieth	Grandparents
1915-1961	John Holderrieth	Father
1961-1987	Erma (Holderrieth) Hildebrandt	

*Christoph and Christine Holderrieth came to Texas from Germany to avoid military service for their sons. Christoph had two sons by his first wife and seven children with Christine. John and his wife, Lena (Froelich), built their own home. The family raised most of its food and in the summer formed a Butcher Club with neighbors, each contributing a beef. In 1932, one of the first oil wells in the Tomball field was drilled on the land. John was a trustee of Tomball ISD. His daughter, Erma, operates her share of the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 24.72

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Livestock and truck farming; 1987 - Cattle, hay, and fish.

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## Hillegeist Cattle Ranch

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles west of Tomball off FM 2920

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1860-1898	Daniel and Catherine (Weirich) Werner	Great-grandparents
1898-1947	Reinhard and Mary (Theis) Werner	Grandparents
1947-1951	Mathilda (Werner) and Edward Hillegeist	Parents
1951-1987	Earl Hillegeist, Roy Hillegeist	

*Daniel and Catherine Werner left Germany for religious freedom and to escape war. They acquired their 640-acre tract in 1860. In 1861, the Confederate Army built a powder mill on their property. The mill exploded in 1863, killing three. The Werners had three sons and two daughters. The land was divided among the sons, but only Reinhard stayed on. His daughter, Mathilda, and her husband, Edward Hillegeist, moved their dairy to the land in 1947. Earl and his wife, Norma, and Roy and his wife, Arleah, and their families now own the land together.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 247

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1860 - Livestock, cotton, and vegetables; 1987 - Livestock and grasses.

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## Wottrich Farm

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south of Tomball on Cherry Street

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1915	Christoph and Christine Holderrieth	Grandparents
1915-1961	John Holderrieth	Father
1961-1987	Arlene (Holderrieth) and Donald Wottrich	

*Christoph and Christine Holderrieth came to Texas from Germany to avoid military service for their sons. Christoph had two sons by his first wife and seven children with Christine. John and his wife, Lena (Froelich), built their own home, adding to it as the family grew. He was a founding director of Farmers Co-Op Marketing Association and helped found Tomball Hospital and helped build Zion Lutheran School. His daughter, Arlene, and her husband, Donald Wottrich, run her share of the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 27.93

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Livestock and truck farming; 1987 - Pecans and hay.

# Bowser Family Ranch

Hood Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles southwest of Granbury on Hwy. 144

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1932	John Benjamin Peters	Great-grandfather
1932-1942	John Thomas Peters	Grandfather
1942-1950	Vera (Peters) and Elbert A. Bowser	Parents
1950-1987	Gerald and Gwyn (Cotten) Bowser	

*John Benjamin Peters came to Texas from Illinois and he acquired 160 acres in 1887. He and his wife, America (Heath), raised three children and belonged to the local Church of Christ. In 1932, son John Thomas acquired the land, and he and his wife, Lomer (Wilson), had five children. Vera and her husband, Elbert Bowser, acquired 675 acres in 1942, raising cattle, goats, and sheep. Her son, Gerald, and his wife, Gwyneth, have made many improvements, including a hangar and air strip, and raise cattle and horses with their two daughters.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Unknown; 1987 - Cattle, horses, oats, and hay.

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# Thomas A. Parkinson Ranch

Hood Co.

**Location of Farm:** On FM 167 in the Temple Hall community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1859-1924	Thomas A. Parkinson	Great-grandfather
1924-1952	Richard Parkinson	Grandfather
1952-1974	Zelma (Parkinson) Bennett	Mother
1974-1987	Wilford E. Bennett	

*Thomas A. Parkinson came from Preston, England. He received a patent from the governor of Texas for 160 acres, later adding 760. He donated land for the Temple Hall Methodist Church and operated a flour mill. He and his wife, Susan (Walker), had 11 children. The children received 80 acres from their father when they married. Richard Parkinson introduced sheep to the farm and bought its first automobile. His daughter, Zelma, and her husband raised Black Angus cattle, as does her son, Wilford, who also grows Bermuda grass, melons, and an orchard.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 93.16

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1859 - Cattle and grain; 1987 - Black Angus cattle, grass, and fruits.

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# Campbell Farm

Hopkins Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles south of Sulphur Springs

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1872-1878	Clemment and Eliza Campbell	Great-grandparents
1878-1948	Don Campbell	Grandfather
1948-1975	Thaddie (Campbell) White	Mother
1975-1987	Marie (White) Chester	

*Clemment and Eliza Campbell came to Texas from South Carolina. They raised corn, cattle, hay, and sheep and were active in the community. They had four children; their oldest son, Don, acquired the land in 1878, adding 234 acres. His daughter, Thaddie, acquired 117 acres in 1948 and she and her husband, Barto White, raised cattle. Daughter Marie continues to raise cattle on the land, where the 100-year-old barn is still in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 140 **Acres still retained:** 70

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1872 - Corn, hay, sheep, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle.

# Seth King Ranch

Hopkins Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles north of Saltillo

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1927	Seth and Charlotte King	Parents
1927-1987	Leamon and Alice (Deshazo) King	

*Seth and Charlotte King bought 115 acres of northeast Texas farmland in 1880, and raised livestock, cotton, and corn and operated a cotton gin in Saltillo. They had 13 children, five of whom died in infancy. Leamon acquired 75 acres from his parents in 1927. He added 226 acres and sold 50. He and his wife, Alice, had five children and continue to live on the ranch and raise cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 115 **Acres still retained:** 25

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Livestock, cotton, and corn; 1987 - Cattle.

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# Thomas Farm

Hopkins Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles east of Sulphur Springs

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1921	John A. and Missinar (White) Thomas	Great-grandfather
1921-1969	Andrew Jackson Thomas	Grandfather
1969-1987	Myra J. (Thomas) Sink, Enoth L. Thomas, Pauline A. Thomas	

*John Thomas came to Texas from Butler County, Alabama, to haul freight. He and his wife, Missinar, purchased 167 acres and raised cotton, corn, and cattle. They gave land for a community school. Their son, Andrew Jackson Thomas, acquired 29.12 acres in 1921, and donated land for a second school. The land is now owned by Andrew's daughter-in-law, Pauline, and her son and daughter, Enoth L. Thomas and Myra (Thomas) Sink. They produce horses, cattle, and hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 167 **Acres still retained:** 37

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, cotton, and cattle; 1987 - Horses, cattle, and hay.

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# Cutler's Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles east of Grapeland on FM 227

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1835-1868	George W. and Nancy Wilson	Great-great-grandparents
1868-1900	George Ben Cutler	Grandfather
1900-1958	Thomas B. Cutler	Father
1958-1987	Tommy Ben Cutler	

*George and Nancy Wilson left their native Kentucky to settle in Texas in 1830. George acquired one square league from the Mexican government. After Texas gained independence in 1836, the grant had to be re-established, and he received his patent in 1841. They deeded the land to their grandchildren, and George Ben Cutler helped build the community of Augusta. His son, Thomas, left the farm but returned when his father died. He and his wife, Katie (Cook), were active in the community. Son Tommy still runs the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 949

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1835 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and pigs; 1987 - Small grain, hay, corn, cattle, horses, and ribbon cane.

## Julian Hacienda

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles northeast of Ratcliff

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1912	Jacob Patton	Grandfather
1912-1963	William Osborne Patton	Father
1963-1987	Phoebe Adeline (Patton) Julian	

*Jacob Patton was a native of Creath in Houston County. He and his wife, Phoebe Adeline (McKinney), had six children. On their property were the Sulphur Springs public school and church. Their son, William, acquired the land in 1912 and donated land for a public school. He also played the violin at community functions and was president of the Houston County Singing Convention. He and his wife, Cora (Burson), had five children. Their daughter, Phoebe Adeline Julian, has raised vegetables and fruits and produces timber and hay on her 56 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 168.2 **Acres still retained:** 56

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Sugarcane, corn, cotton, peanuts, vegetables, timber, peaches, and livestock; 1987 - Timber and hay.

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## O.P. Conner Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Ratcliff

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1957	W.D. Conner	Father
1957-1987	Oscar P. and Lillar Conner	

*W.D. Conner came from Georgia to Texas in 1881 and purchased 492 acres. He helped build the area's first church and school and he and his wife, Cathrine (McAllvey), built the first home of planed lumber in the community. They had nine children, and their son, Oscar, acquired 123 acres of the farm in 1957. He and his wife, Lillar, had six children. Their son, Billy Dean, operates the farm. The original W.D. Conner home still stands on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 492 **Acres still retained:** 123

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Timber, cotton, corn, peas, peanuts, sugar cane, fruits, vegetables, hogs, and cows; 1987 - Cattle and timber.

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## Sides Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles north of Ratcliff

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1882	M.F. Sides	Great-grandfather
1882-1960	Gilbert David Sides	Grandfather
1960-1987	Edgar and Hazel Sides	

*M.F. Sides came from South Carolina and purchased 555 acres in 1882. He and his wife, Avarilla (Rayburn), had five children. They were involved in building community schools, churches, and log cabins. Their son, Gilbert, acquired 110 acres and he and his wife, Margaret Jane (Oliver), also participated in the activities of Tadmor, Plain, and Mt. Vernon. Edgar and his wife, Hazel, raise cattle and have built ponds for livestock and fishing and improved the pasture lands.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 555 **Acres still retained:** 37

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Corn, cotton, vegetables, fruit, sugarcane, and livestock; 1987 - Cattle.

# Smith Ranch

Johnson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles west of Rio Vista on FM 916

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1900	John Wesley and Ann (Cooper) Smith	Great-grandparents
1900-1936	Merrimon and Alice (Menefee) Smith	Grandparents
1936-1971	Lowell N. and Gladys (Brown) Smith	Parents
1971-1987	Lowell N. Jr. and Shirley (Segars) Smith	

*John Wesley Smith came to Texas from Tennessee. He served in the 28th Confederate Regiment; after the war he settled in Johnson County near Cleburne. He and his wife, Ann, had four children who survived childhood. Son Merrimon acquired the farm in 1900 and added 85 acres. Merrimon and Alice's son, Lowell Niles, increased the size of the farm again, and grew oats, corn, milo, and cotton and raised cattle. His son, Lowell Jr., and his wife, Shirley, continue to operate the farm and live in the house built by John Wesley Smith.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 440

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Wheat, corn, sorghum, cotton, and cattle; 1987 - Wheat, Sudan grass, and cattle.

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# The Harvey Place

Jones Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles southeast of Clear Fork River Bridge at Nugent

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1907	Peter and Mary Frances Harvey	Grandfather
1907-1942	George William Harvey	Father-in-law
1942-1972	Maxey Glen Harvey	Husband
1972-1987	Hazel (Banowsky) Harvey, Anita (Harvey) Macgregor	

*When Peter Harvey arrived in Jones County he brought with him a cotton gin, one of the first in the county. He and his wife, Mary Frances (Dabney), had 10 children. After Peter died in 1904, his oldest son, George William, acquired the property. He and his wife, Lucy (Manly), operated the farm through the severe drought of 1917-18 and the industrialization of farming. George was a school trustee and a church leader. The property is now owned by his son's widow and run by her daughter, Anita, who has an agriculture degree from ACU.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Wheat, oats, corn, millet, cotton, and livestock; 1987 - Wheat.

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# Hillingdon Ranch

Kendall Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles north of Comfort on the Old San Antonio Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1920	Alfred Giles	Father-in-law
1920-1986	Ernest P. Giles	Husband
1986-1987	Edith (Scrimgeour) Giles	

*Alfred Giles came from England in search of a hot, dry climate and bought 640 acres in Kendall County. He was a pioneer in livestock production, raising Aberdeen Angus cattle and Angora goats. He and his wife, Annie Laura (James), had eight children. Alfred was also an architect and designed St. Boniface Episcopal Church in Comfort. His son, Ernest, acquired the farm in 1920; he served in both world wars and was also an architect. His widow continues to raise cattle, sheep, and goats with her son, Robin, his wife, Carol, and their children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cattle, goats, sheep, mules, horses, oats, and wheat; 1987 - Cattle, goats, and sheep.

## Witt Homeplace

Kerr Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles west of Center Point on FM 480

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1908	Pleasant and Sarah Ann (Cole) Mills	Great-grandparents
1908-1943	Joseph Witt	Grandfather
1943-1964	Huldah (Mills) Witt	Grandmother
1964-1975	Prentice and Annie Mae (Reeves) Witt	Parents
1975-1987	Prentice G. Witt	

*Pleasant and Sarah Ann Mills were from Louisiana and cleared the land of brush and rocks. Their son-in-law, Joseph Witt, acquired the land in 1908, during which time roads were built. There were pecan trees and a spring that was a stopping place for travelers. After Joseph's widow, Huldah, acquired the land, the building and widening of FM 480 took seven acres. Huldah's son, Prentice, inherited the property and was on the Center Point School Board and a Kerr County commissioner. His son, Prentice, continues to raise sheep, hay, and pecan trees.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 140 1/3 **Acres still retained:** 133

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle, sheep, corn, oats, and hay; 1987 - Pecans, Coastal Bermuda, and sheep.

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## Holland Ranch

Kimble Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-two miles northwest of Junction

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-unknown	Asa Pullin	Great-grandfather
unknown	Rufe and Ella (Pullin) Holland	Grandparents
unknown-1969	Ara Holland	Mother
1969-1987	Molly (Holland) Grantham, Rufe and Zane Holland	

*Asa Pullin was a doctor and surveyor from Tennessee. He practiced medicine and raised mules for sale to the U.S. government. He and his wife, Juliet (Gilliland), had six children. Ella and her husband, Rufe, acquired the land and passed it to their daughter-in-law, Ara, and her children. Rufe and his wife, Zane, bought out the others' share and still run the property, which will go to his daughter Molly and son Cole, who help manage the farm. A house, barn, and other structures more than 100 years old are still in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 741 **Acres still retained:** 741

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Sheep, goats, cattle, horses, donkey, and hogs; 1987 - Sheep, goats, and cattle.

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## Crossroad Acres

Lamar Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five and one-half miles northwest of Paris

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1900	Emsley Harris	Great-grandfather
1900-1958	J.H. Harris	Grandfather
1958-1962	Gus V. Harris	Father
1962-1987	Barbara Lou (Fields) and Gus V. Harris Jr.	

*Emsley Harris came from North Carolina and grew cotton. He had six children with three wives. His second wife, Victoria, was killed by an Indian. His son, J.H., acquired part of the property in 1900; J.H. and his wife, Beulah, had nine children and they raised corn, pigs, and cattle in addition to cotton. J.H.'s son, Gus V., took over the property in 1958; he and his wife, Margaret (Keesling), had three children. Their son, Gus V. Jr., currently raises cattle and hay on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 42.15

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Cotton; 1987 - Cattle and hay.



# J.B. Nixon Farm

Lamar Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles northwest of Deport

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1938	James Battle Nixon	Grandfather
1938-1979	Raymond David Nixon	Father
1979-1987	Gary Lane Nixon, Raymond Gary Nixon	

*J. B. Nixon came from Perry County, Alabama. He was Lamar County commissioner and helped establish the First Presbyterian Church of Deport. He and his wife, Martha Jane (Westbrook), had 10 children, who acquired the land; during the Depression much of it was lost. Son Raymond acquired 78 acres of the original parcel and farmed it for 65 years. He and his mother were among the first in the area to own a tractor. His son, Gary, and grandson, Raymond Gary, now farm 750 acres. Gary was named the county's outstanding conservation farmer in 1985.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 144 **Acres still retained:** 78

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Corn, oats, and cotton; 1987 - Sorghum, wheat, soybeans, and cattle.

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# Rutherford-Beville Ranch

Lamar Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles west of Paris on Highway 82

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1926	Elba Isle (Kuykendall) and Newton Franklin Rutherford	Grandparents
1926-1961	Lottie Andy (Rutherford) and James J. Beville	Parents
1961-1987	Margaret (Beville) and Herman Kuhlmann	

*Newton Franklin Rutherford and his wife, Elba Isle (Kuykendall), bought 230 acres in 1887. They had six children. Their daughter, Lottie Andy, and her husband, James Joseph, had seven children. Their daughter, Margaret, and her husband currently operate the farm, raising Hereford and Santa Gertrudis cattle. The family home, built in 1876 and expanded to 11 rooms in 1910, is on adjoining property and is co-owned by family members.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 230 **Acres still retained:** 44

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, grain, and livestock; 1987 - Cattle and hay.

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# Kappler Ranch

Lee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles southwest of Giddings on Highway 208

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1895	Frederick Michael and Maria Synatzschki	Great-grandparents
1895-1946	John Synatzschki	Grandfather
1946-1972	Minnie (Synatzschki) and Willie A. Kappler	Parents
1972-1987	William C. and Linda Kappler	

*Frederick Synatzschki left Germany for religious freedom and prosperity. He and his wife, Maria, were among the founders of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Their son, John, acquired the land and added acreage. He and his wife, Theresia, had five children. Their daughter, Minnie, and her husband were among the first in the area to use a tractor and were active in agricultural organizations. Their son, William C., and his wife, Linda, now operate the farm, where some 100 year-old barns and a smokehouse still stand.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 227-7/12 **Acres still retained:** 227-7/12

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, and hay; 1987 - Corn, peanuts, oats, and hay.

# Coats Acres

Leon Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 10 miles southeast of Buffalo

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1899	Martha C. Coats	Grandmother
1899-1926	Elijah B. Coats	Father
1926-1964	Mary Susan (Williamson) Coats	Mother
1964-1987	Martha Belle (Coats) Danford	

*Martha Coats came to Leon County from Catahoula Parish, Louisiana. She and her husband, George Washington Coats, were charter members of Mt. Zion Baptist Church at Keechi; George was also the postmaster. They had three children. Their son, Elijah, acquired the land and also served as a deputy sheriff of Leon County. His widow took over the farm when he died and began leasing land for oil and gas. She sent all three of her daughters to college, and her daughter, Martha, who now runs the farm, was a teacher for 25 years.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 154

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, cotton, peas, cattle, and hogs; 1987 - Hay and cattle.

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# Jefferson C. Ladd Ranch

Liberty Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northwest of Devers

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1845-1861	James Blount and Fanny (Fowler) Reavis	Great-grandparents
1861-1914	Jefferson Davis Reavis	Grandfather
1914-1946	Dorothy (Reavis) Ladd	Mother
1946-1987	Jefferson C. and Nora (Kirkland) Ladd	

*James Blount Reavis served in the Army of the Republic of Texas. In addition to farming, he taught school, served as a justice of the peace, tax assessor-collector, mail carrier, and county treasurer. He and Fanny had nine children. Son Jefferson Davis inherited 160 acres and built the family homestead and the Reavis School. He and his wife, Mary Alice (Moor), had nine children. Their daughter, Dorothy, and her husband, John Lewis Ladd, raised cattle and had four children. Their son, Jefferson Cornelius, and his wife, Nora Lee, now operate the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 70

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1845 - Corn, potatoes, hay, and livestock; 1987 - Soybeans, cattle, vegetables, hay, and fish.

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# Allen Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and three quarters miles east of Llano on Highway 29

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1932	W.J. Everett	Father
1932-1987	Iva (Everett) Allen	

*W.J. Everett was a trail driver from Tennessee. He acquired 900 acres, then added 4,000 more, and also served as county sheriff and tax collector. He and his wife, Lutie (Kuykendall), had eight children. His daughter, Iva, acquired the land in 1932. Her son, Thomas Everett Allen, now operates the ranch. He raises registered Angus cattle and established an embryo transfer operation. Iva lives on the ranch with Thomas and his two sons, Travis and Troy.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 900 **Acres still retained:** 560

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle; 1987 - Cattle.

## Hoerster Home Place

Mason Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles south of Highway 87 on the Llano River

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1942	Emil Charles Hoerster	Father
1942-1987	Franklin and Jane (Hofmann) Hoerster	

*Emil Hoerster's father came from Prussia. He was killed by cattle rustlers, and Emil was raised by his uncle. Emil bought 640 acres in 1887, later acquiring a total of 4,000 acres. He married Lily Kothmann, and they had five children. Son Franklin won Grand Champion Steer at the Houston Stock Show in 1939. He served in World War II, and he and his wife, Jane, modernized the farm, building new barns and pens and drilling an irrigation well. They have three children and own Mason Wool and Mohair and the Mason Feed Store. Jane is County Treasurer.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Corn, stockpeas, milo, oats, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle, goats, and hay.

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## Johnston-Capps-Lee Farm

Mason Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Mason on FM 386

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1905	Francis Marian Johnston	Great-grandfather
1905-1957	William Ransom Capps	Grandfather
1957-1962	William Roy Capps	Father
1962-1987	Laverne (Capps) Lee	

*Francis Marian Johnston came to Brownwood from Boon County, Arkansas. He and his wife, Mary Ann (Royston), had six children. They cleared the land, and Francis helped establish a school and served as its teacher. His daughter, Rosa, and her husband, William Ransom Capps, acquired the farm in 1905. They had nine children, and their son, William Roy, acquired the farm in 1957. He instituted modern farming methods. He and his wife, Ella (Hasse), had one daughter, Laverne, who has added other improvements such as irrigation wells.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cotton, corn, oats, rye, peanuts, milo, wheat, guar, hay, and livestock; 1987 - Peanuts, hay, milo, oats, rye, and cattle.

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## Cornelius Ranch

Matagorda Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and a half miles northeast of Midfield off Highway 71

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1925	F.C. "Fritz" Cornelius	Father-in-law
1925-1982	J.T. "Jim" Cornelius	Husband
1982-1987	Nellie (Nygard) Cornelius	

*Fritz Cornelius came to Texas from Germany. He was a founding father of both Midfield and Markham. He had 13 children with three wives. In 1925, his son, Jim, acquired 140 acres. Over the years he gradually acquired the rest of the property from family members, and by 1962 had 800 acres. When he died in 1982, his widow took over the land and today still lives in the original house built between 1886 and 1888.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 766 **Acres still retained:** 766

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Corn, cattle, and mules; 1987 - Cattle, rice, corn, and milo.

# Compton Ranch

McClennan Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles northwest of Waco on Compton Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1930	W.E. Compton	Grandfather
1930-1961	Sally Lou (Spillers) Compton	Grandmother
1961-1982	Juanita (Compton) De Cordova	Mother
1982-1987	Ronita (De Cordova) and David Miller	

*W.E. Compton's family came with his mother from Louisiana in 1882, and he acquired 246 acres. He married Sally Lou (Spillers) and built a three-room house. They had four children. Good maintenance of the land was important to him, and he was proud that there was no Johnson grass on his land. He helped organize the Compton Methodist Church. When he died in 1930, Sally managed the land. Her daughters, Eva and Juanita, took over after her death, and Juanita's daughter, Ronita, and her husband now farm a total of 227 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 246 **Acres still retained:** 60  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton, corn, oats, and livestock; 1987 - Cattle.

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# Bella Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles northeast of Hondo on Highway 173

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1917	Marie (Gerdes) and Bernhard Brucks	Great-grandfather
1917-1956	John G. Brucks	Grandfather
1956-1977	Isabel (Brucks) Mumme	Mother
1977-1987	John A. Mumme	

*Bernard Brucks came from Germany as a child. In addition to raising cattle and horses, he worked as a blacksmith and had a lumberyard. He became a Medina County judge, a Texas Ranger, a county commissioner, and justice of the peace. He designed and built the first public school in Medina County. He and his wife, Marie, had 13 children. Son John inherited 980 acres in 1917 and was also active in the community. His daughter, Isabel, inherited 222 acres in 1956. Four of her children now operate their own ranches.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,120 **Acres still retained:** 40  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle and horses; 1987 - Cattle.

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# The Boehle Walch Farm

Medina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles west of Castroville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1853-unknown	Louis Boehle	Great-grandfather
unknown-1921	Fritz Boehle	Grandfather
1921-1958	Emil Boehle	Father
1958-1987	Irene (Boehle) and John H. Walch	

*Louis Boehle came from Germany to better himself. He raised cattle and horses, as did his son, Fritz. When Fritz's son, Emil, took over the property, it was a community center for Medina County, serving as post office, saloon, school, courthouse, and stagecoach stop. Emil and his wife, Alma, had a son, Roy, and a daughter, Irene. Irene and her husband, John, operate 63 acres and raise cattle and grow milo and wheat. Several original buildings still stand on Roy's property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 63  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1853 - Cattle and horses; 1987 - Wheat, cattle, and milo.

# Joy Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles northeast of Hondo on Highway 173

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1917	Marie (Gerdes) and Bernhard Brucks	Great-grandfather
1917-1956	John G. Brucks	Grandfather
1956-1977	Isabel (Brucks) Mumme	Mother
1977-1987	Joycelyn (Mumme) Newman	

*Bernard Brucks came from Germany as a child. In addition to raising cattle and horses, he worked as a blacksmith and had a lumberyard. He became a Medina County judge, a Texas Ranger, a county commissioner, and justice of the peace. He designed and built the first public school in Medina County. He and his wife, Marie, had 13 children. Son John inherited 980 acres in 1917 and was also active in the community. His daughter, Isabel, inherited 222 acres in 1956. Four of her children now operate their own ranches.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,120 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle and horses; 1987 - Cattle.

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# TF Bar Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles northeast of Hondo on Highway 173

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1917	Marie (Gerdes) and Bernhard Brucks	Great-grandfather
1917-1956	John G. Brucks	Grandfather
1956-1977	Isabel (Brucks) Mumme	Mother
1977-1987	Elva (Mumme) Krenmueller	

*Bernard Brucks came from Germany as a child. In addition to raising cattle and horses, he worked as a blacksmith and had a lumberyard. He became a Medina County judge, a Texas Ranger, a county commissioner, and justice of the peace. He designed and built the first public school in Medina County. He and his wife, Marie, had 13 children. Son John inherited 980 acres in 1917 and was also active in the community. His daughter, Isabel, inherited 222 acres in 1956. Four of her children now operate their own ranches.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,120 **Acres still retained:** 40 each

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle and horses; 1987 - Cattle.

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# Verde Field Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles northeast of Hondo on Highway 173

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1917	Marie (Gerdes) and Bernhard Brucks	Great-grandfather
1917-1956	John G. Brucks	Grandfather
1956-1977	Isabel (Brucks) Mumme	Mother
1977-1987	Asell (Mumme) Clayton	

*Bernard Brucks came from Germany as a child. In addition to raising cattle and horses, he worked as a blacksmith and had a lumberyard. He became a Medina County judge, a Texas Ranger, a county commissioner, and justice of the peace. He designed and built the first public school in Medina County. He and his wife, Marie, had 13 children. Son John inherited 980 acres in 1917 and was also active in the community. His daughter, Isabel, inherited 222 acres in 1956. Four of her children now operate their own ranches.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,120 **Acres still retained:** 47

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle and horses; 1987 - Cattle.

# Bryant Station Simmental Ranch

Milam Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 4-1/4 miles southwest of Buckholts

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1838-1854	Benjamin Franklin Bryant	Great-great-grandfather
1854-1897	Amanda and Joseph Bryant	Great-grandparents
1897-1920	L.B. Bryant	Grandfather
1920-1978	Charlie L. and Chattie F. (Bryant) Lively	Parents
1978-1987	Eloise (Lively) and Neil N. Rollings	

*Benjamin Franklin Bryant came to Texas from Georgia. He helped build a fort on the Little River; the area became a center of commerce known as Bryant Station. Benjamin served in the Battle of San Jacinto. He and his wife, Roxanna (Price), had 11 children. Their daughter, Amanda, and her husband, Joseph R. Bryant (a nephew), grew cotton and grain. Amanda lived to the age of 99 and saw many changes in agriculture. Her son, L.B., acquired the land in 1897, and his daughter, Chattie, took it over in 1920. Her daughter, Eloise, runs the farm today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3,000 **Acres still retained:** 60

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1838 - Sheep, cattle, and horses; 1987 - Cattle, hay, oats.

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# Schreiber Farm

Milam Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles northwest of Cameron on FM 2269

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1935	Ferdinand Schreiber	Great-grandfather
1935-1961	Joseph Leo Schreiber	Grandfather
1961-1980	Gertrude (Schreiber) and Joe P. Mueck	Parents
1980-1987	Judith M. (Mueck) Kostroun, Jane L. (Mueck) Marek, Dennis A. Mueck, Jerry K. Mueck Estate, Joe Paul Mueck II, Larry J. Mueck, Martin Mueck	

*Ferdinand Schreiber came to Texas from war-torn Austria. He cleared the land, built a small house, and dug a well. He and his wife, Amalia, had 10 children. His son, Joseph, acquired the land in 1935 and grew cotton, corn, cane, and raised livestock. He brought electricity and the telephone to the farm. He also worked part-time for the Soil Conservation Service. His daughter, Gertrude, and her husband, Joe Mueck, took over the farm, which is now co-owned by their children and operated by Larry Mueck.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 67 **Acres still retained:** 37

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, horses, and cattle; 1987 - Cotton and milo.

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# A. N. Perkins Farm

Mills Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles northwest of Goldthwaite on Highway 84

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1916	A.N. Perkins	Grandfather
1916-1977	Maggie (Perkins) Carlisle	Mother
1977-1987	Fred Carlisle	

*A.N. Perkins was one of the first farmers to register a cattle brand in Mills County. He and his wife, Tennessee (Hollaway), had three children, Webb, Frank, and Maggie. Maggie and her husband, T.W. Carlisle, raised cattle, sheep, corn, cotton, oats, and maize. They had four children, Mable, Fred, Beulah, and Lynn. Fred acquired the land in 1977. He and his wife, Jewel, raise cattle, goats, and wheat.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160.94 **Acres still retained:** 160.94

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cattle and horses; 1987 - Cattle, goats, and wheat.

# Ray Priddy Ranch

Mills Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles south of Priddy on Highway 16

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1886	Thomas Priddy	Grandfather
1886-1946	John Priddy	Father
1946-1987	Ray Priddy	

*Thomas Priddy came to Texas from Marion County, Alabama. He became the postmaster of the town that took his name, and, as an ordained Baptist minister, he also founded the Baptist Church. He and his wife, Clarissa (Tankersley), had seven children. Their son, John, acquired the farm, adding 347 acres. He and his wife, Mollie (Cunningham), had seven children. Their son, Ray, farms a total of 667 acres and continues to improve the farm, where he lives with his wife, Lillian.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle, corn, and cotton; 1987 - Angora goats and cattle.

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# W.J. Weatherby Farm

Mills Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Goldthwaite on Highway 16

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1913	Clarissa Caroline (Sharp) and George Marion O'quinn	Grandparents
1913-1973	Walter J. and Clara (O'quinn) Weatherby	Parents
1973-1987	Leta Christina "Billie" (Weatherby) Ledbetter	

*G.M. O'quinn was born in Lincoln County, Tennessee, and came to Texas from Lebanon, Missouri. He settled in Brown County, but in 1887 the new Mills County was carved out of Brown and other counties. G.M. was a Methodist lay preacher. He and his first wife had two children, and with his second wife, Clarissa, he had 12 children. His daughter, Clara, and her husband took over the farm and, during World War I, began producing wool, mohair, and beef and made improvements to the farm. Their daughter, Billie, continues to operate the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 510 **Acres still retained:** 510

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Grain, corn, and cattle; 1987 - Sheep, cattle, goats, and hay.

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# Brautigam Farm

Montgomery Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 40 miles northwest of Houston at Decker Prairie

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1862-1867	Christoph Brautigam	Great-great-grandfather
1867-1906	Friedrick Brautigam	Great-grandfather
1906-1948	Friedrick Brautigam Jr.	Grandfather
1948-1979	Edward Brautigam	Father
1979-1987	Walter John Brautigam	

*Christoph Brautigam came from Germany in 1856; he staked a claim to 190 acres in 1862. He and his wife, Martha (Peters), had four children. His son, Friedrich, added 1800 more acres and raised sheep and hogs. He also operated a gristmill and the first steam-powered gin in the area and helped started the first public school in Decker Prairie. His son, Friedrich Jr., built a new home in 1900, which is still in use. Friedrich Jr.'s son, Edward, and his wife, Cecilia (Chunda), inherited part of the land, and their son, Walter John, continues to farm it.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 190 **Acres still retained:** 48

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1862 - Cotton and cattle; 1987 - Cattle, hay, and timber.

## W. B. Boozer Estate

Nacogdoches Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles southeast of Nacogdoches on FM 2259

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1926	William B. and Angie (Mills) Boozer	Great-grandparents
1926-1947	John Boozer, Cora (Boozer) Aiken	Grandfather, mother
1947-1987	Roy L. Aiken	

*William and Angie Boozer came to Nacogdoches County from Alabama. They helped organize the Fairview Methodist Church and had seven children. Their son, John, and his daughter, Cora, acquired the land in 1926 and raised beef cattle, hay, horses, corn, cotton, and watermelons. Cora's son, Ray, now operates 780 acres with his two sons, Gary and Mike. They raise beef cattle, rodeo steers, horses, and grow hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 266-2/3 **Acres still retained:** 110

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cattle, corn, cotton, sugarcane, and peaches; 1987 - Cattle, horses, and hay.

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## Campbell-Walker Farm

Parker Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 10 miles south of Weatherford on Sanchez Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1909	W.C. Campbell	Great-grandfather
1909-1963	Nita (Campbell) Walker	Grandmother
1963-1975	Campbell Lee Walker	Father
1975-1987	Campbell Lee Walker, Gene C. Walker	

*Civil War veteran W.C. Campbell and his wife, Francis (O'Brian), came from Johnson City and raised seven children on their farm in Parker County. W.C. gave each of his children 320 acres from parcels he owned. Nita inherited half of her father's farm. She and her husband, Lee Walker, had five children. Their son, Campbell Lee, who was a pharmacist for more than 50 years, purchased the farm from his mother. He and his wife, Minna (Fleming), had a son, Gene, who now operates the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, grain, cattle, and hogs; 1987 - Cattle, pecans, grains, and hay.

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## Dorsey Farm

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Henderson on Scarborough Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1913	Hess C. Dorsey	Grandfather
1913-1963	James Dorsey	Father
1963-1987	Ralph G. Dorsey	

*Hess Dorsey and his wife, Nan, came to Texas from Covington County, Georgia, and purchased 393 acres. They grew farm vegetables and cotton and raised cattle and mules. They had seven children. Hess sold all but 56 acres, which his son, James, acquired in 1913. James and his wife, Lena, had 11 children. Their son, Ralph, now owns 26 acres of the original farm, on which he grows hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 393 **Acres still retained:** 26

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, vegetables, cattle, and mules; 1987 - Hay.



# Oliver J. Jones Ranch

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** Sixteen miles southwest of Henderson on FM 839

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1938	Moses and Nancy Jones	Grandparents
1838-1953	Henry Jones	Father
1953-1987	Oliver J. Jones, Sr.	

*Moses and Nancy Jones came to Texas as slaves. In 1883, they purchased the land on which they planted cotton and grains, and Moses also operated a cotton gin. They had five children. Their son, Henry, acquired the land from his parents in 1938 and continued to plant cotton, supplementing the farm income as a cotton gin worker. Oliver and his first wife, Ola Mae, acquired the land and improved it for cattle grazing. Oliver continues to raise livestock on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 53-3/4 **Acres still retained:** 53-3/4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton and grains; 1987 - Livestock.

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# Anne Hall King Ranch

San Augustine Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles west-northwest of San Augustine off FM 711

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1849-1877	Benjamin Franklin Sharp	Great-great-grandfather
1877-unknown	LaFayette Sharp	Great-grandfather
unknown-1952	William Garrett Sharp	Grandfather
1952-1968	Sallie Lane (Sharp) Hall	Mother
1968-1987	Anne Hall King	

*Dr. Benjamin Franklin Sharp came from Smith County, Tennessee. He and his wife, Martha Ann (Hall), had three children. LaFayette was a Civil War veteran and served as postmaster in San Augustine for 17 years. His son, William Garrett, acquired the farm and was also president of Commercial State Bank of San Augustine. His daughter, Sallie, was a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, as was her daughter, Anne Hall King. Anne restored the log house on the property and raises cattle, practicing good ranch management.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 142

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1849 - Cotton and corn; 1987 - Cattle, grasses, and clover.

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# Chinaberry Grove

San Augustine Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles west-northwest of San Augustine off FM 711

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1849-1877	Benjamin Franklin Sharp	Great-great-great-grandfather
1877-unknown	LaFayette Sharp	Great-great-grandfather
unknown-1952	William Garrett Sharp	Great-grandfather
1952-1968	Sallie Lane (Sharp) Hall	Grandmother
1968-1975	Anne Hall King	Mother
1975-1987	Gerald Irvin King	

*Dr. Benjamin Franklin Sharp and his wife, Martha Ann (Hall), acquired the land that became the Anne Hall King and Chinaberry Grove ranches in 1849. Dr. Sharp was a prominent doctor in the community. Gerald King recalls that his grandparents referred to the property as "The Sharp Place," but his great-great-great-grandmother called it Chinaberry Grove because of all the Chinaberry trees, which still grow there. Gerald has a deep love for the land, and says, "I just thank all the past generations for holding on to such an unusual and beautiful land."*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 214

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1849 - Cotton and corn; 1987 - Cattle, grasses, and clover.

# Harkey Pecan Farms

San Saba Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles west of San Saba on Highway 190

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1890	Riley Harkey	Great-grandfather
1890-1949	Andrew Jackson Harkey	Grandfather
1949-1981	O. B. Harkey	Father
1981-1987	Riley C. Harkey	

*Riley Harkey came from Arkansas as an Indian scout and decided to move his family to the fertile lands of the San Saba River. He helped found the community of Harkeyville. He and his wife, Caroline, had seven children. Son A.J. took over the farm and ran the general store. A.J. and Bernette (Parks)'s son, O.B., raised cotton, improved the pecan orchard, and developed a breed of turkey; he was a director of the Texas Turkey Federation. He and his wife, Bernice (Baxter), had a son, Riley C., who lives on the farm with his wife, Bonnie.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 113.9 **Acres still retained:** 34.327

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, cattle, pecans, and racehorses; 1987 - Pecans.

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# Nichols-Walters-Griffith Farm

Smith Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Winona on FM 16

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1902	Daniel Benjamin and Mary L. Nichols	Great-great-grandparents
1902-unknown	Charles A. Nichols	Great-grandfather
unknown-1975	Dollie (Nichols) and Finis Walters	Parents, Aunt and Uncle
1975-1987	Sam Glenn Griffith, Normadene (Walters) Jackson, Stephen L. Griffith, Anita (Walters) Reilly, Leo and Twylah Northam	

*Daniel and Mary Nichols came from Georgia and grew cotton and timber and operated a sawmill. They had three sons, and Charles acquired about 68 acres in 1902. His daughter, Dollie, and her husband, Finis Walters, produced roses and commercial eggs. Dollie was a charter member of the local Home Demonstration Society. In 1975, the property was split among Daniel and Mary's descendents. The land is now farmed by Sam Glenn Griffith; he lives there with his brother, Stephen, and Stephen's wife, Ronda, and their children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 313.3 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton and timber; 1987 - Pecans, vegetables, and hay.

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# Lee Ranch

Tom Green Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles southwest of San Angelo on Highway 67

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1885	Philip C. and Mary E. Lee	Great-grandparents
1885-1954	John P. Lee	Grandfather
1954-1980	Helen (Lee) Collins	Mother
1980-1987	Joe Collins, Tom Collins Jr. (John P. Lee Estate)	

*Philip and Mary Lee came from County Cavan, Ireland, for health reasons. They eventually acquired more than 40,000 acres. The Lee Ranch sold hay, cattle, and horses to Fort Concho. Philip was an organizer of Concho National Bank and helped found the Texas Hereford Association. Son John was one of the organizers of the Tom Green County Fair, which became the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo. The property belongs to his estate and is run by his grandsons, Joe and Tom Collins Jr.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 5,720 **Acres still retained:** 2,471

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Hay, cattle, and horses; 1987 - Cotton, wheat, maize, cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, and horses.

# Weddell Ranch

Tom Green Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles southwest of Water Valley on Ranch Road 2034

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1942	James Weddell	Grandfather
1942-1961	George Weddell	Father
1961-1987	Alice (Weddell) Sisco, Ruth Irene (Baker) Weddell	

*James Weddell came from Edinburgh, Scotland. He lived in a dugout, raising cattle and sheep, seeing his wife, Sarah Jane, only on weekends. They were active in the First Presbyterian Church in San Angelo, and James was a road commissioner. Their son, George James, acquired the land in 1942 and built a house over the original dugout, which is still used for storage. George and his wife, Ruth, had two daughters. Alice and her husband, George Sisco, continue to run the ranch, and George was named outstanding conservation rancher in 1986.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cattle and sheep; 1987 - Cattle, sheep, goats, wheat, and oats.

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# La Perla Ranch

Uvalde Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-five miles east of Uvalde

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1954	James and Mary (Quinn) Braden	Grandparents
1954-1968	Annie B. (Braden) Smith	Mother
1968-1987	Michael Q. and Mary S. Smith	

*Jacob and Mary Braden came from Colorado County, Texas. They used oxen to help build the Southern Pacific Railroad; Mary's father, Michael Quinn, recruited laborers to work on the railroad. Jacob and Mary had five children. Their daughter, Annie Smith, acquired 988 acres in 1954. Her son, Michael Quinn Smith, now operates the ranch and has improved it by fertilizing and planting grasses.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 202.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, oats, maize, cotton, Sudan grass, and cattle; 1987 - Oaks, Kline and NK37 grass.

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# Old Ned McCowan Place

Walker Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles northwest of Huntsville in the Hopewell Community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1870-1883	Ned and Elvira McCowan	Great-grandparents
1883-unknown	Alex McCowan	Grandfather
unknown-1953	George and Effie (Anderson) McCowan	Parents
1953-1987	Deborah Lyne McCowan, Earnest McCowan, Ennis McCowan, Maxine (McCowan) McGowen	

*Ned and Elvira McCowan came to Texas as slaves. After they were freed following the Civil War, they bought land in Walker County and grew cotton and corn to earn money and raised peanuts, fruit trees, vegetables, and livestock for the family. They added 260 acres on which their son, Alex, grew cotton and corn. Alex and his wife, Berlina, had four children. Their son, George, and his wife, Effie (Anderson), grew cotton and cattle on the land. The farm is operated jointly by their son, Earnest, their daughter, Maxine, and her husband, John McGowen.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 30

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Cotton and corn; 1987 - Cattle.

# Poor Boy Ranch

Waller Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles east of Hempstead on FM 1488

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1913	Elijah "Eli" Sheffield	Grandfather
1913-1964	Gerald Gray Sheffield	Father
1964-1987	Gerald Winston Sheffield	

*Eli Sheffield came from Georgia with his father, and acquired 100 acres in 1887, where he grew cotton and corn and raised cattle with his Eli brand. He and his wife, Virginia (Eberly), had four children, as well as Virginia's son from a previous marriage. Their son, Gerald, acquired the land in 1913. He leased land and increased the herd. He was also an avid musician, fiddling at local events. He was a trustee of the local school. His son, Gerald Winston, acquired 65 acres in 1964 and 35 acres in 1982. He gave each of his sons six acres in 1985. They continue to live on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 88

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1987 - Cattle and hay.

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# Dement Farm

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles west of Burton on U.S. 290

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1869-1879	Thomas and Missouri (Coleman) Derrick	Great-grandparents
1879-1898	Marion Derrick	Grand Uncle
1898-1955	Ruben and Robert Bethel Dement	Uncle, Father
1955-1987	Ira (Dement) Zuehlke, Robert Lee Dement	

*Thomas and Missouri Derrick came from Alabama to establish a new home. They eventually had 966 acres. They had eight children, and the land was divided among some of them 1879. In 1897, it was again divided. In 1898, Ruben and Robert began acquiring parcels of the land. Ruben and his wife, Frances, had four children, as did Robert and his wife, Mary Emma. The present owners are Robert's son and daughter. Robert Lee Dement lives on the land with his wife, Marguerite.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 713 **Acres still retained:** 98.25

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1869 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1987 - Livestock and feed.

