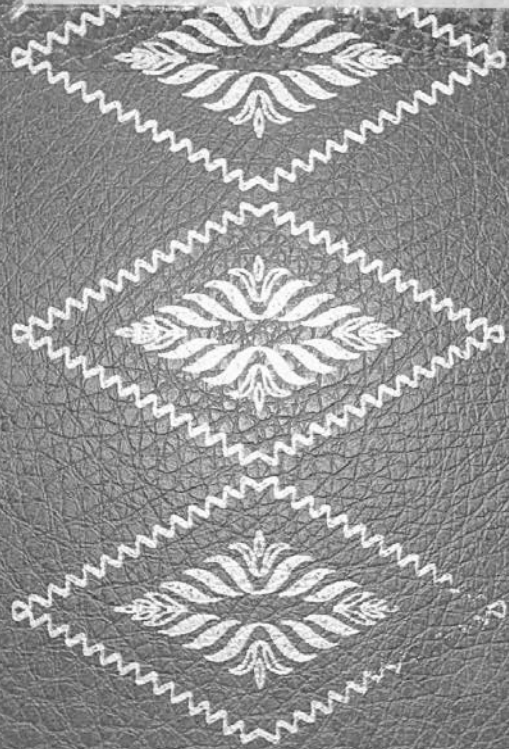


VOL 2 1971 - 74

VOLUME II



Compiled by: -

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1707 Main Street
Georgetown, Texas 78626

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VOLUME 2.

WILLIAMSON

COUNTY

HISTORICAL

SURVEY

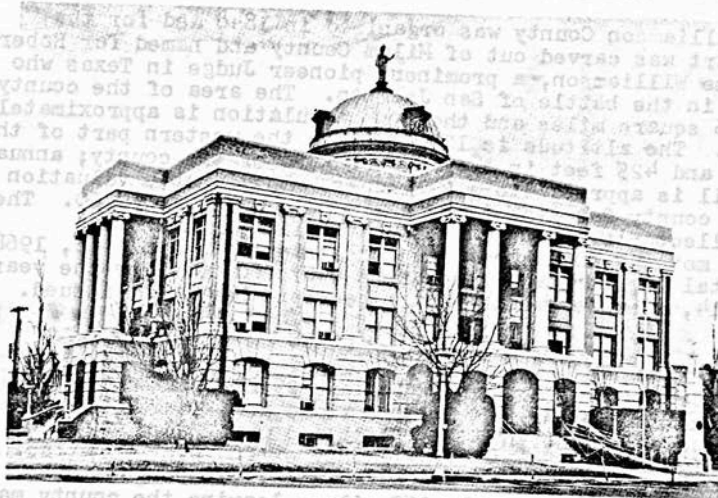
COMMITTEE

1871 TO 1876

SAM V. STONE, County Judge
DICK CERVENKA, County Clerk
BEN W. KURIO, County Auditor

HENRY MATYSEK, Sheriff
JACK GILLUM, Tax Ass'r. & Col.
MRS. DORRACE HODGES, Ass't Auditor

GILBERT CONOLEY, Co. Superintendent
MRS. VIOLA HONEYCUTT, County Treasurer
WM. F. FOREST, County Surveyor



WILLIAMSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRECINCT COMMISSIONERS, WILLIAMSON COUNTY

- No. 1, Wesley Johnson, Georgetown
- No. 2, Wesley Foust, Liberty Hill
- No. 3, Robert Rozacky, Granger
- No. 4, W. F. Schlickeisen, Taylor

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The Williamson

Vol. 93 — No. 32

Georgetown, Texas 78626

Tuesday,

County Sun

December 22, 1970 Christmas Edition

22 Pages Price 15¢



Judge Sam Stone explains county history

"I've been a scout since 1922, boys, and my scout troop presented the colors when this marker was erected," Judge Sam V. Stone told scouts Tom McKnight, Clarence Purkey and Jackie Smith.

"On this site in May, 1848, Georgetown was located, county seat of Williamson County, and was named for George W. Glasscock, Sr., donor of the townsite. Here the first grand

jury met, October 10, 1848.

"Erected by the Daniel Coleman Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, in 1930", the marker at the corner of Church and 9th Streets reads.

Judge Stone told the boys that exactly 100 years after the county was founded, in 1948, the Williamson County Commissioners Court pitched a tent there at the marker and held court.

Judge Sam Stone was leader in preserving heritage of county

Years ago when not very many people were active in preserving the historic heritage of Williamson County, Sam Stone was working at that task, along with many other civic and public duties which he has assumed throughout his years of service.

So far as his elected office of County Judge is concerned, Judge Stone will retire in January after serving continuously since 1934. But his friends and constituents hope that he will not retire completely from civic works, for they have been wide and varied in scope, and important to this county.

-0-

Perhaps one of the first historic events involving Samuel V. Stone was in 1930, when the granite marker at Church and Ninth streets in Georgetown was dedicated. Located where, in 1848, a committee met to decide upon a site for the county seat, the marker was erected by the Daniel Coleman chapter of the D.A.R., and the dedication address was delivered by Governor Dan Moody, a native of this county. A Boy Scout troop, whose leader was Sam Stone, presented the Colors on this occasion.

This event might be considered prophetic, for just two years after Sam Stone was elected County Judge, Texas was celebrating its centennial (1936), and Governor James V. Allred appointed

Judge Stone on the State Committee to place historical markers in Williamson County in celebration of the anniversary. An even dozen were erected at that time, commemorating some of the most colorful events in early county history.

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THE CENTENNIAL MARKERS include the Tumlinson Block House site south of Leander, where a fort was built in 1836; Kenney's Fort, east of Round Rock; sites of the Manuel Flores fight between Georgetown and Liberty Hill; the Webster Massacre site, and the Webster Massacre grave near Leander; the Battle of Cottonwood Creek, near Taylor; a plaque honoring George Washington Glasscock in the Courthouse; Williamson County line marker and Interstate Highway marker, both south of Georgetown; the Robert Jones Rivers shaft located on the Courthouse lawn; memorial to pioneer education, Round Rock; and Harrell Memorial Park in Round Rock.

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Meanwhile, when the old live oak tree was removed from the corner where the first commission met, the wood was made into gavels, and one was presented to Judge Stone.

THE COUNTY CENTENNIAL, observed in May 1948, was chaired by the always busy Judge, and the week-long

event, May 1-8, was one of the most festive and elaborate occasions of its kind in the county. Judge Stone appointed committees from all communities in the county, and all participated in the programs held in Georgetown.

-0-

In 1957, the legislature authorized the organization of the Texas Historical Survey Committee, and Judge Stone became the first chairman for Williamson County. He appointed sub-chairmen

representing each town in the county, and for about ten years, with that committee initiated the placing of a large number of markers at places of significance in local history. These include, in Georgetown, the Presbyterian Church, built 1873; Grace Episcopal Church (1881); First Methodist Church (1891); the County Jail (1888); the John T. Coffee home (1848); the Dimmit it home (1866); the Dimmit Building (1901 Southwestern University Main Building (1900); Laura Kuykendall plaque placed in

1968; Williamson County Courthouse (1910), and the old Georgetown Cemetery on the San Gabriel River, used from 1840 to 1902. Judge Stone spearheaded a movement to restore the old cemetery, clear it of brush, and put it into respectable condition.

EAST OF GEORGETOWN, the Santa Fe Expedition of 1841 is commemorated, and near Circleville, the Sloan home, built 1854. At Circleville, the McFadin home (1850) and the Cotton Card Factory (1863) site are marked.

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Liberty Hill has marked the Shin Oak home (1852); Hall Ranch home (1865), and the Methodist Church (1870).

-0-

Round Rock contains many fine old homes, and those marked include Todd home (1843), Palm home (1847), McNabb home (1853), Washington Anderson home (1854), Nelson home (1856) and Wassell home (1860). Also, a stage stop (1848), the McNutt grave (1853); Hudson Memorial for Civil War Chaplains; the Palm Valley Lutheran Church (organized 1861); the Old Broom Factory (1876), and the John A. Nelson Building (1900).

Near Taylor, the Lawhon Cemetery has a marker, and in Taylor, the Doak home (1858); Doak Pavillion (1891); the Moody home; First Christian Church (1891); St. James Episcopal Church (1892), and Wedemeyer Hospital (1915).

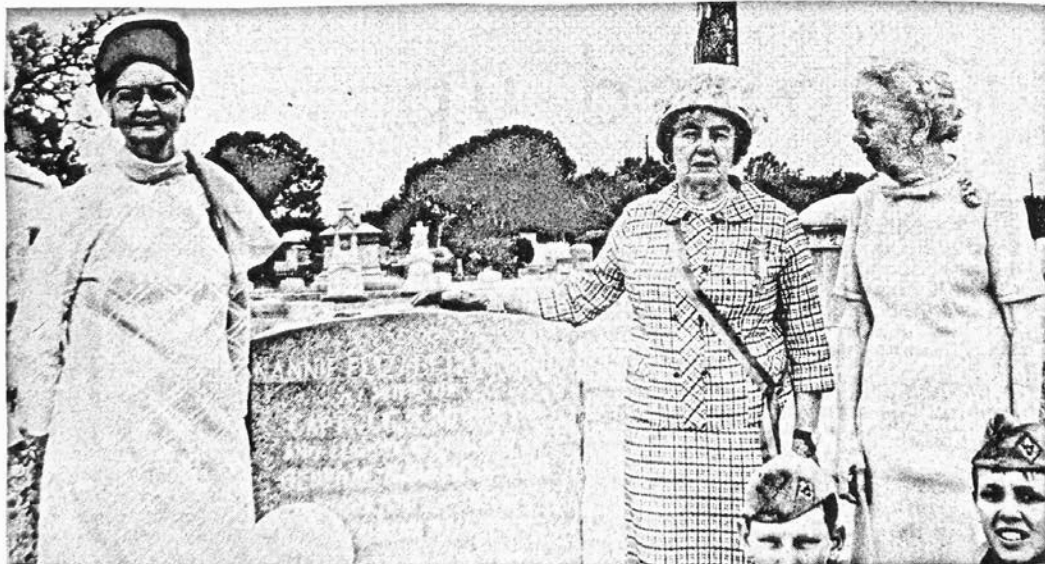
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THUS THE FINE HAND, patience and interest of Judge Stone have combined to provide Williamson County with historical markers, preserved materials, and perhaps, most important of all, an ever-growing sense of the importance of the county's heritage and its very real connection with the present and future.

Judge Stone foresaw his retirement a few years ago and phased himself out of the leadership of the Historical Survey Committee, but materials he has gathered and other assistance he has lent have been valuable to many committee members who have continued with the work. Markers placed recently include the McCormick home (1855) and Primitive Baptist Church (1855); Florence; J. C. Bryson home (1872), Leander; Granger Methodist Church (1883); Bartlett Presbyterian Church (1897); town of Jonah; Lawrence Chapel Cemetery; Shiloh Baptist Church (1854); Corn Hill Cemetery.

MRS. ESTHA SCGGINS, historian for the County Survey Committee, kindly provided information about Survey Committee activities.

SUN Georgetown, Texas July 9, 1970



MARKER DEDICATED TO SAM HOUSTON'S DAUGHTER

Capt. James Asbury Tait Chapter of the United States Daughters of 1812 dedicated a marker to the memory of Nancy Elizabeth Houston Morrow, the eldest daughter of Ensign Sam Houston, last Wednesday at the International Order of Oddfellows Cemetery. Mrs. Morrow was born September 6, 1846 at "Raven Hill", the

Huntsville, Walker County home of her parents. Shown with the marker are, left to right, Mrs. Homer Caswell, Mrs. Grady Kirby, state president of the organization, and Mrs. Estha Scoggins. In the foreground are two of the Boy Scouts of Troop 153 of Georgetown who helped present the colors at the ceremony.

Mrs. Cornforth reappointed as historical head

Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor was appointed Thursday by County Judge C. L. Chance to chair the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee for the coming year.

Mrs. Cornforth has served as county chairman for the past year and also worked as sub-chairman for Taylor since 1964.

Sub-chairmen for the various localities in the county are to be announced by Judge Chance in the near future.

TAYLOR, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1971

1971-72 Officers Named

County Historical Group Sets Meeting Thursday

A meeting of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee is scheduled to be held Thursday afternoon, January 21 in the Georgetown library building. Mrs. John Cornforth, county chairman has announced. Plans will be made to carry out the comprehensive program of work set up by the state organization under the theme "Goals for the Seventies."

Mrs. Cornforth has also announced officers for the two-year term of 1971-1972. Mrs.

F. W. Buchanan of Jarrell is vice-chairman. Mrs. Gene Phillips of Taylor is secretary-treasurer. Mrs. John Ledbetter of Round Rock is on the finance and budget committee and Mrs. Harold G. Scoggins is in charge of historical preservation.

Community sub-chairmen include Mrs. Homer Caswell of Georgetown, Mrs. Buchanan of Jarrell, Miss Effie McLeon of Florence, Mrs. D. B. Gregg of Round Rock, Harold Asher of Andice, Mrs. M. K. Richardson of Liberty Hill, Mrs. W. H. Percy of Jonah, Mrs. Luther Chance of Leander, Mrs. Henry Labaj of Granger, and Mrs. Oliver P. Harris of Taylor.

A sub-chairman for Bartlett is expected to be appointed soon, Mrs. Cornforth said. The appointments have been made by Mrs. Cornforth in consultation with County Judge C. L. Chance.

County Historical chairmen announced

Recently reappointed county chairman of the Williamson County Historical Society, Mrs. John Cornforth has announced the officers for the 1971-72 term.

Mrs. F. W. Buchanan of Jarrell is vice chairman, Mrs. Gene Phillips of Taylor is secretary-treasurer, Mrs. John Ledbetter of Round Rock is on the finance and budget committee and Mrs. Harold G. Scoggins is in charge of historical preservation.

Community sub-chairmen include Mrs. Homer Caswell of Georgetown, Mrs. Buchanan of Jarrell, Miss Effie McLeon of Florence, Mrs. D. B. Gregg of Round Rock, Harold Asher of Andice, Mrs. M. K. Richardson of Liberty Hill, Mrs. W. H. Percy of Jonah, Mrs. Luther Chance of Leander, Mrs. Henry Labaj of Granger, and Mrs. Oliver P. Harris of Taylor.

A sub-chairman for Bartlett is expected to be appointed soon, Mrs. Cornforth said. The appointments have been made by Mrs. Cornforth in consultation with County Judge C. L. Chance.

Round Rock building named

The historic Early Commercial Building in Round Rock has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Charles R. Woodburn, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads:
EARLY COMMERCIAL BUILDING

Erected to house private bank as well as hardware and lumber business of John A. Nelson and Associates. Bank was closed in 1922; commercial use continues.

Architecturally important for facade of cast iron and pressed tin. Ornamented pilasters and columns of this type were used in many late 19th-early 20th century structures in central Texas. This front is notable for its continuous preservations. The building is of native limestone. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1970.

THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY SUN
Georgetown, Texas February 4, 1971



ROUND ROCK round-up

By NANCY RABB

A DATE HAS BEEN SET for the Texas Historical Medallion awarding of the old John A. Nelson Building in downtown Round Rock. The dedication ceremonies will be Saturday, February 13, at 11 a.m., with a coffee and social hour to follow at the Farmers State Bank. The architecture of the building will be explained by Round Rock's own Wayne Bell with Master of Ceremonies duties to be handled by Oliver Berglund, Pastor of the Palm Valley Lutheran Church. The public is invited to participate.

Taylor Daily Press

Full Leased Wire Report of The Associated Press - World's Greatest News Service

TAYLOR, TEXAS, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1971

(AP)—Associated Press



MARKER DEDICATION — A Texas State Historical marker was dedicated on an early commercial building in Round Rock Saturday morning. Among those attending the dedication ceremonies were, left to right, Mrs. D. B. Gregg, chairman of the Round Rock Historical Society; Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee; and Wayne Bell, dedication speaker and restoration architect of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.



Dedication Date Scheduled For Round Rock Building

February 13 has been set for the dedication of a Texas state historical marker to be placed on the John A. Nelson and Co. building in Round Rock, according to an announcement from Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. The ceremonies will take place at 11 a. m. and the program will be announced at a later date.

The building, now used by the Associated Milk Producers, Inc., was built in 1900 for the John A. Nelson and Co. unincorporated bank. Not only did the firm

conduct banking business but also engaged in hardware and agricultural implements and allied merchandise, said Mrs. Cornforth.

The banking business was discontinued in 1922, but the hardware and lumber part of the business was still conducted from the Victorian-style building which is considered a gem of the type of architecture, she added.

In later years, the building was used for a chicken hatchery before the milk producers took over the quarters. In 1970, the beauties of the building were restored in a project under the direction of E. J. Revell of Austin, Mrs. Cornforth said.

TAYLOR, TEXAS, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1971



EARLY COMMERCIAL BUILDING
ERECTED TO HOUSE PRIVATE BANK AS WELL AS HARDWARE AND LUMBER BUSINESS OF JOHN A. NELSON AND ASSOCIATES. BANK WAS CLOSED IN 1922. COMMERCIAL USE CONTINUED.
ARCHITECTURALLY IMPORTANT FOR FACADE OF CAST IRON AND PRESSED TIN ORNAMENTED PILASTERS AND COLUMNS OF THIS TYPE WERE USED IN MANY LATE 19TH - EARLY 20TH CENTURY STRUCTURES IN CENTRAL TEXAS. THIS FRONT IS NOTABLE FOR ITS CONTINUOUS PRESERVATION. THE BUILDING IS OF NATIVE LIMESTONE.
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK 1978

5.
Deolece Parmelee, 10/13/70

Official Texas Historical Building Medallion
w/16"x 12" Interpretive Plate
Williamson County

Location: 203 E. Main Street,
Round Rock

EARLY COMMERCIAL BUILDING*

ERECTED TO HOUSE PRIVATE BANK
AS WELL AS HARDWARE AND LUMBER
BUSINESS OF JOHN A. NELSON AND
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TEXAS. THIS FRONT IS NOTABLE FOR
ITS CONTINUOUS PRESERVATION. THE
BUILDING IS OF NATIVE LIMESTONE.**

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1970***

*1/2" type/lettering

**3/8" lettering

***1/4" lettering

Taken from DAILY TEXAN July 10, 1910

JOHN A. NELSON & COMPANY

"Banks are a blessing in a community, especially such strong and successful banking institutions as that of John A. Nelson & Co. (unincorporated). From the first the bank succeeded and it has continued to succeed and stands today a monument to energy, enterprise and good business judgement. A general banking is transacted and every courtesy is extended to its patrons consistent with safe and legitimate banking.

John A. Nelson & Co., are not only well known and successful bankers but they are also extensive dealers in hardware and agricultural implements. They also carry a very large stock of saddles, buggies, lumber, shingles, sash, etc.

They do a wholesale business and retail business and their customers are numbered by the hundreds, not alone in Round Rock but throughout this trade territory which belongs to the city and her merchants.

You can save money by coming to Round Rock and patronizing this large store. They have the right goods and the prices on them are as low as you will find anywhere in the country. This large business is owned by some of the prominent citizens in Round Rock as follows: John A. Nelson, Carl A. Nelson, W. E. Henna, O. L. Brady, C. A. Voight and J. E. Gustafson."

Later records show the Bank was discontinued in 1922 but the old bank vault still remains in the building. The hardware and lumber business was continued for a number of years. Following the hardware and lumber business the building was used as a chicken hatchery for about two years.

The building is now owned by the Farmers State Bank and is occupied by the Associated Milk Producers Co-operative. It was restored in 1970 by the Farmers State Bank under the direction of E. J. Revell of Austin, Texas.

J.A.Nelson and Company, 1900, Round Rock, Texas

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

A renovated two-story cut limestone rubble commercial structure with a cast iron and pressed tin front. The building is situated on a corner lot on the main street. The facade is divided horizontally into two stories. The vertical divisions are made with varying rhythms and great skill, differing on each level and unified by an even pattern below the cornice. A wide pilaster in the center of the building at the first story level marks the major division. Each side is further divided; the one to the left consisting of two wide bays flanking two narrow bays at the first story, each bay marked by narrow pilasters, and three windows above framed by two engaged columns, and just to the left of the middle pilaster, a double door with a window above it. At the second story, this window also framed with engaged columns; the second major division, to the right of the pilaster is again divided into two quite different parts, the larger one just to the right of the pilaster is made up of three wide evenly spaced bays, divided by pilasters, the center bay of the three containing a second double door, all with three windows above, the second part is at the far right and corresponds to the double door of the left side of the building except that this bay with double door is chamfered from the main plane, has a double window above at the second story level, and boasts its own small parapet.

All of the first floor windows are plate glass and have two pairs of horizontal molded panels below and one narrow horizontal panel above. The three entrances have wooded double doors with plate glass panels and four square molded panels beneath. Two pairs of doors have wooden molded sills beneath the plate glass and one has rows of closely spaced dentils beneath the sills. Wide plywood panels with applied molding strips fill the transom area above each window and door, these vary with the width of the bays and are effective in pointing up the change in rhythms of the first story of the facade.

Cast iron pilasters mark the divisions at the first story and engaged columns at the second. The largest pilasters at the ends and center have attached cast iron bases with vertically channeled designs, knobs, fans, and half-fans as ornament. The pilasters have center bands decorated with fans, trefoils, and half-fans. There are fanciful capitals. The smaller pilasters of the minor divisions are modified versions of

the larger ones, although they have heavy molded attached wooden bases instead of attached cast iron bases. A few of the windows have plain wooden jambs instead of columns or pilasters. The second story windows have louvered shutters kept closed.

There is a wide intermediate cast iron cornice between the first and second stories with a spaced guilloche design on the ovolo molding of its uppermost member. Pressed tin panels fill the area between the windows and between the columns. Those between the windows are wider and have elaborate urns and dolphins (or fanciful fish) in volute patterns. The narrower pressed tin panels between the applied columns have abstract circular patterns. The columns themselves have rosettes set in three square panels in their bases and fanciful Ionic capitals. There are ten in all and they mark the principal and secondary divisions of the second story of the facade.

There is a wide frieze above the windows of pressed metal with molded fan arches made up of petals marking each window head and with a square molded panel set between each fan uniting the varied rhythm of the first two stories into a regular pattern at the entablature. Above this frieze there is a second narrower frieze with pressed metal swags. The cornice itself has a repeated pattern of scallop shells interspaced with small pediment shapes accenting each modillion at the overhang. The chamfered bay at the far right has the owner's name, J.A.Nelson and Co., above the second story window and has a small parapet with patterned canted supports as well as modillions, and four finials that look like urn lids.

Above the cornice at the center of the long side, there is a two part stepped parapet with small pediment and two urns (one missing its finial) with the words LUMBER, J.A.NELSON & CO., HARDWARE on the bottom section, a swag frieze on the top section, and the date 1900 in the pediment above.

The building is painted a muted soft green, with white trim used with discretion on the cornice, the pilasters and engaged columns, some of the horizontal moldings, and on some of the trim on the first story. The shutters and door are a darker muted soft green.

The right side of the building is cut limestone painted the same green as the front. The walls are thick and toward the rear there are six segmentally arched openings at both the first and second stories. The openings for the eleven windows are deeply cut and the stone work in the two large voussoirs and keystone in each arch is outstanding. The windows are shuttered with board shutters. There is

a new metal overhead door installed in the door opening. The left side of the building is solid limestone rubble, painted a muted soft green. The rear is unpainted, of cut limestone, with two doors on the first story, one with a segmental arch, one with a straight metal lintel, both with corrugated tin doors. There are two windows above the arched door, both shuttered. The upper half of the rear facade, that over the door with the lintel, has been altered and filled in with stone. There are very large leader-heads on this rear section. The cast iron of the front is stamped **FROST BUILDERS, ST. LOUIS.**

MECHAM BROTHERS(?) FRONT BUILDERS, ST. LOUIS, pat. 87

There are columns and pilasters on many buildings along Highway 79 that are identical to these on this building, Calvert, Herne, Caldwell, all have buildings with some of the same parts. However, this is the only complete facade as far as we know.

Architectural description prepared from conferences - Survey Records

Macedonia School, churches, Masonic Lodge

Macedonia, located between Weir and Granger, must have been a going community by 1874, for in that year the State of Texas Masonic Lodge authorized organization of a Macedonian chapter, and the village had a school and a church at about the same time.

Mrs. C. F. Gilstrap says that the Lodge and the Macedonia Baptist Church of Christ shared a building in the first years of their activity and mention is made of a church and a school in the Lodge records between 1874 and 1878.

Markers in Macedonia Cemetery indicate that twelve people were buried there in the 1870s, the first being J. C. Will, who died April 22, 1874. In the 1880s, 39 persons were buried in the cemetery, suggesting that the population was increasing much more rapidly than in the preceding decade.

MASONIC LODGE

Eight men were authorized to form Macedonia Masonic Lodge on June 29, 1874: James B. Wright, M. T. Hawkins, J. M. Anderson, J. W. McHorse, S. D. Kendall, Elias M. Queen, J. A. Denson and Daniel Hogan. The group held its first meeting August 8, 1874, with those eight present, and also S. A. Scott, John W. Rudasill, William Mullis, D. M. Wilcox, G. W. Anderson, W. S. Brookshire, J. A. Whitener and J. M. Denson. Two men from the San Gabriel Lodge #9, J. W. Posey and R. H. Montgomery, also attended. At this meeting, the following expenses were reported: lumber to build lodge house, \$10; desk, \$14; tin bucket, 50 cents; dipper, 15 cents; rope, 20 cents; work on the lodge room, \$19; funeral expenses for a member, \$29.80; seal for the lodge, \$8.15.

At the October meeting, W. S. Lee, Wm. L. Guthrie, and J. W. Young of the Davilla Lodge were also present. In February 1875, J. L. Compton succeeded the first worshipful master, James B. Wright. At this time, an expense of \$79.70 for work on the Lodge Room was presented.

Other names mentioned in the minutes of the Lodge through September 7, 1878, include A. R. Robins, W. M. McHorse, S. A. Spiars, J. A. Jordan, Solomon Barnes, S. E. Splawn, J. A. Lindsey, J. Howell, James A. Simons, Henry W. Eubank, J. Snider, A. J. Nicholson, J. B. Rucker, G. W. Logan, J. W. Wayman, C. B. Wilson, J. B. Lowe, Jr., P. B. Coe, James Gilbert, J. T. Dalton, J. B. Hawkins, S. D. Lee, L. P. Guthrie, W. R. Num and John Adams, several of the men being visitors from other lodges.

At one of the meetings, the Lodge voted to send the heirs of a deceased member to school for seven consecutive months, indicating an accessible school by the mid-1870s.

The minutes for July 13, 1878 state that the meeting was held at the Lodge Room at Macedonia Church. A visitor on that occasion was D. Moody, who presented a petition for a new Lodge to be established at Taylorsville, signed by Daniel Moody, James Dalton, J. A. Simons, C. P. Vance, J. O. Frink, J. E. Stiles, S. G. Montgomery, W. F. Holliman, A. T. Booth, J. B. Napier, W. S. Elliott, George B. Scott, T. C. Thompson, C. R. Wilson and W. C. Grice. The petition was approved and thus Macedonia Masonic Lodge became the parent of the Taylor (sville) one.

SCHOOL ESTABLISHED

It was the custom in small communities for the Masonic Lodge to organize and to establish a school, if one had not already been started. It seems safe to assume that some type of school was in existence at Macedonia by 1874. An early settler, Jesse Denson, who served with Morgan's Company during the Civil War, bought a farm on Opossum Creek near Macedonia Cemetery, and was said to have given land across the creek to the south for a Macedonia Baptist Church. Members of his family say that a small building on that

farm was used as a school as well as a church.

Macedonia school records have been found back to 1884. By 1892, school enrollment was 50 students, and in 1902, Macedonia became a two room school with a student body of 125 pupils. O. H. Robbins was the teacher in 1892; other teachers included Richard Critz, Paul Root, Miss Minnie Gordon, Miss Mattie Colbert, Miss Louie Rhoades, George McAndrew, Miss Effie Dorrell, Mr. Forehand, Mr. McDonald and Mrs. Cooper Brewster.

CHURCHES ORGANIZED

According to a family record book kept by Frances Helen Eubank (later Mrs. Harvey Truman Stearns), (page 163) a church was organized at Circleville and at Opossum Creek in October 1855, with Dr. Newton Hodgen, preacher.

Although no mention is made of Macedonia in this book, the Opossum Church was apparently close enough to Circleville that members of each church occasionally visited the other, and apparently the same minister took care of both churches, at least part of the time. Therefore, it is believed that this very early church was located on Opossum Creek within easy horseback riding distance of Circleville.

Members of Opossum church in 1855 were listed as Mrs. Helene Gardner and Thomas Gardner, Sr. The church membership in 1862 included Isaac Wilson, Martha Wilson, Thomas Gardner, Sr., Miss Sarah Gardner, John Gardner, William Gardner, Mrs. Mary Ann Gardner, David Staunton, Martha Staunton, Elizabeth Gardner, Beauford Bybee, Mrs. Belinda Guthrie, Mrs. Lem Robbins, Mrs.

George Robbins, Robert Rucker, Milton Willis, Catherine Everette, Nymrod Hughes, Mrs. Hughes, Henry Robbins, Martha Parsons, Mrs. Elizabeth Dilano, Jesse Brookshire, Melinda Brookshire. (A note at the end of the list states "the above record was made by John McFadin." The spelling of the names in the manuscript has been adhered to.)

Martha Wilson, mentioned above, (born 1818), was buried at Macedonia Cemetery in 1892. Other family names from this early church record are also repeated in the records of Macedonia in the 1870s; Brookshire, Robbins, Willis and Everett (Everette). It seems reasonable to conclude, therefore, that Opossum Church must have been near Macedonia, or indeed was located in what later became Macedonia.

Macedonia Baptist Church was mentioned in the Macedonia Masonic Lodge records in the 1870s. Old timers recall that the Methodists alternated with the Baptists in holding services in the same building. Mr. Zannie Eason Moore, Sr., recalls that Perry Hawkins was the Baptist minister and a Mr. Boles preached for the Methodists about in 1884.

Mrs. C. F. Gilstrap, Jr., has a record book of the Macedonia Baptist Church of Christ from 1883 to December 1904 with statistics on membership, attendance lists and financial reports. A practice of that day was the excluding of a member from church for such offenses as intoxication. "Letters of dismission were granted to the following members," read the minutes, and in one case, a "sister" member was so excluded. Some cases were "continued" for further investigation. Members could be reinstated after proper investigation of the behavior and intention of the subject.

Family names listed for the Baptist Church from 1883 to 1904 included: Allison, Ake, Anderson, Atkins, Ashmore, Adams, Ales, Avery, Alles, Baker, Barnes, Beaty, Brooks, Bird, Bogart, Bryson, Bryan, Bell, Barnett, Browning, Bogan, Broadstreet, Blair, Brown, Banine, Bull,

Cromwell, Calhoun, Cantwell, Cuffield, Chambers, Denson, Dunica, Davis, Dorrell, Daniels, Evans, Eason, Everett, Estell, Fikes, Foster, Farr, Gasaway, Gray, Hasty, Hodges, Hough, Hawkins, Howard, Hendley, Holoman, Hasting, Hitchcock, Hatchell, Haveman, Hardy, Head, Houston, Irvin, James, Junas, Jordan, Kendall, Kyle, Keyser, Kid (sic), Kerr, Landrum, Lindsey, Lee, Love, Michael, Mayfield, Mullins, Moore, McBurnett, Miller, Manning, McHorse, McRoy, McFarland, Nix, Neely, Palmer, Pumphrey, Pope, Rudasill, Rolin, Robertson, Ride, Reavis, Shizley, Scott, Spawon, Stacy, Smith, Standee, Swann, Tisdall, Tidwell, Teer, Taylor, Tegge, Upchurch, Vanant, Veazy, Walker, Wilson, Wood, Williams, Willis, Wilson, Wilcox, White and Yancy.

Methodist Church records which have not been located, would provide other family names.

In a flat area under huge pecan trees along the bank of Opossum Creek, a brush arbor provided a comfortable place for church services during hot summer months.

GIN BUILT

About 1885, Louis Taylor built a gin near the schoolhouse. The gin was later owned by Harvey Denson. Mr. Lyda and Mr. Vitek were also associated with the gin.

MACEDONIA CEMETERY

Land for the Macedonia Cemetery was donated by the S. A. Spiars family sometime before 1874. In 1893, a deed was executed from John Kalinek, Sr. and his wife to the trustees of Macedonia Cemetery, G. L. Taylor, W. M. Hill and J. B. Wright, in which 2.6 acres of land for the cemetery were conveyed to the association

for a consideration of \$35.00. The deed is recorded in the Williamson County Clerk's office, Vol. 65, page 226, March 23, 1893.

The Macedonia Cemetery Association was reactivated in 1970 and a drive launched to obtain funds for perpetual care. Several workdays with volunteer labor were held, the cemetery was cleared, and a reunion was held in the fall.

RAILROAD ESTABLISHES GRANGER

When the Katy Railroad was built north from Taylorsville, its route was to the east of Macedonia, and as was usually the case, towns moved to where the railroad was.

The Grange Association was organized by farmers and cattlemen of the Macedonia community to handle their grain and produce for market, but they built their

store at Granger near the railroad. Dr. Jess Denson was president of the Grange, and associates were J. M. and Harvey Denson, Jim Barnett was manager.

As Granger flourished, the churches and school of Macedonia gradually diminished in membership. The gin, too, eventually disappeared, and the only remnant of the community today is the cemetery.

Zannie Eason Moore Sr. recalls among the earliest families at Macedonia the Edgington, Denson and Spiars.

Material for this sketch was furnished by Mrs. Margaret Tegge Stearns, Zannie Eason Moore, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. H. E. "Dick" Lindsey, Mrs. Beulah Denson, Mrs. Annie Denson Gilstrap, Mr. and Mrs. Fred P. Denson, Sr., Hattie Tegge Pope, Mrs. Frances Spiars Leggett, Mrs. Stacy Labaj, Luther H. Durrell, files of the Granger NEWS, and records of the Masonic Lodge, Headquarters, Waco.

THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY SUN, Georgetown, Texas, Thursday, February 26, 1971.



DEMOLITION IS SAD - unless it is done as respectfully and carefully as Ralph Dixon Love and his brother, Buck, are doing to this historic landmark behind the Church of Christ. The Love brothers plan to reconstruct it, piece by piece, on their family farm near Andice. They have enough of their great grandparents' furniture to furnish it authentically and plan to make a museum out of it.

This small rock house was probably built between 1868 and 1873 by Jabez L. Brittain, on the 1100 block of Brushy Street - now Austin Avenue.

The construction of the house is similar to other homes that were built in Georgetown between 1848 and 1875.

It was at first used as a home but later when a larger home was built in front, it was used as servants quarters.

The entries on the Abstract (next page) show the changes of ownership of the property from 1868 to 1901.

In 1890 W. N. Mayfield owned this place. When the Mayfields came to Georgetown they brought with them an old Chinaman named Wang Hing. Ing, as we called him, came originally from Shanghi, China. He probably lived in this little house when the Mayfield family owned the property.

A few of us still remember old Ing. He wore Chinese clothes and a Western hat with his queue coiled in the hat. He always kept his hands hidden in the sleeves of his shirt and if we, as small children, could manage to get his hat off of his head he had a hard time getting his hands out of his sleeves to recoil the queue and replace his hat over it.

This Certificate states he was living in Burton, Texas on May 5, 1892.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Certificate of Residence.

Issued to Chinese Laborer, under the Provisions of the Act of May 5, 1892.

This is to Certify THAT Wang King a Chinese Laborer, now residing at Georgetown, Texas

has made application No. 560 to me for a Certificate of Residence, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved May 5, 1892, and I certify that it appears from the affidavits of witnesses submitted with said application that said Wang King

was within the limits of the United States at the time of the passage of said Act, and was then residing at Burton, Texas

and that he was at that time lawfully entitled to remain in the United States, and that the following is a descriptive list of said Chinese Laborer

NAME: Wang King viz.: 560
 LOCAL RESIDENCE: Georgetown, Texas AGE: Twenty five years
 OCCUPATION: Laborer HEIGHT: 5' 3 1/2" COLOR OF EYES: Black
 COMPLEXION: Dark PHYSICAL MARKS OR PECULIARITIES FOR IDENTIFICATION: None



and as a further means of identification, I have affixed hereto a photographic likeness of said Wang King

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL this Fourth day of April, 1892, at Burton State of Texas

J. Edward Kaufman
 Collector of Internal Revenue,
 District of Texas

Entries on Abstract of property on preceding page:

Block 65, Lost Addition 11-78
 First sold by Huling Estate to Jabez L. Brittain - entire block for \$500.00. Oct. 19, 1868.

J. L. & Julia C. Brittain to Martin J. Wells - entire block for \$5000.00. May 27, 1873. 14-461

M. J. Wells, heirs, to T. W. Marrs - Block 65 for \$2500.00. August 4, 1884. 40-622

T. W. Marrs, et al, to Belcher Mfg. Co. Not homestead. for \$1300.00. Nov. 1, 1888. 6-647DJ

T. W. Marrs, et al, to W. N. Mayfield, for \$450.00 & assume \$1200.00 and V L Note of \$2000.00. Oct. 29, 1890. 71-348

W. N. Mayfield, et ax, to Nannie Gee - SE 150 x 120 for \$1500.00. Dec. 12, 1901.

Washington Bower home to get historic medallion

The historic "Washington Bower", Built in 1853 15 miles SE of Taylor, has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Charles R. Woodburn, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads: "WASHINGTON BOWER", BUILT 1853 First frame home in this area. Site, an 1838 Republic of Texas land grant to Simon Miller, was inherited by Lucinda Lawrence, wife of Henry Inlo Layne - farmer, rancher, mason, building of this

house. Layne was host here (1857) to military hero Robert E. Lee; in 1863, was a victor in Civil War battle of Galveston, Texas. Revolution veteran Adam Lawrence died here in 1878. Place passed in 1890 to Adella Layne and her husband, William Russell Landers. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1971.

Incising in base: Owned by 5 generations of original family

Dedication Ceremonies Slated March 28 For 'Washington Bower' Home Marker

Dedication ceremonies for a Texas State Historical marker on the house called "Washington Bower" will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 28, according to Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The following is a history of the home recently restored by present owner John P. Landers, curator of the Washington State Park Museum:

WASHINGTON BOWER

The tract of land where Washington Bower is located is part of a survey of about 3000 acres given by the Republic of Texas to Simon Miller, Jr. in 1838 as his headright augmentation. Simon Miller, Jr. was a member of Stephen F. Austin's second colony and received his first headright of 1/4 of a league in Washington County in 1831. His father, Simon Miller, Sr., was one of Austin's Old Three Hundred and came to Texas from Arkansas in 1821.

Adam Lawrence, (1799-1878,) another member of Austin's second colony and veteran of the Texas Revolution married Sarah Miller, daughter of Simon Miller, Sr., about 1830 in Washington County. In 1838 he moved from Washington County to this Simon Miller league, then owned by his brother-in-law, Simon Miller Jr., in present Williamson County. In that year he built a story and one-half, double log house which still stands and is now used as a barn. Lawrence gave land for the establishment of a Methodist church and cemetery, and a community first called Cross Roads and later Lawrence Chapel, grew up around it. In the 1850's it boasted several stores, a Masonic lodge, and a post office as well.

In 1853 Henry Inlo Layne, (1832-1878,) a young planter from Washington County, married Lu-

cinda Lawrence, the daughter of Adam Lawrence and came to live at Lawrence Chapel on land still owned by his father-in-law, Adam Lawrence. After building a crude log cabin as a temporary residence, Henry Layne and two slaves of Adam Lawrence began construction on a frame house late in 1853. Since farming and ranching activities had to be carried on simultaneously, the house was not completed for a year or two. It was built on a foundation of hand-hewn oak beams and framed of cedar and oak cut on the place. The weatherboarding was sawed in Brenham and hauled to the site by ox wagon. The bricks for the two chimneys and for the deep underground cistern were made by the slaves near the site. When finished, the house was the first frame dwelling in the area and bore a resemblance to many houses in Washington County and the older south. Henry Layne named his house Washington Bower because of his fondness for his boyhood home in Washington County and for a number of rosebushes which he brought from there and planted around the new home. (The original Washington County line came within a few miles of Lawrence Chapel.) It was a typical small planter's house with certain Greek Revival elements. It faced southeast atop a high hill. The front gallery had a small room on either side. The one on the right opening onto the gallery was called the Stranger's Room and was reserved for traveling guests or otherwise used by children in the family. The one on the left opened into the house and was called the office, being a study and office for Henry Layne. Behind these rooms and the gallery were 2 large rooms side by side, each with a capacious fireplace, and each room measuring 18' x

The Taylor Daily Press, Thursday, March 18, 1971

In 1866, discouraged at the outcome of the war between the state, Adam Lawrence had left Texas and had settled in California. Returning to Texas as an impoverished old man about 1872, he lived with his daughter and favorite son-in-law at Washington Bower until his death later in 1878.

When Lucinda Layne died in 1892, the land had been divided among her nine elder children with the exception of the house and 120 acres around it. These she left to her two remaining children Harriet and Adella Alice Layne. In 1893 Adella Layne married William Russell Landers at Washington Bower. There their two eldest children, John Henry Landers and Lillian Lee Landers were born in 1895 and 1897 respectively.

In November of 1897 William and Adella Landers sold Washington Bower to the Simmon's family. It remained in that family until about 1965, when it was purchased by W. L. Smith and Max Noe of Austin. In December of 1968 it was purchased from Smith and Noe by John Poindexter Landers, son of Myrtle Poindexter and John Henry Landers and great-grandson of the builder, H. I. Layne. It was declared a Texas Historic Landmark in January of 1971.

- John Poindexter Landers
January 21, 1971
Washington-On-The-Brazos
P.S. Of the original shrubs and

trees planted by H. I. Layne, a large cedar, two pomegranates and one crepe myrtle still grow in the yard. There was once a "summer house" or "gazebo" near the house.

Florence To Host County Historical Committee Meet

At the invitation of the Florence Chamber of Commerce, the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee will hold their monthly meeting in Florence at 2 p.m. Thursday, according to Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman.

Among the items to be discussed, said Mrs. Cornforth, will be the eligibility of Williamson County for an official state matching fund marker and the possibility of marking the home of the late Judge J. E. Hickman who was born in Liberty Hill and served as a judge for 33 years.

Mrs. Cornforth urged all members of the county committee to attend the meeting.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SURVEYS
 STATE OF TEXAS
 PROGRAM

March 28, 1971

Time 2:00 p.m.

WASHINGTON BOWER

HENRY INLO LAYNE HOME. BUILT 1853

Call to order ----- Mrs. John Cornforth
 Chairman Williamson County
 Historical Survey Committee

Master of Ceremonies----- Mr. Thomas M. Bullion
 Attorney, Taylor, Texas

Invocation ----- Rev. W.C. Crawford, Pastor
 Tenth St. Church & Taylor &
 Lawrence Chapel Church

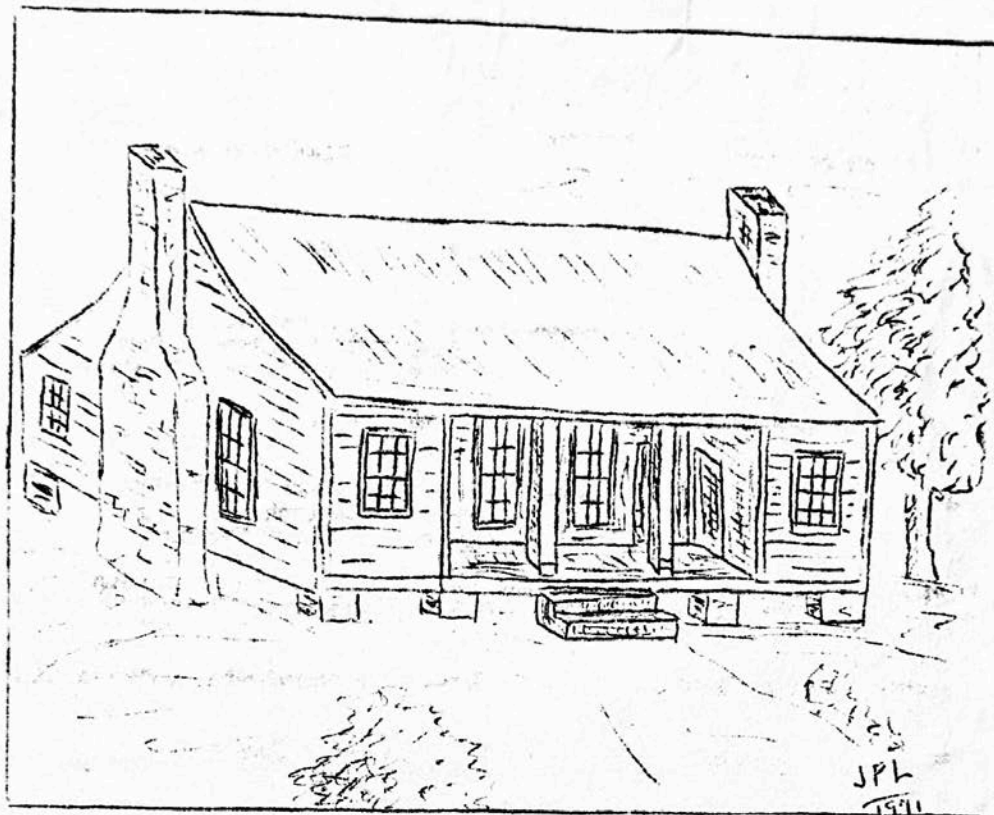
Dedicatory Address----- Honorable Charles Patterson
 State Representative, District 38

Presentation of Certificate----- Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman

Unveiling of Marker----- Mr. John Henry Landers
 Temple, Texas

Response and Acceptance----- Mr. John P. Landers
 Washington, Texas

Benediction ----- Rev. W.C. Crawford, pastor
 Lawrence Chapel



The State Historical Survey Committee Official Historical
Medallion and Marker. Dedicated at "Washington Bower,"
Williamson County, Texas - March 28, 1971.

"WASHINGTON BOWER" Built 1853

First frame home in this area.
Site, an 1838 Republic of Texas
land grant to Simon Miller, was
inherited by Lucinda Lawrence,
wife of Henry Inlo Layno - farmer,
rancher, Mason, builder of this
house. Layno was host here (1857)
to military hero Robert E. Lee;
in 1863, was a victor in civil
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husband, William Russell Landers.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1971

Owned by 5 generations of original family

143.

A BRIEF HISTORY

OF

WASHINGTON BOWER

THE HOME OF HENRY INLO LAYNE

LAURENCE CHAPEL,

WILLIAMSON COUNTY,

TEXAS

and hauled to the site by ox wagon. The bricks for the two chimneys and for the deep underground cistern were made by the slaves near the site. When finished, the house was the first frame dwelling in the area and bore a resemblance to many houses in Washington County and the older south. Henry Layne named his house

Henry Layne. By the time of his death in 1870, Layne owned over 1000 acres and owned four slaves until their emancipation in 1865. He had become a prominent mason and Methodist layman as well as a successful planter and accomplished cabinet maker. During the Civil War Henry Inlo Layne became a private in Company H, 20th

John P. Landers
Jan. 21, 1971--
Washington-on-the-Brazos

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Adam Lawrence, another member of Austin's second colony and veteran of the Texas Revolution married Sarah Miller, daughter of Simon Miller, Sr., about 1830 in Washington County. In 1838 he moved from Washington County to this Simon Miller league, then owned by his brother-in-law, Simon Miller, Jr., in present Williamson County. In that year he built a story and one-half, double log house which still stands and is now used as a barn. Lawrence gave land for the establishment of a Methodist church and cemetery, and a community, first called Cross Roads and later Lawrence Chapel, grew up around it. In the 1850's it boasted several stores a Masonic Lodge, and a post office as well.

In 1853 Henry Inlo Layne (1832-1878), a young planter from Washington County, married Lucinda Lawrence, the daughter of Adam Lawrence and came to live at Lawrence Chapel on land still owned by his father-in-law, Adam Lawrence. After building a crude log cabin as a temporary residence, Henry Layne and two slaves of Adam Lawrence began construction on a frame house late in 1853. Since farming and ranching activities had to be carried on simultaneously, the house was not completed for a year or two. It was built on a foundation of hand-hewn oak beams and framed of cedar and oak out of the place. The weatherboarding was sawed in Brenham and hauled to the site by ox wagon. The bricks for the two chimneys and for the deep underground cistern were made by the slaves near the site. When finished, the house was the first frame dwelling in the area and bore a resemblance to many houses in Washington County and the older south. Henry Layne named his house

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Of the original shrubs and trees planted by Henry Inlo Layne, a large cedar, two pomegranates, and a crepe myrtle still grow in the yard. There was once a "summer house" or "gazebo" near the house.

Among the many visitors to the house in the subsequent years, the most noted was Robert E. Lee, who, as a colonel in the U.S. army was stationed in Texas at various times in the 1850's. In 1857 he spent the night at Washington Bower and so impressed Henry Layne that the latter named his next son Robert E. Lee Layne in 1858. The child may have been Lee's first namesake.

Beginning in 1856 Adam Lawrence deeded much of the land of the Miller league, which he had bought from Simon Miller, to Henry Layne. By the time of his death in 1878, Layne owned over 1000 acres and owned four slaves until their emancipation in 1865. He had become a prominent mason and Methodist layman as well as a successful planter and accomplished cabinet maker. During the Civil War Henry Inlo Layne became a private in Company H, 20th

Regiment, Texas Infantry of the Confederate States Army, and as such took part in the Battle of Galveston in January of 1863. During the war he furnished cattle to the Confederate Army. Throughout his life he possessed a decided artistic bent, loving poetry, painting, and music. He played the guitar and organ and sang well. Upon his early death in 1878, he left his property in the custody of his wife, Lucinda, to be divided among his children at their maturity.

In 1866, discouraged at the outcome of the War Between the States, Adam Lawrence had left Texas and had settled in California. Returning to Texas as an impoverished old man about 1872, he lived with his daughter and favorite son-in-law at Washington Bower until his death later in 1878.

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In November of 1897 William and Adella Landers sold Washington Bower to the Simmon's family. It remained in that family until about 1965, when it was purchased by W.L. Smith and Max Noe of Austin. In December of 1968 it was purchased from Smith and Noe by John Poindexter Landers, son of Myrtie Poindexter and John Henry Landers and great-grandson of the builder, H.I. Layne. It was declared a Texas Historic Landmark in January of 1971.

John P. Landers
Jan. 21, 1971
Washington-on-the-Brazos

At the north side of "Washington Bower" there are two large monuments bearing the following inscriptions.

MONUMENT

In Memoriam

John Henry Landers Born 1895
Soldier World War I
Myrtle Gladys Poindexter B. 1895
His wife daughter of John Reams Poindexter and Ann Powell

Wm. Russell Landers B. 1868
Landersville, Alabama D. 1912
Adella Alice Layne 1875-1961
his wife daughter of H.L. Lane

Henry Inlo Layne 1832-1878
Confederate soldier built this house in 1853
Lucinda Lawrence his wife
Daughter of Adam Lawrence 1838-1891

John Poindexter Landers S.T.B.M.A.
Son of J.H. and M.G. Landers Born 1931
Restored this house 1968
Descendant of Edward Garnery Virginia 1609, Capt. Thomas Harris Virginia 1611 and King Edward III

MONUMENT

In Memoriam

Adam Lawrence
Born Kentucky 1799
Came to Texas in 1815
Revolution soldier 1836
And Sarah Miller his wife
1803-1870
Daughter of Simon Miller

Simon Miller
Son of Simon Miller and Elizabeth Read
Born in Bedford County Va. 1780
Died in Washington County Tex. 1836
Austin Colonist 1821
Descendant of King Edward III and Sarah Lucinda Rucker,
And Sarah Lucinda Rucker, his wife 1783-1851

By John Poindexter Landers
Their Great-Great-Great-Grandson

Adam Lawrence of New Year Creek

JOHN P. LANDERS

ADAM LAWRENCE WAS BORN IN LOGAN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, ON October 16, 1799,¹ the son of Joseph Lawrence and the grandson of Adam Lawrence,² a North Carolinian, who was one of the first settlers of Kentucky during the late eighteenth century. This elder Adam Lawrence had participated in the American Revolution during his residence in North Carolina. The Lawrence family had immigrated to America from Saint Albans, England, during the seventeenth century and had settled on Long Island. Distinguished members of this line were William Lawrence, a prominent landowner and patentee of Flushing in the seventeenth century, and Adam Lawrence, high sheriff of the Queens and member of the New York legislature in the eighteenth century.³ Joseph Lawrence began the North Carolina branch of the family in the eighteenth century.

According to family tradition, Adam Lawrence was dissatisfied with a second marriage of his father, Joseph Lawrence. As a result, it is thought that he left his Kentucky home with the connivance of his sisters in 1815, going at the age of fifteen to live with his uncle, Adam Lawrence, at the point where Jonesboro later developed on the Red River.⁴ Adam Lawrence, the uncle, was definitely in residence there as early as the winter of 1815, being the first Anglo-Saxon settler to move across the Red River into the present area of Texas. His place of settlement was oppo-

¹Deposition of Adam Lawrence to Z. T. Fulmore in application for a Revolutionary pension, October 23, 1874 (MS., Archives, Texas State Library); Tombstone, Lawrence Chapel, Williamson County, Texas.

²The will of the elder Adam Lawrence was probated in Henderson County (originally part of Logan County), Kentucky, in September, 1800.

³Benjamin F. Thompson, *History of Long Island* (3 vols.; New York, 1962), III, 600-621.

⁴Adella Alice Layne Landers, a granddaughter of Adam Lawrence, to J. P. L., signed statement, December 27, 1960 (MS. in possession of the writer). Mrs. Landers knew Lawrence during the last years of his life.

site Kiamichi Creek, in a region vaguely defined and consequently disputed for some time between Arkansas and Texas.⁵

Because there was danger that the United States government might give the land to the Cherokee Indians, the settlers of the area sent various petitions to Congress requesting the right of preemption. On them appeared the names of many early Arkansas and Texas pioneers including that of Lawrence.⁶ Numbers of these people later became acquainted with the plans of Moses and Stephen F. Austin, likewise residents of the region, for a colony in Spanish (later Mexican) Texas. Lawrence attached himself to the family of Simon Miller, one of Austin's Old Three Hundred Colonists, and traveled with him to the area of present Washington County, Texas, in December, 1821.⁷ Lawrence and Miller camped on New Year Creek with Austin on the last day of 1821. Adam spent some time at the Miller home in Fort Bend County on the San Bernard River and was listed in the census of 1825 as a farm worker in Miller's household.⁸

As was his wont because of a restless spirit, Adam Lawrence made a trip to North Texas to visit his uncle Adam in the spring of 1826. While they were hunting wild horses with relatives and friends along the Washita River on April 17,

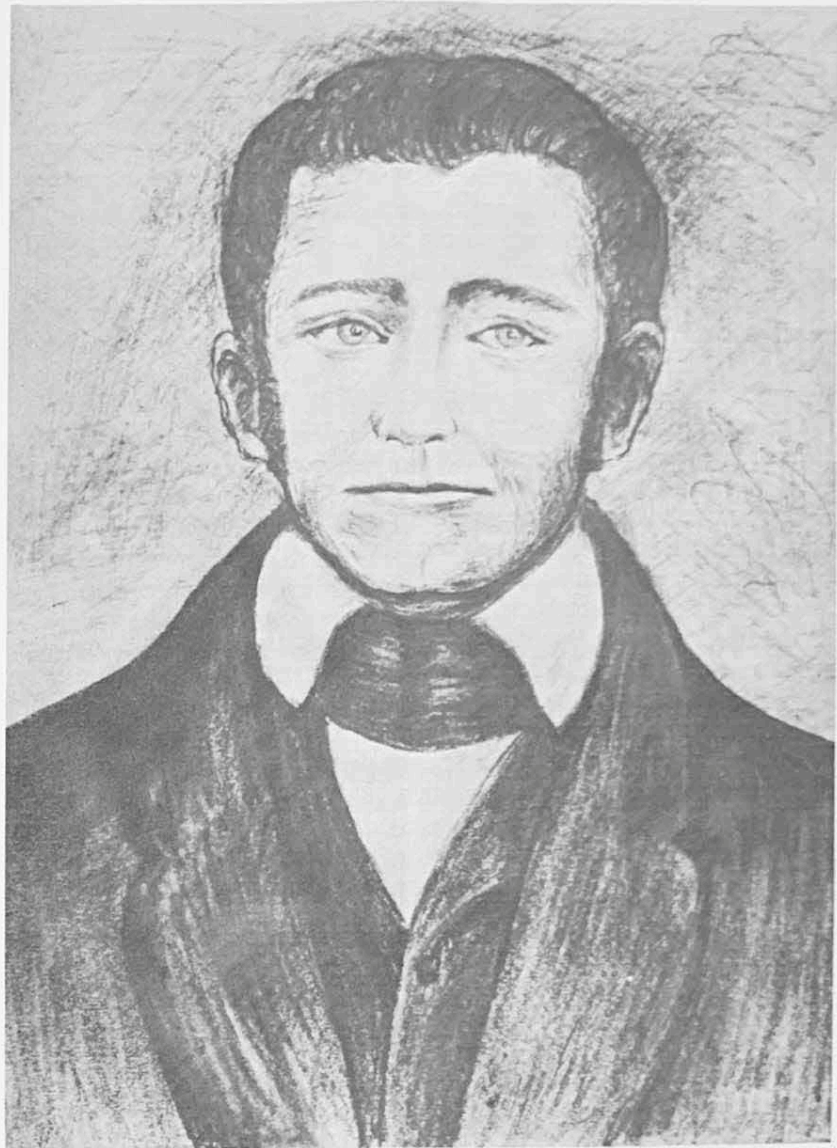
they were attacked by a large body of Indians, supposed to be Osages, dressed in soldiers clothing and armed with bows and arrows and shot guns. Adam Lawrence and his son John Lawrence, were in company with young Adam Lawrence, a nephew of the former. They were attacked on horseback, and pursued a considerable dis-

⁵*Registro de las Familias Introducidas por el Ciudadano Benjamin R. Milam*, quoted in Rex W. Strickland, *Anglo-American Activities in Northeastern Texas, 1803-1845* (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Texas, 1937), 68; Rex W. Strickland, "Miller County, Arkansas Territory, the Frontier that Men Forgot," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, XVIII, 12-34; A. W. Neville, *History of Lamar County* (Paris, 1937); Rex W. Strickland, "Jonesborough," in Walter Prescott Webb and H. Bailey Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas* (2 vols.; Austin, 1952), I, 928.

⁶Petition to Congress by Inhabitants of Arkansas Territory, 1821, in Clarence E. Carter, *Territorial Papers of the United States* (26 vols.; Washington, 1934-1962), XIX, 387.

⁷F. S. Wade, *Tales of Early Days in Texas* (typescript, Archives, Texas State Library); deposition of Adam Lawrence to Z. T. Fulmore, October 23, 1874 (MS., Archives, Texas State Library); Adella A. Layne Landers to J. P. L., signed statement, January 17, 1959 (MS. in possession of the writer); Mary Lawrence Graves to Mattie Abbott, signed Statement, July 19, 1911 (MS. in possession of Ralph Abbott, Houston).

⁸Census of Austin's Colony, 1825 (MS., Spanish Archives, General Land Office, Austin).



Adam Lawrence of New Year Creek

tance before the two former were overtaken and killed. The latter with great difficulty made his escape, after a long pursuit, in the course of which he received six shot holes through his hunting shirt, but fortunately sustained no other injury. Henry Lawrence, son of George Lawrence, was killed about the same time, while in another direction, in company with Mr. Dewall.⁹

In about 1830, at San Felipe, Lawrence married Sarah Lucinda Miller, the daughter of his old friend Simon Miller, then returned to Washington County and obtained on February 25, 1831, the grant of a quarter of a league of land from the Mexican government.¹⁰ This land was located near the Brazos River on New Year and Cedar creeks adjacent to the lands of Samuel Miller, a brother-in-law of Simon Miller, who also had removed to Washington County by that time, and Gibson Kuykendall. The Kuykendall family, also quite prominent in early Texas annals, had, like the Lawrences, originated in colonial New York and migrated first to North Carolina, thence to Henderson County, Kentucky, thereafter to Arkansas, and finally to Austin's colony. Thus the two families, often connected by marriage, had lived in the same communities for over two hundred years.

Adam Lawrence, like his forbears, was every inch the classic American pioneer. His name is frequently mentioned as being at the head of a group of Indian fighters in the colonial days of Texas and later during the republic. In 1823 and 1824, a severe drouth prevailed over much of Texas, and it was Lawrence who was instrumental in organizing hunting parties to range towards the northeast in search of game to supply the grievous deficiencies in the colony.¹¹ In 1828, he engaged in a battle with Comanche Indians about two miles below the present site of Taylor.¹² Again

⁹*Arkansas Gazette* (Little Rock), May 23, 1826. See also D. W. C. Baker, *Texas Scrap Book* (New York, 1875), 342; James T. DeShields, *Border Wars of Texas* (Tioga, 1912), 90; *Biographical Encyclopedia of Texas* (New York, 1880), 284-285.

¹⁰Partition of the estate of Simon Miller, February 26, 1838 (MS., Probate Records of Washington County, County Clerk's Office, Brenham); Grant of a quarter of a league to Adam Lawrence, February 25, 1831, made by Samuel M. Williams for the Mexican government at San Felipe, acting for Miguel Arciniega (MS., Spanish Archives, General Land Office, Austin).

¹¹Wade, *Tales of Early Days in Texas* (typescript, Archives, Texas State Library), 1-2; "The Adventures of Ad Lawrence," in Mody C. Boatright, Wilson M. Hudson, and Alan Maxwell (eds.), *Madstones and Twisters* (Dallas, 1958; Publications of the Texas Folklore Society, XXVIII), 133-135.

¹²*Ibid.*, 135-138; Wade, *Tales of Early Days in Texas* (typescript, Archives, Texas State Library), 2-4.

in 1830, he was the leader of a group of eleven men organized in the neighborhood of San Felipe to pursue a band of Waco Indians. The eyewitness account of one of the participants paints the encounter in vivid colors:

In the month of November 1830, a Chickasaw Indian brought intelligence from the frontier that a party of eleven Waco were on their way to the neighborhood in which I resided (22 miles northwest from San Felipe) for the purpose of stealing horses. . . . We learned late in the evening, [that they] were encamped near the residence of James Stephenson, on Caney creek [within the present limits of Austin County]. . . . At the dawn of next day, with a force of eleven men, precisely that of the Indians—we stole upon their camp. . . . The Indians ran and were pursued a short distance by our leader, Adam Lawrence, who reloaded and fired at them again—but further pursuit was prevented by the fall of Young Cooper. . . .

Of the eleven men engaged in this affair only the following names are recollected, viz.: Adam Lawrence, Thomas Stevens,¹³ Adam Kuykendall, Charles Gates, George Robinson, William Cooper, B. Kuykendall.¹⁴

In 1832, there occurred an exploit for which Lawrence is more widely known than for any other in his long career. He was again hunting mustangs in East Texas near the Trinity River when he and his group were astounded to see the "prairie become alive with Indians" who had concealed themselves behind the apparently grazing wild horses. Surprised, the white men took flight, but soon Lawrence, who was ahead of the others, looked back to see that all his companions were down and in the process of being "finished." With an arrow in his own shirt and one in his horse's neck, Lawrence spurred his mare towards the timber of the Trinity three miles distant. Stopping to let his horse breathe, he killed one attacking Indian with his only remaining weapon, a butcher knife. The others continued in hot pursuit until Lawrence had reached the high banks of the Trinity. His own words best describe the rest of the story.

I knew that for miles, up and down, the banks were bluffs and fifteen or twenty feet high. Where I struck the river they were

¹³Thomas Stevens (or Stephens) was a brother-in-law of Lawrence.

¹⁴J. H. Kuykendall, "Reminiscences of Early Texans, A Collection from the Austin Papers, II, Recollections of Barzillai Kuykendall," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, VI, 317-318.

fifteen. I knew if my mare wouldn't take the leap I had to do it without her. She stopped an instant and snorted once or twice; but, hearing the savages yell close behind, she took the jump. Down, down we went, full fifteen feet, plump into the deep water. We both went under for a second, then she rose, and struck out for the opposite bank with me on her back. Poor creature, she got about two-thirds across, and then gave out under me with a groan. I tell you I fairly loved that animal at that moment, and hated to leave her as bad as if she had been human.

I swam the rest of the way and crawled out on the bank pretty well used up. But I was safe. I saw the howling and disappointed savages come to the bank I had left. But not one of them dared to take the leap. And the distance was too great for them to shoot. So I rested awhile and then made the best of my way to the settlement.¹⁵

A unique experience is attributed to Lawrence in 1833. An old Spaniard came to the Lawrence home stating that he was sick and asking to rest there a few days. After a month of somewhat wary hospitality on the part of the family, the partially recovered Spaniard informed his host that he had been one of Lafitte's buccaneers. He explained further that, during Lafitte's "capture on Galveston Island by the U. S. Marines," he and two companions, who had been guarding the treasure, had escaped notice and had subsequently hidden the spoils in two old cannons, one for gold, and the other for silver, which they then buried under a hackberry tree.

The old Spaniard, being the sole survivor, offered to divide the loot with "Señor Lawrence" and eventually make him his heir if Lawrence would provide him a home until his death. The journey in search of the treasure, to which Lawrence agreed, commenced soon thereafter, but on the second night "Señor Adam," after gazing upon the sinister, scarred visage of his sleeping companion and hearing the howling of wolves and the hooting of an owl, looked heavenward and saw the "stars falling in showers." This phenomenon of November 3, 1833, convinced him

¹⁵"Ad Lawrence's Famous Leap" in DeShields, *Border Wars of Texas*, 90-93 (picture of the "Leap" on page 129); Baker, *Texas Scrap Book*, 342-344; *Biographical Encyclopedia of Texas*, 284-285; John M. Hunter, Sr., "The Heroism of Adam Lawrence," *Frontier Times*, XXIX, 143-145; J. Frank Dobie, "Desperate Rides," *Tales of Old Time Texas* (Boston, 1955), 166-169. According to De Shields, "Lawrence's leap is, perhaps, equalled in American annals only by that of Major Sam McCulloch down Wheeling Hill (West Virginia) in 1777."

that his companion was a diabolical visitant, leading him to destruction; consequently, he fled in terror. Sometime later a man who witnessed the Spaniard's death brought Lawrence a package addressed to the pirate's "heir." His wife, Sarah Miller Lawrence, put the bundle away and promptly forgot its location, but Lawrence, having examined briefly the map it contained together with pieces of Spanish gold, set out with his brother-in-law, Lindsay P. Rucker, a surveyor, to find the treasure. This and several other trips were unavailing. At the time of Lawrence's death, however, twenty-eight Spanish gold pieces were found among his possessions.¹⁶

With the possible exception of the above-mentioned expedition, Adam Lawrence was nearly always accompanied by his devoted old slave Jim, who cooked and acted as a body servant. When the Negro died, he was buried in Lawrence Chapel cemetery next to the place where his master was destined to rest. Another old slave often mentioned in Lawrence's annals was Sella, a Negro woman who was brought as a child from Virginia by Simon Miller.¹⁷ Sarah Miller received Sella as part of her dowry when she married Lawrence, and the old Negress lived until after Lawrence's death in 1878.

The clouds of discontent were gradually gathering during the early 1830's, and when the first rumblings of revolution broke out, Lawrence was in the forefront of the fray. In 1835, he joined the volunteer scouting company under the command of William B. Travis and, after various horse-catching forays, took part in the historic siege of Bexar, in December of that year.¹⁸ He was with Houston's army at Gonzales, and, when he heard of the massacre at the Alamo, in which his wife's half brother, Thomas R. Miller, was killed,¹⁹ he hastened home to aid his family in preparations for that great flight before the Mexican advance

¹⁶Wade, *Tales of Early Days in Texas* (typescript, Archives, Texas State Library), 14-16; "The Adventures of Ad Lawrence," in Boatright, Hudson, and Maxwell (eds.), *Madstones and Twisters*, 143-145.

¹⁷Sella is mentioned as an inheritance of Simon Miller in the will of his father, Captain Simon Miller, on June 2, 1784 (MS., Probate Records of Bedford County, County Clerk's Office, Bedford, Virginia).

¹⁸Deposition of Adam Lawrence to Z. T. Fulmore, October 23, 1874 (MS., Archives, Texas State Library).

¹⁹*Biographical Directory of the Texan Conventions and Congresses* (Austin, 1941), 140; John P. Landers, "Simon Miller," *The Texian*, VIII, 1.

known as the Runaway Scrape. While they and the slaves remained at Groce's plantation near Hempstead, he took part in the victorious Battle of San Jacinto, in which his half-brother, Joseph Lawrence, was also a combatant.²⁰ Thereafter he re-enlisted in Captain Henry Reed's company and served therein from June 4 to September 4, 1836.²¹

Besides the headright augmentation of three quarters of a league and a labor of land, which he received in Washington County on January 13, 1838,²² Lawrence was awarded various grants for his revolutionary services. He received 3,273.74 acres of land in Madison County in 1844 and 499.71 acres in Trinity County as a first class augmentation to the former in 1845; in 1848 he was awarded a bounty of 320 acres in Calhoun County.²³

Subsequent to the revolution he had lived for about a year and a half in Burleson County, but in 1838 he followed Yegua Creek to its source in Milam (present Williamson) County and settled at a place known soon thereafter as the Crossroads and later as Lawrence Chapel.²⁴ The land on which he settled consisted of three fourths of a league and a labor which had been granted to his father-in-law, Simon Miller, in January, 1838. Miller died during the following month, however, and some dispute arose. The Republic of Texas awarded the disputed land to Adam Lawrence's brother-in-law, Simon Miller, Jr., on November 20, 1845.²⁵ In the meantime Lawrence had been living thereon. This was a region of which he was quite fond, and it is said that he was the first white man to cross Brushy Creek at the point later known as Lawrence's Crossing.²⁶ There, with the aid of his slaves, he constructed a large double log house of hewn beams, the size of

²⁰Deposition of Adam Lawrence to Z. T. Fulmore, October 23, 1874 (MS., Archives, Texas State Library); Wade, *Tales of Early Days in Texas* (typescript, Archives, Texas State Library), 4-5.

²¹Revolutionary Service Records (Archives, Texas State Library); Muster Rolls of the Texas Revolution (General Land Office, Austin).

²²Headright augmentation of Adam Lawrence, January 13, 1838 (MS., General Land Office, Austin).

²³Land bounties (General Land Office, Austin). Bounties were given only to Revolutionary veterans who had served before or during the Battle of San Jacinto. See Bill Allcorn, *History of Texas Land* (Austin, 1958).

²⁴DeShields, *Border Wars of Texas*, 90.

²⁵General Land Office, Austin.

²⁶DeShields, *Border Wars of Texas*, 90.

which shows that the trees of his day were much larger than the post oak presently growing in the area. The building still stands and is used as a barn by a descendant. On October 12, 1848, Simon Miller, Jr., made a formal transmission of 2,000 acres of this "Miller League" to Lawrence.²⁷

Soon the locality began to thrive because of its site and well-watered, arable land. Lawrence, being a devout Methodist, set aside land for religious worship and soon built a log church on it for the use of early circuit riders. A frame church, about the third to be erected on the spot, is still in use.²⁸ The first person to be buried in the adjacent cemetery was, according to tradition, a child of some travelers who spent the night at Lawrence's home in the late 1840's.

Lawrence was also an active Mason and, in addition to his range brand, which is registered in the courthouse at Georgetown,²⁹ used as his trail brand an unusual Masonic emblem,³⁰ which was later used by his son-in-law, Henry Inlo Layne.

About 1848, Lawrence's aged father, Joseph, came from Kentucky and was reconciled with his son, who had so bitterly opposed his second marriage. Joseph spent the remaining years of his life at Lawrence Chapel and was buried in the cemetery when he died about 1853.³¹

At first there was no school in the area, and the children were sent back to Washington County for their education—in later times to Salado Academy. After about 1850, however, Lawrence hired a teacher to instruct the younger children of the community in the church building.³²

Lawrence became a prosperous farmer and stockraiser in the

²⁷Miller to Lawrence, October 12, 1848 (MS., Deed Records of Williamson County, County Clerk's Office, Georgetown).

²⁸John P. Landers, "Central Texas Pioneer," *Houston Chronicle* (rotogravure section), November 18, 1956.

²⁹Register of Brands, January 27, 1852 (MS., Williamson County, County Clerk's Office, Georgetown).

³⁰John P. Landers, "A Masonic Trail Brand of Early Texas," *Texas Grand Lodge Magazine*, XXXI, 198-199.

³¹Joseph Lawrence is listed with the family of Adam Lawrence in the U. S. Seventh Census, 1850 (Returns of Schedule I, Free Inhabitants, for Williamson County, Texas, microfilm, University of Texas Library).

³²Adella A. Layne Landers to J. P. L., interview, May 29, 1961.

years preceding the Civil War. In 1860, he owned over three thousand acres of land in Williamson County valued at \$3,500, whereas his personal property was evaluated at \$4,000.³³ He owned four slaves, a large number of cattle, and also had acquired about 1,000 acres of land in Comanche County.

His discouragement at the failure of the Southern cause, in which his children and sons-in-law participated, and other changes together with the crowding of newcomers into the area caused him to adopt in 1866 a bold plan which Captain F. S. Wade describes in his recollections:

His children, some of them married, his brethren in the church, and hosts of friends tried to dissuade him from moving in his old age from a good home and an abundance of this world's goods. All was unavailing. In less than a month he had traded his land for one thousand cattle, having about the same number in his own brand. In ox wagons he started for California.³⁴ At El Paso he sold all his cattle except his teams at twenty dollars a head in gold, bringing over forty thousand dollars. That fall he reached Los Angeles and bought several sections of land between the then small town and the Ocean on the San Gabriel River, establishing a stock ranch. Since then this has proven the most valuable land in the U. S. But in a few years the same old trouble overtook him. Settlements began to thicken around him. So he sold again and moved to a lofty valley 80 miles north of Los Angeles and that distance from any neighbor. He moved his cattle. This valley was in the Cascade range of mountains. Here trouble and misfortune followed him. His cattle strayed off; frost came every month in the year; his remaining children married and left him, and worst of all, his loved and trusted wife dear old Aunt Sallie sickened and died. His property was gone and he was left desolate.³⁵

After the failure of his California venture, Lawrence returned to Texas, and, at the suggestion of Captain Wade, applied for a Revolutionary veteran's bond.³⁶ In about 1875, he lived at Law-

³³U. S. Eighth Census, 1860 (Returns of Schedule I, Free Inhabitants, for Williamson County, Texas, microfilm, University of Texas Library).

³⁴In a letter of July 19, 1911, Mary Lawrence Graves, a daughter of Adam Lawrence who remained in California, wrote to her niece Mattie Abbott of Williamson County that her father started to California on May 10, 1866, and "landed" in San Diego on December 18, 1866. (MS. in possession of Ralph Abbott, Houston).

³⁵Wade, *Tales of Early Days in Texas* (typescript, Archives, Texas State Library), 18.

³⁶Deposition of Adam Lawrence to Z. T. Fulmore, October 23, 1874 (MS., Archives, Texas State Library).

rence Chapel in the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. I. Layne, who had remained in Texas because of her previous marriage. The other children stayed in California after his return. Lawrence died on October 2, 1878, at the Layne home and was buried in Lawrence Chapel cemetery.⁸⁷

Soft-spoken, generous, proud, loyal to friends and family, but quick to anger and restless under restraint, Adam Lawrence was the embodiment of the pioneer type that characterized Texas in the mid-nineteenth century. Of his courage and daring there is no need to speak further.

⁸⁷The will of Adam Lawrence was probated at Georgetown, Texas, in 1879 (MS., Probate Records of Williamson County, County Clerk's Office, Georgetown).

THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY SUN Georgetown, Texas Thursday March 18, 1971

[Shaffer is correct]

Historical Marker To Be Erected

A Texas Historical Marker is to be placed on a 100 year old building in ceremonies on May 15, Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey committee, announced.

The building, now belonging to James A. Rehler and housing the Georgetown Title Company, is on the square in Georgetown and was built sometime between September, 1870 and June, 1871, according to a compiled history of the quaint, limestone building. It is the oldest commercial building in the county and has served many purposes during its period of use.

On land purchased for \$150 in gold, and probably built for \$200, John H. Shafer erected the two-story building to house his saddlery shop. In 1872, Shafer sold the building to the law firm of McFadin, Fisher and Dalrymple which used it as office space until 1884 when it was rented to a cafe. Late in 1884, the building was sold to the Williamson County Sun, a weekly newspaper.

As years passed, the building housed a print shop, an electrical store, an ice cream parlor, and a photograph studio.

Today, it is used as a title and abstract company building, having first been used for this purpose by John N. Ellyson. When Rehler purchased the property in 1965, he changed the name from Guarantee Abstract Co., by which name it had been known under the ownership of Ellyson, to Georgetown Title Co.

Completely re-worked, the exterior of the building has retained its original appearance and refinements have been made in the interior to provide up-to-date office space for the title office.

Built for approximately \$200, the building is now said to be worth approximately \$17,000.

Shafer Saddlery building to be historically marked

The historic Shafer Saddlery in Georgetown has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Lester W. Prokop, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John W. Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building at 711 Main Street in Georgetown as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads: Shafer Saddlery on site of cabin used (1848) as first County Courthouse. This frontier saddlery, erected 1870 of hand-cut limestone by John H. Shafer, had living quarters upstairs. Since 1872 occupants have been attorneys, a newspaper, and many other tenants. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1971.

Page 6, The Taylor Daily Press, Friday, April 2, 1971

County Historians Attend Preservation Workshop

Pointers for historical preservation were the subject of a workshop attended Tuesday in Burnet by members of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

Delegates from Taylor were Mrs. D. B. Gregg, Round Rock, Mrs. F. W. Buchanan, Jarrell, Mrs. M. K. Richardson, Liberty Hill, and Miss Myreta Matthews, Liberty Hill.

Conducted by the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, the workshop constituted the 1971 Regional Meeting of County Historical Survey Committees for this area of the state. Five professional staff members of the State Survey Committee in Austin touched upon virtually every phase of historical preservation work currently being carried out by the state of Texas.

"Historical Research" and "Archives: Cataloguing and Cross-indexing" were two of the topics treated by Mrs. Deolece

Parmelee, TSHSC director of research.

Miss Diana Files, state museum consultant, spoke on "Do's and Don't's in Museum Techniques."

Her presentation was followed by the showing of a film about historical archeology, entitled "Doorway to the Past."

Wayne Bell, restoration architect, delved into the "Comprehensive Statewide Survey," "The National Register," and "Project Grants-in-Aid."

Subsequently, Bob Watson, director of field operations, spoke to the group on "1971 Committee Competition Guidelines" and "Recording County History on Film and Tape."

Mrs. Parmelee then took the floor again to explain "Oral History Recording Procedures" and "Finer Points in the Processing of Marker Applications."

The workshop was closed with a presentation by Truett Latimer, executive director of the agency, on "Current Legislation on Historical Preservation."

MRS. JOHN CORNFORTH
CHAIRMAN
TAYLOR

MRS. F. W. BUCHANAN
VICE CHAIRMAN
JARRELL

MRS. HAROLD SCOGGINS
SECRETARY AND TREAS.
GEORGETOWN



Williamson County
Historical Survey Committee
1221 CECELIA STREET
TAYLOR, TEXAS 76574

PROGRAM

May 15, 1971

Time 10:30 A. M.

Official Texas Historical Building Medallion

Shaffer Shafer Saddlery Marker

Call To Order-----Hon. Sam V. Stone
County Judge, (retired)

Master of Ceremonies-----Dr. George C. Hester
Professor of History
(retired)
Southwestern University

Invocation-----Rev. Warren R. Hall
Pastor, First Presbyterian
Church, Georgetown, Texas

Introduction of distinguished
guests-----Hon. Luther C. Chance
County Judge, Williamson
County

Dedication Address-----Hon. Charles Patterson
State Representative, Dist. 38

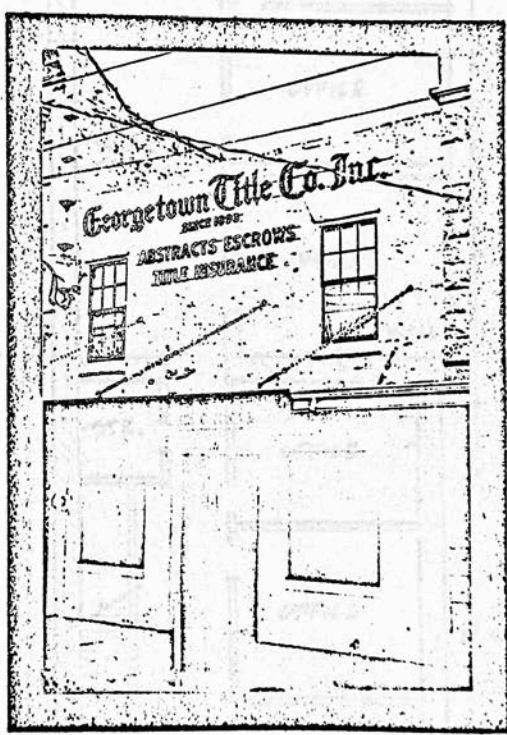
Presentation of Landmark
Certificate-----Mrs. John Cornforth
County Chairman
W. C. Historical Survey
County

Response and Acceptance,
Unveiling of Marker-----James A. Rehler, for
Georgetown Title Co., Inc.
Building Owner

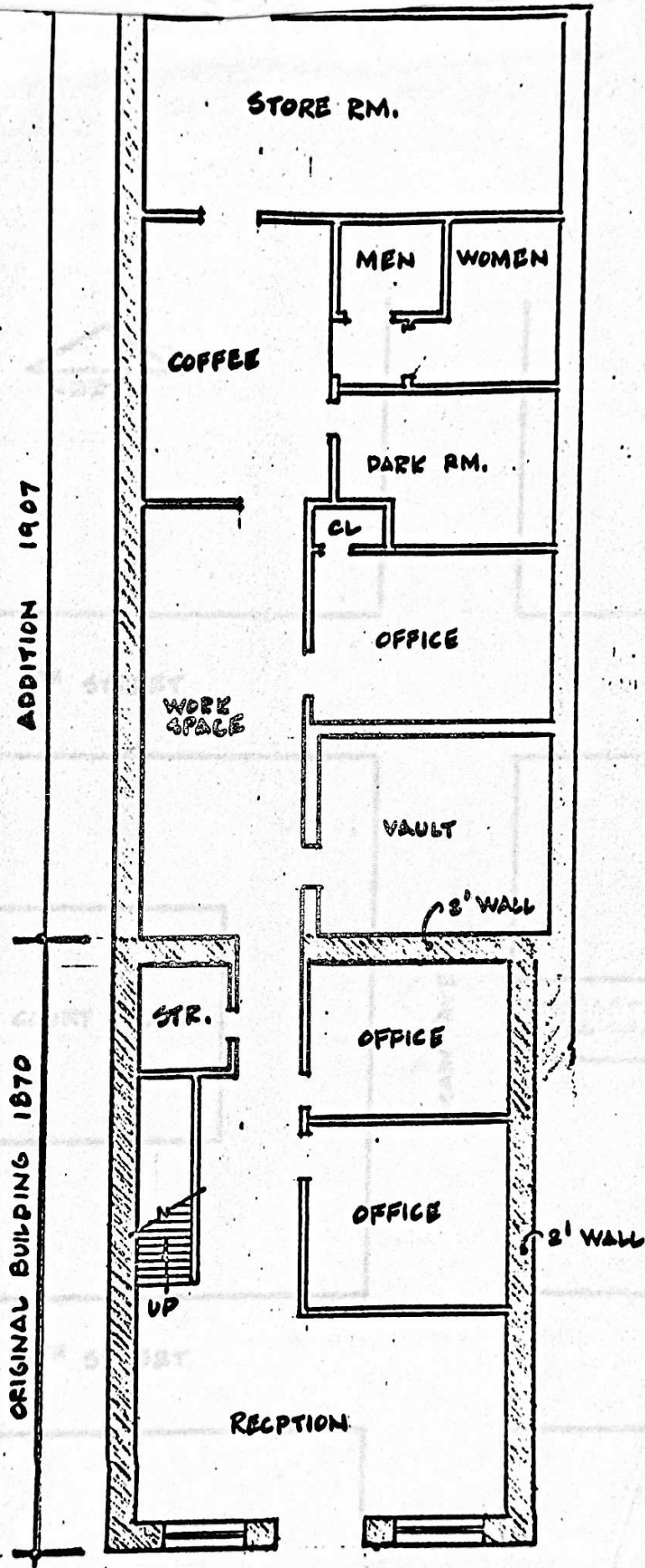
Exterior facade

December, 1965

While the overall effect of the facade restoration is good,
one desirable improvement would have been a more suitable
style of lettering.



