



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276 512/463-6100

March 22, 1994

Susan Pritchett, Chair
Tarrant County Historical Commission
Rt. 17, Box 283-P
Fort Worth, TX 76126

RE: *TURKEY MOUNTAIN*
Tarrant County, Job #36792

Dear Susan:

We are sorry that the applicants were not able to complete the necessary work on the above-mentioned historical marker application. Since we did not receive replies to our letters of February 12, 1993, or July 7, 1993, regarding this application, we are officially deactivating it at this time. The original application materials are being returned to you under separate cover.

Should you wish to reapply for a marker for this topic at some future date, please notify us so that we may send you guidelines and regulations in effect at that time. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Beeman

Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator
Official Texas Historical Markers
Local History Programs

pc: Ted Crow
Belva Clayton Nelms



CURTIS TUNNELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2276 (TELEPHONE) 512-463-6100 (FAX) 512-463-6095 (RELAY TX) 1-800-735-2989 (TDD)

July 7, 1993

Joye K. Evetts, Chair
Tarrant County Historical Commission
4400 Idledell
Fort Worth, TX 76116

RE: TURKEY MOUNTAIN
Tarrant County, Job #36792

Dear Joye:

As of this date, we have received no correspondence from you concerning the enclosed request for additional information.

Please let us know within the next 30 days when we may expect to receive the requested information.

In accordance with Official Texas Marker Policy #7, failure to respond to this second request for information may result in termination of the marker application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator
Official Texas Historical Markers
Local History Programs

pc: Ted Crow
Belva Clayton Nelms

Local History Programs
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711
512/463-6100

Date: February 12, 1993
Re: Turkey Mountain, Tarrant County Job #36792
To: Joye K. Evetts
Ted Crow
Belva Clayton Nelms 377-0702

Our staff has made a preliminary review of the above-mentioned historical marker application. Before we can complete our evaluation, however, we need the following information. We will place the application on hold until all requested material has been received.

1. *We are concerned about the accuracy of the claims that Indians regularly hunted on Turkey Mountain in the 1880s. After the Battle of Palo Duro Canyon in 1874, the Comanches entered the reservation at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and thereafter did not roam in north central Texas. According to our Office of the State Archeologist (OSA), no archeological investigations have taken place which would serve to verify these claims. The oral history account which is used to document this part of the narrative history is problematic in that it is at least a generation, if not two, removed from the time period it discusses. If Myrtie Daugherty Clayton was not born until 1883, she would have been too young to have had accurate memories of events in the 1880s. Without some archeological or documentary evidence to substantiate the oral history, we cannot accept the information about the Indians' association with Turkey Mountain. (The OSA coordinates a network of volunteer archeological stewards throughout the state. If you would like to pursue the possibility of having a steward investigate the site, please call Cathy Hoyt at 512/463-8884.) If corroborating evidence cannot be found, we may have to alter the focus of the historical marker to concentrate more on early settlement, the school, etc.*

2. *Please provide documentary citations for the information on the Turkey Mountain school, such as school district minutes, scholastic census, etc.*

Please note that this is not a rejection of your application, but simply a request for more information. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or have need of assistance.

Sincerely,



Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator
Official Texas Historical Markers
Local History Programs



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TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 23, 1992

Ms. Cynthia J. Beeman
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Cynthia:

Enclosed is a newspaper article on Turkey Mountain -- a landmark for which we have submitted an application for an Official Texas Historical Marker.

Since the marker application was submitted, we have found that the landmark is called "Turkey Mound" by some and "Turkey Mountain" by others. The current property owner and the author of the narrative (who also wrote a book called Turkey Mountain) call it Turkey Mountain. Others who grew up in the area call it Turkey Mound. The only map reference I have been able to find is Sam Street's 1893 map of Tarrant County which calls it Turkey Mound.

I don't think that we can designate either as the "official" name; therefore, I recommend that the marker inscription include both names.

This information has no bearing on the merits of the application, but I wanted you to be aware of it.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Joye K. Evetts, Marker Chairman
Tarrant County Historical Commission
4400 Idledell
Fort Worth, TX 76116

cc: Mrs. Lela Standifer



TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

August 13, 1992

Ms. Cynthia J. Beeman
Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Cynthia:

Enclosed is a completed application for an Official Texas Historical Marker for Turkey Mountain, along with the narrative, maps and photograph.

We are pleased to recommend this marker application.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Joye K. Evetts, Marker Chairman
Tarrant County Historical Commission
4400 Idledell
Fort Worth, TX 76116

cc: Mrs. Lela Standifer


4834 White Settlement Road, Apt #103
Fort Worth, Texas 76114
August 10, 1992

Dear Joy:

Here's that picture of the area where the Marker will be placed and it doesn't look good at all but it is the very spot for the marker and I can explain why when we talk.

It didn't photograph well because the sun doesn't shine there to give light. Sherry Crow took the picture and marked where the marker will stand. At the corner of the store where she marked the arrow ~~is~~ *are* steps leading into the store. A few feet to the right is a gate (one post is visible) that opens to the foot path up to the mountain. It is a beautiful spot and will be in full view for everyone to see. That corner is also being landscaped along with the big gates that open to the mountain road. The Marker will stand directly in front of the gate post.

I'm sorry to be so late getting this information back to you, but I simply could not do better. Call me when you wish to finish up the paper work.



Belva Clayton Nelms

4834 White Settlement Rd. Apt. #103
Fort Worth, Texas 76114
August 8, 1992

Dear Joy:

I do hope you have had a good vacation and not too much accumulated while you were away.

Also I do appreciate your rearranging this material for it is very clear even to me. I knew I had too much in the narrative and I am so glad you selected what you did, especially the item about the "Old Peddler". How exciting those Friday mornings were. It is very pleasing to the Crows and it needs no corrections from us. Thanks so much for your work. Everybody in the neighborhood who is of this era is so excited about this. People whom I never heard of are calling and asking about a book, telling me so-and-so was my grandparent and they have heard some stories. You will certainly get a book when it is off the press.

As for your questions.

- 1) Yes I have the photograph and Myrtie Daugherty Clayton was my mother. She was born November 25, 1883 and died March 31, 1984. She had all her mental facilities up to her last day even though she was more than 100 yrs. old. A most beautiful woman.
- 2) Yes, I would like my mothers name, and my grandparents Daugherty included in the bibliography. Ted Crow has some ideas about the bibliography and we'll talk to him.

This young couple (the Crows) are so busy with this and another business, but he will give us some time when we ask.

I'm available most any time you have some time. I had a very sad week this past week. Both my brother and brother-in-law died last week, brother-in-law on Thursday night July 30th. Bud died Friday night July 31st so you can understand what I've experienced, but now have everything in order and can help you anytime. Thanks again for all of your consideration and I'll be listening for your call.

Sincerely,



Belva Clayton Nelms



TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

July 30, 1992

Mrs. Belva Clayton Nelms
4834 White Settlement Road, Apt. #103
Fort Worth, TX 76114

Dear Belva:

The Texas Historical Commission feels that Turkey Mountain can be considered for a historical marker. Therefore, I have taken the liberty of rearranging the material which you submitted so as to make it clearer to people who have never seen the area.

Also, I looked up other deed records on the property and have included them in the narrative.

Please read this draft and correct any misinterpretations that I have made.

I still have several questions:

Who has possession of the school photograph? I thought Myrtie Daugherty Clayton was probably your mother and that you have the photograph.

Would you like to include the names of your parents and grandparents in the bibliography?

Are there other people you would like to list as sources of information?

What year was your mother born? I guessed at 1883, but need to be exact.

Your stories about Turkey Mountain are very interesting. My committee members and I look forward to having an opportunity to read your book when it is placed in the archives.

I'm off on vacation for the week and will be back in my office August 10. Let's talk then and try to complete the paperwork.

Sincerely,

Joye K. Evetts, Chairman
Marker Committee
4400 Idledell
Fort Worth, TX 76116
home: 244-1232
office: 882-6367



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TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 19, 1992

Mrs. Belva Nelms
4834 White Settlement Road #103
Fort Worth, TX 76114

377-0702

Dear Belva:

We are pleased to know of your interest in obtaining an Official Texas Historical Marker for turkey mountain in the Azle area.

Enclosed are the 1992 guidelines and application form as well as a sheet on documentating local history. Although we do not have a narrative similar to what you would be writing, I'm enclosing a narrative on the Spring Garden Community which might give you an idea as to form.

Call me if you have questions about this material. When your nomination is complete, it should be submitted to me for review and critique by the Marker Committee.

Once the Tarrant County Historical Commission approves your nomination, we will forward it to the Texas Historical Commission in Austin for their review. Upon their approval, they will request payment of the marker fee and your approval of the proposed marker inscription prior to the casting of the marker. The completed marker will be shipped to the sponsor. A dedication usually follows, with participation by the marker sponsor, any local historical organization involved with the project, and the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

Please keep in touch as you conduct your research and write your nomination. We'll be glad to help direct your efforts. Good luck!

Sincerely,

Joye K. Evetts, Marker Chairman
4400 Idledell
Fort Worth, TX 76116
Office Phone: 817-882-6367
Home Phone: 817-244-1232

cc: Lela Standifer, Chairman

APPLICATION FORM
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

This marker is for (title or subject): Turkey Mountain

County: Tarrant

Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions from nearest town on state highway map):
5801 Silvercreek - Azle Rd. (N.W. corner of FM 1886 +
Azle, Texas 76020 Silvercreek - Azle Rd).

Distance and direction of marker topic from marker site (if applicable):
N.W. approximately 1800 feet

APPROVAL OF COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The application and narrative history must be approved by the county historical commission before forwarding to the Texas Historical Commission.

Chairperson's Signature: _____ Date: August 13, 1992

Address: 4404 Wedgemont Circle South, Fort Worth, TX 76133 Phone: 817-292-1612

The CHC chair automatically will receive all copies of correspondence regarding this marker project.

PERMISSION OF OWNER FOR MARKER PLACEMENT

Permission for placement of a marker must be obtained by the property owner. Please provide the name of a contact person if the owner is an institution, organization, or public entity. This section need not be completed if the marker is to be placed on right-of-way maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation.

Name: Ted Crow

Contact person (if applicable): _____

Mailing address: 5805 Silvercreek - Azle Rd
Azle, Texas 76020 Phone: 817-237-8573

Owner's Signature: Ted Crow

Do you wish to receive copies of all correspondence concerning this marker application? Yes No

To whom should the request for payment be addressed?

Name: Ted Crow

(Provide contact person if payee is an institution, organization, or public entity.)

Mailing address: 5805 Silvercreek - Azle Rd.
Azle, Texas 76020 Phone: 817-237-8573

Does this person wish to receive copies of all other correspondence concerning this application? Yes No

Is there anyone else to whom all correspondence concerning this marker application should be addressed?

(One additional name and address only, please.)

Name: Belva Clayton Nelms

Mailing address: 4834 White Settlement Road, Apt. #103
Ft. Worth, Texas 76114 Phone: 817-377-0702

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, neither post office box numbers nor rural route numbers can be accepted. If the marker is to be placed on the highway right-of-way, it will be shipped directly to the district highway engineer.

Name: _____

Street address: _____

Phone: _____

TYPE AND SIZE OF MARKER DESIRED (please check one only)

Subject Markers

This type of marker is solely educational in nature and conveys no legal restrictions to the property. Subject markers are appropriate for topics such as cemeteries, church congregations, businesses, persons, events, and institutions. These markers should not be attached to buildings. If the marker is to be attached to a surface other than the foundry-provided post, please provide the requested information in the space below.

