

VOL 4
1976

WILLIAMSON
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

C O N T E N T S

1. December 31, 1975 Newsletter
2. Myreta Matthews wins Newsletter Award.
Mrs. Scarbrough resigns as Chairman.
Dr. Van C. Tipton named Chairman.
3. Gov. Dan Moody's Birthplace, Taylor, donated for Museum.
Volunteers restore 125 year old Log Cabin.
4. January 1976 Meeting of Williamson County Historical Committee.
Log Cabin dedication set for February 8th.
5. Register of Log Cabins in Williamson County. 5A. and 5B.

- 6.7.8.9. Wagon Train in Round Rock, Texas.
10. Artifacts from County.
Georgetown bilingual history in Scrap Book.
11. January 1976 Newsletter.
- 12.13.14. Log Cabin Dedicated.
15. Contest for Historical Research announced.
16. Dr. Van C. Tipton heads County Commission.
Commission invited to dedication of Penn and McDougale Homes.
17. Mrs. John W. Ledbetter named Outstanding Citizen of Round Rock.
18. Liberty Hill - Restoration.
19. Liberty Hill, Restoration.
Southwestern University given money by Texas Historical Commission.
20. List of Georgetown Post Masters. 1847 - 1972
21. W. Y. Penn and J. A. McDougale homes to receive Markers.
22. McDougale - Adams home receives Marker.
23. McDougale home - History.
24. W. Y. Penn - Allen Home receives Marker.
25. W. Y. Penn home - History.
26. W. Y. Penn home - Marker.
27. W. Y. Penn home - Certificate.
28. Williamson County Sheriffs 1848 - 1974.
29. 30. Georgetown Bicentennial Celebration.

31. History of R. M. Williamson. - Marker and Pictures.
32. Georgetown Tour of Homes and Churches.
Dimmitt - Gamble home.
33. Belford - Brown home.
34. Booty - McAden home.
35. First Methodist Church.
36. Bicentennial Tour - May 1st and 2nd.
37. Lane - Riley home.
38. 39. 40. Ribbon Cutting for Georgetown Poststand.
39. Mrs. Thatcher Atkin, Chairman of Tour.
Official Ticket.
40. First Presbyterian Church.
41. Grace Episcopal Church.
42. St. John's Methodist Church.
43. McDougale - Adams home
Penn - Allen home.
44. Harrell - Stone home.
45. 46. 47. Hostesses of homes on Tour.
48. Miss Effie McLeod honored at Florence Chamber of Commerce
Banquet.
49. Williamson County Courthouse Pediments - forever lost.
50. Garden Party at Moody home in Taylor.
Junior Historians of Georgetown make tombstone rubbings.
51. 52. Taylor Museum Garden Party.
53. SUN first Published on May 19, 1877. First Home built in
Georgetown in 1848.
54. Historical Commission observes History Appreciation Week.
Picture of Courthouse built in 1877.
55. Mrs. Atkin talks of Home Tour on Carolyn Jackson's T. V. Program.
Bartlett Methodist Church to dedicate Marker.
56. April 1976 Newsletter.

57. Bartlett Methodist Church - Marker and Picture.
58. Bartlett Methodist Church - History.
59. Tenth Street Methodist Church in Taylor, marker dedicated.
60. Slides of Historical Markers in Burnet County Presented at June Commission meeting.
61. Tenth Street Methodist Church, Taylor, Marker.
62. Tenth Street Methodist Church - History.
63. Coupland to have Bicentennial Celebration on June 6th.
64. 65. Ribbon Cutting for Georgetown Bandstand.
66. History of Coupland by Burney Downing.
67. 68. 69. Coupland Celebration.
70. History of Morgan C. Hamilton.
71. Marker dedicated to Senator Morgan C. Hamilton.
72. History of Coupland, Texas.
73. Artifacts on display in Taylor Library.
74. Taylor receives Bicentennial Award.
Gov. Dan Moody's family attend Party for Taylor Museum.
75. Taylor Tour of Homes set for July 4th.
Bennington Flags to mark homes.
76. Stiles - Conoley Home.
77. Mrs. Gillis Conoley. Mrs. O. B. Klein.
Old Taylor Pavillion.
78. Klein Home.
79. Booth - Steger Home
80. Booth - Steger Home.
Bicentennial Exhibit at Cody Library, Southwestern University.
81. Fairchild - Hermann Home
82. Dedication of Taylor Town Site Marker and Celebration of 100th Birthday.
83. Dedication of Marker - Taylor
84. Program for Dedication .
85. City of Taylor - Marker.

86. City of Taylor - History.
87. Liberty Hill, Texas preserves Past.
88. Main Street of Liberty Hill Then and Now.
89. Liberty Hill - Then and Now.
90. Stubblefield Building - Marker.
91. First page of History of Texas.
92. History of S. P. Stubblefield.
93. Liberty Hill. Pictures of Stubblefield Building.
94. History of Stubblefield Building.
95. Owners of Stubblefield Building.
96. Republic of Texas - Patent 1845.
Warranty Deed to S. P. Stubblefield.
97. Floor Plan of Stubblefield Building.
98. Stubblefield Building - Marker.
99. Judge Greenleaf Fisk Marker dedicated.
100. Program for Dedication of Greenleaf Fisk Marker.
101. Judge Greenleaf Fisk - Marker.
102. History of Judge Greenleaf Fisk.
103. July 31, 1976 Newsletter.
104. First Meeting of Williamson County Historical Committee on
January 24, 1963.
Camilla Durrenberger rejoins the Committee.
105. Donald Barron with Masonic Marker to be placed on the Samuel
Weather Log Cabin in Georgetown.
Liberty Hill Masonic Hall to receive Marker.
106. Dedication of Marker on Liberty Hill Masonic Hall.
107. Liberty Hill Masonic Hall - - Marker.
108. Liberty Hill Masonic Hall - - History.
109. Past Masters of Liberty Hill Masonic Lodge.
110. Liberty Hill Masonic Lodge No. 432 - - History.
111. Liberty Hill Masonic Lodge No. 432 - - History.

112. Dedication of Liberty Hill Masonic Hall
113. Picture at Masonic Hall, Liberty Hill, Texas
September Commission Meeting.
114. Official Seal of the City of Georgetown. Picture of Mayor.
Hutto sets date for dedication of Marker.
115. September Newsletter.

116. State Conference, Oct. 28, 1976
Williamson County Newsletter wins Award.
117. Williamson County Historical Commission wins Distinguished
Service Award.
Dedication of City Marker, Hutto, Texas.
- 118, 119, 120. Hutto, Texas - History and Plat Records.
121. Hutto, Texas - Marker.
Historical Commission November Meeting.
Andice Baptist Church to receive Marker.
122. Program for Dedication of Hutto City Marker.
123. Historical Commission - December Meeting.
Old San Gabriel Cemetery is Cleaned.
124. Andice Baptist Church to dedicate Marker on Nov. 28, 1976.
Old San Gabriel Mill Log Cabin to receive Marker.
125. Marker on Andice Baptist Church is Unveiled.
126. Program for Dedication & History of Andice Baptist Church.
127. Andice residents watching dedication.
Marker for Gabriel Mills Log Cabin, Approved.
128. December Newsletter.
129. The town of Thrall to receive Historical Marker.
130. Historical Marker at Thrall, Texas
131. History of Thrall, Texas.
132. Marker on John G. Matthews house in Liberty Hill, Texas.
- 133-134. History of the John G. Matthews house.
135. Plat of the John G. Matthews land.
136. Matthews - Carothers family record.
- 137-138. Military Record of John G. Matthews.

Williamson County, Texas

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Chairman

town

NEWSLETTER NUMBER FIVE

DECEMBER 31, 1975

A REPORT ON WILLIAMSON COUNTY CEMETERY RECORDING AND LISTING

Cemetery recording and listing was one of the Williamson County Historical Commission projects that achieved significant success.

This year end report is made to show what progress has been made and what is listed in the first volume, which was closed due to size. The burial grounds included represent all areas of the county. It is not a complete list but the large number of names recorded made it advisable to close Volume I and plan to use as many Volumes as necessary to facilitate ease of handling.

Hill)
use)
sing)
ohns)

WILLIAMSON COUNTY CEMETERIES
VOLUME I

Compiled by The Williamson County Historical Commission 1973-1975
Edited by Clara Stearns Scarbrough
Georgetown, Texas
June 1975

town)
)

Ake Family
Allison-Friendship/Old Friendship
Anderson/Rock House-Anderson Family
Andice
Avery (See Rice's Crossing)
Barker Family
Bear Creek (see Connell)
Beard
Beaukiss(Old)/Cook
Bertram Family
Bone Hollow
Soultinghouse Family
Bowers
Bratton
Buck (see Williams-Buck)
Sullion Family
Burris Family
Calvary
Cashion (see Fisk-Cashion)
Cedar Brake (see Miller I
Cedar Park
Comanche Peak/McPadin
Connell/Bear Creek
Cooke (near Jonah)
Cooke (see Beaukiss, Old)
Corn Hill

Davis
Denson Family
Easley (see Sloan-Easley)
Farmer
Fisk-Cashion
Poster
Friendship (see Allison-Friendship)
Ganzert Family
Gilreath Family
Gravel Hill
Gravis
Green Family
Harper Family
Harrison
Holy Cross
Hopewell
Huddleston
Jenkins Family
Johnson Family + Wm. Johnson
Jolly Family
Jonah
Keating Family
Kenny Fort/Kenney's Fort
Kimbrow (see Rice's Crossing)
Lawler
Liberty Hill

o
is
ith
place
RD
USTER
o the
ll
S.
ker
unty
nty.
nd
liberty

Reporter for Williamson County
Liberty Hill, Texas 78642

Cemeteries Continued

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Los Tres Marias | San Gabriel/Old Georgetown |
| McFadin (see Comanche Peak/McFadin) | Saul |
| Macedonia | Sawyer Family |
| Machu | Scheyli |
| Magee | Schwertner Family |
| Mahomet (Burnet County) | Sedwick Family |
| Matsler | Sloar-Easley Family |
| Mileham/Old Jonah | Smalley Family |
| Miller I/CedarBrake | Smart Family |
| Miller II | Smith Family (Liberty Hill) |
| Minnick | Smith Infants (Rock House) |
| Monadale/Monodale | Stearns Family |
| Mount Horeb | Stiba (see Rice's Crossing) |
| Old Beaukiss (see Beaukiss, Old) | Swedish Methodist/St. Johns) |
| Old Friendship (see Allison-Friendship) | Taylor City |
| Old Georgetown (see San Gabriel) | Towns (see Peace/Towns) |
| Oxley | Union Hill |
| Peace/Towns | Wells Family |
| Perry | Wesley Chapel |
| Posey Family | Whitehead |
| Presbyterian (Georgetown) | Whiteley (w. of Georgetown) |
| Rhodes | Whitley (east of Jonah) |
| Rice's Crossing/Avery/Kimbrow/Stiba | Williams-Buck |
| Rock House (see Anderson) | Yoes |
| Rock House (see Anderson Family) | |
| New Hope | |

Copies of the above described volume have been placed in the Public Libraries in Taylor, Round Rock and Georgetown, also in the Archives of the State Library in Austin, Texas. The original copy is retained in the hands of the commission.

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION AND THE TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION IN NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS - OCTOBER, 24 - 25, 1975

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough and Miss Donna Scarbrough attended this meeting and brought back news of special awards given to the WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION for work done in the 1974-75 year. These included first place as the county group with the BEST PROGRAM OF WORK of all counties in the state, third place in the NEWSLETTER category and the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD for its all around excellence, also it was declared a QUOTA BUSTER COUNTY for having contributed the specified amount of money to the Texas Historical Foundation.

REPORT ON DEDICATIONS AND MARKER APPLICATIONS

Two townsite markers were dedicated with appropriate and well done programs. On May 18 the Leander marker was unveiled on U.S. Highway 183 in the town of Leander. On November 16 a site marker was unveiled for the ghost town of Gabriel Mills. It is on County Road 200 off U.S. Highway 183 north, in far west Williamson County.

Ten or more applications for markers have been approved and await arrival and installation in Taylor, Coupland, Bartlett, Liberty Hill and Georgetown. Also Thrall and Hutto.

Myreta Matthews
Reporter for Williamson County
Liberty Hill, Texas 78642



MISS MYRETA MATTHEWS of Liberty Hill, who writes the Historical Commission's newsletter, won third place in state competition last fall for her work.



DR. VAN C. TIPTON will act as chairman of the Historical Commission in 1978. Dr. Tipton is a noted former physician and has been active in Georgetown civic affairs.



MRS. CLARA SCARBROUGH points out the Millard C. Cope Memorial Award won by the Williamson County Historical Commission for the best historical work program in Texas during 1975. Mrs. Scarbrough also announced her resignation as chairman of the Commission, due to heavy duties with the Georgetown Bicentennial program.

Mrs. Scarbrough resigns; Dr. Tipton named chairman

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission, announced her resignation at the Thursday meeting. Dr. Van C. Tipton, she told the Commission, has been appointed to replace her.

Dr. Tipton has accepted the appointment by the Williamson County Commissioners' Court to replace Mrs. Scarbrough, who gave her reason for resigning as "heavy involvement in

the Georgetown Bicentennial activities."

Tipton is a member of national and state historical societies, National Trust for Historical Preservation Survey Committee and the Williamson County Historical Commission.

Although Dr. Tipton announced his retirement from medical practice and education in 1968, he has continued to serve his community in many capacities.

Although Dr. Tipton announced his retirement from medical practice and education in 1968, he has continued to serve his community in many capacities.

Governor Moody Birthplace Donated for Taylor Museum

The birthplace and early home of the late Governor Dan Moody has been donated by the Moody family to the city of Taylor. Plans already are underway for the development of the two-story 1887 structure as the Moody Museum for the community.

The house is commemorated as the Governor's birthplace by a Texas Historical Marker, dedicated in 1968.

Born in Taylor on June 1, 1893, Governor Moody was the son of Daniel and Nancy Elizabeth Robertson Moody, Judge Daniel Moody was Taylor's first mayor.

Young Dan Moody began his law practice in Taylor as a young man and became the Williamson County Attorney in 1920 and District Attorney of Williamson and Travis Counties two years later.

In 1924, Moody was elected Attorney General of Texas and became the youngest

man ever to hold that office.

By 1926 he ran and won on a reform platform the election for Governor against "Ma" Ferguson. He was inaugurated at the age of 34, youngest man ever to become Governor of Texas.

He held office for two terms, from 1927 to 1931, and then retired from public life and entered private practice in Austin. He died on May 22, 1966 and is buried in the State Cemetery in Austin.

Taylor's new Moody Museum was until recently the residence of Miss Mary Moody, the former Governor's sister. She now resides in Austin.

Mrs. John Cosmorth, who has been working toward establishing such a museum in Taylor for several years, has been elected president of the Moody Museum board of trustees.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 6 Thursday, January 22, 1976



WORKING TOGETHER — Vocational building students from Georgetown High School volunteer their services to restore the 125 year old Samuel Mather log cabin, now located in the Austin Avenue Recreational Park. The one-room cabin had been located in the North Gabriel at Gabriel Mills until last January when the Georgetown Bicentennial Heritage Committee conceived the idea of moving and restoring the cabin in Georgetown. Augustine Alvarado and Ernie Valdez chink logs as Julian Barrera shovels cement into mortarboards.

Volunteers restore 125-year-old log cabin

Samuel Mather's one-room log cabin on the North Gabriel River at Gabriel Mills was tumbling down last year when the Georgetown Bicentennial Heritage Committee conceived the idea of moving the cabin to Georgetown and restoring it.

Emile Jamail, owner of the Mather place, said he did not want to restore the cabin himself and that he would be glad to donate the cabin to the City of Georgetown for this project.

Considerable planning by the Heritage Committee, chaired by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough and Mike Riddle, plus consultations with Mr. and Mrs. Jamail, City of Georgetown officials, the Bicentennial Commission, the Evening Lions Club and the Georgetown Independent School officials, and a number of other individuals, led to the big day last January when the cabin was moved to Georgetown in a matter of hours.

The cabin was dismantled and moved by truck to its present site at the Austin Avenue recreational park, operated by the local Lions Club.

The Georgetown High School General Construction classes under the supervision of Robert Kleen have volunteered their time to restore the 125 year old log cabin. In the near future they hope to finish the log chinking and close the gable ends of the cabin.

They will also build wooden plank doors similar to the original ones on the cabin.

A wooden floor will be installed, thus making the cabin ready for bicentennial celebrations.

Kleen has shown the boys how to do the carpentry tasks and the boys have done all the work in restoring the cabin to as near-authentic shape as possible.

Students returning with General Construction II to continue work on this project are Augustine Alvarado, Julian Barrera, Sammy Guerra, Steve Haile, Jeff Ivicic, Lupe Martinez, Norman Martinez, John Mills, Roy Torres and Emil Valdez. Pete Ochoa, a new student in the class, is working on the cabin for the first time.

Working on the cabin for the first time are students in General Construction I. They are Terry Alexander, Clint Bishop, Gary Haile, Greg Haile, Hardy Hattley, Leland Hill, Cedric Kocian, Jacob Moore, Santos Reyna, James Williams, Robert Hinojosa, Randy Barron, Albe Luna, Victor Melton, Emeteric Miralles, Jessie Ochoa, Charlie Yharra, David Vasquez and Joe Vega.

Donations of 12 feet of 2 x 6s and another 200 feet of boxing material in usable lumber are still needed, according to Mrs. Clara Scarbrough.

The cabin dedication ceremony will be February 8. Included in the program will be the planting of a Texas pecan tree donated by the Texas Forestry as a Bicentennial Liberty Tree.

Historic Commission asks youth to preserve heritage

The Williamson County Historical Commission met at 2 p.m. Thursday, January 8, in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library with Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, County Chairman presiding. Some 1975 accomplishments were discussed and future goals proposed.

One important goal of this

Commission was re-introduced for further emphasis. This goal is to encourage young people to help preserve the heritage of Williamson County. With this in mind, a cash award is being offered for some form of original research submitted by high school students. Students in grades nine, ten, eleven and twelve who reside in Williamson County are eligible to enter this contest through their respective schools. This original research on local history may be in the form of a written paper or properly documented visual or oral material. An impartial judge or judges will be secured from outside this Commission. Information and more detailed instructions will be sent to all high schools in Williamson County.

At the annual meeting of the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Historical Foundation, which was held in Nacogdoches on October 24-25, the Williamson County Commission received the Millard C.

Cope Memorial Award for the Best Program of Work in Texas for 1975.

This honor is accompanied by a substantial cash award to be used for the erection of a marker of significant historic value. The subject of this marker will be selected with care and will be a place or a person of distinction and of interest to all parts of Williamson County and one which might not otherwise have a sponsor.

Mrs. Scarbrough announced that her resignation as chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission has been accepted by the County Commissioner's Court and that Dr. Van C. Tipton has accepted the Court's appointment to replace her. She gave as her reason for resigning her heavy involvement in the Georgetown Bicentennial activities — Heritage — Festival U.S.A. — Horizons.

Members attending represented Taylor, Georgetown, Florence and Liberty Hill. Recently approved

markers reported at this meeting were a site marker for the founding of the City of Taylor and structure markers for the Stubblefield Building and the Masonic Hall on Main Street in Liberty Hill.

Log cabin dedication set for February 8

Dedication of a log cabin and planting of a Liberty Tree were discussed at the general meeting of the Georgetown Bicentennial Commission on Tuesday night.

Samuel Mather's log cabin, now located in the Austin Avenue park, will be dedicated at 2 p.m. Sunday, February 8. Included in the program will be the planting of a Texas pecan tree donated by the Texas Forestry Department as a Bicentennial Liberty Tree.

PATRIOTIC SELECTIONS WILL be provided by members of the Georgetown High School band and choir.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Scarbrough have donated the historical marker that will be placed at the site at a later date.

Robert Kleen and his general construction classes from Georgetown High School are doing the chinking on the log cabin. They will also build authentic doors and windows for the cabin.

Tommy Thompson, in conjunction with Kleen and his classes, has donated his time to do electrical work for the cabin. On-off spotlights will light the outside of the cabin. A light will also be placed inside for future use.

THE AREA AROUND THE CABIN will be landscaped with a swept yard and planted with native trees.



ON THE JOB TRAINING — Although there isn't much demand for log cabins these days, Robert Kleen's vocational building classes are learning how to roof, chink and make doors for Samuel Mather's 125 year old cabin that was moved to Georgetown last January. Standing on the ground, left to right, are Ernie Valdez, Robert Kleen and Roy Torres. Chinking the logs are Augustine Alvarado and Norman Martinez.

TEXAS LOG CABIN REGISTER

under the supervision of
 Prof. Terry G. Jordan
 Dept. of Geography
 North Texas State University
 Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

fwy.
183

County of location Williamson

Specific location 4.3 mi. west of Circleville bridge; 2.3 mi. east of Jonah bridge on Hwy. 29
 (if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location)

Name of Builder Luther Stearns

Place of origin of builder Vermont

Is the cabin presently occupied? No

Present condition of cabin Poor. It has been covered inside and outside and some building details unobtainable.

Approximate date of construction First constructed 1851; partially burned and reconstructed in same plan before 1859.

Type of corner notch (see attached illustration) Cannot determine
 (attach photo of notching if possible)

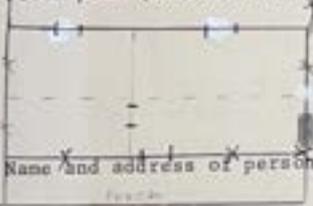
Logs are (circle one) 1. hewn (squared) 2. round 3. half-round

Type of wood used Not known

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cat (rod and stick)

14.

Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions)



House is a story and a half, with lean-to in rear, providing 6 rooms.

Name and address of person making this report Clara Stearns Scarbrough

1318 E. University

Georgetown, Texas 78626

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

28

Wm. Co. Log Barn, once a school on Aubrey Daniell farm
Gabriel Hill Road, 2 mi. west of 183

Built by Sam Mather

Cabin not occupied Condition poor
Constructed approx. 1842

1/8 mi. south of Matsler Cemetery, south of Andice e. of Hwy. 183
Half notch corner notch

Builder: George Matsler, built 1855 as a school, converted to barn
in 1865; school was located near Gowan Creek,
Walnut wood used was called Dennis Prairie or Matsler School

Stone chimney

No--now used as barn

Poor

1855

Owner

dovetail
doors are double hinged with wooden
hinges; wooden pegs used as nails

logs from Matsler place on Berry's Creek; kind not
identified

probably had chimney for school, but not in barn

(original cabin was two rooms with dog run between, rooms approx. 14 x 14,
but the dog run was covered over and structure now used for storage)

Mrs. Evangeline Daniel
c/o Wm. County Tax Office
Georgetown, Texas 78626

1 d 0 9

Wm. Co.
Gabriel Mill Road, 2 mi. west ^{Highway} of 183

Built by Sam Mather ^{Comanche County}

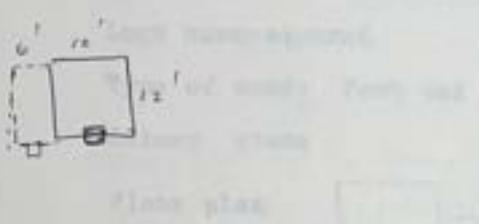
Cabin not occupied; condition poor ^{Highway west of Independence}
Constructed approx. 1852 ^(H. Thompson)

Half notch corner notch

Logs hewn squared

Walnut wood used

Stone chimney



Owner

Emile Jamail
3502 Scenic Hills Drive
Austin, Texas

LOG CABIN RECORDS

Located in Williamson County
at Hunt Crossing, North Gabriel Road, west of Georgetown
built by Hayden Hunt (b. Tennessee)
unoccupied in 1974

bad condition

built about 1853

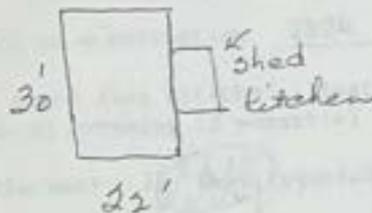
Corner Notch: Half notch

Logs hewn-squared

Type of wood: Post oak

Chimey stone

Floor plan



by W. L. Hunt
2008 Dawn Dr.
Georgetown, Texas

Prof. Terry G. Johnson
Dept. of Geography
North Texas State University
Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

County of location Williamson

Specific location McNeil Rd., northwest 2 miles from Round Rock city limits
(if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location)

Name of Builder Ike McConica, for Pat Walsh

Place of origin of builder Round Rock, Texas

Is the cabin presently occupied? No. (It was used as a vacation home)

Present condition of cabin Fair

Approximate date of construction 1924

Type of corner notch (see attached illustration) half round ??
(attach photo of notching if possible)

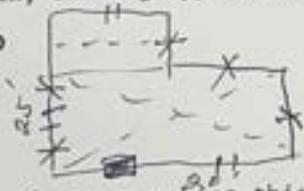
Logs are (circle one) 1. square (squared) 2. round 3. half-round

Type of wood used Cedar

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cat (mud and stick)

Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions)

see photo



Name and address of person making this report

Mrs. John W. Ledbetter

212 West Main

Round Rock, Texas

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

& Mrs. D. B. Gregg, 400 E. Main,
Round Rock, Texas

TEXAS LOG CABIN REGISTER

sent ✓

under the supervision of
 Prof. Terry G. Jordan
 Dept. of Geography
 North Texas State University
 Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

County of location Williamson

Specific location Lawrence Chapel
 (if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location)

Name of Builder Adam "Ad" Lawrence

Place of origin of builder Kentucky

Is the cabin presently occupied? No - used as barn

Present condition of cabin Poor; being used as barn

Approximate date of construction c. 1840s; this house succeeded one built 1838 by Lawrence - much cruder - said to have been replaced in a few

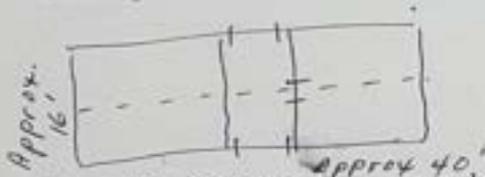
Type of corner notch (see attached illustration)
 (attach photo of notching if possible) Square Notch

Logs are (circle one) 1. hewn (squared) 2. round 3. half-round

Type of wood used NOT KNOWN; much post oak in area

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cat (mud and stick)

Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions) (one + one half stories)



Name and address of person making this report _____

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

LOG CABIN 6½ mi. n. of Georgetown between IS 35 and Lampasas Highways

Built by J. Montgomery, so far as is known.

Incorporated into home of the Irvine family who have lived there since about 1905.

Of the two original rooms, the lower is sealed in; the upper room is not sealed inside; other rooms were built onto the original log cabin.

Cornerstone is dated 1850

Hewn logs squared

Wood is oak or possibly walnut

Chimney removed c. 1905, probably

Floor plan: each room 16 x 16, one above the other; the stairway and chimney have been removed.

Reported by Mrs. D. P. Irvine, Sr.

Rt. 2, Box 145, Georgetown

TEXAS LOG CABIN REGISTER

Williamson County

under the supervision of
Prof. Terry L. Jordan
North Texas State University

2 miles south of Bagdad on old Bagdad road (southwest of Leander)
in 1974 the home of Mrs. Cora Wray and formerly of her late sister,
Miss Ethel May.

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

Builder: original one-room was already built, but builder unknown,

in 1856 when Henry Edwards bought the place and added a second log room
to the first one. Birthplace of Edwards not known.

(if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location)

The two log rooms have been covered over inside and outside, and
incorporated into a large home.

Is the cabin presently occupied? yes

Condition: good.

Present condition of cabin good

Approximate Type of corner notch is not visible and not known.

Type of corner notch (see attached illustration)

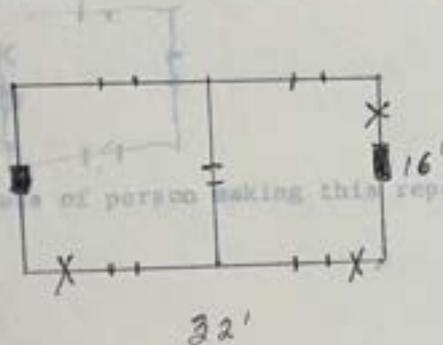
(see illustration) Logs were hewn square, are believed to be oak

Log Chimneys were stone square 2. round 3. half-round

Type of wood used _____

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. oak (oak and stick)

Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions)



Name and address of person making this report

Leona Williamson
Route 2 Box 108
Leander

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

This one owned by Mr & Mrs J.E. Hallaway
Route 2 Box 909
Leander

5 A

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

TEXAS LOG CABIN REGISTER

under the supervision of
Prof. Terry C. Jordan
Dept. of Geography
North Texas State University
Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

County of location W Williamson -
Anna co. line

Specific location 5 miles west (or 1/2 mile) of ranch road 2244
 (if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location)
near spring in pasture moved to present,

Name of Builder Sid Evans

Place of origin of builder possibly Missouri or Tenn.

Is the cabin presently occupied? yes

Present condition of cabin Good

Approximate date of construction before Civil War

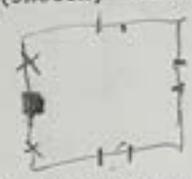
Type of corner notch (see attached illustration)
 (attach photo of notching if possible)

Logs are (circle one) 1. hewn (squared) 2. round 3. half-round

Type of wood used _____

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cat (mud and stick)

Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions)



Name and address of person making this report Leona Williamson
Route 2 Box 408
Leander.

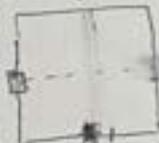
If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

This one owned by me & Mrs J. E. Holloway
Route 2 Box 409
Leander.

under the supervision of
Prof. Terry G. Jordan
Dept. of Geography
North Texas State University
Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

County of location Quinn (I think) may be Williamson ^{see} Irvin
Specific location 4 1/2 to 5 miles west of Lander Ranch road 2244
(if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location) where first built
Name of Builder Andrew Hamilton (my grand father)
Place of origin of builder Missouri
Is the cabin presently occupied? No.
Present condition of cabin Had been ciled over
Approximate date of construction Before civil war
Type of corner notch (see attached illustration) No. 1 I think (saddle)
(attach photo of notching if possible)
Logs are (circle one) 1. hewn (squared) 2. round 3. half-round
Type of wood used not sure
Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cat (mud and stick)
Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions) about 16 x 16 square



windows covered

Name and address of person making this report Lena Williams
Route 2 Box 408
Lander, Tex

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

This one owned now by Don Lyda
Austin

TEXAS LOG CABIN REGISTER

under the supervision of
 Prof. Terry G. Jordan
 Dept. of Geography
 North Texas State University
 Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

County of location Williamson

Specific location Rt. 3, Box 206 Georgetown ^{5 mi. east} Highway 29 West of Georgetown
 (if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location)

Name of Builder J. S. Whitely Born April 9, 1820 Died April 2, 1892

Place of origin of builder _____

Is the cabin presently occupied? No

Present condition of cabin Fairly good. Has been stored and is incorporated into larger house.

Approximate date of construction 1850's

Type of corner notch (see attached illustration) Half-horntail notch
 (attach photo of notching if possible)

Logs are (circle one) 1 hewn (squared) 2. round 3. half-round

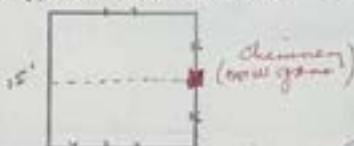
Type of wood used oak

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cat (mud and stick)

Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions) 15 x 16

X = window

o = door



Name and address of person making this report

Mrs. Jack Nitschke
Rt. 3, Box 206
Georgetown, Texas 78626

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

Interior

Texas Log Cabin Register

Prof. Terry G. Jordan
Dept. of Geography

North Texas State University
H. F. M. Bldg. 3143

Located in Williamson County, 4 miles east of Leander and about 6 miles west of Georgetown, near the South Gabriel River. on the former Charles Hughes place, who sold to Jack Garey, Rt. 2, Box 22-B, Round Rock 78664

Builder's name A. M. Brown - soon after 1854 taken he acquired the Walter Collins ranch approx. halfway between Justice and

Place or origin of builder The first county road north of the North Gabriel River. (State) 103 heading west, then take second turn to left.

Not occupied at present, and condition poor, but is to be restored and lived in by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Garey.

Approximate date of construction, about ~~1860-65~~ 1854

Corner notch: half notch Yes. By owners, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Collins.

Logs are hewn square Excellent

Most of the wood was elm (1850-1852). Williams settled on land in 1850, purchased it from Weber tract in 1850 and began building original room; dog run & west room were added a short time after the first room was completed.

One chimney or stone Notches in first room (east): full dove-

Floor plan: dog-run and west (later) room, half notch was used.

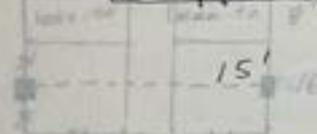
Logs are (circle one) 1. hewn (squared) 2. round 3. half-round

Type of wood used Most other, live oak and some post oak.

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cast (mud and stick)

Two chimneys of stone; first one built was bottle neck style with fire wall on

Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions) Mrs. Jack Garey
shape. Keyhole arch over hearth.



Name and address of person making this report Clara Scarbrough (Mrs. Don)
1318 N. University
Georgetown, Texas 78626

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin. This is a log house, with two downstairs rooms, one large and one very tiny half rooms upstairs, and two additional rooms in lean-to area behind two main rooms. Workmanship unusually good, wooden pegs throughout. Drury Blakeley Alexander, Architectural Dept. U. T. at Austin, is making complete drawings to scale of building and doing a paper on it. Present owners are not related to original owners or builder, but have some historical material on them.

Mr. Collins spent 3 years restoring house. By applying dripping water daily and gradually bracing the huge cedar joists, straightened them from a badly warped condition.

TEXAS LOG CABIN REGISTER

under the supervision of
 Prof. Terry G. Jordan
 Dept. of Geography
 North Texas State University
 Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

County of location Williamson
 Specific location Walter Collins' ranch approx. halfway between Andice and Liberty Hill. Take first county road north of the North Gabriel River, off Hwy. (State) 183 heading west, then take second turn to left. Collins gate is 3.3 miles from Hwy. 183 turnoff. Address, Rt. 1, Liberty Hill.
 Name of builder: William "Billy" Williams.
 Place of origin of builder Tennessee.

Is the cabin presently occupied? Yes. By owners, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Collins, since 1966.

Present condition of cabin Excellent

Approximate date of construction 1850-1851. Williams settled on land in 1848, purchased it from Webber tract in 1850 and began building original room; dog run & west room were added a short time after the first room was completed.

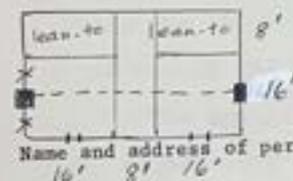
Type of corner notch (see attached illustrations) Notches in first room (east): full dove-tail; in dog-run and west (later) room, half notch was used.

Logs are (circle one) 1. hewn (squared) 2. round 3. half-round

Type of wood used 3 ceiling joists 24' long of cypress; cedar floor joists; most other, live oak and some post oak.

Type of chimney (circle one) 1. stone 2. brick 3. cat (rod and stick)

Two chimneys of stone; first one built was bottle neck style with fire wall on ground. 2nd chimney, conventional shape. Keystone arch over hearth.



Name and address of person making this report

Clara Scarbrough (Mrs. Don)
1318 E. University
Georgetown, Texas 78626

If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin. This is a log home, with two downstairs rooms, one large and one very tiny half rooms upstairs, and two additional rooms in lean-to area behind two main rooms. Workmanship unusually good, wooden pegs throughout. Drury Blakeley Alexander, Architecture Dept. U. T. at Austin, is making complete drawings to scale of building and doing a paper on it. Present owners are not related to original owners or builder, but have some historical material on them.

Mr. Collins spent 3 years restoring house. By applying dripping water daily and gradually bracing the huge cedar floor joists, straightened them from a badly warped condition.

The William Chapman Homestead

Soon after the Civil War, Mr. William Chapman, a widower, and his children bought 495 acres of land in the east end of the Rachel Saul Survey. The place had a log cabin near the spring. Mr. Chapman hired a carpenter to build him both a house and barn out of logs. They were located farther south and on higher ground than the cabin.

The building was what was known as a "double log" house, and was one and a half stories high. The logs were made from post oak trees, hand-hewn to be nearly square-- about 8" thick and 10" wide. The logs were notched at the corners, in a dove-tailed manner, so they would not come apart. In order to fasten the door jams and window linings in place, the carpenter bored holes through the rough planks and into the ends of the logs, then inserted wooden pegs into these bored holes. The log rooms were 15x17' inside, with a hallway between them measuring about 8' in width. The east room had a window and fireplace on the east wall, and a window as well as a door on the south wall. There was a stairway in the southeast corner of the room leading up to the second floor. The west room had a fireplace and two small windows on the west wall and a large window on the south wall, with a 4' wide door into the hall. There was a stairway on the east side of this hall to the second floor hall and adjoining bedroom.

The upstairs rooms had a small window on the south side and another adjacent to the chimney. Just below the upstairs window on the south or front of the house, there was a log fastened to the outside wall with wooden pegs. Then the porch rafters were fastened to this log, making the porch about 8' wide and extending the full length of the house. On the back of the house was what was known as a leanto or shed room made from pine boards. This area was divided into a bedroom on the west end with a dining room behind the hall and the kitchen in the east end of the

152

room. The sills under the house were of logs hewn on one side, so they could nail the floors to them. The logs are still in use under the house today. The floors were made of pine boards 1" thick and 12" wide.

In 1938, the owner tore down the east room and both stairways, and built one large frame room after removing the porch and the east room fireplace. In 1954, the present owners rebuilt the fireplace in the east room and rock-veneered the outside as well as paneled the inside walls. In spite of all this remodeling, the west room logs are still intact. A bedroom - hall and bathroom were fashioned out of the adjoining shed behind the west log room and a combination dining room and kitchen was built on the other end of the shed-room.

Mr. Chapman dug an underground cistern just outside the kitchen door, which still holds water and has a pitcher pump on it. The log barn was like the house but the inside room was larger. It is still in use today and has been kept in good condition. The house is now just one story in height, but the original logs can be seen through the manhole in the hall. The few nails that were used were square or cut nails. We still have several of them. The original roofs were made of wooden shingles, but they have been replaced with sheet iron roofs.

This account was first written by Alta May Kemp (typed and slightly changed by Bill J.), from information given to her when she moved here in 1942. The present owners are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kemp, and the location of the old Chapman homestead is six and one half miles west of Round Rock on Farm and Market Road #620.

Just a word of interest for flower gardeners--the rose bush, which was planted at the west end of the porch when the house was first built, still blooms every spring with semi-double pink flowers.

Mrs. E. B. Dugg - 400 E Main, Round Rock, Tx

Return to
Clara Scarborough

under the supervision of
Prof. Terry G. Jordan
Dept. of Geography
North Texas State University
Denton, Texas 76203

Please fill out as completely as possible, but fragmentary reports are also very helpful. Answers to some of the questions may no longer be available.

County of location Williamson
Specific location Old Settlers Park - moved from N.W. of County
(if cabin has been moved, give both original and present location)
Name of Builder _____
Place of origin of builder _____
Is the cabin presently occupied? No
Present condition of cabin Good
Approximate date of construction 1851
Type of corner notch (see attached illustration) half round
(attach photo of notching if possible)
Logs are (circle one) 1. hewn (squared) 2. round 3 half-round
Type of wood used Cedar
Type of chimney (circle one) 1 stone 2. brick 3. cat (mud and stick)
Floor plan (sketch, showing approximate dimensions) see photograph
7 yds 1 ft by 4 yds. 2 ft.

Name and address of person making this report Mrs. John W. Ledbetter
212 W. Main Round Rock, Tex.
Mrs. B. B. Dugg
400 E. Main Round Rock, Tex.
If possible, attach a photograph of the cabin.

Round Rock Leads

Serving Round Rock, Balcones, Cedar Park, Hutto, Jollyville, Leander, Pflugerville and Shenandoah

Thursday, January 22, 1976

Valley Forge By the Fourth

It was the first time in approximately 100 years that a wagon train passed by the round rock in Brushy Creek.

The official Bicentennial Wagon Train stopped in Round Rock Friday on its way to Valley Forge, Pa., causing a flurry of activity in the downtown area and Old Settlers Park where the wagoners camped overnight.

Consisting of a conestoga wagon from Pennsylvania, a prairie schooner from Texas, a chuckwagon and a privately owned wagon, the train was escorted into the city on U.S. 81 by the Round Rock police after a brief rest south of town across from Leigh Motors. The train was greeted by Mayor Ray Litton and Larry Jackson, chairman of the Round Rock Bicentennial Commission.

After making its way to Old Settlers Park, members of the train rode their horses past the round rock in Brushy Creek and received a taste of the past. Many years before, similar wagon trains traveled that same crossing, loaded with lumber, ranching and farming supplies and groceries for area settlers.

Round Rock was one of 26 Texas communities scheduled for visits by the wagon train during its 1,400-mile journey to Valley Forge. The trip is an official project of the Bicentennial Commission of Pennsylvania and has the support of the American Bicentennial Administration. Sixty wagons from the 50 states are part of the official caravan scheduled to converge near Valley Forge on the evening of July 3, 1976. They will then proceed to a Valley Forge encampment for July 4 ceremonies.

Although traveling in wagons, the wagoners were eating and camping modern style. The chuck wagon was converted bus equipped with a gas cook stove and electric refrigerator. Travel trailers provide sleeping quarters for some of the wagon crews. Also, chemical toilets mounted on a trailer meet the train at scheduled rest stops.

The Bicentennial wagons are replicas of early American styles and were built at Arby Village, Jonesboro, Ark. The wheels have rubber tread cemented to the regular iron rims.

A musical salute celebrating the bicentennial also accompanied the wagon train. A group of six young performers traveling with the train gave two original performances with a bicentennial flavor at the Round Rock Middle School Friday.

The entertainment was produced by the Pennsylvania State University's Department of Theatre and Music and will appear in all of the 48 contiguous states by the time the wagon train reaches Valley Forge.



It's going to be a long 1,400 miles to Valley Forge for these Bicentennial Wagon Train horses and riders. The train is one of many

crossing the country from west to east heading toward Valley Forge, Pa. to celebrate July 4.



The lead wagon and team in the official Bicentennial Wagon Train pause briefly

before the Round Rock historical marker on Brushy Creek.

Wagon Train



The Bicentennial Wagon Train winds through downtown Round Rock Friday on its way to Old Settlers Park where the wagoners camped overnight. Consisting of a Texas prairie

schouner, Pennsylvania conestoga wagon, a chuck wagon, a privately owned wagon, the caravan is headed for Forge, Pa. to join in July 4 ceremonies.



History Comes Alive Again

Heads turned, cars stopped and cameras clicked as the Bicentennial Wagon Train came through downtown Round Rock Friday afternoon. The covered wagons are heading east

rather than west, however, in a "history in reverse" drive to Pennsylvania. Story and more pictures are on Page 6.

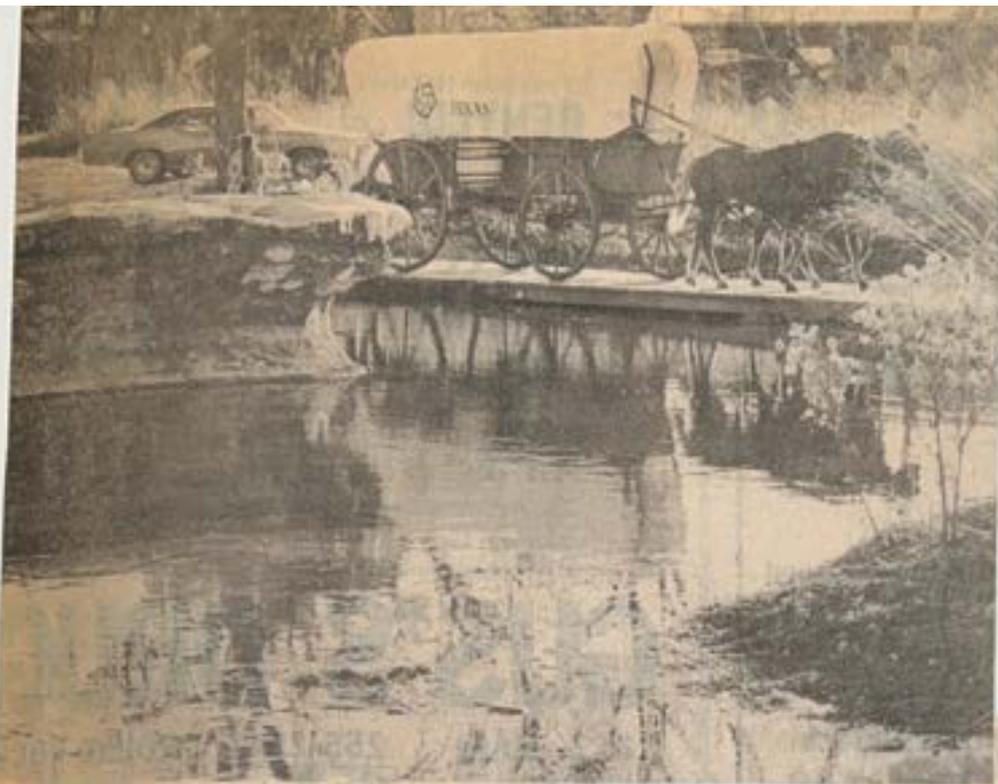


Mayor Ray Litton presents a key to the city to Texas wagonmaster Guy Harrison and National Wagonmaster Lee Rossi. Harrison has been leading drives for 10 years.



Road Rock Middle School students and the public were entertained Friday when a six-member troupe accompanying the

Bicentennial Wagon Train gave two performances. The group commemorated the nation's 250th birthday with a musical salute.



The old and the new came together when the Bicentennial Wagon Train stopped in Round Rock last week. Here the Texas wagon travels past the round rock in Brushy Creek.



Bob Vincent, Round Rock Chamber of Commerce president, and Joey Land, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Land, enjoyed a ride on the back of the Pennsylvania conestoga when the wagon train stopped in Round Rock Friday.



Mrs. J. W. Ledbetter and Mrs. D. B. Gregg, Round Rock members of the Williamson County Historical Committee, ride the prairie schooner driven by Hazel Bowen of Antelope. The schooner was among the four wagons in the official Bicentennial Wagon Train which stopped in Round Rock Friday.



ANSWERING QUESTIONS — Dr. Ed Steelman of Southwestern University (left) answers questions about Indian artifacts posed by Mrs. Van Tipton (center) and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lott. Indian remains excavated from a mound on the North Fork of the San Gabriel by Steelman, his archeology students and interested volunteers were presented to the City of Georgetown in a ceremony Sunday afternoon. The artifacts will be on display at the Georgetown Public Library.



Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, January 25, 1976

The Sunday SUN
Page 9

Georgetown bilingual history appears in sketchbook for

"La ciudad de Georgetown fue construida en mayo de 1848 y fue nombrada la capital del condado de Williamson."

In English, it reads, "The City of Georgetown was founded as the county seat in May 1848."

The bilingual descriptions are part of the Georgetown Bicentennial - Bilingual Sketchbook, a compilation of historical drawings produced by migrant students in grades 8-12.

Region 13 Education Service Center (Austin) sponsored the project which involved 31 pupils in research, drawing, writing, and publication of the booklet.

One sketch illustrates the sign trees once used by Tonkawa Indians for directions. Saplings were bent horizontally to indicate where good springs, water, or campgrounds could be located.

Williamson County Jail is the subject of another drawing. "This French Bastille jail, the county's fourth, was built in 1888-1889. The jail and the jailer's residence was (sic) built at the cost of \$22,000," the

explanatory text notes.

Signatures appear on a sketch, and a credit line names of students responsible for research and translation follows descriptive paragraphs.

Response to the project enthusiastic among both school personnel and students. Georgetown ISD Supt. A. Frost noted in sketchbook that bilingual programs and other special resource programs had contributed to the progress education which is passing milestone during the Bicentennial. He credited that progress to the attitude of students, qualified, dedicated, and conscientious teachers.

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission in Texas last year endorsed project because of its "outstanding quality of involvement."

The service center was recommended for its "insightful participation in the celebration of our nation's 200th birthday."

Sherry Chapman, coordinator of the migrant program, clipped this article from the February issue of The Outlook.

Williamson County, Texas



976

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Dr. Van C. Tipton, Chairman
1405 East 15th Street
Georgetown, Texas 78626

NEWSLETTER NUMBER ONE

JANUARY 31, 1976

A REPORT ON SOME PAST ACHIEVEMENTS AND BEGINNING A NEW YEAR

The Williamson County Historical Commission starts this new RED, WHITE and BLUE year of 1976 with a new Chairman. Dr. Van C. Tipton replaces Mrs. Clara Scarbrough who resigned in December. DR. Tipton was appointed by the Commissioners Court on January 8. In Williamson County all officers and members of the Historical Commission are appointed by the Court.

Dr. Tipton has brought a great amount of know-how and enthusiasm to the Commission as a member and as leader he will keep the group continuing in its present forward movement. His recent Commission activities attest to his abiding interest and ability in preserving the history of this county and the entire area surrounding it.

Mrs. Scarbrough is not leaving the Commission but is shifting her focus a little to take on more Bicentennial programs in the city of Georgetown, some of which she has been guiding all along.

The Williamson County Historical Commission has been fortunate in having had effective leadership from the beginning of the program. The Texas State Historical Survey Committee was authorized by the Texas Legislature in 1957, and under this program of preservation, marking, recording, and surveying the historical building sites, institutions, organizations, events and persons which have been a part of Williamson County's life and history. was placed in operation by a State Committee. In recent years both State and County names were changed to Historical Commission.

Judge Sam V. Stone was the first County Chairman and directed this Committee until 1969. His many accomplishments are recorded in a Williamson County Directory published in 1968 by The Commissioners Court and are a challenge to all to keep on remembering our heritage.

Mrs. John Cornforth served on the Committee for many years and was appointed County Chairman to succeed Judge Stone. Her four years as chairman are reflected in preservations and markings all over the county. Through her diligence and fore-thought many buildings and cemeteries are listed as Historical landmarks. She was instrumental in organizing a Museum Collection in the County Building in Taylor. Since resigning as County Chairman in 1973, she has been successful in her efforts to have the - Moody Home - the birthplace of former Governor Dan Moody in Taylor, designated as a Museum and was elected chairman of the board of directors for a term of three years.

ship.
aries:
08
ster
reat-
s.

WORK

te

ple

)

getown

)

1 (1871-73

or

(rise ?)
cation?)

and
alt
burg st
amp-ll
i's ?
as along

self - did and self family

Mount. Matthew Campbell, Reporter

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough has been very adept at keeping the group involved in activities. Many and varied projects have presented themselves and were taken care of through her leadership. Among these are the editing and completion of one volume of cemetery listings and presentation to three county public libraries; completion of engineering sites survey; listing and locating log cabins in existence in the county; listing and location of lime or brick kilns or sites of such; continuation of National Register Survey for the county; passing of an ordinance in Georgetown creating the Historic Courthouse Square District and possibly others. As a result of the above named activities the State Commission awarded Williamson County first place for the BEST PROGRAM OF WORK of all counties in the State. (1975)

MARKERS DEDICATED AND ACCEPTED

Two markers were dedicated in 1975. They were the town site markers for Leander and Gabriel Mills.

The following marker applications were accepted in principle in 1975 and are expected to be dedicated in 1976:

- United States Senator Morgan C. Hamilton, in City of Coupland, Hoxie & Commerce Streets (Coupland-1887)
- J.A. McDougle Home, 1312 Elm, Georgetown (1895)
- First United Methodist Church of Bartlett (org. c.187-75)
- W.Y. Penn Home, 1304 Elm, Georgetown (1895)
- Town of Thrall, City Hall Square, Thrall (1876)
- Judge Greenleaf Fisk (1807-1888), Courthouse Square, Georgetown
- Harrell-Stone House, 1404 Elm, Georgetown (1895-96)
- Hutto (1876), US Hwy 79 in Hutto
- Liberty Hill Masonic Hall, Main Street, Liberty Hill (1883)
- John G. Matthews House, US Hwy 183, 3½ mi. southeast of Liberty Hill (1870-72)
- Stubblefield Building, Main & Myrtle Streets, Liberty Hill (1871-72)
- City of Taylor, Taylor (1876)
- Tenth Street Methodist Church, 410 West 10th Street, Taylor (org. 1900)

CEMETERIES COMPLETED FOR VOLUME II

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bagdad - Leander | Jackson Family - Bartlett (site ?) |
| John Berry Family - FM 971 | Land - Jarrell (Dates? Location?) |
| Champion Family - w Round Rock | Mauldin - Bear Creek |
| Coupland | Palm Valley - need names |
| Durant - near Mozo | Pennington Family |
| Florence City | Pond Springs |
| Pore - Co Rd 254 - Co Rd 255 | Queen |
| 2 mi in pasture | Robbins - e Walburg |
| Gardner - Circleville | Salyer-Millard (Jarrell-Walburg mi) |
| Goodville - n. Schwertner | Stiles-Gallehon-Bolding-Campbell |
| Hooper - n e Florence | (site ?) |
| Hunt - Co Rd 258 e from US 193 | Stockton |
| | Sybert, Darrell place - one stone |
| | Weir - Old and Weir Family |

Mvreta Matthews, Commission Reporter

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, February 8, 1976

The Sunday SUN
Page 2

Cabin dedication Sunday

Cooperation has been a necessary part of the relocation of a 125 year-old Pioneer Log Cabin from Gabriel Mills to the Lions Recreational Park on Austin Avenue. Many persons have contributed time, money and labor to dismantle, move, and authentically reconstruct the cabin.

The culmination of these efforts will be the dedication of the cabin and the Liberty Tree, a Tejas pecan, at 2 p. m. Sunday. The Georgetown High School Choir and Stage Band will provide entertainment during the program.

Mr. and Mrs. Emile Jamail of Austin donated the log cabin to the City of Georgetown and the Georgetown Bicentennial Commission (GBC). The Georgetown Bicentennial Heritage Committee, co-chaired by Mrs. Clara Scarbrough and Mike Riddle, conceived the idea of moving and restoring the log cabin as part of their project. Adopted as an official Bicentennial task by the GBC, it is the first permanent project to be completed.

A Liberty Tree was provided to each county by

the Texas Forestry Service and the Texas Forestry Association, to be planted as a living symbol of the importance of trees in Texas and the United States. Tejas is a new variety of the pecan, the official state tree of Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Wood delivered the pecan tree from Goldthwaite recently, the distributing point for a seven county area. Ferd Tonn has constructed a permanent routed redwood sign to explain the Liberty Tree.

The cabin was built between 1850 and 1854 on land owned by Samuel Mather, the first settler of the Gabriel Mills area. The land was later owned by Benjamin K. Stuart.

The one-room cabin was constructed with native hardwood that weathered well, held together only by its hand-hewn, square-notched corners. Later additions to the cabin lay in rubble around the original cabin. The hand-hewn limestone fireplace and chimney also stood intact.

Edward Valdez erected the chimney and fireplace when it was moved.

Others who have contributed time and labor to the project include Dr. Duncan Muckelroy, consultant on historic preservation, Texas Historical Commission and National Register Staff, Austin; Dee Scott, consultation and preparation of concrete piers for cabin; Frank Viktorin, consultation on moving the cabin; Harold Asher of Gabriel Mills, historical research on cabin; and the City of Georgetown personnel for hauling and unloading logs and for police protection.

Glenn's Arco Station also contributed labor to move the cabin.

Students in the construction classes of Cordinated Vocational-Academic Education and Industrial Cooperative Education, under the direction of Arnim Humphreys and Robert Klis have provided volunteer labor to rebuild cabin.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Scarbrough have done the historical marker that will mark the cabin. Landscaping will feature a swept yard area around the cabin, planted with mountain laurel, red bud trees and iris. Mr. and Mrs. C. Burnette and Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. B. Moore will donate the landscaping.

The high school Pan American Forum and Boy Scout troops will help ready the park for dedication ceremony.

Other contributors for the cabin project include Jay C. Sloan; Mr. and Mrs. Elm Carlson, material for flooring; Wickes Lumber Co., wooden shingles; City of Georgetown preservative for logs; and Tommy Thompson electrical wiring.

Mrs. Lilly Harzett, president of the Alpha

Delta Alpha sorority, has prepared a scrapbook about the log cabin.

PROGRAM

Mrs. Morse will give the welcome and make introductions.

The Georgetown High School Choir, directed by Mrs. Sara White, will sing "Pledge Allegiance."

Mrs. Scarbrough will give the history of the cabin.

Donors and contributors will be recognized by Mrs. Carl Burnette.

The cabin will be dedicated by Mayor D. Scott. "This Is My Country" will be played by the Georgetown High School Stage Band.

Mrs. Burnette will give the history of the Liberty Tree and dedicate it. She will be assisted by Mrs. Morse and Leo Wood in planting the tree.

The program will close with the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," played by the stage band.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 4 Thursday, February 5, 1976

Log cabin dedication scheduled for Sunday

Following months of work and numerous donations the pioneer log cabin moved from Gabriel Mills and the Liberty Tree will be dedicated at 2 p. m. Sunday in the Lions Club Park located at Sixteenth Street and Austin Avenue.

The log cabin was donated to the City of Georgetown and the Georgetown Bicentennial Commission by Mr. and Mrs. Emile Jamail of Austin.

The cabin was built between 1850 and 1854 on land owned by Samuel Mather, the first settler of the Gabriel Mills area. The land was later owned by Benjamin K. Stuart.

No fastenings were used to hold the cabin together, but with its hand hewn square notched corners it weathered the 125 years in good condition. The original

cabin stood even though later additions lay in rubble when the cabin was secured by the Georgetown Bicentennial Commission last January.

The relocation and restoration of the log cabin was proposed by the Heritage Committee, chaired by Mrs. Don Scarbrough and Mike Riddle. It was adopted as an official Bicentennial project by the Georgetown Bicentennial Commission.

A Tejas pecan tree donated by the Texas Forestry Service will be planted as the Bicentennial Liberty Tree.

Different groups will be volunteering their services throughout the week readying the park for the dedication ceremony Sunday afternoon.

The high school stage band and the high school choir will perform patriotic numbers.

Pioneer Log Cabin dedicated Sunday

The Georgetown Bicentennial Commission (GBC) would like to thank the following for their efforts and contributions to the Pioneer Log Cabin Restoration project:

- Mr. and Mrs. Emile Jamail, Austin — the cabin.
- City of Georgetown and City Manager Leo Wood — track for moving and other help.

- Georgetown Lions Club — permission to use Recreational Park for site.
- Dr. Duncan Mackelroy, consultant, Texas Historical Commission.

- Dee Scott, consultant, also donated concrete pier foundation.

- Frank Viktorin, Austin, consultant on moving cabin.
- Wickes Lumber Company — wood shingles.

- Mr. and Mrs. Emory Carlson — flooring material.

- Industrial Cooperative Training classes, Georgetown High — moving and reconstruction. For names, see below.

- Ed Valdez — masonry.
- Tommy Thompson — electrical work.

- Glenn's Arco Station — workers to assist in moving cabin.

- Alpha Delta Alpha — preparation of scrapbook about the cabin.

- Don and Clara Scarbrough — historical marker for cabin.

- MEMBERS of high school classes who moved and restored cabin: Armin Humphreys and Robert Kloen, instructors; John Irwin, Lee Zavala, John Ziegler, Douglas Gattis, Jerry Lohman, Gilbert Gilmore, Don Jansen, Clayton Johns, Augustine Alvarado, Ernie Valdez, Steve Baile, John Mills, John Pate, George Kincaid, Jeff Ivicic, Jimmy Smith, Darrell Cain, Julian Barrera, Carroll Cain, Gilbert Kirk, Norman Martinez, Lupe Martinez, Corky Johns, Jackie Smith, Sammy Guerrero, Roy Torres, Brian Burson, Arthur Brooks, Robert Sedwick, Emil Valdez, Pete Ochoa, Terry Alexander, Clint Bishop, Gary Baile, Greg Baile, Hardy Hattley, Leland Hill, Cedric Kocian, Jacob Moore, Santos Reyna, James Williams, Robert Hinojosa, Randy Burson, Albe Luna, Victor Mellin, Emeterio Mirales,

Jessie Ochoa, Charlie Ybarra, David Vangier, Joe Vega.

- Other helpers who moved cabin: Kenny Jones, Mark Wieland, Henry Jiminez, Joe Torres.

- LANDSCAPING NEAR CABIN—Jo Ann (Mrs. Robert Morse and Lynn (Mrs. Carl) Burnette.

- CLEANUP AND LANDSCAPING CREWS (members of Pan American Student Forum, Mrs. Hays McCoy, sponsor; Boy Scout troops 131 and 135, Art Johnson and R. T. Magness, Jr., Scout Masters; Gilbert Gallatin representing Evening Lions Club); Joe Tays, Cheryl Moldenhour, Hilda Guevara, Elizabeth Vasquez, Jeanne Clifford, Donna Beggs, Linda Kotrola, Kim Steiner, Donald Kelpac, Beth Morse and Rita Scott of the P.A.S.F.; and the following Boy Scouts: Bruce Allamon, Tim Magness, Bill Buckner, David Morse, Doug Lawyer, William Pecht, Greg Miesch, Randel Williams, David Carter, Jamie Duffy, Russell Thompson, Danny Anderson, Hans Venable, Steve Bracamontez, Barry Simmons, Steve Schwabach, Craig Price, Bobby Simmons, Ronnie Sandefur, Garry Creppon, Leroy Perkins, Bill Jenkins, Assistant Scoutmasters of the two troops are Jerry Lawyer and Allan Sanders.

- Ferd Tom prepared the sign for the tree.

- Vivian (Mrs. Leo) Wood picked up the tree and brought to Georgetown. Tree was donated by Texas Forestry Service (Texas pecan).

GBC also extends special thanks to the following for their help with the ballet presentation recently: Mr. and Mrs. Jay C. Sloan, Mrs. Wallace Giddings, Mrs. Jess Todd, Fred Goodson, John King, Mrs. L. A. Rutledge, Mrs. Marvin Patterson, Mrs. Bob Plunkett and Southwestern University.



MRS. CLARA SCARBROUGH outlined the history of the Pioneer Log Cabin and its restoration in Georgetown. She was among leaders of the effort to bring the historic structure here.



THE EAGLE STAGE BAND and the Georgetown High School Choir provided music Sunday afternoon. The band, under the direction of Rodney Klett, played "This Is My Country". Sara White directed the choir's rendition of the "Pledge of Allegiance."



PLANTING THE TEJAS LIBERTY TREE are (from left) Burnette, Mayor D. W. Scott, and Jack Morse. The Mayor and the Morses donated landscaping for the project. Mayor provided advice and preparation of concrete structure.



PREPARING THE GROUNDS for the dedication ceremonies are local Boy Scouts (from left) Doug Lawyer, Bruce Allaman, and Tim Magness. The Scouts helped put finishing touches on the cabin site.

Bicentennial contest sparks enthusiasm

Williamson County high schoolers are actively researching historical subjects pertaining to this county as part of a Historical Commission bicentennial contest.

STUDENTS LIVING—in the county and now in grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 are eligible to win the cash prize awarded for the best project of original research. In addition to the top-place award, three additional places will be named.

CONTEST RULES stipulate that material submitted must be the result of the student's own research, so that such

published material as newspaper backissues are used only as background for research.

Impartial judges working in the field of history will be appointed by the Commission.

Entries must be received by June 15, with the Williamson County Historical Commission expecting to award prizes early in July. —0—

AS THE IDEAL place to find newspaper backissues, the SUN office has had a number of area students dropping by to spend a few hours thumbing through bound copies of the SUN

County Historical Commission continues program of work

The Williamson County Historical Commission met in regular monthly session Thursday in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library.

Twenty four were in attendance, representing the communities of Andice-Gabriel Mills, Bartlett, Coupland, Florence, Georgetown, Granger, Liberty Hill, Round Rock and Taylor. One visitor, Robert M. Fowler of Austin was present.

The program for the current year is the continuing "Goals For The Seventies" adopted by the State Historical Commission. This consists primarily of:

(1) seeking sites, structures, events and personages within the county of sufficient historical or other importance to be considered by the Commission for submission to the State Historical Commission as proposed items for a State Historical Marker.

(2) county-wide search for old documents, records, photographs of historical importance, and hopefully obtaining same or duplications of same for retention to insure preservation until a County Museum is available for such retention and preservation;

(3) continuation of cooperation with the State Agriculture Department in their Family Land Heritage Program;

(4) Continuation of the registration of local cemeteries and publishing this data for distribution at no charge to the State Historical Commission and public libraries in our county, and for sale to private individuals and other organizations;

(5) stimulation of historic appreciation, especially in our youth;

(6) a continuing survey of structures considered eligible for acceptance in the National Historic Register.

The Commission voted to include the Bartlett Public Library in the list for receipt of free copies of the various volumes of Cemeteries in Williamson County.

The next meeting will be in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 4.

Clara Scarbrough is AAUW speaker

Mrs. Don Scarbrough of Georgetown, author and researcher, will be the guest speaker for the Georgetown branch of the American Association of University Women at 7:30 p.m. Monday, February 9, in the home of Mrs. Bill Shelby, 2090 Terry Lane, Georgetown.

The program topic will be "Georgetown — Williamson County History". Mrs. Pat Atkins, first vice-president and program chairman, will introduce the speaker. Presiding during the meeting will be the president, Mrs. Bill Shelby.

Membership in AAUW, now in its 94th year, is open to any woman graduate of a fully-accredited institution of higher learning. There are approximately 200,000 members of AAUW. The association and its members hold membership in the International Federation of University Women, which AAUW helped found in 1919. The IFUW links federations in 54 lands, uniting women around the world in working for better international understanding and peace.

Hostesses for the Monday evening meeting include Mesdames Etta Rushe Dees, Elizabeth Lundblad, and Roselle Shelby.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 17 Thursday, February 5, 1976



Dr. Tipton takes Historical role

Dr. Van C. Tipton to head County Historical Commission

Dr. Van C. Tipton, a resident of Georgetown and native of Williamson County, assumes the chairmanship of the Williamson County Historical Commission at its regular meeting this week. The meeting will be Thursday, February 5, at Georgetown Public Library beginning at 2 p.m.

Dr. Tipton grew up in Bartlett, attending public schools there, and received his first degree from Southwestern University. He studied medicine at Galveston, interned in Dallas, and practiced medicine at Ranger before returning to this county and a medical practice in Georgetown. In 1937, Dr. Tipton began training as a specialist in preventive medicine and public health work, studying first at Vanderbilt, then at John Hopkins. After completing his masters in public health work, he went to San Antonio on a special assignment with the health department there.

During World War II, Dr. Tipton volunteered for service with the Navy, served with the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D. C., and saw duty in a number of other places, ending with an assignment with the Sixth Fleet. He has also, since his

retirement from the service, worked in the Texas State Health Department as the Director of Communicable Disease Control for Texas. Although he has retired from that position, he keeps busy with many civic and church activities.

Dr. Tipton succeeds Mrs. Don Scarbrough, who has chaired the Williamson County Historical Commission for the past three years.

County Historical Commission invited to home dedication

The regular monthly meeting of the Williamson County Historical Commission was held in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library, March 4 at 2 p.m.

Seventeen members, representing Andice, Gabriel Mills, Florence, Georgetown, Hutto, Liberty Hill, Round Rock and Taylor were present.

Mrs. Robert V. Allen visited briefly to invite all members to attend the joint dedication of State Historical Markers for two adjoining houses, the McDougale house at 1312 Elm St. now owned and occupied by Joyce Adams and family, and the W. Y. Penn House at 1304 Elm, owned and occupied by the Allen family, on Sunday March 14, at 2 p.m.

Since the last meeting applications for markers for

two structures have been submitted to the State Historical Commission, one application for a marker has been accepted for an individual engaged in research necessary for such application, and a complete list of the State Cemetery, located in Georgetown, has been prepared. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. White of Bartlett.