PLAN 1965 (NO SCALE)



PLAN 1965 (NO SCALE)

FIRST
NATIONAL
BANK



7TH STREET

AUSTIN AVE.

COURT HOUSE

MAIN AVE.

GEORGETOWN
TITLE CO. INC.

8TH STREET



GEORGETOWN SQUARE

Georgetown Title Company, Inc.

II. History of the Building

This building in Georgetown, Texas, which is now being used as Georgetown Title Company, Inc., is the oldest standing commercial building in Williamson County, one of the largest counties in the state. It has witnessed the growth of Georgetown since 1870 when only 480 people were living in the area. It existed long before the present court house or any of the other historical buildings in Georgetown.

Shaffer

This small two story building has served many uses for many people. Originally it was built as a saddlery shop by John H. Shafer. The first record, which can be found to set the initial date of this building, dates September 10, 1870.

It is taken from a hand written deed of sale from Emzy Taylor to John H. Shafer for the amount of \$150.00 in gold. There is also record, dated in June 29, 1871, in which Mr. Shafer took out a bank loan for \$250.00 in gold. At this time Mr. Shafer put up, as collateral, a residence including one acre of land, and his Saddlery Shop, which is the building in question. In this document Mr. Shafer refers to the building as his "two story stone saddlery shop which he built." This set the date therefore at a period between September 10, 1870 and June 29, 1871, according to present existing records.

Later in 1872, Mr. Shafer sold his shop to the law firm of McFadin, Fisher and Dalrymple. The law firm used the building

during the period between 1872 and approximately 1884. The lawyers themselves changed from time to time but the firm continued under the same name. At one time, Mr. Coffee, now residing in Georgetown, was a member of the firm.

The law firm moved in 1884 to another location and rented the building to another party who used it as a cafe. The cafe did not last long because of its competition, a good saloon two doors south.

Later in 1884 the building was purchased by the Williamson County Sun, which is still the local newspaper in Georgetown. Between 1884 and 1892 the building was used by the Sun, then for a while by Georgetown Commercial, a printing office, then the Williamson County Sun once again. In 1907, Lee J. Roundtree, the owner of the ^{Commercial} Sun, built the rear addition to house the required printing equipment for his newspaper. Also during this same period an elevator was added to carry the type and printing material to the second floor.

Between 1910 and 1936 the building was used by the Sun and also, at different periods, rented to other businesses. An electrical store and an ice cream parlor were two of the many short term leasers. While being used as an ice cream parlor there was a fire in the rear of the building, which blackened

the wood framing. This can be seen today in the upper half of the rear structure, which is not being used today.

In 1936 a photographer, Sid Cluck, rented and used the building as his studio. At this time plate glass display windows were added to the front of the building, later to be removed in the recent remodeling. Mr. Cluck rented the building until 1945. At this time he bought it from the Williamson County Sun and continued his business.

In March of 1950, Mr. John N. Ellyson, still working in the building, and his brother purchased the building to be used as Garentee Abstract Company. Their business went well and in 1954 they re-worked the roof trusses and decking in the rear half of the building.

In January of 1965, Mr. James A. Rehler became the new and present owner of the building. It is still being used as a title and abstract business but the name was changed to the Georgetown Title Company, Inc.

In March of 1965 the final changes, to present date, were made. The original appearance of the exterior was restored and the interior was redesigned for the adaptation of modern offices and equipment. The ceilings, for economical and

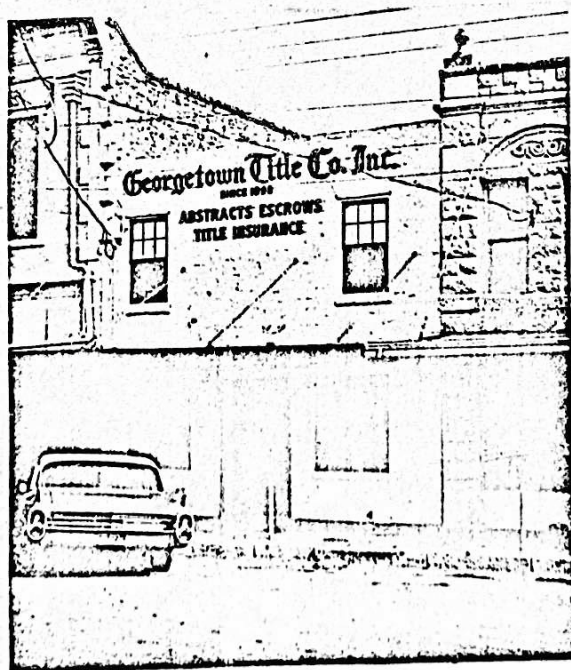
mechanical reasons, were lowered to 8 feet, except for the vault, store room in the rear, and the entry-reception area at the front of the building.

The ceiling is now an acoustical hung ceiling with insulation above and lighting, cooling and heating dispursed from it. The upper part of the rooms between the new and old ceilings was left as before. The walls are wood paneling of different types throughout with built in desks and required furniture to match. The floors are of vinyl asbestos floor tile in the public and work areas and carpeted in the major offices.

All the rooms as shown in the plan were added in this latest remodeling, including the vault and two toilet rooms. The rear half of the building received a new concrete floor slab, but the front floor was in acceptable shape. As expressed earlier, the upstairs was floored and insulated but left unfinished, unairconditioned, etc., until future expansion requires its use. In the near future Mr. Rehler plans to rent this upstairs area to lawyers of Georgetown which will work with the Title Company.

It is quite interesting to note the change in value of the building since the original construction in 1870. The approximate initial value of the building was \$200.00 Today

its value is approxiamtely \$17,000.00



Restored exterior
The high parapets
of the adjoining
buildings, both about
40 years younger,
contrast with the
simplicity of this
building

Oldest standing commercial building historically marked

An official Texas Historical Building Medallion was unveiled on the old Shafer Saddlery building on the east side of the Georgetown square Saturday morning, marking its 100th year.

The building is now the Georgetown Title Company, owned by James A. Rehler who arranged for the dedication ceremonies and the placing of the marker. Rehler is an adopted Williamson County son who moved here a few years ago and became intensely interested in the history of his new surroundings.

Retired County Judge Sam V. Stone presided at the ceremony. Dr. George C. Hester, retired professor of history at Southwestern University, was master of ceremonies.

Rev. Warren Hall, pastor of the Georgetown Presbyterian Church, gave the invocation.

The dedication address was made by the Honorable Charles Patterson, State Representative from this district.

Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee presented Rehler with the official state landmark certificate.

Before Rehler unveiled the marker, he lifted his four year old grandson, his namesake, Jimmy Rehler, into his arms to assist in the unveiling. Wide-eyed at the whole procedure, Jimmy will understand in years to come that he was a part of a history making event.

The inscription on the marker reads:

Shafer Saddlery
On Site Of Cabin Used (1848)
As First County Courthouse.
This Frontier Saddlery,
Erected 1870 Of Hand-Cut
Limestone By John H. Shafer,

Had Living Quarters Upstairs.
Since 1872 Occupants Have
Been Attorneys, A Newspaper,
And Many Other Tenants.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1971

Shafer



SHAVER SADDLERY
ON SITE OF CABIN USED (1848)
AS FIRST COUNTY COURTHOUSE.
THIS FRONTIER SADDLERY,
ERECTED 1870 OF HAND-CUT
LIMESTONE BY JOHN H. SHAVER,
HAD LIVING QUARTERS UPSTAIRS.
SINCE 1872 OCCUPANTS HAVE
BEEN ATTORNEYS, A NEWSPAPER,
AND MANY OTHER TENANTS.



"THAT'S PRETTY. WHAT DOES IT SAY?" - grandson Jimmy asked James Rehler as they unveiled the Texas Historical Marker on the front of Rehler's Georgetown Title Company Building in ceremonies Saturday morning. Originally the Shafer Saddlery, the building is 100 years old.

Dr. Hester said the building is the oldest standing commercial building in Williamson County, built when only 480 persons were living in this area in 1870, long before the present courthouse or any of the other historical buildings in Georgetown.

The small two story building first served as a saddlery shop for John H. Shafer, bought from Emzy Taylor for the amount of \$150 in gold. In 1872, Shafer sold his shop to the law firm of McFadin, Fisher and Dalrymple. In 1884 the lawyers moved and rented the building to a cafe operator which folded in a short time to the competition of a saloon two doors south.

Later in 1884, the building was purchased by the WILLIAMSON COUNTY SUN which is still the local Georgetown newspaper. For a few years the building

was occupied by a printing firm. The Georgetown Commercial, then back to the SUN once again.

Between 1910 and 1936 the building was used by the SUN and also at different periods was rented to other businesses, such as an electrical store, ice cream parlor and in 1936 Sid Cluck rented the building for his photographic studio.

John N. Ellyson bought the building in 1950 where he operated the Guarantee Abstract Company, and in 1965 James A. Rehler became the new and present owner of the building and now operates the Georgetown Title Company, Inc. in it.

Rehler restored the building's exterior and the interior was redesigned for modern offices for his business, under the watchful eye of his architect son.

[Shafer
is correct]

MRS. JOHN CORNFORTH
 CHAIRMAN
 TAYLOR

MRS. F. W. BUCHANAN
 VICE CHAIRMAN
 JARRELL

MRS. HAROLD SCOGGINS
 SECRETARY AND TREAS.
 GEORGETOWN



Williamson County
 Historical Survey Committee
 1221 CECELIA STREET
 TAYLOR, TEXAS 76674

PROGRAM

May 15, 1971

Time 10:30 A. M.

Official Texas Historical Building Medallion

Shaffer Shafer Saddlery Marker

- Call To Order-----Hon. Sam V. Stone
 County Judge, (retired)
- Master of Ceremonies-----Dr. George C. Hester
 Professor of History
 (retired)
 Southwestern University
- Invocation-----Rev. Warren R. Hall
 Pastor, First Presbyterian
 Church, Georgetown, Texas
- Introduction of distinguished
 guests-----Hon. Luther C. Chance
 County Judge, Williamson
 County
- Dedication Address-----Hon. Charles Patterson
 State Representative, Dist. 38
- Presentation of Landmark
 Certificate-----Mrs. John Cornforth
 County Chairman
 W. C. Historical Survey
 County
- Response and Acceptance,
 Unveiling of Marker-----James A. Rehler, for
 Georgetown Title Co., Inc.
 Building Owner

Georgetown Title Company, Inc. is a small but interesting two story stone building which is located on the east side of the very picturesque square in the center of Georgetown, Texas. This square, along with the entire city contains many original buildings and landmarks of the first people to settle in Williamson County and central Texas.

After the withdrawal of the Spanish missionaries from the San Gabriel Mission in 1755, this region so far as the white man was concerned, was practically turned back to the Indians until after the Mexican Revolution in 1821.

As late as 1832, only five white persons were living north of Yeguas, that is north of the present south boundary of Milam County. Major Ben Bryant at Bryant Fort on Little River, J. Mercer on South Gabriel and Merrill on Brushy Creek held the outpost of the settlements and all had their houses strongly picketed. At the time Merrill settled near what is now Round Rock, and for seven years, there was not a house between him and the Rocky Mountains.

In the 1840's the large majority of settler/s within the future Williamson County, resided on the Brushy and the Gabriel, where "Wood and Water" were plentiful. Settlement in the prairie sections were not made on a large scale until, after the

introduction of barbed wire and advent of railroads.

The name "Clearwater" was first suggested as the name for the present county of Williamson but this name was deleted from the bill. Later the name of the "County of San Gabriel" was used in an act read in the Legislature of the State of Texas, February 3, 1848.

At the second reading of the bill on February 11, 1848, Mr. Willie moved to strike out "San Gabriel" when ever it occurred in the bill and substitute "Williamson".

The new County was named after Judge Robert M. Williamson who was a colorful character and the subject of many stories.

In the early part of 1848, the present confines of Williamson County had about 250 population and showed a voting power of 70. In the fall presidential election of that year the votes casted had increased to 120.

The development of Williamson County is indicated by the gradual increase in land value as listed below:

1849	\$0.53 per acre
1859	2.43 per acre
1869	3.62 per acre
1879	4.20 per acre

Williamson County was placed in the Second Judicial District and the first court in the new county was held under the liveoak tree at the intersection of Church and Locust street on October 10, 1848, and adjourned after a two hour session.

The 1849 and 1850 sessions were held in a 14 x 16 feet square log cabin situated where the Georgetown Title Company, Inc., now stands, facing on main street. This cabin was rented until 1851, then a larger temporary courthouse was purchased for use until one could be built in the square.

In 1848 Governor Wood appointed the commissioners charged with locating a county seat for the newly formed county of Williamson. On March 13, 1848, these men met under a large liveoak tree at the corner of what is now Ninth and Church streets in Georgetown. They were pondering the task before them and were discussing the possibilities of the site on which they were meeting.

About this time George Washington Glasscock came riding toward them on a grey mule. Upon seeing Glasscock they hailed him, and after the greetings usual to this frontier section, they said to Glasscock: "George, if you will give us all the land included between a line from this tree west to the river and a line from this tree north to the river, we will call the proposed County Seat "Georgetown". Glasscock pondered for only

a brief moment and then accepted the proposal.

In 1851 Georgetown had twelve houses, one church, two whiskey stores and some other businesses.

1873
On October 6, 1873, Southwestern, (then called "Texas University") opened its doors. The population of Georgetown this year was about 500 persons. Today the population is far in excess of this and the city is still growing in size and population.

The plan of the city of Georgetown is simple and straight forward. It consists of a main square, in which is located the court house dated 1910, and a uniform grid system of streets around the square in all directions. Facing the square today are both the oldest standing commercial building in the County, namely Georgetown Title Company, Inc., (1870) and the most recently completed building, the First National Bank of Georgetown (1965).

As a result of the time period between 1870 and 1965, the buildings in this area are of many styles and design. One of the most unique, because of its simple surface treatment of heavy stone, is the Georgetown Title Company, Inc. building. It is obviously a very old building, reminding one of the spanish missions and early Texas pioneer dwellings of the

1800's. It was made of heavy stone with thick walls, built to last.

The front of the building indicates the original division of the building; shop below and living quarters above. Originally it was built as a saddlery shop in 1870. The buildings on either side have been added at a later date, completely covering the side elevations. The rear of the building is a one story wood frame structure added in 1907.

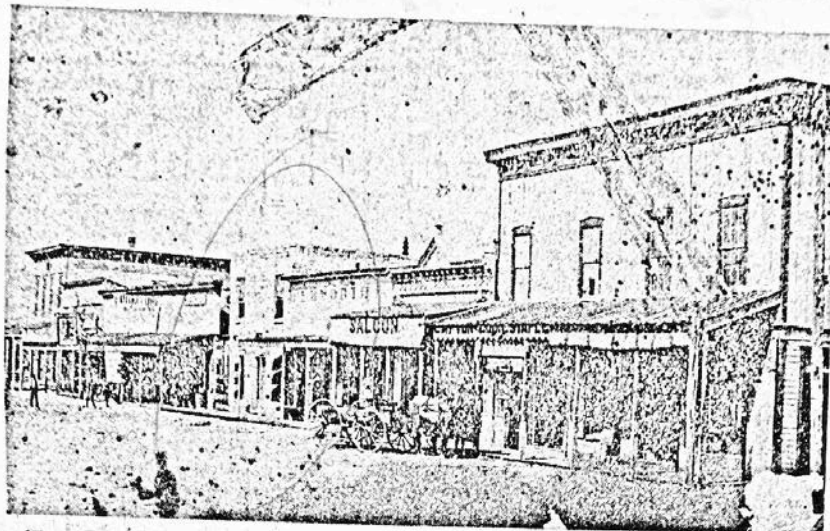
Both the original stone building and the later addition have been re-modeled many times throughout their history. At the present time, only the downstairs of the two story part and the lower half of the 16 foot ceiling rear addition are being used. The upstairs of the original stone structure has been floored, but the walls are still the original stone exposed. Many names and dates have been carved into the stone during the buildings history, which can still be seen.

The plan which exists today is a result of remodeling finished in March of 1965. The exterior face of the building was restored as close as possible to the original effect of the building. The interior was planned using up to date arrangement and details needed to house modern equipment and office use. There was no way of knowing what the original interior looked like

because of the many years of changes which had taken place.

The exterior facade is now painted only because the stone is too soft to sand blast to its natural color.

As one enters the building he first sees the receptionist and waiting room, behind which are three offices, a vault, work space, coffee room, dark room, two toilet rooms, and a storage room at the rear of the building. The storage room opens to the alley directly adjacent to the much used post office. The front entry opens directly to the court house across the street which is also used daily by the Georgetown Title Company employees.



Scene on the Georgetown Square, 1884

The Old, and the New

Time was, obviously, when things were quite different in Georgetown. Back in 1884 a saloon occupied the center building of the east side of the Georgetown square, as shown above. Perworth's dry goods were at left, then came a cafe, then W. Patrick's furniture and hardware. On the right was a grocery store. However, there are similarities. A grocery store is still on the corner (Fairway); the saloon gave way to what is now a drug (City); Perworth's spot is now occupied by another dry goods firm (Hoffman & Son); the restaurant next became a saddlery, then a law firm occupied by J. W. McFadin, A. S. Fisher and W. S. Dalrymple, then Ellyson's Guarantee Abstract (in 1893) and today, June 24, 1965 it houses Georgetown Title Company — just announcing their open house; the next building was furniture and now is the approximate location of The SUN, and furniture (S. T. Atkin)

is still on the corner. Note horses and buggy and the lonesome steer wandering in street at left.

So many times there are strong ties linking us with the past, proud ties, a pioneer heritage. It is no wonder, then that we at First National Bank are proud of our 75 years' growth in and with Georgetown (our first building was built about 1890). Our new building under construction on the Northwest corner of the square is at the same time, a commitment to the future, built on the heritage of our past. We are proud of both. Because SERVICE — our customers — past, present and future — provides the foundation for our long-proven strength.

Picture furnished thru courtesy of Mrs. Jack Adams, 1607 Austin Ave.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

This Year Marking Its
Diamond Anniversary As
Your Friendly Hometown Bank

Contributions of
Historical data
and information
about the home
pictured above
is invited by
First National Bank
and will be turned
over to The Williamson
County SUN for
historical features
development to be shared
with all the area.

Early History of Andice

The Andice community was first known as Pilot Knob. A Doctor Grayson came to this community in an early day and located where Gus Jacob's home now stands. The little town, which began to come into existence, was first called Graysonville. Nowlin's General Merchandise store was the first business. The first postmaster was Isaac Newton. Mr. Newton sent the name Audice (his son's name) in for approval as the name of the new Post Office. Audice was taken for Andice, and that is how we now have the name Andice, Texas.

A very early church and school was located in what is known now as Mr. Charley Stapp's pasture. This was a Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hutch Love's Mother was a charter member. Later Mr. John Montgomery gave land for a school and church where Mr. Littleton's home is located today. It was called White House. The Presbyterian and Baptist used the same building. A preacher by the name of Andrews was the first Baptist preacher there. He lived north of what we call Deck Weary's home. Later the building was used only for the White House school. The building burned in March 1925, and Seymour and White House consolidated and built the Andice School. The Primitive Baptist built a church on the old White House ground and operated there for several years.

Probably the White House Baptist Church that started in 1876, re-organized and built the Pilot Knob church west of Andice in 1894. The building was about one half mile west of Andice, what is now Lawrence Dunlop's field. The land was probably given for the church at first by A.J. Newton. The Parsleys bought the place in about 1900. Then on Feb. 23, 1914 Mr. J.C. Parsley deeded the land to the church.

Medical Doctors

Dr. Gryson
Dr. Ruble
Dr. McGown

Picture Show

Mr. Joe Pearson

Cotton Gin

Jessie Adams (near the Fogott place in 1880)
Miller & Tucker 1889
Henry Kyle & Jackson (Burned shortly completion Mr. Wayne Tomlinson lost a new wagon and bale of cotton on the wagon. This was in 1906)
Rutledge & Joe Jackson
Willie Davidson (This gin was moved from near Miss Minnie Woodward's to Andice and rebuilt in 1915)
Evert McMaster
Doering and McCannl (1928 to 1958 and ginned about 40,000 bales of cotton)
Andy Jones - Located East of Andice near the Russell place

Black Smith

Pete Joyce
Steve Sullivan
B. B. Root
J.W. Asher
Joe Boyd 1912
Dave Hawkins
Mr. Forehand
Mr. Doc King

station & Garage

Andrew Baker
Raymond Hardcastle
Marshall Davis
Joe Morgan
Sam Winsor
Bennie Benavidez

Barbers

Will McDaniel
Robert Hausenfluck
Wyatt Smith
Roy Spain
Jim Harton
Edwin Harton
Leslie McMaster
Jessie Thornton
H.W. McClish 1931

Hotel & Rooming house
Mr. & Mrs. Stoke Seymour 1925
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Davis
Miss Mattie Dean

Merchants of Andice

Nowlin

Evens Atwood 1901

Isaac Newton 1899

Langford and Taylor

Jim Howell and Johnnie Rutledge about 1907

Florence Mercantile Co.

Shorty Jackson run the store later by
Mr. Oswald Stapp

Jack Heffington-store owned by Florence Bank

Willie Davidson- store owned by a Mr. Barton from
Bertram.

Henry Dunlop 1917

Willie Davidson

Mrs. Maude Davidson

Harried and Eddie Brizendine 19089 (Eddie Died in 1908)

Lem Russell

Evert McMaster (McMaster & Felps

Frank Davis

Gus & Ben Jacob 1932

Mr. & Mr. A.C. Dollahon 1938

Lee Smalley

John Nowlin built store where Mrs. Dollahon's
store is located now. The two story structure burned

Buck Jackson 1880

Sanderson & Taylor-building burned

Leslie Parsons

Albena & Martha Lee Russell

Garage. Let Holmes and Cozette (for seventeen years)

Frank Baker

Robert Champion & Jim Morgan

Bob Boyd

Jennings

Confectionery & drugs

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Morgan

Confectionary

J.D. Pearson

Curtis Frymire

Cecil & Marshall Davis

Resturant

John & Annie Wear 1923

Evens Atwood 1915

L.J. Russell

Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Stapp

meat Market

Earl Davis

John Wear

Bryon King

feed Store

P.M. Davis

Jiggs Tomlinson

Bob Daniel

By Harold B. Fisher

Public Cotton Weighers

Leon Davis
Earl Davis 1942-1944
John Wear
Ralph Love
Loui Wear
Stoke S. Seymour
Ollie Tucker

Switchboard Operators

Retty Atwood
Mrs. Will Asher
Mrs. Dollie Root
Mr. Hullum
Willie Norman
Mattie Dean
Laura Davidson
Mrs. Copeland
Mrs. Ratiliff
Mrs. Ethel Howland
Mrs. Ollie Tucker
Mrs. Lily Davis
Maggie & Netelee Davis
Joe Ella Baker
Georgie Wilkerson (Wade)
Dorene Hawkins
Albena & Martha Lee Russell
Mrs. Leta Holmes and Cozette (for seventeen years)
Minnie Baker
Mrs. Sam Winsor

By Harold B. Asher

Week designated to appreciate history

Mrs. John Cornforth, Williamson County historical committee chairman, announced that this week, May 16-22, has been designated as "County History Appreciation Week" in Williamson County.

Mrs. Cornforth said Governor Preston Smith has issued the following official memorandum for the week:

"The state of Texas has had a proud and colorful history; an unsurpassed heritage filled with dedication, devotion and individualism.

"We owe a great debt to our forefathers; the pioneers and early settlers whose accomplishments have been an inspiration and a guiding light to all Texans.

"All too often, in these modern times, we tend to overlook and fail to recognize and appreciate the labors of these great men

and women.

"Increased public appreciation is needed for the men and women who toiled, under extreme hardships, and traveled to the far corners of our great state, and established themselves as the pioneers of our proud heritage.

"The Texas State Historical Survey Committee and the two hundred fifty-four County Historical Survey Committees are working diligently and efficiently to Record, Appreciate, Mark, Preserve and Survey Texas' historic past. The County Committees, this year, are making a special effort to focus public attention to the dramatic course of events in their Counties, thus designating each day of a week for special activities highlighting the various elements of the RAMPS Program

such as the beautification of the approaches to and areas surrounding historic sites and markers; the locating the recording of noteworthy landmarks; honoring pioneers and early settlers; involving the youth in historic work, and touring historical exhibits, sites and markers.

"Therefore, I, as Governor of Texas, do hereby designate the week of May 16-22, as COUNTY HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK in Williamson County, Texas, and urge all citizens to support and participate in the activities of this observance."

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 8 May 20, 1971

History Appreciation Week Observance Set

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The Taylor Daily Press, Friday, May 14, 1971

The Austin American

Thursday, May 20, 1971

Woman Praised For History

ROUND ROCK — Mrs. D. B. Gregg, chairman of the Round Rock Historical Committee, has been commended for the recent history of the 1927 bus-train wreck, which has been placed as a permanent exhibit in the State Archives.

Mrs. Gregg in collaboration with Susan Gregg Barton, presented the State Historical Committee with facts an information surrounding the tragedy at the railroad crossing on U.S. 81, which took the lives of 10 Baylor athletes.

Dr. Dick Bolling Gregg, physician for the Missouri Pacific Railway, ministered to the victims on January 22, 1927. An historical marker is placed at the now existing overpass at the site of the accident, but the event had not previously been recorded in the archives.

Mrs. D. M. Parmally, Director of Research of the State Historical Society, formally commended Mrs. Gregg for her part in recording the historic event.

DICK BOLLING GREGG

21 June 1894 - 18 May 1963 AND

His participation in the
noted event of January 22, 1927
"The Baylor Wreck"

In this day of specialties within specialties, the day of the doctor who is a general practitioner may be fast passing. But if the general practitioner is passing, the country doctor-family doctor-general practitioner, who devotes his entire career to one community, has almost become a complete rarity. Such a doctor, however, was Dick Bolling Gregg.

Born on June 21, 1894, in Manor, Texas, Dick Gregg was raised in the spirit of a country doctor's dedication and service. His father was Dr. Richard Gregg, in the then-remote village of Manor, and his mother, Mary Townes Gregg, possessed all the loyalty and fortitude demanded of an overworked doctor's wife. And overworked Dr. Richard Gregg was. In 1897, when Dick Gregg was only three years old, his father traveled many miles on horseback in inclement weather to visit a patient, while he himself was not well. The result was that the patient lived; the doctor died. Young Dick Gregg was left fatherless. It is doubtless that his father's devotion and self-sacrifice left a strong impression on him and influenced in part his own decision to become a doctor.

Dick Gregg attended Manor schools, Allen Academy in Bryan, Texas, and The University of Texas at Austin. He was graduated from The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in 1920 and interned at Robert B. Green Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1921, Dr. Gregg came to Round Rock, Texas, to follow in the footsteps of his father--to be a small town family general practitioner. In 1926, he married

February 12, 1935

Zelma Preslar of Florence, Texas, then a school teacher in Round Rock.

Dr. Gregg's duties as Round Rock's only physician for many years were many and varied, but perhaps one of the major events in his early years of practice occurred on January 22, 1927. On that day, a bus carrying an athletic team of Baylor University (Waco, Texas) was struck by a train while crossing the Missouri Pacific Railroad track in Round Rock. Ten young men were killed in this accident. Dr. Gregg was immediately called to the scene of the tragedy. In what must have been appalling gore, he helped to pick up arms and legs, and load the dead, the dying, and those fortunate enough to only be injured into a box car where he rode with them to Taylor, Texas, where there was a hospital, and ministered to them during this arduous trip. For this service, Dr. Gregg received no pay and little or no public recognition, but remained throughout his life glad to have been able to be of service. At the time of this catastrophe, Dr. Gregg was the Missouri Pacific Railroad doctor in Round Rock. For this, he received only a yearly pass on the railroad, which he never used because he did not have time to travel anywhere. One result of the bus/train collision was that an overpass for traffic was built over the railroad track to prevent such future accidents. On this overpass bridge is a bronze tablet reading thus:

Dedicated by the State Highway Commission of Texas to the memory of an athletic team of Baylor University who lost their lives in an accident at this crossing on January 22, 1927.

Jack Castlelaw	Ennis
Sam Dillow	Fort Worth
Merle H. Dudley	Abilene
Ivey R. Foster, Jr.	Taylor
Robert R. Hailey	Lott
Robert W. Hannah, Jr.	Waco
James Clyde Kelley	Waco
Willis Edwin Murray	Gatesville
James Stephen Walker	Gatesville
William Penn Winehester	Waco

February 12, 1935

Dr. Gregg continued his practice in Round Rock and was not only a physician, but a friend to all. He delivered hundreds of babies, pulled teeth (there was no dentist in Round Rock for many years), listened to people's troubles, and visited his patients night or day in any weather and whatever the distance. Federal or state financed medical care for the poor and aged is a relatively recent practice, but Dr. Gregg treated anyone who needed his services, whether they were able to pay or not. In addition, for many years he provided free medical care to Round Rock's Lutheran Orphans' Home and Home for the Aged and the Texas Baptist Children's Home. His relations with the large Latin American population were excellent as he learned to speak not only Spanish, but the Spanish-American blend of language that many of these persons spoke. His bilingual ability was especially appreciated by numerous older Latin Americans for some of them had never learned to speak any English.

Dr. Gregg was active in many community affairs, as well as local and other organizations. He belonged to the Palm Valley Lutheran Church, the local Masonic Lodge, he served on the Round Rock School Board, and was a member of the American Medical Association, the Texas Medical Association, and the Williamson County Medical Society, of which he had served as president. In addition, he served as a private in the Army Medical Corps during World War I.

In June 1953, Dr. Gregg was honored by the businessmen of Round Rock who gave him a surprise birthday dinner in recognition of his devotion to the community. He was again honored in 1959, when the Round Rock High School yearbook was dedicated to him in appreciation of his services.

Following his death in 1963, the Round Rock Leader newspaper eulogized him thusly:

"Truly a typical 'country doctor,' he called on the sick in all directions from Round Rock at any hour of the day or night--willing to be of service to everybody. And so, on Sunday, May 19, 1963, a host of sorrowing citizens gathered at the church to say goodbye to a friend who had given 42 years of his life to one community."

Later in 1963, the annual meeting of the Ex-Students Association of the Round Rock Schools conducted a memorial service for Dr. Gregg. A Memorial Resolution of special tribute was presented, which read in part, as follows:

"One who was so much a part of the lives of all of us here in Round Rock, one who for so many years devoted his precious time and energy to his community...and one who was cherished and loved by all his friends, neighbors and fellow citizens, and who helped to mold our little town of Round Rock into the growing community it is today--our own beloved Dr. D. B. Gregg."

And so a country doctor was gone but certainly not forgotten. In this time of huge hospitals and impersonal, if not indifferent, medical treatment, many look back with longing on the day when the doctor was not just a physician, but a friend who cared and who gave his all, whatever the sacrifice. They will remember Dr. Dick Bolling Gregg.

Compiled and Written by:

Mrs. D. B. Gregg
and
Susan Gregg Barton



Texas State Historical Survey Committee

Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

Truett Latimer
Executive Director

May 3, 1971

Mrs. D. B. Gregg
400 East Main
Round Rock, TX 78664

Dear Mrs. Gregg:

The State Committee office wishes to thank you and your daughter for the documented material on Dr. Dick Bolling Gregg.

This will be placed as a permanent exhibit in the State Archives and will be especially helpful to researchers interested in the noted event of January 22, 1927 -- "The Baylor Wreck."

You as a citizen historian should be apprized of the value of your contribution and we cannot overstate our sense of gratitude.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothea Parmelee

Mrs. D. M. Parmelee
Director of Research

DP/mf

History Appreciation Week

Dr. Gregg's Biography Put In County, State Archives

"In this day of specialties within specialties, the day of the doctor who is a general practitioner may be fast passing. But if the general practitioner is passing, the country doctor-family doctor-general practitioner who devotes his entire career to one community has almost become a complete rarity. Such a doctor, however, was Dick Bolling Gregg".

So begins an interesting and vivid account of the life and major experiences of Dr. Gregg as told by his wife and daughter, and presented to the State Archives, and to the Williamson County Archives in Georgetown.

The biography is presented during Texas History Appreciation Week, and Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, asked that it be placed in the county archives as well as in the state repository.

Dr. Gregg did not wander far from his native Manor when he began his practice in Round Rock in 1921. He remained as Round Rock's one and only, and beloved phy-

sician until his death in 1963 shortly before his 69th birthday.

The son of a general practitioner, Dr. Gregg was brought up in the school which said a physician ministered to his patients despite weather, hardships — and even despite his own health. Dr. Gregg's father, a physician in the then remote village of Manor, traveled many miles on horseback in inclement weather to visit a patient while he himself was not well. The result was that the patient lived; the doctor died, Mrs. Gregg tells in her presentation.

Mrs. Gregg's recounting of the tragedy that struck the Baylor University basketball team in Round Rock in 1927 bears re-telling. It reads:

"Dr. Gregg's duties as Round Rock's only physician for many years were many and varied, but perhaps one of the major events in his early years of practice occurred on January 22, 1927. On that day, a bus carrying an athletic team of Baylor University was struck by a train while crossing the Missouri Pacific Railroad track in Round Rock.

"Ten young men were killed in this accident. Dr. Gregg was immediately called to the scene of the tragedy. In what must have been appalling gore, he helped to pick up arms and legs, and load the dead, the dying, and those fortunate enough to only be injured into a box car where he rode with them to Taylor where there was a hospital, and ministered to them during this arduous trip.

"For this service, Dr. Gregg received no pay and little or no public recognition, but remained throughout his life glad to have been able to be of service.

"At the time of this catastrophe, Dr. Gregg was the Missouri Pacific Railroad doctor in Round Rock. For this, he received only a yearly pass on the railroad, which he never used because he did not have time to travel anywhere.

"One result of the bus-train collision was that an overpass for traffic was built over the railroad track to prevent such future accidents. On this overpass bridge is a bronze tablet dedicated to the memory of the

young men who lost their lives there."

Not only did Dr. Gregg serve as doctor to the community, he also was a dentist on occasion, pulling teeth when necessary; he was a good listener who heard people's troubles and gave comfort; he visited his patients, day or night, in any weather and at whatever distance; he treated the needy long before state or federal agencies came into being.

In addition, Mrs. Gregg continues, the beloved doctor for many years provided free medical care to Round Rock's Lutheran Orphans' Home and Home for the Aged, and to Texas Baptist Children's Home located in Round Rock. His bilingual ability rendered him a confidante and resource to many of the Spanish-American residents of the area, some of whom did not speak much English.

"Dr. Gregg was active in many community affairs," the biography continues. "He belonged to the Palm Valley Lutheran Church, the local Masonic Lodge, he served on the Round Rock School Board and was a member of the American Medical Association, the Texas Medical Association and the Williamson County Medical Society which he served as president for a time. In addition, he served as a private in the Army Medical Corps during World War I."

Round Rock people eulogized Dr. Gregg, both during

DEDICATED BY THE STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OF TEXAS TO THE MEMORY OF THE MEMBERS OF AN ATHLETIC TEAM OF BAYLOR UNIVERSITY WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN AN ACCIDENT AT THIS CROSSING ON JANUARY TWENTY SECOND NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY SEVEN.

JACK CASTLEBY	ESSIE
SAW DILLOW	PE WORTH
MERLE E. DUDLEY	ANDERSON
IVY R. FOSTER, JR.	TAYLOR
ROBERT H. HATLEY	LOTT
ROBERT L. HANNAH, JR.	WACO
JAMES CLYDE KELLY	WACO
WILLIS EDWIN MURRAY	GATESVILLE
JAMES STURGEON WALLER	GATESVILLE
WILLIAM DEAN WINCHESTER	WACO

FEBRUARY 2, 1928

The Taylor Daily Press

Full Leased Wire Report of The Associated Press - World's Greatest News Service

Eight Pages

TAYLOR, TEXAS, TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1971

Historical Marker Dedication Set At Liberty Hill Cemetery

The Liberty Hill Cemetery, which is located about two miles northwest of the town of Liberty Hill, will be historically marked in formal dedication ceremonies to be held on the grounds on Sunday June 6. The dedication will be made during the annual homecoming celebration of the community.

Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, and Mrs. Fay Bryson Richardson, a descendant of the family who first began the cemetery, have supplied the necessary in-

formation to merit the receiving of the marker.

In 1853, John Bryson, his wife Amelia Edwards Bryson, and six of the eight children of his family built a house which is still standing in the area of Williamson County called Liberty Hill. The particular location of the house is known as "Bryson Hill". As more settlers moved into the community, Mr. Bryson recognized the need for a community cemetery and donated a plot of ground to be used for that purpose. He stated in the deed that he was giving the three and

one half acres of his land "due to my desire to secure for my own family and for the people generally in this community, a permanent and properly improved and protected Burial Ground". And so on March 20, 1875, the Liberty Hill Cemetery was begun.

The land was deeded in trust and the first board of trustees included T. N. Bryson, T. S. Snyder, J. B. Roddy, W. H. Poole and C. C. Chance, all near-by land holders.

Some of the early graves in the

cemetery are of Rebecca R. Gregg and her infant daughter in 1852; John M. Spencer in 1853; and Miss Frances Russell in 1855. Many of the early graves are enclosed by limestone walls, but some have lost all markings through the passage of so long a time.

In 1899, the cemetery acquired two and one fourth more acres bought from the Bryson estate. The trustees of this land were Collin Munro, Warren Bryson, J. T. Smith, P. S. Ford, and H. C. Fowler.

The next amount of land, one and seven tenths acres, was not acquired until 1949. This tract was donated by Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Fowler in memory of his parents H. C. and Kate Fowler, who are buried in the cemetery. Later, under the trusteeship of Warren Bryson, L. T. McFarland, D. W. White, J. L. Myers, and T. M. Casbeer, another five acres was donated.

In 1932 the Royal Arch Masons of Liberty Hill purchased three acres adjacent to the Liberty Hill Cemetery, also to be used as a cemetery. A low stone wall and an arch into the entrance of the cemetery were built at this time. In 1959, this Masonic Cemetery was deeded to the Liberty Hill Cemetery and the two became one.

As the cemetery grew larger, and the old families scattered, maintenance became an overwhelming problem. In 1912, a group of determined ladies of the community formed a cemetery Association for the purpose of maintaining the land and raising funds for its upkeep. At the end of the year they had collected \$1500, and made their first big purchase. A horse drawn hearse with a team of two black horses, provided by Mr. Walter Witcher, was bought for the cemetery. It was frequently seen being driven by Mr. Emmett Farquhar.

The organization gradually fell apart, so in 1950 another group met and formed the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association. This organization was headed by Dr. J. Gordon Bryson, grandson of John T. Bryson. C. L. Chance was vice-president; Mrs. Letitia Russell was secretary; and C. F. Hickman was treasurer.

In 1951 the group held its first annual homecoming which has since become a yearly event. The program takes place on the first Sunday of June and consists of religious services, dinner on the grounds, and a memorial service. Almost 1000 persons attend each year.

In July 1953, with much thanks to C. L. Chance, the organization was incorporated and in 1955 the trust or memorial fund was started. Since then these funds have greatly assisted in carrying on the program to improve the property.

Among the improvements are a well which furnishes an abundance of water, curbed roads, flower beds and shrubbery, and several buildings, including a tabernacle where services are held each homecoming.

The present officers of the association, Wayne K. Smith, president; Chance, vice-president; Mrs. C. A. Shipp, secretary; James C. Vaughan, treasurer; and the Board of Directors, John L. Bryson, S. P. Atkinson (deceased), J. C. Canady, W. K. Seward, Raymond Hefner, C. C. Ellason, and Mark Smith are continuing the work begun 95 years ago by their ancestors.

It seems as if John T. Bryson's desire to provide for the community "a permanent and properly improved and protected Burial Ground" have indeed been fulfilled.



Liberty Hill Cemetery dates back to 1875

Liberty Hill Cemetery is located about two miles northwest of the present town of Liberty Hill, Williamson County, south of S H 29. This beautiful site, about sixteen acres in extent, is carefully landscaped, with its beauty enhanced by the many large live oak trees which grow there. It is a source of pride to those whose loved ones rest there, a place of quiet repose to refresh the eye of the casual passer-by.

It has not always been this way, so let us go back to its beginning and review its history.

In 1852, when the early settlers of "old Liberty Hill" were beginning to establish their homes along the South San Gabriel River, members of another family were leaving their home in Greenville District, South Carolina, to begin the long trip to Texas. John T. Bryson, who was born in 1813 in Henderson County, North Carolina, with his wife, Amelia Edwards Bryson, with six of their eight children (two were born in Texas) came to Gay Hill in Washington County to reside for a few months before moving on to Williamson County, where they built a house, still standing, on what came to be known as "Bryson Hill" near old Liberty Hill. The house, built in 1853 of Bastrop County cedar, freighted in by ox wagon, was in the style of the day, with long front porch dog run, outside kitchen and smoke house, all enclosed by a rock fence with stile and stone mounting block for the horseback riders.

As more settlers moved in, the need for a community cemetery became apparent, and John T. Bryson met that need. As stated in the deed, "due to my desire to secure for my own family and for the people generally in this community, a permanent and properly improved and portected Burial Ground", on 20 March 1875, he signed a quit-claim deed to three and one half acres of his land, which deed was recorded in Williamson County on 11 August, 1875.

The land was deeded in trust to the Board of Trustees, and their successors, for "Liberty Hill Cemetery". This first board was comprised of T. N. Bryson, T. S. Snyder, J. B. Roddy, W. H. Poole and C. C. Chance, all near-by landholders. The Bryson family, assisted by their neighbors, built a stout rock fence around this land.

Prior to this time, portions of this plot were already in use as a cemetery. Some of these early graves were those of

Rebecca R. Gregg, wife of S. S. Jackson, and her infant daughter, died 1852; John M. Spencer, 1853; Miss Frances Russell, 1855; Martha Owen, 1856; Mrs. Nancy Russell, 1857; C. W. Miller and Franklin Barnes, 1859.

Many of these early graves are enclosed by vaults or high walls of limestone. On some, the ravages of time have left no trace of names or dates.

In 1899, after the demise of their parents, two sons, T. N. Bryson and J. H. Bryson, as executors of the estate, sold an additional two and one fourth acres adjoining the original plot, for cemetery use. This land was deeded to Collin Munro, Warren Bryson, J. T. Smith, P. S. Ford and H. C. Fowler, Trustees.

The next land was acquired in 1949, being one and seven tenths acres donated by Dr. H. L. Fowler and his wife of Denver, Colorado, as a memorial to his parents, H. C. Fowler and Kate Fowler, both of whom are buried in the cemetery. Trustees at that time were Warren Bryson, L. T. McFarland, D. W. White, J. L. Myers and T. M. Casbeer.

Meantime, in 1932, the Royal Arch Masons of Liberty Hill had purchased three acres of land from Mr. and Mrs. L. T. McFarland to be used as a cemetery

land was adjacent to the Liberty Hill Cemetery. A number of improvements were made at this time, the most outstanding being the construction of a low stone wall on the side fronting on the highway, with a brick entrance arch into the cemetery. Later, this land was deeded to Liberty Hill Lodge No. 432, A. F. and A. M. In 1959, this Masonic Cemetery was deeded to the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association and the two became one.

Also in 1959, a five acre tract of land was acquired by purchase from Dr. H. L. Fowler and his wife, Mrs. Vivian Fowler.

As is too often the case, as the cemetery grew larger and the old families were scattered, maintenance of the cemetery grounds became an increasingly difficult task. In 1912, a group of ladies of the community determined to overcome this problem by the organization of a Cemetery Association. Aably assisted by the men of the town, the group worked very hard at raising funds, and also sponsored a yearly "clean-up" day. By their untiring efforts, at the end of the first year they had the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, two hundred fifty dollars of which came from the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gardner.

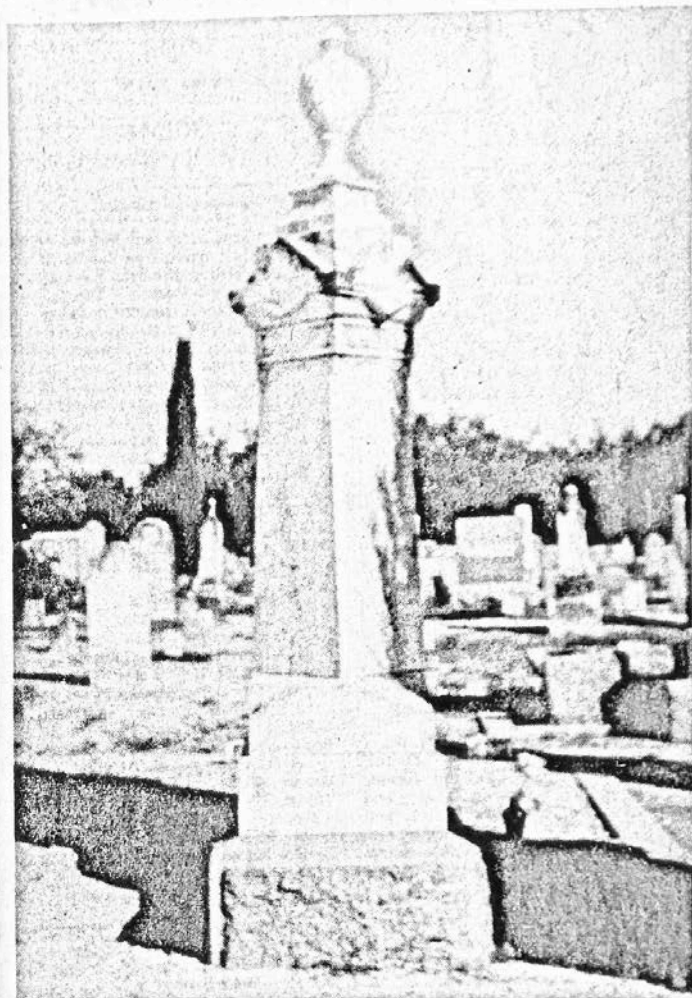
Their first purchase was a horse-drawn hearse. A team of matched black horses was furnished by Mr. Walter Witcher and Mr. Emmett Farquhar was the usual driver.

Despite their enthusiastic beginning, in time the organization gradually fell apart, but the problem of maintenance remained.

In 1950, another group met and organized the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association. Dr. J. Gordon Bryson of Bastrop, grandson of John T. became the first president; Mrs. Letitia Russell, Secretary, Mr. C. F. Hickman, Treasurer. In June, 1951, after much effort and planning, the first Homecoming was held. It met with much enthusiasm from all who attended. Each year since that event, the first Sunday in June has been designated as Homecoming Day. Religious services in the morning, dinner on the grounds and memorial services in the afternoon attract a crowd usually numbering about one thousand people.

In July, 1953, the organization was incorporated. Much of its success may be attributed to Mr. C. L. Chance, the first vice-president, who, since its inception, has devoted his legal talents to the perfecting of the Association, all without remuneration.

A memorial fund was started in 1955. In his will, Mr. T. E. McDaniel bequeathed four hundred dollars as a permanent in-



Liberty Hill Cemetery

In the foreground of the Liberty Hill Cemetery is the monument to John T. Bryson who gave the land for the cemetery.

vestment fund, with the interest from it to be used for cemetery up-keep.

Mr. Arthur Gray was another benefactor. Since 1957, a monthly income derived from his property has come to the Association. These funds have greatly assisted in carrying on the program to improve the property.

Among these improvements are a deep well, which furnishes an abundance of water, new fencing, additional roads, with curbing, flower beds and shrubbery; several buildings, among them a tabernacle where the services are held at each Homecoming.

It seems that these improvements will continue under the present able leadership of the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association. Officers are Wayne K. Smith, President;

C. L. Chance, Vice-President; Mrs. C. A. Shipp, Secretary; James R. Vaughan, Treasurer. Members of the Board of Directors are John Logan Bryson, J. P. Atkinson, (deceased) J. C. Canady, W. K. Seward, Raymond Hefner, C. C. Ellason and Mark Smith.

So, through all these ninety five years, countless hours of unselfish labor by hundreds of devoted persons and the many, many dollars contributed as donations or as memorials to friends and relatives have combined to carry out that desire expressed by John T. Bryson.

To provide for the community of Liberty Hill "a permanent and properly improved and portected Burial Ground".

Fay Bryson Richardson
September, 1970

CHAPTER 4

LIBERTY HILL, TEXAS

Where these very first settlers came from, when, and how they got here could not be described more vividly or truthfully, though briefly, than Mrs. Martha J. Pool Chapman did upon the occasion of her eighty-fifth birthday in 1927.¹

Mrs. Chapman's description of this move from South Carolina to Central Texas lists only four families. It is typical, however, of the migration of all of the wagon-train groups which finally settled in an area that began approximately twenty-two miles northwest of Austin and ended approximately ten miles south of Fort Grogan (later Hamilton Valley, and still later Burnet). Fort Grogan was established in 1849 by the United State Defense Department as a protection for the early settlers against the Indians. At that time it was, and continued to be for many years, the southeast border of the domain or nation of the Comanche Indians, without a doubt the most vicious and skilled warriors of all the Indian tribes. They had resisted and ultimately annihilated all efforts of the Spanish-Americans to Christianize and civilize them. They were strong enough to raise a fighting force of two thousand warriors after the War Between the States had ended.

Practically all of these groups followed a pattern set by the very first cautious group, which included the Brysons, Millers, Snyders, Roddys, Grants, Walkers, Hodges, Matthews, Parks, and Faubions, Smiths and Carruthers. These names are just a collection. In what groups they came, perhaps no one will ever know. My family, the Brysons, is the only one of which the writer has a vivid and accurate picture. Statements and conversations heard, which began in the late eighties, information from records of land grants, deeds, gravestone markings, archives, historic books, such as Wilbarger's *Indian Depredations*, *Captain Jeff* by W. J. Maltby, and teachers of history and their text-

¹Mrs. Chapman's letter appears as the next chapter.

books, all verify the fairylike true stories often heard during my formative years.

My family left South Carolina in 1852. They came the same route followed by the Pools and Bartons. They stopped in Washington County for one year. My father, Goodson Bryson, was twelve years old at that time. He often said that this lay-over was to make a crop and negotiate for land in what was known then as the strip along the South Fork of the San Gabriel River near the crossing of the road from Austin to Burnet. The land in Washington County was good to them. Their provisions were well restocked. Their livestock had fattened up and produced another crop of calves and colts. The German settlers of Washington County were kind and helpful to the frontier-bound, land-hungry Anglo-Saxons. They could not understand why these poor people would risk their lives just for some land out on the dreadful Comanche-infested hills. The answer was also a stock reply, "You have no land for sale, and we have no money to buy it with if you did."

These Anglo-Saxon Protestants had another common characteristic. They were devoutly and profoundly Christian. Their fortitude was built upon a faith that brooked no barriers. To lay down one's life for one he loved was not just an idea or a phrase. It was the Scripture, and they believed in it. My father developed a reverent affection for the culture of these Central Europeans. A revealing episode occurring during the Civil War will be included later on.

Perhaps one of the causes of this mass migration into the hill country during the early statehood of Texas was that the unscrupulous land-speculators had felt the heavy hand of the state land administration. The state was well aware of the individual risk these land-hungry, brave souls were willing to take, so lands would be granted to groups, not individuals, in isolated places. This particular group was almost entirely from the Carolinas, mostly South Carolina. They built their houses near old friends and neighbors. Alarms were carried at times by wireless, or aerial

code, messages, such as shooting a gun at certain intervals, or ringing bells, or striking a large piece of metal, usually a sweep or anvil, with a hammer. One of the early settlers was not from the Carolinas. He had been born in Illinois on September 2, 1810, had moved about in Illinois, Arkansas, and Texas, and finally had come to Williamson County and purchased 553 acres of land. He was a Baptist minister, and later built a church known as Silent Grove, which took over the eighteen members of the Zion Baptist Church described by Mrs. Chapman. The final history of the Silent Grove Church is contained in a letter from Mrs. Lucy Allen. There were perhaps twelve or fifteen family settlements between Bagdad and South Gabriel, the former to be replaced by Leander and the latter by Bertram. When the Reverend W. O. Spencer purchased his spread and built a comfortable home almost exactly three miles west of the present Liberty Hill postoffice, it was on one of the then lightly-traveled Burnet-to-Austin military roads. The Silent Grove Church was just across the road from the Spencer home. It was about two hundred feet east of this church that my father's life was saved by a horse with a good smell.

One of the most prominent personalities in the Western Hemisphere was traveling along this road with a detachment of Rangers. This personage was Thomas Jefferson Rusk. He was born on December 5, 1803. He became a lawyer, went to Texas to capture some absconders in 1835, and fell in love with the area, making it his home from then on. At the beginning of the Texas Revolution he organized a troop of volunteers and joined up with the Texas Army. He was then appointed by the Army as a contractor. He was inspector-general of the Continental Army; signed the Texas Declaration of War, was a brigadier-general, and was in the Battle of San Jacinto. He was elected to the first Texas Congress, was elected Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas, was a law partner of James Pinckney Henderson, and a leading figure in the Convention, throwing his influence in favor of annexation. He was the motivating force in organizing the first state government. In

1846 Rusk and Sam Houston were elected to the U. S. Senate. In 1856 he was mentioned as a candidate for president of the United States.

But in 1853, Rusk had been in charge of a company of Rangers going to Fort Grogan (Burnet). They stopped to camp near the Spencer home, evidently at the little stream at Silent Grove Church. The Reverend Spencer went over to visit the campers. He became impressed with the personality of the leader and invited him to dine at the Spencer home that evening. The courtesy was extended into an invitation to spend the night. One has to do a lot of surmising. Was it all out of the goodness of his generous soul, or was the good preacher a wise man who read character? Certainly Spencer could have been aware of the capacity of this distinguished visitor. We would abhor the very hint of intrigue. Still, we cannot be sure that the kindness was prompted by a zealous interest in the progress of his adopted state. Be that as it may, the great General enjoyed a delightful night's rest in a warm room and upon a clean, soft bed. Two savory, abundant meals tucked into his accumulator of calories could have prompted the offer. When the General assured the preacher of his willingness to make possible his every desire by calmly reminding him that if he could ever serve the host in any capacity, he was willing and ready. Then was it wisdom or goodness that prompted Spencer to say very casually, "You know, General, there is not a postoffice between Burnet and Austin, a distance of more than sixty miles"? The General sat down and wrote out an order to the Post-office Committee of the U. S. Senate, of which he was Chairman, ordering a post office to be established at this site, and making the Reverend W. O. Spencer postmaster. Then he asked, "What shall its name be?" Spencer looked around, hesitated a moment, and then said, "These people around here are a peaceful, liberty-loving folk. I live upon a hill. I am fond of hills. Let's call it Liberty Hill."

In a later chapter under the title "Post Offices and Postmasters" will be found a documented list of the changes in personnel. Although no archival evidence exists of the

stages by which Liberty Hill made its migration from its founding site to its present location, some stories and incidents in *Captain Jeff* are almost positive proof that it was housed in more than one structure before it came to a permanent halt. It had been the establishment of the post office in or near the Spencer home that created the community of Liberty Hill.

During the era, stagecoach roads had about the same influence in the establishment of communities, schools, churches, stores, shops, grist mills and post offices that the railroads had later on. At that time there were two routes from Burnet to Austin, and one from Austin by Round Rock, Brooksville (Florence) on to Fort Gates (Gatesville). One of the Burnet routes went by Cedar Mills (Hopewell), just west of Bagdad. The other came by South Gabriel (Bertram), Liberty Hill, and Bagdad, and the two converged at a long-forgotten community known as Buttercup.² There was a stage stop nearly always where two roads converged. There is evidence that this stop was later moved to what was to become Pond Springs. Then a line was established from Lampasas to Austin. It merged with the eastern Burnet line where the present town of Liberty Hill is located. All of these lines were established in order to get people and supplies to the outposts or forts. They were mapped and subsidized by the governments which were making rapid and radical changes on Shin Oak Ridge. These included the Texas National, Texas Statehood, Confederate Statehood, Reconstruction (Carpet Bagger), and in the early seventies, when the Democrats outvoted the soldiers and their quislings, our present established democratic form of statehood.

This book written by Dr. J. Gordon Bryson of Bastrop, Texas in 1963 was published by the Firm Foundation Publishing House.

²Buttercup was named by a three-quarters Cherokee Indian by the name of Benjamin Thomas Crumley, known as Dr. Crumley. He wore his hair in two long braids, and was a well-known "medicine man," applying his potions and magic over a period of many years. When he was over sixty he took an eighteen-year-old bride and became the father of a son he named Sam Smith.

Historical marker placed on Liberty Hill Cemetery at homecoming

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 7 June 10, 1971

As has been the custom for many years on the first Sunday in June, so on this June 6, 1971, local citizens and friends from far and near gathered at the Liberty Hill Cemetery for the annual Homecoming. This outstanding event has steadily increased in attendance since its inauguration some twenty years ago, and this year was no exception - a crowd of about twelve hundred people assembled to visit, enjoy the bountiful barbecue lunch served at noon, and attend the afternoon program.

In charge of the program was Judge C. L. Chance of Georgetown, Vice-President of the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association and an ex-officio member of the Williamson County Historical Survey

Committee, who introduced each speaker, or group, with appropriate remarks.

A youth choir from Brentwood Church of Christ, Austin, Texas, rendered several original gospel hymns, after which Rev. Perry Moore gave the invocation.

The main speaker of the afternoon, C. G. Connor, Program Director for Police Services in the Governor's Office, stressed the character and perseverance of our early settlers which enabled them to come into wild, untamed country and transform it into productive homesites.

Mrs. Etta Hickman Dees, of Andice, presented a memorial tribute and read the names of those twenty-seven persons who have been interred in the Liberty Hill Cemetery since the meeting of June, 1970.

A special feature of this program was the dedication and unveiling of a Texas Historical Medallion for the Liberty Hill Cemetery by Mrs. Fay Bryson Richardson of Liberty Hill, who gave a brief history of the cemetery during its one hundred twenty years of existence.

Mrs. Richardson said, "I feel quite honored to be invited here today to unveil this historical medallion and plate for the Liberty Hill Cemetery, first, because I am very proud to be a descendant of John T. Bryson, who made the first formal grant of land for a cemetery in 1875. He was a public-spirited man and he made many other contributions to the up-building of the community. Second, I am happy to be here as a member of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee and the Texas State Historical Foundation, whose efforts have made these historical markers available to us.

Here, I would like to quote a poem that was given to me recently by a friend, who said she first heard it from my mother.

'Life is a book of volumes three; The past, the present, the yet-to-be; The first is gone - it's stashed away; The present we're living day by day; The future, of course, we cannot see, Because God alone holds the key.'

In the historical society work, we of volume two, the present, attempt to select a few pages from volume one - persons, events, places - which are significant and outstanding in our history and preserve them in permanent form for the 'yet-to-be'.

I'm sure that all of us admire a forward-looking attitude in life, because that is one of the characteristics that has made our country great and brought about so many marvelous achievements throughout our history.

And yet, there are times when we should pause and take a backward look at our heritage because all our being, all our building rests on a foundation provided us by our forebearers.

Thomas Macauley has said it well - 'Every generation enjoys the use of a vast hoard, bequeathed to it by antiquity, and transmits that hoard, augmented by fresh acquisitions, to future ages.'

So let us consider our past, profit by its wisdom, avoid any of its errors, and offer a silent prayer of thanks for those who labored before us.

This bit of earth here in this cemetery holds very touching and poignant memories for most of us gathered here today. From a small beginning, it has grown to this large, beautiful area, of which we are so justly proud. I believe if we had to express in one word what has brought this to pass, that word would be 'cooperation'. From those times, some hundred twenty years ago, when the neighbors gathered here to dig a grave and lay away a loved one, to this very day, this has truly been a community project.

And let us remember, it isn't only those whose names are inscribed on this marker who have made contributions. In the beginning, it involved hard labor on the part of the men who built the rock fence to

protect the first plot. For many years, it involved hard labor by all too few workers who struggled to keep the johnson grass and the brush from over-running the place. And still, today, there are those who are contributing their time, their talents, their labor and their money to the upkeep here.

About 1912, when the grounds were in very poor condition, a group of local ladies decided to organize a cemetery association. I understand the Burleson family has recently donated the minutes of this group to the present organization. Mrs. Burleson and the other ladies assisted by the men of the town, worked very hard at fund raising, and also sponsored an annual "clean-up" day. Their first purchase was a hearse, for which Walter Witcher provided a team of

black horses when needed and Emmet Farguhar acted as driver. Time brought about the decline of this group.

When our cemetery association was incorporated in 1953, the first officers were Dr. J. Gordon Bryson, of Bastrop, grandson of John T. Bryson, president; Luther Chance, vice-president; C. F. Hickman, treasurer; Mrs. Letitia Russell, Secretary. We all know they and their associates put in a tremendous amount of work to get things properly organized."

The text of the marker states:

"Weathered grave stones show usage of this spot for burials since 1852, when the earliest settlers were establishing homes in the area. The first formal grant of land here as a community burial ground was made by John T. and Amelia Edwards Bryson in 1875, when three and one-half acres were deeded to the Liberty Hill Cemetery Trustees; T. N. Bryson, C. C. Chance, W. H. Poole, J. B. Roddy, and T. S. Snyder. This acreage was protected by a stone fence built with their own hands by

the Brysons and their neighbors. Additions to the original plot include land formerly owned by John T. Bryson and donated by Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Fowler. Royal Arch Masons in 1932 established an adjacent three-acre Masonic Cemetery, later transferring title to the Liberty Hill Lodge No. 432. A.F. & A.M., which gave it in 1959 to the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association. By later land purchases, the cemetery now contains more than twenty acres. Funds have come by bequests from Walter Gardner, Arthur Gray, and T. L. McDaniel. Many other persons have also contributed to funds for the cemetery. In 1953 the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association was incorporated, with Dr. J. Gordon Bryson as President; C. L. Chance, Vice President; C. F. Hickman, Treasurer; and Mrs. Letitia Russell, Secretary."

Wayne K. Smith, President of the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association, then presented the officers and members of the Board of Directors: Judge C. L. Chance, vice-president; James R. Vaughan, treasurer; Mrs. Jonnie Shipp, secretary; John Logan Bryson, Gaylen Atkinson, J. C. Canady, W. K. Seward, Raymond Hefner, C. C. Ellason, and Mark Smith.

Mrs. Richardson presented her co-worker, Miss Myreta Matthews of Liberty Hill, and her chief assistant, M. K. Richardson. Also introduced were the county chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, and Mr. Cornforth. The marker was then unveiled.

The program closed with the entire gathering joining in singing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again", a favorite to the memory of Mrs. W. B. Russell, our own "Miss Tishy".

Rev. Moore pronounced the benediction, closing the program.

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In the Old Georgetown Cemetery on the west bank of the south San Gabriel River are eight gravestones inscribed with the name of WILBARGER. One stone is for Matthias Wilbarger (son of John and Anna Pugh Wilbarger, born 1807, died in Georgetown 1853.

Matthias Wilbarger had an older brother, Josiah Pugh Wilbarger, born September 10, 1801 in Bourbon County, Kentucky and died in Bastrop County, Texas April 11, 1845.

Josiah Pugh Wilbarger is buried in the State Cemetery in Austin, Texas beside his son John (died 1850) who was a Texas Ranger.

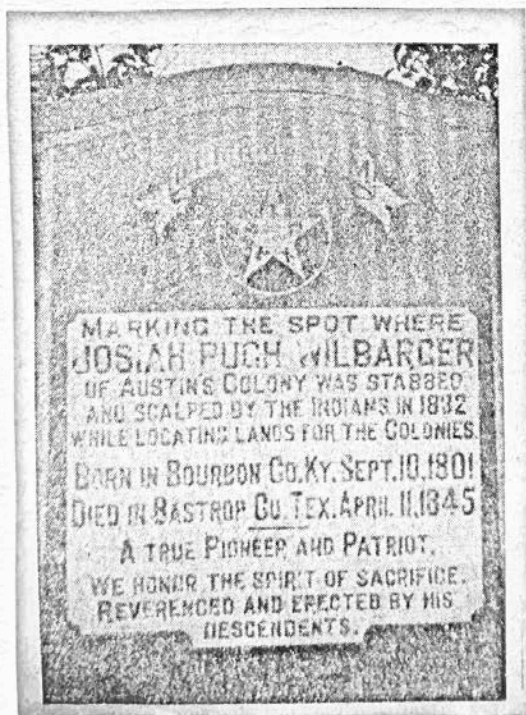
WILBARGER MONUMENT

Granite stone - 5100 block Old Manor Road & 2200 block East 61st Street.

"In Memoriam - Texas - Marking the spot where JOSIAH WILBARGER of Austin's Colony was stabbed and scalped by the Indians in 1832 while locating lands for the Colonies. Born in Bourbon County, Kentucky September 10, 1801, died in Bastrop County, Texas April 11, 1845. A true pioneer and patriot. We honor the spirit of sacrifice. Reverenced and erected by his descendants."

The monument - as shown - stands on the spot where Josiah Pugh Wilbarger was scalped by Indians. He survived to settle in Bastrop County.

A story of this event in the colonization of Texas is told as follows:



The Taylor Daily Press

Cemetery Historical Marker Dedicated

Official dedication ceremonies for the Liberty Hill Cemetery historical marker were held Sunday afternoon on the grounds of the cemetery.

Judge C. L. Chance, vice-president of the cemetery association was the master of ceremonies for the dedication which was held during the annual Liberty Hill homecoming. Mrs. M. K. Richardson, sub-chairman of Liberty Hill gave the history of the cemetery, and Glen Connor of the governor's law enforcement staff was the main speaker.

During the course of the day

pioneer families met as they have been for years, and a roll call of those who had passed away since the last annual meeting was made.

The marker was placed at the beautiful brick gate entrance so that the general public can drive by and read them from the car. The 27" x 42" official Texas Historical Marker read in part: "Weathered gravestones show usage of this spot for burials since 1852, when the earliest settlers were establishing homes in area. The first formal grant of land here as a community burial ground was made by John T. and Amelia Edwards in 1875 when three and one-half acres were deeded to the Liberty Hill Cemetery trustees . . . This acreage was protected by a stone fence built with their own hands by the Brysons and their neighbors . . . In 1953 the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association was incorporated, with Dr. J. Gordon Bryson as president; C. L. Chance, vice-president; C. F. Hickman, treasurer, and Mrs. Letitia Russell, secretary."

Approximately 1000 people attended the dedication which included a barbecue meal at noon. Attending from Taylor were Mr. and Mrs. John Cornforth and Mrs. J. Frank Smith.

Historical Committee Commended

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met Thursday at the Georgetown Library. Eleven members representing Liberty Hill, Jarrell, Round Rock, Leander, Andice, Granger, and Taylor attended the meeting.

The county was commended by the State Executive Director, Truett Latimer, for newspaper publicity pertaining to the official county History Appreciation Week.

It was announced that an application for the "Round Rock" in old Round Rock, has been approved by the State Marking Committee. Round Rock has also received word that the Inn at Brushy Creek has been included in the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register is the official schedule of the nation's cultural property which is chosen for integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of history.

The committee voted to recess for the summer months and their next meeting is scheduled for September 23, the location to be announced at a later date. Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the committee, stressed that the progress of the historical program will still be carried on through the June and July.

TAYLOR, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1971

THE SUN
Sec. 2, Page 3
Georgetown, Texas
September 30, 1971

County Historical Society Holds Meeting In Round Rock

The Williamson County Historical Society held its regular meeting at the Brushy Creek Inn in Round Rock Thursday. Mrs. John W. Cornforth presided. Representatives from the communities of Jarrell, Liberty Hill, Round Rock, Florence and Taylor were in attendance.

Mrs. Gene Phillips, secretary-treasurer, reported a balance of \$60.67, supplemented by a \$50 payment from the Commissioner's Court, making a combined balance of \$110.67.

Mrs. Cornforth reported that Williamson County stands fifth in the State of Texas for the amount of money spent for historical markers, according to the statistics given in the latest issue of the state office bulletin, The Medallion.

Progress reports were given on the erection of various site markers over the county, among them being the marker for the famous Round Rock, from which the town of Round Rock received its name; at Florence, the Lawler Community Project, "Church, School Cemetery", to

be dedicated during home coming week early next year; at Granger, the Macedonia Cemetery; and an official marker to be placed on the court house lawn at Georgetown in memory of former Chief Justice John Edward Hickman, 1883-1962.

A site marker will in time be placed at the point where the Turkey Creek School stood in the Wuthrich Hill Community. The history on this project has been completed, and members in attendance at this meeting were interested in excerpts of this history, read by Mrs. Cornforth. The school is no longer standing, but begun in 1894, it had a memorable past. Its one teacher received a salary of \$35.00 a month, with a stipulation that no more than \$126.00 could be paid for the 4-month operation of the school. The history, which is among the initial steps in procurement of a marker, gives the names of every teacher of the school, from 1894 until the time of the final closing of the school. Many of these teachers are well known in the Taylor community.

The next meeting of the society will be in the public library auditorium at Georgetown on Oct. 27.

Buzz Kelly and Fred Temin, co-owners of the Brushy Creek Inn, were hosts to the meeting. Refreshments were served.

Members of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee were guests of the Inn at Brushy Creek in Round Rock on September 23.

Representatives from Round Rock, Taylor, Liberty Hill, Jarrell and Florence were present.

President, Mrs. John Cornforth, announced that Williamson County is fifth in the state of Texas in the amount of money spent on historical markers.

Round Rock reported that a marker on the "Round Rock" is in place and will be dedicated in October. Its history will be read at that time.

Florence reported the marker for the Lawler Community commemorating its church and school has been erected and will be dedicated on April 22, 1972 at the Lawler homecoming.

Research on the Macedonia Cemetery has been done for the Granger community.

Taylor reported that Turkey Creek School Association has its history complete and plans are being made to mark that site.

Liberty Hill Cemetery marker was dedicated in June and has been per-

manently installed beside the highway.

Work is underway on the history for the marker in memory of Judge J. E. Hickman. This marker will be placed at the county courthouse.

The next meeting of the historical society will be on Wednesday, October 27, at the Georgetown Public Library meeting room.

Historical committee reports on county markers

GUARDIAN GHOST

Off the Beaten Trail

These nights of All Hallows are for phantoms — always, somehow, fearful things. So this, instead, is about a guardian ghost, though you may be awhile recognizing it for more than an Indian fight.

It was east of Austin, down the Colorado Valley's broad, quiet beauty — today, hardly land for haunting. There is airport's glitter and the outspilling geometry of new homes. Finally, the river, lazy-wandering meadow and timber for Bastrop.

Take the new-surfaced but old Webberville Road. It hugs the river north. Above it, edging the airport, and again, nine miles out by Blue Bluff, you'll find red and gray granite, a side. (These tell of Kentuckian Josiah Wilbarger and Georgian Reuben Hornsby and a Comanche ambush where a man survived his scalping. Nothing of ghosts.

History recalls these two for westernmost frontiersmen, logging their river bends down this trail, three years before the first shack went up where Congress crosses the Colorado. Properly, history seldom admits ghosts in granite.

But look the long valley again. There is no Capitol dome, nor University Tower; nothing but grass and timber to the violet hills west — Comanche fortress this 1833, when Stephen Austin spreads new colonies up the Colorado.

From his end-of-the-line Blue Bluff fort this August morning, wiry, fortyish Reuben Hornsby looks out very nearly where Farm Road 973 today crosses his bend for the river. He watches five men ride out to scout west. That way lies the beauty Mirabeau Lamar will seek for frontier capital seven years later.

To lead these young scouts is his downriver neighbor, Josiah Wilbarger (forted near today's forgotten Utley). At 32, that handsome buckskinned horseman — like himself — fears nothing but Judgment Day.

As you measure their ride today, they trail the Webberville Road to Walnut Creek's crossing, near the airport. At its southeast edge, they flush an Indian. Up the creek, they chase to where it heads, near today's expressway to Georgetown and Waco.

Then? Only silence from what seem empty oak mottled slopes. They trail back down Pecan Spring Branch. In a thin clump near where the jets touch down today, they hobble their horses and noon it. Cold spring water, cornpone and jerky is good to men who fear nothing. They stretch; it is fine to be alive!

Moments later, the ambushing Comanche hit!

Wilbarger sees one friend dropped in hoarse scream; another, hip-shattered, sprawled outside their fort of trees. He darts, twisting low, to drag him back. He is hit, both legs, but props his friend, fires for him and looks about desperately. To see the other two running for their horses.

Up he stands, stumbling-hurt, calling them to wait. He takes a ball through his neck and out his chin. This is what the escaped two relate in shaken horror at Hornsby's Fort. They saw Wilbarger drop dead, the Indians already aswarm the other two and now down upon him.

He is not dead — by a fraction's shadow. He is paralyzed, near-blind in shock. On his back, he senses the Indian finish the other two; their screams pitch high, then choke off. Now above him, the dark faces, expressionless as death.

Knife and flint, they rip his clothes away. He knows his

naked body rolls dead to them. Is it? No, he sees the knife! Now, his scalp!

His brain hears distant thunder when they wrench it. Then nothing.

The sun is low when he feels again. Away somewhere, the coyote, the owl. Surely above, the circling buzzard. But they are gone; he has waked to something.

His sister's voice? In his vise of naked pain, he hears her speak. Hold on, she keeps saying. But she is far away in St. Louis. He crawls to lave in the cold water below and presently, out. He feels the cold sear his head. He has one sock on his body. The cold pounds his brain. He stretches the sock. Then he pulls it on his tortured head.

Hornsby's Fort is seven miles? He crawls a quarter mile of it and fetches against a big liveoak. Nothing left, but to die.

Again he hears his sister Margaret. Hold on! His friends will come!

His friends wait grim inside the fort's log walls. They will gather every settler northwest to La Grange. Enough then to dare the ride for the three dead men. By firelight, they ponder frontier. Finally they sleep.

But not Sarah Hornsby. Suddenly she stirs her husband. Startled awake, he hears her tell urgently that their friend is yet alive. He hushes her; she is dreaming.

She wakes again. That man lives! He is propped against a liveoak, naked and scalped. But he lives! He waits! Hornsby's men must go for him!

This time, Reuben Hornsby listens. Before first light, the thin column of riders trail out for Walnut Creek. Under the oak that Sarah Hornsby described — a quarter-mile from the others — they find Josiah Wilbarger, waiting naked with his sock over his head.

His friend Reuben Hornsby holds him, riding in. Days, they soothe his head with bear oil. And though, for a dozen years, he will always wear a fur cap like that sock, he will live . . . his last home, still standing in Bastrop.

In delirium, those first days, he talks of his sister Margaret. It was she who held him between the twilight that is dream and the midnight that is death!

Sarah Hornsby tells him finally of the twilight of her dream. It had to be Margaret she heard, telling her again and again to send the men.

They must write his sister. Then the letter comes. Far away in St. Louis — the day before he rode into ambush — his sister Margaret had died.

87 year old Jonah Post Office closed

-By Mrs. W. H. Percy

Places, people and events make history. Old abstracts afford much interesting reading about people, and the early days in

Texas.

Texas and Coahuila were still under Mexican rule in 1824. Colonies were being established, even encouraged.

Moses Austin and Stephen F. Austin and others founded colonies.

About 1824 James Warnock was granted a large tract of land.

daughter, Mrs. Fannie Gattis, lives in Jonah at this time.

Another large tract of land belonged to J. T. and Penelope Mileham. This land was north of the San Gabriel and along Mileham Branch. Along the branch are many springs that have furnished water in dry years. The Milehams had a large family, and as each daughter married, they were given a dowry of horses, mules and cattle. One dowry consisted of thirty picked mares (colts were thrown in) for \$44.00 each, and sixty one head of cattle for \$22.50 each.

Mary Mileham married J. B. Salyer and they lived in Jonah for many years.

Much of the land around Jonah was part of the Mileham tract. When Mr. Mileham

died, his wife Penelope was appointed administratrix. Appraisers for the estate were Thomas Bruce, Martin Magee and J. R. Roberts.

East of Jonah was another large tract known as the Whitley land.

The late Mrs. J. L. Starnes and Mrs. Bruce Rowlett were heirs to part of this estate.

As the years passed by a few people lived between the San Gabriel and the Mileham Branch. There were no bridges, and transportation was by mule and horse. There was a small one-room school house, and some people say the first courthouse was in Jonah, near where the gin is now.

By 1884 some of the prairie land was being put in cultivation, and some fences built. People raised at home a large part of

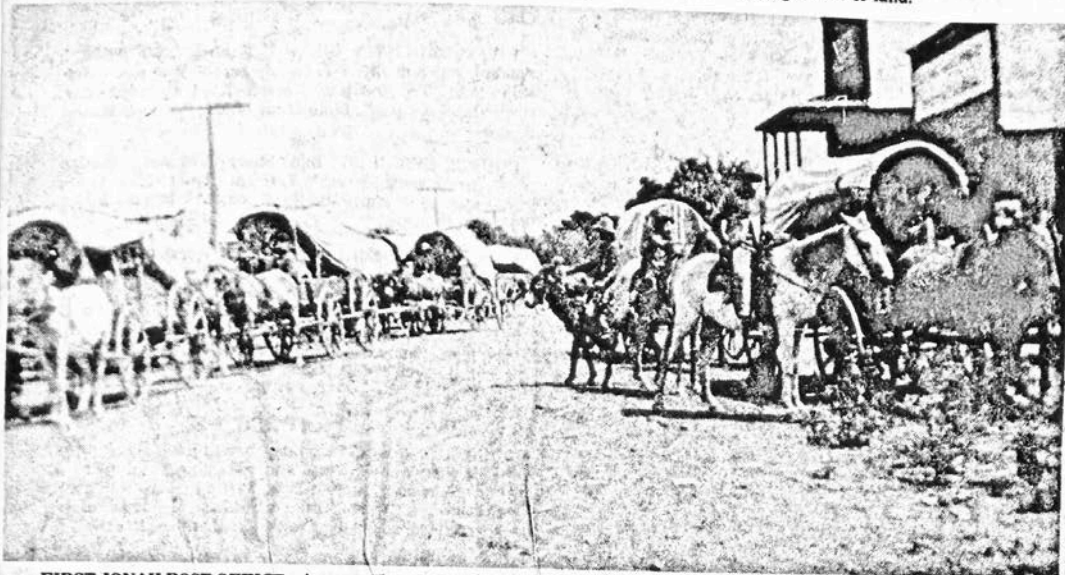
their food. Hogs were butchered for meat. Fireplaces provided heat. Most families went to the woods in the winter to cut wood for winter use. There was probably more community spirit then, than we have now.

In 1884 Mr. John Walker operated a general merchandise store in Jonah, still called "Water Valley." Mrs. Will Thornton was the daughter of John Walker.

The general merchandise store in 1884 was similar to the first Sears, Roebuck Catalogue of 1897, but of course on a very limited scale. On Saturdays the farmers came to buy the weeks groceries, and since there was no need to rush, they would linger to discuss various community affairs. The "hoop cheese" was on the counter, and the cracker box open, so a bit of lunch was available. Flour, sugar and green coffee came in barrels. People parched the coffee at home. The coffee mill hung on the pantry walls.

On one of these occasions the need for a post office was discussed. So they decided to send the name "Water Valley" for a name to the Postal Department in

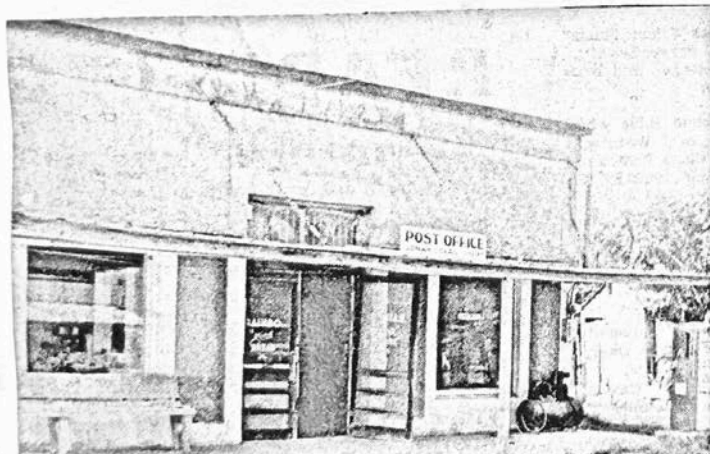
Washington. Since there was one other town named "Water Valley" it was not accepted. Other names were sent in, and all were rejected for the same reason. Finally someone present exclaimed, "It surely is a Jonah," let's call the post office Jonah. So Jonah it has been and still Jonah since 1884.



FIRST JONAH POST OFFICE - in 1884. The post office is the building on the right. The other building was a drug store

built by Dr. Bethel Nowlin and his brother-in-law, Druggist Emmitt Bucy.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 1 September 30, 1971



LAST LETTER CANCELLED HERE TODAY - the last place of business on Jonah's Main Street will be closed today - the Jonah Post Office - in operation there since 1884. Jonah residents protested the closing, and received sympathetic answers from Senators Bentsen and Tower and Congressmen Pickle and Poage saying there was nothing they could do. Mail will be received in clusters of mailboxes down at the corner, serviced by a Georgetown rural carrier.

Quote: "Whereas James Warnock has been received as a colonist in the enterprise of colonization." This grant was part of the Nashville Colony.

In 1851 James Madison Burris bought for \$500 a large part of the Nashville Grant. This land lies south of the San Gabriel River at Jonah and extends west.

Early colonists tried to choose locations near a stream of water, and the village was originally called "Water Valley," a good name and a good location. The land was open prairie with timber along the streams.

James Madison and Nancy Burris had six children: William, James H., Mary, Ellie, Bettie and Clarissa. Each child was given a section of land. James M. Burris is buried in the old family cemetery, just across the river, from Jonah. On his grave is the following inscription:

James Madison Burris, Born November 25, 1815. Died July 1, 1900.

--Epitaph--

"Look here, friends as you pass by
As you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, so you must be,
Prepare for death and follow me."

There are many descendants of James and Nancy Burris. His great grand-

The following persons have served as postmasters at Jonah, Texas:

John Walker	March 31, 1884
G. W. Grammor	January 14, 1886
Sallie Davidson	August 21, 1886
Abraham Bogart	November 26, 1890
William G. McDonald	June 3, 1895
John Rowlett	February 23, 1909
William H. Percy	May 14, 1917
Fine Leon Gattis	August 11, 1951
Oleta Gattis	February 1, 1971



POSTMASTER Oleta Gattis was getting to like her job real well as Jonah Postmaster when after only eight months she will have to turn in her stamps and money orders and collect keys from her customers when Georgetown Postmaster J. D. Thomas goes out today and officially carries out the orders to close the 87 year old Jonah post office.



