

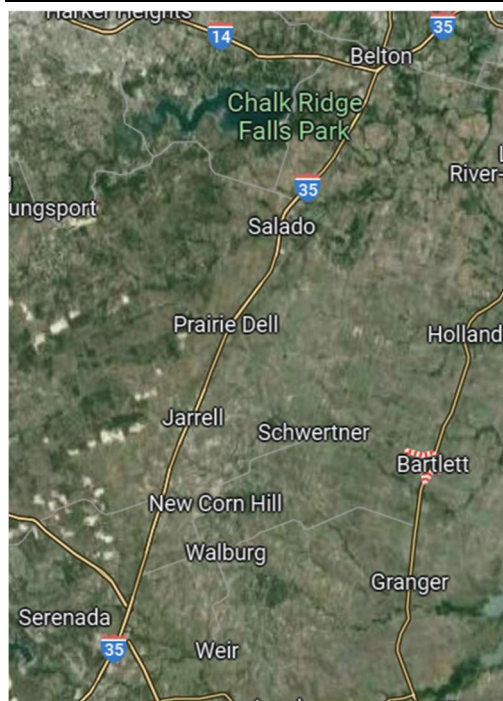
4. The Descendants of William Lawson Smith (1852-1906?) and Emily Spartis Guthrie (1855-1939) of Texas

This is the continuing saga of the descendants of Jesse R. Smith and Elizabeth Harrison Smith and an examination of the life of their 3rd child and his children and an introduction of his grandchildren. As usual, I'll leave a brief introduction of John and Lucy before delving into the children.

4. **William Lawson Smith** 27 NOV 1852 • Washington, TX - DEATH Before 1910 Bell, TX?
 Emily Spartis Guthrie 3 MAY 1855 • Lavaca County, TX - 1 APRIL 1939 • Olton, Lamb, TX
 Marriage: 10 Jul 1873 • Bell, TX

William was the 3rd child of Jesse and Elizabeth arriving in 1852 probably in Washington County before the move to Atascosa in late 1850's. He first appears in the 1860 Census in Atascosa County with 6 siblings, his parents, and an uncle. He shows up next in 1870 after the family moved to Atascosa and everyone is still at home. Records show that in Jul 1873, he has made his way to Bell County and married Emily Spartis Guthrie. He would have been 20 and Emily almost 18. Emily had been born near Hallettsville, TX in Lavaca County in 1855 and she was one of the youngest children of William Guthrie and his last of several wives. These are the children we will be looking at in this edition.

William and Emily's children

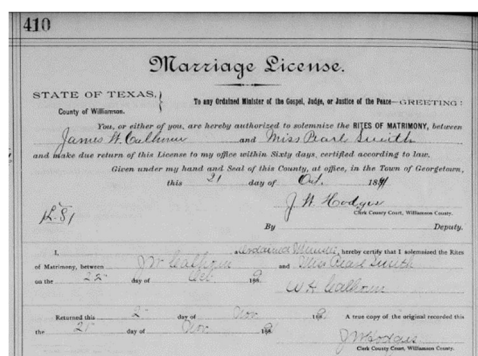


To begin this section, I want to clarify the birth location of the children since they are reported all over the place in various Findagrave and death records. In 1880 and 1900 by which time all of the William Lawson Smith children had been born and, in both censuses, they were living in Bartlett, Bell, TX. Studying Bartlett, I found that it is on the Bell County/Williamson County line and the city hall is actually in Williamson County to the south. A couple of the boys reported Granger as their birthplace. These counties did not begin recording birth records until 1903, but my assumption is that their farm was between Bartlett and Granger which you can see on the map and all of these children were born there, not Copperas Cove and not Batesville.

17	Jesse Pearl Smith	1875	1896	William and Emily's child #1
18	Cora Beatrice Smith	1877	1964	William and Emily's child #2
19	Samuel Jefferson Smith	1879	1961	William and Emily's child #3
20	Unknown Smith	1882	1882	William and Emily's child #4
21	William Renfro Smith	1885	1956	William and Emily's child #5
22	Unknown A Smith	1887	1887	William and Emily's child #6
23	Unknown B Smith	1887	1887	William and Emily's child #7

24	Earnest Edward Smith	1889	1941	William and Emily's child #8
25	John Brown Smith	1892	1980	William and Emily's child #9
26	Dolores Lola Smith	1895	1980	William and Emily's child #10

17. **Jesse Pearl Smith** 2 JUL 1875 • Bell County, TX - OCT 1896 • Bell County, TX
 James William Calhoun 9 APR 1867 • Georgia - 23 MAY 1916 • Hays County, TX
 Marriage: 21 Oct 1891 • Williamson, TX
 Luda Jane Gann 5 JAN 1879 • Cass County, TX - 17 OCT 1951 • Austin, Travis County, TX
 Marriage: 14 Jul 1898 • Hays, TX



Information about Pearl is pretty limited due to her short life of only 21 years. She was the first child of William and Emily and appeared in the 1880 Census in Bell County. They seem to have lived at the south edge of Bell County closer to Williamson County. Marriage records indicate that she married James W. Calhoun on 22 Oct 1891 probably in Georgetown, TX where they procured their license on the 21st. The person performing their marriage was W. H. Calhoun which I just noticed and I wonder what his relationship was to James. I have not discovered if he was related, but I find it interesting that their son who was born on 25 Apr 1896 was named William Henry and those initials

match the W. H on their marriage certificate. Sadly, Jesse died in 1896 and I can only speculate that it may have been related to William's birth although it was 6 months later.

Son William's birthplace seems to be a bit confused. Findagrave and his death certificate list it as Goforth, TX which is supposedly in Hayes County. I cannot find a place by that name, but there is a Goforth Road so maybe it's an old community that has disappeared. His WW1 Draft registration list Williamson County which is more likely while his WW2 Draft Registration say Bell County which sort of bears out the thought that they lived on the Bell/Williamson County line. My bet is that he was born in Bartlett. Bartlett is a city in Bell and Williamson counties in the U.S. state of Texas. The population was 1,633 at the 2020 census. Bartlett lies in two counties as well as two metropolitan areas. I'm a little uncertain about James Calhoun. Censuses say that he was born in Georgia to a father who was born in England per the 1910 Census. FamilySearch has him linked to a father William Henry Calhoun, but this William was born in Alabama and married in 1875 before James' birth, so I don't think that this is correct. Nonetheless, after Pearl's death, James married Luda Gann in 1898 and the 1900 Census found them in Hayes County with a new son Albert along with Pearl's son William.

In 1910, they had moved to Travis County and for some reason, young William was called Jacob and was 14. Luda and James had borne three additional children, Ruby P Calhoun, George Calhoun, Mattie Calhoun, and Viola Calhoun. They added another son Robert right after the Census and then James died in 1916. It is unclear where James died, but I think that it was probably in Travis County, because in 1918, Luda married Antonio Branaugh Brooks in Travis County. James was buried in Kyle, TX.

We will follow son William in the next generation, but he married Lena Mayes a couple of months after his father's death in 1916 and had three daughters Vida Aline Calhoun-1917, Bernice Omaray Calhoun-1919, and Hazel Roberta Calhoun – 1921. All three of Pearl's grandchildren never met either of their grandparents.

Child of Jesse Pearl and James Calhoun

93	William H Calhoun	1896	1952	Jessie's son with James Calhoun
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18. **Cora Beatrice Smith Bennett** 3 NOV 1877 • Bartlett, TX-10 DEC 1964 • Olton, Lamb, TX
 Summie Fee Bennett 5 DEC 1874 • Bartlett, TX - 21 MAR 1972 • Littlefield, Lamb, TX
 Marriage: 2 Dec 1895 • Williamson, TX



One photo that I have for the Bennett's is their grave marker from the Olton Cemetery in Olton, TX

Olton is a small town in the Texas Panhandle west of Plainview. The other is of Cora with her granddaughter Jolene and her oldest daughter Velvia. This was posted on Ancestry by Sue Buerk as was the picture of Summie.

