

LOVELADY, JAMES and EURITH ELIZABETH (LEWIS)

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James and Eurith Elizabeth Lewis Lovelady and their children arrived in Collin County, Texas, in January 1846, from Missouri. Among the sources which pinpoint their Texas arrival date are the 1846 Republic of Texas Poll List and the obituary of son T. H. B. Lovelady.

A Peters' Colonist prior to July 1848, James Lovelady received from Thomas William Ward a land certificate (Certificate Number 150, Fannin Third Class, File Number 1450), on which he patented 640 acres by 1850. He is listed as an original Texas landowner. James and Elizabeth's descendants are included in Texas First Families.

Born 31 January 1816, in Sevier County, Tennessee, James Lovelady was the second of seven known children of Amos Lovelady (son of Marshall and Hannah Lovelady) and Claramon (Boaz) Lovelady (daughter of Abednego and Frances [Matthews] Boaz). Amos and Claramon's other children were the following: William; Elizabeth "Betsey" (never married); Pleasant J. (m. Margaret Moore); unidentified son; Mary Jane (m. Branson Fox); and Nancy (m. W. Robert Helton). Sometime after 1830, James Lovelady left his father's home in the Smoky Mountains and migrated from East Tennessee to Missouri.

His wife Eurith Elizabeth (Lewis) Lovelady was born in Howard [or Cooper] County, Missouri, on 9 [or 10] March 1818, to William and Catherine (Travis) Lewis. The other Lewis children, who have been identified thus far, are as follows: William C. Lewis (m. Nancy Fitzhugh); John Lewis; Martha Lewis (m. William Rhodes); Squire T. Lewis (m. Mary E. Fitzhugh); Frances Marion Lewis; James Lewis (m. Margaret Conner); Nathaniel Benton Lewis; and Andrew Jackson Lewis (m.1 Mary A. T. Childers; m.2 Sarilda Jane Reagan). Following the death in Missouri of her husband, Catherine Lewis joined several of her children in Collin County and was living next door to her daughter Elizabeth Lovelady in 1860. Later Catherine returned to Missouri with her son James Lewis and family.

The marriage of James Lovelady and Elizabeth Lewis, performed by Minister James Cox, was recorded on 5 April 1838, in Clinton County, Missouri. However, the couple may have actually married in 1836 in Platte County, according to Elizabeth's Mexican War Pension application. Four of the Lovelady children were born in Missouri; the others were born in Collin County.

Shortly after his Texas arrival, James enlisted 24 July 1846, to fight in the Mexican War, serving in Captain Andrew Ste[a]pp's Independent Company of Texas Mounted Volunteers. Wife Elizabeth later received a pension on James' Mexican War service.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, James, age 46, and his three eldest sons William, Thomas, and John joined to serve the Confederacy from Collin County. William died during the war in an Arkansas hospital. Letters to his wife Martha, now in the possession of J. Paul McNatt, great-grandson, described illness and despair. Second son Thomas kept a daily diary for the years 1861-1865 while serving in the war. Third son John received a disability pension due to war-related injuries.

A further comment is in order on Thomas Lovelady's diary, transcribed by Gordon K. Lovelady, grandson. The diary is the one priceless shred of evidence that links James Lovelady to Sevier County, Tennessee, thus enabling descendants to trace his origin. In a March 1863 diary excerpt, Thomas recounts riding his horse through Tennessee, crossing the Cumberland Mountains and the Little Tennessee River, finally arriving in Sevierville - his father's boyhood home - where he meets his aunts (unnamed, but the only Loveladys still in Sevier County: Elizabeth, Mary Jane, and Nancy). In addition, Thomas notes some other family relationships which are very helpful as well. Without his son's diary, James Lovelady's connection to East Tennessee most likely would never have been known or documented due to an 1856 Sevier County Courthouse fire which destroyed many early records.

James and Elizabeth were among five charter members of Forest Grove Christian Church, as noted in Elizabeth's obituary in the McKinney Democrat. James was serving as a church deacon in September 1850, according to J. B. Wilmoth's [sic] report to the editor of Christian Record, a church newspaper published in Bloomington, Indiana.

On 28 June 1867, James died in Collin County. Elizabeth's death occurred on 4 [or 5] January 1901, in Gainesville at the home of Jerry and Georgeann (Lovelady) Henson, her youngest daughter. The Loveladys are buried at Fitzhugh Cemetery (Forest Grove Christian Church) near Allen.

James and Elizabeth were the parents of nine children. A family Bible, earlier in the possession of Edgar C. Lovelady, recorded the names and birth dates of the Lovelady children. The eldest was William A. Lovelady (b. 1 Nov 1838, MO - d. 25 Nov 1862, Little Rock, AR), who married Martha Delilah Hall in Collin County on 21 March 1861. The couple had one child Jessie Franklin (m. Mariah Catherine **Royston**). Martha Hall Lovelady married secondly William Basil Brown in Collin County on 25 January 1866, and had other children.

