Petersburg Enigmas

The following five men who were involved in the development of Petersburg are who I call the Enigmas. After researching each one, I am unable to verify who they were or why they were purchasing property in Petersburg.

William Martin

1852 March 5 Thomas E. & Charlotte E. Cherry to Wm. Hill
Block 13 Lot 4 – 6 Deed B/42

*In Lavaca County during the existence of Petersburg, there were two William Martins living in the county. One was a lawyer, and one was in constant need of one. Which one bought property in Petersburg has yet to be determined.

John M. Wilcox

John M Wilcox

1854 February 14 John M. Wilcox to Augustus Jones
Block 8 Lot 8
*If debt paid this deed is null and void Deed C/55

John L. McCulloch

1854 September 6 John L. McCulloch to Mrs. Experience B. Elson
Block 17 Lot 3 & 4
*front on public square and lot 4 is a corner lot Deed C/210

1854 September 6 John L. McCulloch to E. B. Elson
Block 17 Lot 3 & 4
Notary Public Records Petersburg Part 1 D.W. Huddleston Aug. 27, 1853, to Feb. 15, 1858 p. 8

*The family of George McCulloch was in the Jackson and Lavaca County area from 1854 to 1860. George had a brother named John L. McCulloch who served in the Mexican War. His body was reported lost or destroyed and his burial location is unknown. He was not married and had no descendants. However, it is unknown if this John L. McCulloch is the same person who deeded the above properties to Mrs. Experience B. Elson.

Henry R. Oest

1850 January 24 James Watts to Henry R. Oest Deed A/589
Block 17 Lot 4
*being a corner lot and fronting the public square

1854 February 24 H. R. Oest to Augustus Jones
Block 17 Lot 4
*it being a corner lot and fronting on the public square Deed C/6

William Hill

1852 March 5 Thomas E. & Charlotte E. Cherry to Wm. Hill
Block 13 Lot 4 – 6 Deed B/42