

Stoney and the Money Belt

Stoney Kirby was known by some old—timers as a difficult man. He lived in a hovel by an old cottonwood tree across the street from the old Coppel post office, which was located in present day Old Town.

Local men often gathered beneath the tree to play dominos and Kirby was a regular member of the games. He was known to have a number of curious personal habits. James Harlin, who was a boy at the time, recounts that Kirby would allow his dog to lick his dishes clean rather than the more traditional form of washing.

When Kirby died, he was taken to the Foust Funeral home in Grapevine where it was discovered that he was wearing a money belt stuffed with \$55,000. With no living relatives, the money was inherited by the state and the story of Stoney's wealth was left to our imagination.

08/07/2015