



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

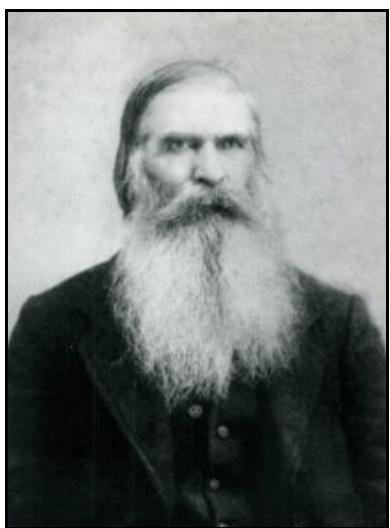
Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Lewis Westmoreland Jones

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Lewis Westmoreland Jones was born in Christian County, Kentucky on June 1, 1817. He moved with his parents, Lewis Westmoreland Jones, Sr. and Frances (Bobbitt) Jones, to Morgan County, Illinois about 1829. L. W. Jones Jr.'s paternal grandfather, Samuel Jones, was a veteran of the American Revolution. After his mother died about 1832, L. W. Jones Jr. went to work for wages as a farmhand, which he continued to do until about 1837.

He was married to his first wife, Elizabeth M. Lingle, in Illinois in 1837. They settled on a rented farm where he also worked as a brick maker and bricklayer. In 1852 he left Illinois and settled in Tarrant County, Texas near what would later become the Smithfield community. There he homesteaded a 284-acre tract where he was still living in 1895. In November, 1853 Jones built a cabin on his claim and moved into it. He lived there until 1856, when he rented his farm and moved to Birdville, Tarrant County.

Birdville at the time was the county seat of Tarrant County. There he and a partner opened a shop for building and repairing cabinets, and doing other general types of woodwork. He patented the 284-acre L. W. Jones survey in present-day North Richland Hills on March 24, 1857. Today's Rufe Snow Drive marks the eastern boundary of the survey. The southeast corner sat at the intersection of Hightower Drive and Rufe Snow Drive. Jones's first wife died in 1859 while they were living at Birdville.

At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, Jones moved back to his farm at Smithfield. He was elected Justice of the Peace for his Precinct in 1856, and as such was exempted from going to the Confederate army. He did serve in the Texas State Troops for a while, however, until the war widows and other non-combatants left at home petitioned him to come home and tend to some of

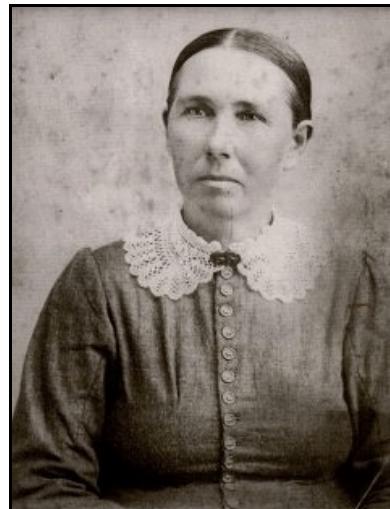
the needs of the community which were left wanting from the absence of so many of the men. He continued to serve as a Justice of the Peace until 1890.

Jones and his second wife, Mrs. Sally M. (Hawkins) Chaney, were married in 1862. She was born August 14, 1831 and died January 13, 1900. For four years after the Civil War he was also a Notary Public and a County Coroner. Jones was one of the founding three elders of Smithfield Church of Christ. At the time of the church's founding in 1888, Jones was living on his farm of one hundred thirty acres in the L. W. Jones survey, about 1.9 miles west-northwest of the church house; in that year he also owned sixty acres of the W. T. Jones survey. He was still a Notary Public in 1895.

At the time of his death in Smithfield on November 26, 1895, he had a comfortable home and a farm with seventy acres under cultivation. His 1895 home sat on his original 1857 survey in present-day North Richland Hills about two miles from the center of the Smithfield community, probably about where Foster Village Park now sits south of Starnes Street and between Village Street and the eastern loop of Meadowlark, much closer to Meadowlark and Village. Several of Jones's descendants maintain an active interest in their ancestor and his family.

An extensive biography of Jones, apparently done from material he supplied himself, appeared in the History of Texas, Together with a Biographical History of Tarrant and Parker Counties..., (Chicago, Ill.: Lewis Publishing Co., 1895), pp. 250-252.

Jones and his first wife were the parents of nine children: William Thomas Jones; Benjamin F. Jones; Nancy Annie (Mrs. Benjamin) Murphy; Frances Catherine (Mrs. Newton J.) Moore; Elizabeth Jane (Mrs. J. Judson) Newton; Mary Louisa (Mrs. James M.) Goodman; Lewis Crittenden Jones; James Henry Jones; and Samuel Lafayette Jones. Jones and his second wife had four children: Sally Isabella (Mrs. Louis) Brown; Laura Delila (Mrs. James Anderson) Winn; Stephen Westmoreland Jones; and John M. Jones.



Mrs. Lewis Westmoreland Jones

L. W. Jones
Notary Public
in and for Tarrant

