



Clayton W. Williams, Sr. 1987

Clayton Williams Sr. was a true son of West Texas, born in the officer's quarters of old Fort Stockton in 1895.

The son of an early day judge and surveyor, Clayton graduated from Texas A&M University as an engineer. After working for mining and power companies and as a surveyor, he joined Texon oil and Land Company, Group No. 1. His work was so impressive that Clayton was put in charge of the engineering, geology, and land departments despite his lack of training as a geologist, landman or petroleum engineer. While working for Texon's Group No.1, Clayton recommended the successful drilling of the University 1B, then the deepest well in the world.

Clayton left Texon's Group No. 1 to work on his own as an engineer, oilman, businessman and public servant. He settled in his hometown of Fort Stockton, serving as a Pecos County Commissioner for eighteen years.

Clayton's greatest legacy to West Texas was as a historian, preserving the region's history through his books and service to several historical societies and museums.

After a life as a miner, soldier, farmer, rancher, engineer, oilman and historian, Clayton Williams Sr. died in 1983.