MRS. W. H. PERCY
—remembers Jonah

After the post office is closed in Jonah today, the business section will consist only of Sartor's General Store and Service Station, on the highway away from the original "downtown", and the gin. Mrs. Percy wrote a history of Jonah when a historical marker was placed there last year, and since the post office is included in the history, we asked her permission to reprint it.

Mrs. Percy was a Jonah resident for many years before coming to Georgetown to make her home at the Wesleyan.

The Taylor Daily Press, Tuesday, October 12, 1971,

Historical Committee Wins DSA

The Williamson County Historical Committee has been informed that they have fulfilled the requirements for the Distinguished Service and surpassed their quota for this year.

This is the second year that the county has received this award under the leadership of the county chairman, Mrs. John Cornforth.

This award is the official recognition and commendation to County Historical Committees by the State of Texas.

It is awarded to those committees with a progressive and well-rounded local historical preservation program, that cooperate with the State Marking and Preservation Program, said Mrs. Cornforth.

USA certificates will be awarded at the Awards Luncheon, at the state annual meeting in Del Rio Convention Center, October 30.

It is not known at this time who, or how many members will attend the annual meeting but the county will be represented, added Mrs. Cornforth.



MRS. JOHN CORNFORTH

Taylor Daily

Full Leased Wire Report of The Associated Press - World's Greatest News Service

TAYLOR, TEXAS, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1971



HISTORICAL AWARDS — Service awards from the Texas State Historical Survey Committee were given members of the Williamson County Commissioners Court and two other county employees in ceremonies at the meeting of the court Monday morning. Mrs. John Cornforth, county chairman for the historical committee, made the presentations. Pictured, left to right, are County Clerk Dick Cervenka, Commissioner Wesley Johnson, Commissioner Wesley Foust, Commissioner Robert Rozacky, Judge C. L. Chance, Mrs. Cornforth, Commissioner Willie Schlickeisen, and County Auditor Ben Kurio.

County Dads Get Service Certificates

In a brief session Monday morning Williamson County commissioners were given certificates of service and joined in the observance of Food and Fiber Abundance Week.

Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, presented each commissioner and County Judge C. L. Chance, County Clerk Dick Cervenka, and County Auditor Ben Kurio with certificates of service for promoting historical preservation work in the county.

County Home Demonstration Agent Mrs. Judy Dedek brought a proclamation for Food and Fiber Abundance Week to be observed Nov. 15-21 in the county. Joining her were Bert Stuewe of Walburg, a stock farmer, and Mrs. Ansel Holmstrom of Jonah, a consumer.

The commissioners approved the proclamation and urged observance of the week just prior to Thanksgiving.

In other business Mrs. Dedek was given authority to employ a trainee for one month in her office. Approval was also given to a new subdivision, Acres West, section 2, in the western part of the county, and a quit claim for 1.29 acres of land was awarded to Mrs. Leola Hawkins in the Jenks Branch community.

Commissioners also approved the purchase of right-of-way along the Sam Bass Road near Round Rock to widen the road for large trucks.



FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE— from the Texas Historical Society, certificates were presented by Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Society, to members of the Williamson County Commissioners Court Monday, left to right, County Clerk Dick Cervenka, Commissioners Wesley Johnson, Wesley Foust, Robert Rozacky, County Judge C. L. Chance, Commissioner

Willie Schlickeisen and County Auditor Ben Kurio. Mrs. Cornforth said the cooperation and help of the county is all the help the county society receives and it has enabled her to lead the county in receiving special recognition for the number of historical markers placed in the county for historical preservation.

Monday, Nov. 1, 1971

The Austin American

Round Rock Rock Cited By Marker

ROUND ROCK — An official Texas Historical Marker for the round stone for which this town is named will be dedicated Sunday at 3 p.m. according to Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at the rock location, one mile west of the business district on Chisolm Trail.

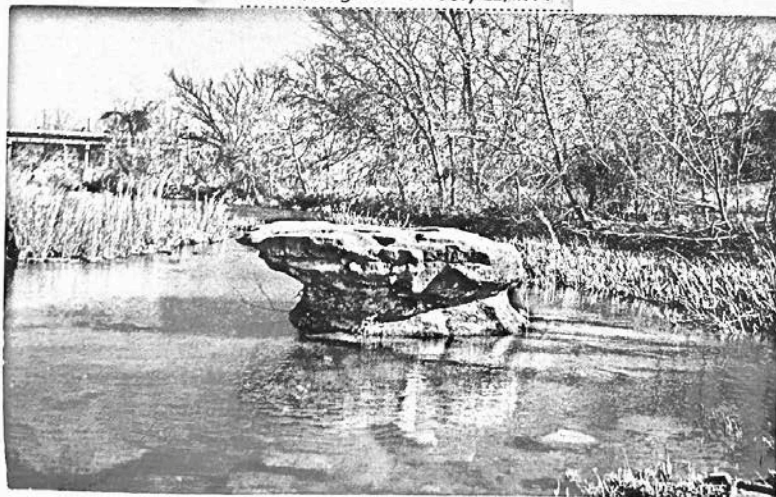
Sponsored by Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Mrs. John W. Ledbetter of Round Rock, the inscription on the marker will read: "The Round Rock for early travelers, this unusual stone marked safe, rock-lined ford at Brushy Creek. 130-year-old wagon ruins show historic roadway. 'Brushy' Post Office was located near ford, 1851. At wish of Postmaster T. C. Oats, it was renamed 'Round Rock' in 1854, and retained name when town moved east, 1971."

The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee's program of preservation activities. As of 1970, the Survey Committee had erected more than 5,000 such official markers.

A program is being planned to include local dignitaries and honored citizens. In addition, the local historical committee will serve refreshments in the patio area of the Inn at Brushy Creek following the dedication ceremonies.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 5 November 18, 1971

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 2 July 22, 1971



Historical marker on Round Rock to be dedicated Sunday

An Official Texas Historical Marker for THE ROUND ROCK will be dedicated Sunday, November 7 at 3 o'clock it was announced today by Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at 1 mi. W. of Round Rock's Business district, on Chisholm Trail.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 14" by 24" and is sponsored by Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Mrs. John W. Ledbetter.

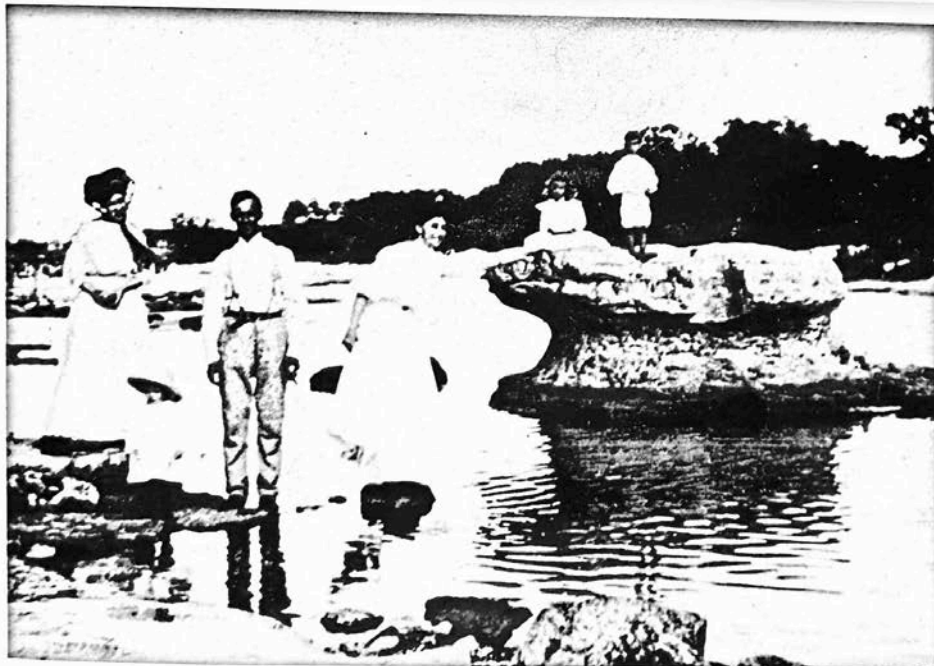
The inscription on the marker reads:
THE ROUND ROCK FOR EARLY TRAVELERS, THIS UNUSUAL STONE MARKED SAFE, ROCK-LINED FORD AT BRUSHY CREEK. 130-YEAR-OLD WAGON RUTS SHOW HISTORIC ROADWAY.

"BRUSHY" POST OFFICE WAS LOCATED NEAR FORD, 1851. AT WISH OF POSTMASTER T. C. OATS, IT WAS RENAMED "ROUND ROCK" in 1854, AND RETAINED NAME WHEN TOWN MOVED EAST.

(1971)

Coffee will be served on the porch of the Inn at Brushy Creek afterwards by members of the historical committee.

*"Brushy Creek" post office
Oatts*



Round Rock Dedication Set Sunday

Dedication of a Texas historical marker at the rock that is Round Rock's namesake will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, according to Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

Mrs. Cornforth will call the assembly to order and Round Rock school superintendent Noel Grisham will serve as master of ceremonies.

The invocation will be given by the Rev. Oliver Berglund, pastor of the Palm Valley Lutheran Church.

Postmaster Martin E. Parker will give the history of Round Rock and Gena Kathryn Antill and Bernice Ann Antill will unveil the marker.

Mayor Dale Hester will deliver the response and accept the marker on behalf of the city of Round Rock.

The benediction will be given by the Rev. James Watson of the Baptist Church.

Refreshments will be served at the Inn at Brushy Creek by members of the Round Rock historical committee following the ceremony.

Monday, Nov. 8, 1971

Austin, Texas—Page 39

Round Rock Dedicates Marker

ROUND ROCK — An official Texas Historical Marker was unveiled Sunday afternoon to dedicate the actual round boulder located in Brushy Creek for which the town of Round Rock was named.

The marker was placed one mile west of the business district on a rock column next to the unusual landmark.

Master of ceremonies for the occasion was Superintendent of Schools Noel Grisham, with Postmaster Martin E. Parker reading the history of the rock. Others on the program were Mr. B. D. Gregg and Mrs.

John W. Ledbetter of the local Historical Committee, Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, Rev. Oliver Berglund and Rev. James Watson.

Mayor of Round Rock Dale Hester accepted the marker, which was unveiled by Miss Gena Kathryn Antill and Miss Bernice Ann Antill. Citations for superior service in helping to preserve Round Rock's history were presented to Mrs. Ledbetter, Mrs. Gregg and Grisham.

40
14" x 24" Official Texas Historical Marker HG
Williamson County - 9-3-71 - 1 mi W. of Round
Rock's business district, on Chisholm ~~Street~~ ^{Trail}

THE ROUND ROCK

FOR EARLY TRAVELERS, THIS
UNUSUAL STONE MARKED SAFE,
ROCK-LINED FORD AT BRUSHY
CREEK. 130-YEAR-OLD WAGON
RUTS SHOW HISTORIC ROADWAY.

"BRUSHY" POST OFFICE WAS [Brushy Creek
is correct]
LOCATED NEAR FORD, 1851.

AT WISH OF POSTMASTER T.C.

[Oatts is
correct]
OATS, IT WAS RENAMED "ROUND
ROCK" IN 1854, AND RETAINED

NAME WHEN TOWN MOVED EAST. (1971)





ROUND ROCK HISTORICALLY MARKED - the round rock for which the city of Round Rock is named was historically marked Sunday afternoon and unveiled by Mrs. D. B. Gregg, left, who with Mrs. John W. Ledbetter, right, was sponsor of the marker. Superintendent of Schools Noel Grisham, center, was master of ceremonies.

The history of the round rock was told Sunday afternoon by Postmaster Martin E. Parker at the unveiling and dedication of the historical marker at the site of the famous rock which gave Round Rock its name.

Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, opened the ceremony and introduced the master of ceremonies, Noel Grisham.

The invocation and benediction was given by Rev. Oliver Berglund and Rev. James Watson.

Misses Gena Kathryn Antil and Bernice Ann Antil unveiled the marker, followed by the response and acceptance by Mayor Dale Hester.

In telling of the history of the round rock, Postmaster Parker said,

"Since time began old and young alike have been interested in landmarks. This is especially true of the natural landmarks, which have been given us by nature, and have withstood the ravages of time.

A most cherished, unique, and significant natural landmark stands in the town of Round Rock in Central Texas. It is a large round table-shaped rock that is located in the middle of Brushy Creek (It has been suggested that it may have been a mark and guide for the Indians decades ago.) This rock gave the name to the Village which grew up around it; the Village of Round Rock which has grown into a very prosperous town with a population of 3000. The rock is about one mile from the business district.

The Round Rock has been popular through the years. Over fifty years ago a graduating class of Round Rock High School wrote a term paper on The Round Rock. Quoting from one of these papers written by the late John W. Ledbetter (who was born about two hundred yards from the rock and who was Postmaster at

Round Rock many years) we find the following:

"I received my information from my Grandfather, the Rev. J. W. Ledbetter, who purchased land from Jacob M. Harrell, who preempted the league of land on which the Round Rock is located. The first well ever dug in this vicinity was dug by Mr. Harrell and was about fifty feet from the rock. The people of this area prior to 1851 had received their mail at Georgetown and Austin. In 1851 they sent in a petition for a post office and submitted Brushy as the name. This name was accepted and it was called Brushy for a time until it was found that another town had at an earlier date been so-named. So the settlers met to choose another name. The name of Round Rock was suggested and it was accepted by the authorities at Washington, D.C. and the Post Office was established in a store building, where it remained for several years."

Many interesting stories are told of how the name Round Rock was chosen. It is said by many old timers that several of the prominent citizens were fishing on Brushy Creek when one of them exclaimed, "Look at that rock. There is not another one like it in the state. Let's call our town Round Rock."

Quoting from a copy of the Frontier Times we find the following:

"ROUND ROCK TAGGED"

"Round Rock is said to have been named because of a large round-topped boulder in the middle of Brushy Creek.

For a time after Tom C. Oatts settled on Brushy Creek, building a store which also served as Post Office; the little settlement was known as Brushy Post Office."

Later data from the archives at Washington, D.C. states, "There was a Post Office at Round Rock that was established May 27, 1851 with Thomas C. Oatts as Postmaster. It was called Brushy.

Then at Mr. Oatts' request, it was changed to Round Rock August 24, 1854."

The Round Rock still stands in the middle of Brushy Creek, a very historic and important spot. The hard rock bottom of the creek made the crossing important to the Stage Coach line which used Round Rock as a stop, and also important to the traveler by wagon or on horseback. The Round Rock is very near the Old Stage Coach Inn which was restored by Mrs. Don Davol, and also near the old St. Charles Hotel which was restored by Mrs. James B. Rutland. The Rock is said to be near one of the Crossings of The Old Chisholm Trail. Double wagon tracks cut in the rock of the river bed run parallel to Brushy Creek for about one hundred feet, and begin about twenty feet from the rock. These tracks are about 8 inches wide and 4 inches deep. The tracks are mute but definite evidence of the heavy wagon loads of building rock quarried from the bed of Brushy Creek, and of loads of hides, produce and supplies hauled by wagon to and from market by the merchants of Central Texas. One of the oldest citizens of Florence, Texas, the late Mr. Joel Wesley Preslar often visited these tracks, and told interesting stories about camping there when he was a boy, as he helped his father haul supplies for his General Store located at Florence, Texas.

Standing as sentinels around the Rock are three tremendous rock piers, left standing from the old bridge, which was torn down and given to the war effort in 1941. These piers are built of rock quarried from the bed of Brushy Creek. Some of them are as large as three feet in diameter and remain in perfect condition.

On the banks surrounding the Rock still grow the same kind of native plants which grew there one hundred and twenty years ago when the Rock gave the Village its name. There are the Willow, China, Hackberry, Sycamore, Water Elm, Walnut, and Pecan trees. In the Fall one finds the Sunflower, Wild Daisies, Broom Weeds, and Stretch Berries adding their color to the scene.

Many interested visitors have come through the years to visit the Round Rock and the wagon wheel tracks. A replica of the rock is often used by the Chamber of Commerce in home festivals and neighboring parades.

National register of historic places lists Inn at Brushy Creek

The Inn at Brushy Creek in Round Rock has been included on the National Register of Historic Places, owners Buz Kelley and Charles Tinnen were notified.

M. Wayne Bell, Restoration Architect for the Texas Historical Survey Committee said the Inn is now afforded the privilege granted under the Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

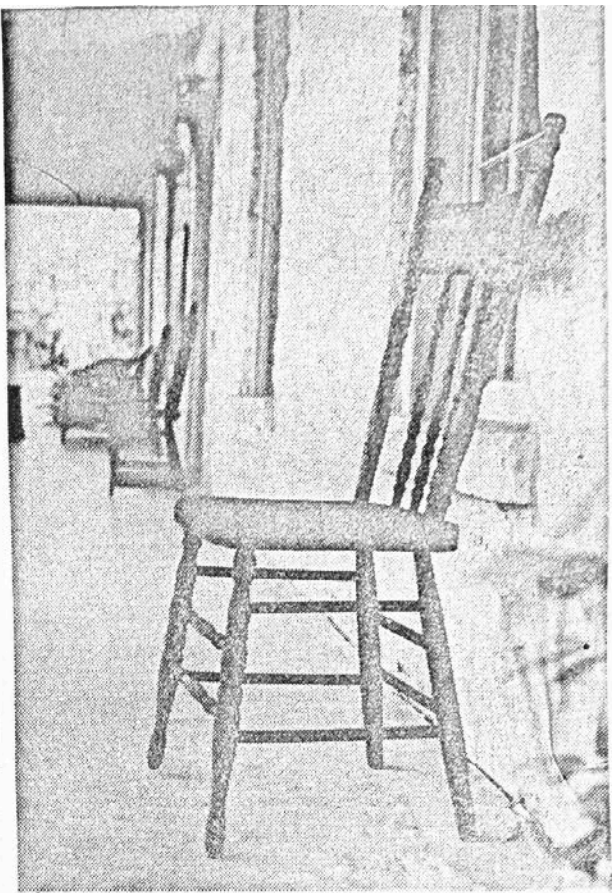
The National Register is the official schedule of the nation's cultural property that is worth saving and is a protective inventory of irreplaceable resources across the face of the land. It is published periodically with pertinent information about each property.

Properties chosen to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places must possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

Tinnen and Kelley restored an old house in Old Town Round Rock to its original historic charm and are operating The Inn at Brushy Creek in it.

In the near future an historic medallion will be placed on the Inn.

Boz Kelley, lately of Cape Cod and now of Round Rock, is in the final throes of getting his The Inn at Brushy Creek ready for an August 19 opening. The Inn has been known as the Cole House in the past fifty years although its history goes much further back than that. It is believed to have been built around 1835 and has been occupied by a number of owners. The framework is still in excellent shape and Kelley and his associates are restoring the whole thing as faithfully as possible and still meet modern needs. There will be a patio with a towering oak giving shade and character and inside will be candle-light and fine food, says Buz, who thinks Cape Cod cooking may touch a Texan's fancy. He admits, however, that just to be on the safe side he'll be serving a couple of steaks. The Inn is off the side of Highway 35 as you enter Round Rock. You can drive right off the highway and be there.



CUSTOMERS VISIT ON INN'S GALLERY



THE OLD COLE HOME ON IH 35 HAS BECOME THE INN AT BRUSHY CREEK
Gourmet restaurant is located in a building believed to have been built in 1834

Trees

Artists Paints Indian Markings

By MARGARET TAYLOR DRY
Art Writer

Not long ago, Grace Schroeder, Austin artist, knowing of my interest in the Indians, called me to ask if I would like to come out to see her photographs of some Indian marking trees she had discovered in the Rowe Valley which is located on the San Gabriel River between Georgetown and Taylor.

She had several photographs of these unusual trees which grow out of the ground horizontally with limbs extending straight up from the trunks, one photograph having a grouping of five of these strange trees together. She also had used one of them for an excellent painting which is shown with this article.

This tree, she says, is high enough off the ground for a tractor to pass underneath, and this painting is only one of many she has done in this area. The history of this part of our state fascinates her and she is interested in bringing to her canvases scenes from the days when Texas was a frontier state rather than just a beautiful picture.

This region around what is now called the Rowe Valley with its many historical sites has particularly interested her because she enjoyed swimming there as a child, and, as she says, the trees in this vicinity are fast disappearing. One died since

she began her paintings of them. She is hoping to paint all of them and other things in the area which she thinks have historic value.

Upon seeing these marking trees the observer would think at first observation, that they had been broken when young by either cattle or storms, but on closer examination it appears that the growth is a natural one for there is no break in the trunk. And the legend of these trees began many years ago when the Indians roamed freely over the lands of Texas migrating south in winter and north again in the spring.

When they found an exceptionally good camping site they would mark this particular spot by bending a young tree and staking it to the ground. Left in that position, these horizontal trees, which have weathered drought and progress, could probably tell us a lot about the pioneer Texas of those days.

They do tell us a lot about the ingenuity and intelligence of the Indian, for they could have marked these spots with stakes, as most of us would, which would have soon disappeared. By using the young trees which would keep growing throughout the years they were sure that these spots would remain marked so they could be found when wanted.

In this particular spot there was abundant shade, cool spring water and pecan trees from whose nuts the

Indian made cakes which they stored for winter use as food.

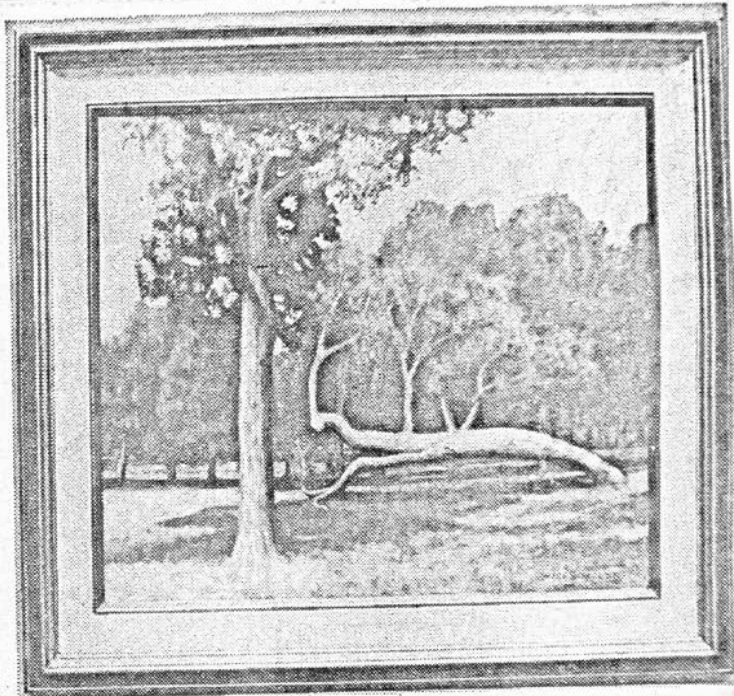
Mrs. Schroeder's uncle lived in this valley, and she says the Indians would come to this site quietly in the night and leave as silently in the early morning, disturbing none of the settlers in that region, but going about their own business of traveling and living off the land as they went.

This migration of the Indian back and forth across the country, of course took place in many places throughout our land but they didn't always leave such tangible evidence as these marking trees although memories still linger in the minds of old-timers of the places these tribes favored.

Their occupation of the Rowe Valley reminded me of a day when I stood behind the Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art in Tulsa, with its founder, Thomas Gilcrease, who was part Creek Indian.

We stood at the top of a small hill and Mr. Gilcrease pointed down into the valley saying, "The Indians moved in down there last night and will probably go when the sun rises tomorrow as silently as they came."

I looked down and saw the smoke rising above the trees and instantly got the vision of the camp they had set up. Dogs were barking in the distance and an air of expectancy hung over the scene. Thomas Gilcrease was a taciturn man who didn't



INDIANS MARKED CAMP SITES WITH BENT SAPLING
... Grace Schroeder paints rare "Indian Trees"

talk much except with a friend; he knew the Indians and what he said usually held authority. But this was in the 1960s!

I looked up at him, half-believing, and saw that he was smiling at my willibility. He finally said, "It used to be like that, but those men are only down there burning underbrush."

I'm sure it did "use to be like that" because at the time I moved to Tulsa in 1929 it was no unusual sight to see Indians in their blankets with

long braided hair on the down town streets, and no one gave them more than a passing glance. On the Gilcrease land they knew they could settle undisturbed and probably came and went at that very sight often during the course of each year.

As far as I know there are no marking trees in that vicinity probably for the very reason that they all knew the Gilcrease farm land was available to them. But Grace says there were several of these trees near

her home in Hare, Texas, and when on a recent trip there she found that none of them remained, her inspiration to paint the remaining ones, along with other subjects pertaining to the early history of the state, was intensified.

This painting of the Marking Tree will hang in a small restaurant which Colonel Roberts and Jack and Lee Rowe have opened there making the place a sort of preserve where others can come and enjoy its beauty.

2,000 Volumes

She Collects Cookbooks—Just for Reading Pleasure

By MARY LINDA HAYS
Special Writer

"Rattlesnakes Under Glass" and "Hummingbirds and Radishes" are hardly the best selling of the millions of cookbooks that American housewives buy each year. But then most American

women buy cookbooks for the logical reason — to use as a guide in cooking.

Not so for petite, gray-haired Mrs. Oliver P. Harris of Taylor. Shelf after shelf of cookbooks line her library walls — all there for her reading pleasure. "I don't

even buy cookbooks to cook out of," she says.

Instead, Mrs. Harris just collects cookbooks — she has over 2,000 of them and wasn't sure of the exact number. "I haven't counted them lately," she said.

Like "Rattlesnakes Under

Glass" and "Hummingbirds and Radishes," a lot of her books have strange titles. "I buy a lot of books because of the title," she said but added that titles can be misleading. She looked all the way through "Hummingbirds and Radishes" without finding

even a mention of a hummingbird or a radish!

Among her collection are several quite old books. She has an edition of a Texas cookbook, believed to be the first cookbook ever printed in the state, over 85 years ago. Another book dated 1830, is

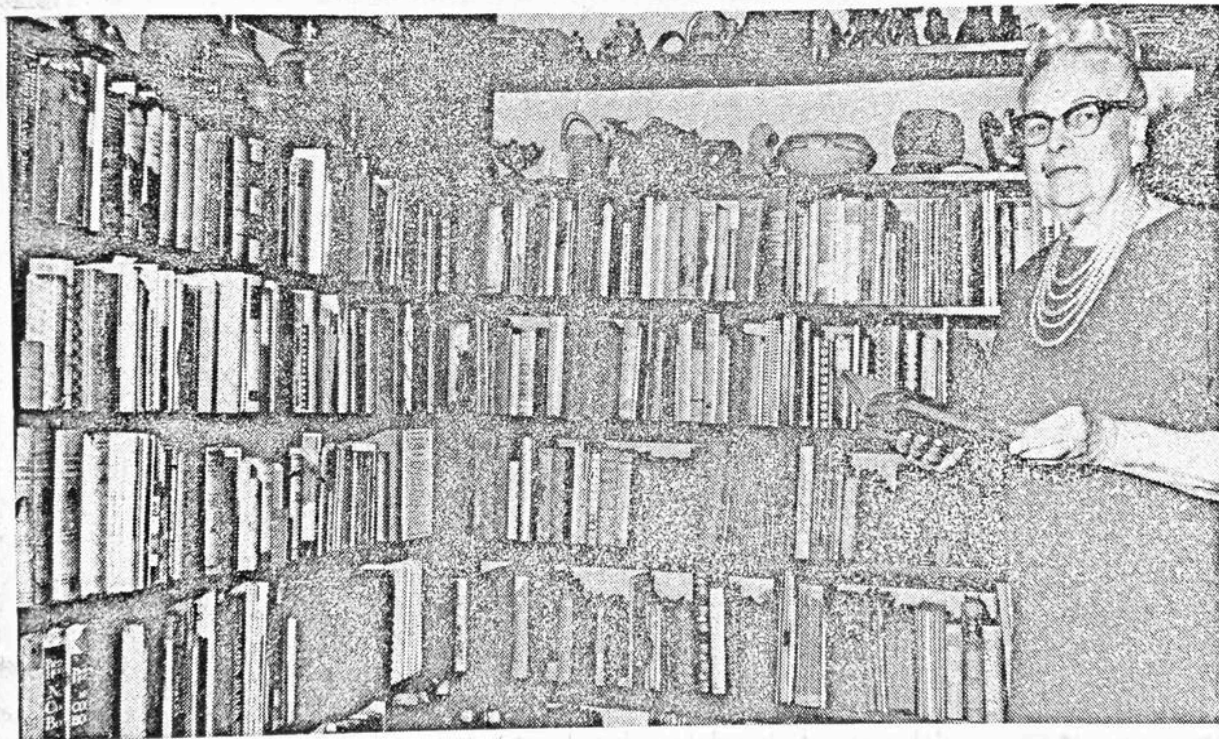
handwritten on parchment in Pennsylvania Dutch and has a sheepskin cover. Mrs. Harris paid \$40 for the book at a New York auction several years ago and says if she were to sell it, it would be worth approximately \$200 now.

Her collection at one time contained one of the first editions of the "Williamsburg Cookbook," which was "priceless" in her view. The book has been missing for several years and Ms. Harris believes it was stolen by a visitor.

After an article appeared in an Austin newspaper several years ago about Mrs. Harris' collection, a woman called, asking if she could come to see the books. While the woman looked over her collection, Mrs. Harris left the room to prepare coffee. When she returned they talked for a while and the woman left. It was several weeks, after any correspondence from the woman had been discarded and her name forgotten, that Mrs. Harris missed the book and realized that was the last time she had seen it.

Cookbooks have not always been one of lively Lou Bell Harris' interests. She was in her 30's and had just moved to New York when she began her collection.

It was one of her home economics courses at Columbia University that led her to cookbooks. While following up an assignment on



Staff Photo by Darl Hyatt

MRS. OLIVER P. HARRIS HOLDS COOK BOOK WRITTEN IN PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH
It has a sheepskin cover and is one of the oldest of her 2,000 cook books

cheese she met a man in a New York bookstore "who changed the whole tenor of my life and the bad thing is, I don't even know his name." He told her how much he

enjoyed reading cookbooks and before she left the store she had bought 17!

Not at all selective at first, buying any cookbook she found, she accumulated 300 in

a couple of years. Then she met someone who gave her "the clue to what is needed if you are going to build something good."

(See HOBBY, Page 22)

HOBBY

Katherine Fisher, then Editor of Good Housekeeping Magazine, learned of Mrs. Harris' books when the spunky little lady visited the famous editor in her New York office. "The number isn't important. That's just a question of money — selectivity is the important thing."

Since that time she has limited her buying. She says, "Only buy if you find one written by somebody famous or if it has literary value." But then again being famous

doesn't mean a book is worth anything. In 1942, she bought a book written by the Duchess of Windsor but she said, "That same little book was on the publisher's list for the next ten years. It just didn't sell."

She also includes foreign cookbooks in her collection and has one from just about every foreign country except Wales.

It seems that with such a vast collection of her own and with her tremendous interest in cookbooks, she would write one herself. But the only writing she has done was for a regional cookbook in which she wrote the Texas section, titled, "Barbecues, Hot

Tamales, Ranch House Beans and Ambrosia."

Now a spry 82, she still is planning to write one. Many years ago Ernie Pyle produced a newspaper column in which he often included one of his favorite recipes. Mrs. Harris clipped and saved all of these and hopes to someday produce an Ernie Pyle cookbook from her drawer of clippings.

Mrs. Harris still buys an occasional cookbook but has slowed down. As an active member of several organizations in Taylor, a flower show judge, and an avid gardener, her time for reading is limited. And that's what she buys them for.

County Historical Society gets kudos for program

Kudos for an outstanding local history preservation program were recently bestowed upon the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, headed by Mrs. John W. Cornforth of Taylor.

At the October 29-30 Annual Meeting of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee in Del Rio, 35 county survey committees received the Distinguished Service Award for organizing progressive and well-rounded local history programs during the past year.

Among the rigorous requirements for the Distinguished Service Award are that the local survey committee (1) sponsor at least four official historical markers or

spend \$600 for markers during the year, (2) present at least six talks on local history to other civic groups, (3) conduct at least three historical tours in the county, (4) publish a pamphlet, brochure, etc. showing sites of local historical interest, (5) sponsor at least one annual history appreciation observance, (6) secure at least \$100 in investments in the Texas Historical Foundation (private affiliate of the Survey Committee), and (7) publish a county committee newsletter at least quarterly.

The chairman and each committee member of D.S.A. counties will receive a two-color certificate signed by Governor Preston Smith. The county judge and county commissioners will also be given a certificate as ex officio members of the county committee.

Historical committee gets recognition

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met November 18 in the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman presided and there were representatives from the following communities: Taylor, Georgetown, Round Rock, Andice, Florence, Jarrell and Liberty Hill. There were written reports from Bartlett and Granger.

Progress reports indicate that much research is being done on some century-old buildings and isolated cemeteries in the county.

The latest Historical marker to be unveiled in Williamson County was on November 7, 1971. It is on a pier in Brushy Creek near the famous ROUND ROCK for which the town was named.

Mrs. Cornforth has received notice from Truett Latimer, Executive Director of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, that the commemorative marker for Judge J. E. Hickman will soon arrive. It will be placed in an appropriate location on

the Court House grounds. The former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas was a native son of Liberty Hill where he was lovingly known as "Mr. Ed".

Mrs. Lou Belle Harris of Taylor gave an interesting and enthusiastic report of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee Annual Meeting which she attended in Del Rio, Texas on October 29 and 30. At this meeting Williamson County received special recognition for the number of Historical markers placed in the county for historical preservation. Mrs. Harris brought back the certificates for distribution.

Mrs. Cornforth presented these engraved Distinguished Service certificates to the various sub-chairmen of the Committee. Earlier this month she presented the same awards to the Williamson County Commissioners Court, which includes Judge C. L. Chance, Clerk Dick Cervenka, Auditor Ben Kurio, Commissioners Wesley Johnson, Wesley Foust, Robert Rozacky and Willie Schlickeisen. Their help and cooperation is a valuable asset to the success of the committee.

Williamson County is rich in historical landmarks that should be marked and preserved for the future. Anyone knowing of such places is urged to contact the county chairman of this committee and she will put you in touch with your local committee member. Please, send the message to Mrs. John Cornforth, 1221 Cecelia St., Taylor, Texas 76774.

—Reporter

Historical committee announces dedication of historical medallions

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met at the Georgetown Public Library, January 27. Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor is chairman and presided at the meeting.

Committee representatives were present from Round Rock, Florence and Liberty Hill and activities were reported from each of these communities.

An interpretative plate has been placed near the Historical Medallion on THE STAGE COACH INN AT BRUSHY CREEK in Round Rock.

The LAWLER COMMUNITY marker will be dedicated on Saturday, April 29 at the annual Homecoming. This will include a medallion and plate commemorating the school, church and cemetery as significant historical landmarks.

The LIBERTY HILL METHODIST CHURCH will soon have an interpretative plate installed near the medallion which it now has.

Mrs. Cornforth stated that plans are being finalized for the program and unveiling of the J. E. Hickman Commemorative Marker. Judge Hickman was a native son of Williamson County who so freely gave of his time and talent for the betterment of his fellow man and served so long in the cause of justice in the Supreme Court of Texas. The dedication is planned for Sunday, March 26.

The committee was alerted to a need to renew efforts to preserve the "OLD GEORGETOWN CEMETERY". The Historical Marker placed there in 1963 has fallen from its base and grass hides many stones. This cemetery within the city limits is a portion of the land donated by George W. Glasscock in 1848 for the county seat of Williamson County. It was used as a burial plot for pioneer citizens from 1840 to 1902. This is a part of our heritage and we feel a need to keep remembering our landmarks.

OLD GEORGETOWN CEMETERY

This site on the South bank of the South San Gabriel River, a portion of the land donated by George W. Glasscock in 1848 for the County Seat of Williamson County, was used as a burial plot from 1840 to 1902. Many pioneer citizens lie buried here, many names unknown and graves unmarked.

Restoration of "The Old Georgetown Cemetery" was begun in 1963 by the Georgetown Historical Survey Committee and the co-operation of interested people who "did not forget".

This is the inscription on the plate below the official Texas medallion. All of this is embedded in a slab of concrete which is almost but not quite flat on the ground.

--Reporter

Stagecoach Stop at Round Rock to get marker

The historic STAGECOACH STOP located 1 mile west of Round Rock has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Lester W. Prokop, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John W. Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads: ONE OF AREA'S OLDEST, BEST-PRESERVED INNS, A MID-19TH CENTURY CHANGE STATION FOR STAGECOACHES ON BROWNSVILLE-SALADO AND HELENA (ARK.)-SAN ANTONIO ROUTES. STRUCTURE, OF STONE QUARRIED ON SITE, WAS BUILT BY JOHN HARRIS (1819-1907) IN YEARS 1848-53. WOODS USED WERE HAND-HEWN OAK BEAMS AND MILLED CEDAR FROM BRENHAM. RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1963.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 2 December 2, 1971



Historical committee plans unveiling of Hickman marker

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee held its regular monthly meeting on February 24 in the Conference Room of the Georgetown Public Library.

Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor is the County Chairman and will plan the program for the dedication and unveiling of the John Edward Hickman marker for March 26 at 3 o'clock on the Courthouse lawn in Georgetown. The assistance of Mrs. J. E. Hickman and of many friends of the late Chief Justice have contributed substantially to the success of this memorial occasion.

Another sight marker is being planned for the Turkey Creek School where Judge Hickman taught as a very young man. The people in this community, six miles from Taylor, are working on it.

Sub-chairmen of the Historical Survey Committee were present from Jarrell, Florence, Georgetown and Liberty Hill.

Miss McLeod from Florence reminded the group that the date of the dedication of the Lawler Community marker is Saturday, April 29 as was previously announced.

Visitors from Leander were Miss Christine Mason, Mrs. F. M. Wiley, Mrs. Eunice Wiley, Mrs. Earnest Proffitt, Mrs. Emilie Heinatz and Mrs. M. M. Chamberlain. They are interested in historical preservation and marking of homes, churches, and cemeteries in their community. There are many historical spots and several century old buildings, that are eligible for Texas Official Medallions and Markers, in the Leander-Bagdad area. Mrs. M. M. Chamberlain has consented to act as sub-chairman for Leander with Mrs. F. M. Wiley as helper.

It is the wish of the Historical Survey Committee that many interested friends will plan to attend the dedication of the marker in memory of Judge Hickman. Although he was known and respected throughout Texas, we can say with pride that he was a native of Williamson County and a "Favorite Son" of the hills in the western part of the county.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 8 March 2, 1972



Site of Georgetown. 9th & Church Streets.
Erected by the Daniel Coleman Chapter
Daughters of the American Revolution.

Marker and home of J. J. Cluck.



Marker on Williamson County line, Highway 35
South of Georgetown.



Confederate Monument
Williamson County Courthouse.

48

With Round Rock's strategic location, educational institutions were established between the time of the Civil War and the turn of the century. Greenwood Masonic Institute dates from the close of the Civil War. Soon after the establishment of this school, the Presbyterians established Round Rock Institute with a fine faculty of scholars from the North and East. Classical studies were stressed. Latin and Greek were offered on a four year basis. Rev. C. H. Dobbs was the institutions' distinguished principal. The Lutherans established Trinity Junior College which continued until the early 1930's. With the closing of the junior college, there succeeded a children's home then a home for the aged on the old campus in the eastern part of New Round Rock.



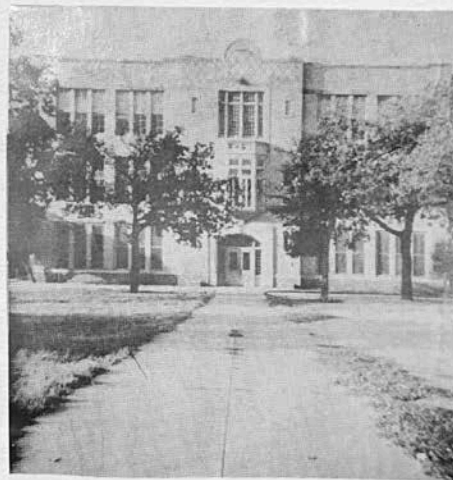
Monument - erected 1936
to Pioneer Education.



SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN INSTITUTE
LATER ROUND ROCK'S FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL



TRINITY LUTHERAN COLLEGE
(Until the early thirties)



THREE-STORY PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING
1914-1959

The History of ROUND ROCK

Tonkawa and Comanche Indians once roamed the gently rolling plains upon which the City of Round Rock is now located. They found clean water and abundant wildlife along the banks of the stream which white settlers later called Brushy Creek. The two tribes were constantly at war to determine which would control the valuable area. Today, the banks of Brushy Creek and nearby fields afford fruitful sites for collectors interested in recovering artifacts left by the Redman.

Members of the Ramon-St. Denis Expedition were the first Europeans to explore the Round Rock area. They recorded their journey across this part of Central Texas as occurring between May 28 and June 1, 1716. They referred to Brushy Creek as "The Creek of the Blessed Souls."

Uncertainty and obscurity prevent the fixing of an exact date for the beginning of Round Rock which was first called Brushy. As early as 1835, this part of Williamson County was providing opportunities for settlement by white men. Tumlinson Fort was built west of Round Rock at the headwaters of Brushy Creek. Four years after Fort Tumlinson was established, another fort was established about two miles east of Round Rock. It was also located on Brushy Creek near the site of the present Palm Valley Lutheran Church. This fort was built by Dr. Kenney, a medical doctor in the Texas Revolutionary Army. Dr. Kenney,

together with the pioneer Round Rock settler, Capt. Nelson Merrill, carried on farming interests and capitalized on a good market for buffalo hides and mustang horses. Kenney's Fort, also called Fort Cazeneau, was the site of Texas' Archives War (Sam Houston's attempt to have the Republic of Texas records moved) the historic battle in which not one shot was fired.

The town of Brushy first came to be called Round Rock in the year 1854 when the first U.S. Post Office was established. The Postmaster General would not accept the name Brushy because there was already a town by that name in East Texas on the Sabine River. Denial of the first name caused early settlers Jimmy Harrell and Thomas E. Oatts to submit the name of Round Rock since travelers always rested their journey near "the old round rock" by the creek.

In 1876 New Round Rock was developed across Brushy Creek from the "Oldtown." The Texas Land Company built the town to serve as "end of the line" for the International and Great Northern Railroad. At the western most limits of the railroad,

Round Rock became a booming and prosperous trade center. Merchants came from San Antonio, Austin and other settlements from the South and West to pickup in wagons the merchandise



and equipment coming in by rail from the North and East. An 1878 magazine, The Texas New Yorker, described Round Rock as one of the largest of the Central Texas cities. It was the gateway to and major marketplace of a large ten-county area. Due to this strategic location, several educational institutions were established from the time of the Civil War to the turn of the century. Greenwood Masonic Institute dates from the close of the Civil War. Soon after the establishment of this school, the Presbyterians established Round Rock Institute with a fine faculty of scholars from the North and East. Trinity Junior College was organized by the Lutheran Church several years later.

Since in the early days almost all Central Texas roads led to prosperous Round Rock, a number of infamous outlaws are remembered to have found their way to the thriving town. John Wesley Hardin, "The Fastest Gun in the West" graduated from school, in 1870, in Round Rock. Also, well-remembered is bank robber Sam Bass, who found his way into Round Rock but was never able to leave. He met his death at the hands of Texas Rangers on the Main Street of the city.

Round Rock in recent years has recaptured some of its earlier pioneer spirit and has restored some of its zest for enterprise and growth. The educational system ranks as one of the best in Central Texas. Banking and business interests are expanding rapidly. Lime plants, stone quarries and burned dolomite processing plants supply Round Rock with vigorous industry. Cattle and sheep ranching, together with farming, remain a valuable mainstay to the local economy.

Round Rock has a proud history and a bright future.

The Story of SAM BASS

Sam Bass and his gang rode into Round Rock on a hot summer day in July of 1878, for the definite purpose of robbing Miller's Exchange Bank. The bank, with a branch in Georgetown, did a thriving business, because Round Rock was the end of the railroad and goods had to be shipped on wagons to points north and west. Bass was on his way toward the Rio Grande but never left Round Rock.

Sam Bass was born in Lawrence County, Indiana, July 21, 1851. He lost his mother in 1861 and his father died in 1864. Bass, his brother, and four sisters were given a home by an uncle. He rode away from home at the age of seventeen.

During his nineteenth year, Bass arrived in Denton, Texas, where he became Sheriff Egan's deputy. He was described as ignorant of culture, as seen by Denton citizens. His disposition was described as roving and restless, and he often sought the companionship of desperate men. He had dark hair, hazel eyes, and a sallow complexion. He wore a thinly-scattered beard, and stooped his shoulders. He was about five feet and eight

inches tall, and spoke rarely unless influenced by whiskey. Bass had a close friend named Henry Underwood. Underwood was easily recognized for his black mustache, loud voice, and

genial disposition. Bass, at times, sought counsel with him. Underwood was accused of being the "brains" of the gang. However, Underwood, was forced, when sentenced for burning the Presbyterian Church in Denton, to part from Bass.

In 1874 Bass rode away from Denton, and became known as a gambler in San Antonio. Later, Bass bought cattle on credit in counties near San Antonio. It is not known how much money Bass agreed to pay for the cattle, but cattle were sold to drovers in the Round Rock area for \$2.00 to \$4.00 a head, at this time. Bass took Joel Collins and Jack Davis, on the cattle drive to Kansas, where the cattle were sold and the money was lost in a gambling spree.

Finding themselves sober and no wiser from their last irrational venture, the three characters headed toward Deadwood, South Dakota, where they made partners of Jim Berry, Bill Heftridge, and Tom Nixon. The gang robbed several stages before they found themselves in Nebraska where a Union Pacific train was robbed of \$60,000.00 in \$20.00 gold coins, fresh from the San Francisco Mint.

Bass and Davis reached Denton County in the late fall of '77. Bass became reunited with his friend, Underwood. Seaborn Barnes, Frank Jackson and Arkansas Jackson were taken in for additional strength.

The gang robbed stages around Dallas with little luck. Bass returned to the train business with a good strike that fell short of \$2,000.00, at Allan Station, several miles south of McKinney. The gang robbed the Central Texas Railroad, and the Houston and Central Texas Railroad at Hutchin's Station south of Dallas. Also, the gang robbed the Texas-Pacific at Eagle Ford, on the west side of Dallas. Their final hold-up came on April 11, 1878, with the robbery of a train in Mesquite, Texas, for \$150.00.

Bass and his gang became inactive following the Mesquite robbery. Meanwhile, Jim Murphy joined the gang as an informer for the Texas Rangers.

The gang decided to head south, as the Dallas area became too insecure for them.

With Round Rock in sight, the gang camped northwest of the town on the banks of Brushy Creek where tall trees and cool spring water provided relief on that hot July day in 1878.

On entering Round Rock Bass led his men, with guns on hips, into a general store, where now stands the Robertson's store. As they began ordering supplies, they were jolted to action by Deputy Grimes, who questioned their right to wear guns. In a scattering of lead, Grimes was shot four times and fell on his face.

Texas Rangers intercepted Bass at Round Rock. Bass, seriously wounded in the gun battle, was able to mount his horse and ride away.

Bass was captured northwest of town the next day as he lay beneath a tree, dying from his wound.

Bass' body was placed in a pine box and hauled on a wagon, which was driven by two Negro men to the cemetery northwest of Old Town. The Reverend John Ledbetter, a Methodist minister whose descendants still live in Round Rock, gave Bass a Christian burial in the northwest corner of the cemetery.

Many years later, one of Bass' four sisters returned to Round Rock and had a tombstone placed on her brother's grave. It reads:

SAM BASS

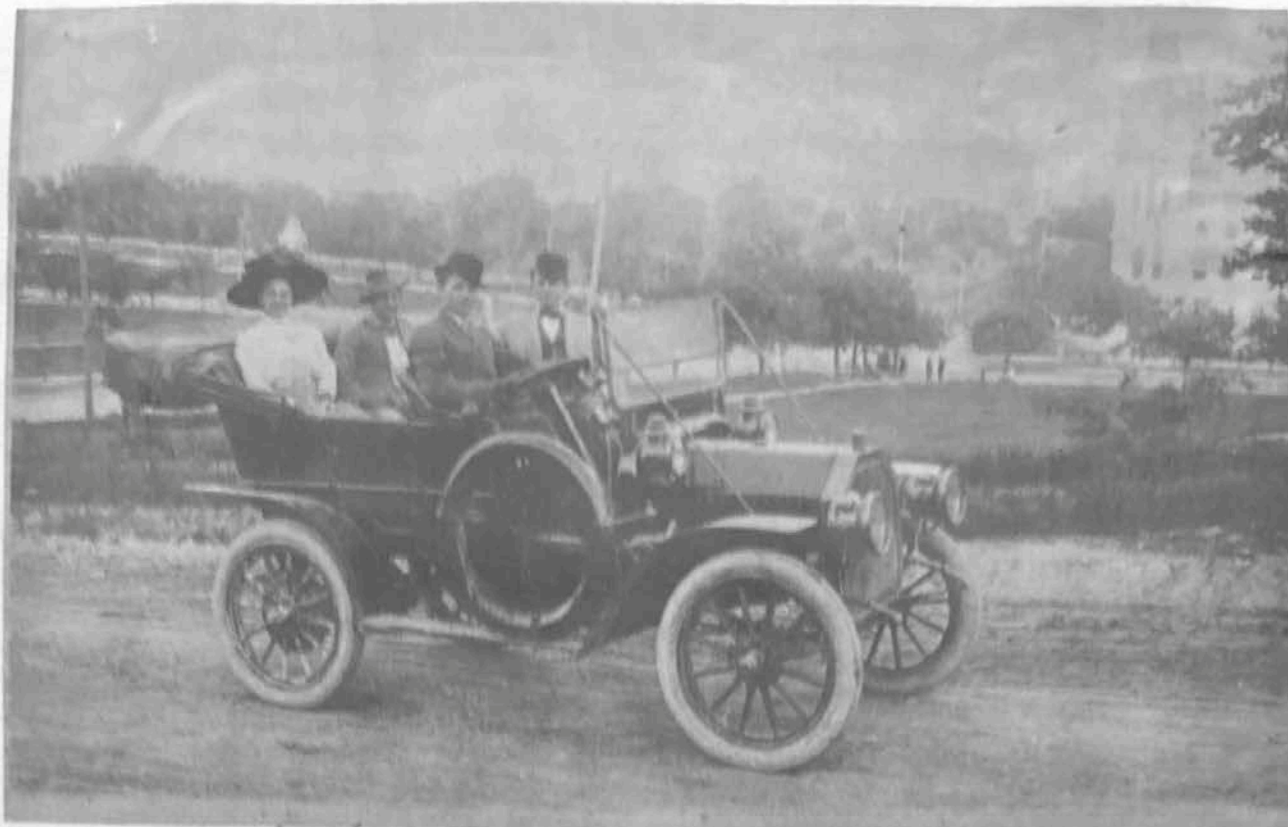
Born July 21, 1851 Died July 21, 1878

A Brave Man Rests In Death Here

Why Was He Not True

Source: Jirasek, Clinton J., A History of Round Rock, Texas, 1716-1879.





Mr. Walter Henna at the wheel of his 1908 model Buick. The engine in this car was mounted crossways to the frame and under the front seat. It cranked by hand from the left side. With Mr. Henna are his sister and two brothers



ROUND ROCK PUBLIC SCHOOL IN 1894

The First Graduating class: Hallie Holloway and Susie McDonald, (standing: left to right) Jeff Palm, Hallie Holloway, Susie McDonald, Henry Palm, (middle row:) Professor Hale, Grace Crutcher, Joe Walker, Hilda Engstrand, Sam Kemp, (front row:) Elmer Rowe, Lura Halley, Blanche Wiess, May Hope, John Hall

SOME ROUND ROCK PIONEERS

The area of early settlement about a rounded rock in the stream-bed of Brushy Creek, at the point where the Chisholm Trail crossed, did not have a fixed radius. From its lower point, in the vicinity of Kenney's Fort, up to Moss' spring, then spreading out along Lake Creek and Chandler's Branch, a few families had established the beginning of a community one hundred and twenty-five years ago.

It is not without some hesitancy and misgiving that a list of names of those resolute people, and the hardy and determined folk who followed them to this frontier, has been started. To assume that the name of every one could be found and recorded would have been presumptuous indeed.

However, before such a roster can be compiled, it must have first been begun. It is hoped that from this beginning, at some later time, the list may be completed. Every one who has come this way, staying even a little while, has contributed some bit to the building of the fine community that the Round Rock area has grown to be; his or her name deserves a place in the Brushy Creek story.

To enable us to find some approximate time for the arrival of the pioneer folk, the first part of the community history has been divided into three periods: from 1836, when Dr. Thomas Kenny began to negotiate for the purchase of land from the Republic of Texas, until 1850; from 1851 until 1876, the year that the I & GN railroad was built into Round Rock; and from 1877 through 1900.

For every place where error or omission is found, we ask first that you be charitable, then please note the missing name and send it along so that in some following list no one shall have been left out.

Some names are found written in warp and the woof of the community, others are scarcely found mentioned in the written record, and their contribution is hardly known. However, the fact that they have been remembered at all by some other historian gives them importance enough to be listed here.

1836—1850

Allen, Professor
(First school teacher)
Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Washington
Anderson, Dr. and Mrs. W. I.
Angel, Jack
Asher, Mr. and Mrs. Levi
Barnhart, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
Bratton, Mr. and Mrs. John
Brothers, John
Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Davis
Castleberry, Henry
Christie, Mr. and Mrs. H. A.
Chenneyworth, Major
Courtney, Mr. and Mrs. John
Davis, Mr. and Mrs. G. W.
Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
Dyer, Mr. and Mrs. W. T.
Force, a surveyor
Gilreath, Mr. and Mrs.
Graham, Col. and Mrs. Wayne
Harrell, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob
Harrell, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Jack
Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley
Heard, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel
Kenney, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas
(First doctor)
Knight, Dr. and Mrs. D. F.
Ladd, Capt. and Mrs.
Layman, Professor George W.
Lee, Judge Joseph
Makemson, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel
Matthews, John
Merrill, Capt. and Mrs. Nelson
Miller, Dr. and Mrs.
Moss, Mr. and Mrs.
Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. A. J.
Oatts, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S.
Palm, Mrs. Anders (Anna) and six sons
Rice, Lt. James
Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Luke Sanders
Rogers, (given name unknown)
Smalley, Freeman, Mr. and Mrs.
Stephens,
Stinnit, William
Taliaferro, Brother and Mrs. R. H.
(First preacher)
Wadkins, Sam

Weeks (or Wicks), Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
Woolridge, John

1851—1876

Allen, Mr. and Mrs. G. Washington
Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. C. G.
Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Sven
Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. William
Ash, Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt
Aten, Mr. and Mrs. Austin C.
Beal, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel
Black, Mr. and Mrs. J. M.
Bradshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Henry
Burk, Mr. and Mrs. C. A.
Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J.
Carlson, Mr. and Mrs. J. F.
Crimm, Mr. and Mrs. G. N.
Engstrand, Mr. and Mrs. C. A.
Ferrell, Mr. and Mrs. Felix M.
Forsman, Mr. and Mrs. C. A.
Freman, Mr. and Mrs.
Haynes, Col. and Mrs.
Harbert, Mr. and Mrs. John
Israel, Mr. and Mrs. John
Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Aron
Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Simon
Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. William B.
Klattenhoff, Mr. and Mrs. William
Ledbetter, Rev. and Mrs. John W.
McNeese, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F.
Mays, Mr. and Mrs. L. M.
Mays, Mr. and Mrs. Jack
Palm, Mr. and Mrs. Johannes A.
Plattow, Mr. and Mrs. Christian
Shepherd, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram B.
Stark, Mr. and Mrs. Carl O.
Stark, Mr. and Mrs. Herman T.
Stark, Mr. and Mrs. John
Stone, Mr. and Mrs.
Swenson, Mr. and Mrs. Bengt
Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Louis
Webber, Mr. and Mrs. August
Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Henry

1877— 1900

Adolphson, Mr. and Mrs. John F.
Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Carl A.
Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Frank J.
Awalt, Mr. and Mrs. W. T.
Bongston, Mr. and Mrs. Isack

When You Enjoy Living Many Nice Things Happen

By ERNESTINE WHELOCK
Women's Staff

"Whatever period you are in is the best time of life," says Lena Hickman, widow of the Texas Supreme Court's late Chief Justice J. E. Hickman. She lives each day as it comes, concentrating on how fortunate she is and enjoying what there is to do at the moment.

Not being an introspective person, Mrs. Hickman keeps busy just with living, not allowing herself much time for self-analysis. "I have much to be grateful for and many nice things to remember," said Mrs. Hickman as she recalled the philosophy of a laundress she had years ago. "Mrs. Hickman," she'd say, "if you don't let folks be nice to you, they soon forgets to be nice."

Mrs. Hickman spends much of her time being thoughtful in return. Though she has no children of her own, she has always devoted much of her energy to young people. She knows no generation gap.

"I have friends among my friends' children and now among their grandchildren. That's good, too," Mrs. Hickman laughed, "because a young palmist who once visited my house looked at my palm and told me I'd live to be a hundred or more."

The Hickmans moved to Austin in 1935 when Judge Hickman, who had been chief justice of the Court of Civil Appeals in Eastland, was named to the Commission of Appeals on the State Supreme Court. The three-man commission was later added to the Supreme Court when the number of the court was raised from six to nine.



Staff Photo by Richard Creed

MRS. J. E. HICKMAN HAS MUCH TO REMEMBER, FINDS MUCH TO DO
Her day-to-day living is full and satisfying within itself

Mrs. Hickman, a Dallasite, had lived in Austin earlier as a student at the University of Texas, and she was happy to return. "One of my friends said I was coming to my heaven." Her memories of Austin, before her graduation in 1915, were of occasional walks to Mount Bonnell from the UT campus and to Barton Springs from the streetcar line which ended on Congress Avenue at the river.

"The only way to go anywhere in those days was to walk or to ride the streetcar," Mrs. Hickman recalls. "I learned to drive in 1910, but my parents wouldn't allow me to drive alone until I was 21."

Since then Mrs. Hickman has driven many a mile. She has traveled in every state except Alaska, and she still makes frequent trips in her car. Just last week she drove to Houston, Beaumont and Liberty to visit old friends. Her last long trip by car was to Canada three years ago with two friends. She has also had two European tours and a trip around the world.

At the university, Mrs. Hickman lettered in tennis and was on the basketball team. She was one of the first elementary education majors to specialize in playground instruction. She did her practice teaching on the playgrounds at Pease and Woodridge Schools. Later she taught in Dallas for five years.

Both Judge and Mrs. Hickman were born in Texas. He was born in Liberty Hill, and she was born in Waxahachie. They met when she went as a guest to a general conference of the Methodist Church in Hot Springs, Ark. Judge Hickman, then a young lawyer practicing in Dublin, was there as a delegate. They were married in 1923, a year after their first meeting.

By the time of the wedding, Judge Hickman had moved his practice to Brackenridge. He and Mrs. Hickman lived there until 1929 when they moved to Eastland after his election to the Court of Civil Appeals. He was appointed chief justice of that court by Gov. Dan Moody in 1928. His appointment as chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court came in 1948 from Gov. Beauford Jester. The judge retired in 1961 after 26 years on the high court. He died in 1962.

53

Outstanding Women of 1971

Sunday, Dec. 26, 1971

Austin American-Statesman

Mrs. Hickman's work with youth began a long time ago when she taught high school Sunday school classes in Breckenridge and Eastland,

and for a number of years after moving to Austin.

For 20 years, she sponsored the training circle for young women at University Methodist Church and for more than 20 years, she had the job of meeting new people at the church and helping them get established in Sunday school.

"After that many years, you accumulate a lot of friends," she reminisced. She gave up the Sunday morning job two or three years ago and now enjoys being a part of a class.

Mrs. Hickman likes doing what she calls "fun things." In March, her birthday month, she got out a list of birthdays that she keeps and invited everybody with a March birthday to a party at her house. "It wasn't a party for me. It was for them," she

smiled.

In the fall, when a group of international teachers of English spends a semester at UT, Mrs. Hickman always entertains for them. Last fall she invited them to go to church with her and to come to her house afterwards for lunch. Eighteen of the group of 25 accepted. "I don't have a great flair for cooking. I just enjoy having folks come," says the hospitable woman. She corresponds with many of the foreigners she has entertained in her home.

One of Mrs. Hickman's most recent dinners was for the former presidents of the Men's Fellowship Class that Judge Hickman taught for 25 years at University Methodist Church. Sixteen couples were there. The class is now called the Hickman Bible Class.



Christianson-Leberman

Lena Hickman

Historical marker to honor Chief Justice John Hickman

An Official Texas Historical Marker for Chief Justice John Edward Hickman will be erected on Sunday, March 26, it was announced today by Lester W. Prokop, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

This marker, awarded through a special Legislative appropriation known as the State Matching Fund, recognizes the outstanding work of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. This group is headed by Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, chairman. Plans for dedication

ceremonies will be announced in the near future.

The inscription on the marker, to be erected on the southwest corner of the square, reads:

CHIEF JUSTICE JOHN EDWARD HICKMAN (1883 - 1862)

A distinguished Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, and a native of Williamson County.

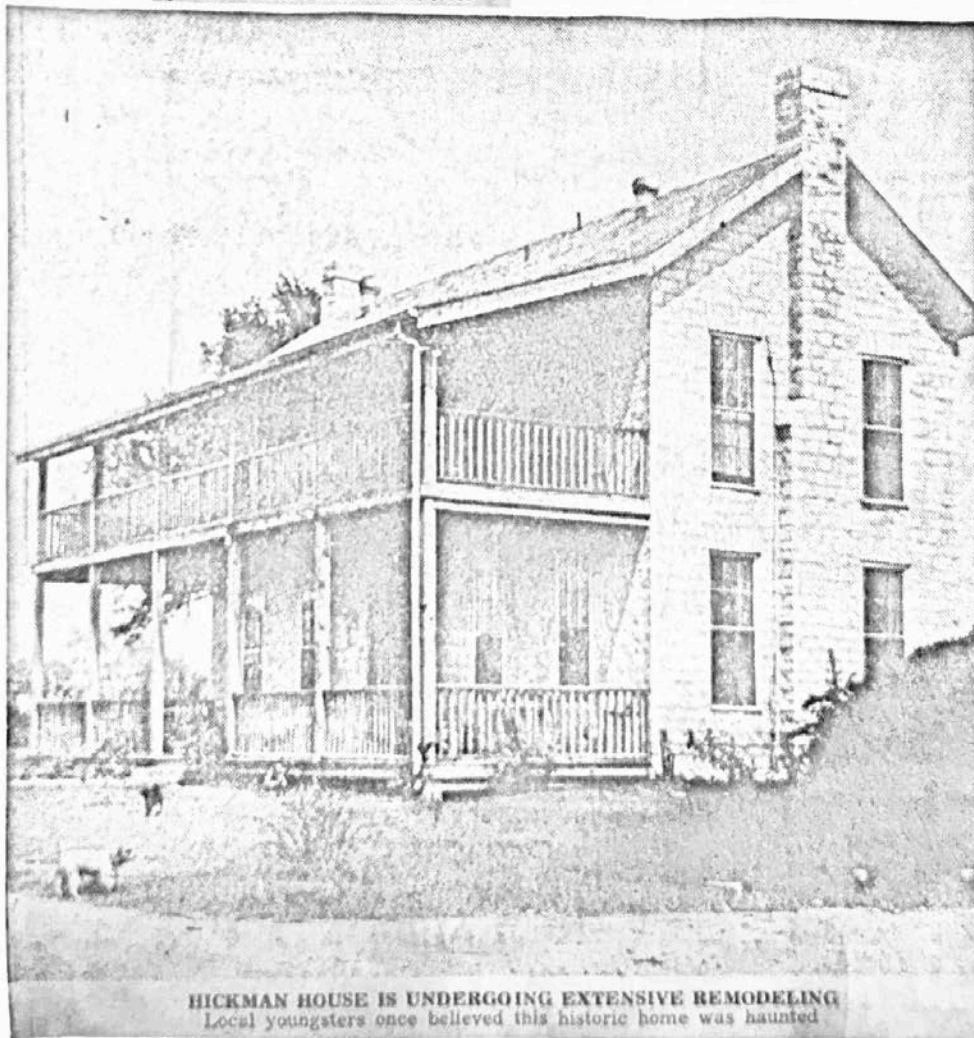
Descendant of 1849 settlers from Alabama, he was a son of Nathaniel Franklin and Mary J. Porterfield Hickman. He attended the Liberty Hill Normal and Commercial College, and (with interruptions to teach school) earned a law degree at the University of Texas in 1910.

For 16 years he was an attorney in Dublin (Erath County) and Breckenridge (Stephens County). Oil was discovered in both areas, and with boom conditions his practice included some historic cases.

Elected Associate Justice (1928), he became in 1928 Chief Justice, Court of Civil Appeals, Eastland. He was appointed to the Supreme Court Commission of Appeals in 1935, became an Associate Justice of the Texas Supreme Court in 1945, and on Jan. 7, 1948, was appointed Chief Justice—a post he filled until 1961. He is credited with 433 opinions of the Texas Supreme Court.

A devout Christian, he taught a Bible class about 50 years, and served 1921-62 as a trustee of Southern Methodist University. He married (1) Ethel Markward (d. 1921) and (2) Lena Pettit, who survived him. (1971)

THE SUN - Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 10 February 3, 1972



HICKMAN HOUSE IS UNDERGOING EXTENSIVE REMODELING
Local youngsters once believed this historic home was haunted

THE SUN
Sec. 2, Page 9
Georgetown, Texas
March 23, 1972

Marker honoring Judge Hickman to be dedicated Sunday afternoon

An Official Texas Historical Marker honoring the late Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice John E. Hickman, a native of Williamson County, will be dedicated on the County Courthouse lawn at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 26.

The dedicatory address will be delivered by Robert W. Calvert, chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

The marker will be unveiled by Mrs. John E. Hickman and Mrs. John W. Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, under whose auspices the marker is erected.

Master of ceremonies will be Judge D. B. Wood.

The invocation will be offered by Dr.



JUDGE JOHN E. HICKMAN

Edmund Heinsohn of Austin.

Hubert Brock, mayor pro-tem of Georgetown, will deliver the welcoming address, and Bob Watson, director of field operations for the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, will introduce distinguished guests.

Taylor attorney Wilson Fox will introduce the main speaker. The marker will be formally accepted by Williamson County Judge Luther C. Chance. The

benediction will be offered by Dr. C. W. Hali of Austin.

A reception will immediately follow the marker dedication and will be held in the third floor library of the County Courthouse.

Official Texas Historical Markers are erected by the authority of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, state agency for historical preservation.

The name and location of this marker will be included in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.

The text of the marker reads:
CHIEF JUSTICE
JOHN EDWARD HICKMAN
(1883-1962)

A distinguished Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, and a native of Williamson County.

Descendant of 1849 settlers from Alabama, he was a son of Nathaniel Franklin and Mary J. Porterfield Hickman. He attended the Liberty Hill Normal and Commercial College, and (with interruptions to teach school) earned a law degree at the University of Texas in 1910.

For 16 years he was an attorney in Dublin (Erath County) and Breckenridge (Stephens County). Oil was discovered in both areas, and with boom conditions his practice included some historic cases.

Elected Associate Justice (1926), he became in 1928 Chief Justice, Court of Civil Appeals, Eastland. He was appointed to the Supreme Court Commission of Appeals in 1935; became an Associate Justice of the Texas Supreme Court in 1945; and on Jan. 7, 1948, was appointed Chief Justice—A post he filled until 1961. He is credited with 433 opinions of the Texas Supreme Court.

A devout Christian, he taught a Bible class about 50 years, and served 1921-62 as a trustee of Southern Methodist University. He married (1) Ethel Markward (d. 1921) and (2) Lena Pettit, who survived him.

New Historical Marker To Honor J.E. Hickman

GEORGETOWN — An official state historical marker will be dedicated Sunday at 3 p.m. on the Georgetown Courthouse Lawn to the late State Supreme Court Chief Justice John E. Hickman who served in that capacity from 1949 until 1960.

Mrs. Hickman, of Austin, will unveil the marker dedicated to the memory of her late husband. Others on the program will include Judge D. B. Wood of Georgetown, Dr. Edmund Heinsohn, Mayor Hubert Brock of Georgetown and Bob Watson,

director of field operations of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

The dedicatory address will be given by the Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, Robert W. Calvert, who will be introduced by Wilson Fox, a former law colleague of Judge Hickman's.

The marker inscription will read: "Chief Justice John Edward Hickman (1883-1962)

"A distinguished Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, and a native of Williamson County.

"Descendant of 1849 settlers from Alabama, he was a son of Nathaniel Dranklin and Mary J. Porterfield Hickman. He attended the Liberty Hill Normal and Commercial College, and (with interruptions to teach school) earned a law degree at the University of Texas in 1910.

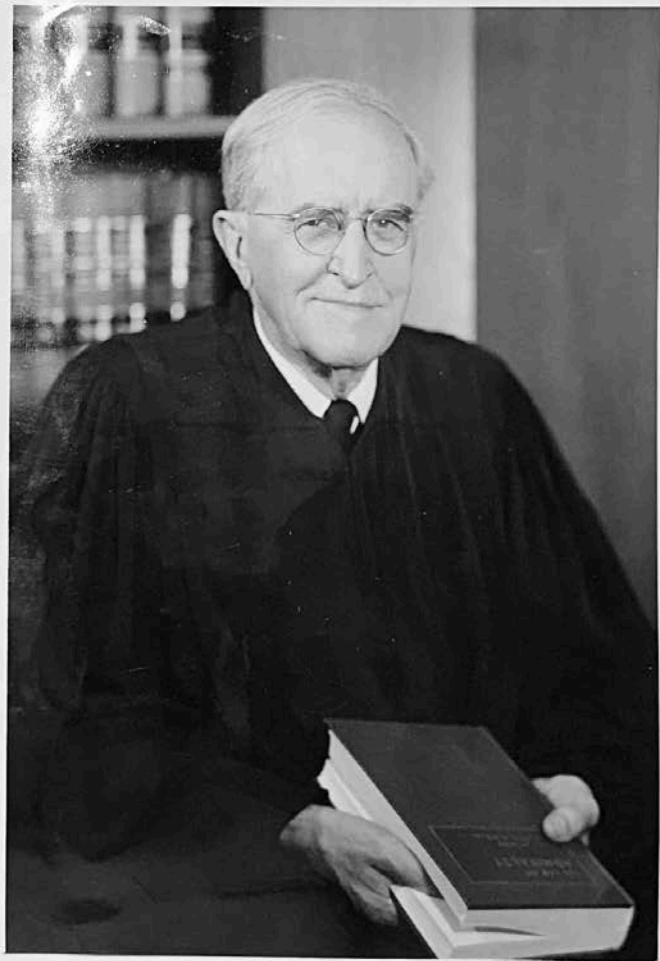
"For 16 years he was an attorney in Dublin (Erath County) and Breckenridge (Stephens County). Oil was discovered in both areas, and with boom conditions his practice included some historic cases.

The Austin American

Friday, March 24, 1972

"Elected Associate Justice (1926), he became in 1928 Chief Justice, Court of Civil Appeals, Eastland. He was appointed to the Supreme Court Commission of Appeals in 1935; became associate Justice of the Texas Supreme Court in 1945; and on Jan. 7, 1948, was appointed Chief Justice — a post he filled until 1961. He is credited with 433 opinions of the Texas Supreme Court.

"A devout Christian, he taught a Bible class about 50 years, and served 1921-62 as a trustee of Southern Methodist University. He married (1) Ethel Markward (d. 1921) and (2) Lena Pettit, who survived him."





TRIBUTE TO RETIRING CHIEF JUSTICE

JOHN E. HICKMAN

(By D. B. Wood)

My Fellow Judges:

The one outstanding thing that casts a shadow upon this Conference and is the subject of many conversations is "Judge Hickman is retiring and this is his last Conference as an active Judge". All of his fellow judges view his retirement with mixed feelings of sadness, pride, satisfaction and hope: Sadness, the most natural reaction, because of his departure from an active and dedicated participation in the judiciary of this State; Pride, because we served contemporaneously with him; Satisfaction, because we know he goes into retirement of his own free will and choice, with the plaudits of the Bench and Bar, and the Public in general, extending those good words "well done thy good and faithful servant"; and lastly, Hope, in that we do pray that a Divine Providence will permit him to remain with us for many years yet to pass and that through it all he will enjoy in full measure the happy rewards which he so richly deserves.

When Judge Hickman retires at the end of 1960 he will have served 34 years on the Appellate Bench of Texas, which period is embraced within a span of more than 50 years as a Texas lawyer.

A native Texan, he was born in 1883 on a farm near the village of Liberty Hill in the Western portion of Williamson County, where he attended a rural school and small private College. He taught a one teacher rural school in Bell County for two years and also served two years as principal of Lampasas High School, having, meanwhile, attended Southwestern University, at Georgetown, one summer session and the Literary Department of the University of Texas for two years. When Judge Hickman graduated from the Law Department of the University of Texas in 1910, he had completed the regular three year course in two years and part of one summer, and was a top ranking member of his class. He served a year in the Law School as quizmaster.

After his admission to the Bar in 1910, Judge Hickman practiced law for 16 years at Dublin in Erath County and at Breckenridge in Stephens County.

He was elected an Associate Justice of the Eastland Court of Civil Appeals in 1926 and qualified as such on January 4, 1927. His first opinion was delivered on February 11, 1927, and appears at page 835 of Volume 290 (old series) of Southwestern Reporter. It is interesting to note that in this case Judge Hickman reversed the District Court because the trial judge should have sustained a general demurrer - that old vehicle upon which so many smart lawyers were able to ambush the trial judge, and which Judge Hickman, after reaching the Supreme Court, had a decisive role in eliminating.

He served as Associate Justice of the Eastland Court for 13 months and on the resignation of Chief Justice William Pannill was on February 4, 1928 appointed by Governor Dan Moody as such Chief Justice.

Judge Hickman continued in that capacity until on May 27, 1935, when he was appointed by the Supreme Court to Section "A" of its Commission of Appeals. He succeeded Judge Richard Critz who had been elevated to the Supreme Court by Governor Jas. V. Allred to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Associate Justice William Pierson. His first opinion was delivered on June 12, 1935, and appears 125 T 563 in 83 Southwestern Reporter, Second Series, at page 307 - just 16 days after qualifying. In fact, before the Court recessed for the summer Judge Hickman had prepared and delivered five opinions, all of which had been expressly approved by the Supreme Court. They appear in 125 T. 563, 614, and 126 T. 69, 73 & 99 and in Vols. 83 and 84 (Second Series) of Southwestern Reporter.

He became an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in 1945 following adoption of a Constitutional Amendment which increased the Court to Nine Members, and with the other five Commissioners took the Oath as such on September 21, 1945. The proceedings incident to that ceremony appear at the beginning of Volume 144 of Official Texas Reports, and the opinions of the Nine Member Court begin at page 281. While not significant except in a review of the Judicial history of Judge Hickman it is interesting to note that the first opinion was prepared and delivered by him. It is also reported in 190 Southwestern Reporter, Second Series, at page 67 - exactly 200 volumes after his first opinion as an Associate Justice of the Eastland Court.

Upon the death of the lamented Chief Justice James P. Alexander, Judge Hickman was appointed as Chief Justice by Governor Beauford Jester, and qualified on January 7, 1948. The first opinion delivered by him in that capacity was on January 14, 1948, and is reported in 146 Texas Reports at page 397, but in harmony with his uniform humility and fairness he stated at the conclusion: "The foregoing opinion was dictated, though not put in final form, by the late lamented Chief Justice James P. Alexander a few days prior to his untimely death on January 1, 1948. Since his passing the opinion has been considered and approved and is adopted by the Court as its opinion."

Our beloved Chief Justice was reelected in 1948 and in 1954, having no opponent and no semblance of opposition, and is now voluntarily retiring.

But these are the dry statistics of a judicial life full of service to the jurisprudence of this State. My prime purpose in these remarks is not to praise Mr. Justice Hickman as a judge. He has erected his own monument, and needs no words of commendation from me. It is as a man that I wish to speak of him, and to record the early life, in true American tradition, that afforded the basis of a great life.

Judge Hickman's forebears came to Texas by wagon train when our State was in its infancy. His paternal grandparents, Charles C. and Susan A. Hickman, emigrated from Alabama to Texas, with six children in 1849. They settled on Berry Creek in western Williamson County, where there was an abundance of wood

and water, so necessary in that day. Among the children was a son, Nathaniel Franklin Hickman, then 10 years of age, who later intermarried with Mary J. Porterfield and who were the parents of our beloved Judge. The Grandfather was a Primitive Baptist preacher on Sundays but tilled the soil for a living during the week days. While yet in Alabama he served a time as justice of the peace. Perhaps from this combination - an innate love of practical justice by man to man mingled with a rigorous and unbending pious personal conduct required by a strict religious faith - there was implanted in the boy, and which grew and developed, that indispensable ingredient which God uses to make useful men. It is significant to note that as far back as the oldest residents of that community have knowledge, a Primitive Baptist Church there flourished and to this day there are numerous members of that faith in the area.

Judge Hickman's maternal ancestors lived in Georgia and emigrated by wagon train from that State to Texas. His mother, Mary J. Porterfield, was born on the trip near the town of Nacogdoches.

The elder Hickman, like most Americans, had an ambition to own his own "vine and fig tree", and by deed dated May 26, 1853, recorded in Vol. 4 at page 314 of the Williamson County Deed Records, acquired by purchase 419½ acres of land for the sum of \$379.00. Thereafter he added by purchase at one dollar per acre an adjoining tract of 264½ acres, that deed being dated October 3, 1855, and was promptly recorded in Volume 8, at page 483. This made a total of 684 acres thus owned. This land remained in the Hickman family throughout the life times of the grandparents and father of Judge Hickman and in 1897 was partitioned, among the Hickman heirs, in Cause No. 3363 of the Williamson County District Court. There was set aside to Judge Hickman and his brother Charlie and their five sisters 194½ acres valued by the Commissioners at \$600.00. Thereafter on December 4, 1900, they sold this land for \$800.00. It is significant that although Judge Hickman was then only 17 years of age, the purchaser required no more than his execution of the deed and promise to confirm after reaching his majority, which promise was faithfully kept.

Frank Hickman, the father of Judge Hickman, was a Confederate soldier in the war between the States. Some time after that ordeal he was engaged as manager of a Farmers Grange store in the little town of Liberty Hill. Subsequently he purchased the store and operated it as a country merchant, handling and selling everything needed by his customers, who were primarily farmers. His business was almost entirely on credit - payable in the fall at harvest time. He never took a note or a mortgage but sold entirely on open account. He died on August 29th just when his customers owed the most for the year; leaving a widow and seven children. The widow was greatly concerned as to whether enough could be collected to pay the debts owing to the wholesale companies. Young John Edward was then only eight years old and his brother Charlie only ten years of age. The widow sought no compromise of her deceased husband's debts, but pulled the family together and depended only upon themselves and what they had. She put the boy, John Edward, on a horse and sent him throughout the community collecting such store debts as he could, taking what he could get. In one instance he got a yearling from one farmer and a barrel of sorghum molasses from another. Each of the family had his assigned task. In the end victory was theirs. They realized enough from collections and sale of the store to pay all debts and redeem the good name of Frank Hickman.

But then, with little left, what would the family do to survive? There was then no aid to Dependent Children nor in fact any governmental welfare assistance. Jobs were nonexistent except on the farms and that paid little with cotton, the only money crop, selling for an average of five cents per pound. The family did own a little home in Liberty Hill and a 1/7 interest in the land on Berry creek and a small place near Liberty Hill, but only a small portion was in cultivation and the rental returns meager. The following little verse, however, typifies the family's conduct:

"It's not what you'd do with a million,
if riches should e'er be your lot,
But what are you doing at present
with the dollar and a quarter you've got?"

And survive they did with what they had and under the leadership of the brave and resourceful mother. She sold the little farm near their village and bought another near the town of Bertram that she thought would yield more. The purchase price - some \$1300.00, and all in silver - was carried by the boy, John Edward, whom they called "Ed", in a sack and by buggy from Liberty Hill to Bertram, - a distance of about 12 miles. He was then about fourteen years of age.

During those days the school in Liberty Hill was a combination public grade school and small private College. They called it Liberty Hill Normal and Business College. It's reputation extended beyond the County Line and for some years attracted students from distant points over the State. They boarded in the private homes of the local families. At one time they boasted of 100 out of town students. They paid tuition for the entire five months which public funds supported, but were compelled to pay tuition for the other four months. The school authorities directed, however, that the five free months were those in the middle of the term and that the resident children should pay tuition for the first two months and the last two months of such term. Judge Hickman attended this school from the first grade to graduation in June of 1902, but except for the last year was able to attend only the five months of free school each year.

Upon graduation in 1902 he procured a county wide teacher's certificate. He was then 19 years of age. He was elected to teach a rural school at Hog Mountain in Bell County but on condition that his eligibility be extended to that county, which he somehow accomplished. His pay the first year was \$40.00 per month for five months. He was the sole teaching staff and taught all grades, including one of high school rank. The number of pupils ranged from 30 to 40, and not too regular in attendance. During the summer of 1903 he attended Southwestern University at Georgetown and thereby enlarged his teaching qualifications to a state wide first grade certificate, and this caused the trustees at Hog Mountain to raise his pay to \$45.00 per month for the next year.

A significant news dispatch appeared in the Georgetown weekly newspaper from its Florence reporter in 1903 and which was repeated in 1949 under its "46 Years Ago" column, in substance as follows:

"Professor Ed Hickman who teaches at Hog Mountain attended prayer meeting at Florence Baptist Church last Wednesday night."

I happened to see this item in 1949 and recall it vividly. It was also noticed by Governor Dan Moody and he mailed a clipping thereof to Judge Hickman. I say this incident is significant because it reveals the conduct of a young man that was repeated over and over in mature manhood.

Having saved some money from teaching at Hog Mountain school and borrowing a little more, and desiring to further his teaching education, Judge Hickman entered the University of Texas in the fall of 1904 and pursued the study of literary courses for two full years. Then, out of money again, he applied for and was elected as principal of Lampasas High School, taking up his duties there in the fall of 1906, and continuing for two years. His pay the first year was \$75.00 per month and as was the case at Hog Mountain he was awarded a raise by the trustees and received \$85.00 per month the second year.

By this time he had again saved some money, and in June of 1908 entered University of Texas Law School for a summer course of six weeks. He then spent the next six weeks in the law office of Judge W. H. Nunn at Georgetown and continued his study of law. Judge Nunn is now 87 years of age, is in retirement at Georgetown, in reasonably good health and vividly remembers this early association. In a recent interview he detailed to me some of the events in the early life of Judge Hickman and his family. He said this: "Ed was a good boy, studious, hungry for knowledge of the law, and I knew he would make a good lawyer". That fall he returned to the University and with the aid of a little more borrowed money was able to graduate in June of 1910 with his Law degree.

Reared in a pious home he early attached himself to that great denomination - the Methodist Church, and has been an active and consistent member of that Church throughout his life. Long prominent in the affairs of his Church, Judge Hickman is one of the State's most popular Bible teachers. For more than a generation he has Sunday after Sunday taught a large men's class at University Methodist Church in Austin. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Southern Methodist University since 1921.

Such a life is an inspiration to those familiar with it, and is proof again that hardships need not be stumbling blocks but can be stepping stones. Some would say that success was attained in spite of such hardships, while others proclaim the good old American doctrine that by hard work and determination and reliance on self, that such hardships became the instruments of success, and can be so over and over again even in these modern times.