In keeping with an agreement from Dolph Beuscoe, the Commission agreed upon the week of March 18-24 as History App Week for Williamson County. All members of the Commission are urged to participate with local activities during this program, with each local historical event during the week having a distinctive character, if possible.

Round Rock names outstanding citizen

Said to exemplify the Bible scripture Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance,

against such there is no law," Mrs. John W. Ledbetter was named Outstanding Citizen of Round Rock for 1975. Mrs. Ledbetter was introduced by the city's 1975

Outstanding Citizen, N. G. Whitlow, who listed over a dozen organizations in which the awardee has been active, but said, "Her main devotion has been to church and school."

"I'M SO GLAD I am among friends," Mrs. Ledbetter said as she accepted the engraved plaque. "I can never tell you how humble I feel after this beautiful tribute."

"When I came to Round Rock over 50 years ago, Round Rock was a little town easy to fall in love with, and it is you citizens who have kept Round Rock progressing and still easy to fall in love with."

The Rev. Oliver Bergland acted as master of ceremonies during the evening while dinner music was provided by Mrs. Nan Antill. Mrs. Antill also accompanied Mrs. Faye Yates as, amid the red, white and blue decorations of the banquet, she sang a series of patriotic songs.

RECALLING EVENTS of 1975, outgoing CC President Larry Jackson said, "We are proud of the ambulance service in Round Rock. The Chamber has worked to get it here," and thanked Commissioner Wesley Johnson and others who supported the Round Rock station.

As he reminded his audience that we are living in the last quarter of the 20th century, incoming President Robert Vincent said, "The last quarters of centuries seem to be periods of tremendous discovery and change. I expect the 20th century to be no exception for America and for Round Rock."

GUEST SPEAKER Dr. Phil Gramm, a consultant and professor of economics on leave of absence from Texas A&M University as he campaigns in the race for U. S. Senator, discussed "three of America's most serious problems: inflation, unemployment and the energy crisis."

Gramm has published over 40 articles and books ranging from environment and economics to banking and inflation, and has been a frequent advisor to the Texas Legislature on economic and energy problems. He has also served as consultant to agencies working on such problems as New York's financial problems and rising national health insurance costs.



OUTSTANDING MRS. LEDBETTER — Round Rock's Outstanding Citizen of 1975, Mrs. J. W. Ledbetter, proudly displays the Chamber of Commerce award presented for her years of service to Round Rock.



DR. PHIL GRAMM, after dinner speaker at the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce banquet and U. S. senatorial candidate, discusses inflation, unemployment and the energy crisis, which he classed as one problem with one solution: a reduction in big government and hundred-billion-dollar deficit spending to "turn this country around and save the free enterprise system."

Liberty Hill — oldest, newest town around

If you've been locked in a closet for the last year or so — or if you just happen not to have taken a spin into downtown Liberty Hill lately, you are in for a shock.

Because Liberty Hill is a new town.

Well, practically.

Drive down Liberty Hill's main street and your jaw will drop. Workers — carpenters, electricians, plumbers, rock masons — are scurrying all over the place, like busy ants. Out of the dozen or so of Liberty Hill's old downtown buildings, more than half have already been restored to their former glory. And three major renovation projects are now in the works.

Right behind sculptor Mel Fowler's already restored studio — it is the oldest building in Liberty Hill, built in 1871; and a state historical plaque has been approved — workers are ripping off tin siding and roof and replacing metal with wood in an adjacent building. The finished product will serve as a studio for Catchi, a New York artist.

"I was the first person to buy in Liberty Hill with the idea of restoration," says Fowler. "I came here in 1971, when the town was completely derelict. I was looking to get away from Austin, and it's worked out perfectly for me.

"All the other buildings which have been restored, or will be restored, are owned by one man, John Chesley. He was a real estate man out of Austin, and after I came in, he bought up every building available in Liberty Hill and started renovating them. The change is incredible. That bank building, for instance, which they are now sandblasting to its natural stone color, was painted a horrible pink."

The "bank," which was at one time a combination general mercantile store and bank, is, with its original face showing, a handsome and impressive limestone building. It is being turned into a combination movie house, bakery and ice cream parlor, and office building.

Its innards have been gutted. In the movie house, 125 flashy blue art deco chairs from an old Blanco theater will hold kids for Saturday afternoon cartoons and serials, and others for a mixture of old films, such as Laurel and Hardy and 1950's films, and newer releases. Owned by Lon Fitzgerald, it will be called the Liberty Theater. Its first showing is set for April 2.

Right next door, a small bakery and sweet shop will be operated by Jackie Whitt of Liberty Hill. The walls are faced with solid wood paneling. Upstairs, the space has been divided into offices. One is being rented to a piano teacher.

A few doors down, another renovation and restoration project is underway, under the auspices of Carl Hardin Jr., an Austin attorney. Only slightly less impressive than the "bank building," the Hardin building has not yet been pegged for a specific use. Next door is Liberty Hill Feed and Seed, in an already refurbished smaller building.

Tucked in between the Feed and Seed store and the Bank Building is Masonic Lodge number 432. "It is over 100 years old, and the Masons have always been there," says Chesley. "They have never missed a meeting."

Other downtown buildings which have already been restored are the Main Street Emporium, Chesley's own real estate building, and Ephraim Roddy Hardware, named after Chesley's great-great grandfather, who was a Liberty Hill resident when the three largest cities in central Texas were Georgetown, Liberty Hill and Austin.

A few months ago, Market Day in Liberty Hill — on the first Saturday of each month — was established. The venture has been so successful that Liberty Hill is starting another novelty — the Arts and Crafts Fair. On the third Saturday of every month, starting March 20, legitimate artists...



THE OLDEST BUILDING IN LIBERTY HILL. Approved for a Texas historical medallion, this restored 1871 building is now a studio for sculptor Mel Fowler. Eventually, Fowler intends to replace the tin roof with wooden shingles.

On Liberty Hill's outskirts, Chesley is also building Jenks Branch, a new subdivision which will contain 45 single family homes and 24 units of apartments, in six quadrangles. "We are building new old homes," says Chesley with enthusiasm, and his architectural plans bear him out.

The homes, costing from \$22,000 to \$30,000, will sit on an average tract of six-tenths of an acre — and will be built in the style of early country homes. One two-story type, for instance, will have a metal roof, an old-fashioned porch and wood siding. "It will be unusual, there's no doubt about it," says Chesley.

The historic Tom Snyder home, which is within subdivision lands, will be restored and sold, says Chesley. It will look much like the "new" subdivision homes, if the plans pan out.

Why Liberty Hill?

"My wife Helen and I moved to Durham Park a few years ago, because my company was developing Durham Park," says the man responsible for most of Liberty Hill's new look. "We liked the area and the community so much that we decided to stay. We kept looking at the buildings in Liberty Hill, and the more we saw them the more it bothered us that they were just going to waste. So we just bought them up, and started work."

Texas Historical Commission gives money to Southwestern

The Texas Historical Commission awarded federal matching grants totalling \$777,533 to 54 historic preservation projects in the state during the THIC quarterly meeting March 2, announced Mrs. Wesley B. Blankenship, Com-

mission chairman. Southwestern University Administration Building was granted \$10,000 for restoration and remodeling.

This year Texas received the third largest allocation in the nation — just behind California and Massachusetts — out of a \$22.3 million appropriation earmarked for the acquisition and restoration of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register is the official inventory of properties worthy of preservation for their historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance on a local, state, or national level. There are over 215 Texas sites currently listed on the National Register.

The federal funds, which are made available under the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, are channeled to the states through the National Park Service, a division of the Department of the Interior. The Texas Historical Commission administers these funds for the State.

In fiscal 1975 the THIC distributed just over half a million dollars in federal grants-in-aid, nearly double the amount awarded in 1974.



MAIN STREET — TODAY. Workers are in and out of every building, as they paint, brick and wire electricity. The building on the far right is the old bank

building, and its face has been sandblasted to its original color.



THE PRESENT DAY OFFICES of John Chesley, the Liberty Hill realtor who is responsible for much of the town's new look.



THE CHESLEY REALTY OFFICE, before restoration. It's amazing what a little paint and grillwork can do!

POST MASTERS OF GEORGETOWN, TEXAS

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Richard Tankersley | Nov.2, 1847 |
| Francis W. Nash | 1848 |
| Andrew J. Mackay | 1849 |
| Josiah Taylor | 1850 |
| Evan Williams | 1855 |
| Andrew Marschalk, Jr. | 1856 |
| Elias W. Talbot | 1857 |
| Joseph M. Page | 1865 |
| Edward H. Napier | 1866 |
| George F. Harris | 1868 |
| A. W. Morrow | 1871 |
| William K. Foster | 1872 |
| Francis L. Price | 1875 |
| Ada T. Whittle | 1882 |
| Daniel S. Chessher | 1886 |
| Belle P. Chreitzberg | 1888 |
| James Knight | 1890 |
| Charles W. Brooks | 1894 |
| John L. Brooks | 1896 |
| Philemon A. Schaefer | 1899 |
| William P. Fleming | 1902 |
| F. T. Roche | 1914 |
| Lavinia A. Henderson | 1916 |
| Josephine W. Roche | 1916 |
| Simon J. Enochs | 1922 |
| John M. Sharpe | 1934 |
| Felix B. Secrest | 1944 |
| Lenard R. McLaughlin | 1952 |
| Dr. Hobson Martin | 1954 |
| C. A. Forbes | 1967 |
| J. D. Thomas, Jr. | 1968 |
| V. L. Williams | 1972 |

Sister homes to receive historical markers Sunday

Two elegant Elm Street Victorian homes which are near twins of each other — the J. A. McDougale home and the W. Y. Penn home — will receive Texas State historical markers during a public dedication ceremony at 2 p.m. Sunday.

The homes are now owned by Mrs. Joyce Adams, 1312 Elm Street, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allen, 1304 Elm Street, respectively.

At the dedication, Dr. Van C. Tipton, president of the Williamson County Historical Commission, will serve as master of ceremonies. The Rev. George Carlisle, pastor of St. David's Episcopal Church in Austin, will give the invocation. Carlisle is a descendant of the builder of the Penn Home. A brief history of each of the homes will be given by historian Clara Stearns Scarborough.

The Rev. Tom Graves, pastor of First United Methodist Church, will give the benediction at the McDougale home and the Rev. Lowell Rossow, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Walburg, will give the benediction at the Penn home.

Descendants and former residents of both homes have been invited.

J. A. McDOUGALE HOME

The contractor-architect for the McDougale home was the C. S. Belford Lumber Company of Georgetown, a large and reliable firm for more than half a century, credited with erecting the most substantial and best finished buildings in the area during the years they were in business.

The original two-story home had eight rooms, three porches, two long, wide corridors and six fireplaces — three upstairs, three downstairs. Also, a carriage house and a one-room servant's house were built on the lot west of the home. Cypress siding was used on the exterior. A distinctive gazebo-like extension with a cupola was built onto the downstairs porch.

Part of the reason for the success of the Belford Lumber Company was that it had no difficulty in obtaining the best building materials available at that time, most of them shipped in by Georgetown Railroad Company, whose terminal was near the liveryyard.

Beams under the floors and ceilings are heart-of-cypress and the cypress floors — 4 three-inch boards — were put down with

square nails. Beaded board was used in the kitchen, the upstairs bath, and on ceilings of the porches, gables, mantels and around windows and doors, inside and out. Each inside door has a transom. Stained glass was used in the two front doors, a parlor window, a dining room window and doors, inside and out. Each inside door has a transom. Stained glass was used in the two front doors, a parlor window, a dining room window and in four attic windows. Windows were shuttered inside and out. The one stairway has cypress rails.

Walls, except for beaded ones, were finished with wallpaper, and are twelve feet high downstairs, eleven feet upstairs. No two fireplaces are alike. The living and dining rooms downstairs, and the north bedroom upstairs are hexagonal.

Minimal addition and alterations to the home have been made. The original house had electric lights, plumbing and telephone, but degraded upon the fireplaces for heat, except in the bath and kitchen, where a wood heater and wood range were used. When gas heat became available, it was installed.

The first major changes were made in 1945 by Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Armstrong when the butler's pantry was converted to the cooking area of the kitchen and the earlier cooking area was changed into dining space; the original large bathroom was made into a bedroom and two other baths and two closets were added. A cistern in the original house, located on the back porch, was sealed and a gazebo compatible with the original on the front porch was added over the cistern.

The Armstrongs also moved the carriage house and converted it into a garage. Bookcases were added on one wall of the living room. Since 1945, the following changes were made by Joyce Adams: outside shutters which were too deteriorated to repair were replaced with similarly styled new ones and a fence in keeping with the general decor was added around the back yard in 1959. In 1971, Mrs. Adams added another wall of bookcases in the living room, now called a library.

W. Y. PENN HOME

The Penn Home, erected in 1895, contained eight main rooms including the

Continued on Page 15

butler's pantry, plus small closets, bath, a large hallway both upstairs and down, and three downstairs porches, plus one upstairs porch. There were three fireplaces with mantels downstairs and an additional three upstairs, all with different types of mantels. The downstairs back porch had a cistern underneath, and the northeast front porch had a rounded extension on the corner, covered with rounded roof with turret.

The porch ceilings and the kitchen were finished with beaded wood panelling

Outside trim is in the Victorian style and includes carved pieces decorating the eaves, porches, doors and window frames. The windows were shuttered outdoors. Stained glass was used in the front and back doors, in one window each of the living room and dining room, in a window of a downstairs room leading to the back porch, and in three attic windows. Both the living and dining rooms are hexagonal in shape.

One stairway leads upstairs and has two landings. At the second landing, the stair divides, and separate steps lead to the east and to the west rooms. Although the home is quite similar in appearance, construction, and floor plan to the McDougale house, built adjacent and to the south also in 1895, the split stairway arrangement is

unique to the Penn Home.

Alterations and additions to the home have been minimal and have not changed the basic structure. The Marvin C. Hodges family enclosed the back porch, but retained the original beaded wall inside. The cistern, which was located on this porch, is concealed underneath the floor. The Hodges added two bathrooms upstairs.

They also installed a dumb waiter leading to what was formerly a sleeping porch or bedroom, which the Hodges converted into a recreational room. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges renovated the kitchen, adding cabinet and storage space.

Dr. and Mrs. Van C. Tipton enclosed the downstairs south porch. They moved the servant's room farther away from the

main house, added a carport to it, and attached it to the main house by a breezeway.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen have made no structural changes in the house, but have renewed and repainted it, and repaired the shutters and screens. In addition, Mrs. Allen has obtained sufficient beaded panelling to use inside the "servant's room" and plans to restore it with this finish and make into a playroom.

The house has been home to several leading citizens of the community, and to 12 Methodist ministers and their families, all of these families deeply involved in the life of the community.

Information concerning the McDougale and Penn homes was obtained from Clara Scarborough.

Sister homes receive historical medallions

All are invited to attend the public dedication ceremony of two Victorian homes on Elm Street, Georgetown, which will receive Texas Historical Building Medallions Sunday at 2 p. m.

The historic J. A. McDouggle-Adams and W. Y. Penn-Allen homes have been recently named Recorded Texas Historic Landmarks.

The homes are now owned by Mrs. Joyce Adams, 1312 Elm Street, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allen, 1304 Elm Street.

At the dedication, Dr. Van C. Tipton, president of the Williamson County Historical Commission and former owner of the Penn-Allen home, will serve as master of ceremonies. The Rev. George Carlisle, pastor of St. David's Episcopal Church in Austin will give the invocation. Carlisle is a descendant of the builder of the Penn home. A brief history of each of the homes will be given by historian Clara Stearns Scarbrough.

The Rev. Tom Graves, pastor of First United Methodist Church, will give the benediction at the McDouggle-Adams home and the Rev. Lowell Rossow, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Walburg, will give the benediction at the Penn-Allen home.

Descendants and former residents of both homes will attend.

The Penn home was sold to the Georgetown District of the North West Texas Conference of Methodist Episcopal Church in January, 1907. The home was then occupied by presiding elders, or district superintendents until it was sold July 28, 1945, to Mr. and Mrs. Marvin C. Hodges.

Mrs. Hodges sold the house to Dr. and Mrs. Van C. Tipton December 15, 1966. Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Allen purchased the home from the Tiptons in February 1973.

A string of Methodist ministers who lived in the Penn house from 1907 until 1945 were B. R. Bolton, W. H. Vaughan, W. H. Armstrong, W. B. Andrews, John M. Barcus, Sam G. Thompson, D. K. Porter, T. Edgar Neal, John W. Bergen, Gaston Hartsfield, John N. Rentfro, Ed R. Barcus and R. C. Edwards.

The inscription on the Penn-Allen marker reads: "W. Y. Penn Home — This house was erected in 1895 for William Y. Penn (1860-1951), a local merchant who also served as city alderman and mayor. Like several other Victorian homes here, it was built by C. S. Belford Lumber Co. In 1907 the structure became the residence of the presiding elder of the Georgetown District of the Methodist Church. It was sold in 1945 to Druggist M. C. Hodges (1889-1965) and in 1966

to Dr. Van C. Tipton. In 1973 it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Allen. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark — 1975."

McDouggle sold his house to Mr. and Mrs. John R. Allen on November 22, 1901. The Allens lived there until the home was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Flanagan January 15, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Halsell P. Armstrong purchased the home August 22, 1945 and it stayed in their possession until Mrs. Armstrong sold the home to Neil and Joyce Adams August 27, 1969.

The inscription on the McDouggle-Adams marker reads: "J. A. McDouggle Home — One of the many fine structures erected by C. S. Belford Lumber Co., this house was built in 1895 for Grocer J. A. McDouggle (d. 1939). The Victorian styling included ornate stained glass windows. The home was bought in 1901 by John R. Allen and in 1910 by W. J. Flanagan, who was county treasurer for several terms. His family lived here until Mr. and Mrs. Halsell P. Armstrong became owners (1945). The property was acquired and restored in 1969 by Neil and Joyce Adams. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark — 1975."



McDouggle-Adams Home

The Sunday SUN
Page 6
Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, March 14, 1976

J. A. McDOUGLE HOME
1312 Elm Street
Georgetown, Texas
1975

by Clara Scarbrough (Mrs. Don)

Land on which the J. A. McDougale home, Georgetown, was built has been owned by the following:

Clement Stubblefield, by grant from Republic of Texas Aug. 19, 1844, 1/3 League on San Gabriel River, grant signed by President Sam Houston; Stubblefield sold the property to Thomas B. Huline Oct. 10, 1848 for \$150; Huline sold some of the land to G. W. Glasscock in April 1850 for \$1250, and on March 4, 1851, relinquished "all the lands on the East side of Brushy Street" for \$5; Glasscock sold 17 3/4 acres to Thomas P. Hughes Feb. 16, 1857, for \$221.87, and Hughes laid out the Hughes Addition on a portion of the tract, including Block B, which he sold to Lou Etta Booty on Dec. 31, 1894, for \$1400. Lou Etta Booty and her husband, A. A. Booty, sold the south half Block B on July 25, 1895, to J. A. McDougale for \$700, and here McDougale built his home.

On Nov. 22, 1901, J. A. and Clara McDougale sold the home to John R. Allen for \$4500; John R. and Mollie F. C. Allen sold the property Jan. 15, 1910, to W. J. and Annie D. Flanagan, for \$4,000. Mrs. Annie Flanagan (widow) sold the home to Halsell P. and Frances Nell Armstrong on Aug. 22, 1945. Mrs. Armstrong sold it to Neil H. and Joyce T. Adams on Aug. 27, 1969.

The McDougale home was built almost immediately after he bought the land. ■ The Williamson County Sun of Aug. 29, 1895, contains a story about building in Georgetown and listed among the new residences that of McDougale.

J. A. McDougale (1839/497*-1939) came to Texas from Alabama with his family by ox wagon, settling in Williamson County where other relatives lived. In his early twenties, he moved to Georgetown, joined a trail in 1871 for Salina, Kansas; drove the trail again in 1873. He

*McDougle's gravestone gives his birth year as 1839, but he claimed to be 90 the year he died, which was 1939, so he may have been born in 1849.

He married Clara Belsher (1861-1936); their children were Homer A. McDougle, Clarence Penn McDougle, Dr. John B. McDougle, Etta Mae McDougle Crofford, and Nelle McDougle Marshall. J. A. McDougle is buried in Laural Land Memorial Park, Dallas.

Dr. and Mrs. John Robert Allen were directors of the Ladies' Annex at Southwestern University for many years prior to his editorship of the Williamson County Sun (1915-1918), after which he reentered the ministry.

W. J. Flanagan was in the insurance business in Georgetown, was county treasurer several terms, was active in the Methodist Church and in Masonic Lodge. The children of W. J. and Annie D. Flanagan were Harman, Hubert William, and Mabel.

Halsell Armstrong was a land owner and his wife, Frances Nell, taught school in Georgetown.

The McDougle home was built by C. S. Belford Lumber Company. The house had 8 rooms, 3 porches, 2 long, wide corridors, 6 fireplaces (3 upstairs, 3 down); a carriage house and one-room servant's house stood west of the home. Cypress siding is used on the exterior. A distinctive gazebo-like extension with cupola adorns the downstairs front porch. Beams under the floors and the ceilings are heart of cypress; floors are cypress of 3-inch boards put down with square nails. Beaded board was used in kitchen, upstairs bath, and on porch ceilings. Typical Victorian trim was used on porches, gables, mantels, around windows and doors, inside and out; each inside door has a transom. Stained glass was used in the two front doors, in a parlor window, a dining room window and four attic windows. Windows were shuttered inside and out. The single stairway has cypress railings. Walls are 12 feet high downstairs, eleven feet upstairs and are wallpapered. No two fireplaces are alike. The living and dining rooms and the north bedroom upstairs are hexagonal.

The original house had electric lights, plumbing and telephone, but was heated by fireplaces, except in bath and kitchen, where wood heater and wood range were used. Gas heat was added when it was available.

The first major changes were made in 1945 by the Armstrongs when the butler's pantry was converted to the cooking area of the kitchen and the earlier cooking area made into family dining space; the original very large bath was made into a bedroom; two other baths and two closets were added. A cistern on the back porch was sealed, and a

ed
m
ge.

ones.

, 59;
445.

wn,
ars,

razabo compatible with the original one on the front porch was placed over the cistern. The Armstrongs also moved the carriage house from the west of the lot near the residence and converted it into a garage. The added book cases on one wall of the living room.

Mrs. Joyce Adams, in 1972, found the outside shutters in too bad a state to repair, and replaced them with similarly styled new ones. She added a fence in keeping with the decor around the back yard. In 1973, Mrs. Adams added another wall of book cases in the living room, now called the library.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Abstract of Title No. 45474, Williamson County.
Williamson County Deed Records, Vol. II, 366; I, 572; II, 153; VII, 59
LXXII, 107; XC, 509; CXXXVII, 254; CCCXXIX, 196; CXL, 253; LXI, 445
Williamson County Sun, Aug. 29, 1895.
The Dallas Morning News, March 29, 1931.
Clipping from a Dallas newspaper April 26, 1939.
Letters to author from Mabel F. Street, Graham, Texas Feb. 26 and
March 6, 1974; Pearl McDougle, Dallas, March 16, 1974.
Letter to Mrs. Joyce Adams from Mabel F. Street, Feb. 11, 1974.
Interviews by Mrs. Joyce Adams with Mrs. Emmett M. Cooke, Georgetown,
whose husband was bookkeeper for Selford Lumber Co. for many years,
and with Mrs. Frances Nell Armstrong, Georgetown.

24



Penn-Allen Home

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 4 Thursday, March 18, 1976



PENN-ALLEN HOME — Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Allen and children Mitchell and Juli welcomed past residents and descendants of the W. Y. Penn home to the historical marker dedication Sunday afternoon. Those previously associated with the home include the Rev. George Carlisle standing with the Allens; and second row, Judge Tom E. Johnson, Mrs. George Carlisle, Mrs. Meade Griffin, Louise Custer, and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Penn. Back row are Mrs. R. L. Penn, Mrs. Tom E. Johnson, Dr. and Mrs. Van Tipton and Robert Custer.

THE W. Y. PENN HOME

1304 Elm Street, Georgetown, Texas

1975

by Clara Scarbrough

Abstract of Title No. 45409 of Williamson County shows that this home stands on land with the following history: One-third league was granted to Clement Stubblefield Aug. 19, 1844 by the Republic of Texas. Stubblefield sold 1476 acres to Thos. S. Huling Oct. 10, 1848, who transferred the property April 12, 1850, to G. W. Glasscock, Sr., a partner in land development and speculation to Huling. Mary Williams bought 25 acres of this land from Glasscock April 27, 1855, was married to Wm. E. Bouchelle Sept. 7, 1856. W. E. and Mary Bouchelle sold 10 acres of their land Mar. 2, 1857, to Thos. P. Hughes, Georgetown attorney, in whose law office William Rogers Houston, second youngest son of Sam Houston, read the law. A map in the abstract delineating Hughes' property designates as "Block B" the block on which the Penn home was built. At that time, the block was bordered by Elm, Myrtle, Magnolia and Palmetto Streets, the last two having () been changed to numbered streets. On Dec. 31, 1894, Judge Hughes conveyed Block B. to his daughter, Mrs. Louetta Booty. On June 13, 1895, A. A. Booty and his wife, Louetta Hughes Booty, sold the north half of Block B. to W. Y. Penn, 240 x 120 feet, for \$700. "Immediately after purchase (states the deed). . . W. Y. Penn. . . enclosed same by a good and substantial fence and erected a two story residence and oyer improvements."

William Y. Penn was born in San Felipe, Texas, Nov. 12, 1860, attended a rural school and worked on his father's farm. In 1877, he went to Austin to clerk in his brother's book store. W. Y. moved to Georgetown in July 1880 with his family, and there W. Y. opened a book, confectionery and cigar store. In 1887, he sold the confectionery to Carl Burkhardt and purchased W. D. Pfaeffle's jewelry shop which he combined with his book store. In November 1887 he married Lizzie Robertson. Penn was an early City Alderman and Mayor, member of the official board of First Methodist Church, Past Master of San Gabriel Masonic Lodge, Past Chancellor of Knights of Pythias.

On Jan. 1, 1907, W. Y. and Lizzie Penn sold their home to Georgetown District of the Northwest Texas Conference of ~~W.M.E.W.~~ Methodist Episcopal Church South for \$4500. The Penns moved to San Antonio. He died there April 15, 1951, is buried in IOOF Cemetery, Georgetown.

The Penn home was occupied from 1907 until 1945 by presiding elders, (District Superintendents) and their families, of the Methodist Church. In 1945 (July 28), M. C. Hodges purchased the home. Hodges (1889-1965) was owner and operator of Hodges Drug Store in Georgetown for many years. His wife, Melvola, was a school teacher. On Dec. 15, 1966, Melvola Hodges sold the home to Dr. Van C. Tipton and his wife, AnnEstelle. Dr. Tipton was physician for Southwestern University many years, and also practiced medicine in military service. The Tiptons sold the home to Robert Vernon Allen and his wife, Joanne Oesterreich Allen, in Feb. 1973. Mr. Allen is with the Gulf Telephone Corporation.

The Penn home was erected by C. S. Belford Lumber Co. of Georgetown, which built many substantial homes and buildings of the community during its more than half a century in construction business. The home is one of three built ^{adjacent to each other} the same year by Belford, of similar design and floor plan (but not identical), and built for three men who were good friends. The house erected in 1895 had 8 main rooms, plus butler's pantry, small closets, one bath, large corridor or hallway downstairs and upstairs, 3 porches downstairs and one porch upstairs. There were six fireplaces, three on first floor, three upstairs, each with different style mantel. A cistern was built under the back porch. Beaded wood panelling, Victorian trim on eaves, porches, doors and window frames, shutters for windows, stained glass in doors and windows, and the hexagonal shape of the living and dining rooms were among the distinctive features. The stair divides at the second landing, with separate steps leading on up to the west and east rooms. Siding is cypress.

Minimal alterations included: enclosure of back porch by the Hodges to make a room, addition of two baths upstairs, and covering of the cistern with flooring; they also installed a dumb waiter leading to an original bedroom, converted by the Hodges into a recreational room. They renovated the kitchen, adding cabinet and storage space. Dr. and Mrs. Tipton enclosed the south porch downstairs, moved the servant's house farther from the main house, added a carport to it, and attached it to the home by a breezeway.

The home is in excellent condition.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Wm. County Deeds: Vol. 2, 366; Vol. 1, 20-22; Vol. 1, 372; Vol. 6, 51; Vol. 1, 155; Vol. 7, 282; Vol. 7, 59; Vol. 71, 593; Vol. 75, 528; Vol. 123, 3; Vol. 492, 414.

Abstract of Title No. 45409, Williamson County.

Clara Scarbrough, Land of Good Water, 124-127, 149-150, 156-157, 184, 194, 211, 231, 242, 147.

Williamson County Sun, Dec. 7, 1950; files for 1894-95.

Mrs. Tom E. Johnson, Rt. 7, Box 928, Austin.

Interviews with Mrs. Marvin C. (Melvola) Hodges, Dr. and Mrs. Van C. Tipton, Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Allen, 1974-75.

26
Texas Historical Commission Staff (CW), 6/19/75

28
Official Texas Historical Building Marker for attachment to wood
Williamson County (Order #4354)

Location: 1304 Elm St., Georgetown

W. Y. PENN HOME*

THIS HOUSE WAS ERECTED IN 1895
FOR WILLIAM Y. PENN^{***} (1860-1951)^{***}, A LOCAL
MERCHANT WHO ALSO SERVED AS CITY
ALDERMAN AND MAYOR. LIKE SEVERAL
OTHER VICTORIAN HOMES HERE, IT WAS
BUILT BY C. S. BELFORD LUMBER CO. IN
1907 THE STRUCTURE BECAME THE
RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDING ELDER
OF THE GEORGETOWN DISTRICT OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH. IT WAS SOLD IN
1945 TO DRUGGIST M. C. HODGES^{***} (1889-1965)^{***}
AND IN 1966 TO DR. VAN C. TIPTON. IN
1973 IT WAS PURCHASED BY MR. AND
MRS. ROBERT V. ALLEN.**
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1975***

*1/2 inch lettering
**3/8 inch lettering
***1/4 inch lettering



By the authority vested in it by the Legislature of the State of Texas, the Texas Historical Commission hereby designates

W. Y. PENN HOME

of the city of Georgetown county of Williamson as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark and duly certifies that said structure is worthy of preservation because of its outstanding contribution to the heritage of Texas.


Governor of Texas


Chairman, Texas Historical Commission

May 10, 1975
Date

WILLIAMSON COUNTY SHERIFFS 1848 - 1974

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Whitfield Chalk | 1848 - 1850 |
| Allen Stroud | 1850 - 1851 |
| Jacob B. Harrell | 1851 - 1855 |
| Levi Asher | 1856 - 1857 |
| Elisha Thomason | 1858 - 1862 |
| Levi Asher | 1862 - 1864 |
| Wm. K. Makemson | 1864 - 1866 |
| Wm. H. Warnock | 1866 - 1868 |
| LeRoy B. Lord | 1868 - 1869 |
| John Champion | 1869 - |
| John L. Peay | 1869 - 1874 |
| S. M. Strayhorn | 1874 - 1881 |
| J. M. Tucker | 1881 - 1884 |
| John T. Olive | 1884 - 1888 |
| Sampson Connell | 1888 - 1890 |
| John T. Olive | 1890 - 1892 |
| W. S. Brookshire | 1892 - 1894 |
| H. C. Furl | 1894 - 1898 |
| Sampson Connell | 1898 - 1912 |
| Lee O. Allen | 1912 - 1924 |
| Louis H. Lowe | 1925 - 1936 |
| Robert O. Davis | 1937 - 1938 |
| B. M. McLaughlin | 1939 - 1940 |
| Robert O. Davis | 1941 - 1946 |
| S. "Red" Allen | 1947 - 1964 |
| Henry Matysek | 1954 - 1974 |
| August Bosshard | 1974 - |



SMILE FOR THE CAMERA — L. A. Rutledge, Juan Rutledge, Jo Ann Morse and Skip Morse pose before a large replica of the Declaration of Independence enhancing the south end of the Community Center. Mrs. Rutledge was in charge of decorations.



COTTON-EYED JOE — Dancing and dining at the Bicentennial Ball Saturday night were Beth Davis, Meart Leffler, Moppy and Lloyd Crabb, Peggy and Hal Gaddy and Margaret Simmons.

The Williamson County SUN
 Section 1, Page 8
 Georgetown, Texas
 Thursday, March 18, 1976



DECORATING PARTY AREA — Workers putting the final touches on the Bicentennial Bash party area Saturday afternoon stop a minute to pose on the bandstand which housed the Country Blues of the night for the festive evening. Pictured, left to right, are Phillip Kitchens, Carroll Johnson, Miles Allen, Joan Rutledge, Bob Hinesley, Jo Ann Morse, Lynn Burnette, Skip Morse and Gordon Morse. Other decorations included a variety of flags suspended from the ceiling of San Gabriel Community Center, lighted oak trees, red, white and blue bunting, flowers and table covers. Greenery surrounded the bandstand.



THIS IS "INJUN" COUNTRY — Lynn and Carl Burnette attended the Bicentennial Bash as Tonkawa Indians. Theirs was among the many authentic-looking costumes at the ball.



HAVING A GOOD TIME — Skip and Jo Ann Morse, George and Frances Nelson, and Douglas and Nell Benold dance the Cotton-eyed Joe at the Bicentennial Bash Saturday night.

Three-legged Willie

Man Williamson County named after was among the greatest early Texans

A grotesque affliction, a brilliant mind, and a cruel nickname combined to make R. M. Williamson a famous man in early Texas. The following story about the man Williamson County was named for appeared recently in the Frontier Times.

by Det Smullen Goff

(photos courtesy of the author)

In 1827 when Stephen F. Austin was urging Americans to take the land being offered them in an out-of-the-way place called Texas, he attracted a real mix of personalities. Whole families came, seeking a better life. There were others, running away from debtors. Some were leaving wives and families. And then there were the adventurers — men intrigued by the idea of a new frontier and a new challenge.

Yet even in the motley crowd where the unusual was usual, Robert McAlpin Williamson stood out because of his affliction. One of his legs had to be supported under the knee by a wooden stump, an appendage that gave him, from the moment he arrived in 1827, a nickname that would stay with him until he died — "Three-Legged Willie."

WILLIAMSON HAD NOT always been a cripple. Born in 1804 or 1806 in Georgia, he was the son of Peter B. and Ann Williamson, fairly well-to-do people for that time. At age fifteen the boy fell ill and spent two years in bed, during which time his right leg became permanently bent back at the knee. When Willie was finally able to resume a somewhat normal life again, it was found that a wooden leg, fitted at the knee offered his only hope of getting around.

The youngster hadn't been idle while bedridden; on the contrary he had read so extensively that by the time he was nineteen he was admitted to the bar in Georgia. He practiced there for one year before deciding to go to Texas.

When Williamson arrived at San Felipe de Austin, walking as he did with his right leg sticking out behind him and with a third pants leg hiding his artificial limb, it was inevitable that he would be noticed. He

was not a bad looking youth; his black hair was long and wavy, and he was five feet, nine inches tall. And though described as "of small bone and delicate frame," he belied his looks, for he was courageous, sincere and forthright, a man to be watched.

WILLIAMSON FELL right into the life of the small Texas settlement of 200 people. He began wearing a coonskin cap and the buckskin of the settlers. There were times when he wore homespun garments and a broad-brimmed hat. Later, as he prospered, he wore more fashionable clothes, but his trademark — the pants with three legs, never changed.

Williamson soon affiliated himself with Godwin B. Cotten, establishing a newspaper called "The Cotton Plant." His next move was to try to convince the colonists that they should resist the rule of the Mexicans. He served as a delegate from Mina to a consultation held in San Felipe about this matter.

When a provisional government was set up Williamson was commissioned a major on November 29, 1835 and asked to form the first company of Rangers. His withered leg did nothing to deter his active participation in the army for he rode well and he took part in the battle of San Jacinto as a member of the cavalry.

The Georgian was a complex man, a man of many moods, of strong feelings and convictions; and he became a legend in his time, not only because of his handicap, but because his



R. M. WILLIAMSON

decisions handed down as a judge were fair, and sometimes unique, and for his aptness as a campaigner and orator.

HE WAS ELECTED by the first Congress of the Texas Republic as judge for the Third Judicial District which was made up of Mina, Washington, Austin, Milam, Gonzales and Colorado counties. One of his chief claims to fame is that, lacking a suitable building, he held court in Columbus under a spreading oak tree, a tree that has withstood a couple of centuries of weather and abuse.

When Judge Williamson held court there, the small town of Columbus had seen hard times. The Alamo had fallen, and the city had almost been destroyed by fire, deliberately set by its citizens to keep what they had from falling into the hands of the enemy.

After the battle of San Jacinto, one by one the settlers returned to start over again. But Columbus epitomized the frontier; it was rough and swift in its justice and Robert McAlpin Williamson was the sort of judge it needed. It wasn't known who first suggested that the oak was a good place to hold court, but soon Williamson's gavel was ringing out and court was in session there.

In the very heart of the city, the tree still stands just east of the present courthouse, its spreading branches still shading the street. When a pale moon casts eerie shadows through the old oak, one can easily imagine that Three-Legged Willie is presiding at its base as he did long ago.

IN HIS LIFETIME Williamson was a major of the

Rangers, an alcalde at San Felipe, a judge, a commissioner of records and a state senator. After he was defeated in a race for Congress in 1849, he retired to his farm at Independence to give time to his family.

In 1857 Williamson suffered a severe illness, one which affected his mental capacities. With the death of his beloved wife he really began to fail. In 1858 Williamson died at the home of his father-in-law in Wharton and was buried there.

But the man from Georgia was not forgotten. Williamson County, created in 1848, is named for him and an historic marker was erected at this home in Wharton. Of course, he is remembered for his three-legged trousers, but he is remembered too for his kindness, his sincerity and his great love for his adopted state. He died a man who said he had rather be called a Texan than any other name.

HIS ELOQUENCE as a speaker for liberty during the days prior to the Texas Revolution made him a partner to those men who made Texas history exciting. And above all, he was a man who rose above personal affliction.

In 1906 his body was moved to the State Cemetery in Austin, where he rests with so many other fellow adventurers. At least, that is his "formal" resting place — but one can hardly travel through Columbus today without feeling the presence of Three-Legged Willie standing beside the old oak tree just off the square.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 1, Page 12

Georgetown, Texas
April 15, 1976

Georgetown history on tour

A historic tour of some of Georgetown's finest old homes and churches — such as the gemlike Grace Episcopal Church, the impressive Bosty-McAdeu Georgian mansion, and the charming Lane-Riley farm house with its ivy-covered cistern — will be conducted on the weekend of May 1 and May 2, Saturday and Sunday afternoon from two until five o'clock.

Dimmitt place ...

The old Dimmitt house, sitting on the southern flank of the South San Gabriel, is the oldest home on the Bicentennial historic tour. Built in 1866, the limestone slab building is now the home of Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Gamble and has been honored with a Texas State Historical Marker. It is located on the north side of Highway 29 west of Georgetown, between the South San Gabriel River and Interstate 20.

John Jones Dimmitt, a lawyer, surveyor, mathematician, linguist and county attorney who was one of the founders of the Georgetown Railroad, built the one-and-a-half-story house with native limestone hauled in by ox-drawn wagons. The walls are 18 inches thick, and the center of the house is constructed with an air space for ventilation.

The home's exterior is marked by a pedimented portico and a bracketed cornice. The wood trim is all of oak, and the decorative trim on the roof is metal. Nearby, Dimmitt added a stone cistern and water filter system and a stone smokehouse, both of which still stand.

The present house is the original one except for a kitchen and family room, which have been added. Dr. Gamble says that the air space between walls may have been the basis of a persistent rumor that the house was haunted.

"Squirrels and rats lived in these wall spaces for a long time," he said. "They made strange noises at night, but after the intruders were eradicated — no more noises!" There are the remains of an old wine cellar beneath the house.

With the purchase of a ticket costing \$2.50, anyone may tour total of 11 local homes and churches. At each point on the tour route, specially-trained guides will be on hand to explain the history and architecture of each structure. A person may choose to break up his tour into two afternoons — visit half of the attractions on Saturday and half on Sunday.

The tour is a project of the Heritage Committee of the Georgetown Bicentennial Commission, which hopes to attract visitors from all over Central Texas. Mrs. Thatcher Aikin, who is in charge of planning, has advised that people purchase their tickets as quickly as possible, because the size of groups may have to be restricted. Tickets may be purchased from Mr. or Mrs. Mearl Leffler, ticket chairpersons, or the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce.

Historic homes featured on the tour are now the homes of Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Gamble, Dr. and Mrs. Bob Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McAdeu, Mrs. Pearl Whatley, Judge and Mrs. Sam Stone, Mrs. Joyce Adams and Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Allen. Churches are the Grace Episcopal Church, the First Presbyterian Church, St. John's Methodist Church and the First Methodist Church.

Committees responsible for the church visitations are headed by William H. Loedcke, Grace Episcopal; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forbes, Presbyterian; Mrs. R. N. Green, St. John's Methodist, and Mrs. Tom Graves, First Methodist.

For the tour of homes, Mrs. Sam Brady is organizing the house party which will assist the houses in each residence. Mrs. Wallace Giddings and Mrs. Gordon Mashburn will conduct a planning and training session for the lecturers who will provide the historical narratives at each stopping point.

The committee in charge of flowers is headed by Mrs. Grady Anderson, assisted by Mrs. Lloyd Crabb, Mrs. Wallace Evans and Mrs. Felix Melburn. Mike Riddle will provide directions for parking facilities on Austin Avenue and other public relations assignments. Mrs. Don Scarbrough is in charge of publicity and Donna Scarbrough has provided special photographs.

Rounded stones in the driveway mark the old approach to the house. This was a narrow drive and was bordered with small cedar trees. The stone table in the rear held the water filter device, through which rainwater caught from the roof was filtered and piped into the cistern nearby. When the Gambles bought the place, the smokehouse was black inside from long use in curing meat. The walls were covered with wires and books hung from the rafters. Dr. Gamble has enlarged the room and converted it into a workshop.

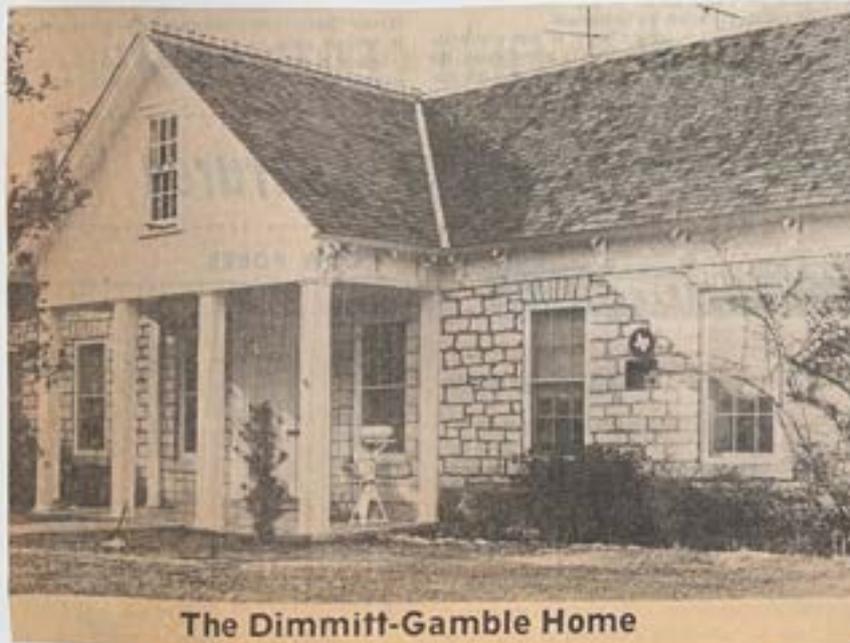
Behind the house, a small, flat valley nestles near a spring and pond. The Gambles believe this was a primitive garden plot, because pieces of chains, books, horseshoes and other harness hardware keep appearing in the plowed ground. The Gamble family still uses the site for their garden.

Dimmitt and his wife owned the land on the north bank of the river across from the Gamble house where the Texas Chautauqua Assembly had its buildings, summer houses, and camp grounds from about 1885 to 1895. An old road on the east of the Gamble home ran to the Chautauqua site, reached by what was described as "the magnificent suspension bridge" spanning the San Gabriel River.

Dimmitt and his wife were civic leaders in every sense, being active supporters of the community, the Presbyterian Church and Southwestern University.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 1, Page 9

Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, March 11, 1976



The Dimmitt-Gamble Home

Tour of Historic Georgetown homes

★ Builder C. S. Belford built himself a home in 1896 ★

A historic tour of some of Georgetown's finest old homes and churches will be conducted by Georgetown's Bicentennial Commission on May 1 and 2, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m. The public is invited to purchase tickets for \$2.50 each for the guided tour, which was planned by Mrs. Thatcher Atkin. Tickets can be obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Lettlev, Route 1, Georgetown, or the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. This article is one in a series featuring the homes and churches to be visited during the Centennial tour.

There's a saying around Georgetown that "if Belford Lumber Company built it, it's still in good condition."

C. S. Belford, founder of the reputable firm which constructed many of the best homes and other buildings in the Georgetown area for decades, built himself a residence in 1896 at 1230 Austin Avenue. The home remained in the possession of the Belford family until Dr. and



★ Bedford-Brown Home
1230 Austin Ave. ★

Mrs. Bob Brown purchased it in recent years and restored it. Dr. Brown is a professor in the Department of Science at Southwestern University.

When tour visitors view this home, they can be assured that only the finest of materials were used in its construction. Of particular interest is the fine detailing of oak, the beauty of the wood now enhanced by the years. Leaded beveled glass is used throughout the house, even in the large, single-pane windows, except for the openings where stained glass was utilized. The brass door knobs, toggle switches and light fixtures are all original.

The large residence contains seven fireplaces and chimneys, and decorative trim is different on each one. Spacious porches encircle a large portion of the downstairs area. The gables are accented by stained glass attic windows over which a fan-shaped Victorian trim is used.

Just to the north of the Belford house is another home owned by Dr. Bob Brown, the Dilley-Tinnin house at 1230

Austin Avenue. This home is not to be opened to the public for the tour, but the exterior, possibly the most interesting part of the house and can be observed from the front. A New Orleans importer, Clarence Dilley, built this home in 1896 for his bride, Antonia. The Italian design has been accented by a three-story campanile-type tower, often popularly described as "steer boat Gothic." Two story bay windows are located on the north and south sides of the home. Dilley shipped white cypress from New Orleans for the construction of the house.

Two years after their home was built, the couple went to Shelbyville, Illinois, to visit his family. While there, C. E. Dilley became suddenly ill and died. The widow did not wish to return to Texas, so Dilley's estate was settled by his father and the home in Georgetown was sold to John Tinnin, Tinnin, a colorful rattleman, Confederate Army colonel, Texas Ranger and Indian fighter, became the partner of another Georgetown man, John Sparks (who later became governor of Nevada) and together they founded the famed Winecup Ranch in Nevada. Among Tinnin's well-remembered possessions was a parrot who had learned to talk along a waterfront environment and whose language occasionally shocked passersby on Austin Avenue (then called Brusby Street).

The Tinnin House has been recognized in the National Register for its unusual architecture.

Classic Georgian Revival Home has had only 3 owners in 75 years

The handsome Georgian Revival home at 308 East University Avenue, Georgetown, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles McAden, was first the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. "Gus" Booty.

Mrs. Booty was the daughter of Judge Thomas Proctor Hughes, prominent attorney in Georgetown, and this home was built on land which had belonged to Judge Hughes. In fact, his house stood where the present Martin Apartments are, just south of the Wesleyan Home, and it is said that he planned the location of both his daughters' homes so that they were within view of his own front porch. The other daughter, Mrs. C. C. Cody and Professor Cody, lived next door.

A. A. "Gus" Booty was a prominent merchant in Georgetown and helped organize the Texas Fuel Company, ancestor of Texaco, Inc., in 1901. The group of men involved in the enterprise met in the back of Burkhardt's Newsstand. The home was retained by Booty heirs until 1948, when Mr. and Mrs. W. Grogan Lord purchased and restored it, residing there for more than twenty years.

Mr. Lord has a wide range of business and investment interests. During the years Dorothy and Grogan Lord resided in this home, they entertained a number of distinguished guests including several who were receiving honorary degrees from Southwestern University — Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, Ambassador Edward Clark and the late Miss Ima Hogg, all well known in Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Lord added the west wing to the house in the 1960s.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McAden moved to the Booty



Booty-McAden home on University Avenue

PHOTO BY DONNA SCARBOROUGH

residence from Austin, where Mr. McAden is in the real estate business.

The Booty-McAden home was built about 1900 but was without the distinctive columns which reach two stories high. They are of cypress, in the Ionic design,

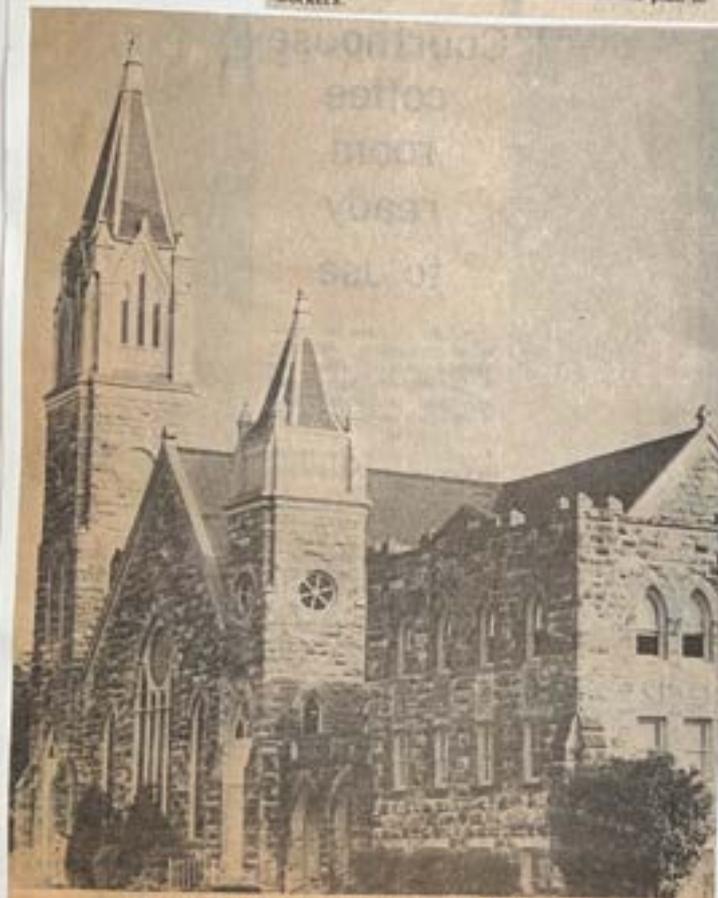
and were added a few years after the home was erected. The balanced lines of the classic styling, the use of beveled and stained glass in windows and doors, the understated detailing, and the spacious grounds add to the charm of the handsome house.

First United Methodist Church built from hand-hewn limestone

Designed by Dr. Robt. Hyer, Southwestern U. physics professor

The First United Methodist Church, 410 East University Avenue, was built of hand hewn limestone cut from quarries west of Georgetown and hauled here by mule team in 1892-93.

The Waterston family, imported from Great Britain in 1885 to do the stone work on the new State Capitol, were the stone cutters for this church (and later for the Southwestern University Main Building six blocks east). Dr. Robert Stewart Hyer, professor of physics at Southwestern University, designed the church with a sanctuary in the form of the Greek Cross. He built a scale model of the church to demonstrate his plan to workers.



First United Methodist Church
410 E. University Ave. (1892-93)

Carpenters for the job were Swedish settlers, furnished by Belford Lumber Company of Georgetown.

The church had its origins in the Mission Church created in 1849 and served by circuit ministers after 1851. The church remained small through the Civil War and Reconstruction years, at which time the circuit rider serving this congregation had eighteen churches under his care.

Between 1870 and 1873, several events of importance to the local church transpired. In 1870, a group of

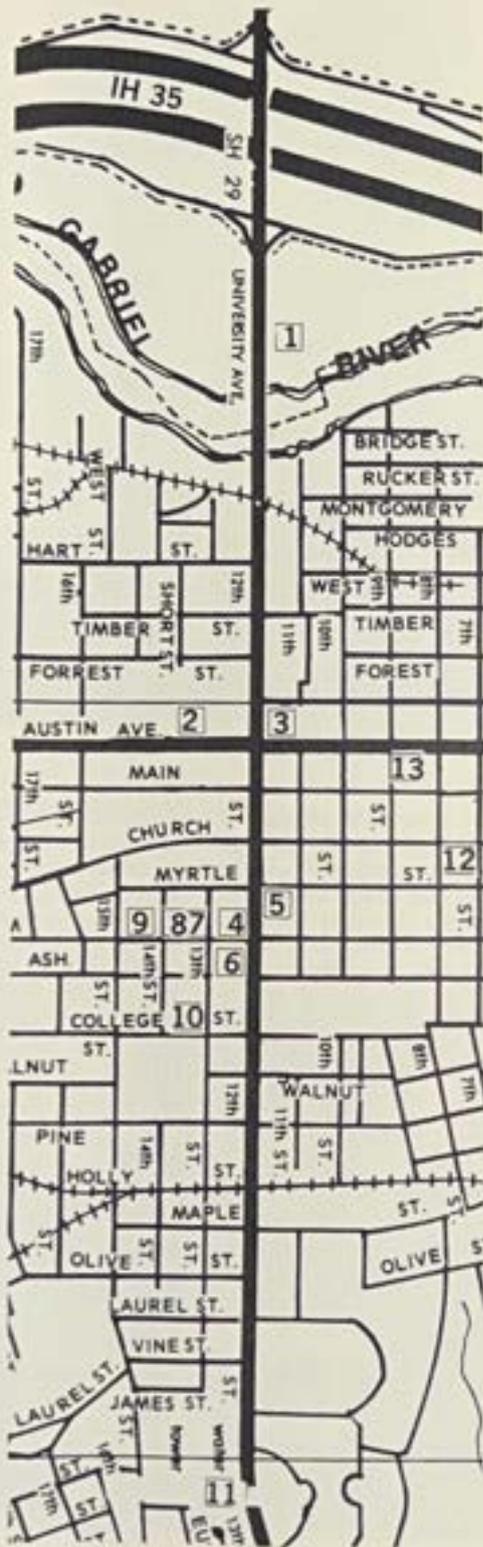
Georgetown citizens resolved to build Georgetown College, which was completed the next year. Almost simultaneously, the Methodists of the state were seeking to relocate their Methodist institution of higher learning. After considerable consultation on their part and offers made by the Georgetown community, an agreement was reached, and Georgetown was selected as the site for the revamped Methodist University, soon to be called Southwestern University. The school had its beginnings when Rutgersville College, whose charter Southwestern absorbed, was established under the Republic of Texas in 1840.

When Dr. Francis Asbury Mood, first Regent of Southwestern University, arrived in Georgetown in August 1873, he found only thirteen or fourteen active Methodists in town. They were holding services in the Courthouse or in Price's Hall, or they worshipped with other denominations. In January 1874, with Dr. Mood's strong support, the church was formally organized, and in 1879, it became a station church.

For a time, the church met in Southwestern University's (formerly Georgetown College's) building in the 500 block north of University Avenue. In 1881, the congregation decided to build. A chapel was erected on the same block with the S. U. building, diagonally northeast of the present church. It was never completed above the level of a flat, semi-basement room. Plans for this present church were begun in 1891. The educational annex was added in 1933.

Note the strong resemblance of the rock work on the church with that of the Main Building at Southwestern University (built in 1900), and the similar steepies on the two buildings.

For its historic role in the community, the church has a Texas State Historical Marker.



The Heritage Committee

of

Georgetown Bicentennial Commission

presents

**The 1976 Tour
of
Historic Homes
and Churches**

Saturday and Sunday
May 1 and 2, 1976
2-5 p.m.

\$2.50 Donation

TICKETS AVAILABLE
Chamber of Commerce, 103 W. 9th
Georgetown, Texas 78626
863-2251

Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Leffler, Rt. 1
Georgetown, Texas
863-5086





** John Jones Dimmitt home, Hwy. 29 west, now owned by Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Gamble, built in 1866 by Dimmitt, is one-and-a-half story limestone. Pedimented portico and bracketed cornice enhance the exterior, and the decorative metal on the roof is original. Eighteen inch thick walls with air space in center, wood trim of oak are found in original home which includes all except present kitchen and family room. Outdoors, note stone table in rear which once held a water filter device for the stone cistern nearby; stone smokehouse 20 feet from house; present garden on very old garden site; old road 100 yards east of house which led to the Chavitaquia grounds on north bank of South San Gabriel River in 1880s and 1890s.



C. S. Belford home, 1230 Austin Avenue, residence of Dr. and Mrs. Bob Brown, who purchased it from the Belford estate. Built 1895-96 by Belford, who owned a large lumber company here, the home contains fine detailing of oak, leaded beveled glass even in large single-pane windows, stained glass. Brass door knobs, toggle switches and light fixtures are all original. The home contains seven fireplaces, each with different trim. Belford was the builder of many of Georgetown's finest homes and other buildings. His son, Fred Belford, resided here for a time.

The home just north cannot be opened for visitors, but should be noted as you leave the Belford home. Diley-Tinsie house, 1220 Austin Avenue, built 1879 by importer Clarence Diley for his bride, is an Italianate residence with three story campanile-type tower, popularly called "steamerboat" Gothic. After Diley's premature death, the house was sold to cattleman-capitalist John Tinsie, who owned the huge Winecup Ranch in Nevada.

St. John's United Methodist Church, 311 University Avenue, was built in 1906 of native limestone in Gothic Revival style, with crenelated entrance. Swedish settlers near Union Hill south of town began holding services in homes in 1871, later built a church there, the ancestor of St. John's. The decision to move to town was made in 1902. Services were held in the Swedish language until after 1920.



** First United Methodist Church, 418 1887-91 of hand hewn stone cut from and hauled here by mule team. The 1 who built the State Capitol (and in 13 Main Building), were the builders, furnished by Belford Lumber Comp who taught physics at the University farm of a Greek Cross and built a motion workers. This church was found Adjoining Annex was built in 1922.

A. A. "Gus" Booty home, 308 East University Avenue, is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles McAden. Built on land which had been owned by prominent attorney Thomas P. Blagden, father of Mrs. Booty, house was within sight of the old Blagden home (one block west), no longer standing. Built about 1900, the Ionic columns of cypress were added a few years later. The Georgian Revival house was owned by Booty heirs until 1948, when Mr. and Mrs. Grogan Lord purchased and three entertained distinguished guests including Mrs. Lynda B. Johnson, Ambassador and Mrs. Edward Clark, Miss Ina Bogg, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Beinecke, who were being honored at Southwestern University. The west wing was added in the 1880s.



Three adjacent homes are being s and 1896 by the same contractor (B the same general floor plan, for three



** William Y. Penn home, 1304 Elm, of Robert Vernon Allen. Penn operated confectionery-jewelry-optical business Methodist Church bought the home as superintendents. Note the Victorian iron trim on porches and gables and slight chimney design from homes to the south with rounded roof on front porch is dis

Called Methodist Church, 311 University Avenue, was built of native limestone in Gothic Revival style, with entrance Swedish settlers near Union Hill south of town beginning services in homes in 1871, later built a church there, that of St. John's. The decision to move to town was made in 1875. Services were held in the Swedish language until after 1900.



Booby home, 38 East University Avenue, is now owned by Mrs. Charles McAden. Built on land which had been owned by attorney Thomas F. Hughes, father of Mrs. Booby, within sight of the old Hughes home (one block west), no longer standing. Built about 1900, the Ionic columns of cypress were used. The Georgian Revival house was owned by Mrs. McAden until 1940, when Mr. and Mrs. Grogan Lord purchased it. It entertained distinguished guests including Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson and Mrs. Edward Clark, Miss Irma Hogg, Mr. William L. Betschke, who were being honored at Southwestern University. The west wing was added in the 1960s.



First United Methodist Church, 419 East University Avenue, built 1882-83 of hand hewn stone cut from quarries west of Georgetown and hauled here by mule team. The Waterston family, stone cutters who built the State Capitol (and in 1900 the Southwestern University Main Building), were the builders, along with Swedish carpenters furnished by Belford Lumber Company. Dr. Robert Stewart Hyer, who taught physics at the University, designed the sanctuary in the form of a Greek Cross and built a model of the church for construction workers. This church was founded in 1849 as a Mission Church. Adjoining Annex was built in 1933.

Three adjacent homes are being shown which were built in 1895 and 1896 by the same contractor (Belford Lumber Company) with the same general floor plan, for three families who were friends:



William Y. Penn home, 1304 Elm, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Vernon Allen. Penn operated an early book-cigar-confectionery-jewelry-optical business in Georgetown. In 1907 the Methodist Church bought the home as a residence for the district superintendent. Note the Victorian influences with Eastlake style iron on porches and gables and slight differences in roof trim and chimney design from homes to the south. The gazebo-like extension with rounded roof on front porch is distinctive.

J. A. McDougale home, 1212 Elm, present residence of Mrs. Joyce Adams, was built in 1895 by McDougale, a former trail driver, who ran a wholesale grocery business here for 25 years. Floor and ceiling beams are heart of cypress and the cypress floors are put down with square nails. Note beaded paneling, stained glass, cypress stair and rails, six fireplaces — all with different trim — and the hexagon-shaped living and dining rooms.



Judge and Mrs. Samuel V. Stone own the Henry W. Harrell home, 1404 Elm, built by Harrell, who was associated with C. S. Belford in the Lumber business. Since Mrs. Harrell was interested in club work, the home is said to have been planned to accommodate meetings and social affairs. Materials and fine workmanship is comparable to that in the Penn and McDougale homes. Note murals in dining room by Carl Bergquist, formerly of Southwestern University, now University of Texas faculty, showing places closely associated with the Stone family — the Georgetown Courthouse, the three neighboring houses here described, the First Methodist Church (also on tour), and the Main Building and the Ladies Annex at Southwestern University. Also note furniture which belonged to Georgetown's John Sparks, later Governor of Nevada — matching bed and dresser, drop leaf table in family room and book cabinet in hall.



Lane-Riley home built by preacher in 1872-73

Rev. S. James Lane, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Georgetown in 1872-1873, built the home at 1302 College Street in 1872. The one-and-a-half story frame house is in the carpenter Gothic style with board and batten sheathing. A cistern is located in the yard under the well cover, and the sharply sloped roof and gables were designed to catch water for this cistern. A large barn and cow pen once stood on the place, for when the home was built, this area was called "out on the prairie."

A historic tour of some of Georgetown's finest old homes and churches will be conducted by Georgetown's Bicentennial Commission on May 1 and 2, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m. The public is invited to purchase tickets for \$2.50 each for the guided tour, which was planned by Mrs. Thateber Atkin. Tickets can be obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Leffler, Route 1, Georgetown, or the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. When ordering by mail, please send stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of tour ticket and folder. Tickets may also be purchased at the Book Store of Student Union Building, Southwestern University, and at the Williamson County Sun offices. This article is one in a series featuring the homes and churches to be visited during the Bicentennial tour.

Since Rev. Lane was pastor of the Methodist Church in 1873 when Southwestern University opened its doors in Georgetown for the first time, it was a reasonable step for him to become that university's first chaplain, and so he did.

While the family lived in this home, his daughter, Daisy Lane, opened a school for young ladies which met in the large living room of the house. The beamed, high ceiling gave the room a spacious feeling. Later, Daisy Lane became a missionary to Colorado.

Other residents of the Lane-Riley home were William Tisdale and the family of Rev. George W. Riley, another Methodist minister.



PHOTO BY DONNA SCARBROUGH

Fine old home located at 1302 College Street

Rev. Riley purchased the home for his family so that his children could be educated at Southwestern University. Although he served pastorates all over Texas for many years, he returned to Georgetown as often as possible to visit his family here. The home is still owned by his daughter, Mrs. Pearl Riley Whatley, and is the gathering place of a large number of the Riley relations from time to time. Mrs. Susie Riley Cade, another daughter of Rev. Riley, also lives in Georgetown. Since the Riley family has owned the home for many decades, it is generally known as the Riley home, and has received the Texas State Historical Marker.



May 1-2 Georgetown Tour of Historic Homes and Churches chaired by Mrs. Thatcher Atkin

Committees appointed to assist in Georgetown's Tour of Historic Homes and Churches on May 1 and 2 have been announced. Mrs. Thatcher Atkin is general chairman.

Mrs. Grady Anderson heads the group who will provide floral arrangements. Anyone wishing to offer flowers from their yard or garden for this occasion is asked to telephone Mrs. Anderson. "We will be most grateful to those who can help us find enough flowers," she says. Members of her committee are the Altar Guild of Grace Episcopal Church, Mrs. Felix Melburn, Mrs. Ed Steelman, Mrs. W. K. McClain, Mrs. Marvin Henderson, Mrs. Jesse Todd, Mrs. Lloyd Crabb, Mrs. Wallace Evans, Mrs. Carl Burnett, and Mrs. Brad Heery.

Mrs. Sam Brady has arranged house party members to assist the hostess at each home. Her committees include, for the Gamble home, Mrs. Jo Karr, Miss Hallie Wilcox, Miss Agnes Wilcox, Mrs. Doris Hunt, Mrs. Edwin Schneider, Mrs. Ed Powell and Mrs. W. B. Caskey; at the Brown home, Mrs. Bob Lancaster, Mrs. Rawleigh Elliott, Mrs. Jim Rehler, Mrs.

E. J. Giese, Mrs. Basil Phillips, Mrs. Douglas Benold, Mrs. H. J. Hanson, Jr., Mrs. Jesse Todd, at the Whatley home, those in the party are Mrs. Dan Maudinger, Mrs. Claudie Mayo, Mrs. Elizabeth Lundblad, Mrs. Oscar Ulrich, and Mrs. Ford Altsworth.

The house party at the McAden home includes Mrs. Fred Hanmeyer, Mrs. Harold Eshon, Mrs. Cecil Rank, Mrs. James Raper, Mrs. Charles Steger, Mrs. Lawrence Parr, Mrs. Ellsworth Peterson, Mrs. Vaughan Aynesworth, Mrs. Mike Burson, Mrs. James Shillingburg, Mrs. Kay Miller, and Mrs. Mary Wiggins Brumage and Ms. Martha Henna of Austin. Assisting at the Allen home are Mrs. Van Tipton, Mrs. Jack Kaufman, Mrs. Leroy Johnson, Mrs. Jo Ferguson, Mrs. Elmer Frederickson and Mrs. Sam Rawls. The committee for the Adams home includes Mrs. Jerome Davis, Mrs. Hoyt Rogers, Mrs. Joe Crawford, Mrs. Bill Conner, Mrs. John Green and Mrs. Steve Schaefer.

Ladies in the house party at the Stone home are Mrs. Carl Burnett, Mrs. Mike Stone,

Mrs. James Shepherd, Mrs. Marvin Behrens, Mrs. John Bergland, Mrs. W. H. Young, Mrs. Andrew Engelbrecht, and Mrs. Joe McCook. The committee in charge at the First Presbyterian Church includes Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stamp, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sansom, Mr. and Mrs. James Barksdale, John N. Ellyson and Mrs. Jim Johnson.