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# Willow Springs Ranch

Wise Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles northwest of Chico off Highway 101

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1913	Basilee Pierce Cox	Great-grandfather
1913-unknown	John Q. Cox	Grandfather
unknown-1980	Jimmy B. Cox	Father
1980-1987	Robert Ben Cox	

*Basilee Cox came to Texas from Missouri and raised sheep, which grazed the countryside. He had four wives and 17 children. His son, John Quitman Cox, acquired 80 acres and produced cotton, peanuts, feed, and dairy cows. His son, Jimmy B., acquired the land, which went to his grandson, Robert Ben, in 1980. Robert and his wife, Dana Lynn (Pirtle), have made improvements to the land and live on it with their son, Travis, and their daughter, Bonnie Jean.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Sheep; 1987 - Beef and dairy cattle, oats, wheat, and hay.

# Bullock Ranch

Young Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles west of Graham on FM 61

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1913	J.C. and Margaret (Grubbs) Bullock	Grandparents
1913-1986	Florence (Bullock) and James Wray	Parents
1986-1987	Joyce (Wray) and Benoit Williams	

*J.C. and Margaret Bullock bought 640 acres in 1884, to which they later added 6,360 acres. They had five children. Their daughter, Florence, acquired 1,600 acres and farmed it with her husband, James Wray. She also taught piano for more than 30 years and played for weddings, funerals, and other occasions. Her daughter, Thelma Joyce, and her husband, Benoit Williams, now raise wheat and cattle and are associated with the Texas Farm Bureau.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton, wheat, cattle, and sheep; 1987 - Wheat and cattle.



*Texas*  
*Family Land Heritage*  
*1988*





# *Starr Hill Ranch*

Anderson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles south of Palestine on U.S. Highway 287

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1848-1872	John and Susannah (Parker) Starr	Great-great-grandparents
1872-1920	Thomas Jefferson Starr	Great-grandfather
1920-1939	Allen Starr	Grandfather
1939-1982	Flora May (Starr) and George Miller	Parents, aunt and uncle
1982-1988	Joe and Juanita (Starr) Chaffin, Elbert and Opal (Starr) Doss, Leslie and Margaret (Starr) Lawrence, Kelly and Lori (Parker) McCann, Haskell and Lois (Starr) McClintock, George and Flora May (Starr) Miller, Johnny and Eileen (Chaffin) Parker, Milton and Alice (Miller) Spacek, Donald and Loy Etta Starr	

*John and Susannah Starr came from North Carolina to escape the harsh winters. John owned one of the first cotton gins and sawmills in the area and built a two-story house, which still stands. Five of their sons served in the Civil War. Son Thomas Jefferson Starr had the first commercial orchard in Anderson County. His son, Allen, raised beef, dairy products, corn, and peanuts. Allen's daughter, Flora May, has written genealogy books, and her husband, George Miller, was active in various farm organizations.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3,400 **Acres still retained:** 335

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1848 - Cattle, poultry, corn, cotton, hay, dairy products, and fruit; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

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## *John B. Chauveaux Farm*

Armstrong Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Claude

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1928	Francois Chauveaux	Grandfather
1928-1965	T.A. "Tony" Chauveaux	Father
1965-1988	Mr. and Mrs. John Boudes Chauveaux	

*Francois Chauveaux came to Texas from St. Etienne, France, in search of good land to farm. He and his family developed a cane seed used in the Panhandle, the Chauveaux cane. He and his wife, Elizabeth (Brunel), had three children. Their son, Tony, inherited 640 acres and began an improvement program, building a house, barns, and fences. He and his wife, Celine (Boudes), had eight children. Their son, John and his wife, Billie (Bural), took over Tony's farm, then he and his sister, Mary Jane, each inherited 320 acres in 1965.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, wheat, milo, corn, and cane; 1988 - Cattle, wheat, milo, corn, and cane.

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## *Mary Chauveaux Dooley Farm*

Armstrong Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Claude

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1928	Francois Chauveaux	Grandfather
1928-1965	T.A. "Tony" Chauveaux	Father
1965-1988	Mary Jane (Chauveaux) Dooley	

*Francois Chauveaux came to Texas from St. Etienne, France, in search of good land to farm. He and his family developed a cane seed used in the Panhandle, the Chauveaux cane. He and his wife, Elizabeth (Brunel), had three children. Their son, Tony, inherited 640 acres and began an improvement program, building a house, barns, and fences. He and his wife, Celine (Boudes), had eight children. Their son, John and his wife, Billie (Bural), took over Tony's farm, then he and his sister, Mary Jane, each inherited 320 acres in 1965.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, wheat, milo, corn, and cane; 1988 - Cattle, wheat, milo, corn, and cane.

# Hassler-Sens Ranch

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Approximately 2-1/2 miles southwest of Bellville on the south bank of Mill Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1922	Henry and Minna (Kinkler) Hassler	Great-grandparents
1922-1956	Charles and Augusta (Thomsen) Hassler	Grandparents
1956-1964	Alice (Hassler) Sens, Lola (Hassler) Hillboldt, Evelyn (Hassler) Roitsch	Parents, aunts
1964-1988	Ronda (Sens) Landers, Calvin Sens, Mark Sens, Sandra (Sens) Ward, Clara (Sens) Young	

*Henry Hassler came from Germany with his mother to join his father, but because of the war with Mexico they never found him and settled in Cat Spring. Henry and his wife, Minna, had 10 children. He was president of the agriculture society and had a butcher shop. Son Charles expanded the ranch; his widow left it to his daughters. Alice and her husband, Edwin Sens, raised Hereford, Braford, and Brahman bulls and were active in agricultural organizations. Various family members now own the ranch, but none has ever lived on it.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 10,057.10 **Acres still retained:** 400

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Cotton, oats, wheat, and grapes; 1988 - Hay and cattle.

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# Maeckel Farm

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Bleiberville on FM 2502; timberland 10 miles northwest of Bellville on Mikeska Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1924	Ernst Edward Maeckel	Grandfather
1924-1968	Edward Otto Maeckel	Father
1968-1988	Edith (Maeckel) Betts, Lorene (Maeckel) Brown, Leland Maeckel, Marvin Maeckel	

*Ernst Maeckel came from Germany. He and his wife, Frantiska (Maresh), reared seven children. They lived on 63 acres, and had a separate 19-acre timber tract that provided fuel. Their son, Edward Otto, and his wife, Mathilde (Kudlacek), took over the farm, adding 22.88 acres. This was the time of rural electrification and the arrival of farm machinery. Maeckel was Precinct 7 justice of the peace and Precinct 2 county commissioner; he was active in farm and musical organizations. His children inherited the farm, which is run by Leland Maeckel.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 82 **Acres still retained:** 82

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, sorghum, grains, and livestock; 1988 - Hay, cattle, and pecans.

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# Pacher Farm

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles south of Bellville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1899	Jacob Pacher	Grandfather
1899-1934	George Pacher	Father
1934-1988	Adolph and Emma Pacher	

*Jacob Pacher came from Czechoslovakia. He and his wife, Victoria, had four children. Their son, George, inherited the farm and continued raising cotton, corn, cattle, and horses. He and his wife, August, reared seven children. Their son, Adolph, assumed ownership in 1934. He and his wife, Emma, are active in the Austin County Farm Bureau, the Livestock Association, the Millheim Cemetery Association, the Home Demonstration Club and the Millheim Harmonie Hall.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 133.6 **Acres still retained:** 133.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and horses; 1988 - Livestock and hay.

# May-Thad McDonald Farm

Bastrop Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles west of Bastrop of Highway 21

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1937	Sophia (Veal) and Martin McDonald	Grandparents
1937-1964	Robirda (McDonald) and Sammy Moore	Parents
1964-1967	Leslie and Lillie Moore	Cousin
1967-1988	Thaddeus A. and Mary L. McDonald	

*Martin McDonald was brought to Texas as a slave. He was freed in 1874, and he and Sophia bought 100 acres of land, cleared it and gradually added additional acres. Cotton was their primary crop, but after the boll weevil came to Texas, their income came from truck farming, livestock and oil royalties. In 1919, Sophia McDonald deeded 1-1/2 acres to the Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church and Colored School. Their daughter, Robirda, and her husband, Sammy, joined their families' adjacent tracts. Their son, Leslie, continued to operate the farm; in 1967, his cousin bought the original 100 acres, which he and his wife, Mary, continue to farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, horses, mules, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle, hay, vegetables, peaches, honey, and fish.

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# Wallace Dube Ranch

Bastrop Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of McDade on CR 131

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1858-1888	Frederick and Gottlieb Wolf	Great-grandfather, Great-grand uncle
1888-1925	Anna Christine (Wolf) and Johann Dube	Grandparents
1925-1982	Henrietta (Saegert) and Alfred Dube	Parents
1982-1988	Wallace and Correen (Ellebracht) Dube	

*Brothers Frederick and Gottlieb Wolf came from Germany. August and brother, Franz, served in the Civil War. They donated land for Shiloh Cemetery and a school. August and his wife, Henriette (Stieler), had five children. Daughter Anna Christine inherited 131.5 acres in 1888 and added land and improvements with her husband, Johann Dube. Their son, Alfred, and his wife, Henrietta, acquired the farm, were active in Grace Lutheran Church and in the community, and provided a Christmas tree for the state capitol in Austin. Their son, Wallace, and his wife, Correen, continue to farm the land with their family.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 456.75 **Acres still retained:** 57.9

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1858 - Cotton, corn, peanuts, fruits, and vegetables, livestock; 1988 - Hay, cattle, and Christmas trees.

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# Rogers Ranch

Bexar Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles west of Culebra Road on Potranco Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1903	D.G. Rogers	Great-grandfather
1903-1934	Blanche (Rogers) Wiseman	Wife, mother
1934-1988	Ed Wiseman, Dr. Charles Wiseman, Mary Ann (Wiseman) Simpson	

*D.G. Rogers was a successful lawyer and businessman from Milwaukee. He bought the ranch in Texas and had his son, Henry, run it, first trying Jersey cattle, which did not thrive, and then Dapple Gray Percheron horses. Henry and his wife, Mary (Feldtman), had a daughter, Blanche, who inherited the property when D.G. Rogers died. She married Ed Wiseman, the ranch manager, and they had a son and a daughter. She died in 1982, and Ed continues to live on and work the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,776 **Acres still retained:** 774

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Dairy cattle and horses; 1988 - Cattle, hay, and oats.

## Howard Cox Farm

Blanco Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles off 281 South on R.R. 32

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1872-1924	Andrew Josiah Cox and Isabelle (Evans) Cox	Grandparents
1924-1956	Andrew Marion Cox	Father
1956-1988	Howard N. Cox	

*Andrew Cox came to Texas from Arkansas. He operated a cotton gin and a processing operation for sugar cane. He and Isabelle had eight children. Their son, Andrew, took over 43.6 acres in 1924 and was also a building contractor, a county commissioner and had a country store. He and his wife, Mary (Price), had five children. Their son, Howard, and his wife, Dolores, continue to work the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 194 **Acres still retained:** 43.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1872 - Cattle, horses, grain, corn, and cotton; 1988 - Hogs, chickens, rabbits, and guineas.

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## EE Ranch

Blanco Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles west of Highway 281

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1901	Edward Ebeling	Grandfather
1901-1949	Max Ebeling	Father
1949-1988	Ralph Max Ebeling	

*Edward Ebeling left Germany to avoid an arranged marriage. He married Bertha Klappenbach and they had five children. He was the first in the area to build rock fences, and he drilled a well and built dams. His son, Max, continued to make improvements, including electricity in 1939. He and his wife, Toni (Pellar), had six children. Their son, Ralph Max, acquired the property in 1949. He worked to eradicate screwworms. He lives on the ranch with his wife, Annie (Dee), and their children and grandchildren.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 9,354 **Acres still retained:** 2,640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, horses, and mules; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and grasses.

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## The Finstad Place

Bosque Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile north of Cranfills Gap off FM 22

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1947	Ole O. Finstad	Great-grandfather
1947-1968	Alfred Oliver Finstad	Grandfather
1968-1987	Jewell (Finstad) Christianson, Ione (Finstad) Blue	Mother, aunt
1987-1988	Rebecca (Blue) Rushing, Angela (Blue) Little	

*Ole O. Finstad came from Norway to escape poverty. He acquired 320 acres and he and his wife, Julia Marie, had four children. Their son, Alfred, acquired the land in 1947. His daughters, Jewell and Ione, inherited the farm from him, adding improved grasses and cross-bred cattle. The spring on the farm has never gone dry and is sometimes the sole source of water for livestock and gardens. The original two rooms of the farmhouse, constructed in 1888 with additions, is still used for family reunions and a weekend retreat.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 292

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, wheat, oats, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

# Smith Farm

Bosque Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles west of Clifton on FM 219

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1930	William Smith	Grandfather
1930-1963	Carl August Smith	Father
1963-1988	Carl August Smith, Jr.	

*William Smith came from Sweden and cleared and cultivated their land. He and his wife, Karen (Aasgard), had five children. The Smiths were active in the community and in Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Their son, Carl, took over the farm in 1930. He and his wife, Hallie (Walters), were also active in the community and had a son, Carl Jr. He continues to clear the land and plant grasses. He built a brick home and remodeled the old house. He lives on the farm with his wife, Dora.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 344 **Acres still retained:** 321

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton, corn, wheat, sheep, and cattle; 1988 - Oats, hay, cattle, and goats.

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# Z Bar Ranch

Brown Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Zephyr on County Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1937	Joseph E. and Ann (Johnson) Green	Great-grandparents
1937-1983	Glee Ora Green, Alta Urna Green	Great aunts
1983-1988	Joe M. Green	

*Joseph Edward Green was from Coryell County, Texas. He and his wife had nine children. They donated land for county roads and helped build the Primitive Baptist Church at Jenkins Springs. Their daughters, Glee Ora and Alta Urna, acquired the property, practicing good conservation with native grasses, water retention dams and erosion prevention. Their nephew, Joe, bought the ranch from them. The fireplace, still in use, was part of the original house.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 177 **Acres still retained:** 177

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Corn, small grain, cotton, horses, and cattle; 1988 - Hay, small grains, cattle, and horses.

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# Hester Farm

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and one-half miles north of Forest

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1904	William J. and Ciety A. Hester	Grandparents
1904-1948	Charles R. Hester	Father
1948-1988	Joe P. and Lila B. Hester	

*William J. Hester came to Texas from Biloxi, Mississippi, with his parents and acquired 150 acres in Cherokee County. He and his wife, Ciety, had 10 children. Their son, Charles Robert, acquired 75 acres in 1898 and 1904. Charles and his wife, Lena (Townsend), had 12 children. Their son, Joe, took over the property in 1948 and has added two ponds and a barn.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, peanuts, cattle and hogs; 1988 - Oats, hay, and horses.

# Reid's 7L Ranch

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles west of Alto south of Hwy. 294

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1897	H.C. and Caroline Hendrick	Great-great-uncle
1897-1948	G.G. Butler	Grandfather
1948-1976	Tom Robert Butler, Rosanna Butler, Louesa (Butler) Gober	Father, aunts
1976-1988	Ruby L. Reid	

*H.C. Henderson came from Alabama in 1828. He hauled freight by ox-drawn wagon from Alto to Shreveport, Louisiana. In 1897, his niece and her husband, Melvira and G.G. Butler, took over the ranch. G.G. was the community veterinarian and a constable, and he was known for his cane syrup. Melvira was community midwife. Their son, Tom, and daughters, Rosanna and Louesa, took over the property in 1948. Tom's daughter, Ruby, her husband, Mack, and their son, Don, now operate the ranch. Ruby still has G.G. Butler's copper syrup pan.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 56.496

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, hogs, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle and timber.

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# Edwards Ranch

Clay Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile east of SH 148, 1-1/2 miles northeast of Prospect

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1888	George W. Edwards Sr.	Grandfather
1888-1980	George W. Edwards Jr.	Father
1980-1988	Raymond C. Edwards	

*George W. Edwards came from Tennessee seeking land. He used barbed wire fences, cleared and improved the land and used improved cattle. He and his wife, Mary (Parmley), had three children. Son George Jr. took over the ranch, putting more land into farm production and adding sheep to the ranch production. He and his wife, Ruth (Chesher), had four children. Their son, Raymond, runs the ranch using improved breeds of cattle, range management and improved fencing.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 760 **Acres still retained:** 423

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cattle and hay; 1988 - Cattle and ranch forage.

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# BDE Ranch

Cooke Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southwest of Gainesville on FM 1630

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1898	Edward and Mary (Donahue) Enderby	Great-grandparents
1898-1913	Charles and Nora Enderby	Grandparents
1913-1976	Joe and Alta Enderby	Parents
1976-1988	William and Dorothy Enderby	

*Edward and Mary Enderby came from Lincolnshire, England, and settled their ranch. The Butterfield Stage Line crossed their land. They had five children. When their son, Charles, and his wife, Nora, took over the property, they added wheat to the ranch's production. Charles and Nora had four children, and their son, Joe, cultivated oats. Joe and his wife, Alta, had one son, William, who runs the farm with his wife, Dorothy, and their sons, Michael and Ricky.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 143.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Cattle; 1988 - Calves.

# Dozier Farm

Cooke Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and one-half miles north of Callisburg on County Road 115

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1917	William and Betty (Richards) Dozier	Grandparents
1917-1980	Luther and Alice (Weldon) Dozier	Parents
1980-1988	Vernon and Mary Dozier	

*William and Betty Dozier came from Gibson County, Tennessee, and bought 102 acres to grow cotton, feed and dairy and beef cattle. They had eight children. Their son, Luther, acquired the farm in 1917 and 1947. Luther and his wife, Alice, had three children, and their son, Vernon, and his wife, Mary, run the farm. The original farmhouse still stands and is used for storage.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 102 **Acres still retained:** 102

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, grain, feed, beef and dairy cattle; 1988 - Hay and beef cattle.

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# Allen Ranch

Coryell Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Gatesville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1856-1868	W.W. Allen	Great-grandfather
1868-1883	Luther Martin Allen	Grandfather
1883-1947	W.W. Allen	Uncle
1947-1988	Ellen (Bone) Hall, Jack A. Bone, Marcus R. Bone, Thomas A. Bone, William A. Bone	

*W.W. Allen came from New York state and settled near Gatesville and Fort Gates for protection from Indian marauders. He and his wife, Electra (Kinney), had two children. Newton was killed in the Civil War. Luther Martin inherited the ranch and served as a Coryell county clerk for 14 years. He and his wife, Ellen (Baker), had six children. Their son, William, bought heirship rights and expanded the ranch. He was unmarried and left the ranch to his niece and nephews. Jack Allen Bone is the principle owner and continues to operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,500 **Acres still retained:** 477

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1856 - Wheat, corn, cotton, feed, beef and dairy cattle; 1988 - Beef cattle.

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# Eggen-White Farm

Coryell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eleven miles west of Clifton

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1942	T.A. and Olivia J. (Colwick) Eggen	Grandparents
1942-1962	Ovee, Amos, Houston, Mabel and Jesse Eggen	Father, uncles, aunt
1962-1988	T.J. and Velma (Eggen) White	

*T.A. Eggen came from Norway for the opportunity of a new land. He and Olivia built the farm and pioneered the Norse Thrasher Co., Norse Telephone Co., and other businesses, and they were active in Our Savior's Lutheran Church. They raised six children of their own and a child whose parents had died, Ada Isabelle Christenson. Their son, Ovee, managed the farm for his brothers and sister. Amos and Ada Isabelle married, and their daughter, Velma, and her husband, T.J. White, continue to add improvements to the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 299 **Acres still retained:** 188.2

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Corn, cotton, oats, wheat, barley, Sudan grass, and livestock; 1988 - Oats, wheat, sorghum/maize, hay, and cattle.

# George Farm

Delta Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles east of Lake Creek on FM 198

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1858-1885	David Simeon George	Grandfather
1885-1941, '60, '83	David Simeon Richard George	Father
1983-1988	Opal George	

*David Simeon George came from North Carolina and acquired 500 acres in 1858, growing cotton and grain for livestock. He and his wife, Lucinda (McGuire), had eight children. Their son, David S. George Jr., acquired 50 acres in 1885. He and his wife, Lydia (Shepherd), gave one acre for a public school, known as Lone Elm, in the Pacio community. In 1914, he bought the acre back for \$45 when the school was relocated. His son, Opal, and Opal's wife acquired the farm over a period from 1941 to 1983, and it is now run by Mrs. George.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 500 **Acres still retained:** 157

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1858 - Cotton and grain; 1988 - Hereford cross cattle and hay.

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# Brooks Farm

Denton Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles from Argyle on 407-W

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1893	Richard R. Litsey	Grandfather
1893-1947	Mary Cora (Litsey) and George McMakin	Parents
1947-1988	Jack Christal (Litsey) and Roy S. Brooks	

*Richard R. Litsey had one of the first Shetland pony farms in Denton County. He and his wife, Sarah (Holford), had three children. Their daughter, Mary, received the farm as a wedding present in 1893. Mary and her husband, George McMakin, had 10 children; their daughter, Jack Christal, and her husband, Roy, acquired 100 acres in 1947. Roy was a member of the Farm Bureau for many years before his death; Jack is active in the United Methodist Church of Argyle. They have preserved original oak trees on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,058.5 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle and feed grain; 1988 - Livestock and grasses.

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# Evans Farm

Denton Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles northwest of Denton on Farm Rd. 156 and Jackson Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1896	James and Mary Evans	Great-grandparents
1896-1924	George Evans	Grandfather
1924-1976	Velma Stone	Mother
1976-1988	Dale E. and Jo Ann Stone	

*James and Mary Evans came to Texas from Illinois. James worked with the agricultural experiment station and sought to improve strains of crops grown in the area, helped to organize a livestock breeders association, and was a charter member of a literary and debating society. Their son, George, also worked with the agricultural experiment station. He and his wife, Maud (Black), had three children. Their daughter, Velma Stone, acquired the property in 1924. Her son, Dale Evans Stone, and his wife, Jo Ann, now run the farm with their children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 147 **Acres still retained:** 72

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Corn, oats, and livestock; 1988 - Hay and livestock.



# Rebel Ranch

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles south of Yoakum, one mile south of FM 1447

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1933	James Richard Benbow	Grandfather
1933-1963	Hildred L. Benbow Bolton	Mother
1963-1988	Marianne (Bolton) Martin	

*James Richard Benbow came to Texas from Pike County, Alabama, with his mother after his father died. When the Civil War broke out, he served in the Confederate Army. He began to purchase land in 1870 and eventually acquired more than 3,500 acres. He and his first wife, Sarah (Alexander), had five children. After Sarah died, he married Mae T. Kelley. Their daughter, Hildred, inherited the ranch when her father died in 1933. Her daughter, Marianne, now runs the ranch with her husband, Waymon C. Martin.*

**Acres in original parcel:** unknown **Acres still retained:** 579

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Corn, cotton, and livestock; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Pleasant Grove

Eastland Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six and one-half miles west of Ranger on FM 101 and Intersection of 165

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1953	C. L. Perkins	Grandfather
1953-1971	Celia J. Perkins	Mother
1971-1988	Mildred (Perkins) Wilhelm, Inez (Perkins) Harvey	

*C.L. Perkins came from Grayson County, Virginia, with his family in 1856 and settled in Fort Worth. He received a homestead grant from the state of Texas in 1887 for 160 acres. He and his wife, Medline (Williamson), had six children. The family donated land for the Pleasant Grove Cemetery in 1902. Celia moved back to Pleasant Grove in 1951 and in 1953 acquired the property and made improvements and bought additional land. Her daughters, Inez and Mildred, now own the property, which is operated by Mildred's sons, Richard and Larry.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 133

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, cattle, and orchard; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

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# Alfred and Ore Nell Frerichs Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight and one-half miles south of La Grange on FM 155

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1920	Eilert Gerhard and Wilhelmina (Westing) Brandt	Great-grandparents
1920-1936	George Fred Brandt	Grandfather
1936-1983	George Henry Brandt	Father
1983-1988	Ore Nell (Brandt) Frerichs	

*Eilert and Wilhelmina Brandt came from Oldenberg, Germany, looking for a better life. They improved the land to make it more productive, and slaves that had been freed stayed to work on the farm. A family cemetery there is still maintained. Forty-five acres had to be sold because the Colorado River changed its course, cutting off the land. The family has practiced soil conservation techniques and been active in the county and local Farm Bureau. The founder's great-granddaughter, Ore Nell, and her husband, Alfred, now run the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 386.5 **Acres still retained:** 26.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, hay, beef cattle, swine, and poultry; 1988 - Corn, small grains, hay, and beef cattle.

# Bermuda Valley Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Saint John's Road (FM 957), about 1/2 mile southwest of Schulenburg city limits

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1928	Dr. I.E. Clark	Grandfather
1928-1945	Harvey Robert Clark	Father
1945-1988	Isaac Edgar and Lila (Norwood) Clark	

*Dr. I. E. Clark established the farm to continue his father's horse breeding and training. He built a track that was used for fairs, including horse races, livestock exhibits, and women's home demonstrations. Dr. Clark was also credited with introducing Bermuda grass and Red Polled cattle to the area. His son, Harvey, continued the horse breeding, but when pari-mutuel betting became illegal in 1934, he concentrated on cattle. He raised dairy cattle and was a pioneer in raising and breeding Jersey cattle. His son and his wife raise beef cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 223.5 **Acres still retained:** 223.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Horses, cattle, hogs, cotton, corn, hay, and feed; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

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# Berry Lou Brandt Stech Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles north of Weimar on FM 155

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1920	Eilert Gerhard and Wilhelmina (Westing) Brandt	Great-grandparents
1920-1936	George Fred Brandt	Grandfather
1936-1968	George H. and Gertrude (Trefny) Brandt	Parents
1968-1988	Leonard and Berry Lou (Brandt) Stech	

*Eilert and Wilhelmina Brandt came from Oldenberg, Germany. Eilert gave land to the county for the road to the Colorado River and experimented with different seeds to improve crop yields. Son George built levees and dams to control Colorado River flooding before dams were built above Austin. He also organized the rural school and was active in the state Democratic party. His son took over the farm in 1936, when electricity and the telephone came to Fayette County. His daughter and her husband practice soil conservation methods.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 386 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, and cattle; 1988 - Corn and beef cattle.

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# Brandt Children's Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles southeast of Carmine, near Winedale

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1920	Eilert Gerhard and Wilhelmine (Westing) Brandt	Great-grandparents
1920-1936	George Fred Brandt	Grandfather
1936-1979	Arthur H. Brandt, Sr.	Father
1979-1988	Hubert Brandt, Ervin Brandt, Franklin C. Brandt, Arthur H. Brandt, Jr. Arline P. (Brandt) Watson, Donald L. Brandt	

*The farm was founded by Eilert Brandt and his wife Wilhelmine, who came from Germany. They raised cotton and corn and had six children. Their son, George, acquired the property, following his parents' practices of using the most advanced farming techniques available. The family was also involved in farm organizations and politics. Arthur Brandt Sr. acquired the property in 1936. His children formed a partnership in 1979, and Arline currently lives on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 380 **Acres still retained:** 35

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton and corn; 1988 - Beef cattle and grain.

# Brandt Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles north of Schulenburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1920	Eilert Gerhard and Wilhelmine (Westing) Brandt	Grandparents
1920-1936	George Fred Brandt	Father
1936-1988	Arthur H. Brandt and Donald L. Brandt	

*Eilert and Wilhelmine Brandt came to Texas from Oldenburg, Germany, looking for a better life. They eventually acquired 380 acres and farmed with the most advanced farming and conservation techniques available. They had six children, and their son, George, took over the farm in 1920. He and his wife, Julia (Hickel), had 10 children. Their son, Arthur, acquired part of the property in 1936. He and his wife, Adeline, and their son, Donald, raise cattle and feed on their property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 380 **Acres still retained:** 10

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Cotton and corn; 1988 - Cattle and feed.

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# Bridge Valley Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles southwest of La Grange on FM 609

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1915	Joseph Mozisek	Great-grandfather
1915-1985	Frank and Mary Mozisek	Grandparents
1985-1987	Anton Mozisek	Father
1987-1988	Daniel Mozisek	

*Joseph Mozisek came from Hostyn, Texas, and established the farm with his wife, Barbara. They had three children, and their son, Frank, and his wife, Mary, acquired part of the farm in 1915, adding dairy cattle. Their son, Anton, acquired around 10 acres in 1985, and his son, Daniel, now raises beef cattle and registered Longhorns but no longer lives on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 215.25 **Acres still retained:** 5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle.

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# E.D.C. Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles south of La Grange on FM 155

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1920	Eilert Gerhard and Wilhelmina (Westing) Brandt	Great-grandparents
1920-1950	George Fred Brandt	Grandfather
1950-1983	Edna (Brandt) and Elo Witt	Parents
1983-1988	Dolores (Witt) Laufer, Cathleen (Witt) Stahmer	

*Eilert and Wilhelmina Brandt came from Oldenberg, Germany, looking for a better life. They operated the only molasses mill in the area, and established a family cemetery. Their son, George, and his wife, Julia, cleared the land and helped with the building of the church. Their daughter, Edna, acquired 190 acres in 1950, and their daughters, Dolores and Cathleen, now own it. It is still operated by their mother, Edna.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 380 **Acres still retained:** 190

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, cane, cattle, chickens, sheep, hogs, and garden vegetables; 1988 - Hay, pecans, corn, and cattle.

# Florence Mayer Aschenbeck Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles southeast of Round Top on FM 1457

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1936	Fritz and Louise (Kraus) Mayer	Grandparents
1936-1945	Charles and Anna (Guettler) Mayer	Parents
1945-1988	Florence Mayer Aschenbeck	

*Fritz Mayer was born in Washington County, near Winedale. He was a charter stockholder of the Round Top State Bank. Money taken to the bank was hidden in a pouch under a horse's harness. He also had a blacksmith shop. He and his wife, Louise, had four children. Son Charles acquired the farm in 1936 and continued to keep it in good repair. His daughter, Florence Mayer Aschenbeck, runs the farm today, growing Gardo meadow grass for feed and raising cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 99.8 **Acres still retained:** 99.8

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton, corn, tobacco, peanuts, wheat, barley, oats, millet, vegetables, fruit, walnuts, cattle, hogs, and poultry; 1988 - Vegetables, fruits, grass, and cattle.

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# Haw Creek Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles south of Round Top, one-fourth mile northeast of CR 276

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1901	Ludwig Giese	Great-grandfather
1901-1942	Gustav Giese	Grandfather
1942-1960, 65	Roy H. Giese	Father
1965-1988	Leerie R. Giese	

*Ludwig Giese came to Texas from Birlebeck, Prussia, to seek new opportunities. He helped build the Haw Creek Church and also served in the Confederate army. He and his wife, Louise (Naeggli), had nine children. Gustav took over the farm in 1901. Son Roy acquired the property in 1942, and served as a district clerk of Fayette County. His son, Roy, and his wife, Dorothy, have restored some of the original buildings.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 257.5 **Acres still retained:** 118.29

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Cotton, corn, hogs, and cattle; 1988 - Hay and cattle.

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# Speckels Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** On FM 1291, one-fourth mile northeast of FM 2145 near Waldeck

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1925	Gerhard Speckels	Grandfather
1925-1973	Willie Speckels	Father
1973-1988	Sharon Sikorski, Bruce Speckels, Marvin Speckels	

*Gerhard Speckels came from Oldenburg, Germany, to join other German immigrants in the area. His was one of the first farms in the area to be cleared and fenced. He hauled cotton from local gins to Houston and brought back supplies for area merchants. He was active in starting local schools and churches. His son, Willie, took over the property in 1925, clearing more land and building the house, barn and sheds. His son, Marvin, continues to raise beef cattle on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Cotton, corn, cattle, feed, fruits, and vegetables; 1988 - Beef cattle.

# Ulrich and Sons Ranch

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles south of La Grange on FM 155

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1920	Eilert Gerhard and Wilhelmina (Westing) Brandt	Great-grandparents
1920-1936	George Fred Brandt	Grandfather
1936-1968	George H. Brandt	Father
1968-1988	Eugene and Virginia (Brandt) Ulrich	

*Eilert and Wilhelmina Brandt came from Oldenberg, Germany, looking for a better life. Their son, George, practiced soil conservation, terracing pasture land and building flood control levees. His son, George, helped stop the Columbus Bend Dam project, which would have inundated pasture land. The ranch is now owned by Eugene and Virginia Ulrich and operated by their son, Eugene Jr., and his sons, Kevin and Travis.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 386.5 **Acres still retained:** 48.93

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and chickens; 1988 - Registered and crossbred Limousin cattle and hay.

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# Dempsey Jones Collins Farm

Foard Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northeast of Crowell

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1890	Frederick Robert Zeibig	Grandfather
1890-1911	Dempsey Jones Collins	Great-grandfather
1911-1923	Rachel Elizabeth (Collins) Zeibig	Grandmother
1923-1985	Homer Richard Zeibig	Father
1985-1988	Oleta Faye (Zeibig) and William F. Statser	

*Frederick Zeibig was a road reviewer for Hardeman County to establish a road from Margaret to the center of Knox County. Foard County was organized in 1891. Frederick helped found Simmons College (now Hardin-Simmons University). His father-in-law took over the farm upon Frederick's death, followed by his widow. Her son, Homer, was among the first in the county to terrace the land. He served in the Navy in World War I. His daughter, Oleta Faye, her husband, William Franklin Statser, and their daughter and son-in-law operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, wheat, and feed; 1988 - Wheat, cotton, and cattle.

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# Frederick Robert Zeibig Farm

Foard Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northeast of Crowell

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1890	Frederick Robert Zeibig	Grandfather
1890-1911	Dempsey Jones Collins	Great-grandfather
1911-1923	Rachel Elizabeth (Collins) Zeibig	Grandmother
1923-1985	Homer Richard Zeibig	Father
1985-1988	Betty Jo (Zeibig) Hitt	

*Frederick Zeibig left Saxony, Germany to escape militarism. He was a member of the First Baptist Church. His father-in-law took over the farm upon Frederick's death, followed by his widow. Her son, Homer, was among the first in the county to terrace the land. He served in the Navy in World War I and was a deacon in the First Baptist Church. The farm is owned by Homer's daughter, Betty Jo Hitt, and operated by her brother-in-law, William F. Statser.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, wheat, and feed; 1988 - Wheat, cotton, and cattle.

# Williamswood Ranch

Fort Bend Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles southeast of Richmond, near FM 762 and Hwy. 59

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1921	Joseph Crawley Jr. and Lola (Nation) Williams	Grandparents
1921-1976	Manford Nation Williams	Father
1976-1988	Joan (Williams) McLeod, Margaret (Williams) Walker, Libbie Thompson Walker, Joan Douglas McLeod, Margaret Steed Williams	

*J.C. Williams Jr.'s parents were a judge and a granddaughter of Mirabeau Lamar. He worked for Southern Pacific railroad to save money to buy the land. Their son, Manford, acquired 100 acres and built the homestead. He served on the school board, and Manford Williams Elementary school today sits of 15 acres of the homestead. Daughter Joan McLeod's husband, E. Douglas McLeod, was a state legislator from Galveston. Joan, a daughter-in-law, granddaughters and great-granddaughters currently operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 86.65

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle and cotton; 1988 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and pecans.

# Cammert/Mayer Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles north of Fredericksburg on Lower Crabapple Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1870-1884	Henriette Cammert	Great-grandmother
1884-1925	Friedrich and Anna (Cammert) Mayer	Grandparents
1925-1954, 56	Carl Mayer, Emil Mayer, Emma Mayer, Hulda (Mayer) Lashbrook, Ida Mayer, Olga (Mayer) Koennecke,	Aunts, uncles, mother
1956-1988	Esther (Koennecke) Klein	

*Henriette Cammert was born in Prussia and followed her husband Carl to Texas. Henriette bought 166 acres of land in 1870. Her daughter, Anna, married Friedrich Mayer, who was one of the first ranchers in Gillespie County to use terracing to prevent soil erosion. After Friedrich and Anna died, each of their children inherited a one-sixth interest. In 1954 and 1956 Olga's daughter, Esther, received from her mother and two aunts their total interest in the original land. Her son lives in the stone and log home built by Friedrich and Anna.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 166 **Acres still retained:** 166

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Cattle, vegetables, wool, cotton, wheat, corn, eggs, and butter. 1988 - Cattle.

# Koennecke Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles east of Fredericksburg on FM 1631

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1861-1885	August and Charlotte (Behrens) Koennecke	Great-grandparents
1885-1907	Gustav Koennecke	Grandfather
1907-1951	Theodore Koennecke	Father
1951-1988	Martin Koennecke	

*August Koennecke was born in Mecklenburg, Germany. He was a founder of the Gillespie County Association for Agricultural and Livestock Raising and was a county commissioner and justice of the peace. His son, Gustav, was among the first in Gillespie County to own an automobile. He and his son, Theodore, were custom meat processors. Theodore added sheep to the ranch in 1935, and he and three neighbors bought a tractor and grain thresher. Martin and Ruby Koennecke still use the original native stone house, barn and smokehouse.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 369 **Acres still retained:** 369

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1861 - Cattle, hogs, corn, sweet potatoes, butter, hay, and molasses; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, Angora goats, hay, maize, and small grains.

# Voy and Betty Althaus Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Northeast corner of Gillespie County on Althaus-Davis Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1900	Christian Althaus	Great-grandfather
1900-1945	Charles Althaus	Grandfather
1945-1980	Marlin Althaus	Father
1980-1988	Voy and Betty Althaus	

*Christian Althaus was born in Germany and raised Longhorn cattle, which he upgraded to Hereford. He and his wife, Anna (Behrends), had six children. He gave the land to his son, Charles, who increased the ranch to about 5,000 acres. His son, Marlin, raised Angus cattle. He and his wife, Leana (Reams), had six children, and their son, Voy, and his wife, Betty, now operate the ranch. Voy has planted old fields in coastal Bermuda and has cleared brush from the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cattle; 1988 - Angus cattle.

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# Wahrmund Farm

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Sixteen miles northeast of Fredericksburg on FM 1631

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1911	Gustav Wahrmund	Grandfather
1911-1953	Alfred F. Wahrmund	Father
1953-1988	Gustav A. Wahrmund	

*Gustav Wahrmund bought 100 acres from his father, Emil, and purchased an additional 152 acres. He also worked as a mail carrier. His son, Alfred, acquired the farm and added 150 more acres. He was a school trustee. He and his wife, Frieda, had three children, Gustav, Ruben and Vera. Gustav acquired the farm in 1953 and established soil conservation projects and milo and oats test seed plots. He and his wife, Nelda, continue to operate the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cattle, horses, cotton, corn, oats, and hay; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, oats, wheat, corn, hay, milo, and pecans.

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# Brelsford Ranch

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles north of Nixon, two miles north of Highway 80

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1951	Richard W. Brelsford	Grandfather
1951-1984	George Burgess Brelsford	Father
1984-1988	Ann (Brelsford) Wagener, Mary Alice (Brelsford) Kerr	

*Richard Brelsford came from Kentucky, buying 100 acres at first and adding small tracts as he was able. He and his wife, Mary Alice (Swann), had nine children, who attended the little red school house in Leesville. Their son, George, managed the ranch from 1935 and become owner in 1951. He and his wife, Annie (Bridges), had two daughters, Ann and Mary Alice, who operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 85

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, hay, beef cattle, turkeys, and chickens 1988 - Cattle and hay.

# Crozier Ranch

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northwest of Waelder on FM 1296

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-unknown	Robert B. Crozier	Grandfather-in-law
unknown-1934	unknown	Father
1934-unknown	Glen Crozier	Husband
unknown-1988	Lessie (Martin) Crozier	

*Robert B. Crozier bought 300 acres in 1881. He and his wife, Mary (Allsup) Crozier, had eight children. Their grandson, Glen, took over the ranch in 1934, and his wife, Lessie, continues to raise cattle on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 300 **Acres still retained:** 15

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton, corn, maize, cane, and garden crops. 1988 - Cattle.

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# J.D. Patteson Ranch

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and one-fourth miles west of Smiley on State Highway 87

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1951	Jefferson D. and Mary (Webb) Patteson	Father, grandfather
1951-1988	Arthur L. Patteson, Ethel M. Patteson, Beulah B. Patteson, Mr. and Mrs. Hope Borrer, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Cook, Bruce Patteson, Mrs. Jimmy Springs, Mrs. Ellis Bird	

*Jefferson Patteson's father came to Texas for land. Jefferson bought more than 3,000 acres and raised cattle, cotton, livestock feed and food for the family. He helped build a one room schoolhouse. Oil exploration in the Austin Chalk in 1981 produced several wells in the now-partitioned ranch. Three surviving children of the founders' 10 still owned the ranch in 1988, along with several grandchildren. Living on the ranch today are Bruce Patteson, his wife, Marcille, and their children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3390.4 **Acres still retained:** 3332.35

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, hogs, horses, cotton, corn, hay, fruits, and vegetables. 1988 - Cattle and grasses.

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# Brown Farm

Grayson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles east of Sherman on Highway 82

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1867-1897	John Samuel and Mary (Davidson) Brown	Great-grandfather
1897-1977	Cam Brown	Grandfather
1977-1987	Lynn Frank Brown	Father
1987-1988	Ronnie Cam Brown	

*John and Mary Brown came from Missouri for the cheap and plentiful land in Texas. They raised cattle for meat and dairy products and mules for sale. They had 12 children. Their son, Cam, acquired the land in 1897. He terraced the land and provided an easement for Highway 82 in 1929. He and his wife, Willie May (Johnson), had three children; son Lynn acquired the farm in 1977. He raised Hereford cattle and dug two stock ponds. Lynn's son, Ronnie, and his wife, Sandra (Culifer), and their son and daughter now live on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 109 **Acres still retained:** 60

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1867 - Cotton, corn, oats, mules, cattle, and hogs. 1988 - Sudan grass.



# Lawrence McKelvey Ranch

Gregg Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five miles northeast of Longview, 4405 Tryon Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Names</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1938	Curtis and Rebecca Jane (Henderson) Mackey	Grandparents
1938-1949	Anna Cora Mackey	Aunt
1949-1988	Lawrence and Nell Carter McKelvey	

*Curtis Mackey came from Alabama in 1872 at the age of 19. When Curtis died of typhoid fever in 1888 his wife, Rebecca, continued to farm the land and raised four children. In 1938 daughter, Anna Cora Mackey, took title to the land. She served as the Gregg County Superintendent from 1931-38. In 1949 Lawrence McKelvey, a nephew of Anna, began taking title to the land and acquired full title in 1968. He and his wife raise cattle and hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 63

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cotton, corn, fruits, and vegetables; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

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# Blume Farm

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** About four miles east of Seguin, south of Highway 90A

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1901	Carla and Helena Girz Blume	Grandparents
1901-1909	Max and Louisa (Wille) Blume	Aunt
1909-1952	Lawrence and Nell Carter McKelvey	
1952-1988	Eugene and Lorene Blume	

*The Blumes came to Texas from Bavaria to escape wars and became naturalized citizens, voted and paid their taxes. They also helped establish a local school and church in Seguin. In 1901 their son, Max, took title to the land. He and his wife, Louisa, had twelve children. In 1909 their son, Herman Anton, took title. He raised cotton, corn, hay and horses until title passed to a nephew, Eugene.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 120 **Acres still retained:** 52

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, vegetables, and livestock; 1988 - Cattle, oats, and wheat.

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# The Fuqua Ranch

Hamilton Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles Northwest of Hamilton, off Highway 36

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1916	John William Kirkland	Grandfather
1916-1963	Mary Adaline Kirkland Fuqua	Mother
1963-1988	Thomas Bart Fuqua Jr.	

*John Kirkland came to Texas from North Carolina as a runaway child. In 1884, he purchased 640 acres of land to raise crops and livestock. In 1916, Mary Kirkland and her husband, Thomas Barton Fuqua, acquired the ranch. They continued to raise cattle and horses and developed a pecan orchard. The land was acquired by the grandson of the founder, Thomas Fuqua, in 1963. Fuqua served as a county commissioner for eight years and greatly improved the roads in the rural areas. Today, Fuqua and his wife, Evelyn, operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 630

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Grain, corn, cotton, cattle, horses, and mules; 1988 - Cattle, pecans, hay, hogs, and grain.

## W.M. Johnson Estate

Hamilton Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five and one-half miles southwest of Hico

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1917	W.M. Johnson	Great-grandparents
1917-1948	Thomas Jefferson Johnson	Grandfather
1948-1971	Thomas Leland Johnson	Father
1971-1988	Thomas W. Johnson	

*W. M. Johnson acquired 320 acres of land on Honey Creek and over the years, he and his wife, Mary Jane, added 160 acres. Thomas inherited 30 acres of the farm and added mixed livestock. Thomas added 30 more acres to the farm in 1958 and raised beef cattle, sheep, corn, milo, cotton, and peanuts. The present owner bought 186 acres of the original farm from relatives.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 186

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Corn, milo, wheat, oats, and cotton; 1988 - Livestock, hay, wheat, and oats.

