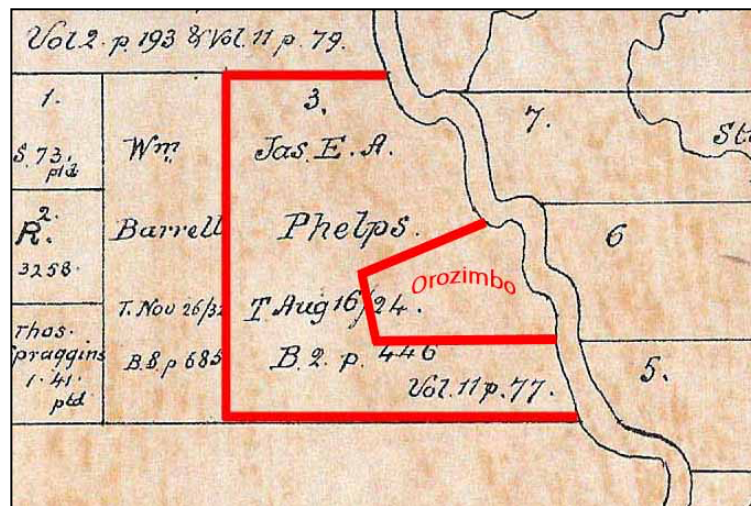


500 acres out of the SE corner and 914 acres along the south border.¹ Jesse D. and Mary Boring bought 481 acres from the NE corner.² In 1881 Cornelius Davis bought 1856 acres along the western and northern border of the league. This left 618 acres in the center of the league fronting the Brazos River for the Phelps homestead.



James A. E. Phelps League

Orlando C. Phelps and his family remained upon the homestead for several more years. The 1880 Federal Census lists:

Orlando C. Phelps	M W	58	Planter	Miss
Mary D.	F W	50	Keeping House	Va
Minerva	F W	22		Tex
Orlando	M W	18		Tex
Elmira	F W	14		Tex
James George	M B	14	Servant	Tex
R. A. Phelps	F W	76		Va

The 1880 Census also lists Almira L. Phelps in New Orleans as a widower aged 58 with her children Henry 38, Orlander H. 32, Amoret 24, and Pike 14. The exact date that the family moved from the plantation has not been determined but early in the 1890's Orlando and his wife were living in Houston, Texas. Rosetta A. Phelps moved to her daughter's home in New

¹ BCDR: P 393/95

² BCDR: R 327/28 & P 728/30.

Orleans and died there March 1887. Orlando C. Phelps passed away in August 1897 in Houston, Texas.



Photo Orozimbo Date Unknown³

After the turn of the century in 1905 Almira L. Phelps sold the 618 acre homestead to Harris Masterson.⁴ Preston Leigh bought 460 acres which included the homestead from Harris Masterson the next year. Lula Leigh his daughter-in-law would later gain control of the property and her descendants continue to own many of the tracts around the homestead. The Afro-American farming community of Green Hill grew up in the area and the Green Hill Cemetery

³ Photo by John Adriance courtesy of the Brazoria County Historical Museum, Angleton, Texas 2000.008p.0069. This photo is dated to after the Phelps family had moved away from Orozimbo by Catherine Munson Foster, *The Brazosport Facts*, Heritage Edition, July 11, 1971, p. 18.

⁴ BCDR: 68 278/79.

was started near the 1936 Historical Marker for James A. E. Phelps. In 1936 the community had a church and school, but by 1988 only the church remained.⁵

In 1930 two local historians James A. Creighton and Clarence R. Wharton visited Orozimbo together. The photographs they took show the deterioration due to several hurricanes that hit the area in the early part of the twentieth century.



Photo Orozimbo 1930⁶

⁵ *Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. "," <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/GG/hvgkn.html> (accessed November 21, 2008).

⁶ Clarence R. Wharton Family Papers, Woodson Research Center, Fondren Library, Rice University, Houston, Texas.



Photo Santa Anna Oak 1930



Photo Orozimbo 1930 with Santa Anna Oak⁷



Photo Oak Burned by Hunters Jan 1983



Orozimbo 1936 State Historical Marker 2005

⁷ Clarence R. Wharton Family Papers, Woodson Research Center, Fondren Library, Rice University, Houston, Texas
James Creighton also had a copy of the same photograph.



