

THE DENTON REVIEW

—THE—
BEST COUNTY

—IN—
NORTH x TEXAS

—IS—

DENTON.

An Epitome of her Month.

X ofo
denton
depot
ad specialties
817-383-4006

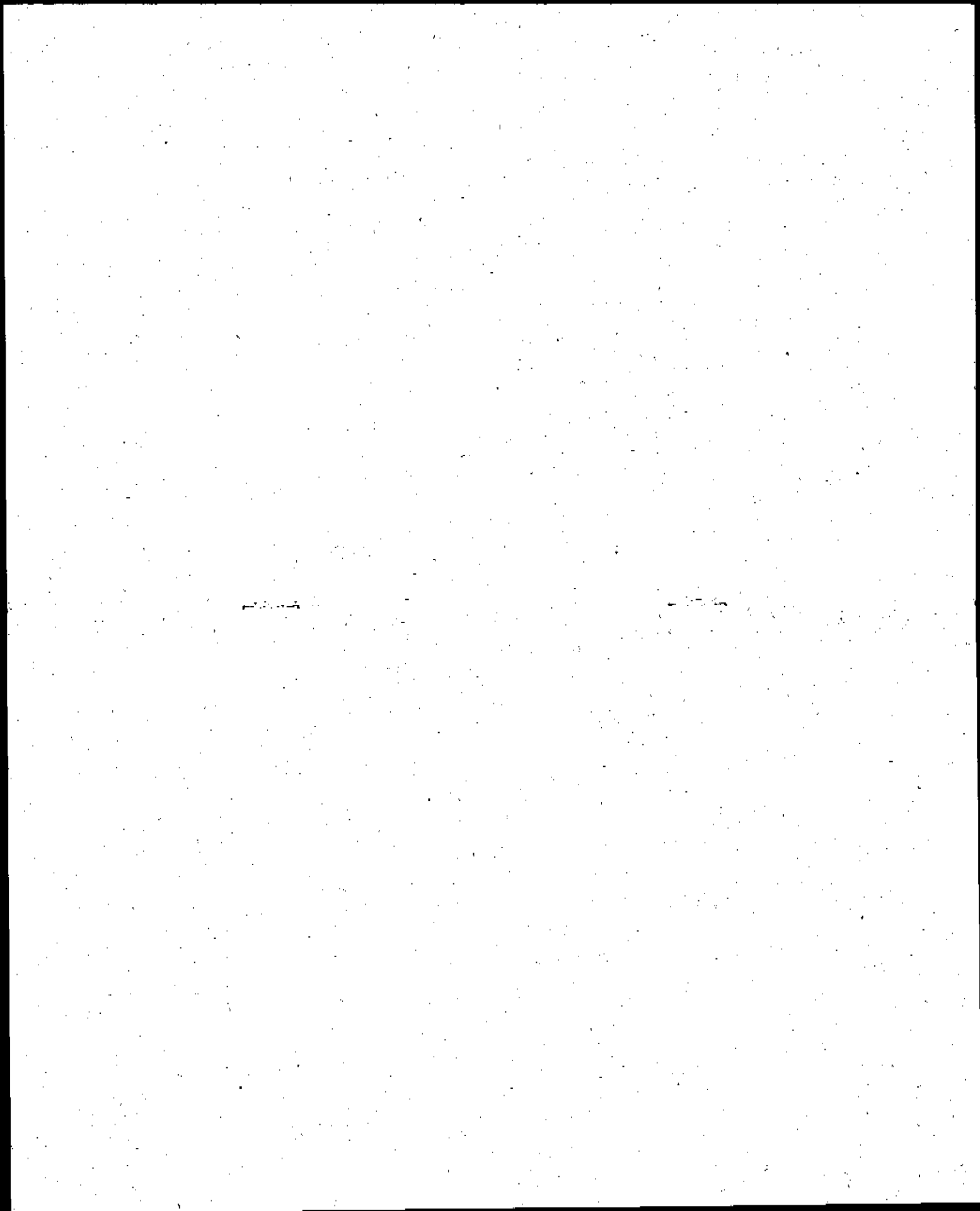
an impression that sticks...

Pls file

JB,

Mike Cochran dropped

a couple of these off
last week. Just for our
files.



bridges have cost the county about \$100,000, all of which has been paid except \$28,000.

There is in the county treasury \$16,447 01 to meet the outstanding obligations of the county. In 1889 the total assessed valuation of Denton county was \$2,836,120. For 1889 (last year) the assessed value on a basis of two thirds actual value was \$5,540,720, showing an increase of nearly 300 per cent in nine years.

Denton County produced in 1889 22,840 bales of cotton, worth \$1,609,990.

Denton County produced 1,583,946 bushels of corn, worth \$475,488.

Denton County produced 447,440 bushels of wheat, worth \$313,208.

Denton County produced 527,425 bushels of oats, worth \$106,840.

Denton County sold \$50,000 worth of cotton seed. Denton County sold more than 575,000 worth of native hay cut from her prairie grasses.

Denton County shipped and sold \$125,000 worth of beef cattle for 1889, giving a total of over \$2,000,000 worth of products.

The area of Denton County is 900 square miles, giving 581,760 acres. There are 1,442 farms in the county. Averaging each farm at 60 acres, gives 86,520 acres, showing less than one-sixth of the land in cultivation. One can easily arrive at the vast capabilities of the county when all her rich agricultural lands are made to yield their quota of products.

In addition to the above Denton County has an inexhaustible supply of red sand building stone and gray lime stone, which admit of high polish.

SOME SPECIALTIES FOR DENTON CITY.

Denton City is 632 feet above sea level.

Has a splendid free public school system, which is open to all her citizens, with a daily attendance of 600 students. Has ten church buildings; all denominations.

Has two banks, with paid up capital of \$112,000. Has two flouring mills, with a daily capacity of 400 barrels of flour.

Has four flowing artesian wells. Has three potteries that turn out a first-class article of stoneware. Has two brick and tile factories.

Has a Normal College building under contract.

Has an ice factory of 2,000 pounds daily capacity.

Denton wants a Cotton Factory under contract.

Has some bonus towards establishing one.

Denton wants cotton seed oil mills.

Denton wants manufacturing enterprises of all kinds.

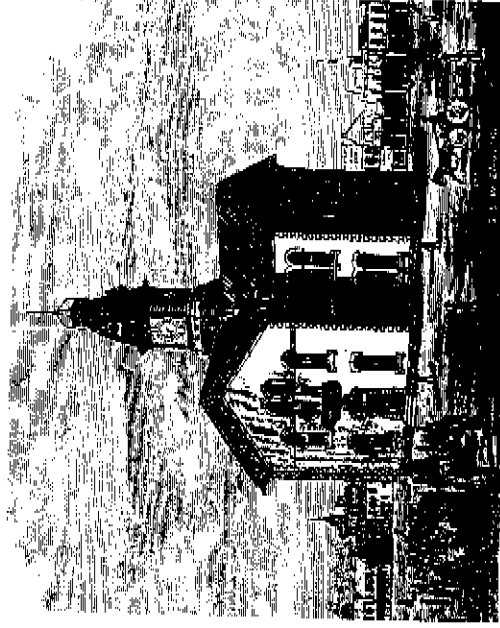
Denton offers cheap homes and a healthy climate to the home seeker.

To the capitalist Denton City and county offers an unlimited field for profitable investment.

THE DENTON REVIEW

A JOURNAL OF LOCAL HISTORY

VOLUME VI, NUMBER I



(The old Denton County Courthouse - 1876-1894)

Published by
THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF DENTON COUNTY

EDITED BY MIKE COCHRAN

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The Denton Review is distributed to members of the Historical Society of Denton County. The Historical Society is a non-profit corporation, dedicated to promoting historic preservation and the appreciation of our unique Denton County heritage.

Questions concerning this publication or activities of the Historical Society should be addressed to the President, THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DENTON COUNTY, P.O. Box 50503, DENTON, TEXAS 76206-0503



Dedicated to the memory of John A. Kimmey, August 2, 1941 to March 14, 1993. He was Vice-President of the Historical Society, member of the City of Denton Historic Landmark Commission, and the Denton County Historical Commission. John was a great history lover and a tireless advocate for historic preservation.

This issue was designed by and produced by Mike Cochran. The text is set in 10 point Granjon.

ON THE COVER: Title page detail from *The Best Country in North Texas is Denton*, a promotional pamphlet published in 1890 by The Denton Board of Trade.



K. & T. railroad. Though a new town, she is reaching out for trade and has aspirations far in excess of her present growth. The Dallas, Pacific and Southeastern railroad crosses the M., K. & T. at Roanoke. Her annual sales of merchandise aggregate \$90,000 to \$160,000; shipment of cotton bales, 1,200 to 1,500; wheat, oats and corn, 40,000 to 50,000 bushels; shipment of cattle, 2,200 head; and other products of many thousands of dollars' value.

LEWISVILLE

is fifteen miles southeast of Denton, on the Dallas and Wichita branch of the M., K. & T. railroad, and has a population of probably 1,000 people; has a splendid roller flouring mill and handles annually about 2,000 bales of cotton; 70,000 to 100,000 bushels of wheat, most of which is converted into a superior article of flour at their mill. Aubrey, Argyie, Sollyar and other small towns do a nice local business and supply the demands of the local trade. At most of these towns are steam gins and flouring mills.

RAILROADS.

The Trans-Continental branch of the Texas and Pacific railroad passes across the country and through the city of Denton. The Missouri, Kansas and Texas has leased privileges over this line of road, which gives Denton four passenger trains each way daily. The Dallas and Wichita railroad extends from Denton to Dallas, over which the M., K. and T. passenger trains pass daily, giving Denton five passenger and mail trains each way per day. The Santa Fe railroad passes through the western portion of the county, seven miles west of Denton, along the line of which have sprung up several nice little trading points, which, with grain storage rooms and shipping pens for stock, offer many conveniences for the farmer.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF COUNTY.

The financial condition of Denton county and city is good. In the last few years the county has erected seventeen iron and wire bridges, which span most of the water courses. These

iren of ware, and the clay from which this is made is unusually fine, from which a first-class fire brick is made. The fire and building brick are of the best quality, and with the cheap fuel at hand, these brick are manufactured very cheaply.

The estimated mercantile transactions for the year 1889 in the city of Denton were: Dry goods, \$582,000; groceries, \$427,000; drugs, \$80,000; hardware, \$127,000, and other lines of goods proportionately.

Denton supports three newspapers: The Chronicle, Monitor and Times, all of which compare in style and mechanical get-up with any weekly newspaper in the State, and are important factors in the improvement and development of the country.

BANKS.

There are two National banks in Denton—the First National and the Exchange National, both of which have the confidence of the public and carry a sufficient amount of capital to meet all the demands of trade, and are liberal in supplying the wants of the people.

PILOT POINT

Pilot Point is next in importance to Denton, and is handsomely located on the eastern border of the Cross Timbers, on the Trans-Continental branch of the Texas Pacific railroad, sixteen miles northeast of Denton. It has a population of about 2,000 people, who are intelligent, refined and full of enterprise.

Pilot Point is well built-up, and all the lines of merchandise are well represented and the stocks of goods would do credit to much larger cities. Her annual trade in the mercantile line is about \$700,000 and she handles from 4,000 to 5,000 bales of cotton and 250,000 bushels of wheat. As a fruit-growing center Pilot Point has no superior in the State and her annual Horticultural Exhibits are very attractive.

ROANOKE

is sixteen miles southwest of Denton, on the M.,

EDITOR'S NOTE

WE ARE PLEASED TO BRING TO YOU IN THIS ISSUE OF THE *Denton Review*, THE FIRST TWO CHAPTERS OF *Smalholder County: A History of Denton County*, BY DR. BULLITT LOWRY. DR. LOWRY, HAS BEEN INTERESTED IN DENTON COUNTY HISTORY FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS AND HAS SERVED, AT VARIOUS TIMES, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION, THE CITY OF DENTON HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION AND AS AN OFFICER IN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DENTON COUNTY. IN COMING ISSUES WE WILL PRESENT MORE CHAPTERS OF THIS WORK, WHICH ADD SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE BODY OF PUBLISHED MATERIAL ABOUT THE HISTORY OF DENTON COUNTY.

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Smallholder County A History of Denton County

by Bullitt Lowry, Ph.D.

PREFACE

IN THE LATE 1970s, NOW FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, I BEGAN TO WRITE A HISTORY OF DENTON COUNTY TO THE END OF RECONSTRUCTION, BUT SEVERAL OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS DISTRACTED ME FROM MY TASK, AND I NEVER GOT BACK TO IT. WHEN I STOPPED WORK ON THE MANUSCRIPT, ONLY THE INTRODUCTION AND THE FIRST THREE SUBSTANTIVE CHAPTERS WERE IN FINAL SHAPE, AND THEY HAVE LAIN FALLOW IN MY FILES SINCE 1980. ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS, MIKE COCHRAN HAS STRONGLY SUGGESTED TO ME THAT THIS RESEARCH DID NO ONE ANY GOOD TUCKED AWAY IN MY FILING CABINET. EVENTUALLY, HE WROTE ME DOWN, SO HERE IS THE FIRST PART OF THAT NARRATIVE, WHICH TAKES EVENTS THROUGH SETTLEMENT OF THE PETERS COLONY CLAIMS IN THE 1850s. I VIEW THESE PAGES AS ONLY A FIRST EFFORT TO PUT TOGETHER A VERY COMPLICATED STORY, AND I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF MY GENTLE READERS WOULD TAKE THE TIME AND TROUBLE TO POINT OUT ADDITIONAL MATERIAL OR OTHER INTERPRETATIONS TO ME. ONLY SLOWLY AND THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF MANY HANDS WILL THE TRUE STORY OF DENTON COUNTY EVOLVE FROM THE TANGLED HISTORICAL RECORD.

IF A MANUSCRIPT AS INCOMPLETE AS THIS ONE IS MAY HAVE A DEDICATION, I WOULD LIKE TO DEDICATE IT TO YVONNE JENKINS AND THE LATE CHARLES JENKINS, FELLOW ENTHUSIASTS ABOUT LOCAL HISTORY; THEY WERE AN INTEGRAL PART OF MY SEARCH FOR WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN DENTON DURING THESE EARLY YEARS.

denominations of the Christian church are represented, and most of them have neat churches. But a few years ago Denton was a small village, built of straggling plank houses, but the coming of railroads gave an impetus to improvements, and to-day she boasts of many fine brick business houses and public buildings. The Courthouse stands in the center of a public square, on the apex of an elevation which gently slopes in all directions the grounds being laid out into walks, ornamented with shade trees, and set with Bermuda grass. This plot of ground is octagon in shape, and is enclosed by a neat iron picket fence, protected all around with chain armor. The building cost the county \$50,000, all of which has long since been paid.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The City Public Schools are under the control of the city government, and are supported by an annual tax levied on the property within the city limits. The school for white pupils is the pride of the city. It is taught in a splendid three-story building, divided into twelve compartments, each presided over by a competent teacher; the daily attendance being about 600 students, and so perfect is the system of discipline, that there is never heard the slightest murmur of discord.

The city has a colored school, with competent teachers, and a nine-months session.

MILLS, ELEVATORS, ETC.

The city has in its limits two flouring mills, the average daily capacity of which is 400 barrels of flour on the patent roller process, and the flour from these mills is equal to any in America. There are three grain elevators, with a storage capacity of 130,000 bushels of wheat. Four artesian wells supply an abundance of water for all mechanical purposes, one of which supplies the ice factory, which has a daily capacity of 8,000 pounds.

POTTERY.

Denton has a pottery that turns out a fine spec-

years, the quality is very greatly improved. Many fine horses and cattle are now owned in Denton county, and much attention is being given to the breeding and rearing of blooded stock.

PRICES OF LAND.

Pasture lands are generally held at \$10 to \$12 50 per acre. These are all fenced and are fine farm lands, but are used only for pasture purposes, bearing a luxuriant growth of native Texas grasses, upon which stock do well the year through, but little feed being required to keep them in living condition through the most rigorous winter, and many go through without any feed.

Improved lands are held at \$12 50 to \$25 per acre, owing to nature and style of improvements. The county has a variety of soils, black waxy, black sandy and a chocolate loam being the principal varieties in the prairies, with the red sandy soil of the timbered districts, all of which are of sufficient depth and strength to wear well. Such a thing as a worn-out farm in Denton county is not known, although there are farms which have been in yearly cultivation for more than thirty years without fertilizing and without regard to rotation in crops.

TOWNS AND CITIES.

The City of Denton is the county site of Denton county, and is beautifully situated on a projecting promontory, reaching out into the prairies from the western border of the Cross Timbers. The location is picturesque and attractive. Far away to the north and west stretch the beautiful, rolling prairies, dotted over with farms and farm-houses; to the south and east are the Cross Timbers, while far away across the depression caused by the Elm Fork of the Trinity river, rises the high, rolling prairies of East Denton county, a richer district than which no spot on earth can boast.

Denton City has a population of between 3,500 and 4,000 people, who are in the highest degrees social, cultivated and refined. All the various

Introduction: From the Founding of the County to Recent Years

Denton County was settled comparatively late in the American experience. The first recorded settlers of European stock came in 1843, the county was organized in 1846, and the area remained only sparsely settled until after the Civil War. What gave Denton County a character different from much of east and south Texas was that it, with a number of surrounding counties, was part of a colonization project, the Peters Colony, begun during the years of the Texas Republic and continued after statehood. Under the provisions of the Peters Colony grants, immigrant families received, depending on the particular system in effect in a given year, an amount of land that varied between 160 acres and a 640 acres.

Similar provisions could be misused, as they were in northeastern New Mexico. In that arid land, control of the water-courses gave control over vast stretches of unwatered land. There, the minority of land claims that controlled water dominated all other holdings. In contrast, Denton County had an abundance of springs and streams, and no person or small group could dominate from geographical advantage, although certainly some land was better than others. In the western part of the county, there were a few big holdings at one time or another, but most of the people who ran large numbers of cattle, like John Chisum, owned relatively few acres and instead used the unfenced common range. The effect was that Denton was settled mostly by people who held a sufficient, but small, amount of land. There were few landless laborers; there were few wealthy persons. The usual inhabitant of Denton County in those early years was a yeoman farmer -- proud, independent, fiercely jealous of his rights,

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PRODUCTS.

The leading crops are cotton, wheat, corn, oats, millet, sorghum, Irish and sweet potatoes.

The yield of cotton is on an average half a bale, or say 800 to 1,000 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, worth \$3 to \$3.50 per 100 pounds in the seed; the yield of corn is 30 to 50 bushels, wheat from 12 to 25 bushels, often more; oats 40 to 75 bushels, millet two tons, often as much as five tons to the acre, and potatoes 200 to 300 bushels to the acre.

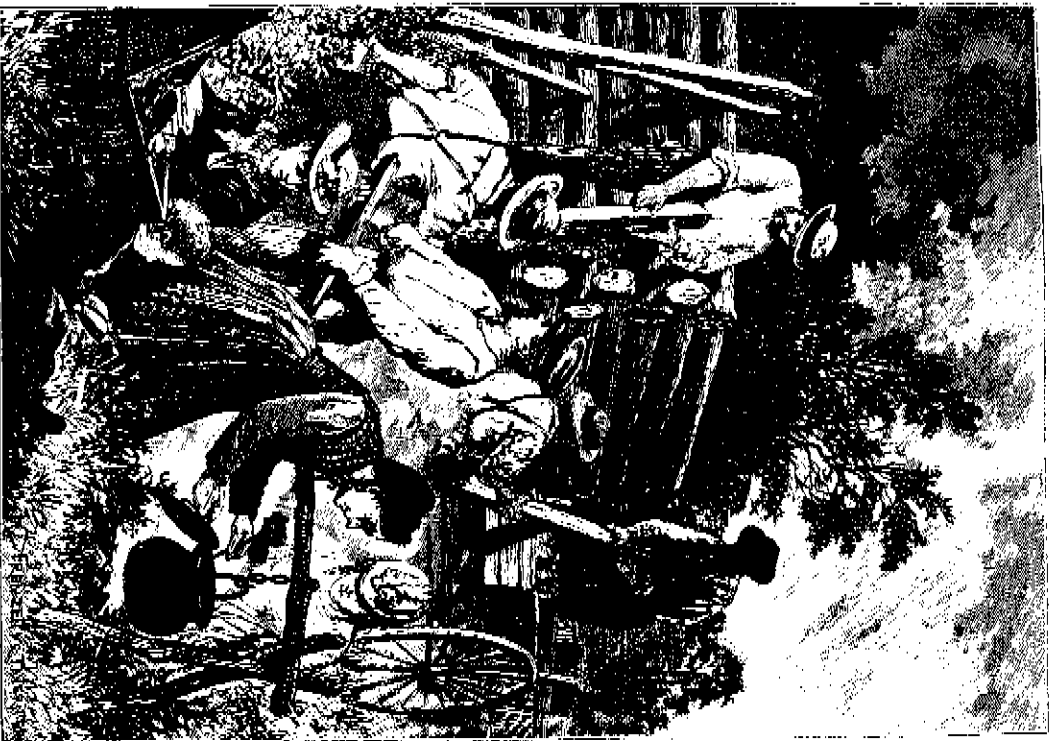
Fruits and vegetables of all kinds grow well here and there are quite a number of small vineyards in the county, and some wine is manufactured. Finer peaches and watermelons can not be found than are grown in Denton county. Much attention is being given to the growing of fruits, and Denton has one of the largest nurseries in the State, from which there is an annual sale of many thousand dollars' worth of nursery stock and ornamental shrubbery.

CLIMATE.

The climate is mild, invigorating and healthful, there being no local causes for malaria. A strong Gulf breeze sweeping over the prairies, softens the sun's heat to such an extent that the longest summer day rarely becomes oppressive, and one seldom fails to feel refreshed after a night's rest. The winters are mild; the thermometer rarely going as low as zero, and when visited by cold weather, the duration is never more than two or three days. Snow does not often fall and when it does it disappears almost as fast as it falls, melting from the warmth of the earth. Out-door labor may go on almost every day in the year.

STOCK RAISING.

Stock raising is not carried on to the extent it was some years ago. The long-horned cattle and the broncho ponies have given way to better breeds of cattle and horses; and while the quantity of stock grown is not so great as in former



*Settlers building a home. Frenzzy and Tavernier
from Harper's Weekly, January 24, 1874*

4

21

This pamphlet will doubtless find its way into the hands of many persons who have but a slight if any knowledge of the county and city of Denton, her resources, wealth, growth and material prosperity. Possibly its perusal may prove both interesting and profitable to the home-seeker and investor of capital.

The facts and statistics herein presented are not the products of a fruitful imagination, but reliable and important data, collected from official sources; such sources as the seeker of truth would resort to when looking for a permanent home, or casting about for a field of remunerative investment.

Denton county is situated one tier of counties below the northern line of that part of the State bordering on the southern portion of the Indian Territory and is partly in the famous black land district of Texas. As an agricultural district it has no superior, all the cereals growing to perfection, while cotton, potatoes, sorghum and other crops are a perfect success.

The general surface of the country is gently undulating, being sufficiently rolling to drain the lands. Most of the area of Denton county is prairie, but the water courses are skirted on either side with timber, the Lower Cross Timbers passing diagonally across the county from northeast to southwest. This belt of timber is from ten to twelve miles wide, and the soil is a rich, sandy loam, which produces abundant crops of fine fruits. The timber is generally oak, hickory, elm and pecan, with other varieties.

Denton county is one of the best watered counties in the State, the principal water courses being the Elm fork of the Trinity river, in the eastern part of the county, with Clear Creek, Denton Creek and Hickory Creek as tributaries, coming in as feeders from the west, passing diagonally across the county, in an easterly direction. These streams furnish a flow of fine water and are skirted on either side with timber, the Elm Fork having some two miles of timbered bottom on either side.

but not wealthy. The great bulk of the population were smallholders, and it was a smallholder county.

The earliest years of the county, from the beginning of the Peters Colony in 1840 through Reconstruction, are poorly documented. Because the Denton County courthouse burned in 1875, only the final land titles from earlier years still exist, reconstructed from records in the state capital. The census records of 1850 and 1860, along with some off-year censuses like the one of 1845 when Texas joined the union, provide a great quantity of information, but like all censuses, they were directed toward getting specific statistical information thought useful at the time. The only information about individuals comes from the answers given to statistical questions.

Another major source for these early years is the recollections of pioneers collected by the Old Settlers' Association. Ed F. Bates published that material in 1918, after vicissitudes that included the destruction of much of the original material and its reconstitution. Unfortunately for the historical record, these recollections were given by people a half century or more after the event. Often, they had been small children when the events they describe took place, and even if their memories were accurate, they had seen things with a child's eye.

The major concern of the early settlers was simply making a living from the land. Their farms were subsistence farms; they planted only few cash crops because transportation of produce was prohibitively expensive. Denton County, during its earliest years was a self-contained unit, importing only a few luxuries like nails and tools. It was also isolated from the rest of the United States by sheer distance. For example, in 1848, it required thirty to forty days for mail from Washington, D.C. to reach the eastern edge of Texas. Despite complaints, however, the farmers seem to have prospered. Certainly, there was little want in the area.

The inhabitants were mostly transplants from the Upper South, often with intermediate stops in Missouri or Arkansas. When they came to Texas, they brought slavery with them. Nevertheless, because most of the farmers were smallholders, slaves were only a small proportion of the county population. The Census of 1850 lists only 256 slaves out of a total population of about 5,000.

In 1861, probably because of their cultural origins, Denton County's inhabitants gave their sympathies to the South, although the secession referendum won only narrow approval from the voters, 331 to 256. Indeed, in the neighboring counties to the east, west, and north, the secession referendum failed, possibly owing to the efforts of J. W. Throckmorton, an exceptionally able anti-secession leader, whose home was in neighboring Collin County.

The flood of the Civil War never washed across Denton, although the increase in Indian activity after the withdrawal of Federal troops from the frontier forts did cause anxiety, and Indians killed several settlers during and immediately after the Civil War years. The impact of the war on Denton County -- other, of course, than the tragic loss of life that occurred in campaigns and battles elsewhere -- was economic. To support their armies, the South and the state of Texas tried to mobilize capital they did not possess, and all through the South, with the volunteers gone to war, the people who remained behind had to maintain their farms and communities with pitifully few resources. Denton County's male population in the military age bracket, fifteen to fifty, numbered 1297, according to the Census of 1860; of that number, perhaps 800 served in various Confederate units, although not all of them were gone for the entire duration of the war. Still, the county was without a major part of its labor force for several years, and women, old men, and boys, could not keep agricultural production up to its prewar levels. Denton suffered very little from the direct effects of Reconstruction, although like the rest of the state, it endured

—♦— THE —♦—
BEST COUNTY

—♦—
NORTH x TEXAS
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—♦—
DENTON.
 —♦—

An Epitome of her Matchless Resources, Artificial and Natural, including her Lands, Cheap in Price, but of Vast Possibilities when it comes to the Cultivat on of the four Great Staple Crops of Texas.

—♦—
 ISSUED BY ORDER OF
The Denton Board of Trade.
 —♦—

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1890
 CHRONICLE BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE,
 DENTON, TEXAS.

manches and Kiowas and horse thieves. The Indians were under the lead of their chiefs, Big Tree and Santana. For four years these Indians and white desperadoes continued their depredations, plundering and murdering, and driving off the range cattle and horses, at times capturing as high as a thousand head in one raid; but they yielded at last to the bravery of such men as Crow Wright, and order was again restored.

January 7, 1869, Mr. Wright married Julia A. Gober, daughter of John W. Gober, a native of Georgia. Seven children have been born to this union, and are named - William W., Effie M., Mary M., James G., Eulalie, Crow and Gober, Mr. Wright is a Free Mason and an Odd Fellow, while his wife is member of the Methodist Episcopal church of the South; he is one of the wealthiest men in his county, owns 16,000 acres of farming and grazing land, and cattle and horses in enormous herds and droves, to the breeding and marketing of which he devotes his whole time and attention, and now resides on his stock farm at Bolivar, Texas.

Editors notes: Historical Connections

William Crow Wright was born in Clarksville, Texas in 1837, the same year that John B. Denton, moved to Clarksville. Both Denton and Wright's father were lawyers there.

Curiously, Wright attended McKinzie College named for the John McKinzie, who married the widow of John B. Denton. In 1892 William Crow Wright erected a mansion on West Oak Street called "Bosco Bel".

In 1899, The William Crow Wright Opera House erected on the north-east corner of the square with bricks salvaged from the old 1875 Denton County Courthouse.

In 1901 W.C. Wright served as one of the pall bearers for the reinterment of the bones of John B. Denton on the Denton Courthouse Square.

the chaotic economics and unsettled politics of the years after the war. The focus of Denton's citizens was still inward. Transportation remained expensive, so the main cash crop was the one that could transport itself: cattle.

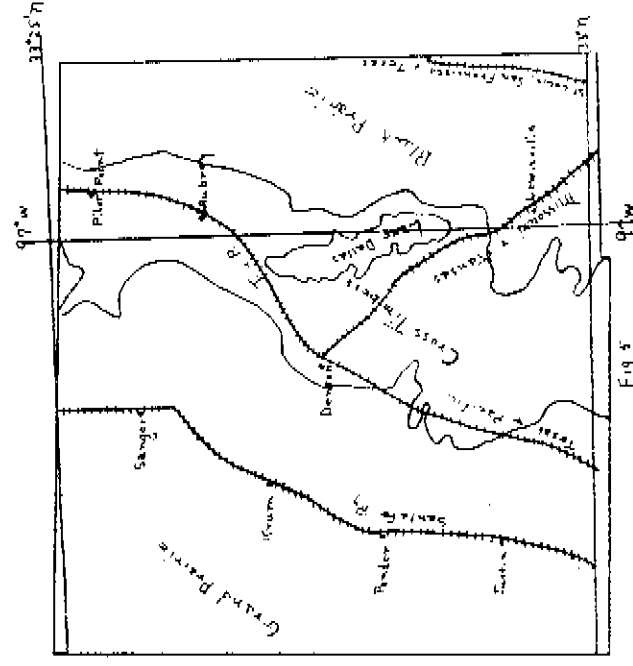


Fig. 5
Denton County railroads.
From *Geography of Denton County*, by Mary Jo Cowling

That changed when the railroad reached the county. Between 1873 and 1880 the Texas and Pacific Railroad completed a track across the county from northeast to southwest. Five years later, the Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe Railroad completed a track across the county from north to south, with about two-thirds of the county east of the line. The completion of these railroads between 1873 and 1885 mark the second phase of Denton County's history off from the first.

To begin with, railroads lowered the cost of transportation as much as 90%. With the coming of barbed wire, invented in 1873, and the development of other agricultural

technology, the farmers of Denton County could move from livestock as a cash crop to grain. Wheat farming was the most important crop, and indeed Krum, in the western part of the county, claimed the prestige of being the largest inland wheat-loading station in the United States.

Farmers became more prosperous, and as a consequence, mercantile life began to flourish. The city of Denton, founded in 1856-57 as an administrative convenience in the center of the county, developed a neighborhood of expensive homes. They gave an impression of far greater prosperity than had been seen a generation before.

In Denton County, there was little manufacture other than items for local consumption, like brick. It was education that set Denton County off from its neighbors. In the last decade of the nineteenth century, Denton County had three academies, or colleges as they were known at the time, one in Pilot Point, which subsequently failed, and two in the city of Denton. One of the latter was John B. Denton College, which after several transformations became part of Abilene Christian College to the west. The other was Texas Normal College, established in Denton in 1890 and chartered by the Texas legislature in 1899 as North Texas State Normal College. It has today grown to become the University of North Texas.

At almost the same time that the legislature chartered North Texas Normal College, pressure from women's groups and from the Grange led to the Texas legislature's establishing the first state institution for women. A search committee recommended Denton over several other possible sites, and in 1902, the Girl's Industrial Institute and College of Texas accepted its first students. It has today grown to become Texas Woman's University.

Throughout Texas, the history of private or locally supported academies was usually one of ultimate bankruptcy or failure through lack of leadership. Both North Texas Normal and the Girl's Industrial Institute were state-supported



W. T. Krizick

AGE 26, A.D. 1862

William Crow Wright is a son of Dr. James G. and Sarah (Caruthers) Wright, the former a native of Alabama, and the latter a daughter of Major William Caruthers, of Tennessee, while his maternal grandmother was a Pierce. Dr. James G. Wright abandoned his practice in Alabama in 1830, and came to Texas, visiting and sojourning at Harrisburg, Gonzales and Clarksville, the last named in the then territory of Red River, where he was elected clerk of the territory, filling that office at the same time he was engaged in his profession. While at Gonzales, he once rode a distance of one hundred miles to attend a patient, and for the visit received 5,000 acres of land. He was a Royal Arch mason and a man of universal popularity, and was prominent in every movement for the advancement of the different localities in whence he lived. He was a surgeon in the war between Texas and Mexico.

William Crow Wright was born in Clarksville, Texas, February 29, 1837, and began business by working for five dollars per month, saving from his earnings sufficient money to pay for his education at McKinzie College. After leaving school he clerked in a dry good store at Sherman, four years, and then gathered together what means he had, invested his cash in Spanish mares and brought them to Texas. Just at that time the war for succession broke forth and Mr. Wright enlisted in Company F, Madison's regiment of Texas cavalry, and served until the final surrender, passing through twenty-two battles and receiving one wound only, and that from a spent grape-shot, came very near killing him; but he recovered, and on his return found the State infested with wild Indians, border ruffians, and desperadoes of every character. Mr. Wright at once organized a company for the protection of the citizens, and of this was elected captain, and did much to suppress the lawlessness the rife, by warring upon the Co-

and showed steady growth, bringing each year a quantity of money from students and the state treasury into the county. Equally important, although less capable of exact measurement, was the ferment of ideas that came from faculty and students.

When World War I began, the communities of Denton County, with the exception of the city of Denton, which was the county seat and the home of two educational institutions, existed primarily to serve the needs of the farms that surrounded them. The only reliable transportation was by railroad, and even at the close of World War I no straight, all-weather road connected the towns within the county or crossed the county.

The years after World War I saw the third phase of Denton County's history. The first was subsistence farming. The second, the result of the railroad, showed increased grain farming, significant prosperity based on agriculture, and the beginnings of urban life. The third phase is marked off by the development of the truck and the automobile, as well as the phenomenon of decreasing localism as the telephone, radio, and finally television connected people in Denton to the outside world. An increasingly specialized economy on the national level has caused Denton, like all other local areas, to become dependent on other manufacturing centers for everything from polio vaccine to pick up trucks. As local barriers and systems broke down, it becomes harder for a historian to isolate events in Denton County from those of the region, state, and nation.

These few pages will focus on the geography of Denton County, the prehistory of the area, and then the struggles surrounding the Peters Colony. A fourth chapter on Denton during the 1840s and 1850s may appear later, along with chapters on the Civil War and Reconstruction.

The Geography of Denton County

Geography without History seemeth a carcase without motion, so History without Geography wanteth as a Vagrant without a certaine habitation.

Within broad limits, the geography of an area suggests the activities that can take place there, or more precisely, geography dictates what activities may not take place in a region. The earliest Anglo settlers found Denton extraordinarily attractive. It had ample water in most seasons, timber, fertile soil. There were groves of grape and wild plum, and game abounded. It was an area well suited to subsistence farming and less suited to other types of activity.

The Denton County that the Texas legislature cut out of Fannin County in 1846 has had only minor boundary changes since that time. No natural formations set the boundaries of Denton. The borders of the county were set for administrative convenience, and no streams or swamps or mountain ranges mark Denton off from its neighbors. Only to the east is there a geographical demarcation, a ridge line that wanders back and forth over the boundary between Collin and Denton Counties. Denton County is an almost perfect square, about thirty-one miles from east to west and a little over twenty-nine miles from north to south, thus following the prejudice of Texas lawmakers that a thirty mile square was the ideal size for a county.

If natural features had set the boundaries, as they tended to in the more eastern counties of Texas, perhaps Denton would not have the biological variety that comes from the county's lying astride three geographical belts, running roughly from north to south. The eastern edge of the county is Black Prairie. There, the soil is rich, the land is rolling, and

William Crow Wright
of Denton, Texas

from

*The Biographical Souvenir of
the State of Texas
1889*

IN THE LATE NINETEENTH-CENTURY, POPULAR BIOGRAPHERS WERE A LUCRATIVE BUSINESS FOR PUBLISHERS SEEKING NEW MARKETS FOR THEIR PRODUCTS. IN 1889, THE F. A. BATTERY & COMPANY OF CHICAGO, PUBLISHED A HEFTY VOLUME ENTITLED, BIOGRAPHICAL SOUVENIR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: CONTAINING BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE PUBLIC, AND MANY EARLY SETTLED FAMILIES. THIS LEATHER-BOUND, GOLD EMBOSSED AND RICHLY ILLUSTRATED WORK CONTAINS ALMOST A THOUSAND PAGES OF BIOGRAPHICAL ESSAYS ABOUT TEXANS. ALTHOUGH RESEARCHING AN OBJECTIVE HISTORICAL TONE, THIS WORK IS IN FACT, A SUBSCRIPTION BIOGRAPHICAL COLLECTION FOR THOSE WISHING TO IMMORTALIZE THEIR FAMILY NAME. IT IS A SIGN OF THE TIMES THAT OF THE THOUSANDS OF ENTRIES I NOTE ONLY ONE HISPANIC SURNAME (AND THAT MISPELLED), NO AFRICAN-AMERICANS AND VERY FEW WOMEN.

