TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 29, 1991

Ms. Portia Grimland 390-8740
City Center Development Company
201 Main Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Dear Portia:

Enclosed is a revised draft of the Fort Worth Fire Station No. 1 historical marker application. A number of commission members have worked on this application in past years. The early history is pretty well covered. The work to be done involves editing the part on pages 5 and 6 to accurately reflect what has happened to the building since it was bought by the Bass Company. Your name will be added to those who have researched the marker.

We also need sketches of the floor plans of the two floors (these can be hand-drawn) showing their current layout, as well as black and white photographs of all sides of the building.

A marker application and guidelines are enclosed. This building is eligible for designation as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark and there are several size medallions and markers which could either be mounted on the building or a post.

We appreciate your interest and assistance with this project, and I apologize for the delay in getting the material to you. I wanted to be sure that everything we had was as complete and accurate as we could make it before turning it over to you.

Please call if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Joye K. Evetts, Marker Chairman
4400 Idledell
Fort Worth, TX 76116
office: 817-882-6367
home: 817-244-1232

The Commission is grateful for your achievements in historical preservation and we encourage you to undertake every effort to save the historical integrity of the Fire Station.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage

Duane Gage, Chairman
Marker and Archives Committee

DG:kb

Tarrant County
Historical Commission

DUANE GAGE (817) 281-7860
c/o DEPT. OF HISTORY, NORTHEAST CAMPUS
828 HARWOOD ROAD, HURST, TEXAS 76053

Tarrant County
Historical Commission

Tarrant County Court House
Fort Worth, Texas
(From Original Photograph – 1895)

September 13, 1979

Mr. Sid Bass
Sid Bass Enterprises
Fort Worth National Bank Building
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Mr. Bass:

In our regular meeting yesterday, the Tarrant County Historical Commission passed a resolution expressing our concern for preserving the old Fort Worth Fire Station at Commerce and Second. We were pleased to learn that Bass Enterprises has leased the property, because we are aware of your deep interest in historical preservation.

There has been a great deal of interest in converting the old Fire Station into a Fire Museum for Fort Worth. In your plans for the office building, I hope you will be able to consider the Fire Station as an attractive feature linking our present and our past. Would the Chamber of Commerce be interested in helping to develop the facility into a tourist center, with a Fire Museum on the second floor?

The Tarrant County Historical Commission is developing a "Walking History Tour" for downtown Fort Worth, emphasizing historic sites between the bluffs and the T & P buildings. We hope to acquire official Texas historical markers for the Plaza Hotel, the Fire Station, etc., as an integral part of the Walking History Tour. A tourist guide will be prepared for the benefit of tourists, groups, etc., directing their interest from one historic site and historical marker to the next.

I have talked with Mary Rogers about the research that goes into applying for historical markers. As chairman of the Commission's marker and archives committee, I would like to offer you my assistance in completing the restoration of Main Street and environs by placing historical markers at the appropriate locations, such as the Plaza Hotel.

Tarrant County Historical Commission

P. O. Box 18331 Fort Worth, Texas 76118

TARRANT COUNTY COURT HOUSE
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Feb. 21, 1986

Mr. Robert Kolba
Chief Executive Officer
City Center Dev. Co.
201 Main, Suite 400
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

Dear Bob:

Ruth Reiter Stone, a member of the Tarrant County Historical Commission, has prepared an official Texas historical marker application for the Fire Station # 1, and we are now seeking your approval to submit the application to the Texas Historical Commission.

Enclosed please find a copy for your perusal. If it meets your approval, please sign the enclosed authorization form so that we can forward it to Austin.

Sincerely,

Duane Gage

Duane Gage
Chairman

4904 Wedgeview Drive
Hurst, Texas 76053
(telephone 284-5792)
August 26, 1987

Fire Chief Jim Noah
3904 Menzer Road
Fort Worth, TX 76103

Dear Chief Noah,

I am sorry it has taken so long in sending this narrative to you.

We appreciate your offer to critique it for any misconceptions or events that may be out of continuity.

We recognize that there are some grammatical errors. These will be corrected before sending the narrative to Austin.

We will be pleased to send you a copy of the finished narrative. Also a copy of the State proposed inscription for your perusal before it is sent to the foundry.

Sincerely,

Evelyn D. Cushman

(Mrs. James A. Cushman)
Historical Marker Chairman
Tarrant County Historical
Commission

APPLICATION FORM FOR OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

Texas Historical Commission
Research and Markers Department
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711

Title of Marker (subject to revision by THC staff) ▶ FORT WORTH FIRE STATION No. 1	County ▶ TARRANT
Marker Location (from nearest town on state map) ▶ brick facade of building	
Distance and direction of subject from marker site ▶ on site	If not on post, surface to which marker will be attached ▶ brick surface
Owner of Marker Site ▶ City Center Development Co., % Rob. Kolba, Suite 400, 201 Main, Fort WOrth, Texas 76102 (Address / City, Zip)	
Sponsor of Marker ▶ City Center Development Company, % Robt. Kolba, Suite 400, 201 Main Fort Worth, Texas (Address / City, Zip)	
Signature of County Chairman ▶ Dwane Dage % TCJC NE Campus, 828 Harwood Road, Hurst, Texas 76054 (Address / City, Zip)	
Person to whom marker is to be shipped * ▶ Mr. Robert Kolba, City Center Dev. Corp., Suite 400, 201 Main, Ft W 76102 (Address / City, Zip)	

**NOTE: Freight companies cannot ship to route or box numbers. If street address is unavailable, please provide a phone number. If marker is to be placed on highway right-of-way, it will be shipped to your district highway engineer.*

Please consult the back of this page for specifications of the markers available. Check the items desired below. Approval of the application and narrative history *must* be obtained from the county historical commission, as indicated by the county chairman's signature on this form, before forwarding the material to the Texas Historical Commission. Please *do not* send payment if ordering subject or building markers; funds will be requested once the application has been approved by the State Marker Committee.

5⅛% state sales tax must be added to the price, except if purchased by a tax-exempt organization.

SUBJECT MARKERS

		With tax
☐ 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar)	$190	$197.84
☐ 27" x 42" subject marker with post	$650	$676.84
☐ 27" x 42" subject marker without post	$600	$624.78
☐ 18" x 28" subject marker with post	$375	$390.49
☐ 18" x 28" subject marker without post	$300	$312.39

☐ I(We) request RTHL designation be considered for this marker.

BUILDING MARKERS

☐ 16" x 12" building marker with post	$350	$364.45
☒ 16" x 12" building marker without post	$300	$312.39

Applications for building markers will automatically be considered for the RTHL designation. Please read carefully Texas Marker Policies 13 through 18, and indicate that you have done so by signing below.

X _____
Signature of owner

PAPERWEIGHTS

Please indicate quantity desired.

___ 3" x 4" plastic paperweight mounted with replica of marker $90 $93.71
Allow 2 months from completion of marker for receipt of paperweight.

___ Medallion paperweight $40 $41.65
Allows four lines of engraving; please indicate desired wording.

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Please indicate quantity desired and give location(s) on form above:

24" x 24" Historical Markers In City sign $80 $83.30
These will be shipped to and placed on your town's city limits signs by the District Highway Engineer.
___ Black and White (for farm-to-market roads, state and U.S. highways)
___ Green and White (for interstate highways)

18" x 22" Historical Marker directional sign $80 $83.30
In black and white only. For city and county roads.
Applicant must supply post and be responsible for placement.
___ With arrow pointing straight ahead
___ With arrow pointing left
___ With arrow pointing right

OTHER

☐ National Register plaque	$ 50	$ 52.06
☐ 12" x 6" supplemental plate	$110	$114.54
☐ 16" x 12" building marker plate only (see policy #15)	$190	$197.84
☐ Replacement medallion (see policy #15)	$110	$114.54
☐ Bronze stars (for replacement on 1936 granite markers)	$ 25	$ 26.04
☐ Bronze wreaths (for replacement on 1936 granite markers)	$ 25	$ 26.04
☐ Bronze seals (for replacement on 1936 granite markers)	$ 65	$ 67.69
☐ Bronze plates (for replacement on 1936 granite markers)	$185	$192.64
☐ Certificates of commendation	50¢ each	

FORT WORTH FIRE STATION NO. 1

Researched by

Joye K. Evetts
4400 Idledell
Fort Worth, TX 76116

Ruth Reiter Stone
#3 Chase Court
Fort Worth, TX 76110

Fort Worth Fire Station No. 1 is a two-story brick building located at the northeast corner of Commerce and East Second Streets in downtown Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas. The structure, built in 1907, was the second fire station on the site, having replaced an 1877 combination city hall and fire house. From 1907 until 1979 when it was taken out of service, this fire station was used continuously to provide fire protection to the heart of the downtown area.

The building, designed by the Fort Worth architectural firm of Sanguinet & Staats, features adept brickwork (as seen in the second-story rustication and corbeling).[1] The cut-stone trim includes window ledges, keystones and banding around the building on the ground level. Large fan-shaped windows on the second story have stone keystones and diamond patterned panes; oval windows on the first story are topped by brick-work and false keystones.

The west facade has a stair-stepped parapet containing the words "Fire Station No. 1", topped by a medallion with "1907", the year of construction. On the ground floor, a large entrance accommodated the fire engines.

The north side of the structure was built as a common wall for an adjoining two-story building which has since been razed. The wall retains the notches for the upper floor supports as well as evidence of the other building's lower roof line.

The southeast corner of the building, which is angled off, originally contained a large door the same size as the door in the west facade; however, that door has been replaced by a regular size door surrounded by brick similar to the brick of the original construction.

The history of organized fire-fighting in Fort Worth began shortly after the city incorporated in February 1873. On May 2, 1873, Fort Worth's first volunteer unit was organized and named the M. T. Johnson Hook & Ladder Company.[2] The officers were S. P. Greene, President; B. B. Paddock, Secretary; and William T. Field, foreman (chief officer).[3]

On May 14, 1873, the Fort Worth City Council voted to pay $625 to the M. T. Johnson Hook & Ladder Company for equipment as soon as sufficient funds were in the City Treasury.[4] Their hand-drawn hook and ladder cart was kept in a shed at Weatherford and Throckmorton Streets.[5]

In October, the Fort Worth City Council passed ordinances for the prevention and extinguishment of fires, the storing of combustible material, and the establishment of a fire guard. The M. T. Johnson Hook & Ladder Company was appointed and constituted a part of the Fire Department of the City of Fort Worth. Fire Department appointments included Wm. T. Field, Chief Engineer; J. W. Monica, 1st Assistant Engineer; and E. P. Albritton, 2nd Assistant Engineer.[6]

After the disastrous Tarrant County Court House fire on March 29, 1876, the City of Fort Worth realized that additional fire

fighting equipment was needed.[7] A steam fire engine was ordered from Silsby Manufacturing Company, and a second fire company called "The Panther Company" was organized.[8] The new engine was put into service on November 11, 1876,[9] and the following week the Fort Worth City Council appointed a committee to secure a house for the new engine and the hook and ladder company.[10] A store fronting on the alley between Weatherford and First Streets was rented for $65 a month.[11] The Council also appointed G. W. Hill engineer for the Panther Company at a salary of $40 per month.[12]

The City's first mayor Dr. W. P. Burts donated a lot (Lot 8, Block 25, Original Town of Fort Worth Addition) at Second and Rusk (now Commerce) Streets for the Mayor's office and city hall with the provision that he have the use of a common wall.[13] On November 28, 1876, Joe Kane was awarded a contract to build a 25 x 65 brick building with a metal roof.[14] Construction plans were soon altered to include a fire wall and belfry in order to accommodate a fire house as well as city hall and mayor's office.[15]

On January 29, 1877,[16] both fire companies moved to the new site where downtown fire protection was provided for the next 102 years.

Fire Engineer G. W. Hill was authorized to use the rear portion of the engine room to live in and to erect a kitchen in back of city hall.[17] The northeast corner room of the city hall was used by the Fire Department.[18]

In June, horses were purchased to pull the Silsby engine and a bell was bought for city hall.[19]

Designated signals were approved for ringing the fire bell -- one signal for the hook and ladder company and another one for the engine company, etc. Fire limits were continually amended and an ordinance passed prohibiting the building of frame buildings within the central core of the town.[20]

In 1893, the city government offices moved from the combination city hall-fire station to a new and larger city hall built on Jackson Street (later called 10th Street) between Monroe and Jennings. The old city hall at 2nd and Commerce continued to house the fire station.[21]

Fort Worth continued to grow and new fire companies were organized in each of the wards.[22] On November 21, 1893, the Fort Worth Fire Department converted to using paid employees rather than volunteers, with John Cella as their chief.[23]

In May of 1907, the Fort Worth architectural firm of Sanguinet & Staats inspected the old fire hall at Second and Rusk and reported that it was in bad shape but could be repaired for $400.[24] The Fort Worth City Council elected to replace it with a new fire building. Sanguinet & Staats prepared the architectural design and specifications, and S. A. Tomlinson was awarded the construction contract for $12,000.[25]

The new Fire Station No. 1 was occupied in December 1907 with a complement of twenty men, an engine wagon, an aerial truck, and horses.[26]

The Fort Worth Fire Department began motorizing in 1909 and completed the conversion in 1919, eliminating the need for horses

to be kept at the stations.[27]

In 1979, the twenty-four people, engine and aerial truck stationed at Fire Station No. 1 were transferred to a large modern station built at 120 North Pecan (a more accessible location .3 mile northeast), after which the old station was closed.[28]

Fire protection for the downtown Fort Worth was provided from Fort Worth Fire Station No. 1 at 2nd and Commerce Street from 1907 until 1979 when it was removed from service.

Bass Enterprises had bought and renovated other nearby downtown property in a development known as Sundance Square. Bass' City Center Development Company owned all of Block 25 except for Lot 8 where the old fire hall was located. They were building a 1000-car parking garage covering the rest of the block and wanted to restore and use the old fire hall as a historical-information center.[29]

The City of Fort Worth put the old fire hall property up for sale by bid, and City Center Development Company negotiated a satisfactory settlement with the Jane Schlansker firm who was the high bidder.[30]

On June 26, 1981, the City of Fort Worth sold the old fire hall to the City Center Development Company with a deed restriction requiring the building's exterior would be "restored and maintained so as to preserve its historical and architectural character." The buyer also convenanted "that the building would be utilized in the future in a manner consistent with the revitalization of the downtown area of Fort Worth in a manner serving Fort Worth's

citizens and guests, and in a manner highlighting and benefitting the economic, civic, and cultural aspects of the City." Further, the buyer agreed that the ground floor would be "forever dedicated to the public, and open to use by the public, as a multi-media interpretive center and visitors' center or similar use, free of any rentals, assessments or charges."[31]

A new site plan was drawn up for Block 25R, and a high rise parking garage was built surrounding the old fire hall on three sides.[32]

(information on exterior repairs)

Fire Station No. 1 underwent extensive interior renovation. The first floor was remodeled as a 2000-square-foot exhibit by the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History in cooperation with the City Center Development Company and the City of Fort Worth. This interpretive center -- "150 Years of Fort Worth" -- details Fort Worth's evolution from prairie and cross timber to cityscape in a series of exhibits, one of which features a brief history of Fire Station No. 1. The exhibit opened September 6, 1984, as one of the state's first sesquicentennial exhibitions. It is free to the public and is open 9am to 7pm, 7 days a week.[33]

(Other details about the exhibit, attendance, etc.)

(description of the upper floor...)

The adaptive reuse of Fire Station No. 1 has restored the building to excellent condition and preserved its rich contribution to the history of Fort Worth.

ENDNOTES

1. Tarrant County Historic Resources Survey: Fort Worth Central Business Disrict, 1982, p. 34.

2. "Fort Worth City Guide [1938]", Research Data, Fort Worth & Tarrant County, Texas, Texas Writers' Project. (Fort Worth, Texas: Fort Worth Public Library Unit, 1941), p. 18225; Fort Worth Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 23.

3. Chief Jim Noah, "Backfires," a cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department, p. 3.

4. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 26.

5. "Fort Worth City Guide", p. 18225; Fire Station No. 1 Exhibit in the 150 Years of Fort Worth Exhibit, Fort Worth, Texas.

6. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 41.

7. Jim Noah's "Backfires", p. 5.

8. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, pp. 175, 180; Jim Noah's "Backfires", p. 6.

9. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 180.

10. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 185

11. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 192.

12. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 185.

13. Tarrant County Deed Records, Vol. F, pp. 156-7.

14. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, pp. 185, 187.

15. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, pp. 187, 203.

16. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, pp. 208-209.

17. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 228.

18. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, p. 252.

19. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, pp. 219, 257.

20. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book A, pp. 214,248,261.

21. Oliver Knight, Fort Worth: Outpost on the Trinity (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1953), p. 145; Contract between the City of Fort Worth and Smith & Bardon for the construction of a City Hall Building, dated 30 March 1892, recorded in Book J, p. 254.

22. "Fort Worth City Guide", p. 18226.

23. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes; "Fort Worth City Guide", p. 18226.

24. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book R, p. 426.

25. Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes, Book R, pp. 491, 499; Tarrant County Historic Survey, p. 34.

26. Fort Worth Fire Department Daily Logs, 1907, Personnel & Apparatus.

27. "Fort Worth City Guide", p. 18226.

28. Interview with Chief Jim Noah, Fort Worth Fire Department Historian on October 29, 1991.

29. Fort Worth Star-Telegram April 3, 1981.

30. Fort Worth Star-Telegram, April 3, 1981 and April 7, 1981.

31. Tarrant County Deed Records, Vol. 7144, pp. 43-44.

32. Tarrant County Plat Record, Vol. 388 144, p. 34.

33. Fort Worth Star-Telegram, September 22, 1984; Fort Worth News-Tribune, September 3, 1984.

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Fire Station No. 1 Exhibit. 150 Years of Fort Worth Exhibit. Commerce and Second Streets, Fort Worth, Texas.

Fort Worth City Council Meeting Minutes.

Fort Worth City Records.

"Fort Worth City Guide [1938]." Research Data, Fort Worth & Tarrant County, Texas. Texas Writers' Project. Typescript. Fort Worth, Texas: Fort Worth Public Library Unit, 1941.

Fort Worth Fire Department Daily Records.

Fort Worth News-Tribune.

Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Interviews with Chief Jim Noah, Fort Worth Fire Department Historian, 3904 Menzer Road, Fort Worth, TX 76103. Joye Evetts on October 29, 1991. Evelyn Cushman on August 19, 1987.

Knight, Oliver. Fort Worth: Outpost on the Trinity. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1953.

Noah, Jim. "Backfires." A Cartoon History of the Fort Worth Fire Department. Tarrant County Historical Commission Archives.

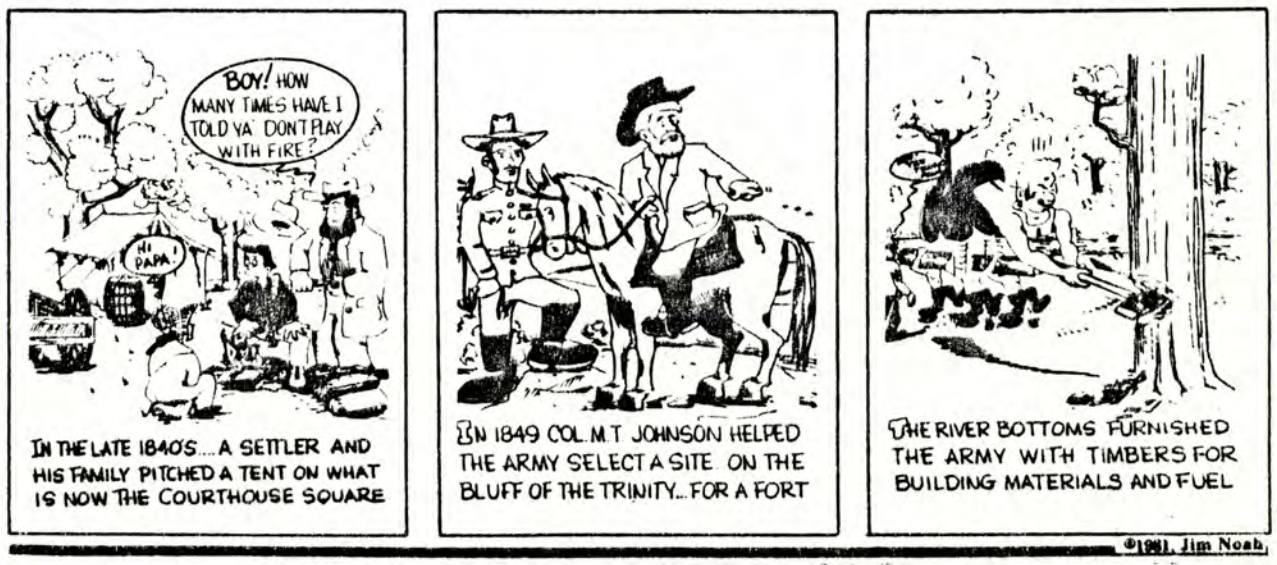
Tarrant County Deed Records.

Tarrant County Historic Resources Survey: Fort Worth Central Business District. Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, Texas. Fort Worth, Texas. 1982.

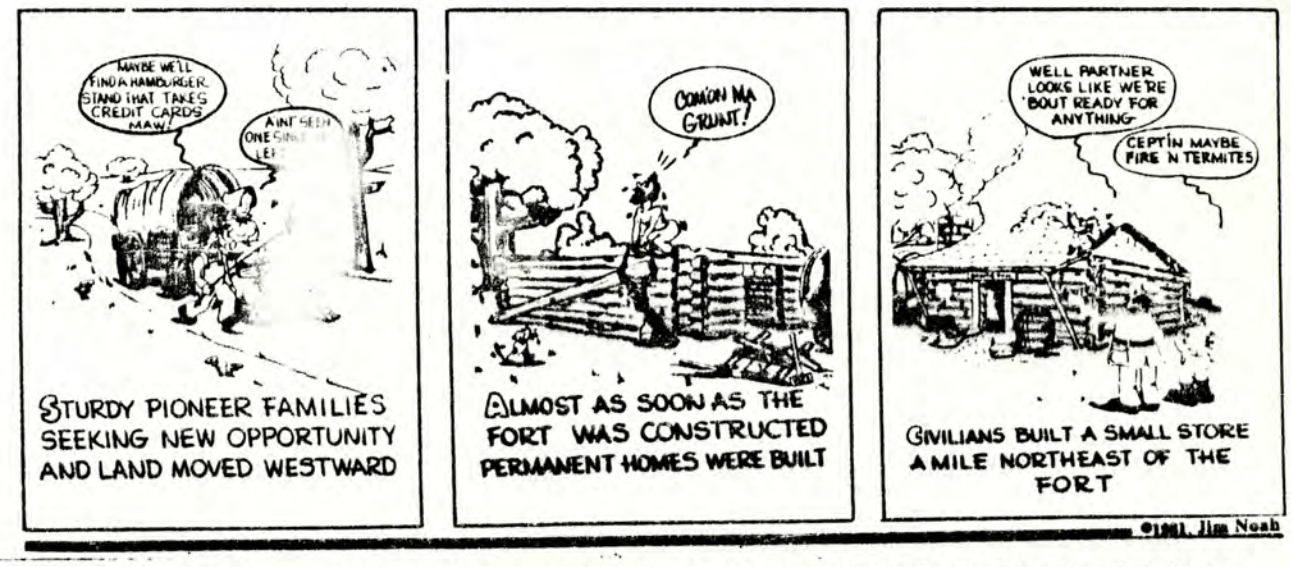
Tarrant County Property Plat Records.

Backfires A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department By Jim Noah

For centuries the "Trinity Fork" area of Texas heard only the occasional sound of the Indian and wild animals. The Spanish explorers of the mid-sixteenth century were to mark the vanguard of many pioneers seeking the beauty and wealth of the area.



When the Army chose the bluff over the forks of the Trinity for the site of a fort it signaled the beginning of present-day Fort Worth.

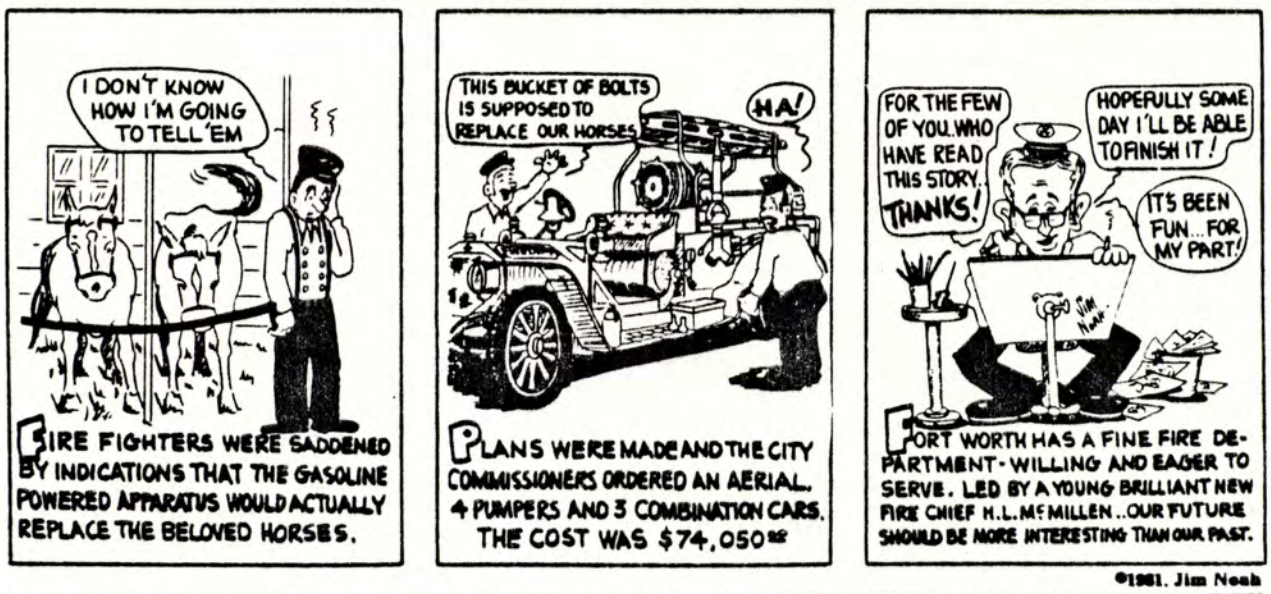


With the relative secruity of the fort available, there was a slow but steady stream of civilians to this area.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

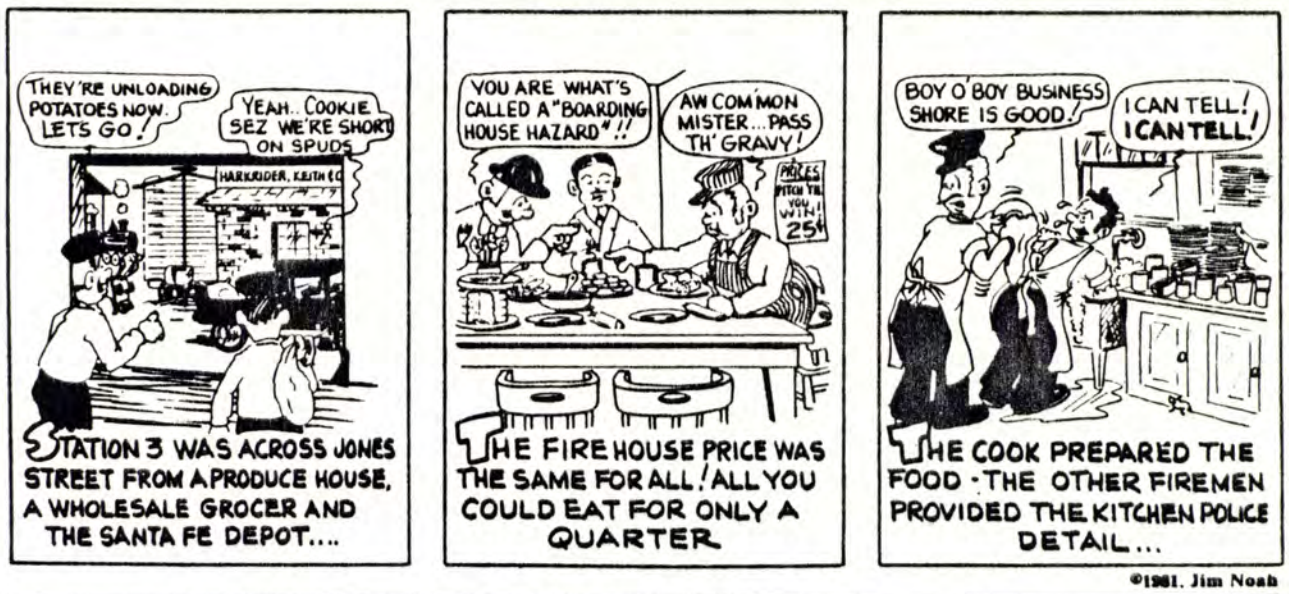


In September 1919, Chief Bideker had brought they department a long way — complete motorization, 13 stations, two platoons — and then he resigned. A new era began.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah



The food supply was made easy when the produce house allowed the firemen to "pick up" loose items as the boxcars were unloaded.