This, then, is a brief sketch, recorded in clumsy fashion of the life of our beloved Chief Justice - progeny of hardy pioneers, fatherless in early youth, bearing man size responsibilities in boyhood, poverty stricken throughout youth and young manhood, curious about and hungry for the learning contained in books, and determined regardless of many road blocks to acquire knowledge. Now, having reached the highest judicial office in his state, is entitled to retire and enjoy a well earned rest. He has added much to the jurisprudence of this State, and subtracted not an iota from fundamental principles, and never for a moment lowered the high level of judicial poise.

Hard cases did not make him shipwreck the law to save individual justice. He ever sought to make the Administration of Justice "as strong as the law, no stronger; as weak as the law, no weaker".

In the charmed circle of home, around friendship's shrine, in the temple of justice, in the Sanctuary of the living God, Justice Hickman has always been the same open, wholesome model of uplifting human character - a Christian gentlemen.

Finally, paraphrasing the closing words of a tribute paid to another Supreme Court Justice upon his retirement from 36 years service in another State, I close with this:

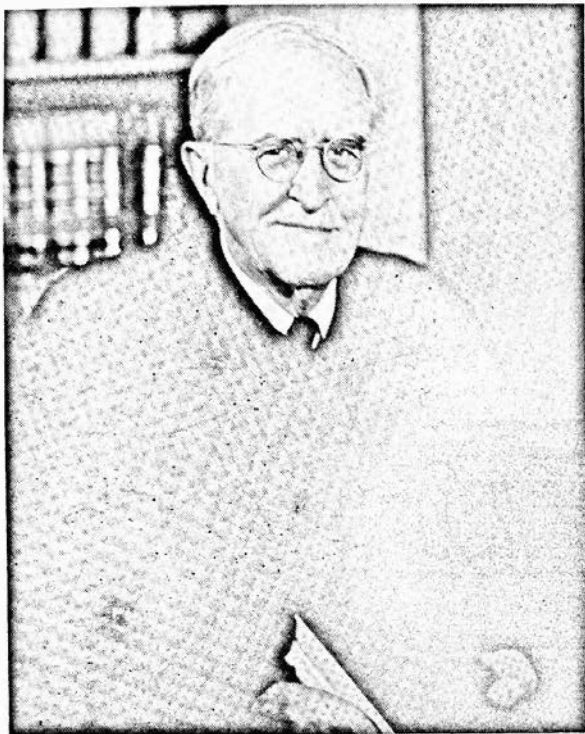
When the Case of Time versus Hickman is called, and nature renders her final decree in equity, a great storehouse of information will pass into eclipse, but when the eyes of future generations range down the record and trace the names of those that the history of this State will never let die, they will find the name of John Edward Hickman.

Judge Hickman, we honor you for the life you have lived and for the work you have done; and we sincerely hope that in your retirement, and in the long evening of life, you may find happiness, rest and repose.

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DEDICATION OF
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

HONORING



CHIEF JUSTICE JOHN E. HICKMAN

Sunday, March 26, 1972 — 3:00 P. M.
County Courthouse Lawn
GEORGETOWN, TEXAS



MRS. JOHN E. HICKMAN, widow of Chief Justice John Edward Hickman, unveiled the historical marker on the courthouse lawn honoring her husband last Sunday afternoon. Before the unveiling, Judge D. B. Wood, master of ceremonies, introduced Mrs. Hickman who spoke briefly and told several anecdotes about her husband's life. The program in the district courtroom was attended by a large crowd of Hickman relatives and friends.

County historical committee qualifies for "Buster" award

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met Thursday, March 23 in the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, represented Taylor and presided at the meeting. Other towns represented were Round Rock, Georgetown, Florence, Jarrell, Liberty Hill and Leander.

Progress reports on collecting data for historical places to be marked indicate work is being done in several areas of the county.

The committee is grateful for the active support of Judge C. L. Chance and the Commissioners Court and the various Chambers of Commerce in the county, and respectfully solicit the endorsement of other groups interested in the history of this county.

Mrs. Cornforth reported that there are now thirty nine members of the Texas Historical Foundation and contributions amounting to more than two hundred dollars, which according to Bob Watson of Austin, Director for Field Operations of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, makes Williamson County eligible for the Quota Buster Award. This is the fifth time in a row.

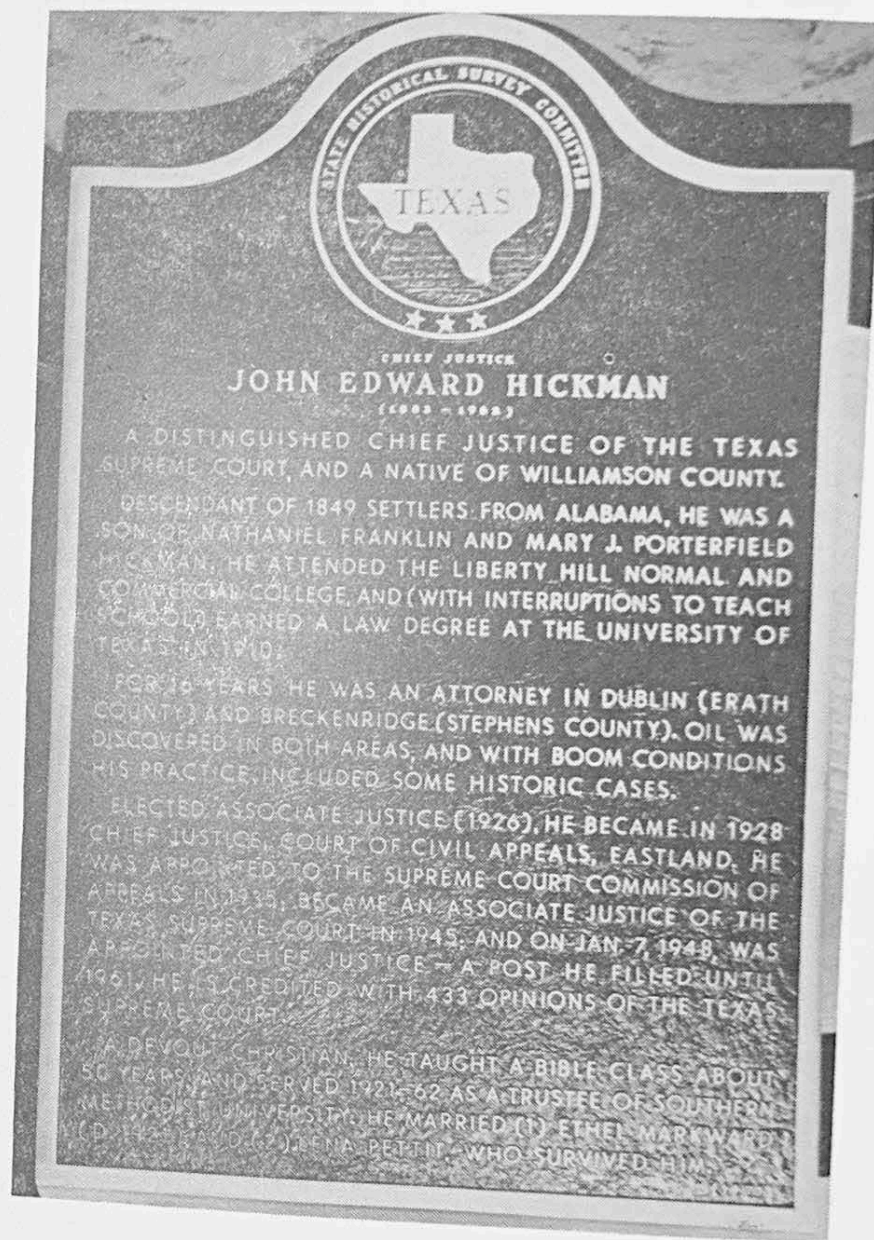
Mrs. J. E. Hickman of Austin, attended the meeting to help complete plans for the dedication of the official marker honoring her late husband, Chief Justice John Edward Hickman on the lawn of the Williamson County Courthouse.

--Reporter of the Committee of
Williamson County
Myreta Matthews

THE SUN
Sec. 2, Page 3
Georgetown, Texas
March 30, 1972

PROGRAM
 Dedication of Official Texas Historical Marker
 Honoring
 Chief Justice John E. Hickman

- Master of Ceremonies ----- Judge D. B. Wood
 Georgetown, Texas
- Invocation ----- Dr. Edmund Heinsohn
 Austin, Texas
- Welcome Address ---- Mayor Pro-tem, Mr. Hubert Brock
 Georgetown, Texas
- Introduction of Distinguished Guests ---- Mr. Bob Watson
 Director of Field Operations
 Texas State Historical Survey Committee
- Dedicatory Address — Chief Justice Hon. Robert W. Calvert
 Supreme Court of Texas
 Austin, Texas
- Introduced by ----- Mr. Wilson Fox
 Law Colleague
 Taylor, Texas
- Response and Acceptance ----- Hon. Luther C. Chance
 County Judge, Williamson County
- Unveiling of Marker ----- Mrs. John E. Hickman
 Mrs. John W. Cornforth
 County Chairman
- Benediction ----- Dr. W. C. Hali
 Austin, Texas





CHIEF JUSTICE

JOHN EDWARD HICKMAN

(1883 - 1962)

A DISTINGUISHED CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE TEXAS SUPREME COURT, AND A NATIVE OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY.

DESCENDANT OF 1849 SETTLERS FROM ALABAMA, HE WAS A SON OF NATHANIEL FRANKLIN AND MARY J. PORTERFIELD HICKMAN. HE ATTENDED THE LIBERTY HILL NORMAL AND COMMERCIAL COLLEGE, AND (WITH INTERRUPTIONS TO TEACH SCHOOL) EARNED A LAW DEGREE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS IN 1910.

FOR 16 YEARS HE WAS AN ATTORNEY IN DUBLIN (ERATH COUNTY) AND BRECKENRIDGE (STEPHENS COUNTY). OIL WAS DISCOVERED IN BOTH AREAS, AND WITH BOOM CONDITIONS HIS PRACTICE INCLUDED SOME HISTORIC CASES.

ELECTED ASSOCIATE JUSTICE (1926), HE BECAME IN 1928 CHIEF JUSTICE, COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS, EASTLAND. HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE SUPREME COURT COMMISSION OF APPEALS IN 1935, BECAME AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE TEXAS SUPREME COURT IN 1945, AND ON JAN. 7, 1948, WAS APPOINTED CHIEF JUSTICE - A POST HE FILLED UNTIL 1961. HE IS CREDITED WITH 433 OPINIONS OF THE TEXAS SUPREME COURT.

A DEVOUT CHRISTIAN, HE TAUGHT A BIBLE CLASS ABOUT 50 YEARS, AND SERVED 1921-62 AS A TRUSTEE OF SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY. HE MARRIED (1) ETHEL MARKWARD (D. 1921) AND (2) LENA PETTIT, WHO SURVIVED HIM.



Official Memorandum

By

PRESTON SMITH

Governor of Texas

AUSTIN, TEXAS

GREETINGS:

The State of Texas has had a proud and colorful history; an unsurpassed heritage filled with dedication, devotion and individualism.

We owe a great debt to our forefathers; the pioneers and early settlers whose accomplishments have been an inspiration and a guiding light to all Texans.

All too often, in these modern times, we tend to overlook and fail to recognize and appreciate the labors of these great men and women.

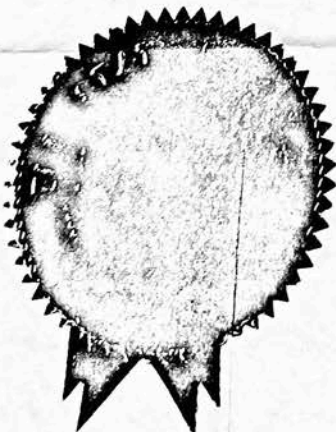
Increased public appreciation is needed for the men and women who toiled, under extreme hardships, and traveled to the far corners of our great state, and established themselves as the pioneers of our proud heritage.

The Texas State Historical Survey Committee and the two hundred fifty-four County Historical Survey Committees are working diligently and efficiently to preserve Texas' historic past. The County Committees, this year, are making a special effort to focus public attention to the dramatic course of events in their Counties, thus designating each day of a week for special activities highlighting the various elements of the state preservation program such as the beautification of the approaches to and areas surrounding historic sites and markers; the locating and recording of noteworthy landmarks; honoring pioneers and early settlers; involving the youth in historic work, and touring historical exhibits, sites and markers.

THEREFORE, I, as Governor of Texas, do hereby designate the week of April 9, 1972 through April 16, 1972, as

COUNTY HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK

in WILLIAMSON, County,
Texas, and urge all citizens to
support and participate in the
activities of this observance.



In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my
signature this 16th day of March, 19 72

Preston Smith
Governor of Texas



TRADING IN THE CRANK SYSTEM—Mr. and Mrs. Marshall K. Richardson look forward to the new dial system that will alleviate many of the problems that have plagued subscribers of the old Liberty Hill Telephone Union. Rates will be higher, but subscribers won't have to buy their own batteries after April 16.

The Taylor Daily Press, Monday, March 20, 1972, Page 3

Texas History Being Promoted By State Committee, Foundation

The Texas Historical Survey Committee was created by the Texas Legislature in 1953. An aggressive program of surveying and marking was begun with the aid of the Texas Historical Foundation, a private "sister organization" which financed the activities of the Survey Committee during its first years of existence.

In 1959 additional legislation was passed funding the Survey Committee through the state for the first time. In 1963 the organization which has continued to the present day was set up. As it now stands the agency consists of an eighteen-member, gubernatorially appointed State Committee which functions as its board of directors: a professional staff of historians and experts in related fields; and

volunteer history buffs in county historical survey committees through-out the state. The active program of marking historic sites was begun before state funding became available, but increased in volume in 1961.

The Texas Historical Foundation is a nonprofit, educational corporation financed entirely by the contributions of public-spirited individuals and organizations and works hand in hand with the Survey Committee. From 1954 to 1959 the Foundation provided the sole means of support for the committee. Since 1959, when the agency first received state funding, the Foundation has undertaken independent preservation projects while continuing enthusiastically to support the committee's work in various ways. Since its inception and through the present, the Foundation has served the committee as a "banker" for the handling of marker funds.

The Foundation also published the 1971 edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.

The Taylor Daily Press, Thursday, March 30, 1972

County History Week Proclaimed By Governor

The week of April 9-16 has been declared County History Appreciation Week in Williamson County by Gov. Preston Smith, Mrs. John Cornforth, president of the County Historical Survey Committee, said today.

Mrs. Cornforth said her committee is planning several special activities which will be announced later.

The governor's proclamation reads as follows:

OFFICIAL
MEMORANDUM
By
PRESTON SMITH
Governor of Texas
AUSTIN, TEXAS

GREETINGS:

The State of Texas has had a proud and colorful history; an unsurpassed heritage filled with dedication, devotion and individualism.

We owe a great debt to our forefathers; the pioneers and early settlers whose accomplishments have been an inspiration and a guiding light to all Texans.

All too often, in these modern times, we tend to overlook and fail to recognize and appreciate the labors of these great men and women.

Increased public appreciation is needed for the men and women who toiled, under extreme hardships, and traveled to the far

corners of our great state, and established themselves as the pioneers of our proud heritage.

The Texas State Historical Survey Committee and the two hundred fifty-four County Historical Survey Committees are working diligently and efficiently to preserve Texas' historic past. The County Committees, this year, are making a special effort to focus public attention to the dramatic course of events in their Counties, thus designating each day of a week for special activities highlighting the various elements of the state preservation program such as the beautification of the approaches to and areas surrounding historic sites and markers; the locating and recording of noteworthy landmarks; honoring pioneers and early settlers; involving the youth in historic work, and touring historical exhibits, sites and markers.

THEREFORE, I, as Governor of Texas, do hereby designate the week of April 9, 1972 through April 16, 1972, as COUNTY HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK in Williamson County, Texas, and urge all citizens to support and participate in the activities of this observance.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 16th day of March, 1972.

Preston Smith
Governor of Texas

County Historical Group Reviews Progress Reports

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met Thursday, March 23 in the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. John Cornforth, county chairman, represented Taylor and presided at the meeting. Other towns represented were Round Rock, Georgetown, Florence, Jarrell, Liberty Hill and Leander.

Progress reports on collecting data for historical places to be marked indicate work is being done in several areas of the county.

The committee expressed its gratitude for the active support of Judge C. L. Chance and the Commissioners Court and the various Chambers of Commerce in the county, and respectfully solicits the endorsement of other groups interested in the history of this county.

Mrs. Cornforth reported the group now have 39 members of the Texas Historical Foundation and contributions amounting to more than \$200, which according to Bob Watson of Austin, director for field operations of the Texas

State Historical Survey Committee, makes Williamson County eligible for the quota Buster Award. This is the fifth time in a row for such an award.

Mrs. J. E. Hickman, of Austin, attended the meeting to help complete plans for the program on Sunday, March 26 for the dedication of the official marker which honored her late husband, Chief Justice John Edward Hickman on the lawn of the Williamson County Courthouse.

Museum Adds Doak Papers To Collection

By ALMA LEE HOLMAN
Press Staff Writer

One of the newest additions to the historical museum housed in the county building in Taylor is a large framed presentation of copies of 10 documents relating to Dr. A. V. Doak, father of the late Dr. Edmond Doak.

The elder Dr. Doak practiced medicine for many years in Taylor and was highly respected in his profession.

The first of the documents, dated June 20, 1861, proclaims that Abner V. Doak completed the course of Medical Lec-

tures at the University of Virginia. The second one, dated June 20, 1862, gives credit for completing the Medical Lectures during that term of the university. The script used in the certificates is ornate and shaded, with words such as "sessions", or others spelled with double "s", looking like "fs" in the old-fashioned manner.

Another document dated 1862 shows Dr. A. V. Doak as an assistant in the general hospital in Charlottesville,

Va., and attests that he was "second to none in zeal, faithfulness, efficiency, and high character."

One paper, dated January 1, 1863, is a contract with Dr. Doak to serve as a medical officer in the Army of Confederate States at a salary of \$100 per month, "in lieu of all allowances and emoluments whatsoever." Later in 1863, according to the certificates, Dr. Doak was appointed assistant surgeon, then in 1864 he was appointed surgeon in the Army of the Confederate States.

It must have been in 1864 or early 1865 that Dr. Doak became a prisoner of war, for a certificate dated May 1865 shows him to be a paroled prisoner of war who "has permission to go to his home and there remain undisturbed."

From the certificates, it was when he was paroled that he must have come to Texas, for the parole is countersigned with a Galveston date-line in June and July of 1865, and again in Washington County, Texas.

Two Texas certificates are also included in the display, one from Giddings in 1874 and 1879 showing him as a practicing physician. Then on March 10, 1879 he registered his credentials as a physician in Williamson County, with

TAYLOR, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1972

County Clerk S. M. Lesesne signing the certificate.

The 10 certificates, showing evidences of the originals having been well-worn before being photographed, are framed in a simple black molding, approximately 42 inches long by 18 inches deep. They will be hung in the tax collector's office in the county building, according to Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, and informally curator of the museum housed in the Taylor county office building.

No Basis to Rule

The so-called "r" rule that oysters should be eaten only during months having the letter "r" has no basis and probably originated from observations that in summer months oysters are watery and have less substance, according to Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Dedication Set Saturday

State Marker Due Lawler Community

A Texas state historical marker will be dedicated at ceremonies at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Lawler Community located four miles east of Florence in western Williamson County, according to Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

State Rep. Charles Patterson of Taylor will give the dedication address and the response and acceptance will be by Mrs. Fannie Lawler Geiger.

Also on the program will be County Judge C. L. Chance who will give the welcome, Ollie Knight will deliver the invocation, Mrs. Cornforth will introduce the guests, and Miss Effie McLeod will give the history of the Lawler Community.

The marker will be unveiled by the Lawler twins and the benediction will be by W. E. Proctor.

The marker dedication will precede a meeting of the Lawler Cemetery Association at 10 a.m. and a covered dish lunch at noon.

The marker for the community reads as follows:

LAWLER COMMUNITY

Founded in mid-1800s and named for early settler L. T. "Uncle Lee" Lawler. Beloved by townspeople, for years he leased land free to community for cemetery and church.

First school, named for Edward Stevenson, land donor, began before 1872. Now farming community.

(1971)

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 11 April 27, 1972

Marker dedication Saturday for Lawler community

Ceremonies for the Dedication of the Texas Historical Marker for the Lawler Community at the Lawler Cemetery, four miles east of Florence, will be April 29, 1972 at 2 p.m.

The program will include Welcome, Judge Luther Chance; Invocation, Mr. Ollie Knight; Introduction of Guests, Mrs. John Cornforth; History, Miss Effie McLeod;

Dedication address will be made by Rep. Charles Patterson and the unveiling of the marker will be done by the Lawler twins.

Mr. W. E. Proctor will pronounce the benediction.

The inscription on the marker reads: Lawler Community, founded before mid-1800s. Named for early settler L. T. "Uncle Lee" Lawler. Beloved by citizens, for years he leased land free to community for school, church, and cemetery.

First school, named for Edward

Stevenson (land donor) began before 1872. Now farm and ranch area.

6

THE LAWLER COMMUNITY
CEMETERY, SCHOOL AND CHURCH BUILDING

The Lawler community got its name from L. T. Lawler who gave the land for the Cemetery, School and Church building and grounds.

Uncle Lee, as he was affectionately addressed by friends and his neighbors, moved to the Community before 1861. In 1861 he bought 256 acres of land on the Whittenburg Branch three and one half miles east of Florence, on the W. G. Lang Survey, paying \$450.00 for it.

It is on this survey that the Lawler Cemetery, School and Church are located.

On first moving to this survey he gave an acre of land for burying purposes.

In 1902 he deeded this acre to J. W. Shafer, the Lawler Cemetery trustee, for \$10.00. In 1878 he bought additional land on the Edward Lang Survey by paying the taxes against it.

Uncle Lee was a community minded man loved by those ^{who} knew him, especially the children as he always kept candy for them and told them interesting pioneer stories. He was interested in community projects, in his church and lodge.

He gave 0.94 acres of land in the Edward Lang Survey just east of the cemetery, in 1904, to the community for a school and church which was used as such without pay, rent or deed until June 9, 1959 when it was deeded to the Lawler Baptist Church Deacons, T. O. Lindsey, Willie Lindsey and Chester Strawn, and their followers, by Mrs. Laura Lawler, the daughter-in-law of Uncle Lee Lawler. After a two year period of non operation of the church, it is to revert back to the Lawler Memorial Association.

The Lawler Cemetery was first used as such by travelers passing through the community and the graves were marked by rectangular grave stones made of native stone. The oldest visible marking on one is 1850. Several were marked before 1870. Uncle Lee Lawler and wife along with the fore-fathers of the community are buried there. The cemetery is cared for by a regular caretaker who is paid by the Lawler Cemetery Association. It is fenced with chain link fence. The Association is working on a plan of permanent care for the cemetery, and is looking forward to the dedication of a Texas Historical Marker. The Cemetery Association Homecoming is the last Saturday in each April.

Mr. Edward Stevenson gave the land for the first community school which was located a few hundred yards north of the present location. The School was named for its land donor and was a frame building not far from Stevenson Branch. The exact date of establishment of the school is not known but it is known that Mrs. J. W. Shafer started to school there in 1872 and Mrs. Will Lawler started there

in 1880. It was likely built by the men of the neighborhood with probably a head carpenter.

In 1892 the Stevenson School was transferred to Center Point about two miles south-east of the Stevenson. Mrs. Georgie Hickman started to school here in the first grade. School was held here until 1904 when it was transferred to Lawler. The Oak School was located about one and one half miles north of the present Lawler Church and School. In 1904 the Oak School housed in a new building built chiefly of new lumber but of some from the old Stevenson building, was consolidated with the Center Point School. The Oak School house was moved to the present Lawler location where school continued until the Lawler School District was consolidated in 1939 with the Florence Independent School District. Farmers, ranchers, preachers, teachers, carpenters and people of almost all occupations have gone to school here.

Probably the three trustees who served the longest terms were Mr. Lee Shepherd, Mr. Red Tom (T. H.) Lindsey and J. C. McLeod.

Some of the teachers were Miss Helma Paulson, Della Campbell, Miss Effie McGee, Miss Lucy Monroe, Miss Bessie Whiteley and Miss Esta Lee Green.

Trustees hauled the wood and often furnished it free of charge - even cutting it from their pastures. Also, they hauled a good part of the water in barrels, but part of the time the children carried it from Uncle Joe Williams well about one fourth mile away, north of the school.

The Lawler Baptist Church was organized in Spring Valley about eight miles east of Florence, some time before 1883. The first minutes on record are for Saturday before the first Suncay in April 1883, with G. W. Proctor as Church Clerk and J. J. Thompson as pastor. The church continued to have services here until after September 1889 when it moved to Center Point on the north Salough Creek about four and one half miles east of Florence. The church had grown to a large congregation with huge crowds attending the protracted meetings in the summer, under the brush arbor--lighted by torch lights, conducted by visiting ministers usually with baptizing of large numbers of people at the Seven Foot Hole on the North Salough, about 2 miles east of the Church.

In 1905 the Church moved to its present location where Brother Albert Everts is pastor and Sister Ollie Lindsey is Church Clerk. Some of the pastors have been Brother M. A. Darby, J. K. Griggs, W. R. Denson, and T. J. Langford.

64
Pat Morrison, June 1, 1971 rewrite
14" x 24" OTHM
Williamson County (Job # 3302)
Location: Lawler Cemetery, 4 mi E of Florence
off FM 487

LAWLER COMMUNITY *

FOUNDED BEFORE MID-1800s.

NAMED FOR EARLY SETTLER

L.T. "UNCLE LEE" LAWLER.

BELoved BY CITIZENS, FOR
YEARS HE LEASED LAND FREE
TO COMMUNITY FOR SCHOOL,
CHURCH, AND CEMETERY.

FIRST SCHOOL, NAMED FOR
EDWARD STEVENSON. (LAND
DONOR) BEGAN BEFORE 1872.

NOW FARM AND RANCH AREA. **

(1971) ***

* 3/4 " lettering
** 1/2 " lettering
*** 1/4 " lettering

Liberty Hill Church Due Marker

The historic Liberty Hill United Methodist in Liberty Hill has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Lester W. Prokop, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John W. Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads:

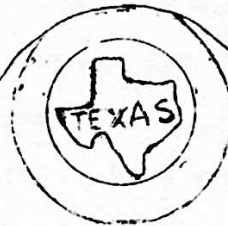
LIBERTY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

Founded 1854 (1.5 mi. NW of here). Construction of 3-story building of native stone for use of the church, school, and masonic lodge was begun in 1870 on land given by T. S. Snyder. Upper stories were removed and choir space added in 1905; wings added, 1916; vestibule added, 1954, with memorial window honoring founders: John T. and Amelia Bryson, Huldah Bryson, Anthony and Amanda Smith. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark — 1962.

LAWLER

COMMUNITY
HISTORY

1972



Lawler Community founded before mid-1880s named for early settler L. T. "Uncle Lee" Lawler. Beloved by citizens, for years he leased land free to community for school, church and cemetery.

First school, named for Edward Stevenson (land donor), began before 1872. Now farm and ranch area. 1971



BIBLIOGRAPHY

My bibliography is composed of information from county records, church minutes, gravestones, information given by Mrs. Allie Lawler (deceased), Mrs. Ellen Shafer (deceased), Mr. A. B. Hickman (deceased), Mr. Lonnie Wilson, Mrs. Georgie Hickman, Mr. T. O. Lindsey, and my own experiences.

THE LAWLER COMMUNITY

The Lawler Community got its name from L. T. Lawler who gave the land for the cemetery, school, church building and grounds. Uncle Lee, as he was affectionately referred to, was born on February 19, 1826, and died March 15, 1915. He served as 1st Sergeant in the 27th Brigade of Texas Military C. S. A. He was public spirited, taking interest in church, school and IOOF Lodge and doing whatever he could for the betterment of his community. He especially loved children and always kept candy for them when they came to visit him. He liked to talk of the early history of Texas and knew many interesting stories. In 1861 Uncle bought 256 acres of land from W. G. Land for \$450.00 It is on this land that the Old Lawler Home, cemetery, school and church stand today.

Early families of the community were Lawlers, Stevensons, Shepherds, Mantooths, Densons, Lindseys, Proctors, Queens, Owenes, Shafers, Joneses, Teagues, McLeods, Williams, Hickmans, Whiteleys, Knights, Russells and Gaults.

The chief occupations were farming, ranching, and gardening. Old timers said they settled in the community chiefly because of the rocks and water. The rocks were used for fence building and many of these old rock fences can be seen partly standing today. The community is blessed with the North Salough, the Stevenson Creek, a small distance East of the church and cemetery, and Whittenberg Branch, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile South of them. On these small streams were springs from which the early settlers got their water.

They farmed their land with horse drawn equipment and hauled their products to market in wagons. They raised chiefly cotton, corn, cane, and small grain. The families chiefly did their own labor. In haying time they helped each other. They heated their homes and cooked their meals with wood which they cut with hand axes from their own land. Their utility bill, which was coal oil and matches, was usually less than one dollar per month.

The Lawler School was a consolidation of the Stevenson School, located several hundred yards

North of the present building, the Oak School built in 1902 on the John Hickman place about two miles North of the present building, and the Center Point School located about one mile Southeast of Lawler on the North Salough. All these buildings were used for both school and church, but the Stevenson and Oak buildings never housed a church.

The date of the establishment of the Stevenson School is not known; however, it is known that Mrs. J. W. Shafer and Mrs. Will Lawler started to school there in the first grade. Mrs. Shafer was born in 1867 and Mrs. Lawler in 1873. Mr. Edward Stevenson gave the land for the school and grounds. A head carpenter was selected and the neighborhood men built the building. It is believed that part of the lumber in this building went into the Oak building which became the present Lawler building. The Center Point School was established in 1885 and in this year the Stevenson School consolidated with Center Point School. Mrs. Georgie Hickman started to school here in the first grade that year.

In 1904, Center Point School consolidated with Oak School and became the Lawler School. The Oak

building was moved to Lawler. Seven grades were taught here. The pupils walked to school except a few who lived too far. The Cannon children came to school in a Surrey drawn by big horses. A few rode horseback.

The school somewhat became the social center of the community. For a number of years, there was a literary society that met on Friday night. Spelling matches were held, pupils said speeches and simple dialogues, and a community news sheet was read containing jokes, amusing stories of pupil's doings and occasionally of the grown-ups, some of which are still heard. Valentine was a very special day. Pupils made their own valentines and put them in a big box. At the end of the day they were handed out to those addressed. Sometimes, the teacher read some of them. At Christmas there was a Christmas tree, always huge, decorated with popcorn and other home-made decorations. A Christmas Program was given chiefly by the pupils, but usually some of the adults took part-especially that of Santa Claus. A big picnic was held at the end of the school. All came and much fun was had. The only money making scheme

used was the box supper. The girls decorated the boxes with crepe paper making them very fancy. They were auctioned to the highest bidder. The boys ate supper with the girl whose box he bought; hence, they always tried to find out whose box they were buying. The boxes were packed with good food and these suppers were very enjoyable.

The Athletic Program consisted chiefly of baseball, town ball, anty-over, running base, last one on the wood is the catcher and other games, and play houses. The hill side was a village of play-houses. Students received merit cards for work well done.

The school house was heated by a heater that burned wood. The trustees saw that plenty of wood was on hand and often cut and hauled it themselves. Water was hauled in barrels and pupils had their own cups, but there was a dipper that hung on the side of the barrel. Sometimes, the water would play out and pupils were permitted to take a bucket and go to the Uncle Joe Williams's well for water which was a real treat. Some of the trustees were:

Mr. J. W. Shafer, Mr. T. O. Lindsey, Mr. Brown Hickman, Mr. Red Tom Lindsey, Mr. Lee Shepherd and Mr. J. C. McLeod. Those serving the longest were probably Mr. Red Tom Lindsey, Mr. Lee Shepherd, Mr. Brown Hickman and Mr. J. C. McLeod. Some of the teachers were: Miss Della Campbell, Miss Lucy Munroe, Miss Effie McGee, Miss Bessie Whiteley and Miss Esta Lee Green.

Other social activities of the community were play parties, singings and candy breaking. Church was usually not held on Sunday nights except during the protracted meeting; hence, on Sunday nights someone who had an organ would give a singing. Many adults attended and there was beautiful singing and much visiting. Parlor games were usually played at the play parties. The candy breaking and cake cutting were held in the different homes. The boys would furnish the candy, usually stick, and the girls would bring cakes. It was not uncommon to have a dozen big layer cakes. It was truly fun.

People visited each other and stayed all day. Sometimes the women would have quilting parties.

They would take their mending and buttonhole jobs along. Hog killings were big events. Neighbors helped each other and always gave helpers a flour sack half full to take home with them. Lunch was a feast with big platters of ribs, tender loins, big biscuits, brown gravy, milk and coffee, among things served.

Dinner on the ground was served several times during some years after church services, but almost always the last Sunday of the protracted meetings.

The Lawler Baptist Church was organized in Spring Valley about 8 miles Northeast of Florence sometime before 1883. The first minutes on record are for the first Sunday in April, 1883, with G. W. Proctor as Church Clerk and J. J. Thompson as Pastor. Mr. Proctor, a neighbor of Mr. T. O. Lindsey and who was present when the church was organized, described the early history of the church to Mr. Lindsey. The church certainly believed in its members walking uprightly and keeping themselves unspotted from the world. Members were turned out of the church for bad language usage, going to

horse races on Sunday and other things considered unchristian conduct. The church met in a small wooden building 20 X 30 feet with three doors and two East and two West windows. Before 1900 the church had more than 40 members. Among them were Sister Rosa Fewel, Uncle Brun Mantooth, A. J. Teague, Elder J. H. Wright, Alfred Lindsey, G. W. Proctor and Brother and Sister Hasty. Sister Hasty died sometime between the time of the first minutes recorded and the first Sunday in April 1883. In July of 1883, the church elected Brother I. N. Moris and W. A. Mantooth delegates to the Association and D. W. as an alternate.

In 1890 the church moved to Center Point where the Darbys, Newmans, Lindseys, and Brother A. R. Jones were outstanding members. The church met on the second Saturday and Sunday of each month. No mention of night services was made in the minutes. Members received into the church by baptism were baptized in the neighboring streams, chiefly the North Salough in the 7 foot hole.

In April of 1890 the church selected the name of Center Point Missionary Baptist Church. In

August of 1890 the church ordained Brother J. H. Wright as Minister. Brother D. C. Bart was the Pastor.

The church grew here and the community looked forward to and planned for the summer protracted meetings held under a brush arbor with chiefly flaming torch lights for 10 days and sometimes longer. Great crowds came in wagons, hacks, surreys, buggies, on horseback, and those close by walked. Pallets were spread around the arbor for children to sit on and go to sleep when they chose. Some stayed in the wagon on pallets.

On September 19, 1913, the church voted to move to Lawler because of the condition of the house at Center Point, but continued to carry the name of Center Point Missionary Baptist until October 19, 1944, when the name was changed to Lawler Missionary Baptist Church. Brother Dee McMellon was Pastor and Brother W. T. Darby (Will) was Church Clerk.

In April 1914, Mr. W. H. Barns gave land to enlarge the grounds after the church had offered to buy it. Brother E. M. Mobley was Pastor at this

time. In January 1915, Brother J. K. Griggs was elected as Pastor. Probably Brother Thompson and Brother Griggs served longer as Pastor than any others. Brother Will Darby and Brother George Proctor served longer as Church Clerks. Brother T. O. Lindsey, a present Deacon, has served longest as a Deacon, and has been a member of the church longer than any other member. He joined in 1898, which is more than 70 years of membership.

A number of ministers have been ordained from the church. Among them were the Darby brothers: Addison, Graves, and Bennett; D. W. Lindsey and Harold Casey. Also Missionaries, Brother Ronald Hill who is serving in Thailand, Brother Harold Casey in Central America, Brother Lester Molene in South America. The church has given a large number an opportunity to serve the Lord and church and gain experience as ministers. Also, many have become Christian workers in Christian service here. People have gone out as good citizens into useful and important occupations and vocations to bless humanity.

Uncle Lee Lawler, as our Historical Marker points out, gave the land for the cemetery, but as a matter of records, he sold the plot to J. W. Shafer, cemetery trustee in 1902. In 1959, Mrs. Laura Lawler, daughter-in-law of Uncle Lee, who heired the L. T. Lawler estate, sold an increased acreage to the Deacons of the Baptist Church for \$1.00 telling them to take what they wanted for the cemetery. They did just that.

The earliest gravestone dated is 1850. There is only the date on the gravestone. It is believed by some of the early settlers that some of the unmarked graves are possibly older. Uncle Lee, along with other early settlers, referred to some of the older graves as Indian graves. Too, they said that some were of travelers passing through the community who died and were buried here. We believe all the graves of our veterans buried in the cemetery are marked with historical markers.

The forefathers of the community lie buried here: The Whiteleys, Shepherds, Queens, Shafers, Williams, Proctors, Lindseys, Knights, Stocktons,

Teagues, Lawlers, Buchanans, Owenes, McLeods, Smiths, Newmans, and Matlocks.

In early days, the people came with their tools and worked the cemetery on stated days with only an overseer who called the people together for needed workings. Mr. J. W. Shafer probably served longest. In April of 1958, about 50 members of the community met and organized the Lawler Cemetery Association. Miss Effie McLeod was elected President, Mrs. Fannie Geiger, Vice President, Mr. Arnold Wade, Secretary and Mr. Max Atkins, Treasurer.

From that date until the present, the cemetery has had a regular paid caretaker. In April of 1960, the Association decided to fence the cemetery with a chain link fence. Mrs. Alma Carroll served as Chairman to shop for money and for a builder of the fence. She was not long in succeeding in this project. Later with Henry McLeod as Chairman, unmarked graves were marked with Austin Stone Markers.

At present the Association's main projects are beautification and permanent care. For three years, the Association has sponsored a Lawler Community Homecoming, which has been an enjoyable occasion as

well as very helpful. It has sponsored the placing of this Historical Marker that we so proudly dedicated on April 29, 1972.

Several years ago, a few members of the community decided to start a building fund to preserve our original community building. A building fund was started and the Lawlers have worked harder seemingly than any on this project through their family reunions. This year, it became necessary to do work on the building. The Lawler Baptist Church, which meets in the building, painted the inside of the building. Money was taken from the building fund to put a new floor in the building. At a called meeting for plans for the preservation of the building, Arnold Wade volunteered to shop for materials and a carpenter. Arnold spent a lot of time and some money I am sure in doing this. But more than this he furnished some of the materials himself and helped the carpenter put down the floor. The community is extremely proud of the floor and is truly grateful to Arnold for his contribution. It is the hopes of those working on

the preservation project to underpen the house,
paint it on the outside, and repair the steps.

Effie McLeod
1972

Liberty Hill Church Due Marker

The historic Liberty Hill United Methodist in Liberty Hill has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Lester W. Prokop, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John W. Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads:

LIBERTY HILL

METHODIST CHURCH

Founded 1854 (1.5 mi. NW of here). Construction of 3-story building of native stone for use of the church, school, and masonic lodge was begun in 1870 on land given by T. S. Snyder. Upper stories were removed and choir space added in 1905; wings added, 1916; vestibule added, 1954, with memorial window honoring founders: John T. and Amelia Bryson, Huldah Bryson, Anthony and Amanda Smith. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark — 1962.

Historical Group Accepts Applications For Markers

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met last week to review and accept applications for historical markers in the county. They are at the Heinz Homestead at Leander and the Liberty Hill Methodist Church interpretive plate, according to Mrs. John Cornforth, committee chairman.

An application for a historical marker was also accepted for the Inner Space Cavern, one mile south of Georgetown.

Members met from Round Rock, Liberty Hill, Florence, Andice, Georgetown and Taylor.

Mrs. Cornforth also reported on more items being donated to the Taylor Museum collection including items from the estate of Dr. E. Doak.

Mrs. Cornforth will host the June meeting of the county committee in her home and the group will visit the Taylor Museum collection.

A brief history of the Inner Space Cavern, included in its application, is as follows:

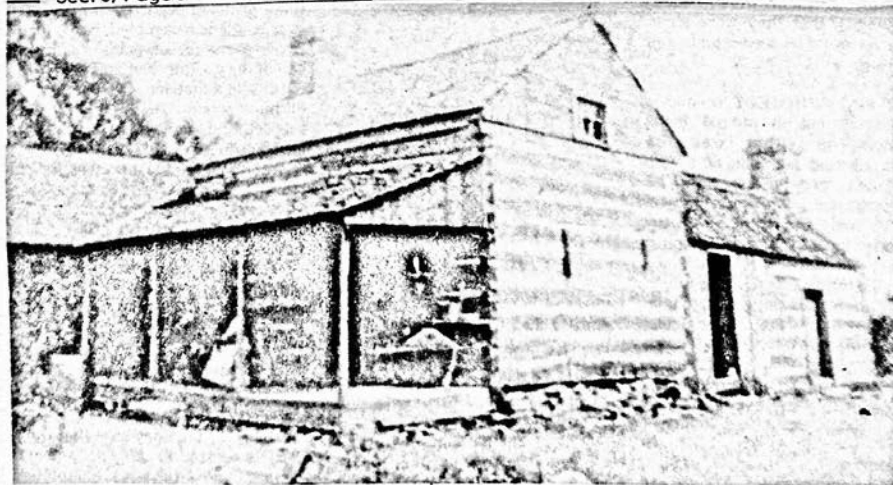
Inner Space Cavern was discovered in 1963 by core drillers of the Texas Highway Department on land belonging to W. W. Laubach. Repeated drill holes of approximately 40 feet in depth encountered nothing but space, so the engineer for the project ordered a 24" core hole into which one of his workmen was lowered. After passing the forty-foot mark he found himself in a large cavern. Others followed him including the Spweleological Society of the University of Texas who surveyed and mapped the huge underground area, and then saw the hole sealed by the Highway Department.

One year later the Georgetown Corporation was organized to develop the cavern as a tourist

attraction. During this development period of the remains (primarily bones) of many Ice Age animals were found and identified by scientists of the University of Texas and Southern Methodist University. These include such extinct species as the Glyptodon, Mammoth, Mastodon, Saber Tooth, Tiger, Camel and Horse, plus many more. These animals had entered Inner Space during the Ice Age when there was a natural opening — an entrance closed through erosion thousands of years ago. A display of bones of these animals is in the above administration building as well as others in the cavern itself.

Inner Space has a lighted pathway of ¾ mile, underground, and from these paths the displays are seen by the public. Other significant interests for the tourist include literally millions of crystal stalactites and stalagmites formed in the cavern of this Edwards Limestone, many of which are two to three thousands years old.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 3, Page 3 June 28, 1973



A RARE PHOTOGRAPH because of its early date, the picture above shows the county's first Courthouse, a log cabin whose main room was completed either very late in 1848 or in early 1849. The original room was only about sixteen feet square. Shed rooms were added at some later date. The first Courthouse

stood exactly where Heritage Printing is now located, according to early historian, W. K. Makemson. The building was used as Courthouse only until May 1, 1851, when the county purchased a residence (frame) which was located where the present Post Office stands.

Marker unveiled Saturday at Lawler Community

The Lawler Community, located three miles east of Florence, dedicated an Official Texas Historical Marker, Saturday, April 29, at 2 o'clock.

It was placed within the enclosure of the Lawler Cemetery near the church, where regular services are held. About one hundred descendants of pioneer settlers of the community and their friends attended the ceremonies.

Judge C. Luther Chance made the welcoming address, commending those present for honoring the memory and remembering the heritage left by freedom loving forefathers.

Ollie Knight gave the invocation. Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, introduced the other members of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, under

Historical survey committee approves community marker

Several members of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee were guests of Mrs. J. E. Hickman at the regular luncheon program of the Austin Woman's Club, Thursday, April 27. Mrs. Elizabeth Levatino, an attorney with the Texas Legislative Council, discussed, "Does The Consumer Need Protection?"

Following the luncheon, Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, met with the Williamson County Committee in the library of this historic building on San Antonio Street in Austin.

Correspondence from Mr. Truett Latimer, Director of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, brought good news. The final inscription for the Turkey Creek Community Marker has been approved. The dedication program will probably be sometime in August.

Applications for the Heinatz Homestead and the Bagdad Cemetery have been reviewed and accepted by the Texas State Committee.

Mrs. D. B. Gregg of Round Rock reported that a large Official Texas Historical Marker will be dedicated on the site of the Trinity Lutheran College in May. It is being sponsored by Ex-students of the school and by the Rev. Robert Fellows, Superintendent of the Trinity Lutheran Home, which now occupies that old campus at the east end of Main Street in Round Rock.

--Myreta Matthews,
Committee Reporter

whose auspices the marker was installed. The Lawler Cemetery Association sponsored the project. Miss Effie McLeod, a member of the committee, a native of the community and also one of the sponsors, gave a detailed history of the school, church and cemetery.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Honorable Charles Patterson, State Representative, 38th District of Texas. He stressed the value of truth as an important tradition passed on by those brave people who came to this beautiful hilltop in earlier days.

The marker was unveiled by four young men, descendants of pioneer settlers—two sets of twins, Dale and Gale Lawler and James and Harold Whitis.

The benediction was pronounced by W. E. Proctor.

The inscription on the site marker reads as follows:

Lawler Community founded before mid-1880s named for early settler L. T. "Uncle Lee" Lawler. Beloved by citizens, for years he leased land free to community for school, church and cemetery.

First school, named for Edward Stevenson (land donor), began before 1872. Now farm and ranch area. 1971.

Historical site marker for Lutheran College to be dedicated May 28

An Official Texas Historical Site Marker for Trinity Lutheran College will be dedicated on Sunday, May 28th at 3 p.m., it was announced today by Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at 1000 E. Main & College in Round Rock,

location of the present Trinity Lutheran Home.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 27 by 42 inches and is sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Home. The inscription on the marker reads:

TRINITY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Founded by the Augustana Lutheran Synod, in 1904 Synod representatives, seeking a location, selected Round Rock because of an offer of a well, 14 city lots, and freight concessions on building materials hauled by International & Great Northern Railroad. Cornerstone was laid on July 13, 1905, for a three-story native stone school building.

With Dr. J. A. Stamline serving as president, first session opened Oct. 2, 1906. There were four faculty members, 48 academic students, and 11 enrolled in the music department. Total enrollment rose to 96 during the first year. Successive presidents were Alfred Anderson, 1909-1914; Theodore Seashore, 1914-1921; Dr. J. A. Stamline and Oscar Nelson, Ad interim, 1912-1923; and Harry A. Alden, 1923-1929.

Despite such recognition as state accreditation (achieved 1920), school failed financially. In 1929 it merged with Evangelical Lutheran College, which was founded in 1891 at Brenham, moved to Seguin 1912, and with this merger became Texas Lutheran College.

On the vacated Round Rock

campus, Lutheran Welfare Society on Oct. 9, 1929, opened Trinity Lutheran Homes, to care for children and aged persons. In 1972 only one of the former college buildings still survives.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER NUMBER ONE

APRIL 15, 1972

The highlights of recent achievements of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee reflect the unselfish interest of the County Chairman, Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor and many of our devoted Sub-chairmen.

At the October 29-30, 1971 Annual Meeting of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee in Del Rio, thirty-five county committees received the Distinguished Service Award for organizing progressive and well-rounded programs during the past year. Williamson County was one of the thirty-five.

Monday, November 8, 1971, Mrs. Cornforth presented the D.S.A., two-color certificates to the Williamson County Commissioners Court in Georgetown. Signed by Governor Preston Smith, they went to Judge C. L. Chance, Clerk Dick Cervanka, Auditor Ben Kurio, and Commissioners Wesley Johnson, Wesley Foust, Robert Rozacky, Willie Schlickeisen. Their help and cooperation is a valuable asset to the success of the program of historical preservation.

On November 18 at the regular meeting of W.C.H.S. Committee, Mrs. John Cornforth presented the same D.S.A. certificates to the Sub-chairmen of the County.

An Official Texas Historical Marker for the ROUND ROCK was dedicated on Sunday, November 7, 1971. It was placed at the rock location in the bed of Brushy Creek, one mile west of the business district of the town bearing that name. It identified a solid rock crossing on the Old Chisholm Trail. Mrs. John W. Ledbetter and Mrs. D. B. Gregg were the sponsors.

At the January meeting in the Georgetown Public Library several progress reports were made. Miss Effie McLeod announced that the LAWLER COMMUNITY marker will be dedicated on Saturday, April 29th, at the Annual Homecoming. This historical landmark which will commemorate the school, church and cemetery is located between Florence and Jarrell.

Through the efforts of Mrs. M. K. Richardson, the Liberty Hill Methodist Church will soon have an interpretative plate installed near the Medallion which it has had for some time. This will show the date the church was organized as 1854.

A new Sub-chairman was appointed at the February meeting. She is Mrs. M.M. Chamberlain of Leander and will be assisted by Mrs. F. M. Wiley. They will ably represent the Leander-Bagdad area.

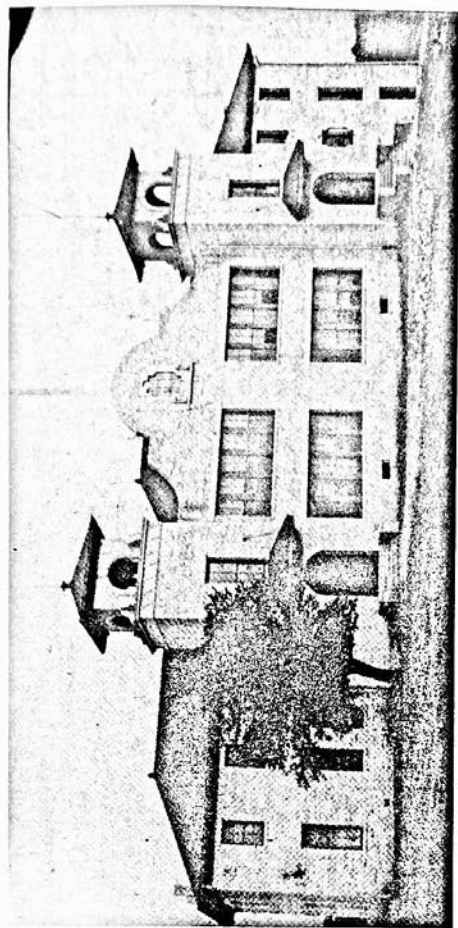
Mrs. Cornforth enthusiastically announced at the March 23rd meeting that we now have 39 members of the Texas Historical Foundation, which with some extra contributions, qualifies Williamson County as a Quota Buster County. This means that more than 200 dollars was given this year.

The dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker, honoring the late TEXAS SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE JOHN E. HICKMAN, took place at 3 p.m., Sunday, March 26th, on the County Courthouse lawn in Georgetown. Judge Hickman was a native of Williamson County. The dedicatory address was delivered by Robert W. Calvert, Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court. Judge D. B. Wood was master of ceremonies. The marker was unveiled by Mrs. J. E. Hickman and Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Committee, under whose auspices the marker is erected.

Governor Preston Smith proclaimed the week of April 9-15 as Texas Appreciation Week. In conjunction with this, Mrs. Cornforth made a talk to a seventh grade class from the Taylor Middle School, explaining the very interesting and unique small MUSEUM in the foyer of the County Building in Taylor. It was through her efforts that this historical exhibit came into being. She spent many hours cataloging the contents of three large showcases. Dr. Edmund K. Doak of Houston, a third generation doctor, donated many documents and items that were owned by his father and his grandfather, who were Physicians in this area. Valuable historic articles were contributed by the descendants of other prominent pioneer families.

Now is the time for preserving and marking our significant structures and places, showing the progress made by the early settlers of Williamson County, who led the way to making this an important section of Texas.

DEDICATION OF
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER
TRINITY LUTHERAN COLLEGE
 ROUND ROCK, TEXAS



TAYLOR, TEXAS, TUESDAY, MAY 23, 1972

At Trinity Lutheran College

**State Marker Due
 Round Rock Site**

An Official Texas Historical Site Marker for Trinity Lutheran College will be dedicated at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 28, it was announced today by Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at 1000 E. Main and College Sts., Round Rock at the present site of the Trinity Lutheran Home. Dedication plans will be announced in the near future.

Dr. Joe Menn, president of Texas Lutheran College at Seguin, will deliver the dedicatory address.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 27 by 42 inches and is sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Home. The inscription on the marker reads:

**TRINITY LUTHERAN
 COLLEGE**

Founded by the Augustana Lutheran Synod, in 1904 Synod representatives, seeking a location, selected Round Rock because of an offer of a well, 14 city lots, and freight concessions on building materials hauled by International and Great Northern Railroad. Cornerstone was laid on July 13, 1905, for a three-story native stone school building.

With Dr. J. A. Stamline serving as president, first session opened Oct. 2, 1906. There were four faculty members, 48 academic students, and 11 enrolled in the music department. Total

enrollment rose to 96 during the first year. Successive presidents were Alfred Anderson, 1909-1914; Theodore Seashore, 1914-1921; Dr. J. A. Stamline and Oscar Nelson, Ad Interim, 1912-1923; and Harry A. Alden, 1923-1929.

Despite such recognition as state accreditation (achieved 1920), school failed financially. In 1929 it merged with Evangelical Lutheran College, which was founded in 1891 at Brenham, moved to Seguin 1912, and with this merger became Texas Lutheran College.

On the vacated Round Rock campus, Lutheran Welfare Society on Oct. 9, 1929, opened Trinity Lutheran Homes, to care for children and aged persons. In 1972 only one of the former college buildings still survives. (1972)

MAY 28, 1972

3:00 P. M.

PROGRAM

Dedication, Official Texas Historical Marker
Trinity Lutheran College
Round Rock, Texas

MASTER OF CEREMONIES Noel Grisham
Superintendent, Round Rock Independent School District

INVOCATION Dr. Anton Berkman

WELCOME Oliver Berglund
Pastor, Palm Valley Lutheran Church

INTRODUCTION OF DISTINGUISHED
GUESTS Mrs. John Cornforth
Chairman, Williamson County Historical Survey Committee

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER Mr. Claude Berkman
Principal, Round Rock Central Elementary School

DEDICATORY ADDRESS Dr. Joe K. Menn
President, Texas Lutheran College

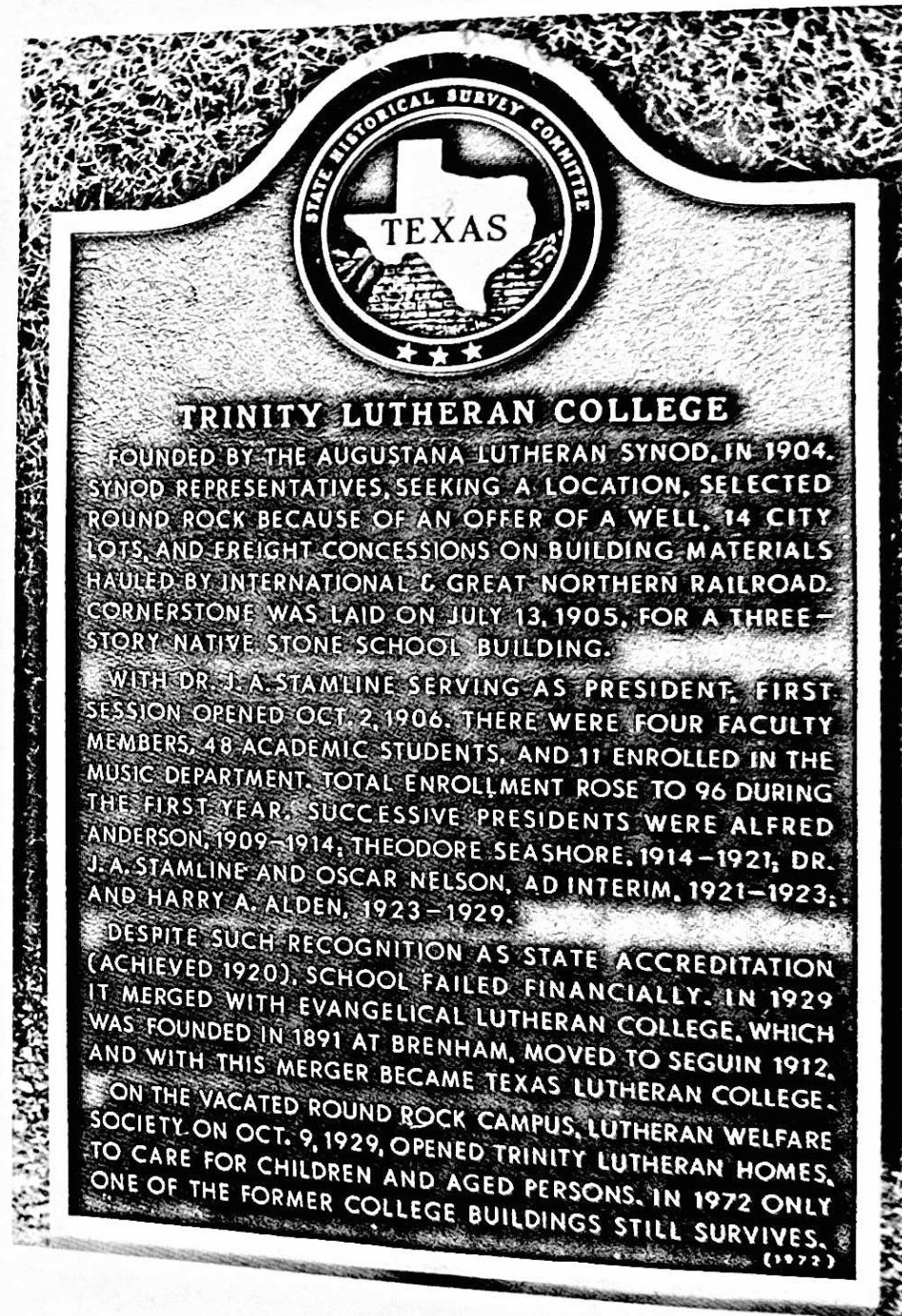
UNVEILING OF MARKER Philip A. Nelson
Mrs. Dick B. Gregg
Chairman, Round Rock Historical Survey Committee

RESPONSE AND ACCEPTANCE Pastor R. E. Fellows
Former Administrator, Trinity Lutheran Home

CLOSING PRAYER Mrs. Bert Magnuson

Reception immediately following ceremony
Sponsored By The
Round Rock Historical Survey Committee
and
Trinity Lutheran Home

Hostesses: Mrs. John W. Ledbetter and Mrs. James Antill
Members of Williamson County Historical Survey Committee



70
27" x 42" Official Texas Historical Marker GG
Williamson County - 4-13-72 - 100 E. Main & College, Round
Rock

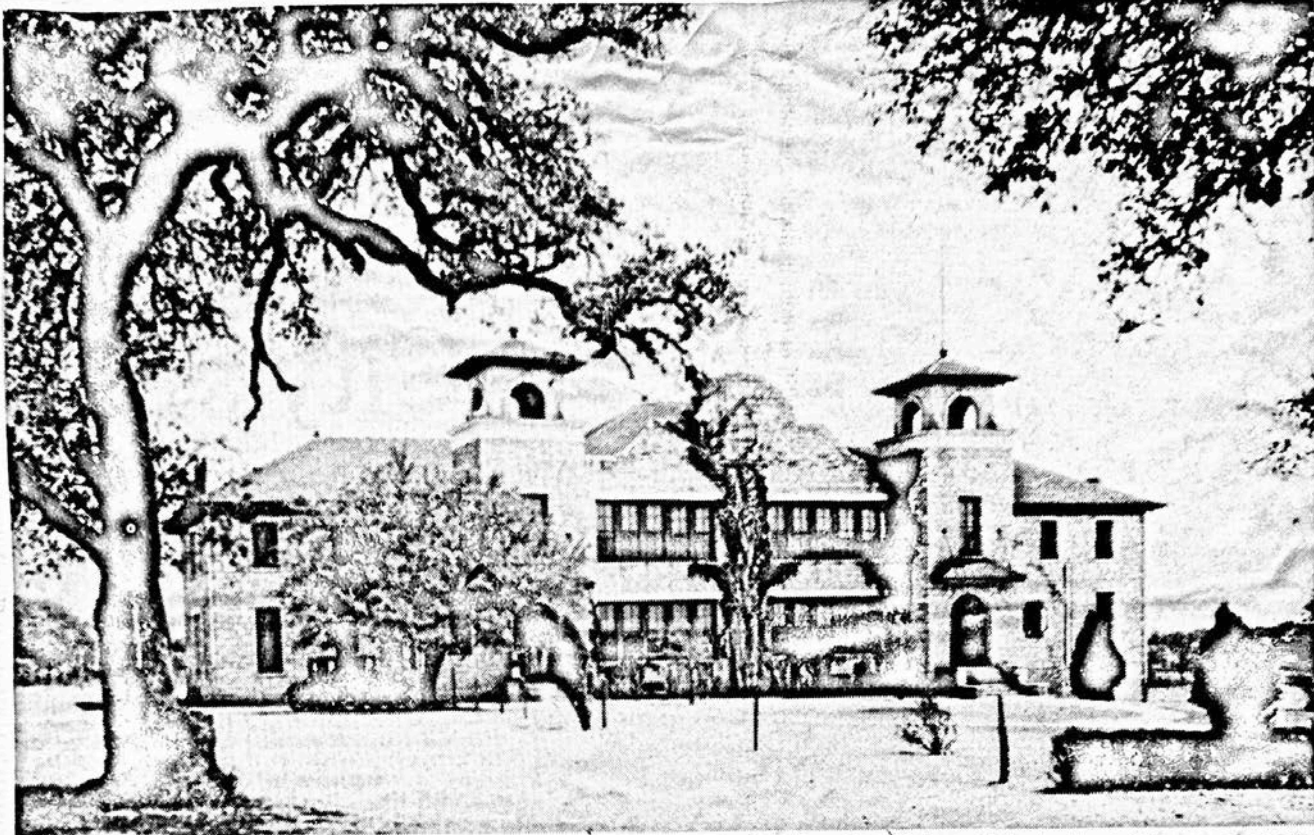
TRINITY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

FOUNDED BY THE AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN SYNOD, IN 1904
SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES, SEEKING A LOCATION, SELECTED
ROUND ROCK BECAUSE OF AN OFFER OF A WELL, 14 CITY
LOTS, AND FREIGHT CONCESSIONS ON BUILDING MATERIALS
HAULED BY INTERNATIONAL & GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD.
CORNERSTONE WAS LAID ON JULY 13, 1905, FOR A THREE-
STORY NATIVE STONE SCHOOL BUILDING.

WITH DR. J. A. STAMLINE SERVING AS PRESIDENT, FIRST
SESSION OPENED OCT. 2, 1906. THERE WERE FOUR FACULTY
MEMBERS, 48 ACADEMIC STUDENTS, AND 11 ENROLLED IN THE
MUSIC DEPARTMENT. TOTAL ENROLLMENT ROSE TO 96 DURING
THE FIRST YEAR. SUCCESSIVE PRESIDENTS WERE ALFRED
ANDERSON, 1909-1914; THEODORE SEASHORE, 1914-1921; DR.
J. A. STAMLINE AND OSCAR NELSON, AD INTERIM, 19~~12~~²¹-1923;
AND HARRY A. ALDEN, 1923-1929.

DESPITE SUCH RECOGNITION AS STATE ACCREDITATION
(ACHIEVED 1920), SCHOOL FAILED FINANCIALLY. IN 1929
IT MERGED WITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN COLLEGE, WHICH
WAS FOUNDED IN 1891 AT BRENHAM, MOVED TO SEGUIN 1912,
AND WITH THIS MERGER BECAME TEXAS LUTHERAN COLLEGE.

ON THE VACATED ROUND ROCK CAMPUS, LUTHERAN WELFARE
SOCIETY ON OCT. 9, 1929, OPENED TRINITY LUTHERAN HOMES,
TO CARE FOR CHILDREN AND AGED PERSONS. IN 1972 ONLY
ONE OF THE FORMER COLLEGE BUILDINGS STILL SURVIVES. (1972)



TRINITY CAMPUS--Erected in 1905, the administration building of Trinity Lutheran College served as the main campus facility throughout the college's

23-year existence. Plans were made in the early years to build two dormitories, but lack of funds and a dwindling enrollment prevented the plans from

being carried out. The building was razed in the 1930's because of structural deficiencies which were too extensive to be repaired.

Trinity City's Last College

One of several religious groups which tried, and subsequently failed to establish a permanent educational facility in Round Rock were the Swedish Lutherans. In 1906 with the help of several influential Round Rock businessmen the Lutherans established Trinity Lutheran College at the ~~corner~~ end of Main Street.

From the founding of the school to its closing in 1929, the ambitious leaders of the preparatory school were faced with two problems familiar to many private institutions today--obtaining funds and attracting students. Financial problems were first noted in May 1904 when the Kansas Conference of the Augustana Lutheran Synod approved the establishment of an institution of higher learning in Texas, but added that it was "unable to assume the financial responsibility for the same."

The promoters of the school, mostly pastors in the Church's Austin District, were not put off by the lack of funds but took the conference's action as a go-ahead signal and formed an interim school board. President of the board was Dr. J. A. Stamline, a pastor who supported the school--both morally and financially until its closing.

As president, Stamline undertook a three-month campaign to raise \$25,000 in contributions from the Church's Texas members. With less than 1,200 active members in the state, Stamline's job in both gathering funds, and later students, was monumental.

The board was encouraged by the early response to the fund drive and selected Round Rock as the site for the new 'college', because through Mr. John A. Nelson Round Rock offered a cash bonus of \$7,000, four city lots and a water well. In addition the Great Northern Railway Company offered to donate one-half the cost in freighting building materials.

A building committee, which included Nelson, hired an Austin architect to draw up plans for an administration building, a boys, and a girls dormitory. Because the administration building cost twice the \$8,000 allotted by the board, the dormitories were never to be built.

On July 13, 1905, the cornerstone was laid. The school was opened the following October with 38 students and three

teachers. Most of the preceding year had been spent trying to gather the needed \$25,000 and in finding a school president. After the board had approached several Lutheran pastors in other states, it chose Dr. Stamline as the school's first president.

Round Rock Leader

112 EAST MAIN STREET
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS 78664
TELEPHONE (512) 258-3733

Volume 97 Number 28

May 30, 1973

By the end of the first year the enrollment had grown to 96 and a fourth teacher was hired to head a business department. Students formed several traditional clubs--two literary societies and a debate club. Another very active organization was the Anti-Cigarette League which required its members to pledge themselves to abstain from the use of all forms of tobacco. The organization was so popular that an auxiliary was formed by the female students.

The school catalogue for the second year credited the League with obtaining a ban "upon the evil at the institution." The League remained active for two years.

One of the pamphlets distributed by the organization describes "the Tell Tale Tremor" of which young tobacco smokers were the reported victims.

While the school did not incur any debts during its first years, its enrollment declined and never again reached its first year peak. Encouraged by the success of the first year, the board built a president's residence and by the third year the school was in debt, a situation from which it was never able to extract itself.

Stamline resigned in 1909 and was followed by Pastor Alfred Anderson of Massachusetts. Anderson stayed for four years during which time an unsuccessful fund drive was undertaken and teachers, including Anderson, assumed many more class hours. Crop failures and the war in Europe brought the enrollment down to about 46 where it remained for some years.

In his graduate thesis on the College, H. C. Alden who served as the last president of the College, says Anderson's resignation apparently caused "divisions among ever loyal friends of the school" which were never fully overcome.

Anderson was followed in 1915 by Dr. Theodore Seashore. During Seashore's presidency the receipts of the school were greater than its expenses, but despite a fund raising drive which netted some \$18,000, the debt remained at about \$5,000.

In the summer of 1921 Seashore left and Stamline was called upon to become acting president. Until H. C. Alden assumed the presidency in 1923, the school was administered by a series of temporary presidents.

As early as 1921 several board members expressed a belief that the school should close. A committee was named to investigate relocating the school in Austin. Stemline complained that this was crippling the work of the College by causing a loss of confidence in it.

In 1925 the board decided to try an experiment to increase the enrollment, and at Alden's urging voted to have the school open a Junior College department. The high school-level Academy was to remain. A drought hampered attendance and only 15 students enrolled. Despite accreditation by the state, 23 persons enrolled in the college department of the next year.

In May of 1928, with the fate of the school even more in doubt, the board appointed a committee to approach local businessmen to obtain funds to repair the south wing of the building which had sunk 11 inches. Without extensive repairs the building would not be useable for the following year.

C. A. and T. E. Nelson, sons of J. A. Nelson, agreed to give \$4,000 if the school retained the junior college. The Round Rock Chamber of Commerce raised an additional \$2,000 with the same stipulation.

Despite members of surrounding parishes voting to close the junior college department, the \$6,000. from Round Rock and a \$5,000 grant from the national conference convinced the board to try to continue the school.

During the summer the south walls were taken down and a reinforced foundation was placed on a rock strata ten feet below the ground and the walls were rebuilt.

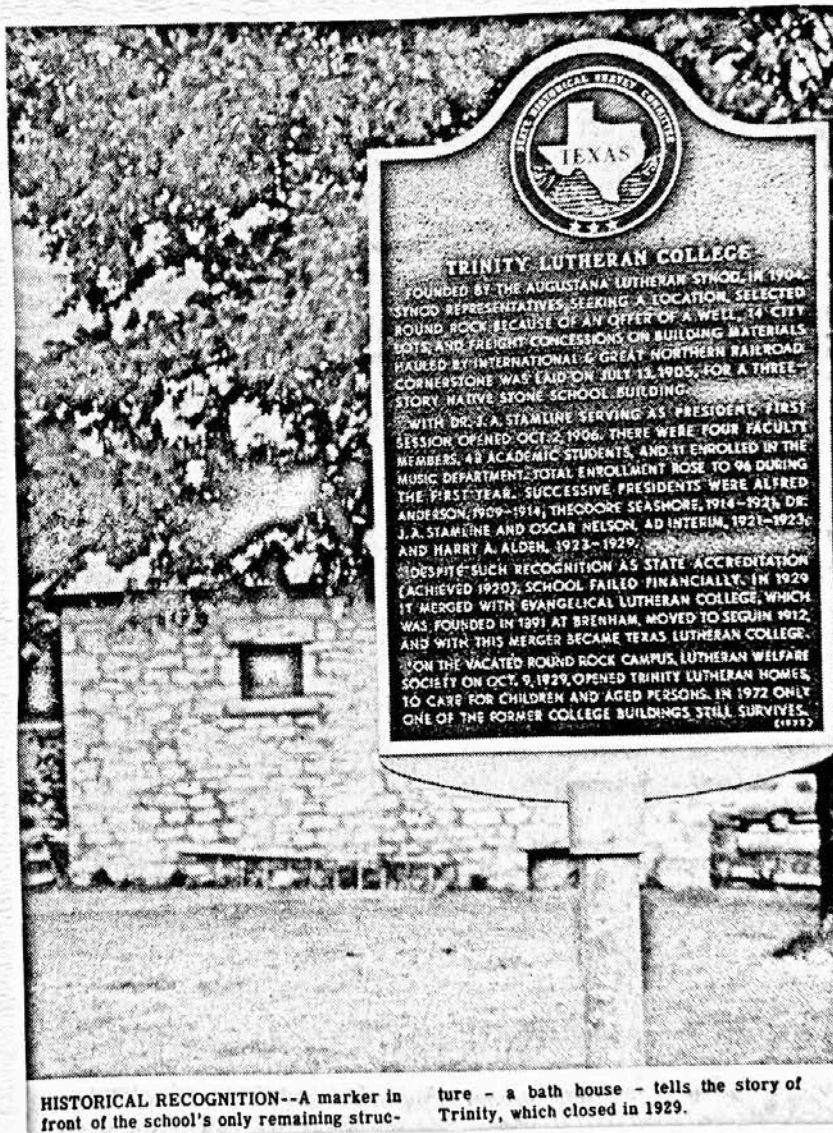
Then the school opened that fall total enrollment in both the junior college and academy was the same. In February the board voted to lower tuition in an attempt to attract more students, but in April, 1929, Alden resigned saying he believed it was impossible to continue longer.

Soon after representatives of the school's board met with other Lutheran denomination officials at the Lutheran College in Seguin. The group decided to sell the Trinity property to the Lutheran Aid and Orphan Society. The directors of Trinity were to send the Lutheran College at Seguin \$1,500. for four years to help pay the cost of one professor.

The aid society used the property for an orphanage and old age home until 1959 when it became Trinity Lutheran Nursing Home.

Mrs. LaVerne Reinhart, administrator of the home says that more structural problems occurred in the early 1930's and the old college building was torn down.

A small stone bath house which was built in 1911 is the only school structure still remaining.



HISTORICAL RECOGNITION--A marker in front of the school's only remaining struc-

ture - a bath house - tells the story of Trinity, which closed in 1929.

College historical marker unveiled in Round Rock

Dedication of the official Texas Historical Marker of the Trinity Lutheran College in Round Rock was held Sunday afternoon under the huge old trees on the lawn of Trinity Lutheran Home, the site of the early school.

The cornerstone was laid for the school in 1905 and many students were educated there until its doors were closed in 1929, and it was merged with what is now Texas Lutheran College in Seguin.

On its campus, the Lutheran Welfare Society then opened Trinity Lutheran Homes to care for children and aged persons.

Round Rock School Superintendent Noel Grisham was master of ceremonies at the dedication.

Dr. Anton Berkman gave the invocation, followed by the welcome by Pastor Oliver Berglund, pastor of the Palm Valley Lutheran Church.

Williamson County Historical Survey Committee chairman Mrs. John Cornforth introduced distinguished guests and Claude Berkman, principal of Round Rock Central Elementary School, introduced the speaker, Dr. Joe K. Menn, president of Texas Lutheran College.

The marker was unveiled by Philip A. Nelson and Mrs. Dick B. Gregg, and Pastor R. E. Fellows, former administrator of Trinity Lutheran Home, gave the response and acceptance.

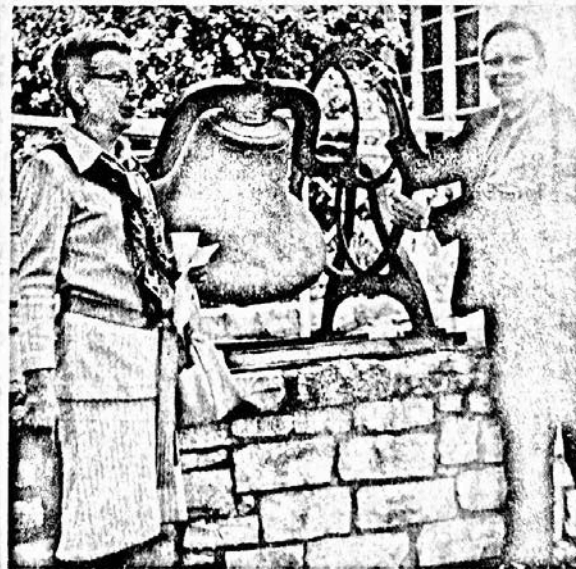
The closing prayer was led by Mrs. Bert Magnuson.

A reception sponsored by the Round Rock Historical Survey Committee and Trinity Lutheran Home was enjoyed by the guests in the Trinity Lutheran Home following the dedication ceremonies, with Mrs. John W. Ledbetter and Mrs. James Antill as hostesses.

Helping to host this dedication was one of the final official duties of Pastor Fellows, who recently resigned his duties there and left early Monday to work and make his home in Puyallup, Washington—located between Seattle and Tacoma.



HISTORICAL MARKER — on the lawn of Trinity Lutheran Home was unveiled Sunday in ceremonies sponsored by Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. Committee members Mrs. John Ledbetter and Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Trinity Lutheran Home administrator Rev. Robert Fellows proudly display the handsome plaque.



BELL FROM TRINITY LUTHERAN COLLEGE — was rung Sunday by Rev. Robert Fellows and Mrs. D. B. Gregg at the dedication of the historical marker at the site of the college at Round Rock.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWO

JULY 15, 1972

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee continues to meet on the last Thursday of each month. The regular meetings keep members up-to-date on all projects of the committee. Most of the meetings take place in the Georgetown Public Library because of the central location.

On April 27 the meeting was held in Austin at the Austin Woman's Club Building after a luncheon at which members were guests of Mrs. J. E. Hickman. The courtesy was extended following the unveiling of the official Texas Historical Marker honoring her late husband, Chief Justice J. E. Hickman of the Texas Supreme Court. This dedication took place on March 26 on the Courthouse lawn in Georgetown.

On Saturday, April 29, the Lawler Community Marker was dedicated. It was sponsored by the Lawler Cemetery Association and erected under the auspices of the County Historical Survey Committee. Judge C. L. Chance made the welcoming address. Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, introduced other members of the Committee. Miss Effie McLeod, a member of the Committee, a native of the Lawler Community, and one of the sponsors, gave a detailed history of the school, church and cemetery and their function in the community. Representative Charles Patterson delivered the main address. The inscription on the marker reads:

LAWLER COMMUNITY FOUNDED BEFORE THE MID-1880s NAMED FOR EARLY SETTLER, R. L. "UNCLE LEE" LAWLER. BELOVED BY CITIZENS, FOR YEARS HE LEASED LAND FREE TO COMMUNITY FOR SCHOOL, CHURCH AND CEMETERY. FIRST SCHOOL, NAMED FOR EDWARD STEVENSON (LAND DONOR), BEGAN BEFORE 1872. NOW FARM AND RANCH AREA. 1971

The OLD TRINITY LUTHERAN COLLEGE BELL was rung Sunday, May 28, on the lawn of the Trinity Lutheran Home in Round Rock by Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Rev. Robert Fellows. This was a part of the dedication ceremonies and unveiling of the official Texas Historical Marker at the site of the early college. The cornerstone was laid in 1905 and many students were educated there until its doors were closed in 1929 and it was merged with what is now Texas Lutheran College in Seguin. The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee Chairman, Mrs. John Cornforth, introduced distinguished guests. Claude Berkman, Principal of the Round Rock Central Elementary School, presented the speaker, Dr. Joe K. Menn, President of Texas Lutheran College. A reception was enjoyed by guests in the Trinity Lutheran Home following the dedication with Mrs. John Ledbetter and Mrs. James Antill as hostesses.

Mrs. Estha Scoggins has presented numerous historical papers to various patriotic groups and womens clubs in the area. One of her most recent was a report she researched on very early Missions in Texas.

Miss Effie McLeod has put into booklet form the history of the Lawler Community which led up to the placing of the site marker there.

Mrs. John Cornforth made an interesting tour in June. She visited the Museum and the historic Jefferson House in the East Texas City of Jefferson.

Mrs. John Ledbetter of Round Rock addressed a history class in the Round Rock Junior High School. She told them the history of their town.

Dedication dates to be looking forward to are:

- The TURKEY CREEK COMMUNITY, six miles east of Taylor.
- The BAGDAD CEMETERY, one mile west of Leander on Ranch Road 2243.
- The HEINATZ HOMESTEAD, also west of Leander near the cemetery.
- The LIBERTY HILL METHODIST CHURCH in Liberty Hill.

Mrs. M. M. Chamberlain is the Sub-Chairman for Leander and Mrs. M. K. Richardson is the Sub-Chairman for Liberty Hill.

An application for an official Texas Historical Marker has been accepted for INNER SPACE CAVERN, one mile south of Georgetown on IH 35.

All of the aforementioned projects are the result of much planning and diligent work on the part of the Chairman and members of the Committee.

Myreta Matthews
Reporter

County Historical Committee Plans for two more markers

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met June 22 in the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, presided. She also represented Taylor. Other towns represented were Georgetown, Florence, Jarrell and Liberty Hill.

The dedication of the Turkey Creek School marker will be August 27 at 3 o'clock, according to Mrs. Cornforth. The community is located six miles east of Taylor. Citizens of the area are attempting to get the first teacher of the school to be present for the program.

A site marker for the Bagdad Cemetery near Leander has been accepted and approved. The dedication program will probably be in the early fall.

The program of dedication and unveiling of the large official Texas Historical Marker of the Trinity Lutheran College in Round Rock was well attended on May 28. Two members of the Historical Survey Committee are due much credit for promoting this history related event. They are Mrs. John Ledbetter and Mrs. D. B. Gregg.

Miss Effie McLeod, of Florence, presented a history of the Lawler Community to Mrs. Cornforth. This booklet tells of past events which led up to the marker dedication on April

29. Mrs. Cornforth told of an interesting tour she made earlier this month. She visited the historic Jefferson House and Museum in the east Texas city of Jefferson. Visiting museums and historical spots makes for more awareness of similar possibilities in our county. Mrs. Cornforth was the moving force that set up a small museum in the County building in Taylor. It represents a way of life in the early history of the eastern part of Williamson County. Committee members feel that other parts of the county would do well to follow that example and plan to preserve historical documents and pertinent artifacts.

The next meeting of the committee will be July 27. The secretary, Mrs. F. W. Buchanan, will notify members in regard to time and place.

Turkey Creek School To Get Historical Marker

The Turkey Creek School historical marker will be dedicated on August 27, Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey committee announced during the committee's meeting on Thursday, and an early fall date is being planned for dedication of a site marker for the Bagdad Cemetery near Leander.

Taylor, Georgetown, Florence, Jarrell and Liberty Hill were represented at the meeting. Miss Effie McLeod of Florence presented a history of the Lawler

community, and committee members urged the formation of small museums in various parts of the county where historical documents and artifacts may be kept as they are being kept in the County building museum in Taylor.

Next meeting of the committee will be held on July 27 at the Stage Coach Inn in Salado where luncheon will be served.

Bagdad and Turkey Creek historical medallions to be unveiled Aug. 27

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met August 10 in the Georgetown Public Library, with the county chairman, Mrs. John Cornforth, presiding. Committee members were present from Florence, Liberty Hill, Leander, Georgetown and Jarrell.

The secretary, Mrs. F. W. Buchanan, reported seven members attended the luncheon meeting on July 27 at the Stage Coach Inn in Salado.

Mrs. M. M. Chamberlain, sub-chairman for Leander, submitted the program for the dedication of the Official Historical Marker for the Bagdad Cemetery. This event will take place at the Annual Homecoming on August 27 at 11 o'clock.

The marker, which is sponsored by the Bagdad Cemetery Association, has been delivered. It will be erected, under the auspices of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, near the entrance to the Cemetery, on Ranch

Road 2243 in a place easily accessible to motorists who wish to read the inscription.

A site marker for the Turkey Creek School will be dedicated on August 25, at 3 o'clock. The program is part of the Annual Reunion held at Wuthrich Hill. A former teacher is expected to make the dedicatory address. She is Mrs. J. T. Hutto of Dallas.

Mrs. Cornforth, who never misses a dedication, plans to attend these two ceremonies on the same day. Bagdad is in the western part of Williamson County near the Travis County line. The Turkey Creek location is in the eastern part of the county not far from the Milam County line.

Another historic landmark in Georgetown will be awarded a building medallion in the near future. The application has been received and approved for the marking of the G. W. Riley house on College Street. It was built in 1872.

Research is being done on the

history of other well known places in the county. The Berry's Creek Cemetery is one of these. The New Hope Baptist Church is over one hundred years old. The Methodist Church in Leander is eligible for a medallion. The Methodist Church in Liberty Hill has had a medallion in place since 1962. An inscribed plate has been delivered and awaits installation. The Liberty Hill Baptist Church is more than ninety years old.

There are many more places in all areas of Williamson County that have been contributing factors in the development of our part of Texas. It is the hope of the Survey Committee that interested people will help preserve and mark these historic places. They are urged to contact any member of the committee or Judge C. L. Chance for more details in securing an official Texas historical medallion and inscribed plate.

