Robert Kanady Mayes served in a local Confederate cavalry regiment, and owned a sizable amount of property in the Euless area not long after the War. He later moved to Young County, where he died in 1917 and is buried. He was a brother of two of our other veterans, Charles C. Mayes and William W. Mayes. Several genealogists have placed material on him and his family at Ancestry.com.

Family sources say Mr. Mayes was born October 10, 1842 in Shelby County, Missouri, and was a son of Thomas B. Mayes and his wife, Elvira Leake. By 1850 Robert was in Dallas County, Texas with his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. John Cooper Cook. Charles’s maternal grandparents died in Dallas County shortly before the War.

When the 1860 census was taken, the family lived in Precinct 1 of Dallas County, Texas. Mr. Cook had died, and the family was headed by Robert’s and William’s mother, Elvira. Also living with the family were several children surnamed Cook.

Robert K. Mayes married Anna Louisa Lacy on November 15, 1863. She was a daughter of James Lacy (1823-1851) and his wife, Elizabeth Reed (1824-1851), both of whom died in Mason County, Kentucky. Anna Lacy was born September 15, 1846 in Mason County, Kentucky. Even though he died in Kentucky, copies of James Lacy’s estate documents wound up in Tarrant County, Texas for a variety of complicated reasons. Lacy’s estate documents were among the few papers which survived the disastrous Tarrant County court house fire in 1876.

Robert Mayes was nineteen years old when he enlisted at Mansfield in
Tarrant County on October 26, 1861 in Capt. Thomas O. Moody’s Company, 3rd Regiment, Sibley’s Brigade, Texas Mounted Volunteers. This subsequently became Co. K, 7th Texas Cavalry. He was mustered into the Confederate service on November 15, 1861 at Camp Pickett near San Antonio, Texas. He had ridden three hundred miles to the rendezvous. He presented himself for service riding a horse worth eighty five dollars and with equipment worth thirty dollars.

On February 11, 1862 Mr. Mayes lost his horse from some unspecified cause. On February 20 he was remounted on another horse, this one being worth one hundred twenty five dollars.

On April 13, 1863 Mr. Mayes was captured near Camp Bisland, Louisiana. Another record says he was captured that day at Bayou Teche. He was paroled on May 11, 1863. Mr. Mayes was at one point given a furlough which expired on November 1, 1863, from which he did not return on time. His official file in the National Archives contains no later records of his service. Many years later he told Texas pension officials he left the service in April 1865.

On August 8, 1867, R. K. Mayes registered to vote in Precinct 2 of Tarrant County. He told the registrar he had been in Texas twenty years, and in Precinct 2 of Tarrant County for two years. On November 10, 1867, R. K. Mayes and his wife, Ann, filed a petition in Tarrant County for the final settlement of the estate of her parents, James and Elizabeth Lacy. The estate papers mention that Ann’s grandmother was Nancy Lacy, who had died in Denton County, Texas on April 1, 1870. This file is quite interesting and should be examined by any interested descendants of Robert or William Mayes. It describes a sizable amount of property, including land and slaves, which were inherited by Ann and her sister, Judith, upon the deaths of their parents. It also names and gives other data about the grandparents of Ann and Judith Lacy. Both William W. Mayes and Robert K. Mayes owned a substantial amount of land in northeast Tarrant County through inheritance of their wives. The land in question is in one of two surveys shown on land maps as A. J. Huit surveys. The two Huit surveys are adjacent and both are of three hundred twenty acres. The Mayes wives held an interest in the Huit survey which lay on the east. It is a rectangular survey, one mile east-west by one-half mile north-south. This tract lies in present-day Euless. Its northwest corner is at the intersection of Euless Main Street and Highway 10. Main Street lies along its western boundary. No modern-day streets run along its southern or eastern boundaries.

Robert Mayes and his family appear in the 1870 census of Dallas County, Texas in Precinct 4. The children with them in that year were James T. (born about 1864), Charles W. (born about 1866), and Eliza M. Mayes (born about 1869). Also in the family are Robert’s brother, William, and his wife, Judith A. Mayes. Judith and Anne Mayes were sisters, the only surviving heirs of James Lacy. They Mayes men were farmers. William and Judith Mayes later moved to Young County with Robert and his family. William died there in a horrible wagon accident in 1903.

