

G. Photographs

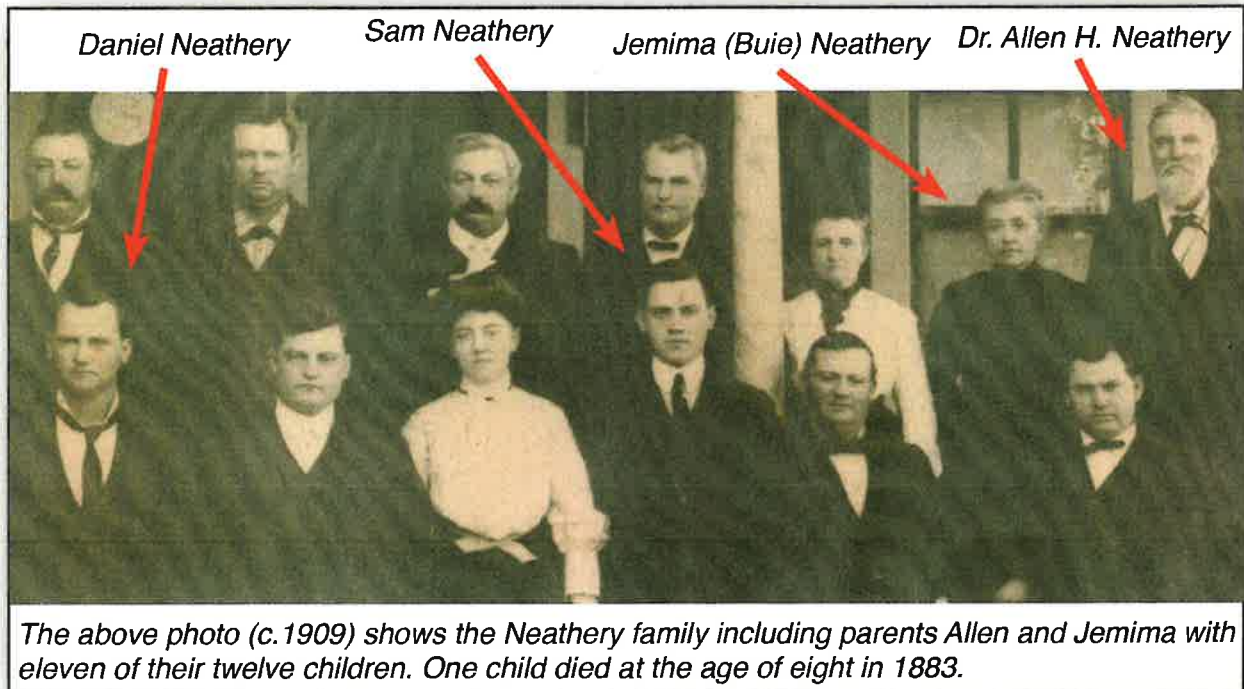
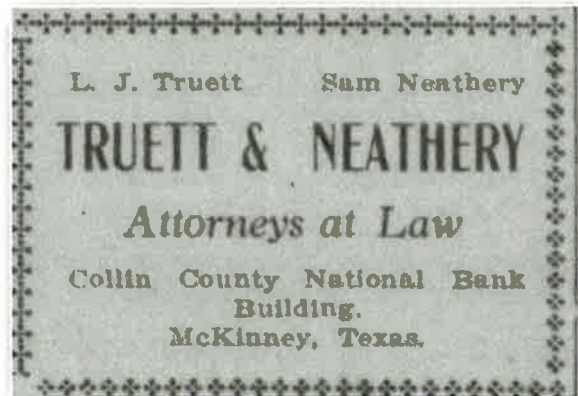
Sam Neathery served as Collin County Attorney from 1915 to 1919. When his second term ended, he formed a business partnership with his former boss Luther J. Truett. The law firm had its office in the Collin County National Bank building that once occupied the southwest corner at the intersection of Louisiana and Tennessee Street. The building was razed in the mid-thirties to make way for the Pope Building that now occupies the site.



Sam Neathery
(1881-1970)



Collin County National Bank Building
(1891-1932)



The above photo (c. 1909) shows the Neathery family including parents Allen and Jemima with eleven of their twelve children. One child died at the age of eight in 1883.

EZELL STEPP TO HANG ON NOV. 17

SENTENCE PRONOUNCED BY JUDGE F. E. WILCOX TODAY



Wilcox's First Death Sentence



What Hour of Day Will Execution Be?

Crowd Eager to Catch Every Word

Thousands of people gathered today to witness the trial of Ezell Stepp...



CONDEMNED MAN ACCEPTS DEGREE OF COURT WITH WIFE AND DAUGHTER AT HIS SIDE

Ezell Stepp, Viscount Jameson, Monday afternoon accepted his degree...

Boyd Has Good Day at Wilcox

Boyd's appearance in court today was a success...

County W. M. U. To Meet Here

The W. M. U. of Collin County will meet here today...

McKinney to Play Oak Cliff Friday

The McKinney football team will play at Oak Cliff Friday...

GREAT CROWDS DELIGHT IN A. G. BARNES CIRCUS PARADE

The parade of the A. G. Barnes circus today drew great crowds...



Ezell Stepp

Sam Neathery was hired by the family of Hardy Mills who was found dead in a McKinney-area well in 1921 to help the prosecution of Ezell Stepp. Sam Neathery also helped the prosecution when the defense appealed to a higher court to overturn Mr Stepp's murder conviction. Mr. Stepp was hanged at the McKinney jail in November of 1922 becoming the last legal hanging in Collin County and the third-to-the-last one in Texas.



Avery Dowell
(1878-1948)

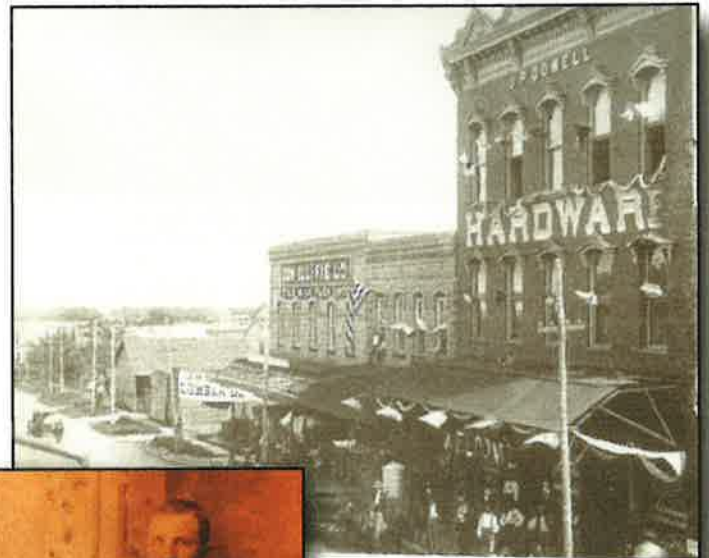
Avery Dowell was one of eleven children of James P. Dowell, founder of the J.P. Dowell Hardware store. When J.P. Dowell died in 1898, Avery was the oldest living son and took over management of the company at the age of 20. The business moved from its Kentucky Street location to a newly erected building on East Louisiana Street in 1888. In 1922, Avery hired contractor J.E. Cooper¹ to update the front of the building. The front of the building used a steel frame to allow for larger windows. The building was the first structure in McKinney to use this construction technique. The 1922 version of the building is what exist today. A ghost sign can still be seen on the west side of the building.



¹ J.E. Cooper was responsible for building the gallows used in the Ezell Stepp execution.



