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MISCELLANEOUS


Another Styled-by-HANSON feature — this alphabetic index for your convenience

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PLANNED PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1981

The purpose of the Tarrant County Historical Commission is to initiate and conduct programs for the preservation of the heritage of Tarrant County. The TCHC is committed to the preservation of historical sites, structures, and archival materials important to education, research, and community values. The TCHC supports the Texas Historical Commission; Texas Historical Foundation; National Register Program; Historic Preservation Council For Tarrant County; and supports, encourages and coordinates activities with other groups in Tarrant County.

ARCHIVES:

The Archives Committee will continue to secure material for the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection and will continue to work toward establishing a joint city-county archives for Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

The Archives Committee will begin compiling an annotated bibliography of county history source materials. First, the committee will establish a format by which the historical data can be compiled, a format which will provide a brief annotation, describing the contents of each source, where it (or copies of it) may be found, its accessibility, etc. Then a team of volunteers will be recruited to (a) canvass depositories wherein Tarrant County history materials may be found; and (b) prepare entries for a bibliography, which ultimately will be published.

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The Archives Committee will monitor the status of the National Archives and Records Service program to dispose of Federal District Court records, and will attempt to preserve any historical material relating to Tarrant County history that might be scheduled for destruction by the National Archives and Records Service.

The TCHC will continue its program of microfilming or microfiching rare historical materials that are in danger of being lost, and will include a major project to copy materials in public archival holdings in Austin, Texas, in order that all possible historical information might be made available for educational purposes and research purposes locally.

The Archives Committee will coordinate a workshop on how to preserve documents.

The TCHC will conduct and transcribe two oral history interviews regarding a downtown or Main Street business of building.

January 30, 1981

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
1981 Committees

ELECTED OFFICERS - Duane Gage, Chairman 281-7860; res. 282-5740
Bennett L. Smith, Chairman Emeritus 335-3311
Billy W. Sills, Vice Chairman 451-8842; 336-8311 (office)
Gilbert Anguiano, Secretary 332-9406
B. J. Clark, Treasurer, 237-1505

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE - Ruby Schmidt, Chairman 531-1547

Beth Harrison Canright, 473-0678 — Billy W. Sills 451-8842
Paul Campbell, 731-2490; 870-7740 (lib) — C. George Younkin 429-2674
Katherine Livingston 737-2029 — Skeet Calhoun 732-4052
Jack D. Watson 293-0040

AWARDS COMMITTEE - Frances Allen, Chairman 924-4461

Ann Smith 926-4474

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - John Hugh Smith, Chairman 284-5894

Cecelia Box 531-3818 — Joe E. Standifer 531-1985;
Ruby Schmidt 531-1547 — (sch.) 451-2814

FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE - Jayne Payne, Chairman 923-0896
Larry Landis 731-0625; HUD 870-5525
Carol Roark, grant applications res. 926-4212; (museum) 738-1933

HISTORICAL APPRECIATION COMMITTEE - Charlie McCafferty, Chairman 626-0580
Cecelia Box, Grapevine area tour project 481-3818
Steve Murrin 624-1101 — Winston Sparks 536-1426
C. George Younkin, special events photographer 429-2674
Gary Havard 332-3550; res. 292-8695 — Lenora Rolla 534-1349;332-6049

HISTORICAL MARKER AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE - Duane Gage, Chairman 281-7860
Frances Allen 924-4461
Paul Campbell 870-7740 — Brent McPherson 488-8682
David Dunnett 335-7718; 334-1135 ct. hse.
Dee Barker 267-6433 — Mike Patterson 834-6206
Ruby Schmidt 531-1547 — B. J. Clark 237-1505

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE - Carol Roark, Chairman 738-1933;res.926-4212
Gilbert Anguiano 332-9406 — Gordon Kelly 332-9776
Gene Brooks 265-8573;273-3083(UTA) — Larry Landis 731-0625;HUD 870-5525
Beeman Fisher 924-9607;off.332-2561 — Kathy Livingston 737-2029
Gary Havard 332-3550;res.292-8695 — Joe E. Standifer 531-1985;
(sch) 451-2814

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE - Duane Gage, Acting Chairman 28107860
Mike Patterson, Northeast area news 834-6206 (school)

SPECIAL CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE - Mike Patterson, Chairman 834-6206 (sch)
David Dunnett 335-7718;334-1135 ct. hse.
Lenora Rolla, Black Cemeteries 534-1349; 332-6049(Black Hist. Soc.)
Bennett L. Smith, Consultant

SPECIAL TEXAS HERITAGE COMMITTEE - Jeri Ballard, Chairman 732-0396
Joyce Pate 738-8600

SPECIAL 900 BLOCK COMMITTEE - Gene Brooks, Chairman 265-8573; 273-3083)UTA)
Jeri Ballard 732-0396 — Marianne Juran 625-0404
Gilbert Anguiano 332-9406 — Carol Roark, National Reg. Consultant
Gary Havard 332-3350;res.292-8695 — 738-1933;res.926-4212

NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Duane Gage 281-7860
NORTHEAST TARRANT COUNTY LIAISON - Brent McPherson 488- 8682
NORTHWEST TARRANT COUNTY LIAISON - B. J. Clark 237-1505
SOUTHEAST TARRANT COUNTY LIAISON - Beth Harrison Canright 473-0678
SOUTHWEST TARRANT COUNTY LIAISON - Sidney Poynter 297-1792; school 297-4324
VOLUNTEER TYPING PROJECT COORDINATOR - Joe E. Standifer 531-1985; school 451-2814

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL OF TARRANT COUNTY:
Official Representative, Marty Craddock 738-8037
Board of Trustees, Dee Barker 267-6433
Finance Task Force, Marianne Juran 625-0404
Community Affairs, Jayne Payne 923-0896
Survey Task Force, Dee Barker 267-6433

Page 2 THE NEWS-TRIBUNE January 9, 1981

* * *

THIRTY-SIX MEMBERS of the Tarrant County Historical Commission were appointed by Commissioners Court this week. Re-appointed were Bennett Smith, chairman emeritus; Duane Gage, chairman; Charlie McCafferty, vice chairman; Ruby Schmidt, secretary; Jayne Payne, treasurer; and standing committee chairmen Gary Havard, Jeri Ballard and Dee Barker. Also appointed were Frances Allen, Gilbert Anguiano, Mrs. Joe Box, Gene Brooks, Mrs. Jim Calhoun, Paul Campbell, Beth A. Canright, B. J. Clark, David Dunnett, Beeman Fisher, Marianne Juran, Gordan Kelley, Larry Landis, Katherine Livingston, Brent McPherson, Steve Murrin, Mrs. A. M. Pate, Jr., Michael E. Patterson, Sidney Poynter, Carol Roark, Mrs. Jacob Rolla, Billy W. Wills, Mrs. Ann J. Smith, John Hugh Smith, Winston O. Sparks, Joe Standifer, Jack D. Watson and C. George Younkin.

* * *

Executive Com. members:McCafferty, Payne, Gage, Schmidt, & Smith

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

PLANNED PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1981

The purpose of the Tarrant County Historical Commission is to initiate and conduct programs for the preservation of the heritage of Tarrant County. The TCHC is committed to the preservation of historical sites, structures, and archival materials important to education, research, and community values. The TCHC supports the Texas Historical Commission; Texas Historical Foundation; National Register Program; Historic Preservation Council For Tarrant County; and supports, encourages and coordinates activities with other groups in Tarrant County.

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The Archives Committee will coordinate a workshop on how to preserve documents.

The TCHC will conduct and transcribe two oral history interviews regarding a downtown or Main Street business of building.

AWARDS COMMITTEE:

By June , 1981, the Awards Committee will recommend at least two county citizens for recognition for Outstanding Contributions to Historical Preservation on the County Level, and will submit those recommendations to the Texas Historical Commission by September, 1981.

The Awards Committee will recommend a list of individual commission members for nomination for 1981 state awards, according to guidelines established by the Texas Historical Commission.

The committee will prepare a scrap book for the TCHC 1981 Distinguished Service Award competition. A letter will be sent to each sponsor of an official Texas Historical Marker, requesting certain material for the compilation. The committee will secure a commitment from individual commission members to submit news clippings for the scrap book, from area newspapers and from the Morning Fort Worth Star-Telegram and the Dallas Morning News. The committee will try to involve each Standing Committee chairman to contribute to his/her section of the scrap book, supplying evidence of the work of the respective standing committees throughout the year. The committee will complete a section of the scrap book for each quarter, by April 30th, July 30th, and October 30th, 1981; and January 15th, 1982.

The committee chairman will revise and distribute guidelines for supplying contributions for the scrap book by March 18, 1981.

The Awards Committee chairman will participate in judging Junior Historian exhibits for the annual Heritage Award at the TCU Regional History Fair, March 4-6, 1981.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee will support the TCU Regional Junior Historian History Fair by presenting an annual Heritage Award to the entry that best represents the heritage of Tarrant County, and it shall supply volunteer workers for the TCU History Fair, March 4-6, 1981.

The Education Committee shall begin compiling materials for the establishment of a TEXAS HISTORY RESOURCE CENTER which will house resource materials, teaching aids, and classroom materials on state and local history, materials which will provide local Texas history instructors and their students assistance in the study of Texas heritage.

The Education Committee shall continue to request school districts within Tarrant County to compile histories of their schools.

The Education Committee shall sponsor a display of Junior Historians' exhibits at the TCJC NE Campus Library's Heritage Room during the month of March 1981.

The Education Committee shall promote an essay contest on Tarrant County history topics in Junior (Middle School) and Senior High schools for awards and recognition during Tarrant County History Appreciation Week in 1981.

FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE:

The committee will audit the records of the TCHC Treasurer at the end of the year.
One or more TCHC members will attend a Resource Development workshop or Thursday, April 16th, a United Way workshop which will discuss fund-raising programs.

The TCHC will compile an information file on available grant sources and shall make packets of grant application information available.

The TCHC will initiate a fund-raising project to activate the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund for perpetual care for neglected and unkept pioneer cemeteries.

HISTORICAL APPRECIATION COMMITTEE:

The Historical Appreciation Committee shall conduct ten historical tours in 1981.

TCHC members from Northeast Tarrant County will develop a bus tour of the Grapevine area.

The historical commission shall give ten programs of a historical nature during 1981.
The historical commission shall conduct a "History Appreciation Week," and shall promote countywide proclamations, tours, news coverage and exhibits emphasizing our county's heritage.

TCHC members shall coordinate historical marker dedications for plaques for John Peter Smith, General William Jenkins Worth, and Paddock Viaduct, and shall support organizations conducting dedications for other historical markers. The TCHC shall provide packets of materials to assist sponsors of marker dedications.

HISTORICAL MARKER AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

The Marker Committee shall process ten historical marker applications in 1981.
The committee shall conduct a project to place complete holdings of marker applications with official inscriptions in the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection, the Fort Worth Public Library, the TCJC Heritage Room, and other appropriate institutions.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:

This committee shall monitor Fort Worth zoning commission meetings to determine if there is action pending that would affect an historic property, and shall review Fort Worth's proposed zoning ordinance with respect to sections affecting historic preservation. The committee shall provide feedback to city staff and, if necessary, speak at hearings.

The committee shall act as liaison for the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County survey, and shall provide assistance in survey work as needed. It shall aid HPTC in collecting and copying (for placement in TCHC Archives) copies of material relevant to the survey.

This committee shall begin to complie an inventory of work by architects active in Fort Worth prior to 1945. When possible, it shall secure copies of their blueprints, papers and other material for the TCHC Archives.

The committee shall prepare packets of information on the National Register nomination process, and the Commission shall mail forms to interested persons. It shall act as reviewer for completed forms, when requested, to assure that they meet form and content requirements.

The Historical Preservation Committee shall conduct a workshop on the nomination forms and processes needed to have a structure listed on either the National Register or Texas Historic Landmark list.

The committee shall conduct a workshop on restoration/architectural preservation or shall prepare an "architectural awareness" slide show that can be loaned to school groups.

The committee shall aid the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County in sponsoring "Conserve Neighborhoods" week, designed for targeted areas.

The commission shall put out a "Preservation Alert" flyer based on the Department of the Interior's guidelines for the restoration of historic structures to warn owners about the problems and consequences of inappropriate action or destruction of landmark structures.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:

The committee shall prepare and release Commission news and feature stories to the media at least monthly.

The Commission shall publish a quarterly newsletter and shall distribute it to five hundred individuals, organizations, or representatives of preservation groups.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS

TEXAS HERITAGE COMMITTEE:

The Tarrant County Historical Commission will participate in the Texas Historical Foundation's "Texas Heritage Project," undertaking projects and activities prescribed by the Foundation concerning Texas Builders, Patriotic Days, Heritage Exhibits, Touring, and Teaching Texas Heritage.

900 BLOCK COMMITTEE:

This special committee will encourage owners of property in the 900 block of downtown Fort Worth located between Houston and Throckmorton streets to preserve their properties, seek National Register designation and Texas State Historical Landmark designation for their properties. The committee will document the preservation activities of the block and will prepare architectural studies, documents, correspondence, etc., documenting this project.

CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:

This special committee will compile research data on twenty or more pioneer cemeteries in Tarrant County in an effort to preserve them. It shall seek official Texas Historical markers for those cemeteries that qualify. It shall conduct "work days" for cleaning neglected and unkept cemeteries and it shall seek funds for the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, a perpetual care fund administered by the county government.

The Cemetery Preservation Committee shall enact a policy of preserving misplaced tombstones by storing them in an appropriate location and by researching their origins, so that they may be returned to their proper site.

ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES:

There will be six regular meetings of the Tarrant County Historical Commission in 1981.
Members of the Commission will attend at least four meetings of other heritage or historical organizations.

The Commission will initiate a joint meeting with the Wise County Historical Commission and the Parker County Historical Commission at Azle in 1981 and will schedule a speaker on history or historical preservation for the joint meeting.

The Tarrant County Historical Commission shall have at least two members in attendance at the Annual Historic Preservation Conference.

One or more members of the Tarrant County Historical Commission shall serve on the Tourism Committee of a local Chamber of Commerce.

—Duane Gage, Chairman
March 18, 1981

BYLAWS
OF
TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ARTICLE I

NAME

This commission is created by the Legislature of the State of Texas and shall be known as the Tarrant County Historical Commission (hereinafter called the "Commission").

ARTICLE II

AUTHORITY

This Commission shall be organized and governed in accordance with an Act of the State of Texas (Article 6145.1, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) and these Bylaws.

ARTICLE III

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Commission shall be the preservation of the historical heritage of Tarrant County. The Commission shall initiate and conduct such programs as may be suggested by the Commissioners Court and the Texas Historical Commission. The Commission shall institute and carry out a continuing survey of the county to determine the existence of historical buildings and other historical sites, private collections of

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## ARTICLE IV
## MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Members. The Commission shall consist of at least seven residents of Tarrant County, appointed by the Commissioners Court of Tarrant County.

Section 2. Term. Members shall be appointed during the month of January of odd numbered years and shall serve for a term of two years, or until the successive appointments. In-term appointments shall serve only until the next regular appointments.

Section 3. Attendance. Members shall be regular in attendance at all officially called Commission meetings.

Section 4. Reappointments. Preceding the end of each two-year term all current active members shall be polled by the Nominating Committee to ascertain who wishes to be reappointed to the Commission, and this information shall be submitted by the Chairman of the Commission to Commissioners Court. Attendance and activity records shall accompany the poll.

Section 5. Resignation. Letters of resignation submitted to the Commission shall be forwarded to the respective appointing member of Commissioners Court. The Commission may request the said County Commissioner to appoint a new member to fill the vacancy. Resignations accepted by the County Commissioner shall be reported and recorded in the minutes of the Commission.

Section 6. Responsibility. Thr officers, committee chairmen, and members are subordinate to the Commission and shall not involve the Commission in any way or incur debts unless given the authority to do so by the Commission.

## ARTICLE V

## OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. The officers of the Commission shall be a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting. Their terms shall be for one year.

Section 2. Chairman. The Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Commission. He shall call the meetings and preside at those meetings, appoint committees and chairmen, serve on or designate a representative for any board, commission or committee as requested and deemed appropriate by the Commission. He shall maintain an active file of all correspondance and documents relating to Commission activities and shall make said file available to the public. The chair shall have the usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office and shall perform other such duties as designated by the Commission. The Chairman shall be an ex officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee. He shall report annually and as requested to the Commissioners Court and the Texas Historical Commission. The Chairman shall represent and stand for the Commission, and in all things obey its commands.

Section 3. Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall preside at the meetings in absence of the Chairman. He shall possess all the duties and responsibilities of the Chairman in the event of prolonged illness in which the normal activity of theCommission would be curtailed or in the event of resignation or death of the Chairman. He shall perform special duties and liaison as requested by the Chairman.

Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings, keep records of individual attendance, attend to correspondance and reports as designated by theChairman, cosign with the Chairman any contracts or instruments designated by the Commission, and perform such other duties normally pertaining to the office.

Section 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep bookkeeping records of funds allocated to the Commission by Commissioners Court and shall be prepared to submit an accounting to the Court when requested. He shall receive funds submitted to the Commission and shall act as custodian for these funds and deposit them in the Commission bank account. He shall keep bookkeeping records of all Commission funds and present an accurate accounting of funds at every regular meeting and as often as required. He shall make an annual report to the Commission of the years financial records. He shall prepare the annual budget and the budget request submitted to Commissioners Court. The treasurer shall disburse funds upon the approval of the Commission. Checks shall be cosigned by one other officer. The office of Treasurer shall be separate and apart from the Finance and Budget Committee.

* Section 6. Nomination and Election. Nominations for these officers shall be made by a committee composed of five members elected at the November meeting. The Nominating Committee may submit two names for each office. The nominations shall be in writing and submitted to the general membership at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. Nominations may also be accepted from the floor from any member with the consent of the nominee. The chairman of the Nominating Committee shall conduct the election of officers at the Annual Meeting. Election shall be by written ballot for any office in which there is more than one candidate for that office. A majority vote of members present and constituting a quorum shall constitute election. Proxy or absentee voting shall not be allowed in election of officers. Should no candidate receive a majority vote, a runoff shall be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes. Two members of the Nominating Committee and one non member appointed by the Chairman shall count the ballots and report to the members.

Section 7. Resignation and Vacancy. An officer may resign the office by submitting a letter to the Commission which shall be read into the official minutes. Vacancies occuring in any office other than the Chairman shall be filled for the remainder of the term by election at the regular meeting in which the resignation occurred or the regular meeting following the resignation.

*Amended January 13, 1982

## ARTICLE VI

## MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular Meetings. There shall be a minimum of six regular meetings for the general membership as suggested by the Texas Historical Commission. Notification of dates, times and places shall be by mail. At least one meeting per year shall be held in the county seat.

Section 2. Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall be the regular meeting in January. Business for the Annual Meeting shall include election of officers, recommendations of programs for the ensuing year, and any such business as is proper.

Section 3. Special Meetings. The Chairman may call special meetings as necessary to conduct business between regular meetings.

Section 4. Voting. Transaction of business shall be by vote of members of the Commission, and shall carry by a majority of members present. A quorum for the transaction of business shall be the lesser of (1) seven members or (2) a majority of members.

Section 5. Resolutions. Proposed resolutions shall be presented to the Commission in writing. The manner of disposition of the resolution shall be a part of the motion for approval and shall be recorded in the minutes.

Section 6. Public Notice. Meetings and notice of meetings shall conform with the Texas Open Meetings Law, as amended from time to time.

## ARTICLE VII

## COMMITTEES

Section 1. Policies. In accordance with the recommendations of the Texas Historical Commission the following committees shall be standing committees: Finance and Budget Committee, Historical Marker and Research Committee, Historical Preservation Committee, and History Appreciation Committee. Commission activities shall be reported to the Texas Historical Commission under these seperate committees as designated by the Texas Historical Commission. Additional standing committees may be formed, and activities of all standing committees shall be determined by standing rules.

Section 2. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers and chairmen of standing committees. All business transacted by the Executive Committee shall be recorded and reported to the Commission at its next succeeding meeting. Projects and action must be brought before the general membership for approval.

Section 3. Members and Chairmen of Standing Committes. Members and chairmen of standing committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission after polling of members to determine their interests. The terms of chairmen of committees shall be for one year and shall coincide with those of the officers.

Section 4. Special Committees. The Chairman of the Commission may appoint members and chairmen of Special Committees which will serve to accomplish a specific goal or project. Such committees will be terminated at the completion of the goal or project unless otherwise directed by the Commission.

Section 5. Reports. Each committee shall submit a written report at each regular meeting. At the first regular meeting following the Annual Meeting each standing committee chairman shall submit a Planned Program of Work in which the proposed projects for the year are presented. At the November meeting each committee chairman shall submit a written Annual Report covering the activities of the committee.

## ARTICLE VIII

## FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Fiscal Term. The fiscal term for the Commission shall coincide with that of the Commissioners Court.

Section 2. Budget. The proposed total budget and the proposed budget request to Commissioners Court shall be developed by the Executive Committee and presented in writing by the Treasurer to the general membership of the Commission for approval at least thirty days prior to November first. Upon approval, the Treasurer shall prepare an itemized budget request to be accompanied by an itemized total budget, and both shall be cosigned by the Treasurer and the Chairman. These shall be complete and ready to submit to the Tarrant County Budget Officer and Commissioners Court by November first, and seperate copies shall be submitted when requested.

Section 3. Custodian of funds. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of funds with the responsibility of receipt, deposit, disbursal, and the keeping of bookkeeping records of all funds.

Section 4. Audit of Treasurer's Records. The Treasurer's records shall be audited by the Finance and Budget Committee annually and when requested.

Section 5. Supplement Funding. Projects to raise private funds and applications for grants to supplement county appropriations shall be the responsibility of the Finance and Budget Committee.

Section 6. Receipt of Gifts. The Commission shall be authorized to accept gifts of money and other property from any source for use in the furtherance of its lawful purposes. Acceptance of gifts other than money and historical memorabelia shall be by vote of the commission, and approval of Commissioners Court.

## ARTICLE IX

## STANDING RULES

Standing rules shall establish standing committees and define their activities. Policies set forth by the Texas Historical Commission, and other guidance for the performane of the Commission, and which do not conflict with th Bylaws will be established by Standing Rules. Standing Rules may be enacted, amended, or repealed by a vote of two-thirds of members present at any regular meeting of the commission, a quorum being present.

## ARTICLE X

## PARLIMENTARY PROCEDURE

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the Commission in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistant with these Bylaws and any special Rules of Order the Commission may adopt. A Parlimentarian shall be appointed by the Chairman and shall advise on points of parlimentary procedure.

## ARTICLE XI

## AMENDING

These Bylaws may be amended or repealed at any Annual Meeting of the Commission by a vote of two-thirds of members present, a quorum being present, provided the amendments were submitted in writing to the general membership at least two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting.

## ARTICLE XII

## PRECEDENCE

Action required by policies or request of Commissioners Court and which does not conflict with Article 6145.1, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes, but conflicts with these Bylaws shall have precedence over the Bylaws.

ADOPTED by the membership of the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

Date January 14, 1981 Chairman Duane Gage

Secetary Gilbert Anguiano

**********

APPROVED by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court.

County Judge

County Commissioner Pct 3

County Commissioner Pct 1

County Commissioner Pct 4

County Commissioner Pct 2

Date

# STANDING RULES

1. The Commission shall be a well balanced representation of men and women of diverse ages, ethnic composition and residency throughout the county.

2. The Commission should initiate projects as necessary but should not duplicate projects and activities that are satisfactorily being carried out by established historical preservation groups. The Commission should coordinate these projects and activities and guide and direct these efforts when needed and desired.

3. The Commission will endeavor to participate in activities of the Texas Historical Commission and submit a yearly compliation to document the work of the Commission.

4. In addition to the duties detailed in the Bylaws the Vice Chairman shall have the following duties: (a) maintain a checklist of deadline dates for required Commission action, and shall notify those affected by such deadlines (b) shall arrange with neighboring County Historical Commissions to exchange ideas, programs, and to work on joint projects.

5. The Commission shall publish a quarterly newsletter to inform the public of historical preservation activities and shall follow the guidelines suggested by the Texas Historical Commission.

6. Meetings shall be open to the public as determined by statute (Vernons Texas Civil Statutes Article 6252-17). A notice shall be posted in the county courthouse. Notice of the meeting must be posted for at least 3 days preceding the day of the meeting. However, in case of emergency or urgent public necessity, which shall be expressed in the notice, it is sufficient that the notice is posted before the meeting is convened or called to order.

Standing Committees and their duties shall be as follows:

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

1. Shall work toward securing old papers, documents, and records relating to the history of the county and local communities.
2. Shall work to develop a depository for all historical materials in the county.
3. Shall cooperate with the Regional Archivist in developing the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection.
4. Shall develop a bibliography of county source materials.
5. Shall obtain reprinting and microfilming of documents when advisable.
6. It shall promote techniques and practices essential to the preservation of documents.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

1. It shall make recommendations to the Commission concerning appropriate procedures and nominations for special awards for historic preservation both in state competition and at the county level.
2. Shall assume responsibility for obtaining awards to be presented locally.
3. Shall participate in the selection of the recipient of the Heritage Award at the annual TCU History Fair.
4. Shall obtain copies of reports, Planned Programs of Work, newspaper articles, pictures, and all materials that document the activities of the Commission.
5. Shall develop an annual compilation of documents for submission to the Texas Historical Commission for state competition, and shall deliver such compilation to the state office within the designated time as evidence of the activities of the Commission.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1. Shall work with schools in promoting the history of the county.
2. Shall work with and support the county's Junior Historian Program.
3. Shall support the TCU History Fair by presenting an annual "Heritage Award" to the entry that best represents the heritage of Tarrant County, and it shall attempt to recruit volunteer workers for the TCU History Fair.
4. Shall work to establish and develop a TEXAS HISTORY RESOURCE CENTER which will house resource materials, teaching aids, and classroom materials on state and local history, materials which will provide local Texas History instructors and their students assistance in the study of Texas' heritage.

FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

1. It shall raise funds and seek grants to support the projects of the Commission.
2. Shall audit the records of the Treasurer annually and when requested.
3. Shall compile an information file of available grant sources, and shall prepare anddispense packets of grant application information for preservationist who are seeking grant assistance.

HISTORICAL APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

1. Shall conduct Texas and County history appreciation programs.
2. Shall represent the Commission at such programs conducted by others.
3. Shall organize and coordinate dedication programs for Texas Historical Markers when no other sponsoring group is involved.
4. Shall prepare packets of materials to assist sponsors planning marker dedication programs and it shall advise recipients of markers in regard to dedications, invitations, and programs.
5. Shall arrange tours of historical sites, markers, and homes.

HISTORICAL MARKER AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

1. Shall survey, study, and review subjects and sites for possible historical marking.
2. Shallhelp prepare, and shall critique,and submit appropriate marker applications, and may recommend that inappropriate applications be rejected by the Commission.
3. Shall update marker lists.
4. Shall keep a permanent file on each marker application including all correspondence, documents, and critiques pertaining to it.
5. Shall provide copies of marker narratives for the county archives and for certain special collections, and shall allow any public library to make copies of marker narratives.
6. Shall refer any marker application to the Commission for majority approval or rejection whenever any person submits a written request challenging the application's accuracy, qualifications, or suitability.
7. Shall conduct cemetery research and promote cemetery preservation.
8. Shall conduct an oral history program which emphasizes oldtimers recollections and significant contemporary events, in accordance with accepted standards.
9. Shall assist the Archives Committee in collecting historical materials for the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

1. Shall promote the preservation, restoration, and maintaining of historic buildings, structures, and objects in the county.
2. Shall conduct restoration/preservation workshops or arrange such workshops.
3. Shall secure blueprints, photographs, and other data pertaining to structures, for the Commission's archives or files.
4. Shall coordinate efforts to have appropriate local structures placed on the National Register.
5. Shall prepare and dispense packets of materials on tax benefits, legislation, preservation techniques, and the appropriate contacts for those who propose to restore and preserve historic structures.
6. Shall monitor county and municipal planning and zoning activities regarding matters affecting historic structures and preservation policies.
7. Shall assist the Marker and Research Committee in critiquing marker applications for structures, when requested.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

1. Shall prepare and release Commission news and feature stories to the press and broadcast media, and shall submit copies of all releases to the Commission Chairman.
2. Shall prepare and release notifications of marker dedications when requested.
3. Shall send copies of all news releases to the Director of Programs, Texas Historical Commission.
4. It shall collect news clippings, magazine articles, brochures and phamplets relating to the activities of the Commission and to historic preservation in general, and shall dispense copies of those items to appropriate committees and agencies.
5. Shall assist the editor of the Commission's newsletter in collecting and preparing items for the newsletter.
6. Shall maintain an updated mailing list for the newsletter.
7. Shall assist the newsletter editor in printing and mailing the newsletter, when requested.
8. Shall monitor the Commission's newsletter and shall advise the editor regarding quality, accuracy, style, purpose, and editorial content, The usual powers of supervision and management shall be retained by the Commission Chairman and the usual precedence of editorial license shall be followed, within the policies and guidelines set forth by the Texas Historical Commission.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: PAYNE, GAGE, & Roach

PLANNED PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1981 - p. 3

FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE:

The committee will audit the records of the TCHC Treasurer at the end of the year.
One or more TCHC members will attend a Resource Development workshop or Thursday, April 16th, a United Way workshop which will discuss fund-raising programs.

The TCHC will compile an information file on available grant sources and shall make packets of grant application information available.

The TCHC will initiate a fund-raising project to activate the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund for perpetual care for neglected and unkept pioneer cemeteries.

Tarrant County Historical Commission

Finance and Budget Committee
1981 Annual Report

This past year seemed to be one of transition for the committee, as new projects commenced and new people became involved.

In April, Duane Gage and committee member Larry Landis attended a resource development workshop sponsored by the United Way. The workshop provided needed instruction on types of fund-raising and development of fund-raising projects.

Based upon the workshop training, Larry Landis developed a resource development pre-plan for the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund. The go ahead on for implementation of the plan is pending an O.K. from the Internal Revenue Service. The fund has already received a few contributions, totaling approximately $150.

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This year the Commission set up a bank account to hold the monies raised from outside sources. Mr. B.J. Clark, Commission Treasurer, opened the account at the Azle State Bank.

In other fund-raising activities, the Commission received a very gracious anonymous donation of $9,772 to be used for photocopying purposes. The Tarrant County Marriage License Project has yielded almost $700 in approximately 6weeks.

Tarrant County Historical Commission

Finance and Budget Committee
1981 Annual Report

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1981 has been a year of growth for the Finance and Budget Committee's projects and visibility. Quite naturally, the same is true of the Commission as a whole. In 1982, this committee will continue that growth in our efforts to promote history and preservation in Tarrant County.

Sincerely,

Larry Landis

Larry Landis, Chairman
Finance and Budget Committee

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Awards Committee

1981 Annual Report

During the current year, the chairman has been concerned with awards both at the local and state level. Upon recommendations of members of the County Commission, the lives and works of two local historians were researched, summarized and reported to the Tarrant County Historical Commission with the recommendation that the names of DORA DAVENPORT JONES and PEARL FOSTER O DONNELL be submited to the Texas Historical Commission for certificates of Commendation for Historical Preservation at the County LEvel. The certificates were granted, recieved and appropriately framed. Then on November 30, 1981, Bennett L Smith, TCHC Chairman Emeritus presented the certificates to the two recepients at Commissioners' Cpurt. The County Judge espressed the Courts' appreciation of their contributions in preserving local history.

The award committee also recommended to the TCHC that the first two volumes of the Old Northwest Series, Navarro County, 1846-1860 compiled by Nancy Timmons Samuels and Barbara Knox and published by the Fort Worth Geneological Society be entered into the state competition for Best REgional History. Upon receving approval of the local commission, the $ 75. needed to purchase three sets of the publication was contributed by two members. A statement of recommendation, a brief history of the the Geneological Society and biographical sketches of the two compilers together with the books were shipped to the Texas Historical Commission and reciept acknowledged on November 23,1981.

Throughout the year, the chairman has herself collected and recieved from commission chairman and some mebers material for the scrap book which is required as supporting evidence if a county historical commission enters the competition for Best Program of Work.

When members at large failed to make any nominations for special awards to this committee, the commission chairman recommended to a general meeting of the commission that the following names be entered into state competition: Ruby Schmidt as outstanding committee chairman, and Mike Patterson as oustanding commission member. His recommendations were approved and will be submited by him to the Texas Historical Commission.

Respectfully submited,

Frances M Allen

Frances M Allen
Chairman

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS


COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Andersen
Jerry Mebus
A. Lyn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Env. Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Billy W. Sills
Sec. Gilbert Anguiano
Treas. B. J. Clark

COMMISSION MEMBERS
Frances Allen
Mrs. J. J. Ballard
Mrs. Jesse H. Barker
Mrs. Joe Box
Gene Brooks
Mrs. Jim Calhoun
Paul Campbell
Beth Canright
David Dunnett
Beeman Fisher
Gary Havard
Mrs. Marianne Juran
Gordon Kelly
Lawrence Landis
Katherine Livingston
Charlie McCafferty
Brent McPherson
Steve Murrin
Mrs. A. M. Pate, Jr.
Michael E. Patterson
Mrs. Jayne L. Payne
Sidney Poynter
Carol Rourk
Mrs. Jacob Rolla
Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Mrs. Ann J. Smith
John Hugh Smith
Winston O. Sparks
Joe E. Standifer
Jack D. Watson
C. George Younkin


TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Revised Budget for 1981

COMMITTEE:

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION .....$ 50.00
See attached budget request

HISTORICAL MARKER AND ARCHIVES ..... $ 575.00
See attached budget request

HISTORY APPRECIATION AND EDUCATION ..... $ 210.00
See attached budget request

ADVISORY AND LIAISON COMMITTEE ..(tr. to administra.) $ 00.00
Stamps and supplies for correspondance

NEWSLETTER ..... $ 400.00
See atched budget request

ADMINISTRATION ..... $ 765.00

$2000.00

Approved by the Tarrant County Historical Commission in Regular Meeting March 18, 1981.

B. J. Clark, Treasurer

Gilbert Anguiano, Secretary

Duane Gage, Chairman

Duane Gage

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

TREASURER'S REPORT 1981

Tarrant County Historical Commission received an allocation of $2,000 from the county funds for 1981. A revised budget was approved by the Tarrant County Historical Commission at its annual meeting on January 24th, and $1,832.00 of that sum was expended by the end of the year.

In October, 1981, the Tarrant County Historical Commission opened a bank account at the Azle State Bank. The following deposits were made:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| October 1, 1981 | - Donations received at Hurst Pioneer Days ..... | $47.50 |
| Oct. 25, 1981 | - funds from Funfest and from other donations..... | 77.50 |
| Nov. 18, 1981 | - donations from marriage license distribution..... | 167.00 |
| Nov. 4, 1981 | - donation of $9,722.02 for microfilming and $15.00 for marriage license distribution.....9,787.02 | 109.50 |
| Nov. 18, 1981 | -Preservation Council imbursement for selling tickets. | |
| Nov. 25, 1981 | -donations from marriage license distribution..... | 163.00 |
| Dec. 8, 1981 | - Marriage license donations..... | 99.00 |
| Dec. 21, 1981 | - Marriage license donations..... | 235.70 |
| Dec. 31, 1981 | - Marriage License donations..... | 140.50 |
| | | $10,826.72 |

Disbursements from bank account, 1981:

| | |
|---|---|
| Payment of Nov. 15-Dec. 14 photocopy . . at TCJC ..... | $32.45 |
| BALANCE | $10,631.27 |

Tarrant County Historical Commission raised $9,173.35 for official Texas Historical markers in 1981.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Miscellaneous contributions to the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund | ... | $174.50 |
| Miscellaneous contributions to purchase a chair now | ... | 150.00 |
| Miscellaneous contributions for cement mix | ... | 10.00 |
| Contributions to purchase Navarro County Volumes | ... | 75.00 |
| TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS | ... | $409.50 |

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

December 31, 1981

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1981

PURPOSE OF REPORT.

This report on preservation activities in Tarrant County in the year 1981 is submitted to the Tarrant County Commissioners Court and to The Texas Historical Commission, to fulfill a statutory requirement that is established in accordance with Article 6145.1 of Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes.

COMMISSION ORGANIZATION.

Thirty-seven countycitizens served on the Commission during 1981.

| Precinct One: | Precinct Two: | Precinct Three: | Precinct Four: |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mrs. Jim Calhoun | Gene Brooks | Mrs. Jesse H. Barker | Frances Allen |
| Gary Havard | Beth Canright | Mrs. Joe Box | Paul Campbell |
| Marrianne Juran | David Dunnett | Duane Gage | B. J. Clark |
| Jayne L. Payne | Mrs. Jacob Rolla | Michael E. Patterson | Charlie McCafferty |
| Sidney Poynter | Joe Standifer | Brent McPherson | Steve Murrin |
| Winston O. Sparks | C. George Younkin | John Hugh Smith | Carol Roark |

Members Pate, McCafferty, Rolla and Ballard show poster at Commission meeting

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION 1981 ATTENDANCE

| Meeting dates: | Jan. 14 | March 18 | May 13 | July 15 | Sept 19 | Nov. 11, 1981 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Allen, Frances | P | P | P | P | P | AB |
| Anguiano, Gilbert | P | P | P | AB | P | P |
| Ballard, Mrs. J. J. | P | P | P | AB | P | AB |
| Barker, Mrs. Jesse H. | P | P | P | AB | P | P |
| Box, Mrs. Joe | P | AB | AB | AB | P | AB |
| Brooks, Gene | P | AB | P | AB | P | P |
| Calhoun, Mrs. Jim | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Campbell, Paul | P | P | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Canright, Beth | P | P | P | AB | P | P |
| Clark, B. J. | AB | AB | AB | P | P | P |
| Dunnett, David | AB | P | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Fisher, Beeman | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Gage, Duane | P | P | P | P | P | P |
| Havard, Gary | P | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Juran, Marrianne | AB | P | AB | AB | P | AB |
| Kelley, Gordan | P | P | AB | AB | P | AB |
| Landis, Larry | AB | P | AB | P | P | P |
| Livingston, Katherine | AB | P | P | P | P | P |
| McCafferty, Charlie | P | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| McPherson, Brent | AB | P | AB | AB | P | AB |
| Murrin, Steve | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Pate, Mrs. A. M. Jr. | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Patterson, Michael E. | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Payne, Mrs. Jayne L. | P | P | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Poynter, Sidney | AB | AB | P | AB | P | AB |
| Roark, Carol | P | P | P | AB | AB | P |
| Rolla, Mrs. Jacob | AB | AB | AB | P | AB | AB |
| Schmidt, Mrs. W. Albert | P | P | P | P | P | AB |
| Sills, Billy W. | P | P | P | AB | P | P |
| Smith, Mrs. Ann J. | AB | AB | AB | AB | P | AB |
| Smith, John Hugh | P | P | P | P | P | AB |
| Sparks, Winston O. | AB | P | AB | AB | P | AB |
| Standifer, Joe | AB | AB | P | AB | AB | AB |
| Watson, Jack D. | AB | P | AB | AB | AB | AB |
| Younkin, George C. | P | AB | AB | AB | P | P |
| Craddock, Mrs. Mike | - | - | - | P | P | AB |

P = present
AB = absent

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

December 31, 1981

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

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| Winston O. Sparks | C. George Younkin | John Hugh Smith | Carol Roark |

| County Judge: | At Large: |
|---|---|
| Marty Craddock | Gilbert Anguiano |
| Beeman Fisher | Mrs. J. J. Ballard |
| Mrs. A. M. Pate, Jr. | Gordan Kelley |
| Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt | Lawrence Landis |
| Bennett L. Smith | Katherine Livingston |
| Jack D. Watson | Billy W. Sills |
| | Ann J. Smith |

The membership of the Commission is a well balanced representation of men and women of diverse ages, ethnic composition and residency throughout the county. Eight of the Commission's members are under the age of forty. Four citizens have served as Associates to the Commission in 1981: Alta Lee Futch, Janie Reid, Mildred Spratling, and Beryl Gibson.

OFFICERS. At an organization meeting January 14, 1981, Duane Gage was re-elected as Chairman; Billy W. Sills, Vice Chairman; Gilbert Anguiano, Secretary; and B.J. Clark, Treasurer. The following Standing Committee Chairmen were appointed:

Archives Committee - Ruby Schmidt
Awards Committee - Frances Allen
History Appreciation Committee - Charlie McCafferty
Education Committee - John Hugh Smith
Marker Committee- Duane Gage
Preservation Committee - Carol Roar
Budget Committee - Jayne Payne

A complete list of committee and special project assignments is attached.

MEETINGS. Regular meetings of the Commission were held on January 14, March18, May 13, July 15, September 19, and November 11, 1981. Meetings of the Executive Committee (consisting of elected officers and Standing Committee chairmen) were held on February 18, April 15, June 17, August 19, September 30, and December 10th. For attendance records of the membership, see Attachment.
The July 15th meeting was a joint meeting in Azle, with representatives of the Wise County and Parker County Historical Commissions.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN 1981.

The Commission enacted the following resolutions expressing itself on various matters:

1. A resolution to the National Archives and Records Service protesting the disposal of federal court records.
2. A resolution to develop a program to preserve displaced grave markers.
3. A resolution praising the restoration work of Boy Scout Troop 333 in cleaning up the I. D.Parker Public Cemetery in Hurst.
4. A resolution authorizing the Palo Pinto County Historical Commission to publish up to ten pages from the Diary of Jonathan Hamilton Baker.
5. A resolution to appoint ASSOCIATES to the programs of the Commission.
6. A resolution supporting the restoration of the O.D. Stevens House.
7. A resolution encouraging the microfilming of the Minutes of the Elm Fork Baptist Association and the West Fork Baptist Association.
8. A resolution expressing concern about the safety of county records that are to be temporarily housed in the Ajax Building.
9. A resolution providing for the distribution of old Tarrant County marriage licenses.
10. A resolution to raise funds for microcopying sole existing copies of historically significant materials.
11. A resolution urging the City of Fort Worth to include the proposed joint city-county archives in its 1982 bond package.
12. A resolution of gratitude to the anonymous donor who contributed funds to microcopy sole existing copies of historically significant materials.

AWARDS.

At the Annual Historical Preservation Conference, April 23-25, at Austin, Tarrant County Historical Commission received The Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Historic Commission for outstanding accomplishments in heritage preservation in 1980.

Mrs. Jesse H. Barker, Colleyville, was recognized as Outstanding Standing Committee Chairman for 1980, for her achievements as Tarrant County Historical Commission's Liaison Committee Chairman. These awards reflect our Commission's sustained and dedicated commitment to fulfill our responsibilities to preserve our county's heritage.

HISTORICAL MARKER AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE
1981 Annual Report

During 1981 twenty-six (26) official Texas Historical Marker applications were submitted to the Texas Historical Commission:

Historic Sites:
Niles City
Mount Gilead Cemetery
Witten Cemetery
Spring Garden Community
Mount Gilead Baptist Church (Keller)
Harrison Cemetery
Tate Springs Baptist Church
Emanuel Hebrew Rest Cemetery
Gibbins Cemetery
Ford Cemetery
Arlington First Baptist Church
West Fork United Presbyterian Church
Tomlin Cemetery
Azle Schools
Minters Chapel Methodist Church
Absalom Chivers Cemetery
Hood Cemetery
Snider Cemetery
St. Paul Lutheran Church

Historic Structures:
Marshall R. Sanguinett House
Former TSTA Building
Winfield Garage (pending)
Hotel Texas (pending)

Historic Persons:
William Letchworth Hurst
William Madison McDonald
James M. Benbrook

Fourteen of the twenty-six marker applications were researched and written by Commission members. The Commission co-ordinated twelve marker dedication programs and raised $9,173.35 for historical markers during 1981.

Cemetery Preservation Committee.

This committee, chaired by Michael E. Patterson, is a sub-committee of the Historical Marker Committee. In addition to the projects to acquire official Texas Historical markers for the eleven cemeteries from the above list, the Cemetery Preservation Committee has been instrumental in establishing cemetery associations for the Witten Cemetery, Mount Gilead Cemetery, and has worked to restore several small pioneer cemeteries in Tarrant County.

The Tarrant County Commissioners Court has established the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, wherein donations for preserving andmaintaining several pioneer cemeteries can be carried out. Chairman Emeritus Bennett L. Smith has worked throughout the year in an effort to have the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund clearly designated by IRS as a tax-exempt fund, so that the Commission can launch a major drive to establish perpetual care for our pioneer cemeteries.

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT 1981

John Hugh Smith, Chairman
Cecelia Box, Member
Ruby Schmidt, Member
Joe Standifer, Member
Alta Lee Futch, Associate Member

On the first week in March, 1981, at the annual Texas Christian University Regional History Fair, we presented the Tarrant County Heritage Award to Miss Karen Mutcher of Wedgewood Middle School, Fort Worth, for her Camp Bowie in WWI display project. This winning project, plus fourteen other Tarrant County projects, was placed on display in the Heritage Room of the Tarrant County Junior College Library.

Several Committee members volunteered to work at the annual T.C.U. Fair.

On May 6th, the Education Committee Chairman attended a meeting in Arlington, Texas with our Junior Historian Chapter sponsors and with Dr. Leon Blair of the Texas Bureau of Economic Understanding. The purpose of the meeting was to explore ways and means to advance the Junior Historian movement in the metroplex area. The Metroplex Heritage Association was founded at this meeting.

On November 24, 1981 the first Metroplex Heritage Area meeting was held in Hurst, Texas. After much discussion was held, Dr. Blair announced plans to write every school superintendent in the Metroplex. We seek their permission and cooperation in establishing Junior Historian chapters.

On November 6th, the committee chairman attended a preservation workshop at the Fort Worth Public Library.

On October 29, 1981 the Chairman attended a meeting of the Education Committee of the Historic Preservation Council of Tarrant County, Texas, to help them plan their education programs for the year.

On November 20, 1981 the Chairman attended the planning meeting for the 1982 T.C.U. Regional History Fair. The Commission will again present the Annual Heritage Award to the project that best represents the heritage of Tarrant County.

On August 13-14, 1981 Alta Lee Futch attended the State History Awareness Workshop held at Fredericksburg, Texas. Alta Lee is an Associate Member of our Commission and is the sponsor of the Stevens Middle School Junior Historians Chapter in Crowley, Texas.

Our Education Committee works with and supports our Junior Historian Chapters in Tarrant County. At this time we have only seven active chapters, therefore the Tarrant County Historical Commission's Education Committee calls upon the citizens of Tarrant County, in the name of Liberty, of patriotism, and everything dear to the Texas character to promote the teaching and awareness of our heritage.

Respectfully Submitted
John Hugh Smith, Chairman

Dec. 18, 1981

Tarrant County Historical Commission

Finance and Budget Committee
1981 Annual Report

This past year seemed to be one of transition for the committee, as new projects commenced and new people became involved.

In April, Duane Gage and committee member Larry Landis attended a resource development workshop sponsored by the United Way. The workshop provided needed instruction on types of fund-raising and development of fund-raising projects.

Based upon the workshop training, Larry Landis developed a resource development pre-plan for the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund. The go ahead for implementation of the plan is pending on an O.K. from the Internal Revenue Service. The fund has already received a few contributions, totaling approximately $150.

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Sincerely,

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Larry Landis, Chairman
Finance and Budget Committee

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Awards Committee

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Respectfully submited,

Frances M Allen

Frances M Allen
Chairman

# PRESERVATION COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 1981

## WORKSHOPS:

National Register and Texas Historical Marker Nomination Workshop, Jan. 24, 1981
Duane Gage and Carol Roark explained the nomination process, handed out information packets and gave advice to individuals wishing to complete nominations. Attended by about 35 people.

Care and Use of Photographs and Archival Documents, Dec. 10, 1981
Charles Hughes, Tarrant County Archivist, Marni Sandweiss, Curator of Photographs at the Amon Carter Museum, and Carol Roark presented program which included initial information on the Texas Photographic Survey. Ruby Schmidt presided. Attended by about 15 people, distributed about 50 survey forms.

Assisted with Nov. 6, 1981 workshop on "Why that Building Should be Saved" co-sponsored by Texas Historical Commission and Tarrant County Historical Commission. Provided commentary on downtown tour.

## ZONING ORDINANCE:

Committee member Gordan Kelley served on the committee that drafted the city's Historical-Cultural zoning ordinance. Mr. Kelley spoke before the city council in support of the ordinance which was adopted this fall. Commission input included concern over the size of the Commission and the lack of "denture ammendments" that would make the ordinance enforcable.

## NATIONAL REGISTER PACKETS:

Prepared packets of the forms and instructions needed to complete the National Register nomination process. These packets are sent to individuals requesting information. Throughout the year committee members Carol Roark and Kathy Livingston advised people on how to prepare the nominations and determine whether or not their structure is eligible. [In addition several architectural descriptions were written for structures nominated for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark status.]

## BALDRIDGE HOUSE:

Wrote the Texas Historical Commission requesting review of the landmark status of the Baldridge House because questionable renovation work threatenend the historical integrity of the structure. Toured the house with the owner and provided THC with photographs and information on the renovation plans. THC has never removed a landmark designation before and decided not to do so in this case either.

PRESERVATION ALERT:

Drafted preservation alert letter to be sent to woners considering alterations or additions to Recorded Texas Historic Landmark or National Register structures. These letters will be sent if the TCHC senses that a problem situation might be arising.

INTERSTATE 30 EXPANSION:

Spoke at the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Committee hearing regarding the expansion of the I 30 freeway overhead and its impact on historic structures (Post Office, T & P Complex, and Fort Worth Public Market Building). Presented TCHC resolutions urging study of alternatives at two city council meetings. As of this date the issue has not been completely resolved, but it appears that the expansion will proceed with modifications that will preserve the Market Building.

ARCHIVES MATERIAL:

Investigated the possibility of exchanging copies of documents and manuscripts related to Tarrant County history with the Barker Texas History Library. Director Don Carleton indicated that they like to "trade" material and the project is on hold pending initiation of the Commission microfilming project which will provide material for the trade.

Kathy Livingston has collected several architectual drawings to begin a Commission collection. Copies of the drawings fo the Public Market Building have been promised, but not yet received.

PRESS RELEASE:

Prepared press release on the new tax incentive measures for the preservation of historic structures.

# ARCHIVES COMMITTEE 1981

Having an Archive Committee who are dedicated in their work makes this Standing Committee a pleasure to chair. It's with the cooperation of Beth Canright, Carol Roark, Paul Campbell, Kathy Livingston, Skeet Calhoun, Jack Watson, Billy Sills, George Younkin, as well as volunteers, that we make any sort of impact on the communnity.

The concept of an inventory of materials pertaining to Fort Worth and Tarrant County, listing their location has been put into action. As a result, the Fort Worth Public Library administrator has pledged her cooperation. A letter will shortly be sent to all librarians in the county asking their assistance in this project.

Under the capable leadership of Duane Gage, the marriage license committee has been very active leading to activity and interest throughout the area.

Workshops have included "Why That Building Should Be Saved", including a walking tour of downtown Fort Worth and"Photographs and Archival Documents: Their Care and Use". We have endeavored to assist in this project, getting a commitment from the Tarrant County Historical Society to contact all members about cooperating on the picture inventory.

Requests for information have come from private citizens, public institutions and the news media. As a result added information has been gained. The news stories included stories in the Dallas Morning News and Star Telegram on Streets of Fort Worth, Fort Worth Streets and the Trinity River. Radio has included interviews on the beginning of Fort Worth, as well as historical facts of early Fort Worth.

George Younkin has been active in an archive program of Boy Scout materials. As former head of the Federal Depository, he has a vast storehouse of information and friends to help in the work.

Billy Sills, as Social Studies Administrator of Fort Worth Public School System, has been the motivator in preservation of Fort Worth School history.

Jack Watson has the interest but has been ill recently.

Skeet Calhoun contributed many personal documents for the Saunders historical marker.

Kathy Livingston has been involved in architectural drawings of Fort Worth structures. She has also investigated the numerous maps pertaining to Tarrant County.

Paul Campbell has been very helpful as a liason between the public, the Fort Worth Public Library and the Commission on local history. As a result, we now have additional information from interested parties who have ties here.

Beth Canright has led out in a vigerous campaign to preserve history in Mansfield. She and Beryl Gibson are very busy recording old cemeteries as well as focusing attention on Mansfield's heritage.

Carol Roark, as Preservation Chairman, has cooperated in every way possible, including providing information on Amon Carter's holdings for our inventory.

Material from the stacks of the old Public Library has been processed and inventoried. Many individuals gave their time in processing Tarrant abstracts. This is a continuing activity.

Listing of materials on Tarrant County collected are:
University of Texas at Arlington, including the Jenkins Garrett Collection, an incomplete list of sources from North Texas State University, a partial listing of Fort Worth records in the Regional Archives, a complete topical index of material contained in "Footprints", quarterly of the Fort Worth Genealogical Society, Tarrant material in the Genealogical Department of Arlington Public Library and some master theses and Ph. D desertations from TCU.

Materials for the Archives will continue to be the emphasis for this committee.

Ruby Schmidt

ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES:

There will be six regular meetings of the Tarrant County Historical Commissinn in 1981.
Members of the Commission will attend at least four meetings of other heritage or historical organizations.

The Commission will initiate a joint meeting with the Wise County Historical Commission and the Parker County Historical Commission at Azle in 1981 and will schedule a speaker on history or historical preservation for the joint meeting.

The Tarrant County Historical Commission shall have at least two members in attendance at the Annual Historic Preservation Conference.

One or more members of the Tarrant County Historical Commission shall serve on the Tourism Committee of a local Chamber of Commerce.

--Duane Gage, Chairman
March 18, 1981



MEETINGS. Regular meetings of the Commission were held on January 14, March18, May 13, July 15, September 19, and November 11, 1981. Meetings of the Executive Committee (consisting of elected officers and Standing Committee chairmen) were held on February 18, April 15, June 17, August 19, September 30, and December 10th. For attendance records of the membership, see Attachment.
The July 15th meeting was a joint meeting in Azle, with representatives of the Wise County and Parker County Historical Commissions.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN 1981.

The Commission enacted the following resolutions expressing itself on various matters:

1. A resolution to the National Archives and Records Service protesting the disposal of federal court records.
2. A resolution to develop a program to preserve displaced grave markers.
3. A resolution praising the restoration work of Boy Scout Troop 333 in cleaning up the I. D.Parker Public Cemetery in Hurst.
4. A resolution authorizing the Palo Pinto County Historical Commission to publish up to ten pages from the Diary of Jonathan Hamilton Baker.
5. A resolution to appoint ASSOCIATES to the programs of the Commission.
6. A resolution supporting the restoration of the O.D. Stevens House.
7. A resolution encouraging the microfilming of the Minutes of the Elm Fork Baptist Association and the West Fork Baptist Association.
8. A resolution expressing concern about the safety of county records that are to be temporarily housed in the Ajax Building.
9. A resolution providing for the distribution of old Tarrant County marriage licenses.
10. A resolution to raise funds for microcopying sole existing copies of historically significant materials.
11. A resolution urging the City of Fort Worth to include the proposed joint city-county archives in its 1982 bond package.
12. A resolution of gratitude to the anonymous donor who contributed funds to microcopy sole existing copies of historically significant materials.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM 31

## Gratitude

I would like to express my gratitude for the articles about the activities of the Tarrant County Historical Commission during 1980. Many citizens are unaware that the commission is a committee of historians and preservationists appointed by Commissioners Court.

During 1980, Tarrant County Historical Commission members logged 54 historical tours and 108 speeches and programs. We strove to save historically valuable archival materials, 19th century city directories and antebellum historical documents.

Since 1978, the commission has found the county's pioneer cemeteries to be in deplorable condition. Consequently, Commissioners Court was urged to establish a Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, wherein tax deductible private donations can be sent to the county auditor so that a perpetual trust can provide funds toward the upkeep of neglected cemeteries.

In an effort to preserve historic structures in Fort Worth's central business diztrict, the commission has concentrated on the 900 block between Houston and Throckmorton Streets to encourage property owners to preserve their structures.

Recognizing that the proposed expansion of the overhead section of Interstate 30 through the central business district threatened the future of several historical structures, the commission asked the highway planners to study the possibility of selecting another route.

The most visible activity of the commission is the official Texas Historical Marker program. In 1980, 23 historical markers were acquired for Tarrant County. Recently a marker was dedicated at Fort Worth's Main Post Office.

Preservationists are not obstructionists. We do feel, however, that our future must not be built from the demolished fragments of our past. Because of the preservation efforts of those who have preceded us, today we know we are the children of those who shaped the values and plowed the fields and started the schools and churches and sowed the seeds of opportunity for our generation.

DUANE GAGE
Chairman
Tarrant County
Historical Commission
Hurst

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

1981 HISTORICAL MARKER ACTIVITIES

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS


COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Andersen
Jerry Mebus
A. Lyn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Em. Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Charlie McCafferty
Sec. Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Treas. Mrs. Herschel Payne

COMMISSION MEMBERS
Frances Allen
Gilbert Anguiano
Mrs. J. J. Ballard
Mrs. Jesse H. Barker
Mrs. Jack Benson
Mrs. Joe Box
Gene Brooks
Mrs. Jim Calhoun
Paul Campbell
B. J. Clark
David Dunnett
Beeman Fisher
Mrs. Beryl Gibson
Joe Hallford
Gary Havard
Mrs. Marianne Juran
Brent McPherson
Steve Murrin
Mrs. A. M. Pate, Jr.
Mike Patterson
Sidney Poynter
Ms. Carol Roark
Mrs. Jacob Rolla
Billy W. Sills
Mrs. Ann J. Smith
Winston O. Sparks
Lou Linda Spaulding
Joe Standifer
C. George Younkin


Jan. 16, 1981 - Niles City Application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.

Jan. 21, 1981 - William Letchworth Hurst Application mailed to Texas Hist. Comm.

Feb. 3, 1981 - Mount Gilead Cemetery Application mailed to Texas Hist. Comm.

Feb. 6, 1981 - Witten Cemetery Application mailed to Texas Hist. Commission

Feb. 9, 1981 - Spring Garden Community application mailed to Tex. Hist. Comm.

Feb. 10, 1981 - Marshall R. Sanguinet House application mailed toTHC.

Feb. 10, 1981 - Bourland Cemetery proposed inscription returned to THC with changes

Feb. 12, 1981 - Wm. Letchworth Hurst Application approved by Texas Hist. Comm.

Feb. 15, 1981 - Crowley Cemetery marker was dedicated.

Feb. 12, 1981 - Niles City Application approvd by Texas Historical Commission.

Feb. 26, 1981 - Mount Gilead Baptist Church (Keller) application mailed to THC.

March 6, 1981 - Spring Garden Community apllication approvd by Texas Hist. Comm.

March 6, 1981 - Mount Gilead Cemetery Application approved by Texas Hist. Comm.

March 6,1981 - Witten Cemetery application approved by Texas Historical Commission.

March 7, 1981 - Beracha Home and Cemetery marker was dedicated.

March 23, 1981 - Bourland Cemetery revised inscription returned to THC with request for additional change.

March 23, 1981 - Marshall R. Sanguinet House application approved by Texas Hist. Comm.

April 2, 1981 - Bourland Cemetery revised inscription approved by TCHC.

April 6, 1981 - TSTA Building marker application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.

April 8, 1981 - John Peter Smith, Oakwood Cemetery Founder marker dedicated.

April 9, 1981 - Land Title Building marker application reactivated.

April 25, 1981 - H. ndley Cemetery Marker dedicated.

April 27, 1981 - Harrison Cemetery Marker application mailed to Texas Historical Commissio

May 2, 1981 - Dedication of the Bideault House marker occurred.

May 9, 1981 - The Fort Worth Public Market Building was dedicated.

May 15, 1981 - Proposed inscription for Witten Cemetery returned to THC with request for revision.

Committee Memebers Gage, Allen, Schmidt,& McPherson

## HISTORICAL MARKER AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE
1981 Annual Report

During 1981 twenty-six (26) official Texas Historical Marker applications were submitted to the Texas Historical Commission:

Historic Sites:
- Niles City
- Mount Gilead Cemetery
- Witten Cemetery
- Spring Garden Community
- Mount Gilead Baptist Church (Keller)
- Harrison Cemetery
- Tate Springs Baptist Church
- Emanuel Hebrew Rest Cemetery
- Gibbins Cemetery
- Ford Cemetery
- Arlington First Baptist Church
- West Fork United Presbyterian Church
- Tomlin Cemetery
- Azle Schools
- Minters Chapel Methodist Church
- Absalom Chivers Cemetery
- Hood Cemetery
- Snider Cemetery
- St. Paul Lutheran Church

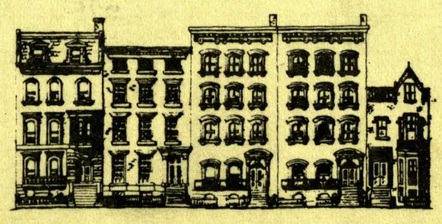
Historic Structures:
- Marshall R. Sanguinett House
- Former TSTA Building
- Winfield Garage (pending)
- Hotel Texas (pending)

Historic Persons:
- William Letchworth Hurst
- William Madison McDonald
- James M. Benbrook

Fourteen of the twenty-six marker applications were researched and written by Commission members. The Commission co-ordinated twelve marker dedication programs and raised $9,173.35 for historical markers during 1981.

National Register and Texas Historical Marker Workshop
January 24, 1981 from 2-5pm.
Discussion Room B
Fort Worth Public Library
300 Taylor Street

* how to complete a nomination for either list
* benefits of having a structure listed
* where to find research materials

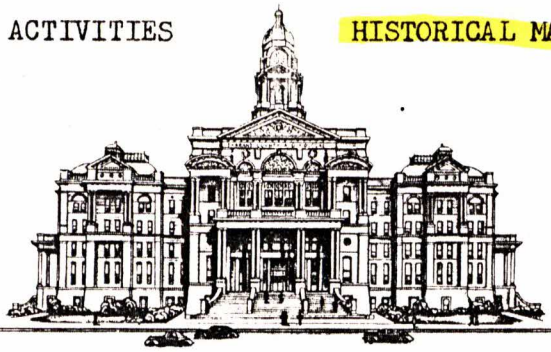


Sponsored by the Tarrant County Historical Commission

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

1981 HISTORICAL MARKER ACTIVITIES

HISTORICAL MARKER ACTIVITIES 1981



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Jan. 16, 1981 - Niles City Application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.

Jan. 21, 1981 - William Letchwoth Hurst Application mailed to Texas Hist. Comm.

Feb. 3, 1981 - Mount Gilead Cemetery Application mailed to Texas Hist. Comm.

Feb. 6, 1981 - Witten Cemetery Application mailed to Texas Hist. Commission

Feb. 9, 1981 - Spring Garden Community application mailed to Tex. Hist. Comm.

Feb. 10, 1981 - Marshall R. Sanguinet House application mailed toTHC.

Feb. 10, 1981 - Bourland Cemetery proposed inscription returned to THC with change

Feb. 12, 1981 - Wm. Letchworth Hurst Application approved by Texas Hist. Comm.

Feb. 15, 1981 - Crowley Cemetery marker was dedicated.

Feb. 12, 1981 - Niles City Application approvd by Texas Historical Commission.

Feb. 26, 1981 - Mount Gilead Baptist Church (Keller) application mailed to THC.

March 6, 1981 - Spring Garden Community apllication approvd by Texas Hist. Comm.

March 6, 1981 - Mount Gilead Cemetery Application approved by Texas Hist. Comm.

March 6,1981 - Witten Cemetery application approved by Texas Historical Commission.

March 7, 1981 - Beracha Home and Cemetery marker was dedicated.

March 23, 1981 - Bourland Cemetery revised inscription returned to THC with request for additional change.

March 23, 1981 - Marshall R. Sanguinet House application approved by Texas Hist. Comm.

April 2, 1981 - Bourland Cemetery revised inscription approved by TCHC.

April 6, 1981 - TSTA Building marker application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.

April 8, 1981 - John Peter Smith, Oakwood Cemetery Founder marker dedicated.

April 9, 1981 - Land Title Building marker application reactivated.

April 25, 1981 - Handley Cemetery Marker dedicated.

April 27, 1981 - Harrison Cemetery Marker application mailed to Texas Historical Commissio

May 2, 1981 - Dedication of the Bideault House marker occurred.

May 9, 1981 - The Fort Worth Public Market Building was dedicated.

May 15, 1981 - Proposed inscription for Witten Cemetery returned to THC with request for revision.

May 22, 1981 - Proposed inscription for Mt. Gilead Cemtery marker returned to THC with request for change.
May 30; 1981 - Grapevine Cemetery marker was dedicated.
May 22, 1981 - Proposed insctiption for Spring Garden Community returned to THC with request for change.
May 22, 1981 - Sanguinet House application approved by Texas Historical Commission.
June 15, 1981 - Tate Springs Baptist Church application mailed to Texas Historical Comm.
June 7, 1981 - Thomas B. Saunders Family marker was dedicated.
June 16, 1981 - Request for revision of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church inscription mailed to TH
June 17, 1981 - Revised inscription for Spring Garden Community approved by TCHC.
June 17, 1981 - Revised inscription for Mount Gilead Cemetery approved by TCHC.
June 23, 1981 - William Letchworth Hurst proposed inscription approved by TCHC.
June 23, 1981 - Niles City proposed inscription returned to THC with request for revision.
June 29, 1981 - Emanuel Hebrew Rest Cemetery application mailed to Texas Historical Comm.
June 29, 1981 - Sanguinet House proposed inscription returned to THC with request for Rev.
July 1, 1981 - Proposed inscription for Marhshall Sanguinet House returned with request for revision.
July 6, 1981 - Witten Cemetery revised inscription returned to THC with additional request.
July 7, 1981 - Tate Springs Baptist Church application approvdd by Texas Historical Comm.
July 9, 1981 - Winfield Garage Application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.
July 16, 1981 - Marshall R. Sanguinnet House inscription approved by TCHC.
July 22, 1981 - Mt. Gilead Baptist Church proposed revised inscription returned to THC with request for revision.
July 29, 1981 - Niles Cityrevised inscription approved by TCHC.
Aug. 3,1981 - Witten Cemetery revised inscription approved by TCHC.
Aug. 4, 1981 - Mt. Gilead Baptist Church revised inscription approved by TCHC.
Aug. 4, 1981 - Emanuel Hebrew Rest Application approved by Texas Historical Commission.
Aug. 24, 1981 - Gibbons Cemetery (Arlington) mailed to Texas Historical Commission.
Aug. 27, 1981 - Ford Cemetery Application mailed to Texas Historical Commissionl,
Aug. 28, 1981 - Wm. Madison McDonald application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.
Aug. 30, 1981 - Dobkins Cemetery marker dedicated.
Aug. 28, 1981 - Former TSTA Building application approved by Texas Historical Commission.
Aug. 28, 1981 - Arlington First Baptist Church application approved by THC.
Sept. 16, 1981 - John Peter Smith marker dedicated.
Sept. 12, 1981 - Bourland Cemetery marker dedicated.
Sept. 16, 1981 - Harrison proposed inscription returned to THC with request for revision.
Sept. 16, 1981 - West Fork United Presbyterian Church application mailed to THC.
Sept. 22, 1981 - Tomlin Cemeteyy application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.
Oct. 5, 1981 - Azle Schools application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.
Oct. 6, 1981 - Harrison Cemetery proposed revision returned with additional request to TH
Oct. 7, 1981 - Emanuel Hebrew Rest Cemetery proposed inscription approved by TCHC.

Oct. 12, 1981 - Minters Chapel Methodist Church application mailed to Texas Hist. Comm.

Oct. 19. 1981 - Revised inscription for Tate Springs Baptist Church approved by TCHC.

Oct. 20. 1981 - Absalom H. Chivers F,mily Cmmetery application mailed to Texas Hist. Comm.

Oct. 21, 1981 - Hood Cemetery application maildd to Texas Historical Commission.

Oct. 22, 1981 - Revised inscription for Harrison Cemetery returnedd to THC with further reques

Nov. 6, 1981 - Benbrook grave marker application presented to Texas Historical Commission.

Nov. 16, 1981 - Hotel Texas marker application mailed to Texss Historical Commission.

Nov. 16,1981 - Harrison Cemetery revised insctiption approved by TCHC.

Nov. 17, 1981 - First Baptist Church of Arlington inscription returned to THC with request for revision.

DNov. 25, 1981 - Snider Cemetery application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.

Dec. 1, 1981 - Ford Cemetery proposed inscription approved by TCHC.

Dec. 1, 1981 - St. Paul Luther Church, FW, application mailed to Texas Historical Commission.

Dec. 17, 1981 - Former TSTA Building proposed inscription approved by TCHC

Dec. 22, 1981 - Gibbins Cemetery proposed Inscription returned to THC with request for revision.

**********

*The Crowley Cemetery Association*
*and*
*Junior Historians*
*of*
*H. F. Stevens Middle School*
*cordially invite you to the dedication of the*
*Texas State Historical Marker*
*for the*
*Crowley Cemetery*
*Sunday, February 15, 1981*
*at 2:00 p.m.*
*Crowley Cemetery*
*300 North Hampton Street*
*Crowley, Texas*

*In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Crowley Community Center, Bicentennial Park, 900 East Glendale.*

DEDICATION

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER

FOR

CROWLEY CEMETERY

Sunday, February 15, 1981

2:00 P.M.

CROWLEY BEACON
What people don't know will hurt them.

Feb. 19-1981

# Historical Marker dedicate(

A historical marker for the Crowley Cemetery was dedicated last Sunday after much hard work from dedicated citizens. The ceremony began with a welcome by John Clements, President of the Crowley Cometery Association and invocation by Jerry Cox, Principal at H. F. Stevens Middle School. Mr. Clements then recognized some special people in the audience before Mrs. Alta Lee Futch gave the history of the cemetery.

The Crowley Cometery has much folklore and tradition. One tradition states there was a spring near Crowley on Deer Creek. The spring became a "way station" for the early pioneers to stop and rest. The first burials in the cemetery are thought to have been after an Indian attack at the "way station" in the 1840's. In fact, the Crowley Cemetery became a burial place for residents of south Tarrant and north Johnson Counties.

Pioneers began breaking the prairie near Deer Creek in the Crowley area about 1848. The Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe Railroad chose an area near the creek as a suitable spot for trackage and stock pens. The settlement moved to its current site when the railroad came through in 1881, and it became known as Crowley. The town was named for a Mr. Crowley, an employee of the railroad.

On February 7, 1879 Sarah J. (Sallie) Dunn, wife of J. B. Dunn, deeded the graveyard site to the Trustees of the Deer Creek Cemetery. When the settlement was named the cemetery became known as the Crowley Cemetery.

In December 1979, Crowley Cemetery had 933 known graves. Of this number, one hundred forty-eight have double stones, two have four-sided stones, six are unmarked or sunken graves, and four hundred ninety-two are single stones. There are seventeen family plots with impressive markers carrying the family name.

There are fifty-four graves of known veterans. Seven are from the Civil War, ten from World War I, fourteen from World War II, one from the Korean War, one from the Vietnam War, and twenty-one are additional veterans from various service periods.

Many graves do not have inscribed stones. Eight are marked by temporary markers, ninety-six by flat brick stones, and six are unmarked mounds.

Several fraternal organizations have been designated on the stones. These memorials include Masons, Order of

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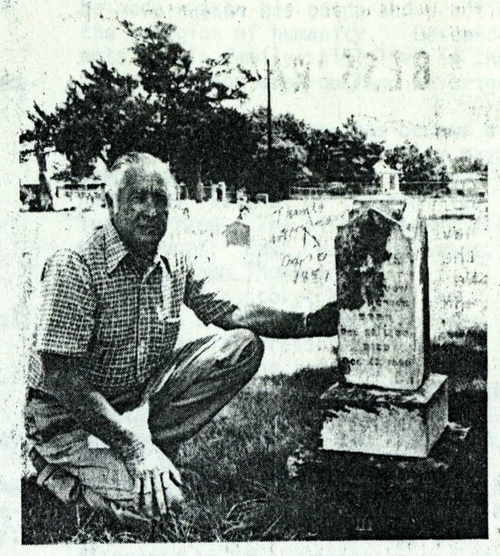

The oldest marker in the Crowley Cemetery is that of Thomas Stephenson, Dec. 20, 1857. Shown with the marker is John Clements.

John Clements (left) and Duane Gage (right) unveil the Crowley Cemetery historial Marker.

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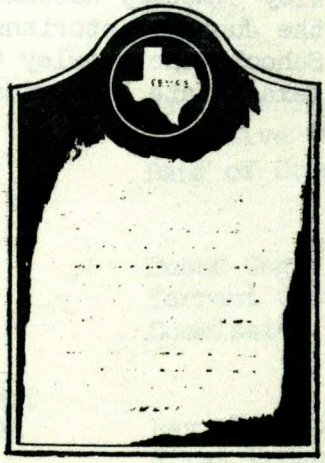

## CROWLEY CEMETERY

The first burials in the cemetery are thought to have occurred in the 1840's. The oldest marked grave is that of Thomas D. Stephenson (1848-1857), the eight year old son of Isaac Newton and Lucy Stephenson who settled near Everman. This cemetery became the burial place for many residents of south Tarrant and north Johnson counties. Sallie J. Dunn deeded the burial ground to the Trustees of the Deer Creek Cemetery Association in 1879. Deer Creek Cemetery later became known as the Crowley Cemetery. The cemetery is currently maintained and supervised by the Crowley Cemetery Association. Through the work of the Crowley Cemetery Association, the community, and the Junior Historians of H. F. Stevens Middle School, the Crowley Cemetery has been awarded a Texas State Historical Marker.

## PROGRAM

| | |
|---|---|
| WELCOME | John F. Clements, President<br>Crowley Cemetery Association |
| INVOCATION | Jerry Cox, Principal<br>H. F. Stevens Middle School |
| RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL PEOPLE | |
| HISTORY OF THE CEMETERY | Alta Lee Futch, Co-Sponsor<br>of Junior Historians |
| PRESENTATION BY<br>JUNIOR HISTORIANS | Mike Miller, 1979-80<br>President, Junior Historians |
| VFW DECORATION FUNCTION | Mrs. J.J. Foster, State<br>Americanism and Loyalty Day<br>Chairman, Ladies Auxiliary<br>V.F.W. |
| MAINTENANCE AND<br>CARE FUND | Paul Wethington II<br>Executive Vice President<br>Bank of Crowley |
| DEDICATION AND<br>UNVEILING | Duane Gage, Chairman<br>Tarrant County Historical<br>Commission |
| PLANS FOR THE NEXT<br>HISTORICAL MARKER | Rev. Pat Abrams, Pastor<br>First Presbyterian Church |
| BENEDICTION | Rev. Abrams |

CROWLEY BEACON
What people don't know will hurt them.

Feb. 19-1981

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Several fraternal organizations have been designated on the stones. These memorials include Masons, Order of

Conti on Page 6

The oldest marker in the Crowley Cemetery is that of Thomas Stephenson, Dec. 20, 1857. Shown with the marker is John Clements.

John Clements (left) and Duane Gage (right) unveil the Crowley Cemetery Historial Marker.

## HISTORICAL MARKER CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

the Eastern Star and Woodsmen of the World.

The tombstones are made of varied materials. There are at least six markers of sandstone and one home-made concrete marker. The remainder of the stones are made of granite, marble, concrete, and other hard lasting surfaces. Most of the stones are readable by using various deciphering techniques.

A cemetery association began as early as the 1870's. The cemetery was deeded in 1879 to the following trustees of the Deer Creek Cemetery: J. R. Austin, J. H. Thompson and C. C. Dunwoody. Sometime after the Civil War, Coltharp family began collecting a dollar or two for burial spaces. Many people purchased more plots than they would ever need--just to fund and maintain the cemetery.

The current officers of the Crowley Cemetery Association are: John F. Clements, Chairman of the Board; James Hampton and Marlin Baumgardner, Vice-Presidents; George Teeter, Secretary; and James Lasater, Member. George Teeter and James Lasater oversee the caretaking of the cemetery. There are no restrictions on persons buried in the cemetery or on the types of markers used.

The oldest marked grave is that of Thomas D. Stephenson, an eight year old boy. The marker states "Thomas D. son of I. N. & Lucy Stephenson born July 24, 1848 died February 20, 1857. All things that we loved and cherish like our selves must fade and perish." Another son died in 1860 and a daughter in 1864. All three graves are marked by a single four-sided stone. Tabitha Walker also died in 1857 and is identified by an almost illegible sandstone marker.

Isaac and Lucy Stephenson were cousins. They moved to Tarrant County, Texas, between 1854 and 1857. Isaac began to purchase land during the 1850's. Eventually, he owned over 1100 acres and became a prosperous farmer. Isaac died on January 29, 1883. His tombstone inscription reads: "He was tenderly devoted to his family and friends, and was happiest when he could make them happy. Rejecting the Bible an all religious creeds, he made reason his guide and practiced the religion of humanity." Descendants of his family still live in the Everman-Rendon area on land he originally owned.

The Crowley Cemetery has become a final resting place for Crowley mayors, school teachers, and many farmer-ranchers. Several of the families intermarried. The list includes five main groups: East, Hampton, Evans, Clements, and Thompson.

After the history, Mike Miller, President of the Junior Historians made a special presentation of a folder containing information the Junior Historians had compiled on the cemetery. A flag and flagpole were then presented by Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Foster of the VFW Post 2544. Mrs. Foster spoke on Americanism and also on the veterans in the cemetery. The maintenance and care fund was then discussed by Paul Wethington and Rev. Pat Abrams spoke on plans for the next historical marker. The dedication and unveiling by Duane Gage chairman of the Tarrant County Historical Commission was the highlight and closing of the ceremony as Crowley citizens watched.

*Texas State Historical Marker*

*for the*

***BERACHAH HOME***
***and***
***CEMETARY***

***Saturday March 7, 1981***

sunday
FEBRUARY 22, 1981

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

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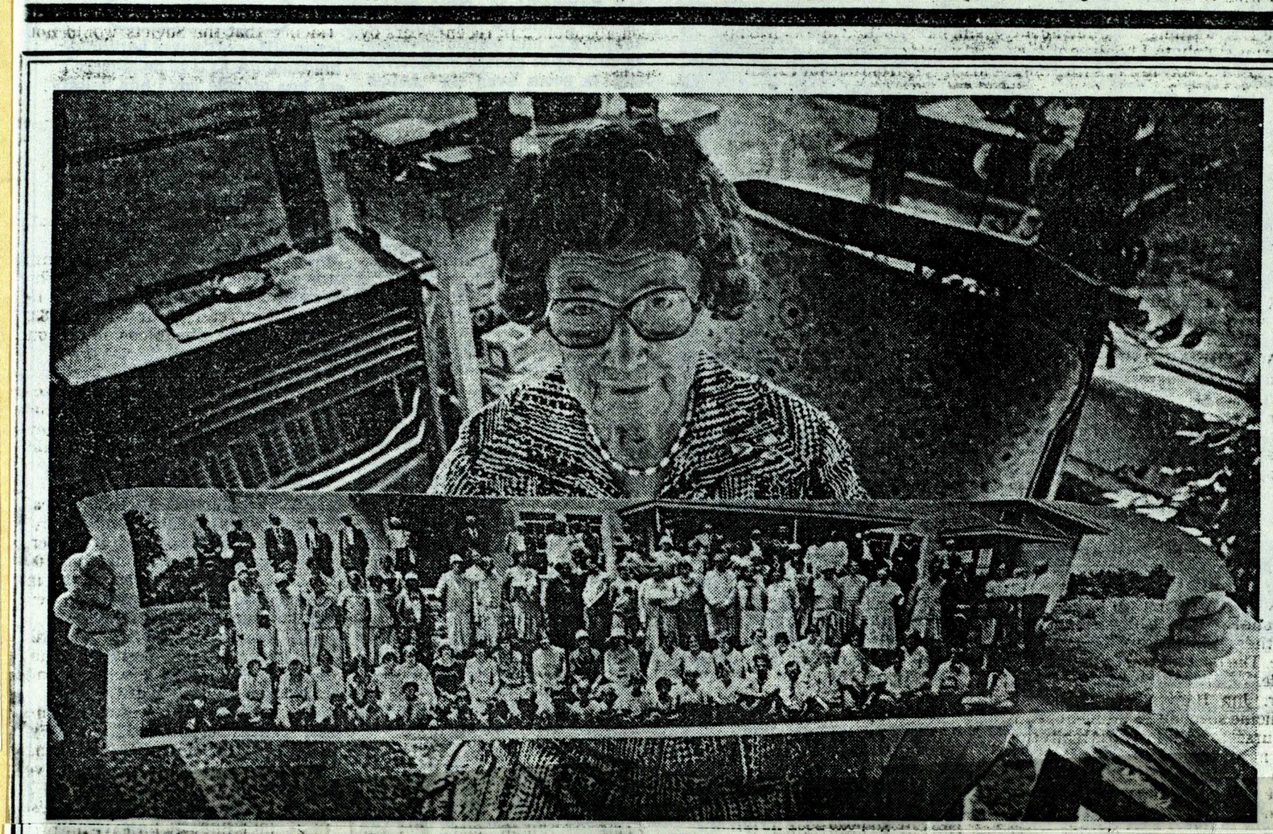

Star-Telegram/JERRY HOEFER

DAUGHTER ALLIE MAE GILMORE . . . "The Lord answered his prayers and gave him leadership"

# Unwed mothers found a home

## Historical marker to note group's work

*Think of it! Ye who read this. A young and inexperienced girl standing alone in the dark shadows of a strange building. Would the door open? Would she be received? If not, what would she do, bearing as she did the evidences of a sinful life?*

The Purity Journal
*September 1904*

By BINNIE FISHER
Star-Telegram Writer

ARLINGTON — Dilly was the young girl's name, and one evidence of her "sinful" life was the child she carried inside her.

The door she knocked on was that of the Berachah Industrial Home for the Redemption of Erring Girls. Had it existed in 1981, it would have been called simply a "home for unwed mothers."

The door opened that night, and Dilly was received. Months later, she gave birth to the first child actually born at the home. He was named Alpha.

Many more babies would be born at Berachah in succeeding years, but unlike at other homes of the day, the children would not be offered for adoption. In the eyes of Berachah founder Rev. J.T. Upchurch, adoption was not the answer.

"He thought every child needed his mother," said Upchurch's daughter, Allie Mae Gilmore, who now lives in Dallas. "When Moses was taken from his mother, God saw that she got him back. Papa felt like that was a sign."

The cluster of buildings that was Berachah is gone. All that remains is a weathered little cemetery unlike any other in Arlington. Nestled among trees in Doug Russell Park at the University of Texas at Arlington, the graveyard is the only testament to Berachah and the work that was done there.

Had it not been for the interest of a UTA professor and two of his students, Upchurch, Berachah and a philosophy that was 50 years ahead of its time might have been lost forever.

At 2 p.m. March 7, the trials and triumphs of Berachah will be commemorated with the dedication of a historical marker at the gate of the cemetery. The acquisition of the marker is the result of a paper

Please see Home on Page 10

REV. J.T. UPCHURCH
. . . founder of home

Star-Telegram/JERRY HOEFER

ing epidemic

work for. That is preservation of the cemetery itself.

In spite of the chain-link fence the university erected a few years ago, Brooks said, the cemetery has continued to be a target of vandals. Grave stones have been carried away, and one large marker has been broken. It seemed for a time that the only ones who knew about the cemetery were vandals.

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"I . . . send this volume forth as a living message to work and work on through time until there shall be no immoral resorts, no outcast girls, nor illegitimate babies in all our fair land."

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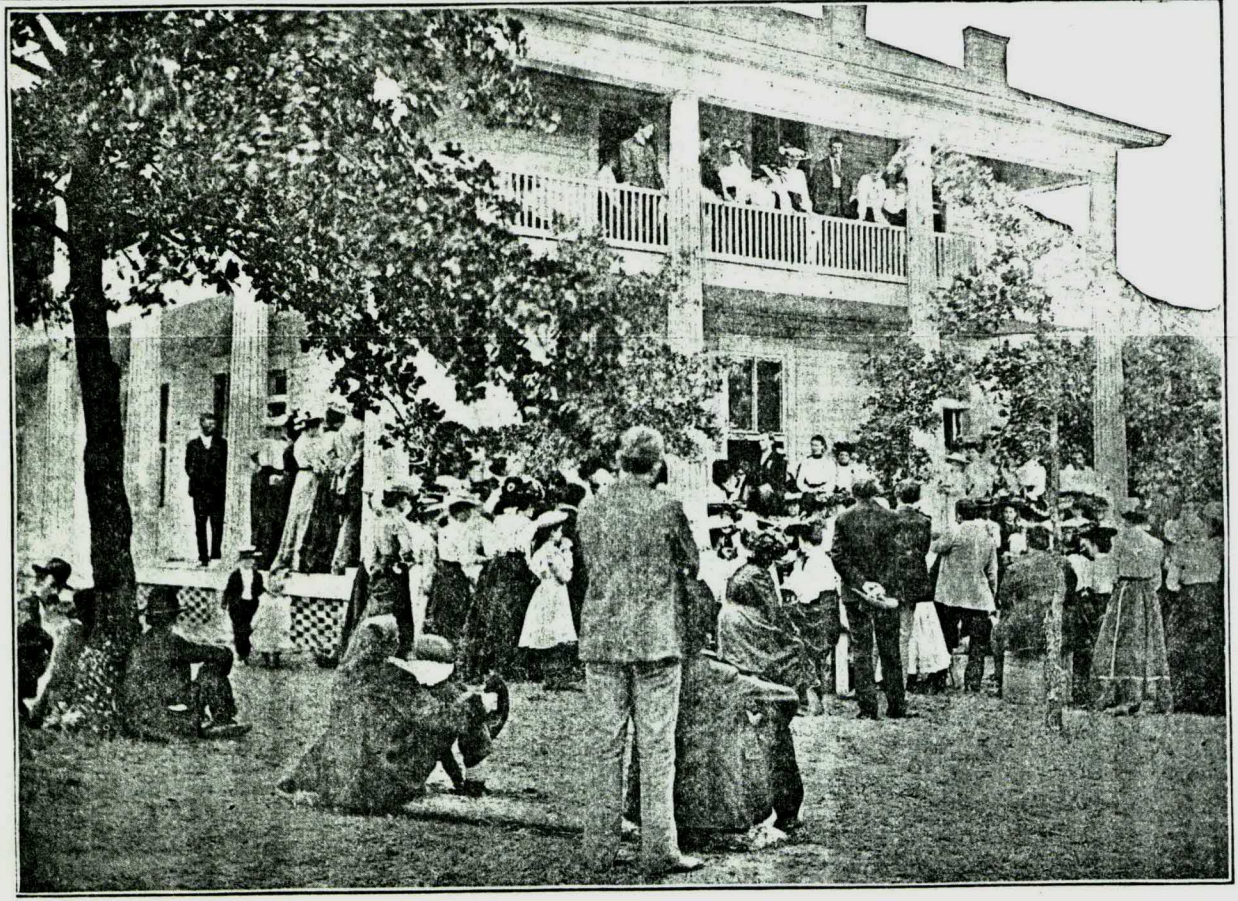

BERACHAH HOME, ARLINGTON.

