

WARREN ANGUS FERRIS 1810 – 1873 MOUNTAIN MAN, SURVEYOR, AND EARLY TEXAS SETTLER

Warren Angus Ferris was born December 26, 1810 in Glens Falls, New York. He was a fifth generation descendant of early New England settlers. (1) When Warren was three years of age, his father Angus died leaving a widow with two small children, Warren and his younger brother, Charles.(2)

Warren's mother, Sally, latter married Joshua Lovejoy, a successful merchant, who fathered three children during that union. Joshua died in 1824, leaving Sally with five children.(3)

During Warren's teenage years he enjoyed hunting, fishing and listening to tales about Lewis and Clark, John Coulter, Hugh Glass and other early mountaineers. Also during his early years, he was trained to be a surveyor under the tutelage of his half-brother, Henry Lovejoy. He received a good general education for the time, acquiring a smattering of Latin and French, extensive mathematics and English.

In 1828, seventeen year-old Warren Ferris left home to seek his fortune. Although family tradition has it that his mother's public rebuke of her son's incessant pipesmoking played a part in this decision, it was likely his own sense of adventure that took him west.(4)

(1) "Land is the Cry" P. 1

(2) *ibid.*, P. 2

(3) *ibid.*, P. 7

(4) "Conquest of the Threeforks, Manuscript by Homer DeGoyler, Dallas, Texas. 1924, Dallas Public Library