



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

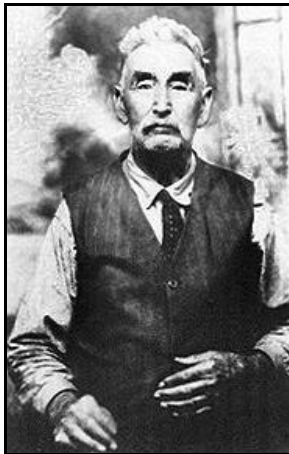
Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Reuben Brawley Rogers

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Reuben Brawley Rogers

Reuben Brawley Rogers was a Confederate veteran and a pioneer of the Minter's Chapel Community south of Grapevine. He was born November 11, 1840 in Greene County, Missouri, a son of Rev. William McKindree Rogers and his first wife, Sarann Wilson Watts. Several articles about the Rogers family appeared in the Grapevine Area History, published in 1979; the articles were by Dorris Preston Rogers, Ph. D., Mrs. M. J. Hutsell, and Elaine Rogers Sabo.

William McKindree Rogers brought his family to Texas from Missouri about 1859. In 1936, his daughter, Susan Serena (Rogers) Martin (1861-1955) wrote an account of the trip as she had heard it from her father and siblings. It says, in part: *"Father with his six sons, two girls and a second wife secured traveling equipment and with the entire family, headed west from Greene County, Missouri. The Rogers family traveled in covered wagons through almost a new country from Springfield, Missouri to Texas, found going very slow. There were no highways as exists today. The water courses were without bridges and had to be forded...[includes vivid descriptions of the trip through Arkansas, Kansas, and the Indian Nations before they reached their intended destination, Jack County, Texas]...Father didn't find this to be the country we were looking for, so he said 'Turn the teams around, boys, we will travel East.'* The country around Fort Worth began to attract our attention and we located on the divide between the crosstimbers and Grapevine prairie, eighteen miles from Fort Worth and the same distance from Dallas in Tarrant County, Texas...about the year 1859..."

Official records in the National Archives say Rogers enlisted October 14, 1861 at Camp Reeves, Texas, for a period of twelve months. He rode one hundred fifty miles to the regimental rendezvous, and presented himself for service riding a horse worth \$120 and carrying equipment worth \$18. He

was with the regiment on the last day of 1861 at Fort Gibson [Oklahoma]. During July and August 1862 he was detailed to do daily guard duty, as he was again in the same months of 1863. During the months of September and October, 1863 he was detailed "getting blankets by order of Col. Mabry." He was present on the last roll of the company dated May and June, 1864. He appears on a register of the Floyd House Hospital in Macon, Georgia, dated August 29, 1864 for gunshot wounds of the right hand and lower one-third of the right thigh (a flesh wound), and had contracted gangrene. Much of his military career is covered in All Afire to Fight, written by one of his direct descendants, Ms. Martha Crabb, and published by Avon Books in 2000. It is widely available.

R. B. Rogers's home is shown on the 1895 Sam Street of Tarrant County, Texas. In modern-day terms, it was in the City of Grapevine, in the far northwest corner of the S. Elliott Survey, in the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport under airport taxiways, west of West Airfield Drive, southwest of the intersection of East Glade Road and West Airfield Drive, and nearly due east of the intersection of Range Road and West Airfield Drive.

Dr. Dorris Rogers's account of the life of R. B. Rogers in the Grapevine Area History says, in part: *"...He married Martha Elizabeth Baker (1846-1920), daughter of Charles Baker (1826-1870) and Lucretia (Minter) Baker (1828-?) and granddaughter of Rev. Green W. Minter (1803-1887) and Jane (Large) (1806-1887)...About 1897 Reubin Brawley Rogers moved his family from Grapevine to Wayside, Texas. He and his children, including my father, Jesse Green (Jake) Rogers (1879-1937), homesteaded on the prairie near the south banks of the Palo Duro Canyon..."*

Of Reuben's life after the War, Ms. Crabb wrote, *"...Early in 1866, Reuben married Martha Elizabeth 'Mattie' Baker, whose family was among the earliest settlers in Tarrant County. The next day [Reuben's friend Gus Creed] married Reuben's oldest sister, Martha Jane Rogers. Reuben's stepmother made Jane's wedding dress, and as they said at that time, cut Reuben's wedding suit. The two couples held their infare dinner together, a lavish meal and grand celebration held the day following a wedding..."*

"In 1896, Reuben and Mattie moved to Armstrong County, in the Texas Panhandle, where the first settlers had arrived only two decades earlier. Their farm overlooked the deep Palo Duro Canyon with its red cliffs and steep walls. They raised four sons and three daughters, losing two other children in infancy. Mattie died a few years after the couple celebrated their golden anniversary. Reuben remarried, but his second wife soon died. Reuben lived to the age of ninety-three and a half, dying February 1, 1934. He was mourned by five surviving children, forty grandchildren, and forty-nine great-grandchildren. He and Mattie are buried in Wayside Cemetery in Armstrong County..."

Reuben Brawley Rogers applied for a Confederate pension in 1925 while a resident of Happy, Swisher County, Texas. He said he had left the army in May, 1865 when it disbanded at Minden, Louisiana. He said he was eighty-three years old, had been born at Springfield, Missouri, and had been in Texas since 1859. He had been living at Happy, Texas for three years. He said he enlisted in Tarrant County on August 20, 1861 in Co. A, 9th Texas Cavalry. An affidavit from W. A. Graham of Swisher County said he had known Rogers for 43 years, and "have seen wounds inflicted during the Civil War." Graham was a soldier in Co. C, 9th Texas Cavalry.

His death certificate says he died at Happy, Swisher County, Texas of acute nephritis, failure of cam__sation of the heart and absorption of poison. The death certificate says he died at 7:45 a.m. on May 16, 1934. He lies buried at Wayside in Armstrong County, Texas.



Rev. William McKindree Rogers
Father of Reuben Brawley Rogers



Headstone for Martha (Baker) Rogers

R. B. Rogers