

A FAMILY OF THE LAND



In 1884, C.S. Haggard moved his family to Fairview Farm, on what is now Park Boulevard.

Courtesy photo



The Dallas Morning News: Michael Mulvey

Descendants of C.S. Haggard gathered in December 1999 on their land near EDS in Plano. Clockwise, from left: Clint Haggard, Clay Haggard, Owen Haggard, Rutledge Haggard, Emajean Haggard Hall,

Michael Hall, Toby Haggard and Michael Hall Jr. C.S. Haggard and his father, John Haggard II, arrived in what is now Plano in 1856 with \$3,000 — about \$50,000 in today's dollars — to begin life anew.

Haggards came to farm and stayed to prosper

Last of five parts

By Steve Quinn
Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

As Rutledge Haggard stares out at his family's vast farmland in west Plano, an image takes shape.

It is a reassuring apparition: a red-headed boy helping his father, Clifton Rice Haggard, with the farm chores the Haggards had done for decades.

"Whenever I saw my dad work on something, I put down what I was doing and went over to help him, although I'm not so sure if I was helping or getting in the way. But he never sent me away," said Rutledge Haggard, whose 63 years belie



C. S. Haggard Golden Wedding, 1909

Courtesy photo

FIRST FAMILIES: THE HAGGARDS

his powerful looking 6-foot-2-inch frame that still fills out a pair of blue-jean overalls each morning.

"I love to get my hands dirty; I'm a hands-on person, and Dad was that way," he said. "I'll always have fond memories of working with my dad because there wasn't anything my dad wouldn't try to fix or do."

Looking farther out, however, the image of times gone by fades, and the

The Haggard family gathered for the golden wedding anniversary of C.S. Haggard in 1909. The family business grew to cover 2,000 acres by the time C.S. Haggard died in 1930 at the age of 92.

reality of Plano's future is clear.

To the north is Legacy Park, the sprawling complex that is home to Electronic Data Systems Corp., J.C. Penney Co. and Frito-Lay Inc., among others. To the west is the Dallas North Tollway and its frontage roads, which bisect the farmland owned by Rutledge Haggard and his brother, Owen Haggard.

It all sits on land that belonged to the Haggards, who first arrived in Plano from

Kentucky in 1856.

Rutledge and Owen Haggard still farm what's left — and so do their cousins Rodney Haggard and Mike Hall, farther east along Park Boulevard — usually at a loss.

But the land brings wealth when it sprouts the kind of development that has transformed Plano from a country town to

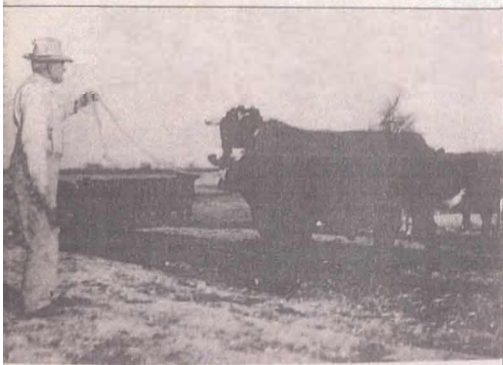
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FIRST FAMILIES: THE HAGGARDS

TIME OLINE: 1951-1999

1951 The North Texas Municipal Water District is organized.	1956 City leaders enact zoning ordinances to control growth.	1957 Plano's first police chief is appointed; the Lavon Reservoir is acquired for the city's water supply.	1958 North Central Expressway is completed through Plano.	1960 Plano's population reaches 3,695.	1964 Voters approve a \$2.14 million, five-year capital improvement program.	1965 The Plano Wildcats win the first of five state football championships.	1968 Plano issues \$16 million in building permits, including 481 new-home permits.	1969 Gladys Harrington Library, the city's first, opens its doors.	1973 Col. Sam Johnson returns to Plano after being held as a prisoner of war since 1966.	1975 The last cotton gin in Plano shuts down.	1978 Plano school district enrollment reaches 20,000.	1980 Construction begins on headquarters for Electronic Data Systems Corp.	1983-84 Eight area teenagers commit suicide, bringing national attention to Plano.	1985 Voters approve two bond packages totaling more than \$220 million for schools and capital improvements.	1986 Plano's unemployment rate reaches 7 percent, the highest since 1980.	1996-99 19 young people with Plano ties die from heroin overdoses, again bringing the city national attention.
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The Dallas Morning News



Clyde Haggard and his prized shorthorn bull

Courtesy photo

Family photo shows Clyde Haggard, whose great-grandfather moved to Texas from Kentucky, displaying his prized shorthorn bull on farmland in what is now Legacy Park.

Five generations of Haggards glean success from land



Courtesy photo

The family of C.S. Haggard, who lived in this house in 1884, grew to include nine children: Mary Catherine, Nannie Eliza-

beth, John William, Jennie Lee, Emma Frances Quisenberry, Annie Belle, Clifton Turner, Mattie Sue and Walter Owen.

Continued from Page 1J.
a burgeoning suburb of 230,000 people.