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## Ehrhardts' Farm

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles west of Spring and ten miles south of Tomball

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1929	Fritz Ehrhardt	Grandfather
1929-1968	Fredrich Henry Ehrhardt Jr.	Father
1968-1988	Bernard W. Ehrhardt	

*Fritz Ehrhardt came to Texas from Germany. He acquired 60 acres from Daniel Spell and 40 acres from Peter Mitchell to raise crops and livestock. The original Oak Grove Elementary School was located on the farm. Son Fredrich bought 62 3/4 acres of the property in 1929. He and his wife were members of the Farmers Co-op Market and Harris County Farm Bureau. As present owner-manager, Bernard participates in all phases of farm operations.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 167 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Corn, potatoes, cotton, cattle, pigs, and sheep; 1988 - Vegetables and livestock.

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## Whitcomb Clear Creek Farm

Harris Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles west of Webster on FM 528

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1851-1914	James Thompson	Grandfather
1914-1947	Josephine Thompson Whitcomb	Mother
1947-1988	Gail H. Whitcomb	

*James Thompson came to Texas from England to start a new life. In addition to utilizing the land to raise his crops, Thompson also set aside acreage for the first school in the county. Josephine and her husband, Gail H. Whitcomb Sr., started raising Brahman cattle on the farm and the present owners have continued the practice.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,100 **Acres still retained:** 176.99

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1851 - Cotton and sugarcane; 1988 - Simmental-Brahman cattle and chestnuts.

# Hillvue Farm

Hays Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles east of Kyle

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1909	William Heideman	Grandfather
1909-1954	Gustaf Heidman	Father
1954-1988	Raymond Heideman	

*William Heideman came to Texas from Germany and acquired 98 acres of land from R.J. Sledge. The land was passed to son Gustaf in 1909 and passed back and forth between Gustaf and relatives until 1954, when Gustaf sold 43 acres to his son, Raymond. Raymond and his wife, Myrtle, operate the land today. Raymond is active in his community, having served on the A.S.C.S. County Committee nine years.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 98 **Acres still retained:** 43

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1988 - Cotton and beef cattle.

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# OSO Ranch

Henderson Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and one-half miles north of LaRue

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1935	John and Jennie (Harden) Harrell	Grandparents
1935-1950	Samuel and Alice (Harrell) Wylie	Parents
1950-1988	Willva C. Wylie	

*A native Texan, Jennie (Harden) Harrell purchased 172 acres of farm land from J.B. and Sallie Stewart. She and her husband, John, later added 55 more acres. Daughter Alice inherited 205 acres at the death of her mother. She and her husband, Samuel Lee Wylie, raised eight children. Grandson of the founder, Willva, acquired the 205 acres in 1950 and operates the ranch today with his wife, Jackie.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 172 **Acres still retained:** 172

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - unknown; 1988 - Hay and beef cattle.

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# Thurman Frost Farm

Hill Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles northwest of Hillsboro

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1893	Joe Abb and Martha Hill	Great-grandparents
1893-1958	Adolphus and Annie (Hill) Parsons	Grandparents
1958-1988	Thurman and Evelyn (Parsons) Frost	

*Joe Abb "J.A." Hill came to Texas from Illinois in 1844. He acquired 50 acres of land from the state of Texas and over the years, added 20 more. He and his wife, Martha, and their 11 children raised cotton, corn, and dairy cows. Annie Hill married Adolphus Parson and continued to raise cotton and corn on the 70-acre farm. After the death of Annie Hill Parson, her heirs sold the land to Thurman and Evelyn Frost, who are active in the Soil Conservation Program. The farm has been terraced, and a conservation lake has been put in.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 70 **Acres still retained:** 70

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cotton, corn, and dairy cows; 1988 - Black Angus cattle, wheat, maize, and cantaloupes.

# Warren Ranch

Hood Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles north of Granbury on Hwy. 51 North

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1872-1891	Abel and Indiana Rylee Nutt	Great-grandparents
1891-1950	Ora Nutt Warren and Allie T. Warren	Grandparents
1950-1976	Margaret (Warren) and Holland White	Parents
1976-1988	Warren and Dee White	

*Abel Nutt came to Texas from Missouri in 1859 with his father and brothers. Abel married Y.J. Rylee's daughter around 1870 and operated a Brazos River ferry from his farm. Abel's daughter, Ora, married Allie T. Warren and in 1892, Allie built the Warren-Nutt House, a folk-style farmhouse. Holland and Margaret (Warren) White raised cattle on the land until it was acquired by the great-granddaughter of the founder.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1855 - Cotton and cattle; 1988 - Quarter horses.

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# Christopher Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles east of Grapeland between FM 227 and FM 288

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1935	William Filmore and Sally (Faris) Murchison	Grandparents
1935-1978	Mary (Murchison) Davis	Mother
1978-1988	Sally (Davis) Christopher	

*William F. Murchison moved to Texas from Tennessee as a boy. He served three terms as a state representative and was a lay speaker and song leader. He operated a cotton gin and was active in religious and community affairs in Grapeland. His daughter, Mary, took over the property and donated land to the Community Memorial Hospital in memory of her parents. She was a justice of the peace and was active in the First Christian Church and the Grapeland Garden Club. Her daughter, Sally, manages the farm but does not live on it.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 430 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, fruit, and cattle; 1988 - Hay and horses.

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# Ellisor Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles north of Crockett off Old Elkhart Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1845-1849	John Eli Chaffin	Great-grandfather
1849-1901	Lucy Ann (Chaffin) Ellisor	Grandmother
1901-unknown	John W. Ellisor	Father
unknown-1975	Children of John W. Ellisor	Brothers, sister
1975-1988	Allene (Ellisor) and C.J. Moran	

*John Eli Chaffin was born in England and came to Texas from Illinois with his wife, Lavena (Lackey), and four children. Their daughter, Lucy, inherited 182 acres in 1849 and built a log cabin on the property. Her son, John, acquired 145.6 acres in 1901. He had a grist mill on Elkhart Creek and was a member of the Farmers Union Warehouse Co., organized in 1907. The property was divided among John's children; by 1975, Allene had acquired 83.2 acres from her brothers and sisters and instituted improved pasture practices.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 83.2

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1845 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, potatoes, vegetables, and fruits; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

# Goodnight Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles northwest of Crockett on Elkhart Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1853-1885	Daniel McCarty Herod Sr.	Great-grandfather
1885-1928	Daniel McCarty "Tucker" Herod Jr.	Grandfather
1928-1940	Lewis and Eura (Walling) Herod	Aunt, uncle
1940-1964	Jerdie (Herod) and Simon E. Finch	Parents
1964-1988	Lena Sim (Finch) Goodnight	

*Daniel Herod came from Tennessee to join two brothers. He and his wife, Mary (White), had seven children; son William was killed in the Civil War. Daniel "Mack" deeded land to his freed slaves. The land passed to his son, Daniel Jr. ("Tucker"), then to Tucker's son, Lewis, and in 1940 to Lewis' sister, Jerdie, and her husband, Simon Finch. In 1964, Jerdie and Simon's daughter, Lena, and, her husband, Morris Goodnight, acquired 111 acres of the original farm. They have worked to control creek flooding and have cleared pastures.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,107 **Acres still retained:** 111

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1853 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, peas, livestock, mules, fruits, and vegetables; 1988 - Livestock and feed.

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# Henley Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-one miles east of Crockett off SH-21

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-unknown	T.S. Crenshaw	Great-grandfather
unknown-1912	Fronie (Crenshaw) Henley	Grandmother
1912-1978	Alfred Henley	Father
1978-1988	Danny Henley	

*T.S. Crenshaw came to Texas from Alabama to escape a typhoid epidemic. He and his wife, Mary Alice, improved the land and helped build churches and roads in the area. Daughter Fronie inherited the land from her father and continued to help build the community. She and her husband, P.S. Henley, had four children; their son, Alfred, took over the property in 1912. His son, Danny, acquired the farm in 1978 and practices soil conservation. He lives there with his wife, Pam, and their three sons.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 65

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Corn and cotton; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

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# Mims Mite Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles north of Crockett on FM 2663

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1839-1862	William and Jane Dickerson	Great-great-grandparents
1862-1892	Charles Arretta (Dunagan) Fuller	Grandmother
1892-1933	Della Pearl (Fuller) Patton	Mother
1933-1988	Lena Mae (Patton) and Raymond Mims	

*William and Jane Dickerson may have been influenced by Sam Houston to move to the new Republic of Texas in 1836. Their granddaughter, Charles Arretta Dunagan, received the property when they died because her mother had already died. Charles Arretta's daughter, Della Pearl, received 173 acres. She and her husband, Walter Patton, gave 55.43 acres to their son, Lester, and their daughter, Lena Mims. There is a wood and tin barn on the property that is part of the original farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 55.43

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1839 - Cotton, corn, hogs, milk cows, horses, vegetables, and fruit; 1988 - Cows, hay, and garden vegetables.

# Patton Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles north of Crockett on FM 2663

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1839-1862	William and Jane Dickerson	Great-great-grandparents
1862-1892	Charles Arretta (Dunagan) Fuller	Grandmother
1892-1933	Della Pearl (Fuller) Patton	Mother
1933-1988	Lester H. Patton	

*William and Jane Dickerson may have been influenced by Sam Houston to move to the new Republic of Texas in 1836. Their granddaughter, Charles Arretta Dunagan, received the property when they died because her mother preceded them in death. Charles Arretta's daughter, Della Pearl, received 173 acres. Della and her husband, Walter Patton, had three children. Their son, Lester H. Patton, has 55.43 acres, where he lives with his daughter and two grandsons.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,280 **Acres still retained:** 55.43

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1839 - Cotton, corn, hogs, milk cows, horses, vegetables, and fruit; 1988 - Peas and potatoes.

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# South Prong Farm

Jasper Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles south of Jasper on FM 252

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1834-1857	Sarah (Glenn) Allen	Step-great-great-grandmother
1857-1859	Nathaniel Allen Jr.	Step-great-uncle
1859-1886	Ann (Bradshaw) (Allen) and James Orton	Great-grandmother
1886-1913	Frances (Allen) and A.C. Sims	Grandparents
1913-1981	Kate (Sims) and Ivy A. McLemore	Parents
1981-1988	Bobbie F. McLemore	

*Sarah Glenn was a Zavala colonist. After she acquired her land, she married Nathaniel Allen, who had five children. Nathaniel Jr. acquired the property, but he was killed by his half brother Christopher in a land dispute. Next the property was acquired by Nathaniel Jr.'s brother John's widow, Ann, and her husband, James R. Orton. Ann's and John's daughter, Frances Amanda, and her husband, A.C. Sims, received 150 acres. A.C. was a Civil War veteran and a Baptist minister. Their daughter, Kate Elizabeth, was the mother of the present owner.*

**Acres in original parcel:** Approximately 4,400 **Acres still retained:** 12.8

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1834 - Corn, sweet potatoes, cotton, hogs, and cattle; 1988 - Fruit, pecans, tomatoes, and hay.

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# Moore Ranch

Jeff Davis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fourteen miles northeast of Valentine

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1923	John Esten Cook Moore and Lucy Terry Moore	Grandparents
1923-1964	John Major Moore	Father
1964-1988	Katherine (Moore) and Lynn H. Crittendon	

*Cook Moore came to Texas from Mississippi after the Civil War and purchased land from the State of Texas. He fenced the open range and was among the first in the area to use an automobile. A telegraph line was run in about 1900. When he died in 1923, his son, John, who had served in the Army during World War I, took over the ranch. John was on the Valentine School Board and practiced conservation and made improvements to the ranch. Katherine and Lynn Crittendon have upgraded the herd and are also active in the Valentine community.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle; 1988 - Cattle.

# Hebert Farm

Jefferson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles south of Beaumont on west side of West Port Arthur Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1914	Joseph Martin Hebert	Great-grandfather-in-law
1914-1936	Claffa Joseph Hebert	Grandfather-in-law
1936-1978	Martin R. Hebert	Husband
1978-1988	Mrs. Martin R. Hebert	

*Joseph Hebert was born in Beaumont and bought this farm in 1835. He was one of the largest cattlemen in the area and helped introduce rice farming. He and his wife, Emilie (Broussard), had 15 children. Son Claffa Joseph acquired 210 acres in 1914 and improved the breeding stock. His son, Martin, continued the improvements, trying new rice varieties. He was a charter member of the Jefferson County Farm Bureau and a member of the American Rice Growers. His widow owns the farm, and their son, Martin Jr., operates it.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 77

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Rice, corn, cotton, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Lazy T1 Ranch

Jefferson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles south of Beaumont on west side of West Port Arthur Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1914	Joseph Martin Hebert	Great-grandfather
1914-1936	Claffa Joseph Hebert	Grandfather
1936-1978	Martin R. Hebert	Father
1978-1988	Martin R. Hebert Jr.	

*Joseph Hebert was born in Beaumont and bought this farm in 1835. He was one of the largest cattlemen in the area and helped introduce rice farming. He and his wife, Emilie (Broussard), had 15 children. Son Claffa Joseph acquired 210 acres in 1914 and improved the breeding stock. His son, Martin, continued the improvements, trying new rice varieties. Martin Jr. continues to look for improved ways to make the land more productive.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 4,428 **Acres still retained:** 20

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Rice, corn, cotton, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Bruno Ranzau Ranch

Kendall Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Fifteen miles north/northeast of Boerne, on FM 474 at FM 473

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1890	George and Caroline (Marquardt) Werner	Grandparents
1890-1940	Ben and Mary (Werner) Ranzau	Parents
1940-1988	Bruno Ranzau	

*George Werner came to Texas from Switzerland seeking new opportunities. He married Caroline (Marquardt) and settled on 200 acres outside Sisterdale. George and Caroline had 12 children. In 1890 Mary, the daughter of George, took title to the property along with her husband, Ben Ranzau. They raised cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats, corn, grain, and hay for feed. In 1940 their son, Bruno, took title to the land. He raises the same things his father did. The stone portion of the original log cabin is still used as a home today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 200

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Sheep, horses, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, goats, and hay.

# Charles E. Kohls Farm

Kendall Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Boerne, two miles south of Sisterdale on FM 1376

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1848-1918	Ottmar and Louise Von Behr	Great-great grandparents
1918-1936	Ottmar and Emily (Reinhard) Behr	Great-grandparents
1936-1964	Oscar and Margarethe (Adams) Behr	Grandparents
1964-1988	Charles E. Kohls	

*Ottmar Behr left Germany to escape the oppressive government of his time. He came to the Hill Country and purchased 1,129 acres in 1848, where he raised sheep and served as justice of the peace and first postmaster of Sisterdale. In 1918 his son, Ottmar, took title to the land and grew peaches and pears, among other crops. In 1936, Ottmar's son, Oscar, took title and strived to improve the production of seed grains and oats. In 1962 Charles Kohls, the great-great-grandson of the founder, took title. The 1873 homestead is still in use today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,129 **Acres still retained:** 40

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1848 - Sheep; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Eichholz Ranch

Kendall Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two and one-half miles east of Comfort on FM 473

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1907	Auguste and Nicolaus Eichholz	Grandparents
1907-1954	Max and Ruby Lu Eichholz	Parents
1954-1988	Gerhard and Ruby Eichholz	

*Auguste Eichholz purchased 320 acres near the Comfort community in 1879. She and her husband, Nicolaus, had two children, Max and Tillie Eichholz. In 1907 their son, Max, took title to the land and raised oats, hay, cattle, sheep and goats. In 1954, Gerhard, the son of Max and his wife, Ruby Lu, took title to the land. He and his wife, Ruby, along with the rest of his family, raise oats, maize, cattle, sheep, and goats on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 214

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Oats, corn, hay, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, goats, oats, and maize.

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# King Ranch

Lipscomb Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles west of Lipscomb

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1929	Albert Richard King	Grandfather
1929-1960	Harry Lyle King	Father
1960-1988	Jack Richard King	

*Albert King walked to Texas from Bent Mountain, Virginia. He was one of the first people in the area to rotate pastures to keep them from being over-grazed by cattle. The original ranch was enlarged during the droughts in the 1930s. Today, the land is still being protected against erosion and over-grazing and is operated by grandson, Bill B. King and Jim Mathews, husband of great-granddaughter, Jan.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Kafir cotton, maize, and cattle; 1988 - Hereford cattle.



# Gregory Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles south of Llano on Hwy 16 toward Fredericksburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1932	John Henry and Nancy (Adeliner) Walton	Great-grandparents
1932-1932	Effie Jane (Walton) Ricketson	Grandmother
1932-1988	Thomas and Bessie Jewel (Ricketson) Gregory	Parents

*The Gregory Ranch was founded by John Henry Walton in 1881 to raise cattle and hogs. The cattle ranch is operated by Gail Johnson, sister to the present owner, her husband, and Thomas Dow Johnson, a nephew, who lives on the land. The original farmhouse, built in 1906, is located on adjoining land that belongs to the founder's granddaughter.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 484 **Acres still retained:** 225.6  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle and hogs; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Gregory O'Rorke Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles south of Llano on Hwy 16 toward Fredericksburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1932	John Henry and Nancy (Adeliner) Walton	Great-grandparents
1932-1932	Effie Jane (Walton) Ricketson	Grandmother
1932-1988	Thomas and Bessie Jewel (Ricketson) Gregory	Mother
1988-1988	Effie Gail (Gregory) Johnson	

*The Gregory O'Rorke Ranch was founded by John Henry Walton in 1881 to raise cattle and hogs. The cattle ranch is operated by Gail Johnson, sister to the present owner, her husband, and Thomas Dow Johnson, a nephew.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 484 **Acres still retained:** 225.6  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle and hogs; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Honig Home Place

Llano Co.

**Location of Farm:** Sixteen miles west of Llano and 1-1/2 miles south of Hwy 29

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1885	Simon and Sophia Honig	Great-grandparents
1885-1940	William and Verena Honig	Parents/grandparents
1940-Unknown	Ben Honig	Husband/father
Unknown-1988	Alta Honig, Lillie (Honig) Baker, Anna (Honig) Henderson, Adolph, Vera and Emily Honig	

*Simon Honig came to Texas from Germany. He was a carpenter by trade and helped to build a church in the community. William developed the orchards and drilled a well. The current owners have added new wells to the home place and improved the house. Anna (Honig) Henderson lives in the original log house.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 230  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cattle, horses, sheep, chickens, corn, pecans, pears, and peaches; 1988 - Cattle, truck gardening, and orchards.

# S Bar Swenson Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles south of Llano on Hwy 16

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Names</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1912	Hirman and Millie Ricketson	Grandparents
1912-1933	Hiram C. and Effie Jane Ricketson	Parents
1933-1988	T.D. and Velma Swenson	

*Hiram Ricketson came to Texas from Georgia and purchased land to operate a ranch. His son, Hirman, acquired the farm in 1912 and raised hogs in addition to cattle. The Swensons have cut cedar timber, killed mesquite brush and planted Coastal Bermuda grass in 50 acres of the property. The Oxford Cemetery, which was started in 1883 on the ranch, has been restored and designated as historic by the Texas Historical Commission. The present barn and garage was built with material from the original house, which is 100 years old.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,000 **Acres still retained:** 865  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle, horses, and hogs; 1988 - Cattle.

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# The Wilson Farm

Madison Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles west of Madisonville on FM 978

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1935	James and Judy R. Wilson	Grandparents
1935-Unknown	Napoleon Bonaparte Wilson	Father
Unknown-1988	A.M. and Nina Lou Wilson McCaig	

*James Wilson came to Texas from Georgia and purchased a tract of land that was part of the Mexican Land Grant. Napoleon worked with the soil conservation service to control erosion, planted legumes to improve the land and used a yoke of oxen to clear trees and growth for new land to cultivate. The present owners have cleared more brush from the land and planted grasses for improved pasture. A sister, Imogene Wilson Gustavus, lives on the adjoining 48.577 acres that is a part of the original 500 acres.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 500 **Acres still retained:** 98.154  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Corn, cotton, hay, cattle, horses, and mules; 1988 - Cattle and Coastal Bermuda grass.

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# Tommy Starks Farm

Mason Co.

**Location of Farm:** About three miles northeast of Mason

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1909	Valentine Stark	Grandfather
1909-1962	Robert A. Starks	Father
1962-1988	Thomas R. Starks	

*Valentine Starks came to Texas from Germany because of political oppression. In addition to raising cattle and crops, he also ran a freight line from Mason to the railroad in Llano and other surrounding towns. Robert continued to raise cattle and added peanuts and horses. Thomas and his wife, Helen, operate the ranch today.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 143  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cattle, cotton, corn, and feed grain; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, grass, and corn.

# WK Ranch

Mason Co.

**Location of Farm:** On the Mason-Llano County line

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1911	William Siree Sr. and Matilda Jane Kidd	Great-grandparents
1911-1957	William Siree Jr. and Amelia Anna Kidd	Grandparents
1957-1979	Ella Mae (Kidd) Linden	Mother, mother in-law
1979-1988	Howard and Virginia Linden Parsonage	

*William Siree Sr. was born in South Carolina and came to Austin to help build the Capitol building. In 1861, William moved to the Hill Country with his fine horses and racing dogs. William Jr. added new crops, poultry and livestock. Ella Mae worked alongside her father as a cowhand. She was very proud of the WK Ranch and taught her daughter, Virginia, and her husband, Howard Parsonage, all she knew about ranching.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 735

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Hay, corn, horses, and cattle; 1988 - Hay, oats, wheat, and cattle.

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# Waddill Deep Creek Stock Farm

McCulloch Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles from Rochelle

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1934	J.P. Waddill	Grandfather
1934-1963	Frederick Vernon Waddill	Father
1963-1988	Patsy C. Baker	

*J. P. Waddill was born in Austin County and purchased land from the state of Texas. He served with the Texas Rangers and was a cattle driver on the famous Chisholm Trail. A World War I veteran, Frederick Vernon was a deacon for the Rochelle Baptist Church and practiced conservation to increase the value of the land. Patsy and her husband, William Claude, still practice soil conservation and are active in community preservation and beautification.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 154 **Acres still retained:** 95.17

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, horses, cotton, and corn; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, and feed grain.

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# Saathoff Ranch

Medina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine and one-half miles southeast of Hondo

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1890	John M. Saathoff	Grandfather
1890-1940	Ed E. Saathoff	Father
1940-1988	Victor M. Saathoff	

*Tired of driving cattle on the old Chisholm Trail to Kansas, John M. Saathoff used the money he had saved to buy land. He was a member of the old Trail Riders Association, a leader in the church and helped to lay the first cotton gin in the area. Ed raised Jersey cows and sold milk and cream. The sole surviving Saathoff family member, Victor, manages the farm and ranch today.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 400

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 -Horses and cattle; 1988 - Corn, grain sorghum, Coastal Bermuda grass, and Hereford cattle.

# Zinsmeyer Farms

Medina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles east of Castroville on Hwy. 90

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1912	Jacob Zinsmeyer	Great-grandfather
1912-1936	Charles and Helena Zinsmeyer	Grandparents
1936-1947	Adolph and Annie Zinsmeyer	Parents/grandparents
1947/1974-1988	Edwin and Virginia Zinsmeyer, Clara Zinsmeyer, James Zinsmeyer, Patrick and Norma Zinsmeyer, Dennis and Karen Biediger	

*Jacob Zinsmeyer came to Texas from Ricksheim, France, looking for work. In 1886, he bought harvesting and threshing machines and a corn sheller. At the age of 16, Jacob helped draw up the charter for governing the new settlement of Castroville. Sons Charles and Adolph continued the crops their father had started and added wheat. Today great-grandson, Edwin, lives on the land with his wife, Virginia, and their children.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 300 **Acres still retained:** 300

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, cattle, grain sorghum, and oats; 1988 - Corn.

# El Rancho Escondido

Menard Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eighteen miles northwest of City of Menard

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1949	Robert S. Winslow	Father
1949-1988	Henrietta Winslow Harrison	

*Robert Winslow moved to Texas from Philadelphia to try ranching. The land he purchased was very isolated and undeveloped, and Robert had to experiment to find what crops would grow. His wife, Edith (Black), was the first home demonstration agent for the county. Henrietta resides in the original 1888 house.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 1,334 **Acres still retained:** 1,334

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Hay, sorghum grain, cattle, sheep, horses, and mules; 1988 - Cattle and game management.

# Vernon R. Wilkinson V Ranch

Menard Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eighteen miles northwest of Menard

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1919	William Jackson and Nancy Rose Wilkinson	Grandparents
1919-1938	Nancy Rose (Miers) Wilkinson	Grandmother
1938-1970	Archibald Baker Wilkinson	Father
1970-1978	Mary Maiden (Godfrey) Wilkinson	Mother
1978-1988	Vernon Ray Wilkinson	

*William Jackson came to Texas from Jefferson County, Mississippi as a horse trader. His PA brand was well know in all parts of Texas. William brought the first sheep into Menard from Mexico and built the first fence in the county in 1875. The land deteriorated during the early 1970s, and Vernon Ray and his wife are presently developing and improving it.*

**Acres in the Original parcel:** 63.17 **Acres still retained:** 63.17

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cattle and sheep; 1988 - Cattle, sheep, goats, and horses.

## Box W Ranch

Montague Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six and one-half miles northwest of St. Jo

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1972	John Russell, J.W. Rankin	Grandfather and Uncle
1972-1988	Donald Joe and Patricia (Settle) Weaver	

*John Russell and his brother, J.W., came to Texas from Albemarle County, Virginia. On a few acres, John built a schoolhouse where his children attended and daughter, Ruth, was the teacher. The present owners bought the land from the heirs of the Rankins brothers, including Patricia's father, Jim P. Settle. They installed the first electricity, running water, and indoor plumbing. The land has been cleared and plowed and grass planted. The original fence has been mended and/or replaced.*

**Acres in the original parcel:** 139.5 **Acres still retained:** 139.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Corn, cotton, tobacco, swine, chickens, cattle, and horses; 1988 - Cattle and grass.

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## Shaver Farm

Morris Co.

**Location of Farm:** South of Omaha on FM144

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1921	G.M. Chaddick	Grandfather
1921-1948	Margaret Chaddick,	Grandmother
1948-1964	Josie (Chaddick) Moon, George Chaddick	Mother/Uncle
1948-1969	Nora (Chaddick) McClendon	Aunt
1969-1988	Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Shaver	

*Originally from Alabama, G.M. Chaddick operated a hardware store in addition to raising cattle and crops on his farm. Upon the death of G.W., his wife, Margaret, maintained the farm until it was passed on to the four children in 1948. The present owners are active members of the Omaha community and support local activities and agricultural endeavors. Mr. Shaver serves as secretary of the Morris County Cattleman's Association.*

**Acres in the Original parcel:** 120 **Acres still retained:** 47.24

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, hay, and cattle; 1988 - Hay and cattle.

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## Byrd Ranch

Parker Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eight miles west of Weatherford, on the east fork of Grindstone Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1858-1885	Eli and Eliza (Higgins) Cox	Great-grandparents
1885-1930	Thomas Eli and Sally Cox	Grandparents
1930-1948	Marshall Lee and Janie (Cox) Byrd	Parents
1948-1988	Lester Scott and Janie Ruth Byrd	

*Eli and Eliza came to Texas in search of a better life. In 1858, Eli purchased 160 acres in Parker County, where he practiced farming and ranching. Eli led several campaigns against Comanches to protect his land. In 1885, Thomas Cox, the son of Eli, took title after Eli's death. In 1930, Janie (Cox) Byrd acquired title to the land, along with her husband, Marshall. They were also active in the community. In 1948, Lester Scott Byrd, the current owner of the land, took title. The original homesite and cemetery still stand on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Livestock, cotton, corn, and wheat; 1988 - Livestock, wheat, and hay.

# Culwell Farm

Parker Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles west of Springtown

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1927	Jushua Culwell	Grandparents
1927-1978	William Jennings Bryan and Myrle Culwell	Parents
1978-1988	Wess A. and Bonnie Culwell	

*Jushua Culwell came to Texas from North Carolina with his family. In 1882, he purchased 160 acres near the present-day community of Springtown. He and his wife had 15 children. In 1927, his son, William, took title to the land. He contour-terraced the land for the first time. He and his wife, Myrle, had two children. In 1978, their son, Wess, took over the property. He raises a variety of grasses and has a cow and calf operation. The main farmhouse is 103 years old.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 63

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Cotton, corn, produce, and cattle; 1988 - Hay and cattle.

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# Bonnie Hills Ranch

Real Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Forty miles west of Kerrville on FM 187

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1920	Adam and Rena (Chipman) Wilson	Grandparents
1920-1976	Adam and Lila (Kelley) Wilson	Uncle/aunt
1976-1988	Oleta D. Patterson, W.B. and Ginger (Rimkus) Patterson	

*Adam Wilson came to Texas from Scotland, intending to go into the grocery business. He worked as a sheep herder around Uvalde and eventually purchased 16,000 acres in Kerr County. In 1920, his son, Adam, took title. He and his wife did a great deal of work with young people in Kerr County. They had one son, Adam, who died in 1953. In 1976, Jack Patterson, the grandson of Adam and Rena Wilson, and his son, W.B. Patterson III, purchased the ranch from Lila Wilson. Jack died in 1980 and his widow, son, and daughter-in-law have title.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 16,000 **Acres still retained:** 6,500

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Sheep, goats, and cattle; 1988 - Sheep, goats, and cattle.

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# Karl and Hortense Weinacht Ranch

Reeves Co.

**Location of Ranch:** 40 miles southwest of Pecos, on the headwaters of Toyah creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1957	Karl and Hortense Weinacht	Grandparents
1957-1970	Louis Alfred and Mary Pauline Weinacht	Parents
1970-1988	Don and Ellen Weinacht	

*Karl Weinacht came to Texas from Bavaria to settle and make a life for himself. He became a prominent rancher and is today recognized as one of the early pioneers of West Texas. In 1957, Louis Alfred Weinacht, the son of Karl and Hortense, took title to the land where he raised sheep and cattle. Louis was active in the community as a member of the school board, First National Bank, and the First Methodist Church of Pecos. In 1970 his son, Don, took title. He raises cattle on the farm and lives there with his wife and daughters.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Sheep; 1988 - Cattle.

# Morris Farms

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** East one-fourth of the Daniel Reel League, south of the town of Henderson

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1904	James Calvin and Sarah Josephine Morris	Great-grandparents
1904-1918	Charles Lee Morris and Sarah Cornelia (Morris) Smith	Grandparents
1918-1977	James Otho and Lavie (Harper) Morris	Parents
1977-1988	Alfred Eugene Morris, Dorothy (Morris) Baker Betty Ann (Morris) Purdie	

*James Calvin Morris left Georgia with his family seeking cheap land in Louisiana and Texas. He purchased one half undivided interest in 110 acres in Rusk County. Sarah ran the farm after the death of James in 1879. In 1904, Charles Lee and Sarah Cornelia, the son and daughter of James and Sarah, each took 100 acres where they raised cotton, corn, timber and cattle. Charles' son, James Otho, took title in 1918 and acquired more acreage. He still lives on the family farm which is now co-owned by his three children, Alfred, Dorothy, and Betty Ann.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 550 **Acres still retained:** 143

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle, hay, and timber.

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# Smith-Cooper Farm

Rusk Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Henderson on F.M. Road 2276 north

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1931	Lee J. and Mary Jane (Milstead) Smith	Great-grandparents
1931-1934	James Melvin Martha Frances (Smith ) Cooper	Grandparents
1934-1979	Birdwell and Lillie Fay Cooper	Parents
1979-1988	Melvin R. Cooper and Carl H. Barber (great-great-grandson)	

*Lee J. Smith came to Texas from Alabama after serving in the Confederate army. He purchased 160 acres in Rusk County in 1883. He farmed the land until his death in 1930. In 1931, his daughter, Martha, took title along with her husband, Melvin. In 1934, their son, Birdwell, took title. He operated the farm until his death in 1974. From 1974 through 1979 title was shared by several heirs of Birdwell. In 1979 title came to rest with Melvin Cooper, the son of Birdwell, and Carl H. Barber, the grandson of Birdwell Cooper.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, tobacco, and livestock; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

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# Jack Mathews Farm

San Augustine Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southwest of San Augustine on FM 1277

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1849-1894	Inlow and Jeanett Mathews	Great-grandparents
1894-1950	Henry Jackson and Amanda (Smith) Mathews	Grandparents
1950-1954	William Cleveland and Maude (Mathews) Bell	Parents
1954-1988	Mildred (Bell) Morris	

*Inlow Lee Mathews came from Georgia to purchase some cheap land. He purchased 1,000 acres in San Augustine County, where he and his wife raised cotton and corn. Their home has been recognized as a historical building. Their son, Henry Jackson, took title to the farm from his mother in 1894. In 1950, Maude (Mathews) Bell took title from her mother and raised cattle and timber on the land. Mildred (Bell) Morris took title from her parents in 1954. She raises cattle and trees on the farm. The 1894 home of Henry Mathews is in the process of restoration.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1000 **Acres still retained:** 77

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1849 - Cotton and corn; 1988 - Cattle and timber.

## A.H. Kelly Ranch

San Saba Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles south of San Saba

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1943	Alexander Hamilton and Laura Harrison Kelly	Grandparents
1943-1987	Joseph A. Kelly and Minnie Kelly	Uncle/aunt
1987-1988	Billy H. and Annie Laura (Amthor) Davis	

*Alexander Hamilton Kelly came to Texas from Alabama as a pioneer in 1874. He purchased 724 acres in San Saba County in 1888. They built "Friendship House," the family home, in 1929. In 1943, the son and daughter of Alexander and Laura, Joseph and Minnie, took title to the land. They built water tanks and terraced for erosion control. In 1987, a niece of Joseph and Minnie, Annie Laura Davis, took title to the land. She and her husband, Billy, raise cattle on the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 724 **Acres still retained:** 578

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, sheep, goats, horses, and hogs; 1988 - Cattle.

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## Lows 7PE Ranch

San Saba Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three and one-half miles east-northeast of Field Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1922	John Tyler and Elizabeth Vance Simpson	Grandparents
1922-1974	James E. and Lenora Simpson Low	Parents
1974-1980	James E. Low, Lenora Simpson Low and Elizabeth Sue Low	Parents
1980-1988	Elizabeth Sue Low	

*John Tyler Simpson bought 200 cows, 10 bulls and the brand 7PE during a trip to Oklahoma. The cattle are believed to be among the first registered Herefords in Llano and San Saba counties. The brand, registered in both counties, is still in use. Simpson had stores in Field Creek, where he was postmaster, and Pontotoc.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 634 **Acres still retained:** 634

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, horses, corn, and cotton; 1988 - Cattle, horses, and hay.

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## G.I. Williams Ranch

Shelby Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles west of Center off FM 1645

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1940	General Irvin Williams	Grandfather
1940-1946	Henry Robert Williams, Lillie Eugenia (Williams) Strawn, Amy Gowiller (Williams) McNeil	Uncle, aunts
1946-1988	Heber Lee Williams	

*After the Civil War, in which the founder's father and uncles fought, the Williams family left Florida and moved to Texas. General Irvin Williams and Cynthia (Spivey) had six children. During the 1940s, Henry Robert Williams farmed with mules as did his nephew, Heber Lee Williams, in the 1950s.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 159 **Acres still retained:** 66

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Corn, cotton, hogs, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle, hay, and vegetables.



# Browns' Olde Homestead

Smith Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles north northwest of Troup on Brown Lane

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1889	John Calvin Munn	Great-grandfather
1889-1937	William Buck and Ida Corine (Munn) Brown	Grandparents
1937-1960	Douglas Brown	Uncle
1960-1988	Melvin Joe and Elizabeth (Bryant) Brown	

*John Calvin Munn of North Carolina, built a home and cleared land to farm and raise cattle. He and Mary Fannie (Gillis) had six children. Ida (Munn) Brown and her husband, William, built a syrup mill in 1912 and sold syrup. Ida established Brown School in 1895. A log house built in 1874 has been restored.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3,450 **Acres still retained:** 23

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cattle, hogs, and corn; 1988 - Corn, tomatoes, watermelons, and squash.

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# Wilson Hill Farm

Smith Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles west of Bullard

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1916	Hezekiah J. and Millicent (Hinds) Wilson	Grandparents
1916-1942	John B. Gordon Wilson	Father
1942-1988	Otis and Mary Wilson	

*An Alabama native, Hezekiah Wilson was a paroled Confederate veteran, who came to Texas for economic opportunity. He was a charter member of Bullard Masonic Lodge No. 785 and First United Methodist Church of Bullard, a justice of the peace and an ex-officio notary public. Wilson and his wife, Millicent Maria (Hinds), had 10 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 141 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, grain, and horticultural crops; 1988 - Cattle, corn, hay, garden, and orchard.

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# McNabb Ranch

Stephens Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eighteen miles southeast of Breckenridge off FM 717

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1932	Nathaniel Armstrong and Rebecca Ann McNabb	Grandparents
1932-1985	Burton Clark and Myrtle Ruth McNabb	Parents
1985-1988	Verna E. (McNabb) Graham	

*Nathaniel Armstrong and Rebecca Ann McNabb came to Texas from Tennessee in search of land. They purchased 50 acres near Breckenridge where they raised cotton, corn, wheat, and livestock. Between 1891 and 1894 silver was mined on the property. In 1932, Burton Clark McNabb, the youngest son, took title to the land. Improvements were made using oil revenues from the ranch. In 1985, Burton's oldest daughter, Verna, took title to the land. She raises wheat, oats and mixed breed cattle on the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 50 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, wheat, and livestock; 1988 - Crops and livestock.

# Sadie and James Weddell Ranch

Tom Green Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five miles southwest of Water Valley on FM 2034

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1942	James Weddell	Grandfather
1942-1961	George James Weddell	Father
1961-1988	Sadie (Weddell) Puckett	

*James Weddell of Edinburgh, Scotland, lived for a while in a one-room dugout and in a sheep camp during lambing season. Oil was discovered on Jyp Well pasture, named for the taste of its water. The 1900 drought forced Weddell to buy more land in Reagan County to pasture his steers.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Sheep and cattle; 1988 - Sheep, cattle, Kleingrass, hay grazer, wheat, oats, exotic game, and catfish.

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# McArthur-Sneed Place

Travis Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Off Old Bastrop Highway at Dalton Lane and Sherman Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1851-1853	Lodoiska Doyle McArthur	Great-grandmother
1853-1866	James P. and John T. McArthur, Mary (McArthur) Sneed	Uncles, grandmother
1866-1902	Mary McArthur Sneed	Grandmother
1902-1908	William Jasper Sneed	Grandfather
1908-1951	William Graham Sneed	Father
1951-1988	Fannie (Sneed) Simnacher	

*Nicholas and Lodoiska Doyle McArthur purchased 1,200 acres in 1851. Nicholas had served as alderman in Austin in the 1840s. The couple had three children. Following the death of Lodoiska in 1853, the land was divided among the children. In 1866, Mary (McArthur) Sneed and her husband, William Jasper, took title. In 1908 their son, William Graham, took title. In 1951 the present owner, Fannie (Sneed) Simnacher, took over the property. She is the daughter of William Graham Sneed and the great-granddaughter of the founder.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,200 **Acres still retained:** 57.25

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1851 - Cattle, corn, hogs, and vegetables; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

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# Morgan Farm

Travis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fourteen miles from Austin on Grape Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1871-1896	Samuel B. Morgan	Great-great-grandfather
1896-1937	Samuel S. Morgan	Great-grandfather
1937-1981	Henry Milton Morgan	Grandfather
1981-1984	Henry M. Morgan Jr., Aubrey D. Morgan, Clifton B. Morgan, Mae Morgan Williams	Uncles, mother
1984-1988	Morgan K. Williams, James C. Williams Jr., Don B. Williams, Aubrey D. Morgan	

*Kentucky native Samuel B. Morgan and his wife, Dorothy Landrum (Young), had five children. Morgan helped to build a church and school in Thomas Springs. Mrs. Morgan, a midwife, often treated sick neighbors. The Morgans exchanged work with neighbors during harvest.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 420 **Acres still retained:** 420

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1871 - Cotton, corn, oats, cattle, horses, mules, hogs, poultry, and garden vegetables; 1988 - Cattle, pecans trees, and garden crops.

# Val Verde Winery Vineyards

Val Verde Co.

**Location of Farm:** South Del Rio on Qualia Drive

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1940	Francisco Qualia	Grandfather
1940-1973	Louis F. Qualia	Father
1973-1988	Thomas M. Qualia	

*Francisco Qualia emigrated from Milan, Italy, and settled in Del Rio, with its Italian community of farmers and rock masons. In 1883, he founded Val Verde Winery, today the oldest winery in Texas. Qualia married Mary Franke and had seven children. A son, Louis, introduced Herbemont grapes during the 1930s.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 10 **Acres still retained:** 10

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Grapevines, fruit trees, and hay crops; 1988 - Grapevines.

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# Koen Ranch

Van Zandt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine miles south of Canton

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1866-1874	M.A. and Lucinda Cox	Great-great-grandparents
1874-1899	J. Thomas Cox	Great-grandfather
1899-1943	Dora (Cox) Gilliam	Grandmother
1943-1988	Emmett K. Koen Jr.	

*Founder M. A. Cox was born in St. Claire County, Alabama. He acquired 74.4 acres in 1866, and later added 483 acres. Cox also operated a mill and was appointed as a Van Zandt county commissioner in 1862. Cox and his wife, Lucinda, had four children, Nancy, B.A., L.M. and J. Thomas Cox.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 74.4 **Acres still retained:** 72

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1866 - Cotton, corn, cattle, horses, and other livestock; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Stella Rowan Farm

Van Zandt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles west of Edom on FM 2339

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1869-1874	John G. Ammons	Great-grandfather
1874-1915	Henry Washington and Lucinda Brown	Grandmother
1915-1988	Stella (Hobbs) Rowan	

*His Mississippi homestead destroyed, John G. Ammons moved with his grown children and their spouses to Texas. He bought land from Silas Parker, brother of Cynthia Parker, who was captured by Indians. When Ammons' daughter, Martha, died, he sought her husband, Confederate soldier Henry Washington Brown, finding him in the army's "death house" abandoned to die. Ammons nursed his son-in-law to health and took him home. Brown later married Ammons' deceased wife's younger sister.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 319 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1869 - Cotton, corn, peas, cattle, and hogs; 1988 - Coastal and Alicia grass, pine, and hardwood timber.

# Edwin Flukinger & Son

Waller Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six miles east of Hempstead

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1939	John Flukinger	Grandfather, great-grandfather
1939-1973	Edwin "Huck" Flukinger Sr.	Father, grandfather
1973-1988	Edwin "Huck" Flukinger Jr.	
1985-1988	John Michael Flukinger	

*John Flukinger of Switzerland bought land as the big plantations were breaking up. Farmers using horse-driven equipment began doing more of their own work. Flukinger built pews for Shiloh Baptist Church and Liendo Plantation and furniture for his farmhouse. He had three children by Annie (Armer), who died, and four by Emma (Fairy).*

**Acres in original parcel:** 85 **Acres still retained:** 85

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Corn and range cattle; 1988 - Peanuts, corn, hay, and cattle.

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# Fredrick-Sheffield Farm

Waller Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 13 miles east of Hempstead on Robinson Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1939	Louisa Schultz and William August Fredrick	Grandparents
1939-1982	Louisa (Fredrick) and Gerald Sheffield	Parents
1982-1988	Gerald Winston and Bettie Sheffield	

*Louisa (Schultz) Fredrick was born in a covered wagon en route from Galveston to what is now Waller County. Her parents, Fritz D.H. and Henrietta Schultz, sailed from Prussia to find a better life. Louisa (Schultz) Frederick received her land from her parents, and she and her husband, William, raised horses and sold butter that was sent to Galveston by train.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 21.7

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Horses, corn, cotton, hay, beef and dairy cattle; 1988 - Hay.

