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State Department of Highways and Public Transportation 6799 Indian artifacts, pioneer and Civil War exhibits.

The three-story Victorian Ginocchio Hotel and Restaurant, N. Washington St. at the T&P Railroad tracks, is the focal point of the Ginocchio National Historic District which also includes several historic houses. Historical medallions mark several other homes and sites including the location of the capitol of Missouri during the War Between the States. (401 S. Bolivar) Obtain complete list of historic sites from the museum or chamber of commerce, 213 W. Austin St.

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East Texas Piney Woods scenery unfolds during the 23 miles between Marshall and Longview. Five miles west of Marshall, at the F.M. 968 intersection, are two large old oaks. An unmarked grave there **1** is believed by some to be that of Peter Whetstone, original owner of the land on which Marshall is built. Among his gifts were land for the town square and for Marshall University. He was murdered during the lawless period of the Regulator-Moderator War (1839-44), which was a power struggle between vigilante groups.

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A fire lookout tower is alongside the Trail, reached via a county road which leaves the highway next to a small, typical East Texas sawmill. The towers are manned only when conditions warrant, and may be visited only when manned.

A peaceful era of the area's development is recalled by the Noonday Campmeeting Grounds () a restful picnic spot five miles north of the Trail on F.M. 450 out of Hallsville. Meetings were originally held in a brush arbor, and years ago special trains brought worshipers to the spot. Meetings are still held two Sundays in August.

Early settlers of the Hallsville area depended upon the protection of Fort Crawford, at first a private fortified home and later a Republic of Texas fort about a mile south of the present city. The town experienced a phenomenal boom when the railroad arrived in 1869, and the Texas and Pacific Railway shops were located here until 1873 when they were moved to Marshall.

#### LONGVIEW Gregg and Harrison Counties Pop. 53,465 Alt. 339

The chamber of commerce, a block north of the courthouse on N. Center St., has information on some 35 marked historic sites and the East Texas Oil Field.

A modern brewery, just west of the city on Cotton St., offers tours on weekday afternoons.

Nearby at 701 Hardy St. is Caddo Indian Museum, an extensive interpretation of Caddo culture.

An art museum at 102 W. College features American artists. Closed Mon.



# **TEXAS FOREST TRAIL**

Some hint of the importance of the forested areas of Texas is indicated by the location of four national forests and four state forests here

But this is only a hint. To realize the importance of the vast East Texas Piney Woods, whose acreage almost equals the combined forest areas of the New England states, one must visit this beautiful land - see its abundant wildlife - walk through its historic shrines pause under its green shade and, beside a myriad of glistening lakes, relax to the sound of wind through pine boughs

Whatever the season, this section of Texas presents a face of beauty - from spring flowering through the verdant summer to a blaze of autumn color and an evergreen winter

For 12,000 years before the first foreign settlers arrived, Indians inhabited this land. It was coveted by French traders and was the prize sought by Spanish, Mexican and American colonizers. Today its lakes and woods lure modern adventurers and reward them with pleasure unlimited

The beautiful and historic land is valuable for timber, whose products annually gross more than half a billion dollars, making timber a close second to oil in the economics of East Texas. The Trail covers much of the storied oil field area, and farming and ranching contribute their own fascinating aspects.

The starting point is Tyler, major metropolitan area on the Trail. The route description is presented in a clockwise direction. However, the Trail is designed so it may be started at any point along the way and driven in either direction by carefully consulting the accompanying map and descriptive copy. See map legend for information about special Trail signs and arrows.

#### TYLER Pop. 61,941

#### Smith County Alt. 558

The busy city of Tyler, halfway between Dallas and Shreveport, grew rapidly in the 1930s with the discovery of the East Texas Oil Field. Though east of the city, the field made Tyler the headquarters of oil operators.

More than half of the field-grown rose bushes sold in the U.S. come from fields within 50 miles of Tyler, "Rose Capital of the World." The Municipal Rose Garden, a few blocks west of downtown off Texas 31 (Front Street) is a 28-acre garden with 35,000 plants of some 400 varieties. Visitors are welcome at the greenhouse, center and garden. Free.



Also free are the Goodman Museum and Tyler Museum of Art. The museum in Goodman Park, 624 N. Broadway, is open afternoons with displays of antebellum artifacts. antiques and 19th Century medical instruments in a house built in 1859.

The art museum is open daily except Monday in a handsome new building at 1300 S. Mahon Ave.

The chamber of commerce, 301 N. Broadway, will provide information about playgrounds, parks, lakes, historic homes, recreational and cultural activities, including the Hudnall Planetarium at Tyler Junior College.

For the lucky visitor around Easter, the Azalea Trail iens of splendid blossoms. In the East Texas Fair — second largest in the state, and in October the Texas Rose Festival holds sway with parades, a reigning queen and roses everywhere. Camp Ford, Confederate prisoner of war camp for

Union soldiers, was the largest west of the Mississippi. A marker in a roadside park, intersection of U.S. 271 and Loop 323 in northeast Tyler, gives details.

