

**Knob Prairie**  
compiled by Bill Page  
9 September 2007

This farming community was located in northern Brazos County, near Alexander. It was in the G.H. Coleman league. Knob Prairie was the site of white and African American schools. Preaching was sometimes held at the schools. Knob Prairie also sometimes was a voting site.

Harris School House ... Messrs. Roy Hudspeth and Charlie Presnal attended singing at Knob Prairie Sunday. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 8 June 1898, page 3

Harris School House ... Miss Edith Preston and brother of Knob Prairie visited relatives here last week. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 20 July 1899, page 3

Mrs. Lizzie A. Freeman, wife of Rev. Jabe Freeman, age 38 years and 21 days, died at her home near Knob Prairie, at 5 a.m. Thursday, May 31. She was a daughter of Mrs. Geraldine Kelley and was born in Brazos County. She was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Wickson and a devout Christian lady, beloved by all. She leaves a husband and six children and other relatives. The funeral took place at Wickson church Friday afternoon, Rev. A.M. Sims conducting the service. The family and friends have the sympathy of the Eagle. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 7 June 1900, page 3, col.4

Cottonwood ... Stephen Freeman of Knob Prairie visited relatives here Sunday. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 11 October 1900, page 3

Cottonwood ... Rev. J.A. Freeman of Knob Prairie visited relatives in this community Monday. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 7 November 1900, page 3

Miss Emma Kelly is teaching the Knob Prairie school. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 22 November 1900, page 2

Cottonwood ... Some of the young people of Knob Prairie passed through Cottonwood Saturday going to the creek bottom pecan hunting. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 22 November 1900, page 3

Prof. B.H. Wiley, teacher of the Knob Prairie school was here yesterday. Bryan Daily Eagle, 8 November 1903, page 3

Mrs. Wiley Reed of Knob Prairie left yesterday to visit at Rogers. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 13 October 1904, page 2

“Brazos County Teachers Institute,” Brazos Pilot, 25 January 1906, page 1. Mentions Mary Ferguson, teacher at Knob Prairie school.

Walter Wilcox of Knob Prairie, renewed his subscription to the Pilot while in the city today. Brazos Pilot, 22 March 1906, page 5

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Haygood of Knob Prairie attended the revival services here yesterday. Brazos Pilot, 26 April 1906, page 5

“Missionary Foster’s Appointments,” Brazos Pilot, 17 May 1906, page 8. Baptist preaching at Knob Prairie School House.

Mrs. Mary Free and Mrs. N.C. Hazzard were in the city from Knob Prairie today. Brazos Pilot, 21 June 1906, page 5

V. Freeman was in today from Knob Prairie. Brazos Pilot, 12 July 1906, page 5

J.J. Parker of Knob Prairie was in the city today. Brazos Pilot, 16 August 1906, page 5

Oscar Wilcox of Knob Prairie, was in town today. Brazos Pilot, 16 August 1906, page 5

“Election Judges,” Brazos Pilot, 27 February 1908, page 5. ... No. 23 – Knob Prairie: Walter Wilcox, John Beard, Dave Roan

Uncle Mark Wilcox of Knob Prairie, was in the city yesterday and remarked to the Eagle reporter, “This is my birthday; I am 76 today.” This is certainly a ripe old age, but Uncle Mark is still active and enjoying reasonably good health. His many friends hope that he may be spared for many years of usefulness yet, and they also entertain the hope that his last days may be spent in peace and happiness. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 1 April 1909, page 3. Mark Wilcox

Mrs. Walter Wilcox of Knob Prairie, was a visitor to the city today. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 6 May 1909, page 7

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Wilcox of Knob Prairie, were in the city today. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 6 May 1909, page 7

Oscar and Walter Wilcox of Knob Prairie were business visitors in the city. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 19 August 1909, page 5

“County Teachers Institute,” (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 30 September 1909, page 8. Teachers attending included Katie Wilcox, of Knob Prairie

Uncle Mark Wilcox, of Knob Prairie, was in town today. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 10 March 1910, page 5

Uncle Mark Wilcox, the sage of Knob Prairie, was in the city today. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 24 March 1910, page 3

Uncle Mark Wilcox of Knob Prairie was in the city today. He has been slightly indisposed for some time. Bryan Daily Eagle, 4 May 1910, page 3