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# Mercer Farm

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile northwest of Chappell Hill on County Road 84

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1920	Thomas Abner Mercer	Great-grandfather
1920-1939	Maria Louise (Perkins) Mercer	Great-grandmother
1939-1976	Abner Gayle Mercer	Grandfather
	Smith Abner Mercer, Gayle (Robinson) Mercer	Father and uncles
	Thomas Niley Mercer	
1976-1988	Smith Abner Mercer, Smith Abner Mercer, Jr., Thomas Frank Mercer	

*Thomas A. Mercer was 11 years old when his family moved from Tennessee to Texas. Mercer specialized in math at the old Soule University, where he later served on the board of trustees. He also was a trustee for the Chappell Hill Female College and the Chappell Hill board of education.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 373.8 **Acres still retained:** 71.35

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and peaches; 1988 - Hay.

# New Years Creek Ranch

Washington Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Four miles north of Brenham on Farm Road 2935

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1911	August and Minnie Kuhlmann	Great-grandparents
1911-unknown	Gus Kuhlmann	Grandfather
Unknown-1964	John Kuhlmann	Father
1964-1988	Fritz and Annie (Kuhlmann) Haarmeyer	

*August Kuhlmann was born in Pareisachen, Germany. It is unknown why he came to Texas. Kuhlmann and his wife, Minnie, bought this land in 1883 from Friedrich Becker and his wife. The Kuhlmanns had six children: Gus, Richard, Reinhardt, Emilie, Emma, and Bettie. Gus became owner of the ranch in 1911. He and his wife, Annie (Waggon), had five children. Their daughter, Annie, and her husband, Fritz Haarmeyer, raise feed crops and livestock on the ranch that her grandparents founded.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 62 **Acres still retained:** 62

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, and feed crops; 1988 - Feed crops and livestock.

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# Anchor Brand-May Reed Cox Ranch

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of ranch:** Nineteen miles south of Vernon and two miles east of U.S. Highway 183

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1892	William M. Reed and Andrew J. Reed	Grandfather and great-uncle
1892-1935	William M. Reed	Grandfather
1935-1950	Mary Ann (Biffle) Reed	Grandmother
1950-1966	Nathan J. and Minnie Reed	Father
1966-1988	May (Reed) Cox	

*Three brothers, William, Andrew J. and Hugh Reed came to Texas after the Civil War. William and Andrew bought land, registered their anchor brand and began their cattle business. In 1892, Andrew sold his interest in the ranch to William. William was a member of the Baptist Church for 70 years. His wife, Molly (Biffle) taught Sunday school. Their son, Joe, died before his mother, and his daughters sold their property to their uncle, Nathan J. Reed. His daughter, May (Reed) Cox, and her husband, have dug tanks and practice conservation on their property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,380 **Acres still retained:** 363

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Feed and cattle; 1988 - Feed and cattle.

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# Flynn Farm

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of farm:** Three miles east of Chillicothe on U.S. Highway 287

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1931	W.H. and Carrie Flynn	Great-grandparents
1931-1965	Frank Abraham Flynn	Grandfather
1965-unknown	Jack Herman Flynn, Cecil F. and Billye R. Flynn	Father, uncle and aunt
1965-1988	Jack Herman Flynn Jr.	

*W.H. Flynn was born in Ireland and came to Texas from California for railroad work. The family lived in the railroad station house until it burned and then moved to the farm. In 1897, W.H. Flynn was murdered and robbed while walking the railroad tracks near Campbell. His death left his wife, Carrie, and their three small sons to develop the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 660 **Acres still retained:** 322

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Wheat, corn, and cantaloupes; 1988 - Cotton, wheat, alfalfa, and cattle.

# Hart Farm

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three-quarters of a mile northeast of Odell

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1941	Thomas Henry and Mary Holloway	Grandparents
1941-1941	Etta Ann (Holloway) and Paul Hart	Parents
1941-1988	William Lewis Hart	

*Thomas Henry Holloway came to Texas in 1854 and in 1861 joined the Confederate Army as a high private and was later promoted to sergeant. Holloway gave land for the townsite of Odell and was a charter member and deacon of the local Baptist church.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 268

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, cane, maize, corn, alfalfa, mules, cows, and horses; 1988 - Wheat, alfalfa, oats, cattle, and horses.

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# Reed Ranch

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of ranch:** Nineteen miles south of Vernon and two miles east of U.S. Highway 183

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1892	William M. and Andrew J. Reed	Grandfather and great-uncle
1892-1935	William M. Reed	Grandfather
1935-1950	Mary Ann (Biffle) Reed	Grandmother
1950-1950	Jewel (Reed) Crawford	Cousin
1950-1988	William Stith and Lucile Reed	

*The Reed land was in a community called Mack. The Mack school was built for the first eight grades, and the building was used for a church and Sunday school. Mary Ann (Biffle) Reed received the land on the death of her husband, William. The Reeds were active in the local Baptist Church, where he was a deacon and she taught Sunday School.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,380 **Acres still retained:** 220

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cattle and feed; 1988 - Cattle.

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# Wendell and Patricia Mints Ranch

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of ranch:** Nineteen miles south of Vernon and two miles east of U.S. Highway 183

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1892	William M. Reed and Andrew J. Reed	Great-great grandfather and great-great uncle
1892-1935	William M. Reed	Great-great grandfather
1935-1950	Mary Ann (Biffle) Reed	Great-great grandmother
1950-1966	Nathan J. and Minnie Reed.	Great uncle and great-aunt
1966-1975	Madge (Reed) Luttrell	Aunt
1975-1988	Wendell Lynn and Patricia (Cox) Mints	

*After the Civil War, brothers William and Andrew Reed registered their anchor brand and began their cattle business. Andrew sold his undivided interest to William, and the cattle drives came along to market the cattle. The Reeds belonged to the Baptist Church. Their descendents went to Vernon High School, Texas Tech, and served in World War II in addition to farming and ranching.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,380 **Acres still retained:** 67

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cattle and feed; 1988 - Cattle.

# Miller Farm

Williamson Co.

**Location of farm:** Four miles southwest of Jarrell

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1905	Carl and Caroline Miller	Grandparents
1905-1960	Otto and Minnie Miller	Parents
1960-1988	Adolph and Esther Miller	

*The founder, Carl Miller, was born in Texas. He bought 100 acres from R.K. Denson. Miller and his wife, Caroline, had two sons, Otto F. and Adolph. Under Otto's ownership, hay and milo was added to the crops being raised on the ranch. The current owners, Adolph and his wife, Ester, live in part of the family home that was built soon after 1880. Their nephew, Ray Charles Leschber, manages the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and cattle; 1988 - Wheat, cotton, milo, hay, and cattle.

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# Stiles Ranch

Williamson Co.

**Location of ranch:** One and one-half miles northeast of Thrall on Farm Road 1063

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1869-1913	Frank and Marina Stiles	Great-grandparents
1913-1968	Cecil Elliott and Sue (Webb) Stiles	Grandparents
1968-1985	Lester W. and Mary Alyce Stiles	Parents
1985-1988	Sue (Stiles) White and Steven Webb Stiles	

*Frank N. Stiles was born in Lincoln County, Tennessee and came with his family to Texas when he was quite young. In 1876, the I&GN Railroad came through the Stiles ranch and cattle pens were established, known as the Stiles Switch. This location is now the city of Thrall.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 9,000 **Acres still retained:** 248

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1869 - Cattle, horses, sheep, hay, and oats; 1988 - Milo, cotton, wheat, hay, and cattle.





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# Andrews Home Place

Archer Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twelve miles northeast of Olney

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1918	Robert Donald Andrews	Grandfather, great-grandfather
1918-1963	Robert Oliver "OI" Andrews	Father, grandfather
1963-1989	Robert Oliver Andrews Jr., Lucile H. Andrews, Carl L. Andrews and Tena C. Andrews	

*Missouri native Robert D. Andrews fought for the Confederacy. Lured by cheap grassland to Collin County, he finally settled on the boundary of Archer and Young counties in an oak log cabin. Here Robert Oliver was born. Caddo formation discovery oil was drilled on Andrews' land in 1947.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 356 **Acres still retained:** 356

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, calves, hay, and oats; 1989 - Registered Hereford-Barzona, Hereford-Barzona crosses, and Klein grass.

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# LH Ranch

Atascosa Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One mile north of Highway 173 at Kyote on FM 2504

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1899	Caswell Bell	Great-grandfather-in-law
1899-1951	Nora Anderson	Grandmother-in-law
1951-1954	Linnie Anderson Harvey	Mother-in-law
1954-Unknown	Howard Wayne and Ruby Mildred Harvey	Husband
1954-1989	Ruby Mildred Harvey	

*Caswell Bell established his ranch on the banks of the Atascosa River. His daughter, Nora, told of hiding from Indians in the cistern as a child. Her husband, Alfred Anderson, made the first trips on the Chisholm and Goodnight cattle trails and was a charter member of the Old Trail Drivers Association.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 300 **Acres still retained:** 138

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cattle; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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# Meier-Glenewinkel Farm

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles northwest of Bellville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1860-1890	Herman G. Meier	Great-grandfather
1890-1937	Ernst Meier	Grandfather
1937-1953	Erna Meier	Aunt
1953-1989	Mr. and Mrs. Erich C. Glenewinkel	

*Herman Meier left Germany in 1845 for California. Separated from his party in Galveston, he settled in Texas and married Dorothea (Volsang). They had 11 children, two of whom died in infancy. Meier was a saddler during the Civil War and a charter member of Welcome Lutheran Church. He established a family cemetery on the farm, and 25 marked graves are in the cemetery today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 70 **Acres still retained:** 70

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1860 - Corn, cotton, and tobacco; 1989 - Beef cattle.

# Walter W. Bahn Farm

Bastrop Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles south of Elgin on Elgin Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1947	Wilhelm and Wilhelmina Bahn	Grandparents, great-grandparents
1947-1966	William Bahn	Father, grandfather
1966-1989	Walter W. Bahn	Brother, uncle
1989	John Bahn, Emil G. Bahn, William Bahn, and Carol A. Carroll	

*Wilhelm Bahn of Germany discovered oil while drilling for a water well in 1895. The oil was used for farm machinery lubrication and home heat and was mixed with poisons to control weeds. Bahn built an experimental tractor on the farm to provide mechanical power to cultivate crops.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 200

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, grain, hay, dairy cattle, and poultry; 1989 - Hereford cattle and hay.

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# Barton Farm

Bastrop Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-five miles east of Austin on the Colorado River at Utley and FM 969

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1902	Hugh Barton	Great-grandfather
1902-1950	John Barton	Grandfather
1950-1989	John Barton Jr.	Father, stepfather
1989	Bettie Buchanan, Barbara Lane Jefferson, and Julia Lane Goodwin	

*Hugh Barton came to Texas from Tennessee to start a cotton plantation. The Civil War and Emancipation changed his operation from slave labor to share cropping. The Barton pecan is named for a son, John, a pecan producer and major contributor to the industry.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 1,000

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Corn, cotton, barley, rye, buckwheat, sugarcane, and hogs; 1989 - Wheat, grain, cattle, and horses.

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# Wallace Farm

Bell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Belton on FM 436

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1873-1948	John Armstrong Lapsley Wallace	Grandfather
1948-1972	Wofford Garrison Wallace	Uncle
1972-1973	Henry Clay Wallace	Father
1973-1989	Henry C. Wallace Jr.	

*Founder John A. Wallace was too young to fight in the Civil War, but he found a way to make a contribution anyway. Wallace was a Civil War messenger who rode a Spanish pony to Georgetown to deliver messages to another messenger, who would ride into Austin. For this, Wallace would sometimes receive \$10 for two or three months' work. Wallace was married to Amanda Teresa (Garrison) and the couple had 11 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 280 **Acres still retained:** 140

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1873 - Cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and livestock; 1989 - Oats and hay.

# Dansby's Silver Hill Ranch

Brazos Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles east of Bryan on FM 1179

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1895	Noah W. Dansby	Grandfather
1895-1936	Horace P. Dansby	Father
1936-1989	Horace P. Dansby Jr. and Mrs. Gussie Dansby	

*Noah Dansby bought land in his native Brazos County from John and William McCorquadale. Dansby and his wife, Lou (Peters), had a son and a daughter, Horace P. and Grace. Horace married Minnie (Morgan) and had three children, Mit, Norman, and Horace Jr., who owns the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 96 **Acres still retained:** 96

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Beef cattle, sheep, cotton, grain, and hay; 1989 - Hay, beef cattle, and garden crops.

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# Woodward Ranch

Brewster Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Sixteen miles south of Alpine on State Highway 118

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1925	Julius C. and America Bird	Great-uncle and aunt
1925-1958	America Bird	Great aunt
1958-1965	John Frank and Mary Francis Woodward	Parents
1965-1989	John Frank Woodward Jr.	

*Julius C. Bird came to West Texas as part of the Company E Frontier Battalion of the Texas Rangers. He was one of the first men in Big Bend to make a real effort to improve the Texas Longhorn stock. He and his wife, America (Walker), were married in 1885 at Fort Davis. America, assisted by her nephews, continued ranching after her husband's death. Considered a top cowhand adept with a rope from her side saddle, she rode until the 1940s.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Longhorn and Hereford cattle; 1989 - Cattle.

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# Circle L Ranch

Burnet Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One-fourth mile off County Road 208 and west of U.S. Highway 183

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1941	Labon and Martha Kirkpatrick	Grandparents
1941-1977	John Robert Kirkpatrick	Father
1977-1989	Mary Virginia (Kirkpatrick) Locklear	

*Labon A. Kirkpatrick came from Waterloo, Iowa, to Texas looking for a warmer climate. He crushed his left hand in a sugar mill press at the age of nine, and his arm was amputated near the elbow. He became a school teacher and taught in Cow Creek, Providence, Pebble Mound, and Center Point throughout Burnet County.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 36

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, cotton, grain, sheep, cows, hogs, and horses; 1989 - Cattle.

# Lou Bell Brewster Farm

Burnet Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles east of Burnet

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1872-1904	Alex M. and Louisa Barton	Grandparents
1904-1939	Westfall and Nellie Barton	Parents
1939-1946	Lillian Jewel Barton	Sister
1946-1989	Lou Bell (Barton) Brewster	

*Alex and Louisa Barton came to Texas from South Carolina to settle new land. They bought 550 acres and raised cotton, corn, maize, oats, wheat, and beef cattle. Alex and Louisa had 12 children, and they were very active in the church, school, and community. A son, Westfall, took over ownership of the land in 1904, and donated part of the property for the school, church, and cemetery in Shady Grove. A daughter, Lillian Jewell Barton, owned the property, and then it was bought by her sister, Lou, the current owner.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 550 **Acres still retained:** 250

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1872 - Cotton, corn, maize, oats, wheat, and cattle; 1989 - Wheat, corn, milo, maize, cattle, and poultry.

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# Bar-D Ranch

Caldwell Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One mile northeast of Lytton Springs on County Road 172

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1869-1897	Johnson S. and Sallie Jane Perry	Great-great grandparents
1897-1898	Elizabeth Jane (Perry) Gomillion	Great-grandparents
1898-1902	Allie M. Perry	Unknown
1902-1958	John William and Margaret Gomillion	Grandparents
1958-1989	Nelda (Gomillion) and Thomas Dannelly	

*Johnson S. and Sallie Jane Perry acquired 804 acres in 1869 from Peyton R. Smith. The couple gave land for the Lytton Springs Baptist Church, cemetery, and Masonic lodge. They had 14 children. The Perrys cleared their land, built stock tanks, a home, and barns.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 804 **Acres still retained:** 81

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1869 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle and feed.

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# Klutts Farm

Callahan Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles southwest of Cross Plains

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-unknown	George and Emma Klutts	Grandparents
Unknown-1967	Carl Klutts	Father
1967-1989	Wilda (Klutts) Edington, Sue (Edington) Branch, Terry (Edington) McAdams	

*George and Emma Klutts came from Gleason, Tennessee, to buy land for a home. They bought 81 acres of the Comal County school land and eventually added 240 acres to the original tract. They raised cotton, corn, cane, oats, and wheat; and shallow oil was discovered on the property in 1928. The Klutts were active in the Baptist church and had four children. Today, a granddaughter, Wilda (Klutts) Edington, is a co-owner of the property that includes the original 81 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 81 **Acres still retained:** 81

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, cane, oats, and wheat; 1989 - Cattle, wheat, and hay.

# The Blow Farm

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven and one-half miles west of Bullard on Farm Road 346

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1949	James Anson and Mittie Blow	Grandparents
1949-1987	Marcus Hodges and Ethel Blow	Parents
1987-1989	Ethel Blow Helen L. (Blow) Nance, Melvin Blow	

*James Anson Blow was renowned as a "champion Texas corn grower" who garnered lots of attention for a strain of corn that was called the "best feed strain corn in the South." This corn was discovered by Blow's father and originally had rows of blue kernels in it that were eventually bred out. In a 1908 newspaper article, Blow said that he was born in a log cabin 10 miles east of Tyler in 1859.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 250 **Acres still retained:** 250

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, oats, peas, cotton, watermelons, hogs, poultry, and cattle; 1989 - Live-stock.

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# C.W. "Cab" Wallis Homestead

Collin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southeast of McKinney on County Road 325

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1930	Calvin Webb and Athie Wallis	Grandparents
1930-1972	Bessie Lou (Wallis) and I.D. Wallace	Parents
1972-1989	Athie Jane (Wallace) and Jerald Klemm	

*Calvin and Athie Wallis came to Texas from Cobb County, Georgia, in the early 1880s traveling in an ox-drawn wagon. Each year, Cab Wallis gave a huge party for the community after harvesting was complete. Each August, he also threw party for his wife's birthday and to celebrate the day he bought his farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 15 **Acres still retained:** 15

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton, corn, wheat, tobacco, and livestock; 1989 - Pecan, goats, and Quarter horses.

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# Reichardt Farm

Colorado Co.

**Location of Farm:** On the Pine Fork of the San Bernard River, 12 miles southwest of Bellville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1849-1882	Carl and Maria Reichardt	Great-great-grandparents
1882-1939	William and Bertha Reichardt	Great-grandparents
1939-1973	Otto and Alice Reichardt	Grandparents
1973-1989	Fay and Otto Reichardt Jr. Joe and Alice (Reichardt) Burttschell	Parents

*Carl Reichardt was born in Brandenburg, Preussen. He was one of the original members of the Cat Spring Agricultural Society formed in 1856. He and his wife, Maria, had six children. Their son, William, raised cotton, corn, sorghum, and cattle. The family also cooked molasses for themselves and other families in the area. Otto, grandson of the founder, was also a member of the Cat Spring Agricultural Society and added peanuts to the crops being raised. Three descendents of Carl and Maria live on the farm today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 282

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1849 - Unknown; 1989 - Cattle.

## Butler Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fourteen miles northwest of Comanche, off FM 588

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1946	Ruthie Bishop Butler and Mary Levina Butler	Aunts
1946-1951	Elmer L. and Jewell Inez Butler	Brother
1951-1989	Boyd and Trudie Butler	

*Sisters Ruthie Bishop and Mary Levina Butler came to Texas from Mississippi following the death of their father and several brothers in the Civil War. They purchased 81 acres outside Comanche, where they lived their entire lives. The ladies did all of their own farming and cattle work as long as they were able. Following Ruthie's death, the land was sold in 1946 to a nephew, Elmer L. Butler, who held title until he sold the land to his brother, Boyd Butler. Boyd and his wife, Trudie, raise cattle and peanuts on the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,100 **Acres still retained:** 150

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Corn, cotton, and peanuts; 1989 - Cattle and peanuts.

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## Tom Purvis Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four and one-half miles south of Proctor on FM 1476

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1907	James Henry and Emma (Wooten) Purvis	Grandparents
1907-1970	Thomas H. and Sarah Lou Purvis	Parents
1970-1989	Mills Clemons Purvis and Nora Burdette Purvis	

*James Henry Purvis and wife, Emma, came to Texas seeking a new religious life and a warmer climate. They purchased 1,100 acres near the Proctor community in 1889. They had seven children, and in 1907 their son, Thomas, took title to the land. Thomas dug a well by hand and also added fences, barns and cow sheds. He and his wife, Sarah Lou, raised three children. In 1970, two of the children inherited the land from their mother. The heirs, Mills Clemons Purvis and Nora Burdette Purvis, operate the farm today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,100 **Acres still retained:** 150

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Livestock, corn, and cotton; 1989 - Cattle and peanuts.

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## Williams Farm

Cooke Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Illinois Bend off FM 677

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1889	Levi Hillery and Mary Williams	Grandparents
1889-1970	William Artie and Cora Lessie Williams	Parents
1970-1989	W.D. and Norene (Williams) Dowd	

*Levi Hillery Williams, a native Texan, bought his 132 acres in 1888. He and his wife, Mary, had four children. In 1889 after the death of his father, William Artie became a co-owner. He gradually bought out the others from 1907 through 1915. William was chosen farmer of the year in 1950 and did much to help his community. In 1970 his daughter, Lessie Norene, took title. She and her husband, W.D., raise livestock on the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 132 **Acres still retained:** 132

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, corn, and cotton; 1989 - Livestock.



# Hendrickson Ranch

Coryell Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six miles northwest of Gatesville on Moccasin Bend Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1887	Sam W. Bingham	Great-grandfather
1887-1938	Tom and Rhoda (Bingham) Hendrickson	Grandparents
1938-1981	R.D. and Birtie Pearl Hendrickson	Parents
1981-1989	Thomas S. Hendrickson	

*Founder Sam W. Bingham purchased 65 acres as a wedding gift for his daughter, Rhoda who, with husband Tom took title in 1887. Tom, was a stone mason and worked on many buildings in Central Texas, including the State Land Office Building in Austin. In 1938 one of Tom and Rhoda's twelve children, R.D., took title to the land. He and his wife, Birtie, had three children. Their son, Thomas, took over the property in 1981 where he raises cattle and oats.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 65 **Acres still retained:** 65

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Livestock, corn, and cotton; 1989 - Cattle and oats.

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# Hiller River Place Estate

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles southwest of Cuero on River Road off FM 236

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1905	Friedrich Hiller	Great-grandfather
1905-1941	Johann Friedrich and Maria (Semmler) Hiller	Grandparents
1941-1975	Felix Hiller and Edwina (Hiller) Hausmann	Parents
1975-1989	Pauline Kacir, Kathleen Ernster, Anna Lea Tinney, and Frances Hiller.	

*Friedrich Hiller came to Texas in 1852. He purchased his original 214 acres in 1889. His wife passed away before he purchased the land but he had six children with her. In 1905 Friedrich's son took title to the land. He and his wife, Maria, had six children as well. In 1941 Felix, the son of Johann, took title and continued to raise cattle and pecans. In 1975 the children of Felix took over the ranch. All four of them share title to the land, but it is operated by Pauline and Eugene Kacir and their son, David.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 214 **Acres still retained:** 214

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Livestock and vegetables; 1989 - Cattle, feed products, and pecans.

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# MHM Farm

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile north of Nordheim on FM 952

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1889	Wilhelm and Margarethe Meyer	Great-grandparents
1889-1937	Henry and Minna (Natho) Meyer	Grandparents
1937-1971	Emil and Meta (Meyer) Huck	Parents
1971-1989	Edmund E. and Mildred Lee (Huck) Mueller	

*Wilhelm and Margarethe Meyer came to Texas from Germany to obtain religious freedom and buy land. In 1887, he purchased 320 acres near Nordheim where he and Margarethe raised four children. In 1889 their son, Henry Meyer, took title to the land where he raised cattle and livestock. He and his wife, Minna, had six children. Their daughter, Meta, took over the land in 1937. She and her husband, Emil, raised cattle and grain. In 1971 their daughter, Mildred Lee, took title. She and her husband, Edmund Mueller, raise cattle on the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 95

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Livestock; 1989 - Cattle.

# Hendricks Ranch

Eastland Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles southeast of Eastland

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1949	S.F. and R.A. Hendricks	Parents
1949-1989	Lum and Sarah (Hendricks) Tuggle	

*S.F. and R.A. Hendricks purchased their original 160 acres in 1888. They were among the first in the area to grow peanuts and were also one of the original members of the local Baptist church. They had six children and in 1949 their daughter, Sarah, took title along with her husband, Lum Tuggle. They dug three stock tanks on the property, remodeled the family home and built fences. Today they raise commercial cattle on the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Livestock and crops; 1989 - Cattle.

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# Kinsey Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles east of Waxahachie, one mile west of Boyce

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1933	Josiah and Hannah M. Kinsey	Great-grandparents
1933-1949	James B. Kinsey and Marshall Kinsey	Grandfather / uncle
1949-1983	Ralph W. and Margaret (Biser) Kinsey	Parents
1983-1989	Alice Kinsey and James Maxwell	

*Josiah and Hannah M. Kinsey came from Kentucky in search of farmland. They purchased 110 acres in 1876 near the Boyce community. They made many improvements to the land including wells and fences and were also very active in the community. In 1933 their two sons, James and Marshall, took title. In 1949 the son of James, Ralph, took over the land. He and his wife, Margaret, also did much to improve the property. In 1983 daughter Alice took title. She and her family raise wheat, corn, and cotton on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 110 **Acres still retained:** 110

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Livestock and crops; 1989 - Wheat, corn, and cotton.

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# Yarbrough Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and seven-tenth miles southeast of Waxahachie

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1889	Solomon S. Yarbrough	Great-grandfather
1889-1921	John Martin Brown Yarbrough	Grandfather
1921-1980	Warren F. Yarbrough	Father
1980-1989	Warren Dale Yarbrough, Lois (Yarbrough) Riley	

*Solomon Yarbrough was assigned to Texas by the Methodist church, and he acquired 304 acres to raise crops. When John Martin acquired the farm in 1889, only 180 acres remained. He added 120 acres and continued to raise cotton and corn. Warren Dale returned from World War I to run the family's farm. Oats and milo were added to the farm's crops. The present owner is a member of the Texas Farm Bureau.*

**Acres in the Original parcel:** 304 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1854 - Cotton and corn; 1988 - Hay and cattle.

## Barron Farm

Erath Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles north of Bluff Dale on Berry Creek Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1896	Jasper Newton Barron	Great-grandfather
1896-1956	Andrew Jackson Barron	Grandfather
1956-1986	Ruby (Barron) McCromick	Mother
1986-1989	George Barron McCromick, Neta Rae (McCromick) Sees	

*Jasper Newton Barron came to Texas from North Carolina and bought 400 acres from the state to raise crops. Andrew Jackson continued the farming tradition of his father. He operated a syrup mill on the banks of Berry Creek until his death. The McCromicks built two dams, and the farm was terraced by the Texas Soil Conservation Service.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 130

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle, Coastal Bermuda, and hay.

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## Whisenant Farm

Erath Co.

**Location of Farm:** About four miles south of Dublin in the Young Carruthers Survey

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1895	S.B. Whisenant	Great-uncle-in-law
1895-1906	Arinda, Amanda, Edward and Mertie Whisenant	Grand-cousins-in-law
1906-1938	William Henry Whisenant	Father-in-law
1938-1984	J.J. Whisenant	Husband
1984-1989	Opal Virginia Whisenant	

*S.B. Whisenant came to Texas from Georgia in 1873. When he died, his children inherited the farm but later sold it to their cousin. Cotton and corn were the main crops, along with some cattle. J.J. raised hay to feed the cattle. Farming methods included the use of terracing and other soil conservation techniques.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 120

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle, corn, and cotton; 1988 - Coastal Bermuda grass and oats.

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## Buckner's Creek Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles down FM 609

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1906	Joseph and Barbara Mozisek	Great-grandparents
1906-1985	Frank and Mary Mozisek	Grandparents
1985-1986	Lillian Mozisek	Aunt
1986-1989	Brian Mozisek	

*Joseph Mozisek was born in Czechoslovakia and came to Texas to acquire land. He raised a number of crops and livestock. Frank and Mary acquired the farm in 1906 and continued farming and ranching. The present owner has cleared the land and planted Coastal Bermuda grass for better hay production.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 215-1/4 **Acres still retained:** 24

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, hay, sorghum, cattle, and horses; 1988 - Cattle and hay.

# Kalich Farms

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles northwest of Schulenburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1907	Josef and Magdalena Kalich	Great-grandparents
1907-1970	Edward Kalich	Grandfather
1970-1985	Rubin Kalich and Marvin Kalich	Father/uncle
1985-1989	Jonathan Glenn Kalich	

*Josef Kalich bought land in Texas from William and Theresa Herder in June of 1888 and raised cotton, corn and livestock. Grandsons of the founder operated an dairy on the farm and raised hay to feed the cattle. The farm is operated today by great grandson, Jonathan Gleen. His uncle lives in the Kalich family's original homestead.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 289-1/2 **Acres still retained:** 122

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1988 - Cattle and hay crops.

# Mozisek Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles down FM 609

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1906	Joseph and Barbara Mozisek	Grandparents
1906-1985	Frank and Mary Mozisek	Parents
1985-1989	Bernard I. Mozisek	

*Joseph Mozisek came to Texas from Janovicich Slizahu, now called Czechoslovakia, to acquire land and raise crops and livestock. Son Frank and his wife, Mary, continued to raise the same crops and livestock when they acquired the farm in 1906. Today grandson, Bernard, operates 15 acres of the original farm. The land has been improved by clearing, shaping and planting grass for better hay production.*

**Acres in the Original parcel:** 215-1/4 **Acres still retained:** 15

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, sugar cane, hay, sorghum, chickens, cattle, and horses; 1988 - Cattle and Coastal Bermuda hay.

# H. Gresser Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles south-southeast of Fayetteville on FM 1291

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1901	Henry and Johanna (von Roeder) Gresser	Grandparents
1901-1952	Herman B. Gresser	Father
1952-1988	Eleanor (Gresser) Bruton	

*Henry Gresser came to Texas from Germany. He used his education to take a scientific approach to farming utilizing hybrid seeds and fertilizer formulas. H.B. and his wife, Emma, staged an annual tomato festival. The present owners have developed year-round seasonal grazing and hay pastures, as well as an artificial insemination breeding business.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 272 **Acres still retained:** 89

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, and beef and dairy cattle; 1988 - Hay, livestock, and pecans.

# Ayers Farm

Foard Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eleven miles northeast of Crowell on FM 98

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1899	Nathaniel and Martha Ayers	Great-grandparents
1899-1937	John Henry and Lee Ayers	Grandparents
1937-1973	Henry Lee Roy (Roy) Ayers	Father
1973-1988	Henry Leroy Ayers Jr.	

*Nathaniel came to Texas from Georgia looking for a better opportunity. He acquired land and used oxen to break the land. In 1893, he mortgaged the farm and purchased a windmill. John Henry was one of the signers for the development of Foard County in 1890. The oldest recorded cattle brand in continuous use in Foard County is the Ayers brand, LA. Grandson Roy served as a director for the Soil Conservation Board and a member of the Lower Pease River District Board. Roy's son today serves on the Soil Conservation Board.*

**Acres in the Original parcel:** 310.3 **Acres still retained:** 310.3

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, and wheat; 1988 - Alfalfa hay, grass, wheat, and pecans.

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# Foreman Place

Freestone Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles southwest of Fairfield, about one and on-half miles off FM 80

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1861-1893	J.J. M. Foreman	Great-grandfather
1893-1935	J.M. Foreman	Grandfather
1935-1964	Harley S. Foreman	Father
1964-1989	Imogene (Foreman) Brumlow	

*J.J.M. Foreman came from Alabama for land his family had staked out in 1818, when they were run out by Indians. The family returned to re-stake the claim in 1828. Foreman was a skilled carpenter and helped build the community. His son, J.M., and his grandson, Harley, were the next owners of the farm. Harley and his wife, Ruby, were school teachers. Today, their daughter, Imogene, and her husband, William T. Brumlow, raise cattle and hay on the farm, but do not live on it.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 120

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1861 - Corn, grain, vegetables, and cotton; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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# Hells Half Acre

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles east of Willow City on RR 1323

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1910	Dr. Johann Christian Althaus	Great-grandfather-in-law
1910-1944	Charlie Althaus	Grandfather-in-law
1944-1970	Marlin Althaus	Father-in-law
1970-1989	Mary Frances (Althaus) Hobbs, Stacey Marie (Althaus) Moellering	

*Dr. Johann Christian Althaus came from Westphalia, Germany, as a doctor accompanying immigrants. The property was purchased in a Gillespie County tax sale, and eventually reached 5,000 acres. Dr. Althaus and his wife, Elizabeth (Behrens), had seven children, and their son, Charlie, acquired the operation between 1890 and 1910. His son, Marlin, added acreage and was the school board president at Willow City and Big Flat. Their daughter-in-law, Mary Frances (Althaus) Hobbs, actively manages the ranch, raising Angus cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 136.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cattle; 1989 - Cattle.

# Roland C. Hohmann Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles northeast of Fredericksburg on Hwy. 16N, Two and one-half miles west of Hwy. 16

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1931	Theodore Hohmann	Grandfather
1931-1941	Emma (Pfeil) Hohmann	Grandmother
1941-1954	Richard A. Hohmann	Father
1954-1989	Mr. and Mrs. Roland C. Hohmann, Maurice D. Hohmann, Bobby D. Hohmann, Patrick Hohmann	

*and Theodore Hohmann purchased his original 682 acres in 1886. He and his wife, Emma, had five children. In 1931, Emma became sole owner after Theodore's death. In 1941, Emma passed title to her son, Richard, who continued to raise cattle on the ranch. Richard and his wife, Olga, had one child, who inherited the property in 1954. Today, their son, Roland, operates the ranch and shares title to the property with other members of the Hohmann family.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 682.8 **Acres still retained:** 510

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, hay, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle, sheep, and deer management.

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# Ristau Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles west of Fredericksburg on Old Harper Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1910	Adolph Filter	Grandfather
1910-1966	Wilhelm Ristau	Father
1966-1989	Rudolf Ristau	

*Adolph Filter came from Mecklenburg, Germany, looking for a better future. For a time the area was known as Mecklenburg because many of the residents were from there. Filter donated land for a community schoolhouse. The building is still used for community meetings. Adolph's daughter, Wilhelmine, and her husband, Wilhelm Ristau, took over the ranch in 1910. Their son, Rudolf, acquired it in 1966 and raises cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton and cattle; 1989 - Cattle.

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# Roosevelt Albrecht Ranch

Goliad Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fourteen miles northwest of Goliad and five miles southwest of Weesatche on Post Oak Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1900	Phillipene (Metz) and A. Christian Albrecht Sr.	Great-grandparents
1900-1969	Christian R. and Elizabeth (Pfenninger) Albrecht	Grandparents
1969-1971	Roosevelt H. and Emmie (Karnei) Albrecht	Parents
1971-1989	Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Albrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Albrecht	

*Christian Albrecht came from Prussia and was a skilled carpenter. He helped build the Goliad County courthouse. His son, Christian, worked on the farm from its purchase and loved working with animals, breaking horses for other farmers. He and his family were active in the Lutheran church and were fluent in English, German and Spanish. His son, Roosevelt, modernized the farm, buying a tractor and expanding the crops grown. In 1978, all cropland was converted to grazing and the farm became a ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 278.42 **Acres still retained:** 278.42

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

# Anglin Bros. Stock Farm

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile southeast of Smiley on Hwy. 87 Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1949	John Andrew and Mary Jane (Islier) Anglin	Grandparents-in-law
1949-1967	Henry Kyle Anglin	Father-in-law
1967-1968	Oran H. Anglin and Elton E. Anglin	Brother-in-law, husband
1968-1989	Lucile Anglin and Elton Anglin	

*John Andrew Anglin came from Oktibbiha County, Mississippi, because his uncle was already in Texas. John was a deputy sheriff of Gonzales County. His son, Henry Kyle, acquired the land, and when he died his two sons, Oran and Elton, took over the farm. Elton and Oran's widow, Lucile, now own it. Lucile lives on the site of the original log cabin, and stones from the original cistern are used in landscaping.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 278.42 **Acres still retained:** 278.42

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cattle, corn, watermelons, and hay; 1989 - Cattle.

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# Malcolm Bouldin Ranch

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Harwood on County Rd. 461

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1955	W.G. Bouldin Sr.	Father
1955-1964	Perry Bouldin Sr.	Brother
1964-1965	Perry Bouldin Jr.	Nephew
1965-1989	Malcolm Bouldin	

*W.G. Bouldin Sr. came from Mississippi. He and his wife, Emmar (Schmeltekopf), had 11 children, and they raised cotton, grain, cattle and vegetables for the family. When the Bouldins died, the land passed to one of their sons, Perry Sr. Upon his death in 1964, the land was divided among his three heirs. Perry Jr. sold his third to his father's brother, Malcolm. Malcolm was named outstanding rancher for conservation of soil and water by the Gonzales County Soil and Water Conservation District.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 143 **Acres still retained:** 143

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, grain, cattle, vegetables, horses, oxen, and pigs; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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# Grandma McDonnell's Farm

Grayson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of U.S. 377 on Dixie Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1895	Samuel S. and Carrie E. Jackson	Grandparents
1895-1903	Carrie E. Scott	Grandmother
1903-1980	Emily C. McDonnell	Mother
1980-1989	John and Nelda (McDonnell) Sanders	

*Carrie E. Jackson was from Alabama. When her husband died in 1882, she continued to farm the land and received it formally in 1895. She remarried James H. Scott, and daughter Emily gained 60 acres in 1903 when her mother died. Her daughter, Nelda, and Nelda's husband, John Sanders, are active in soil conservation programs and have grown cotton, peanuts, corn, wheat, oats, black-eyed peas, and now grow corn and peaches on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 384-1/8 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and mules; 1989 - Corn and peaches.

# Augusta L. Tiemann Nitsch Heritage Farm

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles east of Seguin

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1884	Augusta and Bernard Tiemann	Great-grandparents
1884-1956	Theodore Tiemann	Grandfather
1956-1966	Gertrude Tiemann	Grandmother
1966-1988	Augusta (Tiemann) Nitsch	Mother
1988-1989	Jo Ann and Patrick Nitsch	

*Augusta and Bernard Tiemann came to Texas from Prussia. Augusta was a charter member of the Emanuel Lutheran Church in Guadalupe County. The Tiemann family made their living from agriculture. Son Charles acquired the farm in 1884 and improved the cattle. He added fencing, branding, and marketing. Great granddaughter Jo Ann and her husband, Patrick Nitsch, operate the farm today. They are active in the U.S. Soil Conservation Association and preservation of water.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 151 **Acres still retained:** 151

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Cattle, horses, hogs, grain, sorghum, and cotton; 1989 - Sorghum, corn, and wheat.

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## Wildwood Ranch

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eighteen miles east of Seguin on Farm Road 1150

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1866-1910	Robert Thomas Nixon	Great-grandfather
1910-1971	E.F. and Beulah (Nixon) Wood	Grandparents
1971-1984	Weldon B. and Rosalee Wood	Parents
1984-1989	Gloria Rose (Wood) Quinn	

*Robert Thomas Nixon came to Texas from North Carolina seeking land to raise crops and livestock. He sold a watch and mules to make a down payment on his land. He had 18 children with two wives, Laura and Fannie. Nixon was a county commissioner and a captain in the Confederate Army. Grandson Weldon managed the farm for his mother, Beula, after her husband, Ed Wood, died. He turned the ranch into a cattle business, and was a member of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Association and the Texas Farm Bureau. Today, the ranch is operated by great-granddaughter Gloria and her husband, Robert Quinn.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 267

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1866 - Cotton, hay, corn, cows, mules, horses, and hogs; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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## Moffett Farms

Hardeman Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of Chillicothe on Farm Road 91

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1962	Frank Lee and Ina Mae Moffett	Grandparents
1962-1972	Mary Francis (Moffett) Touchstone, George Moffett	Father
1972-1989	Patricia Joy (Moffett) Angel Frank Lee Moffett	

*Frank Lee Moffett was born Oct. 31, 1860, and died Jan. 20, 1962. He was instrumental in establishing the Texas A&M research station in Chillicothe in 1916. He was a county commissioner who voted to construct the Hardeman County Courthouse. Moffett also effected the establishment of the Chillicothe Public Park, municipal swimming pool, football field, and stadium.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton and maize; 1989 - Cotton, wheat, and cattle.



# The Harrison Barrett Homestead

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south of Crosby

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1917	Harrison and Annie Barrett	Grandparents
1917-1954	Eddie and Suwillow Barrett	Parents
1954-1989	Addie (Barrett) Dixon and 11 co-owners Ezell, E.D., Lemual, Billy, Pelton, Wallace and Anna Pearl Barrett Bernice (Barrett) Knox, Elizabeth (Barrett) Pearsall, Judy (Barrett) Galyes and Delores (Barrett) Bell	

*Harrison Barrett's father, Simon Barrett, had been sent to Texas as a slave, and Harrison was born a slave. After the Emancipation Proclamation, Harrison located all his siblings and bought land east of the San Jacinto River. After his purchase, he gave each sibling a farm. During Reconstruction, they built a community, known as Barrett's settlement, starting with seven farms.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 400 **Acres still retained:** 11

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, cows, hogs, poultry, fruit, and nuts; 1989 - Vegetables.

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# Haude Ranch

Harris Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two miles west of Interstate 45 in Spring on Louetta Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1858-1893	Charles Julius and Bertha Frieza Haude	Great-grandparents
1893-1915	Henry and Amelia Haude	Grandparents
1915-1961	Rosa and Frank Herman Haude Sr.	Parents
1961-1984	Frank Herman Haude Jr.	Husband
1984-1989	Almeta Haude	

*Charles Julius came to Texas from Reichenbach, Prussia to escape overpopulation and religious persecution. According to ship logs, Charles and his wife, Bertha, and their first two children, Louise and Herman, departed from Hamburg on March 28, 1850, and sailed directly to Galveston. Charles was a doctor as well as a farmer. Bertha, who was born in Austria, was a housewife and a midwife.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 20

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1858 - Goats and sheep; 1989 - Cattle, corn, peaches, pears, plums, and vegetables.

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# Hoffmeister Farm

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles south of Tomball

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1923	August William and Amelia Hoffmeister	Grandparents
1923-1954	Lillian and August W. Hoffmeister Jr.	Parents
1954-1989	August L. Hoffmeister, Esther (Hoffmeister) Swenson Lillie (Hoffmeister) Gilbert, Mary O. (Hoffmeister) Meyer	

*August William Hoffmeister came to Texas with his family at the age of two from Hanover, Germany. He and his wife, Amelia, had four children. His son, August Hoffmeister Jr., worked for the county and help build "Main Street" in Tomball, with help from mules.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 90 **Acres still retained:** 45

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cotton, corn, cattle, hay, and truck farm; 1989 - Hay, cattle, potatoes, corn, tomatoes, and peas.

# Mollie Taylor Stevenson Ranch

Harris Co.

**Location of Ranch:** About eight miles south of Brays Bayou

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1875-1909	Edward Ruthvyn and Ann Taylor	Grandparents/great-grandparents
1909-1949	Major Julius Taylor, Pinkie Elizabeth, Samuel, Burt, William Edward and Nettie Caroleen	Father/grandfather, aunts and uncles
1949-1989	Mollie (Taylor) Stevenson	Mother
1960s-1989	Benjamin F. Stevenson, Major W. Stevenson Mollie T. Stevenson II, Sandra (Stevenson) Rigsby, BenTaye (Stevenson) Choice and Barbara Thompson (Stevenson) Marshall	

*Edward Ruthvyn Taylor was released from service in the Civil War due to failing health and tuberculosis. He returned to live with his parents in Texas. A slave woman named Ann was bought to nurse Edward. Ann became Edward's common-law wife, and the couple had six children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 260

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1875 - Corn, watermelons, cotton, cattle, sheep, hogs, horses, mules, chicken, turkeys, fruit trees, and berries; 1989 - Grain feeds, cattle, and registered horses.

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# Brown Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eighteen miles east of Crockett

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1909	J.S. and Harriet Brown	Great-grandparents
1909-1934	Charles T. and Emma Brown	Grandparents
1934-1974	Wilse and Maxine Brown	Parents
1974-1989	Carl T. Brown	

*South Carolina native J.S. Brown came to Texas to buy land. He helped establish Cedar Point Church in Creath Community and Crossroads School near Kennard and Ratcliff. He and his wife, Harriett, had seven children. A grandson, Wilse, served on the boards of the U.S. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and the Soil Conservation Service and participated in the Federal Soil Bank. He was a board member of the Kennard Independent School District for 12 years.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 288 **Acres still retained:** 165

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton and corn; 1989 - Cattle and timber.

