

## Woodville, Bryan's First Suburb

Compiled by Bill Page

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Woodville, arguably the first suburb of Bryan, was founded shortly after the end of the Civil War. By 1867 the town contained "a wagon and blacksmith shop, a stock sales yard and three or four grocery stores." Actually, there are two other candidates for the title of first suburb: Hall's Addition (also known as Freedman's Town and Bryan's First Addition) and Mitchell's Addition. However, the latter additions were both quickly absorbed by the City of Bryan, while Woodville retained a distinct identity for roughly 80 years.

Woodville was located between Old Hearne Road and present day Highway Six. The community was named after Mr. T.L. Wood, who owned property in the area. Wood also ran a store, in partnership with Mr. R.R. Allen. One of the landmarks in that area was the Bryan cotton seed oil mill, located just across the railroad tracks from the Woodville community. Most likely when the mill was in operation, it was something of a neighborhood nuisance, with smoke, noise and other disruptions, but no sources stating that have been found. Most early references to Woodville refer to African Americans, but there also was a white school there by the early 1900s. That white school likely dated back to the 1880s.

One source states that the white school at Woodville was also known as Henry School House, but I have doubts about that. I believe that Henry School House was located further to the north, closer to the Thompson Creek community. I might, however, be wrong about that. (See Brazos County History – Rich Past, Bright Future, p.34). Complicating this analysis is the fact that the Brazos County history cites a deed for the Henry School land which may not have been recorded. A somewhat similar deed, from James Henry, Jr. to J.M. Conway for three acres, dated 1873 and recorded in 1879, was for land in the W.S. Martin league (Brazos County Deed Records, Book S, p.447). While the deed for the three acres in the Martin League is close to Thompson Creek, that deed says nothing about the land being used for school purposes.

By the 1920s, many of the white residents in Woodville were from Italian-American families. The white school house burned during the 1923/1924 school term, but a new school was apparently soon built. White teachers in the early 1900s included Miss Stella Covington, Miss Emma Orr and Miss Grace Ramsey. Mrs. P.A. Tardy taught school at Woodville for 19 years. The date the white school closed has not been determined, but it was probably soon after 1943. The African American school evidently closed sometime prior to 1946, though the Woodville school district was not formally abolished until the 1950s.

1867: T.L. Wood bought 4 acres of land from W.J. Bryan, located in the northwestern corner of the Stephen F. Austin League No. 10; see Brazos County Deed Records, Book H, p.280.

1867: June 12 – T.L. Wood sold 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres to P. Dorris for \$87.50; see Brazos County Deed Records, Book H, p.579

T.P. Redding sold land in Stephen F. Austin League No.10 to J.T. Lahue for \$250, on 26 July 1867. Brazos County Deed Book H, p.377

*This apparently is the same man as Jno. T. Lahue, listed in the 1870 Robertson County Census (p.248) as being a white man married to Samantha; Jno. Lahue was a dry goods merchant in 1870 and may have earlier operated a store in Woodville.*

1867: July 29 – R.R. Allen and T.L. Wood sold for \$40 one acre out of a 8 ¼ acre tract they had purchased from W.J. Bryan to T.E. Ballard – See Brazos County Deed Records, Book H, p.417

Bryan ... New York has its Brooklyn; Philadelphia its Camden, and Bryan its Woodville! Probably there are but few of our readers residing in this vicinity that have not noticed the springing up and development of our suburban town, situated nearly a mile above and connected with the city by an almost continuous line of residences. We find there a wagon and blacksmith shop, a stock sales yard and three or four grocery stores. Galveston Daily News, 24 October 1867, page 2, col.5.

Tennessee M. and Ware Bengé sold 2 ½ acres of land in Stephen F. Austin League No.10 to T.L. Wood for \$100, on 5 November 1867. Brazos County Deed Records, Book H, p.594

1867: December 13 – Mr. T.L. Wood sold a tract of 2.5 acres to James T. Elliott – see Brazos County Deed Records, Book H, page 595).

