



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

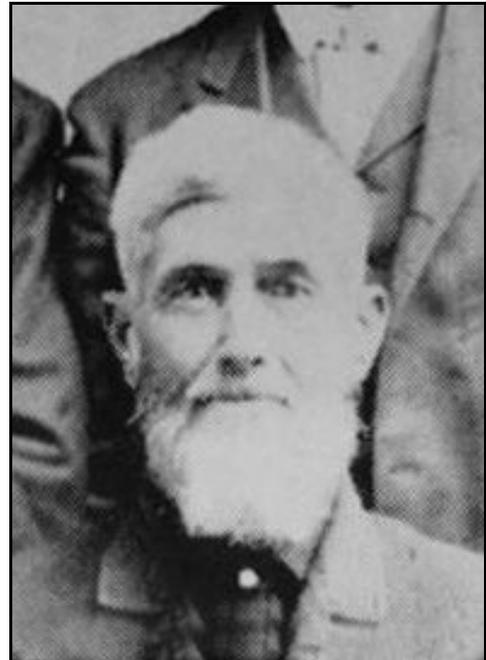
### Jarrett L. Foster

Compiled by Michael Patterson  
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Jarrett L. Foster came to Grapevine with his parents and siblings when the area was still a part of Navarro County. A son of Grapevine pioneer Ambrose Foster, Benjamin and his family were among the first permanent white settlers in what is now Tarrant County. Jarrett was a Confederate veteran.

Jarrett Foster was born in 1832 in Cole County, Missouri. His parents were Ambrose Foster (c1794-1847) and his wife, Susannah (Medlin) Foster (1796-1889). Ambrose was one of the few veterans of the War of 1812 to ever settle in Tarrant County.

When Jarrett was a small boy, his father moved the family to Platte County, Missouri. Ambrose and his family arrived in what is now Grapevine by November, 1845. The Foster's cabin stood where the older Grapevine water tower now stands, about a block west of Main Street. The Fosters brought two slaves with them to Texas.



At some time before September, 1853, Jarrett Foster married Malinda Eades, the daughter of Jesse and Elizabeth Eades. Her headstone in Lonesome Dove Cemetery contains only the years of her birth and death: 1833-1880. Their children were Owen Wright Foster (July 11, 1855-November 24, 1941, married Adeline Moody Simmons); Constantia Elizabeth Foster (August 2, 1857-November 15, 1857); Nancy B. Foster (December 26, 1859-August 16, 1861); Susan M. Foster (born about 1861, married Hillary O. Owen); Mary Ellen Foster (married Sam R. Williams, died about 1903 and

was buried in Jacksboro, Texas); Jesse Franklin Foster (November 25, 1866-January 3, 1929); James Ambrose "Bozy" Foster (born 1868); William Jordan Foster (January 19, 1871-September 8, 1941); Robert Lafayette Foster (October 14, 1874-January 5, 1939); and Samuel M. Foster (1879-1905). Some family records at ancestry.com show two additional children. The list as presented here was prepared by Pearl Foster O'Donnell, a long-time Foster historian in northeast Tarrant County.

Jarrett's records in the National Archives in Washington show that he enlisted at Grapevine on January 15, 1862 as a member of Co. A, 34<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, as did many of his relations and neighbors. Hiram Crowley was the enlisting officer, and the initial enlistment period was twelve months. He is shown due \$6.50 for the use of his own arms, and had not been paid his expenses for the one hundred ten miles he traveled to the regimental rendezvous. He is present on the last existing roll for the company, for the period January and February 1864.

Jarrett Foster filed an application for a Confederate pension in 1907. In it, he said he came to Grapevine in December, 1844. He claimed to have complications of old age, rheumatism, and lung trouble. He said he enlisted in 1862 at Grapevine in Captain Davenport's Company, Alexander's Regiment, was later dismounted, and served until the end of the war. In two places in his pension application he made the claim of being the oldest living inhabitant of Tarrant County...one wonders how or why he made the claim when it could so easily have been disproved. Two of his old comrades, J. C. Hudgins and R. P. Allen, made affidavits concerning his service.

When he joined the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth, he claimed to have been a member of the Grapevine Mounted Riflemen, in the 20<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Texas Militia for Tarrant County.

Jarrett Foster's home appears on the 1895 Sam Street map, in modern-day terms in Southlake, north of Dove Road and west of Ridgecrest Drive/Southlake Park Drive, south of the intersection of Briar and Woodland Streets, and slightly west and north of the intersection of Ridgecrest and Loch Meadow Court.

The 1900 Tarrant County census shows Jarrett Foster and his wife living in the home of his son, Owen W. Foster, in the Dove community. With Jarrett was his second wife, M. A. Foster, whom he married about 1884. The census shows that she had given birth to one child, and that child was still living.

Jarrett Foster died in Tarrant County on February 27, 1913, and was buried at Lonesome Dove. An obituary for him appeared in the Grapevine Sun on March 8, 1913: *"DIED. On Thursday, Feb. 27th, Mr. Jarrett Foster died at his home in Dove community and was buried Feb. 28th in the Dove cemetery; funeral service being conducted by Rev. Day. Mr. Foster had been sick a long time and his death was not unexpected, still it was a sad blow to his family when it came, as death is always sad under any conditions. He was 79 years old at the time of his death. Moved to what is now known as Dove in 1844; he joined the Baptist church when he was 16 years of age. He leaves a wife and five children, to whom we tender our sympathy in this sad hour."*

The second Mrs. Jarrett Foster made application for a pension in 1913, stating that she was born in East Tennessee on December 22, 1839. She said she had been in Tarrant County thirty-one years. Mrs. Foster died on January 23, 1918 at the home of her stepson, J. F. Foster, near Boyd in Wise County, Texas, and was buried in Springtown Cemetery in Parker County. Her given name is not mentioned in the pension application.