**Photographed on the Day of Public Dedication.**

PROGRAM

Berachah Home and Cemetery Dedication

March 7, 1981

Introduction:

R. Gene Brooks, Associate Professor
University of Texas at Arlington

Invocation:

Reverend Irvin Mitchell, Rector
St. Albans Episcopal Church, Arlington

Welcome:

Dr. Wendell H. Nedderman, President
University of Texas at Arlington

Brief History of the Berachah Home:

Jan Dolph
Graduate Student, UTA

Dedication and Unveiling:

Bennett Smith, Chairman Emeritus
Tarrant County Historical Commission

Response:

Arlington Historical Society

Closing Remarks:

R. Gene Brooks

sunday
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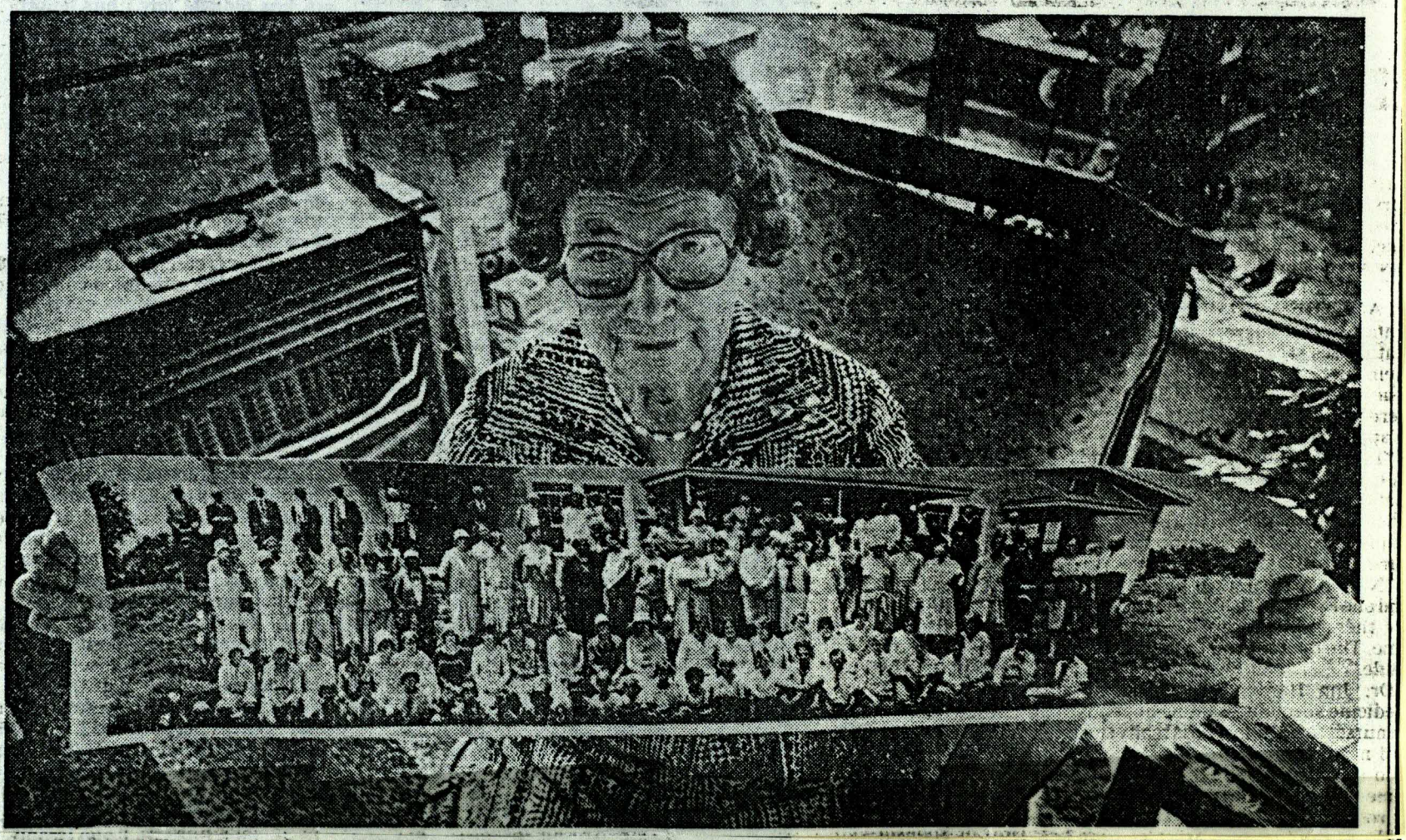

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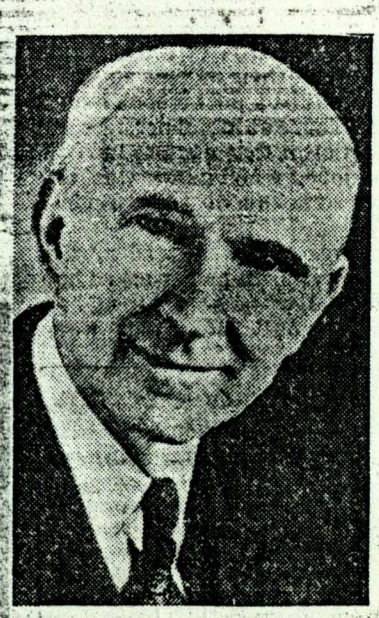


REV. J.T. UPCHURCH
. . . founder of home

# Home was a haven for troubled women

Continued from page 1

submitted to the Texas Historical Commission by UTA students Jan Dolph and Lynn Manion and Architecture Dean Gene Brooks.

The paper started out as a project involving a number of students. The plan was to survey the UTA campus. In the process, the cemetery was discovered.

"I became interested because of the uniqueness of this cemetery — the markers and the lack of last names," Brooks said. "I had never seen a cemetery with this particular focus."

Buried in the cemetery are young mothers who died in childbirth, stillborn babies, home residents who died during a measles epidemic and a number of home workers and their children.

Ms. Dolph said the original intent was not to get a marker for the cemetery.

"We initially started by trying to find out why the cemetery was there," she said. "Then, it turned out to be a good story that needed to be documented."

In doing research and preparing the paper, the students and their professor learned much about not only the home and cemetery, but also about its founder.

"There's something that goes a lot farther than just the cemetery," Brooks said. "There was Rev. Upchurch and his perception about the women and their lives.

"He was a case of an extreme conservative view meeting a very liberal one."

Brooks explained that while Upchurch was conservative in his religious views, his stand on social issues had a liberal leaning.

He is said to have campaigned once for legislation that would remove the "illegitimate" label from birth certificates of children born to unmarried mothers. His daughter said he often remarked that there was no such thing as an illegitimate child, only illegitimate parents.

Upchurch, preacher, home superintendent, author and publisher of the *Purity Journal*, is described as a man ahead of his time.

His daughter remembers, "From the time he was converted, he wasn't educated, but you'd never know it. He was just that type.

"He got up early in the morning and prayed. I've known him to get up as early as 4. It's been so wonderful to me how the Lord answered his prayers and gave him leadership."

Mrs. Gilmore said that early in his life, her father lead a rather raucous existence, carousing and going to dances.

One night, as Upchurch was planning an upcoming dance, someone invited him to a church revival. He agreed to go, but he added, "I'll have more at that dance than you'll have at church."

Upchurch may not have known it at the time, but his carousing days were almost over.

"I don't know what that man preached about, but it was a good message," Mrs. Gilmore said. "It got through to him (Upchurch.)"

Upchurch, whose paper route took him into the red light district of Waco, had found peace. He wanted that for others — the women he saw standing in doorways, the children who never knew their fathers and the young girls whose lives were headed in the wrong direction.

He talked to his pastor about trying to get those people to church, but the reply was, "We couldn't invite those people to church."

After a nightmare one night, Mrs. Gilmore said, her father heard a voice saying, "You do it. You go down there and have services."

Upchurch went to the other side of the tracks and started his mission work. With some successes behind him, he and his wife, Maggie Mae, left to start another mission in the slums of Dallas.

During that time, Mrs. Gilmore said, she recalls some financially lean moments.

"I remember our first Christmas there when we didn't have any kind of income. We had grits and eggs for our dinner, and we didn't have any gifts.

"We had a prayer and papa told us it wasn't his desire or his will, and he hoped we would understand that he was following Christ," Mrs. Gilmore said.

Eventually, Upchurch decided that his calling was to build a home for the girls he had seen on the streets of Waco and Dallas — a home that would keep them out of the red light districts forever.

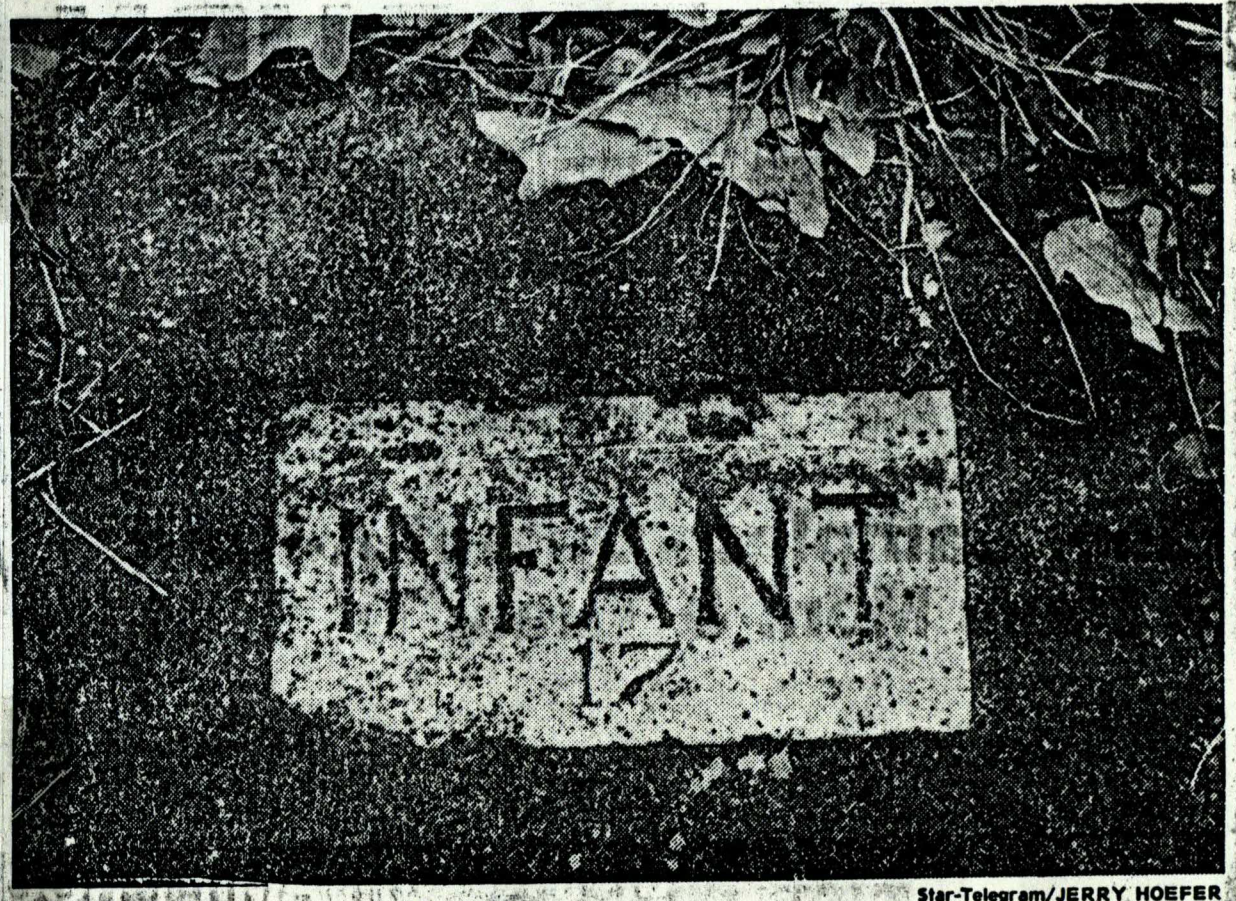
He began looking for a place to build his home. He didn't worry about the money, because his faith told him that would be provided.

When Upchurch finally found a tree-covered plot of land near Cooper Street, the money did come.

"My mother's father just almost worshipped Papa," Mrs. Gilmore said. "He said he'd sell his place and use the money to start with."

The first Berachah building opened May 14, 1903. Nine other structures were eventually erected, including a school, a handkerchief factory, a print shop and chapel and an infirmary.

"A lot of the girls were just in trouble," Brooks said. "They were in the family way and unmarried. They needed some refuge. There were some harlots there, but it was primarily a home for girls who had problems."




Star-Telegram/JERRY HOEFER

**GRAVE MARKER . . . of infant who died during epidemic**

Upchurch used the pages of his *Purity Journal* not only to preach, but also to tell the stories of some of the girls.

One Berachah girl wrote, "When I first saw Berachah I thought it was the most beautiful place I had ever seen. After being told it was a place where broken hearts and blighted lives were made happy, I rejoiced."

Many girls stayed on at the home after their babies were born. Mrs. Gilmore said some taught in the school, others did mission work and others performed various duties. For instance, Sister Dilly became a midwife in the infirmary.

An annual report, published by the home's printshop in 1907, says, "A number of our Berachah girls have been called to different kinds of Christian work, and it is our intention to stand by them while they not only redeem their past, but become a blessing to thousands of people."

Those who were able to find work outside or who married moved away.

The girls who came to Berachah paid nothing for their stay. Berachah existed on donations.

"Rev. Upchurch was obviously skillful at raising money for the home," Brooks said.

In an appeal to donors, Upchurch wrote, "As a result of the confidence you have bestowed upon me and my co-workers, the beautiful Berachah Home has arisen in the great State of Texas to stand as the champion of unfortunate but penitent girlhood. We have a mighty foe to confront, but thank God, our Captain is Almighty."

The work at Berachah continued until June of 1935, when the doors were closed. The reasons for the closing are not known, but the paper by the UTA students indicates Upchurch's failing health may have contributed.

The doors were reopened later that year by Mrs. Gilmore and her first husband, Rev. Frank Wiese. They began an orphanage in the buildings, which was operated until 1942.

The Berachah complex was sold to the Christian Missionary Alliance, and eventually sold again to the University of Texas system for its expanding Arlington campus.

With the marker acquired and the history of Berachah perserved forever, Brooks and the students have found something else to work for. That is preservation of the cemetery itself.

In spite of the chain-link fence the university erected a few years ago, Brooks said, the cemetery has continued to be a target of vandals. Grave stones have been carried away, and one large marker has been broken. It seemed for a time that the only ones who knew about the cemetery were vandals.

"By marking the cemetery, at least there will be more visible public awareness of it and its role and function to this community," he said.

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8

**DEDICATION AND UNVEILING**
**TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER**
*for*
**JOHN PETER SMITH**
OAKWOOD CEMETERY
GRAND AND GOULD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

**April 8, 1981 4:00 P.M.**

**Sketch of John Peter Smith Bronze* — Emily Guthrie Smith*
*Concept* — Mrs. W. P. Cranz

TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 7, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM



# Dedicated to a pioneer

By RAYMOND TEAGUE
Star-Telegram Writer

Ask about John Peter Smith today, and you'll probably be directed to the county hospital.

Ask who John Peter Smith was, and you'll likely be directed to the history books.

Time, to the ever-changing public, blurs names and images, but Smith was a very real presence in Fort Worth in the 1800s.

He was one of the pioneer business and civic leaders most responsible for getting the city off to a good start.

His accomplishments, of course, have not gone unnoted through the years. The hospital bears his name, and his bust tops a statue in a memorial park downtown.

Now, the first of two planned Texas Historical Markers honoring Smith will be formally dedicated Wednesday.

The ceremony will be at 4 p.m. in front of the chapel in Oakwood Cemetery, Grand and Gould on the North Side. A second marker will be dedicated later this year at the downtown monument, 1200 Throckmorton.

The first observance will stress Smith's founding of the cemetery, final resting place for many of Fort Worth's early greats, including Smith, who died in 1901 in St. Louis while on a promotional trip for Fort Worth.

Smith is buried below a simple marker in the first 20 acres he donated to the City of Fort Worth in 1879 to start the public cemetery.

Since 1908 the non-profit Oakwood Cemetery Association has maintained the cemetery. It was the late Joe B. Hogsett, the association's honorary historical preservation campaign chairman, who spearheaded the drive to obtain a marker honoring Smith at the cemetery. His daughter, Melissa Gordon, has seen the effort through.

Smith was born in Kentucky in 1831 and migrated to Fort Worth in 1853. He opened the first school in the city in 1854, and later served as a surveyor, clerk and attorney.

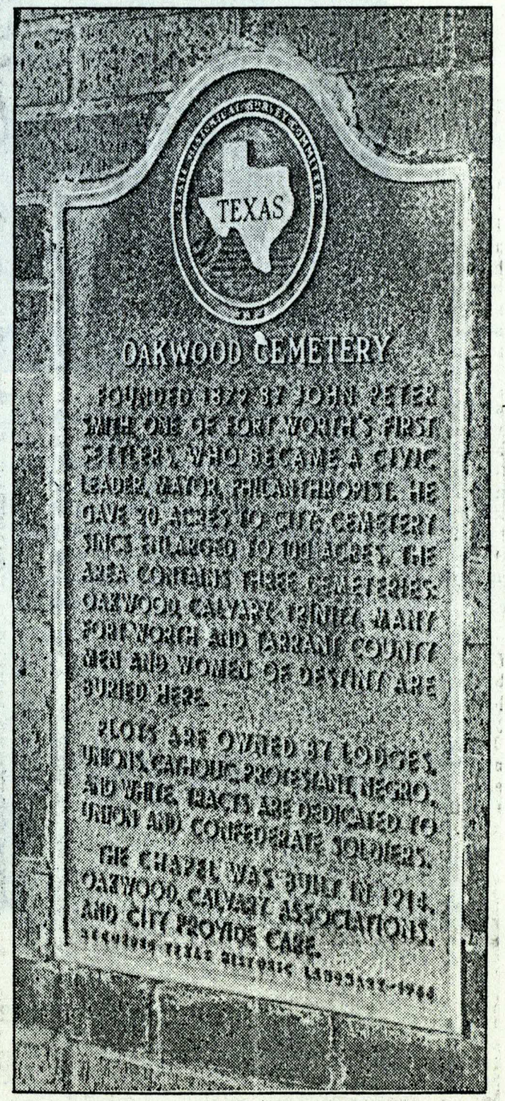
He was opposed to secession of Texas during the Civil War, but when secession came, he raised a company of Tarrant County men for the Confederacy and joined Sibley's Brigade in 1861.

After the war, Smith returned to his adopted city and helped organize a bank, gas light company and street railway. In addition to giving land for a cemetery, he gave land for parks, and the hospital was named in his honor.

Smith became mayor in 1882 and served two terms. He directed the establishment of many public services, including the school system and water department, and his tenure is credited with putting the city on sound footing.

During the Wednesday afternoon ceremony, Bennett L. Smith, chairman emeritus of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, will present highlights of Smith's career.

Duane Gage, Historical Commission chairman, will unveil the marker, and Mrs. Edward R. Hudson, a descendant of Smith, will place a wreath. Jack O. Shannon Jr., president of the Oakwood Cemetery Association, will welcome guests.



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GRAND AND GOULD

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**April 8, 1981 4:00 P.M.**

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## JOHN PETER SMITH
## OAKWOOD CEMETERY FOUNDER

PIONEER AREA SETTLER JOHN PETER SMITH (1831-1901), WHO DONATED TWENTY ACRES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS CEMETERY, CAME TO FORT WORTH FROM KENTUCKY IN 1853. HE SERVED THE COMMUNITY AS A TEACHER, CLERK, SURVEYOR, AND ATTORNEY, AND BECAME A NOTED CIVIC LEADER.

ALTHOUGH OPPOSED TO THE SECESSION OF TEXAS DURING THE CIVIL WAR, SMITH RAISED A COMPANY OF TARRANT COUNTY MEN FOR THE CONFEDERACY AND JOINED SIBLEY'S BRIGADE IN 1861. WHILE IN THE WAR HE SERVED IN THE UNSUCCESSFUL INVASION OF NEW MEXICO, THE RECAPTURE OF GALVESTON IN 1863, AND WAS SEVERELY WOUNDED AT DONALDSVILLE, LOUISIANA, LATER THAT YEAR.

AFTER THE WAR SMITH RETURNED TO FORT WORTH, WHERE HE BECAME INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY. HE HELPED ORGANIZE A BANK, GAS LIGHT COMPANY, AND STREET RAILWAY. HE ALSO GAVE LAND FOR CITY PARKS, CEMETERIES, INCLUDING THIS SITE IN 1879, AND A HOSPITAL, LATER NAMED IN HIS HONOR. IN 1882 HE BECAME MAYOR AND DIRECTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MANY PUBLIC SERVICES, SUCH AS THE SCHOOL SYSTEM AND THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

IN 1901 SMITH DIED IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, WHILE ON A PROMOTIONAL TRIP FOR FORT WORTH. HE IS BURIED IN A SECTION OF OAKWOOD CEMETERY THAT IS PART OF THE ORIGINAL ACREAGE HE DONATED TO THE CITY.

(1981)

## PROGRAM

WELCOME.....JACK O. SHANNON, JR.
*President, Oakwood Cemetery Association*

INVOCATION.....DR. HEBER PITMAN
*Pastor, First Christian Church*

INTRODUCTION OF MAYOR WOODS
AND SPECIAL GUESTS.....SAMUEL A. DENNY
*Oakwood Cemetery Association*

HIGHLIGHTS OF
JOHN PETER SMITH'S CAREER.....BENNETT L. SMITH
*Chairman Emeritus*
*Tarrant County Historical Commission*

OFFICIAL DEDICATION AND UNVEILING....DUANE GAGE
*Chairman, Tarrant County*
*Historical Commission*

PLACING OF WREATH.....MRS. EDWARD R. HUDSON
*Descendant of John Peter Smith*

ESCORT.....JOHN HUNTER
*Commander in Chief, Military Order*
*Stars and Bars; 1st Lt. Commander*
*Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans*

ESCORT.....DR. RALPH W. WIDENER, JR.
*Chief of Staff*
*Sons of Confederate Veterans*

RESPONSE.....EDWARD R. HUDSON, JR.

# Lifestyle

Entertainment / TV

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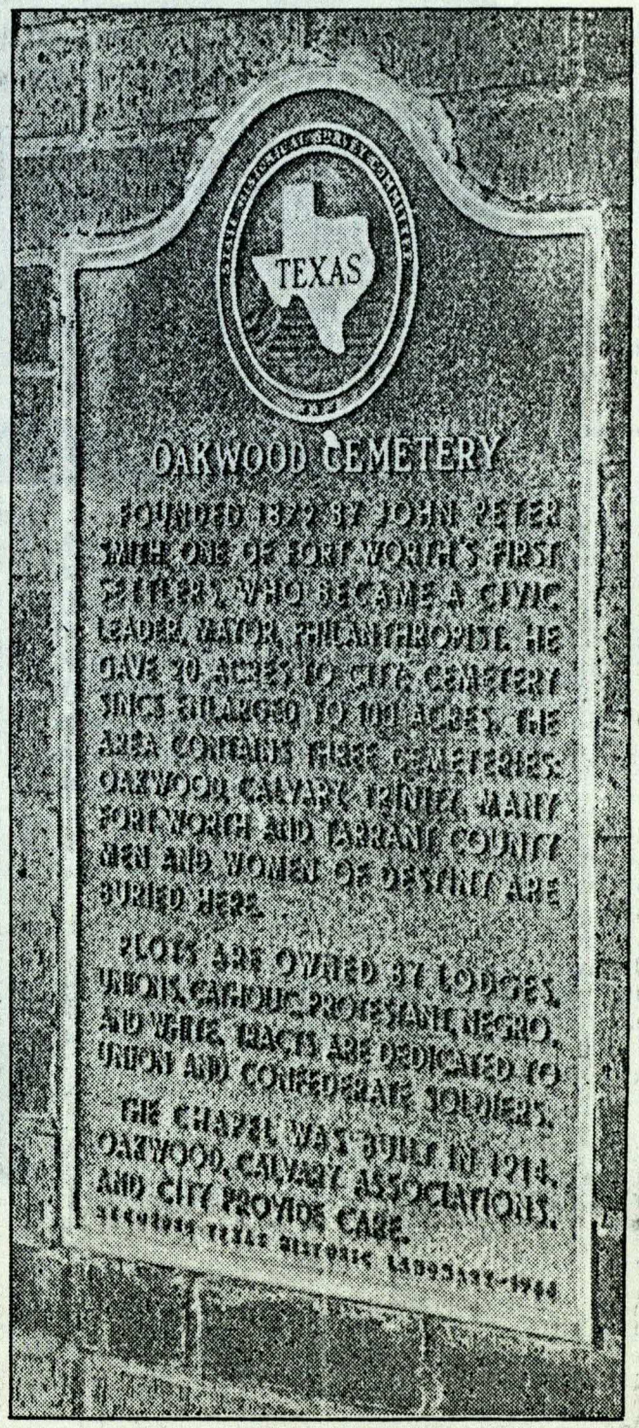
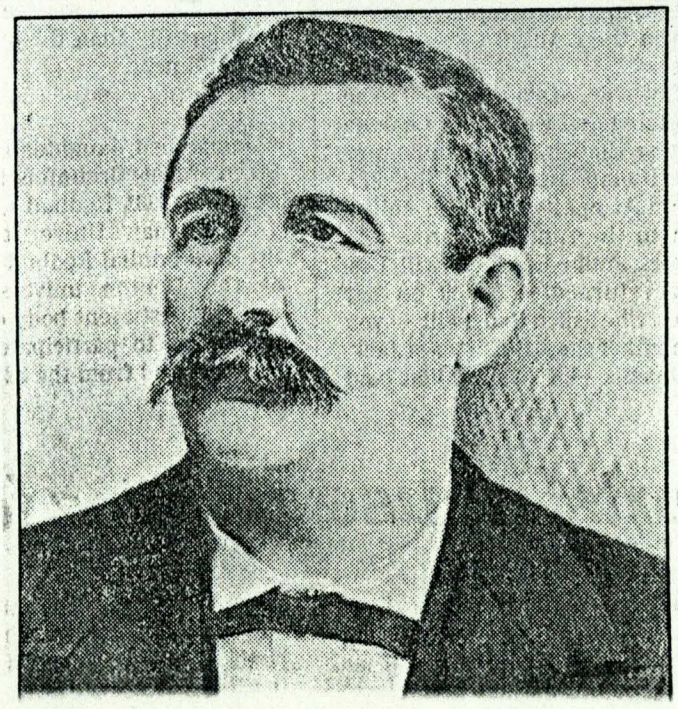


Star-Telegram



*A view of downtown Fort Worth as seen from Oakwood Cemetery (above). Formal dedication will be Wednesday for a Texas Historical Marker denoting John Peter Smith's pioneering efforts in Fort Worth and his founding of the cemetery in particular.*

*Frances Cooke Van Zandt Chapter,*
*Daughters of the Republic of Texas*
*request the honor of your presence*
*at the dedication*
*of a Historical Marker*
*at Handley Cemetery,*
*off Spur 303 - one block east of Handley Drive*
*Saturday, April Twenty Fifth*
*at ten thirty in the morning.*

MR. AND MRS. JAMES BIDEAULT MOORE
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE
DEDICATION OF THE
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER
FOR
THE BIDAULT HOUSE
SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MAY SECOND
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE
AT TWO O'CLOCK
1416 GLADE ROAD
COLLEYVILLE, TEXAS

News-Tribune 5-1-81

## Handley Cemetery Passes Into History

Just a short distance away from the busy traffic of Spur 303 and a block east of Handley Drive on the East Side is the site of Fort Worth's latest state historical marker.

It marks the old Handley Cemetery, burial place of several early Fort Worth residents, including Civil War veteran Maj. James M. Handley for whom the town of Handley was named.

Major Handley died in 1906. The earliest grave in the old burial ground belongs to Jane E. Thomas, 1832-1878. Four years later in 1882, a church was built near the cemetery. The church survived for 48 years, until 1930 when it was torn down.

The last burial in Handley Cemetery occurred in 1967. The remains later were transferred to Rose Hill cemetery on E. Lancaster, a short distance away.

Frances Cooke Van Zandt Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas arranged the dedication of the old cemetery's historical marker.

Handley, for many years a separate municipality, was annexed by Fort Worth during World War II.

**DEDICATION**

**TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER**

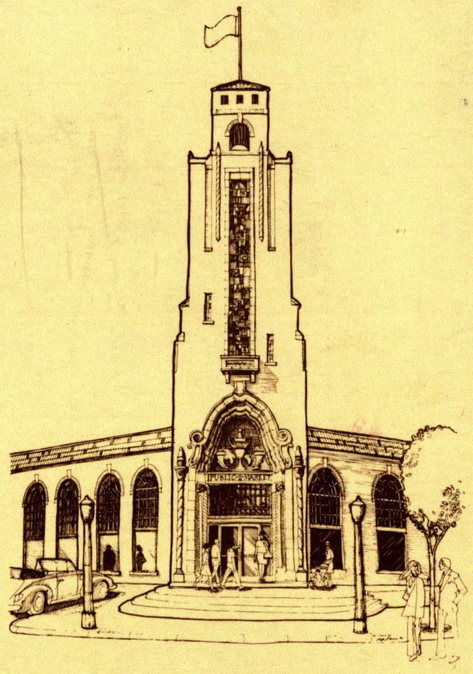
**FOR**

**HANDLEY CEMETERY**

**SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL TWENTY FIFTH**

**1981**

**10:30 A.M.**
Sponsored By
Frances Cooke Van Zandt Chapter
Daughters of the Republic of Texas




You are cordially invited to the dedication of a Texas State Historical Marker for the Public Market Building at Henderson Street and the West Freeway, Fort Worth ■ 2 p.m. Saturday, May 9, 1981 ■ Remarks by: Mr. Joseph J. Ballard, Jr.; President, Texas Historical Foundation ■ Mr. Duane Gage; Chairman, Tarrant County Historical Commission.

Harold Frost, Owner and Gage

**DEDICATION**

**TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER**

**FOR**

**HANDLEY CEMETERY**

**SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL TWENTY FIFTH**

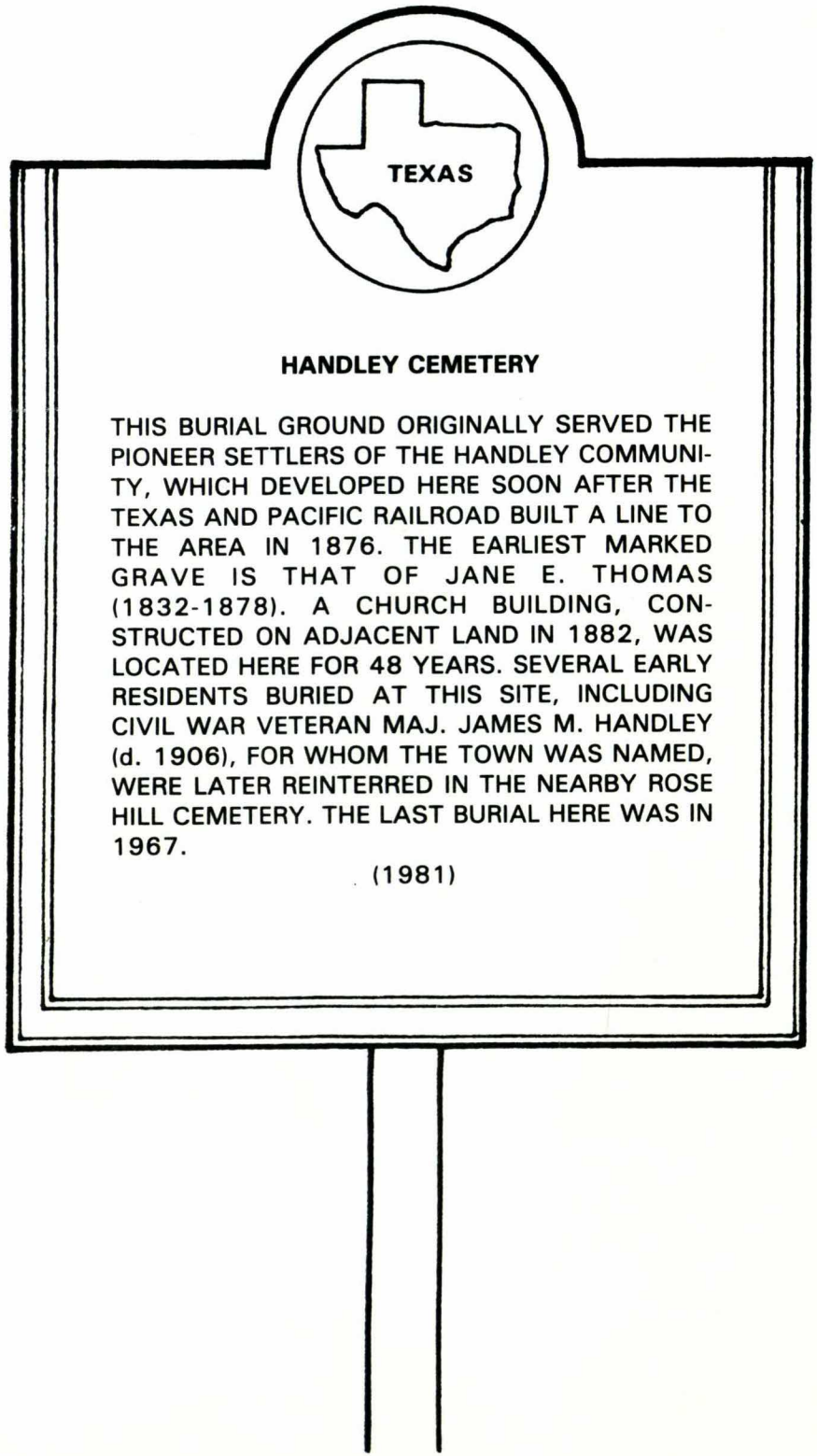
**1981**

**10:30 A.M.**

Sponsored By

Frances Cooke Van Zandt Chapter

Daughters of the Republic of Texas



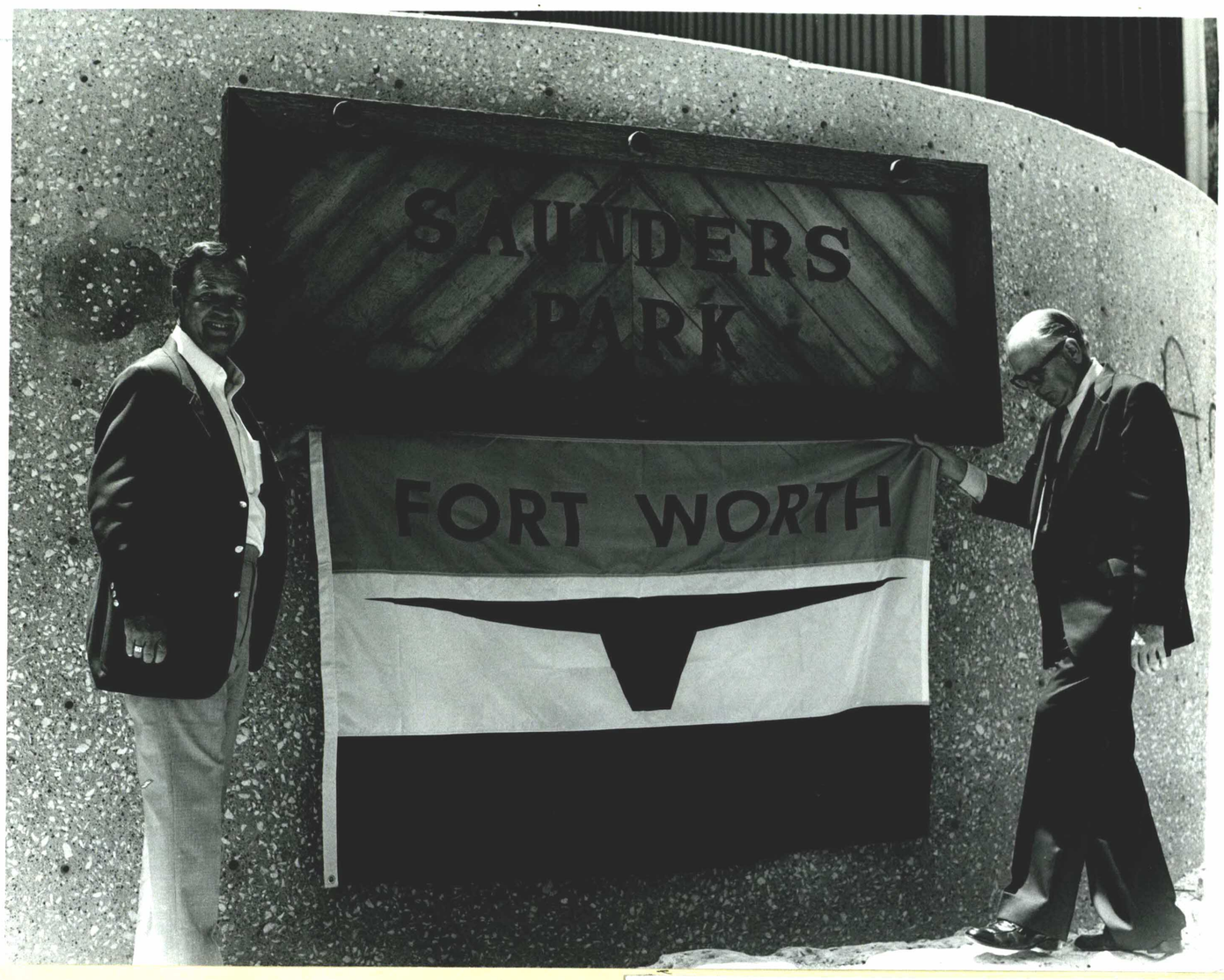

## PROGRAM

| | |
|---|---|
| **MASTER OF CEREMONIES** | Mrs. Robert R. Truitt<br>President |
| **INVOCATION** | Mr. Earl Griffin<br>Mrs. E. Ray Stowe, Chaplain |
| **RECOGNITION OF PIONEER DESCENDENTS** | Mrs. W. R. Moore<br>First Vice President |
| **HISTORY OF CEMETERY** | Mrs. Pinkney J. Brown<br>District Representative |
| **DEDICATION OF MARKER** | |
| **UNVEILING OF MARKER** | Mr. Bennett L. Smith<br>Chairman Emeritus of Tarrant County Historical Commission |

**BENEDICTION** - Repeat in Unison -

**"Bless this marker to all who pause in this place. Remind them of the nobility of life well lived. Quicken their response into an acknowledgement of the ever continuing call to unselfish service, and make effective the voice of this memorial."**

**Amen.**




Park Dept Director Campbell
and Bill Jary

*You are invited to attend*
*the formal dedication of a*
*Texas Historical Marker*
*for the Grapevine Cemetary*
*on May 30, 1981*
*at 2:00 p.m.*

*The Cemetary is located on*
*North Dooley Street*
*about one and one-half miles*
*north of Northwest Highway.*

NEIGHBORHOOD EXTRA/NORTHEAST ©1981 Fort Worth Star-Telegram MAY.

17/
1981

**Barbara Holsomback's**

# Community Notebook

* * *

A Texas Historical Marker for Grapevine Cemetery will be unveiled at 2 p.m. Saturday at the cemetery at North Dooley Street and Wildwood Lane in Grapevine. **Brent McPherson**, who researched and wrote the application for the marker, will present a history of the cemetery at the dedication ceremony. Others to be present will be **Duane Gage**, chairman of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, and **Alberta Nettleton**, president of the Grapevine Historical Society. McPherson is a member of both the commission and society.

* * *

Saunders' Descendants

The North Fort Worth Historical Society
cordially invites you
to the dedication of the
**Thomas B. Saunders Family**
**Texas State Historical Marker**
Sunday, the seventh of June
nineteen hundred and eighty-one
at two o'clock in the afternoon
Saunders Park
National Historic District of the Fort Worth Stockyards
One Hundred block East Exchange Avenue
Fort Worth, Texas

SAUNDERS PARK DEDICATION
JUNE 7, 1981
2:00 P. M.

PROGRAM

| | |
|---|---|
| HONOR GUARDS (1:30 PM - 3:00 PM) | TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE<br>PARKER COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE |
| MUSIC (1:30 PM - 2:00 PM) | STOCKYARDS WRANGLERS |
| WELCOME | SUE MCCAFFERTY, President<br>North Fort Worth Historical Society |
| INVOCATION | FATHER ALBERT LOPEZ<br>All Saints Catholic Church |
| GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE | GARY HAVARD<br>North Fort Worth Historical Society |
| PARK DEDICATION | CHARLES CAMPBELL, Director<br>Park & Recreation Department |
| PROCLAMATION | MAYOR WOODIE WOODS<br>City of Fort Worth |
| UNVEILING OF PARK SIGN | MAYOR WOODIE WOODS & WILLIAM E. JARY |
| MUSIC | SCOTTISH PIPERS<br>Scottish Clans of North Texas |
| INTRODUCTION | SUE MCCAFFERTY |
| HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION | DUANE GAGE, Chairman<br>Tarrant County Historical Commission |
| UNVEILING OF HISTORICAL MARKER | MRS. TOM B. SAUNDERS III<br>MRS. JIM CALHOUN<br>MR. TOM B. SAUNDERS IV |
| "TEXAS TRILOGY" | Sung by DON EDWARDS |
| PRESENTATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS | SUE MCCAFFERTY |
| "TALL MEN RIDING" | Read by CHARLIE MCCAFFERTY<br>North Fort Worth Historical Society |
| "GHOST RIDERS IN THE SKY" | Sung by DON EDWARDS |
| DISMISSAL | CHARLIE MCCAFFERTY |
| * * | * * |
| RECEPTION | Livestock Exchange Building |

Remarks Made At Saunders Park Dedication
June 7, 1981

Ladies and gentlemen, one of the most interesting historical marker applications to come before the Tarrant County Historical Commission in recent years is the one for the Thomas B. Saunders family. Texas history is flavored with many fine old ranching families whose histories span several generations in the Texas cattle history. Especially significant to Fort Worth is the history of the Saunders family.

Thomas Bailey Saunders was born in North Carolina in 1816 and came to Texas in 1850, hauling his possessions and his family in ox drawn covered wagons. He established ranches in Gonzales County and then in Goliad County before the Civil War. During the Civil War he went to fight for the Condederacy, leaving small sons to manage his ranching operations. Following the war, with a surplus of cattle and a need for money, Saunders gathered a herd and in 1867 drove it to New Orleans, using a trail that his teenage son, William Davis Harris Saunders, had used in 1862, driving beeves to New Orleans for the use of the Confederacy. In 1870 a herd of Saunders cattle was driven northward for sale at the railheads in Kansas. Thomas Bailey Saunders moved to what became known as Saunders, in Bexar County in 1884 and died there in 1902.

Two of his sons became especially significant to the Texas cattle industry. I have mentioned that William Davis Harris Saunders, who was born in 1845, drove cattle for the Condederacy's use in 1862. He joined the Confederate army in 1863, then after the war became a successful merchant and rancher, living first in Goliad, then at San Antonio, where he died in 1922.

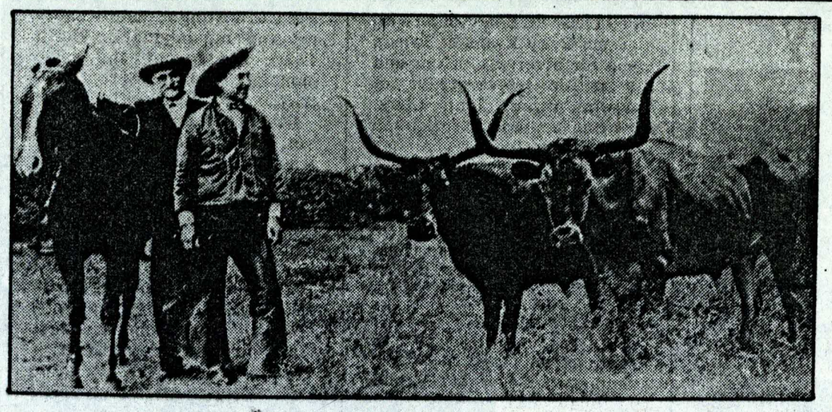
His brother, George Washington Saunders, who became a noted trail driver in the 1870's, was born in Gonzales County in 1854. Beginning in 1871 George Saunders drove cattle up the trail to Kansas nine times in the next fifteen years. In 1883 George Saunders entered the livestock commission business in San Antonio and in 1890 helped organize the Union Stockyards there. He was active in various cattle raisers associations and in 1915 he organized the Old Trail Drivers Association and served as life president until he died in 1933. As president of the association he directed the publication of the important volume, The Trail Drivers of Texas, the best single source for the history of the trail drivers.

Among the next generation of the Saunders family to play an important role in Texas history was Thomas B. Saunders II, son of William Saunders and nephew of George Saunders. Tom Saunders II was born in 1872. He grew up in the cattle business, first working for his father, and then for his uncle George Saunders, who employed Tom II in his commission business in San Antonio for three years. In 1893 Tom II went to Houston where at the age 21 he went into business for himself, forming the company of Saunders and Hotchkiss, which became an important factor in the Houston livestock trade for several years.

In the year 1900 Tom II and his bride, Harriet Jane Straw, moved to Fort Worth, where major packing house operations by Swift and Armour were about to get under way. In 1902 he became the first cattle dealer on the Fort Worth stockyards. Most of his business was steer buying. From 1910 to 1920 his T.B. Saunders & Company was considered the largest cattle dealer in the United States, averaging 100,000 head of cattle handled annually. He was credited with being the first to haul cattle to the stockyards in trucks, instead of driving them; this occured in 1918, when he hauled cattle from a pasture that is now Fort Worth's Ridglea area. The Development of trucking cattle to market ushered in a new era in the shipment of cattle.

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 4, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM





# Driving force of Stockyards

By RAYMOND TEAGUE
Star-Telegram Writer

Saunders — a family long synonymous with the Texas cattle industry and the Fort Worth Stockyards — will be receiving double-barreled honors Sunday afternoon.

A Texas historical marker for the Thomas B. Saunders family will be dedicated, as will a city park bearing the name Saunders.

Ceremonies will be at 2 p.m. at Saunders Park, formerly known as Marine Creek Walk Way, in the 100 block of East Exchange Avenue in the National Historic District of the Fort Worth Stockyards.

Songs, poems and speeches will highlight the event, followed by a reception in the Livestock Exchange Building. The Tarrant County Sheriff's Posse and the Parker County Sheriff's Posse will be honor guards.

The family marker will be unveiled by Mrs. Tom B. Saunders III, her daughter Mrs. Jim Calhoun and son Tom B. Saunders IV. Other Saunders family members also will attend.

The park dedication will be by Mayor Woodie Woods and William E. Jary, a grandson of George W. Saunders, who was the man responsible for having the city's Trail Drivers Park named for drivers who came up the Chisholm Trail.

Saunders Park along Marine Creek has been landscaped with shrubs, walks and rock walls during the past few years using city and federal funds. Eventually the park will follow the creek to the Trinity River. Plans in the Stockyards area call for stores and eateries to face the creek, similar to the development along downtown San Antonio's river.

In requesting that the city name the park surrounding Marine Creek for the Saunders family, North Fort Worth Historical Society President Sue McCafferty noted, "We feel that this is the most appropriate name for telling the history of North Fort Worth and the people who settled here.

"We feel the Saunders men exemplified the traditions, heritage and life of the cattle industry in Texas," she said. "We must not let those who come after us forget that it was once the lifeline of Tarrant County."

Duane Gage, chairman of the Tarrant County Historical Commission and principal speaker for the dedications, has researched the Saunders lifeline.

The Saunders' Texas story began when Thomas B. Saunders came to the Republic of Texas in 1850, driving a herd of cattle from Mississippi and accompanied by his family in an ox-drawn wagon. He ranched in Gonzales County, Goliad County and Bexar County.

Two of Saunder's 12 children became especially significant to the Texas cattle industry. His sons William David Harris and George W. began to drive cattle along the trails in Texas at early ages and were both directly involved in the cattle industry in Fort Worth. George W. entered the livestock

Please see Saunders on Page 3

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Thomas B. Saunders II also had extensive ranch operations, in both Oklahoma and in Texas. When he died in 1929, the flags were put at half mast on the Livestock Exchange Building, the first time that a private citizen had been so honored. He was survived by his wife and two children: Vinita Saunders Willis, and Tom B. Saunders III.

Through the life of Thomas B. Saunders III, who was born in 1906, the Saunders family's cattlemen tradition continued into the mid-20th century. Tom III grew up in his father's footsteps, at the Fort Worth Livestock Exchange and on the family's ranch operations.

In 1928 he became a partner with his father in the firm T.B. Saunders & Company, and when his father died in 1929 he took over management of the business. In 1931 he married Virginia Lines Poindexter of Fort Worth, daughter of a prominent Fort Worth furniture dealer. During the Great Depression, when market conditions changed and problems of the livestock market were compounded by a sustained drought, Saunders shipped cattle to northern and northeastern states, to expand the market. To contend with the adverse conditions Tom III decided in 1933 to establish a clearing business for dealers and commission firms operating on the Fort Worth and Houston livestock markets. By 1941 the firm was clearing cattle for 38 dealers on the Fort Worth stockyards and 15 dealers at Houston, buying from 2000 to 3000 cattle per day.

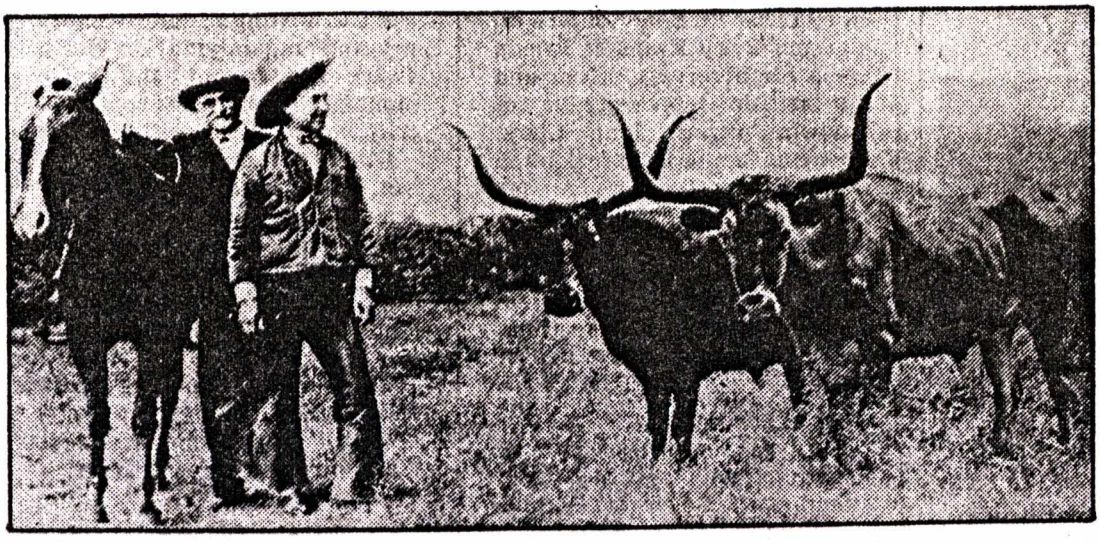
During World War II the Saunders Company served as a significant link between the cattle producers of Texas and the corn belt feeders of the north, and cattle were furnished to supply beef for the armed forces and the civilian population. By 1948 more than half a million cattle were handled annually.

Tom B. Saunders III's services to the industry and to the community were extensive. He was a director of the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show and Rodeo; he served on it's executive committee, and was parade chairman. He served a term as president of the American Quarter Horse Association, the National Cutting Horse Association, and the Parker County Sheriffs Posse. He was a director of the Texas and Southwestern Raisers Association and the Tarrant County Historical Society. Around 1964 he began establishing a ranch museum in a bunkhouse on his ranch southwest of Weatherford, where documents, momentos and artifacts from six generations of the Saunders family's ranching heritage are housed

Thomas B. Saunders III died at his Fort Worth home in 1974, and already the family's cattlemen heritage was continuing into the fifth and sixth generations. In 1969 the Saunders-Calhoun Cattle Company was organized in the Fort Worth Livestock Exchange, with Tom B. Saunders III, his son Tom B. IV, and his son-in-law Jim Calhoun operating in partnership, raising, buying and grazing cattle to supply a fast-growing feeder market. Both Tom IV and Jim Calhoun, who is married to Skeet Saunders Calhoun, and their sons, Tom Vth and Jim Calhoun II, are perpetuating the family's significance in our local and state history.

So, you see, the Tarrant Count Historical Commission is extremely proud to announce that the application for an official Texas Historical marker for the Thomas B. Saunders family, has fulfilled all requirements, and is ready to be unveiled.

Duane Gage



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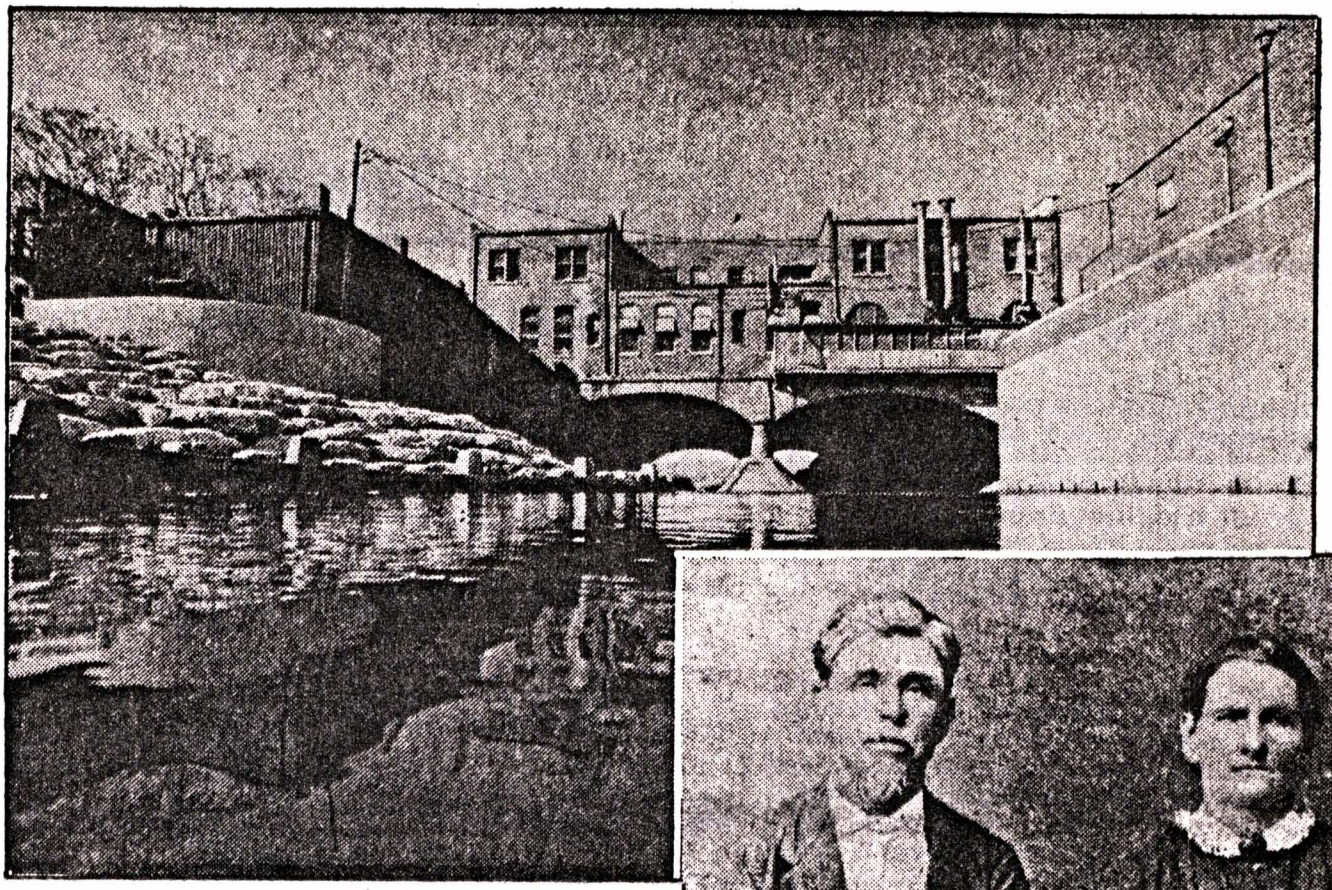

*The Marine Creek Walk Way (top) Sunday officially becomes Saunders Park in honor of the family led by Thomas B. Saunders and Elizabeth Harper (inset). At left is Thomas B. Saunders II at age 16 on 066 Ranch in Archer County (1922). Top right photo shows George W. Saunders and Will Rogers in 1925 photograph.*

# Lifestyle

## Saunders family to be honored

Continued from Page 1

commission business in San Antonio in 1883 and helped organize that city's Union Stockyards. In 1915 he formed the Old Trail Drivers Association and directed the publication of the important *The Trail Drivers of Texas* (1925).

The Saunders family really became influential in Fort Worth's destiny when William's son, Tom B. Saunders II, moved to Fort Worth in 1900. The major packing house operations by Swift and Armour were starting up then, and in 1902 Saunders II became the first cattle dealer on the Fort Worth Stockyards.

From 1910 to 1920, T.B. Saunders & Co. was considered the largest cattle dealer in the United States.

Saunders was credited with being the first to haul cattle to the stockyards instead of driving them. Gage writes, "It was in 1918, when Saunders grazed a herd on the west side of Fort Worth, in a pasture that is now the Ridglea Addition. Because the town had grown considerably since he had first made Fort Worth his base of operations, and since he was confronted with the problem of how to get his stock to the pens, he decided to get a flat-bed truck, build side boards around the bed and load it with calves, then drive them to market. The development of this method ushered in a new era in the shipment of cattle, for the plan was a success and soon caught on."

He also had extensive ranch operations near Avant, Okla., and at one time cowboy humorist Will Rogers worked the Saunders cattle.

The flags above the Livestock Exchange Building flew at half mast the first time for a private citizen when Saunders died in 1929, just before the Depression hit the cattle industry.

"It has been stated that without questioning Tom B. Saunders had more friends in the Southwest than any cattle operator on the yards. Certainly he was one of the most popular and prosperous," wrote Cora Melton Cross in *The Semi-Weekly Farm News* after Saunders' death.

Saunders' idea of charity, she wrote, was "helping one to succeed by his own efforts and in so doing demonstrate that 'man's extremity is God's opportunity.' It was this trait, in conjunction with integrity, stamina, courage and lofty ideals, realized in the living, that placed Tom Saunders foremost in the cattleman's world of business and the hearts of friends, associates and acquaintances."

His son, Thomas B. Saunders III, who died in 1974, was involved in extensive ranching operations throughout the Southwest. During the 1930s economic depression, he started a cattle clearinghouse for traders, order buyers and commission companies. During World War II, T.B. Saunders & Co. served as a major link between the cattle producers of Texas and the corn belt feeders and grazers of the North, East and West.

Known also for his community contributions and extensive ranch holdings, T.B. Saunders III around 1964 began establishing a bunkhouse on his Twin V ranch southwest of Weatherford as a museum for documents, mementos and artifacts from six generations of the Saunders family.

In 1969, the Saunders-Calhoun Cattle Co. was organized in the Fort Worth Livestock Exchange, with Tom B. Saunders III, his son Tom B. IV, and son-in-law James Michael Calhoun operating as partners.

Another generation also is continuing the family tradition, with Tom B. Saunders V and James Michael Calhoun II.

"Altogether the Saunders family contributions to the cattle industry and to Fort Worth are inestimable," Gage concludes.

The city will pause to honor those contributions Sunday in Saunders Park.

# Stockyard park named for Saunders

By LOUIS PORTER II
Star-Telegram Writer

It would have made old Thomas B. Saunders real proud.

With members of the Saunders clan present, a cowboy singer entertained the crowd of more than 200 that braved the sultry heat for the ceremony. And there were words of praise and proclamation — although by proxy — from elected Texas officials.

These were the ingredients that made the dedication of Saunders Park on Sunday afternoon.

The park, in the 100 block of Exchange Avenue at the Fort Worth Stockyards, was formerly known as Marine Creek Way. A wooden sign renaming the rocky area as Saunders Park and a historical marker inform

Please see Saunders on Page 2

JUNE 8, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Star-Telegram/NORM TINDELL

## Saunders Park dedicated

Mrs. Thomas B. Saunders III and her daughter Mrs. Jim Calhoun waved to the crowd gathered Sunday for the dedication of Saunders Park in the 100 block of Exchange Avenue. The park honors Thomas B. Saunders, pioneer Fort Worth cattleman.

## Park honors clan

Continued from Page 1

visitors of the cattleman family that the park honors.

Several state and local officials missed the Saunders Park dedication ceremonies Sunday. Gov. Bill Clements sent a letter praising the family for its contributions to Texas and his regrets because of a previous commitment. Fort Worth City Councilman Richard Newkirk did the same and Mayor Woodie Woods, another absentee, sent a proclamation naming Sunday as Thomas B. Saunders Family Day.

February 8, 1981 Page 4 The Grapevine Sun

# Area cemetery due historical marker

The Tarrant County Historical Commission has announced plans to erect a Texas State Historical Marker in the Dobkins Family Cemetery later this year.

Located inside the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, the family plot is found near the newly-finished Bear Creek Golf Course. Duane Gage, commission chairman, expects to receive the marker in the next few weeks.

O.S. Dobkins of Bedford is a grandson of the first Dobkins settler to arrive in this area. His grandfather, Alexander Dobkins (1815-1869) came to Texas from Tennessee in 1852 and settled in present-day Euless a few months later.

An ordained Baptist minister, the elder Dobkins was quite active in Tarrant County Baptist affairs in the 1850s and 1860s. During the Civil War, Alexander kept a Confederate post office in his house from which mail was delivered to other northeast Tarrant County communities.

Two of Alexander's children, William and Cornelia, have many descendants in northeast Tarrant County today. Cornelia married Wingate Hezekiah Lucas and was the grandmother of the Lucas family funeral directors.

Alexander's son, William G. Dobkins (1841-1928) was a Confederate soldier, Indian fighter and well-known doctor in Dallas and Tarrant Counties. He lies beside his father in the family plot.

O.S. Dobkins, William's son, holds the distinction of being one of the only children of Confederate soldiers still living in Tarrant County. He hopes that the D-FW Airport Board will provide an access road to the plot so it can be cleaned up and cared for regularly.

Presently, family members can only visit the cemetery by first contacting the Airport Board for help in crossing through the airport's fences.

**O.S. DOBKINS of Bedford examines the gravestone of his grandfather, Alexander Dobkins, a pioneer of Euless who died in 1869. The elder Dobkins lies in a remote family cemetery inside D-FW Airport.**

GAGE

ORDER OF SERVICE, DOBKINS CEMETERY DEDICATION

1. Call to Order.....Patterson
2. Introduction of Invocation.....Patterson
3. Invocation.....Zellers
4. Introduction of Searcy Dobkins.....Patterson
5. Welcome.....Dobkins
6. Recognition of Special Guests.....Patterson
7. Introduction of Jere Green.....Patterson
8. Remarks by Jere Green.....Green
9. History of Cemetery.....Patterson
10. Introduction of Duane Gage.....Patterson
11. Dedication and Unveiling.....Gage
12. Final remarks and introduction of Benediction....Patterson
13. Benediction.....Zellers

August 30, 1981 2:00 p.m.

Page 2A The Grapevine Sun Thursday, August 20, 1981

# *Dobkins Family Cemetery historical marker dedication set*

The Texas historical marker for the Alexander Dobkins Family Cemetery in Euless will be dedicated in a ceremony on Sunday Aug. 30, at 2 p.m. at the cemetery. The burial ground is within the Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport.

Tarrant County pioneers Alexander Dobkins and his wife Mary left Tennessee with their children and came to Texas in 1852. They settled in present-day Euless a few months later.

Alexander was an early organizer and preacher in the Baptist church. He helped organize at least two Baptist churches here: Bear Creek Baptist Church 853) and Centre Spring Baptist Church in Birdville (1856). He became an ordained minister in 1855.

Dobkins bought a 200-acre farm, including the present-day cemetery, in 1857. That same year, he and his neighbors got a U.S. Post Office established in their neighborhood; they named it Estill's Station after settler Jefferson Estill.

In 1860, Dobkins was named postmaster. When the Civil War began and federal mail service stopped, Dobkins managed to keep the post office going under Confederate authority. Though some other area post offices closed, Estill's Station remained open and even handled the mail of other nearby settlements, including Grapevine. During the war, Dobkins kept the post office in his house.

Dobkins died in 1869 and was the first person buried in the family cemetery. The Grapevine Masonic Lodge No. 288 officiated at the services. Dobkins' widow survived until 1880.

Dobkins' son, William C., also lies buried in the plot. When the Civil War began, young William defied his father's slavery beliefs and joined the Southern army as a cavalryman.

Following the war, he studied medicine and became a prominent local pioneer doctor. He was school physician for Fort Worth's Polytechnic College for seven years near the turn of the century, and practiced into his eighties.

Early in his career he practiced a brand of medicine which included both folk medicine and scientific methods. He had a "mad stone," (a stomach stone taken from a grazing animal) which he "applied" externally at $5 per treatment to counteract the effects of bites from rabid or poisonous animals.

Dr. Dobkins was married three times and fathered 19 children. He died in 1928 at age 86. Alexander Dobkins' daughter, Cornelia, married Wingate Hezekiah Lucas. Thier descendants founded and still operate the Lucas Funeral Homes.

The Dobkins family continued to live on the farm until 1968, when they moved to make way for D-FW Airport. The cemetery was one of five contained in the airport property. Though one of the burial grounds was moved by airport authorities, the Dobkins plot was allowed to remain. This summer, it was cleaned and the road to it was reopened.

The gate leading to the cemetery is on the east side of International Drive (Minter's Chapel Road), three miles south of Harwood Road's eastern end. Shuttle arrangements from International Drive to the cemetery will be made for guests.

dedication should be at the gate by 1:45 p.m. If additional information or directions are needed, contact Tarrant County Historical Commission member Michael E. Patterson at 283-6773 before Sunday morning, Aug. 30. In case of rain, the dedication will be rescheduled for Sept. 6 at the same time and place.

**Children of a Civil War soldier — O.S. Dobkins of Bedford, (left right) and Estelle Smith and Joe W. Dobkins of Fort Worth, childre of Confederate soldier and pioneer doctor W. C. Dobkins, will be o hand Aug. 30 when their family cemetery in Euless becomes a Texa Historic Landmark.**

# Witten Cemetery to receive historical designation

In a quiet grove of towering, century-old oaks along Colleyville's Jackson Drive, a family of northeast Tarrant County pioneers lies buried as a city grows around them.

The Witten Cemetery, established in 1857, will become a Texas Historic Landmark on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 6, when a Texas Historical Marker will be dedicated there. The ceremony, sponsored by the Witten family and the Tarrant County Historical Commission, will begin at 2 p.m.

The burial ground's founder, Samuel Cecil Holiday Witten (1819-1891), settled in present-day Colleyville in 1854. "We believe Witten may have been the city's first permanent settler," Mike Patterson, a commission member who helped acquire the marker said. "We haven't discovered any records of a single settler arriving before him."

Witten was an important figure of the Mid-Cities area because he served during those early years as deputy county surveyor and justice of the peace. Just after the Civil War, he and his neighbors founded a community along Cheek-Sparger Road in present-day Bedford and Colleyville. He named it Spring Garden, after his old Missouri home. Soon it had a school, a grange, a justice court, and at least three church congregations.

By 1880, the entire settlement had disappeared except for the graveyard. Only a handful of people know where the cemetery is today even though it's only a few feet from the street.

In early 1857, Witten bought a large farm surrounding the cemetery site, and soon built a house beside a large spring which still flows today just a few yards west of the cemetery. Later that same year, Witten's 11-month-old son, William, died and Witten buried the child in the oak grove northeast of his house. With that, the cemetery began.

Another son, Samuel Jr., was killed in 1864 when his horse carried him under a low-hanging tree branch. Buried beside his brother, his grave became the second in the plot. He was six years old.

When the Civil War ended in 1865, Witten looked forward to getting back to work building his herds and enlarging his farm. During the War, he had spent much of his time as a provision master for the Southern government. His oldest son, George Washington Witten, returned from the Confederate army broken and ill but alive, and when he was well enough he went back to work on the family farm too.

In the fall of 1868, the Wittens and their neighbors gathered their cattle together and began the long trip overland to the markets in Abilene, Kansas. While crossing a creek in present-day Oklahoma, George slipped from his horse and drowned before he could be rescued. His body was wrapped in a blanket, tied across a horse, and brought back to the old family cemetery where he was buried beside his brothers.

Ryan Harrington, Witten's son-in-law, died in 1884 and was buried in the plot. He and an identical twin brother, Bryant, had shared a life of prospecting, mining, stagecoach driving, Indian fighting, and ranching before finally settling near Witten during the 1860s.

Witten and his wife lived in a large, comfortable house beside the cemetery until 1890, when they moved to Corpus Christi to live with their daughter. By that time, the little family cemetery contained 11 graves.

Ironically, neither S.C.H. Witten nor his wife, Jenetta, were buried in the family cemetery. Samuel was buried in Corpus Christi, and Jenetta was buried in Amarillo.

The cemetery is in Colleyville on the west side of Jackson Drive, about one-quarter mile south of Glade Road.

This and several other century-old gravestones stand in Colleyville's pioneer Witten family cemetery. A State Historical Marker will be dedicated there Dec. 6.

The BANNER, SEPTEMBER 3, 1981

# Historical marker scheduled for Bourland cemetery

A Texas Historical Marker for Bourland Cemetery, a pioneer burial ground for the Keller community, will be unveiled at the cemetery on Saturday, September 12, at 10:30 a.m. Located on Bourland Road about one and one-half miles north-northeast of the town of Keller, the cemetery is named for Aurilius Delphus Bourland (1840-1904), a farmer and Baptist minister who moved to the Keller community about 1873. The public is invited to attend the ceremony.

The historical marker project is sponsored by the Hon. Philip Livingston Chapter, Daughters of American Colonies, Fort Worth. The application's history was written and researched by Mrs. A.B. Harmonson.

The exact date of the first burial is not know, but it is believed that one of the Bourland children died in the 1870's while Mr. Bourland was away from home on ministerial work. Mrs. Bourland, the former Martha Elizabeth White, had the child buried "on the hill under the big Cedar tree," at a site where Mr. Bourland had expressed that he wished to be buried.

The oldest marked grave is that of A. Delphus White, an infant who died in 1886. In 1899 the cemetery became a public burial ground, when two and one-half acres were purchased by a committee of local men. Before her death in 1936 Mrs. Bourland gave additional acreage to the cemetery. Another addition was made by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Sharp in 1947.

Bourland Cemetery has been maintained by the Bourland Cemetery Association for many years. There have been over 400 burials to date, and Bourland Cemetery still serves as the community's major burial ground.

**DEDICATION AND UNVEILING**
**TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER**
**For**
**JOHN PETER SMITH**

John Peter Smith Park
Between Throckmorton Street and
Jennings Avenue at 10th Street
Fort Worth, Texas

September 16, 1981
11:00 A.M.

**DEDICATION**

**TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER**

**FOR**

**BOURLAND CEMETERY**

**SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER TWELFTH**

**1981**

**10:30 A.M.**
Sponsored By
**Honorable Philip Livingston Chapter**
**Daughters of the American Colonists**

# DEDICATION AND UNVEILING
# TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER
# For
# JOHN PETER SMITH

John Peter Smith Park
Between Throckmorton Street and
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Fort Worth, Texas

September 16, 1981
11:00 A.M.

# INSCRIPTION

## JOHN PETER SMITH
## (1831–1901)

A native of Kentucky, John Peter Smith migrated to Fort Worth in 1853. He worked as a teacher, clerk, and surveyor before his appointment as Deputy Surveyor of the Denton Land Department in 1855, for which he received payment in property. Also a student of law, he was later admitted to the bar.

Although opposed to the secession of Texas, during the Civil War Smith raised a company of Tarrant County men for the Confederacy and joined Sibley's Brigade in 1861. While in the war he served in the unsuccessful invasion of New Mexico, the recapture of Galveston in 1863, and was severely wounded at Donaldsville, Louisiana, later that year.

After the war Smith returned to Fort Worth, where he became involved in the development of the City. He helped organize a bank, gas light company, and street railway. He also donated land for parks, cemeteries, and a hospital, later named John Peter Smith Hospital. In 1882 he became Mayor and directed the establishment of many public services, including the school system and the water department.

In 1901 Smith died in St. Louis, Missouri, while on a promotional trip for Fort Worth. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, a site he donated to the City.

# PROGRAM

**Welcome** ..... William Arthur Hudson, II

**Invocation** ..... Dr. Barry Bailey, Pastor
First United Methodist Church

**Introduction of**
**Special Guests and Family** ..... William Arthur Hudson, II

**John Peter Smith** ..... Bennett L. Smith
Chairman Emeritus
Tarrant County Historical Commission

**Official Dedication**
**and Unveiling** ..... Mrs. Edward R. Hudson
Granddaughter of
John Peter Smith

**Benediction** ..... Dr. Barry Bailey

# DEDICATION

## TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL MARKER

## FOR

## BOURLAND CEMETERY

## SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER TWELFTH

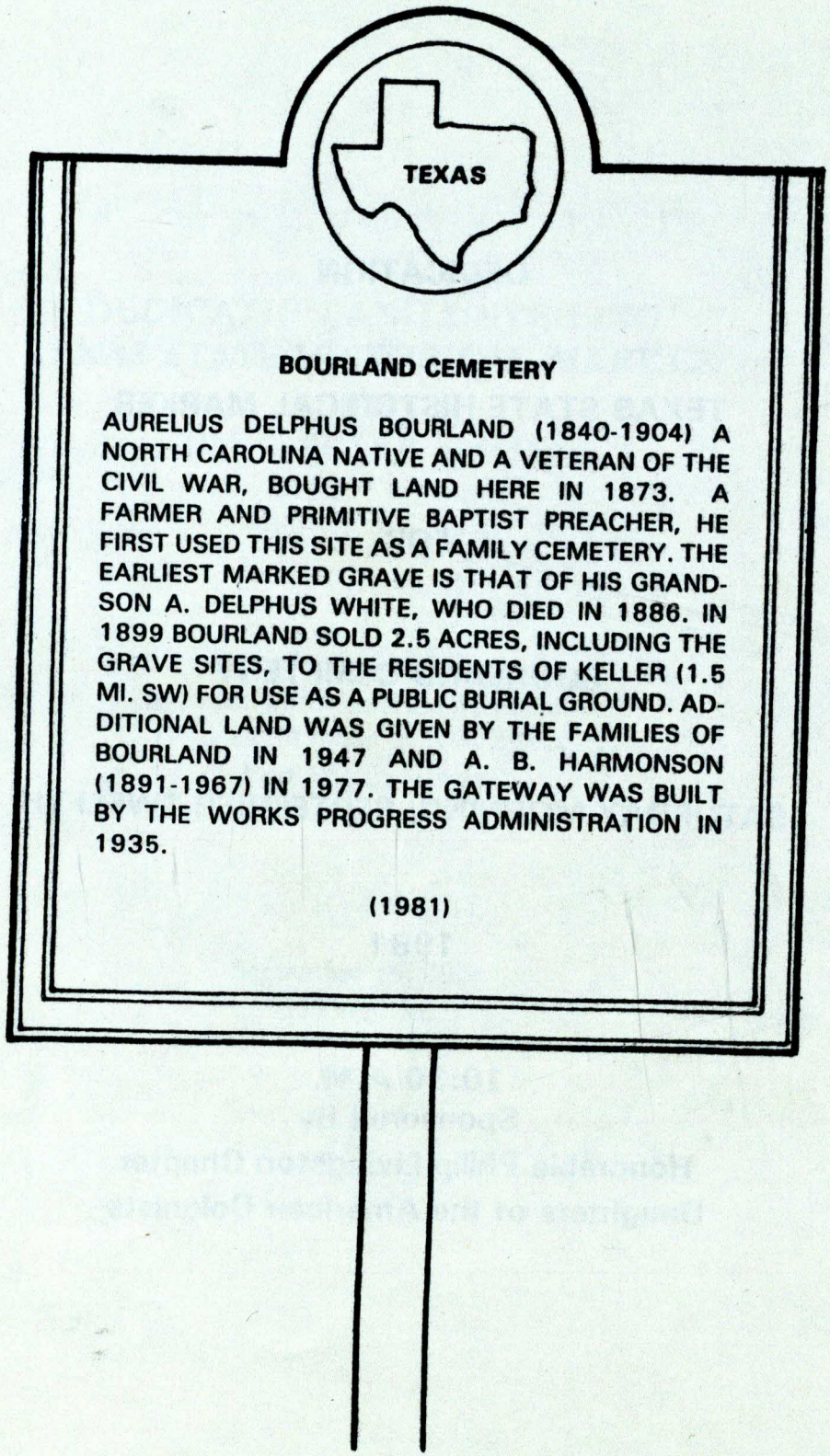
## 1981

**10:30 A.M.**

Sponsored By

**Honorable Philip Livingston Chapter**

**Daughters of the American Colonists**




## PROGRAM

**MASTER OF CEREMONIES** — Mrs. Robert R. Truitt, TSDAC State Chairman

**INVOCATION** — Mr. A. H. Kennemer, Pastor, Church of Christ, Keller

**RECOGNITION OF PIONEER DESCENDENTS**
**INTRODUCTION OF BOURLAND CEMETERY BOARD** — Mr. Bill Blevins, President

**HISTORY OF CEMETERY** — Mr. Michael R. Knox

**DEDICATION OF MARKER** — Mr. Duane Gage, Chairman of Tarrant County Historical Commission

**UNVEILING OF MARKER** — Miss Frances Edwards, TSDAC State Regent; Mrs. Pinkney J. Brown, Chapter Regent

**BENEDICTION** — Mr. Glen Jones, Pastor, First Methodist Church, Keller

"Bless this marker to all who pause in this place. Remind them of the nobility of life well lived. Quicken their response into an acknowledgment of the ever continuing call to unselfish service, and make effective the voice of this memorial."

Amen.

# Southlake cemetery marker lacks funds

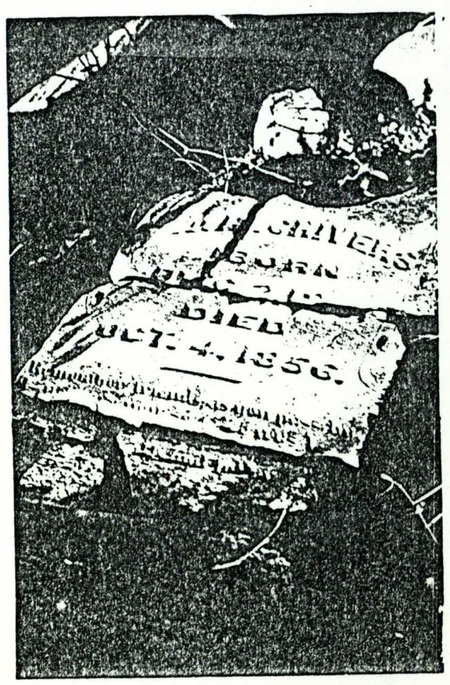
The Tarrant County Historical Commission is seeking sponsors to finance a Texas State Historical Marker to be placed in Southlake's pioneer Chivers Family Cemetery.

Although the necessary research to obtain the marker was completed some time ago, the commission has been unable to find funds for it, according to Chairman Duane Gage.

In 1976, several members of the Northeast (Tarrant County) Historical Society gathered donations and fenced the long abandoned plot, located north of State Highway 114 and west of Carroll Avenue.

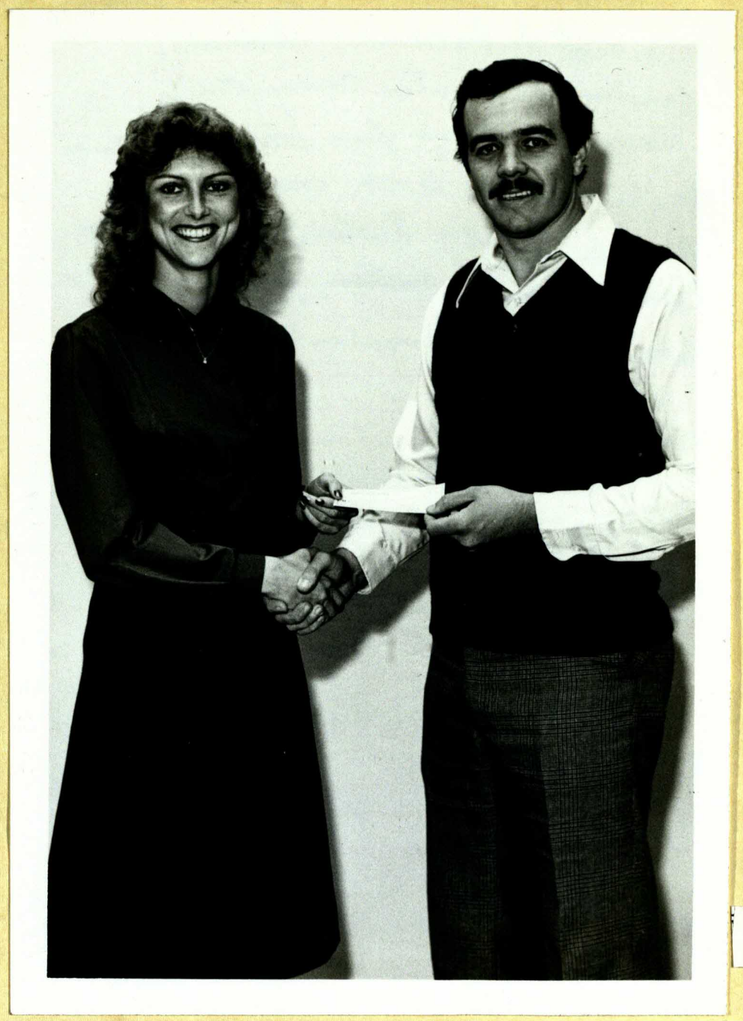
One of the county's first residents, Absalom H. Chivers came to present day Soutlake in the early 1850's and became the first person buried in the cemetery upon his death in 1856. Unused since 1900, the pioneer burial ground contains less than ten graves.

"We need active, interested individuals in Southlake to help us with our marker program there," says Gage. "Our commission receives no county money for historical markers. Therefore we rely on the public's interest and generosity. Last year, Tarrant County citizens donated more than $8,000 to erect historical markers," he added. Sponsor's names are incised on the backs of the markers.




"The area of today's Southlake had permanent settlers before the fort was established in Forth Worth in 1849," Gage says, "and the community has historic sites that deserve markers. We hope to acquire those markers through the support of interested sponsors there."

Gage may be contacted at 281-7860 or 28205740.



Realtor Sharman Ludwig and Ch'rman Patterson



# Area realtors sponsor marker

The Make america Better Committee of the Women's Council of Realtors of the Northeast Tarrant County Board of Realtors recently voted, in an August meeting, to provide funds for the Texas Historical Marker for Chivers Cemetery, located in Southlake. The pioneer burial ground, started in 1856, is an important northeast Tarrant County historic site.

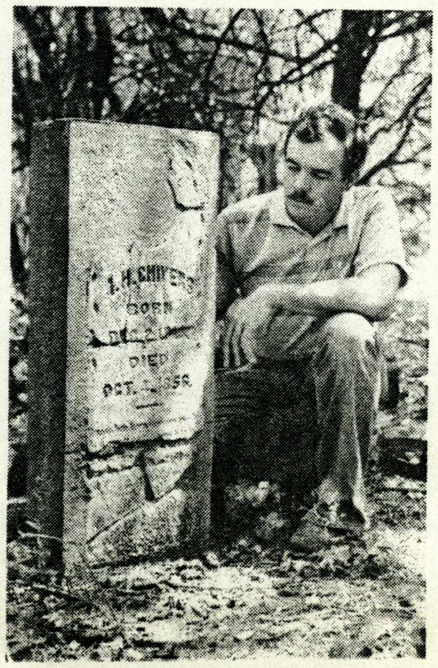
The Council's action represents an important first step in recognizing the nearly forgotten but important historic sites in the area. Michael E. Patterson, a member of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, said "We are very excited that the Council has agreed to help us with our marker program in that part of the county. Some of the county's first permanent settlers lived in the northeast corner of the county, and we hope to recognize the historic sites there."

The Chivers Cemetery began when pioneer Absalom H. Chivers died on his farm in present-day Southlake in 1856. Chivers brought his family to the area from Mississippi about 1851. With him came the Joyce family, who were prominent in the development of the Grapevine-Southlake-Keller area. Chivers lived along Dove Creek. He made his own furniture and shoes, and did his own blacksmith work as well. Five slaves helped him work h is farm and manage his cattle herd. His widow survived until 1896, and was buried beside him. Commission members think she was the last person buried in the cemetery.

The small cemetery, containing five graves, came to the attention of area historians in 1976, when the Northeast Historical Society cleaned and fenced it. Duane Gage, Chairman of the County Historical Commission, had been unsuccessfully searching for a sponsor for many months when he contacted the northeast Board for help. The Council decided it was from the other cities in northeast Tarrant County.

the Women's Council will formally turn over the funds to the Historical Commission in early fall. After that, the marker application will be sent to the Texas Historical Commission in Austin for approval. The two groups hope to have the marker in place by next spring.

"We have plans to erect still more markers in the Grapevine-Southlake area," Gage said. "As soon as the necessary research can be done and sponsors located, we will apply for those markers as well." Several State Historical Markers are already in place in Grapevine, including one recently erected honoring Foust Funeral Home.



Several other nearby sites will be marked within a few months including Grapevine College, Minters Chapel Methodist Church, Hood Cemetery, and Easter Cemetery. Patterson is currently searching for data on a small pioneer cemetery on the Airport property, about one-quarter mile southwest of the interesection of Highway 121 and Bethel School Road, northeast of Grapevine. Though some sandstone markers remain, Commission members still know the names of no one buried in the plot.

16

The BANNER Thursday, April 9

DEE BARKER of the Tarrant County Historical Commission stands by the Official Texas State Historical Marker erected by the commission and the Tarrant County Historical Society. The organizations marked the cemetery to help insure its preservation.

# Oak Grove church records sought

The Tarrant County Historical Commission is searching for any written records or person with knowledge of the Oak Grove Methodist Church.

The church met in Bedford from 1886 until 1948. Commission members say they hope to place a Texas State Historical Marker at the church site in a few months.

Three Bedford pioneers, Harvey Sparger, J.F. Moody and Marcus Arthur were among those who started the church nearly 100 years ago.

Many of the families still live in the Mid-Cities, Michael Patterson, a member of the commission, said.

The church stood on the west side of McLain Road between Harwood and Cheek-Sparger Roads.

Anyone wishing to sharing information about the church's history should contact Patterson at 283-6773 or Commission Chairman Duane Gage at 281-7860 or 282-5740.

From: Mid-Cities Daily News July 9, 1981

# City to preserve local landmark

By BEN HANCOCK

Nestled quietly among the post oaks on a secluded lot in Colleyville lies Riley Cemetery, a rich historical landmark.

This monument to 19th century Colleyville has lain unperturbed for over a dozen decades, indifferent to the growth of neighborhoods which now surround the once open grassland. Several crumbling sandstone grave markers lay scattered haphazardly about, remnants of an almost forgotten era.

Currently, only, about a dozen graves marked by the weathered and unlettered sandstones may be now identified. Maintenance of the cemetery was done by the family members of those buried there until about 1910. Since then, the fences have deteriorate and the cemetery has been repeatedly vandalized. Some have used the surrounding woods as a garbage dump.

However, in the wake of the recent research and interest in the burial site, the Colleyville City Council has voted to conduct needed maintenance. City officials say funding for restoration of the graveyard is in the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The maintenance of an historical cemetery by a municipality is a novel arrangement. Colleyville is one of the first to undertake the task.

