



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

William Owsley Yantis

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William Owsley Yantis was born January 31, 1831 in Kentucky. He was a son of Enoch Yantis (1794-1879) and his wife, Eleanor (Wolford) Yantis (d. 1871), who were pioneers in Collin County, Texas.

In 1850, William Yantis was working as a tanner with his older brother, George, in District 2 of Wayne County, Kentucky. George came to Collin County in 1852; his father Enoch waited until 1859 to immigrate. It seems likely that William came one time or the other.

William Yantis was married twice, first to Angela Tuttle, who was born about 1833 and who died in Texas about 1865. William O. Yantis was sheriff of Tarrant County in 1860-1862. In 1860 he was living on the one hundred-sixty acre W. O. Yantis survey at Bedford, which he patented on July 17, 1860. In modern terms, the survey is bounded on the north by State Highways 121/183, and lays basically west and south from the intersection of Central Drive and the highway. Much of the property is today occupied by the buildings of the Hurst-Eules-Bedford I.S.D.

Yantis enlisted in Co. E, 15th Texas Cavalry on February 28, 1862 at Fort Worth. His enlistment term was 12 months. He served in the company both as a 1st Lieutenant and as a Captain. He was not captured with most of his regiment at the fall of Arkansas Post on January 11, 1863, but was "supposed to be in the Trans-Mississippi Department." He was shown absent sick on the rolls for September and October, 1863. Yantis was discharged for medical reasons on December 1, 1863.

By 1870 he and his family were living in Precinct 3 of Hopkins County, Texas. His Compiled Military Service Records file contains several interesting original documents. Yantis died June 30, 1900 (some family sources say 1899) in Hopkins Co., and lies buried there in Reilley Springs Cemetery.

