



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Allison Gray Cummins

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Allison Gray Cummins was a native of North Carolina who served in a local Confederate militia company. After living for many years in the Euless and Grapevine areas he moved to Collin County where he was in business for several years. He died in Florida during the 1880's and lies buried there. He has a headstone in Florida and a memorial inscription on a stone in the cemetery in McKinney, Texas.

Allison G. Cummins was born October 30, 1824 in North Carolina. He was a son of John and Elizabeth Cummins. When the 1850 census was taken Allison was a twenty-five-year-old bachelor living with his parents and siblings in District 10 of Jackson County, Tennessee. John Cummins moved his family from North Carolina to Tennessee between 1829 and 1832. The elder Cummins was fairly well-to-do, owning a farm in 1850 worth four thousand dollars. He was not a slaveowner. Ten years later John and Elizabeth Cummins were still in Jackson County, but their sons Allison and John R. Cummins had come to Texas by that time.

Allison G. Cummins married Mary Frances Sweatt in Ellis County, Texas on September 28, 1858. She was born in Wilson County, Tennessee on April 28, 1835. She was a daughter of William C. Sweatt (1811-1867) and his wife, Mary M. Sweatt (1807-1859). Mr. Sweatt appears in the 1840 census of Wilson County with three slaves. They came to Texas in the 1850's. William C. Sweatt owned seventeen slaves in Ellis County in 1860. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sweatt lie buried in the city cemetery in Waxahachie, Ellis County.

Mr. Cummins appears as the owner of three tracts of land in the 1860 census. He owned three hundred twenty acres of the Thomas Crocker survey, worth three thousand dollars; three hundred twenty acres of the Jeff Estill survey worth one dollar per acre, and one hundred sixty acres of the Travis survey, worth one dollar per acre. The Crocker and Estill surveys are near the Dallas-Tarrant County line in far-eastern Tarrant County, but are not contiguous. A small part of the Crocker

survey extends into Dallas County and is crossed northwest to southeast by the West Fork of the Trinity. We have not been able to locate any Tarrant County survey named Travis.

This tax record is curious; the Crocker survey was not patented until 1861, and it was not patented by Mr. Cummins. The Estill survey was not patented until 1873 by A. G. Cummins, his brother J. R. Cummins, and a third party. As surveyed, it contained only two hundred eighty-six acres...not three hundred twenty.

Mr. Cummins and his brother, John Randolph Cummins, served the Confederacy in the 20th Battalion Texas State Troops. This researcher was unable to find A.G. Cummins in the 1863 tax list here, but his brother, John R. Cummins, was present.

On April 28, 1866 an advertisement appeared in the Dallas Weekly Herald in which A. G. and J. R. Cummins, of Grapevine, Tarrant County, highlighted their business which sold farming equipment, including threshing machines. At that time they were representatives of Wheeler, Melick, and Company of New York.

In 1866 A. G. Cummins owned three hundred twenty acres of the Jeff Estill survey, worth one dollar each. He also owned two horses worth one hundred seventy-five dollars and fifteen cattle worth seventy-five dollars. Mr. Cummins took an oath to support the United States government in Collin County, Texas on July 8, 1867.

On January 8, 1873 Allison, along with his brother John R. Cummins, and R. C. Crowley, patented the Jefferson Estill survey of two hundred eighty-six acres in Tarrant County. It lies along the West Fork of the Trinity River; one old map indicates that the river crosses the survey's lines six times. Parts of the survey lie in Fort Worth, Euless, and Grand Prairie. No modern-day streets lie along any of its four lines. Modern-day Highway 360 crosses the West Fork within this Estill survey, and the northern part of Arlington's Riverside Golf Club lies within the survey. Otherwise, the rest of the survey is undeveloped bottomland.

Allison G. Cummins and his wife and children appear in the 1880 census of Collin County, Texas. At that time he was working as a millwright. They had three children with them in that year: Mary, William, and Millie Cummins.

Allison Cummins died in Florida on March 25, 1887 and has a headstone in Evergreen Cemetery at Fort Meade, Polk County, Florida. His marker there says that his family is buried at McKinney, Texas. The stone is of the same design as the large family stone at McKinney. It would be interesting to know the circumstances of his being in Florida when he died.

Allison's wife, Mary, died October 30, 1888. A large marker was erected for them and their daughter, Ida, in Pecan Grove Cemetery in McKinney, Collin County, Texas. An inscription for his brother, John R. Cummins, and two members of his family was engraved on the other side of the stone.

There is also a bronze marker from the Veterans Administration at Mr. Cummins' grave, saying he served as a soldier in the 8th Tennessee Infantry. The National Archives has several muster rolls of the 8th Tennessee Infantry in its collection, but the name Allison Gray Cummins, A. G. Cummins, Allison G. Cummins (or Cummings) or any other possible combination of spellings, names, and initials appears in them for anyone who could be this Allison Gray Cummins.

Pecan Grove Cemetery contains a large number of these Confederate markers from the Veterans Administration, and many have bases which appear to have been made at the same time in the same fashion. It could be that some patriotic group got a number of them at one time, rather than a Cummins descendant having gotten a single one for his ancestor.

We have discovered the names of the following children of Allison G. Cummins. There could have been others who were born and died between the census cycles, or who could have been alive at the taking of the 1860 census, which is missing for Tarrant County.

Mary Elizabeth Cummins was born about 1862. She died July 13, 1896.

William Wallace Cummins was born about 1864. He died June 30, 1888. He was buried in Pecan Grove Cemetery in McKinney, Texas.

Minnie Clinton Cummins was born about 1867. She died March 15, 1903.

Henry Cummins was born in April 1870. Unless he is the son shown as David Alexander on the headstone in Pecan Grove Cemetery, he must have been dead by the time the 1880 census was taken.

David Alexander Cummins died November 26, 1872. Unless he is the son named as Henry Cummins in the 1870 census, he must have been born in 1871 or 1872.

The image shows a newspaper advertisement with a decorative border. The text is as follows:

THRESHING AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL MACHINES.

THE subscribers are Agents for Wheeler, Melick & Co.'s Agricultural Machinery, and will furnish the same at manufacturers' prices, with the addition of transportation.

All machinery warranted to give entire satisfaction, or may be returned at the expiration of a reasonable time for trial.

TERMS—One half Cash, and the balance at the end of three months, with notes and approved security for the same.

For list of prices and other information, apply to

A. G. & J. R. CUMMINS,
Grapevine, Tarrant County, Texas.
May 5, 1866.—33:3mo.

Newspaper advertisement from Dallas Herald, 4/28/1866

