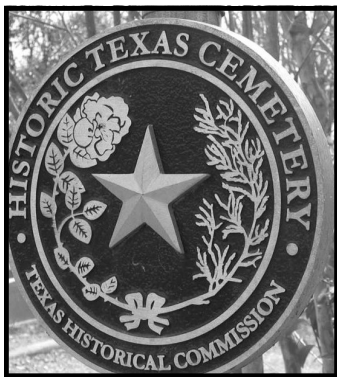


# GUARDIANS OF YOUNG CEMETERY

*CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO ATTEND*

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## DEDICATION CEREMONY HISTORIC TEXAS CEMETERY MEDALLION

OCTOBER 31, 2009

# DEDICATION OF MEDALLION AND WAYSIDE SIGNAGE

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## YOUNG CEMETERY

Join us to dedicate the Historic Texas Cemetery medallion at Young Cemetery and Wayside Signage honoring Plano's pioneers

**DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2009**

**TIME: 10:00 AM**

RSVP to Candace Fountoulakis  
RIP Guardians of Young Cemetery  
fjohn94@aol.com or 972-679-7041

(1996)

The cemetery is located alongside the third green of Ridgeview Ranch Golf Course. To reach it, drive through the visitors gate of Estancia Apartments at Independence Parkway south of SH 121

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN THE HONORABLE  
PHIL DYER, MAYOR OF PLANO, TEXAS  
IN DEDICATING THIS SITE AS A  
HISTORIC TEXAS CEMETERY  
AS RECOGNIZED BY THE  
TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



Informal tours of this heritage site will be available  
after the ceremony. Admire the Wayside sign, view  
the Young family Bible as you enjoy refreshments.

## YOUNG CEMETERY

The graves in Young Cemetery have survived as an oasis in a Plano's earliest settlement since 1847 when pioneer Sam Young and wife built this one-acre plot for his wife, Patience. Council Young, and two of his children, who had died from diphtheria. Patience's grave site (February 17, 1848) is the second oldest known marked burial in Plano.

Sam Young was born in Virginia and came to Collin County from Green County, Illinois in 1842 to purchase the 480-acre headright (land grant). He had received the property during the time when the Republic of Texas needed substantial pioneers from other parts of America to settle its sparsely populated regions. Fellow settlers included his brother-in-law Shadrach Jackson and the Rainses, Wits, and Graggs families. Most of these families helped fund Ranchar Creek Baptist Church. Despite the abundance of fresh water and fertile soil, Young knew that there was little to move to Texas. He helped buy the property and children of the Young family repeatedly told by Native Americans in 1844. He settled last year of Ranchar Creek and gave half of the headright (120 acres) to Illinois neighbor Hiram Wirt for helping him move his family to Texas. This area was once called "Rowles".

Young, who was illiterate, built a one-room schoolhouse on his property as well as a grist mill. He acted for track land when the Houston and Texas Central railroad was built. As was known for his work and accurate mental calculations as well as his thought and good judgment. Legend has it that Sam Young operated his saw bank from a train under his bed. Young provided loans to other settlers, but he never required a written agreement. He reasoned that if a person word was not good, a piece of paper wouldn't be worth anything either.



In 1849, Young married 15-year-old Charity Ann Stone, who was a niece of fellow pioneer Shadrach Jackson. They had four daughters and five sons. Some of their children are buried in Young Cemetery, including Emily, who died in 1875 just before her second birthday. It is believed the grave site with a dove at the top marked "Emily Young (died 5 & 6 C.A. Stone)" was their 18th child. She lived only 11 days in August, 1877. The entrance at the bottom of her stone was one used frequently by early settlers for their children who often died prematurely. "Requiesce on earth to bloom in heaven."



The Young family originally lived in a log cabin. Sam later built a larger house south of the original cabin with an outside kitchen, big fireplace, and a large hall where neighborhood dances were held. He developed substantial cattle business near Rowles in Montague County. Settling in the area, some of his children helped to drive cattle along the Chisholm Trail. He also owned other property in Collin and Cooke counties.

Sam Young died on March 28, 1899, at the age of 66. He stipulated that anyone who wanted could be buried in Young Cemetery. The last person to take up the offer was Sam and Charity's fourth son, John Young, who was interred here in 1928. Gladys Young, John's last child, lived on the property most of her life. She taught piano in Allen, McKinney, and Frisco for decades. Following her death, her possessions dismantled, each board individually numbered, and the entire structure was reconstructed at the Heritage Farmstead Museum in Plano. The restored home is available for tours and serves as a testimony to a simpler way of life in our community's early history.



## Wayside Sign recently installed on location

Photo by the author. Photo of the Wayside Sign by the author. Photo of the Wayside Sign by the author.

## GUARDIANS OF YOUNG CEMETERY

Gratefully acknowledge the assistance of:

City of Plano Heritage Commission  
 Young Family Cemetery Association  
 Collin County Historical Commission  
 The Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation  
 Scout Troop 999 of Plano, Texas  
 Texas AgriLife Extension  
 Ridgeview Ranch Golf Club  
 Heritage Farmstead Museum  
 Collin County Master Gardeners