



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Benjamin Franklin Jones

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Benjamin Franklin Jones was born November 3, 1839 in Morgan Co., Illinois. He was a son of Lewis Westmoreland Jones and his first wife, Elizabeth M. Lingle. B. F. Jones came to Tarrant County with his father's family from Illinois in 1852 and settled in what would later become the Smithfield community.

He patented the 160-acre B. F. Jones survey in present-day North Richland Hills on September 24, 1859, a tract about one mile north-south and a little less than one-quarter mile wide. Its western boundary was today's Precinct Line Road. Its southwest corner was along Precinct Line Road about halfway between Martin Drive and Mid-Cities Drive. Its northwest corner was about where Weeping Willow Drive intersects Precinct Line Road.

He was a soldier in Co. E, 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Infantry (also known as the 8<sup>th</sup> and Young's Texas Infantry). He enlisted January 3, 1862 at Camp Hobart, and is also shown in surviving Confederate records as having enlisted in Tarrant County and Parker County. He was detached for duty at the Confederate arsenal at Tyler, Texas on September 19, 1862 and was detached at Little Rock, Arkansas as a gunsmith on November 19, 1862. He was on detached service as a wagon maker at Little Rock, Arkansas in the rolls for December, 1862, and again appears as a wagon maker on detached service on the rolls for January and February, 1864. He is last shown as a gunsmith on a roll dated April, 1865. He was paroled at James Town, Smith County, Texas in June, 1865 by U. S. General E. R. S. Canby.

Jones was married first to Henrietta (or Harriett) E. Manning (1849-1909), and later to Mary Archer. Jones's first wife may actually have been named Manring, since one Nancy Manring (1797-1893)

lies buried next to them in Smithfield Cemetery. In the 1870 Tarrant County census his occupation is shown as gunsmith.

B. F. Jones served as postmaster of Bransford from October 17, 1882 until October 8, 1884. In 1895 his home was east of Smithfield, along the survey's western boundary along the east side of Precinct Line Road about where it intersects with Winslow Court and Toni Drive. He was known in later life in the Smithfield Community at various times as both Ben Jones and Frank Jones. He died in 1923, and was buried in Smithfield Cemetery. No Texas death certificate was filed for him.

