

Cox

The first Coxes to settle in Lampasas County trace their ancestry to a Thomas Isaac Cox who served with Francis Marion in the Carolinas during the Revolutionary War. There are Francis Marion Coxes in different states who are namesakes of the celebrated leader. The immediate link moved to the mid-west.

The immediate link is one Solomon Cox who lived in the vicinity of Springfield, Missouri, during the 1830's and died there in the early 1840's. He and his wife, the former Elizabeth Johnson, had four sons--Jehu, Pleasant, Joseph, James Christopher and Thomas and one daughter, Amy. Jehu remained in Missouri and became a breeder of horses. Thomas became an attorney in Arkansas. Amy married Brice Smart. Joseph later migrated to Dallas County, Texas. Pleasant married Martha Jane Bybee, a native of Kentucky, who was living in Missouri at that time.

In 1846, a son was born to Pleasant and Martha Bybee Cox--John Thomas. In 1848, a second son, James, was born to them, and in 1850, a third son, Bluford was born to them.

In 1852, a movement began that placed Amy Cox Smart and Pleasant and family and James Christopher in Central Texas. A brother of Solomon Cox had previously settled in Bell County. The Smart family settled in a section near the Burnet-Williamson County line. Pleasant spent some time prospecting around where his uncle lived in Bell County. Here, a daughter was born in late 1852. Then he settled near where the Smarts had settled.

Pleasant was constantly hearing rumors about the springs at Lampasas. In March 1855, he abandoned his homestead and came to the springs. He took a job of supplying the campers at the springs with deer meat. This gave him a chance to explore the region. He discovered what he thought was an ideal spot to settle on a stream that came to bear the name of Lucy Creek. He filed claim on the plot and moved to it. He built a log cabin, cleared some patches. Here in 1856 a daughter, Amy, was born.

Pleasant Cox was among the signers of the petition to have Lampasas County established in 1856. He was appointed to find the shortest route to the Coryell County line as a means to have connections with the adjoining county seat. This road became known as the lower Gatesville Road.

In 1860, a son, Jehu was born. In 1860, another son, Benjamin, was born. In 1858, a daughter, Cynthia, was born. In 1864, a daughter Mary was born. In 1867, a son Joseph was born. In 1871, a son, Francis Marion, was born.

Several frontier experiences were handed down while they were living in the log cabin, two of which we will mention. On a summer day while they had the door open for ventilation, a weak, starved panther entered the house through the door. Pleasant killed it with an oxbow. Later, on a cleared fertile spot, he had a patch of corn. Some Indians passing through the area wanted roasting ears for a meal. Pleasant granted their request.

The Indians gathered a great amount of corn and shocked it. The squaws cut the corn off the cobs on blankets and cooked it in crude utensils. Then they enjoyed eating their feast and went on their way.

During the late 1870's, Pleasant and Martha decided they needed a lumber house out near the road. Round Rock was the nearest available lumber at the time. Pleasant hauled the lumber in a wagon from Round Rock. He was there for a load of lumber the day Sam Bass was killed there.

James Christopher Cox left Texas during the Civil War. He served in the Confederate Army. He participated in the battle of Shiloh. After the end of the War, he returned to Texas and resumed living on a Plot of land adjacent to Pleasant. After some twenty years, he moved his family near the Smarts. After a few years, he died and was buried at Mohomet.

Pleasant Cox died in October 1906. He was buried in Rock Church Cemetery. Martha Bybee Cox died in February 1912. She was buried in the Cox Cemetery.

John Thomas Cox married _____ Elliott. He made his home in the northern part of Lampasas County near the Hamilton County line. Here he raised a large family. All of whom left the county after they grew up. He has two grandchildren who now live nearby--Mrs. Eula Hamilton in Evant, and O. Z. Cox in Star.

James Cox married _____ Pearce. They had a son born in 1872. The mother died after his birth. He was given the name William Postum. He was only a few months younger than Francis Marion Cox. His grandmother Martha took him and nursed both boys at the same time.

James Cox left Texas and spent several years in western states. When William Postum grew up, he also went into the western states. Both he and his father returned to Lampasas County in 1910. James Cox died in 1937 and was burned in Rock Church Cemetery. William Postum died in 1958 and was buried in Rock Church Cemetery.

Bluford Cox left Lampasas County while he was young and never returned. A daughter married a Hicks (Hix). They lived in Goldthwaite for a few years. She died and her body was moved to the Cox Cemetery to be buried.

Amy married A. G. (Harry) Clark. The family was engaged in ranching in Lampasas County the remainder of their lives.

The following daughters were born in that family. Lurinda, Lucindy, Bessie, Ellen, Martha and Ima. The following sons were born in that family, L. P., Noah Erbin (Monk), Jack and John.

Lucinda married and left the County and lived elsewhere the remainder of her life. ^{1st} Lucinda married Tom Alexander and reared a family in the eastern part of the county near Topsey. The family grew and left the county. Lucinda reached the one hundred-year mark and died in a nursing home in Lampasas in 1975 and was buried in Rock Church Cemetery.

Martha married J. W. Moore. She died in 1920 and was buried in Smith Cemetery. Ima married and left the county. Bessie died likewise. After a few years of her marriage, Ellen left the county. L. P. married outside the county and reared a family in Copperas Cove.

Jack married a Annie Mitchell and after a few years went west and reared a family in that section.

N. E. (Monk) married Cornelia Archie and lived most of the time in Lampasas County and reared a family. He died in 1977 and was buried in Lometa. Cornelia died in 1982 and was buried in Lometa.

Five granddaughters of Amy Cox Clark are now residing in Lampasas County-- Mrs. Robbie Walton, daughter of Martha Clark Moore resides in the Moline-Atherton area. Three daughters of Monk Clark reside in the Lometa area-- Iona Adams, Ivarue Jackson, and Mildred Potts. Ima Jean Burns lives in Lampasas.

Jehu married Mary Whitt of Cherokee, San Saba County. He lived in San Saba County for several years. His older children grew up and married in San Saba County. When Jehu and Mary Whitt Cox returned to Lampasas County in 1910, they brought two sons--Marion Ezra Cox and William Walter Cox, and a daughter, Adell, with them. They lived in the Kempner area. Jehu died in December 1932 and was buried in Kempner. Mary died a few years later and was buried in Kempner.

Marion married Georgia Webb of Kempner. They reared one daughter who married Earl McClean and later ceased to live in Lampasas County. Marlon and Georgia also reared a son R. C. who died in 1963 and was buried in Kempner.

Marion died in 1966 and was buried in Kempner. Georgia died a few years later and was buried in Kempner.

Children of Virgil Edel Cox and Corine Roden Cox:

- James Clinton Cox, was born Jan 30, 1949.
- Cara Lee Cox was born Aug 7, 1951.
- Virginia Ann Cox was born Oct 29, 1953.
- Robert Franklin Cox was born Jun 24, 1956.
- Jackie Dean Cox was born Jul 7, 1958.
- Shirley Marie Cox was born Dec 11, 1960.

Walter married M 27²⁶ Jackson of Kempner. They reared one son, Virgil. Walter died in 1984 and was burned in Kempner. Virgil and wife reared several children. All of whom have worked in the Lampasas area and most of them still reside there. Addie married Clifton Stevenson. They resided outside of Lampasa's County until the early 1980's when they moved to Lometa, where she died in 1987.

Benjamin Cox married Lena Brown of Kempner. They lived in the Kempner area until after 1912 when he moved his family to Matadeñ where he died and was buried in 1926.

Mary married John Whitt. They lived outside Lampasas County the remainder of their lives. Mary died in 1938 and was buried in Goldthwaite Cemetery.

In 1872, Joseph Cox died and was buried in the Cox Cemetery.

Francis Marion Cox acquired most of the land holding of Pleasant Cox. In July 1902, he married Iola Pearl Sims.

On August 25, 1903, William Ernest Cox was born.

On July 8, 1905, Joe Berton Cox was born. On April 15, 1907, John Thomas Cox was born. On March 10, 1912, Hazel Pauline Cox was born. On October 21, 1914, Louine Oleta Cox was born. On November 19, 1916, Hattie Elsie Cox was born.

In the summer of 1922, Francis Marion Cox made a land trade with long time tax assessor E. F. Jordan in which E. F. Jordan received title to the land holding of Marion Cox in exchange for a tract of land which he held in the area of Moline. In December of that year, Coxes moved from the Clayrock-Rumley area to the Moline area.

F. M. Cox died October 11, 1947. He was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lampasas.

On September 2, 1956, Iola Pearl Sims Cox died and was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lampasas.

After attending John Tarleton College for one term, Hazel Pearl Cox married Joe T. Terry of New Mexico in Lometa in June 1931. They lived near Lovington. On October 28, 1942 she died and was buried in the cemetery in Lovington, New Mexico.

In January 1935, Louine Oleta Cox married O. K. Berry of the Pleasant Grove Community in Mills County and moved to Crowley, Texas, in August 1975.

On September 20, 1928, Joe B. Cox married Delma Poe. They spent a few years in the vicinity of Moline.

In April 1932, their first daughter, Dorothy was born. In June of that year, she died and was buried in Hurst Ranch Cemetery.

On October 3, 1933, Joe B. Cox, Jr. was born near Moline.

On September 11, 1939, Peggy Nell Cox was born.

Joe B. Cox Sr., was the last Principal of Moline School which closed in 1943. He moved to another school in Burnet County. They have lived in San Marcos for several years.

In July 1931, John T. Cox married Virginia Dendy of Strawn, Texas. They lived in Lampasas County at short intervals. They had five children, all of whom were born in other counties. Presently, his address is Hamilton, Texas.

In January 1944, Hattie Elsie Cox married John P. Sherriff of Boston Massachusetts, who was a veteran trainee at Fort Hood. After discharge from the service, they took up residence in Massachusetts until January 1977 when they returned to Lampasas and made their home.

Ernest Cox has been a resident of the Moline area except for the time that he was connected with school systems and a period of time he was doing military service during World War II.

Erice and Amy Cox Smart have made a contribution to the population of Lampasas County in that the Culbertson Family who were reared and lived in Lampasas County many years are among their descendants.

The Cox who settled in Bell County in the late 1840's has some descendants who came to Lampasas County. Joe and Frank Cox who came to Lampasas and were in business for Many years.

June Cox and wife reared four sons in the vicinity of Adamsville. There were also a John and a Sam Cox who reared families in that section and were of that vintage.

Also from the vine in Bell County came the one to be in the depot in Lometa in the beginning of the town.

Although descendants of Joseph Cox of Dallas County, have arrived in Commanche and other nearby counties, they have not reached Lampasas County yet, but they may arrive in force in a few years.