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# Burns Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Fifteen miles west of Grapeland on Farm Road 227

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1915	Earnest Burns	Grandfather
1915-1977	Wesley and Jettie Burns	Parents
1977-1989	Jim Henry Burns	

*Earnest Burns bought his land in 1883 from J.C. Wooters. He helped establish Cedar Branch Baptist Church. Earnest and his wife had four children, Mary, Wash, Annie, and Wesley. Wesley and his wife, Jettie Ann, had six children, one of whom operates the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 37

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Row crops, cattle, horses, hogs, and chickens; 1989 - Ranching, hay production, and improved pastures.

# The Duren Place Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 25 miles east of Crockett and about seven miles north of Ratcliff

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1935	William Preston Conner	Grandfather
1935-1957	Rebecca Kate Conner	Grandmother
1957-1975	Addie Mae (Conner) Steed Spence	Mother
1975-1989	Corrie May (Spence) Ainsworth Cleveland Jackson Spence	

*William Preston Conner was born in Houston County in 1854 and bought his land from his sister, Mary Catherine (Conner) Duren, and her husband, Phillip David Duren. Conner helped establish the First State Bank in Ratcliff and the Plain School. Conner introduced cooperative marketing to producers around Plain. His wife, Rebecca, also was active, working as a community nurse. The Conners had 12 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 336 **Acres still retained:** 118  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Corn, cotton, and hogs; 1989 - Timber.

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# Gauthier Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-three miles east of Crockett

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1924	Bettie (Steed) Jackson	Great-uncle and aunt
1924-1949	C.L. Steed and Minnie (English) Steed	Grandparents
1949-1985	Mack D. and Mildred Steed	Parents
1985-1989	Suzanne Steed-Gauthier	

*Founder Bettie (Steed) Jackson Barclay had two husbands, J.F. Jackson and B.R. Barclay. The land, 160 acres, was acquired Dec. 16, 1889, from J.H. Burnett. Despite hard times, the family stayed on its land and was not driven away. Bettie had two children, Jane Jackson and Jewell Jackson. On Nov. 1, 1924, she left 158 acres to her brother, C.L. Steed. Steed built a levee to prevent flooding on his farm land. He also built a silo and pond.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 151  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Peas, corn, beans, and peanuts; 1989 - Hay, catfish, fruit, melons, and ducks.

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# Lazy K Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles north of Ratcliff

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1860	Fredrick Conner	Great-uncle
1860-1881	James Alexander Conner	Uncle
1881-1957	William Preston and Rebecca Conner	Parents
1957-1989	Corrie (Conner) Kilpatrick	

*Founder Fredrick Conner came to Texas from South Carolina. He helped found the area church, school and cemetery. The second person to be buried in the community cemetery was his wife, who is only listed as Mrs. John Frederick Conner. The Conners had five children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 500 **Acres still retained:** 122  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1854 - Cotton, corn, vegetables, cattle, and hogs; 1989 - Trees, livestock, pasture, and truck crops.

## Wills Farm

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** About 12 miles south of Crockett and three miles northeast of Lovelady

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
Prior to 1882-1901	Jarrett and Martha Kelley	Grandparents
1901-1962	Minnie Ellen (Kelley) and Willard Wills Jr.	Parents
1962-1989	Freddie Hayne Wills	

*Jarrett Kelly was a farmer as well as a carpenter who built his family's home. His wife, Martha, ran the Kelley Hotel in Lovelady. They bought the hotel for \$500 in 1888 and sold it in 1893 for \$600. Martha Kelley was known as an excellent cook. The couple had three children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 94.62

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882- Cotton, corn, and cattle; 1989 - Coastal Bermuda hay.

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## E Bar H Ranch

Hunt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seventeen miles southwest of Greenville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1869	John J. Hurst	Great-grandfather
1869-1906	John Deweese Hurst	Grandfather
1906-1975	Guy Hurst	Father
1975-1989	Elizabeth (Hurst) Beavers	

*The founder's grandson, Guy Hurst, donated land for roads in the community and county. He worked for the conservation service, and for many years he was the precinct chairman at elections. He taught in county schools and was a trustee for the Union Valley schools. Guy Hurst had two wives, Marcie Andrews Hurst and Annie Laurie Peak, who bore nine children altogether.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 37

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cotton, oats, corn, horses, cattle, and pigs; 1989 - Pasture and hay.

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## Fred Hurst Farm

Hunt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles southwest of Greenville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1869	John J. Hurst	Great-grandfather
1869-1906	John Deweese Hurst	Grandfather
1906-1976	Guy Hurst	Father
1976-1989	Fred Hurst	

*John J. Hurst was born in Indiana, and he came to Texas for free land. He received a grant to a section of land in Mercers Colony on Aug. 17, 1852. Hurst and his wife, Lydia, had nine children. The Hursts were one of the first families to settle Union Valley in Hunt County.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 32.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cotton, oats, corn, horses, cattle, and pigs; 1989 - Milo and wheat.

# G Bar H Ranch

Hunt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seventeen miles southwest of Greenville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1869	John J. Hurst	Great-grandfather
1869-1906	John Deweese Hurst	Grandfather
1906-1975	Guy Hurst	Father
1975-1989	Guy Hurst Jr.	

*John J. Hurst was born in Indiana, and he came to Texas for free land. He received a grant to a section of land in Mercers Colony on Aug. 17, 1852. Hurst and his wife, Lydia, had nine children. The Hursts were one of the first families to settle Union Valley in Hunt County.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 121.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cotton, oats, corn, horses, cattle, and pigs; 1989 - Wheat, oats, milo, and pastureland.

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# J N Bar H Ranch

Hunt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seventeen miles southwest of Greenville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1869	John J. and Lydia Hurst	Great-grandfather
1869-1906	John Deweese Hurst	Grandfather
1906-1975	Guy Hurst	Father
1975-1989	Joseph Newton Hurst	

*John J. Hurst was born in Indiana, and he came to Texas for free land. He received a grant to a section of land in Mercers Colony on Aug. 17, 1852. Hurst and his wife, Lydia, had nine children. The Hursts were one of the first families to settle Union Valley in Hunt County.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 122

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cotton, corn, oats, cattle, horses, and pigs; 1989 - Wheat, oats, milo, and hay.

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# N Bar H Farm

Hunt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles southwest of Greenville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1852-1869	John J. Hurst	Great-grandfather
1869-1906	John Deweese Hurst	Grandfather
1906-1975	Guy Hurst	Father
1975-1989	Ann (Hurst) Neighbors	

*John Deweese Hurst, son of the founder John Hurst, deeded one acre of land for the community school at Union Valley. He also donated land for roads. John Deweese Hurst had two wives. His first wife, Lizzie (Belew) Hurst, had two children. His second wife, Mary (Shaw) Hurst, had three children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 151

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1852 - Cotton, oats, corn, horses, cattle, and pigs; 1989 - Wheat, oats, milo, and hay.

# Stonehurst Grange Farm

Hunt Co.

**Location of Farm:** Sixteen miles southwest of Greenville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1906	Joseph D. Hurst	Great-grandfather
1906-1975	Guy Hurst	Grandfather
1975-1978	Jane (Hurst) Taylor	Mother
1978-1989	Janet (Taylor) Atkins	

*Joseph Hurst fought for the Confederacy during the Civil War from 1861-1865. After acquiring land from his father, John J. Hurst, in 1869, he purchased several tracts of land, adding more than 2,000 acres to his holdings. When asked why he bought so much land, he replied, "The only thing that is permanent is land." He and his wife, Lizzie, had five children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 282 **Acres still retained:** 47.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Cattle, corn, and cotton; 1989 -Milo, wheat, and hay.

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# Calvin Farm

Jack Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles east of Markley, 12 miles north of Graham

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1905	J.C. Calvin	Great-grandfather
1905-1958	Columbus Charles Calvin	Grandfather
1958-1974	Lelia (Calvin) Loftin	Mother
1974-1989	Thomas L. Loftin	

*J.C. Calvin acquired 254 acres in 1884 and grew cotton and wheat and raised cattle. He and his wife, Sarah, had one son, Columbus Charles, who acquired his parents' farm. Columbus and his wife, Viola, had eight children. Their daughter, Lelia, acquired the farm in 1958. She and her husband, Henry Leon, had one son, Thomas Leon, who has more than doubled the acreage and raises cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 254 **Acres still retained:** 254

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cotton, wheat, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle.

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# Betty Smith Harris Ranch

Jack Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles northwest of Jacksboro on the Wichita Highway

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1917	Alfred Granderson Smith	Grandfather
1917-1965	Moses LaFayette "Boss" Smith	Father
1965-1989	Betty June (Smith) Harris	

*Alfred Smith and his wife, Elizabeth (Graves), grew and preserved all the family's food. They gave land for the Methodist church and supported the founding of the first 4-H. Their son, M.L. ("Boss"), was a charter 4-H member; he raised cattle, hogs, sheep, and goats and did much of the clearing and fencing of the land through his life, saying he wanted to leave it better than he found it. His daughter, Betty Harris, was a teacher for 43 years; she and her husband, Joel, and their family continue to raise cattle and support youth activities.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 117 **Acres still retained:** 117

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Hogs, cattle, sheep, corn, oats, and wheat; 1989 - Cattle and wheat.

# Circle H Ranch

Jasper Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles south of Jasper off FM 252

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1913	Frances Amanda (Allen) and A.C. Sims	Grandparents
1913-1981	Iva A. and Kate E. (Sims) McLemore	Parents
1981-1989	S.D. and Marie (McLemore) Hicks	

*This land was given to Frances and A.C. by her mother and stepfather. A.C. fought in the Civil War with Hood's Brigade at Gettysburg. Kate and her husband, Ivy, raised nine children during the depression with plentiful home-grown food. Ivy was considered a model farmer and continued to work until his death at age 92. His daughter, Marie, and her husband, S.C. Hicks, continue to make improvements. Pecan trees planted by A.C. Sims still bear pecans.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 18

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Corn, cotton, truck crops, cattle, hogs, and pecans; 1989 - Cattle.

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# Earl McLemore Farm

Jasper Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile west of FM 252 and five miles south of US 290

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1913	Frances Amanda (Allen) and A.C. Sims	Grandparents
1913-1981	Ivy A. and Kate E. (Sims) McLemore	Parents
1981-1989	Ivy Earl McLemore	

*This land was given to Frances and A.C. by her mother and stepfather. A.C. fought in the Civil War with Hood's Brigade at Gettysburg. Kate and her husband, Ivy, had nine children, who all helped out on the farm. Ivy won first prize with his sugarcane at the Jasper County Fair at least 18 times. He began irrigating crops in 1925. His son, Earl, now grows fruit and vegetables and sugarcane on the land he owns.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, sugarcane, sheep, cattle, hogs, tomatoes, peas, beans, and turnips; 1989 - Corn, sugarcane, bell peppers, tomatoes, strawberries, and squash.

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# Withers Farm

Jasper Co.

**Location of Farm:** Weiss Bluff Road, seven miles west of Buna

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1866-1881	Valentine J. Withers	Great-grandfather
1881-1917	James Stewart Withers	Great-uncle
1923-1963	Johnie Valentine Withers	Father
1963-1989	Inez (Withers) and Herman Hughes	

*Valentine Withers came from Kentucky because of the abundance of land and virgin pine in Texas. He was a founder of the Cairo Springs school and ran a ferry across the Neches River. His son, William, was a county commissioner. Brothers James and Johnie agreed on a land trade in 1923, and James became a teacher. Johnie was known for watermelons and ribbon cane. When he died, his widow divided the farm among the five children, with Inez getting the house, which is restored and bears a historical marker.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,000 **Acres still retained:** 20.77

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1866 - Fruits, vegetables, feed, and pecans; 1989 - Fruits, vegetables, and nuts.

## P-2 Ranch

Jones Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eleven miles from Anson on FM 3116 in southwest Jones County

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1921	Julia (Jordan) Poland	Mother
1921-1989	John D. Poland	Grandfather

*Julia and T.H. Poland were given 1,100 acres by Julia's parents. Their son, John D., took over the ranch in 1922, and in 1989, at the age of 101, was still living on the ranch with his sister, Tinah (Poland) Bumpass. He built stock tanks, an elevator, and fencing and built the farm home in 1936.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,543-1/2 **Acres still retained:** 584.575

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, sheep, cattle, and wheat; 1989 - Wheat, cattle, and pasture.

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## Labus Farm

Karnes Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile north of Panna Maria on Hwy. 2714

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1860-1892	Adam Labus	Great-grandfather
1892-1943	Frank Labus	Grandfather
1943-1978	Ignatz Dominic Labus	Father
1978-1989	Harvey I. Labus	

*Adam Labus was part of the emigration of Poles from Silesia which established the community of Panna Maria. He and his wife, Josepha (Snoga), had five children and helped build the church. Their son, Frank, and his wife, Mary (Bronder), continued to improve the land and raised nine children. Their son, Ignatz, inherited the farm during World War II and introduced mechanized equipment. Ignatz's son, Harvey, operates the farm with his mother, wife, sister, and nephew.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 66-1/4 **Acres still retained:** 66-1/4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1860 - Cattle, other livestock, corn, grain, and cotton; 1989 - Wheat, corn, grain, cattle, hogs, and chickens.

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## Pawelek Farm

Karnes Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles north of Hwy. 81 near Panna Maria

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1869-1884	Lorenz Pawelek	Great-grandfather
1884-1924	Nicholas Pawelek	Grandfather
1924-1969	Louis P. Pawelek	Father
1969-1989	Alvin E. Pawelek	

*Lorenz Pawelek came from Poland seeking freedom and prosperity. He and his wife, Mary (Kaczmarek), settled near the Polish community of Panna Maria and were very active in the church there. Their son, Nicholas, and his son, Louis, continued the tradition of improving the property, and the home built by Louis still stands. Louis' son, Alvin, continues soil conservation and improvement of the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 422 **Acres still retained:** 200

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1869 - Corn, cotton, cattle, horses, and mules; 1989 - Hay and cattle.



## Karger Ranch

Kendall Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles northwest of Boerne on Hwy. 87

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1917	Charles Karger	Grandfather
1917-1984	Adolph Karger	Father
1984-1989	Bettie (Karger) Barth	

*Charles Karger came from Germany as a child. In addition to running the ranch, he drove a stagecoach, delivered mail and was a deputy sheriff. He and his wife, Alwine (Weber), had five children. Their son, Adolph, added improvements while also working as a musician and butcher and doing fencing, sheep and goat shearing and carpentry work. His daughter, Bettie, and her family continue to raise cattle on the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 150

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cotton, corn, hay, cattle, horses, and mules; 1989 - Cattle.

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## Marquardt Ranch

Kendall Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile southeast of Sisterdale on FM 473

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1871-1889	Gottlieb Marquardt	Great-grandfather
1889-1932	Gustav Marquardt	Grandfather
1932-1982	Oscar Joseph Marquardt	Father
1982-1989	Raymond Marquardt	

*Gottlieb Marquardt came to Texas from Germany. Beside operating a ranch and farm, Marquardt regularly made the four day trip to San Antonio to trade for area families. Gustav continued the trade trips to San Antonio and cleared more of the land for additional cultivation. Oscar Joseph allowed the University of Texas to research Indian pictographs found on the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 280 **Acres still retained:** 280

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton, grain, horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs; 1989 - Oats, pecans, Coastal Bermuda grass, and commercial cattle.

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## Mitchell Farm

Lamar Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles northeast of Blossom on Farm Road 1502

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1942	William and Martha Mitchell	Grandparents
1942-1960	Walter and Eula Mitchell	Parents
1960-1989	Walter Preston Mitchell	

*William Mitchell was born in Texas of Virginian parents. He cleared timber off the land and sold it as cross ties to the railroad and as firewood to schools. He planted a pecan orchard that is still producing today. Walter changed the farm to dairy cattle and feed crops, then later to beef cattle and hay crops. Walter Preston has cleared timber for 50 acres and established pastures, meadows and ponds.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, and vegetables; 1989 - Hay, dairy cows, and pecans.

## The Old Miller Place

Lampasas Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles east of Lomet on Live Oak Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1908	Samuel and Lucinda (Langston) Miller	Great-grandparents
1908-1925	John Wesley and Mary Miller	Great-uncle and aunt
1925-1947	Barney and Veris (Miller) Trammell	Cousins
1947-1978	William and Hettie Blauvelt	Parents
1978-1989	Berley and Wilma (Blauvelt) Hightower	

*Samuel and Lucinda came to Texas from Tennessee. She taught school, and he was a farmer. They had eight children. When Lucinda died in 1908, the property went to her son, John, and his wife, Mary Rose (Dow). They had a daughter, Veris, who was married to Barney Trammell, and they had eight children. Great-granddaughter of the founder, Wilma and her husband, Berley Hightower, live on the place and manage the everyday operations.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Cattle, sheep, and goats; 1989 - Cattle, sheep, hay, and oats.

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## Bujnoch Farm

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles southwest of Hallettsville on Fm 390

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1930	George Bujnoch	Grandfather
1930-1968	George Bujnoch Sr.	Father
1968-1989	Leon G. Bujnoch	

*George Bujnoch was born in Czechoslovakia and came to Texas for freedom and the hope of owning his own land. George and his family were active members of the church, school and community. George Sr. installed electricity, tractors and other advancements to improve life on the farm. Leon has built fences and cleared more land for growing grasses.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 166 **Acres still retained:** 144.82

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Hereford cattle, cotton, corn, and tomatoes; 1989 - Hereford, Beefmaster and Brangus cattle, hay, grass, corn, and citrus.

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## Gummelt Ranch

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles northeast of Hallettsville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1948	Gottlieb and Emelia Gummelt	Grandparents
1948-1952	Esther Gummelt	Aunt
1952-1989	George Gummelt	

*Gottlieb Gummelt came to Texas from Prussia where he acquired and cleared all his 100 acres to make it suitable for farming. He established a successful molasses business. Esther remained on the land after the death of her parents. She had no children and, therefore, passed the ranch on to a nephew, George. Part of the original dwelling is occupied under lifetime estate by Esther.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, and sorghum; 1989 - Corn, cattle, hogs, and chickens.

# Steffek Farm

Lavaca Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles west of Hallettsville on FM 340

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1932	Frank and Marie Steffek	Great-grandparents
1932-1975	Charles Steffek and Albina Sitka	Great uncle/grandmother
1975-1980	Sybil Janak	Mother
1980-1989	Anthony and Joyce Bludau	

*Frank and Marie fled Czechoslovakia to Texas for a better life. Frank was the first farmer in the county to use the Fordson tractor. During Sybil Janak's ownership, the land was developed from pasture to prime farm land. The present owners have cleared brush, built new fences and added barns and pens for cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 61

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cattle, horses, hogs, cotton, corn, and feed; 1989 - Cattle, hay, and corn.

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# Boriack Farm

Lee Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles southwest of Lincoln on Hwy 21

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1892	John Borjack Sr.	Great-grandfather
1892-1926	John Borjack Jr.	Grandparent
1926-1989	Charles Boriack	Father
1989- 1989	Richard Boriack	

*John Borjack came to Texas from Germany. After acquiring land, he and his wife, Magdalena, and 10 children raised crops and livestock. Charles acquired the land and added more crops and animals. Brothers Richard, Herbert, and Howard currently live on the farm. Today the spelling is Boriack.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 210.25 **Acres still retained:** 84.77

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Corn, cotton, cattle, and hogs; 1989 - Corn, peanuts, hay, and cattle.

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# Ellis E. Williams Ranch

Leon Co.

**Location of Farm:** About four miles southwest of Jewett

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1922	J.F. and L.A. Williams	Grandparents
1922-1950	Ernest Williams	Father
1950-1989	Ellis E. and Bert F. Williams, J.T. and Curtis Bedsole, Roy Hunter, Jimmy Beddingfield, and Gregory Ivy	

*J.F. Williams came to Texas as a child from Alabama. He acquired land and cleared it for agricultural purposes. He and his wife, Lue, served as school trustees. Ernest helped to organize the Farmers' Union and served as secretary for the organization. Ellis Williams operates the farm today and participates in numerous conservation practices.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 280 **Acres still retained:** 65.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton, corn, peanuts, cows, hogs, and chickens; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

# Flint Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles west of Llano off FM 2323

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1899	Christian Flint	Great-grandfather
1899-1959	Christian Flint Jr.	Grandfather
1959-1981	Christian Henry	Father
1981-1989	Lester Flint and sons	

*From Denmark, Christian Flint traveled to Texas and acquired 3,016 acres of land to raise livestock. Christian Jr. was very active in the Leinginen 2 Lutheran Church of Castell. The original house is still standing, but the interior has been remodeled and the exterior has been rocked by the present owner.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3,016 **Acres still retained:** 146.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Cotton, corn, hay, goats, sheep, and cattle; 1989 - Hay and cattle.

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# Sawyer Hereford Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Llano on Highway 16

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1909	W.C. Sawyer	Grandfather
1909-1962	James Clinton Sawyer	Father
1962-1989	John L. Sawyer	

*W.C. Sawyer died just one day past his 39th birthday. His wife, Nettie Hargis, kept the family together, continued the ranching operation and managed to purchase additional property. James Clinton served as Llano county commissioner for 14 years and in 1931, established a herd of registered Hereford cattle. The current owner continued to improve the cattle and introduced white-tailed deer into the area.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 960 **Acres still retained:** 460

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, various grains, cane, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and chickens; 1989 - Hereford cattle, deer, crops for grazing, and hay.

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# John D. Fleming Ranch

Mason Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles northeast of Mason near Willow Creek

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1942	H.O. Brockmann	Grandfather
1942-1970	Grace Brockmann	Aunt
1970-1989	John and Lou Fleming	

*H.O. Brockmann's parents came with German immigrants from Prussia. He was a justice of the peace and established phone service in northeast Mason County. He and his wife, Virginia (Polk), had eight children. Their daughter, Grace, won the outstanding soil conservationist award for Mason County in 1957. Her niece, Lou, and Lou's husband, John, now run the farm. The house built in 1880 still stands and is used by hunters.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cattle, hogs, cotton, and small grains; 1989 - Cattle, calves, and hay.

# Alvin Leifeste Ranch

Mason Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seven miles on Hwy. 29 to Art, north three miles

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1883	Johann Friedrich Leifeste	Great-grandfather
1883-1940	Johann Friedrich Leifeste Jr.	Grandfather
1940-1964	Alvin Heinrich Leifeste	Father
1964-1989	Alvin Dayton Leifeste	

*Johann Friedrich Leifeste came from Braunschweig, Germany, and helped settle the town of Fredericksburg. He laid out roads in Mason County. He and his wife, Sabina (Malzeberg), and their family were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their son, Johann Jr. (Fritz), served as a judge and school trustee. Fritz's son, Alvin, also owned land in Llano County and in New Mexico. His son, Alvin D., raises registered Hereford cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Sheep, cattle, hogs, and horses; 1989 - Cattle.

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# Fisher's Rafter F Ranch

Mills Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles west of Mullin

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1907	W.D. Fisher	Grandfather
1907-1951	William Thomas Fisher	Father
1951-1989	Ernest L. and Neta Jean (Hopkins) Fisher	

*W.D. Fisher came from Missouri. He and his wife, Rebecca (Redding), raised seven children. They granted an easement to the Santa Fe Railroad, which helped with the area's growth. Their son, William, continued to add improvements and was active in the Mullin Baptist church and school board. Current owner, Ernest, improved the livestock and added a new brick home in 1961.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 140 **Acres still retained:** 91

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Oats, corn, cane, cattle, and horses; 1989 - Oats, milo, wheat, hay, sheep, and cattle.

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# D.W. Wallace Ranch

Mitchell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles southeast of Loraine on Narrel Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1939	D.W. "80 John" and Laura (Owen) Wallace	Grandparents
1939-1957	Mary (Wallace) (Fowler) Jackson, Carson W. Wallace Eula (Wallace) (Fowler) Harris, Hettye (Wallace) Branch	Aunts, uncles, parents
1957-1989	T.P. Fowler Jr., Elaine (Fowler) McMichael, Vonceil (Fowler) Muse, D.C. Fowler	

*D.W. Wallace was born in Nacogdoches of slave parents. He became a cowboy and acquired the nickname "80 John" while working for John Nunn and Clay Mann as a trail hand. He entered school as an adult and always valued education. He saved his earnings to buy cattle and land. Laura was active in the community and ran the ranch when her husband was away. Their children and grandchildren received college educations and several became teachers. Two schools were named for D.W. Wallace.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, cattle, horses, maize, and grain sorghum; 1989 - Cattle and grain sorghum.

# Cunningham Farm

Montague Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles north of Nocona on Hwy. 103

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1918	R.W. and Mary (Harmon) Cunningham	Grandparents
1918-1970	Thomas Bennett Newell Cunningham	Father
1970-1989	Newell Cunningham	

*The Cunninghams came from Tennessee for the better opportunities in Texas. They found water on the land, digging the first water well in the area, and helped build the first church, school and roads. Their son, Thomas, who was one of eight children, started the first cattle auction in Montague County. His son, Newell, has instituted erosion control, crop rotation, and improved the productivity of the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 150

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, oats, cows, horses, and cattle; 1989 - Hogs, cattle, and grain.

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# Don Springfield Farm

Parker Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles east of Springtown, one-fourth mile north of Highway 199

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1968	Jim Marion Springfield	Grandfather
1968-1985	John Henry Springfield	Uncle
1985-1989	Don and Mary Springfield	

*Jim Marion Springfield came from Georgia at 16, walking with his widowed mother to find a better life. He and his wife, Amanda (De Merville), had nine children. Jim hauled freight from the railroad in Fort Worth to Springtown merchants. His son, John Henry, was a contractor and built homes and churches in the area. John Henry's nephew, Don Springfield, now operates the farm. A blackjack tree described in the founder's deed as 5" in diameter still stands, now with a diameter of 20".*

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 57.97

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Corn, cotton, truck farming, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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# Reichert's Farm

Robertson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Highway 79, New Baden

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1943	Phillip and Catherine Reichert	Grandparents
1943-1989	Oscar and Sybil (Faulker) Reichert	

*Phillip and Catherine Reichert came from Germany for a better life. Phillip was the first postmaster for New Baden (then called Phillipsburgh) in 1882 and served again in 1901. Their grandson, Oscar, has raised breeder hens and turkeys and lived all his life in the homestead, which is more than 75 years old.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 27 **Acres still retained:** 27

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Corn, cotton, truck farming, poultry, hogs, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle and truck farming.

# Double S Ranch

Shelby Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles south of Highway 96

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1891	W.J. and Mary Jane (McVey) Stanley	Great-grandparents
1891-1943	W.W. Stanley	Grandfather
1943-1963	Ira A. Stanley	Father
1963-1989	Bobby L. Stanley	

*W.J. Stanley was from Mississippi. He fought in the battle of Vicksburg, was captured and exchanged in a prisoner exchange, and came to Texas because he witnessed the killing of a Yankee soldier. He and his wife, Mary Jane, gave land for railroad right-of-way and helped organized Prater School. Their son, W.W., helped establish the timber industry in the area. Ira worked in the shipyards at Beaumont during World War II. The women and children kept the farm going while the men were away.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 165 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Corn, cotton, truck farming, cattle, and hogs; 1989 - Cattle, chickens (eggs), hay, and timber.

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# William Edwin Stephens Farm

Shelby Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirteen miles northeast of Center on the old Shelbyville Logansport Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1934	William Edwin Stephens	Father
1934-1989	Mr. and Mrs. James Edwin Stephens, Jack and Lottie (Stephens) Whitaker, Johnnie (Stephens) Burgess, Lexa (Stephens) Roquemore, J.M. and Jessie (Stephens) Tye, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh C. Stephens	

*"Willie" Stephens left Louisiana and traveled throughout the west as far as Yuma, Arizona, working as a sheep herder and ranch hand. He settled in Shelby County, and with his first wife, Sally (Potts), who died in child-birth, and his second wife, Ellen (Wilson), had 14 children. He was a talented violinist and played for local dances and weddings. After he and Ellen died, the children of the two marriages divided the land and rebuilt the home using lumber from the original house. There is a stocked lake, meadows where deer graze with the cattle, and pear and pecan trees.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 110 **Acres still retained:** 55.7

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Corn, cotton, cattle, vegetables, fruit, and pecans; 1989 - Timber, cattle, and hay.

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# River Ranch

Somervell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles southeast of Nemo on FM 200

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1886	John Rankin Butler	Great-great-grandfather
1886-1938	John Henry Butler	Great-grandfather
1938-1963	Willie Emma (Butler) Russell	Grandmother
1963-1968	Marlin Russell, Virble (Russell) Lankford, Elmer Russell	Mother, uncles
1968-1989	Charles and Cynthia (Lankford) Kincaid	

*John Butler came from Ireland and eventually owned 170 acres. His son, John Henry, increased the size of the ranch to 293 acres. The land was leased for oil and gas exploration under John Henry's ownership. His daughter, Willie, bought land from the other heirs to keep the ranch intact. She sold land to the Brazos River Authority and leased it back for grazing. Cynthia and Charles Kincaid received soil conservation awards in 1983 and 1985.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 50 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cattle, cotton, corn, fruits, vegetables, hogs, chickens, and sheep; 1989 - Livestock.

# Versyp Farm

Taylor Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Abilene on Farm Road 18

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1910	James Frank Versyp	Father
1910-1960	Clara F. Versyp	Mother
1960-1989	Hollis A. Versyp	

*James Frank Versyp was born in Belgium. The original grant holder of the land he bought in 1886 is listed as the Lunatic and Blind Asylum. Following a divorce in 1910, James wife, Clara, received 80 acres of the land. Her son, Hollis, bought the 80 acres from his mother in 1960.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Percheron horses, cows, cotton, wheat, oats, millet, and hay; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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# Stribling Farm

Throckmorton Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles southwest of Throckmorton

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1931	Cornelius and Nancy Stribling	Grandfather
1931-1970	Frank Bennett Stribling	Father
1970-unknown	Sloan Stribling	Grandson
Unknown-1989	Inez Stribling (wife of Sloan Stribling)	

*Cornelius Stribling came to Texas from South Carolina where he was born. He was appointed the first judge of Shackelford County, he served as a state representative for Shackelford County and he traveled the state organizing Masonic lodges. He and his wife, Nancy, had eight children. The founder's home constructed in 1884 and remodeled in 1941 is still in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Wheat, feed grains, and cattle; 1989 - Wheat, feed grains, and cattle.

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# Turner Ranch

Tom Green Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Four miles west of Carlsbad

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1917	Stanley and Ethelwyn Turner	Uncle
1917-1934	Harley Turner	Cousin
1934-1944	Beatrice Turner	Cousin-in-law
1944-1984	Adele Hall, Beatrice Allday and Barbara Turner	Cousins
1984-1989	Maxwell and Lillie Turner, Leslie D. Turner, and Roscoe Turner	

*Stanley Turner came to Texas from Liverpool, England. He was convinced to make the long journey by a cousin who had been to the state who saw great possibilities for young men. Stanley and his wife, Ethelwyn, had no children. Their land passed on to a brother, Harley Turner.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Horses, mules, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle, sheep, and goats.



# Annandale Ranch

Uvalde Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Sixteen miles northwest of Sabinal on Farm Road 127

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1931	Lewis Washington and Eliza Amanda Florea	Great-grandparents
1931-1951	Mae (Florea) and William Fitzgerald	Grandparents
1951-1961	Paul Florea and Helen Fitzgerald	Parents
1961-1989	Carolyn (Fitzgerald) Chapman; Nancy (Fitzgerald), Bruce and Paul McQuown; Kathy (McQuown) Nester; William Fitzgerald, Patsy, Tina, George, and Chesleigh Cofer	

*After serving in the infantry in the Civil War, L.W. graduated from the University of Indiana law school, married and came to Texas seeking his fortune. He came to San Antonio in 1884, and in 1888 and 1889, he and others blocked up about 15,000 acres in 28 parcels under the name of Annandale Cattle Co. He and his wife, Eliza, had two children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 15,000 **Acres still retained:** 15,000

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Longhorn and mixed-breed cattle; 1989 - Cattle, sheep, goats, Klein grass, small grains, and row crops.

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# Ole Frey-Benignus Homestead

Waller Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles south of Waller off Farm Road 362

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1933	John and Mary Frey	Grandparents
1933-1981	Margarete (Frey) and Louis Benignus	Parents
1981-1989	Betty (Benignus) Rheman	

*John Frey was born in Kanton Aargau, Switzerland, and he came to Texas looking for better opportunities. The Freys were active members of the Protestant Church, they loaned money to others to help them buy land and goods, and the family was one of the first in the county to get lights and a phone. John and Mary Frey had 15 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Corn, cotton, vegetables, fruits, cattle, hogs, sheep, and chickens; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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# Hurtig-Meier Farm

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southwest of Brenham on County Road 34

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1890	Robert and Caroline Hurtig	Great-grandparents
1890-1937	Albert and Dora Hurtig	Grandparents
1937-1976	Theo and Annie Marie Hurtig	Parents
1976-1989	Dolores (Hurtig) and Lilburn Meier	

*The Hurtigs first came to Washington County in 1860. Robert Hurtig bought land, established a home to raise his family and continued to farm successfully until his death in 1895. He was born in Prussia and came to Texas to find a better life. The Hurtigs had six children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 104 **Acres still retained:** 31

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Corn, cotton, cows, hogs, chickens, and vegetables; 1989 - Cattle, chickens, pecans, corn, vegetables, and hay.

# Stanley Ranch

Washington Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five miles northwest of Burton Farm Road 1697

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1945	John Stanley	Great-uncle
1945-1965	N.L. Stanley	Uncle
	J.H. and Georgia Stanley	Father
1965-1989	John H. Stanley	

*John Stanley was born in Lee County, Texas, and bought 80 acres from J. E. Hennigan and his wife. He added 280.8 acres to his original purchase and raised cotton and corn. He and his wife had 12 children. Two sons, N.L. Stanley and J.H. Stanley, took over ownership of the property, raising cotton, corn, and cattle. N.L. never married. Today one of J.H.'s sons, John, is the owner of the ranch. John raises registered Polled Hereford cattle. One of the original buildings, a log smoke house, is still on the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 80

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton and corn; 1989 - Registered Polled Hereford cattle.

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# Egypt Plantation

Wharton Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles northwest of Wharton on Farm Road 102

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1838-1865	William and America Heard	Great-great-great-grandparents
1865-unknown	Elizabeth (Heard) and Mentor Northington	Great-great-grandparents
Unknown-1938	George Northington	Great-grandfather
1938-1972	George Northington Jr.	Grandfather
1972-1982	George Northington III	Father
1982-1989	George Northington IV	

*William Jones Elliott Heard was born in Tennessee and moved to Texas to acquire a land grant from Mexico. He was chief justice in Colorado County in the 1830s and was involved in Methodist missionary camp meetings. He and his wife, America (Morton) Heard, had four children. An 1850 brick home is used as a residence.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,222 **Acres still retained:** 35.9

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1838 - Sugar, corn, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

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# Northington Land and Cattle Co.

Wharton Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twelve miles northwest of Wharton on Farm Road 102

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1838-1865	William and America Heard	Great-great-great-grandparents
1865-unknown	Elizabeth (Heard) and Mentor Northington	Great-great-grandparents
Unknown-1938	George Northington	Great-grandfather
1938-1972	George Northington Jr.	Grandfather
1972-1982	George Northington III	Husband and Father
1982-1989	Anita W. Northington, John W. Northington	

*William Jones Elliott Heard was born in Tennessee and moved to Texas to acquire a land grant from Mexico. He was chief justice in Colorado County in the 1830s and was involved in Methodist missionary camp meetings. He and his wife, America (Morton) Heard, had four children. An 1850 brick home is used as a residence.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,222 **Acres still retained:** 740

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1838 - Sugar, corn, and cattle; 1989 - Cattle and hay.

# Lazy J Ranch

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Sixteen miles north of Vernon

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1957	Judson C. and Mary M. Archer	Great-grandparents
1957-1958	Nellie (Archer) Flowers	Great-Aunt and uncle
1958-1986	J.B. Flowers	Uncle
1986-1989	Rodney Gene Johnston	

*Judson and Mary Archer lived in a half dug-out for some time before building a house. Judson Archer died in January 1900, leaving Mary Archer to raise three small girls and to give birth in August 1900 to her only son. Mary Archer farmed until her death in May 1957.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 167.5 **Acres still retained:** 167.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, milo, sorghum, turkeys, horses, cows, pigs, and chickens; 1989 - Cotton, wheat, guar, and cattle.

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# Smith Place

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles north of Vernon on Hwy. 283

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1906	Archie Blair Parks and Mary (Hurst) Parks	Great-grandparents
1906-1953	Charlie S. and Rosa E. (Parks) Smith	Grandparents
1953-1980	Willis Blair and Dorothy (Heath) Smith	Parents
1980-1989	Winburn Lee and Alice Genevieve (Smith) Smith	

*Archie Blair and Mary (Hurst) Parks came to Texas from Tennessee after the Civil War. They purchased 160 acres near Vernon, where they raised cattle and wheat. They had eight children and in 1906 their daughter, Rosa, took title. Rosa and her husband, Charlie, donated land for a highway and roadside park. In 1953, their son, Willis, took over the property. He and his wife, Dorothy, adopted a daughter. In 1980, Alice Genevieve (Smith) Smith, took over the land. She and her husband operate the farm today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 127

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cattle and wheat; 1989 - Wheat, cotton, alfalfa, and cattle.

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# Smith's Salt Creek Farm

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles north of Vernon on Hwy. 283

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1906	Archie Blair Parks and Mary (Hurst) Parks	Great-grandparents
1906-1953	Charlie S. and Rosa E. (Parks) Smith	Grandparents
1953-1971	James Drew and Leola Seelye (Smith) Cartwright	Parents
1971-1989	Ronald Joe and Elizabeth Anne (Johnston) Smith	

*Archie Blair and Mary (Hurst) Parks came to Texas from Tennessee after the civil war. They purchased 160 acres near Vernon, where they raised cattle and wheat. They had eight children and in 1906 their daughter, Rosa, took title. Rosa and her husband, Charlie, donated land for a highway and roadside park. In 1953 their daughter, Leola, took title to the property. She and husband, James, had no children but were the legal guardians of their nephew, Ronald Joe Smith. Ronald Joe and his wife, Elizabeth, took title to the property in 1971.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cattle and wheat; 1989 - Wheat, cotton, oats, and cattle.

# Pfluger Farm

Williamson Co.

**Location of Farm:** One-quarter mile east of Coupland on FM 1466

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1907	William and Franziska (Sternberg) Pfluger	Grandparents
1907-1978	Christian William and Louisa Pfluger	Parents
1978-1989	Christian William Jr. and Hilma Pfluger	

*William and Franziska (Sternberg) Pfluger purchased their original 800 acres in 1889. They donated land to the railroad as well as St. Peter's Church. In 1907, their son, Christian, took title to the land. He and his wife, Louisa, grew cotton, corn, and milo on the land and also raised three children. In 1978, their son, Christian William Jr., took title to the farm. He and his family produce cattle and hay on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 800 **Acres still retained:** 176  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Livestock; 1989 - Hay and cattle.

# Tumelty Ranch

Wise Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Four and one-half miles east of Decatur

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1936	Phillip and Margaret Tumelty	Grandparents
1936-1969	Owen and Beulah (Cook) Tumelty	Parents
1969-1989	Thomas and Ila Mae (Edwards) Tumelty	

*Phillip and Margaret Tumelty were both natives of Ireland. Phillip purchased 641 acres in Wise County, where he raised corn, cotton, and cattle. He and his wife, Margaret, had five children. In 1936 their son, Owen, took over the ranch. Owen and his wife, Beulah, had one child. In 1969 their son, Thomas W., took title to the land. Thomas and his wife, Ila Mae, raise cattle and hay on the property today along with their son, Owen Thomas.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 641 **Acres still retained:** 213  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Corn, cotton, and cattle; 1989 - Hay and cattle.

# Camaron Ranch

Zapata Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Fifteen miles east on Hwy. 16, then three miles south on County Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1833-Unknown	Pedro José and María (Micaela) Bustamante	Great-great-grandparents
Unknown-1888	José María and María (Crisanta) Bustamante	Great-grandparents
1888-1930	Concepción and Blasa Bustamante	Grandparents
1930-1973	Juan and Irene (Bustamante) Montalvo	Parents
1973-1989	Victoria (Bustamante) Ramirez	

*Pedro José and María Micaela Bustamante came from Mexico in 1888 after obtaining a land grant for 22,142 acres. After Pedro's death in 1946 María retained title until it passed to her son, José María. Jose Maria sold acreage to five of his sons in 1888. His son, Concepción, divided his parcel between his eleven children in 1930. His son, Juan, received 39 acres. He passed his acreage to his daughter, Victoria, in 1973. She raises livestock and hay on the ranch today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 22,142 **Acres still retained:** 39  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1833 - Livestock and crops; 1989 - Hay and livestock.

*Texas*  
*Family Land Heritage*  
*1990*



# Deer Lake Ranch

Angelina Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south of Hwy. 103, eight miles west of Lufkin

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1868-1914	Elijah Beasley	Great-grandfather
1914-1963	Jesse Absolom Beasley	Grandfather
1963-1990	Rufus Milo Beasley	Father
1963-1990	Voleta (Beasley) Waldstreicher	

*One of Elijah's sons, Joseph, was the first doctor on the west side of Angelina County and practiced medicine on the farm. Jesse built a church in Clawson and with his sons, Milo and Dewey, established the first school-house on the west side of the county. Jesse also cleared a major portion of the farm with an axe and cross-cut saw. His granddaughter, Voleta, currently raises Charolais cattle, and a log crib barn constructed over 100 years ago is used for hay storage today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 326-2/3 **Acres still retained:** 75.36

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1868 - Corn, cotton, timber, goats, and hogs; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Reck Farm

Armstrong Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Claude on FM 1151

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1892	Nicolas Reck	Great-grandfather
1892-1946	John P. Reck	Grandfather
1946-1990	John A. and Frances Reck	Father
1979-1990	Freddie Garland Reck	

*Nicolas Reck immigrated from France to escape the German reign. He settled in Armstrong County and raised cattle, horses, mules, wheat, and cane. His son, John P., was interested in civic activities and also helped to set up an oil lease in the county, but he never found oil. John raised wheat, barley, oats, cattle, horses, and mules. John A. and his son, Freddie Garland, operate the land today, raising wheat, milo, cane, and cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cattle, horses, wheat, and cane; 1990 - Cattle, wheat, milo, and cane.

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# Lott Farm

Atascosa Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles west of Poteet on Hwy. 1333

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1932	J. R. Lott	Grandfather
1932-1940	R. W. Lott	Father
1940-1990	Charles T. and Nila Lott	

*J. R. Lott raised corn, hay grazer, oats, cows, and horses on the original 274 acres. He hauled lumber and supplies from Indianola on wagon, and each trip took 30 days. He was also known as a very good saddlemaker. J. R. and his wife, Eva, had seven children, and one son, R. W., raised peanuts, strawberries, and Brangus cattle. Charles T. Lott and his wife, Nila, live on the land today, raising livestock and livestock feed.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 274 **Acres still retained:** 129.391

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle, horses, corn, hay grazer, and oats; 1990 - Livestock and livestock feed.

# Wells Ranch

Atascosa Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southeast of Lytle on FM 3175

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1909	John Alfred Wells	Grandfather
1909-1955	Rushia (Wells) Bush	Mother
1955-1990	Edward Milton Wells	

*John Alfred Wells came from Carroll County, Mississippi, to buy land and begin farming and ranching. He hand-cleared his brush land for cotton and corn fields. John Wells helped organize the Lytle State Bank, and he owned the general mercantile store. His daughter, Rushia, and her husband, Ellis Bush, raised some of the first peanuts in the county. Today, Edward Bush raises purebred Hereford cattle and registered Quarter horses. He also raises bluebonnet seeds for commercial harvest.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 220

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cotton, corn, beef cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle and horses.

# Goeke Ranch

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles west of Kenney on Rocky Road off FM 2754

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1912	Heinrich Katerbrow	Great-grandfather
1912-1917	Charles and Albertine (Katerbrow) Goeke	Grandparents
1917-1955	Herbert B. Goeke	Father
1955-1990	Mr. and Mrs. Burgess C. Goeke Roy Lee Goeke	

*Heinrich Katerbrow immigrated from Germany so he could have the opportunity to prosper in a new land. Heinrich and his wife had two daughters, Albertine and Mary. Albertine and her husband, Charles, took over operation of the land, raising corn, cotton, and a few head of cattle. They had eight children, but four died at birth. One of their sons, Herbert, raised cotton, corn, and cattle on his portion of the land, and currently his son and grandson raise cattle on 81.97 acres of the original tract.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 111 **Acres still retained:** 81.97

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Corn and cotton; 1990 - Cattle.