Photo 1930 Orozimbo Front⁸

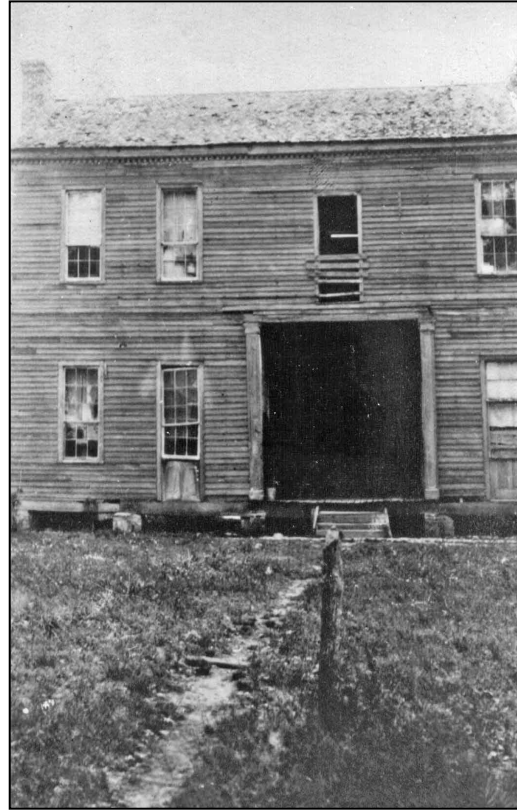
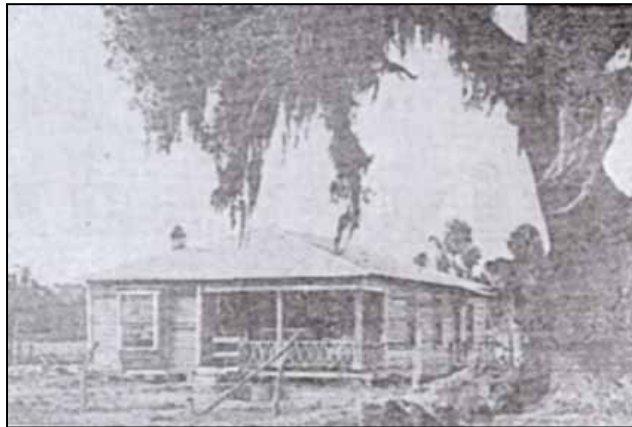


Photo 1930 Orozimbo Front

In 1932 another hurricane destroyed the home which was occupied by an Afro-American family. Another structure was built on the same site and C. J. Garrett was the occupant of the home when it was visited by a news reporter from *The Dallas Morning News*.



Orozimbo 1936⁹

⁸ Clarence R. Wharton Family Papers, Woodson Research Center, Fondren Library, Rice University, Houston, Texas.

⁹*The Dallas Morning News*, August 23, 1936

Parts of this structure may have been built with the original timbers from the Phelps' home and were standing in 2005 when it was visited by Don Pugh. Property currently owned by Christine Clark.



Photo Orozimbo Property 2005 Courtesy of Brazoria County Historical Museum



Brass Curtain Tieback¹⁰

¹⁰ Floral design brass curtain tieback recovered on the Orozimbo property courtesy of the Brazoria County Historical Museum, Angleton, Texas 1994.007c.0001. Another artifact recovered over the years near the home was a copper or brass plate engraved with "*Mr. Orlando C. Phelps*" which was used to make a business card. Item 1994.007c.002 Brazoria County Historical Museum, Angleton, Texas. It does not photograph well.

Appendix A

Dr. James A. E. Phelps Family

James Aenas Enos Phelps b. 1793 Granby, Hartford Connecticut

d. 1847 Brazoria Co., Texas (Buried at Orozimbo)¹¹

married April 19, 1821 Wilkinson Co., Mississippi

Rosetta Adeline Yerby b. May 27, 1804 Lancaster Co., Virginia

d. March 11, 1887 New Orleans, Louisiana

A. Orlando C. Phelps b. June 27, 1822 Pickneyville, Wilkinson Co., Mississippi

d. August 29, 1897 Houston, Harris Co., Tx (Glenwood Cemetery)

married January 31, 1853 Hinds Co., Mississippi

Mary Dudley Eubanks b. ~1832 Virginia

1. Enos Phelps b. 1855 Brazoria Co., Texas
2. Minerva Phelps b. 1857 Brazoria Co., Texas m. Judge Ernest H. Vasmer
3. Orlando Phelps b. 1862 Brazoria Co., Texas
4. Elmira Phelps b. 1866 Brazoria Co., Texas m. John Garrison

