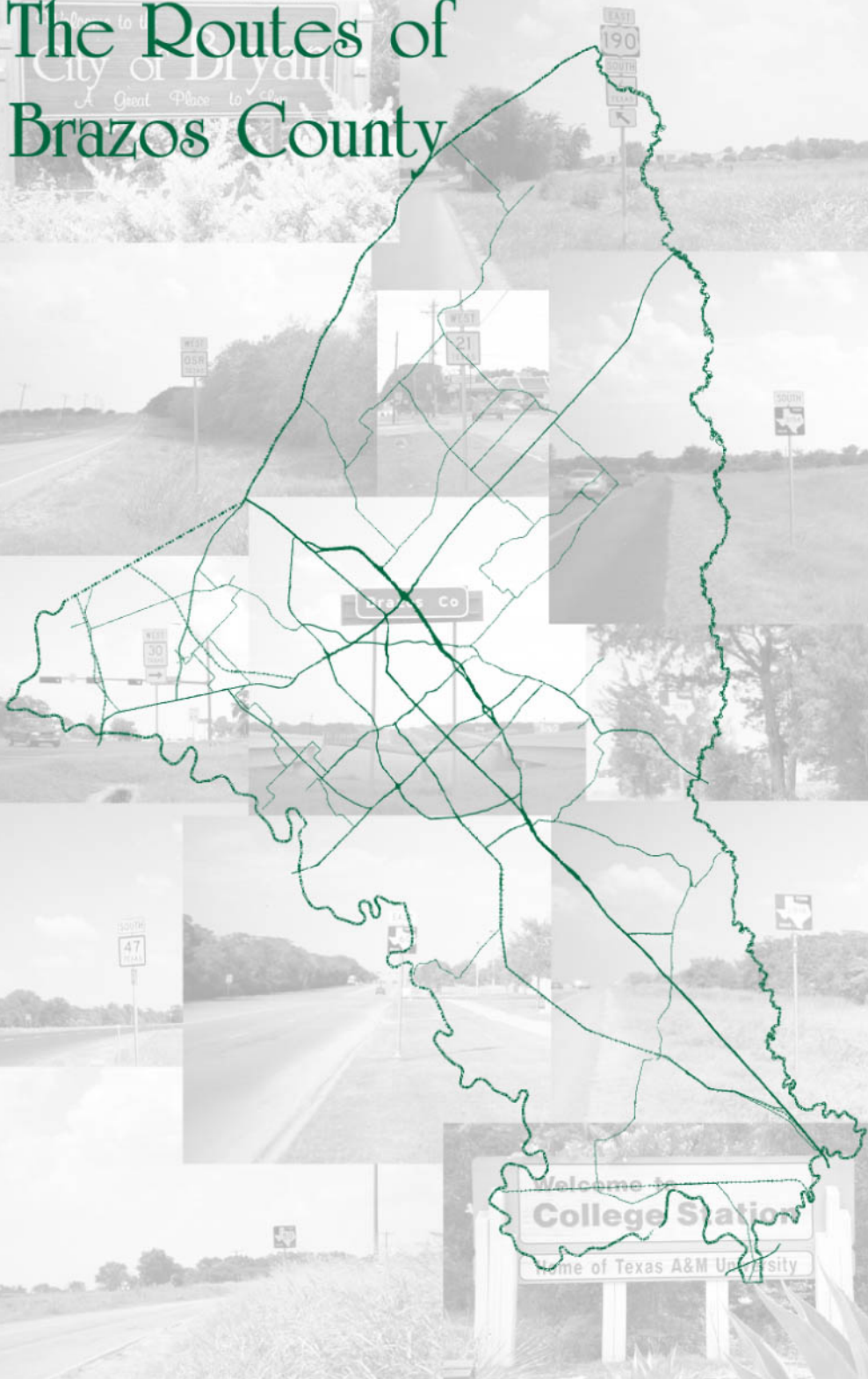


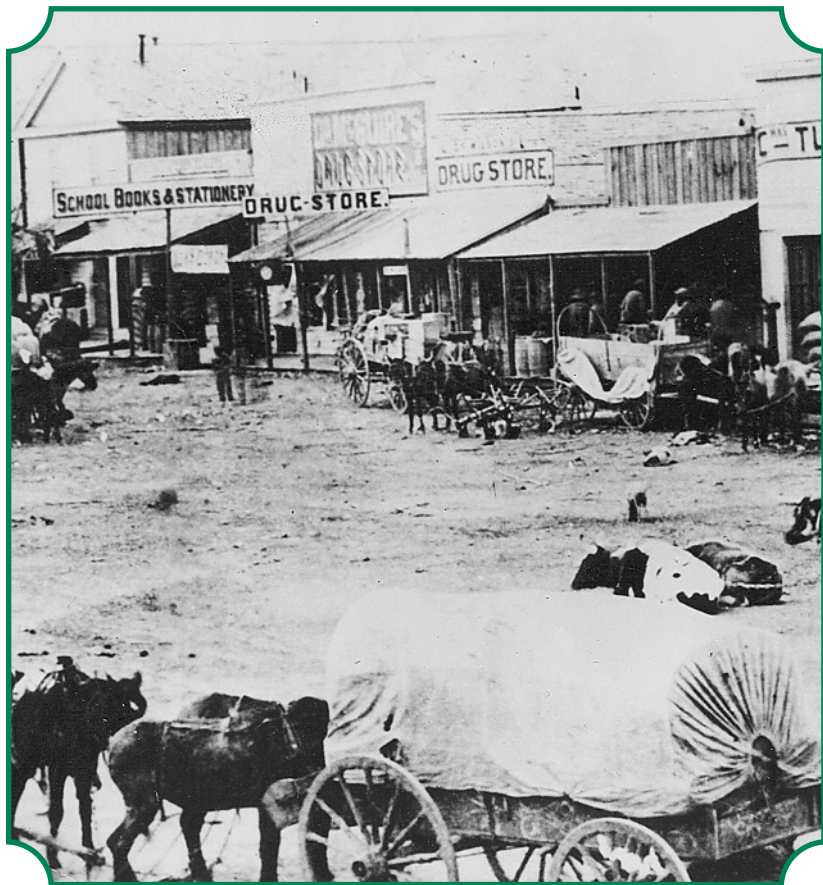
A Guide
to Historic
Brazos County

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The Routes of Brazos County



A Guide to Historic Brazos County



Downtown Bryan, circa 1870

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About This Brochure

This brochure is divided into three main sections: Brazos County, College Station, and Bryan. Information about these main areas is accompanied by a map for each section. Mileage notes are estimates of distances between sites.

A large group of historic homes is located in Bryan's Eastside Historic District, and on the west side of Main Street. Both residential areas are just a few blocks from the Brazos County Courthouse.

Sites that are on the National Register of Historic Places are indicated by (NR) at the end of the listing. A complete listing of all National Register sites in Bryan is available online at <http://www.nr.nps.gov> or at the Bryan Public Library Reference Desk, 201 East 26th St., Bryan, Texas. Please call (979) 209-5600 for information.

Sites with Texas Historical Markers are indicated with (HM). The College Station Historic Preservation Committee recognizes and marks houses and buildings of historic significance (CS), including many of the houses moved off the Texas A&M University campus. A list of these houses is available from the College Station Development Services Department. Additional information about Texas A&M houses and buildings is available at the Cushing Library at Texas A&M University. Please call (979) 845-1815 for information.

Many of the buildings listed in this brochure are private homes. Please respect the owner's privacy and view their homes from the public right-of-way.

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An electronic version of this brochure, with an annotated bibliography, is available at the Brazos Heritage Society's website at: <http://www.brazosheritage.org>.

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Photography Credits

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Brazos County

The history of Brazos County begins along the Brazos and Navasota Rivers, which form two sides of a triangle-shaped county. The rivers and the gently rolling landscape of prairies and woods in between were among the hunting grounds of semi-nomadic Indians for centuries. The Brazos River was named by the Spanish: Brazos de Dios, or Arms of God. Spanish explorers traveled the “El Camino Real,” or King’s Highway, as early as the 17th century. Now called OSR, this Old San Antonio Road was the direct route between the East Texas missions and Mexico. Today it is the north and third boundary of Brazos County.