The Station 3 boarding house was a financial success. Fire prevention became a prime objective for the new fire marshal.

The department added a new dimension. Prevention was added to extinguishing fires as responsibilites were expanded.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

As fate would have it, Fort Worth and Dallas had their conflagrations on the same day.

With No. 5 and No. 8 out of service, No. 1 hose burned and the Dallas company on the way back home, the other companies found the flames blocks ahead of them. The fire burned itself out when it destroyed the T&P Roundhouse and Shops.

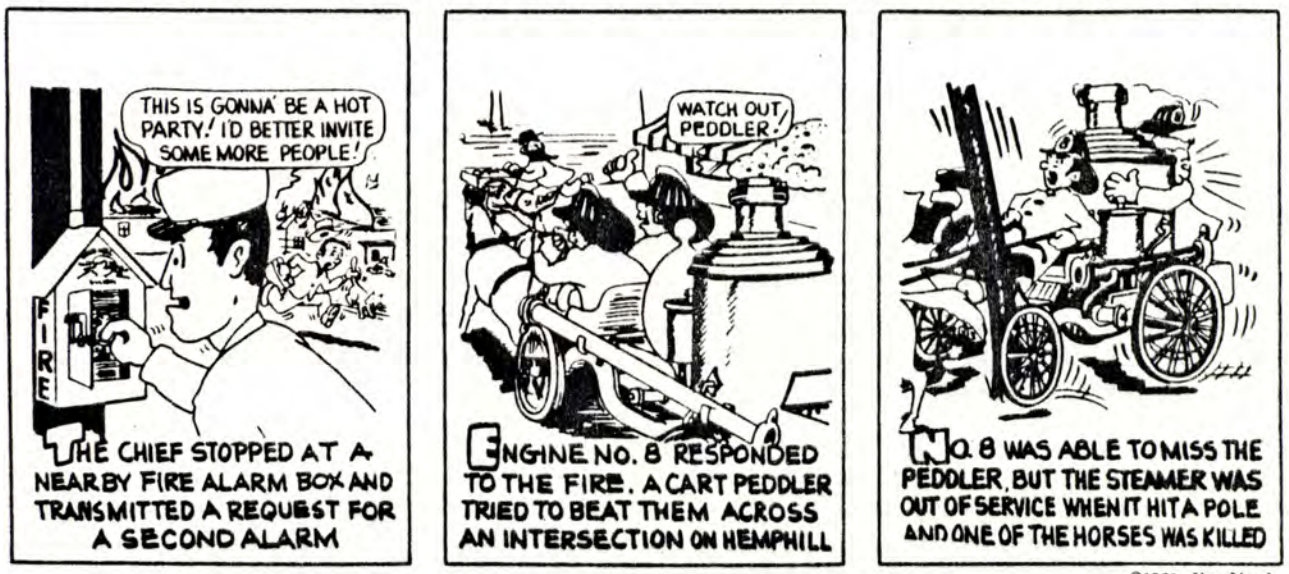
Chili has been popular with Fort Worth firemen for years . . . with good reason.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

Chief Bideker arrived and saw that his worst fears were a reality.



The fire continued to grow, and so did the department's bad luck.

An urgent plea was dispatched to Dallas. Chief Magee sent a steamer company to assist.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

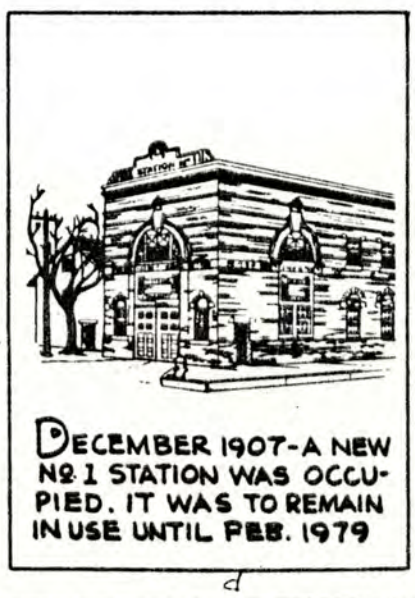
By Jim Noah

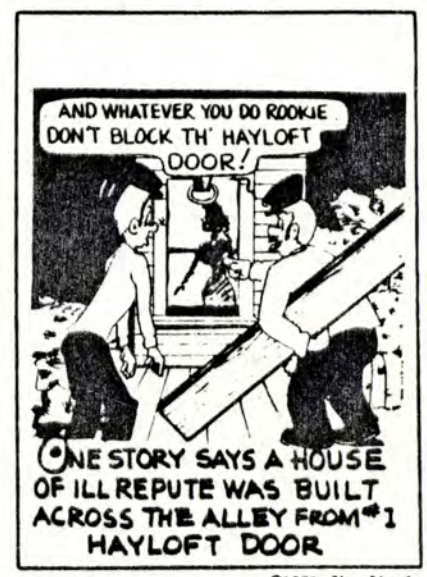
©1981, Jim Noah

A pay raise followed new stations and new equipment. The annual budget exceeded $75,000 in 1907.

©1981, Jim Noah

The are many "horse stories." One of the more popular ones is about "Irish," a big black assigned to engine #3.





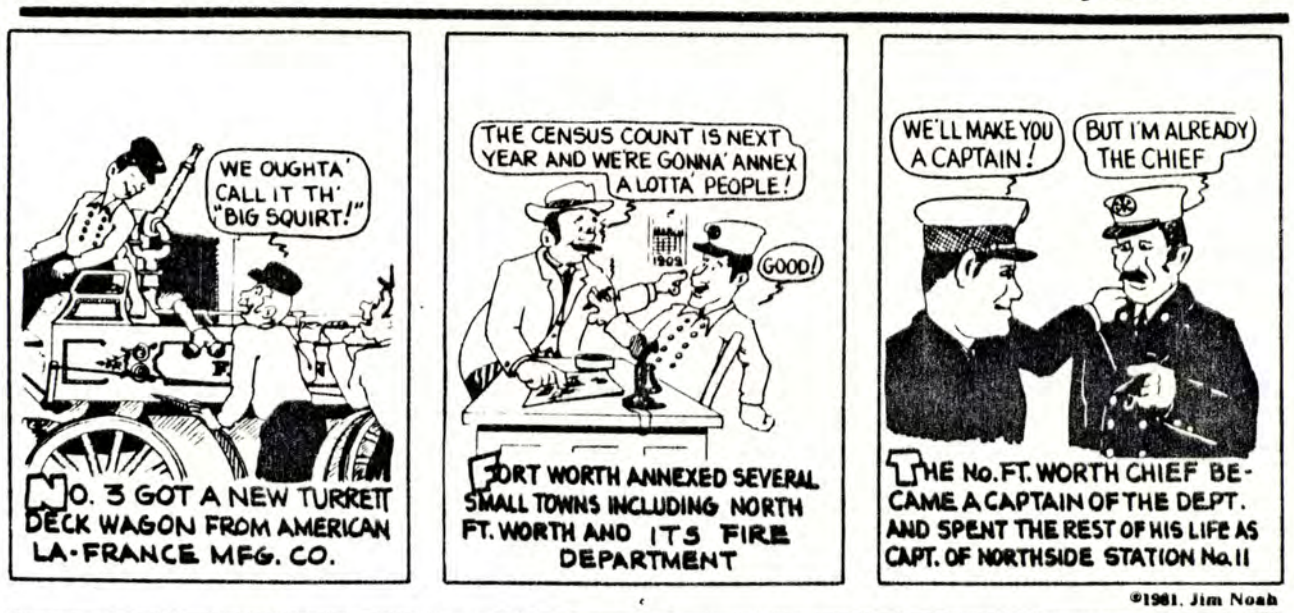
©1981, Jim Noah

The "Old City Hall" was demolished, and a new #1 Fire Station built in its place.

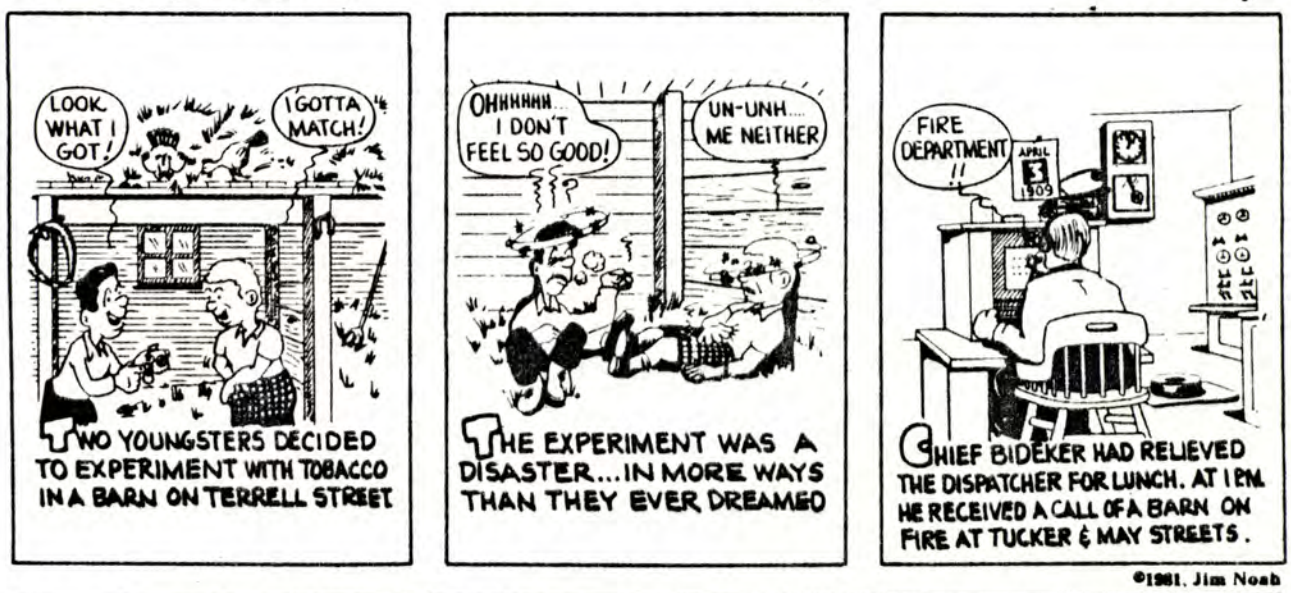
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah



The city prepared for the 1910 census. Chief Bideker's salary was raised to an astonishing $200 per month. North Fort Worth Volunteer Fire Chief J.H. Buckland was hired as a paid captain.



April 3, 1909 — A dry windy day that threatened the entire city. The chief had relieved Captain Penninger, the alarm operator, for lunch.

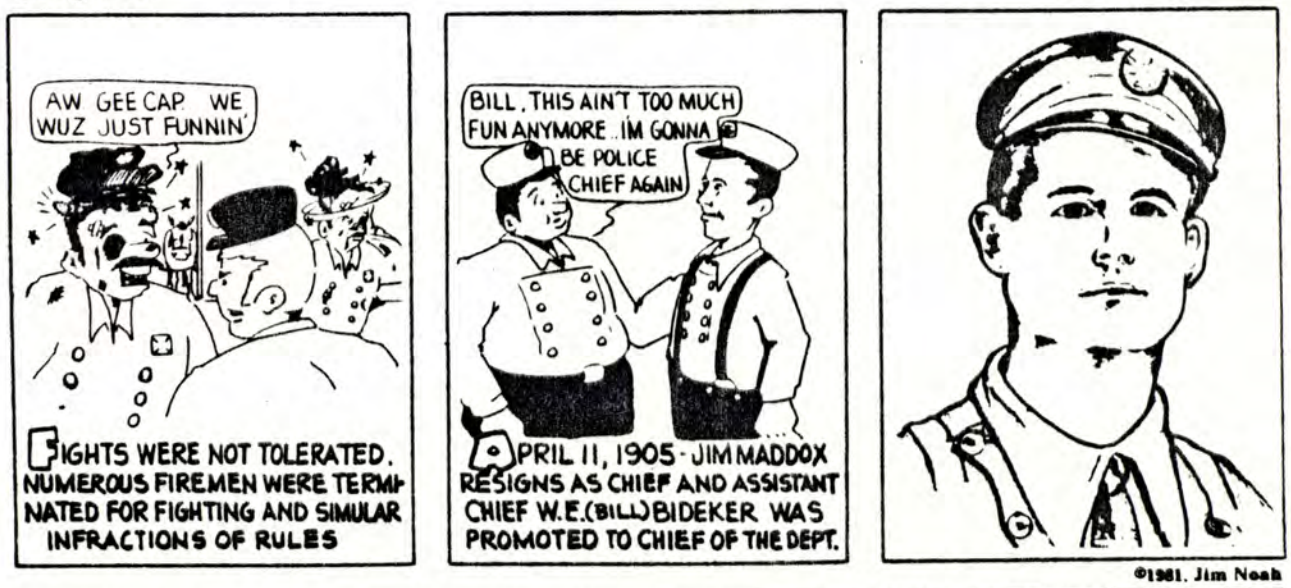
Normal operating procedures were taken, but fate had decreed that the department would not stop this fire easily.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

Street cars and fire wagons had many problems as the city and department continued to progress.



Chief Maddox decided to return to law enforcement and became police chief again. The new fire chief would see the department through many major changes and fires.

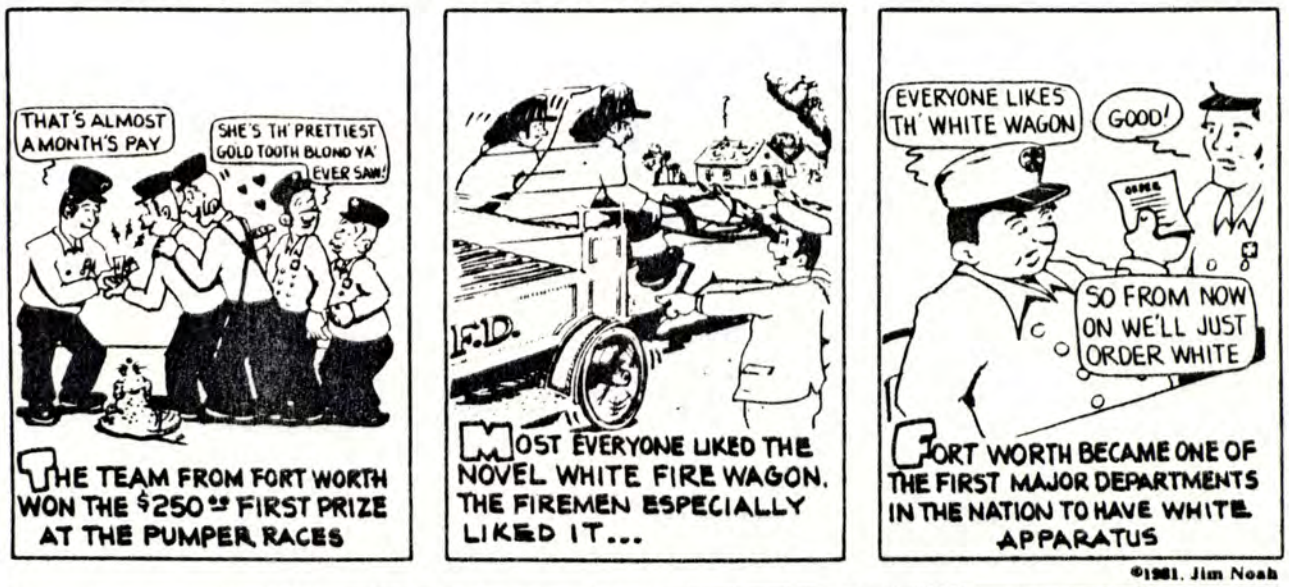
Working conditions improved as good times and growth of the city and department continued.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

Credit a Fort Worth buggie painter with the Fort Worth Fire Department's white equipment — one of the first in the nation and still rolling.



White was right, and the F.W.F.D. came out number one.

The department continued to expand and build.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

The year 1902 was one of tragedy as a former fireman riding with his old company died in the line of duty.

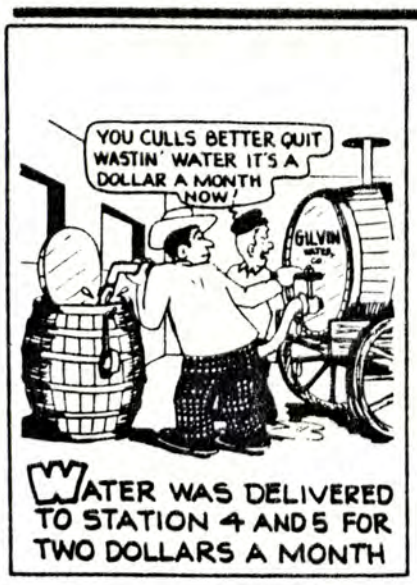
The old and the new "clashed" in 1903 and firefighting was a "sporting" event.

The Fort Worth Fire Department eagerly looked east to the State Fair in Dallas each year.

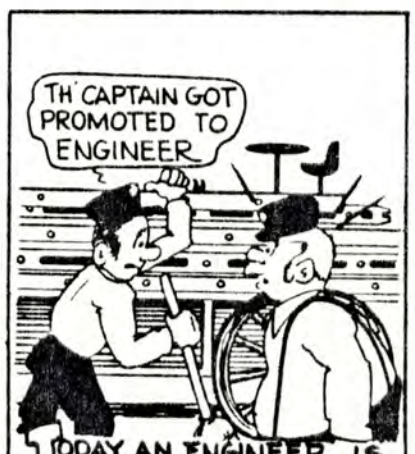
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

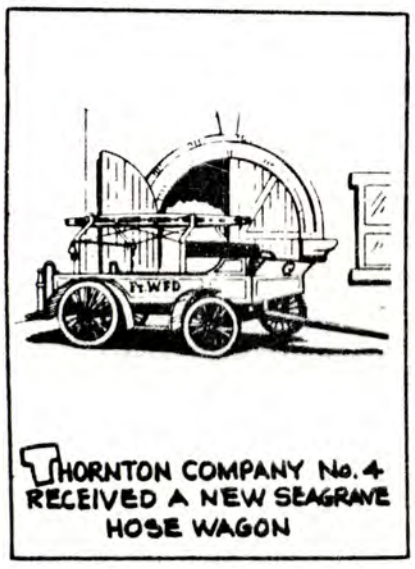
By Jim Noah



Budget problems were constant. Fines took care of some of the smaller items.



The turn of the century and the new chief brought changes — some hurt or helped the pocketbooks — some the firemen had fun with.

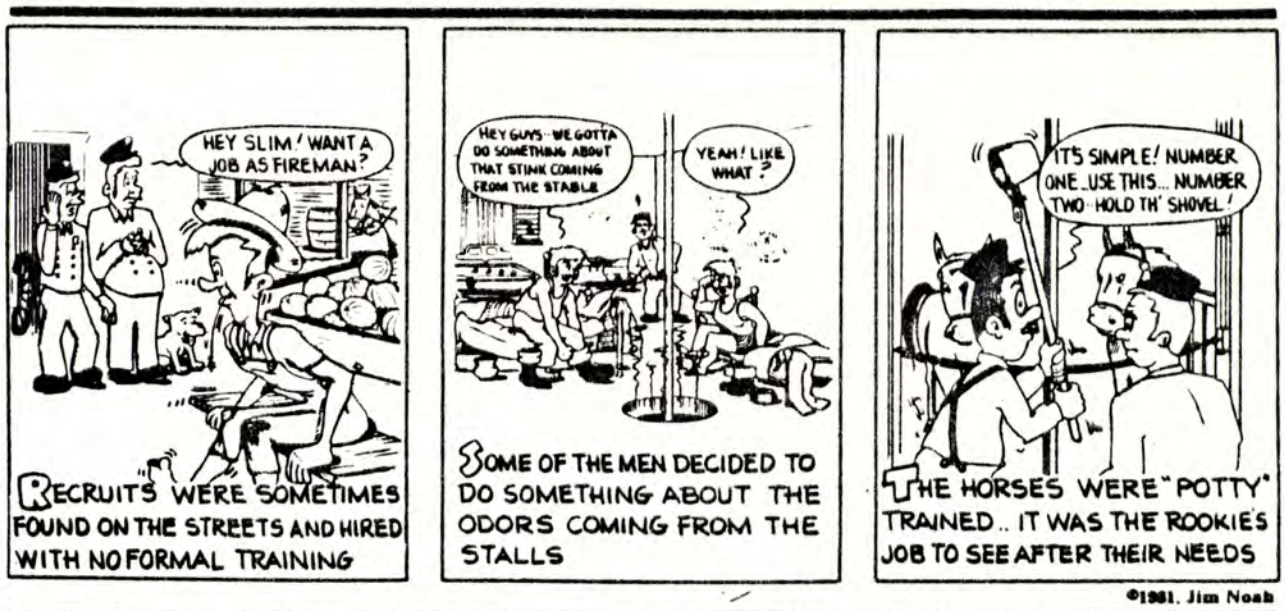


Things were looking up in 1903 for the Fort Worth Fire Department and the North Side in particular.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah



The department began to settle into a routine. Problems were solved in various ways.

Volunteer Hose Co. #6 became a paid company. Then a new central (No.2) station was built in the triangle of Monroe and Throckmorton streets in 1899. April 8, 1901, Chief Cella resigned.

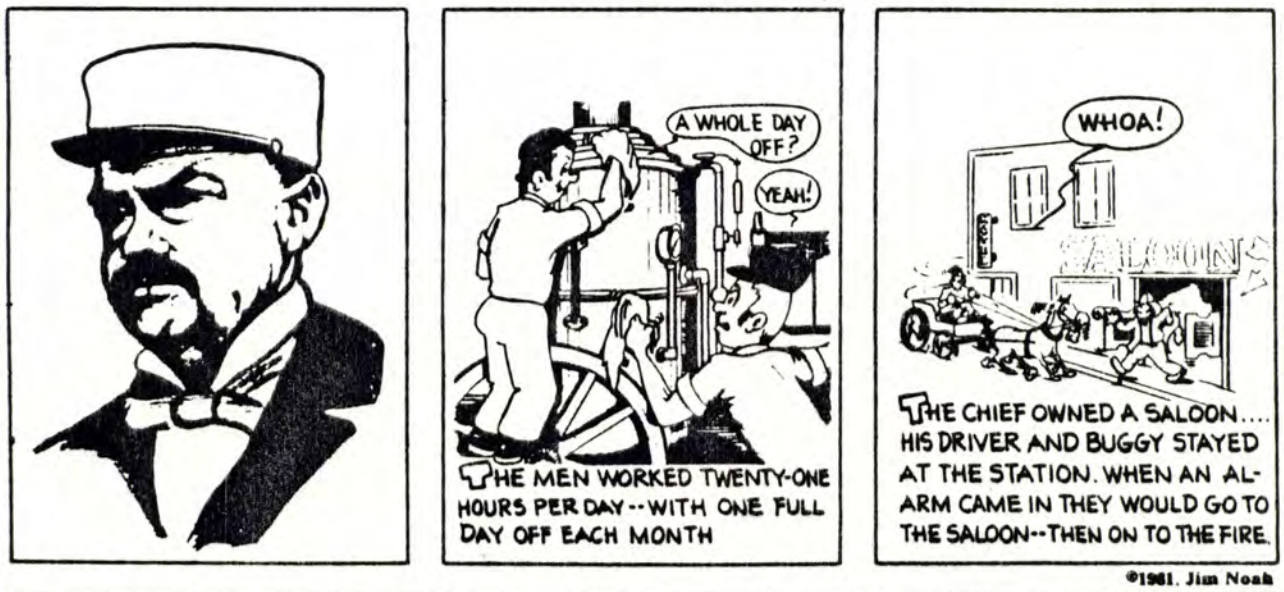
Jim Maddox resigned as police chief and was appointed fire chief. One of his first actions was to reappoint ex-captain W.E. "Bill' Bideker as assistant chief.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

Purchases of apparatus and stations and new companies added to other requests caused much dissension, and by November 1893 the end of the volunteer era was in sight.



Dec. 1, 1893 . . . the paid department consisting of Chief John C. Cella and 34 men took charge. There were five companies plus the Hook & Ladder. A.J. Chambers Hose Co. #6 remained volunteer.

The firemen could get their paychecks cashed at the chief's saloon if they bought a beer. However, they had to come in the alley and change to civilian clothes.

