

Texas Historical Commission Staff(CW), 1/20/78

Official Texas Historical Grave Marker  
Gregg County (Order #5134)

Location: Greenwood Cemetery, Magrill St., Longview

JOHN TYSON SMITH\*  
(OCT.29,1846-MAY 15,1916)\*\*\*

IN 1855 ALABAMA-BORN JOHN TYSON  
SMITH MOVED WITH HIS PARENTS TO  
UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS. A CONFEDERATE  
VETERAN, HE SETTLED IN LONGVIEW  
ABOUT 1872. HE SERVED AS CITY TAX  
ASSESSOR AND WAS JUSTICE OF THE  
PEACE FOR TWO TERMS. HE WAS  
ELECTED TO FIVE TERMS AS GREGG  
COUNTY JUDGE, 1888-1898. ACTIVELY  
INVOLVED IN DOWNTOWN REAL ESTATE  
DEVELOPMENT, HE RAN THE SMITH  
UPSTAIRS OPERA HOUSE, 1902-1915.  
MARRIED TWICE, SMITH HAD SIX  
CHILDREN WHO LIVED TO ADULTHOOD. \*\*

RECORDED - 1978\*\*\*

\*1/2 inch lettering  
\*\*3/8 inch lettering  
\*\*\*1/4 inch lettering

5134

FILE COPY - DO NOT REMOVE

APPROVED  
Truett Latimer

*by Annie Read 2-22-78*

*This is never used by a professional. The man was General John B. ...*  
*Proposed by General S. ...*  
*Booked through ...*  
D.P. 10-12-77  
10/4/77

JOHN TYSON SMITH  
Oct. 29, 1846 - May 15, 1916

5134

He was born near Anniston, Ala. ① In 1857, he came with his parents to family farm near Forest Hills Church, in Upshur County. ① 1864, at 19, he entered General. ~~John McGruder's~~ Army in Texas. ① 1865, he returned home. ① 1869, married & <sup>LATER</sup> moved to 410 N. Center St., Longview. ① By 1876, had lost wife & both children by death. ① 1880, was Tax Assessor City of Longview. ② 1883, he married Mrs. Nancy Skaggs Keasler, widow. ③ 1884-86, he was elected twice as Justice of the Peace, Longview Precinct. ④ 1888-98, elected 5 terms Gregg County Judge. ⑤ While County Judge, 1897, the 1st red-brick courthouse was built. ⑤ 1902-15, he was owner & operator of Smith's Upstairs Opera House at Fredonia & Bank Streets, Longview. ① He was an extensive business- property owner. ⑥

Recorded - 1977

Note - The Historical Commission should choose what to eliminate to fit within the 16" x 12" grave plaque.

Source References

- ① Handed down through family.
- ② 1880 U.S. Census, Gregg County, Texas.
- ③ Gregg County Marriage Records.
- ④ Gregg County Election Record Book.
- ⑤ Election Book & Gregg County Commissioners Minutes.
- ⑥ His estate still exists in Longview, today.

Earl D. Smith  
406 E Methvin St.,  
Longview, Texas

Phone (214) 753-2793

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF  
JUDGE JOHN TYSON SMITH, SR.

BY

EARL DAVIS SMITH (b. LONGVIEW 8/25/1900)

(His Youngest Child)

BIRTH AND PARENTS

He was born in Calhoun County, Alabama, near Anniston. (He told me as a 12-year old boy) His parents were John A. Smith and Louisa Caroline Kennard. b. Ala. 1823) .  
b. Ala. 1828  
(James Jones Kennard family records from Alabama) The extent of his formal schooling was "through the 4th grade." (He told me)

MOVE TO TEXAS

At the age of 9, in 1855, he, his parents and family of 12 children, including two half-brothers, came to a 230-acre family-farm in Eastern Upshur County, Texas, near Forest Hills Baptist Church. (1860 U.S. Census Upshur County, Texas Upshur County Deed Records)

CONFEDERATE ARMY SERVICE

Early in 1864, John Tyson Smith entered the Confederate Army under the command of General John B. <sup>Magruder,</sup> ~~McGruder,~~ Headquarters at Houston, Tex. After Appomatox, early in 1865, he was mustered out at Hempstead, Texas. He and others walked from just west of Houston, in uniform with their rifles, to his home in Upshur County near Forest Hills Church. (As told to the author - also Hempstead 1865 muster-out out Records at Texas State Archives Library at Austin shows more than one John Smith, with no middle name, were ~~m~~ustered-out at that time.)

FIRST MARRIAGE

On Aug. 11, 1869, he married Elladora "Ellen" Keasler in western Harrison, Texas. (Harrison County Marriage Book 6, p. 105.)

FIRST LONGVIEW HOME

On Oct. 9, 1872 he bought Lot No. 5, Block No 2 at 412 N. Center St., Longview, built a house and later moved into it. (Gregg County Book "B", p. 219 from Texas & Pacific Railway Co.)

CAMERON FOR NEWS CLIP IN THE ...

#### CANDIDATE FOR FIRST PUBLIC OFFICE

In the first election for new officers of the just organized Gregg County held on June 25, 26, 27 & 28, 1873 with 5 election boxes in the county, at age 27 ran for first Sheriff of Gregg County among 8 candidates. M. S. Durham was elected first Sheriff. (May Term Gregg County Commissioners Minutes) Gregg County was declared "lawfully organized with all officers elected as of - 2:00 P.m. July 21, 1873." (County Commissioners Minutes, July 22, 1873.)

#### COMPLETE DEMISE OF ALL OF HIS FIRST FAMILY

By 1876, he had lost by death of suspected typhoid fever from a near-by water well, his wife and both of his children. (Death dates on tombstones in Greenwood Cemetery Longview.)

#### FIRST RECORDED WORK AFTER FARMING

In 1880, he was CITY TAX ASSESSOR, City of Longview.  
(1880 U.S. Census Gregg County, Tex.)

It was handed down through the family that after his Confederate service and before he first married, he was in the business of mule-team hauling freight from the Port of Jefferson, Tex. to the City of Tyler.

#### SECOND MARRIAGE

On June 19, 1883, he married in Harrison County Mrs. Nancy Skaggs Keasler, his sister-in-law and widow of <sup>the</sup> Longview lawyer, Robert Marion Keasler. (Gregg County Marriage License Records).

#### CHILDREN OF SECOND MARRIAGE

In his second marriage there were four girls and two younger boys, all of which lived to be married. (Three of his children are still living at 77, 81 & 92.)

#### JUSTICE OF THE PACE, LONGVIEW PRECINCT

Aug. 8, 1884 he was appointed Justice of the Peace of Longview Precinct to complete an unexpired term. (Book "B", p. 195, Gregg County Commissioner's Minutes)

He was reelected Justice, Longview Precinct in Nov. 1884 & 1886. (Gregg County Commissioners' Minutes, Book "B". pp. 227, 337, 373.)

#### GREGG COUNTY JUDGE

Gregg County Commissioners' Minutes, Book "B", p. 441. shows -

<u>Date</u>	<u>County Judge</u>
7/1/1882	John T. Kilgore
Nov. 1884	John T. Kilgore
Nov. 1885	Evans S. Terry

<u>Date</u>	<u>County Judge</u>
Nov. 1886	Evans S. Terry
2/18/1887	J. T. Smith
	Col. R. B. Levy, County Clerk

It appears to be the case of an unexpired term.

For 5 consecutive terms, 1888, 1890, 1892, 1894, 1896 & 1898, he was reelected County Judge of Gregg County, Texas. ( Gregg County Election Record Book No. 1, p. 1 )

BUILDING OF THE RED-BRICK FIRST Gregg County Courthouse

In May, 1897, late in his tenure as County Judge, the County Commissioners authorized the building of the red-brick 2-story courthouse. Included was the selling of \$30,000 bond issue in 5% \$1,000 denominations. J. W. Doneghey. In Nov. 1997 the new courthouse was completed, inspected and accepted. (May Term 1907, the last of the 8-\$1,000 bonds were ordered paid off.)

COUNTY SUPERINDENT OF SCHOOLS

In the latter years of his tenure as County Judge , his duties were expanded to include Gregg County Superintendent of Schools for which he was paid \$150 per year. (Nov. Term, 1896, shows that he was paid \$150 per year as Gregg County School Supt.)

LATER BUSINES-PROPERTY RENTING ACTIVITIES

In Dec. 1898, and thereafter, he devoted his time mainly to business-property pursuits. During the marriage of Nancy Skaggs Keasler<sup>1</sup> to Robert Marion Keasler, Mr. Keasler had acquired the lot and had built the store-building, in about 1880-83, which is occupied today at 204 N. Fredonia St., Longview, Dragasi's Longview Drug Store. Some early renters of this property were :

- About 1910, Edward G. Spinks' Cash Drug Store
- About 1915, Terrell's Drug Store
- About 1930 Wilson & Knighton's Longview Drug Co.
- About 1967, Dragasi's Longview Drug Co.