St. John's Methodist Church arrangements are being made by Mrs. Ralph Neal Green, house party, Miss Klisie

Jamison, history; and Mrs. Arthur Carlson, decorations and displays. Mrs. Lewis Holder is chairman of the committee who will show Grace Episcopal Church. Her assistants are Mrs. Jim Byers, Mrs. Warren Morris, Jr., Mrs. C. H. Stevenson, Mrs. Ken Chamberlin, Mrs. Gordon Mashburn, Mrs. Jennie Taylor, Mrs. Ed Girvin, Mrs. Harry Norman, Miss Amanda Mashburn, Misses Margaret and Valerie Norman, and Miss Amy Robertson. The First Methodist Church hostesses are Mrs. Tom Graves, Mrs. Gene

Hargett, Mrs. Oscar Ulrich, Mrs. H. M. Medley, Mrs. M. L. Williams, and Mrs. David Isman.

Mrs. Wallace Giddings and Mrs. Gordon Mashburn are in charge of the tour guides. Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Lettler are supervising ticket sales. Parking arrangements are being made by Mike Riddle. Mrs. Hester Davis has assisted with some of the preliminary planning. Photographs for publicity and brochures were done by Donna Scarbrough and Mrs. Don Scarbrough is publicity chairman.



THE HERITAGE COMMITTEE
OF
GEORGETOWN
BICENTENNIAL
COMMISSION

presents

THE 1976 TOUR
OF HISTORIC HOMES
AND CHURCHES

Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2
2-5 p.m.
\$2.50 Donation per Person

.....
Special Parking Provided Where Needed
See Map
.....



Line 30

First Presbyterian Church

Georgetown's oldest sanctuary erected in 1872-73

40

The congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Georgetown was organized on June 12, 1854, and met in several places, including a wood structure building, until toward the close of 1873.

A historic tour of some of Georgetown's finest old homes and churches will be conducted by Georgetown's Bicentennial Commission on May 1 and 2, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m. The public is invited to purchase tickets for \$2.50 each for the guided tour, which was planned by Mrs. Thatcher Atkin. Tickets can be obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Leffler, Route 1, Georgetown, or the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. When ordering by mail, please send stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of tour ticket and folder. Tickets may also be purchased at the Book Store of Student Union Building, Southwestern University, and at the Williamson County San offices. This article is one in a series featuring the homes and churches to be visited during the Bicentennial tour.

In 1870, the congregation voted to erect a "more secure house of worship." The outcome was the original portion of the building comprising the present sanctuary and fellowship hall (original dimensions were 30'x43'), and situated on land purchased from John McFadin. The original building included the first section of the copola, an organ, a chandelier and six lamps. It is assumed that the Chancel and pew furniture, with the exception of Baptismal Font, were also purchased at that time. The pastor of the church at that time was the Rev. John McMurray. Several of his grandchildren reside in Georgetown today: John N. Elyson, Jr., Mrs. J. C. Johnson, Mrs. Guy Ewing, and Mrs. A. L. McFee.

The building was due to be completed by June 1, 1873, but was delayed due to the death of so many horses in the area, which were required to haul lumber into Georgetown. On September 5, 1873, the Rev. McMurray opened a private school in the basement, and on September 7, 1873, Sunday School was held in the building.



PHOTO BY DONNA SCARBROUGH

Fine old building located at Church and 7th.

In 1877 a bell was purchased, at a cost of \$69.15, and the bell continues to be rung on Sunday mornings calling the people to worship.

In 1884 the church spire was completed, and sometime in the 1890's the windows were changed from square to gothic and the vaulted ceiling was installed. In 1913 some of the stained glass windows were added and a new floor was installed in the sanctuary.

In 1964 the current educational wing was added. When this expansion program was undertaken, the chancel area and narthex were both added to the building. Two stained glass windows were moved from the chancel area to the north side of the sanctuary, and stained glass windows were also given by the Hughes and Price families.

In the Fall of 1962, the State Historical Commission gave a plaque of recognition to the Church.

Several Schools were conducted in the facility in the past: Rev. McMurray's Male and Female Academy then the Female Academy, 1877, with Ann Barnes as principal, and Southwestern University's Young Ladies' School in 1878.

Some of the features to note on the Bicentennial Tour are the beauty and simplicity of the sanctuary, the stained glass windows, the chancel furniture, and the old communion set. The Session and members of the congregation look forward to having visitors at 703 Church Street.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 2, Page 3

Georgetown, Texas
April 13, 1976

Decision to build Grace Episcopal made Easter Monday 1881

The Grace Episcopal Church at 1316 East University Avenue has been referred to as the "gem-like" church of Georgetown, and is one of the town's oldest.

Built in 1881 in the carpenter-Gothic style, this fine, small building has an unusual Norman entrance tower terminated by four corner finials with fleur-de-lis ornaments. The church originally stood in downtown Georgetown on Main Street, near Tenth. In time it was surrounded by commercial buildings so the decision was made to move the building to its present site, facing the Southwestern University campus. The move was made in April 1955. To insure the safety of the belfry, it was transported separately from the remainder of the building.

The church had its origins in 1868 when Bishop Alexander Gregg organized a mission here. Occasional ser-

A historic tour of some of Georgetown's finest old homes and churches will be conducted by Georgetown's Bicentennial Commission on May 1 and 2, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m. The public is invited to purchase tickets for \$2.50 each for the guided tour, which was planned by Mrs. Thatcher Atkin. Tickets can be obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Leffler, Route 1, Georgetown, or the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. When ordering by mail, please send stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of tour ticket and folder. Tickets may also be purchased at the Book Store of Student Union Building, Southwestern University, and at the Williamson County Sun offices. This article is one in a series featuring the homes and churches to be visited during the Bicentennial tour.

VICES had been held in local homes and churches prior to 1868, one such meeting being mentioned in 1860 in an early Presbyterian Church.

When the cornerstone for the present building was laid in 1881, a metal box of documents was placed in it. Among these papers was a list of the five original members of the church when it became a mission: Colonel W. H. Henderson, Captain F. L. Price, Miss Annie Price, Mrs. M. I. Beall, and Miss Callie Beall (who later became Mrs. Price). Also in the box were copies of the Georgetown RECORD, the Williamson County SUN, and the Galveston Daily NEWS. These same papers were replaced in a box in the cornerstone at this location.

According to the SUN of April 21, 1881, formal organization of Grace Church took place on "Easter Monday" with 29 members participating. The name, Grace Church, was adopted. Vestrymen elected were F. L. Price, T. W. Stratton, J. M. Murch, T. E. Hartwell, Oliver Steele, R. H. Price, S. M. Henderson, C. Morelle, O. L. Spencer, and J. N. Price. Rev. J. E. Meredith was rector in charge. In the SUN for July 14



"Jewel of a Church" on E. University

that same year, it was reported that the vestry had rented Taylor's Hall, a recreational-dance hall on second floor of Emory Taylor's business building on the Square, to hold meetings until the Grace Church was completed. The cornerstone was laid November 15, 1881, on a corner lot "South of Capt. A. S. Fisher's residence," according to the local newspaper.

The interior has a vaulted ceiling finished in beaded panelling, and the wainscoting repeats the beaded material which here is run diagonally, thus harmonizing with the lines of the pointed windows. Symbolic emblems of the church are abundantly utilized in architectural details, furnishings and accessories of the interior. These symbols include the St. Andrew's and saltire crosses, the trefol, botonee, fleur-de-lis

The Sunday SUN
Page 11

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, April 18, 1976

and fleury forms. Braces on the ceiling beams are cut out in forms which resemble flying doves.

A member of the church, Mrs. Lillian Peavey, has needlepointed kneeling cushion covers for the altar rail in symbols of the Apostles, recent additions to a church replete with traditions and symbolism.

A hundred-yard-wide trail of hard packed dirt all the way to Kansas. Soon after 1873, McDougal returned to

St. John's Methodist Church is in Gothic Revival Style

Saint John's Methodist Church, located at 311 East University Avenue, Georgetown, was erected in 1906 of native limestone. The building is in the Gothic Revival style, has a distinctive crested design in the stone of the entryway walls. The abbreviated tower with spire on top and the roofline which gives the impression of transepts is typically Methodist.

The building is said to have been put up by Swedish members who were trained carpenters and masons. The pointed windows with stained glass and particularly the center group at each gable, with tracery in the "Y" shaped mullions, give the building a special elegance. The glass contains many religious symbols including the open Bible, the cross and crown; the anchor, the Stone Tablets representing the Ten Commandments, the lily and the fleur-de-lis.

The congregation using this seventy-year old building is descended from the one which began holding meetings in 1871 in the Swedish community then known as Union Hill. These early Swedish families met in various homes of the community south of Georgetown, holding services when the Rev. C. Charquist, an Austin minister, could be present. In



Native limestone building constructed by Swedish members in 1906

1882, they were formally organized as the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Bruthy Church and soon after built a frame church at Union Hill, near what was called the "crossroads" at the intersection of Rabbit Hill Road and the old Georgetown-Round Rock Road. This first church stood adjacent to the Swedish Methodist Cemetery at Union Hill.

In 1902, a movement began to relocate the church in Georgetown, which also had a large Swedish population. Details were worked out and the transition made in preparation for building a permanent church. Relatively little information seems to be available about the actual construction — who the designers were, where the stained glass came from, interesting

stories about these important times in the life of the church. Anyone having this kind of historical material is asked to share it with the writer and with the church.

All services were held in Swedish from the beginning until after the turn of the century. A gradual transition was made by holding double services, one in Swedish and one in English, for a period of years. By the late 1940s or early fifties, Swedish language services were entirely discontinued. After many years of being called the Swedish Methodist Church, the name was changed to St. John's Methodist.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 2, Page 3

Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, April 22, 1976

Three Victorian styled homes built in 1895

Three neighboring Victorian style residences on Elm Street, Georgetown, are unique for several reasons. Located at 1304 Elm, 1312 Elm, and 1404 Elm, they were all built at the same time (1895) by the same builder, C. S. Belford Lumber Company; they followed the same general floor plan and used similar materials in the construction; and the three families who built them were close friends. These three houses are included in the May 1 and 2 "Tour of Historic Homes and Churches."

Judge Samuel Vaughan Stone, Williamson County Judge from 1933 until his retirement in 1970, and his wife, Berenice, bought the home at 1404 Elm in 1907 and still reside there. Only two other families had lived in the house prior to that time — Henry W. Harrell and his wife Arabella, and W. F. Magee and his wife, Tomye.

Harrell was associated with Belford Lumber Company. His daughter, Alice, told Mrs. Bertie McDaniel (who now lives in the Wesleyan Home) that Mrs. Harrell was extremely interested in club work and "built the home for the history clubs." The spacious rooms are well arranged for meetings and social gatherings, and Judge and Mrs. Stone have also made them a gathering place for family and friends.

W. F. Magee operated "The Good Store," which sold general merchandise on the north side of the Square for many years. His wife was an artist.

Of particular interest in the Stone home are murals in the dining room done by Professor Carl Bergquist of the University of Texas at Austin, formerly of Southwestern University. The paintings depict places closely associated with the Stones and their life in Georgetown — the Courthouse, the trio of similar homes on Elm Street (all three are on the tour), the First Methodist Church (also on the tour), and two buildings at Southwestern University, the Ladies' Annex, which burned, and the old Main Building.

The Stone home also contains four historically interesting pieces of furniture once owned by Captain John Sparks of Georgetown, later Governor of Nevada. They are a drop leaf table in the family room, a book cabinet in the hall, and a matching bed and dresser in one of the bedrooms.

North of the Stone home, at 1312 Elm, is the residence of Mrs. Joyce Adams. Her home was built in

1895 by J. A. McDougle. He came as a young man to Texas by wagon train in 1869 along with his mother and three other children. They settled in Williamson County, near relatives who were already here. At that time, Comanches and Kiowas occasionally raided into Williamson County, and deer, wolves and prairie chickens were plentiful. While in his twenties, McDougle joined two cattle drives as they came through Georgetown on route to Kansas — in 1871 and 1873. Georgetown was the "funnel-mouth" through which the Texas cattle poured into the Chisholm Trail.



PHOTO BY JONNA SCARBROOK

McDougle Home 1312 Elm Street



PHOTO BY JONNA SCARBROOK

The W.Y. Penn-Allen Home 1304 Elm Street

111
a hundred-yard-wide trail of hard-packed dirt all the way to Kansas. Soon after 1873, McDougle opened a wholesale grocery business in Georgetown, operating it for 25 years, then in 1902 moved it to Dallas. The five McDougle children, Homer A., Clarence Penn, (Dr.) John B., Etta Mae and Nelle, attended school in Georgetown.

Next owners of this house were Dr. and Mrs. John Robert Allen, directors of the Ladies' Annex at Southwestern University for a number of years around the turn of the century. Dr. Allen was also a minister, and while living on Elm Street, he made a journey to the Holy Land, bringing home with him some olive trees from that country. He planted the trees on his property, and several of them remain on the north side of the lawn from this early stand.

Dr. Allen was a colorful and memorable person to old-timers of Georgetown. He carefully directed the young ladies of Southwestern University in his charge, and marched them in their blue uniforms, single file down University Avenue, to church on Sundays and back again. The girls were not allowed to speak to young men who often lined the street to watch them pass, although furtive glances were often exchanged, and sometimes a note was discreetly passed from a young man to one of the marching girls. Dr. Allen was also well-known for his absent-mindedness. He sometimes walked to the downtown Square area to transact some business, then, when he was ready to return to the Ladies Annex, frantically reported to law enforcement officers that his horse was stolen. More than once, he was reminded that he had walked to town. After leaving Southwestern University, he served as editor of the Williamson County Sun from 1915 to 1924, then returned to the ministry in the Methodist Church.

W. J. Flanagan and his wife, Annie D., owned this home at 1312 Elm from 1910 until 1945. Mr. Flanagan ran an insurance business in Georgetown and served several terms as county treasurer. He was also active in the Masonic Lodge and Methodist Church. The three Flanagan children were Harman, Hubert William, and Mabel, now Mrs. Mabel F. Street of Graham.

In 1945, Mr. and Mrs. Halseil P. Armstrong purchased the home. Mr. Armstrong had land and ranching in-

terests. His wife, Frances Nell, has been a teacher in the Georgetown Public Schools for many years. She sold the home to the Adams in 1969.

As is the case in the two adjacent homes, this one contains fine materials, including heart of cypress beams, cypress exterior siding, beaded board, stained glass and other typical Victorian detailing. Note the hexagonal living and dining rooms downstairs, and a hexagonal bedroom on second floor.

The third home in this group, at 1304 Elm, is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vernon Allen. It was erected in 1895 by Belford Lumber Company for W. Y. Penn.

Penn's biography was furnished by a niece, Mrs. Tom E. Johnson of Austin. William Y. Penn was born in 1865 on a farm at San Felipe and when he was 17, an uncle came for a visit. The uncle owned a book store in



Austin, and before the visit was over, W. Y. Penn's father had purchased half interest in it and arranged for his son to return to Austin with the uncle and learn the book business. In a short time, the father, Robert Rives Penn, disposed of his interests in Austin county and also moved to Austin. In July 1880, the elder Penn sold his interest in the book store and moved the family to Georgetown. Here the son, William Y. Penn, immediately opened a book store, also offering confections and cigars. In 1887 he sold the cigar and confection rights to Carl Burkhardt and bought the jewelry business of W. D. Pfaeffle. That same year he married Lizzie Robertson. He served as City Alderman, was Mayor for two terms, was active in Lodge work and in the Methodist Church.

In 1907, Penn moved to San Antonio, selling his home in Georgetown to the Methodist Church to be used as a residence for the Presiding Elder, or District Superintendent, as it is now called. Between 1907 and 1945, the following elders or superintendents lived there with their families: B. R. Bolton, W. H. Vaughan, W. H.

Armstrong, W. B. Andrews, John M. Barcus, Sam G. Thompson, D. K. Porter, T. Edgar Neal, John W. Bergin, Gaston Hartsfield, John N. Rentfro, Ed R. Barcus, and R. C. Edwards.

In 1945, Marvin C. Hodges purchased the property from the church. Mr. Hodges was a druggist in Georgetown for many years, operating Hodges Drug Store on the west side of the Square. His wife, Melvola Hodges, was a school teacher and still resides in Georgetown.

Dr. and Mrs. Van C. Tipton owned the residence from 1966 until 1973. He is retired from the U. S. Navy after a long career in preventive medicine and other special assignments.

The present owner, Robert Vernon Allen, works for the Gulf Telephone Corporation and his wife, Joanne, is a dental hygienist.

This two story, Victorian house, is planned along the same lines as the homes south of it. Eastlake style architectural details decorate the gables and porches; the rounded extension on the northeast corner of the porch is covered with rounded roof and turret; porch ceilings and kitchen are finished with beaded panelling. A distinctive feature inside is the stair leading to the first landing, where it divides and separate stairways go on to the rooms on the east and west. This arrangement is not found in the other two homes.

Although the similarity of these fine homes is obvious, the families connected with them have left their own distinctive imprints on them, and each has its own particular character.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 1, Page 7

Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, May 6, 1976



Mrs. Bob Brown and Mrs. Wanda Lancaster were among those who greeted visitors in the fine Belford-Brown home on Austin Avenue.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 2, Page 11

Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, April 29, 1976



Mr. and Mrs. William S. Lott, happy and carefree after their Saturday political victory, visit the Dimmitt-Gamble home. Sybil Wyatt, left, was one of the hostesses.



Here's a mixed group. They are Paula Jenkins, from Taylor, Sharlene Craig, Linda Lindell, and Pat Sharpe, all of Austin, and Betty Whiteaker, Taylor. They are waiting their turn to visit the Lane-Riley home.



Somebody had to mind the baby while mama goes visiting. Mike Vogler and Bob Armstrong take care of beautiful Amy Anderson during the tour.



Allan Sanders and his mother, Elizabeth, pause at the front door of the McDougle-Adams home. That's Joyce Adams between them, ready to open the door. Historic marker is left of Allan.

The 1976 Tour of Historic Homes and Churches was a rousing success, not just aesthetically but financially as well!

All tickets were sold by mid-Saturday afternoon and the printer, John King, came down late Saturday to make some more. In all, over 600 people paid to visit the fine old Georgetown homes and churches where they were welcomed by owners and volunteer ladies serving as greeters.

The multitudes came from afar. Some were from Dallas, Ft. Worth, Houston, Austin, San Antonio, Round Rock, Taylor -- just all over the state!

It was a great occasion in Georgetown and much credit is due the Bicentennial Committee that produced the magnificent event.



Molly Burnette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl W. Burnette, was a top-notch ticket saleslady Sunday. Also manning the sales counter were Mr. and Mrs. Neart Leffler and Mike Riddle.



Round Rock visitors included Mrs. Ed Walsh, Sr., Mrs. Edward Walsh, Jr., mother of Edward Walsh, III, also Mrs. C. W. Prewitt and Mrs. Frank McNeese.

45
47

align text
lupper



The McAden clan was much in evidence as visitors were ushered through their lovely home. Mrs. Charles McAden, Jr., who resides there is on the right. Mrs. Carl McAden Humphrey of Austin is on the left. Mrs. W. T. Kitwell of Tahoka, Karen's mother, is next and Mrs. C. A. McAden, Sr., Charlie's mother, is second from right.



While the McAden home was crowded with charmed visitors, the kids and their father enjoyed the great outdoors. Here Charles romps with his children, Suzannah (the baby), Allen and Nicole.



Taylor was well represented during the tour. These ladies, left to right, are Martha Jirasek, Astred Ziznia, Marie Snider and Lorena Gattis.



Linda Fouts, Jo Ann Frayer and La Juan Green pause in front of the Dimmitt-Gamble home. All are Georgetown folks.

MANY THANKS

THE GEORGETOWN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION SAYS MANY THANKS TO:
PENNY DRAEGER for the beautiful decorating job she did on the bandstand for the dedication.
THE FLOWER NOOK, M. E. PETROSKY, MRS. GENE JACOB, KAREN McADEN, MRS. FRITZ STELZER, MRS. WALT SCUDDAY, MRS. JAMES REHLER, MARGIE NELSON, MARY RENWICK, DAVID KURIO and **DARLENE CAMPBELL**, for their generosity in helping with the decorating.
CATHY HUBBARD for providing the Girl Scout power and guidance for lemonade serving and flag posting.
TOM MAGNESS and **ERNEST LINCOLN** for their help with the flags.

LARRY ROSENBLAD, R.E.B. manager, for donating lemonade served at the dedication.
All the **BOY SCOUTS** and **GIRL SCOUTS** who helped with posting the colors and serving lemonade.
HERBERT SULLIVAN and **HIS MEN** from City Maintenance for all their work in hauling chairs, dirt, band instruments and whatever.
RODNEY KLETT, REY MEZA and **MEMBERS OF THE EAGLE BAND** for a very enjoyable band concert.
GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL KITCHEN for use of the large container used to serve lemonade.
CATHY AND BILL HOLMANS and **VERLENE LANDRY** for conducting the decorated bicycle competition in the Chamber of Commerce Parade.
TIM HANSEN for doing all the working drawings of the bandstand and being helpful in many ways.

PATTY HEWLETT and **PAT BOYDSTON** for selling medallions and other bicentennial items at the old Georgetown Market Day.
SKIP MORSE for drawing the first sketches of the bandstand.
JOHN KING at **HERITAGE PRINTING** for going to special trouble to do extra quick printing jobs on different occasions.
MR. and MRS. HARLAN LESCHER and the **4-H CLUB** for painting all the trash cans red, white and blue in the San Gabriel Park.
THOMPSON ELECTRIC for contributing the complete wiring and lighting for the Samuel Mather Log Cabin.
SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: **GEORGETOWN MUSIC CLUB, \$50; SOCIALITES CLUB, \$25; DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, \$20; OPTI-MRS., \$25; AUSTIN SAVINGS, \$50; and LYNN STORM** of Dripping Springs, \$200.



A BICENTENNIAL NECKLACE for Effie McLeod is presented by Mrs. Ike Hall of Copperas Cove as part of the Florence Chamber of Commerce festivities.

Picture
and
text
by
Hal Parley



A BIRTHDAYSONG honors H. F. Miller, mayor of Florence, on the occasion of the first Florence Chamber of Commerce Banquet and his own 82nd birthday. Showstanding in the foreground left to right are Mrs. Troy Futrell, Miss Florence Friendship Army Ward and the Rev. Bernice Stein. Behind them at the main table are (left to right) Mrs. Ike Hall, Mrs. George McKinney, George McKinney and Ike Hall. The national bicentennial emblems which decorated red, white and blue streamers on each table featured a Texas outline within the central star.

Effie McLeod honored at first Florence Chamber banquet

Florence's first Chamber of Commerce Banquet held two surprises Saturday night.

A special award presentation was made to Effie McLeod, a lifelong Florence resident and retired school teacher who has most recently finished indexing the community cemetery and plans to get historical markers on all the 100-year-old buildings in Florence as her next project.

A member of the Florence Chamber, she told her friends, "I feel I'm a much better citizen than I would be if I did not attend the Florence Chamber of Commerce, and I will continue to attend as long as the state will let me drive a car."

THE SECOND surprise came as Florence Mayor H. F. Miller accepted a bicentennial flag and official proclamations for his bicentennial city from Den-



A BICENTENNIAL PRESENTATION is accepted by Florence Mayor H. F. Miller, from Dennis Brook Linam, member of the Committee of 19 of the Bicentennial Commission of Texas. "In a few months America will be 200 years old," Miller reminded his audience as he expressed pride in the honor accorded the official bicentennial city of Florence.

nis Brook Linam, member of the Committee of 19 of the Bicentennial Commission of Texas.

Miller called it "one of the greatest privileges I have ever been able to experience," then added, "I have had the privilege of enjoying 82 years of this time — today!"

The crowd of approximately 140 persons promptly stood to sing "Happy Birthday" to their friend and mayor.

ENTERTAINMENT was provided by Charles Murry, educational director at the Florence Baptist Church and a soprano at Howard Payne. Murry accompanied himself on the guitar as he sang a medley of tunes including "Dixie," "One Tin Soldier," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

"We have got a lot of problems, yet there is hope. So

I am going to sing the glory of that hope," Murry said.

Guest speaker George McKinney, Community Development consultant for Texas Power and Light Company in Dallas, humorously reminded his audience that America has become great through the concern, involvement, and hard work of people like those of Florence.

NAMING EACH president of the United States, McKinney said, "those are not the people who made America great today. It is the people in Florence, Texas, who made this country what it is today."

Paraphrasing the Joyce Kilmer poem "Trees," McKinney said, "Speeches are made by fools like me, but only people like you can build a community, people who are here all the time and who know what it takes for Florence to be great."

47
49

align text
1...ppc

Courthouse pediments

by Nel Presky

If you were among Georgetown citizens who, a decade ago, thought that the intricately carved courthouse pediments — triangular masses of ornamental stone mounted along the roofline above the four courthouse entrances — were going to be removed but preserved for future use, you are going to be disappointed.

They are gone. No one officially knows what happened to the 2510 pediments, but the wife of the late Tom McAferly of Georgetown remembers: "They crushed them all."

"My husband was watching them — of course it just broke his heart to watch them do that. He asked if he could buy some of the pieces but the workers told him they had all been sold and they had to be junked."

Yet a July 21, 1966, news article assured concerned citizens that restoration of the pediments would remain a possibility. And there were many area residents, headed by Georgetown's then-mayor Jay Sloan and the late Robert Lancaster, who protested plans to raze the stonework.

"Commissioners said the construction will be conducted in such a way that restoration will be possible; the face brick can simply be removed and restoration of the structure can be completed," the SUN article reported.

WHAT HAPPENED between the time citizens were led to believe their courthouse pediments would be preserved for later restoration and the time the pediments were torn from atop the courthouse and destroyed?

An examination of county officials and records reveals the story.

A 1966 editorial in the Williamson County SUN records, "in recent months several hundred pounds of rock had fallen from the roof and anyone walking below at the moment would have been sent to his just rewards, wherever that might be."



CONTRAST this before-after sketch by Tim Hansen, a CETA VI coordinator for Williamson-Burnet County Opportunities, to see what Georgetown citizens were trying to save — and what they got. Commissioners were told that, while tearing down the original stonework and bricking the gap would cost \$61,600, repairing the original would cost an additional \$30,425.

Some of the decorative work was crumbling, steel supports were weakening, "creating a safety factor, making it necessary for repair construction to proceed in order to be completed before winter," commissioners reported after their July 18, 1966, session.

"THEY HAD to do something — it was a legitimate consideration," Mrs. Clara Scarborough, past chairman of the County Historical Committee, recalls. "But people who were concerned said there were alternatives which were also economical. We just had to take time to explore them. This is what Bob Lancaster begged for, a little time."

And just after that the state legislature passed a law which prohibits changing a courthouse

exterior without permission of the county historical commission.

Bob Lancaster was the leader of the opposition. He articulated the feelings of those who felt it was a mistake. But again, they (the commissioners' court) just said it was a must and wouldn't compromise."

Former sculptor and professor at Southwestern University, the late Robert

Lancaster was recently honored for his work in designing the Georgetown Public Housing Authority.

Headed by County Judge Sam Y. Stone, the 1966 commissioners' court consisted of commissioners Wesley Johnson, Wesley Foust, R. A. Bonacky and W. C. Stern.

A SERIES of cost studies determined that \$30,425 would have had to be added to the already-contracted courthouse

remodeling construction costs of \$61,600 if the carved stone pediments were to be restored.

Reportedly, hundreds of concerned citizens, headed by Mayor Sloan, supported restoration of the original architecture. Hopes rested upon promises of federal funding through the Total Environmental Restoration project. Under "Impact I," Georgetown had been named to benefit from the pilot program.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 2, Page 6
Georgetown, Texas
April 15, 1976

which would have restored the entire Georgetown square area.

Funding, however, did not come through in time to meet the commissioners' "construction to be completed before winter" deadline.

DOWN came the crumbling stonework.

Yet once the work began, it seemed that the stone was less shaky than commissioners had believed.

Citizens who remember that summer also recall that it took days of heavy work to pry the pediments from their courthouse home.

"But they attached their chains to the 'falling down pediment' and that was what they used to brace it with," said Jo Ann Morse, whose backyard is graced with one of the three news McAferty did manage to buy from the man at the dump where the pediments were reduced to dust.

"I understand," said Lillian Peavey, who bought from an antique dealer two of the heads which were a highlight of the pediments. "that they said they might fall, but then they had to take them down with trip hammers."

But 38 years after is too late to do any constructive speculation on whether or not it might indeed have been less expensive to mend the crumbling topmost part of the pediments to salvage the still-firmly anchored remainder.

"We just lost the battle because of economics," Sloan says of last decade's controversy. "Needless to say he (Bob Lancaster) was disappointed — and so were a lot of other people. So were the commissioners. I'm sure."

SO ENDED Lancaster's plans to restore the focus of Georgetown's square, for which he received a letter of commendation from Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson. The letter, in which Mrs. Johnson applauded "the desire for refurbishing the legacy of fine architecture left to us by previous generations," encouraged Lancaster with the statement: "There is no force like a determined citizenry for community improvements."

The letter was written just four days before county commissioners authorized the advertisement of bids for "planning, demolition and construction of repairs and remodeling work" on the courthouse.



SEVERED from the original courthouse stonework but at least saved from the destruction which fell upon the largest part of all four pediments which graced Williamson County's courthouse until 1906, are these two stone heads now settled in the garden of Lillian Peavey of Georgetown.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 5 Thursday, May 27, 1976

Garden Party To Assist In Beautifying Birthplace

The birthplace of Taylor's distinguished native son, the late Gov. Dan Moody, was built in 1867. The residence is located at 114 E. 9th St. and has recently been given to the city of Taylor by the Moody family for use as a museum.

The parents of Gov. Moody were Daniel and Mary Elizabeth Robertson Moody. Daniel Moody was Taylor's first mayor, serving in that capacity for many years.

The daughter in the family, Miss Mary Moody, resided in the family home until several years ago when declining

wealth made it advisable to live in Austin where she would be near members of the Moody family. Miss Mary is widely known by Taylor residents.

The historic home and museum will be open to the public for the first time when the Taylor Garden Club hosts a benefit garden party on the grounds June 2 from 4 - 7 p.m.

Voluntary contributions will assist the club in the plan to create a beautiful old-fashioned garden on the grounds of the museum.



SEARCHING FOR WITCH'S GRAVE — Junior Historians, Randall Vickers, Bill Yeary (standing) Sponsor Marietta Magford (peeking from behind tombstone) Audrey Daniell and Tammy Fairburn, stop to do a tombstone rubbing in the Presbyterian Cemetery as they search for the unmarked witch's grave. The tombstone rubbings, accompanied by original research, is the Junior Historians project for the bicentennial contest sponsored by the Williamson County Historical Commission. Vickers, Treva Turner, Steve Kimble, Linda Kotrla and Mrs. Magford attended a Junior Historians reception at the Governor's Mansion Friday night.

The Sunday SUN
Page 5

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, April 18, 1976

Taylor Daily Press

"Williamson County's Only Daily Newspaper"

TAYLOR, TEXAS, TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 1976

(AP)—A



BENEFIT GARDEN PARTY — Committee chairmen planning the benefit garden party for the Moody Museum got together for another session prior to the June 2 event. They are, left to right, Mrs. Claude Patterson, general chairman; Mrs. Jack Winterrowd, Mrs. O. B. Klein, Mrs. Frank Ruzicka, Mrs. Dan Kahane, Mrs. Douglas Caffey, Mrs. Damon Cochran and Mrs. Jerry Frankeny. The Garden Club of Taylor is sponsoring the event to raise funds to landscape the museum grounds.



GARDEN PARTY—Mrs. John Cornforth, left, president of the board of trustees of the Moody Museum, and Mrs. Erman Werchan, president of the Taylor Garden Club, will be on hand Wednesday afternoon to welcome all to the benefit garden party on the museum grounds. The benefit garden party is being held by the Garden Club to raise funds to landscape the grounds of the Moody Museum. The party will be from 4-7 p.m. and everyone is invited.

MUSEUM GARDEN PARTY/ Support This Worthy Project

A great deal of time and effort has been spent renovating the birthplace of one of Taylor's most famous sons, former Gov. Dan Moody. Through the generous gifts of the Moody family, the city of Taylor acquired the home this year. Then with the cooperation of the city and the untiring and dedicated efforts of Mrs. John Cornforth, president of the museum's board of trustees, the old home has undergone a transformation into a museum for the benefit of Taylor area citizens.

Several groups and organizations have assisted in getting the Moody home ready and converted into a museum. One of these has been the Taylor Garden Club.

The Garden Club has put many hours into landscaping the museum grounds. Now on June 2 they will hold a benefit garden party to raise more funds to finish the landscape project.

The public is invited and we urge you to attend from 4-7 p.m. June 2. Visit the museum and assist the Garden Club in their work. Both are deserving of your time and support.

TAYLOR, TEXAS, TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1974



PLAN LANDSCAPE BENEFIT — Members of the Taylor Garden Club will hold a benefit to raise funds to landscape the grounds of the Moody Museum. The benefit is planned for June 2. Shown here is the landscape committee with a magnolia tree already planted by the group. Left to right are Mrs. Gene Royer, Mrs. John Griffith, chairman, Mrs. Ed R. Kullman, vice president of the Garden Club, and Mrs. Ken McCuskie.



JOINT BIRTHDAYS — Mar Nachlinger, a member of the Taylor Garden Club, decorated this large birthday cake to celebrate the birthdays of former Gov. Dan Moody and the city of Taylor. The Garden Club is sponsoring a benefit garden party from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday and the public is invited to tour the Moody Museum while attending. The garden party is a fund raising project to landscape the museum grounds.



GARDEN PARTY PLANNERS—These committee chairmen have made final plans for the Benefit Garden Party to raise funds for landscaping of the Moody Museum. The benefit party will be from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, June 2 on the museum grounds. Mrs. Claude Patterson, far upper left, is general chairman of the event. Other committee heads are, left to right, Mrs. Frank Runcka, Mrs. Damon Cochran, Mrs. W. A. Winterrowd, Mrs. Jerry Frankeny, Mrs. O. B. Klein, Mrs. Daniel Kabanek and Mrs. Douglas Caffey.

Sun First Published On May 19th, 1877

GEORGETOWN — The Williamson County Sun, one of the county's oldest newspapers, went to press for the first time on May 19, 1877.

J. E. Cooper was listed as editor and business manager of the new paper and Gus Ivey was listed as editor. Mr. Ivey, it seems, remained with the paper only a short time and Mr. Cooper was the person who edited the Sun during its early years.

The paper was published every Saturday and the subscription rate was \$1 a year.

Included in the list of professional persons in the Sun's first issue were attorneys who lived in Georgetown and served a territory reaching from Georgetown to San Angelo. Included, too, were physicians who served Georgetown and the surrounding farms and ranches.

Listed under professional were the following firms:

Makemon & Fisher, Attorneys.

Coffee and Price, Attorneys and Land Agents.

Pusey and Doleymple, Attorneys.

Docas G. Smith.

Dr. Wm. Parke Fleming, Physician, Surgeon and Obstetrician.

Dr. J. E. Walker, Physician and Surgeon.

Dr. H. C. Crawford — Dental Surgeon.

Business firms listed in the early paper included:

Joe Ake, dealer in family groceries.

Grand Sonson's Barber Shop.

J. H. Wilson, Tinner.

F. L. Price, Merchant.

Bucker and Hodges, Dry

Goods, Groceries, Notions.

Peay's Hotel, Georgetown.

Georgetown Meat Market, J. F. Northman, Prop.

Aaron Williams, Blacksmith.

W. H. Maxwell, Blacksmith.

M. E. Steele's Dry Goods, Boots and Shoes, Hardware, Groceries, Etc.

LOCAL NEWS

Under local news in the first paper appeared the following:

There are several extensive sheep ranches near Taylor, in this county. This is a fine sheep country.

There are four or five schools in this place and they are all in a flourishing condition — their average attendance being about forty-five.

J. N. Preston, of the firm of Preston and Buffin, architect and superintendent of Austin, has been in our city this week with a design for a new courthouse.

Several droves of horses have passed through Georgetown this week.

There are some charming young ladies in Georgetown.

Mr. McCarty, who attended the "hop" at Col. Sam Easley's, 22 miles from this place last Tuesday night, reports that everything passed off lovely and that it was an enjoyable affair.

First House Built In Georgetown In 1848

Immediately after the public sale of town lots in Georgetown on July 4, 1848, a man named Frank Nash built the first house.

It was built of logs, clap-board and rock additions, and was a rambling structure located on the block west of what is now Austin Avenue, between 8th and 9th Streets.

An account of the history of this first house was given in a past edition of the Williamson County Sun, which says that it was the first hotel in Georgetown, and gives these interesting facts:

"The hotel was constructed of heavy cedar logs hauled on ox wagons from the cedar breaks in Bastrop county, and was eighteen feet square and one and one half stories high. It had a shed room in the rear for a kitchen and a "lean-to" dining room at the north end. It was considered a large and roomy house at the time.

Nash sold the property to Jack Ake in 1850, and soon after Ake erected a two story building adjacent to the log cabin and changed the name to Ake's Hotel.

There was at that time not a single mile of railroad in Texas, and Georgetown was on the main thoroughfare leading from Red River and intermediate points to the capital at Austin.

Ake's Hotel was one of the stopping places, and, as such, was well known from the Red River to the Rio Grande. Here, from time to time, were entertained such historic characters as H. M. Williamson, more familiarly known as "Three Legged Willie," Jones Rivers, Judge R. E. Baylor, for whom Baylor University at Waco was named, Judge W. E. Jones who held the first district court in Williamson County, J. W. Throckmorton, afterwards Governor of Texas, and many other Texas personalities.

Jones Rivers died at the Ake Hotel in 1851, and a story is told of him and vouched for as authentic, that when on his deathbed a minister sitting by his bedside, he opened his eyes and feebly asked, "Where am I?" The preacher told him that he was in Georgetown at Ake's Hotel. Rivers said, "Well, Parson, I am about to hand in my chips. I have always believed in the eternal fitness of things, and I know of no place on the habitable globe that I could quit with fewer regrets than Georgetown, and especially this hotel."

With these remarks, the great lawyer passed away in Georgetown, and his body lies at rest in the old cemetery on the banks of the South San Gabriel River.

Many stirring events were enacted in and around the old building, especially during the Civil War it was the special emporium for war news, and general gathering place for all of this section of the country.

Historical Commission observes History Appreciation

The Williamson County Historical Commission held the monthly meeting April 8, at the Georgetown Public Library with Dr. Van C. Tipton, County Chairman presiding.

The Commission plans to observe History Appreciation Week in Williamson County to coincide with Governor Dolph Briscoe's Proclamation declaring the week of April 18-25 Bicentennial Appreciation Week in Texas.

Dr. Tipton announced that the First United Methodist Church in Bartlett will have the marker dedication program Sunday afternoon April 25.

The marker inscription for the Judge Greenleaf Fisk Official Historical Marker has been approved and is now at the

foundry. More details of the dedication program will be announced when the marker is received.

Cemetery listings are still in progress. Miss Ruth Mantor of Taylor turned in the Ramsaur Family Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Emery Blackman reported progress in listing a Negro cemetery in the Hutto area and also progress in providing small stones for many unmarked graves in these cemeteries. Dr. Tipton reported that the Bartlett City Cemetery list is almost complete.

A new edition of the guide to Texas Official Historical Markers has been published and may be purchased for \$1.25 from the Texas Historical Commission, Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711.

Mrs. Lloyd Mays, Chairman of the Howard County Historical Commission, requests information concerning William Travis Roberts, born in

1849, four miles north of Georgetown.

There will be a Museum Workshop on April 30 in the Joe C. Thompson Center on the University of Texas campus, sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission. Registration starts at 8:30 a. m. for the all day program.

The Commission decided to erect a large historical marker, commemorating Lieutenant James O. Rice at Rice's Crossing. This career military man was prominent in Williamson County history as early as 1829. Money for the marker was awarded this group at the Annual Texas Historical Commission Meeting in Nacogdoches in October 1975. Mrs. Clara Scarborough, past County Chairman attended the conference and accepted the award for the Best County Program of Work in Texas in 1975.

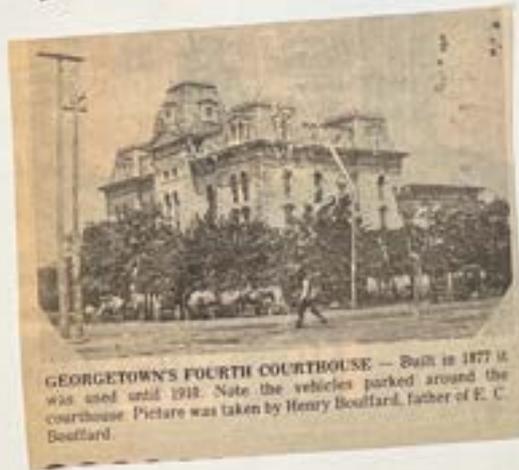
Dr. Tipton reported eight applications for markers have been approved in principle and

scripts. The plaques will be arriving soon. He also reported two marker dedications were held in Georgetown on Sunday, March 14. More than 100 people attended the programs for the McDougle-Adams Home and the Penn-Allen Home.

According to Barney Downing, on June 6 there will be a well planned program in Coupland at the dedication of their marker commemorating the founding of the town of Coupland. They will also dedicate the old restored depot as a museum. A full day of activities is planned. Several State and National elected officials will make addresses.

Members attending represented the communities of Coupland, Florence, Hutto, Georgetown, Liberty Hill, Taylor and Thrall.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 1, Page 5
Georgetown, Texas
April 15, 1976



GEORGETOWN'S FOURTH COURTHOUSE — Built in 1877 it was used until 1911. Note the vehicles parked around the courthouse. Picture was taken by Henry Bouffard, father of E. C. Bouffard.

The Sunday SUN
Page 4
Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, April 18, 1976

Mrs. Atkin discusses home tour on Carolyn Jackson Show Tuesday

News of the 1976 Tour of Historic Homes and Churches is rapidly spreading far and wide, but Georgetown's own Mrs. Thatcher Atkin will further aid the cause Tuesday when she appears on the

Carolyn Jackson Show at noon to discuss the bicentennial project which is sponsored by the Heritage Committee of The Georgetown Bicentennial Commission.

Mrs. Atkin, tour chairman, will be accompanied by Mrs. Don Scarborough, co-chairman of the Heritage committee.

"My hope is the results of the bicentennial work and home tour will create an interest and concern for many other interesting places in Georgetown and as the year progresses and draws to an end, people will organize a Georgetown Heritage Society to maintain the pretty and beautiful buildings and homes in Georgetown," Mrs. Atkin commented as she led through the brochure.

"I think we have the nicest brochure I've ever seen. The pictures are so clear."

Home tour tickets and brochures are available at the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, from Mr. and Mrs. Mearl Leffler at 863-5086, at the Williamson County SUN, and at the University Bookstore, for a \$2.50 donation.

All homes and churches on the tour will be open both afternoons, from 2 to 5 p.m., May 1-2. One ticket is good for both days in case a person does not have a chance to get around to all the homes in one day.

Homes on the tour include Dammit-Garble House, Hwy. 29 West; Bellard-Brown House, 1230 Austin Avenue; Booty-McAden House, 308 East University; Penn-Allen House, 1264 Elm; McDougale-Adams House, 1212 Elm; Harrell-Stone House, 1404 Elm; and Lane-Haley House, 1202 College.

Churches on the tour are First Presbyterian Church, 703 Church Street; Grace Episcopal Church, 1316 East University; St. John's Methodist Church, 311 East University; and First United Methodist, 410 East University.

The Sunday SUN
Page 12

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, April 25, 1976

The Sunday SUN
Page 7

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, April 25, 1976

Bartlett Methodists to dedicate marker

Sunday marks dedication of the official State Historical Marker for Bartlett's First United Methodist Church, where dedication services will begin at 3 p.m.

The church is located on the west part of Clark Street (FM 487) in Bartlett.

Sponsored by the Douglas Sunday School Class, the 18x28-inch marker is made of cast aluminum with Swedish steel effect.

The Rev. B. Thomas Tribble of Hamilton, a former Bartlett pastor, will be principal speaker. Present pastor, the Rev. John Clifford, will be in charge of services as Bob Bonker acts as master of

ceremonies.

Marked inscription reads: "ORGANIZED BETWEEN 1870 AND 1875 AS THE INDIAN CREEK CHURCH, THIS CONGREGATION MOVED TO BARTLETT ABOUT 1885. SERVICES WERE HELD IN A STORE, SCHOOLHOUSE, AND BAPTIST CHURCH BEFORE CONSTRUCTION OF A METHODIST CHURCH IN 1890. BUILT IN 1896, THE PRESENT SANCTUARY WAS ENLARGED IN 1912 AND DEDICATED ON JUNE 19, 1921 AFTER A DONATION HELPED PAY THE DEBT. DEDICATION SPEAKER WAS THE REV. H.A. BOAZ, AN EARLY PASTOR HERE WHO LATER BECAME A BISHOP AND PRESIDENT OF SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY. THE FELLOWSHIP GREW FROM 13 MEMBERS TO A PEAK OF 218 IN THE LATE 1960s."

Name and location of the new marker will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.

The Sunday SUN
Page 5

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, May 9, 1976

Coupland plans bicentennial bash

There will be dancing in the street in the old town of Coupland Sunday, June 6, as this small community east of Austin celebrates its Bicentennial Homecoming. The event will include a speech by Senator John Tower, a barbecue lunch, a dedication of its State Historical Marker and its restored Railroad Depot Museum.

Art and Craft Booths will be open all day. Musical tributes and registration will begin at 9:45 a.m. in the town's only church St. Peter's. Music for the Street Dance begins at 7:30 p.m.

For booth reservations or information, call weekdays this Austin number 828-0335 for Mrs. Tom Petrus.

Williamson County, Texas

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Dr. Van C. Tipton, Chairman



NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWO

APRIL 30, 1976

The Williamson County Historical Commission can be described as enthusiastic, cooperative and hard-working. As a result of these fine qualities many historical happenings are occurring all over the county.

STUDENT RESEARCH

The Student Original Research Project was initiated by Miss Ruth Mantor as a part of the Commission's Bicentennial Program, and was presented to eleven High Schools in the County. This Contest was planned to encourage the youth of each community to become more aware of their heritage and to record it. Several High Schools are involved in this activity which culminates June 15, 1976.

HISTORY APPRECIATION

History Appreciation Week - April 18 through April 25 was proclaimed by Governor Dolph Brisco and endorsed for Williamson County by this Commission.

There were probably many programs in the County but the one conducted in Taylor High School on April 23 was outstanding. Many students and teachers had the privilege to learn the history of Taylor and Williamson County in a day long series of talks, tapes, films and slides. Several historians participated including A.M. Ahlgreen, Miss Ruth Mantor and Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of the commission.

HONORED CITIZENS

Two Commission members have been honored recently by the Chamber of Commerce of their respective home towns. Miss Effie McLeod was chosen "Florence Citizen of the Year 1975". Mrs. J.W. Ledbetter was named "Outstanding Citizen of Round Rock for 1975". These valuable members have done much to promote respect for their Heritage and the many Historical Markers in Round Rock and Florence are proof of their diligence.

JAMES O. RICE MARKER

Lieutenant James O. Rice, a military-career man, was actively engaged in protecting this area of Texas during the days of the Republic of Texas. A large Historical Subject Marker will honor him at Rice's Crossing. It will be paid for with funds received from the Texas Historical Commission. The money accompanied the certificate awarded Williamson County for the Best Program of Work in 1975.

INDIAN ARTIFACTS

A collection of Indian artifacts, excavated from a mound on the North Fork of the San Gabriel River was presented to the City of Georgetown, in January, by Dr. Ed Steelman of Southwestern University. This Bicentennial gift is on display at the Public Library. Another collection is housed at Southwestern.

SOUTHWESTERN GRANT

The Administration Building of Southwestern University in Georgetown will be the recipient of a \$ 10,000 matching grant from the Texas Historical Commission. This building is on the National Register of Historical Buildings. It also has been named a Texas Historical Landmark with a Medallion.

DEDICATIONS

A Pioneer log cabin, built between 1851 and 1854, was donated to the City of Georgetown by the owners. It was moved from the western part of the county near Gabriel Mills and reconstructed in a park on Austin Avenue. This was a project of the Bicentennial Heritage Committee and was dedicated with a patriotic program on February 8. Many young people participated. An Official Texas Historical Marker is being sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Don Scarbrough.

Two Markers were dedicated in Georgetown on March 14. The historic Victorian homes on Elm Street are side by side and are very similar in design. More than one hundred former residents and friends attended the programs at the J.A.McDougle-Adams House and the W.Y.Penn-Allen House. They will be on the agenda for the Bicentennial Tour on May 1 and 2.

The First United Methodist Church of Bartlett is now a Recorded Texas Landmark. A large crowd attended the impressive program and unveiling of the marker on Sunday, April 25. Dr. Van C. Tipton, a Bartlett native, brought greetings from the Commission. The marker was sponsored by the Douglas Sunday School Class and was unveiled by Mr. John Gillespie, a long time member of the Church.

CEMETERIES

Listing of names and dates for Volume II of Williamson County Cemeteries is continuing. There are many very old cemeteries in this county and several have Historical Markers. Some have Annual Homecomings. Lawler Cemetery observed this Memorial Day on Saturday, April 24. The Liberty Hill Twenty-fourth Annual Memorial Homecoming will be June 6, and Bagdad, near Leander is usually on the "last" Sunday in August. There will be others.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Blackman are in the process of procuring small stones for unmarked graves in one of the cemeteries near Hutto.

LOCAL TOURS

The Bicentennial Tour of seven homes and four churches has been set for May first and second in Georgetown.

The City of Taylor has scheduled an historic tour for later in the year to be a part of a big celebration.

COUPLAND PROGRAM

Coupland will have a very full and meaningful day of activities on June 6, according to Burney Downing.

U.S. Senator John Tower will be the principal speaker at the Coupland Community Bicentennial homecoming celebration on Sunday.

An Official Texas Historical Marker will be dedicated by Truett Latimer, Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission. The subject marker for the community will be unveiled at Hoxie and Commerce Streets and will honor the late U.S. Senator Morgan C. Hamilton and the founding of Coupland.

Dr. D.H. Winfrey, Director of the State Library will dedicate the Museum in the restored Coupland Depot.

State Representative Dan Kubiak will speak at the open house at the school in the afternoon.

Myreta Matthews, Commission Reporter

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker w/o post PG
Williamson County - 1/13/76 - Clark St., (FM 487)
Bartlett.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF BARTLETT

ORGANIZED BETWEEN 1870 AND 1875

AS THE INDIAN CREEK CHURCH, THIS
CONGREGATION MOVED TO BARTLETT
ABOUT 1885. SERVICES WERE HELD IN
A STORE, SCHOOLHOUSE, AND BAPTIST
CHURCH BEFORE CONSTRUCTION OF A
METHODIST CHURCH IN 1890. BUILT IN
1896, THE PRESENT SANCTUARY WAS
ENLARGED IN 1912 AND DEDICATED ON
JUNE 19, 1921, AFTER A DONATION BY
MRS. S.T. MORRISON HELPED PAY THE
DEBT. DEDICATION SPEAKER WAS THE
REV. H.A. BOAZ, AN EARLY PASTOR HERE
WHO LATER BECAME A BISHOP AND
PRESIDENT OF SOUTHERN METHODIST
UNIVERSITY. THE FELLOWSHIP GROW
FROM 13 MEMBERS TO A PEAK OF
310 IN THE LATE 1950s. (1976)



The Methodist Church of Bartlett

By Nora Mae Ford and Melba Schwertner

The first Methodist Church organization in the Bartlett area was Indian Creek Church, Salado and Davilla charge, and was founded between 1870 and 1875. Worship services were held in the Indian Creek School house.

Between 1883 - 1885 this congregation moved to Bartlett and services were held in a store building, later in the school house, and still later in the Baptist Church.¹

In 1887, Bartlett was made an appointment of the Salado Circuit with Reverend J. J. Crockett as pastor.

"The Bartlett Circuit was made at the N. W. Annual Conference, assembled in Belton, Texas, November 12, 1889, Bishop J. A. Key, presiding.

It was made from parts of three circuits, Holland and Hackberry, taken from the old Holland Circuit; Bartlett, from the Salado Circuit; and Granger and Macedonia from the Corn Hill Circuit. Hiram A. Boaz was appointed first preacher."²

In 1890, the first Methodist Church building was erected in Bartlett at a cost of \$2,000.00. Reverend H. A. Boaz was named pastor in charge. Reverend Horace Bishop, presiding elder of the Georgetown district presided at the dedication service. Reverend Boaz was later known as Bishop Boaz. The members at this time were: Mrs. Robert Rowntree, Mrs. W. N. Stevens, Mrs. O. L. Cowser, Mrs. J. t. Schrock, Mrs. G. C. King, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Laughlin, Mr. and Mrs. W. McGinnis, Miss Sara Laughlin, Miss Dora Tribble, Miss Emma Laughlin and Mrs. W. V. Irvin. The church building was destroyed by a storm in 1894, but was rebuilt the same year. Then in 1896, the church and parsonage were both destroyed by fire.

The church which was built in 1896 was erected on the present site of the United Methodist Church today. The building is located on lot 4, block 39, W. C. Wilson Survey, original townsite of Bartlett, Texas. This property was bought from J. J. and Ada Pigott for \$225.00 and was recorded on March 8, 1897.³ The trustees who signed the deed

¹ Memoirs of Mrs. Robert Rowntree (1880 - 1970).

² Church Register, Dated January, 1890, Signed by H. A. Boaz.

³ Williamson County Deed Records, Deed Book 78, p. 597-598.

were J. M. Laughlin, W. P. Powell, and J. V. Martin. The church is located on Clark Street in Bartlett.

Upon moving to Bartlett in 1898, Mr. C. C. Bailey wrote, "We found a small but new building which was inadequate for the growing church of that day. During a revival conducted by Reverend M. S. Hotchkiss, in the pastorate of Reverend E. B. Chenoweth, a meeting of the membership was held to discuss the question of erecting a larger building. A tentative subscription was taken and it was thought by those present \$8,000.00 could be raised by subscription. This took several years of work and planning of this congregation."⁴

The following were named to the building committee: Dr. W. J. Harlan, C. C. Bailey, W. C. Rice, J. M. Allen, C. M. Gillispie, E. L. Hardin, and Robert Rowntree. On May 11, 1911, this committee contracted with Flanders and Flanders, architects of Dallas for plans for the proposed building to the west section of the original church proper.

In September, 1912, during the pastorate of Reverend J. B. Berry, construction on the building began, the foundation having been previously laid.⁵ Members of the Christian Church invited the Methodist Church members to use their building as they were without a pastor. The money which had been raised was spent and the building had not been completed, so on July 5, 1913, the committee procured a loan from the Mercantile Trust Company of St. Louis, Missouri upon the church with an additional guarantee of the individual members of the building committee. This loan was payable in installments, the last one in 1918. During this time, the loan had been reduced to \$5,000.00. In the meantime the men of the building committee had borrowed money from Peter to pay Paul. They borrowed from the Board of Church Extension at Louisville, Kentucky for a loan of \$5,000.00 with which to pay off Mercantile Trust Company of St. Louis, Missouri. Because of financial problems the church was unable to meet its obligations and it became urgent that something had to be done.

The late Mrs. S. T. Morrison, grandmother of Roy Woody of Belton, a former member gave a check for \$4,000.00 on May 30, 1921, on condition that other members raise the remaining \$2,000.00. This generous amount would clear the entire indebtedness of the church. This generous gift so heartened the membership that a quick response was made and the additional amount was raised. After ten years of sacrifice and struggle, a joyful dedication of the church was held on June 19, 1921.⁶

⁴ Photostatic copy of history written and signed by C. C. Bailey.

⁵ Picture of construction given by Mr. E. L. Adams, Construction crew, 1912.

⁶ Dedication Leaflet, Dated June 19, 1921.

Reverend J. A. Siceloff was pastor of the church at that time. Reverend C. R. Wright was presiding elder of the Georgetown District and Bishop W. N. Ainsworth D. D. was president of the Central Texas Conference. Reverend H. A. Boaz, D. D., who was then president of Southern Methodist University and a former pastor of the Bartlett Church in 1889 - 1890, was the dedication speaker. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison and the building committee were highly praised for their untiring efforts during the dedication service.

The present building was planned so that a church existing on the site could be incorporated into the new structure. Both the old and new portions are of wood frame construction. Careful planning, together with a brick veneer exterior common to the entire structure, has produced a unified and harmonious entity.

The brick chosen for the walls is of mixed earth tones showing a high percentage of iron oxide in the clay. The wall bricks are laid in running bond, and support is provided by double-stepped buttresses. Twin buttresses, placed perpendicularly to each other at all corners, add both structural and esthetic strength. Single buttresses are placed at each side of the large Gothic arch windows in the north, east and west facades.

A pleasing color contrast is provided by the choice of very dark brown bricks for the buttresses, and each of the two steps of the buttresses is topped by lighted colored concrete castings. Bricks fired in kilns commonly in use around 1912 were not uniformly heated. The raw bricks stacked nearest the fire inlets were exposed to much higher temperature and to the modifying effects of the direct flames. The final results varied. Some were "clinkers" so highly over-fired that they were useful only as unexposed filler bricks. The clay of others was melted to the point of glazing. Bricks that have been highly fired were chosen for the buttresses. These darker bricks were also incorporated into the wall to outline the major Gothic-arched windows and the Gothic-arched dual entrances.

Towers were placed at both the east and west corners of the north facade. Each has a double-doored entrance reached by twelve steps. In number symbolism twelve is the universal number representing the twelve disciples and twelve tribes of Israel. The west entrance, perhaps because of the necessity of wider doors at the main entrance, has the blunt-pointed Gothic arch of the older Romanesque style. That style was used in the cathedral of Notre Dame which was built in Paris in 1163. The narrower, more pointed, and more graceful Gothic arch of the later development has been used for the east entrance.

Each tower has a Gothic-arched stained glass window above the entrance. Their pyramidal roofs have spherical finials at each corner and larger finials at the apexes. The west tower, containing the main entry to the sanctuary, is the more developed and appointed. It also has the added height of a belfry contains three Gothic-arched opening topped with fillet and cavetto molding. The frieze of both towers have corner metopes decorated with the anthemion.

The entire structure is roofed with silver-colored embossed metal with silver-colored spherical finials at prominences and ends. The embossed roof pattern is the inverted, blunt-pointed Gothic arch from which was often used on slate-roofed cathedrals. The blunted-arch is also ovolo, a shape symbolizing birth. Those shimmering, silvery symbols of birth, facing skyward from God's house, are indeed appropriate. They call to mind Jesus' words: "Verily, Verily, I say unto thee, except man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Another meaningful, but hard to see, emblematic device on the roof is a centrally located shaft to ventilate the attic. Once spotted, it is most appropriate, and but another evidence of careful planning, because the font is a symbol of the regeneration of man through the word of God. What better companion to the ovolo?

Moldings used on both the exterior and interior, are modest. Frequent choices are fillet, cavetto, torus and cyma. The massive roof truss pattern, almost half of which is exposed below the sanctuary ceiling, appears to be unique in church architecture, and is impressively stated. All exposed timbers have been faced and are decorated with simple moldings. The space between timbers has been filled with oblong panels opened with cutouts of a sphere-on-dome-on-column motif of uncertain origin. Probably more exhaustive and informed research will place this unique touch into some common perspective.

The east interior wall of the sanctuary, although quite wide, is easily raised by an electrically-activated hydraulic system. This permits enlarging the sanctuary about fifty percent, and connects the earlier building with the newer part. The only notable differences in the building with the newer part. The only notable differences in the older part are narrow-board wainscoting, and earlier examples of trim on the common windows.

Twenty-three of the church's stained glass leaded windows are of imposing craftsmanship. The five largest windows contain pictured scenes. Many of the smaller ones contain common symbolism such as The All-Seeing Eye, the Agnus Dei, and the open Holy Bible. All contain the Fleur-de-lis pattern at the top. The petals are proportioned equally in the more modern representation of the equality of the personhood of Godhead. The bottom of the windows, however, have an inverted Fleur-de-lis which is a much older emblem of the Trinity, since all three persons of the Godhead are not shown to be equal. This emblem was used prior to the third century A.D. when the doctrine of the equality of the Godhead arose.

One smaller, but very pleasing detail worked into these fine examples of the art of stained glass is the use in each window of several miniature panes of pontil-marked lead crystal, with the four edges beveled on the exterior surface. The pontil mark comes from the break made by the glass blower to separate the blowpipe from the scrap which is left attached after a finished article has been cut away. In ancient time, and even extending into our Colonial days, these "bull's eyes" were often utilized as window panes by those poor persons lucky enough to possess them.

The church continued its work during the years and the sanctuary was renovated during 1971 with new paneling, gold carpets, and Gothic style lighting. The congregation worked long and hard raising the money through Memorials, food sales, Harvest Festivals, Pancake Suppers, and donations. Reverend Larry Sullivan was the pastor.

This beautiful Church, which is a landmark in this area, has contributed greatly to all its people and continues to enrich the lives it touches. Through the hard work and dedication of the pioneers of Bartlett, the church came into existence. It is now up to us to preserve it and continue their good works.

Bibliography

- Adams, Mr. E. L., Pictures of Construction.
Bailey, Mr. C. C., Photostatic copy of history until 1921.
Bank, First State & Trust, Records from Safety Deposit Box.
Dedication Leaflet, First Methodist Church, Miss Bessie Skinner,
dated June 19, 1921.
Shrock, Miss Martha, Interview, March 1975.
Williamson County Clerk, Deed Records of Williamson County.
Wright, Col. Robert L., Interview, April 1975.

Mrs. Nora Mae Ford
Bartlett, Texas 76511

Mrs. Stanley Schwertner
Schwertner, Texas 76573

List of Pastors

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| J. D. Crockett | 1887-1889 |
| H. A. Boaz | 1889-1891 |
| E. T. Harrison | 1891-1892 |
| C. W. Daniel | 1892-1893 |
| H. A. Boaz (assistant Pastor) | 1892-1893 |
| J. R. B. Hall | 1893-1894 |
| J. W. Story | 1894-1898 |
| J. G. Miller | 1898-1900 |
| W. C. Hillburn | 1900-1904 |
| R. A. Walker | 1904-1905 |
| M. A. Turner | 1905-1906 |
| E. F. Boone | 1906-1909 |
| E. B. Chenoweth | 1909-1911 |
| J. B. Berry | 1911-1915 |
| W. S. P. McMcCullough | 1915-1916 |
| C. W. Irvin | 1916-1919 |
| J. C. Sicheloff | 1919-1922 |
| T. H. Burton | 1922-1926 |
| S. J. Rucker | 1926-1927 |
| W. H. Cole | 1927-1928 |
| C. M. Crowe | 1928-1929 |
| J. M. Perry | 1929-1930 |
| J. M. Bond | 1930-1933 |
| E. M. Wisdom | 1933-1934 |
| C. H. Sisserson | 1934-1936 |
| C. P. Jones | 1936-1938 |
| W. A. Flynn | 1938-1941 |
| L. R. Vanderpool | 1941-1943 |
| J. F. Adams | 1943-1945 |
| S. A. Baker | 1945-1948 |
| C. Y. Butler | 1948-1949 |
| Roy F. Briggs | 1949-1952 |
| James Ellison | 1952-1954 |
| Fred G. Benkley | 1954-1956 |
| D. L. Barnes | 1956-1957 |
| B. Thomas Tribble | 1957-1959 |
| Homer F. Pumphrey | 1959-1963 |
| C. J. McAfee | 1963-1966 |
| Henry Raade | 1966-1968 |
| Charles J. McDermott | 1968-(3 Months) |
| Larry K. Sullivan | 1968-1971 |
| Wesley A. Howard | 1971-1973 |
| J. Allen Goss | 1973-1975 |

County Historical Commission plans dedications, scripts

The Williamson County Historical Commission met Thursday at the Georgetown Public Library with the chairman, Dr. Van C. Tipton, presiding.

Communities and towns represented were Andice-Gabriel Mills, Coupland, Georgetown, Liberty Hill, Round Rock and Taylor.

According to A. M. Ahlgreen, the Official Marker for the Tenth Street United Methodist Church in Taylor has been received and will be dedicated on May 20. After the morning church service and a covered dish luncheon the unveiling ceremony will take place about

1 p.m.

The First United Methodist Church of Bartlett held an Official Historical Marker Dedication April 25 at 3 p.m.

The church was organized more than one hundred years ago as the Indian Creek Church. It was moved in to Bartlett in 1880.

Over one hundred members and friends attended including several members of the Historical Commission and friends attended including several members of the Historical Commission.

Dr. Tipton, a former member of the church, was introduced and responded with greetings from the Commission.

As announced by Burney Downey, Coupland will have a big day on June 6. There will be distinguished speakers and many kinds of festivities. There will be a Historical Marker dedication and the old Depot Museum will be dedicated. There will be an open house at the school and other kinds of programs.

Dr. Tipton announced that the

markers have arrived for the City of Hutto and the City of Thrall. Programs will be announced later. He said the script for the Harrell-Stone House marker has been approved.

Harold Asher reported on the Andice Baptist Church which was organized in 1864. The application was accepted and the script approved.

History Appreciation Week was a well planned program in Taylor April 23 at the Taylor High School. A. M. Ahlgreen, Miss Ruth Mastor and Mrs. Clara Scarborough were part of a day long series of presenting history to a succession of students.

More than 650 people viewed the four churches and seven homes in Georgetown May 1 and 2 according to Mrs. Robert Morse. Mrs. J. J. Atkin was chairman of this Bicentennial Tour.

Out of county historic tours were made recently by Mrs. D. B. Gregg, Mrs. Robert Morse, Mrs. Clara Scarborough and others.

Tenth Street Methodist Church in Taylor to get marker

An Official State Historic Marker for the Tenth Street United Methodist Church is to be dedicated Sunday, following the morning service and a covered dish luncheon.

Those not attending church or participating in the luncheon, are invited to the dedicatory

service scheduled to begin at approximately one p.m.

Mr. A. M. Ahlgreen will be in charge of the program. Rev. Albert Peterson, a former minister, now retired and residing in Wimberley will be the main speaker.

Page 2, Taylor Daily Press, Monday, May 31, 1976



METHODIST MARKER DEDICATED — Members, former members and friends gathered at the Tenth Street United Methodist Church Sunday to dedicate a historical marker on the church which was organized in the early days of Taylor. Miss Esther Johnson and A.M. Ahlgreen, among the members with the longest history of membership, unveil the marker during 1 p.m. services which followed morning worship and a covered dish meal when memories of past years were exchanged by the group.

Taylor Daily Press, Wednesday, May 19, 1976, Page 7

10th Street Methodist Church To Receive Historical Marker

One hundred years of history of Swedish Methodists will be marked at Tenth Street United Methodist Church when an historical marker is dedicated Sunday, May 30 and placed on the sanctuary of the building.

The dedication will be at 1 p.m. after a covered dish luncheon at noon. All friends and former members of the church are cordially invited to participate in the day's

festivities, and special invitations have gone out to former pastors of the church.

The dedication will be conducted by the Williamson County Historical Commission.



THE TENTH STREET METHODIST CHURCH of Taylor unveiled an official State Historic Medalion in services Sunday. A. M. "Suede" Ahlgreen and Miss Esther Johnson, who has the longest continuous membership in the church, did the unveiling. The church was built to serve a Presbyterian congregation but, in 1894, was sold to a Swedish Methodist group, and for many years services were conducted in Swedish. Many years ago, however, use of the "mother tongue" in services was discontinued, and the church was given its present name. Dr. Van C. Tipton, Chairman of the Williamson County Historic Committee, and Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, former chairman, of Georgetown, and Myreta Matthews, an official of the county organization, attended and took part in the dedication.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 5 Thursday, June 3, 1976

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 11 Thursday, June 3, 1976

County historians to view slides of Burnet June 3

The Williamson County Historical Commission will meet in regular monthly meeting on June 3 at 2 p.m. in the conference room of the Georgetown Public Library, located at 608 Main Street.