1868: January 11 – T.L. Wood sold 2 ¼ acres to R.S. Wilson for \$800 – see Brazos County Deed Records, Book H, page 655.

1868: January 14 – T.L. Wood sold 1 acre to S.P.C. Patton for \$600; this land bordered “Wood and Allen’s store house” – see Brazos County Deed Records, Book H, page 642

J.T. LAHUE and his wife S. LAHUE sold land to Willis VANHOOK and Charles AVERHART; 10 July 1869. Brazos Co. Deed Book L, p.325

Charles Averyhart sold Willis Vanhook a house in Woodville near Bryan, which had been purchased from John Lahue; 29 September 1869 – see Brazos County Deed Book L, p.326

The 1870 Brazos Co. Census, p.31, lists:

VAN HOOK, Willis	b m 50 blacksmith	NC
, Elmira	b f 36 k house	Tenn.
, Lewis	b m 16 at home	Tex.
, Bettie	b f 14 at home	Tex.
, Willie	b m 12 at home	Tex.

The 1870 census, on that same page, also lists the household of: “Frank” Everhart, a 25-year-old African American blacksmith with a family. Living next door to the Everhart family in 1870 in one household were James Thornton, a 31-year-old white man, and Wm. Marion, a 30-year-old white man, both of whom listed their occupations as “grocer merchant.” Their store may have been in Woodville.

1872: January term – William Davis, S.D. Conner [perhaps should be Conger; see newspaper article below], E. Williams and R.K. Chatham were appointed to review the Bryan – Woodville Road; see Brazos County Commissioners Minutes, book A, p.334

*Other sources indicate that this Oil Mill was located near Woodville.*

Bryan Manufacturing Company – We noticed last week that the machinery for the cotton seed oil mills had arrived. We now understand that the parties originally interested have obtained a legislative charter for a joint stock company to carry on these and other works, with a capital of \$100,000. A few more shares of stock will, however, at present only be issued. George D. Haswell has been elected president and secretary, and Dr. S. D. Conger manager and superintendent of the company. Galveston Daily News, 13 February 1872, p. 2.

1872: March 26 – Action on the Bryan-Woodville road was postponed; see Brazos County Commissioners Minutes, book A, p.347

1872: December 25 – Sam Rose (fmc) married Betty Van Hook, at Woodville. [Brazos Co. Marriage Records, Book D, p.36]

*Other sources indicate that this Oil Mill was located near Woodville.*

The Bryan Appeal says that the Bryan Building Association have purchased the cotton seed oil factory and mill recently owned by the Bryan Manufacturing Company, and have placed it in full operation. Galveston Daily News, 21 January 1873, p.1.

1873: June 18 – Lewis Van Hook married Martha J. Coleman, at Woodville. [Brazos County Marriage Records, Book D, p.461]

8 April 1873: Charles Averyhart mortgaged his cotton crop which he would raise on James Burnett's farm about 6 miles north east of Bryan, to M.G. Dilleshaw. Brazos County Deed Book Q, p.21. Averyhart's place of residence is not mentioned.

29 Sept. 1873: Charley Averhart and his wife Hannah mortgaged their property, including blacksmith shop and tools, to Willis Vanhook, to cover his bond to appear at District Court in November term 1873 on a charge of theft. Brazos County Deed Records, Book O, p.203a. Averyhart's place of residence is not mentioned.

6 Oct.1873: Willis Vanhook and his wife Elvira sold land near the Oil Factory near Bryan and just east of the house in which Cripple John f.m.c. lives, to Andrew Groves. Brazos County Deed Records, Book O, pp.205a-b

Daniel Harry FRAZIER married Sarah ---, 28 January 1874, at Woodville. [Brazos County Marriage Records, Book D, p.93]

*Other sources indicate that this Oil Mill was located near Woodville.*

Mr. W.H. Flippen, president of the Bryan Oil Manufacturing Company, kindly furnishes us with the following statement of cotton seed oil and cake shipped from their factory since October 1873

... the factory is under the supervision of Mr. Ecke, a German, who is managing it to the great satisfaction of the owners. Galveston Daily News, Jan. 31, 1874, p. 1.