"I still love the farm, and if I could make a living at it, this is where I'd be, but there is no way to make that kind of living in this area," said Rutledge Haggard, who with brother Owen, sister Linda Brookshire, and several of their children manage Haggard Properties Inc. That company has developed or sold off 350 acres of the family's land holdings, which continue to be extensive.

"When a piece of land is developed, in my mind, it's not farmland anymore. It's got other purposes now," Rutledge Haggard said.

The value of mules

When John Haggard II and the youngest of his 10 children, Clinton Shepard Haggard, came from Winchester, Ky., in 1856, land in Plano had one purpose: farming.

The Haggards arrived with \$3,000 — about \$50,000 in today's dollars — to begin life anew. John Haggard II died two years after settling here, leaving his son C.S. Haggard to become patriarch of a family

"Land was his way of saving. Some go invest in the stock market or banks. His investment, his portfolio, was in land."

— Owen Haggard, 56, describing his great-grandfather, C.S. Haggard

ly that now has reached its fifth active generation.

C.S. Haggard, who had led a jackass from Kentucky behind his father's covered wagon, saw the value of mules to farmers. The Haggards became recognized as one of the state's first big mule breeders.

"I recall that was the way he got his start when he moved to Texas with the mules," said great-grandson John Yates Haggard, 78. "At the time they were the power of the farm."

The Haggards are among Plano's many Kentucky-born settlers, which included the Harringtons, Carpenters, Shepards, Lunsfords, Formans and Bushes.

"Everybody was kin folk back then," said Emajean Haggard Hall, 82, who recalled living seven years with grandfather C.S. Haggard while her father, Walter Owen Haggard, worked on the family's farm. "You didn't dare talk about anybody because you would be talking about kin folk, and we loved having kin folk over to the house."

The first stop for the family was on land currently farmed by Rutledge Haggard, located just south of Spring Creek Parkway and along the east side of the Tollway. In 1884,

C.S. Haggard moved the clan to Fairview Farm, located on what is now Park Boulevard and identified by the iron archway bearing the family name.

The family grew to include nine children. There was Mary Catherine, who was called Mollie; Nannie Elizabeth; John William; Jennie Lee; Emma Frances Quisenberry; Annie Belle; Clifton Turner; Mattie Sue; and Walter Owen.

C.S. Haggard "had this wonderful gray beard that everybody loved," said Nannie Elizabeth's daughter Gladys Harrington, who, at 98, is the oldest living Haggard descendant. "Even when he got older, he loved working in his garden and when he would sit outside, he used to love having company and having us sit on his lap."

The family business grew as well, to include 2,000 acres by the time C.S. Haggard died in 1930 at the age of 92.

"Land was his way of saving," Owen Haggard, 56, said of his great-grandfather. "Some go invest in the stock market or banks. His investment, his portfolio, was in land."

A farming tradition

Farming remained strong through the next two generations. John William Haggard and his sons, Clyde, Ray and John Clinton Haggard continued to move livestock, particularly mules, sheep and short-horns, through Plano from their farmland located in what is now Legacy Park.

Ray Haggard warned his family that farming would have to give way to development, his son John Yates Haggard recalled.

"They said it was going to happen, that we would have a population explosion and we would be sitting on top of it while it was taking place and never realize it," said John Yates Haggard, who grew up along Tennyson Road.

"We had a big old pecan tree in

"We don't have the typical developer's point of view: Get in there as quick as you can, develop it and get out of there. We want to take our time, because we are going to be the new tenant's neighbor one way or another."

— Toby Haggard, 30

my yard," he said of the land where apartments and an office building now stand. "When I go back out there, I can still locate that pecan tree. I used to have a tree house for me and other children to play in." Farther east, W.O. Haggard Sr.,

"Dad said, 'When it's time to go on, it's time to go on.' . . . He said, 'When it gets time to develop, don't let it pass you by.' I wished on one hand we could leave it like it is and have dirt roads and a small country town. I know that can't be. At the same time I wish I could live long enough to see what happens to the old place."

— Owen Haggard, 56

the youngest of C.S. Haggard's children, succeeded his father as the family patriarch.

He told his children and grandchildren that he'd like for them all to strike oil, Rutledge Haggard recalled, "but if it meant splitting up the family, he'd rather us be poor."

W.O. Haggard's family was the second to live at Fairview Farm, where daylong picnics would be held nearly every Sunday after services at First Christian Church.

Chores were doled out. Grandchildren Rodney Haggard and Mike Hall rode their bikes while moving livestock east to pastures that now are home to 15th Street shopping centers.

"We used to go right through town," said Mike Hall, 53. "I remember the ladies on the front porch with brooms in their hands making sure the sheep and the cattle didn't come on the front porch. It was always an adventure and a lot of fun."

W.O. Haggard lived 76 years, despite several heart attacks.

"He was a gentleman-type farmer, and he was a hard worker, but he always wore a coat and a tie," said Rodney Haggard, 51, who still keeps his grandfather's farm active while running Fairview Farms Development Co. in east Plano.