According to Director of Public Works Bill LeGrand the project will involve cleaning and maintaining the cemetery. "Some groups in town will help with the cleanup," he said. "The Garden Club wants to put in some flowers, and we hope to generate interest among other groups to help out." He added the city would erect a chain-link fence around the site to discourage further abuse of the property.

The cemetery is located immediately west of the 2700 block of Brown Trail, some 1600 yards south of its intersection with Cheek-Sparger Road. The history of the Riley Cemetery has been researched by Mike Patterson of Colleyville and Duane

See CEMETERY Page A-13

Monday, March 9, 1981 MID-CITIES DAILY NEWS

# Hurst to be honored

The founder of Hurst, William Hurst, will be honored with a Texas State Historical Marker to be erected in Hurst this year, Duane Gage, Tarrant County Historical Commission chairman has announced.

"Uncle Billy" Hurst was born in 1833 in East Tennessee and grew up in an isolated mountain community, Gage said. While in his 20s he entered the Confederate Army, later was captured by the Yankees and spent nearly 1 1/2 years in a Rock Island, Ill. prisoner of war camp.

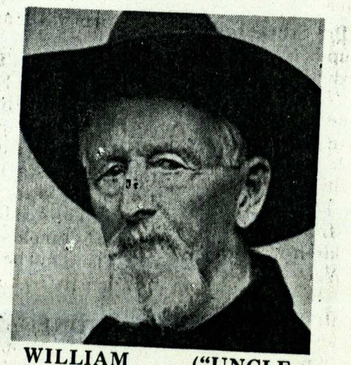
In 1870 he brought his family to Tarrant County in a covered wagon and by 1872 settled in present day Bedford. In the late 1890s he moved to what later became Hurst, where he lived until his death in 1922.

In 1903, the Rock Island Railroad laid its tracks across Hurst's land. And in exchange for right of way the railroad agreed to build a depot there and name it Hurst, the beginning of the city of Hurst.

Hurst fathered 14 children, many of whom became landowners in the area. Several of his more than 100 great grandchildren still live here today. Gage said Hurst Mayor William Souder is Hurst's great-grandson.

Research for the historical marker and the marker application were prepared by Michael Patterson, a member of the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

Anyone with further information about this or any other early Tarrant County pioneer is asked to contact Gage at TCJC-Northeast Campus, 281-7860.



WILLIAM ("UNCLE BILLY") HURST

The BANNER Thursday, March 5

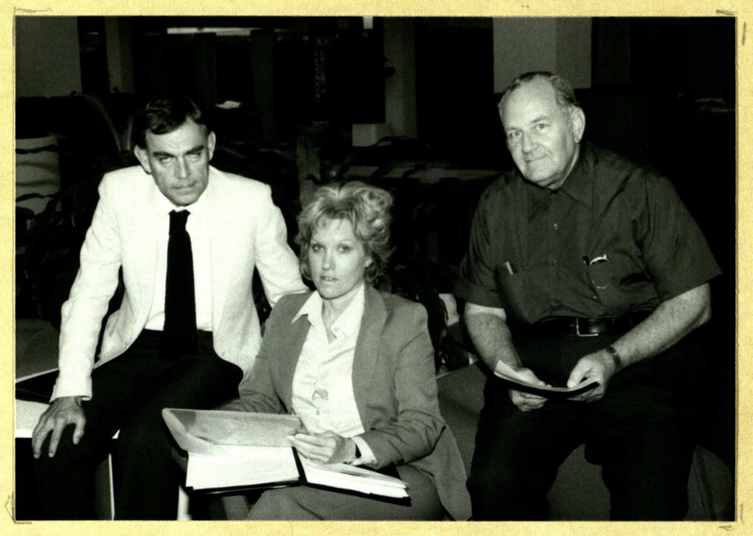
# Historians seeking information on early Texas veteran

Tarrant County has been home to many unusual people since its beginning more than 130 years ago, but Thomas Jefferson Thompson (1814-1896) may be unique among them. Tarrant County Historical Commission members believe he is one of a very few of Sam Houston's soldiers who ever came to Tarrant County to live permanently.

Born in Alabama in 1814, Thompson came alone to Texas in time to enlist in Houston's army and to be with the Texas forces at San Jacinto the day Mexican General Santa Anna and his troops were defeated. When the Texas Revolution ended he returned to Alabama, married, and started a family. One of his sons was named Samuel Houston Thompson.

In the late 1850's, the elder Thompson returned to Texas and settled in Tarrant County about 1860. Sam Houston Thompson returned and his sisters, Rebecca (Mrs. William Henry White) and California Jane (Frank Wall) are the grandparents of many Mid-Cities residents today. Thomas Jefferson Thompson died in 1896 on his farm east of Farm to Market Road 1938 (Davis Blvd.), north of Smith field. He was buried in the Mount Gilead Cemetery, near Keller.

TCHC member Michael E. Patterson is coordinating research efforts to get a Texas State Historical Marker commemorating Thompson. He is eager to learn anything he can about Thompson and his family. The marker will be placed at Mt. Gilead Cemetery. Persons with information about Thompson and his family are asked to contact TCJC Chairman Duane Gage at 281-7860 or 282-5740.



Committee Members Brooks, Juran and Sparks

PLANNED PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1981 -

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:

This committee shall monitor Fort Worth zoning commission meetings to determine if there is action pending that would affect an historic property, and shall review Fort Worth's proposed zoning ordinance with respect to sections affecting historic preservation. The committee shall provide feedback to city staff and, if necessary, speak at hearings.

The committee shall act as liaison for the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County survey, and shall provide assistance in survey work as needed. It shall aid HPTC in collecting and copying (for placement in TCHC Archives) copies of material relevant to the survey.

This committee shall begin to complie an inventory of work by architects active in Fort Worth prior to 1945. When possible, it shall secure copies of their blueprints, papers and other material for the TCHC Archives.

The committee shall prepare packets of information on the National Register nomination process, and the Commission shall mail forms to interested persons. It shall act as reviewer for completed forms, when requested, to assure that they meet form and content requirements.

The Historical Preservation Committee shall conduct a workshop on the nomination forms and processes needed to have a structure listed on either the National Register or Texas Historic Landmark list.

The committee shall conduct a workshop on restoration/architectural preservation or shall prepare an "architectural awareness" slide show that can be loaned to school groups.

The committee shall aid the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County in sponsoring "Conserve Neighborhoods" week, designed for targeted areas.

The commission shall put out a "Preservation Alert" flyer based on the Department of the Interior's guidelines for the restoration of historic structures to warn owners about the problems and consequences of inappropriate action or destruction of landmark structures.

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 1981

WORKSHOPS:

National Register and Texas Historical Marker Nomination Workshop, Jan. 24, 1981
Duane Gage and Carol Roark explained the nomination process, handed out information packets and gave advice to individuals wishing to complete nominations. Attended by about 35 people.

Care and Use of Photographs and Archival Documents, Dec. 10, 1981
Charles Hughes, Tarrant County Archivist, Marni Sandweiss, Curator of Photographs at the Amon Carter Museum, and Carol Roark presented program which included initial information on the Texas Photographic Survey. Ruby Schmidt presided. Attended by about 15 people, distributed about 50 survey forms.

Assisted with Nov. 6, 1981 workshop on "Why that Building Should be Saved" co-sponsored by Texas Historical Commission and Tarrant County Historical Commission. Provided commentary on downtown tour.

ZONING ORDINANCE:

Committee member Gordan Kelley served on the committee that drafted the city's Historical-Cultural zoning ordinance. Mr. Kelley spoke before the city council in support of the ordinance which was adopted this fall. Commission input included concern over the size of the Commission and the lack of "denture ammendments" that would make the ordinance enforcable.

NATIONAL REGISTER PACKETS:

Prepared packets of the forms and instructions needed to complete the National Register nomination process. These packets are sent to individuals requesting information. Throughout the year committee members Carol Roark and Kathy Livingston advised people on how to prepare the nominations and determine whether or not their structure is eligible. [In addition several architectural descriptions were written for structures nominated for Recorded Texas Historic Landmark status.]

BALDRIDGE HOUSE:

Wrote the Texas Historical Commission requesting review of the landmark status of the Baldridge House because questionable renovation work threatenend the historical integrity of the structure. Toured the house with the owner and provided THC with photographs and information on the renovation plans. THC has never removed a landmark designation before and decided not to do so in this case either.

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PRESERVATION ALERT:

Drafted preservation alert letter to be sent to woners considering alterations or additions to Recorded Texas Historic Landmark or National Register structures. These letters will be sent if the TCHC senses that a problem situation might be arising.

INTERSTATE 30 EXPANSION:

Spoke at the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Committee hearing regarding the expansion of the I 30 freeway overhead and its impact on historic structures (Post Office, T & P Complex, and Fort Worth Public Market Building). Presented TCHC resolutions urging study of alternatives at two city council meetings. As of this date the issue has not been completely resolved, but it appears that the expansion will proceed with modifications that will preserve the Market Building.

ARCHIVES MATERIAL:

Investigated the possibility of exchanging copies of documents and manuscripts related to Tarrant County history with the Barker Texas History Library. Director Don Carleton indicated that they like to "trade" material and the project is on hold pending initiation of the Commission microfilming project which will provide material for the trade.

Kathy Livingston has collected several architectual drawings to begin a Commission collection. Copies of the drawings fo the Public Market Building have been promised, but not yet received.

PRESS RELEASE:

Prepared press release on the new tax incentive measures for the preservation of historic structures.

Archives Com Schmidt & Gage examine document

ARCHIVES: Goals. 1981

The Archives Committee will continue to secure material for the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection and will continue to work toward establishing a joint city-county archives for Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

The Archives Committee will begin compiling an annotated bibliography of county history source materials. First, the committee will establish a format by which the historical data can be compiled, a format which will provide a brief annotation, describing the contents of each source, where it (or copies of it) may be found, its accessibility, etc. Then a team of volunteers will be recruited to (a) canvass depositories wherein Tarrant County history materials may be found; and (b) prepare entries for a bibliography, which ultimately will be published.

The Committee will begin a countywide survey of historic photographic collections and will try to establish a program to gather, identify, preserve, and catalogue negatives of historic photographs through our Regional Archivist, seeking funds for the project from the Texas Historical Foundation.

The Archives Committee will monitor the status of the National Archives and Records Service program to dispose of Federal District Court records, and will attempt to preserve any historical material relating to Tarrant County history that might be scheduled for destruction by the National Archives and Records Service.

The TCHC will continue its program of microfilming or microfiching rare historical materials that are in danger of being lost, and will include a major project to copy materials in public archival holdings in Austin, Texas, in order that all possible historical information might be made available for educational purposes and research purposes locally.

The Archives Committee will coordinate a workshop on how to preserve documents.

The TCHC will conduct and transcribe two oral history interviews regarding a downtown or Main Street business of building.

## ARCHIVES COMMITTEE 1981

Having an Archive Committee who are dedicated in their work makes this Standing Committee a pleasure to chair. It's with the cooperation of Beth Canright, Carol Roark, Paul Campbell, Kathy Livingston, Skeet Calhoun, Jack Watson, Billy Sills, George Younkin, as well as volunteers, that we make any sort of impact on the communnity.

The concept of an inventory of materials pertaining to Fort Worth and Tarrant County, listing their location has been put into action. As a result, the Fort Worth Public Library administrator has pledged her cooperation. A letter will shortly be sent to all librarians in the county asking their assistance in this project.

Under the capable leadership of Duane Gage, the marriage license committee has been very active leading to activity and interest throughout the area.

Workshops have included "Why That Building Should Be Saved", including a walking tour of downtown Fort Worth and"Photographs and Archival Documents: Their Care and Use". We have endeavored to assist in this project, getting a commitment from the Tarrant County Historical Society to contact all members about cooperating on the picture inventory.

Requests for information have come from private citizens, public institutions and the news media. As a result added information has been gained. The news stories included stories in the Dallas Morning News and Star Telegram on Streets of Fort Worth, Fort Worth Streets and the Trinity River. Radio has included interviews on the beginning of Fort Worth, as well as historical facts of early Fort Worth.

George Younkin has been active in an archive program of Boy Scout materials. As former head of the Federal Depository, he has a vast storehouse of information and friends to help in the work.

Billy Sills, as Social Studies Administrator of Fort Worth Public School System, has been the motivator in preservation of Fort Worth School history.

Jack Watson has the interest but has been ill recently.

Skeet Calhoun contributed many personal documents for the Saunders historical marker.

Kathy Livingston has been involved in architectural drawings of Fort Worth structures. She has also investigated the numerous maps pertaining to Tarrant County.

Paul Campbell has been very helpful as a liason between the public, the Fort Worth Public Library and the Commission on local history. As a result, we now have additional information from interested parties who have ties here.

Beth Canright has led out in a vigerous campaign to preserve history in Mansfield. She and Beryl Gibson are very busy recording old cemeteries as well as focusing attention on Mansfield's heritage.

Carol Roark, as Preservation Chairman, has cooperated in every way possible, including providing information on Amon Carter's holdings for our inventory.

Material from the stacks of the old Public Library has been processed and inventoried. Many individuals gave their time in processing Tarrant abstracts. This is a continuing activity.

Listing of materials on Tarrant County collected are:
University of Texas at Arlington, including the Jenkins Garrett Collection, an incomplete list of sources from North Texas State University, a partial listing of Fort Worth records in the Regional Archives, a complete topical index of material contained in "Footprints", quarterly of the Fort Worth Genealogical Society, Tarrant material in the Genealogical Department of Arlington Public Library and some master theses and Ph. D desertations from TCU.

Materials for the Archives will continue to be the emphasis for this committee.

Ruby Schmidt

# City-county archives remain in limbo

Plans for a new city-county archives have bogged down as Fort Worth and Tarrant County officials search in vain for a suitable building to house the two governments' historical records.

The trouble started when county planners, on the advice of their attorney, vetoed a suggestion to put the archives in the old city library on Throckmorton Street, Robert Terrell, assistant to City Manager Robert Herchert, said Wednesday.

Before that, city and county officials had all but agreed among themselves on an arrangement whereby the city would provide the space and the county would remodel it for archive use.

While the idea is still in the planning stages, the general plan is for both governments to share the expense of housing the archives, with the Texas State Library system providing staffing, operating expenses and technical know-how.

Carolyn Pruitt, associate county planner, said negotiations have virtually started over since the old library was ruled out for legal reasons. Terrell agreed that options for other archive space are "practically non-existent."

So far, nothing has been proposed to or approved by either the County Commissioners Court or the City Council, which would have final say on any archive plan.

"The concept is real nice, but when it comes to actually finding space, it's a real problem," Terrell said.

Archives require special temperature and humidity controls to protect aging documents, as well as storage areas, processing areas and research space.

Most of the documents contained in the archives would be old governmental records and other historical items such as newspapers. Many such records are now unindexed and stored haphazardly in the basement of City Hall.

Ms. Pruitt said the county vetoed the old library idea because of a lawsuit still pending against the city by heirs who claim the library land was given to the city by their family specifically for library purposes.

Not long ago, the city moved its main library into a new building on Taylor Street and began converting the old library for use as city office space. The heirs claim this change means the land reverts to their family because it no longer is being used for its intended purpose.

"The county attorney advised us that any kind of agreement based on the old city library would be inadvisable," Ms. Pruitt said. "It'd just be a waste of money if we paid to improve it and then the city lost it."

The alternate possibility of using a nearly vacant city-owned building on Texas Street also seems remote, Terrell said, because it would take thousands of dollars to repair its roof and update its gas heating and cooling system.

Terrell said he knows of no space in the new Main Library or in the vacant area on the third floor of City Hall that would be cheap enough to outfit.

County planners say $10,000 is the maximum for the county's investment in remodeling the archive space. But with cost overruns on other construction projects and tight budgets everywhere, even that figure — which would have to gain Commissioners Court approval — is considered questionable.



# Historic-site plan to get another review

Fort Worth Zoning Commission members want to be certain an ordinance protecting historic and cultural sites would qualify property owners for property tax breaks before they approve it.

The commission also wants to make sure the city will have money in its budget to make the new law work.

The ordinance would create a new Historical and Cultural Advisory Board to develop a citywide preservation plan, oversee requests for H-C zoning, and monitor any development that might affect a historic or cultural district.

The ordinance also creates a Permits Committee to oversee any proposed changes to historic or culturally significant buildings, homes and sites.

The ordinance would require a permit before a property owner can move, demolish, add to or alter the facade of any property zoned H-C. The present ordinance requires only that the Building Code Board of Appeals determine that the proposed alteration meets city building standards.

There is an "urgent need" for such a law, Gordan Kelley told zoning commission members. A North Side resident actively involved in preservation work, Kelley is chairman of the Zoning Task Force subcommittee on historic and cultural zoning.

Increased development is "speeding up the obliteration of much meaningful evidence of past deeds and ways of life," Kelley said. "There is an urgent need for retaining those places which testify to the historical process that produced us and our situation today."

City Development Director Joe Bilardi said no money exists in this year's budget for such a project — even if it is developed in-house. A new city budget won't be approved until the fall.

Also, city planners warned the commission to make sure that zoning under such an ordinance would qualify owners for property tax break incentives.

Without such incentives, Bilardi pointed out, there is little reason for a property owner to request a zoning classification that restricts what he can do with his property.



# Together again

When officials of the Tarrant County government and Fort Worth administrators and City Council members began talking seriously about building a shared public safety building we applauded the idea as a prudent move.

Because both governments serve scores of thousands of the same taxpayers, it made sense to try to save money for those taxpayers by eliminating costly duplication of facilities and avoiding large land acquisition costs.

The city-county jail has not yet been built. But despite some recurring disagreements over cost-sharing, it appears that the badly-needed facility will be constructed.

County and city officials now are talking about another joint project, an expansion of the city's downtown library building to house the city-county archives and provide badly-needed additional space for the library's much-used genealogy section.

The library venture also looks like an applause-worthy idea, and for the same reasons that we supported the city-county jail concept. It would eliminate duplication and land acquisition costs. The library building, of course, was designed to be enlarged vertically when the need and funding opportunity presented itself.

Space for the archives and the genealogy section is needed now. City and county officials and interested private groups should get together to discuss funding and a strategy for obtaining it.

And we hope that this latest joint proposal is a signal that the bickering over county contributions to the library is about to end.



# Zoners propose preservation law

By KAREN HASTINGS
Star-Telegram Writer

Zoning Commission members Wednesday created a new historical-cultural ordinance designed to preserve the significant buildings, sites and districts in Fort Worth.

The vote came before the federal Department of the Interior has ruled whether the ordinance is strong enough to qualify property owners of historically and culturally zoned property for tax incentives.

Assistant Planning Director Darrell Noe told the commission that DOI requires official city action before it will rule. Members decided to approve the ordinance and make any necessary amendments later.

City Council members must approve the ordinance before it becomes law.

The ordinance creates a Historical Cultural Advisory Board to oversee the preservation of historic or cultural property in the city. It also creates a permit committee of the board to oversee any proposed alterations to property zoned under the ordinance.

The cornerstone of the new zoning law would be a master plan and inventory of the historic and cultural areas in the city. Included in the plan will be suggestions for integrating these areas into new development in Fort Worth.

If the DOI approves the new ordinance, property owners would qualify for tax write-off incentives. In return, they would be restricted from demolishing or substantially altering the historic property without a permit.

The Historical Cultural Advisory Board also would oversee proposed zoning changes that might affect existing historic or cultural areas. It also would screen and recommend historical-cultural zoning requests, which would be acted upon by the city Zoning Commission.

morning Star-Telegram FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1981

# Library priority left off bond list

By KAREN HASTINGS
Star-Telegram Writer

Creation of a new $2.5 million Southwest Regional Library in Fort Worth is the Library Advisory Board's top priority for January's bond election.

That item, however, doesn't even appear on the list of bond items City Manager Robert Herchert provided last month to the City Council.

Citizen advisers have lamented for some time about what they consider a deplorable lack of library services on the South and West Sides. The board voted this week to seek a 25,000-square-foot library for that area, making it the one bond item they most want to see placed before the voters in January.

At the City Council's request, the list of potential bond election items that Herchert presented last month has been narrowed to items that "would provide benefits of a general or citywide nature."

This $139.4 million shopping list, from which council members will choose this summer and fall, does include $3.2 million to add a floor to the main library downtown. That item is No. 2 on the Library Advisory Board's list.

Board members say it will cost $3.8 million to build one level of parking on the lot across from the main library, topped overall with a library floor. Extra library space is needed, the staff contends, to house the cramped genealogy section and the city-county archives now in planning stages.

Board Chairman Irvin Farman says Library Director Linda Allman recommended the list of priorities endorsed by the board this week.

When Herchert proposed a bond election two years ago for only street improvements, library supporters were promised that library needs would be included in the next general-purpose city bond program.

Ms. Allman's staff is working with a

Please see Library on Page 4

# Library board seeks funds

Continued from Page 1

consultant to identify long-range library needs in the city, although library supporters long have contended that developing areas here already are sorely underserved.

The rest of the Library Advisory Board's wish list, which stands only a slim chance of inclusion on the January bond election ballot, includes:

■ Renovation of existing branch libraries: $600,000.

■ Design and construction of an 8,000- to 10,000-square-foot neighborhood branch "in one of the newer growth areas of the city now underserved:" $1 million.

Farman said the board left that last item unspecified so the city would have some flexibility in deciding which area was in the most need.

Dozens of city advisory boards and commissions have been asked to make their recommendations for the bond program. Those recommendations will be considered by the City Council in narrowing down the list for the January election.

The Grapevine Sun Sunday, October 11, 1981

# Library receives microfilm

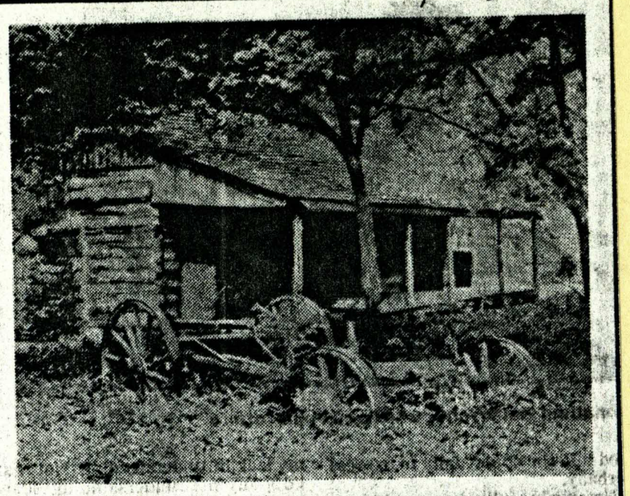
The Grapevine Public Library has recently received microfilm of issues of The Grapevine Sun from the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

The donation completes the library's copy of microfilm of the Sun that dates from 1898 to 1976, Librarian Janis Roberson said.

Copies of the Sun were microfilmed by TCHC in a project that began in June for the newspaper's preservation. TCHC Chairman Duane Gage described the Sun as "being the single most important source of Northeast Tarrant County history."

The microfilming project was sponsored by the Grapevine Tourist and Convention Bureau.

Star Telegram



# The heritage we cherish

The Isaac Parker House, in the photograph above, was rated as the area's finest when it was built in Birdville in 1848. Now it is one of the seven pioneer homes found in Log Cabin Village, the remarkable restoration in Fort Worth's Forest Park.

Also remarkable is *Log Cabin Village: A History and Guide*, a new book published by the Texas State Historical Association in cooperation with the Tarrant County Historical Society. Not just a picture book relying on the certainties of nostalgia, it offers an informative, educational and altogether fascinating account of the advancing technology of cabin-building in frontier times.

Recorded, too, is the heroic effort of concerned citizens to save and preserve the old cabins that saw much history, and in which much history was made. The removal of the ancient cabins from their original sites to their enshrinement in Forest Park is a dramatic narrative in itself. The histories of the Foster, Tompkins, Shaw, Pickard, Seela, Parker and Howard houses are revealed with supportive genealogies.

This is a definitive book of its kind, with text by Terry Jordan, catalog by Bettie Regester and Selden Wallace, and photography — lots of it — by Elna Wilkinson, plus drawings by Tony Crosby and a splendid preface by Nevin E. Neal.

*Log Cabin Village* has most of the appointments of a coffee-table book, with one paramount exception: It is not priced like one. Impressively produced in sturdy cloth binding, the oversized volume retails for $15. The paperback edition, published simultaneously, costs $6.95.

Already available in museums and other selective outlets, the book is just beginning to make an appearance in local bookstores. It also may be obtained direct from the Texas State Historical Association, 2-306 Richardson Hall, University Station, Austin, Texas 78712. — L. S.

FtW ST 6-24-81

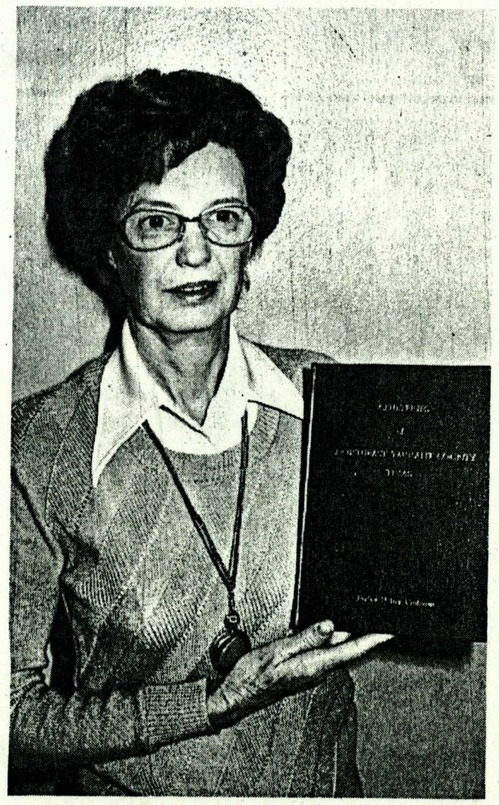
Meanwhile in nearby Burleson, where the centennial observation peaked and tapered off during several days in late spring, the big book commemorating that occasion is ready.

The book is called *The City of Burleson, Texas: the First One Hundred Years, 1881-1981*. It is selling for $20 from the Burleson Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 9, Burleson 76028, or from the Burleson Historical Committee, 245 S.W. Dian, Burleson 76028.

Burleson's book is a lovingly researched, warmly written effort in the oral history style that made the regional Writers Project collections of the 1930s delights to read. There is hardly a dull stretch in its recollections of times long gone and worth reliving.

* * *





Daily News photo

***GENEALOGY RESEARCH*** — Evelyn D'Arcy Cushman, 4904 Wedgeview Dr., Hurst, after eight years of research, has published a registry of cemeteries in Northeast Tarrant County. During this time, she spent countless hours and drove more than 2,000 miles gathering information for the book.

# Grave registry new publication

Twenty-seven cemeteries in the northeast quadrant of Tarrant County are cataloged in "Cemeteries of Northeast Tarrant County" recently published by Evelyn D'Arcy Cushman of Hurst.

With only four exceptions, all known cemeteries in the county north of Interstate Highway 30 and east of Interstate Highway 35-West are included.

The 320-page hardbound volume includes inscriptions from Arwine, Bear Creek, Bedford, Birdville, Bourland, Calloway Chapel, Chivers, Dobkins, Ford, Gibbins, Grapevine, Harper, Hitch-Liggett, Hood, Isham, Lonesome Dove, Minter's Chapel, Mount Gilead, Parker, Parker Memorial, Peterson, Smithfeld, Tomlin, Watson, White's Chapel and Witten Cemeteries.

A special section contains information on an additional 19 "lost" graveyards. These desecrated or abandoned burial sites range from a single grave to the approximately 100-grave Spring Garden Cemetery.

Inscriptions on markers that give additional information such as "mother," "daughter," fraternal emblems, military service and marriage dates are also included.

An extra feature of the books is a copy of a 1895 map of Northeast Tarrant County which shows site and names of homeowners. Location of churches, schools, cotton gins and houses occupied by renters are also marked on this rare map.

More than 10,000 tombstone inscriptions with 1,900 surnmes are reported in this book which took Mrs. Cushman eight years to compile. Since 1973 she has spent countless hours in research and drove more than 2,000 miles to the various cemeteries.

For further information about the new publication, Mrs. Cushman may be contacted at 4904 Wedgewood, Hurst.

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Awards Committee

1981 Annual Report

During the current year, the chairman has been concerned with awards both at the local and state level. Upon recommendations of members of the County Commission, the lives and works of two local historians were researched, summarized and reported to the Tarrant County Historical Commission with the recommendation that the names of DORA DAVENPORT JONES and PEARL FOSTER O DONNELL be submited to the Texas Historical Commission for certificates of Commendation for Historical Preservation at the County LEvel. The certificates were granted, recieved and appropriated framed. Then on November 30, 1981, Bennett L Smith, TCHC Chairman Emeritus presented the certificates to the two recepients at Commissioners' Cpurt. The County Judge expressed the Courts' appreciation of their contributions in preserving local history.

The award committee also recommended to the TCHC that the first two volumes of the Old Northwest Series, Navarro County, 1846-1860 compiled by Nancy Timmons Samuels and Barbara Knox and published by the Fort Worth Geneological Society be entered into the state competition for Best REgional History. Upon receving approval of the local commission, the $ 75. needed to purchase three sets of the publication was contributed by two members. A statement of recommendation, a brief history of the the Geneological Society and biographical sketches of the two compilers together with the books were shipped to the Texas Historical Commission and reciept acknowledged on November 23,1981.

Throughout the year, the chairman has herself collected and recieved from commission chairman and some mebers material for the scrap book which is required as supporting evidence if a county historical commission enters the competition for Best Program of Work.

When members at large failed to make any nominations for special awards to this committee, the commission chairman recommended to a general meeting of the commission that the following names be entered into state competition: Ruby Schmidt as outstanding committee chairman, and Mike Patterson as oustanding commission member. His recommendations were approved and will be submited by him to the Texas Historical Commission.

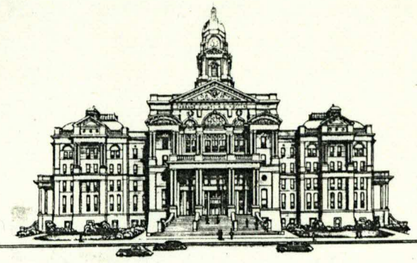
Respectfully submited,
Frances M Allen
Frances M Allen
Chairman

Turn over for Resumes on Two Historians

**Tarrant County Historical Commission**

% TCJC NE Campus
828 Harwood Road
Hurst, Texas 76053

July 23, 1981



TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Andersen
Jerry Mebus
A. Lyn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Em. Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Billy W. Sills
Sec. Gilbert Anguiano
Treas. B. J. Clark

COMMISSION MEMBERS
Frances Allen
Mrs. J. J. Ballard
Mrs. Jesse H. Barker
Mrs. Joe Box
Gene Brooks
Mrs. Jim Calhoun
Paul Campbell
Beth Canright
David Dunnett
Beeman Fisher
Gary Havard
Mrs. Marianne Juran
Gordon Kelly
Lawrence Landis
Katherine Livingston
Charlie McCafferty
Brent McPherson
Steve Murrin
Mrs. A. M. Pate, Jr.
Michael E. Patterson
Mrs. Jayne L. Payne
Sidney Poynter
Carol Roark
Mrs. Jacob Rolla
Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Mrs. Ann J. Smith
John Hugh Smith
Winston O. Sparks
Joe E. Standifer
Jack D. Watson
C. George Younkin

Cindy Sherrell
Texas Historical Commission
Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Cindy:

The Tarrant County Historical Commission wishes to recognize two outstanding Tarrant County historians with Special Certificates of Commendation for Historic Preservation at the County Level. We have voted to recognize Dora Davenport Jones and Pearl Foster O'Donnell for their extensive research and writing on Tarrant County topics. Enclosed please find resumes on each of them. We are very proud of their achievements.

Please refer this award request to the Executive Committee of the Texas Historical Commission at the earliest opportunity. We are observing Tarrant County History Appreciation Week September 13-19, 1981, and wish to present them their certificates during that week.

We appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage

Duane Gage
Chairman

COMMISSIONERS' COURT AGENDA

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1981 - 9:30 A.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IV. RECOGNITION AND LETTERS

A. Bennett L. Smith, Chairman Emeritus, Tarrant County Historical Commission

1. Presentation of Certificates of Commendation for Historical Preservation at County Level to Dora Davenport Jones and Pearl Foster O'Donnell

2. Tarrant County Cemetery Fund - Application to IRS for Exemption

B. Request from the City of Southlake to use three (3) ballot boxes for Bond Election on Saturday, December 19, 1981

C. Request from the Fort Worth Independent School District, Hubbard Elementary School No. 33, to use one voting machine for educational purposes on Friday, January 29, 1982

22

DORA DAVENPORT JONES
(Mrs. Jo Buck Jones)

Dora Davenport Jones was born November 30, 1903, in Palestine, Texas, to Charles Harlan Davenport and Minnie Pearson Davenport. Her father was Superintendent of Public Schools there. His entry into the business world later took the family to Houston, and in 1919 to Fort Worth where our subject graduated from Central High School cum laude in June, 1920. Her studies at The University of Texas were interrupted at the end of the second year when she married Jo Buck Jones, an engineer, on August 29, 1922. Later she returned to The University of Texas and graduated in June, 1935, with a major in sociology and psychology. Her husband's occupation took them to various southeastern states and back to Texas in 1933. In 1960 the couple were living in Fort Worth where Mr. Jones died in 1971.

Mrs. Jones became interested in genealogy when the couple lived in Virginia near Washington, D. C., in 1927. She did extensive research in the Library of Congress. She continued research into her own ancestral records, which resulted in establishing her eligibility to membership in the Royal Order of the Crown, Magna Charta Dames, Colonial Dames XVII Century, Daughters of the American Revolution, and United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Upon joining the United Daughters of the Confederacy in January, 1964, she became chapter historian and began a new phase of research into a field broader than family research. Compiling the history of the chapter required extensive and ingenious research of records locally, and at the state and national levels, of old newspapers and cemeteries. She developed a list of 750 members, past and present, their maiden names, Confederate ancestor or relations, and dates of admittance. The publication The History of the Julia Jackson Chapter #141 United Daughters of the Confederacy 1897-1976 (published by Kwick-Kopy Printing Center, Fort Worth, Texas, 1976), includes a number of facts and events pertaining to womens' activities in Fort Worth over this period which are not found in other publications. Money from the sale of this book was used for repairing and resetting the headstones in the Confederate Burial Plot at Oakwood Cemetery.

PEARL FOSTER O'DONNELL

Pearl Foster O'Donnell is described in the first edition of Who's Who in Texas Today as an author and business executive and there is proof that she has been successful in both careers. She was born July 6, 1906, near Grapevine, Texas. The family lived on farms until 1911, when they moved into Grapevine and two years later to Fort Worth. Pearl was educated in the Fort Worth Public Schools, graduating in 1923. In her senior year she married Rex E. Wright, and their son, Charles, was born on November 18, 1924. When her husband died in 1924, our subject entered the retail business, working first at Monnig's Department Store and later for The Fair. In both she rose to responsible positions.

In 1942 she married Robert E. O'Donnell. Both worked for Uniform Manufacturing Company, which they later bought out. Mrs. O'Donnell designed and patented the Amanco Patient Gown. She retired in 1966.

Now she could devote her time and energies to research into genealogy and regional history, both in Texas and the Southeastern states. The reason for this interest is apparent when her parentage is reviewed.

Mrs. O'Donnell's father was Charles A. Foster, born April 8, 1881, in Tarrant County, son of James L. and Della (McDonald) Foster, who came in 1845 to the Grapevine area from Missouri. Her mother was Ella B. Bell, born April 9, 1882, in Wilson County, Tennessee, to Thomas J. Bell and Barbara L. (Williams) Bell. In 1898 she came with her parents to Grapevine, Texas, from Arkansas.

Mrs. O'Donnell's first undertaking was to trace Foster and related families who had come into the Grapevine area before Tarrant County was formed. She published Trek to Texas 1770-1870 in 1966 (Branch-Smith, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas). Over 1,500 copies were sold (at cost!) to individuals and libraries all over the United States. This resulted in many letters and additional information. Her research had identified 63 families. The work includes chapters on early history and mores of Northeast Tarrant County and some reports of rare, early articles.

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Mrs. Jones' second work, The History of the R. E. Lee Camp 158, United Confederate Veterans, Fort Worth, Texas 1861-1939, and Other Confederate Veterans in Tarrant County (276 pages) required a year and a half to complete. It contains abstracts of war records and brief biographies of more than 2,000 members or veterans who are buried in Oakwood Cemetery plus manuscripts and letters written by many of the veterans themselves. By comparing Oakwood Cemetery records and her own files of abstracts, Mrs. Jones was able to identify all but one of the graves. The book is not only well documented but also contains directions to other sources of information for the reader. Twelve numbered copies were deposited in several libraries.

The manuscript History of the Anne Carter Lee Chapter, Children of the Confederacy, 1902, required extensive research, is well footnoted, and contains copies of important documents. The Fort Worth Public Library has a bound copy.

Mrs. Jones is now working on a supplement to the above-mentioned History of the R. E. Lee Camp 158, United Confederate Veterans, Fort Worth, Texas 1861-1939, etc., and the histories of the short-lived A. S. Johnson Camp UCV and Belle Boyd Chapter UDC. She has received well-deserved recognition from the three organizations for her valuable contributions to their histories. With her detailed knowledge of this area of research, she has been of immeasurable assistance to the Fort Worth Public Library staff in organizing and inventorying the varied and extensive Confederate material in their vertical files. She prepared a manuscript "Primary Source Records of the R. E. Lee Camp #158, UCV and Julia Jackson Chapter #141, UDC" in the Fort Worth Public Library.

Mrs. Jones has been most generous in gifts of her publications to the Fort Worth Public Library and to Tarrant County Commissioners Court for the County Historical Commission, and sends the Commission copies of important documents she discovers. She is in the Local History Department of the Public Library frequently, and is quick to be of assistance to others, often providing them with

copies of needed evidence from her own files. Her interest extends to the history of Fort Worth and she is helpful in problems of locating sites on early maps and the like.

Endowed with a keen analytical mind, ability to organize and to write well, with zest for her "specialty" and a happy and generous disposition, Mrs. Jones is a valuable asset to our community. We are grateful that she returned to the home of her youth.

July 14, 1981

Frances M. Allen

# PEARL FOSTER O'DONNELL

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Now she could devote her time and energies to research into genealogy and regional history, both in Texas and the Southeastern states. The reason for this interest is apparent when her parentage is reviewed.

Mrs. O'Donnell's father was Charles A. Foster, born April 8, 1881, in Tarrant County, son of James L. and Della (McDonald) Foster, who came in 1845 to the Grapevine area from Missouri. Her mother was Ella B. Bell, born April 9, 1882, in Wilson County, Tennessee, to Thomas J. Bell and Barbara L. (Williams) Bell. In 1898 she came with her parents to Grapevine, Texas, from Arkansas.

Mrs. O'Donnell's first undertaking was to trace Foster and related families who had come into the Grapevine area before Tarrant County was formed. She published Trek to Texas 1770-1870 in 1966 (Branch-Smith, Inc., Fort Worth, Texas). Over 1,500 copies were sold (at cost!) to individuals and libraries all over the United States. This resulted in many letters and additional information. Her research had identified 63 families. The work includes chapters on early history and mores of Northeast Tarrant County and some reports of rare, early articles.

Her next project was tracing the Medlin family, who had settled in the area in 1844. An exhaustive search of public and private documents and interviews with descendants resulted in 1974 in the manuscript Medlin Clan and Kin and Texas Settlement 1844-1858, in which she documented the movement from the Carolinas to Tennessee to Missouri to Texas. The Fort Worth Public Library has a bound copy as do other libraries.

In addition Mrs. O'Donnell has produced in manuscript form: (1) History of Lonesome Dove Baptist Church, which was organized in February, 1846, when the area was still a part of Robertson County, and (2) Ancestors and Descendants of Benjamin Tuck Bell and Charlotte (Goodall) Bell, in 1975. Though unpublished, these documents have been duplicated and are available to researchers into local history.

The quality of her research and the authenticity of her productions are recognized by the fact that they are quoted in such publications as Travelers Rest and The Tugaloo Crossroads by Bouwman; 1980 State of Georgia, Historic Preservation Section; Old Northwest Texas, Vol. 1A and 1B, published by the Fort Worth Genealogical Society, 1980-1981; and Grapevine Area History by Charles Young, published by Grapevine Historical Society in 1979.

Though her research began with family genealogy, because of the breadth and depth of her work, the end result has documented considerable local history.

Mrs. O'Donnell can no longer actively pursue her second career because of health problems, but she is most generous and helpful to researchers who call upon her for information and guidance.

July 14, 1981

Frances M. Allen

# The sky's the limit for museum

By DONNA DAROVICH
Star-Telegram Writer

Just outside the front gate of General Dynamics, where life is breathed into the supersonic F-16, two aged ancestors of the fiesty fighter, a B-58 and a B-36 bomber, sit silently in a grassy meadow.

Overhead, the streamlined sleek and silver jets from nearby Carswell Air Force Base scream skyward. The massive shadows of thundering B-52s engulf the silent flying giants of another era.

But ever so often, when the wind gusts just right across the 12.5-acre site of the fledgling Museum of Aviation in which the two planes are exhibits, the propellers of the B-36 eerily begin to turn.

They do not turn as they did when the intercontinental bomber revved up to fly one of its 10,000-mile, non-stop missions, but they remind the younger, faster planes in the sky that the B-36 once knew glory too and still has a spark of life.

Preserving that glory, that spark, is the goal of the Museum of Aviation Group, which established the museum about six years ago.

* * *

**JOHN IRONS,** president of the group, believes the planes are part of America's history and worth the time, money and effort it takes to rebuild and restore them.

Besides the B-36 and B-58, the museum includes a KC-97 tanker and an F-89 Scorpion fighter plane.

Irons said that this summer the museum hopes to add an AT-21 twin-engine attack trainer; an F-11 Navy fighter; an F-86 fighter; and a DC-3 to its collection.

An F-100 fighter and a T-33 trainer jet currently stored at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio should also be delivered to the Fort Worth museum sometime this summer, Irons said.

The planes are obtained from a variety of sources, Irons said — from surplus companies to Air Force storage yards. Some come from individuals.

The first plane acquired by the museum, the B-36, is probably the plum of the exhibit, said Tom D. Neely, museum director of restoration. He said the giant bomber almost ended up on a metal scrap heap.

In 1959, the U.S. government donated it to the city of Fort Worth because it was last B-36 built at the Fort Worth General Dynamics plant (making it the last B-36 built in the world). It was on display at Southwest Airport for nearly 15 years.

But it became the victim of vandals, and when the airport closed in 1972, the museum group told the Air Force the B-36 should be preserved.

* * *

**THE MEN WERE** told that if their group could get non-profit, tax-exempt status, they could get the plane.

They did and moved the plane to its present location.

Irons said he believes he can obtain an historical marker for the bomber because of its reputation.

There is a lot of nostalgia in Fort Worth for the bomber that never saw battle and was dubbed the "Peacemaker," Irons said. There are many residents still here who worked at GD when the 385 planes were built there between 1947 and 1954.

But the B-58, which the museum group obtained just a few weeks ago, probably has more fans here, Irons said, because there are more former and present GD workers in Fort Worth who worked on it. One hundred sixteen B-58s were build there between 1953 and 1962.

The B-58 was selected from an Air Foce storage area in Tuscon by the musuem group because of its good condition, Irons said.

It was transported to Fort Worth in a C-5A, with the assistance of several generous Fort Worth aviation enthusiasts, Irons said.

And transporting such large aircraft is no small job.

The F-100 and T-33, for example, can hopefully be delivered by the Texas Air National Guard as part of a routine training mission, Irons said.

* * *

**THE B-36** had to be disassembled and transported from Southwest Airport to the museum site on trucks.

"The wing was the biggest single piece," Irons recalled of the plane which is 150 feet long, 32 feet wide and weighs 50,000 pounds.

The three main officers of the museum group are all former GD employees. Irons was a technical writer there for seven years, Neely, a manufacturing engineer for 30 years and Ed Calvert, an aerodynamicist for 29 years. Irons is also a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel and was a flight engineer on the B-36 and the B-29.

Their combined knowledge is enough to guide them through the restoration of the intricate old aircraft. A number of volunteers help with the actual work.

Area high school students in aviation classes, current GD employees and even Air Force men drop in at the museum site with offers of help for the three men who spend most of their free time working on the planes, Irons said. But the group needs many more.

The museum group now has most of the tools and equipment needed need to handle and move around the large plane parts, Irons said, although for a while the Dahlstrom Construction Co. gave the men access to the firm's larger equipment.

Planes are not the only exhibits the museum group plans to have, however.

Three mobile homes are already being joined and converted into display areas for such items as 350 model airplanes that an Arlington man has donated to the museum.

A rare model of a B-58 that GD once used in wind tunnel tests and five F-111S wind-tunnel models will also be shown, as will seven large models (that actually fly) including a B-17, a P-38 and a Nieuport.

The museum has even obtained a World War I hangar that the Dedalions, an organization of World War I pilots, once owned.

* * *

**THERE IS NO** purchase price on the planes that the group obtains, Irons said, because the planes remain the property of the Air Force and are on loan to the museum.

The property on which it sets is being loaned to it by Carswell Air Force Base. The Sid Richardson Foundation helped get a fence around the museum site.

The museum is open from approximately 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Although technically not yet open, visitors are welcomed.

One recent visitor was a GD employee who saw the B-58's tail number, 668, and recognized the plane as the one he once flew.

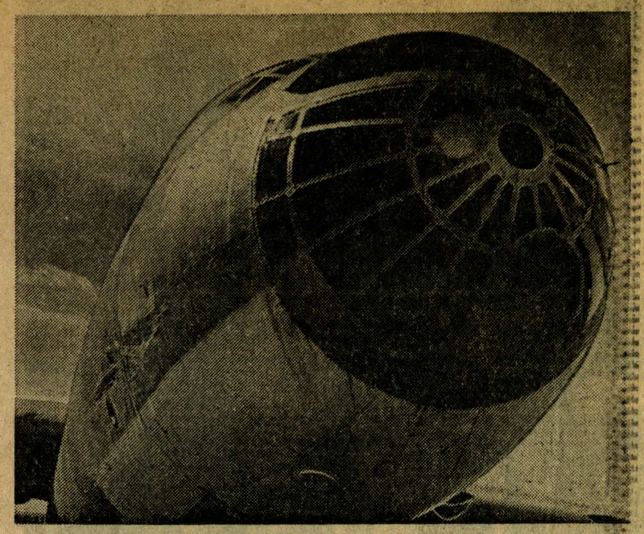
A young Air Force F-16 pilot also stopped by to give Neely some of the background on the B-58, which he said was called the "peeping Tom."

Upkeep on the museum aircraft includes a good polishing ever so often (a massive undertaking), Irons said.

The men say their interest in the old planes is partly one of nostalgia and partly, as Calvert said, "because the B-36, the B-58 and the F-111 paid for my groceries for 29 years."

But the inscription on a photo of a B-58 inside one of the trailers may best explain the feeling they men have about the aircraft.

Bing Cosby, who worked on the B-58 project at the Fort Worth plant many years ago, wrote an inscription which says, "One airplane few alone . . .fast. We were always pulling away. We said 'catch us if you can.' No one ever answered."



Star-Telegram/JOE MCAULAY

**GROUNDED . . . B-36 nose still points to the sky**



# Old Cattle Days Recalled in New Museum Here

By FRANK PERKINS

A pair of pistols used in the brutal 1924 murders of two Texas Special Rangers is the latest exhibit at a little known but fascinating museum here.

The 4,000-square-foot museum is in the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association's new head quarters at 1301 W. Seventh.

The new exhibit is two Colt single action revolvers used in the killing of TSCRA cattle inspectors W.D. Allison and H.L. Roberson in a Seminole hotel lobby.

The investigators were in Seminole to present evidence of cattle stealing against two Seminole men, Tom Ross and Milt Goode, to a Gaines County grand jury. As the inspectors sat chatting in the lobby on a Sunday night, they were felled by shotgun blasts from Ross and Goode, who dry-gulched the lawmen through a crack in the hotel's door. As the inspectors lay dying on the floor, Ross and Goode rushed in, emptied their Colt revolvers into them then fled.

They were captured and sentenced to life imprisonment for the attack. Both later escaped from Huntsville, only to be cornered in Montana. As the Montana lawmen closed in, Ross, who had shot still another unarmed man during the escape, turned his pistol upon himself and committed suicide. Goode surrendered and was returned to Huntsville to serve out his life sentence.

The killings of cattle inspectors Allison and Roberson occurred during the tenure of E.B. Spiller as secretary and general manager of the 104-year-old Cattle Raisers Association. His daughter, Mrs. Frances Spiller Merrill of Fort Worth, recently turned over the Colt revolvers used by Goode and Ross in the killings to Don King, the current secretary and general manager.

The pistols, one a .45, the other a .38-40, will be in a section in the museum honoring the association's inspectors, the men who fight cattle thieving day after day. Scores of them have been wounded during the association's century-long battle against rustlers and about four have been killed.

King told The News-Tribune the museum, which is far from complete, "will chronicle the cattle raising industry in the Southwest and interweave in that chronicalling the effect and involvement of the TSCRA."

**MURDER GUNS**—Don King, Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association general manager, shows Mrs. Shirley Fitch pistols used in the 1924 slayings of two TSCRA cattle inspectors. Photo by Steve Munday.

So far, exhibits in the museum give the visitor a look at the men and women who made cattle ranching in Texas a multi-billion dollar business, battling Indians, rustlers, claim jumpers and hardships of weather, loneliness and uncertain financing to do so.

Exhibits involving the strong pioneer woman who settled Texas along with her rancher husband are particularly revealing. One turn-of-the century photo shows a woman, skirts tucked up around her knees, branding a bawling calf; another shows two women, unsmiling, dressed in the long skirts and blouses of the Victorian era, standing by a bicycle. One of the women is holding a long .45-70 lever action rifle, the other is holding up the bike, which has a fat antelope buck draped over its headlebars.

Sometimes, "women's work" in the 1880s and 1890s in the Big Bend country meant pedaling a bicycle out to the "back 40" and shooting a fat antelope for supper. And sometimes "women's work" in that same area meant using that same .45-70 to protect the family herd from rustlers or marauding bandits.

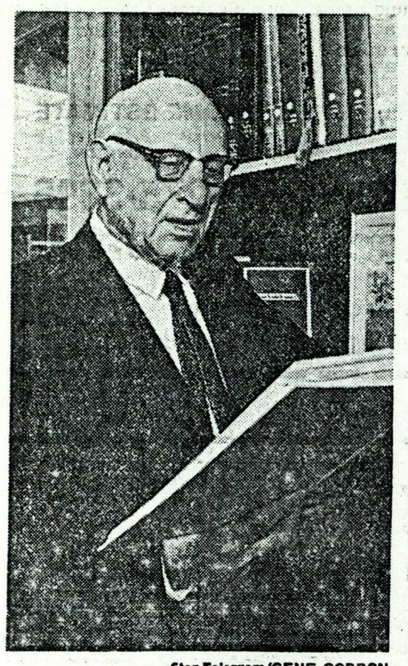
Other exhibits trace the development of the cattle industry through the growth of the Texas "super ranch," such as the Waggoner spread, the King Ranch and others.

The ranching story is told in a small theater in the center of the museum via movies. Currently the films center on the Burnett and Waggoner ranches, two legendary Northwest Texas spreads. Future plans call for films on the gigantic King Ranch that stretches from the Texas coast inward for 50 miles in the southeastern portion of the state, the Briscoe holdings, now operated by former Governor Dolph Briscoe, a TSCRA director, and another film on the development of the TSCRA itself, plus a movie profile of some large far West Texas spreads.

Adjacent to the museum is the association's Hall of Brands, with brands from the world's most famous cattle ranches in Texas and Oklahoma burned into the specially treated oaken walls. Burned there are the Waggoner Ranch's famed "6666", the "XIT" from West Texas, and hundreds of others—each of them registered with the TSCRA.

For the newcomer, or the old Texas hand, the museum and Hall of Brands at the TSCRA is a treat; an interesting and nostalgic link to those days that gave Texas a world-wide reputation that endures to this day. The museum is open to the public. Admission is free.

# Memories preserved for future generations to share



Star-Telegram/GENE GORDON

Bennett Smith

TCHC member

By CLAIRE EYRICH
Star-Telegram Writer

In the days of the Federal Writers Project of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the 1930s, writers all over the country were put to work questioning untold numbers of Americans about the past.

The end of the Great Depression and the beginning of World War II put an end to this monumental amassing of information, but not to the need for the collecting of history and folklore at the grass roots.

The Oral History Project of the Fort Worth Public Library, recently reactivated to collect area history through interviews with the people who have lived it or remember it, is calling for volunteers to collect stories, anecdotes and memories of old-timers.

With all local history as its province, the project can be a valuable one for future researchers and historians, says Bennett Smith, chairman emeritus of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. Virtually all historical associations in the area endorse the project, begun with special funds by the Southwest and Genealogical Room of the library several years ago, and carried on through the Junior League's Historic Preservation Committee.

As a repository of urban and industrial history as well as stories of the Dust Bowl and the Depression, the project is now "a combination of all manner of subjects," says Lirl Treuter, librarian.

A special effort is being made to enlist "senior citizens interviewing senior citizens," although the library has had interviewers of ages 11 through 84, says Judy Bruntson, chairman of the project. The library hopes to make use of the Volunteer Center and the 900-member RSVP program to recruit older volunteers "who can talk to people on the basis of their mutual years and understanding."

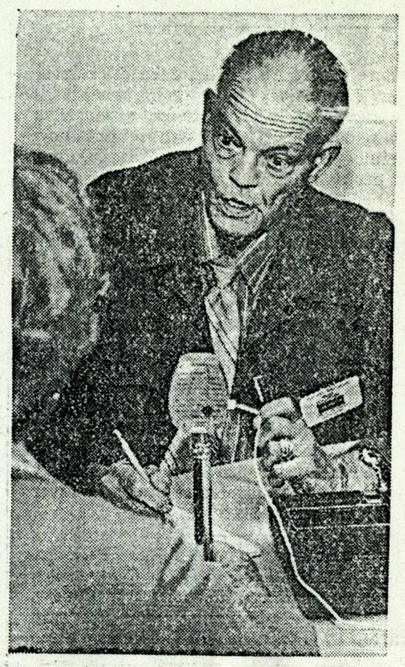
Marvin Detlefsen is one of the oral history volunteers who became interested in the project after doing other volunteer work after his retirement in 1976. He has more than 5,000 hours of volunteer service to his credit at All Saints Hospital, and his wife has more than 14,000 hours there. On Tuesdays, he does office work at the Volunteer Center (he was president last year), and he uses his woodworking hobby to build equipment for Easter Seal Center.

He has received a citation from the library for his work with oral tapes, including setting up a vertical file system.

"Liking people has a lot to do with it," says Detlefsen. "Older people with active minds often have a great deal to give, and they are glad to share it. If no one approaches them, valuable material may be lost forever."

He has a personal feeling for documented history. For 28 years, he was with the Federal Records Archives, first in New Orleans and then here in the Federal Building. When the federal archives in New Orleans were moved from the attic of the Federal Courthouse in the Vieux Carre to a new location, he was asked to take part in that monumental task, cataloguing records, keeping a shelf list, even repairing old and worn documents. He completed five big files of federal court cases alone, arranged and catalogued for easy reference. Eighty-two federal government agencies sent him their records. After the federal government decided to move offices to Fort Worth, he took over the Naval Records Center and its burgeoning files.

Please see Volunteers on Page 5B



Marvin Detlefsen

## Volunteers needed to gather local history

Continued from Page 1B

But being a library volunteer for oral history requires no special expertise beyond the handling of a tape recorder, Detlefsen says.

"Compatability helps. If you can establish a community of interests with the person being interviewed, it means a lot. That's why the library feels that senior citizens often make good interviewers for old-timers. They are likely to understand each other." This does not mean that younger interviewers are not sought and needed, he explains. "The principal qualification is an interest in people and in history."

Detlefsen's work has been rewarding both to him and to the project.

"Personally, I'm learning something every day," he says. "I find the interviews highly entertaining." In addition, he has created filing systems, trained other volunteers to use the recording equipment and swapped experiences with other history-collectors.

"The big thing about archives is having an orderly system whereby people can find things," he says.

His triumphs at finding things make good stories: there was a young woman of one-fourth Indian ancestry, whose lawyer brought her in to establish her right to an Indian grant. Detlefsen "came down and got it right out of the files." For sheer mass and complexity, the John F. Kennedy assassination files were by far the most extensive he ever handled: "They gutted the room, name plate, light bulbs, and everything went into the files," he says. It had to be kept in the vault, under lock and key.

History presents the same sort of challenge: "There is a lot of Fort Worth history out there, waiting to be taped," he says.

"People who lived during the Depression, 50 years ago, can tell a lot. Those Depression years seem long ago and far away now, but the social and economic implications for American life are still there," he adds. "Women can tell a lot of things about those years."

Some people will be transported to the library for interviews. In other cases, the interviewer will use the portable equipment donated to the library by Radio Shack. The library has a limited budget for such equipment, he adds. Volunteers have been asked to meet at the library at 10 a.m. each Friday for discussion and briefing, and Judy Bruntson will give information at the downtown library.

## Tandy Gift To Aid Historians Here

oral hist

Tandy Corp. this week gave the Fort Worth Public Library 6 cassette players and microphones to use in gathering oral histories of elderly people who have lived in the city for many years.

Volunteers will visit the homes of the long-time residents to obtain recollections of earlier days on tape. These will be available to researchers and historians at the Central Library. 12-17

FT 80

# THE GRAPEVINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

and the

GRAPEVINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

presents

## An Oral History Workshop

By: Thomas Friedlund Southwestern Library Association
Dr. Ron Marcello North Texas State University

MAY 22, 1981

10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Community Room
Grapevine Public Library
307 W. Dallas Rd.

## Topics To Be Discussed:

Definition and Development of Oral History

Administration and Management of an Oral History Program

Interviewing Techniques

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Video Tape Presentation

* THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND. THERE WILL BE A COVERED DISH LUNCHEON, SO BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH AND JOIN US IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT ORAL HISTORY.

The Banner

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1981

# Oral history planned

The Grapevine Historical Society in a joint effort with the Convention and Visitors Bureau is beginning a project to record an oral history of the Grapevine area.

The undertaking is the result of an oral history workshop held by the Historical Society earlier this year.

The society will begin by contacting those in the community who have information pertaining to early Grapevine.

The first phase of the project will include a history of the Donnell and Miller Schools.

Interviewers for the Society will contact those persons who might have information about the subjects selected for the oral history and the converstions will be tape recorded. and transcribed for later reference.

All information will be kept in the Grapevine Public Library which is also instrumental in the project.

Anyone in the community who feels they have information that would be of interest to the oral history or a subject they would like to see included or knows someone who might provide such infomation is asked to call directory of Library Services Janis Roberson at the Grapevine Public Library, 488-0413.

The Library will also be collecting old school pictures and photographs of the Donnell and Miller Schools. These will be reproduced and returned to their owners.

A TALE OF TWO WORKSHOPS

The Commission's planned program of work for 1981 led to the presenting of two workshops this quarter. The first, with the theme, "Why That Building Should Be Saved," was co-sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission. More than thirty participants benefitted from the presentations of staff persons from THC, Peter Flagg Maxson and Claire Williams. A highlight of the workshop was a dynamic "whirlwind" tour of the Main Street projects, conducted by tour guide expert, Ruby Schmidt. The date was November 6th.

On Dec. 10th, a workshop with the theme, "Care and Use of Photographs and Archival Documents," was conducted at Amon Carter Museum Theatre. Charles Hughes, Tarrant County Archivist; Marni Sandweiss, Curator of Photographs at the Amon Carter Museum; and Carol Roark, TCHC Preservation Committee Chairman, presented an excellent program. Although attendance was low, interest was high and the information dispensed by the presenters was most useful. Solid advice on the care and handling of photographs included an admonition not to place photographs, from family collections or otherwise, in photo albums with adhesive sheets, for the adhesive chemicals hasten the deterioration of the photographs. Color photographs are not permanent, as the color process is unstable; the image fades. The best manner to preserve photographs is to encase them in Mylar, a thin transparent but extremely strong material whose chemical composition is inert.

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 23, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

# Lifestyle

WEEKEND

Sniffing out history: You can develop that nose for the past at a National Register and Texas Historial Marker workshop from 2 to 5 p.m. in Discussion Room B in the downtown Fort Worth Public Library. For reservations, call Duane Gage at 281-7860, ext. 294.

**"WHY THAT BUILDING SHOULD BE SAVED"**

Fort Worth Central Library
300 South Taylor
Fort Worth, Texas

November 6, 1981

This workshop will deal with economic, aesthetic, and historical reasons for saving and restoring old buildings.

*PROGRAM*

| | |
|---|---|
| 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. | Registration (coffee and doughnuts) |
| 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. | Welcome– MR. DUANE GAGE, Chairman, Tarrant County Historical Commission |
| 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. | "Why Bother to Save Old Buildings," PETER FLAGG MAXSON |
| 10:00 - 10:15 a.m. | Coffee Break |
| 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. | "Researching Your Building and Marker Program," CLAIRE WILLIAMS |
| 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. | Lunch – Individual Research of Downtown Fort Worth Eateries |
| 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. | Tour Main Street Project– DUANE GAGE and RUBY SCHMIDT, TCHC Officers |
| 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. | "How to Start, Whom to Ask," PETER FLAGG MAXSON |
| 3:30 - 3:45 p.m. | Break |
| 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. | Open Discussion, Questions and Answers |

*SPEAKERS:*

Peter Flagg Maxson
Director of National Register Survey
and Registration Programs
Texas Historical Commission

Claire Williams
Director of Research
Texas Historical Commission

*Sponsored by*

*Tarrant County Historical Commission*
*Texas Historical Commission*

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Please return the following registration blank to: Field and Museum Services Dept., Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas, 78711 by November 4.

NAME _____

INSTITUTION _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE (____) _____

**FREE!**
**Take One**

# The DOWNTOWN TRIB

*Your Guide To What's Happening!*

October 19, 1981 | Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, | 8 Pages

# Lancaster Overpass Would Be Demolished, Not Widened, In New Plan for Downtown

By MADELINE WILLIAMS

Outside consultants have come up with a feasible design for I-30 through the south end of downtown and hope to have the cost studies ready this week, The Downtown Trib learned yesterday.

The new design substitutes a depressed throughway on Lancaster for the four-lane overpass that the city and state want to widen to nine lanes. It calls for demolishing the overpass.

The design shows the highway going under the railroad tracks at the east edge of downtown and over Henderson Street on the west edge.

"Those are the two constants," said a businessman familiar with the project.

Outside consultants were hired by the Central Business District Association to determine the best solution to the I-30 traffic density problem after both the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation and the City Council agreed that there is neither time nor money to seek an alternate to their proposed nine-lane overpass.

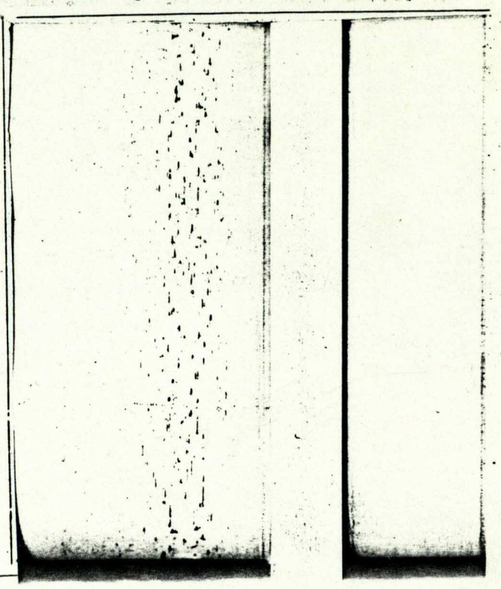
The CBDA in July asked for a delay in starting the project until Oct. 14. The City Council agreed and then changed its mind.

What the city refused to do, however, the President's Advisory Council on Historical Preservation did. The historical group has delayed issuing its report on the historical impact of the project until the CBDA can come up with results of its privately-financed study. Citizen input is more important than a timetable, the federal body said.

Since a part of the money for the project will come from Interstate Highway Trust money, the project needs the blessing of the President's historical advisory council before it can proceed.

Downtown business leaders who have been fighting the nine-lane overpass expect to have dollar figures as well as schematic drawings ready to take to state highway engineers and the city staff sometime next week.

The outside consultants are Howard Needles Tannen & Bergendoff of Kansas City, engineers who do most of the work for the Texas Turnpike, and Schimpeler-Corradino Associates of Louisville, Ky., who did the non-engineering work. Both have offices in Dallas.





# Downtown I-30 group sets review

By KAREN HASTINGS
Star-Telegram Writer

No cost estimates are available yet, but the Central Business District Association is ready to review its preliminary plans for widening Interstate 30 through downtown, the group's president says.

Engineers for the CBDA will meet next week with state highway officials and the Fort Worth city staff to discuss their progress in finding an alternative to widening the I-30 overhead.

The CBDA formed as a result of state highway department plans to widen the I-30 overhead through downtown from its present four lanes to as many as nine lanes.

The Federal Highway Administration already has approved funding for the widening project, which is included in a much larger project designed to improve Interstate 35 and its dangerous mixmaster exchange with I-30.

CBDA president Robert Bass said his group's engineers still are focusing on a design that would move the I-30 section from Summit to the mixmaster to below ground level, following the same path as the present overhead freeway.

Entrance and exits points would be basically the same, he added.

Engineers will not have cost estimates ready for "a couple more weeks," Bass said.

CBDA members have hired the Dallas consulting engineering firm of Schimpeler Corradino Associates, and the Dallas design engineering firm of Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff, for the job.

The purpose of next week's meeting, Bass said, is to make sure city and highway officials are kept informed about what the CBDA is planning.

# Group plans meeting with city to discuss overhead alternative

By KAREN HASTINGS
Star-Telegram Writer

Engineers for the Central Business District Association will meet next week with state highway officials and the Fort Worth city staff to discuss their progress in designing an alternative to the Interstate 30 overhead through downtown.

Although the engineers are still without a cost estimate for their plans, they do have preliminary designs ready for review by the city and the highway department, CBDA president Robert Bass said Wednesday.

The CBDA formed to resist state highway department plans to widen the I-30 overhead from its present four lanes to as many as nine lanes through downtown.

The Federal Highway Administration already has approved funding for the widening project, which is included in a much larger project designed to improve I-35 and its dangerous Mixmaster exchange with I-30.

Bass said the CBDA's engineers are continuing to focus on a design that would move the I-30 section from Summit to the Mixmaster below ground level, along the same path the freeway now follows.

Basically, entrance and exits points would be the same, Bass added.

The purpose of next week's meeting, Bass said, is to make sure city and highway officials are kept informed about what the CBDA is planning.

City Council members decided this spring that state highway officials should continue the preliminary work necessary to complete their planned expansion of the overhead. However, the council also promised to consider any cost-effective alternative the CBDA might devise.

Engineers will not have cost estimates ready for "a couple more weeks," Bass said. He said he is hopeful that a cost-effective alternative to widening the overhead is still possible.

CBDA members have hired the Dallas consulting engineering firm of Schimpeler Corradino Associates, and the Dallas design engineering firm of Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff, for the job.

# Courthouse restoration blasts off

By JAMES PINKERTON
Star-Telegram Writer

After struggling into county jail coveralls Monday morning, the Commissioners Court administered a watery christening that launched a $5.5 million restoration of the historic Tarrant County courthouse.

The baptism by waterhose was directed by County Judge Mike Moncrief and the four county commissioners as each donned white jail coveralls and began water blasting the east facade of the 85-year-old pink granite building.

Moncrief told the gathering of county officials and employees standing on the east lawn that the court was going ahead with the full $5.5 million project although the county doesn't have enough money to complete it.

"As all of you know, the bond money for this project is only $3 million," he said. "We're going to get the other two-and-a-half million through the well-known financial wizardry of our county auditor, Jack Benson, on a pay-as-you-go basis."

Tarrant County voters approved a $3 million restoration as part of the $20 million capital improvements bond issue in 1980. County officials had counted on a $3 million matching federal grant for the remodeling job, but it never materialized.

Moncrief welcomed House Majority Leader Jim Wright, and afterward the congressman said he was heartened by efforts to preserve part of the county's heritage.

"When we look around us, and see all the high-rise development going up, it is indeed refreshing to see the preservation of this building that has been a symbol of strength and justice in this county."

"I think it's great. I'm really excited about the recently awakened spirit in Fort Worth to preserve our heritage. For a long time, the bulldozers of a ruthless progress plowed everything down," Wright said.

Wright referred to Moncrief's comments about a short-lived move in 1956 to raze the building after the Civil Courts Building was erected on the west side of the courthouse.

"It would have been a tragedy if they had torn this building down and put up an unimaginative cracker-box," Wright said.

Moncrief gave those present a brief historical sketch of the stately building, one of the largest courthouses in Texas and one patterned after the renaissance revival style of the state capitol building in Austin.

Work first began on the courthouse in October 1893, and a Kansas City architectural firm selected the same pink granite quarried in South Texas for the state Capitol. The courthouse was one of the first buildings to use structural steel for support and featured open rotunda beneath a stained glass dome.

The building was completed in 1896, but county voters were incensed by the $452,000 price tag and expelled the officials who were responsible.

"Shortly after its completion, the entire Commissioners Court was voted out of office for building such an extravagant monument," Moncrief said.

Wright later kidded Moncrief and Commissioner Jerry Mebus about the past "extravagance" of the court.

"They spent a heck of a lot of money, pal," Wright deadpanned. "Some $452,000, by gosh. Even then, there were people who knew the cost of everything and the value of nothing."

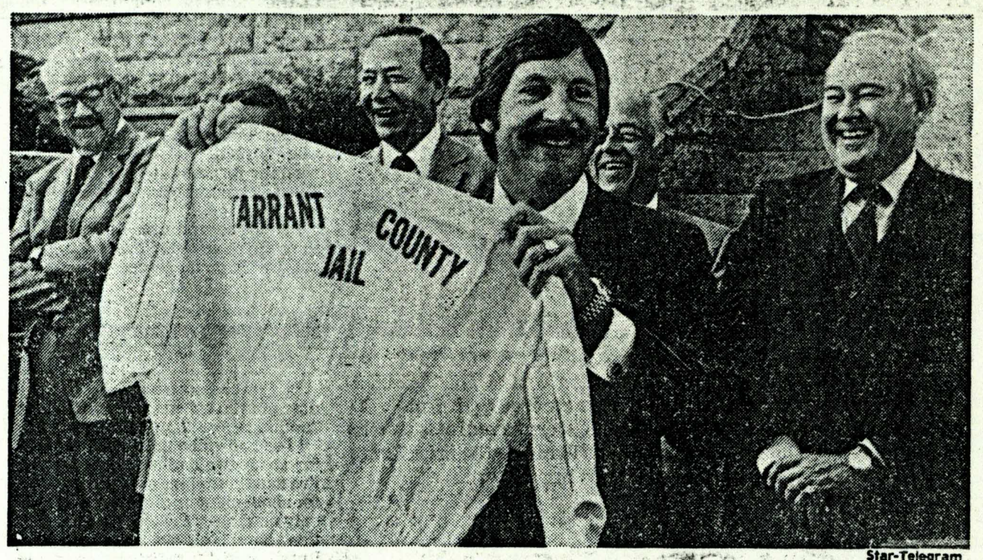
Architect Ward Bogard called the courthouse "this grand old lady" and said the building became something special to him as he grew up in Fort Worth.

"It's always been special to me. My grandfather taught me to follow politics and the Tarrant County Courthouse has always been a symbol of the politics that went on in this building."

"I believe I can promise you that in a year or so, we'll have a building that the people of this county and the people of the entire state can point to with pride," Bogard said.

His firm and Walker Construction Co., the construction manger on the project, presented officials with some of the 250 brass belt buckles that they commissioneed to commemorate the restoration. The remaining buckles will be donated to the Tarrant County Historical Commission for resale, Joe Walker said.

Please see Restoration on Page 2




Star-Telegram

ATTENDING THE CEREMONY, were, from left, County Auditor Jack Benson, Commissioner Lyn Gregory, County Judge Mike Moncrief and Commissioners Jerry Mebus and Dick Andersen.



# Restoration starts on '96 courthouse

Continued from Page 1

The Commissioners Court, Auditor Benson and Wright were handed the buckles that contained a bas relief of the courthouse on the front and a brief history of its construction and restoration on the back.

Moncrief said that he was very excited that the restoration is taking place because citizens in the county made it clear in the 1980 bond issue that they want the historic building preserved.

"It's obvious to me that this project was considered to be very important to the citizens as reflected in their resounding support of the restoration in the bond issue," he said."The citizens will get a good, clean working environment for our judicial process and the satisfaction of being a part of it."

Bogard told those gathered at the dedication that he expects the work to be finished in late 1982.

Johnny Pittman, project manager for Walker Construction, said the restoration work begun in September is proceeding smoothly.

"It's going real well. We've run into about what we expected to run into. The structure was in better shape than we expected," Pittman said.

After the brief ceremony, the crowd went into the east wing of the courthouse for coffee, doughnuts, and a view of the artifacts that workmen have discovered as they gutted the building. On display were old editions of the *Star-Telegram*, chrome plated steampipe fittings and square-headed nails.

The water blasting of the granite surface is expected to be complete in 100 days and will return the facade to it's original pastel pink color. Bogard said that waterblasting with pressurized water is preferable to sandblasting.

# County christens restoration effort

By JAMES PINKERTON
Star-Telegram Writer 11-2-81

With a blast of steaming water, Commissioners Court today officially dedicated the $5.5 million restoration of the historic county courthouse.

County Judge Mike Moncrief and the four commissioners put on white jail coveralls and began water-blasting the east facade of the 85-year-old pink granite structure.

The judge told the gathering of county officials and employees that the court was going ahead with the project although the county doesn't yet have all the funds in hand.

"As all of you know, the bond money for this project is only $3 million," he said. "We're going to get the other two and a half million through the well-known financial wizardry of our county auditor, Jack Benson, on a pay-as-you-go basis."

Moncrief recognized the presence of House Majority Leader Jim Wright, who was in the audience, for the official dedication.

After the ceremony, Wright said he was pleased with efforts to preserve part of the county's heritage.

"When we look around us, and see all the high-rise development going up, it is indeed refreshing to see the preservation of this building that has been a symbol of strength and justice in this county."

• • •

"I THINK it's great. I'm really excited about the recently awakened spirit in Fort Worth to preserve our heritage," he said.

The congressman mentioned the short-lived move in 1956 to destroy the building after the Civil Courts Building was erected on the west side of the courthouse.

"It would have been a tragedy if they had torn this building down and put up an unimaginative cracker box," Wright said.

Architect Ward Bogard called the courthouse "the grand old lady" and said the building became something special to him as he grew up in Fort Worth.

"It's always been special to me. My grandfather taught me to follow politics and the Tarrant County Courthouse has always been a symbol of the politics that went on in this building."

"I believe I can promise you that in a year or so, we'll have a building that the people of this county and the people of the entire state can point to with pride," Bogard said.

His firm and Walker Construction Co., the construction manager on the project, passed out 100 brass belt buckles that they commissioned to commemorate the restoration.

• • •

THE COMMISSIONERS Court, Benson and Wright were handed the buckles, containing a bas-relief of the courthouse on the front and a brief history of its construction and restoration on the back.

Moncrief said that he was very excited that the restoration is taking place because, he said, citizens in the county made it clear in the 1980 bond issue that they want the historic building preserved.

# State Seeks Outside Aid for Criticized FW Overpass

By FRANK PERKINS

New York architect Phillip Johnson, who designed the Fort Worth Water Garden, has been asked by State Highway-Public Transportation officials here for ideas on making the proposed expansion of the Lancaster Avenue overhead freeway more attractive.

Critics of the widening say it will ruin the beauty of the Water Garden.

"We sent Johnson our proposed design in February and asked him and his firm for ideas but we have heard nothing back yet," Burton Clifton, Fort Worth supervising engineer for the highway department, said.

Phillip Johnson has an international reputation as an architect. He designed the Lincoln Center in New York, the New York State Theater and was co-architect on the Seagram Building in New York. He also designed Pennzoil Place in Houston.

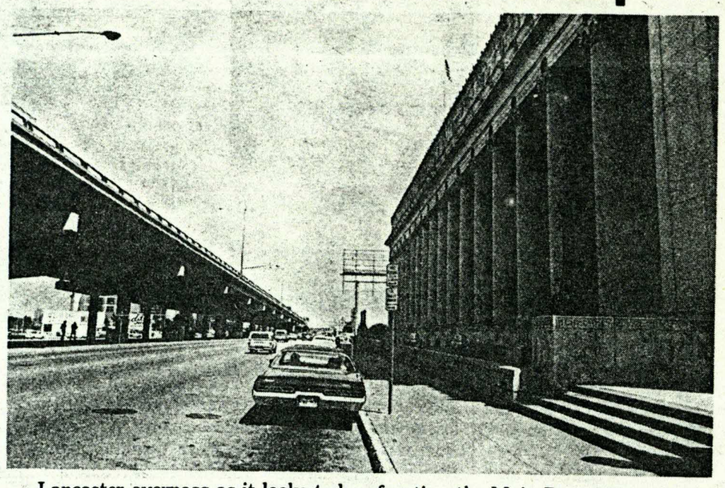
Clifton added that the highway department intends to make the expanded freeway as attractive as possible and will use its own architects and engineers if Johnson ignores their request.

The Central Business District Association says the enlarged overhead freeway, a portion of the $43,000,000 planned expansion of Interstate Highway 30 from just west of the Mixmaster out to Loop 820 West, will turn the southern edge of downtown into a tunnel, increase traffic noise, and overwhelm the oasis serenity of the Water Garden.

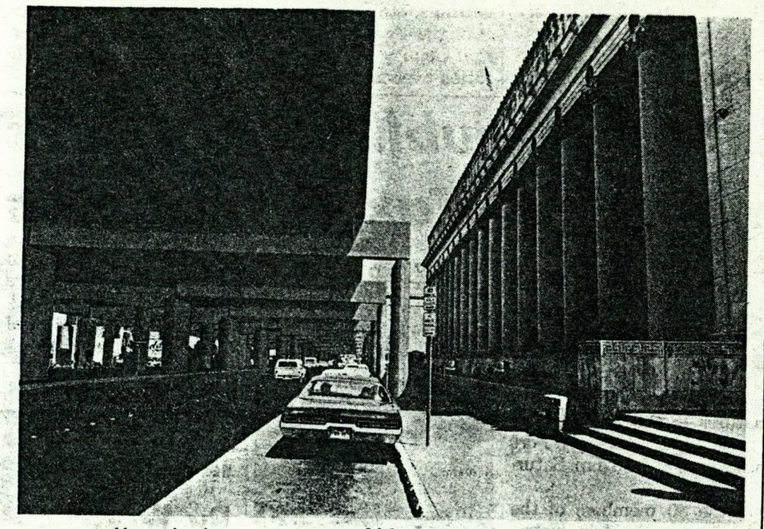
"Johnson uses the waterfalls on that artificial mountain of his in the Water Garden to create a sort of 'white noise' that blocks out urban sounds," Clifton said. "We're not too sure the increased traffic on the expanded freeway near the Water Garden will even be noisy enough to be heard over the sound of the splashing waterfalls."

Clifton also said the trees and south wall of the Water Garden now provide an effective barrier that blocks most of the overhead freeway from view. "You have to seek out vantage points in that Garden," Clifton says, "to be able to get a glimpse of the overhead freeway. Those trees really mask it, and since we are not intending to raise its height, only widen its width we think they will continue to block it from view."

The controversial plan calls for expanding the west-bound portion of the overhead freeway to five lanes, including an auxiliary lane that allows traffic to enter and exit and is not considered a through-traffic channel. This will push the overhead out to the north edge of East Lancaster and support beams will have to be erected along the edge of the street to support the additional three lanes.



Lancaster overpass as it looks today, fronting the Main Post Office.



How nine-lane overpass would look, according to state.

Highway-Public Transportation also drew criticism for the support pillars on the east-bound side of the overhead. Because exit ramps at Ballinger Street, Cherry Street and Henderson Street divert a share of this east-bound traffic, the department was able to drop one of the planned lanes and eliminate the need for the support pillars, Clifton said.

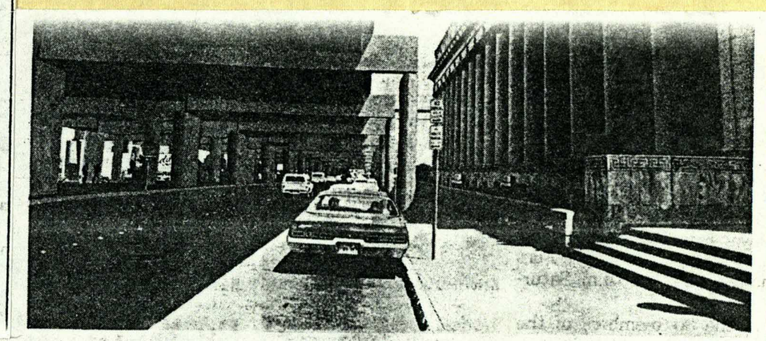
Under the original plan, the east-bound lanes also would roof over East Lancaster, vaulting to within 20 feet of the Main Post Office, an outstanding example of the neo-classical Corinthian architectural styles in revival during the 1930s.

The ugly support pillars would march down the curb line in front of the Post Office, masking its phalanx of lovely solid limestone columns. Preservationists turned out in force and the highway department went back to the drawing boards.

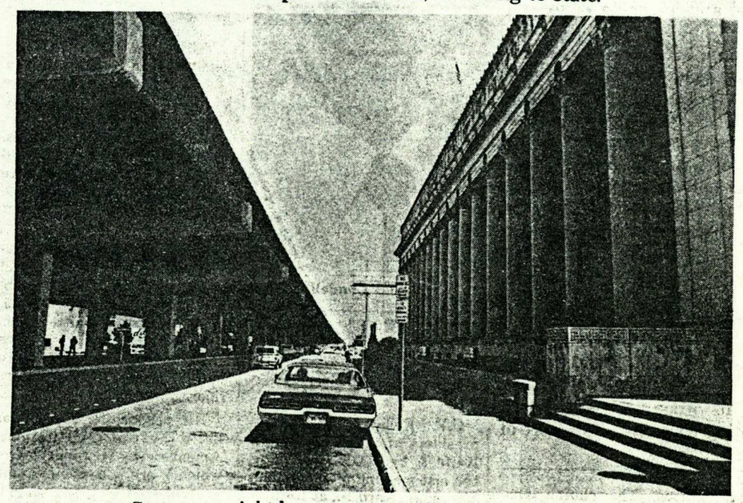
By dropping the east-bound side from four lanes to three plus the auxiliary lane, the overhead would end some 40 feet from the Post Office and allow a little sunshine to fall on East Lancaster, state engineers say.

They have no such option on the west-bound, Water Garden side. West-bound traffic enters the overhead on the eastern edge of downtown, consequently there is no bleed-off at this point, and the requirement is for more lanes, not less.

Critics of the expansion have sent alternate plans to Clifton. "We've already examined most of those proposals as alternatives to the plan we have now, and they were either unworkable, or caused more damage to the environment and life style than the one we settled on," Clifton said.



How nine-lane overpass would look, according to state.



State says eight-lane overpass will look like this.

He said the plan supported by the Central Business District Association would turn the overhead freeway into a one-way traffic flow, and convert Vickery Street into a one-way thoroughfare carrying I-30 traffic in the other direction. "That plan would cost about $175,000,000," Clifton said, "and we came up with that figure after running our own feasibility study on it." It would also require us to clear away umpteen businesses, each employing from a handful up to several hundred employees and would create even worse noise pollution problems," Clifton said.

He said 25 people died in accidents on Interstate Highway 30 in the five years from 1974 through 1978. Five of those deaths occurred in the mile-long section between Henderson Street and the Mixmaster, which comprises the elevated freeway, its approaches and exits.

Clifton expects more public hearings before the project is scheduled to start in 1983. Clifton said the highway department has no secrets about the project. "We have our plans and supporting documentation on file out here at the highway department office on the South Loop," Clifton said, "and anybody who wants to come out and look at them is more than welcome."

# Officials see no way around FW building

By KAREN HASTINGS
Star-Telegram Writer

State highway officials say there is no "reasonable and prudent" alternative to tearing down the historic Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Co. building as part of the Interstate 30 downtown overhead expansion.

In a final report now circulating among federal agencies, the highway department explores alternate routes to the north and south that might spare the 1930 building. The report was required after the former market complex was designated as a national historic monument.

It concludes, however, that the southern route behind the old Post Office and T&P Building would quadruple the project's $25 million price tag. Department official Les French said the southern route also could not miss the Cadillac Plastic building and still include necessary downtown entrance ramps.

The northern route would require another $5.35 million in land purchases, the report said.

A spokesman for an independent federal agency charged with protecting historic sites and buildings, however, said his agency is not satisfied that every possible alternative to tearing down the building has been explored.

The agency is waiting to see whether the highway department adequately considers an alternate route suggested by an independent engineer hired by Cadillac Plastic building co-owner Harold Frost.

Robert Fink of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation also said Tuesday his agency wants more information on what the state highway department intends to do to lessen any bad effects the expansion might have on the old main Post Office and T&P Building.

The overhead project — that part of I-30 from the Mixmaster to Summit — is one piece of the larger West Freeway expansion. The larger project, in turn, is linked to the South Freeway expansion.

The West Freeway project has been delayed because of public opposition to the overhead expansion, and also by attempts to save the historic buildings and parks that will be affected if the overhead is widened to eight lanes.

Because of complaints that a wider overhead would come too close to the old Post Office's north face, engineers already have eliminated one traffic lane eastbound.

So far, the proposal of the state highway department, which basically follows the existing roadbed, is still the only proposal with approved federal funding. Alternatives proposed by concerned residents and groups have met with little support from City Council leaders and city staff.

Highway department officials had to backtrack and consider the Cadillac Plastic building in the historic preservation section of their proposal because they failed to do so in their original report.

Government regulations require that the highway department show it has explored all possible ways around any nationally recognized historic site.

In its report, the department said the new move toward a balanced federal budget prevents it from recommending any alternative that would cost more money.

"The extravagant cost, standing alone, of right-of-way for any location outside of the existing corridor, plus excessive construction costs, cannot be reasonably condoned," the report said.

The northern route explored in the report would take up the Rodeway Inn, the Southwest Title Co. building and several others on the north edge of the present highway. It would mean taking up a net increase of 12 buildings over the original proposal.

The southern alternative would cost four times the original $25 million, mainly because of the extra bridges needed for a totally new highway route.

French said the final report, which will go to the advisory council after it reaches the Federal Highway Administration, does consider the alternative proposed recently by Frost and his engineer.

French did not recall details of this route, but said it did not interchange with Hemphill Street and the downtown area as his department's design standards would require.

The preservation advisory council is considering conducting an on-site inspection of the overhead project and historic buildings affected by it, Fink said.

The advisory council also is considering holding a public information meeting to let people know what steps have been taken to rework the West Freeway with the least harm to the environment and historic places.

Under federal law, the advisory council has the power to comment on all federally funded projects that involve historic buildings or sites.



# New plan offered to save building

By EVELYN HERNANDEZ
Star-Telegram Writer

A Saturday ceremony designating a historic downtown landmark was used to advance an alternative route to the proposed Interstate 30 downtown overhead expansion. The historic landmark — placed at the Fort Worth Public Market Building at 1400 Henderson — is in the path of state highway expansion plans.