Cora was the 2nd child born to William and Emily in 1877 when they lived on the farm near Bartlett, TX. She appears there in the 1880 Census, but in Dec 1895, she married Summie Fee Bennett who was also from Bartlett. In examining their marriage certificate, I was surprised to see that the pastor who performed their wedding was the same W. H. Calhoun who had performed her sister, Pearl's wedding in 1891. I wish I could pinpoint who he was, but I'm very much inclined to believe that he was James Calhoun's father, but I cannot find any confirming record. Following their wedding, Summie and Cora moved to nearby McClellan County which is where Temple, Waco, and Belton are. They moved after the birth of their first child, Velvia in Bartlett in 1896. It appears that they lost a child after Velvia's birth since Cora reported 2 births and one surviving. Ironically, this was the same year her sister Pearl died. Summie was working as a horse trader. I'm not exactly sure who Summie's father was. The person he is linked to is George Reynolds Bennett, but George died in 1968

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Race	Gender	Birth Month	Birth Year	Age	Marital Status	Years Married	Number of Children Born	Number of Children Living	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	House Owned Free or Mortgaged	Farm or House
1900 Census	McClennan County, TX																
Bennett	Summie	Head	White	Male	Dec	1875	24	Married		4		Texas	Texas	Tennessee	Trader Horse		H
Bennett	Cara	Wife	White	Female	Nov	1878	21	Married	4	2	1	Texas	Texas	Texas			
Bennett	Velvia	Daughter	White	Female	Oct	1896	3	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas			

and Summie was born in 1875, so that doesn't work.

After her father's disappearance in the mid-1900's, Emily moved out to Motley, TX and Summie and Cora followed along with her oldest brother Samuel. They had added a daughter, Minnie to the family in 1903 and Summie, Jr arrived in 1906. Based on the gap between Velvia's birth and Minnie's birth, it suggests that she lost a 2nd child after 1900 in addition to the one that she lost before 1900. Some records incorrectly suggest that Minnie was born in Houston, but that is highly unlikely and I contend that Minnie and Summie Jr were born in Bartlett before the move to Motley. Summie had gotten into farming out on

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Number of Years of Present Marriage	Number of Children Born	Number of Children Living	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
1910 Census	Justice Precinct 3, Motley, Texas, USA														
Bennett	Summie F	Head	Male	White	38	1875	Married	14			Texas	Tennessee	Tennessee	Farmer	General Farm
Bennett	Cara	Wife	Female	White	40	1873	Married	14	5	3	Texas	Texas	Texas		
Bennett	Velvia	Daughter	Female	White	13	1897	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas		
Bennett	Minnie	Daughter	Female	White	6	1904	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas		
Bennett	Summie	Son	Male	White	4	1906	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas		

the High Plains. Motley is in West Texas, east of Lubbock and in 2020 only had a population of 1063, so it's no vacation spot. The County Seat is Matador and when I read that, I had chills because my least favorite teacher from Jr. High School was from Matador! Other facts that we can garner from this Census is that they had been married 14 years and Cora had lost another child as mentioned about based on the report of 5 births and 3 surviving children. They were renting their farm. In 1917, Summie registered for the WW1 Draft while living at Kirkland, TX. He was of medium height and build and had gray eyes and dark hair,

The 1920 Census finds that they had moved a little northwest to Childress, TX. Childress is right at the SE Corner of the Texas Panhandle near the Oklahoma border and is the County Seat. Before their move, daughter Mary Martha had arrived in Motley I, 1912, followed by daughter Eloyce in Motley in 1917. We also notice that daughter Velvia has left the nest and discover that she had married William Hardison about the time that her youngest sister was arriving in 1917. She then produced Cora's first grandchild Esta Beatrice in 1918. Summie and the bank owned the farm but at least he was buying and not renting. Build that equity.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1920 Census	Justice Precinct 2, Childress, Texas												
Bennett	S F	Head	Owned	Mortgaged	Male	White	45	1875	Married	Texas	Tennessee	Tennessee	Farmer
Bennett	Cora	Wife			Female	White	43	1877	Married	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Minnie	Daughter			Female	White	16	1904	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Summie	Son			Male	White	13	1907	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Mary	Daughter			Female	White	7	1913	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Elois	Daughter			Female	White	3	1917	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	

For some reason Summie cannot be found in 1930. Maybe their children will give us some clues. Well look at that. Cora was living with here oldest daughter, Velvia and listed as being a widow. (Spoiler alert, Summie's not dead). Velvia is also shown to be a widow. Her husband vanished between 1920 and 1930 and no record has been found. Before he died, they had a daughter Jolene in 1923 and a son Malcom in 1927 indicating that William was around at least until 1926. They were back in Motley on a rented farm and had a young man living with them helping on the farm since the kids were too young to be of much help.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or Rented	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended School	Read and Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census	Precinct 3, Motley, Texas																	
Hardison	Velvia	Head	Rented		No	Yes	Female	White	33	1897	Widowed		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
Hardison	Esta	Daughter					Female	White	11	1919	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Hardison	Joeline	Daughter					Female	White	7	1923	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	
Hardison	Malcom E	Son					Male	White	3	1927	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Texas	
Irven	Otho	Boarder					Male	White	17	1913	Single		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Laborer
Bennett	Cora	Mother					Female	White	53	1877	Widowed		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	

We see what Velvia was up to. Here sister Minnie married Emmett Vaughn in about 1923 and had a son Don in 1924. They lived in Olton.

Brother Summie Jr had married Olive Brown about 1926 and he and Olive had a son Billy Jack in 1927 and a daughter Peggy in 1929. They lived in Motley on a rented farm and Olive's 14-year-old brother lived with them. I haven't found daughter Martha in 1930.

Moving into the 1930's, lo and behold, Summie reappears for the 1940 Census and he and Cora are reunited in Olton TX which as I mentioned is out west of Plainview. Summie is 65 and unable to work while Cora was 62 and keeping house. The census shows that they lived in a house that they owned that was worth \$500. Summie had graduated from high school, while Cora had only gone through 8th grade. There were no street names where they lived.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School or College	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1938	Employment Details	Duration Week of Prior to Unemployment
1940 Census	Olton, Lamb, Texas													
Bennett	Summie F	Head	Male	White	65	1875	Married	No	High School, 4th year	Texas		Olton	Unable to Work	
Bennett	Cora	Wife	Female	White	62	1878	Married	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Texas		Olton	Home Housework	

In 1940, Summie at age 34 registered for the WW2 Draft. He was farming at Olton and was 6'-0" and weighed 170lbs. He was not drafted and never served.

Also in 1940, Velvia had not remarried and she was also living in Olton and was a proprietor of the PTA School Lunch Program. Her two younger children Jolene and Malcom Jr were with her and she was hosting a couple of young boarders Fred Gordon who was a school teacher and Kenneth Straw who was a pharmacist. Her oldest daughter Esta had married about 1939, but hadn't made Cora a great grandmother yet.

Daughter Minnie and her husband Emmett ran a café in Olton which they owned and Minnie worked as a waitress while their only child was ready to start high school.

Son Summie Jr. was still married to Olive and they lived in Hockley Texas just northwest of Houston. They had a new son Joe Bob in 1935. Olive's brother was still living with them and they were farming.

Martha married Herman Patrick around 1931 and they had a son K. Thomas in 1934 and they were living in Dumas TX where Herman worked at a retail furniture store.

Eloyce married William Smith about 1936 and they had a son William in 1937. They were also farming in Olton, so much of the family were in close proximity except Summie Jr.

Cora and Summie were still together and empty nesters in Olton in the 1950 Census. She was 72 and he was 75 and neither were working. They finally lived on a street with a name residing at 92 Sixth Street. That address does not exist today.

Daughter Velvia had still not remarried and was working as a clerk at a dry goods store in Childress which seemingly running a boarding house in her home as she hosted 4 young 20 something lodgers to include a couple of young men from Arkansas who were looking for oil, a young lady who was a telephone operator and another young lady who worked for a doctor. I wonder if any marriages resulted from that arrangement?

Daughter Minnie and husband Emmett were still running their café in Dumas. Living with them were their son Don along with his new wife Ella Sue and Minnie's first grandson, Donald Steve born in 1947.

