

## **The Marriage of Andrew J. Cox and Arena Ratliff**

By Missy Jones

Several years ago, I was doing a lot of research for my immediate family and I was looking for the marriage date of Andrew J. Cox and Arena Ratliff.

I found that they had married in 1846 in Nacogdoches County, Texas. I followed up and contacted the County clerk for a copy of their marriage license. I mailed a check for the copy and after waiting about two weeks, I received a business envelope. I was so excited. I slit the envelope open and out fell my check that I had sent. I was heartbroken, thinking they couldn't find any record of the wedding.

To my amazement, they mailed me the ORIGINAL marriage license that had been in their court house since 1846. This wedding document was written on plain paper, with the first page in a beautiful script. The license was issued on April 9, 1846. The wedding was performed on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1846 by minister Albert Wells. I was in tears, and mailed them a check for their "coffee fund" with my sincere thanks and sent them some family information for them to share with the library or a genealogical organization in that county.

Andrew J. Cox was my great grandfather. He was the oldest of ten children, the son of Cornelius Cox and Katherine Jackson Cox. He came with them from Missouri with a covered wagon train, arriving in the Dallas, Texas area in the spring of 1845. Cornelius took up land with the Peters Colony.

[Marriage License](#)