By Gregg County deed dated Jan. 21, 1884, he bought from O. H. Pegues & J. L. Finch the 25 x 200 ft. lot at 137 E. Tyler Ave. Longview, where Slade's Men & Boy's Store now is. The Bank St. end is now occupied by the center section of Bennett's McCarley Jewelry Store, 211 N. Fredonia St.

He built the Slade 2-story part about 1885-90 in collaboration with Tom Campbell, later Governor of Texas, at the same time the corner McIntosh Drug building was erected. Doctor's & lawyer's were upstairs, with a partnership stairway in the center from Tyler Ave. Some of the earliest renters remembered by the writer were:

DOWNSTAIRS- About 1905-10, Park Theatre, First Moving Picture Show In Longview, operated by a Mr. Lackey, Manager.

- About 1910-15 Zeb Terry's Pool Hall
- About 1920-28 Brewster-Goodwin Men's Store
- About 1929-35 Woman's Wear Store
- About 1935-Present Slade's Men & Boy's Store

(The deed for the purchase of this 25ft. x 200ft. west half of Lot No.1, Block No. 14, Original Longview Town Plat, from O. H. Fegues & J. L. Finch, was recorded in Gregg County Deed Records Jan. 21, 1884.)

UPSTAIRS - Some Early Renters-

- T. D. Campbell's Law Office
- Skinner's Photographic Studio
- Culpepper's Photographic Studio
- Robert L. Henderson's Law Office
- Slades Stock Room.
- McIntosh Christmas Wrapping Room

In about 1910, he built a one-story 25ft. x 80ft. brick store building facing on Bank St. It was on the North half of the Slade's Men's Store Lot. This store building was occupied by these renters -

- About 1910, H. E. Piper Ice Cream & Candy Co.
- About 1915, Horace Henderson Printing Shop
- About 1918, "Shorty Phillip's Miscellaneous Repair & Locksmith Shop
- About 1924, to present- Center Section, Bennett's McCarley Jewelry

AT LONGVIEW JUNCTION

In about 1895, he built the 2-front 2-story store building now occupied by Wilson Distributing Co. 818 E. Methvin St., Longview. The first renter the writer remembers was the 2-front downstairs A. A. Batson Grocery Store. Our family on N. Center St., before the day of telephones, bought groceries from this Batson Store. In the early

morning, the driver of the mule-team light delivery wagon would call for the grocery want-list and deliver them later in the day. Wilson Distributing went into that building about 1950, and is still there, downstairs. The main renter upstairs, was about 1895-25, Railroad Brotherhoods Union Meeting Room.

(Deed of purchase of Lots 8 & 9 Block 5 of 1873 Original Town Plat of I & G N Town by his wife, Nannie M. Smith from Fannie E. Chaney, joined by her husband, R. R. Chaney Dec. 11, 1889 is recorded in Gregg County Deed Book "K", pp. 267-269.)

#### SMITH UPSTAIRS OPERA HOUSE

On June 4, 1901, he bought from J. L. Terry and wife 2 lots, 25ft. x 200ft., at the northwest corner of Fredonia & Bank Sts. for the purpose of building downstairs two store fronts, 25ft. x 200ft. and a second story of the same size. This was done at same time the adjacent three 25ft. front H. L. Smith Dry Goods building was built. His downstairs south store was occupied by B. W. VanAllen Hardware Store and his north front was occupied by E. E. Crane. Later C. C. Conners Dry Goods Store occupied both fronts, followed by M. E. Moses Variety Store.

When the 2-story building was completed in 1902, he bought out Phil Pegues' opera house business on N. Green St. adjacent to the railroad. He then converted the whole upstairs into a theater auditorium, with elevated stage tiered audience theater seats, with third level balcony. He opened the SMITH UPSTAIRS OPERA HOUSE in 1902 with a full week stand of the San Carlos Opera Company. He continued as manager presenting mainly current stage dramas and black-face minstrel shows, etc. until 1915.

#### LONGVIEW BILLPOSTER

In connection with his Opera House business, in 1902 he also became The Longview Billposter. He continued to exhibit 24-sheet commercial posters until his death in 1916.

(Gregg County Deed Records show that he purchased the Opera House lot on June 1, 1901 from Mr. & Mrs J. L. Terry.)

#### HIS DEMISE

He died at his home, 410 N Center St. Longview, May 15, 1916, at age 70, as a result of cerebral hemorrhages and right-side strokes over a period of about 3½ years.

# Acting used to be dangerous

What a grand place it was! And for a number of years after the turn of the century, it brought a little culture to East Texas.

It was 1902 when John Tyson Smith, a Civil War veteran and a former Gregg County judge, established what he called the Smith Upstairs Opera House.



Van Craddock

The structure was at the corner of Fredonia and Bank streets in downtown Longview.

Actually, when Smith constructed the two-story brick building, he had no intention of opening an opera house. He was just looking for some income from tenants.

But when he was unable to lease the top floor of his building, Smith was approached by Phillip A. Pegues, who in addition to other business enterprises also operated the Longview Opera House.

Pegues asked if Smith would be interested in buying him out. Smith said yes, he would, and the new Smith Upstairs Opera House was opened on the second floor.

Now, Longview wasn't exactly the center of culture nine decades ago, but there was entertainment from time to time.

In 1893, for example, the National Mexican Band played in Longview on its way to the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. And there was an occasional visiting minstrel and theater troupe. But Smith's opera house created a new era in local entertainment.

The second-floor opera house (a hardware store was on the ground floor) boasted an elevated stage, a large auditorium and even a balcony.

According to one account, the stage curtains "rolled upward from the bottom around a wooden pole drawn with ropes by out-of-sight stage hands. Merchants had their advertisements on the first curtain in hand-painted letters."

A spiral staircase ran from the box office to the auditorium above. Actors' baggage and props had to be raised by block and tackle from the ground to a stage-level door.

When it opened, Longview's new entertainment center offered East Texans a full week of grand opera. The opera house quickly became a mecca for culture-starved residents.

## All the world's a stage

There were Shakespearean plays performed there along with a variety of band concerts, Vaudeville acts, troupes of singers and dancers.

Minstrel shows remained a popular attraction, including a W.C. Fields production. When the great orator and unsuccessful presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan came to Longview to make a speech (it was a fund raiser to help pay for a Confederate monument), he spoke at the Smith Upstairs Opera House, too.

Now, most of the attractions at the opera house were greeted with enthusiasm.

There was a time, however, when being an actor in East Texas could be pretty dangerous.

A case in point is the celebrated actor Maurice Barrymore, who almost died after a ne'er-do-well shot him following a performance in Marshall back in 1879.

Fortunately, Barrymore — the father of Lionel, Ethel and John and great-granddad of Drew — recovered from the wounds inflicted by Jim Currie. Another actor, Ben Porter, wasn't so lucky. Currie killed him in the same shootout.

At least the tragic incident didn't have to do with Barrymore's stage performance. Rather, it was over a woman.

Anyway, John Tyson Smith continued to operate Longview's opera house until 1915. Within a few years, though, with the emergence of the film industry, many opera houses such as Smith's either converted to movie theaters or closed their doors forever.

Van Craddock is Longview News-Journal entertainment editor.



BILLY & JUDY SMITH  
702 Delia Dr  
Longview, TX 75601

757-6171

Forebears & Kin  
of  
John Tyson Smith, Sr.  
and  
Nancy Melvina Skaggs

by

EARL D. SMITH  
Longview, Texas

BILLY & JUDY SMITH  
702 Delia Dr  
Longview, TX 75601

## LIFE OF JOHN TYSON SMITH, SR.

- 10/29/1846 - Born near Anniston, Ala., very probably in Calhoun Co.  
1855 - At the age of 9, he came with his parents and family to the newly purchased 320 acre farm 15 miles east of Gilmer near Forest Hills Baptist Church. This was 7 years after the 4 Smith Brothers came to Harrison Co.
- 1855 to - He helped his father farm the 320 acres. He told me, that  
Late 1864 he took a plug of tobacco with him to the fields, one day, to become a tobacco-chewer. He said the first chew made him so sick that he never chewed again. He did not smoke, either.

\* \* \* \* \*

### CIVIL WAR SERVICE

- Late 1864 - His father, John A. Smith, at age 36, had been in the Confederate Army a year or two in Louisiana, near Monroe. He wrote letters to his wife often. In one letter he said his health was not good and that John Tyson should hold himself in readiness "to recruit for him".

General John Bankhead Magruder had been assigned to Houston Headquarters, Oct. 10, 1862. Soon afterwards, he had captured Galveston. At age 19, probably early 1864, young John Tyson did go into the Confederate Army, as a private, under Gen. Magruder's command. We assume he went to Houston for the purpose.

In 1863, Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith had been placed in Command of The Trans-Mississippi Department, with its capital at Shreveport, La. In early 1864, General Nathaniel P. Banks had captured New Orleans, and was proceeding North along Red River towards Shreveport. There were Union gunboats coming up Red River. General Banks had 25,000 union troops. Confederate Gen. Richard Taylor, son of Gen. Zachary Taylor, had 8,800 men.

