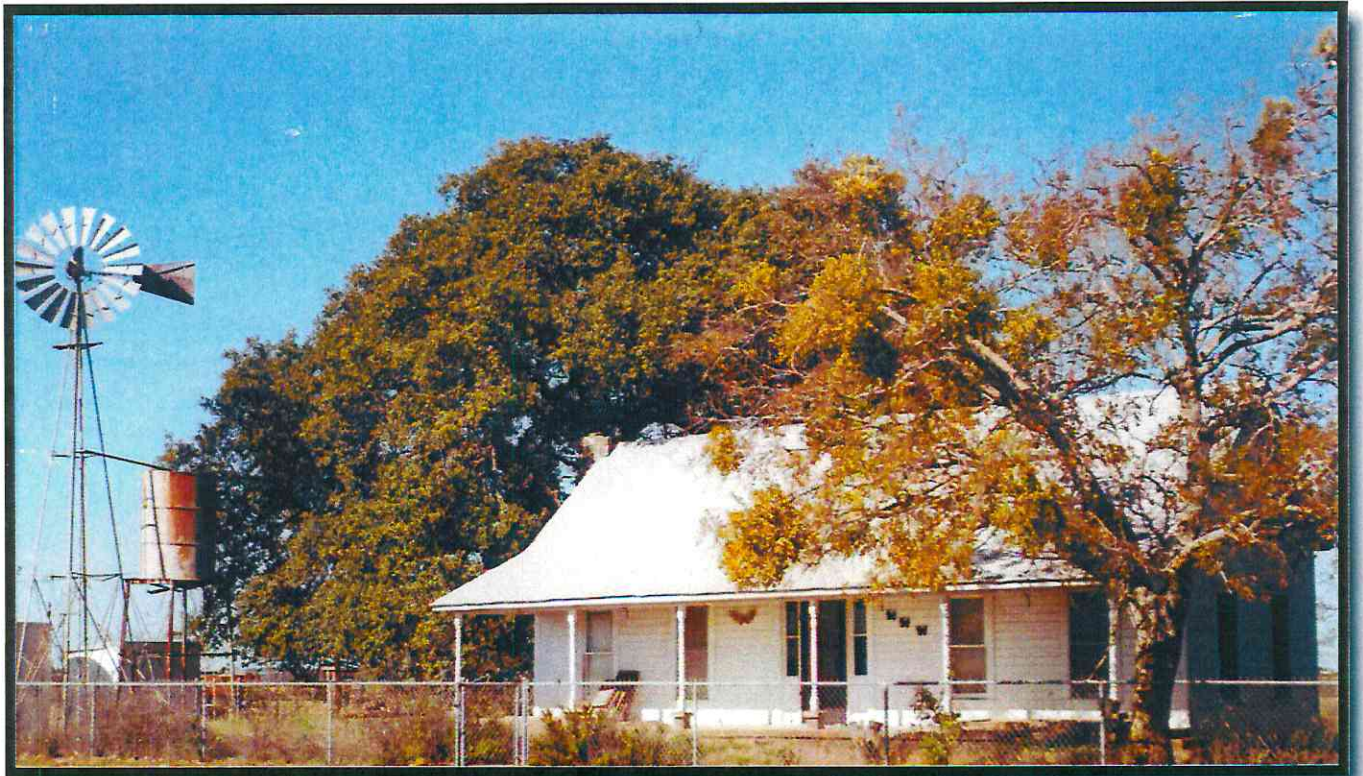


THREE OAKS RANCH

Pearl, Texas





THE J. A. (ANGRESS) AND LOU (EDMONDSON) HARRIS HOME

Written by research of warranty deeds all filed in the court house at Gatesville, Texas, Coryell County. The story form stated to me, Carrie Evelyn Doyle Harris by my husband Sammie A. Harris. His middle name is Angress after his grandfather.