The alternate route would save the historic building, which currently houses the Cadillac Plastic and Chemical Co. The plan to save the building would cost about the same as the state's original plan, according to a Dallas-based transportation engineering firm that prepared the alternate route plan.

In March, state highway officials said there was no "reasonable and prudent" alternative to tearing down the building, located at the corner of Henderson Street and the West Freeway downtown, to make room for the highway expansion.

The highway department concluded that alternate routes to the north and south of the building would be too expensive and could not include the necessary downtown ramps.

But Saturday Harold Frost, the grandson of the man who bought the Public Market Building in 1944, announced yet another alternate route, also to the south of the building. Frost's speech came during a ceremony held by the Texas Historical Foundation and the Tarrant County Historical Committee.

"We do not believe there is any reason to tear the building down," Frost said. "There is plenty of space in existing right-of-way to make the improvements necessary.

The alternate plan, designed by PAWA Inc. of Dallas, bypasses the public market building and the E.L. White Office Supplies building at opposite corners of Henderson, south of the West Freeway.

The PAWA plan calls for the displacement of two buildings on the southeast corner of Lancaster and Lake and the Allstate Maps building on the southeast corner of Lancaster and Henderson.

In addition to the public market building, the PAWA design retains the Southwest Land Title building and the Kirk Building, both located between Summit and Ballinger streets.

The highway department has said its alternate route to the south of the Fort Worth Public Market Building would quadruple the project's $25 million price tag.

In addition, the rejected southern alternate route would run behind the old Post Office and T&P building, but could not miss the public market building and still include necessary downtown ramps, the state said.

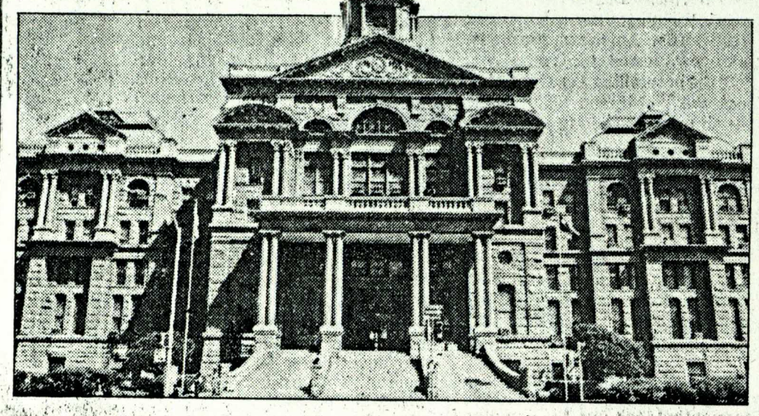
A northern alternate route also explored by the state would require another $5.35 million for construction, the highway department said. It meant taking up a net increase of 12 buildings over the original proposal.

A public meeting, called by the executive director of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, will be held May 18 to discuss alternates to the state's proposed expansion of the overpass. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Roundup Inn at the Will Rogers Memorial Center, 3400 Crestline Road.

Star-Telegram/RON T. ENNIS

**PRESENTATION . . .** Tarrant County Historical Commission Chairman Duane Gage presents marker to Harold Frost

sunday Star-Telegram DECEMBER 20, 1981



# Courthouse renovation builds priceless dream

By CLAIRE EYRICH
Star-Telegram Writer

The ironies of history: When the Tarrant County Courthouse was constructed between 1881 and 1894, citizens were up in arms because of the high cost: $408,840.

Restoration in the 1980s will cost $5.5 million — with no complaints. Even if the courthouse were not a Texas historic landmark in the *National Register of Historic Places*, Tarrant County would know it has a treasure.

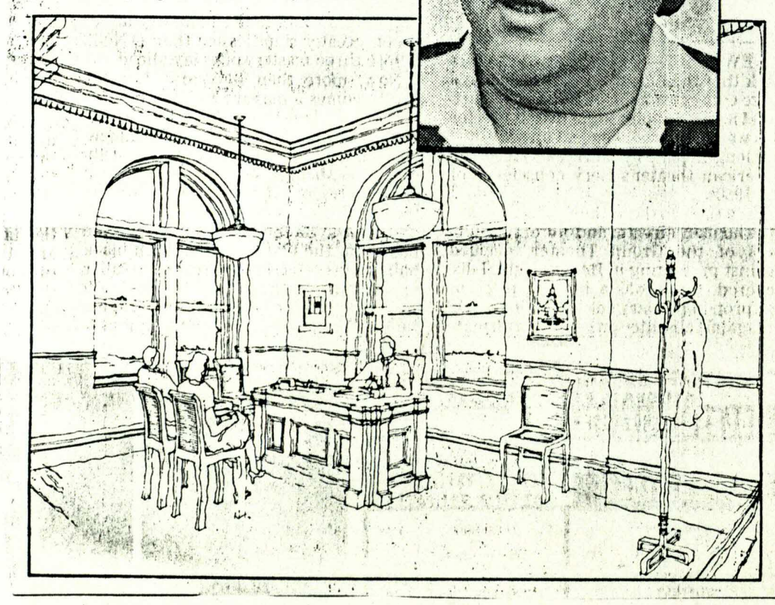
"We've only recently begun to realize what a regional treasure we've got," says Ward Bogard, an architect involved in restoring the rosy granite and marble structure at the end of Main Street.

"At least once in recent years, there was a serious suggestion that we ought to bulldoze the whole thing to the ground and start over. Now I think just about everybody, and certainly the county officials, realize we've got a national monument of significance as well as a courthouse."

The 90-year-old domed structure is, architecturally speaking, a triumph of the so-called "Renaissance revival." Certain elements linked to that style were inspired by a prolific Louisiana-born architect

Please see Courthouse on Page 5

**Architect Ward Bogard, right; sketch of judge's chambers, below**



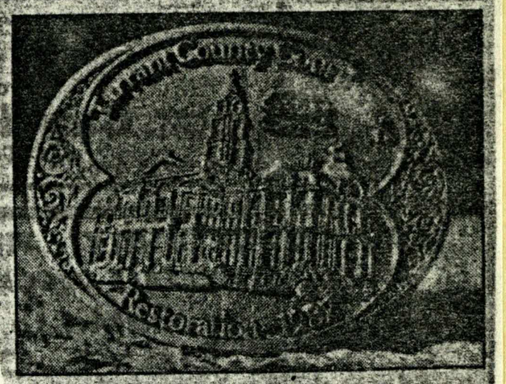
SUNDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 13, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

# Relief for the courthouse CISSY

When the Tarrant County Courthouse restoration project officially was launched recently with ceremonies on the east lawn of the courthouse, the occasion was commemorated by Walker Construction Company and Ward Bogard and Associates, architects, with special brass belt buckles with the Tarrant County Courthouse in relief.

The first buckles were presented to County Judge Mike Moncrief and County Commissioners B.D. Griffin, Lyn Gregory, Jerry Mebus and Dick Andersen, House Majority Leader Jim Wright and State Rep. Lanny Hall.

A limited number of buckles will be sold to the public at $25 each with proceeds benefitting North Fort Worth Historical Society and Thistle Hill. Anyone interested in obtaining a buckle can call the Society at 625-5082, or Thistle Hill at 336-1212.



*Commemorative courthouse buckle*



## Courthouse From Page 1

named Henry Hobson Richardson. Richardson, a Harvard University graduate, developed his style after attending the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris in the mid-1800s. Credited to the style described as "Richardsonian" are the double row of pairs of polished granite columns, the tall arched windows and the classic pediment with subsidiary entablatures on either side.

"Victorian Gothic" is one description attached to the balustraded, bracketed facade, tall steps and domed clock that resemble those on a half-dozen other outstanding courthouses in Texas.

The first step in restoring the big Fort Worth building involves steam-blasting its exterior to restore the original color of the pink Texas granite facing.

Renovation, led by Walker Construction Co., should be completed by next December — "a good time for moving, when the courts are not in session," Bogard says. The tower itself needs only cleaning, having survived such periodic onslaughts on its architectural integrity as the addition of a neon-lighted 500-pound Old Glory to its top — a burden it shed in the late 1960s.

The skylight is intact beneath the copper dome. The lantern and the clock have been worked on from time to time since Julian Gibbons sold the clock to the county fathers 80 or more years ago. Any additional electrical and mechanical work needed now has been included in the first contract estimates. And Bogard says bids for the final section of restoration will be let around Jan. 19.

* * *

Frederick Gunn and Louis Curtis are listed as the courthouse's architects in 1890. Thomas & Woerner, who did the stonework for many other fine Texas buildings, directed the stonemasons who built the pink granite walls — as solid today as when they were put into place.

The current restoration will restore that original strength and beauty. Inside, several stages of renovations and additions made in the past 50 years or more will be ripped out, opening up the soaring spaces to the stained glass dome of the rotunda under the four-tiered clock tower.

Interior changes wrought by almost a century of use and the combined efforts of previous remodelers have filled the great spaces with a honeycomb of offices and walls with unreflecting paint. Now, a double staircase will sweep upward once again beneath the vaulted galleries circling the rotunda: The elevators that replaced one of two original staircases will be removed to a space that most recently housed the tax assessor's office.

The four lofty courtrooms, with their original handsome millwork and ornamentation, will be restored to their places, as will the judges' chambers. Some other county offices that occupy courthouse space will go to other, more suitable quarters.

"As work progresses, we've had no big surprises, but a growing growing sense of what a noble building we have here," Bogard says. He first heard County Judge Mike Moncrief talk about the courthouse restoration, "a project the county commissioners wished to undertake," in 1978. Public interest increased rapidly, and Bogard predicts that public approval will increase even more when people can see the stripped-down rotunda.

His own awareness was born in 1979, when he began studying how to prepare a bond issue for restoration funds. His firm then made about 75 drawings — 48 architectural and the rest mechanical.

"The more we worked, the more fascinating it became — but I've found that true on most restorations," Bogard explains.

The courthouse restoration is a joint venture of his firm and Burson, Hendricks and Walls of Dallas. Bogard, James Hendricks and Larry Walls all were born in Fort Worth, grew up together and have been friends since school days at Carter-Riverside High. The Dallas architects have worked on the restoration of the Governor's Mansion in Austin and a half-dozen major restorations in Dallas, including the master plan for Old City Park.

In 1978, Bogard established his own firm with offices in the historic Livestock Exchange. One of his projects is a feasibility study for the renovation of the 90-room Right Hotel into a 50-room luxury hostelry on the North Side. Ward Bogard and Associates also has been involved in the restoration of Thistle Hill, the Fort Worth Livestock Exchange Building and a handful of other major restorations on the North Side — as well as St. John's Episcopal Church. And Bogard has drawn up plans for the Pearl Hotel and Boot Hill Restaurant projects in the Stockyards.

34

saturday

MORNING JUNE 27, 1981

# Judges approve county courthouse plan

By JAMES PINKERTON
Star-Telegram Writer

District judges Friday endorsed final plans for the $6 million Tarrant County Courthouse restoration, but one dissenting judge said thousands of citizens using the family courts would be herded into basement courtrooms "like cattle."

A dozen judges were told the county plans to completely vacate the old county courthouse by Oct. 15. The county figures it can save $500,000 by begining construction immediately.

But Judge Robert Wright of the 325th District Court said the revised plan to house the three special masters (court aides) for family courts in the basement of the civil courts building is a mistake.

"The stairwell is almost like a cattle chute," Wright said. "Some 40,000 to 50,000 people are going to be herded into that basement like cattle. The basement is clearly the wrong place to put these people."

In 1980, there were 10,255 divorces filed in Tarrant County and divided among the five judges who handle domestic relations. With this caseload alone, well over 20,000 people would be passing through the courthouse during the year.

County Judge Mike Moncrief told the judges that the $3 million in bond issue funds — designated for the restoration project and approved by voters in January 1980 — will pay to remodel only three of the four floors in the old courthouse.

Before the old courthouse is evacuated, a relocation committee must find temporary quarters for the county clerk's marriage license operation and room to house the thousands of large deed record books the clerk maintains. Judge Robert Bur-

Please see Restoration on Page 2

Lifestyle

# *Project to be the picture of authenticity*

STEWART·CISSY

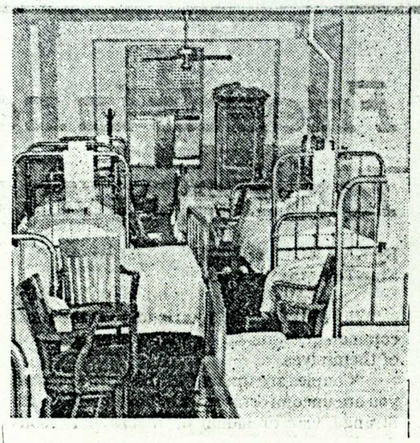
Back to the old photograph album.

Anyone have a pre-1935 picture of the interior of Tarrant County Courthouse? If so, would you let Ward Bogard copy it?

Bogard is the architect in charge of restoration of the courthouse interior and he is trying to make the restoration as authentic as possible. Bogard discovered during his research on the project that early photographs taken inside the building are very rare.

"I think we can do the restoration with reasonable accuracy even if we don't have photographs, but I had rather check my ideas," Bogard says. He previously has worked on the plans for restoration of Thistle Hill, the lease spaces in the Livestock Exchange Building in the North Side restoration, and Billy Bob's Texas — scheduled to open next month.

The only photograph in the *Star-Telegram* reference library shows a dorm set-up for jurors. Back then, juries were all male, remember. With such accommodations, jurors were probably eager to bring in verdicts.



*Photograph shows a jurors' "dorm" in the early-day Tarrant County Courthouse.*



# Restoration plan is approved

Continued from Page 1

nett's probate court and its huge inventory of probate records will also need a temporary home.

"The main consideration is the least inconvenience to the citzens," said Ed Jackson, the county's planning director.

Most of the county offices in the old courthouse are planned to be moved to the new Tarrant County administration building across the street. The probate courts and County Clerk Madrin Huffman's office will return to the remodeled courthouse.

Jackson said temporary offices may be established in the county fire marshal's office several blocks north on Main Street, in the county-owned Ajax Building and in the new administration building.

Judge Wright suggested that the special masters be housed on the second floor of the remodeled courthouse. That space is currently occupied by the two county-court-at-law courtrooms of Judge Mike Schattman and newly appointed Judge Bill Brigham. In the final plans, Burnett's probate court will also remain in the east wing of the second floor and Judge Pat Ferchill's new probate court will be housed in the west wing.

Moncrief told Wright he would not move the two county-court-at-law courtrooms into the basement.

"I don't think you can do that to an elected official," Moncrief said. Moncrief noted that the masters are appointed officials.

"But we have space for the masters in the basements, and it's good space," Moncrief told Wright.

"I don't argue it's an improvement," Wright said. "I'm saying it (basement quarters) should be a temporary improvement."

After Wright had argued his point, District Judge Ardell Young complimented Moncrief, the restoration committee and architect Ward Bogard on the hard work involved in trying to draw up a plan acceptable to all the judges who would use the building.

"I think they've done as good a job as they can to satisfy everyone," Young said.

Judge Howard Fender of Criminal District Court No. 2 said, however, that "it's awful shortsighted" to design quarters for six judges on the expanded 2nd District Court of Civil Appeals when the court is likely to expand to eight or nine judges in the next few years.

Fender suggested the county purchase the Lawyer's Building across the street from the civil courts building and use the space to house the appeals court and the county law library. Fender said a bond issue could be passed to pay for the acquisition.

"I don't think we've delivered enough on this bond issue," Moncrief said.

Fender later made a motion for the board of district judges to approve the revised plans. After 48th District Judge Walter Jordan seconded the motion, nine judges voted for the plan.

Wright was the lone dissenter.

Moncrief said he will present the plan to the Commissioners Court for final approval at the court's regular meeting Monday.

Tarrant County Courthouse
1894
Restoration - 1982

*Ward Bogard & Associates –*
*Burson, Hendricks & Walls, Architects Incorporated*
*and*
*Walker Construction Company*

*Extend an invitation to you and your associates*
*to attend ceremonies honoring the commencement*
*of the restoration of the historical*
*Tarrant County Courthouse,*
*100 East Weatherford, Fort Worth, Texas.*
*Monday, November 2, 1981 at 10:00 a.m.*

# Courtin' a dusty new look

By JAMES PINKERTON
Star-Telegram Writer

County Clerk Madrin Huffman says Tarrant County's $5 million effort to restore its 85-year-old courthouse has given him a severe case of pneumonia.

Huffman is back on the job, still coughing and blowing his nose, after eight days in the hospital because of a mild cold, aggravated by dust, turned into pneumonia.

While other offices are operating in warmer, cleaner quarters in the county's new administration building across Weatherford Street, Huffman and his 50 employees continue to do business in what is now the shell of a cold, dark courthouse.

Huffman said his doctor believes the pneumonia came from breathing clouds of dust stirred up when construction workers punched through the floors with jackhammers to make way for new elevator shafts and fire stairs.

"When you go home and blow your nose, it's black," Huffman said of spending a day in the dust-laden office.

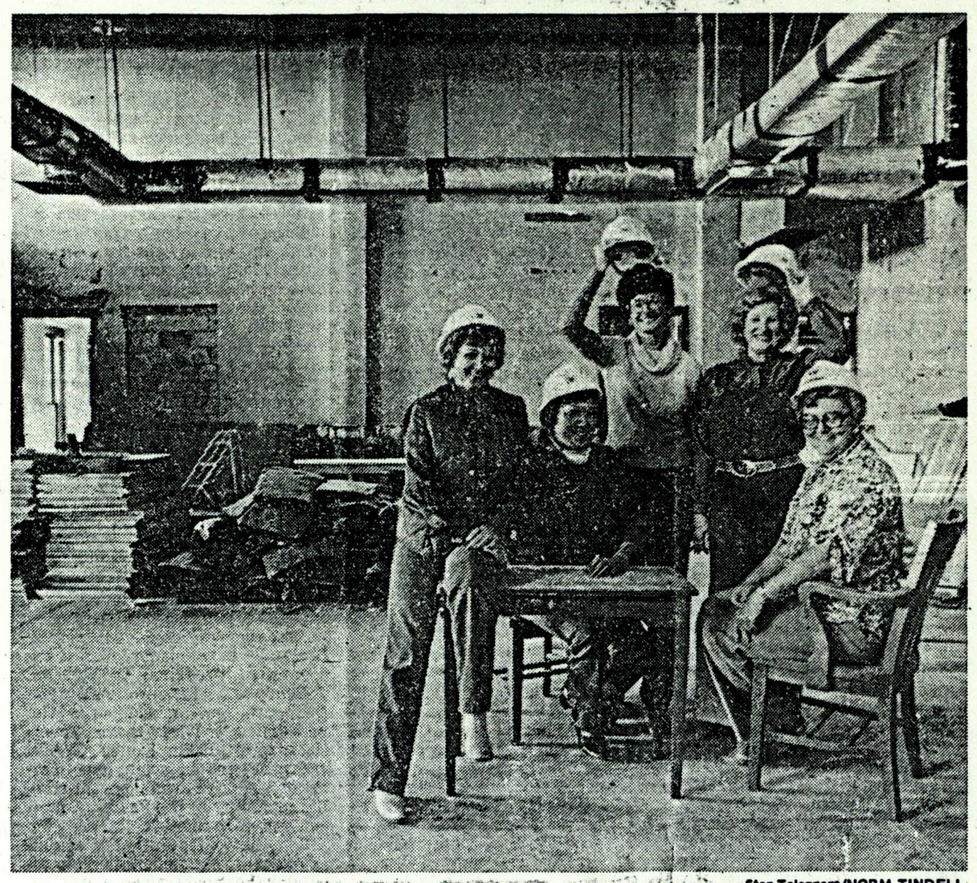
Several of Huffman's 50 employees have complained of respiratory problems, and it was not until the county clerk was hospitalized that a barrier was erected to keep the dust from rolling into the east side of the courthouse where Huffman's employees work.

Frances Cisneros, a pleasant woman who runs the elevator in the old courthouse, usually greets her passengers with a wide smile.

On Monday afternoon, she was hunched over in a heavy coat and racked with a hacking cough. A box of Kleenex was next to her purse.

Her face was pale and the smile gone; as the sunlight outside faded, the temperature in the unheated ele-

Please see Courtin' on Page 2



Star-Telegram/NORM TINDELL

PROBATE EMPLOYEES . . . in soon-to-be new offices

# new look with dust

Continued from Page 1

vator plummeted.

"It's very cold in here," Ms. Cisneros said. "I had a bronchitis infection this month and had to go to the hospital. I missed four or five days of work. I just hope I don't have a relapse; going to the hospital is not fun."

She, too, attributes her lung problems to the dust in the building. As a patron boards the elevator, Ms. Cisneros tells her, "I'm fine, just inhaling and exhaling the dust."

Huffman's employees use their own electric space heaters to warm the chilly offices, since the steam lines were cut when the remodeling began in September. On Monday, the county sent over some more electric space heaters.

Two weeks ago, Huffman's employees were scheduled to move out of the courthouse and into remodeled quarters at the Ajax Building. Other county offices were moved out of the old courthouse over the Labor Day weekend and into the new administration building across the street.

But the Oct. 14 deadline has come and gone, and now county officials have promised the move will take place this weekend.

In the probate clerk's office on the second floor, the seven women who handle the heavy probate docket were bundled in sweaters and jeans.

They wore white hard-hats with the Walker Construction logo and had white paper face masks to keep out the dust. Their offices on the north side of the courtroom were frosty when they came to work Monday morning, they said.

"I'm freezing to death. It was cold in here this morning," said clerk Jeanette Collett. "Everybody had to bring their own heaters."

One probate clerk was not as concerned about the climate inside the building as she was about the unsavory characters who wander in the dark building at will.

She said that last Friday, two men who were drinking wine stopped one of her co-workers in the dark hall outside the probate office.

She and the other women in the probate office are afraid to remain alone in the courthouse if Huffman's operations are moved piecemeal to the Ajax Building, a block to the east.

"We'd be scared to be up here by ourselves. We'll have to walk back and forth to the courts," she said.

Probate Judges Robert Burnett and Pat Ferchill did not fare much better, and both are using small, temporary offices on the fifth floor of the new administration building. The offices will be "home" for at least 15 to 18 months.

But if the picture is bleak, it is only temporary.

Ward Bogard, the architect who has been working on the courthouse restoration since before Tarrant County residents voted for it in the 1980 bond election, said the remodeling work is proceeding briskly, and he predicted the building will be ready by December 1982.

"It was in amazingly good shape considering the age of the building. It's going much quicker than I expected and with less problems than expected," he said. "In a project like this, you always expect some unpleasant surprises, and we haven't had any."

The courthouse again will have the high, 20-foot ceilings in the courtrooms, and the floors in the center of the building will be opened so the stained-glass rotunda again can been seen from the first floor.

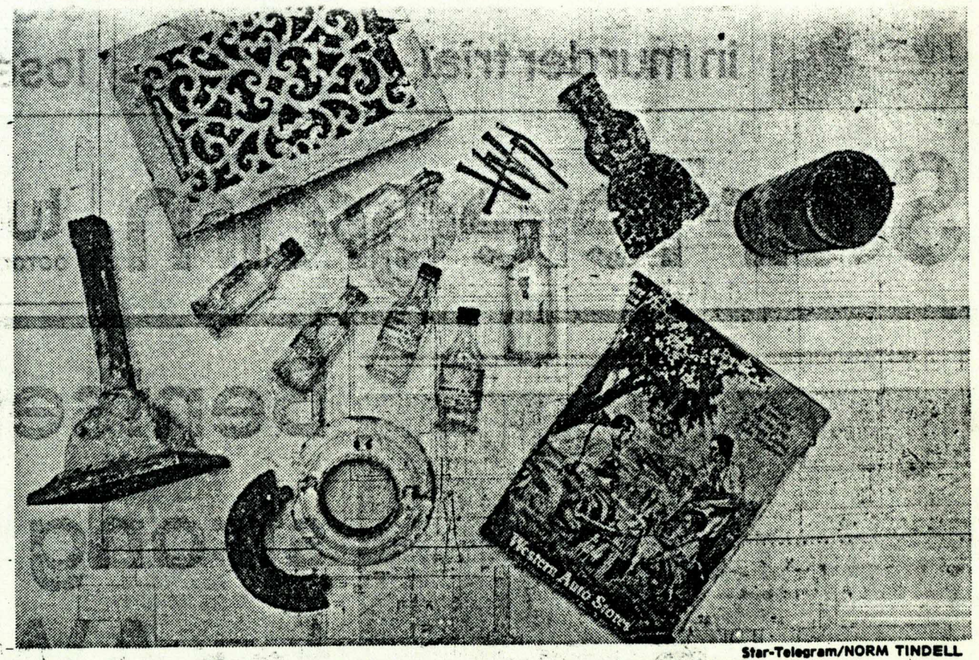
Bogard also discovered that beneath a garish coat of gold paint, all the iron balconies and balustrades are covered with a rich plating of copper that will be polished to its original luster.

As contruction workers rip out the walls and anything else not dating to the 1894-96 date of the original construction, some interesting artifacts have come to light.

In what was once a judge's chambers on the first floor, six small bottles of a potent tonic — containing 94 percent alcohol — were discovered in the wall. The prescription medications were obtained from the Everett & Lipscomb druggists on North Main, and Bogard suspects the concoction was mixed up to cure hangovers.

Workers also found a rusty hatchet and a 1937 Western Auto catalogue that advertised "Truetone Radios" for the family auto for a mere $19.95.

Also unearthed were a stack of grocery bills for the Tarrant County jail, dated 1944. One receipt was for 100 pounds of bourbon-flavored coffee, price $18, and another was for 1,450 loaves of bread at seven cents a loaf, or a total of $108.




Star-Telegram/NORM TINDELL

COURTHOUSE ITEMS . . . found in walls

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# Old tunnel not a route to gallows

By EVELYN HERNANDEZ
Star-Telegram Writer

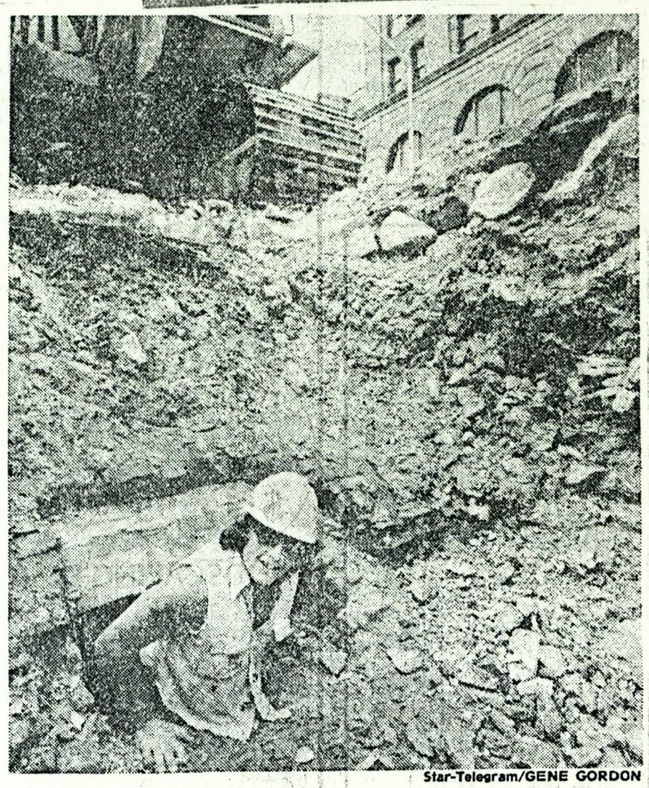
Workers re-routing a water main have uncovered an old tunnel just north of the Tarrant County Courthouse, thus stimulating the curiosity of both county officials and historians.

There has been talk in recent years of such an underground artery, supposedly used many decades ago to move prisoners in their death march from jail to the gallows for public hangings.

Historians were quick Friday to defuse the thought that this was indeed the tunnel of the doomed, but acknowledged that it likely is part of a related subterranean network built about the same time.

The tunnel where the prisoners were led to their death was destroyed when an old jail was torn down, sometime after 1917, said Duane Gage, president of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. The hangings occurred in the area of what is now

Please see Old on Page 25



Star-Telegram/GENE GORDON

IN TUNNEL OPENING. . . worker Claude Liles

# Old tunnel is discovered by workmen

Continued from page 1

Paddock Park, just north of the old pink-granite courthouse building that still serves as one of the four major buildings in the courthouse complex.

The tunnel, discovered this week just below the surface of Belknap Street, once connected the courthouse building to a county jail that stood across the street.

The tunnel has not been used since the old Criminal Court and Jail building was constructed at North Houston and West Belknap in 1917.

Today the portion of the tunnel inside the courthouse is used as a storeroom. The tiny room, located at the bottom of steep, precarious wooden steps, is stacked high with boxes.

Workers for J.L. Bertram Construction and Engineering Inc. uncovered a small portion of the brick tunnel about 4 p.m. Thursday as they backed a bulldozer into the area.

After unearthing a hole in the brick wall big enough for a man to climb through, workers stopped working in that spot. They had planned to stop digging there Thursday anyway, said the construction inspector on the project, and move to another portion of the project that needs to be completed first.

The discovery of the tunnel was not a surprise, said Robbin Cowen, construction inspector on the project. "It wasn't a mystery," he said. "There's evidence of it in the basement of the courthouse."

J.L. Bertram Construction was contracted by the city to re-route a water main around the site of the new city-county jail facility, to be built along Taylor between Belknap and Bluff, next to the Criminal Court and Jail buildings.

"What we're doing essentially is moving the line one block south," said Kenneth Moss, a water department engineer.

The existing water line cuts across the northern portion of the building site, Moss said. The 36-inch main runs east from the intersection of Bluff and Taylor.

The main's new route is from Taylor east along Belknap to Jones, where it will turn north and join the existing main on Bluff.

Friday two of about eight workers who were at the site when the tunnel was uncovered climbed down into the tunnel through the small portion that had been unearthed. The tunnel is made of brick and has an arched ceiling, said one of the explorers. "It's just got water and mud at the bottom and everything else looks pretty clean," equipment operator Claude Liles said. The tunnel is about 50 feet long and both ends are blocked off with concrete, he said.

The workers covered the opening to the tunnel with a piece of plywood and dumped earth on the area to prevent the curious from possibly becoming trapped in it.

Tarrant County Judge Mike Moncrief and County Planning Director Ed Jackson are expected to inspect the tunnel at 9:30 a.m. Monday, said Louis Tandy, construction engineer for the water department.

"They want to look for any historical value in it, and then we'll go ahead and dig through it."

"The historical society is interested in any bottles or newspapers that might be down there," Moss said.

But no one was sure Friday if it would be possible to save the tunnel itself. "We haven't decided," Moss said. "Once they've gone down there Monday, then the county and the city will decide how to proceed."

Tandy said that before deciding, the city and county would have to estimate how much it would cost to put the main under the tunnel or otherwise re-route it. He didn't say how much that would cost, but said it would be expensive.

The Tarrant County Historical Commission considers the tunnel an important aspect of "the heritage of the courthouse," said commission president Duane Gage. "The historical commission has been interested in preserving the tunnel as part of our effort to restore the courthouse," he said.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1981 ■ ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

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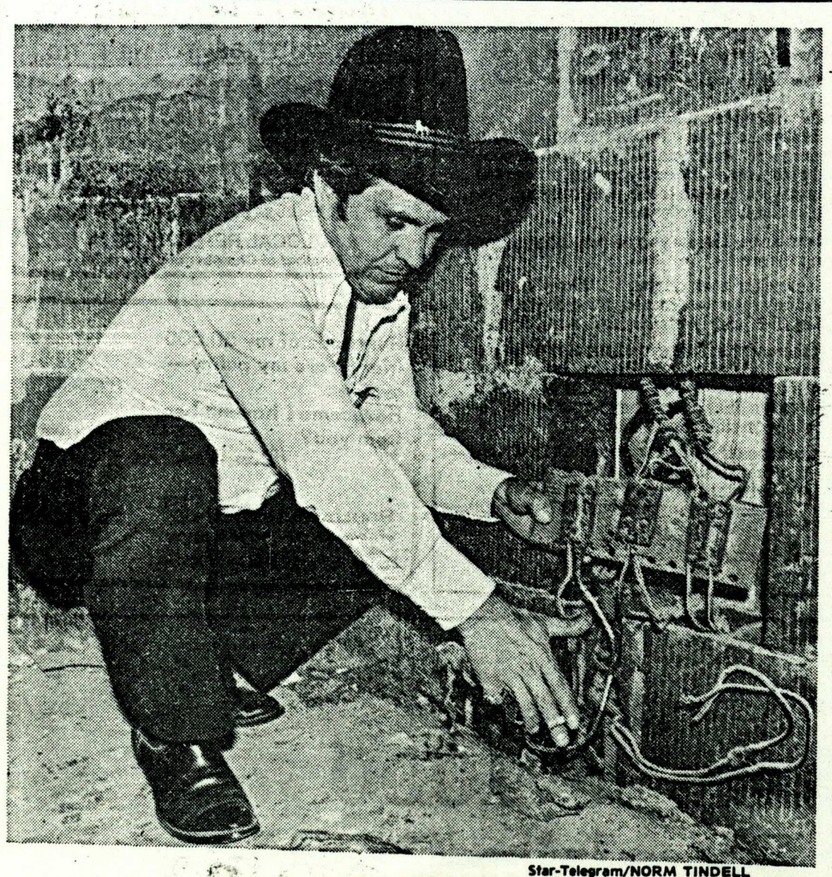

Star-Telegram/NORM TINDELL

COURTHOUSE FINDS . . . construction manager Johnny Pittman inspects electrical breaker system installed in 1880s

# Historic artifacts surface

By JAMES PINKERTON
Star-Telegram Writer

As contruction workers rip out the walls and anything else not dating to the 1894-96 date of the original construction of the Tarrant County Courthouse, some interesting artifacts have surfaced.

In what was once a judge's chambers on the first floor, six small bottles of a potent tonic — containing 94 percent alcohol — were discovered in the wall. The prescription medications were obtained from the Everett & Lipscomb druggists on North Main, and architect Ward Bogard suspects the concoction was mixed up to cure hangovers.

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Also unearthed were a stack of grocery bills for the Tarrant County jail, dated 1944. One receipt was for 100 pounds of bourbon-flavored coffee, price $18, and another was for 1,450 loaves of bread at 7 cents a loaf, a total of $108.

County commissioners will officially dedicate the restoration next Monday morning with a blast of scalding water as it sprays away 85 years of dirt and grime from the brilliant pink-granite facade of the courthouse.

After the ceremony, County Clerk Madrin Huffman and 50 of his employees will return to their offices in the gutted courthouse, but it's unlikely they'll share the festive mood of their co-workers.

Huffman says the county's $5 million effort to restore its 85-year-old courthouse has given him a severe case of pneumonia.

Huffman is back on the job, still coughing and blowing his nose, after eight days in the hospital. A mild cold, aggravated by dust, turned into pneumonia.

While other offices are operating in warmer, cleaner quarters in the county's new administration building across Weatherford Street, Huffman and his 50 employees continue to do business in what is now the shell of a cold, dark courthouse.

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Huffman's employees use their own electric space heaters to warm the chilly offices, since the steam lines were cut when the remodeling began in September. On Monday, the county sent over some more electric space heaters.

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But if the picture is bleak, it is only temporary.

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MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 30, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Star-Telegram/WILLIS KNIGHT

CHECKING . . . Thrasher, left, Tandy and McCreight checked the hole today

# Old jail tunnel unearthed, resealed

By DONNA DAROVICH
Star-Telegram Writer

The tunnel believed to have been the subterranean route for prisoners headed from the Tarrant County Courthouse to the county jail more than a half-century ago was again sealed off this morning, 90 hours after it was discovered.

Louis Tandy, construction engineer for the city water department, gave the go-ahead to construction workers to seal off the entrances to the the red brick tunnel unearthed Thursday. The tunnel, just north of the County Courthouse, was sealed at the entrances on either side of Belknap Street.

Tandy did not give the order, however, until he and two county officials did some spelunking in the tunnel.

Tandy said the trio, accompanied by a *Star-Telegram* photographer, were looking for anything of historical value that might be in the tunnel, which was uncovered about four feet below the surface of Belknap.

Tandy, county building engineer Jim McCreight and Delton Thrasher of the county planning department donned hardhats and crawled through the 5½-by-4-foot opening in the roof of the tunnel and spent about 10 minutes exploring it.

The most significant item the trio found was a small piece of slate about 6 inches wide which, they said, may have came from the roof of an old downtown building — and perhaps from the old jail, which would make it at least 64 years old.

Thrasher said the slate would be presented to the Tarrant County Commissioners Court.

One member of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, Mrs. Frances Allen, was on hand to watch the midmorning expedition. She said her cousin, William Terry, recalled that his father, a deputy sheriff, journeyed through the tunnel many times about 1919.

Mrs. Allen said her cousin recalled that the tunnel was not used to escort prisoners to the gallows, as some persons have said, but rather from the courthouse to the jail.

"He said his father told him there were iron bars at either entrance (under Belknap) to the tunnel," she said.

Hal McConnell, a Fort Worth attorney, who also watched the spelunking, said he remembered the tunnel being there in about 1919.

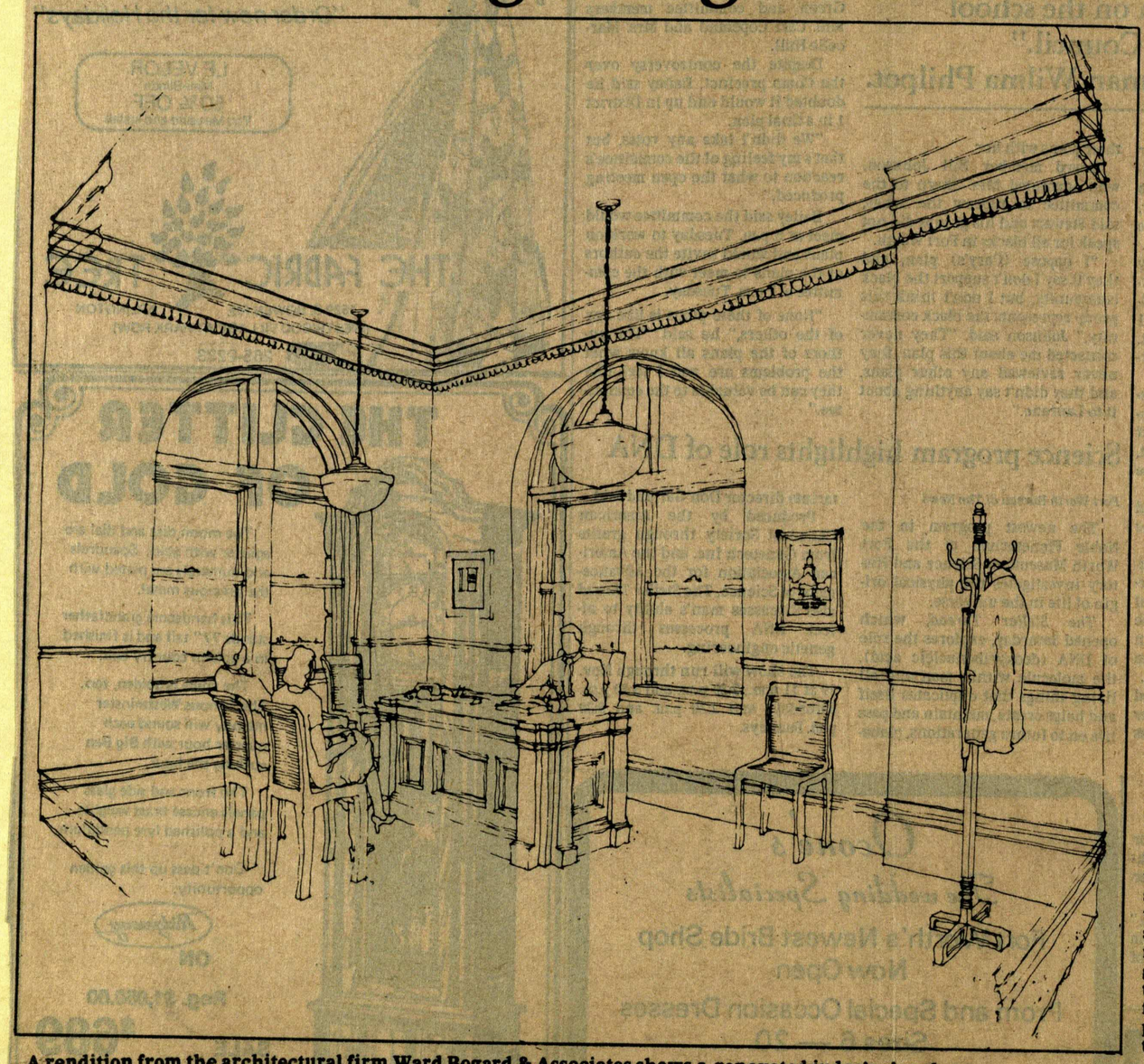
"I told my daughter the other day, they were going to dig into that tunnel in a few days," said McConnell, who said he remembered the county jail being covered up about the time he began practicing law.

McConnell agreed that the tunnel was not used to take prisoners to the gallows and said he remembered the last public hanging in Fort Worth. "It was Vickers', out on Samuels Avenue.

Fort Worth/Metro

Sunday, October 25, 1981 ©The Dallas Morning News, 1981 The Dallas Morning News ..... Fort Worth/Metro

# Courthouse getting new look from the past



A rendition from the architectural firm Ward Bogard & Associates shows a renovated judge's chambers.

## Construction crews begin major renovation project

By Robin Stringfellow
*Fort Worth Bureau of The News*

FORT WORTH — It has been called everything from a dingy, brown eyesore to a political headache.

It has endured decades of heat, hail, hammers and hacksaws. And through it all, it just sat there like a stately old woman refusing to give up her favorite chair.

It is the old Tarrant County Courthouse, of course.

Alas, after 84 years, there is a new horizon in store for the building that outlived the hapless hands of do-it-yourself renovators. But this time, it is out with the new, in with the old.

Earlier this month, demolition crews began whacking away at the courthouse interior, gradually uncovering its ornate walls and ceilings, not to mention a tarnished old spittoon or two. It will take $6 million and 18 months, but the old building finally is being restored.

"We're aiming for people to walk into a courtroom and feel like they just stepped back 80 years. I think people are going to be knocked out by the majesty of law that it will reflect," architect Ward Bogard said.

On the drawing board are plans to reconstruct the courtrooms to their 1890s style and to reopen the stained-glass rotunda that has been visible only from the fourth floor since the building was remodeled in the late '40s. Bogard said the biggest part of the demolition involves the removal of wood paneling, flourescent light fixtures and suspended ceilings that hid the architectural touches of the past.

"That was all part of the whole new attitude of architecture after World War II," Bogard said. "The philosophy then was to do away with anything old. We were entering a brave, new world."

Bogard, whose firm has been involved in the restoration of the Thistle Hill Mansion and the Fort Worth Stockyards Exchange Building, has joined on the courthouse project with the Dallas firm of Burson, Hendricks & Walls, which also is restoring the Governor's Mansion.

Bogard said architects are recreating the 1890s atmosphere by using pictures and drawings that depict the way it originally looked.

Similar in style to the State Capitol and the U.S. Capitol, the courthouse was one of the first buildings to incorporate structural steel with red granite facing from a quarry near Fredicksburg, Texas.

Situated on a bluff overlooking the Trinity River, the 4-story building quickly became the centerpiece of turn-of-the-century development in Fort Worth. But when it was completed in 1896, voters were said to be so overwhelmed by its size and $500,000 price tag that they refused to re-elect the commissioners who undertook the project.

The courthouse came under fire again in the late '50s when some local leaders sought to have it demolished to make room for a more modern building. Although the North Fort Worth Businessmen's Association ridiculed the courthouse as an "obstacle" between the north side and downtown, it was spared.

Times have changed.

"It's been a headache trying to

See COURTHOUSE on Page 10.

40


# The DOWNTOWN TRIB

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November 2, 1981 — Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, — 8 Pages


# $5.5 Million Restoration Begins At Historic Tarrant Court House

By MILT HOPWOOD

County Judge Mike Moncrief and County Commissioners B.D. Griffin, Lyn Gregory, Jerry Mebus and Dick Andersen manned a large firehose when restoration of the Tarrant County Court House started today (Monday).

Supervising the water-blasting of the exterior of the historic building built in 1894 for less than $500,000 were James Walker, president of Walker Construction Co., Joe Walker, vice president, and John Pittman, the project manager. The restoration, to be completed in December 1982, will cost $5.5 million.

Officials from the Texas Historical Commission and the Tarrant County Historical Society will participate as did the three architects who are all natives of Fort Worth—R. Ward Bogard, James Hendricks and Larry Walls. All three attended Carter-Riverside High School.

House Majority Leader Jim Wright of the 12th Congressional District and Mayor Woodie Woods also participated. Gov. William P. Clements sent a telegram of congratulations to Judge Moncrief and the commissioners.

Tarrant County's Court House is steeped in history. The county was organized in 1850 and the first county seat was Birdville, known today as Haltom City. In 1856, businessmen of Fort Worth succeeded in winning an election to move the county seat here. One thing that helped was the promise of 38 Fort Worth men to pay the cost of building a court house from their own pockets. Another factor was bringing into Fort Worth 14 Wise County ranchers and cowboys who voted for Fort Worth against Birdville, although this was not a very legal procedure. Nevertheless, Fort Worth won the election.

Much bitterness followed between residents of Birdville and residents of Fort Worth. In one argument over the election, Birdville lawyer A.Y. Fowler and Sheriff John York of Fort Worth pulled guns. They fired simultaneously. Both fell dead.

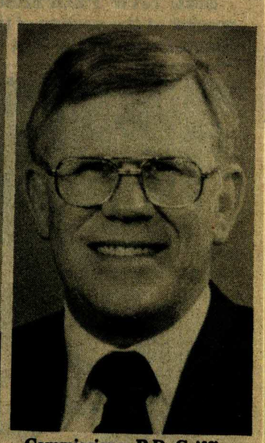
The present County Court House is Fort Worth's fourth. The project started in 1893 when Commissioners Court voted to spend $500,000 on the building. Gunn and Curtis of Kansas City were retained as architects and Probst Construction Co. of Chicago got the construction contract.

On Oct. 24, 1893, work began and lasted into 1894. The voters were so appalled at spending half a million dollars on any county building. At the next election the entire Commissioners Court—County Judge R.G. Johnson and Commissioners H.C. Holloway, M.R. Collins, H.R. Hall and J.L. Mack—were voted out of office. They were replaced by County Judge George W. Armstrong and Commissioners John Bardon, A.T. Lowe, J.W. Higgins and William M. Cross.

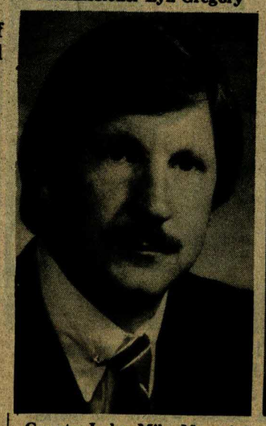
Commissioner Jerry Mebus

Commissioner Dick Andersen

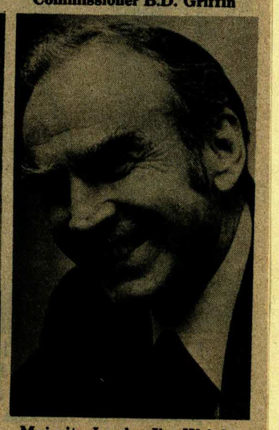
Commissioner Lyn Gregory



Commissioner B.D. Griffin



County Judge Mike Moncrief



Majority Leader Jim Wright



# Bids for renovation of courthouse opened

By JIM MORRIS
Star-Telegram Writer

Contractors filled the Tarrant County Commissioners Court chambers Thursday afternoon as bids were opened for Phase 1 of the renovation of the old county courthouse.

County officials have moved out of the 86-year-old building and into their new, $7 million administration building across the street. In a little more than a year, says the general contractor, the exterior of the old courthouse will look like it did in 1895 and the inside will be modern and functional.

Phase 1 of the project involves mechanical and electrical work, as well as the revamping of elevators, bathrooms and stairwells. The work should take about four months, said general contractor Joe Walker.

Thursday, more than 20 bids were opened for the first phase. Walker said the bids were "under what the architect estimated."

Contracts will be awarded Monday at the regular Commissioners Court meeting.

Phase 2 — the cleaning and restoration of the building's exterior — will take about 30 days, Walker said. Phase 3 — restoration of the interior and the construction of additional courtrooms — should take another nine months, he said.

The entire project is expected to cost about $5.5 million. The county received $3 million of that in a 1980 bond issue and, said Commissioner Dick Andersen, already has the remainder "in the bank."

Walker said he sees no reason why the project cannot be brought in under budget.

He also said that contractors have shown an unusual amount of interest because "they want to be a part of history. I'd say we have twice the interest in this building as we would have on any other old building."

DNN 10-25-81 FORT WORTH METRO

# Courthouse gets a new, old look

Continued from Page 1.

make the building functional for today's courts while trying to restore it. But it is one of the most exciting projects I've ever encountered," County Judge Mike Moncrief said.

Moncrief led the push for renovation, which was approved by voters in a 1979 bond election. Higher-than-expected costs have not cut into the project, he said. It is, by Moncrief's estimate, a bargain at twice the $3 million the voters approved.

"We had hoped to get a matching grant from the Texas Historical Commission, but it just never came through," he said. "We're doing it on a pay-as-we-go basis because we still think the citizens told us they thought it was important to preserve and restore the old courthouse."

Upon completion, architects say the building, which will house six courtrooms and a law library, will feature its original appointments, including copper-plated bannisters, Corinthian columns, ornate plaster ceilings, brass door knobs, ceiling fans, and old-fashioned light fixtures.

The red granite exterior will be water-blasted back to its original hue. And even the lantern, which sported a neon flag in the '40s and '50s, will be bedecked with a real flag.

Plans call for the completion of two more courtrooms inside the courthouse and the installation of a glass facade on the civil courts building, built next door to the courthouse in 1956. The glass would be designed to reflect the old courthouse.

> "I think people are going to be knocked out by the majesty of law that it will reflect."
> — Ward Bogard, architect

As Moncrief said, "We're leaving something behind — something to teach our children and our children's children what history is all about.

Cabin Preservation & Park

# A new home for an old home

**BY KAYE HUSHOUR**
**NEWS EDITOR**

Saturday was moving day for the old log cabin. It wasn't the first time the cabin had been moved. The first time was in 1918, and as everything enjoys a change of scenery now and then, perhaps it was ready for this second trip.

This move was especially important since it was made to insure that the cabin would be around for a long time to come reminding area residents of the early settlers who made those first tenuous steps into what was then a wilderness.

And, as those first settlers were followed by others, they set a trend which continues today in the growing area of Colleyville. It was one of these recent steps toward progress that brought the old cabin to seek yet another new location.

According to Dee Barker, a member of the Tarrant County Historical Commission available information indicates the cabin was originally located on the east side of Highway 26 on property belonging to William F. Wilkson.

Then, in 1918, the cabin made its first move when it was dismantled and transferred to the farm of Harvy Forbes. There the cabin was attached to another log structure and the two served as a cattle shed and hay barn. Later the cabin housed a forge and was utilized as a work shop for the care and repair of farm tools.

Of course, like most things, the old cabin did not survive its move across the highway unscathed.

In fact, according to Ms. Barker, some of its historical significance deminished along the way, but she is quick to add that it is still an important representation of the few log structures remaining in our area.

"It's not what I would call original," Ms. Barker said as she tagged each piece of the cabin with round metal discs labeled with directions and numbers to insure proper placement when the cabin is reconstructed. But she quickly pointed out, "It is still significant because it shows the people gathered together and used what they had at hand."

Moving almost anything with an historical background is a complicated undertaking. In fact, it should usually only be done under the watchful eyes of a member or representative of the Historical Commission.

Saturday, the Colleyville Area Chamber of Commerce helped provide the muscle with Ms. Barker contributing some firm swings of her hammer and her expertise.

The cabin was donated to the Historical Commission by a Dallas physician who recently sold the property in the McCain Road area to developers. The Commission in turn donated the cabin to the Chamber to be restored and hopefully placed on display at a location yet to be

See CABIN, Page A-14

The BANNER Thursday, Feb. 12

ONCE IT WAS HOME- members of the Colleyville Area Chamber of Commerce and Historical Commission member Dee Barker spent Saturday morning moving this old log cabin to storage until it can be restored.

The BANNER Thursday, Feb. 12

TAGGING UP- Ms. Barker nails home metal tags marking the location of each log.

TCH Com. Member

## Cabin...
From page A-1

determined.

For Ms. Barker, it is not the first time she has been involved in moving a log cabin. She has expanded what she describes as a natural interest in history to becoming a self trained consultant on the old homes.

She was also involved in the move of Grapevine's Torian Log Cabin, but that only marked the beginning for her.

"I started asking questions and found out I knew about as much as anyone else," Ms. Barker recalls. "I got busy and learned. There weren't any books that really told how to restore a cabin, so I went back to books on how they were built."

Then, to complete the process, she took a trip spending several days looking for and studying the log structures still existing in the area.

She has participated in the removal and subsequent restoration of several cabins since then, but as she noted, there just aren't too many of them left.

As for the Colleyville cabin, its final destination remains uncertain. For the moment, it is stored on city property waiting for a new home.

Of course this may take a while, but the cabin probably won't mind the wait. It has been around long enough to learn patience.

42

CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: 1981 Goals

This special committee will complle research data on twenty or more pioneer cemeteries in Tarrant County in an effort to preserve them. It shall seek official Texas Historical markers for those cemeteries that qualify. It shall conduct "work days" for cleaning neglected and unkept cemeteries and it shall seek funds for the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, a perpetual care fund administered by the county government.

The Cemetery Preservation Committee shall enact a policy of preserving misplaced tombstones by storing them in an appropriate location and by researching their origins, so that they may be returned to their proper site.

Cemetery Preservation Committee. 1981 Annual Report

This committee, chaired by Michael E. Patterson, is a sub-committee of the Historical Marker Committee. In addition to the projects to acquire official Texas Historical markers for the eleven cemeteries from the above list, the Cemetery Preservation Committee has been instrumental in establishing cemetery associations for the Witten Cemetery, Mount Gilead Cemetery, and has worked to restore several small pioneer cemeteries in Tarrant County.

The Tarrant County Commissioners Court has established the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, wherein donations for preserving andmaintaining several pioneer cemeteries can be carried out. Chairman Emeritus Bennett L. Smith has worked throughout the year in an effort to have the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund clearly designated by IRS as a tax-exempt fund, so that the Commission can launch a major drive to establish perpetual care for our pioneer cemeteries.

**Tarrant County Historical Commission**

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Mike Moncrief

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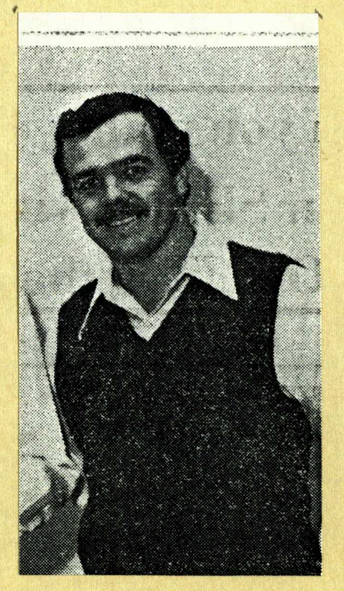
COMMITTEE REPORT--CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE--Patterson, Chairman
page 1. REPORT PERIOD: July 3 - Sept. 5, 1981.

WITTEN CEMETERY--Colleyville

*Presently administering maintenance fund
*Continuing to work with descendants to set up permanent care fund
*Three hours volunteer work on grounds
*Corresponded with State Commission and descendants concerning proposed marker inscription. Marker inscription is approved and marker is due to arrive here shortly.

HOOD CEMETERY--Southlake

*Two hours volunteer work in cleaning operations
*Continuing to update list of descendants to gain funding for marker. Marker is partially funded at this time.
*Gathering data on Urias Martin (1795-1855) who is buried in the plot, for possible State grave marker.



Chairman Patterson

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*Gathering data on Urias Martin (1795-1855) who is buried in the plot, for possible State grave marker.

PARKER MEMORIAL CEMETERY--Grapevine

*Six hours of volunteer work (mowing)
*Currently serving as cemetery association's vice-president
*Attended meetings of cemetery association

DOBKINS CEMETERY--Euless

*Meetings with family and airport officials in regard to cemetery affairs
*Cleaned road to cemetery and cemetery property itself (with compensation)
*Repaired markers in cemetery
*Planned and conducted Marker dedication service August 30

BEDFORD CEMETERY--Bedford

*Meetings with cemetery association officers in regard to cemetery business
*Two hours volunteer labor (spraying)

SPRING GARDEN CEMETERY--Bedford

*Numerous on-site inspections as area is developed
*Currently holding Spring Garden Marker for final dedication service

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CEMETERY COMMITTEE REPORT, page 2

ALLEN CEMETERY--Bedford

*Preliminary contact with descendants to discuss marker application
*Three hours research toward marker application papers

ALLEN CEMETERY--Haslet

*Preliminary consultation with descendants to discuss marker application
*Visited site

MT. GILEAD CEMETERY--Keller

*Three days work at cemetery (cleaning, erecting stones, etc.)
*Assisted in gathering funds for cemetery association
*Numerous consultations with cemetery association officers on various business
*Completed updated cemetery inventory
*Corresponded with descendants and Texas Historical Commission in regard to proposed inscription on marker
*Currently holding marker pending dedication service
*Several meetings with Mt. Gilead Baptist Church deacons concerning transfer of cemetery property to the cemetery association.
*Currently planning dedication service of marker

PROCTOR CEMETERY--Grapevine

*Two on-site inspections of cemetery
*Numerous interviews with local persons having knowledge of the cemetery
*Marker application narrative in progress

TWO HERETOFORE UNKNOWN PIONEER CEMETERIES IN GRAPEVINE were located in Grapevine in August through the help of Mr. Edward Langley. Research is continuing.

DAVENPORT CEMETERY--Southlake

*Research begun toward marker application narrative

CHIVERS CEMETERY--Southlake

*Meetings with Northeast Board of Realtors in regard to funding and publicity
*On-site inspection of cemetery and planning of cleaning in progress

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CEMETERY COMMITTEE REPORT--page 3

HARRISON CEMETERY--Arlington

*Took possession of one stone belonging in Harrison Cemetery which had been removed, holding stone pending cemetery clean-up

MITCHELL CEMETERY--Ft. Worth

*Survey made of existing records and research with marker application to be begun in future

SNIDER CEMETERY--Kennedale

*Visited cemetery and updated inventory
*Interviewed descendants of persons buried in the cemetery
*Researched and wrote marker application

EASTER CEMETERY--Southlake

*Made initial contacts and obtained permission for erection of marker
*Researched and wrote marker application
*Numerous meetings with property owners in regard to preservation of cemetery.

MINTERS CHAPEL CEMETERY--Grapevine

*Took possession of several markers found outside cemetery fence
*Met with cemetery association officials in regard to maintenance matters

POLY CEMETERY--Ft. Worth

*Contacted descendants, arranged for, and erected stone at grave of Henry T. Mangham

BOURLAND CEMETERY--Keller

*Made application to Washington for marker at the grave of Confederate soldier John McAnear.

---

*Nineteen newspaper articles published concerning committee work during this period.

*Approximately seven hundred miles driving in relation to committee work during this period.

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REPORT OF OTHER COMMISSION-RELATED ACTIVITIES, July 3 - Sept. 5, 1981
by Patterson.

1. Borrowed and copied for Commission use 1860 Tarrant Co. Tax List
2. Copied for Commission use Elm Fork Baptist Association Minutes 1849-55
3. Copied for Commission use West Fork Bapt. Assoc. Minutes 1855-1885
4. Researched and wrote Marker application for Minters Chapel Methodist Church
5. Compiled a list of Biographical Sources for Tarrant County pioneers
6. Assisted in collating newspapers in Grapevine Sun microfilming project
7. Assisting presently in collation of Tarrant County Marriage Licenses
8. Initial contacts made for work on Glassco School Historical Marker
9. Accompanied Gage to Hurst City Council Meeting re Parker Cemetery (183)
10. Initial meetings with Keller historians and beginning of work on A Pioneer History of Keller, Texas
11. Copied for Commission use early issues of Keller Kourier
12. Met with Commission members near Mansfield regarding repair of tombstones
13. Currently preparing a workshop for faculty of Birdville ISD on using local history in the public schools.

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COMMITTEE REPORT--CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE--Patterson, Chairman
page 1. REPORT PERIOD: September 6 - November 7, 1981

WITTEN CEMETERY: Colleyville

*Presently administering maintenance fund
*Continuing to work with descendants to set up permanent care fund
*Two hours work (volunteer) on grounds
*Have received and am holding marker pending Dec. 6 dedication service
*Arranged with descendants for and supervised first survey ever made of cemetery grounds
*Have met with descendants and fencing company for preliminary arrangements in erecting chain link fence
*Planning and coordinating marker dedication service
*Have prepared and submitted newspaper articles announcing service

HOOD CEMETERY: Southlake

*Updating list of descendants to contact for formation of cemetery association
*Marker funding has been completed and application is being processed by State Commission
*Continuing to gather data on Urias Martin (1795-1855) for application for grave marker.
*Preparing applications for grave markers for several Confederate soldiers buried in the plot

PARKER MEMORIAL CEMETERY: Grapevine

*Member of cemetery association
*Meetings with cemetery association officers in regard to gravestone repairs and general maintenance

DOBKINS CEMETERY: Euless

*Contacted descendants in regard to formation of perpetual care fund

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CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE--page 2

BEDFORD CEMETERY: Bedford

*Meetings with cemetery association officers in regard to maintenance questions
*Two hours volunteer labor

SPRING GARDEN CEMETERY: Bedford

*Continuing on-site inspections as area is developed
*Currently holding Spring Garden Historical marker pending final dedication service
*Holding several gravestones which were discovered during development of cemetery site

MT. GILEAD CEMETERY: Keller

*Ten hours volunteer labor in resetting stones and clearing brush
*Assisting in gathering funds for cemetery association
*Numerous consultations with cemetery association officers
*Currently holding Mt. Gilead Cemetery Historical Marker pending final marker dedication ceremony
*Several meetings with Mt. Gilead Baptist Church officials in regard to transfer of a portion of the cemetery property to the Association.
*Currently planning dedication service
*Drafted Constitution and By-Laws for cemetery association
*Assisted with formal organization papers of cemetery association
*Have applied to US Army Dept. for gravestones for four Confederate soldiers buried in the plot
*Currently gathering information for Historical Marker for TJ Thompson, a Texas Revolutionary veteran buried in the plot
*Seeking funding for memorial stone for Permelia Allen (1772-1866), founder of the Mt. Gilead community who is buried in the plot

PROCTOR CEMETERY: Grapevine

*Gathering information to be used in Historical Marker application

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CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: page 3

*On-site inspections at various times for various reasons as Bourland, Allen, Poly, Minters Chapel, Easter, Snider, Mitchell, Chivers, Proctor, Mt. Gilead, Spring Garden, Bedford, Arwine, Calloway, Parker Memorial, Bear Creek, Witten, Smithfield, Birdville, and Grapevine.

OTHER COMMISSION-RELATED ACTIVITIES, Sept. 6-Nov. 7, 1981.

1. Conducted tour of Bedford Cemetery for PEAK class, Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD, October 26.

2. Located missing copies of Minutes of West Fork Baptist Association (1860's and 1870's) and added them to Commission files

3. Made verbal agreement with Librarian of Bedford Public Library to exchange, page for page, historical materials with the TCHC

4. Continuing work on manuscript of A Pioneer History of Keller, Texas

5. Have located and copied for Commission use several early-day county pioneers' photos

6. Have written and submitted several newspaper articles on Commission work

7. Helping to administer Tarrant County Marriage Certificate project

8. Have completed two-hour presentation on "Using Local History in the Public Schools" to be presented to Birdville ISD

9. Historical Marker application in progress for Arwine School, Bedford

10. Served as tour guide for White Settlement Historical Society's Local History Tour through Bedford - Colleyville - Southlake - Grapevine - Euless.

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM
©JAN. 28-29, 1981

# Preservation of cemeteries council's aim

By LES HARPER
Star-Telegram Writer

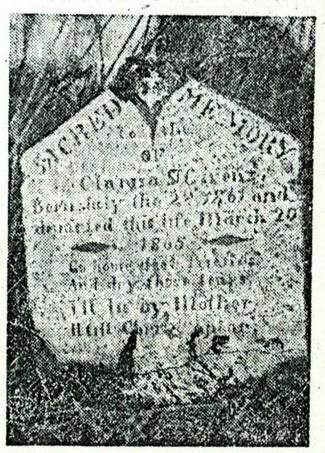
Thomas Jefferson Thompson was a 22-year-old soldier in Sam Houston's army when Mexican General Santa Anna surrendered at San Jacinto in 1836.

Thompson was possibly the only Texas Revolutionary who ever came to settle in Tarrant County. He died 60 years after the battle that gave Texas its independence, and his bones rest at Keller's long-abandoned Mount Gilead Cemetery.

The cemetery "has been needing a facelift for decades, and now it may be getting it," said Mike Patterson, chairman of the Tarrant County Historical Commission's cemetery preservation committee.

Keller State Bank has offered to sponsor a Texas State Historical marker for the cemetery, and Patterson said the frontier burial ground may soon receive the attention it has lacked for years.

But other nearly forgotten, historic cemeteries in Tarrant County have suffered from the same neglect.



HISTORIC GRAVE MARKER

• • •

ABSALOM H. CHIVERS, a pio-

Please see Fund on Page 2

# Fund created

Continued from Page 1

neer Northeast Tarrant County resident, came to present-day Southlake in the early 1850s and died there in 1856.

He was the first to be buried in the Chivers Family Cemetery, but his was the first of fewer than 10 graves at the family plot, which has been unused since 1900.

"The area of today's Southlake had permanent settlers before the fort was established in Fort Worth in 1849," said Duane Gage, the commission's chairman and a faculty member at Tarrant County Junior College's Northeast Campus.

"And the community has historic sites that deserve markers. We hope to acquire those markers through the support of interested sponsors there."

The Colleyville City Council recently accepted possession of the Old Riley Cemetery, another long-abandoned family plot on Brown Trail Road near the city's boundary with Bedford.

The cemetery was deeded to the state by the family in 1883, Gage said, and has been used only once since 1897 — when a family member was buried in the 1930s.

"There are no other descendants of this Riley family that we know about," Gage said.

• • •

MOST OF THE graves belong to children, he said, expressing hope their sandstone markers will be replaced by something more durable.

"The legend says a thief had been killed nearby, and Jonathan Riley gave permission for him to be the first person buried in the cemetery," Gage said. Riley's family, which moved here from Kentucky in 1856 on a land grant, left the area in the 1890s.

The historical commission is entering its third year of an intensive survey of all the pioneer cemeteries in Tarrant County. Thus far, Gage said, more than 20 abandoned frontier cemeteries have been located, "and we feel certain we'll probably find that many more."

"The rest of the 75 cemeteries in the county are pretty well taken care of by associations or caretakers," he said. "But the ones that aren't happen to be the oldest and the most historical."

It's a difficult search made harder by the inevitabilities of time and progress. The years have dimmed the memories of those few descendants who may know the locations of other cemeteries.

Developers, meanwhile, sometimes find others accidentally while preparing land for houses or shopping centers. Usually, they call the historical commission when the find is made, Gage said.

Sometimes, though, they don't.

• • •

"WHEN A DEVELOPER buys old farms and starts to build on them, sometimes he'll come across old tombstones," Gage said. "If he's not responsible and doesn't have any respect, a small family cemetery or an old community cemetery is just wiped out.

"There has been a minimum of that happening but enough that it concerns us that it doesn't happen any more."

# for cemeteries

Tarrant County commissioners at their last meeting of 1980 created a county Cemetery Trust Fund, which will be used by the historical commission to maintain the cemeteries under its control.

Because the trust fund is in its infancy, no guidelines have been established on how the fund will be collected and disbursed, Gage said. Right now, that might be the least of the commission's worries, anyway.

County Auditor Jack Benson said there is a "minimal" amount of money in the fund, not even enough "to think about" investing in high interest-yielding certificates of deposits or treasury notes.

The distinction is important, because the historical commission will never be able to touch the money.

"State law prohibits county funds to be used to maintain cemeteries," Gage said. "So, even though the money may be in a cemetery trust fund, it's still county money, and we won't be able to use it. But the county can't contribute to it; all they can do is hold it. The money has got to come from private donations."

• • •

ONLY THE interest from the fund can actually be used for cemetery maintenance, he said. The permanent fund will serve as the principal in an account administered by the county auditor's office.

The resolution creating the fund names the county judge as its trustee. Commissioner B.D. Griffin was the first to pledge "and can be considered as the initiator," Gage said, "but I don't feel it proper to say how much he contributed."

"We have not organized any kind of drive to establish the fund," he said. "We don't know now whether to ask the municipalities for help or rely only on private contributions or exactly what we'll do."

Gage said he envisions a flurry of activity beginning this summer, when the weather improves to allow clean-up and repair work at the historic burial grounds. Maybe by then, he said, enough donations will be collected to establish a viable trust fund.

"We want enough to repair the tombstones and maybe buy some new markers," Gage said. "It would be nice to put a fence around them, too, to protect them from trash and vandals."

He said Colleyville was the first Tarrant County town to take on the responsibility of maintaining an unused historic burial ground in the Riley Cemetery, "and for that we are very grateful to them. We hope there might be some other communities with the same thought."

• • •

COLLEYVILLE officials said they were unaware the cemetery was even there.

"We asked Colleyville to assume possession of the cemetery so it would be protected," Gage said. "It had become a dumping ground, really, and some children had made a bike trail through it."

He said neglect had put the cemetery "in need of immediate attention because of the dignity that needs to be accorded our pioneer burial sites."

Communities can come to consider such cemeteries as heritage parks, Gage said, "around which the town's historic interests can be preserved."

Although the necessary research to obtain an historical marker for the Chivers Family Cemetery in Southlake was completed some time ago, Patterson said the county historical commission has been unable to find funds for it.

So the commission is looking for sponsors to finance a marker to be placed at the burial ground.

• • •

IN 1976, Patterson said, several members of a Mid-Cities association called the Northeast Historical Society gathered donations and fenced the abandoned plot, located just north of Texas 114 and west of Carroll Avenue.

"We need active, interested individuals in Southlake to help us with our marker program there," said Gage, adding he has confidence in the "public's interest and generosity."

"Last year, Tarrant County citizens donated more than $8,000 to erect historical markers," he said. If requested, sponsor's names are incised on the backs of the markers.

Although Keller residents have tried repeatedly in the past several years to clean that city's Mount Gilead Cemetery, "the sheer enormity of the job overwhelmed them," Patterson said.

More than 200 gravestones are contained at the cemetery, most of them predating 1900.

Patterson said historians find the old burial ground interesting for several reasons. For one, it may contain the widest variety of antique grave markers in any Tarrant County cemetery.

• • •

AND THOMPSON'S grave, as well as the age of most of the others, make it "truly a cemetery of pioneers," he said.

Gage acknowledged that remembering the past may be difficult for people concentrating on what the future holds, but he argued that historic preservation can serve as a stabilizer for the uncertainties of the present.

He asked those interested in participating in the restoration of some of the county's oldest burial grounds to contact him at 281-7860 or 282-5740.

Contributions payable to the cemetery trust fund may be mailed to the Tarrant County auditor's office. Gage said the commission has asked for a ruling making the contributions tax deductible.

It's perfectly obvious that we need to revive an old-time Texas social institution: cemetery workings. A cemetery working is an all-day session where each family brings a picnic lunch, lawnmowers, hoes, rakes, hoses, fertilizer, trees, plants, bulbs. The idea is to get the small cemeteries of Texas into proper shape. Now when cemeteries are being used as source material for historians as well as genealogists, we are threatened with the loss of many of them through pure neglect.

Cemetery workings originally were planned for families who owned lots or had members of their families buried in that cemetery. The idea needs to be revised and updated. Small cemeteries need to be preserved for their own historic value and everyone in a community should join in.

Tarrant County Historical Commission says that more than 20 of this county's pioneer cemeteries are unkept and neglected, some "in deplorable condition." Recently, Tarrant County Commissioners Court established Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, a perpetual trust fund to care for these cemeteries. Donations to that fund may be mailed to the County Auditor.

I'm all in favor of the Cemetery Fund but I've seen some of those cemeteries and they need careful cleaning to preserve delicate tombstones and other markers. In other words, they need tender, loving care — the kind you get from a cemetery working party. And does anyone know an expert on the preservation of old tombstones?

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM
© MAR. 25-26, 1981

# Historic graves dot airport landscape

By LES HARPER
Star-Telegram Writer

The mortal remains of some 200 hardy souls rest at Bear Creek Cemetery flanked on three sides by a 36-hole golf course and Dallas/Fort Worth Airport.

Actually, Bear Creek is one of three pioneer cemeteries preserved on the west side of the airport's 17,500 acres. Each "enclave in the path of progress," as airport spokesman Jim Street calls the cemeteries, has a Texas Historical Commission marker.

The Minter's Chapel Cemetery is on Minter's Chapel Road, north of Bear Creek. Like Bear Creek, it was named for the community which grew up around its focal point, a church.

South of the golf course — part of the airport's new Bear Creek Golf and Racquet Center — is the Dobkins Family Cemetery. It was named for a pioneer physician among one of the various Peters Colony settlements which dotted North Central Texas in Stephen F. Austin's day.

* * *

**DESPITE THE** cemeteries' location within the airport's "green area," which was set aside by the airport board as a preserve, Tarrant County Historical Commission chairman Duane Gage says he is "sure all that area will be developed."

As proof, he points to the 225-acre golf center itself, which also contains eight tennis courts and 10 handball courts in addition to a pavillion area that will be built for large groups like company picnics.

Please see Leaders, Page 8

## Commission leaders hope for cooperation

Continued from Page 1

The center, which opened eight months ago, was part of a $65 million Amfac expansion that included the hotel's new East Tower. Amfac officials note in press releases about the expansion that the golf center "would still meet the airport's "green area" requirements.

But Gage and Lee Borah Jr. know the priority a cemetery would be given if it stood in the path of progress. Borah's great-grandfather, a trustee of the Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Church in 1860, is buried at Bear Creek Cemetery.

"It's a private cemetery," Borah said. "(The airport board) would have had to use imminent domain to take it over, but they didn't want to."

The airport used that power to remove Lipscomb Cemetery, however, which was in the path of a planned runway. Those buried in the community cemetery named after another pioneer doctor were reinterred at Grapevine Cemetery, Gage said.

* * *

**THERE POSSIBLY** was a fifth cemetery, he added, but the suspected area northeast of Bear Creek Cemetery was paved over before researchers could thoroughly examine it.

Mike Patterson, who researches cemeteries for the historical commission, "knows of some tombstones that had been moved around in that area," Gage said. "In a historical paper he did at UTA on the neglect or abandonment of old cemeteries, there is speculation that it might have been a mason's quarry, that someone might have made tombstones there."

Borah said the Bear Creek Cemetery Association — composed mostly of descendants of Bear Creek pioneers — "has an awfully good relationship with the men who work at the golf course compound."

Although the Amfac-employed maintenance workers at the golf center aren't required to, "they've been helping us out by closing the gates at night to keep out vandals and such," Borah said.

Since the cemeteries are either in private hands or under the oversight of the historical commission, the airport is under no obligation to protect the burial grounds.

"The airport feels like it's too much above that," Borah said of the Bear Creek Cemetery. "Yeah, I've had my run-ins with that board. They built a golf course around the cemetery. So we asked them if they'd put a chain link fence around it to protect it."

* * *

**"THERE ARE TWO** entrances to it, from the golf course and from Minter's Chapel Road. We felt vandalism would increase. They said they didn't feel obligated to do it."

Borah said the cemetery association owns strips of land framing the graveyard outside its fence line. While admitting that true ownership of the land is disputed by the airport board, "We'd donate the land if they'd build a chain link fence," he said.

Gage said the historical commission is resigned to the fact it cannot force the airport to extend a motherly wing over Bear Creek Cemetery. But he expressed hope the board could be coaxed to do so out of a sense of obligation in light of the popularity of the golf center.

"We would love to see the airport board put up a good cyclone fence around it," Gage said. "I could just see some duffer slice a ball over there and then go tramp around looking for it."

## Pioneer Cemeteries

Thursday, April 2, 1981 — THE MANSFIELD NEWS-MIRROR — 7

# Another piece to the history puzzle

By DIANA FORSTHOFFER

Threads of pioneer history lie decaying under tangled webs of weeds.

And much of Mansfield's past would soon be lost were it not for the efforts of the city's historical society and the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

As part of a two-year project initiated by the commission, members of the Mansfield Historical Society, under the direction of President Beth Harrison Canright and Beryl Gibson, began last year to research pioneer burial sites within the Mansfield area.

The group is gathering genealogical information and checking deed records to see that the burial grounds have been set aside as official cemetery sites.

"Cemeteries are the prime evidence of habitation," said Duane Gage, Tarrant County Historical Commission chairman. "How can we know who we really are without knowing about our background? Community history is always important."

Gage said a major problem in locating the pioneer cemeteries is that many of the tombstones have been misplaced. "It's not always the work of vandals either," he said. "Rather, it's years of neglect as generations die off or move away and forget the past."

One of the Mansfield group's first encounters with time's effect on the pioneer burial sites involved the surveying of the Mansfield Cemetery on Burl Ray St. Although the cemetery is still in use today, a number of the gravesights were not inventoried and many of the markers had been ravaged by time.

"Many of the markers were made of sandstone which had been worn down over the years," said Mrs. Gibson. "Many had no names or dates, and quite a few of the people buried in the cemetery weren't even marked."

The earliest graves found there included the twin son and daughter of Richard and Frances Bratton. The children were born Aug. 4, 1857 and died Sept. 22, 1857.

"Before we surveyed the cemetery, the only way to find out who was buried there was to walk it," said Mrs. Gibson. "Sometimes the only way you can find people is if you can locate who they were buried next to."

The completed survey list will be on file at the Mansfield Public Library, explained Mrs. Gibson. "A history of the cemetery will be added as we document the dates," she said.

"The information supplied by these cemeteries we survey is so very fragile," said Mrs. Gibson. "These are things that have otherwise been handed down by word of mouth. People with this information are fast dying and if we don't get it now, it will be gone forever."

Mrs. Gibson said she got involved in the commission's cemetery research project "quite innocently. I was interested in the Gibson ancestry and called the Tarrant County Historical Commission. They said they needed somebody to help them in Mansfield locating pioneer cemeteries. I guess they thought Beth (Ms. Canright) and I were the answers to their prayers. We never guessed it would be such a big project," she said.

"The cemetery project could not possibly be completed without a major effort and participation of all the historical groups throughout the county," said Gage. "And the Mansfield group is especially active and effective."

Mrs. Gibson said the project requires a tremendous amount of research. "But everyday we discover new little pieces of the history puzzle. People are finding out they're related to people they didn't know about," she said.

"The past requires tender-loving care. If we don't take care of these cemeteries, part of our history will be gone forever," said Mrs. Gibson.

The most recent find by the group is the Perry Cemetery located on the northeast corner of Ragland Road and Ragland Ext. It is estimated to contain eight graves, but the only marker found was that of Sarah J. Perry, the first wife of Napolean Bonaparte Perry, a very early settler of the Mansfield-Webb area. Her tombstone reveals she was born Jan. 16, 1828 and died Oct. 2, 1855.

Other cemeteries observed by the historical society include the Cope and Curry Cemeteries on Day Miar Road, the Stevens Cemetery on Mitchell-Mansfield Road, the Wilson Cemetery on Lynn Road and Wyatt's Chapel at the intersection of Highways 157 and 287.

More than 70 pioneer cemeteries in Tarrant County are in need of attention, said Gage. This number does not include the larger cemeteries still in use today.

Because so many of the older cemeteries do not have cemetery associations in charge of their upkeep, the commission approached the Commissioner's Court last December to establish a Tarrant County Cemetery Fund through which tax deductible private donations can be sent to the county auditor for a perpetual care trust fund. The money would be administered by a court judge and used for the upkeep of neglected cemeteries, said Gage.

"We hope to have enough interest shown to pay for the maintenance at least through the summer for these old cemeteries," he said.

Money received will be used to repair tombstones, purchase fencing materials, pay for the processing of deed records and purchase historical markers for the more notable pioneer cemeteries. "The markers alone cost $325 each," said Gage.

Persons wishing to make donations to the perpetual care fund should make their tax deductible checks out to the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

"We need to be responsible for our past history," said Gage.

Section A Page 4 The BANNER, Monday, November 16, 1981

*Site near dam*

# Historians research cemetery

For more than 100 years, a small group of Grapevine's pioneers have been resting in a nearly-forgotten cemetery on Highway 121 near Grapevine Dam. Their names are now forgotten, their tombstones have been destroyed or have disappeared, and some of their graves have, at least once, been disturbed.

Tarrant County Historical Commission member Mike Patterson of Colleyville is heading up an attempt to have a Texas State Historical Marker placed on the highway beside the graves to spare them further damage and to help draw attention to this link with Grapevine's past.

Grapevine resident Edward Langley recently guided Patterson to the gravesites along the east side of the highway south of Bethel Road. Langley, who spent much of his early life near the cemetery, says he remembers the time in the 1920's when the highway was built beside the plot, though he doesn't think the construction destroyed any of it at that time.

When he was a child, Langley continued, there were legends in the community about the old burial ground, including one which said Indians were supposed to be buried there. He remembers one day in the early or mid-1930's when an artifact hunting college professor opened one of the graves. Instead of an Indian, the professor found a skeleton under a row of neatly-aligned brass uniform buttons, still in place after the coat that had held them had disappeared.

Langley was a teenager at the time, and he anxiously watched the professor work. The skull in the grave, he noticed, was partially crushed. Talking to oldtimers nearby, he was told that during the civil War a slave woman who lived in the community was attacked by a soldier and killed him with a blow to the head. Langley wondered then, and still does, if there was anything to the old story.

One legend said the graves were those of Spaniards, while another said they were Frenchmen from an early-day settlement up Denton Creek. The late Georgia Breeding of Grapevine was told by her father, Tenn Hurst, that the graves were those of the Proctor family who lived nearby.

For more than a century, the cemetery's half-dozen or sandstone markers were toppled by farm animals or simply stood in their places quietly weathering away. A few years ago, the little plot was bought by the Airport Board and a tall cyclone fence was put up beside it. After the Airport Board bought the land, a pipeline was put in beside it and, during the ditching and leveling nearly all the last traces of the cemetery were erased. Langley and Patterson found only one stone still standing in place.

The Tarrant County Histroical Commission is eager to talk to anyone who has any information about this cemetery. Persons who wish to help may call Patterson at 283-6773 or Diane Gage at 281-7860 or 282-5740.

SAME ARTICLE APPEARED IN
Sunday, November 15, 1981 The Grapevine Sun

48

Star Telegram
THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 7, 1981

For those who want to take part in an authentic, old-fashioned, Texas event, there will be a cemetery working at 10 a.m. May 30 at Gibson Cemetery, 4.5 miles northwest of Mansfield on the Gibson Cemetery Road.

Known families in the cemetery include Oliver, Stewart, Parsley, Lynn and Thompson. Participants will share a picnic lunch at noon. Beryl and Ira D. Gibson are cleanup chairmen.

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 19, 1981

# Unanswered title questions delay sale of land

ARLINGTON — The question of who owns part of a piece of land the Arlington School District is trying to sell remains unanswered, despite a title search that has been going on since December.

The search began after school officials accepted a bid from Dallas real estate dealer Sherwood Blount, who agreed to pay $275,000 for the property at Cooper and Mayfield.

The property is the site of the old Johnson Station School. It is bounded on the north by Johnson Station Tabernacle Church, on the east by the Johnson Station Cemetery, on the south by Mayfield and on the west by Cooper.

In question is a strip of land on the south side of the church, school officials said.

* * *

**THE TRANSACTION** has not been a typical school district land sale by any means.

School superintendent Woodrow Counts said the problem is that the 3.9 acres on which the Johnson Station School still sits was annexed into the district in 1953. Supposedly, it became the property of the school district at that time.

Counts said at one time, in the early part of this century, the land apparently was deeded to the school principal. Before a clear title can be obtained by the school district, he said, any heirs to the land must be contacted.

"There are a bunch of heirs, and they are scattered all over the country," Counts said. "Our attorney said it will probably take several months."

But getting a clear title to the land is not the only situation the school district has to reckon with. There is the Johnson Station Cemetery Association to be considered.

* * *

**THE CEMETERY** adjoins the school property, and the group thinks any development might close off the entrance to the ancient burial ground. The gate faces the school property.

J.T. "Boots" Swafford, spokesman for the cemetery group, said he fears when the school district gets clear title to the land and completes its sale, development of the property could close forever the only entrance to the cemetery.

Swafford said the cemetery is a historic place, with the old Johnson Station stagecoach road running through it.

* * *

"WE WANT A 30-foot right-of-way running north and south in front of the cemetery, then a 30-foot right-of-way out to (Highway) 157 on the north side of the property," Swafford said.

4 ©1981 Fort Worth Star-Telegram JUNE. 10- 11, 1981 NEIGHBORHOOD EXTRA/NORTHEAST

## Barbara Holsomback's Community Notebook

Volunteers are needed to help clean and reset toppled stones beginning at 8 a.m. June 20 at the Mount Gilead Cemetery, located northeast of Keller off Farm Road 1709. The workday is sponsored by the Mount Gilead Cemetery Association and the Tarrant County Historical Commission. Volunteers need to bring their own tools, lunches and drinking water. In case of rain, the work will be done June 27. The burial ground, begun more than 125 years ago, will become a registered State Historic Landmark later this summer when a State Historical Marker is erected there. Community residents hope to have the cemetery completely cleaned in time for the dedication. For more information, call **Mike Patterson** at 283-6773.

* * *

# Fight waged to restore Haltom cemetery

By MIKE PATTERSON
Star-Telegram Writer

HALTOM CITY — Tombstones peak through the blades of winter brown grass. Bare trees stand starkly among sunken graves. Flowers wilt at the footstones of loved ones. A startled cat bounds from the waist-high brush.

This is the final resting place of some of Tarrant County's oldest black families, and there is agreement that the cemetery at 28th and Beach streets is in a state of disrepair.

Through the years, nobody has been able to draw much attention or interest in maintaining it.

Along comes Edward John Rawlinson, a 70-year-old ("and holding"), cigar-smoking white man reared in Alabama. He's waging a one-man campaign to clean up the cemetery.

"You can call it an eyesore," Rawlinson said one afternoon at the cemetery. "It's a shame the human race lets something like this go on whether (the cemetery is for) black or white."

* * *

ACTUALLY, there are three indistinguishable cemeteries at the northeast corner of 28th and Beach — the Trinity Cemetery, the New Trinity and People's Burial Park. Trinity and People's are kept trimmed and mowed. New Trinity, tucked between the two, is where the trouble rests.

"It's pretty hard to get anybody interested in taking care of it," said City Manager Pat Moffatt. "Nobody will claim ownership of it. There's no clear-cut way to deal with the owner" regarding care of the land.

The history of the cemetery is as foggy as its ownership. The Trinity Cemetery, on the western edge of the three, is apparently the oldest. It was started out of a fund-raising drive to establish a burial ground for blacks in the late 1800s. Many of the people buried there are sons and daughters of slaves. A church — whose concrete foundation is still visible — was built later.

New Trinity and People's Burial followed later. The earliest markers in New Trinity appear to date to the 1920s.

Moffatt said efforts have been made to solicit interest in the maintenance of New Trinity, but nothing lasting has been accomplished.