The Battle of Mansfield was fought April 8, 1864. In March, 1864 Gen. Magruder had dispatched most of his troops to reinforce Gen. Taylor at Mansfield. Only 2300 of his troops were left in Texas. When John T. Smith's unit got to Mansfield, "Gen. Bank's had precipitately retreated", leaving the Confederates in charge of the field. The Union forces continued to retreat south down Red River.

- 5/26/1865 - Gen. Kirby Smith surrendered at Shreveport.

After the War, General Kirby Smith was President of Suanee Military College, for several years at Suanee, Tenn.

- Date not - After the Confederate surrender, John T. Smith was mustered out  
Known from Hempstead, Tex. near Houston. He, with others, walked in uniform with his rifle, from Hempstead to his home near Forest Hills, Upshur Co. From Kilgore he waded across Sabine River at the gravelly ford just below the present railroad bridge from Longview to Kilgore.

### FIRST MARRIAGE AND LIVING SITUATION

- 8/11/1869 - At age 23, he married Elladora Keasler, daughter of deceased Jos. Keasler and Mrs. Keasler who lived near Lagsone's Chapel Northeast of Longview.
- 12/27/1870 - Volney Smith, a son, was born.
- 10/26/1872 - Volney Smith died, age 2 years.
- About 1873 - He built a 2-bedroom house on his lot near the top of Methvin Hill on Center St. next to the Capps house at the top. He lived there during the remainder of his 1st marriage.
- 7/21/1873 - Gregg Co. declared lawfully organized.
- June 25,26, 27,28,1873 - He ran for 1st Sheriff of Gregg Co. in a race of 10 candidates. M.S. Durham was elected first Sheriff.
- 9/17/1875 - Willie Smith, a daughter was born.
- 1/22/1876 - His wife, Elladora, died, age 22.
- 6/24/1876 - Willie, the daughter died, leaving him completely alone. During the 5 months after his wife died, he had a colored woman named, Aunt Cilla, help take care of the 2nd child before she died.
- 8/24/1876 - His Mother, Louisa Caroline Kennard Smith, died.
- 4/16/1882 - Robert Marion Keasler died.

### BETWEEN MARRIAGES

- About 1876 - After his first family all died, he decided to build another house on his lot for himself just south, down the hill, and rent the original house to railroad men and their families. The new house had 2 - 14 x 14 ft. bedrooms with a chimney between and a fireplace in each bedroom. A similar size dining room was attached to the east bedroom. Along the north side of the two east room was an 8 ft. wide porch, the east half of which, was enclosed for the kitchen.
- About 1876 - He had built a one big room cabin with a fireplace for the cook, Aunt Cilla. It was located just to the back and north of the new house.
- About 1877 - He provided 6 ft. diam. x 6 ft. high covered wood stave cistern for rain water off the roof, used for drinking and general purposes. A 3 ft. diam. well 40 ft. deep near the Center St. line was mineral water, unfit for general use.
- 1880 - He was City Tax Assessor, City of Longview. - 1880 U.S. Census, Gregg Co. Tex.
- Date Unknown - It has come down through the family that at one time he was in the business of hauling freight, by mule team wagons from the Port of Jefferson, Tex. to Tyler, Tex., a distance of about 80 miles. The main freight hauled was bags of coffee, barrels of flour, bolt goods, etc.

### 2nd MARRIAGE & ELECTIVE OFFICES

- 12/19/1883 - Married widow, Mrs. Robt. Marion Keasler (Nancy Melvina Skaggs Keasler). He was age 37 and she was 24.
- 8/8/1884 - He was appointed Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 1. (Longview) Gregg Co. Tex.

- 11/1884 - He was elected J.P. Pct. No. 1, Gregg Co.
- 5/9/1885 - Ruby Ione Smith was born.
- 11/1886 - He was re-elected Justice of the Peace.
- 2/14/1887 - Records show he was County Judge of Gregg Co. Tex. There must have been a special election. Records show that Evans S. Terry was Co. Judge 12/2/1886.
- 8/31/1887 - Lilla May Smith was born.
- 11/1888 - He was elected to 2nd term of Co. Judge.
- About 1890 - He was admitted to Texas Bar Association.
- 9/25/1890 - Virgie Bell Smith was born.
- Nov. 1890 - He was re-elected to 3rd term Co. Judge.
- Nov. 1892 - He was re-elected to 4th term Co. Judge.
- Nov. 1894 - He was re-elected to 5th term Co. Judge.
- 1/3/1896 - Nancy Skaggs Smith was born.
- Nov. 1896 - He was re-elected to 6th term Co. Judge. He received \$150 per year as Gregg Co. School Superintendent.
- Nov. 1898 - He did not run for Co. Judge. J. N. Campbell defeated W. M. Robinson for Co. Judge. Judge "Tice" Smith retired to private business.
- 12/22/1898 - John Tyson Smith, Jr. was born.
- 8/25/1900 - Earl Davis Smith was born.



HOME OF JUDGE JOHN TYSON SMITH, SR. 310 N. CENTER ST. LONGVIEW, TEX. (ABOUT 1907) Chamber of Commerce Lot  
 Inside of fence, left to right: Mrs. Smith, Nan Smith, Earl D. Smith; outside: Lorain Small, J.T. Smith, Jr. J.K. Small

Longview, Texas,  
May 15, 1972

Gregg County Commissioners Minutes, during the handling of THE RED-  
BRICK GREGG COUNTY COURT HOUSE MATTERS

- County Judge - John Tyson Smith, Sr., Feb. 14, 1887 to Nov. 1898.
- May Term - 1897 - Authorized, under law of 1893, for building a new Court House (in the center of the court house square) the issuing of \$30,000 bonds, in \$1,000 denominations at 5% interest payable 10th of May and October.
- May Term, 1897 - Paid J. C. Clemons, Pres. 1st National Bank, \$250 for money lost in bank robbery.
- Oct. Call, 1897 - Ordered all trains from Galveston guarded because of yellow fever quarantine.
- Nov. Term, 1897 - Completed new Court House inspected and accepted, built by J. W. Donaghey.
- May Term, 1898 - Assessed 25¢ per \$1,000 valuation for paying interest and paying off Court House bonds.  
- J. T. Smith, Co. Judge, T. E. Newell, Co. Clerk  
- Paid J. T. Smith \$150 per year as Co. School Supt.
- Nov. Term, 1898 - Paid R. B. Levy premium on \$10,000 Court House Insurance.
- Corner Stone for New Red-Brick Court House shows -  
1897 J. T. Smith, Co. Judge  
Commissioners - G. B. Richardson, W. T. Todd, J. K. Bradshaw,  
W. J. Blackburn
- Feb. Term, 1899 - Hon. J. N. Campbell, Co. Judge  
Dushee Shaw, Co. Clerk, J. M. Hopkins, Co. Surveyor.  
O. H. Pegues, Treasurer of Gregg County.
- Aug. Term, 1899 - Increased Court House Insurance from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
- Feb. Term, 1907 - Last 8 Court House bonds (\$8,000) ordered paid off.
- Aug. 1, 1932 - Old corner stone of the original Red-Brick Court House re-laid in the new present center-section of the light-brick Court House by -  
The Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Texas.

Records searched by -  
Bernice Holt Smith  
Earl Davis Smith

## OTHER BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

- About 1882 - Our Mother owned the Longview Drug building which is on Fredonia St. adjacent to, and just north of, the First National Bank. Robert Marion Keasler, her 1st husband, had built the building just before he died.
- About 1897 - On property on the south side of Methvin St. between 5th and 6th St., bought in the name of Nannie M. Smith from R.R. Chaney 12/7/1889, he built two 2-story brick store fronts. The downstairs parts were rented by A. A. Batson for his grocery store. Our family bought groceries from this store. The Negro driver of his 2-mule team wagon would come to our house on certain morning, receive the grocery list from our Mother, and drive back with the groceries later. The entire upstairs of this building was rented to a Railroad Brotherhood, as a meeting room.
- About 1898 - In cooperation with Mr. Tom Campbell, later Governor of Texas, and at the same time, the two 2-story brick buildings were built on Tyler Ave. at the Northwest corner at Fredonia St. There was a partnership stairway to the doctor's and lawyer's offices upstairs. Dr. C. W. Lawrence Drug Store was on the corner. In the part next to the corner, owned by our father, in about 1910, Mr. Lackey, brother of Firechief Lackey, operated the first picture show in Longview, called "The Park Theatre."
- 1901-1902 - In cooperation with Mr. H. L. Smith, Sr. he built the 2-story, 2-front brick building at the northwest corner of Fredonia St. and Bank St. The store next to Bank St. was occupied by B. W. Van Allen Hardware and Furniture Co. The next front was occupied by E. E. Crain Grocery Store. The H.L. Smith Dry Goods Store opened in the three fronts north, upstairs and downstairs, in 1902.
- There was no renter for the upstairs above the hardware and grocery store. Mr. Phillip Pegues, who operated the opera house on the south side of the 300 Block E. Tyler Ave. persuaded our father to buy him out and put the opera house upstairs, at Bank St. and Fredonia St. It seated about 300 with a balcony for about 100.
- 1902 - Because Opera House advertising required billposting, he was persuaded to accept the agency for commercial billposting in Longview. He hired a Negro man, named Fred Brown, to do the posting work. Later it was done by us two boys after school and on Saturdays. There were four double 24 sheet poster boards on four main roads at the edge of town. Some posters, then, were for Wrigley's Gum, Comet Rice and Chesterfield cigarettes.
- About 1908 - He built the one-story brick building between Bank St. and the picture show building, now Turpee Slade's Men's Store. This was rented to the H.E. Piper Icecream and Candy Co. This building is now a part of Bennett's McCarley's Jewelry Store and is on Bank St.