At some point in the mid 1940's Summie Jr and Olive had split and Summie married Beulah Tilly who had previously been married to someone named Boyle. He had moved to Atascosa and was operating a road grader. His two oldest children Billy Jack and Peggy were no longer at home, but Joe Bob and Summie Rex were still at home and Summie and Beulah had a child together named Mickey in 1946. Billy Jack had married Verda Ross in 1944 and they had Linda Kay in 1946 and Gary Norman in 1948. Unfortunately, Billy Jack had been a bad boy and 1950 found him in prison at Huntsville. More on that in the next generation. Peggy had married Curtis Mote and they were living in Amarillo along with her mother Olive and Anna Van Meter who is described as a ward of Olive. Olive and Anna were working at a Drive-Thru, but Curtis and Peggy had no jobs listed. It appears that Peggy had married an Elmer Green in 1944 before she married Curtis.

Martha, Herman and son Kae still lived in Dumas where Herman was a radio mechanic at a radio shop. Son Kae was a teenager.

Daughter Eloyce and husband William were still farming in Olton and lived there with their 12-year-old son, William Jr. Eloyce was working as a secretary at the local school.

Cora died at age 87 in Olton at age 84 from heart failure. The informant on her death certificate was her daughter Eloyce and it indicated that she was married. Summie passed away in 1972 at the age of 97. He had spent his final years in a nursing home in Littlefield which was near Olton. He took a fall in the nursing home and fractured his arm leading to his hospitalization where he passed away after 14 days. Once again Eloyce was the informant.

Children of Cora and Summie

94	Velvia Mae Bennett	1896	1988	Child #1 - Cora and Summie
95	Minnie Bell Bennett	1903	1988	Child #2 - Cora and Summie
96	Summie Lawson Bennett	1906	1981	Child #3 - Cora and Summie
97	Mary Martha Bennett	1912	2007	Child #4 - Cora and Summie
98	Ivey Eloyce Bennett	1917	2014	Child #5 - Cora and Summie

Mrs. Bennett Services Held

Funeral services for Mrs. S. F. Bennett, 87, a resident of Olton for the past 34 years were held Saturday Dec. 12, 2 p.m. in the Main Street Church of Christ with the pastor, J. D. Lancaster, officiating.

Burial was in the Olton Cemetery under the direction of Parsons Funeral Home.

Mrs. Bennett was born in Coppers Cove Nov. 3, 1877. She was married Dec. 4, 1895 in Granger and was a member of the Church of Christ for 49 years.

Survivors include her husband; four daughter, Mrs. Velvia Hardison, Dallas; Mrs. Minnie Vaughn, Canyon; Mrs. Mary Patrick, San Antonio; Mrs. Eloise Smith, Olton; a son, Summie L. Bennett, Austin; a sister, Mrs. Lola Bennett, Clarendon; a brother, John Smith, Quinlin; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Glenn Exter, Earl Hysinger, Marcus Breland, Billy Irvin, Fred Smith and Elmo Bryant.



Two more postings from Sue Buerk on Ancestry. Cora's obituary and Cora and Summie in Northfield TX in 1917.

While her obituary claims that she was born in Copperas Cove, I still find to be an unlikely claim.

19. Samuel Jefferson Smith 16 DEC 1879 • Gatesville, TX - 11 APRIL 1961 • Carlsbad, NM

Wife#1 - Rena Alice Hudson NOV 1880 • Texas - 9 SEP 1907 • Texas

Married: 31 Mar 1903 • Bell, TX

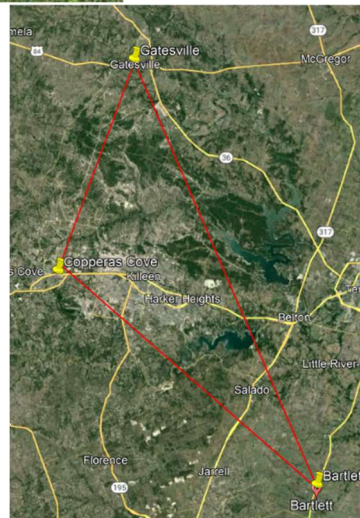
Wife#2 - Alice Maggie Grayson 28 MAR 1884 • Texas - 30 JULY 1972 • Carlsbad, NM

Married 1908 – Little River, Bell County, Texas – per her obituary



Samuel Jefferson was William and Emily's 3rd child and while he claims to have been born in Gatesville in 1879, his appearance in the 1880 Census in Bartlett tends to make me discount that. If we are to believe Cora and Sam's birth city claims, their parents would have really had to be moving

around between 1875 and 1880 from Bartlett to Copperas Cove to Gatesville and then back to Bartlett. These are the days of horse and buggy transportation and I'm not buying that they were doing all of that jumping around. Just saying....



He was still at home in 1900 in Bartlett, but Sam's life began to get a little complicated in 1903 when he married Rena Hudson Moore. Rena had first married a much older Edward Moore when she was about 17 and appears with Ed at age 42 and she at 19 in the 1900 Census in Bosque, TX which is NW of Waco. Also living with them were her younger brother and sister, Alice 15 and Joseph 8. I haven't found her parents, but this suggests that they may have died before 1900 leaving Rena and her siblings as orphans. That is speculation on my part. We then find that on 31 Mar 1903, S. J. Smith and Rena Moore were united in marriage in Belton by the Reverend O. C. Maples. On 29 Aug 1904, Rena then gives birth to Birdie Beatrice Moore fathered by her former husband Ed Moore. This is 15 months after marrying Sam. Hmm...Then in a relationship that I cannot resolve, a daughter Gertie Lawson Smith appears on 7 Feb 1904. I cannot find birth records for Gertie, but obviously she and Birdie cannot have had the same mother so either Gertie's birthday is wrong or Birdie's mother is a different Rena. Confusing. This is further confused by the fact that another child, Jesse Richardson Smith appears on FamilySearch as having born in 1906 and dying in 1907, but there are no records to support this birth and death. Then further complications arise when Rena dies in 1907 and she was buried as Rena Moore next to her first husband Ed Moore who died in 1942.

Poor little Birdie appears in the family of Angus and Alice French in 1910 at the age of 5 and listed as an orphan. She later reappears with her father Ed Moore as a 15-year-old in 1920. Ed had married Mary Young about 1908 and had a son George Moore in 1910. The only conclusion that I can draw from all of

this is that Rena and Sam's marriage did not last and that Rena left Sam shortly after their marriage and returned to live with Ed Moore and they then had Birdie before her death in 1907. This then begs the question as to who was Gertie Lawson Smith's mother. I was prepared to write her off because I could not make any connection to Sam until I read his obituary and she is named as his daughter in that. Following

Marriage License.	
John W. Bond to Miss Marie McGill.	
T. R. Batte to Miss Bertha Stovall.	
C. E. Litteral to Miss Minnie May Marshall.	
Ed Green to Miss Bessie Shelton.	
S. J. Smith to Miss Maggie Moon.	
W. A. Anderson to Miss Dora McNeal.	

Rena's death in 1907, Sam married Maggie Moon in April 1908 as seen in the Bell County Democrat 9 April 1908. Maggie had been previously married in 1899 to John Tate Moon and she and John had three children, Ollie Mae Moon – 1900, Guy Albert Moon – 1904, and Opal Pearl Moon – 1906 before divorcing around 1907. In the 1910 Census, it shows that after their marriage, Maggie and Sam had a daughter Fontie in 1909. Later records suggest that her birthday was Oct 1908, but since Sam and Maggie didn't marry until April 1908, I'm inclined to believe that 1909 is more accurate. Like his older sister, Cora. He moved to Motley County before 1910 and appears there with Maggie and her three children and their new

daughter Fontie.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Number of Years Present Marriage	Number of Children Born	Number of Children Living	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1910 Census	Justice Precinct 3, Motley, Texas													
Smith	Sam J	Head	Male	White	30	1880	Married	3			Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
Smith	Maggie	Wife	Female	White	25	1885	Married	3	4	4	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Moon	Ollie	Stepdaughter	Female	White	9	1901	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	
Moon	Guy	Stepson	Male	White	5	1905	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	
Moon	Opal	Stepdaughter	Female	White	4	1906	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	
Smith	Fontie	Daughter	Female	White	1	1909	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	