"When you think about it, it's unbelievable now, but he was out there fixin' fence wearing a coat and tie. [C.S. Haggard] instilled things in my grandfather, and my grandfather had a knack for taking it to the next step. He made sure we understood that we were blessed."

Changing with Plano

Farming remained the family staple for one just more generation.

Clifton Rice Haggard, W.O. Haggard Jr., their sons and a nephew continued working the land for livestock as well as corn, milo, wheat and cotton.

But neither man let a farmer's

NAMED FOR THE HAGGARDS

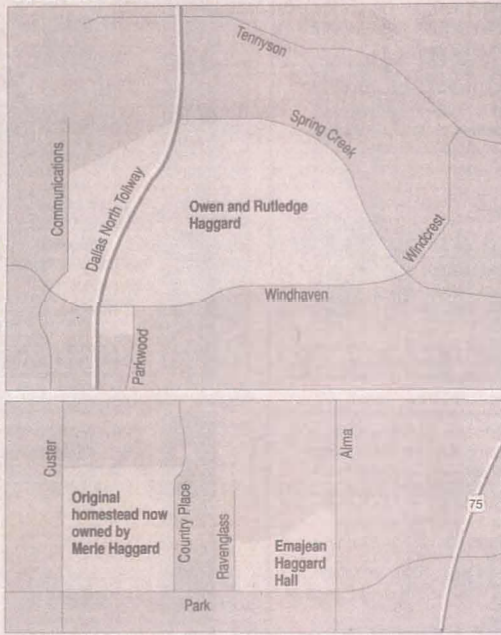
- **W.O. Haggard Jr. Library**, 2501 Coit Road. Plano's third library and its largest opened in 1989.
- **Haggard Middle School**, 2401 Westside Drive. The school opened in 1974.
- **Haggard Park**, between 15th and 16th streets and Avenues H and J. The 5-acre park is a focal point for activities downtown.
- **Haggard Street**, east of Central Expressway between Park Boulevard and 18th Street.
- **Gladys Harrington Library and Rice Middle School**. Both buildings are named for Haggard descendants.



The Dallas Morning News/Michael Mulvey

The Haggards came to Plano from Kentucky in 1856.

THE HAGGARD FARMS TODAY



The Dallas Morning News

pride get in the way of sound business thinking. As Plano changed, so too would the Haggard family's mission.

"Dad said, 'When it's time to go on, it's time to go on,'" Owen Haggard said. "He said, 'When it gets time to develop, don't let it pass you by.' I wished on one hand we could leave it like it is and have dirt roads and a small country town. I know that can't be. At the same time I wish I could live long enough to see what happens to the old place."

What is next only time will tell, but an indelible legacy already is in place.

C.S. Haggard helped establish Add-Ran College, now Texas Christian University, where many Haggards still pursue higher education. Clifton Rice Haggard, W.O. Haggard Jr. and Rutledge Haggard each served on the Plano school board.

"We've got a duty to leave something here, too," said Owen Haggard's 30-year-old son, Toby Haggard, who works for Haggard Properties, pursues his own development ventures and works with livestock on his father's land.

"There is not an unlimited supply of land," he said, "so we'd still like to own as much of it as possible.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

First Families tells the stories of five Plano families that have had a lasting impact.

- **Tuesday: THE ROUTHs** – Jacob Routh and his family arrived in 1851 and purchased almost 1,000 acres of prairie land straddling what would become Plano and Richardson.
- **Wednesday: THE CARPENTERS** – The Civil War and the emancipation of slaves wrecked Collin County's farms, but the arrival of barbed wire and railroads revived farmers' livelihood.
- **Thursday: THE DRAKES** – The descendants of former slave Andy Drake are thought to be among the oldest and largest black families in Plano. In 1884, his children helped found Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.
- **Friday: THE VINESES** – Between 1870 and 1962, when the patriarch's last great-grandson graduated from Plano High School, the Vines name was synonymous with hard work and family.
- **Saturday: THE HAGGARDS** – Logacy Park and the Dallas North Tollway, symbols of Plano's explosive growth, both sit on land that once belonged to the Haggards, who arrived from Kentucky in 1856.

SOURCES:

- *History of the Haggard Family in England and America 1433 to 1899 to 1938*, by Jennie Haggard Ray; *Plano, Texas: The Early Years* by Mozelle Jones Campbell, Maribelle McLaurine Davis, Betty Harrington Stranz, Frances Bates Wells and Shirley Carter Schell; *Plano: An Illustrated Chronicle*, by Vicki Northcutt; *Collin County, Texas, Families*, by Alice Elison Pitts and Minnie Pitts Champ.
- *Plano Star Courier*, Oct. 6, 1904.
- Interviews with Rutledge Haggard, Owen Haggard, Toby Haggard, John Yates Haggard, Rodney Haggard, Haggard Shepard, Gladys Harrington, Emajeon Haggard Hall, Michael Hall and Michael Hall Jr.

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