From F.M. 14 north of Tyler on the Forest Trail is the entrance to Tyler State Park. 
• Facilities include picnic and camping areas, screened shelters, bathhouse, boat docks and ramps and excellent nature trail. Admission. The Trail passes through nearby Red Springs Oil

Field 2 — one of several which contributed to Tyler's growth and continues to influence the economy. The small community of Lindale has less than 1,500 residents today, but during the Civil War the Steen Saline Works here employed 3,000 workers producing salt for

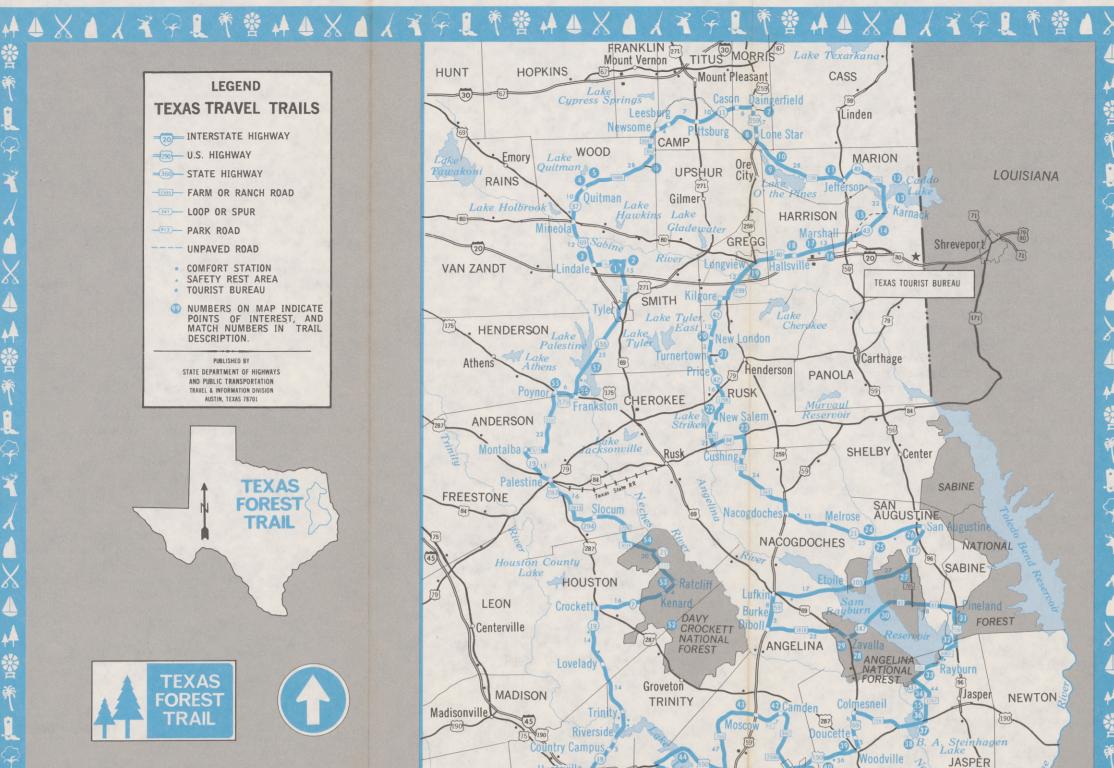
the Confederacy. Lindale's beautiful magnolia trees are reminders that this was part of the Old South. North of Lindale fields of rose bushes 3 and peach orchards line the highway. Probably no two crops are more colorful, and it's the lucky traveler who is here during their flowering seasons.

The Sabine River here is the Smith-Wood County boundary. Miles downstream, the Sabine is the Louisiana-Texas border.

| MINEOLA    |  |
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| Pop. 4,146 |  |

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In Mineola, two blocks west of the Trail on U.S. 80, is a marker at the site of James Stephen Hogg's first law office. One of the most distinguished public servants in Texas history, he was the state's first native-born gover-



Blue-and-white Travel Trail signs mark all Trail highways. The RECTANGULAR sign with Trail name and symbol identifies and confirms your route periodically. The ROUND arrow sign (used alone) guides you at inter-sections when the Trail changes highways, or at possible points of confusion. Consult your map often, and watch for those blue and-white arrows.

Trails avoid major highways when possible, using instead many State Highways, Farm and Ranch Roads. In the text, "Texas" designates State Highways, "F.M." and "R.M.' are Farm or Ranch Roads. All are fine paved routes you will enjoy driving.

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FRANKLIN 271 Mount Vernon

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nor. A block north, at Line and Kilpatrick Streets, is Governor Hogg's old home and birthplace of his daughter, Miss Ima Hogg, who preserved much early Texas heritage through her restoration and preservation of historic homes and buildings

Make local inquiry for other significant historic sites. North of Mineola the Forest Trail passes through a prosperous area where a variety of crops include watermelons and sweet potatoes. One "farm" produces an unusual crop — catfish, bred and sold for stocking private ponds and streams.

#### QUITMAN Pop. 1,484

Wood County Alt. 414

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The Governor Hogg Shrine (state park) () in town includes the "Jim Hogg Honeymoon Cottage," occupied in 1874 when Hogg was justice of the peace. It contains period furnishings, family mementos, and is open Thursday through Monday, as is the Miss Ima Hogg Museum (also in the park) housing a history of Northeast Texas. There is also the Stinson House, home of Mrs. Hogg's



parents, in which she was married. Picnic area, play-

ground, and rest rooms. A half-mile side trip east on F.M. 778 (Horton St.) leads to the antebellum Collins-Haines Home. This first brick house in Wood County was built by slaves using locally made bricks. It retains the atmosphere of the Old South with graceful wisteria and magnolia trees, and it was past this stately and still beautiful plantation that Confederate troops marched off to war. The road is part of the annual

Dogwood Fiesta Trail, and the home is open one weekend during that event. In late March-early April the Quitman Dogwood Fiesta is held with trail maps available locally. Also in spring, crimson clover blankets area roadsides.

Northeast of Ouitman the Forest Trail slices through the Merigale-Paul Oil Field 5 — an old field still producing. A roadside park honors Capt. Henry Stout, pioneer lawman and Indian fighter.