- The agenda will include:
- Reports of officers and committees
 - Budget for the forthcoming fiscal year.

• A slide presentation of the historical sites of Burnet County, given by Mrs. Rachel Bryson McAllister.

Historical Commission views slide presentation of Burnet Co. sites

The Williamson County Historical Commission held its regular monthly meeting on June 3 at the Georgetown Public Library with Dr. Van C. Tipton, chairman presiding.

The program for the day was a colored slide presentation by two Burnet County historians, Mrs. Rachel McAllister and Mrs. Linda Ross. They showed pictures and told the story of the many historical markers that have been erected in Burnet County and other places of historical importance that may or may not be eligible for markers.

Following the program the regular business agenda was conducted. Reports from the communities were made.

The marker for the founding of the City of Taylor is due to be shipped by July 2, according to Dr. Tipton.

The Tenth Street United

Methodist Church in Taylor dedicated an Official Texas Historical Marker in an all day observance on May 30. Many former members and some former pastors attended the morning worship service and the luncheon which followed. The dedication program was held on the steps of the church beginning at 1 p.m.

A. M. Ahlgreen, who wrote the church history and Miss Esther Johnson, a longtime member of the church unveiled the marker. Dr. Tipton and Mrs. Clara Scarbrough were also on the program.

Barney Downey reported that everything was ready for the big celebration in Coupland June 6. Several distinguished guests were scheduled to speak at the dedication of the Coupland Historical Marker and the opening of the restored Depot Museum.

Miss Ruth Mantor of Taylor reported that the benefit garden party held on the grounds of the Moody Museum by the Taylor Garden Club, on June 2 was well attended and a great success. Honored guests were Mrs. Dan Moody, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Moody Jr., Mrs. Nancy Moody Paxton and Miss Mary Moody. Among those from the Historical Commission atten-

ding were Mrs. J. T. Atkins of Georgetown and Mrs. F. W. Buchanan of Jarrell.

The Georgetown Bicentennial Heritage Committee project — a Williamson County map of historic places is now ready for distribution. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough has written the text of the history which appears on the back of the map. Mike Riddle is co-chairman with Mrs. Scarbrough.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 2, Page 2 Thursday, June 17, 1976

In other bicentennial news involving commission members, Mrs. D. B. Gregg and Mrs. J. W. Ledbetter invited the group to the Round Rock Bicentennial Tour of Homes on June 12. The event sponsored by the Round Rock Woman's Club includes the Palm Valley Lutheran Church, erected in 1894; the Bell Home on Hwy. 79, built by Captain Nelson Merrell in 1878; The Inn At Brushy Creek, built in 1840; Stoneledge, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Rogers, built prior to 1860; the Bemis Home, built in 1848 and called the Harris Stagecoach Inn and the Don Quirk Home, built prior to 1853 by J. M. Harrell.

Commission members present represented Andice-Gabriel Mills, Coupland, Florence, Georgetown, Jarrell, Liberty Hill, Round Rock and Taylor.

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker w/o post FG
Williamson County - (Order # 4469) - 3/29/76 -
10th & Hackberry, Taylor

THE TENTH STREET UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

SERVICES CONDUCTED IN 1896-98
BY THE REV. C. CHARQUIST IN HOMES
OF TAYLOR'S EARLY SETTLERS LED TO
THE FOUNDING (1900) OF THE SWEDISH
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NORTH.
BUYING THE CHAPEL OF A DISBANDED
GROUP, THE CONGREGATION INCREASED,
MOVING THEIR CHURCH TO THIS SITE
IN 1911. MEMBERSHIP STABILIZED
AT ABOUT 240 IN THE 1920s. IN 1935
ENGLISH BECAME THE LANGUAGE IN
REGULAR USE. NATIONAL RELIGIOUS
TRENDS LED TO NAME CHANGES. THE
INTERIOR OF THE SANCTUARY WAS
REMODELED IN 1950; ANNEX ADDED
IN 1963. TWENTY-EIGHT PASTORS
HAVE SERVED THIS CHURCH. (1976)

10th Street United Methodist Church
Taylor, Texas
by A. K. Ahlsvaen

Before the turn of the century, among those who came to this area to break the virgin prairie for the first time, were several Swedish families. In keeping with their tradition and background of religious worship, they asked Rev. C. Charnquist, then of the Hutto charge of the Swedish Mission Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church North, to come to their homes from time to time to hold religious services. This was from 1896 to 1898.

Dr. F. A. Lundberg served Hutto and held meetings in Taylor homes in 1899. This church was organized in 1900. Rev. E. Severin served both Taylor and Hutto. Our present church building was purchased in 1900 from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, who built the church in 1894 and disbanded. At the time of the purchase, it was located on Howard and 8th Streets.

In 1901, Rev. C. E. Dahl served both charges. Rev. C. E. Wohlander was named in charge in 1902 but did not arrive until June of 1903 after he finished seminary. He died in October of 1904.

The Conference of 1904 moved Rev. C.E. Dahl back and he lived in Taylor. In 1905, Hutto and Taylor became full time stations and Rev. C. E. Dahl served until 1909. In that year, Taylor and Hutto were again combined and Rev. T. J. Westerberg served both charges.

In Jan. 1911, three lots were purchased at the corner of 10th Street and Hackberry Street for \$1400.00 and in April of 1911, the present church structure was moved from the Howard Street location to its present location at a cost of \$560.00.

The old Educational Building was built in 1914 as a parsonage. Rev. T.J.Westerberg served until 1916. Rev. John J. Hamilton became pastor in 1916 and served until Aug. 1924. He was followed by Dr. F.A.Lundberg who served until 1927. Rev. R.R.Blomquist served from 1927 until 1931. He was followed by Rev. J.G.Olson who served one year. Rev. Sahlen filled the purput as supply for a short while. Thereafter, the following have served at the church:

Rev. J. P. Karling from 1933 to 1936
Rev. Luther Lyons from 1937 to 1938
Rev. O.C.Raeke from 1939 to 40
Rev. A.R.Peterson from 1940 to 1944
Rev. B.B.Edmiston from 1945 -48
Rev. Homer Fort in 1949
Rev. J.W.Gill from 50 - 51
Rev. Glenn Bowman from 1952 - 54
Rev. Paul Wiseman from 1954-56
Rev. Homer Pumphrey from 1957-60
Rev. Wm. Horick from 1960-62
Rev. Kenneth Bass, 1962-65
Rev. Kester Hearn 1965-66
Rev. A.L.Cronk 1966-70

Rev. W. C. Crawford 1970-71
Rev. Roland Humphrey 1971-73
Rev. Geo. Matthews, 1973-

The parsonage east of the church was purchased in 1945 and was remodled in 1950 and again in 1974.

The present church building interior was remodled in 1950 and the Educational Annex was added in 1963.

Lundell

234
2

The Tenth Street United Methodist Church
Taylor, Texas

by A. M. Ahlgreen, 708 McClure, Taylor, with additional material by Clara Scarbrough, Georgetown.

The Tenth Street United Methodist Church of Taylor is located on land known as Lots 6, 7 and 8 of Block 2, Murphy Addition. This was a part of a tract granted to T. A. Johnson by the State of Texas in 1849. (Vol. 16, page 534) T. A. Johnson held the land for more than two decades, but when it became known that the International and Great Northern Railroad would build in that area, the exchange of land became more active. In 1874, T. A. Johnson sold to Mary M. Williams (Vol. 15, page 621); Mary M. and H. G. Williams sold to N. W. Hunter in 1875. (Vol. 16, pages 393 and 532) In 1876, the year the railroad was actually built, N. W. Hunter sold the tract to R. S. Hayes. (Vol. 18, page 299)

From this point, all exchanges took place to prominent residents of the newly formed town of Taylorsville. R. S. Hayes sold to C. L. Fowzer in 1877 (Vol. 19, page 31); C. L. Fowzer sold to George W. Burkett and Dan Murphy, who were partners in real estate and other business ventures in the area, in 1882 (Vol. 28, page 73); Burkett sold his share in the holding to Dan Murphy November 10, 1884 (Vol. 36, page 581); and the Murphy Addition was formed (Vol. 101, pages 240-41).

Although the Tenth Street United Methodist Church had purchased their church in 1900 from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, they continued to hold services at the location of the old Cumberland church for ten years. Then on December 31, 1910, the Tenth Street Methodists purchased another lot, the one described above, and moved the church from its original location to the new site in Murphy Addition. The sale was made from Dan Murphy to F. Dahlberg, the latter acting for the church which was then called the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church.

The documentation of the date of building is provided in the deed of sale to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church elders the block of land recorded in Vol. 71, page 330: John Allen Gano of Taylor deeded lots 5 and 6 of Block 2 of the Doak Addition, Taylor, to the elders of Cumberland Presbyterian Church, I. M. Hedrick. W. B.

18
18

Pybus, Samuel Robertson, on March 17, 1894. The deed specified that the land was for the purpose of providing a building site, and the sale was made for \$300.

The motivation for erecting the church was similar to that of a number of denominations, formed in the late 1870s, 1880s and 1890s, as the new railroad town grew and need for church homes became apparent. The Cumberland Presbyterians had the structure built--a modest, frame building, typical of the architecture of that period. According to histories of that church, whose life was brief, I. M. Hedrick headed the elders who funded the project. The church membership was small, however, and found itself unable to support its maintenance, and to pay the balances due on the building. After a few years of struggle, the members moved to other churches in the town, including a First Presbyterian which was formed ^{still earlier,} and Mr. Hedrick was left with outstanding bills. For this reason, he decided to sell the building to the Swedish Methodists, who were looking for a church home, in order to recover his losses. As already noted, the sale was made in 1900, and the Methodist group, who had been meeting in homes, now held services in the old Cumberland Church on the Doak Addition lot, until 1910. The architect and contractors are unknown.

The original structure contained a large, high-ceilinged sanctuary and, to one side, a Sunday School area, partially opened into the sanctuary through a wide spanning archway, originally curtained off. There was also a small foyer or entryway. The outside was finished in wood siding, and the entry door and windows utilized the pointed arch. A square tower topped by a pointed steeple was built at one corner of the church, approximately at the entry. Inside, the high ceiling was finished with wall paper, as were the wood walls, and the floors were oak.

The original altar area was one level only, and the altar was enclosed by a beveled bannister railing. The original pulpit chairs, which have been retained, were of oak, had hand carved trim in leaf and roses design. The chair backs had turned rails. The communion table was of simple lines, had an unusual curved shape at the corners. When the building was moved to its present site in 1910, Eric and John Engstrom, brothers, repainted and papered the interior of the church.

In 1950, the church underwent extensive remodeling. The ceiling paper was covered with acoustical tile, and the papered walls covered with beige grooved panels of asbestos wallboard above the painted wainscoting, which is of the now-rare beaded wood. The east door, in the rear of the church, which originally led to the parsonage, was covered, and a door added on the north side in its place. A platform was added in the rear of the pulpit, to give two levels in the altar area. The pointed section of the steeple was removed, but the square tower retained. The northwest entrance to the church was changed to the southwest, and, still later, to the south. Until this time, the church was cooled by ceiling fans, but the remodeling project included replacing some of the windows with rectangular casement types, which give more light and air. Fans were replaced by central air conditioning. The wide arch which separated the small east wing used by Sunday School classes was raised, and the east section became a part of the sanctuary, thus enlarging the space for the congregation. New oak pews and pulpit furniture were added, more in keeping with the size and style of the interior. The older communion table and ^{pulpit chairs} were removed to the educational annex in 1963, where they sit in a place of honor at the front of the auditorium. Also in this group is an old collection plate, believed to be one of the originals at the church. The railing was removed from around the altar. The reed organ, in use for many years in the church, was replaced ~~xxxxxxx~~ by an electric organ, and the reed organ presented the Bloomquist family, all musicians, who were church members. Robert Bloomquist, the eldest son, now has the organ in his ^{home} Taylor home. The original communion pitcher and cup are also kept in the present educational annex. Exterior siding was also added.

In 1963, a large brick education annex was added on the north side of the church, and joined to the church with a small breezeway. Red carpets have been added ^{in the Sanctuary}, providing a bright contrast to the soft neutral colors of the walls and oak furniture.

The church membership showed a gradual increase during the first quarter of century, then attained a stable number, which it has held for many years, its present membership being about 240. Since its membership originally was composed almost entirely of Swedish families who had emigrated from Sweden, the Swedish language was

the church and Sunday School for many years. In 1935, the church voted to change from Swedish language sermons to English, and some years prior to that time, Sunday School converted to English.

Although the church represents an important ethnic group of that area, the church has also participated in many community activities and has been an integral part of Taylor life. The Woman's Society for Christian Service, through its circles, cooperates in a program to visit each of Taylor's nursing homes on Sunday afternoons and bring programs to the residents. WSCS ladies also belong to an organization of all church women in Taylor, and assist with various projects sponsored by that group. In recent years, the church choir prepared and presented Swedish music during the Taylor Independence Days festival. The church's most recent project is to provide a place for a city-wide kindergarten for pre-schoolers. The kindergarten is administered by mothers of the children who attend, and meets in the educational annex of Tenth Street Church. All Taylor children, regardless of church affiliation, are eligible to attend.

The Tenth Street United Methodist Church of Taylor will celebrate its seventy-fifth year as an organized church in 1976, and wishes to commemorate that occasion with a State Historical Marker delineating the history of its church structure and of the church itself. The church building is 81 years old, and the gathering of small groups of Swedish people in Taylor to hold services dates back 79 years.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Tenth Street United Methodist Church History, 50th Anniversary.
- Undated clippings from Taylor Daily Press.
- Interviews with early members, including Axel Ahlgreen, Mrs. Ahlgree Edward Carlson, Walfred Johnson, and A. Swensk, Mrs. A. Swens
- Interview with Mrs. Olga Bruce, August 10, 1975.
- Church records.
- County Deed Records, as noted in body of story.
- Other church histories from file of A. M. Ahlgreen, son of pioneer members ^{August} Axel and Mrs. ^{August} Axel Ahlgreen.

TENTH STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Taylor, Texas

Additional material on the founding of Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Taylor, whose building the Tenth Street Methodists now occupy, follows:

A deed in Vol. 71, page 330, Williamson County Deed Records, states:

"The State of Texas, County of Williamson

"Know all Men by these Presents that I,
Jno. Allen Gano, of the County of Williamson in the State aforesaid, in consideration of the sum of Three Hundred (\$300.00) dollars, to me in hand paid by I. M. Hedrick, W. B. Pybus and Samuel Robertson, Elders of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church located at Taylor, Texas, and Trustees in trust for said church, and to their successors in office who shall hereafter be elected to fill their places. The receipt of the amount in the amount in full being hereby acknowledged, have granted, sold, and conveyed, and by these presents do grant, sell and convey unto the said F. M. Hedrick, W. B. Pybus and Sam'l Robertson, as trustees for said church. . . all that tract or parcel of land. . . being a part of Lots Nos. Five (5) and Six (6) in Block No. Two (2) in Doak's Addition to the town of Taylor. . . this 17th day of March A D 1894.

(signed) Jno. Allen Gano

filed Sept. 12, 1894."

= = = = =

In addition to the above corroborative material regarding the date the church was built, Mr. Herbert Patterson of Taylor, in an interview with A. M. Ahlgreen of Taylor on September 12, 1975, stated that his (Patterson's) parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; that Mr. Hedrick put up the money and organized the church, and served as Chairman of the Trustees who had the church erected in 1894. Mr. Hedrick asked members of the church to reimburse him for the building costs, but they were slow in doing so, and for this reason he resolved to dissolve the church, which he did in 1900. He then sold the building to the Swedish Methodist Episcopal

Church, North, which later became the Tenth Street United Methodist Church, still active in 1975.

= = = = =

The Rev. C. Charnquist, who began holding services in the homes of Swedish families of Taylor in 1896, was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church's northern branch, for he had received his education in the north. He organized numerous churches, operating from a missionary conference out of the Kansas City area. Mr. A. M. Ahlgreen of Taylor, member of the Tenth Street Church, the church's official historian, and the son of early members of the church, explains the church's ideological loyalties in this way. In the first place, the church was organized so long after the Civil War, the subject of slavery (to the best of Mr. Ahlgreen's knowledge) never came up. The Swedish people of the community simply wanted a church, and Rev. Charnquist was available to help organize one. The families involved had confidence in the minister, and accepted his background, training, and church conference as a matter of course. Mr. Ahlgreen recalls no strong feeling of loyalty either to the northern or southern conferences of the Methodist Church, but simply to the local church which they wanted and supported.

Mr. Ahlgreen does note that there appears to have been some competition among Swedish ministers, who were organizing churches and attempting to persuade Swedish people into particular denominations. For instance, in this immediate Central Texas area, besides the Swedish Methodist churches, there were also organized^a Swedish Baptist Church (Austin), several Swedish Lutheran Churches (Austin, Round Rock-Palm Valley, Hutto, and New Sweden). A rebel church which called itself the Free Evangelical Church was located between Hutto and Georgetown in the Bell community, and another at New Sweden. The Swedish Methodists had early churches at Taylor, Union Hill (later Georgetown) and at Manda. Since some of these churches were even within sight of each other, Mr. Ahlgreen believes that there must have been considerable competition between these ministers who founded the churches of various faiths. It might be noted, in addition, that all these were rather tiny communities at the time^{the} churches were established, with the possible exception of Austin.

On the formal organization of the Tenth Street Church in 1900, four years after members began holding meetings in homes, the church was called the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, North, and retained this name until 1935. At that time, the church voted to begin holding services in the English language, and also voted to change the name from Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, North, to Tenth Street Methodist Episcopal Church, North. Mergers of the north and south branches of the church in 1939 led to a shorter name, the Tenth Street Methodist Church. Additional mergers in 1968 gave the church the title, Tenth Street United Methodist Church.

Tower To Keynote Coupland Fair This Weekend

COUPLAND — United States Senator John Tower will be the guest of honor and principal speaker at the Bicentennial all-day Homecoming Celebration to be held in the historic town of Coupland Sunday.

The Celebration will begin at 9:45 with a musical tribute to America in old St. Peter's Church, built in 1906. Guests and visitors will register at the church.

A flag ceremony will precede Tower's speech, followed by dedication of Coupland's historical marker by Truett Lattimer, Director of the State Historical Museum.

The community's Railway Depot Museum, open for the first time, will be dedicated by Dr. Darman H. Windrey, State Librarian, Texas State Library.

Local talent will entertain at 4 p.m. at the Coupland School Open House, where Representative Dan Kubiak will recognize Coupland ex-residents.

Food, art and craft booths will be open all day, and a street dance begins at 7:30 p.m.

Coupland, one of Central Texas' oldest communities, plans its homecoming nearly ninety years after it was incorporated in 1887 by Major Theodore Van Buren Coupland.

The small communities' population has not varied a great deal during its life. It was laid out with 48 blocks on 200 acres of land. It is now about the same size.

John Goetz, Sr., a retired school teacher from Fayette County, bought the first lots in 1887 and built a two-story

frame house with lumber hauled from Bastrop by oxen. This home also served as General Store and Post Office until 1905.

Major Coupland had settled in the area after he inherited land from his uncle, Senator Morgan C. Hamilton, who had obtained it from James Crawford, a colonist to whom it had been passed as a grant from Mexico.

Major Coupland built a small frame house on Brushy Creek, west of the present village of Coupland.

In 1900 Herman Hunziker, a bricklayer, moved his family to Coupland, and for two decades left his mark on sidewalks and underground cisterns built in the community.

In 1913 Hunziker's daughter married Alfred Albers who was proprietor of the Coupland Drug Company for the next 52 years. J.O. Ford opened a grocery and meat market. Ben and Hugo Franze ran a livery stable, and St. Peter's Church was dedicated in 1906.

A school was built in 1906. Both the church and the school are in use today and are landmarks of the community. A bank was chartered in 1911 and C.W. Pfluger became president in 1913. His son is president of the bank today.

By 1921 there was a hotel, a light plant, a telephone company, a saloon, a 5- & 10 cent store, a cafe, a barbershop and a bath house.

By 1940, the town had a population of 320.

Although the population has dwindled, Coupland is a thriving and citizen-run community. It has its own

schools, churches, bank, stores and civic organizations. For ninety years it has survived floods, wars, depressions, droughts, and has retained its identity as a living village, resisting absorption by larger cities.

When its many former residents return for the Homecoming, June 6, they will find the village much as it was. Even the old depot has been restored and renovated and made into a museum of nostalgic moments.

from the Hill Country News



Senator Tower will speak at Coupland

John Tower will be the guest of honor and principle speaker at the Bicentennial all-day Homecoming Celebration to be held in the historic town of Coupland Sunday, June 6.

The Celebration will begin at 9:45 with a musical tribute to America in old St. Peter's Church, built in 1906. Guests and visitors will register at the church.

A flag ceremony will precede Tower's speech, followed by dedication of Coupland's historical marker by Truett Lattimer, Director of the State Historical Museum.

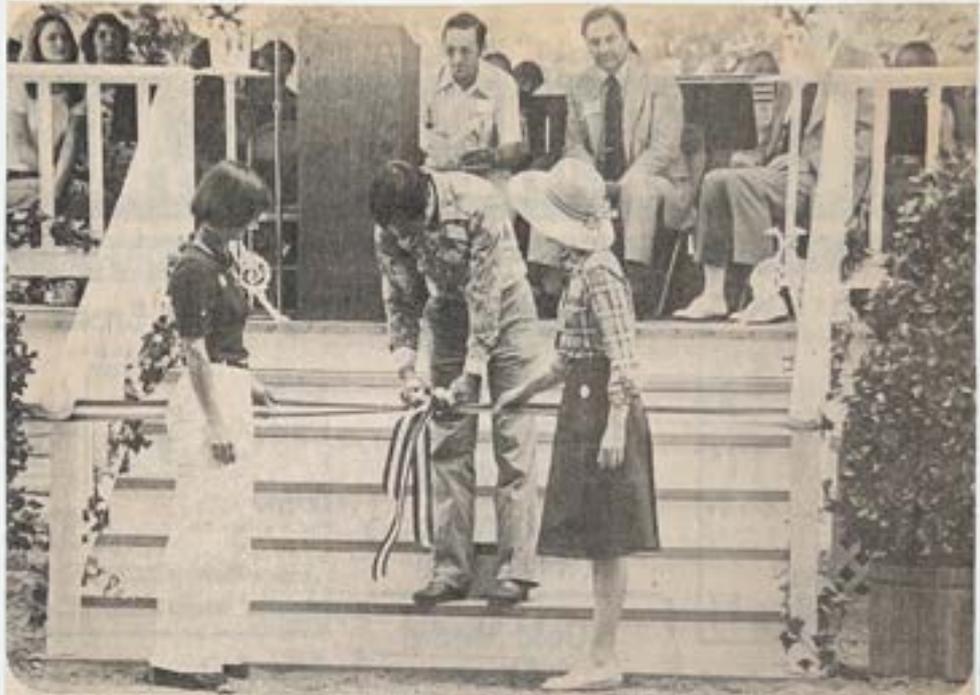
The community's Railway Depot Museum, open for the first time, will be dedicated by Dr. Darman H. Windrey, State Librarian, Texas State Library.

Local talent will entertain at 4 p.m. at the Coupland School Open House, where Representative Dan Kubiak will recognize Coupland ex-residents.

Food, art and craft booths will be open all day, and a street dance begins at 7:30 p.m.

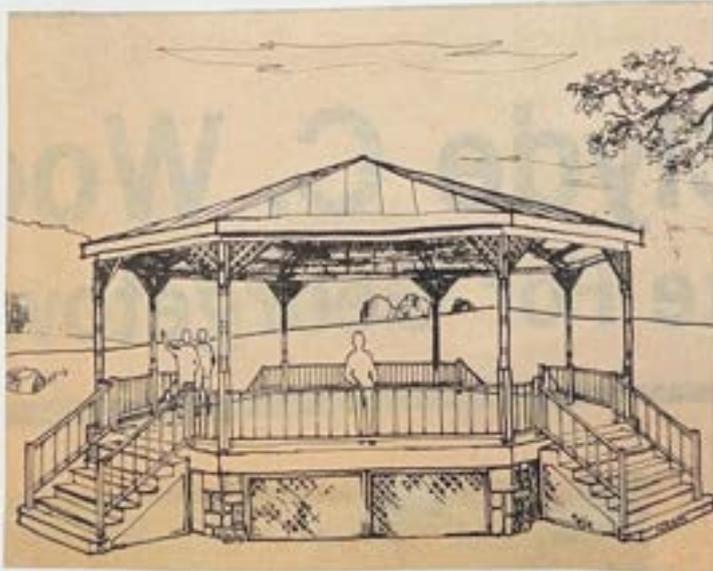
Senator Tower is the son of a Methodist minister and grew up in East Texas communities. He enlisted in the Navy at age 17 and served on a gabbout in Asian waters. He attended Southwestern University and earned a political science degree. He received master's degree from Southern Methodist University and did graduate work at the University of London.

Beauty, bands, and bandstand



MAYOR JOHN DOERFLER, assisted by Georgetown Bicen-
tennial Commission co-chairmen Lynn Burnette and Jo Ann
Morse, cuts the ribbon officially dedicating the bandstand as

City Manager Leo Wood and Congressman J. J. "Jake" Pickle
look on.



The Williamson County SUN
Section 2, Page 8
Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, May 20, 1976



"THE ROCKETS RED GLARE—gave proof through the night that our flag was still there." The Georgetown High School Eagle Band helps dedicate the San Gabriel Park Bandstand with its rendition of the national anthem.



BICYCLE BRIGADE adds patriotic touch to Armed Forces Day Parade with decorated two-wheelers.



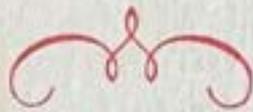
SO HAPPY SHE'S CRYING — Winners of the 1976 Miss Georgetown Contest are (from left) Donna Wiggins, first runner-up; Lisa DeWitt, Miss Georgetown; and Linda Kotrla, second runner-up.



RIDING HIGH on the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce float are Lisa DeWitt, Miss Georgetown, and Donna Wiggins, first runner-up in Friday night's contest.

COUPLAND

**A
Community
in the
Blacklands**



By
BURNEY DOWNING



**ILLUSTRATIONS
JACK L. WIGGINS**

Copyright June, 1976

Coupland Community Bicentennial Celebration 1976

Foreword

The Blackland belt stretches from the Rio Grande to the Red River, lying just below the line of the Balcones fault and varying in width from 15 to 70 miles. Its rolling prairie was developed rapidly into a farming area and until the mid-1930s it was the principal cotton producing area in the State. It is now one of the most thickly populated areas.

The Coupland community sits almost in the center of this vast strip of land and what follows is a brief look at some of the people and some of the events that went into the making of this community. A brief glimpse of other news and events has been included which affected this and other parts of rural parts of Texas during the past 90 years.

There has been change and there has been progress in this community, although to most people the two words are synonymous. But there is a yearning on the part of many to find and restore the uncompleted past. In "Look Homeward Angel," Thomas Wolfe wrote "Remembering speechlessly we seek the great forgotten language, the lost lane into heaven, a stone, a leaf, an unfound door. Where? When?" Hopefully there may be something here that will tug gently at your memory cords and help you remember some of the things that happened "back then."

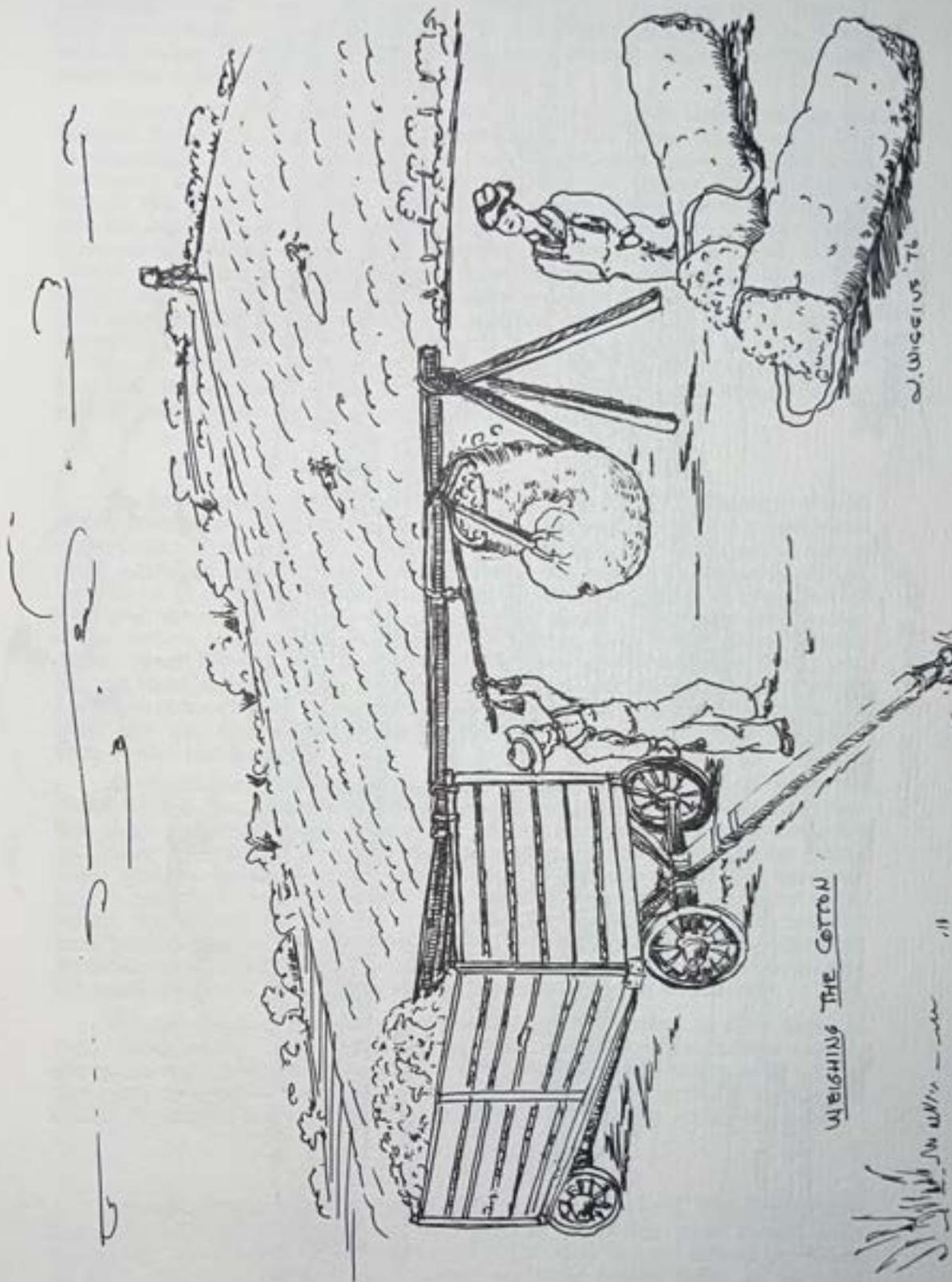
IN THE WINTERS kerosene would be poured on kindling chopped the day before and a roaring flame would soon be boiling the coffee sitting on the wood-burning stove. There was the earthy smell of the cowlot as one splashed ice-tinged water on the cows teats before milking. There was corn to be shucked and fed to the mules before the day's work began and sometimes the mules would be hard to bridle and it was the rare farmer who did not invoke the wrath of the Almighty upon their stubborn heads. In early summer the cotton had to be chopped and hoed. Later it would square and bloom, form bolls and be picked by hand. Some 1500 pounds later it would be dumped into a wagon. And at night one could climb into that wagon now filled with fresh picked cotton waiting to be hauled to the gin and gaze up at the stars not then orange'd by man's pollution, but gleaming with incandescence brilliance. Here without knowing the words or music, one could dream the "Impossible Dream."

§

The first Senator from the State of Texas to pledge allegiance to the United States since the start of the Civil War was named Morgan C. Hamilton. He took the oath of office on February 22, 1870. Senator Hamilton was a Republican. Some 106 years later, and standing on ground once owned by Hamilton, another Senator from Texas, John G. Tower, spoke to the first homecoming crowd in the history of the Coupland community. Senator Tower is the only other Republican to serve in the US Senate from the State of Texas in this line of Senatorial succession.

On January 18, 1887, Lawrence S. Ross became governor of Texas. The following day, C. H. Welch and H. Dickson of Taylor, along with Major Theodore Van Buren Coupland of Coupland City, Texas incorporated the Coupland City Company in a charter recorded in volume 42, page 365, Deeds Records of Williamson County. The area comprised some 200 acres and was bought for \$2,000. Coupland City was platted March 24, 1887 and contained some 48 blocks. A school teacher from Fayette County, John Goetz, Sr., bought the first lots. Goetz had arrived in Coupland after moving his family here from Germany by way of Illinois. He then built a two story frame house with lumber hauled by oxen from Bastrop. His home also doubled as a General Store and Goetz served as Postmaster from December 28, 1889 until 1905.

The forementioned Major Coupland was the first settler near the present site of Coupland. He and his uncle, A. J. Hamilton, who was later appointed governor, had both fought with Union forces during the Civil War. The ownership of the land upon which Major Coupland settled had a long and involved history. It had been granted originally to a James Crawford, as a colonist in Austin and Williamson county, by a Major Arcinega who was the commissioner of the states of Coahuila and Texas. Subsequently conveyed to a James B. Miller and in interim lawsuits the land consisting of 1009 acres, including the present site of Coupland, was finally determined to belong to Morgan C. Hamilton, also an uncle of Major Coupland. In 1883 Senator Hamilton died in New York. He had never returned to Texas after the completion of his term as Senator. He had no wife or children and had left part of his estate to Major Coupland. It was this inheritance that brought Coupland to this location; where he built a small frame house south of Brushy creek and west of the the village of Coupland.



WEIGHING THE COTTON

J. WIGGINS '76

11



THE SUMMER STORM

ARTIST'S NAME

DATE

together and pledge allegiance to the United States of America. Later their sons volunteered to fight with the US Army; still not being fully trusted, they were eventually sent into combat in Italy, fighting alongside the Texas 36th Division. They returned home with more combat decorations than any other like sized unit in the American Army.

Shortly after the end of World War I a flu epidemic spread across the face of the earth. Some 548,000 Americans died from this illness. The headstones in the Saint Peter United Church of Christ Cemetery bear mute testimony to its path of sorrow. During the siege Doctor Henry Kuehne battled the illness with total dedication of effort. Throughout the day and into the night one could see him making the rounds trying to pull his people through, sometimes traveling by buggy and when muddy, by horse. Alfred Albers was filling prescriptions late into the night even though he too had caught the flu. Dr. Kuehne was to later become a legend in this area. He was married and had four girls and one boy, and he also was of German ancestry. His wife Pansy was not, and ever active, he taught all of his family how to converse in the German language. He was the "family doctor" that was known and revered by much of elder America and who have now passed from the scene. Dr. Kuehne died on July 6, 1944.

§

On September 8, 1921, the greatest rainstorm in Texas history moved out of Mexico towards the northeast. Along its way, some 215 persons lost their lives. At Thrall, Texas, located a short distance northeast of Coupland, a total of 38 inches of rain fell. It was the greatest amount of rain to have been or ever be recorded in the United States within a 24 hour period. The land around Coupland was a vast sea of water; haystacks were swept away, cotton bales and hogs squealing in terror were swept down Brushy creek. Hans Wernli with his sister and nephew were returning from Austin. As they started across the low water bridge some 2 miles southwest of Hutto they looked up and saw a wall of water rushing towards them. As their car was washed off of the bridge, they escaped and swam for their lives to the north shore.

In Coupland, there now was a hotel, a light plant, telephone company and a Five & Ten cent store. The Kriedel Bros. saloon included a cafe, barber shop and bath house. You could hardly walk down the sidewalks on Saturday afternoons. The first service station had been opened by Oscar Ging and his father. Regular gas sold for 10 cents a gallon and kerosene cost a nickel. A wooden ice box held cokes, orange and strawberry soda-water. You drank them at the station and placed the empties in a wooden rack besides the ice box. The day of the "throwaway" had not yet dawned. America was doing the "Charleston" and before long Guy Lombardo and his band would be playing the sweetest music this side of heaven.

Manuel Heine and his brother made 6 bales of cotton on four acres in 1921 using mules, iron plows and callused seats. Today's farmer can do almost as well, however to produce a 500 pound bale one has to pour almost the same amount of fertilizer and insecticide into the ground. Instead of mules, he pushes a starter and roars off with 105 horses under the hood.

§

Drought gripped the land in 1925 in a merciless hold. The cotton that had been planted withered and browned. A relentless wind swept daily across the black lands and tiny whirlpools of dust danced across the skies. In May two local farmers were searching their cotton fields in vain for

some evidence of growth. Finally one of them in anguish raised up and shook his fist at the sky and blowing wind "Gawd Almighty—let it blow," and according to his son it did, for another 90 days. Cornmeal mush and milk became a more regular diet and it was a tough scrimmage for what was to come some 4 years down the road.

§

Charles Lindberg flew across the Atlantic ocean on May 20, 1927 in a single engine airplane and found to his surprise that he did not need the letters of introduction he had brought with him. In the same year George Herman (Babe) Ruth hit 60 homeruns in a single season and he eventually ended his career with a total of 714. Fathers assured their sons that these records would never be broken by mortal men. On January 20, 1925, Mrs. Miriam E. (Ma) Ferguson became the first woman governor of Texas and served for one term. In 1932 she was again elected governor, however she was not a feminist activist and her husband (Pa) gave her close guidance in State affairs.

Here at home there would be milk sitting in tin pans out on the screen porch. It would cool and the cream would be skimmed off and made into butter and then mashed into wooden molds. The black washpot sat outside on its three legs next to the smokehouse where hung sausage and hams. Kerosene lamps provided light for the nights, and with the coming of rural electricity, a Philco radio where you could listen to Rudy Vallee and later Major Bowes' "Amateur Hour." Dr. Brinkley spoke conveniently from south of the Rio Grande. Cotton wagons sat close to the barns, their axles now eagerly sought by souvenir hunters. A few people had Model T's in any color they wanted just as long as it was black. In the 30's Henry Ford was to startle America with the Ford V-8. There was the candy counter in the general store where a nickel with a buffalo head would buy a Baby Ruth that you could hold in both hands. There too, were the negroes. Saturday afternoons and June 19th belonged to them. For the most part they were unseen and unheard; they were there as a group but not as an individual. Later as World War II loomed ahead and the machine replaced the mule they seemed to vanish somewhat like the Indians who long ago disappeared along the Natchez trace.

§

One of the early settlers near Coupland decided to pick up his stakes and move on. When asked why, he allowed as to how "the Swedes and Johnson grass have come to this part of Texas and I don't want to be around either one." He should have stayed as he undoubtedly would have learned to love and admire this industrious group of people, but as long as he grew cotton his opinion of Johnson grass would probably have remained firm. In 1928 cotton was selling for 28 cents a pound. In general it was a good year for the people in and around Coupland. They were going to have to remember it for quite a while. By the end of 1929, cotton had dropped to 16 cents. The "Great Depression" was making its way into town but at first it was not immediately recognized. On October 29, 1929 (black Friday) the Taylor Daily Press carried a modest headline which proclaimed that the "Stock Market Breaks to New Low." By the end of November the Press speculated that the "plunge seems to be pretty well over." There were good reasons for this state of awareness. First, the farmers in this part of Texas well knew that no one had promised them a "rose garden." Hard work was the normal way of life and problems were resolved by working harder. Also the drought of 1925 was fresh in everyone's mind

and it had brought sharp and real hardship. Further, during this period oil had been discovered some 10 miles east of Coupland, in an area known as the Abbott oil field. This had brought an overall boost to the local general economy. Last, farms were basically self sufficient. It was the rare family that did not have a milk cow. Hogs were butchered soon after the first "blue norther" blew in. A large garden along with chickens was also part of the farm. As one person put it "all you had to worry about was mule feed and cottonseed."

By the end of 1930 cotton was selling for ten cents a pound. Santa Claus made his regular visit but he didn't stay long or leave very much. There no longer was any doubt in most peoples mind about the state of the economy. However in April 1931, the Taylor Press editorialized "Thanks to an All-Wise Providence who gave us rich soil from which all life comes and thrives, and thanks to our fathers who recognized the greatness of God's gift and settled Williamson County in the midst of this fertile garden, depression has not touched our community and never will as long as we are given sufficient moisture to make our gardens blossom and grow." It turned out to be a dry year and cotton reached an all time low of five cents a pound. Some 30,000 miniature golf courses sprang up throughout the US and flagpole and tree sitting became a national pastime.

§

From across America they had gathered; camped in absolute squalor near the Capitol of the United States. Many had brought their wives and children with them. They were veterans of World War I and they called themselves the "Bonus Expeditionary Force." They had come to Washington to petition the government to give them a bonus which Congress had authorized in 1925. For the most part they were ignored and there was little to do and nowhere to go. Hoover refused to meet with any of them and finally sent word to the Chief of Staff (General Douglas MacArthur) to evict them. At 4:45 PM on July 28, 1932, Major George S. Patton, Jr. turned up Pennsylvania Avenue leading three elements of the US Army; calvarymen with drawn sabers, infantry with bayonets gleaming in the fading sun, followed by tanks. MacArthur was about to comply with his orders as he interpreted them. Captain Dwight Eisenhower, who at the time was MacArthur's aide and who had argued to the point of insubordination against this action now stood by in silent raging fury as the soldiers charged into the veterans. They were gassed, clubbed and bayoneted; driven through the street and their tarpaper shacks burned and finally left alone, dazed scattered and helpless throughout the city. It was the cruelest year. Later when the enormity of the act became apparent to Hoover and MacArthur, each blamed the other; MacArthur claiming he was following specific orders and Hoover stating he had merely told him to restore "law and order." History judged them both equally guilty.

§

By August 1932, cotton was still selling for a nickel a pound and in November Herbert Hoover was defeated in his bid for reelection. A bread and soup line was now being administered by the county government of Williamson County. Over five thousand banks across the country had become bankrupt.

On March 4, 1933 the voice of the 32d president of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt, boomed forth across the land and told the American people that the only thing they had to fear was fear itself. It was a beacon shining through the skies. For almost four years this ship had drifted aim-

lessly through the murky waters of want, despair and hopelessness. One of his first acts was to close all of the banks across the country, and when they were reopened failures which had become legion, became something of the past. The first 100 days was a cauldron of hectic activity. The American people had given their representatives in Congress a message and it was now time to try something different. Farmers throughout the South began to plow up cotton they had just planted. A leading local republican official was heard to express his opinion as to the stupidity of the dam Democrats and farmers since cotton was only bringing five cents a pound any fool could see that you ought to be growing more, not less. In a way he had touched upon a nerve which lay in the instinct of every farmer. From the dawn of time, man had always tried to produce more; now cattle and pigs were being slaughtered, quicklime poured over their carcasses; potatoes were dumped in huge piles and purple dye used to stain the skins. Land which had once been planted to cotton, lay idle under the bright sun. Blue eagles appeared in store windows, the government alphabet dawned; WPA, CCC, PWA, NRA, TVA and on and on. Presidential adviser Harry Hopkins said "we will tax, spend and elect, tax, spend and elect," a never ending processional circle. For awhile his words appeared prophetic.

There are economists today who will assure you that the United States never truly recovered from the depression anytime during the 30's despite all of the "New Deal" efforts. Rather that it somehow vanished during World War II and has never been seen again. Perhaps, but in the spring of 1933 a gaunt farmer sat down in the office of the Coupland State Bank opposite C. W. Pfluger. He had done every kind of menial job known to man to keep his family alive during the past 4 years and now he had rented a farm and desperately needed "to buy an old tractor so I can work the place." Pfluger listened and looked at the man. Finally he spoke "If I were you Al I wouldn't buy too old a tractor." It was words and action bonded by an empathy that comes to those who have stood together in a great effort. It was also faith. C. W. Pfluger died February 12, 1944. He had kept his bank solvent during one of the most trying times in American history, and he had done more than his part in keeping the local church and community alive.

§

The World's Fair opened in Chicago in 1933. Sally Rand became a household word based not altogether upon her skillful use of fans. Also 3.2% beer appeared throughout most of the land. FDR was pictured holding up approvingly a glass which quite obviously contained something in it besides ice and water. Later his wife Eleanor was to serve the King and Queen of England what she described as a typical American lunch of "hot-dogs and beer." Baptist pulpits reverberated. Margaret Mitchell won a Pulitzer prize in 1935 with the publication of her first and only book. It was titled "Gone With the Wind." Clark Gable was to later star in the movie of the same name. His "frankly my dear I don't giv a damn" had sent shock waves around the country and the Hays Office of Movie Censorship doubted if another exception to the rule of decency would ever be granted.

§

On December 22, 1937, the US Warship Panay lay anchored in the Yangtze river of China. At 1:30 PM Mitsubishi bombers of the Japanese Air Force dive bombed the ship and then strafed the lifeboats carrying survivors to the shore. Washington accepted the Japanese token apology



JACK WIGGINS '76

WRECK ON BRUSHY CREEK



W. H. B. 1880

Wagon

Wagon

Wagon

Wagon

Wagon

of a "mistake" and the warlords of Japan came to the conclusion that the US indeed was only a paper tiger. They were to act upon this assumption once again at Pearl Harbor some 4 years later. By now, Gerald Ford and Richard Nixon were 21 years old. Italy had invaded Ethiopia and the League of Nations was fading into oblivion. Huey Long had been assassinated. Southern Methodist University (SMU) became the first and only Southwest Conference team to go to the Rose Bowl proudly boasting of their "aerial circus." They were defeated by Stanford 7 to 0.

In 1938 W. Lee (Pappy) O'Daniel, who at the time was a flour salesman with a hillbilly band became governor of Texas. He defeated 12 other candidates including some prominent political figures, by a strong emphasis on "hillbilly music" and denunciation of the "professional Politicians." Apparently along the way he lost some of his aversion to professional politicians as he ran and was reelected governor and subsequently elected to the US Senate. Bobby sox and jitterbugging became the "in thing" and a lot of sympathy was going out to a little girl who "lost her green and yellow basket."

By 1940 the population of Coupland stood at 320 people. It was to dwindle to 250 by the end of 1960 as this area reflected part of rural American trip to the cities. But it has now started an obvious turnaround. There were still some 8,000 mules in Williamson County at the end of the 30's, but tractor ownership had doubled since 1937 and some 29,000 cattle were on local farms and ranches. The handwriting was now on the wall; the mule was going like the buffalo as Herefords began to dot the Blacklands and cotton production was limited by government allotment, rootrot and soil depletion. In 1939 a total of 39,907 bales of cotton were ginned in Williamson County, some 70,000 less than had been produced 10 years earlier.

§

Neville Chamberlain returned from Munich in 1939, an umbrella in one hand and a paper in the other. The paper represented "peace in our time." Less than 6 months later the German army destroyed the armed force of the Polish nation and France and England declared war. The US House of Representatives sustained by one vote a continuation of the peacetime draft in this country and in the summer of 1941 the US Army went on maneuvers in Louisiana carrying wooden carts labeled as "tanks." They were fired at by tree trunks labeled "cannon."

A leading Washington figure flew to Pearl Harbor shortly after December 7, 1941. As he looked at the total destruction of the US Navy, the bomb-shattered debris of our military installations and thought of the fact that the Germany army was now within 30 miles of Moscow, he shook his head and mused "we are going to win this war, this I know, but damn if I know how." Another person who believed we were going to win was Franklin Roosevelt. He sat down at his desk in 1942 and wrote a letter addressed to the president of the United States in 1960. In the letter he asked that the future president allow the infant son of a Captain Colin B. Kelly to enter West Point upon the boy reaching 18 years of age and if the boy so desired. Captain Kelly had lost his life by crashing his B-17 bomber into a Japanese warship. He became an American hero at a time when we badly needed one. Another, Lt. Colonel James Doolittle pointed the nose of his land based B-25 bomber down the center of the deck of the US aircraft carrier HORNET and led a small flight of American airmen on a bombing raid over Tokyo. The Los Angeles Times headlined the story with "DOOLITTLE DOOD IT," and FDR when asked where the flight had originated said "from Shangri La" and no one tried to sue him under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

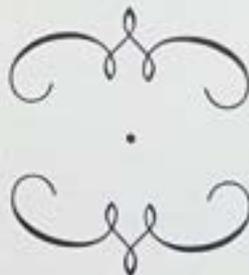
Lucky Strike Green went off to war and never returned. So too went Lyndon Johnson, John Kennedy and Richard Nixon; all to serve in the US Navy. From the Coupland area went Bill, Phillip and Raymond Schwenke along with Sonny Etzel, Ervin and Bill Pfluger and Otis Hardi. Franklin Larson joined the marines. Others serving were Edgar Thiele, Charlie Haisler, Allen Polzin, Mancel Heinzke, Bill Rector and Henry Huehne. Alfred Prinz was killed in action. General MacArthur accepted the unconditional surrender of the Japanese aboard the US battleship Missouri in September 1945 and some 14 million Americans were demobilized.

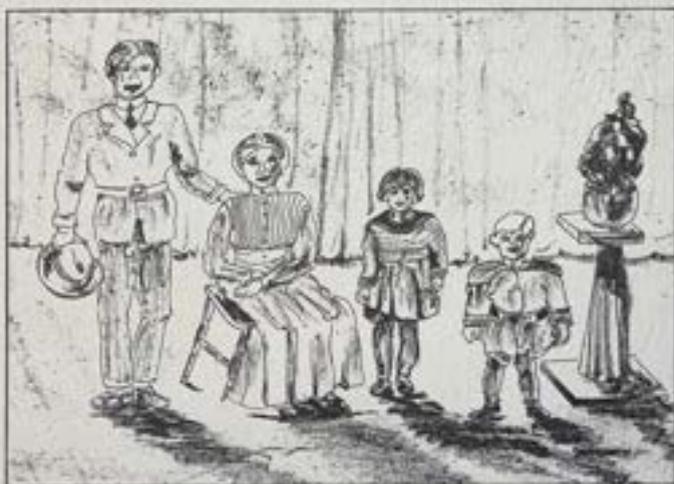
§

In 1948 Lyndon B. Johnson defeated former governor Coke Stevenson in a bitterly fought race for the US Senate by the sum of 87 votes. Some critics later said the Duval County cemeteries provided the margin of victory. Harry Truman defeated Thomas Dewey for president as he "gave 'em hell" across the country. By 1950 Texas went into the first stage of a seven year drought that was not broken until the spring of 1957. A total of 14 inches of rain fell into the Coupland area in 1954 and only 15 inches in 1956 in comparison with the normal amount of 34 inches. Hybrid maize was now replacing cotton throughout the Blacklands.

§

Before closing, let us open the drawers of the old dressers and dust off the faded photographs of those who came to this land at the beginning of the 20th Century, together with their children born shortly after World War I. The women in their long dresses, hiding their hands made red by a thousand scrubbing of clothes upon a galvanized scrub board, their husbands sitting stiff and straight in their white shirts and Panama hats squared upon their heads. And finally let us look at the children, their faces scrubbed clean for this solemn occasion. Ahead of them lies the Great Depression which would drain so much from their very fibre; World War II where many would die in foreign lands and later in time they would see man walk upon the moon. It isn't the strangeness of their clothes that captures your attention; it is the knowledge you sense, that they somehow know for whom the bells will toll.





Coupland Sets Big Day Sunday

COUPLAND—Sunday is the big day for Coupland's observance of the nation's Bicentennial with homecomings, musical extravaganzas, food, an address by Senator John Tower, dedication of an historical marker and of the restored railroad depot as a museum, arts and crafts and food booths and a street dance as the highlights.

St. Peter's Church will be headquarters for registration, and for the start of the day's activities with a musical tribute to America planned for 9-10 a.m.

"I Love America," a musical extravaganza by John Peterson and Don Wyrten, will come to life under the direction of Jeanne Tallaferro with choir members from St. Peter's and volunteer singers and soloists from Elgin. Helma Pfleger will be organist and Connie Bercharding will be the pianist, with Otis Haron as guitarist and trumpeter. Soloists include the Rev. Jewel Johnson, Betty Moore, Zoe Webb, Jerry Vickers, Willie Guenther and Charlotte Hard.

Registration and an informal coffee will also be at the church where friends can meet and exchange news of intervening years since they have seen each other.

Following lunch, either at the Coupland Inn where reservations are recommended, or from various food booths about the downtown area, a flag ceremony will get the formal program underway with an honor guard from the American Legion in charge.

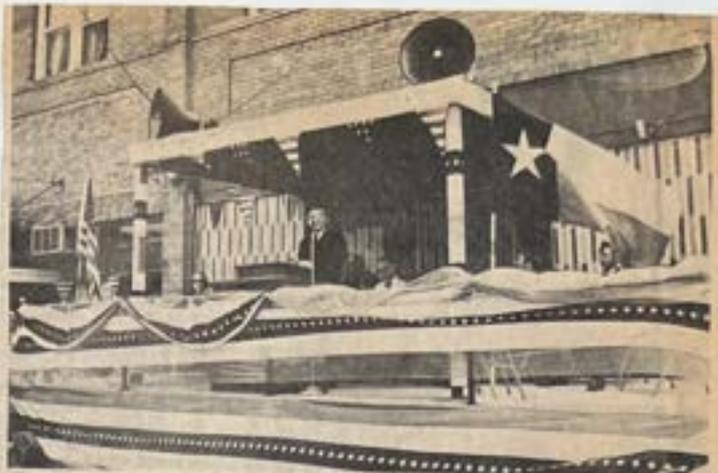
Senator Tower, with a background of Central Texas activities before his election to the Senate of the United States, will be the speaker with a platform for the program participants built adjacent to the railroad depot which has

been restored and will be dedicated as the town's museum. Also to be dedicated is an historical marker for the town which dates to the early years of settlement in Williamson County.

Truett Lattimer, director of the State Historical Commission, will dedicate the marker for the town, to be set near the depot building; and Dr. Dorman H. Windrey, state librarian of the Texas State Library, will officiate at the museum dedication.

At 4 p.m., the crowds will go to the Coupland School where local entertainers will be available while the open house is underway. Representative Dan Kubiak will speak briefly and Coupland 'Exes' will be introduced.

The Debnaires will furnish music for the street dance from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. to close the day's program.



SENATOR JOHN TOWER gave a brief speech to the crowd at Coupland's Bicentennial festival, praising the townspeople for their dedication in restoring the old train depot. Tower spent the day visiting the different exhibits and booths set up downtown. Rep. Dan Kubiak was also present during the festivities. Bill Pfleger served as master of ceremonies for the afternoon.

(Photo by Debby Krenak)

In Coupland

Bicentennial Festival Draws Local, Area Visitors Sunday

COUPLAND — Singing, dancing and lots of good food drew visitors to Coupland from the surrounding areas for their Bicentennial celebration and tribute to the nation.

Despite the over 90-degree heat which prevailed in the afternoon, people browsed among the booths of paintings, art, handicraft items and plants which were sponsored by organizations both from and out of Coupland.

The highlight of the afternoon was a speech by Senator John Tower commending the citizens of Coupland for the work they put into restoring the train depot. The depot was dedicated as the town's museum by Dr. Dorman H. Windrey, state librarian at the Texas State Library.

A historical marker, attesting to the early settlement of Coupland was dedicated by Truett Lattimer, director of the State Historical Commission.

"I Love America," a musical extravaganza by John Peterson and Don Wyrten was put on by choir members from St. Peter's Church and volunteer singers. The participants wore colonial

costumes to depict the life of the early settlers.

Visitors gathered for lunch at the Old Coupland Inn for barbecue and cold drinks. Booths also served German sausage, cakes and pastries throughout the day.

Rep. Dan Kubiak addressed

the crowd and Coupland 'Exes' were introduced. Talent was provided by local residents and included both vocal and instrumental solos.

The celebration wound in a close with a street dance with music provided by The Debnaires.

Page 2, Taylor Daily Press, Thursday, June 3, 1976

Page 2, Taylor Daily Press, Monday, June 7, 1976

Coupland celebrates homecoming Sunday

Coupland, one of Central Texas' oldest communities, plans its homecoming June 6, nearly 90 years after its incorporation in 1887 by Major Theodore Van Buren Coupland. The small community's population has not varied a great deal during its life. It was laid out with 48 blocks on 200 acres of land. It is now about the same size.

John Goetz Sr., a retired school teacher from Fayette County, bought the first lots in 1887 and built a two-story frame house with lumber hauled from Bastrop by mule. This home also served as General Store and Post Office until 1905.

Major Coupland had settled in the area after he inherited land from his uncle, Senator Morgan C. Hamilton, who had obtained it from James Crawford, a colonist to whom it had been passed as a grant from Mexico.

Major Coupland built a small frame house on Brushy Creek, west of the present village of Coupland.

In 1869 Herman Hanziker, a bricklayer, moved his family to Coupland, and for two decades left his mark on sidewalks and underground cisterns built in the community.

In 1913 Hanziker's daughter married Alfred Albers, who was proprietor of the Coupland Drug Company for the next 52 years. J. O. Ford opened a grocery and meat market. Ben and Hugo Franze ran a livery stable, and St. Peter's Church was dedicated in 1906. A school was built in 1906. Both the church and the school are in use

today and are landmarks of the community. A bank was chartered in 1911 and C. W. Pfluger became president in 1913. His son is president of the bank today.

By 1921 there was a hotel, a light plant, a telephone company, a saloon a 5 & 10 cent store, a cafe, a barbershop and a bath house.

By 1940, the town had a population of 320.

Although the population has dwindled, Coupland is a thriving and citizen-run community. It has its own schools, churches, bank, stores and civic organizations. For 90 years it has survived floods, wars, depressions, droughts, and has retained its identity as a living

village, resisting absorption by larger cities.

When its many former residents return for the Homecoming, June 6, they will find the village much as it was. Even the old depot has been restored and renovated and made into a museum of nostalgic mementos.

The Homecoming Celebration begins with Registration at 9 a.m. Sunday, June 6. The day's events include dedication of the Depot Museum, an address by Honor Guest Senator John Tower, and a music festival at the Coupland School. Art and Craft and Food Booths will be open all day. Those with reservations will be served barbecue lunch at the Old Coupland Inn. The day's festivities will end with band music and a street dance.

Stirring events in Coupland Sunday

Little Coupland, nestling in the southeast corner of Williamson County, had a fine celebration Sunday, attended by several hundred citizens of the area and a number of former residents who came from near and far to see each other and join in the fun.

Officially, the community was to unveil a marker for the recently completed town museum, a restored MK-T depot that was moved from east of town and brought to its present convenient location. (See right) Senator John Tower was the featured speaker.





Restored depot. Notice the old hand-car, left, given to Coupland by Georgetown Railroad. Inside the sturdy structure are memorabilia of Coupland's past, a collection now in its infancy but destined to grow as the years go by.



Faces in the crowd

Above pictures, left to right:

Senator Tower and Bill Pflager study the situation.

Bob Stanlon, of Georgetown, Williamston County Republican chairman, introduced the Senator.

Faces in the crowd included Charlie Turner of Georgetown, a native of Coupland, and J. B. Smith, Jack Roberts and Jim Dodson of Taylor.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lett were among those who enjoyed the program. They went from this occasion to a program at Schwertner.



Old Glory was the focus of all eyes during the singing of the National Anthem.



Young Coupland musicians supply the melody as the crowd stood and saluted the flag in the opening act of the ceremony.

The land on which the City of Coupland was established once belonged to Morgan Calvin Hamilton, prominent in state and national government, and from Hamilton went to his heirs, one of whom made his home at Coupland and whose name the town bears.

Morgan Calvin Hamilton was born near Huntsville, Alabama, Feb. 28, 1809, and died at the age of 84, Nov. 21, 1893, while on a trip to San Diego, California. He was buried in Austin, Texas. A younger brother, Andrew Jackson Hamilton (born in Alabama Jan. 28, 1815, died April 11, 1875 in Austin), also had a distinguished career. He came to Texas in 1846, held offices of attorney-general, representative in the Texas Legislature, was a presidential elector, and was a U. S. Congressman when Texas seceded from the Union. One of the most ardent Unionists in Texas, A. J. Hamilton left the state when it seceded, and was made brigadier general of the Texas troops for the Union Army stationed along the Rio Grande. He was appointed ^{Governor of Texas} by President Andrew Jackson, Hamilton serving from ^{July 31, 1845} June 17, 1845 to August 9, 1846. His policy was to get Texas back into the Union with full privileges as soon as possible and held that suffrage should be returned to Texans without regard to their role in the Civil War. He called the Texas Constitutional Convention (fourth) to convene Feb. 7, 1846. Following his governorship, Hamilton was appointed associate justice of the Supreme Court in 1847; in 1848 he was a member of the second Reconstruction Convention. At all times he urged "Amnesty for the past and security for the future."

Morgan Calvin Hamilton moved to Austin, Texas, from his home in Alabama in 1837. From 1842 until 1845 he lived at Washington-on-the-Brazos, after which he returned to Austin to make his home. He served the Republic of Texas in the War Department, first as a clerk, and then as Secretary of War and Marine. He also operated a mercantile business in Austin until 1852 at which time he retired from active business. A strict Republican like his ~~xxxx~~ brother, M. C. Hamilton opposed secession. During the Reconstruction years, he was appointed State Comptroller (1867), and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1868-69. He was elected U. S. Senator and served from March 31, 1870, to March 3, 1877. He then retired from public life and began to travel extensively. He made his home in Brooklyn, New York, but occasionally returned to Austin for visits. He never

*different dates cited by Adair and Holz. See Bibliography.

and
r
and
his
sts.
pland
ne
and,
3,
shed
19,
.

11, p. 119. Auth. by Andrew Jackson Hamilton, Texas State Library

married.

Morgan Calvin Hamilton had considerable land holdings in Texas, including 1009 acres along Brushy Creek which had been granted by Secretary of War W. E. Bee from the Republic of Texas on Nov. 18, 1837 to Joseph Jordan, and three days later, transferred to Hamilton, on Nov. 21, 1837. Hamilton was the assignee of Jordan. Mathias Wilbarger surveyed this land for the Republic of Texas on Oct. 6, 1842. There were conflicting claims to some of this land, but the question of legal ownership was finally settled by Patent No. 39, dated Aug. 24, 1859 and Hamilton awarded the judgment. The original document was Bounty Warranty No. 400.

Since Morgan C. Hamilton had no children, the above holdings were deeded to other heirs; these heirs were the children of his deceased sister, Karen Hamilton Coupland, and the children of his deceased niece, Harriet L. McMillion, nee Coupland. Karen Hamilton had married Hugh Coupland, and their children who inherited the uncle's land on Brushy Creek were Constantine C. Coupland, Nancy J. (Coupland) Spruill, and James D. Coupland, all of St. Clair County, Ala., and another son, Theodore Van Buren Coupland (which he usually wrote T. V. Coupland), of New Orleans; also the children of Harriet L. Coupland McMillion (a niece), named Ella, Nancy, Ada and Ida McMillion, also of St. Clair Co., Ala. Of all these heirs, T. V. Coupland was the only one who came to Williamson County, Texas, to the land his uncle deeded him.

Theodore VanBuren (T. V.) Coupland was born in Jefferson Co., Ala., Oct. 16, 1836, the son of Hugh and Karen (Hamilton) Coupland. T. V. Coupland came to Texas before the Civil War, residing in Austin where he was Deputy Sheriff of Travis Co. Holding similar political views to those of his two uncles, on the outbreak of the Civil War he went to Mexico and from there to the Union lines at New Orleans, where he was made commanding officer and a major in the First Texas Cavalry. Throughout the war, he served exclusively in the Western Department. His command marched from New Orleans to San Antonio, and was mustered out there in 1865. He then returned to New Orleans, where he married Fannie Flanders, daughter of Capt. Wardwell C. and Ann (Cunningham) Flanders. Captain Flanders, an old sea captain, trained as a boy on a whaling vessel and had settled in New Orleans. While in New Orleans, Coupland served as Collector of the Port of New Orleans, later as

31, p. 119--both in Archives Division, Texas State Library

Deputy Clerk in the U. S. Circuit Court.

After the bequest of Williamson County property to T. V. Coupland from H. C. Hamilton, dated May 2, 1883, the nephew moved to the land the same year and took charge of the estate for himself and the other heirs. This property was referred to in the deed as Hamilton's "Brushy Farm" and the "Battle Ground Pasture," plus his holdings of cattle on the place. Here, according to the HANDBOOK OF TEXAS, Coupland farmed and ranched on Brushy Creek, and many hundreds of cattle bore his brand until ill health forced him to dispose of his livestock interests. He continued to farm, however, until his death on Jan. 3, 1890. Coupland "Battle ground Pasture" mentioned in the deed was the scene of a battle with the Comanches in Feb. 1839, when Jacob "Jake" Burleson, brother to General Edward Burleson, was killed during the battle. The only child of Major and Mrs. T. V. Coupland was Frank Hamilton Coupland, born in New Orleans on Dec. 27, 1866. He was married on Nov. 8, 1888, to Sophia M. Heilhecker and two daughters were born to this union.

T. V. Coupland of Coupland and C. H. Welch and H. Dickson of Taylor, and C. C. Coupland and J. D. Coupland, of St. Clair Co., Ala., formed a corporation known as Coupland City Co. to purchase and subdivide for sale the land in the "City of Coupland," established when the Taylor, Bastrop and Houston Railroad built a line south from Taylor through what now is Coupland. The company was chartered Jan. 19, 1887, and map of the proposed city was filed for record Mar. 28, 1887.

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR THE FOREGOING:

Deed Records of Wm. County. Book 31, pp. 210 & ff.
 Book 12, p. 196
 Book 42, p. 465, 527

HANDBOOK OF TEXAS
 LONE STAR STATE, Lewis Publ. Co., 1893
 Pennybacker, Anna J. H., A HISTORY OF TEXAS, rev., 1908
 Holz, Robert K., TEXAS AND ITS HISTORY, 1972
 Adair, A. Garland, TEXAS, ITS HISTORY, 1954
 Scarborough, Clara, LAND OF GOOD WATER

31, p. 112--both in Archives Division, Texas State Library

Hamilton for seemingly good reasons turned down the proposals of Throckmorton, the latter flew into an intemperate rage. During this fit of anger, he wrote his friend Epperson that Hamilton was determined to remove all incumbent officials, carrying out a policy of vengeance.²¹

Throckmorton's accusation was ill-founded. Hamilton did not dismiss officials in a wholesale manner; on the contrary, he retained many of the elected officials, often over vigorous protests. Besides, he frequently appointed persons that Throckmorton and Epperson recommended. Hamilton did name a completely new set of district judges and district attorneys; a number of these, including Richard Coke, an enthusiastic secessionist, had served the Confederate Government.²² Hamilton's efforts at fairness in making appointments is illustrated by his decision concerning James Wiley Magoffin of El Paso County. A strong supporter of the Confederacy, Magoffin had been deeply involved in providing supplies for General John R. Baylor, who had led the Texas Mounted Rangers in their efforts to occupy New Mexico. Magoffin, a fair and friendly man, won the friendship of A. J. Hamilton and his family. The Governor concluded that the estimable gentleman, if a participant in the war, must have been the victim of circumstances—not a rebel at heart. Hamilton therefore not only gave Magoffin a commission to raise a small military force to aid the local officials in law enforcement, but also authorized him to name the new officials for El Paso County.²³

Appointments of this kind displeased the Unionists in El Paso and elsewhere in Texas; in fact, many Unionists protested bitterly against them. In some instances, the protests

²¹ Throckmorton to Epperson, August 8, 27, 1865, and January 21, 1866, in Epperson Papers, Archives, University of Texas Library.

