

Trip of 1957, April 9

Crاندall to Kaufman is 7 miles. At 4 miles out of Crاندall you come to an overpass and a ridge across the country; it developed later that Gastonia is about here, off to the right or somewhat west. AT 5.3 miles out of Crاندall is farm Road 1390; by turn right you soon come to the old road into Kaufman from Dallas.

We turned left on this old road and went to the dead-end. Here, to the left, was a prosperous turkey farm run by Mrs. Gladys Reese, whom I interviewed. At this point, if you turned right (in other words, across the road from Mrs. Reese) you came to the farm of Mrs. Myrtle Patton, the old Fleming place. She had been there since 1931, and the place is worked by her son Ray Patton who has a store in Gastonia. The farm is 131 A.

Going back along the old road into Gastonia we stopped at a place on the left and talked to Mrs. Newt Trail, a 75 A. place. Across from her on the right was a lavish place "Cedar Lane", owned by J. E. Lane, who was absent. We talked to the housekeeper, a Mrs. Laird, who had been there a long time, born 1892, and to a negro man digging a storm cellar in back.

Mrs. R. E. Farmer ran a small store in Gastonia and had been there since 1897, but knew nothing of the meteorite. Ray Patton, at the other store, knew nothing about it.

They referred me to John Riggs, just on up the road to the right, and he said he came there in 1892, late in the year, as a boy, but he recalled nothing of the event of finding or the fireball.

From Gastonia a short road leads back into the main highway. Gastonia must be very near the place of original find.

In Kaufman we talked to a Mr. H. A. Dunson at the Kaufman County Abst. Co., and a Mrs. W. Dorsey Brown in his office. They thought J. J. Hill was a once prominent grocer in Kaufman, who would be about 90 if living now, and said he had died in Fort Worth. He has a granddaughter who works for the Sun Oil Co. in Dallas. Mrs. J. J. Hill may still be in Ft. Worth.

As I understood it, the granddaughter is married to Joe Sprinkle, Jr., who works at the Empire State Bank of Dallas ("Micheaux"? Nash, Pres.). Joe Sprinkle, Sr. lives in Kaufman.