- About 1910 - On property on Fredonia St. he built 4 four-room residences at 419, 421, 425 and 427 N. Fredonia St. Back of these rent houses there was pasture for the family horse and cow. The houses were to be rent-free homes of the four daughters, as they married. Lilla and Ed Spinks occupied 419 and Virgie and Marcus Wood occupied 425 N. Fredonia St.
- About 1911 - A fire occurred upstairs, over the Tyler Ave. picture show. The building was repaired completely. The 14 inch cube red-rock solid-stone columns at the front of the store were replaced with small steel pipe columns.
- 1913-1914 - Edward G. Spinks, his son-in-law, operated the opera house, as manager, until it closed.
- 1915 - The upstairs opera house closed when the Grande Movie Theatre was built in the 100 Block, Methvin St., with Mr. Dana Prall, as manager.

#### HOME LIVING SITUATIONS AND DEMISE.

- About 1890 - He added two more 14 ft. x 14 ft. rooms on the south side of the original two bedroom house. There was a front 8 ft. hallway and a back 8 ft. hallway between them. The front room was the "Parlar" for the piano and bookcases. A 10ft. wide front-porch, with jig-saw posts, bannisters and trimming, across the street-front side. The entrance from the front porch was into the front hallway. The added back room was "Mama's bedroom" or the "side room".
- About 1900 - The beehives were in a row, facing east, under a high oak tree between the garden gate at the back of the kitchen and Aunt Cilla's cabin. By this time Aunt Cilla had passed away and her cabin was used for horse and cow feed.
- About 1910 - City water and sewerage came to Longview. The bath tub, com-mode and lavatory was installed in the enclosed back-half of the northside porch. A new 14 ft. x 14 ft. kitchen was added east of the diningroom where the old rain-water cistern had been. Also a south-side kitchen porch and an east-side back screened sleeping porch was added for the two boys.
- 1913 - Our father at age 67 had his first right-side stroke from cerebral hemorrhage. He finally was able to walk with a walking stick help and with a limp. There was a serious speech impediment. Later a colored man named "Jim" was hired during the day to be with him and drive him to town in his horse drawn buggy for visits with friends on the street.
- 5/15/1916 - John Tyson Smith, Sr. died from continuing strokes. He was 72.

FAMILY LOT PURCHASES

Date	Buyer	Place (In Longview)	From (Seller)	Price
10/9/1872	J. T. Smith, Sr.	410-412 N. Center St. (1873 Home Place)	Tex. & Pac. Rwy. Co.	\$100.
10/9/72	J. T. Smith, Sr.	419-423 N. Fredonia (1922 Home Place)	Tex. & Pac. Rwy. Co.	\$100.
1/8/1874	J. T. Smith, Sr.	Magrill Lot, N. Center St. (Haven't found sale)	O. H. Pegues	\$400.
12/2/1876	R. M. Keasler	437 N. Fredonia St. (1877 R.M.K. Home Lot)	Clifford Galloway and wife	\$550.
11/24/1879	Joint R.M.K. & J.T.S.	Greenwood Cem. Lot	J. M. Comes & A.S. Taylor	\$15.
1/5/1881	R. M. Keasler	68 ft. more on R.M.K. Home Lot	Augustus Sumner and wife	\$140.
1/21/1884	J. T. Smith, Sr.	Slade's & McCarley's Lot 1, Blk 14 Tyler Ave.	O. H. Pegues & J. L. Finch	\$3,785.
12/11/1889	Nannie M. Smith	818 E. Methvin Lots Wilson Dist. Co.	Fannie Channey & husband	\$1,650.
6/4/1901	J. T. Smith	Fredonia at Bank St. Upstairs Opera House	J. L. Terry & wife	\$1,300.

Note - Have not yet found R. M. Kealer purchase of the Fredonia St. Drug Store lot.



Recollections of Earl D. Smith (as a boy, 8 to 15)  
About SMITH'S UPSTAIRS OPERA HOUSE, 1902-1915,  
at Bank and Fredonia Streets, Longview, Texas.

The Smith Upstairs Opera House was built by Ex-County Judge, John Tyson Smith, Sr. on the Northwest corner of Bank and Fredonia Streets, and opened in 1902.\* Prior to that time, Mrs. McCullough's boarding house was located on that lot. He bought this lot from Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Terry, June 4, 1901.

It was constructed, as a 75-foot front, at the same time as the H. L. Smith Dry Goods building, which was a 150-foot front. The Opera House was 3 stories high. The ground floor was occupied by B. W. Van Allen Hardware Store on the Bank Street corner. Next door was E. E. Crain's Grocery Store. The 2nd floor had the elevated stage to the east, with the auditorium and the 3rd floor was the balcony, called the "peanut gallery" and "buzzard roost".

The box office was at the west end, along Bank Street. A spiraling stairway, with comfortable landings led from the box office to the tiered auditorium.

The stage was elevated at the east end. Actor's baggage and show equipment were lifted by rope, block and tackle, from mule drawn flat dray wagons on the ground in Bank Street, to a door at stage level.

Outside stair fire-escapes led from the back of the balcony and auditorium to the ground at Bank Street. A second escape stairway led from the front of the auditorium to Bank Street.

"The Billboard", the monthly show-business publication listed, for opera house managers, shows that were available for scheduling. This publication has continued to the present day.

All seats in the auditorium, with wire man's hat retainer underneath were sold by numbered reserved-seat tickets. Advanced ticket sales were made at the Cash Drug Store (Edward G. Spinks, Sr. Owner) which was where the Longview Drug Store is now located.

Some of the shows that appeared were:

W. C. Field's Blackfaced Minstrels with "Lassies White".

DeArmond Sisters Stock Company -

"East Lynn"

"Ten Nights In A Barroom"

"The Ku Klux Klan"

"St. Elmo"

Stage curtains rolled upward from the bottom around a wooden pole, drawn with ropes by out-of-sight stage hands. Local merchants had their advertisements on the first curtain, in hand-painted letters. James E. Hughes, Jr. sign painter, did most of these signs.

\* According to Mrs. Frankie Whaley Tate.

The second curtain contained a "Street Scene", in the language of that day, a background for the singer and comedian who occupied time needed between acts for changing scenery and furniture for the next act.

One ballad singer, regardless of his song, always announced the title: "It Was Grandma's Toenail That Tore The Sheet".

Minstrel shows usually had their own marching-band. As an advertisement for the night show, the band and colored end-men gave a late afternoon parade down Fredonia Street.

Daily advertisements for the shows appeared in "The Times-Clarion". One, two and three sheet posters for the shows were posted on boards at strategic locations, about a week to ten days in advance of shows.

Most shows had an "Advance Man" who came to town early, to supply copy about his show and actors for the newspaper, and supply his posters to the local bill poster.

Local furniture stores supplied the special stage furniture and other "Props" for the show. Such procedure always assured complimentary tickets to the "Prop" supplier's family.

Local job-printing offices supplied the printed programs given by the ushers to all patrons, as they were seated.

As a necessary asset for the Opera House, the owner-manager set up the first Longview Poster Advertising business.

Teen-age boys were hired after each show to sweep up around the theatre seats, which always required removal of peanut hulls.

In 1913, J. T. Smith Sr. experienced a paralytic stroke and Ed. G. Spinks, Sr. became Opera House manager.

In 1915, the Opera House was closed. The whole building was then occupied by Conner's Dry Goods Co. The upper floors were used as storage rooms.

In 1937, the building and lot were sold to the Longview National Bank by the J. T. Smith, Sr. Estate to make way for the first part of that bank building.

Recollections by Ruby Smith (Mrs. Paschal Eugene) Johnson  
On The Early Smith Upstairs Opera House in Longview

- As told to Earl D. Smith

The 1st remembered opera house in Longview was on the east side of Green St., north of and next to the T & P Railroad. It was near Hoyler's Livery Stable, which was located on the Northwest corner of Green St. and Tyler Ave.

When Ruby was 8 or 9 years old, 1893-94, she recited from the stage of that 1st opera house the story of "Jack and the Beanstalk". Her younger sister, Lilla Smith, was in the school play there that night.

