



# **Cunningham – Brazell Family Migration**

Alabama

Hood County, Texas

Roger Mills County, Oklahoma

1870 - 1940

## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Credits.....	4
Important Notes.....	4
Provenance of Author.....	5
Progenitors of the Family Lines.....	6
Brazell Family.....	6
Cunningham Family.....	7
Principle Couples .....	8
Explanatory Narrative.....	8
Generally Accepted Story.....	8
Updated Story.....	10
Cunningham - Brazell Time-line 1860 – 1962.....	10
Time-line.....	10
Appendix A – Selected Records.....	16

## Illustration Index

Illustration 1: 1860 Autauga Co, Alabama Census Record for Cunningham Family.....	16
Illustration 2: 1870 Hill Co, Texas Census showing Frank Cunningham at the Cauble home.....	16
Illustration 3: 1870 Hill Co, Texas Census showing James Felix Cunningham.....	17
Illustration 4: Obituary extract for James Felix Cunningham validating the 1870 Henderson Co, Texas Census record is a record of him.....	17
Illustration 5: 1870 Wilcox Co, Alabama Census showing Mary Temple Cunningham as a teacher.....	18

## Introduction

This document concerns the families of James Cunningham and Mary Walker on one side and the families of Merrell B. Brazell and Almarajah S. Mizell on the other side. The research for this family history encompasses several thousand hours of work by several family members, over the course of forty years. While other histories have been written on these pioneering families, they all were compiled at a time before computerization and the access to the millions of governmental and other records became available with digitization and the Internet. Until the mid 2000's, people had to manually search records and hope that information could be found, which was very difficult, due to the lack of any indexing to cross-reference against.

Consequently, while the earlier research has been invaluable and mightily contributed to the synthesis of the larger, more complete history of these families, the various oral and written histories were incomplete and forced the researchers to make assumptions, some of which have been definitively proven to not be accurate. It is a truth that without corroborating evidence, stories are just stories. It is with the attaching of evidential artifacts that stories can be determined to be accurate, partially accurate or can be dismissed due to oral drift in the telling and retelling.

When I started working on family history in the year 2000, I was thirty-six years of age and almost all of the older family members had passed on. When I acquired the various oral and written histories available and began to try and validate them against actual records, some aspects of them were impossible to validate. This document is designed to be a companion to those histories compiled before and to incorporate the findings which became available once governmental and familial records became accessible. In this document, all points which are validated by records will be so annotated and footnoted. I will not include the copies of the actual documents in most cases, as it would make the document much too large for people to access. However, with the footnote references, any researcher or interested person can validate the references.

I think it is important to briefly discuss what this document encompasses and the rationale for the approach it takes. This document is designed to be macro-level overview of the migration, intermingling and ultimate disposition of the two generations of the Cunningham and Brazell families encompassing the time frame of the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. While mention may be made of the immediate generation prior to or immediately after (grandparents or children), the purpose of this document is not to trace their histories in detail. Secondly, the purpose of this document is not tell family stories as a primary goal. Unlike other family histories, stories (oral history or written in other documents) will only be discussed in terms of comparing them the facts established by evidential substantiation, which is the purpose of this document.

It is a commonly accepted fact in the field of academic history, that oral histories (family stories in particular) are subject to what can be termed "drift" as stories are told and retold over generational lines. Facts become scrambled, slightly altered and eventually the original story becomes cloudy as this occurs. Inside of the stories are the core facts, but surrounding them are later accretions that attach simply due to human perceptions, distance from the actual events and rarely, deliberate exaggerations.

## Credits

My research was not the beginning of this family history, but is built upon the research and work done before me, by other family members. While I cannot name everyone who inspired me and provided guidance in this endeavor, the following individuals deserve special recognition for their research and documentation:

- Frank Robert 'Bob' Price – my maternal uncle who I blame for exposing me to the history bug at a young age and has been invaluable as a research partner.
- Sammye Pauline Brazell Cupp – author of “The Brazell Clan, 1787 – 1984”, second edition published in 1985 in Enid, Oklahoma.
- Lois Winnell 'Polly' Cunningham Price – my maternal grand-mother who contributed a great deal of family oral history to paper.
- Barbara Winnell Price Scobey, PhD – my mother who also encouraged me and provided information that guided me in the right directions.

## Important Notes

There are several issues that made it difficult for researchers to locate records, make determinations and find people in the historical records. These issues were very much a deterrent to the researchers before computerization and in some cases even after computerization. Even with so many records digitized and indexed, these issues still result in problems for researchers, and it takes a person highly trained in writing database queries and with a fairly good understanding of the documentary/archival processes and procedures. Some of these major issues that affect research are/were:

- Prior to the late 1900's, the English language was not standardized in terms of spelling or grammar. In fact, until the mid 1900's, most rural people learned to spell phonetically. Consequently, you will find names of people, places and events with multiple variations of spelling. This also includes the use of more archaic abbreviations of names, such as using “Jno” for John.
- Even when the spelling of a particular word or name was common, it is highly evident that record takers, particularly census agents, could not spell any better than most people today. Unfortunately, in their time, they did not have the benefit of 'spell-check’.
- Another issue is the wide variations of dates used for people's age in census records. Many times, a census agent would arrive at a home, when only children were home or another relative. Thus you would have an incident where person was 34 years old, but the census taker would just write down the approximate age. Example, “Person in their thirties, so they wrote 30 on the census record”.
- Likewise, one can find up to 15 years difference in the ages of the same person in the line of census records. This makes it extremely difficult to determine a person's actual age, unless a more trustworthy piece of documentation can be found, such as an obituary, death record, birth records, Masonic record, etc.

All of these issues were at play in attempting to locate and find the Cunningham family in particular.

Thousands of hours were spent pouring over census records one page at a time to locate them. Once accurate records were located, it then became easier to locate other records for the people, because the times and places of their lives were determined.

## Provenance of Author

- Bruce Dale White, 1964 – Amarillo, Texas
  - Bobby Dale White, 1946
  - Barbara Winnell Price, 1946
    - John Morris Price, 1917
    - Lois Winnell Cunningham, 1919
      - Hulda Alzada Ann Bradley, 1894
      - Robert Brently Cunningham, 1889
        - Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham, 1846
        - Samantha Frances 'Fannie' Brazell, 1861

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## Progenitors of the Family Lines

### ***Brazell Family***

- Merrell B. Brazell
  - Born approximately 1812 in Jasper County, Georgia to James Brazell and Cynthia Reeves.<sup>1</sup>
  - Died in approximately 1870 in Etowah County, Alabama.
- Almaraiiah (Almira) S. Mizell
  - Born in approximately 1823 in Tennessee to Luke and Celia Mizell.<sup>2</sup>
  - Married Merrell B. Brazell on 3 Apr 1842 in Calhoun County, Alabama.<sup>3</sup>
  - Died approximately 1880 in Etowah County, Alabama.
  - Children of Merrell Brazell and Almaraiiah Mizell<sup>4 5 6</sup>
    - Henry Floyd “Dale” Brazell, 25 Nov 1846 in Marshall County, Alabama (twin of William Monroe Brazell).
    - William Monroe “Bill”, 25 Nov 1846 in Marshall County, Alabama (twin of Henry Floyd Brazell).
    - Elizabeth Ann Brazell, approximately 1847 in Marshall County, Alabama.
    - Eason G. Brazell, approximately 1849 in Marshall County, Alabama.
    - Martha E. Brazell, approximately 1854 in Marshall County, Alabama.
    - Thomas Jefferson Brazell, approximately 1856 in Marshall County, Alabama.
    - Jonathan Franklin Brazell, 20 Apr 1859 in Marshall County, Alabama.
    - Samantha France Brazell, 11 Sep 1861, Marshall County, Alabama
    - Sarah Jane Brazell, approximately 1864, Marshall County, Alabama

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<sup>1</sup> Edmund West, *Family Data Collection - Births*. Provo, UT

<sup>2</sup> Luke Mizell Estate Probate, Etowah County, Alabama

<sup>3</sup> Dodd, Jordan R., et. al. *Early American Marriages: Alabama to 1800 - 1920* Bountiful, UT

<sup>4</sup> 1850 Federal Census, District 22, Marshall Co, Alabama, Page 47

<sup>5</sup> 1860 Federal Census, Eastern Division, Marshall Co, Alabama, Page 54

<sup>6</sup> 1870 Federal Census, Sub-division 42, Etowah Co, Alabama, Page 88

## ***Cunningham Family***

- James Cunningham (possibly James Robert)<sup>7</sup>
  - Born approximately 1802 in North Carolina (what would become Warren County, Tennessee in 1806) to Hugh Cunningham and Margaret Weir.<sup>8</sup>
  - Died 17 Oct 1857 in Cherokee County, Alabama. Cause of death: reportedly kicked by a race horse named "Black Diamond".<sup>9</sup>
- Mary Jane Walker<sup>10</sup>
  - Born approximately 1820 in South Carolina to unknown parents.<sup>11</sup>
  - Married James Cunningham approximately in 1840 .
  - Married John W. Wyley on 15 Dec 1859 in Autauga County, Alabama.<sup>12</sup>
  - Died approximately 1870 in Alabama.
  - Children of James Cunningham and Mary Jane Walker<sup>13</sup>
    - Eliza Cunningham, approximately 1841 in Alabama.
    - Mary Temple Cunningham, approximately 1844 in Alabama.<sup>14</sup>
    - Francis Marion "Frank" Cunningham, approximately 1846 in Alabama.<sup>15</sup>
    - Sarah Jane Susan Abigail Lenora Katherene Cunningham, 25 Nov 1848 in Alabama.
    - James Felix Cunningham, 16 Apr 1850 in Alabama.

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7 James Felix Cunningham, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma death certificate 1930

8 Cunningham Archives, Volume X, Issue 2 Spring 1997, Salt Lake City, Utah

9 Cherokee County, Alabama Genealogical Society Records

10 James Felix Cunningham, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma death certificate 1930

11 1860 Federal Census, Prattville, Autauga Co, Alabama, Page 6

12 Dodd, Jordan R., et. al. *Early American Marriages: Alabama to 1800 - 1920* Bountiful, UT

13 1860 Federal Census, Prattville, Autauga Co, Alabama, Page 6

14 Age for Mary varies by a range of 12 years over six decades of census records. Only 1844 is consistent from two census records and the marriage record. No definitive birth date is known.

15 Age for Frank varied by 7 years over five decades of census records. 1846 lines up with two census records and his military records. No definitive birth date is known.

## Principle Couples

The principle couples in question make up five family units and come from the two progenitor families of Merrell & Almariah Brazell and James & Mary Jane Cunningham. Three of these families could be considered the “core” Cunningham – Brazell group. All the Cunninghams are siblings and all the Brazells are siblings. These were:

- William Monroe Brazell and wife, Sarah Jane Cunningham
- Henry Floyd Brazell and wife, Mary Temple Cunningham
- Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham and wife, Samantha Frances Brazell
- James Felix Cunningham and wife, Mary Matilda Cason Cauble
- Jonathan Franklin Brazell and wife, Estella Edith Collins

## Explanatory Narrative

This does not encompass all of the children and their families, but only those who moved to Texas and eventually some to Oklahoma in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. I will approach this as distinct family units, as determined by the husband (head of household). By the time the family oral histories were first recorded, they were collected by people who were one to three generations separated from the time period in question. Most of the details were lost in a 'story drift' and in the fog of time. Prior to the access to actual records, only assumptions could be made and/or details left out of the various recorded histories produced by earlier researchers.

## Generally Accepted Story

The generally accepted story on the migrations of the Cunningham – Brazell families from Alabama is as follows. After the Civil War, the Brazell families, along with the Cunningham girls (wives of the Brazell boys) and Frank Cunningham, moved to Texas in the late 1870's. In the 1890's, the three Cunningham – Brazell couples then migrated to Roger Mills County, Oklahoma. This story is only partially true. Due to a number of issues, this basic story made sense, given the knowledge available prior to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. These issues included:

1. Descendants of these core families becoming separated in time and space, particularly after the depression and World War II.
2. Descendants not knowing or forgetting some of the relationships between some of the principles.
3. The extreme difficulty for researchers in locating source records that could explain the migration time-line, particularly prior to the year 2000.
4. 1860 Census Year
  - a) A major problem in locating the Cunningham family, was due to the census agent misspelling the last name in a very irregular way; phonetically spelling it based upon a Southern drawl sound. The last name was recorded as “Connigham”.