THOUGH THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS WORK WAS TO CREATE PROFITS FOR THE PUBLISHER, IT HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE RICH HISTORY OF TEXAS. APPARENTLY THE SALESMEN WERE QUITE ACTIVE IN NORTH TEXAS FOR THE RED RIVER COUNTIES ARE VERY WELL REPRESENTED IN THIS WORK. WE ARE FORTUNATE THAT THERE ARE EVEN ENTRIES ABOUT IL- LUSTRIOUS DENTON CITIZENS. THIS WORK IS NOT GREAT HISTORY BUT FROM THESE SKETCHES WE CAN GLEAN SOME NEW INFORMATION ABOUT THESE MEN AND TWO OF THE BIOGRAPHERS INCLUDE RARE AND EXCELLENT ENGRAVINGS. THE DENTON REVIEW WILL REPRODUCE THESE BIOGRAPHERS OVER THE COURSE OF FUTURE ISSUES.

THE DENTON REVIEW

and winter became slightly cooler at the end of the nineteenth century. Scientific records were not kept in the early years, but modern records establish the mean minimum temperature in January, the coldest month, at 34°F. The coldest recorded temperature came on February 12, 1899, when the temperature was officially recorded as -12°F. The mean maximum temperature in July, the warmest month, is 96°F.

May is the wettest month, averaging almost 5 inches of rainfall, while January and July are the two driest, with less than two inches each. The annual average is about 33 inches, but that figure varies wildly from one year to another. The growing season averages 225 days a year, and, except for the likelihood of draught in late summer, is compatible with most grains and other standard crops. The climate is not suitable for tobacco, and cotton never was a major crop in the county. Growing grapes for wine was tried in the region of Little Elm, but without great success.

The climate was generally healthy, although the original settlers were troubled with various "fevers," possibly malaria. There was also an indigenous ailment, known locally as "summer belly," most likely a dysentery, which was frequently fatal to small children. Public health workers have suggested that a deeper and longer freeze in winter might have helped to purify the water systems and helped to reduce mortality, but records from those early years are too fragmentary to allow a final judgment. In any event, lowland endemic fevers do not seem to have flourished in Denton County, although they were sufficiently virulent to cause depopulation of a French utopian group's settlement just after the county was established.

Other than a comparatively small quantity of oil discovered in the northwest corner of the county in the 1930's, and sand, gravel, and clay, Denton has no mineral resources. It is a county made for the small farmer, with good soil, sufficient water, and timber.

THE DENTON REVIEW

the Black Prairie is cut with streams and creeks that provide both water and drainage.

Then come the Eastern Cross Timbers, a forest belt that once extended from the Red River south to the Brazos. The timber available and the ease with which settlers could turn the land once they cut the timber made this area one of



Deer hunting in the Cross Timbers. Frenzani and Tavernier from Harper's Weekly, February 28, 1874

great value. It also served to mark the limit of Indian activity after Anglo settlement began. Only rarely did Comanches penetrate the wooded Cross Timbers. The timber belt served one further role, unsuspected by the early settlers, of putting water into the aquifer that supplied many of the county's springs.

The last geographical belt is the western portion of the county, the Grand Prairie, where there is a deep clay subsoil.

THE DENTON REVIEW

That type of soil, with the tough, interwoven root systems of the prairie grasses, demanded a more advanced technology for tillage than existed when the county was first settled. Exploitation of the Grand Prairie would have to wait until the advent of steam tractors and heavy western steel plows, which would not come until after the Civil War.

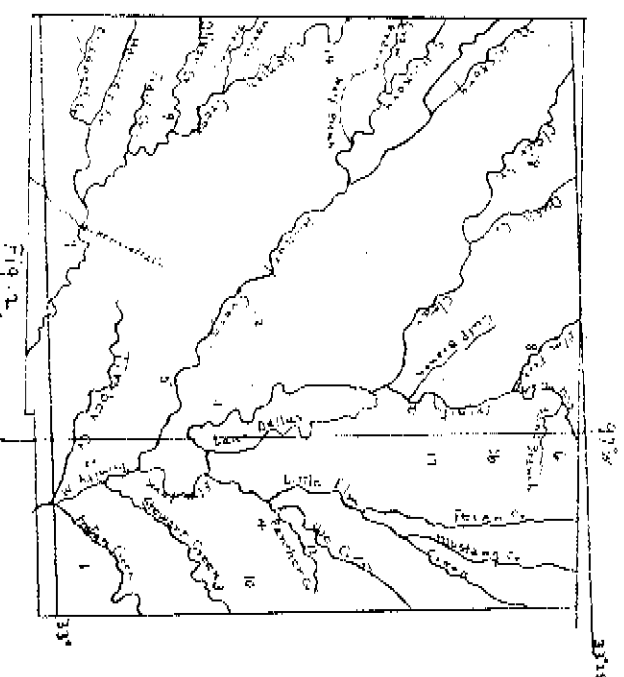
The mixture of these three geographical belts -- Black Prairie, Eastern Cross Timbers, and Grand Prairie -- accounts for the extraordinarily complicated soil system of Denton. There are fourteen major soil types, which geologists subdivide further into as many as seventy-three varieties, a very large number. Part of the explanation for this geological complexity is that Denton lies at the edge of the prehistoric Inland Sea. Over the eons, as the Inland Sea dried up, it left sediment and sand layers that still clearly outline the bays and estuaries of a million years ago. Fossil remains are plentiful, too. Where Denton Creek has eroded the topsoil, remains of giant snails and other aquatic creatures are easy to find. Farther to the south, west of Lewisville, amateur archaeologists have found dinosaur bones.

There were three creek and stream systems in Denton County, now partially obliterated by Lake Ray Roberts, Garza-Little Elm Lake (Lake Lewisville), and Grapevine Lake. One is the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. Into that stream flowed Clear Creek from the northwest part of the county, the main Elm Fork from the north, and Little Elm from the northeast. Pecan Creek, which runs through the city of Denton, and Cooper Creek, which runs just north of Denton, also flow into the Elm Fork system. The second stream is Hickory Creek which flows from the west past the vicinity of Old Alton. The third system is the Denton Creek system with various small southwestern creeks flowing into it -- Elizabeth, Harriet, Catherine, and Trail Creeks, named for the daughters and favorite dog of an early surveyor. The Denton Creek system flows into Lake Grapevine.

All these systems drain from the north or west or both.

THE DENTON REVIEW

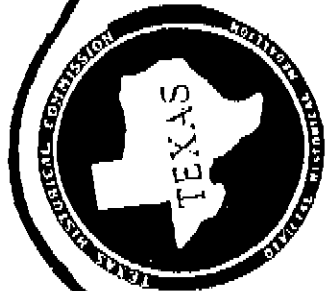
There are numerous springs as well. Today, they are probably much smaller in number and in flow than they were in the 1840s because of the loss of aquifer recharging areas and the channeling of water for defense against floods.



Creeks of Denton County.
From Geography of Denton County, by Mary Jo Cowling

Clear Creek flooded periodically and was eventually tamed with a series of retention dams. Pecan Creek, also part of the Elm Fork system, frequently flooded the city of Denton until it was channeled in concrete. Moving the Elm Fork dam system farther north in the 1980s with the construction of Lake Ray Roberts will have effects that are still being studied, but will certainly reduce the likelihood of flooding farther downstream.

The climate of Denton has changed slightly over the years. Apparently, when the county was first settled, it had a climate very much like today's, but the averages for summer



JOHN B. DENTON
BORN IN TENNESSEE
JULY 26, 1806
CAME TO TEXAS IN JANUARY, 1836
AS A METHODIST CIRCUIT RIDER
KILLED IN THE VILLAGE CREEK INDIAN FIGHT
MAY 24, 1841
IN WHAT IS NOW TARRANT COUNTY
NAMED FOR GENERAL EDWARD H. TARRANT
WHO COMMANDED THE VOLUNTEERS
DENTON CITY AND COUNTY
WERE NAMED FOR THE
PIONEER LAWYER, PREACHER, SOLDIER
OF THAT NAME
ERECTED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS - 1936

Location: Southeast corner of the Courthouse lawn,
Courthouse-on-the-Square, Denton, Texas.

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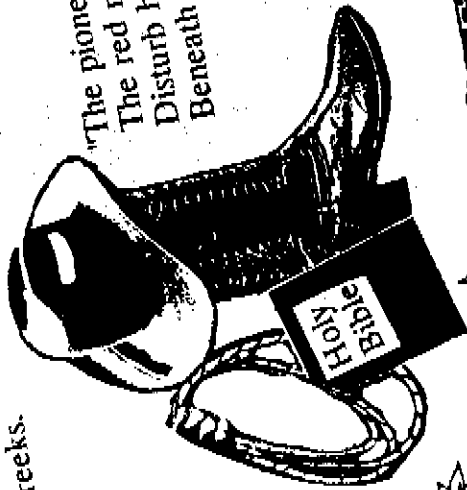
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Denton, Texas

Make a
Denton
Historic Site.

THE LIFE OF JOHN

John Bunyan Denton was born in Tennessee at a young age his family moved to Texas in 1838. At a young age he was sent to learn his trade of blacksmith. Being too young, he did menial labor until the age of 12 when he decided to live on his own. When he was 18, he married Mary Greenlee. They joined a Methodist church and he was licensed to preach. Stewart and she taught him how to write his name. They joined a Methodist church and he was licensed to preach.

John B. Denton came to Texas on January 2, 1837 as a circuit rider preacher. In 1838, John B. Denton settled in Texas as both a local preacher and lawyer. John B. Denton joined a law partner General E. Indians raided the area with their village. They were retaliatory expedition with a scouting group to Tarrant to rout the Indians from their village. John successful and John B. Denton joined a scouting group in follow the retreating Indians. The Indians had hidden the brush along the river and ambushed the men. John B. Denton was hit with a deadly shot, taken from his horse, and laid upon the convergence of Denton and Oliver Creeks.



The pioneer was laid to rest,
The red man set him free,
Disturb him not, but let him sleep
Beneath the old oak-tree."

"The Search for John B. Denton's Body", was an article appearing in the Denton Record-Chronicle on June 19, 1960. It was a part of a series of historical data and a plea for more information from the public. It included several articles and responses concerning John B. Denton. In August of 1900, the Pioneer Association of Denton County placed an ad in the Denton Record-Chronicle asking for information regarding John B. Denton's birthplace, burial site, portrait, and a scrap of history of his life and character."

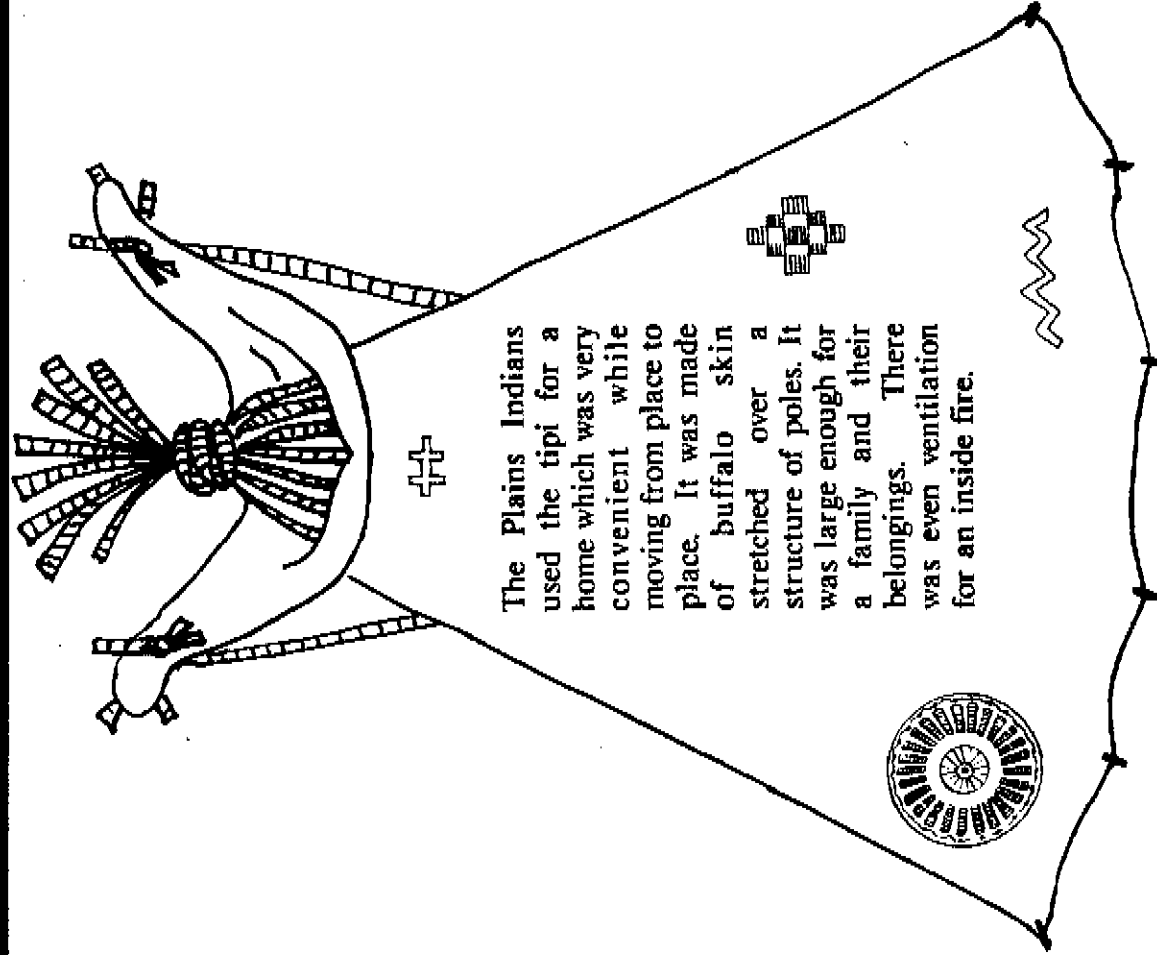
In October of 1900, William H. Allen told the Pioneer Association of Denton executive committee what he knew about John B. Denton from Claiborne Creek. Mr. Chisum knew details concerning the Indian exhumation and had promised Mr. Denton's wife that he would search for the grave. Unfortunately, Claiborne Chisum died in 1859 without finding the body.

John W. Gober answered the ad with a copy of a letter sent to him from John Chisum. "The remains of John B. Denton are buried in a small box, six or eight feet from the house at the southwest corner. From the description of James Bourland, W.C. Young and Henry Stout of his burial place, I knew that I had found his grave, and being a friend of Denton's, I took up his remains and being am positive that I am not mistaken of their being the remains of Captain Denton, but I know they are his and no mistake."

Robert C. Johnson worked for Mr. Chisum in 1860 and helped dig up the bones of John B. Denton. He reported that they had "found the imprint of the blanket in which Denton was buried still showing in the soil below the remains. We found all the bones except the last bone of one finger. We found one tooth which was plugged with gold, which we thought further confirmed the identity of the remains. We also noticed that one of the bones of the arm had been broken and healed. So far as I know, no one of the party ever had a reasonable doubt about the bones being those of John B. Denton. The bones were afterwards reburied in a spern candle box in the yard at Mr. Chisum's home near where the town of Bolivar now stands."

Mr. Allen also received letters from Reverend Andrew Davis and Colonel Sam Sims who were with Denton when he died. Mr. Allen's testimony was, "confirmed at length by an article in the Dallas News, September 26, 1900 by Robert M. Hopkins." Members of the Pioneer Association of Denton County also confirmed the report.

In August of 1901, John B. Denton's remains were again taken up and this time interred on the courthouse lawn in Denton. Reverend Andrew Davis gave the address concluding, "This honor is given to Captain Denton, not because he was or had ever been a citizen of Denton County. The county did not even exist when he was killed. It is not because he lay in the soil of Denton County for years after he [was] killed in the battle with the Indians. He is honored because he was a lover of humanity, a patriot, a man of great probity, a man enduring hardships and sacrifice to lay the foundation of this great state. For these reasons his name is given to a division of its territory."



The Plains Indians used the tipi for a home which was very convenient while moving from place to place. It was made of buffalo skin stretched over a structure of poles. It was large enough for a family and their belongings. There was even ventilation for an inside fire.

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* Texas Historical Commission,
 Living with the Texas Past Series, No. 1.

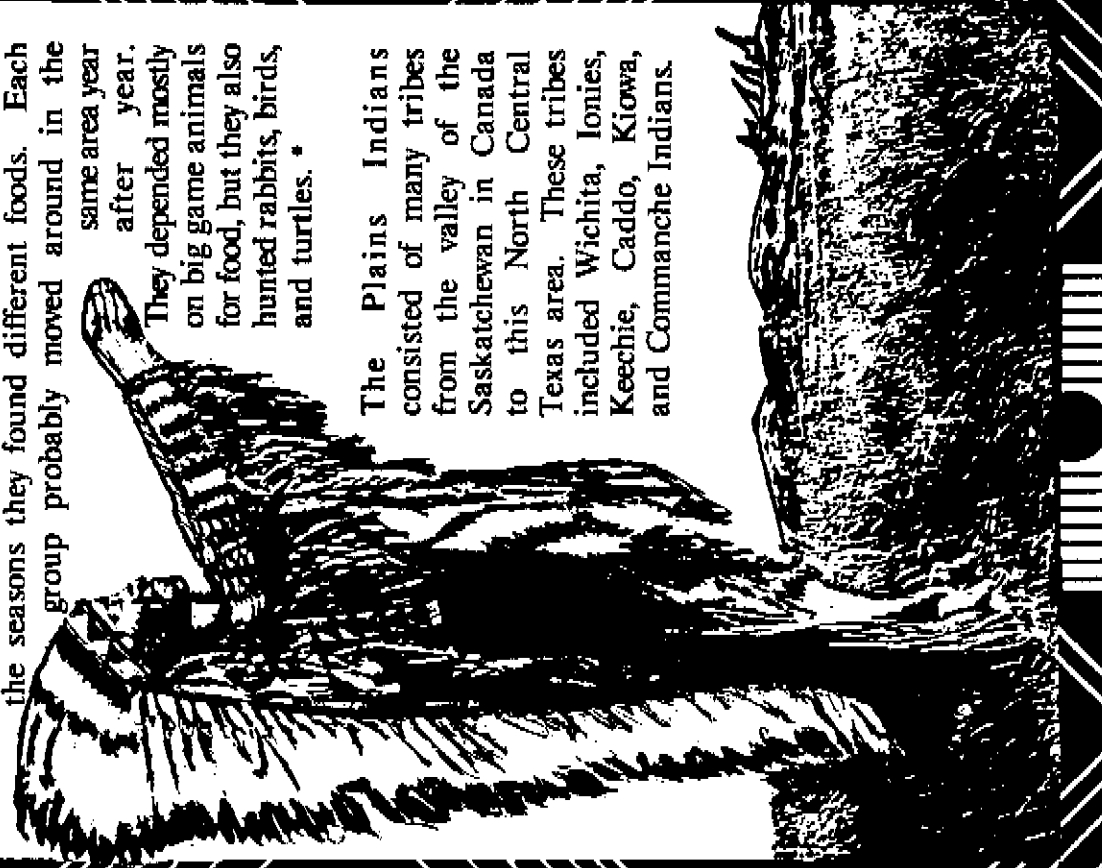
INDIANS OF DENTON COUNTY



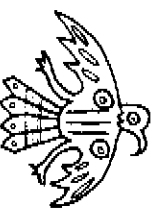
People first came to Texas about 12,000 years ago. These Paleo-Indian pioneers banded together in small groups, moving from camp to camp in search of food. With the changing of the seasons they found different foods. Each group probably moved around in the same area year after year.

They depended mostly on big game animals for food, but they also hunted rabbits, birds, and turtles.*

The Plains Indians consisted of many tribes from the valley of the Saskatchewan in Canada to this North Central Texas area. These tribes included Wichita, Ionies, Keechie, Caddo, Kiowa, and Commanche Indians.



For 300 years, the Wichita Indians were dominant in this North Texas Central area. From 1830 - 1843, the Ionies, Keechie, and Caddo Indians were in Denton County. In fact, John B. Denton, the namesake of Denton County and the City of Denton, was killed during a skirmish with the Keechie Indians whose village stretched three miles long on the banks of the Trinity River. In 1847, the United States Congress passed a bill for Cavalry regiments to protect the Texas wilderness. With this bill soldiers were posted at Hickory Station on Hickory Creek until 1850. During the Civil War, Denton County organized a group called, "home guards" made up of men and boys to protect this area. With the end of the Civil War, Confederate and State troops were dissolved leaving no protection against Comanche and Kiowa raids. In 1868, Indians raided the Denton area and took 1000 horses. After that, the Indians bravely marched through the city of Denton on horseback carrying their weapons which infuriated and frightened the townspeople. In 1873, the last Indian war in Denton County took place between 40 settlers and 300 Comanches. Colonel R.S. Mackenzie and his men, "Mackenzie's Raiders," joined the settlers in their effort to defeat the Indians.



The Plains Indians had their own form of government and law, as well as, their own sign language. The social structure was strictly adhered to. The men were hunters, warriors, and head of their household. Young men were allowed to listen to meetings but they had to be quiet until an elder invited them to speak. The women gained respect by their creative skills and hard work. Young girls were not allowed to run in the camp, they stayed near their homes, and were accompanied when going out. Before marriage, girls had to learn how to make and decorate moccasins, sew and design beadwork, dress and tan hides of game, and cook. Because horses furnished great wealth and power, men offered them as a marriage proposal and if the young woman gave the horses water or let them mingle with her father's herd then she accepted the proposal. Within a few days the marriage ceremony with a huge feast was given.



Indians had many types of ceremonies and rituals. Each of their ceremonies was to please the spirits and ask for strength or guidance. Indians would perform ceremonies before competitions in horse races, archery, wrestling, and lacrosse. As music was a very important part of their rituals and daily life, the Indians made and used instruments such as the flute, rainstick, and drum. Every man had his own song which he had received in a vision. This song was sung as a remembrance of the powerful spirits he had encountered in the dream and his wife would sing it as a lullaby to their children. Indian children were treasured by their parents and entire tribe for they ensured the continuance of the tribe.

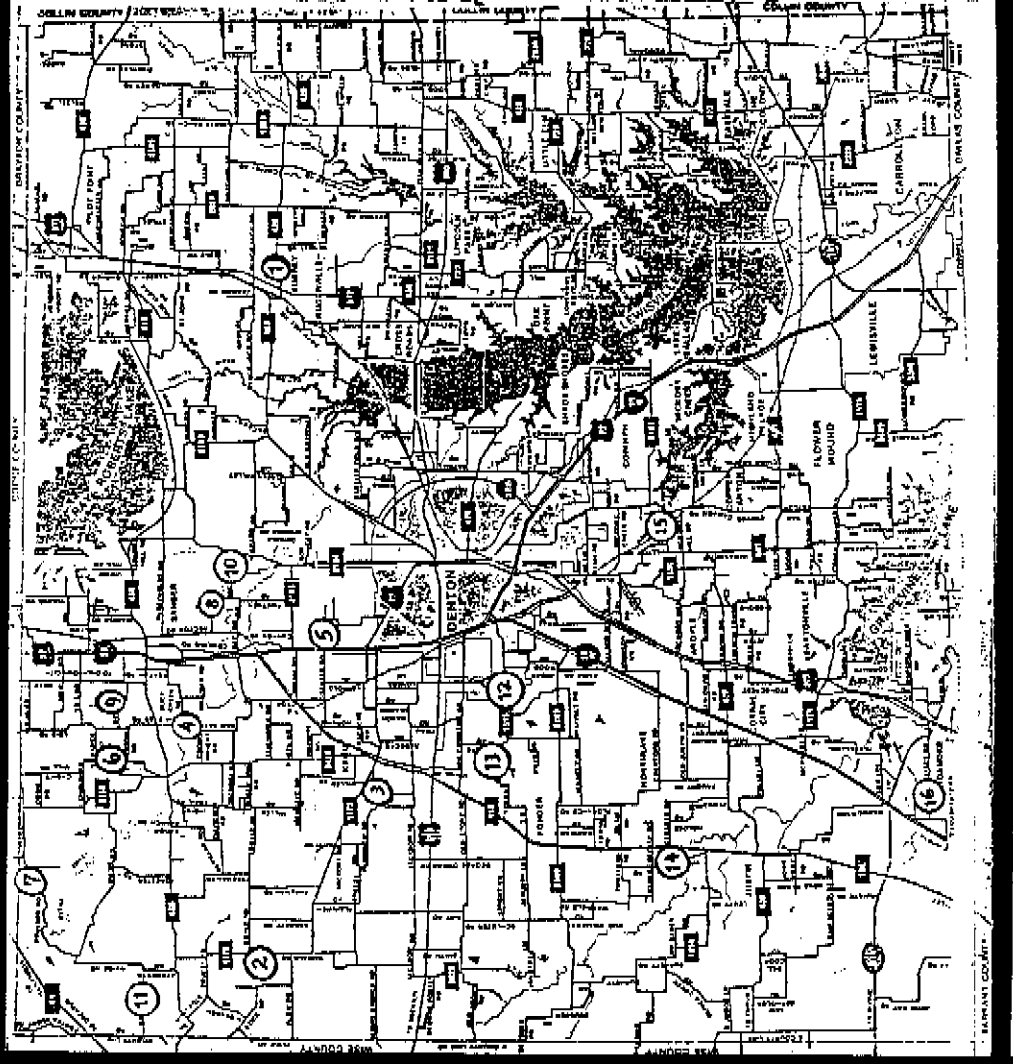
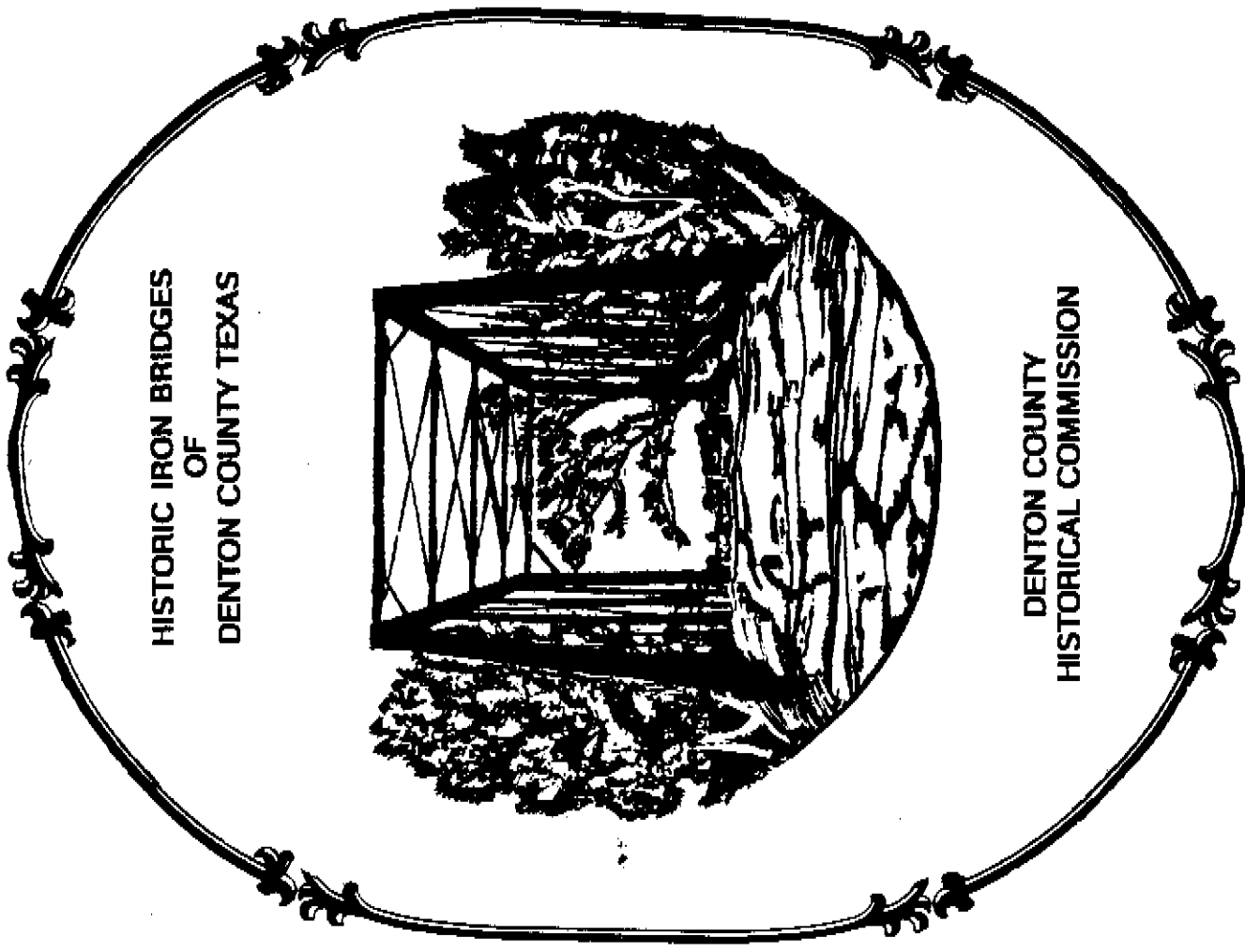


The Plains Indians ate a variety of foods. Because they traveled, most of the tribes were hunters and gatherers. Some tribes did stay in one place and planted crops. Beans, corn, pumpkins, and squash were raised for food and used for trade with other Indians. The Plains Indians gathered many fruits, vegetables, roots and stalks. Wild fruits included persimmons and berries. Some vegetables were peas, onions, and prairie turnips. The roots and stalks included a sweet thistle that tasted like bananas. Herbs and spices such as sage, milkweed buds, and rosehips were also used. The mainstay of their diet was the buffalo, however, they did hunt other wild game.



Everyday clothing was made from plain, unadorned hides of buffalo, deer, and other game. In the winter, the fur was left to keep them warm. Articles of clothing included dresses, shirts, leggings, moccasins, belts, underclothes, and breechcloths. They also wore mittens, boots, robes, coats, and capes. For ceremonial occasions, Plains Indian women often created stunning, elaborate dresses. The number of beads worn on a garment symbolized one's wealth and status, while the pattern identified their tribe. Beads and ornaments made from shells, bone, and quill were used prior to the appearance of European traders who offered glass beads, tin cones, brass bells, and tacks in exchange for furs.





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ELM FORK, TRINITY RIVER, FM 428 (#1)

This bridge, c. 1912, was built by Austin Brothers Bridge Company. Located just west of Aubrey and was a part of a feeder road between Aubrey and Denton; and Aubrey and Sanger which served as mail routes between these communities. Originally located in Prct. 1, the Commissioner was J.F. Norgan.

SOUTH HICKORY CREEK AT DONALD ROAD (#2)

This bridge, built in 1903, is located south of what is now FM 1173. It is a steel elevated superstructure with no visible markings or plates. The bridge served as part of a postal route in far northwest Denton County and southern Cooke County. Span 59' 0", width 17' 0", concrete roadbed.

NORTH HICKORY CREEK AT PLAINVIEW ROAD (#3)

Constructed in 1903 by George E. King Co., this bridge is a steel elevated superstructure with no visible markings or plates. Located in northwest Denton County it served as part of a service road to FM 1173. Span 12' 0", width 12' 0".

CLEAR CREEK AT SAM BASS ROAD (#4)

Located near Duck Creek Cemetery and served far northwest Denton County residents and Wise County residents as part of their postal route. The bridge was constructed by Austin Brothers Contractors at a cost of \$1,500 in 1903. Span 150', width 12' 6".

MILAM CREEK AT GANZER ROAD (# 5)

This bridge was constructed in 1904 by George King Construction Co. and currently provides service to I-35 from Haakeye, Hopkins and Ganzer roads. Span 25' 0", width 12' 7", Rail 5' 6".

DUCK CREEK AT SAM BASS ROAD (#6)

Located northwest of the town of Sanger and serves, Nance, Chisum, Lois and Betty Roads by connecting them to I-35 which then leads north into Cooke County. Span 40' 0", width 13' 0", Rail 4' 7".

DUCK CREEK AT GREGORY ROAD (#7)

Constructed by King Iron Bridge Co., Cooke County line. Services Pollard, Gregory and Hoehn Roads into Cooke County. Span 65' 0", width 16' 7", Rail 7' 0".

CLEAR CREEK AT RECTOR ROAD (#8)

Built by Austin Brothers in 1907 and serves Rector Road which is a connector road from the town of Sanger to I-35. Span 113' 2", width 12' 8".

DUCK CREEK AT BELZ ROAD (#9)

Feeds east into I-35 and northwest into Cooke County. No identifying markers or plates to determine when built or by whom.

CLEAR CREEK AT NICKOLSON ROAD (#10)

Built by Austin Brothers in 1907 and currently provides service to FM 2164 to the east and I-35 by Rector Road to the west. Span 137' 2", width 12' 2", rail 8' 0".

CLEAR CREEK AT WAIDE ROAD (#11)

This bridge provides service from Wise County to FM 2450 and northwest Denton County. Situated northwest of the town of Bolivar and was constructed in 1908 by Austin Brothers Contractors. County Commissioner was J.M. Gary. Span 215' 0", rail 8' 0".

HICKORY CREEK AT TOM COLE ROAD (#12)

This bridge has no markings or plates except "rebuilt 1974 by Hep Salmon" (C.R. "Happy" Salmon). Span 129' 0", width 12' 0".

HICKORY CREEK AT SKILES ROAD (#13)

Situated east of Ponder and provides service between FM 156 and the Wise County area. The bridge has no visible markings or plates except "rebuilt by Salmon 1974." Span 64' 0", width 21' 0".

DENTON CREEK AT TOM COLE ROAD (#14)

Built in 1910 by Austin Brothers. This bridge is in good condition and provides service between FM 156 and the Wise County area. Span 84' 0", width 15' 9".

HICKORY CREEK AT COPPER CANYON ROAD (#15)

Located on Hickory Creek at Copper Canyon Road just south of the Village of Alton, the 1851 site of Denton County government. Built in 1884 by the King Iron and Bridge Manufacturing Company of Cleveland, Ohio and stands alone as the last remaining Pratt Truss Bridge in Denton County. The Old Alton Bridge was included in the National Register of Historic Places, July 8, 1988.

HENRIETTA CREEK AT LITSEY ROAD (#16)

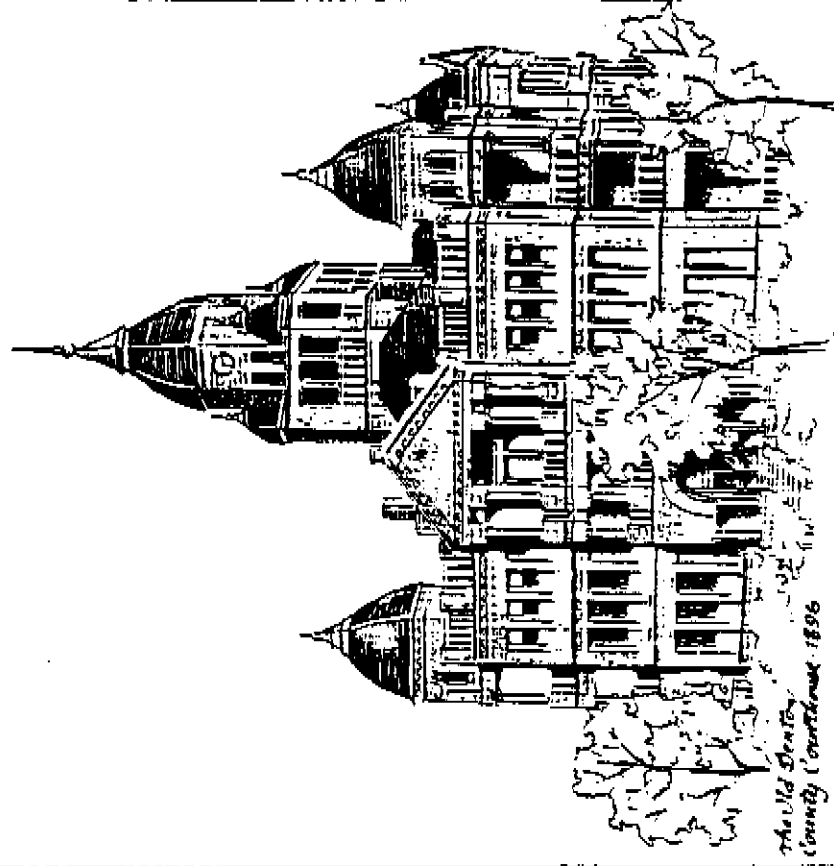
Located west of Roanoke and provides service from Grapevine Lake to I-35 and the northern part of Tarrant County. Built in 1904 by the George King Bridge Co. at a cost of \$1,780. Unlike other bridges surveyed, this bridge has cable supports across the span.