In 1917, Sam registered for the WW1 Draft while living in Kirkland in Childress County. He was farming and had a medium build with blue eyes and light hair. The 1920 Census found Sam, Maggie, and the kids farming in Childress. The family had grown by 3 with the arrival of daughters Elnar in 1911, Norma Lee in 1913, and son Sam Jr. in 1917. Maggie's children were all still with them in ages ranging from 13 to 20 while Sam's kids ranged from 3 to 11. With 9 in the household, it would seem that it was getting cozy. Sam was 40 and Maggie was 36. It indicates that they were in the process of purchasing their farm and had taken out a loan.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1920 Census	Justice Precinct 2, Childress, Texas												
Smith	Samuel J	Head	Owned	Mortgaged	Male	White	40	1880	Married	Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
Smith	Maggie	Wife (married 1908)			Female	White	36	1884	Married	Texas	Arkansas	South Carolina	Housewife
Smith	Fontie	Daughter			Female	White	11	1909	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	Student
Smith	Elna	Daughter			Female	White	9	1911	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	Student
Smith	Norma Lee	Daughter			Female	White	7	1913	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Smith	Samuel	Son			Male	White	3	1917	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Moon	Allie Mae	Stepdaughter			Female	White	20	1900	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Moon	Guy	Stepson			Male	White	15	1905	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	Student
Moon	Opal	Stepdaughter			Female	White	13	1907	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	Student

A lot of changes happened between the 1920 and the 1930 Censuses. All of the Moon children were no longer in their house. Fontie and Elnar were gone. A new son James had been born in 1923. They

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended School	Able to Read and Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census	Precinct 1, Donley, Texas																	
Smith	Sam J	Head	Rented		No	Yes	Male	White	50	1880	Married	24	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	General Farm
Smith	Maggie A	Wife					Female	White	46	1884	Married	18	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Smith	Norma Lee	Daughter					Female	White	16	1914	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Smith	Sam	Son					Male	White	12	1918	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Smith	James	Son					Male	White	7	1923	Single		Yes		Texas	Texas	Texas	

had moved to Donley County and were back to renting. Norma, Sam Jr., and James were at home. Apparently, they were living near the community of Ashtola. It was northwest of Childress and a little closer to Amarillo. I say that they lived there because sadly on 15 Jan 1929, daughter Elnar died from pneumonia and influenza. She was only 18. Let's check on the other kids.

His mystery daughter Gertie who I have not found in any census since her purported birth in Feb 1904 finally showed up in 1930 having married Jesse Nance in 1926 and producing a son R. A. Nance that same year.

The other mystery stepdaughter Birdie was reunited with her father Ed Moore in 1930 after having been an orphan in 1900 with the Frenches and then their adopted daughter in 1920. I think that I will not follow her after this.

Stepdaughter Ollie appears to have married Lloyd Morrison right after the 1920 Census and the died of pneumonia in Wichita Falls in 1922 per death certificate on FamilySearch.

I haven't found Guy Moon in 1930. Daughter Opal seems to have married William Money shortly after 1920 and had at least 4 children. I have not investigated the Moon children extensively.

Daughter Fontie married Chesley Shaw King in Pueblo Colorado in 1924 and they had a daughter Betty Jo King in 1925.

Sam lost his mother Emily in 1939 and his brother Emmett in 1941.

Sam's obituary says that he moved to Carlsbad in 1932, but try as I might, I have been unable to find him in the 1940 Census. I do not believe that this Census exists. I searched for anyone in Carlsbad in 1940 and did not get a hit. I did notice that in his brother's obituary in 1941, he was reported to be in Pampa, TX. I'll look there. No luck. I finally looked at his WW2 Draft Registration from Apr 1942 and there he is living at 312 N. Gillispie St in Pampa and working for the White Deer Land Company at 116 N. Cuyler. He was 62, claimed to have been born in Gatesville, TX. He was 5'-10"-165lbs-blue eyes, gray hair, and a ruddy complexion. He claimed that he had crippled hands. There is nothing at that address today.

Looking at the kids and starting with Gertie, she and Jesse and son R. A. Nance are back in Donley County working on the farm. To my surprise, Fontie, Chesley and Betty Shaw are in Pampa, TX. Chesley was a janitor in an office building. Norma had married Hughie Wright in 1933 and they were living in Pecos, Tx after having moved from Grand Falls, TX in 1935. Hughie was drilling oil wells. Grand Falls is a small town nearby and just south of Monahans. They did not have any children. Son Sam had married Hazel Speegle in Carlsbad in 1938, but had been living in Childress in 1935. They had a son Byron in 1939 and were living in Ector County where Sam was also drilling Oil Wells. Ector County is best known for Odessa, TX, but I don't know if he lived in Odessa. Son James must have still been at home as he doesn't show up in the 1940 Census either, but He does marry Voyzie White in Carlsbad in 1946.

Sam and Alice reappear in Carlsbad in 1950. I went through the 1940 Census, street by street in Pampa and finally found 312 N. Gillespie, but they were not at that address at the time of the 1940 Census. Sam was 70 and Alice was 66. He lost his brother William in 1956 and then he passed away in Cloudcroft in 1961 and was buried there. His obituary is as follows:

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation
1950 Census	Carlsbad, Eddy, New Mexico		210 Canal Street								
Smith	Samuel J	Head	White	Male	70	1880	Married	Texas			
Smith	Alice M	Wife	White	Female	66	1884	Married	Texas			

Samuel Smith Dies At 81; Services Set Samuel Jefferson Smith, a retired farmer and a resident of Carlsbad and area for the past 29 years, died Tuesday evening in a local hospital at the age of 81. Funeral services. will be at 2 p.m. Thursday from the Carpenter Funeral Home chapel with the Rev. B. R. Moffitt, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Carlsbad Cemetery. Smith was born Dec. 16, 1879, in Gatesville, Tex.

He moved to Carlsbad in 1932, from Swearington, Tex. At time of his death, he and his wife of 53 years, Alice Maggie Lee Smith, made their, home at 1218 West Mermod. He was a member of Bethel Baptist Church. Mrs. Smith is presently hospitalized.

Survivors, besides the wife, are two sons, Sam S. and James E. Smith, both of Carlsbad; three daughters, Mrs. Gertie Nance of Carlsbad, and Mrs. Fontie Richards and Mrs. Norman Lee Wright, both of Dallas, Tex.; two sisters, Mrs. Cora Bennett of Olton, Tex., and Mrs. Lola Bennett of Clarendon, Tex.; 12 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Alice lived an additional 11 years and died at age 88 in 1972. Her obituary reads:

Alice Smith Services are pending with Denton Funeral Home for Alice Smith, 88, who died yesterday in a local hospital. Mrs. Smith was married in Little River, Tex., in 1908 and moved here from Paducah, Tex. She was a Carlsbad resident since 1933. Survivors include two sons, Sam S. Smith and James E. Smith, both of Carlsbad; three daughters, Mrs. Jesse Nance of Carlsbad, Mrs. Fontie Richards of Garland, Tex., and Mrs. Hughey B. Wright of Garland; one brother, Albert Grayson of Temple, Tex.; and 17 grandchildren, 35 greatgrandchildren, and five great great-grandchildren.

Her count of descendants is impressive. I'm not sure that I have tracked all of them down!

Children of Samuel Smith with his two wives.

1012	99	Gertie Lawson Smith	1904	1984	Daughter of Sam and Rena. (?) No birth record
	99.2	Birdie Beatrice Moore	1904	1977	(Step) Daughter of Edward and Rena
	100	Jesse Richardson Smith	1906	1907	Son of Sam and Rena. No birth record
	100.3	Ollie Mae Moon	1900	1922	Stepdaughter
	100.4	Guy Albert Moon	1904	1967	Stepson
	100.5	Opal Pearl Moon	1906	1984	Stepdaughter
1013	101	Fontie Bell Smith	1908	1996	Child of Samuel and Maggie
1014	102	Elnar Smith	1911	1929	Child of Samuel and Maggie
1015	103	Norma Lee Smith	1914	1997	Child of Samuel and Maggie
1016	104	Samuel Spartis Smith	1917	1993	Child of Samuel and Maggie
1017	105	James Edward Smith	1922	1990	Child of Samuel and Maggie

20. Unknown Smith 1882-1882 – No records of this child exist apart from the fact that Emily reported that she had given birth to 10 children but only 5 survived and this is the most logical date that she would have lost one of the 5.

- 21. William Renfro Smith** 20 JAN 1885 • Bartlett, Bell, TX - 10 OCT 1956 • Dallas, Dallas, TX
 Wife #1 - Ovie Eloyce Mills 1892 • Holland, Bell, TX - 13 DEC 1932 • Carlsbad, Eddy, New Mexico
 Married: about 1906, Texas
 Wife #2 - Lela Walter Hedrick 4 APR 1899 • Ward, Texas - MAR 1975 Altus, Jackson, OK
 Married: about 1933



Gravestones from Findagrave.