—Myreta Matthews, Committee Reporter

The Taylor Daily Press, Friday, July 28, 1972, Page 3

County Historical Society Luncheon Meeting At Salado

The Williamson County Historical Society held a luncheon meeting Wednesday at Stage Coach Inn at Salado in lieu of the July business meeting.

Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the society, was host for the event, making all plans for the seating of the guests and other arrangements.

Forthcoming events were discussed, several outstanding historical markers in the planning stage for points of interest in the county.

Among the forthcoming marker dedications are to be

those at Bagdad Cemetery in the western part of the county and Turkey Creek School on Wuthrich Hill.

The August meeting will be held in the Georgetown Public Library meeting room.

100 Year Old Well Restored At Bagdad

A picturesque old well more than a hundred years old located near Bagdad Cemetery has been restored by Mr. and Mrs. Mood Wiley in memory of their two sons. A historical marker will be placed at the well site in ceremonies to be held August 27.

A following history of the well, the adjacent community cemetery and the Bagdad community has been submitted to the SUN by Mrs. Wiley:

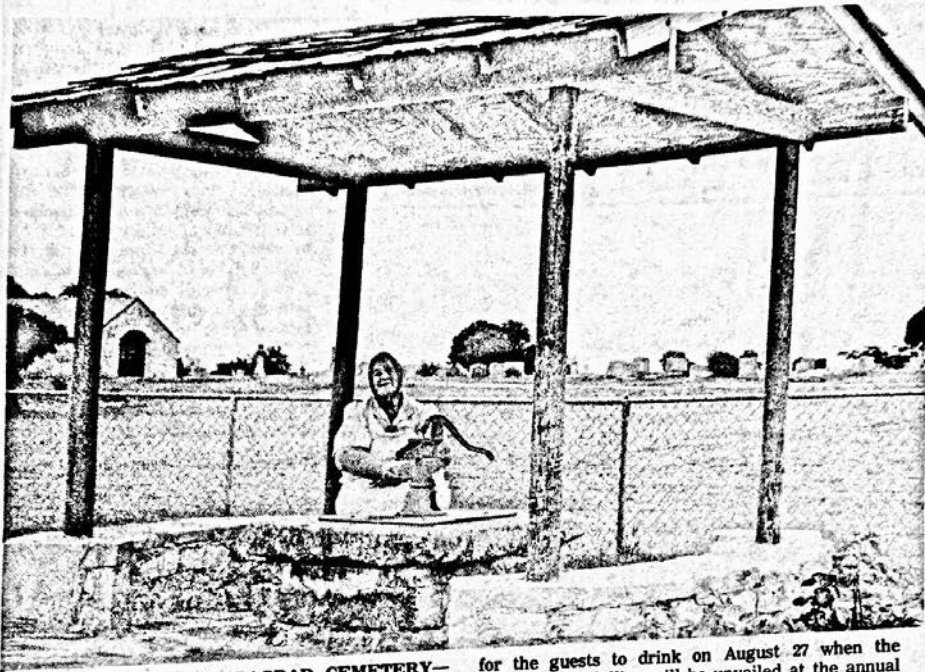
One mile west of Leander on Ranch Road 2243 is the Bagdad Cemetery. The cemetery is visible for nearly one-half mile as you leave Leander. It is surrounded by a chain link fence. As you approach it, you can see on the slight upgrade high headstones and tall spiked monuments in and about the several small groves of large liveoak trees. In the northeast corner a small group of white stone crosses mark the old Mexican and Negro cemetery which is now a part of the well kept grounds. Midway on the upgrade is a large shed built of limestone for special services. Beyond this building to the south is the newer grave sites and further to the west in a flat is the newest part with only a few graves. Further south in an underdeveloped area among large liveoak trees is the large open shed built for homecomings.

The Bagdad Cemetery has not always been this way. Even though it was not in total disorder, the need was seen early enough to turn the tide. In order to take a close look at how this all came about, it would be well to look at the development of Bagdad and Leander.

It was in 1844 that Thomas Hornsby moved into the area which is now known as Bagdad. Hornsby was of the family of Hornsby from Travis County and Hornsby Bend on the Colorado. It was Hornsby that built the first cabin in the prairie

around this area. The Smelsers and Dawsons came next from Missouri in 1845. The Dawsons built nearby but did not remain long. Henry D. Edwards and his wife, the former Miss Mary Smelson, settled shortly after the Smelsers.

Later about 1846, Nicholas Branch and his brother, James Branch, moved into the area from Mississippi, coming formerly from Tennessee. A little later, Uncle Charlie Babcock and others came from Illinois to settle.



MEMORIAL WELL AT BAGDAD CEMETERY— was restored as a memorial to Forrest and Bob Wiley by the Mood Wiley family. Here Mrs. Wiley stands behind the pump which will furnish cool clear water

for the guests to drink on August 27 when the Historical Medallion will be unveiled at the annual Bagdad Cemetery Homecoming.

Judge Greenleaf Fisk moved here in 1848 and settled with his family on the South San Gabriel. Judge Fisk was the chief justice for the area at the time that Williamson County was formed and he became the county judge thereafter.

Other early settlers were John Faubion, Thomas Huddleston, J. W. S. Williamson, Col. C. C. Mason, John Heinatz, the Bittick and Taylor families, James B. Knight, and B. F. Dalton.

Colonel Mason applied for a postmastership and received it. There was, however, a question as to what the name of the town would be. Thomas Huddleston suggested that they call it Bagdad after a hamlet near where he lived in Tennessee. There was no objection so the town officially became known as Bagdad. Mason being a stockman turned the post office over to John Heinatz who being the blacksmith afforded a central location where people gathered. John Knight opened the first store in Bagdad in 1855.

A small grave with a tall limestone marker and a limestone coverstone seems to tell the story of the beginning of the limestone coverstone seems to tell the story of the beginning of the Bagdad Cemetery. For it was only three years after his birth in 1854 that John L. Babcock was buried. It was the acre on which little John Babcock's grave was located that Charlie Babcock donated for a church and burying ground.

Five years later in 1862, Mr. Babcock gave 2.9 acres more for a

church and burying ground. It is believed that during this time a brush arbor was built. Mr. Babcock and his family moved to Burnet after the Civil War but he gave one more acre in 1904.

The graves in the older part of the cemetery show some of the pains borne with the Civil War. One such grave is that of John Halle. Mr. Halle was wounded in the Civil War and was tied to his horse and sent home. He went from camp to camp and finally arrived home in February 1864. He died a few days later on February 21, 1864. He was buried near the grave of John

Mr. Edwards during the Civil War was engaged by the Confederate government as a commissary of supplies, and was actively engaged in gathering together such supplies for the army as was afforded by this part of the country. He died in January, 1888 and is buried in the Bagdad Cemetery.

Colonel Mason died on March 2, 1865, shortly before the end of the Civil War. His monument which is the tallest in the cemetery is also only a short distance from the first grave.

In 1882 the Austin and North-western narrow gauge railroad was built which later hauled granite for the new state capitol. The railroad offered to come by Bagdad for a bonus of \$1000 but this was refused by the businessmen of the town. The railroad survey had placed the railroad one mile east of Bagdad. When the railroad was

completed, the town of Leander was founded on the railroad line one mile to the east of Bagdad. All of the businesses moved there.

The close ties between the people who settled Leander and Bagdad Cemetery can be illustrated in the fact that to this day there is no Leander Cemetery by name even though one was started. It seems that everyone wanted to be buried at Bagdad.

It was only ten years after Leander had been founded that one of Bagdad's earliest settlers, John Heinatz was buried on May 4, 1891. His wife Emilie lived until 1935 to see many of the changes in this area.

Sometime early in the 1900's a wooden shed was built to replace the brush arbor. In the 1930's this shed was rocked and a cement floor was poured. Mason Chapman paid for the new tin roof and the east end was closed up by doors donated by Mrs. Maud Mohle.

As late as 1930, the cemetery still had a hearse which was drawn by two horses. Lee Nobles and Mrs. Martha Craven each had a white horse which was used to pull the hearse. Roscoe Craven had two black horses which were also used. Later on it was mounted on a Model-T truck.

The graves were cared for by individual families as late as 1959. On each November 11, the people would bring picnic baskets to the cemetery and clean graves. However, this proved to be inadequate for keeping the whole cemetery clean as many of the relatives of people buried at Bagdad had moved away. The directors during this time were Roscoe Craven, Frank Faubion, Leslie Mason, and E. M. Williamson.

In May, 1959, a group of concerned men met with the directors of the cemetery to discuss the fate of Bagdad Cemetery. The cemetery was having more request for grave sites and it was very difficult to keep the cemetery clean. The decision was made to make a new charter and this was done on May 28, 1959. The new directors were A. L. Alley, E. D. Mason, Edwin Barho, Ed Fulkes, Bob Faubion, Pat Mason, and Perry Moore. An additional 3.55 acres on the south side were bought from Burt Reynolds. Chris Hamilton had willed the payments on a house he had sold in Georgetown to the cemetery and this was used to help set up a permanent fund for the care and upkeep of the cemetery. Also, the directors set the last Sunday in August for a homecoming with a barbecue lunch and donations being taken to help hire a caretaker. The first homecoming proved to be very successful as have all the others due to the tremendous response of all the people who have relatives buried at Bagdad Cemetery.

In 1966, the McDaniels gave two acres of land that joined the cemetery on the west side. It was on

this acreage that a shed was built in 1968 to help with the annual homecoming. Also, it was in 1968 that the chain link fence was completed. During the ten years following the forming of the new charter, all the graves have been cleaned up and the cemetery now has a very neat appearance.

The present directors are John Chapman, Lois Giddens, Mr. and Mrs. Buster Fulkes, Mrs. Edwin Barho, Taylor Wade, Mack Bonnet, Kenneth Faubion, and H. K. Wiley. John Heinatz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Heinatz, also grandson of John Heinatz, had the first military funeral at Bagdad in 1918. He was a veteran of World War I.

The saddest thing that happened to our community was in 1953 when the Priest had a car wreck on the Jonestown Road killing 5 members of his family who were buried at the Bagdad Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hays were killed by a car as they were walking to church in 1957. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bonnett were killed in a car wreck coming from church November 15, 1970, and buried here at that same time. Mr. and Mrs. Lee Giddens buried twin boys at the same time in 1924. Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Wade also buried twin boys at the same time in 1970.

Part of the material used in this report was based on an article written by Mr. James H. Faubion which was written for the Sun (The Williamson County Sun) on June 1921.

Mrs. E. M. Wiley
Fred Henry

This is the write-up sent to get the Medallion. The medallion will be unveiled at The Bagdad Cemetery.

Homecoming August 27. The old well was restored as a memorial in memory of Forrest and Bob Wiley by the Mood Wiley Family.

THE SUN
Sec. 1, Page 2
Georgetown, Texas
August 24, 1972

Bagdad Cemetery Historical Marker to be unveiled Sunday

Residents, former residents, family and friends will gather at 11 o'clock next Sunday morning at the historic old Bagdad Cemetery near Leander for the dedication of the Texas Historical Marker placed on the cemetery.

After the unveiling, the annual homecoming lunch will be served. Friends are invited to be present at the cemetery, located on Ranch Road 2243 one mile west of Leander.

Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, will call the ceremony to order and introduce the

master of ceremonies, Kenneth Faubion, director of the Bagdad Cemetery.

The invocation will be prayed by Rev. Perry Moore, former director, and Fred Henry of the Austin Public Schools will make the dedication address.

Mrs. M. M. Chamberlain, sub-chairman of the Historical Survey Committee, and her grandsons, Kimon and Kern Faubion, will unveil the marker.

Taylor Wade, also a director of the Bagdad Cemetery will make the response and acceptance.

The Taylor Daily Press, Monday, August 14, 1972

Dedications Of Markers Scheduled

Final plans for two dedications of historical markers were announced at the meeting of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee held on Thursday with Mrs. John Cornforth presiding.

The Bagdad Cemetery marker dedication is set for 11 a.m. on August 27. The marker will be placed on Ranch Road 2243 near the entrance to the cemetery, and the dedication event will be a part of the annual homecoming program.

The marker will be unveiled by Mrs. M. M. Chamberlain and her grandsons, Kimon and Kern Faubion of Leander. Mrs. Chamberlain is sub-chairman of the Historical Committee from her area.

Taylor Wade, another director of the cemetery, will accept the marker and make a response to the dedication.

At 3 p.m. on the same Sunday, site of the former Turkey Creek School in the Wuthrich Hill community will receive a marker.

The Rev. Robert E. Schlorff of the Wuthrich Hill Lutheran Church will bring the invocation and Tom Bullion will be master of ceremonies for the occasion. Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich of Bartlett will introduce the special guests for the afternoon and Mrs. J. T. Hutto of Dallas, teacher at the school from 1908 to 1911, will make the address of dedication. Marvin Lenz will unveil the state marker and Stanley Schwenker will accept with a response speech.

The group, which is expected to be made up of a large number of former students at Turkey Creek School, will sing the 'school song' at the close of the ceremonies.

The Turkey Creek School site marker dedication is set for 3 p.m., also on August 27 with Mrs. J. T. Hutto, a former teacher at the school, as the speaker. The program for this dedication is also a part of the annual reunion at Wuthrich Hill.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 14 by 24 inches and is sponsored by Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich and Willie Stoll.

The inscription on the marker reads:

SITE OF
TURKEY CREEK SCHOOL
(1893-1949)

An 8-grade school held in frame building on site given 1898 by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henkes; had 3 or 4 months' terms until 1910; only one teacher for all grades until 1919.

After finishing here, and after this school closed, students went to Taylor or Thrall schools. (1972)

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEENEWSLETTER NUMBER THREE

AUGUST 15, 1972

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee is composed of a very interested group of members who continue to meet regularly once a month. Seven of the ten meetings since last October have been held in the Georgetown Public Library. The December Meeting was in Taylor with Mrs. Cornforth as hostess for a party and business meeting in her home. The April Meeting was in Austin following a luncheon at the Austin Woman's Club building. On July 27 the meeting was held in Salado at the Historic Stage Coach Inn. There will be two more county meetings before the Texas State Historical Survey Committee Annual Meeting October 27-28 in Austin.

Mrs. Harold G. Scoggins is the Historian for the Williamson County Committee. Her Scrapbook Number One, of historic events and dedications, is on reserve in the Georgetown Library to be enjoyed there. It is beautifully done and very complete. She is now compiling Book Number Two. These are very valuable sources of information and she is to be commended for her patience and spirit of public service.

The Bagdad Cemetery Association sponsored the official historical marker for the Bagdad Cemetery which will be dedicated on August 27 at 11 o'clock. It is erected under the auspices of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee and Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, will call the meeting to order. Kenneth Faubion will be master of ceremonies. Rev. Perry Moore will give the invocation. Fred Henry will make the dedicatory address and read a sketch of the history of the cemetery which he has researched and written. Mrs. M. M. Chamberlain, with the help of Kimon and Kern Faubion, will unveil the marker. Taylor Wade, Cemetery Director, will make the acceptance and response remarks. The Bagdad Cemetery is located one mile west of Leander on Ranch Road 2243. The inscription on the marker reads:

BAGDAD CEMETERY

OPENED 1857 WITH BURIAL OF 3-YEAR-OLD JOHN BABCOCK WHOSE FATHER CHARLES LATER GAVE TRACT TO COMMUNITY. OTHER EARLY BURIALS WERE CIVIL WAR VETERAN JOHN HAILE AND COL. C. C. MASON. LEANDER, FOUNDED 1882 WHEN RAILROAD BYPASSED BAGDAD, SHARES USE OF THIS TRACT, ENLARGED IN 1959 AND 1966.

1972

The Heinatz Homestead is just across the old "Austin Road" from the Bagdad Cemetery. Travellers going from Austin to Burnet, Lampasas and other points west often stopped here for supplies and rest. The Official Building Medallion and interpretive plate for this home, built in 1850, is expected to arrive soon. A dedication date will be set later.

The Turkey Creek School site marker will be dedicated on Sunday, August 27 at 3 o'clock. This will be at the time of the Annual Reunion held at Wuthrich Hill, located east of Taylor. The main speaker will be Mrs. J. P. Hutto of Dallas. She was the teacher of that school from 1908 to 1911 and was then Miss Pearl Ploeger.

Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, never misses a dedication so she plans to attend the Bagdad program at 11 o'clock on August 27 and travel to Turkey Creek for the 3 o'clock ceremony on the same day. This is a distance of about forty miles from the western most part of Williamson County to the far eastern part. Her interest in and devotion to the cause of historic preservation is most admirable.

History is being assembled for several churches, homes and cemeteries in various parts of Williamson County. Applications for markers have not been completed. It takes time to collect data and record the facts with accuracy. The Chairman and committee members believe authentic proof is a must in this important work.

Myreta Matthews
Reporter

RECORD OF TURKEY CREEK SCHOOL

by

Mrs. Ernest (Sophie Braun) Wuthrich

History of the Turkey Creek School

BUILDING

The land for the Turkey Creek School building was given by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henkes in 1898.

The one room frame school house was immediately built. The siding was cypress wood. Pine studings, size 2' x 4', were used. Beaded ceiling was used for the entire school.

After the school was discontinued at Turkey Creek, the pupils continued their school education at Thrall, Texas, and some coming to Taylor, Texas school.

During the fifty-six year history of teaching at Turkey Creek School, Sophie Braun (Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich) taught school there $5\frac{1}{2}$ years during the years of 1929-1934 and 1943.

Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich at the present time is chairman of the Annual Reunion Association which is held at Wuthrich Hill Church in August of each year.

Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich lives in Bartlett, Texas.

Turkey Creek School was not one of the earliest established school districts in Williamson County, nor was it one of the latest. According to Public School Records in the County Superintendent's Office at Georgetown, the Turkey Creek School was established in 1893-1894 school year. It was listed in School District 21 with the Stiles and Long Branch Schools.

The first Turkey Creek School teacher was Miss

F. F. Hamilton, who received a salary of \$35.00 a month for a term of less than four months; the total payment being \$126.00. The first payment was made on January 22, 1894. The record shows twenty-eight pupils. . . whether these were census scholastics or actual pupils enrolled is unknown. The names of the first trustees are also unknown, but among those serving in that capacity before 1900 were: H. Priesmeyer, G. W. Heselmeyer, A. Braker, H. Schwenker, F. Meiske and C. W. Remmert.

By the following year, 1894-95, District 21 included six schools. This was the lowest salary paid school year in Turkey Creek School history, when only \$112.00 was paid to Adell Crowder, the teacher, at a salary of \$35.00 per month.

In 1895-96, Turkey Creek School was placed in a district by itself-District 65, which it retained for the life of the school.

The first male teacher, E. G. Sherley, received the highest monthly salary increase in the early teacher history. He received a \$25.00 a month increase, namely \$60.00 instead of the \$35.00 a month paid the two previous teachers. The shortest term in Turkey Creek School history was 1895-96, as only three payments were made; one each month of February, March and April. However, it should be noted that the previous school year with a salary of \$35.00 a month and a total payment of \$112.00, is very near to being the shortest term. Both terms were only about three months each.

In 1896-97 the salary declined to \$45.00 a month. H. Westenbar was the teacher.

The first mention of an eight-month school term was in the 1910-11 year record, with Pearl Ploeger teaching her third and last year.

The highest salaries during the early one-teacher history of the school were paid to S. C. Zettner 1913-14, Jewel Cain in 1914-16 and Florence Guenzel in 1918-19, each receiving \$75.00 per month.

The first record of a two-teacher school is the 1919-20 school term. The teachers were Mamie Burkhart and Margaret Thornton, each receiving a monthly salary of \$60.00. Also listed, during the year, is a payment of \$75.00 to Miss Lottie Pythian. It is thought that she was a substitute teacher during the absence of a regular teacher.

Obviously a period of prosperity had set in and an increase in enrollment had taken place, because a new two-teacher school had been built, and the highest increase in salary during the two-teacher history took place in the 1920-21 term. Mamie Burkhart's salary increased \$50.00 a month, from \$60.00 to \$110.00, while Margaret Thornton's salary increased \$30.00 a month, from \$60.00 to \$90.00. The following year, Margaret Thornton received a \$20.00 increase, thus paying each teacher a salary of \$110.00 a month.

During 1921 Mamie Burkhart became Mamie Arledge, thus becoming the first married lady teacher of Turkey Creek School.

There are only four and one-half school terms on record when both teachers received equal salaries. Besides Mamie Burkhart and Margaret Thornton in 1919-20 and 1921-22, were Ruth Schroeder and Alma Ramm in 1940-42 and Sophie Pfluger Braker and Irene Strarup in the first half of the 1942-43 school term. Otherwise, the elementary teacher always received from \$5.00 to \$20.00 a month more than the primary teacher.

In 1932-33, when the depression was hard felt, and school funds short, Miss Ruth Fritz, who had taught in the Turkey Creek School for four previous

years, and Sophie Braun Wuthrich, who had taught three previous years, each took a \$15.00 monthly salary cut. This is the largest salary cut in two successive years taken by any teachers who had previously taught in the same school.

From 1934 on, monthly payments began to steadily increase; but for the time were not paid in full monthly payments, being divided into small monthly payments, upon which followed the twelve-month basis instead of eight monthly payments, with social security and retirement being paid.

The last half of the 1942-43 school term was the only one in the history of Turkey Creek School when the elementary teacher, Sophie Braun Wuthrich, received less salary than the primary teacher, Sophie Pfluger Braker.

The last teachers of the two-teacher system were Sophie Pfluger Braker and Ruth Hoerman-Schroeder in 1943-44. This year and the preceding one-half year was the only time when both teachers were married.

The highest two-teacher, eight month's salaries were paid from 1930-32 with 1921-22 and 1925-30 running close seconds with only \$5.00 a month less.

Highest salaries beginning with 1934 in the two-teacher system are difficult to determine due to the divided payments, and the twelve-month basis, previously mentioned.

Sophie Pfluger Braker continued to teach the one-teacher school until May 1949, when the school closed its doors permanently. The teachers' salary reached its peak in the latter part of the 1947-48 school term, when it rose to \$158.31 a month, on a twelve-month basis, with retirement and social

security already paid. This was an increase in salary of over \$60.00 a month from the previous salary of the 1946-47 term, and the largest salary increase in Turkey Creek School history.

During the fifty-six year history of Turkey Creek School, twenty-nine teachers were employed. One substitute was paid directly by the county, and various others substituted who were paid by the regular teacher. Of the twenty-nine teachers, only seven were males and no males were employed after the 1916-17 school term, or during the two -teacher school years.

The following is a list of the twenty-nine Turkey Creek School teachers, the number of years each taught, the number of the succession of teachers, the dates of the years each taught, and the married names of lady teachers, if known.

	No.	
1/2 year ...		Irene Strarup - 1942
1 year	1.	Miss F. F. Hamilton - 1893-94
	2.	Adell Crowder - 1894-95
	3.	E. G. Sherley - 1895-96
	4.	H. Westenbar - 1896-97
	5.	G. W. McKee - 1897-98
	8.	Ella Danforth - 1903-04
	10.	W. T. Redford - 1905-06
	11.	Mony Scott - 1906-07
	13.	Elsie Truchman - 1911-12
	14.	Amanda Heinmann - 1912-13
	15.	S. C. Zettner - 1913-14
	18.	Florence Guenzel - 1918-19
	26.	Myrtle Pfluger - 1935-36 (Mrs. Teer)
2 years.....	6.	Isa King - 1898-1900
	9.	Kate Barnet - 1904-05, 1907-08
	16.	Jewel Cain - 1914-16
	17.	Henry Wegarst (Weghorst) - 1916-18
3 years.....	7.	William Pfennig - 1900-03
	12.	Pearl Ploeger - 1908-11
	19.	Mamie Burkhart (Arledge) - 1919-22

No.

20. Margaret Thornton - 1919-22

28. Ruth (Hoermann) Schroeder
(Mrs. Albert T.) - 1940-42 and
1943-44

5 years..... 21. Leona Hill (Bogisch) - 1922-27

5½ years..... 24. Sophie Braun Wuthrich (Mrs. Ernest)
1929-34 and 1943

6 years..... 27. Alma Ramm (Heselmeyer) (Mrs. Henry)
1936-42

7 years..... 23. Ruth Fritz (Burnett) (Mrs. V. C.)
1927-29 and 1930-35

8 years..... 22. Erna Braun (Doering) (Mrs. William)
1922-1930

13 years..... 25. Sophie Pfluger Braker (Mrs. Hy)
1934-40 and 1942-49

There is no available information on record concerning the pupils attending Turkey Creek School, but there is one commendable record known to be true, and undoubtedly never matched by another pupil in the Turkey Creek School history. That record was held by the former Louise Kruse, who attended school for eight years, making all eight grades with a perfect attendance, being neither absent or tardy.

For the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee Sunday, August 27, could be counted the most important day of the 1971-72 year. It was at least the busiest for on that day two markers were unveiled with appropriate ceremonies.

At eleven o'clock, August 27, the program for the Bagdad Cemetery dedication was well attended by many interested people. The rockwalled tabernacle was filled to overflowing and it is estimated that several hundred attended the unveiling a few yards away on Ranch Road 2243. Mrs. Cornforth called the meeting to order and expressed her appreciation for their action in preserving the historical heritage of the community.

Immediately following this service a short history of a restored water well was read and ribbons cut from the hand pump. The well, much more than one hundred years old, was lined with stone and mortar and was used by many in the area. It was restored by the F. M. Wiley Family as a memorial to their two sons. While the well is not eligible for an official Texas Historical marker, it is strongly linked with the early life of the community as it was used by the school and the church and cherished by those who remember drinking water from it in their childhood. The well is very near the cemetery marker.

At three o'clock on August 27, about one hundred former pupils, teachers and friends attended the dedication of the Turkey Creek School Official Texas Historical Site Marker. The school was in the Wuthrich Hill Community on Wuthrich Hill Road, a mile or two off Farm to Market Road 619 east of Taylor. Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman, called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Rev. Robert E. Schlott, Pastor of the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, which is near by. Mr. Tom Bullion, Taylor Attorney, was master of ceremonies. Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich of Bartlett introduced special guests. The dedicatory address was made by Mrs. J. T. Hutto (Pearl Floeger) of Dallas. She taught the one room school from 1908 to 1911. Mr. Marvin Lenz, Taylor Attorney, unveiled the marker. Mr. Stanley Schwenker, Taylor Pharmacist, made the response and accepted the marker for the community. Former teachers led the school song and everyone joined in the chorus of "School Days" concluding the program. The inscription on the marker reads:

SITE OF
TURKEY CREEK SCHOOL
(1893 - 1949)

AN 8-GRADE SCHOOL HELD IN FRAME BUILDING ON SITE GIVEN
1898 BY MR. & MRS. HENRY HENKES, HAD 3 OR 4 MONTH TERMS
UNTIL 1910; ONLY ONE TEACHER FOR ALL GRADES UNTIL 1919.

AFTER FINISHING HERE, AND AFTER THIS SCHOOL CLOSED,
STUDENTS WENT TO TAYLOR OR THRALL SCHOOLS.

1972

Building Medallions and Inscribed Plaques have been received for the Methodist Church at Liberty Hill and the Heinatz Homestead near Leander. Dates for the dedication of these markers are pending.

Two members of the committee are serving on the Tourism Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of their respective towns. They are Miss Effie McLeod of Florence and Mrs. D. B. Gregg of Round Rock.

Mrs. Harold G. Scoggins of Georgetown is doing a commendable piece of work in listing all of the Official Texas Historical Markers in Williamson County, indicating their location. The list will include those erected in 1936, as part of the Texas Centennial and the more recent ones authorized by the Texas State Historical Survey Committee since 1962. The Williamson County Division of the Texas Highway Department is enthusiastically cooperating and has offered to produce a map of appropriate size to be annotated, showing all marked historical spots in the county.

The annual report of the County Committee Chairman is due before the Texas State Historical Survey Committee Annual Meeting in Austin, October 27-28. Mrs. Cornforth is working on the report and will call a small group meeting in the near future to help check records and include achievements near completion in some areas.

Myreta Matthews
Committee Reporter

Former Pupils To Gather

Turkey Creek Homecoming Set

Sunday will be homecoming day for former Turkey Creek School pupils, and festivities will begin Sunday morning with a covered dish dinner at the SPJST Hall.

was teacher in the school for five and one-half years. She was then Miss Sophie Braun.

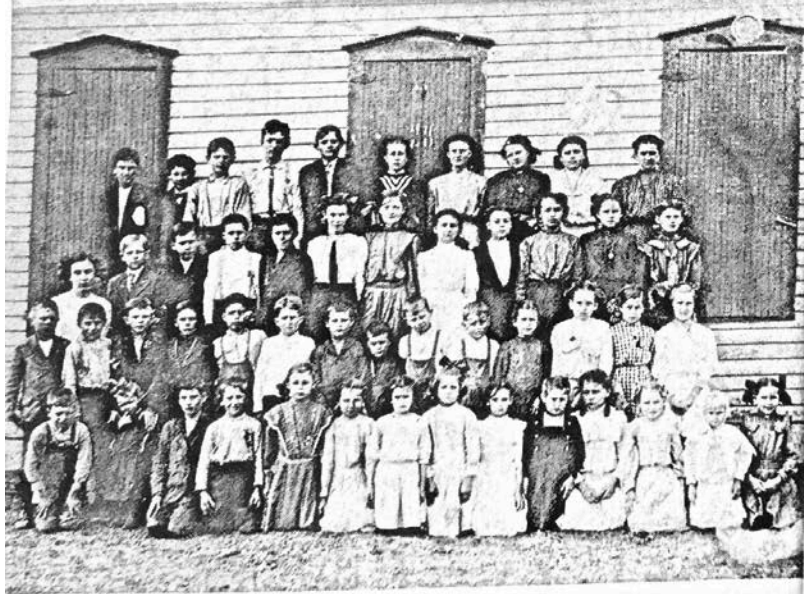
The Turkey Creek School site is on the Wuthrich Hill road northeast of Taylor.

After lunch, the Ex-Students association will hold a brief business meeting and the group will adjourn to the former site of the school where an official State Historical Marker will be dedicated. Mrs. J. P. Hutto of Dallas, teacher of the school from 1908 to 1911 as Miss Pearl Ploeger, will be the main speaker.

Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich of Bartlett, presently chairman of the reunion association, is in charge of the day's arrangements, and has compiled a brief history of the school that existed for 56 years after it was opened in 1893 on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henkes. Mrs. Wuthrich



MARKER DEDICATED — A state historical marker placed up at the site of the former Turkey Creek School in the Wuthrich Hill community northeast of Taylor was dedicated Sunday afternoon. Taking part in the program were, left to right, Marvin Lenz who unveiled the marker; Rev. Robert E. Schlortt, who gave the invocation; Mrs. J. T. Hutto of Dallas, who made the dedication address; Stanley Schwenker, who gave the response speech; Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the county historical committee; Mrs. Ernest Wuthrich who introduced special guests, and Tom Bullion, master of ceremonies. The marker reads: "Site of Turkey Creek School, 1893-1949. An 8-grade school held in frame building on site given 1893 by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henkes. Had 3 or 4 months terms until 1910. Only one teacher for all grades until 1927. After finishing here and after this school closed, students went to Taylor or Thrall schools."



1911 TURKEY CREEK SCHOOL PUPILS — This picture of Turkey Creek School students along with their teacher, Miss Pearl Ploeger, will bring back memories. Shown, top row, left to right, are Joe Hurta, Willie Stoll, Willie Schroeder, Will Stefka, Albert Schroeder, Helen Jahn, Alvina Volek, Lydia Priesmeyer, Tillie Wuthrich and Alvina Hurta. Second row from top: Miss Ploeger, Henry Schwenker, Eckhard Zepfin, Andrew Priesmeyer, Albert Wuthrich, Lillie Obermiller, Minnie Braker, Alma Wuthrich, Annie Meiske, Lydia Wuthrich, Carrie Schwenker and Emma Schroeder. Third row from top: Adolph Leschber, Willie Wuthrich, Charlie Schroeder, Otto Obermiller, Claud Buckley, Anderson boy, Fritz Brinkmeyer, Albert Obermiller, Rudolph Mueller, Eddie Mueller, Emma Stoll, Lena Brinkmeyer, Miss Anderson and Wilma Braker. Bottom row: Clyde Buckley, Mamie Schroeder, Willie Brinkmeyer, Edgar Wuthrich, Clara Leschber, Emma Hehman, Mollie Volek, Minnie Brinkmeyer, Julie Volek, Minnie Stoll, Saddle Stefka, Della Meyer, Clara Meyer and Lillie Schwenker.

The Taylor Daily Press, Monday, September 4, 1972

Homestead Named For Marker

The historic Heinatz Homestead in Leander has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Lester W. Prokop, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John W. Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee's program of preservation activities. These also include archeological investigations, small museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As of 1971 the Survey Committee had erected approximately 6,500 official markers.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.

Heinatz home near Leander to be marked

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The dedication date for the marker will be announced by Mrs. John W. Cornforth of Taylor, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads:

THE HEINATZ HOMESTEAD

Built in fall of 1850, along with adjoining store and post office, all of native stone, by John Frederick Heinatz (1822-91), a settler from Germany. He was for many years postmaster of Bagdad, a public school trustee, superintendent of Sunday School, banker, and practical advisor to his neighbors.

He married Emilie Krohn and had nine children, six boys and three girls, seven of whom lived to adulthood in this home.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark—1972.

Two new historical medallions scheduled for Williamson County

Building Medallions and Inscription Plaques have been received for the Heinatz Homestead near Leander and the Liberty Hill United Methodist Church. Dates for the dedication of these markers are pending, announced Mrs. John Cornforth, Chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, at the monthly meeting of the committee, September 14, in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library.

Committee members were present from Round Rock,

Georgetown, Florence, Jarrell and Liberty Hill. Good attendance was reported for the unveiling of two markers on August 27. Mrs. Cornforth reported interesting programs at the Bagdad Cemetery and Turkey Creek School ceremonies.

Mrs. George Bloomquist, of Austin, is working with Mrs. Cornforth to secure a grave marker for her great-grandfather, Captain James B. Williams. This will be in the Berry's Creek Cemetery a few miles northwest of Georgetown. This is one of the oldest cemeteries in

Williamson County, with some stones dated as early as 1834. According to Mrs. Cornforth this memorial plot is beautifully located amid huge oak trees and lovingly maintained and merits an Official Historical marker, also.

Two members of the Williamson County Committee are serving on the Tourism Committee of their respective towns. They are Mrs. D. B. Gregg of Round Rock and Miss Effie McLeod of Florence.

Mrs. Harold G. Scoggins is listing all of the Official Historical Markers in Williamson County and describing their locations. The list will include those erected in 1936 as part of the Texas Centennial and the more recent ones authorized by the Texas State Historical Survey Committee since 1962. The Williamson County Division of the Texas Highway Department is enthusiastically cooperating and has offered to produce a map of appropriate size to be annotated, showing all historical spots in this county.

The annual report of the County Committee is due before the Texas State Historical Survey Committee Annual Meeting in Austin, October 27-28. Mrs. Cornforth is working on the report and will call a small group meeting in the near future to include some achievements near completion in a few areas and help round out the record. Myreta Matthews, Committee Reporter



YARD OF THE MONTH — Judge and Mrs. C. L. Chance of 1610 Pecan returned from vacation to find the Chamber of Commerce had selected them for Yard of the Month honors. They are shown here in their back yard rose garden. Plantings include both flowers and shrubs, plus a vegetable garden.

Marker To Honor Old Bagdad Home

LEANDER — A historical marker will be dedicated Sunday at 2 p.m. on the Heinatz homestead at Bagdad, near Leander.

The native rock home includes the store building and first post office built by John F. Heinatz in 1850. Three generations of the family have lived in the home, which contains many of the original furnishings.

Mrs. John Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee,

will preside at the dedication ceremony. Kenneth Faubion will be master of ceremonies, and Rev. Robert Carr of Leander will be the speaker. Mrs. Morris Chamberlain will be assisted by Andy Fry for the unveiling of the marker. Mrs. Marvin Heinatz of Austin will accept the medallion.

JOHN F. HEINATZ

Bagdad was perhaps named for the Old World City. It was founded by Charles Babcock in 1854. Four years later a Post Office was wstablished by a young man who had left his native Germany to come to the New World. His name was John F. Heinatz. He was born in 1822. He landed in New York and came to Texas by way of Galveston. He bought a wagon and started traveling west. After seeing the land in Williamson County he decided this was the place he wanted to settle in.

He built a substantial rock house and a store building of the same quality. It included a grain mill and a shop. He became the first Postmaster of Bagdad in 1860 and served again from 1876 to 1882. He gave legal advice, was banker, mechanic, miller and was a patriot of the new state.

He brought one of his boyhood friends from Germany to make and inscribe gtave markers. His name was Mr. Hooster and he came to Bagdad and lived with the Heinatz family. He made many tombstones, and once made one for someone who could not or would not pay him for it. It lay around several years and then he turned it face down under the back kitchen door and the Heinatz family used it as a door step. About 1960 Mrs. Marvin Heinatz and her daughter, Emilie, turned this slab over and saw the carving that Mr. Hooster had made about a century before. It was in a perfect state of preservation and the inscription was in German anddwas dated 1869.

John Heinatz kept ledgers which are in a remarkable state of preservation. Items from his 1860 cash and charge books show:

U. H. Anderson	\$1.40 for 1 stone hammer
	1.25 for welding a cradle tube (reaper)
Anthony Jones	.35 for pointing a plough
John T. Bryson	2.00 for 4 new horse shoes
William Faubion	5.00 for 10 new mule shoes
Greenleaf Fisk	7.00 work on awwagon
Tom Cashoun	.50 2 used horse shoes
Charles Babcock	.20 2 yards calico
	.10 1 punnd nails
	.15 1 bottle parigoric
	.60 1 candle mold
	.25 1 plug tobacco
	.15 3 1/2 punnds sugar
	1.00 1 pair shoes

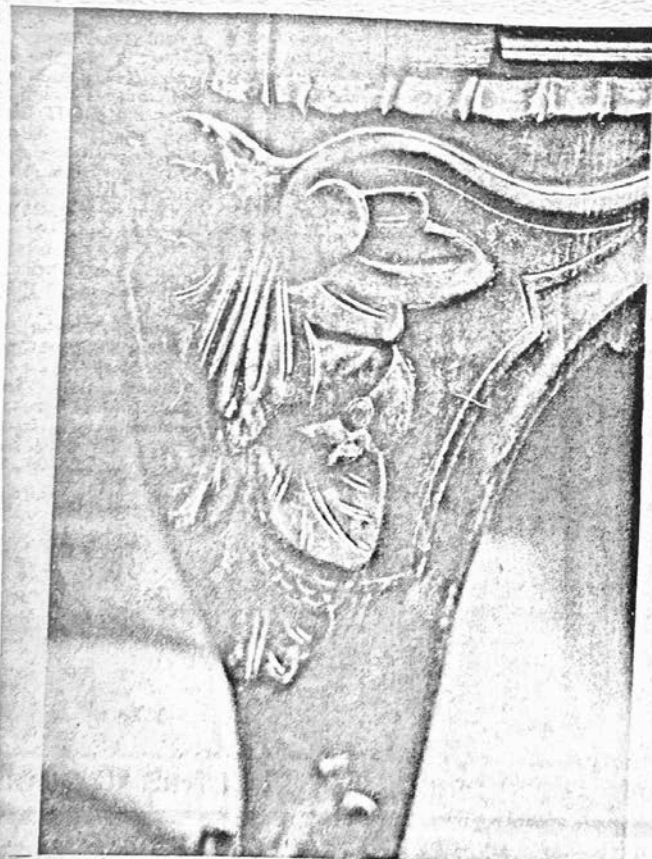
Because Bagdad was near Leander which became a thriving town, John Heinatz of Bagdad prospered and lived there until his death.

Miss Dora Heinatz and Marvin Heinatz were brother and sister. Emilie is the daughter of Marvin Heinatz.

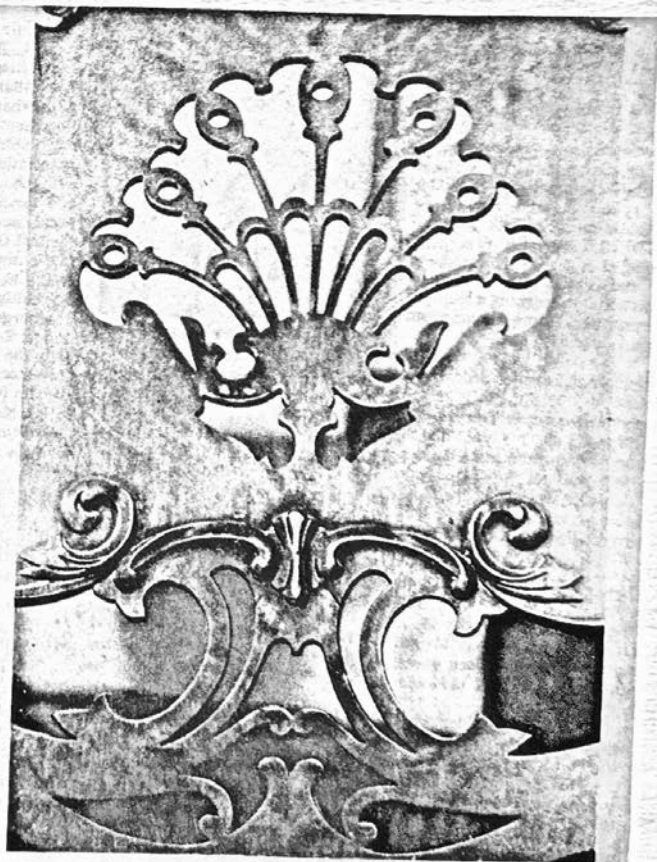
THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 4 October 5, 1972

Historical Heinatz Home to Receive

Historical Marker



Carving on leg of a massive piano.



Historical Committee Honored

Recognition for an outstanding history preservation program was accorded the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, headed by Mrs. John W. Cornforth, of Taylor, during the annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Survey committee in Austin Friday and Saturday.

Williamson was one of 34 county historical survey committees receiving the Distinguished Service Award for organizing progressive and well-rounded local history programs during the past year.

Several members of the Williamson County committee attended the annual meeting.

County committee delegates attending included Mrs. John Cornforth, county chairman, Mrs. Oliver Harris, Taylor; Mrs. D. B. Gragg, and Mrs. John Ledbetter, Round Rock; Mrs. F. W. Buchanan, Jarrell; Miss Myrela Matthews, Liberty Hill; Miss Effie McLeod, Florence.

Also members of the Texas Historical Foundation from the county attending were Mrs. C. W. Patterson, Taylor, and Mrs. Cecil Malone, Georgetown.

County "wyota buster awards" were presented to counties having an amount of \$200 in the Texas Historical Foundation. Williamson county went over the amount with \$215. The membership is \$5 per member, or more if the person desires to give more.

Over 400 history buffs from all over the state were present at the meeting, which opened with a talk by Truett Latimer, executive director of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee, entitled "Why Oral History?"

Following this, Dr. Ronald Marcello, coordinator of the Oral History Collection of North Texas State University, spoke on "The Oral History Movement: The Interview Process."

Dr. Thomas Charlton, director of the Program of Oral History at Baylor University, talked on "How To Start a County Oral History Project."

Drs. Marcello and Charlton then addressed the delegates jointly on "The Transcription and Use of Oral History Materials."

Friday evening Dr. William R. Wyatt, director of Rushmore Research in Rapid City, South Dakota, gave a special after-

dinner address on "The Preservation of Pioneer History."

Saturday's sessions opened with an address by Mr. Murphy Bennett, chairman of the Presidio County Historical Survey Committee, on "Involving Young People in Historical Preservation."

Carl Clausen, state underwater archeologist, spoke on "The State Underwater Archeological Program."

Warren Skaaren, executive director of the Texas Film Commission, talked on "Your County and the Texas Film Commission."

A speech on "County History Celebrations and Observances" was delivered by Ms. Deolece Parmelee, director of research for the Survey Committee.

The program was concluded with a speech by Gary Hume, director of National Register program for the Survey Committee, who spoke on "Practical Application of the National Register of Historical Places."

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 4 November 2, 1972

Riley home to be marked with medallion

The historic Rev. G. W. Riley Home at 1302 College Street in Georgetown, now owned by Mrs. C. A. Whatley, has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Lester W. Prokop, president of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The dedication date for the marker will be announced later, Mrs. John W. Cornforth, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, said. A certificate designating the building as Recorded Landmark will be presented at the dedication ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads:

The G. W. Riley House built 1872 by the Rev. S. J. Lane, Chaplain, Southwestern University; founder, First Methodist Church, Georgetown, bought 1908 by the Rev. George W. Riley (1853-1925), a grandson of Llano County Indians' 1859 victim, the Rev. Jonas Dancer.

G. W. Riley founded or served Methodist Churches in Abilene, Beaumont, Douglassville, Mineral Wells, Tyler, and other towns for 48 years. He and wife, Beulah G. (Matthews) moved here to educate children; house remains in family. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark—1972.

County Historical committee honored

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THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 2 November 2, 1972



the Texas historical foundation
awards this
Quota Buster Certificate
to
Williamson County
10 th in State

In recognition of the Committee's achievement of their "Fair Share Plus" investment in Historical Recordation, Appreciation, Marking, Preservation and Surveys.

October 1, 1972
DATE

Cecil G. Buxey
PRESIDENT
Lester W. Prokop
SECRETARY

County historical committee gets Distinguished Award

Recognition for an outstanding history preservation program was recently accorded the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, and accepted by Mrs. John W. Cornforth, county chairman.

At the Oct. 27-28 Annual Meeting of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee in Austin, 34 county historical survey committees received the Distinguished Service Award for organizing progressive and well-rounded local history programs during the last year.

Among the rigorous requirements for the Distinguished Service Award are that the local survey committee (1) sponsor at least four official Texas historical markers or spend \$600 for markers during the year, (2) present at least six talks on local history to other civic groups, (3) conduct at least three historical tours in the county, (4) publish a pamphlet, brochure, etc., showing sites of local historical interest, (5)

sponsor at least one annual history appreciation observance, (6) secure at least \$100 in investments in the Texas Historical Foundation (private affiliate of the State Historical Survey Committee), and (7) publish a county committee newsletter at least quarterly.

1972 ANNUAL MEETING

Texas Historical Foundation
Texas State Historical Survey Committee
East Campus Auditorium of the
Lyndon B. Johnson Library
Austin, Texas

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

ORAL HISTORY

AFTER-DINNER SPEAKER: DR. WILLIAM R. WYATT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE
IN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

STATE UNDERWATER ARCHEOLOGICAL
PROGRAM

YOUR COUNTY AND THE TEXAS FILM
COMMISSION

COUNTY HISTORICAL CELEBRATIONS
AND OBSERVANCES

PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE NATIONAL
REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES:
A CASE STUDY

AWARDS LUNCHEON

TOUR OF HISTORIC AUSTIN

MEXICAN DINNER AND AN EVENING
AT FIESTA GARDENS

We strongly urge that you preregister for the annual meeting as soon as possible in order that adequate preparations may be made for seating and feeding all of the delegates. Detach and mail the appropriate card, with your check for \$20, to the TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION at once.

We also urge that you reserve a room as soon as possible at the VILLA CAPRI MOTOR HOTEL, 2400 North Inter-regional Highway, Austin. This motel will serve as convention headquarters, although programs will be held at the Lyndon B. Johnson Library, which is located nearby. Room rates at the Villa Capri are \$12 for a single room, \$17.50 for a double room, and \$19.50 for a room with twin beds.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO LIMITED FACILITIES,
WE VERY REGRETFULLY WILL NOT BE ABLE
TO ACCEPT DOOR PRIZES OR EXHIBITS
AND DISPLAYS THIS YEAR.**

Mrs. John Cornforth ends chairmanship of historical group

County Judge C. L. Chance has announced the resignation of Mrs. John Cornforth as chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

Mrs. Cornforth has served in this position for a number of years, serving with considerable distinction, Judge Chance said.

"I regret to announce her resignation and will appoint a successor in a short time who will take over the work beginning January 1, 1973," the judge stated.

Mrs. Cornforth has announced a meeting of the historical committee at the Georgetown Library on November 9 at 2 p.m.

The Taylor Daily Press, Monday, November 13, 1972

Officials Presented Certificates

Presentation of certificates from the State Historical Survey Committee, approval of preliminary work on a private telephone exchange, granting of easements for Georgetown Cable Company, and discontinuance of the Courthouse-to-Austin telephone service were among the major activities of the Williamson County Commissioners Court meeting Monday morning.

Mrs. John Cornforth, county chairman of the Historical Survey Commission for the last four years, presented certificates to members of the court and to County Judge C. L. Chance, County Clerk Dick Cervenka, and to County Auditor Ben Kurio.

She thanked the court for their support during her four years of service, and expressed hope that cooperation would be forthcoming when a new chairman is appointed. Mrs. Cornforth resigned the job recently.

Liberty Hill medallion to be dedicated

The public is invited to attend the program of dedication for the Texas Historical Medallion and interpretive plate recently installed on the United Methodist Church at Liberty Hill. The ceremony which will be at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, November 19 is sponsored by the Official Board of the Church and is announced by Mrs. John Cornforth, Chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, under whose auspices the marker is erected.

The program was arranged by Mrs. M. K. Richardson, Committee Sub-chairman, who also wrote the history of the church building erected in 1870.

Welcome - D. W. McLendon
Invocation - Pastor - Rev. Otto Lund

Church History - Historian - Mrs. M. K. Richardson

Presentation of Certificate - Mrs. John Cornforth, Taylor

Response and Acceptance - Elbert Marcom

Unveiling of Medallion - Miss Jan Dean, Georgetown (Fifth and Charles Warren Wallace, Llano (Sixth Generation Bryson)

Reading of Inscription - Miss Ulli Smith, Austin

Benediction - Rev. Otto Lund.
The inscription on the marker reads:

THE LIBERTY HILL METHODIST CHURCH FOUNDED 1854 (1.5 MI. NW OF HERE). CONSTRUCTION OF 3-STORY BUILDING OF NATIVE STONE FOR USE OF THE CHURCH, SCHOOL, AND MASONIC LODGE WAS BEGUN IN 1870 ON LAND GIVEN BY T. S. SNYDER. UPPER STORIES WERE REMOVED AND CHOIR SPACE ADDED IN 1905; WINGS ADDED, 1916; VESTIBULE ADDED, 1954, WITH MEMORIAL WINDOW HONORING FOUNDERS: JOHN T. AND AMELIA BRYON, HULDAH, ANTHONY AND AMANDA SMITH. RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LAND-MARK, 1962.

(The Medallion was put up in 1962 but a plate was not required then - the plate is new. 1962 is on the plate now erected.)

Historical committee reviews past year

The regular monthly meeting of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee was held November 9 in the Georgetown Public Library.

Reports were made by several members who attended the Annual State Historical Survey Committee meeting in Austin. For work done in the year 1972, Williamson County received the Distinguished Service Award for the third straight year.

Several markers for Williamson County have been approved and await installation. The dedication of the Medallion and plate on the Liberty Hill Methodist Church will be Sunday, November 19 at 1:30. Other ceremonies will be announced when plans are complete, according to Mrs. John Cornforth, County Chairman.

Those attending were Mrs. Cornforth, Taylor, Chairman; Mrs. F. W. Buchanan, Jarrell, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Harold Scoggins, Georgetown, Historian; Mrs. Homer Caswell, Georgetown; Mrs. D. B. Gregg, Round Rock; Miss Effie McLeod, Florence; Mrs. M. K. Richardson, Liberty Hill all sub-chairmen and Myreta Matthews, member reporter, Liberty Hill.

History of Liberty Hill First Methodist Church

Much of the following history of the Liberty Hill Methodist Church was from the writings of Margaret Cates Bryson, "History of The Liberty Hill Methodist Church", published in 1947. This summary was read by Fay Bryson Richardson at the dedication of the 1962 medallion interpretive plate which was added in 1972 and dedicated on November 19.

"A hundred years ago, a visitor to this spot would have noted a scene very unlike the one we see today. At that time, construction was underway on a three story building of native stone which was designed to house the Liberty Hill Masonic Lodge in the third floor, a school in the second, and the Liberty Hill Methodist Church in the ground floor. One of the stone masons was Mr. J. D. Russell, who lived just across the street in the home

Big crowd sees Liberty Hill church receive medallion

The program of dedication of the Official Texas Historical Medallion and plaque on the Liberty Hill United Methodist Church was well attended Sunday, Nov. 19 at 1:30 p.m.

A capacity crowd attended the 11 o'clock worship service and the covered dish luncheon, following in the educational building.

Mrs. Fay Bryson Richardson gave a history of the church from papers and records handed down to her by her parents, grandparents and great grandparents. Her great grandparents were among the founders of the church in 1854.

Others on the program were D. W. McLendon, Rev. Otto Lund, Elbert Marcom, Ulli Smith, Jan Dean, Charles Warren Wallace and Mrs. John Cornforth, Chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. There were 4th, 5th and 6th generation representatives of such early Liberty Hill families as Bryson, Grant, Smith, Anderson, McFarland, Hickman, Dennis, Vaughan and possibly others. Besides the many local people, friends and relatives of the founders of the church attended from Abilene, Austin, Moulton, Georgetown, Taylor, Bertram, Marble Falls, Burnet and Llano.

recently vacated by Mrs. Mary Remm, and he was "Grandpa Russell" to several of our present members.

"This church was organized in 1854, in the settlement known as Old Liberty Hill, on Bryson Hill, about one and one half miles northwest of here, and was made up of five members: Anthony Smith and his wife, Amanda Smith; John T. Bryson and his wife, Amelia Edwards Bryson, and their daughter, Huldah, a young lady about sixteen years of age. Whether the first meeting was in a home or the log building which served as school and "meeting house" is not known, but for many years all preaching services were held in homes or this building, located near the old John T. Bryson home in S. H. 29.

"By 1870, the community had grown larger and the population had concentrated more to the southeast of the older settlement. An old paper, dated Oct. 27, 1871 gives a list of citizens who pledged money, or, in

two cases, a horse valued at \$50, for the purpose of building a M. E. Church, South, at or near Liberty Hill. Pledges ranged from \$10 to \$500 and amounted to near \$2300. How many pledges were paid in full is not made clear, but land was donated by Mr. T. S. Snyder, who was a son-in-law of John T. Bryson, and construction was underway. A few years later, 1875, the L. H. Masonic Lodge was chartered, and put the upper story to use. Both church and school were held on the second story level for some time, as the first floor remained unfinished until a later date. We are told classes were sometimes interrupted by the squealing of the town hogs who bedded down on the ground floor. Access to the upper stories was by an out-side stair-case about where the choir space is now. Later, the Lodge secured another building, and both upper floors were used as a school, the top floor by then known as "The Bat Den"—The bats also occupied it!

"Later, Liberty Normal and Business College was built, and the upper floors were unused till 1903. In March of that year, misfortune struck—both school house and Baptist Church were destroyed by fire, so again the Methodist Church was used as an emergency school. My class sat in this sanctuary with Mr. J. N. Mathewes as teacher. He had no desks, no blackboards, nothing except a vast amount of patience and a group of grade-schoolers sitting on hard church pews!

"In 1905, with Z. V. Liles as pastor, the two upper floors were removed, the choir and pulpit space enlarged, with three memorial windows added in memory of Anthony Smith and wife, Capt. D. V. Grant and wife, and John T. Bryson and wife. The lower casements of the Grant and Bryson windows were destroyed and

later replaced, the Bryan window rededicated in memory of Warren and Margaret Bryson, my parents.

"Jan Dean, 5th generation Smith; Ulli Smith, 5th generation Grant; and Charles Warren Wallace, 6th generation Bryson participated in the unveiling. Jan and Charles unveiled the marker and Ulli read the inscription at the close of the program.

"In 1913, while Rev. M. J. Allen was here, the tabernacle was built to replace the brush arbors which had been used for revival meetings.

"In 1916, under the pastorate of R. E. Duke, to accommodate our growing Sunday School, the two wings were added, with additional memorial windows added, three of these being for J. G. Bryson and wife, T. N. Bryson and wife, and John Munson and wife. All these were destroyed, with the Munro window being recently relocated in the sanctuary.

Meantime, our tabernacle underwent several renovations, and became our present Ed. Bldg.

"The most recent addition to the building is the vestibule, with the memorial window honoring the church founders.

"Our parsonages, too, have undergone changes. The first one, purchased in 1879, was just north of here, where Mrs. Rhea now lives; the second, 1881, west of here, on the site of the Bob John's home; 1903, site of the J. D. Henderson home; and 1921, the present one.

"No history of early church days would be complete without mention of the camp meetings which played such an important role in the social and spiritual life of our early settlements. Some of the earlier ones were held on Little Creek, west of town. Many were held on Jenk's Branch, south of here on the old stagecoach line, presently the L. H. Bagdad Road, Jenk's Branch was then a beautiful, spring-fed stream—quite a contrast to its present condition! The first meeting here was held by Josiah Whipple. We are told that Goodson Bryson "PITCHED THE TUNE" FOR THE SONGS. He was the father of Dr. J. Gordon Bryson, whom many of you know, at the close of the service, when mourners were at the "mourner's bench", his mother Amelia Bryson, would sing this song, which I once heard sung by Mrs. Mary P. Chapman when she was quite old. (Mrs. Chapman was a neighbor and friend of Mrs. Bryson's)

"Come, think on death and judgement,

Your time is now far spent.

You've been a wicked sinner,

'Tis time that you repent!

"I know I've been a sinner,

And wicked all my days.

When I grow old and feeble

I'll think upon my ways.

"But what if you lie down tonight

Supposing all is well,

And should your eyes be closed in

death

Your soul awake in Hell?

"My case would then be awful

I now begin to see.

I pray the Lord have mercy

Have mercy, Lord, on me."

The last camp meeting for the Liberty Hill-Bagdad circuit was held on Jenk's in 1883.

"I recall two incidents concerning the camp meetings related to me by relatives. My grandfather's horse, "Old Boston," was stolen. He felt the preaching must have had a good effect on the thief, because, returning from church services one day, he found old Boston tied to the lot gate!

"The other was told to me by my aunt, Mrs. Maud Bryson Crocker. Her mother had a fluting iron, and she had carefully starched and fluted the dresses her two little girls were to wear to the Sunday camp-meeting service. Having dressed them, they were sent out of the tent to wait while she turned her at-



HISTORY AND HISTORIAN—Mrs. M. K. Richardson wrote the history of the First Methodist Church of

Liberty Hill and read it at the dedication of the historical marker.

tention to the two younger boys. Alas for variety—the two girls wandered into a bed of seed ticks, so starched dresses and girls had to have a good washing to rid them of the seed ticks. I don't know whether grandmother made it to church or not that day!

"Our church has been shifted about among the conferences quite a bit. For many years we were in the Northwest Tex. Conf.-Georgetown Dist.; The West Texas Conf.-Llano Dist., Austin Dist. back to Llano; again, Austin, Lampasas and Llano. Finally, in 1942 we found a home in Southwest Tex. Conf., Kerrville District.

"Our first Sunday School was also organized in 1854, also in old Liberty Hill. It was the only one for many years, till the L. H. Baptist Church was built in 1882. In 1921, our S. S. enrollment was 160; in 1922, 180, and our Epworth League, the youth organization, had 40 members.

"Four ministers have entered various conferences from our church. The first was A. P. Smith, the son of Anthony; T. N. Barton and L. W. Walker and D. L. Landrum are the others.

"One revival meeting held in 1886 at L. H. deserves special mention, due to its great influence on our town. It was scheduled to run one week, at the church, and the preacher was John R. Nelson, attendance overflowed the church, so the men hastily constructed a brush arbor and the meeting continued for several weeks. A number of mature men became Christians at this time,

among them Mr. John Munro, who was our S. S. Supt. for thirty years.

"In 1937, new pews were purchased, Richard Gamenthaller, pastor.

"In 1939, the several branches of Methodism merged, and we became the Methodist Episcopal Church, and more recently, the United Methodist Church.

"Many other changes have occurred through the years—our old pedal organ, the big woodburning stove, the kerosene lamps, the palmetto fans, all have been "superannuated".

"It is not possible to list all those who have contributed their faithful service and their money to our church activities, boards, the S. S., the youth, the missionary societies, the pastorate, and all other functions of a church, for they are legion.

Here at this altar, many of us were received into the fellowship of the church, many loved ones have had their funeral services conducted here, some of us were married here, and many happy times are remembered at Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter and other joyful occasions.

"So our past unrolls like a beautiful tapestry with some dark background threads of doubt, grief, disappointments, and many, many bright threads of devotion, service, faith and love. Those who have gone before have finished their part of the weaving. Now the shuttles are in our hands. May the tapestry we weave, under the guidance of our God, be a bold pattern, filled with the shining threads of faith, hope and love.

by—Fay Bryson Richardson

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

NEWS REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1972

The following excerpt is taken from the first part of a seven page bulletin received by members of the Williamson County Committee.

GOALS FOR THE SEVENTIES

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

"Goals for the Seventies" is a comprehensive program of work in the field of historical preservation. It was adopted by the Texas State Historical Survey Committee on April 30, 1970 and serves as its basic policy.

MARKING

- 1. Advance historical marking -----
 - a. Place interpretive plates and medallions on worthy structures.
 - b. Mark adequately protected archeological sites.
 - c. -----place interpretive markers in state historic parks.
 - d. -----mark sites of local historical significance.
 - e. Cooperate with the Texas Highway Department in the placement of historical markers and directional signs on highway rights-of-way.

This challenge was met in Williamson County in a program of marking which has included almost every category of subjects in the year 1972.

March 26 - A distinguished state official was honored when a marker was placed on the courthouse lawn in Georgetown as a memorial to John Edward Hickman, Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

April 27 - Lawler Community dedicated a site marker commemorating a rural public school, church and cemetery, six miles east of Florence, a short distance off Farm Road 487.

May 28 - The old school bell rang again when the Trinity Lutheran College site marker was unveiled in Round Rock at the end of East Main Street. This was a church sponsored school of higher education.

August 27 - The Bagdad Cemetery marker was dedicated. This cemetery was in frontier territory when it was started in 1854 and continues in use in a rapidly developing area one mile west of Leander on Ranch Road 2243.

August 27 - A site marker for Turkey Creek School was dedicated in memory of a one teacher rural public school. It is located six miles east of Taylor on Wuthrich Hill Road one mile off Farm Road 619.

October 8 - The Heinatz Homestead was the scene of dedication ceremonies and open house. This substantial above average pioneer home has a tradition for hospitality. It is located one mile west of Leander on the old Austin-Bagdad Road across the road from Bagdad Cemetery.

November 19 was the date for unveiling the medallion and plate on the Liberty Hill Methodist Church. More than a century ago it was founded in this small town which continues to be small.

The G. W. Riley House was built one hundred years ago. It was used as a dwelling and at one time contained a school. This structure in Georgetown at 1302 College Street was a significant home in a small college town. This marker has been received but has not been installed. Mrs. C. A. Whatley is the present owner.

An application for a marker has been accepted and approved for Inner Space Cavern, one mile south of Georgetown on I.H. 35. This archeological treasure was discovered in 1963 by core drillers of the Texas Highway Department. It was later developed as a tourist attraction. The marker is yet to be received.

All of the markers were sponsored by interested persons who produced the historical data and records and procured the money to finance the erection of the cast aluminum medallion and plaque. All were approved and officially announced by Mr. Lester Prokof, President of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee and Mrs. John Cornforth, Chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

Myreta Matthews, Reporter

Clara Scarbrough to head county historical group

Mrs. Don Scarbrough was appointed by the Williamson County Commissioners Court Wednesday to be chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, a chapter of the Texas State Historical Survey Committee.

Other officers will include Miss Ruth Mentor of Taylor, vice chairman; Mrs. Estha Scoggins of Georgetown, secretary-treasurer; and Miss Myreta Matthews of Liberty Hill, reporter.

Community area chairmen are Harold Asher for Andice-Gabriel Mills area; Mrs. Robert Ford for Bartlett area; Henry Fox for Circleville area; Miss Cora Sexton for the Jarrell-Corn Hill area; Miss Effie McLeod for Florence area; Donald Irvine for Georgetown area; Mrs. Ella Hill for Granger area; Mrs. P. H. Overton for Hutto area; Mrs. Morris Chamberlain for

Leander area; Mrs. Luther Chance for Cedar Park area; Mrs. M. K. Richardson for Liberty Hill area; Thomas McDonald for Jonah area; Charles and Beth Hairston for Rice's Crossing area; Mrs. John W. Ledbetter for Round Rock area; A. M. Ahlgreen for Taylor area; Rankin Kennedy for Thrall area and Ben Kurio for the Walburg-Weir area.

Historical preservation committees are Mrs. Estha Scoggins, scrapbook-research; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hairston and Mrs. Luther Chance, tape recordings; Mrs. D. B. Gregg, Mrs. J. W. Cornforth, Mrs. Oliver Harris and Mrs. Van Tipton, museums.

Historical markers and landmarks, Miss Myreta Matthews; and History Appreciation, Mrs. Homer Caswell, Mrs. F. W. Buchanan and Mrs. Henry Labaj.

Advisory, Sam V. Stone; and Finance and Budget, Judge Luther Chance.

Mrs. John Cornforth concludes leadership of historical group

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met December 27 at the Stonehaven Activities Center. After a covered dish luncheon, County Chairman Mrs. John Cornforth conducted a short business meeting.

This was the final session of the 1971-1972 biennium of the present committee. Officers and committee members are appointed by the presiding county judge of each county in January of odd numbered years. Some counties have active historical societies and elect the committee.

Mrs. Cornforth thanked the members of the committee for their help and cooperation during the four years of her chairmanship and expressed a desire that the work continue with unabated momentum.

She reported two more structures to be marked in Round Rock. They are the "Woodbine Mansion," former home of the Nelson family, and the Otto Reineke building, both on Main Street. This brings to at least six markers in the final stages of erection in the county at the end of 1972.

Early this fall Mrs. Cornforth sent in her resignation as chairman, but consented to stay on until the end of the year when a new chairman could be appointed. She will devote her time to museum work and locating other historic places in and near

Taylor. The museum in the County building in Taylor is the result of her efforts.

Committee members attending were Mrs. W. F. Buchanan, secretary-treasurer, of Jarrell; Mrs. Harold Scoggins, scrap-book historian, and Mrs. Homer Caswell, sub-chairman, of Georgetown; Mrs. John Ledbetter, finance chairman, and Mrs. D. B. Gregg, sub-chairman, of Round Rock; Miss Effie McLeod, sub-chairman, of Florence; Mrs. M. K. Richardson, sub-chairman, and Myreta Matthews, reporter, of Liberty Hill. Visitors were Mrs. Margaret Mather of Liberty Hill and Mrs. Gibson of Georgetown.



MISS MAY KAVANAUGH was given an award of appreciation from the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee by the retiring chairman, Mrs. John Cornforth, right, at the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce Banquet Monday night. Miss Kavanaugh is the retiring publisher of the Round Rock Leader and was credited for much effective publicity for the many historical markers placed in the Round Rock area during the past four years.

County historical has organizational meeting, notes anniversary this year

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met Thursday, January 18 at 10 a.m. in the Festival Room of The First National Bank in Georgetown.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman, presided at this first meeting of the year which was a get-acquainted and orientation session. There was informative discussion concerning the duties and responsibilities of area sub-chairmen and subcommittees for History Appreciation, Historical Markers, Historical Preservation and Research. Special emphasis was placed on Museums as a place for depositing Tape Recordings, Documents, Records and Artifacts and objects having historical value.

Mrs. Estha Scoggins reported on the number of Historical Markers that have been placed in Williamson County previous to 1973. The list of 72 markers giving location and date of

installation is a combination of those sponsored by the Texas Centennial Committee in 1936, the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee since it was organized in 1957 (authorized by the Texas Legislature and was amended in 1963) and other patriotic groups. Copies of this document have been furnished the Texas Highway Department and the U. S. Soil Conservation Office.

Williamson County was organized 125 years ago. Impressive ceremonies took place in Georgetown in 1948 on the 100th anniversary of that important event. Judge Sam Stone was County Judge at that time and recalls vividly the program of that day. It seems appropriate that some sort of celebration be planned for this year, the 125th anniversary. For the many people who did not witness the past program it might bring an appreciative awareness of the historic past of Williamson County.

Many history-making projects are going on right now and records are being kept by responsible people. One that will have great impact on the economic growth and recreational facilities in Williamson County is the building of the

proposed dam on the San Gabriel River. Many legal papers and much correspondence came to the desk of Judge Stone during his tenure of office as County Judge. He presented his personal file of this material to the Research and Scrapbook Chairman, Mrs. Scoggins, at this meeting.

Area Sub-Chairmen and Committee members were present representing the following communities and towns: Andice-Gabriel Mills, Bartlett, Florence, Georgetown, Jarrell, Jonah, Liberty Hill, Rice's Crossing, Round Rock, Taylor and Thrall.

Reporter, Myreta Matthews

County flag design contest nears finish

A contest to design a flag especially for Williamson County, sponsored by the county Historical Survey Committee, is nearing its close. All students or other persons wishing to participate are asked to send their entries to Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, 1318 East University, Georgetown, Texas 78626, by April 15.

Schools throughout the county have been contacted about the contest by their local Survey Committee representatives. A number of history, art and other classes have expressed interest in the project and are submitting their designs. Several groups have invited adults to speak to them about county history prior to undertaking the design of a flag.

When the best and most appropriate design is selected, it will be presented to the County Court for its approval. If it is chosen, it will become the official flag of the county, will be made up in time to use this summer in the 125th observance of the formation of the county.

Contestants are asked to draw their designs on a sheet of paper at least 8 1/2 by 11 inches in size. On the back of the design the artist should explain any symbols he has used, and should give his full name, age, full address.

Historical committee seeks log cabins

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met March 1 in the Georgetown Public Library.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, chairman, presided and made a progress report on recently approved markers. The erection and dedication of these will be announced later. All area chairmen had been asked to look for worthy, historical structures in their own communities. The lists submitted by

several committee members show work is being done in restoration and preservation and in compiling the history of old buildings.

Of special current interest is the locating of log houses before they are gone. The search is for structures that were originally built for and used as homes or businesses, even though they are now being used for other purposes.

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee was organized to serve the whole county. Many people in the county have contributed much in recording family history and related incidents, but much more can be done. The objective of this committee is to coordinate the information while it is available and to help every town and community to understand its heritage and particular contribution to our great history. Each community is en-

couraged to participate in conserving, restoring and marking significant structures and sites. Written history plays a great part in this and must come first.

Williamson County was organized 125 years ago in Georgetown. In 1948 a great Centennial was celebrated. Some definite plans are being made for "Celebration 125". Judge Sam V. Stone held the office of County Judge in 1948 and will be an able advisor in this celebration. Present County Judge C. L. Chance has plans for the court participation. He is promoting plans to honor Judge Greenleaf Flisk, who was the first judge of the county.

Gene Martinka, Secretary of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, attended the meeting. He said the Chamber of Commerce is aware of this date in history and plans are in the making to involve

many groups of people in this celebration. Contests and programs, such as costumes of early Williamson County folk and demonstrations showing ways of doing things in days gone by, are expected to create much interest.

Mrs. Scarbrough asked committee members to contact their schools, and through the teachers, encourage children to submit designs for a flag for Williamson County and a pledge or creed to accompany it.

Communities represented at the meeting were Jarrell, Jonah, Florence, Georgetown, Liberty Hill and Round Rock.

—reporter

WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Chairman

NEWSLETTER NUMBER ONE

APRIL 15, 1973

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee has held two general meetings in 1973. The expressed concerns of the committee emphasize the preservation of structures, artifacts, documents and important incidents involving people who contributed to the way of life in this important county.

An interesting and lively celebration is in the making in Williamson County -- the one hundred and twenty-fifth birthday of the county -- and members of this committee are sure to be a contributing factor. This will be an opportunity to create interest in our goals and to find out some historic facts heretofore unknown to us but important as a part of the puzzle of one hundred twenty-five years ago or more.

At the March meeting the idea of the need for a Williamson County flag or banner was advanced and area chairmen were requested to inform their schools hoping the children would respond and submit designs to be reviewed by a special committee and presented to the County Court for their approval. According to Mrs. Scarbrough, the county wide response to the county committee's "design a flag" project has been most gratifying. Students from a number of schools are submitting designs for a Williamson County flag; some groups have heard visiting speakers tell about county history; some are suggesting a county pledge.

There are many places and people worthy of historic recognition and in some cases the history has been compiled but the markers are expensive and the owners or families are no longer here. For this reason the Survey Executive Committee approved two plans to make some money for the Committee and at the same time help with the observance of the county's 125th anniversary: (1) Sally Pettus has generously offered to let us sell her pen and ink sketches (prints) of landmarks in Williamson County during the anniversary celebration and keep all the proceeds. (2) The Chamber of Commerce in Georgetown agreed to allow our organization to sell signatures at \$10 each for two pages in a publication they will issue for the same celebration. Helpers for both projects are needed. Volunteer!

Although Williamson County was organized one hundred and twenty-five years ago -- many historic events were happening here before 1848. In 1936 the Texas Centennial Committee erected granite markers in significant places all over the state. There are fourteen such markers in Williamson County. The earliest known incident is identified by a gray granite shaft 5 1/2 feet high on U.S. 183 about two miles south of Leander. Historically speaking, on November 28, 1835, the Provisional Government of Texas organized the first Ranger Corps. The Major in Command of the three companies was R. M. Williamson for whom this county was named. A Ranger Company under Texas Government orders established a small military post northwest of Austin for pioneer refuge against the Indians. The Fort was a block house built of stones by Captain Tumlinson and his party of Rangers and manned by them until 1837 when Comanche Indians destroyed it by fire in the absence of the garrison. It was never rebuilt. The inscription on the marker reads:

SITE OF
A BLOCK HOUSE
BUILT BY TEXAS RANGERS UNDER
CAPTAIN JOHN J. TURLINSON IN
1836. DESTROYED BY INDIANS IN
1837. THIS WAS THE FIRST WHITE
MAN'S POST IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY.

ERECTED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS
1936

Members of the county committee will assist the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce with a Georgetown map showing sites of historical interest and with historical markers to be used during the 125th anniversary.

The County Survey Committee looks forward to having as guest speaker on May 3, Mr. Bob Watson, Program Director, State Historical Committee.

Myreta Matthews
Committee Reporter

County Flag Design Approved By Historical Survey Committee

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met May 3 in the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman, introduced Bob Watson, Director of Field Services for the Texas State Historical Survey Committee in Austin.

He reported that much emphasis is now being placed on preservation at the national level and that there has been a substantial growth in the work of the agency at the state level. The movement for conservation and restoration of historical structures is gaining momentum because the State agency has incorporated other agencies in various counties to cooperate and because people are interested.

He urged the committee to pay particular attention to oral history and documents. In order to strengthen the program, decisions must be made as to the historical values of objects and material reviewed. Significance is the key word. Facts must be authentic and dates must be verified for a complete application or the marking program has lost its purpose.

A flag design for Williamson County was approved by the members of the committee in at-

tendance. It will be presented to the Williamson County Commissioners Court for consideration. The design pictured was a composite of ideas sent in by more than 60 school children who responded to the appeal extended by Mrs. Scarbrough early this year. If selected, the flag will be stitched by a local professional flag maker and will be proudly used by all citizens of Williamson County in the 125th Anniversary Celebration and at other times.

The Historical Survey Committee is taking an active part in the 125th Anniversary Celebration of the organization of our county. Signatures are being sold for a booklet being published by the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Edith Caswell is taking orders. Committee members will have charge of a booth on the courthouse lawn to sell pen and ink sketches of landmarks in this area. Sally Gee Pettus has donated these prints of her work. Both projects will help finance the Historical Marking Program in the county.

Museums have been creating more and more interest recently and there are hopes for a county wide center in the future. Dr. and Mrs. Van Tipton and Mrs. Clara Scarbrough attended a Regional Museum Seminar in San Antonio last week. Mrs. Tipton is collecting historical objects to be displayed in local store windows the week of June 25-30.

Williamson County communities represented at the meeting were Andice, Bartlett, Florence, Jarrell, Georgetown, Taylor, Round Rock and Liberty Hill.

—Reporter

A Flag! for Williamson County

For the first time in its 125 years, Williamson County now has its own flag.

THE OFFICIAL FLAG was adopted Monday morning at the regular meeting of the County Commissioners Court, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of the Historical Survey Committee announced.

The project to design and select a flag got underway early in the year at a meeting of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee when Miss Myreta Matthews of Liberty Hill proposed that the county observe its 125th anniversary and that a flag be designed. The group sponsored a project in which school children were invited to submit designs. After some elimination within the schools themselves, more than sixty students' sketches were sent to the Survey Committee. From them a design, which is a composite of a number of the students' ideas, was worked out—chosen for its simplicity, its clearly visible meaning, and for its recognition of the entire county.

YOUNG PEOPLE whose ideas were incorporated into the chosen flag include Joe Ramirez, Kelly Boggs, David Delaunay and Penny Harris, all of Florence; Terry Wayne Loessin and Debbie Marburger, both of Granger; Larena Gabriel, Marty Hicks, Brian Kirk, Randy Perez, Mark Sullins, Molly Gauna, and Mitch Walker, all of Liberty Hill.

Mrs. Maureen Neumann of Georgetown, a specialist in designing and making flags, assisted in the drawing up of the final pattern and has generously offered to make the first of the county's flags which she will present to the county Historical Survey Committee in time to be used in the celebration late in June of the county's founding.

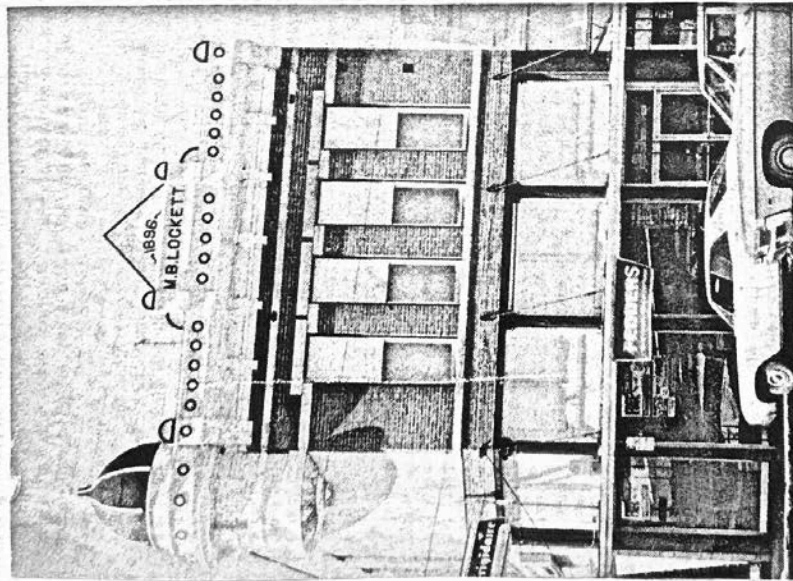
THE FLAG BACKGROUND will be "Old Glory" blue, centered with a map of Texas in white, on which is superimposed a large county map in red with the founding year, 1848, across it. Encircling the map will be thirty-three golden stars representing the towns and villages of the county. In large lettering in gold, Williamson County will be spelled out above and below the center design.

THE SUN
Sec. 1, Page 10
Georgetown, Texas
May 10, 1973



REMEMBERING HISTORY—"On this site in May, 1848, Georgetown was located, County seat of Williamson County, and named for George W. Glasscock Sr., donor of townsite. Here the first grand jury met, October 10, 1848....Erected by Daniel Coleman Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution, 1930." The Williamson County Commissioners Court met here, at the corner of Church and 9th Streets, under a big tree. The

present Commissioners Court, Robert Rozacky, Wesley Johnson, Wesley Foust, and County Judge Luther Chance, returned to the site of that first Commissioners Court meeting last Monday morning before their regular meeting. Judge Chance holds the court's original gavel, now the property of the DAR.



HISTORICAL "ATTENTION GETTER"—and the 125th Anniversary Celebration Committee urges other building owners to follow suit in sprucing up for the last week in June.

THE SUN | Georgetown, Texas
 Sec. 1, Page 11 | May 17, 1973



SUN FORCE— These are the folks who put out the Sun in 1902, according to J. E. Olson, who brought in these photos last week. Although unable to identify all of the men, Olson said he believed the first and third from the right to be the McCollough brothers. Second from the left is Captain Roach, and number four is O. F. Olson, who came to work for the Sun when he was 14 years old. Number six is Sid Purl, next to George Keahey. Olson remembers when his father would get up early to start the boiler on the days the newspaper was printed—the press was run by a steam engine. "I went into construction rather than printing, and retired in Austin several years ago," says 72-year-old Olson, who pulled out a March 1 copy of the Sun, pointed out a Passing Glance article about an alligator caught in the San Gabriel, and says he remembers the incident, which happened when he was about three years old. The picture at right is of John Olson, an uncle, who was later associated with the Cameron Enterprise.



WILLIAMSON COUNTY'S OFFICIAL NEW FLAG, made for the County Historical Committee by Mrs. Maureen Neumann, is shown to the committee chairman, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough. The flag will first be used officially June 25 at opening ceremonies of the county's 125th Anniversary. Mrs. Scarbrough said the Historical Committee will retain possession of the flag but would make it available to accredited groups or organizations for special display.

18
With Square Dancing, Shoot-outs and Show Homes

Georgetown To Note 125th Year

Austin American-Statesman

Sunday, May 27, 1973



THE COURTHOUSE, IN THE CENTER OF GEORGETOWN SQUARE

It was completed in 1910, on site of two earlier courthouses



Z. T. TORVETT HOME, OWNED BY McELROY FAMILY SINCE 1880's

Home is still furnished with the original furniture

Gun-toting bandits chased by a sheriff's posse and a promenade of 1848 fashions will help re-create the atmosphere of the Old Southwest when the residents of Georgetown celebrate the 125th anniversary of the town's settlement next month.

The week-long celebration, scheduled to open June 24 with a church-wide recognition of the founding, will feature all types of old-fashioned entertainment, including an old-time street market, a fiddlers' contest and a rodeo at San Gabriel Park.

The event, sponsored jointly by Georgetown and Williamson County, will be as fascinating as the history of the area.

Williamson County was organized in 1848 and named for Judge Robert Williamson. Called "Three-legged Willie," the judge was a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto and was one of the original members of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Texas.

In search of the county seat, Governor George T. Wood appointed commissioners to find the location. Meeting under a large live oak tree at the corner of what is now 9th and Church streets in Georgetown, the men were approached by George Washington Glasscock, a representative of the area in the 10th and 11th State Legislatures. Georgetown was so named when the commissioners made a deal with him, promising that if he gave land, the town would be called Georgetown and would serve as the county seat.

The first county courthouse was a two-room building with a lean-to, encircled by a split-rail fence. In 1877, a courthouse was built on the square. The present building was built on the same site in 1910.

The courthouse on the square will relive its history with wheelbarrow, bicycle and tricycle races during the celebration. Square dancing will also be a main event, and an old-fashioned auction will benefit the Georgetown Library. Scheduled for all six days of the celebration is a free children's movie matinee at the Palace Theater on Austin Avenue.

To add to the historical flavor of the occasion, there will be skits depicting the early days of Georgetown and Williamson County. The skits will be performed in the natural setting of San Gabriel Park.

Music of all kinds has been scheduled throughout the occasion. Among the groups scheduled to play during the week are the Blackwood Brothers, a gospel group, and Tommy Hill and the Country Music Revue.

Participants in the parade from San Gabriel Park to the downtown square will vie for prizes in the categories of riding clubs, floats, bicycles and best western-dressed boy, girl, man and woman in parade.