In 1821, Stephen F. Austin brought 300 families to Texas under an agreement with the Mexican government. Members of the Millican family were among the first settlers in this area, near the confluence of the Brazos and Navasota Rivers. The local population rapidly increased over the next 20 years and the Congress of the Republic of Texas created Navasota County in 1841, which became Brazos County in 1842. Boonville was named the county seat and a log-cabin courthouse, the first of three in Boonville, was built there.

The pioneers crossed the Navasota River by ferry until 1871, when the first bridge was built. Horses, ox carts, stagecoaches and an occasional steamboat on the Brazos River were the only means of transportation in the county until the Houston & Texas Central Railroad (H&TC) reached Millican in 1860. William Joel Bryan, Stephen F. Austin’s nephew, gave land to the H&TC in 1860 for a rail right-of-way. At the close of the Civil War, the H&TC resumed construction that had been halted by the war. Alerted to the construction of the rail lines, Brazos County residents voted to move the county seat from Boonville to Bryan in 1866, and the H&TC reached the town a year later.



Bryan Depot, 1909

Many small self-sufficient farm communities developed near other water sources in the county. Each had its own store, mill, church, and school. Modern farm machinery and the automobile signaled the demise of many towns; only the cemeteries of many remain. Through the years, cotton, cattle, and the railroad, as well as the founding of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, brought great prosperity to Brazos County. In more recent decades, exploration for and production of crude oil and natural gas have augmented the economic production of the area.



Old Brazos County Courthouse

Longer Tour

1. Bryan Eastside Historic District.

Start your tour of Historic Brazos County in the Eastside Historic District of Bryan. The District contains a high concentration of the city's earliest houses that were built for local merchants, plantation owners, and the professional class, between the 1880s and the mid-1930s. (See the Bryan section of this brochure for more information.)

2. Bryan West Side Area. Travel across Main Street to the gracious homes on the West Side. Public officials and business leaders built their dwellings a few blocks from downtown. The palette of late 19th and early 20th century architectural styles is represented in these two areas. (See the Bryan section of this brochure for more information.)

3. Brazos County Courthouse.

There are historical markers in the south courtyard of the Brazos County Courthouse in Bryan, located at Texas Avenue and 26th Street. It is the site of two previous courthouses; the 1892 facility was demolished in 1954. HM.

Drive east on William Joel Bryan Parkway to Earl Rudder Parkway (Texas Highway 6). Travel south, exit University Drive (FM 60); remain on the frontage road and cross University Drive; then travel west (right) on Brazoswood to:

4. College Station and Richard Carter Homesite, 1600 Brazoswood Drive in Richard Carter Park.

(See the College Station section of this brochure for other historical sites in the city.) A Texas Historical Marker is located at the entrance to the park. Carter and his family, originally from Morgan County, Alabama, were among the last group of colonists brought to Texas by Stephen F. Austin. In April 1831, Richard Carter received a grant for one league of land (4,428 acres) within the Stephen F. Austin Colony in Brazos County. He and his family left Alabama and arrived here in October 1831, where he built a one-room log cabin. This tract of land remained in the family until 1884, with remaining parcels sold by the turn of the century. The relocated graves of Richard Carter, his wife Elizabeth, and family members are located in this park—the site of the homestead. The league of land he received from the Mexican



Astin House

Government in 1831, included much of today's City of College Station. An interpretive center and a bronze statue of Carter are also located in the park. HM.

Travel west on University Drive to:

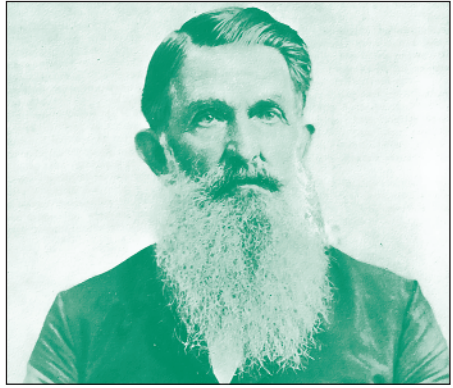
5. Texas A&M University. (See College Station section of this brochure for information.)

Travel south on FM 2154, also called Wellborn Road, (6 miles) to:

6. Wellborn. This community was built around a well at a construction camp for the workers of the H&TC Railroad, in 1867.

Continue on FM 2154 (7.6 miles) to:

7. Millican. Stop on the right side of the road at the crossing. An historical marker describes the birth and decline of Millican, founded by Elliot Millican, one of 10 children of Robert and Nancy Millican. These pioneers arrived in 1821, as part of the Stephen F. Austin Colony. See the few old houses, the church, and school, all that remain of a town once inhabited by 3,000 people before a yellow fever epidemic struck and the railroad



Harvey Mitchell, "Father of Brazos County"

moved on. Across the tracks are the Methodist Church (1917) and the cemetery. HM.

Turn north on FM 159 (2.5 miles) to:

8. Peach Creek Community. You will drive through beautiful Navasota River bottomland to the Peach Creek Cemetery. The Tonkawa Indians and other tribes hunted the abundant wildlife in the area with bow and arrow. Buffalo, prairie chickens, turkeys, bear, and deer provided meat for the pioneers. To the east is the Navasota River where once a sulphur spring bubbled up in the riverbed.

Travel west on Rock Prairie Road and turn right on Bird Pond Road to Highway 30, which was the old Stagecoach road from Anderson in Grimes County through Boonville, to the Brazos River (20 miles) and to:

9. Harvey. A farm community built before 1879, the town was named for Harvey Mitchell, a Boonville pioneer. Bethel Academy, with 150 students, stood where you now see the Harvey Community Center, built in 1935.



The well at the Richard Carter Homesite.

Travel on Boonville Road (FM 158) and come (5.3 miles) to:

10. Boonville Cemetery. This cemetery is all that remains of the pioneer town founded in 1841 as the first county seat. Read the historical marker and wander among the graves of the pioneers. Among them is the grave of Harvey Mitchell, the “Father of Brazos County.” HM.

Drive back east and turn left on FM 1179 (3.2 miles) to:

11. Steep Hollow. Named for the valley of Steep Hollow Creek and Wickson Creek, this was once a self-sufficient community with stores and mills. The cemetery with Civil War veterans’ graves is to the right.

Continue on FM 1179 (4.6 miles) to:

12. Reliance. Founded by immigrants from Georgia, this community was once called Little Georgia.

Drive beyond the Reliance Baptist Church and the old Reliance Cemetery and turn left on FM 2038 (5.3 miles) to:



Boonville Cemetery, Harvey Mitchell's Grave



Kurten Cemetery

13. Kurten. Henry Kurten was a German soldier on leave in Galveston when he decided to remain in Texas. He became a cotton trader and farmer, founding Kurten in the early 1850s. He encouraged German immigration by providing steamship passage in exchange for work. He built a school and donated land for the cemetery and church.

Drive 1.2 miles, crossing Highway 21, past the Zion United Church of Christ built in 1940, on FM 2038 and turn left on Kurten Cemetery Road Travel .5 mile to:

14. Kurten Cemetery. Located on the hill, under these lovely old cedar trees, are the graves of the Kurtens and other pioneers.

Go back to FM 2038, travel to FM 974 and turn north (veer to the right) to:

15. Edge. Founded by three brothers, Dr. John Simpson Edge, William Henry Harrison Edge, and Warren Lee Edge, around 1870. This is one of a cluster of small farming communities, like Manning and Macy, that



"El Camino Real,"

Old San Antonio Road (OSR) Historical Marker

sprang up near the OSR along several creeks flowing into the Navasota River.

Turn left on Edge Cutoff Road and travel to:

16. Old San Antonio Road (OSR).

The King's Highway, also known as El Camino Real. Two historical markers at Benchley (#20) tell the history of this highway first traveled by Spanish explorers in 1691. Several granite markers, erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1918, can be seen to the right side of the road along the way. HM.

Turn south on Highway 6 to return to Bryan.

