

TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Caleb Wyatt Smith

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Caleb Wyatt Smith was born in South Carolina about 1833, a son of Silas Smith and Nancy (Swain) Smith. By 1850, Caleb had moved to McMinn County, Tennessee with his parents and siblings. In 1860, his parents appeared in the census of Hamilton County, Tennessee.

Caleb's wife, Lucinda Newton, was born September 18, 1838 in Tennessee. She was a daughter of Isaac Newton and his wife, Mary (Fitzgerald) Newton, early northeast Tarrant County settlers. Lucinda was a sister of another of our Confederate veterans, Rev. Elihu Newton. Census records suggest Caleb and Lucinda were married before they left Tennessee or Georgia and had at least one child before coming to Texas.

They arrived in northeast Tarrant County about 1859. Caleb's family is shown on the indigent list for Tarrant County during the Civil War, establishing that he was a southern soldier. Caleb W. Smith was a private in Co. B, Well's Btn., Texas Cavalry, who enlisted in 1862 at Trinity Mills, in far-northwest Dallas County, Texas. Smith, who in 1904 was living apart from his wife Lucinda Van Zandt County, made an affidavit for a fellow soldier who was trying to get a pension. Smith said they were discharged together at Hempstead, Texas about May 18, 1865.

Caleb W. Smith was one of the founders of Spring Garden School which sat along the Bedford-Colleyville line east of present-day Jackson Drive. He witnessed Levin Moody's will in 1866.

By the time the 1870 census was taken, Smith's next-door neighbor was Augustus R. Creed, indicating that Smith and his family may have left the Spring Garden area and moved west of White's Chapel by that time; in 1874 he was living there on the J. G. Allen survey. He and his family are also shown in the census records for 1880 in Tarrant County.

In 1895, Mrs. Smith was living in her home on the J. G. Allen survey, in modern-day terms along the line of Keller and Southlake, about one quarter mile north of FM 1709 about where Pearson

Lane is intersected by Gray Street and Pearson Crossing. One of Smith's daughters was buried at White's Chapel in 1883.

Lucinda Smith died at Amarillo, Texas on December 12, 1923. Her body was brought back to Tarrant County for burial, and she lies buried in White's Chapel Cemetery. An obituary for Mrs. Smith appeared in the Grapevine Sun on January 3, 1924. Oddly, she is called "Lucinda Newton: in it: "Obituary. Lucinda Newton was born at Ringgold, Ga., September 17, 18 [illegible]; passed away at Amarillo, Texas, December 12, 1923, and was laid to rest in Whites Chapel Cemetery December 14th. She was converted at Antioch Church near Chattanooga, Tenn., in August 1856 and joined the Baptist Church of which she continued to be a faithful member until her death. She therefore gave 67 years of her long, useful life to the service of God, and her faith grew stronger and more patient to the last. In 1857 she was married to C. W. Smith and in 1860 they came to Tarrant County and settled on a farm about six miles West of Grapevine. She continued to be a resident of this County until her decease, the last 25 years having been spent in Fort Worth. Fifty descendants survive, 7 children, 24 grand-children 15 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren. She was the mother of Mrs. W. R. Cook and sister of Rev. E. Newton, former residents of Grapevine. She also leaves two other brothers and many relatives and friends who will miss her friendly face and encouraging words. Her long life was characterized by devotion to her family." [remainder of obituary illegible]

The Smith's children included Mary M. E. Smith, who married a Mr. Kelly and died in 1883; Mattie M. Smith, N. A. Smith (a female); a female whose initials are not legible in the 1870 census; W. Lee N. Smith (a male), Ora Smith, Alfred M. Smith, and at least two other daughters whose names are not legible in the 1880 census.