"From Bryan," Galveston Daily News, 4 March 1875, p.1, col.6. "Another cutting affray took place at Woodville, near this place. Parties and particulars are not known."

Turner Low married Callin Evans, 28 December 1875, "at Woodville." [Brazos Co. Marriage Records, Book D, p.269]

On 15 April 1876, Willis VAN HOOK and Elmira VAN HOOK his wife sold M.W. McGRAW, a white lawyer, a tract of land and Rev. VAN HOOK's "black smith shop tools & horses, mules, cows, buggy wagon &c.". [See Brazos County Deed Records, Book Q, pp.383-384]. I am not sure where this shop was located, but I suspect it was in Woodville.

H. McCall: Woodville, 1879 (p.91) – Register of Teachers Accounts, in County Judge's School Record for Brazos County, State of Texas (at Carnegie History Center in Bryan).

Willis Vanhook: Woodville, 1879 (p.91) – Register of Teachers Accounts, in County Judge's School Record for Brazos County, State of Texas (at Carnegie History Center in Bryan).

The 1880 Brazos Co. Census, p.253b, lists:

VAN HOOK, Willis	b m 55 blacksmith	NC
, Elmira	b f 44 wife	Tenn.

The 1880 Brazos County Census, p.254c, lists:

Chas. AVERYHERT	Self	M	Male	B	33	AL	Blacksmith	AL	AL
Hannah AVERYHERT	Wife	M	Female	B	28	TX	Keep House	NC	NC
Orilla AVERYHERT	Dau	S	Female	B	11	TX	At School	AL	TX
Bella AVERYHERT	Dau	S	Female	B	6	TX	AL	TX	
Jonah AVERYHERT	Dau	S	Female	B		4	TX	AL	TX
Lee AVERYHERT	Son	S	Male	B	2	TX	AL	TX	

And living next door to was:  
VAN HOOK, Lewis Male B 27 blacksmith  
, Martha  
, Lum

*Though none of the following articles mention Woodville, other sources indicate the oil mill was next to Woodville.*

Bryan ... The oil factory has gone to work in good earnest. This is one of our most important industries. Oil and oil cake are shipped direct from here to New York and Liverpool. Galveston Daily News, 14 September 1880, p.4.

The boiler at the oil mill of the Bryan Manufacturing Company exploded at 6 o'clock this morning, severely scalding several men. Jesse Nichols, fireman, died from his injuries. Mack Dougal (McDougal), Jack Clampton and Michael Kavanaugh, a tramp, are all severely burned and may die. Jack Adams, assistant superintendent Farrer and Bob Thornton, colored, were also hurt but not as severely as the others. A patch under the boiler, recently put on, blew off, letting out the steam and water at the front, overwhelming the men who were working at the furnace. Before starting the mill there were only sixty pounds of steam, the force usually carried being eighty pounds. Messrs. Moore, and other proprietors, promptly secured nurses and the best medical attention for the sufferers. The damage is \$200 to \$300. Galveston Daily News, 9 November 1880, p. 1.

Guthrie McDougal, Michael Kavanaugh and Bob Thornton (colored), injured in the explosion at the oil mill, are dead. These, with Jerry Nichols, make four deaths. Jack Clampton is not expected to recover. Galveston Daily News, 10 November 1880, p.1.

*The 1880 Brazos County Census (page 253b) shows Jerry Nichols as living only two doors from Willis Vanhook, and thus he clearly was a resident of Woodville.*

The following parties have died from injuries received at the oil mill explosion: Bob Sharntor, Jerry Nichols, both colored; Gabriel McDougal and Michael Cavanaugh. Jack Clampton is expected to die. Houston Post, 10 November 1880, p. 1.