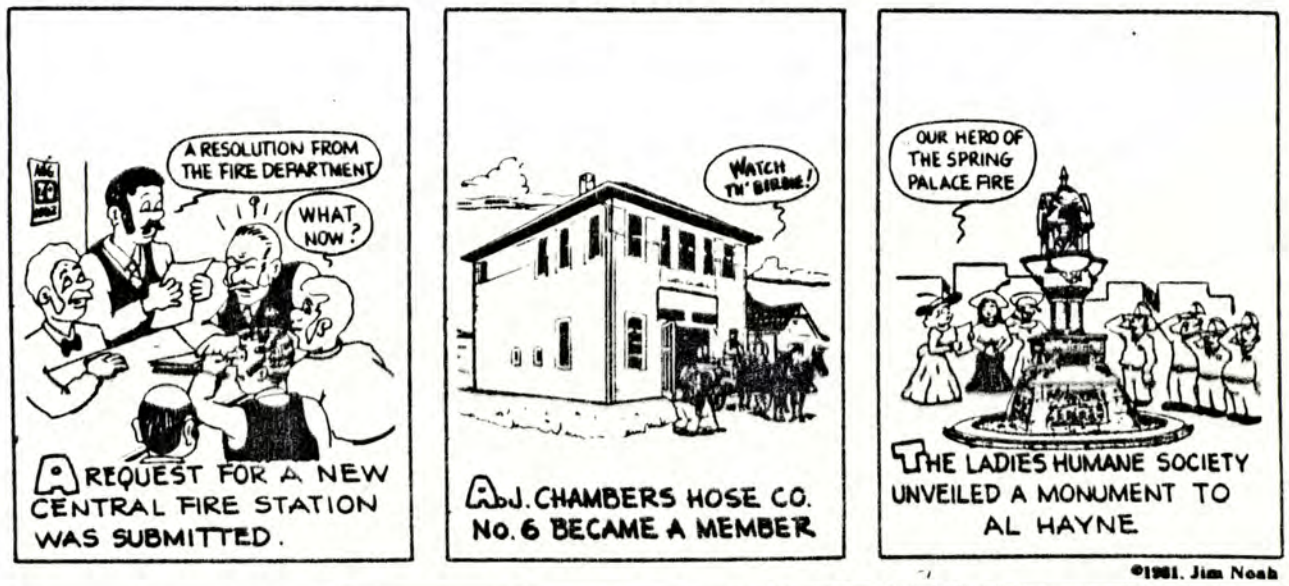
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

Expenses exceeded income . . . Chief Adams was elected again to succeed Chief Matkin and was instructed to request additional aid. Weeks later a chemical engine was requested and bought.

Chief Adams was defeated by Ben U. Bell Sr. as the department entered its 20th year.



The department continued to grow as it requested more and more money. A.J. Chamber Hose Co. #6 became the seventh company. The Ladies Humane Society unveiled a monument to Al Hayne at Front (Lancaster) and Main streets.

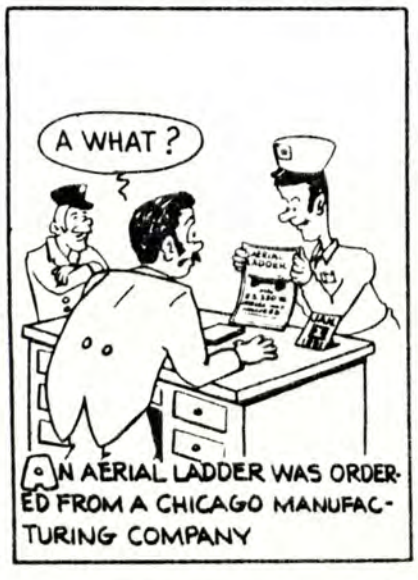
Backfires

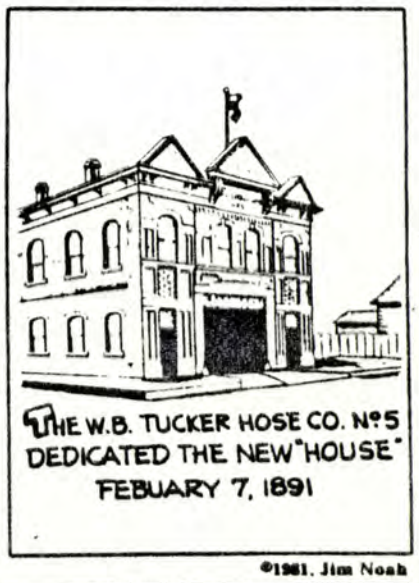
A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

The huge structure collapsed into a pile of burning rubble within 45 minutes of the first alarm. Alfred S. Hayne, after rescuing many people, was himself trapped. He was taken to St. Joseph's infirmary where he died a few hours later. Miraculously he was the only fatality.

Interdepartment politics continued to cause problems. Chief Adams and his assistants were charged by some of their detractors.



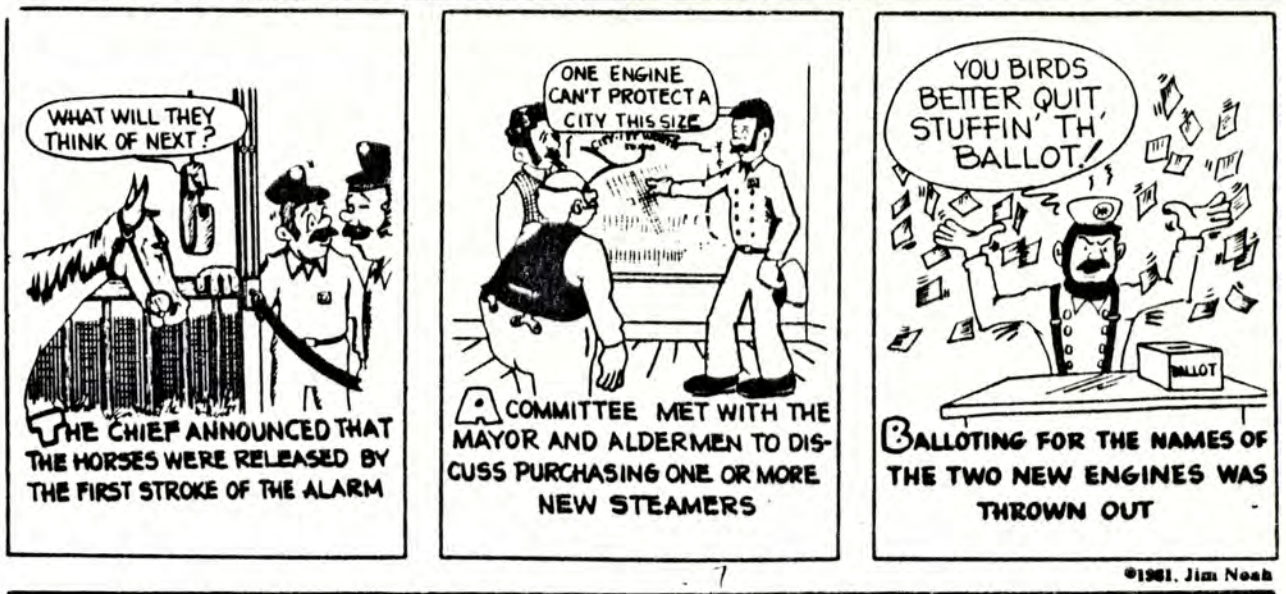


Times were prosperous. The department bought its first aerial truck. Assistant chief Kaizer treated the department to supper at his new hotel, and Tucker Company proudly had an open house for its new building.

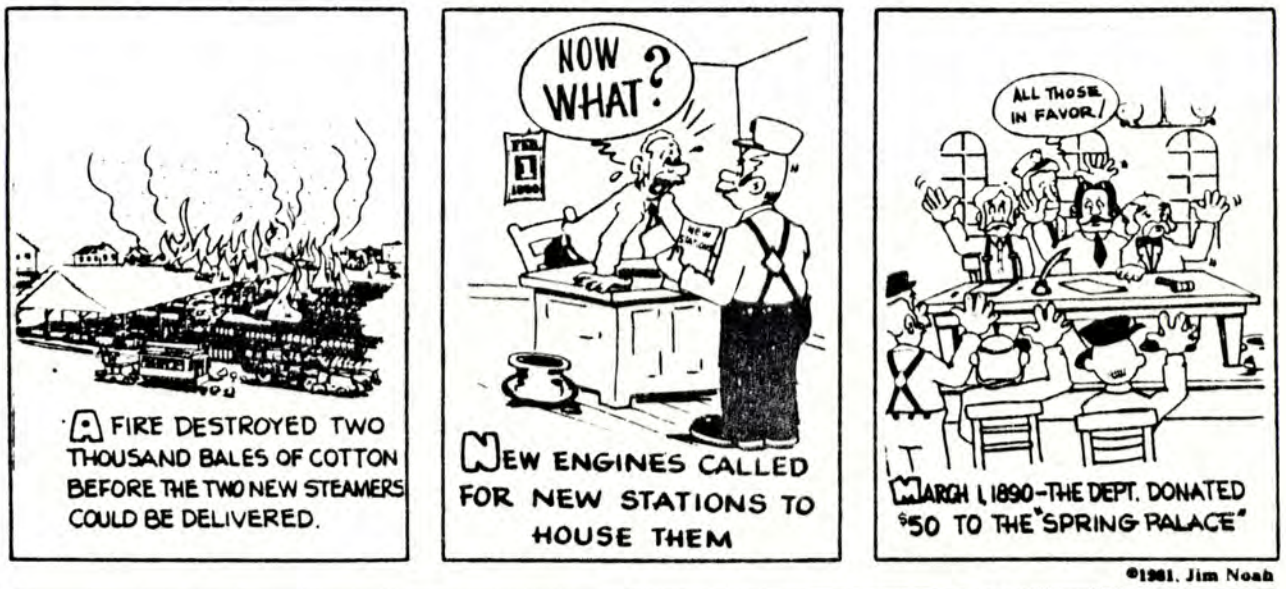
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah



Two new steamers were ordered for the growing city. In an election to name the new engines more votes were cast than there were members present. The steamers were named the Don Adams and the Stuart Harrison.



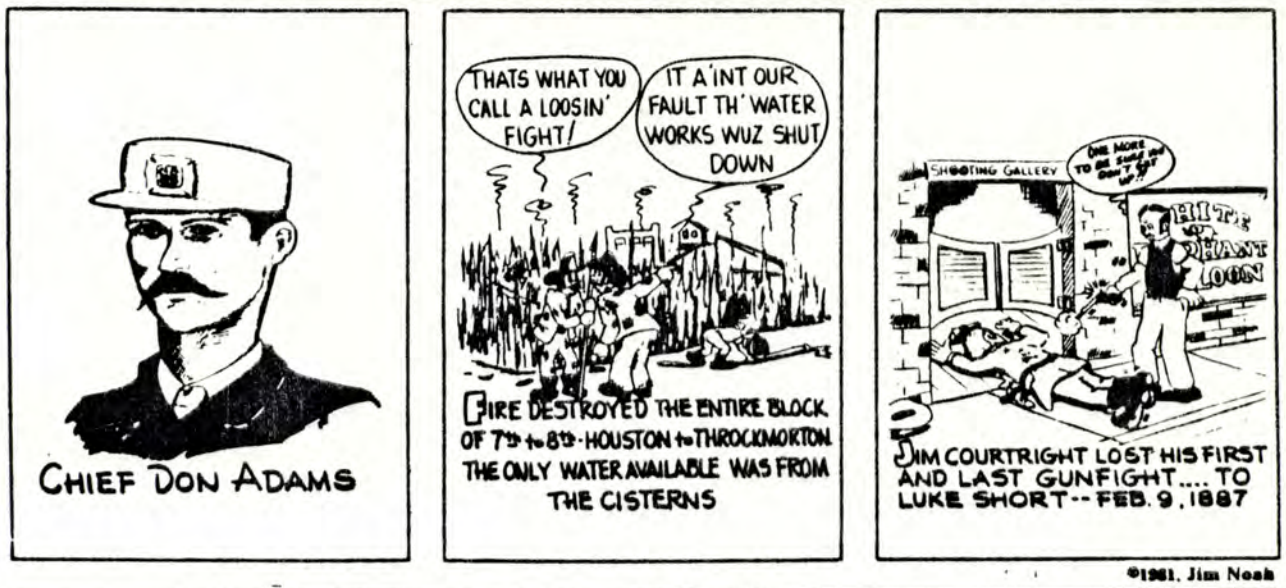
New stations to house the engines were needed as the "Spring Palace" prepared for a spectacular second season.

The "Spring Palace" prepared for its grand finale, which exceeded what anyone had anticipated. The cry of fire brought chills to the firemen who never had time to turn the water into the hose.

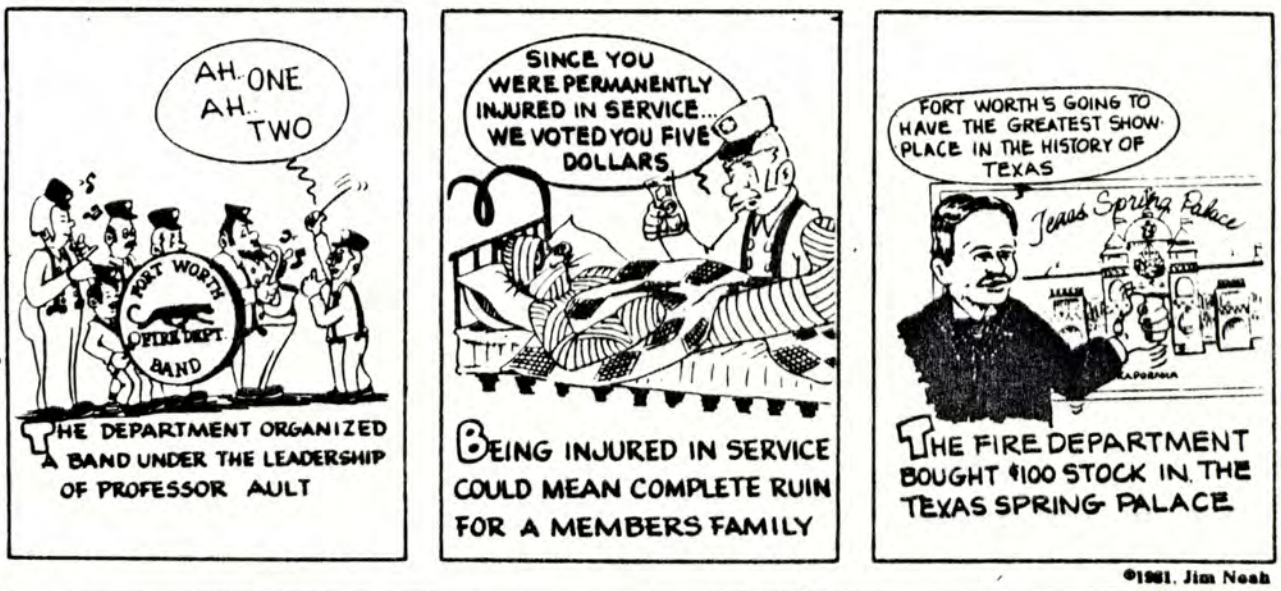
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

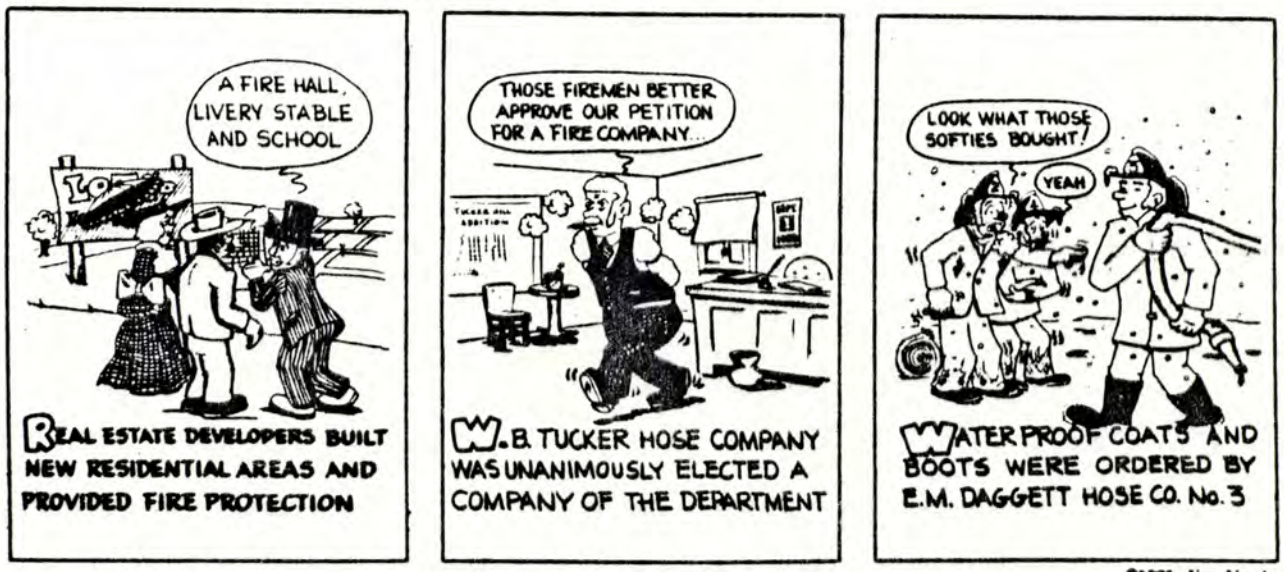
By Jim Noah



Don Adams was elected chief of the department. His administration brought some serious fires and the department and Fort Worth lost one of their most colorful characters.



Fort Worth continued to grow and prosper, as did the fire department. Plans for the extravagant "Texas Spring Palace" were announced.

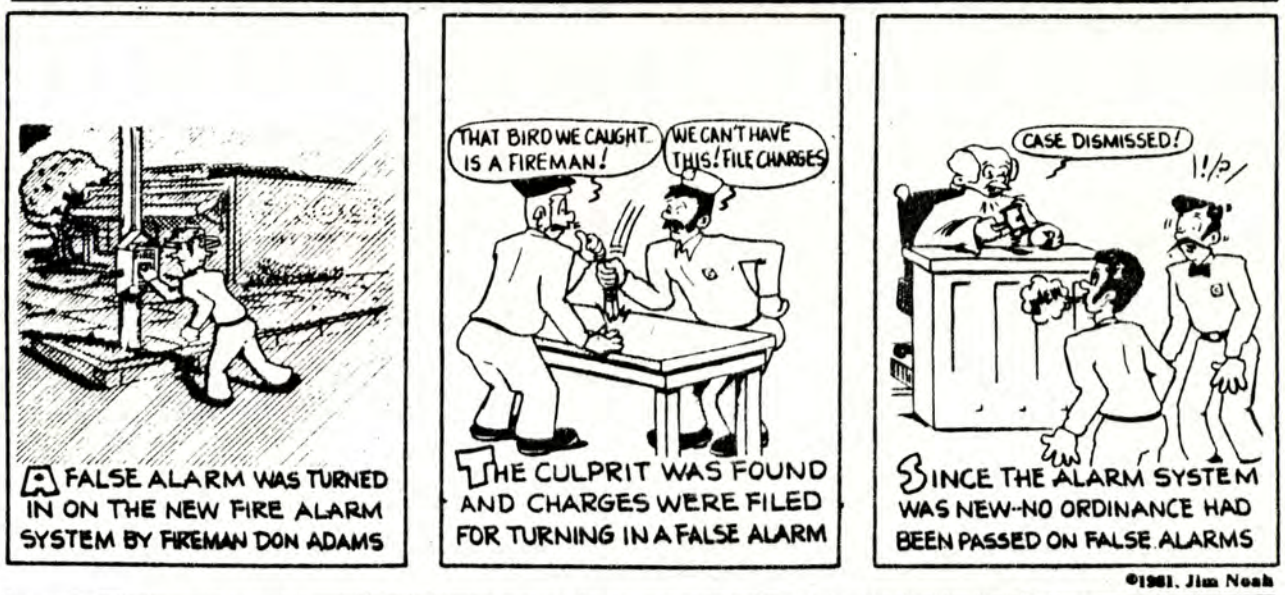


The city continued to expand. W.B. Tucker Hose Co. #5 was added to the department with 19 new members. Daggett Company bought new protective clothing.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah



Eleven fire alarm boxes were installed. The first recorded false alarm was transmitted by fireman Don B. Adams. He escaped punishment and in later years was elected fire chief.

Chief Matkin took his job seriously. However the mayor removed him from office by abolishing the chief and assistant chiefs positions.

The members were upset over not having chief officers. In a few days the mayor ordered a meeting for the purpose of electing a new chief.

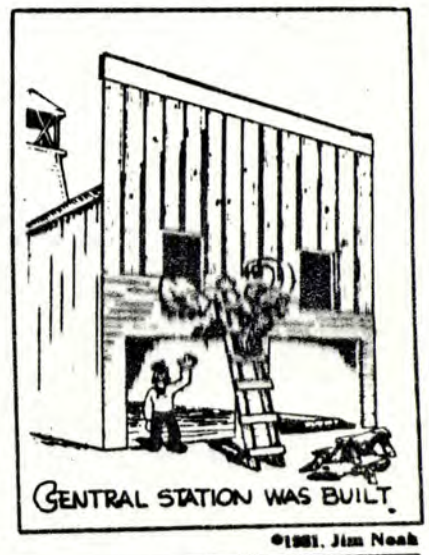
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

Fire chief Mulkey resigned to run for the City Council. Rolli Matkin was elected to finish Mulkey's term. It was a stormy election.

Chief Matkin was authorized a salary and the J.A. Thornton Hose Co. #4 was admitted to the department Aug. 29, 1894. With the help of some members of the department Jim Courtright became a fugitive.

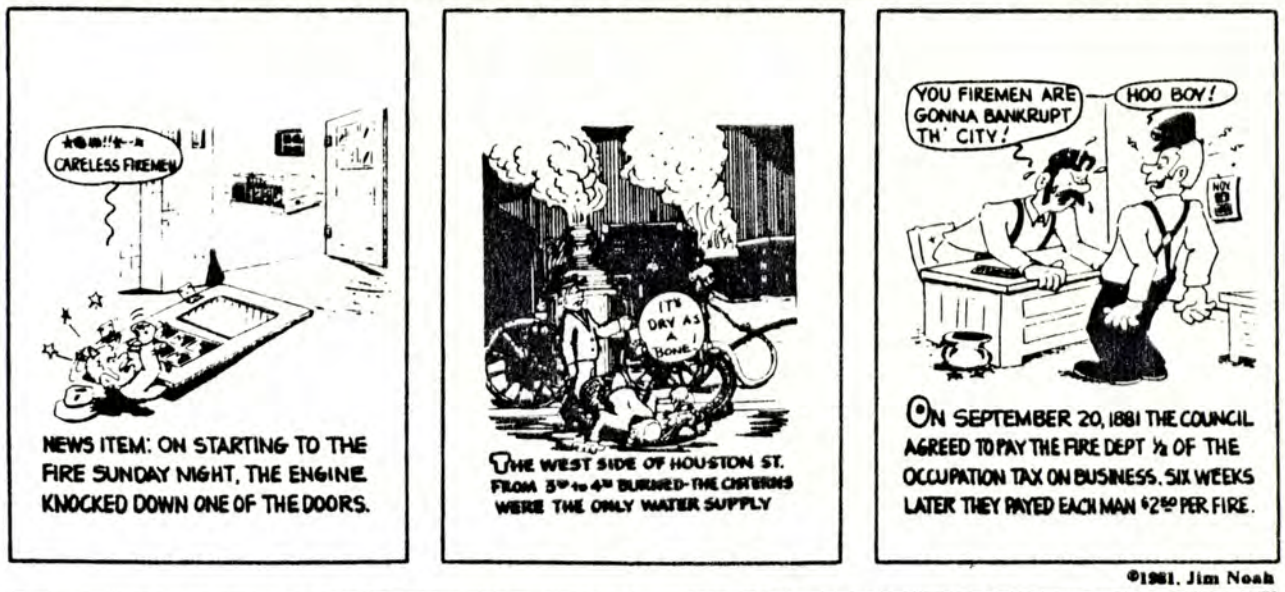


The central station on Main between 11th and 12th streets was completed, and the large bell was delivered and installed in a special tower behind the station.

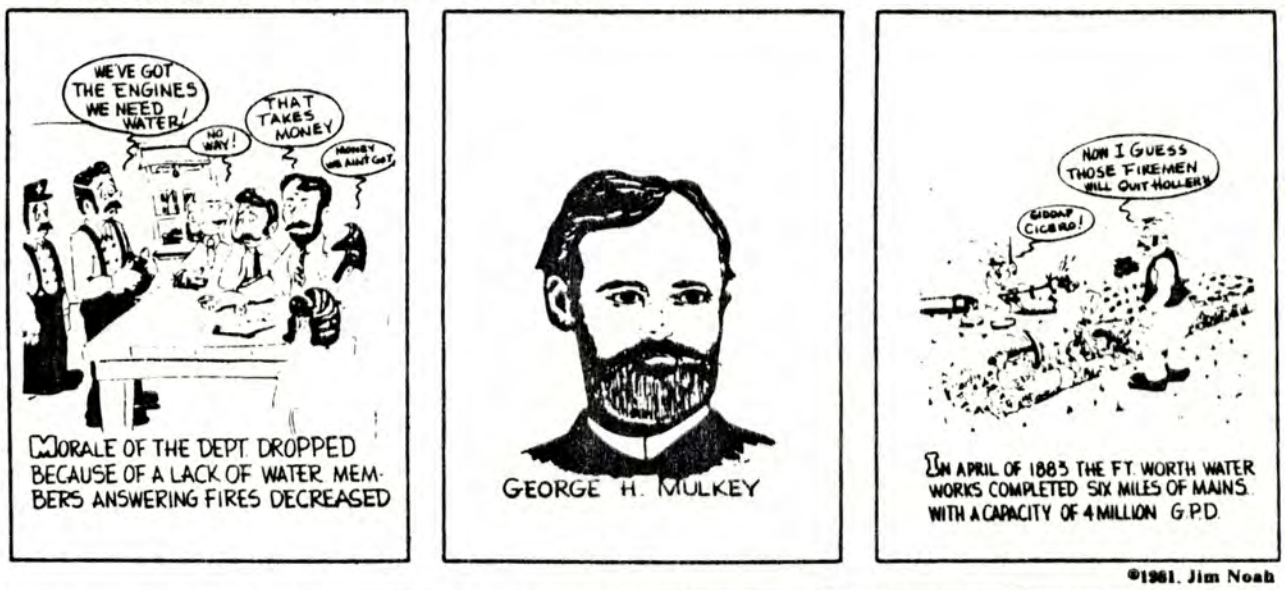
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

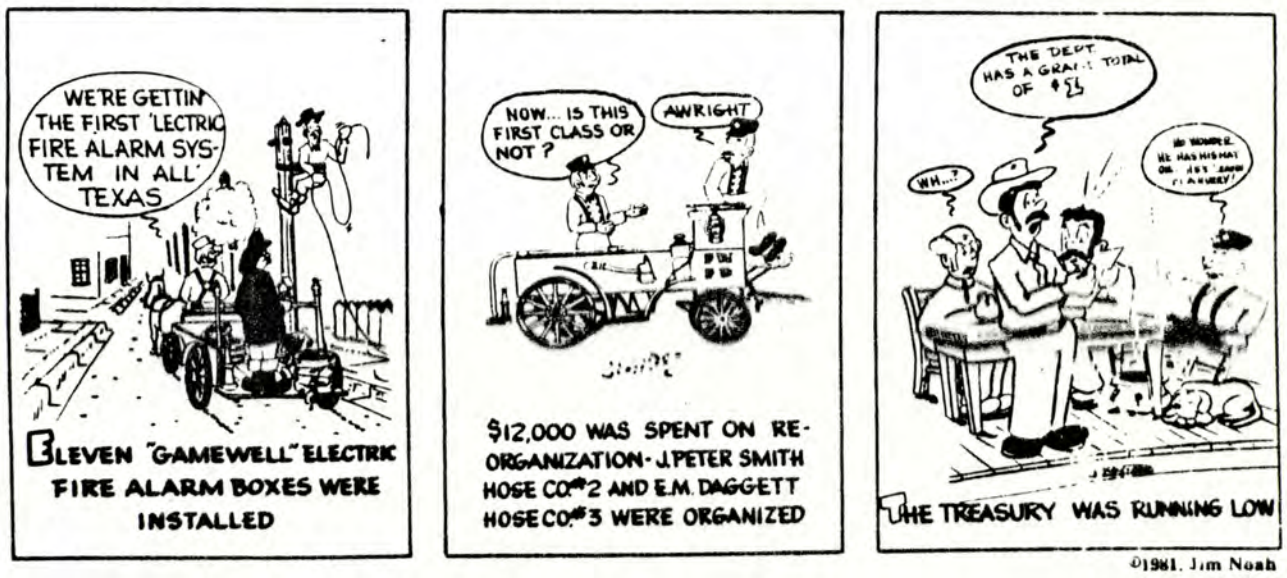
By Jim Noah



Protection Engine Co. No. 1 replaced Panther Engine and the need for a more adequate water supply began to become more evident. By late 1881 the council had provided financial assistance to the department.