The 2nd - remembered opera house was a wood frame building located on the south side of Tyler Ave., east of Green St. Mr. Phillip Pegues was its owner. She remembers seeing stage plays by stock companies there.

The two-story brick building of Ex.-County Judge John Tyson Smith, Sr. at the northwest corner of Bank St. and Fredonia, had been completed with renters in the two ground level store fronts about 1902. No tenant was found for the upstairs. Mr. Pegues persuaded Judge Smith to buy out his opera house business and the new 3rd opera house was installed upstairs in that new building.

The 1902, Longview High School graduation exercises were held in the 2nd Opera House. There were then eight grades. The names of the graduating class were: Ruby Smith, Pearl Gans, Fannie Mae Berlew, Della Pegues, Julia Butt, Sam Morrow, Verda Eckman and Viola Eckman.

The Jack Howard family lived across the street from the 2nd opera house. The Bass family lived on the same side of the block with the 2nd opera house. (South side of Tyler Ave. east of Green St.)

The Smith Upstairs Opera House opened in the fall of 1902 with a full week of Grand Operas by the San Carlos Opera Co. A week of grand opera was also scheduled later.

The opera house "Season" was from October through April. It now is the same for the "legitimate stage" season.

The road shows had regular season routes at that time and Longview was on that route.

All of the black-face minstrel shows of the day were booked in Longview. There were 2-night stands of Ole Olsen's Minstrels and 1-night showings of Hans Hanson Minstrels. Albert Taylor Stock Co. played by the week and had a 6-night repertoire of different shows.

Ruby was often ticket-seller down-stairs for the opera house. On one occasion her attention was called that she had accepted a counterfeit \$1 bill.

Occasionally she substituted for the piano player. One time, when she played a selection of Chauncy Alcott, which was popular at the time, she got, understandably remembered, unusual applause.

A Mr. Holloway, Alton Holloway's brother, was editor of the Longview newspaper. He was the local theatre critic of the day. He was later the editor of the Gladewater newspaper.

LINE OF DESCENT

BACK TO

ADAM & EVE

From the John Tyson Smith, Jr.  
Book (in " " " "  
H. M. File)

**ELIZABETH AVENT**  
 b. 9/12/1752  
 BRUNSWICK Co. VA  
 THE RELIGIOUS HERALD, RICHMOND, VA, 11/21/1847, SAYS "HER FATHER" WAS "JOHN AVENT" m. REV. ANDREW BAKER, SR. THEN MOVED TO WILKES Co. N. CAR. HE WAS CONVERTED AS A BAPTIST IN 1775 AND PREACHED, UNTIL HE DIED, LEE Co. VA, 9/24/1815.

**MARTHA "PATSY" BAKER**  
 10/27/1791  
 WILKES Co. N. CAR.  
 d. 11/21/1869  
 HANCOCK Co. TENN.  
 m. ELI DAVIS SR. 4/3/1806 GRAYSON Co. VA.  
 b. STAFFORD Co. VA. 9/11/1779  
 d. 1/23/1861  
 CLAIBORNE Co. TENN.

**PATRICK KENDRICK**  
 b. ABOUT 1730  
 m. JANE

**JOHN HORTON, SR.**  
 b. ABOUT 1725  
 m. SARAH ?

**JACOB SMITH**  
 b. YA. 4/17/1792 d. 9/15/1878.  
 BURNET Co. TEX.  
 m. EDNA STEPHENS, b. S. CAR. 8/2/1821  
 LAWRENCE Co. ALA.

**JAMES JONES KENNARD**  
 b. 11/13/1780  
 SAMSON Co. N. CAR.  
 LIVED IN MADISON Co. 1811-24  
 m. ELEANOR KING b. 3/15/1786

**JOHN A. SMITH**  
 b. ALA. 1828  
 d. SHREVEPORT, LA. 1865  
 m. MRS. LOUISA CAROLINE KENINARD SMITH b. ALA. 1844  
 d. LONGVIEW, TEX. 8/24/1876

**JOHN AVENT, SR.**  
 b. ABOUT 1728  
 m. MARY CARY SUSSEX Co. VA.

**PETER AVENT**  
 b. ?  
 m. MARY  
 HIS WILL NORTHAMPTON Co. N. CAR., SEPT. 1779, BK. 1, p. 215 NAMES WIFE, MARY, & 9 CHILDREN, INCLUDING ELIZABETH BARKER

**JOHN SKAGGS I**  
 b. GUESS 1764  
 MAYBE THE JOHN SKAGGS MONROE 1810 U.S. CENSUS Co. VA. (NOW W. VA.) WIFE OVER 45 7 BOYS, 5 GIRLS

**JOHN HORTON, JR.**  
 b. 12/23/1747  
 STAFFORD Co. VA. d. 7/1/1817  
 RUSSELL Co. VA. m. ISABELL KENDRICK b. 10/13/1754

**JOHN SKAGGS II**  
 b. YA. 11/22/1795  
 d. 4/2/1876  
 m. CYNTHIA HORTON b. 6/16/1804  
 d. 8/12/1874  
 LEE Co. VA.

**NANCY MELVINA SKAGGS**  
 b. 12/12/1857  
 LEE Co. VA.

**MARGARET ELIZABETH GOOCH**  
 b. ABOUT 1704  
 m. COL. THOS. AVENT, SR. b. 1671  
 IMMIGRANT, 1698  
 WAS A HUGGONOT REFUGEE.

HE SETTLED IN SURRY Co. VA. HE WAS JUSTICE OF SUSSEX COURT, 1753 HIS WILL WAS DATED 9/21/1756 SUSSEX Co. VA.

**CLAIBORNE GOOCH**  
 b. ABOUT 1690

**HENRY GOOCH, SR.**  
 IMMIGRANT  
 LIEUT.-COLONEL IN COLONIAL WARS, VA.  
 m. 1ST MILLICENT KINSEY 6W/16/174

**JAMES HERVEY DAVIS**  
 b. 3/2/1817  
 d. 9/27/1865  
 LEE Co. VA.  
 m. MALINDA CRUMLEY b. 11/4/1838

**MARTHA DAVIS**  
 b. 6/13/1840  
 CLAIBORNE Co. TENN.  
 d. 2/22/1875  
 UPSHUR Co. TEX.  
 m. 1ST JOHN HENRY SKAGGS b. 5/11/1833  
 d. 9/7/1859  
 LEE Co. VA.  
 BAPTIST MINISTERIAL GRADUATE, JUN. 1858  
 MOSSY CREEK COLLEGE, JEFFERSON CITY, TENN.

**2ND JOHN TYSON SMITH, SR.**  
 b. ALA. 1846  
 d. 5/15/1916  
 LONGVIEW, TEX.  
 GREGG COUNTY JUDGE 1888-1898

**EARL DAVIS SMITH**  
 b. 8/25/1900  
 LONGVIEW, TEX.  
 m. 1ST LUELLA WELCH  
 2ND MRS. BERNICE H. SMITH  
 CHEMIST-CHEMICAL ENGINEER  
 M.S. IN CH. E., U. OF TEX. 1924  
 1924-28 ALUMINUM Co. OF AMER.  
 1928-48 HERCULES POWDER Co.  
 ASSO. PROF. OF CHEMISTRY  
 1948-66 FLA. SOUTHERN COLLEGE  
 LAKELAND, FLA.  
 RETIRED 12/31/66

**URSALA CLAIBORNE**  
 b. ABOUT 1663  
 m. WILLIAM GOOCH I

**WILLIAM CLAIBORNE, JR.**  
 b. 8/17/1647 d. 10/7/1683  
 m. ELIZABETH WILKS  
 LIVED IN KING WILLIAM Co. VA.  
 LIEUTENANT-COLONEL AGAINST THE INDIANS

**WILLIAM CLAIBORNE, SR.**  
 b. ABOUT 1587 d. 1676  
 m. 1ST JANE BULLER OF LONDON  
 2ND ELIZABETH BUTLER OF VA.  
 1621-IMMIGRANT, ENGLAND TO VA.  
 CAME AS SURVEYOR OF THE VA. Co.  
 1625-SECY. OF STATE, COLONY OF VA.  
 1627-1660 MEMBER OF COLONY COUNCIL  
 1629-AT KENT IS. MADE 1ST SETTLEMENT IN MD.

