

Casso Winfield, Early Landowner  
Dorothy Granberry, Geneva Miller Historical Society

In his will, Casso Winfield who died in 1924 clearly indicated that he regarded real estate as the best security obtainable and the most satisfactory. He had set aside one thousand dollars that was to be loaned out on real estate and the interest payable annually to be used for the benefit of his mother, Caroline Winfield Lea Jarrett. Incidentally Ms. Caroline died at age 92 two months before Casso.

At this writing, the GMHS has no information as to when Winfield began buying farmland. However, by the time of the 1880 Census, he is the owner of the farm on which he and his family reside. The 100 acres farm, per the 1880 Agricultural Schedule is in District 8, the Rudolph area, and has 70 improved acres and 30 unimproved acres. Improved acres are land suitable for growing crops. It appears from his will, that he owned around 500 acres of land. His grandson, Hillard Currin, writes of him as a land speculator in the 1989 History of Haywood County TN.

Little other than his name is known of Casso Winfield's father John "Jack" Winnfield. His mother was born in North Carolina, very likely Bertie County, NC. When and how she came to Haywood County is yet unknown. At age 16 she gives birth to Casso whose name is sometimes listed as Castello and Castelow. Caroline and Jack Winfield had 7 children before his death around 1865. Caroline then marries George Lea and she and Lea have at least four identifiable children. In 1881, Caroline marries Bob Jarrett.

Casso Winfield was married twice. His first marriage to Mary Jarrett ended with her death from tuberculosis in 1879/80. They had one child, a boy named John who lived his entire life in Haywood County. In 1882 the widower, Casso Winfield married Ms. Susan Ann Reed. The couple had 4 daughters, one of whom was Ms. Polly Winfield Currin Bailey.

Casso Winfield was a deacon at Woodlawn Baptist Church and a strong believer in the value of education.