

WCGS volunteers have spent many hours documenting these burials, and researching and writing the histories of the cemeteries. We appreciate you visiting our website and are happy that we may be able to help you in your research. We only ask that you cite the WCGS as your source when you enter this information in another website or when you publish it in any other way.

## Bode Cemetery

Latitude 30°11'51", Longitude 96°29'23".

In a pasture under a tree, across FM 2679 and south of Zion Lutheran Church. On private property.

Rudolph Wilhelm Heinrich (Bill) Bode was born in Berlin, Washington County, Tx, September 20, 1864. His parents were Heinrich Konrad Wilhelm & Albertine (Jahnke) Bode. On October 23, 1887, he married Emma Karolina Friederike Engelage in Berlin. She was born November 17, 1868 in Berlin, the daughter of Carl Friedrich & Maria (Schaefer) Engelage. After their marriage, they lived on the Bode homestead in Zionsville. Three children were born to the couple: Willie on October 23, 1888, Oscar on February 2, 1892, and a stillborn daughter, ca. 1890, name unknown. The daughter was buried under a tree on the Bode homestead. Willie died August 10, 1906 and is buried at Eben Ezer Cemetery in Berlin. Oscar died October 31, 1969, and is buried at Prairie Lea Cemetery in Brenham. The death of their father, Bill Bode, is recorded in the Brenham Daily Banner, Tuesday, September 20, 1892:

"William Bode Killed

One of Eight Shots Passed Through His Body.

John and Sam McLin and Bedford Wood, all of near Burton, Charged with the Shooting

Saturday there was a fest at Miller's Pasture at Long Point about 12 or 15 miles a little west of north from here. The fest was concluded with a ball at night and the ball ended with the tragic death of Mr. Wm. Bode, at 12:03 Monday morning. The particulars of the tragedy were gathered from various parties present or near there, all from friends of the dead man, and are about as follows. It was during the progress of the ball but early in the evening when Messrs. John and Sam McLin and Bedford Wood arrived and they had not been there long when it became apparent that they were there to run things their own way or \_\_\_\_\_ out any \_\_\_\_\_ (fold of paper) tions to their free and high handed way of running the ball.

They first had a clash with Mr. Fritz Kromer upon whom they drew a big knife and invited him out in the road, he of course refusing to go. Their next disturbance was with Mr. Otto Krohoski, Mr. Ben Frank interposing, when they retired a short distance from the platform and cursed out the crowd in general. Mr. Miller ordered them off the premises, it being his pasture where the fest was held, and insisted that they must leave. They were 100 yards from the platform and about 50 from the beer stand when Mr. Wm. Bode and Steve Lewis, a colored man working around the stand, went down where they were to try to get them off, and the negro says that when in about ten feet of them there was a slight scuffle among the three, and he said he heard one of them say "give me the pistol" and about that time the shooting commenced. He went down flat of his stomach at the first shot and lay as close to the ground as possible but could see Bode and the men shooting. He says Bode begged them to stop shooting not seeming to realize that they were shooting at him as he remarked you don't want to shoot me and I shall

hold some of you accountable for this hereafter. At the fourth shot Bode staggered and called some of his friends telling them to run to him, he was shot but that they never ceased firing until eight shots had been fired, and then left hurriedly going the road they had come from towards Burton. Bode was taken charge of by his friends and lived just ten minutes, expiring at 12:13 Monday morning, the bullet having gone in at his side and passed through his body to the other side. Neither of the other seven shots striking him.

Mr. Wm. Bode was a young German farmer about 29 years of age and leaves a wife and two children to mourn his tragic death and since his father's death last spring he has been looking after his affairs for the family. The men accused of the shooting all reside near Burton. The McLin brothers live on Mr. Wm. Hendley's place in half a mile of Burton and Bedford Wood about one mile from there. One of their neighbors says they are pretty "tough" boys, attend all the places of amusement, drink and carrouse frequently and that they were apparently under the influence of liquor when they started to the fest Sunday afternoon. Sheriff Teague left here at three o'clock Monday morning to arrest the parties but at this writing has not returned."

Bill Bode was buried on the Bode homestead under a tree near his infant daughter. Family tradition indicates that the graves were never marked. Tradition also indicates that another person, an adult not related to the Bodes, is buried there. The following plat has been drawn using results from grave. After Bill Bode's death, his wife Emma married August Look on January 9, 1897.

Source: A History of the Bode Family of Washington County, by Daniel Bode, Dayton, Texas; Brenham Daily Banner, Tuesday, September 20, 1892.

BODE, Infant daughter, b. & d. ca. 1890.

BODE, Rudolph Wilhelm Heinrich (Bill), b. September 20, 1864, d. September 19, 1892, son of Heinrich Konrad

Wilhelm & Albertine (Jahnke) Bode, sp: Emma Karolina Friederike Engelage.

UNIDENTIFIED Female, not a family member.