1631-2 JUSTICE OF ACCOMAC Co. VA  
 1633- JUSTICE OF YORK Co. VA.  
 1644-45, COLONEL, LANDED HIS ARMY ON NORTH SIDE OF PAMUNKEY RIV.  
 1653- JUSTICE OF NORTHUMBERLAND Co.  
 1653-COMMANDED EXPID. VS INDIANS  
 1653-MADE DEPUTY GOV. OF COL. OF VA.  
 1660-AGAIN, SECY. OF COLONY OF VA.  
 1666-MEMBER OF VIRGINIA ASSEMBLY

DESCENT LINE FROM COL. WILLIAM CLAIBORNE 1653 DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF VA. DOWN TO EARL DAVIS SMITH  
 DIAGRAMED 3/1/70 BY EARL DAVIS SMITH  
 2309 COVENTRY AVE., LAKELAND, FLA. 33503  
 AND 406 E. METHVIN ST. LONGVIEW, TEX. 75601

**SOURCES**  
 CLAIBORNE VOL. 1 PP. 312-324  
 VA. MAG. OF HIST. VOL. 6 PP. 312-344  
 VOL. 37 P. 279  
 W2 & MARY QT. VOL. 5 (1) P. 111  
 GOOCH W2 & MARY QT. VOL. 5 (1) P. 111  
 AVENT "THE AVENTS & THEIR KIN" BY MAMIE LEE AVENT PARKER & CLAUDE HUNTER MOORE 1961  
 BAKER PHOTOGRAPH OF ANDREW BAKER BIBLE Co. MRS. GRACE WITT BROCKMAN 100 MARCHANT ST. GREEN, So. CAR.  
 SKAGGS "DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS SKAGGS" BY EARL N. SKAGGS (1960) BETHESDA, OHIO  
 "KING MOUNTAIN MEN" BY KATHERINE KEIGH WHITE  
 HORTON "HISTORICAL SOUTHERN FAMILIES" - JOHN B. BOBBIE  
 DAVIS MRS. VIDA DAVIS FLANARY RT. 2, ROSE HILL, VA. 24281  
 SMITH U.S. CENSUS-1830 LAWRENCE Co. ALA. 1840 PICKENS Co. ALA. 1850, 1860 HARRISON Co. TEX. 1860 UPSHUR Co. TEX.

-16-

NEEDS MORE DOCUMENTATION - EDS.

DESCENT LINE OF EARL DAVIS SMITH

THOMAS DE CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1144 A.D.  
m. ?

COSPATRICK DE CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1113  
m. ?

LADY GUNILDA  
b. ABOUT 1081 A.D.  
m. LORD OF SETON,  
ORME

COSPATRICK, SON  
EARL OF DUNBAR  
b. ABOUT 1049 A.D.  
m. ?

MALDRED, GRANDSON OF  
MALCOLM II  
b. ABOUT 1018  
A.D.  
m. ALDIGITHA

PRINCESS BEATRICE  
m. CRINAN, LORD OF ISLES  
b. ABOUT 986 A.D.

MALCOLM II  
KING OF SCOTLAND  
b. 954, d. NOV. 25, 1034  
m. ? NORTHERN

"HE INVADDED NORTHERN ENGLAND  
SEVERAL TIMES (1016-1018 A.D.) AND  
FINALLY IN THE BATTLE OF CAR-  
HAM, HE SECURED LOTHIAN FOR  
SCOTLAND." ENCYCLO. BRITANNICA  
(1969) VOL. 14, P. 693

GILBERT CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1303 A.D.  
m. ALICE LOWTHER

GILBERT CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1271 A.D.

GILBERT CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1239 A.D.  
m. EDITH HARRINGTON

GILBERT CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1208 A.D.  
m. ?

PATRICK DE CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1176 A.D.  
m. ?

FATHER & MOTHER  
OF  
KING MALCOLM II

EDMUND CLEBURNE  
OF CLEBURNE HALL  
b. ABOUT 1493  
m. ANNE LAYTON  
OF DALEMAN

ROBERT CLIBURNE  
OF  
CLIBURNE HALL & KILLERBY  
b. ABOUT 1461 A.D.  
m. EMMA KIRKBRIDE  
OF KIRKBRIDE

LADY ELIZABETH CURWEN  
b. ABOUT 1429 A.D.  
m. JOHN CLYBURNE  
OF  
CLYBURNE HALL

SIR THOMAS CURWEN  
OF  
WORTHINGTON HALL  
b. ABOUT 1398 A.D.  
m. ANNA LOWTHER

CHRISTOPHER CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1366 A.D.  
m. ELIZABETH HUDDLESTON

WILLIAM CURWEN  
LORD OF WORTHINGTON  
b. ABOUT 1334 A.D.  
m. MARGARET CROFT

MALCOLM I  
KING OF SCOTLAND

943-954 A.D., d. 954

"HE RECEIVED STRATHCLYDE FROM ANGLO-SAXON  
KING EDMUND I IN 945, PROMISING IN RETURN  
TO SUPPORT EDMUND BY LAND AND SEA."  
- ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA

ADDED 3/2/70  
BOOK "WILLIAM CLAI-  
BORNE OF VIRGINIA"  
BY JOHN HERBERT  
CLAIBORNE (1917), PUB. BY  
G. B. PUTNAM'S SONS,  
KNICKERBOCKER PRESS  
(1917) NEW YORK CITY  
& LONDON

SOURCES  
"THE AVENTS AND THEIR KIN  
OF AVENT FERRY, No. CAR. (1960)  
BY  
MAMIE LEE AVENT PARKER &  
CLAUDE HUNTER MOORE, p. 53  
MISS PINA A. AKIN  
602 FIRST WEST ST.  
HAYNESVILLE, LA. 71038  
MRS. MARTHA A. PARKER  
1649 SUTTON DRIVE  
RALEIGH, No. CAR.

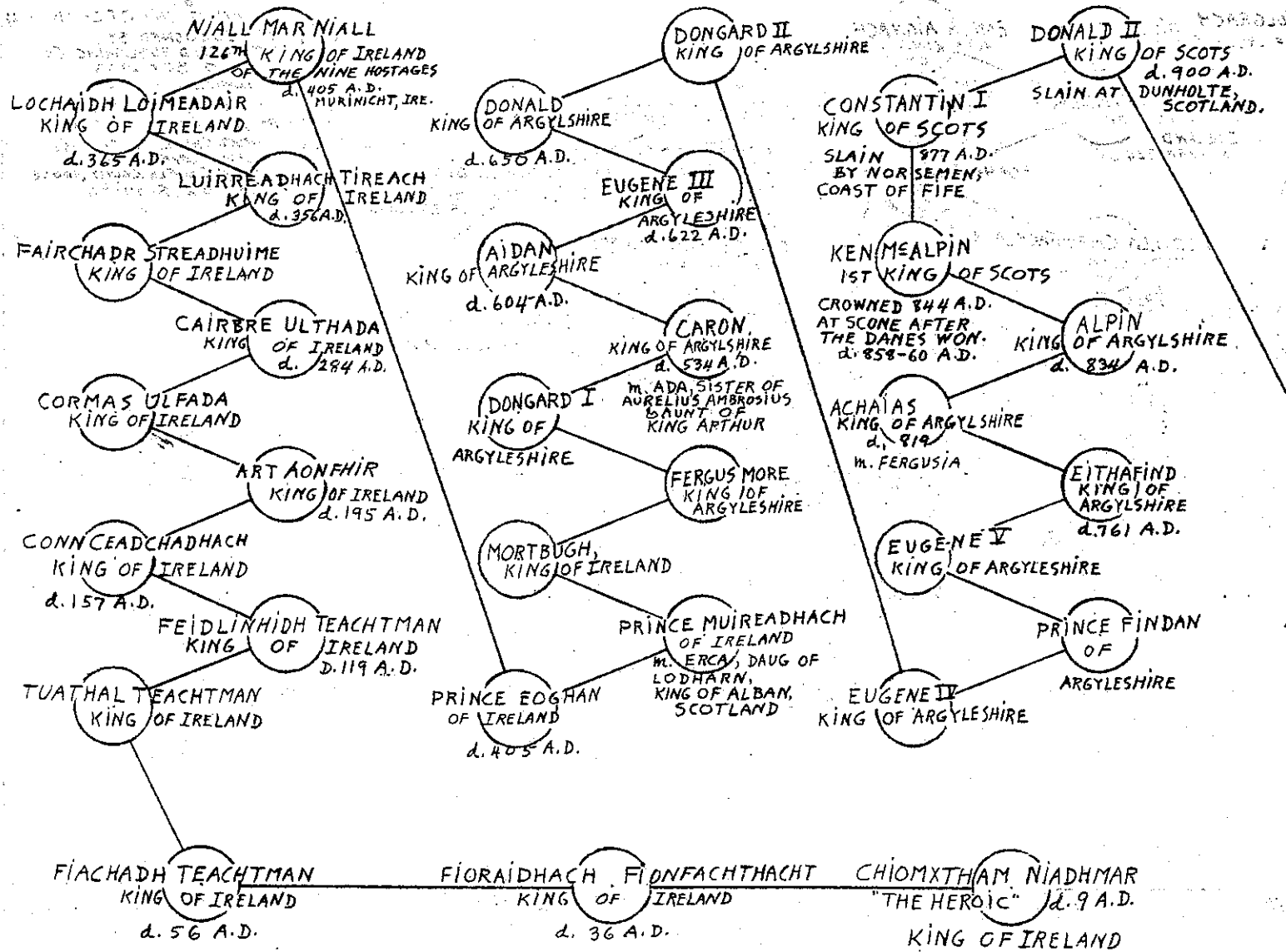
SECRETARY OF STATE  
OF THE COLONY OF VIRGINIA  
COLONEL WILLIAM CLAIBORNE, SR.  
OF "ROMANOKE" VIRGINIA  
b. ABOUT 1587 A.D.  
m. 1ST JANE BULLER OF ENGLAND  
2ND ELIZABETH BUTLER OF VIRGINIA  
1653-DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA

EDMUND CLEBURNE  
OF CLEBURNE HALL  
b. ABOUT 1556 A.D.  
m. GRACE BELLINGHAM  
OF HELSINGTON

RICHARD CLEBURNE  
OF CLEBURNE HALL & KILLERBY  
b. ABOUT 1524 A.D.  
m. ELEANOR LANCASTER  
OF STOCKBRIDGE

NOTE - EARL DAVIS SMITH IS SIX (GREAT)-  
GRANDSON OF  
COL. WILLIAM CLAIBORNE, SR.

