

Antioch Cemetery of Turlington (2012)

Marker #: 17093

THE BEGINNING OF ANTIOCH CEMETERY IS VERY CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE TURLINGTON COMMUNITY, THE ANTIOCH AND MT. ZION CHURCHES, AND THE SURROUNDING RURAL AREA. THE AREA HAS AMPLE SPRINGS AND CREEKS WHICH INCREASED THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO SETTLED HERE. MOST CAME TO THIS REGION VIA STEAMBOATS ON THE TRINITY RIVER FROM GALVESTON. THE ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1870, AND THE CEMETERY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1877. REV. JOHN M. WEBB (1824-1877), OF OUACHITA COUNTY, ARKANSAS, WAS ELECTED AS THE PASTOR OF THE CHURCH IN 1870 AND WAS THE FIRST TO BE BURIED IN ITS CEMETERY IN 1877. THE PEOPLE OF THIS REGION MOSTLY MADE A LIVING BY FARMING OR RANCHING.

SAMUEL G. WELLS WAS ONE OF THE COMMUNITY'S MORE MEMORABLE MEN. HE CAME TO TEXAS IN 1833, FOUGHT IN THE TEXAS REVOLUTION AND THE KICKAPOO WAR. HE WAS ALSO ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF ANDERSON COUNTY. WELLS IS BURIED HERE WITH HIS SECOND WIFE, LETTIE, AND HER BROTHER, BENJAMIN GARNER, A CIVIL WAR VETERAN. REV. JAMES KING LANE ALSO LIES IN THIS CEMETERY. HE WAS ALSO A CIVIL WAR VETERAN, FOUNDER AND POSTMASTER OF THE LANELY COMMUNITY AND A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. CONRAD HENRY, BORN IN GERMANY, IS THE ONLY KNOWN FIRST GENERATION IMMIGRANT BURIED IN ANTIOCH. HIS HEADSTONE IS TALLER THAN ANY OTHER MARKER IN THE CEMETERY. THE CEMETERY IS SITUATED SO THAT THE OLDER GRAVES ARE IN THE CENTER WITH THE NEWER BURIALS ON THE OUTER EDGES IN ALL DIRECTIONS. THE PIONEER STYLE FLOWER CALLED DEER TONGUE IS GROWING THROUGHOUT THE PLOTS. IT IS SAID THAT THIS UNIQUE FLOWER WAS BROUGHT TO THE AREA BY THE PIONEERS WHO SETTLED HERE. STILL USED TODAY, ANTIOCH CEMETERY REFLECTS A CONTINUUM OF LOCAL HISTORY WITH BOTH HISTORICAL AND MODERN BURIALS COEXISTING TOGETHER.

Directions: about 8 miles east of Fairfield, Freestone County, TX; Turn left off of Hwy 84 onto FM 1364 and go north about 1 1/2 miles

Address: 198 FM 134, Fairfield, Texas

GPS: Latitude 31.70745 N, Longitude 96.04506 W (NAD 83)



ANTIOCH CEMETERY

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HISTORIC TEXAS CEMETERY - 2011
MARKER IS PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS