

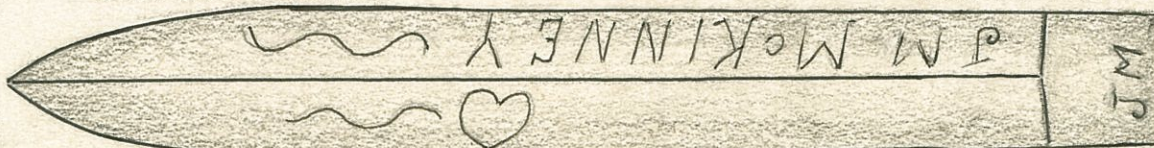
- GONE TO TEXAS - GONE TO TEXAS -



### Confederate Bowie Knife

BOTH EDGES SHARP

BLADE ENGRAVED: **JM M<sup>c</sup>KINNEY** W/A BLADE 1 1/4" WIDE



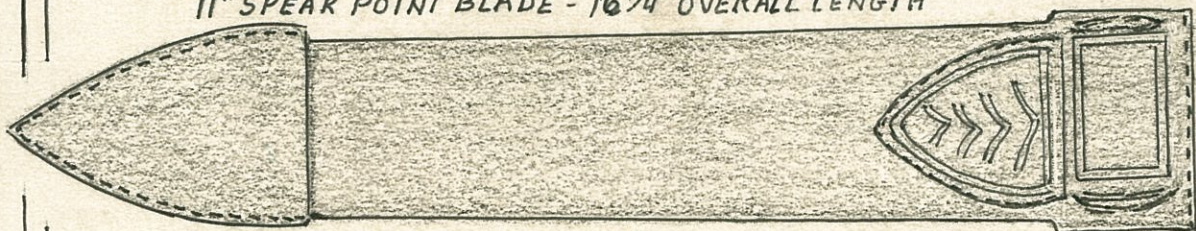
11" SPEAR POINT BLADE - 16 1/4" OVERALL LENGTH

- Southern made -

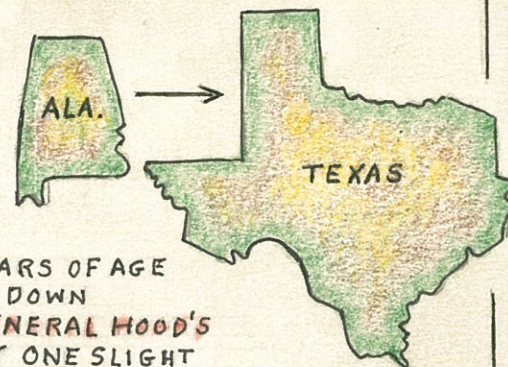
**JM** ON RICASSO  
HEAVY IRON RECURVED  
CROSSGUARD 4 1/2" IN LENGTH



ROUND STAG HANDLE WITH  
A BRASS POMMEL CAP



LEATHER SHEATH WITH REINFORCED TIP & THROAT  
HEART SHAPE LEATHER PIECE NEAR THROAT



**JM M<sup>c</sup>KINNEY** WAS BORN IN ALABAMA AND WHEN HE WAS SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE HE MADE HIS WAY ALONE TO MILAM COUNTY, TEXAS, AND THERE SETTLED DOWN TO FARM LIFE. AS A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER, HE SERVED FIRST WITH GENERAL HOOD'S BRIGADE, LATER WITH THE 17<sup>th</sup> TEXAS INFANTRY. HE RECEIVED ONLY ONE SLIGHT WOUND DURING THE WAR THAT INCAPACITATED HIM FOR SERVICE FOR A SHORT TIME. HE DIED ON FEB. 17, 1912, AGED 70 YEARS.

