The Woodmen of the World

In 1890, Joseph Cullen Root founded the Modern Woodmen of the World, a fraternal benefit organization, to "clear away problems of financial security for its members". The group offered life insurance to its members, setting up "camps", or local chapters, in towns across the country.

A camp was founded in the City of Coppell, though the exact date of its founding is unclear. A map dated between 1915 and 1930 shows that the Woodmen owned a two story lodge building which sat at the corner of Bethel and Coppell Rd. The map states that the Woodmen met upstairs, while the bottom floor was home to a grocery store.

Until the 1920s, Woodmen were provided with a grave stone monument as part of their membership. The markers varied in appearance, with some resembling tree stumps or stacks of wood, while others were simply marked with theWoodmen's crest.

Several of these monuments can still be seen at Coppell's Bullock Cemetery. The grave of G.T. Bullock (died 1917) and that of T. Bryan Mcgee (died 1918) are both marked with Woodmen headstones. Nearly 100 years since the Bullock and Mcgee have passed, but these markers continue to fulfill Joseph Cullen Root's desire, "to give honorable burial to our sacred dead."