

JEFFERSONIAN

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JEFFERSON IS BECOMING AN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE AND EDUCATION CENTER

Jefferson's role in Texas history is that it was a stepping-off point for immigrants to Texas. The safest, fastest and most comfortable means of travel before the advent of railroads was travel by steamboat. It was not difficult to board a steamboat in New Orleans, Memphis or St. Louis and arrive with goods in tow to Jefferson a few days later.

Many immigrants to the United States came through the Port of New Orleans. They would enter New Orleans by ship and then board a steamboat for destinations in the interior of the United States in the Mississippi Valley and in the valleys of its tributaries. Steamboats arrived in Jefferson loaded with people and cargo. In most cases the people who arrived by steamboat first set foot on Texas soil in Jefferson. Jefferson is where they usually began the first leg of their overland journey to the west. When steamboat passengers disembarked they would first seek lodging and information. They needed both before they boarded the stagecoaches, wagons or horses to take them to

their destinations in East, North and Central Texas.

The population of Jefferson always appeared to be larger because many people in town were only passing through Jefferson. They not only arrived by boat, they also arrived by land to sell cotton and other agriculture products and buy manufactured goods which had been shipped from the east. The permanent population by comparison was smaller and many worked

in businesses as merchants, brokers in service businesses which provided accommodations to Jefferson's many visitors.

Jefferson was a mix of the early

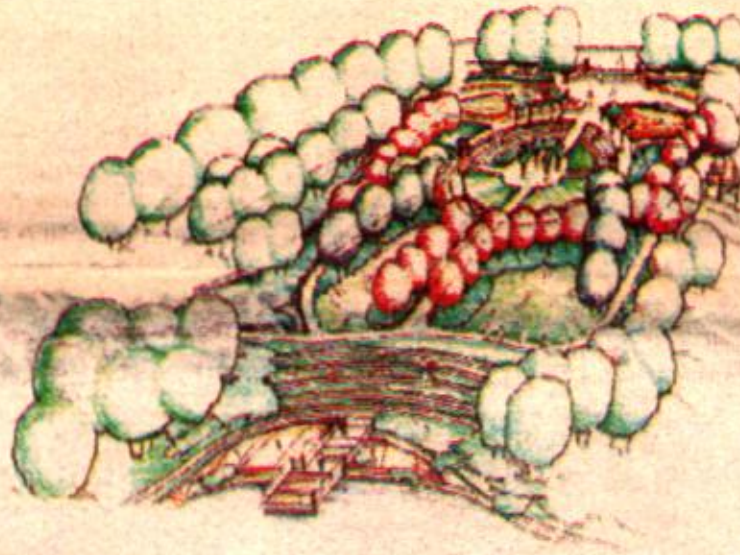
pioneer settlers, military officers, freed slaves, Native Americans, European immigrants and those who had left cities, towns and farms in the United States east of

Jefferson to seek their fortune in the west. The east met the west here. This diverse mix of people combined with businesses of trade and service created a friendly, accepting culture. Strangers were not a threat, they were business. Service and information were

important and so was education.

In the 1850s there was no public education. Private institutes were created mostly for women. Male students were sent to private academies. The first record of a school was in February 1851. This school was operated by T. A. Simms and it taught penmanship and bookkeeping. In 1857 the Jefferson Female Academy was created. S. M. Foster and his wife, Susan Foster, and C. W. Tarbocks taught English, music, French, drawing, painting and hair-work.

After the Civil War many schools were established. This was a time when public education in Jefferson began. There was a dancing school known as the Alhambra School. At the same time another school advertised in the paper that it concentrated on "brains rather than heels and toes." Judge T. A. Patillo operated a school where he advertised that "students were controlled by proper motives." Co-educational education appeared during the 1860s when the Jefferson Male and (See Jefferson, pg. 4)



Pictured above is an artist's rendering of an outdoor classroom for environmental education to be located between Dallas Street and Big Cypress Bayou.



Pictured above are participants in the groundbreaking ceremony on May 2, 1998 for the construction of the Cypress Valley Education Center to be located between Austin and Dallas Streets in the Historic Riverfront District.

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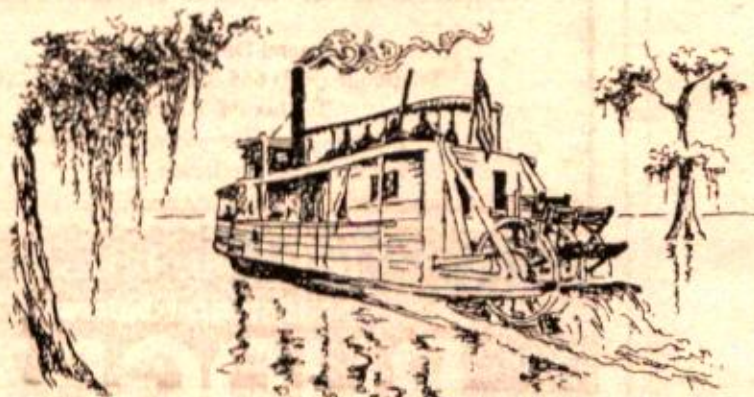