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THE HISTORICAL MARKERS
OF
DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS



DENTON COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

HISTORICAL MARKERS IN DENTON COUNTY

THC - Texas Historical Commission Marker
 NRHP - National Register of Historic Places
 HLC - City of Denton Historic Landmark (Separate List)
 DAR - Daughters of American Revolution (Private)

Yr. Appoy'd.	Markers	Location	Type, Category
1867	Flower Howard Presby. Church	Flower Howard	THC, Site
1884	The Hound	Flower Howard	THC, Site
1890	Bethel Community Church & Sch.	Flower Howard	THC, Subject
1877	Hedlin Cemetery	Jeophy Club	THC, Site
1905	Loof Cemetery	Roanoke	THC, Site
1906	Continental State Bank	Roanoke	NRHP
1890	Masonic Lodge	Roanoke	THC, Institution
1878	Ellis Beth Church	Shiloh	THC, Site
1936	Denton County (State Hwy. H&F)	South of Denton	THC, Subject
1901	City of Aravie	Aravie	THC, Site
1901	Prairie Howard Cemetery	Aravie	THC, Site
1876	Graham-Aravie Cemetery	Aravie	THC, Site
1901	First United Methodist Church	Aravie	THC, Site
1892	Johns Hill & Camp Ground	Aravie	THC, Site
1920	Old Alton Cemetery	South of Denton	THC, Site
1880	Old Alton Bridge	Denton County	NRHP
1870	Denton County Cr. House on Rd	Denton	THC, NRHP (77)THC
1877	City of Denton	Denton	THC, Site
1836	John B. Denton Gravesite	Denton	THC, Person (36)
1873	Lacy Hotel	Denton	THC, Site
1891	Seipshire-Deavenport House	Denton	THC, Structure, HLC
1918	Confederate Memorial	Four Housen Denton	Private
1905	St. James AME Church	Denton	THC, Just Intuit
1865	Oakwood Cemetery	Denton	THC, Site
1865	University of North Texas	Denton	THC, Inst Site
1865	University of North Texas	Denton	THC, Inst Bldg Sills
1874	Old Main, TWU	Denton	THC, Structure
1902	University Gardens, TWU	Denton	THC, Site
1936	Pioneer Woman Statue, TWU	Denton	Private
1809	Rayzor-Graham House	Denton	THC, HLC, Structure
1873	Historical Bldg (Curry Hall)	Denton	THC, Structure
1894	Jannaculate Conception Church	Denton	THC, Subject
1875	Gregg Ranch	Arton, S. West	THC, Site
1936	John Chasum Ranch	Bolivar	THC, Site
1870	Bolivar	Bolivar	THC, Site
1907	Bolivar	Private (Venezuela)	
1906	Ed & Bess Forester Ranch	Bolivar	THC, Site
1926	Hoeh C. Batts Stock Farm	Sanger	THC, Site
1872	Presbyterian Church	Sanger	THC, Institution
1876	Jacob Frederick Elzezer House	Sanger	THC, Site
1876	William Partlow House	Sanger	THC, Site
1876	Yveson Cemetery	Sanger, FM 455 N	THC, Site
1976	City of Pilot Point	Pilot Point	THC, Site
1901	Church of Christ	Pilot Point	THC, Site
1884	Pilot Point Post Signal	Pilot Point	THC, Subject
1886	Good Hope Cemetery	Adrey Area, east	THC, Site
1873	Oak Grove Methodist Church	Oak Grove	THC, Site
1873	Mrs. F. Golen Gravesite	Oak Grove	THC, Person
1873	Little Elm	Little Elm	THC, Site

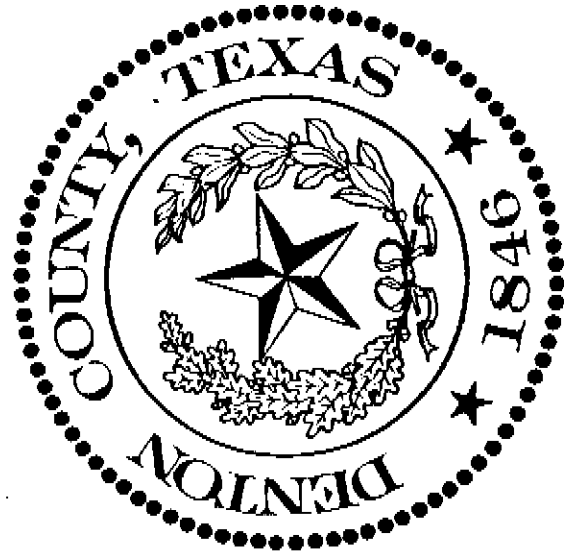
Yr. Appoy'd.	Markers	Location	Type, Category
1875	Madresore War, Peter's Colony	The Colony	THC, Event
1870	Peter's Colony	Lewisville	THC, Event
1866	Bridge Cemetery	The Colony	THC, Site
1869	Mrs. Dickerson-William House	Lewisville	THC, Structure
1864	W.M. Jones House (Mtr removed)	Lewisville	THC, Structure
1894	McCurly Cemetery	Lewisville	THC, Site
1890	Lewisville Archeological Site	Lewisville	THC, Site
1866	Old Mill Cemetery	Lewisville	THC, Site
1884	First Baptist Church	Belton	THC, Institution
1864	Furness Cemetery	Carrollton	THC, Site

Yr. Appoy'd.	Markers	Location	Type, Category
1982	19th Century Kiln Sites	Denton County	NRHP
1982	Erington Site	Denton County	NRHP
1982	Road-Giffith Site	Denton County	NRHP
1982	J.C. Lambert Site	Denton County	NRHP
1982	A.M. Serren Site	Denton County	NRHP
1982	Wilson-Donaldson Site	Denton County	NRHP

SUMMARY

53	THC Markers
0	National Register of Historic Places
3	Private
46	

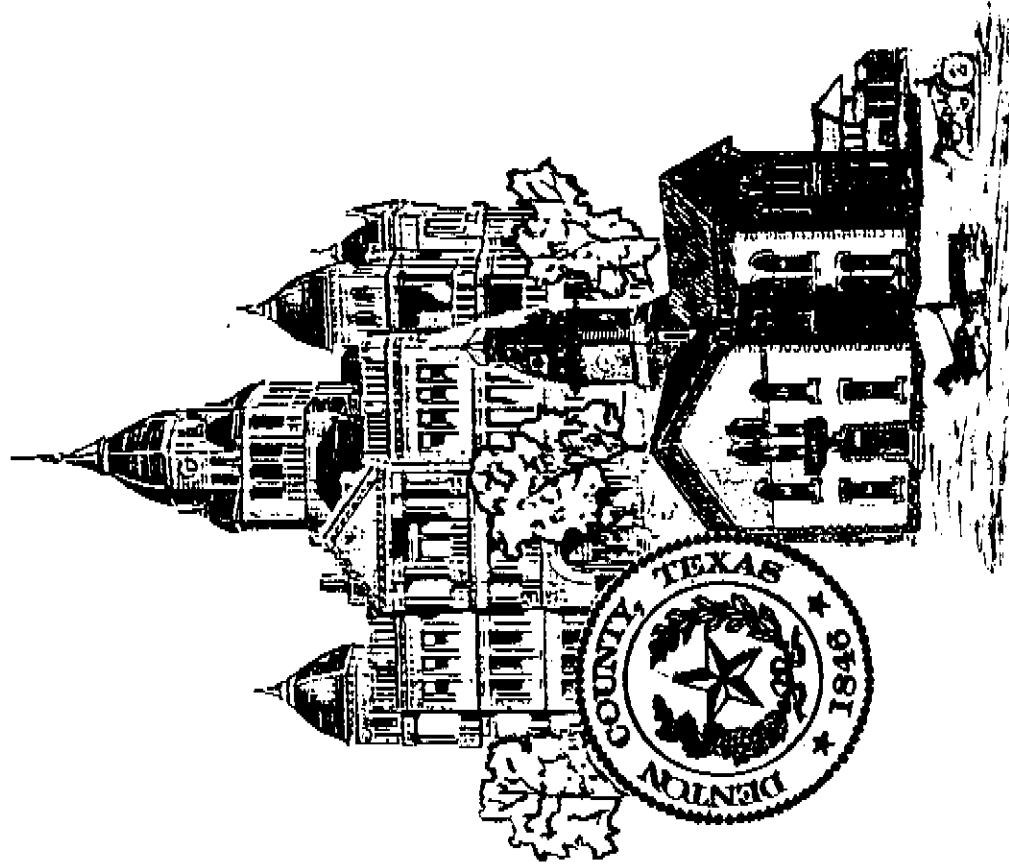
Published in cooperation with
 Denton County Commissioners' Court
 Denton City Council
 Denton, Texas



DENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Is Located on 1st Floor of the Courthouse-On-The-Square
817-565-8697 or 1-800-346-3189

DENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Is Located in the Courthouse-On-The-Square
110 West Hickory
817-565-8697 or 1-800-346-3189

HISTORY OF DENTON COUNTY



CELEBRATING the SESQUICENTENNIAL of DENTON COUNTY

1846 to 1996

Denton County is a 900 square-mile county situated in the Grand Prairie and East Cross Timbers region of North Central Texas. Although earlier in its history Denton County, a part of Nacagdoches County, in its first session the Texas Congress included the area in Fannin County where it remained until 1846 when Denton County was created by the Texas Legislature. The original county seat, named Pinckneyville, was located near the center of the present day city of Denton, but the seat of government was moved southward three times before returning to Denton in 1857. Both the county and the county seat were named after lawyer, preacher, pioneer, and Indian fighter John B. Denton, who was killed in 1841 near the south county line in a battle with the Keechie Indians.

The first county courthouse was a small log structure built at Alton in the south central part of the county. A county court building built in Denton in 1857, burned in 1875, destroying many records. A two story brick courthouse built on the site of the present courthouse, was condemned in 1894. In 1897 the present courthouse opened for county business and housed the county courtrooms and most of the county offices. A number of changes have occurred since then. Most of the county offices are now housed in the Carroll Courts Building. The Courthouse-on-the-Square had become very deteriorated and so the county voted a bond to pay for renovation in 1985. The building has since been renovated and now houses the Denton County Historical Commission and the Denton County Historical Museum on the first floor. The County Commissioners and County Judge are on the second and third floors. The County Commissioner's courtroom is located on the second floor. The Courthouse-on-the-Square still serves as a landmark for the people of Denton and Denton County.

The first anglo settlement began in the mid-1840's in the Southeast portion of the county and at Pilot Point in the northeast. From there, the settlement spread north and south through the Cross Timbers, West from Hebronville, and into the creek valleys of the Grand Prairie. Subsistence agriculture and cattle ranching gave way to cotton farming in the timbers and wheat farming on the prairies as railroads entered the county in the 1870's.

The county embarked on a course that would make it a higher education center when it obtained North Texas Normal College (now the University of North Texas) in 1890, and the College of Industrial Arts (now Texas Woman's University) in 1902. Today the county is a center for higher education, thoroughbred horse ranching, and a balanced farming region producing wheat, cotton, beef and dairy cattle. It contains several growing urban centers, including Denton, Lewisville, Carrollton, and The Colony. Light manufacturing is increasing in the county, and it is suffering from growing pains due, in part, to its proximity to the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and the Alliance Airport in the Denton-Fort Worth area.

Published in cooperation with
Denton County Commissioners' Court
Denton City Council
Denton, Texas

Info. on book then publishing about history of
businesses in Denton County.

The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. Texas Heritage Center

Preserving Denton County and Texas history since 1979

December 2, 1999

Ms. Christine Gossett
Denton Convention & Visitors Bureau
P.O. Drawer P
Denton, TX 76202

Dear Ms. Gossett:

The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. would like to issue this formal invitation to Denton Convention & Visitors Bureau to combine its corporate story with the story of Denton County in a new hardcover pictorial history.

HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY: An Illustrated History is being published to provide a unique perspective on our county's history as we enter a new millenium.

A large-format beautifully illustrated volume to be released in early 2000, the book will contain illustrations, maps, and photographs, many of which have not been seen in print. The co-authors are local historians Norma Gamble and Hollace Hervey. Both have experience in researching and writing on local history. Information they have gleaned from the Museum's extensive archives will offer a new look at Denton County's history.

Histories of companies and organizations that provide the area's economic and cultural foundation are central to the development of Denton County. For this reason, *HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY* will recognize businesses and organizations for years to come through its corporate history profile section of the book. The profile fee includes the writing and inclusion of your story in the profile section by an experienced business editor.

As a non-profit Museum, the proceeds from this important project will be used to support its varied historic preservation programs for the public. Your participation is vital to the success of this project. There are several ways to participate that will benefit your organization and give its story a place in history. We respectfully request ten minutes of your time to share these opportunities with you.

Many companies will use *HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY* as a unique corporate and personal gift. Your participation together with other business leaders sends a strong, positive message about your commitment to civic enhancement and assures you that the story of your business will be recognized.

The Denton County Historical Museum requests that you join us in the creation of *HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY: An Illustrated History*. Joe Neely, our project coordinator, will contact you soon to request an appointment to explain this exciting project and how you can become a part of it. We know you will want to be included in the pages of this significant new history book of Denton County and will set a time to talk with Mr. Neely.

Sincerely,



Dr. Louise M. Alton
chairman, board of trustees

Board of Trustees

Dr. Louise M. Alton

Chairman

Alana Clark

Vice-President

Judy Selph

Treasurer

Peggy Gentry

Secretary

Betty Bailey

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Marovourene Matthews

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Director

Hollace Hervey

Collections

Management

Assistant

Sharon Plumley

Administrative

Secretary

Dorothy Chastain

Museum Assistant

5800 I-35 North exits 470 & 471 - Exposition Mills Denton Factory Stores - Denton, Texas

P. O. Box 2800, Denton, Texas 76202 telephone: 940-380-0877, fax: 940-380-1699

*The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. is a 501 c 3 non-profit corporation
donations are tax deductible - consult your accountant*

Denton County
Community Justice Council
Health Facilities Development Corporation
Housing Finance Corporation



Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition

SCOTT ARMEY
Denton County Commissioner
Precinct 3

DFW International Airport
Marketing Committee

FM 3048 Truck Stops

June 14, 1999

Mrs. Norma Lynn Gamble
Director
Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.
P.O. Box 2800
Denton, TX 76202

Dear Mrs. Gamble,

Congratulations on the publishing of *Historic Denton County*. I am sure it will be a significant source on the unique history of our county.

As you know, Denton County has played an important role in the history of Texas. A chronicle of our history will serve to illuminate the courage and vision of the men and women who developed Denton County and the State of Texas. This written history will be used to educate our children in order that our exciting past will not languish from memory.

Again, congratulations on your endeavor to preserve Denton County's past for future generations.

Sincerely,

Scott Arme
Denton County Commissioner, Prec. 3

SRA/fwp

Lee Walker Government Center • 100 North Valley Parkway, Suite 120 • Lewisville, TX 75047 • (972) 228-1571
Courthouse-at-the-Square • 110 West Hickory • Denton, TX 76201 • 1-800-348-3187 • (940) 543-2644



JIM CARTER
Denton County Commissioner
Precinct 4

June 14, 1999

Ms. Norma Lynn Gamble, Director
The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.
PO Box 2800
Denton, Texas 76202

Dear Ms. Gamble:

Thank you for letting me know of the upcoming publication of *Historic Denton County*.

I understand that you have acquired quite an extensive collection of archives in recent times that will be fresh new information yet unseen by the public. I look forward to reviewing *Historic Denton County*.

Congratulations on undertaking this worthy project to preserve the history of Denton County.

Sincerely,

Jim Carter

Courthouse-at-the-Square 110 West Hickory Denton, TX 76201 (940) 543-2600 Fax (940) 543-2649

Michael Matthews
The Family History Show
PO Box 116605
Carrollton TX 75011-6605

The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. 6 July 1999
PO Box 2800
Denton TX 76202-2800

Dear Ms. Norma Lynn Gamble,

The true history of America is the history of it's people, and I'm very excited about the forthcoming publication of the book, *Historic Denton County*, by The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.

It is my understanding that this will be the first publication of much of the information and many of the photographs that will be included. *Historic Denton County* promises to be a wonderful volume of historical value that will be beneficial to family historians today, and to generations of Texans in the future! Congratulations on this worthy project and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Michael Matthews
Host & Originator
The Family History Show
KRLD 1080 Radio &
The Texas State Networks

The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.
Texas Heritage Center

Preserving Denton County and Texas history since 1979

June 14, 1999

Dear Friends,

The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. is very pleased to publish *Historic Denton County*, a book which will provide a fascinating narrative and photographs of the rich history and heritage of Denton County.

Through this book you will add to your knowledge and enjoyment of events that shaped our community, its people and its future. With greater awareness and appreciation of our heritage, we can create pride and respect while increasing our sense of belonging to the larger community we know as Denton County.

The evolution of this region of Texas, known as Denton County, is the continuous process that builds on the ancestry of our past. I am proud to support this project of The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. and encourage each of you to join me.


Sincerely,

Dr. Louise M. Altan
Chairman
Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees
Dr. Louise M. Altan
Chairman
Alma Clark
Vice-Chairman
Judy Selph
Treasurer
Peggy Oentry
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Bevy Bailey
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Verlane Coleman
Advisory Member

Staff
N. L. Gamble
Director
Hollars Harvey
Collections
Management
Assistant
Sherra Phinity
Administrative
Secretary
Cecily Chastain
Museum Assistant

2800 I-35 North exit 470 & 471 - Exposition Mills Denton Factory Store - Denton, Texas
P. O. Box 2800, Denton, Texas 76202 telephone: 940-380-0877, fax 940-380-1699
The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. is a 501 c 3 non profit corporation
donations are tax deductible consult your tax accountant


The State of Texas
House of Representatives
 Austin, Texas

Mary Denny
 State Representative
 District 23

Capital Office
 P.O. Box 2112
 Austin, TX 78768-2112
 512-463-0089
 District Office
 1714 North Central Blvd.
 Dallas, TX 75201
 940-354-3323
 1-800-371-1179

June 10, 1999

Norma Lynn Gamble
 Director
 The Denton County Historical Museum
 P.O. Box 2800
 Denton, Texas 76202

Dear Norma:

I am very pleased to learn the Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. is writing and publishing *Historic Denton County*. I know it will be a quality book and will help us not only to know our Denton County history, but will provide the museum with many opportunities from the sales.

Congratulations on undertaking this worthy project to preserve the history of Denton County. I look forward to reading this publication.

Respectfully,



Mary Denny

MD/az

Contains: Callers (over), Denton (over), and Historical
 Except: many illustrations from 1850



KIRK WILSON
 DENTON COUNTY JUDGE

June 11, 1999

Norma Lynn Gamble, Director
 Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.
 P. O. Box 2800
 Denton, TX 76202

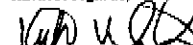
Dear Ms. Gamble,

I was pleased to learn of the forthcoming publication "Historic Denton County" written and published by The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.

Your publication will give Denton County a quality local history book. Our rich and diverse history will interest people of all ages and walks of life; and, should be a treasured addition to their home library.

I send my best wishes for your success as you undertake this worthy project.

Kindest regards,



KIRK WILSON
 Denton County Judge

TKW/ln

DENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT - COURTHOUSE-ON-THE-SQUARE
 110 W. HICKORY - DENTON, TEXAS 76201 - (840) 482-8877 - 1-800-348-1888 - FAX (840) 382-1543

Denton County Executive Committee
 Comprehensive Planning Council
 Transportation Committee
 Safety & Security
 All Emergency Issues
 Wing Free Work Plans



SANDY JACOBS
 DENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

DNTCCG Internal Communications Council
 Mobility Planning Committee
 Technical Committee
 201 NE City Center Walk, Room
 2200-Denton
 26118, Denton, Texas
 County Representative
 817-421-3816
 County Representative

June 11, 1999

Ms. Norma Lynn Gamble, Director
 The Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.
 P. O. Box 2800
 Denton, TX 76202

Dear Norma:

Thank you for notifying me of the publication of *Historic Denton County*. I am pleased that we will have such a chronicle of the events that have taken place in our county. Denton County has experienced exciting and challenging events throughout its history and the courageous people who settled the area have always confronted these challenges with strength and determination. It is fitting that their sacrifices and triumphs should be recorded for posterity.

I know a project of this scope takes much time, a great deal of research, and the skills of many people to bring it to fruition. I am confident that the finished product will be a volume that inspires pride in all Denton County residents and I look forward to reading it.

Sincerely,



Sandy Jacobs
 Commissioner

Denton County Government Center - 1001 W. Main Street - Denton, Texas 76202
 Phone: (817) 382-1111 - FAX: (817) 382-1112 - e-mail: info@denton-tx.gov

JEFF KRUEGER
 COMMISSIONER

COURTHOUSE ON THE SQUARE - 110 WEST HICKORY - DENTON, TEXAS 76201
 840-342-8877 - FAX 840-382-1543

June 8, 1999

Norma Lynn Gamble, Director
 Denton County Historical Museum, Inc.
 P.O. Box 2800
 Denton, Texas 76202

Re: Publication of *Historic Denton County*

Congratulations on the decision to publish the book, *Historic Denton County*. The use of information from Denton County Historical Museum's exhibits will provide a great opportunity to present the history from a first person perspective based on these documents.

I have long supported the museum's work in preserving the history of Denton County through its exhibits and research center. *Historic Denton County* will be an additional method of providing another view of the history found in the museum's archives.

I wish you and the Denton County Historical Museum, Inc. Success in this very special project. If you would, reserve a copy for me. It will be an added treasure to my bookshelf.

Sincerely,



Jeff Krueger
 County Commissioner
 Precinct #1

Please see reverse side for more endorsements of *HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY: An Illustrated History*.

HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY

An Illustrated History

PARTICIPANTS

The following is a partial list of Denton County companies which are participating with a history/profile in the new "coffee table" history book entitled and *HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY: An Illustrated History*.

CASTLEBERRY RANCHES

JAMES WOOD AUTO PARK, INC.

CENTURYTEL

JEFF KRUEGER, COUNTY COMMISSIONER

COSERV

THE MORRISON MILLING COMPANY

FARMERS & MERCHANTS STATE BANK

RUSSELL-NEWMAN, INC.

FIRST STATE BANK OF TEXAS

SALLY BEAUTY COMPANY, INC.

FOUR STAR PLUMBING COMPANY

TIM BEATY BUILDERS

JAGOE, P.C.

ADD YOUR COMPANY'S NAME TO THIS PRESTIGIOUS LIST!

Please fill out and FAX back the following information about your company for potential inclusion in the corporate profile section of *HISTORIC DENTON COUNTY: An Illustrated History*.

Date founded: _____ By whom: _____

Why business was established: _____

Important products or services: _____

Community outreach programs: _____

The business today: _____

The future: _____

FAX THIS FORM TODAY TO PROJECT COORDINATOR JOE NEELY AT (940) 380-1699

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

PHONE: _____

VISUAL TREASURES OF THE COURTHOUSE

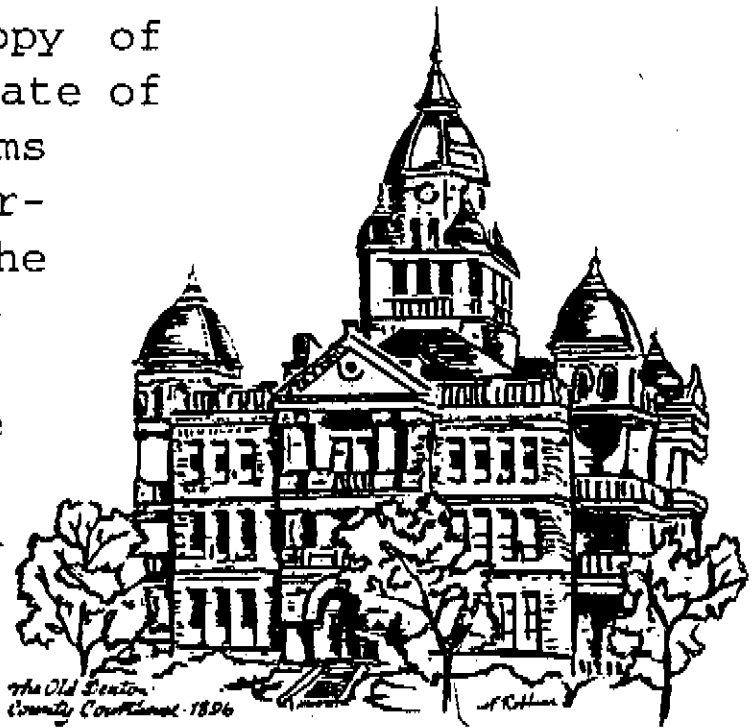
The Denton County Courthouse is one of Texas' most treasured pieces of architecture. On November 1, 1895, The Pilot Point Post-Mirror wrote, "A point of beauty and durability, it... will be the pride of the people of Denton County." Today the courthouse still proudly stands as the center of Denton's downtown square.

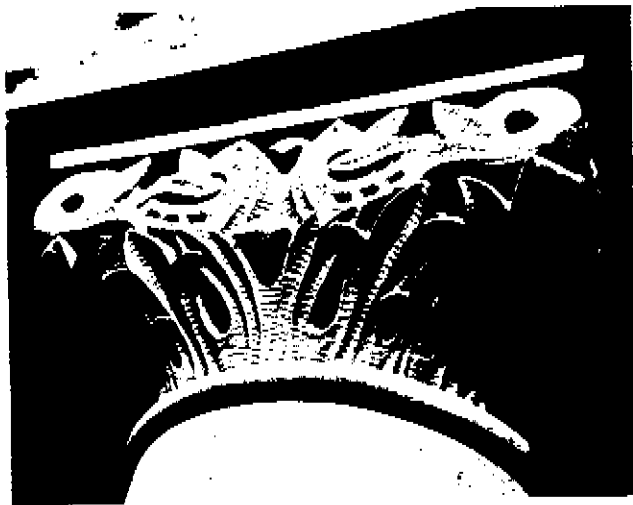
Did you know that the estimated cost of the court house was \$150,000? In 1895, that was an ENORMOUS amount of money!

Many stone cutters, bricklayers, and laborers from everywhere worked very hard to build the beautiful courthouse. The blue granite cornerstone, found on the corner of the courthouse, was laid on February 8, 1896. Many people gathered on this bright, winter day for the occasion. Each of the city's newspapers, a copy of the constitution of the State of Texas, and many other items were placed inside the cornerstone. Can you find the cornerstone on the courthouse?

Today, the Courthouse is a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Look inside for Courthouse Treasure Hunt Activities!



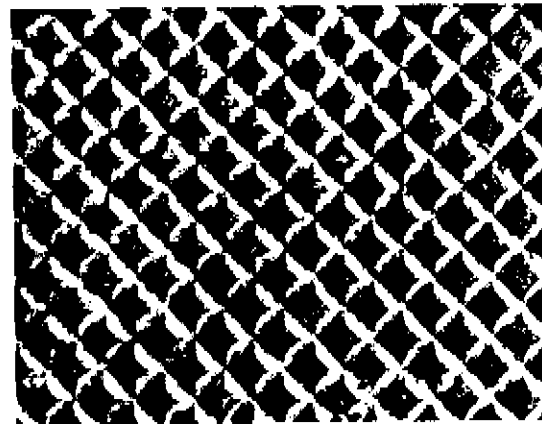


This is called a capital. It can be found near the top of the columns. The Courthouse capitals have curved shapes that resemble plants. Look closely and see ALL the details!

You must walk under this curved ARCH before entering the Courthouse. Where can you find other ARCHES at the Courthouse?



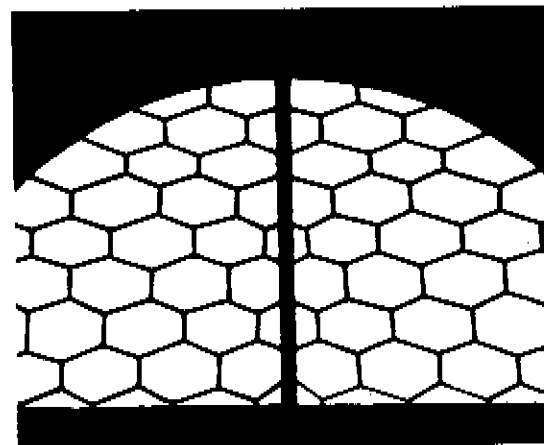
Shapes and textures can be repeated over and over to make interesting designs.



The Courthouse can be seen from many points of view.



Can you locate the viewpoint where this picture was taken?

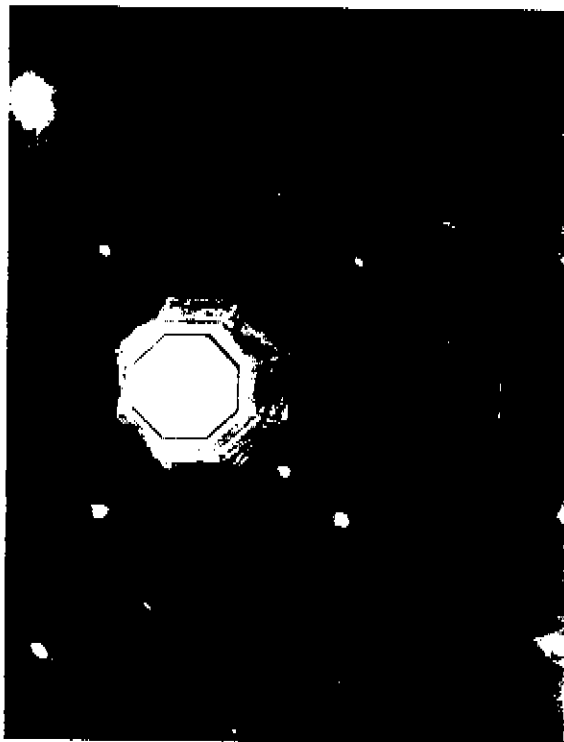


When shapes or textures are repeated, it is called a PATTERN. Can you find these hidden patterns in the Courthouse?

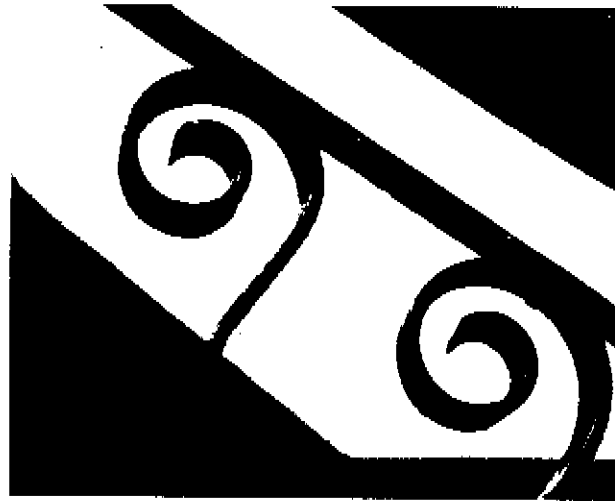
Don't miss seeing the antique objects found during the restoration of the Courthouse!
They are displayed on the second floor.



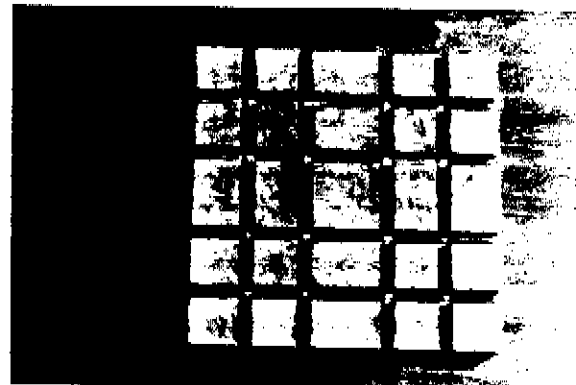
The Denton County Courthouse is a shining "star" for the people of this city. Where might you find these stars? How many stars can you find?



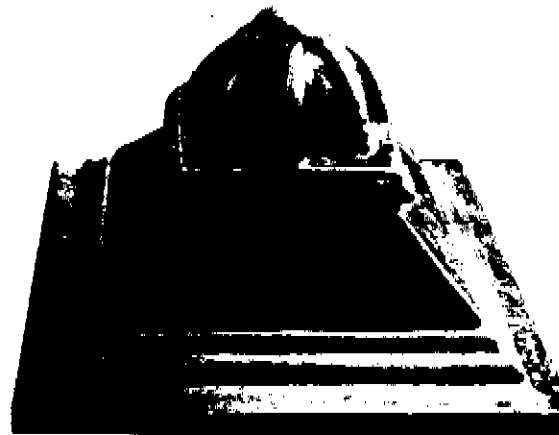
A rotunda is a large central area covered by a dome. What shape is the rotunda in our Courthouse? Where must you be to see this view in the Courthouse?



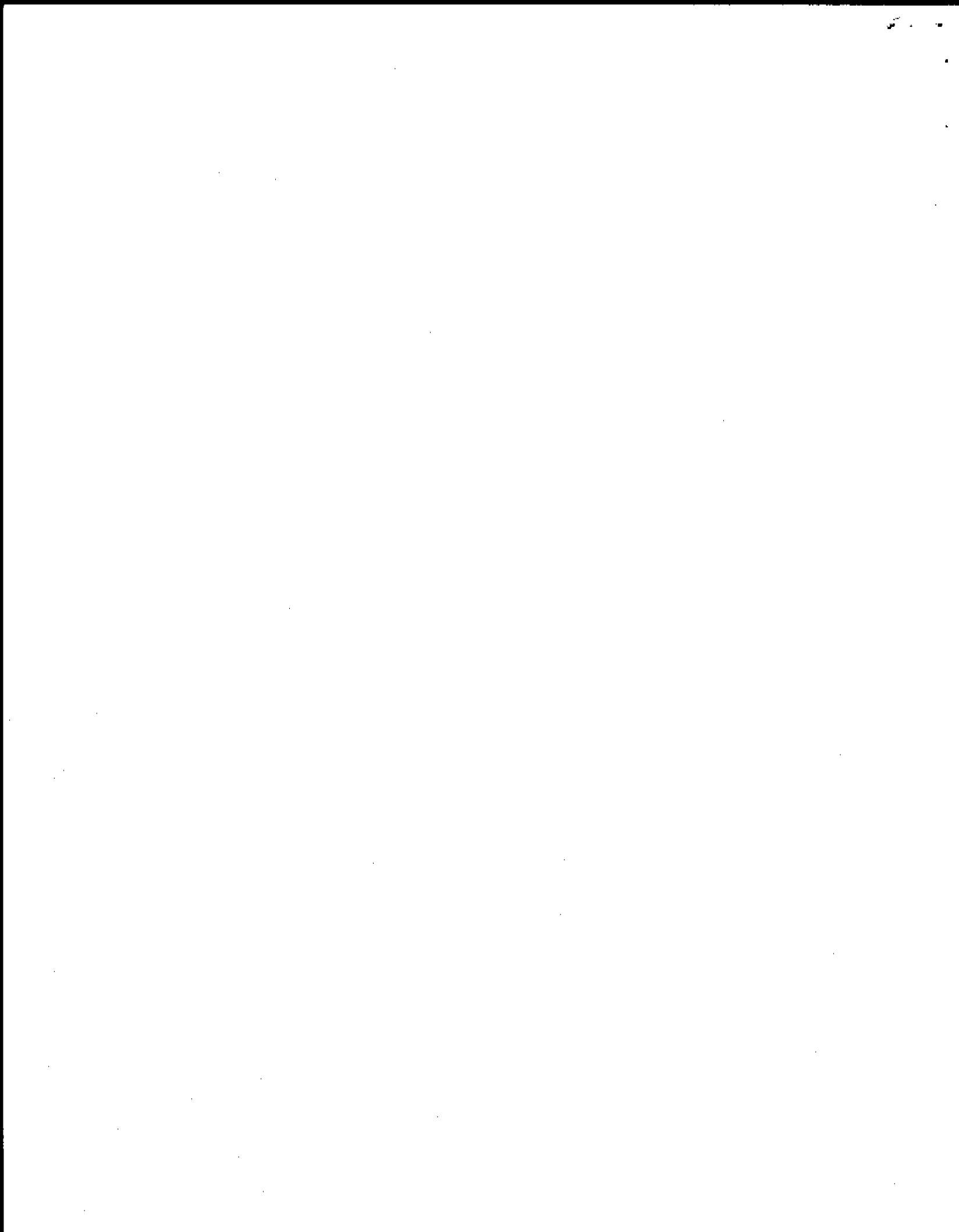
We found this curved line everywhere inside the Courthouse. Let your fingers swirl around the curved line!



This square has been repeated over and over and over inside the Courthouse. How many little shapes are inside one of these squares?



The Courthouse is filled with hidden details. Can you find this little detail inside the Courthouse?

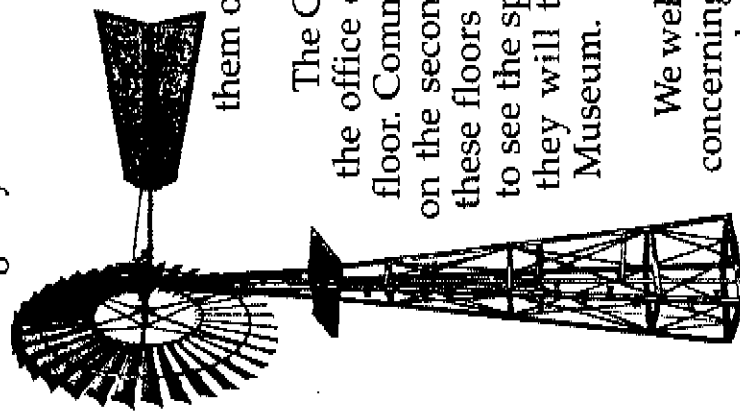




The Historical Museum is pleased to provide a tour of the Museum in the Courthouse-on-the-Square in the county seat of Denton County, Texas. To make the trip educational and fun, we are enclosing some information sheets for you to use in preparing your classes for the tour.

