

Museum Musings Article- Krum News

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Krum- The Melting Pot

By Kathryn Dodd

The 1880 Federal Census for Precinct 1 Denton County Texas was only thirteen pages long but what a story it had to tell. Precinct 1 is the general area which in 1886 would become the town of Krum. There mingled among all the Texans were folks from almost every state in the Union and from several countries as well. Precinct 1 Denton County, was a melting pot of nationalities and though mostly farmers, there were other professions as well. Wikipedia describes the term melting pot to be: “a metaphor for a heterogeneous society becoming more homogeneous, the different elements "melting together" into a harmonious whole with a common culture. It is particularly used to describe the assimilation of immigrants to the United States; the melting-together metaphor was in use by the 1780s.”

So below is a list from this 1880 federal census with names, ages, professions and where they came from:

Physicians- Dr. Fitz A. Jelleff, age 51, from New York and John L. Scott, age 60 from Virginia

Lorena Moore, age 70, a Midwife from Kentucky

Jacob Meyers, age 45, a farmer from Switzerland

Stephen E. Veters, age 58, from North Carolina was a Representative to the Legislature of Texas

Georgia Kincaid, age 29, a well borer from Tennessee

Roswell Chapman, age 41, a Horse Raiser from Missouri

Jacob Graby, age 45, a farmer from Saxon

Two Ministers- Eugene Lampton, age 44, from Kentucky and Thomas B. Norwood, age 45, from North Carolina

John Bruesh, age 34, a Butcher from Switzerland

Two stone masons -Charles Hinchel, age 50, from Prussia and Leprelett King, age 51, from Rhode Island

John Miller, age 32, dairyman from Switzerland

John Hinson, age 30, a freighter from Arkansas

Bernhart Batting, age 34, a dairyman from Switzerland

Two teachers -Anderson Beaty, age 32 from Ohio and Rosa Franklin, age 21, from Kentucky

Three carpenters- John Batis, age 26, from Virginia, James Cassidy, age 42 from Georgia and Wiley Massey, age 39, from Georgia

Herman Barthold, age 54, farmer from Saxon

Thomas Fletcher, age 47, a blacksmith from Alabama

Albert Fulton, age 48, a stock driver from Pennsylvania

Benjamin Patterson age 46, a farmer from Canada

Aramanita Ray, age 50, a housekeeper from Ireland

Charles McDade, age 30, a retail grocer from Georgia

John Bruesh, age 34, a butcher from Switzerland

Emanuel Fritz, age 33, a dentist from Pennsylvania

Matt Hilgers, age 49 a farmer from Prussia

Willie Stiff, age 23, sheep herder from Texas

John Cruet, age 36, a farmer from Baden

I think you will agree this was quite an interesting array of folks and professions. I think walking down the old dirt streets and sidewalks of the depot town of Krum around this period of time would have been quite an experience.

Visit the museum on line at www.krumheritagemuseum.com