Land filed - Patent- Republic of Texas, when Texas was no longer Mexico to Banared E. Bee on January 31, 1846, filed on August 4, 1874. Property owned by numerous parties. One stood out to me Vester Parish, St. James of South Carolina. The last owned before Angress Harris was W. A. Dodds. J. P. Edmondson (probably Mary Pool's grandfather) and J. A. Angress Harris filed deed November 17, 1906, recorded V.51, page 191 in Coryell County, Texas. Statutory taken by B. F. DeLoach, Justice of Peace related to many a resident at Pearl. He married many of your grandparents of Pearl, including my parents, John and Ellen Beavers Doyle, usually all sat in their buggies for the marriage ceremony.

The Harris children, Etta, Quida, and Arthur were born somewhere near Sweet Home School. Aunt Etta told me "Hay Valley," not to be confused near Jonesboro or Turnersville - perhaps someone knows where this is. I can find no evidence when the main home was built but Sam said it was definitely built when or before Dobbs was in residence. The kitchen sat a small distance from the main house, due to severe heat from the kitchen. Nearly all kitchens were set apart from the homes. In research I found insurance purchased by Angress Harris. It included small house with kitchen, smoke house (very important for butchered hogs), wood roof, one stoop, five rooms, two verandas, brick flu, stone chimney, 10 foot ceilings (some homes long ago didn't have ceilings) and a barn. Angress moved the kitchen attaching it to the main house before 1929. There is proof of this today in the middle bedroom that Sam and I occupied. Three walls are beaded walls, but the south wall had outdoor siding.

Very few homes are still in existence or lived in with beaded walls and ten foot ceilings. I always painted the entire interior painstakingly - so difficult to paint beaded walls, they are so narrow with groves in between. I always painted with brushes. (I am sure Edward Schaub could have painted it very easily). Wanda Manning is the only one I can think of who has beaded walls- perhaps Ralph and Eva Bailey? I kept serene and calming light aqua on the walls.

When I moved to Lubbock I rented my house and leased my land. Renters moved in rent free for "improving" my home. Can you imagine my feelings when the first time I went to inspect my home - black, red and putrid colors on the walls accosted me. I was literally ill. Gone forever was my cool aqua!

Lou Harris (Sam's Grandmother) loved cooking, nature, gardening and flowers and knew every family who drove right by the front of their house by wagon or buggy. When "dinner" was ready (lunch to us) she put a pillow with a white pillow case on the top of the roof. Family and neighbors knew when it was time for dinner and came home to eat. The Harris family lived on a hill, so all the neighbors stopped field work to eat the same time. No one wore watches. Lou would clean the kitchen, then set the table for supper. She always put a white tablecloth over the clean dishes and silver ware (I suppose to keep dust and flies away). She still found time to bake "tea-cakes" for Sammie and kept the cookie jar full for him.

Lou's Holly Hocks and Poppies were still blooming profusely when Sam and I married January 28, 1974. Sorry, I did this but I destroyed Lou's beautiful scarlet red Poppies. See, Sam and I read it was illegal to grow any plants that could produce dope! A subject Sam and I were not too aware of. I knew Poppies produced something illegal and I can't today remember what the drug is. I know Lou grew them for their beautiful color. I kept the Holly Hocks growing on the west side of the house, but they finally died out. Angress believed and lived the adage "early to bed and early to rise." He got up at 4:00 AM and got three sleepy children up also. He worked hard and was a good "godly" man and a strong Christian man. He and Charlie Herrington (not to be confused with Edgar Herrington who so many of us remember and wife Stella, and all know Nita Herrington Ballard and sisters). Anyway they, Charles and Angress established the first Church of Christ in the Slater School House. Angress and Lou started worshiping later at the Pearl Church of Christ. He was a very hard worker and early leader at the Pearl Church of Christ. He did all the interviewing and hiring of the preachers for the week long gospel meetings held annually.