William, who apparently went by “Dock”, was the 5th child of William and Emily and was probably born in Bartlett, TX. That is how he was identified in his first census in 1900.

While I haven’t found marriage records, based on the date of his daughter’s birth, William married Ovie Eloyce Mills about 1905 most likely in Bell County, TX. The census indicates that in 1910 they had been married 5 years which would imply that 20-year-old William married 12-year-old Eloyce. I looked to see if that 5 was transcribed incorrectly, but it is pretty clearly written. Anyway, they waited a few years before having their first child Ethel in 1909. They lived on Rock Quarry Road, but I am unsure of the town. The big city in Bell County is Temple, but I suspect they were down near Bartlett. Ovie was the third child of Bud and Eugenia Mills who lived just up the road from Bartlett in Holland. When I looked at her in the 1900 Census, there was a 27-year-old John Smith working on their farm. I wonder what, if any relationship, he had to William.



Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Years of Present Marriage	Number of Children Born	Number of Children Living	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1910 Census	Justice Precinct 1, Bell, Texas, USA					Rock Quarry Road								
Smith	William R.	Head	Male	White	25	1885	Married	5			Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
Smith	Loise E.	Wife	Female	White	17	1893	Married	5	1	1	Texas	Texas	Alabama	
Smith	Ethel L.	Daughter	Female	White	1	1909	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	

The 1920 Census identifies their home as Holland, TX. Holland is a small town just north of Bartlett so they haven’t strayed too far from home. I thought that this was an interesting bit of trivia. Holland is a city in Bell County, Texas, United States. The population was 1,075 at the 2020 census. The center of population of Texas is located in Holland. Dock and Eloyce had moved into her home town and he was working as a blacksmith. I was wondering how long blacksmithing remained a viable trade. I know my dad said that they still had a team of horses to plow their fields into the 1940’s. They lived on Davie or Davis Street which I cannot find on today’s maps. Son William Aubrey had arrived in 22 Jan 1912, but the 1920 Census was in January and the age was of their last birthday. In 1917, William registered for the WW1 Draft. He was living at 824 S 5th in Waco (which a CVS today) and was married to Eloyce and was 33. He was tall with a medium build and had brown eyes and dark hair. He was working as a blacksmith at a shop near his home on 5th street.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
1920 Census	Holland, Bell, Texas		Davie St											
Smith	W R	Head	Rented		Male	White	33	1886	Married	Texas	Texas	Texas	Smith	Blacks Smith
Smith	Eloise	Wife			Female	White	27	1893	Married	Texas	Texas	Texas		
Smith	Ethel L	Daughter			Female	White	11	1909	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas		
Smith	William A	Son			Male	White	7	1913	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas		

In the 1930 Census, they had moved to Waco and William had become a welder at a garage. Their address was 627 Gonlord, but that is probably a transcription error as it is not really legible. Dock was now 45 and Eloyce was 40. They were renting their home, but they had a radio. Ethel was 21 and working at a department store as a cashier and William Aubrey was 18 and driving a truck for the State Highway. This census also notes that William was 22 and Eloyce was 13 when they first married. We also note that William had not been drafted to serve during the Great War.

1930 Census																			
Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head or Rented	Home Owned Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year	Estimate d Birth	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended and School	Able to Read Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
Smith	William R	Head	Rented	38	Yes	No	Male	White	45	1885	Married	22	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Welder	Garage
Smith	Eloyce	Wife					Female	White	40	1893	Married	13	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Louisiana		
Smith	Ethel L	Daughter					Female	White	21	1909	Single		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Cashier	Department store
Smith	Aubrey W	Son					Male	White	18	1912	Single		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Truck Driver	Stock Highway

Shortly after the 1930 Census, William and his family moved west to Carlsbad, NM. His life was about to take a dramatic turn. In May 1932, daughter Ethel returned to Waco to marry George Frazier. The following month, son William Aubrey married Ramona Smith in Carlsbad. Both were working, William at a drugstore and Ramona for a Dr. Culpepper. In December, tragedy struck. Here is that story:

MRS. W. R. SMITH DIES OF CARBON MONOXIDE GAS
Husband, Daughter-in-Law Near Death When Found
TWO TO RECOVER
Unvented Open-Faced Stoves Cause Death

An open-face unvented natural gas heater brought death to one Carlsbad woman this morning and two others were near death when found. Mrs. W. R. Smith. 202 North Main Street, was so near death when she was found by Dr. M. B. Culpepper that efforts to revive her failed. Her husband and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Ramona Smith were still in a semi-conscious condition at noon- today from the effects of the gas.

Dr. Culpepper was making a professional call to the home at 9:30 o'clock this morning. the two ladies having been ill with the flu when he found the elder Mrs. Smith dying. He rushed for aid and immediately started to work to revive the three unconscious people. All three were in bed.

Ed West was called with a pulmotor but was unable to revive the woman. The physician stated that death was caused by monoxide gas poisoning resulting from the burning up of all of the oxygen in the house. He stated that he believed that the other two would recover.

The gas nearly overcame Dr. Culpepper shortly after he entered the house. Two gas stoves were burning in the house, one in a front room, and the other in a water heater in the bathroom. Neither stove was vented. Mrs. Smith is survived by her son Aubrey Smith, formerly employed by the McAdoo Drug store here, but now traveling in western New Mexico. Efforts to locate him had failed at noon. A daughter, Mrs. Geo. Frazier, lives in Waco, Tex. The Smiths came here a few years ago from Waco, Tex. Mr. Smith is employed at the Swigart-Thomas garage. Mrs. Smith was president of the Women's Missionary society of the Baptist church and was one of the most prominent workers in the church.

William and his daughter-in-law narrowly escaped death. A couple of years later, William married Lela Hendrick who at the time would have been about 33 to William's 48 or so. In the 1930 Census she was working as a nurse in Clovis, NM at the age of 31 and had never been married. She was from Texas and the third daughter of Ed and Fannie Hendrick. She eventually ended up with 9 siblings.

I haven't found marriage records, but in 1934, Lela gave birth but lost the child and then in 1935 she gave premature birth to twins, a boy and a girl, neither of which survived. Finally, in 1937 William

Lawson Smith was born and survived. William was 52 and Lela was 38 when this birth occurred. They were renting a home at 205 ½ South Main in Carlsbad and William was still working as a welder. The census notes that William and Lela had 8th grade educations. This is surprising and makes me wonder how Lela had become a Registered Nurse prior to her marriage. I have not found a WW2 Old Man's Draft registration for William. I don't know what the age cutoff for that was, but it's not there.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School or College	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1938	Employment Details	Week Prior to Census	Duration of Unemployment	Occupation
1940 Census	205 1/2	South Main	Carlsbad, Rented		12											
Smith	William Renfro	Head	Male	White	55	1885	Married	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Texas		Carlsbad	No		40	5 Welder
Smith	Lela Walter	Wife	Female	White	41	1899	Married	No	Elementary school, 8th grade	Texas		Carlsbad				
Smith	William Layton	Son	Male	White	2	1938	Single	No	None	New Mexico						

I haven't located George and Ethel in 1940, but know from news stories that they were in Waco and George was in banking and involved in much public debating. Son William Aubrey and Ramona were living in Carlsbad where he worked as a chemist in the Potash industry. He and Ramona had two sons, Mallory Drennon Smith 1933 and Ronald "Ron" Aubrey Smith. Ramona must have gone home to give birth to her first child as he was born in Texas. The youngest son, William Lawson was still at home.

I have located William in the 1950 Census, but we know from his obituary that he and Lela had moved to Dallas in 1946. He would have been about 61 when that move occurred. I ran across an article from May 1950 where he and Lela sold Lots 34, 35, and 36 in Walling Heights of Carlsbad. He passed away in Dallas in 1956 and his obituary is as follows:

Funeral services for W. R. Smith, former Carlsbad resident, will be held in Dallas Saturday. Smith, who moved to Carlsbad in 1930 and then to Dallas in 1946, died Wednesday. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Lela Smith, a son, Bill, both of Dallas, a son, W. Aubrey Smith, and a daughter, Mrs. George Frasier, both of Carlsbad. The Marrs, Mundy and Quill Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

William died of massive heart failure at the age of 71 at Parkland Hospital in Dallas per his death certificate. He was 4 months shy of 72 and was a retired welder. He was buried on 20 Oct 1956 at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Dallas. His wife Lela was the informant.