# Meyer Ranch

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of San Felipe

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1897	David A. Meyer	Great-uncle
1897-1951	Frank B. Meyer	Grandfather
1951-1990	Adrian F. Meyer	

*David Meyer cleared the land he bought from Annie Reneau to raise cattle, corn, and cotton. He never married and held the land for his brother, Frank, until he became an adult. Frank also raised cattle and started an active crossbreeding program. He was active in San Felipe's city government. Today, his grandson, Adrian, operates 637 acres including the original tract, and raises cattle and hay.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 114.06 **Acres still retained:** 114.06

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle, hay, corn, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle and hay.



# New Pecan Acres

Austin Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles west of Kenney on Rocky Road off FM 2754

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1912	Heinrich Katerbow	Great-great-grandfather
1912-1917	Charles and Albertine (Katerbow) Goeke	Great-grandparents
1917-1955	Herbert B. Goeke	Grandfather
1955-1970	Burgess C. Goeke	Father
1970-1990	Nolan and Elaine (Goeke) Wicker	

*After emigrating from Germany, Heinrich Katerbow bought 111 acres in Austin County from William Campbell to raise corn and cotton. A daughter, Albertine, and her husband, Charles, raised corn, cotton, cattle, and four children. One of their sons, Herbert, inherited 96 acres of the original acres, and currently his granddaughter and her husband raise hay on a portion of the original tract. They also have pecan orchards on the land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 111 **Acres still retained:** 13.55  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881- Corn and cotton; 1990 - Pecans and hay.

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# 5 Oaks

Bandera Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles north of Utopia on FM 187

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1874-1910	Gideon Thompson	Great-grandfather
1910-1931	Robert Hamilton Thompson	Grandfather
1931-1982	Johnnie Albert Thompson	Father
1982-1990	Margaret (Thompson) Langlinaia	

*Gideon Thompson, his wife, and five children came to Texas from Saline County, Arkansas, in 1852 and settled west of the Sabinal River. Thompson, two of his sons, and a friend drove 3,000 head of cattle to California, and he used the money he made to buy the land in the original tract. When Thompson would be gone for a long time, his wife, Margaret, would dress the children in black, slip out of the house at night, and go to a neighbor to get away from Indian attacks. His son, Robert, had to fight the Indians to keep his land and cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 6,000 **Acres still retained:** 156  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1874 - Cattle, goats, sheep, cotton, and corn; 1990 - Oats, horses, and sheep.

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# J. N. Mickle Ranch

Bandera Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles north of Bandera on State Hwy 173

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1931	J. N. Mickle and Anna (Jones) Mickle	Grandparents
1931-1978	Eva Dell (Mickle) Stevens	Mother
1978-1990	Anna Evelyn (Stevens) Reiningger	

*Because of the depressed conditions in North Carolina following the Civil War, J. N. Mickle and his wife, Anna, moved to Texas to start a new life. It would take him two days to drive a team of horses to San Antonio to deliver hogs and produce and bring back supplies. Anna died in 1900, leaving him four children to raise. After World War I, a daughter and her husband moved back to help J.N. manage the ranch. Today, their daughter, Anna, and her son, Louis, manage the property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 348.1 **Acres still retained:** 169  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Oats, corn, sheep, cattle, horses, and hogs; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

# Richter's Rocking A & R

Bell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles west of Temple on Hwy 36, then two and one-half miles north on Deer Ridge Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1897	Christopher Wilhelm	Great-grandfather
1897-1943	Otto Wilhelm	Grandfather
1943-1969	Louis Paul and Ida (Wilhelm) Richter	Parents
1969-1990	Aubrey and Dorothy Richter	

*Christopher Wilhelm left Germany so he could have the opportunity to worship freely. He settled in Central Texas and cleared the land with hand tools he had made. The log barn he built is still used today to store hay and the granary is used to store wheat and oat seed. His son, Otto, added three rooms and a porch to the original log cabin, where the current owner's mother, Ida (Wilhelm) Richter, lived until her death in 1985. The current owners have built a water way and tanks for conserving water.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 193 **Acres still retained:** 193

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Corn, cattle, cotton, oats, and hogs; 1990 - Wheat, oats, and crossbred cattle.

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# W. P. Hendrick Homeplace

Bell Co.

**Location of Farm:** One-half mile east of Rogers on FM 2184

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1937	William Peter Hendrick	Grandfather
1937-1990	Margaret Lucille (Hendrick) Ward	

*William Peter Hendrick came with his parents from Butler County, Alabama, when he was six months old. His father bought cattle in Texas for the Confederate Army, and when the war was over, he decided to move his family to Central Texas. William Hendrick cleared his land and was one of the first farmers to grow red top cane. His conservation practices yielded two bales of cotton per acre for many years. He added several hundred acres over the years, but he willed the original tract to his granddaughter, Margaret (Hendrick) Ward.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 145.511 **Acres still retained:** 145.511

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, corn, maize, cane, and cattle; 1990 - Coastal Bermuda grass and cattle.

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# Zady Oaks Farm

Bell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three-fourths mile east of Taylor Valley Church on Hwy 93

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1859-1924	E. T. Reed	Grandfather
1924-1962	Charles O. "Connor" Reed	Father
1962-1990	Charles O. Reed Jr.	

*E. T. Reed and his wife, Melinda, came from Mississippi and settled in Bell County. The beef cattle grazed on the prairie grass, and he raised cotton as a cash crop. His son, Connor, inherited part of the original property and survived boll weevils, cotton root rot, and the depression decade of the 1930s. The 1930s also brought electricity to the farm. Charles O. Reed Jr. operates 20 acres from the original tract today, raising corn, wheat, grain sorghum, and registered Quarter horses.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 298 **Acres still retained:** 20

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1859 - Cattle and cotton; 1990 - Corn, wheat, and grain sorghum.

# Watson Ranch

Bexar Co.

**Location of Farm:** Along the Medina River south of San Antonio on Neal Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1927	John and Margaret Jane Watson	Grandparents
1927-1960	Ralph Septimus Watson	Father
1960-1990	Margaret Clara (Watson) Condra	

*John Watson and his wife, Margaret, were both born in England. John traveled to India as a tailor for the British soldiers, and later they both settled in Penn's Manor, Pennsylvania, before coming to Texas. Their youngest son, Ralph, was born in the family home on the bluffs overlooking the Medina River. Ralph and his oldest brother, John, were partners and operated parts of the homestead after the death of their father. They bred, broke, and trained horses and mules, and their blood line of Paint horses was known across the state.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 665 **Acres still retained:** 239

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle, corn, oats, and hay; 1990 - Polled Herefords, hay, oats, and pecans.

# Bryant-Prause Ranch

Bosque Co.

**Location of Farm:** Nine miles northeast of Valley Mills and two miles west of FM 2490

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1934	Emma Leticia (Culp) Butler Bryant	Grandmother
1934-1990	Vera Earl (Bryant) Prause	Mother
1966-1990	Sammy Neiland Prause	

*After Emma's father was killed during the Civil War, her mother left Missouri bringing her young family to Texas by wagon train. Emma's first husband, Thomas Rusk Butler, was killed by a wild horse, and she and her two daughters paid off the indebtedness on the property. She later married a music teacher, Madison Earl Bryant. Mr. Bryant was also a blacksmith and made many of his tools. Vera's husband, "Dutch," helped organize the Waco branch of the Production Credit Association and received the association's first loan.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 231 **Acres still retained:** 162

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, horses, corn, wheat, and oats; 1990 - Cattle and chickens.

# Santa Paula Ranch

Bosque Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Meridian on Hwy 22

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1896	Sidney Maxwell Carruth	Great-grandfather
1896-1926	Susan La Vina (Greer) Carruth	Grandmother
1926-1961	Paul Carruth	Father
1961-1990	Paula (Carruth) Croxton	

*Sidney Maxwell Carruth was a major in the Confederacy and member of the Alabama Legislature. After the Civil War, fearing for his family's safety, Sidney moved his family to Texas by wagon train. Paul Carruth and his brother, Cecil, owned the first frozen concentrate citrus juice plant in Texas. They also built a feed mill at the plant site to manufacture livestock feed from citrus hulls.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 853 **Acres still retained:** 853

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Livestock; 1990 - Cattle, goats, and pecans.

# Christian Stumpp Farm

Brown Co.

**Location of Farm:** Southwest of Brownwood on FM 1849 at Whisky Hollow Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1905	Christian Stumpp	Grandfather
1905-1978	Amelai (Stumpp) Norton	Mother
1978-1990	Russell D. Norton	

*Christian Stumpp, his wife, Gertrude, and 11 other families left St. Louis, Missouri, and traveled by riverboat to New Orleans. They took a train to Round Rock and then an ox wagon to Brown County. They cleared their land and raised cotton and corn, which they hauled to Round Rock or Fort Worth to sell. Christian helped build schools and churches in the area, and one of his daughters, Sophie, owned and operated the Brownwood hospital.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 80  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and sheep; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Locks Farm

Brown Co.

**Location of Farm:** Southeast of Brownwood on the Pecan Bayou River

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1916	Edward Alfred Locks	Grandfather
1916-1967	Phillip Locks	Father
1967-1990	Robert Osborn Locks	

*Edward Locks bought 160 acres of the James Bennett Patent in 1880. He cut trees on his new property one year, and the following year he pulled the stumps to clear the land. He used a fire pit to heat stones to get them soft enough to crush into a powder. He used the powder to lime his fields. He also dug ponds with a team of horses. Today, his grandson, Robert, continues making improvements on the property by planting improved grasses and by establishing a family orchard and garden.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 58.735  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Horses, cattle, and poultry; 1990 - Cattle, improved grasses, and an orchard.

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# Pierce Farm

Brown Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles north of Brownwood on County Road 372

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1906	John A. Pierce	Great-grandfather
1906-1952	W. D. Pierce	Grandfather
1952-1979	W. D. Pierce Jr.	Father
1979-1990	Jerry E. Pierce	

*Before the Civil War, Benjamin Pierce, his wife, Sarah (Black) Pierce, and their seven children traveled by raft down the Cumberland River from Jamestown, Kentucky, to Missouri. When the war started, the family moved to Arkansas. After the war, two of their sons, John and James, moved to Texas, and John bought 160 acres in Brown County. John's son and grandson raised wheat, oats and cattle on the land, and today his great-grandson raises wheat and cattle on 160 acres of the original property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton and wheat; 1990 - Cattle and wheat.

# Rushing Ranch

Brown Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles northeast of Zephyr at the end of County Road 297

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1937	Joseph F. Parson	Grandfather
1937-1955	Eula B. Parson	Aunt
1955-1990	Doyle J. Rushing	

*Because of his father's health, Joseph Parson's parents moved from Kentucky to Wise County in 1858. Parson bought the land in 1888 and raised cotton, grain, and beef cattle. He and his wife, Elmina Jane, had 11 children, but two died before they were grown. One of his daughters, Eula B., inherited the land and raised grain, turkeys, eggs, and beef cattle. She never married, and her nephew, Doyle, is the current owner of the property. He has terraced the fields and built stock ponds for his beef cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 66.67 **Acres still retained:** 58.33

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, beef cattle, eggs, and grain; 1990 - Beef cattle, hay, and grain.

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# Clara Struwe Ray Ranch

Burleson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles west of Caldwell on County Road 108

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1927	Carl Wilhelm Freiderich Windel	Great-grandfather
1927-1928	Dorothea (Zander) Windel	Great-grandmother
1928-1944	Annie (Windel) Buch	Great-aunt
1928-1948	Itha (Windel) Struwe Pohl	Grandmother
1944-1946	Fred Buch	Second cousin
1946-1975	Lee Roy Struwe	Father
1975-1980	Lillie Mae Struwe	Mother
1980-1990	Clara Mae (Struwe) Ray	

*Carl Windel came to America from Germany looking for better opportunities. He worked his way across the country to Texas. He was a soldier, cowpuncher, farmer, rancher, businessman, world traveler, and adventurer. He bought and sold cattle and increased his land holdings in Burleson County. After the United States entered World War I, German was not allowed to be spoken inside the Windel house, although friends and family could converse in German on the porch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,166 **Acres still retained:** 205.826

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1980 - Cotton, corn, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle and Coastal Bermuda grass.

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# Polansky Ranch

Burleson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles southeast of Caldwell on FM 976

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1912	John and Rosina Machovsky	Great-grandparents
1912-1939	Anna (Machovsky) Polansky	Grandmother
1939-1976	John A. Polansky	Father
1976-1990	Polansky Ranch Partnership (seven children)	

*John and Rosina Machovsky came to Texas from Czechoslovakia for freedom and economic opportunities. This land was originally part of Stephen F. Austin's grant. An oil well was drilled in 1930, with no results, but Anna's husband, Adolph, insisted there was oil. He was right, and in 1980 oil was found in Austin Chalk drilling. The seven great-grandchildren of the founders now share ownership of the property, on which three of the sisters and their husbands live.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cattle, chickens, corn, and vegetables; 1990 - Cattle and vegetables.

# Magee Ranch

Caldwell Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles east of Lockhart on FM 713

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1934	James and Sarah Magee	Grandfather
1934-1980	James Austin Magee	Uncle
1980-1990	Garlon and Jewel Alexander	

*James and Sarah Magee came from Panola County, Mississippi. They cleared timber, built their house and barn, and raised cotton, grain, and livestock. They also helped build and support the community's school and church. Their son, James Austin, built a new house on the property after the original one burned. Today, their grandson raises cattle on the original tract of land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 50 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, grains, dairy cattle, and hogs; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Brightwell Ranch

Callahan Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty miles south of Baird Hwy. 283, three miles east of Pecan Bayou

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1880-1883	J. P. Brightwell	Great-grandfather
1883-1955	W.P Brightwell	Grandfather
1955-1988	B.L. Brightwell	Mother
1988-1990	Nancy (Newcomb) Young	

*It is not known where J.P. Brightwell lived before coming to Texas. He and his wife, Mary Gilliland, acquired land to establish a ranch and raised four children. The eldest son, William Pleasant, founded the Citizen's State Bank of Cross Plains. Upon his death his wife, Mary Virginia, their daughter, Berna Louise, inherited and operated the ranch. The present owners are actively engaged in farming and ranching.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,214.2 **Acres still retained:** 845

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1880 - Cattle and feed; 1990 - Commercial cattle, Quarter horses, and wheat.

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# Orive Ranch

Cameron Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles east of Brownsville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1872-1934	Atenojenes Orive	Great-grandfather
1934-1974	Atenojenes Orive Jr.	Grandfather
1974-1986	Daniel G. Orive	

*Atenojenes Orive's ranch was a small community with about 30 families living on the land. One of fourteen children, Atenojenes Jr., acquired the ranch in 1934 and farmed it year-round. Part of the land owned by the current owner is the site of the last battle of the Civil War. During 1976, a re-enactment of the Civil War was held on the ranch. Horses were raised on the ranch until 1986, at which time the Orive Ranch returned to cattle raising.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 7,226 **Acres still retained:** 88

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1872 - Cotton and vegetables; 1990 - Sorghum and cotton.

# James Barrier Cattle Ranch

Camp Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Pittsburg on Cypress Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1858	Nancy (Beard) Stovall Bell	Great-grandmother
1858-1862	John Zachary Bell	Great-grandfather
1862-1935	William Franklin Bell	Grandfather
1935-1988	Eva Rose (Bell) Barrier	Mother
1988-1990	James Arnold Barrier	

*Nancy Bell purchased 320 acres in January 1857. Her husband, John Zachary, fought the Civil War and died a prisoner-of-war. William was a school trustee in the 1900s and raised cattle and timber. The current owner, James Arnold Barrier, continues to raise timber and livestock on the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 17.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Vegetables, cotton, sugarcane, sorghum, cattle, and hay; 1986 - Cattle and timber.

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# Bell Farm

Camp Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Pittsburg on Cypress Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1858	Nancy (Beard) Stovall Bell	Grandmother
1858-1862	John Zachary Bell	Grandfather
1862-1935	William Franklin Bell	Father
1935-1990	Henry T. Bell	

*Henry T., the current owner, is one of William Franklin Bell's nine children and grandson of the founders of the Bell Ranch. The original land was divided by Big Cypress Creek. Henry T. has added more than 500 acres to the ranch that was founded in 1857 and operates an approximately 80-head cow and calf ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 16-2/3

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Vegetables, sugarcane, sorghum, cotton, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

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# Rainbow End Farm

Camp Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Pittsburg on Cypress Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1858	Nancy (Beard) Stovall Bell	Grandmother
1858-1862	John Zachary Bell	Grandfather
1862-1935	William Franklin Bell	Father
1935-1974	Alice Bell Stacy	Sister
1974-1990	Dorothy Mae Winger	

*The Rainbow End Farm is part of the original Bell Ranch founded by Nancy and John Bell. Nancy Bell purchased 320 acres in January 1857. Her husband, John Zachary, died a prisoner-of-war during the Civil War.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 33.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Vegetables, sugarcane, sorghum, cotton, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

# Shepherd Farm

Camp Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Pittsburg on Cypress Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1858	Nancy (Beard) Stovall Bell	Great grandmother
1858-1862	John Zachary Bell	Great grandfather
1862-1935	William Franklin Bell	Grandfather
1935-1981	Benjamin Franklin Bell	Uncle
1981-1990	Janet Trinka (Winger) Shepherd	

*Nancy Bell, who came from Tennessee, was a widow after her husband, John Zachary, died in the Civil War. She bought 320 acres of land with \$400 in gold. She was buried on the farm but was moved to Edwards Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant when lake Bob Sandlin was built. Her son, William Franklin, was a school trustee. He and his wife, Sarah (Wright), had 13 children. This portion is owned by a great-granddaughter of Nancy.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 21

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Vegetables, sugarcane, sorghum, cotton, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

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# Stacy-Bell Farm

Camp Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles north of Pittsburg on Cypress Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1858	Nancy (Beard) Stovall Bell	Great-grandmother
1858-1862	John Zachary Bell	Great-grandfather
1862-1935	William Franklin Bell	Grandfather
1935-1985	Alice (Bell) Stacy	Mother
1985-1990	Betty Jane Womack	

*The Stacy-Bell Farm is part of the original Bell Ranch founded by Nancy and John Bell purchased in January 1857. Some of the land was in Titus County, which built Lake Bob Sandlin. It is managed by a cousin of the present owner, James Barrier. Mrs. Stacy still lives with her daughter on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 15

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Vegetables, cotton, sugarcane, sorghum, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Greenberry Jenkins Farm

Cherokee Co.

**Location of Farm:** About five and one-half miles northeast of Rusk

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1850-1889	Greenberry Jenkins	Grandfather
1889-1942	Sidney Adolphas Jenkins	Father
1942-1990	Lonnie Adolphas Jenkins and Bertha Jenkins	

*Greenberry Jenkins came to Texas from South Carolina. He was a strong supporter of his community and organized a church in the area. During the Depression, Sidney Jenkins worked hard to hold on to the legacy of his father. Today, the farm is operated by Lonnie. Bertha Jenkins, widow of Lonnie's brother, lives on the farm with her daughter and her son-in-law.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 152.37

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1850 - Cotton, maize, corn, sorghum, tobacco, timber, vegetables, cattle, and other livestock; 1990 - Hay and timber.



# Flinn Ranch

Clay Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles southeast of Vashti

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1958	B.F. Burks	Grandfather
1958-1981	Clara B. Flinn	Mother
1981-1990	J. Houston Flinn	

*B.F. Burks came to Texas from Tennessee to pursue ranching. He dug a well on his ranch so travelers could water their livestock. Daughter Clara and her husband, Thomas Flinn, continued to raise cattle and hay. The present owner operates the ranch and has built tanks, controlled mesquite trees and re-seeded grassland.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 143 **Acres still retained:** 143

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Hay, grass, truck crops, and beef cattle; 1990 - Livestock.

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# C.D. Stewart Farm

Coke Co.

**Location of Farm:** One and one-half miles north of Edith

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1957	Nathan Loranza Stewart	Grandfather
1957-1976	Marvin R. and May Stewart	Parents
1976-1990	Alva Gene Saufley, Donald and Harvey Stewart	

*Nathan Stewart came to Texas from Missouri to escape the devastation of the Civil War. He and his brother had the first cultivated "patches" in the Edith section of Coke County. Marvin root-plowed and seeded the farm as permanent pasture and raised cattle. The five children of Marvin Stewart own the farm today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton and sheep; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Rahlwes Ranch

Colorado Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Two and one-half miles south of Weimar on FM 242

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1919	Wilhelm and Marie (Schwede) Rahlwes	Grandparents
1919-1959	Wilhelm and Lenora (Engels) Rahlwes	Parents
1959-1990	Otto and Alice Rahlwes	

*Wilhelm Rahlwes came to Texas from Germany after an accident at sea that left him deaf. Unable to pursue his chosen career as a freighter captain, he came to Texas in search of land. He and wife, Marie, purchased 125 acres near the Weimar community. They had eight children, and in 1919 their son, Wilhelm Jr., purchased 98 acres from his father. He and his wife, Lenora, raised three children. Beginning in 1959 their son, Otto, began to acquire the land. Otto and his wife, Alice, raise cattle and hay grazer on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 125 **Acres still retained:** 33

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Livestock, corn, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle and hay grazer.

# Seaborn B. Walker Ranch

Colorado Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seven miles southwest of Columbus on Skull Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1851-1921	Seaborn B. and Susan A. Walker	Great-grandparents
1921-1948	Alfred L. and Josie Walker	Grandparents
1948-1989	Will A. and Elizabeth Walker	Parents
1989-1990	Paul A. and Melba (Walker) Hattermann	

*Seaborn and Susan A. Walker came to Texas in 1850. In 1851, they purchased 111 acres and became some of the earliest settlers in Colorado County. The couple had seven children, and in 1921 their son, Alfred, took title. He and his wife, Josie, raised cattle, cotton, and corn and had six children. In 1948, their son, Will, became owner and continued to raise the same crops. He and his wife, Elizabeth, had seven children and in 1989 title to all 111 acres passed to their daughter, Melba. She and husband Paul own the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 111 **Acres still retained:** 111

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1851 - Cattle, corn, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle and feed.

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# MacDonough Farm

Comanche Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of the Energy community

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1902	Andrew and Hannah Shockley	Grandparents
1902-1965	MacDonough and Willie Caroline (Mueller) Miller	Parents
1965-1990	Leslie Miller	

*A native of West Virginia, Andrew Shockley came to Texas in 1881 and acquired title to 160 acres near the Energy community. Andrew was a founding member of the Hamilton Presbyterian Church and a member of the Ranger Company which protected the community from Indians. Andrew and his wife, Hannah, had seven children, and in 1902 their son, MacDonough, took title. He and wife, Willie, had five boys, and in 1965 their son, Leslie, became owner of the property. Leslie raises Brangus cattle on the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle, sheep, and horses; 1990 - Brangus cattle.

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# Circle C Ranch

Cooke Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles southeast of Gainesville and one mile south of FM 902

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1923	A.G.W. and Sara Frances Cox	Great-grandparents
1923-1963	Abraham and Agnes Cox	Grandparents
1963-1986	Ralph Jordan and Vera Alma Cox	Parents
1986-1990	Billy Vernon and Sheila Cox	

*A.G.W. Cox, a native of Tennessee, came to Texas in 1877 looking for land and purchased 69 acres in Cooke County. He and wife, Sara, had 12 children and were very active in the community. Their son, Abraham, took title along with his wife, Agnes, in 1923. They were able to add more than 800 acres to the property. In 1963 their son, Ralph Jordan, took title. Ralph served as deacon of the Mount Zion church for 50 years. In 1986, Billy, the son of Ralph and Vera, took title. He and his wife, Sheila, run the ranch today with their daughter.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 69 **Acres still retained:** 10

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Cattle, cotton, and corn; 1990 - Horses and vegetables.

# Trautwein Ranch

DeWitt Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine miles south of Cuero on Hwy 77A/183

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1865-1915	William and Johanna (Mueller) Trautwein	Great-grandparents
1915-1925	Johanna (Mueller) Trautwein	Great-grandmother
1925-1960	Albert Felix and Susie R. Trautwein	Grandparents
1960-1975	William R. Trautwein and Albert J. Trautwein	Father/uncle
1975-1990	Verlin Joseph and Colleen (Luker) Trautwein	

*William Trautwein moved to Texas from Germany in search of better living conditions. In 1865, he purchased 136 acres where he raised cotton, vegetables, and cattle. He had two children with his first wife and two with his second wife, Johanna. After William's death, Johanna ran the farm until title passed to her son, Albert, and his wife, Susie, in 1925. In 1960, the property went to Albert's children, William and Albert. William's son, Verlin Joseph, began to acquire title in 1975, and today with his wife, Colleen, raises cattle on the family property.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 136 **Acres still retained:** 129

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1865 - Cattle, vegetables, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Hittson Ranch

Eastland Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Four and one-half miles northwest of Cisco, north of state Highway 6

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1934	William T. and Minnie Hittson	Grandparents
1934-1964	G.M and Lillian (Hittson) Stephenson	Parents
1964-1984	Jack and Fay Stephenson	Husband
1984-1990	Fay Stephenson	

*William T. Hittson purchased his original 320 acres in 1888. He was the founder and deacon of the First Baptist Church of Cisco. William and his wife, Minnie, had four children, and in 1934 William's daughter, Lillian, acquired title along with her husband, G.M. Their son, Jack, took title in 1964 with his wife, Fay. After Jack's death, in 1984, Fay took title to the property. Her son, Charles, raises cattle on the property today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle, wheat, corn, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Everett Farm

Ellis Co.

**Location of Farm:** FM 878/Ebenezer Road two miles west of Palmer

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1897	W.L. and Jane A. Hancock	Great-grandparents
1897-1945	J.L. and Sallie (Hancock) Everett	Grandparents
1945-1990	N.L. and LaVerne (Hays) Everett	Parents
1990-1990	John and Sandra Everett	

*W.L. Hancock came to Texas with his family from Tennessee in 1861. He purchased 187 acres in 1881 where he raised cattle and cotton. He and his wife, Jane, had three children. In 1897, their daughter, Sallie, along with husband, Dr. J.L. Everett, obtained title to the farm. In 1945, their son, N.L., took title along with his wife, LaVerne. N.L. was one of the first in the area to use terracing for erosion control. In 1990, their son, John, and his wife, Sandra, took over the property. Today they raise Polled Herefords and Suffolk sheep on the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 187 **Acres still retained:** 96

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton and cattle; 1990 - Polled Herefords and Suffolk sheep.

# Century Farms

Falls Co.

**Location of Farm:** Near Mooreville community on the Cow Bayou Pedro Zarza Lead Right Survey

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1889	Peter and Minnie (Huf) Gummelt	Grandparents
1889-1952	Peter and Minna (Eschstruth) Gummelt	Grandparents
1952-1990	Vernon Alfred and Bobbie Jean Hansen	

*Peter Gummelt came to America from Prussia seeking economic and social opportunity. After the death of his first wife, Minnie (Huf), he married Minna Eschstruth. Peter had nine children with his first wife and 12 with his second. After his death in 1927, Minna retained title and ran the farm with help from the rest of the family. In 1952 a grandson of Peter, Vernon, was deeded 108 acres by his grandmother, Minna, who remarried after Peter's death. Vernon raises various crops and cattle with the help of his wife, Bobbie Jean.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 146 **Acres still retained:** 108

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cotton, corn, feed, and cattle; 1990 - Cattle and crops.

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# Grohmann Brothers Ranch

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three and one-half miles north of Weimar on FM 155

<i>Dates of Ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1906	Ferdinand and Anna Grohmann	Great-grandparents
1906-1936	Emil and Louisa Grohmann	Grandparents
1936-1978	Steve and Elsie Grohmann	Parents
1978-1990	Eugene and Billie Grohmann, Marvin and Thelma Grohmann	

*Ferdinand and Anna Grohmann left Germany in search of a better life and purchased 369 acres near the Weimar community. The couple had five children and in 1906 their son, Emil, took title to 123 acres with his wife, Louisa. Their son, Steve, and his wife, Elsie, acquired title in 1936. Steve built a stock pond and added terracing to the land. They had two children, and in 1978 their sons, Eugene and Marvin, took over the property where they raise Coastal Bermuda grass and cattle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 369 **Acres still retained:** 60

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, sugar, and livestock; 1990 - Cattle and grass.

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# Hoehne Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eighteen miles southwest of LaGrange on FM 362

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1897	Franz Nollkamper	Great-uncle
1897-1947	Louis Nollkamper	Uncle
1947-1978	Lillie Stoever and Edwin Hoehne	Parents
1978-1990	Virginia M. (Hoehne) Klause, Junell B. (Hoehne) Getschmann, and Lawrence C. Hoehne	

*Franz Nollkamper was a native of Prussia. He purchased 523 acres near LaGrange where he and his wife, Catharina, raised nine children. Their son, Louis, took over the farm in 1897. He and his wife, Metha, had no children, but they did raise a niece, Lillie, as if she were their daughter. In 1947 Lillie took title to the property. She and her husband, Edwin, made many improvements to the farm including stock ponds. Today the land is shared by the three children of Lillie and Edwin, Virginia, Junell and Lawrence.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 523 **Acres still retained:** 126

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Cotton, corn, and livestock; 1990 - Corn, grass, and cattle.

# Kleihege Ranch

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles southeast of Flatonia

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1924	Michael and Frances Okruhlik	Grandparents
1924-1969	Joseph V. and Anna Okruhlik	Parents
1969-1990	Regina Okruhlik Kleihege	

*Michael and Frances Okruhlik bought 290 acres from John Hajek on May 29, 1890. The couple had eight children: John J., Felix, Rudoff, Joseph V., Rosie, Monica, Cyprain, and Eustacia. Joseph inherited the land on Dec. 9, 1924. Joseph built a new home in 1926, along with a new barn and other buildings. Joseph also terraced his cropland and cleared brush to allow for better grazing in his pastures.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 290 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Livestock, cotton, corn, and hay; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

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# Knape and Knape Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seven miles south of LaGrange

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1920	Fritz and Gottlieb Knape	Grandfather, great-grandfather, great-uncle
1920-1946	Henry Knape	Uncle, great-uncle
1920-1975	Gus Knape	Father, grandfather
1920-1978	Emil Knape	Uncle, great-uncle
1946-1990	Eldon Knape Sr.	
1979-1990	Rosalyn (Knape) Altman	
1988-1990	Eldon Knape Jr.	

*Brothers Fritz and Gottlieb Knape were born in Germany. They bought 294 acres from Friedrich Karcher in January 1885. Gottlieb Knape built a home on the acreage and several generations have lived in this house. Fritz Knape helped build and organize a church at Swiss Alp, Schulenburg. Fritz married Julia, and the couple had five children: Gus, Emil, Henry, Louis, and Frank.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 294 **Acres still retained:** 178.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Livestock, cotton, corn, and hay; 1990 - Livestock, corn, Coastal Bermuda grass and hay.

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# Schlabach Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Seven miles east of Round Top on County Road 222

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1870-1894	Alexander Schlabach	Great-grandfather
1894-1919	Friederich Schlabach	Grandfather
1919-1968	Benno Schlabach	Father
1968-1990	Leroy Schlabach	

*Alexander Schlabach was born in Germany. He bought 137 acres from J.T. Penick on Jan. 1, 1870. He married Elise Hassler and the couple had nine children. They were Eliza, Alexander Jr., Catharine, Friederich, Wilhelm, Sophia, Heinrich, and Therese. On Dec. 20, 1894, Friederich inherited 223 acres. He added rooms to an old slave house to make the farmhouse, which is still standing.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 137 **Acres still retained:** 137

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1870 - Cattle, cotton, and corn; 1990 - Cattle, swine, corn, wheat, and hay.

# Treybig Farm

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six miles north of Fayetteville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1911	Friederick Treybig	Grandfather
1911-1973	Emil Treybig	Father
1973-1990	Elton Treybig	

*German native Friederick Treybig came to Texas so he could own more land to farm. Treybig never owned a slave and was opposed to slavery. Nevertheless, he was conscripted by the Confederacy and required to fight in the Civil War. Treybig worked to establish schools in his community, supported his church, and worked with his neighbors for a better community. Treybig and his wife, Katherine, had 10 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 450 **Acres still retained:** 52

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cattle, horses, mules, hogs, cotton, corn, and hay; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

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# Weinart Grohmann Ranch

Fayette Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three and one-half miles north of Weimar on FM 155

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1906	Ferdinand and Anna Grohmann	Great-grandfather
1906-1936	Emil and Louise Grohmann	Grandfather
1936-1976	Albert E. and Emma Grohmann	Father
1976-1990	Weinart A. Grohmann	

*Ferdinand and Anna Grohmann were born in Germany, but left to make a better living in Texas. The couple bought 369 acres in 1890 from S.W. Hancock. To improve his farm, Grohmann hauled manure from town to his land. The Grohmanns had five children: Mary, Ferdinand Jr., Emil, Albert, and Joe. On Dec. 19, 1906, Emil Grohmann inherited 123 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 369 **Acres still retained:** 53.48

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cattle, horses, mules, cotton, corn, grain sorghum, and sugarcane; 1990 - Cattle and Coastal Bermuda grass.

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# Merrell Homeplace

Floyd Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Eighteen miles north and 11 miles east of Floydada

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1934	David Alexander and Mary Frances (Edwards) Merrell	Great-grandfather
1934-1973	Warren Wade Merrell	Grandfather
1973-1982	Trudie Frances (Merrell) Taylor	Mother, sister, aunt
1982-1990	Virginia Faye Taylor, Richard T. Merrell, Dexter L. Merrell, Lola Jane Pigg, Betty Ruth Wood, Katie Gwen Pierce, Jeffrey L. Taylor, Johnny P. Taylor, Mark W. Merrell, and Lena Kay Merrell	

*David Alexander Merrell was born in Lewis County, Missouri, but came to Texas to get away from "carpetbaggers" after the Civil War. The Merrell family boarded teachers at their home, and school was held upstairs for the Merrell children and for neighbor children. Mary Frances gave right-of-way to the railroad. In 1927, the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad tracks were laid across Merrell land and greatly improved access to markets for the county. The Merrells had 11 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Hereford cattle and hay; 1990 - Cattle and grass.

# David Crockett Ezell Farm

Freestone Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles north of Buffalo on old State Highway 75

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1932	David Crockett Ezell	Father
1932-1990	Edward Haynie Ezell	

*David Crockett Ezell, born in Hardin County, Tennessee, moved to Texas as a two-year-old in 1854 with his father, Edward Ezell. He lived on his father's land in Luna until he was an adult. He raised eight sons and a daughter. His son, Edward Haynie, still owns the property, residing there with his son, James Edward.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 84 **Acres still retained:** 50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cattle, horses, and peaches; 1990 - Watermelons and cattle.

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# Adolph Evers Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Thirteen miles northwest of Doss on Salt Branch Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Names</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1860-1906	Ludwig Evers	Great-grandfather
1906-1957	Adolph Evers Sr.	Grandfather
1957-1974	Adolph George Carl Evers Jr.	Father
1974-1990	Doris Jane (Evers) Eckert	

*Born in Germany, 18-year-old Ludwig Evers landed at Indianola with his parents in 1852 and found work as a freight hauler from San Antonio to Fort McKavett. In 1855 he was shot with an Indian arrow after a day's work and was left for dead. Horseless, he walked home and was taken to a San Antonio Hospital. He survived and married Pauline Itz, also from Germany, in 1857. The couple had eight children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,140.5 **Acres still retained:** 365

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1860 - Sheep and cattle; 1990 - Brangus cattle and small grains.

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# Arlitt Farm

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles southeast of Fredericksburg

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1914	Carl Priess	Grandfather
1914-1971	Charles Priess	Father
1971-1990	Ruby (Priess) Arlitt	

*Carl Priess left East Germany to avoid the draft and to find a better life. He used a horse-drawn threshing machine on the farm to thresh his and his neighbor's grain. He and his wife, Louise, had seven children. Their son, Charles, was one of the first people in the community to buy an engine-powered threshing machine. The current owner terraces her land to prevent soil erosion.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 150

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Wheat, oats, corn, cotton, cattle, sheep, and horses; 1990 - Wheat, oats, maize, peaches, and sheep.

## C-Bar Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three-fourths mile north of FM 1323 on Althaus-Davis Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1884-1900	Christian Althaus	Great-grandfather-in-law
1900-1944	Charles Althaus	Grandfather-in-law
1944-1981	Marlin Ernst Althaus	Father-in-law
1981-1987	Marlin Clinton Althaus	Husband
1987-1990	Priscilla Lou (Stinnett) Althaus	

*Christian Althaus emigrated from Westphalia, Germany. An itinerant physician, he practiced in San Saba, Llano and Bandera, treating Indians, friends and neighbors. Dr. Althaus, a Fredericksburg settler, saw the Vereins Kirche cornerstone laid in 1847. He bought land that became the C-Bar Ranch for his sons in 1884.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 80 **Acres still retained:** 80  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1884 - Cattle; 1990 - Angus cattle.

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## Koennecke Ranch

Gillespie Co.

**Location of Farm:** Thirteen miles northeast of Fredericksburg on FM 163

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1859-1891	Charles Koennecke	Great uncle
1891-1917	Friedrich Koennecke	Grandfather
1917-1952	Eugene Koennecke	Father
1952-1990	Chester Koennecke Ralph Koennecke	

*Unable to conform to the many changes in the tailoring industry during the industrial revolution in Prussia, Charles Koennecke came to Texas and acquired land for a ranch. His nephew, Fredrich, acquired the ranch and began to grow grain. In 1917, Eugene added sheep to the ranch. Chester Koennecke and his son, Ralph, are the current owners.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 34.5  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1859 - Cattle; 1990 - Cattle and grain.

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## Flying K Ranch

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of Dewville on County Road 121

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1950	Clemens W. Littlefield	Grandfather
1950-1964	Linnie Vernon Key	Mother
1964-1990	Eugene Key	

*A native Texan, Clemens W. Littlefield kept up on the latest in agriculture from the USDA and used improved seeds for crops and crossbred cattle and horses to improve size and quality. Daughter Linnie was very active in school, church, and county programs. The Flying K is currently operated by Eugene Key, grandson of the founder. A log bath built in 1853 is still in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 425 **Acres still retained:** 310  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Corn, hay, cotton, grape vineyard, horses, cattle, and fruit orchard; 1990 - Brahman, Hereford, Black Angus cattle, and grasses.



## Key Ranch

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of Dewville on County Road 121

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1950	Clemens W. Littlefield	Grandfather
1950-1964	Linnie (Vernon) Key	Mother
1964-1990	Eugene Key	

*The Key Ranch, part of the original land acquired by Clemens Littlefield, is located next to the Flying K Ranch and is operated by Eugene Key. Eugene's mother, Linnie (Vernon) Key, was in charge of relief programs during the Depression. Active in local politics, she was a school teacher and school trustee. Her son is active in church, school, politics, community, and the Gonzales County Historical Society.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 425 **Acres still retained:** 310

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Corn, hay, grape vineyard, horses, cattle, and fruit orchard; 1990 - Brahman, Hereford, Black Angus cattle and grasses.

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## Moore Ranch

Gonzales Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles northeast of the City of Gonzales on Hwy. 304

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1933	Walter Pierce and Sallie E. Gunn	Great-grandparents
1933-1952	Beulah (Gunn) Moore	Grandmother
1952-1970	Idella (Moore) Cook and Morris Gunn Moore	Mother, uncle
1970-1990	Rita (Cook) Anderson and Susan (Cook) Eaker	

*The Gunns came to Texas from North Carolina as children. They purchased land gradually while clearing land for others. Beulah Gunn Moore inherited 666 acres in 1952 and produced cattle, corn, and cotton with her husband, James. In 1952, the ownership of the ranch passed to the children of Beulah and today is under the direct management of the great-granddaughters of the founders.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 2,110 **Acres still retained:** 42

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cattle; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

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## Foster Farm

Grayson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles north of Whitesboro on Hwy. 377

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1934	Elbert J. and Mary M. Foster	Grandfather
1934-1958	James H. Foster	Father
1958-1990	Ruth (Foster) Pike	

*The Fosters came to Texas from South Carolina. They bought a general store building and converted it into a dwelling. They also helped build the Baptist church in the community, which stands today. Son James built fences and stock ponds on the farm, cleared timber and tilled the land for more crops. The farm is operated by the granddaughter of the founder, Ruth Pike, and her son and grandson.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 105 **Acres still retained:** 105

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, oats, cattle, and hay; 1986 - Beef cattle and hay.

# Augusta and Louis Nitsch Ranch

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles southwest on Capote Rd FM 466

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1956	Theresia and Otto Nitsch	Grandparents
1956-1987	Louis and Augusta Nitsch	Parents
1987-1990	Joan (Nitsch) Korenek and Patrick A. Nitsch	

*Theresia and Otto Nitsch came to Texas from Germany. They founded the St. James Catholic Church in their German settlement. Louis, one of Theresia and Otto Nitsch's nine children, inherited 108 acres. He incorporated soil conservation practices and cooperated with the Guadalupe River Authority to conserve river banks.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 358.5 **Acres still retained:** 108

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, milo, hay, pecans, horses, and cattle; 1990 - Wheat, milo, corn, oats, and hay.

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# Wood Ranch

Guadalupe Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty miles northeast of Seguin on FM 1150

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1897	Robert Thomas and Laura (Wood) Nixon	Grandparents
1897-1971	Beula V. (Nixon) Wood	Mother
1971-1990	Gerald Gene Wood	

*The Nixons came to Texas from North Carolina to seek a better future and fortune. They built a log cabin and a school in the community of Old Nixon. The farm passed to Beula (Nixon) Wood, a school teacher, in 1897. She and her husband processed pork and canned fruits and vegetables. Gerald inherited the farm from his mother and installed stock tanks and fences. He also introduced conservation practices.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 425.75 **Acres still retained:** 147.2

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1854 - Cane, millet, cotton, corn, peaches, apples, grapes, melons, sorghum, vegetables, chickens, turkeys, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Miller Acres

Hardeman Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fifteen miles northwest of Quanah

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1935	Samuel Robert and Ella Josephina Miller	Grandparents
1935-1971	Ora E. (Miller) Stovall	Mother
1971-1990	Vivian (Stovall) Buttrill	

*The Millers came from Grayson County and bought their land from the railroad. They had two daughters, Ora and Edna. S.R. Miller's will divided the property among his children and grandchildren. The original parcel went to Ora and her husband, Jessie Stovall, who passed it on to their daughter, Vivian. She farms it with her son, Tommy Tillman Buttrill.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cattle, wheat, and cotton; 1990 - Grass.

# HH Ranch

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles west of IH-45 in Spring on Louetta Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1858-1893	Charles Julius and Bertha (Frieza) Haude	Great-grandparents
1893-1915	Henry Haude	Grandfather
1915-1961	Frank Herman Haude Sr.	Father
1961-1990	Henry E. Haude	

*Charles and Bertha Haude came from Reichenbach, Prussia, to escape religious persecution. He was a doctor, and she was a midwife. They had three children, and their son, Henry, acquired the farm in 1893. He and his wife, Amelia (Wied), had 13 children. Son Frank instituted the practice of dipping cattle. He served in World War I. He and his wife, Rosa (Franklin), had three children. Henry saw modernization, with hybrid crops and mechanized equipment. The farm is now in the Houston suburbs.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 20

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1858 - Goats and sheep; 1990 - Cattle, corn, and vegetables.

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# Smith Ranch

Harris Co.

**Location of Farm:** Huffman, near the intersection of Hwys. 2100 and 1960

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1918	David Floyd Smith	Grandfather
1918-1958	Guy C. Smith	Father
1958-1990	Billy J. Smith	

*David Floyd Smith came to Texas from Florida. He owned the first car in Huffman, a 1914 Ford touring car. He and his wife, Amanda (Brashear), had eight children. When David died, his wife moved to Houston and their son, Guy, took over the farm. Guy's wife, Willie Mary (Scott), was a descendent of David Huffman, founder of Huffman. Billy Smith owns the farm and runs it with his brother, J.D., his sister, Joyce, and their families.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 226 **Acres still retained:** 21

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Corn, grain, cattle, and hogs; 1990 - Beef cattle.