The SUN Spots Interesting People



MAUREEN NEUMANN

It was in 1948, when Maureen Neumann was still sewing on a treadle sewing machine, that a cousin got the job of making the Apache Belle costumes. Now, the cousin couldn't sew, but she knew that Maureen could and told the employer that Maureen could use his power machine and embroidery machine—and Maureen had never seen either one! But rather than to disappoint the cousin, Maureen went bravely in, quickly learned how to operate the machines, and not only made the prettiest costumes the Belles had ever worn, but that four day job lasted for years in Tyler.

That started her on her way to fame in the embroidery, flag-making and costume making business.

From the Tyler job she worked in Austin supervising the lettering department at C & S Sporting Goods, then went to work for the Capitol

Flag Company where she became fascinated with the art of creating flags.

She has since gone into the business for herself, and over the years she has made flags for many countries, all the state flags, flags for ships, for many organizations, and many personal flags, some of which she has designed.

Now she is at work creating the first Williamson County flag which will be flown during the 125th Anniversary Celebration in June.

She has lost count of the number of sheriff's posse flags that she has made, including those for our own Williamson County Sheriff Posse. So many that she was invited to join the American Association of Sheriff's Posses.

She has made the personal boat flags for the duPonts, Arthur Godfrey, Garry Moore, and the personal signal flag for Lyndon B. Johnson.

One of her favorite assignments is making the ceremonial dance costumes for the Indians. Maureen is 1/4 Comanche and has always loved the Indian customs. One year she made a fancy Indian costume for her daughter to wear in a parade, the Kiowa Indians saw it and asked her to make costumes for them. Ever since, she has made the costumes, fancy beadwork and embroidery on the gay Indian costumes and goes to their pow wow in Oklahoma every year. She has been honored by the Kiowas; invited into ceremonies that few white women have ever been allowed to see.

In her shop here, The House of

Arts and Gifts, Maureen can be found at her sewing machines making coronation robes, long and fur trimmed and heavily beaded; wedding gowns, fancy tablecloths, riding club vests, uniforms, shirts, and flags, flags, and more flags! She has made covers for Bevo and for Rebel.

Her talents are not limited to the machine not by a long shot. She loves to work with wood, old wood, and has made many pieces of her furniture from special pieces of old wood, wagon wheels and other antique pieces. She works with Glen Bishop making western woodwork, especially mug trees. They are always far behind with orders for these.

She paints with watercolors and oils—western landscapes are her favorites. At one time she was a beautician. She liked to give facials but disliked hairstyling so that trade didn't last long.

Maureen and her husband, Paul who is a talented metal worker, moved here in 1967 and live about three miles south of town. They have a son, Bill, in Tyler; two daughters, Rachel, in Austin, and Mary Jo in Edna, and six grandchildren.

A long way from the old treadle machine in 1948, and now Maureen says, "I guess I'd try just about anything!"

Inner Space to get Historical Marker

An Official Texas Historical Marker for Inner Space Cavern (Laubach Cave) will be erected on June 23, it was announced today by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at Georgetown, 1 mile south at cave entrance, off IH 35. Dedication will be held Saturday, June 23, at 4:30 in the afternoon at the cave entrance. Donald Duncan, manager, says, "We invite anyone interested to be present on this occasion," he declared this week.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 18 x 28 inches and is sponsored by The Georgetown Corporation.

The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas State Historical Survey

Committee's program of preservation activities. These include archeological investigations, small museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As of 1970 the Survey Committee had erected more than 5,000 official markers.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the *Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers* in order to stimulate tourist travel in this area, to arouse interest in historical tours, and to acquaint the people of this locale with their unique heritage.

County Historical Committee ready to fly first county flag

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met, June 7 at the Georgetown Public Library.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, county chairman presided and called for progress reports from the area chairmen and special committee chairmen.

History is being collected in several communities in anticipation of filing applications for historical markers for churches and schools.

The Williamson County flag sponsored by this committee, will soon be ready to fly in the 125th Anniversary celebration of this county. The flag was made by Mrs. Maureen Neumann who coordinated the designs submitted, by school children of the county.

Money making projects are under way and will require some volunteer work in manning a booth on the courthouse lawn during the Celebration. The money raised will be used for restoration and

preservation of historic places.

Mrs. Scarbrough announced two marker dedications are set for this month. A Historic Grave Marker for James B. Williams was unveiled June 10 at the Berry's Creek Cemetery five miles north of Georgetown. An Official Texas Historical Marker for Inner Space Cavern will be dedicated June 23 at 4:30 in the afternoon at the entrance to the cave off IH 35.

Mrs. John Cornforth, immediate past County Chairman was presented a Texas Historical Medallion paperweight, honoring her for her many years of service on the committee, the last four of which she was chairman. Judge C. L. Chance made the presentation and commended her for her fine record of achievement in Historical Markings and Museums.

Representatives were present from Taylor, Round Rock, Jarrell, Liberty Hill, Leander and Florence.

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker EY
Williamson County - 4-4-73 - Georgetown;
1 mi S at cave entrance, off IH 35

INNER SPACE CAVERN
(LAUBACH CAVE)

DISCOVERED IN MAY 1963 ON LAND
OF W.W. LAUBACH BY CORE-DRILLING
TEAM, TEXAS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.
EXPLORATION BEGAN IN NOVEMBER
1963 AND CONTINUES TO PRESENT.

CARVED BY WATER FROM EDWARDS
LIMESTONE, CAVE LIES ALONG THE
BALCONES FAULT AND IS ESTIMATED
TO BE 100 MILLION YEARS OLD. 95
PERCENT OF FORMATIONS ARE STILL
GROWING. CAVE WAS APPARENTLY
OPEN DURING LATE PLEISTOCENE
(20,000-45,000 YEARS AGO), FOR
BONES OF MANY EXTINCT MAMMALS
HAVE BEEN FOUND IN DEBRIS CONES
FILLING FORMER NATURAL ENTRANCES.
REMAINS OF SABRE-TOOTHED CATS
AND MAMMOTHS ARE REPRESENTED.

(1973)

16" x 12" Official Texas Historical Grave UF
Marker - Williamson County - 4-16-73 - Berry's
Creek Cemetery, on Florence Highway 5 mi N of
Georgetown

JAMES B. WILLIAMS
(1821-1891)

A PIONEER OF THIS REGION. BORN
IN MADISON COUNTY, KY. WITH BRIDE,
SARAH COFFEY, CAME TO TEXAS IN
WAGON TRAIN LED BY HIS FATHER,
ISAAC, AND INCLUDING BROTHERS
DAVID, JOHN R., KELSE, AND OTHER
KIN. MOVED TO BERRY'S CREEK AREA
ON DEC. 24, 1848. SERVED IN TEXAS
RANGERS COMPANY OF HIS UNCLE,
CAPT. JOHN WILLIAMS, 1854-1862.

LIVED IN SAN SABA COUNTY, 1850s.
PERMANENT HOME WAS IN GLASSCOCK
VALLEY, NORTH OF GEORGETOWN.

WILLIAMS HAD THIRTEEN CHILDREN.

RECORDED 1973

County pioneer to be honored Sunday

A dedication ceremony will be held at the Berry's Creek Cemetery five miles north of Georgetown Sunday, at 2:30 p.m.

The Program honoring James B. Williams (1821-1891) will be under the direction of Mrs. John Cornforth, Past Chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

James B. Williams and his wife Sarah Caffey were born in Kentucky. Soon after their marriage, he led a wagon train headed for Texas. They reached the Berrys' Creek area Dec. 24, 1848, the same year that Williamson County was organized. In a few years, they moved to San Saba County where he served as Sergeant in the 2nd Co. of Texas Rangers under his uncle, Capt. John Williams, the famous Indian Scout. After Capt. John was scalped by the Indians in 1862, James B. moved his family back to Glasscock Valley in Williamson County. They raised ten children, most of whom raised large families and they in turn played an influential part in shaping the destiny of the fledgling Williamson county.

THE PROGRAM

Call to order-Mrs. John Cornforth
Master of Ceremonies-Howard Blomquist

Invocation-Neil Gibbs
Dedicatory Address-Lt. Col. James M. Williams, Ret.

Unveiling of marker-Spencer F. Howell

Response and Acceptance-I.M. Hausenfluke

"Blest be the Tie that Binds"-Led by Larry Hausenfluke.

The public is cordially invited.

Berry's Creek Cemetery homecoming Sunday

The Berry's Creek Cemetery Association will hold the annual Homecoming and business meeting Sunday June 10 on the cemetery grounds.

The Memorial Service will begin at 10:45 a.m.

A barbecue lunch will be served at noon.

The business meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m.; this will include the

election of officers for the coming year and one director to a five year term.

The descendants of James Williams have planned a "Historical Marker Service" following the business meeting. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Berry's Creek Cemetery Assn.
I. M. Hausenfluke, President

THE SUN
Sec. 1, Page 5

Georgetown, Texas
June 7, 1973



FIRST THURSDAY NEWCOMERS CLUB— new officers took over at last week's meeting when members wore dresses from Gold's to preview the scene of the upcoming 125th Anniversary Celebration. Left to right, front, Barbara Pearce,

Patti Hewlett, first vice president; Pat Beggs, treasurer; Judy Plunkett, president; Dixie Moore, booth chairman; back row, Elaine Caskey, projects chairman; Merle Weir, historian; Sharon McLeod, second vice president; Donna Connor, publicity; Secretary Kay Morrison was absent from the picture.

Berry's Creek Cemetery homecoming registers 225

The Berry's Creek Cemetery Assn. held the annual Homecoming Sunday June 10, 1973. There were 225 to register. We all had a most enjoyable day visiting with relatives and old friends.

The Speaker at the Memorial Service was John Lewis. The song service was led by Fred Ischy, Jr.

The business meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. I. M. Hausenfluke who has been a director and president of the association since it organized in October of 1960, did not wish to be re-

elected this year.

J. D. Logan was elected president. Horace Flinn was elected to a five year term as a director. Gertrude Walker was re-elected treasurer, Marjorie Winger was re-elected secretary.

The oldest visitor and the one who traveled farthest was Mrs. M. F. Rupnow from Norman, Oklahoma. She is 85 years old. The youngest was the 5 week old baby of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Howell of Castroville.

A "Historical Marker Service"

was held for James Williams one of Williamson County's early settlers at 2:30 p.m.

Other visitors came from San Saba, Florence, Bartlett, Belton, Goldthwaite, Jarrell, San Antonio, Burnet, Big Spring, Austin, Liberty Hill, Eden, Stephenville, Kingsland, Leander, Llano, Bertram, Temple, Lubbock, Conroe, Splendora, Castroville, Norman, Okla., Holland, Clifton, Waco, Cotulla, Jollyville and many from Georgetown.

THE SUN
Sec. 1, Page 10

Georgetown, Texas
June 7, 1973

125th Celebration begins Monday

WILLIAMSON COUNTY
125th CELEBRATION, GEORGETOWN, TEXAS,
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 1973

SPECIAL COUNTY-WIDE CHURCH RECOGNITION OF 125th CELEBRATION

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1973

- 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Advance Ticket Sales, RCA Rodeo, Williamson County Sheriffs Posse, Rodeo Headquarters, Prude Real Estate Office, Church & University Streets
- 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. OPEN HOUSE—Public Library, J. M. Barcus Collection & Childrens Art Masterpieces
- 1:30 p.m. CHILDRENS MOVIE matinee special—Free show, Palace Theater, Austin Avenue, one show only
- 5:30 p.m.* Opening of old-time STREET MARKET around historic courthouse square—north and south sides of the courthouse
- 6:00 p.m. OPENING EXERCISES of 125th celebration
Introduction of dignitaries
Entertainment
All events will be on the east side of the square
- 6:30 p.m. Georgetown Area COMMUNITY THEATER presents a fun-filled musical celebration featuring a cast of 50 community stars and live orchestra "SUMMER FUN" is an original musical sparkling with the flavor of Williamson County as presented by the large cast of community personalities.
- 7:00 p.m. BANK ROBBERY and shoot-out, by Williamson County Sheriff's Posse at Georgetown Savings & Loan, east side of the square.
- 7:30 p.m. RACES, wheelbarrow, bicycle, and tricycle, east side of the square—Ribbons will be awarded—open to the public
- 8:00 p.m. Old time STREET MARKET on historic courthouse square, will remain open for the evening.
- 8:00 p.m. BLACKWOOD BROTHERS singing group, World's #1 Gospel Singing Artist, featuring—Mr. James Blackwood. In air-conditioned Lois Perkins Chapel, Southwestern campus, tickets sold at the door.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1973

- 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Advance ticket sales, RCA rodeo, Williamson County Sheriffs Posse, Rodeo Headquarters, Prude Real Estate Office, Church & University Streets
- 1:30 p.m. CHILDRENS MOVIE matinee special—free show, Palace Theater, Austin Avenue, one show only
- 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. FREE SWIM, Southwestern Pool, the "buddy system" will be used, bring a buddy along, Coach Kassen in charge
- 5:30 p.m.* Opening of old time STREET MARKET around historic courthouse square, north and south sides of the courthouse.
- 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. BARBER-SHOP QUARTET, east side of courthouse square.
- 6:30 p.m. BAKING CONTEST, all entries invited, register at the Chamber of Commerce—Friday, June 22, judging and ribbons awarded.
- 7:00 p.m. 1800's FASHIONS PROMENADE, judging and ribbons awarded, east side of the square—all promenade entries invited.

- 105
- 7:30 p.m. Georgetown Area COMMUNITY THEATER presents a fun-filled musical celebration featuring a cast of 50 community stars and live orchestra. "SUMMER FUN" is an original musical sparkling with the flavor of Williamson County as presented by the large cast of community personalities.
- 9:00 p.m. SQUARE DANCING, east side of the courthouse square, come dance.
- 9:00 p.m. Old time STREET MARKET on historic courthouse square will remain open for the evening.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1973

- 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Advance ticket sales, RCA rodeo, Williamson County Sheriffs Posse, Rodeo Headquarters, Prude Real Estate Office, Church & University Streets
- 5:30 p.m.* Opening of old time STREET MARKET around historic courthouse square, north and south sides of the courthouse
- 6:30 p.m. AUCTION benefiting Georgetown Public Library, local childrens original art work—juvenile masterpieces— This priceless collection auctioned on the east side of the courthouse square.
- 7:00 p.m. OLD FIDDLERS CONTEST, judging and awards presented, east side of square. Fiddlers of all ages invited to participate.
- ** CHILDRENS SHOW, Palace Theater, Austin Avenue, admission required.
- 7:30 p.m. Georgetown Area COMMUNITY THEATER presents a fun-filled musical celebration featuring a cast of 50 community stars and live orchestra. "SUMMER FUN" is an original musical sparkling with the flavor of Williamson County as presented by the large cast of community personalities.
- 9:00 p.m. COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE music by Texas Village Play Boys Band, east side of the square, come dance.
- 9:00 p.m. Old time STREET MARKET on historic courthouse square, will remain open the rest of the evening.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1973

- 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Advance ticket sales, RCA Rodeo, Williamson County Sheriffs Posse, Rodeo Headquarters, Prude Real Estate Office, Church & University Streets
- ** CHILDRENS SHOW, Palace Theater, Austin Avenue, admission required.
- 3:00 p.m. Parade entries lined up in San Gabriel Park no later than 3:00 p.m. to be eligible to be judged. Awards will be presented before the parade. Parade will start promptly at 4:30 p.m.
- 4:30 p.m. Williamson County Sheriffs Posse PARADE, San Gabriel Park to downtown square. Prizes given on riding clubs, floats, bicycles, best dressed western boy, girl in parade
- ** Barbecue dinner at end of the parade—Community building in San Gabriel Park, tickets for dinner sold at serving line.
- 6:00-8:00 p.m. Texas National Guard CONCERT AND DANCE band—free in San Gabriel Park Community Building during barbecue dinner
- 7:00 p.m. RCA rodeo tickets for sale at Sheriffs Posse Arena, San Gabriel Park
- 8:00 p.m. 30th annual Williamson County Sheriffs Posse RCA RODEO, in San Gabriel Park, produced by Tommy Steiner, Cal Smith is the featured entertainer, Tommy Hill & the Country Music Revue will provide music.
- 10:30 p.m. WESTERN DANCE at close of rodeo in Community Center, San Gabriel Park. Music provided by Tommy Hill & the Country Music Revue. Cal Smith is the featured entertainer.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1973

- 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Advance ticket sales, RCA Rodeo, Williamson County Sheriffs Posse, Rodeo Headquarters, Prude Real Estate Office, Church & University Streets
- ** CHILDRENS SHOW, Palace Theater, Austin Avenue, admission required.
- 7:00 p.m. RCA RODEO TICKETS for sale at Sheriffs Posse Arena, San Gabriel Park
- 8:00 p.m. 30th annual Williamson County Sheriffs Posse RCA RODEO in San Gabriel Park, produced by Tommy Steiner, Cal Smith is the featured entertainer, Tommy Hill & the Country Music Revue will provide music
- 10:30 p.m. WESTERN DANCE at close of rodeo in Community Center, San Gabriel Park. Music is provided by Tommy Hill & the Country Music Revue. Cal Smith is the featured entertainer.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1973

2:00 p.m. County SWIM MEET, Southwestern University Pool, three divisions boys & girls, group A through age 12, group B 13 through 15, group C 16 through 18, contact Chamber of Commerce for starting times and events.

2:00 p.m. COUNTY SWIM MEET, Southwestern University Pool, Awards in Each Event, Divisions & Events as follows:

THREE DIVISIONS:

- Division A Boys & Girls through age 12
- Division B Boys & Girls ages 12 through 15
- Division C Boys & Girls ages 16 through 18

Events:

- 50 yard—Free Style 2:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
- 50 yard—Back Stroke 2:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
- 100 yard—Free Style 3:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
- 100 yard—Back Stroke 3:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- 1 Meter Board Diving 4:00 p.m.-5:40 p.m.

7:00 p.m. RCA rodeo tickets for sale at Sheriffs Posse Arena, San Gabriel Park

8:00 p.m. 30th annual Williamson County Sheriffs Posse RCA RODEO in San Gabriel Park, produced by Tommy Steiner, Cal Smith is the featured entertainer, Tommy Hill & the Country Music Revue will provide music

10:30 p.m. WESTERN DANCE at close of rodeo in Community Center, San Gabriel Park. Music is provided by Tommy Hill & the Country Music Revue. Cal Smith is the featured entertainer.

* (Market Booths may be open all day)

** (Time is not scheduled—check Williamson County SUN & KGTV Radio for times and changes)

ADDED ATTRACTIONS FOR 125th CELEBRATION

WALKING-DRIVING TOUR historic medallion homes and buildings, check at the Chamber of Commerce, 9th & Main Streets.

ARTIFACT DISPLAY—Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department, 9th & Main Streets

GEORGETOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY display of scale models of Georgetown and Central Texas historical homes and buildings by Mr. J. M. Barcus of Gonzales, Texas (east side of the courthouse square)

FIRST NATIONAL BANK—display of Dr. Frank Callcott's paintings. Bank located on the west side of the courthouse square.

CITIZENS STATE BANK—Texas Ranger Display—A Ranger will be on duty at the bank Monday through Friday. Bank located at 11th Street & Austin Avenue.

WINDOW DISPLAYS—store windows of Georgetown—showing Williamson County historical items.



THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 3 June 21, 1973

Inner Space Cavern to dedicate Texas Historical marker Saturday

Inner Space Cavern will dedicate its Texas State Historical Marker on Saturday afternoon at 4:30 near the cave entrance, with James Mulkey Owens, this area's district Highway Engineer, as guest speaker. Donald Duncan, manager of the Cavern, has invited everyone interested to be present for the short ceremony.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of

Georgetown is Williamson County Chairman of the Survey Committee. The former chairman, Mrs. John Cornforth, plans to participate in the unveiling.

The brief history of the well-known cavern is told on the inscription of the marker:

"INNER SPACE CAVERN"
(Laubach Cave)

"DISCOVERED IN MAY 1963 ON LAND OF W. W. LAUBACH BY CORE-DRILLING TEAM, TEXAS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. EXPLORATION BEGAN IN NOVEMBER 1963 AND CONTINUES TO PRESENT.

"CARVED BY WATER FROM EDWARDS LIMESTONE, CAVE LIES ALONG THE BALCONES FAULT AND IS ESTIMATED TO BE 100 MILLION YEARS OLD. 95 PERCENT OF FORMATIONS ARE STILL GROWING. CAVE WAS APPARENTLY OPEN DURING LATE PLEISTOCENE (20,000-45,000 YEARS AGO), FOR BONES OF MANY EXTINCT MAMMALS HAVE BEEN FOUND IN DEBRIS CONES FILLING FORMER NATURAL ENTRANCES. REMAINS OF SABRE-TOOTHED CATS AND MAMMOTS ARE REPRESENTED."

New County flag comes with instant tradition!

The newly - adopted flag of Williamson County, which was unveiled for the first time last Monday at the opening exercises of the county's 125th anniversary celebration, already has a tradition connected with it

The flag itself is new, having been designed this spring cooperatively by a large number of middle-grade students in the county and the efforts of the County Historical Committee. Mrs. Maureen Newmann made a flag from the design chosen and presented it to the Historical Survey Committee. The County Commissioners have adopted the flag.

The flag staff on which it now flies has a longer

tradition. Retired County Judge Sam V. Stone took out and polished up his old staff for the Survey Committee and presented it to them. The staff was used in 1918 in England, when Judge Stone was commanding officer of the 337th Aero Squadron, Aviation Section, Signal Corps. His unit was in training there during World War I, and the flag staff flew the United States flag for Stone's squadron.

The handsome flag has a blue ground, is centered with a white map of the State of Texas, and that in turn centered with a red map of Williamson County. The year of the county's founding 1848, is emblazoned across the county and state maps. Encircling the maps are thirty-three gold stars, which represent the cities, towns and active villages of the county.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
June 28, 1973
Sec. 2, Page 2



Texas' Unique "Underground Theatre"

THE GEORGETOWN CORPORATION
Box 451
Georgetown, Texas 78626

Telephone:
Area Code 512, 863-5545

Donald Duncan, President
James Brummett, General Manager

DEDICATION OF HISTORICAL MARKER, INNER SPACE
PROGRAM, JUNE 23, 1973

WELCOME	--	--	Donald Duncan
INTRODUCTION OF MR. OWENS		--	Donald Duncan
MR. OWENS' REMARKS		--	J.M.Owens
INTRODUCTION OF DR. LUNDELIUS	--		Donald Duncan
DR. LUNDELIUS' REMARKS	--		Ernest Lundelius
INTRODUCTION OF MRS. CORNFORTH			James Brummett
UNVEILING OF MARKER BY MRS. CORNFORTH			



THE LAKE OF THE MOON is one of the spectacular formations at the prehistoric cave known as Inner Space Cavern, which was the recent recipient of an historical marker. The inscription on the marker, dedicated in June as part of the 125th anniversary of the creation of Williamson County, records that the cave is about 100 million years old and that 95 percent of the formations are still growing. (Photo courtesy Inner Space Cavern)

THE MEDALLION

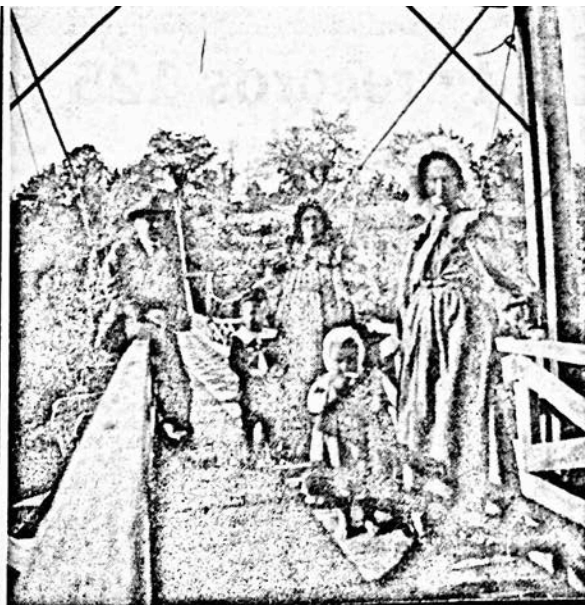
JULY 1973



MRS. EUNA V. SIMPSON
 —oldest Williamson County native living
 in Williamson County. She's 101.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
 Sec. 1, Page 2 June 21, 1973

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
 Sec. 1, Page 12 June 28, 1973



The Chautauqua was a big thing in Georgetown in the 1890s. Grounds were on the north bank of the south San Gabriel west of town, and were reached by this suspension bridge across the river. Standing on the bridge are Will and Sallie McGlomery, Alice Goodlett and young Miss Patsy Goodlett. The boy pictured has not been identified, but possibly belonged to the McGlomery family. Note the little girl's very long dress, the boy's short pants, the ladies' bonnets.



CHARLES COOPER CAMERON, on the left, was "redbird" and Sally Gee Pettus was "buttercup" at the May Fete in Georgetown in 1919. We had to twist Sally's arm to get this picture, which was taken in Georgetown at the home of Sally's grandparents.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO DRIVE to Carlsbad. Inner Space Cavern, just south of Georgetown on IH 35, received the praise of several dignitaries Saturday during the dedication of a historical marker. Among those speaking at the dedication and recounting the history of the cavern were Dr. Ernest Lundelius, University of Texas geology department; W. W.

Laubach, on whose land the cavern was discovered; Donald Duncan, president of the Georgetown corporation; and J. M. Owens, Texas Highway Department district engineer. Mrs. John Cornforth, past president of the Williamson County historical Committee during the time arrangements were made to have the cavern marked, unveiled the plaque.

Historic markers to be dedicated to home, building in Round Rock

Two historic places in Round Rock are to receive official Texas Historical Markers in the near future, it was announced this week by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The historic Nelson Mansion in Round Rock has been named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, president of the Texas Historical Commission, Clifton Caldwell has said.

As a result of meeting the state's requirements for this official designation, a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate, giving a capsule history of the structure, will be affixed to the building.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.

The inscription on the marker reads:

NELSON-CRIER HOUSE

In 1854, Andrew J. and Hedwig Nelson migrated from Sweden to Texas. Diligent in his businesses,

Nelson (D. 1895) became wealthy. His widow and family built this house, 1895-1900. 3 generations of Nelsons lived here. A son Thomas Edward and wife had architects Wilson McClure, Dallas, and Page Brothers, Austin, restyle Victorian facade to classical revival, 1931.

In 1960, Eugene N. and Jean Crier Goodrich bought and restored the mansion, and named it Woodbine. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark—1973.

-0-

Mrs. Scarbrough also announced that another official Texas Historical Marker for the Otto Reinke Building will be erected soon. This marker will be placed at 102 E. Main Street in Round Rock.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 14 by 24 inches and is sponsored by Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Mrs. John W. Ledbetter.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers in order to stimulate tourist travel in this area, to arouse interest in historical tours,

and to acquaint the people of this locale with their unique heritage.

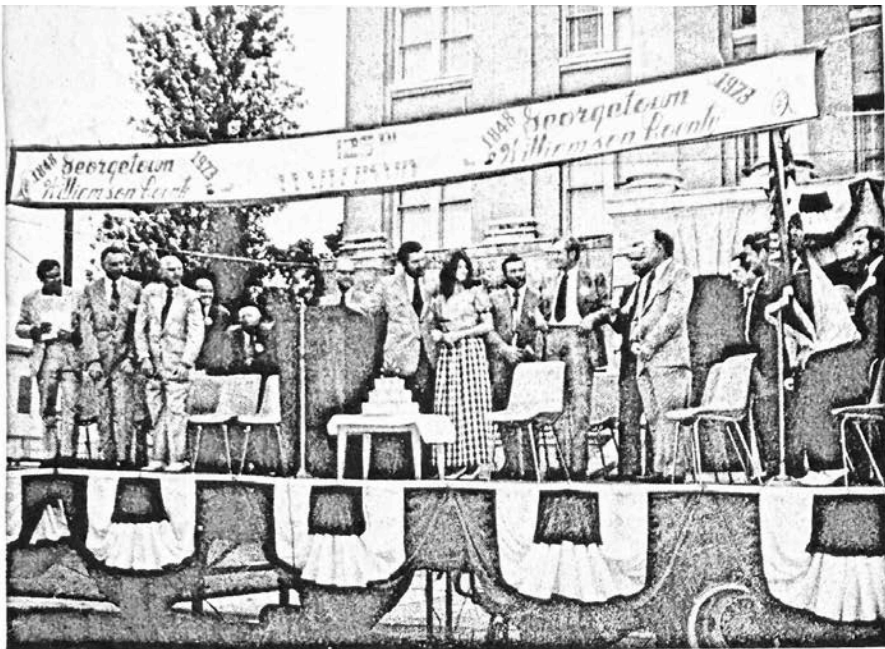
The inscription on the marker reads:

OTTO REINKE BUILDING

Erected 1879, three years after Round Rock expansion began at railroad's arrival.

Some successive tenants included stores, physician, restaurants. After it was gutted by fire in 1963, architect Martin S. Kermacy and wife, Evelyn, built a modern interior within the Victorian-Italianate walls. (1973)

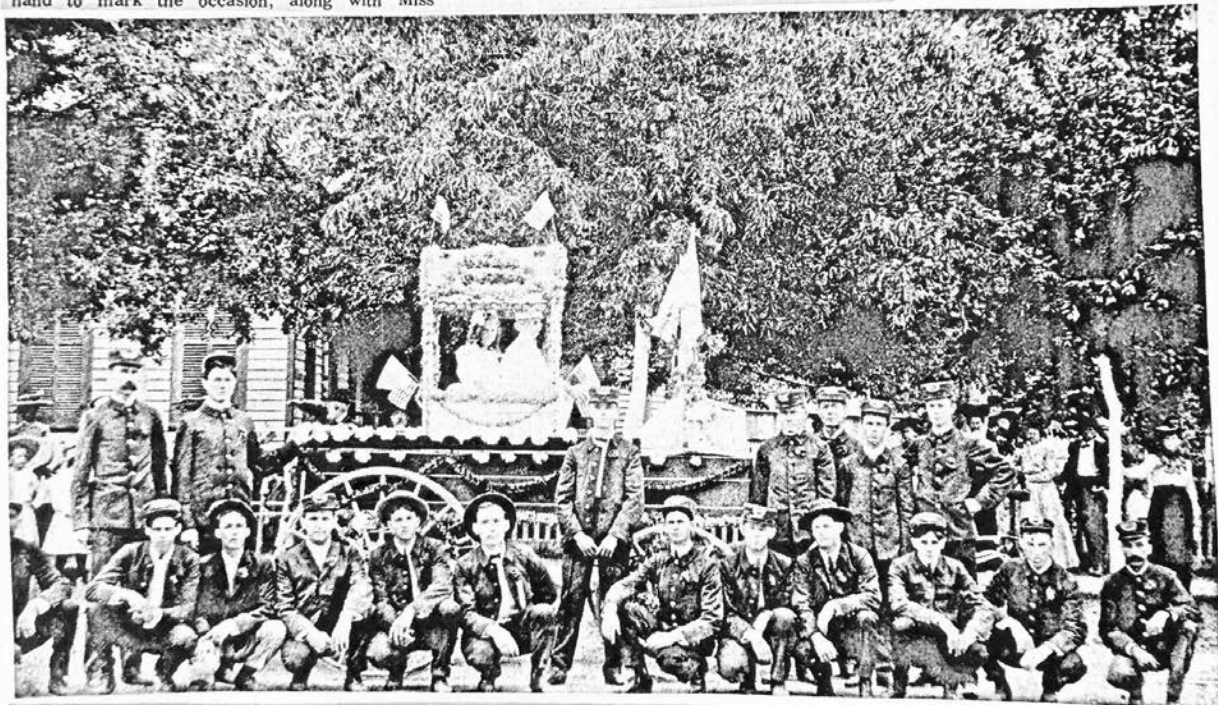
The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas Historical Commission's program of preservation activities. These include archeological investigations, small museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As of 1970 the Historical Commission had erected more than 5,000 official markers.



OPENING CEREMONIES for Williamson County's 125th Anniversary Celebration began on the east side of the Courthouse square Monday evening, only a short time after rainy skies, which had threatened the celebration's opening day, cleared. National, state, county, and city politicians and dignitaries were on hand to mark the occasion, along with Miss

Georgetown, Janet Barker. Don Hewlett opened the ceremony, Bill Buchanan recounted a brief history of the county, and State Representative Dan Kubiak read a resolution passed by the House of Representatives in honor of the occasion. Mayor Joe Crawford introduced those on the platform.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
 Sec. 1, Page 5 June 28, 1973



WE DON'T KNOW the exact date this splendid picture of the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department was taken but it was quite a spell ago. Homer Caswell owns it and identifies the man on the left, kneeling, as H. E.

McKeithan, father of Malcolm and Reba, and the two men standing, second row, at the left as his father, T. J. Caswell and Will Hanna. He believes the picture was made in about 1908.



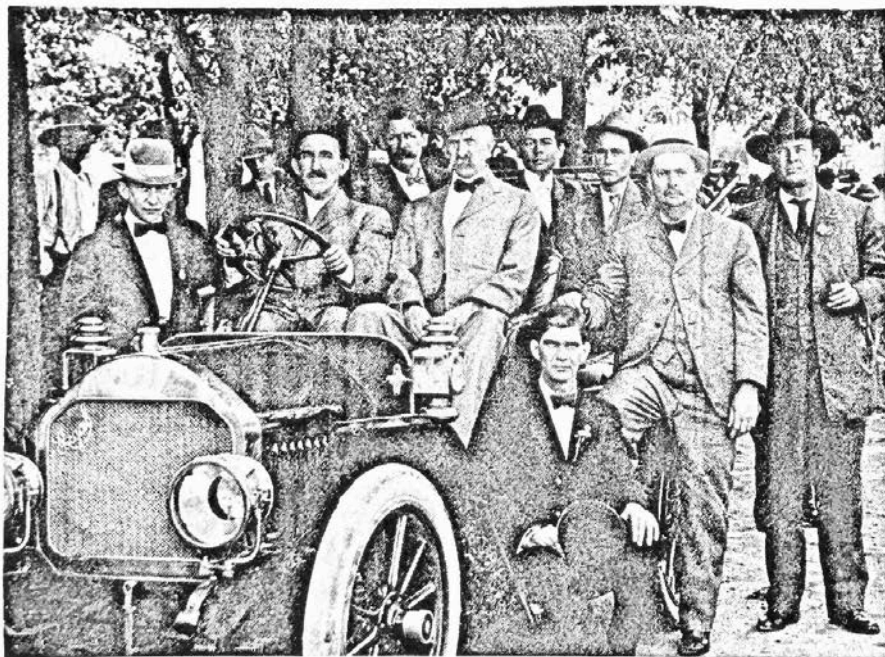
Judge Thomas Proctor Hughes, a pioneer of the county, built an imposing home across the street south from the present Wesleyan Home. In the 1880's,

the Hughes entertained at their home with an elaborate George Washington party, depicted here. (Photo by Wilcox & Chapman, Georgetown)

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 4 June 28, 1973



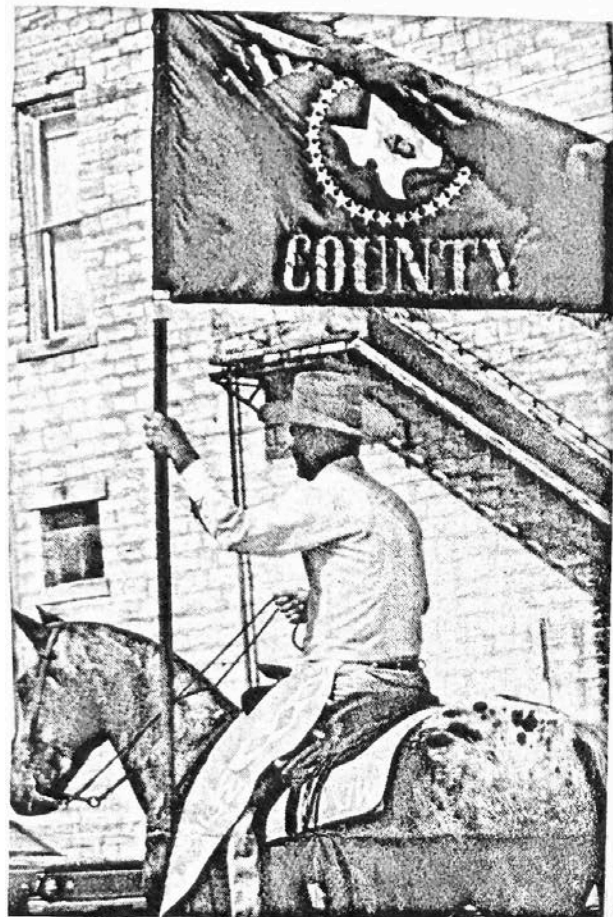
Georgetown's fancy new street water sprinkler, purchased June 1, 1894, clips westward by the Goodlett Building (on left of photo) and the corner where Georgetown's first hotel stood (right), at the corner of Austin Avenue (in 1848, Brushy Street) and Seventh Street (then Oak Street). Note stepping stones crossing Brushy (Austin Avenue), presumably very handy when the street was muddy.



The Georgetown City Council of about 1913 poses in and near a shiny new automobile. The determined-looking driver has not been identified. Seated beside him is Mayor R. E. Ward; in the back seat are councilmen C. C. Hamilton, Claude Griffith, Dave Wilcox. Dr. Schultz stands beside the driver and

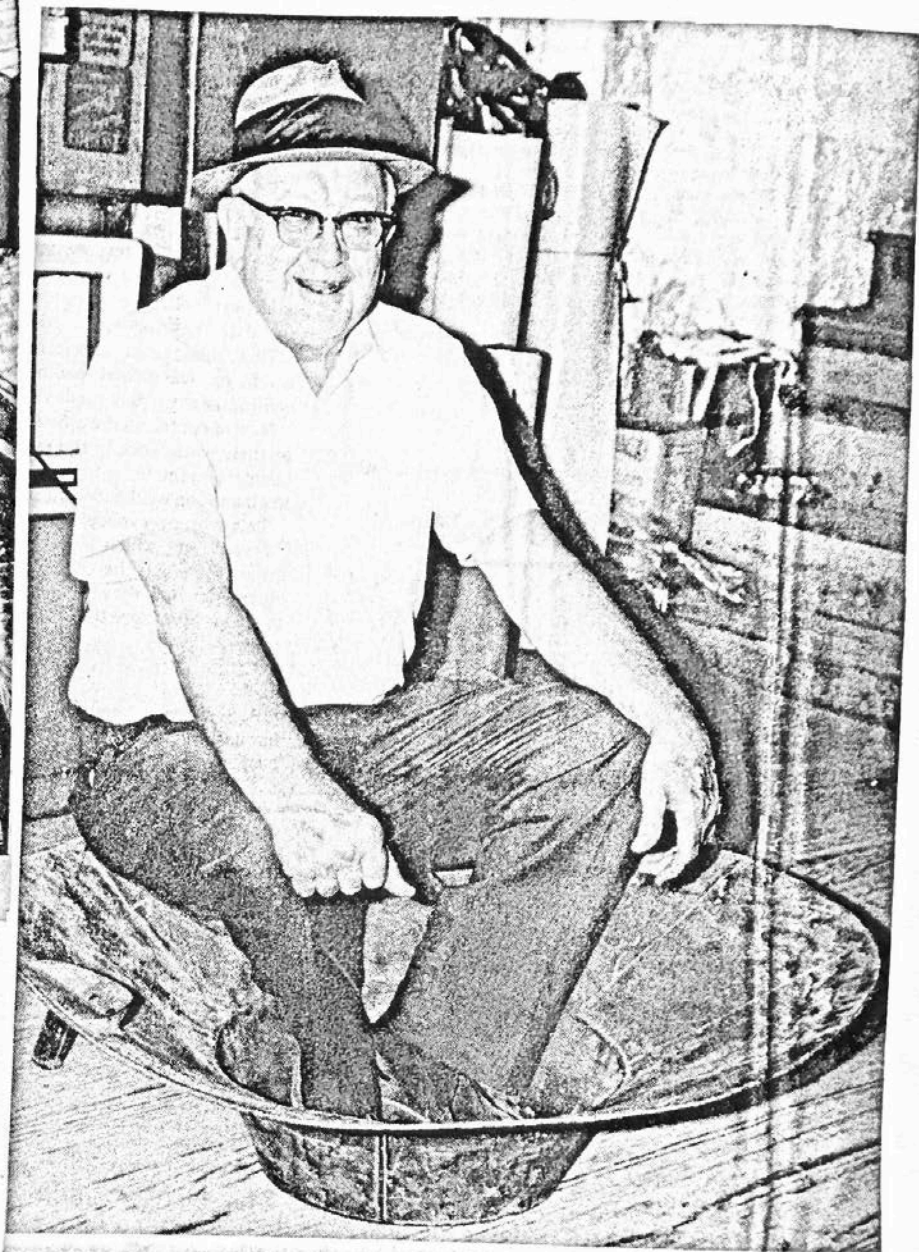
sitting on the step (once called a running board) is Sam Hodges. Just to the right of the car are Lee M. Taylor and Police Chief C. J. Brady. Readers are invited to furnish identity of driver, bystanders and the initials of the doctor.

Driver. W. T., Starnes

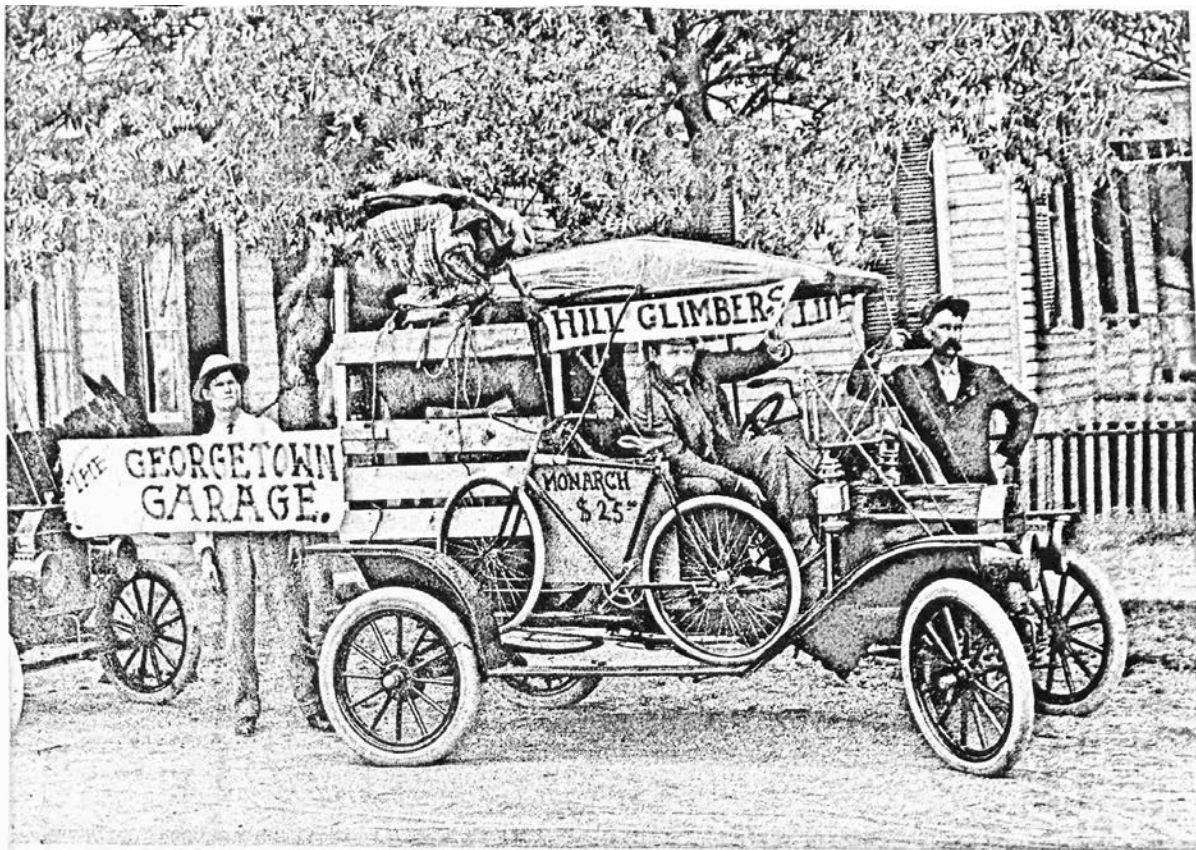


NEW WILLIAMSON COUNTY FLAG— was proudly displayed by the Williamson County Sheriff's Posse.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 6 July 5, 1973



IS THATCHER FIXING TO GET HIS FEET WET?— Ex mayor Thatcher Atkin was importuned to pose for the SUN photographer in his antique bathtub, which is on display at his store this week. Atkin also has on display an early model washing machine, probably manufactured around 1900 and still in working order.



HILL CLIMBERS—Package offer of The Georgetown Garage in 1908!—either the Model-T, the pony or the Monarch bicycle. Owner of the car and the Georgetown Garage, T. J. Caswell, stands at the front. Passenger is H. E. McKeithan (Malcolm and Reba's father), and standing at the back is Ferd Shiefer, son of the lady who owned the popular candy store on the north side of the square where the City Hall now

stands. Caswell was the exclusive Ford dealer for Williamson, Travis, Bell and Burnet Counties. He had sub-dealers in towns in each county. This 1907 Model T sold for \$299—no tax, no state license. He made his own license number for the county out of leather—#12. Note the 30x3 tires and carbide lamps and the faithful dangling crank

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Georgetown, Texas
June 28, 1973



"Sleigh riding, Georgetown, Texas," is the caption on the photograph made by R. J. Stone, on Main Street with the present KGTN Building (formerly, Stone Drug Store) in the background. Note the

identifying porthole windows. To the right of the foreground building is the old stone Courthouse (1877-1910), and to its right, the stone jail which stood on the northeast corner of the Courthouse Square.

GEORGETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Post Office Box 346

Georgetown, Texas 78626

Area Code 512 - 863-2251

July 5, 1973

Dear Friends,

We take this opportunity to thank you for all your interest and hard work in making our 125th Anniversary Celebration so very successful!

Much effort went into this event and we are very pleased with all the participation and interest shown by you and the citizens of Georgetown, Williamson County, and our surrounding neighbors.

Sincerely,

Williamson County 125th Anniversary Steering Committee
Bill Buchanan & Don Hewlett, Co-Chairmen
Joe Crawford
C.L. Chance
Harry Gold
Mrs. William C. Harris
Herb Hanson
Gene Martinka
Mrs. Travis White
Leo Wood
Tim Wright

*It was very enjoyable working with you.
Thank you,
Kay Nell Harris*

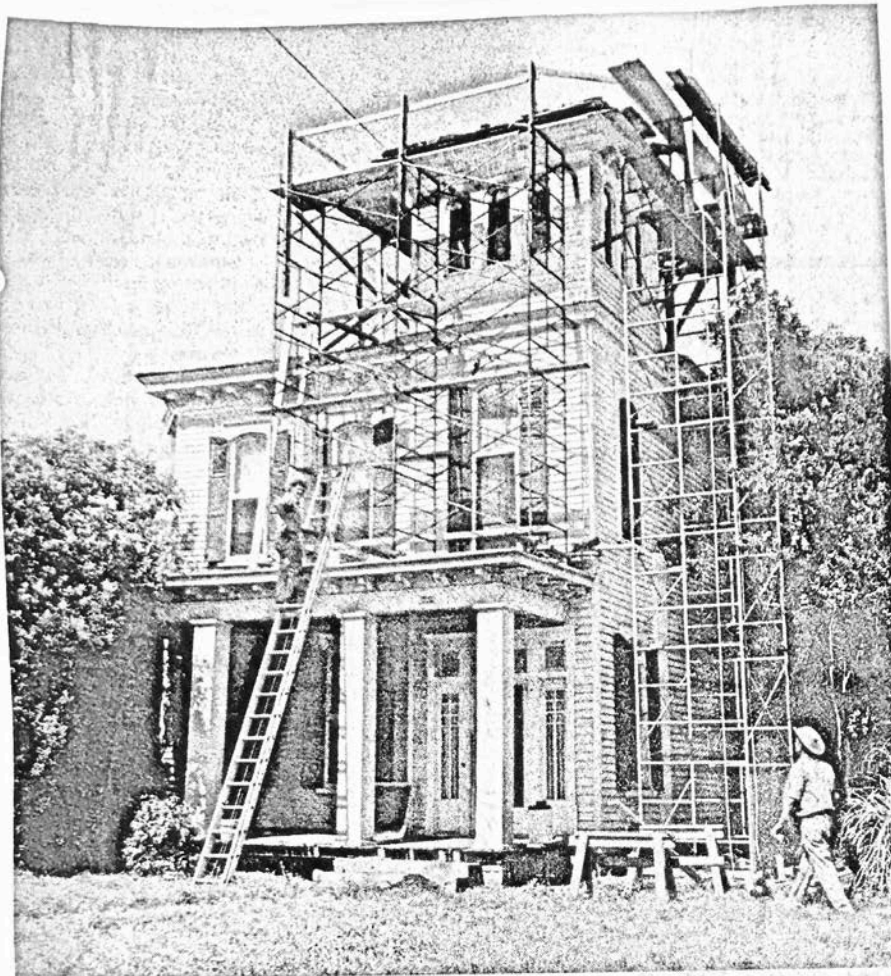
SOUTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY
1840

OLDEST UNIVERSITY IN TEXAS

"GATEWAY TO HERITAGE"

HOME OF SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY AND INNER SPACE CAVERN

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 2 July 26, 1973



REMODELING UNDERWAY— This historic home at 1220 Austin Avenue, believed to have been built in the late 1870's, is now undergoing repairs and remodeling by the new owner, Dr. Bob Brown. Mr. and Mrs. Earle Dodson, who sold the house to Dr.

Brown, said the structure was built mostly of cypress in the fashion of a river house by Louisiana man, C. E. Dilly, who came here with his new bride, Tommy Foust, shown here on the ladder, is helping in the restoration of the tower.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 9 July 12, 1973

Historical society reports successful county celebration

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met in the home of the county chairman, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough on July 5.

They heard reports of committee activities during the week-long celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the organization of Williamson County. These were acclaimed as highly successful due to the great cooperation of committee members and their families.

Mrs. Scarbrough expressed the gratitude of the committee to special people, not on the committee, for their contributions to the success of the historical projects. Mrs. Sally Gee Pettus donated her Georgetown

area pen and ink prints for sale and Mrs. Maureen Neumann helped design, made and gave the Williamson County flag to the Survey Committee. It was used in several instances and was on display the week of the celebration.

Several members of the committee attended a Regional Historical Survey meeting in Belton recently. The group represented five Williamson County communities and was one of the largest delegations there in a many-county district.

Possible future projects were discussed such as organized tours of historical sites, oral history recording, survey of log cabins, cemetery listings, restoration of old buildings and new markers. Many of these have been under way for several years. Committee members are urged to be aware of any significant historical anniversary - centennial or otherwise - that it may be anticipated and early plans made for a celebration in proper perspective.

Committee representatives were present from Georgetown, Round Rock, Jonah-Taylor, Andice-Gabriel Mills, Liberty Hill, Florence, Jarrell and Granger.

DESPITE ITS 60 PLUS YEARS

Courthouse clock still faithful

By DIANNE BROWN

Old things, like old people, should be venerated. For like living things they grow, change and ultimately acquire the rich patina that only age can bring.

A case in point is the courthouse clock. Bought back in 1911, it still serves the county as faithfully as it did when it was purchased from the Howard Clock Co. in New York City over 63 years ago.

Since then it has seen rain, snow, hail, two World Wars, the Great Depression, the advent of the automobile and the space age. And now Watergate. And still it ticks on....

The County fathers paid \$1,086.50 for the timepiece back in 1911, and that was a bundle of money then. But for over six decades of service, it's a bargain really.

In January of 1942, the forward-looking county commissioners decided that they needed an electric winding device. (According to Judge Sam Stone, "It used to run by weights, and somebody had to get up there every week or so and wind it up.") So they traded the old mechanism in on a new-fangled electric winding device.

Today, except for a little modernization, the clock remains much as it was in 1911. The inner workings are suspended on a circular platform just beneath the lady Justice. Electric current moves a huge pendulum at the center of the apparatus. The momentum from this motion, turns a ratchet wheel and it clicks off the seconds. The result is synchronized movement which turns the hands of the four clock faces on the dome.

That, of course, is an over-simplification. But anyone who sees the workings of the giant clock

face to face is overawed by the apparent simplicity and regularity with which it does its job.

Outside the dome (which is made of copper) is a broad roof. And here sits a huge bell which chimes on the hour. Next to it, is the heavy clanger, poised in readiness.

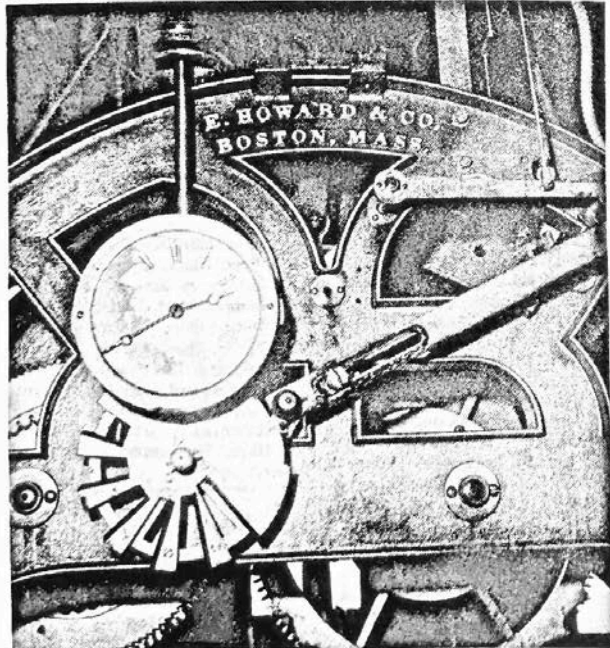
A tour to the clock is an experience that everyone should have—especially if the guide is A. J. "Speck" Winger. Just as you reach the top (a vertical climb all the way) Winger describes how, "A fellow fell through that glass one time... fell clear down to the men's rest room." The "fellow" was an employee of the Belford Lumber Company, and miraculously, he escaped with only a broken leg.

Climbing out onto the roof, Winger explains, "I keep this door locked—if somebody got up here with a thirty-ought-six he could kill a lot of people, just like that Whitman guy."

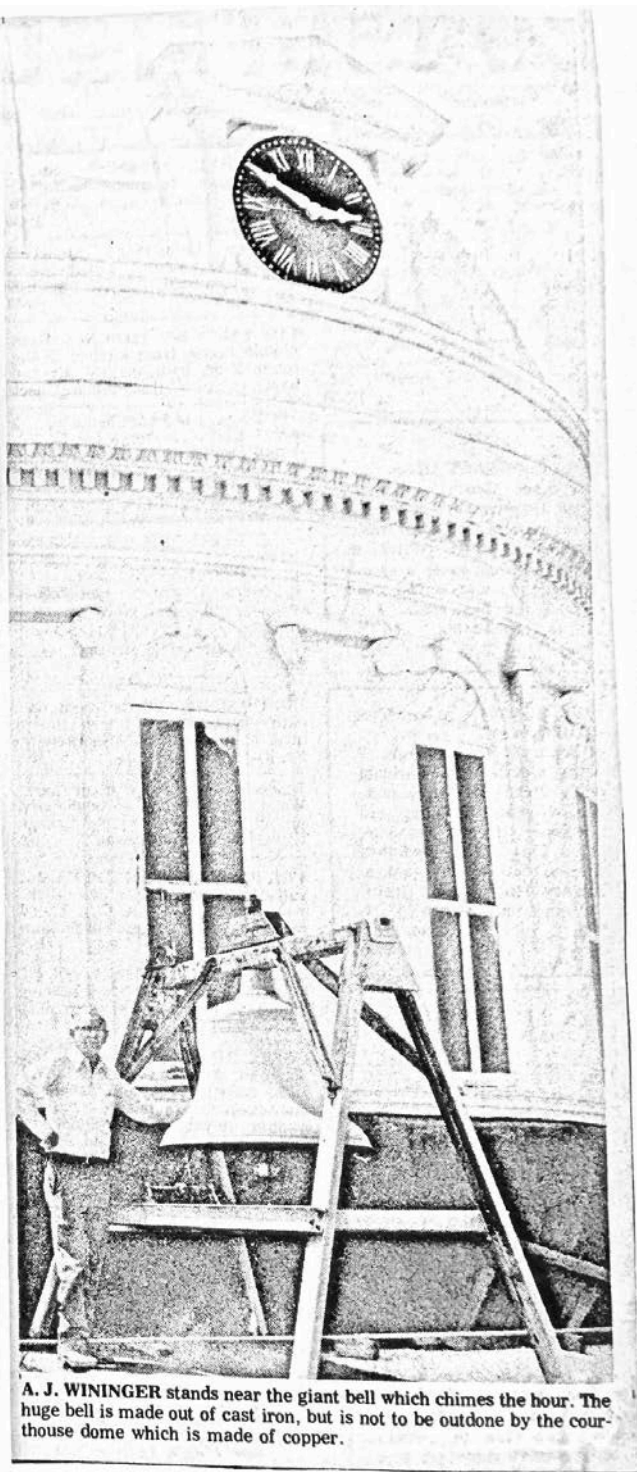
The view from the roof is fantastic. Tiny details of the Georgetown landscape stand out clearly and Winger claims, "I can take my binoculars I got in Japan and I can see my deer stand way out there."

The old clock has broken down a couple of times. Like the time employees around the square came to work at 3:00. But it was just some boxes that blew over onto the pendulum. "I've been trying to get them to get this stuff out of the way," Winger grumbled.

For the most part, however, the clock has consistently given Georgetown citizens the correct time of day, which in this age of clock-watchers is quite a boon. In the estimation of Judge Stone, "It's been a very satisfactory clock all along."



THE HUGE TIMEPIECE is run by electricity which turns the large gears and ratchet wheel. A pendulum four feet long swings slowly and ticks off the seconds. The apparatus turns the hands on the four clock faces on the dome.



A. J. WININGER stands near the giant bell which chimes the hour. The huge bell is made out of cast iron, but is not to be outdone by the courthouse dome which is made of copper.

Local schools were the best, Fred Millholin says Former SUN editor writes of public

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 3 September 13, 1973

education in Georgetown

By FRED MILLHOLIN

Georgetown has been known for generations as a city of schools. The public schools are fully accredited, their activities embrace everything to be found anywhere in public schools and their equipment is excellent.

The administrators and faculties are second to none and new facilities are on the drawing board or under construction. The local school board members are progressive citizens who look forward to keeping pace with a growing community.

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PRIVATE SCHOOLS preceded the establishment of a Georgetown school a century ago. The first private school was conducted in the First Presbyterian Church and the first teacher was the Rev. R. M. Overstreet, first pastor of the church. The second teacher was the late John McMurray, father of the Rev. John N. Ellyson, Sr. and the late C. T. McMurray, Williamson County Clerk.

The Rev. Mr. McMurray was the second pastor of the church and supervised the building of the present church in 1872-73. The third teacher was Attorney and County Judge W. H. Henderson, grandfather of Miss Irene Henderson of Georgetown. Among other early day



MISS ANNIE PURL:— She dedicated her life to educating the young people of Georgetown.

teachers were Miss Lucy Harper, aunt of Mrs. J. N. Stone of Georgetown; the Rev. Abram Weaver, grandfather of Elmo Sherman of Georgetown; Woodson Patrick, grandfather of Mrs. W. W. Dunagan and Miss Corinna Patrick of Georgetown, who, for a number of years, contributed a column to the SUN under the head, "The Old

Schoolmaster." Also J. E. Cooper before founding the SUN.

Two other earlier private schools were conducted by Mrs. J. L. Harris who closed her's when she accepted a position with the primary department of the Georgetown Public School and Mrs. Blanche Millholin who came to Georgetown in 1891 from Virginia to visit an uncle and remained to open a school which she conducted for a number of years. There may have been other later private schools.

The North Georgetown School District was established by the Williamson County Commissioners Court on January 31, 1854, and was extended to cover more ground about 1912, when Judge Frank D. Love, father of Miss Frances Love of Georgetown, was president of the School Board.

The Williamson County School Superintendent's office was established in 1873.

GEORGETOWN'S FIRST SCHOOL was not an independent school and was known as the "City of Georgetown School."

The Georgetown High School was established in 1888, and the first graduating class was composed of three members who received their diplomas on May 21, 1892. They were Miss Annie Lee Purl, daughter of Williamson County Sheriff and Mrs. Henry C. Purl, who was valedictorian; Miss Ethel Makemson, daughter of Judge and Mrs. W. K. Makemson, salutatorian, and Chester Irvine, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Irvine.

All the graduates entered Southwestern University to further their education.

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ON MONDAY AFTERNOON, December 10, 1894, at 2:00 o'clock, an impressive procession formed on the east side of the court house in Georgetown and marched once around the square and then to the corner of Brushy Street, now Austin Avenue, and University Avenue for the purpose of laying the cornerstone of the "Georgetown Public School House". Much later, in 1948, the name was changed to the Annie Purl Elementary School in honor of the long-time teacher and principal.

Leading the procession to the location of the ceremony was the Georgetown Band, followed by the teachers and students of the public school, the faculty and students of Southwestern University, members of the City Council, the city officers, officers and members of San Gabriel Lodge No. 89, A.F. and A.M. and a large number of other out-of-town members of the Masonic Lodge.

The ceremonies were opened with music, followed by an address of welcome by Mayor Frank W. Carothers and local school

superintendent F. P. Leverett.

The laying of the cornerstone was the next on the program which was conducted by the Masonic Past Grand Officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas.

This ceremony was followed by an address by Professor Joe D. Hudson, Williamson County School Superintendent, one by Dr. John H. McLean, Regent of Southwestern University, and one by the Honorable J. M. Carlisle, Superintendent of Public Instruction. George Irvine was master of ceremonies for the occasion.

THE CORNERSTONE, is made of Burnet granite, upon the front of which, was carved, F. W. Carothers, Mayor; George Irvine, D. H. Snyder, J. W. Whittle, A. P. Johnson and L. F. Chapman, aldermen. On the other side was carved, Burt McDonald, architect; Frances Fisher, Contractor; December 10, 1894, and beneath that, the Texas Star.

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Within the zinc box beneath the stone were deposited a program of the occasion, a new Bible, published in 1891; a quarterly of the Methodist Church published in 1894; the roll of officers and members of the First Baptist Church, George W. Glasscock, superintendent and J. D.

County Historical Society to dedicate S.U. markers in 100 years celebration

Logan, secretary; history of the First Presbyterian Church and list of the ruling elders and deacons; M. C. Hutton, pastor, and T. P. Hughes, superintendent of Sunday School; a copy of the Williamson County SUN, December 1894, J. E. Cooper, manager, and F. T. Roche, editor; copy of the Georgetown Democrat and other articles.

THE SCHOOL WAS SOLD to an oil company in 1956, and was demolished in 1957.

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The cornerstone was taken to the home of Miss Annie Purl on West University Avenue where she established a kindergarten, "School for Tots," upon her retirement in 1950 after fifty-two years of dedicated service in the local school, church and the community. After her death on January 31, 1961, it was moved to the family lot in the southwest corner of Odd Fellows Cemetery and placed at the head of "Miss Annie's" grave.

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When the community of Georgetown grew until the school building could no longer accommodate growing attendance the old Southwestern University Preparatory School building on University Avenue was bought and became Georgetown High School and was used until 1923, when it was

razed and the present edifice was erected.

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AMONG THE MANY FINE administrators who served with the Georgetown schools, with efficiency and dedication, one of them, the late Thomas E. Lee, who served in three capacities, I believe should be given special mention. Lee first served as principal of the high school for several years, beginning in 1912. He then served as Williamson County School Superintendent for a time. During World War I, he entered the service and while waiting his assignment, he served the Taylor-Schools as high school principal.

He was called to Washington, D. C. where he was assigned to the Bureau of Standards as a physicist. In 1920, he was asked to return with the Georgetown Schools as superintendent and served until July 30, 1930, when his death occurred of a heart attack in his office at the school. Lee was unusually popular and highly esteemed by the teachers, students, parents and the entire community for his proficiency and diligence as well as for his many Christian traits.

Lee's wife, Mrs. Katie Cooper Lee, and her sister, Mrs. Corinna Cooper

Hall, reside in the long-time home of their parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Cooper. His daughter, Mrs. Thomas Elliott Stone, also resides here. There are three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Mrs. Lee was also a popular member of the high school faculty here for a number of years.

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AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, about 1902, a "Mothers' Club" was organized in the school by Mrs. C. C. Cody, Sr., Miss Annie Purl, Mrs. J. D. Hudson, Mrs. S. T. Atkin, and Mrs. E. M. Thomas for the purpose of petitioning the city to prohibit the driving of cattle across the school grounds, to start a school library, and to purchase supplementary readers for the pupils as there were no free books furnished in the schools by the state until 1917.

When the Parent-Teacher Association was formed and its aims and principles coincided with the local organization, the Mothers' Club affiliated with the Texas Branch and became the local Parent-Teacher Association. It later sub-divided into the High School P-TA and the Elementary School P-TA.

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met September 6, in the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman, presided and other officers and area chairmen were present from Georgetown, Taylor, Thrall, Liberty Hill, Round Rock and Florence.

Progress reports were made on historic activities in several communities. Stricter rules for marking structures are being observed. More data is required and the facts must show the building to be of significant historic value.

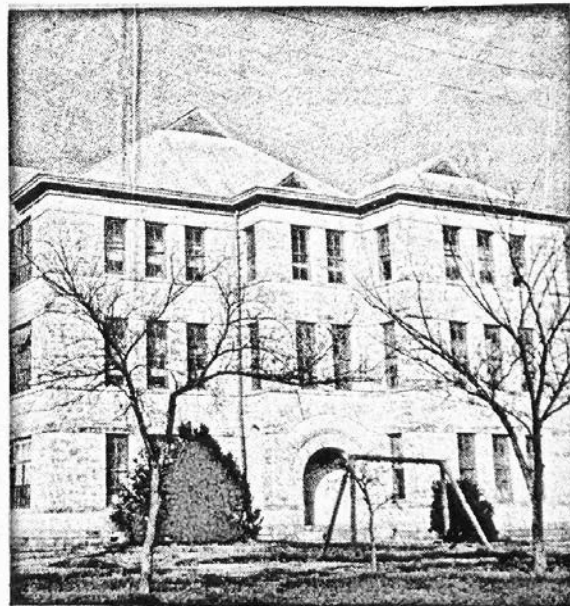
As part of the 100 Years in Georgetown Celebration at Southwestern University on October 6, this Committee will help dedicate two Historical markers. An interpretive plate will be placed on the Main Building near the existing medallion and a larger subject matter marker, giving a sketch history of the university, will be erected on the mall.

Historical Survey Committee members from the Taylor area are working with a Taylor Centennial Committee in preparing for that celebration in 1976. A comprehensive history book is being planned.

All members of the Williamson County Committee are involved in locating and listing all existing cemeteries in the county and making a roll of those buried there if at all possible. Many small family cemeteries are located in this county and some are in danger of being lost.

Any assistance from interested persons will be appreciated. Anyone having such information is invited to share it with the committee by contacting the county chairman, Mrs. Don Scarbrough, 1318 E. University Ave., Georgetown, Texas 78626.

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ANNIE PURL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:—Dedicated in 1894 for all grades, became elementary school in 1923 when present high school was completed.

Historical Marker to be dedicated for Southwestern

University October 6

An official Texas Historical Marker for Southwestern University will be formally dedicated on Saturday, October 6, 11:15, in Lois Perkins Chapel, Southwestern University, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, announced this week. The date commemorates the opening of the University in Georgetown one hundred years earlier, October 6, 1873.

THE COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM will include opening remarks by Charles Prothro, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University, by Mayor Joe Crawford of Georgetown, and by the Honorable John L. Hill, Attorney General of Texas. Bishop O. Eugene Slater will lead a commemorative reading, and a special anthem composed for this occasion by Dr. Ellsworth Peterson of the University will be heard.

Speakers at the service include Bishop W. Angie Smith, former Southwestern University President William C. Finch, and Dr. Durwood Fleming, now president of the University.

After the formal service, brief ceremonies will be held on the University Mall in front of the Chapel, near the marker site. Also to be recognized at this time is the addition of an interpretive plate on the historic Main Building, which was awarded a Texas Historical Medallion in 1962.

THE INSCRIPTIONS on the two markers read:

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
MOTHER OF ALL TEXAS COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.
ABSORBED CHARTERS OF RUTHERSVILLE COLLEGE, FAYETTE
COUNTY (1840), AND WESLEYAN MALE AND FEMALE COLLEGE,

SAN AUGUSTINE (1844), CHARTERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS; MCKENZIE COLLEGE, CLARKSVILLE (1848), AND SOULE UNIVERSITY, CHAPPELL HILL (1856). GEORGETOWN CITIZENS OFFERED LAND, MONEY AND MORAL SUPPORT WHEN ABOUT 1870 IT SEEMED WISE TO SUPPLANT THE SEVERAL PIONEER METHODIST INSTITUTIONS WITH A SINGLE CHURCH—RELATED UNIVERSITY. THE COMMUNITY'S WORK WITH CHURCH LEADERS RESULTED IN LOCATION OF "TEXAS UNIVERSITY" HERE.

A DISTINGUISHED AND DEVOTED EDUCATOR, DR. FRANCIS ASBURY MOOD (1830-1884), WAS THE FOUNDING REGENT (OR ADMINISTRATOR). THE GEORGETOWN COLLEGE PLANT (7 BLOCKS W) WAS DONATED BY THE CITY. CLASSES BEGAN OCT. 6, 1873.

UPON CEDING THE NAME "TEXAS UNIVERSITY" TO THE STATE, SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY WAS CHARTERED ON FEB. 6, 1875, AND SPECIFICALLY GRANTED ALL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES GIVEN EARLIER TO RUTHERSVILLE, WESLEYAN, AND MCKENZIE COLLEGES, AND SOULE UNIVERSITY.

WOMEN STUDENTS WERE FIRST ADMITTED IN 1878. THE "LADIES ANNEX" WAS OPENED (1889) ON PRESENT CAMPUS. THIS BECAME PERMANENT SITE OF SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY WITH CONSTRUCTION OF PRESENT MAIN BUILDING, 1898-1900.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
MAIN BUILDING
OLDEST STRUCTURE ON PERMANENT

CAMPUS. PLANNED 1895-97 AS CHAPEL, LIBRARY, CLASSROOMS, OFFICES, WHEN THE REGENT (PRESIDENT) WAS DR. J. H. MCLEAN (1838-1925); BUILT 1898-1900 UNDER REGENT R. S. HYER (1860-1929). FROM THROUGHOUT THE STATE CAME BUILDING FUND GIFTS, WHICH EVEN INCLUDED LAND FROM PLANTATION OF LATE TEXAS PRESIDENT SAM HOUSTON. NEO-ROMANESQUE STYLE. BUILDERS, FLUME & WATERSTON (FROM BRITISH ISLES), HAD WORKED ON STATE CAPITOL. RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1962

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The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas Historical Commission's program of preservation activities. These include archeological investigations, small museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As of 1970 the Historical Commission had erected more than 5,000 official markers.

THE NAME AND LOCATION of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the GUIDE TO OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKERS in order to stimulate tourist travel in this area, to arouse interest in historical tours, and to acquaint the people of this locale with their unique heritage.

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Sec. 1, Page 9 September 27, 1973

THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The official state agency for historical preservation and marking, the Historical Commission, was created as the Texas State Historical Survey Committee by the Texas Legislature in 1953. An aggressive program of surveying and marking was then begun with the aid of the Texas Historical Foundation, a private "sister organization", which financed the activities of the Commission during its first years of existence. The name "Texas Historical Commission" was adopted in 1973.

THE TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

A nonprofit, educational corporation financed entirely by the contributions of public-spirited individuals and organizations, the Texas Historical Foundation works hand in hand with the Texas Historical Commission.

The Foundation Board of Directors consists of twenty-four citizens who, through their moral and monetary support, carry out needed preservation endeavors and encourage other private citizens to do likewise.

County Historical Survey Committee members are usually appointed by the County Judge and Commissioners Court and require volunteer service but no regular dues. Individual citizens may become members of the Texas Historical Foundation for a fee of five dollars per year. Bulletins are issued periodically.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY MARKINGS

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee has been very active through the years and continues to work. An Official Texas Historical Grave Marker was unveiled for James B. Williams Sunday, June 10th at the Berry's Creek Cemetery five miles north of Georgetown. An official Texas Historical Marker was dedicated at the entrance to Inner Space Cavern, an unusual archeological site, on Saturday afternoon, June 23rd. It is located one mile south of Georgetown on IH 35. Mrs. John Cornforth, immediate past County Chairman, was in charge of these two programs. They were planned and approved in 1972.

The Texas Historical Commission evoked a moratorium on markers early in 1973, due to a heavy backlog of applications to be processed. Now that is lifted and new applications may be accepted, but stricter rules requiring more authentic data will be observed. The research department of the Commission staff judges each individual marker application on the basis of significance and age.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE YEARS
of Williamson County 1848-1973

This is the title of the Souvenir Program booklet sponsored and sold by the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce during the anniversary celebration in Georgetown, June 24-30. Edited by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, it is truly a keepsake item, containing a brief but comprehensive history of all parts of Williamson County. Mrs. Harold Scoggins acted as Historical Advisor to the Chamber of Commerce Steering Committee and to the Texas Highway Department District Superintendent, who produced a map showing Historical Markers in the Georgetown area.

The Georgetown Chamber of Commerce is recognized for generously giving the proceeds of the signature page to the County Historical Survey Committee for use in the marking program and for sending a copy of this history rich booklet to each school and library in the county.

Prints of pen and ink sketches of historic buildings in this area were sold by committee volunteers on the square during the week of the celebration. Mrs. Sally Gee Pettus, artist and historian, was the donor.

The new Williamson County Flag was proudly displayed on several occasions. Much credit is due Mrs. Maureen Neumann for coordinating the designs submitted by the school children of the county and for skillfully stitching the flag and freely giving it to the committee.

Several projects are showing encouraging results in the field of oral history recording, cemetery listings, log cabin location and dedications of Official Historic Markers on fine old structures in the near future.

27"x 42" Official Texas Historical Marker
Williamson County - 9-13-73 - Southwestern
University Mall, Georgetown.

GG

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

MOTHER OF ALL TEXAS COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

ABSORBED CHARTERS OF RUTERSVILLE COLLEGE, FAYETTE
COUNTY (1840), AND WESLEYAN MALE AND FEMALE COLLEGE,
SAN AUGUSTINE (1844), CHARTERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF
TEXAS; MCKENZIE COLLEGE, CLARKSVILLE (1848), AND SOULE
UNIVERSITY, CHAPPELL HILL (1856). GEORGETOWN CITIZENS
OFFERED LAND, MONEY AND MORAL SUPPORT WHEN ABOUT
1870 IT SEEMED WISE TO SUPPLANT THE SEVERAL PIONEER
METHODIST INSTITUTIONS WITH A SINGLE CHURCH-RELATED
UNIVERSITY. THE COMMUNITY'S WORK WITH CHURCH LEADERS
RESULTED IN LOCATION OF "TEXAS UNIVERSITY" HERE.

A DISTINGUISHED AND DEVOTED EDUCATOR, DR. FRANCIS
ASBURY MOOD (1830-1884), WAS THE FOUNDING REGENT (OR
ADMINISTRATOR). THE GEORGETOWN COLLEGE PLANT (7 BLOCKS W)
WAS DONATED BY THE CITY. CLASSES BEGAN OCT. 6, 1873.

UPON CEDING THE NAME "TEXAS UNIVERSITY" TO THE STATE,
SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY WAS CHARTERED ON FEB. 6, 1875,
AND SPECIFICALLY GRANTED ALL RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES
GIVEN EARLIER TO RUTERSVILLE, WESLEYAN, AND MCKENZIE
COLLEGES, AND SOULE UNIVERSITY.

WOMEN STUDENTS WERE FIRST ADMITTED IN 1878. THE
"LADIES ANNEX" WAS OPENED (1889) ON PRESENT CAMPUS. THIS
BECAME PERMANENT SITE OF SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
WITH CONSTRUCTION OF PRESENT MAIN BUILDING, 1898-1900.

(1973)

INTERPRETIVE PLATE for Official Texas Historical Building Medallion issued in 1962, Williamson County - 9=13-73 - 1000 E. University Ave., (SH 29), Georgetown. GG

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
MAIN BUILDING

OLDEST STRUCTURE ON PERMANENT
CAMPUS. PLANNED 1895-97 AS CHAPEL,
LIBRARY, CLASSROOMS, OFFICES, WHEN
THE REGENT (PRESIDENT) WAS DR. J.H.
McLEAN (1838-1925); BUILT 1898-1900
UNDER REGENT R.S. HYER (1860-1929).
FROM THROUGHOUT THE STATE CAME
BUILDING FUND GIFTS, WHICH EVEN
INCLUDED LAND FROM PLANTATION OF
LATE TEXAS PRESIDENT SAM HOUSTON.
NEO-ROMANESQUE STYLE. BUILDERS,
FLUME & WATERSTON (FROM BRITISH
ISLES), HAD WORKED ON STATE CAPITOL.
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1962

Historical Survey Committee gets oral history record

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met in the Georgetown Public Library on October 4. Miss Ruth Mantor, county vice-chairman presided. Other officers and area chairmen were present from Taylor, Jonah, Andice-Gabriel Mills, Georgetown, Liberty Hill, Cedar Park, Jarrell and Round Rock.

Attention was called to the extensive work being done by Mrs. Henry Labaj of Granger in recording oral history, a very valuable contribution to the preservation of colorful historical facts.

The dedication of the two official Texas Historical markers on the Southwestern University campus is of great importance to all interested in the history of higher education in

Texas. This was a part of the celebration of One Hundred Years of Southwestern University in the city of Georgetown.

An official Historical Medallion and Plate has been installed on the G. W. Riley House in Georgetown. It was built in 1872 and has strong connections with the Historical past of Southwestern University.

Miss Mantor reminded all present of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Texas Historical Commission and Texas Historical Foundation in Fort Worth on October 26-27.

—Myretta Mathews, Reporter
Williamson County Historical
Survey Committee

THE SUN
Sec. 2, Page 3

Georgetown, Texas
October 11, 1973



HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATED: A. Frank Smith, Jr., vice chairman of the Southwestern University Board of Trustees, and Mrs. Don Scarbrough, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, unveil the marker commemorating the opening of Southwestern University in Georgetown 100 years ago in a brief ceremony on the University Mall Saturday. In the

background, left, is Dr. William C. Finch, former president of the school, foreground, Bishop Slater, Mrs. Scarbrough (man between them in background is Dr. Jud Custer) Dr. John Score, Rev. Thomas Graves, Mayor Joe Crawford, Attorney General John Hill, Mrs. Durwood Fleming, Bob Landcaster and Dr. Durwood Fleming.

Photo by HYATT PHOTOGRAPHERS



★ **HISTORIC OLD MOOD HALL**— This fine old building, built in 1906, has been turned into a museum, temporarily at least. Displays depicting the establishing of Southwestern University in Georgetown and on up through the years, pictures of people and events, memorabilia from every era this century was attractively and systematically arranged in the courtyard and hundreds of visitors enjoyed browsing through.

Historic bell recovered

Probably the most historic relic on display at Mood Hall is a bell that originally ding-donged its message to students of the first Methodist college in Texas, Soule University at Chapel Hill, established in 1848.

The bell was given to Southwestern University a number of years ago, stored in one of the buildings and stolen by persons unknown. Some time later Larry Zavala and his family were enjoying a vacation day in the San Gabriel River, just west of the highway 81 cross, when he stumbled on the half-buried bell.

ZAVALA DUG IT OUT, took it home, cleaned it up and built a stand for it. Quite some time later Southwestern University found out that

Zavala had it and started negotiating to have it returned. In the meantime, Zavala had fallen in love with the bell and had no great desire to give it up.

Robert "Skip" Morse, however, successfully conducted negotiations for the bell and Zavala agreed that it ought to be back at Southwestern, released it in time for it to be on display for the Homecoming. Morse commended Zavala, not only for letting Southwestern have its bell back but for recognizing the bell as being an object of value and for cleaning and preserving it. "Thanks to Larry," Morse said this week, "we have a valuable and historic object back where it belongs."



DR. RALPH JONES, former Southwestern University music and history professor autographs a copy of his book— "A History of Southwestern University—1840-1961" while his wife Ruthell watches approvingly. Several hundred copies of the history were sold at the autograph party in Cody Memorial Library Saturday.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
 Sec. 1, Page 2 October 18, 1973

Picturesque old Riley home gets state historical marker

The picturesque old Riley home in Georgetown, located at 1302 College Street, was the scene on Saturday, October 6, of a family reunion, the dedication of a Texas State Historical Marker, and a party for close friends and neighbors of the Riley family.

The neat, white frame home, built in 1872 by Reverend A. J. Lane who became first chaplain at Southwestern University and a founder of the First Methodist Church, was purchased in 1908 by Reverend George W. Riley and has belonged to a member of that family since that time. Rev. Riley, born 1853 and died 1925, was the grandson of Reverend Jonas Dancer who was killed by Indians in Llano County in 1859. Rev. Riley founded or served Methodist churches in Abilene, Beaumont, Douglassville, Mineral Wells, Tyler, and Georgetown. He and his wife, the former Beulah G. Matthews, moved to Georgetown to educate their family.

The Riley home is now occupied by one of Rev. Riley's daughters, Mrs. Calvin A. (Pearl Riley) Whatley. Her two sisters, Mrs. Clarence R. (Maude Riley) Moon and Mrs. Bert (Susie Riley) Cade, and other relations, were present for the ceremony.

At the dedication of the marker, the present chaplain at Southwestern University, Farley W. Snell, also a neighbor, gave the invocation.

Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, under whose chairmanship the marker application was made, introduced Judge Sam Stone, a longtime neighbor of the Rileys, who welcomed the guests. Calvin A. Whatley, Jr., of Temple presented a warm and lively sketch of the family and its Georgetown years. The marker was unveiled by the two year old grandson of the late George W. Riley, Jr., (brother of the three



HOMECOMING FOR SISTERS:— In center is Mrs. Pearl Riley Whatley of Georgetown and her two sisters, Susie Riley Cade and Maude Riley Moon in front yard of their historic Georgetown home Saturday, Oct. 6.

sisters), William Seth Terry II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Terry of San Antonio.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan M. Munding of Baytown, and their children, William, Dan, Jr., Calvin and Erich, were present. Mrs. Munding is a daughter of Mrs. Pearl Whatley, as is Mrs. J. Lanham Higginbotham, Jr., of Dallas, who attended along with her husband, Mr. Higginbotham, and son J. L. III, and also Mrs. J. L. Higginbotham, Sr., all of Dallas. Calvin A. Whatley, Jr. and his wife, the former Julia Byron, of Temple, were also present.

Two daughters of George Riley,

Jr., Mrs. Brooks Middleton of Haskell and Mrs. Gene Terry of San Antonio, and their families were present. A grandson of Mrs. Maude Riley Moon, Dr. H. R. Aldredge III of San Antonio, came for the occasion.

Other out of town guests included Dr. and Mrs. William C. Finch of Nashville, formerly of Georgetown; Mr. and Mrs. H. Bascom Thomas, Jr., of Dallas (Mrs. Thomas is the former Margaret Hyer); and Mr. and Mrs. Ford Ainesworth and son of Kerrville. Other friends and neighbors were also present for the occasion.