1. a brief history of Denton County.
2. a brief history of the Courthouse.
3. a guide titled "Visual Treasures of the Courthouse" most students are very excited at the prospect of looking for these treasures as they tour the Courthouse.
4. additional items may be included as they become available.

Your confirmation is very important. Please advise our office should an emergency arise causing changes in your plans.



Tour guides for school classes are Volunteers who may drive a great distance to provide your special tour. Often the tour guides are retired teachers who reside in all parts of Denton County. It is difficult to cancel them on short notice, Please try to meet your schedule.

Boys Bedding Suit

The Courthouse-on-the-Square is a working building. This means the office of the Museum and Historical Commission are on the first floor. Commissioners and the County Judge with their staffs are housed on the second and third floor. Your classes will be taken to these floors to visit the hall exhibits, courtroom and to see the special features of the building. Of course, they will tour the first floor exhibit areas of the Museum.

We welcome teachers' suggestions and questions concerning the programs the Museum provides. We are so pleased you are choosing to visit and look forward to helping you.

See you at the Courthouse!

EDITORIAL STAFF

Norma Lynn Gamble
Museum Director

Holly Hervey
Collections Management Assistant

June Hood
Staff Volunteer Coordinator

Gayle Stickeles
Administrative Secretary

Dorothy Chastain
Museum Assistant

Cindy Norman
TWU Intern

MUSEUM MUSINGS

SPECIAL EDITION FOR EDUCATORS

PLAN A FIELD TRIP TO THE MUSEUM

Have you visited the Museum?

Do you know the Museum has exhibits of rare dolls, Sam Bass, guns, Victorian fashion, an old-time kitchen, bedroom, parlor, early pottery kilns, archeological sites, and early photographs?

Visiting the Museum is an excellent field trip. Students are divided into small

groups and given tours by Museum staff and volunteers.

Please call the Museum to arrange a tour. It will be a trip your students will remember for a lifetime.

.....

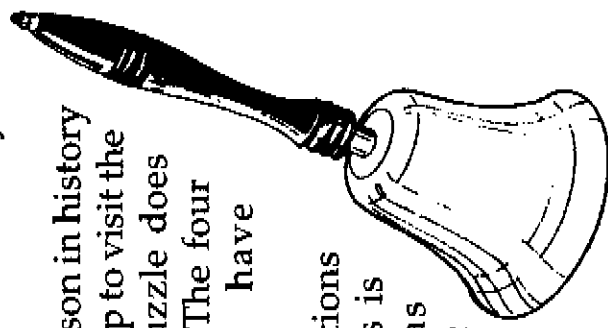
SOMETHING NEW JUST FOR CHILDREN!

Crossword puzzles featuring facts from Denton County history with narratives, puzzles, clues and answer sheets are included in this packet. You may make copies for each of your students.

This is a good lesson in history before you make the trip to visit the Museum. The first puzzle does not need a narrative. The four remaining puzzles have narratives.

A sheet of questions about current exhibits is included. This was prepared by a public school teacher for use before and after the trip to the Museum.

The middle school students using this list had fun and learned new facts about Denton County.



Museum Musings is published by the
DENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, INC.
501C3 NON PROFIT CORPORATION

HOW TO CONTACT THE MUSEUM
CALL US AT:
817-565-8693
OR 817-565-8697
OR TOLL-FREE 1-800-346-3189

(THE 1-800 NUMBER IS FOR THE COUNTY SWITCHBOARD. ASK THE SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR FOR THE MUSEUM.)

WRITE US:
PO BOX 2800
DENTON, TEXAS 76202

OFFICE HOURS:
8:00 - 5:00
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

MUSEUM HOURS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 10:30 - 4:30
SATURDAY 1 - 4:30

SPECIAL TOURS FOR GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE ARE AVAILABLE.
SPECIAL TOURS MUST BE SCHEDULED IN ADVANCE

NEW BOOKS IN GIFT SHOP

The Museum Gift Shop has books educators will find useful. They include a series (*Amanda Goes West, Amanda's New Life, Amanda's Home on the Range*) which relate history through Amanda's journey by wagon train from Tennessee to Texas where she settles with her parents in 1838. Amanda's journal focuses on the hardships and allure of pioneer life. Paper dolls of Amanda's husband and family are also included.

Other books of interest include *The Authentic Life of Billy the Kid, Old Indian Legends, Tales of Old Time Texas, Seven families of Pueblo Pottery, Horse and Buggy Doctor, Learn About Texas Dinosaurs* (a learning activity book), *Calico Chronicles, Texas Women and Their Fashions 1830 - 1910, The Buffalo Soldiers, Tumbleweed Tom on the Texas Trail, The Story of Texas, and Inside a Teepee.*



PLAN A WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN DENTON



While visiting the Museum, you may want to take advantage of other field trips offered by downtown businesses. The newspaper, Evers' hardware, the police department, the fire department, library, First State Bank, Visual Arts Center, Carroll Courts Building (lawyers and judges) and City Hall also welcome field trips. **TEACHERS MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH EACH OF THESE BUSINESSES INDIVIDUALLY!!**

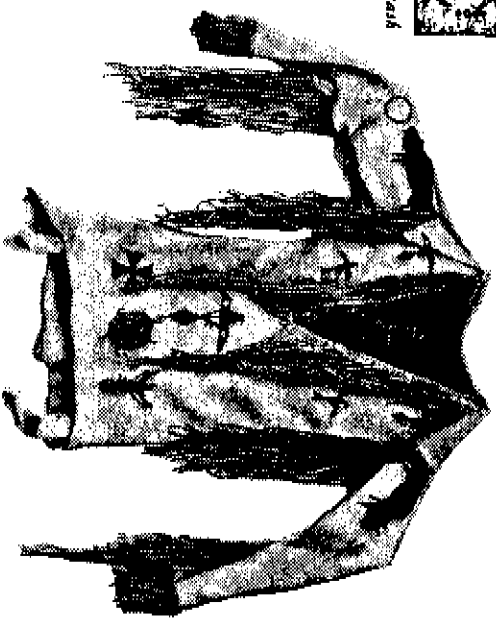
Sack lunches can be left at the Museum if need be until lunch time. The city park is only a short walk from the Museum or you can picnic on the Courthouse lawn. Buses can park on the First State Bank parking lot on E. Hickory.



Apache medicine staff

INFORMATION PLEASE!

Teachers, do you need more information about the history of the town or community to help your students develop roots in their new home? Call or write our office to see what our vertical file has to offer.



WHAT IS A TRAVELING TEACHING KIT?

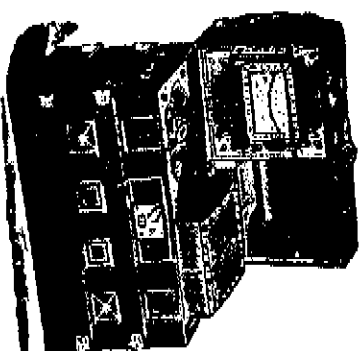
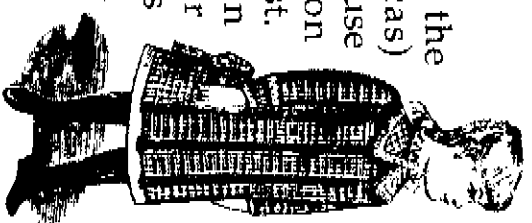
A trunk filled with turn of the century artifacts (some replicas) chosen because of their special use by the early settlers of Denton County, Texas, and the Southwest.

Students in most cases can handle the artifacts (teacher discretion is advised), discuss its use and what has replaced it in today's society. Often, the discussion will evolve into grandparents, antiques, etc.

A Traveling Teaching Kit can be a carousel of slides with a narrative. (Projector will not be furnished as most schools have them.)

Each kit has a set of instructions. Please read them carefully.

We look forward to serving the needs of the school children of Denton County. Call us to reserve a kit. **FIRST CALL, FIRST RESERVED!!**



Slides of Early Denton — From the prairie to the sod house, to the outhouse, from the split rail fence to barbed wire, in a carousel with a teacher's narrative to provide you with a trip back in time.
Videos — Available from the Museum in the Fall of 1996.

Traveling teaching kits can be delivered to the Denton County Satellite Office near you. Just follow these steps:

- ◆ Call the Museum office to reserve the kit you want to use.
- ◆ Tell the Museum staff person you want to have the kit delivered.
- ◆ The staff will give you a date and a place to pick up the kit. You will pick up the kit at the County government office agreed upon and return the kit to the same government office.
- ◆ Before you return the kit to the County government office, turn the card over in the plastic packet and the Museum's return address will appear. The Denton County Mail Van will return the kit to the Museum for you.

We want to make it easy for you to use the Traveling Teaching Kits.

Early School Kit — Use the teacher's manual with items such as slates, school bells, McGuffey readers, and a dance cap.
Ask about Artifact Bingo Kit
Jones Farm and Archeology Kit — This kit was prepared by the University of North Texas. The teacher's manual provides details on a "dig" with pictures and archeological artifacts like petrified wood, brick fragments, horseshoe nails, and cartridge shells.

HISTORY OF THE DENTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE ON THE SQUARE

In 1856 the County Seat was moved to Denton. The very first courthouse was built on the North side of the square. The wood frame courthouse burned in 1875 destroying all of the County records. Some of the townspeople felt the Sam Bass and his gang were responsible for the fire. That rumor was never confirmed.

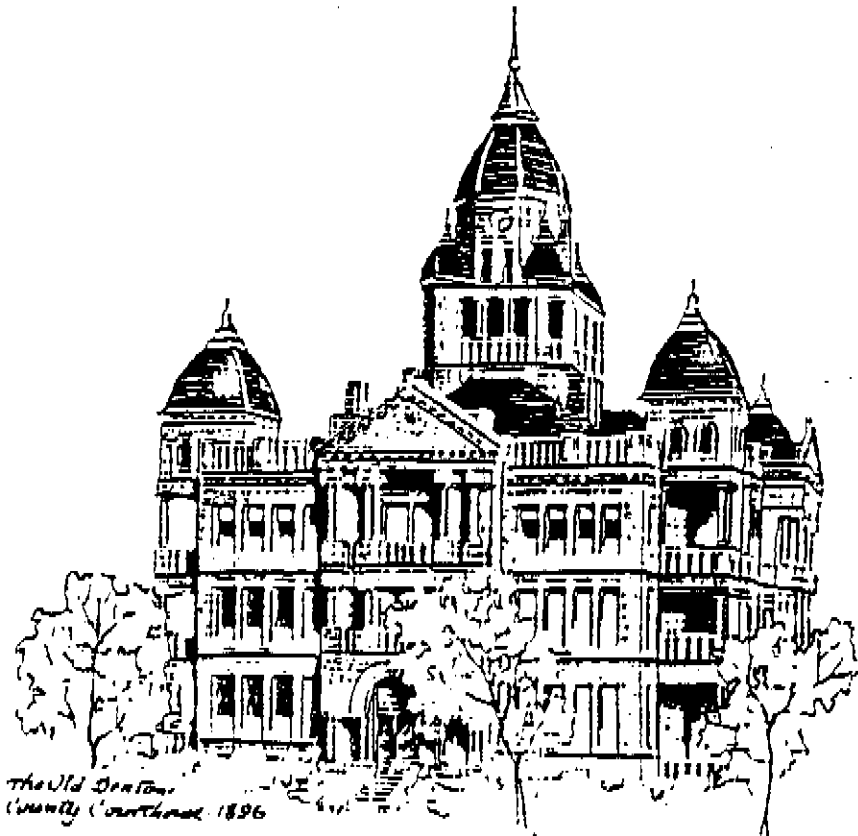
In 1877 another courthouse was built. The second courthouse was constructed of brick. In September of 1894 disaster struck again, this time in the form of lightning. The building was not destroyed but the damage was extensive. The courthouse was condemned as a result.

Between 1895 and 1896 the current Denton County Courthouse was built. The first architect of the current courthouse was James Riley Gordon. W.C. Dodson was hired to take his place for reasons never revealed. The courthouse was constructed of limestone and pink granite. Dodson liked using materials native to the area. Originally the source of lighting for the courthouse was gas. In 1939 electricity replaced the gas lighting. The center of the courthouse is called the Rotunda.

The Courthouse on the Square houses many services and attractions. The Denton County Historical Museum is located on the first floor. Open Monday - Friday 10:30am to 4:30pm and Saturdays from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. Admission to the museum is free. Many historical artifacts can be viewed daily in the museum as well as in the courthouse hallways. Tours of the courthouse and museum are conducted by volunteers. The Commissioners Court is housed on the second floor. There are four Denton County Commissioners. The Fire Marshall is located on the third floor.

In 1985 the Denton County Courthouse on the Square received some restoration. Restoration means that work was done to make the building look like it did when it was first built.

The namesake of Denton County and The City of Denton was Captain John B. Denton. On the courthouse lawn is a burial site for Capt. Denton.



*The Old Denton
County Courthouse 1896*

QUESTIONS

1. What was the first Denton County Courthouse constructed of?
2. How was the first courthouse destroyed?
3. The second courthouse, built in 1877, was made of _____
4. What destroyed the second courthouse?
5. What is the current courthouse constructed of?
6. What was the major power source in the courthouse prior to 1939?
7. Who was the first architect of the current courthouse?
8. Who was the second architect of the current courthouse?
9. What is found on the first floor of the courthouse?
10. Who conducts the museum tours?
11. What offices are on the second floor?
12. How many County Commissioners are there?
13. What is the name of the center of the Courthouse?
14. Who is buried on the courthouse lawn?
15. What office is on the third floor of the courthouse?
16. What happened to the Courthouse on the Square in 1985?

HISTORY OF DENTON, TEXAS

- * 1800's-- Denton's biggest commercial market was cattle. Most of the land was used for either cattle grazing or crops.
- * 1836 -- At this point in time Denton County was part of the Red River County. Mexican government controlled this area of Texas at that time.
- * January 4, 1841-- W.S. Peters came to North Texas and formed the Peters Colony.
- * 1844 -- A section of Peters Colony was given to new settlers. This became Denton's first settlement, known as the Bridges Settlement. Eventually the Bridges Settlement became the city of Pilot Point.
- * 1845 -- Alton was name as the first County Seat in Denton County.
- * 1846 -- Richard Ellis, Seccession Convention President of Denton County, organized Denton County with the help of 200 voters.
- * The County and the City of Denton was named after Captain John B. Denton. Capt. Denton was killed in the battle at Keechi Valley in May of 1841. Although this battle was to have legally cleared the area of Indians they continued to be a threat.
- * April 11, 1846 -- The First Legislature of the new State of Texas created Denton County. Later that same year the County Seat was moved to Pickneyville.
- * 1855 -- C.A. Williams, sheriff and historian, sold the land that is currently known as the townsquare to Denton County.
- * 1858 -- Chinn's Chapel was completed by Elisha Chinn, a pioneer settler from Alabama.
- * Many men's clubs were established in Denton in the late part of the 1850's. One such club was The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) established in 1859.
- * 1868 -- Subscription Schools were available for Denton school children to attend. These schools were attended only during the summer (three months out of the year).
- * 1870 -- Sam Bass arrived in Texas from Indiana.
- * 1874 -- Sam Bass purchased a race horse named the "Denton Mare".
- * 1876 -- Joseph A Carroll was named as the 16th District Judge in Denton.
- * 1878 -- Sam Bass died as a result form a failed robbery attempt on July 21, 1878 (his 27th birthday).
- * 1890 -- Denton had its first college. The North Texas State Normal College(NTSNC), now The University of North Texas (UNT).
- * 1895 -- By this time in history there had been three legal executions for murder in Denton County. Denton County became the location for these executions due to a change of venue for those indicted.
- * September 23, 1903 -- Texas Woman's University opened its doors as the College Of Industrial Arts.

ACROSS

1. Who was the 16th District Judge in 1876?
8. In 1836 what county was Denton County a part of?
10. Our city was named after Captain John B. _____
11. Abbreviation for International Order of Odd Fellows.
13. What was the biggest commercial market in the 1800's?
15. Who continued to be threat even after the battle at Keechi Valley?
17. Who built Chinn's Chapel?
18. Who was the Secession Convention President in 1846?
19. How many legal executions happened in Denton by 1895?
22. The College of Industrial Arts opened it doors on _____ 23, 1903.
23. Who was the outlaw that moved to Denton in 1870?

DOWN

2. What was the name of the Denton schools in 1868?
3. What government controlled this area in 1836?
4. Where was the 2nd County Seat located?
5. What was created on April 11, 1846?
6. What battle was Capt. John B. Denton killed in?
7. What was the name of the race horse Sam Bass purchased?
9. What town did Bridges settlement become?
12. Where was the 1st County Seat located?
14. What was the name of the 1st college in Denton County (1890)?
16. The first colony was settled on January 4, 1841 by _____
20. Who was the Denton sheriff in 1855?
21. Name the 1st Denton settlement, established in 1844.

Word Bank

Alton	Mexican
Bridges	N.T.S.N.C.
C.A. Williams	Pickneyville
Cattle	Pilot Point
Denton	Red River County
Denton County	Richard Ellis
Denton Mare	Sam Bass
Elishja Chinn	September
Indians	Subscription Schools
I.O.O.F.	Three
Joseph A Carroil	W.S. Peters
Keechi Valley	

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Argyle

In 1876, a railroad surveyor named Argyle after a French garden. Argyle also has a "Wolf Tree", farmers used to hang dead wolves in the area. They have since stopped doing this. A mysterious bank robbery has not been solved since 1912. Two men robbed the Argyle State Bank of \$1,700.00--and got away with it. In 1976, Argyle had its Centennial Celebration

Aubrey

Founded in 1870 by Noah Edwards, Aubrey is one of the cities in Denton County that grows peanuts. After many disasters, fires and tornadoes, the one thing that stopped Aubrey from growing as big as Dallas was the automobile. Farmers could then drive to bigger cities to shop instead of going to Aubrey.

Bartonville

The first County Seat of Denton County was in Alton, which is near the town of Bartonville. The Double Oak School is the only school still standing from the 1800's. Also in this time period the Chinn's Chapel and Cemetery was built by Elisha Chinn in 1858.

Bolivar

In 1850, Bolivar's name was New Prospect. In 1861, the townspeople voted on the name of Bolivar. The famous Denton County outlaw, Sam Bass, worked on a local man's ranch as a ranch hand, The Dad Egan Ranch. A hotel in the 1880's that was owned by Jess Sartin had a flowing well in its lobby.

Cielo

This lake community was started in 1936 and died in 1943. Cielo is east of I35 and next to Shady Shores. Now Cielo hosts a private airport and at one time a movie production company. The movies that made Cielo famous were "The Killer Shrews", "The Giant Gilla Monster", and "My Dog Buddy".

Flower Mound

Flower Mound is located in an area called the East Cross Timbers. This area was heavily populated by a forest when the settlers arrived. In 1844, a family bought the land with the "mound". Before the family bought the land, the Wichita Indians lived on the land. It is believed that no structure has been able to stay on the 50 foot mound.

Bridges/Hebron

The Bridges Colony, the oldest settlement, is located in what is now The Colony. It was renamed to Hebron after the name of Bridges. The original settlers of North Texas were from the Peters Colony, some of them founded Bridges/Hebron in 1843, two years before Texas became a state. In 1884, the Furneaux family built a mansion to copy the one they owned in France.

Justin

Justin is located near the Denton Creek in West Denton County. This creek would flood so much that farmers could not travel north or west until the creek waters went down. In 1845, the year Texas became a state, some French settlers were headed to Hebron, most were pushing handcarts, and settled on the area that is now Justin. The weather turned bad, their doctor left for Pilot Point and most of them got sick. They all moved to Dallas or Illinois.



ACROSS

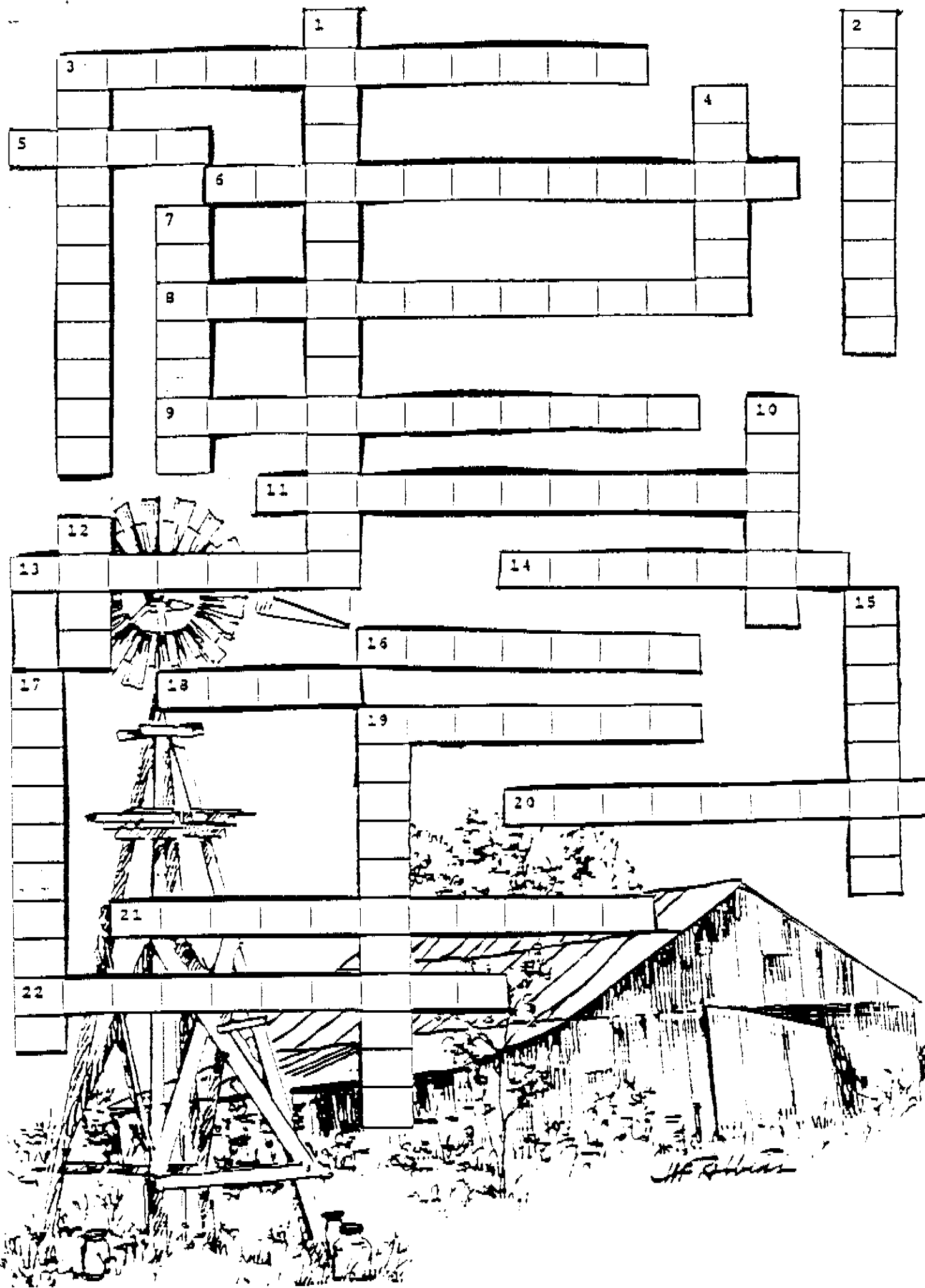
3. What was Argyle named after?
5. Argyle's famous _____ tree.
6. Elisha Chinn's Church built in 1858.
8. Ranch that Sam Bass worked on.
9. Founded Aubrey in 1880's.
11. City of Bolivar's first name, 1850.
13. Aubrey's biggest commercial market.
14. Cielo community currently has an _____.
16. Flower Mound is located in East Cross _____.
18. Cielo is _____ of 135.
19. Name of the oldest settlement that became Hebron.
20. Bartonville's historic school.
21. Name of Justin creek that always flooded.
22. Invention that stopped Aubrey's growth.

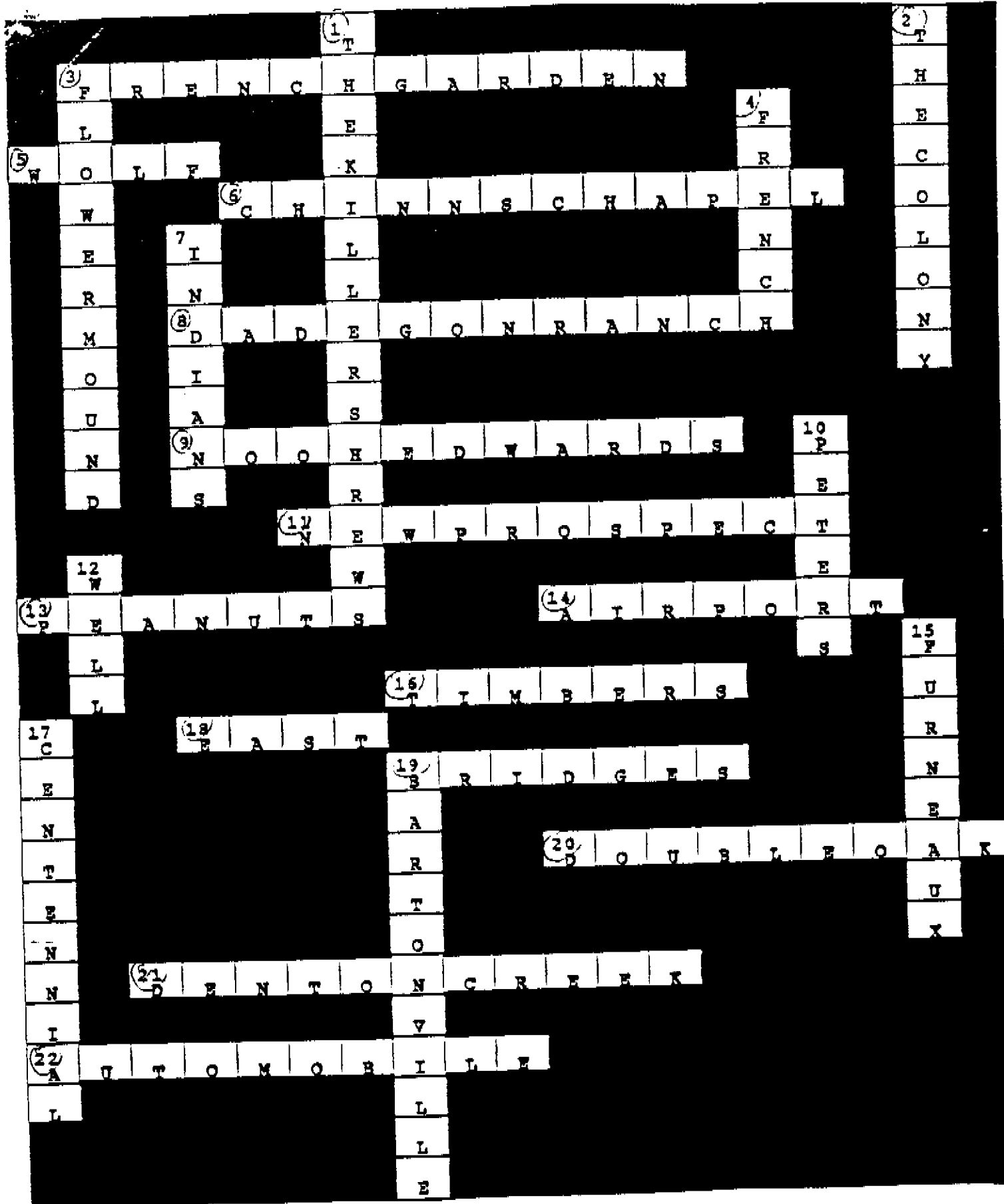
DOWN

1. First movie filmed in Cielo.
2. Hebron/Bridges is now located in _____.
3. Town's name for 50 foot mound.
4. Nationality of 1st settlers in Justin.
7. The Wichita _____ inhabited Flower Mound.
10. Hebron was part of the _____ Colony.
12. Jess Sartin's hotel lobby had a flowing _____.
15. Famous Hebron mansion built in 1884.
17. 1876-1976 marks Argyle's _____ Celebration.
19. Alton, the 1st County Seat was located near _____.

Word Bank

Airport	French Garden
Automobile	Furneaux
Bartonville	Indians
Bridges	New Prospect
Centennial	Nooh Edwards
Chinn's Chapel	Peanuts
Dad Egon Ranch	Peters
Denton Creek	The Colony
Double Oak	The Killer Shrews
East	Timber
Flower Mound	Wolf
French	





Krum

The heirs of Charles Despallier, who fought and died in the Alamo, were given 1,920 acres of land in 1857. Around 1888, the railroad came to Krum and the old Santa Fe Depot Freight office was built. In May of 1963, this landmark was finally demolished. Justin, Ponder, and Krum are all in Denton County's "Breadbasket" area where grain and dairy products are most abundant.

Lake Dallas

Garza, the original name of Lake Dallas, is in the South Denton County area. On November 10, 1927 the town of Garza changed forever, the dam on the Elm Fork of the Trinity River was completed. The lake created by this dam was called Lake Dallas. In 1908, the family of the Gotchers donated land for the town square of Garza.

Lewisville

In 1847, Basdeal W. Lewis secretly traded for 240 acres of land for a trading post. He disappeared and another trading post started up. These men named the settlement that followed, Lewisville, after Mr. Lewis. In 1925, Lewisville became a town and M.D. Flagg was its first mayor. The Lake Dallas Reservoir was enlarged. The new dam located in Lewisville was renamed the Lewisville Dam in 1955.

Little Elm

Founded in 1845, Little Elm has one of the smallest Post Offices in the nation. When the Garza-Little Elm Lake (Lake Lewisville) was built the town of Little Elm had to be moved or else drown in the waters. Mrs. J.M. Harris said in her book, 112 Years in Little Elm, "Little Elm isn't large and some of it is not even pretty but it still produces some good people." (1956)

Pilot Point

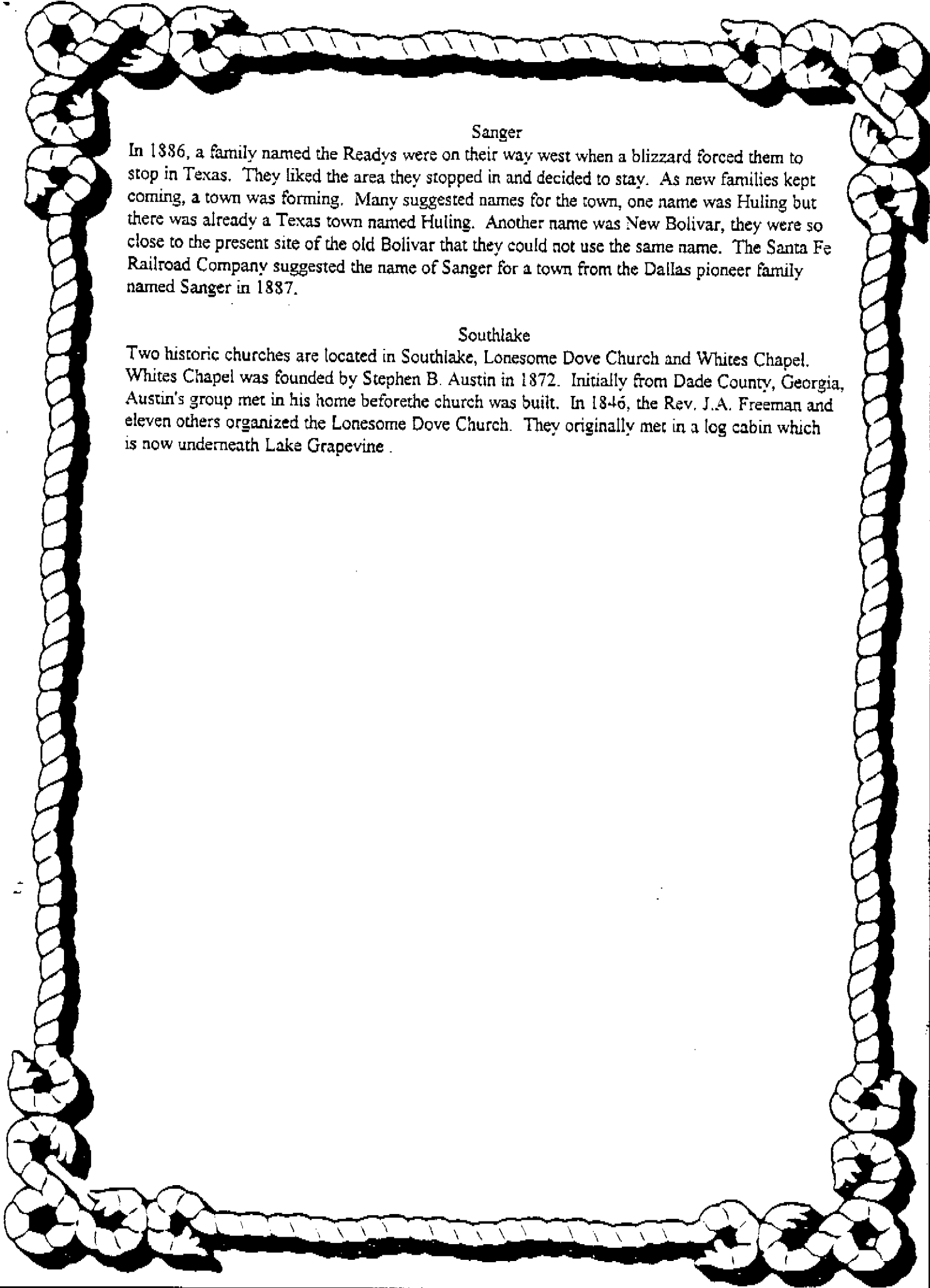
Settlers came to Pilot Point in 1846, a year after Little Elm. The first Denton Newspaper was called the "Vedette". After the Civil War it was only six columns wide. Also, the first Denton college was in Pilot Point, called the Franklin College. This college did not close until there were two colleges in Denton. In 1907, Pilot Point had the largest Cotton Gin in Texas. It made about 8,000 bales of cotton in a year.

Ponder

The first name of the town of Ponder was Gerald. They could not keep the name Gerald because there was already a town in Texas with the same name, so the citizens chose the name Ponder. This name came from their best citizen, W.A. Ponder of Denton because he held the most land to the west of Ponder. Noted as the highest town in Denton County, Ponder is 735 feet above sea level. Ponder is surrounded by ranches.

Roanoke

The first name of Roanoke was Medlin, followed by Garden Valley then its name now. This town was founded in 1847. It was named after a railroad workers hometown of Roanoke, Virginia. Before the Civil War, a ghost town was found near Roanoke, Elizabethtown. It died when the railroad went through Roanoke and Justin. Smiley Moore used to have an Indian Museum on the southern edge of Lake Grapevine.



Sanger

In 1886, a family named the Readys were on their way west when a blizzard forced them to stop in Texas. They liked the area they stopped in and decided to stay. As new families kept coming, a town was forming. Many suggested names for the town, one name was Huling but there was already a Texas town named Huling. Another name was New Bolivar, they were so close to the present site of the old Bolivar that they could not use the same name. The Santa Fe Railroad Company suggested the name of Sanger for a town from the Dallas pioneer family named Sanger in 1887.

Southlake

Two historic churches are located in Southlake, Lonesome Dove Church and Whites Chapel. Whites Chapel was founded by Stephen B. Austin in 1872. Initially from Dade County, Georgia, Austin's group met in his home before the church was built. In 1846, the Rev. J.A. Freeman and eleven others organized the Lonesome Dove Church. They originally met in a log cabin which is now underneath Lake Grapevine .



