



## Joseph Warren Russell, Sr.

Joseph Warren Russell, Sr. was born in North Carolina on December 13, 1799. He moved to Missouri as a young man, where he married Elizabeth Grey. The couple lived in Independence, Missouri, where five children were born: Mary, Nancy, Elizabeth, Isabelle, and Joseph Warren, Jr.

Lured by the promise of new lands in Peters Colony, the family moved to Texas in 1845, to what is now Plano, Texas. Joseph patented his 640 acres in two tracts about a mile apart, with Rowlett Creek running through both. First they lived on the tract near old Indian Hole. Before 1850, they moved to their other tract of land, in a fork of Rowlett Creek, by what is now called the Russell Branch.

In November of 1847, a Methodist church was organized in the Russell home. It was one of the first Methodist churches in Collin County. Their home remained the church meeting place until 1856, when the congregation moved to the Spring Creek schoolhouse.

Joseph was a farmer and a carpenter. He died on November 10, 1882, after several years of blindness, and is buried along with other family members in Bowman Cemetery in Plano, Texas.