George and Ethel were in Snyder, TX in 1950 and George was a banking VP. They did not have children.

William Aubrey and Ramona were still in Carlsbad where he was a research engineer at a potash refining plant. Ramona was referred to as Mona and their two sons Mallory and Ronald were 17 and 15.

I haven't yet found William Lawson in 1950, but maybe when I dig deeper in the next generation he will pop up. I do know that he got married in Dallas in 1956 before embarking on what appears to be a career in the Air Force.

I lose track of Lela after William's death but hopefully more information will pop up later. She appears to have died in Altus; Oklahoma in March 1975 based on her SS Death Record.

Children of William Renfro and his two wives, Eloyce and Lela

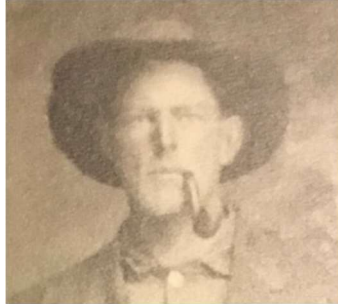
1018	106	Ethel Laguinn Smith	1908	2000	William and Ovey Child#1
1019	107	William Aubrey Smith	1912	1982	William and Ovey Child#2
	108	Walter R Smith	1934	1934	William and Lela Child#1 - Lived 6 days
	109	Infant Son Smith	1935	1938	William and Lela Child#2 - Twin stillborn
	110	Infant Daughter Smith	1935	1935	William and Lela Child#3 - Twin stillborn
	111	William Lawson Smith	1937	2009	William and Lela Child#5

22. Unknown A Smith 1887 • Bartlett, TX - 1887 • Bartlett, TX

23. Unknown A Smith 1887 • Bartlett, TX - 1887 • Bartlett, TX

Speculation based on Emily's report of 10 births and 5 deaths – no records – loss of twins perhaps?

24. Ernest Edward Smith 24 SEP 1889 • Granger, Williamson, TX - 29 DEC 1941 • Carlsbad, NM
 Queen Isabella Allen 6 MAR 1897 • Paden, Mississippi - 20 FEB 1953 • Borger, Hutchinson, TX
 Marriage: 5 Sep 1921 • Harmon, OK
 Queen's first husband - Fred Snowden ABT 1892 • England - 6 JULY 1928
 Married about 1912 – Texas



Photos posted by Amanda Cantor on Ancestry.

We move on to Ernest Edward Smith, the 8th child of William and Emily. His birthplace of Granger is believable since it is right by Bartlett. As with his brother William, his arrival in 1889 precluded and appearance before 1900 in a census since the 1890 Census was lost. After the disappearance of his father after the 1900 Census and the migration of most of the family to west Texas, Ernest shows up in 1910 as the

head of the remaining family which includes his mother and his younger brother and sister. If you will recall, other family members are living nearby. Ernest at 20 has inherited the care of his mother. We see again that Emily is reporting 10 births and 5 survivor which implies that there were no additional births after 1900.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Years of Present Marriage	Number of Children Born	Number of Children Living	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1910 Census	Justice Precinct 3, Motley, Texas, USA													
Smith	Ernest E	Head	Male	White	20	1890	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	Farmer
Smith	Emily	Mother	Female	White	55	1855	Widowed		10	5	Texas			
Smith	John	Brother	Male	White	18	1892	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	Farm Laborer
Smith	Lola	Daughter	Female	White	15	1895	Single				Texas	Texas	Texas	

In 1920, he's still looking after his mother, but they have now moved to Childress and he is working at an auto repair shop and William Hargis, a young man about the same age as Ernest and apparently a co-worker is living with them. The job codes indicate that Ernest is the owner of the garage and Hargis is an employee. It also indicates that their home is on a farm. In 1917, he registered for the WWI Draft and indicated that he was living in Kirkland, TX which is a very small town just southeast of Childress. He claimed his mother as a dependent. He was tall with a medium build and had light blue eyes and light brown hair.

Surname	Given Name	Relationship	Home Owned or Rented	Home Free or Mortgaged	Sex	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation	Industry
1920 Census	Justice Precinct 6, Childress, Texas													
Smith	Ernest E	Head	Rented		Male	White	30	1890	Single	Texas	Texas	Texas	Garage	Repair Shop
Smith	Emma	Mother			Female	White	66	1854	Widowed	Texas	Texas	Texas		
Hargis	William A	Boarder			Male	White	29	1891	Single	Texas	Louisiana	Texas	Garage	Repair Shop

In 1921, marriage records indicate that he married Isabella Allen just across the nearby Oklahoma border in Harmon County. Isabella's given name was actually Queen Isabella Allen and she was originally from Mississippi, and the daughter of Charles and Mary Adams Allen. Her father died when she was 5 and somehow, she ended up in Texas in 1920 married to Fred Snowden who was a 28-year-old man born in England who didn't know when he had immigrated. They had married about 1913 and had two sons, Charles Thomas in 1914 and Fred Robert in 1916. Both were apparently born in Memphis, Hall County TX which is adjacent to Childress County. In looking at the situation a little more closely, I'm having some doubts about the marriage date of Ernest and Isabella. I found this article from The Wichita Falls newspaper in July 1928: *HALL COUNTY MAN DROWNS BITTER LAKE MEMPHIS, Texas, July 7.- Fred Snowden, 37, drowned in Bitter Lake, 20 miles west of Memphis, TX, Friday evening about 7:30. His body was recovered about 10:30. According to reports he was in a boat on the lake fishing, and was swimming on*

his back with his feet in the boat pushing it along, when the boat capsized. In effort to right it, he took the cramps and sunk. Another man was with him, who attempted to save Snowden and was almost drowned himself.

Snowden has lived in Hall County for 35 years and is well known to all the pioneers. He lived west of Memphis a few miles. He leaves a wife and two sons. Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock from the home of his brother, Bob Snowden, six miles of Memphis.

Rev. C. E. Jameson, n, pastor of the First Methodist church, officiated. Burial was in the Memphis cemetery.

This article would seem to suggest that Fred and Isabella were still married at the time of his death in 1928. Since she and the boys appear in the 1930 Census with Earnest, they must have married after his drowning. This is contradicted however by the 1930 Census which shows that Ernest and Isabella had two daughters and a son, Ernestine 1924 born in Turkey, TX, Mary 1927 born under the name of FT in Dozier, Collingsworth County, and William Lawson born with no name on his birth certificate in Childress County Dec 1927. All of these have birth certificates with Ernest and Isabella listed as the parents. I'm not sure why they were bouncing around so much. All of these places were in the general vicinity of one another, but maybe you got to the nearest hospital when the time came. I just noticed that the youngest son named after his grandfather and he will have a cousin with the same name arrive 10 years later to his uncle William in New Mexico. I just noticed that in the 1930 Census, Ernest lived next door to his sister Lola and her family. This was his younger sister that we haven't discussed yet. Ernest was farming and was not a veteran so he missed the Great War. He said that he had first been married when he was 21 and Isabella had been married when she was 16. If this is correct, this would mean that Ernest may have been married before he married Isabella in 1921 because he was 31 when they married. I've have looked a bit in the 1910 – 1912 timeframe and there are several Ernest Smiths' getting married, but none seem to fit our Ernest.

Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Estimate d Birth Age	Estimate d Birth Year	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended School	Able to Read and Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
Ernest E	Head	Precinct 1, Cottle, Texas Rented		No	Yes	Male	White	40	1890	Married	21	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	Laborer
Isabell	Wife				Yes	Female	White	33	1897	Married	16	No	Yes	Mississippi	Mississippi	Mississippi	
Charles	Son					Male	White	15	1915	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	England	Mississippi	
Robert	Son					Male	White	14	1916	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	England	Mississippi	
Ernestine	Daughter					Female	White	6	1924	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Mississippi	
Mary	Daughter					Female	White	3	1927	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Mississippi	
William	Son					Male	White	2	1928	Single		No		Texas	Texas	Mississippi	

Stepson Charles married Margaret Raker in 1938 and in 1940 he was in Memphis, TX working as a welder, a trade that he had likely learned from his stepfather, Ernest. Stepson Fred, who seems to have gone by Robert was living in Texas in 1940 and working as a farmhand.