²² Letters from Epperson and Throckmorton to Governor Hamilton during fall 1865, in Governor's Letters (Hamilton); Election Register, No. 260, 1865-1866, and throughout the volume—both in Archives Division, Texas State Library; J. W. Magoffin to Governor Hamilton, December 6, 1865, and a strong protest from a group in El Paso, in Governor's Letters (Hamilton); Governor's order to J. W. Magoffin, November 15, 1865, in Executive Record Book, 25, p. 112—both in Archives Division, Texas State Library.

were effective. For example, when it was brought to Hamilton's attention that William H. Hord, chief justice of Dallas County, was an unreconstructed secessionist, he speedily revoked Hord's commission.²⁴

In making appointments, Hamilton was occasionally motivated by personal considerations. Not adverse to appointing his own brothers, he named Hezekiah B. Hamilton, wreckmaster of Cameron County²⁵ and sent Morgan C. Hamilton to England on a special mission. The mission was to recover the indemnity bonds that the Texas State Military Board had transferred during the war to that country.²⁶ James M. Swisher had carried the indemnity bonds to England for the Texas Military Board. A. J. Hamilton now appointed him agent for Texas to dispose of the Salt Works, the Jordan Salines of Van Zandt County.²⁷

A friend of Throckmorton and Epperson, James H. Bell, became Secretary of State.²⁸ Albert H. Latimer, sponsored by Epperson, was named Comptroller.²⁹ Hamilton retained his affection for his friends and former colleagues John H. Reagan and A. W. Terrell. When William Reagan, brother of John H., came to Austin with a list of names proposed for appointment as officials of Falls County, Hamilton made him chief justice of that county. J. C. Terrell, brother of A. W., submitted to Hamilton a list of names for the offices in Tarrant County; it won immediate and complete approval.³⁰

The State Government that Hamilton undertook to direct had fallen into near chaos. Typical of the conditions that prevailed: the roof of the Capitol was leaking badly and the entire building was in bad repair. The treasury of the State

²¹ Election Register, No. 260, 1865-1866, pp. 241-243-253, Archives Division, Texas State Library.

²² *Ibid.*, p. 4.

²³ Executive Record Book, No. 281, pp. 73-74, Archives, Texas State Library.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 35-36.

²⁵ Election Register, No. 260, 1865-1866, p. 33, Archives, Texas State Library.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 294, 287, 727, 734.

this
DP

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker
Williamson County - 9/17/75 - Hoxie & Commerce
Sts, Coupland

XM

UNITED STATES SENATOR
MORGAN C. HAMILTON
(1809-93)

AN OUTSTANDING PATRIOT WHO
ACTED AS SECRETARY OF WAR AND
MARINE IN REPUBLIC OF TEXAS AND
LATER SERVED THE STATE IN MANY
ROLES, MORGAN HAMILTON IN 1837
OBTAINED A 1009-ACRE LAND GRANT
IN THIS AREA. WHILE HIS BROTHER
A.J. HAMILTON WAS GOVERNOR (1865-
66), HE RETRIEVED FOR TEXAS SOME
BONDS SENT TO EUROPE DURING THE
CIVIL WAR. IN 1870-77 HE SERVED
AS A UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM
TEXAS. HIS NEPHEW THEODORE VAN
BUREN COUPLAND (1836-90) SETTLED
HERE AND IN 1887 FOUNDED TOWN OF
COUPLAND ON LAND THAT FORMERLY
BELONGED TO SENATOR HAMILTON. (1975)

72-9-P

Coupland City, Texas was an early day real estate venture of the Coupland City Company. C. H. Welch and H. Dickson of Taylor, Texas; Maj. Theodore Van Buren Coupland of Coupland City, Texas; C. C. Coupland and J. D. Coupland of St. Clair County, Alabama incorporated the Coupland City Company in a charter dated January 19, 1887 and filed March 28, 1887 as recorded in Volume 42, page 365, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas. The purpose as stated in Article 2 of the charter was for purchase, subdivision and sale of land in the town of Coupland, recently established on the line of the Taylor, Bastrop and Houston railway, (which was built 1886-87).

The original acreage was then purchased by the Coupland City Company on February 9, 1887 from T. V. Coupland, James D. Coupland, C. C. Coupland, and the afore mentioned as trustees for Ella, Nancy, Ada and Ida McMellion, children of their deceased sister, residing in St. Clair County, Alabama, the consideration being \$2,000 for approximately 200 acres.

The Coupland City Company, with its office in Taylor, proceeded to build a city. Circulars were printed advertising a public auction sale of town lots at the "New Town of Coupland City" to be held Thursday, May 12, 1887 with Capt. J. A. H. Hosack, Auctioneer. Little is known about the results of the auction; however, the advertising was quite convincing. The "New Town of Coupland City" was advertised as being located on the Taylor, Bastrop and Houston railway in the southeastern portion of Williamson County, 1 1/2 miles south of the thriving city of Taylor and 8 1/2 miles north of Wagon Mound on the Houston and Texas Central Railway.

The circulars had a map of the proposed city and information as follows: "This new city offers inducements to capitalists who are seeking investments on LARGE, SURE AND INCREASING INCOME for their investments."

"To Merchants, mechanics, and trades-people - an eligible location to make their labor, energy, enterprise and intelligence bear fruit a hundred fold."

"Wood and water in abundance for all necessary purposes."

"Brushy Creek, a constant, clear running stream, is near the north boundary line of the City."

"This section is equally well adapted to grazing or agriculture. Cotton, all the cereals, vegetables and fruits do well."

"No farmer who has cultivated his land well here, but what has made good crops in the most droughty seasons."

"The scenery is magnificent, soil rich, climate healthy. A visit in the spring time to this beautiful prairie will repay its costs."

"Williamson County, with her fine farms and fine blooded stock, is rightfully named the BANNER County of the State."

"Lands near Coupland City can be purchased at reasonably low figures, and on easy terms by early applicants."

"Good hotel accommodations are had at Taylor, Elgin or Bastrop, from which places trains will be run on day of sale."

"Terms of Sale: All sums of \$100 or under cash: over \$100, one-third cash, balance in one or two years."

We can deduce from the advertising campaign that Coupland City, Texas was a speculative real estate venture, significantly enhanced by its location on the new Taylor, Bastrop and Houston railway.

The land upon which Coupland is situated was originally granted to James Crawford by Maj. Arcinega, Commissioner, Supreme Government of the State of Coahuila and Texas, as a colonist in Austin's and William's County.

"On July 19, 1837, Crawford executed a warranty deed conveying 2,222 acres to James B. Miller. Miller then conveyed the land to Albert P. Burnley in a warranty deed dated August 3, 1848. During the course of these and other transactions of the land, early laws of Texas from 1831 to 1876, Articles Number 2377 and 2848, validating acts of the Legislature of Texas of February 2, 1854 and January 25, 1836, and Hamilton vs. Avery 20th Texas, page 630: "colonists leagues on Brushy Creek held invalid so far as the same was located north of the dividing ridge of the Brazos and Colorado Rivers". Rightful ownership was determined in Patent Number 39, Volume 12, dated August 24, 1859 when the State of Texas by M. R. Runnels, Governor and Francis M. White, Commissioner of General Land Office granted to Morgan C. Hamilton, assignee of Joseph Jordan, 1,009 acres of land, situated and described as follows: in Williamson County on Brushy Creek, a tributary of Little River, about 20 miles S 54 E from Austin known as Survey No. by virtue of Bounty Warranty No. 400 for 1,120 acres issued by Barnard E. Bee, Secretary

of War of the Late Republic of Texas, and on the 18th of November 1837, transferred by said Jordon to Hamilton on the 21st day of November 1837. The land was surveyed for Hamilton by Mathias Wilbarger, Dep. Surveyor on October 6, 1842.

In a deed of Gift and Trust dated May 2, 1883, Hamilton left to share, a sizeable inheritance of land, cattle and horses to his deceased sister's (Karen Hamilton Coupland) five children, those being Constantine, Nancy J., James and Theodore V. Coupland and the children of the deceased Harriet L. Coupland McMillion.

In 1884, Nancy J. Coupland Spruill of Alabama then traded her interest in the estate for livestock and approximately 900 acres northwest of the present town of Coupland and thus remained the owners who sold 200 acres to the Coupland City Land Company.

Jesse Barker has been considered the first settler of the Coupland area by many old timers. This, however, is untrue. Jesse Barke never made a home here, but his sons Calvin and E. B. (at age 10) did. In 1845, the Barkers came from Bastrop County and settled on what they thought was their original Austin colonist land grant. But about twenty years later, they learned that they had been confused with rivers and had actually settled on someone else's grant. Since they had already established their roots here, they bought the land from its legal owner and remained in the area. E. B. Barker had nine children: Robert E., Rufus L., J. Euphrates (Frate), J. Tom, Sallie (Darlington), Jack I., Emzy, Dudley, and Ada (Mrs Benard Garry). Tom Barker witnessed the last Indian fight in the area.

Maj. T. V. Coupland was the first settler near the present site of Coupland. Coupland was born October 16, 1836 in Alabama. When the Civil War erupted, many young men refused to join the fight. Some went into exile rather than serve in a cause they thought was wrong. Still others escaped from the areas and joined the Union forces to fight against slavery and the Confederacy. One such resister was Coupland. A few years before the Civil War, Coupland moved to Austin where he became Deputy Sheriff of Travis County. When the war broke out, he and his Uncle A. J. (Jack) Hamilton and others stole away to Mexico and then made their way north to the Union lines at New Orleans where they offered their services to the North. T. V. Coupland was commissioned Major of the First Texas Calvary.

After the war in 1865, he was mustered out in San Antonio and returned to New Orleans. He served eighteen years in government appointments, first as collector of the port of New Orleans, and then as deputy clerk of the United State Court.

In July 1865, his uncle A. J. (Jack) Hamilton was appointed provisional governor of the State of Texas by Andrew Johnson. Morgan C. Hamilton, also an uncle, was appointed the first U.S. Senator from Texas after the Civil War as a reward for his political ties. After he served his term as Senator, Morgan Hamilton moved to New York state where he died. Since he never married, he left his estate to his nieces and nephews (T. V. Coupland being one of them). When Maj. Coupland received word of his uncle's death in 1883, he abandoned his political aspirations and moved with his wife and only child, Frank Hamilton Coupland, to Central Texas land left by his uncle. His first home was a small square frame house on the south bank of Brushy Creek west of the present site of Coupland. The house still stands. Maj. Coupland died on January 3, 1890, and is buried in Taylor.

John Goetz, Sr., a school teacher from Fayette County, was the first to buy lots in the new city of Coupland after moving his family from Germany by way of Illinois. He built a two story frame dwelling with lumber hauled from Bastrop in a ox-drawn wagon. In this building, his residence, he opened a General Store and became the first postmaster.

Among the early settlers was Diedrich Goetz (1844-1923) and his wife Trintze. Goetz came to America in 1871 by sailboat and settled in Minonk, Illinois. Eighteen years later, after an investigative trip to Texas, Goetz, his wife and eleven children moved to Coupland City, Texas. Their first residence was the house built by Maj. Coupland west of Coupland City. In 1890, he bought a farm south of Coupland and built their homestead. Trintze Goetz (1839-1906) was the first to be buried from St. Peter's church in Coupland.

Harmes Otten Eiben (1838-1919) also from Minonk, Illinois came to Coupland City, Texas in 1890. After a short stay in the Coupland home, he built his home on a farm southwest of Coupland where a grandson, Otto Eiben, now resides.

August Kriedel (1851-1939) came to Coupland City, Texas in 1890 from Fayette County. He became the first bank president and a partner in the purchase of the Coupland City Land Company.

Coupland City, Texas was platted March 24, 1887 and filed March 28, 1887 by C. H. Welch, President of Coupland City Company. It showed to contain 48 blocks.

The Coupland City Company also donated the streets and a public square which was never developed.

The first post office was opened by John Goetz, Sr. in December 28, 1889 in the two story frame structure used as a residence and general store. Coupland has had continuous local postal service since that time. Walter Weber and John Albers were rural mail carriers.

Although the Coupland City Company was incorporated, the town of Coupland was never incorporated. It did however become a thriving rural community with some continuity.

Emzy Barker was the first constable and the Coupland Fire Department was organized. Early day crime led to the organization of townsmen to share in the enforcement of law and order by forming groups of night watchmen. A jail house was purchased and located next to the railroad north of the sharp highway turn.

Early businesses included the John Goetz Sr. General Store and later Helmuth and Van Rosenberg General Merchantile and J. O. Ford Grocery and Meat Market. Ford had the first pickup truck in the Coupland area which he used for deliveries. Wernli & Boeneman Bank Saloon and Marburger & Copeland Saloon were early watering holes. John Speckles had the first full line hardware store. Hugo and Ben Franze ran a livery stable and transfer line. A man named Peterson was the first blacksmith. After Peterson, shops were established by Adolph Spiegelhauer, Adolph Knipe and Max Zieger. Other early craftsmen were Herman Hunziker, brick mason; Albert Boeneman, a wood worker; and Albert Speckles, carpenter. The Bank of Coupland was formed near the turn of the century with August Kriedel as the first president. The Coupland State Bank charter was granted January 13, 1911. In the rear of the Bank of Coupland was the printing shop for the Coupland Record.

A drug store was opened by Clarence White, H. L. Copeland [sic] and Dr. Hudson. Drs. Sharnberg and Fester also practiced medicine out of the Drug Store which housed a hand powered X-ray machine. Alfred Albers trained in the Drug Store and later opened the Coupland Drug Company in 1911. A tailor shop was opened by a man named Foster. Early gins were those of John Albers, Pfluger Bros. and W. T. Brown.

A few years later a hotel, light plant, telephone company, automobile dealership, 5¢ & 10¢ store, movie house and dance hall were established. Kriedel Bros. Saloon housed a cafe, barber shop and bath house.

Shortly after 1890, Lutheran church services were held in the school house at Pear Valley, east of Coupland where Coupland children attended school on a regular basis. In 1894, a wood frame school was built south of the present church site. John Goetz Sr. was one of the early school teachers. Rev. Ernest Rudolf became the first pastor in November 1895. St. Peter's United Church of Christ was erected and dedicated on February 11, 1906. The early conservative German and Swiss were always deeply concerned with religion and church functions since that was one of the motivating factors for immigrating to America. Church council meeting minutes are available from October 21, 1895 to present.

The hard working settlers also enjoyed and needed time for relaxation. Early day social functions were dances and meals at the Pink Hall located on the C. W. Pfluger farm, Sons of Herman lodge functions, summer time swimming and picnics at the public swimming hole on Brushy Creek, a baseball team and later the Coupland Central Band. Also later was a chautauqua performed annually in Coupland. A German summer school was held by the church pastor until World War I.

The economic base of Coupland has always been agriculture. Prior to the machine age, all farm work was done by hand or with mules or oxen. A great number of families lived off of relatively small tracts of land. Consequently service industry was attracted. When machines made it possible to increase output, the numbers declined and Coupland was no longer attractive for business development. These facts account for the decline in the population of Coupland over some five decades.

It has remained, however, a community involved with its rural neighbors, ever ready for growth. The reasonable proximity to Austin, a rural water system and continuation of a public school offer attractive dreams of what may come.

Coupland has been the home of early day businessmen and civic leaders like Reiner Ashen (1819-1903), T. V. Coupland (1836-1890), August Kreidel (1851-1939), Alfred Albers (1809-1968), O. R. Speckles (1877-1912), and many others who left an impact on today's generation. Men like these invested in tomorrow.

One of the most esteemed and sometimes controversial figures to make Coupland home was Julius Wittliff (1881-1973). Wittliff moved into the Coupland area in the early 1900's from Gay Hill, Texas. He was thereafter engaged in agribusiness for the remainder of his long life. Always interested in community development, Wittliff was known far and wide as "Kingfish", Coupland's One Man Chamber of Commerce. One of Wittliff's principal concerns was that of education, i.e. the maintenance and improvement of the Coupland School. No task was ~~neither~~ too large nor too small for him to find time for involvement. Politics was a favorite topic and Wittliff remained politically active until failing health necessitated withdrawal. A first name basis with politicians such as Lyndon Johnson became a trademark of "Kingfish". J. Wittliff left his mark on Coupland through many varied endeavors.

C. W. Pfluger, Sr. (1876-1944) was born in Pflugerville, Texas and later moved to Taylor where he was employed at the City National Bank. In 1905, he moved to Coupland where a private banking house was opened. Mr. Pfluger's father, William Pfluger, although not a resident, had invested in the Coupland City Company and bought acreage around Coupland. The new banking venture and his father's investments were inducements for Pfluger's move to Coupland. Mr. Pfluger's business activities were wide and varied. His community and civic interests were numerous. His involvement in the church was virtually unexcelled. For these qualities and achievements, C. W. Pfluger is remembered and respected as a benevolent gentleman who touched the lives of all those with whom he had contact and many more through his tireless efforts.

Henry Kuehne, M.D. (1874-1944), long time physician in the Coupland community, is still a household phrase when referring to philanthropic deeds. Dr. Kuehne was a dedicated physician practicing his oath to a finesse. Although his profession occupied seemingly all of his waking hours, Dr. Kuehne found time for civic, educational and social activities. He was keenly aware of Coupland's agricultural base and actively pursued a study of raising livestock and rows of crops as a science. The elements of physical geography necessary for successful agriculture led to his study of meteorology, keeping a daily weather log. Dr. Kuehne was truly an unforgettable character and near legend in his own time.

It is indeed tragic that a more complete list of civic leaders and memorable persons cannot be included in this work but such would become voluminous. Coupland has indeed had its share of active and energetic people always willing to help someone help himself.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Published or Printed Material

- Scarborough, Clara Stearns. Land of Good Water, Williamson County Sun Publishers, Georgetown, Texas. 1973.
- Goetz, Gertrude. History of the Diedrich Goetz Family 1844-1974, Publisher unknown. 1974.
- Taylor Daily Press newspaper, December 4, 1958.

Oral Interviews

- Albers, Clara (Mrs. Alfred) - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 18, 1974
- Barker, Emzy - Numerous, over several years
- Boeneman, Ed - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Eiben, Otto - Coupland, Tx. - June 16 & 18, 1974
- Gary, Mahon - Coupland, Tx. - June 19, 1974
- Ging, Ewald - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Ging, O. F. - Coupland, Tx. - June 16, 17, 1974
- Johnson, Rev. Jewel R. - Coupland, Tx. - June-November, 1974
- Kreidel, Alvin - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Muery, Arnold Jr. - Taylor, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Polzin, Allen J. - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Polzin, Norma (Mrs. Ervin) - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Rohlack, Emma - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Seggern, Mrs. Carl - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974
- Speckles, Elton J. - Coupland, Tx. - June 17, 1974

LIST OF AUTHORS

- Johnson, Rev. Jewel R. - Coupland, Texas
- Pfluger, Hilma (Mrs. C. W.) - Coupland, Texas
- Schmidt, Susan (Mrs. Russell) - Coupland, Texas
- Sutton, Jack W. - Coupland, Texas

Taylor Daily Press

"Williamson County's Only Daily Newspaper"

PAGES

TAYLOR, TEXAS, THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1976

(AP)—A

Religious Artifacts Display Now At Taylor Public Library

The Bicentennial artifacts showcase sponsored by the Religious Emphasis Committee of the Taylor Bicentennial Commission is now on display at the Taylor Public Library.

The display case, designed by Carl Grau and built by Bill Schlecht and Victor Kunn, contains many items of historical interest in Taylor and surrounding areas. There are pictures of original churches built in the Taylor area. Included are Bibles dating back to the 1800's and one over 200 years old. Bibles from five different languages, printed mostly in the original countries represented, can be seen in English, German, Czech, Swedish and Danish.

A photostatic copy of the "Book of Kells," dating back to the eighth or ninth century and owned by Father Desmond Murphy, is a classic. An Aspersorium and its Aspergill used in the Roman Catholic service for the sprinkling of Holy Water, along with Croets or Vessels from which an acolyte pours water and wine

into the chalice held by the celebrant of the Mass are quite old and provided by Mrs. James Bartosh.

This display helps remind us of our religious heritage and a

way in which we can celebrate this Bicentennial year of our history and background as one people out of many, said the Rev. Bill Arnold, chairman of the Ministerial Alliance.



RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS—Now on display in the Taylor Public Library are a number of religious artifacts from area citizens. Shown here with the display are, left to right, Bill Schlecht, who built the display case; Rev. Bill Arnold, chairman of the Religious Emphasis Committee of the Taylor Bicentennial Commission; and Patsy Bartosh, Bicentennial chairman.

Taylor Daily Press

"Williamson County's Only Daily Newspaper"

PAGES

TAYLOR, TEXAS, TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 1978

(AP)—AS



BICENTENNIAL CERTIFICATE — The Taylor Bicentennial Commission received the Janey Briscoe Bicentennial Certificate of Achievement for outstanding accomplishment in beautification, restoration, civic improvement, and community-wide involvement in commemoration of the Nation's Bicentennial. This Award of Merit was presented Friday at the ninth annual Beautify Texas Council state convention in San Antonio. Pictured left to right are Mrs. James Bartosh, Mrs. Elmore Harris, Mrs. Dolph Briscoe, Gov. Dolph Briscoe and A. M. Ahlgren.



MOODYS ATTEND PARTY — Members of the Moody family attended the Garden Club benefit Wednesday afternoon at the Moody Museum. Shown here seated, left to right, are Mrs. Dan Moody Jr., Mrs. Dan Moody Sr., Nancy Paxton Moody and Dan Moody Jr. Standing in the back are Mrs. Claude Patterson, general chairman of the benefit, and Mrs. John Griffith, publicity chairman.

Taylor Daily Press

"The Home of the Daily Press"

**Heritage Home Tour
Planned for March**

The Taylor Daily Press is pleased to announce that a heritage home tour will be held in the city of Taylor, Michigan, on March 10th. The tour will be held at the home of Mrs. J. W. Taylor, who has lived in the same home for over 50 years. The home is a fine example of the architecture of the early 20th century and is well worth a visit. The tour will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is free of charge. For more information, contact the Taylor Daily Press at 123 Main Street, Taylor, Michigan.

Bemington Fly To Mark Heritage Tour Of Homes Here

A Bemington fly will be used to mark the heritage tour of homes here. The fly is a small, colorful insect that is used to mark the homes of the tour. The fly is a Bemington fly, which is a species of fly that is found in the area. The fly is used to mark the homes of the tour because it is a common insect in the area and is easy to spot. The fly is also used to mark the homes of the tour because it is a colorful insect and is easy to see. The fly is used to mark the homes of the tour because it is a small insect and is easy to carry. The fly is used to mark the homes of the tour because it is a common insect in the area and is easy to spot. The fly is also used to mark the homes of the tour because it is a colorful insect and is easy to see. The fly is used to mark the homes of the tour because it is a small insect and is easy to carry.



Taylor Daily Press

"Williamson County's Only Daily Newspaper"

PAGES

TAYLOR, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1976

(AP)—A

Stiles-Conoley Home

Present House Surrounds Original Structure

Included in the Heritage Tour of Homes is the lovely home of Mr. and Mrs. Gillis Conoley, located at 805 Davis Street. It will possibly be a surprise to some that it, in its present state of construction, is surrounding the house that was originally built on this spot by G. E. Thomas in 1901.

The land was originally purchased February 22, 1878 by James Hamilton and Sons and Dr. John S. Brown from John W. Davis and W. A. Bacon. Dr. Brown and his wife, Julie, bought the interest of his partners and the property was designated, and still is, as the Brown Addition.

In September 1901, Dr. Brown and his wife transferred the property to their son,

Russell Brown, and his wife, Ollie M. Brown. The same year the land was sold to G. E. Thomas and his wife, Ida W. Thomas. The original home, the above mentioned, was built by G. E. Thomas in 1901 and faced the corner. This was done frequently at the turn of the century; some of the old homes in Taylor are still thus placed.

Eliza Thomas Stiles (no relation to the aforementioned G. E. Thomas) was born in Alabama in 1855, and widow of James Ellen Stiles, and purchased the home January 4, 1912. Her husband, James E. Stiles, had died July 4, 1909. Eliza and Jim Stiles had four children: Roy Hardy, born in 1876, died in 1898; Pearl, born 1878, died in 1879; James

Vernon born 1884, died November 26, 1963; Hadley Alva, born 1891, died in 1941.

The Stiles reared their children on the farm which they owned in Thrall, Texas. This is now the Stiles Farm Foundation. The children were privately tutored at home until they entered college.

After purchasing the Thomas home in 1912, Eliza and her son, James Vernon, lived there at 805 Davis. Hadley Alva was married to Dorothy Eckhardt, and their home was at 11th Street and Davis.

In the early 1920's Eliza remodeled the home, and the entrance was changed from the corner to face Davis Street. All the exterior facade was changed with the exception of the center south portion, the basement, the hexagonal dining room and one upstairs bedroom. A solarium was added to the south, and a back porch was enclosed. During the remodeling Eliza and Vernon lived across the street in the home now owned by H. J. Lumpkin.

Of special architectural interest in the house is the mantel in the living room, carved by Peter Mansbendal, the famous wood carver who lived in Austin in the early 1900's. The double doors from the dining room into the breakfast area are done in bevelled mirrored squares.

The smokehouse, located in a room in the garage, still has the original ropes hanging from the ceiling, where hams and bacon were smoked. The laundry room, also located in the garage building, had a coal furnace. The chimney is still there, as are three large connecting porcelain wash tubs.

The basement of the house also had a coal furnace, and on the north wall had a coal chute, to which wagons could drive, in the driveway, and dump coal, through the chute, in the coal bin in the basement.

Eliza died February 12, 1927. After the death of Alva's wife, in 1907, he moved to the family home on Davis Street, where James Vernon was living.

After Alva's death in 1961, the home was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Gillis Conoley, where they had reared their two daughters, Curby and Gillian.

Curby Conoley's twilight garden wedding, in April 1974, was enhanced by the newly erected gazebo, where the rites were read. It is constructed of

white wooden pillars and wrought iron grillwork. The gazebo was permanently placed in the north garden, a thing of beauty, for everyone to enjoy.

The tour of the five homes on Taylor will be held July 4, in the afternoon, from 2 to 5:30. The proceeds will be used toward the renovation of the Moody Museum place.

Helga E. Patterson
Historian for the Heritage Tour of Homes.



STILES - CONOLEY HOME

Taylor Daily Press

Wholesale and Retail Dry Goods



Advertisement text block.

Ogden Klein Home:

Built In 1937 On Grounds Of Old Doak Pavilion

(Second in a series)

In J. H. Griffith's account of "Sketches of Early Days in Taylor," he told about the mule-drawn street car system of the 1890's. The heading reads thus: "An accurate and detailed account of the growth of Taylor, taken from the Taylor Daily Press of January 11, 1913."

Street Car System

It is perhaps not generally

known of late years that Taylor at one time had a street car line. It was owned by Dr. A. V. Doak. The line started on First Street at the intersection of Porter Street. It followed the west to Main, north on Main to Seventh, west on Seventh to the Pavilion, located on the site of Dr. A. W. Gould's residence (now the Klein home), proceeding south on Sloan Street to Third Street, turning east to Doak Street and from there south to Second Street,

and thence east to the Main Street intersection of the line.

The cars were small but adequate, each car was drawn by two Spanish mules. Two boards were placed on the inside of the track for the mules to walk on. There were three cars in use. The cars had a cover overhead for protection against the sun and weather.

The fare was 3 cents for a ride in the day time and until 11 p. m. Later the fare was raised to 10 cents. Tokens were bought

and could be used for the fare. Anyone lucky enough to possess one of these tokens has a real treasure of the early days of Taylor.

The Doak Pavilion was situated at the west end of Seventh Street, about where the Ogden Klein home now stands. It was used for many kinds of entertainment and could accommodate a crowd of 1,000. There bands played concerts on Sunday afternoons. Dances, community picnics, circuses,

racing, baseball games were held, and there was even a bicycle track for racing. So, it was indeed a community gathering place. It was sold and dismantled in 1906.

Dr. A. W. Gould bought the tract of land in 1916 from D. F. Smith and built the house at the end of Seventh Street. In 1913 Russell Faulkner purchased the house and lived there until 1930, when it was acquired by F. N. Pierce. At that time there was a wooden porch across the

front. In 1939 this was removed and the square columns were lowered to the ground to reach the rock porch.

The Kleins have called this lovely old house "home" since 1930 and have initiated many changes to suit their taste and comfort. Recently the 12' by 40' living room has been repapered with an imported fabric of historical vintage. The house is furnished in Victorian antiques of mahogany, walnut and rosewood. The floors are the

original, beautiful longleaf edge grain pine. This kind of flooring could, in all probability, not be obtainable on today's market.

In the past, when the Pierces lived here, Mrs. Pierce had a hobby of raising and enjoying exotic birds. A former chicken house was converted into the aviary, and everyone who visited it was fascinated by the macaws. These were the parrots with the brilliant

plumage. And there were the proud peacocks which everyone like to see spread their tails, displaying iridescent golden and green colors.

There are birds about the place today, too, but now martins have replaced the gamour of the exotic birds and are busily raising their young and devouring mosquitoes by the hundreds. The martins come to this area in March and leave in August. They come to the same house from year to year, preceded by a scout.

The large pecan trees in the back garden were planted by Dr. Gould. This would be about 60 years ago, and in all probability he planted them from seed.

Helga E. Patterson
Historian for the Heritage Tour
of Homes



Taylor Daily Press

Published Daily Except on Sundays
and Public Holidays

Booth-Steger Home

Builder Was A Taylor Pioneer

The Booth-Steger home, one of the finest examples of the Greek Revival style in Taylor, is the work of a pioneer of the town. The building was constructed in 1840 by John Booth-Steger, who was one of the first settlers of the town. The home is a two-story structure with a prominent portico supported by four columns. It is situated on a large lot and is surrounded by a well-kept lawn. The building is in excellent condition and is a fine example of the architecture of the period.



The Booth-Steger home is a fine example of the Greek Revival style of architecture. It was built in 1840 by John Booth-Steger, one of the first settlers of Taylor. The building is a two-story structure with a prominent portico supported by four columns. It is situated on a large lot and is surrounded by a well-kept lawn. The building is in excellent condition and is a fine example of the architecture of the period.

experience the capabilities of the oven used. Have a good bottom heat by keeping thoroughly cleaned of the ashes which settle under the oven.

An asbestos pad is an essential of every oven to place under large articles when sufficiently risen. If heat is excessive, place a pan of cold water on shelf after closing dampers, or open the lid nearest the oven.

In 1960, nine years after Russa's death, her daughter-in-law, Adelaide, also a beautiful, friendly and generous person, had the cook book revised and reprinted. This second edition is modernized, sometimes even adding cooking temperatures, and it also includes recipes of member and friends of St. James Episcopal Church. It could be hoped that the ladies of this church still have some of these cook books for sale. It is excellent and full of mouthwatering recipes.

Another glimpse of the distant past is the entry into the work account book of T. P. Barton, plumber, father of A. P. Barton, November 18, 1886: "G. M. Booth home - replacing redcing elbow and a coupling - parts 85 cents, labor 90 cents." Of course, we keep in mind that everything else at that time was in keeping with these prices.

Lloyd and Nell Steger bought the G. M. Booth home in 1970. They are the second family to own the home other than the Booths. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Booth II joined "Cap" Booth in the home after Russa died in 1940, and Adelaide lived tripple until her death in May, 1964, Crawford having preceded her in death.

The Stegers have kept the home as near like it was when the Booth's lived there as possible. They have rebuilt a beautiful red brick walk from the front porch on the east to Grace Street. They have also placed a beautiful old fountain, which they purchased in Acapulco, Mexico, in the side garden, facing Lake Drive.

Our five hostesses, Mrs. Huzicka, Mrs. Klein, Mrs. Conoley, Mrs. Steger and Mrs. Hermann deserve the thanks of us all for so generously opening their homes to the town on July 4, from 2 to 5:30 p.m. - Donation \$2.

Mrs. Helga Patterson, Historian for the Heritage Tour of Homes



STEGER HOME - Mrs. Lloyd Steger is shown with a painting that once belonged to the Booth family when they lived in the home. Five Taylor homes were shown on the Tour of Homes here Sunday.



PART OF THE NEW Bicentennial exhibit now on display in Southwestern University's Cody Memorial Library is shown by Mrs. Bob Lancaster, who with the help of Mrs. Don Scarborough, Claude Kennard and Treitt Latimer of the State Historical Commission has put together several showcases on "America's Impact on Architecture - With Emphasis on Restoration." The exhibit covers the subject both nationally and in Texas with this display especially featuring local historical architecture. There is also some interesting displays on how old bottles, wallpaper and other things found in old buildings can help date those buildings. The public is invited to view the displays during the next several weeks. There is a shelf of related books available to students on the topic.

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, June 20, 1976

The Sunday SUN
Page 8



FAIRCHILD - HERMANN HOME

They had three sons, one of whom is Cameron Fairchild, who drew the plans for the Taylor Public Library. He is now an architect in Houston. He married Helen Tarkington, a Taylor girl.

In 1923 Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Smith purchased the home. Smith was the brother of W. C. Smith, father of Mrs. Mildred Steele. When I asked her why Smith was called "Deck Smith" she said, "Well, because his name was Decker!" The Smiths had one daughter, Jenny, but she preferred the name Jane and always went by that name.

In talking to A. P. Barton, he says that he can remember that his father, who was a plumber, as was mentioned in another of these stories, put a gasoline pump on a well while the Smiths lived on the place. He said they had never seen one before. They began putting all the parts together, and sure enough, when they'd finished, it

did pump water out of the well, which was located southeast of the house. He said it was probably the first gasoline

pump to be used in this part of the country. Before this, of course, there had to be windmills - or draw the water by hand!

In 1927 Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Booth purchased the house. They sold it to Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Rowsey in 1934.

Rowsey was president of Taylor Refining Company and came to Taylor about the time the Thrall oil field was discovered. There are still the Chapman - Abbott and Noack - Matthews fields producing. The Rowses did much improving on the place, such as adding a large recreation room and a swimming pool, as well as adding much to the planting of the grounds. Merly Rowsey was an avid gardener herself.

Then, in 1950, Dr. and Mrs. Hermann acquired the place. They have kept the beautiful colonial - type house and grounds in perfect condition. With the towering pecan trees, the perennial pines and cypresses adding color, it is a blue ribbon garden indeed. Incidentally, it was just across the road that L. Nelson had his race track and exercised his racing horses.

In looking up Dr. Hermann's address in the telephone directory, we notice it is listed Georgetown Road. All of the old timers, but maybe not many of the newcomers in town, will remember that in the early days, beginning at Davis Street and thence eastward to Main Street, the street was called Lover's Lane. It was indeed just a dusty, rough lane. Then

went from Davis the street was called Old Georgetown Road. In 1929 the lake was developed in the City Park and clearly it was appropriate to call the whole length of the street Like Drive. But it gives some of us a pleasant little twinge of nostalgia to see "Georgetown Road" still carried over from the "olden days."

Remember there are five homes on the tour, July 4, 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., donation \$2.

Helga E. Patterson
Historian for the Heritage Tour of Homes

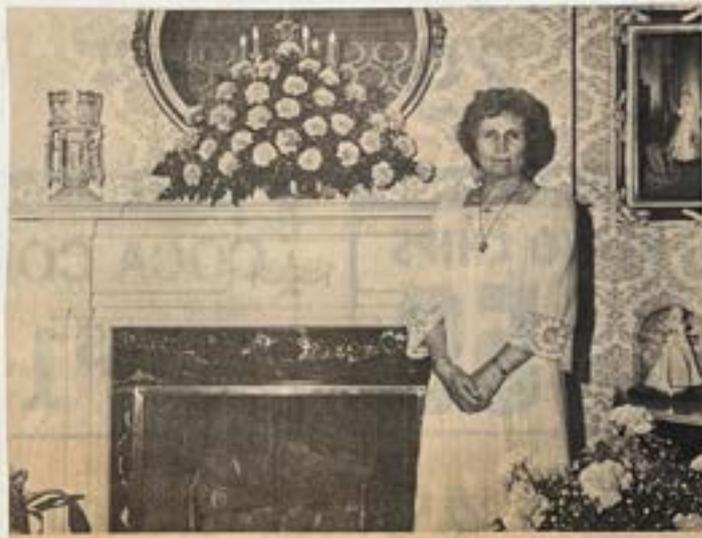
Fairchild-Hermann Home

Tour To Bring Back Memories

(Fifth in a Series.)
The last home of the series, like the first, shelters a doctor's smile. Dr. R. C. Hermann came originally from Yorkum at came to Taylor from ebna, Alabama, where he was practicing at the time. He also as a son who is a doctor living in Rochester, Minnesota. Dr. R. C. Hermann Jr. is a neurologist on the staff at Mayo Clinic. Mrs. Hermann, Jewel, was born and reared in Bartlett, here are also two lovely

daughters who were reared in the home on Georgetown Road, Nancy (Mrs. Richard Gibson) and Nellwyn (Mrs. Bill Nix) who both live in Midland.
Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Fairchild were the first owners of the home, having come here from Waco, and built it in 1917. Frank Seick, Sr. was the builder. Fairchild owned and managed the Fairchild Lumber Company. In later years, when the Fairchilds left Taylor, it was known as the Cameron

Lumber Co. It was situated where the East End Lumber Co. was, on South Main. Mrs. Fairchild was of the Cameron family of Waco.



HERMANN HOME - Mrs. R. C. Hermann is shown at the living room fireplace in home.

Taylor Daily Press

"Williamson County's Only Daily Newspaper"

TAYLOR, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1976

(AP)—AS

Fifth TIF Days Set Dedication, Parade Start Off Celebration

The city of Taylor will celebrate its one hundredth birthday with the dedication of a historical marker on the City Hall lawn at 2 p.m. Friday.

The dedication will be followed by a parade through the downtown area which will kick off the fifth annual Taylor Independence Festival (TIF).

The four-day festival, part of Taylor's Bicentennial observance, will feature numerous activities ranging from an area-wide tennis tournament to the annual Miss Williamson

County Beauty Pageant.

Over 800 persons are registered to participate in the six-day tennis tournament. Players will come from all sections of the state and will range in age from young teens to senior citizens.

Three street dances under the sponsorship of various civic organizations will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights in the downtown area.

Highlighting Saturday's activities will be the Kiwanis Club sponsored arts and crafts show, a Tiny Tot Revue at 10 a.m., the Lions Club auction at 2 p.m. and the Women's Fair. Saturday night the Jaycees will sponsor the Miss Williamson County Pageant with 24 young ladies competing for the title. Most activities are scheduled for Taylor's Murphy Park, with the beauty pageant set for 7 p.m. in the Taylor High School auditorium.

A 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service will start Sunday's activities. A folk festival will get underway at 10 a.m. with a continuation of the arts and crafts show, women's fair, carnival and other activities.

A tour of Taylor's historic homes will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday.

A giant fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. will close out the weekend's activities. Like the other activities, the fireworks display is scheduled for the park.

Activities including entertainment and food booths will continue through Monday.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 2, Page 2 Thursday, July 1, 1976

Taylor's 100th birthday kicks off TIF days

The city of Taylor will celebrate its 100th birthday with the dedication of a historical marker on the City Hall lawn at 2 p.m. July 2.

The dedication will be followed by a parade through the downtown area which will kick off the fifth annual Taylor Independence Festival (TIF).

The four-day festival, part of Taylor's bicentennial observance, will feature numerous activities ranging from an area-wide tennis tournament to the annual Miss Williamson County Beauty Pageant.

Over 800 persons are registered to participate in the six-day tennis tournament. Players will come from all sections of the state and will range in age from young teens to senior citizens.

Three street dances under the sponsorship of various civic organizations will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights in the downtown area.

Highlighting Saturday's activities will be the Kiwanis

sponsored arts and crafts show, a Tiny Tot Revue at 10 a.m., the Lions Club auction at 2 p.m. and the Women's Fair.

Saturday night the Jaycees will sponsor the Miss Williamson County Pageant with over 20 young ladies competing for the title. Most activities are scheduled for Taylor's Murphy Park, with the beauty pageant set for 7 p.m. in the Taylor High School auditorium.

A 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service will start Sunday's activities. A folk festival will get underway at 10 a.m. with a continuation of the arts and crafts show, women's fair, carnival and other activities.

A tour of Taylor's historic homes will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday.

A giant fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. will close out the weekend's activities. Like the other activities, the display is scheduled for the park.

Activities including entertainment and food booths will continue through Monday.



AMERICAN LEGION PLAQUE — J. L. Reeves, commander of Graham D. Luhn Post No. 39 of the American Legion, dedicated a plaque to all past servicemen during the historical marker dedication ceremonies Friday afternoon.

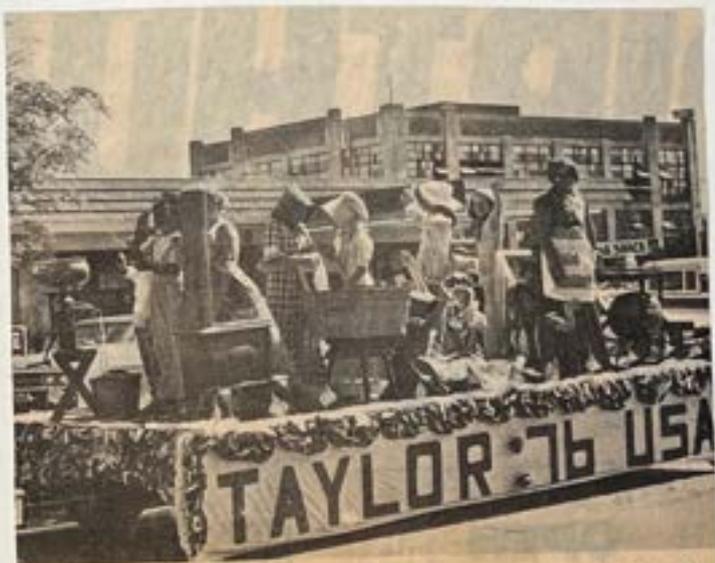
Taylor Celebrated TIF Days



HISTORICAL MARKER UNVEILED — Dan Moody, Jr., son of former Texas Gov. Dan Moody, was the main speaker Friday afternoon when a historical marker commemorating the city's 100th anniversary was unveiled on City Hall lawn. All of Taylor's past living mayors were present for the ceremony.



BENTSEN VISITS — U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, right, was in Taylor Friday afternoon and was introduced at a reception by State Sen. Bill Patmas, left. In the center is local Democrat and reception organizer Roman Bartosh.



CENTENNIAL WINNER — Girl Scout Troop 18 won first prize in the Centennial division of the TIF parade here Friday.

DEDICATION OF HISTORICAL MARKER
CITY OF TAYLOR
FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1976
2:00 P.M.

Music: By Taylor High School Band, Directed by Mr. Gene Rhemann

Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Tom Bullion

Invocation: Rev. W. H. Arnold - First Presbyterian Church

Welcome: Mayor Calvin T. Janak

Introduction of Prior Mayors: Mr. Tom Bullion

Ray P. Lewis
R. H. Hewitt
Ray Arrington
Dr. J. K. McWhorter
R. E. Kollman
Dr. A. B. Spires
Dr. J. G. Kubala

Introduction of the following: Mr. Tom Bullion

City Manager - Mr. J. W. Dodson
City Clerk - Mr. Gary W. Mohel
Chamber of Commerce President - Mr. H. L. Farrell

Other:

Remarks: Mrs. Patsy Bartosh, Chairman
Taylor Bicentennial Commission

Dr. Tipton, Chairman
Williamson County Historical Commission

Main Address: Dan Moody, Jr.; Grandson of the first Mayor of Taylor
Unveiling of Plaque

American Legion Plaque Presentation - Mr. J. L. Reeves,
Post Commander
Graham D. Luhn Post No. 39

Benediction: Father Jim Olmhausen

27"x 42" Official Texas Historical Marker w/post FM
Williamson County (Order #4596) - 5/21/76 -
City Hall Square, Taylor

CITY OF TAYLOR

WHEN THE INTERNATIONAL & GREAT NORTHERN RAILROAD BUILT ACROSS WILLIAMSON COUNTY IN 1876, ONE OF THE TOWNS CREATED ALONG ITS ROUTE WAS "TAYLORSVILLE", NAMED FOR RAILROAD EXECUTIVE MOSES TAYLOR. LOTS WERE SOLD IN JUNE, AND THE POST OFFICE OPENED ON AUGUST 9, 1876. THE EARLIEST SETTLERS INCLUDED RAILROAD OFFICIALS SUCH AS I. & G. N. PRESIDENT JOHN R. HOXIE AND AGENT HENRY DICKSON, AND MERCHANTS SUCH AS C.P. VANCE, WHO MOVED HIS GENERAL STORE FROM CIRCLEVILLE. JOHN McMURRAY STARTED A PRIVATE SCHOOL, AND MORTIMER R. HOXIE DONATED LAND FOR A CEMETERY. METHODIST AND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES WERE ORGANIZED IN 1876, AND OTHER CONGREGATIONS THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

LOCATED ON A CATTLE TRAIL, THE NEW COMMUNITY SOON BECAME A MAJOR SHIPPING POINT FOR CATTLE. A SECOND RAIL LINE, THE MISSOURI, KANSAS & TEXAS, WAS EXTENDED TO TAYLORSVILLE IN 1882, SPURRING FURTHER GROWTH. THE TOWN WAS INCORPORATED IN 1882 WITH DANIEL MOODY, FATHER OF TEXAS GOVERNOR DAN MOODY (1893-1966), AS ITS FIRST MAYOR. IN 1892 THE CITY'S NAME WAS SHORTENED TO "TAYLOR". BY THAT TIME, COTTON HAD JOINED CATTLE AND THE RAILROAD AS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY. TODAY LIGHT INDUSTRY AND DIVERSIFIED FARMING CONTRIBUTE TO TAYLOR'S PROSPERITY. (1976)

A Brief History of Taylor, Williamson County
by A. M. Ahlgreen
and
Clara S. Scarborough

4596

Taylor, originally called Taylorsville, was established on prairie land in eastern Williamson County. Two streams, Bull Branch and Mustang Creek, flow through the townsite. Although there were very early settlements on Brushy Creek to the south, and on the San Gabriel River to the north, there is no record of any habitation on the site of Taylor until 1876.

Taylorsville was the result of the building of the county's first railroad, the International and Great Northern, in 1876, across the southern part of the county. This line joined Rockdale and Austin, creating several new towns, including Taylor, that year. The railroad laid lines to Flag Springs, now known as Allison's Lake, at the edge (east) of present Taylor, and proposed a town site there. C. P. Vance, who ran a store at Circleville on the San Gabriel, five miles to the north, started a store at Flag Springs. But the Texas Land Company bought land for a townsite a short distance west of Flag Springs, and sold lots in June 1876 before the railroad was completed and the first train pulled into Taylorsville. This site was from the James C. Eaves Survey (251½ acres) and the John Winsett Survey (251½ acres), which the Land Company bought from N. W. Hunter. Hunter received \$2505.00 for approximately 500 acres.

Six years later, a second rail line--the Missouri Pacific (later the Missouri-Kansas & Texas)--extended its line southward from Fort Worth, reaching Taylor in the spring of 1882. Taylor remained the terminus of that line until 1887. With the facilities of the two lines, the village grew rapidly, and the railroads contributed considerably to the economy of the area.

The early settlers were largely of two groups: those connected with the railroad, and merchants who came to the new town to set up their businesses. The town was named for a railroad official of International and Great Northern, Moses Taylor. John R. Hoxie, president of the company, and a former mayor of Chicago, was active in developing the area, and was so impressed with it, he purchased 9,000 acres of land in 1878 between Taylorsville and the San Gabriel River to the north, where he built a fine home and estate. H. M. Hoxie of Palestine, also bought and

sold land in the area for several years after the I. & G. N. was built. W. W. Mumford, a cousin of the Hoxies, lived at Flag Springs, and managed the huge Hoxie Ranch. Mortimer R. Hoxie, general superintendent of the rail line, had purchased large tracts of land, which he resold at from five to fifty cents an acre. Another railroad man, Col. H. C. Fowler, owned land south of town, and became a permanent citizen of the community. Henry Dickson bought ten acres of land at Taylorsville, built a residence, believed to have been the first in town, and became the first agent for I. & G. N. He also opened the Dickson Addition.

Among the early merchants was C. P. Vance, who moved his store from Circleville to Flag Springs, and then into Taylorsville, and built his home on Main Street. He joined James A. Simons in a general store. Within a few months, the town had hotels run by James Sledge, T. J. Kamp and by Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner; stores run by R. M. Wiley and Raymond S. Porter, and another by Joseph "Jack" Melasky; and a lumber yard by John O. Frink. By 1877, the list had quadrupled in number of businesses. These included grocery, hardware, saddlery, newspaper, drug, shoemaker, lumber, furniture, livery, restaurant, photo, saloon, barber, and general store and rooming facilities; several doctors had arrived to practice; a man was on hand to drill wells, and by this time the railroad had solved the mud problem of the black land by macadamizing a strip around the depot.

A feeder cattle trail went through the new town, ^(the drovers) often stopping for supplies; and a favorite watering place was at Bull Branch, north of town, site of the present Murphy Park. As farms were fenced and cattle drives diminished, the railroads at Taylor served as shipping points for the cattle.

The first cotton gin is believed to have been built in 1877 in Taylorsville, ^{and} located on the site of the present Taylor Bedding Manufacturing Company. Taylor was soon to become an important cotton center in the blackland farming section of east Williamson County.

Major Ira H. Evans of Palestine, of the I. & G. N. Company, superintended the sale of lots, which were marked out by Mr. Talbot. Col. Wm. Elliott, a civil engineer of the I. & G. N., auctioned the lots. The Galveston News for June 4, 1876, reported that the railroad was on a great cattle trail; the company was building substantial stock yards; "people are rushing in, and the new town of Taylor is all the talk."

86

The Texas Land Company which owned the townsite, encouraged the building of churches by naming a nominal consideration in selling land to those which organized within a few years after the town was founded. No park land was provided at this early date, but early fairs were held south of the town. M. R. Hoxie, the railroad official who owned land east and northeast of town, donated land for a cemetery. The story is told of a cattle rustler who operated on the Olive Ranch near Lawrence Chapel who bragged in Taylor that he would ride into Tom Bishop's Saloon on Main Street in Taylor. On Christmas Day 1877, he attempted it, and Bishop was prepared. He shot and killed the rustler, who became the first burial in the new cemetery. Taylor people say that the town was so healthy, they had to shoot a man to start a cemetery!

According to postal records, the town was called Taylorsville from 1876 until 1892, at which time the name on the post office was changed to Taylor. The Taylorsville Post Office opened August 9, 1876, with J. B. Loper, postmaster. James B. Simons was appointed to that post in 1877, and J. O. Frink in 1880.

Taylor was incorporated in 1882 when Dan'l. (as he wrote it) Moody, father of the future Governor of Texas Dan Moody, was the first Mayor of Taylor. Minutes for the City are on record since 1887.

The businesses established in 1876 have been mentioned. In 1877, the list was quadrupled: Wiley & Porter, C. P. Vance & James A. Simons, Jack Melasky, J. W. Womack & John P. Sturgis, all with general stores; hotels and boarding houses--Napier House, International Hotel (T. J. Kamp Hotel), Minor House, James Meldrum rooming house; M. P. Collins, grocery & hardware; Newton & Porter, Saddlery; the Taylorsville Reflector edited by W. K. Foster; Gabe Hamilton, who drilled for water; Drs. John Threadgill, Anderson, G. M. Schultz, H. C. Morris, John S. Brown, who were also in the drug store business; Albert Bisang, shoemaker; Thompson & Tucker Lumber; H. Dickson Furniture; Sebastian Riley Livery and Weatherford Libery; Julius A. Kroschewsky Restaurant; Cannon & Keller Saddlery and Buggies; a Photo Shop; Bud Saul's Saloon and Golden Rule Saloon; two barber shops; a gin.

Both Presbyterians and Methodists organized their churches in 1876, and several more denominations did so the next year. In 1878, the Presbyterian, Christian, and Roman Catholic churches bought land to erect churches, and the Methodists followed in 1879, the Baptists in 1882. Official boards of these churches were largely composed of leading railway officials and businessmen of the new town.

Professor John McMurray built ^{a schoolhouse} and operated a private school beginning in 1876, and held the first Sunday School in town there. Within the next six years, several other private schools appeared. In 1883, the City bought Block 4 of the Dickson Addition where a city school ^{house} was built in 1884. It was a frame, weather-boarded structure, 24 x 110 feet, with porch on the south, and the three rooms housed the high school, the grammar school, and the primary department.

Jesse W. Womack and John P. Sturgis built a second store in 1879 (after the first was destroyed by fire), this structure at the northwest corner of Main and Second Streets. It was a substantial two-story brick building, with the mercantile business on the first floor, the upper floor providing an assembly hall and stage for entertainments and civic events. When the Taylor City Hall was built about two decades later, it housed a floor known as the Opera House. In 1890, Dr. A. V. Doak, who had been a surgeon in the Confederate Army, built a trolley line out to a pavilion in the west part of town, the line leading to and from downtown Taylor. The pavilion was used for dramas, speeches, skating, concerts, social and other affairs. The trolley was drawn by Spanish mules that walked a track made of two boards. In a few years, the line was abandoned.

The coming of the railroads, one in 1876, another in 1882, was largely responsible for the economic base of the community for several years. Land ^{transfer, was} ~~transaction~~ was lively; the railroads brought and created business; this beehive of activity attracted merchants and professional people to town. Eight years after it was established, Taylorsville had 1127 population; in 1889, it totaled 2547, according to city records. Cattle were still plentiful along Brushy Creek to the south when the town was built, and the cattle business also contributed heavily to the economic base. The I. & G. N. line built stockyards to handle cattle traffic; and after fences began closing the trails, much cattle was shipped

through Taylor. Feeding stations were built, in 1881 to 1882, for cattle between San Antonio and Palestine. The railroad also had repair shops and a round house, which employed men for many years. In 1921 a strike closed the shops, which then employed 300. The shops were moved to Valley Junction in 1929. A third economic influence in Taylor was cotton, which was just coming into its own in Texas about the time Taylor was established. The black lands surrounding Taylor, among the finest in the state, were being settled by thrifty German, Swiss, Wendish, Swedish, and Czech farmers in the last two decades of the nineteenth century, and Taylor served as a center for their needs. By 1900, Taylor was the largest inland cotton market in the world. The town had a number of gins, a compress, and a number of cotton graders.

Thus, to summarize, the railroads, cattle, and cotton were vital to Taylor's growth, and were the important bases of its economy.

Two political figures and two superlative athletes-entertainers have been among Taylor's most memorable citizens.

Dan Moody, born in Taylor in 1893, was the son of Dan'l. Moody, who drove cattle in Missouri ^{and was a Baptist preacher} before coming to Texas, ^{and} moved to Taylor in 1876 where he was claims agent for I. & G. N. He ~~was~~ became justice of peace, then mayor, of Taylor. Dan Moody's mother was Nancy "Nanny" Elizabeth Robertson Moody, a school teacher. Dan Moody studied law, was elected County Attorney, then District Attorney of Williamson County, and during the latter term, led the prosecution of the Ku Klux Klan persons involved in the beating and tarring of a young salesman (1923-24). Moody's success in this trial gained him national prominence. He was then elected Attorney General of Texas in 1924; then won two terms as Governor of Texas, being inaugurated in 1927 as the youngest governor, age 33, ever elected ^{up to that time} in this country. He instituted reforms to correct scandals in state prisons and in the highway department, backed penal and banking reforms, supported prohibition and labor unions. He increased support of public education, but reduced taxes. He died in Austin in 1966.

Richard Critz, son of George Edward and Ella (Richardson) Critz, was born in Starkville, Miss., in 1877, and came to Texas with his family as a young man. He read law in Granger and was Granger City Attorney 1906-10; was elected County Judge of Williamson County 1910, serving until 1918 while living in

* No proof?
Was said to
'be' etc.
located in 1880
could
originate
8/12/50
1976

CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING (Continued)

Page 3

Mr. William Edgar McCoy died on 16 June 1952, and his widow recieved all of the property when their childern assigned their portion over to their mother. ①

On 6 March 1954, Myrtle McCoy, sold the property to Mr. A.A. Berry for \$750:00 with three vender lien notes. ②

The Berrys were divorced and Mr. Berry recieved full ownership of the property. Later, Mr. Berry payed all three vender lien notes off in full. ③

On February 7, 1958, A.A. Berry sold the property to E.R. Morgan. ④

On 28 June 1962, E.R. Morgan and his wife Gertrude sold the property to Mr. Bruce R. Pinyan for \$4,900, which included a vender's lien note in the amount of \$3,500. ⑤ E.R. Morgan and his wife then sold the vender's lien note to Mr. Claude Meadors, Sr. ⑥ on 6 August 1962.

On 27 January 1965, Bruce R. Pinyan transfered the property via Quitclaim to Mr. Claude Meadors, Sr. ⑦

On January 25, 1965, Claude Meadors, Sr. sold the property to Leslie L. Allman. ⑧

On 7 August 1973, Leslie L. Allman sold the property to the present owner, Mel Fowler for the amount of \$5,000. ⑨

LAST ITEM

FOOTNOTES:

- ① Vol. 381, page 117, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas
- ② Page 399, DR. 394, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas
- ③ District Court, DV-4, page 349, Williamson County, Texas
- ④ Vol. 421, page 525, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas
- ⑤ Vol. 452, page 265, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas
- ⑥ Vol. 453, page 200, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas
- ⑦ Vol. 474, page 655, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas
- ⑧ Vol. 475, page 31, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas
- ⑨ Vol. 572, page 673, Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas

REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

TO NO 56 Vol. 3.

HENRY FIELD.

P A T E N T

Dated July 31, 1845

Filed July 26, 1911 at 8 A M

Vol. 142, page 359, Deed Records
Williamson County, Texas.

IN THE NAME OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS,

To all to whom these presents shall come, Know Ye, I, Anson Jones, President of the Republic aforesaid, by virtue of the power vested in me by Law and in accordance with the Statutes of said Republic, in such case made and provided, do by these presents grant to Henry Field, his heirs or assigns forever, One Third of a League of Land, situated and described as follows:

In Milan County on the South San Gabriel;

BEGINNING at a stone mound on the West boundary line of a survey made for John B Robertson, three thousand six hundred varas from the Southwest corner from which a Spanish Oak bears South 18° West 14 varas and a Black Walnut bears South 33° West 5 varas;

THENCE South 71° West at 100 varas the San Gabriel 10 varas wide at two thousand one hundred and thirty six varas a stake from which a Black Jack bears South 14° East 20 varas and another bears North 26° West 20 varas;

THENCE North 19° West at two thousand and sixty varas the San Gabriel at three thousand and nine hundred varas a stone mound from which a Live Oak bears South 81° East 85 varas;

THENCE North 71° East two thousand one hundred and thirty six varas with the South boundary line of League No 6 to the Northwest corner of said Robertsons league;

THENCE South 19° East with the West boundary line of said league: three thousand nine hundred varas to the place of beginning.

Hereby relinquishing to him, the said Henry Field and his heirs or assigns forever, all the right and title in and to said land heretofore held and possessed by the Government of said Republic and I do hereby issued this Letter Patent for the same.

In Testimony whereof I have caused the Great Seal of the Republic to be affixed, as well as the seal of the General Land Office.

Done at the City of Austin, on the Thirty first day of July One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty five and the year of the Independence of said Republic the Tenth.

ANSON JONES, President.

Thos Wm Ward, Commissioner.

3

10

red
ar-
in

24

100

21 9

31
S P and S A Stubblefield,

To

H A and R A Renick.

21
WARRANTY DEED (Vendor's Lien)

Dated Nov. 24, 1871

Filed April 2, 1872

Recorded Vol. 13, page 575, Deed Records,
Williamson County, Texas.

CONSIDERATION: \$1500.00 secured to be paid by 2 promissory notes of even date herewith, for \$750.00 each, due Jan 1, 1872 and Jan 1st, 1873, the second note bearing interest from Jan 1st, 1872 to maturity at the rate of 10% (both of which notes are to be and remain a lien upon the property hereby conveyed until paid).

CONVEYS a certain piece of ground in the village of Liberty Hill, County and State aforesaid, beginning at a point on the Austin and Burnett Road, the S W corner of the lots conveyed to S P Stubblefield by John Kirk Patrick and wife on the 2nd day of Jan 1871 and running N along the W boundary line of said lot to a point 12 feet N of the Rock Store house on said lot; Thence Eastwardly maintaining the same width to the E boundary line of the Kirkpatrick lot; Thence Southwardly along said E line to the S E corner and Thence Westward along the S line (which is also the N line of

23
W R Bratton Lot) to the place of beginning, together with the rock store house thereon erected and all the other improvements, rights, privileges and hereditaments thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, etc., Warrants title.

(Vendor's Lien is retained.)

(Sig.) S P Stubblefield (seal)

S A Stubblefield (Seal)

Stamped.

State of Texas,
Williamson County.

Before me the undersigned authority, personally appeared S P Stubblefield to me well known, who acknowledged that he signed and delivered the foregoing instrument of writing and he declared the same to be his act and deed for the purposes and considerations therein stated. Also personally appeared S A Stubblefield, wife of S P Stubblefield and having been examined by me previly and apart from her husband and having the same fully explained to her acknowledged the same to be her act and deed and declared that she had willingly signed and delivered the foregoing instrument and wished not to retract it.

To certify which I hereto sign my name and affix the impress of my

24
official seal at Liberty Hill, this 24th day of Nov. A D 1871.
(L.S.)

D V Grant, Notary Public,
Williamson County, Texas.

21 19

JOHN KIRKPATRICK,
TO
S P STUBBLEFIELD.

RELEASE OF VENDOR'S LIEN

Dated Jan 25, 1907

Filed Feb. 20, 1907 at 8 A M

Vol. 115, page 360, Deed Records

Williamson County, Texas.

THE STATE OF TEXAS,)
COUNTY OF BEXAR.)

WHEREAS, by deed dated January 4, A D

1871, recorded in the County Clerk's office of Williamson County, Texas, in Book 13, page 284, John Kirkpatrick and wife, Mary E Kirkpatrick conveyed to S P Stubblefield (92) Ninety two acres of land fully described in said Deed to which reference is hereby made, retaining therein a Vendor's Lien, securing payment of (\$1250.00) Twelve Hundred & Fifty & 00/100 Dollars for which said S P Stubblefield executed his promissory note as follows:

1st Note for \$1250.00 in gold, dated Jan. 4, 1871 and due 12 months from date together with 10% interest per annum until paid and payable to the order of John Kirkpatrick.

(The above mentioned land consists of (90) ninety acres of land out of the J M Glasscock Survey and one acre out of the R Y Millican Survey and also one acre out of the Henry Fields survey, amounting to (92) ninety two acres; and

WHEREAS said S P Stubblefield, heretofore has paid the said note in full satisfaction of said incumbrance;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, the said John Kirkpatrick, do hereby release the above described property from the vendor's lien aforesaid.

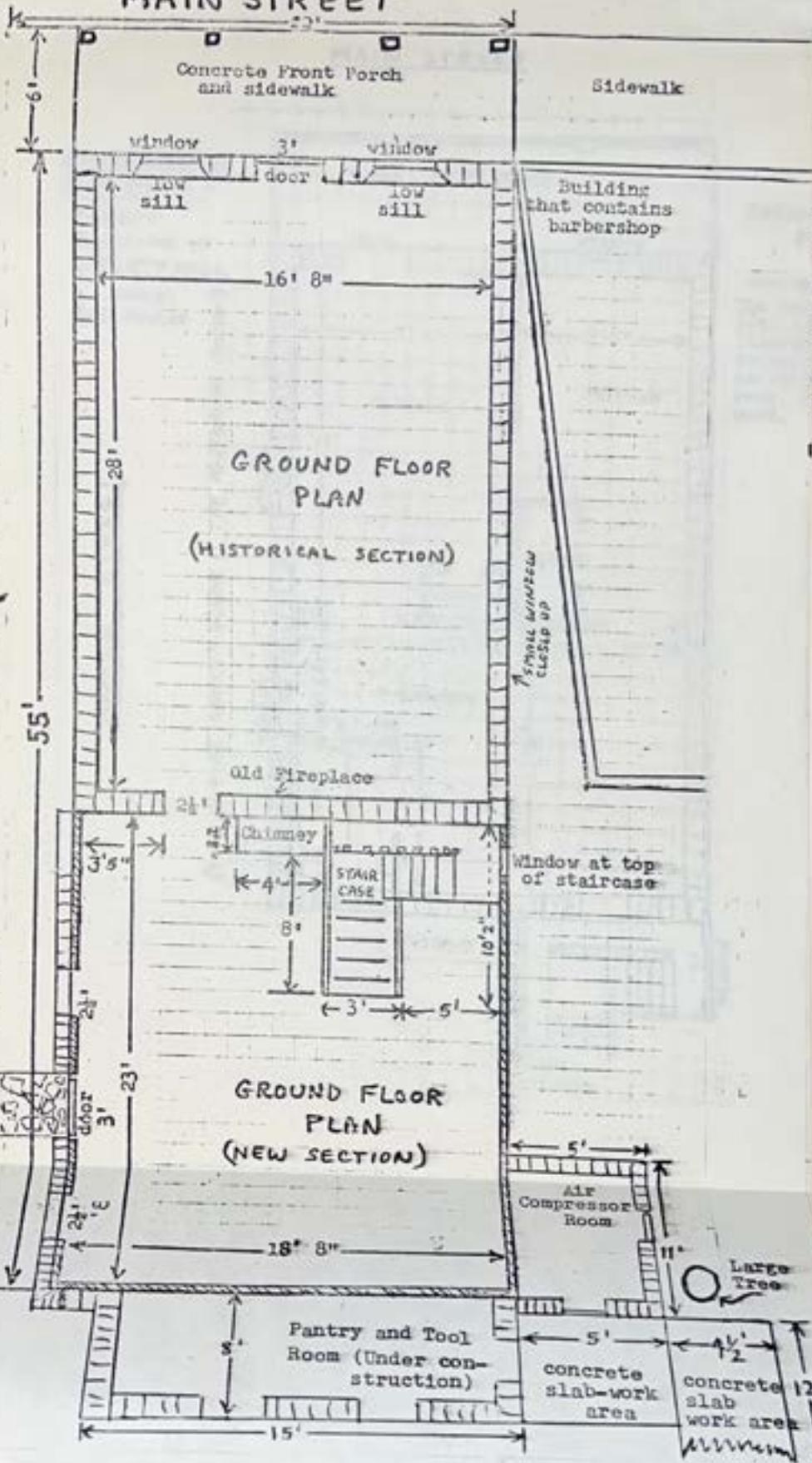
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my name at San Antonio, Texas, this 25th day of January, A D 1907.

JOHN KIRKPATRICK.