- b) Secondly, the names of the children were put down as nicknames or middle names and these were also mis-spelled. For instance, Felix is listed as Phelix and Sarah Jane is listed as her nickname Sally, spelled Sallie.<sup>16</sup>
  - c) Thirdly, the Cunningham family was not living in the county or area expected in 1860 (Not in the immediate Gadsden, Alabama area where the Brazell family lived). The Cunninghams being in the southern part of Alabama has been established by three independent pieces of evidence. These being:
    - 1. The 1860 Federal Census shows the Cunningham family living in Autauga County, Alabama.
    - 2. Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham enlisted in "Murphy's Cavalry Battalion" (3<sup>rd</sup> Alabama), at Prattville, Autauga County in 1862.
    - 3. James Felix Cunningham enlisted as a drummer boy in the "Glenville Guards", in Barbour County in 1863.
5. 1870 Census Year
- a) Based upon the generally accepted story above, several family researchers spent untold hours looking for a record of a Mary, Frank and James Felix Cunningham in Alabama in 1870. All of these searches proved fruitless for decades for many researchers, for the reasons listed below.
  - b) The years of birth for both Frank and Mary Temple Cunningham vary by a large degree over the various census records. In Mary's case, there was a variation of 12 years given by the census agents for her age. At a point in the past, someone made the determination that she was born in approximately 1853, based upon one of the census records. Thus, people were looking for a Mary Cunningham born a full decade after when she was actually born. The same issue was found with Frank, but with a smaller variation of 7 years.
  - c) The assumption that the entire family was in Alabama made sense, since Mary Cunningham married Henry Brazell in 1874. Most researchers assumed the whole family was in the Etowah/Marshall Counties area of Alabama in 1870.
  - d) Figuring out where the Cunningham's (all but Sarah) were located in 1870, came from working backwards from several pieces of evidence found on James Felix and Frank Cunningham.
  - e) The full names of the Cunningham parents were not known. Some descendants had the names as Robert Cunningham and Martha Walker. Other descendants had their names as James Cunningham and Mary Walker. The only definitive listing of the names was found on James Felix's death certificate and then not the full names. Based upon a record from a brother of James Cunningham, (Ebenezer) we were able to find his parents and determine the mother was Mary Jane Walker Cunningham Wyley.

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16 1860 Federal Census, Prattville, Autauga Co, Alabama, Page 6

## **Updated Story**

This updated story is based upon a synthesis of the existing family stories, legends and documentary history plus the addition of the massive amounts of source documentation to inform those stories. Almost of the source documentation are from official US government, state government or local governmental sources. These include census records, death records, birth records, marriage records, land records, etc. Some records come from contemporary non-governmental sources, such as obituaries printed at the time of death of an individual or newspaper stories. It is important to understand these are all *contemporary* to the person or events, not something written by a researcher years or decades later. An example is an obituary printed in the Cheyenne Sunbeam Newspaper for James Felix Cunningham in 1930. (see Illustration 3)

To the best of our knowledge and supported by the sourced, footnoted time-line below, this is an accurate revision of the migration story of the Cunningham – Brazell families from Alabama to Texas, and then to Oklahoma.

Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham and James Felix Cunningham (brothers) were living in Texas in 1870. William Monroe Brazell, Henry Floyd Brazell, Jonathan Franklin Brazell, Samantha Frances Brazell, Sarah Jane Cunningham and Mary Jane Cunningham did not move to Texas from Alabama until approximately a decade later.

Jame Felix Cunningham then moved to Oklahoma first, during the land rush of 1892 from the west side of the Cheyenne and Arapaho lands (he started from the Texas Panhandle, instead of the Red River to the south) Frank Cunningham and the Brazell families migrated to Oklahoma later in 1897 and 1898, respectfully.

## **Cunningham - Brazell Time-line 1860 – 1962**

Following is a detail of the locations, and where known, the activities of the Cunningham – Brazell principles in question from the year 1860 – 1962. I am not going into detail on the oldest Cunningham child, Eliza as she did not move to Texas or have any children. She married J. R. Cowan in 1863 in Clarke County, Alabama and died there approximately 1905.<sup>17</sup> Likewise, I am also not going to give details on the other children of Merrell Brazell, who remained in Alabama.

