

My name is Georgia Coit Fite born
Nov. 20, 1918 my age 65 yrs. old.

was born in Athens, Henderson County Tx.
South town on Carrall St. I have
lived in Athens Tx all of my life and
I am familiar with the use of the
Block cemetery on the old Palestine
Road.

We would pick berries and plums
in that area and I remember that there
were tomb stones on the described land.

My name Sylvester Winfield was born August 05, 1905 - my age is 79 years old. I was born on Chase St. in Athens, Henderson County, Texas. I have lived in Athens, Tx. all of my life.

The described property that was used as a Colored Cemetery, (Fisher Robinson Cemetery) I am familiar with its location - The part of Athens, called South Town - Fisher Robinson Cemetery was on the north side of Old Palestine High way and across from the Clifton property that was on the south side of the Cemetery. A dirt road ran in front of the Clifton property ^{across old Palestine Hwy.} through Fisher Robinson Cemetery.

The Fisher Robinson Cemetery had many tomb stones some were tall, they did appear approx. 40 ~~to~~ yrs. or sooner - In the late Thirties

My daddy's sister Lizzie Winfield was buried approx 1910 or 1911 in the Fisher Robinson Cemetery.

My name Mary Randle - Bell born
July 10, 1909 - in Athens, Henderson County
Tx - ~~in~~ in Pine Grove Community - old
Palestine Hwy - on Porter Hallum's farm.
when I was six year or seven years old
we moved ~~in~~ to town - (South town)
we lived near the described land that
was used as a grave yard - there were
some tomb stones in the grave yard -
I do not know exactly the name of the
peoples who were buried there.

Our family moved from South Town
in another ^{part} of Athens, Tx in the ~~late~~
earlier twenties. Tomb stones were
standing in the Colored grave yard on the
Old Palestine Road.

My name Albert Brown Jr. was born June 12, 1905- and my age 79 years old. I was born and lived in Athens, Henderson County, Texas all of my life.

The described property that was used as a Black Cemetery in South Town, located north of Ted Massey Property and Old Palestine highway and joining Uncle Rube Richardson and the Carroll Property on the north side.

The reason I was familiar with the area, I would visit ~~relatives~~ ^{relatives} who lived in the vicinity of the grave yard and we would have to go through the grave yard to reach their house, ~~they~~ there were many tomb stones in the grave yard. Not positive of ~~people~~ persons who were buried in the Cemetery.

Approx. between 1925 and ~~the~~ the early thirties the tomb stone disappeared from the described property that had been used as a Cemetery.

My name is Lizzie Dollie Bynum - Taylor, was born October 26, 1910, Athens, Henderson, Texas the section of town called South town. I am now 73 years old. I have lived in Athens Tx. all of my life. I am familiar with the described land, that was used as a cemetery down south on the old Palestine Highway, across the highway north of Ted Massey and Erwin Clifton. The Property had a triangle shape.

As a child me and my sister Winlois Bynum - Taylor born October 25, 1912 and other children Mary Thorn, Mary and Oma Randle~~s~~ played in the cemetery and picked plums on the branch that ran be hind the grave yard.

Tomb stones were all about in the cemetery in 1915 - and when we left from that area in 1927 the cemetery was still there with the tomb stones.

Winlois recall the style ^{description} of some of the tomb stone that were in the grave yard

A Note from

area, to take a sharp probe
and you may turn up
some stones,

I wish I was able to
check on the Project.
Yours truly,
Manau

A Note from

07/16/83

Dear Kathryn:

When I returned from
Mother Frances Hospital
Thurs, PM-07-14-83, I had a
letter from Mary A. Perryman
informing me that she had
contacted Jack Ward Surveyor,
and he would mark off the
Cemetery free.

He called me 07-15-83
stating he had marked off the
Cemetery with yellow survey
tape.

I couldn't go for I had surgery
07-11-83- and at that time

my husband couldn't go for it
was raining so hard.

Mary will be gone for
3 wks - She requests when the
group goes to clean up the

Apr 14, '84 Alle

Billy Hudler

My Wife's Grandfather, Fed
Hossey, Marked this — Oak
with this X to mark the
NE boundary of his property line
about 1890 - 1900. This was part of
the Diley Kuppin Estate.

The Fisher Robinson Cemetery
lay to the East of this
property. There was a Colored
Methodist Church (known today as CME)
also on this
property of the Cemetery. I
remember the Tombstones on the
E. side of the Church. I
remember making the Tombstones
about 1972 or 73. ~~Myson~~

Ben Hudler

witness: Clarence Richardson

" John [unclear]

My Uncle was
Barbara Anderson (Hudler)

kept my 15 year
old the Cemetery
the Hunt Sales.

My Aunt
Barbara

with this to mark the
NE boundary of his property line
about 1890 - 1900. This was part of
the Diley Kuppin Estate.

The Fisher Robinson Cemetery
lay to the East of this
property. There was a Colored
Methodist Church (known today as CME)
also on this
property at the Cemetery. I
remember the Tombstones on the
E. side of the Church. I
remember reading the Tombstones
about 1972 or 73. ~~My Aunt~~

We kept my Boy
out of the Cemetery
with about 200.

Billy Hudlin

witness: Clarence Richardson
" John D. [unclear]
" Jacob C. Brown
" Mary Ann Perryman

Billy Hudlin
6752 4313
400 Robbins Rd.
Box 23
Allens, Tex.

FOREWORD

For over forty years historians have searched for what they called The Lost Marriage Book of Henderson County. Along with other historical documents, it was recently found in a pasteboard box stored in a corner of the courthouse basement by two of our members.

When Henderson County was created from Nacogdoches and Houston Counties on April 27, 1846 by an act of the Texas Legislature, it encompassed what is now Henderson, Kaufman, Van Zandt, Wood, Rockwall, and most of Rains Counties. It was finally reduced to its present size on January 28, 1850. Its first County Seat was Buffalo, then Centerville, and finally Athens.

Except for the 7" X 15" size of the original book, this is an exact copy of what remains of the record of marriage licenses issued in the county during that era. Although the first twenty pages are missing, J.J. Faulk states on page 17 of History of Henderson County, published in 1929, the first marriage license was issued at Buffalo on September 16, 1846 to Joseph Kee and Delia Manning who were married by Barnabus Jones, a minister, on September 23, 1846. Pages 47, 49, 50, and 52 thru 65 were unaccountably left blank.

The following handwritten inscription was found in the box with this book:

These old books are very valuable as historic relics. They ought to be rebound and securely locked in a vault. These are the originals. I hope the Commissioners Court some day will look after these old hand marks of our fathers. The Courts pay no attention to me. They were junked when I found them.

1929 (signed) J.J. Faulk

They were still junked 10 years later.

May 25, 1939 (signed) J.M. Bolding

They were still junked in 1941 when found by

(signed) John L. Chambers

We take pride in preserving this record for generations to come.

Henderson County Historical Commission
Marion Westbrook, Chairman