

Mrs. J. F. Crosby, Wife Of Pioneer, Dies In New York

THE passing of one of El Paso's earliest pioneer women and wife of an owner of the original townsite was marked in the death of Mrs. J. F. Crosby, 84, in New York city Wednesday. She was buried in Easthampton, N. Y.

Mr. Crosby, who died in 1901, was the first district judge here and the son, Will Crosby, deceased, was the first American child born in El Paso, according to old timers.

The Crosbys came to El Paso from Austin about 1870 by stage and Judge Crosby was interested in the first mule tram line here. They first lived in an adobe house on Mills street across from the old Pearson hotel. Judge Crosby was part owner with Gen. Anson Mills in the Grand Central hotel which burned in 1893. It was advertised as the only hotel in the city with an elevator and was on the present Mills building site.

Old Show Place

Their later home was on Myrtle avenue, on the site of the Federal Reserve bank building, and its extensive and well parked grounds was a noted show place and the scene of many social gatherings. Part of the grounds was taken in the opening of Kansas street.

Mrs. Crosby left El Paso 10 years ago and had been living in New York since that time, but owned considerable property here. Four daughters survive her, Mrs. Madeline Wood, Mrs. Marie Harcastle, Mrs. E. P. Moran and Mrs. Joachim Amor. Will Crosby, a grandson, is here occasionally.