### **Time-line**

- 1862 - Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham enlisted in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Alabama Cavalry ( Murphy's Battalion) and served through to surrender by General Joseph Johnston to General William T. Sherman in North Carolina in 1865. <sup>18</sup>
- 1863
  - William Monroe Brazell enlisted in the 8<sup>th</sup> Alabama Cavalry (Livingston's) and served until surrendered in 1865 by General R. Taylor (CSA) to General E.R.S. Canby (USA) at Gainesville, Alabama. <sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Dodd, Jordan R., et. al. *Early American Marriages: Alabama to 1800 - 1920* Bountiful, UT

<sup>18</sup> Confederate Army Records, National Archives, Washington DC

<sup>19</sup> Confederate Army Records, National Archives, Washington DC

- James Felix Cunningham enlisted as a Drummer Boy with Company H (Glenville Guards) of the 15<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry on 15 Sept 1863 and served through the end of the war, surrendered by General Robert E. Lee to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia in 1865.<sup>20 21</sup>
- 1869 – 17 Jan 1869, Sarah Jane Cunningham married William Monroe Brazell<sup>22</sup> and lived in Etowah County, Alabama as a housewife to approximately 1879.
- 1870
  - Sarah Jane Cunningham Brazell was living in Etowah County, Alabama with her husband William Monroe Brazell.<sup>23</sup>
  - Mary Temple Cunningham was single and working as a teacher in Pine Apple, Wilcox County, Alabama.<sup>24</sup>
  - Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham is listed as living and working as a farm hand on the farm of James Cauble in Hill County, Texas.<sup>25</sup>
  - James Felix is listed as living in Henderson County, Texas and working as a farm hand on the farm of Andrew Waldrip.<sup>26 27</sup>
- 1873 – James Felix Cunningham married Mary Matilda Cason Cauble on 28 September 1873 in Hill County, Texas.<sup>28</sup>
  - Mary Matilda Cason Cauble was the widow of Napoleon Bonaparte Cauble of Hill County, Texas.<sup>29 30</sup>
  - Napoleon Bonaparte Cauble was the brother of James Cauble of Hill County, Texas.<sup>31</sup>
  - James Cauble was who Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham was living with and working for in 1870, in Hill County, Texas.
- 1874 – Mary Temple Cunningham married Henry Floyd Brazell on 30 November 1874 in Etowah Co, Alabama.<sup>32</sup>
- 1880
  - Sarah Jane Cunningham, husband William Monroe Brazell and children are shown living in Hood County, Texas.<sup>33</sup>
  - Mary Temple Cunningham, husband Henry Floyd Brazell and children are shown living

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20 Confederate Army Records, National Archives, Washington DC