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John T. Taylor

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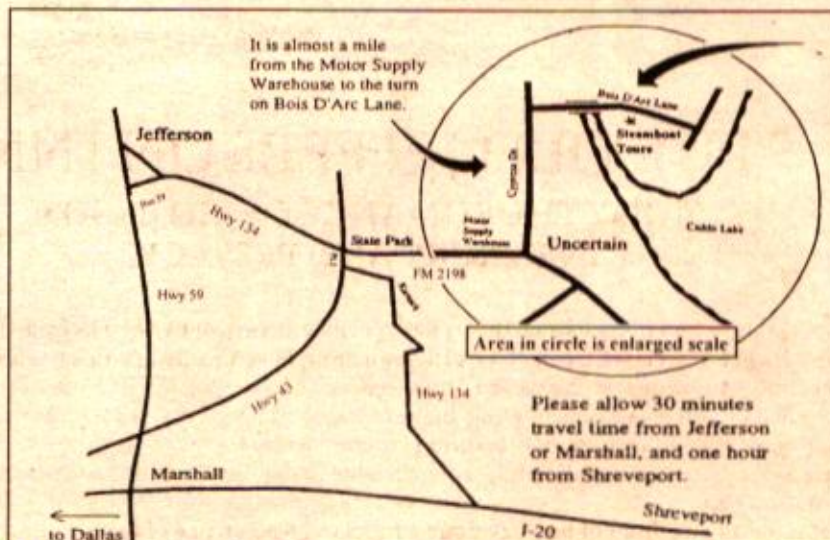
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Clinton Landing was short-lived, but important part of Jefferson history

by Jacques Bagur

Clinton was an antebellum steamboat landing on the north shore of Clinton Lake between Kitchen's Creek and Pine Island Slough, as shown on the 1901 General Land Office's Map of Marion County, which contains historic information. Clinton Lake is an old backwater swamp of Cypress Bayou located at the northwest end of Caddo Lake. Steamboats entered Clinton Lake through Clinton Chute, in the approximate location of present-day Clinton Ditch. After entering the lake, boats proceeded through Withenbury Slough, named for W. W. Withenbury, who brought the first steamboat to Jefferson and almost certainly developed the passage to Clinton. The name has been corrupted to Whistlebeny on contemporary maps, and Clinton Chute has been transposed to Cypress Bayou.

Clinton Lake is not mentioned in any old texts and makes its first map appearance in 1872, encompassing present-day Carter's Lake. The lake was obviously named for the landing. The landing appears to have been named by and for Clinton I. Willard, one of the original landholders in the area. If it had been named by steamboatmen, it would have been called Clinton's Landing. The distinction is important because Willard obviously envisioned the area as a potential site for a town. The anticipated level of develop-


ment was not achieved because Clinton was off the main boat route and between the major northern ports of Monterey to the east and Smithland to the west. In addition, Clinton's immediate market area was dominated by the much older and well-established Port Caddo, which was located slightly upstream on the main route and connected to the north shore of Cypress Bayou by a ferry.

When Edward Smith traveled throughout Northeast Texas in 1849, looking for a site for an English colony, he interviewed many persons. One of these was Major Campbell of Clinton, near Jefferson,

who lived upon the line of navigation on the Big Bend on Lake Caddo.

Campbell indicated that he had brought part of his family from Missouri to the area in 1843 and that he had recently begun to cultivate tobacco, from which he expected production at 700 pounds per acre selling at 10 cents per pound, with one hand capable of raising 10 acres per year. Campbell recommended to Smith that the colony be located at the Big Bend if it expected to pursue commerce because above all it is upon the line of navigation. The Big

See Clinton Landing, page 31



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Jefferson

Continued from pg. 1

Female Academy was created. This school offered the basics, plus Latin, Greek and music. The Paradise Male and Female Academy was also established. Its headmaster was S. M. Ward. This school offered French and music. It advertised in the newspapers that "the object of an education is to think well, write well and speak well." In 1875 an academy for African American students was established. Its name, Day, Night and Sunday School, had a special meaning. The headmaster, Professor Henry Clay, offered night and Sunday classes to African-American students so they could work during the day and on Saturdays. Their nights and Sundays could be spent in their educational pursuits.

It is said that the wheel turns full cycle. Today, Jefferson is progressing toward two of its original purposes: accommodations for visitors and education.

Being situated in the lush Cypress Valley, Jefferson provides an intimate setting for visitors who wish to meet, to play and also to be educated. Jefferson is making great strides toward providing accommodations and conferencing facilities for those who wish to come for seminars, meetings, reunions, to be

trained and to be re-trained. Meeting facilities such as the Lafayette Center, the Carnegie Library, the Excelsior Hotel and the other conferencing facilities being constructed, help to satisfy a need for educational instruction in a place that has ambiance, good food and entertainment. In Jefferson visitors can attend a meeting, cross the street for lunch or dinner, board a carriage, wagon or boat for tours, tour historic homes and museums or shop in Jefferson's unique retail stores, all within walking distance.