As briefly mentioned in these columns Saturday afternoon, Mr. Mark Wilcox, one of the county's oldest and best beloved citizens passed away at his home on Knob Prairie Saturday morning at 12:45. He was taken ill ten weeks ago and was never again able to leave his home, though everything possible was done for him and every tender care that loving hearts and hands could devise was bestowed upon him. His hundreds of friends in Bryan and elsewhere inquired daily as to his condition and for some time all were hopeful of his recovery. Hope, however, in time gave way to anxiousness, and anxiousness was ended by the announcement that death had claimed him. Mr. Wilcox (Uncle Mark), as everybody knew him, was a native of Georgia, born in Erwin County, March 27, 1833, making him 82 years, 7 months, 20 days of age. He grew to manhood in Georgia and while quite a young man went to California to seek his fortune in the gold fields of that State, making the trip through Central America and crossing the Isthmus of Panama. He returned to his native State, however, after one year and on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1858, was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie G. Cravey. Seven children were born to this union only two of whom are living, John H. and Oscar L. Wilcox of Tabor. He came to Texas in 1859, the year following his marriage and settled in Shelby County, where he resided until after the war. He came to Brazos County in 1865 soon after the surrender, and this had been his home continuously since that time. Mr. Wilcox was a quiet, unostentatious man, there being no sham nor false pretensions in his nature. With him a yard was thirty-six inches and a pound sixteen ounces. By this rigid rule of honesty he squared every action of his long and useful life, and in all his history there is not one blot on his good name, not one flaw in his title to honored citizenship. He was the soul of honor, just and fair in all business transactions and his word was his bond. During his active years he took a prominent part in all public matters, particularly in politics, and was frequently called into the councils of the Democracy of the county. He had high ideals of justice and right and at all times stood for those things which make for a higher citizenship, where were for the public welfare and which placed men on the table-lands of a nobler and higher life. In later years he retired more closely, to his home, and his chief delight was in the things that grew up about him on his farm. He excelled in nearly all farm products and it was a great pleasure to him when coming to town to bring his friends some of his choicest specimens. His farm, his friends, his pleasant surroundings formed a beautiful setting for the evening of life, and amid these pleasant surroundings he calmly and undisturbed watched the shadows grow longer and awaited the coming sunset. He went to the war from Shelby County and served in Company -, Gould's Battalion, Randall's Brigade. He served his beloved Southland with great fidelity until the surrender and then with the thousands of others returned to his Texas home to retrieve his lost fortunes. He was a lifelong member of the Presbyterian Church, and of the Masonic Lodge. He was also a member of Camp J.B. Robertson, United Confederate Veterans. His first wife died July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1886, and several years later he married Miss Lou Boggs of this county. No children were born to this union. He is survived by his widow, the two sons above mentioned and two sisters, Mrs. Julia Bozeman of Hawkinsville, Ga., and Mrs. McCremmon of St. Louis. He also leaves two half-sisters in Kansas and two

half-brothers, Robert L. Wilcox of Oakdale, North Dakota and John M. Wilcox of Georgia. He was laid to rest Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Seale graveyard and hundreds of his old friends were present to pay him their last tribute. Rev. C.H. Storey, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this city, conducted the religious services. The funeral was under the auspices of Brazos Union Lodge No. 129 Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he was a member, and the beautiful burial ritual of the order was conducted by Gen. H.B. Stoddard, who was his life-long friend and who had been requested by the deceased long before his death to preside at his funeral obsequies. The following gentlemen, his brethren in the lodge, served as pallbearers: A.S. McSwain, W.J. Coulter, W.E. Saunders, E.W. Crenshaw, J.D. Martin and C.M. Bell. The floral offerings were many and beautiful, especially one from the members of L.S. Ross Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy. With the mound above his mortal remains banked high with flowers, which attested the love of neighbors and friends, they left the old veteran alone with God. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 25 November 1915, page 5

“Knob Prairie,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 9 February 1920, page 3

“Tabor’s Girls’ Club,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 8 March 1923, page 1.

“Club Boys and Girls,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 6 April 1923, page 1

The Knob Prairie boys’ and girls’ club had a most interesting meeting last Saturday night, Roland Dansby and Mrs. Oak McKenzie delighting the splendid audience with humorous readings in Negro dialect. Miss Roten assisted Sam Saladiner, the yell leader, in giving a few rousing yells, and called attention to the proposed encampment on June 28-29. Second Saturday night in each month is regular meeting night for the Knob Prairie club. Bryan Daily Eagle, 15 May 1923, page 3

“Hail Larger Than Partridge Eggs in Nob [sic] Prairie Section,” Bryan Weekly Eagle, 31 January 1924, page 1

Bryan, Texas, Feb. 1 – A hailstorm Wednesday at Knob Prairie, four miles north of Bryan, was extremely severe over a small territory. Some of the stones were as large as small eggs. County Agent C.L. Beason was caught in the storm. While attempting to put the curtains on his car, the curtains whipped into shreds before he had time to adjust them. His hands were lacerated by the stones. Dallas Morning News, 2 February 1924, page 3

County Superintendent D.J. McDonald announced that the Knob Prairie Negro school house has just been completed. It is a one room school house but modern in every detail. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 16 August 1928, p.4, col.1.

“Trustees Chosen for School Work in Rural Areas,” Bryan Weekly Eagle, 14 April 1932, page 1. Frank Mauro at Knob Prairie.

“Survey Made Shows Great Cooperation,” Bryan Weekly Eagle, 23 August 1933, pages 1, 2. Rural committees, Knob Prairie: Frank “Marro” [Mauro?], Lee Cash, Mike Triola