* * *

IN 1975, the New Trinity Cemetery Club abandoned an eight-year effort to maintain the cemetery because donations from relatives didn't go far enough in maintenance costs.

The Boy Scouts have also made attempts at cleaning the cemetery, Moffatt said. And the city "stands ready to help anyway we can," he said.

But Rawlinson said enough isn't being done and blames the fact that black people rest there as one reason for the neglect. "If it were a white cemetery, it would be a different story," he said.

Moffatt disputes that statement, and says there is more involved to caring for the cemetery than just mowing it.

A state law would allow the city to take over the cemetery, but it would also involve projects such as resetting headstones. So far, the City Council has not shown great interest in accepting the responsibility.

"You'd probably have to restore some things in there," Moffatt said. "You're not talking about mowing it once and awhile. Mowing is no problem."

* * *

THE CITY MADE an effort in 1975 to control burials in the cemeteries by passing an ordinance requiring permits for burial there.

Duane Gage of the Tarrant County Historical Commission said the panel has been interested in the cemetery but has been caught up in other projects. He said he would like to see the city do something about the problem.

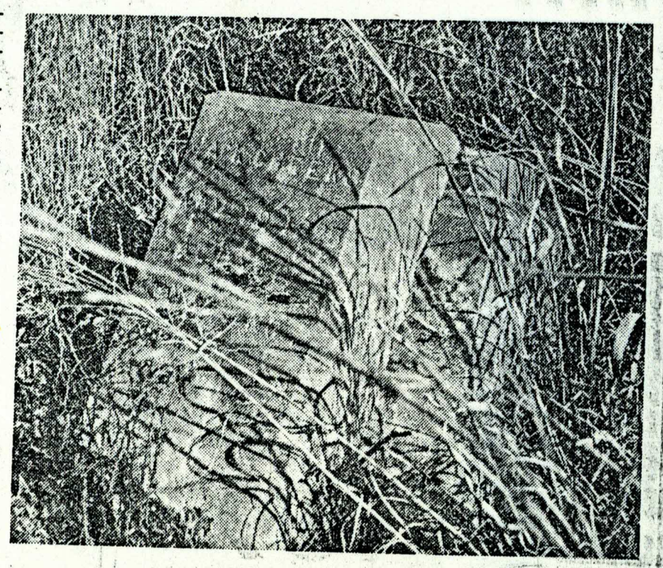
Rawlinson said he has talked to Moffatt several times about the cemetery and has gone to local storeowners and a church pastor for help.

The pastor asked if he were a Christian before walking off and the "rest told me to go jump in the lake."

Rawlinson, a retired Bell Helicopter mechanic, said his motivation is only that the "cemetery is a disgrace to the city."

*'It's a shame the human race lets something like this go on whether (the cemetery is for) black or white.'*

**— Edward John Rawlinson**



Star-Telegram/WILLIS KNIGHT

# Historic I.D. Parker Cemetery being restored in Hurst

In conjunction with Hurst Pioneer Days, Tarrant County Historical Commission has initiated restoration on I.D. Parker Cemetery at Cardinal Drive, the earliest designated historic site in the city, Chairman Duane Gage announced.

Initial clean-up of the cemetery has been conducted as an Eagle Scout project by Boy Scout Troop 333 coordinated by Lee Allbright, a senior at L.D. Bell High School.

"The most significant manner in which we pay tribute to our local pioneers is to honor their memory by restoring their burial grounds," Gage said.

It is believed burials began in Parker Cemetery, in the 1850's, soon after the area opened for settlement, he said. Although numerous unmarked field stones dot the site, few marked graves remain.

The cemetery is named after I.D. Parker, son of pioneer Tarrant County legislator Isaac Parker and cousin of Cynthia Ann Parker, mother of Comanche Chief Quanah Parker.

At age nine, Ms. Parker was captured by Indians in 1836 and consequently became the wife of a Comanche warrior.

After being recovered in 1860, she and her infant daughter Prairie Flower were brought to Isaac Parker's cabin near the cemetary site. Later, they were taken to live with relatives in East Texas, where both died a few years later.

Parker's cabin, which once sat on the Parker farm near the present IH-820 and Airport Freeway intersection, was preserved by Fort Worth Publisher Amon Carter.

It now stands as a featured structure in Fort Worth's Log Cabin Village.

In 1903, Parker donated about 2/3 of an acre of land to the public. Public burials have occurred on this land. A fenced family plot where Parker family members were buried was deeded to the family's descendents. Grave markers reveal a number of deaths of small children.

In 1968, largely through the efforts of Hurst resident Janette Tingle, the cemetery received an official Texas historical marker.

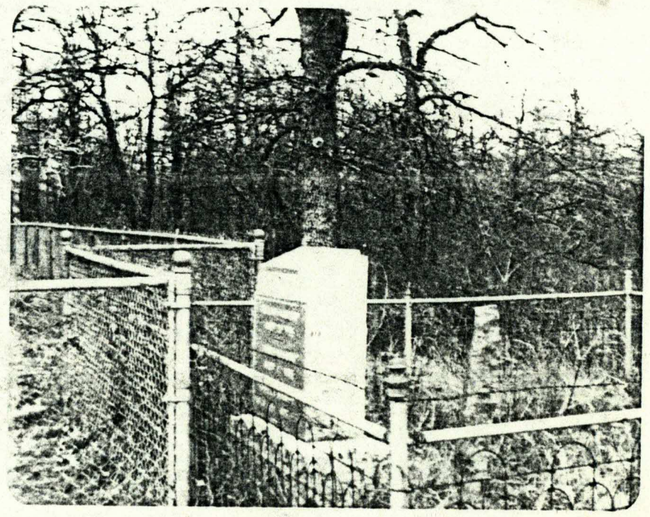
"The family plot has been adequately maintained, but the public section east of it has never received consistent care. We hope to remedy that by restoring it and converting it into a heritage park, a pastoral area nestled in a grove of native oak trees," Gage said.

The restoration project will be completed June 6 in a community work day at the cemetery. Gage is asking area residents to bring rakes, hoes, shovels, wheelbarrows, axes, chain saws, refuse bags and weed cutters.

In addition, participants should bring their own drinking water and picnic lunches, he said.

Hurst Parks and Recreation Department has offered to haul off the refuse and is expected to assume maintenance jurisdiction at the site.

Jon Hailey and Lee Allbright, right, spearhead a cleanup project in Hurst's pioneer I. D. Parker Cemetery on Cardinal Drive, 1300 block.



The unkept and neglected public section of I.D. Parker Cemetery is located immediately east of the fenced Parker family plot.

Photos by David Allbright

MID-CITIES DAILY NEWS Sunday, August 9, 1981

# Cemetery to become heritage park

By MONA COAN

Plans are in the making to preserve Parker Cemetery, the oldest evidence of civilization in Hurst, as a heritage park.

The cemetery, located north of Hwy. 10 and east of Interstate Loop 820 on the corner of Cardinal Drive and Cooper Street, was donated to the public for burial purposes on Jan. 14, 1901 by Isaac Duke Parker.

The cemetery has graves dating back to the 1850s.

Hurst City Council recently voted to assume jurisdiction of the cemetery at the request of the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

The Commission is engaged in a project to locate, research and restore pioneer Tarrant County cemeteries, Duane Gage of Hurst, chairman of the Historical Commission, said.

Gage said he hopes the cemetery will be designated as a heritage park — "a quiet and serene place."

Boy Scout Troop 333 has been cleaning the cemetery for the past few weeks as part of an Eagle Scout project, Gage said.

GAGE is working with the Parks and Recreation Department to decide the future of the cemetery.

Gage hopes to get a historical marker for the public cemetery and homestead to compliment one placed there in 1968 when the cemetery was dedicated as a historic site.

The cemetery now has many gravesites with only sandstones as head and feet markers, Gage said. He said the Commission plans to place larger stones on the graves for purposes of visibility and durability.

The city owns a small plot of land around the cemetery and may incorporate this as part of the park, Gage said.

The cemetery is divided into two sections. One part is fenced and was used by the Parker family. The rest is unfenced and was used as a public burial ground.

The cemetery has some 40 to 50 burial sites, Gage said, which represent the "very earliest pioneers in the area."

IN ADDITION to Parker, Manship and Lecroy family names are found in the cemetery.

Gage urges any descendant or relative of the families to call the Commission.

The first person buried in the cemetery is believed to be the wife of a pioneer named Hamilton Bennett, who was buried there around 1853.

The Parker family played an important role in shaping Texas history.

The family moved to Texas in 1833 from Illinois. They were natives of Virginia.

Isaac Parker, the original owner of the cemetery, and I.D. Parker, were both members of the Texas State Legislature. I.D. Parker was also a Tarrant County Commissioner from 1862-1864.

Isaac Parker was involved in the war for Texas independence and a personal friend of Sam Houston.

In May 1836, Comanche and Caddo Indians raided Limestone Co. and attacked Parker's fort on the Navasota River, capturing 9-year-old Cynthia Ann Parker, a niece of Isaac Parker's.

The girl was adopted by the Comanches and later became the wife of their chief Peta Nocona.

In 1860, she was discovered at the age of 33 by Texas Rangers and taken against her will to the Parkers in Tarrant Co.

Vol. 98, No. 31
One Section, 14 Pages

# Mansfield News

Thurs. July 30, 1981

Serving Marvelous Mansfield for Nearly

**RESTORATION PROJECT**—Mansfield Historical Society members Beryl Gibson (left) and Beth Canright, president, have undertaken a headstone and grave marker restoration project of local pioneers. Here, they attempt to rebuild the headstone of Julia Alice Man, born 1867 - died 1872, first daughter of one of the founders of Mansfield, R.S. Man. Many old graveyards are located around Mansfield. The Tarrant County Historical Commission will begin to restore, repair and cleanup the burial grounds in a move to preserve the history of the area. (A related story appears on page 7.)

News-Mirror Staffoto

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Star-Telegram

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1981

According to Mrs. L.R. Holland, the Tarrant County Historical Commission has plans to restore the Snider Cemetery, located in a pasture off New Hope Road, south of Kennedale. The plot is covered with brush and weeds, but the markers are still intact. Those buried here are: Joel Snider; James Thomas Wilson; Margarete Snider Wilson; Jeanette Snider (Joel's wife); W.K. Hudson Sr.; Daniel McVean; and Mary Hudson McVean.

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Page 4 MID-CITIES DAILY NEWS Wednesday, September 30, 1981

## Cemetery association meets Sunday

Smithfield Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting Sunday 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Smithfield.

Due to inflation, the association has had to raise the salary for the caretaker, an association spokesman said, but officers of the association hope to continue another year with $10 per member dues.

Notices have been sent out to members informing them of the Sunday meeting. Those unable to attend may send their check for dues to Helen Stout, financial secretary, 453 Brookview, Hurst 76053.

Smithfield Cemetery Foundation is also soliciting contributions to a fund which will put the cemetery in perpetual care. Those wishing to contribute to this fund may send their gifts to Smithfield Cemetery Foundation in care of Ralph Lewis, 7117 Hightower, Fort Worth 76112.

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Mansfield New-Mirror
Thurs. July 30, 1981

Thursday, Ju

## Historic southeast Tarrant County burial ground will be preserved

The Tarrant County Historical Commission is coordinating efforts to fence, restore, and preserve the historic Snider Cemetery about two miles south of Kennedale. Unused since the late 1800's, it contains the graves of some of the county's first permanent settlers.

Pioneer Daniel McVean, a stonecutter from New York, may have been the first person buried in the cemetery when he died in 1858. His gravestone, like all the others in the plot, is covered with brush and briers. The Historical Commission is finishing an application at this time to have a Texas State Historical Marker placed in the plot, hopefully by early next year.

Commission members need help in having the plot surveyed, fenced, and cleaned. Commission Chairman Duane Gage plans to contact several area civic groups to ask for their help. "Our program of marking historic sites in this area of the county is just getting started," Gage said, "and we chose this cemetery as one of our first because of its age and need of attention."

Michael E. Patterson, Chairman of the Commission's Cemetery Preservation Committee, is directing the research efforts toward getting the historical marker granted by the State. Anyone with information concerning this cemetery is asked to contact him at (817) 283-6773.

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM
©1981 APR. 1- 2, 1981

# Old cemetery victim of rural development

By DOMINGO RAMIREZ
Star-Telegram Writer

BEDFORD — Mounds of dirt and pebbles dot the landscape as construction workers put the finishing touches on streets on the south side of Cheek-Sparger Road.

Unfortunately, the development turned the final resting place for a number of northeast Tarrant County pioneers into a haven for builders before anyone noticed.

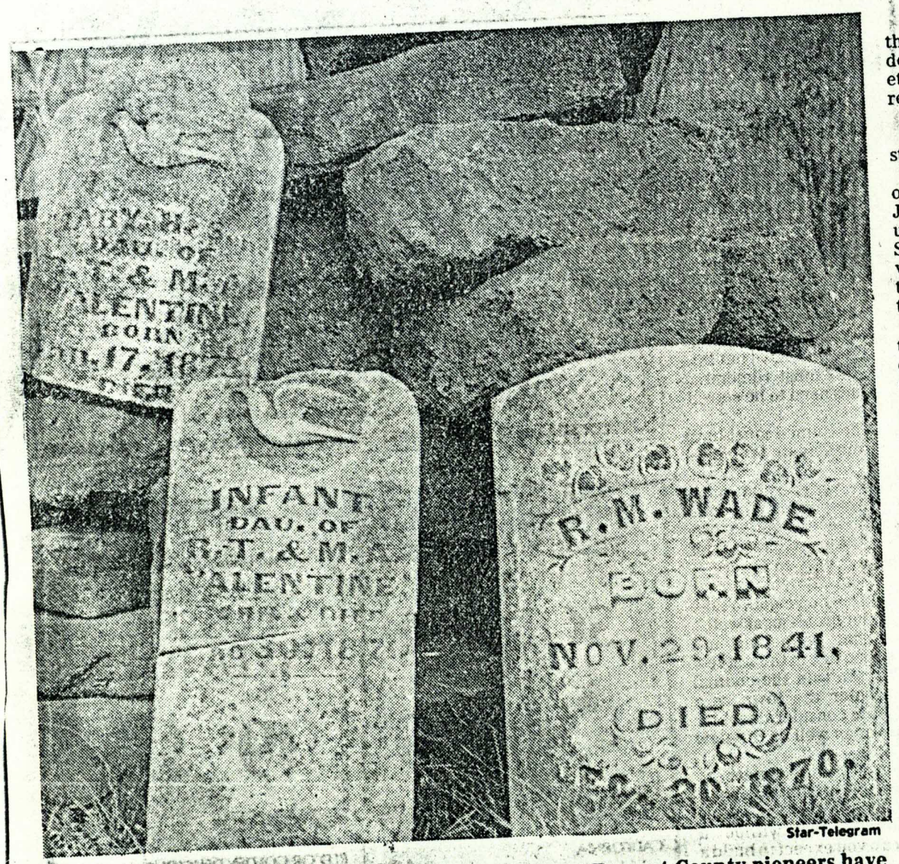
Established in 1865, Spring Garden is a cemetery time has forgotten. Bedford city officials didn't know about it, developers had no idea one exists,

Please see Cemetery on Page 3

*'People don't seem to take the time to care about history. We forget about an old barn or cemetery, and, pretty soon, we don't have it.'*

*Duane Gage*






Star-Telegram

**MISPLACED MARKERS — Tombstones that once proudly marked the graves of Northeast Tarrant County pioneers have been displaced because of development.**

# Cemetery discovered

Continued from Page 1

the Tarrant County Historical Commission (TCHC) doesn't know exactly where Spring Garden's cemetery is located, and even some oldtimers don't remember the cemetery too well.

But it did exist.

And, to Duane Gage and Mike Patterson, it's a story that has a familiar ending.

The private cemetery, located on the south side of Cheek-Sparger Road about a quarter mile east of Jackson Drive in northern Bedford, has not been used for more than 90 years. The community of Spring Garden was founded in 1865, when a school was established, but shortly after a fire destroyed the school building in 1872, the community began to die.

* * *

**BY 1880, ALL** that was left of Spring Garden was the graveyard. The oldest sandstone tombstone dates back to 1867, and records show the last burial occurred in 1890.

However, the cemetery has now become nothing more than an area where land is being prepared for new single-family homes.

"The cemetery is lost," said Gage, chairman of the TCHC. "As far as we can figure, they've dug ditches right through the heart of it."

"There could have been as many as 75 graves out there," said Patterson, a member of the TCHC. "In that area, I've found 25 to 30 sandstone tombstones since January. One man who lives near the area has found a few, and I've gotten them from him."

Bedford City Manager Jim Walker said he had not heard about the cemetery until recently.

"I can honestly say I wasn't aware of it until I happened to read a report by the historical commission on that particular area," Walker said. "The city has no obligations, but I believe the state and the developers might."

Under the revised Civil Statutes of Texas, " a cemetery does not lose its character as such because further interments in it have ceased or become impossible, but remains subject to the use so long as the bodies remain buried, or until they are moved by public authority, friends or relatives."

No records have turned up indicating bodies have been moved from Spring Garden Cemetery. But time and neglect have a way of hiding history.

* * *

**"NO, I HAVEN'T** heard of any such community or cemetery," said Hugh Moore, owner of Tree-Brand Development Co. of Arlington, one of the building firms in the area. "Before we started construction of our streets, we went five to six feet down in the ground doing tests. We didn't find any artifacts or anything.

"If a marker or grave was found, we would notify the city. We would stop work and wait for the next proper steps."

"I've walked all over our development, and I didn't discover any cemetery," said David Bagwell, an official of Crow Development of Dallas, another firm developing land in the area. "Back in Georgia, where I was working, we discovered a pioneer cemetery on some property and proceeded to contact their heirs. I'm sure that's what we would do here if we would have discovered a cemetery.

"If a developer finds it, you can make the property rather prestigous by setting off the land or marking it. We would respect the cemetery."

"Everyone out there has helped," said Patterson. "We didn't contact the developers because it got to the point where nothing could be done anyway.

"We didn't want to raise any big controversy. Property owners throughout northeast Tarrant County have been extremely helpful when we made a discovery on their property, and we don't want to make it difficult for us to get pioneer cemeteries marked."

Two years ago, the Texas Historical Commission suggested to local agencies that they start county projects to mark pioneer cemeteries. The TCHC has more than 15 pioneer markings in northeast Tarrant County alone.

"But, there's also cases where we get there to late," Gage said. "Out in Southlake several years ago, there was an incident where a road was constructed over a cemetery.

* * *

**"GENERALLY, MOST** of the older cemeteries are well-kept, but vandalism is one of our big problems. And ignorance plays a major role. People don't seem to take the time to care about history. We forget about an old barn or cemetery, and, pretty soon, we don't have it."

Spring Garden is a perfect example of an area losing touch with history.

"There are a lot of descendants in the area, but I don't know why it was never kept up," said Patterson. "There's nothing the commission can do now. We don't know exactly where the cemetery existed."

One veteran of the Cheek-Sparger area almost didn't remember the cemetery.

"I've heard a lot of stories about that area, and I seem to recall an old cemetery south of Sparger Road," said Glen Brisbon, 63, a retired Bell Helicopter employee, who lived in northern Bedford from 1930 to 1975. "At one time, I'm sure cattle grazed in that area.

"The people who used to live out there probably just sold out and left. Oh, I know a few friends who had relatives buried out there. But they don't live anywhere near there now."

The BANNER, Thursday, November 5, 1981

# White's Chapel Cemetery association revitalized

It's been almost a year, and in many ways, things are back to normal for the old White's Chapel Cemetery. The 40 stones damaged by vandals last November have been repaired and once more watch over the grave sites of some of the early settlers to the region.

And, while the damage to the old cemetery was a sad occurrence, some good has also come of it.

White's Chapel, like many old cemeteries occupies land legally deeded as a community cemetery. Owner ship was in the hands of an association. As years passed interest and membership in the group gradually diminished.

However, according to Joy Trent, who remained active in the association arranging for the mowing and care of the cemetery, following the vandalism incident, the association was revitalized.

A meeting held shortly after the destruction last November, attracted 40 concerned people. Future meetings have resulted in current plans to have the cemetery area incorporated. A meeting, hopefully to finalize steps toward the incorporation, is scheduled for next spring.

In the mean time, association members are busy. They have planned an old fashioned "cemetery working" Saturday, November 7 at 8 p.m. and ask those planning to attend to bring their tools and join in the ask. Trees will be trimmed and other necessary yard work done.

Ms. Trent says she is encouraged by the interest and support the community has given to the preservation effort.

Those wishing additional information may contact Cloyce Chivers at 838-3920 or Ms. Trent at 379-5386.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE ( Schools - Jr Historians)

The Education Committee will support the TCU Regional Junior Historian History Fair by presenting an annual Heritage Award to the entry that best represents the heritage of Tarrant County, and it shall supply volunteer workers for the TCU History Fair, March 4-6, 1981.

The Education Committee shall begin compiling materials for the establishment of a TEXAS HISTORY RESOURCE CENTER which will house resource materials, teaching aids, and classroom materials on state and local history, materials which will provide local Texas history instructors and their students assistance in the study of Texas heritage.

The Education Committee shall continue to request school districts within Tarrant County to compile histories of their schools.

The Education Committee shall sponsor a display of Junior Historians' exhibits at the TCJC NE Campus Library's Heritage Room during the month of March 1981.

The Education Committee shall promote an essay contest on Tarrant County history topics in Junior (Middle School) and Senior High schools for awards and recognition during Tarrant County History Appreciation Week in 1981.

**Tarrant County Historical Commission**

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT 1981

John Hugh Smith, Chairman
Cecelia Box, Member
Ruby Schmidt, Member
Joe Standifer, Member
Alta Lee Futch, Associate Member

On the first week in March, 1981, at the annual Texas Christian University Regional History Fair, we presented the Tarrant County Heritage Award to Miss Karen Mutcher of Wedgewood Middle School, Fort Worth, for her Camp Bowie in WWI display project. This winning project, plus fourteen other Tarrant County projects, was placed on display in the Heritage Room of the Tarrant County Junior College Library.

Several Committee members volunteered to work at the annual T.C.U. Fair.

On May 6th, the Education Committee Chairman attended a meeting in Arlington, Texas with our Junior Historian Chapter sponsors and with Dr. Leon Blair of the Texas Bureau of Economic Understanding. The purpose of the meeting was to explore ways and means to advance the Junior Historian movement in the metroplex area. The Metroplex Heritage Association was founded at this meeting.

On November 24, 1981 the first Metroplex Heritage Area meeting was held in Hurst, Texas. After much discussion was held, Dr. Blair announced plans to write every school superintendent in the Metroplex. We seek their permission and cooperation in establishing Junior Historian chapters.

On November 6th, the committee chairman attended a preservation workshop at the Fort Worth Public Library.

On October 29, 1981 the Chairman attended a meeting of the Education Committee of the Historic Preservation Council of Tarrant County, Texas, to help them plan their education programs for the year.

JUNIOR HISTORIANS ROUNDUP HELD AT CROWLEY

The skilled sponsorship of Commission Associate Alta Lee Futch was evident in the Junior Historians Roundup on Oct. 31st at Crowley's H. F. Stevens Middle School. The regional meet included leadership workshops, speeches, lunch and square dancing. Commission members on the program included Winston Sparks, who gave a presentation on railroad history; and Duane Gage, who spoke on cemetery preservation projects (a timely topic for Haloween day!). Commission member Sydney Pointer is Crowley Superintendent of Schools.

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT 1981

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On October 29, 1981 the Chairman attended a meeting of the Education Committee of the Historic Preservation Council of Tarrant County, Texas, to help them plan their education programs for the year.

On November 20, 1981 the Chairman attended the planning meeting for the 1982 T.C.U. Regional History Fair. The Commission will again present the Annual Heritage Award to the project that best represents the heritage of Tarrant County.

On August 13-14, 1981 Alta Lee Futch attended the State History Awareness Workshop held at Fredericksburg, Texas. Alta Lee is an Associate Member of our Commission and is the sponsor of the Stevens Middle School Junior Historians Chapter in Crowley, Texas.

Our Education Committee works with and supports our Junior Historian Chapters in Tarrant County. At this time we have only seven active chapters, therefore the Tarrant County Historical Commission's Education Committee calls upon the citizens of Tarrant County, in the name of Liberty, of patriotism, and everything dear to the Texas character to promote the teaching and awareness of our heritage.

Respectfully Submitted
John Hugh Smith, Chairman

Dec. 18, 1981

# TCU history fair planned March 4-6

Texas Christian University's Regional History Fair, largest in its 6-year history, will attract some 1,100 contestants to Daniel-Meyer Coliseum March 4, 5 and 6.

Prize winners from history fairs in 28 independent school districts, including Hurst Euless Bedford and Birdville, and some half a dozen private and parochial schools will take part in the fair, co-sponsored by TCU and the Texas Bureau of Economic Understanding.

"American Heritage" is the theme for 1981, and entrants may submit log cabins, missions, reproduction of historical buildings, historical structures and sites, collections or restorations of artifacts, transportation modes, multimedia presentations, historical arts and crafts and historical personalities.

Deadline for entering is Friday. Projects should be taken to Daniel-Meyer Coliseum and arranged for display between 2 and 9:30 p.m. March 4.

Exhibits will be judged from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 5, and the fair will be open to the public from 2 to 9:30 p.m. March 5 and from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. March 6.

The awards ceremony will be held at 7:30 p.m. March 6.

Assisting Dr. Neal in operation of the history fair will be Dr. Don Coerver of TCU, John Hugh Smith of Birdville Independent School District, and Shirley Schuster of Fort Worth Independent School District.



# Students win fair place in history

Winners have been announced in Texas Christian University's Regional History Fair, which has attracted 900 students from grades 4-12.

Prize winners from history fairs in 28 independent school districts and six private and parochial schools are taking part in the fair, co-sponsored by TCU and the Texas Bureau of Economic Understanding.

Fair exhibits will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday at TCU's Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. An awards program at 7:30 p.m. Saturday will be the final event.

"American Heritage" is the fair's theme, and entry subjects varied from log cabins to historical arts and crafts items.

Twenty-four judges selected from participating school districts evaluated entries on the basis of authenticity, research and construction.

Thirty blue ribbons were awarded for first place projects, and second, third and honorable mention ribbons also were given.

The three Best of Show winners were:

Elementary: Becky Sawyer, 4905 Dilworth Court, a fifth-grader;

Middle School: Mike Cuillo, of 2121 Ming Drive, Crowley, an eighth-grader, H.F. Stevens School, for reconstruction of Christ the King Episcopal Church and a paper on its history;

High Schools: Teresa Wallace, of 1620 Corrin Avenue, a junior at Boswell High School, for a completely-equipped general store.

Other winners were:

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

Log Cabins: Sameer Ahmed, sixth-grade, Country Day School, 43 Bounty Road W., reconstruction of a 19th century log cabin.

Missions: Traci Cummings, sixth-grade, Azle Elementary, 274 Ethridge Drive, Azle, replica of Mission de Tejas near Crockett.

Other Historical Buildings: Marney Collins, White Settlement, 1744 Las Vegas Trail, No. 147, replica of Laura Ingallas Wilder's home.

Historic Structures and Sites: Lisa Chamberlain, White Settlement, 904 Hackamore, recreation of Gettysburg.

Collections: Elizabeth Randall, Westcreek Elementary, 5329 Rutland, children's clothes of early 1900s.

Wall Posters: Christy Williams, Coleman Elementary in Cleburne, 920 Westhill Drive, Cleburne, poster display of Indian cultures.

Transportation: Ricky Ripley, 712 Marengo, Cleburne, Fulton Elementary School model of ferry boat.

Multimedia: Wendy Pace, Fort Worth, 1817 Ferguson, Apt. H, Rosemont Middle School.

Arts and Crafts: Christy Ratliff, fourth-grade, J.T. Stevens, 5649 Wimbleton Way, display of saddlemaking.

Personalities of American Historv: Kristen Pryor, Fort Worth Country Day, 3717 Lenox Drive, reconstruction of the New York monument to Gen. William Jenkins Worth.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Log Cabins: (tie) Cindy L. Summers, 205 Oak Valley Drive, Colleyville, and Christie Andrew, 605 Richmond Lane, Waxahachie.

Missions: Mike Cuillo, 2121 Ming Drive, Crowley, eighth-grade, H.F. Stevens, Crowley, reconstruction of Christ the King Episcopal Church and a paper on its history.

Historic Structures and Sites: (tie) Jennifer Duren, 504 E. Prairie View Road, Crowley, and Sherri Schmidt, Wedgwood Middle School, 4267 Balboa.

Collections: Doug Minchey, Cleburne Junior High, 310 N. Walnut, Cleburne.

Wall Posters: (tie) Richard Saldana,, 2006 N. Commerce, OLV seventh-grade, and Robert Hood, Hurst Junior High, 1220 Brookside Drive, Hurst.

Transportation: (tie) Richard Woodbury, Route 3, Alvarado, ninth-grade in Cleburne, and Beth Miller, 37 Devonshire, Bedford, Harwood Junior High, eighth-grade.

Multimedia: (tie) Craig Williams, 4216 Winding Way, seventh-grade, Monnig Middle School, and Susan Hull, Burlesoon Middle School, 134 N. Cliffside, Burleson.

Arts and Crafts: (tie) Joey R. Glenn, Weatherford Junior High, and Stephanie Teague, 5000 White Oak Lane, Marsh Middle School (Castleberry).

Personalities: (tie) Sharon Maas, St. Andrew's Catholic School, 2113 Arthur, and Rodney Moore, Route 1, Red Oak, Waxahachie Junior High.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

Log Cabins: Mike Yandell, Weatherford High School.

Missions: Darrell Rose, 10th grade, Weatherford High School, 1305 Pecan Drive, Weatherford.

Other Historic Buildings: Keith Lewis, 2833 Columbine, Grapevine, 11th grade, Grapevine High School.

Historic Structures and Sites: Marcus Thorne, 7308 Cedar Drive, Colleyville, 10th grade, Grapevine High School.

Collections: Robert Robertson, 310 S. Brazos St., Weatherford, Weatherford HS.

Wall Posters: Robert Groce, 7640 Lake Highlands Drive, Fort Worth, 11th grade, Boswell High School.

Transportation: Vickie Able, Weatherford High School, 122 Hilltop Circle, Weatherford.

Multimedia: Carl Beers, senior at Waxahachie High School, 7015 Rogers, Waxahachie.

Arts and Crafts: Kim Kirkland, Grapevine 10th grade, 5801 Quails Path, Colleyville.

Personalities of American History: Beth Howell, Paschal High School, 10th grade, 4813 Lowell.

Star Telegram-3-1981

## MIKE H. PRICE'S NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Remember the Alamo? How could one forget it, having spent an afternoon earlier this month at the TCU Regional History Fair?

Not only did Southside and Westside school representatives sweep top honors at the fair, they also contributed in a major way to making the expo a treat to view, winners or not.

And you've never seen so many Alamos as cropped up in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. Remarkably enough, each student's rendering of the historic mission-battlefront was distinctive. There were Alamos crafted in carpet, assembled from toothpicks and Popsicle sticks, even sculpted from — and here's a new twist — dog food.

The 900-odd entrants did not necessarily confine their efforts to regional history, and this freedom produced some intriguing views of national and world events of the past. They ranged from the whimsical — a breakdown of the 1980 presidential race results, counting Jimmy Carter's votes in peanuts and Ronald Reagan's in jellybeans — to such grim displays as a scene of the Ku Klux Klan in action.

The best-of-show winners were indeed exceptional, and they merit exhibition of a more lasting nature. So do many of the others, which one hopes won't end up gathering dust in the family garage.

Personal favorite was a 3-dimensional re-creation of a Mexican cantina, detailed and reasonably accurate, and accompanied by this statement: "A cantina was not for the socialy (sic) standing people."

* * *



# Mid-Cities students win at history fair

Seventeen Hurst Euless Bedford and three Birdville area middle school students won prizes in the recent Texas Christian University Regional History Fair.

The fair, largest in the six-year history of the event, attracted 900 entries from students in grades 4 through 12 from throughout North Texas.

Theme of the fair, co-sponsored by TCU and the Texas Bureau of Economic Understanding, was "American Heritage," and entries varied from log cabins and missions to collections and multimedia presentations.

Birdville winners, all students at North Richland Junior High School, were Michelle Jenkins, 4817 Wayland, North Richland Hills, second place, log cabins; Ronnie Coates, 4708 Catalina Court, North Richland Hills, third place, missions; and Mark Gramling, 4708 Cummings Dr. E., North Richland Hills, second place, transportation.

HEB winners were:

Historic structures and sites — Lesha Lundy, 13 Devonshire, eighth grade, Harwood Junior High, Bedford, Bobby Olsen, 1806 Summit Ridge, seventh grade, Harwood Junior High and Scott Gilbert, 205 Cooper Dr., seventh grade, Hurst Junior High, second prizes; Bobby Lamkin, 713 Brownstone, eighth grade, Harwood Junior High, Euless, David Bowles, 1012 W. Cheryl, seventh grade, Hurst Junior High and Jay Hogg, 1200 Overhill, eighth grade, Central Junior High, Bedford, third prizes.

Other historical sites — Elizabeth Hawthorne, 1917 Toplea, eighth grade, Central Junior High, second prize.

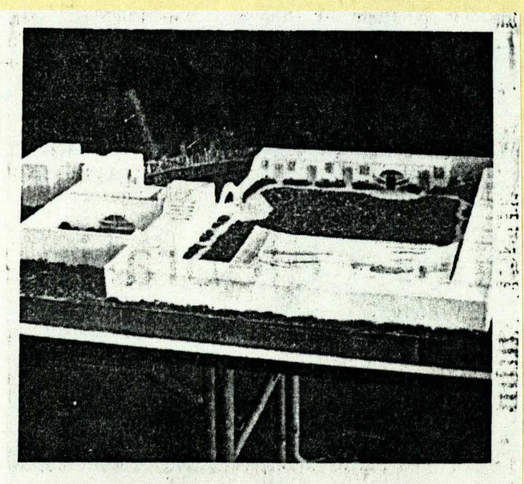
Collections — Todd Cottrell, 713 Live Oak, seventh grade, Central Junior High, third prize.

Wall posters — Robert Hood, 1200 Brookside Dr., Hurst Junior High, first prize; Kevin Redmon, 1009 W. Creek, seventh grade, Hurst Junior High, third prize.

Transportation — Beth Miller, 37 Devonshire, eighth grade, Harwood Junior High, first prize; Peter Vanderweil, 1800 Trailwood Dr., Harwood Junior High, second prize.

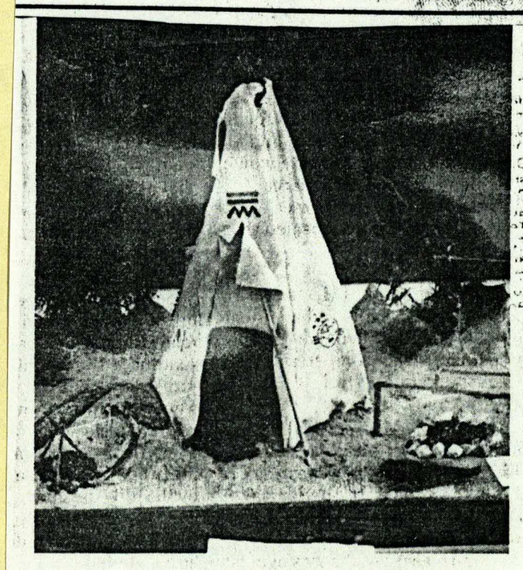
Arts and crafts — Angela Edward, 1711 Windlea, Central Junior High School, and Debby Darby, 400 Moore Creek, seventh grade, Hurst Junior High, second prizes; Jane Culpepper, 400 Yorkshire, eighth grade, Central Junior High, Tammy Jeppesen, 1501 Pebble Creek, eighth grade, Central Junior High, and James Horton, third prizes.

Twenty-four judges selected the winners on the basis of authenticity, research and construction.

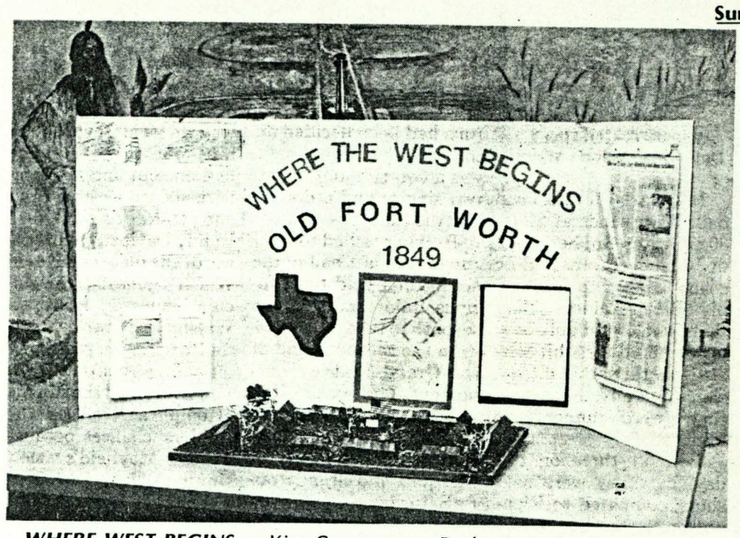


***HISTORIC SITE*** — David Bowles of Hurst Junior High won first place in the recent Junior High History Fair on this model of the Alamo. He was among seven from Hurst Junior High to win. This entry is also entered in the History Fair being held this week, through Friday, at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.





***HISTORIC STRUCTURE*** — Larry Hoover of Hurst Junior High School won first in historic structures with this entry of a teepee. His entry was among 125 in the recent HEB Junior High History Fair. Entries from HEB Schools along with others throughout Tarrant County are in the History Fair which began Wednesday and continues through Friday at TCU in Fort Worth.




***WHERE WEST BEGINS*** — Kim Carpenter, a Burleson junior historian, has placed her award winning display of "Old Fort Worth — Where the West Begins" in the collection of historical displays at Tarrant County Junior College Northeast Campus. The display is in the Heritage Room of the TCJC Lirary. The exhibit identifies buildings constructed in 1849 by Maj. RipleyA. Arnold's dragoons on the bluffs of the Trinity.

# Historical projects displayed at TCJC

Several selected junior historian exhibits prepared by area students are currently on display in the Heritage Room of Tarrant County Junior College Northeast Campus Library.

The exhibits were prepared for competition in history fairs at various school districts and entered in TCU's Regional Historians Fair.

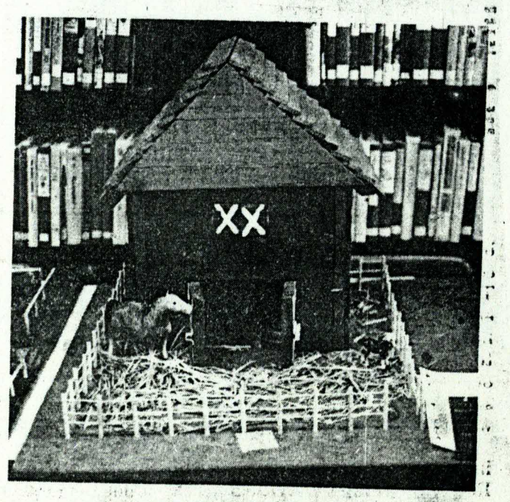
The TCJC exhibits are being sponsored by the Tarrant County Historical Commission, some of whose members helped stage the TCU event. John Hugh Smith, noted junior historian sponsor from Birdville Independent School District now retired, is coordinating the display.

"We feel that these selected exhibits are of such quality that they deserve to be viewed by the public," said Smith, chairman of the historical commission's education committee.

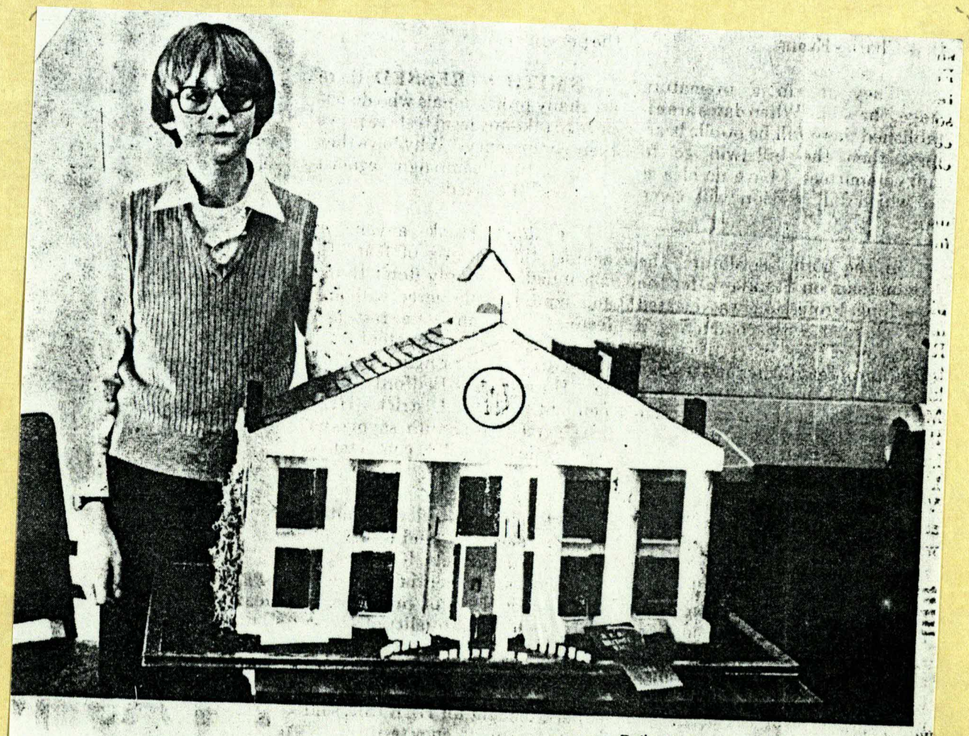
The exhibits will be open to the public 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily during the remainder of March.

Included in the select list of exhibits are "Frontier Homebuilding, Texas Style," a log cabin display by Mandy Self, a ribbon winner at TCU; "Aviation in Fort Worth — The Men, The Military, The Industry" by Ken Hassler; "Gause-Ware Funeral Home — A Test by Time and Fire" by Clint Brown; "Where the West Began — Old Fort Worth" by Kim Carpenter; "Van Zandt Cottage" and "Fire Station No. 1" by Karen Gibson; "Camp Bowie" by Karen Metscher; and "The Alamo" by Buddy Law.






***LOG CABIN WINNER*** — Phyllis Hunter of Harwood Junior High won first place on the above entry entered in Log cabins/Homes category during the recent Junior High History Fair. This entry is among the many being judged this week at the History Fair at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. There were 125 entries in the local contest.



Daily News photo by WANDA ADAMS

***BEST OF SHOW*** — David Maloof, ninth grade student at Harwood Junior High, won Best of Show during the recent HEB Junior High History Fair. He is the son of George and Sharon Maloof of Bedford. His entry, a plantation of styrofoam, is entered this week along with other HEB winners in the History Fair at Texas Christian University. Of the 125 entries, there were 27 winners from Harwood, 12 from Central, seven from Hurst and one from Bedford.

## Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

1981 HISTORICAL APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

This committee, headed by Charlie McCafferty, was quite active throughout the year. Tarrant County Historical Commission files reveal the following programs and speeches, tours and special observances presented:

FIRST QUARTER:

Ruby Schmidt conducted a Fort Worth historical tour for the Harris County Heritage Society on January 31st; and for the Friends of the Fort Worth Library on March 28th. Ruby Also presented a historical program Value Volunteers (on Feb. 20th and to the Magna Carta group on Feb. 28th. On February 10th she participated in a 30-minute local history broadcast on KTCU.

In addition to coordinating the Jan. 24th National Register/Texas Historical Marker workshop, Carol Roark gave a program on historic preservation (history and method) to docents at the Wichita Falls Museum of Art on Feb. 12th.

Chairman Duane Gage's speaking schedule included presentations of a program, Preservation Challenges for the 1980s," to Delta Kappa Gama (Jan. 6th), Pacesetters Club of Hurst (Feb. 16th), and the XYZ Senior Citizens group at Fort Worth First United Methodist Church (March 12th). Later that day (March 12th) Gage conducted a workshop at Eastfield College. Over 25 people attended, including members of the Kaufman County Historical Commission and Hunt County Historical Commission.

Commission members Charlie McCafferty, Gary Havard, and Steve Murrin continued their promotion of the Stockyarda Historic District, conducting numerous programs and tours of the North Side area.

On Monday, March 30th, Vice President George Bush unveiled a plaque commemorating the Hyatt Regency Hotel as a National Historic Landmark." Later Bush rushed back to Washington, upon receiving news that President Ronald Reagan had been wounded in an assassination attempt.

HISTORICAL APPRECIATION COMMITTEE:

The Historical Appreciation Committee shall conduct ten historical tours in 1981.

TCHC members from Northeast Tarrant County will develop a bus tour of the Grapevine area.

The historical commission shall give ten programs of a historical nature during 1981.

The historical commission shall conduct a "History Appreciation Week," and shall promote countywide proclamations, tours, news coverage and exhibits emphasizing our county's heritage.

TCHC members shall coordinate historical marker dedications for plaques for John Peter Smith, General William Jenkins Worth, and Paddock Viaduct, and shall support organizations conducting dedications for other historical markers. The TCHC shall provide packets of materials to assist sponsors of marker dedications.

## Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Andersen
Jerry Mebus
A. Lyn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Em. Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Charlie McCafferty
Sec. Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Treas. Mrs. Herschel Payne

COMMISSION MEMBERS
Frances Allen
Gilbert Anguiano
Mrs. J. J. Ballard
Mrs. Jesse H. Barker
Mrs. Jack Benson
Mrs. Joe Box
Gene Brooks
Mrs. Jim Calhoun
Paul Campbell
B. J. Clark
David Dunnett
Beeman Fisher
Mrs. Beryl Gibson
Joe Hallford
Gary Havard
Mrs. Marianne Juran
Brent McPherson
Steve Murrin
Mrs. A. M. Pate, Jr.
Mike Patterson
Sidney Poynter
Ms. Carol Roark
Mrs. Jacob Rolla
Billy W. Sills
Mrs. Ann J. Smith
Winston O. Sparks
Lou Linda Spaulding
Joe Standifer
C. George Younkin

January 27, 1981

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
For more information call:
Joyce Pate 817 738-8600
817 738-6376

TEXAS STATEHOOD DAY - FEBRUARY 19

February 19 is a day to be remembered by all residents of the State of Texas. It was on this date in 1846 some 135 years ago that the Republic of Texas was made one of the states of the United States of America.

There had been much talk prior to this date and even in 1836 Texas residents voted overwhelmingly in favor of annexation, but when the Texas minister at Washington, D. C. proposed annexation to Martin van Burne's administration in August 1837 he was told that the proposition could not be entertained. President of the Texas Republic Mirabeau B. Lamar during his administration between 1837-1841 opposed annexation and the question was not reopened. Sam Houston, always a proponent for Texas to become part of the United States tried during his second term as president of the Republic of Texas between 1841-1845 tried to reawaken the interest of Texas becoming a state but was not successful.

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Texas annexation became an issue in the Presidential election of 1844. James K. Polk who favored annexation was elected. The British still hoped

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## 1981 HISTORICAL APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

### ANNUAL REPORT

This committee, headed by Charlie McCafferty, was quite active throughout the year. Tarrant County Historical Commission files reveal the following programs and speeches, tours and special observances presented:

FIRST QUARTER:

Ruby Schmidt conducted a Fort Worth historical tour for the Harris County Heritage Society on January 31st; and for the Friends of the Fort Worth Library on March 28th. Ruby Also presented a historical program Value Volunteers (on Feb. 20th and to the Magna Carta group on Feb. 28th. On February 10th she participated in a 30-minute local history broadcast on KTCU.

In addition to coordinating the Jan. 24th National Register/Texas Historical Marker workshop, Carol Roark gave a program on historic preservation (history and method) to docents at the Wichita Falls Museum of Art on Feb. 12th.

Chairman Duane Gage's speaking schedule included presentations of a program, Preservation Challenges for the 1980s," to Delta Kappa Gama (Jan. 6th), Pacesetters Club of Hurst (Feb. 16th), and the XYZ Senior Citizens group at Fort Worth First United Methodist Church (March 12th). Later that day (March 12th) Gage conducted a workshop at Eastfield College. Over 25 people attended, including members of the Kaufman County Historical Commission and Hunt County Historical Commission.

Commission members Charlie McCafferty, Gary Havard, and Steve Murrin continued their promotion of the Stockyards Historic District, conducting numerous programs and tours of the North Side area.

On Monday, March 30th, Vice President George Bush unveiled a plaque commemorating the Hyatt Regency Hotel as a National Historic Landmark." Later Bush rushed back to Washington, upon receiving news that President Ronald Reagan had been wounded in an assassination attempt.

SECOND QUARTER:

Steve Murrin presented a talk and tour on the stockyards area to the Petroleum Engineers Auxiliary of Fort Worth on April 18th. Paul Campbell conducted a 4-day seminar on genealogy research at the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth in April and spoke to the Fort Worth Genealogical Society in May.

Duane Gage's schedule included a presentation, "Preservation Challenges in the 1980s" to Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Association on April 19th: a talk on local research sources to the Mid-cities Genealogical Society on May 5th; and a program on early Fort Worth history, presented to the fourth grade students at Westcliff Elementary School on May 22nd.

Ruby Schmidt's sched le included programs for the First Presbyterian Church on April 5th, a bus tour for the Fort Worth Friends of the Library on April 11th, a slide presentation to Braniff employees on April 12th, and a program for a campfire girls group on April 14th. On May 2nd Ruby Schmidt conducted a historical bus tour for Fort Worth Friends of the Library, and a tour and program for the National Fire Chaplain's Convention group on May 3rd; spoke to a Senior Citizens Genealogy study group and to three elementary school classes at J. L Hill School on May 8th. On May 8th she also conducted a tour for Trinity Lutheran Church. She also participated in tours for Chilholm Trail Days at the stockyards on June 13th-14th.

Charlie McCafferty conducted stockyards area tours for an Electrical Inspectors convention on April 3rd; a Southwest High School group on April 6th; a group of TV Channel 27 personnel on April 8th; a Womans Club Group on April 10th; Braniff Airlines day on April 12th; City of Denver Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors on April 24th; helped coordinate an ethnic festival for Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce at the Americana Hotel on April 23rd; toured with Arlington High School students on May 2nd; National Conference of Fire Chaplains on April 3rd; a St. Andrews Catholic Senior Citizens group on May 5th and a Temple Special Schools group on the same day; presented a tour to school groups on May 8th, 11th, 12th; a Texas Teachers Corps executive group on May 14th; a Knights of Columbus group on May 19th; a University of Dallas group on May 21st; Association of University Women, May 23rd; fifty from Lena Pope Home on May 26th, two school groups on May 28th; Rockwood Church group on June 11th; Rosemont School group on June 19th, and the Downtown YWCA on June 23rd.

CINCO DeMAYO CELEBRATIONS HELD. Fort Worth's North Side was the site of a two-day festival on May 2nd and 3rd, as members of the Mexican-American community kicked off activities celebrating the victorious Battle of Puebla. Festivities began at noon on May 2nd, at All Saints Catholic Church, 214 NW 20th. On May 5th, several Fort Worth schools held celebrations marking this important event in the history of Mexican-American history.

THIRD QUARTER:

Ruby Schmidt presented a lecture on the history of East Fort Worth to the Meadowbrook Homeowners Association on July 20th; presented a genealogical in-service session to H-E-B Secondary teachers at Trinity High School on August 25th; began a genealogical class at TCJC South Campus, first session began on Sept. 3rd; spoke to 175 participants attending the DAR Regional Workshop at Arlington Community Center on Sept. 14th. She also served as resource person for several news journalists who have given a rather e tensive concentration of coverage on locah istory articles in recent weeks.

This quarter Steve Murrin led atour of the stockyards area for officials of the First of Fort Worth, on Aug. 13th; spoke to fifty delegates from Consumer Credit M Managers Association on Sept. 26th. On Sept. 26th Murrin also assisted a group representing C.BS. Cavle Television, for a stockyards film project. On August 28th he also assisted a British Broadcasting Corporation film crew, for a program to be aired overseas.

Duane Gage's speaking schedule included a slide presentation to River Oaks Business and Professional Womens Club on Aug. 6th; a program for Campfire Girls at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Aug. 18th; an inservice program for H E B Secondary teachers on Aug. 19th, and a similar session to H E B elementary teachers later that day. On Sept 1st Gage gave a program for the Hurst Mid-Cities Rotary Club. On Sept. 28th he was the guess speaker at the Eagle Schout installation of Lee Allbright, before several scout troops from the Hurst community.

Charlie McCafferty conducted tours of the stockyards area to Little Tyke Special School classes on Jly 8th and on July 13th; to 30 from the Crossroads Laarning Center on Aug. 14th; to 40 international exchange students from TCU on Aug. 15th; and to 100 Children of the American Revolution convention delegates on Aug. 15th. His tour group on Aug. 16th was University Baptist Church; 20 from a Senior citizens group on Aug. 18th; 50 from the East Side YMCA on August 24th. On Aug. 29th, 30 from ACORN state executive committee; on Aug. 31st, a girl scout group; on Sept 13th he guided 40 from the Chinese Folklorico Dancers through the North Side; 65 from a H E B Middle School on Sept. 15th; and on the 30th of Sept. he hosted a tour of 25 from the Oakhurst Garden Club.

LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK OBSERVED. Upon a Proclamation by Tarrant County Commissioners Court designating September 12-19th as Local History Appreciation Week, numerous activities throughout the county brought emphasis to our rich local heritage. Proclamations were also declared by the cities of Crowley, Azle,Haltom City, Euless, Fort Worth, Richland Hills, North Richland Hills, Keller, and White Settlement.

FOURTH QUARTER:

On Oct. 3rd Charlie McCafferty conducted a tour for the TCU History Department, and for a Methodist church group. On Oct. 7th he guided an H E B school group through the Stockyards area; a Southwest High School group on Oct. 13, and International Womens' Club group on October 15th.

Ruby Schmidt gave a bus tour of historical Fort Worth on Oct. 6th; spoke to Eastern Hills High School on Oct. 20th; conducted a one-hour walking tour for a preservation workshop group on Nov. 6th; gave an in-service program for Birdville School District on motivation in social studies, on Nov. 10th; spoke to the Iota Lamda Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International at a dinner meeting on Nov. 16th. On. Oct. 20th she spoke to 80 men at a luncheon of the Richland Hills Lions Club and gave a bus tour of Fort Worth to a group of convention planners later that day. On Dec. 10th Ruby Schmidt conducted a tour of Fort Worth to a bus load of descendants of early Fort Worth.

On Oct. 6th Duane Gage spoke to a group of Hurst Junior High School students in TCJC's Heritage Room, followied by a group of Junior High students from Bedford Junior High School on Oct. 13th. He conducted a local history in-service program for H E B instructors at Bell Manor Elementary School on Oct. 20th, andpresented a program on cemetery preserva preservation at the Junior Historians Roundup at Crowley's H.F. Stevens Middle School on Oct. 31st. Winston Sparks spoke on railroad history to the Junior Historians at the same meeting.

**********

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Andersen
Jerry Mebus
A. Lyn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Em. Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Charlie McCafferty
Sec. Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Treas. Mrs. Herschel Payne

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## TEXAS STATEHOOD DAY - FEBRUARY 19

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Texas annexation became an issue in the Presidential election of 1844. James K. Polk who favored annexation was elected. The British still hoped

TEXAS STATEHOOD DAY - FEBRUARY 19 (continued)

to prevent annexation by having Texas decline the United States offer, but after much controversy President of Texas Anson Jones called a Texas Congress to meet in convention July 4, 1845. Jones described the choices of annexation to the convention and they voted for annexation to the United States. A State constitution drawn by this convention was adapted in 1845 and accepted by the United States Congress on December 29, 1845, the date of Texas legal entry into the Union, although the transfer of authority from Republic of Texas was not made until February 19, 1846, the date and anniversary that we celebrate.

## Office of the Mayor

# Proclamation

## City of Fort Worth

*WHEREAS, the twenty-first day of April, 1981, is the one hundred and forty-fifth anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto; and,*

*WHEREAS, all citizens of Fort Worth are ever mindful that victory of the Army of the Republic of Texas on the battlefield of San Jacinto secured for us the blessings of liberty and independence: NOW, THEREFORE,*

*I, Woodie Woods, Mayor of the City of Fort Worth, Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me, hereby proclaim that Tuesday, April 21, 1981, be observed as*

*"SAN JACINTO DAY"*

*with all appropriate ceremonies in our City.*

*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Worth, Texas, to be affixed this 20th day of April, A. D. 1981.*

*Woodie Woods*
MAYOR

FORT WORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY
300 Taylor
Fort Worth, Texas • 76102
817/870-7705

March 20, 1981

Duane Gage
Chairman
Tarrant County Historical Commission
828 Harwood
Hurst, Texas 76053

Dear Mr. Gage:

The Fort Worth Public Library would like to thank the Tarrant County Historical Commission for the Reowned Texans series poster it recently received. This series will make a helpful addition to our collection.

Sincerely,

Heather L. Goebel

Heather L. Goebel
Arts Librarian

*" TEXAS CONFEDERATE HEROES DAY "*

*JULIA JACKSON CHAPTER #141, U.D.C.*

*MID-CITIES BLUE BONNET CHAPTER #2429, U.D.C.*

*GEN. PAT CLEBURNE CHAPTER, U.D.C. -CLEBURNE,TX.*

*GEN. THOMAS N. WAUL'S TEXAS LEGION CHAPTER M.O.S.B.*

*MAJOR K. M. VAN ZANDT CAMP # 1351, S.C.V.*

*TEXAS HERITAGE PROJECT OF TARRANT COUNTY*

Y JANUARY 18 1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

### Confederate heroes to be honored

Monday has been designated Texas Confederate Heroes Day by the state Legislature. Texans in more than 200 counties will make pilgrimages to historic sites and offical markers commemorating the roles of Texans in the Civil War.

Local sponsors are the Tarrant County branch of Texas Heritage Project, Mrs. J.J. Ballard, chairwoman; United Daughters of the Confederacy Chapter 141, Julia Jackson, chairwoman; and the Tarrant County Historical Commission, Duane Gage, chairman.

" TEXAS CONFEDERATE HEROES DAY "

JULIA JACKSON CHAPTER #141, U.D.C.

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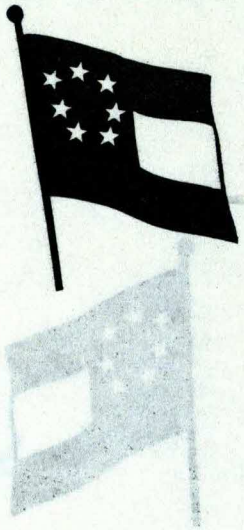
TEXAS HERITAGE PROJECT OF TARRANT COUNTY



" TEXAS CONFEDERATE HEROES DAY "

JANUARY 17, 1981 — FOUR WINDS RESTAURANT
12 noon - 2:15 p.m. — 5650 East Lancaster

12 NOON

INVOCATION - Judge A. L. Crouch, Chaplain Major K.M. Van Zandt Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Fort Worth.

Pledge of Allegiance to United States Flag
Mrs. Jack O. Plillips, Historian, Julia Jackson Chapter Daughters of the Confederacy, Fort Worth.

Salute to the Texas Flag - Mrs. Don Plemmons, District IV Chairman, Texas Division of United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Salute to the Confederate Flag - Mrs. Edwin D. Easley, Texas Division Recorder of Crosses.

12:10 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF MUSIC - Mr. Tom Lemmons, Adjutant of Texas Society of Militery Order of Stars and Bars.
Mr. Ed Lobb, and choral group from Western Hills High School

12:45 - LUNCH SERVED

1:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF DR. MELVIN BRADFORD by Mr. John Hunter, Commander and Chief of Staff of the Nationl General Society of Militery order of Stars and Bars, Lt. Commander of Texas Division of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans.

2:00 p. m.

Unveiling of Poster of "Texas Confederate Heroes"
Mrs. Joe J. Ballard, Chairman of Texas Heritage Project in Tarrant County.

Acknowledgments and adjourn

## Historic FW tour

3-18-81 Ft Star Tele

A tour of historic Fort Worth will begin at 9:45 a.m. March 28 at the downtown Fort Worth Public Library at 300 Taylor St. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Fort Worth Public Library and cost is $4 to Friends and $5 to persons who are not members of Friends of the Library.

On the two-hour bus tour, downtown Fort Worth, historic Samuels Avenue and the North Side will be explored, with stops at Pioneer Rest and Elmwood Cemeteries as well as the Champion Oak under which court was first held in Tarrant County.

Checks may be mailed to Friends of the Fort Worth Public Library, 2410 Stadium Drive. For more information, call 927-2449.



# DOWNTOWN BEAT

* * *

**HISTORIC TOURS:** The Friends of the Fort Worth Public Library sponsor tours of historic Fort Worth. Noted Fort Worth historian Ruby Schmidt is the tour guide for the two hour programs which leave the Central Public Library at 10 a.m. on Nov. 7, March 27, 1982 and May 15, 1982. For reservations contact Frances Nichols at 927-2449.

* * *



DATE·BOOK

By TERRY HILLER
Star-Telegram Writer

Fort Worth will be invaded by Dallasites today when the University of Dallas-sponsored walking tour of the Stockyards begins at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. June R. Welch will send off the group with a lecture entitled *Fort Worth - The Last Chance for R and R 'til Abilene, Kansas.*

According to the Texas Historical Commission, the Northside "is one of the most significant (areas) in the state representing the importance of the livestock industry. As the city's first industry, the stockyards transformed Fort Worth from a small frontier town into a major metropolis."

## Ed Brice

April 23-1981 Ft W Star Tele

# Free program tells Stockyards' history

**HISTORICAL FILM:** "I remember reading in the newspaper about a film that the North Fort Worth Historical Society presents on weekends, showing the history of Fort Worth or the history of the old Stockyards. However, I cannot remember where or what time the film is shown. I have some visitors coming from out of state and I would like to take them to see that film. Could you please find out some more information for me?" — Mrs. J.F.K.

**BRICE:** *Heart of Cowtown,* a sight and sound history of the Stockyards area, is shown every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Fort Worth Stockyard Auction Barn, directly behind the Livestock Exchange Building on Exchange Avenue. It's a 22-minute presentation by the North Fort Worth Historical Society. Admission is free, but donations are



## Metro Report

11-4-1981 Ft W Star Telegram

### Tour to show FW's heritage

By BARBARA STRONG
Star-Telegram Writer

The Friends of Fort Worth Public Library will conduct a tour focusing on Fort Worth's historic heritage at 9:30 a.m. Saturday beginning at the Central Library at 300 Taylor St. Ruby Schmidt, local historian, will guide the tour through downtown, the North Side and the Samuels Avenue area. Cost is $4 for library friends members and $5 for non-members.

## Partygoers tour the city

# CISSY

Mrs. William P. Cranz and Mrs. Harry L. Logan Jr. take the honors for Christmas parties. Both women have family ties in Fort Worth history, so they decided they would show their friends Fort Worth for Christmas. On Wednesday and Thursday last week, Ruby Schmidt conducted a busload of their guests on tours of the city. At noon, there was a break for Bloody Marys at the White Elephant Saloon, followed by lunch at the Chili Parlor across Exchange Avenue on the North Side.

Everyone loved it. The hostesses expected a number of regrets to their invitations, but almost everyone invited accepted — in spite of the fact that it is a very busy time of year. We understand that noses of some of the leading men in Fort Worth are slightly out of joint because these were all-women parties and the men weren't invited. Maybe Santa will bring the men a tour-of-Fort-Worth party.

5-11-81 Downtown Trib 3

## TOURS

**NORTH FORT WORTH:** The North Fort Worth Historical Society continues it's presentation of the audio-visual slide production "The Heart of Cowtown." The show runs continously from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday in the Auction Arena, located behind the historic Livestock Exchange Building on East Exchange Ave.

* * *

5-7-81



## Metro Report

### Visitor center open

By BARBARA STRONG
Star-Telegram Writer

The Fort Worth Stockyards Visitor Information Center is now open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m daily in the east wing of the Cowtown Coliseum.

The center, which provides information about the historic Stockyards area and other points of interest in the city, is staffed by members of the North Fort Worth Historical Society.

Office space is provided by Cowtown Coliseum, brochures by the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and assistance by the North Fort Worth Business Association.

Ann Town Trib- 11-2-1981

## What ★ Where ★ When

### TOURS

**NORTH FORT WORTH:** The North Fort Worth Historical Society presents "The Heart of Cowtown." from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday in the Auction Arena, located behind the historic Livestock Exchange Building on East Exchange Ave.

**MUSEUMS:** For tours by the Art Museum Docent Council for the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth Art Museum and the Kimbell Art Museum, call 738-6811.

* * *

**FORT WORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY:** For tours on how-to-use and the services offered by the library, contact Fran[illegible] Nichols with the Friends of the Public Library at 927-2449 for groups high school age and older. For middle school age and below, contact the Childrens Division at 870-7745.

* * *

LOCAL HISTORY WEEK will open here Saturday, Sept. 12, when a state historical marker will be posted at the Bourland cemetery in Keller. On Sept. 16 the Tarrant County Historical Commission will dedicate a marker to John Peter Smith in the small park named for him, located north of St. Patrick Cathederal between Throckmorton and Jennings. Smith, who came to Fort Worth as one of the first civilians in the 1850's, was a deputy county clerk and mayor of Fort Worth, as well as one of the all-time great civic leaders. He donated land for the hospital that bears his name and was in the forefront of many campaigns that transformed a frontier crossroads into a city. Mrs. Edward Hudson of Fort Worth is his granddaughter.

* * *



## History appreciation observances slated

*Fort Worth Bureau of The News*

Local History Appreciation Week will be observed by area municipalities, organizations, schools and libraries Saturday through Sept. 19.

Tarrant County Historical Commission will kick off the week's activities by unveiling a Texas Historical Marker for the Bourland Cemetery in Keller Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

On Sept. 16 at 11 a.m., the commission will dedicate a historical marker for John Peter Smith, early Fort Worth mayor, at Peter Smith Park, east of the Fort Worth municipal building.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

City of Crowley

WHEREAS, the City of Crowley has a rich and unique heritage; and

WHEREAS, unprecedented preservation efforts are now under way by both the public and private sectors; NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Walton G. Eller, Mayor of the City of Crowley, Texas, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12th to 19th, 1981, as

"Local History Appreciation Week"

in the city of Crowley, Texas, in recognition of our historical heritage and of our need to appreciate and preserve it.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Crowley, Texas, to be affixed this 3rd day of September, A. D. 1981.

Walton G. Eller
Mayor

Office of the Mayor

# Proclamation

## City of Fort Worth

*WHEREAS, the City of Fort Worth has a rich and unique heritage; and,*

*WHEREAS, unprecedented preservation efforts are now under way by both the public and private sectors: NOW, THEREFORE,*

*I, Woodie Woods, Mayor of the City of Fort Worth, Texas, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12 - 19, 1981, as*

*"LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK"*

*in the City of Fort Worth, Texas, in recognition of our historical heritage and of our need to appreciate and preserve it.*

*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Worth, Texas, to be affixed this 8th day of September, A. D. 1981.*

Woodie Woods
MAYOR

*Office of the Mayor*

**Haltom City, Texas**

# Proclamation

"LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK"

WHEREAS, the City of Haltom City has a rich and unique heritage; and

WHEREAS, unprecedented preservation efforts are now under way by both the public and private sectors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Johnnie B. Lee, Mayor of the City of Haltom City, Texas, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12-19, 1981, as

"LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK"

in the City of Haltom City, Texas, in recognition of our historical heritage and of our need to appreciate and preserve it.

*In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of this city to be affixed.*

*Mayor* Johnnie B. Lee

*Date* September 3, 1981

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

City of KELLER

WHEREAS, the City of Keller has a rich and unique heritage; and

WHEREAS, unprecedented preservation efforts are now under way by both the public and private sectors; NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Bruce Lee, Mayor of the City of Keller, Texas, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12th to 19th, 1981, as

"Local History Appreciation Week"

in the city of Keller, Texas, in recognition of our historical heritage and of our need to appreciate and preserve it.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Keller, Texas, to be affixed this 10th day of September, A. D. 1981.

Bruce Lee
Mayor

# PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Mansfield has a rich and unique heritage; and

WHEREAS, unprecedented preservation efforts are now under way by both the public and private sectors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tom Corbin, Mayor of the City of Mansfield, Texas do hereby proclaim September 12 - 19, 1981, as

"LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK"

in the City of Mansfield, Texas, in recognition of our historial heritage and of our need to appreciate and preserve it.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Mansfield, Texas, to be affixed this 8th day of September, A. D. 1981.

Tom Corbin
Tom Corbin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn Howard
Kathryn Howard, City Secretary

City of North Richland Hills

Star of the Metroplex

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, the City of North Richland Hills has a rich and unique heritage; and*

*WHEREAS, unprecendented preservation efforts are now underway by both the public and private sectors; NOW, THEREFORE,*

*I, Dick Faram, Mayor of the City of North Richland Hills, Texas, do hereby proclaim the week of September 12th to 19th, 1981, as*

*"LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK"*

*in the City of North Richland Hills, Texas, in recognition of our historical heritage and of our need to appreciate and preserve it.*

*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of North Richland Hills, Texas, to be affixed this 4th day of September, A.D., 1981.*

*Dick Faram*

*DICK FARAM - Mayor*

CITY OF WHITE SETTLEMENT

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of White Settlement has a rich and unique heritage dating as early as 1848 when the first white settlers were courageous pioneers and brought their families from the southeastern states and established homesteads in this area which was then dominated by roaming bands of Indians; and

WHEREAS, the WHITE SETTLEMENT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. is very active in documenting the early history of this area as well as the families of this area; and,

WHEREAS, research is currently underway for several significant historical markers to be placed in the City of White Settlement.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES M. HERRING, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHITE SETTLEMENT, TEXAS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12 TO 19, 1981, AS

"LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK"

in the City of White Settlement and invite everyone interested in local history to visit the Allen Log Cabin (built in White Settlement in 1864 and restored in 1978 -- 114 years later) which will be open from 4 to 6 p.m. each day during this Local History Appreciation Week or to join the White Settlement Historical Society in a tour of Northeast and East Tarrant County on Saturday, September 19, 1981, at the close of this Local History Appreciation Week.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of White Settlement, Texas, to be affixed this 8th day of September, 1981.

James M. Herring

MAYOR

# Events planned for Black History Month

Several programs and other activities have been planned in the Fort Worth area in commemoration of the contributions blacks have made to America.

Nationally, the observance lasts a month and is called Afro-American History Month, but various groups have their own versions of the celebration. The national theme is "Black History: Role Models for Youth."

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, head of the then-Association for the Study of Negro American Life and History headquartered in Washington, D.C., started the observance in 1926 in an effort to promote the study of black history, culture and life.

It also was designed to encourage the incorporation of the study of black history into general history, instead of a segregated part of history.

Woodson planned the then week-long observation to coincide with the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, Feb. 12, and the supposed birthday of orator Fredrick Douglas, Feb. 14.

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**SINCE THAT** time, the Negro in the title of his organization has been changed to Afro-American and in 1977 the observance was extended to a month.

Activities this month include art exhibits, panels, workshops, musical performances and speakers.

Musical performances are being used by several groups to observe black history month. On Tuesday Feb. 10, a gospel musical presentation will be held at Texas Wesleyan College at 7 p.m. Songs will be provided by choirs from Wesleyan and the University of Texas at Arlington at the Science Lecture Theater on the Wesleyan campus.

Voices of Christ Gospel Choir of UTA will have a Collegiate Gospel Festival with about 14 choirs in Texas Hall on the UTA campus at 7 p.m. Saturday Feb. 14.

Admission is $3.50 in advance and $4.50 at the door.

Dr. Jefferson Cleveland, co-editor of "Songs of Zion," a new black hymnal to be published by the United Methodist Church will be featured in concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 16 at the University Ministry Center near NTSU in Denton. The concert is free.

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**AT TEXAS** Christian University, Feb. 17, high school day, will feature music by the Dunbar High School Jazz Band at noon in the Student Center Lounge. At noon Feb. 19, the TCU jazz band will play in the same location.

A musical sponsoring choirs that attended choir workshops at TCU will be held at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Sweethome Baptist Church, 5225 Ramey. Choirs wanting to participate should contact Thad Faulkner in the TCU student activities office at 921-7926.

Also on Feb. 21 the Sojourner Truth Cultural Arts Center's board of directors will present its second annual "Musicale Extravaganza." It will be at 4:30 p.m. at Love Sanctuary Church of God in Christ, 1712 Evans Ave.

The Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band will perform at 7 and 9 p.m. Feb. 24 in Lyceum Theater of the Union Building at NTSU in Denton.

Marchel Ivery's Quintet will be featured Feb. 28 at a "Jazz Workshop Benefit" from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sojourner Truth Cultural Arts Center. Admission is $1 for students; $2 for adults. Proceeds will benefit the center.

Theater performances during the month include:

■ *History and Black Heritage*, a characterization of significant black leaders throughout history at Science Lecture Theater at Wesleyan College. The program is set for 7 p.m. Monday Feb. 9.

■ *Friends and Lovers: The Black Male/Female Relationship* will feature original poetry and a discussion by NTSU students at 7 p.m. Tuesday Feb. 10 in Maple Hall at NTSU.

■ The Sojourner Truth Childrens Theater dance group will perform at Carswell AFB at 1 p.m. The childrens group also will perform Feb. 13 at Tanglewood Elementary School at 10 a.m.

■ *Last Chance*, a dramatization by the cast of Pentecostal Assembly of Fort Worth youth in Science Lecture Theater at Wesleyan College at 7 p.m. Thursday Feb. 12.

■ Sojourner Truth Players Touring Ensemble will present the dramatization *Raven: Hues and Tones* at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Southeast Branch Library. Other performances of the dramatization by the touring ensemble also will be Feb. 15 at 5 p.m. at Carswell AFB; at UTA on Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.; at TCJC Northeast Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.

■ Ntozake Shange's *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf* will be performed by Daedalus Productions of New York City in the Union Lyceum at NTSU at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 24. Admission is $5.

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**SEVERAL FILMS** will be shown during the month in honor of black history makers.

A documentary entitled *Dr. Martin Luther King — An Amazing Grace* will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Southeast Branch Library. Also at the library, an afternoon with Bill Cosby and the Cosby Kids will feature films of the group at 4:30 p.m. Friday Feb. 13.

Alex Haley's *Roots* will be shown at 2 p.m. Feb. 17-19 at Lyeum Theater of the Union at NTSU. Haley will speak after the Feb. 19 showing. Admission is $1 per showing or $4 for all showings and the Haley presentation.

Poetess Nikki Giovanni will perform at 8 p.m. Feb. 17 at UTA's Texas Hall. Tickets are $2 for the public and $1.50 for students. A reception will follow on the sixth floor of the Library.

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**SEMINARS** during the month include:

■ KERA Station Manager Bob Ray Sanders, Mal Goode and other television personalities will be panelists at University Ministry Center near the NTSU campus at 7:30 p.m. Monday Feb. 9.

■ Carol Kelly of Houston's Solo Personnel Consultants will conduct a free job preparedness workshop at 11 a.m. Feb. 16 in Room 413 NTSU Union.

■ Leadership workshop condcuted by TCU student Tom Wilson in Room 207-209 of TCU's Student Center at 4:30 p.m. Feb. 17.

■ A seminar on the "Role of the Church in the Black Family and Community at 3 p.m. Feb. 22 in the University Ministry Center at NTSU.

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**PANEL** discussions also are among the observances this month.

One panel is set for Southeast Branch Library at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Feb. 11. The topic is "Today's Black History: Role Models for Today's Youth." Speakers will include Chief Municipal Judge Maryellen Hicks, Fort Worth Councilman Jim Bagsby, *Texas Times* publisher Woodie Webber, IBM customer engineer Melvin Jennings, KERA Station Manager Bob Ray Sanders and Police Sgt. S.C. Hill.

"Career Fair and Minority Alumni" is the topic of a panel of NTSU alumni to be featured at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 22 in the Golden Eagle Suite of the Union Building at NTSU in Denton.

Several art exhibits are planned during the month. They include:

■ Tarrant County Historic and Geneaological Society Exhibit at Southeast Library Monday, 10 a.m. Tuesday at Poly High School; Logan Elementary School Thursday and on the sixth floor of the UTA Library until the end of the month.

An art exhibit also will be at TCU Feb. 18 in the Student Center Lounge.

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**SPEAKERS** during the month include:

■ CBS news reporter Mal Goode, one of the first black reporters on national television, at 11 a.m. Sunday at the University Minstry Center adjacent to NTSU campus.

■ Lenora Rolla, Tarrant County Historic and Geneaological Society, at 7:30 p.m. Southeast Branch Library on "Black Male Historical Accomplishments."

■ Fred Sleet, assistant to regional commissioner, on "Role Models Within IRS" at 9 a.m. Wednesay in Room 5B14 Federal Building.

■ "Role Models of the Past in the Social Security" will be in the conference room of the Federal Building. Presentation will be made by IRS employees on people who have had an impact on black history.

■ Fort Worth Postmaster Willie Hatham, Precinct 8 Constable Lonnell Cooper and Erma C. Johnson, director of personnel for TCJC and a member of Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport Board will discuss "Role Models of the Future" at 2 p.m. Feb. 12 in Room 5B14.

■ Dunbar High School Basketball Coach Robert Hughes will speak at noon Feb. 14 in the Student Center Lounge at TCU.

■ Erma C. Johnson will speak at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at a rally in the Student Cener Ballroom at TCU.

■ Billy Joe DuPree will speak at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 18 at a buffet dinner in the Student Center Ballroom. TCU Modern Dancers also will perform. Admission is $3.

Other miscellaneous activities this month include:

■ Every Tuesday and Wednesday in February a "Black Exposition" featuring NTSU students in all performing arts will be judged in the interior Union Courtyard. Winners will be announced at an Awards Banquet and Celebrity Ball at 7 p.m. Feb. 27 in Silver Eagle Suite of NTSU Union. Admission is $15.

■ Kelly Memorial Service by the Lady Elks will be at Macedonia Baptist Church at 3:30 p.m. Sunday.

■ Black Fashion Show will be in the Science Lecture Theater on Wesleyan Campus at 7 p.m. Wednesday Feb 11.

■ Eugene Church, hair stylist at Neiman-Marcus' "Perspectives" will present a hair design seminar in the Golden Eagle Suite of the NTSU Union building at 3:45 p.m. Wednesday.

■ A cosmetic seminar featuring Camille Allinder Moore whose work appers in Harper's Cosmopolitan, Vogue and other publications will be at 5 p.m. Wednesday in the Golden Eagle Suite of NTSU Union.

■ A fashion seminar conducted by Dwight Byrd of the Kim Dawson Agency will be at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, also in Golden Eagle Suite.

■ A fashion show and competiton by NTSU fashion students will be in the Golden Eagle Suite in NTSU Union . Admission is 50 cents charge to each of the three seminars and the fashion show or a $1 package for all four events.

■ Valentine Day party featuring music of the past by Tarrant County Historical and Geneaological Society at its office, 1150 E. Rosedale from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday Feb. 14.

■ High school students who participated in a skit and essay contest will present their work at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17 in Ballroom of TCU Student Center.

■ Faculty-student reception honoring TCU's black faculty and Faynesse Miller, a doctoral candidate in psychology at TCU, is set for noon in Student Center Lounge.

■ Members of Unity, a TCU minority student organization, will play employees of Radio Station KNOK in basketball at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 20 in Rickel Building at TCU. Admission is $1.

■ Dance sponsored by Unity at Hilton Inn will be at 10 p.m. Feb. 21. Admission is $3.

■ "Soul Recipe, Food Fair and Carnival" will be at 6 p.m. Feb. 26 in Crumley Hall at NTSU.

■ Miss Black UTA Pageant, sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, at 7 p.m. at University Hall. Students of all races are eligible. The entry fee is $15. Admission is $1.50. The first place winner will receive $300 scholarship and $150 scholarship for second place winner.

FEBRUARY 21, 1981 ■ ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

# Accenting black history

In this community and in communities across the state and around the nation during this month special programs and activities have been carried out under the rubric of Black History Month.

The *Star-Telegram* has focused attention upon those activities in Fort Worth and surrounding communities with concentrated coverage and identification devices on news stories and feature articles relating to the observance.

This was done out of the conviction that the contributions of black Americans to the history and progress of this nation have been enormous and must be recognized. Any American, regardless of race, who is ignorant of the roles black Americans have played in the evolution of this nation may be said to be culturally deprived.

Ideally, there should be no need to set aside a month to call attention to the history of blacks in America. That information should be dispensed as an integral part of American history. Increasingly that is being done in the public schools of this land. But the point has not been reached where it may be said that black history is not given separate and unequal treatment.

Even when the day does come when American history is fully integrated, it would be a good idea to keep up the observance because it enriches us and broadens all our perspectives.

SPECIAL HISTORICAL CELEBRATIONS

saturday Star-Telegram FEBRUARY 21, 1981

jon mcconal

# Film revitalizes Stockyard glory

For years, Fort Worth's North Side was to Gary Havard like having a priceless painting in his attic. He knew it was there, but he didn't appreciate its worth.

Then back in 1974 he was there at the Stockyards, walking around and taking pictures with this $45 camera that has all manual settings and no interchangeable, fancy lens. It was the kind many tourists use. And that's how Havard felt about what he was doing. But suddenly a light shined.

"I don't know, but it dawned on me that here was something that was not being exploited. It was almost romantic in a way," Harvard said.

North Side and its rich cache of mood, history and drama had hooked him. Since then it hasn't let go. And at 10 a.m. Saturday, Havard will begin a regular showing of a 21-minute film in the North Side livestock auction arena that is a result of this.

"This is the first place I showed the film and the best place," Havard said this week during a special screening. "The accoustics in here are just great."

So back to that day when Havard saw the light about the North Side. At the time, many of the buildings and pens were being torn down.

"I saw something that was going fast. Time was wasting. I thought somebody should be getting it down for posterity," he said.

## Photographs lead to book

He was right. The Stockyards — where countless thousands of head of livestock passed through pens and were slaughtered in the sprawling Armour and Swift plants — were being reduced in size. That meant priceless pieces of history were being removed.

So Havard, who was born in a log cabin near Lufkin in Southeast Texas, started taking pictures. One day he was photographing initials of cattlemen and workers that had been carved deeply in the thick, two-by-eight-inch planks in the corrals. He met Don Ryan, who had worked on the yards since 1936. They formed a partnership and aimed at using the photographs for a book about the North Side.

That was accomplished. At its fruition, Havard still had nearly 200 slides left.

"I looked at them and realized I had to do something else," said Havard. "So I talked to the North Fort Worth Historical Society and we decided to make it into a presentation."

## Book finished, film begins

So came the film and the plans for its regular showing on weekends in the auction barn, where the machine-gun-like fire of an auctioneer rings five days a week.

The film starts with the sound of cattle bawling. "This is my mood music," said Havard.

Then comes western music and pictures and facts about the area. Narration tells that the North Side Coliseum was the site for the world's first indoor rodeo.

More pictures click from the projector, Filling the screen are shots of dusty pens and of the slaughterhouses.

Then come pictures of the corrals' massive planks, with hunks hacked out during many pocketknife sessions.

So it goes. Then it ends with a photograph of a beautiful sunset and some of the remaining structures standing like scarred soldiers.

Charlie McCafferty, who was born and reared on the North Side and who has long preached its importance and once prowled and raised hell along Exchange Avenue, reaches to his eyes and digs his hands into them.

"I get emotional every time I watch this. This was such an important part of our city and our heritage, and it has changed so much," he says. "We need to remember it."

The powerful smell of the livestock sold earlier in the week hangs heavy in the building. It seems a fitting prop.

Tuesday, March 3, 1981, THE KELLER CITIZEN, [redacted]

# Centennial Countdown

Texas Gov. Bill Clements, Jr. will not be able to attend Keller Centennial events April 11, organizers learned last week.

Thanking them for the invitation, Clements wrote, "I regret I will be unable to attend. Best wishes for a happy and successful centennial celebration."

Among other announcements, centennial chairman Gladys Barrett issued an appeal for donations to help defray costs of several expenses, including chemicals for the portable toilets to be placed around town. More than $60 in postage also has been used.

"Anything we have left will go back into the community and will not be kept," Mrs. Barrett said.

Also, a form appears elsewhere in this issue of The Citizen for persons wanting to have an entry in the parade.

Other developments in plans are:

saturday Star-Telegram MARCH 7, 1981 weekend section e

# WALKING EXCHANGE AVENUE

• WHERE THE •
OUT WEST BEGiNS

By RAYMOND TEAGUE
Star-Telegram Writer

"We speak tourist," the sign proclaims in the window of The Shirt Corral on West Exchange Avenue where Geneva Blake sits making custom western shirts at her small sewing machine.

Across North Main, in the cattle auction arena behind the Livestock Exchange Building on East Exchange, a slide-audio presentation *The Heart of Cowtown* is being presented to a group of tourists.

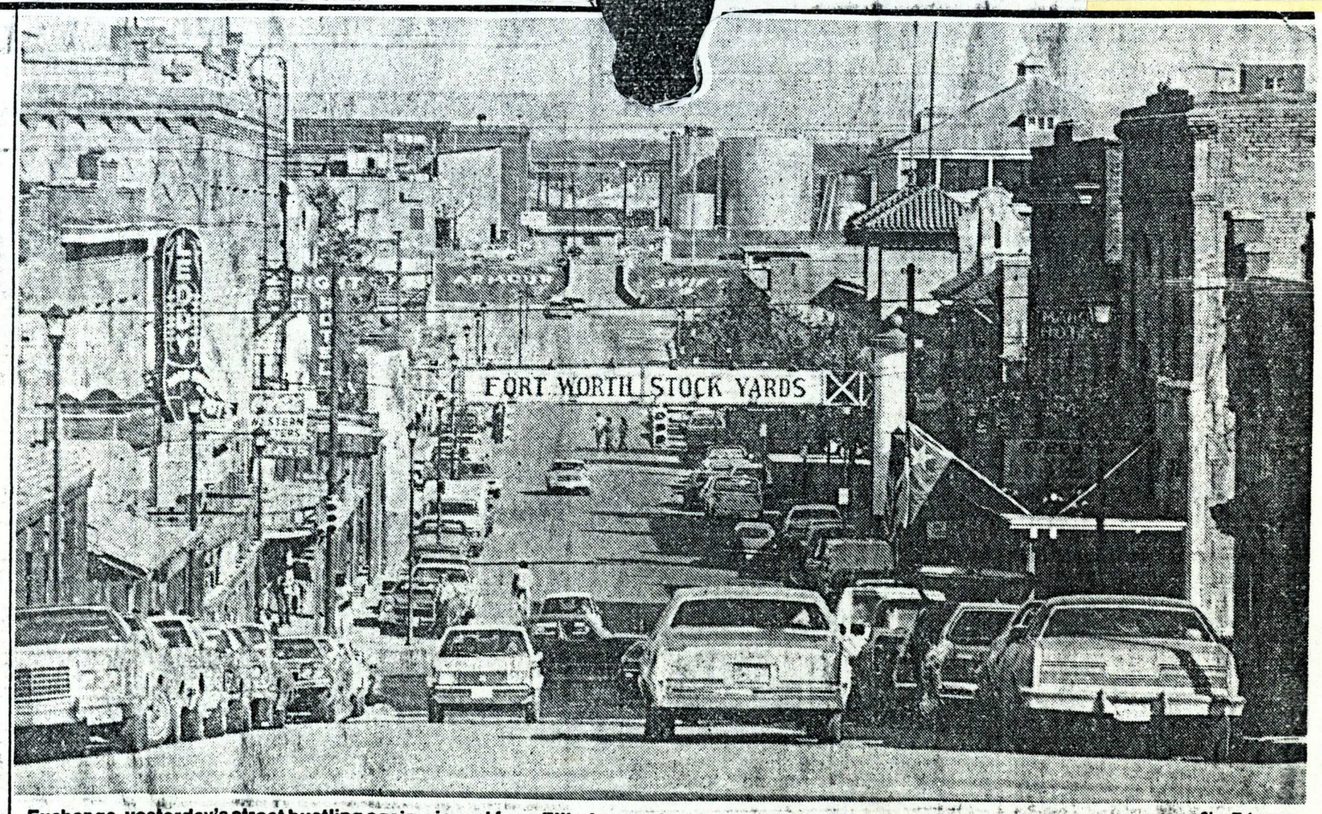
Everywhere you go on Exchange, the story is the same: the tourists are coming, the sightseers are coming.