ACROSS

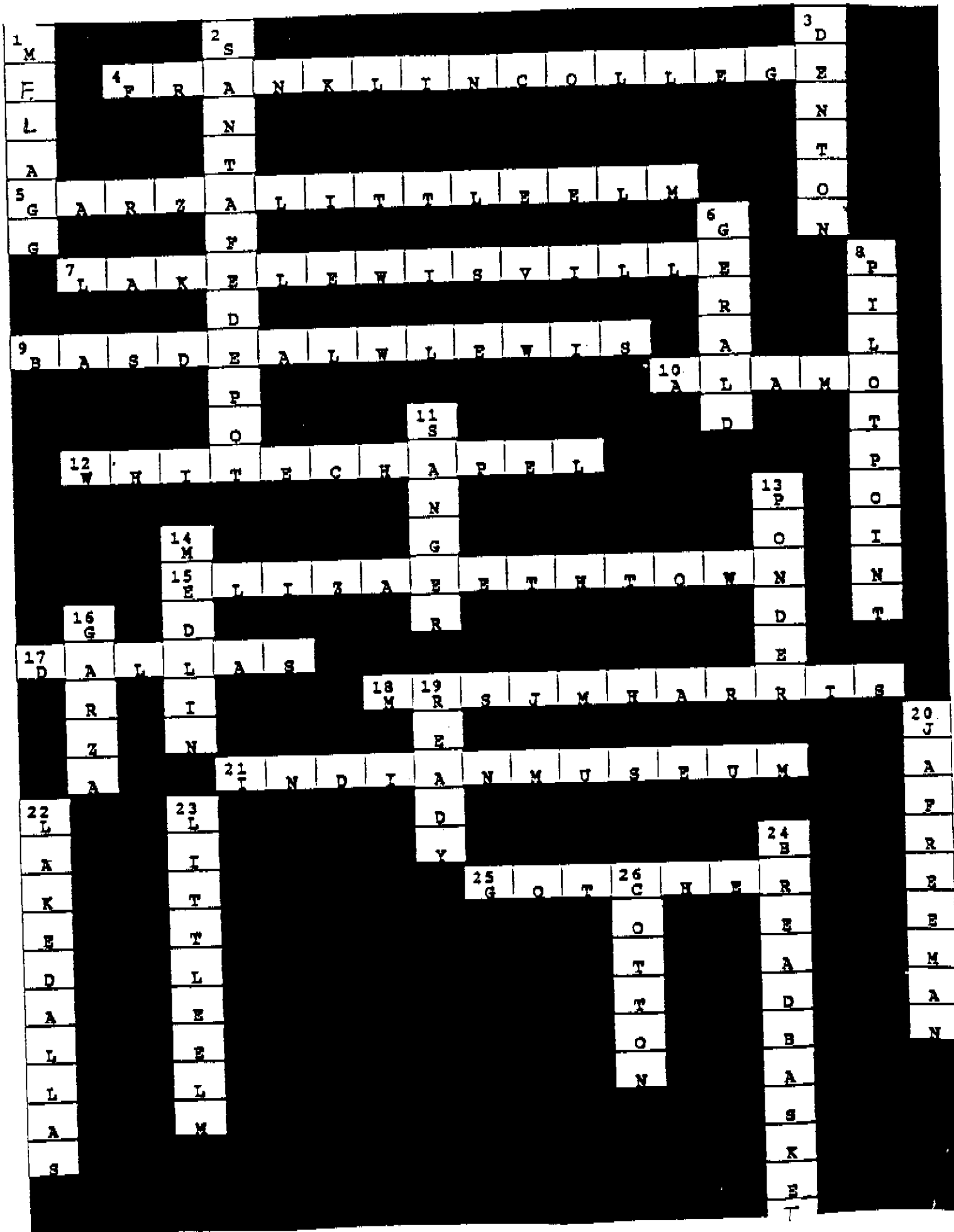
4. 1st College in Denton County.
5. Original name for Lake Lewisville.
7. Caused Little Elm to move.
9. Lewisville named after _____.
10. Krum started by heirs of the _____.
12. S.B. Austin chapel founded in Southlake.
15. Name of Ghost town near Roanoke.
17. Sanger named for pioneer family from _____.
18. "112 Years in Little Elm" by _____.
21. Smiley Moore's business.
25. Name of family that donated town square to Garza.
(Now known as Lake Dallas)

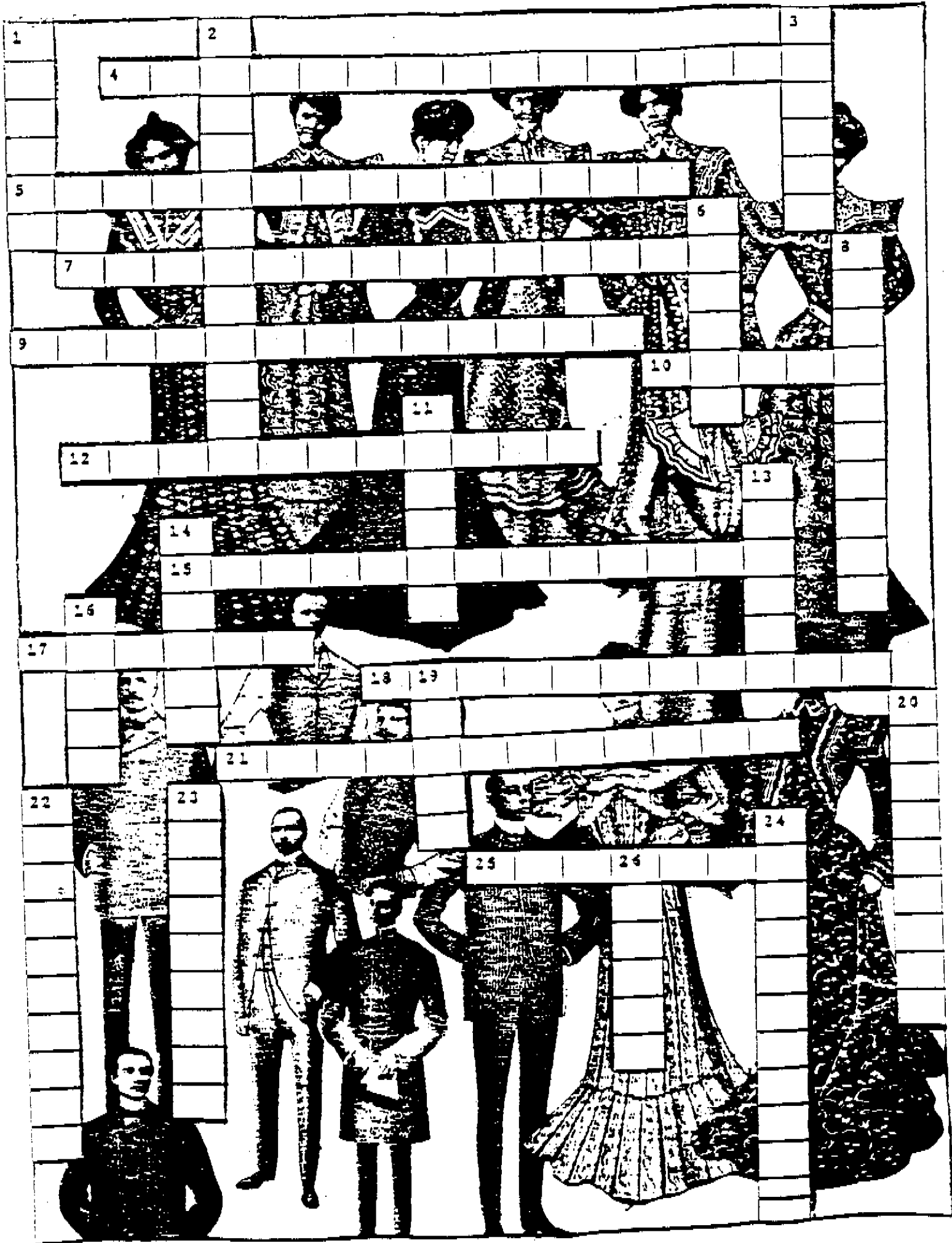
DOWN

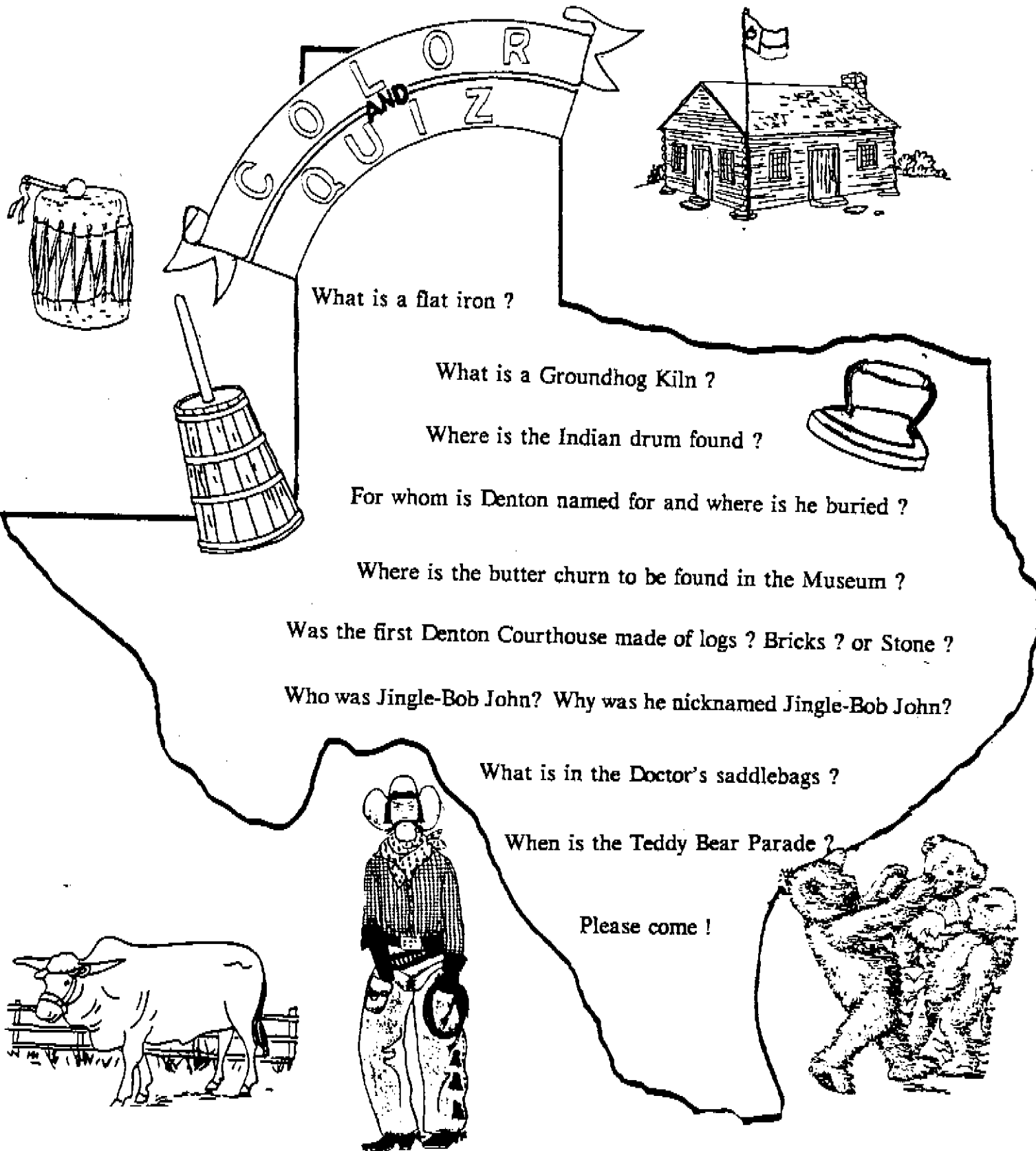
1. First Lewisville mayor.
2. Krum landmark that was demolished in 1963.
3. Ponder named for W.A. Ponder form _____.
6. 1st name of town of Ponder.
8. The Vedette, Denton County's 1st newspaper published in _____.
11. Town that was born in a blizzard.
13. Highest town in Denton County.
14. 1st name of the town of Roanoke.
16. Original name of Lake Dallas.
19. 1st family of Sanger.
20. Lonesome Dove Church founded by _____.
22. Name of new lake opened on Nov. 10, 1927.
23. Home of one of the smallest Post Offices.
24. Krum is in Denton's " _____ " area.
26. Texas' largest _____ gin located in Pilot Point.

Word Bank

Alamo	J.A. Freeman
Basdeal W. Lewis	Lake Dallas
Breadbasket	Lake Lewisville
Cotton	Little Elm
Dallas	M. Flagg
Denton	Medlin
Elizabethtown	Mrs. J.M. Harris
Franklin College	Pilot Point
Garza	Ponder
Garza Little Elm	Ready
Gerald	Sanger
Gotcher	Santa Fe Depot
Indian Museum	White Chapel

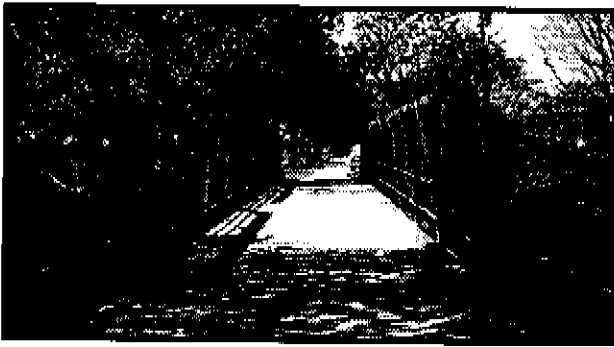






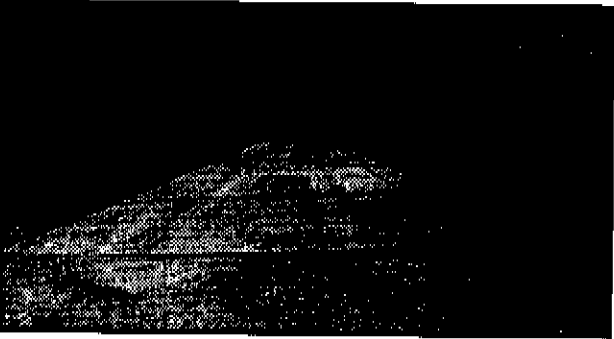
DENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
 Is Located on 1st Floor of the Courthouse-On-The-Square
 817-565-8697 or 1-800-346-3189

HISTORIC IRON BRIDGES OF DENTON COUNTY TEXAS



CLEAR CREEK AT NICHOLSON ROAD (#10)

Built by Austin Brothers in 1907; currently provides service to FM 2164 to the east, and to I-35 by Rector Road to the west. Span 137'2", width 12'2", rail 8'0".



CLEAR CREEK AT WADE ROAD (#11)

This bridge provides service from Wise County to FM 2450 and to northwest Denton County. Situated northwest of Bolivar, it was constructed in 1908 by Austin Brothers Contractors. County Commissioner was J.M. Gary. Span 215'0", rail 8'0".



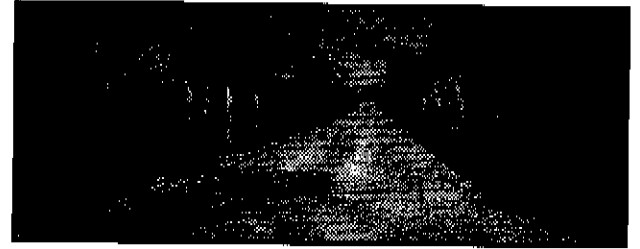
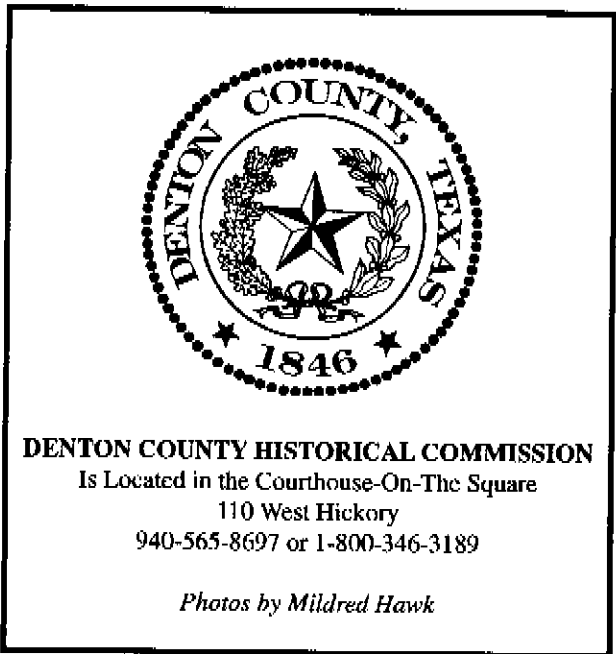
HICKORY CREEK AT TOM COLE ROAD (#12)

This bridge was built in 1910 by Austin Brothers Bridge Company. This bridge is in good condition and is on a feeder road to FM 156. The bridge is slated to be removed from use. It is hoped that it will be moved downstream from its original location and used as a park trail for hiking and horseback riding.



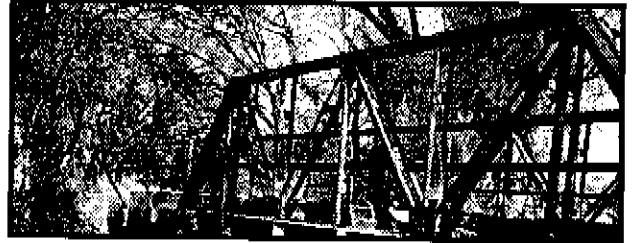
HICKORY CREEK AT COPPER CANYON ROAD (#15)

Located on Hickory Creek at Copper Canyon Road. It's just south of the Village of Alton (the 1851 site of Denton County government). Built in 1884 by the King Iron and Bridge Manufacturing Company of Cleveland, Ohio, and stands alone as the last remaining Pratt Truss Bridge in Denton County. The Old Alton Bridge was included in the National Register of Historic Places, July 8, 1988.



HICKORY CREEK AT SKILES ROAD (#13)

Situated east of Ponder; provides service between FM 156 and the Wise County area. The bridge has no visible markings or plates except "rebuilt by Salmon 1974." Span 64'0", width 21'0".



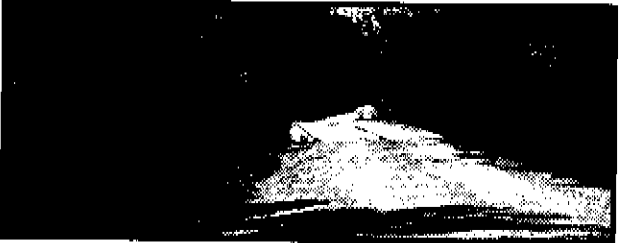
LITTLE ELM AT TOM COLE ROAD (#14)

This portion of Tom Cole Road has been closed and the bridge abandoned on private property.



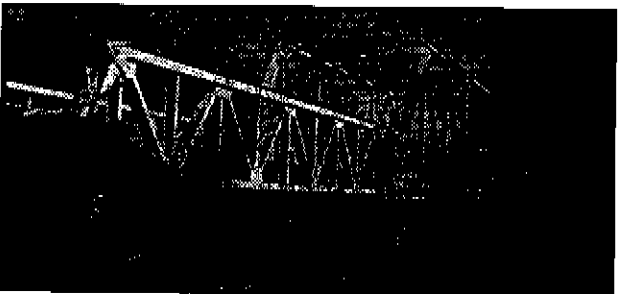
HENRIETTA CREEK AT LITSEY ROAD (#16)

Located west of Roanoke; provides service from Grapevine Lake to I-35 and the northern part of Tarrant County. Built in 1904 by the George King Bridge Co. at a cost of \$1,780. Unlike other bridges surveyed, this bridge has cable supports across the span.



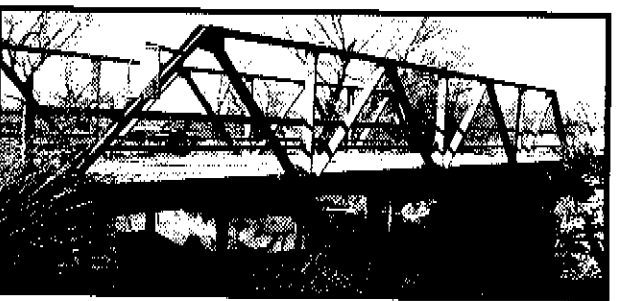
DENTON CREEK AT COUNTY LINE ROAD (#17)

This bridge is located west of Stony. It's on a feeder road linking Old Stony Road FM 2622 and US 380. This bridge is slated for removal. It is hoped that this beautiful bridge can be removed to the Central City Park in Denton.



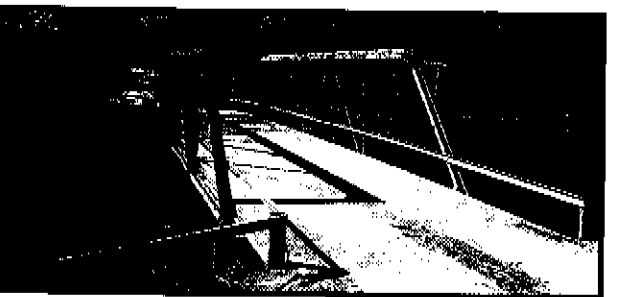
ELM FORK, TRINITY RIVER, FM 428 (#1)

This bridge was built around 1990 when FM 428 was widened. It stands in its original location and is slated to become part of the Green Belt Park between Denton and Lake Ray Roberts. This is located just west of Aubrey. It was used as a feeder road between Aubrey and Denton and Sanger. It also was a mail route between the communities. Its original location was precinct 1. J.F. Morgan, Commissioner.



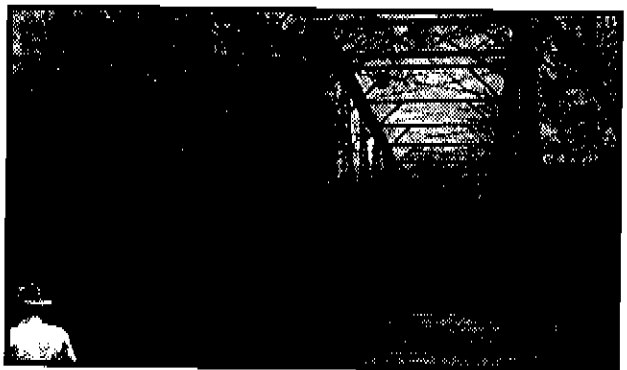
SOUTH HICKORY CREEK AT DONALD ROAD (#2)

This bridge, built in 1903, is located south of what is now FM 1173. It is a steel elevated superstructure with no visible markings or plates. The bridge served as part of a postal route in far northwest Denton County and southern Cooke County. Span 59'0", width 17'0", concrete roadbed.



NORTH HICKORY CREEK AT PLAINVIEW ROAD (#3)

This steel elevated superstructure bridge was built in 1903 by The George E. King Co. It is located near Krum and serves as a service road to FM 1173. Its span is 12'0", width 12'0". This bridge is slated to be replaced. It is hoped to be moved to the new Krum park, land which was donated by the City of Krum.



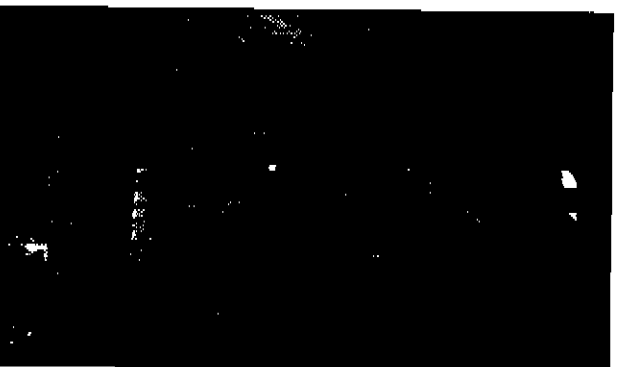
CLEAR CREEK AT SAM BASS ROAD (#4)

This bridge was constructed by Austin Brothers Contractors at a cost of \$1,500 in 1908. Span 150', width 12'6". Located near Duck Creek Cemetery; served far northwest Denton County residents and Wise County residents as part of their postal route.



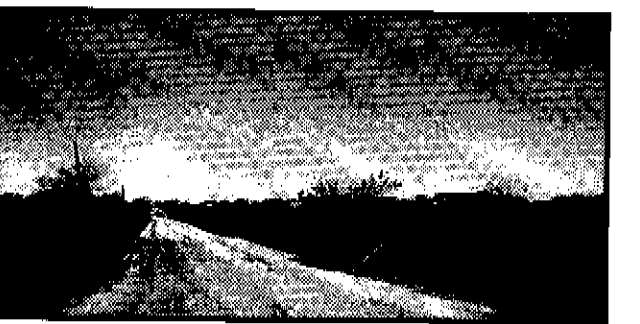
MILAM CREEK AT GANZER ROAD (#5)

This bridge was constructed in 1904 by George King Construction Co., and currently provides service to I-35 from Hawkeye, Hopkins and Ganzer roads. Span 25'0", width 12'7", Rail 5'6".



DUCK CREEK AT SAM BASS ROAD (#6)

Located northwest of the town of Sanger, serves Nance, Chisum, Lois and Betty Roads by connecting them to I-35 which then leads north into Cooke County. Span 40'0", width 13'0", Rail 4'7".



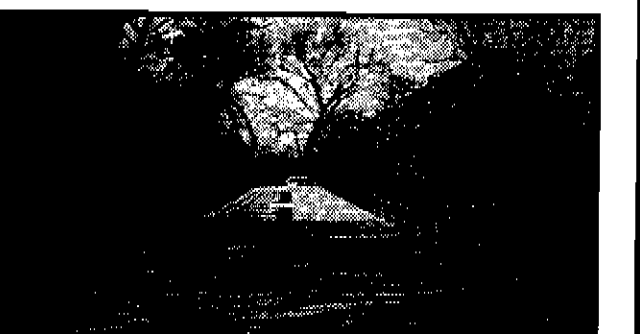
DUCK CREEK AT GREGORY ROAD (#7)

Constructed by King Iron Bridge Co., Cooke County line. Serves Pollard, Gregory and Hoehn roads into Cooke County. Span 65'0", width 18'7", Rail 7'0".



CLEAR CREEK AT RECTOR ROAD (#8)

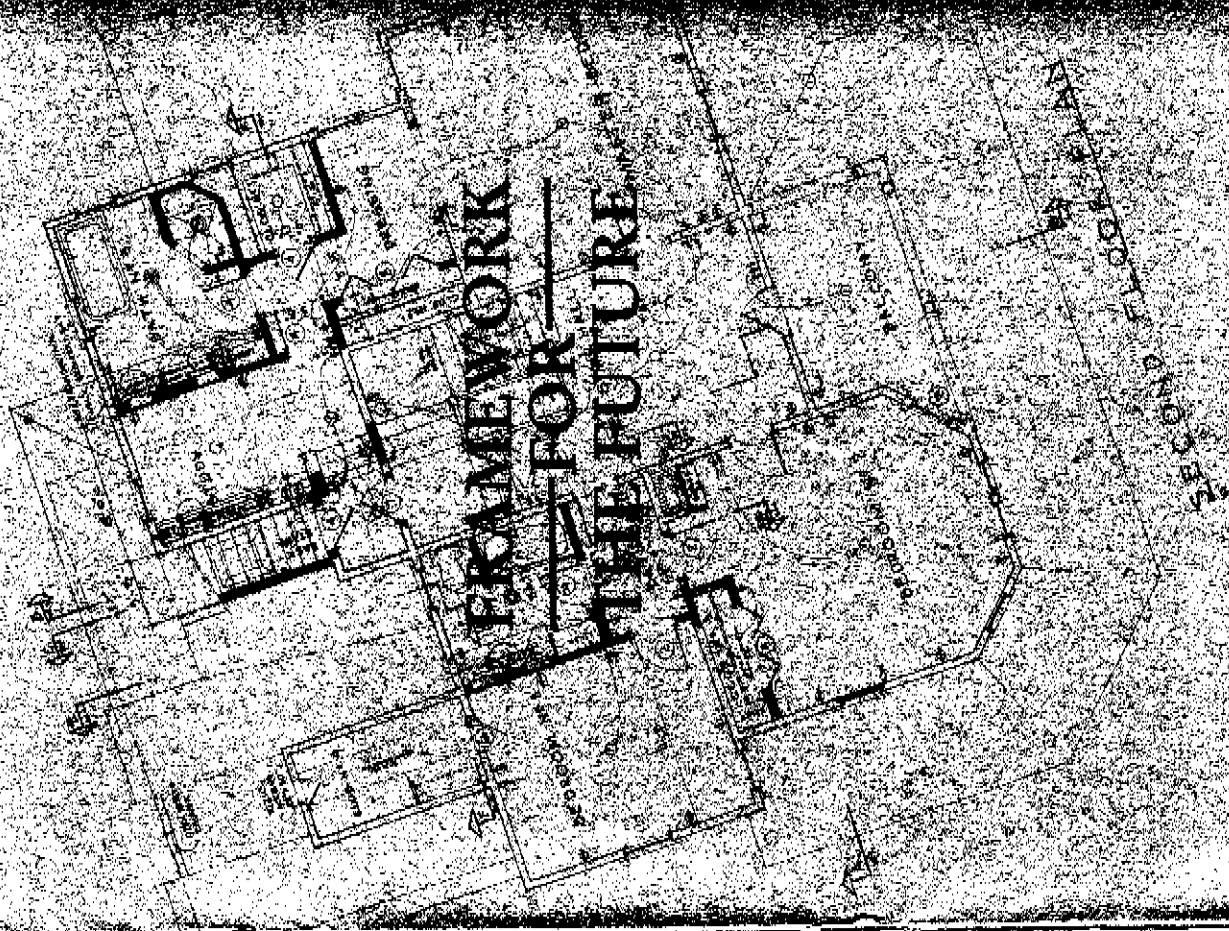
Built by Austin Brothers in 1907; serves Rector Road, which is a connector road from the town of Sanger to I-35. Span 113'2", width 12'8".



DUCK CREEK AT BELZ ROAD (#9)

Feeds east into I-35 and northwest into Cooke County. No identifying markers or plates to determine when built or by whom.

A PRESERVATION GUIDEBOOK
FOR DENTON, TEXAS



A PRESERVATION GUIDEBOOK FOR DENTON, TEXAS

Credits Denton Historic Landmark Commission

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W.A. Barker
Liz Bays
Elinor Caldwell
Rita Holcomb
Mary McCain
George Spuller

City Council

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Jane Hopkins, Mayor Pro Tem
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Jane Biles, Main Street Manager/
Preservation Officer
Eileen Scott, Historic Landmark
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FRAMEWORK —FOR— THE FUTURE

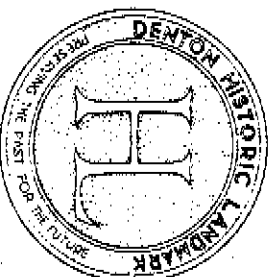
This project was funded in part through a Certified Local Government grant from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, as administered by the Texas Historical Commission.

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“RESEARCH REMAINS THE KEY to historic Tracking
preservation efforts. Like the genealogist, the building researcher must use ingenuity and imagination in searching for possible new sources.”
the Past
Frederick I. Olson

Researching your property's history can be exciting and fun. But it can also be quite frustrating! The following are good resources to help you begin your search.

- Archives (local)
- Architectural plans and drawings
- Art (local)
- Assessment records
- Bibliographies
- Building inspection records
- Cemetery records
- Census records
- City directories
- Conference proceedings
- Deeds and deed records
- Directories (telephone and criss-cross)
- Dissertations and theses
- Film and videotape
- Genealogical records
- Historical organizations and museums
- Household inventory
- Insurance records
- Legal resources
- Magazines and Newspapers
- Maps
- Obituaries
- Oral History
- Photographs and slides
- Postcards
- Probate records
- Reports, plans and feasibility studies
- Sound recordings
- Surveys and inventories
- Trade catalogs
- Wills

REMODELING OLD HOUSES WITHOUT DESTROYING THEIR CHARACTER. George Stephen. New York: Knopf, 1972.

RENOVATION A COMPLETE GUIDE. Michael Lit-
chfield. New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1982.

THE OLD-HOUSE JOURNAL COMPENDIUM. Clem Labine and Carolyn Flaherty, eds. Woodstock, NY: Overlook Press, 1980.

THE OLD-HOUSE JOURNAL COMPENDIUM: A COMPLETE HOW-TO GUIDE FOR SENSITIVE REHABILITATION. Patricia Pore and Clem Labine, eds. New York: Doubleday, 1983.

THE OLD-HOUSE JOURNAL CATALOG: A BUYER'S GUIDE FOR THE PRE-1939 HOUSE. Old-House Journal Editors, Brooklyn, NY: Old-House Journal Corp., 1983.

The Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland, is an excellent resource for preservation information. Early additions as well as the current addition of the Denton Polk City Directory are available for historic research at the library. In addition to the referenced materials and the Polk directories, an annotated bibliography assembled by the Historic Landmark Commission is also available. The listed publications can be obtained through the public library or from the following sources:

Preservation Shop
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1600 H. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Old-House Journal Corporation
69A Seventh Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11217

“PRESERVATIONISTS ARE CITIZENS of the future, not the past.”

—Clem Labine

Introduction

What is preservation? The term is often associated with negative images: trouble makers, bulldozers, higher taxes and slow progress.

In reality, preservation is economically viable, progressive, responsible and widely accepted. It is an endeavor that involves the entire community and not just a choice few.

A community with sound preservation values can experience tremendous economic benefits. By preserving historic homes and commercial business districts, the community promotes a high quality of life that stabilizes neighborhoods, protecting the tax base. Individual property values are also protected, even enhanced by sensitively maintaining properties in the same neighborhood.

In an effort to capitalize on these economic benefits, the community of Denton has taken an active position in the area of preservation. The City Council passed the Historic Landmark Preservation and Historic Districts ordinance to help preserve properties of architectural, historical, and cultural significance. This ordinance established a City Council appointed nine-member Historic Landmark Commission. The Commission serves as the official regulatory body on preservation within the City.

The purpose of the Denton Preservation Plan is to educate the community on preservation and aid property owners in understanding the value of their investment.

History

DENTON COUNTY, founded in 1846 on the eastern edge of the Grand Prairie, is named for pioneer John B. Denton. In the county's first decade there were four county seats, and in 1856 the citizens voted to locate the county seat in the newly created town of Denton, the geographical center of the county.

The townsite originally comprised 100 acres donated by local landowners. Surveyors divided the 100 acres into 33 blocks, with a public square. The town was in the form of a rectangle, bounded roughly by McKinney Street on the north, Highland on the south, Cedar on the west, and the present railroad tracks on the east.

In the first days of the county seat, from 1856 to perhaps 1880, commercial buildings lined the south and west side of the square, and residential construction was south of the square along Elm and Locust Streets. Most of the early buildings in the community were probably constructed with stone foundation and wooden walls. Few structures of that period have survived.

Throughout the history of Denton, fire destroyed many buildings on the square and in residential sections. One of the most notable fires occurred Christmas week of 1875. The timber courthouse on the north side of the square was destroyed. Almost all county records were lost.

The county commissioners decided to build a new brick courthouse in the middle of the square which stood until 1894 when the grand jury declared it unsafe. The present courthouse was completed in 1896 and restored in 1987. The courthouse is home to the County Commissioners Court and the Denton County Historical Museum, one of the city's finest cultural assets.

The city has a long history of commitment to education in Texas. At least eight subscription schools were in operation as early as the 1860's. Now the home of The University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University, the city maintains an outstanding collegiate environment.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Tx 78711
(512) 463-6100

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

1735 New York Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 626-7300
(Local architects are members.)

PUBLICATIONS

THE BUILDINGS OF MAIN STREET. Richard Longstrath. Washington D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1987.

THE COMFORTABLE HOUSE: NORTH AMERICAN SUBURBAN ARCHITECTURE, 1890-1930. *Salan Goussin.* Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1989.

A FIELD GUIDE TO AMERICAN HOUSES. Virginia and Lee McAlester. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990.

RESPECTFUL REHABILITATION: ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT OLD BUILDINGS. Technical Preservation Services, US Department of the Interior. Washington, DC: The Preservation Press, 1982.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION. Gary L. Hume and Kay D. Weeks. Technical Preservation Services, US Department of the Interior. Washington, DC: GPO, 1983.

TECHNICAL PRESERVATION BRIEFS. Technical Preservation Services, US Department of the Interior. Washington, DC: GPO

Resources

The following resources offer helpful information concerning preservation.

ORGANIZATIONS

CITY OF DENTON

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION

215 E. McKinney

Denton, Tx 76201

(817) 566-8350

DENTON COUNTY

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Courthouse on the Square

110 W. Hickory

Denton, Tx 76201

1-800-346-3189, (817) 565-8693, (817) 565-8697

DENTON MAIN STREET PROGRAM

The Texas Building

100 W. Oak, Suite 204

Denton, Tx 76201

(817) 566-8529

NATIONAL TRUST FOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 673-4219

DENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL

MUSEUM, INC.

Courthouse on the Square

110 W. Hickory

Denton, Tx 76201

(817) 565-8693, (817) 565-8697, 1-800-346-3189

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF

DENTON COUNTY

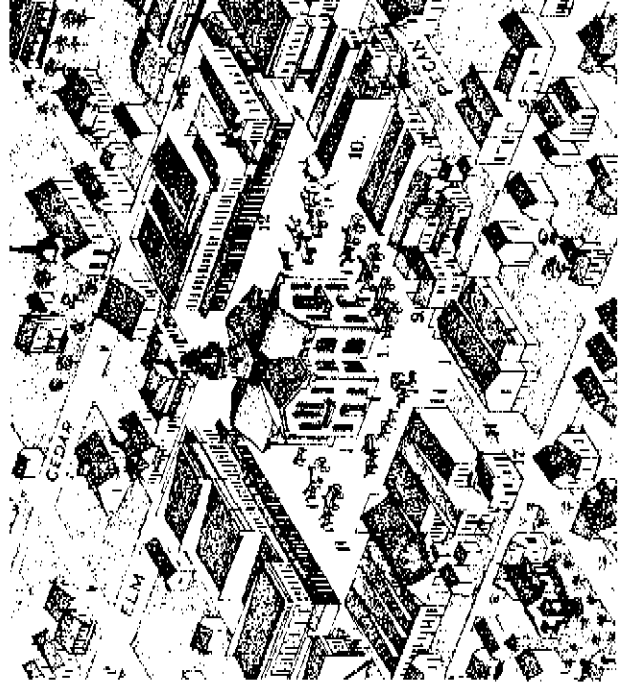
P.O. Box 50503

Denton, Tx 76206

As an officially designated Texas Main Street City and a Certified Local Government, Denton operates a downtown revitalization program based on historic preservation. The manager for this program also serves as the official Preservation Officer.