21 Oklahoma CSA Pension Index, Reel 2, application numbers 404 and 405

22 Dodd, Jordan R., et. al. *Early American Marriages: Alabama to 1800 - 1920* Bountiful, UT

23 1870 Federal Census, Subdivision 42, Etowah, Alabama, Page 88

24 1870 Federal Census, Pine Apple, Wilcox Co, Alabama, Page 40

25 1870 Federal Census, Precinct 1, Hill, Texas, Page 17

26 1870 Federal Census, Precinct 4, Henderson Co, Texas, Page 39

27 Obituary of James Felix Cunningham, August 1930, Elk City Newspaper, Elk City, Oklahoma

28 Hill County Records, Hill County, Texas Courthouse – certified copy provided in 2003. Diedre Galen Collection.

29 Hill County Records, Hill County, Texas Courthouse

30 Obituary, Cheyenne Star Newspaper, Cheyenne, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, 23 Sep 1926

31 1860 Federal Census, The Division, Hill County, Texas, Page 24

32 Dodd, Jordan R., et. al. *Early American Marriages: Alabama to 1800 - 1920* Bountiful, UT

33 1880 Federal Census, Precinct 3, Hood County, Texas, Page 6

in Hood County, Texas. <sup>34</sup>

- Samantha Frances 'Fannie' Brazell (sister of Henry and William Brazell) is listed as living in Etowah County, Alabama with her older brother Thomas Brazell. <sup>35</sup>
- Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham is listed as living in Hood County, Texas as a single man, near to where his sister, Sarah Cunningham Brazell and family was living. <sup>36</sup>
- James Felix Cunningham, wife Mary Matilda and children are listed as living in Stephens County, Texas, close to Hood County. <sup>37</sup>
- Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham and James Felix Cunningham are listed as members of the Paluxy Masonic Lodge #393 at Rock Church, Hood County, Texas. <sup>38</sup>
- Jonathan Franklin Brazell is shown living in Robertson County, Texas, he is single and working as a Blacksmith. <sup>39</sup>
- 1883 – Samantha Frances Brazell married Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham on 28 January 1883 in Hood County, Texas. <sup>40</sup>
- 1887
  - Francis Marion 'Frank' and James Felix Cunningham are listed as Master Masons with the Paluxy Masonic Lodge #393 at Rock Church, Hood County, Texas. <sup>41</sup>
  - Jonathan Franklin Brazell married Estella Edith Collins on 7 April 1887 at Tolar, Hood County, Texas. <sup>42</sup>
- 1888 – William Monroe Brazell died on 16 Dec 1888 near Tolar, Hood Co, Texas. He is buried in Rock Church Cemetery, Hood County, Texas.
- 1892 – On 19 April 1892 James Felix Cunningham and family moved to F County, Indian Territory (Oklahoma) and established a homestead as part of the Land Rush. <sup>43 44</sup>
  - **Note:** F County is now known as Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.
- 1896 – Sarah Jane Cunningham Brazell married William Thomas Collins on 1 Jun 1896 in Hood County, Texas. <sup>45</sup>
- 1897 - Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham and Samantha Frances Brazell Cunningham and

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34 1880 Federal Census, Precinct 3, Hood County, Texas, Pages 5 & 6

35 1880 Federal Census, District 60, Etowah Co, Alabama, Page 11

36 1880 Federal Census, Precinct 3, Hood County, Texas, Page 6

37 1880 Federal Census, Precinct District 171, Precinct 2, Stephens Co, Texas, Page 9

38 Record Archives, Grand Lodge of Texas, Waco, McLennan County, Texas

39 1870 Federal Census, District 146, Precinct 6, Robertson County, Texas, Page 11

40 Hood County Records, Hood County, Texas Courthouse

41 Judge Henry Davis Records Collection, Hood County Genealogical Society, Granbury, Texas

42 Hood County Records, Hood County, Texas Courthouse

43 Obituary of James Felix Cunningham, August 1930, Elk City Newspaper, Elk City, Oklahoma

44 Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribe, <http://www.cheyenne-arapaho.org/>

45 Hood County Records, Hood County, Texas Courthouse

family moved to Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma and homesteaded.<sup>46 47</sup>

- 1898 – Henry Floyd Brazell & Mary Temple Cunningham Brazell and family moved to Roger Mills County, Oklahoma (where her brothers already lived). Some of the sons of William Monroe Brazell & Sarah Jane Cunningham also moved to Roger Mills County, Oklahoma at this time.
- 1900
  - 12 May 1900 – Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham died in Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma and was buried in the Cheyenne City Cemetery.<sup>48 49</sup>
  - James Felix & Mary Matilda (Cason, Cauble) Cunningham and family are shown living near Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>50</sup>
  - Samantha Frances 'Fannie' Brazell Cunningham (widow of Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham) and children are listed as living near Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>51</sup>
  - Henry Floyd Brazell & Mary Temple Cunningham Brazell and children are shown living near Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>52</sup>
  - Sarah Jane Cunningham Brazell and three children are shown living with her sister's family (Mary Temple Cunningham Brazell) near Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>53</sup>
  - Jonathan Franklin Brazell & Estella Edith Collins Brazell and children are shown living west of Granbury, Hood County, Texas.<sup>54</sup>
- 1910
  - Samantha Frances Brazell Cunningham and children are shown living in Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>55</sup>
  - James Felix Cunningham & Mary Matilda Cason Cunningham and children are shown living near Cheyenne, in Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>56</sup>
  - Henry Floyd Brazell & Mary Temple Cunningham Brazell are shown living with their son, William Elijah Brazell, in Grayson Township, Jefferson County, Oklahoma.<sup>57</sup>
  - Sarah Jane Cunningham Brazell has not been located on the 1910 census.