Carolyn Snyder of the Stockyards Development Corporation alerts Sue McCafferty, president of the North Fort Worth Historical Society, that 300 people are coming over from Dallas the next day.

Sue later mentions the visitors to Pam Jackson, managing director of Cowtown, Inc., Steve Murrin's business that puts on the rodeos in the Cowtown Coliseum. Pam's having her own happy problems taking the steady requests for rodeo reservations from out-of-state groups and adding to the waiting list for box seats.

Joe Dulle, whose business manages the White Elephant Saloon, the Lone Star Chili Parlor and Beer Garden and the Stockyards Drug Store, all on East Exchange, also is alerted.

A year ago Joe would have sat around with you all day long talking about plans for the area and would have been glad for the com-




Exchange, yesterday's street bustling again, viewed from Ellis Avenue looking east toward the Stockyards Star-Telegram

pany.

Now, there's no time for talk.

Like the Hollywood starlet who has been discovered "overnight" after years of grueling work, the Stockyards has arrived on Fort Worth's center stage, competing for its share of the spotlight with the city's changing skyline.

And right in the middle of the producton, in its second starring role, is Exchange Avenue.

Back around the turn of the century the cattlemen who brought their stock to bedding grounds and holding pens along Marine Creek actually held cattle sales in the street, thus "exchanging" cattle for money.

Millions of head of livestock each year were exchanged in the area as the railroads arrived and boosted Fort Worth's cattle industry. When the Swift and Armour meat packing complexes and the Livestock Exchange Building were completed in 1902 on East Exchange, the exchanges really got hot and heavy.

The object along the street was to separate a cowboy from his money. Saloons, gambling halls, hotels and houses of prostitution were numerous on Exchange. And money, drink and "romance" in its loosest form lead to fights, ambushes and gun battles.

It was truly the West.

Those times are long gone. The meat packing plants that helped put Fort Worth on the map succumbed in the 60s and 70s, a victim of modernized operations, and left behind a deteriorated, stagnant shell leading to a dead-end on Exchange Avenue.

Exchange is rising again, but reconstruction has been slow. The North Fort Worth Business Association formed in 1955, and in the early 1970s the city got involved with the Stockyards Area Restoration Committee and the Fort Worth Stockyards Area Economic Development Program. Federal funds mixed with private money to begin restoring the area, designated a national historical district.

Through the years, the decay and the first blooms of rebirth, Exchange Avenue has retained a slightly wicked, slightly naughty reputation, especially in the minds of Fort Worthers, that new proprietors and promoters want to cash in on as they make the area a tourist attraction, a living history of Cowtown's heritage. Object on the street now is to separate, not the cowboy, but the tourist from his money.

There's a lot happening on Exchange and near Exchange (around the corner on North Main such longtime institutions as Cattlemen's Steak House and Ryon's western wear soon will be joined by Billy Bob's Texas nightclub extravaganza), and there's a lot more planned. Here are highlights of what Exchange Avenue offers visitors today, following the North Fort Worth Historical Society's walking tour route from Packers Avenue at the end of East Exchange to Ellis Avenue near the end of West Exchange:

### Steps into history

A logical, panoramic, moving point of departure is atop what once were the main entrace steps to the giant packing plants at the end of East Exchange. Some 10,000 employees climbed these steps during the heyday of Swift and Armour. The companies' names remain on each side of the steps. Stand at the top of the steps, look west down Exchange and imagine the trains and trolley cars just below and the activity of workers coming and going on a busy day in 1911. Look down Exchange, pass North Main and up the hills of residential North Fort Worth.

Turn, note what remains of a once great kingdom. Immediately to the south is the old Swift & Co. office building, preserved now as Old Spaghetti Warehouse, a fun, antique-filled dining experience, and beyond, the crumbling skeletons of the Swift plant. To the north across from the restaurant is what remains of original Armour and Swift operations on the spot, Bunge Refinery. The edible oil manufacturing business (shortening, etc.) originally belonged to Armour and then Swift.

### The Yards

Walking down red-bricked East Exchange, the first stop is the Spanish-style Livestock Exchange Building, now completely and lovingly renovated, and rented to various businesses, by Stockyards Development Corporation, owned by Canal Randolph of New York. That company also consolidated the original livestock pens around the Exchange Building, and plans within the year to begin converting the horse and mule barns across from the Coliseum into a specialty shopping center, and later to put in a farmers market in the hog and sheep pens across from the Exchange Building. Now these pens are fascinating, wooden labyrinths.

The Exchange Building has become an artistic haven. It is the home of Mule Alley Art Center where artists make, show and sell their crafts Monday-Saturday; quality western art in The Stockyard Gallery; and the unique western glass creations of C. Mike Trout.

Drop by the Cattle Car Cafe for a snack before heading outside to gaze over the well-caryed, weather-scarred wooden fences at the cattle that still send echoing "moo's" over the Stockyards.

The Fort Worth Stockyards, headed by Elmo Klingenberg, and the livestock commission companies headquartered in the Exchange Building still carry on a thriving auction business. Total volume of sales a year approaches $50 million, Klingenberg said, and some 120,000 head of cattle and about 80,000 hogs moved through the pens last year.

The auctions are held Monday through Thursday, beginning at 9 a.m. and going to 6 p.m. in the summer, in the cattle auction arena adjacent to the Exchange Building. They are free and open to the public. Visitors have been known to sit for hours mesmerized by the auctioneer's rapid calling and the cattle parading in and out the chutes. Outside, visitors can climb to observation areas to watch the cattle being directed in and out of the arena.

A special treat is walking the catwalk over what remains of the pens (about one-fifth the original) for a real feeling of what the business is about. The cattle begin arriving for the weekly sales about noon Sunday.

On Saturday and Sunday in the auction arena, beginning at 10 a.m. and continuing every half hour throughout the day, the Historical Society is presenting Gary Havard's slide presentation *The Heart of Cowtown*. Price is $1 for people over 12. The show can be included in the society's walking tours, which may be arranged by calling Sue or Charlie McCafferty at 626-0580.

McCafferty, who grew up in the area, calls his popular tours, "almost revivalistic" in nature "about what this street represents."

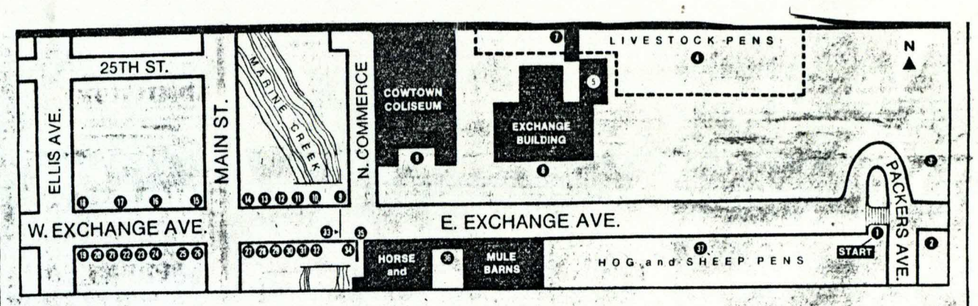
A state historical marker at the Exchange Building notes its place in history as headquarters for one of the greatest cattle markets in the world.

### Cowtown Coliseum

Next to the Exchange Building is the Cowtown Coliseum, built in 1908. The site of the world's first indoor contest rodeo still sees action for special events and at weekly rodeos. The spring rodeo season will be March 14 to May 30, with steer wrestling, calf roping, barrel racing, saddle bronc, bull riding, bareback, and calf scramble for children beginning at 8 p.m.

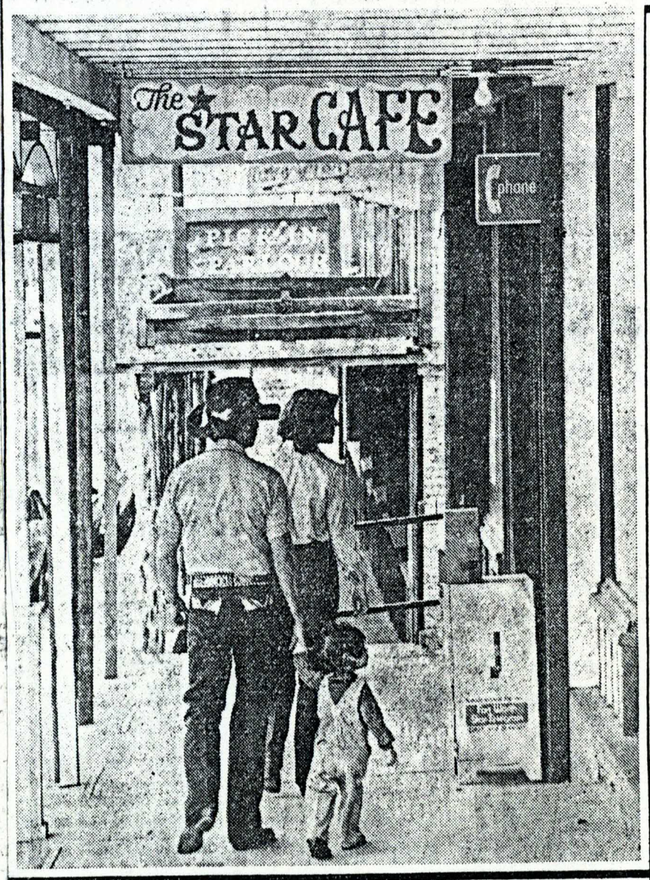
### Marine Creek side trip

Before going under the landmark sign to the Stockyards (which sits on the boundary of the old Niles City and Marine Creek) and exploring the goodies in shops and eateries along the rest of Exchange, follow the arrows to the Marine Creek walkway, an attractively landscaped, lighted area from NW 25th Street and N. Main to the bridge at NE 23rd Street soon to be dedicated as Saunders Park.




**WALKING TOUR — Key to places and points of interest along Exchange Avenue:**

1. main entrance to Swift and Armour packing plants
2. Old Spaghetti Warehouse
3. Bunge Refinery
4. livestock pens
5. auction arena
6. Exchange Building
7. catwalk
8. Cowtown Coliseum
9. Fincher's White Front Store
10. Lone Star Chili Parlor and Beer Garden
11. A-1 Tattoo Studio
12. Right Hotel
13. Cokers Western Hatters
14. Stockyards Drug Store
15. Leddy's Boots & Saddles
16. Fincher's Leather Shop
17. Filthy McNasty's
18. old Willis Hotel
19. restaurant to open soon
20. The Shirt Corral
21. From the Hide
22. Sage-brush art gallery
23. The Star Cafe
24. Speedy's Liquors
25. Pickin' Parlour Western Bar
26. General Store & Trading Post
27. Stockyards Boot Store
28. old Maverick Hotel and Maverick Bar
29. White Elephant Saloon
30. The Use of Ashes custom jewelry
31. beer garden
32. M B Uniform & Tailoring Co.
33. Stockyards entrance sign
34. Theo's Saddle & Sirloin Inn
35. Marine Creek walkway (Saunders Park) entrance
36. horse and mule barns
37. hog and sheep pens.



### Western flavor and spirits

You're in luck, if you've a craving for food and drink while getting to know Exchange Avenue. In fact, you can't really get to know the street unless you partake of the native offerings.

Of course, Theo's Saddle & Sirloin Inn at 120 E. Exchange has been an institution ever since the 1920's when Theo Yordanoff first began offering calf fries and steaks.

Becoming something of East Exchange institutions themselves these days are the White Elephant Saloon and Lone Star Chili Parlor, both of which feature authentic settings, inviting food and drinks and western entertainment.

The chili parlor has a wonderful patio that overlooks the Marine Creek walkway, and over at the White Elephant, work has started on expanding the adjacent summer beer garden to connect it to the walkway and putting a new, attractive face to the saloon's river side. Owner Dulle also is opening up a building on North Main to make an entrance, surrounded by an arcade, to the riverwalk.

Across on West Exchange, Filthy McNasty's and Pickin' Parlour Western Bar compete with the White Elephant, and the venerable Star Cafe remains a popular, casual eatery, specializing in, what else, steaks.

### Browsin' and buyin'

What to expect a lot of when shopping on Exchange Avenue — boots, hats, leatherwork, western wear and everywhere belt buckles and steer horns.

There's also a lot of variety and personal involvement. Watch boots being made during the working day, if someone's available to take you upstairs, at Leddy's Boots & Saddles; peer through the window at hats being created at Cokers Western Hatters; observe the fine art of tattooing at the A-1 Tattoo Studio; find even an Alice in Wonderland and Tweedledee-Tweedledum belt buckle at From the Hide, and leather beer can holders to strap on saddles at Speedy's Liquors; observe western tailoring at M B Uniform & Tailoring Co.

The M. B. of the title is Mike Bornstein, who's been at the location "too long," 29 years, coming to the Stockyards by way of Poland and German concentration camps.

"If I'd known 10 years ago what I know now I could have owned Exchange Avenue," he says. "I think it's going to be the hottest neighborhood in the Fort Worth-Dalias area."

In recent years Pioneer Days in the fall and Chisholm Trail Roundup in the spring have really helped the area come alive, Bornstein said.

For history buffs, a stop at Fincher's White Front Store is a must. The corner part of the store was originally Stockyards National Bank, later North Fort Worth State Bank. A visitor can see the original bank vaults, now store rooms; the marble walls nearly hidden by boxes; and imagine the spot on the ceiling made by a would-be, nitroglycerin wielding bank robber in the 1930's who literally blew his head off and onto the ceiling.

### Two 'other worlds'

There are many "other worlds" on Exchange Avenue, which is itself in many ways a step backward through time. Two especially noteworthy places for their feelings of being in another time, another place are the Stockyards Drug Store and the General Store & Trading Post, both on the corners of North Main and Exchange.

The real mecca for the die-hard tourist on Exchange is the Stockyards Drug Store, billed as the oldest drug store in Tarrant County but without a pharmacy for several years. The building was originally Loewenthal's Bar.

Manager Dot Bryant says the store specializes in gifts, souvenirs and novelty items you won't find anyplace else. She's probably right.

A sure curiosity for tourists is the store's wall full of "genuine" steer horns of every size and price. There's even a pair of buffalo horns or two, and a $59 cow skull on the wall.

"People ask if the 'genuine' means genuine plastic or real," Ms. Bryant says. "They are real. I tell them I've never seen a plastic steer horn, except maybe at a truck stop. Of course, you're liable to see any-

**Please see Touring on Page 2E**

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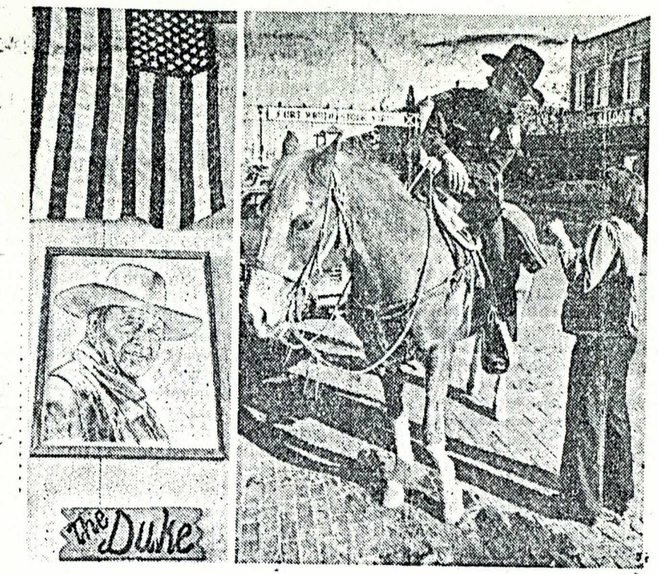



Scenes along Exchange

# Touring Exchange

**Continued from Page 1E**

thing at truck stops."

"Tourists like to have fun," she said. "We try to have things here for them." Such as a $1.98 can with a "Fort Worth Stockyards" label that moos when it's turned upside down; 49-cent "B.S. Bags," hand-crafted stick horses, "Foat Wuth ah luv you" t-shirts and bumper stickers, "Texas jack rabbit milk, a balanced diet for unbalanced people," $1 a can; pewter gun mugs and Stockyards tote bags.

Attesting to the Stockyards' international popularity (and the fact the store is a regular stop on the Fort Worth Greyline sightseeing tour) one day in the drug store's guest book includes visitors from such places as India, Illinois, England, Michigan, Japan and Fort Worth.

Among the historical novelties in the store is a massive safe that the store's owner, Joe Dulle, says may have been blown open by Butch Cassidy. Or it may not have, he admits, but it's a good story.

Across the street kitty-cornered is The General Store & Trading Post, whose jointed, wooden Indian out front suggests the old-time feeling within.

The store, which opened last October during Pioneer Days in a building owned by Steve Murrin, features "authentic, turn-of-the-century merchandise, one of a kind antiques, everything from hay rakes to high top shoes."

One of the owners, Raymond Rains, recalls the store originated over a few beers and a strong conviction shared by a few friends that "if there's one thing the North Side didn't need it was another bar."

In the quaint, old-fashioned looking store one can find antiques, original art works, homemade jams and jellies, lye soap $1.50 a bag, arrow points, rattlesnake hat bands, and probably the only jalapeno lollypops in town (16 cents each).

The general store, like general stores of the early west, has become a gathering place for area enthusiasts.

Fort Worth policeman Leonard Shilling routinely patrols the Exchange area on horseback and often ties his steed up outside the store. (Those who work on the street swear it's safer than many other parts of the city, despite its reputation, and that the roomers at the few Exchange hotels that remain in business provide more color than problems.)

Another frequent visitor, known by all who work on Exchange, is former rodeo rider Johnie Williams, who daily walks the street he's known for 50 years. Williams worked 19 rodeos at the Cowtown Coliseum and ran the old Maverick Hotel and later a pool hall on East Exchange before retiring. He has a lot of stories to tell about Exchange's "wild" days, including the time Bonnie and Clyde stayed there.

"It was everything down here then," he recalls. "The Stockyards, mule barns, everything... It ain't like it used to be. It's sure quiet down here."

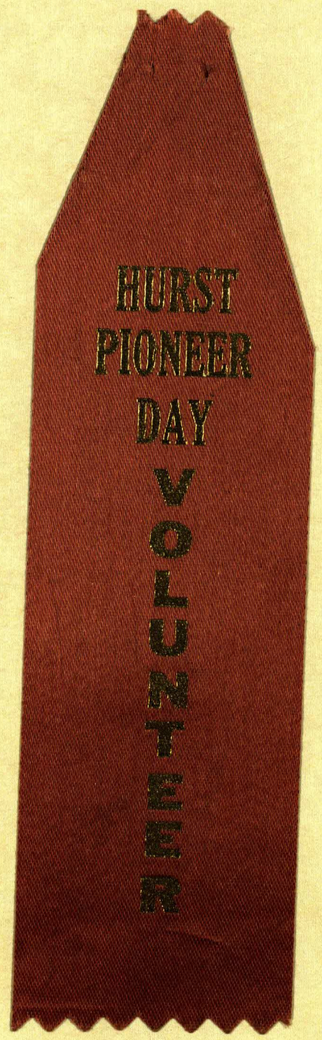
Quiet but not asleep. Exchange has become Fort Worth's "in" street.

## Barbara Holsomback's

# Community Notebook

As part of the Hurst Pioneer Day festivities, two programs are scheduled on Channel 11 cable television. Duane Gage, chairman of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, will present a program on the history of Hurst at noon Saturday. Also, the Central Junior High choir will perform a medley of western songs at 6 p.m. May 20. the pioneer day celebration is May 23.






# Historical films shown

Black Hawk Cable Communications, Inc. will air three historical programs on cable channel 11 to help promote the history of Hurst.

Bedford Junior High School historical students will talk about the history of the area for the first 15 minutes of the program, May 13 at 6 p.m. Bell High School Spanish dancers will perform during the remainder of the show.

TCJC-NE History Professor Duane Guage will present a narration and slides on Hurst history May 16 at 12 p.m.

On May 20, Central Junior High Choir will sing western songs in historical settings at 6 p.m.

Pioneer Days Chairman Roger Perez said the films will be shown in an effort to make the public aware of local traditions and history.

Volume 1, No. 38
Tuesday
April 14, 1981

# The Keller Citizen

4,700 Mailed Free to Keller, Roanoke and The Trophy Club

Kim Burge, Homemaking and Drill Team teacher at Keller High School, is about to hit the drink again at the Dunking Machine at the Keller Centennial Celebration.

## Best Party in 100 Years

It started with a foot race and ended with dancing under the stars -- the best party Keller has had in 100 years.

With good weather and a day chock full of events, thousands reveled in Saturday's Keller Centennial Celebration.

One blue-jeaned, cowboy-hatted observer pretty well summed it up: "This is fun! It's great. Something to remember," she exclaimed.

Crowds were a little thin at 10 a.m., the hour most events got under way. But by parade time, spectators were lined up on both sides of a 1 1/2-mile route. From there they flocked to the Fairgrounds for armadillo races and other contests, food stands, exhibits and friendly socializing.

U.S. Rep. Jim Wright, D-Texas, helped lead off the 45-unit parade on horseback. After the event, he spent leisurely minutes visiting with constituents and signing autographs. He also spoke to a grand stand crowd of several hundred.

Wright, after introducing wife Betty as his "greatest asset," said Keller came "from a good beginning...a series of scattered farms along the prairie... but where there was enough vision for the railroad to locate at this community."

Wright said he believes, with Keller's citizenry, that "the next 100 years will be just as great or greater...and we guarantee to live in freedom, to show the same determination as the early people of Keller had...to make this a bastion of freedom just like America is free."

Among other guests and dignitaries sharing the stage with Wright were Lynn Emanuel; Dennis and Janis Keller Hughes and children Stacey and Glenn, all of Baytown. Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Emanuel are descendants of John Keller, for whom the city was named in 1881.

A centerpiece for the town Saturday was a brand new Missouri-Pacific locomotive, two cars and a caboose donated for the day by the railroad company. A great train robbery was staged there at noon and children and others spent the rest of the time exploring the attraction.

Morning events included a Fun Run in Bear Creek Park, a kite contest, pet show and beard growing contest.

A number of excellent times were posted in the Fun Run, with top performances including Steve Donnelly's 24:21 in the boy's age 13 to 25 class four-mile run, and Larry Colvin's 11:46 in the same age category in the two-mile run.

Complete results of first place winners in all categories were: Two mile run: Boys ages 0-12, John Gabrielson 13:23; girls 0-12 Chelsee Moran 17:11; Boys ages 13-25, Larry Colvin 11:46; girls 13-25, Beth Osborne 24:08; men 26-49, Ron Rice 18:13; women 26-49, Beverly Cheek 19:56.

Four mile run: Boys 0-12, Jimmy Johnson 26:40; girls 0-12 no entries; boys 13-25, Steve Donnelly 24:21; girls 13-25, Laura Schaade 31:40; men 26-49 Gary Augustino 24:56, women 26-49, Ruth Kinler 28:02.

The Keller Art Club sponsored the races and awarded trophies to first place finishers and ribbons through fifth place.

Charlie the poodle made his triumphant debut in the Centennial Pet Show, when Gary Kimball, 8, son of Kaye and Randy Kimball, took the little white dog to the event after washing Charlie and putting a dress on him. Charlie walked away with the grand prize, but seemed more interested in trying to get at a hamster -- one of the losing entrants -- than he did in claiming his prize.

Sponsored by the Keller Police Dept., the beard growing contest attracted men vying for distinction in six categories. The winners were Victor Jarvis, longest; Bill Cobb, thickest; L. D. Kemp, most unique; T. A. Patenope, shortest; Charles Talley, neatest; and Lester Maddox, best all-round.

Other contest results were unavailable Saturday afternoon but will be published in an upcoming issue of The Citizen.

The 1 p.m. parade was a particular hit with celebrants, with the Keller High School band; Jim Wright; Miss Centennial Lynn Lasley; Mayor Bruce Lee and antique car-riding city councilmen leading the procession.

First, second and third-place trophies were presented in the following categories:

Motorized--Keller Chamber of Commerce's beauty pageant contestants, first; Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, second; and the KHS French Club, third.

Non-Motorized--Owens Sausages' horse-drawn wagon, first; Early Settlers, second; and Camp Fire girls, who rolled a giant world globe, third.

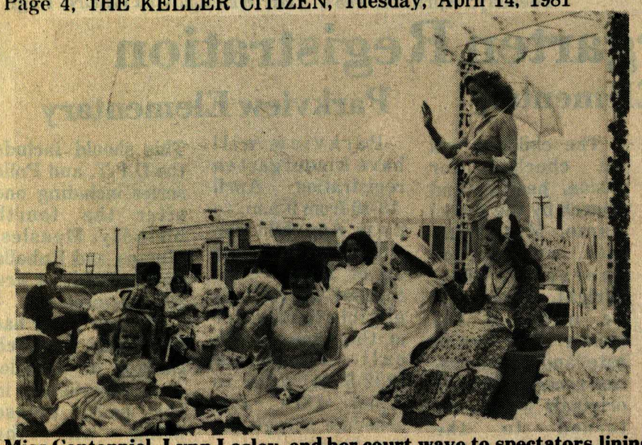
100-Year Period--The Blue Goose Saloon, a tongue-in-cheek replica of Keller's early-day tavern, first; Keller Assembly of God, second; and Latter Day Church, third.

Riding Clubs--Richland Hills, first; Silver Spur, second; and Grand Prairie, third.

Musical Group--KHS Band, the only entrant.

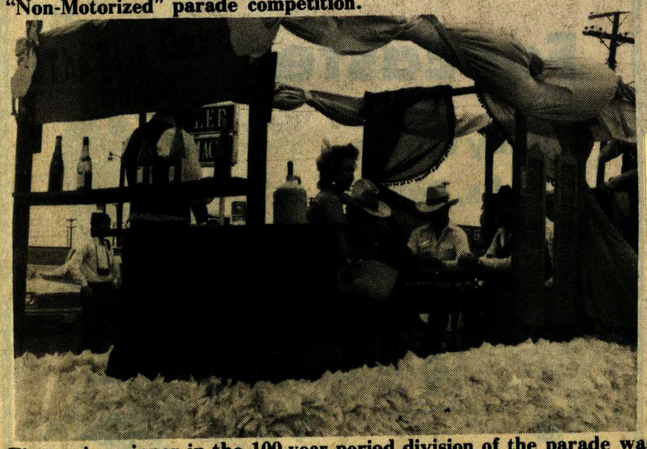
There was an evening program of music, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a gospel performance by Patty Collins, KHS's Tribe Choir sang, followed by a Community Choir Concert under the direction of Owen Phillips.

"Footloose," a country-western band, played for a street dance winding up the day's events in the Barrett Center parking lot.



Miss Centennial, Lynn Lasley, and her court wave to spectators lining the parade route.

The Camp Fire Girls won third place with their giant globe in the "Non-Motorized" parade competition.



First prize winner in the 100-year period division of the parade was The Blue Goose, a just-for-fun replica of a Tavern Keller had in its young and wild days.

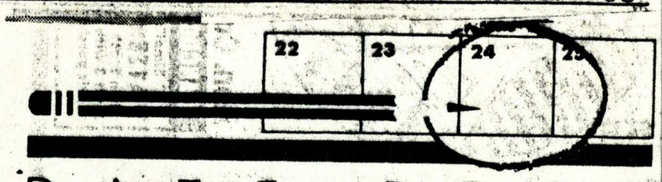
Sean Draper urges his armadillo to speed up during an armadillo race at the Fairgrounds.

# Some of the fun we had Saturday.

Jim Wright addresses a Centennial Celebration crowd gathered at the Fairgrounds. Seated on the stage behind him are descendants of John Keller and councilmen Charles Talley, Roby Stephens, Barbara Hixson and Duane Hicks.

Winners of the Keller Police Department's Beard Growing Contest are, left to right, Victor Jarvis, longest; Bill Cobb, thickest; L. D. Kemp, most unique; T. A. Partenope, shortest; Charles Talley, neatest, and Lester Maddox, best all-round.

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 1981 ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM 5C



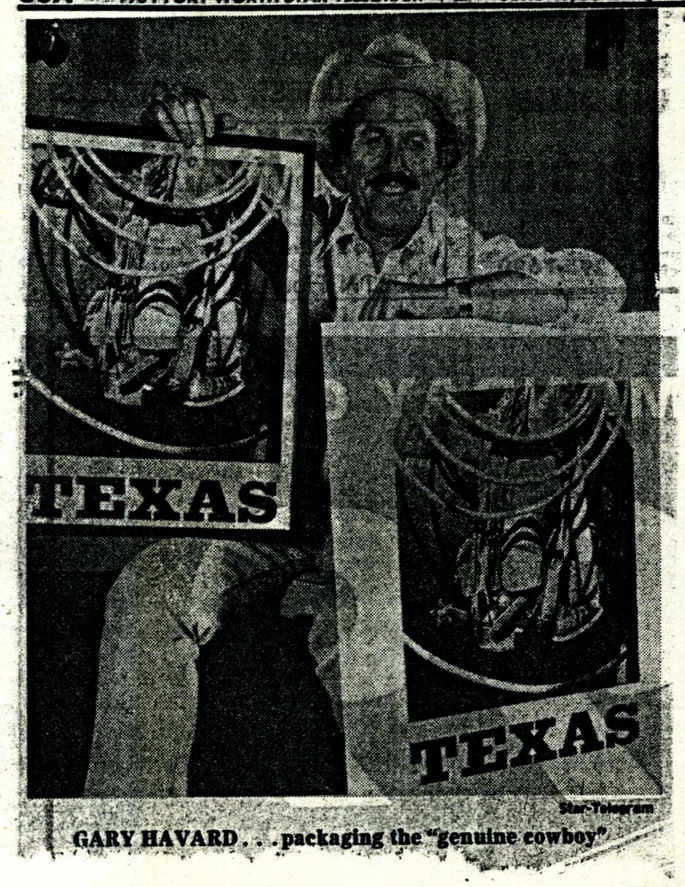

## DATE BOOK

By TERRY HILLER
Star-Telegram Writer

Crowning of the cowgirl queen will top the fifth annual Chisolm Trail Roundup celebration June 13 in Cowtown Coliseum at the Fort Worth Stockyards.

The event commemorates the historic trail over which millions of beef cattle were driven by thousands of cowboys. Sponsored by Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and North Fort Worth Historical Society, the three-day annual event has become a regional attraction that draws thousands of visitors.

For more information about the celebration, call the Chamber at 336-2491.




Star-Telegram

GARY HAVARD . . . packaging the "genuine cowboy"

# Giddyup get-up shot to stirrup FW fever

By DONNA DAROVICH
Star-Telegram Writer

Corral cheesecake. That's what some are calling a new poster that shows only the leg of a cowboy on horseback.

But no one is offended by the designation, especially not its creator, architect-photographer Gary Havard, who admits he loves Fort Worth and hopes the poster will help promote the city.

The full-color, 18-by-24-inch poster depicts a leg (not a model's, but that of a genuine Texas cowboy, Havard says) sheathed in fringed and worn leather chaps.

The "genuine" cowboy also is wearing scuffed, plain western boots thrust into a pair of stirrups that, Havard says, may be a century old.

It was the stirrups, in fact, Havard says, that inspired the poster.

They are decorated with a solid bronze plate inlaid in steel and engraved with a single star and the words "Fort Worth."

Havard said he first saw the stirrups in the Dalton Museum of the West, a traveling exhibit owned by J. Dalton of Bowie.

"I had wanted to do a poster for a long time and when I saw those stirrups I was convinced to do one," he said, pointing out that the poster was more or less built around the stirrups.

But Havard said no one, not even Dalton, who inherited the stirrups when his father died, knows their history.

"What fascinated me, and what I want to know," Havard said, "is why anyone would go to the trouble to make such stirrups. No one so far knows why."

Havard said he would like to know if the stirrups are one of a kind.

The spurs the cowboy is wearing also caught Havard's eye. They are inlaid with hearts made of real gold and have a star rowel.

"I have never seen a poster like this about Texas or Fort Worth," Havard said, "and so I decided that now might be the time for one."

Havard took pains to assure authenticity in more than just the stirrups and spurs, though.

The cowboy leg belongs to Tommy Applewhite, 40, a cowboy who lives in Saginaw.

Havard said he met and photographed Applewhite several years ago while shooting photos of the Fort Worth Stockyards for the Fort Worth Historical Society.

The chaps Applewhite wears were borrowed from rancher Jim Calhoun, whose wife, Skeet Calhoun, is the granddaughter of the first cattle commissioner to trade on the Fort Worth livestock exchange in 1902.

The horse in the photo is Sy, a Quarter horse.

Both Applewhite and Sy get billing in small print on the poster.

"Tommy Applewhite, 'drifter,' on a horse named Sy in Cowtown, USA" it reads.

And although Havard didn't take the photo for the poster himself, he did continue his quest for the real thing by asking a Fort Worth photographer, John Barrett, to shoot the poster.

And, of course, it was photographed in Texas — Bowie, to be specific.

Havard has inserted the slide from which the photo was made into the stockyards slide show he conducts for the historical society.

The posters are being sold at Six Flags Over Texas, Billy Bob's of Texas, Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport, several Fort Worth bookstores and the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Fort Worth.

They sell for $7 to $10.

MIKE H. PRICE'S

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

FW Star-Telegram - June 24 1981

## Crowley to celebrate centennial

No sooner does the South Side suburb of Burleson wind down its centennial activities than the neighboring town of Crowley gears up for its own 100-year festivities.

These dovetailing celebrations of living, breathing history are no spur-of-the-moment affairs. They have been in the planning since the Bicentennial rage of the middle 1970s, and it shows in the care with which both communities crafted their activities.

Crowley is next. July 3, 4 and 5 are the dates. The town, named after A.J.H. Crowley, a Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad official, devised activities reflecting history from horse-and-buggy days through the space age.

As one Crowley Chamber of Commerce official put it, "Youngsters can watch *Star Trek* reruns in the park while their parents in sunbonnets and 10-gallon hats dance on city streets and their grandparents play a game of 42."

Opening-day activities, including the re-creation of a trail drive, will lead into a 7:30 p.m. barbecue. The three days, besides the traditional observance of Independence Day, will cover such events as a chili cook-off, quilting and weaving demonstrations and displays of well-aged Crowley family photographs.

Crowley's Chamber of Commerce and the Crowley Community Education group issued a "Y'all come" invitation to celebrants throughout the area. It's a rare treat to observe the superstar of all national holidays in connection with a major celebration of hometown heritage. A full schedule is available from the Crowley Chamber of Commerce, 297-4211.

# Founder's Day: in observance of Mansfield's 91st

**MANSFIELD FOUNDER'S DAY.** August 26, 1890 — the day that Abstract #3059 was filed at the Tarrant County Court House, making the community an incorporated town. Pioneers Ralph Sanford Man and Julian Field, the two gentlemen for whom the town is named, first settled in the area nearly 130 years ago. Since then, the community (and eventually the city) has progressed steadily. The following comprehensive historical story clearly outlines the development of Mansfield. It was compiled and written by Charles Hawkes several years ago.

Some things never change.

Mansfield has grown from a small settlement of 130 years ago to a modern city boasting of fine schools, an assortment of shopping areas, an industrial area and hundreds of luxurious homes but it has not lost its best quality.

Mansfield is still composed of the same friendly, forward-looking people who formed this community in the mid 1800's.

It all began soon after the end of the Mexican War in 1849 when settlers began to pass north of Camino Road. With the coming of Gen. William Jennings Worth and the US soldiers to the juncture of the Trinity, farmers and cattlemen felt safe in settling in the section of Texas now known as Tarrant County.

Among these early settlers were two newcomers, Ralph Sanford Man and Captain Julian Field, destined to become the founders of the present city of Mansfield.

Born in Charleston, N.C., Man from all descriptions must have been the typical "Old Man Texas." Tall, angular and sinewy, with steady blue eyes, he had sprung from a long line of seafaring Englishmen who had sailed the seas in search of fame and fortune. Orphaned in his teens, he secured the little schooling his area afforded and was apprenticed to a cabinet maker. By his 18th birthday he was fitted for his trade.

His early 20's found him following the setting sun. On foot, by chance wagon train, by flatboat, and occasionally, by horseback, Man rounded the Appalachians through Georgia, scorned the rich gulf plains, and in 1850 entered Texas through Harrison County. There he worked a season, during which time he became acquainted with Julian Field.

**BOTH YOUNG MEN** spent the winter courting two daughters in the Joseph Boisseau family of Harrison County, a courtship that eventually led them to become brothers-in-law.

But they had heard that out on the Grand Prairie there were great crops of wheat and other grains but no mills, so they bade their sweethearts goodbye and rode west with a plan.

They found this area much as they had envisioned it. A state of prosperity existed with the land being tilled by a recent invention, the iron plow. The bald and rolling plans, criss-crossed by oak, cedar and mesquite and bordered by creeks and rivers, were producing great crops of grain and fattening cattle in open range areas. Smoke came from the chimneys of countless log and frame cabins of pioneers nestled among the trees and along the streams.

Man and Field met the opportunity. They set about building their flour mill, hiring setlers to help cut timber, mix clay and mold it into bricks, and fire it in the crude kiln they constructed. In due time their mill building began to rise at the present site of the Mansfield old city hall.

As business and the agencies of civilized living developed around Man and Field, others began to fix a name on the prospering community from a combination of the names of the founders — "Mansfield."

After completing their three-story, red brick building, Man and Field set out for Galveston to meet the machinery they had ordered, coming by sea from the East. By 1852 the milling enterprise was open and operating beyond the builders' fondest dreams.

The mill at first was operated by "horsepower," with teams of horses circling round and round a large wheel to furnish the energy. After the first year or so, however, a steam engine replaced the horses.

Often buckskin and homespun-clad boys and men were seen working in the mill to pay for the grinding of the flour for their families. The wagon yard became dusty with the activity of the prairie schooners, laden with golden grain from nearby and distant points. The Man-Field Mill was a landmark in a green sea of grain.

**THE MILL DREW** more settlers, bringing the necessity for churches, markets and schools. Man and Field further promoted the progress of the community by opening a general store in a long building which they also constructed. Merchandise was brought by wagon train from Galveston and Houston. Here ladies could find anything from a fine tooth comb to hoop skirts. Then there were the more practical necessities such as coffee, sugar, salt, dried fruit and fish, farm implements and garden seed.

Captain Julian Field was a native of Kentucky. He was apparently the first to marry, returning in the late 1850's to marry one of the Boisseau sisters. Henrietta Field proved to be a very capable pioneer, taking charge of the double log house which her husband built in Mansfield. It was one block west of Water Street, now Main Street, where the Methodist Church now stands, and had many rooms, a large attic, and a gallery extending the full length of the front. There were other log cabins on the property as well serving as housing for the servants. Another separate house served as the kitchen, a custom of that time.

For many years Captain Field's house was called "the inn" or "the tavern." It was the only place in the village where strangers or travelers could find accomodations, after careful scrutiny, no doubt, by Mrs. Fields.

Captain and Mrs. Field raised a family of five sons and two daughters. The sons all became professional men and the daughters were leaders in social life in Fort Worth.

Some ten years after he had arrived in Texas, Man returned to Harrison County, around 1863, and married Julia Alice Boisseau, younger sister of Mrs. Field. Man was 38 at the time and had not been married before, and his bride was only 20. Following the ceremonies they returned to Mansfield where his business prospered.

In 1867 they built a home on West Broad, but Julia did not have long to enjoy it, for she died a year later in 1868, leaving a year-old daughter, who also died at about age five. The original Man home is still standing here on West Broad and is considered the oldest residence in Mansfield.

**TWO YEARS LATER,** Man remarried, his second wife being Sarah Jane Stephens, daughter of L. H. Stephens, wealthy landowner and holder of an original grant. Stephens was also prominent in community affairs. Sarah Jane was a sister of Dr. J. T. Stephens, one of Mansfield's earliest doctors.

The new Mrs. Man was 18 at the time of her marriage, 26 years younger than her husband. They had four children, two of whom died in infancy. The other two, Norma and Ned, were still very young when their mother died in 1880, leaving Ralph Man a widower once more.

R. S. Man died in 1906 at the age of 81 years.

**IN 1860-61** A ripple of war disturbed the settlers and most being of Southern stock, many of the boys and young men marched away to join the Confederacy. Man and Field, however, were barred from service, drawing orders to keep their steam-powered mill grinding wheat for the Confederate Army.

In 1871, Man and Field received government contracts to supply Fort Griffin and Fort Sill with flour. Freight was carried by covered wagon trains, the wagons being pulled by large mules, or occasionally, oxen. The trip to Fort Sill was especially dangerous because the further north the wagon trains ventured, the greater peril by marauding bands of Indians. One such raid did occur in 1873, near Jacksboro, with all the Texans being killed and the wagons being burned.

**MANSFIELD HAD** been settled by pioneers of English Scotch-Irish origin, emigrating from parent countries, first to the Eastern Seaboard, then to the Southern states as early as 1825. The early settlers were, for the most part, God-fearing and worshipful men and women. In 1854 a small number organized a Cumberland Presbyterian Church and worshipped in different homes in a radius of many miles. The church was called Walnut Creek Congregation and continued with that designation until the late 1850's.

Mansfield was laid out along two major streets, Water Street running North and south, and Broad Street running east and west. The business section was originally scheduled to be confined to one block on Water Street, the area around the present Mansfield City Hall. The town was watered by a well in the middle of that street, shaded by Oak trees, hence its name. Years later, when it became the major business street and through highways were designated, it was renamed "Main Street."

Mrs. Sallie Hodges McKnight in her "History of Mansfield Before the Civic War," points out that Mansfield and the southern area of

See HISTORY, Page 9

★ HISTORY ——— Continued from Page 1 –

Arlington known as Johnson Station, were the two earliest settlements in Tarrant County. "Johnson's Station" was named for Col. Middleton Tate Johnson, who established an early-day stagecoach stop in the area before the Civil War. He later organized a Texas Brigade which fought in the war and was responsible for heading a party which established "Fort Worth" on the high bluff area overlooking the Trinity Valley.

**IN THE EARLY** 1850's a winding trail led south from the old fort on the Trinity, winding through unfenced grass knee high to a man on horseback. After fording three creeks you came to a little sawmill in the southeast corner of Tarrant County where post oak timber was being converted into rough lumber. The proprietor was Captain Julian Field, who was preparing to build the first store of general merchandise, and expected to haul his goods by wagon train from Houston," Mrs. McKnight wrote.

"The little village of Mansfield was named from its two founders, Captain Field and R. S. Man, who erected a three-story steam flour mill and secured a government contract to furnish flour and meal to the post at Fort Belknap and Fort Griffin, besides supplying the greater part of Texas and sections of Old Mexico. These Mexican wagons were pushed rather than pulled,

See HISTORY, Page 12

Mansfield News-Mirror - Aug 27, 1981

## ★ HISTORY

Continued from Page 9-

by oxen having a wooden bar strapped in front of the head.

"It was a tithing mill where a certain percent of the grindings was sent to the Confederacy," Mrs. McKnight confirmed. "Mansfield was the center of the wheat-growing section and the old mill yard was a bustling scene as hundreds of wagons waited to be loaded."

**"THESE TWO FOUNDERS,** Captain Field and R. S. Man, were opposite in temperament. Man was quiet and reticent and loved nothing more than a good book. He presented a striking an contrast to Captain Field who was physically big, decidedly optimist, and liked to have an active role in organization and secret orders," Mrs. McKnight's report reveals.

"While Captain Field later sought new fields of endeavor, Mr. Man cast his lot with the people of Mansfield and was known as 'the old miller' and the father of Mansfield," she wrote.

**THE FIRST DOCTOR** in Mansfield was Dr. Duff G. Hodges, who came here by wagon with his wife and child from Tennessee. He practiced "horseback" and dispensed his medicine from his saddle bags.

Squire Grimsley was justice of the peace and the law itself in Southeastern Tarrant County.

"He left technicalities strapped up in his saddlebags on his old gray mare and dispersed justice without any frills. He was a stickler for the dignity of the court and did not let his right to sit in judgment be challenged."

One of the earliest farmers to settle in the area was P. M. House whom Mrs. McKnight described as "a quite unobstrusive old man from Tennessee, dressed in homespun."

At a time when caskets were barely heard of, burial was often accomplished in early-day Mansfield in wooden boxes designated by P. G. Davis, a skilled woodworker.

.... "There were no softly-cushioned caskets, no hearse, no flowers, no concealing the hard clods that were to fall upon the coffin. "There were no seats, no shelter from storm and rain. P. G. Davis met the common need and made coffins of pine which he skillfully covered by tacking black velvet over the outside of the frame, Mrs. McKnight's historical report states.

**MANSFIELD, IN** addition to Mann and Field's mill, also became famous in the early days because of a distillery, reportedly making some of the finest corn whiskey available.

The still, which operated legally, was located on Broad Street in a building adjoining the mill. Its owner-operator was A. Branson. Ira Gibson of Mansfield recalls that up until a few years ago, the old branding iron used to burn the name into the barrel, was still around, but disappeared from a store display. Gibson, born and reared here, says his grandfather paid the first poll tax in Tarrant County.

"Mansfield used to be a rough town with six or seven saloons until the people voted whiskey out. The saloons just moved north of the creek to an area which some referred to as 'Brooklyn.' We had a couple of bad killings here in the past," Gibson recalls.

He says he also remembers a flour mill which operated for many years on Walnut Creek. The old foundation for that mill is still there, he reports.

**THE MANSFIELD** Historical Society, which did some good work in uncovering early history here about 1970, came up with a copy of the catalogue for the Mansfield Academy in 1903-04 which gives insight into the city around the turn of the century. The academy foland was aimed at "creating an awakening from mental lethargy, kindling of ambition, stimulating of lofty aspirations, and which culminates in the making of our girls modest, refined and womanly, and our boys strong, courageous, manly men."

The portion dealing with Mansfield of that era reads: "Mansield is a quiet, thrifty little town with an abundance of excellent artesian water; with surrounding lands adapted to the most diversified farming; with no saloons, dives or "joints," with its churches, Sunday schools, and other societies for church work; with its wealth, business, enterprise, healthful location, beautiful scenery, and with its moral intelligent people.

"Mansfield offers exceptional advantages to those seeking homes as well as those who desire to place their boys in school," the old catalogue reads.

**THE EXACT DATE** Mansfield was incorporated as a town is not known, although some reports indicate Man and Field applied for and received a city charter. Earliest minute books of the city, starting in 1904, confirm the town had been chartered before that time.

"The account of R. O. Newsom for $20 for two months' salary as marshall was allowed and ordered paid," James Edwards, secretary, wrote in the city minutes June 18, 1904.

T. B. Huitt was mayor at that time. A complete list of mayors is not available, but others listed in minutes are: S. S. Smithee, elected April 1905; R. H. Greer, 1908; Charles Murphy, 1909; J. B. Charn, 1914; W. P. Royal, 1917; C. R. Page, 1920; S. O. House, 1934; W. S. Lamb, 1941; Charles H. Harrison.

Telephone service came to Mansfield in the early 1900's when the town council granted a ranchise to the Fort Worth Long Distance Telephone Company on Aug. 15, 1905, to install lines "over the streets of Mansfield." On Sept. 25 of 1905 the Mansfield Telephone Co. was granted permission to operate in the city.

A motion was approved to grant R. S. Cassal a 25-year franchise "to construct and operate an electric light plant in Mansfield" on Sept. 12, 1905. The plant was apparently successful since on Nov. 10, 1908, the council voted to install boulevard lights at $60 each on Water (Main) Street. This led to a considerable amount of controversy, however, for several years because of a delay in getting them installed.

**MANSFIELD BECAME** a city on Jan. 12, 1909, when the council "adopted a resolution that since Mansfield now has over 1,000 inhabitants, it be re-incorporated as a city under the revised Texas statutes." Apparently very proud of the new designation, the council April 29, 1909, ordered the "town" designation be replaced in all old statutes with the name "city."

Ira Gibson also recalls the water works about that time consisted of a pump and an old cypress tank on the property next to city hall, operated by a man named Fowler. The tank leaked, water constantly running across Broad Street, creating mudholes which were a problem for wagons and early autos to negotiate.

In 1909 the water works already belonged to the city, however, as the minutes show the council "voted that the manager of the water works be notified in advance of street work so as to remove all water pipes interfering with street work."

In May, 1910, the city minutes reveal "S. G. Bradford reported that the cause of H. D. Stephens horse being out was due to the city workmen leaving the fence down. The council voted not to allow any fines for same."

"S. G. Bradford was appointed to fix the city water ing trough so dogs could not get in the water" an entry in the city minutes in June, 1910, show. Also the mayor instructed the marshall "to advise merchants of bad conditions on their premises and ask them to clean up."

On Oct. 11, 1910, ordinances were passed "to prevent autos from exceeding the speed limit of 10 miles-per-hour on the streets of Mansfield, and also to prevent persons from riding bicycles on the sidewalks."

**THE CITY PURCHASED** the electric plant on April 12, 1921, issuing bonds at six per cent interest. The plant was bought from the owner at that time, M. M. Farr. The city operated the plant until the 1950's when Texas Electric Service Co. bought the system and took over supplying of power here. The funds were applied against the indebtedness.

Early in 1926 negotiations were begun with a Dallas engineering firm to construct a sanitary sewer system. In March of that year, $32,000 in bonds were voted to construct the system.

An entry in 1935 in the city minutes showed the E. and M. Steeple Co. of Fort Worth was employed to "clean inside of the water tower bowl, repair all leaks, paint one coat of aluminum paint inside the top and brackets, with two coats inn walls." All the work was to be done "in a workmanship manner" at a cost of $67, according to the minutes recorded by J. D. Blessing, secretary.

After the conclusion of World War I, a tribute to men who served in that conflict was paid with the construction of Memorial Hall on the site of the present City Hall. The large frame building was transferred, debt free, to the City of Mansfield.

The present City Hall was erected in 1956 when W. A. Halbert was mayor and J. D. Hayes, city secretary.

Frank McCaleb, who has lived in Mansfield all his life, recalls that Mansfield had a well-known hotel on North Main, next to the Galloway Garage, in 1919-20. Mansfield had lots of traveling salesmen, or , drummers, coming here in those days by train and they headquartered at the hotel, managed by Q. K. Wheeler. About that same time, Mansfield also had three cotton gins, McCaleb says.

Many more words and incidents about Mansfield could, and probably should be recorded in attempting to present its history, which is a record of which its people can be proud.

One of the oldest communities in Tarrant County, its early days were unique and interesting.

Its future appears to be even more bright and chal lenging.

The most commonly used word in English conversation is "I".

# Pioneer Days will feature p

## FORT WORTH PIONEER DAYS

SEPT. 25-27, 1981

### FIDDLIN', FUN AND FESTIVITIES!

Pioneer Days, a celebration that runs from Sept. 25 through 27, will turn the clock back to a time when Fort Worth was *really* a cowtown.

The festivities begin Friday evening, when a group of cowboys and cowgirls ride their calico stick horses down Exchange Avenue to the General Store Trading Post Sarsparilla Bar in the stockyards area.

Shortly afterwards, the Cowtown Rodeo will open its seventh season at 8 p.m. in the Cowtown Coliseum. The Pioneer Days Queen will be crowned during the rodeo performance on Saturday evening. In addition to the queen, awards will be given for best western dress, best horsemanship and congeniality. Tickets will be available at the door or at any Ticketron outlet in the Metroplex.

Country and western dancers may compete in the Pearl Dance Contest, with preliminary competitions at 6 p.m. Friday and at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday. The two top winners from each round will meet for the grand championship at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Prizes will be $250 in gift certificates.

A western parade — complete with wagons, surreys, buggies and floats — will wind its way through the stockyards area beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday. Tarrant County Sheriff Lon Evans will lead the way, while the sheriffs posse will serve as color guard. Unusual entries include a 1924 fire truck, a 1936 hearse ambulance and two Model-T Roadsters.

The weekend activities will also feature a western parade, a fiddlers contest and a "stockyards stampede," a 4.4-mile run with all proceeds going to the American Cancer Society.

In addition to such tame events, people will see the "wild" and "wooly" aspect of the Old West during the continuous entertainment. The Frontier Guns square off in a "gun battle," while firefighters hose each other down in a wetter version of the old gun fight. Judge Roy Bean will even be around to hold Kangaroo Court.

And, for the more than 200,000 people expected to participate in the 23rd annual celebration, there will be plenty of food and drink, with booths set up throughout the stockyards area.

Proceeds from Pioneer Days, sponsored by the North Fort Worth Business Association, will be used to renovate and beautify the stockyards area.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sept. 3, 1981

To the Editor;

The Mansfield News-Mirror has been very supportive of the Historical Society, and we value every article that is published. We would like to encourage the readers to furnish us with corrections of the historical data, because it is important to keep a precise record of historical facts.

The historical story by Charles Hawkes in last week's issue was well written, but our research has uncovered the following facts:

Feild is the correct spelling of Julian Field's name. This fact is documented by a Confederate "tithe" receipt given to Garrett Gibson dated January 15, 1864; personal correspondence from the descendents of Julian Feild still living in the Fort Worth - Dallas area; 17 Fort Worth newspaper articles dated from 1873 thru 1889; Julian Feild's voter registration and death certificate in San Diego, Calif.

Julian Feild must have married by 1846, because his son, Dr. J.T. Feild, was born in 1846.

Research Data: Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Texas, Federal Writer's Project, Vol. 9, 1941.

Ralph S. Man had two children by his first wife, Julia Alice (Boisseau) Man - Julia Alice Man (1867-1872) and Walter Boisseau Man (1864-1942). Walter Man moved to Decatur in 1885 and owned a pharmacy. However, he returned to Mansfield often and kept a house here. The descendants of Walter B. Man are the only surviving members of the Man family, because Norma Man Prichard had no children, and the only child of Edwin (or Edward) Man, Norma Man, died in 1912 at the age of seven years. Ralph S. Man, a great grandson, is a librarian at Tarrant County Jr. College.

The wagon train raid referred to in the article was the famous Warren Wagon Train that was attacked by Indians near Jacksboro on May 18, 1871.

The Warren Wagontrain Raid, Benjamin Capps, 1974.

The exact date for the construction of the mill is not known. It is possible that they built two mills. It is recorded that Julian Feild came to Fort Worth in 1853 (Federal Writers' Project, p. 854). Dola Kerr, a descendant of the Hook, Sublett and Kerr families, states that her grandfather, Samuel Wellington Alexander Hook (1836-1917) was brought to Mansfield about 1858 by Mr. Feild and Mr. Man from Marysville, Tenn. to make the brick for the mill building.

Walnut Creek was the first name given the community. Walnut Creek and Gibson's were listed as two of 12 voting precincts in the April 18, 1860 election held to determine the location of the county seat (Federal Writers' Project, p. 3276).

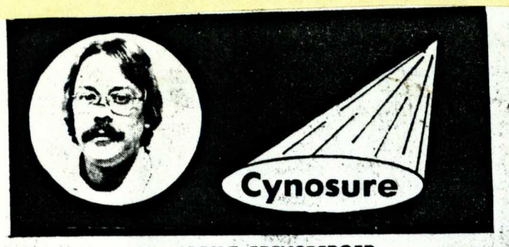
The first reference of the word, Mansfeild, was found in the minutes of the Walnut Creek Cumberland Presbyterian Church, August 3, 1861.

Mr. Hawkes quoted Ira Gibson as saying that his grandfather was among the first registered voters. That individual was his great grandfather, Garrett Gibson (1805-1875), who came to the Mansfield area with his three brothers in 1854. Garrett Gibson is listed as one of 205 registered voters in 1855. (Fort Worth: A Frontier Triumph, Julia Kathryn Garrett, 1972).

Joseph Nugent was elected the first mayor in 1891. His home was the Hart house at 312 S. Waxahachie Street. The house has had little alteration and is much the same as when it was built in the 1890's. (History, Texas Together With a Biographical History of Tarrant and Parker Counties, 1895.

Beryl S. Gibson

NEWS-MIRROR CARRIES THE MOST NEWS OF MANSFIELD.

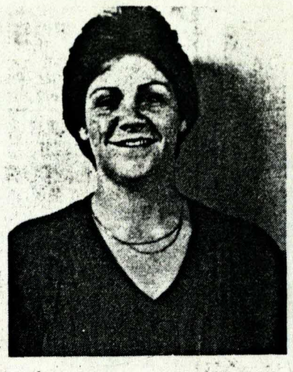



By JERRY T. EBENSBERGER

You'll notice the first publication of the **NEWS-MIRROR CLUB DIRECTORY** beginning with this edition. The remainder of the local clubs and organizations will appear here through the month of October before being printed in a booklet. Cooperation by active clubs in getting necessary information and pictures to us has been good . . . . Don't forget about the **LADIES' CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL TOUR OF HOMES** on October 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. . . . **GLORIA DESCOTEAUX** has been elected to the presidency of the Mansfield Chapter of the American Business Women's Assn. . . . A report from the Mansfield Historical Society reports that 21 charter members have been inducted and that $50 sustaining memberships have been received from the **CITY OF MANSFIELD** and **DALWORTH CONSTRUCTION** . . . . The Mansfield **WAL-MART** store observed its official second anniversary on October 2 . . . . Saturday, October 24 is the date set for the **TARVER-RENDON PTA ANNUAL CARNIVAL** . . . . The annual Christmas goodies and bake sale sponsored to benefit **ST. GREGORY EPISCOPAL CHURCH** will be November 7 in the city Community Room . . . . City Manager **AL CROUCH** will be guest speaker at today's Chamber of Commerce luncheon (noon at WCCC) . . . . Part of homecoming activities next week include an alumni reception in the Middle School cafeteria, Friday, 6-7 p.m. The Student Council is the sponsor.

Oct. 8/1981

## *Mansfield Historical Society*



BETH HARRISON CANRIGHT, president

The Mansfield Historical Society meets at the Mansfield Public Library, three times a year in September, January, and May. The address is 201 Waxahachie Street.

Officers are elected at the annual September meeting. The officers are Beth Harrison Canright, president; Joy Holley, vice president; Maree Blizard Sheffield, secretary; Phyllis Harrison, treasurer; Susan H. Pesola, reporter; Elna W. Hall, membership chairman; and the Board of Directors includes Beryl Steele Gibson, Elizabeth D. Holland, and Myrtle Hart.

Four major projects were outlined for action in the coming year, including: (1) participating in the Tarrant County Historical Commission's work of collecting and cataloging Mansfield historical information; (2) locating, writing, and publishing the histories of old homes and families in the Mansfield area; (3) researching potential Mansfield historical siates, and making application for Texas state historical markers for the same; and (4) repairing broken headstones in the Mansfield Cemetery. Committees were formed to begin work on these projects.

TRINITY FORGE INC.
947 TRINITY DRIVE
MANSFIELD, TX 76063
473-1515

HOMECOMING — Marilyn Man Cox of Ozona and Martha Lou Man of New York, New York, great-granddaughters of R.S. Man, one of Mansfield's founding fathers, visited the city Monday reliving their ancestry and sharing information with historical society member Beryl Gibson. Here Marilyn, (left) Beryl and Martha inspect historical records. During their brief stay, the women toured the old Man homestead and the Mansfield Cemetery.

— News-Mirror Staffoto

SEE SOME INTERESTING 35MM COLOR SLIDES
OF NORTHEAST TARRANT COUNTY HISTORIC
SITES 'N STRUCTURES THIS MONDAY, 7:30 AM

# PACESETTER CLUB
# HURST, TEXAS

"PRESERVATION CHALLENGES FOR NORTHEAST TARRANT COUNTY" WILL BE OUR PROGRAM TITLE FOR NEXT MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16 WHEN DUANE GAGE, CHAIRMAN OF TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION, BRINGS US AN ASSORTMENT OF 35 MM COLOR SLIDES OF SOME VERY INTERESTING HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES. MR. GAGE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AT TCJC NORTHEAST CAMPUS, WILL DISCLOSE GOALS AND OPPORTUNITIES BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THIS GROUP OF DEDICATED HISTORIANS. DELIGHTFUL, WITTY, AND DOWN-TO-EARTH, OUR SPEAKER IS CERTAIN TO PIQUE YOUR COURIOSITY CONCERNING WHAT MYSTERIOUS THINGS WERE HAPPENING AROUND THESE PARTS OVER THE PAST CENTURY AND BEYOND. NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF GUESTS YOU MAY BRING...DON'T HOLD BACK!!!

---

NOTE: IMPORTANT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MONDAY, AFTER MEETING

MID-CITIES DAILY NEWS — Sunday, May 3, 1981

## Duane Gage is speaker

Duane Gage, professor of history at Tarrant County Junior College Northeast Campus, will speak on "Research Challenges in the 1980s" at the May meeting of Mid-Cities Genealogical Society.

The meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Fuller Room of Euless Public Library, 201 N. Ector Dr.

Gage is chairman of Tarrant County Historical Commission and is a member of several historical societies.

Anyone interested in genealogy is invited.

February 16, 1981

Duane,

Initially, appreciate your coming to address Pacesetters this morning. Besides turning in a tremendous job of entertaining us, I sincerely feel that you made us totally aware of our responsibility to you and the Tarrant County Historical Commission in its worthy objectives.

I'm so very sorry that I didn't see to it that you were fed before the meeting began. Please come back and I'll treat you to enjoy an unhurried breakfast on me. Better yet, perhaps we could have lunch together sometime soon.

Sincerely,

Jan

Sunday, February 15, 1981

8 MID-CITIES DAILY NEWS

## Duane Gage speaker for Pacesetters

Duane Gage, chairman of Tarrant County Historical Commission, will present a program entitled "Preservation Challenges for Northeast Tarrant County" at the Pacesetter Club meeting Monday 7::30 a.m. at Sambo's Restaurant in Hurst.

Gage, associate professor of history at Tarrant County Junior College Northeast Campus, will introduce color slides which will reflect goals and problems in preservation activities by the historical organization specifically in Northeast Tarrant County.

Pacesetters, a group of success-oriented men and women, invite everyone interested to attend.

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF FORT WORTH, INC.

PROVISIONAL SESSION III

"DOWNTOWN CITY SCAPES"
Sunday, September 13, 1981
Americana Ballroom

5:00 Introduction of Master of Ceremonies John Stevenson, President, Continental National Bank

5:05 John Stevenson - explanation of the evening's format and introduction of Mr. Bill Shelton

5:10 Mr. Bill Shelton, President, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce - "New Developments Downtown" (with emphasis on the new CBD Plan)

5:30 John Stevenson - introduction of Mr. Duane Gage

5:35 Mr. Duane Gage, Professor of History and Chairman of the Tarrant County Historical Commission
"Downtown Historical Renovation"

5:50-6:00 Closing Remarks - John Stevenson

6:15 Simultaneous tours begin:

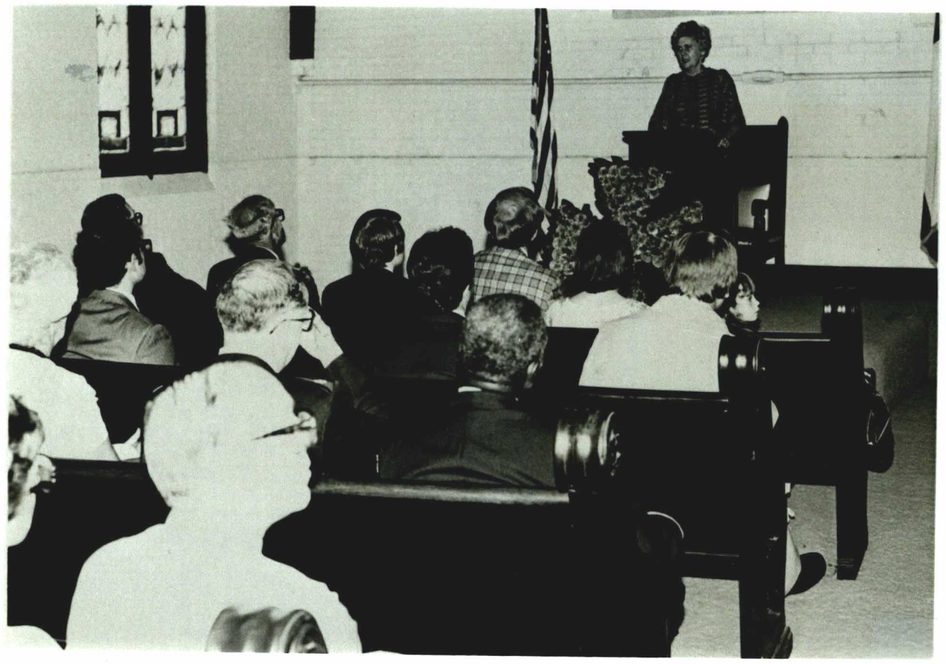
a. City Center Presentation at Marketing Center - Bob Kolba

b. Sundance Square Walking Tour - Piers Chance

c. Streams & Valleys Presentation at Heritage Park - Alann Sampson

At the end of 45 minutes the tours rotate.

8:15 Conclusion of session



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## EAGLE COURT OF HONOR

Troop 333, Boy Scouts of America
Sponsored by the Hurst Lions Club
Hurst Lions Club Building
1244 Brookside, Hurst, Texas

## EAGLE CANDIDATE

Anthony Lee Allbright

| | |
|---|---|
| Became a Boy Scout | November 17, 1974 |
| Became a Tenderfoot | February 11, 1975 |
| Became a Second Class | July 1, 1975 |
| Became a First Class | December 21, 1976 |
| Became a Star Scout | August 30, 1977 |
| Became a Life Scout | August 22, 1978 |
| Passed Eagle Board of Review | August 31, 1981 |
| Presented Eagle Award | September 29, 1981 |

## PROGRAM

| | |
|---|---|
| Presentation of the Colors | Troop 333 |
| Senior Patrol Leader | Steve Stoll |
| Opening Prayer | Dr. Bill Smythe<br>Minister, Hurst Christian Church |
| Guest Speaker | Mr. Duane Gage<br>Tarrant County Junior College |
| Charge to Eagle Scout | Mr. Robert Pomeroy<br>Director of National Eagle Scout Assn.<br>Director of National Courts of Honor<br>Director of Professional Selection |
| Response from Eagle Candidate | Lee Allbright |
| Pinning of Eagle | Ruby Allbright |
| Presentation of Pin to Mother and Tie Clasp to Father | Lee Allbright |
| Reading of Letter from Chief Scout Executive | Mr. H. D. Keller |
| Presentation of Eagle Certificate | Mr. John Schoolfield |
| Presentation of Neckerchief and Badge | Mr. Bob Germany |
| Welcome to Eagle Scouting | Mr. Doug Germany |
| History of Troop 333 | Mr. L. L. Malcolm<br>First Scoutmaster |
| Introduction of Guests and Eagles Present | Mr. Bob Germany |
| Closing Prayer | Mr. Oscar T. Wood |
| Retire the Colors | Troop 333 |
| Refreshments and Fellowship | |

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

# NEWS

March, 1981
Volume 2, no. 1

Fort Worth, Texas

## A NEW TERM BEGINS

On January 5th the Tarrant County Commissioners Court appointed thirty-six historians and preservationists to the Tarrant County Historical Commission, for the 1981-82 term. Joining thirty reappointed members are five new appointees:

Beth Canright, 201 S. Waxahachie, Mansfield, who is presently serving as President of the Mansfield Historical Society;

Gordon Kelley, 769 Samuels Avenue, Fort Worth, who is presently working to revise Fort Worth's historic zoning ordinance;

Larry Landis, 3616 Modlin Avenue, Fort Worth, a consultant with the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

Katherine Livingston, 2208 Tremont, Fort Worth, active in research and architectural history;

John Hugh Smith, 3600 Dawn Drive, Haltom City, noted Junior Historian sponsor, retired from Birdville I.S.D.;

Jack D. Watson, 209 Chateau Drive, Fort Worth, Fort Worth Postmaster, retired.

## PLANNED PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1981

In order to fulfill its statutory obligation to initiate and conduct programs for

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:

The committee shall prepare and release Commission news and feature stories to the media at least monthly.

The Commission shall publish a quarterly newsletter and shall distribute it to five hundred individuals, organizations, or representatives of preservation groups.

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

# NEWS

March, 1981
Volume 2, no. 1

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## PLANNED PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1981

In order to fulfill its statutory obligation to initiate and conduct programs for the preservation of the heritage of Tarrant County, The Tarrant County Historical Commission is undertaking several significant projects:

a) To continue to secure materials for the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection and to continue to work toward establishing a joint city-county archives for Fort Worth and Tarrant County;
b) To begin compiling an annotated bibliography of county history source materials and to begin a countywide survey of historic photographic collections;
c) To continue its program to microfilm rare historical materials;
d) To fulfill preservation guidelines recommended by the Texas Historical Commission;
e) To support Junior Historian activities in the county and to compile materials for the establishment of a TEXAS HISTORY RESOURCE CENTER;
f) To encourage school districts to compile histories of their schools;
g) To compile an information file on available grant sources and to initiate fund-raising programs for Commission projects;
h) To conduct ten or more historical tours and to give ten or more programs of a historical nature;
i) To conduct a "History Appreciation Week" emphasizing our county's heritage;
j) To apply for ten or more official Texas historical markers;
k) To place complete holdings of marker applications with official inscriptions in the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection, the Fort Worth Public Library, the TCJC Heritage Room, and other appropriate institutions;
l) To monitor Fort Worth zoning commission meetings and make recommendations concerning historic preservation;
m) To assist and support the Historical Preservation Council for Tarrant County in conducting a countywide historical survey and in conserving neighborhoods;

n) To conduct a workshop on applying for National Register designations and for Texas Historic Landmark designations:
o) To prepare and release Commission news and feature stories to the media;
p) To participate in the statewide "Texas Heritage Project";
q) To encourage owners of property in the 900 block of downtown Fort Worth to restore and preserve their properties;
r) To research and preserve pioneer cemeteries in Tarrant County.

REVISED BYLAWS ADOPTED

At its January 14th Annual Meeting, the Commission approved new bylaws which created new Standing Committees. Current chairmen are:

Archives Committee, Ruby Schmidt
Awards Committee, Frances Allen
Education Committee, John Hugh Smith
Finance and Budget Committee, Jayne Payne
Historical Appreciation Committee, Charlie McAfferty
Historical Preservation Committee, Carol Roark
Historical Marker and Research Committee, Duane Gage
Public Information Committee, Duane Gage (Acting)

SPECIAL CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Following the creation of the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund by Commissioners Court, a special Cemetery Preservation Committee has been established, with Mike Patterson its chairman. his committee has the responsibility to coordinate research on, conduct on-site inspection of and maintain neglected and unkept public and private cemeteries in Tarrant County. Already this year Mike has coordinated the cleaning of the Mount Gilead Cemetery, Hood Cemetery, Witten Cemetery, and has completed research not only on those burial grounds but also on the lost Spring Garden Cemetery. Over twenty gravestones at Spring Garden have been located, with several containing legible inscriptions.

The Cemetery Preservation Committee has also assumed the responsibility to preserve and research the origins of displaced tombstones; the Commission has adopted a resolution notifying all law enforcement agencies in the county to transfer displaced and vandalized tombstones to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Plans are under way to use an abandoned cemetery as a depository to display displaced tombstones which cannot be returned to their original sites.

HISTORICAL MARKER UPDATE

Since January lst, the following marker applications have been submitted and approved:

Niles City, researched and written by Janie Reid
William Letchworth Hurst, by Mike Patterson
Mount Gilead Cemetery, by Mike Patterson
Witten Cemetery, by Mike Patterson
Spring Garden Community, by Mike Patterson
Marshall R. Sanguinet House, by Kathy Livingston
Mount Gilead Baptist Church, Keller, by Mike Patterson

The Commission is seeking funds ($325.00 each) for the following completed applications:

William Madison McDonald (in Oakwood Cemetery)
Chivers Cemetery, Southlake
Harrison Cemetery, Arlington

Donations for markers should be made payable to TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION and mailed to Chairman Duane Gage, TCJC NE, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76053.

## MARKER RESEARCH UPDATE

Research is continuing on the following marker application topics: Thomas Jefferson Thompson (Veteran of Texas REvolution); Ayres Cemetery; Azle Schools; Hood Cemetery; Grapevine College; TSTA Building; Hereford Hotel; Mitchell Cemetery; B. B. Paddock; White Settlement Baptist Church; Gibson Cemetery; Ford Cemetery; the O. D. Stevens "mystery mansion"; Tate Springs Baptist Church; Lily B. Clayton School; Lucas Funeral Homes; Johnson Plantation Cemetery.

If anyone has information on any of the above topics, please forward copies of documentation, etc., to marker chairman Duane Gage.

## SPACE AVAILABLE

Concerned that the Commission lacked the capability of preserving voluminous archival materials due to lack of storage space, Commissioner A. Lyn Gregory, Precinct Three, has provided a large storage room in the old NOrtheast Subcourthouse, at 8000 Bedford Euless Road in North Richland Hills, for the use of the Commission. Consequently, for the first time ever, TCHC can now accept voluminous archival materials, small artifacts, etc., for preservation purposes. This development is an important step toward the Commission's goal of developing a joint city-county archives in a permanent facility.

## TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

With the Commission's dream of seeing a permanent archives developed in the Old Fort Worth Public Library Building stymied by recent court decisions, the dialogue between county and Fort Worth Officials has now shifted to alternatives. A local major foundation is now involved in discussions that hopefully will lead to the establishment of a facility sufficient to house a historical archives reflective of our county's rich heritage. Expect an announcement in mid-April. Meanwhile the Commission continues its efforts to save documents, business papers, photographs, maps, family histories, Texana, etc., for our great-great-grandchildren.

## TEXAS HISTORY DONATION

Sallye V. Graves of Dallas, who attended the old Florence School in the Hurst community in the early 1900's has donated an important file of Texas history materials that she used in her public teaching career. The materials will be incorporated into our proposed "Texas History Resource Center."

## CONFEDERATE HEROES OF TEXAS

A luncheon to commemorate the birthday of General Robert E. Lee and to honor the Confederate Heroes of Texas was held Jan. 13th at Four Winds Restaurant in Fort Worth. The observance was part of a statewide observance coordinated by the Texas Historical Foundation, in a major project to promote citizen awareness of Texas heritage. Sponsoring the luncheon were four local Confederate organizations: Julia Jackson Chapter #141, U.D.C.; Mid-Cities Blue Bonnet Chapter U.D.C.; Major K. M. VanZandt Camp #1351, S.C.V.; and Gen. Thomas N. Waul's Texas Legion Chapter, Military Order of the Stars and Bars. Dr. Melvin Bradford, Prof. of English, University of DAllas, spoke on "Texas Confederate Heroes" and Fort Worth's Western Hills High School choir brought a musical program of Confederate songs.

TARRANT COUNTY CEMETERY FUND

The County Auditor's office has established a new bank account for the fund to provide basic perpetual care maintenance for our county's pioneer cemeteries, and initial donations have already been deposited. As soon as we receive confirmation from the I.R.S. that donations to the fund are tax-deductible, a major fund-raising project will be developed. Meanwhile donations, made payable to "Tarrant County Cemetery Fund," may be sent to the Office of the County Auditor, Tarrant County Courthouse, Fort Worth, Texas 76102.

AFFAIRS OF STATE: ANNUAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

"Back to Basics" is the theme of the 1981 Annual Historical Preservation Conference of the THC/THF, to be held at the Stephen F. Austin Hotel and the Driskill Hotel in Austin. REgistration begins at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 23 and the conference runs through Saturday April 25th. Registration is $42.50; at the door, $45.00. "YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN" is the topic of the keynote address by Mrs. Nicholas H. Holmes of Mobile, Alabama. Session topics include "Count on COGS" (How they can assist with your preservation plans); "Let's Celebrate," (Sesquincentennial planning for 1986); "Where We Are and Where Are We Going?" (preservation update 1981). A major benefit derived from attending the annual conference is that one becomes more fully aware of useful programs and techniques that can be used effectively.

Registration fees should be made payable to TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, P. O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

NORTH FORT WORTH ARCHITECTURAL/HISTORICAL SURVEY PUBLICATION

The North Fort Worth inventory of historic homes, building and public sites, begun in 1977, has been published in The North Fort Worth Architectural/Historical Survey and Adaptive Reuse Studies. It was put together by the Junior League of Fort Worth Inc., Texas Heritage inc., North Fort Worth Historical Society, and the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The report includes capsule histories of five North Side areas, examples of the architecture, and recommendations for preservation and modern uses. Copies of the study may be purchased by contacting Carla Hoskins of Texas Heritage Inc. (ph. 336-1212) at 1509 Pennsylvania, Fort Worth, Texas, 76104.

1981 BUDGET, REVISED

Tarrant County Commissioners Court has allocated $2,000.00 for the Historical Commission for 1981, a slight increase over 1980. The revised budget provides the following:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE | $ 50.00 | (includes workshop materials) |
| HISTORICAL MARKER AND ARCHIVES COMMITTEE | 575.00 | (includes microfilming project) |
| HISTORY APPRECIATION/EDUCATION COMMITTEES | 210.00 | (includes awards) |
| NEWSLETTER | 400.00 | (production and mailing) |
| ADMINISTRATION | 765.00 | (correspondence, purchase of materials for archives, registration fees for workshops, etc.) |

NOTES ON A LOST COMMUNITY: LITTLE FOSSIL CREEK METHODIST CHURCH AND CEMETERY

In response to a Star-Telegram article on the Commission's pioneer cemetery preservation efforts, Mr. Haley Parchman (born 1894) remembers a church and cemetery off Sylvania

Avenue at or near Odom Road. Before the turn of the century the Little Fossil Creek Methodist Church was located there; the cemetery and church developed together. The church then languished, and eventually became West Central Avenue Methodist Church, at another location. The congregation later became Boulevard Methodist Church. There is a possibility that the Boulevard church may have early Fossil Creek Church and cemetery records. Names of families believed to be buried there include Jarvis, Knight, Cantrell, Odom, Ozburn, Vaughn, Rippy, McLean. The Dunkards bought the original church building and moved it to Saginaw. The cemetery is on the old Campbell farm, according to Mr. Parchmen.

PRESERVATION ALERT!

Presently there is an extraordinary amount of interest by individuals and firms in restoring historic structures in Fort Worth and Tarrant County for both aesthetic and economic purposes. All Commission members should be prepared to advise them. Ordinarily the property owner whose historic structure is being restored will want to consider having the property placed on the National REgister of Historic Places, if it can qualify, not only to attain that prestigious designation but also possibly to obtain special tax benefits and loans for restoration. The National Register Department, Texas Historical Commission, P. O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas, 78711, should be contacted for information and National Register applications.

Usually the owner of an historic property will want to consider having his historic structure designated as a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark, a designation which brings great prestige to the structure. This Landmark designation is obtained by successfully applying for an official Texas Historical Marker, and applications may be obtained from Duane Gage, Chairman, Tarrant County Historical Commission.

Texas Historical Commission Guidelines and National REgister Guidelines specify that if an historic structure's exterior has been altered substantially, the structure will not qualify for historic designation. GREAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN NOT TO SUBJECT THE STRUCTURE TO APPRECIABLE CHANGES IN EXTERIOR APPEARANCE FROM ITS ORIGINAL ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTERISTICS!

STRUCTURES PRESENTLY WITH NATIONAL REGISTER OR HISTORICAL LANDMARK STATUS MAY LOSE THEIR HISTORIC DESIGNATIONS IF EXTERIOR REMODELING CHANGES ARE APPRECIABLE!

FROM NORTH FORT WORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Deep in "The heart of Cowtown" the memories are being shared by oldtimers and newcomers alike. Sitting in the darkened Auction Barn in the Fort Worth Stockyards, on any Saturday or Sunday, you can hear the tapping, joyous laughter and whispers as the audience relives those golden days of yesteryear.

The North Fort Worth Historical Society is probably having more fun than the many visitors who come to see this sensitive and moving visual-audio presentation. It was produced by Gary Havard, a member. The membership is very proud of Gary's accomplishments and contributions on behalf of the society and readily volunteer their weekends to welcome tourists and hometowners to the historic district.

Donations received at each showing are used to purchase new equipment and "The Heart of Cowtown" will be shown on a permanent basis in the Stockyards area. The program is also available to clubs and organizations at their meetings for a fee. Anyone wanting further information may call Sue McCafferty (626-0580) or Gary Havard (332-3550). Submitted by Sue McCafferty

COMMERCIAL RECORDER DONATED TO TCHC COLLECTION

A complete set of the Fort Worth business weekly, The Commercial Recorder, has been donated to the county's historical archives by the newspaper's present owner. This important journal is a primary source of business, economic, industrial and financial history in Fort Worth since 1931. The donation spans from the early 1930's to about 1960. The volumes were turned over to the professional care and jurisdiction of Regional Archivist Charles Hughes on February 2nd.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Oral History Project of the Fort Worth Public Library, begun by the Southwest and Genealogical Department of the Fort Worth Public Library several years ago, has been reactivated to collect area history through interviews. A special effort is being made to enlist senior citizens to interview senior citizens. Volunteers have been asked to meet at the library at 10:00 a.m., each Friday for discussion and briefing by Judy Brunston, chairman of the project.

AFFAIRS OF STATE: THE MEDALLION

All Commission members not now receiving the Texas Historical Commission's regular news publication, The Medallion, must write and ask to be placed on the mailing list. Send request to: Publications Dept., Texas Historical Commission, P. O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

AFFAIRS OF STATE: STAFF FIELD CONSULTANTS

Staff field consultants are now available to assist local preservationists with problems and answer questions. David Ross, at Sam Rayburn House, Rt. 3, Box 308, Bonham, TX 75418, Ph. (214) 583-5558, Field Consultant for our region, can, if necessary, meet with us and other local groups to discuss programs of work and preservation problems.

MARKER DEDICATIONS:

The Crowley Cemetery official Texas historical marker was dedicated Feb. 15th, in a program coordinated by Alta Lee Futch. Its inscription:

> This burial ground originally served the early settlers of the Deer Creek area who began moving here about 1848. The earliest marked grave is that of Thomas D. Stephenson (1848-57), the eight-year-old son of I. N. Stephenson (d. 1883) who came to Tarrant County in the 1850's. The property was deeded for use as a public burial site in 1879 by Sarah J. "Sallie" Dunn. Originally known as the Deer Creek Cemetery, the name was changed about 1880, shortly after the settlement of Crowley was organized along the route of the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railroad.

The marker for the site of Berachah Home and Cemetery was dedicated on March 7th, with good media coverage and wide public interest. Individuals who had been born at the home in the early twentieth century attended the ceremony or communicated their pleasure that the site of the former home for unwed mothers was being dedicated. Its inscription:

> The Berachah Rescue Society was organized at Waco in 1894 by the Rev. J.T. Upchurch (b. 1870) for the protection of homeless girls and unwed mothers. Nine years later he opened the Berachah Industrial Home at this site. Ten buildings were located here, including a print shop for publication of the "Purity Journal." The cemetery, which contains more

than eighty graves, was first used in 1904 for the burial of Eunice Williams, one of the residents. The home closed in 1935, but the site was used until 1942 as an orphanage run by Upchurch's daughter Allie Mae and her husband Frank Wiese.

## NATIONAL REGISTER AND TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER WORKSHOP CONDUCTED

On Saturday, January 24th Historical Preservation Committee chairman Carol Roark and TCHC Chairman Duane Gage conducted an elementary workshop for applicants working on National Register nominations and Texas historical markers. Twenty-nine individuals attended the three-hour session, which was held in the Fort Worth Central Library. Because of sustained interest, another workshop may be conducted in the autumn.

## GRAPEVINE SUN MICROFILMING PROJECT

The Commission has received permission from the Grapevine Sun to complete the filming of that important early northeast Tarrant County newspaper. The Sun has been microfilmed for the years 1937-present, but many early years of the Sun are yet to be filmed. The Sun began operations in 1897. The new project will include the years 1898-1936, except for several years lost in a fire. Completion of the project will aid the Commission in researching several important projects for the Grapevine area.

## RILEY CEMETERY HAS A FUTURE

At the request of the Commission, the City of Colleyville has assumed jurisdiction over the abandoned historic Riley Cemetery, and plans to preserve it as a heritage park. Included in the city's plans is a budget item to fence the entire one-acre plot. Its official Texas historical marker is already in place.

## FORT WORTH CITY DIRECTORIES AND D.A.R. CEMETERY RECORDS

The Commission has succeeded in extending its project to microfiche the Fort Worth City Directories. Having microcopied the early (1877 to 1900) directories in 1980, the volumes 1904-05, 1905-06, 1909-1910, 1911, 1914, 1916, and 1919 have now been copied, with 67 microfiche cards being donated to each of the following: Fort Worth Public Library's Genealogy and Local History Department; TCJC's Northeast Campus Local History Center; and the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection. These primary Fort Worth history sources have already proven useful in several historical marker application research projects.

Also microcopied and made available to the above mentioned collections are copies of the twelve-volume D.A.R. research of Tarrant County cemeteries conducted in the 1950's. The cemetery records on microfiche consist of 27 cards per set.

## LOOSEGROUP

This dynamic new "organization" held a meeting on Feb. 26th at the home of Larry Hoskins, and heard John Volz, an Austin architect, discuss Phase I of the restoration of the McFarland House. On April 1st the group met at the Schoonover House and heard Darrell Noe, of the Fort Worth City Planning Dept. The Loosegroup evolved from the need to provide a forum for discussion of historic preservation topics for architects, preservation professionals, museum curators, conservators, contractors, historians, researchers, archaeologists, etc., to meet to talk about common problems and to share experiences.

## THE INTERSTATE 30 DOWNTOWN OVERHEAD EXPANSION DILEMMA

The problem between the state highway officials' plans to widen the overhead expressway through downtown Fort Worth and the deeply felt concern of local preservationists that expansion would irreparably harm several significant historic sites and structures, seems no nearer solution. The most threatened building seems to be the Fort Worth Public Market Building, a designated national historic monument and Texas historical landmark.

## "OLD NORTHWEST TEXAS: NAVARRO COUNTY 1846-1860" NOW AVAILABLE

The Fort Worth Genealogical Society has announced the release of this important two-volume work on the history of early settlers in present Navarro, Ellis, Hill, Johnson, Tarrant, and other counties. The two-volume set costs $50.00 + $2.00 postage (Texas residents add $2.50 sales tax). Mail orders to OLD NW TX - FWGS, Box 9767, Fort Worth, TX 76107.

## PRESERVATION ALERT: PRESERVATION GRANT FUND UPDATE

Indications are that Texas and all other states will lose their entire federal Historic Preservation Funding, because of budget cuts under way in Washington. This means no grants for acquiring or restoring historic structures, no survey or planning grants, limited nominations to the National Register, etc. The Texas Historical Commission has requested the Texas State Legislature to provide a Texas Preservation Grant Fund through state appropriations; the request is for $250,000 for each year of the biennium, and is included in the Governor's recommended budget. This request is under consideration now by the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. Your support could greatly influence their decision! Please write your Representative!

