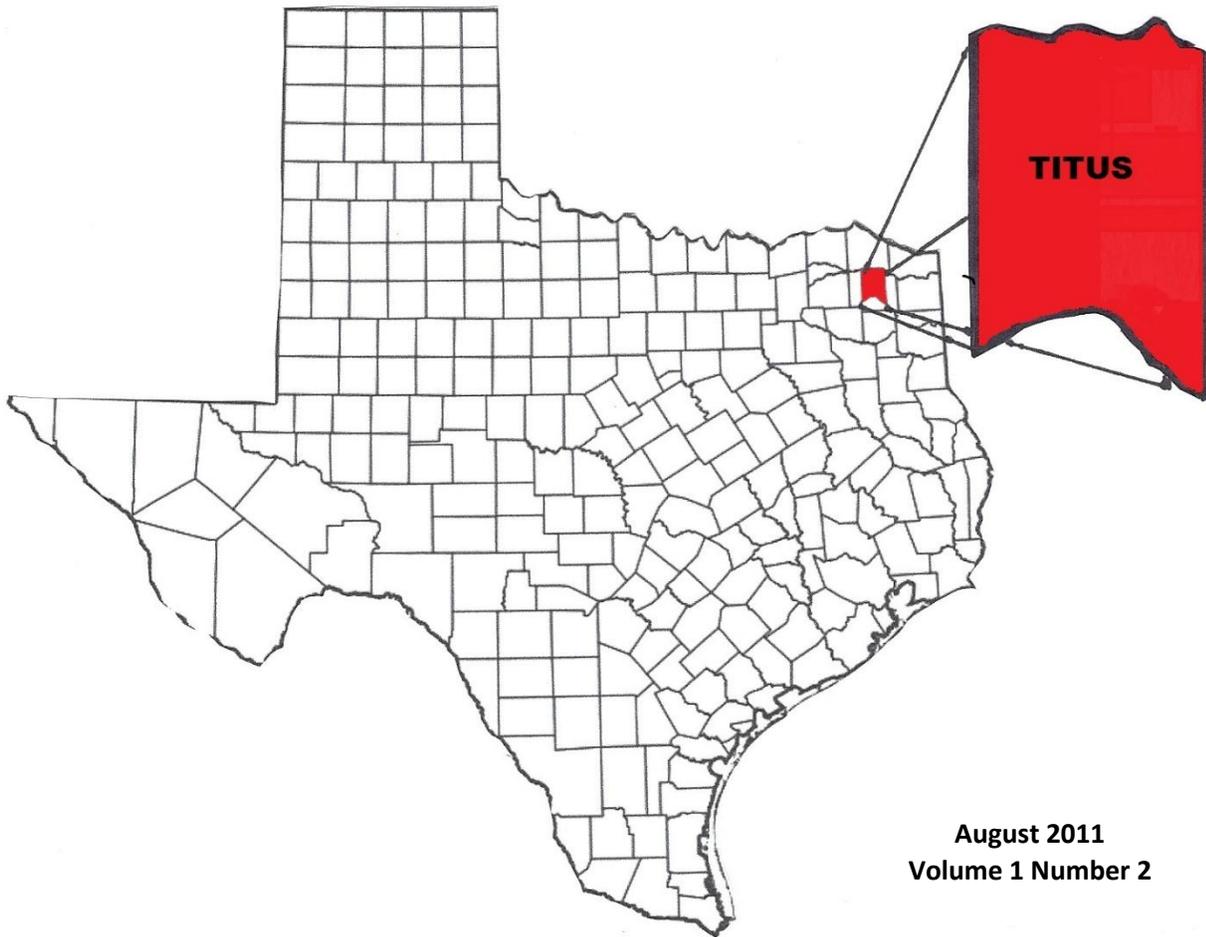


# *Titus County Generations*

*Where the past connects with the present and  
influences the future*



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**Titus County Genealogical Society**

P. O. Box 403  
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[www.titusgen.org](http://www.titusgen.org)

Titus County Genealogical Society Officers:

President	Michael Thompson
Vice-President	John Martin
Secretary	Earnestine Hess
Treasurer	Kathryne Evers
Researcher	O. C. Hill
Editor	Jean Martin

## A Word from Our President

Titus County Genealogy Society had a great meeting in June. There was a good attendance. Although it was previously thought that I would be unable to attend, I was also able to be there. June is always such a busy month and with adjusting to my wife's retirement, this year was no exception.

The web site and the newsletter have continued to be on track with our plans. The web site is still very much in its infancy, but there are big plans in the wings. Its main purpose right now is to be a vehicle for delivery of the newsletter and making the news and activities of the Society more visible to the public. There will be one more newsletter published this year. It will be published in November.

We continue to hope that new members and guests will find their way to our monthly meetings which are currently being held at 2:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month except July. For the foreseeable future the meeting will continue to meet at 905 Merritt Ave in Mt. Pleasant. This building which is behind the Foster residence is decorated with all sorts of historic objects. It is a wonderful site for historic meetings of any kind. We are fortunate to have this place to meet.

We are looking forward to serving the entire Titus County area. Those of you who are a part of us on the worldwide web are also people that we wish to include in our programs as we promote the study of the history of those whose DNA we carry.

Please get involved with Titus County Genealogy Society in whatever way is appropriate for you. Although we have no paid staff, many members stand ready to assist you.