*Though this article does not mention "Woodville," an article published years later says it took place at the Woodville crossing.*

Bryan, Dec. 9 – A horrible and heartrending railroad accident occurred yesterday afternoon late at the oil mill crossing, about one mile north of the station. The engine attached to the pay car ran into the wagon of H.T. Wilson, containing himself and two daughters, killing all three persons. H.T. Wilson, about 75 years of age, had his neck broken; the two young ladies were horribly mangled and cut about the head and face. The place where the accident occurred is one of the most dangerous crossings on the road, the oil mills shutting off all view to trains going north from pedestrians until almost on the crossing. Mr. Tom Hicks, the engineer in charge of the engine that did the killing, is now under arrest, and there seems to be much indignation that a horrible accident of this character should occur within the suburbs of the city. Dallas Morning News, 10 December 1885, p.5

Fenton Richards, 19 months old, from "Woodville, Tex", was buried in the Freedman's Section of Bryan City Cemetery on 17 June 1888. (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

Louis Vanhook, 3 months old, from "Woodville, Tex" was buried in the Freedman's Section of Bryan City Cemetery on 10 August 1888 (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

"Our Schools," (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 21 Nov. 1889, p.4, col.3. *Frustratingly, this article lists schools for both whites and African Americans, but it does not identify the schools by race:*

District No. 11

1. Woodville 38 students fund \$185.82
2. Adams 57 students fund \$278.73

*I have not found any other reference to the Adams school.*

Albert Grays' infant son, two days old, born at "Woodville, Tex.", was buried in the Freedman's section of Bryan City Cemetery on 30 March 1891. (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

"Little Carrie Hicks, one year old, died at "Woodville, Tex"; she was buried in the Freedman's section of Bryan City Cemetery on 22 December 1891. (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

Sophia VanHook, 10 years, died at "Woodville, Tex"; buried 6 October 1892 in the Freedman's section of Bryan City Cemetery. (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

Bryan, Tex., Dec. 28 – Last Saturday night Henry Jones, colored, was shot by William Gordon, a strange white man who has been about Bryan for the last three weeks. When found the Negro stated that he was fired upon by one of three white men who were passing him and that he didn't know who they were. Sunday at Noon William Gordon surrendered himself to the authorities, stating that he had shot Jones. Gordon claims that the tow had started to Woodville and that the Negro attempted to rob him, whereupon he shot his assailant. Jones is still alive and Gordon is in jail. Dallas Morning News, 29 December 1892, page 1

Mrs. Caroline Easter, 85 years old, from "Woodville, Tex" was buried in the Freedman's Section of Bryan City Cemetery on 21 April 1893 (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

Bryan, Tex., Sept. 24 – The Negro blacksmith, Averyheart, died yesterday from the effects of poison administered by some person or persons one night last week. He was never able to make a statement. His funeral occurred to-day. Physicians held a postmortem examination this morning and removed the stomach. They are satisfied it is a case of poisoning, but have not determined what the poison was. Dallas Morning News, 26 September 1893, p.6

Charles Everhart, "colored," aged 50 years, native of Alabama, was buried in the Freedman's Section of Bryan City Cemetery on 24 September 1893; the cause of death was "poisoned." (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

Kid Martin, colored, escaped from the county farm Sunday night and was recaptured at Woodville by Dick Randle Monday. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 23 May 1895, p.3, col.2

We learn the citizens of Woodville will hold an election to vote on the question of being taken into the Bryan city corporation. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 24 December 1895, page 6

Little Albertar Wankook [Van Hook], 10 years old, from "Woodville, Tex" was buried in the Freedman's Section of Bryan City Cemetery on 12 November 1897 (Bryan City Sexton's Records)

A little daughter of John Hannon at Woodville, died yesterday. Bryan Daily Eagle, 17 February 1898, p.4, col.3

Died – At the home of her parents in Woodville, Feb. 16, Little Rubie May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hanlon. The funeral took place from the family residence and the service was conducted by Rev. John L. Andrews. She was laid lovingly to rest in the city cemetery. Little Ruthie was two years and two months old. She came to gladden the home and make happy the hearts of her parents but the death angel came and claimed her for his own. So weep not for her dear parents but prepare to meet her again in a fairer and brighter world where no pain or death can come.