- 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar) \$225
- 27" x 42" marker with post \$750
- 27" x 42" marker without post (see below) \$700
- 18" x 28" marker with post \$450
- 18" x 28" marker without post (see below) \$400

If not on post, to what (block of granite, gatepost, etc.) will the marker be attached? _____
Type of material? (wood, stone, etc.) _____

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Markers

Markers conveying the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) designation are reserved solely for historic structures deemed worthy of preservation for their architectural integrity and historical associations. The RTHL designation does carry a measure of legal protection for the structure (see Marker Policies 13 through 18) and for that reason we must have a legal description (lot and block numbers) for the property to be designated. The most commonly used marker for conveying this designation is the medallion and plate (also referred to as a building marker); however, the 18" x 28" or 27" x 42" size marker may be ordered for those who wish a greater amount of historical information to appear in the marker text. Careful attention should be paid so as not to damage historic building material if the marker is to be mounted directly onto the structure. The THC staff can provide alternate ideas for mounting upon request.

- Medallion and 16" x 12" plate with post \$350
- Medallion and 16" x 12" plate without post (see below) \$300
- 27" x 42" marker with post \$750
- 27" x 42" marker without post (see below) \$700
- 18" x 28" marker with post \$450
- 18" x 28" marker without post (see below) \$400

If not on post, to what (building, gate, etc.) will the marker be attached? _____
Type of material? (wood, stone, etc.) _____

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY (lot and block number, metes and bounds):

Stephen Best survey, Abstract 191, Tarrant Co., Texas
28.617 acre tract Vol. 6021, Pg 354

Before forwarding your material to the Texas Historical Commission, please check to make sure you've included the following items. Incomplete applications cannot be considered and may be returned to the applicant.

- ✓ completed application form signed by the county historical commission
- ✓ narrative history with footnotes and bibliography
- ✓ photograph of the proposed marker location
- ✓ map indicating marker location and other sites related to the marker topic
- ✓ historic photo of property and current photographs of all elevations (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ legal description of property (RTHL markers only)

Mail completed applications to:
Local History Programs, Texas Historical Commission
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711
512/463-6100

Additional items, including paperweights, directional signs, and replacement parts for 1936 markers, are available. Please contact the Local History Programs office for a separate order form.

36792

TURKEY MOUNTAIN

Belva Clayton Nelms
4834 White Settlement Road, Apt #103
Fort Worth, TX 76114
(817) 377-0702

Turkey Mountain, a landmark in a rural area on the western edge of Tarrant County, is located at the intersection of FM 1886 and Silver Creek-Azle Road. It has an unusual appearance -- almost perfectly round, its tall crown rises sharply from a surrounding bare, flat plateau approximately 60 feet wide which is several feet higher than the level countryside. Approximately 100 feet tall, it covers 8-10 acres. From the top, the view stretches in all directions as far as the eyes can see.

Turkey Mountain has been the site of many activities through the years. It was an annual camping place for Indians in the 1880s, a gathering spot for settlers, the site of a school and a church, and the location of a modern-day country store.

About five miles south of Azle, this small mountain or mound is located in the Stephen Best Survey in an area that has never been heavily settled. It was part of 188 acres sold by Adam Clingman on April 15, 1895 to J. W. O'Donald.¹ On September 24, 1935, his heirs partitioned the land, at which time his daughter Mrs. Zora O'Donald Thompson inherited 32.3 acres of land surrounding Turkey Mountain.² On April 30, 1987, Mrs. Thompson's heirs sold 28.617 acres of the land which included Turkey Mountain to V. M. and Josette Crow.³

The north side of the mountain is bounded by Mill Creek, and

on the east side, following the round pattern of the mountain, by a deep hollow with a good sandy bottom. To the south, is Elm Grove Baptist Church which was moved to the site in 1923. To the west, are the tracks of a little-used road that goes nowhere except around the mountain.

Early settlers called the area "Turkey Mountain" or "Turkey Mound"⁴ because of the hundreds of wild turkeys who raised their young on and around the mountain. Originally, the tall crown was covered with thick scrub oak trees, mustang grape vines, and scattered wildflowers.

In the 1880s, Indians came to Turkey Mountain in the fall each year, staying a month to six weeks. Suddenly the warriors would appear alone (without ~~squaws~~ ^{women} and children) and set up their tepees on the bare, wide flat plateau at the lower part of the mountain. During their stay, they killed wild turkeys, gathered pecans from around Mill Creek, and -- according to the settlers -- stole corn and horses. The Indians left as secretly as they had come and were gone by Thanksgiving each year. Thievery only harm done to the settlers. In the late 1880s, the turkeys disappeared and the Indians stopped coming.⁵

Around 1885, settlers built a one-room school house directly south of Turkey Mountain (on present-day FM 1886) where the children of the community attended school about four months each year, commencing around October first and lasting until time to work in the fields the next spring.⁶ In 1911, Turkey Mountain School was consolidated with the Bluff Springs rural school in

Parker County, and a new building (two rooms) was built about five miles away. This school, known as Bluff Springs, was used until 1955 when it was consolidated with two other schools. As a result, students living in rural Tarrant County attended a school in Azle, and students in the rural area of Parker County attended school in Weatherford. The Bluff Springs School building is still standing and houses a feed store.

Confederate reunions were held at Confederate Park located about three miles east of Turkey Mountain on FM 1886. A picture taken at the 1903 picnic shows a local band who had purchased their musical instruments with money raised at ice cream socials.⁷ The remains of one old building were visible from the road until the late 1980s.

After the Turkey Mountain School closed in 1911, there was little activity around the mountain except for occasional hunters and children who played in Mill Creek but seldom dared to climb the mountain. The closest church of any denomination was five miles away in Azle, and the closest cemetery was also in Azle. The closest schools were Bluff Springs and Azle -- both about five miles away.

In 1923, members of the Elm Grove Baptist Church, located in a meadow near Lake Worth in the vicinity of the Lone Star School, wanted to move the church to a location more convenient and accessible to its members. Mr. J. W. O'Donald agreed to let them move the church building to the same spot where the Turkey Mountain School had stood, directly south of Turkey Mountain, on FM 1886.

It was understood between the church members and Mr. O'Donald and his heirs that the church could remain at this location only as long as it remained open and functioned as a Missionary Baptist Church. If the church ever closed or ceased to be a Missionary Baptist Church, the building was to be moved and the grounds returned to the land owners.⁸

Moving day was an big event! The women and children stood on the banks of Mill Creek and watched as the men pushed the church building down into the creek bed, pulled it up the other side onto the road, and then dragged it along the road about a fourth mile to the spot where it stands today.

On Friday mornings during the 1920s, a man known as "The Old Peddler" came through the community selling his wares and, at the same time, buying whatever produce (live chickens, freshly molded butter, eggs, and other items) the women of the community had to sell. After delivering any special orders taken the previous week, he would proceed to display his wares, calling attention to the bargains. His wagon, drawn by two little gray mules, was actually a general store on wheels. For the peddler's convenience as well as their own, the women of the neighborhood gathered at Turkey Mountain to do their trading. This regular social gathering added to the popularity of Turkey Mountain. With no telephones in the area, this occasion was the time for reporting on the sick, spreading the latest gossip, and visiting with friends.⁹

After 1930, things began to change in this part of Tarrant County around Silver Creek, Lake Worth and Azle. County roads were

improved and people starting moving to the country from the nearby cities of Fort Worth and Weatherford. Prosperity came to the entire area. With the availability of electricity and telephones in the rural area, people bought small tracts of land (five to ten acres) on which to build homes -- especially along Silver Creek-Azle road from FM 1886 all the way to Azle. School buses began making regular daily trips to pick up and deliver school children.

In 1967, Belva Clayton, a resident of Fort Worth whose mother was born near Turkey Mountain in 1883, wrote a book called Turkey Mountain which sold 3500 copies and which is in its second printing in 1992. The book was written to preserve and retell the many stories passed down by her parents and grandparents. Although written as fiction, the novel includes many true incidents within its pages.

V. M. and Josette Crow transferred ownership of the Turkey Mountain acreage to their son Ted Crow,¹⁰ who constructed a road through the pasture to the top of Turkey Mountain where he built a large house and a beautiful garden. After this home burned, another was built in the same spot where the first house had stood.

Ted and his wife Sherry live on Turkey Mountain and operate Turkey Mountain General Store (located south of Turkey Mountain on FM 1886 east of the Elm Grove Baptist Church), a thriving general store which serves the community for miles around.

Turkey Mountain has served as the focus of educational, church, and social activities for the surrounding community from the 1880s until the present time. This familiar landmark touches

the hearts of people young and old when it comes into view -- it is
a constant in a community which is developing all around it.