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# Old Richardson Home Place

Harrison Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles east of Noonday community, five miles north of Hallsville

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1897	William M. Richardson	Great-grandfather
1897-1901	R.C. "Dick" Richardson	Great-uncle
1901-1944	Thomas Jefferson Richardson	Grandfather
1944-1967	Holland Columbus Richardson	Father
1967-1975	Lena (Brown) Richardson	Mother
1975-1990	Thomas Holland Richardson	

*W.M. Richardson fought in the Civil War and bought this land after his wife died. His son, Dick, consolidated the property by buying it from the other heirs. His brother, Tom, lived on the farm most of his life, and was a well-known fiddler in the community. Holland was the first farmer in the area to plant Coastal Bermuda grass. His wife, Lena, was a teacher, and all the family members have been active in the community.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 146 **Acres still retained:** 146

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, and livestock; 1990 - Cattle, hay, and timber.

# Scott Farm

Hill Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles northwest of Hubbard

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1885	Elizabeth G. Scott	Great-grandmother
1885-1926	James G. and Jimmie Pearl Scott	Grandparents
1926-1952	John G. and Virginia (Scott) Linder	Aunt, uncle
1952-1990	Scott Riddle	

*Elizabeth G. Scott was orphaned in the Civil War. She and her husband, W.S. Scott, had two children. James and his wife, Jimmie Pearl, had four children, and their daughter, Virginia Elizabeth, and her husband, John, continued to farm the land. This farm produced some of the first Simmental cattle bred in Texas and is now run by Scott Riddle.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 104.93 **Acres still retained:** 100.5  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle and oats; 1990 - Cattle and oats.

# B.W. Burns Ranch

Houston Co.

**Location of Farm:** Sixteen miles west of Grapeland on FM 227

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1883-1929	Earnest and Martha Burns	Grandparents
1929-1944	Ben Wesley Burns Sr.	Father
1944-1990	B.W. Burns Jr.	

*Earnest and Martha Burns had four children. Their son, Ben Wesley., was a deacon of Cedar Branch Baptist Church. He and his wife, Jettie Ann, had six children. The property is now operated by B.W. Jr. and his brother, Jim.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 300 **Acres still retained:** 20  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1883 - Cotton, corn, peas, peanuts, syrup cane, and potatoes; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

# Funk Ranch

Irion Co.

**Location of Farm:** Fourteen miles north of Mertz on off FM 853

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1915	Joseph Funk	Grandfather
1915-1929	Ella (Sterret) Funk	Grandmother
1929-1966	Joseph Ebner Funk	Father
1966-1990	Joseph Funk Jr., Katheryn (Horn) (Funk) Fields	

*Joseph Funk came from St. Louis and helped organize Irion County with the first Hereford cattle in that part of the state. He helped establish the school at Arden. His son, Joseph Ebner, introduced sheep and goats to the ranch and was active in the San Angelo community. The original ranch house, with additions, is still in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 12,000 **Acres still retained:** 9,400  
**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cattle and horses; 1990 - Cattle, sheep, and goats.

# Kelsay Farm

Jack Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles southeast of Jacksboro, east of US 281

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1926	Robert Bruce Kelsay	Grandfather
1926-1974	Royal Edward Kelsay I	Father
1974-1990	Royal Edward Kelsay Jr.	

*Robert Bruce Kelsay came from Cape Girardeau, Missouri, with his family. He was active in church, and he and his wife, Laura (Manning), had eight children. Their son, Royal Edward, inherited the property. Royal Edward Kelsay Jr. is the only descendent of the founder living on the land. He and his wife, Josephine, have four children. They raise Angora goats "when the coyotes take a year off."*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 143.3

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cattle, cotton, and corn; 1990 - Wheat, cattle, and Angora goats.

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# Mack's Green Acres

Jasper Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles south of Jasper and three-fourths mile west of FM 252

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1913	A.C. and Fannie A. Sims	Grandparents
1913-1981	Iva A. and Kate Elizabeth (Sims) McLemore	Parents
1981-1990	James Walker McLemore	

*A.C. Sims and his wife, Fannie, came from Tyler County. They had five children, and this parcel of their land went to their daughter, Kate. She and her husband, Ivy McLemore, were the first in the county to irrigate the land, first for sugar cane, then for truck crops. Their son, James, and his wife, Letha, still irrigate and practice soil conservation measures.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 150 **Acres still retained:** 6.4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Hogs, cows, peas, beans, cotton, corn, and watermelons; 1990 - Peas, beans, tomatoes, squash, corn, okra, turnips, and blackberries.

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# Hunger-Pfeifer Farm

Karnes Co.

**Location of Farm:** Eight miles southwest of Karnes City off FM 626

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1944	Moritz Hunger	Grandfather
1944-1976	Mary (Hunger) and Hugo L. Pfeifer	Parents
1976-1990	Mary (Pfeifer) Maddox	

*Moritz Hunger and his brother migrated to Mexico before the Civil War, returning to Texas in 1888. They were part of the original German settlement in Karnes County, and helped other families to build homes and form the first Lutheran Church. Their daughter, Mary, and her husband, Hugo Pfeifer, built a stock pond and kept some of the acreage in virgin forest. Mary and Hugo's daughter, Mary, now owns the property, and her brother, Hugo, operates it. The original house still stands and is used for storage.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 175 **Acres still retained:** 87.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, and hay; 1990 - Corn, oats, hay, and cattle.

# Grubbs Hill Farm

Kaufman Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south of Crandall on FM 148

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1944	William H. Grubbs	Grandfather
1944-1953	Richard Fondren Grubbs	Father
1953-1990	Mary Elizabeth Grubbs	

*William H. Grubbs came from Kentucky as an infant in 1856. He and his wife, Sarah (Fondren), had seven children and loved culture and education. Their son, Richard, was a trustee for the New Hope school district, and he and his wife, Maude (Cawthen), often provided living accommodations for the teachers. Richard also served as a rural mail carrier. Their daughter, Mary Elizabeth, raises cattle and serves on the Kaufman County Electric Co-op and the Kaufman County Historical Society. Her niece and nephew help run the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 201.04 **Acres still retained:** 105.6

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Corn and cotton; 1990 - Beef cattle.

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# Uncle Toby Smith Ranch

Kent Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twelve miles southwest of Spur

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1925	W.A. Smith	Grandfather
1925-1949	Martha (Copeland) Smith	Grandmother
1949-1990	Mr. and Mrs. Bobby F. Baird	

*Willie Smith, better known as Uncle Toby, and his wife, Martha, staked a homestead and built a dugout on Red Mud Creek in northeast Kent County. Their livestock was branded and turned loose to roam the open countryside. Toby raised good horses, and his six children learned to ride as well as Indians.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Corn, cattle, hogs, chickens, cotton, and peanuts; 1990 - Cattle, wheat, and hay.

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# Arlen Leeder Place

Kerr Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Centerpoint on Lane Valley Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1941	Edward Gustav Leeder Sr.	Grandfather
1941-1982	Edward Gustav Leeder Jr.	Father
1982-1990	Arlen Gus Leeder	

*Edward Gustav Leeder Sr. left Germany to make a better living. He helped to found the Comfort Mutual Aid Insurance Association, Untersteutzungs Verein, and helped to build Union Valley School. Edward donated land for Lane Valley Road. He and his wife, Carolina (Reinhard), had eight children: Albert Franz Wilhelm, Otto H., Ernst August, George Rudolph, Irene Adele, R. Richard, Bettie Alma, and Edward Gustav Jr.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 337 **Acres still retained:** 103.08

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Grain, hay, cattle, horses, chickens, and cotton; 1990 - Grain, hay, cattle, and sheep.

## Lester Leeder Place

Kerr Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles east of Centerpoint on Lane Valley Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1941	Edward Gustav Leeder Sr.	Grandfather
1941-1982	Edward Gustav Leeder Jr.	Father
1982-1990	Lester Wayne Leeder	

*Edward Gustav Leeder Sr. left Germany to make a better living. He helped to found the Comfort Mutual Aid Insurance Association, Untersteutzungs Verein, and helped to build Union Valley School. Edward donated land for Lane Valley Road. He and his wife, Carolina (Reinhard), had eight children, Albert Franz Wilhelm, Otto H., Ernst August, George Rudolph, Irene Adele, R. Richard, Bettie Alma, and Edward Gustav Jr.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 337 **Acres still retained:** 78.98

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1882 - Grain, hay, cattle, horses, chickens, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle.

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## Spenrath Farm

Kerr Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-fourth miles southwest of Comfort off Hwy. 27 along Wilson Creek Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1876-1924	Martin Spenrath	Grandfather
1924-1965	Martin Spenrath Jr.	Father
1965-1990	Martin A. Spenrath III	

*Martin Spenrath emigrated from Hambach, Prussia, to escape political, military, and economic oppression and to gain the freedom to buy land. He and his wife, Marie (Lichtenfeld) had 12 children. The Spenraths rotated crops to keep the soil productive, and managed the farm frugally. Diversified farmers, they helped to develop cooperative markets that shipped grain and livestock by rail to Texas markets. During Martin Spenrath Jr.'s ownership, the telephone, electricity, and mechanization of implements arrived at the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1876 - Wheat, oats, corn, hay, cotton, sheep, cattle, poultry, horses, and swine; 1990 - Oats, hay, cattle, and sheep.

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## Thomason Ranch

Kerr Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One and one-half miles west of Center Point Post Office on Hwy. 27

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1898	Elizabeth Prince Herndon Thomasson	Grandfather-in-law, great-grandfather
1898-1942	John Silas Thomason	Father-in-law, grandfather
1942-1981	Frank and Irene Estelle Thomason	Husband, father
1942-1990	Irene Estelle Thomason, Frank Thomason Jr., and John M. Thomason	

*Missouri native Elizabeth Thomasson and her husband, William Stern (Burk) Thomasson, had four children. A son, John Silas, bought the ranch from his mother and siblings. John S. and his wife, Ellen, were on the Center Point ISD Board of Trustees, and he helped organized the Center Point Presbyterian Church. The younger Thomasons changed the spelling of their surname.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 619

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Unknown; 1990 - Hay and cattle.

# Walton Ranch

Kimble Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Three miles west of London on Big Saline Creek Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1940	Lou M. and Sarah Ella Walton	Great-grandparents
1940-1973	Tempie (Walton) Burke	Grandmother
1973-1990	LeRoy Pearson	

*Lou Walton was born in Lavaca County and came to Kimble county when he was two. His father fought in the Texas War for Independence and settled to the west of this land. Lou and his wife, Sarah Ella (Moore) had 10 children. A daughter, Tempie, inherited land when her parents died. She was married to Fred Pearson and, after Fred's death, to Sid Burke. Her grandson, LeRoy Pearson, bought this portion of the land from his grandmother and lives on it with his wife, Bilie Donna, and his daughters, Michelle, Mindy, and Misty.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 193.46

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cattle, sheep, and goats; 1990 - Cattle, sheep, Angora goats, wheat, oats, hay, and pecans.

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# Williams River Bottom Ranch

Lampasas Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twenty-two miles west on FM 580 toward Bend

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1910	William Burley and Nancy Ellen Baxter	Great-grandparents
1910-1948	John Wesley and Leota Jane Baxter	Grandparents
1948-1964	Rena (Baxter) Bagley	Mother
1964-1990	Marjorie A. (Bagley) Williams	

*The Baxters, who hailed from Tennessee, bought land from T.C. and Julia Hooter. William and Nancy Ellen had 11 children: Cyrus Almond, Robert Lee, Charles Doran, John Wesley, Ida, William Edward, Ira Dolphus, Mary Elizabeth, Rosa, Jessie Rogers, and Lilly May.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 127 **Acres still retained:** 127

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cattle, swine, sweet potatoes, cotton, and pecans; 1990 - Cattle, Coastal Bermuda and Sudan hay, and pecans.

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# Heinrich Holtzer Ranch

Llano Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Fifteen miles northwest of Llano on Hwy. 71, one mile north of the Llano River

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1901	Margaretha and Heinrich Holtzer Sr.	Great-grandparents
1901-1966	Charlotte (Zachariae) Holtzer	Grandmother
1966-1987	Minna Anita (Holtzer) Oestreich	Mother
1987-1990	Horace Henry Oestreich and Clyde Earl Oestreich	

*Heinrich and Margaretha Holtzer Sr. of Germany cleared land, built their home and fences, and constructed a rock wall around their spring to prevent high water from destroying the spring water. Margaretha donated 2-1/2 acres for a Lutheran Church.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 325.75

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Corn, hay, cattle, and hogs; 1990 - Hay, oats, and cattle.



# Rhodes Ranch

Madison Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six miles northwest of Madisonville on FM 2289

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1929	Mr. and Mrs. David Crockett Cannon Sr.	Parents, great-grandfather
1929-1990	Hope (Cannon) Rhodes	Grandmother

*David Crockett Cannon Sr. came from Chickasaw County, Mississippi. He built the first dipping vat for Madison County to comply with a new state law to control cattle ticks. Caskets were built in his workshop, and Cannon furnished transportation to the cemetery. He and his wife had seven children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 330 **Acres still retained:** 55

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, hay, sorghum, ribbon cane, livestock, and poultry; 1990 - Cattle.

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# Rock Island Ranch

Marion Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Ten miles east-northeast of Jefferson on Hwy 49

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1937	E.E. Brooks	Grandfather, great-grandfather
1937-1967	Tom Gordon Brooks	Father
1967-1990	Mr. and Mrs. Gordon S. Albert	

*E.E. Brooks left Opelika, Alabama, to work on his uncle's Texas farm. He fathered 10 children, and, because educational facilities were poor, built a school and hired a teacher. When the children were ready for high school, his wife, Janie, lived with them in town to continue their education.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 61.75 **Acres still retained:** 61.75

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, grain, hay, dairy cattle, and mules; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

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# J.L. Allen Farm

McClennan Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles northeast of Axtell at Hwy. 31 and Whiskey Hill Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1869-1917	William Tarpley and Molly (Warwick) Allen	Grandparents
1917-1944	Joseph Len and Gertie (Bailey) Allen	Parents
1944-1990	J.L. Jr. and Lucille Allen	

*William Tarpley and his wife, Molly, purchased their original 660 acres in 1869. William served as vice-president of the Mount Calm Bank. The couple had nine children, and in 1917 their son, Joseph Len, took title to the property. He raised cotton, corn, oats, and cattle on the farm. Joseph and his wife, Gertie, had three children. In 1941, their son, Joseph Len Jr., took title to the farm. He and his wife, Lucille, raise oats, hay, and Angus cattle on the land which was passed down from his grandfather.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 660 **Acres still retained:** 577

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1869 - Cattle and hay; 1990 - Cattle, oats, and hay.

# J.W. White Ranch

Mason Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Fifteen miles southwest of Mason on FM 1871

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1891	George and Alice (Tiller) Littlefield	Great-uncle
1891-1940	John Wilbur and Cora (Bridges) White	Parents
1940-1990	John Wilbur Jr. and May (Russell) White	

*After the Civil War George Littlefield returned to his home in Gonzales. He became involved in the cattle industry and was among the first Texans to run cattle drives to Kansas. George served on the Board of Regents of the University of Texas and gave almost \$2 million to the University. He and his wife, Alice, had no children so his land passed to his nephew, J.W. White, in 1891. J.W. made many improvements to the land. He and his wife, Cora, had six children. Their son, John Wilbur Jr., the present owner, took title to the property in 1940.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 33,033 **Acres still retained:** 4,000

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cattle; 1990 - Cattle, horses, and goats.

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# Claude Franklin Ranch

McMullen Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine miles northwest of Tilden

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1931	R.S. and Minerva (Holland) Franklin	Grandparents
1931-1960	Claude and Ida May (Morgan) Franklin	Parents
1960-1990	Ida Mae Morgan, Lottie F. Lively, and Claude Jr. and Elaine Franklin	

*R.S. and Minerva (Holland) Franklin left Louisiana for Texas to acquire land. They purchased 3,000 acres near Tilden in 1881 and eventually acquired 37,000. The couple had 13 children, and in 1931 their son, Claude, took title to 3,150 acres. He and his wife, Ida May, had two children. Claude served as a sergeant in the Texas Rangers. Following his death, Ida May and their two children, Claude Jr. and Lottie Lee (Franklin) Lively, took over the operation of the land. Today, they raise cattle and horses on the ranch along with their families.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3,000 **Acres still retained:** 3,000

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle, livestock, corn, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle and horses.

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# Murray Franklin Ranch

McMullen Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine miles northwest of Tilden

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1931	R.S. and Minerva (Holland) Franklin	Grandparents
1931-1945	Murray and Rosa Franklin	Uncle
1945-1990	Murray Jr. and Bessie (Sturgess) Franklin	

*R.S. and Minerva Holland Franklin came to Texas from Louisiana in search of land. They purchased 3,000 acres near Tilden in 1881 and eventually acquired 37,000. The couple had 13 children, and in 1931 their son, Murray, took title to 5,430 acres. Murray and his wife, Rosa, had no children so his nephew, Murray Franklin Jr., took title to 1,650 of his acres in 1945. Murray raises cattle and horses on the land today.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 3,000 **Acres still retained:** 1,650

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Cattle, livestock, corn, and cotton; 1990 - Cattle and horses.

# Schuster Circle X Ranch

Mills Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Four miles west of Priddy on FM 218

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1928	John Wolfgang and Elizabeth (Wagner) Schuster	Grandparents
1928-1950	Emil and Amanda (Limmer) Schuster	Parents
1950-1990	Wilford and Marlene Schuster	

*John Wolfgang and Elizabeth (Wagner) Schuster came to Texas from Germany in search of cheap land and better opportunities. They purchased 160 acres of land in Mills County in 1890. The couple had six children, and in 1928 their son, Emil, took title to the land where he raised oats, wheat, cotton, corn, and mohair. He and his wife, Amanda, had two children. Their son, Wilford, took title to the land in 1970. Today the property is operated by Wilford and his wife, Marlene. They raise cattle and registered Angora goats, and produce mohair.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, oats, and wheat; 1990 - Cattle, horses, and goats.

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# Renderbrook-Spade Ranch

Mitchell Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Twenty-five miles southwest of Colorado City on state Highway 163

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1910	Isaac Leonard and Harriet (Miller) Ellwood	Great-grandparents
1910-1934	William Leonard and Jenny (Allen) Ellwood	Grandparents
1934-1965	Frank and Jessie (Ellwood) Chappell	Parents
1965-1990	Marion (Chappell) Bassham, Frank W. Bassham, Ida Jean (Bassham) Goss, and Brian D. Bassham	

*Isaac Leonard Ellwood came to Texas from New York to demonstrate his new barbed wire. In 1889 he purchased 120,000 acres in West Texas. He and his wife, Harriet, had six children and in 1910 his son, William Leonard, acquired the land. W.L. was very innovative in the use of new agricultural technology. He and his wife, Jenny, had two children and their daughter, Jessie, became owner in 1934. Jessie and husband Frank's two children took title to the ranch in 1965. Today their daughter, Marion Bassham, and her children operate the ranch.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 120,000 **Acres still retained:** 120,000

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cattle, sheep, and horses; 1990 - Cattle, sheep, horses, and cotton.

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# Knight Farm

Navarro Co.

**Location of Farm:** Situated near Angus, being a part of Frier League

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1921	Rufus Knight	Grandfather
1921-1974	Lawrence and Mary Lou (Knight) Tilton	Parents
1974-1990	Woodrow W. and Annie Maude Dosser	

*Rufus Knight came to Angus from Alabama in search of good farm land. The Knights engaged in cattle raising and cotton and grain cultivation, and were active in the surrounding community. In 1958, a conservation plan for the farm included contour farming, rotation of crops and brush control, but over the years the farm was best used for cattle grazing. Present owners, Annie and Woodrow Dosser, are engaged in progressive maintenance of the farm.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 55 **Acres still retained:** 55

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cattle, cotton, and grain; 1990 - Stocker cattle and Coastal Bermuda grass.

# McSpadden Farm

Navarro Co.

**Location of Farm:** Ten miles west of Corsicana on Hwy. 31

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1955	James Oliver McSpadden	Grandfather
1955-1976	Seth A. and Justin O. McSpadden	Father/uncle
1976-1990	Gerald S. and Ralph D. McSpadden	

*James McSpadden came to Texas from Walker County, Georgia, for a better life for his wife and baby daughter. The farm was passed on to sons Justin Oliver and Seth Alonzo, and they continued to raise grain crops and livestock. Ralph Douglas and Gerald Seth inherited the land from their father and uncle in 1976. Today, Gerald operates the farm with his wife, Billie. Seth Alonzo still lives on the original land.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 182 **Acres still retained:** 139.9

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, wheat, oats, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Cattle, wheat, oats, and hay.

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# Patrick Estate

Newton Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile south of Bleakwood School at intersection of FM 363 and Hwy. 87

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1868-1893	Jesse Lee	Grandfather
1893-1968	Sarah Minnie (Lee) Wilson	Mother
1968-1990	Minnie Alice (Wilson) Patrick McMillan	

*Jesse Lee came to Texas in search of farmland. Jesse was a merchant, operated a cotton gin, and was the first postmaster of New Bleakwood. Under Sarah Minnie's ownership, more scientific methods were used for cultivating the land. A housewife and mother of 12 children, Sarah Minnie engaged in weaving, knitting, quilting, and making lye soap. She and her present husband, Woodrow McMillan, are members of the Jasper/Newton Forestry Land Owners Association.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 313 **Acres still retained:** 143.28

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1868 - Sheep, goats, cattle, mules, hogs, chickens, corn, cotton, and vegetables; 1990 - Timber.

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# S.F. Griffin Farm

Palo Pinto Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles southwest of Mineral Wells

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1882-1888	Elbert and Sarah Griffin	Great-grandparents
1888-1900	Sans Francisco and John Griffin	Grandfather/great uncle
1900-1928	Sans Francisco and Maryle Griffin	Grandparents
1928-1934	Brian and Frank Griffin	Uncles
1934-1967, 73, 78	Mabel Inez Griffin	Aunt
1978-1990	Mary Elizabeth Rippetoe	

*Elbert Griffin brought land from Samuel Sellars to raise cattle, small grains, and cotton. In 1888, the farm was deeded to two of his sons, Sans Francisco and John, and in 1900 the entire estate was deeded to Sans Francisco and his wife, Maryle. In 1928 and in 1934, the land passed to the children of Sans Francisco. The great-granddaughter of the founder, Mary Elizabeth, received portions of the property from her Uncle Brian, her Aunt Mabel, and her mother, Lela Blanche. She has instituted soil erosion control, implemented an irrigation system and upgraded the quality of the herd of Polled Herefords.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 183 **Acres still retained:** 173.8

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1853 - Grains, cotton, and cattle; 1990 - Polled Hereford cattle.

# Lindell Harris Farm

Parker Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles east of Reno on Harris Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1942	Margaret Melinda Harris	Grandmother
1942-1946	William J. and Josiah E. Harris	Father/uncle
1946-1955	Grover Ewell Harris	Brother
1955-1990	Vance Lindell Harris	

*Margaret Harris came to Texas with her husband, William B., to make a better life. When William died, his father bought land for Margaret and her five children. The land was divided between two of the founder's sons, William and Josiah, in 1942. A farm house and barns were built, and electricity was installed. In 1946, William deeded four of his acres to his nephew, Grover, who used commercial fertilizer to yield better crops.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 48 **Acres still retained:** 14.2

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, peanuts, feed, and vegetables; 1990 - Hay, cattle, and vegetables.

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# Humphrey Place

Rains Co.

**Location of Farm:** One mile west of Point on US 69

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-unknown	J.W. Humphrey	Grandfather
unknown-1948	Allen Alexander Humphrey	Father
1948-1990	William Wesley Humphrey	

*J.W. Humphrey came to Texas to teach school and served as Rains county judge several terms. The land never formerly passed on to J.W.'s children and had to be bought from the estate. Allen employed many local farmers and during the war helped to build the L&A Railroad in Greenville. William Humphrey, current owner, purchased the land from his grandparents' estate and terraced it.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 200 **Acres still retained:** 183

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, corn, oats, and wheat; 1990 - Cattle and oats.

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# Adams-Brent Ranch

San Saba Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles northwest of Richland Springs on R.S.-Hall Public Road

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1928	William Smith Adams	Great-grandfather
1928-1965	Thomas Kelly Adams	Grandfather
1965-1982	Travis Owens Adams	Father
1982-1990	LaVerta (Rose) Adams Brent	

*W.S. came to Texas in 1875 and acquired land for farming in 1889. The first school house in the area was built on his property. Son Thomas Kelly purchased the land from his brothers and sisters when W.S. died. In 1965, the land was deeded to Travis Owens, who introduced mechanization to the farm. Great-granddaughter of the founder, LaVerta, is restoring the original farm house with her husband, Billy Joe Brent.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 98.73

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cattle, grain, cotton, and fruit; 1990 - Cattle and grain.

## Rose Hill Farm

Shackelford Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles east of Albany on Old Albany-Breckenridge Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1941	Robert and Matilda Bradford	Grandfather
1941-1963	Ollie (Bradford) Cannel	Aunt
1963-1990	Calvin Lee Bradford	

*In 1871, Robert Bradford came to Texas from Alabama and settle near Fort Worth. In 1889, he purchased land in Shackelford County and established the first commercial dairy in the county. The land was deeded to Ollie Bradford in 1941 and operated by her nephew, Calvin. Calvin acquired the land in 1963 and has since practiced conservation methods to preserve the soil. He and his wife, Pat, have also restored the original farm house.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Livestock, chickens, cotton, wheat, and feed grains; 1990 - Cow-calf operation, wheat, and grains.

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## W.W. and Rachel Morris Ranch

Shackelford Co.

**Location of Farm:** Five miles northeast of Moran and sixteen miles southeast of Albany

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1911	W.W. and Rachel Morris	Great grandparents
1911-1980	James Grover Morris	Grandfather
1980-1984	Virgil Emory Morris	Father/father-in-law
1984-1990	Jack and (Vera) Morris Clack	

*W.W. and Rachel Morris moved to Shackelford County to buy land for a ranch. James inherited 420 acres and purchased 865 additional acres from his sisters. He installed terracing to stop land erosion. Virgil continued raising Hereford cattle and feed crops like his father and grandfather. Great-granddaughter of the founders, Vera, operates the ranch with her husband.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1,708 **Acres still retained:** 420

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Hereford cattle and feed crops; 1990 - Brangus cattle with Limousin bulls.

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## Joel M. Hairgrove Jr. Farm

Shelby Co.

**Location of Farm:** Approximately three miles south of Tenaha, off FM 937

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1916	Joel M. Hairgrove Jr.	Grandfather
1916-1957	Duncan Hairgrove	Father
1957-1990	Lyndell (Hairgrove) and Bill F. Griffin	

*A native Texan, Joel Hairgrove Jr. acquired land from W.J. Pearce and raised crops and livestock. When he died, the farm was left to the seven surviving children of Joel and his wife, Lizzie. Son Duncan bought out each of the children's part over the course of a few years. Because of restrictions on cotton production during the 1940s, he turned the farm into a dairy. Duncan's only child, Lyndell, lives on the farm with her husband, Bill Griffin, and her mother, Essie Hairgrove.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 114.5 **Acres still retained:** 114.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, sugar cane, sorghum, maize, horses, mules, cattle, chickens, hogs, vegetables, and watermelons; 1990 - Pine timber and cattle.

# David Glass Ranch

Sterling Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles west of Sterling City on Hwy. 158

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1947	J.L. Glass	Father
1947-1990	James David Glass	

*J.L. Glass came from Burke County, North Carolina, to be a cowboy and rancher. He owned the first automobile in Sterling County and was an elder in the Presbyterian church, a bank director, a school trustee, and a county commissioner. His son, David, was already operating his own ranch when he inherited his father's property in 1947. He now operates 55,168 acres and is also a school trustee and bank director. He operates the ranch with his son, Larry.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 640

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Sheep and cattle; 1990 - Sheep and cattle.

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# The Heritage

Taylor Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twelve miles southwest of Merkel on FM 126

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1917	Adam and Louiesa (Cogburn) Whisenhunt	Great-grandparents
1917-1962	M.P. and Mary (Whisenhunt) Latimer	Grandparents
1962-1962	Lillian (Latimer) and Sam Butman Jr.	Parents
1962-1990	A.D. and Mabel (Butman) Scott	

*Adam and Louiesa Whisenhunt were active in the school, the community, and the church. Mary and M.P. Latimer's time saw the automobile, and they gave land for the first county roads. M.P. was an election judge and a school trustee. Sam and Lillian Butman bought the land for their daughter, Mabel, and owned it only a month. Mabel and A.D. Scott had been farming it since 1946. Acreage has been added and the farm now totals 640 acres.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, wheat, and maize; 1990 - Cattle, Sudan grass, and oats.

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# The Old Homeplace

Taylor Co.

**Location of Farm:** Twenty-nine miles southwest of Abilene on Hwy. 277

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1888-1896	Tennessee and Texas Lewallen	Great-grandmother, great-aunt
1896-1946	C.B. and Texas (Lewallen) Hurt	Grandparents
1946-1975	Mary Tennie Hurt and Vada Zelva (Hurt) Dean	Mother, aunt
1975-1990	Betty A. and William Joe Casey	

*Sisters Tennessee and Texas Lewallen came from Kentucky as children and were among the first settlers in the Shep community. Texas and her husband, C.B., helped establish the Shep Methodist Church. Of their nine children, this part of the property went to daughters Mary and Vada. Vada's daughter, Betty, and her husband, William, are restoring the house, which has one room that was part of the original house.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 160 **Acres still retained:** 62

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1888 - Cotton, grains, and livestock; 1990 - Grains, grass, vegetables, and hay.

# London Farm

Throckmorton Co.

**Location of Farm:** Seventeen miles northeast of Throckmorton

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1935	L.R. and Elizabeth (Flood) London	Grandparents
1935-1974	George William and Bennie Melissa London	Parents
1974-1990	George D. London and Guy W. London	

*L.R. London left Kentucky for Texas after the Civil War in search of a better opportunity. L.R. built a house, smokehouse, and barn. He and his wife, Elizabeth, had five children. In 1935 their son, George, took title to the land and continued the family tradition of helping the community. George and his wife, Bennie, had five children. In 1974, their sons, George and Guy, took title to the property. Today they continue the agricultural tradition started by their father.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 320

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Wheat, oats, sorghum, and cattle; 1990 - Wheat, oats, and hay crops.

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# Percy Turner Ranch

Tom Green Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six and one-half miles southwest of Carlsbad, south of Turner Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1877-1923	William and Elizabeth Ellen Turner	Cousin
1923-1954	Kathleen (Turner) Munn, Marjorie (Turner) Canning, Adele (Turner) Hall, Dorothy H. Berry, Beatrice S. Allday, Barbara L. Turner	Cousins
1954-1961	Percy William and Gertrude (Rau) Turner	Parents
1961-1990	Dr. Percy R. and Helen Turner; and June (Turner) Doggett	

*William Turner came to Texas from England and purchased 13,099 acres. He and his wife, Elizabeth, raised sheep and cattle. William and Elizabeth had no children, so in 1923 the property passed to six of his cousins. In 1954, Percy William Turner acquired title to the land from his cousins. Percy brought the first Quarter horse into West Texas. He and his wife, Gertrude, had two children, Percy and June. Since 1961 the property has been shared by June Turner Doggett, Dr. Percy R. Turner, and his wife, Helen.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 13,099 **Acres still retained:** 3,840

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1877 - Sheep and cattle; 1990 - Cattle, sheep, and Quarter horses.

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# Eanes-Marshall Ranch

Travis Co.

**Location of Ranch:** 903 Capital of Texas Highway South (Loop 360)

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1857-1873	Alexander and Mary A. Eanes	Great-uncle and -aunt
1873-1883	Robert and Eliza (Howell) Eanes	Great-grandparents
1883-1961	H.B. and Viola (Eanes) Marshall	Grandparents
1961-1990	Bruce and Ann (Smith) Marshall	

*Alexander Eanes came to Texas from South Carolina in 1854. He received this land in exchange for legal services from the heirs of the previous owner. In 1873, he sold an unknown amount of acreage to his brother, Robert who, with his wife, Eliza, built the Eanes school, the oldest continually used school in Texas. In 1883 their daughter, Viola, took title with her husband, H.B. Marshall. H.B. was one of the first breeders of Angora goats in Texas. In 1961, H.B. and Viola's grandson, Bruce, took title to the land, where a house built partly from materials of the original Eanes house is still in use.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 1/3 of 1/3 of a million varas (1 vara = approximately 1 sq. yd.) **Acres still retained:** 4

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1857 - Horses, cattle, corn, and hay; 1990 - Horses.



# Arnold Ranch

Trinity Co.

**Location of Ranch:** One mile northwest of Glendale

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1932	Jonathan H. and Tobitha Jane (Rasamond) Arnold	Grandparents
1932-1952	Benjamin, James Jonathan, Walter A., Arthur A., Charlie H., Robert Lee Arnold, and Aurelia (Arnold) Crawford, Elizabeth (Arnold) Blackshear, Laura (Arnold) Blackshear, Laura (Arnold) Russell, Nettie (Arnold) Jordan	Father, aunts, uncles
1952-1968	Benjamin Aaron Arnold	Father
1968-1977	Jo Nannie Arnold	Mother
1977-1990	Maurine (Arnold) Martin, Wilma (Arnold) Allen, Archie T. Arnold, and Russell B. Arnold	

*Jonathan H. Arnold left Choctaw County, Mississippi, as a boy with his parents. He and his wife, Tobitha Jane, had 10 children. Benjamin Arnold helped eradicate the fever tick and screwworm in East Texas. He served as a constable and on the school board and local and federal grand juries. Russell's home was built in about 1881.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 112 **Acres still retained:** 112

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, peanuts, sugarcane, and livestock; 1990 - Cattle, hay, forage, and timber.

# A.B. Rigsby Tree Farm

Tyler Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Four and one-half miles east of Woodville on U.S. 190

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1937	Mose and Fannie Fennel	Grandparents, great-grandparents
1937-1963	Mary Eula Rigsby	Mother, grandmother
1963-1990	Mr. and Mrs. Alexander B. Rigsby, Nathaniel Rigsby	

*Texas natives Mose and Fannie Fennel cleared their land with saw and ax. Mose, a minister, was a founder of the Moss Hill Missionary Baptist Church, which is still in use. He also taught in the public school. Mose and Fannie's daughter, Mary Rigsby, lived in the founder's log house with her husband, Charlie, until a modern house was built in 1948. The current owners converted the property to a pine tree farm under the supervision of the Texas Forest Service.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 75 **Acres still retained:** 75

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, watermelons, truck crops, sugarcane, and livestock; 1990 - Pine trees.

# W. Patrick Dodson Ranch

Uvalde Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine miles southwest of Sabinas on Blanco Creek

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1881-1888	Jasper and Nancy Teresa (Kelley) Wish	Great-great-grandfather
1888-1893	Nancy Teresa (Kelley) Wish	Great-great-grandmother
1893-1939	Margaret Elizabeth (Wish) Crane	Great-aunt
1939-1978	Elva Effie Crane	Second cousin
1978-1990	William Patrick and Mary Holly Dodson	

*Jasper Wish left Saxon, Germany, at 13 to avoid conscription. After settling in Texas, he became a rancher. Ranch headquarters were located near Blanco Creek, a major route to Mexico. Jasper and his family were charter members of Central Christian Church in Sabinas. Jasper and Nancy had 10 children. Margaret's daughter, Elva Effie, did not have children. The current owner has cleared brush, and he and his wife, Mary, and their three children live in the house built in 1895.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 30,000 **Acres still retained:** 1,311.65

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1881 - Sheep, cattle, and horses; 1990- Small grains, hay, and cattle.

# Rydolph Ranch

Victoria Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Five miles east of McFaddin off Hwy. 185

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1878-1932	Fredrick Rydolph	Grandfather, great-grandfather, great-great-grandfather
1932-1980	Emma, Earl C., Pete, Wesley, Pearl, James, Mettie, and Janie Rydolph	Father, grandfather, aunts, uncles, great-grandfather
1980-1990	Verna (Rydolph) Hall, Gwendolyn (Hall) Ross	
1985-1990	Alton Ross, Howard Ross	

*Fred and Rosie (Bass) Rydolph's land was equally divided among eight children in 1932. The heirs kept ownership, sold it among themselves or left it to their children between 1932 and 1980. Verna (Rydolph) Hall and her daughter, Gwendolyn Ross, inherited Earl's share in 1980. Gwendolyn's sons bought additional land from other family members.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 63.97

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1878 - Corn, cotton, sheep, and cattle; 1990 - Livestock.

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# Twenty Oaks

Victoria Co.

**Location of Farm:** Four miles southeast of Victoria on Old Bloomington Rd. and FM 1432

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1879-1911	Levin and Dora Fromme	Grandparents
1911-1940	Dora Fromme and Levine (Fromme) Meyer	Grandmother and mother
1911-1948	Ida Fromme	Aunt
1940-48-1990	Gordon E. Meyer	

*Levin and Dora Fromme came to Texas from Germany. The couple donated acreage for the Old Bloomington Road, and they raised eight children. Upon Levin's death, his wife and two daughters, Levine (Fromme) Meyer and Ida Fromme, inherited the land. The current owner, Gordon E. Meyer, got his first portion of land from his mother in 1940 and the second portion from his aunt in 1948.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 500 **Acres still retained:** 98

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1879 - Cattle, cotton, and native pecans; 1990 - Corn.

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# Watkins Ranch

Walker Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Nine miles west of Huntsville, off Hwy. 30 between Hwy. 30 and FM 1791

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1886-1951	J.K. and Mattie Watkins	Grandparents
1951-1969	Eddie Watkins, Ethel (Watkins) Sadler, Pauline (Watkins) Campbell, Ulysses Watkins	Uncle and aunts, Father
1969-1990	Richard K. Watkins, Dr. Ulysses W. Watkins Jr. and Dr. William B. Watkins	

*J.K. and Mattie Watkins established a country store and allowed many families to work some land and raise their families. The couple had nine children. After World War II, in which all the Watkins' sons served, the land was passed down to all nine children. Today's owners bought their siblings out or inherited land from those who lacked heirs.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 287 **Acres still retained:** 287

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1886 - Cattle, horses, hogs, cotton, corn, and vegetables; 1990 - Cattle, hay, timber, fruit, nuts, and vegetables.

## Brown Farm

Waller Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles southwest of Waller on Baethe Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1925	John Benjamin and Sallie (Bell) Brown	Grandparents
1925-1965	Wallace Wiley and Pearl Brown	Parents
1965-1990	Douglas Eugene Brown	

*John B. Brown was born in Shiloh, Louisiana, and came to Texas with his parents, W.W. and Mary Alice Brown, after the Civil War. Brown became widely known for his seed corn called "Johnny Brown Hickory King Corn." He was co-owner of a German Coach stallion, "Theo," from Germany that was bred with many Waller County mares. Brown served as a county commissioner, a school board member, and he owned a general store. He and Sallie had eight children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 38.5

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, cows, horses, and mules; 1990 - Corn, peanuts, cattle, and hay.

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## Dahse Farm

Waller Co.

**Location of Farm:** Approximately four miles south of Waller on Baethe Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1925	John Benjamin and Sallie Brown	Grandparents
1925-1965	Ross Clements Brown	Uncle to Marlene
1965-1990	Marlene (Haley) and James Dahse	

*John B. Brown was born in Shiloh, Louisiana, and came to Texas with his parents, W.W. and Mary Alice Brown, after the Civil War. Brown became widely known for his seed corn called "Johnny Brown Hickory King Corn." He was co-owner of a German Coach stallion, "Theo," from Germany that was bred with many Waller County mares. Brown served as a county commissioner, a school board member, and he owned a general store. He and Sallie had eight children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, cows, horses, and mules; 1990 - Cattle and hay.

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## Haley's Dairy

Waller Co.

**Location of Dairy:** Five and one-half miles southwest of Waller on Brown Rd.

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1925	John Benjamin and Sallie Brown	Grandparents
1925-1983	Essie Elizabeth (Brown) and Charles Lee Haley	Parents
1925-1958	Norma Brown	Aunt
1958-1983-1990	Layne Haley	

*The daughter of John B. and Sallie Brown, Norma Brown, was born Aug. 28, 1888, in Austin County. She moved to Waller County with her family in 1891. She attended college at San Marcos, taught school in the Monaville area, worked in Bradbury's store in Waller, and also participated in the W.P.A. program. Norma never married, and lived at home taking care of her parents and anyone else needing help. Her cookie jar was always full for the children, and there was always room for one more for eating or sleeping.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 640 **Acres still retained:** 73.50

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Cotton, corn, cows, horses, and mules; 1990 - Dairy and range cows and hay.

## Quebe Farm

Washington Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six miles north of Brenham on County Road 59

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1887-1903	Heinrich and Bertha Quebe	Great-grandparents
1903-1920	Henry Quebe	Grandfather
1920-1963	Emma (Steinbach) Quebe	Grandmother
1963-1987	Ernest Otto Quebe	Uncle
1963-1990	Bertha (Quebe) Minor	Mother
1987-1990	Charlotte (Minor) von Rosenburg and Carla Minor	

*Heinrich Quebe was born in Germany and came to Texas to buy land and make a better life for himself. He bought his land from the Thomas family, which had operated the farm as a cotton plantation with slave labor before the Civil War. Quebe, a cotton gin operator, was one of 12 charter members of St. John's Lutheran Church, founded in 1887. He and his wife, Bertha, had 10 children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 436.5 **Acres still retained:** 81

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1887 - Cotton, corn, family vegetable garden, and various fowl; 1990 - Hay.

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## Werth Ranch

Washington Co.

**Location of Ranch:** Six miles southeast of Brenham on County roads 38 and 39

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1919	J.H. and Lottie Stern	Grandparents
1919-1946	Ernest and Lydia (Stern) Werth	Parents
1946-1990	Raymond and Louise Werth	

*J.H. Stern was born in Austin County. He owned and operated a cotton gin for about 15 years, and he helped get County Road 89 built. He and his wife, Lottie, helped found the community church. The couple had three children. Their son, Ernest, planted a pecan orchard and fruit trees and terraced the land. He and his wife, Lydia, had one son, Raymond, who operates the land, part of which is also owned by Kathy (Werth) Kelly, Don A. Werth and Mark D. Werth.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 319.29 **Acres still retained:** 319.29

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, hay, and livestock; 1990 - Hay and cattle.

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## Collins Farm

Wilbarger Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two miles south and one-half mile west of Odell on FM 91 West

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1933	William Thomas and Emma Collins	Grandparents
1933-1976	Joseph and Myrtle Collins	Parents
1976-1990	Emma Jo (Collins) and William B. Huff Jr. Opal (Martin) Collins (wife of Robert Collins)	

*William Thomas was born in Jackson County, Alabama. He moved his family from Tarrant County to Wilbarger County in 1889 and settled in the Jackson Springs community. In 1898-99, he served as Precinct 3 County Commissioner, and he was elected president of the Bank of Odell when the Orient Railroad was extended to Odell. He and Emma had five children.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 320 **Acres still retained:** 160

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Sorghum, millet, wheat, cotton, alfalfa, and cattle; 1990 - Wheat, cotton, and Shorthorn cattle.

# Bishop Farm

Williamson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three and one-half miles north of Georgetown

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1889-1947	Joe and Eskalana Bishop	Grandparents
1947-1990	Fred and Nallie Bishop	Parents
1990-1990	Glen and Arlene Bishop	

*Joe and Eskalana Bishop bought 76 acres of land on Sept. 26, 1889, from John Berry. They eventually added 232.46 acres and sold six acres outside of the family. The couple raised five boys and three girls. Part of the home that the family currently lives in is 100 years old.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 76 **Acres still retained:** 76

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1889 - Cotton, corn, oats, and sorghum-type hay; 1990 - Wheat and Sudan for hay and cattle.

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# E.D. Mason Farm

Williamson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Three miles southwest of Leander on "Old Bagdad Road"

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1854-1865	Charles C. and Mary Jane Mason	Great-grandparents
1865-1910	Charles C. and Sarah Jane Mason	Grandparents
1910-1978	Ernest D. and Fannie Mason	Parents
1978-1990	Christine Mason	

*Charles C. Mason came to Texas from North Carolina. He bought 100 acres that had two cabins located on it. He eventually added 2,631 acres. He and Mary Jane had nine children. The land passed to their son, Charles C. Mason, who owned a general store in Leander and who was the Leander postmaster.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 100 **Acres still retained:** 100

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1854 - Cotton, grain, corn, cattle, and horses; 1990 - Grazing.