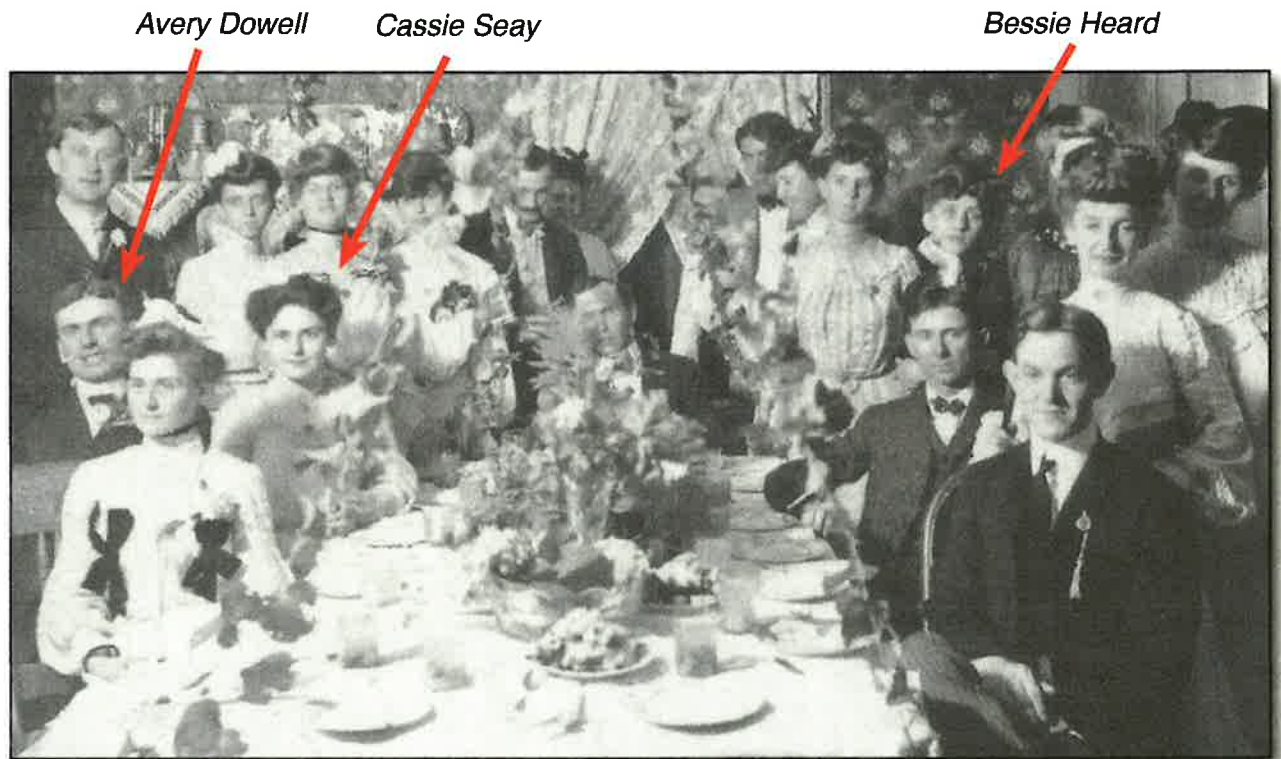
*In 1941, **Avery Dowell** was elected president of the Central National Bank and served in that capacity until his death in 1948. Prior to his election, he served as the Bank's Vice President since the mid 1930s.*



James P. Dowell



***James Patterson Dowell**, who founded J.P. Dowell Hardware, arrived in McKinney in 1856 with his mother, father, two brothers and a cousin. The photo above shows the three brothers (James, Francis and Willis) and their cousin (Jonathan).*



Bessie Heard, who is now known as the founder of the Heard Natural Science Museum, was a well-known McKinney socialite in her youth. She had a reputation for giving large parties. The above photograph (c.1900) shows one such party attended by **Avery Dowell** and **Cassie Seay** who later married in 1924.

Cassie (Seay) Dowell

Bessie Heard



Cassie Seay was one of the founding members of the Delphian Study Club organized in 1914. The group was a social organization dedicated to the study of different world cultures, ancient and modern. This photo from 1925 shows Cassie (Seay) Dowell and Bessie Heard along with other club members.