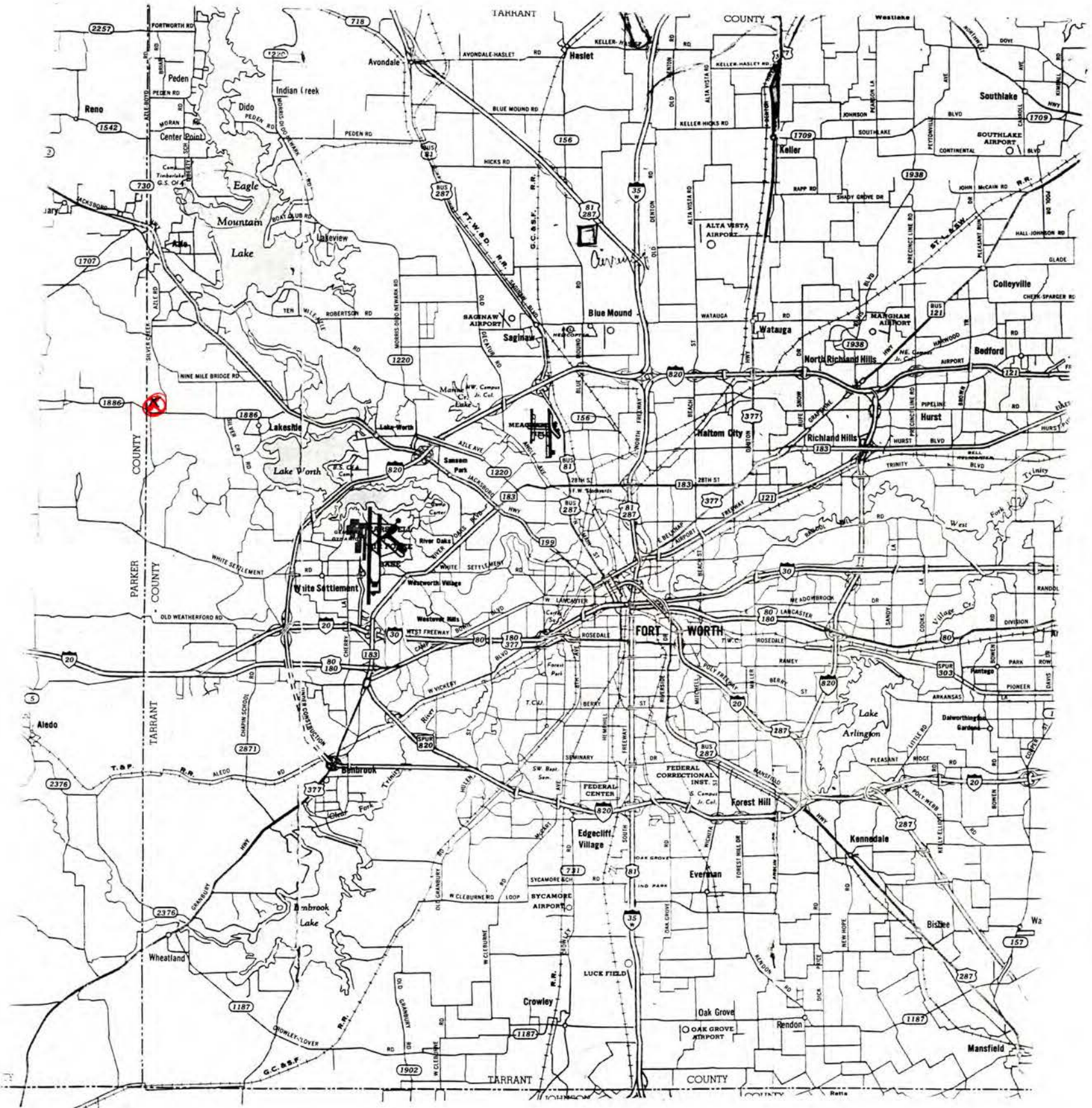
END NOTES

1. Tarrant County Deed Records, vol. 110, p. 300.
2. Tarrant County Deed Records, vol. 1308, p. 216.
3. Tarrant County Deed Records, vol. 6021, p. 354.
4. Sam Street's Map of Tarrant County, 1893.
5. Mrs. Myrtie Daugherty Clayton, who was born November 25, 1883 three miles from Turkey Mountain, relayed this story to her children including her daughter Belva Clayton Nelms, author of this narrative.
6. A photograph of Turkey Mountain school students on the last day of school in the spring of 1898 includes the teacher, Miss Onah Orrick. The photograph belonged to Mrs. Myrtie Daugherty Clayton, who died March 31, 1984, and is in the possession of her daughter Belva Clayton Nelms.
7. Beatrice Gipson Carter, My Home Town (Azle, TX: 1968, p. 120).
8. The deed by which J. W. O'Donald's heirs partitioned his land mentions the property occupied by the Elm Grove Baptist Church but does not include the land in the partition. (Tarrant County Deed Records vol. 1308, p. 216, September 24, 1935.)
9. Belva Clayton, Turkey Mountain (New York, NY: a Hearthstone Book, Carlton Press, Inc.), "The Old Peddler", pp. 21-22.
10. Tarrant County Deed Records, vol. 8287, p. 1691 (August 26, 1985) and vol. 8812, p. 1752 (January 5, 1987).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Carter, Beatrice Gipson. My Home Town. Azle, Texas, 1968.
- Nelms, Belva Clayton. Turkey Mountain. New York, NY: Carlton Press, Inc. 1967 (copy in the Tarrant County Historical Commission Archives).
- Personal knowledge of Belva Clayton Nelms, her mother Mrs. Myrtie Daugherty Clayton, and her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Jim Daugherty, early settlers in the area.
- Photographs of Elm Grove Baptist Church.
- Photographs and sketches of Turkey Mountain.
- Sam Street's Map of Tarrant County, 1893.
- Tarrant County Deed Records.

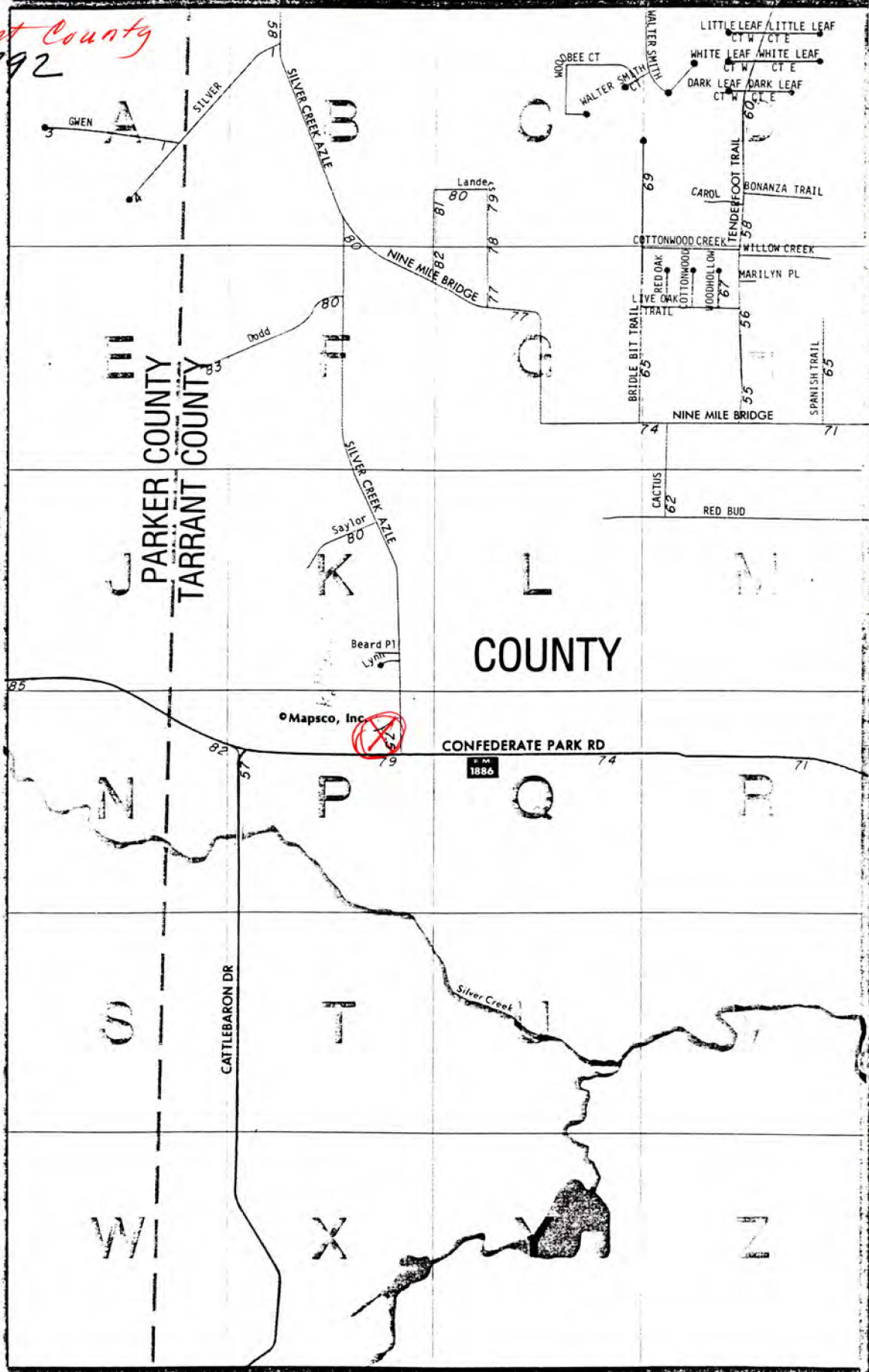
Turkey Mountain, Tarrant County, Tx 36792



Turkey Mountain
Tarrant County
36792

CONTINUED ON MAP 29

43



NOT MAPPED

CONTINUED ON MAP 44

SCALE IN MILES

CONTINUED ON MAP 57

SCALE IN FEET

DETAIL MAP SECTION
STARTS ON INDEX PAGE 117

BOOK PAGE 1043

Crows, turkeys and history



Fort Worth Star-Telegram / JIM WIN

Friends and neighbors gather Sunday afternoon for a game of dominoes at the Turkey Mountain General Store.

The Turkey Mountain General Store offers beer, wine, groceries and a piece of history. Comanches used to hunt in the area and used the mountain for a lookout.

By GALE M. BRADFORD
Special to the Star-Telegram

TURKEY MOUNTAIN — As the crow flies, Turkey Mountain General Store is only minutes from Lakes Weatherford, Worth and Eagle Mountain.

In the northwest corner of Tarrant County, the barn-red store is the last stop for beer and wine before travelers enter dry Parker County. Merchandise also includes bait and tackle, groceries and plumbing supplies, paint and tires.

"We try to carry things that our neighbors need," said Ted Crow, who with his wife, Sherry, opened the general store in July at the base of Turkey Mountain.

The Crows have built their home atop the 150-foot mound,



Ted and Sherry Crow admire the view from the second-story porch of their home on top of Turkey Mountain.

where wild turkeys once roosted. Their perch offers a panoramic view of the Fort Worth skyline and glimpses of surrounding towns.

The general store sits on Farm Road 1886 where "The Old Peddler," as he was called, sold his wares from a wagon and bought produce from the women of the Turkey Mountain community in the 1920s, according to historical accounts

by Belva Clayton Nelms of Fort Worth.

Nelms, 82, lived nearby as a youngster and in 1967 wrote *Turkey Mountain*, a book on the people and times of the area.

An application for a state historical marker for Turkey Mountain was approved Friday by the Tarrant County Historical Commission, Crow said.

Nelms, whose mother was reared on Turkey Mountain, said

the marker will be placed near the store, close to a footpath that leads up the mountain.

Standing guard atop Turkey Mountain is a wooden Indian the Crows erected in reminiscence of when Comanches visited each fall to hunt wild turkeys.

"History tells us that hundreds of turkeys had their young here, and in the fall thousands lived on the mountain. Indian warriors came every year, stayed about a month to six weeks and hunted," said Crow, who is three-quarters Cherokee.

He said the Indians had a clear view of Fort Worth in the 1800s when the city was an actual fort.

"They used this mountain for a lookout. They say the old wagon roads came right this way, and when they could see dust, they'd know the soldiers were coming out of the fort. Then they had about a 20-mile head start on the soldiers."

Ted Crow said he bought Turkey Mountain in 1976 and built the first house ever to sit atop its flat plateau. When the log home burned in 1988, it was replaced with a 2,400-square-foot rock, cedar and glass home.





The entrance to Elm Grove Baptist Church
as it appears today. 7/8/92



Sign in front of Elm Grove Baptist Church
7/8/92

Attachment No. 8

A brief narrative of "Turkey Mountain" a small mountain that figures in the history of the Silver Creek area of Tarrant County and located on the J. W. O'Donald survey and deed on file for public record in Tarrant County Courthouse, Fort Worth, Texas - year 1895

Tarrant County was founded more than a hundred and fifty years ago but this northwest corner of the county never figured of any prominence until the mid 1880's. There were only three big land owners:

J. M. Daugherty, Adam Clingman and J. W. O'Donald. The closest community was the little town of Azle, Texas about five miles north of the parcel of land for which we seek an Historical Marker, "Turkey Mountain".¹

This small mountain is located on the O'Donald farm and was inherited by Mrs. Zora O'Donald Thompson, daughter of J. W. O'Donald in early 1971. This land was passed on to Mrs. Thompson's heirs namely: Clingman (Happy) Thompson (deceased), Rebecca Thompson Newsom, and Halbert (Mutt) Thompson. This land was all covered in an original deed of land purchased by J. W. O'Donald from Adam Clingman, covered in original deed on file in Tarrant County courthouse and dated 1895.² The Thompson heirs, listed above, sold land on which stands Turkey Mountain to Ted and Sherry Crow.