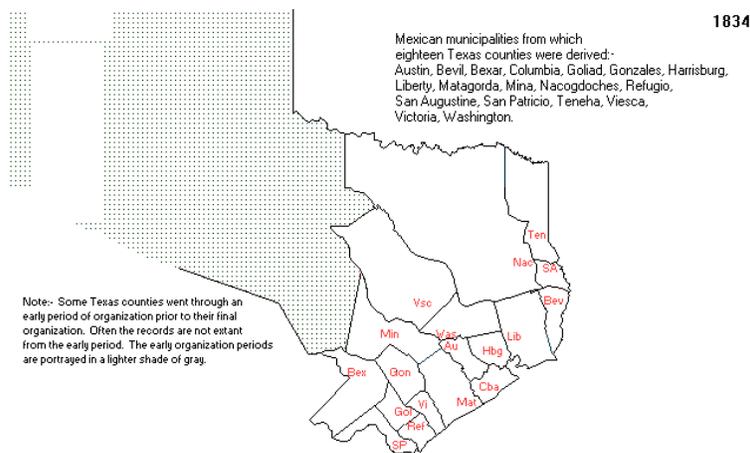
Michael D. Thompson

President

## The Formation of Northeast Texas Counties

As I began my genealogical research I found records of relatives who were born and had died in Red River County. However, I knew that these ancestors were born and had died in Hopkins County. I found out that all the counties were not original to the state of Texas. The web site, [n2genealogy.com](http://n2genealogy.com), explained my puzzlement.

In the beginning there was no state of Texas--just hundreds of thousands of acres populated by deer, buffalo, bear, and many other species of animals. Indians roamed the land as they needed food and shelter. When the Spanish came to North America, they explored in what is now Texas. After Mexico gained independence from Spain, municipalities were developed. This was the beginning of the original 18 Texas counties--Austin, Bevil, Bexar, Columbia, Goliad, Gonzales, Harrisburg, Liberty, Matagorda, Mina, Nacogdoches, Refugio, San Augustine, San Patricio, Teneha, Vieca, Victoria, and Washington.

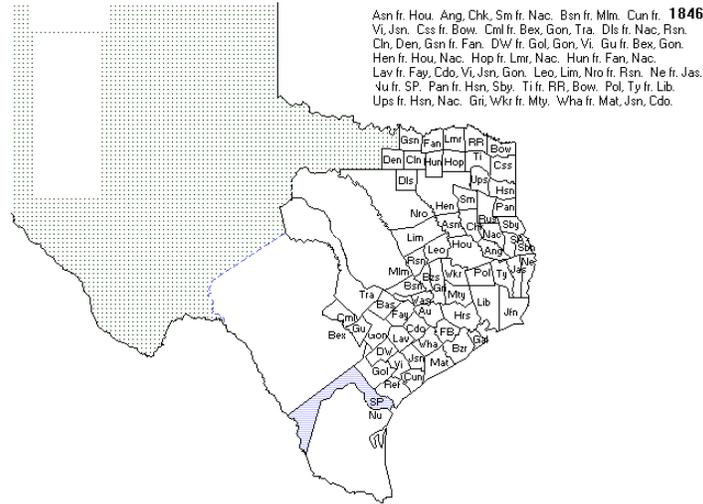


When the Texas Revolution began, the provisional government added new counties from the original Mexican municipalities. Some of the old municipality names were changed--one being Teneha changed to Shelby. At this time, Red River County in Northeast Texas was formed from Nacogdoches and Shelby Counties.

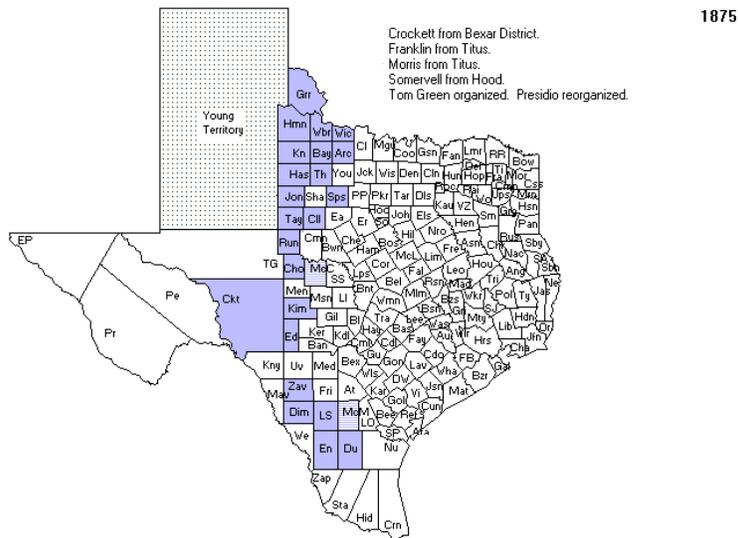
In 1837, six new counties were created with Fannin County organized from Nacogdoches County in Northeast Texas. The counties of Bowie and Lamar were created from Red River County in 1840.

When Texas became a state in 1846 several changes were made in Northeast Texas: Cass was created from Bowie County; Hopkins from Lamar and

Nacogdoches Counties; Titus from Red River and Bowie Counties. Other changes were made in other parts of the state as well.



Gregg County was created from Rusk and Upshur Counties in 1873, with Camp County created from Upshur County in 1874. Franklin and Morris Counties were created from Titus County in 1875. By 1875, the creation of the Northeast Texas counties was complete and remains the same today.



This research has answered a question I have had since I began researching my ancestors. Why it is that someone born in a particular county never lived in that county? The answer: They didn't move! The boundaries of the counties changed. This same thing has happened in modern times. We have lived in the same house on the same land for over 25 years, yet our address has changed 3 times. This time, instead of the state making the change, the United States Post Office has changed our address for various reasons.

-Jean Martin