The inability to get a better water supply for fighting fires caused a drop in attendance at fires. The city became divided into to camps. Those in favor of a water works, and those who did not think it necessary. G.H. Mulkey became fire chief and things began to happen.

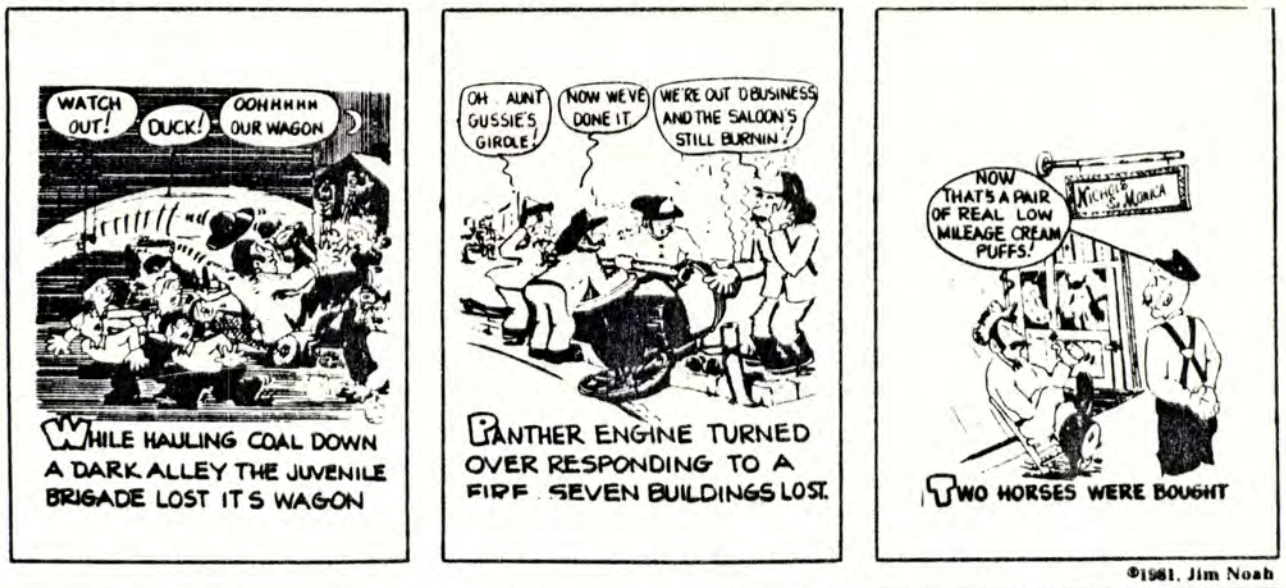


Two new hose companies were formed, and $12,000 was spent on the department. An electric fire alarm system was installed. A new central station was planned and a 3,000-pound bell was ordered.

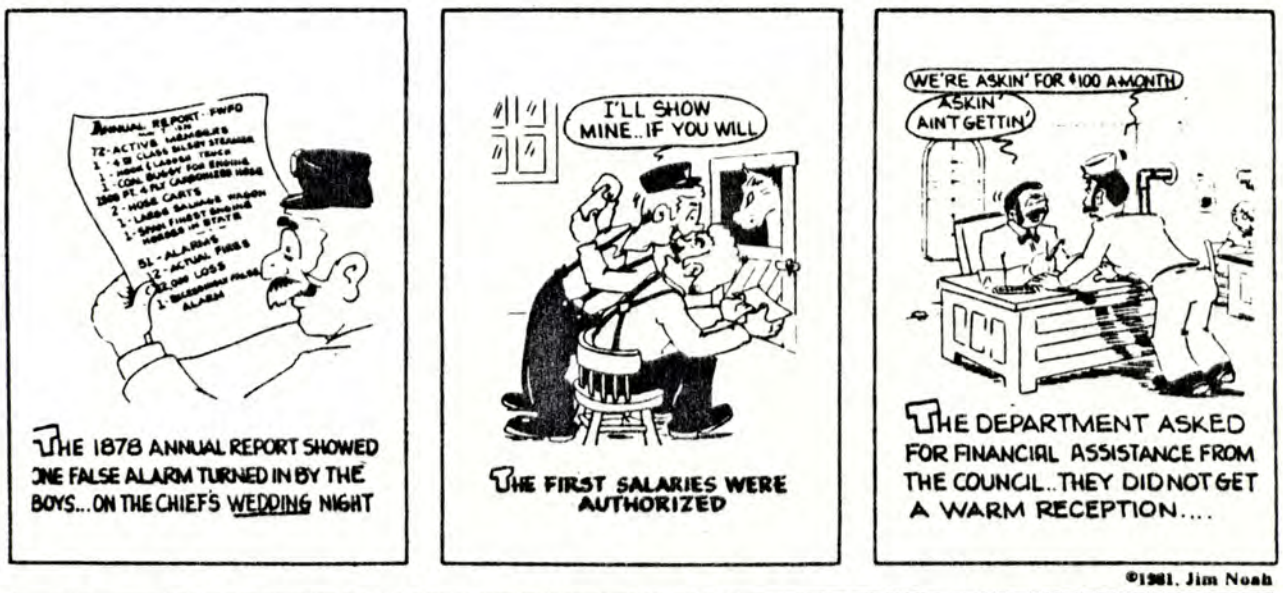
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah



One dark night while responding to a fire the Juvenile Fire Brigade had its wagon destroyed in an accident. The firemen took up a collection and built them a beautiful new wagon. A team of horses was purchased by the city. They were trained to pull the Panther engine.



By 1878 the department was well organized and active. The team of horses necessitated the first full-time employees, and expenses again became a major problem. The Panthers called for the city to pay each company $50 per month to help out. The council didn't think much of the request.

A major fire caused the loss of an entire block. The Panthers were determined to get financial assistance from the city. For four months they threatened to resign. On April 29, 1879, the mayor and council called their bluff and turned the steamer over to a newly formed company.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

The new city hall provided adequate housing for the department, and the newspaper wasted no time in calling for other needed projects.

A 1,500-barrel cistern was built on the courthouse square, two 500-barrel cisterns, one behind the fire hall and one near the depot, were constructed for firefighting purposes.

About 20 boys, too young to be firemen, orgainzed the "Juvenile Fire Brigade." One member was Freddy Askew. Freddy said the boys took a 1-by-12 plank and built a wagon that would carry 1½ bushels of coal. They used it to keep the Panther engine supplied with fuel at large fires.

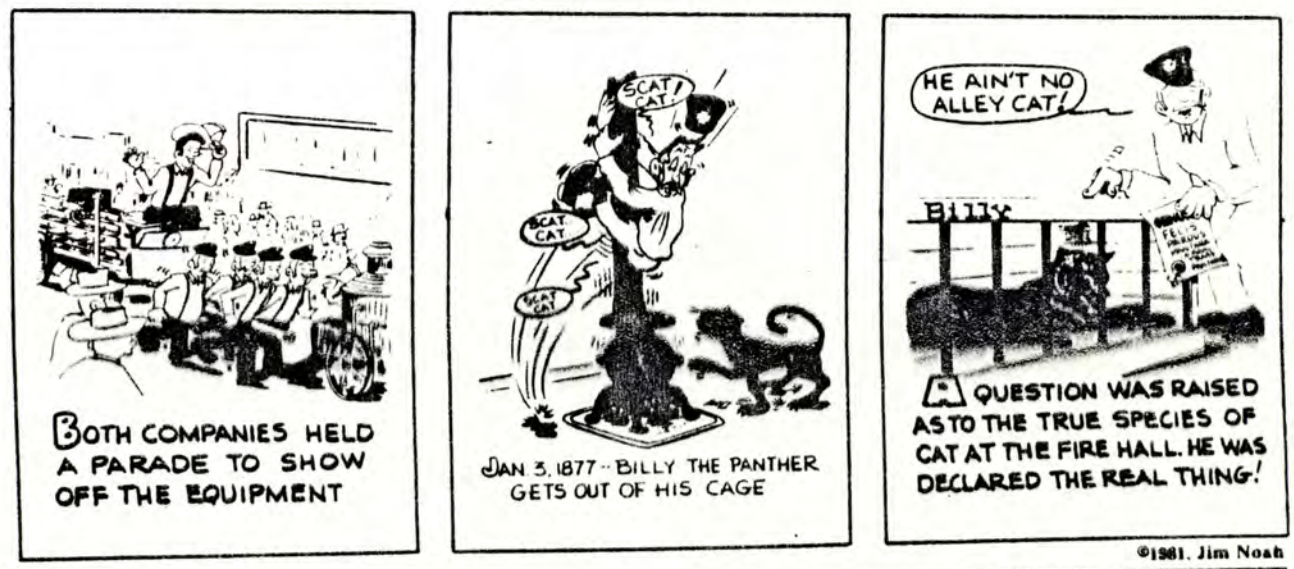
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

The steamer was delivered, tested and put into service. New quarters were required. They were found at a store fronting on the alley between Weatherford and First streets. Former Mayor Day donated a lot and the council agreed to build a mayor's office and fire hall.

The department grew rapidly in membership and strength, but the Panthers soon found out that pulling a heavy steamer to the scene of a fire was more than difficult at times.

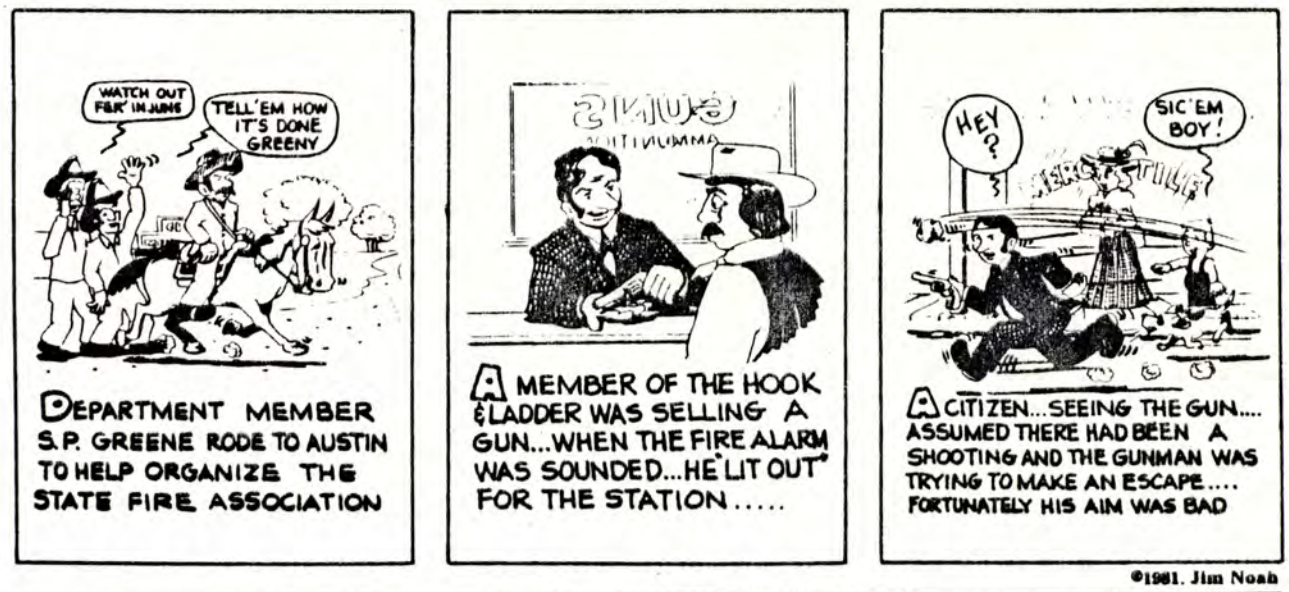


Parades, balls, parties and fires kept a high level of activity in the department. Billy the Panther caused some excitement on one occasion, escaping form his cage during a meeting. The only injury was one unnamed fireman who was burned while climbing a hot stove pipe.

Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah



Members of the department were active in all areas of the city and state development.

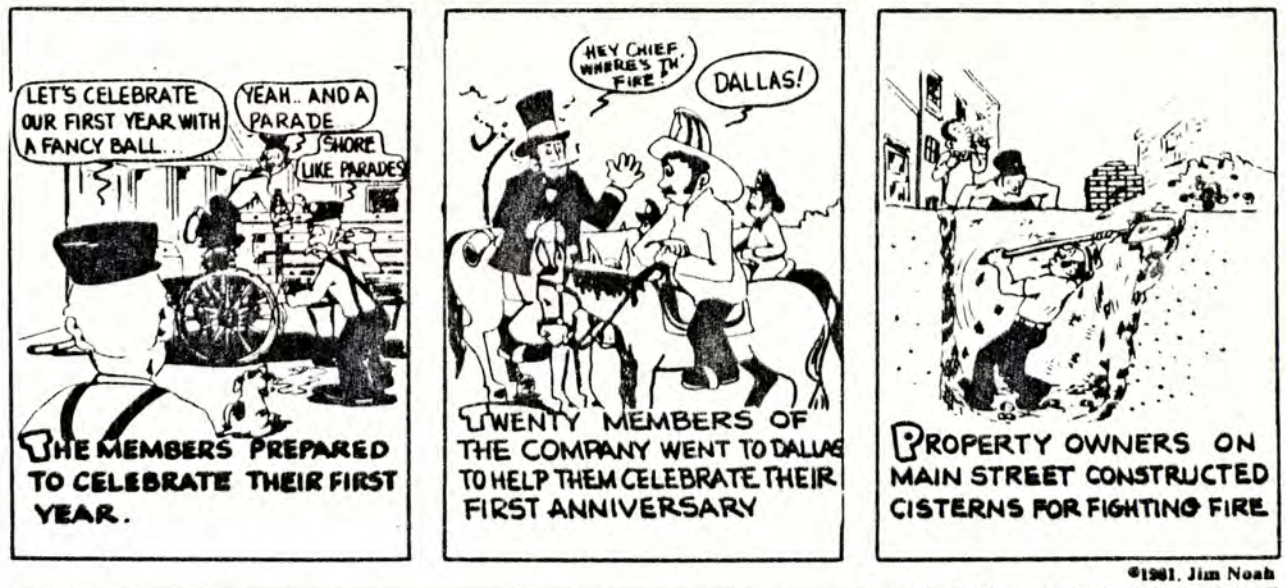
The necessity of a steamer became evident as more and larger fires continued to occur. The council agreed to purchase a $6,250 steamer, if the citizens would contribute the first $1,000. The amount was soon raised.

A steamer was ordered form the Silsby Co. of New York. A company to operate the steamer was formed and adopted the name of "Panther Engine Co." M.T. Johnson Hook & Ladder No. 1 and Panther Engine merged and formed the Fort Worth Volunteer Fire Department and elected John Nichols chief.

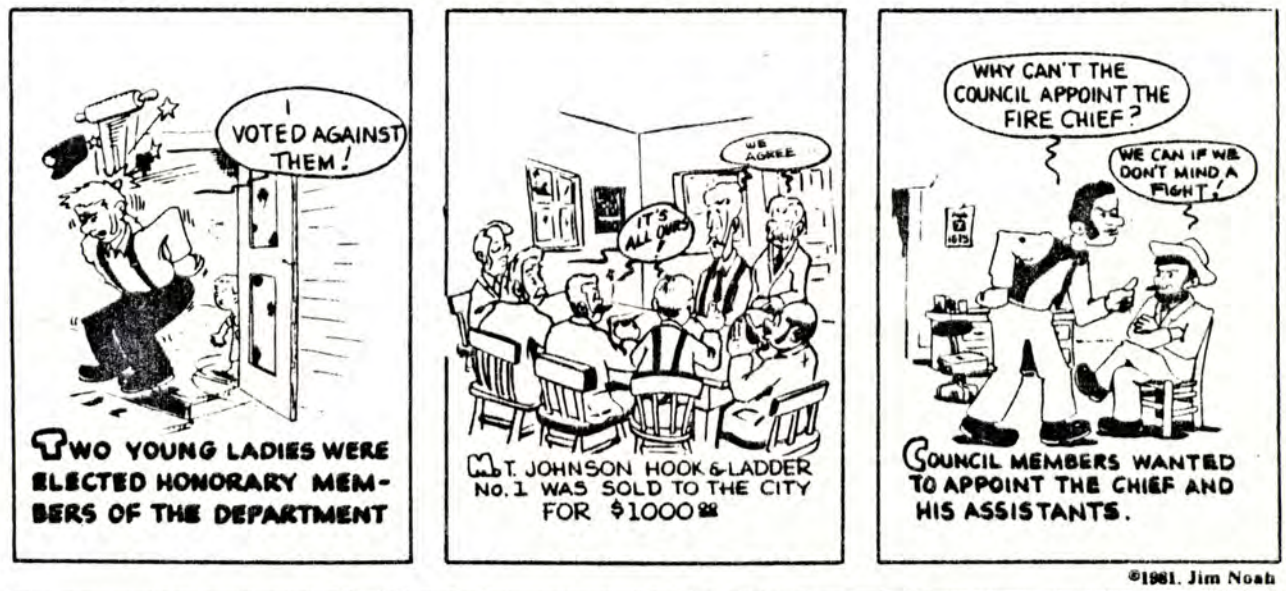
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

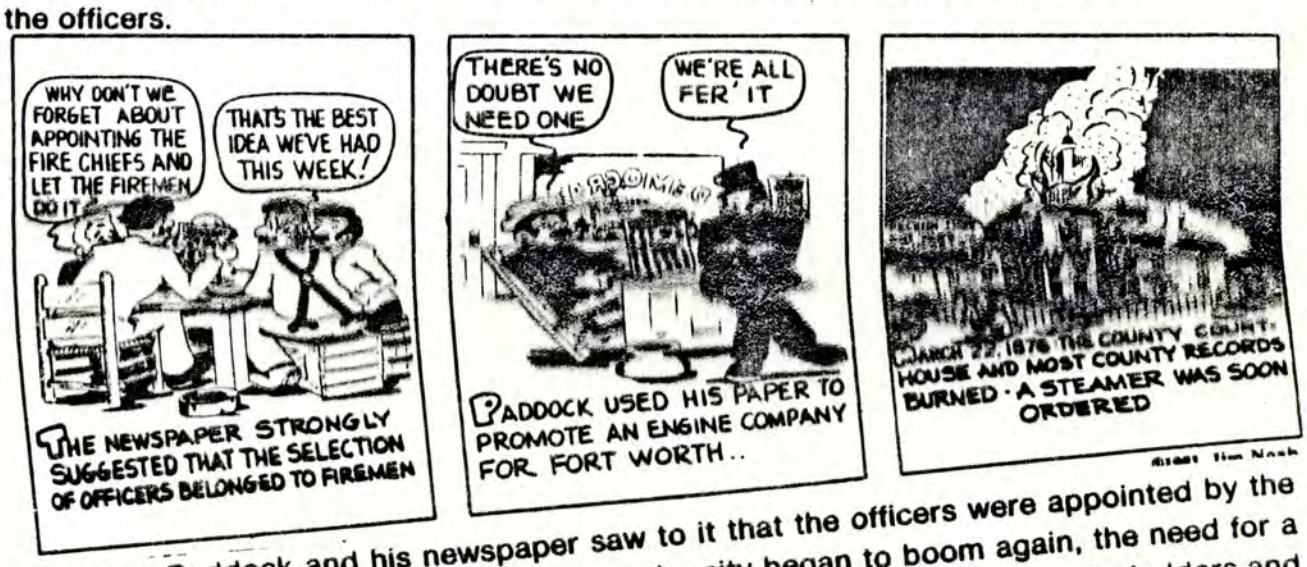
By Jim Noah



The department celebrated its first anniversary in May 1874. In August several members went to Dallas to help that department celebrate its first year. Meanwhile, businessmen had cisterns constructed for a water supply to fight fires.



After two years of effort, the debts incurred for apparatus and equipment had not been completely paid off, and the members of the department reluctantly sold it to the city. The council agreed to let the organization continue to use the equipment, but wanted to appoint the officers.



Editor Paddock and his newspaper saw to it that the officers were appointed by the firemen. By 1876 the railroad arrived and the city began to boom again, the need for a steamer was evident. The courthouse fire showed how inadequate buckets, ladders and hooks were.

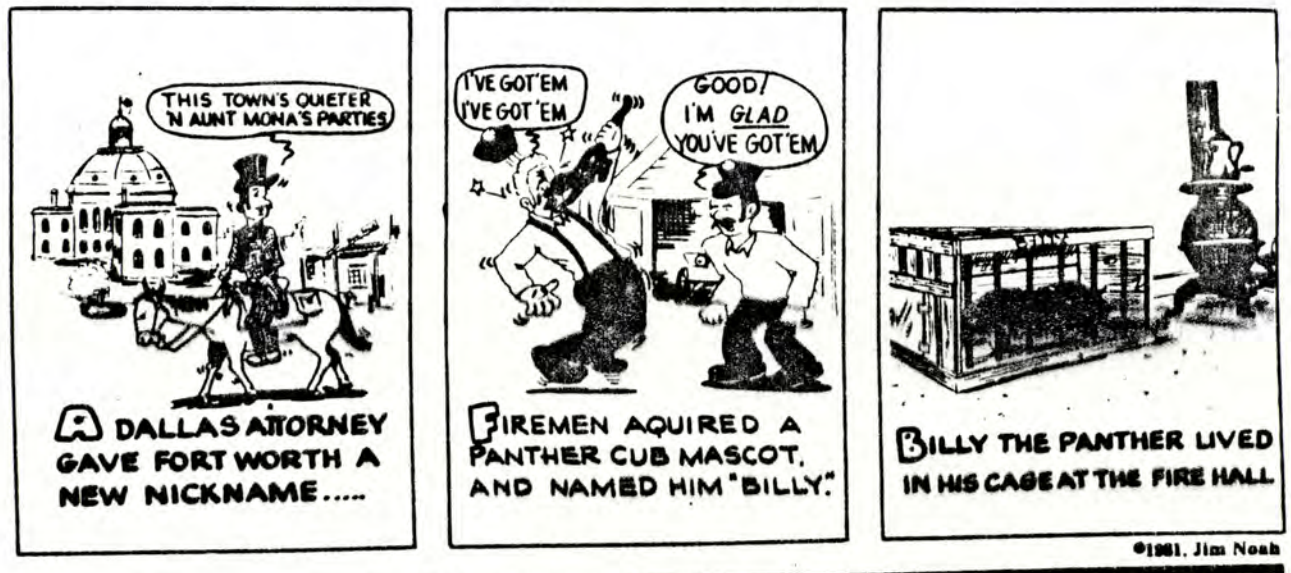
Backfires

A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department

By Jim Noah

At first when a fire was discovered six-guns were used to alert the firemen. Soon an old farm bell was mounted at the shed were the company kept the hook and ladder.

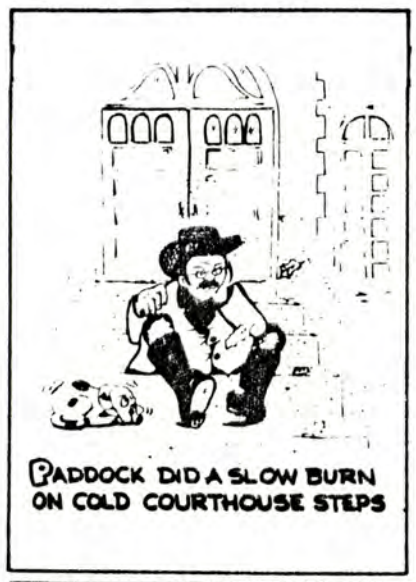
Many projects were launched to raise money to pay for the truck. Dances, raffles, ice cream socials and parties of various types failed to bring enough.



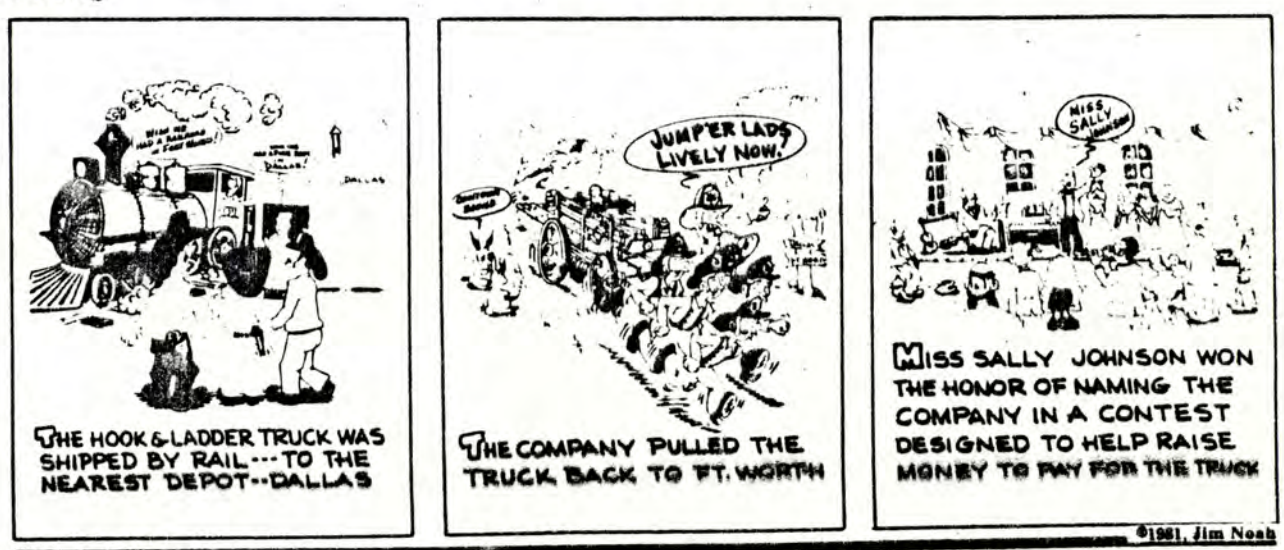
Fort Worth picked up the nickname "Panther City," and the firemen promptly acquired a panther cub as a mascot. They named him Billy, and he had his own cage at the fire hall.