As a community, Denton has been for many years a leader in historic preservation programs. The City has formulated a historic district ordinance, created the City Historic Landmark Commission, and established a tax abatement program for designated historic buildings and homes. Denton's dedication to preservation can be seen throughout the community. A prime example of such dedication is the Center for the Visual Arts which opened in a restored historic warehouse building in the arts district.

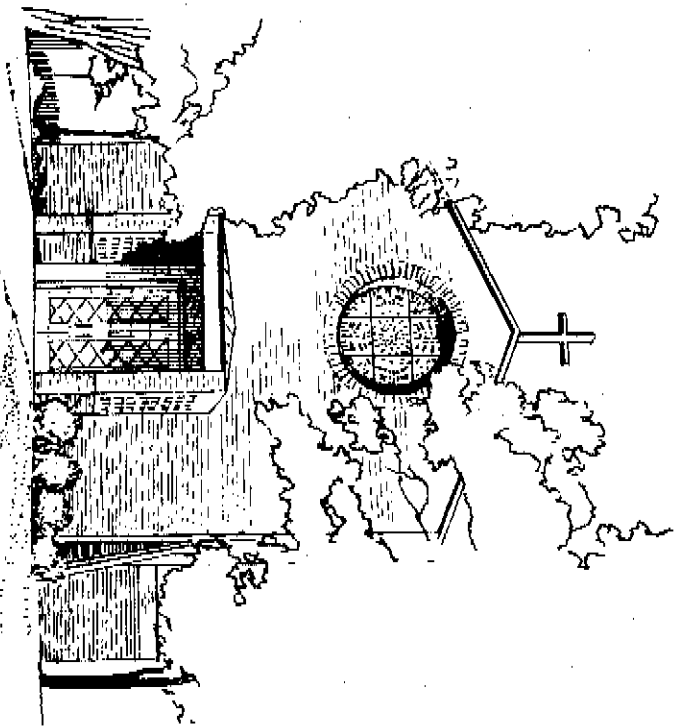
Denton, a community of over 68,000, serves as a model to Texas cities in the preservation movement.



From "Birdseye View of Denton" by Augustus Koch, 1883. Courtesy of the Historical Society of Denton County.

Mission Statement

THE HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION dedicates itself to the preservation of Denton's architectural heritage. The commission will promote preservation as a means to increase economic, cultural and educational diversity within the community. In the spirit of preservation, the commission will seek to balance preservation goals with the economic realities of the community.



"Little Chapel in the Woods" on the campus of Texas Woman's University. Designed by Orin Ed Ford.

Palladian Window: A type of opening or window with a tall round-headed center opening flanked by shorter rectangular openings.

Portico: A porch, with a roof, usually carried by columns, protecting the main entrance to a building.

Preservation: Saving old buildings, sites or objects from destruction or deterioration and providing for their continued use by restoration, rehabilitation, or adaptation.

Reconstruction: The process of creating anew. A whole new building may be built to look like an old one.

Rehabilitation: The act of putting something back in good condition similar to the way it was. A rehabilitated building retains the characteristics, style, and feeling of a certain time, but is not exactly as it was.

Restoration: The act of bringing back to a former normal or unimpaired state. Additions to a house are "peeled off" and repairs made to make it look exactly as it was at a certain time.

Local examples: Courthouse on the Square, 1004 W. Oak

Transom: A small hinged window above a door or another window.

Veranda: A roofed open gallery or porch.

Terms and Explanations

Adaptive Use: The process of converting a building to a use other than that for which it was designed.

Local example: Center for the Visual Arts, 400 E. Hickory

Baluster: An upright, often vase-shaped, support for a rail.

Balustrade: A series of balusters with a rail.

Bargeboard: A trim element running along the lower edge of a gable roof.

Bracket: A projecting support used under cornices, eaves, balconies, or windows to provide structural or purely visual support.

Cornice: The uppermost projecting molding used to crown a building or to define the meeting of wall and ceiling.

Facade: The portion of a building facing the street, exposed to public view.

Gable: The triangle wall enclosed by the sloping ends of a ridged roof.

Gambrel: The ridged roof with two slopes on each side, the lower slope having the steep pitch.

Hipped Roof: A roof with four uniformly pitched sides.

HLC: Historic Landmark Commission, a nine-member advisory board that oversees historic preservation.

Mansard Roof: A roof that has two slopes on all four sides.

Molding: A shaped strip of wood, metal, brick, etc., usually mounted horizontally, and used as ornament on a surface of a structure.

“THE BASIC PURPOSE of preservation is not to arrest time but to mediate sensitively with the force of change. It is to understand the present as a product of the past and a modifier of the future.”

John W. Lawrence

Goals

The Historic Landmark Commission has identified four areas to address concerning preservation and established a goal for each area. The goals are as follows:

Regulatory

The Historic Landmark Commission will regulate the preservation of any building, property, site or district based upon the provisions set forth by the Historic Landmark Preservation and Historic Districts Ordinance.

Educational

The Historic Landmark Commission will strive to increase community awareness of preservation by providing educational opportunities to the public and will encourage continuing education for the commissioners on current preservation issues.

Advisory

As the official regulatory body on preservation issues, the Historic Landmark Commission will serve the City Council and residents of Denton in an advisory capacity on preservation matters.

Advocacy

The Historic Landmark Commission will advance the concept of preservation and encourage the viability of preservation while considering national standards.

How To Love An Old House

AN OLD HOUSE deserves special care and attention. Ownership of an old structure brings certain responsibilities.

1. **Develop sensitivity** - Working with an old house requires respect for the people who built it as well as for the structure itself.
2. **Don't rush in** - Rehabilitation takes time, planning, and lots of patience.
3. **Learn about your house** - Research its architecture, history, and previous owners.
4. **Memorize the two golden rules** - *Thou shalt not destroy good, old work* (save as much of the original work as possible), and *To thine own style be true* (your house has a unique character; don't try to make your house something it never was).
5. **Know your goal** - Do you want to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore?
6. **Put your plans on paper** - Planning is important and can prevent wasted energy. Take inventory of the structure and its special problems. Next, look at the historical information, original paint colors, scraps of wallpaper, etc. Be sure to take "before" pictures.
7. **Don't do anything that can't be undone** - Preservation professionals say that the work you do on an old house should be reversible. Tearing out old wood-work and hauling it to the dump is irreversible! Installing aluminum ad vinyl siding on an old house often results in irreversible damage.
8. **Repair rather than replace** - Restore rather than remodel - It is better to fix the old than replace with new material and better to replace missing architectural elements (restore) than to change the character (remodel).
9. **Be proud of your work** - Don't compromise on quality. If you make a mistake, tear it out and do it again.
10. **Watch your contractors** - Contractors should be sensitive to old houses and willing to restore rather than rip out, but the responsibility to know precisely what needs to be done is the owner's.

duplications of features substantiated by historic, physical, or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other buildings or structures.

7. The surface cleaning of structures shall be undertaken with the gentlest means possible. Sandblasting and other cleaning methods that will damage the historic building materials shall not be undertaken.
8. Every reasonable effort shall be made to protect and preserve archeological resources affected by, or adjacent to, any project.
9. Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing properties shall not be discouraged when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historical, architectural, or cultural material, and such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.
10. Whenever possible, new additions or alterations to structures shall be done in such a manner that if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure would be unimpaired.

"How To Love An Old House (In 10 Easy Lessons)," *The Old House Journal Catalog*, The Old Journal Corporation, 1984.

U.S. Dept. of the Interior's Standards

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR has developed standards for preservation projects. These guidelines are used by the Texas Historical Marker Program and the National Register of Historic Places in evaluating historic projects. They are as follows:

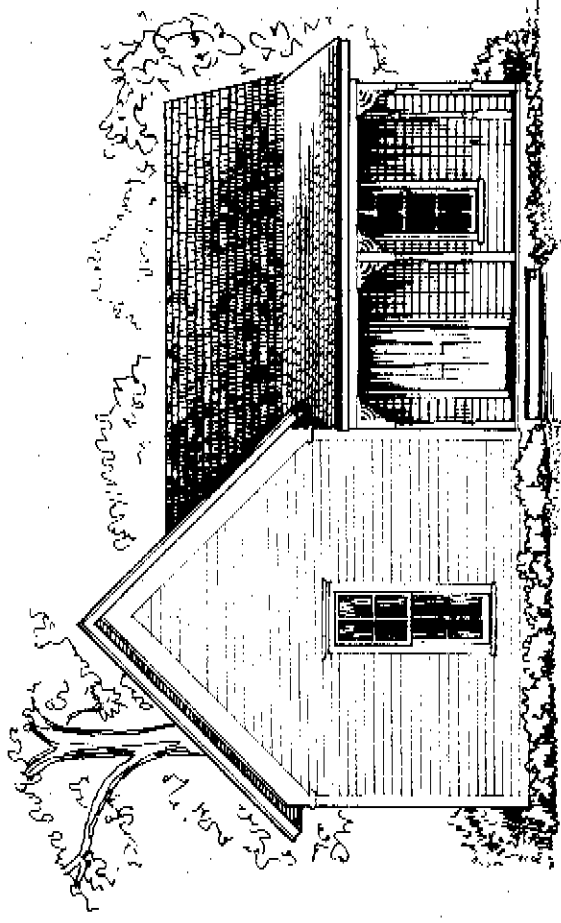
1. Every reasonable effort shall be made to provide a compatible use for a property that requires minimal alteration of the building structure or site and its environment, or to use a property for its originally intended purpose.
2. The distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site and its environment shall not be destroyed. The removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features should be avoided when possible.
3. All buildings, structures, and sites shall be recognized as products of their own time. Alterations that have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance shall be discouraged.
4. Changes which may have taken place in the course of time are evidence of the history and development of the building, structure or site, and its environment. These changes may have acquired significance in their own right, and this significance shall be recognized and respected.
5. Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship which characterize a building, structure, or site shall be treated with sensitivity.
6. Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced, wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate

“AS MORE AND MORE PEOPLE turn to restoring old houses, it is becoming apparent that certain serious mistakes are being made over and over again.”

- Morgan Phillips

1. Don't destroy the evidence. Leave a record of your work.
2. Don't over-restore. Don't add what wasn't there.
3. Don't make a building that never was.
4. Don't damage the wood when scraping paint.
5. Don't sandblast brick. Sandblasting destroys the brick's protective glaze.
6. Don't assume it can't be fixed.
7. Get the design right.
8. Don't barge ahead. Get help.

Morgan Phillips: *The Eight Most Common Mistakes in Restoring Houses and How to Avoid Them.* Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1974, p. 8.

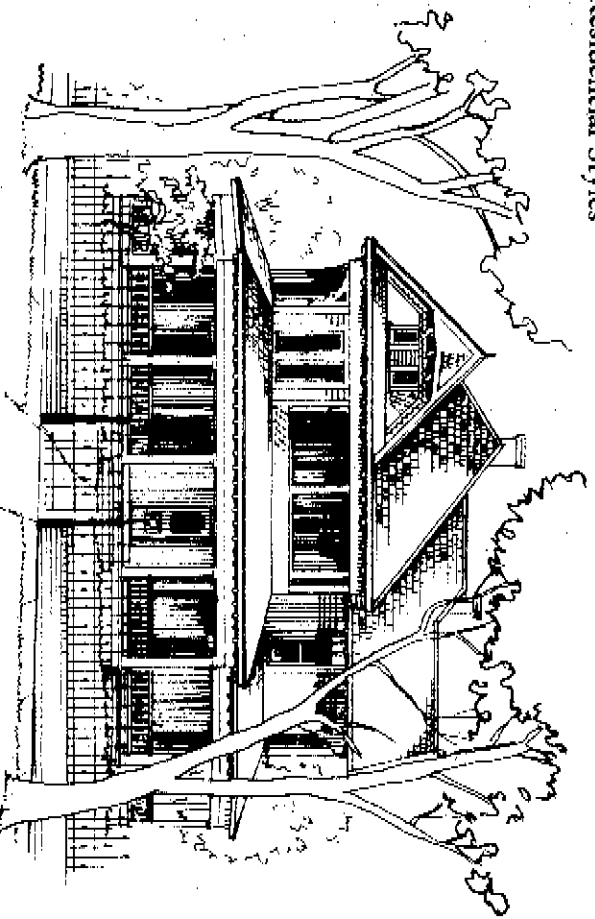


Architectural Styles

“STYLISTIC CLASSIFICATION acknowledges that building is not just a craft but an art form that reflects the philosophy, intellectual currents, hopes and aspirations of its time.”

John Poppeliers et al., What Style Is It?

Denton boasts many different architectural styles. The following styles are found in the community. No particular style may exactly match your structure, but this information can be a starting point in determining the style of your house or building.



Victorian (1870-1900)

A varied and decoratively rich style, its architectural features include towers with conical roofs, porches that encircle one or more floors, projecting attic gables, tall chimneys, and wall surfaces with many textures. Windows often contain colored glass panels.

Local example: 1004 Oak

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS Certificate of Appropriateness

A (COA) is the legal document that allows for any change to structure within a historic district or an individual designation. The following conditions require a property owner to obtain a COA:

1. Constructing a new building or making an addition to an existing building;
2. Reconstructing, altering, changing or restoring the exterior facade of any existing building;
3. Placing or locating any building;
4. Performing any act for which a COA is required by the Historic Landmark Preservation and Historic Districts Ordinance;
5. Constructing or erecting a fence, wall sign or other permanent improvement which is subject to regulation.

The COA application is available through the Planning and Development Department and the Main Street Program. Three levels of review are available. They are as follows:

- * Ordinary maintenance: reviewed by the Preservation Officer.
- * Minor Exterior Alteration: reviewed by the Preservation Officer and Executive Director of Planning and Development.
- * Significant Change: reviewed by the Historic Landmark Commission.

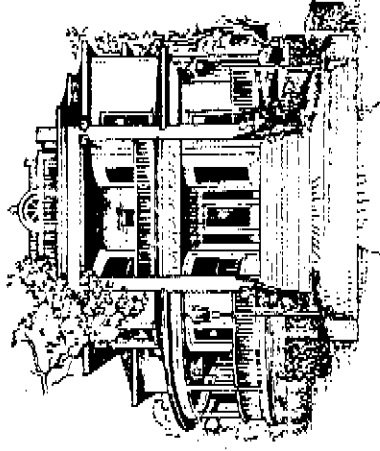
A property owner should obtain a COA from the Main Street Department at 100 W. Oak, Suite 204 or the Planning and Development Department at 215 E. McKinney.

The property owner will submit application to the Preservation Officer who will review application and identify the correct level of review.

Criteria

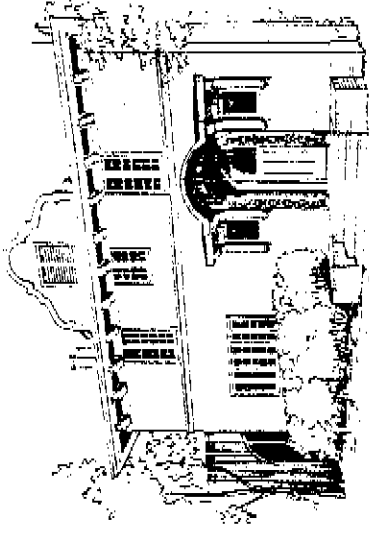
A Historic designation may be granted if the property meets one or more of the following conditions:

1. Is recognized as a recorded Texas historic landmark, a national landmark, or entered into the National Register of Historic Places.
2. Has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type of specimen.
3. Has character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the City of Denton, State of Texas, or the United States.
4. Is associated with the work of an architect or master builder whose individual work has influenced the development of the city.
5. Embodies the elements of architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation.
6. Has a relationship to other distinctive buildings, sites or areas which are eligible for preservation according to a plan based on architectural, historic or cultural motif.
7. Portrays the environment of a group of people in an area of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style.
8. Has archaeological value in that it has produced or can be expected to produce data affecting theories of historic or prehistoric interest.
9. Exemplifies the cultural, economic, social, ethnic or historical heritage of the City, State, or United States.
10. Was the site of a significant historic event.
11. Is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the City, State, or the United States.
12. Has become of historic or cultural value to a neighborhood because of its location.
13. Has value as an aspect of community sentiment or public pride.



The Classical Revival style buildings vary in many aspects but have some common elements. Roofs may be gabled, hipped, or pyramid with a low to moderate pitch. Clapboard siding is common, but sometimes brick or rusticated concrete blocks are used for walls. A large front porch usually has a pediment and classical columns. The exterior of the building is decorated with moldings and friezes and is generally painted white. Other elements which may be found include horizontal transoms over the entrance and a raised first floor.

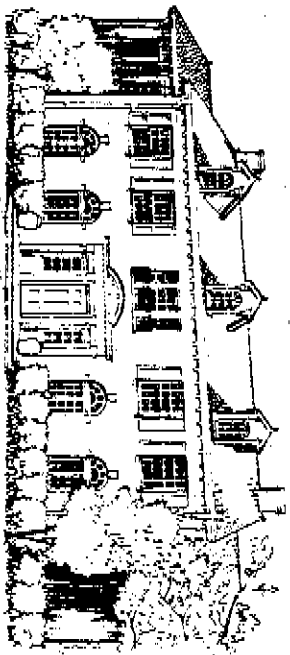
Local example: 719 Sycamore



**Mission Revival
(1890-1920)**

This style is closely related to and confused with the Spanish Colonial Revival style, but it is much more sparsely detailed and often includes flat roofs and parapets, towers, arcades, and scrolled gables typical of a Spanish mission. Walls are typically stucco or plaster. Tiles are used to outline roof edges and walls.

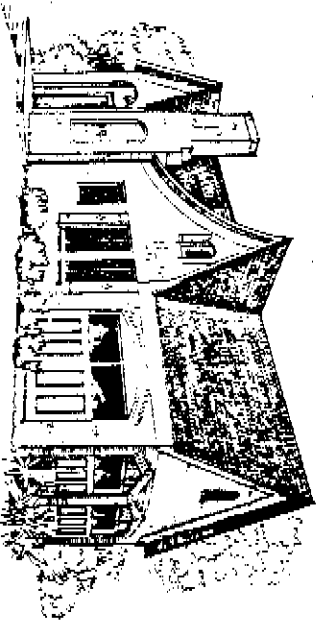
Local example: 607 Pearl



Colonial Revival
(1900-1920)

During the late nineteenth century a renewed interest in Colonial-era architecture revived several of the Georgian and Federal styles. They exhibit a balanced facade, undecorated except for the entries which were surrounded by porticoes and molded door surrounds. The usual hipped roof was enhanced by dormers and often an exaggerated chimney. Usually the houses were of frame and painted white, although some were of brick.

Local example: 811 Oak



Tudor
(1890-1940)

This style is loosely based on a variety of late Medieval English prototypes, ranging from thatch-roofed folk cottages to grand manor houses. The Tudor style is characterized by a steeply pitched roof, usually side-gabled. The facade is dominated by one or more prominent cross gables, usually steeply pitched. Windows often appear very tall and narrow in multiple groups and with multi-pane glazing. Massive chimneys are commonly crowned by decorative chimney pots.

Local example: 121 Hamm Street

The steps are as follows:

1. Obtain preliminary and final applications from the City's Planning and Development Department, 215 E. McKinney or the Main Street Program, 100 West Oak, Suite 204.
2. Complete preliminary application and provide requested supporting material.
3. Submit the preliminary application at least 14 days prior to a regularly scheduled meeting of the Landmark Commission. This will ensure inclusion on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting.
4. The Landmark Commission will review preliminary application and will recommend to either continue the process or advise on how to improve the application.

**Preliminary
Procedure:**

1. Once the preliminary application process is concluded, the applicant will submit the final application and supporting materials to the Historic Landmark Commission.
2. A public hearing will be scheduled and a recommendation will be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
3. The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing within 30 days of the filing of the zoning application and notify neighboring property owners.
4. Within 30 days after the hearing, the Planning and Zoning Commission will submit in writing to the City Council a recommendation concerning the designation along with the Historic Landmark Commission's recommendation.
5. City Council will review applications and recommendations to render a decision at a regularly scheduled public meeting.

**Final
Procedure:**

Historic Designations

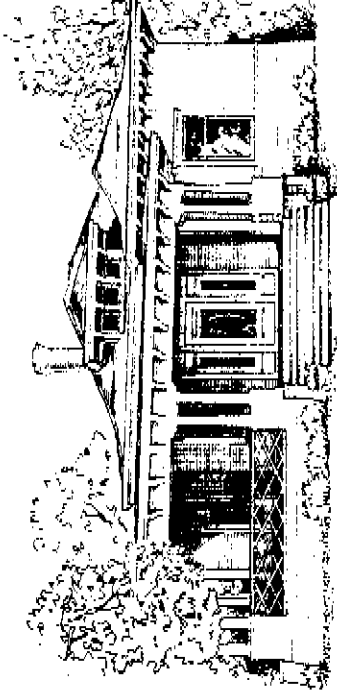
IF YOUR HOUSE or building meets certain standards, you may want to have it designated as a Historical Landmark. This designation means the city and its citizens acknowledge the historic significance of your structure.

When your property receives the Historic designation, a special protection is added to your existing zoning. This is called historic zoning, or overlay zoning. Historic zoning does not change the use of your property but means exterior changes have to be approved by the Denton Historic Landmark Commission.

Applying for Historic Designation

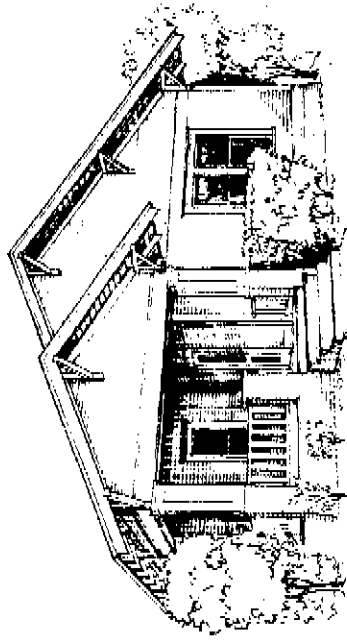
THE HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION considers applications for historic districts, heritage markers and individual designation. Two application procedures are available to a property owner wishing to apply for historic designation: A preliminary application and a final application.

The preliminary procedure is optional. It allows the property owner the opportunity to submit an application to the Historic Landmark Commission. The Commission will determine eligibility and recommend that the property owner complete and submit the final application or will offer advice on how to improve the possibility of designation. It is strongly advised to complete the preliminary application before submitting the final application.



The Prairie School forms exhibit a strong horizontal emphasis with long bands of windows, long and low roof lines, wide side terraces, wide and low masonry chimneys. One-story porches, walls and terraces often extend from the main structure of the Prairie house and further emphasize its horizontal appearance. Although elements of the prairie style are evident in many different residences, no pure example of this style exists today.
Local example: 705 Oak

Prairie School
(1900-1920)

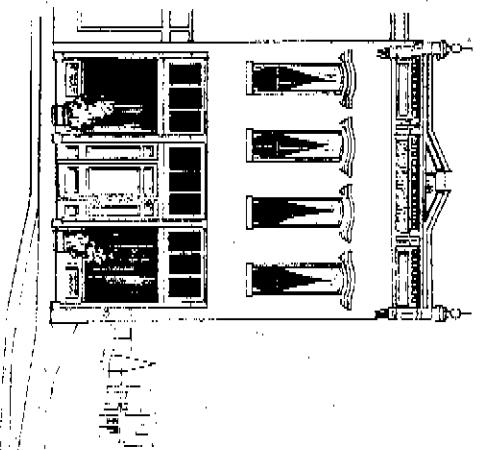


The word bungalow is derived from the Hindu "banga," the traveler's rest homes used by the British in India in the early 1800s. They are usually low, wood shingled, brick or stucco one-story houses surrounded by an open veranda or porch. Bungalows are characterized by gently pitched, broad gables above a lower gable which covers an open or screened porch facing street.

Bungalow
(1905-1930)

Local example: 1521 Bolivar

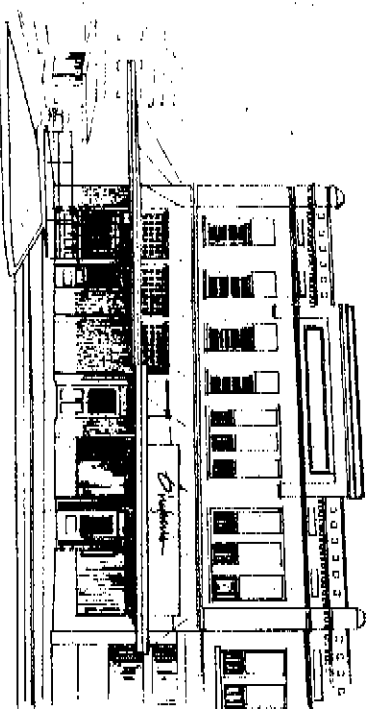
Commercial Styles



Victorian
(1889-1907)

The Victorian commercial style building has many decorative details. The storefronts were of wood and cast iron with large plate glass storefront windows topped by bands of clerestories or transoms. The glass in the clerestories was clear or translucent with a frosted or glue-chip texture. The upper floor windows were normally rectangular, Roman-arched, or segmentally-arched.

*Local example: Scripture Building,
123 N. Elm*



Plains
Commercial
(1910-1940)

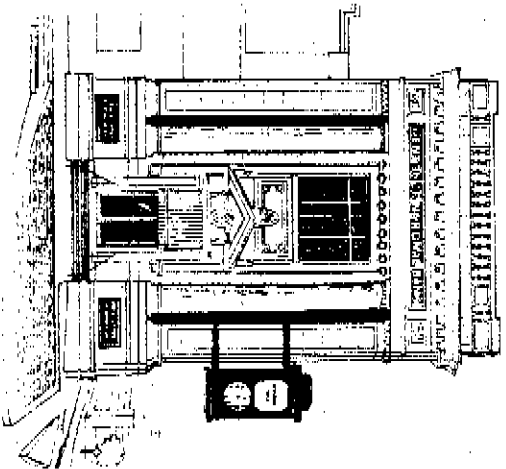
The majority of Denron's commercial architecture falls within this category. The Plains Commercial style buildings generally have flat-faced facades with little projecting ornament. The ornament is limited to some detail in the way the brick is laid. Sometimes the bricks form a frame around the doors and windows. Other details are cast stones set into the brick. These are square, horizontal, or diamond shaped and define sign bands, window corners, and cornices. Many different materials make up the store fronts. Deeply recessed doors, stepped display windows, and freely standing display cases are characteristic of this style.

*Local example: Don Hickey Law Office, 124 W. Oak
Olafsen's, 120 W. Oak*

Classical Revival (1910-1930)

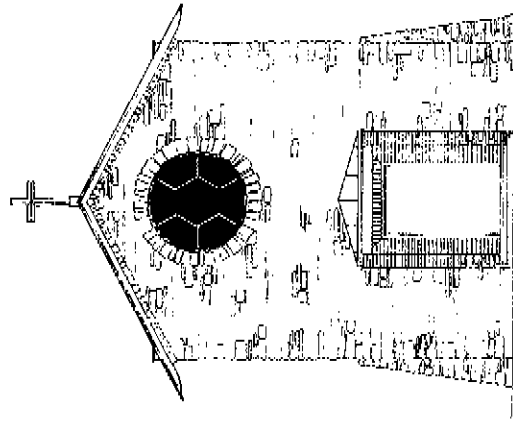
The Classical Revival commercial buildings are generally stately structures that have very orderly facades. Grand entrances with columns are a prominent feature of this style. Although brick masonry was the most common construction material, limestone, cast stone, and terra cotta are also used. Doors and windows are wood and the windows sometimes have multiple panes in the upper sashes.

*Local example: Denton Co.
National Bank, 100 N. Locust*



O'NEIL FORD ARCHITECT

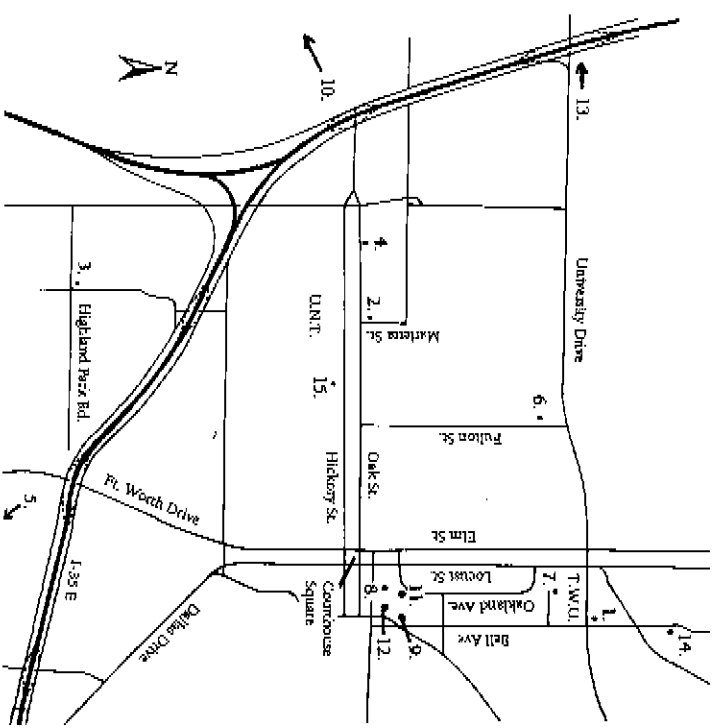
A Catalog of the Works
of O'Neil Ford in
Denton, Texas



City of Denton
Historic Landmark Commission

1992
Denton, Texas

MAP OF DENTON, TEXAS



EXISTING STRUCTURES DESIGNED BY O'NEIL FORD

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. 1819 N. Bell | 8. Denton Municipal Building |
| 2. 220 Marcella St. | 9. Municipal Swimming Pool |
| 3. 1712 Highland Park | 10. Air Terminal, Municipal Airport |
| 4. 2280 West Oak St. | 11. Emily Fowler Public Library |
| 5. 1408 Country Club Rd., Argyle | 12. Denton City Center |
| 6. First Christian Church | 13. Setwyn School Campus |
| 1203 N. Fulton | 14. Fairhaven Retirement Home |
| 7. Little Chapel in the Woods - | 15. The Gazebo - |
| T.W.C. Campus | U.N.T. Campus |

This small pamphlet owes much to many people.

It is not possible to name all those that have helped,

but some names must be mentioned. Without the considerable assistance of Roland Laney, Arch Swank, Ms Toni LaSalle,

Cynthia Bell, Nita Thurman, Bill Farmer, Ron Forsythe, Richard Himmel of the C.N.T. Archives, the Blagg-Huey Library, Special Collections, Carolyn Peterson of Ford, Powell & Carson, Mary Carolyn George,

the City of Denton, Historic Landmark Commission

and the City of Denton Planning Department,

this project would not have been possible.

This project was funded in part through a Certified Local Government grant from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, as administered by the Texas Historical Commission.

The contents and opinions, however do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Department of the Interior,

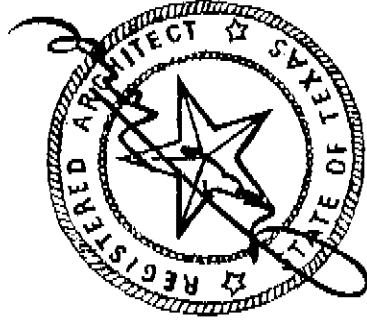
nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior.

Additional funding was provided by Linda Lavender, and the City of Denton.

The text is set in 9 point Berkeley Book.

Typesetting and design by Mike Cochran.

All photos not otherwise labeled by Bill Farmer.



O'NEIL FORD IN DENTON

O'Neil Ford is arguably the most prominent architect to have come from Texas. In his long and distinguished career, he achieved both popular and critical success, yet retained a strong life-long link to his hometown of Denton.

Born Otha Neil Ford in Pink Hill, Texas in 1905, he moved to Denton in 1917 after the death of his father. His mother, Mrs. L.B. Ford, kept boarders in their home at 304 W. Avenue "D", just west of the campus of North Texas State Teachers College (now the University of North Texas). A graduate of Denton High School, Ford attended N.T.S.T.C. for two years, studying English and physics. Financial problems forced him to withdraw from college, but he continued his studies through a correspondence course while working at Dyche's Corner, a hamburger stand at the corner of Avenue "A" and Hickory Streets.

In 1926, Ford took a position as an assistant to Dallas architect David Williams. His first work with Williams was drafting for the old First Presbyterian Church on South Elm Street (demolished in 1965). The first residence he designed was built in 1929 on North Bell Avenue. In this period, Ford designed an open air theater for the campus of N.T.S.T.C., and two structures that were never built, a 130 foot memorial tower and a student center.

Ford and his partner Arch Swank designed several residences in Denton in the late 1930s, but the high point of their Denton work in this period was the design and construction of the Little Chapel in the Woods on the campus of the College of Industrial Arts (now Texas Women's University). It was the Chapel, completed in 1939, which would propel Ford into a position of national prominence. Eleanor Roosevelt spoke to a crowd of 4,000 at the dedication on November 1, 1939.

His list of achievements is considerable. In 1960 Ford was made a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. He was appointed to the National Council of the Arts by President Johnson and in 1974 would be declared a "National Historic Landmark", by the Council, the only individual ever so honored.

This correspondence school architect from Denton would lecture at Harvard, at Cambridge, become a Professor of Architecture at the University of Virginia and have a chair in architecture named after him at the University of Texas at Austin.

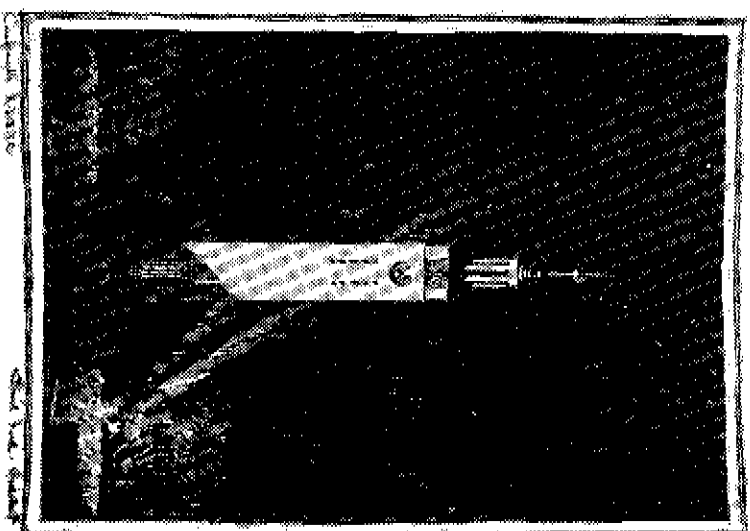
Among his best known works were the Little Chapel in the Woods, Trinity University in San Antonio, Skidmore College in New York, the Denton Municipal Building, the Tower of the Americas in San Antonio, the Bell Tower at the University of Dallas, and Texas Instruments buildings in Dallas, Italy, France and England.

Late in his career, Ford would recall the influences of his days in Denton and credit his pursuit of the creative life with his fascination with the Denton County Courthouse. Ford would say, "I used to just stand there, wondering how they ever got it up I was in Denton just the other day ... so I went over to look at the courthouse again and still don't know how they ever did that blasted, blessed thing."

O'Neil Ford died on July 20, 1982 in San Antonio, Texas.

Mike Cochran, Chairman
Historic Landmark Commission

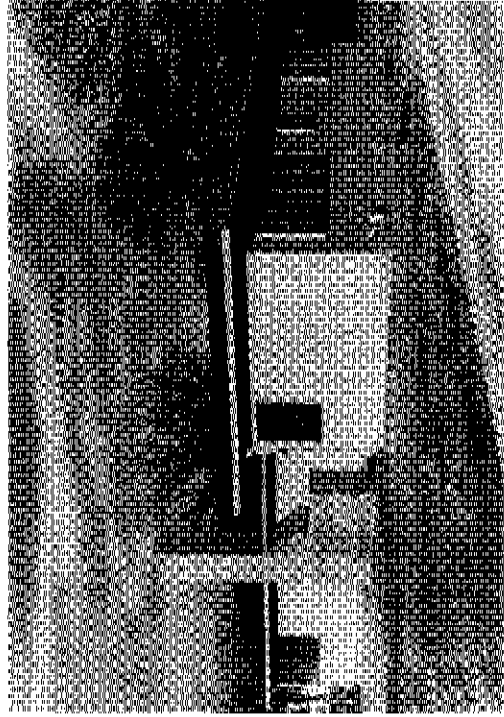
PROPOSED



Memorial Tower - U.N.T. Campus

In 1928, Ford designed an impressive 130 ft. Memorial Tower for the N.T.S.T.C. (U.N.T.) campus. This tower was to serve as a memorial to the ex-students who had served in World War I. The proposed tower was to have been built, "fittingly of Texas limestone, and of a very distinctive design -- of a true Texas type, a mixture of Spanish and American architecture." One enthusiastic supporter, Dr. J. L. Kingsbury, said that the Tower would, "with academic immortality for the College." Fund-raising efforts failed during the Depression and the structure was never built.