The pearly gates shall open  
Beyond the swelling tide;  
And your beautiful ransomed darling  
Shall stand by your side.  
Powerless was skill and knowledge  
Vain the doctor strove with death  
All they friends and loved ones,  
Could not stay thy fleeting breath.  
Thou art gone, pale is thy cheek,  
And thy brow as cold as wintry snow.  
Death has failed thy lips to speak,  
And stilled the heart we all loved so.

– A Friend.

Bryan Daily Eagle, 18 February 1898, p.4, col.3

Little Ruth May Hannan, aged 2 years, native of “Woodville near Bryan”, was buried 17 February 1898 in Bryan City Cemetery; cause of death was “jaundice.” (Bryan City Sexton’s Records)

The Charley Averyhart house was burned in Woodville at an early hour Monday morning. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 7 April 1898, p.3

A Negro woman engaged in pulling fodder in a field above Woodville Friday was shot in the forepart of the leg above the knee with a small bullet. She apparently does not know the source of the shot or whether it was an accident or not. Bryan Daily Eagle, 18 July 1898, page 4

Friday ... Mr. J.C. Cummings died yesterday morning at Woodville, the northern suburb of the city, and was buried at the city cemetery yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 5 January 1899, p.5, col.2

Health Officer Tabor reported eight new cases of smallpox yesterday, all Negroes and all outside the city limits. Seven of the cases were together in a house at Woodville, and one of the patients, a baby two months old, died yesterday morning from want of attention, the cases not having been reported. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 30 March 1899, p.6

“In 1900, Mrs. Ella Johnson Latson and her young daughter of 15 years, Rosa Latson, along with Mrs. Latson’s brother and his wife, John and Helen Johnson and two friends, Mr. Buck and Mrs. Mary White, moved to Bryan from Washington County (Harris Spring Community), which is about five miles from Brenham. They went by way of Hempstead, Walker County. The group rented a house in the Woodville settlement, just across the track from the Howell family Oil Mill,

near the Southern Pacific track north, where the Weiner Store is now located. Mrs. Ella Latson was a midwife and delivered many babies as the Bryan records will show; she also nursed the sick. The men worked on the railroad. They called it "laying steel." Some of their neighbors were the Vanhooks, Richard and Betty Randle and their two sons, Robert and Rufus, and a daughter, Maggie who was married to James Thurman .... [from "Black History," in Brazos County History – Rich Past, Bright Future (1986), p.112]

James Thurman married Maggie Randle on 9 December 1897. Brazos County Marriage Records, Book I, p.55

The 1900 Brazos County Census, ED 6, sheet 8b, lists:

Randall, Richard 49 M B Fl day laborer  
other household members included his son:  
    , Robert 15

Dorsey, Mary Edna, Those Were the Days, 1976, includes a photo of the Woodville school, dated about 1905, which notes: "Miss Stella Covington was the teacher for this little school off the Hearne highway."

"Brazos County School Apportionments," (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 19 September 1907, p.8. ... The apportionment is as follows ... No. 11. Woodville, \$552.44 ....

Parson Willis Vanhook, for many years a blacksmith at Woodville, and a pioneer Negro of Bryan, died the early part of the week at the advanced age of 87 years. He bore a good reputation, had many friends and was for a long time a preacher of the M.E. Church. He leaves a family. (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 3 October 1907, p.3, col.2

"Teachers Called on the Eagle," (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 26 December 1907, p.1. Mentions "Miss Emma Orr, Woodville"

"County Schools," (weekly) Bryan Eagle, 17 September 1908, p.2. Article only lists schools for white students – Woodville, teacher was Miss Emma Orr.