Backfires A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department By Jim Noah

The editor of the *Democrat*, Capt. B.B. Paddock, urged the town leaders to organize a fire company. They agreed to the need.

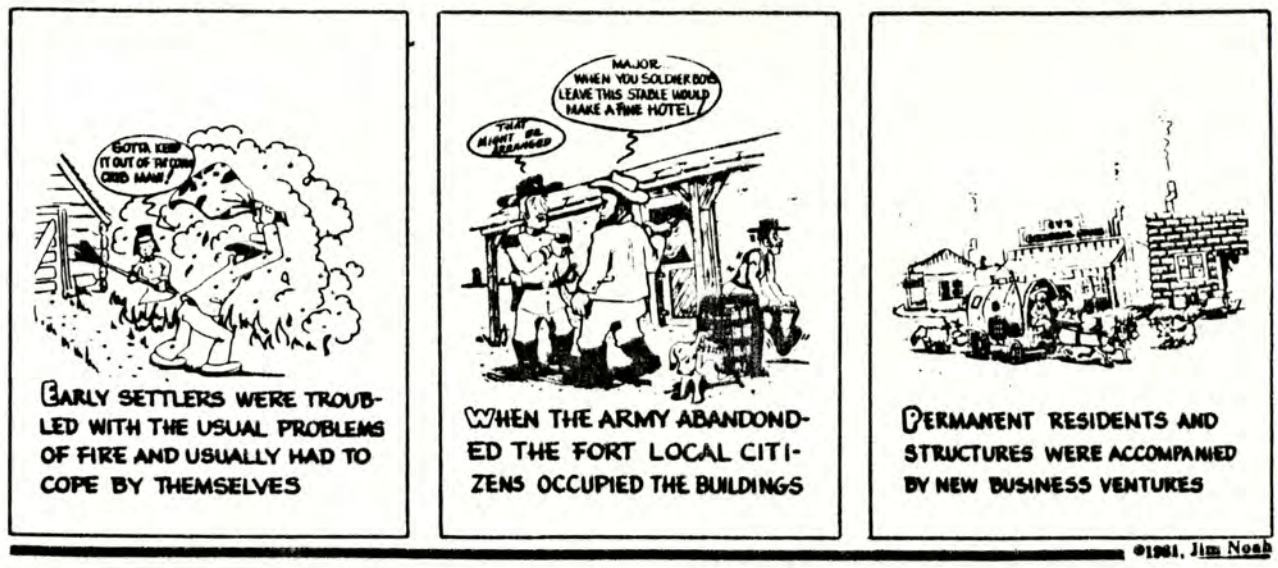


Paddock announced a meeting on the courthouse steps to organize a fire company. A "blue norther" arrived the afternoon of the meeting. The next edition of the *Democrat* told of the meeting.

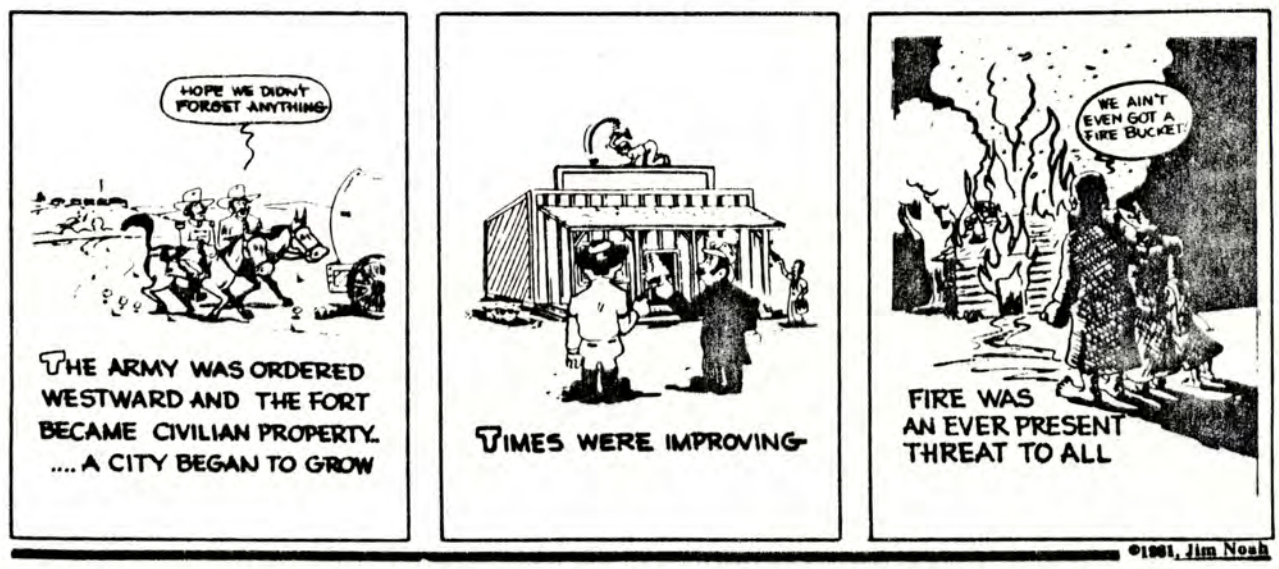


On May 2, 1873, Fort Worth Hook & Ladder No. 1 was organized. The officers were: S.P. Greene, president; B.B. Paddock, secretary; and William T. Field, foreman (chief officer). A hook and ladder was ordered. A contest was conducted to name the company. Miss Sally Johnson won and named it M.T. Johnson Hook & Ladder in honor of her father.

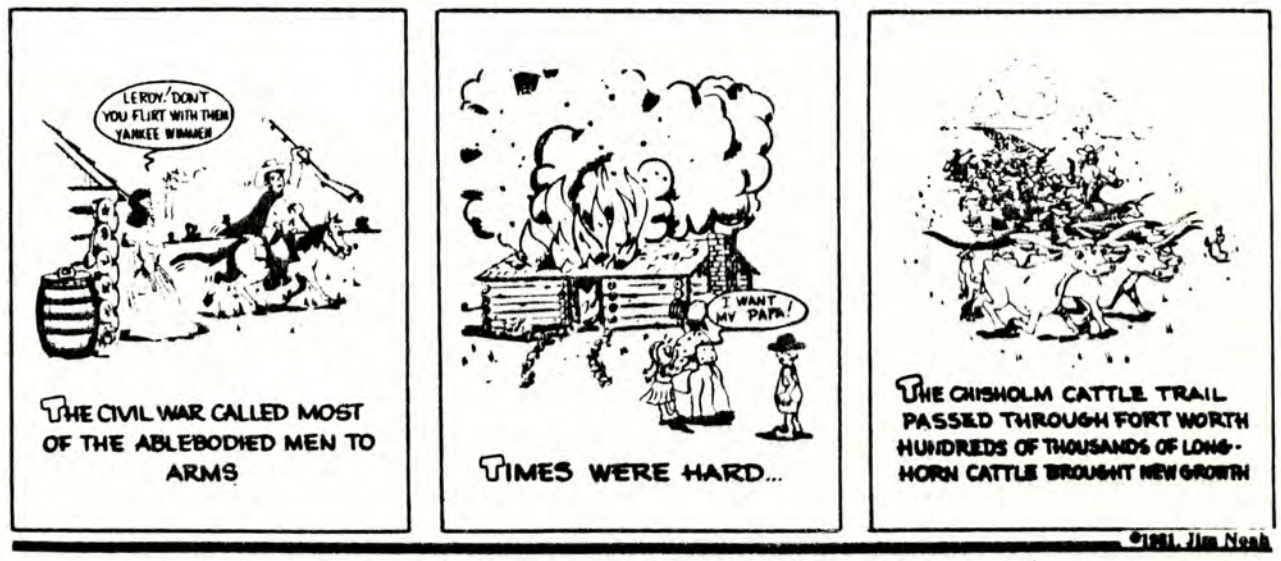
Backfires A cartoon history of the Fort Worth Fire Department By Jim Noah



In spite of a total lack of fire protection the area continued to grow in population and structures.



The Army abandoned the fort, and civilians quickly moved into the existing structures, and a fort town began to grow. Occasional fires plagued the pioneers.



Fort Worth men joined the call to arms and the prosperous times faded into four hard years of Civil War. After the war Texans turned to cattle, and Fort Worth took a new direction.

TARRANT COUNTY HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY

PRINCIPAL FINDINGS & RESOURCE CHARACTERISTICS

62

NE corner Commerce Street (200 block) and East Second Street, City of Fort Worth Fire Station No. 1, 1907 (Map No. 3). Designed by the important Fort Worth architectural firm of Sanguinet & Staats, and built in 1907, this fire station was vacated by the City in 1980. The adept brickwork (as in the second-story rustication and corbeling) and the general exuberance of the design lend a strong visual presence to this building. It is situated on the edge of Sundance Square, adjoined by new construction, and is to be rehabilitated.

62

63

408 Diamond Street [HWHD], House, 1895 (Map No. 4). A folk house that has grown over the years, possessing a timeless quality. It is hard to believe that it is situated so close to the center of a major city. The owner, Mrs. C. L. Bayer, was born in the house and has lived here for seventy-five years.


63

64

1200, 1208, 1210, 1212, 1214, 1216, 1218 Dolores Street [NR/DSHD(NR)], Row of seven houses, 1916 (Map No. 4). The shotgun house, a house one room wide and one or more rooms deep, is a distinctive folk-house type that appears throughout Texas. This row of seven shotgun houses is an unusually large concentration, and may be eligible for the National Register as an historic district.


64

65

1404 West El Paso Street [NR*/BSHD], Bostick House, c. 1900 (Map No. 1). A grand residential neighborhood was established along the bluffs on either side of Summit Avenue in the late 19th and early 20th century. Most of these houses have disappeared as the area has been redeveloped as a medium- to high-density professional district. The Bostick House is one of the last major houses to have survived. It is presently vacant and poorly maintained, and its future appears uncertain. Following further documentation, the house may be eligible for the National Register.


65

66

116 Elm Street [RTHL/NR/EFHD], Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church, 1914 (Map No. 3). This imposing church, handsomely constructed of yellow brick and containing a number of fine stained glass windows, has housed one of the oldest black congregations in Tarrant County, dating back to the 1880's. More research is needed to document the history of this congregation, its role in Fort Worth's black community, and the identity of the architect; however, it appears to be eligible for the National Register on its architectural merits alone. The Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church was designated as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1983.


66

Evelyn Cushman

TELEPHONE MEMO
TARRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

DATE: 8-19-87

CALL ~~FROM~~ - TO: Chief Jim Noah (FW. Fire Dept

PHONE NUMBER: Home - 531-3401 3904 Menzer Rd FW 76103

TOPIC: FW Fire Station #1

Background:
Paul Campbell had said that the Fire Dept was going to print a book, contact Chief Noah about it.

Chief Noah is not aware of a projected book.
He jumped at my suggestion that he critique the proposed narrative.
I will send him a copy of Narrative only as typed (Ruth interviewed him) giving my name, address + phone number.

Chief Noah gave corrections - by phone
entered in Red pencil

SUBJECT: FIRE STATION NO. 1 exhibit

IN 1873, EDITOR B. B. PADDOCK LED A CAMPAIGN TO CREATE FORT WORTH'S FIRST FIRE FIGHTING UNIT, THE 60-MAN, ALL-VOLUNTEER M. T. JOHNSON HOOK ~~AND~~ LADDER COMPANY. THE COMPANY KEPT ITS HAND-DRAWN WAGON IN A SHED AT WEATHERFORD AND THROCKMORTON STREETS.

FOUR YEARS LATER, THE CITY'S FIRST MAYOR DR. W. P. BURTS DONATED THE SITE OF THIS BUILDING FOR FORT WORTH'S ORIGINAL CITY HALL. THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND CITY JAIL WERE LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR. THE VOLUNTEERS MOVED THEIR WAGON TO THE FIRST FLOOR WHICH ALSO HOUSED A NEW SILSBY FIRE ENGINE AND BILL, THE FIRE FIGHTERS' COUGAR MASCOT.

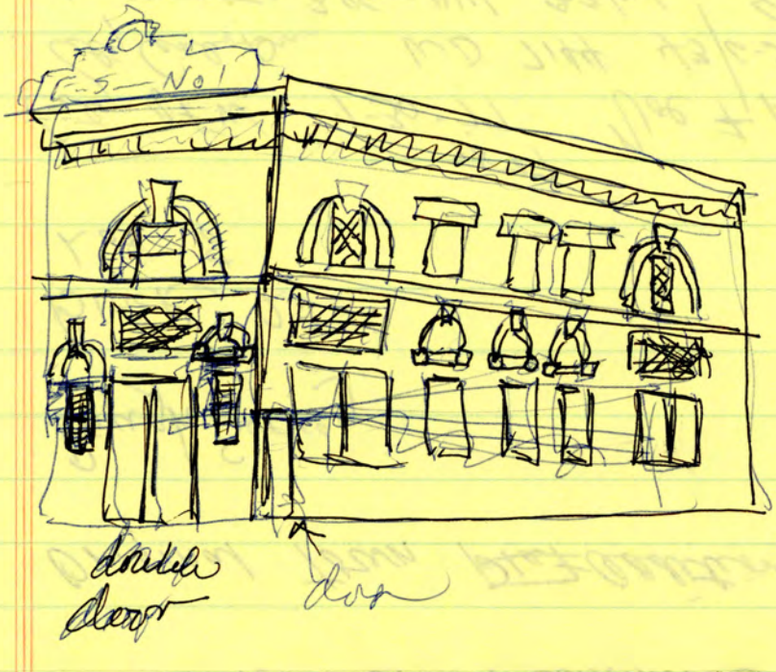
THE BUILDING WHERE YOU ARE STANDING REPLACED CITY HALL IN 1907. FROM FIRE STATION NO. 1, THE FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT PROTECTED THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN UNTIL 1980. THIS SITE WAS IN CONTINUOUS USE AS A FIRE STATION FOR OVER A CENTURY.

75 No 1

– 1873 Ed BAP [illegible] FW's [illegible] 60 [illegible]
M T Johnson H & L Company. [illegible] kept its hand-drawn wagon – shed – West & Thrush Streets.

Four years [illegible] Dr W P Burt donated the site [illegible] FW's original City Hall. [illegible] City Jail were located on the 2nd floor. [illegible] volunteers [illegible] wagon [illegible] which also housed a new Silsby & [illegible] Bill, [illegible] mascot.

[illegible] replaced city hall in 1902. From [illegible] FW Fire Dept protected [illegible] heart of downtown until 1980. [illegible] Station [illegible] Cenberg



NE corner - 2nd & Commerce

Original Town ~~Plat~~ Addition

106 M. Baugh Survey

Block 25

Lot 8

City of FW 1-30-1877 Vol 7 P. 156-7

acq. City Carlton Co. WD 7144 43/6-26-81

replatted 388-144 33/36 8-14-81

43-44

Did Portia Grimland
390-8740
phone you about
old Firehall.
She's at City Center
Dev. Co.
201 Main 76102

1907-8	# men 20	equipment at new #
1979- # when removed from service	men 12 ~~14~~	equipment aerial truck co & engine

how downtown area protected
moved to Pecan
120 North Pecan
Belknap Weatherford

10-20-91 Rye Coats

FW Outpost on the Trinity - Oliver Knight
TCU Press ~~1953~~ 1990
~~Contract City of FW~~

p145 A Dorger city hall was built at Throckmorton and Tenth in 1893, replacing the one built in 1877 at Second & Commerce

Ft. Worth Fire Station #1

4-14-87

Copys of Narrative, Station Log and cartoon History by Jim Noah delivered to Paul Campbell. to be critiqued. 4-17-87

copies of above mailed to Sue McCafferty (131 E. Exchange #112, FW 76106) ph. 625-5082 and Karla Hoskins.
(Corrections on orig. made by Karla + me by Phone)

Sue McCafferty returned narrative without any corrections on May 27th at TCHC meeting

Paul Campbell is awaiting publication of official History

Jim Noah says no "History" is planned

Chairman Barber has original Narrative, also copy of log + cartoons.

THE

in file sent to Susan but not

in my copy:

(1) cartoon History
29 pages

(2) NEWSpaper 9-87
4-7-81 ★ file
" 6-8-82 "
9-3-84 "
4-4-81 "
4 6-81 "
9 3-84 Tribune
4-3-81 ★
4-3-81 ★

OVER

P "1st ~~jail lock~~" — not dated

PANY, INC.

Sciences

TEXAS 76010

(3) route to opening of Station as exhibit of FW Museum of Scien & Hist.

(4) CBD p. 34 (#62)

(5) WPA - FW City Guide p 18225-7

(6) pictures - 4 each side

BKA p. 202-3 Jan 11, 1877 Received petition from fire chief recommending ① engineer's salary remain as is ② purchase of bell ③ appointment of examiner to flues in business area ④ building ordinance to prevent erection of frame buildings in downtown area Beckrap → Fourth Rusk → Throckmorton. Voted to draft ordinance

BKA p. 203 Jan 16, 1877 - Appointed committee to confer with contractor on ~~best of~~ building fire wall and belfry in city hall under construction.

BKA, p. 208 Jan 30, 1877. Paid Joe Kane $500.00. ~~Fire~~ Passed Ordinance 95 fixing fire limits

BKA, p. 210 February 6, 1877. Adopted ordinance No. 96 regulating the powers and duties of the fire dept. Approved payment of $55 for fire wall in city hall. Increased monthly salary from 40 to 65 for fire engine engineer

BKA, p. 213 Feb 7, 1877 Appointed committee to inspect new building. Pay Kane $200. Draw dep notes due him.

BKA, p. 214 Feb 9 1877 Revised fire limit ordinance - Ord. No. 97

BKA, p. 219 Feb 27, 1877 Bought bell for city hall

BKA, p. 224 March 6, 1877 Payment of 150 to Joe Kane Approved building 3 cisterns Committee reported deficiencies in the new city hall & engine room re final payment

March 20, 1877

BKA, p. 228 ~~Approved~~ allowed G. W. Hill, Eng., to use rear portion of engine room to line in + erect a kitchen in back of city hall

BKA 237 April 18, 1877 - ~~approv~~ approved petition of G. W. Hill for ringing bell at city hall ~~to~~ of signal

BKA 240 April 24, 1877 rescinded above

BKA 244 May 8, 1877 - Appointed J. W. Monica, chief R. W. Starr, 1st asst chief & R. E Maddox 2nd asst chief in accordance with ord No. 96

BKA 248 May 15, 1877
Amended fire limits Ordinance No. 95 → No 108

BKA 252 May 29, 1877
Approved use of NE corner room at City Hall by fire dept. Appointed committee to study hiring team horses ~~to~~ for use at fires.

BKA 257 June 12, 1877 Committee report approved to contract with W. J Maddox for buying horses for engine.

BKA 261 June 26, 1877 Passed ordinance No 113 to ring fire bell - approved different signals -- 1 for h & l - 1 for engine, etc.

Fort Worth City Council Minutes

BK R p 491 July 30, 1907 Opened bids for construction of Fire Hall No. 1 corner 2nd & Rusk

R p. 499 August 6, 1907 Contract awarded to S. C. Tomlinson for construction of above

R p 631 December 10, 1907 Final estimate on for construction of Fire Hall $5726.50 approved. Two warrants ordered 1 for $4054.75 for payment of taxes and $1671.75 payable Jan 1, 1908

R p 426 May 21, 1907 Sanguinet & Staats reported that the 1st Ward Fire Hall is in bad shape and could be repaired for $400 but would still be an old building. Referred to Com. Mulkey, F.C. Bideker & Com. Davidson to get plans and cost for a new building.

City of FW Minutes

p. 23

5-2-
1873 - 1st fire co org. M.T. Johnson Hook & Ladder Co.

?1 or 1876
1875 - 2nd - - - "Panther Engine Co."
1875 - City Council agrees to purchase equip of Mt & H & L for $1000
1876 - City Council agrees to purchase $6,250 Steamer (or 6250)

of citizens will contribute first $1000.

(steamer delivered 11-11-1876)

1877 (Jan 30) Burts donated lot for city hall in exchange for ½ of north wall of 2 story brick building being erected.
? when completed & moved

1878 fire dept organized - hired some one to look after horses.

1893 - paid dept organized Nov 21, 1893

1906 - #1 torn down & new station constructed on site
Cost

1907 (at least 7 companies) (June & Nov architect paid.)
(Dec - Chem Eng #1 moved to new #1).
when was new fire station completed & occupied
" in Dec.

1909 - 1919 - fire dept motorized

RESEARCH DATA

FORT WORTH and TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

Texas Writers' Project
Fort Worth Public Library Unit
1941

Fort Worth City Guide
Government
By Sheldon F. Gauthier.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The first official fire department in Fort Worth was organized in 1873, consisting of one company with a roll of 30 men, and John Wilks as the chief. It was wholly a voluntary organization. Prior to this date fire fighting was carried on by voluntary groups of citizens.

With the establishing of the official department, the town furnished one hand drawh hose cart, and established headquarters at the ground floor of the then city hall, at Second and Commerce Streets.

At the top of the headquarters and city hall was a bell, which was wrung for giving a fire alarm. The party who reported the fire, also, pulled the rope to ring the bell. When this alarm was sounded, shooting of guns, by the citizens, supplemented the bell's alarm. This shooting was done to arouse all citizens, calling them to the fire and to render aid if needed.

In addition to being the town's fire defense, the first official department was one of the town's social organizations. They held many of the town's leading social events. The authorized membership was 30, but a waiting list

of applicants always existed. It was an honor bestowed on a citizen when taken into the department.

As the town grew, additional companies, of 30 members, was organized.

In the middle 80's some horses were secured to draw the equipment to fires, and here the horses were used, a man was hired to care for and drive the team.

The organization was changed to a paid department December 1st, 1893, with John Cella as the chief. Now, horses were used at all stations, and steam pumps were placed in use.

A start was made to motorize the department in 1909, and was completed in 1919.

At the present time(1938) the department consisted of 24 companies and 21 stations, employing 271 men. The present chief is S. Fergusson, who has been chief since 1919, and started his career with the department 50 years ago. The department represents an investment of $1,350,000, including grounds, buildings and equipment.

The present headquarters is located at 705 Texas Street, and built in 1930. It is a three story brick faced

concrete and steel structure, designed by Wyatt C. Hedrick. The architecture is modern utilitarian. The headquarters covers ½ block of ground, extending Southward from Texas Street.

THE STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

5.00 W 0
1000 320242 + 06/30/81

THAT the City of Fort Worth, Grantor, a municipal corporation of Tarrant County Texas, acting by and through Woodie Woods, its duly authorized Mayor, for and in consideration of One Hundred Eleven Thousand and No/100 Dollars ($111,000.00) and other good and valuable consideration paid to it by City Center Development Company, hereinafter called Grantee, a Texas corporation of Tarrant County, Texas, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, has granted, sold and conveyed, and by these presents does GRANT, SELL, and CONVEY unto the said Grantee, its successors and assigns, all those certain lots, tracts or parcels of land lying in the County of Tarrant and State of Texas, and being described as follows:

Lot 8, Block 25, Original Town of Fort Worth Addition.

Save and except the following restrictions:

By acceptance of title to this property Grantee, its successors and assigns, covenant and agree that the structural soundness and current exterior of the fire station building presently existing on said property will be restored and maintained so as to preserve the historical and architectural character of the building as it was constructed. Grantee also covenants that the building will be utilized in the future in a manner consistent with the revitalization of the downtown area of Fort Worth, in a manner serving Fort Worth's citizens and guests, and in a manner highlighting and benefiting the economic, civic, and cultural aspects of the City of Fort Worth. Specifically, Grantee, its successors and assigns, covenant and agree that the ground floor of said building will be forever dedicated to the public, and open to use by the public, as a multi-media interpretive center and visitors' center or similar uses, free of any rentals, assessments or charges. These covenants and restrictions on the use of the property shall run with the land and be binding on Grantee, its successors and assigns forever, or until this covenant is released or abandoned in writing by the City of Fort Worth. The City reserves the right to take appropriate action, including but not limited to, the seeking of an injunction or the denial of a building permit or certificate of occupancy, in order to bind Grantee, its successors and assigns, to the provisions of this covenant.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises together with, all and singular, the rights and appurtenances thereto in anywise belonging unto said Grantee, its successors and assigns forever.

And the City of Fort Worth does hereby bind itself, its successors and assigns to warrant and forever defend, all and singular, the said premises unto the said Grantee, its successors and assigns against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, by, through, or under Grantor only.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this instrument is executed at Fort Worth, Texas, on this the 26th day of June, 1981.

ATTEST:

City Secretary

THE CITY OF FORT WORTH

By: Woodie W. Woods
Mayor

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF TARRANT §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Woodie W. Woods, known to me to be the person and officer whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same as the act and deed of the City of Fort Worth, a municipal corporation of Tarrant County, Texas, and as the Mayor thereof, for the purposes and consideration therein expressed and in the capacity therein stated.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this 26 day of June, 1981.

Karen Phillips
Notary Public in and for
~~Tarrant County~~, Texas

KAREN PHI[illegible] Notary Public
My Commission Expires August 8, 1984

The City of Fort Worth

- w i t h -

Smith & Bardon.

Contract for City Hall Bldg.

Recorded in Book "J" on Pages 2[illegible], Expires 2" 1893

1892 16

Filed Mch 22/92

H. W. Burns

City Secty

State of Texas,:
:
Tarrant County.: This agreement this day made and entered into by and between the City of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, party of the first part, and Smith & Bardon, a firm of contractors composed of Dave Smith and John Bardon, of Tarrant County, Texas, party of the second part, W I T N E S S E T H:-

Whereas the party of the first part has heretofore advertised for bids for the erection of a public hall building in the City of Fort Worth upon what is now known asthe City Hall property, Fronting 194 feet on Jackson Street & 125 feet on Henry Clay Avenue Fremont Street adjoining Hyde Park in said City ofFort Worth, in accordance with certain plans, specifications and drawings for the same prepared by A. N. Dawson, Architect; and

Whereas, said party of the first part, after considering all the bids filed in answer to said advertisement, the said party of the second part was found to be the lowest and best bidder for the erection of said City Hall building; and

Whereas, heretofore, to-wit: on the day of March, 1892, the City Council of the said party of the first part, at a regular meeting of that body, awarded the contract for the erection of said City Hall building to said party of the second part;

Now, Therefore, for and in consideration of the hereinafter expressed obligations of the party of the first part, the party of the second part hereby obligates and binds ~~itself~~ themselves to erect, construct and build said public hall building in strict accordance with said plans, specifications and drawings for the sum of Seventy Two thousand Five hundred Dollars $72,500.00 dollars, to be paid by the party of the first ~~of the first~~ part as hereinafter stipulated and set forth. Said plans, specifications

and drawings are hereto annexed and made a part of this agreement.

