

Electra Waggoner (the person whom name became a town)

(January 6, 1882 – November 26, 1925) was an American rancher and socialite from [Texas](#). She was an heiress to the [Waggoner Ranch](#), one of the largest ranches in the United States. The town of [Electra, Texas](#) was named in her honor.

Early life

Electra Waggoner was born on January 6, 1882 near [Decatur, Texas](#).^[1] Her father, [William Thomas Waggoner](#), was the owner of the [Waggoner Ranch](#) in Texas.^[2] Her mother was Ella (Halsell) Waggoner. She had two brothers, [Guy Waggoner](#) and [E. Paul Waggoner](#). They grew up at the [Waggoner Mansion](#) (a.k.a. 'El Castile') in Decatur as well as on the Waggoner Ranch.

Career

Waggoner inherited one fourth of the Waggoner Ranch known as the 'Zacaweista' subsection.^[2] The Native American word means 'good grass.'^[2] In 1910, she built a mansion on the ranch, also named Zacaweista.^[2]

Personal life



Thistle Hill in Fort Worth, Texas.

Waggoner was married three times. Her first husband was Albert Buckman Wharton of the Wharton family of [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania](#).^[2]^[3] They had met while she was traveling in the [Himalayas](#).^[2] They wed on June 10, 1902.^[1] They resided at Thistle Hill, also known as the [Wharton-Scott House](#), a mansion in Fort Worth now listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#).^[2] The couple divorced after nineteen years of marriage.^[2] During their marriage, they had two sons:

- Tom Waggoner Wharton. He married eight times and died of [syphilis](#) at the age of twenty-five.^[2]
- [Albert Buckman Wharton, Jr.](#) He was a [polo](#) player. He married four times and had one son, A.B. Wharton III, a.k.a. Bucky Wharton. He died of cirrhosis of the liver in 1963.^[2]

Waggoner then moved to a mansion called Shadowlawn on Preston Road in [Highland Park](#), a wealthy enclave of [Dallas, Texas](#).^[2] She was married two more times.^[2]

Death and legacy

Waggoner died on November 26, 1925, at the age of forty-three.^[1]^[2] The town of [Electra, Texas](#) was named in her honor.^[1] Her niece [Electra Waggoner Biggs](#) was named after her.

References

[Waggoner Ranch: History](#)

1. Gary Cartwright, [Showdown at Waggoner Ranch](#), [Texas Monthly](#), January 2004
2. [Historic Fort Worth: History of Thistle Hill](#)

External links

[Picture at age 43](#)