Turkey Mountain has quite a history as a landmark and today anyone who lives in this area and for miles around knows Turkey Mountain. It is a landmark, it is a conversation item and when it comes into view of people young and old approaching it, these people feel a tug at their heart, a feeling of oneness, and utter the remark: There's Turkey Mountain.³

Turkey Mountain got its unique name from settlers as far back as can be told, the early 1800's. It is quite an unusual looking landmark.⁴ Almost perfectly round, at a height of several feet it levels off to a perfectly flat plateau. No vegetation grows on this plateau, not even a tree. No tall grass, no wild flowers. A beautiful flat surface it extends out several feet until all at once it begins rising again. Steep, almost straight up it resembles A huge crown. Thick scrub oak trees, mustang grape vines, scattered wild flowers and two huge rocks decorated this crown. From the top of this mountain one can see in all directions as far as the eyes will let you. It looks so unusual that anyone seeing it for the first time gazes at it in surprised awe. North side of the mountain is bounded by mill creek. Around the east side, following the round pattern of the mountain is a deep hollow with a good sandy bottom (a good place to hide). To the south is elm grove Baptist Church which was moved to this site in the year 1923. To the west is the tracks of a little used road that seems to go no where except around Turkey Mountain. We find no documented record of the following story but as children we were told by our elders. As far back as 1880 the Indians began coming to Turkey Mountain in the fall of the year. The mountain is so named because it was a home for wild turkeys. Hundred of turkeys raised their young on and around the mountain and in the fall thousands of wild turkeys were there. The Indians suddenly appeared there to kill the turkeys and steal from the settlers. They stole corn, pecans from around mill creek, and of course horses.

The Indians did not bring their squaws and children but only the warriors came with their teepees setting them up on the plateau for about a month to six weeks. They left as secretely as they came and they were gone by around Thanksgiving each year. Oddly enough they never molested the settlers. It was thought they came from around Fort Worth and the Trinity river. In the late 1880's the turkeys disappeared and the Indians stopped coming too.

The land for which we wish to obtain an Historical marker was originally owned by Mr. Adam Clingman and wife. The Clingmans sold this parcel of land to Mr. J. W. O'Donald in the year 1895. Turkey Mountain sits right in the center of this acreage.⁴

Nothing eventful took place around this very visible landmark until about the year 1885 when the settlers built a one room school house directly in front of turkey mountain on present day FM road 1886 where the children of the community attended school about four months each year commencing about October first until time to begin working in the fields the next spring.⁵ In the year 1911 this school was consolidated with the Bluff Springs rural school in Parker County and a new school (two rooms) was built on up the road about five miles. This school was known as Bluff Springs and was in use until the year 1955 when it was redistricted and consolidated with two other schools. Students in Parker county now go to Weatherford to school and students living in Tarrant County go to Azle to school.⁶ The Bluff Springs school building is still standing and is now a feed store.

From the year 1911 when Turkey Mountain school was abandoned until 1923 there was absolutely no activity around this mountain. Hunters hunted small animals, kids played in Mill Creek, everybody gazed at Turkey Mountain but no one dared climb it.

The closest church of any denomination was five miles away in Azle. The closest cemetery was at Azle. The closest school was Bluff Springs on up the road a ways - on FM 1886 - or in Azle.

There was a band made up of young men in Azle⁷ that for thirty-six years entertained at any place around the country they were invited. This band played at a Confederate Reunion at Confederate Park which was located on confederate park road which is about three miles east of Turkey Mountain on FM 1886. People still living today can recognize the spot where the reunion was held each year. Until recently the remains of one old building were still visible from the road. The particular picnic referred to in No. 7 was held in 1903.

In the summer of 1923 the members of Elm Grove Baptist Church decided to move this church, which at that time was sitting in a meadow down near Lake Worth, and in the vicinity of the Lone Star school house, to a more convenient and accessible location to its members.

Mr. J. W. O'Donald agreed to let them move the church building to the exact spot where Turkey Mountain/school stood, directly in front of Turkey Mountain. It was understood between the church members and Mr. O'Donald and his heirs that the church could stand at this location as long as it remained open and functioned as a Missionary Baptist Church. If the church ever closed or ceased to be a Missionary Baptist Church the

building was to be moved and the grounds returned to the present owners. It still stands on the very spot where the men of the community set it down. It has been well cared for, many improvements made and it still bears the name Elm Grove Baptist Church.⁸

It must be noted that it was an eventful day when the women and children of the neighborhood stood on the banks of mill creek and watched as the men pushed that building down into the creek bed, pulled and tugged it back up on the other side into the road, on up the road about a fourth of a mile and set it soundly on the spot where it sits today. There is no legal evidence of this transaction on file for public record so far as can be located, and it is generally believed that if there was any legal agreement drawn up between the Elm Grove Church members and the O'Donald family this document was never filed in the Tarrant County Court House for public record.

From about years 1920 - 1926 on friday morning of each week a man known as "The Old Peddler" came through the community selling his wares at the same time buying whatever produce the women of the community had to sell.⁹ They sold him live chickens, fresh molded butter, eggs, et cetera. After delivering the "special" orders he had taken the week before he would proceed to display his wares, calling attention to the bargains he had to sell. His wagon was actually a general store on wheels drawn by two little old gray mules.

For the peddlers convenience, as well as their own, the women of the neighborhood gathered at Turkey Mountain to do their trading with this merchant. This event added to the popularity of Turkey Mountain - A regular social gathering.

With no telephones at all in the area, this was the occasion for reporting on the sick, spreading the latest gossip and-so-forth. From about the year 1930 forward things began to change in the vicinity of Silver Creek, Azle and around the Lake Worth area. Tarrant County upgraded its roads, people started moving from the cities - Fort Worth and Weatherford principally - to the country. Prosperity was coming to the entire area. People were buying small tracts of land, five to ten acres, building a home and moving to the country. Houses were springing up on the roadsides, especially many houses were being built on silver creek-Azle road from FM 1886 all the way to Azle. After consolidation of Bluff Springs school with Azle a school bus made regular trips daily to pick up and deliver the school children. Next came Rural Electrification and then telephones. A family moved out into the community from Fort Worth. When the ladies of the community went callingⁱⁿ the lady of this household they were informed that the family would not socialize with these country people. Their children would be sent in to town (Fort Worth) to school, as well as they would continue to attend church in the city. These city folks did have a wiener roast and invited their closest neighbor to come build fires for them and guide them to the hollow (dry watering hole) where they wished to hold this feat. The Country folks had a Party too.¹⁰ With all of the building, changes and improvements in the area nobody disturbed our landmark, Turkey Mountain. It just sat there keeping watch over its domain, and we respected it. We still do. In the year 1967 Belva Clayton of this neighborhood and Fort Worth

wrote a very successful novel "Turkey Mountain" which sold 3500 copies and is at the present time in its second printing.¹¹ It is a fictitious novel with many true incidents recorded within its pages. The publisher says it will be ready for market about September 1992. In the year 1971 the then owners of this land - Hulbert (Mutt) Thompson, and Rebecca Thompson Newsom sold it to Ted and Sherry Crow.¹² The Crows love this corner of land on which stands Turkey Mountain as much as we natives do. They proceeded to build a good road up through the pasture to the very top of Turkey Mountain and built a \$250,000 to \$300,000 home right on the top of this mountain. It could be seen far and near and one bright clear day people saw the house burning to the ground. Determined to make this their home they rebuilt in the very spot where the first house stood, with a garden as beautiful as the original one Belva Clayton describes in her book. There no mustang grape vines but there is a big Indian Chief standing directly in front of the house. In full Indian regalia he keeps watch over his sacred domain. He along with the descendents of families who settled in log cabins for homes and watched the community build around this mountain - The actual importance as an early day seat of educational, church and social activities all associated with reference to Turkey Mountain and its history. With the now building of expensive and beautiful homes being built in this community, good roads and a small air field nearby we still lift our eyes toward this lofty mound of dirt and say: Theres Turkey Mountain.

With the further advancement of building and modernization around this historical area we wish the Tarrant County Historical Commission to grant an Historical Marker to be erected at the foot of Turkey Mountain designating "Turkey Mountain" alone as the very back-bone of an unrecognized and undedicated area with an Historical Marker to be erected at the foot of the Mountain near the store "Turkey Mountain General Store", a thriving general store owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Crow and serving this community for many miles around. We seek this Historical Marker to help preserve the memories of days goneby and to honor and revere the history of by-gone days and activities still associated with a part of land which is on undedicated privately owned property.

Narrative written and researched by:

Belva Clayton Nelms
Author of: "Turkey Mountain"
(Belva Clayton) 1967

4834 White Settlement Road. Apt. #103
Fort Worth, TEXAS 76114
1992

Attachments - 1 thru 12

NOTES

1. Map showing route from Tarrant County Court House to Turkey Mountain.
2. Deed: Adam Clingman and wife to J. W. O'Donald. On record Tarrant County Court House, book No. 410, pages 300, 301, 302, dated August 25, 1895.
3. PHOTOGRAPH, back side of the crown of Turkey Mountain as it looked **in 1967.**
4. Copy of original painting of Turkey Mountain by artist: Lucy Clayton year 1967.
5. Photograph of Turkey Mountain school body on last day of school spring of 1898. Teacher was Miss Onah Orrick. This photograph is property of the estate of Mrs. Myrtie Daugherty Clayton (deceased)
6. Deed of school consolidation Bluff Springs with Azle, June 1964.
Unable to locate this document in either Southworth or Heatherford
7. Photograph: The Azle band at the turn of the century playing at ~~reunion~~
Unable to locate reunion in Confederate Park near Azle. The year was 1903. Photo from book: 'My Home Town'; author Beatrice Gipson Carter (deceased) year 1968. Book page 120.
8. Picture of Elm Grove Baptist Church as it appears today.
9. "The Old Peddler" From Novel: Turkey Mountain" by Belva Clayton pages 21 and 22.

NOTES - Page 2

10. "The Wiener Roast" from novel "Turkey Mountain" by Belva Clayton pages 40, 41, 42 and 43.
11. Front page of novel "Turkey Mountain" Belva Clayton, for second printing.

W. M. Crow
Ted Crow

patent No 72 Vol. 9 1858

Stephen Best Survey A #191

W D v 6021 p 354 4-16-76 (1E10 & 1C9 & 1D13)

W D v 8812 p 1752 1-5-87

W. M. Crow & Son's Inc.
S Key # 377731

7a 28.62a
1C9-1E10
81D13 13.77a
7.85a

*

W D v 8287 p 1691 8-26-85

Ted Crow

S Key # 5954010

(1D13A (86)
1C9A-20

7.07a

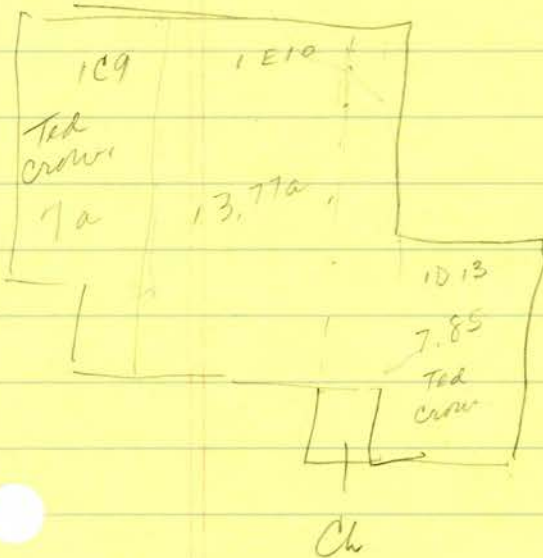
Sally McPherson et al - ^{and} partition v. 1308 p. 216 9/24/35

Jura Thompson v. 1351 p. 61 9-24-37 bought land
32.3a.