Sometime in the 1930's Ernest and Isabella separated and she married Roy Anderson. This was most likely when he moved to Carlsbad in 1936 as mentioned in his obituary. Isabella and Roy appear in the 1940 Census in Amarillo, TX with Ernest's three children Ernestine, Mary, and William at ages 12, 13, and 16. Roy was a laborer on highway construction. The kids were all at various levels in school.

Ernest died in 1941 in Carlsbad. His obituary is as follows:

Hold Smith Rites

Today Funeral services for Ernest E. Smith, 52, were to be held at, the Baptist Church this afternoon at 4 o'clock with Rev. A. La Goodwin officiating. Smith, employed in the salt mine at the potash fields succumbed at St. Francis Hospital at 4 o'clock Monday afternoon, after an illness of five days. Surviving him are three children: son, Lawson Smith of Amarillo, two daughters, Ernestine and May Smith of Amarillo, three brothers. W. R. Smith and J. B. Smith of Carlsbad and S. J. Smith of Pampa; two sisters, Mrs. Lola Bennett of Clarendon and Mrs. Cora Bennett of Smith has been a resident of Carlsbad five years.

I note that the stepchildren are not mentioned in his obituary so perhaps they cut ties when Ernest and Isabella split. Isabella and Roy Anderson divorced in 1943 per a news article in July 1943 of The Amarillo Globe. Sometime before her death in Borger in 1953, she seems to have married John Lester

Gundlach as that is her last name on her death certificate. This appears to have happened between 1943 and 1950 as John appears in the 1950 Census in Amarillo separated and unable to work. The 1940 Census indicates that he was a widowed carpenter in 1940 and I have not done any other research on him. He died in 1951 in Amarillo and Isabella is mentioned as being his former wife living in Borger. That is where she died in 1953. We will complete the discussion of the children in the next generation.

Children of Queen and Ernest and Queen and Fred Snowden

	111.2	Charles Thomas Snowden	1914	1967	Queen and Frederick Child#1
	111.3	Fred Robert Snowden	1916	2000	Queen and Frederick Child#2
	111.4	Mildred Snowden	1919	1919	Queen and Frederick Child#3
1020	112	Ernestine Smith	1924	1982	Ernest and Queen Child#1
1021	113	Mary Isabella Smith	1926	1991	Ernest and Queen Child#2
1022	114	William Lawson Smith	1927	1986	Ernest and Queen Child#3

25. John Brown Smith 17 FEB 1892 • Granger, Williamson TX - 24 JAN 1980 • Dallas, TX
 Ola A King 14 SEP 1898 • Cherokee County, TX - 22 NOV 1989 • Pueblo County, CO

John has been a bit frustrating to research as a lot of records related to him seem to be missing. He was the 9th child of Emily and William and born in Granger in 1891 which as we have previously noted is near Bartlett between Temple and Georgetown, TX. After his appearance at age 18 in the family home in 1900 and with his widowed mother in Motley, CO. in 1910, he does not resurface in any Census that I can find until 1940. I was finally able to find his WW1 Draft registration which showed him at age 25 to be in Northfield, TX in Motley County which is near where much of the family has been found in this era. Maybe Northfield was too far off of the beaten path for the census taker to find. It's a wide spot in the road. He was married, farming, and was of medium height, stout, with brown hair and eyes. It gives his birthday as 17 Feb 1892. Apart from brother William, all of his family was in west Texas during the 1920 and 1930 period and his son Robert was born in Amarillo in April 1920 which suggests that is where he should be for the census, but he cannot be found. A search of newspapers has not yielded any results either. Let's see what we can garner from the 1940 Census.

In this census, we see that John is married to Ola King Smith who is six years younger than John and that they have a 20-year-old son Robert J. John and Ola had completed 7th grade, while Robert appears to have dropped out of high school after his junior year. John is working as a Fee Manager, at a creamery. Ola is a silver salesman (which I think is a transcription error) at a cafeteria, and Robert is a busboy at the same cafeteria. They lived at 212a E. 9th in the Potter County part of Amarillo. Amarillo is split between Potter and Randall County. They are renting and paying \$20/month. I cannot find that address today. It also says that they were in Dallas in 1935 so I will search for him in Dallas in 1930 to see if I get a hit. Interestingly, he was earning \$448, Ola was earning \$360, and Robert was earning \$270.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	Attended School or College	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1938	Employment Details	Hours Worked Week Prior to Census	Duration of Unemployment	Occupation
1940 Census	Amarillo, Potter,	212a E Ninth	Rented		20											
Smith	John B	Head	Male	White	47	1893	Married	No	Elementary school, 7th grade	Texas		Dallas	No			26 Fee Manager
Smith	Ola A	Wife	Female	White	41	1899	Married	No	Elementary school, 7th grade	Texas		Dallas	No	45		Silver Salesman
Smith	Robert J	Son	Male	White	20	1920	Single	No	High School, 3rd year	Texas		Dallas	No	66		Bus Boy

Let's digress a minute and explore John's wife. Records have not been found of their marriage, but based on the birth of Robert, we can surmise that they must have married about 1919 in either Childress, TX or Amarillo. In looking at Ola's background, she seems to have been the daughter of Samuel Grover King and Alice Embry King and appears with them in the 1900 Census at the age of 3 in Cherokee County

along with two older siblings, Cicero and Everett. Cherokee County is in east TX just south of Tyler. A lot of censuses for her and her family are missing, but if you follow all of the threads closely, we find that in 1901, she has a younger brother named Chesley Shaw King in 1901 who will end up marrying Fontie Smith in Colorado in 1924 and if you don't recall, Fontie was the oldest daughter of John's oldest brother Samuel Jefferson Smith so we have another incident of a brother marrying a niece. I guess that happens when siblings are born so far apart. Sam was 13 years older than his little brother John.

I found this interesting article from the 3 July 1941 Amarillo Globe: ***Three Suspects Are Being Sought in Attempted Attack:*** *Police today still were searching for suspects in an attempted assault late last night upon Ola Smith after she had closed the café at 412 South Fillmore Street and was on her way home. A man described as "a tall, good-looking blond" slipped up behind the woman and tried to put his hand over her mouth, but Ola Smith struggled. As the couple struggled, a car approached and the man fled, darting into an alley off Furr Food at Tenth Avenue and Fillmore Street. Two suspects were grabbed last night but neither could be identified. Residents in the neighborhood where the café operator was accosted reported a prowler last night, police said.*

That address is a parking lot in downtown Amarillo today. Following this incident, John and Ola were reportedly divorced in July in Amarillo. In 1953 she appears in Las Animas, CO married to John Lewis Lingar who was a 53-year-old miner. I didn't dig deeply into John but in 1930 he was reportedly divorced and in 1940 he was widowed. He was originally from Tennessee and died in 1951. She apparently never remarried after John Lingar's death and died in Pueblo, CO in 1989.

The 1950 Census found John living in Dallas with his only son Robert and Robert's wife, Clara. Clara had been previously married and brought her 15-year-old son, Douglas Whittington to the marriage. Robert was a loan clerk at a bank. His wife was a registered nurse. John was 60 and had no job listed and reported himself as separated. I cannot find that address in Dallas and it is not very clear on the census. I will cover Robert and Clara in more detail in the next generation, but records on him are scarce also. He appears to have served in the Army in WW2 and lost a leg according to a draft registration card in 1946, but as of this writing, I haven't been able to locate any additional information about this. I cannot see where he and Clara ever had any children together.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Race	Gender	Age	Birth Date	Marital Status	Birth Place	Citizenship	Hours Worked	Occupation	Industry
1950 Census		101 Davley				Dallas, Texas						
Smith	Robert	Head	White	Male	29	1921	Married	Texas		44	Loan Clerk	Bank
Smith	Clara	Wife	White	Female			Married	Mississippi		44	Registered Nurse	Hospital
Whittington	Douglas	Stepson (Step Son)	White	Male			Never Married	Texas				
Smith	J B	Father	White	Male	60	1890	Separated	Texas				

Records and news stories after 1950 are scarce. The only record that I have found is his death certificate from 24 Jan 1980 in Dallas at Doctor's Hospital. He lived at 206 Storrs in Rockwall, TX a Dallas suburb at the time of his death and died of pneumonia and congestive heart failure. He was 88 and his son was the informant. He was reportedly a painter and indicated that he was a widower, so he may have married



again after the 1950 Census, but I haven't found any records of this. He was buried at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Dallas which is where his son and daughter-in-law are buried, but his grave marker is missing. His Findagrave site indicates that his nickname was "Rody" but that is the only reference that I see to that. His Social Security records indicate that his last residence was in Quinlan, TX but that his last benefit was in Dallas which conflicts with his death certificate. I was able to determine that 206 Storrs was the Rockwall Nursing Home on the shores of Lake Hubbard. Here it is after being closed for Covid.