## TCU REGIONAL JUNIOR HISTORIANS HISTORY FAIR

Nine hundred students from 28 independent school districts and six private and parochial schools participated in the 1981 TCU History Fair, conducted for grades 4-12 on March 4-6. Winning projects, ranging from miniature replicas of log cabins to posters illustrating history, were on display. "American Heritage" was the 1981 theme. Thirty blue ribbon winners were awarded for first place projects. The three Best of Show winners were: Elementary - Becky Sawyer, fifth grade, Tanglewood Elementary, for construction of a log cabin; Middle School - Mike Cuillo, Crowley H. F. Stevens Middle School, for reconstruction of Christ the King Episcopal Church; High School - Teresa Wallace, Boswell High School junior, for a completely equipped general store.

Also featured at the awards presentations was the Commission's Annual Heritage Award, given to the display that best portrays the heritage of Tarrant County. The 1981 recipient was Karen Metcher, Wedgewood Middle School, for her reproduction of old Camp Bowie.

## HISTORICAL EXHIBITS ON DISPLAY AT TCJC

Several selected junior historians exhibits prepared by area students were on display during the month of March at the TCJC Local History Center, in Tarrant County Junior College's Northeast Campus Library. The exhibits, all of which portrayed Tarrant County scenes, were prepared for competition in various local history fairs, then entered in TCU's Regional Fair, March 4-6th. The TC JC exhibits, sponsored by the Commission, were coordinated by John Hugh Smith, the Commission's Education Committee Chairman.

Included in the select list of exhibits were "Frontier Homebuilding, Texas Style," a log cabin display by Mandy Self; "Aviation in Fort Worth - The Men, The Military, The Industry," by Ken Hassler; "Gause-Ware Funeral Home - A Test by Time and Fire," by Clint Brown; "Where the West Begins - Old Fort Worth," by Kim Carpenter; "Van Zandt Cottage," by Karen Gibson; and "Camp Bowie," by Karen Metscher.

FORT WORTH ZONING ORDINANCE

Fort Worth Zoning Commission members have placed the proposed ordinance protecting historic and cultural sites on "hold" pending assurances that the proposed ordinance would qualify property owners for property tax breaks. The ordinance would create a new Historical and Cultural Advisory Board to develop a citywide preservation plan, oversee requests for H-C zoning, and monitor any development that might affect a historic or cultural district. The ordinance would require a permit before a property owner can move, demolish, add to or alter the facade of any property zoned H-C.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL FOR TARRANT COUNTY: THE SURVEY PROJECT

HPCTC's Survey Committee has been hard at work devising and revising plans for the countywide survey of pre-1940 structures and historic sites. The committee has interviewed several firms and plans to recommend the hiring of a specific firm soon. HPCTC officers have looked into various funds sources. Results of the inventory, when completed, will be published in a book, which will include a photograph, location, description and historical significance of each site and structure. The information will be used to determine which sites could receive recognition from the state and federal governments.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL FOR TARRANT COUNTY: THE DECORATOR'S SHOWCASE

The Council is planning a major fund-raising event this autumn, when John and Sarah Jeffers' home at 1302 Elizabeth Boulevard, Fort Worth, will be made available for a decorator's showcase. Area decorators will display their furnishings and accessories in each room of the home and the Council will promote the week-long event. It is anticipated that advertising will be sold and door fees collected; monies above costs are to be used in helping to finance the countywide survey. For more information, call Deborah Phelan, Executive Director, at (817) 338-0267. A large number of volunteers will be needed to make the showcase a success.

HURST PIONEER DAY CELEBRATION

The committee planning the Hurst Pioneer Day Celebration has announced that the celebration will be held on the parking lot of L. D. Bell High School on Saturday, May 23. A daylong schedule of parades, shows, booths, games, musical groups, art displays, children's activities, are planned. Local cable TV is providing twelve one-half hour shows; a historical committee is planning the TV programs, which will air weekly.

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE RESTORATION

Architect Ward Bogard has asked for copies of photographs and other materials that will help his firm in planning the restoration of the county courthouse. Send any materials that can be of use to him to 131 East Exchange Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76106.

W. T. WAGGONER BUILDING

On February 17 several members of the Commission met with Jeff Jeffus, who is restoring the W. T. Waggoner Building. The group toured the structure and discussed the owner's

rehabilitation plans. Mr. Jeffus was provided with a copy of the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings. Extra copies of this pamphlet are now available. Contact Preservation Committee Chairman Carol Roark, (817) 738-1933.

FEDERAL COURT RECORDS

In regular meeting on March 18th, the Commission unanimously approved a resolution protesting the disposal of federal court records in any program that destroys the integrity or continuity of those records. The resolution urged the Judicial Conference to appoint historians to serve on the historical committes which will identify the records that should be permanently kept. This matter is especially important to the Tarrant County area because of the large volume of federal court records at the Federal Regional Archives in Fort Worth which relate to early North Texas history.

VICE PRESIDENT BUSH DEDICATES NATIONAL REGISTER PLAQUE FOR HOTEL TEXAS

On Monday, March 30th Vice President George Bush unveiled a plaque commemorating the Hyatt Regency Hotel as a National Historic Landmark. Bush praised the former Hotel Texas as "a blend of the past and the future." Later Bush rushed back to Washington, upon receiving news that President Ronald Reagan had been wounded in an assassination attempt.

OLD JAIL TUNNEL UNEARTHED

The subterranean route for prisoners to be transferred from the Tarrant County Courthouse to the old county jail more than a half-century ago was opened by construction workers laying a water main on March 29th, when a 5x4 foot opening was cut about four feet below the surface of Belknap Street. The Commission immediately asked that the surviving section of the tunnel be preserved as a part of the Courthouse Restoration project. Only the portion directly beneath Belknap was damaged.

TOURS, PROGRAMS AND SPEECHES

Commission members have conducted several programs thus far this year. Ruby Schmidt has conducted a Fort Worth historical tour for the Harris County Heritage Society (Jan. 31st); and for the Friends of the Fort Worth Library (March 28th). Ruby has also presented a historical program to Value Volunteers (on Feb. 20th) and to the Magna Carta group (Feb. 28th). On February 10th she participated in a 30-minute broadcast on KTCU.

In addition to coordinating the Jan. 24th National Register/Texas Historical Marker workshop, Carol Roark gave a program on historic preservation (history and method) to docents at the Wichita Falls Museum of Art on Feb. 12th.

Chairman Duane Gage's speaking schedule has included presentations of a program, "Preservation Challenges for the 1980's" to Delta Kappa Gama (Jan. 6th), Pacesetters Club of Hurst (Feb. 16th), and the XYZ Senior Citizens group at Fort Worth First United Methodist Church, (March 12th). Later that day (March 12) Gage conducted a workshop on historical marker research and writing for the Dallas County Historical Commission at Eastfield College. Over 25 people attended, including members of the Kaufman County Historical Commission and Hunt County Historical Commission.

Commission members Charlie McCafferty, Gary Havard, and Steve Murrin continue their promotion of the North Side, conducting numerous programs and tours of the stockyards area.

SHORT TAKES.....

TCHC Chairman Duane Gage participated in a "1981" Program of Work Task Force" meeting of the Texas Historical Foundation's task force committee at Austin on February 24th. The Foundation's program will be promoted at the April 23-25th Annual Preservation Conference.... Commission member Dee Barker has been called upon to serve as consultant in the Colleyville Chamber of Commerce's restoration of the old Wilkinson Log Cabin..... Photo-Journalist Joseph Weisberg is applying for a grant from the Texas Committee for the Humanities, to finance a travelling photo exhibit of the history of the Fort Worth Livestock Show. Gage is serving as Humanist advisor and Commission Treasurer. B. J. Clark is selected to coordinate the dispensing of the grant funds, if the application is approved...

Thanks to a generous gift from Mrs. M. E. Owens of Keller, and to additional support from Commission members Jack D. Watson, Marianne Juran, Beryl Gibson, Jayne Payne, and David Dunnett, and a special discount from Leonard's Farm and Ranch Store, the Commission now has a new chain saw for the use of the Cemetery Preservation Committee in its maintenance of pioneer cemeteries.....

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Archives Committee Chairman Ruby Schmidt continues her amazing record of locating and securing important notes, photographs, and documents on Tarrant County History for the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection, earmarked for the city-county archives.

Mansfield Historical Society officers Beth Canright and Beryl Gibson have submitted a great deal of research material on Southeast Tarrant County cemeteries to the Commission. TCHC Chairman Duane Gage met with the Mansfield group on Saturday March 21st and made plans for restoration of the Perry Cemetery and a community cleanup day for the Cope Cemetery.

.....Dee Barker, Duane Gage, Ward Bogard, and Commissioner B. D. Griffin were Tarrant County representatives to the dedication of the Dallas County Administration Building (Old School Book Depository) in Dallas on March 29th. The School Book Depository was awarded an official Texas Historical Marker in a most fitting and impressive ceremony.

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Duane Gage, Chairman
c/o Dept. of History, TCJC (817) 281-7860
828 Harwood Road
Hurst, TX 76053

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# Tarrant County Historical Commission

June, 1981
Volume 2, no. 2

Fort Worth, Texas

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## HIGHLIGHTS OF ANNUAL HISTORICAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

Tarrant County Historical Commission made new friends and gained new ideas at the Texas Historical Commission - Texas Historical Foundation Annual Preservation Conference at Austin on April 23-25th. Theme for the Conference was "Back To Basics." Particularly useful sessions concentrated on adaptive use of older buildings; a progress report by THC Director Truett Latimer; distribution of County Preservation Handbooks; tips on the care and use of historic photographs; a look at Texas' 1986 Sesquicentennial plans; and motivational addresses by Mrs. Nicholas Holmes of Mobile, Alabama, and by the indomitable Liz Carpenter. An enjoyable "Gong Show" session featured a brisk exchange of ideas and tips on carrying out programs of work, fund raising, etc., from representatives of several county commissions.

At the Annual Awards Luncheon on April 25th plaudits went to our own Mrs. Jesse H. Barker, recognized as Outstanding Committee Chairman for 1980, for her achievements as TCHC's Liaison Committee Chairman. Dee Barker's well-deserved award pinpoints that sustained and dedicated committee leadership is vital to a county historical commission's success. Also at the Awards Luncheon TCHC Chairman Duane Gage was on hand to accept The Distinguished Service Award presented to Tarrant County Historical Commission for outstanding accomplishments in heritage preservation in 1980.

## JOSEPH J. BALLARD JR. ELECTED PRESIDENT OF TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Fort Worth native son Joe Ballard, whose longstanding work in historical preservation is well known throughout the state, was elected 1981-82 president of the Texas Historical Foundation at the Annual Conference in Austin on April 24th. The foundation is a non-profit corporation that supports the programs of the Texas Historical Commission, county commissions, seeking to preserve historical structures, documents, and other materials concerning Texas life and history.

Ballard, whose wife Jeri Ballard (a TCHC member) is chairwoman of Texas Heritage Inc., announced that in addition to supporting and promoting programs and objectives of the Texas Historical Commission, he will strengthen the Foundation's support of the 254 county historical commissions and encourage the participation of business leaders in preservation activities.

## FORT WORTH'S HISTORIC FIRE STATION NO. 1 IS SOLD

A bidding squabble for the old Fire Station No. 1, built in 1907 at Commerce and Second streets, on the site of Fort Worth's first city hall, was resolved recently when FW City Council voted to accept the bid of Sid Bass's PantherCity Development Company. Bass's plans are to restore the site for a historical-information center that will be surrounded on three sides by a 1,000 car parking garage.

JOINT CITY-COUNTY HISTORICAL ARCHIVES UPDATE

Fort Worth and Tarrant County officials met on June 24th and discussed the possibility of a multi-million dollar addition to the downtown Fort Worth Library as the best place for our long dreamed of city-county archives. The proposed archives would house city-county historic records and documents as well as the genealogy section of the Fort Worth Library system..... Look for an announcement of a bond election for early 1982, to fund the expansion.

THE JOINT CITY-COUNTY ARCHIVES COLLECTION

Regional Archivist Charles Hughes, Fort Worth Chief Librarian Linda Allmand, TCHC Chairman Duane Gage, and TCHC Archives Committee Chairman Ruby Schmidt met on April 22nd, ironed out and signed an agreement to begin collecting and storing materials for the joint facility. Hughes and Gage have arranged to provide space for archival materials from the old Fort Worth Library Building, including the only existing copies of the Fort Worth Press, 150 boxes of Tarrant County Abstracts, numerous scrapbooks and other memorabilia from the Mary Daggett Lake Collection, and Fort Worth newspapers from the late 1800's. The materials are now stored at Regional Archives space at the TCU Library and in storage space provided in the Northeast Sub-courthouse by Commissioner Lyn Gregory.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR.....

Someone to search for and inventory all pre-1900 Fort Worth and Tarrant County newspapers listing the location and condition of all original copies and microfilm copies, with a view toward obtaining good quality microfilm copies of all newspapers available from the 1800's.

AFFAIRS OF STATE --THE MAIN STREET PROGRAM

Five additional Texas cities will be selected for the 1982 Main Street program. Applications are now available from Anice Read, Director - Main Street Program, Texas Historical Commission, P. O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711 (512) 475-3092. In Tarrant County, the cities of Mansfield and Grapevine, both with many of their old downtown buildings still unaltered or restorable, should have excellent chances to be selected. The program provides experitise, tax incentives, and assistance in gaining historical designations and incentive grant funds for restoring downtown business sections.

AFFAIRS OF STATE - GRANT WRITING WORKSHOPS

The Texas Historical Commission is sponsoring three two-day grant writing workshops this summer, the sessions to be conducted by Don Umlah of Arizona State University. Participants will learn where to find funding, and how to write successful proposals. Registration for the workshops (Hillsboro, July 13-14; Plainview July 15-16; Seguin July 17-18), should be sent to Texas Historical Commission, Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

AFFAIRS OF STATE - FIFTH ANNUAL TEXAS HERITAGE CONFERENCE

Texas Heritage Council will hold its annual conference on September 11-12, in Fredericksburg on September 11-12th. In addition to useful sessions on historical preservation, awards will be given to outstanding achievement in historic preservation, conservation and research.

FERERAL COURT RECORDS

TCHC has received a letter from Robert M. Warner, Archivist of the United States, stating that the National Archives and Records Service has halted implementation of the 1980 disposition schedule for Federal court records, pending the resolution of several issues concerning the need to identify permanently valuable records, and to study alternative preservation methods. This is an important development for Tarrant County, because of a large volume of Federal Court records at the regional facility on Hemphill Street in Fort Worth, records that provide significant primary documents on early Tarrant County.

BALDRIDGE HOUSE ALTERATIONS

TCHC has requested that the Texas Historical Commission consider revoking the Texas Historical Landmark status for the Baldridge House, located at 1500 Crestline, Fort Worth. Preliminary response from THC indicates that the landmark status will not likely be revoked, since the pink paint and the alterations-while perhaps not aesthetically pleasing to county preservationists--have not seriously compromised the structure's architerctural integrity. To date no structure with landmark status anywhere in Texas has had its historical landmark status revoked.

900 BLOCK UPDATE

Student research on the 900 block (downtown Fort Worth, bounded by Throckmorton and Houston) has been limited. Jeri Ballard has been working with Ronnie Brown of Terry's Grill to promote restoration of the facade of the H. P. Shiel Building which houses Terry's. Additional information on the M. P. Bewley Building (now Thompson's Book-store) has come to light. Restoration on the Insurance Building at northwest corner of 9th and Houston is progressing; plans for a marker application for it are under way... Rumor has it that the City of Fort Worth may appeal its loss of the old Fort Worth Main Library Building to the U.S. Supreme Court.....National Register designation for the Atelier Building has been held up, pending additional historical research on the structure which originated as the Edrington Bank Building.

FLATIRON BUILDING'S FUTURE SEEMS ASSURED

Dallas architect Don Jarvis, descendant of Fort Worth pioneers, has purchased the 1907 Flatiron Building at 9th and Houston street. The Renaissance Revival structure, designed by Sanguinet and Staats, will be restored as an office building, with possibly a restaurant on the ground floor. Originally built for doctors' offices by Dr. Bacon Saunders, the structure also once housed the J. Foster Ashburn Map Company offices.

FORT WORTH STOCKYARDS VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

Sue McCafferty, president of North Fort Worth Historical Society and other volunteers are now manning the visitor information center in the east wing of the Stockyards Coliseum from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily. The center provides information about the historic stockyards district and other points of interest in Fort Worth. Brochures are provided by Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and assistance by the North Fort Worth Business Association. North Fort Worth Historical Society continues to show the slide/tape, "Spirit of Cowtown", by Gary Havard in the sales arena on weekends.

AFFAIRS OF STATE - THE MEDALLION

All Commission members and associates not now receiving the Texas Historical Commission's regular newspublication, The Medallion, must write and ask to be placed on the mailing list. Send request to: Publications Department, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

GRAPEVINE SUN MICRO-FILMING PROJECT

Dee Barker, Mike Patterson, and Duane Gage have sorted through over thirty years of the Grapevine Sun, ca. 1898-1934, and have prepared the materials for micro-filming in late July or early August. An amazing amount of this important early northeast Tarrant County newspaper has been preserved, but many issues are still missing. Anyone who has old Grapevine Sun issues prior to 1935 should contact Gage at 281-7860. The micro-filming project is being funded by Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau.

REQUEST FROM PALO PINTO COUNTY

Palo Pinto County Historical Commission is compiling Volume Two of its county history and is requesting individuals with Palo Pinto County background to submit typed, double-spaced family histories; photographs may also be donated. Chairman of the book committee is John R. Winters, P.O. Box 98, Palo Pinto, Texas 76072. Included in the forthcoming volume will be excerpts from the Diary of Jonathan Hamilton Baker who moved to Palo Pinto County from Tarrant County about 1858.

HISTORICAL MARKER UPDATE

Since April 1st, the following marker applications have been submitted to the Texas Historical Commission:
TSTA Building, researched by Andy Kemp
Harrison Cemetery, on Meadowbrook Drive, researched by David Dunnett
Tate Springs Baptist Church, Arlington, researched by Mrs. Harry Blalock
Emanuel Hebrew Rest Cemetery, Fort Worth, researched by Lisa Mack
Inscriptions for the following marker applications have been approved:
Bourland Cemetery, Keller (dedication tentatively set for September 12th).
Spring Garden Community (Bedford-Colleyville, on Cheek Sparger Road)
Mount Gilead Cemetery, Keller
William Letchworth Hurst, Hurst.

The Commission is seeking funds ($325.00 each) for the following completed marker applications:
William Madison McDonald (in Oakwood Cemetery)
Hood Cemetery, in Southlake
Snider Cemetery, Kennedale
Ford Cemetery, Grand Prairie
The Commission has collected about $100.00 for the Chivers Cemetery application to date, with hopes that Northeast Board of Realtors may sponsor the marker and pay the remainder.
Research is continuing on the following marker application topics:
Ayres Cemetery; Azle Schools (funds in hand); Grapevine College (funds in hand); Hereford Hotel; Mitchell Cemetery; White Settlement Baptist Church; Gibson Cemetery, in Mansfield; Gibbons Cemetery, in Arlington; I.D. Parker Homestead and Public Cemetery; Blackstone Hotel; Smithfield Masonic Lodge #435; Tate Cemetery; Johnson Plantation Cemetery, Thannish Building; Nash Home (Ronald McDonald House); Hotel Texas, Isham's Chapel; H.P. Shiel Building; etc.
If anyone has information on any of the above topics, please forward copies of documentations, etc., to marker chairman Duane Gage, TCJC NE Campus, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76053.

Dedication dates for the following markers have been set:
Bourland Cemetery in Keller - Saturday September 12th.
John Peter Smith, 1000 Throckmorton, Fort Worth - Wednesday September 16th.
Dedications of the following markers were conducted this quarter:
John Peter Smith, Oakwood Cemetery Founder - April 8th;
Handley Cemetery, April 25th;
Bidault House, Colleyville, May 2nd;
Fort Worth Public Market Building, May 16th;
Grapevine Cemetery, May 30th;
Thomas B. Saunders Family, June 7th.

Proposed inscriptions for the following markers are under study and/or revision:
Witten Cemetery, Colleyville; Mount Gilead Baptist Church; Marshall R. Sangunet House; Niles City.

Marker Miscellany:
When the state historical marker accounting procedures were transferred from the Texas Historical Foundation to the Texas Historical Commission this past spring, $130.00 was found to be credited to the Tarrant County Historical Commission, most of it earmarked for a building marker for the Land Title Office Building, approved years ago but never completed. Mary Bruce of Betty Dickens Realty has contributed funds to pay for the Land Title marker (costs had risen since the initial application); therefore the Land Title Building marker project is nearing completion.
Texas Historical Commission has reported that funds may be available to replace missing markers, first requested, first served. The only "missing" marker in Tarrant County is the one for the Hand-Carved Carousel at Six Flags over Texas..... If you know of other missing markers, please notify chairman Duane Gage at 281-7860.

NEW MEMBER APPOINTED AND NEW ASSOCIATES SELECTED

TCHC has gained significant expertise and talent recently. Mrs. Marty Craddock, 4904 Dexter, Fort Worth, 76107 (738-8037) was appointed to the Commission, effective in time for her to become TCHC representative to the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County. As a Fort Worth Junior Leaguer Marty has been instrumental in the creation and development of the council and its programs and is serving as the council's president for 1981-82.

In an effort to gain more widespread community involvement on the historical commission and uncover "new talent", the TCHC has--with approval of Commissioners Court--instituted an Associates Program, that is designed to enlist the expertise and participation of skilled local history researchers and preservationists to help the commission carry out its planned program of work. TCHC Executive Committee has selected the following: Alta Lee Futch, 121 Driskell Drive S., Crowley, Texas 76036, Junior Historian sponsor; Beryl Gibson, 101 East Kimball, Mansfield, 76063, leading SE Tarrant County preservationist; Janie Reid, 5941 Tourist Drive, Fort Worth, 76117, North Fort Worth Historian; and Mildred Spratling, 1970 Nottingham, Fort Worth, 76112, Genealogist-researcher.

BILLY BOB'S TEXAS AND STOCKYARDS AREA PRESERVATION

With the opening of Billy Bob's Texas night club this spring, demand for parking spaces, adaptation of historic structures, and distorted concepts of the stockyards historic district provide tough challenges to preservationists in the area.

QUERY FROM NEW YORK

TCHC has responded to a request from John Rossman of New York City, for a map of the Dallas-Fort Worth-Cleburne Interurban, drawing on our research collected for the historical marker project completed last year. Such is the residual effect of our marker research efforts.

MITCHELL CEMETERY

On April 15th Duane Gage, Richard Boykin, and Janie Reid investigated the old Mitchell Cemetery site on NE 28th Street, Fort Worth, and discovered several native limestone markers (no inscriptions) marking graves of this once-forgotten burial ground.

OLD NORTHWEST TEXAS

The TCHC has voted to submit the publication of the Fort Worth Genealogical Society's Old Northwest Texas: Navarro County 1846-1850, for 1981 state competition. Funds to purchase the three required copies gratefully received from B. J. Clark and Frances Allen.

TARRANT COUNTY COURTHOUSE RESTORATION PROJECT

TCHC has organized a special Tarrant County Courthouse Preservation/Restoration Committee to monitor the restoration of the courthouse, offer input and recommendations to the architect and to Commissioners Court. Included in the responsibilities of the special committee are the restoration of the horse fountain (architect Paul Keoppe has stated that he will have the horse fountain restoration blueprints to Commissioner Lyn Gregory by August 17th)and the development of a special "Tarrant County Archives" room in the restored building. Ward Bogard and Associates have asked TCHC to provide suggestions on how the "Archives" room, which measures 23½' x 32', should be equipped, furnished, and utilized. Please send suggestions to Duane Gage, Chairman.

JUNIOR HISTORIAN SPONSORS MEET

Grapevine Middle School teacher and Junior Historian sponsor Donna Jernigan coordinated a regional sponsor's meeting for Junior Historians in Arlington, Texas on May 6th. Junior Historian sponsors and supporters discussed the pooling of resources among themselves and the feasibility of forming a more viable organization through closer cooperation and cohesion. Attending from our Commission were John Hugh Smith, chairman of our Education Committee, and TCHC Associate Alta Lee Futch, Crowley Middle School Junior Historian Sponsor.

FORT WORTH HISTORICAL-CULTURAL ZONING ORDINANCE

Fort Worth Zoning Commission has presented a new historical-cultural ordinance designed to preserve significant buildings, sites and districts in Fort Worth and City Council has it under study to determine its impact upon property owners' tax incentives, restrictions on property use and alterations. The ordinance will create a Historical-Cultural Advisory Board to oversee the preservation of historic or cultural property in the city. It also creates a permit committee of the board to oversee any proposed alteration to property zoned under the ordinance. If the City Council and the Department of the Interior approve the new ordinance, property owners would qualify for tax write-off incentives and would be restricted from demolishing or altering the historic property without a permit.

JOINT COMMISSION MEETING PLANNED

TCHC is hosting a joint meeting of Tarrant, Wise, and Parker County Historical Commissions at Azle's Trammel's Restaurant on Wednesday, July 15, 2:00 p.m. In the joint session each of the county commissions will share information about its planned program of work, special projects, etc., followed by an informal question-answer session.

SANBORN INSURANCE MAPS ON TARRANT COUNTY

TCHC member Kathy Livingston has reported that several very useful early Sanburn Insurance Company maps for Tarrant County are in the Barker History Center, Austin. The maps are duplicates of maps in the Library of Congress's collection, and copies possibly might be available for ordering. Included are Fort Worth, 1885, 12 sheets; 1889, 17 sheets; 1893, 27 sheets; 1898, 51 sheets; Arlington 1900, 1 sheet; 1905, 2 sheets; 1911, 6 sheets; Grapevine 1921, 4 sheets; 1935, 3 sheets; Handley 1930, 5 sheets.

PAUL CAMPBELL ON GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL

Serving as officers in the Greater Metroplex Council for Genealogical Research are Tarrant County residents Paul Campbell (TCHC member), first vice president; Mrs. Pearl Morgan, Arlington and Mrs. Nina Winters, Euless, secretaries.

NINTH ANNUAL IN-SERVICE WORKSHOP FOR JUNIOR HISTORIANS SCHEDULED

The Texas State Historical Association is sponsoring the ninth annual in-service workshop for Junior Historian and Webb Society sponsors, and history and social studies teachers, at Fredericksburg for August 13-14th. This is a practical how to-do-it workshop, designed to convey maximum information and skills in minimum time. Attending from Tarrant County will be TCHC Associate Alta Lee Futch.

CINCO deMAYO CELEBRATIONS HELD

Fort Worth's North Side was the site of a two-day festival on May 2nd and 3rd, as members of the Mexican-American community kicked off activities celebrating the victorious Battle of Puebla fought by a Mexican army against well-trained French troops May 5, 1862. Festivities began at noon on Saturday, May 2, at All Saints Catholic Church, 214 NW 20th. On Tuesday, May 5th, several Fort Worth schools held celebrations marking this important event in the history of Mexican-American history.

DONATION

TCHC gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a cash gift of $40.00 from Leon Mitchell, Jr., teacher at Eastern Hills High School. The gift will be applied toward the purchase of an official Texas Historical Marker for the pioneer Chivers Cemetery in Southlake.

HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK PLANS UNDER WAY

TCHC has voted to promote Tarrant County History Appreciation Week, September 13-19th. Highlight of the week will be the dedication of the official Texas Historical Marker for John Peter Smith, in Peter Smith Park across the street from Fort Worth Municipal Building. Commissioners Court and mayors will be asked to declare official "History Appreciation Week". Schools will be sent suggestions to conduct local history programs and prepare exhibits.

PROGRAMS, TOURS, AND SPEECHES

TCHC speakers have continued to be in demand this quarter. Steve Murrin presented a talk and tour on the stockyards area to the Petroleum Engineers Auxiliary of Fort Worth on April 18th. Paul Campbell conducted a 4-day seminar on genealogy research at the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth in April and spoke to the Fort Worth Genealogical Society in May....

TCHC Chairman Duane Gage's schedule included a presentation, "Preservation Challenges in the 1980s," to Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Association on April 19th; a talk on local research sources to the Mid-Cities Genealogical Society on May 5th; and a program on early Fort Worth history, presented to the fourth grade students at Westcliff Elementary School on May 22nd.

Archives Committee Chairman Ruby Schmidt's schedule included programs for the First Presbyterian Church on April 5th, Mid-Cities Genealogical Society on April 7th, West Side Optimists Club on April 9th, a bus tour for the Fort Worth Friends of the Library on April 11th, a slide presentation to Braniff employees on April 12th, and a program for a campfire girls group on April 14th. On May 2nd Ruby Schmidt conducted a historical bus tour for Fort Worth Friends of the Library, and a tour and program for the National Fire Chaplain's Convention group on May 3rd; spoke to a Senior Citizens Genealogy study group and to three elementary school classes at J. L. Hill School on May 8th. On May 8th she conducted a tour for Trinity Lutheran Church. She also participated in tours for Chisholm Trail Days at the stockyards on June 13-14th.

The indefatigable Charlie McCafferty conducted stockyards area tours for an Electrical Inspectors convention on April 3rd; a Southwest High School group on April 6th; a group of TV Channel 27 personnel on April 8th; a Womans Club group on April 10th; Braniff Airlines day on April 12th; City of Denver Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors on April 24th; helped coordinate an ethnic festival for Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce at the Americana Hotel on April 23rd; toured with Arlington High School students on May 2nd; National Conference of Fire Chaplains on April 3rd; a St. Andrews Catholic Senior Citizens group on May 5th and a Temple Special Schools group on the same day; presented a tour to school groups on May 8th, 11th, 12th; a Teachers Corps executive group on May 14th; a Knights of Columbus group on May 19th; a University of Dallas group on May 21st; Association of University Women, May 23rd; fifty from Lena Pope Home on May 26th; two school groups on May 28th; Rockwood Church group on June 11th; Rosemont School group on June 19th; Downtown YWCA on June 23rd. Wheew! Charlie!

NEW YORK STUDY GROUP TOURS STOCKYARDS

On June 16th Charlie McCafferty hosted a stockyards tour for study group from Rockland Community College, Suffern, New York. The study program, "Tradition and Change in Texas," is taught by sociology instructor Philip Parker, and consists of an eight-day study tour of Dallas, Houston, Galveston, Austin, San Antonio, Big Bend, Hill Country, and Fort Davis. The course objective is to study the state both "as a region of the nation" and "as a state of mind."

AT THISTLE HILL

Texas Heritage Director Carla Hoskins reports that youth working in the community conservation and improvement program are rebuilding the pergola on the west side of Thistle Hill and, as a part of their training program, have built a ramp for handicap accessibility at the downtown Fort Worth YMCA.

DONATION

Richard Boykin has donated a brick he saved from the old Tarrant County Jail tunnel, and has donateda watch fob, inscribed "Rhome Farmers Commission Co., Fort Worth, Texas," found on Grand Avenue in North Fort Worth, for the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection.

DONATION

**Lallah Wright of Fort Worth has donated two historically significant folders of correspondence and related documents on "Jury Service for Women", a project of Texas Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, 1937-1940. These materials will be turned over to the jurisdiction of our Regional Archivist, Charles Hughes, at our September Commission meeting. An important addition to our Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection!**

**Sid R. Bass of Bass Brothers Enterprises, Inc., has sent the Commission a beautiful 8 x 10 black and white photograph of the front of the Burk Burnett Building, ca. 1950s scene. This structure is Tarrant County's most recent addition to the National Register of Historic Places, and is an integral part of Bass's Main Street project.**

CEMETERY PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES

Mike Patterson, chairman of TCHC Cemetery Preservation Committee, reports that a special maintenance fund is being established for Witten Cemetery in Colleyville. The entire area of Witten Cemetery will be fenced. The area with burials has already been cleaned.... Cleanup operations continue at the Hood Cemetery in Southlake.... A road has been cut to the pioneer Dobkins Cemetery on the D/FW Airport grounds and restoration of the burial plot continues.... Volunteer work continues on the Bedford Cemetery.... Patterson helped arrange a cemetery cleanup day at Keller's Mt. Gilead Cemetery; fifteen readable stones have been uncovered, and the cemetery's inventory has been updated based on these new discoveries....

Patterson has conducted numerous on-site inspections of the Spring Garden Cemetery site, corresponded with propertyowners and workmen in regard to saving any cemetery relics discovered during housing construction, and took possession of one marker dated 1869 which was uncovered during grading operations.... Restoration of the I. D. Parker Public Cemetery continues; sandstones have been hauled and reset to serve as more visible grave markers for numerous graves marked only with small fieldstones and in danger of being lost. The City of Hurst has been contacted in regard to taking over possession and maintenance of this, the oldest historic site in Hurst.... Patterson has assisted with genealogical work in each of the above cemeteries, and has prepared official Texas Historical marker applications for each of them. The Cemetery Preservation Committee has logged hundreds of miles driving in these projects, and hundreds of hours of volunteer time.

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

Wildcatters, a recent publication by Sally Helgesen (Doubleday; $10.95) should be considered an essential reference for Tarrant County business history, regarding the oil families of Fort Worth. The book is a biography of W. A. Moncrief, Sr. and of the Moncrief oil operations. Other Fort Worth petroleum giants, such as Sid Richardson, Perry Bass, Marshall Young, and Larry Meeker, are also studied.

OAKWOOD CEMETERY RECORDS

Ruby Schmidt has arranged the microfilming of the Oakwood Cemetery (North Fort Worth) sexton's records, with a copy to be housed in the Fort Worth Public Library and the master to be in the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection. A word of thanks is due to the Oakwood Cemetery Association for providing this useful service for preservation of historical information.

SPANISH SPEAKING GUIDE REQUESTED

Jeri Ballard has received a request from Luftansa Airlines in Mexico for tours of Fort Worth by guides who speak Spanish...

WHITE SETTLEMENT PROGRAMS

TCHC member Frances Allen helped coordinate an extensive educational program for the West Side Elementary School of White Settlement in April and May, utilizing the Texas Historical Landmark William T. Allen Cabin. Talks were presented to six classes totaling 127 children, discussing the pioneers and their homes, with details on the history of the Allen Cabin. Mrs. Barbara Arabian, a consultant on arts and crafts, conducted daily classes over a six weeks period, demonstrating spinning, weaving, dying cloth, making lye soap and many other skills of pioneer women. On Monday, May 4, a second grade class put on a play, "Stone Soup," in costumes, to a large audience of parents and neighbors. On May 25-26 Frances Allen showed slides of places and pioneers in White Settlement prior to 1900, and used a map to trace the pioneers' route from England and Ireland to the Southweastern United States and then across to Texas. The children's interests were aroused and they were bright and responsive.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Mrs. Stanley Smith, 3916 Weyborn Drive, Fort Worth, has oragnized a small committee interested in compiling data on early pre-1900 physicians in Tarrant County. She represents an auxilliary to the Tarrant County Medical Association....

FESTIVAL OF PINATAS

Rene Harris of Fielder Museum, 1616 W. Abram in Arlington, has announced the arrival of a traveling exhibit of pinatas, sponsored by the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio. Displaying numerous examples of modern day designs, the exhibit will be shown at Fielder Museum until August ist. The museum is open from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; and on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. There is no admission charge.

PEOPLE TO KNOW!

The Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County has announced its 1981-1982 Board of Trustee Delegates, who can be contacted concerning neighborhood preservation projects, etc.:

Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association-Jean Kelly, 731-2048
Arlington Historical Society - Wayne Antrup, 275-5513
Azle Historican Museum Society - B. J. Clark, 444-2533
Berkeley Place Association - Paula Brittain, 926-8600
Fielder House Foundation, Inc. - Rene Harris, 460-4001
Ft. Worth Chapter American Institute of Architects - Larry Hoskins 926-5550
Fairmont Association - Judi Cole, 927-8033
Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. -Leann Adasm 923-1472
Mid South Citizens Committee - Lon Brunam, 924-4831
Mistletoe Heights Association - Bill Pruett, 924-1114
Neighborhood Housing Service of Ft. Worth - Monette Fugate, 536-8097
Northeast Historical Society - Evelyn Cushman, 284-5792
North Highmount Neighborhood Association - Stephen Maizlish, 735-8162
North Fort Worth Historical Society - Gary Havard, 292-8695
Oakhurst Neighborhood Association - Sharon Kutilek, 838-6296
Park Hill Association - Liz Bean, 924-2244
Ryan Place Improvement Association - Sarah Jeffers, 924-6873
Sunset Terrace Neighborhood Association - Tom Reynolds, 738-3695
Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society - Lenora Rolla, 534-1349
Tarrant County Historical Commission - Marty Craddock, 738-8037
Tarrant County Historical Society - Frank Goss, 731-3150
Texas Heritage, Inc. - Frances Merrill, 332-7171
White Lake Association - Doyle Willis, Jr., 451-6808
White Settlement Historical Society - Y. S. Morgan, 246-2401

Oakwood Cemetery Assoc. Mary Rankin, 738-9939

Univ. Place Assoc. - Gary Griffith, 923-6458

Univ. West Neighborhd. Assoc. -Annice Ipser, 927-2838

ON THE SCHEDULE

July 18-25 - Decatur, Texas, Wise County Old Settlers Reunion
July 25 - Central Texas Museum Association Publications Workshop, Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum, 715 Columbus Avenue, Waco, Texas.
August-December, Exhibit of "Texas Women - A Celebration of History," at Dallas Hall of State, Fiargrounds Park.
August 4, Mid-Cities Genealogical Society Meeting, Euless Public Library, 7:00 p.m.
August 9, Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, 2nd Annual Garden Parties will be held on Terrell Avenue. Call Lenora Rolla 534-1349.
August 11, Arlington Genealogical Society Meeting, Arlington Public Library. 7:00 p.m.
August 22, Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society, Old Fashioned Dinner on the Grounds, Hillside Park between Maddox and Magnolia, 5-8 p.m.
September 3, Beginning Genealogy Classes, South Campus TCJC, taught by Ruby Schmidt. Contact TCJC Office of Continuing Education.
September 12, Dedication of Bourland Cemetery historical Marker, Keller, 10:30 a.m.
September 13-19, Local History Appreciation Week in Tarrant County
September 16, Dedication of Historical Marker for John Peter Smith, 1000 Throckmorton.
October 18-25, Designers Showcase, Sponsored by HPCFTC, at 1302 Elizabeth Boulevard, Fort Worth.

LIVING HISTORY

TCHC Member David Dunnett informs us that for those not familiar with the concept of "Living History," a demonstration will be held at Fort Richardson State Historic Site in Jacksboro, Texas on September 19 & 20, each day until 2:00 p.m. The park is sponsoring "Fort Richardson Days - 1868," and the public is invited. Many members of various Civil War re-enactment groups will portray a company of post-Civil War U.S. troops. All uniforms, equipment, and weapons will be authentic. Infantry and artillery drill of the era will be demonstrated as well as general frontier post life of the late 1860s.

The concept of "living history" is that when a person visits such an event, he is really there in that time; in this case, 1868. All persons participating at Fort Richardson will be required to retain "first eperson" identity; i. e., portray a soldier or wife on the frontier in 1868.

RESOLUTIONS

TCHC passed the following four resolutions at its May 13,1981 Regular Meeting:
Resolution 3 - 1981, a resolution praising the restoration work of Boy Scout Troop 333 in cleaning up the I. D. Parker Public Cemetery in Hurst.
Resolution 4 - 1981, a resolution authorizing the Palo Pinto County Historical Commission to publis up to ten pages from the Diary of Jonathan Hamilton Baker.
Resolution 5 - 1981, a resolution to appoint ASSOCIATES to the programs of the Commission.
Resolution 6 - 1981, a resolution supporting the restoration of the O. D. Stevens House.

STATE JUNIOR HISTORIAN WINNERS

For the sixth consecutive year Central Junior High Junior Historians from Euless have won the 1981 Outstanding Achievement Award, this year chosen from 175 chapters in the state. They also won an honorable mention ribbon for a chapter display entitled "Old Fashioned Fun." Officers of the chapter include Codi Yosten, records secretary; Robin Klemick, president; Charles Rutledge, media chairman; Jo Hardin, Courtney Hayden, and Sherry Harper are sponsors. Congratulations!

THE TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION is a County Board appointed by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court. The TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COM COMMISSION NEWS is a quarterly publication of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. Items for the publication should be sent, by the end of each calendar quarter, to Duane Gage, Chairman, % TCJC NE Campus, Dept. of History, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76053

From: Tarrant County Historical Commission
Duane Gage, Chairman
828 Harwood Road
Hurst, Texas 76053

THIRD CLASS

BLK RT

FORT WORTH JUL 30 '81 TEX

US POSTAGE .104 METER 5090387

Mrs. Jesse H. Barker
2200 Oak Knoll Drive
Colleyville, Texas 76034

**Tarrant County Historical Commission**

# NEWS

**September, 1981**
**Volume 2, no. 3**

Fort Worth, Texas

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## "WHY THAT BUILDING SHOULD BE SAVED" WORKSHOP IS SCHEDULED

Tarrant County Historical Commission and Texas Historical Commission are planning a Preservation Workshop, "Why That Building Should Be Saved," for Fort Worth on Friday, November 6th, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., in a meeting room of the Fort Worth Central Library, 300 South Taylor, in the Central Business District. The tentative schedule:

8:00-8:30.....Registration (coffee and doughnuts)
8:30-9:00.....Welcome - Mr. Duane Gage, Chairman, Tarrant County Hist. Commission
9:00-10:00.....Why Bother to Save Old Buildings - Texas Historical Commission's Peter Maxon.
10:00-10:15.....Coffee Break
10:15-11:30.....Researching your Building and Marker Program - Claire Williams, Director of Research, Texas Historical Commission
11:30-1:00.....Lunch - Individual Research of Downtown Fort Worth Eateries
1:00-2:00.....Tour Main Street Project - Duane Gage, Ruby Schmidt, Carol Roark
2:00-3:30.....How to Start, Whom to Ask - Peter Maxon, Texas Historical Commission
3:30-3:45.....Break
3:45-4:30.....Open Discussion, Questions and Answers.

The workshop will deal with economic, aesthetic, and historical reasons for saving and restoring old buildings. Individuals wishing to participate in the workshop should write : FIELD SERVICES DEPARTMENT, TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION, Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711.

## DESIGNERS SHOWHOUSE--A FIRST FOR TARRANT COUNTY!

Preservation in Tarrant County undoubtedly will get a big boost October 18-25, when the area's finest designers will display their talents in the home of Dr. and Mrs. John Jeffers, at 1302 Elizabeth Boulevard, Fort Worth. Showhouse Chairman, Paula Brittain, reports that the designers will recreate the elegant, opulent European feeling that the Italianate Revival residence exhibited when John C. Ryan, developer of Ryan Place, built the home for his wife Elizabeth in 1915.

Directed by the Historical Preservation Council for Tarrant County, the showhouse will help fund and publicize the Tarrant County historic resources survey, covering the largest land mass of any such survey to date. The Council has contracted with Charles Hall Page and Associates, Inc., of San Francisco, to conduct the survey designed to identify architecturally, historically, or culturally significant buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts. The data derived from the survey will provide a basis for future planning and historic preservation.

Tickets for the showhouse are $5.00 and are available now by writing the Historical Preservation Council, 600 Eighth Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76104, or phoning (817) 338-0267. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

JOINT SESSION HELD FOR PARKER, TARRANT, AND WISE COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSIONS

On Wednesday, July 15th the Tarrant County Historical Commission hosted a joint meeting with Parker and Wise County historical commissions. Representing Parker County was co-chairman Jon Vandagriff. Arriving from Wise County were Rosalie Gregg, Wise County Chairman; Peggy Logan, Catherine Gonzales, Loraine Feazell, and Alta Mae Cook. The meeting was held at Trammels, in Azle.

The commission chairmen shared information about their various projects and, following a question-answer session, refreshments were served by Mrs. Bea Carter and other members of the Azle Historical Museum Society. Several participants then toured the Azle Museum. Another joint meeting is planned for early spring, at Wise County's museum in the old Decatur Baptist College Building.

LOCOMOTIVE 610 FINDS A HOME

The 610 Foundation, which owns 54-year-old 610 steam locomotive, has been given a 20-year lease to place the locomotive on federal land on James Street in south Fort Worth, adjacent to the Federal Records Center at 4800 Hemphill. The Lima Superpower steam engine was built for the Texas & Pacific Railway in 1927; it was retired to the Will Rogers Coliseum grounds in the early 1950s where it remained on display until the 610 Foundation acquired it in 1967. It was restored to operating condition and pulled the Bicentennial Freedom Train in 1976, when it was designated on the National Register.

In recent years the locomotive had been leased to the Southern Railway to haul tourists and railroad buffs from a station in Georgia. The Foundation hopes to build a metal building to house the locomotive and make it accessible to the public as a railroad museum.

DOWNTOWN FORT WORTH GROWTH STUDIED

In cooperation with the SMU School of Business and the Henry S. Miller Company, William J. Gabriel is preparing a slide show highlighting the historical parallels between the downtown Fort Worth growth currently taking place and the last major growth period, roughly fifty years ago, between 1920 and 1933. The comparisons in the transportation, municipal, public hotel and office building segments of the Central Business District are abundant. In preparing the slide show, Gabriel will compile a data base of all current and historic information regarding all of the major downtown buildings.

PRESERVATION PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The following publications may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, GPO, Washington, D.C. 20402. Remittance must be by check, money order, Visa or Master Card:

Metals in America's Historic Buildings: Uses and Preservation Treatments. Describes the historic uses of architectural metals and provides information on repair and conservation techniques. 024-016-00143-5, $5.50.

New Directions in Rural Preservation. Highlights the benefits of preserving the natural, cultural, and recreational resources of rural areas and provides information about rural preservation efforts. 024-016-00146-0, $4.75.

Rehabilitating Historic Hotels. Describes five types of historic hotels undergoing renovation that have been reviewed by the Heritage Conservation Service. 024-106-00147-7, $4.25.

OLD CERTIFIED TARRANT COUNTY MARRIAGE LICENSES ARE TO BE DISTRIBUTED

Tarrant County officials have approved a Commission project to distribute old unclaimed pre-1931 certified Tarrant County marriage licenses to descendants and relatives of the brides and grooms who were married in Tarrant County. The certificates, which have been housed in the County Clerk's records, date to 1876. Each of the estimated 50,000 unclaimed documents contain names of the couples, date of marriage, and signature of the official who performed the ceremony. The certificates accumulated during the period when licenses were not mailed, and newlyweds failed to pick them up at the courthouse. In many years, an estimated 80% of the licenses were not claimed.

Tarrant County Historical Commission will mail the licenses, which are rich in artistic design, to the first descendant or relative who requests available ones, on condition that the request is submitted in writing and includes a stamped, self-addressed envelope. A contribution, to help with Commission project expenses, is requested. Please pass the word to acquaintances who may have had relatives married in Tarrant County. Send requests, including names of bride and groom, approximate date of marriage, a contribution, and return envelope to:

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P O Box 18331
Fort Worth, Texas 76118

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COUNTYWIDE HISTORICAL SURVEY IS UNDER WAY

The Central Business District in Fort Worth and the City of Grapevine are presently experiencing a historic resources survey, in the first phase of a planned county-wide survey coordinated by the Historic Preservation Council. The council has contracted with the San Francisco architecture and planning firm of Charles Hall Page & Associates to identify str uctures, sights and districts which may prove to be of architectural, historic or cultural significance. Data derived from the survey, which is expected to take about three years, will be used as a basis for future planning and historic preservation.

HELL'S HALF ACRE BEING RESEARCHED

David Copeland, instructor at Fort Worth's Southwest High School, has presented the Commission a copy of a scholarly study of the notorious red light district in the 1870s and 1880s, located along Fort Worth's South Rusk Street (now Commerce Street). Plans are under way to update the research into the first two decades of the twentieth century.

AN INTERESTING SESQUICENTENNIAL IDEA

The state's first county "Wall of History," a device that its developers hope to see installed across the state in time for the 1986 Sesquicentennial, was dedicated recently in Woodville. It uses ceramic tile to tell the story of Tyler County since its creation in 1846. Included on the tablet, erected on the courthouse lawn, are photos, biographical data, and historic sketches of county officials, civic leaders, and significant buildings.

According to its creator, Woodville artist Clyde E. Gray, the wall is impervious to the weather. It utilizes a technique pioneered by Gray in which he paints images on white tile, then fires it at high temperatures to protect the impression. Projects are under way in other counties to construct similar "Walls of History."

## LOCAL HISTORY APPRECIATION WEEK OBSERVED

Upon a proclamation by Tarrant County Commissioners Court designating September 12-19th as Local History Appreciation Week, numerous activities throughout the county brought emphasis to our rich local heritage. Proclamations were also declared by the cities of Crowley, Azle, Haltom City, Euless, Fort Worth, North Richland Hills, Keller, and White Settlement.

The week's activities were kicked off with an unveiling of an official Texas historical marker for the Bourland Cemetery in Keller. On Wednesday, Sept. 16th, the Commission also dedicated an official Texas historical marker for John Peter Smith, early day Fort Worth mayor and benefactor, at Peter Smith Park, near Fort Worth's Municipal Building. On Saturday, September 19th the Commission manned a historical display at the Funfest Celebration, distributed information sheets about the Commission's projects, and made several new friends. Several library displays, notably Fort Worth Main Library and Hurst Public Library, prepared special local history materials for the week's observances. Local newspapers also published special local historical features.

## WHITE SETTLEMENT OBSERVES SPECIAL WEEK

The White Settlement Historical Society's activities during Local History Appreciation Week included open house and programs at the Allen Log Cabin, open house at Tanahill Station historical site, special library displays, and a bus tour of historic sites in Eastern Tarrant County. Coordinating the tour were Commission members Frances Allen and Duane Gage, who guided the group through historic sites at Birdville and through the Heritage Room, TCJC's Northeast Campus; then Mike Patterson conducted the tour from the old Bedford School, through other historic sites in Bedford, Colleyville, and Southlake. Commission member Brent McPherson conducted the group through the Grapevine Depot Museum and to other historic locations in Grapevine. From Grapevine the bus continued along the perimeter of the D/FW Airport, where Mike Patterson pointed out the historical significance of Minter's Chapel, Bear Creek and Dobkins Cemeteries, and the site of historic Bird's Fort. Then the tour concluded in Arlington, where Arlington Historical Society officer Jo Johnston guided the group through historic spots in that community, including the Johnson Plantation museum complex.

## COMMENTS ON SOME LEGISLATION OF INTEREST IN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION, ADOPTED 1981

The Texas Legislature in 1981 enlarged the powers of the Texas Historical Commission by adding Sections 15A and 16B to read as follows:

Sec. 15A. The commission is authorized to provide matching grants to assist the preservation of structures significant in Texas or American history, architecture, archeology, or culture if the structures:

(1) are included on the National Register of Historic Places; or
(2) are designated as Recorded Historic Landmarks; or
(3) are determined by the commission to qualify as eligible property under criteria for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places or for designation as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark; or
(4) are certified by the commission to other agencies of the State of Texas as worthy of preservation.

Sec. 16B. The commission may provide matching grants for the purpose of preserving collections of small history museums in the state if the collections are significant in Texas or American history, architecture, archeology, or culture.

(prepared by Bennett L. Smith)

GRAPEVINE SUN MICROFILMING PROJECT COMPLETED

The final phase of microfilming the Grapevine Sun newspaper, which spans from 1898 to the present, has been completed and copies are now available at the Grapevine Public Library and the TCJC NE Campus Library's Heritage Room. The latest filming covered the early years, 1898 to 1935; earlier, the years 1935 to 1981 were completed. This paper is the single most complete source of twentieth century northeast Tarrant County development. The project has been coordinated by the Tarrant County Historical Commission and has been funded by the Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau.

A surprising amount of the old newspaper was available; only for the years 1900, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1922, were no copies available. Special thanks are due to Commissin members Dee Barker, Mike Patterson, and Duane Gage for the success of this project. David Barker and Marilyn Lewis also lent valuable volunteer assistance.

A FAMILIAR FACE IN A NEW PLACE

Charles Hughes, who has served as Regional Archivist at TCU for the past two years, has accepted a position as Tarrant County Archivist, effective October 1, 1981. Charles, who has proven himself to be a dedicated,hard working professional, will be co-ordinating a Records Management program for Tarrant County, and will be available to identify and help preserve our archival documents. The Commission looks forward to working with Charles in the county's efforts to preserve our historical documents. His position is currently within the auspices of the County Planning Department; his office will be in the new County Office Building.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COUNCIL SEEKS A NEW DIRECTOR

Deborah Phelan, who has served as the Historical Preservation Council's first director this past year, has resigned to accept an offer from her former employer, Medical Plaza Hospital, where she will serve as Director of Public Relations. Meanwhile the Council is advertising for a new director, and hopes to have a new Director at work by November 2nd. Inquiries should be directed to The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, HPCTC, 600 8th Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76104. Deborah meanwhile will remain an ardent preservationist.

FRIENDS OF TERRA COTTA

TCHC Preservation Committee Chairman Carol Roark recently attended the Society of American Archivists conference in Berkely, California, and reports that a new preservation organization, The Friends of Terra Cotta, has been organized. The goals of this new national non-profit organization will be to raise the awareness of the public, architects and owners of terra-cotta clad buildings about the history, value and preservation of the material. They envision a program of public lectures, walking tours, reprints of Terra-Cotta manufacturers' catalogues and campaigns to protect endangered structures. They currently publish a newsletter for members and are selling T-shirts featuring the lion's head from the San Francisco Opera House. Membership is only $5.00 per year. Further information and membership blanks can be obtained by calling Carol Roark, 738-1933 during business hours.

IN SUPPORT OF THE DIRECTORS SHOWHOUSE.....

The Tarrant County Historical Commission has pledged to help sell tickets at the door, during the Directors Showhouse, October 18-25, at 1302 Elizabeth Boulevard. The work sessions run from 10:00-1:00 and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Monday thru Saturday, and 1:00-3:00, 3:00-6:00 on Sundays. If you have not signed up to help in this project, contact Leann Adams, 2216 Huntington Lane, Fort Worth 76110 (ph. 923-1472).

DID YOU KNOW.....

Did you know that Samuel F. Cody (not Buffalo Bill), the man most responsible for establishing aviation in Great Britain, was born in Birdville community, Tarrant County, during the Civil War era? Research is under way....

HISTORICAL DESIGNATION DOES NOT ASSURE PRESERVATION!

Unfortunately, under present law, (or despite present law), historical landmark designation for a structure does not automatically protect it from demolition, San Antonio preservationists learned recently. Early one Sunday morning, the Chee Kung TongMasonic Lodge, also known as the Chinese Free Masons Lodge, was reduced to rubble by bulldozers. The Gonzales Lumber and Demolition Company and its representative, Albert Wechsler, were cited by San Antonio police for illegal demolition.

Preservationists alleged that the people responsible for the demolition decided to violate the law because they would only have to pay a $200 fine. The building, located next to the Bexar County Courthouse, was built about 1918 by Chinese who accompanied Gen. John J. Pershing during his expedition into Mexico two years before. The structure was listed in the National Register of Historic Places, as well as being located within the boundaries of the Main and Military Plaza Historic District. It would seem that stricter penalties for violation of preservation laws are called for. ... Meanwhile, preservationists need to become expert at "crisis management," especially at raising funds to purchase our most significant threatened buildings.

RESEARCH ON EARLY TARRANT COUNTY COMMUNITIES CONTINUES

TCHC member David Dunnett is concluding his project to research and locate the sites of all early day Tarrant County communities (pre-1920). Below is a list of names of early settlements for which the location is not clearly known; also listed is the source wherein the community name was found:

Ash Creek
Ashland (1863 P. O. list)
Atchison's Point (1861 P.O. list)
Fossil (1883 P.O. list)
Gilliland Creek (1859 P.O. list)
Gipson's (1860 polling place)
Hanley's ( " " " )
Hatton's ( " " " )
Hawkinsville (1859 P.O. list)
Ingram's Store (J.P. Court #6, 1877)
Kingsville
Young's (1860 polling place)
Kirkwood (1882 P.O. list)
Merrilltown (1859 p.o. list)
Miller's School
Moro (1878 p.o. list)
Muriel (1904 p.o. list)
Norton's Grove (1863 p.o. list)
Powell
Robinson's Mill (1859 p.o. list)
Shell Rock (1878 p.o. list)
Steele (school tax roll)
Walnut Creek (1860 polling place)
Wood's Mill (J.P. Court # 6, 1878)

Information should be sent to David Dunnett, 4621 Byers Avenue, Fort Worth, Tx 76107.

NEWS FROM THE FIELDER MUSEUM

The Fielder Museum is now operating as a volunteer organization with a part-time secretary, Kay Waterbury. The MuseumBoard hopes to make the museum a community project and all groups are invited to visit the museum. Individuals are asked to share their keepsakes either as a loan or as a gift to the permanent collection of the museum. Since there no longer is a director, the doors will be kept open by volunteers. If you have time to give, please call the museum (460-4001).

Coming events at the Fielder Museum include a special afternoon on the lawn of the museum on October 18, when there will be Dulcimer music and dancing. Refreshments will be served. ..The afternoon will also feature fiddler, spinning, and woodcarving demonstrations. Jane Baird, a local quilting teacher, will demonstrate quilting. The permanent exhibit, The Country Store, has been greatly expanded. Looking ahead, an exhibit of Mexican toys will be on display at the museum in December. In January, there will be a clock collection from Mr. Pete Henz. Additional early Arlington photos from the collection of J.W. Dunlop are now on display.

STATE BEGINS BUYING LAND FOR I-30 OVERHEAD EXPANSION

Following the Fort Worth City Council's adoption of a resolution supporting the state's highway expansion plans, and the Federal Highway Administration's approval of the state highway department's historic building impact statement, District Engineer J. R. Stone announced that purchases of additional right of way would begin. The project has been delayed because the Tarrant County Historical Commission, other preservationist groups, and local businessmen expressed concern that the expansion would damage several historic buildings and impede the development and environment of Fort Worth's Central Business District.

As a result of the protests, the highway department found it expedient to revise their designs, reflecting changes in the limits of the project. Highway officials made design changes near the historic Public Market Building. New plans call for the elimination of the eastbound Henderson Street exit ramp. Preservationists have felt that much anguish could have been avoided had highway officials clearly and openly explained their expansion plans, especially as the plans pertained to the historic structures alongside the route. Preservationists have also had difficulty in perceiving that a more desireable route could not still be possible, especially in view of the damage the overhead expressway has already caused the community.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The committee has inventoried the materials that are being temporarily housed in the Northeast Sub-Courthouse pending the construction of the proposed City-County Archives. Latest word on the archives facility proposal was that it continues to be part of a proposed Capitol Improvement Bond package planned by the City of Fort Worth, with the bond election likely to be held in early 1982.

The Committee Chairman, Ruby Schmidt, continues to communicate with several individuals who hold important local history materials, with a view toward the eventual incorporation of individual collections into the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection.

A listing of all materials from Tarrant County contained within the Regional Archives will be made available to us shortly, thereby making it also available to local researchers and library patrons.

GEORGE YOUNKIN ASSISTS LONGHORN COUNCIL OF BOY SCOUTS

Commission member George Younkin is presently working on a planned history project for the Longhorn Council, including the gatering of information concerning the beginning of local scouting, setting up procedures whereby historic data of the council can be preserved, collecting oral histories of old timers in the scout program, and development of a Who's Who in scouting - Longhorn Council, including volunteers and professionals.

VOLUMES OF"REGISTER OF VOTERS OF CITY OF FORT WORTH"TRANSFERRED TO REGIONAL ARCHIVES

Tarrant County Commissioners Court onMonday, August 24th, transferred to the Regional Archives approximately 26 volumes of Fort Worth Register Voters Listings, for the years 1892, 1894, and 1896. The material, now available at the temporary TCU Regional Archives collection, provides much useful information on the adult males who registered to vote in Fort Worth elections before the turn of the century.

HISTORICAL MARKER UPDATE

Since July 1st, the following marker applications have been submitted to the Texas Historical Commission:
Winfield Garage, researched by Joanne Freiberg
First Baptist Church of Arlington, researched by TCJC students
Azle Schools, researched by J'Nell Pate
Gibbins Cemetery and Homestead Site, Arlington
Ford Cemetery, Arlington, researched by Pam Phillips
William Madison McDonald, researched by Duane Gage
Tomlin Cemetery, Arlington, researched by Mrs. James Harrison
West Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Grand Prairie, researched by Mary Jones.
Inscriptions for the following marker applications have been approved:
Marshall R. Sanguinet House, Niles City, Witten Cemetery, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, Emanuel Hebrew Rest Cemetery.

Proposed inscriptions for the following marker applications are under study:
Harrison Cemetery, Tate Springs Baptist Church.

The Commission is seeking funds ($325.00 each) for the following completed marker applications:
Easter Cemetery, Southlake
Snider Cemetery, Kennedale
Donations for markers should be made payable to TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION and mailed to Duane Gage, Chairman, TCJC NE Campus, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76053.

Research is continuing on the following marker topics:
Ayres Cemetery; Grapevine College; Mitchell Cemetery; Gibson Cemetery, Mansfield; Tate Cemetery, Arlington; Thannish Building; Stockyards Coliseum; I.D. Parker Public Cemetery; White Settlement Baptist Church, etc.
If anyone has information on any of the above topics, please forward copies of documentation, etc., to marker chairman, Duane Gage.

Dedications of the following markers were conducted this quarter:
Bourland Cemetery, Keller, on September 12th.
Dobkins Cemetery, Euless, on August 30th.
John Peter Smith, September 16th.

RECENT QUERIES AND REQUESTS...

For historical marker application forms have included one for the Ross House, 1359 Park Place; The Peters Home; Charles Turner Castle House; Stewart Moore House, 912 West 2nd, Fort Worth; The Bryce House, 4900 Bryce.
Bill Pruett, 924-1114, is looking for an old photograph of the Laneri House, 900 block South Jennings, as an aid to planned restoration. If you know of one, please let him know.

SPOTLIGHTING THE FLEMING LIBRARY

The Texas Baptist History Collection in the Fleming Library of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth has been the BGCT official depository since 1933. The collection includes church minutes and histories, association minutes, complete holdings for state Baptist conventions, microfilmed minutes, oral memoirs, manuscript collections from outstanding Texas Baptist preachers, photographs, tape recordings, and history books. Archivist Ben Rogers is trying to collect as many histories of Texas Baptist churches as possible. Write Fleming Library, Box 22000-2E, Fort Worth, Texas 76122; (817) 923-1921.

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

The next meeting of the Tarrant County Historical Society will be Wednesday, Oct. 21 at the Colonial Cafeteria, 1700 Rogers Road, Fort Worth, with the meal beginning at 6:30 P.M. Judith Cohen will show slides and talk on "Fort Worth's Art Deco Architecture." Her presentation will cover the decoartif architecture of Fort Worth during the period 1920-1940 and some of the history preceeding that era. Many members of the Society have had intimate association with the buildings that will be shown.

CONCERNING THE DISPOSAL OF FEDERAL COURT RECORDS

In response from the Commission's May 1981 resolution expressing concern about the destruction of Federal District court records, which are primary sources of information on area trials, crimes, etc., we have received the following communication from Robert M. Warner, Archivist of the United States, National Archives, dated Sept. 16, 1981:

> I would like to share with you an account of some of the actions the National Archives and Records Service has undertaken in connection with historically valuable records created by the Federal court system.... We have halted disposal of the court records and undertaken a full-scale review of the permanently valuable court records, including the identification of alternative preservation methods and composition of the circuit Archives History Committees..... We plan shortly to share our preliminary findings with professional associations... and thru them, with individual historians. Useful opinions on the research potential of court records should result from these activities....If you have suggestions you believe we should explore, please let us know.

Preservationists interested in addressing this matter should write: Robert M. Warner, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Service, GSA, Washington DC 20408.

REPORT ON COMMISSION RESOLUTION 7-1981,

Requesting the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to microfilm old Baptist Association records, and make copies available for researchers to purchase: TCHC Member Mike Patterson has completed an exhaustive search for missing copies of Elm Fork Baptist Association and West Fork Baptist Association records, and has coordinated a photocopy project which has resulted not in microfilm copies but in photocopies of these rare Baptist documents. By doing most of the photocopy work himself, Patterson has arranged for photocopies to be provided for researchers at the seminary archives, and an additional copy of the association records to be placed in the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection. These records list early area church sites and name many early day pioneers. We are grateful to Patterson, to Ben Rogers, Texas Baptist Historical Society**Archivist**at the seminary, and to D. D. Tidwell, Historian of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Waco, for the success of this project.

REPORT ON COMMISSION RESOLUTION 8-1981,

Expressing concern about the safety of county records being housed in the Ajax Building during courthouse restoration: Commission officers Ruby Schmidt and Duane Gage met with county officials and saw precautions being taken by them to protect the vital county records during the transition. The county officials should be commended for their actions in this matter.

THE WAGGONER BUILDING....

Has been sold again, or has it been bought again? This National Register property has changed hands nine times in recent years. Thankfully, the new owners, Seaborg, Inc. of Los Angeles, has announced the structure's restoration. It was built in 1919 by W. T. Waggoner, oil and cattle baron.

REPORT ON CEMETERY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

This committee, led by Mike Patterson, continues to be one of the most active in the state. Patterson has researched and written marker applications for six pioneer Tarrant County cemeteries within the past year, has helped organize two cemetery associations, has inventoried several burial grounds, and has coordinated volunteer cleanup projects amounting to hundreds of hours of labor.

The committee is currently coordinating efforts to fence, restore, and preserve the historic Snider Cemetery, located about two miles south of Kennedale. Unused since the late 1800s, it contains the graves of some of the county's first permanent settlers. The commission is seeking help to have the plot surveyed, fenced, and cleaned.

TOMBSTONES DISPLACED IN TARRANT COUNTY

The project to save vandalized and displaced tombstones, with a plan to return them to their original sites, has resulted in the following markers being turned over to the Commission:

From Benbrook Police Department, three stones found under Mary's Creek Bridge at old Benbrook Road, Nov. 1, 1978 -

"Infant Son of J. K. P. & Sarah A. Brown - Born and Died June 24, 1888"
"Amanda C., Daughter of Adoline & J. R. Jones - Died Aug. 3, 1888. Age 6 mon&29 days."
"Little Allice, dau. of Adeline and J. R. Jones - Born Aug.30, 1865, D. Sept 2, 1870"

From Saginaw Police Department, found in a roadside ditch in north Saginaw -

"Austin Cuerry - 1890-1936 - G.U.O. of O.F."

From Fort Worth Police Department, found at 3016 NE 28th Street, Oct. 21, 1979 -

"Neal Alan Stapleton - Dec. 22, 1949-June 12, 1976"

From Fort Worth Police Department, found at 4201 El Camino, Fort Worth, Jan.4, 1980 -

"Father - E. O. Smith - Sept. 17, 1864-May 24, 1927"

From Hurst Police Department, found at 7012 Precinct Line Road, Hurst, July 27, 1981 -

"Erected by S.S. Ward, Son, in memory of Enoch Ward, Born Nov. 21, 1830,d.Aug.14,1866"
"Gone to Rest, Elizabeth Norwood, dau. of J.A. & M.A. Ward, Born Nov. 25, 1851, Died Feb. ____, 1871(?)"

The Tarrant County Historical Commission welcomes any assistance in helping to research and determine the origin of the displaced markers mentioned above.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT COMPLETED

Lee Allbright of Hurst has successfully completed an Eagle Scout project in which he provided leadership to scout troop # 333, involving the restoration of the historic I.D. Parker Cemetery in Hurst. Adjacent to the Parker Family Cemetery plot on Cardinal Drive, the public section had been neglected for generations. Allbright and other scouts devoted much of their spring and summer volunteer efforts to clean brambles, saplings, and brush from the plot; then helped to locate and place large unmarked fieldstones at graves where old deteriorated stones were found. Serving as counselors for the project were commission members Mike Patterson and Duane Gage.

PROGRAMS, TOURS, AND SPEECHES

TCHC speakers have made the following presentations this quarter:
Ruby Schmidt presented a lecture on the history of East Fort Worth to the Meadowbrook Homowners Association on July 20th; presented a genealogical in-service session to H-E-B Secondary teachers at Trinity High School on August 25th; began a genealogical class at the TCJC South Campus, first session began on Sept. 3rd; spoke to 175 participants attending the DAR Regional Workshop at Arlington Community Center on September 14th. Ruby Schmidt has also served as resource person for several news journalists who have given a rather extensive concentration of coverage on local history articles in recent weeks.

TCHC member Steve Murrin led a parade of thirteen elephants "horseback" from the T. & P. Station to brunch at the Hyatt Regency, the parade courtesy of Ringling Brothers & Barnum & Bailey Circus, giving the occasion a unique "Fort Worth Cowtown" touch, Aug.7; Murrin conducted a tour of the stockyards area for officials of the First of Fort Worth, on August 13th; spoke to fifty delegates from Consumer Credit Managers Association on Sept. 26th. On September 26th Murrin also assisted a group representing C.B.S. Cable Television, for a stockyards film project. On August 28th he also assisted a British Broadcasting Corporation film crew, for a program to be aired overseas.

Duane Gage's speaking schedule has included a slide presentation to River Oaks Business and Professional Womens Club on August 6th; a program for Campfire Girls at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, August 18th; an inservice program for H E B Secondary teachers on August 18th, in a morning session, and a similar session for H E B elementary social studies teachers that afternoon. On September 1st Gage presented a program on northeast Tarrant County history, and explained the programs of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, to the Hurst Mid-Cities Rotary Club. On September 28th Gage was the guest speaker at the Eagle Scout installation of Lee Allbright, before several scout troops from the Hurst community.

Charlie McCafferty has given guided tours of the stockyards area to several groups, including Little Tyke Special School classes on July 8th and on July 13th; to 30 from the Crossroads Learning Center on Aug. 14th; to 40 international exchange students from TCU on August 15th; and to over 100 Children of the American Revolution convention delegates on August 15th. On Aug. 16th Charlie conducted a tour for 100 from the University Baptist Church; to 20 from a Senior Citizens group on Aug. 18th; 50 from the East Side YMCA on August 24th. On Aug. 29th, 30 from ACORN state executive committee; on Aug. 31st, a girl scout group numbering 21. On Sept. 13th he guided 40 from the Chinese Folklorico Dancers through the North Side; 65 from a H E B Middle School on September 15th; and on the 30th of September he hosted a tour of 25 from the Oakhurst Garden Club.

TARRANT COUNTY COURTHOUSE RESTORATION PROJECT TO INCLUDE AN ARCHIVES ROOM

On July 8th Archives Committee Chairman Ruby Schmidt and Commission Chairman Gage met with representatives of Ward Bogard & Associates, courthouse restoration architects, to discuss the creation of an "Archives" room in the restored building. The Commission then was asked to make recommendations for the design and use of the room.
Our response:

We are suggesting that the room serve primarily as a small county museum with the capability for seating small groups for lectures, slide presentations, etc. We are requesting that the central area be left open for the placement of folding chairs for lectures and programs. We are asking for a retractable screen centered on the north wall, flanked by a large detailed historic map of Tarrant County and a similar map of Fort Worth. Also requested are small enclosed locked display cases, shelves and cabinets, with a desk with telephone for use of the Commission as its office.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SECTOR COUNCIL

The Preservation and Environment Committee of the Arlington Heights Sector Council will present a slide show on Thursday, October 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the Arlington Heights United Methodist Church, 4200 Camp Bowie Boulevard. Prior to making a recommendation on preservation, the sector inventory of historical sites, buildings, views, and objects will serve as a guideline for the City Planning Department. Committee members have been taking slides and collecting old photographs for the slide presentation. The period being covered will span from 1889, with the Chamberland Development, to the present. All interested individuals may attend the meeting. The slide project is being coordinated by David Robb.

TRAINING SESSION FOR JUNIOR LEAGUE PROVISIONALS

"Downtown City Scapes" was the theme for a recent training session for the 1981-1982 Junior League Provisionals, at the Americana Hotel, Sept. 15th. Bill Shelton, Pres. of Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, spoke on "New Developments Downtown," and Duane Gage spoke on "Downtown Historical Adaptation and Renovation." About 150 were in attendance. Following the program, which was chaired by John Stevenson, Pres., Continental National Bank, simultaneous tours went through Heritage Park, Sundance Square, and the City Center Marketing Center. Significantly, the Junior League of Fort Worth continues to emphasize historical preservation in its programs of work. The community is endebted to the organization's leadership in several preservation projects.

A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS.....

To Leon Mitchell Jr., for research data on Azle School District, and on Mosier's Valley Colored School.... To Marilyn Lewis, for designing and creating beautiful red, white, and blue historical marker covers for our forthcoming marker dedications. .... To Estelle Teague, for his assistance in the Tarrant County Marriage License project.... To several descendants of pioneers buried in the Hood Cemetery, for their contributions toward the purchase of an official Texas historical marker for the Hood Cemetery.

To Pearl Foster O'Donnell for her donation of an important abstract of the E.S. Harris Survey in south Fort Worth.... To Mrs. Jo Buck Jones for historical clippings and other materials for our commission's reference file, and for a cash contribution which was used to purchase some ready-mix concrete to repair grave stones.....

To Fern Trimm for her role in arranging for the Make America Better/Committee of the Women's Council of Realtors of the Northeast Tarrant County Board of Realtors to provide funds for the Texas Historical marker for Chivers Cemetery, located in Southlake.... To James A. Hall, and Associates for providing funds for the marker for Ford Cemetery in Grand Prairie.... To the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, for providing funds for the marker for William Madison McDonald.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RESTORATION MOVING INTO FORT WORTH'S NEAR SOUTH SIDE

The recent move of the PR firm of Paula McStay and Greg Regian into a restored commercial building at 219 S. Main Street heralds a psychological breakthrough beyond the I-30 Overhead Expressway barrier. In searching for a building to house their growing staff, the parners decided to locate near downtown, but beyond the Interstate, since "downtown has no other way to expand but south." The three-story brick building was constructed about 1904. The first floor at various times has housed Massey's Subway Cafe, a hardware store, produce company, drugstore, and bicycle repair shop. The upper floor, a former boarding house, was ideally arranged for office space. The building's exterior has been painted a rich rust hue, with matching awnings added. A historic landmark application is contemplated for the structure.

MANSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

The Mansfield Historical Society, which recently adopted its constitution, listed its charter membership, and applied for tax-exempt status, has nearly completed a major project of surveying all the known cemeteries in the Mansfield area. It is also endeavoring to restore damaged tombstones in the Mansfield Cemetery, in a joint project with the Mansfield Cemetery Society. Research is also continuing on several historical marker topics, including the Gibson Cemetery northwest of Mansfield. A local history collection in the Mansfield Library is also being developed.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Committee Chairman Carol Roark has been given a tour of the Baldridge House, a Texas Historical Landmark, by Mr. Jack Freeman, present owner, and has been shown the changes that were necessitated by the recent fire damage. Aside from the garage addition and the patio enclosure there have been no significant structural changes. Painting of the exterior and of portions of the interior woodwork followed recommendations of a preservation architect. No other significant changes in the structure are contemplated.

The Committee is drafting a notice that will inform all current owners of landmark structure of the potential consequences involved in inappropriate alterations.

The project to copy Tarrant County materials at the Barker Library, Austin, has been postponed due to the Barker Library policies; theyprefer to "trade" copies of material rather than sell copies outright. The committee is planning a photo workshop later this year. The session (tentatively a Saturday afternoon schedule) will discuss the use of photographs as research documents, the archival arrangement of collections, and the care and storage of photographs.

TARRANT COUNTY CEMETERY FUND REPORT

Bennett L. Smith, our Chairman Emeritus, has continued his efforts to acquire clarification of a tax-exempt status for the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, which was created by resolution of the Commissioners Court in December 1980. While a few contributions have been received the Commission cannot launch a major fund raising drive until the tax exempt "papers" are in hand. Meanwhile Commission member Larry Landis has prepared a tentative strategy for the fundraising effort.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BE FORMED

Recently the Commission assumed jurisdiction over (or gained access to) several materials that are sole existing copies of locally important historical sources, such as the Fort Worth Press, 1929-1944, the Commercial Recorder, 1932-1962; Bohemian Magazine, etc. As the official agency responsible for initiating and conducting programs to preserve our local heritage, the Commission has voted to establish a special committee to raise up to $10,000, so that funds for microfilming these materials can be achieved. The proposal also includes the desire to be able to respond to future situations when important historical materials become available to us. The Commission Chairman would like to hear from individuals who can serve on this committee.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD LODGE STRUCTURE TO BE RESTORED.

Jane Schlansker, president of the public relations firm of Jane Schlansker and Co., has purchsed a two-story, 9,000-square-foot building at Sixth and Grove streets in Fort Worth, for her firm's offices. The former Woodman Lodge building will be renovated by the firm of Cauble-Hoskins of Fort Worth.

ON SCHEDULE

An exhibit, "Texas Women - A Celebration of History," presented by Texas Foundation for Women's Resources, is now on display at the Hall of State, Dallas State Fair Grounds, through December, 1981.

Winedale Seminar on Administration & Interpretation for Museums, sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission and the University of Texas At Austin Winedale Historical Center, is scheduled for November 10-20, 1981. Enrollment in the Seminar will be limited to 18 people.

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society is conducting a workshop on Nov. 21 at Western Hills Inn, Euless. The sessions will be conducted by Francis Malcolm, who will deal with copying photographs and research in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

The Texas Historical Commission will conduct a grantwriting workshop in Grand Prairie on November 20-21. For information and application, write Texas Historical Commission, Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

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**THE TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION** is a County Board appointed by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court, to carry out a statutory responsibility to initiate programs to preserve the heritage of Tarrant County. TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION NEWS is a quarterly publication of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. Items for the publication should be sent, by the end of each calendar quarter, to Duane Gage, Editor, % TCJC NE Campus, Dept. of History, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76053.

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From: Tarrant County Historical Commission
Duane Gage, Chairman
828 Harwood Road
Hurst, Texas 76053

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**Tarrant County Historical Commission**

# NEWS

December, 1981
Volume 2, no. 4

Fort Worth, Texas

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULED

Tarrant County Historical Commission's annual organizational meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday January 13, 1982, in Meeting Room "C" (upper level), Fort Worth Public Library, 300 Taylor Street. Commission officers for 1982 will be elected and the Commission's Planned Program of Work for 1982 will be discussed. The meeting is open to the public, as the Commission is a statutory agency.

## MAJOR MICROFILMING PROJECT IS UNDER WAY

As a result of a most generous contribution from an anonymous donor, Tarrant County Historical Commission has launched a major project to microcopy the Fort Worth Press (1926-1944), Commercial Recorder (1932-1960) the multi-volume Texas Writers Project, and other critically important local history materials that are sole existing copies. The copying is presently under way at two local firms.

## SOUTHWESTERN BELL INSTALLS HISTORICAL PLAQUE

On the northeastern corner of the intersection of 2nd Street and Houston, in Fort Worth, the "B" Service Community Action Team of SW Bell Telephone Company has installed the following plaque into the cement sidewalk:

"On this site in September 1881
Fort Worth's First Telephone Exchange was
Founded by Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Co. It
Initially served 40 customers and employed three local
Employees - One hundred years later telephone service is supplied
By Southwestern Bell serving 750,000 customers and employing 3300 people."

## I-30 ISSUE GOING UNDERGROUND

At year's end the Tex. state highway department's plans to widen the controversial overhead expressway in downtown Fort Worth continued to be questioned. Fort Worth Mayor Richard Newkirk has urged highway officials to carefully examine a proposal by the Central Business District Association to expand the downtown section of Interstate 30 with construction below street level, thereby minimizing its impact on several historic buildings along the freeway's path and eliminating an eyesore. It is felt that a below-ground level expressway would open the South Side of the city to redevelopment. It has been determined that the underground route would be eligible for federal funds, but this depends on state officials to approve project designs.

## WHO WILL SAVE FORT WORTH'S OLD LIBRARY BUILDING FOR THE PEOPLE?

This community, whose benefactors contribute priceless works of art and musical instruments as a matter of course, is challenged to save the old Fort Worth Public Library Building. The Commission's dream to develop a city-county archives in the structure, built in 1938 with public funds, led to a conceptual agreement among county, city, and state archives officials. Court litigation, however, has turned the property over to heirs of Sarah Jennings. Who will now step forth and arrange to return the old library to the people?

## THREE VOLUMES OF FORT WORTH PRESS REPORTED MISSING

The current microfilming project on the Fort Worth Press has revealed that three bound volumes of the Fort Worth Press are missing: June through September, 1937; January through March 1944; and July through August 1944. The missing volumes apparently were taken during the interval when the old newspaper volumes were left in the old Fort Worth Library Building, following the library's move into the new building at 300 Taylor. Did city staff persons or others "borrow" these volumes for research purposes? TCHC seeks information about the existence, location, or disposition of the missing volumes. It is hoped that - if they still exist - they can be incorporated into the microfilming project while funds remain available. Anyone with information on this matter should contact Chairman Duane Gage, 281-7860.

## SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH VOLUME PUBLISHED

Noted genealogist Evelyn D'Arcy Cushman has just released her Cemeteries of Northeast Tarrant County, Texas, a 320-page hardbound volume containing data from twenty-seven cemeteries in northeast quadrant of Tarrant County. With only four exceptions, all known cemeteries in the county north of Interstate Highway 30 and east of Interstate Highway 35-West are included. Inscriptions are from Arwine, Bear Creek, Bedford, Birdville, Bourland, Calloway, Chapel, Chivers, Dobkins, Ford, Gibbins, Grapevine, Harper, Hitch-Leggett, Hood, Isham, Lonesome Dove, Minter's Chapel, Mount Gilead, Parker, Parker Memorial, Peterson, Smithfield, Tomlin, Watson, White's Chapel, and Witten cemeteries.

A special section contains information on an additional nineteen neglected or "lost" pioneer burial grounds. Also included is an 1895 map of northeast Tarrant County showing sites and names of homeowners, location of churches, schools, cotton gins, etc. The book, which contains over 10,000 tombstone inscriptions with 1900 surnames and is fully indexed, can be ordered from Evelyn Cushman, 4904 Wedgeview Drive, Hurst, Texas 76053. Price is $25.00, which includes tax and mailing charges.

## FORT WORTH'S ART DECO ARCHITECTURE RESEARCHED

A recent news article brought attention to TCU Art Librarian Judy Cohen's scholarly knowledge of our area's Art Deco heritage. The years between the two world wars have come to be known as the Art Deco period in art and architecture. Several of our significant architectural structures date to that period and display characteristics of the Art Deco style: simplicity of outline, angular and geometrical ornamentaion, flat surfaces and porportional masses, and a use of materials which exhibit their unadorned properties, from the mid-1920s. From the 1930s the emphasis was more horizontal in character, employing vertical piers and exhibiting smooth, flat surfaces broken by accents of polished stone, terra-cotta or sculptural relief panels or medallions.

The era is approaching when surviving structures from the Art Deco period will be eligible for historical landmark designation, so it is indeed fortunate for local preservationists that we have someone of Ms. Cohen's expertise on hand to provide insight into this element of our local architectural heritage.

## COMMISSION RECEIVES SOUTHSIDE STUDY

Jan Dolph has donated a copy of her UTA Masters thesis, "The Role of Historic Preservation in the Revitalization of the Southside Study Area of Fort Worth, Texas," to the TCHC Collection. This important study, accompanied by four notebooks of research, three detailed maps, and several hundred photographs of Southside structures, will provide the Commission extensive accessible data on practically every pre-1945 structure in the study area, which spans from the Texas Pacific railroad on the north; I-35 on the east; West Berry Street on the South; and Forest Park Boulevard and the western edge of Forest Park on the west. Directing the thesis was Prof. Gene Brooks, TCHC member.

## MARRIAGE LICENSE DISTRIBUTION PROJECT SUCCESSFUL

TCHC's project to distribute unclaimed Tarrant County marriage licenses, dating from 1876 to 1932, has made many new friends for the Commission. In its first six weeks the project has resulted in about 200 inquiries and about 175 licenses distributed to relatives and descendants of couples who were married in Tarrant County but who, for one reason or another, failed to receive their certified marriage licenses. TCHC mails the licenses, which are rich in artistic design, to the first descendant or relative who requests available ones, on condition that the request is submitted in writing and includes a stamped self-addressed envelope. A contribution, to help with Commission expenses, is requested. Requests should include the names of the groom and bride, approximate date of marriage, and a return envelope, mailed to

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
P O Box 18331
Fort Worth, Texas 76118

## ANNUAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT BRENHAM

Plans are almost complete for the Annual Historic Preservation Conference which will be held in Brenham, April 15-17, 1982. Some of the planned sessions are "Special Programs to Develop Youth Involvement," "Research and Documentation of Minority History," "Protecting Landmark Sites," and many others.

A gala evening is planned for Friday April 16th to honor Distinguished Service Award chairmen, followed by a candlelight tour of historic Brenham. The Awards Luncheon on Saturday April 17th will feature keynote speaker Gerald George, director of American Association for State and Local History. TCHC will be entered in several of the statewide competitions. Mark your calendar now for the Annual Meeting, and plan to attend.

## NEW HISTORICAL GROUP FORMED AT WATAUGA

A new group of historians in Watauga are researching the history of that community. They hope to locate old books, maps, photographs, and memorabilia for the new Watauga Library, located at 6641 Summertime Lane, in Watauga. Anyone who wants to help in the project should contact the Watauga Historical Research Center, ph. 485-1029.

## ORAL HISTORY FOR TEXANS

A new book, Oral History for Texans, by Dr. Thomas L. Charlton, is available through the Texas Historical Commission Publications Dept., Box 12276, Austin Tex 78711. This 86-page guidebook gives practical tips on beginning or improving local oral history projects. The book sells for $5 (plus $1 tax and handling).

## MARBLE LION STATUES FROM COURTHOUSE SQUARE DISCOVERED

The Courthouse Restoration Committee has learned of the existence of two marble lion statues that once graced the Tarrant County Courthouse lawn. Discarded years ago during a renovation project, the lions have been salvaged and preserved by a local citizen. The Commission plans to approach this individual in regard to the possibility of having the marble statues donated back to the county.

## COMMUNITY HISTORY EMPHASIS TO BE PLACED AT TJCTA ANNUAL MEETING

Susanne Starling, from the Dept. of History, Eastfield College, and Duane Gage, Assoc. Prof. of History at TCJC NE Campus, will make a presentation, "Bringing Community History into the Community College Classroom," at the Texas Junior College Teachers' Association Annual Meeting, on Saturday, Feb. 20th, at the AMFAC Hotel Convention facilities, D/FW Airport. Ms. Starling, who is a member of the Dallas County Historical Commission, has produced an excellent course outline for U.S. History survey, focusing on the local experience. Gage will also discuss his local history themes in the U.S. survey course.

LIFE AFTER TRUETT...

Our state's challenge in preservation for the 1980s has been intensified by the recent resignation of Truett Latimer, who had served magnificantly for more than sixteen years as Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission. THC Chairman Barney M. Davis of Sommerville has announced that the Commission is accepting applications for the position of Texas Historical Commission Executive Director, and added, "It will be difficult to replace a man with the authority and stature of Truett Latimer."

And yet our next director will benefit from the example Truett has set and from the successes upon which we continue to build. Curtis Tunnell, State Archeologist, will serve as Acting Director of the Commision until a new director can be selected.

JUNIOR HISTORIANS ROUNDUP HELD AT CROWLEY

The skilled sponsorship of Commission Associate Alta Lee Futch was evident in the Junior Historians Roundup on Oct. 31st at Crowley's H. F. Stevens Middle School. The regional meet included leadership workshops, speeches, lunch and square dancing. Commission members on the program included Winston Sparks, who gave a presentation on railroad history; and Duane Gage, who spoke on cemetery preservation projects (atimely topic for Haloween day!). Commission member Sydney Pointer is Crowley Superintendent of Schools.