1C)

~~Elm Grove Bap Ch 1a IV~~

mentions
Church
land



Stephen Best Survey, Abstract #191
? J.W. O'Donald.

April 30, 1976

1976 owner V M & Josette Crow not
~~v 4 p 2~~ 28.617 acres v 6021 Ted and Sherry
p. 354

1971 J W O'Donald to daughter Zora O'Donald Thompson
~~v 4 p 2~~ ~~v 5458~~ v. 5458 670 feet

1895 v 110 Add ^{600m} Clergion to O'Donald 5-29-73
~~p. 300~~ 4-30-1895 188 acres J. Harris

8-10 area How many acres does mountain cover?

Is the house built on the crown? yes
Has all the crown been cleared. yes
Does it have a road up to the crown? yes
on what side east?

Approximately how tall is mountain from
level to top of crown? 100

How wide is the flat plateau? (60' feet)

Did the Indians Camp on the plateau
or on the crown?

Did Belva's mother move to area?

1992
62
1900? 90

1883 Mitchell from 3 miles, 1/2 wide.

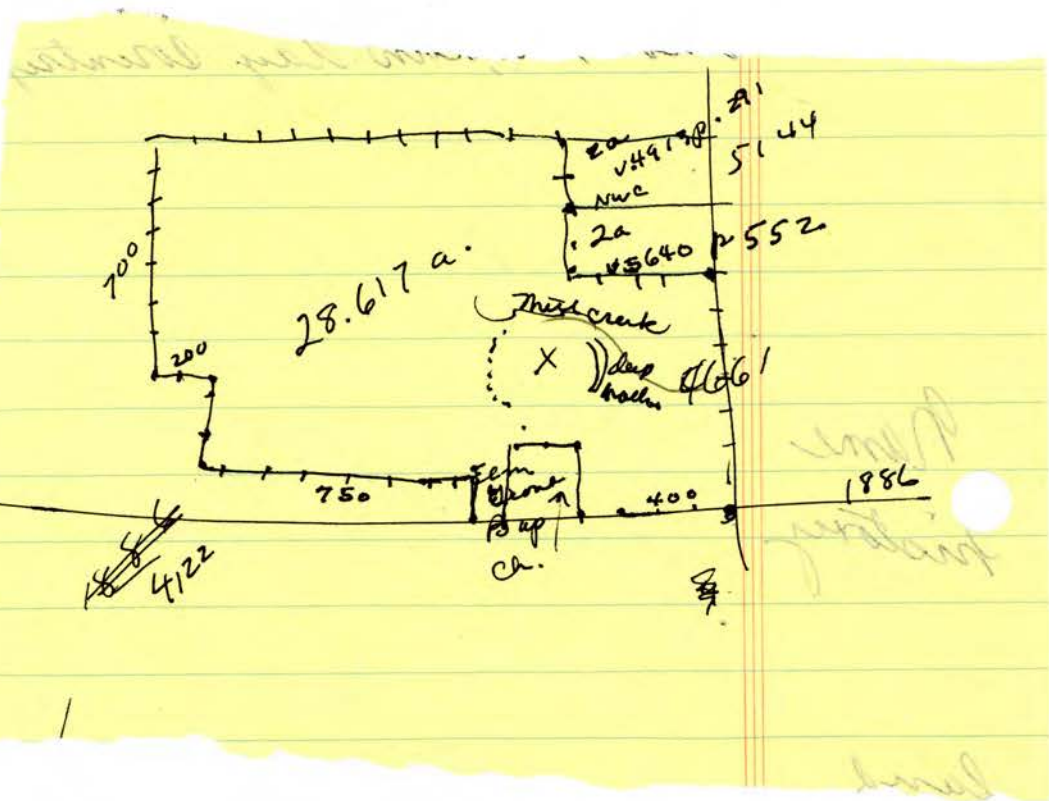
Owned property
located nearby
daughter's property
owned down to
creek.

10' deep
5' wide

Notes

Jaye, I'm sorry but this is poorly written - rambles - and fails to hold my interest.

If it has historical value as a seat of the Indians of this area - then stress that - not the people who own the property. What is its value to history? Personally, I feel more research should be done on its historical value - whether uniqueness of its formation. This I don't think is acceptable. "We" should be deleted. LWR



They Enlivened Azle Entertainments of 36 Years Ago

120

MY HOME TOWN



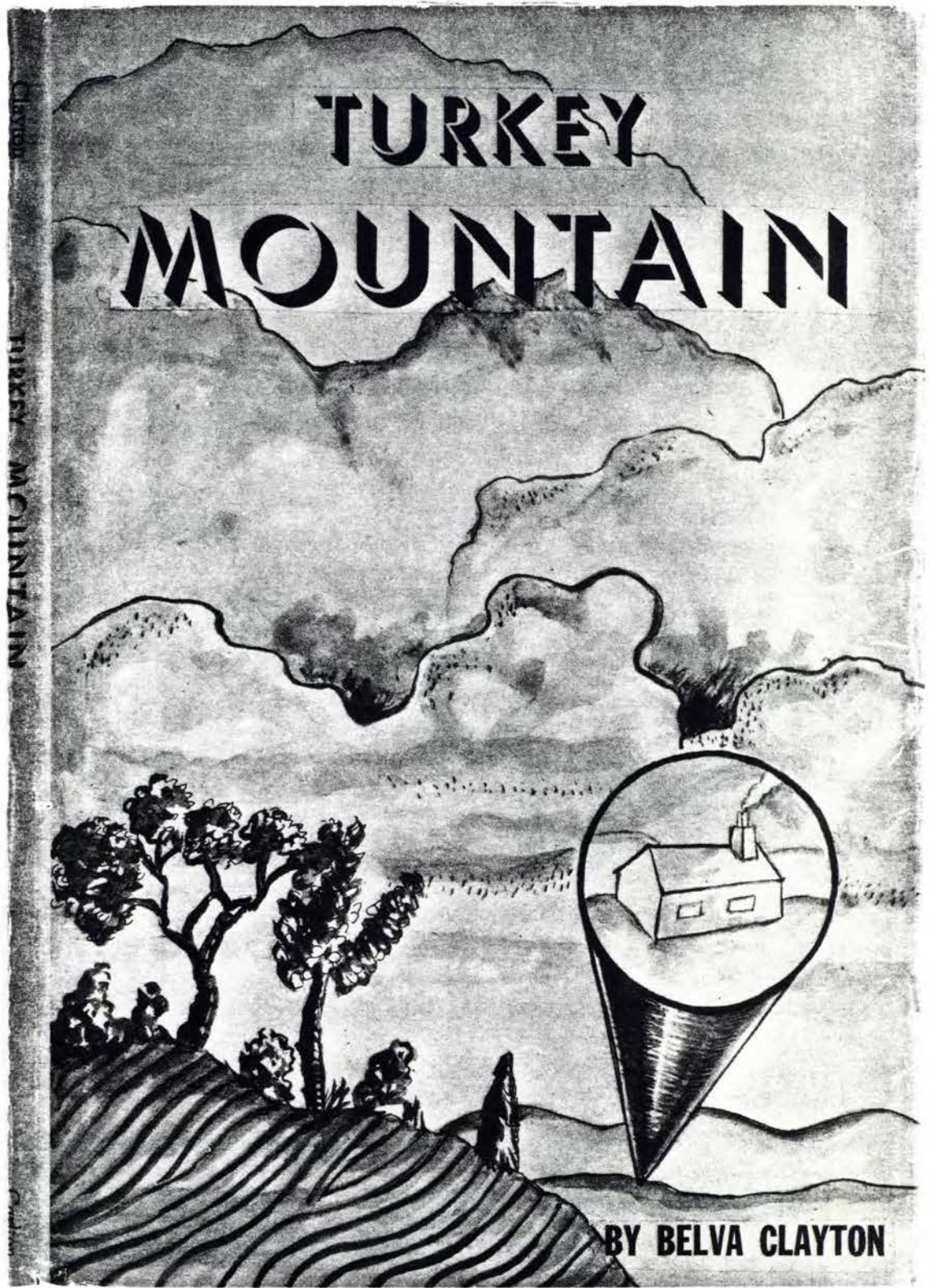
Music of this band was featured at Azle entertainments around the turn of the century. It was no "jitterbug" affair—money to buy the instruments was raised at ice cream socials. All of the

members with the exception of one are believed still living. They are, left to right, front row, E. Gidden, now of Canyon; Will Owens, Will Hunter, Fort Worth; Jesse Prewett, of Keller; Will Gidden, Canyon; back row,

Ed Winters, deceased; Fate Owens, Bert Huffmaster, Esteline; Gus Owens and Arthur Gidden, Memphis. Home towns of the three Owens boys are not known. Mrs. J. R. Walker of Azle is the woman in the right

foreground. This picture was taken by C. L. Swartz, early-day Fort Worth photographer, when the band played at a Confederate reunion at the old Confederate Park near Azle in 1903.

Attachment No. 7



Attachment No. 17

Turkey Mountain

by

Belva Clayton

A
Hearthstone
Book

Carlton Press, Inc.

New York, N.Y.

This book is dedicated to my brother—

Ray Clayton

who is familiar with many of the incidents wherein I speak, and who today lives on up the road a ways from Turkey Mountain.

I wish to express my thanks to:

Mrs. Iva Carter Roberts who furnished me with some helpful information, and one of the most entertaining incidents recorded in this book.

And to Mrs. Zora O'Donald Thompson, on whose land Turkey Mountain stands today.

And to my mother, Mrs. M. L. Clayton, for her continuous encouragement to write the book.

© Copyright 1967 by Belva Clayton
All rights reserved
Manufactured in the United States of America

ondered what it was. Mama said
here to guide Santa Claus and his
ey. I knew all about who Santa
it to let her know that I did. The
old Jerry and Joe Withers pos-
e down in front of the schoolhouse
ate.

THE OLD PEDDLER

Why he was called the old peddler I never knew. He wasn't old at all and was one of the most welcome people to the community. He came every Friday. Usually rather early. I always went out to the big road to watch for him. This wasn't necessary at all, for kids could be heard all up and down Silver Creek yelling, "Ma, here comes the old peddler."

His covered wagon was the modern-day supermarket on wheels. Drawn by a couple of little old bay mules, it represented to the women of the neighborhood the grocery store, drugstore, dry goods, hardware and confectionery, all in one.

Pulling his team to a halt, he'd alight from his "store on wheels," hat in hand, with a polite, "Good morning. I've something special today." The women greeted him with live chickens, eggs, butter and in winter maybe fresh ham or sausage, hoping to trade for something needed for their families.

After delivering the "special orders" he had taken the week before, he would proceed to display his wares, calling attention to the bargains he had for us. This man was trusted with all sorts of purchasing. He'd buy dress material from just a description. Also ladies' hats. Once Mama ordered me a pair of store-made pants. They were a little big, but like Mama said—I'd grow into them.

Mama always managed money for something a little special like candy or bananas for us. The peddler himself always had peppermint sticks for every child who came to his wagon. One stick per child, he never forgot this favor to kids. Special orders taken on Friday were always

Attachment No. 9'

delivered the following Friday. He always seemed to please.