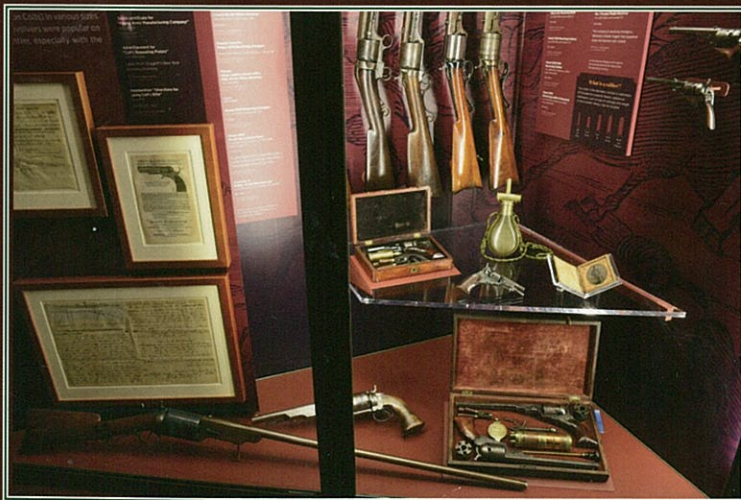
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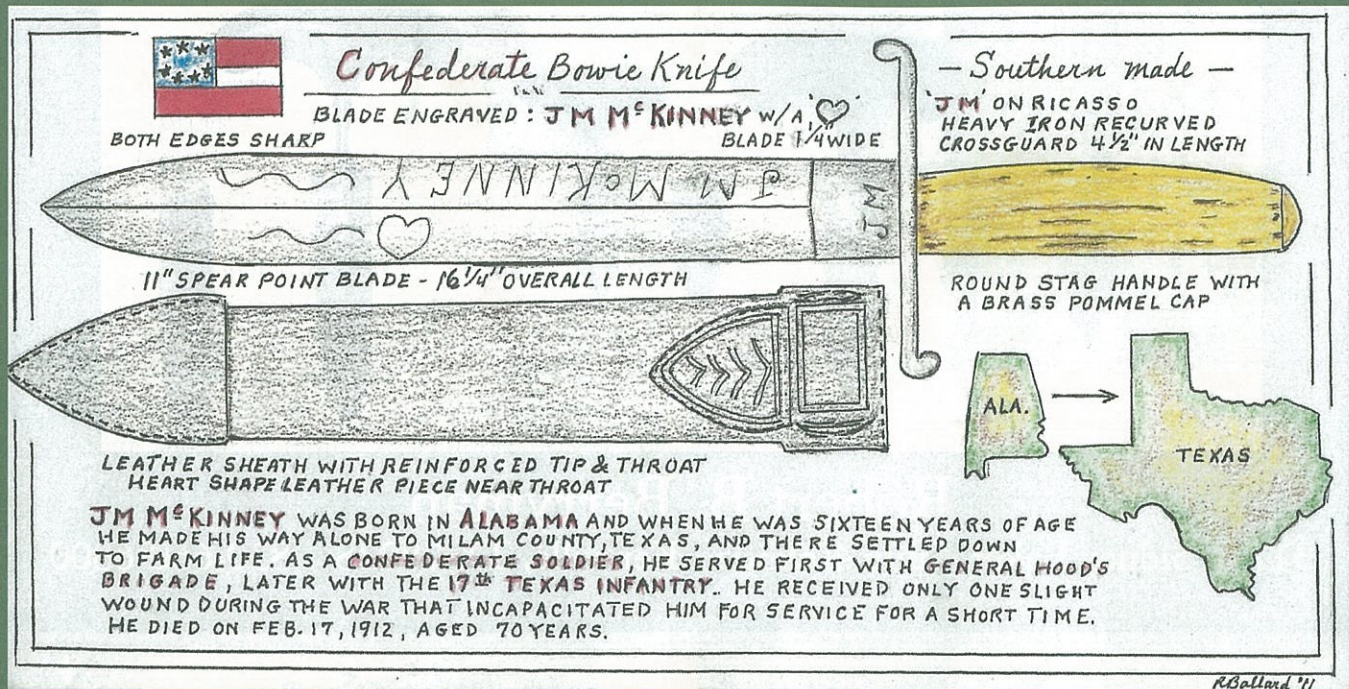
Inside: Dennis A. Levett's donation of Patersons Colts to the Autry National Center of the American West



Display photography courtesy of The Autry National Center of the American West

# Gone To Texas

by Roger Ballard



Born in Alabama and at age 16 moved to Texas, J.M. McKinney made an impact on his new home surroundings and created a significant contribution to Texas history. McKinney became not only a success in his chosen farm life, but later in his career he served Texas in the legislature.

The knife that is the subject of this article is one that McKinney had inscribed and it is unknown if he had it in Alabama before moving to Texas. In all probability he had it produced in Texas before he enlisted in the army of the Confederacy at the outbreak of the Civil War.

The knife has an 11" spear point blade and is 16 W' in overall length, with both edges sharp. The letters J M are engraved on the ricasso. The blade is 1 W' wide and has a heavy iron, recurved crossguard 4 Yi" in length. The rounded stag handle has a brass pommel cap.

This is a heavy duty and somewhat massive side knife and the blade is engraved: J M McKinney with a heart shape appearing next to the name. The original leather sheath with reinforced tip & throat has a heart shape leather piece near the throat. When J.M. McKinney moved to Texas he settled down to farm life. In the

years that passed he became well and prominently known in his community and district and in public life he played a prominent part. For six years he was the representative of the Eleventh Senatorial District comprising Milam, McLennan and Falls counties, Texas, and he rendered a service in that important capacity that would be sufficient honor for anyone individual during his career. He was prominent as a farmer and stockman in Milam county all his days and he died there on February 17, 1912, aged 70 years.

He was a veteran of the Civil War and served first with General Hood's brigade, later with the Seventeenth Texas Infantry. He passed through the long period of the war, receiving only one slight wound that incapacitated him to service for a short time, but otherwise experiencing all the horrors of war.

From Alabama to Texas, this was a man to be remembered - not only by his family- but by the great state of Texas.

Bibliography: *A History of Texas and Texans* Volume 4 by Francis White Johnson

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