By 1880, Robert and his brother, William Mayes, had both moved to Precinct 2 of Young County, Texas, where they lived on adjoining farms. Robert and Ann L. Mays had six of their children with them: James T. (born about 1865), Charles W. (born about 1867), Eliza M. (born about 1869…the census says in Missouri), Elvira E. (born about 1872), Stonewall J. (born about 1877), and George B. Mayes (born about 1879).
The 1880 agricultural census shows that Mr. Mayes had eight acres under cultivation, with one hundred fifty-two in woodland or pasture. His farm buildings were worth one hundred fifty dollars while his farming implements were worth thirty-five. The value of all his livestock totaled three hundred fifteen dollars. He owned fifteen hogs and about the same number of chickens. He had a small dairy herd and the main production of his farm appeared to be in milk and butter.

In the 1884 Young County school census, the children of R. K. Mayes were listed. They were Eliza M. (age 14), Elvira E. (age 12), and Stonewall J. Mayes (age 8).

Mr Mayes and his family are listed in the 1900 census of Young County. Mrs. Mayes said she had given birth to ten children, and all but one of them were still living. The children still at home with them were: Lee L. (born in March 1882), Anne L. (born in February 1884), and Elizabeth Mayes (born in August 1889).

Ten years later, in 1910, Robert and Ann Mayes were living alone in their home in Precinct 2 in Young County. Mr. Mayes told the census taker he was a Confederate veteran. Their next-door neighbors were Stephen and Elizabeth M. McPherson, their son-in-law and daughter.

Mr. Mayes applied for a Confederate pension in 1915. His address at the time was Murray in Young County. He said he was seventy-three years old, and a native of Shelby County, Missouri. He had been in Texas seventy years. Mr. Mayes was pensioned in Young County, Texas. His pension file in Austin contains a letter written on his behalf by G. B. Holland, a member of the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans at Fort Worth. Holland wrote, “The hardest fight I ever witnessed was between Bob Mayes and John Bowman.”

Ann Lacy Mayes died at Murray, Young County, Texas on January 13, 1912. Robert K. Mayes died February 22, 1917 in Young County, Texas. They lie buried in the Tyra-Murray Cemetery in Young County.

The following short accounts of the lives of Robert Mayes’ children were taken from many sources, some of which were data placed at Ancestry.com. If Mrs. Mayes’ statement to the census takers was correct, all the children but one are represented in the following list.

James T. Mayes was born (according to his death certificate) July 26, 1867. Census data indicate he may have been born as early as 1864). He worked for many years as a minister. His last permanent home was at Burkburnett, Texas. He died in a hospital in Wichita Falls, Texas on May 20, 1938, and was buried at Iowa Park, Texas in Wichita County.

Charles W. Mayes was born about 1866. He was still alive with the family in 1880.

Eliza Maud Mayes was born March 14, 1869. She married James Jackson Fawks (1863-1944). She died at Graham, Young County, on June 16, 1928, and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery at Graham. A. W. Fawks of Graham was the source of the information on her death certificate.

Elvira E. Mayes was born about 1872. She was still alive with the family in 1884. She married John C. Carmack.
Stonewall Jackson Mayes was born July 21, 1876. Descendants report that he married Julia Elizabeth Pruitt on April 12, 1896 at Grapevine, Texas. Census records show that he lived at Santa Rita, Grant County, New Mexico in 1920 and 1930. He died in New Mexico on October 2, 1938.

George B. Mayes was born January 13, 1879. He married Mary Alva Carmack (1887-1945). He worked for many years as a civil servant. He died at his home at 401 Second Street in Graham, Young County, Texas on December 19, 1943, and was buried at Tyra-Murray Cemetery Murray, Texas.

Lee Lacy Mayes was born March 9, 1882. He married Alice Blanche Carmack (1888-1975) on December 16, 1906. In 1910 the family lived at Carthage, Socorro County, New Mexico; by 1920 they returned to Young County. He worked for many years as a mechanic. His last permanent address was in Graham, Texas. He died in Fort Worth in Harris Hospital on January 24, 1925, and was buried at Graham. He left a wife surviving him.

Anne L. Mayes was born February 15, 1884. She married John Hollis Whitener. Her last permanent residence was at 915 Summit Avenue in Fort Worth. She died in a hospital in Tom Green County, Texas on January 28, 1942, and was buried in Arlington, Texas. Her husband survived her.

Elizabeth M. Mayes was born August 14, 1889. She was married to Stephen McPherson. Her last permanent address was 815 Smythe Street in Plainview, Hale County, Texas. She died there on April 14, 1931, and was buried in Plainview Cemetery. Mr. McPherson died before she did.