DEMOLISHED



The Roland and Authella Ford House #1 304 W. Avenue "D"

Built on the site of Ford's boyhood home (now on the U.N.T. campus), the Hersh House was designed in 1939 by Ford and Arch Swank. Labeled "Chicken Coop Gothic" by Ford, it was described by S.B. Zisman in *Pencil Points* magazine (April, 1940) as "The first real Texas house of the present movement." This house was demolished in 1965 to make way for expansion of U.N.T.



Open Air Theater - U.N.T. Campus

The Open Air Theater was designed by Ford in 1928. At the dedication Ford was described as the "unpaid architect of the College". This theater was demolished in the 1960s.



1. 1819 N. Bell Avenue

Built in 1929, this structure was the first residence designed by O'Neil Ford. It was built for Mary Marshall, chairman of the Art Department of the College of Industrial Arts, while he worked as an assistant in the office of Dallas architect David Williams. Many distinctive Ford touches can be seen in this early example of his work. This home is a recorded Denton Historic Landmark.



2. 220 Marietta Street

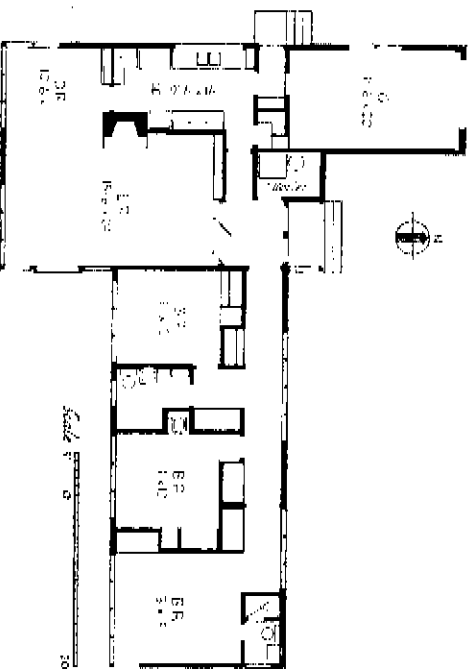
Built in 1939 for Miss Ammie Alford, this O'Neil Ford-Arch Swank design featured expansive screened-in porches with cantilevered cement floors on the second story, and a standing seam metal roof. This 1940 photograph shows the house as it was originally built, before the porches were enclosed.



PHOTO COURTESY ARCH SWANK

3. 1712 Highland Park Road

Designed by O'Neil Ford and Arch Swank in 1939 for Miss Lillian Parrill and her two sisters, this home was originally located at the corner of Avenue "D" and Chestnut Street. When the house was featured in the April 1940 issue of *Pencil Points* magazine (now *Progressive Architecture*), the photo caption noted the oiled hemlock siding, the steel casement windows and its \$6,500 price tag. This residence was moved to its present location in 1967 to make way for expansion of the University of North Texas.



PLAN OF THE PARRILL HOUSE FROM PENCIL POINTS MAGAZINE, FEBRUARY, 1940



14. Faithaven Retirement Home 2400 N. Bell

Ford, Arch Swank, and Roland Laney designed this retirement home from 1963 to 1965.



15. The Gazebo U.N.T. Campus - Hickory and Avenue "A"

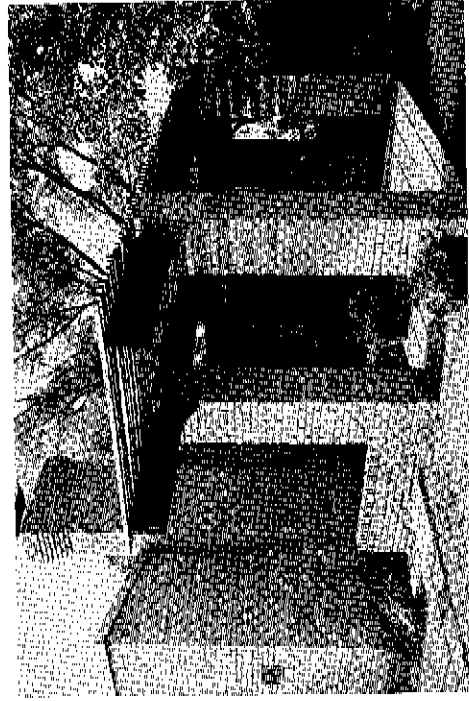
The Gazebo at U.N.T., designed by Ford and constructed with assistance from Evers Hardware Store, was a gift to the school by the Class of 1928. Until 1967, this campus landmark housed a massive concrete-block water fountain. Lynn Ford participated in the construction of this project, and his mark can be seen in the carved timbers of the hub-spoke rafters.



MOODY DINING HALL — SELWYN CAMPUS

13. Selwyn School Complex — 3333 W. University

In the mid-sixties, Ford designed several buildings for Selwyn School and helped to develop a master plan for the campus. The Preston House, a girls' dorm, was built in 1965; the Kramer Science Building and the Moody Dining Hall, in 1966.

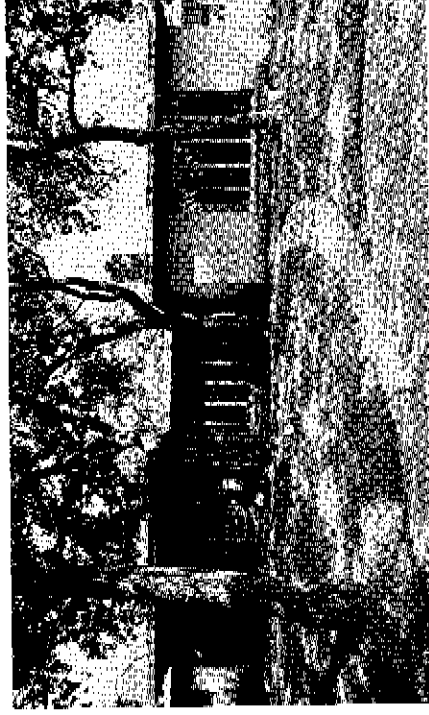


HEADMASTERS RESIDENCE — SELWYN CAMPUS



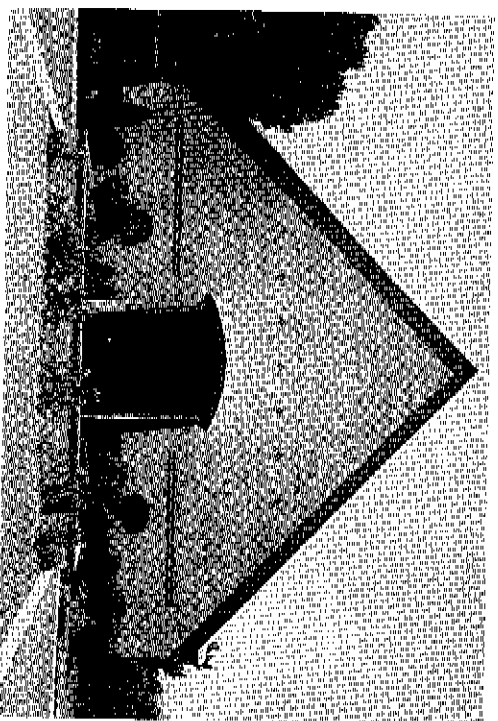
4. 2280 W. Oak

The Jack Johnson house was designed by Ford and Swank in 1938. Although the large front and back porches have been enclosed, many of the original interior details, such as the site-built interior doors and high profile window-stop, give this house the feel of an early Texas ranch house.



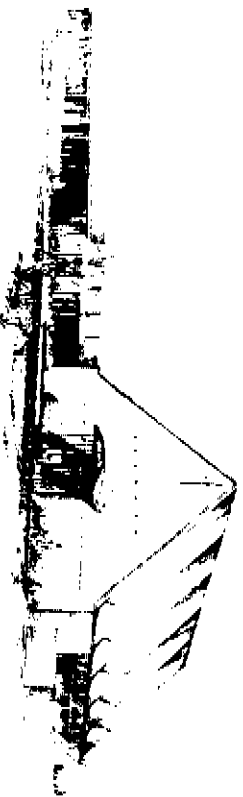
5. 1408 Country Club Road, Argyle

The Roland and Authella Ford Hersh house was designed by O'Neil Ford for his sister and built in 1965. Built of Mexican brick, this home features intricately carved entry doors by brother Lynn Ford, and whimsical ceramic light fixtures by long-time Ford associate Tom Stell.

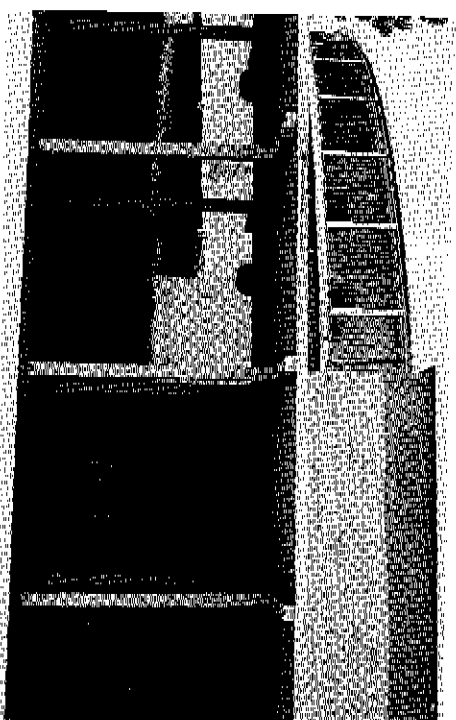


6. First Christian Church 1203 N. Fulton

The First Christian Church was designed by O'Neil Ford and Howard Wong and completed in 1959. The concrete roof is a hyperbolic paraboloid (a favorite Ford technique engineered by Felix Candela) supported by ten concrete columns. The resulting roof sections represent the fingers of hands extended upwards in prayer. Of note is the unique marble and steel communion table; a gift from the architect to the members of the church. The intricately carved doors are by Lynn Ford.

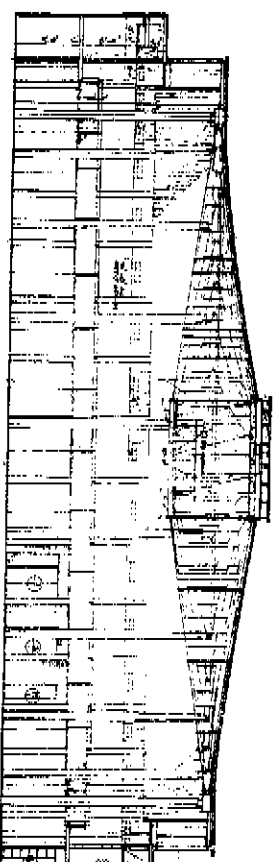


RENDERING OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH — FORD POWELL & CARSON,
ARCHITECTS — FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, A BRIEF HISTORY



12. Denton Civic Center

The Civic Center was built in 1966 as a multi-purpose community center. The intricate system of cables and pipes that support the roof are based on the design of the bicycle's hubbed wheel. This prestressed cable-suspension system frees the large interior space from internal supports. The carved front doors were built by Lynn Ford.

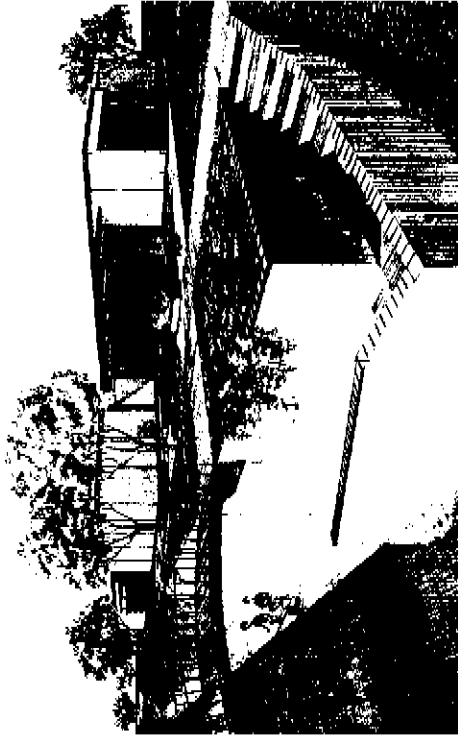


PLANS FOR CIVIC CENTER SHOWING ROOF STRUCTURE.



11. Emily Fowler Public Library

The core of the Emily Fowler Public Library was designed by Wyatt C. Hedrick and completed in 1949. The first major addition to this building was designed by Ford in 1969. To accommodate Ford's plans for the library, Oakland Street was relocated to its present position. In 1980, Ford's firm designed the addition to the library, which includes the atrium garden area. One feature of note is the stacked tile wall at the front of the building. On permanent exhibit in the new section of the library is a wall display of chip-carvings by Lynn Ford from the collection of Authella Ford Hetsch.



VIEW OF THE LIBRARY FROM THE 1969 PLAN SHOWING IMPROVED CREEK AREA

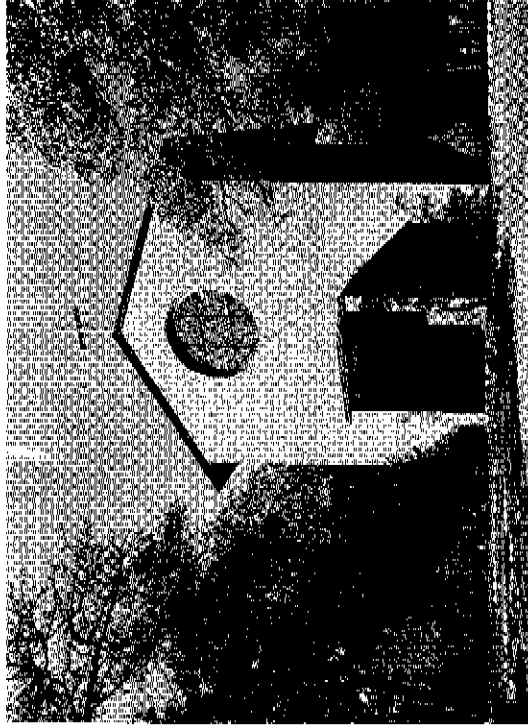
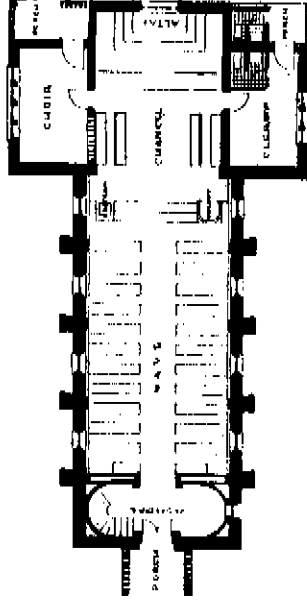


PHOTO COURTESY ARCH SWANK

7. Little Chapel in the Woods Texas Woman's University

The Little Chapel in the Woods was designed by O'Neil Ford and Arch Swank and built with unskilled labor in 1939. This National Youth Administration project brought national attention to the work of O'Neil Ford. Under the direction of Dorothy Antoinette LaSelle, hundreds of students produced stained glass windows, light fixtures, intricate mosaics, and the massive hand carved doors of this elegant building. Eleanor Roosevelt spoke at the dedication of the Little Chapel in 1939. Ford later called that this project his favorite because of the participation of the students and the NYA laborers. In 1983, the Texas Society of Architects voted the Chapel one of the twenty most architecturally significant buildings in Texas. The Chapel is recorded in the National Register of Historic Places and is a Texas Historical Landmark.



FLOOR PLAN OF CHAPEL IN THE WOODS

MUNICIPAL STRUCTURES

ONEIL FORD, WORKING WITH ROLAND LANEY AND OTHERS, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESIGN OF FIVE PROJECTS FOR THE CITY OF DENTON FROM 1963 TO 1968.



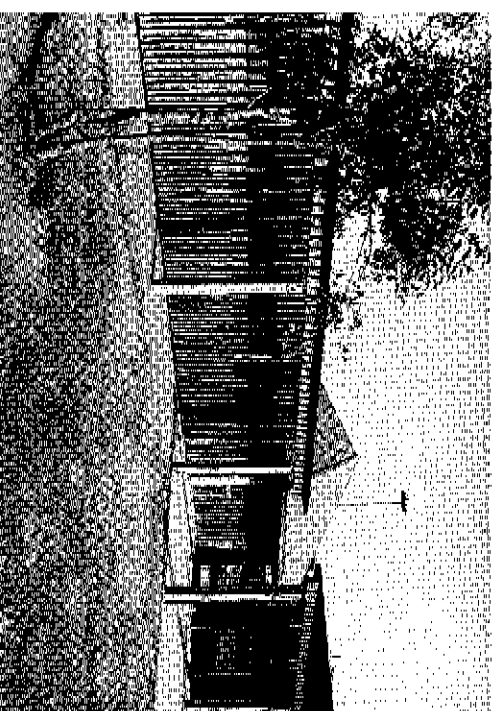
8. Denton Municipal Building

Situated around a tranquil sunken courtyard, the Denton City Hall serves as example for many popular Ford themes. Doors carved by Lynn Ford, the ceramic light fixtures by Beau Mood, the redwood lattice-work supported by concrete columns, and the Saltillo tile floors can be found in many other Ford designed buildings. Built in 1967, the city hall was designed to allow for upward expansion of up to four stories.



PROPOSED EXPANSION PLANS FOR DENTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING - 1967

DEMOLISHED 1993



9. Municipal Swimming Pool

Designed by Ford, Roland Laney and Carolyn Peterson, in 1965, the popular Denton Municipal Swimming Pool follows many of the stylistic themes of the City Hall. Ford didn't want the pool to become another rectangle of concrete surrounded by chain-link fence, so he utilized the berm concept to create an amphitheater-like space where swimmers might relax in comfort.

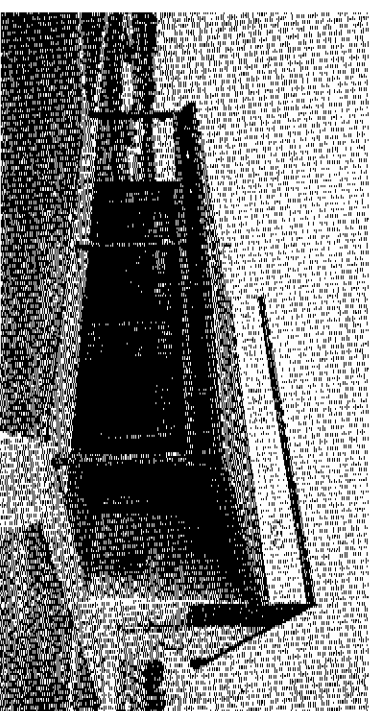


PHOTO BY MONTE MILLER

10. Air Terminal Denton Municipal Airport

The air terminal was designed by Ford and Roland Laney in 1967.

Texas historical markers are located across Denton County. (See map) Texans are proud of their rich heritage and the Denton County Historical Commission is eager to share the history of Denton County with you.

You are encouraged to use the map to drive the city streets and county roads for a self-guided tour of the trail provided by the historical markers.

Each community has unique features to stop and enjoy. *Welcome to Denton!*

Courthouse-on-the-Square Historical Museum

Housed in the 1896 Denton County Courthouse where visitors are welcomed Tuesday through Saturday between the hours of 10:30 am and 4:30 pm, closed major holidays. Handicap accessible by ramp and elevator. Guided group tours require an appointment. Telephone 1-800-346-3189, 817-565-8697.

Special exhibits rotate throughout the year. Ongoing exhibits include collections of American pressed blue glass; armaments; dolls; pottery; doctor's tools; branding irons; barbed wire.

Visit the Museum's gift shop for Texana articles and local history books.

Annual Special Events

County Seat Saturday — Fall of the year
Victorian Christmas and the **Teddy Bear Children's Parade** are held the 1st Saturday of December

The Marker Process

The applicant researches the topic, writes history, applies to

Denton County Historical Commission (DCHC)

for review, approval, forwarding to

Texas Historical Commission (THC)

for review, submission to

State Marker Review Board for approval or rejection; if approved submits to

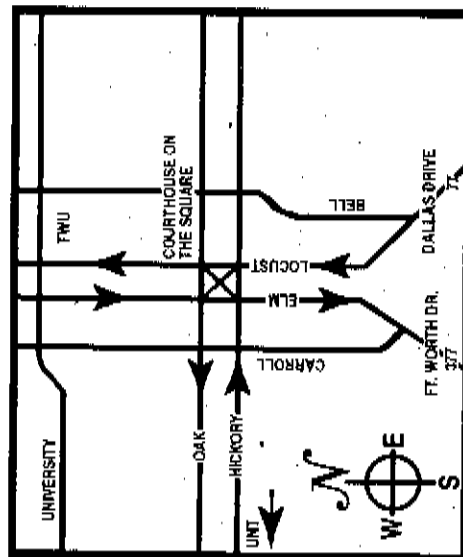
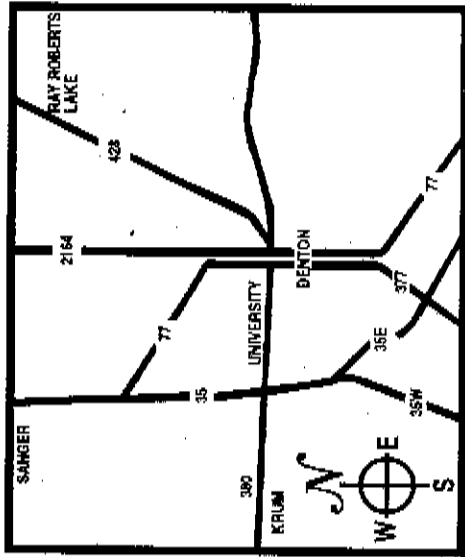
THC Staff Historian who writes an inscription for review by

Denton County Historical Commission and the applicant.

Once approved, the inscription is sent to . . .

the **Foundry** where the marker is set up. A "proof" for errors is made by THC; the marker is cast, painted and shipped.

Plans can be announced and the date set for **Marker Dedication Day**



For information about historical markers in Denton County, Texas, please contact:

Denton County Historical Commission
 Courthouse-on-the-Square, 1st floor

110 W. Hickory, Denton, Texas
 Mail: PO Box 2184, Denton, TX 76202

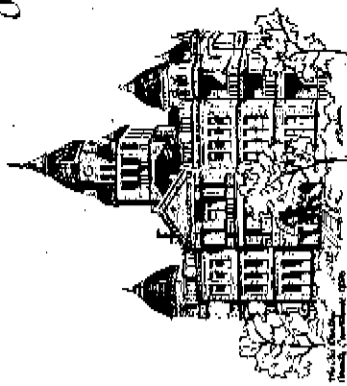
tel: 817-565-8697 fax: 817-565-8693
 1-800-346-3189

office hours M-F 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

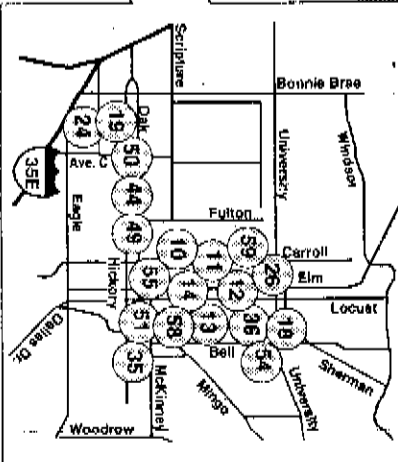
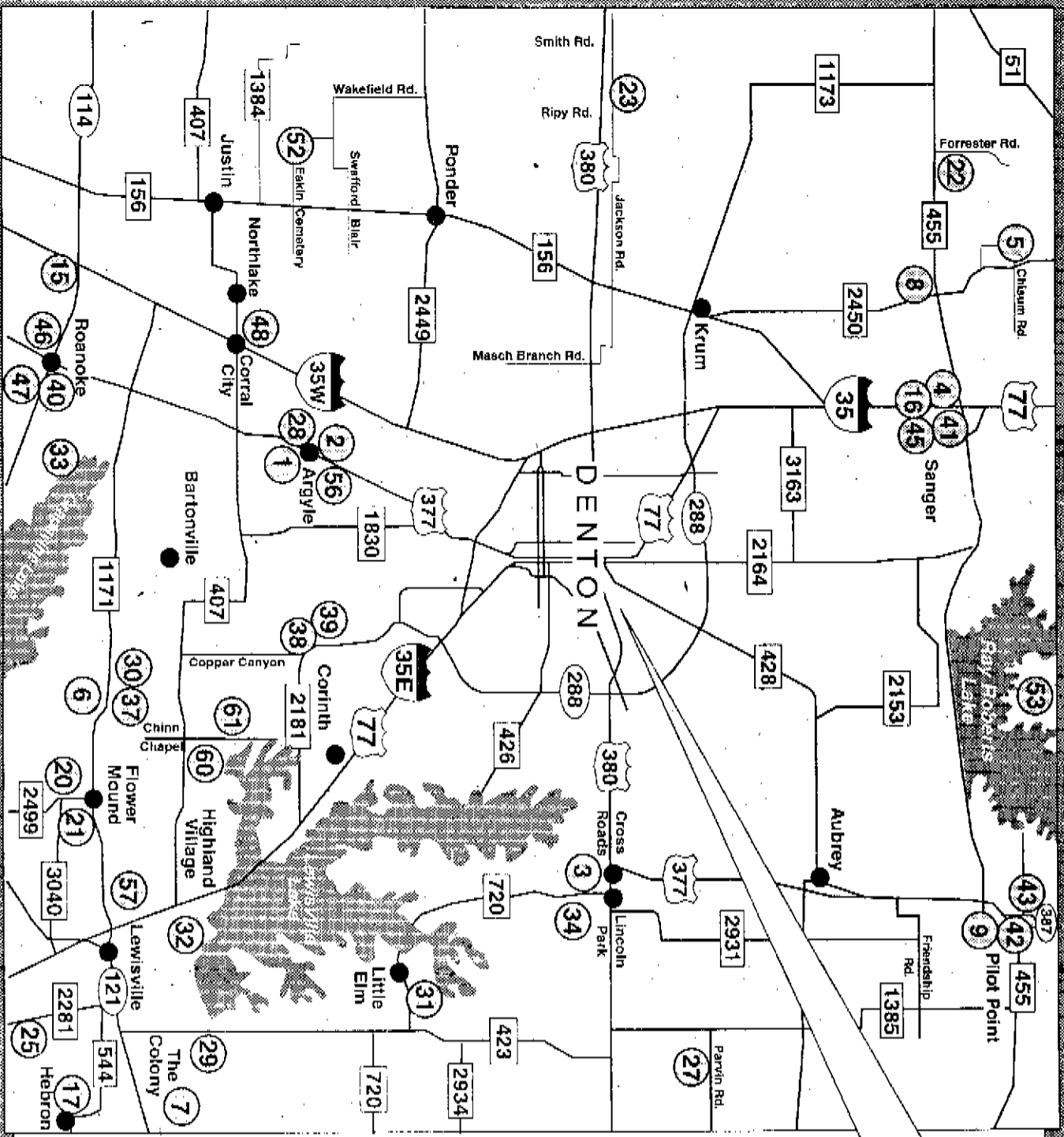
Follow the trail of Texas Historical Markers

San Marcos idea passed on to me.

Denton County



Begin your drive with a visit to the historical 1896 Courthouse in downtown Denton tour the Courthouse-on-the-Square Historical Museum housed on the 1st floor — Free Admission —



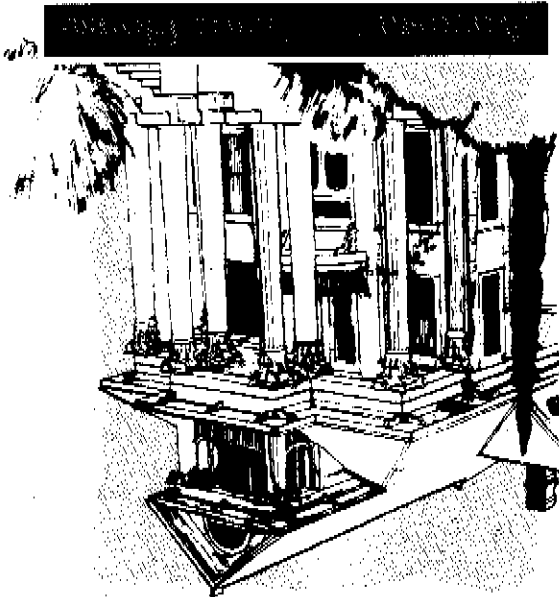
1. Argyie
2. Argyle United Methodist Church
3. William Edmund Bates
4. Noah C. Batis
5. John Chisum Ranch
6. Bethel Community
7. Bridges Cemetery (Marker Missing)
8. Townsite of Bolivar
9. Church of Christ
10. Confederate Memorial
11. Denton County
12. Denton County Courthouse
13. John B. Denton
14. Site of Lacy Hotel
15. Elizabeth Cemetery
16. Jacob Frederick Eisasser
17. First Baptist Church
18. The First Building of T.W.U.
19. First University Building
20. Flower Mound
21. Flower Mound Presbyterian Church
22. Forester Ranch
23. Gregg Ranch
24. Historical Building
25. Furneaux Cemetery
26. Immaculate Conception Church
27. Good Hope Cemetery
28. John's Well & Campground
29. The Hedgepoxe War
30. McCurley Cemetery
31. Community of Little Elm
32. Lewisville Prehistoric Site
33. Medlin Cemetery
34. Oak Grove Methodist Church
35. Oakwood Cemetery
36. The Pioneer Woman
37. Old Hall Cemetery
38. Old Alton Bridge
39. Old Alton Cemetery
40. Old Continental State Bank
41. William E. Partlow
42. City of Pilot Point
43. Pilot Point Post-Signal
44. Rayzor-Graham House
45. Sanger Presbyterian Church
46. Roanoke Lodge, No. 668
47. Roanoke I.O.O.F. Cemetery
48. Prairie Mound Cemetery
49. Texas Normal College
50. Scripture-Deavenport House
51. St. James A.M.E. Church
52. Eakins Cemetery
53. Tyson Cemetery
54. University Gardens of T.W.U.
55. I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Denton
56. Graham-Arlyle Cemetery
57. The Peters Colony
58. The City of Denton
59. First Methodist Church
60. Chinn's Chapel Methodist Church
61. Chinn's Chapel Cemetery

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: DENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION, INC.; CITY OF DENTON; COUNTY OF DENTON; COURTHOUSE-ON-THE-SQUARE HISTORICAL MUSEUM; DR.C. MARTIN



to allow those interested in the history and architecture of this area to explore, on their own and at their leisure, the three diverse historic districts San Marcos has to offer. Belvin Street, San Antonio Street and National Register District is a concentration of large and lovely Victorian style homes built in the 1880s and 1890s. The San Antonio Street District offers additional lovely homes with varied architectural styles. The Hays County Courthouse serves as the centerpiece of the third historic district. Today downtown houses a quaint marketplace with art, gift shops and unique eateries. In years past, these shops and restaurants on the square were grocery and clothing stores, doctors' offices and bank buildings.

The Windshield Tour of Historic San Marcos is designed including those presented in this guide. Preservation of numerous beautiful homes and buildings



San Marcos has evolved from a gristmill, sawmill and cotton gin town into a modern city. However, the colorful history of San Marcos is not forgotten; it lives on today through the

According to legend, a group of Franciscan Monks paddling up the Guadalupe River in 1790 discovered a clear river with several large springs at its source. The discovery was made on St. Mark's day; therefore, the upper river was named San Marcos. In 1851, William Lindsey, General Edward Burleson and Eli T. Merriman bought the Veramendi tract along the river and laid out the town of San Marcos. General Edward Burleson saw the bill through the legislature establishing the county of Hays in 1848. It was named for Colonel John Coffee Hays, a renowned Indian fighter and leader of the Texas Rangers. San Marcos was designated the county seat and the resting point in the three-day stagecoach trip from Austin to San Antonio.

NESTLED IN THE BEAUTIFUL TEXAS HILL COUNTRY, SAN MARCOS IS A CITY FULL OF HISTORY.



Preservation work in San Marcos began many years ago and continues today under the watchful guidance and encouragement of the Hays County Historical Commission and the Heritage Association of San Marcos. Their relentless concern to preserve architectural and historic value of local homes and buildings is what has made it possible to offer outstanding historic tourism to visitors in San Marcos. The Windshield Guide to Historic San Marcos is a collaborative effort on the part of the Heritage Association of San Marcos, the Hays County Historical Commission and the San Marcos Convention & Visitors Bureau.



Most of the historic homes identified in this Guide are private residences. Once a year, on the first weekend in May, the Heritage Association of San Marcos places some of the homes on the tour for viewing at the annual Tours of Distinction. Details on this and other special events can be obtained by contacting San Marcos Chamber of Commerce toll free at 1-888-200-5620 or 1-512-393-5900, P.O. Box 2310, San Marcos, TX 78667

Come Visit and Enjoy Beautiful San Marcos



Bed & Breakfast
Crystal River Inn
(512) 396-3739

Campgrounds
Leisure Camp & RV Park (512) 488-2563
Pecan Park Retreat (512) 392-6171
Shady Grove (512) 357-6113
United Campground (512) 353-5959

Accommodations
Aquarena Inn (512) 245-7500
Best Western (512) 754-7557
Comfort Inn (512) 396-5665
Days Inn (512) 353-5050
Econo Lodge (512) 353-5300
Executive House (512) 353-7770
Howard Johnson (512) 353-8011
La Quinta (512) 392-8800
Motel 6 (512) 396-8705
Mustang Motel (512) 392-2471
Ramada Limited Opening Soon
Rodeway Inn (512) 392-1303
Southwest Motor Lodge (512) 393-3990
Stratford House Inn (512) 396-3700
Super 8 (512) 396-0400
University Inn (512) 396-6060



Windshield Tour of Historic San Marcos





Book

National

Main

m

Robin



COMMUNITY SUCCESS

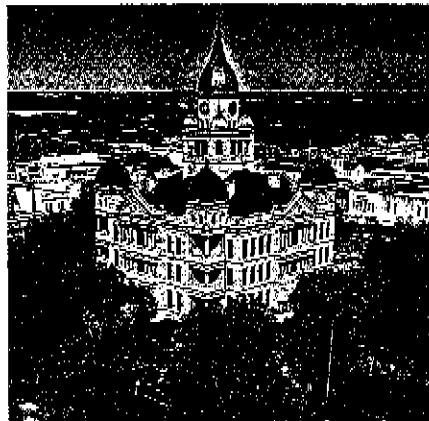
s t o r i e s

How community leaders have used
the Main Street Approach to turn
their downtowns around



Main Street





Denton, Texas

All-For-One Philosophy Guides County Seat's Rejuvenation

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Organization:
Denton Main Street Program
221 North Elm
Denton, Texas 76201
(817) 566-8529

Population:
68,000

Year Started:
1989

Budget:
\$64,000

Type of Organization:
City

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY DOWNTOWN

Financial Reinvestment:	\$15,301,400
Number of Rehabilitations:	94
Net New Businesses:	94
Net New Jobs:	538
Vacancy Rate at Start:	26%
Vacancy Rate Today:	2%
Average Rental Rates at Start:	\$6-\$7/square foot
Average Rental Rates Today:	\$10-\$12/square foot

Independence is a trademark of Denton, Texas. Located only 35 miles from the Dallas/Fort Worth area, Denton benefits from the continually expanding megalopolis, yet, at the same time, the city and its economy stand proudly independent. Being the seat of Denton County, the community is home to the county courthouse as well as the University of North Texas and Texas Woman's University, all of which have helped the economy stay stable in the face of the inevitable 20th-century inner-city outflow of commerce and residents.

The last era of strength for downtown Denton occurred about 20 years ago. "I was working on the square during its last hurrah of the late 70s," comments George Highfill of Guaranty National Bank, "when one could do all of one's Christmas shopping by walking around the square during lunch. I was also there in the mid-80s when there was no place to even buy a greeting card."

Like a favorite book that has been shared for

years by many people, downtown Denton had become tattered and dog-eared. And, like the old book that gets tossed aside in favor of shiny, new volumes promising more titillating fare, downtown lost its fans as new shopping experiences outside the city center came into vogue. So things stood until 1986, when the century-old courthouse received a \$3.5 million overhaul.

Standing in brilliant contrast to the worn, tired, covered-up buildings surrounding it, the courthouse gave impetus to change in downtown Denton. A coalition of merchants and civic leaders organized a Main Street program in 1989

to revitalize the area around the courthouse square. Because the city has a population of nearly 70,000 people, it did not qualify for the Texas Main Street program, so, in typical Denton fashion, community leaders formed an independent program funded by city and private money. The following year, Denton joined Texas's newly funded urban



Main Street partnership.

Trading on the enthusiasm spurred by the courthouse renovation, Main Street urged private property owners to make long-overdue improvements. A low-interest loan program cosponsored with downtown's First State Bank, and free design assistance from the Texas Main Street architect got the ball rolling. The city threw in assistance by offering a 50 percent tax abatement over 10 years to anyone who purchased a locally designated historic building. As a result, the number of building rehabs has grown quickly, with more than 94 downtown structures receiving some form of improvement.