I sent a letter written from some preacher to J. A. (Angress) interested in preaching gospel meetings that was written many years ago. I believe Linda Ray told me it was filed at the church under glass. It was very old and fragile. I found it before my estate sale of the Harris estate. Sam was very disappointed that his Grandfather Angress was not acknowledged as a leader in early history of the Pearl Church of Christ. Many preachers stayed in Angress and Lou's home. Later Arthur and Ms. Lula kept the Church of Christ preachers even though she didn't attend the Church of Christ. Angress had the first Delco system (sort of like electricity, but certainly not as effective by any means). The home still has antique Delco Chandeliers with electric light bulbs. One Delco box is still on the east side of the home. We DoYLES were too poor for Delco. I remember my uncle Ivy and Aunt Amanda Doyle Edmondson (Jessy Pool's grandparents) had Delco. I was so fascinated with it. When Etta, Ouida and Ivy Arthur were grown and married they lived in the back pasture in a smaller house. When Lou died July 13, 1928, a very hot summer day, Angress was so lonely without Lou, he wanted to trade houses with Arthur, Luke and Sam.

Everything reminded him of Lou. Sam didn't like it at the new home. He was homesick for his isolated home. Ms. Lula, taught school at Sweet Home. At the age of 4, Sam walked all the way with her. She taught at Pearl, Purmela, Pidcoke and Oglesby. She taught first grade to Sam. He didn't want to ever be called "teacher's pet" since she was his Mother, so he was not always obedient in her class. She put him under her desk. One day he tied both of her shoe laces together. She made him eat his lunch under her desk. Seven years later she was my first grade teacher. Arthur enjoyed farming, and also did custom farming around Pearl. He always enjoyed life. He was a strong Church of Christ and was always there on Sunday. Lula, a strong Baptist was always at the Pearl Baptist church on Sunday. Sam didn't want bad feelings from either parent so he rode his bike to the Pearl Methodist Church on Sunday. Sunday evenings a lot of young married couples came to the Harris living room to visit and dance to the wind-up Victrola. One eventful trip was when Sam and his parents went to Waco to see and hear Bob Wills. Sam learned hard work from both parents. He worked in the fields, milked the cows, helped raise turkeys, hogs, chickens, and sheep.

While his parents were selling produce in Gatesville, Sam was at the Ritz Theater. While Sam was in the army after college at Tarleton in 1943, a very sad life-shattering experience happened to him. His dad, Arthur, like so many at Pearl, worked at "Camp Hood" - Fort Hood. Arthur was accosted on pay day by a stranger who beat him severely on and around his head until he was unconscious and stole his paycheck. He never regained consciousness - was murdered for a mere paycheck. That was all anyone could talk about around Pearl, he was so loved. Sam never saw his loveable, patient dad again. He was so serious about life from that day. He wanted to serve his country and had a hard decision. Lula said his duty was to be at home and be the man and do the farming. He accepted the responsibility of man of the house but always felt he neglected his country. He devoted his time to farming, caring for his stock, devoting all free time to his mother.

She loved teaching and the Pleasure and Profit Club. Her greatest interest was her "42" club friends; Sam dutifully took her and played "42" with her friends. Sam loved the older folks - Tom and Coma Jones, Tulle Robinson, Pete and Dottie Bynum, he just needed to be with younger friends his age. After we married he said, "I hope I never have to play "42" again." He missed his age group. He was a dutiful son and seldom dated. He had several buddies, Bobby Manning, C. B. Whatley, Albert Freeman, Ronald Ballard, and Eugene Franklin. He attended the Baptist church with Lula. She donated a lot of time and money to the Pearl Baptist when the church was remodeled. She also donated money to build a wrought iron gate that still sets at the entrance of the Pearl Cemetery. One of the Conner boys made the gate, I'm not sure if it was Boyce or Glenn. Lula developed an interest in flowers and joined a garden club and Sam continued his huge vegetable garden. The home place always reminded me of children's laughter, young adults and fun times. I enjoyed living there. Sam and I had a wonderful, loving marriage and we worked hard mending fences, raising sheep and cattle, working the garden and canning the vegetables, fishing with a rod and reel. We also enjoyed trot line fishing to put cat fish in the freezer and swimming in our creek.

