THE LITTLEJOHN FAMILY



J.T., ANNA, MINNIE, AND LONNIE LITTLEJOHN (FRONT L-R)
ROSIE, ELLA, AND FANNIE LITTLEJOHN (BACK L-R) CIRCA 1900

J.T. and Anna Littlejohn came to Texas from Georgia in 1885 and eventually settled in the Shanks community.

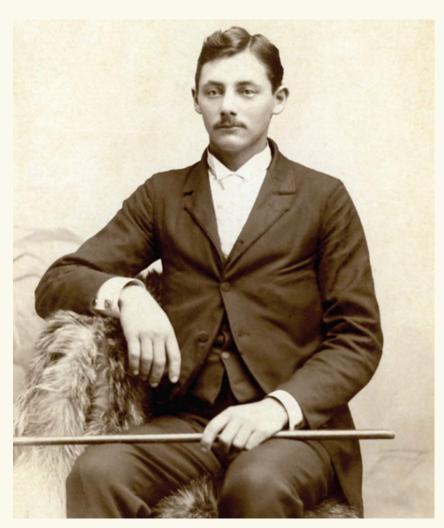






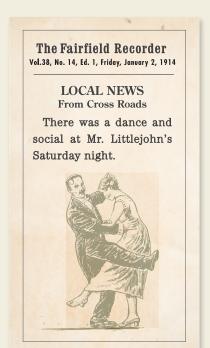


LONZO (LONNIE) BENJAMINE LITTLEJOHN



LONNIE WAS A FARMER, MUSICIAN, DESIGNER, AND INVENTOR (CIRCA 1900)

Lonnie's legacies are many, but above all he was a hardworking, innovative farmer.







Lonnie grew a 12" apple!

THE SHANKS COMMUNITY



SHANKS SCHOOL, FEBRUARY 5, 1903 with teacher Minnie Littlejohn (circled)

Brothers Robert and Matthew
Shanks left Alabama with their
families and in 1859 were the first
settlers of the Shanks community.



A SCHOOL, RAILROAD, SAWMILL, AND COTTON GIN, plus grocery stores, mercantile, and natural gas mining, flourished until the Great Depression.

THE LITTLEJOHN FARM



A FARMING LEGACY. For more than 40 years, the Littejohn family farmed and cared for their fields and livestock.

The Littlejohns were revered across Central Texas for their bountiful orchards.





The Teague Chronicle

Vol. 39, No. 2, Ed. 1, Thursday, August 2, 1945

"WALNUT PEACH" Raised Near Teague

L. B. Littlejohn, engaged in diversified farming a few miles north of Teague, is experimenting with the grafting of the peach on walnut trees. He has a tree which bore two "walnut peaches" this season.

DICK CLARK FOUNDATION



DICK CLARK III, FAIA 1944–2017: During his 45 years as an architect, Dick designed more than 1,000 residential and commercial projects and won more than 70 awards, including the prestigious title of Fellow from the American Institute of Architects in 2013. He earned multiple design degrees from The University of Texas School of Architecture and Harvard Graduate School of Design and opened his firm, Dick Clark Architecture, in Austin in 1976.

Texan and Harvard-educated architect Dick Clark bequeathed funds for the restoration of the Littlejohn House.



A STORY OF RESCUE. Dick first saw the Littlejohn House in 1995 and believed it was worthy of preservation. Though he died of leukemia in 2017, he left funds for Sherry Matthews, his longtime companion and Littlejohn descendant, to restore the house.

In 2016, Earl and Carrie Thomas purchased the Littlejohn farm and soon gifted the house to the Littlejohn family. Through the efforts of Littlejohn descendant Harold Smith and family friend Jean Schrader, the Freestone County Historical Museum (FCHM) agreed to accept the Littlejohn House. After careful review, Preservation Architect Mark Thacker discovered that the deteriorating house could not be moved.

With funding from the Dick Clark III Foundation, the Littlejohn family and FCHM decided to build an authentic reproduction. The original house was painstakingly taken down, and Campbell Custom Homes completed the reproduction in 2020.

RESTORATION CREDITS

Dick Clark III Foundation

Freestone County Historical Museum Board of Directors

Don Awalt, Construction Consultant

Linda Mullen, Board President

Brad Pullin, Vice President

Leslie Tate, Treasurer

Nancy Rula, Secretary

Sherrie Minze

Muriel Morton

Ralph Billings

Diane Pullin

Patricia Pratt, Curator

Littlejohn Family

Harold Smith, Corsicana

Sherry Matthews, Austin

Susan Hodges, Austin

Nancy Norman, Austin

Earl and Carrie Thomas, Owners, Littlejohn Farm, Shanks

Mark A. Thacker, AIA, Preservation Architect, Tyler

Research

Harold Smith, Corsicana; Jean Schrader, Los Angeles; Leon Schrader and Nancy Rula, Teague; Linda Mullen, Fairfield

Demolition

Jackson & Sons/Edward Jackson, Arzo Carter, Mike Shields, Mexia/Doyle; Jason Hager, Corsicana

Campbell Custom Homes, Bullard

Jason and Cindy Campbell, Owners

Kevin Hester, Quality Assurance Manager

James Stanley, Project Manager

Curtis Smith, Operations Manager

Harold and Joy Tucker, Custom Millworkers

José Pargas, Framer

Freddie Mojica, Mason

Leo Bolin, Hardwood Floors Installer

Jimmy Lee, Wallpaper Installer

Pete Loera, Painter

Bradbury & Bradbury Art Wallpapers, Inc., Benicia, CA

Terry Cunningham, Cunningham Lumber (Floors), Hillsboro

Brochure/Exhibits

Rex Peteet, Designer, Studio/Peteet Design, Denver

Sherry Matthews Group, Austin

Robbie Schrader, Photographer, Los Angeles

Billy Patterson, Photographer, Fairfield