



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Thomas Grimes

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Thomas Grimes was a Confederate veteran who lived in the Keller area at the time the War began. He and several of his children lie in Mt. Gilead Cemetery.

Thomas was born February 26, 1814 in Tennessee, according to information he gave census takers on more than one occasion. Family sources at Ancestry.com say he was born at Cumberland Gap, Lee County, Virginia. He was married to Lucinda Hoskins in Lee County, Virginia on February 1, 1834.

Lucinda was born September 8, 1813 in Kentucky, and died in Tarrant County, Texas on September 13, 1882 (some internet sources say 1892). Her grave in Mount Gilead Cemetery is unmarked. She was a daughter of George Henderson Hoskins (1784-1872) and his wife, Nancy Kilgore (1778-1860), both of whom died in Lee County, Virginia.

Thomas Grimes and his family are listed in the 1840 census in Claiborne County, Tennessee, which shares a boundary with Lee County, Virginia; Cumberland Gap is also along the Tennessee/Kentucky/Virginia border at this point. The family next-door to Thomas Grimes in this census was headed by one John Grimes, who was born about 1775.

The 1850 census taker found Thomas and his family in District 35 of Grundy County, Missouri. The birthplaces of his children as shown in this census indicate that they lived in Tennessee for a short time in the 1830's, at the time Henry George Grimes was born.

By the time John Grimes was born in 1842, they were back in Virginia. They made the move from Virginia to Missouri about 1846. Interestingly, another family living in the same District 35 that year was the family of Joseph White, who came to Tarrant County in 1858 and whose son, Lewis Cass White, married Thomas Grimes's daughter in 1868.

When the 1860 tax lists were prepared, Thomas was assessed owning one hundred acres of the J. Foster survey, with the land being appraised at \$3 per acre.

Thomas served the Confederacy as a soldier in the 20th Brigade of the Texas Militia. His name appears on a roll certified by Captain William W. McGinnis on July 30, 1861, as part of the 20th Brigade of Texas Militia. This company was described in a handful of pension applications submitted by some of the men or their widows who served in it. An affidavit made in 1931 by B. R. Wall of Grapevine in one application said, "...Col. McGinnis lived between here and Roanoke, Texas and died when I was a small boy. I have often heard the people speak of this organization as a cavalry troop which chased bushwhackers and deserters..."

Another statement in a pension application submitted by a Grapevine man said: "...I am a Confederate veteran, went to the Confederate Army from Grapevine, Tarrant County Texas, and was in the service in and around the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas from the time of my enlistment until the close of the war...We served in Co. "A" being a troop of Cavalry, a part of Col. McGinnis Regiment. We wore the Confederate uniform and drew our rations from the Confederate government. Our duties consisted principally of rounding up deserters..."

Thomas registered to vote in Tarrant County on November 25, 1869. He said he had been a resident of Texas and Tarrant County for twelve years, and of Precinct 3 for nine years. He also stated he was born in Tennessee.

The 1870 census taker found Thomas Grimes and his family living in Precinct 2 of Tarrant County. With him and Lucinda were four Grimes children: Robert Grimes (age 25); Mary J. Grimes (age 14); Lilly J. Grimes (age 9); and Mary A. Grimes (age 4). The two last named were Thomas's granddaughters, children of his deceased son, Henry George Grimes.

Thomas died February 1, 1876 and was buried in Mt. Gilead Cemetery northeast of Keller. He and two of his sons have military headstones which this compiler placed at their graves in the 1970's.

When the 1880 census taker found Lucinda Grimes in Tarrant County, she was living with her unmarried son, Robert K. Grimes, and one of her granddaughters, Mary A. Grimes (age 14). They also had a hired man, Zack T. Holt, with them.

Thomas and Lucinda Grimes had a number of children, including Henry George Grimes (March 16, 1837-January 8, 1866); John Grimes (January 20, 1842-March 25, 1879); Robert Kilgore Grimes (shown as Reuben C. Grimes in the 1850 census, June 30, 1845-April 2, 1921); Nancy Jane Grimes (July 16, 1847-April 10, 1889, married Lewis Cass White); and Mary Jane Grimes (October 4, 1855-April 4, 1884, married James A. Throneberry).