Arthur W. Dowlen
(1865 - 1947)

GENERAL CONTRACTORS	
A. W. Dowlen Phone 627	R. L. Hankal Phone 304
DOWLEN & HANKAL GENERAL CONTRACTORS	
Estimates made and furnished. All work firstclass and guaranteed. No contract too large or small.	
MISCELLANEOUS	

Arthur W. Dowlen moved to McKinney in 1893 and worked a teacher until around 1900 when he followed his brother Gideon into the construction trade. One of Arthur's first major contracts involved building a manse (pastor's residence) for the Overland Presbyterian Church in McKinney.

Local and long distance telephone connections

McKinney Manufacturing Co.

We Manufacture

Sash, Doors and General Building Supplies

Mantles a Specialty **J. H. MINOR, Manager**

Around 1910, Arthur Dowlen established the McKinney Manufacturing Company that specialized in fabricating building components along with desks and chairs and other items made of wood.

CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Election Tuesday, April 6.

For Mayor:
A. W. DOWLEN.

For City Commissioner:
WICK GRAVES.
W. S. MATHEWS.

In March of 1915 Arthur Dowlen announced his candidacy for the Office of Mayor in McKinney against the popular incumbent Mayor H.A. Finch. Arthur later withdrew his name for consideration leaving Mr. Finch to run unopposed in the April election.

A. W. DOWLIN
 Home Man, Home Contractor
 Patronized
 By HOME PEOPLE

Make us Prove it--here it is:

Fine Two-Story Home being built for County Attorney
 Sam Neathery.
 Fine New Bungalow Home for Fred Coffey,
 of Coffey Bros.
 Fine Two-Story Home for W. L. Fitzgerald,
 with J. P. Crouch & Co.

**All These Homes Within A Three Minutes' Walk
 Of Each Other.**

DO NOT TRY TO FIGURE ON YOUR CONTRACT. I WORK FIRST CLASS, COMPETENT WORK
 MEN--NEVER LEAVING A JOB UNTIL ITS FINISHED. ASK ANYONE FOR WHOM I HAVE EVER
 WORKED. THE "CITY OF THE SOON" IS GROWING. LET ME HELP YOU TO MAKE IT GROW FAST
 OR I TRADE MY FUTURE FOR YOUR PATRONAGE AND HELP.

A. W. DOWLIN, The Home Contractor
 Phone 627

The years from 1914 to 1915 represented Arthur Dowlen's most prolific building period in McKinney. During this period he completed nearly a dozen two-story homes. The name "Dowlin" often appears appears to be a frequently used and accepted alternative to "Dowlen." He is also known to have used the first name "Pat" and "Whit."

It is probable that there is not another family in the United States with ten children of comparative ages, all in good health and on as lovable terms, as those composing the family group pictured above. The pictures of these, his aunts and uncles, were assembled by F. S. Thomas, Nashville. They are, reading from left to right, top row: Mrs. Alice D. Izor, 62, Miami, Fla.; Mrs. Petrona D. Reading, 65, Pleasant View, Tenn.; A. W. Dowlen, 67, Dallas, Texas, and R. L. Dowlen, 70, Ashland City, Tenn. Bottom row: Miss Annie Dowlen, 72, Ashland City; F. A. Dowlen, 74, Beaumont, Texas; Mrs. Telitha Goodlett, 76, Hillsboro, Texas; P. E. Dowlen, 80, Hillsboro, and Mrs. Carrie Looney, 83, Brownsville, Texas, and G. H. Dowlen, 78, McKenzie, Texas.

The above photo exposé appeared in the January 22, 1933 issue of the "Nashville Banner." There was no additional information regarding why the Dowlen family merited this recognition as all ten children lived in nine different cities spread over three states. Also, it is curious that the author of this piece was familiar enough with the family to have pictures of them but misprinted P.A. Dowlen's name (not F.A. Dowlen) and the city where G.H. Dowlen lived (McKinney, not McKenzie).