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46 Obituary of Samantha Frances Brazell Cunningham, Cheyenne Star Newspaper, March 1937

47 US General Land Office, Homestead Application #19117, Deed #8855, Title transferred 1907

48 Obituary, Cheyenne Sunbeam, 1 June 1900

49 Roger Mills County, Oklahoma Burial Records, County Courthouse

50 1900 Federal Census, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, Page 14

51 1900 Federal Census, District 203, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, Page 9

52 1900 Federal Census, District 203, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, Page 11

53 1900 Federal Census, District 203, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, Page 11, Lines 5 - 8

54 1900 Federal Census, District 91, Hood Co, Texas, Page 33

55 1910 Federal Census, District 236, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma, Page 6, Line 79

56 1910 Federal Census, District 236, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma, Page 17 Line 23

57 1910 Federal Census, Grayson Township, District 154, Jefferson Co, Oklahoma, Page 5, lines 49 & 50

- Jonathan Franklin Brazell & Estella Edith Collins Brazell and children are shown living in Hood County, Texas.<sup>58</sup>
- 1920
  - Samantha Frances Brazell Cunningham is shown living in Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma with her daughter, Martha Elizabeth Cunningham and son Robert Brently Cunningham & family.<sup>59</sup>
  - James Felix Cunningham & Mary Matilda Cason Cunningham and two sons are shown living near Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>60</sup>
  - Mary Temple Cunningham Brazell died near Ringling, Grayson Township, Jefferson County, Oklahoma.<sup>61</sup>
  - Henry Floyd Brazell is show living with his son William Elijah Brazell, in Grayson Township, near Ringling, Jefferson County, Oklahoma.<sup>62</sup>
  - Sarah Jane Cunningham Brazell is shown living in Streeter, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma with her son Robert Monroe Brazell.<sup>63</sup>
  - Jonathan Franklin Brazell & Estella Edith Collins Brazell are shown living in Tolar, Hood County, Texas.<sup>64</sup>
- 1923 – Henry Floyd Brazell died in Ringling, Jefferson County, Oklahoma.
- 1926 – Mary Matilda Cason Cauble Cunningham, wife of James Felix Cunningham died on 16 September 1926, at Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>65</sup>
- 1930
  - Samantha Frances Brazell Cunningham is shown living with her daughter, Martha Elizabeth Cunningham Laws and family, at Yakima Indian Reservation, Yakima County, Washington. She had gone to Washington to stay with her daughter for two years, returning to Roger Mills County in 1932.<sup>66</sup>
  - James Felix Cunningham is shown living with his son Ray Orlander Cunningham & family, near Cheyenne, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma.<sup>67</sup>
  - Sarah Jane Cunningham Brazell is shown living with her daughter, Jessie Brazell Hensley & family near Cheyenne, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma.<sup>68</sup>
  - Jonathan Franklin Brazell & Estella Edith Collins Brazell are shown living near Tolar,

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58 1910 Federal Census, Precinct 6, District 37, Page 15 of Hood County, Texas

59 1920 Federal Census, District 161, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma, Page 1

60 1920 Federal Census, District 152, Roger Mills County, Oklahoma, Page 10

61 Henry Brazell listed as widowed on 1920 census.

62 1920 Federal Census, District 206, Jefferson Co, Oklahoma, Page 3

63 1920 Federal Census, District 161, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, Page 7

64 1920 Federal Census, District 29, Hood Co, Texas, Page 23

65 Roger Mills County, Cemetery Records, County Courthouse, Cheyenne, Oklahoma

66 1930 Federal Census, District 66, Yakima Co, Washington, Page 2

67 1930 Federal Census, District 7, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, Page 8

68 1930 Federal Census, District 8 Cheyenne Township, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma, Page 10

