



FACT SHEET

Pioneers Rest Cemetery

Pioneers Rest is the oldest public cemetery in Fort Worth and one of the oldest in Tarrant County. Its use as a burial ground began in 1849, the same year that the fort was established by the United States Army.

Pioneers Rest is located in the 600 block of Samuels Ave. near its intersection with Cold Springs Road, immediately north of downtown Fort Worth. Many early settlers are buried at Pioneers Rest, which was referred to as the "old cemetery," "city cemetery," or "Samuels Avenue cemetery" until 1909.

Veterans of every American war from the War of 1812 to World War II are buried at Pioneers Rest. The cemetery was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2021.

The cemetery is the final resting place of Maj. Ripley A. Arnold (the Father of Fort Worth), Gen. Edward H. Tarrant (Tarrant County namesake), and more than 75 Civil War veterans. There are also gravesites of 11 soldiers who died at the original fort from 1849 to 1850. Gen. James J. Byrne, buried at the cemetery, was the youngest general in the Union Army.

In addition to the many Fort Worth veterans who fought in early battles, Pioneers Rest Cemetery is also the resting place for most famous families in Fort Worth history, including the Daggetts (Capt. Ephraim Merrill Daggett), Zane-Cettis (Jesse Shelton Zane-Cetti who built the Texas Brewing Company on Hell's Half Acre), and the Peaks (Capt. Junius "June" Peak, Confederate Army and the Texas Rangers).

###

Follow us on Facebook: [Tarrant County Veterans Council - Home | Facebook](#)