Nine miles east of the Stout Memorial, accessible via a paved county road, is the Corbitt log cabin. 6 It was built in 1853 by the first settler in the heavily forested Perryville area. The deed, written on a deer hide with a feather quill, is in the possession of the present owner. The cabin is open to visitors only during the Winnsboro Autumn Trails Festival, but may be seen any time from the county road.

Check the Trail map and watch Trail signs carefully in this area, because several short sections of highway are used. Many of the roads are those used during the Autumn Trails — a display of flamboyant autumnal beauty.

The average farm in this region has about 100 acres with watermelons and yams probably the top crops. There are also orchards - mostly peaches - dairy and beef cattle, goats, sheep, slash pines and cedars, oil rigs and pecan groves. In short, a cross-section of East Texas.

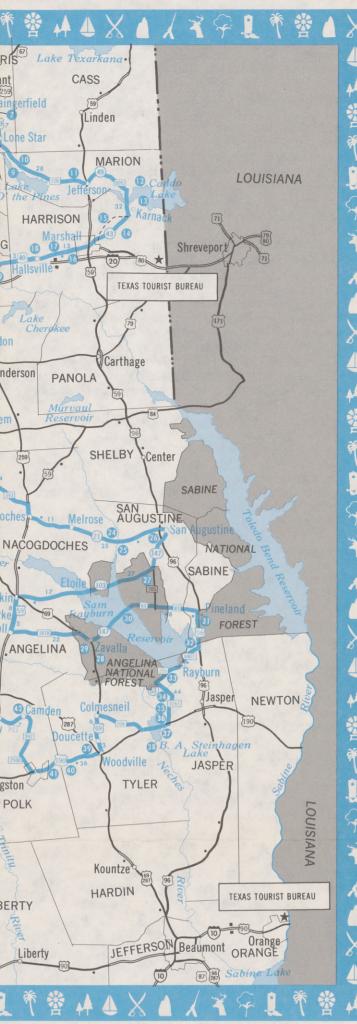
# PITTSBURG Pop. 3,804

#### Camp County Alt. 398

Pittsburgh, county seat and commercial center, is a city of handsome homes, both old and new. West of the city is new Bob Sandlin Lake (opened for fishing, 1968) and to the east is Welsh Reservoir, both popular for fishing and boating.

En route to Daingerfield the Forest Trail leads through timber areas where gum trees and pines are top varieties. Mistletoe is abundant though commercially worthless ex-

3



cept for Christmas decoration. Birds thrive on the succulent mistletoe berries, and this area is rich in birdlife.

#### DAINGERFIELD Pop. 2,802

**Morris County** Alt. 403

Coal and iron ore are found in this region. Limited pro duction of iron has existed for many years, and the industry was important to the Confederacy. Two historical markers on N. Coffey St. detail the city's history, as do displays in the museum in the old courthouse.

A pleasant side trip is available to Daingerfield State Park 11/49. The 581-acre, beautifully wooded area includes a quiet 80-acre lake offering fishing and swimming. A launch ramp is provided and boating is limited to motors of 12 horsepower or less. Nature trail, picnic and camping areas, 80-foot fishing pier, trailer spaces and cabins. Open year round; reservations advisable for trailer space and cabins during summer. Admission.

On the Forest Trail four miles south of Daingerfield is the town of Lone Star, hub of the area's iron and steel industry. Just inside the gate of the Lone Star Steel Plant (1) is a replica of a small furnace from the 1850 era, a type that could produce one ton of pig iron a day. Tours of the steel plant may be arranged for technical or special groups.

Across the road is the delightful Chapel in the Pines, maintained for civic use by Lone Star Steel.

The Texas Forest Trail to Jefferson skirts the north edge of beautiful Lake O' the Pines. 9 Numerous private fishing and boating facilities line the lake, along with dozens of public use areas, most of which include boat ramps and campgrounds.

Many consider this the best bass lake in East Texas. But also taken are crappie, pickerel, bluegills and red-ear bream. Complete fishing service is available, from fishing barges to guides.

Along the Trail watch for an historical marker Odescribing the first iron furnace in Texas - the Nash Iron Works, built to the north of the Trail in 1846 on Alley

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Creek where iron ore, wood for charcoal and clay for molds were plentiful

At the F.M. 729/Texas 49 intersection a marker 1 notes where the old Kelly Foundry once turned out both cowbells and the first modern plows used in Texas.

# **JEFFERSON** Pop. 2,805

**Marion County** Alt. 200

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In this historic city more than 50 sites are marked with Official State Historical Markers. Many old homes are open to the public during the annual pilgrimage on the first weekend in May. Year-round attractions include the Excelsior House, Jefferson Historical Museum and the Jay Gould private railroad car. Historic routes are marked and maps are available for self-guided tours. The museum, with its variety of excellent exhibits, and the Excelsion House have tour information. Both are on Austin Street.

For half a century, starting when a tremendous logjam on the Red River made Big Cypress Bayou navigable for steamboats from New Orleans, Jefferson was the leading inland port of Texas with 30,000 residents. Some 226 steamboats, with up to 700-ton capacity, tied up at Jefferson wharves in 1872, but boating today is limited to float trips down the Big Cypress.

So important was that river in the city's early days that residents were certain of its continued dominance as a method of travel. They refused to provide right-of-way for Jay Gould's railroad, and thus set the stage for the city's decline when railroads opened the New West. Gould's prediction that "grass will grow in the streets of Jefferson" did not quite come true, but when the logjam was blasted in 1873 and the water level lowered so that navigation was no longer possible, the city suffered a blow from which it has never fully recovered.