Said party of the second part hereby obligates and binds ~~itself~~ themselves at their own cost and expense to furnish all and every kind of material, together with all cartage, drayage, tools, labor, and in fact everything necessary for the due and proper and complete erection and construction of said City Hall building, in strict accordance with said plans, specifications and drawings.

The said parties of the ~~second~~ second part further agree and bind ~~itself~~ themselves to finish and complete said City Hall building in a good, sound and workmanlike manner, to the complete satisfaction of the Public Building Committee of the City Council of said City of Fort Worth and the Architect or Superintendent that may be appointed by the party of the first part to superintend the construction of said City Hall building.

And the parties of the second part further agrees and binds ~~itself~~ themselves to complete and finish the work of erecting, constructing and building said City Hall building in accordance with said plans, specifications and drawings, including all alterations and additions that may be hereafter agreed upon by the parties hereto on or before the Fifth day of August 18.93

And it is specially agreed and understood that said City Hall building is designed for immediate occupancy and use by the party of the first part after its completion, and with this understanding the parties of the second part hereby agree that in the event said City Hall building be not completed in accordance with this agreement on or before the Fifth day of August 1893 they the said parties of the second part will pay to said party of the first part the sum of Fifty dollars

per day as liquidated damages here now ascertained and agreed upon for each and every day said City Hall building remains unfinished and uncompleted, according to the terms hereof, after the said First day of August 1893

And the said parties of the second part further obligates and binds themselves ~~itself~~ to hold safe and harmless said party of the first part from any damages or actions in court arising against said party of the first part by reason of the negligence or default on the part of the parties of the second ~~first~~ part, and further agrees to pay as liquidated damages any sum or sums of money that may be finally awarded against the party of the first part by any court of competent jurisdiction, when said judgment is predicated or obtained upon any act of negligence or default on the part of the parties of the second part, provided said parties of the second part shall have due and legal notice of such claim or suit or damages in time to permit them to come in and defend the same.

And the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the foregoing obligations ~~of the party~~ of the parties of the second part, agrees and binds itself to pay to said parties of the second part the sum of $72,500.00 Seventy Two thousand Five hundred dollars, as follows: Payments to be made in Monthly installments upon the Monthly estimates of the Architect or Superintendent of said City Hall building of the amount or pro rata of the entire work done or performed at the time said estimates are made, and it is expressly understood that said estimates shall be allowed with Ten per cent. thereof deducted therefrom at the first meeting of the City Council of the said City of Fort Worth after each estimate is made; and it is furthere agreed and understood that said Ten per cent. deducted

from each estimate as aforesaid shall not be paid until the entire City Hall building be erected and accepted under the terms of this agreement, but that the same shall be paid upon the final acceptance of said building by the party of the first part, and the party of the first part further agrees and binds itself in the event the payments of said estimates are not made as hereinbefore stipulated, to pay to said party of the second part six per cent. (6%) per annum interest on said estimates for the time the same shall remain due and unpaid, as liquidated damages here now ascertained and agreed upon.

It is hereby mutually agreed and understood that any changes that may be desired in the said City Hall building shall be done or made only upon the written agreement of the parties hereto.

It is further mutually agreed and understood that said City Hall building shall be and remain at the risk of the party of the second part until its final completion and acceptance by the party of the first part, and that said party of the second part shall bear any loss occasioned by weather, fire or other causes, and make the same good at their own expense. and that parties hereto ~~of the second part~~ shall keep said City Hall building insured as the same progresses in sufficient sums to make good any loss by fire. Such insurance to be paid to the parties hereto as their interests may appear.

It is further mutually agreed and understood that said party of the second part shall promptly pay for all material and labor used in the construction of said City Hall building in time to prevent the filing of liens for same, and to furnish vouchers to this effect, if called upon to do so by the party of the first part.

It is further mutually agreed and understood that any change made at any time in the terms or details of this contract or the work thereunder shall not operate to relieve or discharge the liability of any bondsmen or surety of the party of the second part for failure

upon the part of the party of the second part to perform its part of this contract.

It is further mutually understood and agreed that no certificate given or payment made under this contract except the final certificate or final payment shall be conclusive of the performance of this contract wholly or in part against any claim of the party of the first part, and no payment shall be construed as an acceptance of defective work.

It is further mutually understood and agreed that in the event any dispute shall arise concerning the erection and construction of the work contemplated in this contract or the material to be furnished under the same, the decision of the Supreintendent or Architect in charge under this contract shall be final and conclusive.

It is further agreed and understood that time is material herein and of the essence of this contract.

Witness our hands this 30 day of March 1892.

The City of Rock Moreb
By J. P. Smith
mayor

Attest
A. V. Burns
City Secretary

Smith & Bordon
By David Smith

attest.
Geo. A. L. Loney

State of Texas, :
:
Tarrant County.: Know all men by these presents, that we, Smith & Bardon, a firm of contractors composed of Dave Smith and John Bardon, as principals, and Wm Cameron

~~and~~ as sureties, acknowledge ourselves bound to pay to the City of Fort Worth the sum of Twenty thousand dollars; conditioned: that if the said Smith & Bardon, principals in above bond, shall well and truly perform their part of the foregoing contract entered into by and between the said Smith & Bardon and the City of Fort Worth,-which said contract is here referred to and made a part hereof, then this bond shall be null and void; otherwise, it shall remain in full force and effect.

Witness our hands this 31st day of March 1892.

Smith + Bardon By
Jno Bardon

Wm Cameron

RESEARCH DATA

FORT WORTH and TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

Texas Writers' Project
Fort Worth Public Library Unit
1941

Federal Writers' Project. Texas

Research Data, Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Texas.

Fort Worth: Texas Writers' Project, Fort Worth Public Library Unit, 1941

93 KC

Fort Worth City Guide
Government
By Sheldon F. Gauthier. 1938

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By 1900 # Companies & locations

A start was made to motorize the department in 1909, and was completed in 1919.

At the present time(1938) the department consisted of 24 companies and 21 stations, employing 271 men. The present chief is S. Fergusson, who has been chief since 1919, and started his career with the department 50 years ago. The department represents an investment of $1,350,000, including grounds, buildings and equipment.

Addition of other downtown Station

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concrete and steel structure, designed by Wyatt C. Hedrick. The architecture is modern utilitarian. The headquarters covers ½ block of ground, extending Southward from Texas Street.

18.00
WD

FILED
TEXAS
81 AUG 14 P2:06
MAURINE FREEMAN
COUNTY CLERK
BY ____ DEP.

44209
18.00 W D
3 08/17/81

SCALE
1" = 40'

0 40 80 120 160 200
GRAPHIC SCALE IN FEET

FORT WORTH (M. BAUGH SURVEY — ABSTRACT NO UNRECORDED

OF

TOWN

ORIGINAL

BLOCK 21

60'

60'

80'

BLOCK 8

80'

BLOCK 9

60'

FIRST

STREET

STREET

STREET

SECOND

N 60°E 200.0'

N 30°W 200.0'

S 30°E 200.0'

S 60°W 200.0'

36
36R

ORIGINAL TOWN OF FORT WORTH

LOT 1R
25R

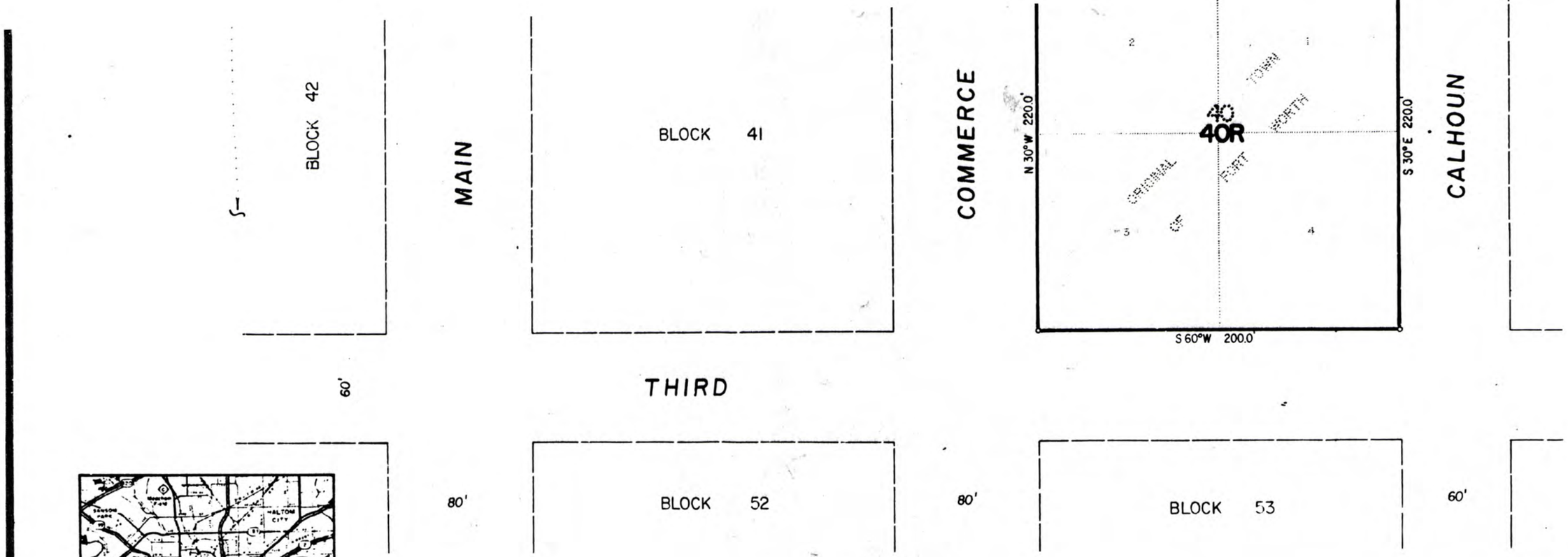
N 60°E 100.0'

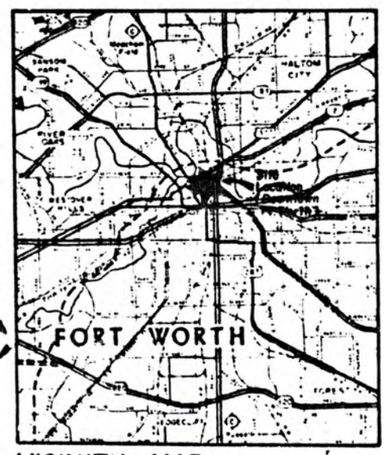
LOT 8R

100.0'

25.0

VOL. 7144, PG. 43





VICINITY MAP

STATE OF TEXAS }
I hereby certify that this instrument was filed on the date and at the time stamped hereon by me and was duly recorded in the Official Records of Tarrant County, Texas as stamped hereon by me.

AUG 14 1989

COUNTY CLERK
TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

Return to

CARTER & BURGESS, INC.
ENGINEERS • PLANNERS

1100 MACON STREET FORT WORTH TEXAS 76102 (817) 335 2611
6420 HILLCROFT SUITE 216 HOUSTON TEXAS 77081 (713) 774 4681

August 1906 F.W.F.D. Roster

No. 1	No. 2		No. 3
Capt. Walker	Capt. Bishop	Jno. O'Donnell	Geo. Florence
B.F. Cannon	L.E. Casey	R.H. Sheets (sub)	L.B. Head
Tom Lopp	E.C. Loyd	M.M. Lusby	J.D. Parrish
F.A. Askew	G.M. West	Jack Adams	Capt. Kinkle
Jno. T. Black	J. Whittenburg	O.L. Price	Geo. Allen
Jno. Flint	A. Brown		E.G. Blakely
B.T. Walker			

No. 4	No. 5	No. 6	No. 7
C.W. Ferguson		C. Ligon	F.F. Hill
F.C. Drew	Capt. Jamison	A.W. Peninger	J.M. Lyles
J.S. Sollis	U.S. Wells	Thos. Crowell	H.C. Glosson
W.L. Barber	L.E. Ferguson	Thos. Gorman	Capt. Jno. Adams
J.H. Dean	B.L. Newell		
J.M. Howell			

No. 8	Reliefmen
G.B. Freeman	C.L. Breakfield
H.E. Bell	Wm. Blue
L.R. Paxton	C.C. Cudle
J.C. Buchanan	Joe Herman
Capt. Massingale	J.G. Autrey
Jno. Kregenbuhl	W.E. Greer
J.M. Shea	

Daily log at house reads

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

AUGUST 1906

DATE day/week	
1	G.T. Scruggs apptd. sub
4	8th Ward Station opened - 1601 Lipscomb st. Appointed: Wm. Blue #5 sta. hoseman C.C. Cadle reg. #5 sta. hoseman Claude Ligon vac rel F.A. Askew reg #1 sta Promoted: Captain L.R. Paxton to Engineer #8 sta John Adams #3 to Lieutenant #1 sta. S.T. Walker to Captain # 1 sta. Transfered: Captain Massingale to new #8 sta. Seagraves Co. Wagon unloaded from T&P Depot. New Wagon placed in service with old #3 Engine in New Station in 8th Ward.
6	Bought of Jas. F. Moore - 50 X 100 on 16th & Calhoun for #3 Fire Hall.....6% intrest.....$4500.00
7	Joe Herman apptd reliefman
8	C.L. Brakefield apptd sub
9	Joe Chuilla apptd sub
11	Sub Geo. Florence regular at #3 sta
13	Sub C.L. Breakfield reg #3 sta. driver T.M. Hiet apptd sub (The best I can figure the dept started giving each member a full-day-off beginning Aug. 13, 1906. They averaged one day off in ten, but seldom did it fall on the tenth day. jdn)
15	Sub Joe Chuilla resigned
17	W.E. Greer apptd. sub
22	vac reliefman C.L. Ligon apptd regular #4 sta
23	Dept order by phone to each Co. Members of Dept must not take longer than one hour for meals.

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

AUGUST 1906

DATE day/week Payroll .. $ 2732.30

August 4, 1906 - Station No. 8 in service at noon - 1601 Lipscomb st.

Captain	Frank Massingale	$70.00
Engineer	L.R. Paxton	$70.00 to $75.00
Driver	J.C. Buchanan	$55.00 to $60.00
Driver	H.E. Bell	$50.00 to $60.00
Driver	Jno. Krevenbuhl	$55.00 to $60.00
Pipeman	J.M. Shea	$45.00
Pipeman	G.B. Freeman	$45.00

Capt. Massingale trans. from aerial truck co. #1.
Eng. Paxton promoted from Captain of Eng. Co. #1
Driver Buchanan promoted from Hose & Ladder Co. #4
Driver H.E. Bell promoted from Engine Co. #5
Driver Kreyenbuhl promoted from Engine Co. #3
Pvt. J.M. Shea appointed from sub
Pvt. G.B. Freeman appointed from sub
A new Seagraves Hose Wagon was delivered at the T & P depot and put in service the same day. The old Engine of #3 station was replaced by a new one June 12, 1906 and repaired before being placed in service as Engine #8.

Contract let to Segraves Mfg. Co. for #8 hose Wagon on Sept. 8, 1906 for $895.00.

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

SEPTEMBER 1906

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 3123.05
	G.B. Freeman #8 sta. transf to #4 sta (in sept)
4	No. 3 Wagon out of service to MOVE and Repair station Ed Brandt #4 resigned J.G. Autrey apptd. sub
5	Frank Herman apptd sub
8	Sub Frank Herman apptd vac rel Sub W.E. Greer resigned Contract let to Seagraves Mfg. Co. for #8 Hose Wagon. Price $895.00. Contract for 2000 ft. Eureaka Fire Hose
10	No. 3 Hose Wagon in shop for repairs & Paint
11	John Adams #1 sta promoted to Captain #4 sta Harry Blue apptd sub R.H. Hodges apptd sub
15	Reliefman Joe Herman resigned Sub R.H. Hodges apptd vac rel
23	Vac reliefman R.H. Hodges resigned
27	J.E. Jarvis reapptd #8 stoker Sub J.G. Autrey resigned

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

OCTOBER 1906

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $3102.30
1	J.R. (Boog) Green apptd hoseman #6 J.S. Williams apptd sub
2	L.E. Casey #2 ladderman resigned
10	D. Beidler appointed
12	Wm. Barclay apptd sub
15	Expence to New #7 sta. $48.21 Expence to New #8 sta. $256.90
18	Sub Harry Blue resigned Louis Frowin (alias Voight) apptd regular #7 sta F.M. Gaines apptd #9 chemical co.
21	vac reliefman Frank Herman resigned
24	No. 3 Wagon in service
✓25	No. 1 Wagon & Chiefs Buggy in shop for paint & repairs
26	No. 3 Co. out 1:30 p.m. to wet 9 cars of Cotton for MK&T RR. Cotton having ben exposed to fire
27	Sub J.M. Shea resigned

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

NOVEMBER 1906

DATE	day/week	Payroll .. $ 3148.30
1		Wm. Blue #5 sta resigned
5		J.P. Faris apptd
15		Dewey back in service Pat fell at 13th & Main - slight injury- caused by short turn to avoid accident with Street car
17		Sub J.S. Williams resigned
19		Angus Evans apptd Driver Engine #8 Paid - $860.00 New Seagraves Hose Wagon # 8 (see aug 4, '06)

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

DECEMBER 1906

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $3228.50
3	Note: to S.A. Tomlinson for 7th ward station - Paid $4381.05
6	L. Sinclair apptd. reg #6 sta
✓8	#1 Wagon out of paint shop
10	New Team horses bought from Cook & Simmons 1 Sorrell (Bob A.) for $212.50 1 Gray (Jake) for $212.50
13	No. 4 truck out service fro 1 to 3 p.m. to haul sliding pole to # 7 station
17	S.A. Tomlinson paid $425.00 expense to new Sta #7 Eitelman & Sons note for $4500.00 on 3rd ward sta
20	Across the board $5.00 monthly raise for all men except Chief and Asst. Chief. Evidently sta. #9 opened about the 20th. (Chem. Engine the 2nd chem. engine - jdn)

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

1907 Personnel and Apparatus

#1 Engine-Wagon	Aerial Truck	Hose Co. #2
F.A. Askew	J.E. Jarvis	Jno. O'Donnell
Jno. Black	Ed. C. Lloyd	A. Brown
Jno. Flint	Mast West	K.H. Sheets
Capt. Walker	Wm. Blue	M.M. Lusby
Tom Lopp	J. Whittenburg	J.E. Jarvis
B.F. Cannon	J. Vaughn	G.M. West
King Sheets	J.G. Garrett	
G.C. Gordon	Capt. Bishop	
O.C. Dunwoody		
L. StClair		
G.J. Gordon		
J.M. Howell		

#3 Engine-Wagon	Hose Co. #4 - Truck	Hose Co. #5
Geo. Allen	A. Evans	Capt. M.A. Jamison
C.L. Breakfield	Capt. Howell	L.E. Ferguson
Geo. Florence	J.S. Sallis	Les Wells
L.B. Head	F.C. Drew	C.C. Cadle
Capt. W. Kinkle	C.M. Ferguson	J.P. Faris
Jno. D. Parrish	W.L. Barber	
Jess Ferguson	E.G. Blakely	

Hose Co. #6	Hose Co. #7	#8 Engine Co. - Wagon
G. Freeman	*H.E. Bell	J. Kreyenuhl
Capt. Peninger	*Capt. Massingale	J.C. Buchanan
Thos. Gorman	Jno. Black	L.R. Paxton
C. Ligon	L. Voight	H.E. Bell
Capt. Adams	Wm. Barclay	Capt. Massingale
J.R. Green		D. Biedler
Thos. Crowell		
Paul Gilvin		
Capt. Hill		

Chem. Eng. No. 9	Reliefmen
Capt. Adams	W. Barclay
F.F. Hill	F.M. Gaines
J.M. Lyles	L. Voight
Capt. Peninger	J. Green
Jno. Flint	O.L. Price
F.M. Gaines	

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

JANURARY 1907

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 3400.20
1	Paul Gilvin apptd driver Hose Wagon #8 Sub Wm. Barclay apptd reg #7 sta Jess Ferguson apptd reg #3 sta hoseman W. Sowell reapptd sub
9	Captain F. Massingale #8 sta transf to #7 sta Travis F. Hill promoted to Captain #8 engine J.G. Garrett reapptd reg #2 sta Q.C. Dunwoody reapptd (see 7/22/05) #7 sta ?
✓10	75 ft. Aerial Truck placed in ser at Central Sta. Gip J. Gordon apptd driver Aerial Truck #1
✓15	No. 1 Engine out to clean boiler flues
✓16	Geo. W. Faris apptd Tillerman Aerial Truck #1
✓18	F.A. Askew #1 sta resigned
21	Paid $106.25 to furn & D. Good store - expense new sta #7

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

FEBRUARY 1907

DATE	day/week	Payroll .. $ 3898.39
1		Capt J.M. Howell #4 reduced to ranks at his request. reg #1 J.L. Whittenburg promoted to Capt. #6 sta
2		J.V. Borders apptd reg #2 sta ladderman
9		#6 wagon to #3 sta - to get horses legs clipped
13		Whittenburg & Black detailed for special duty at Majestic by order Chief
15		Had the following per. supeanoed grand jury to investigate fires at 1st Ward School: G.W. Everidge, Dave Moon, Jno. Bruger, C. Jennings, Lloyd Jordon, H. Thomas
19		B.H. Cassidy, apptd Ladderman Central F.M. Gaines resigned
20		F.M. Gaines - Co #9 indef. susp. from duty for refusing to apologize to citizen whom he had offended while drinking.
26		Wm. Barclay #7 sta resigned
28		#1 Engine - By order of Mayor W.D. Harris over phone, to take #1 engine to Van Zandt-Moore Iron Works, to dismantle and take Meade shaft, for service. In service Mch. 9 8:20 p.m.

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

MARCH 1907

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 4011.15
4	E.C. Lloyd # 2 sta resigned O.L. Price fined $15.00
6	Jerry (bay horse) 7 yr old purchased from R.R. Darrah for $235.00 - on Hose Wagon #3
8	Sub W. Sowell aptpd reg #7 hoseman
9	O.W. McCain apptd sub
18	John Kamp apptd sub
21	#8 Engine - changed Boliver for Grey Horse #7 R.R. Mimms apptd sub
23	Thos. Greer apptd sub
27	E.G. Blakley #6 sta resigned (could be #4 - jdn) Sub O.W. McCain apptd reg #6 sta
28	W.H. Sheen apptd sub

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

Total Expenses

March 21, 1906 to Mar. 21, 1907
(taken from pg. 58 of expense ledger - jdn)

Payroll	$37,479.57	
Expense	7,395.83	
A/C New Stations	3,557.53	- 3,838.30
F.A. Expense	1,255.69	
Repairs	537.45	
Horse Shoeing	361.70	
New Station #8	13,789.10	
New Station #7	6,898.59	
Station #3 repairs	6,497.51	
Horse Feed	2,500.00	
Credit from Police Dept.	274.05	
net balance.....	2,225.95	
TOTAL EXPENSE	$76.441.39	

✓ Sta #1 total cost set at $12,000.00

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

APRIL 1907

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 4007.55
	(believe Commissioners type government stated this month 4 commissioners - jdn)
	W.B. Townsend reapptd #5 sta (in april)
1	W.L. Barber resigned (#6 sta. ?)
	Sub R.R. Mimms apptd reg #2 ladderman
	Sub W.H. Skeen reg #2 hoseman
	#8 Wagon - Out 3:30 p.m. to call for assistance from MK & T Ry. Co. wreck burning 4 miles south of City. #8 Engine ditto Order of Mayor
3	J.E. Jarvis Stoker Eng. #8 resigned
4	R.R. Mimms #2 sta resigned
	Sub John Kamp apptd reg #5 sta
	#6 wagon Out 4 p.m. to 4:40 to work new team
✓6	Out 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. - #1 truck. To arrange street sign for W.C. Stripling
9	J.P. Faris resinged - also K.H. Sheets
	Ed Brandt reappted reg #2 sta
	Sub T. Greer reg #5 sta
10	T.E. Reynolds apptd sub
14	P.L. Hagler apptd sub
22	P.J. Knowl apptd #3 Hose wagon

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

MAY 1907

DATE	day/week	Payroll .. $ 3980.95
1		C.C. Cadle #5 sta resinged
9		#7 wagon out of ser 1 hr. 40 min. to fill tank for Ft. Worth Mach. & Foundry Co.
20		J.S. Davis apptd sub Sub T.E. Reynolds apptd reg #2 hoseman
25		C.F. Smith apptd sub

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

JUNE 1907

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 3997.05
1	Ed Brandt #2 sta resigned W.H. Skeen #2 resigned U.S. Wells #5 transf #2 ladderman
6	Q.C. Dunwoody of Co. #1 suspended 5 days for drinking on duty
7	J.E. (Fireblood) Thompson apptd sub
10	75 ft. aerial truck placed in service at Central Station
11	J.V. Borders #2 sta resigned Unloaded new truck - #4 wagon out of shop
15	G.M. West #2 driver resigned
17	Geo. H. Allen #3 sta to #2 sta T.E. Reynolds #2 resigned
20	Jno. O'Donnell promoted to Capt. Hose Co. #2
21	Travis Crafton apptd #7 hoseman Sub C.F. Smith apptd reg #2 hoseman Sub J.E. (Fireblood) Thompson apptd reg. #2 hoseman
23	Geo. Baldridge apptd sub

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

JULY 1907

DATE	day/week	Payroll .. $ 4007.68
1		H. Roberts apptd sub Paid to Am LaFrance F.E. Co. for equipment "A" truck $5600.00
✓3		#1 Engine - Out 8:30 to 11:10 a.m to wash boiler
4		G. Montgomery apptd sub J.G. Garrett #2 sta. resigned
5		J.S. Sollis resigned #2 driver (aerial)
6		G. Montgomery, sub apptd regular #6 sta
7		J.C. Robinson apptd
12		O.C. Dunwoody resinged
15		Wm. Bently apptd sub
16		Sub H. Roberts resigned
19		Louis Frowin resigned #7 sta
20		Tobe Merrifield apptd sub
22		R.L. Robinson apptd
25		George C. (blk horse) purchased Geo. W. Carter $275.00 -#4 hose wagon
30		#4 Wagon out To wet new street by requist of Mayor W.D. Harris