And we enjoyed our annual trip to the cool mountains or Ruidoso, New Mexico for a week each year. James and Beverly Freeman took care of our spoiled Sheltie "Bear" and fed the yard and barn cats while we were gone. Sam closed in the back veranda (porch), had entrance hall, walk-in-closet, a bathroom, 2 utility rooms with large freezer, washer, dryer, cabinet from floor to top of ceiling, installed 2 car garage. I bought a new kitchen range, hired Tony Doyle to build a new food bar and at the same time we added a big reservoir and new plumbing and installed a pressure pump. We had just gotten county water.

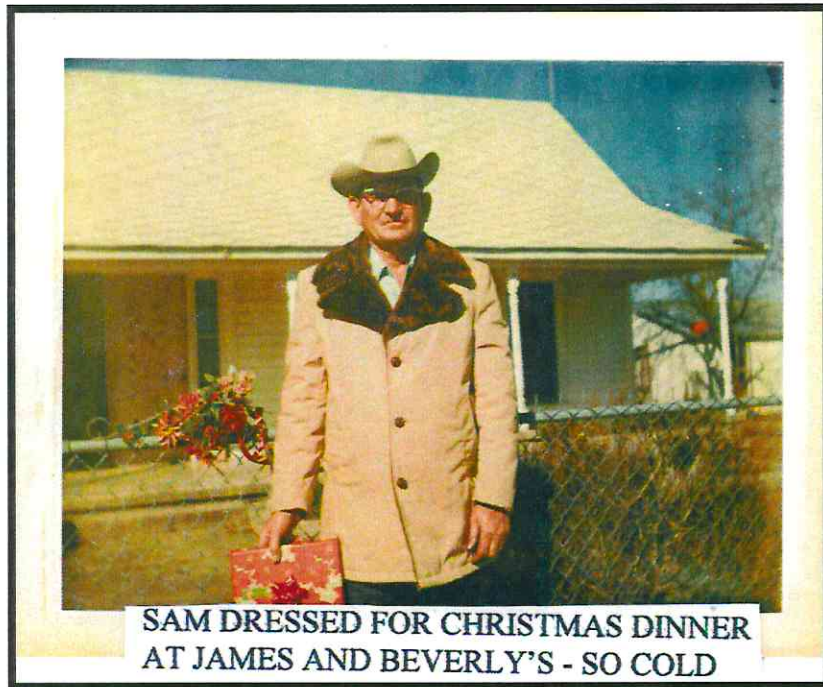
Lou, Ms. Lula and I all had a love of pretty flowers..I loved Tulips, Jonquils, Petunia, Red Surprise, Lilies, Mums, and enjoyed resetting, and planting cuttings of roses in small containers. I gave Glennyth Medart an old strainer full of purple with lavender Petunias. They came up where Lu grew them many years. Glennyth also knew of our "weather" plants, the blooming Sage. When there was a forecast of rain, Glennyth called to ask Sam how many blooms were on the Sage. Numerous blooms meant lots of rain, a few blooms meant a shower, one or two blooms meant no rain. It works! My first renter chopped down the sage - I cried.. David Doyle, my honest and trustworthy (tender hearted) nephew was and is the manager of my place. He worked and brought some of the sage back to life. All four grandchildren loved staying with us at Pearl. Sam so loved the kids - they loved him right back. There are three huge live oaks inside of the fence on the north. Sam said they were always there. He wanted the place named the "3 OAKS". A non functioning wind mill stall stands and old metal tank, new reservoirs and a pump house. We had 28 wonderful years together before his death!