STUBBLEFIELD BUILDING - OWNER: MEL FOWLER
 COLDEST BUILDING IN LIBERTY HILL

← LIMESTONE SIDEWALK

MAIN STREET



D FLOOR PLAN

Construction:
 walls (exter-
 14"-16"
 ne blocks.
 r walls &
 are sheet-
 loors are

MAIN STREET

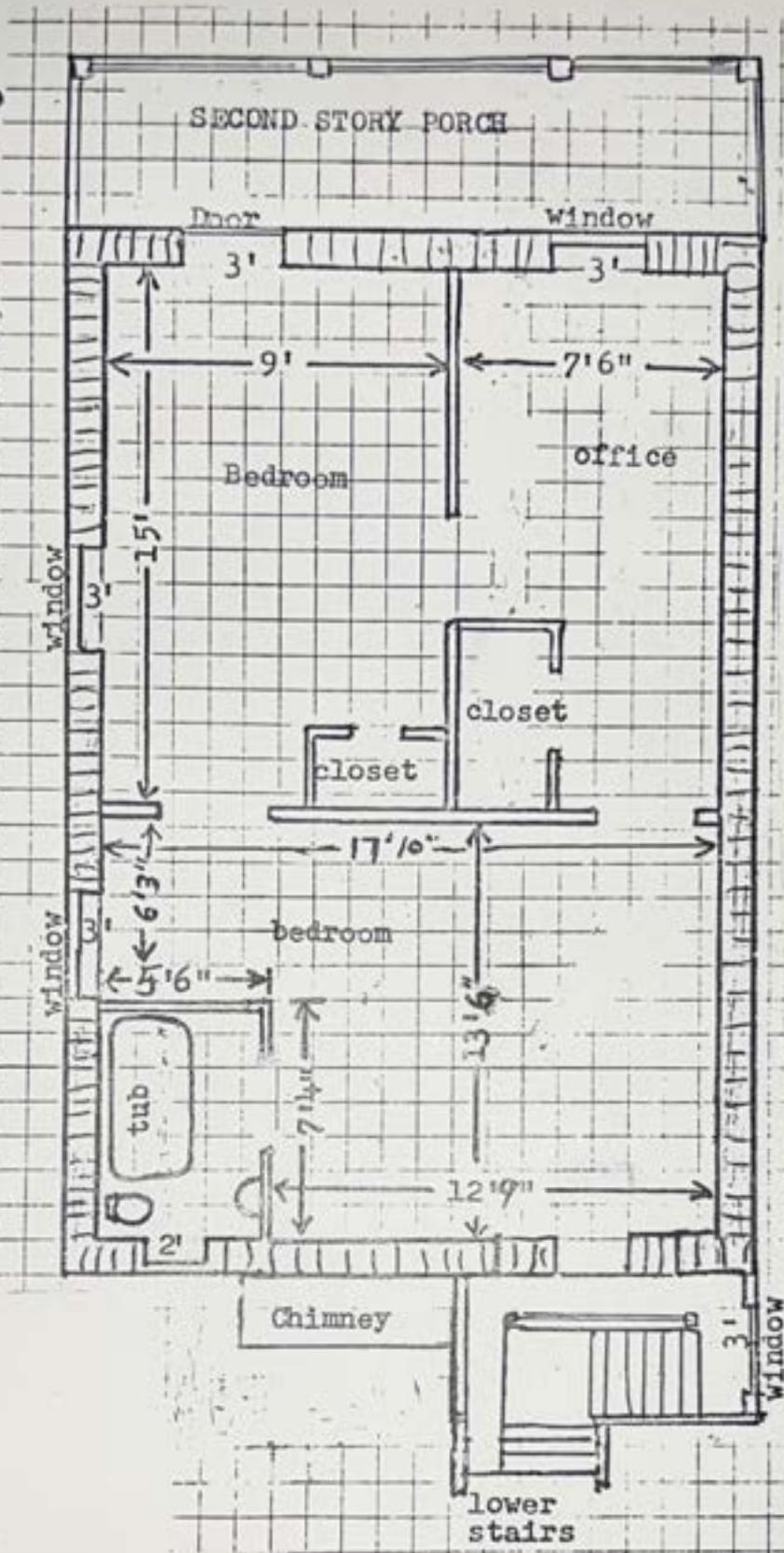
STUBBLEFIELD BUILDING -

OLDEST BUILDING IN LIBERTY HILL

Owner:
Mel Fowler

MYRTLE STREET

(THE ENTIRE SECOND FLOOR IS THE HISTORICAL SECTION)



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Construction:
The walls (exterior) are 14"-16" limestone blocks. Interior walls & ceiling are sheet-rock. Floors are wood.



"Blithe Spirit III" in Homburg, Germany



Sculptor Mel Fowler at work

Historic Building Home and Studio For Sculptor

When I dropped by to meet Mel Fowler, he was busily engrossed in some chore outside his studio home on Liberty Hill's Main Street.

The warmth of his greeting was like a new log on a dying fire that chilly morning as he invited me in for coffee.

The kitchen part of the living quarters is at the rear of the ground floor of the old structure. "It's the oldest building in Liberty

Hill, I'm told," Fowler said. "We traced abstracts that date back 117 years, and it may be even older."

While coffee was heating, he showed me the large front room on ground level. The orderly clutter of structural rehabilitation was everywhere. Tools. Lumber. Scribbled words on the wall where fixtures

(Cont'd page 5)

Sculptor (from page 4)

were to be placed.

"You can see where the old fireplace was bricked up," he pointed out. "I'm renovating that and installing an antique mantle. In fact, I'm doing all the work here."

When it's finished the room will be an exhibition studio for sculptures by Mel Fowler and paintings by Catchi. Thick carpet, recessed lighting and more antiques are planned to make it one of the finest and most exclusive galleries in the Southwest.

"What brought you to Liberty Hill?" I asked.

"I'd been looking for an old building to renovate, where I could live and work. I found this one, liked it and bought it three years ago," he said.

Fowler took up painting while an Air Force fighter pilot stationed in Europe. Then, in 1955, he turned to sculpture.

In 1970 he retired from the military after 29 years

His work has been commissioned by the State Health Department in Homburg, Germany. Closer to home, visitors can see the fruits of his labor in a nine-foot St. Francis that stands before St. Helen's Catholic Church in Georgetown.

Twenty of his pieces are currently on exhibition in the Alma Fine Arts Center

at Southwestern University in Georgetown through February 15.

Mel Fowler and I were drinking coffee and talking when an old Air Force friend of Mel's made a surprise visit. It was Woody Kauscher, who lives west of Liberty Hill.

Excited exclamations of "How ya been?" and "You old sonofagun," and "It's been fifteen years!" and "I didn't know you lived in Liberty Hill, too. How long you been here?" signaled the time for my departure. I made way for reunion talk between two comrades - in - arms.

But I'm going back. Besides being a talented sculptor and interesting conversationalist, Mel Fowler makes a heckuva cup of coffee.

—Ellis Posey

Commission plan unveiling of Greenleaf Fisk marker

Two historical markers which were recently received by Williamson County Historical Commission will be erected soon. Dr. Van C. Tipton, county chairman, announced at a July 2 meeting of the Commission.

Honoring the first County Judge of Williamson County, Greenleaf Fisk, the first marker will be placed on the courthouse lawn.

The second is a structure marker for the John G. Matthews House near Liberty

Hill. No date has as yet been set for either ceremony.

DURING the Historical Commission meeting, held in the Georgetown Public Library, reports were made on marker dedication ceremonies and other activities by representatives from Georgetown, Round Rock, Liberty Hill, Coupland, Thrall and Taylor.

COUPLAND'S Historical Marker dedication and opening of the restored Coupland Depot Museum were well planned for June 6, and attended by a large,

appreciative audience, reported Burney Downey.

A. M. Ahlgren extended an invitation to all members to come to the dedication and unveiling of the Historical Marker for the founding of the City of Taylor at City Hall on North Main Street in Taylor July 2. Dr. Tipton took part in this program which was followed by other bicentennial festivities including a tour of Historical Homes and Buildings last Sunday.

MARKER for the founding of

the City of Thrall will be unveiled at a program July 15.

Alvin Ribbeck, representing Thrall on the County Historical Commission, is due credit for compiling information and making the application for this marker; he invited all to come to the ceremony.

On July 4 an Official Historical Medallion was unveiled on one of the oldest buildings in Liberty Hill. The S. P. Stubblefield House on Main Street is owned by Mel Fowler who restored it to its original

look. This ceremony was preceded by the unveiling of a Mel Fowler sculpture in the Liberty Hill Park just across the street.

THE LIBERTY HILL Masonic Lodge Hall Medallion and inscribed plate is expected any day and that dedication will be announced later.

Script for the Ardice Baptist Church has been approved and that marker is on its way to the landry.

Included in the Round Rock Tour of Historic Buildings was

The Williamson County SUN
Section 1, Page 15

Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, July 8, 1976

the beautiful Palm Valley Lutheran Church and some of the oldest homes and stage coach stops and inns in Williamson County. All were significant to the history of the area at a very early date.

The tour was a joint project of the Round Rock Bicentennial Commission and the Historical Commission members, Mrs. John W. Lodbetter and Mrs. D. B. Gregg of Round Rock.

Final results of the High School Original Research Contest, sponsored by this Com-

mission have not been released. The deadline for submitting material was June 15, completion was open to all high school students in Williamson County.

Descendants unveil Fisk Marker Sunday

Dedication of a Texas Historical Marker honoring the first county judge of Williamson County begins at 4 p. m. Sunday on the northwest side of the courthouse lawn.

Descendants of the Honorable Greenleaf Fisk (May 29, 1807-January 28, 1888) will be present, along with present County Judge C. L. Chance, to participate in the service.

Ample shade is provided by trees on the courthouse lawn, and chairs will be available for senior citizens.

In the event of inclement weather, dedication services will be held in the courthouse rotunda.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the dedication, Fisk descendants will host an informal reception with refreshments in the rotunda.

All interested persons are cordially invited.

The marker inscription traces Fisk's life from his birth in Albany, New York, through his life in Williamson County.

In part, the inscription states:

In the 1840s Fisk moved his family to a log house

on the South San Gabriel River near present Leander. When Williamson County began in 1848, Fisk was the first "Chief Justice" as the office of county judge was then called, a position he had held in Bastrop County. It is said that he often walked the 11 or 12 miles from his home to the courthouse in Georgetown. Fisk was also a surveyor, and many land records in Williamson County bear his name.

In 1860 Fisk moved to Brown County, where he again served as County Judge and held other county offices. He donated 60 acres for the townsite of Brownwood and additional acreage for county use. His grave is in Brownwood's Greenleaf Cemetery.

Fisk was married first to Mary Maslove, who is buried near Leander. After her death, he married Mary Hawkins. He had 15 children.

The Sunday SUN
Page 14
Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, August 1, 1976

102

Fisk Marker dedication today

Dedication of the Texas Historical Marker honoring Greenleaf Fisk, Williamson County's first judge, will be held August 1 at 4 p.m. on the northwest side of the courthouse lawn.

Descendants of the Honorable Judge Fisk will be participating in the dedication with current County Judge C. L. Chance, and invite the public to attend a reception in the courthouse rotunda following dedication services.

Chairs will be available for senior citizens.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in the courthouse rotunda. For further information see story page 14.

Williamson County Honors Its First Judge

GREENLEAF FISK - 1807-1888

Georgetown, Texas

August 1, 1976

Presiding - Dr. Van C. Tipton

1. Invocation - Rev. J. C. Johnson
2. Life Story of Judge Fisk - Leland Stanford
3. Music - Guide Me Oh Thou Great Jehovah;
Dorothy Lynn Stanford and Deborah Sue Seay
4. Tribute to the Fisk Family - Judge C. L. Chance of
Georgetown
5. Unveiling of the monument - J. D. Fisk
6. Song - God Bless America, a cappella, led by
Mel Witcher
7. Benediction - Rev. B. C. Schmidt

GOD BLESS AMERICA

God bless America,
Land that I love,
Stand beside her and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above;
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans white with foam,
God bless America,
My home, sweet home.
God bless America,
My home, sweet home.

27" x 42" Official Texas Historical Marker with post
Williamson County (Order #4560)

Location: W side of courthouse square, Georgetown
JUDGE GREENLEAF FISK*
(MAY 19, 1807-JAN. 26, 1888)***

BORN IN ALBANY, NEW YORK, GREENLEAF FISK WAS THE SON OF A PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER, HE BEGAN PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTRY HIMSELF BUT LEFT HIS STUDIES TO MIGRATE TO THE TEXAS FRONTIER, IN 1834 HE SETTLED IN BASTROP, THERE HE JOINED A COMPANY OF VOLUNTEERS AND FOUGHT AT THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO, APRIL 21, 1836, LATER HE WAS ELECTED TO THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS SENATE.

IN THE 1840s FISK MOVED HIS FAMILY TO A LOG HOUSE ON THE SOUTH SAN GABRIEL RIVER NEAR PRESENT LEANDER, WHEN WILLIAMSON COUNTY WAS ORGANIZED IN 1848, FISK WAS THE FIRST "CHIEF JUSTICE", AS THE OFFICE OF COUNTY JUDGE WAS THEN CALLED, A POSITION HE HAD HELD IN BASTROP COUNTY, IT IS SAID THAT HE OFTEN WALKED THE 11 OR 12 MILES FROM HIS HOME TO THE COURTHOUSE IN GEORGETOWN, FISK WAS ALSO A SURVEYOR, AND MANY LAND RECORDS IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY BEAR HIS NAME.

IN 1860 FISK MOVED TO BROWN COUNTY, WHERE HE AGAIN SERVED AS COUNTY JUDGE AND HELD OTHER COUNTY OFFICES, HE DONATED 60 ACRES FOR THE TOWNSITE OF BROWNWOOD AND ADDITIONAL ACREAGE FOR COUNTY USE, HIS GRAVE IS IN BROWNWOOD'S GREENLEAF CEMETERY.

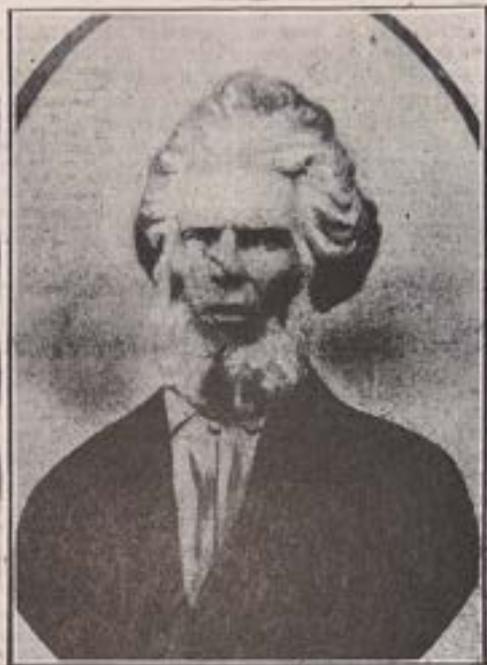
FISK WAS MARRIED FIRST TO MARY MANLOVE, WHO IS BURIED NEAR LEANDER, AFTER HER DEATH, HE MARRIED MARY HAWKINS, HE HAD 15 CHILDREN.**

*3/4 inch lettering

**1/2 inch lettering

***1/4 inch lettering

(1976)***



WILLIAMSON COUNTY HONORS ITS FIRST JUDGE
GREENLEAF FISK 1807 - 1888
GEORGETOWN, TEXAS

The life story of Greenleaf Fisk reads like fiction and if it were not for factual evidences of his contribution to Texas History, one could easily say, "This is a made-up story by friends and descendants."

Greenleaf Fisk was born in Albany, N. Y., May 19, 1807. He was the son of a Presbyterian minister and at the age of 20 he became a member of the Presbyterian Church with the intention of becoming a minister. History tells us that after a liberal education in the Public Schools of New York, he went to Lane's Theological Seminary in Cincinnati, Ohio, to prepare himself for the ministry. After one year there he went to Hanover College in Hanover, Indiana for further training.

We would like to note here that this pioneer spirit "to move a little farther west" to new territory was a dominating spirit throughout his life. But history also shows that he was not just a "roving" pioneer but that he always stopped long enough to organize, to build, help get things started and then move on to work out new establishments in "raw country."

102

While at Hanover College in Indiana, the lure of the Southwest caused him and a companion to leave college. He and the companion, perhaps a younger brother, built a raft and set sail down the Ohio River, into the Mississippi River and on to Texas.

Texas was a part of Mexico at that time and having plenty of trouble with the Mexican Government. History tells us that settlers who had moved into Texas from the United States were sending messages to their friends and relatives back home, urging others to come. They were using stories of wealth of free land and its possibilities, as well as their need for more settlers as an inducement to attract more people to come. Perhaps this inspired the pioneer spirits to build the raft and move on to adventure and wealth.

He arrived in Mina (now Bastrop) in 1834, age 27, well-educated and single. He soon wooed and wed Miss Mary Manlove, young daughter of Bastrop's Mayor. He was also appointed Chief Justice of the Bastrop Court by the Hidalgo Government. Because there was talk of a revolution for Texas to gain independence from Mexico one of the first things Greenleaf Fisk did as a Texan was to join Captain Jesse Billingsley's Company of Volunteers. He was appointed guard and manager of his company's baggage and supplies at Harrisburg on the Buffalo Bayou which was located near what became the San Jacinto Battlefield. His Company joined General Sam Houston's Army and participated in the Battle of San Jacinto, giving Texas freedom from Mexico, April 21, 1836.

Shortly before the Battle of San Jacinto, Greenleaf Fisk's young wife was in that group of Texans, chiefly women and children, which made up the "Run-Away Scrate," traveling as fast as they could to get out of reach of the Mexican Army. News traveled slowly in those days and the Manlove family and Greenleaf Fisk's wife kept going east until they crossed the Sabine River into Louisiana. It was more than a year after that victorious day at San Jacinto before he found his wife and saw for the first time his nearly one year old son who had been born during the hurried move out of the state to safety. The happy and reunited couple went back to Bastrop and for a time made their home there. Upon the organization of the Republic of Texas young Fisk was elected a member of the Senate and records of those early days state that he served his country faithfully and well.

In later years the family moved to Williamson County, establishing their home on South San Gabriel River. This became a more or less permanent home-base, but the pioneer spirit continued throughout his life in worthwhile activities. Greenleaf Fisk was made first justice of Williamson County upon the county organization in 1848.

To Greenleaf Fisk's first marriage were born the following children:

1. William Augustus Fisk - April 20, 1836
2. James Bartholomew Fisk - August 16, 1838
3. Ann Elizabeth Fisk - December 1, 1840
4. Josiah Fisk - December 20, 1842
5. Margaret Jane Fisk - October 16, 1846
6. Sarah Ann Fisk - December 25, 1848
7. Mary Elmira Fisk - April 11, 1851

A "History of Brown County" written by Dr. Thomas Robert Havins, professor of History and Government at Howard Payne College in Brownwood, gives a great deal about the activities of Greenleaf Fisk. His interests and work seemed to center chiefly in Williamson, Travis, Brown and San Saba Counties.

A document on file in Austin records that a grant of 640 acres was given young Fisk by the Republic of Texas for his services in gathering and guarding supplies for Captain Billingsley's Company at Harrisburg in the war for Texas Independence.

The document does not give the location of the grant. It could have been any one of three or four different counties. He was a surveyor of wide experience both for the Republic of Texas and later for the State of Texas. Much of this service was paid for in land grants.

Records show that in 1839 the Texas Congress named a Capital Commission to choose a site for a permanent capital of Texas. By this time (1838 records show) young surveyor Fisk had discovered potential settlement in what is now Brown County. He called it "The Promised Land." He offered to give back to the State his 640 tract of land in Travis County and the little community of Fiskville, just a few miles north of the Colorado River, if the Commission wished to use the land as the capital site. The Commission considered his offer but declined because it was "too far from the river's supply of water."

Greenleaf Fisk was married three times. After the death of Mary Manlove Fisk, some histories say, the second wife was Miss Mattie Stevens who died before the end of one year of marriage. Another writer says that Mrs. Mary Hawkins was his second wife. The history of Brown County says that Mrs. Mary Hawkins Fisk, whom he also married at Bastrop, was the mother of eight children:

- 1. Greenleaf Fisk - February 14, 1858
- 2. Cicero Fisk)- February 3, 1861
- 3. Emma Fisk)- February 3, 1861
- 4. Hosea Fisk - March 18, 1863
- 5. Naomi Fisk - May 11, 1865
- 6. Mattie Fisk - July 24, 1867
- 7. Phoebe Fisk - October 9, 1868
- 8. Milton Fisk - February 25, 1874

Fisk's surveying trips to the present Brown County began in 1838 and he made many subsequent trips back there because the state was dividing Lampasas County into Lampasas, Hamilton, Cherokee, and Brown Counties, and he was serving as the surveyor of the lands. He was also given grants of land in San Saba County for services as a surveyor. On these trips he had some very exciting experiences with the Comanche and Apache Indians. On one of these trips he was captured by the Indians, but was later released. His daughter, Ann Elizabeth Fisk Cashion, told me he frequently "bought" himself out of such troubles with a bag of salt.

He moved into Brownwood as a permanent home in 1860. At that time there was some indecision as to where Brownwood, the county seat, was to be permanently situated. It seems that this time his land grant on Pecan Bayou offered the better water supply. He gave 60 acres for the Brownwood townsite, another 100 acres for county purposes, and later a part of the grant to establish the Presbyterian Daniel Baker College.

The courthouse and Masonic school and meeting hall were moved to the Fisk side of the Pecan Bayou. He set up classes in the school and started teaching. Thus settlers were encouraged to move in for the advantages of schools and county government. This practice of emergency teaching during initial periods of community growth seemed to have been one of his favorite contributions in more than one new settlement.

A number of monuments over the state have been designated to his memory. He was a patriot of San Jacinto, and served as a Senator both during the days of the Republic and later during statehood. He was Chief Justice in at least three counties, district clerk, county clerk, county treasurer, justice of the peace, and held several different volunteer teaching positions.

In May, 1939, the Texas Highway Department honored Judge Fisk as a Texan by designating

a bridge which spans the South San Gabriel River. This is on Highway 183, about 2-1/2 miles north of Leander, Texas. The land along this river was once a part of the Greenleaf Fisk property.

Five months prior to his death in 1888, at the age of 81, he was confined to his bed. Funeral services were held at the old Presbyterian Church. By proclamation of the Mayor of Brownwood, all business was suspended and the entire city did honor to his memory for his great services to his various home communities, to his state and to his country. He was laid to rest in Greenleaf cemetery named in his honor because he gave the city's townsite. Greenleaf Street and Fisk Avenue also were named in his honor by the City Council.

He was an ardent citizen of his community and his life story reads like fiction, combining all the characteristics of scholar, patriot, statesman, educator, frontiersman, business man, town builder, and family man in an almost unbelievably generous manner.

We here, his descendants and recipients of a noble heritage, can not justly and honorably bask in his glory unless we carry forward at least one of his many talents of worthy citizen.

On April 28, 1858 Greenleaf Fisk signed a document stating that his wife Mary A. Fisk was deceased and she left six children.

During his marriage -- he had acquired this property: -

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Headright of C. Gilbert | Pecan Bayou | 610 acres |
| E. D. Truth | | 4808 |
| Ira Kelley | | 1476 |
| Marcus Huling | | 1280 |
| Wm. R. Irons | | 2256 |
| Bounty of Greenleaf Fisk | | 320 |
| Wm. H. Monroe | | 1280 |
| Noah Southworth | | 1280 |
| H. Garner | | 1280 |
| Headright of James Christian | San Gabriel | 1476 |
| Chas. Cochram | | 1686 |
| G. Fisk | | 4428 |
| S. B. Johnson | | 595 |
| B. Manlove | | 177 |
| Taylor Smith | Pecan Bayou | 950 |
| Sister of Taylor Smith | | 3598 |

8 milch cows, 6 yearlings, 5 horses, 20 hogs, \$1,500.00 in furniture.



WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Dr. Van C. Tipton, Chairman



NEWSLETTER NUMBER THREE

JULY 31, 1976

COUNTY

The Williamson County Historical Commission and the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission have been very closely connected in the various communities all over the county. Many of the workers have been members of both groups and the combined efforts have produced some outstanding results.

HERITAGE TOURS

The Georgetown tour of six homes and four churches was conducted on May 1st and 2nd by the Bicentennial Commission with some Historical Commission members in the house parties. More than six hundred people enjoyed seeing these fine old homes and historic churches.

The Round Rock tour of homes and churches was held on June 12th. Many people viewed the splendor of some of the oldest homes in this area of Texas. The beautiful and historic Palm Valley Lutheran Church was included in this tour. The activity was sponsored by the Round Rock Woman's Club. Historical Commission members are active in both groups.

The Taylor tour of homes was on July 4th and was the culmination of three days of patriotic festivities in that city. The money collected from the sale of tour tickets will be used for restoration of the Moody Home. This boyhood home of the former Governor Dan Moody is now a Museum and was awarded an Official Texas Historical Medallion, years ago. A benefit garden party held on the grounds on June 2nd was well attended.

BUILDING MARKERS

On Sunday, May 30th, the Tenth Street United Methodist Church in Taylor had a memorial type service in the morning followed by a noon luncheon and a marker dedication program at 1:30 o'clock. A.M. Ahlgreen, Historical Commission member was responsible for completing the history of the church and the marker application. He assisted Miss Esther Johnson in the unveiling.

An Official Historical Marker was unveiled on the S.P. Stubblefield house on Main Street in Liberty Hill. It is said to be one of the oldest structures standing in the town and has been restored by the owner, Mel Fowler who is a sculptor. Immediately preceding this service a 9 1/2 foot expressionistic-figurative sculpture by Fowler was unveiled in the park across the street. It is a Bicentennial gift to the community by the sculptor.

SUBJECT MARKERS

The City of Coupland held a Bicentennial Homecoming Celebration on June 6th. An Official Historical Marker was dedicated honoring the founder and the founding of Coupland. U.S. Senator John Tower was the guest speaker, with Truett Latimer, Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission presiding at the dedication and unveiling ceremony. The Old Coupland Depot Museum was formally dedicated and opened by Dr. D.H. Winfrey, Director of the Texas State Library. State Representative Dan Kubiak was speaker for the 4 p.m. open house at the school.

Dan Moody, Jr. unveiled the Historical Marker awarded the City of Taylor at 2 p.m. on July 2nd in Taylor's City Hall. Moody, grandson of Taylor's first Mayor and son of the late Governor Dan Moody, also was the main speaker.

Myreta Matthews
Reporter for the Williamson County
Historical Commission
Liberty Hill, Texas 78642

Camilla Durrenberger rejoins Historic Cmsn.

Mrs. Camilla Durrenberger, a member of the Williamson County Historical Commission when it was organized in January, 1961, was welcomed back into the group when the Commission met Thursday in the Georgetown Public Library.

She replaces Mrs. Homer Carwell of Georgetown, whose resignation was accepted earlier in the year.

Dr. Van C. Tipton, chairman, presided over the fourteen member group, according to Commission secretary Myreta Matthews.

Reports were made on three Historical Marker programs in the county.

THE MARKER for the founding of the City of Taylor was dedicated with a program on July 2 at the City Hall. Dan Moody, Jr., son of the late Governor Dan Moody, was principal speaker; his was the beginning of three days of festivities in Taylor.

The S. P. Stubblefield House on Main Street in Liberty Hill is now a Recorded Texas Landmark.

The unveiling took place at 4 p.m. July 4. Two Stubblefield granddaughters present were recognized: Mrs. Zelma Phillips of Port Lavaca and Mrs. Evabel McLaran of Mesquite, Texas.

The Greenleaf Fisk Marker was dedicated with proper ceremonies at 4 p.m. August 1. The subject marker on a post on the courthouse lawn honors the first county judge of Williamson County, called Chief Justice in 1848. It was sponsored by Mrs. Margaret Fashion White, a great-granddaughter, and J. David Fisk, a great-grandson, both of Austin.

Other descendants also contributed and more than twenty

attended the program. The history was read by Keland Stanford, a great-great-grandson; the song 'God Bless America' was led by Mel Wicher, a great-great-grandson.

A HERITAGE TOUR of five homes in Taylor was conducted on July 4 bringing to a close the three days of Bicentennial festivities for that city. Proceeds from the tour tickets will be used for restoration of the Moody Home at 114 West Ninth Street in Taylor.

Markers have been received but dedication ceremonies are pending for the City of Thrall and the City of Hutto.

The Liberty Hill Masonic Hall building marker will be unveiled at 6 p.m. 8 August 14 on Main Street in Liberty Hill. The dedication ceremony will be carried out by the members of the Masonic Lodge No. 432.

Miss Effie McLeod announced that the Florence First Baptist Church and the Florence Cemetery are eligible for markers, as both have a significant history of well over 100 years.

Harold Asher reported that the Andice Baptist Church marker script has been approved by the State Commission.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough has completed the application for the marker for James O. Rice. After some tedious research the story is now authentic and when received the marker will be placed at Rice's Crossing, named for him.

MISS LAVERNE FAUBION, chairman in charge of cemetery lists, states that she has many pages ready for Volume II of Williamson County Cemeteries, although some are still missing. Intensive work on finding outlying cemeteries will begin again when the weather is more favorable.

Attending this meeting were Harold Asher of Gabriel Mills and Andice, Effie McLeod of Florence, Dr. and Mrs. Van C. Tipton, Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, Miss Laverne Fashion, Mrs. Camilla Durrenberger, Mrs. D. L. Coulbourn and Mrs. Estha Scoggins of Georgetown. Also, Mrs. Mahon Garry of Rice's Crossing and from Taylor A. M. Allgreen, Mrs. Joe Hannah Forson and Miss Ruth Mantor, and Myreta Matthews, Liberty Hill.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 1, Page 4
Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, August 12, 1970

PAGE SIX
Georgetown, Texas

THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY SUN
Thursday, January 24, 1963



HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE

Pictured at the initial meeting of the Williamson County Historical Survey Committee are officers and some of the committee chairmen named at the Jan. 19 meeting. Left to right (seated) Mrs. M. Q. Stapp, Andice; Mrs. Camilla Emerson Durrenberger, Georgetown, vice-chairman of the county organization; I. C. Parma of Granger, member of state

committees; Judge Sam V. Stone of Georgetown, elected chairman of the county committee; and Jerry Martinets, Granger. Standing, left to right, Mrs. Agnes Allison Whatley, Taylor; Mrs. George Caskey, Florence; Mrs. L. J. Dimmitt, Georgetown; Mary Elizabeth Fox of Georgetown, secretary of the county group.

Texas Historical Commission Staff (CW), 3/29/76

Official Texas Historical Building Marker for attachment to stone
Williamson County (Order #4592)

Location: Main Street, Liberty Hill

LIBERTY HILL***
MASONIC HALL*

CHARTERED IN 1875, LIBERTY HILL
LODGE NO. 432, A. F. & A. M., MET FIRST
IN THE METHODIST CHURCH. WHEN THIS
BUILDING WAS FINISHED IN 1883, THE
MASONS PURCHASED THE TOP FLOOR
FOR THEIR LODGE HALL AND BUILT AN
EXTERIOR WOODEN STAIRWAY TO THE
ROOM. THIS NATIVE STONE STRUCTURE
WAS ERECTED BY SCOTTISH-BORN JOHN
MUNRO, WHO OPERATED A HARDWARE
STORE BELOW THE MASONIC HALL. THE
LODGE BOUGHT THE FIRST FLOOR FROM
HIS HEIRS IN 1945 AND OFTEN USE IT
AS A COMMUNITY MEETING PLACE.**
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1976***

*1/2 inch lettering
**3/8 inch lettering
***1/4 inch lettering

MASONIC HALL
THE LIBERTY HILL MASONIC LODGE BUILDING

The Masonic Building is on the west side of Main Street in Liberty Hill, Williamson County, Texas. Main Street is also Highway Loop 332. It is Lot B in Block No. 1.

This is in the Henry Field Survey dated July 31, 1845, Patent No. 56 in Volume 3 of Williamson County Deed Records.

This is the Mary A. Smith (Widow) Addition found in Volume 4, page 500 in 1871.

Emzy Taylor sold to Euphrates Taylor in 1875 as recorded in Book No. 16, page 336.

Euphrates Taylor sold to John Munro in 1879. Deed recorded February 13, 1879 in Book 21, page 209.

John Munro sold to the Liberty Hill Masonic Lodge # 432 in 1883. Deed recorded November 9, 1883 in Book 32, page 279.

The lodge was organized and chartered in 1875 and met in the third story of the Methodist Church. In May 1883 they decided to find a new meeting place. They first considered building another floor to a rock building (in 1975 occupied by the Liberty Hill Feed and Seed Store), this building belonged to John Munro, but the Masons found that the building would not safely hold a second rock floor, and abandoned this idea. They then worked out an arrangement to buy the second floor on their present (1975) Building from John Munro soon after it was completed in 1883. They have met there from that time to the present.

In 1883, when the Masons bought the upper story of the John Munro building they erected wooden stair steps on the outside at the back. A wooden trestle or landing still stands. According to the minutes book of the Masonic Lodge #432, John Munro, a member of the lodge, made a proposition to sell to the Lodge the upper story of his rock building which was just being completed. (History p. 7). On motion it was resolved that a committee of three be appointed to purchase the second

story of Brother Munro's building, said payment to be not less than \$ 500.00 and to execute a note for the balance in twelve months time at ten per cent interest. (\$ 850.00)

The Masons bought the first floor of the John Munro building from the three Munro heirs who inherited it.

Williamson County Deed Records Volume 329, page 437 shows that Fannie Munro Peveto (a widow), Will Munro, and Jennie Munro Atwood and her husband, A. Atwood sold for \$ 1350.00 to the A.F. and A.M. Masonic Lodge No. 432 of Liberty Hill the north $\frac{1}{2}$ (one half) of Lot 3, Block 1, on Main Street of Liberty Hill. The frontage of the lot is 25 feet, and the depth is 200 feet. This is the lot on which the lodge hall is situated. The transaction was executed by J.E. Humphries, Worshipful Master; J.J. Gregg, Senior Warden, and T.M. Casbeer, Junior Warden, in behalf of the Masonic Lodge and was executed September 7, 1945.

The structure has a length of 60 feet and a width of $24\frac{1}{2}$ feet, with a floor space of 2,940 square feet.

(measurements from Chesley Real Estate Company map.)

The town of Liberty Hill is an upswing after many years of going down. Many excellent buildings are being constructed or restored. The population is increasing rapidly and it is expected that this Masonic Building will take an important place in the future life of the community.

When John Munro sold the second story of his building to the Masonic Lodge he retained the first floor and conducted his business there and in his adjoining one story building. He sold hardware and general merchandise.

The entrance to the Lodge Hall was at the back of the building and the wooden stairs were on the outside with a square landing about six by six feet. There was a wide door.

After buying the first floor from the John Munro heirs, the outside stairs were removed and now only the landing remains. This lower floor was converted into a dining hall. Inside stairs were built at the back. A kitchen and rest room were installed. Four long tables and eight long benches were put in. The entire building is heated by propane gas stoves. The upstairs hall is airconditioned.

This ground level floor has been used in many ways since it was obtained 30 years ago. On occasion the Masons have suppers and receptions as also did the Eastern Star chapters. Non-profit organizations also use the facilities. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have met here regularly. Bake sales and rummage sales have been housed here for some benevolent cause. It is often used as a voting place during primary and general elections.

There plans in progress for some needed repairs. The doors and windows need to be painted and some facings replaced. The stone and mortar seem to be sound but a general buffing would add some sparkle to it all.

The town of Liberty Hill is on an upswing after many years of going down. Many downtown buildings are being done over or restored, the population is increasing rapidly and it is expected that this Masonic Building will hold an important place in the future life of the community.

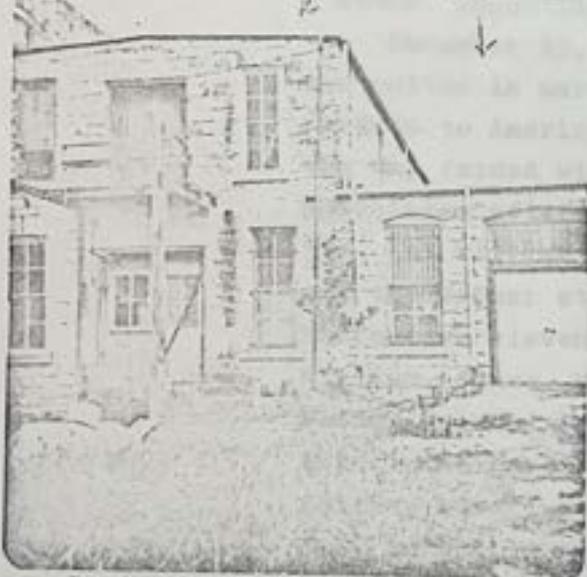
LIBERTY HILL MASONIC LODGE BUILDING

Leatherwood-Munro-Masonic-Potts Connell Masonic--Potts-Connell



Front view, facing east on Main Street in Liberty Hill, Texas
August 1976

Potts, Connell-Masonic-Munro



Potts, Connell-Masonic-Munro-Leatherwood



Back view from the west. Grass needs cutting but otherwise the grounds are in fair condition. Note the Butane Gas tank for heating.

Sept. 1975

JOHN MUNRO

JOHN MUNRO, of Williamson County, is a son of David and Isabella Munro, natives of Ross county, Scotland, where the family have lived for many generations. The father of our subject was a blacksmith by occupation, but for many years had charge of the water works of the city of Dundee.

JOHN MUNRO was born in Dundee, Scotland, March 16, 1846, and early in life learned the blacksmith's trade. At the age of twenty years, he emigrated to America, landing at Galveston, Texas, in February, 1867, and for the following four years was engaged in farming near Austin, Travis county. He first began work at his trade, but as he was obliged to use charcoal instead of stone coal, as he had been taught, he was not able to satisfy himself and gave up the shop. Since 1871 Mr. Munro has made his home at Liberty Hill, where he was engaged in blacksmithing until 1883, and in that year embarked in the hardware business. He now carries a stock, amounting to \$2,500, and is also engaged in farming.

December 22, 1870, in Travis county, Texas, our subject was united in marriage to Jennie Ross, who came with her parents to America in the same vessel as did Mr. Munro, and who was raised within five miles of his home. They became acquainted after locating in Travis county. She was a daughter of William and Mary (Campbell) Ross. The mother is deceased, and the father still resides in Travis county. Mr. and Mrs. Munro have eleven children: Mary J., David, Jennie, Fannie, William, James, Margie, John C., Lula J., Dora Lucy and Horace Nelson. Politically our subject affiliates with the Democratic party, is Treasurer of the Board of Directors of Liberty Normal and Business College, and a Trustee of the free school. In his social relations he is a Master Mason, and religiously is a member of the Methodist Church, in which he holds the position of Superintendent of the Sunday School.

PAST MASTERS OF LIBERTY HILL
MASONIC LODGE #432 FROM 1875

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| T. L. Dunn | 1875 |
| T. N. Bryson | 1876 - 1877 |
| A. S. Miller | 1877 - 1878 |
| T. N. Bryson | 1878 - 1879 |
| R. J. Poole | 1879 - 1880 |
| J. G. Ward | 1880 - 1881 |
| F. M. Barton | 1881 - 1882 |
| T. N. Bryson - 2 years | 1882 - 1884 |
| R. F. Cates | 1884 - 1885 |
| J. W. Potts | 1885 - 1886 |
| J. W. Potts | 1886 - 1887 |
| T. C. Barton | 1887 - 1888 |
| David Mitchell | 1888 - 1889 |
| T. N. Bryson | 1889 - 1890 |
| Olly Spencer | 1890 - 1891 |
| David Mitchell | 1891 - 1892 |
| T. N. Bryson | 1892 - 1893 |
| T. W. Price | 1893 - 1894 |
| J. D. Miller - 2 years | 1894 - 1896 |
| Olly Spencer | 1896 - 1897 |
| Warren Bryson - 2 years | 1898 - 1900 |
| C. E. Leatherwood | 1900 - 1901 |
| T. J. Sheppard | 1901 - 1902 |
| T. C. Grant - 2 years | 1902 - 1904 |
| W. O. Stubblefield | 1904 - 1905 |
| T. C. Barton | 1905 - 1906 |
| E. A. Pace | 1906 - 1907 |
| I. I. Simmons - 2 years | 1907 - 1909 |
| J. T. Spencer | 1909 - 1910 |
| W. K. Humble | 1910 - 1911 |
| J. C. Landrum | 1911 - 1912 |

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Will Munro | 1912 - 1913 |
| H. C. Fowler | 1913 - 1914 |
| J. C. Wilson | 1914 - 1915 |
| W. D. Fowler | 1915 - 1916 |
| D. D. Munro | 1916 - 1917 |
| J. W. Dyers | 1917 - 1918 |
| Hardy Johnson | 1918 - 1919 |
| R. R. Standlee | 1919 - 1920 |
| J. P. Atkinson | 1920 - 1921 |
| B. B. Renick | 1921 - 1922 |
| D. R. Simmons | 1922 - 1923 |
| L. R. Standlee | 1923 - 1924 |
| C. W. Stanford | 1924 - 1925 |
| W. C. Simmons | 1925 - 1926 |
| S. R. Adams - 2 years | 1926 - 1928 |
| D. W. White | 1928 - 1929 |
| H. H. Adams | 1929 - 1930 |
| J. N. Matthews | 1930 - 1931 |
| J. L. Myers | 1931 - 1932 |
| R. B. Insall | 1932 - 1933 |
| A. W. Stanford | 1933 - 1934 |
| L. T. McFarland | 1934 - 1935 |
| H. C. Fowler | 1935 - 1936 |
| W. Bryson | 1936 - 1937 |
| D. W. White | 1937 - 1938 |
| J. F. Wheeler | 1938 - 1939 |
| M. J. Harley | 1939 - 1940 |
| H. L. Spencer | 1940 - 1941 |
| W. H. Insall | 1941 - 1942 |
| E. H. Insall | 1942 - 1943 |
| Cecil Myers | 1943 - 1944 |
| L. T. McFarland | 1944 - 1945 |
| J. E. Humphries | 1945 - 1946 |

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| J. J. Gregg | 1946 - 1947 |
| T. M. Casbeer | 1947 - 1948 |
| S. H. Stubblefield | 1948 - 1949 |
| C. A. Shipp | 1949 - 1950 |
| H. E. Phillips | 1950 - 1951 |
| R. D. Atkinson | 1951 - 1952 |
| B. L. Dennis | 1952 - 1953 |
| C. F. Stubblefield | 1953 - 1954 |
| C. C. Chance | 1954 - 1955 |
| J. L. Bryson | 1955 - 1956 |
| D. W. McLendon | 1956 - 1957 |
| D. H. Gardner | 1958 - 1959 |
| L. B. Cook | 1959 - 1960 |
| J. A. Wentrcek | 1960 - 1961 |
| Garth Austin | 1961 - 1962 |
| Earl Dennis | 1962 - 1963 |
| Bruce R. Pinyan | 1963 - 1964 |
| Nathan Wetzel | 1964 - 1965 |
| J. H. Wilson | 1965 - 1966 |
| Donald L. Berry | 1966 - 1967 |
| Douglas M. Miller | 1967 - 1968 |
| Roy E. Allman | 1968 - 1969 |
| J. A. Wentrcek | 1969 - 1970 |
| D. H. Gardner | 1970 - 1971 |
| D. W. McLendon | 1971 - 1972 |
| L. A. Fry | 1972 - 1973 |
| John R. Evans | 1973 - 1974 |
| Bruce R. Pinyan | 1974 - 1975 |
| D. H. Gardner | 1975 - 1976 |

Notes on Liberty 1111

Celebrated 50th Anniversary - Oct. 3, 1925 - 7.30 P.M.

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| W.C. Simmons - W.M. | D.D. Munro - Treas |
| E.R. Adams - S.W. | D.W. White - S.D. |
| Hugh Whitted - J.W. | W.H. Poole - J.D. |
| Warren Bryson - Sec. | T.C. Barton - Tiler |

Celebrated 84th Anniversary - Wed. June 10, 1959.
J.E. Humphries, Sec.

T.N. Bryson - Deputy Grand Master - 34th Dist - 1885
District Dep. G.M. - 34th Dist - 1887

Warren Bryson - Life Membership - April 23, 1932
J.L. Myers, W.M. - J.N. Matthews, Sec.
50 yr. certificate - Tues. Aug. 14, 1945 at 2.17

District Deputy Grand Master - 47th Dist.
Four terms during period 1934-1943

M.K. Richardson - 50 yr. certificate - April 27, 1971
Pin presented May 17, 1971 at L.H. Lodge room.

HISTORY OF LIBERTY HILL MASONIC LODGE #432

In the Grand Secretaries files there are two petitions for a lodge charter. The first was submitted in 1873, the second in 1875.

The 1873 petition to the Grand Lodge of Texas for a charter asked that Brothers W. H. Westfall be First Worshipful Master, T. N. Bryson be First Senior Warden and W. R. Bratton be First Junior Warden.

Brethren petitioning for charter of a new lodge at Liberty Hill #432:

From Mountain Lodge #277

T. P. Poole

A. J. Miller

M. P. Fleming

S. P. Stubblefield

U. H. Anderson

G. H. Miller

Henry Price

John H. Hodges

From Mt. Horeb #137

W. K. Bratton

W. O. Spencer

From Norton Moses Lodge #336

Tom S. Snyder

T. N. Bryson

The 1875 petition to the Grand Lodge of Texas for a charter for a new lodge asked that Brother J. L. Dunn be First Worshipful Master, A. J. Miller be First Senior Warden and T. S. Snyder be Junior Warden.

The following Brethren signed this petition.

- Liberty Hill W. R. Bratton
- at Liberty Hill T. N. Bryson
- The District of W. H. Coulson, Jr.
- the officers J. H. Ledbetter
- at Dallas T. P. Poole
- the West G. G. Anderson
- were brethren W. D. Anderson
- at Dallas T. L. Dunn
- W. R. Seward
- S. P. Stubblefield
- T. S. Snyder
- at Dallas U. H. Anderson
- the number W. H. Westfall
- at Dallas R. L. Poole
- lodge books J. N. Russell
- after the fall A. J. Miller
- at Liberty Hill John Hodges
- Liberty Hill W. O. Spencer

While our charter was granted on June 5, 1875, it was dated June 7, 1875.

The first meeting was on July 24, 1875.

THE FIRST MEETING

Liberty Hill Lodge No. 432 met at the Liberty Hill Academy at 9:00 o'clock p. m. July 24th, 1875.

The time and place set by the Deputy Grand Master, for installing the officers and setting the Lodge to registry work.

Deputy Grand Master Norton Moses in the East, Brother Babcock in the West, Brother T. M. Price in the South. Brothers Babcock and Price were members of Norton Moses Lodge No. 336.

The following were installed as officers of the lodge:

J. L. Dunn, Worshipful Master

A. J. Miller, Senior Warden

T. S. Snyder, Junior Warden

The by-laws in the Taylor Monitor were adopted for the lodge and the member dues were set at \$2.00 a year. The fee for each degree was set at \$11.00. Brother T. N. Bryson presented the lodge with a set of lodge jewels. The stated meeting time was set to be the Saturday night after the full moon in each month.

We now have a legally constituted Liberty Hill Lodge #432 in Liberty Hill, Texas.

The 100th anniversary of the Liberty Hill Lodge #432 was brought up at a lodge meeting in 1974 with John Evans as Worshipful Master, who appointed the following Brothers as a history committee:

D. H. Gardner

J. H. Wilson

Wilson Parks.

There have been two other history committees appointed over the years passed. The first was composed of Brothers C. F. Van and J. R. Casbeer. The second was composed of Brothers Warren Bryson and J. N. Matthews.

We, the third committee want to keep this history as near Masonic as possible, however, it will be necessary to mention some events on the outside which tie into the lodge's history. The committee has composed this history from events taken from the lodge minutes over these 100 years.

In 1870 and 1871 a Methodist Church was started on the site where it is today. Construction of a three story stone building was started, which took a number of years before it was completed.

The second meeting of Liberty Hill Lodge was held on the second floor of the church which had been granted for this use and benefit. At this meeting a committee was appointed to furnish an ante room for the lodge August 25, 1875 and was discharged on February 24, 1876.

At a stated meeting on August 12, 1876, a motion was made to change the lodge meeting time to 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon of the second Saturday of each month. The motion passed at the next meeting, September 9, 1876.

On April 28, 1877, a committee was appointed to furnish the third story for lodge use, the lodge having met for about two years on the second floor.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Norton Moses visited Liberty Hill Lodge #432 on February 23, 1877.

Mountain Lodge #277 invited Liberty Hill Lodge #432 and Norton Moses Lodge #336 to attend a lecture at their lodge given by Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Lecturer, Brother Eddinson in April, 1878.

The first suspension for non-payment of dues was on August 2, 1879.

The lodge built new steps for the school and lodge on December 30, 1882. The school was held in the lodge room.

In January of 1883, we find the lodge purchased white and black balls for use in the lodge.

Aprons were purchased in February of 1883. Columns and stations for use in the lodge room was referred to a committee in March of 1883.

A resolution was offered and a committee appointed to get a better lodge room on May 26th, 1883.

111

June of 1883 was a busy month for Liberty Hill Lodge #432. It had two applications for initiation and affiliation, two E. A. examinations and a Fellow Craft degree.

The building committee report proposed to build a story on John Munro's rock building at a cost of \$797.87. A committee was appointed to raise the money and to nominate officers for the coming Masonic year.

All was not going too well. The building committee considered the building unsafe and failed to act. The committee asked to be discharged, which was granted.

The finance committee reported it had failed to raise enough subscriptions, was discharged and subscribers were released of their subscriptions.

Another committee, composed of J. D. Russell, J. K. Lane and John Munro, was appointed to make plans for a lodge hall. This committee submitted two plans. One was to build over the Grange hall at a cost of about \$630.00. The other plan was to raise the walls over the Munro building at a cost of about \$825.00. After due consideration it was recommended that the present wall be raised. This committee having failed the Brethren were again released of their subscriptions.

Brother John Munro made a proposition to sell the lodge the upper story of his rock building which was just being completed. On a motion it

was resolved that a committee of three be appointed to purchase the second story of Brother Munro's building and make such charges as necessary to raise sufficient money to make a payment, said payment to be not less than five hundred dollars, and to execute a note for the balance, payable in twelve months time at ten per cent interest.

Called meeting, May 31, 1884, to take action to lay a corner stone for a new school building in this place. The secretary was to write the Grand Master for dispensation.

On November 1, 1890 the lodge ordered a set of lodge furniture for use in the lodge consisting of three officer's stands, alter setting maul, hood wink and kneeling cushion.

On March 19, 1892, Liberty Hill lodge decided to give Bertram lodge their old altar.

Listen to this! On March 4th, 1883, the lodge bought a roll-top secretary desk for \$18.70.

Brother W. O. Spencer was authorized to procure Deacon rods and Marshall's buttons for lodge use.

(This finishes the minute book Number 1, from 1875 to 1893. The lodge has made a lot of Master Masons.)

In January of 1894, a committee was appointed to secure Brother John Watson to lecture at the lodge in February and to invite all near by lodges to participate if they wished to do so.

In February of 1901 a committee was appointed to build a dining room.

In July 1901 things must have been hot in the lodge. The Tiler was instructed to buy a teakettle and two dozen palm leaf fans.

Carbide lights were installed in 1903.

In June of 1906 Liberty Hill lodge agreed to let Potts and Connell join on to the north wall of the lodge, but were to receive no deed to the wall.

This contract is on page 360 of Book 2.

At this time the lodge was considering buying a lot or lots for future building of a lodge hall. The lot committee reported that they had bought a lot with the proper deed.

On July 3rd, 1909, a building committee was appointed to investigate the cost of building a new lodge building. The building committee was discharged on September 4, 1909. We wonder what happened.

On September 24, 1910, the lodge was asked for a list of its membership to be placed in the cornerstone in the Williamson County Courthouse.

(Starting Book 3. There were between 1,000 and 1,100 pages in the first two books. There is part of Book 3 missing.)

July 31, 1915, another committee was appointed to look into the cost of building a new lodge hall. On August 28, 1915 the lodge voted to build a new building not to exceed the cost of \$500.00, to be built according to plans and specifications, and to see what term of interest could be obtained on a loan of \$350.00.

Brother H. C. Fowler made the lodge a proposition to build the lodge. The lodge and chapter were to pay \$1,000.00 for the building which was rejected at the November meeting in 1915.

The last meeting in Book 2 was April, 1916. The first meeting in Book 3 is September 1918.

Wilson Parks, a member of the history committee petitioned for the first degree in Masonry on January 18, 1919.

In March of 1920 electric lights were installed in the lodge room for a cost of \$36.72.

In February of 1921 the lodge bought a new ballot box at a cost of \$12.15.

On March 30, 1929, the lodge bought the three burning tapers for the lodge. The cost - \$34.79.

There are some of the minutes of the lodge missing here.

On May 5, 1940, the RAM chapter transferred their cemetery to the blue lodge. At the same meeting Liberty Hill lodge leased their business lot to A.F. Lackey.

Starting in 1943, we made a large number of Masons through 1948, at which time activity began to slack off.

The first public school committee was appointed on January 13, 1951.

A resolution by the Masters, Warden and Secretary was adopted by this lodge to have a speaker at the stated meeting of each month.

On February 14, 1959, the lodge passed a resolution to make lodge

dues payable in advance.

About this time a great advance in Masonry was introduced, that of Masonic Educations.

On December 8, 1958, a motion was made and passed to make the lodge dining room available for all worthy causes. Permission to be granted by the three main officers of the lodge. This could be done by two officers if one was not available.

On August 8, 1959, the Liberty Hill Masonic cemetery was transferred to the Liberty Hill Cemetery Association, a corporation of Liberty Hill.

There was not much activity in the lodge from this time up to June of 1975.

LIBERTY HILL MASONIC HALL
HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM



DEDICATION CEREMONIES

LIBERTY HILL MASONIC HALL HISTORICAL MARKER



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1976
6:00 P.M.**

LIBERTY HILL MASONIC HALL HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

LIBERTY HILL MASONIC HALL
HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Master of Ceremonies | F.P.Stevenson, W.M. |
| Invocation | B.R.Pinyan, Chaplain |
| Greetings from County Historical Commission | Dr.Van C.Tipton, Chairman |
| Introduction of Distinguished Guests and Officials | J.D.Spivey, S.D. |
| Dedication Address and History of Lodge and Building | D.H.Gardner, P.M. |
| Unveiling of Historical Marker | Mrs.Fay Richardson |
| Reading of Marker Script | Myreta Matthews Jay McDonald |
| Presentation of Recorded Landmark Certificate | Dr.Van C.Tipton |
| Acceptance and Responce | F.P. Stevenson |
| Benediction | B.R.Pinyan |

Dismissal

ALL
RAM

P. Stevenson, W.M.
R. Pinyan, Chaplain

.Van C. Tipton,
Chairman

D. Spivey, S.D.

H. Gardner, P.M.

s. Fay Richardson

reta Matthews
y McDonald

.Van C. Tipton

P. Stevenson

R. Pinyan



LIBERTY HILL
MASONIC HALL

CHARTERED IN 1875, LIBERTY HILL LODGE NO. 432, A.F. & A.M., MET FIRST IN THE METHODIST CHURCH. WHEN THIS BUILDING WAS FINISHED IN 1883, THE MASONS PURCHASED THE TOP FLOOR FOR THEIR LODGE HALL AND BUILT AN EXTERIOR WOODEN STAIRWAY TO THE ROOM. THIS NATIVE STONE STRUCTURE WAS ERECTED BY SCOTTISH-BORN JOHN MUNRO, WHO OPERATED A HARDWARE STORE BELOW THE MASONIC HALL. THE LODGE BOUGHT THE FIRST FLOOR FROM HIS HEIRS IN 1945 AND OFTEN USE IT AS A COMMUNITY MEETING PLACE.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1976



The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 4 Thursday, September 16, 1976

Williamson Historical Commission continues work on cemetery lists

At the September meeting of the Williamson County Historical Commission Miss Laverne Faubion, chairman of the Cemetery listing reported much progress has been made since the last meeting.

The I.O.O.F. Cemetery list is almost complete. The work on this large Georgetown cemetery has been done by Miss Faubion, Mrs. Mabel Shier and Thomas Hughes.

The Granger Holy Trinity Cemetery has been submitted by Mrs. Henry Labaj and others. This large list was in excellent form and is ready for inclusion in Volume II.

Dr. Van C. Tipton, county chairman, who presided at the meeting, told of two marker dedications in the month of August. The Fisk marker on the courthouse lawn in Georgetown

was unveiled on August 1. It honors the first county judge of Williamson County, Chief Justice Greenleaf Fisk, who was elected 128 years ago. The program was presented by his descendants. A reception was held in the foyer of the courthouse. More than 150 persons attended.

August 14 the Masonic Lodge Hall at Liberty Hill was officially declared an historic landmark. The building was erected in 1883 and the lodge was organized 101 years ago. Some descendants of charter members participated in the program. About 60 people shared in the covered dish supper following.

The application for a subject marker for James O. Rice, composed by Mrs. Don Scarborough, has been approved by

the County Commission and will be reviewed by the State Commission soon.

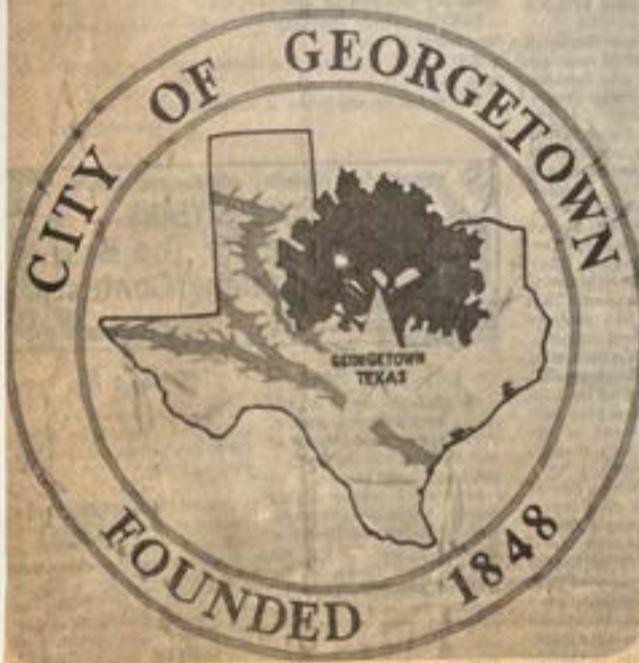
The long lost marker designating the site of the "Battle of Cottonwood Creek" in southeast Williamson County has been discovered by Mahon Garry, a member of this Commission from Rice's Crossing.

Among those taking part in recent historical programs are Miss Estle McLeod of Florence, A. M. Ahlgren of Taylor and Harold Asher of Gabriel Mills. Miss McLeod spoke on the history of the Florence area at the 120 anniversary celebration of the Florence Baptist Church. Ahlgren talked on the history of Taylor at a Junior Chamber of Commerce meeting in that city.

Asher was the principal speaker at the Burnet County Historical Society meeting in Burnet on August 24. He gave a review of the history of Pioneer Blacksmithing in western Williamson County at Gabriel Mills which is very near the Burnet-Williamson counties line. He showed a number of tools used in the 1800s and early 1900 and some products made by his father and grandfather.

Williamson County Historical Commission plans Hutto historical marker dedication

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 3 Thursday, August 26, 1976



NEW ARRIVAL — Mayor John Doerfler proudly displays the "new arrival" in Georgetown — the official city seal. Emblazoned on a white flag trimmed with gold fringe, the seal was derived from the Georgetown bicentennial emblem. The light gold State of Texas is outlined with red and bears a darker gold star inscribed with the words, "Georgetown, Texas." In bright blue the North and South San Gabriel Rivers meet at the base of a live oak tree. The City of Georgetown purchased two flags, one to hang in the City Council Chamber and the other to be saved for such special events as

The Williamson County Historical Commission met in regular monthly session, Thursday, October 7, at the Georgetown Public Library. Dr. Van C. Tipton, chairman, presided over the meeting which was attended by 21 members.

Visitors are always welcome at these meetings.

Members are appointed by the Commissioner's Court and serve a term of two years.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Blackman of Hutto announced the dedication program for the historical marker honoring the founding of the City of Hutto will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 24, on Highway 79 in Hutto.

Representative Dan Kabiak of Rockdale will be the principal speaker. The marker is sponsored by the Hutto Lions Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Scarbrough of Georgetown sponsored the historical marker for the Gabriel Mills log cabin. Mrs. Scarbrough said that the medallion and plaque combination has arrived.

The structure, also known as the Samuel Mather cabin, was moved from the far northwestern area of Williamson County and rebuilt, with volunteer labor, as nearly like the original as possible. It may be seen in Lions Park on Austin Avenue. This bicentennial gift to the City of Georgetown was made by Mr. and Mrs. Emile Jamail, owners of the property at Gabriel Mills. No date has been set for the dedication.

Several new cemetery lists were added to the growing number recorded to be included in Volume II. Mr. and Mrs. Blackman filed two that are near Hutto, both named Shiloh. Laverne Fabian is chairman of the subcommittee in charge of compiling these volumes.

At the suggestion of Mrs. Clara Scarbrough, the Commission decided to make application for an official historical marker for an important early day pathway across Williamson County.

According to the history of the county, Land of Good Water, by Mrs. Scarbrough, the "Double File Trail" was laid out by Delaware Indians before 1830. They rode in "double files" and for many years traveled this trail from near the Rio Grande to their earlier homes in East Texas.

Some important historical events took place where the trail crossed the Colorado River near Webberville in Travis County, Brushy Creek near Round Rock and the San Gabriel River near Mankin's Crossing.

Texas Rangers rode over this trail and it was well remembered by pioneers of this county. Preservation of history is important to this commission. Identification of sites will be of value to future historians.

One historical goal of the

seventies is to encourage the youth of the county to do original research. To implement this, the Williamson County Commission is sponsoring a contest and offering a cash award for the best piece of original research submitted by a student in any high school in the county. All entries must be the student's own work, not taken from a printed newspaper

or book. These may be used for background.

The subject must be well documented and pertain to the history of Williamson County. Of course, people make history. Specific rules will be sent to all high schools in the county by the history appreciation subcommittee.

The Texas Historical Commission, recently adopted the

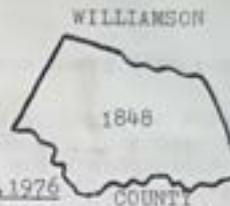
title, "Annual Historic Preservation Conference" for the joint Commission-Historical Foundation annual meeting. This Conference will take place in Galveston on October 29-30. Dr. and Mrs. Tipton plan to attend.

Communities represented at this meeting were Florence, Georgetown, Hutto, Jarrell, Jonah, Liberty Hill, Round Rock and Taylor.

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 4 Thursday, October 14, 1976



WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Dr. Van C. Tipton, Chairman



NEWSLETTER NUMBER FOUR SEPTEMBER 30, 1976

The Williamson County Historical Commission continues to meet monthly with an average of fourteen members present. This indicates a great interest and faithful participation on the part of local historians who are known to beseechers after truth and accuracy in recording past significant events and also in restoration and preservation.

MARKERS

The 1975 Edition of GUIDE TO OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKERS, which is compiled and published by the TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, lists sixty-four markers in Williamson County. Many other markers put up by the STATE OF TEXAS and by other historical groups are also listed. This is a proud showing but that is not all.



Since this book was published the Williamson County Commission has erected the following: One Subject Marker commemorating Greenleaf Fisk, First County Judge; Three Community Markers, Gabriel Mills, Coupland and Taylor; Two Churches, the First United Methodist Church, Bartlett and the Tenth Street United Methodist Church, Taylor; Two Buildings, the S.P. Stubblefield Store and Home and the Liberry Hill Masonic Hall; Four Homes, the McDougle-Adams House, the Penn-Allen House, the Harrell-Stone House, all in Georgetown and the John G. Matthews House on the farm near Liberty Hill.

Three or more applications have been approved and hopefully will be installed in 1976.

MUSEUMS

Taylor Museum

The birthplace and early home of the late Governor Dan Moody has been donated by the Moody family to the city of Taylor. Plans already are underway for the development of the two-story 1887 structure as the Moody Museum for the community.

The house is commemorated as the Governor's birthplace by a Texas Historical Marker, dedicated in 1968.

The Coupland Community Club sponsored a Bicentennial Homecoming Celebration on Sunday, June 6. The Marker honoring the founding of the town was dedicated by Sen. John Tower and Truett Latimer. The restored Old Depot was dedicated by Dr. Dorman H. Winfrey, State Librarian, Texas State Library.

This announcement concerning the Moody Museum appeared in the JAN-FEB 1976 issue of THE MEDALLION. A benefit Garden Party and a Tour of Homes have produced funds to restore the historical home of a famous and beloved native son of Taylor and Williamson County.



COUPLAND DEPOT MUSEUM

RESTORATIONS

The Coupland Museum is a restored MK-Tdepot that was moved from east of town to a more convenient location.

A pioneer log cabin was transported from the headwaters of the North Fork of the San Gabriel River, 18 miles or more, and rebuilt in a City of Georgetown Park. Restoration was completed in February and a dedication program was held. This was a Bicentennial project but an application for an Official Texas Historical Marker has been approved.

CEMETERIES

The listing of cemeteries in the county is continuing and completed records are being added to Volume II each week. Please, send any new information to Laverne Faubion, 712 Myrtle Street, Georgetown, Texas 78626.

HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH

The Prize offered by the Williamson County Historical Commission for the best essay of original research was awarded to Contreras, a student in the Taylor High School.

OUT OF COUNTY PARTICIPATION

Dr. Van C. Tipton, County Chairman and Mrs. Tipton and also Mrs. Camilla Durrenberger of Georgetown attended a two-day workshop for Junior Historian Leaders in Austin at the L.B.J. Library. The August event was sponsored by the Texas State Historical Society.

Harold Asher of Gabriel Mills was the principal speaker at the Burnet County Historical Society Meeting in Burnet on August 24th. He gave a review of the history of Pioneer Blacksmithing in western Williamson County at Gabriel Mills and showed a number of tools used in the 1800s and early 1900s. He also exhibited some products such as special custom made horseshoes.

HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

All County Historical Commissions are indebted to the Texas Historical Commission and the TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION for providing programs of work through seminars, workshops, directories, processing Official Historical Markers advice and many other positive action programs.

Now is the time to plan to renew membership in the TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION. A minimum of \$5.00 will bring the official magazine THE MEDALLION six times per year along with other benefits to the county. Dues may be mailed to:

Mrs. Harold G. Scoggins or
1707 Main Street
Georgetown, Texas 78626



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

THC Adopts New Conference Title

The Texas Historical Commission adopted the title "Annual Historic Preservation Conference" for the joint Commission-Texas Historical Foundation annual meeting.

The Commission felt the new title would more accurately reflect the broad spectrum of activities which take place during these meetings.

The next "Annual Historic Preservation Conference" will take place in Galveston on Oct. 29-30.

Myreta Matthews
Reporter Member





**D.
S.
A.**

**COUNTY
COMMITTEE**

**COUNTY
FOUNDATION
CHAIRMAN
MEMBER**

**COUNTY
FOUNDATION
MEMBER**

**COUNTY
COMMITTEE
MEMBER**

The Williamson County SUN
Section 2, Page 6
Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, November 4, 1976

Historical news wins award

The Williamson County Historical Commission placed third in the Best County Historical Commission Newsletter competition at the Annual Historic Preservation Conference in Galveston October 29 and 30.

This award is designed to encourage wider distribution, on the local level, of news of the commission's activities and of general historical preservation news.

The Best Newsletter award is only one of the five areas of competition entered annually by county historical commissions from throughout the state. The purpose of the contests is to generate public awareness of historical preservation activities in Texas.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 12276
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

Postage Paid by Texas Historical Foundation

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUSTIN, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 2883

MRS. HAROLD SCOGGINS
1707 MAIN
GEORGETOWN, TX 78626

1976 HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

1976 HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

Texas Historical Commission
Texas Historical Foundation

Galveston, Texas

PROGRAM

Except where noted, all activities will take place in the Moody Center

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

3-5:30 p.m. REGISTRATION—Moody Center Lobby

3-5 p.m. Set up County Exhibits—Room F

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29

9 a.m.-5 p.m. REGISTRATION—Moody Center Lobby

1:00-3:10 p.m. OPENING SESSION—Convention Hall No. 2

Welcome—Judge Ray C. Holbrook, Galveston County; Mrs. Wesley B. Blankenship, Chairman, THC

THE ROLE OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION—Dr. Eugene J. Smith, Departmental Historian, Austin

THE HISTORIC ENGINEERING SITES SURVEY—William C. Griggs, Manager, History of Engineering Program, Texas Tech University Lubbock

MARSHALL, TEXAS: AN ALL AMERICA CITY (Using your historical resources)—Max S. Lale, Chairman, Harrison County Historical Commission

"A MEASURE OF CHANGE": A film on Historic Preservation in Newburyport, Mass.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

3:30-5 p.m. RESEARCHING, WRITING, AND PUBLISHING LOCAL HISTORY—Convention Hall No. 2

MODERATOR: Deolee Parmelee, Director of Research, THC

PANELISTS: Ray Miller, "The Eyes of Texas", KPRC-TV, Houston
Willard B. Robinson, Professor of Architecture and Museum Science, Texas Tech University
Dr. Marilyn McAdams Sibley, Professor of History, Houston Baptist University

3:30-5 p.m. HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROFILE—The National Register—Room D

MODERATOR: Blake Alexander, Professor of Architecture, U.T. Austin; Chairman, National Register Board of Review for Texas

PANELISTS: THC National Register Staff

3:30-5 p.m. SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION IN GALVESTON—Room E

MODERATOR: M. L. Ross, M.D., Former Mayor of Galveston, Past President, Galveston Historical Foundation

PANELISTS: Anne Brindley, Past President, Galveston Historical Foundation
Peter Brink, Executive Director, Galveston Historical Foundation
O'Neil Ford, Architect, Member, National Register Board of Review for Texas
Evangeline Whorton, Vice-President, Programs, Galveston Historical Foundation
Emily Whiteside, Executive Director, Galveston County Cultural Arts Council, Inc.

