



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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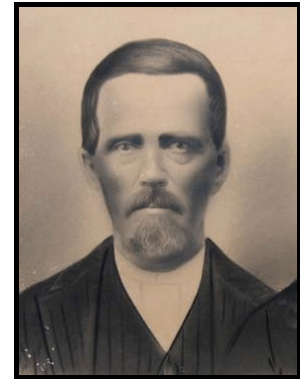
Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

James A. Autrey

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James A. Autrey was born August 2, 1828 in Richland County, South Carolina. James was a son of Philip and Elizabeth Autrey. By 1840, Philip Autrey had moved the family to Abbeville County, South Carolina. They moved to Georgia about 1849.

By 1850, the family had moved to Walker County, Georgia. Some time in the late 1840's James and his wife, Christianity Walker, were married. James Autrey enlisted first in the Confederate service in the fall of 1861 at Knoxville, Tennessee as a member of Barry's Battery of Tennessee Confederate Artillery, but was later discharged for disability. He again enlisted in the same battery in 1863, but in 1864 was permanently discharged, again for disability.



James A. Autrey



Christianity Autrey

By 1870 he and his wife, Christianity "Christy", were living with their children in Walker County, Georgia near Frick's Gap. Later in the year 1870 they moved to Texas, and stopped first for a time near Waxahachie in Ellis County. Soon they moved to the Smithfield Community in Tarrant, eventually having many of their old Georgia neighbors as neighbors again, and there they spent the rest of their lives.

James tried unsuccessfully to get a pension for his Confederate service. One of the men who gave depositions attesting to his service was his brother, Rayford Autrey. In 1895, James Autrey was living on the W. D. Barnes survey north of Smithfield in present-day North Richland Hills, in the general area of the intersection of today's John Autry Road and Red Oak Road. James and his wife were still alive in Smithfield at the time the 1910 census was taken. At that time she told the enumerator she had given birth to twelve children, six of whom were still alive.

An obituary for Mrs. Autry appeared in the Grapevine Sun on November 27, 1920: *"DIED. Mrs. Christiana Autry, living at Smithfield, died last Monday, Nov. 22nd, and was buried in the Smithfield cemetery on Tuesday, Nov. 23rd. She was 91 years and 9 months old at the time of her death. Rev. Scott conducted the funeral services. The Sun extends sympathy to the bereaved relatives and friends."* Both lie buried in Smithfield Cemetery.

A memorial stone for them, supplied by the Veterans Administration, was erected on February 19, 2005. Neither James nor Christianity Autrey's deaths appear in the Texas death records. Their children included William A. Autrey, Elizabeth J. Autrey, Esther L. Autrey, John Nathan Autrey, McDuffie N. B. "Mack" Autrey, James Sterling Autrey, George Marion E. Autrey, Marshall L. Autrey, Sarah C. Autrey, and at least three additional children whose names have not been discovered.