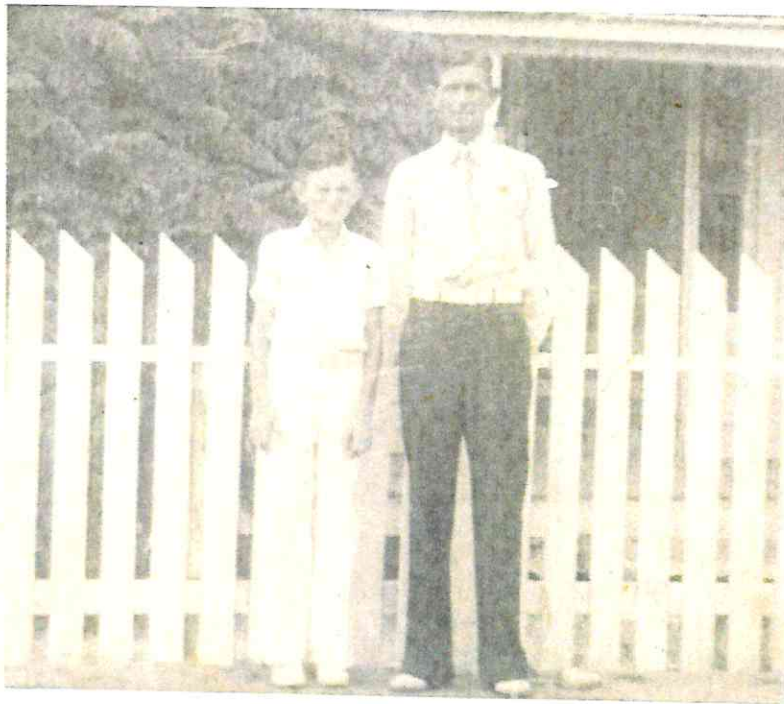
We both loved company, especially family - James and Beverly Freeman often. They took good care of Sam. Ronald and Linda Ray were the last ones to see him alive in Gatesville. They saw how much he needed them. He wouldn't leave there until he bought a special Valentine for me.

Ron drove our car to bring him home and Linda drove their car. I am extremely grateful to them for taking care of him. He died the next morning on February 14, Valentine's Day. I found him lying in the front yard with one foot on the porch.

I called Beverly and James and they came immediately at 2:00 AM and took over everything. I was bed fast and in shock. James found an unsigned Valentine card for me. I told James and Beverly I could never ever repay them for the numerous times and deeds they did for us all the time. Sam loved the Pearl Church of Christ and for two years we knew what we were going to do to help the church. (\$50,000 was donated to the Pearl Church of Christ in memory of Sammie Harris) I just wasn't ready to loose my dear, good husband. Part of my heart is in Pearl and it will always be my church home

Carrie Evelyn Doyle Harris February 18, 2012





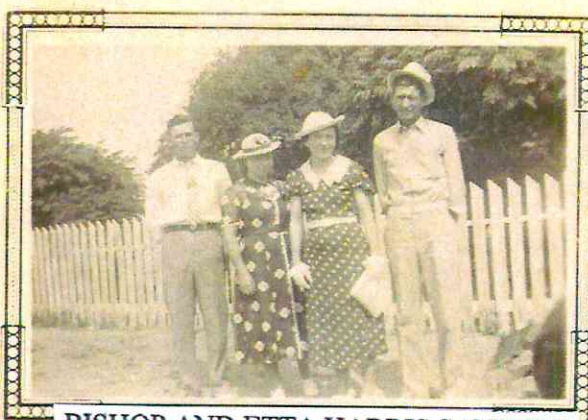
ARTHUR AND SAMMIE HARRIS



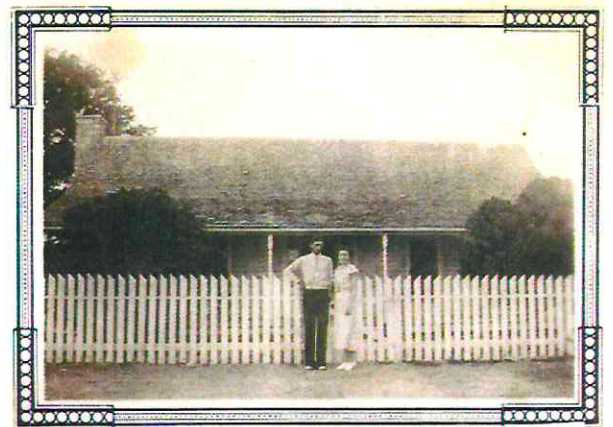
ANGRESS AND LOU HARRIS



J. A. (ANGRESS) HARRIS



BISHOP AND ETTA HARRIS SANDERS
LULA AND ARTHUR HARRIS



ARTHUR AND LULA BUNNELL HARRIS