



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Reuben Easter

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Reuben Easter was born about 1846 in Missouri, and came to northeast Tarrant County with his parents, Thomas and Charity Easter, about 1847. They appear in the 1850 census of Tarrant County. They were Peters Colonists.

His father patented two adjacent tracts of land in the Grapevine-Southlake area... one of 160 acres on August 30, 1859, and one of 480 acres on July 10, 1855. The larger tract sits south of the smaller.

The larger tract has its northeast corner at about the intersection of Northwest Highway and Park Boulevard. This survey's east line extends south past Highway 26 and the railroad, and stops at a point which does not now correspond to any current street. One of the southwest corners of this tract is approximately along Kimball South, between Nolan and Silicon, near the southeast corner of the Southlake Carroll School District's Dragon Stadium. Much of its north line lies within the right-of-way of State Highway 114.

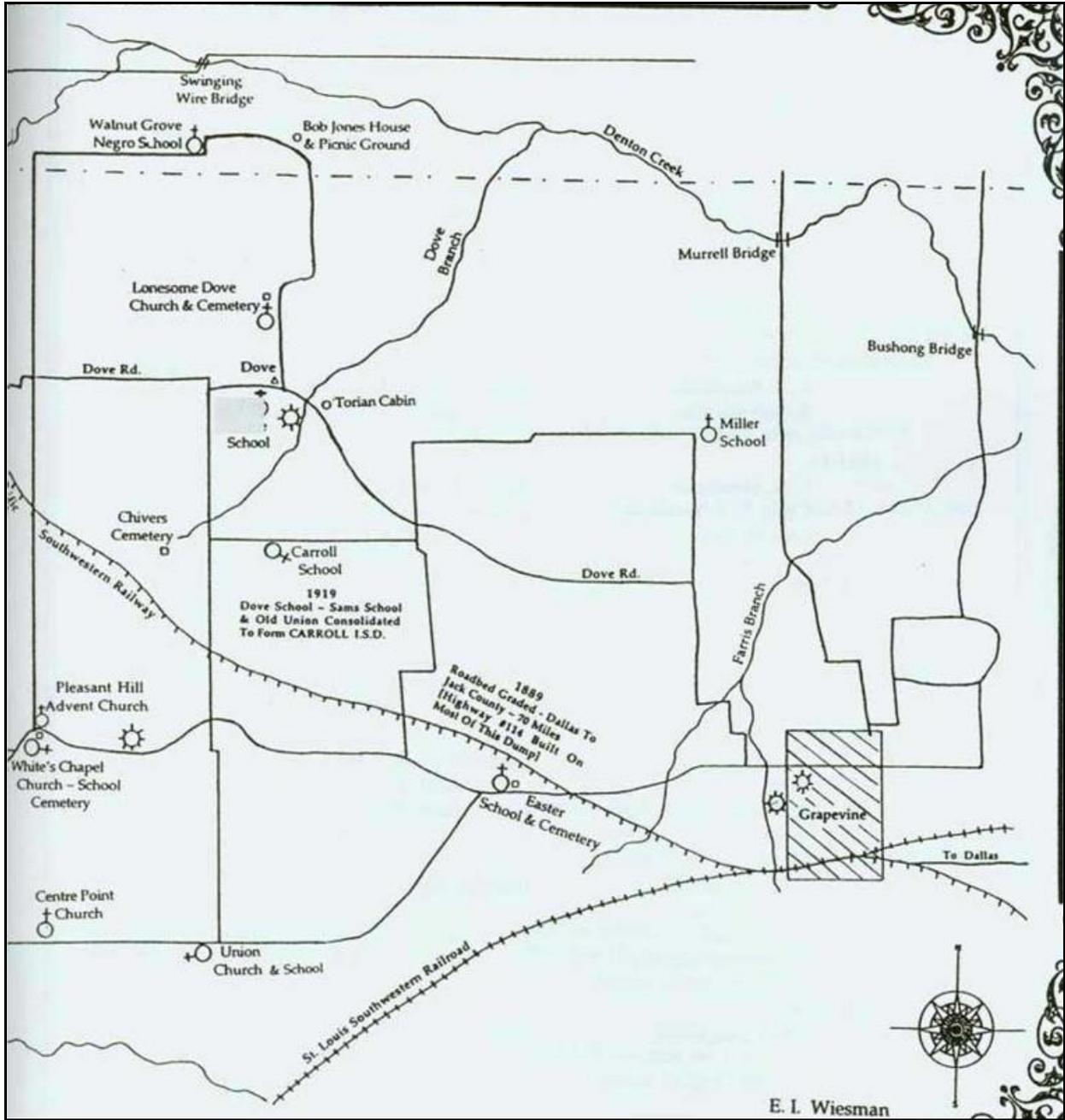
The smaller tract has as its southeast corner a spot near the intersection of Northwest Highway and Park Boulevard. A part of its northern boundary roughly corresponds to Winding Creek South (Drive). A part of its western boundary roughly corresponds to Pacific Street and Austin Oaks Court. Much of its south line lies within the right-of-way of State Highway 114.

Thomas died in 1862, and Charity survived until at least 1880 when she was living in the Grapevine area with the family of her son, James Easter.

Reuben Easter served in the Confederate army in Co. A, 34th Texas Cavalry. Official records show that he enlisted on June 3, 1862 at Fort McCulloch under Capt. M. W. Davenport [Deavenport] for a term of three years. He was present on a company muster roll for February 29 through June 30, 1863, at which time he was due \$6.50 for the use of his personal arms to December 17, 1862. The

last record found of him in the army shows him present for duty on the roll for January and February, 1864. We have found no further record of him.

Both Thomas and Charity Easter are buried in Easter Family Cemetery (now marked with a Texas Historical Marker) off West Wall Street. This writer and a small group of his friends obtained and placed a Texas Historical Marker in the Thomas Easter Family Cemetery in Southlake. The inscription on the marker reads: *“Virginia native Thomas Easter, born about 1823, migrated to Texas and settled in Tarrant County by 1848. Easter patented a 640-acre tract of land in the northeast corner of the county. A portion of this land was used as a cemetery upon his death in 1862. His wife Charity Easter, born about 1820, was buried here in the early 1880s. Another known burial is that of early settler Hardin West (b. 1809), who died on March 10, 1881. The Cemetery contains several unmarked graves. The Easter Schoolhouse stood beside the burial ground during the 19th Century.”* (1983)



Map showing Easter School and Cemetery
 Much of the northern part of this map is now under the waters of Grapevine Lake.

(courtesy of Cliff Gibbs)