

JOSEPH BURTON JOHNSON  
(1816-1874)

Planter, Soldier, Civic Leader. Born in Georgia. Commissioned a Captain in US Army in Florida in 1837; a Major 1846. Came to Freestone County in 1854. For headquarters on his 10,550-acre plantation, built (1860) at this site a 12-room stone mansion. Served as Brigadier General of Texas State Troops in Civil War. A County Commissioner, First Master of Texas State Grange; a Royal Arch Mason. Made gifts to worthy causes and to minorities. He married Patience Ponder; had 5 children. Descendants include Lawyers, Merchants, Doctors, Law Officers, Printers, Teachers.

(Duplicate of 1971 Texas State Historical marker located seven miles north of Freestone County Courthouse, Fairfield, Texas)