There are over sixty places of lodging in Jefferson with new places of lodging either under construction or being planned. One place presently under construction is the Scarlett O'Hardy Inn which when completed will provide seven luxurious rooms with in-house dining and conferencing facilities. Another inn is the Benefield House with a tower room. One recently completed inn by Californians Gloria and Donald Degn, is the Mulberry Inn which features luxurious rooms and spaces for meetings.

Also presently under construction is the Cypress Valley Education Center. It is located between Dallas Street and Austin Street in the Historic Riverfront District overlooking Big Cypress Bayou. This

building will have over 27,000 square feet of floor space. The rooms on the first level are designed for conferences, meetings, seminars and other events. A large visitor's center which will provide information on the state parks and all of the tourism opportunities in the Cypress Valley and Northeast Texas. On the second level there will be classrooms, computer labs and rooms for video teleconferencing and equipped for distance learning. From this facility, Panola College, Texas A&M University-Texarkana and other institutions of higher learning will provide classroom instruction and special academics for industries who want specific training for their employees. This will be the flagship facility of the Cypress Valley Alliance, a Texas non-profit corporation with its mission to provide education on the cultural and environmental assets of the Cypress Valley and training on subjects important to industry. This facility will link with the campuses of the Texas A&M University System, Panola College, high schools and other institutions of learning.

Jefferson has again become an important setting for those who wish to be educated, to be entertained and to follow their dreams in a setting of an old steamboat port on Big Cypress Bayou among the hills and valleys of Northeast Texas.

Brian Kennedy, a Dallas resident, who has come to Jefferson to write short stories and now comes to write an historical novel recently commented to a local resident, "I find Jefferson to be spiritual." The resident responded "It does get in your bones, doesn't it?"



News editor of long ago records Jefferson history, as it happened

by Jacques Bagur

R. W. Loughery, the editor of the Marshall Texas Republican, made trips to Jefferson almost every year in the 1850s and 1860s. The records of these trips provide a running commentary on the development of Jefferson. Loughery made his tenth trip to Jefferson in April 1858, as recorded in the Texas Republican of the 17th.

Loughery mentions that he was associated with the first newspaper that was published in Jefferson, which was the Jefferson Democrat, established in May 1847. He also mentions Ward Taylor, Jr., who had purchased the Jefferson Herald in November 1856 and later became famous as editor of the Jefferson Jimplecute. Stanley and Nimmo were starting a beef packery in Jefferson, and Stanley was about to leave for the North to look at model facilities. A storm was a surprise party that had to be paid for by the guest of honor. The Jefferson Hotel had been started by William Perry in 1856 under the name Soda Lake Hotel.

"We paid a flying visit last week to our neighboring town of Jefferson. The place has considerably improved since we were last there. Many new houses had gone up, and business was very active. The streets were thronged with wagons, carrying off produce and merchandize. Several steamboats were at the landing, and the merchants seemed to be busily engaged. We understand that a very large trade has been done there this season. A friend informed us that 25,000 bales of cotton had been shipped from that point.

We were kindly received. A more hospitable, friendly population is not to be found; and we may add, a more liberal people. We have always found it one of the most prompt in the payment of debts. A people who meet the demands of the editor may be relied upon; for, as a general thing, a printer's bill is the last one paid. Somehow or other there is an aversion to it. Not so, we are pleased to

say, in Jefferson.

We spent a portion of our leisure time in the offices of the Herald and Gazette, and in the charming society of the proprietors of those journals, the hours glided swiftly by. Our friend Ward Taylor, Jr., of the Herald, was not in town, and we regretted to learn, had not yet recovered his health.

There was a charming dinner, or fish fry, at the establishment of Messrs. Stanley & Nimmo. It was, we understood, a storm upon friend Stanley, who was about leaving home. These parties, we were informed, are gotten up by the young folks every eight or ten days, and are exceedingly pleasant.

There are two excellent hotels in Jefferson, the Planters Hotel kept by our old friend Win. Brooks, and the Jefferson Hotel by James Moore, a very clever gentleman. The hotels are of a superior character, and were filled to overflowing."

The following is a quote from the March 15, 1989, Jefferson Gazette that appeared in the April 1 Harrison Flag:

The Bayou is rising--the weather charming -- gardens flourishing -- fishing excellent -- wives smiling -- husbands happy -- children healthy -- trade increasing -- city growing -- and every thing in general wears the appearance of prosperity in, around and about Jefferson, suburbs, Paradise and tributaries.

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Jefferson Junior Historians turn old Masonic Lodge into McGarity's Saloon

The Junior Historians are renowned for their lively, toe tapping performances which will take place during Candlelight Tour, Mardi Gras and Pilgrimage every year. Performances for this year's Christmas Candlelight productions are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 5, 3:30 and 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 12, 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. An extra special feature will be two weekend performances for Mardi Gras. The shows can be seen Saturday, Feb. 6 and 13 at 3:30, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 7 and 14 at 3 p.m. Advance reservations are obtained by calling Carol or Angie, First National Bank, (903) 665-2535 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or evenings and weekends, call Leslie Wood at (903) 665-8219 or Pam McGregor at (903) 65-2872. Ticket will also be available at the door, No. 61 Dallas Street. All performances are staged in the 110-year-old landmark building — McGarity Saloon — located at No. 61 Dallas Street.