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

AUGUST 1907

DATE	day/week	Payroll .. $ 4033.25
		Sub Wm. Bently apptd reg #7 sta (in aug)
✓		Paid.. To Sanguinet & Sons for #1 station...$286.87
28		No. 2 Wagon to lay line from river to head of Houston St. for street sprinkling.
		No. 7 Wagon to sta 9 for lockers
		No. 8 Engine ditto

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

SEPTEMBER 1907

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 4048.65
1	C.F. Smith #2 sta resigned O.G. Davis apptd sub
4	John Jay apptd hoseman #6
7	W.B. Townsend resigned #5
8	J.E. Jarvis reapptded
10	J.H. Dean #6 sta resigned
15	Jess Ferguson #3 sta resigned
17	D. Beidler resigned John Jay #6 sta transf #8
18	F. Lockmiller apptd sub
22	F. Lockmiller (sub) reg #2 hoseman McGregor apptd sub
26	Ross Darden apptd sub
28	John Kreyenbuhl resigned driver #8 sta W. Lightfoot apptd sub

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

OCTOBER 1907

DATE	DESCRIPTION	Payroll .. $ 1057.50
✓	Sub M. Lightfoot apptd reg #1 sta hoseman (Idlett)	
✓	Paid J.E.A. Tomlinson $4 216.00 for #1 sta.	
	Geo Darden (sub) apptd reg #1 sta hoseman	
7	E. Moore apptd sub	
9	C.M. Haire apptd sub	
9	E. Moore sub apptd reg #7	
9	W.F. (Swamp) Thompson apptd sub	
17	J.C. Robinson resigned	
18	Sub C.M. Haire apptd reg #4 hoseman	
21	J.T. Dunn apptd sub	
22	C.L. Lockmiller apptd reg #2 hoseman	
30	Jas. J. Pope apptd	

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

NOVEMBER 1907

DATE DAY WEEK Payroll .. $ 111.20

1	Thos. Egan appt reg #5 sta hosman S.A. Tomlinson paid $152.50 for #1 sta John O. Jones appt sub
2	New driver for #4 truck

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

DECEMBER 1907

DATE day/week Payroll .. $ 3990.05

S.A. Tomlinson paid $6726.50 on #1 sta
Sanguinett & Staats paid $286.43 on #1 sta

NOTE.....Chemical Engine Co. #9 was evidently eliminated this month. Chemical Eng. Co. #7 was, I think, moved into NEW Station #1. No. 9 station was at Dashwood and Missouri. Later changed to #7 station, because it was in the 7th Ward. (jdn) assumed - Jim Trask!
Station #9 - 1019 Peach St - Cost $9,500.00

26 Geo. H. Allen #2 promoted to Lieutenant #1 sta
A.W. Peninger apptd Operator
Sub J.T. Dunn apptd reg #2 sta ladderman
Purchased Prince (bay horse) 6 yr. old from Cook & Wright. $212.50

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

JANUARY 1908

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 4030.35
1	Thos. Greer #5 sta resigned
7	Fire..Box 27 at 9:20 - 2nd alarm at 9:25 p.m. Capt Kinkle and Lum Brakefield seriously burned
8	John Kreyenbuhl reapptd
23	No. 2 wagon ran into by Traction Co. Car and badly damaged and seriously injured Chief Ferguson, J.J. Pope and painfully inj. others. No. 2 wagon - In shop for repairs on acct. being run into by Traction Co. Car #159 No. 8 engine-Out 1:20 p.m. to 3:55 p.m. - Pump out cistern for Mayor Harris

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

MARCH 1908

DATE day/week	Payroll .. $ 4321.40
1	W. Lightfoot #6 sta resigned
2	#4 horses - Bill & Dock
3	Contract let for Turet Decked Hose Wagon built by American LaFrance Fire Engine Co.
11	Sub J.C. Robinson reg #2 sta
12	Geo. Peckham apptd hoseman #1 A.J. Welsh apptd sub
16	Purchased 2 Sorrell Horses at $400.00 - Put in service at No. 4 station George-7yr. old on #8 Hose Wagon Sam - 8yr. old on #8 Hose Wagon
23	Box 135 installed at N.T.T. Co's Car Barns - Bought by N.T.T. Co. - Installed by City
29	U.S. Wells #2 resigned

*** FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT ***

APRIL 1908

DATE day/week Payroll .. $ 4317.56

Total Expense for Year ending April 1, 1908

Pay Roll	$48,978.17
Horse Feed	4,305.54
Horse Shoeing	473.80
Rewpairs	1,506.07
Fire Alarm Expense	300.36
Equipment	5,600.00
New Station #1	12,037.30
Total Expense	$77,324.73

W.B. Townsend #5 sta transf to #6 (in apr)
A.J. Welsh (sub) apptd reg at #7 (in apr)

1 J.E. Jarvis resigned
V.F. Maddox apptd sub
Sub H.M. Powell apptd reg #1 hoseman
Engine #8 out at 3:30 p.m. to work on MKT Ry. Co. wreck 4 mi south of City - Order of Mayor
No. 7 wagon - Out 3:00 p.m. to 3:35 p.m. to No. 5 for hose - Found surprize party on return to Station. Gotten up by the Ladies of the 7th Ward.

2 Water Works horse sent to Hospital. Fed by Fire Dept.

7 Wm. Bently #7 sta resigned

8 Wm. Dreschel reapptd sub
G.B. Freeman resigned

15 No. 6 - Dr. treated Watson-injured in accident on Frank st

19 No. 1 Service Truck called out to rescue some boys in the flood at North end of Samuels Ave. Potsace from Police Hedquarters (sic) had preceded us on prior call-Boys resqued.

TX80 80 CD(L)DATA( )TAD-Y/N(N)DELQT(N)
SKEY 00005917719 PIDN 7348-26R1- PSKEY 00004411412 ORG-YR 88 TADCG B1
ADDN: CITY CENTER ADDITION LOC: 201 COMMERCE
LEGAL: BLK: 26R1 LOT: MAP 2048 396 STAT: M
OWNER: CITY CENTER DEV CO, C/O:
ADDRESS: 201 MAIN ST ZIP-CODE: TYPE Z CODE 76102 BKRUPT:
CMT: C/S FT WORTH, TX
LAND 1976765 DEF 0 ACRES 0.000 STMTCD M SUIT SUSP N
TAXES: .00 P&I .00 LAWYER .00 TOTL .00
TAX-YRS =

TXYR / CODES	C	87	88	89	90	R1 90	AU 86
CVAL		6993228	5494452	5581587	4814745	4814745	6993228
COUNTY	220	8232.43	8599.31	10136.05	9440.08	9440.08	6899.52
R.O.W.		474.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	474.84
WATER	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HOSPITAL	W	7779.97	7307.62	8539.83	8544.73	8544.73	6740.77
TCJC		2204.96	1729.65	1827.41	1671.68	1671.68	2213.36
SCHOOL	905	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CITY	26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FRESH WT		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PAID		18692.20	17636.58	20503.29	19656.49		16328.49
TOTAL		18692.20	17636.58	20503.29	19656.49	19656.49	16328.49
SUPP-MO/PDCD		01 MP 00	01 PE 00	01 MP 00	01 PE 00	00	00 P
PD-DATE		880121	890131	900130	910131		870126

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Name E. Cushman Date 8-29

Form 86-7722-180 8/86

CONTROL	TRACTS	TRACT
106	24	0

ASSESSOR'S ABSTRACT OF RURAL PROPERTY — TARRANT COUNTY

ABSTRACT NO. 106 PATENT NO. _____ DATE _____ VOL. _____ PAGE _____ EXEMPT FROM TAXATION

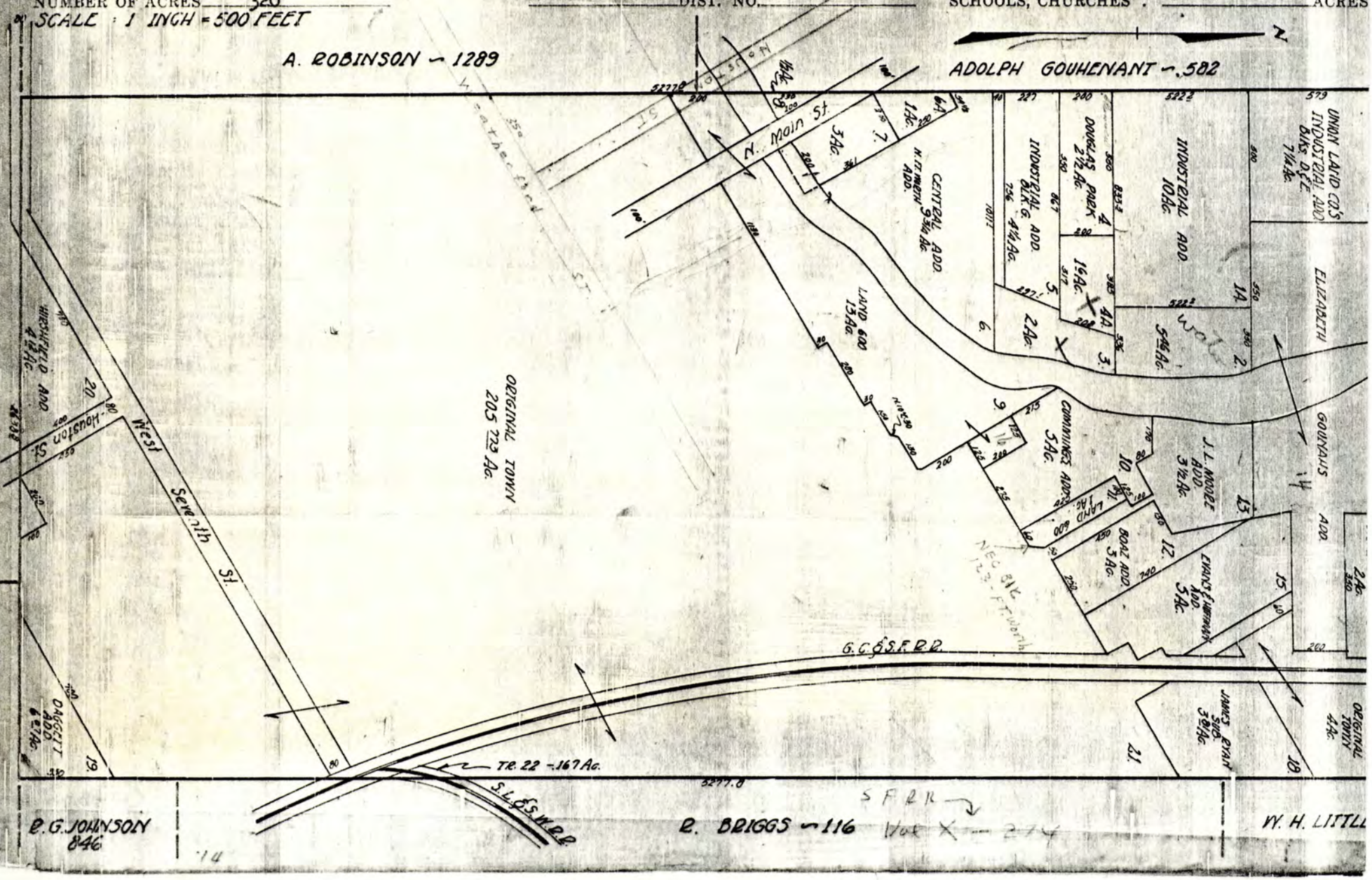
ORIGINAL GRANTEE MITCHELL BAUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. WD ADDITIONS TO CITIES . _____ ACRES

SURVEY NO. M. T. JOHNSON _____ DIST. NO. _____ ROADS . . . . . _____ ACRES

CERTIFICATE NO. 197 (VOL. 2) _____ DIST. NO. _____ RAIL ROADS . . . . . _____ ACRES

NUMBER OF ACRES 320 _____ DIST. NO. _____ SCHOOLS, CHURCHES . _____ ACRES

SCALE : 1 INCH = 500 FEET



State of Texas } Before me T. A. Nace Notary
County of Tarrant } Public in and for the County of
Tarrant, personally Came John Boon and M. E. Boon
wife of John Boon who is to well and acknowledged
that they Signed and delivered the above and foregoing
instrument of writing for the Consideration and purpose
therein Stated, and the said M. E. Boon wife of John
Boon being examined by me privately and apart from
her husband, after having the nature of said instrument
fully explained to her declared that she executed the same
of her own free will and accord, without force, fear
or undue influence of her husband and wished not
to retract. Given under my hand and the seal
this January the 3rd A. D. 1877.

(L. S.)

T. A. Nace
Notary Public Tarrant Co. Tex.

Filed for Record Febry 22nd 1877 at 10 a.m. Recorded
Febry 23rd 1877 4 oclock P.m. J. P. Woods Co. Clk

176
No 2017

W. P. & A. E. Burts } State of Texas
To } Deed } Tarrant County
The City of Fort Worth } Know all men by these presents
that I W. P. Burts and A. E. Burts wife of the
said W. P. Burts of said County and State aforesaid
in Consideration of One half of the north wall of a
two Story brick building now being erected by the
City of Fort Worth on the lot hereinafter described
have granted, bargained, sold and released and
by these presents do grant, bargain sell & release
unto the City of Fort Worth or its assigns all that
tract lot or parcel of land situated in the said
City of Fort Worth and described as follows,
Beginning at the South West Corner of Block No 25
(said Block No 25 being a block two hundred feet
Square and situated between Rusk & Calhoon Streets
and between First and Second Streets as shown on
the plot of the said City) Thence in an Easterly direc-
tion with the north line of Second Street One hundred
feet. Thence in a northerly direction twenty five feet
Thence in a westerly direction One hundred feet

to a point on the East line of Rusk Street, Thence in a Southerly direction with the East line of said Rusk Street twenty five feet to the South west Corner of Block No. 25. the place of beginning, together with all and singular the rights, members, and appurtenances to the same belonging or anywise incident or appertaining. To have and to hold all and singular the said premises unto the said City of Fort Worth or its assigns forever, and we do hereby bind ourselves our heirs, executors and administrators to warrant and forever defend all and singular, the said premises unto the said City of Fort Worth or its assigns against any person whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof.

In testimony whereof we have hereto signed our names this the 30th day of January AD 1877. The words "or its assigns" interlined in three places before signed.

W. P. Burts
Ann G. Burts.

State of Texas } Before me Jane Cotti a duly
County of Tarrant } qualified Notary Public in & for Tarrant County personally appeared W. P. Burts and Ann G. Burts his wife parties to the foregoing deed bearing date January 30th 1877 both of whom are well known to me and acknowledged severally that they had signed sealed and delivered the same for the purposes and considerations therein stated and the said Ann G. Burts having been examined by me privily and apart from her said husband and having had the same fully explained to her she the said Ann G. Burts acknowledged the same to be her act and deed, and that she had willingly signed sealed and delivered the same of her own free will and accord without fear or compulsion on the part of her husband and that she wished not to retract it. Witness my signature & seal of office this January 30th 1877.

(L.S.)

Jane Cotti N.P. T.C.

Filed for record Feby 22nd 1877 at 12 m. Recorded Feby 22nd 1877 at 5 P.M.

J. P. Woods C.C.C.


RETURN TO
EDW'D B. LEVERICH,
119 WALKER STREET,
NEW YORK.
CHAS E. HARTSHORN
EDWD B. LEVERICH
RETURN THIS
Photograph, No. B
TO
EDWARD B. LEVERICH,
119 Walker Street,
NEW YORK.

EAST side from S.E. perspective


FIRE STATION Nº1
150 Years of Fort Worth
ONE WAY

West side (Front) and North side

South side from SE perspective


FIRE STATION No 1
150 Years of Fort Worth
Commerce St
ONE WAY
2nd St
ONE WAY

SOUTH SIDE AND WEST (FRONT)

Hunt, Bass bid for city property

4-3-81

By JOE BELL
Star-Telegram Writer

The two main forces in Fort Worth's half-billion dollar downtown development — Bass and Hunt — submitted uncontested bids Thursday totaling $2.5 million for three city-owned properties along Commerce and Calhoun.

Purchase of the properties by Hunt Investment Corp. of Dallas and Sid Bass' Panther City Development Co. will link downtown projects of the two giants in a continuous corridor reaching nine blocks from First Street to the Tarrant County Convention Center.

A bidding squabble looms, however, for a fourth city-owned property, historic old Fire Station No. 1 at Commerce and Second.

Two investors bid higher for the station than Bass' Center City Development Co., but one of those proposals is in question after being delivered late to the City Council chamber, where the sealed bids were opened.

Further complicating the fire station bidding is the fact that proposals will be weighed for compatability with Fort Worth's downtown plan of development as well as selling price.

Here are the three uncontested offers to the city:

■ $940,500 by Bass' Panther City for three-fourths of the block bounded by Fourth Street on the north, Fifth Street on the south, Commerce on the west and Calhoun on the east. Bass already owns the vacant southwest corner of the block formerly housing the Cromer Ace bicycle business and a small hotel.

■ $1,201,000 by Hunt Investment for the old Surtran Depot block, bordered on the north by Fifth, on the south by Sixth, on the west by Commerce and on the east by Calhoun.

■ $360,000 by Bass' Panther City for the remaining north half of the block between Second and Third, Calhoun and Jones — a triangle site outside of right of way required for a new thoroughfare between downtown and Interstate 35.

Please see Bid on Page 6

Star-Telegram

Bid fight ahead for old fire station

Continued from page 1

The Bass interests own properties immediately north and west of the triangle that spreads westward over nine blocks and includes the Americana Hotel and the developing Center City office towers and Sundance Square.

Acquisition of the Surtran block will give Hunt a northeast anchor of Bass's Woodbine development that already has committed $100 million to the Hyatt Regency and the Continental Plaza.

In addition to paying $1.2 million for the Surtran block, Hunt proposes to immediately spend $250,000 for improvements for a marketing center for its 40-story Continental Plaza and offices for Cushman & Wakefield Industrial Division brokers, Albert Halff and Associates consulting engineers and HCB Contractors.

Monthly contract parking space will be provided on the remainder of the block.

The Bass plan for the block immediately north of the vacant Surtran site is for demolishing existing structures and providing surface parking. Later plans are for mixed-use office and retail with possible construction of high-rise residential buildings.

The triangle at Calhoun and Second will landscaped as part of the other Bass developments.

City Manager Robert Herchert's staff and the City Council are on a hot seat in regard to the bidding on the fire station property.

Bass' City Center offered only $111,000 for the corner site, which the Fort Worth investor and developer has planned for restoration and use as a historical-information center surrounded on three sides by a 1,000-car parking garage.

The Bass proposal was only $10,000 higher than the $101,000 bid by George H. Moore, who has plans to restore the building for use as a restaurant with regular entertainment.

The highest bid among proposals in the council chamber at the 11 a.m. bid opening was $160,000 by Evelyn O'Hara, who owns other business properties in Fort Worth's downtown.

However, Jane Schlansker and Co., a public relations firm, offered $176,900 in a bid that was delivered to Assistant City Manager Morris Matson in the chamber one to three minutes after Matson pronounced the bidding closed.

Bid specifications called for bids to be delivered to the city manager's office by 11 a.m. and Schlansker representative Jan Green said she arrived there with the bid at that time.

However, the manager's secretary was talking on a phone and Ms. Green went to another desk, from where she was directed to a third desk at the entrance of the manager staff's area.

But that desk was unattended, Ms. Green said, and she stepped to a nearby fourth desk, where she was directed to the council chamber.

Matson emphasized to all the bidders that the Schlansker bid was opened while under the question of time compliance.

Later, Matson instructed Ms. Schlansker and her attorney, Henry Simon Jr., to submit a letter to the city manager explaining why they believe the Schlansker proposal complied with the bid requirements.

He emphasized then that the city staff and the council would consider the bids in relation to what is best for Fort Worth and for fitting into the city's downtown plan.

Matson said the evaluation could make it possible that the arrival time of the Schlansker bid may not have to be considered.

Ms. O'Hara said the time deadline will be dealt with "when we cross that bridge."

The Schlansker firm plans to apply for historical designation for the building, preserve the exterior architecture of the building and convert the interior for company offices.

The O'Hara plan is for restoration and renovation of the building into a Brennan's-type restaurant-museum while, if permissible, retaining the name, "Fire Station No. 1."

Squabble looms in bids over downtown firehouse

By JOE BELL 4-3-81
Star-Telegram Writer

A bidding squabble looms for the historic old Fire Station No. 1 at Commerce and Second.

But the two main forces in Fort Worth's half-billion-dollar downtown development — a company headed by Sid Bass and Hunt Development Co. of Dallas — submitted uncontested bids totaling $2.5 million for three other city-owned properties along Commerce and Calhoun.

Purchase of the properties by Hunt Investment Corp. and Bass' Panther City Development Co. will link downtown projects of the two giants in a continuous corridor reaching nine blocks from First Street to the Tarrant County Convention Center.

Two investors bid higher for the fire station than Bass' Center City Development Co. One of those proposals, however, is in question after being delivered late to the City Council chamber, where the sealed bids were opened.

Further complicating the fire-station bidding is the fact that the selling price and compatability with Fort Worth's downtown-redevelopment plan will be weighed in making the awards.

Here are the three uncontested offers to the city:

- $940,500 by Bass' Panther City for three-fourths of the block bounded by Fourth Street on the north, Fifth Street on the south, Commerce on the west and Calhoun on the east. Bass already owns the vacant southwest corner of the block formerly housing the Cromer Ace bicycle business and a small hotel.
- $1,201,000 by Hunt Investment for the old Surtran Depot block, bordered on the north by Fifth, on the south by Sixth, on the west by Commerce and on the east by Calhoun.
- $360,000 by Bass' Panther City for the remaining north half of the block between Second and Third, Calhoun and Jones — a triangle site outside of right of way required for a new thoroughfare between downtown and Interstate 35.

The Bass interests own properties immediately north and west of the triangle that spreads westward over nine blocks and includes the Americana Hotel and the developing Center City office towers and Sundance Square.

Acquisition of the Surtran block will give Hunt a northeast anchor of its Woodbine development that already has committed $100 million to the Hyatt Regency and the Continental Plaza.

In addition to paying $1.2 million for the Surtran block, Hunt proposes to spend $250,000 immediately for improvements for a marketing center for its 40-story Continental Plaza and offices for Cushman & Wakefield Industrial Division brokers, Albert Halff and Associates consulting engineers and HCB Contractors.

Monthly contract parking space will be provided on the remainder of the block.

The Bass plan for the block immediately north of the vacant Surtran site is for demolishing existing structures and providing surface parking. Later plans are for mixed-use office and retail with possible construction of high-rise residential buildings.

The triangle at Calhoun and Second will be landscaped as part of the other Bass developments.

City Manager Robert Herchert's staff and the City Council are on a hot seat in regard to the bidding on the fire-station property.

Bass' City Center offered only $111,000 for the corner site. Bass to restore the site for a historical-information center. It is to be surrounded on three sides by a 1,000-car parking garage.

The Bass proposal was only $10,000 higher than the $101,000 bid by George H. Moore, who would restore the building for use as a restaurant.

The highest bid among proposals in the council chamber at the 11 a.m. bid opening was $160,000 by Evelyn O'Hara, who owns other business properties in Fort Worth's downtown.

However, Jane Schlansker and Co., a public relations firm, offered $176,900 in a bid that was delivered to Assistant City Manager Morris Matson in the chamber one to three minutes after Matson pronounced the bidding closed.

Matson said the city staff and the council would consider the bids in relation to what is best for Fort Worth while fitting into the city's downtown plan.

Matson said the evaluation could mean the late arrival of the Schlansker bid may not have to be considered.

Ms. O'Hara said the time deadline will be dealt with "when we cross that bridge."

The Schlansker firm plans to apply for historical designation for the building, preserve the exterior architecture of the building and convert the interior for company offices.

The O'Hara plan is for restoration and renovation of the building into a Brennan's-type restaurant-museum while, if permissible, retaining the name "Fire Station No. 1."

Also proposed by Ms. O'Hara is free use of the restaurant-museum by the Fort Worth Opera and Symphony for charity fund-raising events.

Star-Telegram

Fire Station No. 1 bid is withdrawn

By JOE BELL 4-4-81
Star-Telegram Writer

Bidding for historic Fire Station No. 1 in the neart of Fort Worth's downtown renaissance became less complicated Friday.

Evelyn O'Hara, who proposed to pay the city $160,000 for the property at Commerce and Second streets, said she had notified city officials she was withdrawing her proposal.

By removing herself from the bidding, Mrs. O'Hara leaves the competition to Sid Bass' Center City Development Co., which has led the revitalization of downtown, and Jane Schlansker & Co., a public relations firm active in the North Side Stockyards' redevelopment.

Mrs. O'Hara made her decision after talking with Bass Friday and discussing his additional development plans for the downtown area.

"I had thought I would do something nice for Fort Worth by converting the station into a restaurant-museum. But I did not know how important this site was to Mr. Bass' plans and for the entire downtown development."

Bass bid $110,000 for the old station, which has been included in his restoration plans as a historical-information center keyed to the entire downtown development plan.

The Schlansker bid is the highest of the lot — $176,900 — but it arrived Thursday in the bid opening room moments after Assistant City Manager Morris Matson closed the bidding.

But the Schlansker representative said the bid was delivered to City Manager Robert Herchert's office before the deadline, and was referred from desk to desk in the city manager's office before finally being sent to the bid opening room.

Matson said Friday that Jane Schlansker had presented evidence in a written report Friday supporting her claim that the bid had arrived in time to be considered. And, he said, the Schlansker proposal would be evaluated.

However, Matson said the bid proposals specified that future use of the old station must be compatible with the city's downtown development plan. So, future use will be an important part of the bid evaluation.

Although the Schlansker firm plans to apply for a historical marker for the building and preserve the exterior architecture, it intends to convert the building for use as its public relations headquarters.

Highest bidder attacks city's sale procedure

By NANCY K. WEBMAN 4-6-81
Star-Telegram Writer

A woman trying to purchase a city-owned building in downtown Fort Worth today attacked the city's bidding process, saying the decision on who would win the bid already has been made.

Jane Schlansker's bid of $176,000 was the highest of four submitted for the property, a former fire station at Second and Commerce streets. She said she believes city officials never intended any company other than City Center Development Co. (a Bass Brothers Enterprises' company) to win the bid.

Ms. Schlansker made the charges in a letter she read to city staffers and council members attending a morning work session on the bid proposals by Bass and Ms. Schlansker. She released copies of the letter to the media before she made it public.

Ms. Schlansker, owner of a public relations firm she wants to move from the North Side to the fire station property, said she decided to publicly fight the city's bidding process after she learned her high bid was not declared the winning one automatically.

The bid by Ms. Schlansker was not rejected by the council, but did arrive on Friday several minutes after Assistant City Manager Morris Matson declared bidding closed.

Matson said the late arrival might mean that the Schlansker bid would not be considered, but no final determination was made.

". . . If the bidding process were, indeed, a fair competition, then the question of who should be awarded the Fire Station No. 1 building would already be resolved," Ms. Schlansker said.