Hood Co, Texas. <sup>69</sup>

- James Felix Cunningham died in Roger Mills County, Oklahoma on 4 August 1930. <sup>70</sup>
- 1932 – Samantha Frances Brazell Cunningham, returned to Roger Mills County, Oklahoma and moved in with her son, Robert Brently Cunningham. <sup>71</sup>
- 1936 – Sarah Jane Cunningham Brazell, widow of William Monroe Brazell, died on 31 January 1936 near Cheyenne, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma. <sup>72</sup>
- 1937 – Samantha Frances Brazell Cunningham, widow of Francis Marion 'Frank' Cunningham, died on 1 March 1937, at the home of her son Robert Brently Cunningham, in Cheyenne, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma. <sup>73</sup>
- 1938 – Jonathan Franklin Brazell died at Tolar, Hood County, Texas on 2 May 1938. <sup>74</sup>
- 1962 – Estella Edith Collins Brazell, widow of Jonathan Franklin Brazell, died on 16 October 1962 in Tolar, Hood County, Texas. <sup>75</sup>

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69 1930 Federal Census, Pct, 2, District 3, Hood Co, Texas, Page 6

70 James Felix Cunningham, Roger Mills Co, Oklahoma death certificate 1930

71 Obituary, Cheyenne Star Newspaper, March 1937.

72 Obituary, Cheyenne Star Newspaper, 6 February 1936.

73 Obituary, Cheyenne Star Newspaper, March 1937.

74 Texas Death Certificate #23781, Texas Department of State Health Services (TX-DSHS)

75 Texas Death Certificate #63035, Texas Department of State Health Services (TX-DSHS)

# Appendix A – Selected Records

Page No. 80

**SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in** Prattville **in the County of** Autauga **State**  
**of** Alabama **enumerated by me, on the** 31st **day of** July **1860.** W. Schepherd **Ass't Marshal.**  
**Post Office** Prattville

1	2	3	DESCRIPTION.			7	VALUE OF ESTATE OWNED.		10	11	12	13	14
			4	5	6		8	9					
Dwelling-houses—numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Age.	Sex.	White, black, or colored.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.	
		Obedah	2	m					Ala				
607	165	Jane Wiley	40	f		Walter Wiley		500	Ala		1		
		Oliver Cunningham	19	f					do				
		Mary	16	f		Wm			do		1		
		Isabella	14	m					do		1		
		Sallie	12	f					do		1		
		Phyllis	10	m				100	Ala				

Illustration 1: 1860 Autauga Co, Alabama Census Record for Cunningham Family

Page No. 15

**SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in** Prattville **in the County of** Hill **State**  
**of** Texas **enumerated by me on the** 21st **day of** July **1870.** 383  
**Post Office:** Prattville **Ass't Marshal.**

Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

1	2	3	DESCRIPTION.			7	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED.		10	PARENTAGE.				15	16	17	18	19	20
			4	5	6		8	9		11	12	13	14						
Dwelling-houses—numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Age at last birthday or in this family.	Sex.	Color.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S., or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Native of foreign birth.	Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., etc.).	If married within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., etc.).	Attended school within the year.	Cannot read.	Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Male Citizens of U. S. 21 years of age and up.	Male Citizens of U. S. 21 years of age and up. (If not citizens of U. S., give name of State, Territory, or Country to which he is subject.)
		George Eliph	3	M					Texas										
92	98	Frank James	24	M			300		Texas										
		Isaac	26	M					Mississippi										
		Robert Anderson	22	M					Texas										
		Barren	22	M					Alabama										

Illustration 2: 1870 Hill Co, Texas Census showing Frank Cunningham at the Cauble home



18		Jeff. A. 8 W							
19		Cunningham J. F. 20 W	Farm Labour					Alabama	
								Tennessee	

Illustration 3: 1870 Hill Co, Texas Census showing James Felix Cunningham

James Felix Cunningham was born in Galston(sic), Alabama April 16, 1850 and departed this life Aug. 4, 1930, age 80 years, 3 months and 19 days. When 19 he moved to Henderson County Texas where he had typhoid fever, the only illness he had ever suffered until the last one which was but a few days in duration.

"The Cheyenne Star," Thursday, August 7, 1930

*Illustration 4: Obituary extract for James Felix Cunningham validating the 1870 Henderson Co, Texas Census record is a record of him*

1	Little L. G.	11	F	m	House	Ala
2	J. W.	9	m	m		Ala
3	Sallie E.	7	F	m		Ala
4	A. J.	4	F	m		Ala
5	W. C.	1	F	m		Ala
6	Cunningham M.	27	F	m	School Teacher	Ala

Illustration 5: 1870 Wilcox Co, Alabama Census showing Mary Temple Cunningham as a teacher