TSHSC Staff (DP), 7/26/72

Official Texas Historical Building Medallion
w/16"x/2" Interpretive Plate, Williamson County

Location:
1302 College St.,
Georgetown

THE G.W.RILEY HOUSE*

BUILT 1872 BY THE REV.S.J.LANE,
CHAPLAIN,SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY;
FOUNDER,FIRST METHODIST CHURCH,
GEORGETOWN. BOUGHT 1908 BY THE
REV.GEORGE W.RILEY(1853-1925),A
GRANDSON OF LLANO COUNTY INDIANS'
1859 VICTIM,THE REV.JONAS DANCER.

G.W.RILEY FOUNDED OR SERVED
METHODIST CHURCHES IN ABILENE,
BEAUMONT,DOUGLASSVILLE,MINERAL
WELLS,TYLER,AND OTHER TOWNS FOR
48 YEARS. HE AND WIFE,BEULAH G.
(MATTHEWS)MOVED HERE TO EDUCATE
CHILDREN;HOUSE REMAINS IN FAMILY.**

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1972***

*1/2" lettering
**3/8" lettering
***1/4" lettering

INDIAN

630 DEPREDATIONS IN TEXAS

RELIABLE ACCOUNTS

BATTLES, WARS, MASSACRES, ETC.

By

J.W. WILBARGER

Sold by Subscription Only

AUSTIN, TEXAS

HUTCHINGS PRINTING HOUSE

*John G. Matthews Book
1824-1903*

*Owned by Myrta Matthews
Liberty Hill, Tex.*

tions, but their dark day came at last. On the twenty-third day of May, 1859, if we have not been misinformed, Mr.

much force. The Indians returned to the wagon, emptied the corn meal in the road, took all the horses and left for parts unknown. The two wounded men suffered terribly for want of water, and as soon as they were satisfied the Indians had gone, Morell, who was not quite so badly hurt as his companion, crawled to a creek near by, and after he had slaked his own thirst, he pulled off one of his boots, filled it with water, and with great difficulty managed to carry it back to where he had left Miller, thereby, no doubt, saving his life. Miller and Morell not reaching home at the time they were expected, a party went out to look for them. When found they were in a terrible condition. They were unable to walk, and their clothes were stiffened with clotted blood. They were taken home, and both eventually recovered from their numerous wounds. These men lived in McCulloch county.

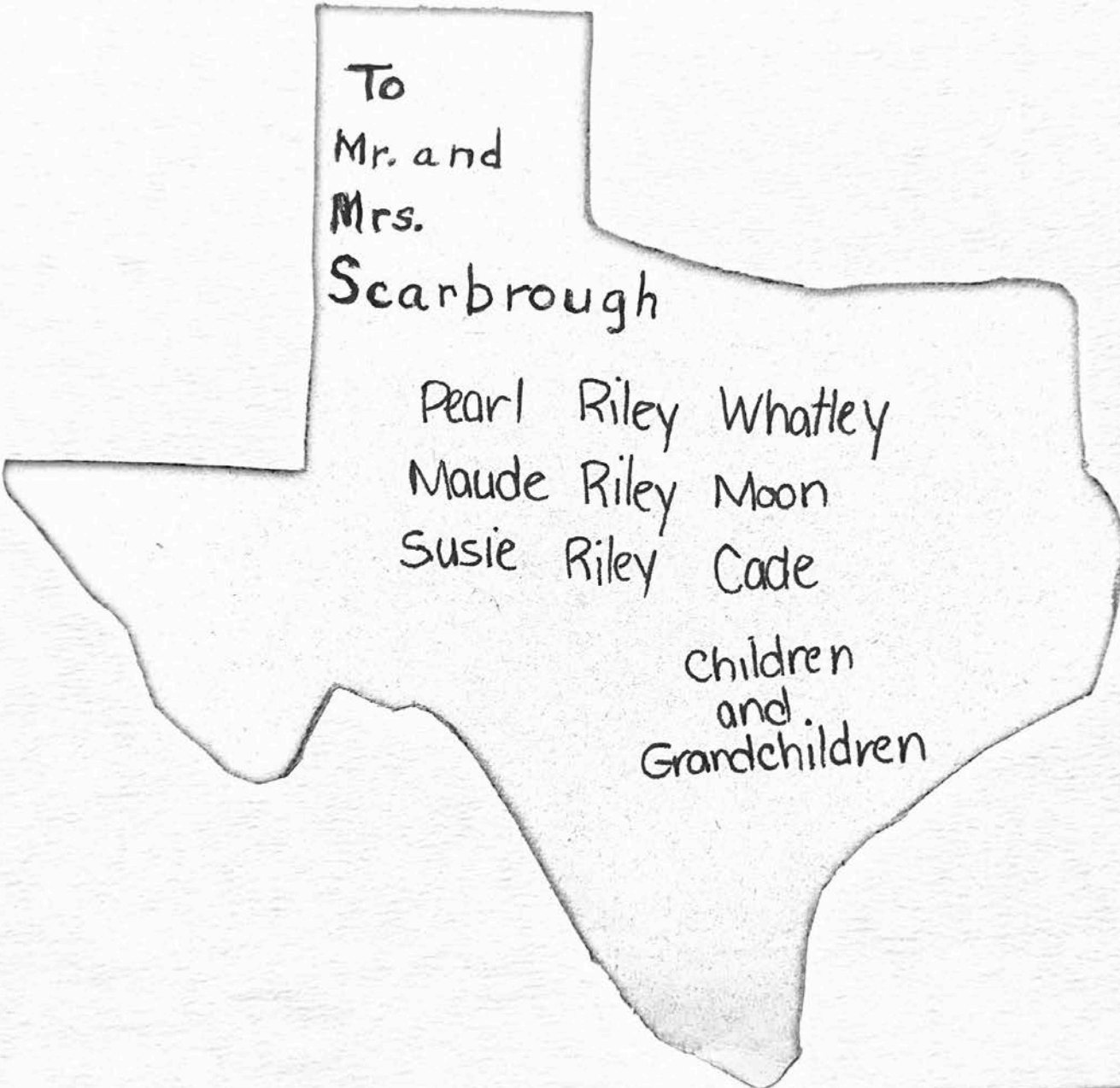
Reverend Jonas Dancer resided in Llano county, and so far as we know was the first man killed in that county by the Indians. The author first became acquainted with him in Travis county, where he lived in the year 1850. Some two years later, attracted by the mineral resources of Llano, he moved to that county. At the time Mr. Dancer moved into Llano there was but one other American settler in the county. After prospecting a couple of years, Mr. Dancer finally settled in a romantic little spot called "Honey Creek Cove." Llano county has long since been celebrated for its mineral resources, mountain scenery, fertile valleys, rippling streams and nutritious grasses. The spot selected by Mr. Dancer was one of the most picturesque in the county. Here game of all kinds and wild honey abounded in the greatest quantity. All of these combined attractions soon drew others to that section, and it was not long until the sound of the ax and hammer of the pioneer could be heard in many directions as the settlers began to construct their rude log cabins. Mr. Dancer was of the Methodist creed, and he soon succeeded in building up quite a large church. He was the first man to introduce the blessed gospel in that wilderness country. For several years these hardy pioneers lived in peace and happiness, pursuing their various avocations, but their dark day came at last. On the twenty-third day of May, 1859, if we have not been misinformed, Mr.

Dancer and others were to meet at a certain point to cut out a new road from Llano to the city of Austin. Always punctual in his appointments, Mr. Dancer, with tools in hand, repaired to the spot. From some cause the others failed to come. Dancer had a couple of horses which he hopped, and thinking the balance of the party would soon arrive, began work by himself. Whilst thus engaged he was attacked by a party of five or six Indians. Being unarmed, Dancer fled to a deep ravine, closely pursued by the savages, who it seems attempted to rope him, but failed. Dancer, having reached the bed of the ravine, the Indians rushed up to the bluffs overlooking the same and poured a volley of arrows into the body of the unfortunate man. Finally overcome with loss of blood from his wounds, he walked around in front of a projecting rock in the bluff, deliberately sat down on a rock bench and there expired. The savages then came upon him, scalped him and otherwise mutilated his body. Such was the condition in which his body was found the following day by a searching party, who delivered it to his sorrowing widow and now fatherless children. The loss of this good man, who was looked upon as the father of the county, spread profound grief throughout that section. As a minister of the gospel, he was faithful to his charge; as a christian, he was faithful to duty, and as a neighbor, he was kind and obliging. The frontier suffered an irreparable loss in his death.

In May, 1862, Mr. Denyer went unarmed to look for stock. When half a mile from home, a party of Indians attacked him. He fled, the Indians pursuing and shooting at him. None of the arrows brought him down, and as he neared home he called to his family. Mrs. Denyer ran to him with his gun; as she did so the savages fled. Denyer was wounded fatally, and died the next day. A wife and several children mourned his loss.

In the fall of 1863, Harrison Miller, who had a sheep ranch on a small stream in Llano county, while eating dinner at his house, was suddenly surrounded by a party of Indians, and the first intimation he had of their presence was the whizzing of arrows through the door and windows. Springing up quickly, Miller seized his shot gun, which he presented, and in this way kept the Indians at bay. Watching

his opportunity when all the Indians had congregated in front of the door, Miller sprang out of a back window, ran down the bluff into a little creek and made his escape. After plundering the house the Indians left, and within about one mile came upon Barzilla Payne, an old man, some sixty years of age, who also had a sheep ranch. Payne had gone out in search of his flock, which was being herded by a negro boy, and, after finding it, sent the boy to the house. The boy had scarcely gotten out of sight when he heard the firing of guns, and soon thereafter heard the old man cry out: "You can have me now." It was this same party, we believe, who killed Beardy Hall in San Saba county. These Indians, after killing Payne, were pursued, overtaken, and one Indian was killed and the balance dispersed. Soon afterwards the whites came across a lone Indian, by him himself, mounted upon a superb horse. The defiant rascal would canter along ahead of them, shaking his bow and lance, slapping his thighs and making all manner of contemptuous gestures. At first the Texans thought he was leading them into an ambushade, but finally concluded to give him a chase. In going over rough ground the Indian's horse disabled himself in some way, whereupon the Texans rushed upon the Indian and slew him. Near the line of Gillespie and Llano counties, but in the latter, lived Mrs. Martha Youngblood, a widow with several children. In January, 1865, while two of her children, a boy about six years old, and a girl of four, were playing some distance from the house, a party of Indians crawled up near them, killed the boy and proceeded to the house. Mrs. Youngblood, seeing them coming, barred the doors. Denying the savages admittance, they tore off a plank from the walls of the room. The little girl, who had followed the Indians unobserved to the house, was standing near. The Indians attempted to rush in, but were met by the muzzle of a gun in the hands of Mrs. Youngblood. This caused them to fall back, and the little girl slipped in through the aperture made by the Indians. Thus, through the bravery of this lady was her own life and that of her children saved. A period of three years elapses, during which time, no doubt, many murders occurred, but we have no account of them.



To
Mr. and
Mrs.
Scarborough

Pearl Riley Whatley
Maude Riley Moon
Susie Riley Cade

Children
and
Grandchildren

County Historical Survey Committee named outstanding

Williamson was one of thirty-nine county historical survey committees across the state that received recognition for outstanding local preservation programs at the annual meeting of the Texas Historical Commission, held in Fort Worth Oct. 26 and 27. Each of these groups was given a Distinguished Service Award for having organized progressive and well-rounded preservation efforts during the last year.

Mrs. Don Scarbrough is chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

Among the rigorous requirements for the Distinguished Service Award are that the local survey committee (1) sponsor at least four historical markers or spend \$600 for markers during the year, (2) present at least six talks on local history to other civic groups, (3) sponsor at least three historical tours in the county, (4) publish a pamphlet, brochure, or map showing places of local historic interest, (5) sponsor a history appreciation observance, (6) conduct or have accomplished either a historical museum, restoration of a historic building or cemetery, a written history, or an archives, and (7) conduct one phase of an oral history program.

The winning counties were Anderson, Bowie, Brazoria, Burleson, Carson, Coke, Crockett, Crosby, DeWitt, Fort Bend, Freestone, Galveston, Garza, Gray, Grayson, Hale, Harris, Harrison, Hill, Houston, Kimble, Kleberg, McMullen, Marion, Midland, Montgomery,

Newton, Nueces, Polk, Robertson, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Tom Green, Travis, Walker, Washington, Williamson and Wise.

Historical committee meets in Mood Hall

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met November 1 in the foyer of Mood Hall on the Southwestern University Campus in Georgetown. The Museum Exhibits, arranged for the anniversary celebration of one hundred years of the University in Georgetown, were still in place and supplied a fitting background for reports of historical research done and announcements of plans for future projects.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman presided and presented the speaker, Dr. Judson S. Custer, Chairman of the Department of Education of Southwestern University. He explained the importance of the exhibits and how they were obtained and set up and expressed a hope for a permanent museum to be established here in the future. He also thanked Mrs. Scarbrough and Judge Sam V. Stone of this committee for the active part they played in obtaining and arranging the articles in several booths.

October 6 was a very important day for historical markers in Georgetown. Three dedications took place on that day.

Two markers were unveiled on the campus of Southwestern in morning ceremonies. A large subject marker is located on the mall near the fountains and an interpretive plate is in place

under the already installed medallion on the "Old Main" building.

The Riley House on College Street was the scene of an afternoon dedication program presided over by Mrs. John Cornforth, immediate past County Chairman under whose auspices the application was approved in 1972.

The Williamson County Committee was recognized for work done in 1973 at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Historical Commission in Fort Worth on October 27. It is one of thirty nine counties to receive the Distinguished Service Award. This is the fourth year in a row for this county to merit the award.

The search for cemeteries in the county continues with about one hundred located, some with complete lists of names and dates. There may be many more small family plots that have not come to the attention of this committee. Any one knowing of such plots or of the names of unmarked graves in any cemetery is urged to contact Mrs. Scarbrough and she will put you in touch with the committee member in your area.

Committee members attending represented: Andice-Gabriel Mills, Florence, Liberty Hill, Round Rock, Georgetown, Taylor, Jonah and Granger.

---reporter

Gen. Sam Houston descendent, 102, in city hospital

Editor's Note: The following article is from the Houston Post, October 16 issue. It concerns Mrs. Jennie Bell Morrow, age 102, a native of Georgetown and descendant of General Sam Houston.

Mrs. Jennie Bell Morrow Decker, at 102 years the oldest living descendent of Gen. Sam Houston, was in serious but stable condition Monday night at Hermann Hospital.

"She's as spunky as ever though, and that will to live has seen her through before," reported Mrs. Decker's daughter, Mrs. Margaret Everitt.

Mrs. Decker was hospitalized 10 days ago for an assortment of ailments associ-

family and friends. . . She belonged to every historical and patriotic organization and had a good sense about what was happening until just lately," Mrs. Everitt said.

A native of Georgetown, Mrs. Decker was one of six children born to Capt. and Mrs. J. C. S. Morrow. Mrs. Morrow was Nancy Houston, the oldest daughter of Gen. and Mrs. Houston.

Mrs. Decker has a younger sister in Toledo, Ohio, but she has lived longer than any other member of the Houston descendants.

"My mother never knew Gen. Houston. . . but I think she's had a great appreciation for history because of growing up in the type of family she did," Mrs. Everitt observed.

In 1895, her mother was married to Davis E. Decker, whom she had met while the two were students at Southwestern University in Georgetown. The couple later moved to Quannah, where Decker was an attorney, judge and member of both the Texas House of Representatives and Texas Senate.

The Deckers had two children. There now are more than 100 descendants alive, many of whom Mrs. Everitt corresponds with frequently.

Mrs. Decker has lived with her daughter for the past 14 years. Mrs. Everitt now lives at 1111 South Post Oak Road.

"It's really fantastic when you think of all the history she saw . . . and although she never could understand why we wanted to go to the moon, Mama loved to fly and to drive fast in cars.

"In fact," Mrs. Everitt recalled, "we were flying to San Francisco just before her 100th birthday and she asked once why the plane couldn't go faster."



JENNIE DECKER

ated with her advanced age. She was in the intensive care unit for several days, but Monday had improved enough to be in a private room.

It's only been in the last few months that Mrs. Decker's age was apparent.

Her eyesight and hearing have been remarkably good. She continued to sew and fly to see her family and go to parties well after her 100th birthday.

"She's really had a fabulous life and she's always been full of fun, enjoying her

129
3/8
14"x 24" Official Texas Historical Marker QA
(w/o post), Williamson County - 6-13-73 -
102 E. Main St., Round Rock.

OTTO REINKE BUILDING

ERECTED 1879, THREE YEARS
AFTER ROUND ROCK EXPANSION
BEGAN AT RAILROAD'S ARRIVAL.

SOME SUCCESSIVE TENANTS
INCLUDED STORES, PHYSICIAN,
RESTAURANTS. AFTER IT WAS
GUTTED BY FIRE IN 1963,
ARCHITECT MARTIN S. KERMACY
AND WIFE, EVELYN, BUILT A
MODERN INTERIOR WITHIN THE
VICTORIAN ITALIANATE WALLS. (1973)

Historical Marker Placed On Reinke Building

Round Rock, Leader
Nov 24, 1973

Adaptive Use Cited As Downtown Plus

By LARRY JACKSON

Only a few years ago, nothing but the walls of the Otto Reinke building stood on Main Street, just one lot off U.S. 81.

"It's a disgrace," many said. "It ought to be torn down," others agreed.

A fire had gutted the building in 1963 and there was nothing but "the grass below, the sky above and birds and bats in between," as Mrs. D.B. Gregg expressed it Saturday.

But then Mr. and Mrs. Martin S. Kermacy of Austin sensed the possibilities that lay within the charred walls, the possibilities of a beautiful new structure rising from its own ashes.

An architect at the University of Texas, Kermacy carefully restored and refurbished

the building, not to create a mausoleum of the past, but a functional addition to a growing town.

Saturday, Kermacy received the official recognition of the state of Texas for the value of his restoration efforts. An Official Texas Historical Marker was affixed to the Otto Reinke Building, located at 102 E. Main.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 14 by 24 inches and was sponsored by Mrs. D.B. Gregg and Mrs. John W. Ledbetter, through the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

Mrs. John Cornforth was chairman of the county committee when the application for the official marker was made and spoke at the Saturday morning dedication ceremonies. Also at the ceremonies was the current chair-

man of the county committee, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown.

Mrs. Cornforth, from Taylor, noted that Round Rock is "the" historical city of Williamson County and that it has tremendous awareness of its historic heritage.

"I commend you so highly," she told Kermacy, for his willingness to restore the old building, and she also cited "your loyal historians in Round Rock--people like Mrs. Gregg, Mrs. Ledbetter and Mr. (Noel) Grisham."

Also speaking at the dedication was Wayne Bell, a former member of the Texas Historical Commission professional staff and a Williamson County resident.

Round Rock is seeing what "a little bit of tender loving care on Main Street" can do, Bell said.

Through "adaptive use" of

historic buildings, such as Kermacy's adaptation of the old Reinke Building, the downtown area can not only remain a viable trade area, but actually will be a shopping center a step ahead of most.

"This building will stand as one more thing that will set Round Rock's downtown apart from just another shopping center," he said.

Growth need not be through demolition, but can be much more beneficial through adaptation of existing resources, he said.

Mrs. Harriet Rutland, long active in preservation of historic buildings in Round Rock, unveiled the marker. The marker is on the back wall of the entryway into the building.

The inscription on the marker reads:

"Otto Reinke Building. Erected 1879, three years after Round Rock expansion

began at railroad's arrival. Some successive tenants included stores, physician, restaurants. After it was gutted by fire in 1963, architect Martin S. Kermacy and wife, Evelyn, built modern interior within the Victorian Italianate walls."

Next door, the Reinke Building is the Old Broom Factory Building, which also bears an Official Texas Historical Marker. Now housing Robinson's Auto Repair, that building was erected in 1876. It, too, is of Victorian style. The marker on it was placed in 1970.

There are a number of other official markers in Round Rock, including one on the Commercial Building on Main Street. Still another marker has already been approved for Main Street, in front of the old Nelson home, now known as Woodblue.



Historical Marker Unveiled

Architect Martin Kermacy and his wife, Evelyn, flank the new Official Texas Historical Marker on their building at 102 East Main. Mrs. Harriet Rutland un-

veiled the marker Saturday, while Mrs. D.B. Gregg (right) was one of the sponsors for the marker.

Otto Reinke Building in Round Rock to get official Texas Historical Marker

An Official Texas Historical Marker for The Otto Reinke Building will be erected on November 24 at 11 a.m., it was announced this week by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at 102 E. Main St., Round Rock, on the building restored by Martin Kermacy.

Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 14 by 24 inches and is sponsored by Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Mrs. John W. Ledbetter.

The inscription on the marker reads:

OTTO REINKE BUILDING
ERECTED 1879, THREE YEARS
AFTER ROUND ROCK EXPANSION
BEGAN AT RAILROAD'S ARRIVAL.
SOME SUCCESSIVE TENANTS
INCLUDED STORES, PHYSICIAN,
RESTAURANTS. AFTER IT WAS
GUTTED BY FIRE IN 1963,
ARCHITECT MARTIN S. KERMACY
AND WIFE, EVELYN, BUILT A
MODERN INTERIOR WITHIN THE
VICTORIAN ITALIANATE

The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas Historical Commission's program of preservation activities. These include archeological investigations, small museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As of 1970 the Historical Commission had erected more than 5,000 official markers.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers in order to stimulate tourist travel in this area, to arouse interest in historical tours, and to acquaint the people of this locale with their unique heritage.

THE SUN
Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 2
November 22, 1973

Round Rock Leader

Serving Round Rock, Balcones, Cedar Park, Hutto, Jollyville, Leander, Manor, Pflugerville and Shenandoah

Established in 1876 in Round Rock, Texas 78664



Speaking At Dedication

Noel Grisham, superintendent of schools here, speaks at the dedication of an Official State Historical Marker at Woodbine, the historic mansion also known as the Nelson-Crier House on East Main Street. Mrs. D.B. Gregg, seated, also spoke at the dedication.



Certificate Is Presented

Mrs. John Cornforth (left), former chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, presents an official state certificate to Mrs. Eugene N. (Jean) Goodrich, stating that her home is an officially marked and designated state landmark.

Official Marker Now Graces Historic Round Rock Mansion

By LARRY JACKSON

Round Rock is rapidly becoming one of the most historically marked small cities in Texas, Noel Grisham told the group gathered Thursday for the dedication of yet another historical medallion.

The newest marker is at the front gate of the Nelson-Crier House, the 75-year-old man-

sion on East Main Street known as Woodbine.

Grisham, historian and superintendent of public schools here, pointed out that such marking should insure that the home will be preserved for generations to come, thanks to its building and periodic improvement, first by the Nelson family, then by Mrs. Jean Crier Goodrich.

The house was begun in 1895 and completed in 1900 by the widow and children of Andrew J. Nelson. Nelson and his wife, Hedwig, immigrated to the U.S. from Sweden and settled in Round Rock in 1854.

Grisham, noting the tremendous changes that have occurred in this period of time, pointed out that no city in the entire state of Texas at that time was as large as Round Rock is today.

The house was designed and constructed by Page Brothers,

the now nationally known Austin architectural firm of Page-Southerland-Page.

For three generations, the mansion was to be the home of members of the Nelson family, the children and grandchildren of A.J. Nelson.

First it served as home for Nelson's widow and children. For years, two sons, Carl A. Nelson and Thomas E. Nelson, lived as bachelors in the big mansion; then in 1929 Thomas married Rebecca Young

(See MARKER Page 2)

December 26, 1973

MARKER

(Cont. from Page One)

Scaffold and it became their home.

Tom Nelson Jr. became the third generation of the family to live in the home, but in 1960, the family sold the mansion to the late Eugene N. Goodrich and his wife, Jean Crier Goodrich. It remains the comfortable and beautiful home of Mrs. Goodrich.

Present for the dedication ceremonies were several members of Mrs. Goodrich's family, including two sons.

Two of those officiating at the ceremony were longtime neighbors, Grisham, who until recent months lived in the large home across Main Street from Woodbine, and Mrs. D.B. Gregg, whose home also is across the street from Woodbine.

Mrs. John Cornforth, past chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, under whose administration the application for the Official State Historical Marker was made, presided at the ceremonies. Mrs. Gregg and Mrs. J.W. Ledbetter also are members of the county committee.

Among the special guests at the ceremony were Mrs. Thomas Nelson Sr. and Mrs. and Mrs. Tom Nelson Jr., who now live in Austin. Touring the house not only brought back many memories, they said, but also most interesting

to see the changes that have been made.

Mrs. Nelson Sr. pointed out particularly that what had once been a favorite sleeping porch is now a beautifully appointed drawing room, on the second floor.

Special guests also included members of Mrs. Goodrich's family; sons W.T. Crier of Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Crier of Austin. Jack Crier is an architect and wrote up the architectural descriptions of the house for the state historical marker.

Granddaughter Dee Andra Jean Crier unveiled the marker outside the big house. Other grandchildren present were Lynda Crier, Nina Marie Crier and Jack Rurick Crier.

The inscription on the marker reads:

"Nelson-Crier House. In 1854, Andrew J. and Hedwig Nelson of Sweden settled here. Hardworking in many businesses, Nelson (d. 1895) prospered. His widow and heirs had this house built by Page Brothers, Austin architects, 1895-1900. A son, Thomas Edward, and wife had Dallas architect Wilson McClure restyle Victorian facade to Classical Revival in 1931. Three generations of Nelsons lived here.

"In 1960, Eugene N. and Jean Crier Goodrich bought and renovated the mansion and named it Woodbine."

Old Nelson home in Round Rock gets Texas Historical Medallion

Under the auspices of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee, another historic home in Round Rock has been awarded an official Texas Historical Building medallion and interpretive plate.

The dedication ceremony and unveiling of the marker took place for the Nelson-Crier

house, known as Woodbine Mansion, on Thursday afternoon December 20.

Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Mrs. John Ledbetter, members of the Survey Committee of Round Rock, and Mrs. John Cornforth of Taylor, past county chairman, presented the program. Noel Grisham, superintendent of Round Rock Public Schools, gave a history of the building and furnishings. Mrs. Eugene N. Goodrich, present owner of the home, received the certificate designating it as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark.

This outstanding home has stood for decades as a symbol of elegance and through the wise preservation practices of the owners is expected to endure for many more generations.

"Woodbine" in its park like setting is surrounded by towering elm, pecan and magnolia trees. The three story structure has eighteen rooms with lofty ceilings and nine fire places. The authentic antique furnishings are reminiscent of the luxurious plantation homes of pre-Civil War days.

The inscription on the marker reads:

NELSON-CRIER HOUSE
IN 1854,

ANDREW J. AND HEDWIG NELSON OF SWEDEN SETTLED HERE. HARDWORKING IN MANY BUSINESSES, NELSON (D. 1895) PROSPERED. HIS WIDOW AND HEIRS HAD THIS HOUSE BUILT BY PAGE BROTHERS, AUSTIN ARCHITECTS, 1895-1900. A SON, THOMAS EDWARD, AND WIFE HAD DALLAS ARCHITECT WILSON MCCLURE RESTYLE VICTORIAN FACADE TO CLASSICAL REVIVAL IN 1931. THREE GENERATIONS OF NELSONS LIVED HERE. IN 1960, EUGENE N. AND JEAN CRIER GOODRICH BOUGHT AND REMODELED THE MANSION, AND NAMED IT WOODBINE. RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK-1973.

THE SUN
Sec. 2, Page 3
Georgetown, Texas
January 3, 1974

Round Rock Leader
December 26, 1973



Mansion's Former Owners

Former owners of the Nelson-Crier House, Mrs. Thomas Nelson Sr. and Tom Nelson Jr. stand at the new Historical Marker unveiled Thursday. Mrs. Nelson, her son, and his wife Carol, were among the special guests at the ceremony at Mrs. Goodrich's home.

Etha

revamping 1/6/73

Official Texas Historical Building Medallion
w/16"x 12" Interpretive Plate
Williamson County (Order #3869)

Location: 405 E. Main,
Round Rock

NELSON-CRIER HOUSE*

IN 1854, ANDREW J. AND HEDWIG
NELSON OF SWEDEN SETTLED HERE.
HARD-WORKING IN MANY BUSINESSES,
NELSON (D. 1895) PROSPERED. HIS WIDOW
AND HEIRS HAD THIS HOUSE BUILT BY
PAGE BROTHERS, AUSTIN ARCHITECTS,
1895-1900. A SON, THOMAS EDWARD, AND
WIFE HAD DALLAS ARCHITECT WILSON
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TO CLASSICAL REVIVAL IN 1931. THREE
GENERATIONS OF NELSONS LIVED HERE.

IN 1960, EUGENE N. AND JEAN CRIER
GOODRICH BOUGHT AND RENOVATED THE
MANSION, AND NAMED IT WOODBINE.**
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1973***

*1/2" lettering
**3/8" lettering
***1/4" lettering



Cliff Caldwell

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Know all men by these presents that the

NELSON-CRIER HOUSE

*of WILLIAMSON County
has been recognized by the State for its
significant contribution to Texas culture,
history and heritage.*

*This structure has been entered in the
State Archives in 1973 as a*

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORICAL LANDMARK

Abel Ruiz
Governor
Clifton Caldwell
President, Texas State
Historical Survey Committee

County Chairman

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL
SURVEY COMMITTEE



HISTORICAL BUILDING MEDALLION

WOODBINE MANSION

The most dominant element on the skyline of the small central Texas town of Round Rock is Woodbine mansion. Located a few blocks east of the main business district, the three story structure was completed in 1900 after approximately five years of construction. Since that time it has undergone several major remodelings and has been in continuous use as a residence.

The style of the original building was Victorian characterized by the steep roof with its many gables and chimneys. A three-story circular tower crowned by a conical roof was located on the northeast corner of the building. The ground floor of this tower was wrapped with a low roofed veranda that terminated against a two-story porch at the main entry. The main entry porch had fluted wood columns at each corner, free standing at the front corners and applied pilasters at the brick wall of the house. These columns were two stories tall with corinthian capitals supporting a deep frieze that continued on around the house as a band just below the second floor eave line. The columns also supported a balcony accessible from the second floor hall, and the roof of the porch was flat surrounded by a wood balustrade forming a balcony for the third floor front room. There were several secondary entrances with their smaller porches and a major approach for carriages via a circular driveway on the west side of the house. The total effect was an asymmetrical composition which produced a stately, yet comfortable residence.

A major remodeling was accomplished in 1931. Changes were made to the front facade and certain interior areas to create a Greek Revival style in place of the original Victorian. The key to this metamorphosis was the structuring of a symmetrical front. The corner tower with its low roofed veranda and the projecting entry porch were removed. The brick front was then rebuilt as a balanced composition with the main entrance at the center. Nine foot solid wood-paneled double doors were flanked on each side by leaded glass side lights. This arrangement was framed on each side by columns supporting a projecting entablature which in turn forms a small balcony for the Venetian leaded glass double doors which light the end of the second floor hall. Full shuttered windows are symmetrically spaced in the brick wall on each side of the entrance at both the first and second floor. Projecting out from the front of the house is a flat roof at the same elevation as the frieze under the eaves of the original house. The new roof continues the same design and depth of the existing frieze forming a two story porch forty-eight feet wide and eighteen feet deep covering the full north face of the house. Supporting the front edge of the porch are six round fluted wood columns. These columns are two feet four inches in diameter at the base and taper up to classical Greek Ionic capitals. The scale of this front presents a very dominate architectural element to the street side.

In 1966, another major remodeling was undertaken. This latest work consisted of adding four additional rooms and completely refurbishing the

Page Three..... Woodbine Mansion continued.

the existing house and grounds. The new rooms replaced existing screened porches at the southeast and southwest corners at the rear of the house. On the southeast a breakfast room was built, next to the kitchen with a sun room constructed above it on the second floor. The southwest addition consisted of a tile floored garden room on the first level and a wood paneled library above. The house now numbers some eighteen principal rooms, eight of which have fireplaces. The "widows-walk" on top of the three-story structure commands the view for miles.

The basic structure is of brick and wood construction. Exterior walls are load bearing brick sixteen inches thick at the base. These walls extend approximately ten feet below the surface to rest on solid rock bearing. Straight stone lintels span over the door and window openings in these exterior walls. Spaced brick piers support all the interior floors and walls which are framed in wood. All the interior walls, except the kitchen and baths are sheathed in wood with paper on sheetrock. The latter areas have cement plaster over wood lath which is also papered. The mansion consists of three full floors plus a partial basement which now houses the central heating system. Ceiling heights are twelve feet on the first floor, ten and one-half feet on the second floor, and nine feet on the third floor with an attic above.

The plan takes full advantage of natural ventilation. All of the main rooms on both the first and second floors open off a central circulation hall

In 1960, the mansion was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene A. Goodrich. Mrs. Goodrich, the former Jean Laage Criss, Texas artist and antiques collector, directed an extensive refurbishing of the structure

Page Four. . . . Woodbine Mansion continued.

that runs the length of the house. Operating transoms allow cross-ventilation even when the doors are closed. These factors coupled with the excellent insulating value of the thick masonry walls and the high ceilings create a comfortable environment during even the warmest summer months.

The mansion was built by members of the A. J. Nelson family, Swedish immigrants who settled in Williamson County in 1854. Andrew J. Nelson, prior to his death in 1895, established extensive farming enterprises, and served in numerous official capacities with the Swedish Lutheran Church in the town of Round Rock. It was in 1895 that the newly widowed Mrs. A. J. Nelson with her ~~two~~ sons, ^{and daughters} ~~Thomas Edward and Carl A.~~, started the construction of the very fine residence in Round Rock. The new home was completed and occupied in 1900.

After the death of Mrs. Nelson in 1923, the sons, ^{Thomas Edward and Carl.} continued to live in the mansion while they jointly engaged in numerous commercial and banking ventures. The brothers encouraged agricultural diversification in Williamson County by starting the first commercial cheese factory in Texas, and by providing financing to area farmers who established dairy herds. In 1929, T. E. Nelson married and brought his bride, the former Rebecca Young Schofield, to live in the mansion. In 1931, the family commissioned Wilson McClure, AIA, of Dallas, to alter the structures facade from Victorian to the Greek Revival style.

In 1960, the mansion was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene N. Goodrich. Mrs. Goodrich, the former Jean Lange Crier, Texas artist and antiques collector, directed an extensive refurbishing of the structure

Page Five. . . . Woodbine Mansion

which was completed in 1968. During this eight-year undertaking, Mrs. Goodrich drew on her rich knowledge of Victorian color usage and interiors to assemble the outstanding collection of period furniture and accessories which now fill the home.

Situated on its own city block, Wookbine is surrounded by towering elm, pecan, and magnolia trees. In this beautifully maintained park-like setting, the mansion today stands as an impressive and rare example of gentle life at the turn of the century.

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee has had a busy year and the hard working committee members have produced commendable results in several areas related to preservation of history.

Since history is a continuing process facts have a way of coming into focus long after the event is past and results of projects started long ago culminate in a later era.

The three County Chairmen who have guided the Committee since the organization was formed are interested historians and able leaders. Judge Sam V. Stone, the first County Chairman, Mrs. John Cornforth, the immediate past Chairman and Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, present Chairman have made valuable contributions to the preservation program and continue to do so.

MARKERS DEDICATED IN 1973

There have been seven Official Texas Historical Markers dedicated in 1973, most of which were applied for in 1972.

On June 10, the descendants of James B. Williams (1821-1891) dedicated an Official Texas Historical Grave Marker in the Berry Creek Cemetery in his honor.

"Inner Space Cavern" is the heading on the marker at the entrance to the Laubach Cave on IH 35 near Georgetown. The dedication program took place on June 23. A brief history of the well known cavern is contained in the inscription on the marker.

On October 6, a marker was formally dedicated in Lois Perkins Chapel at Southwestern University. The date commemorates the opening of the University in Georgetown one hundred years earlier on October 6, 1873. The subject marker is installed on a stone base on the mall in front of the Chapel. It gives the history of the colleges that eventually made up Southwestern, the first of which originated in 1840 when the Rutgersville College was chartered by the Republic of Texas, thereby establishing it as the oldest college in the State of Texas.

Also recognized on this day was the addition of an interpretive plate on the historic Main Building. A Texas Historical Medallion was placed on the building in 1962.

The Riley House at 1302 College Street, Georgetown, was awarded an Official Historical Marker in July, 1972. The dedication program at 4:30 in the afternoon on October 6 made the third ceremony to take place on that day. The house owned by the Riley Family since 1908 has been closely connected with Southwestern University for one hundred years. It was built by the Rev. S. J. Lane, Chaplain of the School in 1872.

The Otto Reinke Building, 102 East Main Street, Round Rock, was the site of a dedication ceremony on November 24. It was erected in 1879 and was recently restored by Architect Martin Kermacy, the present owner. The downtown building was used through the years for various businesses before it burned in 1963. The restoration included redoing the walls and installing an attractive modern interior.

On December 20, the most recent dedication was for Woodbine, the Nelson-Crier house at 405 East Main Street in Round Rock. The home was built in 1895 by the Nelson Family and occupied by them until 1960, when Eugene N. and Jean Crier Goodrich bought and refurbished the three story, eighteen room Mansion. The Medallion and Plate are on a post near the gate, enhanced by a background of huge magnolia trees.

ORAL HISTORY RECORDING

The recording of oral history has been increasing through the years. Interesting and valuable information gained by using jotted down notes or the ever popular tape recorder are aiding in compiling local history. Mrs. Henry Labaj has tabulated a remarkable collection and is quite good at interpreting the stories.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY 1848 - 1973

The One Hundred and Twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of Williamson County was a vehicle for historic remembrance. The week long celebration activities in Georgetown included a parade in which the new Williamson County Flag was proudly carried for the first time. There were store window exhibits of period clothes, household items of pioneer days and methods of doing things, an amateur theater production about Williamson County, old fashioned street market and many more attractions. The "Souvenir Program" put-it-all-together in an attractive, historic booklet. It was titled 125 Years of Williamson County 1848-1973 and ably edited by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman of the Historical Survey Committee.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY IN GEORGETOWN 1873 - 1973

A beautifully arranged and well received Museum was Temporarily set up for the celebration of One Hundred Years of Southwestn University in Georgetown. It was open on weekends in October in the foyer of Mood Hall and displayed in pictures, documents and objects the story of this the oldest institution of higher learning in Texas.

LAND OF GOOD WATER

"LAND OF GOOD WATER", (Takachu Pouetsu), A Williamson County History, by Clara Stearns Scarbrough is being anxiously awaited. Soon to be off the press, it will be a crowning historical achievement, and will be of great importance to present as well as future historians.

CEMETERIES

All members of the committee are working on the listing of all cemeteries in the county. Hopefully, a complete roster will eventually be available to interested people.

These vari^{ous} cooperative accomplishments have earned for the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee the Distinguished Service Award for the fourth consecutive year. The award was made by the Texas Historical Commission at the annual meeting held in Fort Worth October 26 and 27.

Myreta Matthews
Reporter

After 'a hundred years of living Hutch Love finds each day exciting

LOVE, Joseph Hutchinson, 100, of Florence, died Saturday. Services 4 p.m. Monday at the First Baptist Church in Florence. Survivors: sons, Orville Love of Georgetown and Ralph Love of Florence; daughters, Mrs. Andrew Baker of Dallas, Mrs. Willard Hardcastle of Sedona, Ariz., Mrs. Oran Gray and Mrs. Melvin Davis of Florence; six 16 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Monday, August 19, 1974

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 5 January 24, 1974

A country gentleman and the oldest native of Williamson County plans a reception for his many relatives and friends February 10, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Oran Gray in Florence to celebrate the 100th year of his birth.

Joseph Hutchinson "Hutch" Love, second son of Robert Dixon and Martha Jane (Hutchison) Love was born February 7, 1874 in the Matsler community settled by his grandparents, George and Rebecca (Peck) Matsler in 1852 and his grandfather John Thompson Love. The Love family including Hutch were sisters Nora, Mary Rebecca (Love) Pigott and Elizabeth and brothers James Monroe and Robert Milton who were reared on the homelace on Berrys' Creek, southwest of Florence.

Hutch presently lives a very enjoyable, active, and useful life in his home in Florence where he and his wife, Minnie (Howell) Love resided for a number of years before her death in April, 1960. An excellent cook, he prepares many kinds of foods, and dishes for special occasions that would challenge any cook. He has surprised neighbors and friends with special birthday cakes and other tasty treats from his kitchen. He often prepares dishes that were luxuries in the period he was growing up a hundred years ago, and yet he challenges Mrs. Crocker or Mr. Hines with their latest innovations to prove their products.

Besides his ability to supervise his household chores, Mr. Love spends much

time with his lifetime interests—his fruit orchard and vegetable and flower gardens. A present project is training a grapevine arbor at the entrance of his porch as was tradition of the typical homes almost a century ago. Hutch's "green thumb" continues to propagate cuttings and seedlings from his plantings. He has supplied many pecan seedlings for his grandchildren's yards as well as many friends and relatives.

Hutch Love retired from his continuous work in Florence at 85 years of age. He assisted his son, Aldred "Buck" Love in Love's Variety Store in Florence at the beginning of World War II and continued until a number of years later when he managed his daughter's, Mrs. Melvin Davis's, Electrical Sales and Service until his wife's poor health required his full attention, fulfilling a commitment they made to each other in years past that should one require care they would care for the other at home if possible.

Hutch and Minnie were married at Florence June 5, 1898. They lived near the Oak Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church which is near where Hutch was born. They reared their 10 children on their farm, including Ennis (Love) Harwell who died December 10, 1961; Orville, who lives in Georgetown; Nora (Love) Spain, who died September 7, 1920; Madeline (Love) Baker of Dallas; Aldred Howell "Buck" Love, who died on April 17, 1955; Thora Christine, who died as an



HUTCH LOVE

infant July 26, 1908; Katherine (Love) Hardcastle of Sedona, Arizona; Nina (Love) Gray of Florence; Ralph D. Love of Andice; and Virginia (Love) Davis of Florence.

Hutch Love and his wife lived the typical Central Texas farm life for most of the 62 years they were married. All manner of livestock and poultry and farming kept the whole family busy from sunrise to sunset. Five cent cotton, World War I and II, drought years, wet years, the Dust Bowl, the Depression, hand grubbing crop land, gratitude for a corn crop, cornmeal, and garden, all experienced by the Loves and all farm families since the turn of the century are recalled and reminisced by Mr. Love.

Hutch Love has served many years in church and community activities. As a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, he served as delegate to the General Assembly of the Church Government. He served many years as school trustee in the Old White House and Andice School District.

Hutch Love recalled of his schooling that he attended the old Elm Grove school where his mother's sister, Miss Mary Matsler Poole, was his teacher in 1882. Later he attended the old Wales School on Berrys' Creek; and later the White House school near the present Andice community. He relates many fascinating and colorful tales and experiences through the years in the Matsler community. He related the killing of Federal Marshal by two renegades of the law; cattle rustling; the last large herd of 4000 Longhorns a clattering sea of horns coming up Berrys' Creek from Gans Mill, heading up the trail to midwestern markets; the advent of the first buggy, hack, surrey, car, airplanes, telephones, first improved breeds of cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, roads, electricity, and as he expressed, "Well, just

Committee locating log cabins

Location of all log cabins in Williamson County is being sought by the Williamson County Historical Committee, and the assistance of interested persons is invited. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, chairman, said this week. Data will be kept in the county and made available for researchers, and will go into the Texas Log Cabin Register. In order to be placed in the register, the information must be obtained within the next two months.

ANYONE KNOWING the location of log cabins, no matter what the condition—even those which have been covered over with other building materials—is asked to contact a member of the Historical Committee listed below.

The following questions should be answered as fully as possible: specific location (if moved, give original and present locations); name of builder; place of origin of

builder; condition of cabin and whether occupied now; date of construction—approximate, if necessary; sketch of floor plan giving approximate dimensions; whether stone, brick, or cat (mud and stick) is used in chimney; whether logs are square hewn, round, or half round; kind of wood, and the kind of notches used in fitting logs together (if names of notches are not known—a sketch can be used to illustrate shape of notches where logs come together at corners).

CABIN DESCRIPTIONS are needed for Ad Lawrence's former home at Lawrence Chapel, the William Williams room near Gabriel Mills, the cabin near Thrall on Cecil Stiles farm, four cabins in the Bagdad area, the log home built by Luther Stearns between Jonah and Circleville and the present home of Donald Irvine near Georgetown. Two other log buildings at Round Rock have

already been described by the committee members from there, Mrs. Zelma Gregg and Mrs. John W. Ledbetter. They may be contacted about any other such buildings in the Round Rock area.

"There are unquestionably more log structures in this county than we have listed, and we do need the help of citizens from every part of the county to locate them," Mrs. Scarbrough stresses. "Any assistance will be greatly appreciated."

THE ENTIRE COMMITTEE is not given below, but persons on the area committees and officers are listed who may be contacted: A. M. Ahlgren and Miss Ruth Mantor of Taylor; Miss Myreta Matthews and Mrs. Fay Richardson of Liberty Hill; Mrs. Scarbrough or Donald Irvine of Georgetown; Harold Asher of the Gabriel Mills-Andice communities; Mrs. Robert Ford, Bartlett; Mrs. Luther Chance, Cedar

Park; Miss Cora Sexton, Jarrell area; Miss Effie McLeod, Florence; Mrs. Stacy Labaj, Granger; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hairston, Rice's Crossing; the Round Rock ladies listed above; Ranken Kennedy (Thrall representative) of Taylor, and Thomas McDonald (Jonah) of Taylor, or any other member of the committee.

Florence Texas

To all my relatives and friends
 my family and I invite you to
 share in celebration of my 100. th
 birthday at a reception at the home
 of my daughter Mrs Aran Gray
 in Florence Texas February 10, 1974

2:00 till 5:00 P.M. No Gifts Please

Joseph Hutchison Love

about everything you could name, I have seen the improvement since I first remember."

Hutch tells of his cousins, Miss Lizzie Love and her brother, Henry Love as being among the first teachers recalled at the old White House school. A brother of theirs, Tom Love was the first merchant in the city of Temple, Texas, where he opened a dry goods store. Hutch related that his family later attended the Florence College and Normal school of higher learning, and also the old Salado Normal College and that they boarded with their uncle Joe Love at his home near Salado.

One of the earliest drouths he remembers, in 1879, found livestock owners searching for water supply along the North San Gabriel, in the area presently being inundated by the construction of the North Gabriel Dam and reservoir. Hutch tells of his father, moving their livestock some twelve or fifteen miles south of their home to the area known as the Baker community and later as Jim Hogg community where a prominent pioneer Primitive Baptist elder, "Uncle Bob" Baker and his wife, Mary Woods Baker resided. Near their home was a very substantial "water hole" in the river bed. He told of his father and older brother, Jim, and himself making the trip on horseback each week to take a peck or so of salt to keep the "salt lick" up on Bullion Mountain supplied for the cattle which ranged in that area above the Baker homestead. Barbed wire hadn't made its entry into dividing the open range country at that time.

Seven generations of Hutch Love's family have pursued agricultural interests in America since the early 1800s. He tells of his Love grandparents coming from Ireland in 1808 to South Carolina, then to Madison county, Mississippi and later in 1845, migrating to the very small village of Dallas, Texas, consisting of a blacksmith shop, one small log dwelling, which still stands in downtown Dallas, and a livery stable. The Loves lived there one year, moving to the prosperous town of Webberville, just east of the small town of Austin, later moving to the Matsler community on Berry's Creek where his other grandparents had settled after having come to Texas from Monticello, Piatt county, Illinois. Hutch Love too, has a continued interest in agriculture, and he was among the first cooperators in the Little River-San Gabriel Soil Conservation District.

Remembering numerous transitions of the past and present, he commented that "I have lived to see the first cotton gin come into the Florence area during the prime cotton production years in 1881 and 1882, and I have seen the last cotton gin close down this past season in this community for lack of cotton being produced over the country". He expressed concern of just how the current majority of agriculture producing acreage ceases to be utilized in production of food and products to meet the ever increasing demands of a dependent population in this country today. He points out that the most favorable basic farm practice that has aided crop production over earlier

practices in this country has been the tilling and returning of nature's organic matter in form of refuse and stubble into the soil rather than the practice of wind rowing it and burning it as was common practice of "cleaning your land" almost a century ago.

This reporter observed the vast interests and experiences of this still viable, interesting, Texas Gentlemen, who reveals his alertness, keen and sensitive of this world he observes in retrospect as only a Centenerian can comprehend its constant transition. His keen acceptance of life, finding each day important and necessary to give as well as receive, finds Hutch Love still active and functioning as an interested individual.

In his tidy comfortable kitchen area, as he sat on his modern serviceable swivel kitchen stool, Hutch had his kitchen and his whole reason for living in proper order; contented with his acceptance of what life has afforded him as he reviewed his past 100 years in retrospect with this reporter, and he still finds living and observing important.

In this room was an old violin, which Hutch explained that he was painstakingly repairing. On his breakfast table near his reading lamp lay various reading materials, and correspondence from relatives which he responds with a note in return. Also observed were two small hymnals belonging to his mother and grandmother from which he sings the traditional refrains of many generations.

Here is a Centenerian, Hutch Love, who "finds his place in the sun".

Autograph party Monday at Citizens State Bank

An autograph party for Clara Stearns Scarbrough of Georgetown, author of "Land of Good Water (Takachue Pouetsu): A Williamson County, Texas, History," and a special showing of original illustrations contained in the book by Austin artist, J. U. Salvant, will be held Monday, January 28, 10:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-3:00 p.m. in the lobby of Citizens State Bank of Georgetown.

Refreshments will be served and an invitation to attend is extended to everyone interested in the history and lore of the county. Eighteen sketches of landmarks and a map covering the period from 1836 to 1973 will be displayed.

THE HISTORY RANGES across thousands of years from that distant time when the present land was being formed, discusses prehistoric Indians and the four principal tribes which were associated with the county in historic times, tells of exploration by the Spaniards and French, and of the central Texas missions. Anglo-American settlement is covered in considerable detail, as well as immigration of other ethnic groups. Other chapters deal with the Civil War, the coming of railroads, and with the present century.

Williamson County is mirrored in its social, economic and political developments. There are stories of courage and accomplishment, and also of unsavory events—the good guys and bad guys were here! The book tells of colorful events, is based on an extensive research program, including 255 interviews which are listed in the bibliography. A special map locates 398 towns, villages and other historic sites and a brief history is included of each.



Clara Stearns Scarbrough

The 1850 census is reproduced, listing all adults in the county at that time, and the book contains more than a hundred photographs and illustrations. The index lists 1400 family names which are mentioned.

PUBLISHER OF THE BOOK, fittingly, is the Williamson County Sun, which, as the oldest newspaper in the county (established May 19, 1877), has reported much of the county's history. Don Scarbrough, the author's husband and publisher of the SUN, commented that "Land of Good Water" is "a work of love by the author, who spent years gathering the material and three final years putting it together in proper form. Without her work much of the content of this book would have been lost forever—one of the strong, motivating forces behind her efforts."

Read it, and Williamson County will never look quite the same to you again, Scarbrough promised.

THE HISTORY CONTAINS two bonus chapters, "The Passing Glance" by Scarbrough and "Thoughts of a County Expatriate" by the Scarbroughs' eldest daughter, Linda Scarbrough Knott, a New York journalist. Their other daughter, Donna, did the special design featured on the cover representing Indian symbols of a tree, land, and water. She also did portraits of a Tonkawan brave and of Chief, Placido. Donna is an art major enrolled at Trinity University, San Antonio.

No one could have been better prepared, by family and associates, or by interest and training, to write a history of Williamson County than the author, whose forebears settled here as early as 1847. Her parents, still living, helped gather materials and filled many gaps in information. Mrs. Scarbrough was born at Circleville and lived near the San Gabriel River until she was fifteen, moving to Taylor at that

time where she attended school. She holds two degrees from the University of Texas where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and other honorary societies, was active in music, literary, dramatic and social organizations, and was graduated summa cum laude.

The author was supervisor of music in Conroe and Georgetown, taught journalism at Southwestern University and most recently was a professor in the Department of Music at the University of Texas. She and her husband published newspapers in Taylor, Elgin, Granger, Thorndale and Georgetown and for a time during World War II she took the role of publisher while he was in service. She has been actively associated with the operation of the Williamson County SUN. She was recently recognized in a national environmental feature writing contest and is currently chairman of the Williamson County Historical Committee.

Land of Good Water can be purchased at the Williamson County SUN, Post Office Box 39, Georgetown, Tex. 78626. The price is \$15.00 plus tax and, if desired, mailing: \$16.75.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 5 January 31, 1974

Autograph party set for Feb. 10

An autograph party honoring Clara Stearns Scarbrough, author of the newly published

Williamson County history, "Land of Good Water", will be hosted by the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee on February 10.

The Sunday afternoon party will be from 2 to 5 p. m. in the jury room of the District Court on the second floor of the county courthouse in Georgetown.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Historical Survey Committee researching cemeteries, cabins

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met February 7 in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, chairman presided and welcomed four newly appointed members who were present for the first time.

Two worthwhile projects, that are being actively pursued and are creating countywide interest, were reported on. The unexpected large number of log cabins, that were used as homes, located and described is increasing. Cemeteries are an important and authentic historic source of facts. The committee is continuing to seek out and list names and locations of all cemeteries and if possible the names of people interred along with dates of birth and death. Any and all assistance is welcome. The book, LAND OF GOOD WATER, was acclaimed by all who had seen it, to be as comprehensive and splendid as they had anticipated. This history of Williamson County by Clara Stearns Scarbrough will be a source book of facts and

inspiration for present and future generations.

Mrs. Carl Burnett reported on an interesting and informative National Bicentennial meeting which she attended in Austin recently. The 1976 Bicentennial Celebration is not the responsibility of the Historical Survey Committee but its duty should be to assist any and all community action that is ap-

propriate with special emphasis on heritage.

History is consistently being compiled for several homes in the county that are eligible for historical markers.

The recording of oral history is another important feature of the widening scope of getting historical facts. Biographies are often neglected until they become lost. The committee is urged to pursue this interesting activity and be on the alert for potential subjects with a message.

Committee members were present representing Andice, Florence, Liberty Hill, Taylor, Thrall, Georgetown and Round Rock.

THE SUN
Sec. 1, Page 3

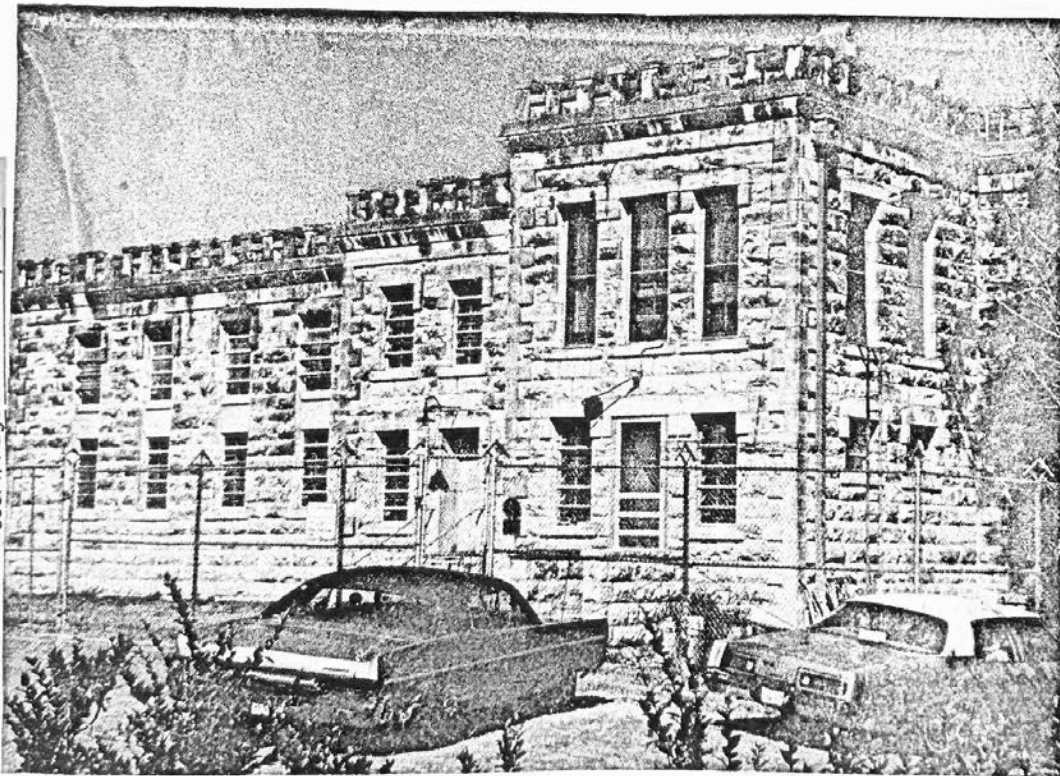
Georgetown, Texas
January 24, 1974

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 12 February 14, 1974



HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE'S AUTOGRAPH PARTY FOR CLARA SCARBROUGH—in the courthouse Sunday afternoon brought guests from all over Williamson County and from surrounding counties. Mrs. Scarbrough, author of the history of Williamson County, "Land of Good Water", is the chairman of the Williamson County Historical Committee and her co-workers were hosts of the party. Mrs. Homer N. Caswell was chairman of the arrangements. Another special guest was Joan Salvant, artist who drew many sketches

for the book, and whose original drawings were on display. Members of the houseparty are pictured watching Mrs. Scarbrough autograph a book for Mrs. Tom McAferty. Left to right, Judge Sam Stone, Mrs. Joe Hanna Forsan, Mrs. Harold Scoggins, artist Joan Salvant, Miss Ruth Mantor, Mrs. Homer Caswell, Miss Effie McLeod, Mrs. Sally Gee Pettus, Mrs. F. W. Buchanan, Mrs. Marshall Richardson, Mrs. C. L. Chance, Miss Myretta Matthews, Miss Cora Sexton and Judge C. L. Chance. Houseparty not pictured: Mrs. J. W. Ledbetter, Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Miss Laverne Faubion.



FOR 86 YEARS THIS LIMESTONE CITADEL has served to incarcerate law offenders in Williamson County. Maximum capacity is 68 inmates, with separate communal cells for men, women and juveniles. Persons from all over the county are brought here to await a grand jury trial or to be held until they

can be transported to the state penitentiary in Huntsville. One isolated cubicle is reserved for mentally disturbed patients who are periodically imprisoned in the county jail until they can be taken to the state hospital in Austin.

Williamson County Historical Committee at
book party for Clara Scarborough
Feb. 10, 1974, Courthouse rotunda

Left to Right, front row:

Mrs. Etcha Scaggins, Mrs. J. U. Salvant of Austin
who illustrated the book, Miss Effie McLeod
of Florence, Mrs. Tommye Lee Buchanan of Jarrell,
Miss Myreta Matthews of Liberty Hill, Miss Cora
Sexton of Jarrell. Seated are Mrs. Scarborough,
the author, and Mrs. Tom Mc Aferty, ^{Georgetown,} a guest.

Back row:

Judge Sam Stone, ^{Georgetown,} Mrs. Joe Hannah Forson of
Taylor, Miss Ruth Mantor of Taylor, Mrs.
Edith Caswell of Georgetown, Mrs. Sally Pettus
of Georgetown, Mrs. Fay Richardson of
Liberty Hill, Mrs. Jane Chance of Georgetown,
and Judge Luther Chance, Georgetown.

Ed
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County Hill, Feb 1862



GUESTS

FEB. 10.

1974

NAME ADDRESS

Edith Caswell 1609 Elm Georgetown, Texas 78626

Estha Scoggins 1707 Main Georgetown, Texas

Jayne Chance 1610 Pecan Georgetown, Texas

Clean Scarborough 1318 E. University Georgetown, Texas

C. L. Chance 1610 Pecan Georgetown, Texas

Tommye Lea Buchanan Box 376 Jarrell, Texas

Olive Smith Jarrell, Texas

Florence G. Wray Georgetown, Texas

Myrtle Matthews Liberty Hill, Tex 78642

Helma 111 W. Wray Georgetown

Mrs. Margaret Mather - Liberty Hill, Tex.

Joe Hannah Parsons
Ruth Mather

Taylor, Texas
Taylor, Texas

Mrs L.H. Marsh

Granger, Texas

L.H. Marsh

Granger, Texas

Martha Marsh

Granger, Texas

Marshall & Fay

Georgetown

Mrs Robert V Allen

Georgetown

Seth & Evelyn Breeding

Austin

Huron & Katherine Coulbourn

Georgetown

Jimm & Dora Brennan -

Veddy Mae Peltus

Georgetown

Edna Dalton

Georgetown

Eddie Bell Reed

Georgetown

Helma McAfee

Georgetown

Mrs Carl Kaye 1603 Main, Georgetown, Tex.
Bice Hill 404 Karol Road -
Ernest & Lavonne Johnson 302 West Spring Georgetown, Tex
Effie McLead
Mrs John W Ledbetter Round Rock, Texas
Mrs. Dick B. Bregg " " "
Hope Isom Georgetown, Tex
Tom Tom Graves Georgetown, Texas
Tom Graves Georgetown, Texas
Lavonne Fautron Georgetown, Texas
Mrs. W. D. Fautron Georgetown, Texas
Miss Bevie P. Hedges Georgetown, Texas
Andrew Anderson Taylor Texas
Dorothy Seffler Georgetown
Mr Lott Rogers
Mrs Lott Rogers

Search continues for log houses

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met Thursday, March 7 in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Committee Chairman presided. The secretary, Mrs. Estha Scoggins reported fifteen more members had renewed membership in the Texas Historical Foundation.

There are fourteen or more log houses in the county. The search continues for these early homes that are still standing. A few more are known to exist.

The list of cemeteries continues to grow as many interested people report small family plots to the committee. As inquiries are made some plots that appeared forgotten are being improved and cared for. The name and date list of a large number of county cemeteries is complete.

Several historic homes and churches are in varying stages of readiness for applying for official markers.

Color slides of scenic

Williamson County were shown by Mrs. Scarbrough. The pictures were of highways and byways, rivers and bridges, trees and cotton fields, brick paved streets and business buildings, outstanding homes and churches all over Williamson County. This is our own part of America the Beautiful.

The county flag will soon be located in the Georgetown Public Library where more people will be able to see it.

One of the goals of the Historical Survey Committee and the State of Texas Historical Foundation is to create an appreciation for work done by our predecessors and to conserve the result of the labors in recorded stories and facts and to restore and preserve significant buildings. The young cannot be interested in something of which they are not aware.

Committee members present represented Taylor, Georgetown, Round Rock, Jonah, Andice-Gabriel Mills, Florence and Liberty Hill.

—Committee Reporter



MISS MYRETA MATHEWS WELCOMES HOME JAKE PICKLE. . . at the Pickle Party held Friday, April 5 at the First National Bank Festival Room. Miss Mathews was among the many dozen folks who visited with Congressman Pickle and his lovely wife, Beryl.

Historical Committee hears Harold Asher on 'Blacksmithing'

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met April 4 in the Georgetown Public Library with Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman presiding.

Mrs. Scarbrough urged the members of the committee to be on the alert for significant buildings and historic sites that need to be marked with an Official Texas Historical marker. Although many have been identified there is much work still to be done in that area. She also noted that several towns and communities are almost one hundred years old and it is appropriate that this Committee aid in any way possible in the celebrations that are to be planned by citizens of those areas.

Harold Asher, a committee member, provided the program for this meeting, presenting an interesting and informative history of blacksmithing as applied to the early development of this county. His research went back hundreds of years and he described in detail the tools, their use and the many products of the trade. His story revealed the names of important "Smithies" in

several towns in Williamson County years ago when Gabriel Mills was a thriving little village.

Members were present representing Florence, Round Rock, Andice-Gabriel Mills, Taylor, Jonah, Cedar Park, Hutto, Georgetown and Liberty Hill.

The Committee will meet for lunch at Rudy's Barbecue Restaurant in Taylor on May 2.

—Committee Reporter

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Chairman

NEWSLETTER NUMBER ONE

MARCH 20, 1974

On April 30, 1970, "Goals for the Seventies", a comprehensive program of work in the field of historical preservation was adopted by the Texas Historical Commission, as it is now called. The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee has been very active in part of this program, especially in marking buildings and sites of historical significance. Some members have been successful in recording oral history through interviews with knowledgeable long time residents.

One subhead of the goals calls for preserving local history records and manuscripts. There are many privately owned records and collections of documents besides the county records. A list of the content and nature of these papers with dates and their location could prove to be a valuable source of information. A card file in the libraries of the county would make them available to future historians. A county archives would be ideal.

In her book, Land Of Good Water, A Williamson County, Texas History, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough has made a great contribution to the preservation of the historic past of the county. Carefully researched and thoroughly readable it is a splendid record of the history of this important county.

The Committee has not proclaimed a "Texas History Appreciation Week" but many members are meeting with small groups as well as large groups to explain applications for markers and "sell" history to them.

The work continues in the cemeteries listings project and some good historic records are being produced. It is possible to re-discover the resting place of people who had an important part in the early events in Texas - perhaps a San Jacinto veteran heretofore not mentioned.

Regular monthly meetings have been held on the first Thursday of January, February and March of 1974. Also on Sunday, February 10th, the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee sponsored a very enjoyable autograph party for the chairman, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough. Her Land Of Good Water book furnished the inspiration for the occasion.

Several new members were appointed by the Williamson County Commissioners Court in January and their names are included in the list below:

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 1974

- Ahlgreen, Mr. A. M. -- 708 McClure, Taylor, Texas 76574
 Asher, Mr. Harold -- Route #1, Liberty Hill, Texas 78642
 Blackman, Mrs. Emery -- Box 111, Hutto, Texas 78634
 Buchanan, Mrs. W. F. -- Box 376, Jarrell, Texas 76537
 Burnette, Mrs. Carl -- 128 Melanie Drive, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Caswell, Mrs. Homer -- 1607 Elm Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Chamberlain, Mrs. M. M. -- Route #2, Box 404, Leander, Texas 78641
 Chance, Judge and Mrs. C. L. -- 1610 Pecan Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Cornforth, Mrs. John -- 1221 Cecelia, Taylor, Texas 76574
 DeTalbert, Mr. Robert Sterling -- 1206 Shelley #7, Austin, Texas 78703
 Faubion, Miss Laverne -- 712 Myrtle Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Ford, Mrs. Robert -- % Bartlett Tribune, Bartlett, Texas 76511
 Forson, Mrs. Joe Hannah -- Box 842, Taylor, Texas 76574
 Fox, Mr. Henry -- Route #4, Taylor, Texas 76574
 Gregg, Mrs. D. B. -- Box 453, Round Rock, Texas 78664
 Hairston, Mr. & Mrs. Charles -- Rice's Crossing, Taylor, Texas 76574
 Harris, Mrs. Oliver -- 314 Fowzer Street, Taylor, Texas 76574
 Hill, Miss Ella -- Granger, Texas 76530
 Kennedy, Mr. Ranken -- 1700 Meadow Lane, Taylor, Texas 76574
 Lehaj, Mrs. Henry -- Route #1, Granger, Texas 76530
 Ledbetter, Mrs. John W. -- 212 West Main Street, Round Rock, Texas 78664
 Mentor, Miss Ruth -- 1118 West 7th Street, Taylor, Texas 76574
 Matthews, Miss Myreta -- Box 127, Liberty Hill, Texas 78642
 McDonald, Mr. Thomas -- 2203 Latham Lane, Taylor, Texas 76574
 McLeod, Miss Effie -- Route #1, Box 64, Florence, Texas 76527
 Millholin, Mr. Fred -- 612 College Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Morse, Mrs. Robert -- Oakcrest Drive, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Overton, Mrs. P. H. -- Hutto, Texas 78634
 Pettus, Mrs. Sally G. -- 1506 Vine Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Ribbeck, Mr. & Mrs. Alvin -- Box 386, Thrall, Texas 76578
 Richardson, Mrs. M. K. -- Box 116, Liberty Hill, Texas 78642
 Scarbrough, Mrs. Don -- 1318 East University Avenue, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Scoggins, Mrs. Harold G. -- 1707 Main Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Sexton, Miss Cora -- Box 325, Jarrell, Texas 76537
 Stone, Judge Sam V. Stone -- 1414 Elm Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Tipton, Mrs. Van C. -- 1405 East 15th Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Texas State Historical Commission -- P. O. Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711
 Myreta Matthews, Committee Reporter

Vespucci, Coppini, Lucchese Show Italian Flavor in History of Texas

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the sixteenth in a series of articles on the national, racial, or cultural groups who contributed to the development of Texas, and who are featured in exhibits at the UTSA Institute of Texan Cultures. A descriptive listing of materials available for loan or purchase is available on request.

The adventurous sons of the strife-torn Italian city-states were showing up on the Texas scene from the time Europeans began exploring the New World. They are coming still, to add their skills and talents, their foods and folkways, as well as their distinctive zest for life, to the flavor of Texas.

Only five years after Christopher Columbus from Genoa had discovered the first of the West Indies islands off the coast of the New World, a Florentine, Amerigo Vespucci, was viewing and mapping the Texas Coast. Like most of the Italians who came after them for a century or so, they came in the service of Spain. So did the Italian soldiers who accompanied Vasquez de Coronado in his exploration of the Texas plains in 1541.

The Italian city-states during this period were small and perennially impoverished by their internal wars and the invasions of more powerful neighbors. Ambitious and adventurous young men could find opportunities best by hiring out to the Spanish, Portuguese, and French. Such was the case of Henri de Tonti, who was born near Rome and grew up in France.

As a young soldier, de Tonti fought with the French in their wars with Spain over Sicily, losing a hand in battle. He designed and wore an artificial hand made of copper and went on with his fighting. When he was around 30, the Italian became the close friend and associate of Robert Cavalier, le Sieur de La Salle. Together they explored the Canadian wilderness, the Great Lakes, and the rich valley of the Mississippi.

When La Salle returned to France to claim the honors for these discoveries, Henri de Tonti remained behind to establish the bases which would hold the vast lands claimed for France. When La Salle made his ill-fated attempt at settlement on the Texas coast, it was his Italian associate who led two expeditions into Texas, attempting to rescue him.

As settlements were finally established in Texas, late in the 18th Century

and early in the 19th, Italians were among the early settlers. Usually they were merchants like Vicente Michele and Guiseppe Cassini. When the Texas Revolution occurred, the Italians were represented in both armies. In the Mexican high command General Vicente Filisola played an important role, while on the Texan side at San Jacinto, private Prospero Bernardi was a member of Amasa Turner's company.

It was in more peaceful and pedestrian pursuits that most Italians were to play their roles in Texas life, as merchants, farmers, coal miners, railroad builders and artists. The bulk of their migration came after 1875, to the farmlands of Montague and Brazos counties, to the cities of Houston, San Antonio, El Paso, and Dallas. Their numbers have

never been large, in comparison with the major elements of the population, yet they have always managed to make themselves felt and to leave their special mark upon the Texas scene.

Their most lasting impressions have been made in the arts. Frederick Ruffini, an architect, was in Texas only eight years before his death in 1885, but in that time he designed distinctive public buildings at Henderson, Longview, Georgetown, Corsicana, New Braunfels, McKinney, Franklin, Groesbeck, and Austin. His most famous Texas contribution was the design of the original Main Building at the University of Texas in Austin.

Ruffini designed the Williamson County Courthouse built in 1877.

Picture of this is on page 229 of LAND OF GOOD WATER by Clara Scarbrough.



Bi-monthly publication of the Institute of Texan Cultures, free on request. P. O. Box 1226, San Antonio, Texas 78294

R. HENDERSON SHUFFLER,
Executive Director
MARION TRAVIS, Editor

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 3 May 2, 1974

Historical committee meets Thursday

The Williamson County Historical Committee will hold its monthly meeting in Taylor on Thursday, May 2. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, chairman, announced this week. Members and other interested persons are asked to meet at Rudy's Barbecue at 11:45 a.m., serve themselves lunch, then convene in the meeting room in the rear of the dining room where members will eat together and hold a meeting.

Recent projects of this historical group have included surveying all log cabins, log homes and other log buildings still standing in

Williamson County for a Texas Log Cabin Registry; also to catalog this information for county libraries. The Committee is locating and listing all cemeteries throughout the county, listing burials in each, and will assemble all this material for each county library. The Historical Committee is assisting in the financing of placing markers in several towns of the county which were founded in the 1870s and 1880s with the coming of the railroads. These markers will commemorate the establishment of the towns and will be inscribed with a brief history of the com-

munity.

The County Historical Committee is appointed by the Commissioners Court every two years. It welcomes the assistance and support of persons all over Williamson County in its program to preserve, restore and recognize as much as possible what is historically significant in the county. The committee furnishes programs on history for schools, clubs and other groups, and is interested in organizing tours in the various communities, showing interesting buildings and sites.

Village of San Gabriel to receive marker

An Official Texas Historical Marker for The Village of South Gabriel will be erected on May 19, 3 p.m. it was announced today by Mrs. Bill Bryson of Bertram, chairman of the Burnet County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at County Road (Old SH 29) 0.5 miles East of FM 1174, 2 miles S of Bertram.

The inscription on the marker reads:

THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH GABRIEL

THE SOUTH GABRIEL POST OFFICE OPENED IN POSTMASTER THOMAS LEWISTON'S MERCANTILE STORE ON SEPT. 29, 1871. THE VILLAGE, NAMED FOR THE SOUTH SAN GABRIEL RIVER, WAS ALSO CALLED LEWISTON.

LOCATED ON THE AUSTIN-BURNET ROAD, THE HAMLET SOON HAD TWO STORES, A HOTEL, SALOON, COTTON GIN, SCHOOL, CHURCH, AND WAGON, SADDLE, BLACKSMITH, AND

CARPENTRY SHOPS. THE POPULATION IN 1880 WAS 39.

THE AUSTIN AND NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD PASSED TO THE NORTH OF THE SETTLEMENT IN 1882, AND ON DEC. 8, 1882, THE POST OFFICE MOVED TO THE NEW TOWN OF BERTRAM (2 MILES N), AND SOUTH GABRIEL DISAPPEARED. (1974)

Marker Sponsors are Willie Smith Price, Garrett Wilkinson, Edward White, Mrs. Bill Bryson.

THE SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 5 May 9, 1974

Hutto marking forgotten graves

Twenty-five or more graves have been marked in the Hutto Cemetery since a project was launched to mark graves, in the old cemetery.

In most cases a friend or relative has either paid to have the Cemetery Association place one of the markers which it was

able to buy at a reasonable price or has purchased personally a memorial stone.

Some have made donations, others have given information about exact locations, names and dates, greatly assisting the project.

Those who have not had a part in this effort to preserve the dignity of the final resting places of pioneers, may contact Emery Blackman in Hutto.

All information will be gratefully received.

Historical committee collecting county celebration material

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met for lunch at Rudy's Barbecue Restaurant in Taylor May 2. Twenty-two members and visitors were present.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, chairman, asked for a roll call report from each community or town in the county.

Taylor and Round Rock members announced city celebrations for July and invited the committee members to attend and to participate in the activities.

Interested citizens have responded to a request from this committee and have accepted the responsibility of collecting

significant historical material and are working toward the goal of erecting a community marker in Bartlett, Thrall, Hutto and Leander. These towns will soon be celebrating the 100th anniversary of their founding. Granger, Taylor and Round Rock are also involved and have projects going toward their Centennial and the National Bi-Centennial.

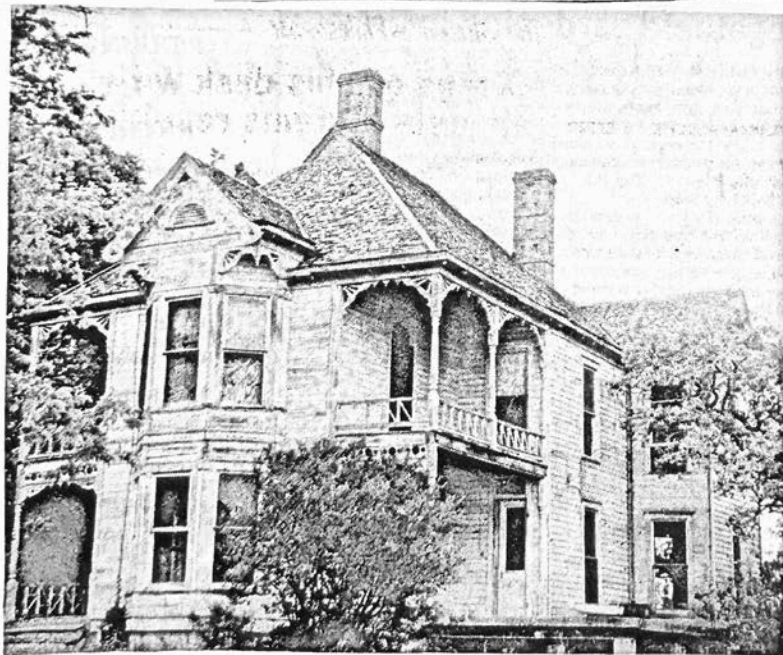
Mrs. C. L. Chance reported a complete listing of grave stones made for the New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery at Cedar Park. Mr. and Mrs. Emery Blackman have the listings for the Hutto Cemetery.

A marker application for the

First Baptist Church of Liberty Hill has been accepted by the Texas Historical Commission. Several other churches in the county are eligible for marking as Historical Landmarks. It is hoped that members of these churches will soon make application to honor these important organizations and the structures if they are in the original state.

Attending from Georgetown were Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Judge and Mrs. C. L. Chance, Mrs. H. G. Scoggins, Dr. and Mrs. Van Tipton, and Miss Laverne Faubion.

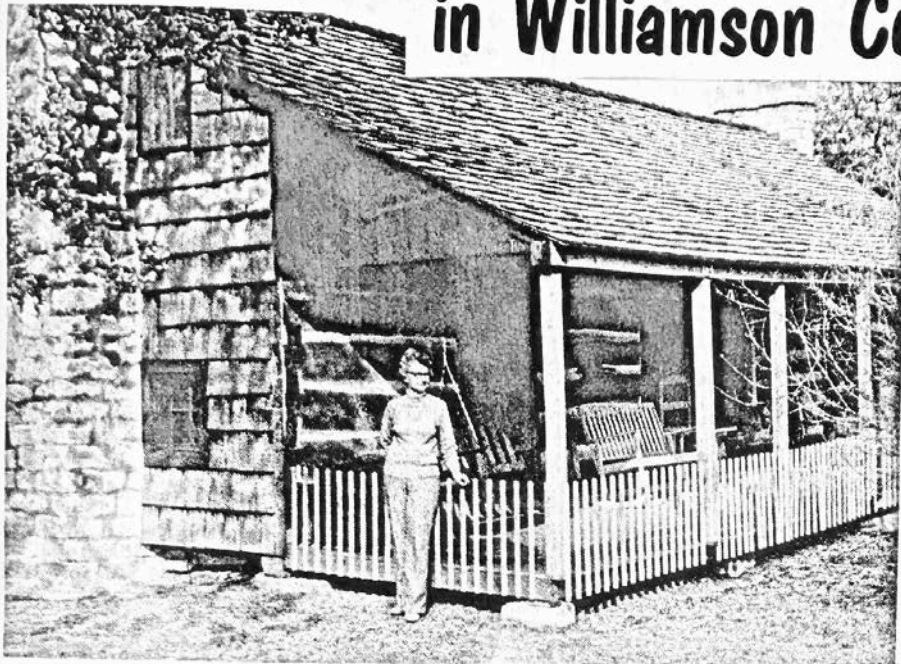
—Committee Reporter



The SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 3 June 6, 1974

THIS RAMBLING VICTORIAN-STYLED MANSION on Spring St. was built by George W. Glasscock, Jr. in 1910. His father, George Glasscock Sr., is the man for whom Georgetown is named while living here. Research by historian Clara Stearns Scarbrough shows that the old home was one of the first such mansions built in Georgetown. Glasscock painted the house white, using bright red trim around windows and balconies; the home's hilltop location made it visible for miles around.

Log cabins still survive in Williamson County



Mrs. Walter Collins stands at the west side of their log home. Note wooden shingling added over the logs on the west end in order to preserve the timbers underneath. All original materials were kept where at all possible upon restoration in the 1960s.

by CLARA SCARBROUGH

Log cabins were quite common over Williamson County until after the Civil War and a few have survived until today. Some have stood mostly because they were so sturdily built and others had the additional advantage of interested owners who wished to care for them and preserve them as relics of hardy settlers and craftsmen who built them.

Late in 1973, the Williamson County Historical Committee undertook to survey the county for existing log cabins or homes in cooperation with Dr. Terry G. Jordan, professor of geography at North Texas State University. Information furnished Dr. Jordan will be used in a TEXAS LOG CABIN REGISTER.

Fifteen log cabins, homes, or other buildings were located in Williamson County, still standing in 1974. Since the eastern part of the county was not densely settled until after the era of the log cabin, fewer were apparently built there, and thus fewer were found still more or less intact.

THE OLD DOUBLE LOG HOME with dog trot and upstairs rooms belonging to Adam "Ad" Lawrence of Lawrence Chapel is still standing and is being used as a barn near a newer home built by a descendant. The wonderful old timbers in the building are enormous, and probably are as old as any still in existence in the county, since Ad Lawrence came to the county in 1838. He first built a smaller house to serve the family for a few years, but as his large family grew, he replaced it with the one which stands now like a weatherbeaten sentinel on the hill at Lawrence Chapel.

Another log home of similar floor plan—two large rooms downstairs separated by dog run and attic rooms above—was built in 1852 by Luther Stearns, Sr., halfway between Circleville and Jonah. The home burned within a few years and was rebuilt in the same design, utilizing the original chimney of hand hewn stone. The remains of this house still stand, but are covered over with siding outside and panelling inside.

The two just mentioned are the only ones located in the eastern section.

The log house of T. S. Whiteley, built in the 1850's five miles west of Georgetown, just off Highway 29, is also standing, but has been stuccoed over and is incorporated into a larger house. It is located on the place now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Nitschke. Also in the Georgetown area is the log portion of the Donald P. Irvine, Sr., home, about six and a half miles north of town. A CORNERSTONE DISPLAYS the date 1850 and the log portion is believed to have been put up by J. Montgomery. Of the two original rooms, the lower one is sealed in, but the upper one shows the logs from the inside. Other rooms were added to the original cabin at a later date. The old log home of Hayden Hunt, built about 1853, still stands near the North Gabriel at Hunt Crossing, and is now unoccupied. The original house was added to through the years, and finally was used as a barn, according to W. L. "Pete" Hunt, a descendant.

A MAGNIFICENT RESTORATION JOB was done by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Collins on the log home they purchased at Loafer's Glory near the North Gabriel, in 1966. This energetic couple spent three years restoring the double log building, with two large rooms downstairs, two lean-to rooms in the rear, a wide dog run bisecting the rooms, and two more rooms upstairs. A long front porch extends the full width of the house. The home was begun about 1850 or 1851 by William "Billie" Williams, who had come there in 1848, put up a lean-to type structure until he obtained title to the land, then erected the more permanent log home. Only one room was built to begin with, as was nearly always the case, then as the family had time, other rooms were added. The home has two hand hewn stone chimneys, the first in the unique bottle neck design with a stone firewall underneath to prevent the much dreaded fires often caused in early days from defects in the chimneys. There is evidence that the Williams did have a fire, for boards of the floor in the room were somewhat burned, but not seriously damaged. The stones and the cracks between logs in the walls were caulked with ashes, chips from the square hewn timbers cut by adz, and other materials, some of them still visible when the Collins moved there.

Since the Collins were more than usually

interested in their unique home, they have gathered a great deal of history of the families associated with the place, and have made a thorough study of the materials and techniques used in the structure. Their workmanship in the restoration has caught the eye of Professor D. B. Alexander, prominent architect of the University of Texas faculty, who is making complete drawings of the building and preparing a paper about it. The wood used includes live oak, some post oak, cedar, and cypress, all believed to have been found on the Williams place. Three huge cypress ceiling joists, each 24 feet

long, are among the notable features. Two kinds of notches at the corners of the house were used—full dovetail notch and half notch. On the inside, a keystone arch was built over the fireplace hearths. Prior to the Collins' ownership, the Buck family had owned the log house and lived there for many years.