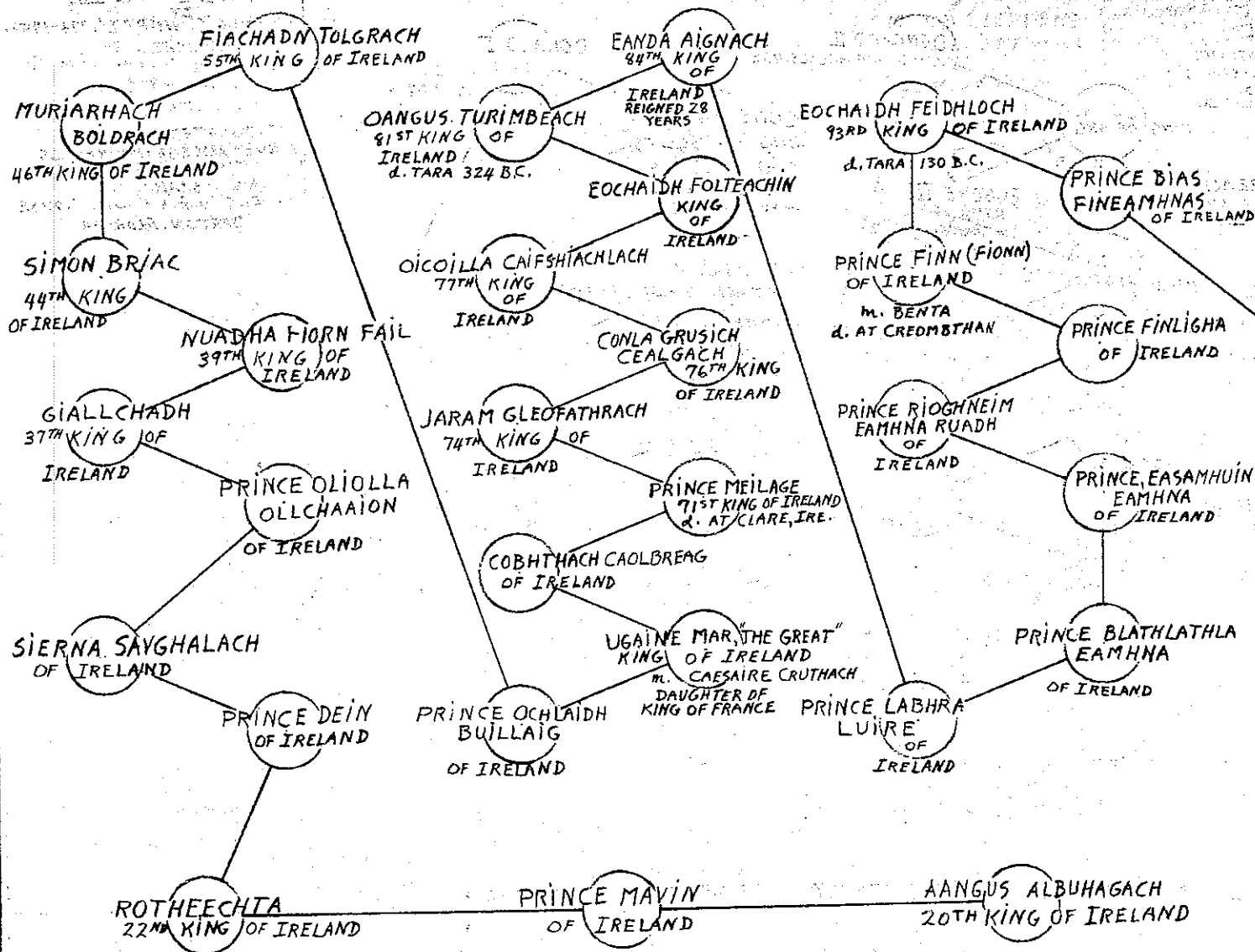
DESCENT FROM  
KING MALCOLM I  
KING OF SCOTLAND, 943-54 A.D.  
TO  
COL. WILLIAM CLAIBORNE, SR.  
DRAWN 9/27/69 BY  
EARL DAVIS SMITH (b. TEX. 1900)  
2307 COVENTRY AVE.,  
LAKELAND, FLA. 33803  
AND  
406 E. METHYIN ST.  
LONGVIEW, TEX. 75601



SOURCES  
 "MAGNA CHARTA"  
 VOLS. I THRU VIII  
 BY  
 JOHN S. WURTZ (1976-1958)  
 PUBLISHED BY  
 BROOKFIELD PUBLISHING CO.  
 P.O. BOX 4933  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
 TABULATED BY  
 RUBY ALICE SEYMOUR FIELDS  
 (MRS. CHARLES E. FIELDS)  
 LAW LIBRARY,  
 POLK CO. FLA. COURT HOUSE  
 BARTOW, FLORIDA

DESCENT LINE FROM  
 CHIOMXTHAM NIADHMAR  
 9 A.D. KING OF IRELAND  
 TO  
 KING MALCOLM I  
 KING OF SCOTS, 943-954 A.D.  
 DIAGRAMED 2/19/70 BY  
 EARL DAVIS SMITH  
 2309 COVENTRY AVE  
 LAKELAND, FLA. 33603  
 AND 406 E. METHUEN ST.  
 LONGVIEW, TEX 75601





SOURCES  
 "MAGNA CHARTA"  
 VOLS. I THRU VIII  
 BY  
 JOHN S. WURTZ (1876-1958)  
 PUBLISHED BY  
 BROOKFIELD PUBLISHING CO.  
 P. O. BOX 4933  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
 TABULATED BY  
 RUBY ALICE SEYMOUR FIELDS  
 (MRS. CHARLES E. FIELDS)  
 LAW LIBRARY  
 POLK CO. FLA. COURT HOUSE  
 BARTOW, FLORIDA

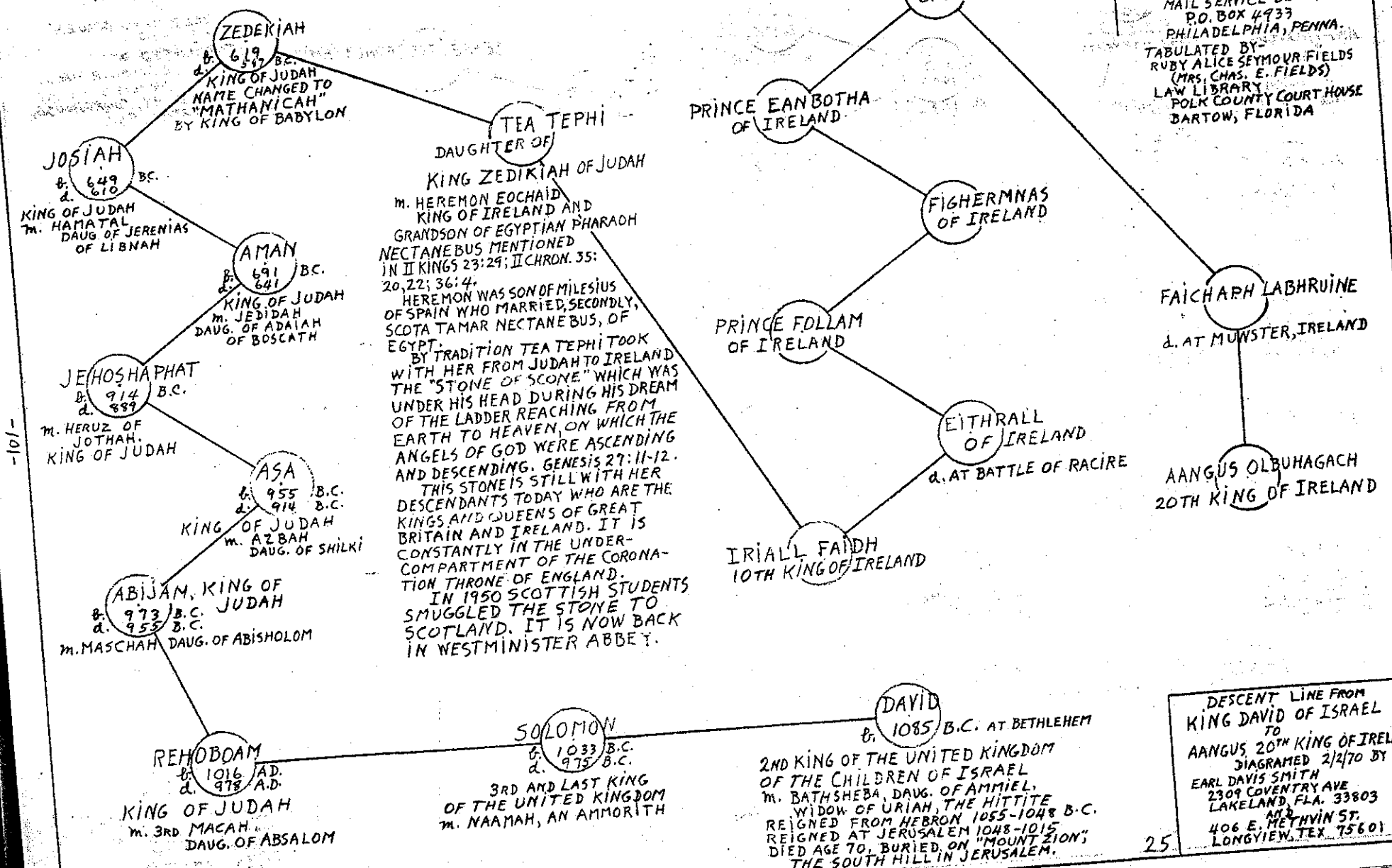
LUGHAIDH RIEBDURG  
 98TH KING OF IRELAND  
 M. DEVORGULLS,  
 DAUGHTER OF FARGALL,  
 KING OF LOCHLOINN