3:30-5 p.m. PRODUCING EFFECTIVE

Richard Pierre, *Trust of Highways & Public*

6:15 p.m. WINE RECEPTION—Se

7:00 p.m. DISTINGUISHED SER

No. 1

RECOGNITION OF DS

Annual Business M

"Williamsburg—The

Excerpts from music

House Players of Co

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

8 a.m.-Noon REGISTRATION—Moody Center Lobby

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

8:30-10 a.m. PROBLEMS, POLICIES AND PRACTICES—Convention Hall No. 2

"SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS"—Director of Museum

"UTILIZING AN HISTORIC SITE"—Frank Crabtree, Director

"PROBLEMS OF MUSEUMS"—Frank Crabtree

8:30-10 a.m. HISTORIC PRESERVATION (Repeat)—Room ABC

8:30-10 a.m. CURRENT TRENDS IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION—Dr. O. L. Davis, Jr., Austin, assisted by G

8:30-10 a.m. DISCUSS YOUR HISTORIC PRESERVATION STATE COMMISSION

MODERATOR: Truett Latimer, Exec

PANELISTS: THC Members and

10:20-11:50 a.m. TEXAS NATURAL AREA

Don Kennard, Director

10:20-11:50 a.m. SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION (Repeat)—Room ABC

10:20-11:50 a.m. PROBLEMS, POLICIES AND PRACTICES (Repeat)—Convention Hall

10:20-11:50 a.m. PRODUCING EFFECTIVE RESTORATION—Room ABC

12:00 noon ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON—Address—Ambassadors

2 p.m. GUIDED TOUR OF HISTORIC GALVESTON—Buses depart from

7 p.m. INFORMAL PARTY—Barbecue, Beer and

(Route maps to the

VATION CONFERENCE

Commission
Foundation

Moody Center
2106 Seawall Blvd.

R A M

- 3:30-5 p.m. PRODUCING EFFECTIVE TRAVEL LITERATURE, Room ABC
Richard Pierce, Travel & Information Division, State Department of Highways & Public Transportation, Austin
- 6:15 p.m. WINE RECEPTION—Second Floor Lobby, Moody Center
- 7:00 p.m. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD DINNER—Convention Hall No. 1
RECOGNITION OF DSA COUNTIES
Annual Business Meeting of the Texas Historical Foundation
"Williamsburg—The Story of a Patriot": A film.
Excerpts from musical "1776" presented by the Stafford Opera House Players of Columbus

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

8 a.m.-Noon REGISTRATION—Moody Center Lobby

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

- 8:30-10 a.m. PROBLEMS, POLICIES AND POSSIBILITIES FOR MUSEUMS—
Convention Hall No. 2
"SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR MUSEUMS"—*Cindy Sherrell, Director of Museum Service, THC*
"UTILIZING AN HISTORIC STRUCTURE AS A MUSEUM"—
Frank Crabtree, Director, Fort Concho Museum, San Angelo
"PROBLEMS OF MUSEUM MANAGEMENT"—*Cindy Sherrell, Frank Crabtree*
- 8:30-10 a.m. HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROFILE—The National Register
(Repeat)—Room ABC
- 8:30-10 a.m. CURRENT TRENDS IN ORAL HISTORY—Room D
Dr. O. L. Davis, Jr., Professor of Curriculum and Instruction, U.T. Austin, assisted by George Mehaffey, Graduate Student
- 8:30-10 a.m. DISCUSS YOUR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROBLEMS WITH
STATE COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF—Room E
MODERATOR: *Truett Latimer, Executive Director, THC*
PANELISTS: *THC Members and Staff*
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. TEXAS NATURAL AREA SURVEYS—Room E
Don Kennard, Director, U.T. Austin
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION IN GAL-
VESTON (Repeat)—Room D
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. PROBLEMS, POLICIES, AND POSSIBILITIES FOR MUSEUMS
(Repeat)—Convention Hall No. 2
- 10:20-11:50 a.m. PRODUCING EFFECTIVE TRAVEL LITERATURE (Repeat)—
Room ABC
- 12:00 noon ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON—Convention Hall No. 1
Address—Ambassador Edward A. Clark
- 2 p.m. GUIDED TOUR OF HISTORIC GALVESTON
Buses depart from Moody Center
- 7 p.m. INFORMAL PARTY—Seawolf Park, Pelican Island
Barbecue, Beer and Dance
(Route maps to the park will be furnished in registration packets)

THC recognizes county Historical Commission

The Williamson County Historical Commission received a Distinguished Service Award at the 1976 Annual Historic Preservation Conference, held in Galveston Oct. 29 and 30.

Van C. Tipton, WCHC Chairman, accepted the award during ceremonies of the conference, which was co-sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission and Texas Historical Foundation.

The state commission administers the awards program, designed to recognize those county historical commissions who have made outstanding local contributions to preservation within the past year.

In presenting the award, THC Chairman Mrs. Wesley B. Blankenship cited the WCHC for coordinating numerous bicentennial activities and projects, such as the restoration of the late Governor Dan Moody's former home.

The Sunday SUN
Page 11 Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, October 31, 1976

The Williamson County SUN Georgetown, Texas
Section 1, Page 4 Thursday, October 28, 1976



HUTTO HISTORY was both made and remembered Sunday as the town dedicated a historical marker summarizing its colorful past. On hand for the dedication were (from left) Merv Hackett, chairman of the Hutto Lions Club's Marker Committee, which helped secure the plaque; Hutto Lions secretary Emery

Blackman; State Representative Dan Kabiak; Dr. Van C. Tipton, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission; Edmund Schmidt, Mayor of Hutto; and Jerry Pace, president of the Hutto Lions Club. For the story and another picture of the historical marker, turn to page four.

123

HUTTO

by Clara Stearns Scarbrough

The townsite of Hutto was selected because of land speculation by the International and Great Northern Railroad, which built through there in 1876, and spurred by cotton farming which was developing rapidly in the surrounding areas at that time.

The location of Hutto was decided by the route of the railroad. It was, however, located approximately 2½ miles due north of one of the earliest settlements in Williamson County--Shiloh, a tiny village which had two small stores in 1848 in the homes of their owners. Shiloh was on the banks of Brushy Creek, was settled early by Zara Stearns (1847) and Josiah Kuykendall (1844, and William McCutcheon settled near there in 1846. Nelson Morey had the first store, believed to have been the first one in the county, and within months, Josiah Taylor also opened a small store at Shiloh. Cattle were abundant along Brushy Creek in those early years, and cattle trails crossed near Shiloh and what later was Hutto, headed for the main arteries slightly to the west. Shiloh also provided other facilities to pioneer families. Church services were held in the log house Josiah Taylor built, at least by 1848. A Cumberland Presbyterian Church was established there between 1877 and 1879, with Rev. Newell Strayhorn in charge, with services held at Wilbarger Crossing, or Shiloh Crossing. The village also had a tiny rural school.

Early histories of the Hutto community state that two persons settled in the immediate area of Hutto in 1855. They were Adam Orgain, who had been a slave in the Orgain family, and James Emory (J. E.) Hutto, who sold land to the International and Great Northern Railroad Company when it projected its lines from Rockdale

to Austin. No land transactions have been found as early as 1855 either in the name of Adam Orgain or in the name of J. E. Hutto. The earliest records involving these two men found thus far are: S. J. Orgain sold a tract to Benjamin Allen on October 15, 1859 (Deed Book VIII, 26). Sterlin (sic) Organ (sic.), along with J. E. and S. W. Tisdale, sold a 100-foot strip of land to the "International Railroad Company" as a right-of-way on April 18, 1876. The tract was described in the deed as lying adjacent and to the east of J. E. Hutto's property. ^{Deed Book XVII, 593.} /The first record of a land purchase in the Hutto area by J. E. Hutto was August 23, 1866, when he purchased 200 acres from John S. Spence of Travis County. The tract was a part of the grant to M. C. Hamilton, assignee of W. J. Brown. (Deed Book X, 227) Hutto added to his land holdings December 24, 1870 when he bought another tract from D. S. Cooke located in the same Hamilton-Brown grant. (Deed Book XIII, 520) J. E. Hutto sold to the I. & G. N. Company a 100-foot strip of land through his property for \$1 (out of the John Spence and David S. Cooke tracts), located "about nine miles east of Round Rock," on April 17, 1876. (Deed Book XVII, 593)

No further information is now available about Adam Orgain, except that he had been a slave in the Orgain family, and had built a log cabin ^{in 1855} approximately at the site of present Hutto.

James Emory Hutto was born in Alabama June 8, 1824. He moved to Travis County in 1847 where he engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1855, he moved to Williamson County where he continued in the cattle business. He served for three years in the Confederate Army, after which he returned to Williamson County and ran his farm and raised livestock. In 1885, he moved to Waco where he ran a hardware business. After coming to Texas, J. E. Hutto married

Miss Margaret Hughes, also a native of Alabama. Their children included J. R. (who became a ginmer at Hutto); J. E., Jr., a Williamson County farmer; W. T.; C. W.; R. B.; H. E.; Ellen (Mrs. J. S. Monday); Nettie (Mrs. J. A. Blanton), and an infant who died soon after birth. J. E. Hutto died in 1914 and is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery, Block 4, Lot 55, in Waco. (P. O. Box 6202, Waco 76706) This information about the burial was furnished by D. Whaley of Waco.

Earliest town records for the City of Hutto were dated 1876 (see attached photocopy of tract conveyed by J. E. Hutto to the Texas Land Company for the "Railroad Addition" near Hutto Station on the I & C N Railroad Company, the land for which was also conveyed in 1876 shortly before the railroad was built there).

Dedication of highways in the "Town of Hutto" is recorded in a Dedication Deed filed Jan. 17, 1890. (See attached copy.)

The earliest plat records were not filed until some years later. The growing community in 1911 agreed to petition to be incorporated, and thereupon drew up a map of the city to accompany the deed of dedication. (See map and Plat Record photocopies attached.)

Hutto Post Office opened June 27, 1877, with James Emory Hutto as postmaster. His successors were as follows:

John A. Blanton, appointed July 23, 1879
Thomas M. Metcalfe, appointed December 20, 1883
William H. McCormick, appointed May 1, 1890
Victor M. McCormick, April 25, 1891
Thomas H. Flinn, May 16, 1893
Joseph B. Ross, June 19, 1897
J. R. Davis, July 30, 1909
Lillie Wilson, December 12, 1911
Willis D. Holman, January 15, 1916
John C. Ray, July 1, 1924
Ward O. Miller, September 1, 1933
Walter L. Bergstrom, January 16, 1934
Oscar Humphrey, April 12, 1938
Carl Stern, October 15, 1952
Hugh S. Davenport, June 30, 1953

Hutto was incorporated in 1911.

In 1877, a depot was built at what was first referred to as "Hutto Station," although the "Station" was apparently dropped within a short time. The same year, 1877, Sam Monday ran a general store for a Mr. Loyd, and other businesses opening soon after were the Hudson & Blanton Store, D. C. Davi's Store, Robinson's Store, and a lumber yard owned by W. H. Farley, Sr., who was also

the railroad agent. Loyd's store was built to the south of the railroad and the original town developed nearby. In 1886, the store was destroyed by a storm and never rebuilt. Soon after, the section north of the railroad began to develop, and remained in the place which is known as Hutto downtown today. Sam Monday ran the first saloon in town and a Mr. Scott a later one. Dr. J. C. Flinn, the first doctor in town, came in 1882. Other early doctors included Dr. R. H. Eanes, who moved from Hutto to Rice's Crossing within a few years, and Dr. J. W. Percy. A son of the first Dr. Flinn, Dr. Joseph F. Flinn, moved to Hutto after completing medical school, and practiced beginning in 1904.

Carl "Cap" Hansen and his family from Denmark settled near Hutto in 1886, where Mr. Hansen built a blacksmith shop. He also served as the local dentist. Soren L. Christensen, another blacksmith, came there in 1900, operating his business until 1961, when he was in his eighties.

Small rural schools in the areas near Hutto ^{may have} continued to serve Hutto proper for a number of years after the railroad was built. Those within a few miles included Frame Switch, Gower, Monadale, Yakey, Shiloh, Burnap and Stony Point. First mention of a Hutto School appears to be 1882. The Whittle & Harrel School which existed in 1892 is believed to have been at or near Hutto. A Lutheran Church program history of Hutto relates, "The first school building was destroyed by storm in 1886. . . and a new school was built which served until 1917, when a two-story building was erected." At least, from available records, we can conclude that a school was built between 1877 and 1882 at Hutto.

117

158

Like the area schools, there were also churches near the new and rapidly growing Hutto, and services were held at these established places for a time. These included the small church at Shiloh and the Palm Valley Lutheran Church, which many of the Swedish families attended. The farm lands around Hutto were heavily settled by Swedish immigrants. The Hutto Baptist Church was organized in 1882 in the one-room school building, which stood south of the railroad. The Baptists built their own church in 1883, but it was completely demolished by a storm June 19, 1886. Another was erected on the same lot. It was again wrecked by storms the summer of 1895, rebuilt and used until 1921 when another storm damaged it. A new church was erected in 1922 on the present site.

For a time, since this congregation had the only Hutto church, union services were held there, as well as special denominational services. Hutto Lutheran Church was organized June 25, 1892, and within a few months had built their own structure. A small tornado levelled it on July 21, 1894, but it was rebuilt and served until 1900, when it was sold and a larger church built at its present location.

Around 1890, the business section of Hutto was moving from south of the railroad to the north side, and by 1892, two rows of stores, mostly brick, had been completed along the new Main Street. S. M. Woolsey and A. W. Carpenter, who had a mercantile store, opened Hutto Bank, which they sold in 1896 to Dr. E. P. Wilmot of Austin. The bank and store occupied a "large, two-story brick" building north of the railroad, with "all modern improvements and conveniences."

As early as 1890, the Hutto Enterprise was being published, and in 1891 reported that A. M. Smith's new store was "looming up" and would soon be ready for occupancy; that about ten homes were under construction; that Dr. A. Nowlin was building an office in town and that J. T. Magee was "putting up a windmill in his pasture and will run water to his tank in the Magee addition. He has plans for a fountain near by. The land scape will be beauty."

Hutto Masonic Lodge No. 801 was chartered Dec. 2, 1896.

By 1898, the town had its school, six churches, a hotel, seven dry goods and eight grocery stores, a bank (a second one was added soon after), two drug stores, four blacksmith shops, a meat market, a livery stable, a lumber yard, a newspaper and printing shop, two hardware stores, two gins, a mill, five doctors, one photographic gallery, a confectionery store, a tailor shop, a shoe shop and a millinery.

In addition to the Enterprise, the local newspaper, another publication, the Hutto Church Helper, was edited by Rev. S. C. Lockett and J. W. Pearson. It contained some local news combined with articles about the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. About 1910, C. L. Fridge was owner and editor of the Hutto Weekly News.

In 1888, the railroad completed stock pens along its tracks at Hutto to handle shipments of cattle from there, and the Williamson County Sun at Georgetown noted that the town was needing a livery stable, hotel and was hoping cotton buyers would locate there.

A son of the James Emory Hutto, for whom the town was named, J. R. Hutto operated a gin at Hutto, as did James S. Holman.

Mrs. James M. Womack (Mary Frances), after her husband's death in 1892, opened a boarding house in Hutto to support their large family.

Among the civic leaders at Hutto were the following:

James Emory Hutto, previously described.

"Uncle Billy"
William/T. Evans (born near Bowling Green, Warren Co., Ky.,

Dec. 19, 1822) who was married to Mary Hennington. He and his wife moved to Texas in 1854 and on Christmas Day is said to have pitched his tent on the banks of Brushy Creek, where he later built his residence. He bought 400 acres of land in 1857, dealt in livestock, took cattle on drives to Kansas and New Orleans. During the Civil War, he handled cattle for the Confederate government. He died in 1905

Hugh Goodwin, a Hutto farmer, was born in Louisa Co., Va., Feb. 22, 1833. After leaving home, he engaged in farming in Missouri, mining and farming in California, and in 1867 came to Galveston, where he was in the wool business for two years. In 1875, he moved to Rockdale, which was then the terminus of the International and Great Northern Railroad, and was engaged as a cotton buyer. In 1877 he bought land in Williamson County, moved there and established his home and farm adjoining Hutto. In 1884, he married Miss Mary Farley of Hutto. Their five children were Lucy, HulDAH, Hugh, William and Spencer C. (as listed in 1893). Mr. Goodwin died in 1909.

William H. Farley, Sr., was born in Alabama, moved to Harrison County, Texas in 1846. He came to Williamson County in 1870 and engaged in farming; he was also station manager at the Hutto depot for many years. His wife was formerly Lucy Hargrove. Seven children were listed in 1893: W. H., Mary, J. H., Forrest, Walter, Hally, Arthur. He died Aug. 20, 1909.

Captain H. A. Highsmith (1843-1930) served in the Civil War, later joined the Texas Rangers and was in Round Rock at the time Sam Bass was caught there. He was in the cattle business at Hutto.

John "Jack" McCutcheon (1840-1925) and his brother, Jesse A. McCutcheon (1842-1925) both saw service in the Civil War and both engaged in the cattle business at Hutto.

E. W. M. Highsmith (1827-1893) claimed Hutto as his home, but was a Confederate soldier and became a career army man.

James S. Holman was a merchant and ginner at Hutto; a brother, Willis D. Holman, was a stockman of the area.

J. A. "Cotton" Johnson came from Sweden to Texas in 1881, then settled north of Hutto in 1887. Like many immigrants, he had little or no financial backing when he arrived, but his diligent and careful farming made it possible for him to purchase a large tract on which he grew fine cotton crops. He gave each of his sons a large farm upon their adulthood. Johnson had one of the early automobiles of the county. He was born in 1857, died in 1936.

W. L. and H. A. "Honey" Victor have run a bee-keeping, honey business for a number of years since the turn of the twentieth century.

The early economic base of Hutto was the land development resulting from the coming of the railroad, plus the cattle business, already well established in the area to the south, along Brushy Creek. But within a decade of the founding of Hutto in 1876, the cotton industry took a great surge in central Texas and certainly Hutto had its share of this crop production, for it lies on the blackland prairies famous for their cotton crops. Swedish and other farmers greatly increased their acreage in cotton, with the coming of better gins, farm equipment, and with the help of immigrant families who were streaming into the area to settle. The population jumped in Hutto from 216 in 1890 to 563 in 1900, remained somewhat stable until the 1930's, and began a decline which hit 400 in 1960. It had regained to 545 in 1970.

In 1975, Hutto has ^{seven} active churches: Hutto Baptist Church, Hutto United Methodist Church, Hutto Lutheran Church, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Hutto (Negro) Methodist Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church, and Church of God in Christ. The Hutto Public School served all grades through high school. The town has one service club, the Hutto Lions Club.

In addition to the U. S. Post Office, the town lists the following businesses in 1975: Hutto Lumber Co., Hutto Cooperative Gin Co., Hutto Cooperative Grain Co., Greenline Chemical Co., H. & M. Apiaries, Schmidt Grocery, You Way 'Em Drive In Grocery, Inman Service Station, Gainer Service Co., Oman Fender & Body Works, Perrin Magneto & Electric Co., Miller Bar-B-Q, Mager Welding Shop, Hanson Plumbing & Electric, Hutto Washateria, Chapa Tavern, E & B Tavern.

(3D) (3C) (3a) 253 (3B)

THE STATE OF TEXAS, County of Williamson, WITNESSES, an election was duly held in the town or village of Hullo, in Williamson County, Texas, on the 19th day of April, A.D. 1911, to determine if said town shall form an incorporation for municipal purposes within the boundaries herein described, and returns of said election have been duly made to and canvassed by me from which returns it appears that at said election fifty three (53) votes were cast for (INCORPORATION), and twenty eight (28) votes were cast for (NO INCORPORATION):

Therefore, I, Richard Critz, in my capacity as County Judge of Williamson County, Texas, do adjudge that said election resulted in favor of said incorporation, and I do hereby declare the inhabitants of said territory hereinafter described duly incorporated for municipal purposes within said boundaries, the name of said town or village being Hullo.

The boundaries of said incorporation are as follows: LYing and being situated in Williamson County, State of Texas: Beginning at the N W corner of the Hutto & Metcalfe Addition to the town of Hullo, a cedar post for corner; thence S 80° 20' E at 1495 feet to the center of the Jonah & Hutto road, at 1535 feet, a stake in J A Johnson's field; thence S 10-1/2° E 400 feet a stake which is 20 feet N 10-1/2° W from the iron corner post in said Johnson's yard; thence N 79-1/2° east passing about 6 feet north of said Johnson's barn at 541 feet, a stake for corner; thence S 10-1/2° E 150 feet to a post for corner; thence N 79-1/2° E 636 feet to said Johnson's S E corner and in the west margin of the Hutto & Taylor Public Road; thence S 10° W at 1527-1/2 feet intersect the I & G N Railroad at 1618 feet a stake 20 feet N 10° E from the N E corner of J R Hutto's lot; thence N 79-3/4° E 480 feet to the N E corner of Hanstreich's & Hanson Gln Lot; thence S 10° W 204 feet to the S E corner of said Gln Lot; thence S 79-3/4° W 294 feet pass the S W corner of said Gln lot, at 354 feet, a stake for corner; thence S 7-1/4° W at 567 feet pass the N E corner of William R Gln's lot, at 1072 feet, a stake for corner; about 40 feet south from H A Farley's barn lot; thence N 80° W at 264-1/2 feet pass the N E corner of P Gustafson's farm at 1644 feet to the S W corner of said Gustafson's farm; thence N 10° E 105 feet to the S E corner of Block No. 6, in Hullo 1st Town; thence S 79-3/4° W with the S line of Blocks Nos. 6, 5, & 4, to the S W corner of said Block No. 4, thence N 10° W following the west line of Blocks 4 and 3, continuing to the S line of said I & G N Right of way fence, 560 feet, a stake for corner; thence N 10° E 368 feet to the N W corner of said right of way fence, 1040 feet to a stake for corner; thence N 10° E 368 feet to the N W corner of the Gln lot; thence N 82-1/2° E following said Gln lot fence, at 283 feet a stake west line of Hullo and the east line of Goodwin farm; thence N 10° E 2440 feet to the place of beginning.

This order is made and entered by me on the record of the Commissioners' Court of Williamson County, Texas, this the 29th day of April, A.D. 1911.
 Witness my hand and seal of the county court of said County this the 29th day of April A. D. 1911.

RICHARD CRITZ, County Judge,
 Williamson County, Texas.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, County of Williamson, I, THOS. H. FLINN, Clerk of the County court, of Williamson County, Texas, and ex-officio Clerk of the Commissioners' Court of said County do hereby certify that the above and foregoing order is a true and correct copy of the order of the County Judge of Williamson County, Texas, declaring the result of an election held on the 19th day of April, A.D. 1911, to determine if the town of Hullo, Texas, shall be incorporated for municipal purposes as a town or village of five hundred inhabitants and less than ten thousand inhabitants as shown by the minutes of said court, Vol-10, page 265.

I further certify that the plat hereto attached is a true and correct copy of the plat of said town now on file in my office.
 Given under my hand and seal of said court at office, in the city of Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas, this the 29th day of April, A.D. 1911.

THOS. H. FLINN, Clerk, County Court,
 Williamson County, Texas.

(L.S.)
 by R. E. Moore, Deputy.
 Filed April 29th, 1911.
 Thos. H. Flinn, County Clerk,
 by R. E. Moore, Deputy

Recorded at 10 o'clock A M April 29th, A.D. 1911.
 Filed at 10 o'clock A M May 3rd, A.D. 1911.

Thos. H. Flinn
 Clerk, County Court, Williamson County, Texas.

rd.
 ed
 ianison
 ar
 ate of
 ll of 1913
 That
 lib.
 right
 ded
 on,
 of
 in:
 led
 tely
 all,
 d,
 ing
 are not
 as
 as
 Free
 and Co
 ord of
 conveyer
 signed
 com
 id.
 to a
 and
 ry
 r
 them
 main
 ted
 lion.
 heir
 10 1890
 test.
 act

ABSTRACTER'S NOTE:

(3a) 2-253
(3B) 4 1/2

"Railroad Addition" to the City of Hutto is a subdivision of the 50 acre tract conveyed by J E Hutto to the Texas Land Company by deed dated Aug. 1, 1876, recorded in Vol. 17, page 539, Deed Records of Williamson County, Texas.

The title to this 50 acres vested in J. E. Hutto by a regular and complete chain of conveyances originating in the Patent from the State of Texas dated June 15, 1859, to M C Hamilton, Assignee of Wm. J. Brown, all of which is of record in Williamson County, Texas.

Trust

Trust
lib.
Trust
Deed
son,
of
in:

led
by
all,
r
as
act.

Trust
Images
signed

com
id.

r

r
them

main
ted
tion.

tion
10 1890
led.

act

1913

THE TEXAS LAND COMPANY
BY D H S SMITH, PRESIDENT
A Corporation of Texas

DEED IN TRUST

Dated Nov. 20, 1880
Filed Feb. 29, 1881
Vol. 25, page 542, Deed Records.

TO

JOHN S. BARNES AND JACOB S.
WETMORE, TRUSTEES.

CONSIDERATION: \$10.00 paid.

CONVEYS: To parties of the second part as Trustees, and their successors in the trust, their heirs and assigns forever, all the lands, tenements, hereditaments and real estate, and all the rights and interest in the real estate hereinafter mentioned and described, that is to say, certain lands and town and city lots and blocks lying, being and situate in the County of Williamson in the State of Texas, and which are more particularly known and described as follows, to-wit:

(Among other property listed:)

50 acres out of W J Brown 800 acres at Hutto Station, Williamson County, less 5 acres conveyed to I & G N R R Co., conveyed to the Texas Land Co by J E Hutto, by deed of Aug. 1, 1876, recorded in Williamson County record of deeds in Vol. 17, page 539. Balance of 45 acres of said land is hereby conveyed

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, ETC. as Trustees.

In witness whereof, the said The Texas Land Company pursuant to a resolution of its Board of Directors has hereunto set its corporate seal and attested the same by the signature of its President and Assistant Secretary the day and the year first above written.

In presence of:
H A Munemadher
James Hand.

THE TEXAS LAND COMPANY
By D S H Smith, President.

Attest: A R Howard, Assistant Secretary.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Statutory form, by D S H Smith, as President of The Texas Land Company, as the act of said corporation, Feb. 15, 1881. (L.S.)

Dedication And To Town of Neutto Barnes & Wolmore, Trustees
The State of Texas, }
County of Travis. }

191

Be now all well by these presents: That John S. Barnes, of the State of New York, and Jacob S. Wolmore of the State of New Jersey, Trustees, acting by their Agent and Attorney in fact Ira H. Evans have this day filed a map of the town of Neutto, in the County of Williamson, State of Texas, to be recorded in the records of Deeds of said County of reference. The said Town of Neutto contains thirteen (13) blocks of lots, as is shown by the map thereof accompanying this deed, and which is to be recorded with it as a part hereof. And is situated immediately upon the line of the International Great Northern Railroad, upon the survey standing in the name of H. J. Brown upon the official map of said County of Williamson, as published by the General Land Office of the State of Texas. And the said John S. Barnes and Jacob S. Wolmore, Trustees, hereby give, grant and dedicate to the public, as highways, such portions of each and all of the streets and alleys designated on the map accompanying this deed as may be contiguous to or adjoining any lot or block of land so said.

off on said map which may have been or may hereafter be conveyed by said Trustees to any other person, all other streets and alleys designated on said map, or portions of them not contiguous to lots or blocks conveyed, are to be and remain the private property of said Trustees and may be replotted or closed up or occupied by said Trustees, at their option. In witness whereof, the said Grantors have hereto set their hands at Austin, Texas, this 14th day of January A. D. 1890.

John S. Barnes (Trustees)
Jacob S. Wolmore.

By Ira H. Evans

Agent and Attorney in Fact.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

LONE STAR STATE, 1893. Biographical material about pioneers. Also 191

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Blackman, Hutto, July 11, 1974.

Williamson County Sun files, issues of dates 1877-1892.

W. L. MANN PAPERS

LAND OF GOOD WATER, Clara Stearns Scarbrough.

Mrs. Carl Engdahl, Taylor, Oct. 7, 1969.

Williamson County School Records.

Lutheran Church Records.

Postal Department Records.

History of the Hutto Baptist Church. Typed copy.

Lee M. Taylor article in Williamson County SUN, Aug. 5, 1921.

HANDBOOK OF TEXAS I, 871.

Grand Masonic Lodge Records.

Taylor Daily PRESS March 18, 1948.

History of Hutto, pamphlet in the possession of Mrs. Philip

Davenport, Hutto.

Williamson County Deed Records.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Blackman, Hutto, who gathered most of the data,
and listed the churches, schools, businesses of town in 1975.

Hutto gets state marker

Hutto got a long-awaited state Historical Marker recently and dedicated the plaque last Sunday afternoon in a brand new enclosure on State Highway 78, just east of the highway's intersection with FM 960.

State Representative Dan Tabiak of Rockdale praised the requirement of the marker after the dedication, which was attended by Hutto citizens and city officials as well as members of the Hutto Lions Club and the Williamson County Historical Commission, the two groups responsible for the new marker.

The Lions sponsored Hutto's share of the cost of the marker under a plan proposed two years ago by the Historical Commission, then added more money for a total of \$325 to fund construction of the marker's enclosure.

The Lions plan to beautify the marker area further with running roses to be planted around the cedar fence which rings the enclosure.

Among those representing the Hutto Lions Club at Sunday's activities were club president Jerry Pace, secretary Mert Hackett, and Emery Blackman, chairman of the club's Marker Committee. That committee included Charlie Hanstrom and Joe Perrin as well as Hackett and Blackman.

Representing the Williamson County Historical Commission were Dr. Van C. Tipton, Commission chairman, and his wife, Marceta Matthews, and Mrs. Blackman, who researched

ed the town's history for the project.

Representing the City of Hutto was Mayor Edmund Schmidt.



Taylor Daily Press, Monday, November 1, 1976

Historical Newsletter Places Third

GALVESTON — The Williamson County Historical Commission placed third in the Best County Historical Commission Newsletter competition at the Annual Historic Preservation Conference here Oct. 29 and 30.

This award is designed to encourage wider distribution, on the local level, of news of the commission's activities and of general historical preservation news.

The Best Newsletter award is only one of the five areas of competition entered annually by county historical commissions from throughout the state. The purpose of the contests is to generate public awareness of historical preservation activities in Texas.

Taylor Daily Press, Wednesday, November 24, 1976

Historical Commission is active this month

The Williamson County Historical Commission met in the Georgetown Public Library Conference Room on November 4.

The Williamson County Historical Commission met in the Georgetown Public Library Conference Room on November 4.

One visitor and 22 members were present at the Thursday meeting, representing Andice, Coupland, Florence, Georgetown, Round Rock and Taylor.

The Commission secretary reported the death of Mrs. Henry Labaj of Granger. Mrs. Labaj was a long time, dedicated member of the group and her passing was a great loss of a fellow worker and a friend.

During October, four of the members spoke to Jr. Historical Clubs. Each speaker reported

an enthusiastic reception.

Seven members attended the dedication of an Historical City Marker for Hutto. The Hutto Lions Club is to be commended for their diligent work in this project and for the beautiful park in which the marker is located.

The Commission voted unanimously to apply for a marker for the double-leaf trail to be located on highway 29. This marker will be financed by the Williamson County Historical Commission.

Dr. and Mrs. Van Tipton represented the Historical Commission at the State Commission's annual Preservation Conference in Galveston, where the Williamson County group was awarded the distinguished service award and the best newsletter award.

Andice Baptists Unveil Marker Sunday

An official Texas Historical Marker awarded the Andice Baptist Church by the Texas Historical Commission will be dedicated at the church in Andice, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 28.

Sponsors of the marker are Harold and Jimmie H. Asher with Jimmie H. Asher as program chairman. The dedication message will be given by the Rev. Leroy R. Peterson of Glenn Rose Baptist Church, Houston, Texas.

Joe Larry Myers, a great great grandson of Joshua Stapp, one of the organizers and builders of the original place of worship, will unveil the plaque.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 2, Page 2
Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, November 11, 1976

DEDICATION CEREMONEY

Hutto 100th Anniversary

HISTORICAL MARKER

Sunday, October 24, 1976

1. PRESENTATION OF THE FLAGS (by school children)
2. INVOCATION
3. WELCOME by Mayor Edmund G. Schmidt
4. BACKGROUND REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PROJECT
J. B. Pace, Lions Club President
5. PRESENTATION OF DR. VAN TIPTON, Chairman Williamson
Co. Historical Society
6. INTRODUCTION OF DAN KUBIAK, State Representative Dist. 36
7. BENEDICTION

Lions Club Historical
Marker Project Committee

Mert Hackett, Chairman
Charles Hanstrom
Dutch Blackman
Joe Ferris
Victor Stern

Historical Group Discusses Projects

GEORGETOWN — Members of the Williamson County Historical Commission met Thursday to discuss current progress of several projects underway.

Offshoot groups comprised of junior memberships from area school systems are presently cleaning and beautifying county cemeteries and the group hopes to encourage more younger members during the coming year.

The commission is also striving to maintain accurate records of all people buried in Williamson County cemeteries although courthouse records do

not always reflect those buried who are not residents of the county, or who are not in Williamson County at the time of their death.

Investigation of an historical marker previously awarded a Florence Baptist Church revealed an inaccurate date and the commission hopes to develop a further history on the building and its congregation.

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough revealed her discovery of a descendant of James O. Rice (Rice's Crossing) who is John Crow, the great-grandson of Rice and presently treasurer for Travis County.

Dr. Van C. Tipton, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission, announced that the group has awarded 14 markers within the county during the fiscal year 1976. They had also conducted three historical tours and cooperated in Bicentennial activities throughout the county winning numerous Distinguished Service Awards. Also, Miss Myrela Matthews of Liberty Hill received an award for third place in newsletter writing for the Williamson County Historical Commission.

The ranks of the organization

appear to be dwindling and members have expressed a desire for more county residents to join the group which devotes time to investigation and preservation of our county history.

Historic city cemetery now in 'mint' condition

Longtime Georgetown families who visit here during the holidays should try to find time to drive by the historic San Gabriel Cemetery, often called the Old Georgetown Cemetery, on the south bank of the South San Gabriel River. As a special holiday present to the town, city workers have put the grounds of the historic site into mint condition, City Manager Leb Wood revealed Thursday.

The cemetery is the oldest existing visual establishment in Georgetown, where a number of

distinguished pioneers have been buried, including the great grandfather of the famous Admiral Richard E. Byrd, and others of that family who have gained prominence.

The cemetery has been alternately neglected, then worked on — the latter by the City of Georgetown, by Boy Scouts and by Southwestern University students, especially members of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and by others.

The historic site is now plainly visible from a beautiful scenic

drive which will be soon completed, along the bank of the San Gabriel, and will be frequently visited by those interested in history.

"If a volunteer organization or group of people will come forward, now that the cemetery is so beautifully clean, we could organize a drive to repair broken headstones," one local preservationist said today. If some such group is interested, they might contact City Manager Wood or Mrs. C. Scarbrough.

Old Andice Church Gets Marker

ANDICE — Congregation members, former pastors and distinguished guests gathered in the Andice Baptist Church Sunday to observe the unveiling of the church's designation as a Texas Historical Landmark.

The 125-year-old church was honored by Williamson County Historical Commission Chairman Dr. Van C. Tipton who explained the functions and goals of the commission and thanked Mrs. Clara Scartrough for help in the assimilation of historical data on the church. The Andice Baptist Church is the third church to be awarded an historical marker this year.

The Rev. Freeman Smalley, one of the first Baptists in Texas, preached in the area about 1850 and helped build the church which began meeting in a log schoolhouse in 1851. The structure was built by Joshua Stapp and others and services were held there from 1854 until 1894. A new school building was erected in 1876 and the church got its first building in 1894 dubbed Pilot Knob.

The congregation moved to Andice in 1936 and worship services are currently held near the original site where the first pastor, Josiah Andrews, used to hang his pistol on a peg on the beech oak stump Bible stand while he preached.

Rev. Leroy R. Pearson, pastor of the Glen Rose Baptist Church in Houston, gave a dedication message in which he compared the marker to Joshua's witnessing stone as tangible evidence of the congregation's vision and faith in their Lord for all men to see. The son of an Andice preacher, Pearson has served as a pastor for 31 years.

Larry Joe Myers, great-great-great-grandson of founder Joshua Stapp conducted the unveiling of the marker as the congregation gathered out front in cold Texas winds. Myers is a deacon of the First Baptist Church at Arlington.

Closing the ceremonies, Kay Cox offered a taste of old time religion with her unaccompanied rendition of "Amazing Grace." The crowd then sought refreshments, fellowship and warmth in the historic little church.

The Sunday SUN
Page 2

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, November 28, 1976

Historic Landmark to be dedicated soon

The historic Cabin from Gabriel Mills Area in Georgetown has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Mrs. Wesley B. Blankenship, Chairman of the Texas Historical Commission.

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 Dr. Van C. Tipton 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 ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads:

CABIN FROM GABRIEL MILLS AREA

This cabin of squared logs and hand-hewn limestone was built in the early 1850s near the village of Gabriel Mills (20 miles Northwest of this location). It stood on property owned in 1850-51 by Samuel Mather (1812-78), miller and blacksmith who first settled the area. The structure housed church, school, and Masonic Lodge meetings before it became a dwelling. Given to Georgetown by Mr. and Mrs. Emil Jamail, it was restored in 1975 in a community effort to preserve local pioneer heritage. Recorded Texas landmark — 1976.

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, history museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas.

As of 1974 the Historical Commission has erected approximately 6,800 official markers.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.

Marker to be dedicated Sun. at Andice church

The Historical Marker at the Andice Baptist Church will be officially dedicated on Sunday, November 28 at 2 p.m.

The Reverend Handy Schmidt, pastor of the Andice church, will welcome those who attend and the invocation will be given by Mr. L. I. Dunlop.

Dr. Van C. Tipton, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission, will speak on the historical recognition activities of the commission.

A synopsis of the highlights of the history of the church will be presented by C. Wade Howland.

Rev. Leroy R. Pearson of Glen Rose Baptist Church in Houston will give the dedication

address. Rev. Pearson's father, the late Rev. Wesley Pearson, was a native of the Andice community and served as pastor at the Andice Baptist Church from 1946 to 1948.

Following the dedication address, the congregation will assemble in front of the church for unveiling and reading the Texas Historical Marker. Joe Larry Myers, great, great, great grandson of Joshua Stapp who was one of the pioneer settlers of the Andice community, will do the unveiling honors.

The inscription on the marker reads, "The Rev. Freeman Smalley, one of the first Baptists in Texas, preached in this area about 1850. This church was organized about 1851. Meeting in a log school house

built by Joshua Stapp and others, 1854-1876, in a new school building, 1876-1894, and in a structure of its own at Pilot Knob, 1894-1936, successively called "Stapp", "White House" and "Pilot Knob" Baptist Church, the congregation moved to Andice in 1936. It now worships near the original site, where the first pastor, Josiah Andrews, used to hang his pistol on a peg on the beech oak stump Bible stand while he preached."

The church invites the public to the regular 11 a.m. morning worship services. After the service from 12:30 to 1:30, a \$2 per plate barbecue lunch will be served in the Andice School lunchroom.

The dedication will begin at 2 p.m.

The Sunday SUN
Page 3

Georgetown, Texas
Sunday, November 28, 1976

Page 3 Thursday, December 2, 1976

Andice Baptist Church marker unveiled

Just about the entire membership, past pastors and a lot of other folks were on hand in Andice Sunday to see a Texas Historical Marker for the Andice Baptist Church unveiled.

JOE LARRY MYERS, of Arlington, Texas, the great, great, great grandson of Joshua Stapp, a pioneer of the area who gave the land for the church, unveiled the plaque and read it to the delegation in front of the church.



JOE L. MYERS, the great-great-great grandson of pioneer settler Joshua Stapp, who gave land to the Andice Baptist Church many years ago, unveiled and read the inscription on the Historic Marker while a chilled group of Andice stalwarts watched. In the picture are, left to right, Jimmy H. Asher, Kay Cox, Joe Larry Myers, and pastor Rev. Randy Schmidt.

The Rev. Freeman Smalley, one of the first Baptists in Texas, preached in this area about 1850. This church was organized about 1851. Meeting in a log schoolhouse built by Joshua Stapp and others, 1854-1876; in a new school building, 1876-1894; and in a structure of its own at Pilot Knob, 1894-1938. Successively called "Stapp" White House, and Pilot Knob Baptist Church, the Congregation moved to Andice in 1938. It now worships near the original site, where the first pastor, Josiah Andrews, used to hang his pistol on a peg on the hewn, oak-stump Bible Stand while he preached.

Over 100 guests were on hand to enjoy a barbecue lunch catered by Rudy Mikeska, of Taylor, in the Community Center.

The dedication service was held in the church, starting at 2 p.m. following the lunch. The pastor Randy Schmidt, welcomed the visitors and his own congregation.

The invocation was given by L. I. Dunlop, Chairman of the Board of Deacons; Dr. Van C. Tipton of Georgetown, Chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission, spoke briefly, telling of the Commission's work and congratulating the Andice Church and its people for obtaining the plaque.

C. Wade Howland, a deacon, read the church history and the dedication message was delivered by the Rev. LeRoy R. Pearson pastor of the Glenn Rose Baptist Church in Houston. Pearson, as had his father before him, grew up in Andice. Along with his serious message, he delighted the congregation with remarks concerning the days and events he remembered from his youth.

Organ music provided by Mrs. Bryan Moorhead. Kay Cox sang Amazing Grace following the unveiling ceremony and Jimmy H. Asher was master of ceremonies.



You bet the food was good. Here a pair of unidentified ladies sample the fare — with gusto.



Lots of visiting went on before the dedication ceremony. Here another pair of attractive ladies, Mrs. Connie Kanetky and Mrs. Debbie Schwertner, talk to a friend.



Mrs. Nat Green, right, listens intently while couple on the left consider the program. Man is Joe L. Myers of Arlington.



Here're familiar faces! Mr. and Mrs. Gus and Mrs. Ben Jakob, long-time Andice business people, now retired and enjoying it.

Texas Historical Commission (JM), 5/25/76; revision by staff (DP),
5/27/76; by Williamson County Historical Commission 6/15/76; by
staff (DP), 7/12/76

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker w/post
Williamson County (Order #4677)

Location: off FM 970, Andice

ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH*

THE REV. FREEMAN SMALLEY, ONE
OF THE FIRST BAPTISTS IN TEXAS,
PREACHED IN THIS AREA ABOUT 1850.
THIS CHURCH WAS ORGANIZED ABOUT
1851, MEETING IN A LOG SCHOOLHOUSE
BUILT BY JOSHUA STAPP AND OTHERS,
1854-76; IN A NEW SCHOOL BUILDING,
1876-94; AND IN A STRUCTURE OF
ITS OWN AT PILOT KNOB, 1894-1936.
SUCCESSIVELY CALLED "STAPP",
"WHITE HOUSE", AND "PILOT KNOB"
BAPTIST CHURCH, THE CONGREGATION
MOVED TO ANDICE IN 1936. IT NOW
WORSHIPS NEAR THE ORIGINAL SITE,
WHERE THE FIRST PASTOR, JOSIAH
ANDREWS, USED TO HANG HIS PISTOL
ON A PEG ON THE HEWN, OAK-STUMP
BIBLE STAND WHILE HE PREACHED.**

(1976)***

Incise on base:

*3/4" lettering
**1/2" lettering
***1/4" lettering

MARKER SPONSORS: HAROLD B. ASHER AND JIMMIE H. ASHER

DEDICATION SERVICE
TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER
at
ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH

Andice, Texas

Sunday, November 28, 1976

2:00 P.M.

Organ Prelude

Welcome The Pastor

Invocation L. I. Dunlop

Chairman of Deacons

Hymn God Of Our Fathers Congregation

Historical Commission Dr. Van C. Tipton

Chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission

Recognition of Former Pastors and Guests

Recognition of the Church Membership

Excerpts from the

Andice Baptist Church History C. Wade Howland
Deacon

Special Music Rev. Jud Edwards and Bryan Moorhead

Dedication Message Rev. LeRoy R. Pearson

Pastor of the Glenn Rose Baptist Church, Houston

Congregation will assemble in front of the church

Unveiling of the Texas Historical Marker

and the Reading of the Inscription Joe Larry Myers

Great, Great, Great, Grandson of Joshua Stapp

Amazing Grace Kay Cox

Closing Remarks and the Benediction The Pastor

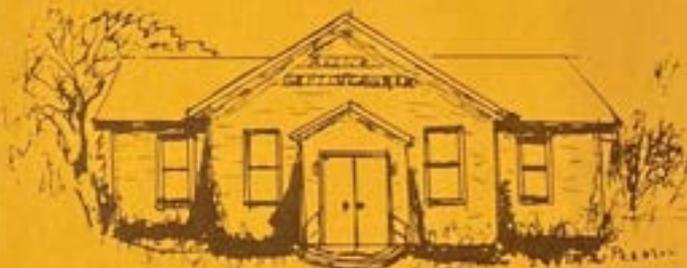
Pastor — Rev. Randy Schmidt

Music Director — Bryan Moorhead

Program Director — Jimmie H. Asher

Organist Mrs. Bryan Moorhead

HISTORY



ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH

Andice, Texas

1851 - 1976

PREFACE

This is the story of a church — a church that was, a church that is and a church that will continue to be.

Its beginning was nearly two thousand years ago when He said "I will build my church." This church is but one among many that was founded to fulfill the mission set forth by Jesus Christ of proclaiming to the world the gospel of God's redeeming grace. Only if it is true to that holy purpose does it have a right to exist.

As you read this story,

- Remember that it is His Church;
- Remember with gratitude those who labored in love to make the dreams of the past come true;
- Remember with prayerful interest those who now seek to strengthen and extend the spiritual program of the church.

... INTRIGUING HISTORY UNFOLDS ...

The Andice Baptist Church celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on July 29, 1951, commemorating the church's organization at the White House School in 1876. However, it was learned from Mrs. Minnie (Howell) Love (1876-1959), an early member of the Andice Church, that Baptist life began in the community as far back as 1850. This information was recorded in her *Synopsis* written for Baylor University in 1936 for their Centennial Celebration. A reading of the historical account of the early White House Baptist Church by Mrs. Dora (Purcell) Davis (1884-1973), an early member of the church, reveals that she was also familiar with Baptist life in the community before 1876.

Therefore a compilation of information from documents of many sources, verifies that Baptist life in the Andice community has flourished for more than 125 years.

HISTORY OF THE

ANDICE

BAPTIST CHURCH

The movement of the American frontier westward from the Atlantic sea coast began soon after the establishment of the first colonies in Virginia and Massachusetts. This surging tide of pioneers was made up of people from western and northern Europe, who brought with them their religious convictions transplanting them in the New World. As the frontier advanced, religion was the vanguard.

Many religious groups were very adaptable to frontier life. Among those that prospered were the Baptists. Dr. Rupert N. Richardson says, that, "since Baptists recognized the authority of the local congregation as superior to any other body in church matters, it was easy for them to establish churches under frontier conditions."

So it was, that in 1821, when Stephen F. Austin brought his first colony to Texas and the tide of immigration swept into the Mexican state, the Baptists entered the field. Among the early settlers were preachers and deacons who were able to provide services for their people and to organize churches without the aid of outside missionaries.

Dr. J. M. Carroll, author of *History of Texas Baptists*, states that Rev. Freeman Smalley, Sr. (1790-1874) came to Texas in 1822 and preached in the home of his brother-in-law, William Newman. Newman lived at Pecan Point on Red River, now known as Clarksville. Rev. Smalley preached what may have been the first Baptist sermon in Texas. He made the long journey from Ohio to Texas on river rafts and by foot, sleeping in uninhabited forests much of the time and gathering food from wayside sources. Rev. Smalley was an earnest and tireless preacher of the gospel and was eagerly heard by pioneer groups of Texas. After returning to his home in Ohio, the Smalleys moved to Vermilion County, Illinois and in 1834 the old Middle Fork Baptist Church was organized in the Smalley home. In 1837 Rev. Freeman Smalley was instrumental in organizing a Baptist Church at Higginsville.

In 1847 the Smalleys moved to Texas and purchased a place on Brushy Creek just east of Round Rock. Their son, Freeman Smalley, Jr. (1820-1849) had preceded the family to Round Rock and lived nearby. Freeman, Jr. was married to Nancy Ann Asher (1824-1877), aunt of Levi Asher (1851-1931). Nancy Ann and Freeman, Jr. were the parents of Sabra C., considered the first white girl born in Williamson County. Sabra C. married Sam B. Purcell and two of their children, Sam E. Purcell, now living in Bertram, and ~~Lucy~~ (Purcell) Davis, were members of the Pilot Knob Church, later organized in 1894. Levi Asher, mentioned previously, became a member of the Pilot Knob Church in 1911.



REV. FREEMAN SMALLEY, SENIOR
(1790-1874)

Rev. Freeman Smalley, Senior, was one of the first Baptists to preach in Texas and was the first to preach a sermon in the Andice community.

In 1850 Rev. Freeman Smalley, Sr., visited the Andice community and preached the first Baptist sermon in this area. The service was held in the home of a Mr. Barton. The home was located on the south side of the Will Howland estate. During the following year Rev. Josiah Andrews from Arkansas became the first pastor of the Baptist congregation.



**WILLIAM ANDERSON
MONTGOMERY SMALLEY**
(1837-1905)

William was the youngest son of Rev. Freeman Smalley, Sr., the first Baptist to preach in the community. He is buried in the Andice Cemetery.

Wm. Anderson Montgomery Smalley, born in 1837, was the youngest son of Rev. and Mrs. Freeman Smalley, Sr., and is buried in the present Andice Cemetery. Wm. Smalley lived in the community for several years. A grandson of Rev. Smalley, Sr. was F. J. N. Smalley, who resided in this community until his death in 1937. He and Mrs. F. J. N. Smalley are buried in the Andice Cemetery.

During 1851 Joshua Stapp bought 369



(1876)
"LANDMARK TREE"
 The huge Liveoak tree is a landmark in the Andice Cemetery establishing a corner to four tracts of land. From this point each owner gave a parcel of land for a community cemetery. The landowners were B. F. Stapp, W. J. Williams, W. H. Davis and Franklin Peel. Joshua and Sarah Stapp are buried near the tree (note the tombstones in the circle).

acres of land from Winslow Turner for \$184.00. And in 1854 Mr. Stapp, with the assistance of a Mr. Blackman and a Mr. Brown, built a log school house that served as both a school and a church. The log school house was located some 200 yards above the south bank of Berry's Creek Branch and some 300 yards north of the present Andice Cemetery. The remains of the school are still visible. Mr. Stapp was born in Tennessee, April 14, 1801, and came to Texas in 1850. He married Sarah Montgomery. Joshua Stapp died July 22, 1887,

and Sarah died March 5, 1872; they are buried in the Andice Cemetery.

In 1854 the log school house became a public meeting place for the entire community. The services were as follows: The Universalists, Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians held services on Saturdays and Sundays. The Sunday services were: The Universalists met at 9:00 a.m., the Methodists at 10:00 a.m., the Presbyterians at 1:30 p.m., and the Baptists at 2:30 p.m.

The rostrum or pulpit used by Rev. Josiah Andrews, the pastor of

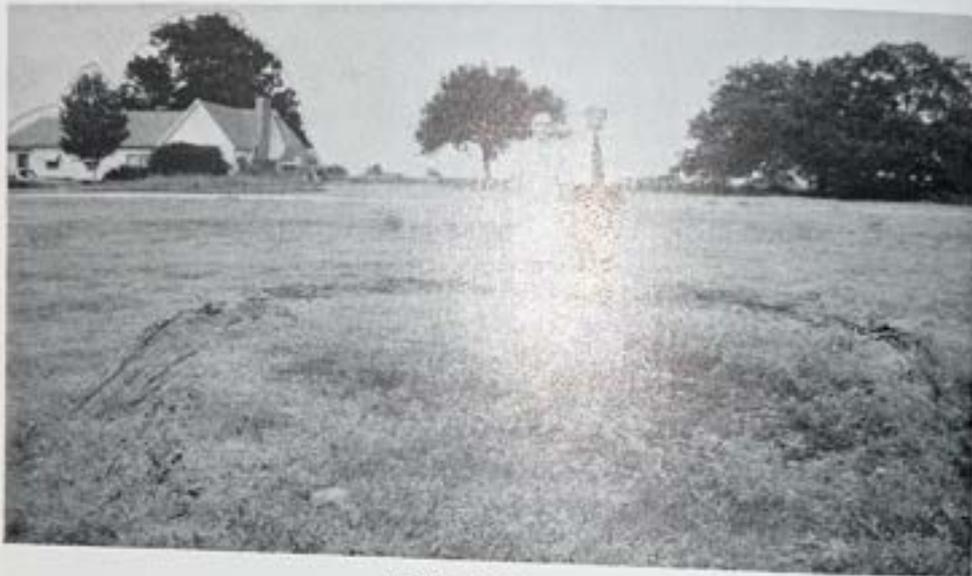


STAPP SCHOOL AND CHURCH SITE

Mrs. Lois Stapp Whitten is pictured standing on the site of the school and church built by her great, great grandfather in 1854.

the Baptist congregation, was an oak tree stump hewn out for the "stand" as it was referred to in those early times. On the side of the "stand" was a wooden peg to hold his six-shooter while he preached.

A number of Tonkawa Indians still lived in this area until 1855. Fortunately, Tonkawas proved to be among the tribes who were friendly with the Anglo-American settlers, and they fought against other warlike Indian groups on behalf of the Anglo colonists. Occasional raids by the warlike tribes were feared by these early settlers. Indian mounds are still visible on the M. B. Davis and L. I. Dunlop places. These mounds are only a few hundred yards from the old school and church.



INDIAN MOUND

(1976)

Mr. and Mrs. L. I. Dunlop standing on the mound near their home and some 30 yards from Berry's Creek Branch and a short distance to the Stapp School.

In the late 1840's several log cabins were built in this immediate area. The branch was noted for its many springs and fresh, clear water. The old Davis log house (part of which is still standing) was a boarding place for men building log cabins. When the buildings were finished, the men would return bringing their families to this new place in the wilderness. The Davis home is just across the road from the site of the school and church. Some of the families living in log houses in the immediate area were the Davises, Mauldings, Johnsons, Clays, Chapmans, Peels, Andrews, Jacksons, Smalleys, Blackmans, Howells, Rutledges, Taylors, Buillions and Morrisons.

The village of Lone Star was later known as Berry's Creek, then years later it was called Graysonville after an early settler, a Dr.

ut for the
he side of
while he

until 1855.
who were
ht against
nists. Oc-
ese early
s and L. I.
ards from



some 30 yards

immediate
resh, clear
nding) was
e buildings
ilies to this
across the
he families
e Davises,
Andrews,
s, Taylors,

Creek, then
ttler, a Dr.

Grayson. In 1899 the village was named Andice. Isaac Newton sent the name of his son, Audice, to the Post Office Department as the name for the new Post Office. The Department mistook the "u" for an "n" and consequently the name Andice was born.

Mrs. Catherine (Hicks) Peel (1842-1937), better known as "grandma Peel", moved to her log cabin just west of the Andice Cemetery at the close of the Civil War. Mrs. Peel was the grandmother of Rev. Wesley Pearson (1889-1961) who was pastor of the Andice Baptist Church, 1940-44. Rev. Pearson was also ordained to the Gospel Ministry by the church. Mrs. Peel often told her grandchildren how they enjoyed walking across the field to visit the Smalleys and other families.

In 1876, the band of Christians of several faiths meeting at the Stapp School began to search for separate places to worship. The Baptists, according to Dora (Purcell) Davis, chose the new White



LOG ROOM OF THE DAVIS HOME
(1976)



FIRST OLD WHITE HOUSE SCHOOL

The picture was made in 1885 or 1886 of the boys, girls, and teachers of the school.

House School and organized a church giving greater emphasis to their strong belief in missions. The school was named White House because it was the first painted structure in the community. Some members of the White House Baptist Church were M. B. Wear, J. E. Savage, Asa Newton and Mrs. Dora (Purcell) Davis.

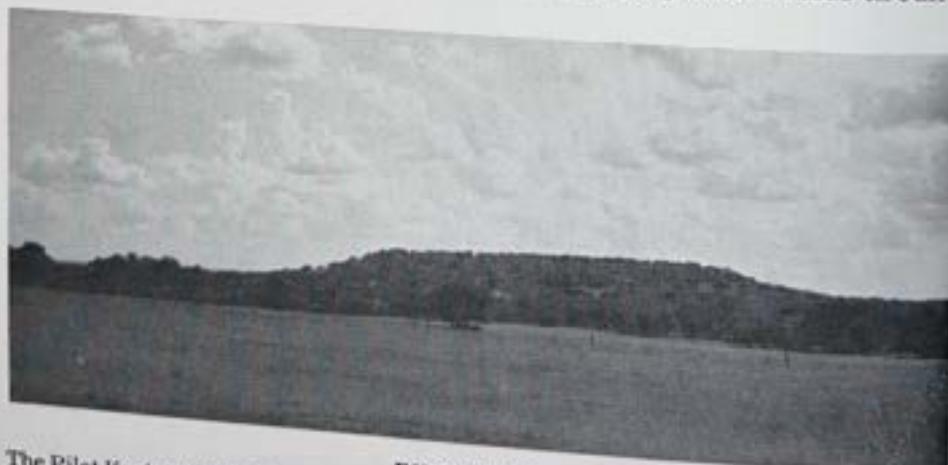
The first pastor at White House was Rev. Greenleaf Andrews, son of Rev. Josiah Andrews who was the first pastor at the Stapp School.

In 1894, while Rev. Capps served as pastor, the Baptist congregation had a vision exhorting it to build a place of worship of its own. Bro. Asa Newton gave the land for the new church located about a mile west of Andice. The following men gave generously of their time and resources to make this vision become a reality: R. Z. Moore, Sr.,

John L. Davis, Joseph M. Stapp, J. E. Savage, W. M. Wear and Asa Newton. The church minutes state that Joseph M. Stapp, a grandson of Joshua Stapp, gave half the cost for constructing a church building. He married Cynthia Crist, who was given credit for naming the new church "Pilot Knob" for the nearby landmark bearing this name. The church was built of plank and painted white with a cupola on top. On the 6th of October, 1908, a severe storm completely destroyed the Pilot Knob Church. People for miles around



PILOT KNOB CHURCH AND TABERNACLE
Left to right — Jessie Pollard, Alga Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis.



PILOT KNOB
The Pilot Knob Baptist Church was named for a mountain located some three miles west of Andice.

came to see what the day before had been a beautiful landmark. People of all faiths offered their assistance, if the church decided to rebuild. The following week the members met under the Live Oak trees on the church grounds and after a season of prayer voted unanimously to rebuild.

One of the greatest highlights in the history of the church was the year of the great revival in 1911. Pastor J. M. Rankin did the preaching. The meeting was held under a brush arbor. There were 21 conversions and 8 additions by letter: For baptism: B. Asher, J. H. Asher, Emma Asher, Archie Brown, Howard Collier, Sam Graham, Willie Graham, W. W. Howland, Lula Howland, Bryan King, Howard King, Fred Parson, Ellen Parsons, Charlie Parsons, Dora Parson, Mantoo Parsons, Boss Pearson, George Snow, Fred Stapp, May Stokes and Beulah Wear. By letter:



**PILOT KNOB
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**
Left to right -- Marie Howland, Ella Boyd, Carrie Rutledge, Irene Pearson, Dora Parson, Eloise Morgan, Alta Davis, Timey Morgan, Vinice Dunlop, Pearl Dunlop, and Emma Rutledge.



YOUNG PEOPLE ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON

The following young people of the Pilot Knob Church were on a Sunday afternoon outing at Gabriel Mills: (Standing left to right) Ella Mae Boyd, Pearl Dunlop, Flora Parsons, Alta Seymour, Eloise Morgan, Grace Smith, Lester King, Leslie Parsons, Timey Morgan, Marie Howland, Jimmie Morgan, and Virginia Smith. (Seated left to right) Lowell Howland, Lawrence Dunlop, Cecil Davis, Marshall Davis, and Hester Davis.

Levi Asher, Ruth Asher, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Graham, Josie Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Stapp and L. W. Terrel.

While Rev. Langford was pastor in 1914, the people of the church recognized the need for a place to worship in the open air during the summer months, so they erected a tabernacle made of lumber.

The ladies at this time felt they wanted a special way to serve the Lord, so a "Ladies Aid" was organized, with Mrs. J. H. Savage as president. In 1919 the ladies became more missions oriented and reorganized as the Woman's Missionary Society with Mrs. Dora (Purcell) Davis as president.

In 1936 the Pilot Knob Church membership voted to tear down the old church and rebuild in Andice. Deacon Wayne Tomlinson removed the first board from the building. Rev. Noel Guice was pastor when the building was moved. C. M. Stapp, great grandson of Joshua Stapp, deeded the Andice Baptist Church 1.76 acres of the original Stapp tract, near the site of its beginning. The Andice Church was built of lumber; some of the wood coming from the Pilot Knob Church was used in the new construction.



FIRST SUNDAY AT THE ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH
1937

In 1941 the Woman's Missionary Society recognized that more missionary training should be provided for the children and young people. With the organization of the young auxiliaries, the W. M. S. became a Woman's Missionary Union.

The church called Rev. Jerrel Gaddy in 1945 as the first pastor to serve full time; previously pastors had served only fourth and half-time. During Rev. Gaddy's tenure the church added the Educational Building providing space for all of the church organizations to meet. A Baptist Brotherhood was organized to provide missionary education and more involvement for Baptist men.

During the pastorate of Rev. Conrad Dupree, the first parsonage

n, Josie Pear-

e of the church
pen air during
ade of lumber.
ay to serve the
I. H. Savage as
is oriented and
with Mrs. Dora

d to tear down
yne Tomlinson
Joel Guice was
great grandson
.76 acres of the
ng. The Andice
oming from the
ion.



RCH

nized that more
ildren and young
ies, the W. M. S.

he first pastor to
y fourth and half-
rch added the
of the church
was organized to
ment for Baptist
e first parsonage

was purchased and remodeled. The house was bought from Mrs. Gladys Foote in 1947.

During the past few years the church purchased a new, furnished mobile home and placed it on the church property for a parsonage. The church recognized the need for regular worship services on Sunday and at the same time realized it would be difficult to pay an adequate salary for a pastor to reside on the field full-time, therefore they adopted a plan to seek ministerial students to serve as pastors. The students arrive on Friday or Saturday and live in the mobile home through Sunday before returning to school. In addition to benefiting from their dedication and youthful fervor, Andice Baptist Church has provided many young pastors an opportunity for in-service training.



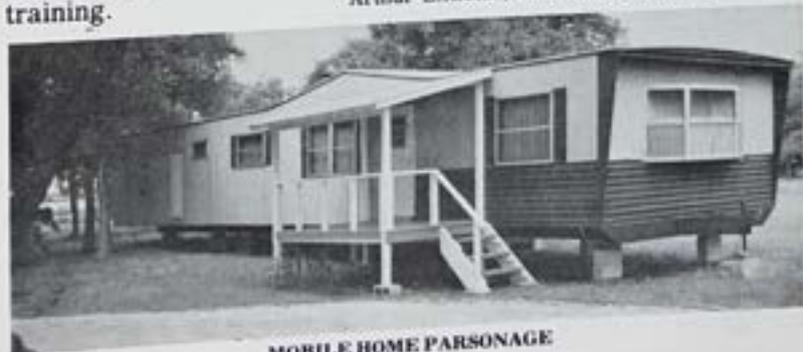
SUNBEAM BAND
1941

Left to right — Dixon Love, Donnie Davis, Virginia Ann Love, Wanda Lee Hawkins, Sims girl, Lucy Arleen Davis, Sims boy, Janice Carol Jennings, Bennie Bain Davis, Craig Davis, Darell Dunlop, Dunane Morgan, and Lu Wane Asher. Mrs. Jimmie Asher was the Sunbeam Leader.



ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH BROTHERHOOD
1951

Left to right — Jimmie Asher, Vernon Dunlop, Bryan King, Lawrence Dunlop, Marshall Davis, Lester King, Wade Howland, Stoke Seymour, Arthur Littleton, and Grady Howland.



MOBILE HOME PARSONAGE

In recent years, the church and educational building were air-conditioned for heating and cooling. Cushions for the pews were added, and a Hammond organ was installed. Other installations were a public address system and a four-station amplifier to meet individual hearing needs. During 1976, the church was completely renovated and redecorated at an approximate cost of \$14,000, including the landscaping of the church grounds.



ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH
1976

Sanctuary, educational building, and new men's classroom.

Although the Andice Baptist congregation has been in existence for some 125 years, a baptistry was never built in any of the church buildings. Converts were baptized in nearby branches and creeks. In recent years baptismal services were held in a sister church at Florence. During the renovating and redecorating project, a baptistry was installed. The first baptismal service was held on Sunday, March 7, 1976. Rev. Randy Schmidt baptized four candidates: Mrs. Keith Cox, Linda Cox, Angie Snow and Darleen Snow.



REMODELED CHURCH SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING
1976



SUNDAY SCHOOL BENCHES

The benches pictured above have been used by our children for fifty-five years. They were built by a beloved pioneer, J. L. King.



FIRST BAPTISMAL SERVICE

1976

Rev. Randy Schmidt is pictured above baptizing Mrs. Keith Cox. Mrs. Cox was the first candidate for Baptism after the first Baptistry was installed in the Andice Baptist Church.



ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH MEMBERS AND GUESTS CELEBRATING THE 75th ANNIVERSARY

1951



GUEST PREACHERS FOR 75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH

1951

Left to right — L. G. Ramey, Marvin Gary, Charles Hager, Jerrell Gaddy.

The church today is a member of the Williamson County Baptist Association, affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Southern Baptist Convention.

The role of the church in the community has been most significant through the years. The church served as a place of worship for

over a hundred years, despite storm, drought and depression. One influence of the church in the community is demonstrated by the lack of violence in this area for over a century of existence. The Andice Baptist Church has afforded special Christian training for its young people and given them the inspiration and motivation to become good citizens. The achievements attained by these young people have been outstanding and are a living memorial to this Baptist congregation.

The church helped to carve out of the wilderness a civilization and culture that the people of the community enjoy today. The church continues to make a contribution to Texas history by its Christian influence generation after generation.

The unfolding of additional history of the beginning of the Andice Baptist Church prompted the church to apply for a Texas Historical Marker on February 16, 1976.