B. Almira Louise Phelps b. September 23, 1823 Pickneyville, Wilkinson Co., Mississippi

d. January 20, 1917 New Orleans, Louisiana

married February 22, 1840 Vicksburg, Warren Co., Mississippi

James Henry Phelps b. October 29, 1813 Stonington, Connecticut

1. Henry James Phelps b. March 19, 1842 Vicksburg, Warren Co., Mississippi
d. March 23, 1884 New Orleans, Louisiana
2. Adeline Louise P. Phelps b. October 6, 1844 Vicksburg, Warren Co., Miss.
d. October 12, 1884 New Orleans, Louisiana
3. Orlando Horace Phelps b. July 26, 1848 "Orozimbo", Brazoria Co., Texas
d. September 15, 1902 New Orleans, Louisiana
4. Fenton Alfred Phelps b. March 1, 1851 Brownsville, Texas

¹¹ Probate Case 452 Filed November 9, 1847

- d. June 13, 1852 Mississippi City, Mississippi
- 5. Ann Brown Phelps b. April 1, 1853 New Orleans, Louisiana
- 6. Amoret Josephine Phelps b. February 3, 1856 New Orleans, Louisiana
 - d. January 10, 1948 New Orleans, Louisiana
- 7. Charles Stillman Phelps b. July 29, 1860 New Orleans, Louisiana
 - d. May 25, 1865 Havana, Cuba
- 8. Pike Ludwigen Phelps b. July 9, 1866 New Orleans Louisiana
 - d. 1925 Belton, Texas

C. Virgil H. Phelps b. 1827 Wilkinson Co., Mississippi

d. June 1, 1891 Galveston, Texas ? West Columbia, Texas

married

Sophia Gibson b. September 1, 1837 Nashville, Tennessee

- 1. Ruth Martin Phelps b. Brazoria Co., Texas

D. Gerard B. Phelps b. 1836 Pickneyville, Wilkinson Co., Mississippi

d. September 19, 1887

E. Eliza H. Phelps b. April 1, 1843 Brazoria Co., Texas

d. April 2, 1859 Brazoria Co., Texas (Possibly buried at Orozimbo)

H. William H. Phelps b. 1846 Brazoria Co., Texas

d. December 26, 1896 (Possibly buried in Houston)

Appendix B

J. A. E. Phelps & Wife

In A/C Current A. Underwood

1847

<i>Jan 1</i>	<i>For Balance due for a/c rend</i>		<i>\$124.86</i>	
<i>2</i>	<i>" 1 Best Garden Spade</i>	<i>\$2.00</i>		
<i>13</i>	<i>" 2 Bottle Port Wine</i>	<i>1.75</i>		
<i>20</i>	<i>" 1 Lb Powder</i>	<i>.50</i>		
<i>22</i>	<i>" 4 Lb Pepper</i>	<i>1.00</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 4 Oz Indigo</i>	<i>1.00</i>		
<i>23</i>	<i>" 1 Gall Vinegar</i>	<i>.50</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 1 Lamp Filler</i>	<i>.50</i>		
<i>27</i>	<i>" Cash Paid Freight</i>	<i>13.57</i>		
<i>Feb 5</i>	<i>" 2 Chest Locks</i>	<i>1.00</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 1 Closet Lock</i>	<i>.50</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 1 Pad Lock</i>	<i>.50</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 1 1/2 Doz Screws</i>	<i>.19</i>		
<i>19</i>	<i>" 1 Pr Brogans</i>	<i>1.25</i>		
<i>20</i>	<i>" Paid Freight on Sales</i>	<i>.75</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" Do Do Do Box</i>	<i>1.00</i>		
<i>22</i>	<i>" Lock from For J</i>	<i>1.25</i>	<i>27.26</i>	
<i>25</i>	<i>By Do Do Returned</i>	<i>1.25</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 1 Chest ' Do</i>	<i>.50</i>		<i>1.75</i>
<i>Mar 5</i>	<i>For 13 Lbs Starch</i>	<i>2.70</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 1 Chest Lock</i>	<i>.50</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 2 Cotton Girths</i>	<i>.75</i>		
<i>"</i>	<i>" 1 Sur single</i>	<i>.50</i>	<i>4.45</i>	

