

Prairie View A&M University

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5-2-1892

Place Name In Waller County

Prairie View College

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PLACE NAMES IN WALLER COUNTY

1. Cedar Creek: Named Cedar Creek because of the many cedars growing along the banks.
2. Cedar Creek (town): This is a community - not a town - on the creek of Cedar Creek. There was at one time a Lutheran Church, a public school and a family broom factory there. The broom factory was run by a Mr. Lappe. Now the school is consolidated with the Hempstead Independent School District, the Lutheran Church has disbanded and the broom factory is no more. There is a cemetery there.
3. Brushy Creek: This is a creek in the eastern part of the top of the reversed seven, which is the shape of Waller County. The creek was named Brushy Creek because of the density of the undergrowth along its banks.
4. Walnut Creek: Another creek in about the same area as Brushy Creek. This creek is named Walnut Creek because of the great walnut trees that grew in The Bottom along the creek.
5. Clear Creek: So named because of the clearness of the stream except at flood time.
6. Prairie View A&M College: In the early days of this area Mrs. Kirby maintained a boarding school for white girls in her plantation home. These Kirbys are the ones who have done the years done much for the University of Texas. The name of Mrs Kirby's school was Alta Vista. According to the best records we can get the land grant college for colored youth who wished to study agriculture was first called Alta Vista, but sometime between the time of the establishment of the land grant college and its being changed to a normal college the name was changed to Prairie View which was the nearest they could get to an Anglicized translation of Alta Vista. The building where the Alta Vista girls' school was held is still on the Prairie View campus and is maintained in excellent condition. The name Alta Vista is over the front door. The Alta Vista Building is a fraternity house now. This building is in about the center of the Prairie View campus.
7. Kirby Chanel: Colonel Kirby gave several acres of land some two and one-half miles north of his home at Alta Vista for a church and cemetery. The church that was built was named Kirby Chapel and the cemetery the Kirby Chapel Cemetery. The cemetery is one of the oldest in Waller County. It is beautifully kept. The church is no longer there.

Prairie View Post Office established May 2, 1892 - J.C.W. - Washington DC. Information from National Archives & Record Service J.C.W.

This was information in the files of Judge John C. Wimpree

Mrs J.C.W.