Second child was Thomas Henry Benton Lovelady (b. 7 Aug 1840, Jackson Co., MO d. 31 Jan 1919, El Paso, Hudspeth, TX), who married on 20 April 1865, in Collin County Delila Jane Brown, daughter of R. Kenneth and Mary A. Brown. Before 1870 Thomas and his family moved from Collin County to Bell County. In 1889 the family headed to Rocksprings in

Edwards County, driving their sheep, which were among the first on Edwards Plateau. Thomas was one of the organizers of Rocksprings Church of Christ, which he served as an elder. Then in 1909 the Loveladys, with the exception of son Eugene, sold their property and moved again to Elfrida, Arizona, where they homesteaded.

Thomas and Delila had the following children: Albert Goodwin, Sr. (m.1 Mary Owens; m.2 Viola Evelyn Abbott); James Kenneth; Thomas Daniel (m. Mary Lee Cargill); Mary Elizabeth (m. Lee David Wilmeth); William J.; John Ely (m. Martha Molinda Cargill); Collin McDonald (m. Ada Dean Pilcher); Eugene Napoleon (m. Zenith Gertrude Guthrie); Ernest; and Nancy Ayers (m.1 Albert Sidney Edwards; m.2 Arthur Bolton). Thomas and Delila are buried at Whitewater School, which Thomas established, in Elfrida, Cochise, Arizona. Thomas Lovelady's 1919 obituary, published in Firm Foundation, a Church of Christ journal, states that the James Lovelady family arrived in Collin County in January 1846.

Next was John Lewis Lovelady (b. 18 Aug 1842, Platte County, MO (d. 24 Feb 1925, Newport, Jack, TX), who married Mary Jane Walker on 30 March 1865, in Collin County. The known children were the following: Sarah; Missouri Jane; Andrew; Benjamin; Cordelia; and Alice Rhoda. John and Mary Jane are buried in Perryman Cemetery, Forestburg, Montague, Texas.

Fourth was Mary Catherine Lovelady (b. 12 Jan 1845, MO--d. 4 Jan 1899, Collin Co., TX), whose marriage to Moses Wright is recorded in Collin County on 19 October 1861. Known children were: Martha; James S.; Nancy Jane; Susan; Mary; William; and Virginia. The Wrights are buried in Forest Grove Cemetery in Allen.

The fifth child, about whom little is known, was James M. C. Lovelady (b. 26 May 1847, Collin Co., TX). Date and place of death are unknown.

Sixth was Georgeann Elizabeth Lovelady (b. 18 Jan 1850, Collin Co., TX - d. 26 Oct 1919, Grandfalls, Ward, TX), who married Jeremiah Newton "Jerry" Henson in Collin County on 28 May 1871. Their known children were the following: Otto; Martha Ellen; John S.; Emma May; Ethel B.; Fannie; and Robert L. Georgeann had an older daughter Henrietta. Jerry Henson is buried in Union Hill Cemetery, Cooke County, Texas; Georgeann is buried in Grandfalls Cemetery, Grandfalls, Ward, Texas. Georgeann received a pension on Jerry's Civil War service.

Seventh child was Pleasant Travis Lovelady (b. 18 Jan 1852, Collin Co., TX - d. 19 Nov 1922, Tillman County, OK). He married twice: m. 1 Maude A. Phillips; m. 2 Elizabeth "Lizzie" Unknown. Children included: Marion; Lena; George McDonald (m. Lottie Bell Dorman); Joseph; Sudie; Nora; Frank; and Ernest. Pleasant is buried in Davidson Cemetery, Davidson, Tillman, Oklahoma.

Eighth child was Eli Hogue Lovelady (b. 29 May 1854, McKinney, Collin, TX - d. 31 Dec 1935, Bowie, Montague, TX), who married Nancy Clarinda Wylie, daughter of Thomas and Lucy Caroline (Richardson) Wylie

on 2 November 1880, in Collin County. About 1885 Hogue Lovelady and his family, joined by his younger brother Kinney and his family, drove their horses and cattle to Clay County, where they settled. Hogue and Claire's children were: Luci Ladocia (m. Davis Webster Wilmon); Edgar Cleveland (m. Maud Moody); Mary Eurith (m.1 Gustave Comolli; m.2 Paul Comolli); Wylie Emmon (m. Ruth Philpott); Ona Mable (m. Griffin High); and Gussie Juanita (m. Claude H. Treat, Sr.). Hogue and Claire are buried at Vashti Cemetery, Clay County, Texas.

The youngest child was Collin McKinney Lovelady (b. 16 Aug 1856, Collin Co., TX - d. 4 Aug 1922, Clay County, TX). He married twice: m. 1 Mary J. Rice; m. 2 Pearl Ba[o]llman. The known children were the following: James W.; William Bryan, Sr. (m. Evelyn Cantwell); Harriett A.; and Alma (m. Henry Pace). Kinney, Mary J., and Pearl are buried at Vashti Cemetery, Clay County, Texas.

Sources: Lovelady family Bible; census records; Mexican War and Civil War pension papers; legal records; cemetery records; newspaper articles; books.

Submitted by Wilma Baldwin Moore, great-great-granddaughter of James and Elizabeth Lovelady