Shorter Tour

From Steep Hollow (#11), turn left on Merka Road. After a mile, you will see the old Buchanan farmhouse on the right, built in 1910. Turn right on Old Reliance Road and you will drive through beautiful hills and valleys. On the hill beyond the turnoff to Andert Road is the:

17. Macedonia Cemetery. This peaceful place is all that remains of the small Macedonia settlement. The church was across the road.

Turn left on Andert Road and cross Highway 21 to:

18. Tabor. Founded by two Confederate soldiers, J. and M. Tabor. John Tabor was the postmaster.

Turn left on FM 974 and after several curves in the road following old property lines, turn right to the:

19. Alexander Cemetery and Church. Read the historical marker and rest awhile under the stately cedar trees, traditionally planted in cemeteries by early pioneers. The first church was established in the 1850s and the earliest marked grave dates from 1874.

Turn left on Colette Lane and then right on FM 2223, which takes you to OSR. Turn left on OSR to:

20. Benchley. Two historical markers, about .6 mile east of the Highway 6/OSR overpass, tell the history of the area and the OSR. HM.



Texas Hwy. OSR road sign

Turn south on Highway 6 to return to Bryan.

21. Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History. Located at the Brazos Center, 3232 Briarcrest, just east of Earl Rudder Parkway (Highway 6). Please call (979) 776-2195 for information.

Collections include the Albert Dalton Doerge Collection of 4,700 stone, shell, and pottery artifacts from 9500 BC until recent times. This Texas Archaeological Landmark is one of five such collections formally



Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History
"The Mary Terrell"

designated and protected by the State. It consists mostly of chipped stone projectile points from the Central Brazos Region, collected between 1902 and 1952.

The *Mary Terrell* is a 22-foot, 4-oared cypress skiff built after the great flood of 1913, to rescue bottom-land farmers from future floods. It is the largest Brazos River Boat from that early era to have survived to modern times. No longer in use at the Allen Farm, it was moved to a shel-

tered pavilion outside the Museum. Its fittings and history are displayed in an exhibit within the Museum.

The Hiram Hanover Survey Compass was used to make the original plat map of Boonville in 1842. With its Jacob's stick, survey pegs, and chain measuring Spanish varas, it is displayed alongside a short history of Boonville, aerial photographs, and a copy of the first Anglo survey document for Brazos County.

"Early Cotton Farming in the Brazos Valley" is an interpretive exhibit of photographs and tools, from bale stencils and scales, to an ox-drawn plow, and an early hand-cranked cotton gin. Although not a



Brazos Valley farmer with cow-drawn wagon

comprehensive agricultural history, the exhibit includes what is thought to be the oldest surviving cotton bale (circa 1871), formerly exhibited at the Chicago World's Fair and St. Louis Exposition at the turn of the 19th century.

The Brazos Valley Museum holds and exhibits a wide range of natural history specimens mostly from Texas, and especially the Brazos River watershed, some 40% of which came from the Texas A&M Museum when

it was closed in 1970. Displays include animals (live as well as mounted), the Mary Julia Hubert Rock and Mineral Collection, and impressive Ice Age fossils interpreted in the well known 11 X 40-foot mural, *Brazos Valley Spring*, painted by Emma Stark. There are outdoor trails and exhibits (including a historic steel-frame bridge), and a county park with picnic and parking facilities.

Travel on OSR, north across Highway 6, past Mumford Road, and turn left on Rye School Road.

22. Rye Community. The Rye Community is located in this area. An elementary school existed here until about the mid-1940s. On the left are Bryan Utilities Lake and Bryan Utilities Park. This lake was constructed recently to generate power to Bryan and surrounding areas. It is also a recreational park.

Continue on Rye School Road to:



Bryan Utilities Lake



Sandy Point Road (FM 1687)

Brazos River Route

The western part of Brazos County, known as the Brazos River Bottom, was a major cotton producing area. Many bales of cotton came into Bryan from the “bottom,” with farmers in that area spending many dollars in local stores. Italian, Czech, and Polish immigrants began settling in the area around 1870. There were many African Americans communities as well.

23. Sandy Point Road (or FM 1687). At the stop sign, turn right (west) on Sandy Point Road, cross OSR, the Missouri Pacific railroad tracks, and the Little Brazos River, traveling through flat river bottomland.

Continue to FM 50 and Mooring. The land along FM 50 is rich Brazos River bottomland that was fertile because of frequent flooding. The Brazos came out of its banks several times a year and sometimes severely flooded the land and endangered the inhabitants, their homes, crops, and



Steele's Store Historical Marker

livestock. Because of dams upstream, flooding is now rare.

Turn left (south) on FM 50 to:

24. Mudville. This is still a cotton and grain producing area. Fields can be seen for miles along this route, with busy farm machinery working the land. Many years ago people with cotton sacks were seen picking the cotton by hand. Rows of tenant houses were built by the farmers for their “hands.” On the left is a two story brick building, that was used as a cotton gin.

Continue on FM 50 south to:

25. Steele’s Store. Named after Henry B. Steele, who operated a store and post office as early as 1878. There is an historical marker on the left side of the road. “Steele’s Store” eventually replaced “Mudville” as the name of the community in this location. HM.

Continue on FM 50 to Highway 21 and turn left, heading east.

26. Highway 21. This road roughly follows the path of what was the Bryan & Central Texas Interurban

Railway, that went from the Brazos River into Bryan. This system carried both cotton and passengers into Bryan, helping to fill the streets on Saturday afternoons.

Continue on Highway 21 and cross the Little Brazos River again.

27. Texas A&M University’s Riverside Campus. Located on the right of Highway 21, this area was originally called the Riverside Community, and was settled by Czech families. The Kosarek and Wehrman families operated a cotton gin here. Pitts Bridge Road went through the community, crossing the Brazos River before the Highway 21 bridge was constructed. The pillars of the old bridge can still be seen along the river, but the road is no longer there.

In 1942, the U.S. government designated this land to be an Army Air Force Instrument Pilot School. During the war, about 5,000 pilots were trained here. After Bryan Air Field was placed on stand-by status in 1945, A&M used the facility in the late 1940s to house the overflow of



Steele Cotton Gin

students returning to campus under the GI Bill. This served as the freshman campus, including both dormitories and classrooms. The government reactivated the base in 1951, and during the Korean War, it was used to train basic single-engine pilots using conventional and jet aircraft. Since the base was deactivated again in 1958, A&M has used this land.

Continue on Highway 21 to Luza Lane and turn left. Travel to the dead end at Fountain Switch Road and turn right.

28. Fountain Switch Road. This small “community” with a dance hall was named after a switch track on the old Illinois and Great Northern Railroad.

Cross the railroad tracks and the road becomes:

29. Britten Road. At this point, an elementary school was located. Turn right on Smetana Road to the Mount Calvary Cemetery on the right (a branch of the Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Bryan). In 1988, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Vitopil contributed 11.9 acres in honor of the Cahill and Vitopil families. Continue on Smetana



Britten Road,
Smetana Cemetery iron cross

Road, where the Smetana Cemetery is located on the right immediately before crossing the railroad tracks. Serenely nestled among large trees, the cemetery contains many iron crosses. Those buried here are mostly Czech, but there are Polish, German, and Italian individuals interred here. In 1892, three Czech families, the Brandeskys, Srameks, and Zemaneks, purchased the property. It was called the Moravian Graveyard.

Continue on Smetana Road to Highway 21 and turn left. Travel east to:

30. Fairview Community. This African American community included an elementary school and a church.

Turn around and travel west on Highway 21 to Silver Hill Road and turn left.

31. Silver Hill Road. At this corner was the Smetana School. One legend has it that the Smetana community was named after the Czech musician Smetana. Another story states that the word “Smetana” means “cream”



Horse and buggies in Downtown Bryan

in the Czech language, and that the Czech people who settled here thought the land was as good as cream.

Continue on Silver Hill Road, cross Thompson Creek.

32. Silver Hill School for Blacks. On the left, over a hill, was an elementary school, which was part of an African American community.

Continue on Silver Hill Road to Highway 47. Turn left onto the highway and then right to stay on Silver Hill Road. Travel to:

33. Leonard Road (formerly called Bryan Skull Prairie Road). If you turned right from Silver Hill Road onto Leonard Road, it would take you in the direction of the Brazos River. Although the river is now inaccessible, years ago a ferry operated here and a dam and a lock were proposed for this location.