I had a boy's curiosity about this man. Never knew where he lived, but he always got around early. Seemed to do his purchasing in Fort Worth and always bought the special orders from the larger stores in that city; however, he always came up the road from the direction of Weatherford. This worried me. His mules walked slowly and I was sometimes afraid he wouldn't make the round trip from Turkey Mountain to Fort Worth to Weatherford and back by Friday; presuming, of course, this was his route of travel. I once asked Papa if he knew where the old peddler lived and how he happened to get to our house about the same time every Friday morning.

Papa said he didn't rightly know, but it seemed to him the important thing was that he could be depended upon to get here on time. If Mama was out of sugar, or Papa needed chewing tobacco, or even I got hungry for candy, we could depend on the peddler to bring it on Friday morning. Papa went on to say that the peddler was a great help to us country people. "Yes, sir," said Papa, "he is a good man; we can depend on him."

It was several years before I really understood how important it was that a man could be depended on. I was a grown man with my own business before I really felt the full impact of this meaning, but I never forgot what Papa said about the humble man we called the old peddler. Wonder whatever became of him?

TEXAS BLUE NORTHER

The late October sun was fast sinking into the solstice of its winter point. Frost had covered the ground only once, but the essence of Fall in Texas was in the air. There were no northern lights to be seen from the barnyard at Grandpa's, but I loved the late afternoon as I followed Grandma around watching her feed chickens and milk cows.

Instead of northern lights I could see streaks of bright blue as I gazed across the meadow toward the southwest. The cows began to move about. The horses joined my westward gaze upon the magnificent combination of sunset twilight and the ever-lengthening blue over the horizon.

"Grandma, look at the bright blue streaks of sky."

"Coming a blue norther. It'll be freezing here by ten o'clock tonight."

She was right, I knew. The very air began to change. The inhabitants of the barnyard became more restless. Chickens began to scramble for the warmest corner of the hen house. Cows began their stroll through the wagon trail into the big warm barn. The horses went into a huddle, their hind ends in the direction of that onslaught of Arctic air. Even old Nero raised his nose to sniff the cool, crisp air that was moving ever closer. By twilight the blue streaks had become clouds. Great rolling clouds. The whole sky was a rolling blue canopy.

The chores finished, I helped Grandma carry the buckets of fresh milk into the house. Now we'd have supper and Papa would be coming to take me home.

My second big glass of sweet milk was about half finished when shwish! bam! against the house the wind



THE WIENER ROAST

Some stuck-up city folks bought the farm across Mill Creek and up the road apiece. They fixed the house up real nice, and when the folks in the community went calling on them (the ladies in the afternoon) the lady of the house just let them know that they moved to the country "just to be out of town." They would continue to send their children to the city school, and would retain their friendships among their city acquaintances.

All well and good. Mama and her friends knew when they were not wanted. They also knew they and their families, also our churches and school, were just as good as anybody and anything in the city. Some of the younger matrons in the community got the opportunity to let this uppity woman know it.

First, one day she sent her young son (a kid some younger than I) with a note to Mrs. Wilson's inquiring if she would like to do the washing for this family. For an adequate wage, of course. Also, she wondered if some of the country women would like to do her housework. It seemed her own maid, whom she had considered very capable, did not wish to move to the country; therefore, had terminated her services with them.

She sent her note to the wrong woman. Mrs. Wilson was the neighborhood's youngest and prettiest matron. Maybe the house in which she and her George had set up housekeeping had only two rooms, was not painted a gleaming white and had no white picket fence, but it was one of the cleanest, well-kept and happy homes to be found anywhere.

Mrs. Wilson was not only pretty, but she was quite high spirited. The inference of this note did not please

her and, since she took no truck in writing nasty notes, she grabbed her sunbonnet and set out across the field, the boy following behind, to tell her new neighbor from the city exactly how she felt about being anybody's wash-woman. No woman in this community was anybody's servant. When the women around there did each other's washing it was out of love and compassion for her in times when they were needed, and certainly no money was expected or accepted. The maid might have terminated her services, but this note and meeting certainly terminated any chance of these two women ever becoming friends.

However, there were undercurrent rumblings that these city people must certainly be wealthy. They had a piano. Both mother and daughter in the home played this instrument. Carpets covered their floors and it was reported their dishes and silverware were beautiful.

One of the women over around Elm Grove started sewing for this mother and daughter. She went to the house one day to do a fitting and learned these folks were fixing for a party. A wiener roast, they called it. Mrs. Rose helped in the kitchen making potato salad, slicing pickles, slicing bread open (they called it buns) and several chores. A question of the place for this wiener roast came up. The people wanted a canyon for the occasion—to keep out of the chilled night air. Mrs. Rose offered the canyon on their place and the offer was accepted. In fact, the Roses and their two teen-aged children were invited.

The Rose kids began to brag. What a party! Two fires were built. A small one on which coffee was boiled. The bonfire was allowed to burn down to huge coals and the wieners (long ones too) were roasted on long sticks. Placed in the sliced bun, which had been buttered with something called mustard, it was delicious. And, the Rose children continued as we listened wide-eyed, there were sour pickles, onions, chili sauce and some wonder-

ful cracklin's called potato chips. For dessert there were all kinds of cookies, coffee for grown-ups and some sort of heavenly hot drink for the kids—all you wanted to drink.

The social leaders of the other side of the road would not be outdone. One of my maiden aunts had some friends who lived in town so she consulted these young ladies on their experiences with such entertainment and invited them to come.

Excitement ran high all up and down the creek. The month was November, the air was crisp, and when the night of the big affair did finally arrive a full moon smiled its best for us from high in the heavens. Of course, the chosen spot for this wiener roast was the canyon round the east side of Turkey Mountain.

By sundown the guests began to arrive. Nero couldn't imagine what was happening. Wagon loads of people were lined up to come through the gate. Papa and Mama found themselves playing host where they hadn't expected to do anything but go and partake of the food. People came on foot, on horseback, and those who had cars drove them as close as they could to the canyon. Everybody dressed in their very Sunday clothes, and it looked as if every family up and down Silver Creek was present.

"Mr. Winston, we need a milk can full of water from your pump."

"Mrs. Winston, I forgot to bring a knife to peel these onions."

On this went with other exclamations of, "I tore my only silk hose."

I'll wager no woman or girl there had any Sunday shoes left. Sliding up and down the banks of that canyon heels were torn off, satin slippers torn. Why, oh, why didn't someone tell us what to wear to such a festivity? Even I had on my only pair of Sunday pants.

Excitement ran high. This was more fun than a swing game party. Some of the men had gone into town for

wieners and buns. They brought no less than twenty-five pounds of wieners, some baloney. I have no idea how many of those newfangled buns.

And there was rat cheese, cakes, pies, potato salad and jars and jars of that good mustard. I think I ate half a bushel of those potato chips.

When everybody had eaten all they could of food and ashes and dirt, one of the good singers began leading the group in singing. The music rang through those post oak thickets as far as could be heard. Even the folks across the road, the city dudes, could hear it. The louder the singing the more brightly the moon beamed on the revelers.

At the height of the party I decided I would show some of the boys from up the creek the lower end of the canyon. We were at the mound in the center of the sand bed from which the very top of the mountain could be seen. There was a rustle in the bushes near the banks of Mill Creek. "It's Nero," I said, but it wasn't. Nero couldn't talk; besides, he was right under my feet.

"Don't do that, George."

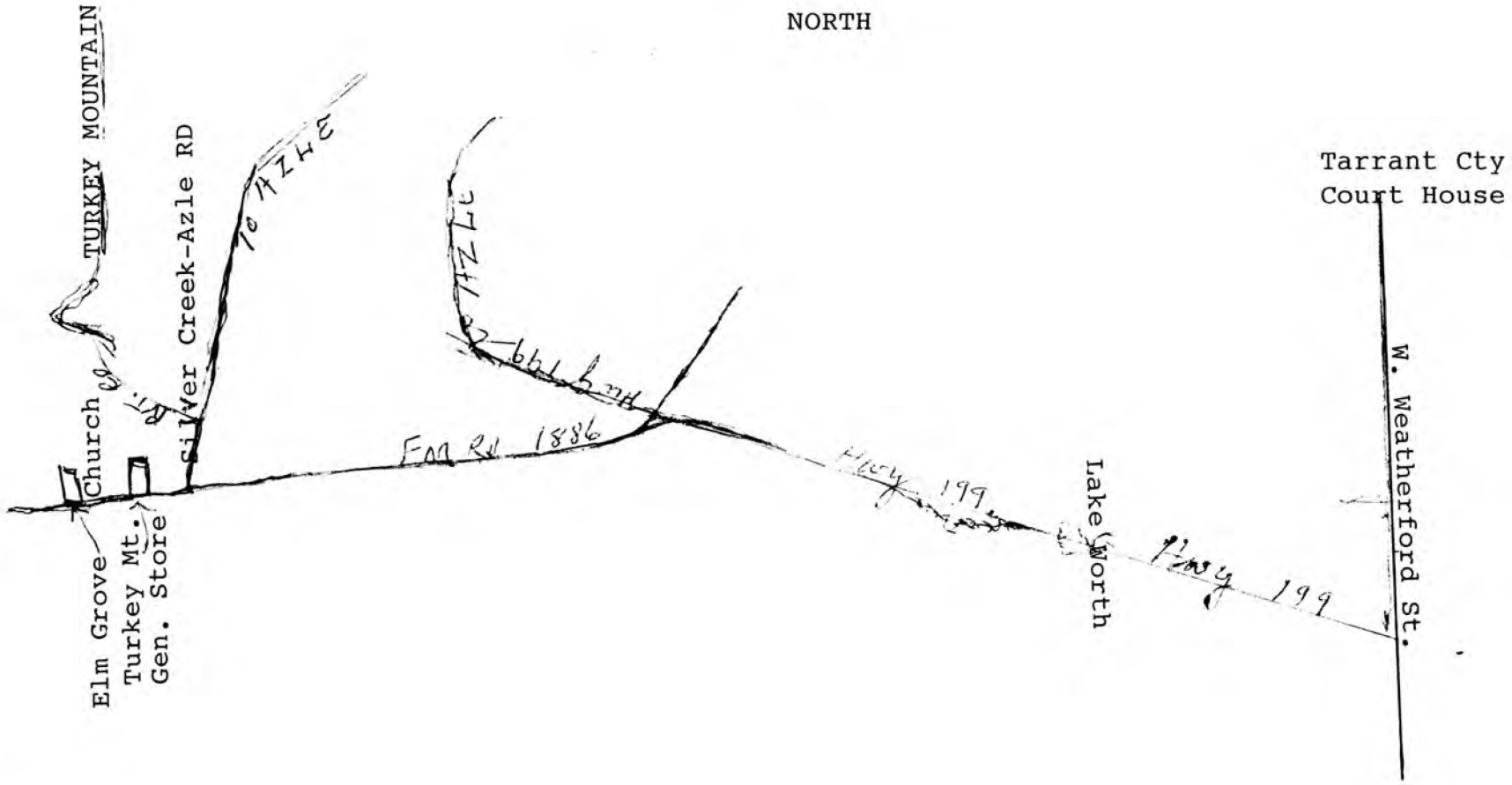
"Come on, keep still," said the deep male voice.