The Collins have taken care to restore the home to its original state insofar as possible, and have succeeded admirably. Evidence of the tender, patient care given the old building which was in a bad state when they purchased it was Mr. Collins' handling of the enormous cedar floor joists, which had warped badly during their century of service. To restore them he used jacks underneath, gradually lifting the joists as much as possible and at the same time dripping water upon the logs each day to facilitate safe straightening. After a long period of this careful treatment, the logs were straight as an arrow!

A SECOND LOG HOME RESTORATION JOB is now underway in this county at the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Garey on the former Charles Hughes place. A one-room cabin is believed to have been built by A. M. Brown soon after 1854, when he acquired the land. The room has a stone chimney, and most of the wood used is elm. The Gareys are keeping the original elements of the structure intact if at all possible.

A sturdily-restored log home, now the property of the Williamson County Old Settlers Association, sits in Harrell Memorial Park in Round Rock where it can be seen and enjoyed by the general public. It was built by Jacob M. Harrell about 1851 on Brushy Creek somewhat northwest of its present location, and was moved to the park so that it could be preserved. Harrell was a blacksmith who came to Waterloo (later Austin) in 1836, one of the first settlers there, and served as mayor of the tiny village before moving in 1848 to where old Round Rock now stands. There he built the cabin on the north bank of the creek, and put up his blacksmith shop. He died in 1853.

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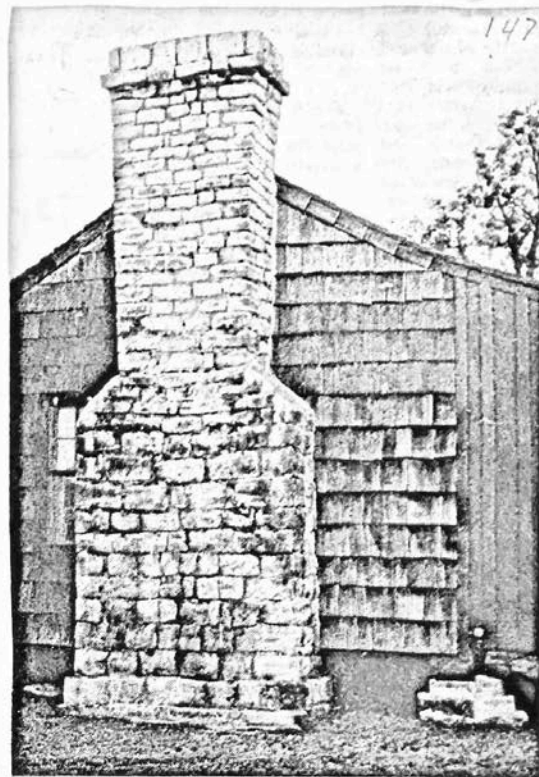
Andrew Hamilton, grandfather of SUN correspondent Leona Williamson of Leander, built a one-room cabin on his place near the Travis County line before the Civil War.

The room is about 16 feet square, contains a stone chimney. It has been covered over and is in good condition, although it is not presently occupied. About the same time and in the same area, Sid Evans built a one-room log cabin on his place near a spring. It has been moved to a different location and is owned by Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Holloway of Leander. The home of Mrs. Cora Wray and her late sister, Miss Ethel May, near Bagdad contains double log rooms which have been covered over inside and outside and incorporated into the larger home. The original builder has not been identified, but one log room was already there when Henry Edwards bought the place in 1856 and added the second room to it. Each of the rooms contains a chimney.

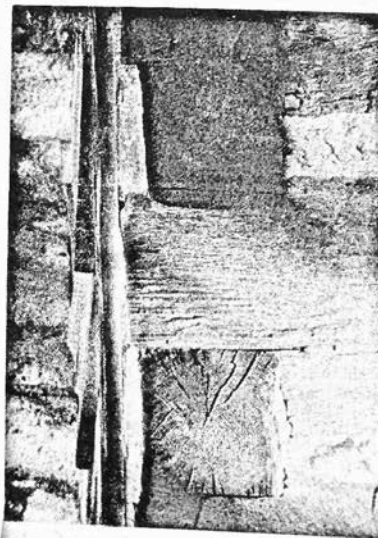
A LATE-COMER in the log homes, now unoccupied, is a place built in 1924 as a vacation home by Ike McConica for Pat Walsh, two miles out from Round Rock on the McNeil road. Also west of Round Rock, east of the Saul Survey, William Chapman built a double log home and log barn soon after the Civil War. One of the log rooms has been removed from the home, but the west room logs are intact and have been covered over and built into a larger house. The place was bought by Alta May Kemp in 1942 and present owners are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kemp.

ANOTHER EARLY AND HISTORIC log house was one built by Sam Mather about 1852, at Gabriel Mills. He erected one large room with stone chimney and a smaller room of walnut square-hewn logs, using the half corner notch. Englishman Samuel E. Mather was noteworthy for a number of reasons—he was the founder of the Gabriel Mills community where he established an early mill giving the village its name. He did blacksmithing and was well acquainted with Chief Yellow Wolf of the Comanches who brought him ore to make into ornaments. He was the first postmaster of his community from 1858 until 1863, was active in local and state Masonic organizations, and fathered young Andrew "Andy" Mather who became well known as an Indian fighter. It is hoped that some appreciative person recognizes the significance of this old house and carefully and authentically restores and preserves it.

THE FOURTEEN OWNERS of the picturesque old log buildings, and even the owner of the one built this century, are an exclusive group and fortunate in their possessions. "Your county is singularly rich in these pioneer homes, and I am pleased that I have had some small part to play in increasing awareness concerning them," Dr. Terry G. Jordan, Chairman of the Department of Geography at North Texas State University, writes. Those who are attempting to preserve the buildings are commended. Others who may be interested in such projects can obtain advice on restoration methods by contacting such authorities as the University of Texas Department of Architecture, the Texas State Historical Commission, and the Williamson County Historical Committee.



Unusual bottle neck chimney at the east end of the Walter Collins home, built by William "Billy" Williams about 1851.



Closeups in the Collins home reveal the timbers and the type of notching.



Historical Survey Committee seeks farm families for award

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met August 1 in the Georgetown Public Library to review reports on cemetery listings and progress on community markers.

A letter to Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman, from Clifton Caldwell, State

Historical Commission President, was read. He asked that the County Committee diligently seek out farm families eligible to be recognized in the Family Land Heritage Program—A Century of Agriculture. The Texas Department of Agriculture designed the program to honor those families who have owned and continuously operated a farm or ranch for 100 years or more. This will necessarily be a very exclusive group, since mere ownership of the land for that period of time will not qualify for the award. The families who do qualify will be given a certificate and listed in the Land Heritage Directory. Applications and information are available from the office of John C. White, Commissioner, Texas Department of Agriculture, Box 12848, Austin, Texas 78711. For recognition at the Texas State Fair applications should be returned no later than August 31, 1974. Members of the Historical Survey Committee may be contacted for assistance.

Interesting Bicentennial plans were revealed by Georgetown committee members Mrs. Robert Morse, Mrs. Carl Burnette and Mrs. Clara Scarbrough.

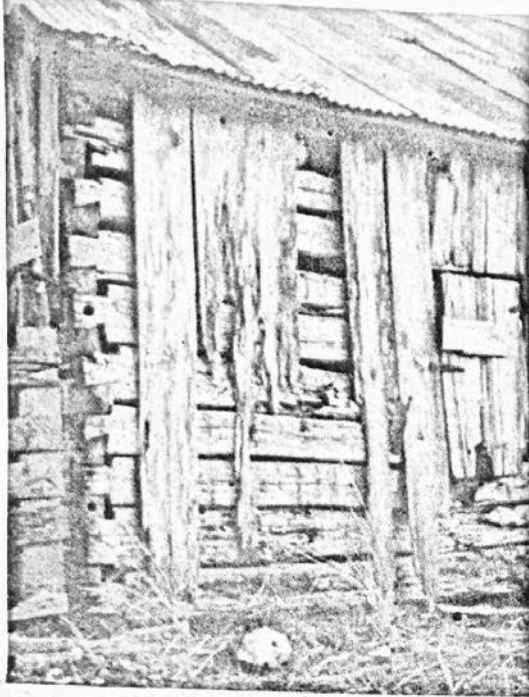
Mrs. D. B. Gregg reported that Round Rock has been accepted as a Bicentennial City, a distinct honor.

Work on listing all cemeteries in Williamson County is steadily continuing. Though some of it is tedious and time consuming, it is historically worthwhile. Many inquiries have reached the committee concerning burial places and dates wanted

for lost relatives. More information is needed.

Collecting historical facts, names and dates for seven communities seeking site markers also requires asking many questions to get details with correct dates and information. It is important to get it written down now before it, too, is lost.

County areas represented were Taylor, Georgetown, Round Rock, Liberty Hill, Jonah, Jarrell and Thrall.



A closeup of the old Matsler School building near Andice reveals the corner notching, and sizeable logs hewn by hand.

The fifteenth log building now surviving in the county is also unusually historic. It now belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Daniell at Matsler community. The original room was built at Matsler in 1855 by George Matsler for a school, located then near Cowan Creek (also called Dennis Prairie) and was generally known as Matsler School, according to school records. In 1865 after another school was built nearby, the building was moved and changed into two rooms with dog run between, and has for many years been used as a barn. The fine old timbers were hewn from Berry's Creek trees. Even after its conversion, the fasteners in the structure are all made of wood—wooden pegs used as nails and wooden hinges for the doors.

The SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 2 August 8, 1974

Four historic communities to get historical markers

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met Thursday at the Georgetown Public Library.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman, reported the applications for four community markers are nearing completion. These towns are among several in the county that are almost a century old. More information is needed and it is hoped other historic sites will be recognized and steps taken to mark them by the time of our National Bicentennial Year.

Applications have been approved by the Texas State Historical Commission for two churches. The texts of the inscriptions for the markers will be released at a later date.

With about two hundred known cemeteries listed the work goes on. More than fifty of these have the names and dates of those buried there. Interested people are invited and urged to contribute to this project and help make it more historically complete.

Committee members were present representing Taylor, Jonah, Thrall, Hutto, Florence, Jarrell, Georgetown, Andice, Gabriel Mills and Liberty Hill.

Five from county apply for Land Heritage Program

Ships sailed from Sweden, wagons skirted the Missouri plains, oxen forged each river and stream west of Bagdad, Tennessee—as settlers journeyed to Williamson County 100 years ago.

Now, under the Family Land Heritage Program, five descendants of those pioneers have qualified for recognition from the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The program, designed by Agriculture Commissioner John White, honors those families who have owned and continuously operated a farm or ranch for a century or more.

Mozelle Huling, John Saul, Maude McCormick, Mrs. Alfred Telander and Thelma Lackey are filing applications for the award.

County Judge C. L. Chance has delegated the task of verifying each claim to Gene Hargett, manager of the Capitol Title Company in Georgetown.

Hargett said he hopes other county residents whose families claim a century of uninterrupted land ownership and productivity will step forward before the Aug. 31 deadline.

The State Department of Agriculture office sent applications to 20 Williamson County residents. Five have replied.

As of this week, the office received 215 applications from across the state.

One bore the signature of Mrs. Thelma Wells Lackey of Georgetown, great granddaughter of Thomas Huddleston.

Huddleston, his wife and six children left Bagdad, Tenn., in the early 1850s, bound for Texas with all their possessions stuffed in two ox-pulled wagons.

They camped at a site three miles east of what is now the Williamson County seat. Thomas scouted the area, found it unsatisfactory, and moved on.

The family settled 3.5 miles northwest of Leander, planting a 640 acre tract with cotton and corn. Huddleston borrowed the name of his home village and called the Texas town Bagdad.

In 1855, the family built and operated the Bagdad Post Office, which closed in 1882 when it relocated in Leander.

Huddleston's daughter, Martha Ann, inherited 640 acres. Mrs. Lackey now owns

536 acres of the original farm. Today's production includes cotton, corn, milo and livestock.

Mrs. Alfred Telander is the niece of Gustaf Israelson and the daughter of Johan Israelson, who settled a 122-acre farm 3.5 miles east of Round Rock in the late 19th century.

Gustaf purchased 10 acres of Texas land from S. M. Swenson of New York City on June 1, 1871, for \$125. He and his brother Johan planted cotton and corn the following year.

On Aug. 19, 1874, Gustaf bought 56 adjoining acres from Ben Snider for \$970, and 12 days later Johan purchased 30 acres from H. W. Miller for \$600.

Four years later, Gustaf died, naming as heirs to the property his father Israel Abrahamson, his sisters Anna and Edela, and his brother Johna.

The father and sisters, living in Sweden, transferred all rights to Johan, who later bought the remaining 26 acres.

The great grandfather of Mozelle Smart Huling bought and settled 1100 acres between Florence and Andice, one mile west of Berry's Creek, in 1852.

After reaching Texas that year, William D. W. Smart and his wife Mary Ann followed the wagon tracks of earlier families to the springs at Lampasas. After several encounters with Indian tribes, they retreated to the Berry's Creek area, west of Florence.

The Smarts stocked the ranch with horses, cattle and sheep, and planted corn, cotton and small grains.

In the 1850s, they registered a cattle brand (a backward D followed by a W) with the Williamson County clerk.

Later, the family constructed a one-

room school house, where all grades were taught by the same teacher. The school closed in 1902.

Four generations have worked the land, with Mrs. Huling herself now producing cattle and sheep.

Mrs. Maude Allen McCormick, widow of Charles P. McCormick, grandson of the founder of a ranch 10 miles west of Florence, also filed for the Land Heritage honor.

The original 200-acre farm in the northwest corner of Williamson County was purchased by Missouri settler Bryce M. Smart for 200 acres in 1852.

Smart constructed a stone house in 1855, and at first raised cattle, horses, mules, hogs, corn, cane and chickens.

Mrs. McCormick and her five children now own 950 acres. Her children include: Mrs. Roberta Smith; Charles Allen McCormick; Mrs. Madge Smith; Bryce P. McCormick; and Mrs. Margaret Russell.

Madge Emily McCormick Smith and her husband John now live in the original stone house, with their children John Alfred, age 17; Maude, 16; and Roberta Alice, 13.

Three descendants of Charles Saul, who operated a farm six miles south of Hutto in the 1860s, also sent applications to the Texas Agriculture Department.

Charles Saul, on Feb. 6, 1862, purchased 640 acres for \$1700-\$1000 in cash and \$700 in mules. He moved from Walker County and raised cattle, horses and mules.

His great great grandsons, John Russell Saul and Jack Mabray Saul III, and his great grandson, John Saul Jr., now own undivided interest in 385 acres of the original tract. They produce cattle, hay and grain.

Historical Survey Committee applies for new markers

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library, on September 5th, with Miss Ruth Mantor presiding. A site marker for the Thrall community has been approved by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, county Committee Chairman, Alvin Ribbeck reported. The application now awaits the approval of the State Historical Commission.

A site marker for the community of Leander has been applied for and sent to the State Commission.

A site marker for the First Baptist Church of Liberty Hill has been approved and the text of the script accepted by the church. The church was organized in 1882 and celebrated its 92nd anniversary on Sunday August 27. Due to certain metal shortages the marker did not arrive in time for the program. About 250 people heard the reading of the

history of the church, which grew from transfers from earlier churches in the area that began in log cabins and homes as early as the late 1840's. The text of the inscription was read from the approved paper sent by the Texas Historical Commission. Weldon Shuffield, whose four grandparents were charter members of the church, read the script. Another program is planned for the unveiling when the marker is installed near the church on Loop 332 in Liberty Hill.

Cemetery listings continue to be a part of the work of the Historical Survey Committee.

Many other counties in this area have completed their listings and they are available in the libraries in their respective counties. At this meeting Harold Asher contributed the names and dates of the Wesley Chapel cemetery and Miss Effie McLeod reported the same for Matsler cemetery. There are still several cemeteries unaccounted for.

Communities represented at this meeting by committee members were Taylor, Thrall, Jonah, Granger, Liberty Hill, Florence, Andice and Georgetown.

10 in Williamson County qualify for Heritage honor

Ten families in Williamson County who claim a century or more of land ownership and productivity have qualified for awards under the Family Land Heritage Program, Texas Agriculture Commissioner John C. White has announced.

Included in the group from Georgetown are Mrs. Edith Busshart, owner of J. L. Starnes farm, founded 1855; Mrs. Thelma Lackey, owner of the McDanie Place, a farm founded in 1855; and Miss Eunice Yearwood, owner of a farm bought by Col. John Coffee in 1871.

From Round Rock are Brady Anderson, who owns a ranch founded in 1854; L. M. McNeese, who owns the Bratton-McNeese Ranch, staked in 1847; and Mrs. Alf Telander, owner of a farm bought by Johan Israelson in 1871.

Award recipients from Florence include Mrs. Mozelle Huling, owner of the D. W. Smart ranch, founded 1852; and Mrs. Charles McCormick, who owns a ranch staked in 1852.

Also qualifying for recognition are Mr. and Mrs. Joe Curik of Rockdale, owners of an orchard at Circleville, founded in 1853; and John Saul of Columbus, owner of a farm south of

Hutto, founded 1862.

These ten families will be among the 500 honored at special ceremonies at the Texas State Fair in Dallas on Oct. 14. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. in the Food and Fiber Building on the fair grounds.

"We are very pleased that such a large number of Texas families have qualified for this Land Heritage recognition," Commissioner White said.

The awards ceremony and presentation of certificates to award winners is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Oct. 14. White will present the awards.

Those who wish to remain for the evening will be recognized as a group in the Cotton Bowl Show at 8 p.m.

During the state fair, a special showing of "This Land of Texas," a sight and sound production on the agricultural heritage of the state, is scheduled for Land Heritage families.

Guests will also be taken on a tour of the Food and Fiber Building exhibits and the old-fashioned Country Store display by the Texas Department of Agriculture Marketing Division.

White explained that, for those unable to attend the State Fair events, ceremonies will be planned in cities and towns throughout Texas to honor award-winning families.

The names of all families who have owned and continuously operated a farm or ranch for a century or more in Texas will be listed in the Land Heritage Registry, scheduled for publication early in 1975. Commissioner White said he will announce in the spring the registration dates for those who will qualify for the Family Land Heritage Program honor in 1975.

92nd Anniversary
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
LIBERTY HILL, TEXAS
AUGUST 25, 1974

Welcome to all-----Pastor
Hymn-----161
Prayer & Introduction-----Bro. Larrison
Hymn-----249
Hymn-----81
Hymn-----281
Worship with Tithes and Offerings
Special Music--"Victory In Jesus"-----Choir
Message-----Bro. Silveria
Invitation Hymn-----162
Days of Memory-----Bro. Sullivan
Closing Prayer-----Bro. Sullivan

12 Noon-----Bar-B-Que lunch and fellowship
1:45 P. M.-----Music Program by Youth
2:30 P. M.-----Church Bells ring for Dedication
Assemble at the Church sign where the Historical
Marker will be placed.
Hymn-----171
Hymn-----71
Introduction-----Jesse Wilson-----Pastor
History-----Miss Myrotta Matthews
Reading Inscription-----Weldon Shuffield
Memories-----Bro. Mathison
Prayer of Dedication-----Bro. Mathison
Song-----Bless Be The Pie

The SUN
Sec. 2, Page 8
Georgetown, Texas
September 19, 1974

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker w/post
Williamson County (Order #4124)

Location: in Liberty Hill,
on SH Loop 332

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH*
OF LIBERTY HILL**

SUCCESSOR TO ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
AND THE LIBERTY HILL MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST, WHICH
MERGED 1854, AND MET IN A BRUSH
ARBOR OR IN SILENT GROVE SCHOOL, 4
MILES TO THE WEST. WHEN AUSTIN &
NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD WAS BUILT,
LIBERTY HILL MOVED HERE, AND THIS
CHURCH WAS ORGANIZED (1882), WITH
THE REV. J. A. ARBUCKLE AS PASTOR.
MEMBERS ERECTED THEIR BUILDING
ON THIS SITE GIVEN BY THE REV.
W. O. SPENCER. EVANGELISM, SUNDAY
SCHOOL, AND OTHER ENDEAVORS HAVE
PROSPERED. THE PRESENT CHURCH
BUILDING, IN USE SINCE 1904, WAS
RENOVATED IN 1950.**

(1974)***

*3/4" lettering
**1/2" lettering
***1/4" lettering

Two more county residents apply for Heritage award

The granddaughter of a Confederate colonel who bought a ranch near Georgetown in 1871 has filed for an award under the Family Land Heritage Program.

Miss Eunice L. Yearwood, whose grandfather Col. John Coffee purchased 3500 acres after returning from the Civil War, joins six other Williamson County landowners applying for recognition.

The program, designed by Texas Agriculture Commissioner John White, honors those families who have continuously operated a farm or ranch for a century or more.

Col. Coffee, a Missouri legislator in the 1850s, settled in Georgetown in 1865 to practice law. On Oct. 11, 1871, he and a

partner, W. C. Dalrymple, bought the 3500-acre ranch to raise cattle and hogs.

Several parcels of the land were sold as it passed from generation to generation. Nine hundred original acres are now owned by five of Coffee's descendants - three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The Yearwood Ranch, nine miles northwest of Georgetown on Highway 195, is presently leased for cattle production.

-0-

Just before the heritage program's deadline on Sept. 1, Mrs. Iris C. Stearns Curik, the great granddaughter of a Circleville craftsman and farmer, also mailed an application for recognition.

Circleville was founded in 1853 when three craftsmen brothers - Joseph, William and James Eubank—and their wives and children came from Kentucky and settled on the San Gabriel River.

Their combined skills at such jobs as watchmaking, milling, ginning and even carpentry added to Circleville's productivity. Families in the area raised corn, cotton, alfalfa, pecans and cattle.

Mrs. Curik, great granddaughter of James Eubank, now produces maize, pecans and cattle on the 86 acres on the San Gabriel.

She lives in Rockdale.

Other applicants for the Family Land Heritage honor in Williamson County are Mozelle

Huling, John Saul, Maude McCormick, Mrs. Alfred Telander and Thelma Lackey.

County Judge C. L. Chance has delegated the task of verifying each claim to Gene Hargett, vice-president of the Capitol Title Company in Georgetown.

The SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 3, Page 4 October 31, 1974

County represented in New Braunfels Historical convention

NEW BRAUNFELS—Mrs. Don Scarbrough of Georgetown and Myreta Matthews, of Liberty Hill, were among the approximately 400 delegates who attended the Annual Meeting of the Texas Historical Commission on Oct. 25-26 in New Braunfels.

The meeting covered a variety of topics dealing with Texas history and historical preservation and was capped by the celebration of a MiniWurstfest, which might be termed a smaller version of the famed New Braunfels Wurstfest held each fall.

Delegates were also treated to a tour of historic sites in New Braunfels and a showing of films on history-related subjects.

Speeches, slide shows, and panel discussions were presented on an archeological project at Mackenzie Reser-

voir, obtaining federal grants for historic restoration, the Bicentennial in Texas, and the historical marking program.

In addition, delegates also attended sessions on "An Introduction to Archeology,"

"The Bicentennial and Your Community," "Historic Zoning Ordinances: A Case Study of the Swiss Avenue District in Dallas," and "Projects That Make Money."

The SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 2 October 31, 1974

G'town cabin now landmark

The Asa M. Brown Cabin in Georgetown was named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark this month.

Clifton Caldwell, chairman of the Texas Historical Commission, announced that the cabin will bear a Texas Historical Building Medallion with an interpretive plate to designate its status as a landmark.

The historical marker planned for the A. M. Brown Cabin, six miles west of Georgetown, reads:

"When Asa M. Brown cut cedar, elm and oak trees and built this cabin on his 317 acre state of Texas claim in 1853, this land was on the frontier. His chimney and fireplace were of hand-hewn native stone, the floor of dirt.

"William Wood, one of the many later owners, enlarged the home. In 1909-66, L. M., T. L., Annie, and Charles Hughes by turns owned and occupied the property. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Garey restored the cabin after their purchase, 1966."

The dedication of the marker will be announced by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. A certificate designating the building as a recorded landmark will be

presented at the dedication ceremony.

The marking on local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas Historical Commission's program of preservation activities. These also include archeological investigations, small museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas.

As of 1971, the Historical Commission has erected about 6500 official markers.

The name and location of the A. M. Brown cabin will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.

The SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 2 October 10, 1974

Historical Committee reports stolen marker

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met October 3 in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library.

In the absence of Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Chairman, Miss Ruth Mantor presided, and called for reports from community representatives. Several projects are in progress but no new ones have been completed since the last monthly meeting.

Mrs. John W. Ledbetter reported a marker missing in Round Rock. The marker includes the Historical Medallion and inscription and has been chiselled off the pier in Brushy

Creek. It was dedicated in 1971 and related the story of the naming of the post office and town for the historic ROUND ROCK which is located in the middle of Brushy Creek.

The Eleventh Annual meeting of the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Historical Foundation was announced. This meeting will be in New Braunfels on October 25-26.

Community representatives attending were from Taylor, Jonah, Georgetown, Florence, Gabriel Mills, Round Rock and Liberty Hill.

Official Texas Historical Building Marker for
attaching to wood surface, Williamson county -
10/7/74 - near FM 2243, 6 mi W of Georgetown

DS

and 4 mi. east of
Leander.

THE A.M. BROWN CABIN

WHEN ASA M. BROWN CUT CEDAR,
ELM, AND OAK TREES AND BUILT THIS
CABIN ON HIS 317-ACRE STATE OF
TEXAS CLAIM IN 1853, THIS LAND
WAS ON THE FRONTIER. HIS CHIMNEY
AND FIREPLACE WERE OF HAND-HEWN
NATIVE STONE, THE FLOOR OF DIRT.
WILLIAM WOOD, ONE OF THE MANY
LATER OWNERS, ENLARGED THE HOME.
IN 1909-66, L.M., T.L., ANNIE, AND
CHARLES HUGHES BY TURNS OWNED
AND OCCUPIED THE PROPERTY. MR.
AND MRS. JACK GAREY RESTORED THE
CABIN AFTER THEIR PURCHASE, 1966.
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1974

WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
Clara Scarbrough, Chairman

NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWO

NOVEMBER 1, 1974

The Williamson Country Historical Survey Committee has had a well rounded program of work in the six months since the last newsletter was sent out. This is not unusual for this group as records show it has received the Distinguished Service Award many years in a row.

At the April Meeting Harold Asher reported in detail the history of Blacksmithing and how the trade was useful and of great importance to the development of Williamson County. He showed some of the early tools and articles produced by them.

The May Meeting was held in Taylor where members and visitors lunched together at Rudy's Barbeque Restaurant. Reports were made on cemetery listings. Mrs. C. L. Chance has completed the list for New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery near Leander. Mr. and Mrs. Emery Blackman have completed the Hutto Cemetery list. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough announced that four Williamson County towns have accepted the offer of the Committee of partial payment for site markers commemorating the founding of those communities. There were eight offers. Those accepting are Bartlett, Leander, Hutto and Thrall. These towns were created more than ninety years ago with the coming of the railroads to their areas.

In June, Mrs. D. B. Gregg discussed pioneer medicine and medical practices. She showed an antique surgeon's case of medical instruments which her husband, the late Dr. D. B. Gregg of Round Rock, had inherited.

In the book section of the Austin American Statesman for Sunday, June 9, 1974, LAND OF GOOD WATER, A WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORY, by Clara Scarbrough, was reviewed by Helen Morton. She wrote, "It is a scholarly and entertaining book, not only for Central Texans, but for all those riding the current wave of interest in Texana and Americana".

The site marker for the First Baptist Church of Liberty Hill was approved in July and was delivered the last week in October. The church had previously planned a 92nd Anniversary Homecoming on the date of August 25th, and had a dedication service then, with the possibility of an unveiling service later. The script on the marker reads:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF LIBERTY HILL

SUCCESSOR TO ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
AND THE LIBERTY HILL MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST, WHICH
MERGED 1854, AND MET IN A BRUSH
ARBOR OR IN SILENT GROVE SCHOOL, 4
MILES TO THE WEST. WHEN AUSTIN &
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SCHOOL, AND OTHER ENDEAVORS HAVE
PROSPERED, THE PRESENT CHURCH
BUILDING, IN USE SINCE 1904, WAS
RENOVATED IN 1950.

(1974)

The Leander Garden Club sponsored the site marker for the town of Leander. The application has been approved by the Texas Historical Commission but the wording of the script has not been received. Leander history dates back to the days of the Republic of Texas. The earliest historical site or event in Williamson County to be marked in 1936 by the Texas Centennial Committee was Block House. It was built in 1836 and destroyed by Indians in 1838.

Round Rock has been of historical importance also dating back to the early days of Texas. The second earliest site in Williamson County, to be recognized in 1936 was Kenny's Fort. It was located at the junction of Brushy Creek and Dwyer's Branch, just below the crossing of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway near Round Rock. The Fort consisting of three or more log houses with port holes, and surrounded by a stockade of long cedar poles, sharpened to protect against Indians, was on the south side of Brushy Creek. The inscribed granite marker on SH 79 reads:

1/2 MILE SOUTH TO THE
SITE OF
KENNEY FORT
FIRST SETTLEMENT IN WILLIAMSON
COUNTY. ERECTED AS A HOME
BY DR. THOMAS KENNEY AND JOSEPH
BARNHART IN THE SPRING OF 1839 &
SERVED AS A PLACE OF DEFENCE
DURING INDIAN RAIDS AND RENDEVOUS
OF THE SANTA FE EXPEDITION, 1841.
HERE THE ARCHIVES OF THE REPUBLIC
OF TEXAS EN-ROUTE TO WASHINGTON-
ON-THE-BRAZOS WERE CAPTURED ON
DEC. 31, 1842 AND RETURNED TO
AUSTIN.

ERECTED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS
1936

Round Rock carries forward its traditional historic heritage by being the 25th community in Texas to be approved for national designation by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. The official public ceremony took place on September 6 in the pre-game activities of the Round Rock-Georgetown football game. This was appropriately present day Americanism.

Cemetery listing is continuing. A check list of those finished will be forthcoming at a later date.

Myretá Matthews
Committee Reporter

ARE YOU A MEMBER? YOU CAN BE, BY FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS HERE!

I wish to become a part of the Texas Historical Foundation in its program to Record, Appreciate, Mark, Preserve, and Survey Texas History. Here is my tax deductible membership donation: (Circle One)

\$5 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

If this membership is for an organization, please name Williamson County. Make check payable to Texas Historical Foundation. Mail to Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Chairman, 1318 E. University Avenue, Georgetown, Texas 78626

LEANDER
by Clara Stearns Scarbrough
The community of Leander was created in 1882 by the coming of a railroad and land speculation, and was settled largely at first by people of nearby communities, already established, who sought the conveniences of railroad facilities.

Leander was located quite near several places of historic significance: four miles to the south was Tumlinson Fort/Block house, built by one of the three first Ranger companies in Texas, in January 1836; one mile to the west was Bagdad, established in 1854 and a thriving town long before Leander was established and furnishing most of the businesses and residents for Leander. Leander is between and not far from two branches of Brushy Creek. Early trails and roads which ran through Bagdad were, of course, just a mile from the new town of Leander. The Central National Road which ran from Austin northward through Bagdad, and on toward Lampasas, was a stage route in the 1850s, bringing mail to Bagdad post office in 1855, and to other places of the area. The Central National Road was popularly called the "mountain road," and, after a string of forts was established along the frontier in 1851, it was also called the "military road," because of the military traffic over it, headed for Fort Croghan (present Burnet). Army units camped under a grove of trees near Bagdad, and Robert E. Lee often rode this route, sometimes staying at a wayside inn at Bagdad. Feeder cattle trails of the western part of the county led through the Bagdad area, headed, as a rule, for the fabled Chisholm Trail. The narrow gauge rails built in 1882 were used to haul granite through Leander for building the new State Capitol. It October 6, 1882, when it was transferred to Leander.

Among the first settlers in the Leander-Bagdad area were: Thomas M. Hornsby, born 1805, came to the area to become Bagdad in the summer of 1846 and put up a log cabin, the first known home in that vicinity; Harmon Smilser, born in Tennessee in 1798, who came

sometime between 1846 and 1850; Charles Babcock and his family, who came on Christmas Day, 1851. It was Babcock who surveyed the town of Bagdad in 1854. John H. Shaffer and John F. Heinatz were two of the first merchants in Bagdad, Heinatz also opening a blacksmith shop and succeeding the first postmaster, Thomas Huddleston. Others arriving in the 1850s were James Williamson, George Craven, Robert Marley, Eli and Andrew Hamilton, John Faubion, Colonel C.C. Mason, William N. Carothers, John Schooley, E.A. Walker, W.R. Walker and Tom Cashion. Arrivals before 1850 in the Leander-Bagdad area included two brothers, James and Nicholas Branch-- James born in 1807, and Nicholas in 1813; Greenleaf Fisk (1811-1887); M.J. Well (1819-1893) and Henderson Upchurch (1812-1892).

The townsite off Leander was platted and recorded by the Austin and Northwestern Railroad Company on June 16, 1882, out of the Elijah D. Harmon League.

Thomas S. Evans and his wife, Lavinia E. Evans, upon agreement with the "Austin and Northwestern Rail Road Company" completed a deed requiring the railroad to establish and maintain a depot, side tracks and switches in the town of Leander. The railroad was granted a strip of land 300 feet wide, north to south along the railroad tracks, as right of way. Public streets in the newly platted town were donated by the railroad, and were designated as Evans Street, Broade Street, Willis Street, East Street and West Street. These were indicated on the plat of 1882.

Bagdad post office opened May 8, 1855, with Thomas Huddleston, postmaster. The office continued under the name of Bagdad until October 6, 1882, when it was transferred to Leander.

Leander is not incorporated, operates as a county unit.

Most of the early businesses in Leander moved from nearby Bagdad. Tom S. Evans of Bagdad moved his house to Leander and operated it as a hotel while the new railroad was being completed. John F. Heinatz and John Speegle moved stores from Bagdad to Leander within a short ~~while~~ time after the opening of the town. Jesse Humble and L. Chapman erected a large general store. Magill and Evans, Emmett and Coon, and Wells and Mason were other early stores. The Methodist Church was moved from Bagdad and the Presbyterians erected a new church at Leander. Two of the first lawyers were A. S. Walker and John W. Parks. Dr. Sam Woolsey was a practicing physician. The Norton Moses Masonic Lodge No. 336, which was chartered in Bagdad in 1871, was also moved to Leander after the town was founded. The Leander mill and gin was also an early installation in the new town.

The economic base for Bagdad and early Leander was agricultural, with a fair mix of cotton, sheep and cattle. Several quarries are located near Leander, and the harvesting of cedar posts has also brought some economic benefit. The economy remained agricultural until mid-twentieth century, when developments from the lake areas brought additional students to the Leander Independent School District and new residents to town. In the 1960s and 1970s, the area has undergone considerable development by real estate firms, and population has increased rapidly.

In a rural community such as Leander, it is difficult to name community leaders, for many of the substantial farmers contribute to the community as much as leading businessmen. One business man-leader served both the early town of Bagdad and its successor, Leander.

He was John F. Heintz, born in Prussia in 1822, who came to Galveston in 1848 and traveled extensively over the country before settling first in Austin, and at Bagdad in June 1853. Heintz had learned the blacksmith trade in Germany and was a well educated man. At Bagada, he set up his blacksmith shop and after a short while also engaged in merchandising. In his general store he installed a small grain mill. As an energetic, informed young man, he was called upon in the community for the role of banker, lawyer, as well as merchant, miller, postmaster, church trustee (the Methodist Church which he helped^{to} found), and Sunday School superintendent. He married Emile Krohn of Austin in 1863. Having served as postmaster of Bagdad 1858-1866, his wife, Emile, became postmistress in 1866. He returned to that office in 1876 and was still postmaster in 1882 when the name of the office was changed to Leander, the new office being located a short distance east of the Bagdad one. Heintz continued in that position until his death in 1891, when his son, Charles, became postmaster (1891-1894). John F. Heintz was also a chartered member of the Masonic Lodge, established at Bagdad in 1871, and moved to Leander in 1899.

Alexander Stuart Walker I (1826-1896) was a landowner in the Leander area, and although he never lived there, he kept in touch with the community when his many duties as an attorney and judge allowed. His son, Alexander Stuart Walker II, born in Georgetown in 1865, educated at Southwestern University and receiving his law degree in 1866, did eventually live on the family farm and ranch south of Leander. He, too, had a distinguished law career, serving as county judge of Travis County 1896-1900. In 1900 he moved to the Leander ranch to manage it, maintaining active participation in state affairs and in politics. In Dec-

ember, 1908, he and Mrs. Walker entertained William Jennings Bryan and Mrs. Bryan. From 1913 to 1920, Walker was Texas Collector of Internal Revenue, practiced law in Dallas 1920 - 1924. He died i near Leander in 1933.

Another man of the Leander area who distinguished himself outside his own home was Judge Greenleaf Fisk (1811-1887) who was County Judge ~~of~~ (then called Chief Justice) of three counties in Texas--Bastrop (1841-1846); Williamson (1848); and Brown counties. After serving as Williamson County's first County Judge, he moved to Brown County where he owned property granted him for his service in the Texas Revolution, and there became the patron of the town of Brownwood. He gave land for the cemetery there, named Greenleaf Cemetery for him, and gave land on which Daniel Baker College was established.

Other important leaders included Charles Babcock (surveyed Bagdad and donated land for the Masonic building which also served as church and school), Harmon Smilser, Charles Harris, Fielding Dawson, Burkett Bowmer, Wm. M. Davis, Thomas Huddleston, James Williamson, George Craven, Robert Marley, John Faubion, Andrew Hamilton, Eli Hamilton, James and Nicholas Branch, Thomas Hornsby, all of whom arrived in the early 1850s. M. J. Wells and Henderson Upchurch, both veterans of San Jacinto, came in 1855, and Col. C. C. Mason, Wm. N. Carothers, John Schooley, E. A. Walker, W. R. Walker and Tom Cashion about the same time.

Since Leander's heritage reaches back into the history of Bagdad, one of the oldest communities in the county, and since Leander itself was established in 1882, the community wishes to commemorate its founding with a historical marker. Many descendants of early settlers still live in the community and throughout the county. They will take pride in the recognition which rightfully belongs to Leander.

Bibliography:

History of Leander, prepared 1974 by Leander Garden Club and Mrs. Malcolm Naumann, secretary of the Garden Club.

Land of Good Water, a Williamson County, Texas History by Clara Stearns Scarbrough, and additional notes on Bagdad and Leander in the files of the same author.

Shin Oak Ridge by J.Gordon Bryson.

Travis County in Stone, Bronze and Aliminum by James Mulkey Owen.

A History of Texas by Mary Starr Barkley

A School Composition by Curtis Earho

Bagdad Cemetery Records

Interviews with Mr. and Mrs. Wood Wiley and Fred Henry, Leander, 1974.

U.S. Postal Records

U.S. Census Records 1850

Masonic Lodge Records.

Interviews, June 1974, with Leander residents and residents of that area: Roger and Mary Burleson, Mrs. Eunice Wiley, Miss Myreta Matthews, Mrs. Mary Mc Clain, Mrs. Beenice Wiley, Mrs. Ada Mac Faubion, Mrs. Irene Mason, and members Leander Garden Club.

1974 ANNUAL MEETING

Texas Historical Commission
Texas Historical Foundation

New Braunfels, Texas

New Braunfels Civic Center
380 South Seguin Avenue

PROGRAM

Except where noted, all activities will take place in the Civic Center.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

- 3-6 p.m. REGISTRATION (for early arrivals)—Civic Center
4-6 p.m. County Exhibits may be set up—Civic Center Lobby

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

- 9 a.m.-5 p.m. REGISTRATION—Civic Center
9 a.m.-12 noon FILM FESTIVAL—Civic Center Assembly Hall
1:00-3:10 p.m. OPENING SESSION—Civic Center Assembly Hall
MACKENZIE RESERVOIR ARCHEOLOGICAL PROJECT
Dr. Jack T. Hughes, Professor of Anthropology and Geology, West Texas State University, Canyon
FEDERAL GRANTS FOR NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES
Gary Hume, Director of National Register Programs, THC
PLANS FOR THE BICENTENNIAL IN TEXAS
Mrs. Gene Brownrigg, Executive Director, ARBC of Texas
THE STATE MARKING PROGRAM—A Status Report
Bob Watson, Director of Programs, THC

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

- 3:30-5 p.m. AN INTRODUCTION TO ARCHEOLOGY—Civic Center, Meeting Room A
MODERATOR: *Curtis Tunnell, State Archeologist, THC*
PANELISTS: *Jim Malone, Assistant State Archeologist, THC*
Dan Scurlock, Archeologist, THC
Barto Arnold, Assistant Underwater Archeologist, THC
Alton Briggs, Archeologist, THC
- 3:30-5 p.m. THE BICENTENNIAL AND YOUR COMMUNITY—Civic Center, Meeting Room B
Mrs. Gene Brownrigg, Executive Director, ARBC of Texas
- 3:30-5 p.m. A "RAP" SESSION WITH THE STAFF—Civic Center Stage
MODERATOR: *Truett Latimer, Executive Director, THC*
PANELISTS: *THC Staff Members*
- 3:30-5 p.m. HISTORIC ZONING ORDINANCES: A CASE STUDY OF THE SWISS AVENUE DISTRICT IN DALLAS—Seele Parish Hall, Basement
MODERATOR: *Gary Hume, Director of National Register Programs, THC*
PANELISTS: *Mrs. Donna Vastine, President; Mrs. Virginia Talkington, Vice President; Mrs. Lyn Dunsavage, Secretary, Historic Preservation League, Inc., Dallas*
- 3:30-5 p.m. PROJECTS THAT MAKE MONEY—Seele Parish Hall, First Floor
MODERATOR: *Bob Watson, Director of Programs, THC*
PANELISTS: *Mrs. Rosalie Gregg, Chairman, Wise County Historical Survey Committee*
Mrs. Carolyn Abney, Chairman and Founder, Harrison County Conservation Society
Mrs. Paul H. Brown, Jr., Vice President, Symphony Society of Austin

- 7:00 p.m. BANQUET—Civic Center
Keynote Speaker: *Mr. Glendon Johnson, President, American National Insurance Company of Galveston*
Annual Report, *Clifton Caldwell, Chairman, Texas Historical Commission*
Annual Report and Election of Directors, *Cecil Burney, President, Texas Historical Foundation*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

- 8 a.m.-noon REGISTRATION—Civic Center
CONCURRENT SESSIONS
- 8:30-10 a.m. THE BURIAL GROUND AS AN HISTORIC DOCUMENT—Civic Center, Meeting Room A
MODERATOR: *Mrs. Deolece Parmelee, Director of Research, THC*
PANELISTS: *Mrs. Vernon Schuder, Chairman, Walker County Historical Survey Committee*
Mrs. Bess Habekotte, Chairman, Washington County Historical Survey Committee
Mr. Oscar Haas, Historian, New Braunfels
Alton Briggs, Archeologist, THC
Miss Millicent Huff, Editor, Texas Libraries, Texas State Library, Austin
- 8:30-10 a.m. THE MUSEUM: A TOURIST ATTRACTION OR A LEARNING INSTITUTION—Civic Center, Meeting Room B
MODERATOR: *Mrs. Cindy Sherrell, Director of Museum Services, THC*
PANELISTS: *Dr. John Jameson, Curator, Sam Rayburn House, THC*
Mrs. Jimmie Picquet, Director, John E. Conner Museum, Kingsville
Mr. Brownson Malsch, Director, Texana Museum and Library, Edna
- 8:30-10 a.m. THE BICENTENNIAL AND YOUR COMMUNITY (Repeat)—Civic Center Stage
- 8:30-10 a.m. A "RAP" SESSION WITH THE STAFF (Repeat)—Seele Parish Hall, First Floor
- 8:30-10 a.m. PROJECTS THAT MAKE MONEY (Repeat)—Seele Parish Hall, Basement
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. THE BURIAL GROUND AS AN HISTORIC DOCUMENT (Repeat)—Civic Center, Meeting Room A
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. THE MUSEUM: A TOURIST ATTRACTION OR A LEARNING INSTITUTION (Repeat)—Civic Center, Meeting Room B
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. HISTORIC ZONING ORDINANCES: A CASE STUDY OF THE SWISS AVENUE DISTRICT IN DALLAS (Repeat)—Seele Parish Hall, First Floor
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. AN INTRODUCTION TO ARCHEOLOGY (Repeat)—Seele Parish Hall, Basement
- 12:15 p.m. ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON—Civic Center
- 2:30 p.m. SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF HISTORIC POINTS OF INTEREST IN NEW BRAUNFELS
- 6:30 p.m. MINI-WURSTFEST—Civic Center

HISTORICAL MARKERS IN AND NEAR LEANDER, TEXAS

In the Texas Centennial Year of 1936 a Centennial Committee erected many markers all over Texas. These were placed at the site of significant historical events or structures.

The site of the earliest event and structure to be marked in Williamson County is about three miles south of Leander on Highway 183. This granite shaft is not in the exact location of the fort since it was in a wooded area and not accessible to the public.

The inscription reads:

SITE OF
A BLOCK HOUSE
BUILT BY TEXAS RANGERS UNDER
CAPTAIN JOHN J. TURLINSON IN
1836. DESTROYED BY INDIANS IN
1837. THIS WAS THE FIRST WHITE
MAN'S POST IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY.

Erected by the State of Texas
1936

+-----

In Leander on Highway 183 near the place of intersection of Farm Market 2243 is this granite marker which reads:

1½ MILES EAST TO
THE GRAVES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE
WEBSTER MASSACRE
WHICH OCCURRED AUGUST 27, 1839
WHEN JOHN WEBSTER AND A PARTY OF
ABOUT THIRTY, ENROUTE TO A LAND
GRANT IN BURNET COUNTY, WERE ATTACKED
BY A BAND OF COMANCHE INDIANS.
AFTER ATTEMPTING TO FLEE UNDER
COVER OF DARKNESS, THEY WERE TRAPPED
ON AN OPEN PRAIRIE. MRS. WEBSTER AND
HER TWO CHILDREN WERE MADE PRISONERS.
ALL OTHERS WERE KILLED. IN DEATH THEY
REST TOGETHER IN ONE GRAVE.

TEXAS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
1936

=====

East of Leander 1½ miles on Farm Market Road 2243 in a cemetery known as DAVIS CEMETERY are two more markers that are related to this same event. The granite marker reads:

HERE SLEEP
THE VICTIMS OF THE
"WEBSTER MASSACRE"

ON AUGUST 27, 1839
ABOUT THIRTY HOMESTEADERS
HEADED BY JOHN WEBSTER
ENROUTE TO WHAT IS NOW BURNET
COUNTY, WERE ATTACKED BY A BAND
OF COMANCHE INDIANS.
AFTER ATTEMPTING TO FLEE UNDER
COVER OF DARKNESS, THEY
WERE TRAPPED IN THE VICINITY.
MRS. WEBSTER AND HER TWO CHILDREN
WERE CAPTURED AND LATER RELEASED.
ALL OTHERS WERE KILLED.
MARTHA WEBSTER THEN BUT
THREE YEARS OLD WAS LATER
MARRIED TO MARMADUKE STRICKLAND.

ERECTED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS
1936

Also in the DAVIS CEMETERY is this Limestone marker, about two feet wide and five feet long lying flat over the grave. The inscription is self explanatory.

TO THE MEMORY OF
WASHINGTON PERRY REESE
AND
WILLIAM PARKER REESE
KILLED WITH
JOHN WEBSTER AND COMPANY
BY THE COMANCHE INDIANS
AUGUST 27 A.D. 1839.
THIS TOMB IS RAISED BY
THEIR BROTHER'S AND
WEBSTER'S DAUGHTER
MARTHA V. STRICKLINGE
CHARLES K. REESE
AND
THOMAS REESE

+++ =====

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee was instrumental in the marking of two historic places in what once was known as Bagdad.

The dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker was August 27, 1972 at 11 O'Clock on Farm Market Road 2243 one mile west of Leander, Texas. The inscription reads:

BAGDAD CEMETERY

OPENED 1857 WITH BURIAL
OF 3-YEAR-OLD JOHN BAECKOCK
WHOSE FATHER CHARLES LATER
GAVE TRACT TO COMMUNITY.
OTHER EARLY BURIALS WERE
CIVIL WAR VETERAN JOHN
HAILE AND COL. C. C. MASON.
LEANDER, FOUNDED 1882 WHEN
RAILROAD BYPASSED BAGDAD,
SHARES USE OF THIS TRACT,
ENLARGED IN 1959 AND 1966.

Sponsored by the Bagdad Cemetery Association the marker was unveiled by Mrs. M.M. (Rachel Heinatz) Chamberlain and her grandsons, Kimon and Kern Paubion. The boys are descendants of two pioneer settlers.

=====

The dedication of an Official Texas Historical Marker was October 8, 1972 at 2 O'Clock. It was on the J.P. Heinatz home located one mile west of Leander on the old "Austin-Bagdad Road" near the Bagdad Cemetery and a few hundred yards south of F.M. 2243. The inscription reads:

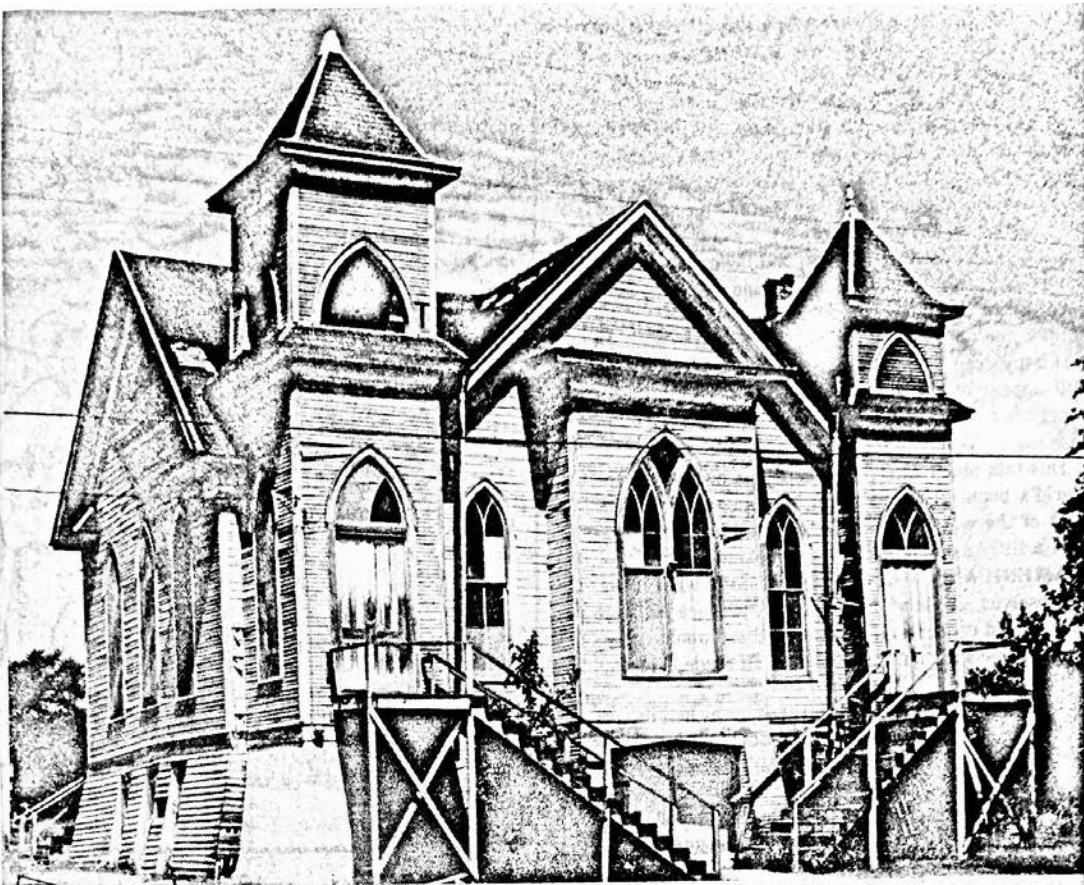
THE HEINATZ HOMESTEAD

BUILT IN FALL OF 1850, ALONG
WITH THE ADJOINING STORE AND POST OFFICE
OFFICE, ALL OF NATIVE STONE, BY
JOHN FREDERICK HEINATZ (1822-91),
A SETTLER FROM GERMANY. HE WAS
FOR MANY YEARS POSTMASTER OF
BAGDAD, A PUBLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEE,
SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL,
BANKER, AND PRACTICAL ADVISOR TO
HIS NEIGHBORS.

HE MARRIED EMILE KROHN AND
HAD NINE CHILDREN, SIX BOYS AND
THREE GIRLS, SEVEN OF WHOM LIVED
TO ADULTHOOD IN THIS HOME.

Recorded Texas Historical Landmark - 1972
The marker was sponsored by Mrs. Marvin Heinatz, present
owner of the house, and other members of the family.

=====



DOOMED—The Macedonia Baptist Church, declared by some the most intriguing structure in Georgetown, is scheduled for

destruction after the congregation moves into a new church building now under construction.

Macedonia Church building faces destruction next year

The 60-year-old Macedonia Baptist Church building is doomed.

After half a century as perhaps the most popular structure in Georgetown for photographers, architect buffs and artists, the handsome wooden church is scheduled for destruction.

A new building for the Macedonia Baptist congregation is under construction at the corner of Timber and 3rd Streets, alongside the classic 1914 church, now owned by the local Urban Renewal Agency.

One month ago, Pastor W. A. Cartwright cited the possibility

that after completion of the new structure, the congregation might restore the Georgetown landmark.

On Tuesday, however, the Urban Renewal Agency reported that architects say restoration is impossible. The building will be razed when the congregation moves into its new church.

Construction on the new \$49,000 building began on Sept. 8, and church secretary Mrs. Willie Hall said it is scheduled for completion in April, 1975.

THE CORNERSTONE on the standing structure pegs the year of the building's construction at 1914.

Neighborhood rumors claim,

though, that the cornerstone was lifted from an earlier Macedonia Baptist Church building, and that the existing structure was actually erected in the 1930s according to plans designed at the turn of the century.

Mrs. Hall dispels those rumors.

"I'VE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION FOR 60 YEARS," she said. "I was here when we built the church. It's always been right where it is now."

The church secretary explained that the Macedonia Baptist Church was organized in 1878, and that pioneer members "worshipped under an arbor in the backyard of Sister Matilda Lewis on North Timber Street in Georgetown."

The first pastor, named Rev. Shivers, saw the need for a building, Mrs. Hall said.

The congregation erected a long frame building on the land where the church now stands, she added.

Soon after 1900, the church members, under Pastor J. H. Green, hired "Mr. Whitley of Austin and Solone Colored, to build the building we now serve in."

Mrs. Hall said that, as best she could recall, the church now standing cost about \$2000.

"SISTER FRANCES GOODLOW walked door to door collecting money from members until the note with the Belford Lumber Company was paid in full," Mrs. Hall said.

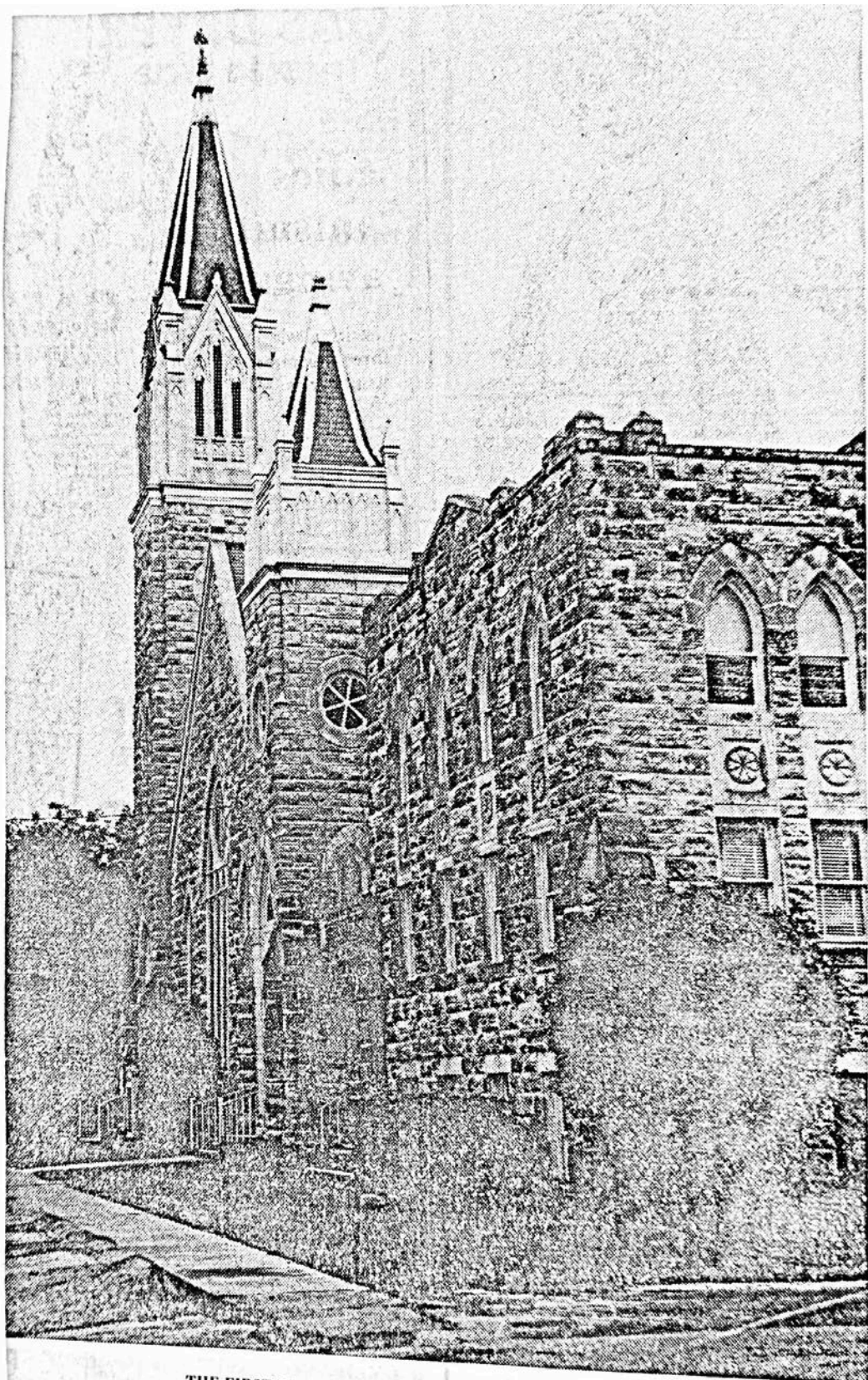
The Macedonia Baptist Church, now with 84 members on its roll, still hold services in the 1914 structure.

"It's deteriorated quite a bit. Not very sturdy, but it will do for the time being," Mrs. Hall remarked.

Meanwhile, construction continues on schedule for the congregation's single-story, brick-veneer building.

When it's completed, church members will move the piano and organ out of the present church and into the new structure.

At that time, the historic Macedonia Baptist Church building will be leveled.



THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF GEORGETOWN
The sanctuary is left and the educational annex is at the right

Staff Photo

Church Will Mark 100th Year

GEORGETOWN — The Georgetown First United Methodist Church will celebrate two anniversaries this weekend — the anniversary of its founding as a church in 1874 and the anniversary of the establishment of Georgetown Mission in 1849.

Festivities will begin Saturday at 5:30 p.m. with a reception for eight of the 10 living pastors of the church at the church's Fellowship Hall.

The reception will be followed by a dinner at 7 p.m. at the Southwestern University Commons featuring music and reminiscences from the church's history.

On Sunday, an anniversary worship celebration will begin at 10:50 p.m. with three choirs singing and Bishop Kenneth Pope, a former pastor of the church, preaching the sermon.

In connection with the anniversary celebration, Clara Stearns Scarbrough, author of a history of Williamson County published last year, has compiled a history of the church.

According to Mrs. Scarbrough's history, the history of the First United Methodist Church and Southwestern University have been closely intertwined throughout the years.

A group of Georgetown citizens began working on an institution of higher learning in 1870 and a two-story stone building to house the new Georgetown College was completed in 1851.

In 1873, the new college became a Methodist institution which was first known as Texas University. The name was changed in 1875 after the State of Texas complained.

Methodists in Georgetown had been part of the two-county, 18-community Springfield District circuit since 1849 when the Georgetown Mission was formed.

But it was not until 1874 that 37 persons met to organize as a church and submitted a petition asking for the use of the new Methodist University chapel until they could erect a building of their own.

The plain, two-story unplastered stone building measured about 60 by 75 feet and contained six classrooms and an auditorium which seated about 400, according to Mrs. Scarbrough's history.

There was no well or cistern, no indoor plumbing and no heating system.

The building was enlarged and renovated in 1881 and a third story and bell tower was added.

That same year, the Methodists launched plans to build their own church and bought a half block on Church Street for this purpose.

Plans changed, however, and work was begun on a new church located on what was then the university campus, northeast of the present church building.

Funds were exhausted after the first floor was finished so the second floor was omitted. This gave the building, which was partially below ground level, the appearance of a flat dugout.

Each member of the church furnished his own wooden bench, according to Mrs. Scarbrough, and the ladies of the church "improved the worshipful atmosphere by pasting pastel paper over the windows."

In 1891, the church purchased land at its present location on University Avenue and plans began for building.

Dr. Robert Stewart Hyer, a member of the church's board of trustees and a teacher of physics at Southwestern drew the plans for the new church, designing the sanctuary in the shape of a Greek cross.

According to Mrs. Scarbrough, he also built a three-foot-high scale model of wood and tin so he could demonstrate his plan to construction workers.

The Waterston family, stone cutters from the British Isles who had worked on the State Capitol, cut the stone for the church by hand.

The stone was hauled from quarries west of Georgetown by mule team.

Construction continued through 1892 and 1893 but the building was put into use before it was entirely finished, according to Mrs. Scarbrough.

The old chapel building, then on the university campus, continued to be utilized for Sunday School classes. The third parsonage, a two-story frame house, was erected just south of the present church by 1905.

In 1917, the church purchased the balance of the block bounded by University Avenue, and Ash, Elm and 13th Streets.

The home built by Dr. Francis Asbury Mood, the first regent of Southwestern, was located on the acquired land and was used as a meeting place by the Sunday School and the Epworth League.

The old chapel on the Southwestern campus was then removed. The Mood home was torn down and an educational wing for the church was completed in 1933.

The church was called the First Methodist Church, South, until mergers in 1939 gave it a new name, the First Methodist Church.

By 1974, 50 pastors had served the First Methodist Church. The first recorded pastor was J. W. Lloyd, curcuit preacher in 1849, and the present pastor is J. Thomas Graves.

First Methodist celebrates 125th

A reception, and dinner on Saturday evening and a worship celebration on Sunday morning were to be the principal events of the anniversary weekend of First United Methodist Church, which commemorates both the founding as a mission in 1849 and the organization of the church in 1874.

The reception, at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall of the church, 410 E. University Avenue, honored the former pastors and their wives and was hosted by members of the Administrative Board and their spouses. A dinner at 7:00 followed at the Southwestern University Commons and featured vocal and instrumental music from the eras of the church's life and

reminiscences from each of the former pastors

Dr. Edmund Heinsohn, Bishop W. Kenneth Pope, J. C. Ogelsby, Dr. James W. Morgan, Carroll H. Thompson, Dr. Morgan Garrett, Wallace Chappell and Dr. D. L. McCree, former pastors, participated in the dinner program. Tom Graves, the present and fiftieth pastor of the church, served as master of ceremonies.

Bishop W. Kenneth Pope preached the Anniversary Worship Celebration in the sanctuary of the church at 10:50 Sunday morning, November 3. There will be a procession led by banners, anthems by the three choirs of the church and a litany of celebration for the

church's heritage, present and future. The public was invited to all the events of the celebration.

A history of the church by author Clara Stearns Scarbrough has been published and released this month, as has been a brochure on the significant symbols in the church's 90-year-old stained glass windows. The brochure is by Dr. Edmund Steelman of Southwestern University. An expanded historical marker from the Texas Historical Commission has been placed in the church building, which is a designated Texas Historical Landmark, having been built in 1891.

The celebration included a display of historical

memorabilia from various eras of the church's 125 years, and many informal get-togethers of old friends and members of the church's family, who are making a homecoming celebration of the weekend.

Recently, the church received its 100th new member since

the beginning of this year, and has added a new Director of Youth Ministries, Kathy Swift, and a Director of Youth Choirs, Ken Sheppard. This year has seen the largest numerical growth in First Church's membership in more than 25 years.

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker w/o post FG
Williamson County - 9/12/74 - University Ave. &
Ash St., Georgetown.

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
OF GEORGETOWN

FOUNDED IN 1849 AS GEORGETOWN
MISSION, ORGANIZED 1874 BUT STILL
SERVED THEN BY CIRCUIT RIDERS,
THIS CHURCH ACQUIRED A RESIDENT
PASTOR IN 1879. ORIGINAL BUILDING
WAS ERECTED IN 1881-82 ON THE
SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS.

THE PRESENT CHURCH STRUCTURE
WAS BUILT IN 1891-93, OF NATIVE
LIMESTONE, HAND-CUT AT THIS SITE.
PHYSICS PROFESSOR ROBERT S. HYER
WAS THE SUPERVISING ARCHITECT.

THE FLOOR PLAN IS MODELED AFTER
THE GREEK CROSS. BISHOPS A.FRANK
SMITH (1889-1962) AND W. ANGIE SMITH (1894-
1974), BROTHERS, MADE DECISIONS TO
ENTER THE MINISTRY IN THIS CHURCH.
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1974

Georgetown tapped as bicentennial city

The national office of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration designated the City of Georgetown as an official bicentennial community Thursday.

U. S. Senator John Tower, relaying the news from Washington, D. C., to Georgetown, told Mayor Joe Crawford, "I am very proud of your good efforts in preserving our national heritage, and my heartiest congratulations are extended to you and the citizens of Georgetown."

JOANN MORSE, chairperson of the Georgetown Bicentennial Commission, noted that the approval allows the commission to begin work on its 21 bicentennial projects.

"Within a week or two, the commission—chaired by Mayor Crawford—will meet for work sessions on funding our projects," she said.

The 21-project salute was detailed in Georgetown's application approved three weeks ago by the state bicentennial office and Thursday by the national office.

GEORGETOWN CITY COUNCIL members reviewed the plans in August.

The bicentennial celebration takes a triangular approach to commemorate the nation's 200th year of independence from Britain.

The first plank of the local commission's proposals is entitled Heritage '76. Headed by Clara Scarbrough and Mike Riddle, seven projects will recognize the history of Georgetown.

THE HERITAGE COMMITTEE proposes preservation of the historical Georgetown square through protective zoning ordinances, development of a museum at Southwestern University, and publication of a visitors map of historical sites in Williamson County.

Other Heritage plans include promotion of interest in historic Georgetown homes, development of an ethnic history of the area, and historical displays assembled by local students in downtown store windows.

Also, the committee hopes to bring to the city a log cabin built in 1850 by Samuel Mather, pioneer of the Gabriel Mills

Community, near what is now Liberty Hill.

Bill Williams and Carroll Johnson chair the Festival U.S.A. committee, with eight project proposals.

FESTIVAL PLANS include two all-denominational brotherhood church services, scheduled for Sundays in 1975 and 1976; a dramatic production in San Gabriel Park by the Georgetown Community Theatre, local public schools and Southwestern University; and German, Mexican-American, Polish, Black, Swedish and Czech nights, to be celebrated singly or in combination at San Gabriel Park

and the Georgetown Community Center.

Williams and Johnson also suggest band concerts in the park, an Old Fiddlers Reunion, a Bicentennial Poster Contest, and a Bicentennial theme for the Southwestern University Homecoming.

The Festival committee will encourage a patriotic slant for the Sheriff Posse's Rodeo, Western Show, Youth Rodeos and the Gem and Mineral Show.

THE THIRD BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE is Horizons '76, headed by Robert Morse and John Parks.

Project proposals include a

hike-and-bike trial to join the Veterans of Foreign Wars Park with San Gabriel Park; the continuation of the Garden Club's Community Beautification project; and an adult literacy program for all non-readers and non-writers.

Also suggested are plans for the construction of an old-fashioned band stand in San Gabriel Park for concerts, theatrical productions, dances, meetings and church services; and completion of the Scenic Drive Urban Renewal project, to clear and revitalize an old sub-standard residential area with new streets, water lines, and sewer lines.

Liberty Hill Baptist Church gets marker

An Official Texas Historical Marker for First Baptist Church of Liberty Hill was erected on November 8, it was announced today by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker was placed at Liberty Hill, on SH Loop 332. Dedication plans will be announced in the near future.

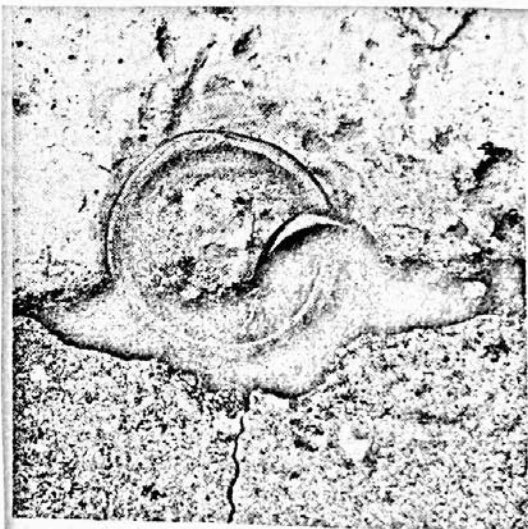
Made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect, the marker measures 18 by 28 inches and is sponsored by Jesse Wilson, Jr., Pastor and Entire Membership of First Baptist Church. The inscription on the marker reads:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LIBERTY HILL

SUCCESSOR TO ZION BAPTIST CHURCH AND THE LIBERTY HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST, WHICH MERGED 1854, AND MET IN A BRUSH ARBOR OR IN SILENT GROVE SCHOOL, 4 MILES TO THE WEST. WHEN AUSTIN & NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD WAS BUILT, LIBERTY HILL MOVED HERE, AND THIS CHURCH WAS ORGANIZED (1882), WITH THE REV. J. A. ARBUCKLE AS PASTOR. MEMBERS ERECTED THEIR BUILDING ON THIS SITE GIVEN BY THE REV. W. O. SPENCER. EVANGELISM, SUNDAY SCHOOL, AND OTHER ENDEAVORS HAVE PROSPERED. THE PRESENT CHURCH BUILDING, IN USE SINCE 1904, WAS RENOVATED IN 1950.

The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of the Texas Historical Commission's program of preservation activities. These include archeological investigations, small museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As of 1970 the Historical Commission had erected more than 5,000 official markers.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the **Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers** in order to stimulate tourist travel in this area, to arouse interest in historical tours, and to acquaint the people of this locale with their unique heritage.



HORSE HITCHING DAYS—These steel rings for hitching horses, found at intervals around the square in the limestone curb, are a reminder of the town's historical heritage. Jane Montgomery and other citizens stated concern that the curbs and hitching rings not be destroyed during planned construction to have underground wiring around the square. Property owners met Tuesday night with the Heritage and Horizon committees of Georgetown's Bicentennial Commission to discuss a proposed ordinance to preserve the historical value of downtown property.

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Georgetown, Texas
November 24, 1974

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Georgetown, Texas
November 14, 1974



AT THE RECEPTION—for the 125th anniversary celebration at First United Methodist Church of Georgetown. Around 200 people came to the reception, including Von Kidd, Judge Sam Stone, and (Captain) Kidd. Many memories of long ago were revived, and old friendships took on new meanings.



PAST PASTORS—Rev. Tom Graves, present pastor of First Methodist, sneaked into this picture of the past ministers who came to the celebration. Pictured are (front row) Millie Garrett, Lollie Heinsohn, Dorothy Thompson, Stell Chappell, Jo Morgan, Jessie Lee McCree, Linda Graves; (back row) Dr. Morgan Garrett (1964-66), Dr. Edmund Heinsohn (1927-1933), Rev. Carroll Thompson (1955-58), Rev. Wallace Chappell (1966-70), Dr. Wm. Morgan (1946-51), Dr. D.L. McCree (1942-43), Bishop Kenneth Pope (1933-36), Rev. Tom Graves (1970-). Not pictured are Rev. J.C. Oglesby and Florence Oglesby (1944-45).

Williamson County Historical Committee wins service award

Williamson County was among the forty-one county historical survey committees across the state receiving recognition for outstanding local preservation programs at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Historical Commission held in New Braunfels, Oct. 25 and 26.

Each of these groups was given a Distinguished Service Award for having organized progressive and well-rounded preservation efforts during the last year.

Among the rigorous requirements for the Distinguished Service Award are that the local historical survey committee (1) present at least six talks on local history a year to other civic groups; (2) participate in the planning of at least three local historical tours; (3) help publish a brochure, map, or place mat

showing locations of historical interest in the county; (4) sponsor at least one history appreciation observance; (5) conduct a historic preservation project such as starting a historical museum, restoring a historic building, erecting historical markers, or sponsoring a written history of the county; and (6) carry out part of a local oral history program.

The winning counties were Anderson, Bowie, Brooks, Burleson, Carson, Coke, Colorado, Crockett, Crosby, DeWitt, Fannin, Fort Bend, Freestone, Galveston, Garza, Gray, Grayson, Grimes, Hale, Harris, Harrison, Hays, Hildago, Hill, Houston, Kimble, Kleberg, Jasper, Marion, Midland, Newton, Nueces, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Travis, Walker, Washington, Williamson, Wise, Young.

County Historical Committee seeks lime and brick kilns

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee met November 7 in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, chairman, presided over the meeting which included members representing Taylor, Jonah, Jarrell, Florence, Georgetown, Round Rock and Liberty Hill.

Routine reports were made on activities in the different communities. Cemetery lists are still coming in and old structures sought and researched.

A new movement is now under way throughout Texas to locate and list Lime and Brick Kilns. The information needed, besides location, is a description of material used in their structure and the product made, whether now in use or abandoned and the dates they were built and in use, if possible.

Members attending the an-

nual meeting of the Texas Historical Commission October 26 in New Braunfels reported a large enthusiastic crowd of historians present. They learned that other counties are encountering problems similar to those of Williamson County and some ways they are handling them.

The Distinguished Service Award was earned by forty one of the two hundred and fifty four counties in Texas. Williamson County again received the D.S.A., as it has for many previous years, for a well rounded program of work. It is thought by some members that the program could be enhanced by the organization of cooperative Historical Societies in the High Schools of the county. It would be educational and of great benefit to his home in Los Angeles history.

MYRETA MATTHEWS
Committee Member Rep

Historical Committee enlisting aid

As soon as the first frost destroys weeds and underbrush in the county, the Williamson County Historical Committee enlists the help of many volunteers over the county in a sizeable project—the locating of all cemeteries, large and

to locate old cemeteries

small, and the listing of all known burials in those cemeteries.

The Historical Committee also strongly urges communities, organizations, or other special groups to undertake restoration and

maintenance of these cemeteries, many of which are virtually forgotten and often completely neglected.

"We've been at work on this project just one year, and already have located more than 200

cemeteries. Of these, we have complete lists—as nearly as possible—of the burials about 70 cemeteries. But we need lots of help to complete this job," Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, county chairman of the Historical Committee, said this week.

When lists are completed, they are typed, giving the full name, dates of birth and death. Photographic copies are made which will be compiled into books, and copies will be placed in the Taylor Public Library, Georgetown Public Library, Round Rock Public Library, the Texas Historical Commission Library, and the Texas State Archives as permanent records for historians and genealogical searchers.

People volunteering to copy lists are cautioned to watch for snakes in graveyards. Helpful aids in the project include chalk such as school children use—almost essential in deciphering many inscriptions correctly (use the side of the chalk to cover the flat area around letters or figures; since the engraved letters are deep, they remain dark and are easier to read when raised portion is chalked). A writing pad with firm back is also essential. Names should be printed clearly, and dates of birth and death noted carefully. All the titles by which a cemetery has been known through the years and its exact geographic location should also be included. A map is not required, but is welcomed if it clarifies the other information gathered.

Members of the County Historical Committee who have worked on this project and who may be contacted for more information include Miss Myreta Matthews, Mrs. Fay Richardson and Harold Asher, all of Liberty Hill; Mrs. Don Scarbrough, Mrs. Estha Scoggins, Mrs. Luther Chance, Miss Laverne Faubion, Mrs. Edith Caswell, Dr. and Mrs. Van Tipton, all of Georgetown; Miss Ruth Mantor, Mrs. Joe Hannah Forson, A. M. Ahlgreen and Thomas McDonald, all of Taylor; Miss Effie McLeod of Florence; Mr. and Mrs. Emery Blackman of Hutto; Mrs. and Mrs. Alvin Ribbeck of Thrall; Mrs. Stacy Labaj of Granger; Mrs. Zelma Gregg and Mrs. Bernice Ledbetter, both of Round Rock.

Members of the committee who assist with other projects include Mrs. Robert Ford of Bartlett; Judge Luther Chance, Mrs. Joan Morse, Mrs. Lynn Burnette, Mrs. Sally Gee, Mrs. Sam Stone, all of Georgetown; Miss Cora and Mrs. Tommie Lee Buchanan of Hutto; and Ranken Kennedy of Taylor.

In the east end of the county, the committee needs assistance with lists of cemeteries Mager, Guentzel, New Bern, Sandoval (Zion Church), Beaukiss (new), Lawrence Chapel, Stiles family, and Ramseur family.

In the Taylor area, the following are needed: St. Mary's (Taylor), Coupland, Gardner (Circleville), Wuthrich Hill, Wilson Springs, two cemeteries at Beyersville, Noack (Christ Church), Barker family, Avery, Kimbro, Stiba family, Gordon family.

Not yet listed in the Granger-Bartlett area are Bartlett City, Calvary (west of Granger), Donahue Creek, Schwertner family, Cavanaugh

family, Jackson, and possibly a Young family cemetery.

Still needed in the Hutto-Jonah communities are Shiloh, City of Hutto, Hutto Catholic, the Hutto Mexican cemetery, and possibly a Saul family cemetery.

Cemeteries in the Walburg-Jarrell-Weir areas not yet listed are Corn Hill, Land, Holy Trinity at Theon, Salyer-Millard, two cemeteries at Walburg, Berry's Creek, Helms-Harrison, Stockton, Stiles-Gallehon-Bolding-Campbell cemetery, City of Weir, Old Weir Cemetery, Towns-Peace, Mankin, Queen, Buffalo Springs, Berry family (near old mill), burials on the old Lundberg place (name of family buried not yet known).

Needed in and near Round Rock are the Round Rock City Cemetery, Smalley Cemetery, Allen-McNutt Cemetery, Chapman family.

At Georgetown, still not listed are IOOF Cemetery, Georgetown Catholic Cemetery, Georgetown Negro Cemetery, Bell Cemetery, the Morrow family cemetery including a grandson of Sam Houston, and a Mexican Cemetery.

In southwestern Williamson County, those needed include Old Jolly family cemetery, Pond Spring, Rhodes, Walden, and Bagdad. In the Liberty Hill community, lists have not yet been made of Wells-Upchurch, Stubblefield, Huddleston, Hunt, and Los Tres Marias cemeteries.

From Florence, lists have not been received for City of Florence, Ratliff, Rocky Hollow, San Jose, Andice, Cobb Springs and Mullen.

Among the lists which have been completed, or which are now in progress, are Ake, Allison-Friendship, Anderson-Rock House, Bear Creek-Connell, Beard, Bone Hollow, Bratton, Williams-Buck, Burris, Comanche Peak-McFadin,

Cooke (Mankin's Crossing), Davis, Denson, Easley-Sloan, Farmer, Fisk-Cashion, Fore, Foster, Old Georgetown, Gilreath, City of Granger, Gravel Hill, Holy Cross (Granger), Hopewell, Johnson (Union Hall), Johnson family, Jonah, Kenney Fort, Lawler, Liberty Hill, Macedonia, Machu, Magee, Matsler, Miller (two), Minnick, Mount Horeb, New Hope, Old Beaukiss (Cooke), Oxley, Palm Valley, Perry, Posey, Georgetown Presbyterian, Scheyll, Smith, Union Hill, Swedish Methodist (Georgetown), Taylor City, Wells family, Wesley Chapel, Whitehead, Whiteley, Whitley, and Yoes.

Readers who know of other names of cemeteries, not found anywhere in these lists, are asked to contact a member of the Williamson County Historical Committee.

The SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 2, Page 6 December 12, 1974

Historical Committee

The Williamson County Historical Survey Committee was entertained Thursday by its chairman, Clara Scarbrough, with a luncheon at her home.

Eighteen members were present, representing Taylor, Liberty Hill, Jarrell, Andice, Round Rock and Georgetown. Each community chairman reported on the work in the community. Reports were given on lists of cemetery inscriptions being compiled.

Mrs. Carl Burnette reported that Georgetown has been officially designated a Bicentennial Community, and work is due to begin soon on the Bicentennial projects.

—reporter, Estha Scoggins



First place over-all residence, 1304 Elm St.

The Sunday SUN Georgetown, Texas
Sec. 1, Page 11 December 22, 1974

Commission approves historical ordinance

Georgetown Zoning and Planning Commission accepted an ordinance Tuesday night to designate certain sites, districts, areas, buildings or structures in the city as historical districts or sites.

The ordinance will go before the City Council for a first reading on Jan. 13. The council must review the ordinance for two consecutive meetings before it becomes effective, if they vote to accept it.

Robert (Skip) Morse, chairman of the Horizon committee of the city's Bicentennial Commission and Co-Chairman of the Heritage committee, Mike Riddle, presented the ordinance to the zoning commission. Riddle stated that the ordinance was patterned after similar ordinances in other cities, specifically a Dallas ordinance.

The ordinance states that the City Council will designate the Town Square as a historical district to be zoned with the suffix "H", hereinafter.

"IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL for any person or entity to make any external alterations or external repairs of any substantial nature, such as a change of color or sign erections, in any manner whatsoever to any area, district, site, building or structure within the confines of a designated zoned historical site or district without first obtaining a permit as provided herein," the ordinance continues.

Any property owner whose application for alterations or changes is rejected by the historical preservation committee may appeal the decision to the City Council. The council's decision is final and the ordinance provides a penalty for those who disobey it.

"THE PURPOSE OF THE ORDINANCE is to enhance the property value on the square and ultimately to at-

tract more people to the downtown area," Morse explained.

Zoning Commission member Fred Hilgeman said that he thought painting the building should be specified as a substantial change since a color change could seriously alter a building's appearance.

Morse pointed out that any changes could be made to the interior of the building without approval.

A Historical Preservation Committee to be appointed by the City Council of not less than seven members is specified in the ordinance.

The committee will be composed of at least two property owners in the Town Square Historical District, at least one other property owner within the city limits and of such other persons as the City Council may designate.

The ordinance states that committee members will be considered upon their interest in the City, knowledge of the history of the community, education and interest in the historical and cultural preservation and development of the City as exemplified by their background in the areas of history, art, architecture and real estate.

THE TERMS "HISTORICAL DISTRICT" of "historical site" are defined in the ordinance as meaning any site, district, area, building or structure of historical, archaeological or cultural importance or value which the City Council determines shall be protected, preserved or enhanced in the interest of culture, prosperity, education, and welfare of the people.

Morse told commission members that no "real opposition to the ordinance" was expressed at a meeting on Nov. 12 of property owners around the square and one block off the square.