*This article does not mention Woodville, but the accident obviously took place at the same dangerous railroad crossing mentioned in other articles.*

Aunt Spicy Jefferson, an old Negro woman of this city, was killed by the train late yesterday afternoon. She, with several other Negroes, was near the oil mill crossing on the H. & T.C. just as the southbound "Hustler" came in at six o'clock, and when she saw it turn the oil mill curve, remarked that she could beat it and ran away from her companions and attempted to cross in front of the rapidly moving train. She failed, however, and the train struck her, knocking her thirty or forty feet and killing her instantly. The engine whistle was blowing a fearful warning all the time, but she did not heed it and went to her death. Justice McGee went to the scene and viewed the body, but did not hold an inquest as it was not necessary, there being a number of eye witnesses. Bryan Daily Eagle, 24 January 1910, p.3, col.4.



“Aunt” Elmira Vanhook, an aged Negro woman, was struck by the southbound Hustler yesterday afternoon in the extreme northern part of the city, at the Woodville crossing, and killed instantly. The train was late and the distressing accident happened about 5 o’clock. The old woman had been to town and was returning to her home in Woodville, and was caught by the flyer on the crossing near her home. She was partially deaf and did not hear the approaching train until it was too late. The engineer saw her and sounded his whistle long and loud, thinking every moment she would hear it and step off the track, not knowing she was deaf. After he realized that she was making no effort to get off, it was too late to stop his train and the accident was then inevitable. Some Negro women nearby were attracted by the whistle of the locomotive and looked just in time to see the train when it struck her, and said she was knocked high in the air. After the accident the body lay about eight yards from the center of the track, and some sixteen yards from the place where she was supposed to have been when the engine hit her. Parties who saw the body said there was a cut on the face extending toward the back of the head and that her neck was broken. Her right hand was also cut and bruised and her right arm broken. Justice McGee and Constable Baker went out and viewed the body, but did not hold an inquest, as there were eyewitnesses to the tragedy, making an inquest unnecessary. Aunt Elmira was the widow of the late Parson Vanhook. She was eighty-seven years old and had lived in Bryan forty-two years. Since her husband’s death several years ago she had lived alone in the old Vanhook home in Woodville, within a stone’s throw and in the very shadow of which she lost her life. The old lady was a familiar figure on the streets with her basket on her arm, going from place to place, picking up pieces of paper that struck her fancy, scraps, and whatever else she could find. She was a good old woman and will be missed by her white friends, as well as by those of her own color. This was not the first accident that has occurred at the Woodville crossing. In December, 1885, Mr. Wilson of Tabor, and his two daughters were caught on that crossing in their wagon and all three of them and both horses were killed. At that time, however, it was a veritable death trap, as the old oil mill was then standing and it was impossible to see a train coming from the south. Now the mill building is removed and a clear view to the south can be had, but it is still dangerous, as trains coming from the north can not be seen until they reach the crossing, or if you are crossing the road, not until you get right on the track. People on the dirt road should use great care in making this crossing, as trains from both directions are always going at a high rate of speed when they pass that point. Bryan Daily Eagle, 29 August 1911, p.2, col.5.

As George Tillery, colored, was leaving Bryan for his home in the country late Saturday afternoon, he had a close call for his life at the Houston & Texas Central crossing at Woodville. The southbound Hustler was late and running at a terrific speed, crashed into his buggy as he crossed the track. The curve and cut north of the crossing prevented Tillery from seeing the train until he had driven on the track and it was too late then. The hind wheels of his buggy were cut off and the rest of the buggy more or less wrecked. The man and horse were both knocked some distance, but fortunately neither was hurt to amount to anything. This is a dangerous crossing and has been the scene of several bad accidents. Only a month ago old Aunt Vanhook was caught by a train on this crossing and killed. Bryan Daily Eagle, 16 October 1911, p.2.

“New Houses, New Furniture, New Books,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 26 April 1912, page 4. “District No. 11, Woodville. School house ceiled. New desks and a cistern provided.”

