

21 April 2025

Linda Haught Ortega

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TIMELINE:

RE: HAUGHT CEMETERY / AKA Slapfoot Cemetery, Mesquite, Texas.
(Now designated **at 5925 Shannon Rd., Mesquite, Texas 75149**)

Legal Desc.: **Samuel A. Haught Abstract 567 pg 696 Tr 40 ACS 0.60 Cemetery, Vol (Deed) 63/0639-640. 0567-696-104-000 1CM0567-696-1**

CIVIL SUIT: TX-25-00161, 160th District Court, Dallas County, Texas

Family History; 1845 Samuel Ache Haught I, along with his brothers Adam C. Haught, Peter B. Haught, and other relatives migrated from Illinois to Texas to claim land in the "Peter's Colony" land grants. My Gr-grandfather **Samuel A. Haught I (Sr.)** and younger brother Peter served in the "Hays Regiment" in the 1845 War with Mexico, transferring to Gen. Scott's troops fighting all the way from Vera Cruz to Mexico City, for which they were given more land.

S.A. Haught I (Sr) built a home, General store, Post Office, Stage Coach Stop, sawmill, grist mill, and planted an orchard at the property adjacent to the family graveyard. S. A. Haught I and wife Isabella Jane DeVold raised a large family there. This area was known as Haught's Store, until S.A. Haught I, Sr. and son S.A. Haught Jr. sold out to Mr. Lawson and others and migrated to Arizona in 1885.

Before the move west, in **Dec., 1883 S.A. Haught Sr. deeded 6/10 acres for a family graveyard as Recorded in Warranty Deed #63 pgs. 639-640.**

There is a lot of Texas History connected to the Haught family. **Gr.-Uncle Adam C.. Haught** was one of the early Sheriffs of Dallas (1854). He died in Nov. 1880 (His desc, say he is buried in this Cemetery.). **Alfred B. Haught I** was a younger brother to S.A. Haught I, in 1849 he and his brother-in-law James T. Miller rode horseback from Tx to Calif., fought the Indians at the Colorado river near Yuma, and returned from Ca. with saddlebags full of gold. Alfred Haught I died from pneumonia Feb. 1860 at the family home and was buried in this cemetery. His headstone was still there a few years ago.

Alfred Haught II, AKA/ in Az. as Uncle Fred Haught; brother to S.A. Haught II (Jr.) Was a Texas Ranger serving in the Indian Wars under Capt. G. W. Stephens. After two years with the Rangers; Fred made it to Cripple Creek, Colorado (1872). After a gun battle there, Fred walked from Cripple Creek, Col. to Flagstaff, Az. got a job with the Ashurst Cattle Co., and started roaming all over the mountain country of Arizona. Fred wrote letters back to Texas encouraging his Father and brother to move to Arizona. Fred is buried in Young, Az.

Nephew to S. A. Haught I, **Thomas Henry Taylor**, according to Texas Muster roll, was in Darnell's Reg. CSA., Under Capt. Ed. C. Broder, enlisted Jan. 15, 1862. He was murdered on the "plains" and his remains were buried in the Haught graveyard.

Jerry Holford, one of the cousins, for which the "Jerry Plains" are named for is also thought to be buried in the Haught Cemetery.

Capt. Calvin LaFayette Bennett who died. 27 May 1916 was also interred in this graveyard. His headstone was destroyed in 2001.

Many of the sisters, daughters and granddaughters are also buried in this graveyard.

In May of 1885, S. A. Haught I (Sr.), wife Isabella, and son, S. A. Haught II drove a herd of cattle to Arizona, the trek took three months. Many of the descendants of Adam C. Haught and Peter Haught also migrated to Arizona. This left the married daughters

and their descendants in the Dallas area, these families are the **Cumbys, Farmers, Paschalls, Andersons, Coles, and Doziers etc. who are also named in the Civil suit.** Many of the descendants named in the civil suit are deceased.

Another discrepancy that has created some confusion is the S. A. Haught Jr. family. After S. A. Haught Sr. I, passed in 1900, my grandfather, S. A. Haught Jr. II (b. 1857), took on the name as S. A. Haught Sr. and his son who was named James Ache Haught (b. 1896) according to his sister, Mildred Haught. James was known as "Jim Sam" Haught, but then started using the name S. A. Haught Jr. and his family uses that today.

I am, Linda Haught Ortega, Samuel Ache Haught Sr., gr-granddaughter, through the son S. A. Haught Jr. My father was Alfred C. Haught. I am named in the **Civil Suit, TX- 25-00161** but did not get served. My 89 yr. old sister, **Georgia Haught Stratton (now Lann) was served about the 12th of March 2025, and 82 yr old cousin Donnie Haught was served a week or so later by the Gila County sheriff's Office in Payson, Az.** Donnie Haught is experiencing early onset Dementia and this was very upsetting for him. Everyone thought this was a "scam" until I got word of it and went to contacting Dallas County.

After speaking with **Diana one of the Supervisors in the Tax Assessor's Office**, I learned that one of the elderly descendants, **Lucille (Cole) Maxwell, of Mesquite** had been listed in the **Assessor's records as "Caretaker."** Also, was told that "someone" attempted to file for "Tax-Exemption," in 2000, but never continued with documentation. **Lucille Maxwell died in 2000 at the age of 94.** I believe this must have been Lucille and old-age took her before she could finish this.

I was also told by another **Assessor Supervisor, Patrick Healy,** that a **"Field Appraiser" from the Assessor's Office couldn't "Find" the graves.** And the Tax-Exemption was removed in 2003. This graveyard is behind a property owned by **Miguel Vargas,** and used as a horse pasture. **This was an**

unfortunate “Oversight” that has precipitated the graveyard losing its Tax-Exemption.

About 2018, a Real Estate Agent from Mesquite, **Dioniso Ruben Flores (214-859-2180)** contacted me wanting to know if anyone in the family might want to buy this little farm and save the graveyard. I was not financially able to undertake this purchase at that at time and did appreciate Mr. Flores interest in preserving the graveyard. I did not know of Lucille Maxwell at that time or any other relatives in the Mesquite vicinity. **Evidently Mr. Flores sold the property to Mr. Miguel Vargas and a Mrs. Luna-Lopez (?), According to an Assessor employee, Mike, the Property was sold to a Jose Guadalupe 25 Sept 2023 from Mr. Vargas, but the Assessor’s Office would not transfer the deed because of the 06/10 of an acre owned by S. A. Haught Sr. Et al. (Note: S. A. Haught Sr. I, died in Az. in 1900).**

I was told that an Attorney, George Walter McCool, has been named as the Public Defender Attorney for this case. Tx- 25-00161.

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