---

# John and Louise Altus Farm

Williamson Co.

**Location of Farm:** At county roads 179 and 175

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1935	John T. and Louise Altus	Grandparents and great-grandparents
1935-1956	Minnie (Altus) and Mark Borho	Parents and grandparents
1956-1990	Edwin and Anna Borho and their children, Curtis Craven Borho and Peggy Joyce (Borho) Simpson	

*John T. and Louise Altus came to Texas from Saxon, Germany. They cleared their 277.5 acres and cultivated the land. In later years, their house was used as the community's voting place. The couple had nine children. The current owners remodeled the old house, of which four rooms are from the original. An original wagon shed is used as a garage.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 277.5 **Acres still retained:** 268

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Corn, cotton, hay, oats, millet, cows, hogs, chickens, ducks, geese, and horses; 1990 - Corn, cotton, maize, wheat, oats, hay, cows, sheep, goats, hogs, and chickens.

# Seggern Farm

Williamson Co.

**Location of Farm:** Six and one-half miles southeast of Taylor

<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1890-1955	H.V. and Anna Seggern	Parents
1955-1990	Oscar Seggern	

*H.V. Seggern came to Texas from Olenburg, Germany to farm in the new country. He bought 82 acres on May 1, 1890, from G.W. Burkett. He added 82 acres to his original purchase. He and his wife, Anna, had nine children, all who became successful farmers.*

**Acres in original parcel:** 82 **Acres still retained:** 82

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1890 - Corn and cotton; 1990 - Cotton, grain, and cattle.

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# Mosier Farm

Wise Co.

**Location of Farm:** Two and one-half miles west of Alvord

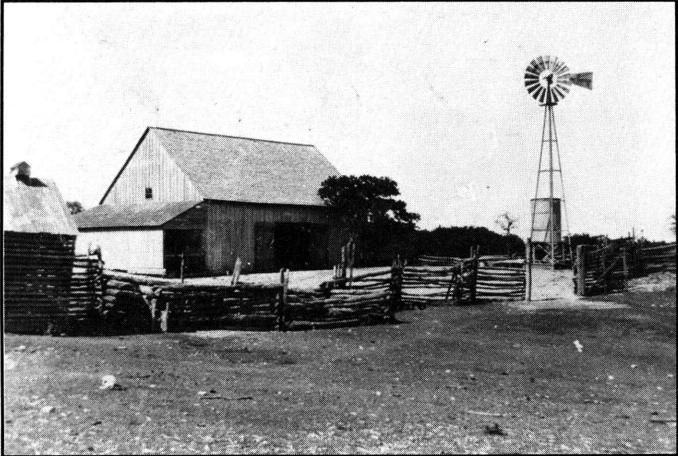
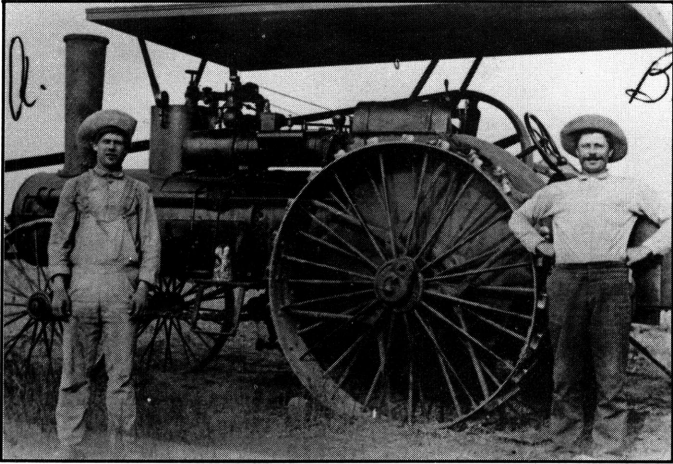
<i>Dates of ownership</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Relationship to current owner</i>
1885-1913	Isaac and Marion Frances "Fannie" Nivens	Grandparents
1913-1953	Katie (Nivens) and L.H. Mosier	Parents
1953-1990	William Ellis and Yvonne Mosier	

*Isaac Nivens was born in Missouri, and he came to Texas to find better land. He bought 170 acres on Dec. 29, 1885, from J.S. Baker. The Nivens had four boys and four girls. A house constructed 100 years ago still stands and is used as a storage building.*

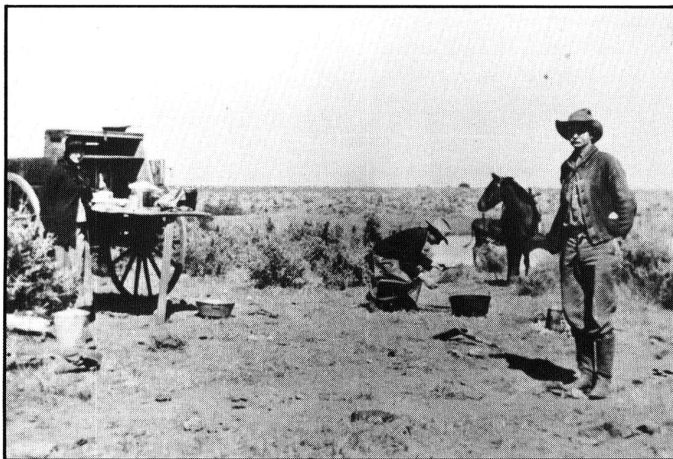
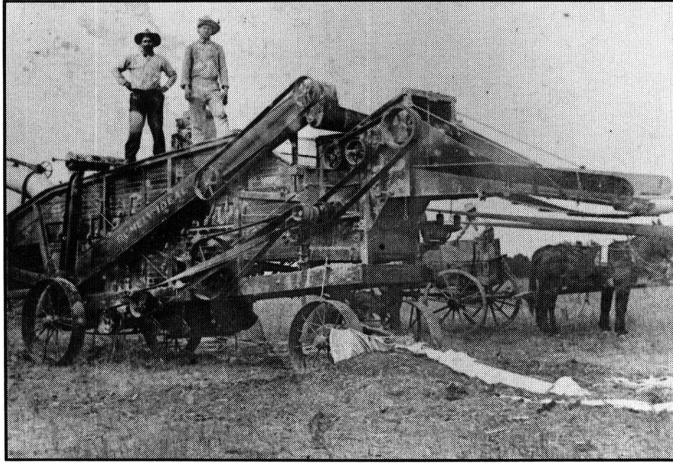
**Acres in original parcel:** 170 **Acres still retained:** 64

**Crops or livestock raised:** 1885 - Cotton, cattle, horses, and hogs; 1990 - Cattle and feed crops.

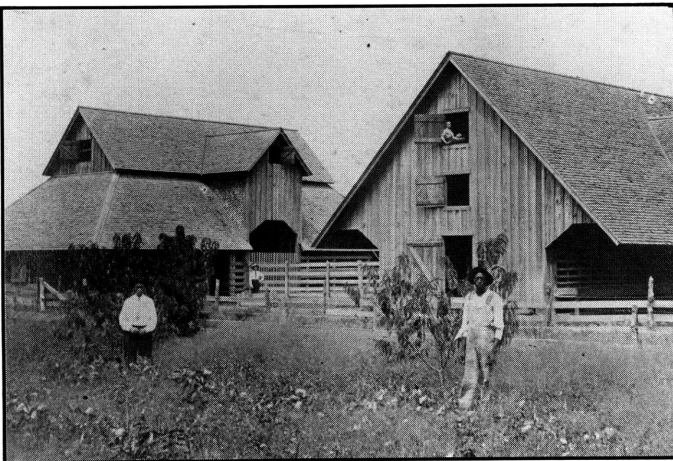
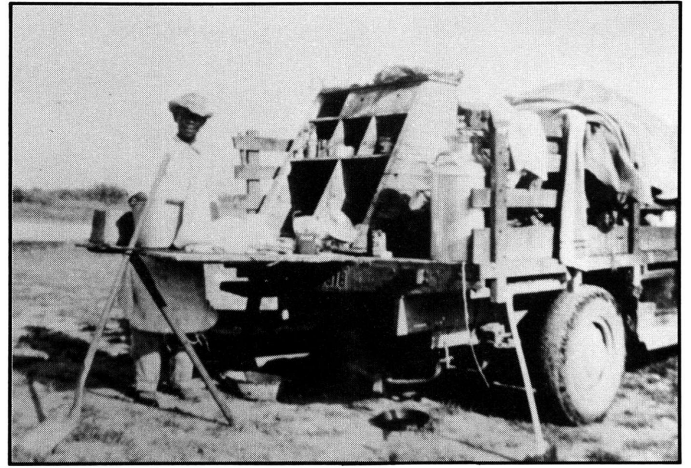
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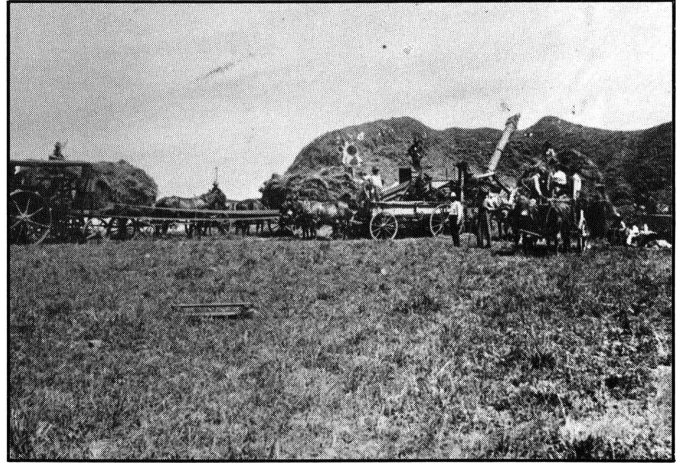














# Index

## A

Adams, Dovie S. 39  
Aiken, Roy L. 100  
Ainsworth, Corrie Spence 167  
Albert, Mrs. and Mrs. Gordon S. 213  
Albrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence 162  
Albrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Emmet 162  
Alexander, Garlon and Jewel 194  
Allen, Gerald and Nancy 14  
Allen, Iva Everett 94  
Allen, J.L. Jr. and Lucille 213  
Allen, Wilma Arnold 221  
Althaus, Priscilla L. 204  
Althaus, Voy and Betty 123  
Anderson, Rita Cook 205  
Andrews, Carl L. 151  
Andrews, Lucile H. 151  
Andrews, Mary Noel 22  
Andrews, Robert O. Jr. 151  
Andrews, Tena C. 151  
Angel, Patricia Joy Moffett 164  
Anglin, Elton 163  
Anglin, Lucile 163  
Arlitt, Ruby 203  
Arnold, Archie T. 221  
Arnold, Billy and Dorothea G. 34  
Arnold, Russell B. 221  
Aschenbeck, Florence Mayer 120  
Atkins, Janet Taylor 170  
Ayers, Henry L. Jr. 161

## B

Bahn, Emil G. 152  
Bahn, John 152  
Bahn, William 152  
Baird, John B. 59  
Baird, Mr. and Mrs. Bobby F. 210  
Baker, Dorothy Morris 138  
Baker, Lillie Honig 133  
Baker, Patsy C. 135  
Ballew, Pearl Perry 75  
Ballew, Tommie Nell 75  
Barbee, H.J. 17  
Barber, Carl H. 139  
Barnett, Curtis H.W. 75  
Barrera, Hector 73  
Barrera, Manuel F. 73  
Barrett, Billy 165  
Barrett, E.D. 165  
Barrett, Ezell 165  
Barrett, Lemual 165  
Barrett, Pelton 165  
Barrett, Wallace and Anna Pearl 165  
Barrier, James A. 195  
Barth, Bettie Karger 173  
Barton, Roy L. and Listene 64  
Barton, Willorene W. 26  
Bassham, Brian D. 215  
Bassham, Frank W. 215  
Bassham, Marion C. 215  
Beavers, Elizabeth Hurst 168  
Beddingfield, Jimmy 175  
Bednar, Angelina 7  
Bedsole, J.T. and Curtis 175  
Behrendt, Herbert 86  
Behrendt, Hertha 86  
Behrendt, Malinda 86  
Bell, Delores Barrett 165  
Bell, Frank R. 37  
Bell, Henry T. 195  
Bennett, Wilford E. 88  
Berry, Jack 20  
Betts, Edith Maeckel 110  
Biediger, Dennis and Karen 135  
Bird, Mrs. Ellis 124  
Bishop, Glen and Arlene 225  
Black, Henry Jack 60  
Black, William R. 60  
Blackwell, Lavona V. 62  
Bland, Roy H. Jr. and Norma 66  
Blow, Ethel 155  
Blow, Melvin 155  
Bludau, Anthony and Joyce 175  
Blume, Eugene and Lorene 125  
Bodden, John G. Jr. 41  
Boehle, Lewis R. 50  
Bohot, Robert 28  
Bone, Jack A. 115  
Bone, Marcus R. 115  
Bone, Thomas A. 115  
Bone, William A. 115  
Borho, Curtis Craven 225  
Borho, Edwin and Anna 225  
Boriack, Richard 175  
Borrer, Mr. and Mrs. Hope 124  
Boswell, Mary Jo Pounds 19  
Bouldin, Malcolm 163  
Bowser, Gerald and Gwyn 88  
Brackin, Maxine Williams 54  
Braden, Reuben 16  
Bradford, Calvin Lee 218

Branch, Hettye Wallace 177  
Branch, Sue Edington 154  
Brandt, Arthur H. 119  
Brandt, Donald L. 118, 119  
Brautigam, Walter J. 99  
Breazeale, William G. and Loraine B. 38  
Brent, LaVerta Adams 217  
Brewster, Lou Bell Barton 154  
Bright, Lee Ella May 85  
Brooks, Roy S. and Jack Christal 116  
Brown, Carl T. 166  
Brown, Douglas E. 223  
Brown, James C. Jr. and Sarah A.J. 35  
Brown, Leah Mitchell' 75  
Brown, Lorene Maeckel 110  
Brown, Ronnie Cam 124  
Bruemmer, Arlon W. and Carol L. 9  
Bruemmer, Udo and Vera 9  
Bruemmer, Virginia H. 9  
Brumlow, Imogene Foreman 161  
Bruns, Mabel Jochen 26  
Bruton, Eleanor Gresser 160  
Buchala, Victoria 71  
Buchanan, Bettie 152  
Buckley, Jean 45  
Buie, Donald F. 36  
Buie, Earl G. 46  
Buie, Johnnie G. 36  
Bujnoch, Leon G. 174  
Burgess, Johnnie Stephens 179  
Burk, Mary Ann 52  
Burns, B.W. Jr. 208  
Burns, Jim Henry 166  
Burns, Toddie and Doris M. 62  
Burttschell, Joe and Alice Reichardt 155  
Butler, Boyd and Trudie 156  
Buttrill, Vivian Stovall 206  
Byrd, Lester S. and Janie R. 137

## C

Callan, James and Mamie A. 37  
Carlisle, Fred 98  
Carlton, J.J. 61  
Carpenter, Bobby C. 67  
Carroll, Carol A. 152  
Carson, Ruby Strain 10  
Casey, William J. and Betty A. 219  
Chaffin, Joe and Juanita Starr 109  
Chapa, Joe 35  
Chapman, Carolyn Fitzgerald 181  
Chauveaux, Mr. and Mrs. John B. 109  
Chester, Marie White 88  
Chiles, Lula G. 49  
Choice, BenTaye Stevenson 166

Christinek, Mae Dell H. 63  
Christopher, Sally Davis 128  
Clack, Jack and Vera Morris 218  
Clark, Harold C. Jr. 35  
Clark, Isaac E. and Lila N. 118  
Clayton, Asell Mumme 97  
Cleveland, John and Margaret 36  
Cloud, Jerry D. 68  
Cofer, Chesleigh 181  
Cofer, George 181  
Cofer, Patsy 181  
Cofer, Tina 181  
Cole, King 47  
Cole, Ralph 47  
Colley, John Ripley 7  
Collins, Joe 102  
Collins, Opal Martin 224  
Collins, Tom Jr. 102  
Condra, Margaret Watson 191  
Conner, Oscar P. and Lillar 90  
Cook, Robert L. Jr. 85  
Cook, William B. 11  
Cooke, Mr. and Mrs. John L. 124  
Cooper, Melvin R. 139  
Corbett, Larry 19  
Corder, Mary Louise 32  
Cornelius, Nellie N. 95  
Cox, Billy V. and Sheila 198  
Cox, Howard N. 112  
Cox, May Reed 145  
Cox, Robert B. 104  
Craig, Mary P. 37  
Crittendon, Lynn H. and Katherine Moore 130  
Croxtton, Paula Carruth 191  
Crozier, Lessie Martin 124  
Crum, Wilmer 53  
Culwell, Wess A. and Bonnie 137  
Cunningham, Newell 178  
Cutler, Tommy Ben 89

## D

Dabney, John B. II 11  
Dahse, James and Marlene 223  
Danmann, Lloyd J. 86  
Danford, Martha B. Coats 94  
Dannelly, Thomas and Nelda Gomillion 154  
Dansby, Gussie 153  
Dansby, Horace P. Jr. 153  
Davis, Billy H. and Annie L. 139  
Dean, Jimmie and Olita M. 48  
DeBord, Steve 43  
Dement, Robert L. 104  
Dickerson, Nell B. 12  
Dickey, Hudie H. 13

Dickey, Johnnie L. 26  
Dickey, Miller B. 13  
Dixon, Addie Barrett 165  
Dodson, William P. and Mary H. 221  
Doggett, June Turner 220  
Dooley, Mary Chauveaux 109  
Dorsey, Ralph G. 100  
Doss, Elbert and Opal Starr 109  
Dosser, Woodrow W. and Annie M. 215  
Dowd, W.D. and Norene Williams 156  
Dozier, Vernon and Mary 115  
Draper, Roddie P. 49  
Dube, Wallace and Correen 111  
Durst, Teddy E. and Deborah J. 48

## E

Eaker, Susan Cook 205  
Ebeling, Ralph M. 112  
Eckert, Doris Evers 203  
Edgar, Cybril and Chloe 79  
Edington, Wilda Klutts 154  
Edwards, Harold H. 36  
Edwards, James L. 17  
Edwards, Raymond C. 114  
Ehrhardt, Bernard W. 126  
Eichholz, Gerhard and Ruby 132  
Ellebracht, Elizabeth A. 29  
Ellerman, Henry A. 63  
Enderby, William and Dorothy 114  
Erben, Roland W. and Gladys K. 16  
Ernster, Kathleen 157  
Estep, Clyde and Elizabeth 58  
Everett, John and Sandra 199  
Ezell, Edward H. 203

## F

Fairbairn, Garland T. 45  
Fairbairn, Grady L. 45  
Fairbairn, Ida R. 45  
Fairbairn, James M. 45  
Farley, W.B. and Marjory 14  
Fenske, David and Operea 25  
Fields, John D. Jr. and Carla 61  
Fields, John W. 61  
Fields, Katheryn Funk 208  
Fields, Loise 60  
Finch, Gary L. and Myrna W. 12  
Fisher, Ernest and Neta Jean 177  
Fitzgerald, William 181  
Fleming, John and Lou 176  
Flinn, J. Houston 197  
Flint, Lester 176  
Flukinger, John M. 143

Flynn, Jack Herman Jr. 145  
Fogle, Mary W. 26  
Ford, George D. 55  
Ford, Joe A. 55  
Ford, Justine 55  
Forrest, J.D. and Lucille 79  
Forst, Thurman and Evelyn Parsons 127  
Foster, Hoyt M. and Doris A. 72  
Fowler, D.C. 177  
Fowler, T.P. Jr. 177  
Franklin, Claude Jr. and Elaine 214  
Franklin, Murray Jr. and Bessie 214  
Frazier, Ruth White 15  
Frerichs, Ore Nell 117  
Frey, Joe B. 24  
Freyer, Merle V. 29  
Funk, Joseph Jr. 208  
Fuqua, Thomas B. Jr. 125

## G

Galyes, Judy Barrett 165  
Gantz, Linda and Louis 33  
Gantz, Linda R. 32  
Garcia, Nelda L. 41  
Gardner, William C. 10  
Garrison, Troy E. 57  
Garza, Gilberto A. and Delfina A. 35  
Garza, Octavio and Felisa 73  
Garza, Paul Z. 11  
Gaskey, J.R. and Martha W. 25  
George, Opal 116  
Gerdes, Archie 50  
Getschmann, Junell Hoehne 200  
Geye, Martin L. 18  
Giese, Leerie R. 120  
Giesenschlag, Melvin A. 74  
Gilbert, Lillie Hoffmeister 165  
Giles, Edith S. 91  
Glass, James D. 219  
Glass, Paul 13  
Glenewinkel, Mr. and Mrs. Erich C. 151  
Goeke, Mr. and Mrs. Burgess C. 188  
Goeke, Roy Lee 188  
Golden, C.L. 31  
Golden, L.A. 31  
Goodnight, Lena S. 129  
Goodwin, Julia Lane 152  
Goss, Ida Bassham 215  
Graham, Verna E. McNabb 141  
Grantham, Molly Holland 92  
Green, Joe M. 113  
Greenwell, Barbara Strain 10  
Greenwood, Stanley Jr. and Ruth B. 76  
Gregory, Thomas and Bessie 132



Griffin, Bill F. 218  
Griffith, Sam G. 102  
Griffith, Stephen L. 102  
Grobe, Bertha 84  
Grohmann, Eugene and Billie 200  
Grohmann, Marvin and Thelma 200  
Grohmann, Weinart A. 202  
Grubbs, Mary Elizabeth 210  
Gueldner, Harold and Edna 63  
Guest, Cecil 33  
Gummelt, George 174

## H

Haarmeyer, Fritz and Annie Kuhlmann 144  
Haas, Debbie Koch 9  
Hagy, Elmina Barrera 73  
Hairgrove, Lyndell 218  
Hale, Virginia D. 32  
Haley, Layne 223  
Hall, Carl D. 18  
Hall, Ellen Bone 115  
Hansen, Vernon A. and Bobbie Jean 200  
Hanson, Mable 51  
Harbich, Andrew 77  
Harbich, Charles and Teresa 77  
Harbich, James 77  
Harbich, Marilyn 77  
Hardeman, Mark and Mary F. 60  
Harkey, Riley C. 102  
Harlan, Thomas P. III 85  
Harper, Thomas H. and Irma 81  
Harrell, Sharon Sue 31  
Harris, Betty Smith 170  
Harris, Gus V. Jr. and Barbara L. 92  
Harris, Vance L. 217  
Harrison, George and Linda 58  
Harrison, Henrietta Winslow 136  
Hart, William L. 145  
Hartman, Walter F. Jr. 80  
Harvey, Hazel B. 91  
Harvey, Inez Perkins 117  
Harvey, Ruby M. 151  
Hassell, Ethmer C. 84  
Hattermann, Paul and Melba Walker 198  
Haude, Almeta 165  
Haude, Henry E. 207  
Hearne, Carolyn Buie 36  
Hebert, Martin R. Jr. 131  
Hebert, Mrs. Martin R. 130  
Heideman, Raymond 127  
Helms, Jim Berry 77  
Henderson, Anna Honig 133  
Hendrickson, Thomas S. 157  
Henley, Danny 129

Hervey, Virginia C. 45  
Hester, Joe P. and Lila B. 113  
Hicks, S.D. and Marie McLemore 171  
Hightower, Barley and Wilma Blauvelt 174  
Hildebrandt, Erma Holdenrieth 87  
Hillegeist, Earl 87  
Hillegeist, Roy 87  
Hiller, Frances 157  
Hilliard, Catherine J. 49  
Hitt, Betty Jo Zeibig 121  
Hobbs, Mary Frances Althaus 161  
Hoehne, Lawrence C. 200  
Hoermann, Sidney and Wanda K. 32  
Hoerster, Franklin and Jane 95  
Hoffman, Johnnie and Elaine P. 43  
Hoffmester, August L. 165  
Hohmann, Bobby D. 162  
Hohmann, Maurice D. 162  
Hohmann, Mr. and Mrs. Roland C. 162  
Hohmann, Patrick 162  
Holland, Rufe and Zane 92  
Honig, Adolph, Vera and Emily 133  
Honig, Alta 133  
Huff, William B. Jr. and Emma Jo Collins 224  
Hughes, Herman and Inez Withers 171  
Huitt, Patricia Newberry 54  
Humphrey, William W. 217  
Hunter, Jack 34  
Hunter, Roy 175  
Hurst, Fred 168  
Hurst, Guy Jr. 169  
Hurst, Joseph Newton 169

## I

Ivy, Gregory 175

## J

Jackson, Normadene Walters 102  
Jefferson, Barbara L. 152  
Jenkins, Bertha 196  
Jenkins, Lonnie A. 196  
Jochen, Thelma 27  
Johnson, Alvis F. Jr. 61  
Johnson, Effie Gregory 133  
Johnson, Thomas W. 126  
Johnston, Rodney G. 183  
Jonas, August Sr. 9  
Jones, Allen Ray 57  
Jones, Billy Joe 56  
Jones, Oliver J. Sr. 101  
Jordan, D.R. 50  
Julian, Phoebe A. 90  
Julian, Phoebe P. 37

## K

Kacir, Pauline 157  
Kappler, William C. and Linda 93  
Kaspar, Aurleen Keilers 82  
Kasper, Lanelle S. 44  
Keilers, Alois 82  
Kelm, Florence M. 63  
Kelsay, Royal E. Jr. 209  
Kerlick, Herman and Ella L. 21  
Kerr, Mary Alice Brelsford 123  
Key, Eugene 204, 205  
Kiesewetter, Ervin L. 8  
Kilpatrick, Corrie Conner 167  
Kincaid, Charles and Cynthia 179  
King, Anne Hall 101  
King, Gerald I. 101  
King, Jack Richard 132  
King, Leamon and Alice 89  
Kiolbassa, Ed and Bettie C. 33  
Klause, Virginia Hoehne 200  
Kleihege, Regina O. 201  
Klein, Esther Koennecke 122  
Klemm, Jerald and Athie Wallace 155  
Knape, Eldon Jr. 201  
Knox, Bernice Barrett 165  
Koch, Alton E. and Kathleen B. 9  
Koch, Helmuth M. and Joyce 9  
Koen, Emmett K. Jr. 143  
Koennecke, Chester 204  
Koennecke, Martin 122  
Koennecke, Olga Mayer 122  
Koennecke, Ralph 204  
Kohls, Charles E. 131  
Korenek, Joan Nitsch 206  
Kostroun, Mudith Mueck 98  
Kothmann, Warren 48  
Krenmueller, Elva Mumme 97  
Krueger, Dalton H. 71  
Krueger, Laura Boecker 71  
Krupala, Eugene 26  
Kuhlmann, Herman and Margaret 93  
Kurtz, Joe 27  
Kusenberger, Levy and Dorothy 30

## L

Labus, Harvey I. 172  
Ladd, Jefferson C. and Nora 94  
Landers, Ronda Sens 110  
Landua, Lespa C. and Adelina 64  
Langlinaia, Margaret Thompson 189  
Lashbrook, Mulda Mayer 122  
Lassman, Gary Lynn 79  
Laufer, Dolores Witt 119

Lawrence, Jesse 53  
Lawrence, Leslie and Margaret Starr 109  
Leamon, Nester L. 55  
Leck, Gus and Connie Hans 80  
Ledbetter, Leta C. 99  
Lee, J. Nelson and Joanne 78  
Lee, Laverne Capps 95  
Leeder, Arlen Gus 210  
Leeder, Lester Wayne 211  
Leifeste, Alvin D. 177  
Leo, Robert and America C. 21  
Lich, Ruth Grobe 84  
Little, Angela Blue 112  
Lively, Lottie F. 214  
Livesay, William R. and Kittie S. 47  
Locklear, Mary Kirkpatrick 153  
Loftin, Thomas L. 170  
London, George D. 220  
London, Guy W. 220  
Lott, Charles T. and Nila 187  
Love, Margaret K. 58  
Love, Mary C. 58  
Low, Elizabeth Sue 140  
Luckey, Mildred 51  
Lyles, Robert F. 55

## M

Macgregor, Anita Harvey 91  
Maddox, Mary Pfeifer 209  
Maeckel, Leland 110  
Maeckel, Marvin 110  
Malone, Carolyn K. 20  
Manahan, Charles and Deb 29  
Maner, June Koch 9  
Manford, Knox E. and Jean S. 33  
Manford, Margie R. 33  
Marek, Jane Mueck 98  
Marquardt, Raymond 173  
Marshall, Barbara Stevenson 166  
Marshall, Bruce and Ann 220  
Martin, Daniel L. and Leona T. 24  
Martin, Marianne Bolton 117  
Martin, Maurine Arnold 221  
Mashburn, Nancy B. 39  
Mason, Christine 225  
Maxwell, James and Alice Kinsey 158  
Mayer, Carl 122  
Mayer, Emil 122  
Mayer, Emma 122  
Mayer, Ida 122  
McAdams, Mrs. Terry Edington 154  
McAnally, Wanda J. 14  
McCaig, A.M. and Nina L. 134  
McCann, Kelly and Lori 109



McClintock, Haskell and Lois Starr 109  
McCollum, Joe F. and Barbara A. 22  
McCowan, Ennis 103  
McCromick, George B. 159  
McCune, Homer M. and Gussie 56  
McDonald, Thaddeus A. and Mary L. 111  
McGowen, Maxine McCowan 103  
McGuire, Jerry and Edith 67  
McKelvey, Lawrence and Nell 125  
McLemore, Bobbie F. 130  
McLemore, Ivy Earl 171  
McLemore, James W. 209  
McLeod, Joan Douglas 122  
McLeod, Margaret M. 81  
McLeon, Joan Williams 122  
McMichael, Elaine Fowler 177  
McMillan, Minnie Wilson 216  
McQuown, Bruce 181  
McQuown, Nancy Fitzgerald 181  
McQuown, Paul 181  
McSpadden, Gerald S. 216  
McSpadden, Ralph D. 216  
Meany, Dan 53  
Meier, Dolores Hurtig 181  
Mercer, Smith A. 144  
Mercer, Smith A. Jr. 144  
Mercer, Thomas Frank 144  
Merrell, Dexter L. 202  
Merrell, Lena Kay 202  
Merrell, Mark W. 202  
Merrell, Richard T. 202  
Mertis, Reba S. 13  
Meyer, Adrian F. 188  
Meyer, Gordon E. 222  
Meyer, Mary Hoffmeister 165  
Milam, Dorothy Jean 74  
Miller, Adolph and Esther 146  
Miller, David and Ronita 96  
Miller, Ernest E. and Charm M. 41  
Miller, George and Flora Starr 109  
Miller, Leslie 198  
Mims, Raymond and Lena M. 129  
Minor, Carla 224  
Mints, Wendell L. and Patricia C. 146  
Mitchell, Walter P. 173  
Mitchell, William H. II and Gladys 81  
Moellering, Stacey Althaus 161  
Moffett, Frank L. 164  
Moran, C.J. and Allene Ellisor 128  
Morgan, Aubrey D. 142  
Morgan, Ida Mae 214  
Morris, Alfred E. 138  
Morris, Lela W. 26  
Morris, Mildred Bell 139

Mosier, William E. and Yvonne 226  
Mosley, Charles and Verlyn L. 71  
Mozisek, Brian 159  
Mozisek, Daniel 119  
Mueck, Dennis A. 98  
Mueck, Jerry K. 98  
Mueck, Joe Paul II 98  
Mueck, Larry J. 98  
Mueck, Martin 98  
Muehlhause, Benjamin and Leola 72  
Mueller, Edmund E. and Mildred Huck 157  
Mumme, John A. 96  
Muse, Vonceil Fowler 177

## N

Nabors, Golden Ann 20  
Nabors, Grover L. 20  
Nance, Helen Blow 155  
Neal, Edward M. 20  
Neighbors, Ann Hurst 169  
Neitsch, John and Lydia R. 66  
Nelius, Lloyd Jr. and Marie E. 28  
Nester, Kathy McQuown 181  
Newberry, Mabel 54  
Newman, Frank F. Jr. 86  
Newman, Jocelyn Mumme 97  
Nitsch, Patrick A. 206  
Nitsch, Patrick and JoAnn 164  
Nixon, Gary L. 93  
Nixon, Raymond G. 93  
Norrell, Jane Ann 75  
Northam, Leo and Twylah 102  
Northington, Anita W. 182  
Northington, George IV 182  
Northington, John W. 182

## O

O'Brien, Richard and Earline P. 27  
Oestreich, Clyde Earl 212  
Oestreich, Horace H. 212  
Oliveira, Leonel and Isabel C. 21  
Orive, Daniel G. 194

## P

Pacher, Adolph and Emma 110  
Park, Stella Cogburn 78  
Parker, Johnny and Eileen 109  
Parsonage, Howard and Virginia L. 134  
Pate, Vera P. 37  
Patterson, Oleta D. 138  
Patterson, W.B. and Ginger 138  
Patteson, Arthur L. 124  
Patteson, Beulah B. 124

Patteson, Bruce 124  
Patteson, Ethel M. 124  
Pawelek, Alvin E. 172  
Peace, Charles and Oleta S. 59  
Pearsall, Elizabeth Barrett 165  
Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy 212  
Pennington, Troy and LaWanda 38  
Perez, Rebecca G. 11  
Perskey, Gus and Virginia 65  
Pfluger, Christian W. Jr. and Hilma 184  
Pierce, Katie Gwen 202  
Pigg, Lola Jane 202  
Pike, Ruth Foster 205  
Poland, John D. 172  
Polansky Ranch Partnership 193  
Porter, Lillie 23  
Porter, W.G. 23  
Potts, Thomas and Bertie G. 39  
Pounds, J. Dean 18  
Pounds, Wendell J. 19  
Powell, Florence G. 11  
Prause, Sammy Neiland 191  
Priddy, Ray 99  
Proffer, Wendell 78  
Puckett, Sadie Weddell 141  
Purdie, Betty Ann Morris 138  
Purvis, Mills Clemons 156  
Purvis, Nora Burdette 156

## Q

Qualia, Thomas M. 142  
Quinn, Gloria Rose Wood 164

## R

Radde, Delmer A. and Helen 77  
Rahlwes, Otto and Alice 197  
Ramirez, Victoria Bustamante 184  
Ransey, Wanda J. 59  
Ranzau, Bruno 131  
Ratcliff, Mary Ellen W. 53  
Rath, Willie Jr. and Ann E. 80  
Ray, Clara Struwe 193  
Reck, Freddie Garland 187  
Reed, Charles O. Jr. 190  
Reed, William S. and Lucile 146  
Reese, Margie M. 74  
Reichardt, Otto Jr. and Fay 155  
Reichert, Oscar and Sybil 178  
Reid, Ruby L. 114  
Reilly, Anita Walters 102  
Reininger, Anna Stevens 189  
Rheman, Betty Benignus 181  
Rhodes, Hope Cannon 213

Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. III 81  
Rice, Mr. and Mrs. William M. 81  
Richardson, Thomas Holland 207  
Richter, Aubrey and Dorothy 190  
Riddle, Scott 208  
Rigsby, Frankie Mae 56  
Rigsby, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander 221  
Rigsby, Nathaniel 221  
Rigsby, Sandra Stevenson 166  
Riley, Lois Yarbrough 158  
Rippetoe, Mary E. 216  
Ristau, Rudolf 162  
Rogers, Charles and Beoma 30  
Rollings, Neil and Eloise 98  
Roquemore, Lexa Stephens 179  
Ross, Alton 222  
Ross, Howard 222  
Rowan, Stella Hobbs 143  
Rushing, Doyle J. 193  
Rushing, Rebecca Blue 112  
Russell, Dora M. 43  
Ryan, Etta Jane 42

## S

Saathoff, Victor M. 135  
Samsom, Ruby E. 44  
Sanders, John and Nelda McDonnell 163  
Saufley, Alva Gene 197  
Sawyer, John L. 176  
Schaefer, Viola and Marvin 33  
Schlabach, Leroy 201  
Schmitt, Alice Keilers 82  
Schultz, Lawrence A. and Ernestine 8  
Schultz, Margie Lee 33  
Schuster, Wilford and Marlene 215  
Scott, A.D. and Mabel Butman 219  
Seale, Alma E. 23  
Sees, Neta McCromick 159  
Seggern, Oscar 226  
Sens, Calvin 110  
Sens, Mark 110  
Sepulveda, Leopoldo V. 22  
Shalin, Dianna 77  
Shaver, Mr. and Mrs. W.C. 137  
Sheffield, Gerald W. 104  
Sheffield, Gerald W. and Bettie 144  
Shepherd, Janet Winger 196  
Sherman, Frankie B. 59  
Shumann, Laura J. 71  
Sides, Edgar and Hazel 90  
Sikorski, Sharon 120  
Simnacher, Fannie Sneed 142  
Simpson, Mary Ann 111  
Simpson, Peggy Borho 225

Sims, William P. Jr. 24  
Sink, Myra Thomas 89  
Sisco, Alice Weddell 103  
Smith, Billy J. 207  
Smith, Blake IV 46  
Smith, Carl August Jr. 113  
Smith, June D. 52  
Smith, Lowell N. Jr. and Shirley 91  
Smith, Lucille Cook 85  
Smith, Michael Q. and Mary S. 103  
Smith, Robert P. Jr. 46  
Smith, Ronald J. and Elizabeth 183  
Smith, Shelli Ann 46  
Smith, Shirley A. 20  
Smith, Virginia J. 46  
Smith, Winburn L. and Alice G. 183  
Smitherman, Blue Eyes 39  
Smitherman, Joe Edd 39  
Soefje, James U. 17  
Solomon, L.V. 59  
Sommerfeld, Howard and Birdie B. 64  
Sorrel, Frank D. Jr. 65  
Spacek, Milton and Alice 109  
Speckels, Bruce 120  
Speckels, Marvin 120  
Spence, Cleveland Jackson 167  
Spenrath, Martin A. III 211  
Springfield, Don and Mary 178  
Springs, Mrs. Jimmy 124  
Stafford, James H. and Mamie R. 7  
Stahmer, Cathleen Witt 119  
Stanley, Bobby L. 179  
Stanley, John H. 182  
Starks, Thomas R. 134  
Starr, Donald and Loy E. 109  
Statser, William F. and Oleta F. 121  
Stech, Leonard and Berry Lou Brandt 118  
Steed-Gauthier, Suzanne 167  
Stefka, Daniel J. and Rosalie 74  
Stell, Harold 38  
Stell, John W. and Doris 38  
Stephens, Hugh C. 179  
Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. James E. 179  
Stephenson, Fay 199  
Stephenson, Wilbur L. and Joe Marie 23  
Stevenson, Benjamin F. 166  
Stevenson, Major W. 166  
Stevenson, Mollie T. II 166  
Stewart, Donald 197  
Stewart, Harvey 197  
Stewart, Mark and Lillie 36  
Stiles, Steven W. 147  
Stoldt, Virginia Hartman 80  
Stone, Dale E. and Jo Ann 116

Story, Mattie S. 39  
Stout, Gilbert D. and Katie 62  
Strain, Joseph L. 10  
Strandtmann, Russell W. and Mary Ruth 76  
Strawther, Patsy W. 47  
Streit, Gary 65  
Stribling, Inez 180  
Stryk, Janice 27  
Stryk, Mary Ann 27  
Stryk, Robert 27  
Sumbera, Jerry I. and Antonia 28  
Summers, William F. II 52  
Swenson, T.D. and Velma 133  
Swanson, Esther Hoffmeister 165

## T

Taylor, Jeffrey L. 202  
Taylor, Johnny P. 202  
Taylor, Virginia Faye 202  
Thomas, Enoth L. 89  
Thomas, Pauline A. 89  
Thomason, Frank Jr. 211  
Thomason, Irene E. 211  
Thomason, John M. 211  
Tillerson, Burlie and Nora 15  
Tinney, Anna Lea 157  
Tison, John R. 42  
Todd, J. Orville 57  
Todd, Milton W. 46  
Trautwein, Verlin J. and Colleen 199  
Treybig, Elton 202  
Tuggle, Lum and Sarah Hendricks 158  
Tumelty, Thomas and Ila Mae 184  
Turner, Leslie D. 180  
Turner, Maxwell and Lillie 180  
Turner, Percy R. and Helen 220  
Turner, Roscoe 180  
Tye, J.M. and Jessie Stephens 179

## U

Ullrich, Willie A. and Verlie 84  
Ulrich, Eugene and Virginia Brandt 121

## V

Van Winkle, Curtis and Mary K. 45  
Vasser, Hollis 25  
Versyp, Hollis A. 180  
Vogelsang, Glen G. and Mary B. 16  
Volk, Jonnie S. 29  
von Rosenburg, Charlotte Minor 224  
Voss, James M. 8  
Vowan, Benjamin and Mary Ann 15

## W

Wagener, Ann Brelsford 123  
Wahrmund, Gustav A. 123  
Walch, John and Irene Boehle 96  
Waldstreicher, Voleta Beasley 187  
Walker, Annette 39  
Walker, Campbell Lee 100  
Walker, Dona H. 38  
Walker, Gene C. 100  
Walker, Libbie Thompson 122  
Walker, Margaret Williams 122  
Wallace, Henry C. Jr. 152  
Ward, Margaret Hendrick 190  
Ward, Sandra Sens 110  
Wardlaw, Herbert 60  
Warner, Bonnie Nell 76  
Warner, Norma Bell 76  
Watkins, Richard K. 222  
Watkins, Ulysses Jr. 222  
Watkins, William B. 222  
Watson, Arline P. Brandt 118  
Weaver, Donald J. and Patricia 136  
Webb, LaVerne May 85  
Weber, Glorie S. 44  
Weddell, Ruth I. 103  
Weiman, Inez 34  
Weinacht, Don and Ellen 138  
Weinheimer Ranch, Inc. 30  
Wells, Edward M. 188  
Werth, Raymond and Louise 224  
Westbrook, Minnie Ola 12  
Westmoreland, Richard P. 47  
Wheeler, Frank A. Jr. 31  
Whisenant, Opal Virginia 159  
Whisenhunt, Floyd A. 26  
Whisenhunt, Forest 26  
Whisenhunt, Jimmie 26  
Whitaker, Jack and Lottie Stephens 179  
Whitcomb, Gail H. 126  
White, John W. Jr. and May R. 214  
White, Sue Stiles 147  
White, T.J. and Velma Eggen 115  
White, Warren and Dee 128  
Whitely, Lena Faye May 85  
Whitley, John T. and Agnes V. 67  
Whitney, Alton W. 73  
Whitney, Raymond H. 73  
Wicker, Nolan and Elaine Goeke 189  
Wiemers, Tim 51  
Wilhelm, Mildred Perkins 117  
Wilkinson, Vernon R. 136  
Williams, Benoit and Joyce W. 105  
Williams, Claude L. 54

Williams, Don B. 142  
Williams, Ellis E. and Bert F. 175  
Williams, Heber Lee 140  
Williams, James C. Jr. 142  
Williams, Margaret Steed 122  
Williams, Marjorie Bagley 212  
Williams, Morgan K. 142  
Wills, Freddie Hayne 168  
Wilson, Otis and Mary 141  
Windham, Larrie and Lucille S. 59  
Winfree, Lester M. 53  
Winger, Dorothy Mae 195  
Winn, John H. Jr. and Rosa P. 10  
Winters, Thelma L. 29  
Wiseman, Charles 111  
Wiseman, Ed 111  
Witt, Prentice G. 92  
Wolf, Dan and Evelyn 72  
Wolfe, Brooksie Boyd 51  
Womack, Betty Jane 196  
Wood, Betty Ruth 202  
Wood, Gerald G. 206  
Wood, Raymond G. and Sue 42  
Woodard, Minnie Lee 66  
Woodward, John F. Jr. 153  
Wortham, Elsie J. 73  
Wottrich, Donald and Arlene 87  
Wylie, Willva C. 127

## Y

Yarbrough, Warren D. 158  
Young, Clara Sens 110  
Young, Nancy Newcomb 194

## Z

Zamora, Alonzo G. 11  
Zamora, Pedro F. 11  
Ziegler, Lester 44  
Zinsmeyer, Clara 135  
Zinsmeyer, Edwin and Virginia 135  
Zinsmeyer, James 135  
Zinsmeyer, Patrick and Norma 135  
Zoch, Erwin T. 82  
Zuehlke, Ira Dement 104