"Rural Schools Elect Teachers," Bryan Daily Eagle, 3 June 1914, p.3, col.5. "Miss Grace Ramsey has been re-elected to teach the Woodville school, just on the outskirts of Bryan."

"Pile of Stones Looked as Money," Bryan Daily Eagle, 17 April 1917, page 1, column 1. Woodville (Higgs) School.

"Commissioners Name Trustees of Schools," Bryan Daily Eagle, 15 May 1917, p.3. District 11 – B.G. Wallace and Joe Cuttito

The following letter has been received by County School Superintendent Eck Smith from the pupils of the Woodville school, following a visit to the school Thursday by Mr. Smith and County Agent Benson: Dear Mr. Smith: We enjoyed yours and County Agent Benson's visit very much Thursday and hope you will both come back and give us another interesting and helpful talk real soon. We expect to form a Boys' and Girls' Club of some kind as soon as possible. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> all the tax payers and voters in this district will vote on a 50 cent tax for this school and we are all expecting this to pass because we want another room and teacher next year, so we can have a better education. We like our teacher, Mrs. Tardy and want her for our teacher next year. Come to see us again real soon. Pupils of Woodville School. Charlie Spenella, Son Strata, Tony Denena, John Strata, Lena Dechiaro, Sam Bagia, Lena Patranella, Charlie Jiambaluca, Jane Spenella, Bloye Scarmardo, Annie Strata, Lucy Ruffino, Annie Denena, Vance Cuttittle, Frank Strata, Lee Denena, Henry Ruffino, Mary Patranella, Frances Marralle, Lucy Costnella, Carrie Jiambaluca, Jesus Costnella, Grady Nelso, Curtis Nelson, Willie Boatcalle, Tony Boatcalle, Julia Dechiaro, Sam Voatcalle, Charlie Strata, Dominec Baglia, Pete Baglia, Lewis Boatcalle, Vance Calvato, Phena Salvato, Tony Salvato, Mary Jiambaluca, Corrine Dechiaro, Johnne Denena, Laura Jiambaluca, Julia Boatcalle, Joe Duchamasclo, Mike Lopaglia, Charlie Ruffino. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 17 March 1921, p.2

The Woodville school, two miles out on the Benchley road closed its eight months term Friday afternoon. Forty eight pupils were enrolled during the year and on the last day forty-one were present, all dressed in their best and with happy smiles on their faces. Most of these pupils are Italians, twenty-two were promoted, which is very good indeed, when the difficulty of learning an altogether new language is taken into consideration. There were five honor students: Son Stratta, Jane Spenella, Lucy Casenda, Mary Jamballuca and Richard Casenda, to each of whom the teacher delivered a prize, a souvenir picture. After checking in their books and delivering report cards the children and several visitors were served with lemonade and cake by the teacher, Mrs. Agres K. Tardy, who was assisted by her mother, Mrs. A.W. Kinnard, Mrs. Spinella and Mrs. Walter Salvato. Mrs. Tardy has just been re-elected as teacher of this school for the ensuing year. Bryan Weekly Eagle, 5 May 1921, p.2

"Woodville School Opened Today," Bryan Daily Eagle, 19 September 1921, p.4. "This community is largely of Italian farmers ...."

“School Rally Meeting at Woodville,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 1 November 1921, p.3. Some of the speeches were in Italian.

“Parent-Teachers Organize at Woodville School,” Bryan Weekly Eagle, 3 November 1921, page 1

“Tabor and Woodville Win,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 4 November 1921, p.4

“Woodville School Has Easter Egg Hunt,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 14 April 1922, p.1

“Woodville School Has Community Meeting,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 20 April 1922, p.1

“Thirty of Colored Rural Schools Have 400 Children Parade,” Bryan Weekly Eagle, 23 March 1922, p.1. Mentions Woodville school in passing.

“Woodville School Has a Successful Year,” Bryan Daily Eagle, 28 April 1922, p.1

“Woodville Notes,” Bryan Weekly Eagle, 8 November 1923, page 3