"	By Cash on A/C			1.50
9	For 1/2 Bbl I Potatoes	2.50		
"	" 4 Oz Camphor	1.00		
12	" 1 Bottle Port Wine	1.00		
"	" 1 Oz Cinnamon	.25		
"	" 1 Bottle Ink	.50		
13	" 2 Best Double Bridle	3.50		
"	" Loaf of White Sugar	.75		
Apr 3	" 2 Gall Whiskey	1.25		
"	" 1 Lb Spice	.25	11.00	3.25
	Amounts Brought Forward		\$167.57	\$3.25
Apr 10	By 66 Lbs Beef hides			3.30
"	" 2 pr pants	5.50		
"	" 3 Steel Hoes	2.25		
"	" 145 lbs Sugar cost	18.13		
"	" 1 Box Cod Fish	.90		
"	" 2 Water Jars 15 Gal ea.	4.00		
"	" 1 Bbl Whiskey 42 Gal	18.80		
"	" Freight Insurance warfage	6.20		
12	" 1 Silk Hdkf	1.00		
"	" 1 pr Suspenders	.63	57.41	
13	By Cash from C P Flack			30.00
16	For amt paid for repairing spectacles	.75		
17	" 1 Gross Buttons & 1 Calico Shirt	2.25		
"	" 4 1/2 yds cotton ade for	1.68		
"	" 2 Fine Ivory Combs	.75		
"	" 8 doz Best Pearl Buttons	1.50		
"	" 4 yds ? Checks	2.00		
"	" 8 yds prints	1.00		
"	" 16 yds Check Muslin	9.60		
"	" 9 yds Gingham	5.63		
"	" 65 1/2 yds ? Prints	14.62		

	"	" 1 1/2 yds Gingham	.94		
	"	" 1 Tin Cow Bucket	.63		
	"	" 6 yds Check Muslin	2.62		
	"	" 1 Lucefeing Brush	.50		
20	"	" 1 Fine Saddle	27.00		
	"	" Exchange of ?	.25		
	"	" 1 Fine Bridle Compaliter	4.00		
	"	" Paid Pinkard difference on ? ?	.75		
24	"	" 12 yds linen	7.50		
	"	" 3 yds "	3.94		
	"	" 1 Lb Rasins	.25		
	"	" 2 Plugs Tobacco	.50		
26	"	" ? G Sold	2.50	88.41	
				\$314.14	\$36.55
		Amounts Forward		\$314.14	\$36.55
May 25		By 8 yds Check Muslin			4.80
24		For 2 Whip Saw Files	.88		
June 1	"	" 2 Gal vinegar	1.00		
"	"	" 2 Hand Saw Files	.38		
June 7	"	" 5 Lbs Powder	2.50		
"	"	" 6 yds cotton checks	1.50		
24	"	" 1 " " "	.25		
28	"	" 1 pr Fine Boots	5.00		
"	"	" 1 Lb Suberatus	.25		
30	"	" 3 Lbs Nails	.30		
"	"	" 26 yds domestic Sugar	12.00		

"	" 1 Broom	.50		
"	" 2 pr Door Butts	.38		
"	" 4 ½ yds Gingham	2.25		
"	" 1 Doz Wood Screws	.13		
"	" 1 Pr Kid Suspenders	1.50	28.82	
July 3	By 10 bushels Corn			10.00
"	For 1 ? ?	.38		
"	" 2 oz Indigo	.50		
6	" ½ doz Cut Tumblers	1.50		
"	" 1½ yd Gingham	.38		
8	" 1 Pad Lock	.50		
27	" 2 ???	.75		
Aug 3	" 35 yds ? ?	5.60		
"	" 2 Plugs good Tobacco	.50		
13	" 5 Lbs Starch	2.25		
"	" 1 Lb S ?? Tea	1.25	13.61	
Sept 5	" 41 Gal Whiskey	20.50		
"	" 1 Pr Fine Shoes	2.50		
"	" 1 Bbl Flour	10.00		
"	" 1 Foscet	.75		
13	" 12 Lbs Nails	1.20		
"	" 1 Gal Vinegar	.50		
18	" 1 Bottle Claret Davenport	.75	36.20	
			\$392.77	\$51.35
	Amounts Brought Forward		\$392.77	\$51.35
Sept 20	For 25 Lbs Nails	2.50		

25	" 50 Lbs Rio Coffee	6.25		
26	" 8 Yds Muslin	6.00		
"	" 8 Yds Domestic	2.50		
"	" 1 " Bishop Lawn	1.25		
"	" 1 ? Tacks	.13	18.63	
Oct 22	By Net Proceeds Cotton	137.80		
"	Less Charges to and from Galveston 5.48			
"	And Insurance 1.01	6.49		131.31
	To Amt Your Int Note 30 th Jan 46	\$652.18	652.18	
	" Interest to 30 th Oct/47 10%	86.96		
	Less Interest from 24 th June on \$131.30 10%	4.59	82.37	
	By 2 months Interest on \$346.48 not due			
	Total 1 st Jany making book a/c cash at date	5.77		
	Less 9 Mos Interest \$13.57 paid freight 27 th jany	1.04		4.73
	By balance due current down			938.36
			1145.95	1145.95
	To balance pr ? Cash due 1 st Nov 47		958.56	
	By 2 ? 4 1/2 Yds Gingham & 1 pr Slippers			
	Not got by you			4.75
	Balance due brought down			953.81
			\$958.56	\$958.56
	For Balance for ? brought down		953.81	