MID-SOUTH CITIZENS COMMITTEE

Seven city-owned "1920 vintage" homes in the Mid-South Fort Worth area are undergoing renovation and are to be put up for sale; and several privately funded revitalization efforts are building community awareness of the value of the quality oflife in the inner city. Lon Burnam, staff person of the Mid-South Citizens Committee, reports that in addition to good old-fashioned neighborliness, neighborhood pride is developing in the South Side, adding to other cultural and social advantages to living in the inner city.

POLYTECHNIC NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES

In its two-year existence, Neighborhood Housing Services has sponsored $3.5 million in property improvement loans on 1,000 structures. When NHS authorizes a low-interest home improvement loan, it also recommends the type of improvement. NHS's summer clean-up program for youth has also been successful. Barbara Durst and Monette Fugate, NHS staff persons, are dedicated to the revitalization of the historic Poly Community. They can be reached at 3301 East Rosedale, ph. 536-8097.

T & P MERCHANTS TERMINAL WAREHOUSE

John O'Hara Enterprises have announced plans to renovate the T & P Warehouse and turn it into a major office building and transportation center with restaurants and retail stores and a computer center. Renovation work is scheduled to begin in January 1982.

GENERAL WORTH PORTRAIT ON DISPLAY

Significant memorabelia, including a 7-feet full length portrait of Gen. William Jenkins Worth, will be in a permanent exhibit in the New Science Theater of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, thanks to the skillful research efforts and generosity of Fort Worth citizen, Bill Turner, owner of Allied Fence Co. of Fort Worth. Turner found the portrait, probably painted by an artist of the Hudson River School, in upstate New York. The portrait was formally presented to the city in a ceremony at the Americana Hotel on Oct. 24th. Turner has spent the last five years locating other momentos of the military figure for whom Fort Worth was named. Included in the permanent exhibit will be a woolen uniform, a field desk, sashes and military hats.

## A TALE OF TWO WORKSHOPS

The Commission's planned program of work for 1981 led to the presenting of two workshops this quarter. The first, with the theme, "Why That Building Should Be Saved," was co-sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission. More than thirty participants benefitted from the presentations of staff persons from THC, Peter Flagg Maxson and Claire Williams. A highlight of the workshop was a dynamic "whirlwind" tour of the Main Street projects, conducted by tour guide expert, Ruby Schmidt. The date was November 6th.

On Dec. 10th, a workshop with the theme, "Care and Use of Photographs and Archival Documents," was conducted at Amon Carter Museum Theatre. Charles Hughes, Tarrant County Archivist; Marni Sandweiss, Curator of Photographs at the Amon Carter Museum; and Carol Roark, TCHC Preservation Committee Chairman, presented an excellent program. Although attendance was low, interest was high and the information dispensed by the presenters was most useful. Solid advice on the care and handling of photographs included an admonition not to place photographs, from family collections or otherwise, in photo albums with adhesive sheets, for the adhesive chemicals hasten the deterioration of the photographs. Color photographs are not permanent, as the color process is unstable; the image fades. The best manner to preserve photographs is to encase them in Mylar, a thin transparent but extremely strong material whose chemical composition is inert.

## TEXAS PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY

The Commission's Dec. 10th Workshop initiated the project to launch a countywide survey of photographic collections, both public and private. The Texas Historical Foundation is distributing photographic survey forms to all libraries, museums, societies and institutions who collect photographs, so that this primary source of our heritage may be made known. The survey forms include inquiries concerning access, restrictions, number of photographs, types of photographs in collection, subject content of collection, and collecting policy of each institution or individual. Forms are available from Texas Historical Foundation, P O Box 12243, Austin, Tex 78711.

## TAX INCENTIVES FOR INVESTING IN HISTORIC PROPERTIES

The reuse and rehabilitation of our historic commercial and residential rental properties has been encouraged by action of the U.S. Congress in the ECNOMIC RECOVERY ACT of 1981, which takes effect January 1, 1982, and is applicable to all rehabilitation work initiated after that date.

The Act allows a 25% Investment Tax Credit on Certified Building Rehabilitations on all buildings that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or listed as Contributing in a National Register District. Only commercial buildings and residential rental structures are included in this provision.

There must be substantial rehabilitation on the building. Rehabilitation costs must exceed $5,000 or the adjusted basis of the building, whichever is greater. (The adjusted basis is the actual cost of the building minus both the value of the land and any depreciation already taken.)

In addition to taking the 25% Investment Tax Credit, the owner may depreciate the total cost of the building and the rehabilitation at straight line over a minimum 15 year recovery period or over a 35 or 45 year period if he chooses. The basis is NOT reduced by the amount of the Investment Tax Credit deduction.

The Secretary of Interior has published simple rehabilitation guidelines which will be made available to anyone considering a tax act certification project. It is strongly recommended that a consultation be made with the Texas Historical Commission before plans are drawn or construction begins. Contact the National Register Department, Texas Historic Commission, P O Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711 (ph 512/475-3094). Costly mistakes can be avoided by a visit or phone call with the Commission staff.

910 HOUSTON PLACE BEING RENOVATED

An eight-story building, known as the Insurance Building, on NW corner of Houston and West Ninth streets, is being renovated by William Y. Harvey & Associates in partnership with developer Bud McGinnis. The building was constructed in 1910. Efforts are under way to retain the 40,000-square-foot office building's original interior workmanship, including decorative floor tiles and ceilings. The ground floor is to be leased for commercial uses. It will have an open mall design, with a stairway leading to a restaurant in the basement.

MT. GILEAD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION NOW REGISTERED WITH IRS

Cemetery Preservation Committee Chairman Mike Patterson has announced that the Mt. Gilead Cemetery Association has submitted the proper paperwork to obtain tax-exempt status for its perpetual fund, and can now accept contributions to help maintain this early-day pioneer cemetery. Address for the association is % Philip A. White, Pres., Rt. 22, Box 1613, Fort Worth, Texas 76180.

GRAPEVINE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU SUPPORTS HISTORICAL SURVEY

The Historical Preservation Council for Tarrant County has received a contribution of $4,500 from Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau to finance Grapevine's share of a countywide historical survey which will gather information that will assist the countyinplanning how to use its historical sites and structures. Grapevine therefore became one of the first areas surveyed, the on-site investigations already having been made and research of over sixty Grapevine historic structures now being under way.

The Historic Preservation Council, comprised of civic, historical and neighborhood groups, is contracting with Charles Hall Page and Associates of San Franciso to conduct the survey. The firm's employees drive or walk through each target area taking photographs, talking to residents and studying old homes and businesses that might be considered of historical value. Some of the individual structures may qualify for state or national recognition, while in other areas the neighborhood as a whole may warrent historical designation. In addition to the Grapevine survey, the firm has also surveyed the Fort Worth Central Business District. The council expects to find at least 1,500 historic structures in Tarrant County. The results of the study will tell each city what could possibly be designated as historical and what tax advantages might be available on the strcutures. Volunteer researchers needed; call 338-0267.

HPCTC DESIGNERS SHOWHOUSE, A RINGING SUCCESS

The HistoricalPreservation Council's Designers Showhouse fund-raising project in the home of Dr. John and Sarah Jeffers at 1302 Elizabeth Boulevard on Oct.18-25, exceeded all expectations. Over 4,400 people toured the home and 1,200 supporters volunteered for the occasion. A special note of gratitude is offered to Dr. and Mrs. Jeffers and to the host of volunteers who helped to keep the costs of the showhouse down so that a substantial portion of the revenue could be applied to the county-wide historical survey.

Plans are already under way to conduct a second annual Designers house in 1982. Marty Craddock is current president of the Preservation Council.

QUERY

If anyone has information about the location of the German POW camps located in and around Tarrant County in the 1944-1945 era, please send the information to Haskell Boring, 1502 W. 2nd, Arlington, Texas 76013. A map pinpointing the sites of the POW camps would be especially useful.

DID YOU KNOW....

There are...

a total of thirty-six Recorded Texas Historic Landmark structures in Tarrant County.

HISTORICAL MARKER UPDATE

Since October 1st, the following marker applications have been submitted to the Texas Historical Commission:
Azle Schools, researched by J'Nell Pate
Minters Chapel Methodist Church, by Mike Patterson
Absalom H. Chivers Family Cemetery, by Mike Patterson
Hood Cemetery, by Mike Patterson
James M. Benbrook (grave marker), by Alma Burnam and students
Hotel Texas, by hotel public relations personnel
Snider Cemetery, by Mike Patterson
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fort Worth, by David Dunnett

Proposed inscriptions for the following markers have been approved:
Harrison Cemetery
Emanuel Hebrew Rest Cemetery
Tate Springs Baptist Church
Ford Cemetery
Former TSTA Building

Research is continuing on the following marker topics: Ayres Cemetery, Ross House, Grapevine College, Mitchell Cemetery, Gibson Cemetery, Tate Cemetery, Thannish Bldg., Stockyards Coliseum, I.D. Parker Public Cemetery, First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth, Isham's Chapel, Waggoner Building, Benjamin Franklin Thompson, etc. If anyone has information on any of the above topics, please forward copies of documentation, etc., to marker chairman, Duane Gage.

The Commission is seeking funds ($325.00 each) for the following completed marker applications: Easter Cemetery, in Southlake
Mosier Valley School, in far east Fort Worth
Donations for markers should be made payable to TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION and mailed to Duane Gage, Chairman, TCJC NE Campus, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst Tx 76053.

TWO LOCAL HISTORIANS RECOGNIZED, HONORED

Upon recommendations of the TCHC, the Texas Historical Commission has bestowed certificates of Commendation for Historical Preservation at the County Level to Dora Davenport Jones and Pearl Foster O'Donnell, for their research and compilations of local history. O'Donnell is author of Trek To Texas, a difinitive study of the Missouri colony, as well as compilations on Lonesome Dove Baptist Church, the Medlin family, and Bear Creek community. Mrs. Jones has done extensive research on Confederate organizations in this area. TCHC Chairman Emeritus Bennett L. Smith presented the certificates to the two recipients at the Commissioners Court meeting on Monday, November 30th. County Judge Mike Moncrief expressed the court's appreciation of their contributions in preserving local history.

LOG CABIN VILLAGE: A HISTORY AND GUIDE

Fort Worth's Log Cabin Village receives major attention in a recently released publication of the Texas State Historical Association, in cooperation with the Tarrant County Historical Society. Dr. Terry G. Jordan, of North Texas State University, analyzes the cabins, the folk houses built by Texans for traditional, conservative, functional purposes. Log Cabin Village includes a catalogue by Bettie A. Regester and Seldon A. Wallace and photographs by Elna Wilkinson. The book not only displays the houses of Log Cabin Village but also gives their histories and portrays the life lived in them and the furniture and implements of that life. Can be ordered from the Texas State Historical Association, 2/306 Richardson Hall, Univ. Station, Austin, Texas 78712. Cost of cloth book is $15.00 plus 5% sales tax.

TARRANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING PHOTOGRAPH PRESENTED

Tarrant County Historical Commission has presented a framed photograph of Precinct Three Commissioner A. Lyn Gregory placing the cornerstone on the new Tarrant County Administration Building. The photograph was taken by Al Mogor, of the Counseling Department of Tarrant County Junior College's Northeast Campus, and was presented to Mr. Gregory in appreciation for his valuable support to the Commission during the past year, providing space in the new Northeast Subcourthouse for archives storage, etc. A special thanks is also due to Al Mogor for making the photograph available.

ARCHIVES RECEIVES BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY

D. D. Tidwell, Historian of the Grand Lodge of Texas, has presented TCHC copies of historical papers on the North Fort Worth Baptist Church and on the Diamond Hill Baptist Church, written by his students at Howard Payne College in the early 1960s.

Commission member Michael E. Patterson has successfully concluded his project to obtain copies of the Elm Fork Baptist Association Minutes (1850s-1860s) and the West Fork Baptist Association (1860s-1880s). Copies of these important 19th Century documents are now in the Tarrant County Historical Commission Collection.

MAYOR B.B. PADDOCK PAPERS

Archives Committee Chairman Ruby Schmidt is discussing with a prospective donor the acquisition of material pertaining to the life and career of Mayor B. B. Paddock of Fort Worth, for whom Paddock Park, immediately north of the Courthouse, is named. The Archives Committee continues to emphasize that material donated to the Commission will be permanently housed in a public facility accessible to the citizens and students of Tarrant County.

TAX SEMINARS

The Dallas County Historical Commission is sponsoring a seminar on tax incentives, federal and local, available for designated historic structures, on January 14, 1982, from 11 to 2 at the Hall of State, Fair Park. Participants will learn about one of the best tax shelters available. Contact Commission member Susan Mead Robinson, National Register Committee Chairman, at 748-7011 for more information, or call the DCHC office, at 749-6238.

San Antonio will host one of ten Preservation Tax Incentives Conferences slated for 1982. The purpose of the Jan. 18-19 meeting in San Antonio will be to educate interested persons in investment opportunities in histori preservation resulting from t e Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981. Topics planned for the conference include "Investment Opportunities in Historic Buildings," "The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation," and "A Comparison of Old and New Tax Laws Affecting Historic Preservation." For futher information contact Education Services/Tax Conferences, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Wasginton, D.C. 20036.

FIELDER MUSEUM

Exhibit schedule for Fielder Museum includes:
January-February - Peter Henz Sr. Grandfather Clock Collection
March - Arlington I.S.D. Faculty Art Exhibit
April - Cross Roads of an Empire Map Exhibit
May - Eleanor Grace Martin's Personal Exhibit
June - Miniature Trains
July - Sher Dunnaways's Photography Exhibit.

Permanent exhibits feature J. W. Dunlop's Photography Collection; the General Store; and Burt Grant's Barbershop. An April 19th tour by the Arlington Historical Society of the Melear and Watson Cabins under the direction of Dorothy Rencurrel will be followed by a tour of the Fielder Museum by the museum docents. The Fielder Museum is at 1616 W. Abram in Arlington. Phone 460-4001

HISTORIC TOURS IN 1982

The Friends of the Fort Worth Public Library sponsor tours of historic Fort Worth. Commission member Ruby Schmidt is the tour guide for the two-hour programs which leave the Central Public Library at 10:00 a.m. on March 27, 1982 and May 15, 1982. For reservations contact Frances Nichols at 927-2449.

TARRANT COUNTY COURTHOUSE RESTORATION PROGRESSING

A $5.5 million restoration of the Tarrant County Courthouse was launched on Monday, Nov. 2nd, when the Commissioners Court participated in a formal ceremony to return the 85-year-old structure to its historic purposes. Earlier demolition crews began tearing out partitions and other features, gradually uncovering original ornate walls and ceilings. Plans are to reconstruct the courtrooms to their original 1890s style and to reopen the stained-glass rotunda that has been visable only from the fourth floor since the building was remodeled in the late 1940s. The biggest part of the demolition involves the removal of wood paneling, flourescent light fixtures and suspended ceilings that hid the architectural touches of the past.

Upon completion, the building will house six courtrooms, a law library, the County Clerk's operations, and an archives room, to be used by the Tarrant County Historical Commission. Original features, including copper-plated bannisters, Corinthian columns, ornate plaster ceilings, brass door knobs, ceiling fans, and old-fashioned light fixtures, will be evident. The installation of a glass facade on the Civil Courts Building, built adjacent to the courthouse in 1956, will be designed to reflect the old courthouse.

JUSTICE'S DOCKET LEDGERS PLACED IN TCHC ARCHIVES

Precinct Three Constable Bill Brown has turned over to the Tarrant County Historical Commission the following ledgers:
Justice's Docket, January 1875-September 1877, Criminal Cases
Justice's Civil Docket, Feb. 21, 1899-Oct. 14, 1916
Justice's Criminal Docket, Sept. 22, 1890-Jan. 22, 1891
Justice's Criminal Docket, Feb. 1891-Sept. 1895.

NEWS FROM AREA CEMETERY ASSOCIATIONS

Smithfield Cemetery Foundation is soliciting contributions to a fund which will put the cemetery in perpetual care. Those wishing to contribute to this fund may send their gifts to Smithfield Cemetery Foundation, % Ralph Lewis, 7117 Hightower, Fort Worth, Texas 76112

White's Chapel Cemetery Association has been revitalized, following the extensive vandalism incident last year. Current plans are to have the cemetery area incorporated. Those wishing information on this group may contact Cloyce Chivers at 838-3920 or Joy Trent at 379-5386.

A new group, the Witten Cemetery Association, was formed following the dedication of the official Texas Historical Marker for Witten Cemetery on December 6th. Witten Cemetery was recently surveyed and recorded in Tarrant County Deed records. The one-acre plot belongs to the heirs of S.C.H. Witten, and they will comprise the membership of the association. Credit Michael E. Patterson, Cemetery Preservation Committee Chairman, for preserving the Witten Cemetery, for its new marker, and for the inspiration to form the new association.

Patterson has also initiated a project to form a cemetery association for the Hood Cemetery in Southlake.

QUERY

The Texas Legislative Council is compiling a book on the state's lieutenant governors and speakers of the house of representatives. Chris Kuykendall, Research Associate, has asked the TCHC for material on William H. Bourland, speaker of the Texas House of Representatives during the latter part of the 1st Legislature in 1846. His connection with Tarrant County is that he and his brother James served in the early Indian wars under General Tarrant. Anyone familiar with the Bourlands should send material to Chris Keykendall, Texas Legislative Council, P.O.Box 12128, Capitol Station, Austin Texas 78711. Telephone 512/475-2736.

NORTH FORT WORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sue McCafferty, serving her third term as president of the North Fort Worth Historical Society, was presented a plaque for dedicated service to the society at its annual Christmas party December 20th. The party was held for the second year in the home of attorney Jim Lane, on Grand Aveune, which he has restored. Charlie McCafferty, founding president, also was recognized for his contributions to North Side history. A commemorative belt buckle was given to Duane Gage, Chairman of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, for his support and efforts on North Fort Worth Historical Society matters.

CATTLE BRANDS MARKER ON DISPLAY

The official Texas Historical marker commemorating the history of the use of cattle brands in Texas, has been installed at an appropriate site near the entrance to the auction barn in the Fort Worth Stockyards complex. This marker was originally on display at Six Flags Over Texas, when an extensive cattle brands collection was housed there. North Fort Worth Historical Society plans to dedicate the new marker site with a "branding party" in the near future. Participants will be invited to bring their own branding irons to emblaze on the display fence which holds the marker.

FORT WORTH PRESERVATION LEADER TAKES ON ADDED CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Joseph J. Ballard Jr. of Fort Worth, current president of Texas Historical Foundation, has been appointed by Gov. William P. Clements to the State Board of Veterinary Examiners. Ballard, president of Ballard Sales Co., will serve on the board until August, 1983.

TARRANT COUNTY BLACK HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY TRYING TO SAVE BOONE PLACE

The Tarrant County Black Historical Society, located at 1150 E. Rosedale, Fort Worth, is trying to save the historic Boone Place at 1020 E. Humbolt Street. The two-story structure is the former residence of Rev. A. L. Boone, 10th pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church from 1916 through 1923. To raise money to save the historic home the organization is asking community residents to bring their old newspapers to their society headquarters at 1150 E. Rosedale. Lenora Rolla, president of the society, is hoping that 20 tons of papers will be donated, the money to go toward renovation of the Boone Place structure. Rev. Boone died in 1940. A trailor will be at the society's headquarters until Jan. 15th.

ART AND HISTORY SEMINAR PLANNED AT BEAUMONT

"Developing Community Involvement through art and History," a seminar sponsored by the Texas Historic Commission and the Texas Commission on the Arts, is scheduled for the French Trading Post Museum, 2985 French Road, Beaumont, for January 16, 1982, from 8:30 to 5:00 p.m. The special session is designed to help one increase community awareness andinvolvement through the humanities of art and history. For more information contact Texas Historical Commission, P O Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

TARRANT COUNTY ABSTRACTS BEING SORTED

About 180 boxes of abstract company records have been placed in TCHC's storage room in the Northeast Subcourthouse, where they are being sorted. Plans are to organize the material according to original land ownership arrangement, with special plans to compile genealogical data (will copies, etc.) from the abstracts for research purposes. On Saturday November 14th about twenty volunteers made substantial progress on the project, which is being coordinated by TCHC Associate Mildred Spratling and Elizabeth Schober, for the Fort Worth Genealogical Society, under whose auspices the abstract records are handled.

STEVEN STOLL WINS EAGLE SCOUT DESIGNATION

Steve Stoll, a participant of the project to sort through abstract company records, has used his involvement in the project to qualify for an Eagle Scout designation. Under the counsel of TCHC Chairman Duane Gage, Steve is the second scout from Troop 333 to earn the Eagle Scout honor this year.

THE LOOSE GROUP

This gang of architectural historians and fellow travellers met on Thursday Nov. 5th at the home of Gordan and Brenda Kelley. Peter Maxson, Director of Surveys and National Register programs for the Texas Historical Commission, spoke on the restoration of the Fulton Mansion in Rockport. A highlight of the well attended meeting was Gordan's tour of their fine Victorian home on historic Samuels Avenue. Preservationists who wish to be on the Loose Group mailing list should give their namesto either Kathy Livingston (737-2029) or Carol Roark (926-4212). Contributions to help defray mailing costs are appreciated.

METROPLEX HERITAGE ASSOCIATION IS FORMED

Commission persons John Hugh Smith, Alta Lee Futch and Duane Gage have participated in a series of planning sessions that have led to the creation of the Metroplex Heritage Association, , the purpose of which is to advance the Junior Historian movement in the metroplex area. Heading the group is Donna Jernigan, Junior Historian sponsor at Colleyville Middle School, and Dr. Leon Blair of the Texas Bureau of Economic understanding. The association's steering committee is composed of sponsors, educators from the public school, junior collegesand senior colleges, and administrators. The next meeting will be at the Hurst Public Library, Saturday January 16th, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Any interested promoter of the Junior Historian movement is encouraged to attend. Address of the library is 901 Precinct Line Rd.Hurst.

TARRANT COUNTY'S ARCHEOLOGY TO BE SCRUTINIZED

TCHC members Larry Landis, Mike Patterson, and Duane Gage met with the Tarrant County Archeology Society on Thursday December 10th for the purpose of organizing a joint project to study critically endangered archeological sites in the Cross Timbers section of Tarrant County. Plans are to monitor urban development, city zoning requests, etc., to arrange to contact land ownders and developers about the possibility of scientifically studying archeological sites prior to their destruction. A joint steering commitee has been established, consisting of Landis, Patterson, and Gage from the Commission; and Larry Banks, Regional Archeologist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; H. F. Ball, Archeological Society president; James Everett, Archeological Society past president; and Frank Harrold, UTA Dept. of Sociology.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROVIDED

In 1981 the Commission issued twenty-six news releases and sixty-six newspaper articles were published on Commission activities and related matters in newspapers circulated in the county.

SUMMING UP: WHAT WE'VE DONE IN '81

An inventory of Commission files for 1981 reveals the following:
The Commission's officers wrote over 400 letters in order to effectively carry out their responsibilities...
The Commission successfully submitted twenty-six (26) official Texas Historical marker applications and raised over $9,000.00 for historical markers...
The Commission received $9,700.00 to finance a project to microcopy endangered local history resources...
The Commission's newsletter was expanded to reach all county officials, mayors, libraries, Social Studies faculties, preservation groups, newspapers, etc. in the county...
The Commission conducted three workshops in which a total of about eighty citizens attended...
Commission members presented more than twenty-five programs and speeches and conducted over forty tours....
The Commission's historical archives collection has more than doubled in quality and content....

DID YOU KNOW.... There's more to do in '82!

**********

THE TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION is a County Board appointed by the Tarrant County Commissioners Court, to carry out a statutory responsibility to initiate programs to preserve the heritage of Tarrant County. TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION NEWS is a quarterly publication of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. Items for the publication should be sent, by the end of each calendar quarter, to Duane Gage, Editor, % TCJC NE Campus, Dept. of History, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76053.

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From: Tarrant County Historical Commission
Duane Gage, Chairman
828 Harwood Road
Hurst, Texas 76053

**Tarrant County Historical Commission**

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

COUNTY JUDGE

1981 SCRAP BOOK
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DUANE GAGE
TARRANT COUNTY
HURST, TX.

Annual Historic Preservation Conference

B U S T E R

C H A I R M A N

D. S. A.

COUNTY COMMITTEE

"BACK TO BASICS"
Issues for the 80's

S HISTORICAL COMMISSION
S HISTORICAL FOUNDATION
PRESERVATION CONFERENCE
April 23-25, 1981
Austin, Texas
(Revised Schedule)

unty commis-
ion members.
do you ask

3:30 - 5:00 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

1. **Main Street Texas**
   How can your county participate/benefit?
   *Tom Moriarity, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C.*
   *Anice Read, Main Street Project Director, Texas Historical Commission*
   *Stan Klein, Design Consultant, Texas Historical Commission*
   Maximillian Room, Driskill
2. **Photographs as a Historical Resource**
   The what, when, where and why of documentation and preserving historic photography collections.
   *Dr. Roy Flukinger, Humanities Research Center, University of Texas*
   Paramount Room, Driskill

6:00 - 11:00 **COUNTRY/WESTERN— COTTON-EYED JOE EVENING**
Dress Western Casual.
6- 7 pm Cash Bar Cocktails
7- 8 pm Dinner
8-11 pm Dancing—Music by East Texas String Ensemble
Crystal Ballroom/Mezzanine, Driskill

**ATURDAY, APRIL 25**

Austin H

**0 - 11:00 REGISTRATION:** Stephen F. Austin Hotel

**- 10:00 "WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?"**
Preservation Update 1981.
State & National— Facts for Preservation Planning.
*Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas Historical Commission*
Houston Room, Stephen F. Austin

**BREAK**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

1. **"Let's Celebrate"**
   Sesquicentennial—Planning for 1986.
   *The Honorable Chris Semos*
   Maximillian Room, Driskill
2. **An Easy Way to Find the Answer (Everyone Should Have One)**
   How to utilize your Preservation Handbook.
   A tool for designing a comprehensive Preservation Plan.
   Paramount Room, Driskill
3. **"Don't Be Afraid to Ask Questions"**
   *Tom Smith, Dallas Co. Heritage Society*
   Driskill Room, Driskill

11:30 - 12:00 **PHOTOGRAPH SESSION FOR AWARD WINNERS**
Bonham Room, Stephen F. Austin

12:00 **AWARDS LUNCHEON**
Take your Representative or Senator to lunch. Let them know what your county is doing.
Individual Tickets: $10.00
Houston and Bowie Room, Stephen F. Austin

2:30 **HISTORIC TOUR OF AUSTIN**
Optional: $5.00

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Preservation Plan
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Archeologist Arrives?"
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*Dr. E. Mott Davis, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas*
Paramount Room, Driskill
3. **"Texas Heritage Project: Grass Roots PR"**
*Panel presentation.*
Driskill Room, Driskill

3:15 - 3:30 **BREAK**

May 15, 1981 THE NEWS-TRIBUNE

**STATE AWARD**—The Tarrant County Historical Association has been chosen for the State Historical Commission distinguished service award. Duane Gage, Tarrant chairman, is shown with Mrs. Menton Murray Jr., state vice chairman.

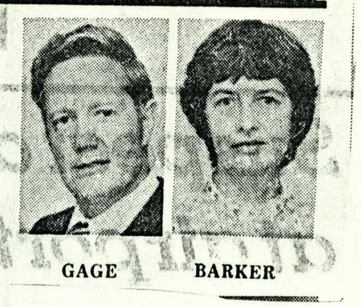
14A ©1981 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 8, 1981

# Heads Above the Crowd

By GEORGE SMITH
Star-Telegram Writer

The Tarrant County Historical Commission has been named recipient of the Texas Historical Commission's "Distinguished Service Award" at the organization's annual Preservation Conference in Austin. **Duane Gage**, chairman of the Tarrant group and associate professor of history at Tarrant County Junior College's Northeast Campus, accepted the award for the Tarrant group. **Mrs. Jesse H. Barker**, the Tarrant commission's liaison committee chairman in 1980, was named "Outstanding Committee Chairman." The Tarrant commission is a committee of 36 county historians and preservationists appointed by Commissioners Court.

* * *



GAGE BARKER

Dan Utley, state staff & Duane Gage confer at State Conference

# "BACK TO BASICS"
## Issues for the 80's

**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**
**TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION**
**ANNUAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE**
**April 23-25, 1981**
**Austin, Texas**
**(Revised Schedule)**

## THURSDAY, APRIL 23

**4:00 - 7:00** **REGISTRATION:** Stephen F. Austin Hotel

**6:30 - 8:30** **INFORMATION ABOUT INFORMATION**
Orientation for new county chairmen, county commission members, and all interested commission members. Getting acquainted with THC staff. Who do you ask for what? Who can help?
*Judy Feller, Texas Historical Commission*
*Don Terpstra, Texas Historical Commission*
Maximillian Room, Driskill

**8:30 - 10:00** **HERE'S MY LINE**
Sharing Success Ideas:
3-Minute Gong Show:
All county chairmen and county commission members are requested to participate in this Show & Tell Gong Show. Presentations must be limited to 3 minutes to share their success ideas and projects with others. Bring along small examples of projects, maps, cookbooks, Christmas decorations, anything your commission has done that has been a success. The gong will ring after 3 minutes.
*Yvonne Jenkins, Denton Co. Historical Commission*
*Vernon Schuder, Walker Co. Historical Commission*
Maximillian Room, Driskill

## FRIDAY, APRIL 24

**8:00 - 4:00** **REGISTRATION:** Stephen F. Austin Hotel

**8:00 - 9:00** **FILM FESTIVAL**

**9:30 - 12:00** **TEXAS HISTORICAL FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING & REPORTS**
Houston Room, Stephen F. Austin

**12:00 - 1:15** **LUNCH** on your own (Your packet contains map and list of downtown restaurants.)

**1:15 - 1:30** **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**
*Barney M. Davis, Chairman, Texas Historical Commission*
Houston Room, Stephen F. Austin

**1:30 - 2:30** **"YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN"**
*Mrs. Nicholas H. Holmes, Mobile, Alabama*
Houston Room, Stephen F. Austin

**2:30 - 3:15** **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**
1. **"Count on COGS"**
How they can assist with your Preservation Plan
*James Ray, Texas Association of Regional Councils*
Maximillian Room, Driskill
2. **"What do you do until the Archeologist Arrives?"**
Public awareness of Archeology or Planning for site protection.
*Pam Wheat, Texas Archeological Society*
*Dr. E. Mott Davis, Department of Anthropology, University of Texas*
Paramount Room, Driskill
3. **"Texas Heritage Project: Grass Roots PR"**
*Panel presentation.*
Driskill Room, Driskill

**3:15 - 3:30** **BREAK**

**3:30 - 5:00** **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**
1. **Main Street Texas**
How can your county participate/benefit?
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The what, when, where and why of documentation and preserving historic photography collections.
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Dress Western Casual.
6- 7 pm — Cash Bar Cocktails
7- 8 pm — Dinner
8-11 pm — Dancing—Music by East Texas String Ensemble
Crystal Ballroom/Mezzanine, Driskill

## SATURDAY, APRIL 25

**7:30 - 11:00** **REGISTRATION:** Stephen F. Austin Hotel

**9:00 - 10:00** **"WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?"**
Preservation Update 1981.
State & National— Facts for Preservation Planning.
*Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas Historical Commission*
Houston Room, Stephen F. Austin

**10:00 - 10:15** **BREAK**

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**2:30** **HISTORIC TOUR OF AUSTIN**
Optional: $5.00

# Preservationists win state award

***STATE AWARDS*** — Tarrant County Historical Commission has been accorded the Distinguished Service Award for its work in 1980. Duane Gage, left, chairman and associate professor of history at Tarrant County Junior College Northeast Campus, accepted the award during the annual state preservation conference in Austin. With him is Mrs. Jesse H. Barker, left, of Colleyville who was named Outstanding Committee Chairman for her work as liaison committee chairman in 1980.

Tarrant County Historical Commission, a citizens' committee of 36 county historians and preservationists who were appointed by Tarrant County Commissioners Court, was recipient of the Texas Historical Commission's Distinguished Service Award at the state organization's annual preservation conference in Austin.

Accepting the award for the county commission was Duane Gage, chairman and associate professor of history at Tarrant County Junior College Northeast Campus. The award was given in recognition of the commission's program of work during 1980.

Mrs. Jesse H. Barker, Colleyville, the commission's liaison committee chairman in 1980, was also named outstanding committee chairman for her leadership in numerous local preservation projects.

**A TOTAL OF** 23 official Texas historical marker applications were successfully submitted from Tarrant County last year. Many important documents and other historicl materials were copied or preserved for the Tarrant County historical archives.

Another major achievement in local preservation occurred last year with the creation of the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, a coalition of all major local historical societies and neighborhood organizations fn the county. The council has initiated a countywde architectural/historical survey to determine which of the county's structures, objects and sites are worthy of protection and preservations.

The historical commission continued to locate and preserve the county's pioneer cemeteries and has persuaded Commissioners Court to authorize the establishment of the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, wherein tax-deductible private donations can be sent to the county auditor so a perpetual trust fund can provide funds toward the upkeep of neglected cemeteries.

During 1980 the historical commission logged 54 historical tours and mmore than 100 programs and speeches of a historical nature.

## Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

COUNTY JUDGE
Mike Moncrief

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Richard T. Andersen
Jerry Mebus
A. Lyn Gregory
B. D. Griffin

OFFICERS
Ch. Duane Gage
Ch. Em. Bennett L. Smith
V. Ch. Charlie McCafferty
Sec. Mrs. W. Albert Schmidt
Treas. Mrs. Herschel Payne

COMMISSION MEMBERS
Frances Allen
Gilbert Anguiano
Mrs. J. J. Ballard
Mrs. Jesse H. Barker
Mrs. Jack Benson
Mrs. Joe Box
Gene Brooks
Mrs. Jim Calhoun
Paul Campbell
B. J. Clark
David Dunnett
Beeman Fisher
Mrs. Beryl Gibson
Joe Hallford
Gary Havard
Mrs. Marianne Juran
Brent McPherson
Steve Murrin
Mrs. A. M. Pate, Jr.
Mike Patterson
Sidney Poynter
Ms. Carol Roark
Mrs. Jacob Rolla
Billy W. Sills
Mrs. Ann J. Smith
Winston O. Sparks
Lou Linda Spaulding
Joe Standifer
C. George Younkin

ENTRY OF MRS. JESSE H. BARKER, TARRANT COUNTY,
BEST COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The Tarrant County Historical Commission met on November 12, 1980, and voted unanimously to nominate Mrs. Jesse H. Barker for state competition for Outstanding Committee Chairman of a County Historical Commission.

In 1980 Mrs. Barker served as Chairman of our important Advisory and Liaison Committee, which acts as advisor in many areas of Commission activities. The committee acts as liaison between the Commission and organizations or individuals seeking advise on, assistance with, and support or sponsorship of projects.

SPECIFIC COMMITTEE PROJECTS

Historical Preservation Council for Tarrant County. Mrs. Barker was the Commission's official representative to the HPCTC, first serving on its Board of Trustees, and then serving on its Advisory Board. The HPCTC is a coalition of twenty-five historical societies, preservation groups, and neighborhood associations in Tarrant County interested in historical preservation. The council's Articles of Incorporation were approved in February, 1980 and its officers were then elected. Mrs. Barker served on the Council's committee to select an Executive Director and she actively participated in the interviewing and selection of the director, a process which took several weeks for conducting interviews and evaluating credentials. Mrs. Barker's professional experience in personnel work made her contributions to this matter especially important.

The first major project of the HPCTC is an architectural/historical survey of Tarrant County to determine which of our buildings, structures, objects and sites are worthy of protection and preservation. The survey is to be conducted by a professional firm trained and experienced in the field of architectural/historical surveys. Serving on the Council's Survey Committee, Mrs. Barker researched bibliographies on literature relating to historical surveys, ordered voluminous data, and corresponded with several firms and individuals for information about appropriate procedures for conducting an historical survey. Her expertise in personnel work also made her participation in preliminary interviewing of representatives of professional firms for the survey project of great value.

# Tarrant County Historical Commission

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As the various functions of the HPCTC began to operate during 1980, Mrs. Barker recruited three other members of the Tarrant County Historical Commission to serve on various committees of the Council. This enabled the Commission to contribute to the Council's activities in a significant manner. For an objective view of Mrs. Barker's contributions to the early success of the HPCTC, see the correspondence that is designated as page 3 of this entry.

Commission Newsletter. Mrs. Barker's committee undertook a project to investigate ways to cut costs of producing the Commission's newsletter. She made arrangements for the newsletter to be printed in the county's graphics department, and to be mailed on the county's meter at a bulk rate without a yearly bulk rate fee being passed on to the Commission. This arrangement saved the Commission several hundred dollars, which was then made available for successful completion of other Commission projects. Barker's role in this project indicates the value of her ability to analyze and revise Commission activities for greater effectiveness.

Spearheading a committee project to correct and update the Commission newsletter mailing list, Mrs. Barker made dozens of telephone calls to verify and correct addresses.

Tourist and Convention Bureau Liaison. The continuing cooperation between the Commission and the Grapevine Tourist and Convention Bureau during 1980 is directly attributed to excellent liaison work conducted by Committee Chairman Dee Barker. She was instrumental in acquiring funds from the Tourist and Convention Bureau for all official Texas Historical markers acquired for the Grapevine community in 1980, and funds for financing dedication ceremonies for the markers. Her liaison has paved the way for the Bureau to contribute to the Preservation Council's historical survey. During the year Mrs. Barker presented copies of the narratives for the historical markers to the Grapevine Public Library and to the Bureau in appreciation of the community's generous funding and support of the marker program.

Commission Bylaws. Heading a special study committee, Mrs. Barker spent a great deal of time studying copies of bylaws or various organizations, and coordinated a revision of the Commissions bylaws and standing rules so that our organizational structure will function more smoothly and our efforts to achieve our goals will be improved.

Other Liaison. Mrs. Barker initiated dozens of communications with county organizations and individuals on preservation matters in 1980. Examples are her relationship with staff persons in Fort Worth's Planning Department, Tarrant County Legal Department, and the North Texas Council of Governments. In advisory capacity Mrs. Barker has graciously responded to numerous requests from Tarrant County Historical Commission Chairman Duane Gage to conduct short-term studies, check on contemporary matters, and launch inquiries that have greatly aided the Commission in its program of work for 1980.

If every county commission in Texas had a dedicated personality with the skills of Mrs. Barker, preservation efforts throughout the state would be remarkable.

Duane Gage, Chairman
Tarrant County Historical Commission

Duane Gage

January 27, 1981

# The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc.

March 4, 1980

Mr. Duane Gage, Chairman
Tarrant County Historical Commission
1425 Kaila
Hurst, Texas 76053

Dear Duane,

Thank you so much for coming to the organizational meeting of the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, Texas. It was indeed an honor to have you there and to receive your best wishes and support for our new organization.

Due to the fact that the library was closing, I was not able to elaborate on my deep feelings of appreciation to the Tarrant County Historical Commission for its support and work to form the Council. My Projects Sub-Committee is deeply indebted to the enthusiasm, guidance, and support of Gene Brooks, Frances Allen, Jayne Payne and Dee Barker in the early stages. Dee's work as your delegate has been invaluable. And Marianne Juran has given excellent guidance to the Finance Committee. The Commission, with its expertise and enthusiasm, is to be congratulated for its hard work. The Council will continue to need and to value the Commission's support and active participation.

Thank you for sending me the copy of Truitt Lattimer's letter to the North Central Texas Council of Governments. I am passing the information on to the Survey Committee.

On February 20, 1980, we took an important step, one which will prove valuable to preserving the history of Tarrant County. Thank you for being a part of that step.

Sincerely,

Marty

Marty Craddock

MC:aw

3505 WEST LANCASTER FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76107 (817) 738-9181

REPORT ON DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION AWARDS LUNCHEON

by
Cecelia C. Box

The Dallas County Historical Commission held its fourth annual Awards Benefit Luncheon on November 5th in the newly restored Adolphus Hotel in downtown Dallas. The Annual Awards are given to "recognize on behalf of the State of Texas those individuals, organizations, foundations, agencies, businesses and industries that have made significant contributions towards preserving Texas history, architecture, archaeology or culture" according to the Commission.

Awards in five categories were presented to outstanding individuals and organizations supporting historic preservation in Dallas and Texas. The John Neely Bryan Award went to THC member Mrs. Bobbie Biggart. Texas Restoration Awards were presented to Southern Methodist University for its restoration of Dallas Hall, and to Stephen H. Casey for his restoration of the John Hickman Miller house. Texas Awards to Historic Preservation were given to Dallas County Commissioners Court, the Dallas Morning News, the Historic League of Dallas, Inc. and Westgroup Inc. of California. Awards for News Media and Certificates of Commendation for Historic Preservation at the County level were also presented.

Governor William P. Clements gave a progress report at the luncheon on the extensive renovation of the governor's mansion in Austin. The governor also discussed the THC's Main Street Program and the tax incentives for investing in historic properties included in the Economic Recovery Act of 1981.

# REPORT ON DALLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION AWARDS LUNCHEON

by
Cecelia C. Box

The Dallas County Historical Commission held its fourth annual Awards Benefit Luncheon on November 5th in the newly restored Adolphus Hotel in downtown Dallas. The Annual Awards are given to "recognize on behalf of the State of Texas those individuals, organizations, foundations, agencies, businesses and industries that have made significant contributions towards preserving Texas history, architecture, archaeology or culture" according to the Commission.

Awards in five categories were presented to outstanding individuals and organizations supporting historic preservation in Dallas and Texas. The John Neely Bryan Award went to THC member Mrs. Bobbie Biggart. Texas Restoration Awards were presented to Southern Methodist University for its restoration of Dallas Hall, and to Stephen H. Casey for his restoration of the John Hickman Miller house. Texas Awards to Historic Preservation were given to Dallas County Commissioners Court, the Dallas Morning News, the Historic League of Dallas, Inc. and Westgroup Inc. of California. Awards for News Media and Certificates of Commendation for Historic Preservation at the County level were also presented.

Governor William P. Clements gave a progress report at the luncheon on the extensive renovation of the governor's mansion in Austin. The governor also discussed the THC's Main Street Program and the tax incentives for investing in historic properties included in the Economic Recovery Act of 1981.

Guests were given the opportunity to tour the Adolphus, which has been restored by Westgroup, Inc.

The meeting was attended by TCHC member, Cecelia C. Box.

Dec., 1981 -

* From Dallas Morning News November 6, 1981

The Medallion, December, 1981

Tarrant County Historical Com spear headed the creation of Council and assigned members to help develop plans for the County-wide Survey. Members will assist in research on selected structures

## ed brice

Star-Telegram Feb 15, 1981

### Historic Preservation Council needs help

**PRESERVATION COUNCIL:** The Historic Preservation Council needs assistance. The council, comprised of 26 member organization, is planning a survey of the downtown area of Fort Worth. The council is seeking maps of the downtown area, old city directories, photographs, or any item that may be of assistance in completing the survey. Members will accept donated items and those they can use and then return. Persons with items that may be of use for the survey are asked to call the council at 338-0267.

• • •



## Historic survey underway

The Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County has begun Phase I of a comprehensive survey of the county's significant structures (buildings, bridges, street hardware, districts, etc.) erected prior to 1945.

For the first phase, two members of the San Francisco architecture and urban planning firm of Charles Hall Page and Associates are driving and walking every street in the Fort Worth Central Business District and the City of Grapevine.

The survey, which will take three to five years to complete and cost about $250,000, is designed to help the public and private sectors answer the question, "Is it worth saving?"

The criteria to be applied in conducting the field survey will be those of the National Register for Historic Places and the Historic Sites Inventory.

The public is encouraged to share documented information pertaining to the two areas included in Phase I of the survey. Contact the council by phone, 338-0267, or by mail at 600 Eighth Ave., Fort Worth, Tex., 76104.

The BANNER, Thursday, October 22, 1981

## *Historians plan survey*

Fort Worth, -The Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, Texas has contracted with the San Francisco architecture and urban planning firm of Charles Hall Page and Associates to conduct a survey of the county's significant structures (buildings, bridges, street hardware, districts, etc.) erected prior to 1945. For the next three weeks two members of this firm, Michael Corbett and Woody Minor, will begin Phase I of this survey which will include the Fort Worth Central Business District and the City of Grapevine. The Grapevine Tourist and Convention Bureau is underwriting the Grapevine portion of this study. The team will drive and/or walk every street in these two areas.

This survey will help both the public and private sectors answer the age old question, "Is it worth saving?" It is anticipated that by the end of the 3-5 year project 1,500 primary resources will have been identified, carded and photographed. In addition, background resources that are not individually significant but which in groups contribute to potential historic districts or urban conservation areas will be mapped. The estimated cost of the project is $250,000.

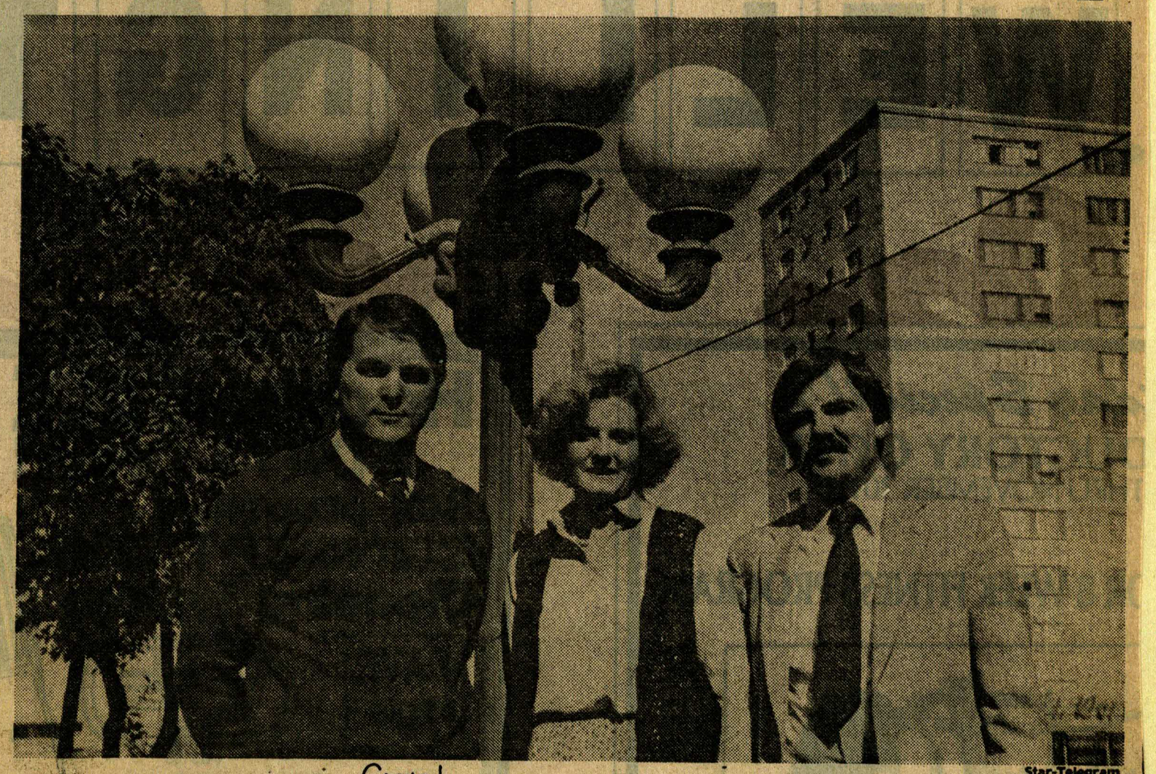
The Historic Preservation Council's ultimate goal is to complete a comprehensive historic resources survey of all of Tarrant County. Because of the scope of this project and the size of Tarrant County, the Council will be completing the survey inportions. The guidelines for determining which portions will be completed are: how old the area is, whether it is endangered an the ability of a survey to influence rehabilitation and development. Of course, available funding will determine in what order and how large the portions are that are surveyed. The criteria to be applied in conducting the field survey will be those of the National Register for Historic Places and the Historic Sites Inventory.

The public is encouraged to share documented information pertaining to the two areas included in Phase I of the survey. Please contact the office by phone, 338-0267 or by mail to HPCFTC, 600 8th Ave., Fort Worth, Texas 76104.



# Group urging upkeep of our history

By MIKE H. PRICE
Star-Telegram Writer



Star-Telegram

HISTORIC PRESERVATON ~~SOCIETY~~ Council . . . taking stock of Tarrant County's constructed resources.

The fabricated world — the houses and streets and offices that set the stage for daily activity — is such a taken-for-granted mainstay of civilized life as to go almost unnoticed.

And by nature of its being so obvious as to go overlooked, this fabricated world lapses imperceptibly, day after day, into disrepair and ruin, even as construction crews are raising new buildings to be used, neglected and eventually abandoned.

Hardly an intentional or even a conscious process, the crumbling of the constructed world is a process which frightens many visionaries; not only do buildings which reflect heritage deserve upkeep, the feeling goes, but many old structures have a potential for recycling and renewed use.

The problem parallels that of waste disposal — but on a vastly grander scale, and involving complicated considerations that range from economic feasibility to emotional impact.

It also — perhaps most significantly — involves history, to an extent that relatively few investment organizations and government agencies have realized or bothered to acknowledge.

Global in scope, the issue looks considerably less staggering on the regional scale of Tarrant County, where a new organization based on Fort Worth's Near South Side has undertaken to draw the line on this vicious circle by — for openers — taking a count of a predicted 1,500 historic structures in Tarrant County.

The organization is the Historic Preservation ~~Society~~ Council for Tarrant County, located in the First City Savings building at 600 8th Ave.

The site could hardly be more appropriate. Situated just westward down Pennsylvania from the historic Thistle Hill mansion, the structure that houses the Historic Preservation Society is itself a state landmark, built in 1907 and restored in 1980.

"We are interested in the preservation of the past in the broadest sense of the phrase," said Mike Collins, newly installed executive director of the society.

There are four organization objectives:

■ Identification and evaluation of the significant, constructed resources that can be dated prior to 1945 in Tarrant County. (This survey, in progress in the central business district and at Grapevine, is the work of an architectural-urban planning firm. Evaluation, said Collins, will answer one key question: "Is it worth saving?")

■ A listing of those resources (buildings, statuary, brick streets) to enable long-term conservation.

■ A focusing of the energies and abilities of 27 Tarrant County organizations which are concerned with historic preservation.

■ And, once the survey is completed, a push to facilitate capital investment, city-county growth, and educational advancement in light of the new knowledge.

Examples of resources identified to date include the Haltom's clock, some masonry work on the Lancaster Street Bridge, and "bits and pieces of brick street all through the central business district," said Marty Craddock, chairman of the Historic Preservation Council Board of Trustees.

The central-city area proved a logical place to start the survey, said Collins — as did the city of Grapevine, whose Visitor & Convention Bureau helped pay for the survey.

"It will be the largest land mass ever surveyed anywhere in a single project," said Ms. Craddock.

The survey is the work of Charles Hall Page & Associates, an architectural and urban planning firm based in San Francisco. To complete the survey of Tarrant County's historic structures, Collins said, staffers will cover 7,000 miles of streets and roads.

"That gives you an idea," he said, "of the logistical problems of the project — and of how awesome it is."

"Of course," said board vice chairman Bill Pruett, "we're not setting out to look up every old house in the area or anything like that."

One frequent lament for Collins, echoed among board members and leaders of the neighborhood groups which the council heads, is that much new construction and planning are undertaken without a thought to past construction and planning.

As a consequence, structures with a potential for being recycled — often boasting materials and craftsmanship superior to those available today — are commonly ignored and left to decay while new structures with less "life expectancy" are raised seemingly overnight.

The effort to slow — perhaps even halt — that cycle is a tall order. The Tarrant Historic Preservation Council, however, wagers that some positive results from the present survey, coupled with a community education project yet in the talking stages, will make the job easier than it seems on first appraisal.

In the meantime, the council is seeking, Collins said, to rank other areas of the county for surveying once the central-city phase is accomplished.

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The Grapevine Sun Thursday, August 6, 1981

# Downtown facelift — can it be done?

Texas Historical Commission officials have an interest in the old buildings along Grapevine's Main Street downtown area. They would like to see the community's private sector restore the old structures and revitalize the downtown area, and the Commission is willing to help.

Should Grapevine city officials decide to submit an application, Grapevine will be one of the cities to be considered by the Commission for selection to participate in its 1982 Main Street Program, Duane Gage, Chairman of Tarrant County Historical Commission said.

Five cities with populations less than 50,000 are selected by the Commission each year, Gage said, and criteria used for selection includes the city's location, a sound economic foundation, and a "can do attitude." According to Gage, Grapevine has all three aspects in its favor, especially its location.

Gage said cities are chosen as focal points across the state and the nearest town to Grapevine to be considered for the program is Hillsboro.

City officials must determine thecommunity's "can do attitude" this month before submitting the application. Should the outcome be favorable, the application will be submitted before the Sept. 1 deadline.

In October, five cities will be selected to the three-year program and a package of tax incentives, incentive grants, expert advisors, and assistance in obtaining historical designations will be available.

Winn Sharp, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, said the program would be extensively comprehensive and would necessitate the involvement of a large portion of the community.

"One sector of the community cannot do it all," she said, adding that two organizations have expressed an interest in the program.

"It is in the talk stage at this time," she said, and no further plans will be made until the Chamber Board of Directors meet Aug. 18 to determine whether the community interest will warrant further action.

Assistant City Manager Bill Eisen said the program will be presented to the Grapevine City Council this month for consideration.

Selected cities must hire a project manager to work on the program, Anice Read, program director of the Texas Historical Commission said.

"We work with five cities a year and in each city, a project manager must be employed by the

See DOWNTOWN, Page 2A

## Downtown

From Page 1

city to work on the project full-time."

The project manager is provided with experts, advisors in fields in architecture, marketing techniques, parking, and planning, or whatever needs is the city will have.

An incentive grant of $2,500 will be given to the project manager to use in the program, Read said, and other foundation and corporate grants will be available from private enterprise.

"What the city gets in additional grants will be up to them after a point," she said. "Our purpose is to get the city to where it is self-sufficient within the three-year program, otherwise, the program will not work."

Assistance with writing grant applications is provided by Read who has extensive experience applying for grants for the Commission.

There will be a "no strings attached" policy accompanying the grants since they are not federally funded, she said.

Property owners will be offered tax incentives such as a 25 percent investment tax credit on certified rehabilitation of historic structures. The remaining 75 percent will be depreciated at a 150 percent declining balance, she said.

Low-interest loans will be available through financial institutions at 8-9 percent interest, she said.

The Commission will also offer its assistance is in obtaining to cities in obtaining historical designations for its buildings.

NEIGHBORHOOD EXTRA/NORTHEAST ©1981 Fort Worth Star-Telegram OCT. 14-15, 1981 5

# Grapevine showcases history

By MIKE PATTERSON
Star-Telegram Writer

GRAPEVINE — Grapevine is hoping to makes its history pay off.

The Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau has contributed $4,500 as its share of a countywide historical survey with an eye toward using the information in planning how to show off its historical buildings and homes.

"The city is close to a hundred years old," said Bob Phillips, the bureau's executive director. "History is all over the place."

The Tarrant County survey is sponsored by the Historic Preservation Council. Grapevine will be one of the first areas surveyed because the bureau paid its share of the $250,000 project. The council is trying to raise enough money to survey anything built in the county before 1945.

THe council, comprised of civic, historical and neighborhood groups, is contracting with Charles Hall Page and Associates of San Francisco to conduct the survey, said Debra Phelan, the council's director.

The firm's employees will drive or walk through each target area taking photographs, talking to residents and studying old homes and businesses that might be considered of historical value.

Some of the individual structures may qualify for state or national recognition, while in other areas the neighborhood as a whole may warrant historical designation.

Initially, the firm will survey Grapevine and the Fort Worth Central Business District. But ultimately, the council expects to find at least 1,500 historic structures in Tarrant County. The survey will be conducted in Grapevine this month.

Phillips said results of the study in Grapevine will be ready within a year. It will tell the city what could possibly be designated as historical and what tax advantages might be available on the structure.

NEIGHBORHOOD EXTRA/NORTHEAST ©1981 Fort Worth Star-Telegram DEC. 2-3, 1981 5

## Barbara Holsomback's Community Notebook

**Rita Clements, wife of Gov. Bill P. Clements, will speak on *The Preservation and Restoration of Downtown Areas* at a meeting of the Grapevine Chamber of Commerce at 11:45 a.m. Dec. 8 at the Amfac East Hotel at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. Tickets and reservation information are available by calling the chamber office at 481-1522 or Mike Davis State Farm Insurance at 481-5548. Cost is $11.50 per person. The meeting is open to the public.**

* * *

Auditions for Talent Time 4 week

NEIGHBORHOOD EXTRA/NORTHEAST ©1981 Fort Worth Star-Telegram DEC. 16-17, 1981 3

# Clements' wife seeks downtown Grapevine renovation

By DOMINGO RAMIREZ
Star-Telegram Writer

GRAPEVINE — Citing facts and figures on cities which have successfully redeveloped downtown areas, Rita Clements, wife of Gov. Bill Clements and a strong advocate of historic preservation, challenged city business and civic leaders to rehabilitate and reuse the central business area.

Speaking before the Grapevine Chamber of Commerce recently, Mrs. Clements outlined the importance of the "main street project," a plan aimed to help cities redevelop downtown areas. The project, under way in 10 Texas cities ranging in population from 5,000 to 30,000, is administered by the Texas Historical Commission with the aid of the state tourist development agency, the industrial commission and the department of community affairs.

"When we talk about rebuilding the economic strength of our central business districts, we must begin with its economic potential," Mrs. Clements said. "We have to develop the area as a marketplace, and the method is different in each city.

"I want to stress that the project involves private reinvestment — no government handouts," she said.

Established in 1980, the project initally started in five cities — Eagle Pass, Hillsboro, Navasota, Plainview and Seguin. Mrs. Clements said Seguin leads the list, having 10 buildings rehabilitated with the total reinvestment figure of the downtown area about $1.5 million.

For all five cities, Mrs. Clements said the amount was approximately $3 million.

"Everyone is helping out. The financial institutions have been giving low-interest renovation loans to the building owners, and city leaders in the cities have taken the time to work at redeveloping downtowns," Mrs. Clements said. "You can see it working from Plainview to Hillsboro."

Mrs. Clements said Granbury, southwest of Fort Worth, set the stage for the statewide project by embarking on an extensive downtown rehabilitation program many years ago. Sales tax revenue jumped from $27,000 in 1970 to $200,000, she said.

By hiring a main street manager, whose sole responsiblity would be the downtown, Mrs. Clements said, cities would be at a big advantage. Organization, promotion, quality design and economic restructuring were pointed out by the governor's wife as key factors in the project.

"All this isn't to say that it'll be easy," Mrs. Clements said. "It didn't take a year for downtowns to decline and it will take more than a year to bring them back.

"We too often see boarded-up windows or 'going out of business' signs in our downtowns, and we've let that happen," she said. "We can reverse the trend the other way."

*'I want to stress that the project involves private reinvestment — no government handouts.'*

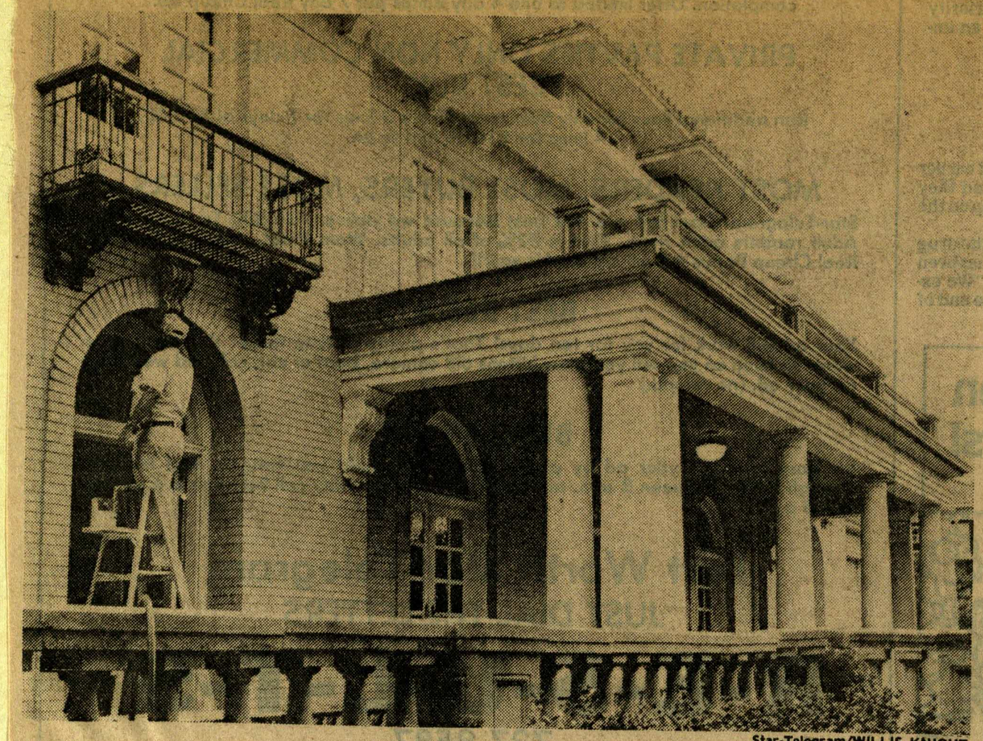
**— Rita Clements**

Five new cities have already been selected for the project in 1982 — Gainesville, Georgetown, Kingsville, McKinney and Marshall.

"It's (the project) been discussed at the city staff levels and we're pretty encouraged with it," said Bill Eisen, assistant city manager. "We did not apply this year, but with the council's consent, we're hoping to get involved next year.

"What the project offers us would be the technical expertise of persons who know about renovation," he said. "A healthy downtown is vital especially to us. We could quickly lose our historic background what with all the growth."

Ftw Star Telegram - 10-2-1981



Star-Telegram/WILLIS KNIGHT

SPRUCING UP ... Arly DuBois paints the Jeffers house

# They sacrificed comfort to make room for history

By NANCY K. WEBMAN
Star-Telegram Writer

Sarah and John Jeffers must endure a few nightmares before their dream comes true.

For three weeks, they watched as their huge, magnificent home became a naked shell, devoid of any furniture, window, wall and floor coverings and all traces of the Jeffers and their three children.

At one point, they had no water. Their son had to shower at a hospital so he would be clean enough for school.

Now, the three-story Elizabeth Boulevard home is being painfully remodeled and redecorated, room-by-room. When completed, the Jeffers' residence will be a showhouse, both literally and figuratively.

Twelve designers and decorators are transforming the 66-year-old structure into their collective conception of the perfect house. The occasion is the Historic Preservation Council's Designers' Showhouse, to be open to the public Oct. 18-25.

"To me, it's just a fantasy-type deal," Mrs. Jeffers said.

Twenty rooms in the 7,000 square-foot house will be redone in Tarrant County's first showhouse residence.

* * *

**IT'S A** fund-raiser that has been successful all over the country. Mrs. Jeffers said her family is willing to put up with the inconvenience because it will benefit a cause they support.

The council is trying to raise enough money to fund its county-wide survey of historic structures, including homes, offices, bridges, gas stations, lightposts — anything built before 1945.

"We could have entered this thing up to our ears in debt, but we looked around for a way to raise funds to pay our way as we go," said Paula Brittain, who heads the council's Showhouse committee.

A firm specializing in surveying and identifying historic structures already has done some preliminary work in Grapevine and on an expanded version of the Fort Worth Central Business District.

On Monday, employees will begin driving around the two areas, taking pictures of the structures. Then, they will map every site they identify and create an inventory card on each.

Ultimately, Mrs. Brittain said, the council expects to find at least 1,500 historic structures in Tarrant County.

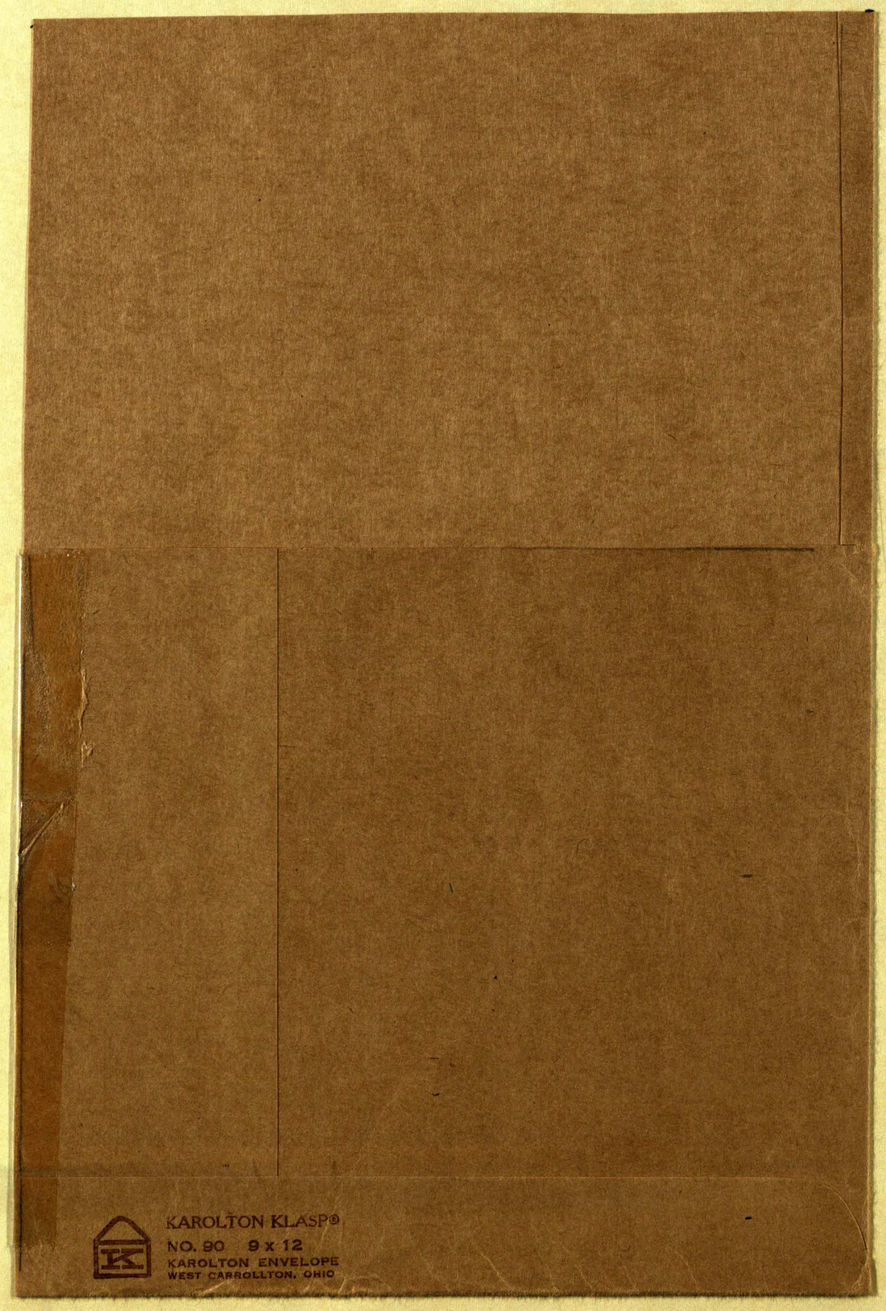
Grapevine is among the first areas to be surveyed because the city's Tourist and Convention Bureau paid its share, said Marty Craddock, the council member coordinating the survey. "The Grapevine area has been extremely active in discovering its history," Mrs. Craddock said.

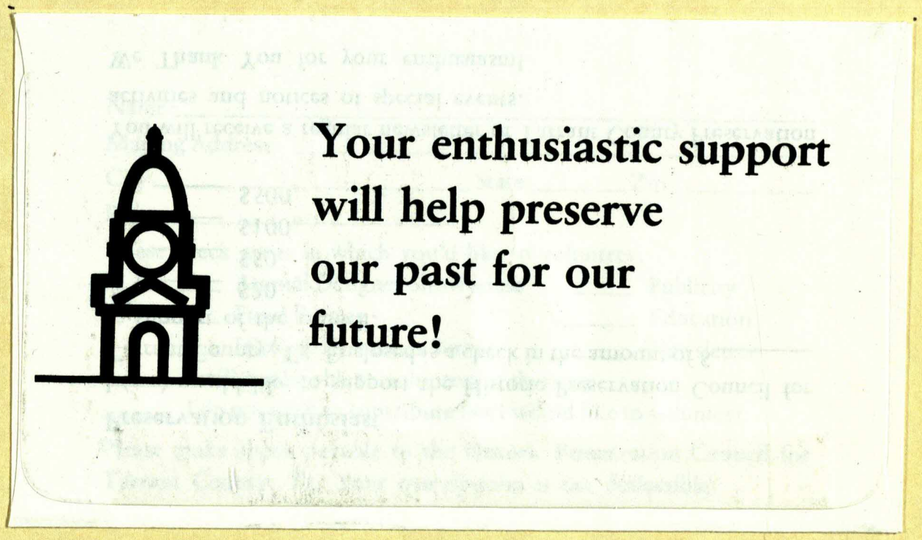
* * *

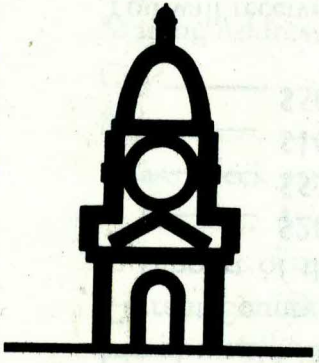
**SINCE THE IDEA** is to make as much money as possible, council members have tried to obtain as much free help as possible.

They've succeeded.

For example, all of the decorators and designers have donated their efforts, and they have cashed in on favors to obtain gratis construction work to help remodel the rooms, Mrs. Brittain said.





**Your enthusiastic support will help preserve our past for our future!**

## Preservation Enthusiast

I (we) would like to support the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, Tx. Enclosed is a check in the amount of $ _____ in support of the council.

_____ $20.
_____ $50.
_____ $100.
_____ $500.

You will receive a regular newsletter of Tarrant County Preservation activities and notices of special events.

We **Thank You** for your enthusiasm!

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please check areas in which you'd like to volunteer.

_____ Annual Designer Showhouse
_____ Fund Raising
_____ Historic Resources Survey
_____ Publicity
_____ Education
_____ Newsletter

_____ I will not be able to volunteer at this time.

_____ I do not wish to contribute but I would like to volunteer.

Please make check payable to the Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, Tx. Your contribution is tax deductible.

# Old court records may be heirlooms

Page 3 MID-CITIES DAILY NEWS Sunday, November 15, 1981

If your family lived in Tarrant County before 1931, the Tarrant County Historical Commission may have a family heirloom for you.

Old marriage licenses, forgotten until restoration on the county courthouse required their removal, have been turned over to the historical commission.

Each of the unclaimed documents contains names of a bride and groom, date of marriage and signature of the official who performed the ceremony. Many renowned pioneer family names are included in the collection.

The licenses accumulated during years when certificates were mailed to the courthouse by officials who conducted the weddings. The county clerk recorded the marriages and held the certified licenses for couples to pick up, as opposed to the current policy of mailing certificates to newlyweds.

The Tarrant County Courthouse burned in 1876, destroying all records. Between that time and 1931, an estimated 50,000 couples failed to pick up their certificates.

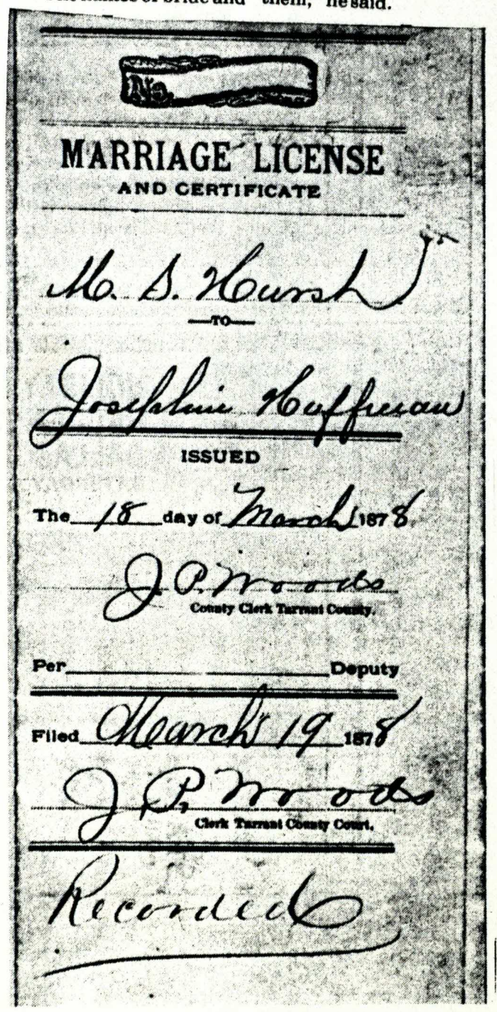
It seems that in the rush and excitement of establishing homes, they forgot about papers that verified the legality of their marriages. In many years, an estimated 80 percent of licenses were not claimed.

The historical commission will mail the licenses, which are rich in artistic design, to the first descendant or relative requesting them. Requests must be submitted in writing and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. A tax-deductible contribution to defray the cost of the project is requested.

The names of bride and groom and the date of marriage should be included and mailed to Tarrant County Historical Commission, P.O. Box 18331, Fort Worth, Texas 76118.

"We ask each applicant to include in his letter a brief explanation telling us of his relationship to the persons on the certificate," a commission spokesman said.

"We are excited about the significance this project will have for the pioneer families of our county, and we ape happy to return these important mementos to people who will treasure and protect them," he said.



MARRIAGE LICENSE
AND CERTIFICATE

Mr. S. Hurst
—TO—
Josephine Hufffman
ISSUED
The 18 day of March 1878.
J. P. Woods
County Clerk Tarrant County.
Per _____ Deputy
Filed March 19 1878
J. P. Woods
Clerk Tarrant County Court.
Recorded

***OLD DOCUMENT*** — This century-old marriage certificate dated 1878 is one of an estimated 50,000 recently discovered in Tarrant County Courthouuse. Mahlon S. Hurst, son of the founder of Hurst, and Josephine Hufffman were married in 1878. The Tarrant County Historical Commission is offering this original marriage certificate and all others like it to descendants who will request them.

Resolution 9 - 1981

## Tarrant County Historical Commission

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Tarrant County Historical Commission has preserved Tarrant County Marriage Certificates (1876-1930) that were scheduled to be discarded; and

WHEREAS, the marriage certificates are historically and aesthetically significant; and

WHEREAS, the Tarrant County Historical Commission seeks to distribute these original marriage certificates to descendants and relatives, and to others with valid purpose, such as local historical societies; and

WHEREAS the Tarrant County Historical Commission may accept donations when distributing the marriage certificates;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Tarrant County Historical Commission develop a project to locate descendants and relatives of persons named on Tarrant County Marriage Certificates (1876-1930), and ask for donations when distributing said certificates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that donations received when distributing said certificates be applied toward the purchase of historical markers, applied to the Tarrant County Cemetery Fund, and applied to other projects determined by the Tarrant County Historical Commission or its Executive Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a photocopy be made of each marriage certificate distributed, and records kept identifying each recipient and amount of each donation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any and all future publication of the data on the marriage certificates be executed in a uniform scholarly format, under the direction of the Tarrant County Historical Commission.

**********

Approved by the Tarrant County Historical Commission, in regular meeting assembled in the Fort Worth Public Library on the 9th day of September, 1981.

Certified a true copy, this 9th day of Septmber, 1981.

Duane Gage
Chairman

ATTEST: Hilbert Arguinzoni
Secretary

MARRIAGE LICENSE DISTRIBUTION PROJECT SUCCESSFUL

TCHC's project to distribute unclaimed Tarrant County marriage licenses, dating from 1876 to 1932, has made many new friends for the Commission. In its first six weeks the project has resulted in about 200 inquiries and about 175 licenses distributed to relatives and descendants of couples who were married in Tarrant County but who, for one reason or another, failed to receive their certified marriage licenses. TCHC mails the licenses, which are rich in artistic design, to the first descendant or relative who requests available ones, on condition that the request is submitted in writing and includes a stamped self-addressed envelope. A contribution, to help with Commission expenses, is requested. Requests should include the names of the groom and bride, approximate date of marriage, and a return envelope, mailed to

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION Po Box 18331 Ft Worth 76118

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Wednesday, November 18, 1981

ARLINGTON DAILY NEWS Page 1

Courthouse find:

# Unclaimed documents date back to 1870s

A century-old marriage certificate documenting the wedding which united two Arlington-area pioneer families — Jopling and Melear — is one of an estimated 50,000 certificates recently discovered in the Tarrant County Courthouse.

The cache of forgotten licenses, rich in artistic design, had to be moved because of courthouse restoration work. They were turned over to the Tarrant County Historical Commission — which in turn is offering them to the first descendant or relative who requests them.

Formerly, certificates were mailed to the courthouse by officials who conducting weddings; county clerks recorded the marriages and held the certified licenses for couples to pick up (today's certificates are mailed to newlyweds). Between 1876, when fire destroyed the courthouse and all previous records, and 1931, some 50,000 couples failed to pick up their certificates.

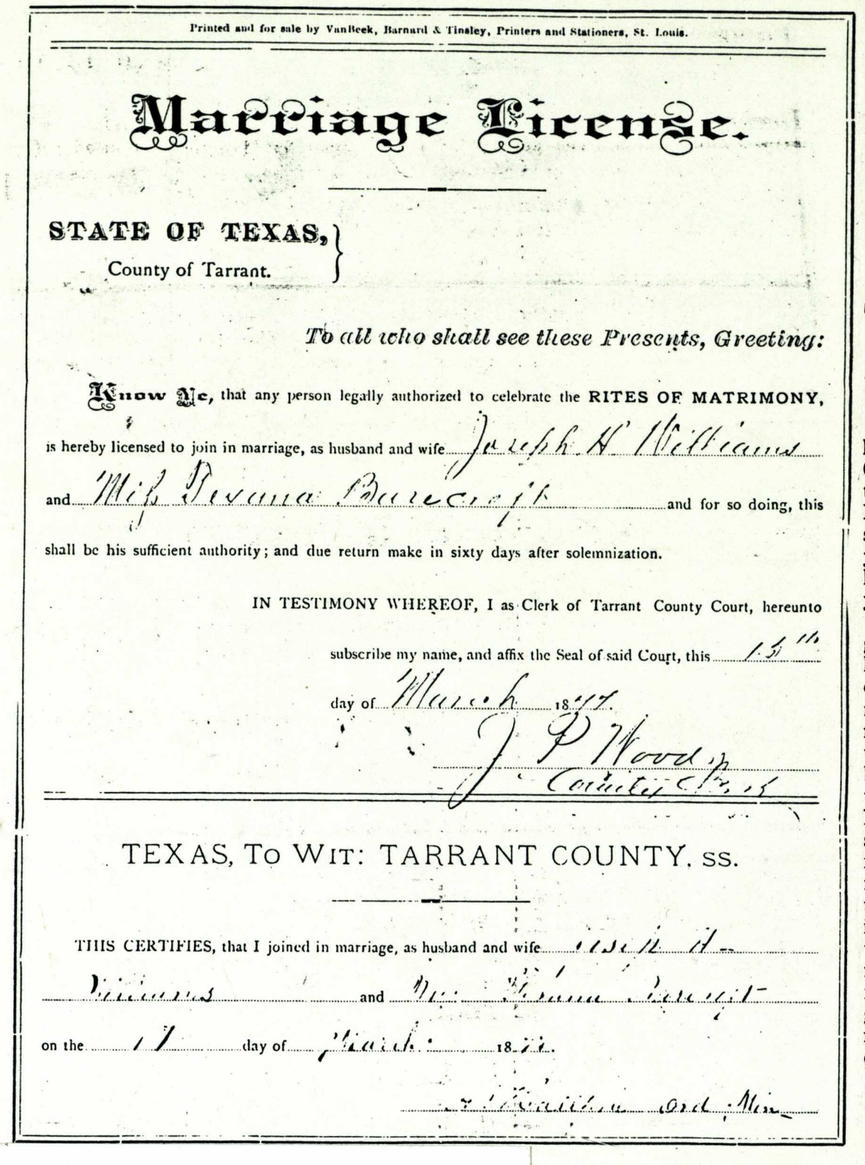
**"IT SEEMS,"** writes Tarrant County Historical Commission chairman Duane Gage, "that in the rush and excitement of establishing a home, they forgot about the papers that verified the legality of their marriages. In many years," Gage noted, "an estimated 80 percent of the licenses were not claimed."

Local history researchers have found that many reknowned pioneer family names are included in the collection.

Jane Catherine Jopling and Z.T. Melear, whose cabin home is now a part of Pioneer Park (the Arlington Historical Society's restoration project at the Johnson plantation site), apparently never made the trip to the county courthouse in 1878. He was a farmer and blacksmith, owner of a livery stable and cotton gin. They had eight children and occupied the Jopling-Melear Cabin from 1890 until their deaths.

**THE COMMISSION** will mail licenses to the first descendant or relative requesting them in writing and providing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Contributions (tax-deductible) to aid commission projects are requested, Gage added.

Requests should include names of the groom and bride, date of marriage and return envelope. Mail to Tarrant County Historical Commission, P.O. Box 18331, Fort Worth, Texas 76118.



Printed and for sale by VanBeek, Barnard & Tinsley, Printers and Stationers, St. Louis.

## Marriage License.

STATE OF TEXAS,
County of Tarrant.

*To all who shall see these Presents, Greeting:*

Know Ye, that any person legally authorized to celebrate the RITES OF MATRIMONY, is hereby licensed to join in marriage, as husband and wife Joseph H Williams and Miss Texana Barcroft and for so doing, this shall be his sufficient authority; and due return make in sixty days after solemnization.

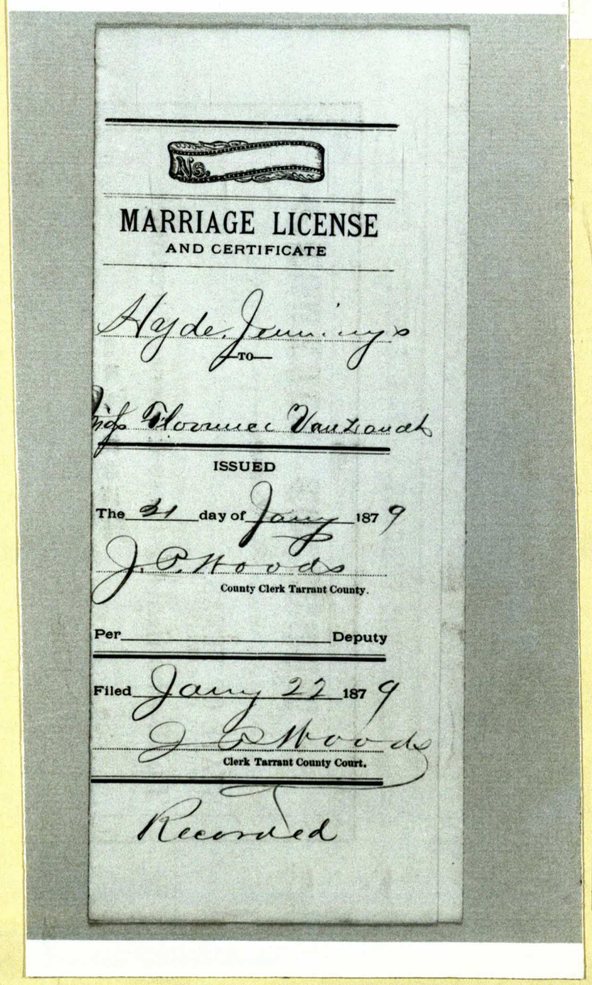
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I as Clerk of Tarrant County Court, hereunto subscribe my name, and affix the Seal of said Court, this 15th day of March 1877.

J P Woods
County Clerk

TEXAS, To Wit: TARRANT COUNTY, ss.

THIS CERTIFIES, that I joined in marriage, as husband and wife Joseph H Williams and Miss Texana Barcroft on the 17 day of March 1877.

[illegible] Ord. Min.



No.

MARRIAGE LICENSE
AND CERTIFICATE

Hyde Jennings
TO
Miss Florence VanZandt

ISSUED

The 21 day of Jany 1879

J. P. Woods
County Clerk Tarrant County.

Per _____ Deputy

Filed Jany 22 1879

J. P. Woods
Clerk Tarrant County Court.

Recorded



**Texana Barcroft was married to Joseph A. Williams near Keller in 1877. Her father, Daniel Barcroft, came to the Mount Gilead community in 1847 as a member of the first group of settlers there. Texana died in 1899 and was buried at Mount Gilead Cemetery. This century-old marriage certificate is one of an estimated 50,000 that the Tarrant County Historical Commission is offering to descendants and relatives who will request them.**

# Tarrant County Historical Commission to distribute family treasures

If your family lived in Tarrant County before 1931, the Tarrant County Historical Commission may have one of your family heirlooms. If so, it is yours for the asking.

Old, nearly forgotten marriage licenses, which recently had to be moved because of restoration work on the courthouse, have been turned over to the Commission. Local history researchers have found them to be more interesting than anyone imagined. Each of the unclaimed documents contains names of a bride and groom, date of marriage, and signature of the official who performed the ceremony. Many reknowned pioneer family names are included in the collection.

The licenses accumulated during the years when certificates were mailed to the courthouse by the officials who conducted the weddings. The county clerk then recorded the marriages and held the certified licenses for the couples to pick up, a contrast to today's policy of mailing the certificates to the newlyweds.

Between 1876 (the year the courthouse burned, destroying all previous records) and 1931, an estimated 50,000 couples failed to pick up their certificates. It seems that in the rush and excitement of establishing a home, they forgot about the papers that verified the legality of their marriages. In many years, an estimated 80 percent of the licenses were not claimed.

Tarrant County Historical Commission will mail the licenses, which are rich in artistic design, to the first descendant or relative who requests available ones, on condition that the request is submitted in writing and includes a stamped self-addressed envelope. A contribution (it is tax-deductible) to help with Commission project expenses is requested.

Requests should include the names of the groom and bride, date of marriage, and a return envelope, mailed to Tarrant County Historical Commission, P. O. Box 18331, Ft. Worth, TX 76118.

"We ask each applicant to include in his letter a brief explanation telling us of his relationship to the persons on the certificate," a Commission spokesman has stated. "We are excited about the significance this project will have for the pioneer families of our county, and we are happy to return these important momentos to people who will treasure and protect them."

DALLAS MORNING NEWS Saturday December 12, 1981

# Officials approve plan to distribute old, unclaimed wedding licenses

By Margaret Ann Thetford

Officials have approved a Tarrant County Historical Commission project to distribute old unclaimed pre-1931 certified Tarrant County marriage licenses to descendants and relatives of the brides and grooms who were married there from 1876 through 1931.

The licenses were accumulated during the period when the certificates were not mailed, and newlyweds failed to pick them up at the courthouse.

The licenses, rich in artistic design, will be mailed to the first descendant or relative requesting available ones, on condition the request is submitted in writing and includes a stamped, self-addressed envelope. A contribution to help with commission project expenses is requested. Requests should include the names of the groom and bride, approximate date of marriage, a contribution and a return envelope, mailed to Tarrant County Historical Commission, P.O. Box 18331, Fort Worth, Texas 76118.

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