



# TARRANT COUNTY

## TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Robert Emmett Wilson

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Robert Emmett Wilson was born in 1845 in South Carolina. In a statement he made in 1910 in support of a neighbor's Confederate pension application, Wilson claimed to have served in Capt. J. T. Kanapaux's Co. (Lafayette Artillery) South Carolina Light Artillery from Charleston, S.C.

He married Sarah J. McGinnis (October 11, 1842-May 19, 1916). The Wilsons left their home near Senatobia, Tate County, Mississippi in the late 1870's, and by 1880 were living in Denton County, Texas. About a year later they moved into Fort Worth where Robert bought and operated a livery stable for a time.

In 1881 the family moved north to the Jellico community between Keller and Grapevine, and it was there that Wilson spent the rest of his life. His house sat in present-day Southlake on the tall hilltop southeast of the present-day intersection of Southlake Boulevard and Davis Boulevard. He served as postmaster of Jellico from September 5, 1900 until September 15, 1903 when the post office there was discontinued and the Smithfield post office took over its territory.

In a biography written by his grandchildren for the [Grapevine Area History](#), published in 1979, they said, "...Bob Wilson bought, developed, and owned Jellico, which consisted of a steam-powered gin, a grocery store, blacksmith shop, a grist mill, and a post office..." After the gin was removed in 1907, he operated a vat for dipping horses and cattle. Wilson was widely known for being able to accurately guess the weight of a horse or cow.

In 1910 he told the census taker he was a Confederate veteran. In that year, he owned parts of the J. G. Allen, W. R. Eaves, T. J. Thompson, and P. Allen surveys. Neither he nor his wife was pensioned for his Confederate service. Also in 1910, Mrs. Wilson told census takers she had given birth to three children, two of whom were still alive. He died in 1923, and lies buried in Smithfield Cemetery beside his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson's children were Emmett Wilson, who died in Mississippi when he was about six years old; Jennie (Mrs. John) McDonald; and Mary Maude (Mrs. William Henry) Brown. No death certificate for Mr. Wilson has been found.

*R E Wilson*



Robert E. Wilson