We froze in our tracks. Not just to listen; we were scared. I knew just enough about wild women to be scared of them, especially the one girl on Silver Creek. We well knew who was out there, and I knew to get out of there quick. Papa had said a lot of times in my presence that he wanted no truck with that George Evans. He was a bad one, even if he was under twenty-five years old.

We waited to hear no more. I led the way. Up the middle of that canyon we ran as if Chief Sitting Bull himself and all his warriors were chasing us. We didn't look back. We ran up that canyon, joined the rest of the party and ate more cake.

For weeks the atmosphere was filled with the air of: "We showed them," and "City folks can't do anything that country folks can't do better."

WEST



NORTH

Tarrant Cty
Court House

W. Weatherford St.

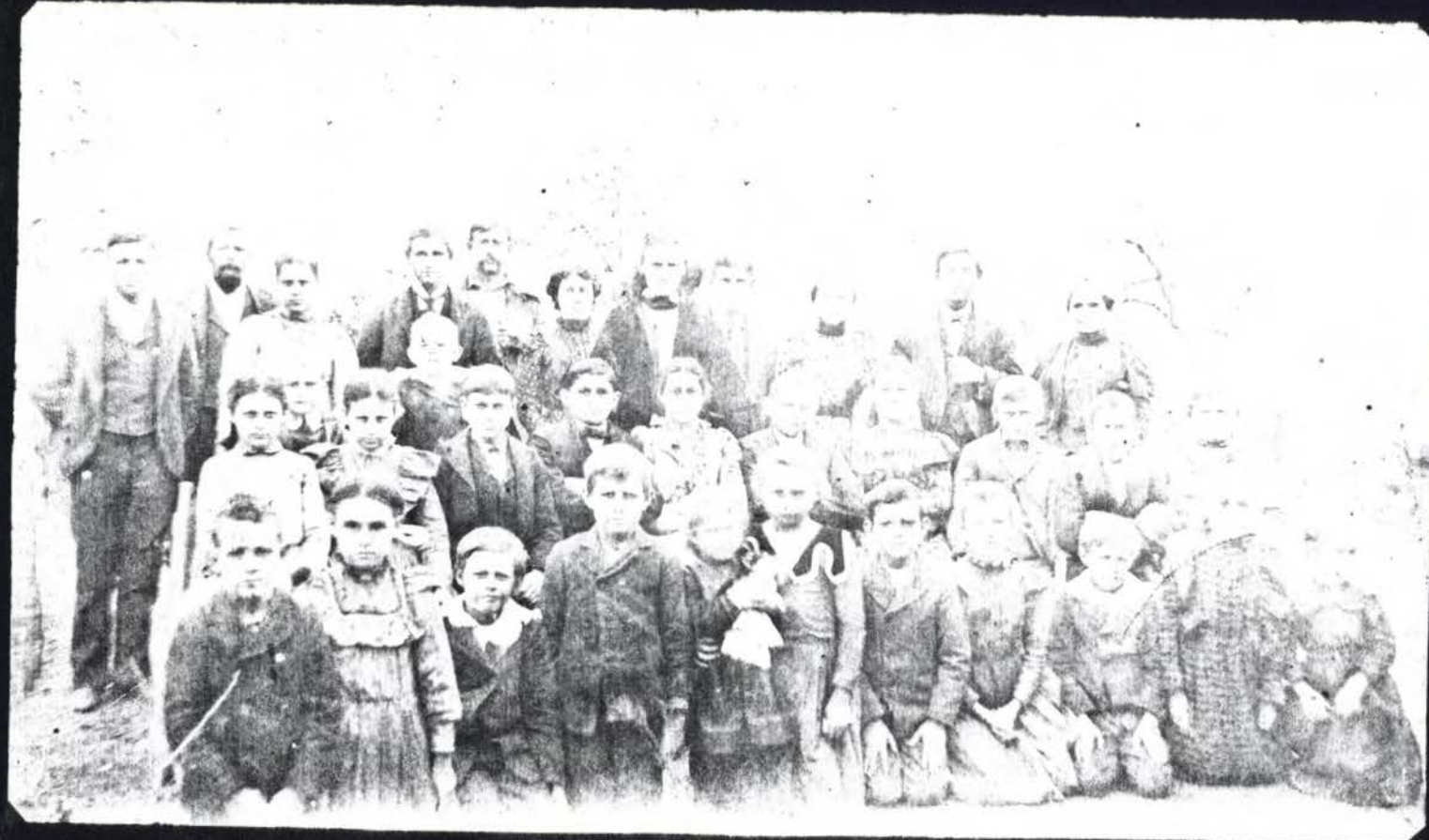
Lake Worth

EAST

This is my home made copy of map showing route from the Tarrant County Court House to Turkey Mountain. It is approximately fifteen miles.

Attachment # 1

SOUTH



Attachment No. 5

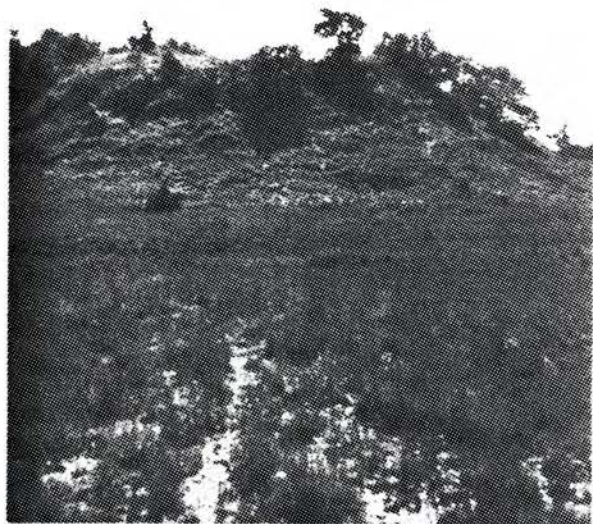
Last day of school, Turkey Mountain 1898.
Teacher was Miss Onah Orrick.



Original Painting of
the 1st 1911 - 1st 1st 1911

Attachment No. 4

• JUL • 68



a Kodak photo of the back
side of Turkey Mountain - 1968

attachment No. 3

DP
VIIIO
15300

174

A. Blingman & Co. }
 To } Warranty deed, } The State of Texas, }
 J. W. O' Donald. } County of Tarrant. } Know all
 Men By These Presents: That A. Blingman & Co. of the
 County of Parker State of Texas in consideration of the
 sum of seven hundred Dollars paid by Jno. W. O' Donald the
 receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,

have Granted, Sold & Conveyed, & by these these Presents do
 Grant, Sell & Convey unto the said J. W. O' Donald, of the
 County of Tarrant State of Texas all that certain tract or
 parcel of land lying & being in Tarrant & Parker Counties, State
 of Texas, on the Waters of Olden Creek a tributary to the Tri-
 nity River the same being all of my interest in & to the the
 South division of the following described tract of land the di-
 viding line being 475^{ms} S. 25^o E. from the N.E. & N.W. Cor. to
 rocks, dividing the following 320 acres viz: lying about 2 1/2
 miles N. 70^o W. of T & North known as sur No. 10. Beginning
 at the N.E. Cor. of J. M. Thurman's sur a stake whence a P. O.
 brs S. 57^o E. 12 ms. another brs. N. 44^o W. 9 ms. Thence North
 with the W. line of sur. No. 7 @ 380 ms. mill creek at 870 ms. a
 stake in said line for the S.E. Cor. of this sur whence a P. O.
 brs. S. 21^o W. 3 1/2 ms. another brs. N. 41^o W. 5 ms. Thence N. 25^o W.
 1240 ms. a mound of rocks for the N.E. Cor. whence a P. O. brs.
 S. 59^o W. 85 ms. Thence South 65 W. 340 ms. mill creek 1000
 ms. the S.W. Cor. a stake whence a P. O. brs. N. 23^o W. 7 ms. an-
 other brs. W. 25^o E. 1/2 ms. Thence S. 25^o 6 1/2 740 ms. to the N. line
 of sur. No. 8 a stake & mound. Thence E. with said line 645 ms.
 to the place of beginning. The dividing line of the foregoing
 described 320 acres, cuts off the South side 188 acres of land
 more or less.

To Have & To Hold the above described premises, together with
 all & singular the rights & appurtenances thereto in anywise
 belonging, unto the said J. W. O' Donald & his heirs & assigns
 forever, And we do hereby bind ourselves heirs executors and
 Administrators to warrant & defend, all & singular
 the said premises unto the said J. W. O' Donald & his heirs &
 assigns against every person whomsoever lawfully claim-
 ing or to claim, the same or any part thereof.

Witness our hands at Azle Tex, this 15th day of April A.D. 1845.

Attachment No. 2'

A. ^{his} Blingman
 mark

Signed and sealed and delivered in presence of }
J. A. Cozby.

- G. W. Clingman ✓
- F. C. Clingman ✓
- C. J. Clingman ✓
- C. M. Clingman ✓
- A. E. Clingman ✓
- (A. J. Reynolds ✓
- S. C. Reynolds ✓

The State of Texas }
 County of Tarrant, } Before me Geo. H. Snodgrass, Notary
 Public in and for Tarrant County, Texas, on this day personally
 appeared A. Clingman & C. J. Clingman & in view to me
 to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the forego-
 ing instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed
 the same for the purpose and consideration therein expressed
 Given under my hand and seal of office, this 15th day of
 April, A. D. 1895

J.S.

Geo. H. Snodgrass,
Notary Public.

The State of Texas }
 County of Tarrant, } Before me Geo. H. Snodgrass
 Notary Public in and for Tarrant County, Texas, on this day
 personally appeared G. W. Clingman and L. C. Clingman wife
 of G. W. Clingman known to me to be the persons whose
 names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknow-
 ledged to me that they executed the same for the purpose and
 consideration therein expressed and the said L. C. Clingman
 wife of the said G. W. Clingman having been examined
 by me privately and apart from her husband, and having the
 same by me fully explained to her, she the said L. C. Cling-
 man acknowledged such instrument to be her act and deed
 and she declared that she had willingly signed the same
 for the purpose and consideration therein expressed, and
 that she did not wish to retract it.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 15th day of
 April, A. D. 1895.

J.S.

Geo. H. Snodgrass,
Notary Public.

The State of Texas }
 County of Tarrant, } Before me Geo. H. Snodgrass Notary
 Public in and for Tarrant County Texas, on this day personally.

attachment No 2

appeared C. M. Clingman and A. J. Reynolds and A. E. Clingman and Reynolds wives of said C. M. Clingman and A. J. Reynolds known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same for the purpose and consideration therein expressed. And the said A. E. Clingman and

Reynolds wives of said C. M. Clingman and A. J. Reynolds having been examined by me privately and apart from their husbands and having the same fully explained to them they the said A. E. Clingman and Reynolds acknowledged such instrument to be their act and deed and declared that they had willingly signed the same for the purpose and consideration therein expressed and that they did not wish to retract it.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 15th day of April A. D. 1895.

J. B. Inodgrass

J. B. Inodgrass,
Notary Public,

Filed for Record April 30 1895, at 11 o'clock A.M.

Recorded May 4 1895, at 9 o'clock A.M.

Jno. O. King, Co. Clerk,
By R. L. Miller, D. C.

Attachment No. 2³

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Attachment No. 2³

8-30
124
THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF TARRANT.