Action on bid recommendation is postponed

4-7-81
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Continued from Page 11A

fairness of the bid procedure when she discovered that Bass Brothers, which bid $111,000 for the fire station, was using the building as a construction warehouse.

"Fire Station No. 1 is at the present time secured behind a padlocked chainlink fence, surrounded by equipment being used in the construction of the City Center parking garage," Ms. Schlansker said.

She said Bass Brothers has put City Center advertising signs on the old fire station, giving the impression that the property belongs to it.

"The reality is that while it may be the intent by Bass Brothers and/or the city to give this impression, the property does not belong to Bass Brothers Enterprises and has been up for sale by the city in what was advertised as a 'no strings' public competition," she said.

Assistant City Manager Morris Matson said Monday the city asked Bass Brothers to maintain security at the building and in exchange agreed to let the company use it for storage.

"It's to our mutual benefit," he said. "We've had other vacant buildings pretty heavily vandalized."

Matson said the city and Bass Brothers have "an informal arrangement" and that no money was involved.

He said the city staff will prepare a report on the bids and give it to council members by April 16. The council is expected to make its decision at its April 21 meeting.

Ms. Schlansker, who wants to convert the fire station to an office for her business, said that if the bidding process were a fair competition, "then the question of who should be awarded the Fire Station No. 1 building would already be resolved."

Bass Brothers Enterprises is building the City Center office building on the same block as the fire station. The company has proposed converting the fire station into a convention and visitors bureau with retail shops on the second floor.

Matson said the city has the right to reject any or all bids and that provision was included in the specifications for the property.

"We haven't evaluated the bids yet," he said.

City puts off bid approval after charge

By MARK NELSON
Star-Telegram Writer

4-7-81

Fort Worth city officials delayed recommending which bid to accept for the purchase of historic Fire Station No. 1 after a woman who wants to purchase the property charged Monday the decision already has been made in favor of a lower bidder.

Jane Schlansker, owner of a public relations company, said in a letter to city officials Monday she believes the city intended all along to sell the city-owned property to Bass Brothers Enterprises even though her bid is $65,900 higher than theirs.

Ms. Schlansker, who bid $176,900 for the building at Commerce and Second streets, told city staff members at a morning work session that she believes the city did not conduct the bidding process in the spirit of free competition.

She said she became concerned about the

Please see Action on Page 12.

Star-Telegram

FIRE STATION . . . with Bass Brothers Enterprises sign

Entertainment

History of FW Exhibit Opening Downtown

By FRANK PERKINS

The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History will open the state's first sesquicentennial exhibition Tuesday, Sept. 7 on the ground floor of historic former Fire Station No. 1 at 2nd and Commerce Sts.

The museum's first satellite exhibition in its 40-year history, it traces the 135-year development of Fort Worth from its start as a frontier fort.

The exhibit is sponsored by the museum, City Center Development Co., City Hall and the Institute of Museum Services, according to Pat Norris, history curator at the museum and the man responsible for assembling the unique downtown museum.

Crammed into 2,000-square-feet on the first floor of the old fire hall built in 1902 are photographs, murals and quotations from newspapers and journals tracing Fort Worth's growth from its rowdy youth on the Chisholm Trail to the present.

Among the artifacts is one of the Shady Oaks hats owned by the late Amon Carter Sr., which he presented to distinguished visitors.

The Redlight Saloon, Farmers Saloon and John Turner's Dry Goods Store from "Hell's Half Acre" of the cattle drive days are recreated in miniature by stage designer Jim Stone.

Also in the exhibit is a copy of the 1906 Purity Journal with a cover story; "Fort Worth: A Modern Sodom."

Dominating the exhibit are photographs of Fort Worth downtown. Included are the World War I victory parade that crammed Main Street on Nov. 11, 1918, a 1900's view of Houston Street looking toward the Courthouse, with that handsome structure looming over the one and two story buildings lining the street, followed by a recent photograph that shows the glass City Center skyscrapers towering over the Courthouse.

"You can literally see Fort Worth growing up in these pictures we have found," Norris said.

Treasures abound for the historian: Confederate Col. John Peter Smith's "honorable parole" from a Northern officer at the end of the Civil War; a walking cane carved from a pine bough at the Battle of Seven Pines by a Fort Worth veteran of that bloody Civil War fray; the beaded costume of the Rodeo Queen of 1923, and an 80-feather Sioux war bonnet.

"This is an exhibit we think all Fort Worthers will love—those who have lived here all their lives and the newcomers who arrived yesterday. It is the only such interpretative exhibit center I know of outside of those in national parks," Norris said.

Look for the exhibit to become a permanent downtown Fort Worth attraction.

* * *

Fired up about Fort Worth

Fire Station No. 1, the historic building in the heart of downtown Fort Worth, will open to the public next year as an interpretative center detailing Fort Worth's evolution from prairie and cross timber to cityscape in a series of five exhibits. The center, funded by City Center Development Company and the city of Fort Worth, also will provide information on current cultural, social and entertainment events for visitors. Opening is scheduled for sometime next year.

LOCAL/STATE
Star-Telegram
13A
HOLIDAY EDITION COMBINED
MONDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3, 1984

Fort Worth's past reborn

New exhibit interprets 150 years of city's history

By SAMUEL HUDSON
Star-Telegram Writer

For the big, by-invitation opening Wednesday evening, a large and quirky cast of characters is gathered at the corner of Commerce and Second streets on the first floor of what was once Fort Worth Fire Station No. 1.

Crouched to spring from the top of a museum display case, a panther (stuffed) looks down on an Edison cylinder phonograph.

A mannequin wearing the dress uniform of an American soldier in World War II holds the hand of a mannequin wearing an embroidered sundress.

Cowboys (real ones) and Indians (real ones), entrepreneurs and assembly-line workers, cows and packing plants, movie stars and Fort Worth homebodies, children and grown-ups and one large-eyed bison are all represented.

In an appropriately larger-than-life photograph, Amon G. Carter Sr., founder-publisher of the *Star-Telegram*, stands ready to welcome visitors.

Saturday afternoon, moving among all these, making decisions, giving encouragement, occasionally calling out, "Sheesh!" and "Yikes!," was Patrick Norris, curator of history of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History.

"The exhibit is called '150 Years of Fort Worth,' " Norris says as he helps arrange the costume of the queen of the Stockshow Rodeo of 1927. "It's an interpretive exhibit, more than just a display of artifacts and objects with a few facts thrown in here and there. Two and a half years of research, work and thought have gone into this.

"People can come here and learn about the life and times of Fort Worth, how the city came to here, how it grew, and who and what shaped the character of Fort Worth. Yes, I imagine that a good many tourists will be attracted to Fire Station No. 1, to find out about Fort Worth. Fort Worth has a rich and fascinating history.

"But, really, '150 Years of Fort Worth' is for the people of Fort Worth themselves, and we've put enough of Fort Worth and Fort Worth's history on display here so that you can come back again and again, to find new (to you) things in the exhibit, and to make connections that you might not have made on your first visit.

Please see Exhibit on Page 14

Star-Telegram/RON T. ENNIS

HISTORY CURATOR... Patrick Norris with Amon Carter Sr. exhibit

Travelers find young Soviets

hassles few, far between

Continued from Page 13

The Americans were able to travel freely in the cities they visited, and only once during the trip did they feel that the actions of the Soviets bordered on harassment.

"The only really hassling time was at a little town on the border between Romania and the Soviet Union," Wible said. "They kind of enjoyed putting us through the ropes."

Officials boarded the group's train at 5 a.m., asking to see passports and insisting that all printed material be taken from luggage and turned in to authorities. After a while, Wible said, the Soviets returned all printed matter except for a travel guide.

When questioned about the confiscation, the officials replied, "It's the law. These are forbidden in the Soviet Union," Wible said.

Later, Wible said, the group encountered many tourists whose travel guides had not been confiscated.

"There were some inconsistencies," he said.

Maryellen Wible said she and her husband attended church services in both Leningrad and Moscow.

"We had an especially precious time when we went to church in Leningrad at the Evangelical Baptist Church," she said. "The older women would take hold of my hand. People seemed to want to come and touch us and be assured that we weren't monsters and be assured that God was alive."

The group toured the Soviet Union in the early summer, and the Olympics often surfaced as a topic of discussion between the Americans and the Soviets.

"They believe their athletes were not allowed to come to the U.S. because if they did come, they would be harmed," Maryellen Wible said.

Soviets on the streets seemed to feel free to talk with the Americans, but many of the meetings with residents of the country were arranged by the government with the Komsomol, a communist group whose members are between the ages of 18 and 30.

Heated discussions often erupted between the Americans and the Komsomol. Howard Wible said members of the Komsomol had answers for most questions, and when they didn't, they politely and deftly ended discussions.

Another traveler, Nowell Smith, said she found the Soviet people to be different from what she had expected.

"When I left I expected to see a lot of gray, drab things. I thought the people would be sad and depressing," she said. "The people on the street are not as smiling and laughing as we are, but once you get to know them they are very friendly and welcoming."

Wible said he found the cities to be pretty and the countryside, especially in Siberia, to be rugged but appealing. He said the Soviet government has made cultural events available to its people at affordable prices.

The group celebrated the Fourth of July on the Trans-Siberian Railroad. When the woman who was assigned to care for the rail car carrying the Americans realized why they were celebrating, she made a round of tea as her gift to them.

"She congratulated us on victory in our revolution," Howard Wible said.

Exhibit interprets Fort Worth's history

Continued from Page 13

"I've been working on this show for 2½ years, and I haven't seen everything we have here, or caught all of the associations that you can make among the different parts of the exhibition.

"The City Center Development Company gave us the space here, and they gave us grants, too. The city of Fort Worth has given us grants, the Institute of Museum Services (a federal agency) gave us some money, and the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History has given staff time, artifacts and out-of-pocket expenses.

"This exhibit is a free-standing part of the Museum of Science and History," Norris said.

Starting Thursday, "150 Years of Fort Worth" will be open free to the public from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week.

Norris looked into the glass-fronted case housing the soldier mannequin and his mannequin girlfriend.

"Yikes!" Norris said. "The soldier is holding his girlfriend's hand, and that's fine, but sometime between the mannequins being put in the case and the glass being installed, somebody crossed the fingers of his other hand. Very funny. Ha. Ha. Well, we'll get *that* fixed before the opening Wednesday.

"We're going to be working right down to the wire — I imagine that this isn't too unlike opening a show on Broadway, or anywhere else — but everything is coming together very well. After the opening, we'll remove some smudges and replace a few bruised labels. And when we learn how visitors take in the exhibit, we may want to make a few improvements.

"It's been nice talking with you, but please pardon me: I have to talk with a lady about some horses — pictures of horses, I mean.

"Why don't you come back and see us Thursday? Bring your kids, too," Norris said as he hurried away. "I'm going to bring mine. Then they'll know why they haven't seen much of me lately."

June 21, 1988

Evelyn D. Cushman
4904 Wedgeview Dr.
Hurst, Tx 76053
ph 284-5792

The Star-Telegram article of Sat. Sept 22, 1984 is one I had at home. It was on the back of Duane's "Worth Remembering" Column. Savvy I threw the bottom half away, but it seems to be just a write up about the exhibit. (Note the houses to the North of the fire house. - I ~~sh~~ can't believe there were no windows on the North for cross-ventilation).

Thanks,

Evelyn

E. Cushman's copy

Fire station houses best history lesson in town

By RAYMOND TEAGUE
Star-Telegram Writer

Weekend wanderer

Just imagine!

In 1905 all 15 motor cars in Fort Worth — that is, every automobile in the city — lined up for a group portrait.

It would take a very advanced magician with a very wide-angle lens to take a portrait of all the cars in Fort Worth today.

But it could be done in 1905, and a print of the picture is included in the new, wonderfully captivating permanent exhibit entitled *150 Years of Fort Worth* downtown at East Second and Commerce streets, in the building that once housed Fire Station No. 1.

The exhibit, created by the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, is simply the best history lesson in town.

All concerned should be applauded for their efforts and accomplishments in bringing Fort Worth area residents and visitors such a highly polished, organized, and understandable historical perspective.

Even people who say they don't like history, who were probably turned off by too many football coaches killing time as history teachers, will find the exhibit interesting.

The 2,000-square-foot exhibit traces the city's development from its beginning as a frontier outpost in 1849 through its rowdy youth as a cattle town in the 1880s to its maturity, first as a railroad and meatpacking center and later as an oil and aerospace center.

Five distinct phases in the city's development — Wild and Beautiful Land (up to 1865), Cowtown (1865-1885), Panther City (1873-1910), Where the West Begins (1911-1949), Beginning Again (1950-present) are vividly illustrated with original commentary; graphic materials such as photographs, maps, reproduced paintings, advertising materials and posters; period costumes; and artifacts, more than half with identifiable local ties.

It is amazing that so much has been done in such a relatively small space within the old fire station, built in 1907 and used by firefighters

back for a better look.

This is a look-and-linger exhibit. It is entirely possible to spend 15 minutes or more studying the details, say, in a photograph of Main Street in 1896. Look at what the people are wearing, what buildings were standing, where the horses and buggies are parked, how the horse-drawn trolley car looks, what the street lights looked like . . .

Places, people and events come to life through the creative juxtaposition and display of graphics and artifacts and printed materials. Consider: early day Indian pottery, Indian war bonnets, a buffalo head, a letter from Maj. Ripley Arnold, who commanded the troops that founded the fort; cowboy tools of the trade; a deed of sale for a negro boy named Frank in 1864; a handmade pencil box, c. 1860, from Fort Worth; a snuff box and pouch from the early 1900s; a Shady Oaks hat given to a guest by Amon G. Carter; a Ten Commandments sample embroidered with silk thread by a Fort Worth woman in 1870, and a notice from the Fort Worth Humane Society reminding people to "be kind to and blanket your horse." The documentation of Fort Worth life goes on and on, drawing visitors more and more into its spell.

Particularly interesting are the quotes about the Fort Worth area and city through the years. A few:

"I thought it the most beautiful and good country that the sun ever shone on." — Simon B. Farrar, a member of Arnold's party in 1849.

"Fort Worth is spoken of as the coming place — a man from there says it is quite a place now and destined to be a city. It is rough as anything you can think of. It is going to be a fine country. It has rich soil and the people here all work for themselves." — Buckley B. Paddock in an 1872 letter to his wife.

"The city is cosmopolitan. It has

Photo by Jim Noah/W. D. Smith, Inc.

Fire Station No. 1 as it appeared in its heyday.

graphic identifications are too small to read easily, as are the identifications of artifacts in cases. There is ample room for bending and observing, however, and handicapped access is good.

The exhibit is billed as the first exhibit in Texas commemorating the state's 150th anniversary of indepen

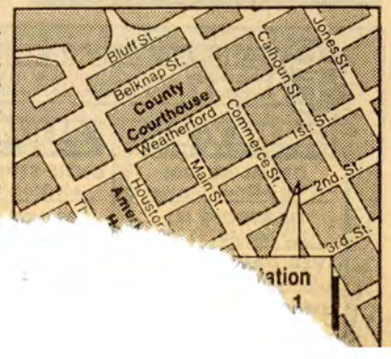
tennial at this time seems a bit misleading and confusing. There have been 150 years in Fort Worth's history, and many more, if you go back to nomadic people and the Indians roaming the area, but not if you go back to the establishment of the Army post in 1849.

The Sesquicentennial, as did the

the coat of that event has even been put on.

The exhibit was funded by the museum, City Center Development Co., the City of Fort Worth, and the Institute of Museum Services. Design consultants were Institutional Services of Dallas.

It is free and open to the public



WESTERN CIVILIZATION

FORT WORTH, TEXAS USA

Sundance Square is an historically renovated district in downtown Fort Worth that features shops, museums, offices, apartments, hotels, restaurants and entertainment. It was once the hangout for outlaws, cattlemen, cowboys, gamblers and other "legends" of the West. Pictured to the right with The Hole-In-The-Wall Gang are George Parker, alias "Butch Cassidy", seated far right, and Harry Longbaugh, alias "The Sundance Kid", seated far left, who wandered down the street from "Hell's Half-Acre" to enjoy a meal and a drink in one of the local watering holes. The Chisholm Trail cattle drives before the turn-of-the-century created the funnel that brought most of these characters to Fort Worth.

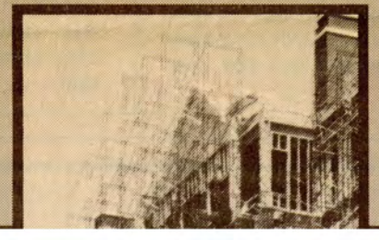
Most of the buildings in Sundance Square were there at the turn-of-the-century and have been restored to an impressive degree by the Bass family. Restoration began in the late 1970's and continues today with the expansion of the Caravan of Dreams performing arts center and the Sundance West mixed use development.

Construction detail pictured below.

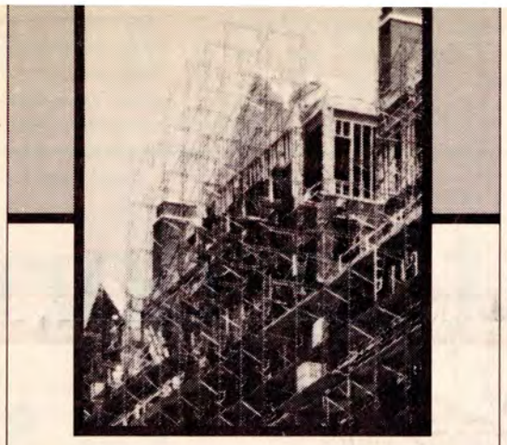
Photo of The Hole-In-The-Wall Gang courtesy of Jack White.

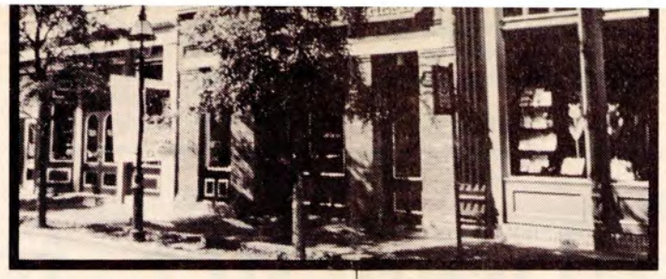
Burk Burnett Building. Built in 1914, this building was designed for banker, Earl Baldridge, to house the State National Bank. One year later in 1915 it was sold to legendary cattleman, Samuel Burk Burnett, whose 6666 ranches are famous in Texas history for cattle, oil, scientific breeding and thoroughbred horses. Known as Fort Worth's first "skyscraper", it was built with cattle money when Fort Worth was indeed cowtown.

Pictured above.



Fire Station No. 1. On March 22, 1876, Fort Worth's Tarrant County Courthouse burned with almost all of the county records, prompting the City Council to order the City's first real fire engine. In 1877 the fire department moved to the newly built City Hall at





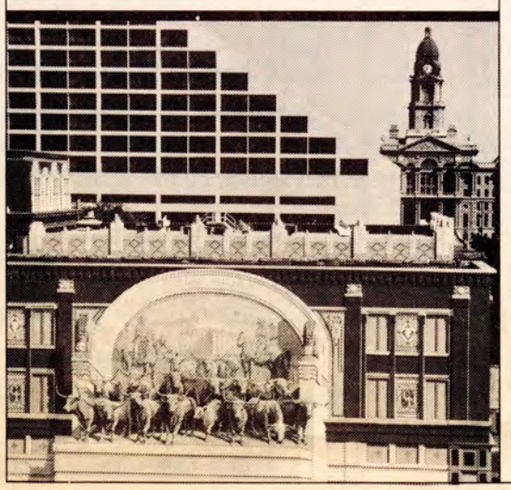
Chisolm Trail Lot. This block marked Fort Worth travels and stopovers for more than a century. It was eastern terminus for the daily Fort Worth and Fort Yuma Mail and stage line, the largest and longest government mail contract ever let, when it was initiated July 1, 1878. The 17-day, 1,760 mile run to Arizona was soon cut to 13 days for double pay from the federal government.

The block's southeast corner was a hotel site. First the El Paso opened in 1877, then the Pickwick, the Delaware and from 1910 to 1978 the Westbrook. The Pickwick was the scene of a tragedy for Yellow Bear, Delaware Indian Chief, who blew out the light instead of turning off the artificial gas when he went to bed. He died but Comanche Chief Quanah Parker, sleeping in the same room, survived. The two were visiting their friend Burk Burnett who paid for his herds to graze on Indian territory. Pictured below.

Weber Building. After Fort Worth became the country's westernmost railhead on July 19, 1876, entertainment houses made this block a nightly scene of end-of-the-trail revelry for adventurers arriving with the trail herds. The first regularly established theater, the Adelphi, started up that year. Its owners left town, but the theater reopened as Theater Comique which was succeeded by My Theater (corner of Main and Second) in 1880. Orchestras paraded daily to attract crowds and tight-rope walkers performed over the street. Pictured above.

Morris and Conn Buildings. Originally the notorious Wild West watering hole known as the "White Elephant Saloon". Long-Hair Jim Courtwright who had been both Federal and City Marshall here was shot and killed by Gambler-King Luke Short, February 8, 1887 at the doorway to Miss Ella Blackwell's Shooting Gallery just North of the White Elephant Saloon. Some said Short was faster than the usually quick-draw Courtwright. Police reported a jammed cylinder on Courtwright's pistol. Pictured above.

Fire Station No. 1. On March 22, 1876, Fort Worth's Tarrant County Courthouse burned with almost all of the county records, prompting the City Council to order the City's first real fire engine. In 1877 the fire department moved to the newly built City Hall at 2nd and Commerce. This is the City's oldest remaining fire station and it now houses the 150 Years Museum, which traces Fort Worth's History. Pictured below.



Knights of Pythias Building. The first Knights of Pythian Castle was erected here in 1881 and rebuilt after the fire in 1900. A replica of the original Knight of Armor was installed during the Sundance Square renovation. The first rotary offset printing press was invented in this building in the early 1950s.
Pictured to the right.

All architectural photos courtesy of Sundance Square.

SUNDANCE SQUARE

Main and Houston Streets between 2nd and 4th Streets

Step into Sundance Square.
Step back into History.

Downtown Fort Worth is a colorful blend of the past and present. People will soon be living downtown and the city is once again becoming a destination for tourists.

The history of the city has been preserved and new history is being made. Visit the heart of your own city again.
You may be surprised.

If you have a story and or images about any aspect of Fort Worth heritage and cultural history, please contact The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, One Tandy Center, Suite 150, Fort Worth, Texas 76102.

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Locked Up in Workshop on W. Leuda

Fort Worth's First Jail Lock

By JOHN THAMES

The trail drive was over and 15 dust-laden cowboys galloped into For tWorth to try to spend three months' salary in three days.

The sun had set in the small Texas town on this particular day in 1879.

From outside the saloon you could hear men's chatter with the sound of a piano filtering through. Suddenly it was quiet and two shots rang out.

A black mustache cowboy fell through the swinging bar doors and into the dirt street.

A tobacco chewing, unshaven cowboy carrying a six-shooter peered over the top of the still swinging doors.

TWO OF THE FOUR Fort Worth policemen were there in seconds. They had been expecting trouble.

They arrested the cowboy and walked him to jail with the other cowboys following close behind.

The jail was then located behind the No. 1 Fire Hall at Second and Commerce. They put the cowboy in and clamped the lock shut.

The lock is now in the lands of J. H. (Jimmie) Prince, 79, of 710 W. Leuda. His father, the late Moses Prince, helped tear down the old jail house in 1890. He kept the lock and passed it down to his son.

It is now rusted and specked with dirty white paint which Mr. Prince said was the original paint on the lock.

Mr. Prince said T. L. Cromer, a locksmith who now owns Cromer's Ace at 511 Commerce, said the lock was a Scandinavian lock which was over a hundred years old.

If it was the first lock used on the old jail house it would be 98 years old. Records show that the first jail was built in 1868.

It was a log structure with two cells above and a dungeon below ground level.

One of the early policemen, Joe Witcher, recalled the early rough days of Fort Worth in a newspaper story in 1912.

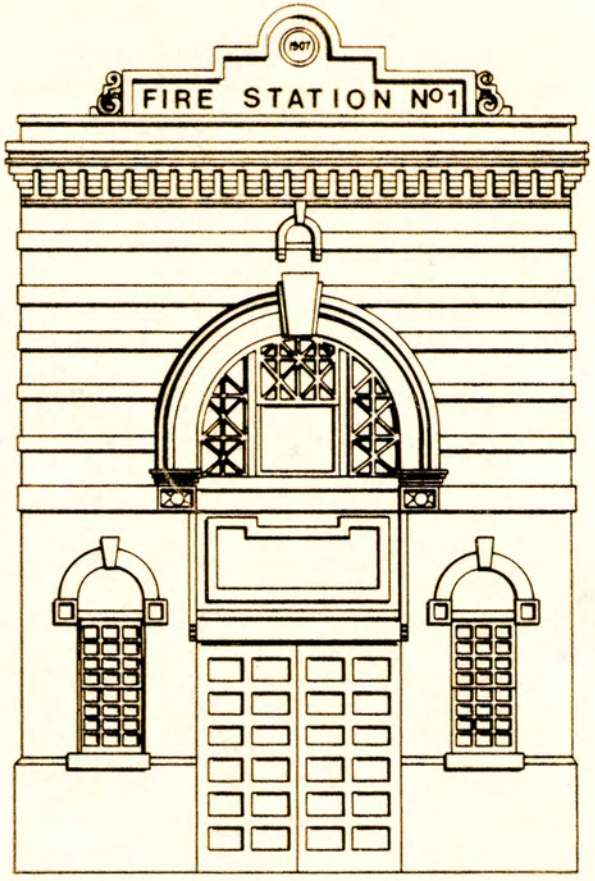
"Sometimes on a busy Saturday night," he said, "it was necessary to crowd from 25 to 30 men into these cells."

MR. WITCHER said along with the cowboys who came in from trail drives "freighting wagons from Fort Sill and the frontier brought another class of men who sometimes caused trouble."

"On one cold night two of the famous Hicks gang of desperadoes that operated in Texas about 1887 were supposed to have stabled their horses in a stable here," he recalled. "We waited there all night not making a sound. But they never showed up."

Mr. Prince says he wants to give the old lock to the Children's Museum. But right now the lock that locked up local outlaws drunkards and similar undesirables in the small jail remains locked up itself in an old workshop on W. Leuda.

James H. Prince and Fort Worth's first jail lock.


1907
FIRE STATION Nº1

The adaptive reuse of Fire Station No. 1 is a project of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History made possible in part by City Center Development Company and the City of Fort Worth.

The Board of Trustees
of
The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History
cordially invites you to the opening of

150 Years of Fort Worth

in
Fire Station No. 1

Thursday the sixth of September
Nineteen hundred and eighty-four
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Fire Station No. 1 is located at the corner of Commerce and Second Streets in Downtown Fort Worth. Please present your invitation for free parking in the City Center garage.