The application to the Texas Historical Commission contained this paragraph: "In these changing times, our purpose for historical recognition is to cherish our forebears for their dauntless and courageous devotion to higher ideals. They overcame adversities known only to pioneers in a new land. In erecting this marker we want to honor those that have gone on before and perhaps we shall give our young people a spark of determination to carry on and leave the heritage we were handed."



MRS. WINNIE (HOWELL) LOVE
1876-1959

Mrs. Love contributed much of the early history of the Andice Baptist Church. She related to her grandson, before her death, that she had taught a Sunday School Class for fifty-three years.



(1960)

MRS. DORA (PURCELL) DAVIS, life-long member of the Andice Baptist Church, is pictured with her younger brother Sam Purcell. Both were descendants of Rev. Freeman Smalley, Sr. Mrs. Davis served 25 years as Woman's Missionary Union President. Mr. Purcell joined the Pilot Knob Church in the 1920's.

The application for the Texas Historical Marker was approved March 19, 1976.

The historical information was compiled and written by Jimmie H. Asher, member of the Andice Baptist Church and retired Baptist minister of education and Harold B. Asher, member of the Williamson County Historical Commission and retired public school teacher.

(1972)

"CRUSADERS"

During the pastorate of James Hill, a singing group, called the Crusaders, was organized. In 1972 the group made an extended concert tour to Arkansas, Oklahoma and several places in Texas, including a concert on KCEN Television in Temple. While in Arkansas, the group presented programs at the State Department of Correction for men and women. (L-R) Lou Ann Howland, Cathy Farris, Etta Rushe Dees (sponsor), Karlene Cox, Kay Cox, Myrel Cox (sponsor), Loyd Pearson, Doris Hopkins, Kris Cox, Kim Cox, Rex Farris, Betty Hill (accompanist) and James Hill (director).



(1972)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The following boys and girls highlighted the year 1972 by singing on KCEN Television at Temple: (L-R) Gregg Moorhead, Tina Alexander, Brack Creed, Angie Snow, Penny Creed, Darlene Snow, James Alexander, Kelly Moorhead, and Gregg Alexander. Pastor James Hill was the director and Betty Hill was the accompanist.



(1958)

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

(L-R) Lisa Dunlop, Larry Dunlop, Barbara Dunlop, Thelma Littleton (teacher), Lou Ann Howland, Sherrie Meador and Rex Farris.

Sunday, November 28, 1970

2:00 P.M.

Organ Prelude



BAPTISMAL SERVICE

Over 70 were baptized at Gabriel Mills Church during a revival at Florence with the evangelist L. R. Scarborough doing the preaching. This was Dr. Scarborough's first year as president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth. The Pilot Knob Church joined with the Florence Church for the revival. T. S. Seymour, La Vern Seymour, Mildred Seymour and Fay Seymour were among those baptized from Pilot Knob.



(1976)

Mrs. Dera (Stapp) Seymour is the oldest member of the Andice Baptist Church. She was born January 26, 1885. Mrs. Seymour was converted and joined the Pilot Knob Church in 1897.



(1976)

Harold B. Asher (left) and Jimmie H. Asher prepared, in behalf of the Andice Baptist Church, an application for a Texas Historical Marker and compiled the history of the church covering some 125 years.

- Stapp School Bapt
- Josiah Andrews (
- Greenleaf Andrew
- Harce Glenfield
- White House Bapt
- Greenleaf Andrew
- John Arbuckle
- J. M. Reynolds
- Bro. Capps
- Pilot Knob Baptis
- Bro. Capps
- Bro. Pace
- D. L. Hamilton
- Bro. Beas
- Bro. Baker
- J. E. Hamilton
- Bro. Milam
- Bro. Whaley
- D. L. Hamilton
- Bro. Crabb
- Bro. Hornburg
- J. M. Rankin
- J. H. Richards
- M. L. Langford
- J. M. Earls
- J. N. Marshall
- C. R. Joyner
- George Balch



ANDI

Left to right — Bryson Lester King and Law

PASTORS

Stapp School Baptist Church

Josiah Andrews (early 1850s)
Greenleaf Andrews (17 yrs. old)
Harce Glenfield

White House Baptist Church

Greenleaf Andrews 1876
John Arbuckle
J. M. Reynolds
Bro. Capps

Pilot Knob Baptist Church

Bro. Capps 1894
Bro. Pace 1895
D. L. Hamilton 1899
Bro. Beas 1897
Bro. Baker 1898
J. E. Hamilton 1899
Bro. Milam 1900-01
Bro. Whaley 1902-03
D. L. Hamilton 1904
Bro. Crabb 1905
Bro. Hornburg 1906-09
J. M. Rankin 1910-11
J. H. Richards 1912
M. L. Langford 1913-15
J. M. Earls 1916
J. N. Marshall 1917
C. R. Joyner 1918
George Balch 1919

L. G. Ramey 1920-26
Bro. Brock 1927
A. C. Gettys 1930
George Brown 1933-35

Andice Baptist Church

Noel Guice 1935-37
R. C. White 1939
L. R. Parker 1939
C. W. Pearson 1940-44
Jerrel Gaddy 1945-46
Conrad Dupree 1947-48
Raymond Morell 1949-50
Chas. W. Hager 1950-54
Frank McMillen 1955
Frank Cox 1955-59
Edward Mercer 1959-61
Joe Cariker 1962-64
Richard B. Grant 1964-66
Morris Vickers 1966-69
James C. Hill 1969-72
Jud Edwards 1972-74
David Smith 1974-75
Randy Schmidt 1975-

(Information concerning pastors was furnished by L. I. Dunlop - Chairman of Deacons of the Andice Baptist Church)



ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH DEACONS AND PASTOR
(1976)

Left to right — Bryan Moorhead, Pete Cox, pastor Randy Schmidt, Wade Howland, Lester King and Lawrence Dunlop.

DEACONS

These are the men who have served this church as deacons beginning in the early 1900s, along with year of ordination.

| | | | |
|------------------|------|----------------|------|
| J. M. Stapp | | J. N. Champion | 1935 |
| J. E. Savage | | L. I. Dunlop | 1935 |
| R. Z. Moore, Sr. | | L. B. King | 1935 |
| N. G. Campbell | 1914 | Vernon Dunlop | 1957 |
| T. S. Seymour | 1916 | Lester King | 1957 |
| L. B. Asher | 1916 | Wade Howland | 1957 |
| L. A. Dunlop | 1923 | Marshall Davis | 1957 |
| W. K. Tomlinson | 1923 | Pete Cox | 1969 |
| N. M. Roark | 1932 | J. W. Thompson | 1973 |
| J. E. McMaster | 1933 | Bryan Moorhead | 1973 |

CHURCH CLERKS

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| N. G. Campbell | Estelle Stapp |
| C. M. Stapp | Vernon Dunlop |
| L. B. King | Leona Farris |

ORDAINED FOR THE MINISTRY

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Marvin A. Gary | Richard Grant |
| Isaac Newton | Morris Vickers |
| C. W. Pearson | Judson Edwards |
| Thurman Tomlinson | David Smith |

CHURCH LEADERS OF THE PAST

Note: Listed below are elected leaders found in the church minutes and from other sources.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Sunday School Superintendents/Directors R. Z. Moore, Sr. Jimmie H. Asher Luther B. Pearson Frank Arnold M. B. Davis Bryan King C. Wade Howland L. I. Dunlop L. J. Russell, Jr. Lester King Pete Cox</p> <p>Brotherhood Presidents C. Wade Howland Lester King L. J. Russell, Jr.</p> <p>Training Union Dir. J. W. Thompson</p> | <p>Woman's Missionary Union Presidents Mrs. Dora (Purcell) Davis (25 Years) Mrs. Jimmie H. Asher Mrs. Rubye Farris</p> <p>Music Directors Charlie Parsons (30 Years) Jimmie H. Asher C. Wade Howland Margaret Russell Bryan Moorhead</p> <p>Pianists/Organists Mrs. Emma E. Asher (30 Years) Mrs. Sam Purcell Weldon C. Parsons Mrs. Charles Hager Dorothy Nell King Lu Wane Asher Lottie Mae Parsons Mrs. Morris Vickers Rebecca Russell Mrs. Wade Howland Mrs. Bryan Moorhead</p> |
|---|---|

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Dr. J. M. Carroll, *History of Texas Baptists* Published in 1923. Copy in Library of Baylor University Tidwell Bible Building. Pages 22, 23 & 27.
- Texas Baptist Executive Board, *Centennial Story of Texas Baptists*. Published by authority of the Executive Board of Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas. Copyright 1936, Hammond Press, Chicago. Pages 18 & 80.
- Paul C. Wilson, Jr., *Forgotten Mission*, published by The Letter Shop, Galveston, Texas
Copy of picture owned by Edwin Walker Smalley, page 36. History on pages 29 & 32.
- Clara Stearns Scarbrough, *Land of Good Water*, Williamson County Sun Publishers. Williamson County Census of 1850, page 172. Pages 33, 110, 112, 121.
- Minnie Love, "Synopsis" for Baylor University Centennial Celebration in 1936.
- Dora (Purcell) Davis, "History"
Williamson County Deed Records, Book 2, Page 411; Volume 13, Page 84.

INTERVIEWS

Bryson, Estelle (Asher)
Davis, Alga
Davis, Elizabeth (Warden)
Dunlop, L. I.
Farris, Leona
Love, Ralph Dixon
Purcell, Sam
Whitten, Lois (Stapp)
Seymour, Dera (Stapp)
King, Lester
Pearson, Luther

PICTURES

Davis, Alga
Asher, Jimmie
Love, Ralph Dixon
Parsons, Weldon
Pearson, Lenora (Morgan) - Etching.
Purcell, Sam E.
Seymour, Sanger
Cox, Myrel
Creed, Joan (Asher)
Littleton, Thelma



ANDICE RESIDENTS crowded in last Sunday for the dedication of a new state historical marker near the Andice Baptist Church. Get a closer look at some of those who were there, and the text of the marker, on page three.

The Williamson County SUN - Georgetown, Texas
 Section 1, Page 17 Thursday, December 2, 1976

Taylor Daily Press, Monday, December 8, 1974, Page 3

San Gabriel Mills Area Cabin To Receive Historical Marker

The historic Cabin from Gabriel Mills Area in Georgetown has been recently named a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, it was announced by Mrs. Wesley B. Blankenship, Chairman of the Texas Historical Commission.

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 Dr. Van C. Tipton 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 ceremonies.

The inscription on the marker reads: Official Texas Historical Building Marker Williamson County (Order No. 4684) - 3-10-76 - 16th St. at Austin Ave., Georgetown

Cabin from Gabriel Mills area. This cabin of squared logs and hand-hewn limestone was built in the early 1860s near the village of Gabriel Mills (20 mi. NW). It stood on property owned in 1850-53 by Samuel

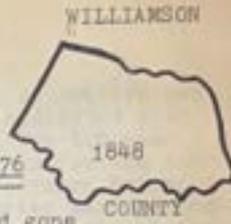
Mather (1812-78), Miller and Blacksmith who first settled the area. The structure housed church, school, and masonic lodge meetings before it became a dwelling. Given to Georgetown by Mr. and Mrs. Emile Jamail, it was restored in 1975 in a community effort to preserve local pioneer heritage. Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1976.

Incise in base: Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Don Scarbrough
 The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of

the Texas Historical Commission's program of preservation activities. These

also include archeological investigations, history museum consultation, and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As of 1974 the Historical Commission has erected approximately 8,300 official markers.

The name and location of the present marker will appear in the next edition of the Guide to Official Texas Historical Markers.



WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
DR. Van C. Tipton, Chairman

NEWSLETTER NUMBER FIVE DECEMBER 31, 1976

The history making 1976 year has come and gone and the many Bicentennial events which took place all over America were no more outstanding than those that happened right here in Central Texas. The Williamson County Historical Commission has an abiding interest in all phases of historic work and is honored to have received recognition for achieving a well rounded preservation program over the last year. Williamson was one of a record 49 County Historical Commissions to be given the Distinguished Service Award, for their efforts, at the Annual Historic Preservation Conference in Galveston on October 29-30. This is the 8th year (or more) this county has received the D.S.A and the 2nd year the newsletter has placed third in the Best Newsletter category.

Dr. Van C. Tipton, County Chairman attended the conference and accepted the awards. Mrs. Tipton, also braved the stormy sea coast weather and attended.

PUBLICATIONS AND HONORS

Mrs. Clara Scarbrough of Georgetown was one of those honored at a ceremony on December 18 at the Federal Building in Austin. She did much of the work and writing of the Williamson County Post Office History, for the book published last spring entitled POST MASTERS AND POST OFFICES OF THE TENTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS. U.S. Representative J.J. Jake Pickle sponsored the project and it was he who presented the U.S. Postal Service Employee Bicentennial Award to Mrs. Scarbrough and others who made significant contributions including the Round Rock Post Master, Martin Parker.

Mrs. F.W. Buchanan, of Jarrell, was named outstanding Home Demonstration Member for 1976 by the Williamson County H.D. Council. She has served in numerous offices in her club and in the H.D. Council. One of the outstanding community services that Mrs. Buchanan has worked on this year is the writing and publishing of the history of the Jarrell Community. This was a Bicentennial contribution.

Harold G. Asher and Jimmie H. Asher, of the Gabriel Mills-Andice area, wrote and published a HISTORY OF THE ANDICE BAPTIST CHURCH. They prepared, in behalf of the church, an application for a Texas Historical Marker and compiled the history covering more than 125 years.

HISTORIC SITES OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS in the name of an 18"x 24" map produced in June, 1976 as a Bicentennial Project of the Georgetown Bicentennial Heritage Committee. Mrs. Clara Scarbrough wrote the comprehensive explanatory notes and the list of places. Donna Scarbrough contributed the art work.

DEDICATIONS

The Hutto City Historical Marker stands in an attractive new park along State Highway 79 in Hutto. It was dedicated with a well planned program on Sunday, October 24. The 100 year old city was founded by J.E.Hutto, who sold land for the town-site in 1876 to the International and Great northern Railway. He became the first postmaster in 1877. The marker was sponsored by the Hutto Lions Club Bicentennial Committee and the history was compiled by Mrs. Emery Blackman. State Representative of District 36, Dan Kubiak was the principal speaker.

The Andice Baptist Church site marker program took place on Sunday, November 28. The church was organized about 1851 and met in a log schoolhouse built by Joshua Stapp and others. Following the dedication service in the church, Joe Larry Myers of Arlington, Texas, a great, great, great grandson of Joshua Stapp, unveiled and read the plaque to the more than one hundred persons attending.

This is the third church in Williamson County to erect markers in 1976. The other two being the Bartlett United Methodist Church in Bartlett and the Tenth Street United Methodist Church in Taylor.

RESTORATIONS

According to newspaper reports and other sources a number of old houses are being restored to their original state and use.

The Sauls house in the Hutto area has been moved to a new location in the Rice's Crossing community. It is very old.

The historic Glasscock mansion has found a new resting place on a five acre tract of land near Weir. The handsome old house was the home of George Washington Glasscock for whom Georgetown was named when he gave the land for the town in 1848.

The Mack Henry Van Hoose house at 703 West 15th Street in Georgetown is more than eighty years old and is being carefully restored by its present owner, a granddaughter of the builder.

The A.M.E. Wesley Chapel at 508½ West 4th Street in Georgetown is slated for complete renovation in the near future. The members of this 75 year old church have been actively improving their other facilities recently.

The Dr. J.H. Vaughan house in Liberty Hill is being worked on diligently by the new owners. It was first used by Dr. Vaughan in 1912 as a home and later, after additions as an area hospital. The hospital closed in 1920 when Dr. Vaughan moved away. It has been rental property for many years. The original stone house probably dates far back in the history of the town.

The Commission feels deeply the loss of Mrs. Stacy Labaj of Granger, who passed away recently. She was a long time member of the group and contributed greatly to the history files of the county. She accomplished much in recording oral history and in compiling lengthy cemetery lists.

Myreta Matthews, Reporter

Taylor Daily Press

"Williamson County's Only Daily Newspaper"

TAYLOR, TEXAS, MONDAY, JULY 12, 1976

(AP)

Thrall To Receive Marker

GEORGETOWN — Plans for dedicating a Williamson County Historical Marker for the founding of the City of Thrall were announced at the recent meeting of the County Historical Commission. The dedication will be held on July 15 with the public cordially invited to attend. Alvin Ribbeck has compiled the information necessary for the marker.

Dates for future marker erections have not been determined. Dr. Van Tipton, chairman of the commission, announced but plans are well advanced for a marker honoring the first county judge of the area, Greenleaf Fink, for the John G. Matthews house near Liberty Hill, for the Liberty Hill Masonic Lodge Hall, and for the Andice Baptist Church.

Reports on the Coupland marker dedication, the Taylor city marker, and the Stubblefield House in Liberty Hill, complete with the unveiling of a Mel Fowler sculpture in a Liberty Hill Park, were given by various members of the

commission. Also commended were tours of Round Rock historic buildings, including the Palm Valley Lutheran Church and stage coach stops and inns in the county.

The Williamson County SUN
Section 1, Page 9

Georgetown, Texas
Thursday, July 15, 1976

Thrall to schedule marker dedication

Thrall is planning to dedicate a State Historical Marker in recognition of the founding of that city, but contrary to a previous report that the unveiling was scheduled for July 15, no date has yet been set for the occasion.

"They have the dedication marker, but a date has not yet been set and the foundation is not poured," explained Dr. Van C. Tipton of Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson County Historical Commission.

Details will be made available to the public as a date is set for this and several other dedications pending in Williamson County.

A MARKER honoring Williamson County's first county judge, Greenleaf Fink, will soon be erected on courthouse lawns. Status of the Georgetown unveiling ceremony is similar to that in Thrall, since the marker has been received but no foundation has been poured and no dedication date set.

A structure marker will also be unveiled at the John G. Matthews House near Liberty Hill when a date is set for that ceremony. Dedication of the Liberty Hill Masonic Lodge Hall Medallion and inscribed plate is pending as well.

18"x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker w/o post TY
Williamson County (Order #4291) - 2/3/76 - City Hall
Square, Thrall

TOWN OF
THRALL

AN 1876 INTERNATIONAL & GREAT
NORTHERN RAILROAD SIDING CALLED
"STILES SWITCH", FOR LANDOWNERS
J.E. AND F.N. STILES, GREW INTO A
SHIPPING POINT FOR THE SWISS AND
GERMANS WHO SETTLED THIS AREA.
THE POST OFFICE THAT OPENED IN
1901 WAS NAMED FOR METHODIST
MINISTER AND HISTORIAN HOMER S.
THRALL. NEARBY OIL DISCOVERIES AND
SUDDEN GROWTH CAUSED THE TOWN
TO BE INCORPORATED IN 1915. THE
38.21-INCH RAINFALL OF SEPT. 8-9,
1921, GAVE THRALL A WORLD RECORD.
SINCE 1961, TEXAS A. & M. UNIVERSITY
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER HAS
OPERATED HERE. FARMING REMAINS
THE BASIC LOCAL INDUSTRY. (1976)

SITE MARKER (all designs)

Texas Historical Commission
Truett Latimer, Executive Director
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711

February 17, 1976
(date)

An Official Texas Historical Marker for Town of Thrall
(name of marker)
will be erected on _____
(date)
it was announced today by Dr. Van C. Tipton of
(name of chairman)
Georgetown, chairman of the Williamson
(town) (county)
County Historical Survey Committee.

The marker will be placed at City Hall Square, Thrall

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

City of Thrall and Williamson Co. Historical Commission
(name of organization or individual sponsoring marker).
The inscription on the marker reads: (see attached copy)

The marking of local historic sites and landmarks is part of
the Texas Historical Commission's program of preservation activities.
These include archeological investigations, history museum consultation,
and administering the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas. As
of 1974 the Historical Commission had erected more than 6,800 official

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.

TOWNSITE OF THRALL, WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS
by Clara Scarbrough

Thrall is located in the rich blackland prairies of southeast Williamson County, and somewhat to the south and east of the townsite are creeks which, in the 1800s, were heavily timbered and along which wild cattle abounded. Therefore, the settlers who came to the general area before 1876 chose this for their homes because of their interests in the cattle business or agriculture.

The actual location of Thrall proper was determined by the establishment of the first railroad in the county--the International and Great Northern--which extended its lines west from Rockdale toward Austin in 1876, creating the communities of Thrall, Taylor, and Nutto, in Williamson County. The Stiles family had extensive land holdings in the Thrall area at that time and the railroad built a spur to the Stiles cattle pens, at which point they designated a station stop. The railroad stop was called Stiles Switch, later to be renamed Thrall.

Seaborn and Rebecca Fincher Stiles migrated to Texas in 1849 from Tennessee, settling in adjoining Milam County. Their sons, James E. and Frank N. Stiles, throughout their adult lives operated as business partners, and in 1868 purchased a ranch not far from Thrall community. In 1870, they enlarged the ranch to encompass what would become the town of Thrall, their holdings totalling about 10,000 acres. Frank N. Stiles was born in Tennessee in 1841, married Marina F. Thomas of Alabama in 1875, and died in 1911. James E. Stiles was born in Tennessee in 1835, married Eliza Thomas in 1875 (born Alabama in 1855).

A small village soon grew around the place known as Stiles Switch, which served as a shipping point on the railroad and as a tiny community for the German and Swiss immigrants who arrived in the 1880s and 1890s to settle the farmland around the future Thrall.

The warehouses in Thrall in 1974 were H. A. Johnson & Sons, Inc., manufacturers of farm machinery, employing 10 to 12 persons; Thrall Grain Co. (grain storage and mill), owned by A. F. Wray of Rockdale and managed by S. Swanson; Thrall-Texas Grain Storage, Inc., owned by Calvin Swanson; Thrall Cooperative Oil Company; Jack Swain's Grocery; Swain-Watson Kettner Garage and Grocery; and Thrall Telephone Service.

THRALL, TEXAS

The first churches serving pioneers of the area later to become Thrall were those established in rural communities and villages which encircled the future site of Thrall. These included churches at Noack, Sandoval, New Fern and Wathrich Hill. Most were Lutheran churches established by German or Swiss farmers who settled the area during the last two decades of the 19th century. The first church established in Thrall proper was the American Lutheran Church, founded June 25, 1916, with ten members. Its congregation numbered 400 in 1974. Soon after this church was established, a Methodist and a Baptist Church were founded. They are semi-active at the present time. The town also has a small Negro Baptist Church.

Civic activity in Thrall is carried on through two organizations-- the Volunteer Fire Department, and the Firemen's Auxiliary. The community at one time had a Lions Club, but it is dissolved and citizens are members of civic clubs in nearby Taylor. The City of Thrall operates a kind of unofficial Chamber of Commerce, seeking to promote industry in the community and supporting other civic projects.

The Thrall Public Schools include an accredited High School, with separate facilities for homemaking and music, a gymnasium, and two elementary schools.

Until 1915, Thrall remained a village serving agricultural and cattle interests nearby. The discovery of oil in 1915 necessitated more services from the community than a local post office and general store, and it was after 1915 that churches, schools, additional businesses, gins and local organizations appeared. The town gained in population from just a handful, not listed in the Texas Almanac prior to 1920, to a population of 272 in 1920, the growth due largely to the petroleum industry nearby. The town has grown rather steadily since 1920. Its population in 1936 was 422; in 1960, 600; and in 1970, 619. There have been no spectacular bursts of growth, however, since the oil field was developed.

The businesses in Thrall in 1974 were C. A. Johnson & Sons, Inc., manufacturers of farm machinery; employing 10 to 12 persons; Thrall Grain Co. (grain storage and mill), owned by A. A. McVoy of Rockdale and managed by O. Brunken; Thrall-Texas Grain Storage, Inc., owned by Calvin Janak; Thrall Cooperative Gin Company; Jack Emert's Grocery; Dvorak Motors; Kattner Garage and Grocery; Emil Walthers Service Station;

The petroleum industry near Thrall includes two fields which are operated: the I. B. Barron field south of town, which employs about three people on a regular basis; and the Abbott field, also south of town, owned by H. H. "Pete" Coffield of Rockdale, and employing seven or eight men. Both are small scale operations.

The Stiles Farm Foundation employs a farm manager, who lives on the experimental farm with his family. He is at present Calvin Rinn. The farm operation uses ten to twelve workers regularly, and more during harvest and other busy seasons. The program includes experiments with cattle and hogs, methods of improving production and quality through use of feeds and increasing production of food through use of fertilizer and other techniques.

Railroad service in Thrall was curtailed soon after 1950, when such services were discontinued in smaller towns throughout the nation. The I. & G.-N. still runs through Thrall, and will pick up or leave car-load shipments. This is of particular importance during grain harvest season, when several carloads of grain are shipped out. Passenger service is available at nearby Taylor.

James E. Stiles died in 1910. His birth year has been rechecked, is listed on his tombstone as 1836.

Eliza Thomas Stiles (Mrs.) died March 9, 1927.

Date previously furnished came from The Lone Star State: History of Texas Together with a Biographical History of Milan, Williamson, Bastrop, Travis, Lee and Burleson Counties, 1893.

Date of Eliza Thomas Stiles' death is in Index to Probate Cases Filed in Texas, No. 246, Williamson County, 1941.

Additional material regarding present-day Thrall furnished by Mr. Alvin Ribbeck, tax collector for City of Thrall.

152
Texas Historical Commission Staff (CW), 12/31/75

Official Texas Historical Building Marker for attachment to stone
Williamson County (Order #4506)

Location: on private road 1 mi. W of US 183,
3.5 mi. SE of Liberty Hill

JOHN G. MATTHEWS HOUSE*

AFTER COMING TO TEXAS WITH HIS
PARENTS IN 1840, JOHN G. MATTHEWS
*** ***(1824-1903) JOINED A RANGER COMPANY
AND FOUGHT IN THE MEXICAN WAR
*** ***(1846-48). HE MARRIED NANCY LEANORAH
*** ***(1838-93) AND IN 1872 BUILT
THIS HAND-HEWN NATIVE LIMESTONE
HOUSE, WHICH HIS FAMILY OCCUPIED
UNTIL ABOUT 1885. MATTHEWS' SON,
*** ***(1866-1944), A
TEACHER AND JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,
LATER ENLARGED THE PIONEER-STYLE
DWELLING, NOW (1976) OWNED BY HIS
DAUGHTER, MYRETA MATTHEWS.**
RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1976***

*1/2 inch lettering
**3/8 inch lettering
***1/4 inch lettering

John G. Matthews Homestead Farm and Pioneer Home

Located three and one half miles southeast of Liberty Hill,
Williamson County, Texas on US Highway 183 being on the west
side it extends to the middle of the South San Gabriel River.

In reading the Abstracts of Title the earliest date to
be found for this land was April 3, 1838.

Republic of Texas, by Surveyor to John B. Robinson.
Recorded in Book A, page 118 - Surveyors Records of
Williamson County, Texas, Dept. Surveyor, T.A. Graves
for Nashville Colony.

After the death of John B. Robinson on June 15, 1839,
his widow Nancy Robinson was made administratrix of this
property. In 1849 some of the league of land was conveyed to
Jeremiah Robinson, son of John B. Robinson and Nancy Robinson,
who is now Mrs. Nancy Strawn.

October 25, 1860, Jerry Roberson and wife, Valley
Ann Robinson sold 158 acres of land out of the J.B. Robinson
Headright Grant to John G. Matthews for \$790.00, cash.

Recorded August 29th, 1861 - Register Vol. 8, page 413-414.
Deed Records of Williamson County.

John G. Matthews bought 200 acres of land out of the
Robinson Survey that had been a portion belonging to Nancy
Strawn. He paid \$500.00, cash to Wm. Walton, Agent and Atty.

Recorded Feb. 15th, 1871 - Book 2, page 603.
Deed Records of Williamson County.

John G. Matthews owned other parcels of land but since
it is no longer a part of this place the records are lost.

An old Tax Receipt among his papers the following:

John G. Matthews

| | | | | |
|-----|-------|---------------|-------|----------------|
| 658 | acres | J.B. Robinson | 14.00 | |
| 103 | " | G. Fisk | 1.03 | (See page 22) |

28th, Oct. 1872

J.P. ----- Sheriff of Williamson County.

John G. Matthews died November 4, 1903 at Liberty Hill. To settle the estate and disperse the property, real and personal, the land was purchased by a son, Joseph Neely Matthews, from the other heirs, as follows:

100 acres of Jeremiah Robinson Tract
200 + acres of lower half of J.B. Robinson League
From A.B. Matthews, Nora Matthews Bryson and husband, L.G. Bryson,
Addie Matthews Allen and husband, R.E. Allen, S.H. Matthews, S.J.
Matthews and Jas. S. Matthews.

Consideration: \$2800.00 cash
Filed for record April 29, 1904 - Recorded in Book 112, page 167.
Deed records, Williamson County, Texas.

*

Joseph Neely Matthews and wife Emma Marrs Matthews sold and conveyed to their daughters Leonora Matthews and Myreta Matthews the following:

206 acres out of the J.B. Robinson League Survey
Recorded June 29, 1929, Vol 238, pages 78 - -
Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas.

Leonora Matthews died May 2, 1964 at Georgetown, Texas. Williamson County Probate Court awarded her share to her sister Myreta Matthews. The property included the 206 acres of land out of the J.B. Robinson Survey League and the stone house which is situated on it.

Recorded December 22, 1965, Vol. 483, pages 552 - -
Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas.

RIGHT OF WAY GRANTS FOR ROADS

Rail Road: To Austin and North Western a strip 100 feet wide from south to north through the land, 100 yards west of the house. Paid \$150.00.

Recorded December 21, 1881, Book 27, page 412
Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas.

Highway: State Highway 29, for widening to make it even 50 feet wide. Recorded 10-15-1931, Book 261, page 25. (0.72 acres-no pay)
Deed Records, Williamson County, Texas.

Highway: U S Highway 183 a strip on the east side 10 feet by 1462. Consideration: build a good fence and larger drain tile at entrance. Recorded August 8, 1962. Williamson County, Texas.

Vital Statistics of the John G. Matthews Family

John G. Matthews, b. 3-3-1824, Tenn. - d. 11-4-1903, Liberty Hill, Tx.

Married (1) 12-24-1850, to Sarah Strong, Tenn., d. 10-4-1852, Austin, Tx.
Son - James Strong Matthews, b. 6-15-1852 Austin, Tx. d. 9-11-1929, C

Married (2) Nancy Leanorah Carothers, 10-23-1855, Austin, Tx.
Nancy Leanorah Matthews, b. 8-17-1838, S.C., d. 4-1-1893, Liberty Hill,

Children

Adeline M. Matthews, b. 7-24-1856, Austin, Tx., d. 12-20-1940, Austin, Tx.

Abner B. Matthews, b. 10-6-1858, Austin, Tx., d. 3-13-1948, Austin, Tx.

Samuel H. Matthews, b. 3-30-1860, Austin, Tx., d. 5-23-1930, Austin, Tx.

John Sidney Matthews, b. 3-16-1863, Austin, Tx., d. 8-8-1926, Beaumont, Tx

Joseph Neely Matthews, b. 5-26-1866, Austin, Tx., d. 11-10-1944, Liberty H

Infant Dau. Matthews, b. 1-26-1871 - d. 2-4-1871 (9 days) Liberty Hill, T

W. Franklin Matthews, b. 6-10-1872, Liberty Hill, d. 4-25-1950, San Antoni

Nancy Leonora Matthews, b. 8-18-1875, Liberty Hill, d. 3-11-1968, Houston

Joseph Neely Matthews, b. 5-26-1866, Austin, Tx., d. 11-10-1944, Liberty H

Married 7-1-1900, to Emma Cornelia Marrs, Joppa, Burnet County, T

Emma Cornelia Matthews, b. 7-17-1875, Corn Hill, Tx., d. 9-12-1947, Burnet

Children

Leonora Evalyn Matthews, b. 4-26-1901, Briggs, Tx., d. 5-2-1964, Georgetow

Myreta J. Matthews, b. 3-30-1903, Briggs, Tex. d. -----

Leta Matthews, b. and d. 3-17-1909, Bertram, Tex.

Cornelia Matthews, b. 7-27-1914, Liberty Hill, Tx. d. -----

Myreta J. Matthews, Liberty Hill, Texas (Single)

6 7

THE JOHN G. MATTHEWS PIONEER HOME
(On US 183 north of Austin, Texas 28 miles)

The rock house on the Matthews Homestead Farm was built within a two year interim of time beginning in January 1870, when the family of eight moved into an old log house in the pasture, and the spring of 1872, when they moved into the unfinished three room solid limestone house about 400 yards to the east. This part of the place was being cleared for farming.

It is not known for sure where the hand hewn stones were quarried. There are several quarries near Liberty Hill. One limestone quarry is still in production in the Hopewell community. It would be about 10 miles away. There is an abandoned quarry on the "Old Casbeer Place" one and one half miles west of Liberty Hill. It would be the nearest. There are several quarries in the Leander-Cedar Park area now in production, 10 or 12 miles away.

The house is a typical Texas Pioneer type building with walls almost two feet thick and double walls between the rooms. There are two fireplaces, one at each end of the house. The house faces south with a fireplace in the west room and one on the east room. There are three rooms but the center room is not the ordinary "dog-run" type of room. It is closed. The wide and tall front door has a tall narrow window on each side and a six pane transom above. There are two 12 pane windows in each of the other rooms on the front. There is a window at each end of the house beside the fireplaces. One regular sized window leads to the rear or back rooms, which originally were what is called shedded. There may have been a separate kitchen. The roof was made of wooden shingles which may have been hauled from Bastrop. ty

In 1943 or 1944 there was some renovation made to the house, by J.N. Matthews. The shed rooms were removed and a part of another old house was moved in and attached to make a dining room and kitchen. Porches were added on each side and one was enclosed to make a bath room. Later one whole porch was enclosed to make a bedroom. Still later asbestos shingles were put on the out side of this room.

The carpenters were W.C. McFarland and A.N. Mears. use.

About this time the wooden roof was cover^{ed} with a metal roof and the inside walls were framed in and sheetrock put up for safety and comfort. At some time before this the first windows gave way and were replace^d by four pane windows.

In 1960, Leonora and Myreta Matthews installed new windows with aluminum frames. The front porch has had to be replaced several several times through the years but serious effort has been made not to change the original look.

So far as is now known, the house was planne^d and built by John G. Matthews. Who actually did the stone mason work is not clear. There was a John Russell who was a stone mason and builder, but proof is not available.

The following receipt was found among the Matthews papers.

December 9th, 1874

This is to certify that I have received in full of J. Matthews all (See page 22)
demanded for completion a House.

Joseph A. King (No amount is shown)

The reason that John Matthews wanted a strong stone house could have been the availability of the material and the workmen as there were several such buildings in the area.

Another thing that could have influenced him was his past experience in a frontier country. He came to Travis County at the age of sixteen with his parents arriving in Austin in 1840. He served on a Ranger Force, without pay, to protect the community from Indians. After the Civil War there was much fear in this part of Texas from bands of roving marauders. He probably felt a strong stone house would protect his family.

The most recent repair to the house was the replacement of the front porch floor and new cedar siding to the ends of the porch roof. New rough square cedar posts were put in. At this same time the chimneys and all the walls were re-mortared on the outside. This was in May of 1971. The outside of the house is in good condition. The inside needs some redecorating.

In 1974 a double carport was built about 40 feet from the house. Workmen were Donald Berry and Al Nelson.

When the Rail Road was built, in 1881, from Austin to Granite Mountain near Marble Falls in Burnet County, it went through the farm from south to north. It was a strip 100 feet wide and passed between the log house and the rock house. The land on the east side continues in cultivation and extends to US 183. About 117 acres are devoted to maize and corn, and in earlier times wheat, oats, cane hay and cotton. The land on the west side of the Rail Road is pasture land. It contains about 85 acres and is bounded on the west by the South San Gabriel River. Water is always available for stock.

In 1885 or 1886 the John G. Matthews family moved to the town of Liberty Hill ($3\frac{1}{2}$ ^{miles away}) in order to send the four youngest children to school. An orphan girl lived with them at this time. The Liberty Hill Normal and Business College had just opened.

The next people to live in the rock house were the McClains. "Uncle Good and Aunt Clarsie" had four sons and three daughters. They farmed the place for more than thirty years and were good, hard-working, dependable and lovable negroes of the old line. They came from South Carolina to Texas.

In the 1920s and 1930s several families lived there and worked the land for J.N. Matthews. Among them were the Insalls, Chandlers, Faubions, Watsons, Haydons, but not necessarily in that order.

In 1942 Mr. and Mrs. H.A. Stanford took over and moved in to the house after the renovation in 1944. They took excellent care of the property until they retired in 1960. (17 years)

In 1960, Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Baker moved into the house. In 1975 they are still there. They cultivate the fields of corn, maize and cotton and take care of cattle in the pasture.

Water on the Farm

When the family lived in the log house water was carried from a spring 100 yards away. There are several spring branches in the pasture and the South San Gabriel has a water hole that has never been known to go dry. It is called the "Matthews Hole."

9 10 11

MATTHEWS - CAROTHERS
FAMILY RECORD
1737 - 1941

Some early day happenings in the rock house as written
in a first person narrative by Joseph Neely Matthews.

The last enumeration we had of the family of John G. and
Leanora Matthews it consisted of one daughter and three sons.
(James S. was the son of John G. and Sarah, who died in 1852.)
However, on May 26, 1866 a fourth son and heir was added. Before
this date we occasionally found periods that could not be
completed without some guessing, but now we may launch out with
more confidence for we have an eye (I) witness. First of all
bear in mind this I witness is a natural born rebel, for Texas
was out of the Union and was not readmitted until March 30, 1870.
Little difference did that make with us now for we had already
moved to our new home in Williamson County. When we arrived
at our new home we find that John G. Matthews held title to
more than 800 acres of land in Williamson County. Some of this
land he had bought or owned for more than ten years. Most of
this land was situated on the north side of the South San
Gabriel. The original 200 acre homestead now extends from the
Gabriel on the west to highway 29 on the east. (Now US 183)

In 1869 and after John G. Matthews had sold his farm in
the Colorado valley he gathered his stock of horses and cattle
and moved them with his family to the Gabriel Country, as it
was called. Sometime near the first of the year 1870 we arrived
at the new home which consisted of a log house of one room
which had been shedded. The house had one door, one small
window and a wide fireplace. To state when and by whom this
house was built would be a mere guess or supposition. I will
venture two predictions. The first is that it was built as
headquarters for a surveying party to protect them from Indians
and give them shelter. Another supposition is that John G.
Matthews had Samuel D. Carothers' (his father in law) slaves
hew the logs from the post oaks on his land and raise the house.

10 12
There was once a dug well in the back yard of the home. Water was drawn from it with pulley and bucket and rope. It is no longer in use and was covered over for safety, but the the large round stone top is there. There may have been a rain-water cistern ,also.

Sometime after 1904, a deep well was drilled and a Windmill put up. This provided water at the house and for stock at the nearby barnyard.

In 1952 a new barn was built using mostly corrugated tin.

In 1958 the well was made much deeper and an electric pump was installed.

Electricity was extended to the farm in 1942.

The Log House

In 1872 there were many school age children in the community and the log house that had been the Matthews home was used as as a schoolhouse. The first teacher was said to have been a man named D. Kirkpatrick. The principal equipment was a big fireplace and some long heavy benches. The first schoolhouse was also used as a place of worship.

The fact that John G. Matthews was a school trustee is verified by the following note from a neighbor.

Jany 14th, 1878

John Matthews, Esq.

Dr Sir

I am sending one of my Children to school in the District below here Where Mitchell is teaching & I wish you to make a transfer from your District that I may draw public funds where I am sending. You taken the name of my boy last summer. (See page 22)

Yours & c

W. M. Bainbridge
Your attention to this will oblige.

It was known that John G. Matthews owned 150 acres of fine post oak timber.

The house was situated about 400 yards from the Gabriel and a spring where the family got water which was carried in buckets. This log house was never regarded as a permanent home, but all looked forward to the building of a better one of stone. You can very readily see that much - very much - was to be done when a farm had to be fenced and put in cultivation and a house built. With this in view progress went steadily on for about two and one half years. Soon wheat and corn were growing in the new ground. This gave us bread while the cattle and hogs furnished plenty of meat.

In the spring of 1872 we moved up into the new rock house. It lacked a good deal being completed or ready for occupancy. Never-theless we moved in and got ready afterwards. Pretty soon the plank floor took the place of the dirt floor and glass windows were installed. A cook stove soon took the place of the fireplace. I suspect you have thought that things were being unduly rushed. But, be patient and a little later you may understand the full program that was scheduled for the year. It seems now that our family was in advance of the times somewhat in thinking and planning. At that remote age it was not customary to have a reception party in order to celebrate the completion of a new home and the moving into it. At least two momentous events were on schedule for the remainder of the year.

One fine morning Mother asked if I would like to go up to my aunt's and play with my little cousins. Sure, I was always delighted to have that privilege. I spent the day and I was not sent for. Aunt Femy tucked me and her children away in the trundle bed as usual when night came. Early on the morning of the 10th of June I was sent for to come home and see my baby brother. I came and I saw. They had already named him William Franklin. To him goes the honor and distinction of being the first child born in the rock house.

First Wedding In The Rock House

Pretty soon after the birth of the last brother there was a tall young man who wore a long dark beard, a regular Confederate soldier's beard, who made visits to our home and our only sister entertained him. One bright Sunday morning about the first of December he came riding a big dun horse and he went to the barn and put a side saddle on Venus, our sister's saddle pony, and they rode away to the north. I asked my mother where they were going. She told me that they were going to the Liberty Hill school house to preaching but that they would be back home that evening. In a few weeks he came again riding a fine dun horse, but it was night and he had a few friends and the preacher, Rev. W. O. Spencer, with him. The dirt floor in the west room had been replaced by a new shining plank floor. In this room the family and the guests assembled. The bridal couple marched in and took its stand before the fireplace. In this fireplace the cheerful fire was burning brightly. To make more light two large kerosene lamps were placed on each end of the new mantle. Someone held me high in his arms in order that I might see and hear all that happened. After the ceremony all the people made their way to the dining room where an old time wedding supper had been spread.

After supper and congratulations were over and the guests gone the last act of the drama of the day, December 24, 1872, was put on by a chivaree party. All agreed that the the last act of the drama was a howling success. Richard Allen and Adaline Matthews had the honor of being the first couple to get married in the new rock house. (Their daughter, Cora was born here 2-13-74.)

The Last Member of The Family Born

It is very near a calamity for a family to be composed of five husky boys without a sister. That was the case in our family for several years after our eldest sister married. However, on the 17th of August 1875, I was sent for the second time to play with our cousins, which I always enjoyed. On the morning of the 18th I was sent for to come home and see our baby sister. No time was lost and I was soon at Mother's side looking at the little black headed baby. Black hair just like Mother's and she

had already been named Nancy Leonora for Mother. Although it has been more than sixty five years and she is a grandmother to some of us she is still our little sister.

Not long after our eldest sister married and went away one of our cousins, Narcis Payne, came to live with us. After a few years in our home she married E.W. Leatherwood. She was given a wedding in all respects equal to our sister's wedding. The next day they moved to a home he had made ready for them.

It was not long until an orphan girl by the name of Lizzie Stillings came to live with us. But we could not keep her very long. One Sunday morning a man by the name of Joe Bunton from Bastrop came to our house and they were married. He took her away in a two horse buggy. There were no more weddings while we lived in the rock house.

The first infare dinner was given James S. Matthews when he married Fannie Lee in 1876. In 1882 Abner Matthews married Sallie Ford. They, too were honored with a splendid infare dinner. The last to be honored with an old fashioned infare dinner in the rock house were Samuel Matthews and his bride, Fannie Kinchelo in 1883.

In 1885 a Cumberland Presbyterian Church was organized in Liberty Hill, with W.G. Griffith, L.G. Ford and John G. Matthews as ruling Elders. The house and lot was deeded to these elders and their successors in office. In this house John G. and Leonora Matthews and their family worshiped as long as they lived.

JOHN GILES MATTHEWS HOMESTEAD FARM

John G. Matthews 1860 and 1871 (Bought)
Joseph Neely Matthews 1904
Leonora and Myreta Matthews 1928
Myreta Matthews 1965

Field notes to the following described land lying and being situated in Williamson County Texas, being a part of the Jno.B.Robinson Survey, Patent No.584, Vol. 2, Cert.157, Abstract No. 521, and described as follows:

Beginning in the West line of the Highway which runs from Austin to Burnet via Liberty Hill, (U.S. 183 to S.H.29) and at the S E corner of a 35 acre of land now belonging to John Womack (Now Herman Haedge) out of said survey for the N E corner thereof : Thence S 71 W and with the South line of said John Womack's South line 833- 1/3 vrs to his S W corner in the West line of a tract of land now belonging to Frank D. Love, for a corner hereof; Thence S 19 E 4.3 vrs a corner a corner, being the S E corner of said F.D.Love tract of land; Thence S 71 W and with the South line of said Robinson League; Thence S 19 E 75 vrs to the middle of the South San Gabriel River; Thence down and with the center and meanders of said San Gabriel River about S 74 E 900 vrs for the S W corner hereof, and N W corner of the Leatherwood tract of land; Thence N 71 E 1 1794-1/3 vrs to the West line of said Highway above mentioned for the S E corner thereof, same being the N E corner of an 86 acre tract of land belonging to J.N.Matthews(now H.M.Spangler); Thence N 19 W and with the West line of said Highway 535.7 vrs to the place of beginning, and containing 206 acres of land, as surveyed by Walter Rowntree, County Surveyor of Williamson County, Texas, on Feby.4, 1931.

This place is 3½ miles southeast of Liberty Hill, Texas on US 183-about 28 miles north of Austin, Texas.

Myreta Matthews, Present owner
Box 127
Liberty Hill, Texas 78642

3)

A Biographical Sketch of John G. Matthews as copied from a
HISTORY OF TEXAS
Chicago
The Lewis Company 1893

J.G. Matthews, a successful business man of Williamson County, is a son of Abner and Asenath (Henderson) Matthews. The grandfather of our subject, James Matthews, came with his wife from Ireland to Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, about the time of the Revolutionary war, where they continued to reside until 1812. In that year they located in Maury county, Tennessee, where they both afterward died. Abner Matthews was born in North Carolina, in 1792, and when a young man served with General Jackson in the Creek Indian war. He was married in Maury county, Tennessee, in 1813; in 1834 located in Tipton county, that State, and five years later came to Texas. In the spring of 1840 he located in Travis county, where he died in 1862; and the mother, a native of North Carolina, died in 1852. He was a farmer by occupation, also served as Justice of the peace, and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. and Mrs. Abner Matthews were the parents of ten children, viz: Mary D., deceased; James, deceased; Nancy A., deceased; John G., the subject of this sketch; Easter A., deceased E.S., a farmer residing three miles from Austin; and Eliza J., Martha M. and Robert F., deceased.

J.G. Matthews was born in Maury county, Tennessee, March 3, 1824, and was sixteen years of age when he came with his parents to Texas. During the 40s he was principally engaged in ranger service, was a member of a squad of Jack Hays' rangers, under Lieutenant Coleman; served on the frontier and had many skirmishes with the Indians. His house was located in the extreme western settlement from Austin. (This may be an error - stories handed down relate that they were in east Austin near Howard's Nursery.) Matthews followed farming in Travis county until 1870, and the following twenty years was engaged in the same occupation

near Liberty Hill, Williamson county. He then came to this city.

At the time of the annexation of Texas to the United States, he was a member of Captain D.C. Cady's company of rangers, which afterward became a part of the United States army, and served during the Mexican war. He was principally engaged in scouting duty, and now draws a pension from the Government for services rendered in that struggle. Mr. Matthews was a member of a volunteer company during the latter part of the Civil war, of which he served as Lieutenant, and did duty on the southern coast of the State. He now owns one of the finest farms in Williamson county, consisting of 250 acres, 125 acres of which is cultivated. In his political relations he affiliates with the Democratic party; socially, is a Master Mason; and religiously an Elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Matthews was married in Travis county, in October, 1855, to Leannah Carothers. Her parents came from South Carolina to Texas in 1853. To this union have been born seven children, namely: Addie M., wife of R.E. Allen, residing three miles from Liberty Hill; Abner B., a merchant of this city; Sidney J., a school-teacher by profession; Neely, attending the Huntsville Normal; and William Franklin and Leonora, at home. The wife and mother died April 1, 1892, having been a member and prominent worker in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Members of this family buried in the Liberty Hill Cemetery two miles north-west of Liberty Hill are:

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| John G. Matthews | 1824 - 1903 | |
| Leannah Matthews | 1838 - 1893 | |
| Richard E. Allen | 1845 - 1916 | |
| Addie M. Allen | 1856 - 1940 | |
| Abner B. Matthews | 1858 - 1948 | |
| Emma J. Matthews | 1874 - 11969 | |
| Joseph Neely Matthews | 1866 - 1944 | Leonora E. Matthews |
| Emma Marrs Matthews | 1875 - 1947 | 1901 - 1964 |
| Mattie Farrow Matthews | 1872 - 1938 | |

Several grandchildren.

SECOND OWNER OF THE ROCK HOUSE

Joseph Neely Matthews, who obtained the land and the house, in 1904, from the other heirs of John G. Matthews, made a career of school teaching. He went to the country school near his home until he was fifteen years old and then attended school in Liberty Hill, worked a while, then entered the Liberty Normal and Business College. He obtained a Second Grade Teaching Certificate by taking County Examinations and taught three years. He did this and other kinds of work to make enough money to send himself to the Sam Houston Normal College in Huntsville. He attended this school two years and graduated in 1895. He continued to teach in the public schools of Williamson, Burnet and Llano counties until 1922, having spent more than thirty years as teacher and principal.

The next four years he published THE LIBERTY HILL INDEX. Soon after that he was appointed Justice of the Peace at Liberty Hill. He held that office several years.

He died November 10, 1944 and is buried in the family plot in the Liberty Hill cemetery. His wife, Emma Matthews followed September 12, 1947. His oldest daughter, Leonora died May 2, 1964.

The REASONS for wishing to commemorate this structure are to honor the founder and builder John G. Matthews and his wife Leannah for their forethought in building a substantial home. It represents the way of life in this part of Texas more than one hundred years ago. It is typically well built and strong. It is an enduring monument to the pioneer man who built it and his wife who helped. He built it to last just as he served in the various military units under the flags of the Republic of Texas and the United States to make our Nation strong and lasting. Covering a period of many years J.G. Matthews was a member of several groups of Volunteer Home Guards to protect his home and those of his neighbors

Another REASON for marking this house is that Joseph Neely Matthews carried on the principles of his father and loved the old home enough to borrow money to buy it from the other heirs in order to keep it in the family and not cut up into small plots.

Bibliography

Abstracts of Title from Deed Records of Williamson County

Old Documents and receipts belonging to J.G. Matthews.

The Matthews Family Bible

Liberty Hill Cemetery Records

Matthews, J.N., Matthews-Carothers, Family record 1737-1943
Unpublished Manuscript, Liberty Hill, Texas, 1943.

The Lone Star State-History of Texas Together With A
Biographical History of Milam, Williamson, Bastrop, Travis,
Lee and Burleson Counties., Chicago: Lewis Publishing CO., 1893
pages 281 and 282.

Hunter, J. Marvin: Frontier Times Magazines, Vol. 23, Cover
and pages 33 and 34; December 1945, Bandera, Texas.

Compiled by Myreta Matthews, Box 127, Liberty Hill, Tex. 78642

Myreta Matthews
August 4, 1975

Taylor Daily Press

"Williamson County's Only Daily Newspaper"

GES

TAYLOR, TEXAS, TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1975

(AP)—ASSOCI

In County

Two Families Qualify For Heritage Program

AUSTIN — Two Williamson County families have qualified for the 1975 Family Land Heritage Program, according to Agriculture Commissioner John C. White.

The John G. Matthews Homestead Farm, owned by Miss Myreta J. Matthews, Liberty Hill; and the Saul Ranch, owned by John Saul and Jack M. Saul, II, Hutto, bring the number of recognized Williamson County farms and ranches to two.

"To qualify for the program, these families had to have a history of at least 100 years of ownership and productivity," White said. "It is a great tribute to their perseverance and dedication to be recognized."

Registration totals for the '75 program are far behind those of last year when over 500 families qualified. Only 70 applications had been certified by August 4.

"I encourage people who are interested in the program not to wait until the August 15 deadline," White added. "They should contact their county judge for the proper forms as soon as possible so they can be sure of being registered in time, or they can write the Texas Department of

Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, 78711."

The Family Land Heritage Program was instituted by Commissioner White in 1974 to honor and preserve the concept of the family farm.

Families that qualify for recognition are listed in the Family Land Heritage Registry, receive a Certificate of Honor from the Department and will be honored in special ceremonies later this year.

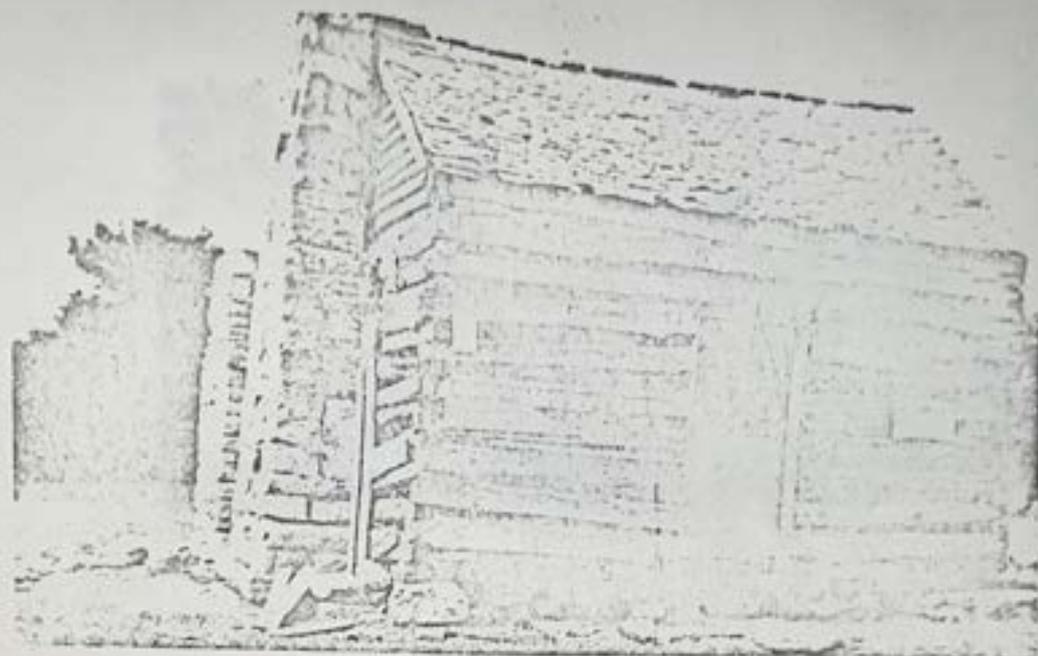
Firemen Praised For Aid Classes

Firemen were given a big bouquet in a letter read to the City Commission Tuesday morning from Adrian Moore of the Soil Conservation Service.

Moore praised the firemen for their fine efforts in serving as first aid instructors for organized classes.

Moore and a number of federal employees were members of the first class locally sponsored by the Red Cross with the sessions completed on July 25.

"These young men are something special. Inspirational," Moore said in his letter. He also expressed appreciation to the city for making such service available to residents of the area.



This is the log house on the John G. Matthews Homestead into which the family moved from Travis County in the winter of 1870, about the first of the year.

There was one large room with one window and one door and a wide fireplace. There was a shed room on the back which also had a fireplace.

The family consisted of John G., the father, Leannah, the mother and children by their pet names were: Jim, Addie, Ab, Sam, Sid, and Neel.

It is not known when the log house was built nor by whom, nor is it known when this picture was made, but judging from the condition it must have been about 1904. All that remains is a pile of heavy rocks that were the chimneys.

In 1872 the first school in the community was held in this house. John Matthews was a founder and trustee.



The Matthews family of eight moved into the rock house, which was made of hand hewn native limestone. The youngest son, Frank was born here on June 10, 1872. He liked to say, "They had to hurry up and move in so I could be born there."

The oldest daughter, Addie was married here on December 24, 1872, to Richard E. Allen. Their daughter, Cora was born here February 13, 1874. The last child of the John Matthews family was a daughter, Leonora born July 18, 1875.

This picture shows the front and east side of the house. It was made in 1939 and shows the shed room on the back. The 12 pane windows have been replaced with 8 pane windows.

The roof is covered with wooden shingles. The front porch has been restored, so the roof is not likely to have been the original one. A portion of a lightning rod is still on the chimney.

The house faces south open to the prevailing winds.

Sept. 1962



The John G. Matthews farm house faces south.

The black and white picture was made in 1962. The windows have wooden frames and four panes of glass. The porch is painted white.

The other pictures were made in 1975. The windows have aluminum frames and the porch which was replaced in 1971 has unpainted cedar posts and side panelling on the ends.

The last picture shows the north end of the house. One window is in the back bedroom and the long narrow one is in the kitchen.



This shows the west end
of the Matthews house.
The front windows of the
west room have aluminum
frames. The wide front
door is visible and
the restored front
porch.

The west room chimney
and wall was remortored
in 1971.
The double carport was
built in 1974.

This shows the kitchen door
and back porch, and the
utility room window.



(30)

The John G. Matthews limestone rock farm house as it looks in 1974 and 1975.



This is the east side showing the front two windows and the fireplace.

The east chimney was remortored in 1971.



The roof is all tin. These two views show the back bedroom window, outside door and the bathroom window. The back part of the house is covered with asbestos shingles.



Official Texas Historical Building Marker SY
Williamson County (Order #4607) - 7/12/76
1404 Elm St., Georgetown

THE HARRELL-STONE HOUSE

BUILT ABOUT 1895 FOR LUMBERMAN
HENRY W. HARRELL, THIS VICTORIAN
HOUSE RESEMBLES OTHERS ERECTED
IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD BY THE C.S.
BELFORD LUMBER CO. IT WAS SOLD IN
1907 TO STOREKEEPER W.F. MAGÉE. IN
1937 THE STRUCTURE WAS PURCHASED
BY JUDGE SAMUEL VAUGHAN STONE,
CIVIC LEADER AND COUNTY JUDGE FOR
35 YEARS, AND HIS WIFE BERENICE,
WHO RESTORED IT. OCCUPIED BY THREE
PROMINENT FAMILIES, THIS RESIDENCE
HAS BEEN THE SCENE OF NUMEROUS
SOCIAL AND CHURCH GATHERINGS.

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1976

by Clara (Mrs. Don)
Scarborough, Georgetown

The HARRELL-STONE HOUSE

THE HENRY W. HARRELL HOME, 1404 Elm
Georgetown, Texas

The residence of Henry W. Harrell and his family is built on land which was patented by the Republic of Texas to Clement Stubblefield, Patent No. 204, Vol. 2, dated Aug. 19, 1844.¹ This was 1/3 League, and was purchased by Thomas S. Huling on Oct. 10, 1848, for \$150. Huling and G. W. Glasscock had a partnership in real estate dealings, and through several transactions Glasscock became the sole owner of the section on which the Harrell home was located, Glasscock completing this contract with Huling on March 4, 1851.² On April 27, 1855, Glasscock sold 10 acres of the tract to Mary Williams for \$50.³ Glasscock also sold 17 3/4 acres from the Stubblefield Survey to Thomas Proctor Hughes on Feb. 16, 1857, for \$221.87. Later that year, Mary Williams, who was by now married to W. E. Bouchelle, and her husband sold their 10 acres described above to Thomas Proctor Hughes, the deed drawn March 2, 1857. The 10 acres brought \$125.⁴ Thos. P. Hughes (as he wrote his name) established what is known as the Hughes Addition in Georgetown out of these 27 3/4 acres which he purchased from Glasscock and the Bouchelles. On Dec. 31, 1894, Hughes sold to his daughter, Mrs. C. C. Cody, one-half of one block plus another block out of the Hughes Addition, for \$2200. The full block, known in City of Georgetown records as Block C, Hughes Addition, is the block being considered in this narrative.⁵ On Aug. 16, 1895, Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Cody sold 1/2 of Block C, Hughes Addition, for \$700 to Henry W. Harrell. Until this point, there was no known habitation on this lot. Since the Harrell family is known to have built a home there and lived in it for a number of years, it is believed that they built soon after purchasing the land, either late 1895 or in 1896.⁶ H. W. Harrell and his wife, Arabella Harrell, sold their home to W. F. Magee on July 19, 1907, for \$5,000.⁷ W. F. Magee and his wife, Tomye Magee, sold the home, on the north half of Block C, Hughes Addition, Georgetown, to Samuel Vaughan Stone on August 4, 1937. Judge and Mrs. Stone (Berenice) are the owners at the present time (1975).⁸

The Henry W. Harrell home is believed to have been built in the fall of 1895, or early in 1896. As early as 1891, Harrell & Belford (successors to George Irvine), were advertising their lumber, contracting and building business. Harrell apparently withdrew from the partnership of the firm, but continued to work for Belford Lumber Company, Georgetown, for a number of years. In the adjacent block, two two-story homes were built in 1895 by Belford Lumber Company, for W. Y. Penn and J. A. McDougale. The same floor plan, with minor changes, was used for these two homes, and materials, workmanship, and detailing are remarkably similar. The Harrell home is adjacent to the Penn and McDougale residences, and also follows the same floor plan, has similar materials, styling, and workmanship. It has not been proved, but all available evidence seems to indicate that the Harrell home was built at approximately the same time as the others, for which the date 1895 is documented.⁹

The home was built in a newly-formed Addition in town, where many of the substantial merchants and professional men of the community erected homes from about 1895 to 1900. Georgetown, the county seat, was growing, as was Southwestern University, located within a few blocks, so the need for new housing is evident.

The home was built by Henry W. Harrell, himself in the lumber business, with Belford Lumber Company acting as architect -contractors. H. W. Harrell was listed as a director of the First National Bank, Georgetown, in 1897. Mrs. Harrell (Arabella) was interested in club work, and a friend of the family, Mrs. Bertie McDaniel of Georgetown, says that Alice Harrell, the daughter, often said that her mother "built the home for the history clubs." The large reception and dining areas are well arranged for large groups, or for social affairs.¹⁰ The second owner of this residence, W. F. Magee, and his wife, Tomye, lived there for thirty years. Mrs. Magee was an artist; Mr. Magee ran "The Good Store," which sold general merchandise, on the north side of the Courthouse Square. Judge Samuel Vaughan Stone and his wife, Berenice, have made this their home since 1937 and still reside there. Stone was Co. Tax Collector 1922-35; County Judge 1935-70; Boy Scout Master, 45 years; Capt. U. S. Army 1925; chairman Board of Trustees & Board of Stewards, First Methodist Church; active in American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, Phi Delta Theta; elected Georgetown Citizen of the Year 1951 and 1952; Silver Beaver Scout, 1932; first chmn. Williamson County Historical Survey Committee. Mrs. Stone has taught school in George town, is active in club and church activities and in civic affairs.¹¹

The original structure, for which Belford Lumber Company of Georgetown furnished the plans and contracted the building, was two stories, with six fireplaces, a large L-shaped porch across the front (east) and north, a back porch; large hallways upstairs and down, one bath, and seven large rooms. The outbuildings were the cistern house, which still stands and is used for storage, and a maid's room. 12

Material was acquired by C. S. Belford, who operated the lumber company, most of it shipped into Georgetown by rail. Cypress and oak were used for beams, siding and most of the other portions of the house. An unusual fan-shaped glass is used in the upper half of the front door. All doors and windows are trimmed in Victorian-style. The six fireplaces are finished with tile and wood, and no two are alike. The rooms are quite large, high ceilinged, with long windows, typical of the period. 13

The home was built in a newly developed part of town near homes of two of Harrell's friends, who built similar residences at the same time. All three homes are still standing and in good condition.

Apparently no alterations were made to the house prior to 1937, when Judge and Mrs. Stone purchased it. Since then, they have moved the maid's room to the north side of the lot and used it as a garage. The cistern house still stands, and is joined to the back porch, part of which was converted into a small breakfast room. The kitchen has been renovated to make it functional, but has kept the flavor of the home. A portion of the upstairs hall was made into a small bedroom, used as a nursery or a maid's room. Small portions of the upstairs rooms were changed into an additional bath and closet space, and a powder room has been added downstairs in what once was hall space. The original stairway was changed only in one respect: a turn was added to provide more privacy to the powder room and kitchen area, but the original materials were used in the reconstructed stair. The cistern was filled in and boarded over to make a floor in the small ^{cistern} house. Judge and Mrs. Stone added a small deck upstairs over the back porch, leading from the guest bedroom. 14

A unique feature of the home at the present time (1975) is a mural which Judge and Mrs. Stone had painted on the walls of their dining room depicting places in Georgetown which have endeared themselves to the Stone family: The Courthouse, the Harrell Home and two adjacent homes to the north (the three built about the same time by the same builder, and for three good friends), the First Methodist Church (also nearby), and two scenes on the Southwestern University campus, the Old Main Building, and the Ladies Annex. The mural was painted by artist Carl O. Bergquist, formerly of the Southwestern University Art Department, and now a professor in the School of Architecture, University of Texas at Austin. The Stones also own four pieces of furniture which once belonged to a longtime resident of Georgetown, John Sparks, who became governor of Nevada in 1902, serving until 1908. ¹⁵

The condition of the residence is excellent, and it is kept in good repair at all times by the owners, the Stones.

The home has been occupied by only three families in its 80 years. The first two occupants, Henry W. Harrell and W. F. Magee, were substantial merchants in Georgetown and active in the life of the community. The present occupant served as County Judge for thirty-five years and was extremely active in civic and church affairs of his community. Wives of all three men have also been involved in the social, religious and civic activities of the town, and through the years the home has been the scene of numerous meetings and gatherings. ¹⁶

Because of its role in the life of the community, its distinctive durability and workmanship as a Victorian house, and because it is located in a district of five homes and one church--all from the same period and in equally good condition--the owners of the Harrell Home wish to commemorate the structure with a marker. It is felt that by marking this home, along with others in the immediate area already marked or being marked, that the integrity of this distinctive district may be better recognized and preserved.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Williamson County Deed Records, Vol. II, 366.
- 2 Ibid., Vol. I, 20, 372; Vol. II, 153.
- 3 Ibid., Vol. VI, 51.
- 4 Ibid., Vol. VII, 59, 282.
- 5 Ibid., Vol. 71, 564; City of Georgetown records.
- 6 Ibid., Vol. 72, 140.
- 7 Ibid., Vol. 123, 521.
- 8 Ibid., Vol. 286, 530.
- 9 Williamson County Sun, Aug. 29, 1895; Texas Historical Commission histories of the W. Y. Penn and J. A. McDougle homes, which have historical markers.
- 10 Williamson County Sun, April 23, 1891; Aug. 29, 1895; July 8, 1897.
- 11 Mrs. Samuel Vaughan Stone, interviews, June 11, Dec. 8 and 10, 1975.
- 12 Ibid.
- 13 Ibid.
- 14 Ibid.
- 15 Ibid.; Clara S. Scarbrough, Land of Good Water, 213-16.
- 16 Ibid.; Williamson County Sun, issues cited above.

=====

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Deed Records, Williamson County, Vol. 1, ^{pp.} 20, 372; Vol. 2, pp. 153, 3
Vol. 6, p. 51; Vol. 7, pp. 59, 282; Vol. 71, 564; Vol. 72, p. 140;
Vol. 123, p. 521; Vol. 286, p. 530.
- City of Georgetown Records.
- Interview by author of Mrs. Samuel V. Stone, June 11, Dec. 8 and 10,
Scarbrough, Clara S. Land of Good Water, pp. 213-16.
- Williamson County Sun, Apr. 23, 1891; Aug. 29, 1895; Jul. 8, 1897.
- Texas Historical Commission histories of W. Y. Penn and J. A.
McDougle homes.