V6021 P. 354
KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, /Rebecca E. Newsom, /Raleigh Thompson and /Anita Batey, of the County of Tarrant, State of Texas; /Halbert A. Thompson of the County of Parker, State of Texas, and /Sandra Audas of the County of Harris, State of Texas; and /Dorothy J. McCreight as Guardian of the Estate of /Carla Thompson, ~~a~~ minor, grantors herein, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten and no/100 Dollars (\$10.00) and other good, valuable and sufficient consideration, all to us cash in hand paid by V. M. Crow and his wife Josette Crow, the grantees herein, the receipt of all of which is hereby acknowledged,

HAVE GRANTED, SOLD AND CONVEYED, AND BY THESE PRESENTS DO GRANT, SELL AND CONVEY unto the said V. M. Crow and his wife Josette Crow, of the County of Tarrant, State of Texas, all that certain tract or parcel of land situated in Tarrant County, Texas, and being out of the Stephen Best Survey and described by metes and bounds as follows:

Being a tract or parcel of land out of the Stephen Best Survey, Abstract #191, situated in Tarrant County, Texas, and described by metes and bounds as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin at the intersection of the North line of F. M. Highway #1886 and the West line of County Road #4122, said iron pin being North 01 degree 30 minutes West, 110 ft. more or less from the South line of said Stephen Best Survey;

THENCE Westerly, along the North line of F. M. Highway #1886, along a curve to the right, having a radius of 4583.69 feet, a distance of 394.24 feet (long chord, South 86 degrees 27 minutes 18 seconds West, 394.12 feet) to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 00 degrees 04 minutes 30 seconds West, along the East line of Elm Grove Baptist Church Tract, 174.8 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 89 degrees 34 minutes 30 seconds West, along the North line of said tract, 213.8 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE South 00 degrees 04 minutes 30 seconds East, along the West line of said tract, 177.8 feet to an iron pin for corner in the North line of F. M. Highway #1886;

THENCE North 89 degrees 46 minutes 30 seconds West, along the North line of said Highway, 24.0 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 00 degrees 04 minutes 30 seconds West, along the East line of a certain tract of land described in deed recorded in Volume 1476, Page 466, Deed Records, Tarrant County, Texas, a distance of 127.35 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 89 degrees 26 minutes 05 seconds West, along the North line of said tract, and along an irregular fence, 759.84 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 01 degree 45 minutes West, along the East line of a certain tract of land described in deed recorded in Volume 1381, Page 181, Deed Records, Tarrant County, Texas, a distance of 232.63 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 89 degrees 33 minutes West, along the North line of said tract, 208.7 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 01 degree 40 minutes East, along an irregular fence, 703.88 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE, along an irregular fence, North 89 degrees 01 minute 10 seconds East, 1022.33 feet to an iron pin, and East, 104.56 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE South 05 degrees 54 minutes 40 seconds East, along the West line of a certain 1.819 acre tract, 192.73 feet to an iron pin, the Northwest corner of a certain 2.0 acre tract described in deed recorded in Volume 4913, Page 291, Deed Records, Tarrant County, Texas;

THENCE South 01 degree 24 minutes 27 seconds East, along the West line of said 2.0 acre tract, at 208.7 feet it's Southwest corner, continuing along the West line of a certain 2.0 acre tract described in Volume 5640, Page 552, a total distance of 417.79 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 88 degrees 30 minutes East, along the South line of said 2.0 acre tract, 416.95 feet to an iron pin for corner; in the West line of County Road #4122;

THENCE South 01 degree 33 minutes 38 seconds East, along the West line of said Road, 466.13 feet to the Point of Beginning, and containing 28.617 acres of land;

except that it is understood that grantors do not own all the minerals in all of said land, and that as to oil, gas, and other minerals grantors convey only such as they own in, on, or under said land, but that they do hereby convey all oil, gas, and other minerals and royalty rights that they own in, on, or under said land.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises, together with all and singular, the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto the said V. M. Crow and his wife Josette Crow, their heirs and assigns forever; and we do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators and successors to warrant and forever defend all and singular the said premises unto the said V. M. Crow and his wife Josette Crow, their heirs and assigns against every person whomscever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof.

Grantors certify that none of the land hereby conveyed is homestead of any of them.

This deed is made subject to any easements and restrictions now of record in the office of the County Clerk of Tarrant County, Texas, that apply to the land hereby conveyed, but only to the extent that same now remain valid and in effect as to said land hereby conveyed; and to any zoning ordinance legally in effect as to said land hereby conveyed; and to any easements, if any, that are now apparent upon the face of the land hereby conveyed.

Ad valorem taxes for the year of 1976 upon the land hereby conveyed have been prorated between the parties hereto, and the grantees herein now and hereby assume the payment of all taxes legally chargeable for the year of 1976 upon said land hereby conveyed.

This deed is executed by the said Dorothy J. McCreight as such guardian pursuant to an order of the County Court of Hopkins County, Texas, sitting in probate, a copy of which is marked Exhibit A and attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof.

WITNESS OUR HANDS this 16th day of April, A.D. 1976.

Rebecca E. Newsom
Rebecca E. Newsom

Raleigh Thompson
Raleigh Thompson

Anita Batey
Anita Batey

Halbert A. Thompson
Halbert A. Thompson

Sandra Audas
Sandra Audas

Dorothy J. McCreight
Dorothy J. McCreight as Guardian
of the Estate of Carla Thompson,
a minor.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF TARRANT.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, in and for Tarrant County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Sandra Audas, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 17 day of April, A. D. 1976.

J. M. Sheffield
A Notary Public in and for
Tarrant County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF TARRANT.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, in and for Tarrant County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Rebecca E. Newsom, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 16th day of April, A.D. 1976.

Judge Gambill JUDGE GAMBILL
A Notary Public in and for
Tarrant County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF TARRANT.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, in and for Tarrant County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Raleigh Thompson, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 17 day of April, A.D. 1976.

J. M. Sheffield
A Notary Public in and for
Tarrant County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF TARRANT.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, in and for Tarrant County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Anita Batey, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.


GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 16 day of April, A.D. 1976.

Mary Brooks
A Notary Public in and for
Tarrant County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF PARKER .

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, in and for Tarrant County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Halbert A. Thompson, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.


GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 19th day of April, A.D. 1976.


Laurie M. Fowler
A Notary Public in and for
Parker County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS,
COUNTY OF HOPKINS.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, in and for Hopkins County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Dorothy J. McCreight, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and in the capacity therein stated.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 30th day of April, A.D. 1976.


Jerry Graves
A Notary Public in and for
Hopkins County, Texas
(Jerry Graves)

NO. 8744

GUARDIANSHIP OF X IN THE COUNTY COURT OF
CARLA THOMPSON. X HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS

CONFIRMATION OF SALE

This 30th day of April, 1976, came on to be heard in the above estate the report of Dorothy J. McCreight, guardian of the estate of Carla Thompson, a minor, that the ward's undivided one-twelfth interest in certain real estate described in said report has been sold at private sale for cash to V. M. Crow and wife, Jo-sette Crow, which said property is described as follows, to wit:

Being a tract or parcel of land out of the Stephen Best Survey, Abstract #191, situated in Tarrant County, Texas, and described by metes and bounds as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin at the intersection of the North line of F. M. Highway #1886 and the West line of County Road #4122, said iron pin being North 01 degree 30 minutes West, 110 feet more or less from the South line of said Stephen Best Survey;

THENCE Westerly, along the North line of F. M. Highway #1886, along a curve to the right, having a radius of 4583.69 feet, a distance of 394.24 feet (long chord, South 86 degrees 27 minutes 18 seconds West, 394.12 feet) to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 00 degrees 04 minutes 30 seconds West, along the East line of Elm Grove Baptist Church Tract, 174.8 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 89 degrees 34 minutes 30 seconds West, along the North line of said tract, 213.8 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE South 00 degrees 04 minutes 30 seconds East, along the West line of said tract 177.8 feet to an iron pin for corner in the North line of F. M. Highway #1886;

THENCE North 89 degrees 46 minutes 30 seconds West, along the North line of said Highway, 24.0 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 00 degrees 04 minutes 30 seconds West, along the East line of a certain tract of land described in deed recorded in Volume 1476, Page 466, Deed Records, Tarrant County, Texas, a distance of 127.35 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 89 degrees 26 minutes 05 seconds West, along the North line of said tract, and along an irregular fence, 759.84 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 01 degree 45 minutes West, along the East line of a certain tract of land described in deed recorded in Volume 1381, Page 181, Deed Records, Tarrant County, Texas, a distance of 232.63 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 89 degrees 33 minutes West, along the North line of said tract, 208.7 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 01 degree 40 minutes East, along an irregular fence, 703.88 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE, along an irregular fence, North 89 degrees 01 minute 10 seconds East, 1022.33 feet to an iron pin, and East, 104.56 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE South 05 degrees 54 minutes 40 seconds East, along the West line of a certain 1.819-acre tract, 192.73 feet to an iron pin, the Northwest corner of a certain 2.0-acre tract described in deed recorded in Volume 4913, Page 291, Deed Records, Tarrant County, Texas;

THENCE South 01 degree 24 minutes 27 seconds East, along the West line of said 2.0-acre tract, at 208.7 feet its Southwest corner, continuing along the West line of a certain 2.0-acre tract described in Volume 5640, Page 552, a total distance of 417.79 feet to an iron pin for corner;

THENCE North 88 degrees 30 minutes East, along the South line of said 2.0-acre tract, 416.95 feet to an iron pin for corner; in the West line of County Road #4122;

THENCE South 01 degree 33 minutes 38 seconds East, along the West line of said Road, 466.13 feet to the Point of Beginning, and containing 28.617 acres of land.

Such sale was made in obedience to the order of this Court entered on the 19th day of April, 1976. After inquiring into the manner in which said sale was made, the Court determined that such sale was fairly made and in conformity with law and that five days have expired following the day upon which said report of sale was filed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that such sale to V. M. Crow and wife, Josette Crow, be and it is hereby confirmed, that such report of sale be recorded by the Clerk, and that the guardian execute a proper conveyance of the property to said purchasers upon payment by the purchasers to the guardian of the cash sum of \$5,365.69, less the ward's pro rata share of sale expenses attributable to the sellers of the subject property.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the guardian shall deposit the aforesaid proceeds for safekeeping in accordance with the Court's Order Appointing Guardian entered herein on October 5, 1973.

The Court further determined that the guardian has incurred \$ 29⁰⁰ as costs incurred in this proceeding and has further incurred \$ 461²⁹ as attorney's fees and expenses for her representation herein, which said fees and expenses the Court finds to be reasonable and proper.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the guardian is hereby authorized to pay said costs, fees and expenses out of the said sale proceeds.

RENDERED, SIGNED AND ORDERED ENTERED this 30th day of April, 1976.

L.E. Goldsmith
County Judge of Hopkins County,
Texas

FILED

APR 30 1976

MARY ATTLESEY
COUNTY CLERK, HOPKINS COUNTY, TEXAS
By _____ Deputy

STATE OF TEXAS }
COUNTY OF HOPKINS }
I, MARY ATTLESEY, Clerk of the County Court
in and for said County do hereby
certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Confirmation
of Sale in Cause No. 8744, Estate of Carla Thompson
Minor
as the same appears of record in Volume _____ page _____
_____ Records of Hopkins County, Texas.
Probate
Given under my hand and Seal of said Court, at office in Sulphur Springs, Texas,
on this the 30 day of April, A. D. 19 76.
By Mary Attlesay Clerk
Hopkins County, Texas. Deputy

DEB
CLERK
FILED