All renovated buildings add to the growing vibrancy of a downtown area, but some do so more than others. One such structure is the Campus Theater. Built in 1949, the theater reached its apex in 1966 when Bonnie and Clyde premiered, with Warren Beatty attending. As downtown declined, so too did the Campus. In 1990, the Greater Denton Arts Council, assisted by the Main Street office, raised \$1.7 million to turn the old movie house into a live-performance theater. The theater is now home to eight arts organizations who stage productions there throughout the year.

The renewal of the Campus Theater gave Main Street a new goal: to enliven that area of downtown by creating an arts and entertainment corridor. After the theater reopened, a fine-arts gallery opened nearby, as did a restaurant and bar with live musical entertainment and several antiques shops.

**"You don't have to
have dollar resources,
but human resources
are essential."**

*Jane Jenkins, director
Denton Main Street Program*

"The Campus focused attention on that corner of the square, helping to bring in new businesses," says Denton Main Street director Jane Jenkins. It has also been a boon to the shops and businesses already in the vicinity. Two existing shops have expanded into spaces double

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Helped Renovate Landmark Theater:** The Greater Denton Arts Council, with help from Main Street, converted the Campus Theater from a movie house to a live performance theater, which anchors a growing arts and entertainment district.
- **Spurred Development of Upper-Story Apartments:** With the development of 16 upscale apartments, downtown Denton has become a lively district around the clock.
- **Encouraged Cooperative Advertising:** With Main Street's support, merchants work together to promote the entire downtown, putting items from other shops in their window displays and distributing printed literature about other businesses to their customers.
- **Implemented Parking Program:** After assessing parking availability downtown, Main Street published a brochure showing location of spaces and lots to counteract perception that parking is scarce downtown; a city-enforced ticketing policy helps preserve spaces for customers during peak hours.



Main Street Denton leveraged broad community support and funding for a \$1.7-million rehab of the Campus Theater, which has reopened as a performing arts center.

their original sizes due to the increase in business brought about by the Campus Theater.

When Main Street came to Denton, more than a quarter of downtown's ground-floor spaces were vacant. After Main Street's positive intervention in the downtown economy, many merchants are sound supporters. "I am experiencing one of my best growth years in the history of my store," said long-time business owner Bill Thomas a few years ago. "I wholeheartedly support the Denton Main Street Program." Around the square today there are virtually no vacancies; and that goes for upper floors as well. In fact, a particular point of pride for Denton Main Street is the development of upper-story apartments around the square (*see box*).

Coincidental to all the investments by private property owners was a public-private venture to freshen up the streetscape. After the city paid to have utility lines buried beneath the streets and

sidewalks, the Main Street office formed a committee of city employees and private citizens to oversee a public improvements plan. New streetlights in the style of those that originally stood around the square were installed, and corner curbs were redesigned to add ramps complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**"We knew we had arrived
when our membership
from the whole community
was equal to or greater than
that from the downtown
stakeholders."**

*Jane Jenkins, director
Denton Main Street Program*

The newly designed curbs allowed the addition of more than 60 on-street parking spaces around the downtown square.

And, a good thing, too. Although the reality is that free spaces and lots are scattered

throughout downtown Denton, shoppers perceived parking there as being less convenient than at the mall. To counteract that notion, a Main Street parking committee conducted a survey to locate all downtown parking places, then published a brochure showing where the spaces are. The brochure is distributed to downtown merchants who give it to their customers. A parking policy that applies to peak weekday hours is enforced by a policewoman who tickets violators. Main Street has also provided apartment owners with lists of private lots in which spaces can be leased after hours for residential parking. These measures have not eradicated downtown's parking problems, but they have gone a long way toward bringing shoppers to the district.

Main Street's promotional events also attract shoppers while boosting public opinion of downtown Denton. Various events have been tried throughout the years with differing degrees of success. One idea that really took hold is the Main Street Acoustic Lawn Jam: every Saturday musicians gather on the courthouse square to play guitar, spoons, autoharp, and other acoustic instruments. It's a bring-your-own-blanket event where families gather to enjoy picnics and listen to the unstructured program of traditional music. Main Street's most popular festival is County Seat Saturday, which highlights the town's heritage and draws 10,000 people to the square each year.



Once given to the city as a white elephant, the Denton Municipal building now houses municipal courts, the police department, and other city offices.



The many volunteers who contribute to the success of these events are a tribute to the commitment and pride of the community, but one of the most effective marketing efforts for the downtown is a cross-promotional program organized by the merchants themselves. The proprietors have developed an extensive referral network by using items from other stores in their displays and identifying the items with a business card from the loaning store. The stores also keep printed literature about other downtown businesses on hand. Main Street helps by coordinating cooperative media advertising. "The marketing philosophy of the merchants is to make the whole downtown, not an individual business, the destination of the customer," comments Jane Jenkins.

Bridging differences, finding commonalities, and working together for a joint cause—these are the principles Denton Main Street has instilled in its partners and constituents to bring about desired change. Jane Jenkins says the success of Denton's Main Street program is due mostly to the commitment of the city government, the dedication of citizens, and the leadership of its board and staff. "You don't have to have dollar resources, but human resources are essential," claims Jane Jenkins.

But, dollars don't hurt either. Due to a very limited operating budget from the city, Denton Main Street has had to rely on the kindness of its partners to help it reach its goals. For instance, the Denton

Main Street's Looking Up

Jane Jenkins has a thing about upstairs apartments in downtown buildings. "I really wanted downtown to come alive with residents," she says. Seeing the need to convince others that downtown housing could work, Jenkins asked around until she found a property owner who would consider developing upstairs apartments. "Then I found a designer who wanted to work on the project and a tenant who wanted to live downtown," she explains. Together the partners created a prototype loft apartment.

The Main Street office converted the project's statistics into data to share with potential developers. They outlined the problems they had encountered with building code officials and the fire marshal and how the problems were resolved and deficiencies in the historic building were counteracted.

Main Street, mostly in the guise of Jane Jenkins, then approached the property owners around the square and talked to them about developing living spaces in the upper stories of their buildings. Sixteen residences have been completed thus far; all are occupied. In fact, the units are in such great demand that the Main Street office keeps a waiting list to assist owners with leasing.



The Southern Hotel is on its way to becoming senior housing.

Convention and Visitors Bureau has taken on the primary responsibility for marketing downtown beyond the immediate area.

Enrolling members to help pay for Main Street's projects has been critical. Main Street staff quickly realized that they could not limit themselves to the downtown alone, but needed to secure support from the broader community. "We knew we had arrived when our membership from the whole community was equal to or greater than that from the downtown stakeholders," says a delighted Jane Jenkins. Keeping that support

strong, says Jenkins, is a continuing challenge as Main Street competes with other groups for philanthropic dollars.

Luckily, in Denton there are people who have a clear vision of Main Street's purpose. Members Bill and Darien Orr say, "Our Main Street program is one of Denton's greatest assets, and we will continue to support them financially and with our volunteer time as much as possible." With human resources like the Orrs, Main Street is sitting on a gold mine.

From
Distinctly
Denton
Magazine

Downtown Denton

THE SQUARE AND BEYOND

Over the past few decades, downtowns across the country fell into physical and economic decline. Denton was no exception. The last era of strength for downtown Denton occurred about 20 years ago. "I was working on the square during its last hurrah of the late 70s," comments George Highfill of Lake Cities Bank. "One could do all of one's Christmas shopping by walking around the square during lunch. I was also there in the mid-80s when there was no place to even buy a greeting card."

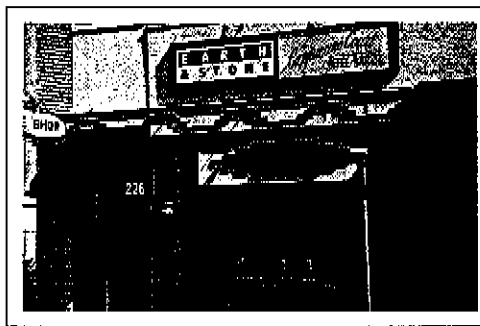
Like a favorite book that has been shared for years by many people, downtown Denton had become tattered and dog-eared. And, like the old book that gets tossed aside in favor of shiny, new volumes promising more titillating fare, downtown lost its fans as new shopping experiences outside the city center came into vogue. So things stood until 1986, when the century-old courthouse received a \$3.50-million overhaul.

Standing in brilliant contrast to the worn, tired, covered-up buildings surrounding it, the courthouse gave impetus to change in downtown Denton. Building on the enthusiasm spurred by the courthouse renovation, the merchants organized a Main Street program and set about the business of revitalizing downtown Denton. After six years, more than 94 buildings had been rehabilitated, and the storefront vacancy rate had dropped from 26 percent to two percent.

All renovated buildings add to the growing vibrancy of a downtown area, but some do so more than others. One such structure is the Campus Theater. Built in 1949, the theatre reached its apex in 1966 when the film *Bonnie and Clyde* premiered with Warren Beatty in attendance.

As downtown declined, so too did the Campus. In 1990, the Greater Denton Arts Council, assisted by the Main Street office, raised \$1.7 million to turn the old movie house into a live-performance theatre. The theatre is now home to eight arts organizations who stage productions there throughout the year.

The renewal of the Campus Theater gave Main Street a goal—to enliven that area of downtown by creating an arts and entertainment corridor. After the theatre reopened, several specialty shops opened nearby, as did a restaurant and bar with live musical entertainment, and several antique shops.



*There are a variety of businesses in historic downtown Denton.
Photo by Denton CVB*



*Main Street Mardi Gras
Dinner & Dance
Photo by Denton Main Street*

The most exciting addition to the corridor has been the Longhorn Gallery, a fine arts gallery in a newly constructed "signature" building on the Square. In 1994, fire destroyed three buildings on the southwest corner of the courthouse square. The vacant lots sat empty and neglected until they were acquired by Bette and Bob Sherman as the site for their dream project—the Longhorn Gallery. The 9,000 square-foot building with adjacent courtyard and sculpture garden has been open since April 1997, and has already functioned as the site for many public events.

The new construction project also provided an opportunity to serve as the prototype for a new public improvement plan that will eventually run the entire length of the Hickory Street arts and entertainment corridor. The new design integrated into the existing streetscape includes more plantings and pedestrian amenities.

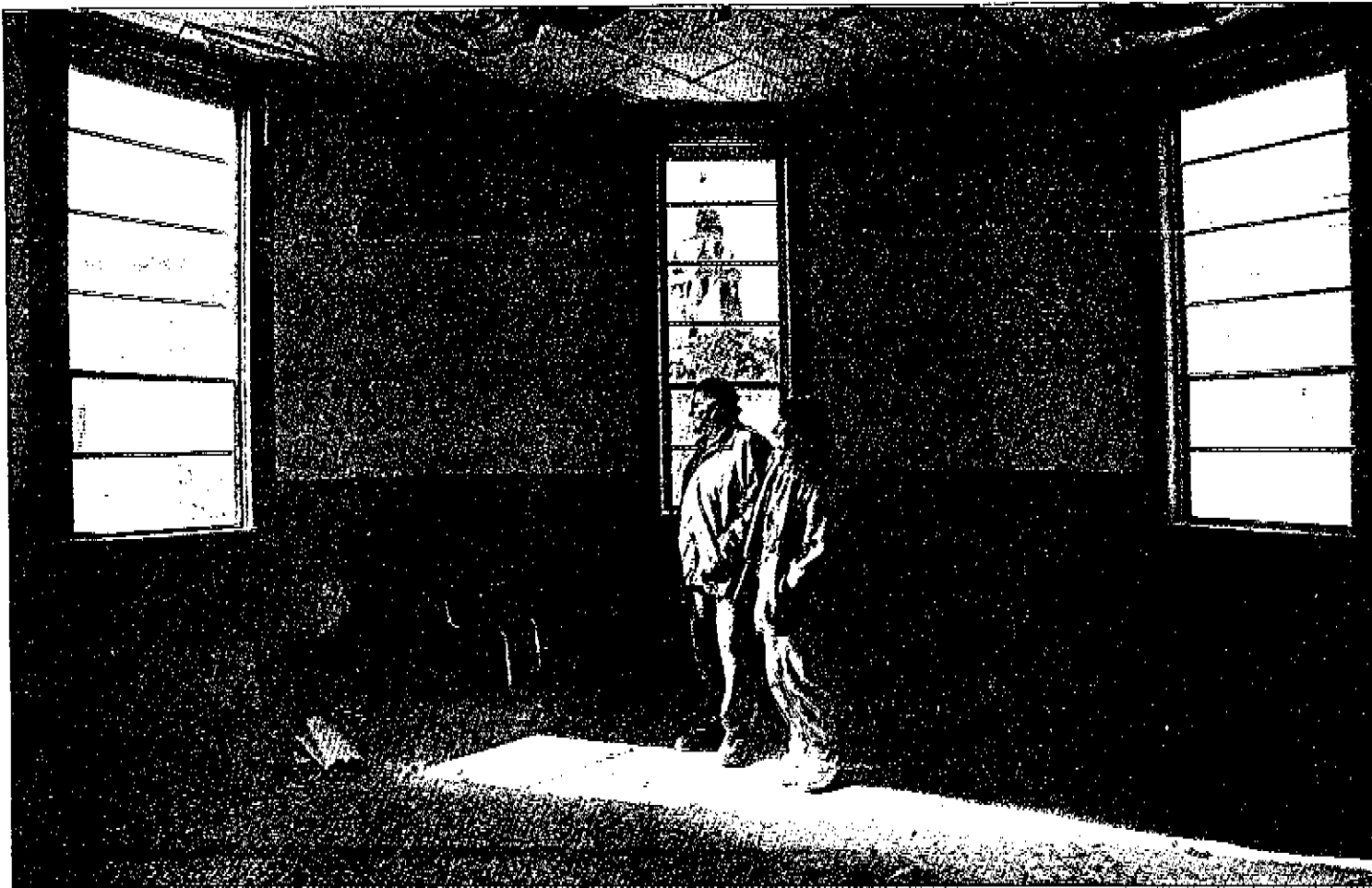
Main Street's promotional events also attract shoppers while boosting public opinion of downtown Denton. One idea that really took hold is the Main Street Acoustic Lawn Jam. Every Saturday, musicians gather on the courthouse square to play the spoons, autoharp, and other acoustic instruments. It's a bring your own blanket event where families gather to enjoy picnics and listen to the unstructured program of traditional music.

Main Street's longest-running and most popular festival is County Seat Saturday, which highlights the town's heritage and draws 10,000 people to the Square each year the second Saturday in September. But, gaining ground as Denton's most beloved event is Dog Days of Summer, an award-winning downtown event for canines and their people. Leading up to the crowning of the annual "spokesdog" and his or her court is the annual Dog Parade, Stupid Pet Tricks, Glam-fur shots for pooches, and lots of information and activities on responsible pet care.

The many volunteers who contribute to the success of these events are a tribute to the commitment and pride of the community. Luckily in Denton, people have a clear vision of Main Street's purpose. Bill and Darien Orr say, "Our Main Street program is one of Denton's greatest assets, and we will continue to support them financially and with our volunteer time as much as possible." Because of volunteers like the Orrs, downtown Denton is once again the center of the community.

RENEWING DENTON'S PAST

1-22-97
DM



The Dallas Morning News: Richard Michael Pruitt

Bob and Georgia Caraway, new owners of the old Wright Opera House building on the Denton square, plan to renovate the 7,200-square-foot second floor into apartments, with a large one for themselves.

By Nita Thurman

Denton Bureau of The Dallas Morning News

DENTON — At first glance, visitors to the second floor of the old Wright Opera House building may see nothing more than muddy yellow walls and peeling linoleum.

But new owners Georgia and Bob Caraway see the patina of polished wood and the pebbled glass of yesteryear.

"This is our living room," said Mrs. Caraway, leading the way through a room with tall windows that afford a sweeping view of Denton's downtown square.

Downtown buildings restored for new uses

She and her husband plan to turn the 7,200-square-foot second floor into apartments, including a large one for themselves, while continuing to rent the ground floor for business.

The Caraways bought the building on Jan. 2, joining a growing number of property owners who are restoring and recycling the old mercantile buildings

around the square.

One of the pioneers in the downtown restoration movement is lawyer Randall Boyd, who in 1978 converted the Scripture Building, named for businessman R.C. Scripture, into a law office and apartments.

"There was nobody living on the square when we did that," said Mr. Boyd, 48. "I believe we are the ones that got it started."

Other property owners have followed suit, converting empty buildings to commercial and residential spaces.

Jane Jenkins, the city official who

Please see DOWNTOWN on Page 28A.

DOWNTOWN DENTON BUILDINGS
Continued from Page 21A

Dallas Morning News
1-22-97



Treat, definitely: With a new program Main Street inflated, called Scaracrows on the Square, businesses can decorate their storefronts at Halloween.

DOING TI

Main Street fertilizes the

by Jen Graves
Arts Editor

From the Italian Renaissance to New York City in the '50s, every arts explosion requires a supportive and excited community. Not only do we want to go to an impressive show at the theater, but we want to be able to window-shop inspirational paintings on the way and go to a great restaurant afterward. The magic of an evening on the town must be complete, and Denton, as an arts community, is beginning to see the pieces fall into place.

The Main Street program began as an effort to wipe the dust away from downtown. Since the inception of the program in 1989, many new galleries and restaurants have opened, as well as the Campus Theatre and various music venues. Downtown is getting the boost it bargained for, and the arts community is thriving.

"In the '80s, you could come downtown and do all your Christmas shopping," said Julie Glover, promotions specialist for Main Street,

"By the '80s, you couldn't even find a greeting card. Now, it's back to where you can find what you need downtown."

The transformation from a drab, incomplete city center to a robust and resourceful area has brought both visitors and merchants downtown, creating revenue and jobs. In the past eight years alone, 114 buildings have been rehabilitated, 12 new buildings built, 41 buildings sold, 157 businesses started, 685 new jobs created and over \$18 million reinvested in the central business district. Not a bad record.

And with all the new development on the square, stores have sprung up just off the square and other businesses are slowly developing even further off. The overall benefit for Denton is great, but more specifically, increasing economic prosperity has brought an increase in artistic activity.

"One of the most exciting things that's happening right now is the influx of galleries," Glover said, referring to the recently-opened Austin Street Studio and Gallery, Squareworks Gallery, Earth and Stone and the Longhorn Gallery. "We have credited the opening of the Campus Theatre (in July 1995) with the latest boom downtown. When they redid the courthouse in 1984, people said, 'Ooh, we need to get this spiffed up a little.' When the Campus opened, it really spawned a flurry of activity, especially on that south corner. That's when Dan's Bar, Sweetwater Tavern and Grill, and Off-the-Square Antiques opened."

Furthermore, Glover's involvement in Main Street adds an arts-friendly environment to the program. Julie, who is married to singer/songwriter Jeff Glover, is

also a musician herself — both a folk and blues singer and a saxophone player. She said she is always looking for spots to host more of the leeming population of musicians and music lovers in Denton.

"We try to create some venues for music that aren't venues now," she said. "A lot of the stuff I've done has been music-related and I've had connections. All my friends have had to come and play for free."



Fiddle me this: These two little ones participated in during the annual County Seat Saturday, which is

The reason they've had to play for less than peanuts is not because Glover is stingy. The city pays two full-time employees to manage the program, but Main Street generates all of its money through fundraising events like festivals



Back in the summer of '95: With the opening of the Campus Theatre two years ago, the downtown area had a new night spot and a new venue for community talent in Denton.

THE TOWN

growing local arts scene

and member donations, "so I'm constantly traveling for money," Glover said.

That money both goes toward and comes from the entertainment district that the people of Denton can enjoy throughout the year.

While Glover said Main Street is "economic-development driven," the program has spawned much creativity as revenue. And here is no place as wacky and creative as the Fry Street area, which recently got in on the deal when

lights were installed to make it easier for students to walk at night without danger.

"Fry Street is really like another downtown area," Glover said.

That explains why Bill Stoneburner, of Billy Shear's barber shop, now heads the Fry Street Development Corporation. Like Glover, he views Fry Street as a vital part of the city.

"Down here at the Fry Street area, the merchants have had several starts and stops at getting an organization going, probably since 1990."

Stoneburner said. "The Main Street people were integral in helping us to have an entity that would exist for more than just six months a year, and teaching us how to deal with the city on different area concerns that different people have down here."

He said the Fry Street Development Corporation also has plans to add to the already healthy arts calendar in the area. To balance the Fry Street Fair, held in the spring, the company is aiming to create a fall festival, which is slated tentatively for October 1998.

But as important as a livelier arts community is the increasing pride that community creates; pride in a kind of quirky eclecticism that emanates from all the unique non-chain establishments in town.

"The more cool shops and restaurants go in in this area, the less people are going to go to the mall," said Beth Klein, owner of the quaint crafts shop Sleeping Lizards. "With Dallas moving this way, Denton's almost turning into a lower-Greenville-type area, with Sweetwater and really neat little restaur-

ants. There are a lot of neat single businesses instead of the conglomerate stuff you'll see at the mall, and I think that's great for Denton, really."

Although Main Street's effect on the community has been immense,

the program is hardly finished with the job it set out to do.

"One of the main things we've been trying to do is to create an arts corridor, which would include art, green trees, banners and nice turn-of-the-century lights, hopefully, to make a pretty walkway from the University of North Texas all the way down to the Center for the Visual Arts," said Fred Patterson, who is on the Public Improvement Committee for the Vision of Denton program, which often works alongside Main Street. The committee held an open forum in 1993 for city residents to generate ideas and suggestions for Denton's future and development.

"These really are things Denton residents have told us they want, and as of now, it's still a wish list, but we're working to see these things happen," Patterson said.

Glover concedes that Main Street still has work to do, and part of that will depend on the acquiescence and support of the local merchants and building owners.

"One of the things we have to deal with is that we have a lot of people operating businesses in their buildings, and that's a good thing, but it's frustrating when someone owns a building and doesn't do anything with it," Glover said, referring to an incident that occurred last year, when a group of young people tried to buy a building on Hickory St. to turn it into a night club for downtown. "Once a hulking site like that, it needs a lot of things to bring it up to code. That's probably why those kids didn't get the night club last year."

But overall, Glover said the merchants have been wonderful to work with and impressively agreeable. For example, every year a ballot is sent to downtown businesses for a vote on whether County Seat Saturday should close down the streets, and every year it wins, despite the temporary inconvenience to the voting stores.

Storeowners, residents and the Main Street program appear to be working together, and the result has been an enrichment of the arts in Denton. Hopefully, that level of cooperation will continue.

"We've done a lot, but I think it's an ongoing thing," Glover said. "There have been other towns in Texas that have had Main Street programs and have disbanded them. You can definitely see the difference when the Main Street program is not there." [E]



A year's dolling contest, held at Dan's Bar and Grill, wrapped up Sept. 13.

the Main Street program helped in merchants of Fry Street organize a non-profit company called the Fry Street Development Corporation. Since then, a community police station has been created to increase safety, and now street



The health nut's cookie jar: A fabulously yummy health food store and cafe, The Cupboard also received an award for its interior design.

MONEY DOESN'T GROW ON TREES

Main Street sponsors the following events plus many others — some free and some fundraisers

• **Acoustic Lawn Jam** takes place every Saturday morning, with people playing clarinets and spoons and banjos and every combination of instruments you could imagine," according to Julie Glover, promotions specialist for Main Street.

• **Scarecrows on the Square** encourages downtown business owners to decorate their storefronts with brightly colored scarecrows and Halloween paraphernalia every October. Last year, 40 merchants participated, turning the streets into a giant orange and black art gallery.

• **County Seat Saturday**, the all-day street festa coming up on Sept. 13, offers everything from bidding contests to a 5K run. The party usually draws anywhere from 8,000-10,000 people and three stages of music host an array of local bands, many of which greatly appreciate the well-attended venue.

• **The Mardi Gras and Main Street Party** hosts local heroes Brave Combo and is catered by Sweetwater Tavern and Grill in order to raise funds for Main Street.

• **And everybody's favorite is the Dog Days of Summer**, when "all the dogs get to bring their people downtown and they have to keep them on a leash," Glover said. Held on the second Saturday in June, Dog Days includes a parade and contest, in which everyone wins something, and is a good chance to let dogs strut their silly stuff in front of their favorite thing's captive audience.

• **Main Street is currently working on a folk music series** with national acts, as well as a pop concert with the music folks down at the University of North Texas, which is tentatively scheduled for this fall.



Quality of Life

From
ED



Arts and Culture

Denton is one of few cities its size to offer the cultural advantages of its own visual arts center and a community theater with a director in residence. With two universities and thousands of highly talented citizens, Denton is a noted center for music, theater and visual arts.

Denton's Campus Theater, which underwent a \$1.7 million renovation in 1995, is the pride of the community. The theater is "booked solid" with performances by the outstanding Denton Community Theater and other performing arts groups, including the Denton Light Opera and the Denton Bach Society.

Festivals and events are held in every season. The Arts and Jazz Festival, Tejas Storytelling Festival, County Seat Saturday, and Holiday Lighting Festival are just a few of the family-oriented events sponsored by the community each year.

Denton's rich and varied cultural scene is augmented by easy access to world-class museums and performances in the nearby Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex.



Recreation

Denton's Parks and Recreation Department has earned many awards for its programs and facilities. Parks and Recreation sponsors an active schedule of programs for all ages in numerous city recreational facilities. Denton has over 794 acres of public park space and offers two 18-hole public courses and two 18-hole private courses. Lake Lewisville (23,280 acres) at Denton's southern boundary provides swimming, boating, fishing and camping. To the north, Lake Roy Roberts (29,350 acres) provides excellent fishing, camping facilities and equestrian trails.



Denton Economic Development

Denton Chamber of Commerce

414 Parkway, P.O. Drawer P
Denton, Texas 76202-1719
PHONE: (940)382-7451
FAX: (940)382-0040
E-MAIL: denroned@iglobal.net

City of Denton

215 East McKinney Street
Denton, Texas 76201
PHONE: (940)349-8305
FAX: (940)349-7209
E-MAIL: lratliff@iglobal.net

Spectators have a wide range of sports from which to choose in the area. Whether it's college athletics in Denton or professional sports in the metroplex, there is always an event for every enthusiast. The Texas Motor Speedway, located only 14 miles south of Denton, is the second largest racetrack in the world. The speedway is one of the newest and hottest auto racing venues in the U.S., offering both NASCAR and Indy-style racing.

Historic Preservation and Community Development

Preservation of Denton's historic commercial and residential areas is high priority. Downtown Denton is a vibrant retail and entertainment district, filled with renovated historic buildings. Since 1989, the Denton Main Street program has received numerous awards from the Texas Downtown Association for its downtown revitalization efforts. The Oak-Hickory Historic District is an exceptional collection of homes dating from the 1880's to 1950's, which are protected by local preservation ordinance. Denton's Courthouse-on-Square Museum offers visitors a diverse research collection and an inside look at Denton's local history.

Beautification

Keep Denton Beautiful has twice earned the first-place Governor's Community Achievement Award for its citywide beautification efforts and brings home honors every year in individual categories.

Healthcare

The healthcare needs of local residents are well served by Denton Community Hospital and Columbia Medical Center of Denton. Each of these facilities has a medical staff of over 200 physicians. Columbia Medical Center of Denton has a major expansion project underway that will offer additional surgical and cardiac care facilities. The Flow Campus of Columbia Medical Center specializes in senior services and habilitation.

What's Up Downtown

September/October 1997

Issue 5



Pops in the Park

The University of North Texas Symphony will perform a free concert in Civic Center Park, on Sunday, October 5, at 4 p.m.

The UNT Opera Theater will join the symphony for selections from "Camelot," "Gigi," "Hooray for Hollywood," John Williams selections and a Judy Garland medley.

"This promises to be a unique Denton event."
Fred Patterson

Fred Patterson, who was instrumental in organizing the concert, said, "This promises to be a unique Denton event. This is a great opportunity to bring the UNT Music Department and the symphony to the public. We hope it can become an annual event."

Wine and cheese baskets may be ordered from The Cupboard Natural Foods, at 387-5386. A portion of the sales are being donated to the Main Street Association. Tables and chairs may be reserved by calling 349-8529, or you can bring your own chairs, blankets or picnic baskets.

The concert is sponsored by the Denton Main Street Association and underwritten by the Ben E. Keith Foundation and the Denton Record-Chronicle.

In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be moved to the UNT Concert Hall at Chestnut and Avenue A. Call the UNT Concert Hall on the day of the concert for rain site information.

Gallery Nights

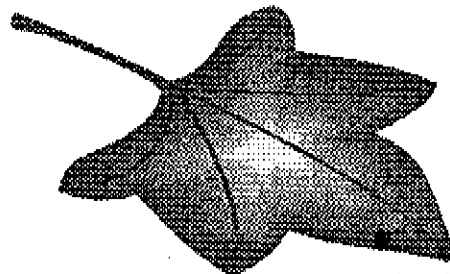


Gallery Nights will begin Thursday, November 6

Our local art dealers are getting together to spread the word about the terrific art scene in Denton.

The first Gallery Night will be Thursday, November 6, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Each gallery will host an open house and serve refreshments. Shuttle transportation will be provided.

Participating galleries are: Squareworks, Longhorn Gallery, Austin Street Studio and Gallery, Martha Wahlert, Earth & Stone, Cupboard Cafe, the Good/Bad Art Collective and the UNT and TWU galleries. Call 349-8529 for more information.



County Seat Saturday Update

The 12th Annual County Seat Saturday was the biggest and best ever!

An estimated 12,000 people attended the one day event on September 13.

Over 150 arts, crafts, information and food booths participated this year. Everything from funnel cakes to furniture was available to the crowd that descended on the historic Courthouse lawn.

We'd like to thank the hundreds of local performers who donated their time and talents to the event.

And a special thanks to all of our wonderful sponsors and volunteers who make this event a success year after year. Next year's date is September 12. Don't miss it!

Heart Start Day

The 4th Annual Heart Start Day will be held on the Courthouse lawn on Saturday, October 4, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Heart Start is a community education activity sponsored by Advocates for Infants and Children (AIC).

The day will include a baby buggy parade, sack races, clowns, Sparky the Firedog, pumpkin painting, music and games. The Denton Community Pied Piper Players will present "Reader's Theater: Baby Talks."

This should be a fun day for the whole family. Bring a picnic and spend the day on the square. For more information call 566-0224 or 565-8569.



June 2, 1995

Many city homes in historical survey

By Gregory Pope
Staff Writer

Denton has about 750 homes that could qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, according to the preliminary version of a historical survey released Thursday.

The survey, completed by Austin-based historical consultant Ralph Newlan, evaluated the historical significance of every structure built in Denton before 1946. The preliminary version was presented to Denton's Historical Landmark Commission on Thursday.

Mr. Newlan assigned each site a preservation priority rating based on the building's architectural integrity and its history. About 28 percent of the 2,410 surveyed sites have a high priority preliminary rating.

"That's an extremely high

Information

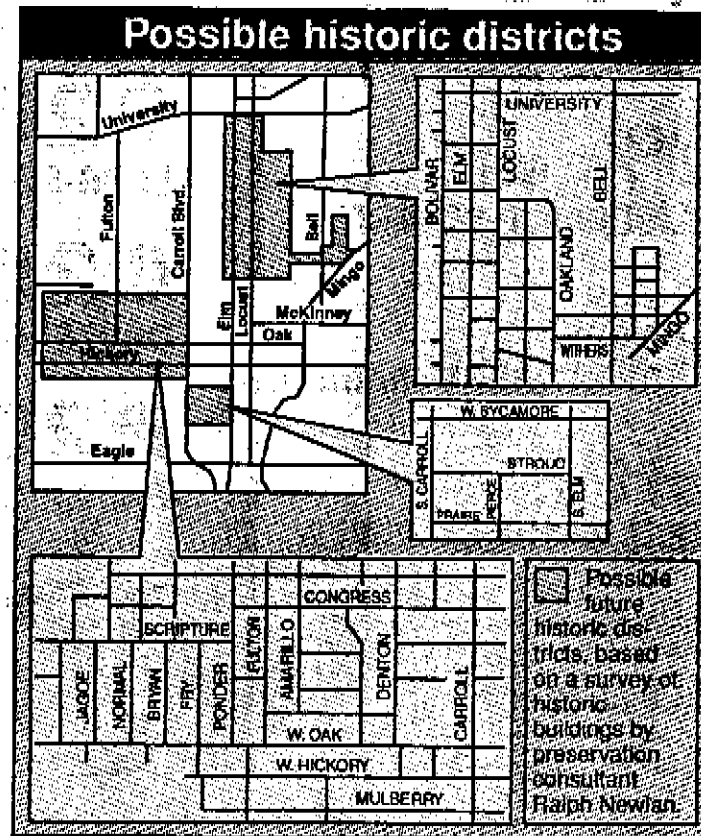
If you have a home built before 1946, and want to know its preliminary rating in the historical survey, call the Denton Main Street office at 566-8529.

percentage for any community," Mr. Newlan said. "Most communities have about 15 to 20 percent of their historical sites designated as high priority."

High priority sites are considered "potentially eligible" for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, but the number of high priority sites likely will decline somewhat as the survey enters its final stages, said Jane Jenkins, the city's historical preservation officer.

Nonetheless, Ms. Jenkins

See HOMES/2A



Homes

From/1A

said she's pleased with the survey results, which show that Denton has a large number of potential historical sites.

"What we have to realize is that a lot of our high priority sites are small frame houses," Ms. Jenkins said. "When people think of historic preservation, most think of big, grand houses, and they miss the small frame houses in different areas."

Denton currently has only two buildings on the National Register — the Courthouse on the Square and the Little Chapel-in-the-Woods. Ms. Jenkins said the survey could ultimately lead to many more buildings being added to the register.

"I hope that we can convince people of the tax advantages of National Register properties, and the tourist advantages of National Register districts," she said.

Mr. Newlan's survey outlines four Denton neighborhoods that could become historical districts in the National Register, including three residential areas and the commercial district surrounding the Courthouse on the Square.

The residential areas include the homes surrounding Texas Woman's University, an expanded version of the Oak-Hickory Historic District and a small, middle-class area bounded by Sycamore, Prairie and Elm streets and Carroll Boulevard.

"The next phase is where a lot more intensive work is going to take place," Mr. Newlan

said. "Some of the historic districts could be divided into two districts, or we could even find another area for a historic district."

A grant from the National Park Service is paying for half of the survey's \$22,434 cost, and the city is paying for the rest. Ms. Jenkins said the survey will benefit her office and the city's building inspection department.

The Historic Landmark Commission will review the survey a second time June 22. Mr. Newlan will make continuous revisions to the report throughout June, and hopes to present the final version to the Denton City Council on July 11.

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Local

PROPERTIES WITH HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION
As of January 1, 1998

DESIGNATION NUMBER	DESIGNATION DATE	ADDRESS OF DESIGNATED PROPERTY
H-1	9/02/80	123 North Elm Street
H-4	1/07/81	607 Pearl
H-5	1/07/81	609 West Oak Street
H-6	1/07/81	722 West Oak Street
H-7	1/07/81	705 West Oak Street
H-8	1/07/81	811 West Oak Street
H-9	1/07/81	723 West Oak Street
H-10	1/07/81	812 West Oak Street
H-11	1/07/81	1003 West Oak Street
H-12	1/07/81	1023 West Oak Street
H-13	1/07/81	1015 West Oak Street
H-14	2/17/81	610 West Oak Street
H-15	2/17/81	1819 North Bell Avenue
H-16	2/17/81	318 West Oak Street
H-17	4/07/81	819 West Oak Street
H-18	4/07/81	101-103 North Elm Street
H-19	6/16/81	119 West Hickory Street
H-21	2/23/82	210 North Locust
H-22	2/23/82	Oakwood Cemetery
H-23	2/23/82	1314 North Locust
H-24	4/20/82	Courthouse on the Square
H-25	9/07/82	221 N. Elm Street
H-26	9/21/82	1555 Lindsey
H-27	8/02/83	703 Bolivar
H-28	10/04/83	619 Grove
H-29	11/15/83	Old Warehouse at the southeast corner of Bell and Hickory

Date	10-10	# of pages	1
From	Denton	Co.	Main St.
Post-it	Mustine	Co./Dept.	CVB
Fax No	7671	Phone #	
		Fax #	

DESIGNATION NUMBER	DESIGNATION DATE	ADDRESS OF DESIGNATED PROPERTY
H-30	11/15/83	Old Diesel Plant at the southwest corner of Bell and Hickory
H-33	1/15/85	217 East Oak Street
H-35	6/10/86	805 Bolivar
H-36	5/06/87	928 West Hickory
H-37	9/20/88	118-120 North Locust
91-001	8/20/91	305 Mounts Street
There is no 92-001		
92-002	3/02/93	915 W. Oak Street
93-001	6/15/93	120 W. Oak Street
93-002	11/16/93	200 W. Hickory Street
94-001	12/06/94	1035 W. Oak Street
94-002	12/06/94	1004 W. Oak Street
94-003	12/06/94	1018 W. Oak Street
95-001	12/19/95	1513 N. Locust

b:\HDESIG

Site marker: Sherman Building,
101-103 N. Elm