Child of John and Ola

1023 115 **Robert J Smith** 1920 1988 John and Ola Child#1

26. **Dolores Lola Smith** 3 FEB 1895 • Gainesville, TX - 29 JULY 1980 • Amarillo, Potter County, TX
Charles Bennett 26 FEB 1883 • Williamson, TX - 29 MARCH 1971 • Groom, Carson County, TX
 Marriage: 6 Nov 1911 • Matador, Motley, TX – per his obituary



Charlie and Lola's gravestone from Findagrave.

Lola was William and Emily's 10th and final child. While she claims Gainesville as her birthplace, my earlier explanation would suggest that it was more likely Bartlett. She appears as Delores in 1900 and Lola in 1910, and then does not reappear in the Census until 1930 at which point she and Charlie Bennett are living in Cottle County in the Texas Panhandle working on a farm with their 3 sons, Lonnie Clifford Bennett 1912, William Losson Bennett 1914, and Ova Vestal Bennett 1922. The census shows that Charlie was 24 when they married in 1911 and Lola had been 16. The boys were 17, 15, and 7 causing one to wonder if she perhaps lost a child between 1915 and 1923. Charlie registered for the WW1 Draft in 1917 at which time they lived at Northfield TX which is an area in Cottle County. He had been born in Williamson County and was married with 2 children which would have been Lonnie and Bill. From what I have pieced together, Charlie's father was George Walter Bennet and his mother was Lucy Ward Bennet. Looking deeper, it appears that his father was the brother of Summie Fee Bennet who was of course the husband of Lola's oldest surviving sister, Cora. Let's see – Lola's husband is the nephew of his brother-in-law. To my family, my sister Kathryn would have had to marry Bruce's nephew. Bruce's nephews are Nathan or one of his sister's sons.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head	Home Owned or Rented	Home Value	Radio Set	Lives on Farm	Gender	Race	Age	Year of Birth	Marital Status	Age at First Marriage	Attended School	Able to Read and Write	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace	Occupation
1930 Census																		
Bennett	Chas	Head	Rented		No	Yes	Male	White	42	1888	Married	23	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Tennessee	Farmer
Bennett	Lola	Wife					Female	White	33	1896	Married	16	No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Lonnie C	Son					Male	White	17	1913	Single		No	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Bill	Son					Male	White	15	1915	Single		Yes	Yes	Texas	Texas	Texas	
Bennett	Vestal	Son					Male	White	7	1923	Single		Yes		Texas	Texas	Texas	

There is not a lot of information to be found in the 1930's. The appear in 1940 in Childress living on rented farmland. The older boys have left the nest while Ova is still at home at age 18 and helping his dad on the farm. Ova seems to have quit school after the 7th grade. His father had only gone through 6th grade, while Lola was the smart one having gone to a year of high school. It looks like Charlie was making Ova do all the work since he only worked 20 hours to Ova's 40.

Surname	Given Name	Relation to Head of House	Gender	Race	Age	Estimated Birth Year	Marital Status	School or College	Highest Grade Completed	Birthplace	Citizenship	Residence City in 1938	Employment Details	Week of Census	Prior to Unemployment	Occupation
1940 Census																
Bennett	Charlie B	Head	Male	White	51	1889	Married	No	Elementary school, 6th grade	Texas		Rural	No		20	Farmer
Bennett	Lola	Wife	Female	White	45	1895	Married	No	High School, 1st year	Texas		Rural	Home Housework			
Bennett	Vestal O	Son	Male	White	18	1922	Single	No	Elementary school, 7th grade	Texas		Rural	No		40	Laborer

Charlie registered for the Old Man's WW2 Draft in 1942 at which time he was 53 and they lived on the Naylor Route outside of Donley, TX. Interestingly, Charlie "signed" with an X and someone else had written his name and witnessed his signature. He was 5'-10" and 130lbs and his contact person was his brother who apparently lived nearby.

Lonnie had married Margie Cross about 1935 and they had a daughter Starlene in 1936 and a 2nd daughter Willdene in 1939. They were still back in Cottle County and working on a farm.

William married Mary Alice Parker about 1938 and they had a son Larry Lawson in 1939. According to his records, Larry was born in Hollis, OK so William must have moved across the border for a brief period.

Charlie, Lola, and Ova appear in the 1950 Census living in Hedley, TX in Donley County, but not much information is provided apart from the fact that Charlie was 51, Lola was 55, and Ova was 28 and still at home. No jobs for anyone were listed.

Lonnie and Margie were farming in Donley and had added a late arriving son, Buddy Joe in 1947. He joined older sisters Starlene and Willdene who were 12 and 10.

William, Mary Alice, and son Larry were farming in Hale, TX. They were 31, 29, and 9 respectively although Larry's age is suspect because he had first shown up in 1940 at age 6 months in April 1940 and since the 1950 Census was taken in May through June 1950, Larry would have had to be 11.

As usual, I will cover the children's careers in more detail in the next edition, but will share that in 1956, Larry Bennett, William's son was killed in a car accident outside of Lubbock in 1956. One of the kids in the wreck in which he was killed was named Terry Allen and I thought for a moment it was the famous artist/musician from Lubbock, but it was a different person as the famous Terry Allen was a bit younger.

12 Amarillo Globe-Times Tuesday, March 30, 1971

Services Scheduled For Charlie Bennett

CLARENDON — Funeral services for Charlie E. Bennett, 52, a retired farmer and resident of Donley County since 1942, will be conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Clarendon Church of Christ.

Bright Newhouse, minister of the Hedley Church of Christ, will officiate, assisted by Tom Watters, minister of the Clarendon Church of Christ.

Burial will be in Claude Cemetery under the direction of Murphy Funeral Home of Clarendon.

Mr. Bennett died at 8 a.m.

Monday in Groom Memorial Hospital in Groom. He was born in Williamson County and lived in Childress prior to coming to Donley County. He moved to Clarendon several years ago.

He married Lola Smith on Nov. 6, 1911, at Matador. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

Surviving are his wife; three sons, L. C. of Arlington, O. V. of Washburn and W. J. of 2923 Evergreen in Amarillo; a brother, George of Dallas, and 10 grandchildren.

Charlie died in Groom, TX in 1971 and his obituary is here. Lola survived Charlie by 9 years and died in Clarendon in July 1980.

Children of Charlie and Lola.

1024	116	Lonnie Clifford Bennett	1913	1986	Charles and Dolores Child#1
1025	117	William Losson Bennett	1915	2011	Charles and Dolores Child#2
1026	118	Ova Vestal Bennett	1922	1997	Charles and Dolores Child#3

This completes the story of William Lawson Smith and Emily Guthrie's grandchildren.

There are several folks on Ancestry that suggest that Emily had a brother, Jeremiah Pearsall Guthrie who had a son, Charlie and then Charlie had a son Woodrow Wilson Guthrie better known as "Woody" Guthrie who wrote a few famous songs. I finally succumbed to curiosity and decided to chase this relationship. It looks like a fact that in the 1860 Census, Emily has a younger brother, Jeremiah Guthrie. For some reason over the years, she gets younger and he gets older. I cannot find the 1870 Census, but in the 1880 Census, Jeremiah is married to Joe Ann Sands and has three children including Charlie, while Emily is married to William Lawson. Joe Ann dies in 1881 after giving birth to Annie Maude Guthrie. Charles marries Nora Sherman in 1904. I don't know where he was in 1900, but with his mother's death and his father's remarriage he may have been off with a grandparent or uncle. Nonetheless, he does have a son Woodrow in 1912 so there you go. It looks legit. "This Land is Your Land"