CHIOMXTHAM NIADHMAR  
 "THE HEROIC" 29 A.D.  
 KING OF IRELAND  
 REIGNED AT THE TIME OF  
 CHRIST'S BIRTH  
 M. MARTATH CHOLUCH,  
 DAUGHTER OF JOCK

DESCENT LINE FROM  
 AANGUS, 20TH KING OF IRELAND  
 TO CHIOMXTHAM NIADHMAR  
 9 A.D. KING OF IRELAND,  
 AT THE TIME OF CHRIST  
 DIAGRAMED 2/22/70 BY  
 EARL D. SMITH  
 2309 COVENTRY AVE..  
 LAKELAND, FLA. 33603  
 AND  
 406 E. METHVIN ST.  
 LONGVIEW, TEX. 75601



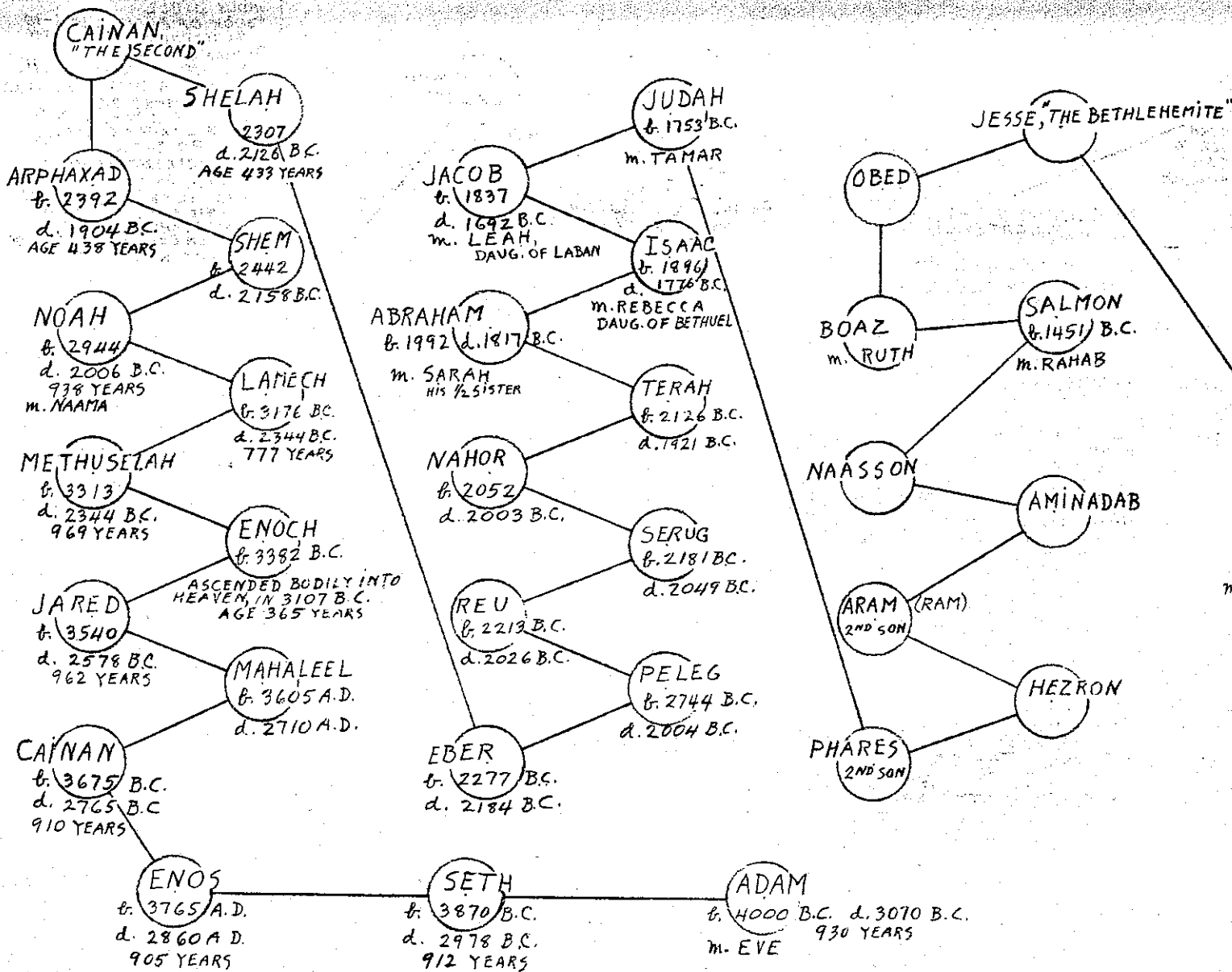
SOURCES  
 HOLY BIBLE  
 "BOOK OF ADAM" PP. 1-10  
 BY HAROLD KING BOWEN  
 "MAGNA CHARTA"  
 VOLUMES I THROUGH VIII  
 BY JOHN S. WURTZ (1876-1956)  
 PUBLISHED BY  
 BROOKFIELD PUBLISHING CO.  
 MAIL SERVICE DEPT.  
 P.O. BOX 4933  
 PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.  
 TABULATED BY  
 RUBY ALICE SEYMOUR FIELDS  
 (MRS. CHAS. E. FIELDS)  
 LAW LIBRARY  
 POLK COUNTY COURT HOUSE  
 BARTOW, FLORIDA



DESCENT LINE FROM  
 KING DAVID OF ISRAEL  
 TO  
 AANGUS 20TH KING OF IRELAND  
 DIAGRAMED 2/2/70 BY  
 EARL DAVIS SMITH  
 2309 COVENTRY AVE  
 LAKELAND, FLA. 33803  
 406 E. MEYHVIN ST.  
 LONGVIEW, TEX. 75601

-101-

25



SOURCES  
THE HOLY BIBLE  
"THE BOOK OF ADAM"  
BY  
HAROLD KING BOWEN  
PP. 1-10  
TABULATED BY  
RUBY ALICE SEYMOUR FIELDS  
(MRS. CHARLES E. FIELDS)  
LAW LIBRARY, COURT HOUSE,  
BARTOW, FLA.

DESCENT LINE FROM  
ADAM AND EVE  
TO  
KING DAVID OF ISRAEL  
DIAGRAMED 2/4/70 BY  
EARL DAVIS SMITH  
2309 COVENTRY AVE.  
LAKELAND, FLA. 33803  
AND  
406 E. METWIN ST.  
LONGVIEW, TEX. 75601

**John Tyson Smith.** Born October 29, 1845, he moved with his parents and eleven siblings to a 230-acre farm in eastern Upshur County in 1885. He served under General John B. Magruder in the Civil War. He built a house at 412 N. Center Street in Longview in 1872. Smith was elected County Judge of Gregg County in 1887 and served five consecutive terms, through 1898. In the late years of his term he also served as County Superintendent of Schools. After public office Smith entered the business of store building and renting in Longview and adjacent Longview Junction. Some of these buildings stand today. The second story of one of his downtown buildings was converted into a theater and from 1902 through 1915 he owned and operated the Smith Upstairs Opera House. His memory was honored in 1978 with an Official Texas Historical Grave Marker. There is an Official Texas Historical Marker for Methvin on the Gregg County Courthouse lawn. He died May 16, 1916.

NWB - 12-1-99