Turn left from Silver Hill Road onto Leonard Road, cross Highway 47, travel about a mile, and turn right on Jones Road. At this corner was



Brazos River near Leonard Road

Leonard School, an elementary school.

Turn right on Jones Road, originally called Turkey Creek Road. Continue on Jones Road, crossing Turkey Creek.

34. Turkey Creek. Many tales were told about ghosts being seen along the creek.

Continue on Jones Road to FM 1179 (Villa Maria). Turn right onto FM 1179 and cross Highway 47, then turn left to stay on Jones Road. Continue to FM 60.



Texas Hwy. 47



FM 1179 (Villa Maria)



Old Allen Academy in Bryan

If you turned right from Jones Road onto FM 60, you would cross the Brazos River over what was called Jones Bridge.

Turn left onto FM 60, turn right on FM 2818 (Harvey Mitchell Parkway) and travel to FM 2154 (Wellborn Road). Turn right on FM 2154 and then right on Koppe Bridge Road in Wellborn.

35. Koppe Bridge Road. This goes to the Brazos River where a ferry landing was located. It was in operation in the early 1890s. By 1908, there was a bridge at this location. Neither exist today. The river is now inaccessible by auto.



Old Federal Building in Bryan

Turn around and go back to FM 2154. Travel to Millican and turn right on FM 159.

36. FM 159. Follow FM 159 through fields of corn, milo, and cotton. This road goes through what was called Allen Farm. Cross the Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railroad and travel through more miles of bottomland, crops of grain, and the meandering river, to Highway 105. Along the Brazos River in this area are the remains of a lock once used by steamboats. The locks are still visible, but no longer accessible.



First State Bank and Trust Building in Bryan

College Station



College Station welcome sign

College Station became a city in 1938, although it was “born” in 1871, with the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. Residents of nearby Bryan, led by Boonville pioneer Harvey Mitchell, pledged the over 2,400 acres necessary for a land grant institution under the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862. A site was chosen five miles south of the immoral influence of Bryan’s saloons and gambling halls. This distance between town and college encouraged the development of an independent settlement closer to the college. The campus was

planned on a bald prairie, the traditional roundup area for cattle to be driven to northern markets.

Post Civil War political controversies delayed the construction of the first building at the College by several years. Old Main, a four-story brick building, and Gathright Hall, a dormitory and mess hall, served the first students in 1876. These original buildings no longer exist.

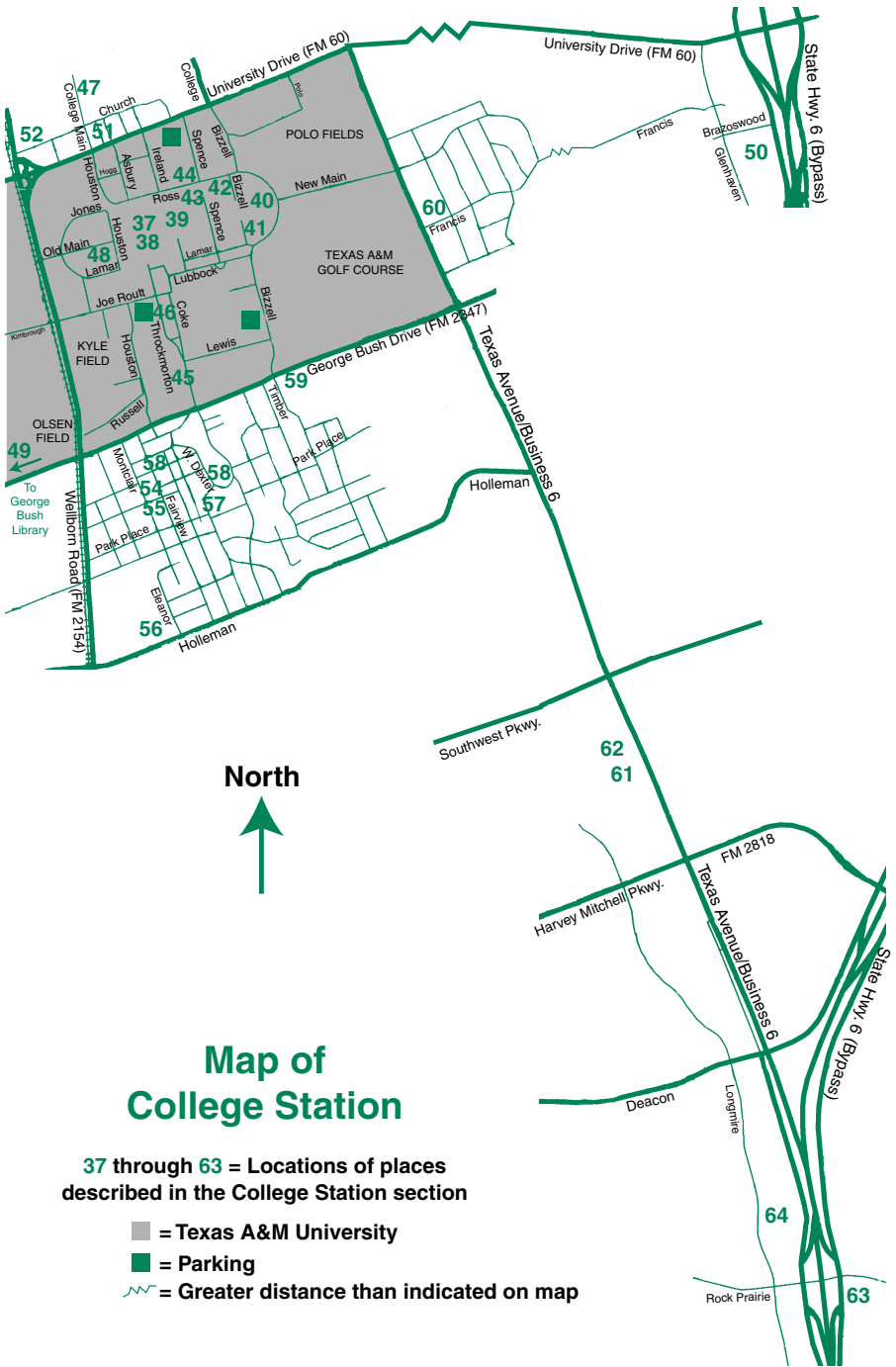
In 1883, the H&TC Railroad inaugurated regular stops at the College Station depot. Mule carts and buggies traveled over the unpaved road to Bryan. Later the campus was connected to Bryan by the Interurban Railway, between 1910 and 1923. Northgate and Southgate shops, outside the north and south entrances to the campus, and a gracious residential area to the south, were built after the turn of the century.



Northgate Businesses, 1959



A&M College of Texas, 1963
(McCall's Humble Station on left)



