

**Museum Musings Article- Krum News
Dec 2011**

Some Early Krum Families

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Henry & Ella Burg

Arrival In Krum Area-Ca. 1870

By Della Davis & Kathryn Dodd

Henry Burg came from Illinois to a farm north of Krum in 1870. He was born July 1834 in Ohio to John Burg and Elizabeth J. Karber, both born in Germany. On October 27, 1859, he married Ann Dickey born 1830 and died January 5, 1885. They had one child Mary E. Burg born 1860 in Illinois. On July 31, 1885, in Denton County, Henry Burg married Ella S. Vangundy born in Illinois around 1857. The 1900 census from Denton County shows three children all born in Texas: Daisy born 1887, Elsie born 1891 and Maude born 1893. Bolivar cemetery records also show two other daughters born to Henry and Ella Burg -Nellie Burg born and died May 14, 1886 and Eva Burg born Oct 4, 1901 and died Feb 12, 1902. Henry Burg, Ann H. Burg, Ella Burg, Nellie Burg, and Eva Burg are all buried at Bolivar Cemetery.

In 1870 Henry built a three-room house on his land north of Krum, and later he added two more bedrooms. The house has been repaired and renovated and must be the oldest one in the area. It has been continuously occupied. and stands within the short curve on the Bolivar Road about four miles north of Krum. In 1870, Bolivar, Texas was a thriving town. It was created in 1852 at the crossroads of two stagecoach lines. Prospective settlers would arrive by one of these routes and set out "looking for a place." Many of them came to the Burg home and he helped them find a location. In her diary, Mary Burg complained about having to cook for so much company. Mr. Burg helped to build the first road from Bolivar to Denton.

Maude Burg Gray (Mrs. John Gray), formerly of Krum, generously loaned us (this was in 1976) a copy of a diary of her half-sister, Mary Burg who started writing in 1876 in order "to keep up with all the new-comers to this country." This charming record of day-to-day happenings gives a very personal account of the life of frontier women. Of course, life was hard, judged by today's standards, but there were compensations. The diary recounts a day when her parents went to town. When they returned, Mr. Burg had a new suit for which he had paid \$19.00; and Mrs. Burg had brought Mary an umbrella with a spyglass in the handle, and a set of Shakespeare!

There are descendants of this family still living in the Denton County area.



**Burgs
Daisy-Henry-Elsie-Ella**