

VIRGINIA P. HICKS
(Frances "Virginia" (Pierce) Hicks)
Project Consultant – Kearny County



The book "History of Kearny County Kansas", which is filled with stories and information written by Virginia P. Hicks, is at the Kearny County Historical Society, in their library.

FRANCES "VIRGINIA" PIERCE, daughter of Francis Pierce (1846-1947) and Caroline Virginia Gray (1843-1908), was born on 16 Nov 1880 in Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas. She was the third child born in Kearny County. She taught school and was the high school principal in Lakin. She always had a strong interest in her home town of Lakin and the Southwest Kansas area. She was instrumental in organizing the Kearny County Historical Society, located in Lakin.

Virginia married **CHAUNCEY MORRISON HICKS** (1875-1947), son of Frederick Hicks (1846-1883) and Elmina Knop (1852-1930), on 20 Jan 1901 at St. John, Stafford County, Kansas. Chauncey was born on 21 Jan 1875 in Whitley County, Indiana.

Virginia and Chauncey had one daughter, **VIRGINIA ELMINA (HICKS) WOMBLE**, born on 24 Nov 1901. She died on 14 Jul 1993 in Orange County, California.

Census records give Chauncey and Virginia were divorced before 1910. *

Chauncey Hicks died on his forty-acre farm in Trumann, Arkansas, on 11 Nov 1947. He died of burns caused by his clothes igniting while burning leaves in his yard. His daughter, Virginia Womble, who was living in California at the time, planned his funeral and had his burial at the Lakin Cemetery in Lakin, Kansas.

Frances “Virginia” Hicks died on 5 Mar 1976 at the Western Prairie Nursing Home in Ulysses, Grant County, Kansas, where she had lived since 1970. Burial was at the Lakin Cemetery in Lakin, Kansas.

** Although the 1910 census records show that Virginia and Chauncey were divorced, the 1930 and 1940 census give Virginia as widowed. However, Chauncey was still alive during 1930 and 1940. Neither remarried. The 1930 census gives Chauncey as “single”. Therefore, to date, there is not any record showing that they divorced, except for the 1910 census.*

Records DO reveal that they lived apart for many years and their daughter had them buried together at the Lakin Cemetery.

Cemetery Headstones

FRANCES “VIRGINIA” (PIERCE) HICKS & CHAUNCEY MORRISON HICKS



LAKIN CEMETERY

Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas

Headstone photographs provided by Leon Barton