During its turbulent era, exciting events were commonplace. At nearby Caddo Lake, Robert Potter, secretary of the Texas Navy during Republic days, was killed near the point which bears his name, supposedly as the result of a feud. In 1877 Abe Rothschild, blacksheep son of a wealthy Cincinnati diamond merchant, faced a series of nationally publicized trials for the murder of "Diamond Bessie" Moore.

There is so much romance of the Old South and so much early Texas history to be absorbed along the streets and byways of Jefferson that a casual visit is seldom enough. Those who only sample the heritage of the city often return for more extended visits, especially during the annual spring historical pilgrimage.

Just south of the Trail highway crossing of Caddo Lake 12 is Caddo Lake State Park 13 via F.M. 2198. One of the state's most unusual parks, Caddo Lake's history makes it one of the most interesting locations on the Trail This, combined with the haunting beauty of mossdraped cypresses, superb fishing, and abundant birdlife and wildlife, lure and enchant photographers, naturalists, sportsmen and all lovers of the out-of-doors.

The lake was probably first formed by the great New Madrid earthquake in 1811. (Reelfoot Lake in Tennessee was also formed by this quake.) Later, the logjam that made Big Cypress navigable also raised the water in Caddo Lake, permitting riverboat traffic

In a riverboat tragedy in 1869 the Mittie Stevens burned near Swanson's Landing with a loss of 60 lives. Had the victims known that the water was only a few feet deep, they could have waded to shore.

Pearl hunters swarmed to the lake around the turn of the century when pearls were found in freshwater mussels. Later, an oil boom caused dozens of wells to be drilled in the lake itself

Because the lake's maze of channels can be confusing, the state has marked 42 miles of "boat roads" on Caddo through the favorite haunts of the rare birds, wildlife, fighting fish and fishermer

The state park offers an interpretive center, recreation and camping facilities, cabins, trailer sites, nature trails, and boat ramps. Its official address is Karnack, just off the



Trail highway (see Trail map). In Karnack a marker notes the city as the birthplace of Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, born Claudia Alta Taylor on Dec. 22, 1912.

The Karnack post office is built of brick salvaged from the "Old Taylor Store" which was owned and operated by Mrs. Johnson's father. The Taylor home (1) three miles south of Karnack on Texas 43 near the intersection of F.M. 2682, was built in 1854 by a Colonel Andrews. Across the highway is a sign that has become famous: "T.J. Taylor — Dealer in Everything.

Between Karnack and Marshall, beautiful pines along the highway remind travelers that this is indeed the Texas Forest Trail, but for a reminder steeped in history, leave the Trail highway and take what is called the "Sunken Road" (1) to Marshall. This unpaved road turns west off the Trail one-half mile south of the Taylor home. This route is straight ahead to an intersection 3.7 miles from the Forest Trail, bearing right at that fork. From this point to Marshall is the "Sunken Road" section where the wilderness is barely disturbed by the road and the primitive roads of the pioneers are recalled.

# MARSHALL Pop. 24,670



An outstanding museum is in the old Harrison County Courthouse - in the center of Marshall on Peter Whetstone Square. Open afternoons except Saturday, the Harrison County Historical Museum displays Caddo

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State Department of Highway

and Public Transportation

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#### LONGVIEW **Gregg and Harrison Counties** Alt. 339 Pop. 53,465

The chamber of commerce, a block north of the

courthouse on N. Center St., has information on some 35

A modern brewery, just west of the city on Cotton St.,

marked historic sites and the East Texas Oil Field.

Between Longview and Kilgore the Trail crosses the Sabine River no and in the lowlands adjoining it pipelines will be seen carrying products of this oil-rich area. Individual lines can be identified by color codes on fence posts where the pipe crosses under fence lines. Each company has distinctive colors for identification by lowflying pipeline patrol planes whose trained pilots can spot oil leaks from the air. The painted fence posts are seen many times in this area.

KILGORE **Gregg and Rusk Counties** Pop. 9,630 Alt. 371

More than 1,000 oil derricks once towered over Kilgore, but only a handful remain. The wells were drilled in the 1930s during the era when derricks were left in place over each well, and the town became famous for its "forest" of steel. Today wells are drilled by modern, portable "jack-knife" rigs that are moved away when the well is completed, leaving only a pump or a "Christmas tree" (a complicated collection of valves that control flowing wells). The new drilling methods, plus conservation regulations that prohibit closely spaced wells, preclude there ever being another concentration of derricks like the one that was here.

At the downtown corner of Main and Commerce (Texas 42/135 intersection) is what has been called "The World's Richest Acre." An historical marker gives details of the world's most densely drilled tract.

This city is an important supply center for the great East Texas Oil Field — a field of more than 17,000 producing wells — which has produced about four billion barrels of oil. The 21st Century will see production here.



From Kilgore Junior College's more than 3,000 students come the Kilgore Rangerettes, first of the now popular drill and dance teams found throughout the nation. Performing at bowl games and expositions, the team of Texan-hatted beauties has been accorded more honors than any similar organization in the country.

South of Kilgore the Trail highway passes through New London. A large cenotaph @ in the highway median was erected in memory of 286 children and teachers killed on Mar. 18, 1937, when an accumulation of gas in the New London Junior-Senior High School exploded 10 minutes before school was to be dismissed. The present school was completed a year later.

Three miles south is Turnertown, a name which conjures vivid memories for oil field old-timers. East from Turnertown some two miles off the Trail on Texas 64 is a monument to early day oil field workers - the Joe Roughneck Park. (1) "Joe" is immortalized by a bronze bust on a piece of drill pipe.

A few miles east of the U.S. 79/F.M. 1798 intersection an historic treaty was signed. In 1836 when the Republic of Texas was preparing to fight Mexico, Texas sent Sam Houston to negotiate with the southern Cherokees. The treaty gave the Cherokees title to their lands in return for remaining peaceful during the Revolution. The Indians honored the treaty. The Texans did not.

There are many sawmills in this forested area; some are large industrial facilities and some are small, local mills such as those seen at New Salem.

A short distance south of New Salem a road provides entrance to Lake Striker. 20 Commercial facilities offer recreation and camping. Excellent bass fishing is reported.

Plan a brief side trip to Monte Verdi 23 — plantation home of Julien Devereux who came to Texas in the mid 1800s. The home, restored and refurnished in 1961, may be viewed from the road. Drive north on F.M. 2753 from its intersection with U.S. 84 one mile; turn sharp left at the cemetery on an oiled road; Monte Verdi is one-half mile on the right.

#### NACOGDOCHES Pop. 27,846

#### **Nacogdoches County** Alt. 283

North Street (B.R.59) is said to be the oldest public thoroughfare in the U.S. It connected the Indian community of Nacogdoches with another village and, when the Spanish came, was named La Calle del North-The Street of the North. First permanent building on La Calle del Norte was Spanish mission Guadalupe, built 1716.

Stephen F. Austin State University, with some 10,000 students, is here. Up Griffith Blvd. on the campus is Old Stone Fort, originally built in 1779 as a Spanish trading post. Reconstructed from original materials, it houses an excellent museum, open daily. Information on other historic sites including the Hoya Library and Museum, Indian mounds, and the Old University Building is available at the Old Fort or the chamber of commerce in the Fredonia Inn downtown.

Seven historic buildings are available for tours at Millard's Crossing, 6020 North St. (U.S. 59 north)

Texas 21 in this area is an especially historic road once part of the first "interstate" (actually international) highway system in North America, known as El Camino Real — The Royal Highway. The name was given by Spanish rulers to primary routes connecting provinces. El Camino Real, probably laid out in 1690, reached from St.

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Augustine (Florida) to San Antonio and down through Mexico City to Vera Cruz. Northeast of Mexico City branches of El Camino Real led to Santa Fe (New Mexico) and through California past San Francisco. This portion of the Trail route was well established and regularly traveled when the first English colonists were still struggling to secure their foothold in Virginia.

The favorite Spanish vehicle was the carreta, a twowheeled cart with solid wood wheels which were rarely greased and shrieked with every revolution. In bad weather pack animals were a last resort.

Along this stretch of Trail highway is Halfway House 20 — an excellent example of an early stagecoach stop. Built in 1830, the house (which may be visited) is marked by a sign and is easily visible from the highway.

Other historic homes are marked in the area. On the south side of the highway is the Old Garrett House 29 built about 1820. It is not open, but a marker tells its history. Watch also for the McFarland House by the Denning water plant @ home of Thomas S. McFarland who laid out the city of San Augustine.

Just west of San Augustine is an opportunity for a pause at an attractive roadside park.

#### SAN AUGUSTINE Pop. 2,573

San Augustine County Alt. 304

History walks the streets of San Augustine, once the principal eastern gateway to Texas. Sam Houston was a familiar figure on the streets, and Davy Crockett was feted here on his way to the Alamo. A host of historic homes and sites are well worth the Trail traveler's time. A detailed map may be obtained from the San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce, 132-A W. Columbia St. A notable historical example is the Cullen House on the corner of Market and Congress Sts. The Greek Revival structure, built in 1839, features Doric columns, fanshaped windows, five fireplaces, and a ballroom running the length of the house. It was built by Ezekiel Wimberly Cullen, early Texas statesman, who wrote the legislative bill funding public schools with public lands.

On the southern edge of the city is a marker to the Mission Nuestra Senora de los Dolores de los Ais. It was built in 1716, abandoned in 1719 due to the threat of French invasion, and re-established in 1721. San Augustine grew around this mission. The first settlers trapped wild horses for sale in Louisiana. At least three colleges existed in San Augustine before the Civil War.

Between San Augustine and Lufkin is the opportunity for a short side trip on F.M. 705 south to three examples of early Texas farmhouses. 20 In less than three miles is Straddlefork Farm, built in 1875; within two more miles are the Wade and Norwood homes. All are still private residences, not open to the public.



LUFKIN Pop. 28,447 **Angelina County** Alt. 328

Lufkin headquarters the National Forests in Texas, plus several wood products industries. Information on the industry, and Woodland Trails folders can be had at the Texas Forestry Association on the Trail route at 1905 Atkinson Dr. The all-wood headquarters utilizes seven native species of wood and houses displays of early logging tools and firefighting equipment. On the grounds are steam engines and logging equipment from early days, the relocated Camden depot of the CM&SA d and a mini-woodland Irai

Also on Texas 103 is Southland Paper Mills. An historical marker tells of the plant's role in developing a process whereby East Texas pulpwood with its high resin content was first converted to paper.

North on Spur 287 in the city is 70-acre Ellen Trout Lake Park with picnic areas by the lake, miniature train ride, and well-stocked zoo.

At the north edge of Diboll, F.M. 2497 leads northwest one mile to Rvan Chapel, first established in 1866. Its \$13.60 mail order bell has summoned churchgoers since 1907.

On Loop 210 in Diboll is a Temple Industries sawmill. The first plywood plant using Southern yellow pine was here. Other products are particle board and siding. Tours are available weekdays on request.

West of Zavalla the Trail enters Angelina National Forest assmallest of the four National Forests in Texas, covering 154,392 acres in parts of four counties. Nine National Forest recreation areas offer vast campgrounds, swimming, boating, picnicking and nature trails. Through the multiple-use concept, Texas National Forests are preserved for recreation, water supply, game management and controlled lumbering.

Timber harvested in Texas National Forests includes sawtimber, veneer stock, poles, piling and pulpwood. Principal commercial species are loblolly, short leaf, longleaf and slash pines, several kinds of oaks, ash, magnolia, sweet gum, black gum and hackberry. Dogwood and redbud are the main flowering trees among 3,000 varieties of plants in the area.

At Zavalla the Trail turns toward Lake Sam Rayburn, but from June through August travelers may want to continue

south on U.S. 69 for two miles, then southwest for a mile on F.M. 1270 to a log cabin museum @ circa 1853, containing pioneer mementos.

East of Zavalla the Trail spans two miles of open water across huge Lake Sam Rayburn. 
Several access roads on both sides of the lake lead to recreation and camping areas operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In Sabine County, one of the original counties designated by the new Republic in 1836, the Texas Forest Trail skirts the west edge of Pineland - well-named for its location in a vast pine timber area. Just east of the F.M. 83/U.S. 96 intersection is the headquarters mill of one of the area's largest lumber companies. Produced in the modern plant are building materials such as plywood and studs. Interestingly, most power comes from wood-fired boilers. Weekday tours are available.

South of Pineland on U.S. 96 other access roads (to the west) lead to camps, docks and recreation facilities on Lake Sam Ravburn.

Six miles south of Pineland the Trail enters the western edge of Sabine National Forest (1) a vast area stretching more than 50 miles along the Sabine River boundary between Texas and Louisiana. Loop 149 to the west goes to Mill Creek Park 10 on Rayburn Reservoir. This is a "Golden Eagle" fee area - one of 7,000 Federal Outdoor Recreation areas in the U.S. to which the Golden Eagle Passport provides free access for most facilities. Daily camping permits are also available.

Headquarters for Lake Sam Rayburn is at the dam 3 which the Forest Trail crosses on F.M. 255. Visitors are welcome.

On that segment of F.M. 1747 where it is concurrent with F.M. 2799 notice the handsome old home 3 just south of the Trail built in 1856 by R.C. Doom, a Texas customs agent whose station was on an island in the then-navigable Sabine River.

F.M. 2799 goes west two miles (off the Trail) to the old Bevilport landing on the Angelina River where in the 1830s the docks were busy, and the stores packed with travelers. Today there's a boat ramp and picnic area.

On the west side of F.M. 1747 is the home site of Dr. Stephen H. Everett 3 a New Yorker who came to Texas in 1835. He was a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence and a senator during the Republic of Texas. A marker notes the site of the house, and an old orchard in adjacent fields reflects a pioneer effort to bring a measure of order to the wilderness.

Just south is a sign pointing to one of the Forestry Association's Woodlands Trails. 10 It's three miles to the Trail entrance, where the hiking trail leads to the Angelina River. Rare and unusual plants are found here, along with more than 50 species of trees, shrubs and vines which are identified. Any of the Woodlands Trails provide an intimate look at forest ecology and give an added dimension and deeper understanding of the Forest Trail.

Martin Dies Jr. State Park 1 is on the eastern shore of Steinhagen Lake (Dam B Reservoir) 33 and Park Road 48 leads to facilities on both sides of the highway. The park offers camping and complete outdoor recreation facilities. The 13,700-acre lake is ideal for water sports and fishing.

Within Colmesneil, once a junction point on the T&NO Railroad, the Trail highway passes Lake Tejas, a recreation area owned by the local school district and open from April to September. Swimming is provided at a sand beach, and picnic tables are available.

# WOODVILLE Pop. 2,549

#### **Tyler County** Alt. 232

Birds and trees have set the scene between Colmesneil and Woodville, and a prime example is a giant magnolia tree located here. It is just off the Trail route at the south city limits beside U.S. 69. The state champion redbud and dogwood trees are found in this county.

The entire city of Woodville has been set aside as a bird sanctuary, and countless varieties of the bright, cheerful creatures may be seen in abundance, enjoying their special status

Housed in one of Woodville's oldest homes, beautifully restored and furnished, is the Shivers Museum and Library with mementos of the administration (1949-1957) of Governor Allan Shivers. 302 N. Charlton. Admission.



A Woodville event that attracts visitors from afar is the Tyler County Dogwood Festival. Tours are charted through green forest landscapes dotted with innumerable white dogwood blooms and the bright colors of early wild flowers. Weekend tours and festival events are in late March and early April. Especially beautiful at this time is the Woodland Trail three miles east off U.S. 190.

A mile west of Woodville is Heritage Garden Village 39 - a living museum of pioneer life. These authentic buildings have been used for settings by TV and film producers. Displays include barber and blacksmith shops, syrup mill and whiskey still, and dozens more to enchant all visitors. Old-time East Texas cooking is served boarding-house style daily at noontime; till 6 on weekends.

In the late winter months may be seen an unusual Golden Pine @ one of only two known specimens which turn golden in the winter. From U.S. 180 drive south on F.M. 256 .9 mile (through a yaupon thicket bright with red

berries during winter), then right on an unpaved road about .5 mile. The tree stands alone in a field on the left. A prime feature of the Forest Trail is the Alabama-Coushatta Indian Reservation (1) whose entrance is on U.S. 190. Sam Houston, who had always been sympathetic to the Indians, was instrumental in having two square miles of land (1,280 acres) designated as a reservation in the 1850s. In 1928 an additional 3,071 acres were added.

The tribes who live here were first mentioned by De Soto when he traveled their territory in Mississippi and Alabama in 1541, but by 1800 most had moved into Louisiana. From there they came to Texas in the early 19th Century.



Indian Village is open daily (except Sunday mornings) June through August; daily except Sunday mornings and Monday March through May and September through November; closed December through February. The campgrounds are open year around. Tribal dancing daily in summer, weekends in spring and fall. The reservation may be entered at any time, but it is at Indian Village where one will find authentic Indian handwork, Indian and regular foods, museum, Big Ticket guided tours and reptile garden.

The epic drama, "Beyond the Sundown," is presented nightly except Sunday mid-June through late August.

Between the reservation and Camden the Trail slices through deep forests and Big Thicket scenery. The Big Thicket is an historic name for a vast area of tangled woods and innumerable streams in all or parts of eight East Texas counties. Rare birds and flowers, including some 15 varieties of wild orchids, flourish here. This immense forest, marsh and swampland effectively blocked the way West for Louisiana migrants in the early days.

The Big Thicket National Preserve is a series of "units" in an area roughly bounded by Jasper, Livingston, Liberty and Beaumont. Each unit is an ecological pocket with distinctive flora and fauna. Little development has occurred at the units, but information for side trips off the Trail is available at Woodville or the Indian Reservation.

NOTE: Do not wander on foot into Big Thicket woods without a guide.

Camden is the site of major logging operations @ of U.S. Plywood-Champion Papers Co., formerly the W.T Carter & Bro. Lumber Co. A Woodland Trail three miles east on F.M. 62 features century-old pines and nesting holes of rare, red-cockaded woodpeckers.

Moscow, a small city on the divide between the Neches and Trinity River watersheds, had one of the earliest sawmills of the area and, even in 1885, a muledrawn streetcar from the railroad depot to the hotel. Then as now, the city's name was pronounced "Mos-ko." A native son was W.P. Hobby, governor of Texas 1918-20. A Woodland Trail one mile south on U.S. 59 meanders along the banks of Long King Creek.

West of Moscow the Forest Trail travels through country that has been supplying timber for years. Watchers man strategically placed fire towers during dry periods; such a tower is near the Trail four miles west of Moscow.

Eight miles west of the tower is the historic Bethel Baptist Church 43 which has served a congregation since 1849.

At the U.S. 190/F.M. 350 intersection is an opportunity for a side excursion to Livingston, a mile to the east.

Several historical markers are in Livingston, and the Polk County Museum in the Murphy Library, 601 W. Church St., offers varied exhibits dating back to the Mayflower. Open afternoons Sun. - Fri.; Sat. 10-2.

West of Livingston the Trail crosses Lake Livingston Which covers more than 84,000 acres in four counties. Pointblank sounds like Old West jargon, but actually comes from the name Point Blanc (given by a French settler). A marker is at the home of George T. Wood, second governor of Texas. Make local inquiry for directions to his marked grave 6 just south of town in the family plantation cemetery.

There are interesting sights in the city of Coldspring, a few blocks off the Trail. Within a couple of blocks is a Methodist Church whose bell has signaled services for well over 100 years; at the courthouse, artifacts of early settlers are displayed, as are pictures of historic buildings in the city and county.

Between Coldspring and Waverly, the Trail bisects Sam Houston National Forest. 40 One of the recreation areas, Double Lake (1) (a Golden Eagle fee area) is south on F.M. 2025. Double Lake provides an excellent glimpse of typical Big Thicket country and its tangled growth. Recreational and camping facilities are provided here. In Willis the historic Elder House is near the U.S. 75/F.M. 1097 intersection. Built in the 1880s the exterior retains the elegance and gingerbread of that era, and the interior is preserved in Victorian style.

#### CONROE Pop. 23,149

# **Montgomery County** Alt. 213

In deep forest country and exhibiting qualities of an ideal small town, Conroe is within commuting distance of the state's largest city, Houston. It's an easy 40 miles to downtown Houston on I.H. 45.

The Conroe Oil Field @ gave impetus to the city's growth when discovered in 1931. The field southeast of

10

the city has produced more than 400 million barrels of oil. Historical markers in the field include one where a wild well fire burned for three months in 1933. That roaring fire was finally killed by the first directional drilling in the area. The crater left by the blowout and fire is a small lake today.

Between Conroe and Montgomery the Trail passes new Lake Conroe 49 formed by the West Fork of the San Jacinto River, and moss-festooned trees present a traditional picture of the Old South. But immediately west of the river the towering conifers of the East Texas Piney Woods are replaced by pasturelands, and beef and dairy cattle are in abundance.

# MONTGOMERY Pop. 394

Montgomery County Alt. 286

Named for Gen. Richard Montgomery of American Revolutionary fame, the small community is a commercial center for western Montgomery County

Historical sites and buildings marked in Montgomery include several along the Trail route. Just north of the Texas 105/F.M. 149 intersection is the Davis Cottage, rebuilt in 1851 with materials from an 1831 log house. The kitchen area is "new," built in 1880.

Next door is the 19th Century law office of Judge Nat Hart Davis, where many famous early Texans read law to pass bar examinations. On the nearby Community Hall lawn are markers regarding the town, the county and patriot Charles B. Stewart.

Between Montgomery and Huntsville the Trail re-enters the tall pine forest region, cutting through a portion of Sam Houston National Forest.

Typical of many small, remote churches that are seen along the Forest Trail is Farris Chapel 50 along F.M. 1791. Built in 1841, the church has served many faiths and seen duty as a school. Note the facilities for "dinner on the grounds" behind the church. These dinners and other church-oriented events were welcome opportunities for early settlers to meet with friends and neighbors, a custom forgotten in much of America, but still enjoyed here by many who cling to a mellow heritage.

At the western edge of Huntsville the Trail crosses I.H. 45, and four miles to the south on the Interstate is the entrance to Huntsville State Park (1) with recreational and camping facilities.

#### HUNTSVILLE Pop. 22,165

#### Walker County Alt. 400

Founded as an Indian trading post in 1836, Huntsville today is the county seat, center for a large lumbering and livestock area, and the historic home of many early prominent Texans, including Sam Houston.

The Sam Houston Shrine here is one of the finest historical attractions on the Forest Trail. Beautifully tended grounds surround historic structures including an excellent museum, Houston's home, his law office, the War and Peace House, and the Steamboat House where he died. Exhibits are well presented, and the staff will answer questions and interpret details. Open daily except Thanksgiving and Christmas, the shrine is on U.S. 75 Business (Ave. L) opposite Sam Houston State University.

The headquarters unit of the Texas Department of Corrections is in Huntsville, as is the modern arena where the famed Texas Prison Rodeo is staged each Sunday in October. Convict-made items may be purchased at a small shop in front of the prison.



Opposite the prison, Spur 94 leads north from the Trail two blocks to an historical marker and Sam Houston's tomb.

Between Huntsville and Trinity the Trail passes through forest, farming and ranching areas. Country Campus is the Sam Houston State University experimental agricultural farm.

Trinity County, lying north of the Trinity River, is 77 per cent forested. The Trinity Chamber of Commerce on Main St. furnishes free maps of scenic nature trails on beautiful woodland drives.

Houston County (to the north), first county created by the Republic of Texas in 1836, was named for Sam Houston. Although two-thirds forested, the county also has extensive beef, poultry and dairy production, yields about 5,000 bales of cotton yearly, and has produced more than 32 million barrels of oil since 1934.

# CROCKETT Pop. 6,338

**Houston County** Alt. 350

Built around a traditional Spanish square, Crockett (named for the legendary Davy Crockett) is the fifth oldest town in Texas. A city park features an authentic log cabin, tennis courts, playground and picnic area.

In another part of town a drinking fountain marks the spring where Crockett is said to have camped on his way to the Alamo. It is near an underpass on W. Goliad St. (Texas 7/21).

Obtain directions to the many historic sites in Crockett from the Crockett Chamber of Commerce, northeast corner of the square.

sidered nearly worthless for commercial uses, but with new techniques developed through research they have become valuable sources of both pulpwood and lumber. At the Texas 21/F.M. 227 intersection is an opportunity

famed for excellent fishing.

for a short side trip to an historic mission site. Northeast 1.5 miles on Texas 21 is Mission San Francisco de los Tejas State Historic Park. 69 In a beautiful wooded area of Davy Crockett National Forest, the park offers picnicking, camping, rest rooms and fishing. In the park is a replica of the first Spanish mission in East Texas (1690) at the Tejas Indian village of Nabedache, established to counteract French influence in the area. It was abandoned due to the hostility of the Indians (whose name means "friendly") and then re-occupied from 1716 to 1719. In 1721 a final attempt to establish it also failed.

A few miles east of Crockett the Trail highway enters

Davy Crockett National Forest. 32 The entrance to Ratcliff

Lake Recreational Area 33 a National Forest Service park,

is accessible from the highway. Camping and recrea-

tional facilities are abundant. Jewel-like Ratcliff Lake is

The Trail continues through the heart of the forest.

Loblolly and slash pines in this area were once con-

Also in the park is the Rice Stagecoach Inn, relocated from its original site in Houston County and restored to its early 19th Century condition. Admission

Between the mission park area and Slocum, the Trail winds along old and new highways through longestablished farm and ranch areas. Slocum was completely rebuilt after a cyclone destroyed it in 1929.

The scenic beauty of this East Texas area is apparent in any season, but he who drives through in the springtime is particularly fortunate. Floral events are popular, and Palestine offers one of the best.

# PALESTINE Pop. 15,734

**Anderson County** Alt. 510

Since 1939 the Texas Dogwood Trails have drawn thousands each April for the spring spectacular. Trails are marked through the flowering countryside, and maps are available from the chamber of commerce. Palestine's oldest home is now the Howard House

Museum. Exhibits date from 1830. Open weekend afternoons; 1011 N. Perry.

Palestine is the turnaround point for the Texas State Railroad on its trip from Rusk. Camping is available in Palestine's scenic Community Forest.

Nearby is the unique National Center for Atmospheric Research. Large research balloons are launched here for studies of the upper atmosphere and the fringes of space. The chamber of commerce has launching schedules; tours may be arranged.

North of Palestine at Poynor, most travelers will want to

go west on U.S. 175 a few hundred yards to Milner's Mill 59 - a small, old-time mill where one can watch corn being stone-ground. Local ribbon cane syrup is also sold. An antique printing press is used to print free recipes

Ten miles north of Frankston is Lake Palestine 30 where fishing is rated as excellent. On the north shore a marker 5) tells the story of the Neches Saline. In this area settlers noted that Indians and wild animals obtained salt from an



outcropping. Early Texans from as far as Nacogdoches (75 miles away) came to boil down their salt supplies, and the first plant was established in 1830.

The start of the Forest Trail is seven miles north at Tyler. Although this Trail has not covered all the forests of Texas, it has given insight about this region that contributed so greately to the history and development of Texas. But a word of caution. Texas' dimensions dwarf even this large region, and there are other parts to discover before the whole can be measured. Against these green-canopied forests compare rugged mountains thrusting above a mile high; sparkling lakes, moss-hung bayous and hundreds of miles of golden sand along the sea. That too is Texas, and there are Trails to guide you efficiently through every part. Such is the purpose of the Texas Trails...planned pleasure driving to make the most of every mile, introducing Texas in reasonable, regional portions. During America's third century when travel efficiency is in everyone's best interest, the Texas Trails are the way to go!

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12

11