Map of College Station

37 through 63 = Locations of places described in the College Station section

- = Texas A&M University
- = Parking
- ~~~~~ = Greater distance than indicated on map



Academic Building (Texas A&M University)

Texas A&M University

The following buildings on the Texas A&M campus are of special interest. Visitor parking is available.

37. Academic Building. Built between 1912 and 1914 on the site of Old Main, which burned. The Academic Building's copper roof dominated the skyline of the campus from 1914 until the beginning of construction of several taller buildings in the 1970s. For many years, there was a bright light at the top of the dome. Students referred to it as Prexy's Moon and, from time to time, attempted to extinguish it with their rifles. The Texas replica of the Liberty Bell has been on display in the rotunda since Governor Allen Shivers declared that it should be at Texas A&M. A bronze statue by Pompeo Coppini has stood in the front of the Academic Building since 1919.

38. Nagle Hall. Built in 1909 it is the first "fireproof" structure, built of steel-reinforced concrete, on the campus. Immediately across the mall is its twin, Bolton Hall, built in 1912.

39. Cushing Library. Built in 1930, the library was designed by noted Texas architect S.C.P. Vosper and Texas A&M professor F.E. Giesecke. This three-story brick Classical Revival building features ornamental cast stone and colored ceramic tile on the exterior, with interior features including an ornamental ironwork grill doorway frame showcasing the brands of famous Texas ranches, a main reading room where the beams and coffers of the ceiling are painted with colorful Egyptian stencils, and carved bookcases along the walls. This fully restored building now houses the Cushing Library Collections of rare books, manuscripts, paintings, and archives.

Other 1910-1930 era buildings are scattered over the inner campus. Five buildings (#40-44) were designed during the Great Depression by a group of college staff under the direction of F.E. Giesecke, the college architect. These Art Deco structures feature intricate detail and figures in both exterior and interior ornamentation.



Administration Building (Texas A&M University)

40. Administration Building.

Features beautiful bronze doors and grilles in classical portico, sculptured back facade. It was built in 1932, for \$50,000 by WPA workers. The Works Progress Administration was part of the “New Deal” initiatives of President Franklin Roosevelt.

41. Animal Industries Building.

Built in 1932, the building is decorated with animal heads cast in stone.

42. Scoates Hall. Built in 1932, today it houses the Department of Agricultural Engineering. It bears a number of owl sculptures and inside has a large mural of a plantation, supposed to be that of the Groce family.

43. Chemistry Building. Built in 1931, the building has a beautiful black marble entrance hall.

44. Halbouty Geosciences Building. Built in 1932, the building includes pebble mosaics on the walls of its porticos.

45. Early Texas A&M Campus Housing. A marker is located on Throckmorton Street near the President’s Home. By 1938, there were more than 100 houses on the



Animal Industries Building (Texas A&M University)

campus, but these blocked expansion plans for the University. The Board of Directors decreed that all campus housing, except for the president, commandant, surgeon, and a few others, was to be vacated by 1941. Faculty and staff were allowed to buy and move the houses, in which they lived. Most houses sold for between \$200 and \$800.

46. Sanders Corps of Cadets Center. Built in 1990, the center is home to a museum containing a wealth of Aggie artifacts and memorabilia, a library with over 3,000 volumes related to military history, and the states largest gun collection. See <http://www.aggiecorps.org/home/corpscenter>

47. Bryan & College Station Interurban Railway, 400 Block of College Main. The Bryan & College Station Interurban Railway trolleys ran from downtown Bryan to A&M College from 1910 until 1923. The trip from Bryan took 30 minutes, and the cost to ride was fifteen cents roundtrip. Gas cars, which had to be pushed up the Hillcrest incline on Saturday



Chemistry Building (Texas A&M University)



Bryan & College Station Interurban Railway

afternoons when the trolley was crowded, were converted to electric power in 1915. With plans for the construction of Highway 6, service was terminated. The tracks and wires were sold for scrap in 1930. The station in Bryan was converted into a home in 1957. HM.

48. College Station Railroad Depot. Located on the A&M Campus on old Main Drive across from Albritton Tower. From 1876, when the A&M College opened its doors, until 1883, there was no formal railroad depot to serve the campus, however the H&TC Railroad made regular stops here to drop off students, faculty, materials, and supplies. In 1883, H&TC built a depot located approximately 800 yards from the Old Main building, which was used as a passenger station. In 1900, the International & Great Northern (I&GN) Railroad extended their rail line to College Station and built a much larger depot east of the H&TC depot. Around this time, the H&TC moved their depot to a location on campus to be used as housing and built a new station to replace it. These depots served as the focal point of activity for the campus and the community until they were demolished. The last passenger service to use these depots was on June 7, 1959. The H&TC depot was razed in the 1950s, and the I&GN depot was razed in

1966, to allow for the expansion of the FM 2154 (Wellborn Road). HM.

49. George Bush Presidential Library and Museum. 1000 George Bush Drive West. Please call (979) 260-9552 for information. Museum exhibits reveal the influences and challenges, which shaped George Bush's life and presidency. Through original artifacts, film, photographs, documents, music, sound effects, and interactive video and computerization, this museum experience is both educational and entertaining. Larger features include a World War II Avenger Torpedo Bomber similar to the one George Bush flew, a 1947 Studebaker, a slab of the Berlin Wall, and precise replicas of President Bush's Camp David and Air Force One offices. Exhibits document George Bush's leadership during times of crisis, including the reunification of Germany, the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the Gulf War. The Museum also houses special traveling exhibits on a regular basis.



George Bush Presidential Library and Museum
(Texas A&M University)



Lipscomb's Pharmacy/Loupot's Bookstore Building

College Station

50. Richard Carter Homesite. See #4 in the Brazos County section of this brochure for description. HM.

51. Lipscomb's Pharmacy/Loupot's Bookstore Building, 335 University Drive. Built in 1925, this building housed Lipscomb's Pharmacy, the first pharmacy in the community, and one of the first businesses in the Northgate area. The soda fountain in the pharmacy was a place for many area residents to gather and socialize. Mr. Lipscomb leased the building to Judson Loupote in the early 1970s, and Loupote's, Inc. purchased the building about eight to ten years later. CS.

52. Café Eccel, 101 Church Avenue. Constructed in 1947, the building was designed by architecture students at A&M under the direction of Ernest Langford, head of the Architecture Department. The building served as the first College Station City Hall before the offices moved to their present location on Texas Avenue in 1972. However, the Public Works and Parks Departments remained at this location until the early 1980s. CS.

53. 601 Montclair Avenue. Constructed in 1910 by the Corps of Cadets to house A&M faculty, this house was originally at the corner of Lubbock and Clark Streets on the A&M campus. This small Queen Anne with neoclassical features was auctioned off by A&M for \$330 to Irby Adams in 1948, sawed in two and moved to this location. A small one-room servant's quarters accompanied the house to this address and was located in the backyard. The servants who lived in the quarters were divorced not long after, and decided to saw the structure in half, each taking a piece, leaving only the plumbing. CS-1.

54. 611 Montclair Avenue. Built in 1890, this is probably the oldest house in College Station. This medium-sized Queen Anne with neoclassical features was originally located on campus and is easily identifiable from old campus photos as one of five houses, which faced the drill field. It was occupied for a time by Mark Francis, Dean of Veterinary Medicine, before being sold in 1948, and moved to this location. CS-5.



Café Eccel
(College Station's first City Hall)

55. 208 Fairview Avenue. In 1923, Miss Jennie Camp, who worked for the A&M Extension Service, purchased this lot from the Southside Development Company and contracted with builder W.C. Hutton to have this home built. Windows which were located “to catch the Gulf breeze” in summer, and a coal stove, which provided heat in the winter, have been replaced by central heat and air conditioning. The original windows remain. Miss Camp also built the duplexes next door and across the corner, but not before a committee of her male colleagues called upon her in an effort to dis-

Board of Trustees decided to build facilities for an African American high school. Five acres were purchased at the southwestern limits of the city, now bordered by Eleanor and Holleman Streets, and the A&M Consolidated Negro School opened its doors for the 1941-42 school year. Grades 1-11 were included, with grade 12 being added the following year. In 1946, the name of the school was changed to Lincoln School. Integration occurred practically overnight when a fire destroyed the ten-classroom high school building, principal’s office, teacher’s lounge, and library in January 1966. Lincoln School closed its doors at the end of



208 Fairview Avenue



Lincoln Center

suade her from what they considered to be a foolhardy enterprise. CS.

56. African American Education in College Station, 1000 Eleanor Street at the Lincoln Center. Early African American schools in Brazos County were small, usually one to four rooms. In 1941, since there was no African American High School and attendance and costs were steadily increasing, the A&M Consolidated

the 1965-66 school year. During the school’s existence, it served as the social hub of College Station’s African American community. In 1978, the city purchased the land from the school district and the facilities were refurbished. In June 1980, the Lincoln Center was officially dedicated, and continues to serve as a tribute to the school once located at this site. HM, CS.

57. 710 Park Place. Built on the Texas A&M campus in 1918, this pier & beam bungalow was one of the original fifty that served as housing for faculty and staff. Originally located on Clark Street, it was occupied from 1918 until 1924 by Dr. J.J. Taubenhaus, professor in the Agriculture Department and the head of the A&M Herbarium, and his wife Esther. In 1924, the house was seriously damaged by fire. After the home was reconstructed in 1925, the Taubenhaus's moved back in. Mrs. Taubenhaus purchased the home from A&M for \$506 in 1942, and moved it to its present location,



710 Park Place

where it has undergone other renovations. CS.

58. 600 West Dexter Drive. This home was built in 1929, and occupied by noted architect Ernest Langford and his family from then until 1956. One of the oldest off-campus houses, it originally faced what was once Dexter Lake. Langford headed the Texas A&M Architecture Department and was the mayor of College Station

from 1942 to 1965, holding that office longer than any other person. CS-12.

59. A&M College Consolidated Rural School (now the Barbara Bush Parent Outreach Center), 1200 George Bush Drive. In 1920, three surrounding school districts sent their students to a new school located on, and supported by, the A&M College. Classes were held in Guion Hall until the new building could be completed. In 1939, residents of the newly incorporated City of College Station purchased and donated approximately 15 acres of land for an off-campus school. The school opened in March 1940, with separate buildings for the elementary



Walton Medical Building

and high school classes. HM located at A&M Consolidated High School, 1812 Welsh Avenue.

60. Walton Medical Building, 903 Texas Avenue. Land was purchased in 1941 in the business section of College Hills Estates for the erection of the College Medical Center on Highway 6. The one-story, free standing brick building with Art Deco influences was built with identical



Rock Prairie School and Church

plans as those of the Bryan Medical Center. In 1942, when construction of the building was completed, Dr. T. O. Walton, Jr., opened his practice. The building is still owned by the children of Dr. Walton. CS.

61. College Station Cemetery, 2606 Texas Avenue. The College Station Cemetery was created in 1948, with land bought near what had been the Shiloh community. The tract surrounded an existing cemetery, which had been deeded to a Methodist Church in 1870 by W.G. and Josephine Rector. Rector Chapel Cemetery was also used by Czech immigrants, who called it Shiloh Cemetery. Many of the earliest tombstones are written in Czech. In 1947, the Methodist Conference turned over those four acres to College Station to be incorporated into the city cemetery. The cemetery also includes an early African American cemetery named Salem. Inside the entrance of the cemetery is a fountain and memorial walkway, with a plaque honoring Luke Patranella, an Italian American civic leader and businessman.

62. Shiloh Community, 2606 Texas Avenue, in the College Station

Cemetery. An historical marker telling the history of this community is located inside the entrance of the cemetery. In the 1860s, several Czech, German, and Polish immigrant families formed the community of Shiloh, about two miles south of the A&M College campus. The community consisted of several large family farms, and the families worked together to survive. Members formed the Slavonic Agricultural and Benevolent Society, in 1883, to help each other with farm work and to pool money to buy new tools. The society evolved from an agricultural club to a social club that still exists today as the Shiloh Club. HM.

63. Rock Prairie School and Church, 2405 Old Rock Prairie Road East. The school was founded in 1891 and the church in 1900 on land donated by Adam Royder. The 29' X 40'6", one-room schoolhouse and church was constructed in 1891, and is standing in its original location. Much of the original building is still in place, as are some of the hand-sawed pine pews with V-cut feet and slats that form a contoured seat. The original pulpit of similar primitive design is still in use. A wood heater heated the building until a gas heater was installed in the 1950s. The original pine clapboard siding was replaced with vinyl siding in the 1970s, and the steeple was added in 1982. HM. CS.

64. Brazos Valley Masonic Library and Museum, 3411 Longmire Drive. Currently open by appointment only. Please visit the museum's website for more information, at www.sulross.org.ourlodge.htm .

Bryan

Bryan has been the agricultural and commercial center of the rich Brazos River Valley farmlands since 1867, when the H&TC Railroad initiated train service through the town. Within a few years, Bryan was linked by rail to major agricultural markets across the country. By 1900, the I&GN Railroad line also moved through town. In the early decades of the 20th

century, with the assistance of the H&TC, small spur tracks ran to the Brazos River bottom, linking the rich cotton-producing lands with the city's five gins, two cotton yards, compresses, warehouses, and rail lines to distant markets.

While the city has also been the county seat since 1866, its role as an agricultural and mercantile center has been responsible for its steady growth. Bryan's long, broad commercial district stretched along the axis of the railroad tracks as the city grew. In the last decades of the 19th century, a large number of German, Czech, and Italian immigrants settled in the Brazos River Valley. Their children and grandchildren left area cotton farms and moved to Bryan, many entering the business world. Attracted by the community's prosperity, a merchant class developed. Bryan's expansion was buoyed by cotton-related activities well into the 20th century. The 1876 opening of A&M College of Texas (later Texas A&M University) drew other small academic institutions to the community in subsequent years. The majority of today's remaining historic structures—commercial, institutional, and domestic—reflect the city's turn-of-the-century appearance and architectural preferences.

The town's plan resulted from land speculation around what was to be the courthouse square. Businessmen balked at the high prices and retreated to Main and Bryan Streets. In 1871, when the city was incorporated, Bryan's Main Street was a densely built commercial area of frame buildings. Between 1877 and 1885, brick replaced many of the frame buildings along Main Street. Cotton and lumber yards, planing and grist mills, and hotels and boarding houses clustered about the tracks between 25th and 27th Streets. Downtown remained a dusty place until 1915, when the streets were paved.



Howell Building



Downtown Bryan, Market Scene

Commercial structures along Main Street occupied the entire lot, with



Saint Anthony's Catholic Church

their rear elevations, and often a secondary entry, facing Tabor Street on the railroad tracks. Although they were the “back doors,” they were one of the first sights from the train and busy track-side platform.

Bryan's religious institutions took form along with the city's political and economic institutions, and most denominations were represented soon after Bryan was settled. Early services were held in private homes or on the second floor of commercial

buildings. A majority of these 19th century congregations still meet, although they occupy their third and fourth buildings. Temple Freda (#121), St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (#73), and St. Anthony's Catholic Church (#122) are the three oldest religious buildings still in use.

The city's north side historically has been home to Bryan's African American community. African American business and professional offices operated at the northern end of Main and Bryan Streets. The Martin Luther King corridor is the neighborhood's primary artery, with a mix of commercial, religious, and residential structures along its entire length. Some of Bryan's oldest vernacular buildings still stand in the north end. A row of 20th century shotgun houses can be found from 810 to the 900 E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street. “Shotgun” is an architectural term for a house whose length is twice its width, with all exterior and interior doors aligned, so that theoretically, a shot from a gun could travel through the house and cause no damage. While no physical evidence remains, neighborhood residents recognize the small area around Orleans and Preston Streets as Freedmanstown, where newly freed African Americans settled after the Civil War.

Individuals of Mexican/Spanish descent have had land holdings in Brazos County since before its inception. Increased migration occurred during the 1910s and 1920s as well as in the last decades of the 20th century. Social upheaval in Mexico as a result of its unabated civil wars, as well as the poverty of the country, coincided with a demand for cheap labor in agriculture and related industries in this country.



Masonic Temple



Map of Bryan

65 through 129 = Locations of places described in the Bryan section



La Salle Hotel

Key to Residential Sites

Because the older east and west side neighborhoods grew gradually over many years, they are remarkable for the wide range of architectural styles represented. The City of Bryan created the Eastside Historic District (NR) in 1983. A separate National Register District was designated in 1988. Homes within these districts are restricted to uses and renovations, which will preserve their historic character and value.

These tree-shaded neighborhoods include fine old homes built in several styles. Listings for these sites include the following codes:

V—Victorian (1885-1905): irregular form, extensive single and/or double porches; Gothic, Italianate, Stick and/or Queen Anne (tower) features.

N—Neo-Classical Revival (1889-1912): symmetrical, two-story front porch with high round or square pillars.

D—Dutch Colonial (1900-1912): gambrel (barn type) roof is most distinctive feature.

T—Transitional (1902-1912): squarish, two-story with one-story front porch, and some Victorian ornamentation.

E—Eclectic Brick (1920s): rectangular, two-story, with a combination of exterior and interior styles.

Downtown

65. Masonic Temple, 107 S. Main. The Prairie style structure has been in continuous use by the Masons since its construction in 1910.

66. Carnegie Public Library Building, 111 S. Main. It was opened in 1903, with funds from the Carnegie Foundation. It is the oldest existing Carnegie Library building in Texas. Designed in Classic Revival style by F.E. Giesecke, professor of Architecture and College Architect at A&M, it served as a civic and cultur-

al center for many years. A collection of historical documents and photo-



Carnegie Library Building

graphs are housed on the first floor, while the second floor is home to a comprehensive collection of genealogical materials. It has been completely restored and now serves as the Carnegie Center of Brazos Valley History. NR. HM.

67. LaSalle Hotel, 120 S. Main. This seven story reinforced concrete building was built in 1929. Originally opened as a hotel, it later became the first licensed nursing home in Bryan. The building reopened in 2000 after being restored for use as a luxury hotel.

68. Howell Building, 200 S. Main. Built in 1906 of solid brick walls, the interior cast iron columns support the two upper stories. The two-part, vertical block structure was built in the late, high Victorian era to house J.W. Howell's wholesale grocery business.

69. Bryan Municipal Building, 201 E. 27th. Designed by the firm of Giesecke and Harris, this 1930 building originally housed the administrative offices of the City of Bryan, as well as the central fire station. The exterior of this concrete frame structure is faced with cast stone. The Bryan Police Department later occupied the building. In 2001, the City of

Bryan donated it to the Children's Museum.

70. Astin Office Building, 106 W. 26th. Constructed in 1917, the two-part vertical structure was built in the late, high Victorian era. It housed the first Bryan telephone exchange, and later was the home of City National Bank, until the 1950s.

71. James Drugstore, 200 W. 26th. A classically detailed commercial structure that has been in continuous use as a drugstore since its founding in 1906.

72. Old Post Office, 216 W. 26th. Built in 1915, this was Bryan's first federal building.

73. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 217 W. 26th. Present Gothic Revival style building replaced the original frame building in 1914. Built by noted Bryan contractor C.E. "Charlie" Jenkins. NR. HM.

74. First State Bank & Trust Co. Building, 200 N. Main. The handsome Art Deco ornate stone building was constructed in 1930 for the bank founded in 1909. It is now used by the Bryan Independent School District's Headstart program. NR.

75. Humpty Dumpty Store, 218 N. Bryan. A vernacular commercial building, built around 1925. It is now vacant, but was last used as a restaurant. NR.

76. First National Bank, 120 N. Main. This bank traces its origin to 1862, when a money lending business opened in Millican. It was later purchased by Guy Bryan, son of W.J. Bryan for whom the city is named.



James Drugstore

This building was erected in 1919, and contained the first night depository in the country. The back section housed a saloon until Prohibition. An historical marker is located at the bank's headquarters on Texas Avenue near Villa Maria. N. NR.

77. Varisco Building, 219 N. Main. Built in 1948 in Art Deco style, the building was erected by Brazos Varisco, an Italian immigrant businessman and plantation owner.

78. Allen Block, 400 Block of North Main. Once the center of the street's commercial activities, these vernacular commercial buildings, built between 1890-1920, remain virtually unaltered since construction. NR.

79. Parker Lumber Company Building, 419 N. Main. A vernacular commercial structure used continuously by the lumber company from the time it was built in 1910, by Charlie Jenkins, until it closed in 1989. NR.

80. Ice House, 107 E. Martin Luther King. It was built in 1912. Note the interesting south and east exterior and the heavy beamed roof construction of the Mission Revival style building.



Parker Lumber Company Building

East Side Area

81. Bryan Cemetery, 1111 N. Texas Avenue. Opened in 1868, the cemetery has many interesting old grave-stones, including an unusual wooden grave marker. It includes the Freedmen's Cemetery, where many of Bryan's first African American residents are buried. Levi Neal, the first African American lawman killed in the line of duty in Texas in 1900, and Elias Mays, who represented Brazos county in the state legislature in the 19th century, are buried in the cemetery.



Ice House

82. Mount Calvary Cemetery, Old Kurten Road. Established by the Catholic Church in 1897, this cemetery serves a variety of immigrant populations, including persons originally from such countries as Czechoslovakia, Germany, Mexico, Italy, and Poland.

83. Site of Bryan School for the Colored, E. Martin Luther King and N. Preston. The first school building for African Americans in Bryan was built in 1885. HM. An African American historical museum is scheduled to open on this site in 2004.

84. Original site of Allen Academy, 100 Ursuline, now the site of a minimum-security federal prison. Allen Academy was founded by brothers John Hodges Allen and R.O. Allen in Madisonville and moved to Bryan in 1899. The first boys' preparatory school in Texas, the school was moved to eastern Boonville Road (FM 158) in 1988. The Mission Revival style main building was built in 1914. The presence of Allen Academy and Ursuline Academy spurred growth on the city's east side along Ursuline Avenue. NR. HM.

85. Armstrong House, 1200 Ursuline. Built in 1910 for Attorney Robert Armstrong, Sr. N. NR.



Ursuline Academy

86. Site of Villa Maria Ursuline Academy. Both Villa Maria and Ursuline streets led to the girls' school, which was moved to Bryan from Galveston after the devastating hurricane of 1900. The Ursuline sisters ran the school here for 28 years. The property, now the Allen Forest subdivision, was sold to Will Howell in 1935. He tore down the existing school and used the bricks to build two houses. In 1983, Paul Bonarrigo purchased the buildings and used the bricks to build the Messina Hof

Winery visitor's center, located on Old Reliance Road.

87. St. Joseph Catholic School and site of Odd Fellows University, 600 E. 26th. An historical marker for Odd Fellows University (c. 1870-75) is on the corner of William Joel Bryan Parkway and Preston Street. St. Joseph School has been in operation since 1894. The Art Deco style Travis Elementary School Building was constructed in 1927. It is now called St. Joseph's elementary school. HM.

88. Moore House, 500 E. William Joel Bryan Parkway. Built for a prominent lumberman, this house has a center passageway in the two-room deep Classical style. T. NR8

89. John Coulter Homesite, 500 E. 26th. All that remains of a dog-trot house and carriage house built for a prominent early merchant. Built in 1868, it is the oldest standing structure in the city.

90. McDougal-Jones House, 600 E. 27th. Built in 1917. C. Edgar Jones was a cashier at First State Bank & Trust Co. D. NR.

91. 604 E. 27th. A good example of 1920s bungalow style houses. V. NR.

92. Edwin Jenkins House, 607 E. 27th. This Queen Anne style house was built in 1895, by Charlie Jenkins, for his brother, pharmacist and one-time Bryan mayor, E.J. Jenkins, who operated Jenkins Drugstore at 203 N. Main. NR. HM.

93. 1401 Baker. Built about 1900, this "L-shaped" house is an outstanding example of the once common regional house. NR.



A.W. Wilkerson House

94. Waldrop House, 615 E. 29th. This Foursquare home was built in 1908, by Houston architects Jones and Tabor, for Allister Waldrop, a prominent merchant. NR. HM.

95. A.W. Wilkerson House, 614 E. 29th. This American Foursquare house was built in 1912, by Charlie Jenkins, for A.W. Wilkerson, director of the City National Bank. T. NR. HM.

96. Dansby House, 611 E. 29th. The house was built about 1902 for Edward Hall, founder of the First State Bank & Trust. The 600 block of E. 29th was once known as "Bankers Row." Former Bryan Mayor Roland Dansby also lived here for many years. T. NR.

97. Sanders House, 610 E. 29th. It was built about 1912 by W.O. Sanders for his family. A good example of the Craftsman style. It also incorporates elements of prairie and bungalow styling. T. NR. HM.

98. Astin-Porter House, 600 E. 29th. The house was built by Charlie Jenkins in 1901 for Mrs. Onah Astin. N. NR. HM.

99. Wipprecht House, 500 E. 29th. It was designed and built by Charlie Jenkins in 1898 for Walter Wipprecht, one of Texas A&M's first graduates. He later became the Brazos County Tax Collector, and then the Business Manager for Texas A&M. V. NR.

100. James House, 501 E. 29th. This combination Dutch-Revival and Victorian house was built in 1905 for the owner of James Drugstore. D. NR.

101. 405 S. Houston. This bungalow was built around 1930. NR.

102. 506 E. 30th. This bungalow was built in 1925. David Bunting was a teacher at Stephen F. Austin High School. NR.

103. Eugene Edge House, 508 E. 30th. The Edge/Dupuy House was built in 1901, by Charlie Jenkins, for the Eugene Edge family, in the Queen Anne style. V. NR. HM.

104. 1209 Baker. This one-story cottage was built around 1925. NR.

105. Fannin School, 1200 Baker. The first public school in Bryan was erected on this site in 1880. The second school on the site was opened in 1918, and a third school rebuilt on the



Boatwright House



Fannin School

same site opened in 1990. Some original architectural elements from the 1918 structure as well as the contents of a 1918 time capsule are displayed in the school's lobby. HM.

106. 601 E. 30th. This transitional style home was built by Charlie Jenkins for John H. Moore in 1902. NR.

107. 609 E. 30th. This Victorian home was built around 1887 for Dr. John Wister Howell. NR.

108. Boatwright House, 615 E. 30th. It was built in 1903 by I.H. Newton for H.O. Boatwright, who was the president and one of the founders of the First National Bank. V. NR.

109. Heritage Park, 600 Block S. Hutchins. Located on the part of the Cavitt Homestead that was referred to as the Cavitt Pasture, the park is used for local gatherings, including



Edge House



McMichael-Wilson House

an "old-fashioned" Fourth of July celebration featuring a children's parade. NR.

110. 700 E. 30th. Built in 1896 by George Jenkins for merchant W.A. Withers, this house has been significantly altered from its original "L-shaped" plan. V. NR.

111. 708 E. 30th. Built around 1907 for grocer and coffee-grinder Hardy Newton by his father, builder I. H. Newton. T. NR.

112. McMichael-Wilson House, 712 E. 30th. Built in 1904 by Charlie Jenkins for George W. McMichael, Brazos County Clerk, this is a very good example of Queen Anne architecture. NR. HM.

113. Cavitt House, 713 E. 30th. The house was built about 1878 for William R. Cavitt, a former county attorney, developer, and member of the Texas A&M Board of Directors. The large, square-pillared home is the oldest structure, built in 1878, in the neighborhood. Originally Italianate, the house's exterior was "modernized" in 1920 to its present neo-classical facade. V. NR.

114. Edge House, 609 S. Ennis. Eclectic in style, the structure incorporates elements of Georgian, Renaissance, and other Revival styles. This house was built in 1925 by Charlie Jenkins for Eugene Edge, who operated the Eugene Edge & Son Department Store. The property was the site of Texas Woman's College from 1904-09 and the Bryan Baptist Academy (1909-1918). The brick column beside the driveway on Ennis is all that remains of the Academy. E. NR. HM.

115. Roy Stone House, 715 E. 31st. This Spanish Colonial Revival style house was built in 1925. NR.

116. Hudson-Harrison House, 616 E. 31st. Built in 1896 by Charlie Jenkins, this Victorian home was originally located at the corner of S. Houston and E. 28th Streets. The second owner, R.H. Harrison, Sr., was mayor of Bryan. His daughter Lucy Harrison was the first woman elected to the Bryan City Council. It was moved to its current site in 1984 to prevent its demolition. NR.

117. Wilkerson Home, 603 E. 31st. Built in 1926, this Bungalow style house has solid rock walls. Dr. L.O. Wilkerson was an early Bryan doctor. Along with Dr. Searcy he founded the Wilkerson Memorial Clinic in 1931.



Wilkerson Home



Bryan citizens at the Municipal Building groundbreaking ceremony

During World War II, the clinic became the Bryan Hospital, which has relocated and evolved into the College Station Medical Center. NR. HM.

118. 600 & 700 Blocks of E. 32nd. Good examples of small brick bungalows that were constructed in an English cottage style in the 1930s.

119. Stephen F. Austin School, 801 S. Ennis. Designed by W.O. Sanders, Jr. and built in 1938, this Art Deco building was the city's first separate high school. It is now a middle school.

120. J.M. Jones House, 812 S. Ennis. Designed by W. O. Sanders, Jr., one of Bryan's first full-time architects, the Tudor Revival style house was built about 1930. NR.

West Side Area

121. Temple Freda, 205 S. Parker. The temple is named for Ethel Freda Kaczer, whose husband was president of the congregation when the synagogue was built. It was built in



Temple Freda

Greek Revival style and dedicated in 1913. NR.

122. St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 401 W. 29th. Bryan area Italians have worshiped at the church since its founding in 1896. The design of the present Romanesque Revival church, built in 1927, was inspired by the style of the Cathedral of St. Anthony in Padua, Italy. NR.

123. Blazek House, 409 W. 30th. This bungalow was built in 1920.

124. 109 N. Sterling. Built in 1905, this unusually intact Queen Anne Victorian dwelling boasts an engaged turret and a jigsawed and turned ornament. Helen Swift was a district home-demonstration agent at Texas A&M. V. NR.

125. Astin House, 508 W. 26th. Built for Roger Q. Astin in 1921, the Eclectic design incorporated Renaissance and other revival styles. NR.

126. Oliver House, 602 W. 26th. The home was built in 1904 for Dr. William Holt Oliver, who founded Bryan's first hospital, which later

became St. Joseph's Hospital. All of the construction materials were ordered through Parker Lumber Co., which was owned by Mrs. Oliver's family. N. NR.

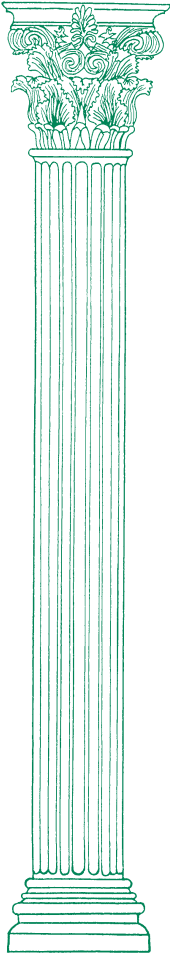
127. Smith-Barron House, 100 S. Congress. Built in 1912 for druggist George Smith, this home was later occupied by District Judge W.S. Barron, who served as Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives. N. NR.

128. Milton Parker House, 200 S. Congress. This Victorian-Eastlake style house, built by German contractors from Dallas in 1885, was the original home of Miss Maggie Parker's Dining Room and Boarding House. It was continuously occupied by members of the Parker family until 1991. V. NR.

129. E.A. Kemp House, 606 W. 17th. Built in 1922 by George Powell, this is a good example of a bungalow. It was the home of E.A. Kemp, a prominent African American educator who taught in the Bryan schools from 1909-29. Kemp School in Bryan was named for him. NR.



Main Street (Downtown Bryan, ca. 1910)



Brazos Heritage Society

The Brazos Heritage Society is dedicated to preserving the cultural heritage of Brazos County, specifically to:

- identify, document, and preserve the architecture and historical context of Brazos County.
- promote the community's appreciation of its history through advocacy and educational programs.
- combat the deterioration of older parts of our community through education, advocacy, and special projects.

For more information, please contact:

Brazos Heritage Society
P.O. Box 1776
Bryan, TX 77806

Or visit the organization's home on the WWW, at:
www.brazosheritage.org

Cover Photos

Front cover, from top to bottom: Cavitt-Parker Building with parade, Old Brazos County Courthouse, Astin House, Harvey Mitchell and his sister, and Downtown Bryan ca. 1870.

Back cover, from top to bottom: Carnegie Library Building ca 1940s, Municipal Building Groundbreaking Ceremony, Old Main Building at Texas A&M, Bryan Fire Department ca. 1890, and Dutch Kettle Snack Bar ca. 1962.

Credits: The photo of the Dutch Kettle Snack Bar is used with the courtesy of Richard Gunn. All other cover photos are used with the courtesy of the Carnegie Center of Brazos Valley History.

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Welcome to the
City of Bryan
A Great Place to Live

EAST
190
SOUTH
6
LEAS

WEST
05R
LEAS

WEST
21
LEAS



Brazos Co

SOUTH
47
LEAS

EAST
50
LEAS



The Routes of
Brazos County

Home of Texas A&M University