Appendix C

Deed Records Orozimbo League

GRANTORS	GRANTEES	Kind of Instrument	Book	Page	Month	Day	Year	Acres	Description
Mexican Government	James A. E. Phelps	Deed			Aug	16	1824	4428	James A. E. Phelps League
Estate James A. E. Phelps	Rosetta A. Phelps						1847	4428	Death of her husband Administrix of James A. E. Phelps Estate
Rosetta A. Phelps Orlando C. Phelps Virgil H. Phelps	Mather Hughes & Saunders of Galveston	Deed	J	616	March	5	1860		Consignment of cotton crop for goods & supplies to run plantation
Rosetta A. Phelps	James H. Phelps Of New Orleans	Mortgage	K	117/19	March	23	1861		Note on 500 acres out of the Orozimbo League & 300 hd cattle branded JAEP \$3745.35 payable 1 st Jan 1862
Rosetta A. Phelps	J. S. Thrasher	Deed	K	317	Dec	23	1863	18	\$1800 18 acres SE corner of Phelps League
Gerard B. Phelps	Almira L. Phelps wife of James H. Phelps New Orleans	Deed	L	142/43	April	28	1866		\$2402.33 sold his sister all his rights to his livestock & interest in Orozimbo Plantation
Rosetta A. Phelps	James H. Phelps & Co.	Deed	K	741/43	Dec	15	1866		Consignment of 50 bales cotton at 500lbs each to be baled @ \$.30/lb
Virgil H. Phelps	Almira L. Phelps	D	K	767/68	Feb	1	1867		Cancel \$3000 in notes he owes & \$300 cash all his livestock & interest in Orozimbo Plantation to his sister
Orlando C. Phelps	Almira L. Phelps	Mortgage	K	790/91	Feb	25	1867		1/6 Int JAE Labor 177 acres +980 acres + O. C. Phelps grant 325 acres Brazos Co. + all his livestock 2 notes \$5041.50 each cover note of \$12500 to pay for slaves March 1859
William H. Phelps	Almira L. Phelps	Deed	L	145/46	Jan	20	1868		\$300 His interest in Orozimbo to his sister

Sheriff J. W. Yerby	Almira L. Phelps	Deed	L	663/66	June	3	1868		Case 2774 James H. & Almira L. Phelps vs Rosetta A. Phelps & Orlando C. Phelps Almira bought all their livestock and land at auction
Rosetta A. Phelps	J. S. Thrasher of Galveston	D	M	581	Oct	14	1871	18	\$100 balance paid in full
James H. & Almira L. Phelps of New Orleans	William Pitt Ballinger of Galveston	Agreement	P	267/69	Jan	8	1876	500	Agreement to sell 500 acres off the SE corner of JAE Phelps League \$2000
James H. & Almira L. Phelps & Mrs. Rosetta A. Phelps	William Pitt Ballinger	D	P	393/95	March	1	1876	1414	\$2867 500 acres SE corner + 914 1/2 acres along south border of JAE Phelps League
John S. Thrasher	William Pitt Ballinger	D	P	541	July	3	1876	18	\$135 18 acres SE Corner
Almira L. Phelps	Jessie D. & Mary E. Boring	Deed	R	327/28	Nov	23	1876	481	\$817.20 481 acres NE corner of Phelps League (her sister Mary E.)
Jessie D. & Mary E. Boring	Orlando C. Phelps	DT	P	728/30	Dec	1	1876	481	481 acres to secure 2 notes to Almira L. Phelps for \$272.40 each
Almira L. Phelps	Cornelius Davis	D	Z	118/20	Oct	19	1881	1865	\$3068.12 1865 acres north & western part of JAE Phelps League
Children of Almira and James Phelps	Cornelius Davis	D	X	384	Oct	21	1881		Release all their rights to 1865 acres
Almira L. Phelps	Harris Masterson	Agree	68	278/79	Dec	20	1905	618	\$1950 Original 618 acre Orozimbo homestead
P. L. & Bessie Phelps	Harris Masterson	D	68	376/77	Dec	21	1905	618	Release their rights
Children of Olander Phelps Son Almira L. Phelps	Harris Masterson	D	68	390/91	Dec	28	1905	618	Release their rights
Harris Masterson	H. Vasmer	D	70	260	July	24	1906	140	Husband of Minerva Phelps
Almira L. Phelps	Harris Masterson	Release	85	445	April	24	1909	618	

[illegible]

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