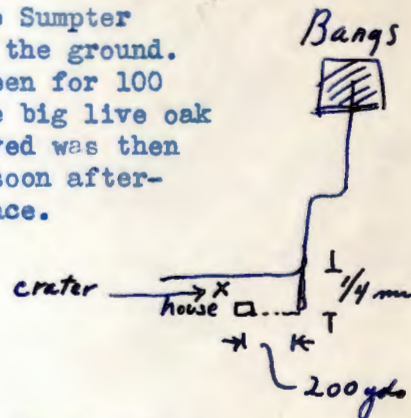


SUPPOSED CRATER-METEORITE AT BANGS TEXAS

1948, May 22, Trip to Silverton, Texas.

L. K. Gilkeyson, whom we met at the service station of Ray C. Bomar, successor to Stevenson's assets, said that when he was 8 years old, in 1908 (or 1907?), the year of the Zephyr storm, he was living 1 mile S. of Bangs, Texas, when a meteorite fell 300 yards N. W. of their house in what was then the Sumpter pasture, and made a hole of 5 feet or more depth in the ground. It killed trees and parched leaves that had been green for 100 yards around. They lived there 4 years; there were big live oak trees around, thick. The property on which he lived was then owned by _____ Ireland of San Angelo, who died soon afterwards. This land was just south of the Schultz place.



I checked this 1950, May 14. J. A. Kennedy had lived there since 1908, and went to the spot with us. He said the land on which the meteorite supposedly fell now belongs to the Crane heirs but is farmed (it is now in cultivation) by Hollis Matthews (locally pronounced "Mathis"). We missed him but learned he had been there as much as 28 years ago, gone a while, and back the last 11-12 years.

There had been two houses on the old Ireland place, the one indicated on my original informant's diagram, still there in part but abandoned, and one about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S and perhaps a little E of it (now gone entirely?--Kennedy pointed to a nearby windmill to indicate the site). The Sumpter pasture had included land on both the E. and W. sides of the road coming down to the Ireland house, and the Sumpter house had been to the E of the road. Jim Sumpter still works for the city at Brownwood and has a brother, Ervin; they might recall something. The old Schultz place had a nursery of persimmon, pecans, etc. Much of the Sumpter pasture is still in pasture.

F. W. Lewis had been here only 4 years. J. H. Schulz here 32 years and before then was 1 mile E of Bangs running a gin, but none of these people knew anything of the event or the crater. L. W. Boyd was an old timer but knew nothing. J. C. Traweck, sells real estate, was apparently something of a rock collector but was not home. G. E. Barnes had been there 36 years and prior to that lived nearby ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile or less) but said a big meteor he recalled was very low and went on the west instead of ending in the north; he was inclined to think it was the one Gilkeyson reported.

The entire matter seems quite dubious and informant was probably confused with the Balnket fall of May 30 1909.

C. E. Boyd, son of Boyd above, said J. C. Estlack of Clarendon, who runs the paper there, has a meteorite, but it sounded like hematite or a concretion--rounded.