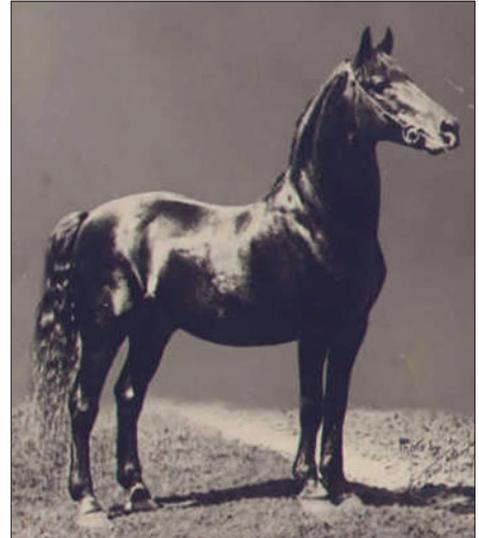
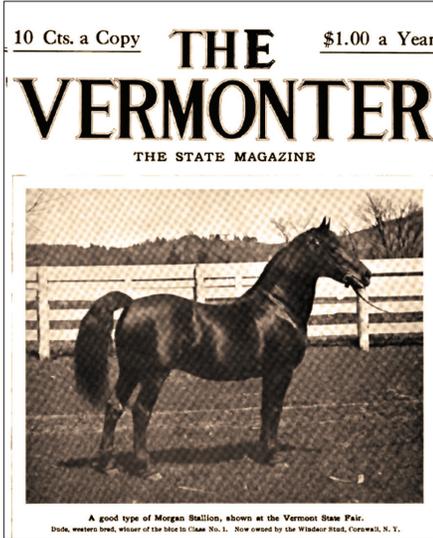




Dude 4673

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2012



(Fred A 981 x Kit [unregistered black Morgan mare bred by John Timmerman])

Bay; 15H; 1,025lbs.

Foaled August 14, 1896 in Clarksville, Iowa.

Bred by Lewis W. Wedeking.

Registered Morgan progeny: 17 colts, 22 fillies.

41 crosses to Justin Morgan, through Brutus, Bulrush, Cock Of The Rock, Revenge, Sherman, Woodbury and a dozen unnamed daughters.

Acquired as a four-year-old (and registered) by noted Midwest breeder James J. Lynes, Dude sired 24 registered progeny in Iowa before his purchase in 1914 by noted Eastern breeder C. C. Stillman, for whom he sired 15 more registered foals after triumphing at the 1914 Vermont State Fair at age 18.

In 1904, Lynes described Dude as “much like his sire, being very cheerful in disposition, never nips or lays his ears back, will run out with young colts in yard together. Is the ‘fullest’ made, heaviest legged, most horse for his height that has ever been exhibited in the West. He is known from the Eastern to the Western part of the United States as being a regular old fashioned Morgan. He stands squarely on legs and feet, his toes point straight ahead.”

Dude is a perfect example of Old Midwest breeding. During the 1830s and ‘40s, pioneers came west to the prairies in Conestogas “pulled by teams of Morgans and Blackhaws” [to quote an Iowa elementary history text]. These teams were then used to break the sod, and to take their families to town for supplies and Sunday services. The Black Hawk lines especially were appreciated for their beauty and utility and dominated the Upper Midwest before the Civil War. Unfortunately, the 1860s saw that population decimated as cavalry troop after cavalry troop left for the conflict mounted on Morgans. (Paddleford’s Black Hawk 1253, for example, comes down

to us through one daughter, as the rest of his hundreds of offspring were purchased for General Farnsworth’s cavalry regiment.) After the war, trotting races soared in popularity, with meets held at every county fairground. Dude’s paternal 2nd dam, Yellow Bird, produced two trotters under 2:30, while his maternal great-grand sire, Black Hawk Prophet 135, trotted 2:50 and earned first premium at the 1860 Illinois and 1861 Iowa State Fairs. Driven in harness across Iowa to compete at the 1902 Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, Dude took first in get of sire and second in halter. He repeated in 1903 (beaten in halter by his yearling son Ben Storing), 1904, 1905 and 1907. (Meredith Sears reported in a July 2001 *TMH* article that Dude never lost a get of sire class.) When Dude’s offspring placed well at the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair, Eastern breeders began to take note of the typey Midwestern stallion. His son Dart 5130 (out of Bess Franklin 02656) took first at the 1912 Iowa State Fair and the grand championship at the 1915 San Francisco World’s Fair. His descendants may be found in the show ring, driving, eventing, reining, on the trail, or in backyards across the USA. Or, like his versatile great-grandson Archie O, all of the above.

Note from Calvin Hanson’s CD: It was verified by affidavits from the University of Rochester and in a news release that Dude’s skeleton contained only 18 dorsal and 5 lumbar vertebrae. His bones were articulated by C. C. Stillman. ■