

Mrs. Turney, El Paso Pioneer, Dies



MRS. TURNEY

Mrs. Iva Guthrie Turney died Saturday in her residence in the Hotel Paso del Norte.

Mrs. Turney, 88, was the widow of the late State Sen. W. W. Turney.

Mrs. Turney was the daughter of Silas Riddle Guthrie, pioneer rancher in the Fort Davis area. She met and married Turney when he was a rising young attorney and state legislator in the town of Murphysville which later became the city of Alpine.

The Turneys became ranchers in the Alpine area with holdings at one time of about 18,000 head of cattle.

They later moved to El Paso during the time Turney was a legislator and also practiced law. He became a partner in the firm of Turney, Burges, Culwell and Pollard. At the time of his death in 1939 he was a partner in the

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law firm of Jones, Turney, Grambling and Howell.

At this time Mrs. Turney often said El Paso was only a small village of sand dunes.

In 1908 the couple built a palatial 12 room ante-bellum type home of white brick on Montana Street which is now the City Museum.

They lived and entertained there for many years, with cattlemen, presidents of Mexico and Gen. John J. Pershing, among the notable people who knew their hospitality.

After donating the house to the City after the death of her husband, Mrs. Turney lived in the Hotel Paso del Norte with Mrs. Jesus Melendez, her friend and companion for many years.

She was active for many years in the affairs of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Assn. of which her husband was a former president.

She is survived by a niece, Mrs. Henry T. Fletcher of Marfa, Texas; three grand nieces, Mrs. Paul Weyrauch of Marfa, Texas; Mrs. A. T. Moore of Bishop, Calif., and Mrs. Earl Anderau of Alpine, Texas; a grandnephew, Turney Fletcher of Marfa, Texas, and her sister-in-law, Mrs. A. M. Turney of Alpine, Texas.

Funeral services were pending with Harding and Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery.