

Thomas Workman Temple

Son of Walter Pablo Temple



Thomas Temple II

Thomas Workman Temple was born January 4, 1905 on the Rancho la Merced, the eldest son of Walter Pablo Temple and Lorenza Librada Temple.

Although the Temple family had found hard times, and by 1914 Walter P Temple was a struggling walnut farmer. He managed to purchase land from Lucky Baldwin that had previously belonged to his father, FPF Temple, near the Montebello Hills. In April 1914, Thomas Temple discovered oil in a pool of water on the land. By 1916, the family had a lease agreement with the Standard Oil Company, and first well came into production the following year to be followed by 25 other wells. These gushers brought back the family's wealth.

Thomas Temple died in San Gabriel, CA, on January 19, 1972, at the age of 67.