The Jefferson Junior Historians are currently entering their 28th year of existence.

The Jefferson Junior Historians are a group of ever-changing local youth entering their third decade of activity in historic Jefferson. Organized during February, 1971 under the direction of David Robertson, with 13 charter members, the organization has continued a local and state program annually for hundreds of Jefferson and Marion County youth.

Today, the Jefferson Junior Historians membership stands at 40-

45 high school students. There is no high school organization in the state of Texas that possesses as many accolades as the Jefferson Junior Historians. By celebrating 25 years, the Jefferson Junior Historians "have made history themselves," according to Texas Education Agency publications. They have made major contributions to both their community and to themselves.

David Robertson, founder and 26-year sponsor of the Jefferson Junior Historians, was born a sixth generation Texan in 1946 at neighboring Gilmer, a product of early East Texas pioneers. His family settled in the Pritchett-Latch community southwest of Gilmer in 1848, as the town of Gilmer was being founded.

Robertson has taught at the Jefferson Independent School district since 1971. That year he established the Jefferson Junior

Historians who have won four national awards and more than 60 state awards. He instigated the 1974 purchase of No. 61 Dallas Street by the Jefferson Junior Historians and has never missed playing the piano there for more than 260 shows since 1975.

With their annual, and now traditional, Riverboat Pilgrimage productions at No. 61 Dallas Street, they are second only in local longevity only to the Jessie Allen Wise Garden Club and its annual Diamond Bessie Murder Trial. The troupe of young people commit themselves to rehearse almost every Sunday during their freshman through senior high school years, learning to sing, dance, act, hammer and saw, paint and fix-up for no personal financial rewards. When the

See Junior Historians, page 28

Freeman Plantation

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Located in an 1890s Victorian house, the chef-owned restaurant has been the setting for fine dining since 1984. Menu selections include grilled seafoods and steak, veal specials and roasted rack of lamb, all prepared to order. To compliment your meal, an extensive wine list and cocktails are offered.

Above the dining room, dramatically pitched ceilings, stained glass windows and skylights distinguish the upstairs lodging. Three guest rooms, each with private bath, queen-sized beds and cable television, are tastefully decorated with a blend of handcrafted furniture and antiques. A guest cottage is also available. A full breakfast is served to overnight guests.

As well as a three star rating in Mobile Travel Guide, Stillwater Inn was featured in the May 1993 issue as one of *Southern Living's* favorite bed and breakfasts.

The Carriage House can accommodate corporate retreats, private parties, rehearsal dinners and wedding receptions, offering comfortable seating for sixty people. This facility is especially well-suited for bus tours wishing to highlight their trip with a memorable meal. Enjoy browsing in the Cottage Gardener Gift Shop on the premises.

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Captain's Castle Main House

The Captain's Castle, also known as the Rogers-McCasland home, was so named by Captain Thomas J. Rogers, a Confederate officer and local pioneer banker. Present owners are Buck and Barbara Hooker.

Overnight lodging is offered in the Main House and a nearby Carriage House and Cottage. Three rooms are available in the Main House with breakfast in the main dining room. Carriage House and Cottage has breakfast served in a glassed-in, temperature controlled gazebo nestled under huge pecan trees. Breakfast at the Captain's Castle has become a Jefferson tradition. Tour available by appointment. Call 665-2330.

Jefferson's Christmas Candlelight Tour features four "town and country" homes

During the first two weekends of December, Jefferson offers a candlelight tour of unique historic homes, with the exterior decked with holly boughs, native cedar and wonderful fresh greenery and pine garlands. The interiors are radiant with many candles, trees trimmed with handmade ornaments and hostesses attired in wonderful Victorian finery. One will stroll through an enchanted forest at the Lion's Park where Christmas trees and a gazebo, bedecked in tiny lights, delight the young at heart. Christmas music performed by area choirs, handbell ringers, organists and other musicians complete a melodious symphony of traditional music, both on the brick streets and in the First United Methodist Church.

This year's annual Christmas Candlelight Tour theme, Christmas Past-Christmas Present, promises to take one to a place of long ago of what this riverboat village had to offer during the steamboat era.

Four homes will open their doors to the public for an enchanted evening of the past. Two of the four homes are new on the tour for the very first time and were selected by the Historic Jefferson Foundation for historic architecture interior ambiance and the ability of the home owners to decorate in the traditional style of the 19th century to give our guest a glimpse of an "Old Fashioned Holiday."

Clarksville St. Inn

Clarksville Street Inn is located at 107 Clarksville Street and is owned by Don and Jolyn Darnell.

The house was built in 1860 by W.P. Torrens and was originally located on Lafayette Street. Later, it was purchased by W.W. Taylor and Mrs. A.M. Clopton.

The house was used as a medical office for Dr. A.G. Clopton. Clopton was President of the Chamber of Commerce in 1871 and is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Jefferson.

In 1882, it was purchased by S.A. Spellings and moved to its present location on Clarksville Street.

The house has original pine flooring in the entrance hall. The parlor, dining room, bedrooms and bath are original to the house, as is the hardware. The house in the late 1940s and early 1950s had bedrooms to rent to the general public.

In the late 1970s, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mason restored the home to its current condition. The Darnell's purchased the house in 1998.

The house today is full of beau-

tiful Victorian antiques with chandeliers that have been converted from natural gas to electricity.

Enjoy the natural greenery and glowing candles and docents in costume when viewing this home.

Freeman Plantation

The Freeman Plantation, named for its builder, Williamson Freeman, is a home with adjoining forest and pasture. Where now stands this Greek Revival house was once the center of a thriving cotton and sugar cane plantation before the Civil War.

Prior to 1850, Williamson Freeman and his wife, Drucilla Freeman, and their growing family of children and slaves, left their home in Talbert County, Georgia, to make a new life for themselves in Texas.

A few years before, Williamson had married Drucilla Boudrei, a Georgian lady of French ancestry. Since their marriage, Drucilla had given birth to three daughters, Virginia, Lucy Carolina, and Mary and one son, Hugh.

The first leg of their journey west took them to Williamson Freeman's brother's plantation on the Alabama coast near Mobile. From Mobile, they boarded a steamboat for New Orleans.

Upon arrival in New Orleans, they learned the fearful news that a cholera epidemic had its grip on the city, and New Orleans was under quarantine. While they waited on board the boat for the epidemic to subside and the quarantine to be lifted, several of the Freeman slaves succumbed to the disease and died. They were buried at sea at the mouth of the Mississippi River.

By this time, Captain Shreve had cleared the Red River of its log jam to a point upstream from Shreveport. Steamboats were able to enter East Texas from the Red River by way of Twelve Mile Bayou and Caddo Lake. The Freeman family used this route to arrive at the thriving port of Jefferson, Texas on Big Cypress Bayou.

Once in Jefferson, Freeman purchased waterfront lots and built warehouses to store the manufactured goods of the East Texas area which were shipped by steamboats to Jefferson. Early Texans exchanged their agricultural products for these manufactured goods sold from stores and warehouses in Jefferson.

Freeman also owned a small steamboat named the "Alligator", which he used on the Big Cypress Bayou and Caddo Lake for hauling freight locally.

His businesses prospered. In 1850, he acquired a tract of approx-

imately 1,000 acres of land west of Jefferson for the purpose of establishing a cotton and sugar cane plantation. He then built a home on this land for his family, which by this time, had grown to seven children.

The house was built with Greek Revival architectural features. It is of a Louisiana raised-cottage style with a brick first floor, and an exterior staircase leading to the wooden second floor. This style

was popular in the fertile bottom lands where seasonal flood waters could do little damage to the first floor. Mr. Freeman built it on an East Texas hillside giving this style a unique location. It was constructed of native pine and cypress lumber, and red clay bricks which had their origin on the plantation. Big Cypress Bayou was only about a mile south of his homestead, so cypress wood was plentiful. Four large columns of pie-wedge shaped

bricks were constructed at the entrance. Larger at the base, they tapered off at the top to support the large front porch. Stucco and white paint were applied to give them a smooth, striking finish.

Also on the plantation were built slave quarters, barns, stables, and an outside kitchen, smokehouse and, later, a wing for the adult chil-

See Jefferson's Christmas, page 8



CLARKSVILLE ST. INN



FREEMAN PLANTATION

First hotel opened its doors in late December 1846

by Jacques Bagur

Jefferson's first hotel was the Soda Lake Hotel, operated by William Perry and his wife Sardinia. An advertisement for the hotel appears in the Dec. 12, 1846, Clarksville Northern Standard. The advertisement is dated November and mentions that the hotel had just been completed and "is now ready to accommodate the travelling community. Every means will be used to afford comfort to the tired traveller, and his table and larder will be furnished with the best that the country will warrant."

The advertisement points out that stables were connected with the hotel that were "large, airy and commodious" and that horses were "taken care of by an experienced person". Accommodations for horses were every bit as important as accommodations for travelers during this early period. The "experienced person" in charge of the stables was apparently R. W. Nesmith who was for many years the center of land-based travel in Jefferson, including a stagecoach line.

A note mentions that "The Ladies department will be under the superintendence of Mrs. Perry, who will devote her whole attention to the comfort of her guests." The "ladies department" does not mean separate accommodations, but rather that Sardinia would devote special attention to female guests, which

was an added feature that many hotels of the time could not provide. Charges for the hotel are mentioned as "on a moderate scale, suited to the hard times."

The name of the hotel was derived from an old name for Caddo Lake, which hydrologically reached up to the confluence of Big and Black Cypress bayous, only six miles below Jefferson. The advertisement appeared in the Clarksville newspaper because it was a regional newspaper with a circulation in all of the Texas counties north of

Jefferson.

The advertisement indicates that the hotel was a large, sophisticated operation, and the fact that it was advertised in the Clarksville newspaper indicates that it appealed to a large traveling public. This impression is confirmed by Charles DeMorse, the editor of the Northern Standard, who stayed at the hotel in June 1847.

DeMorse had passed through Jefferson in July 1846 before the

See First Hotel, page 18

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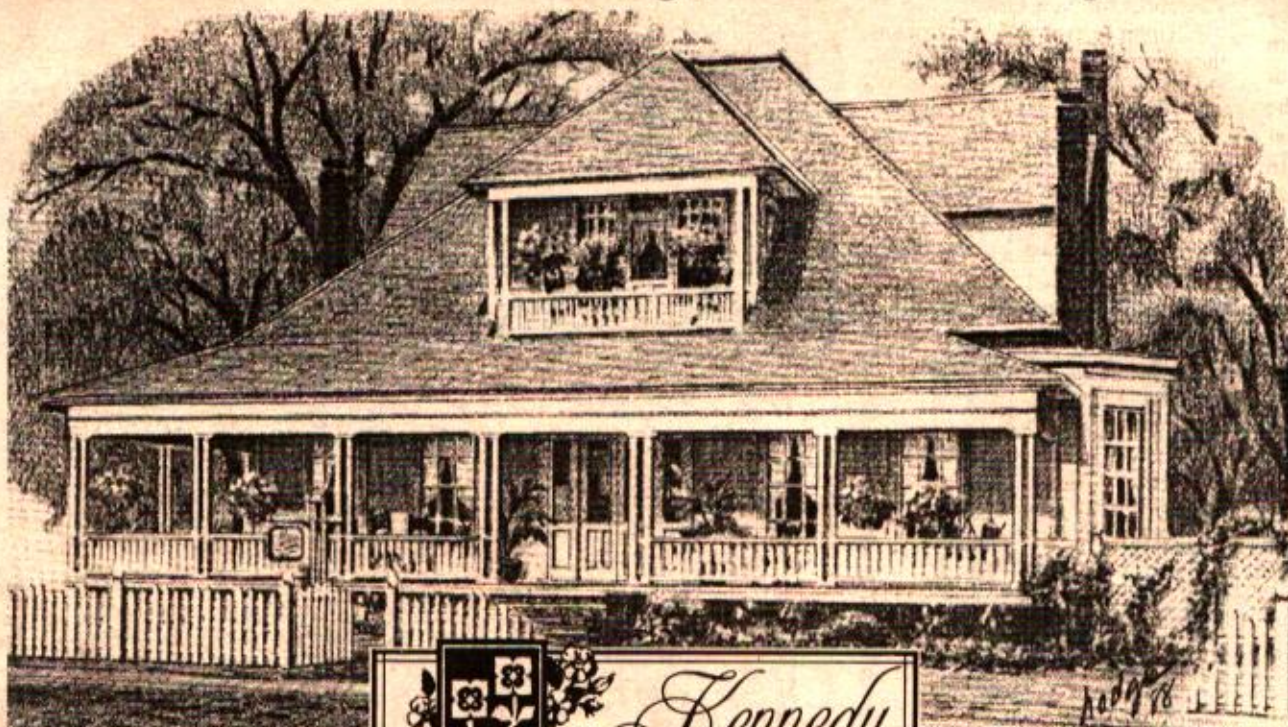
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Jefferson's Christmas

Continued from page 6

dren of the family and their children.

Freeman and his family were devout Baptists. On March 24, 1855, Williamson Freeman and Drucilla Freeman and their older daughters, Lucy and Virginia, joined seven others and formed the First Baptist Church of Jefferson. The small congregation first met in Freeman Hall, which Williamson had previously constructed in Jefferson for public meetings. Later, a church building on the site of the present First Baptist Church was built.

Life was not always pleasant at Freeman Plantation. A scarlet fever epidemic took the lives of three of the Freeman daughters. Apparently, there were other deaths on the plantation because the little cemetery behind the main house consisted of fourteen graves by 1867. However, the Freeman family so loved their home, that they affectionately referred to it and the adjoining land as 'paradise'.

The Civil War brought an end to this "paradise". The hardships of the war and the collapse of the plantation system took their toll. In December, 1865, Drucilla Freeman died. Williamson, overcome with grief, thereafter refused to eat, and died in January, 1866.

Reconstruction became the new political order, and the remaining Freeman family had to deal with it without the family matriarch or patriarch. Federal troops occupied Jefferson, and the Freeman children were required to provide lodging for Colonel Boggs, his wife and their small child during part of Jefferson's turbulent reconstruction period.

Williamson and Drucilla Freeman did not hold title to the Freeman Plantation house. They

built it for their children, Virginia Hobdy, Lucy Ligon, Mary Greer and Hugh Freeman, who were the owners of record. In 1872, the house and some of the land was conveyed to their friend, Dr. Robert E. Rowell of Jefferson, and the members of the Freeman family moved further west.

Dr. Rowell, a medical doctor, and his family had moved to the Jefferson area in the 1850s. They occupied Freeman Plantation during the 1870s before moving into the City of Jefferson.

However, by the 1930s the Freeman house became abandoned and its use had been reduced to the storage of hay. As with many old plantation homes across the South in the 1930s the Depression and movement of the population to urban since been abandoned, and none of the sounds of antebellum plantation life remain except the sounds of nature. But the presence of this old house and its serene setting draws one's imagination of its antebellum heyday.

Mead-Heaster House

Nostalgia is focal point of The Mead-Heaster House. The Mead-Heaster House, located at 309 E. Walker Street, is a newer home with all of the ambiance of yesteryears country atmosphere.

The American Country theme begins in the living area and extends throughout the house with American Oak, primitives, quilts, and a wonderful hand carved Santa collection.

The house is new (1960) yet its purpose reaches back to another era. Attention to detail and a sense of openness extend throughout the house.

The focal point during the Candlelight Tour of Homes will be the wonderful hand carved Santa



MEAD-HEASTER HOUSE



TWIN OAKS PLANTATION

Claus' throughout the home and the country decorations found in each room.

All natural greenery, glowing candles and docent in costumes will take you back to your childhood days where you can recall Grandmother and nostalgia.

The home on tour for the first time will be open each evening.

Twin Oaks Plantation

Twin Oaks Plantation offers period costume adorned greeters. Sitting on 6 1/2 acres, this southern colonial gives one a Greek Revival feeling. It was copied in part from the original plans of D'Evereux, the 1859 antebellum mansion in Natchez, Mississippi.

Twin Oaks Plantation situated two miles from Jefferson on high-

way 134 is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Randle.

The entrance hall is graced with an empire bronze and crystal chandelier originally from Mr. Randle's great grandparents' home in South Texas.

The living room features Queen Anne and Chippendale furnishings accented by tapestry prints, a French Impressionist painting and 18th century silhouettes as well as French Limoges and blue and white porcelains.

The dining room features 12-foot ceilings as does the rest of the downstairs. The heavy crown molding is complimented by French border paper treatment of the early Federal period and the early medallion is repeated in a mahogany plate rail and brass

scones. The furnishings include Queen Anne, Sheraton and Hepplewhite pieces.

A wonderful collection of flow blue plates (blue and white) as well as German, French, American, English, Dutch and oriental origins will be found. German Blue Onion Meissen, Flo-Blue Delft and Staffordshire are among the owners favorite.

Docents in Civil War costume and costume of the period will greet you into this lovely home each of the six nights that it is open to the public.

Candlelight tour of homes will be Dec. 3-5 and again Dec. 10-12. For information about all four of the homes, call, (903) 665-3692 or (903) 665-2672.

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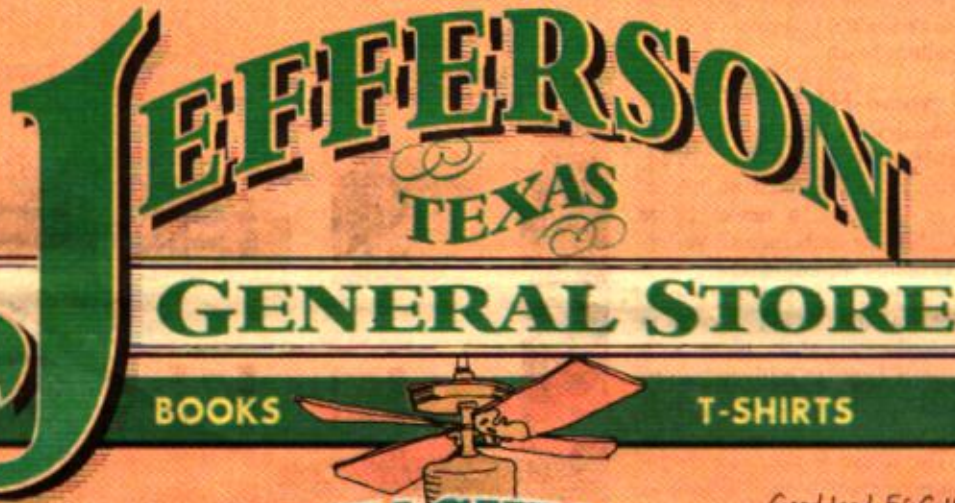
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Dance across the water on the Queen of the Cypress

by Tommie Wurtsbaugh Glick

The Queen of Cypress was a large two story white barge which resembled a Mississippi river boat except for the absence of a paddle wheel. It was pulled by a tugboat named the "IRBY GREY", after my mother during her lifetime. My personal memories - and they are fond ones - date from the age of four or five to about the age of 12. For almost two decades during the 1920s and 1930s the "QUEEN OF CYPRESS" was a center of activities and social life for Jefferson.

It was built and owned by my father M.H. Wurtsbaugh. His friend,

Isadore Segal, accepted the official position of "Commodore"; and his captain's cap and uniform with gold braid lent an official and festive aspect to the voyages of the "Queen". Mr. Prue Freeman, a mechanic and engineer, par excellence, for the Jefferson and Northwestern Railroad, operated the tugboat the "Irby Grey".

The Jefferson and Northwestern Railway, of which my father was president, was a line that ran from Jefferson to Marietta and Naples. Tracks or rails led to its berth and machine shop at the Clarke and Boice Lumber Co. with

which my father was associated. The line also extended to Cypress Bayou. Dr. Jesse M. DeWare recalls that the "Queen of Cypress" was originally a flat barge or "boom" barge pulled by the tugboat and used for hauling logs up the river to the Jefferson dock from whence they were carried by rail to the Clarke and Boice Lumber Co.

Sometime around 1920 my father renovated the tugboat and barge, adding a second story to the barge and adding outer decks with railings. He, like many Jeffersonians, felt a kinship with Cypress Bayou and Caddo Lake and appreciated the uniqueness of the town and the beauty of its ancient waterways. Inventive and hospitable, he enjoyed providing pleasure and recreation on "home territory" for family and the townsfolk. The "Queen" was a mecca of social life and was designed for such activities.

On the lower level across the rear or stem was a large observation platform which extended the gangplank when the Queen was in dock. The lower level consisted of a large open area or ballroom with seats around the periphery and a low platform or stage at one end which could accommodate an orchestra for Saturday night dances, performers, a speaker or entertainer. Dr. DeWare also recalls that Senator Shepherd, a political figure of that time, electioneering in Jefferson, used the ballroom of the "Queen" for his political rallies.

The upper story or level of the "Queen of Cypress" was surrounded by a platform or outer deck with railings and consisted of six or eight bedrooms to the fore. There was a bathroom on this level, which for those days was quite modest. A music box on the wall, which was quite fascinating to us children, played popular tunes. In memory

and as a child, I thought the rooms were pretty, as they were painted in different pastel shades of blue, green, yellow and pink. Several couples and children could be accommodated in the upper deck quarters. Overnight and weekend trips to Mooringsport were an adventure.

Across the stern or rear of the upper story was a large comfortable sitting room with wicker furniture and over-stuffed cushions and accented with Boston ferns. Multiple windows surrounded this room and, usually open to encourage a breeze, afforded an ample view of the primal beauty of nature close at hand and brought it indoors. Cypress limbs trailing silver moss sometimes brushed the sides as the Queen glided down the river. Perry Chastain recalls an incident during which a possum from an overhanging tree fell into the lap of one Mrs. Minor, who was knitting and chatting. The shock was so great that Mr. Minor, a pharmacist, had to fetch smelling salts. This room was a gathering and visiting place for the ladies during day-time trips, for resting and re-furbishing during intermission at the dances.

The children were more inclined to play games down below, run around the outer deck, look out for snakes, alligators or turtles sunning on logs, or simply to admire the acres of lime-yellow water lilies, and hyacinths that blanketed Caddo Lake.

On the banks of Cypress Bayou, jungle thick greenery interspersed with patches of white sand tried to crowd out pine trees, dogwoods and water oaks. Moving slowly toward Caddo Lake from Jefferson the scene was ever changing. The ancient cypress trees' extending arms adorned with silver gray moss gently brushed the sides of the Queen from time to time while gargoyle-like cypress stumps

or roots appeared mysteriously out of the water. As the Queen glided down the bayou the tunes of the orchestra seemed suited to that romantic setting.

Saturday night dances were the highlight of the week. I can still recall the excitement of the evening - the Queen aglow with sparkling strings of light, the faces, the laughter and greetings as couples, teenagers and children crossed the gangplank and not least - the music. Hamp Walker, a renowned and talented black musician, and his orchestra provided the music. G.S. McCasland, a bright and enterprising teen-ager whose nickname was "Buckshot", and whom my father held in high esteem, dispensed the Coca-Colas. "Dark Town Strutter's Ball" was a favorite song and well-suited to the foxtrot and the Charleston. The waltz was also popular and was danced to such songs as, "I Love You Truly" and "Girl of My Dreams". I have a visual image of my Aunt Tommie Stallcup and her husband Frank Rains waltzing to these tunes, and of the laughter and fun they shared with Ellie Mae Singleton and her husband Bennie Moseley.

Other songs from those days that come to mind are: When My Baby Smiles at Me (made popular by Ted Lewis' band), Bye-Bye Blackbird, My Blue Heaven, Tip-Toe Through the Tulips, Tea For Two, I Met a Million Dollar Baby, Love Letters in the Sand, When My Dream Boat Comes Home, Lookie, Lookie Lookie, Here Comes Cookie, Down Around the Sheltering Palms (popularized by Al Jolson), You Brought a New Kind of Love to Me (sung by Maurice Chevalier - in a movie), Smile for Me, My Diane, Here Comes the Sun, Why Do I Love You, Life Is Just a Bowl of Cherries, Pack Up Your Troubles in An Old Kit Bag (a carry-over from World War I), Lucky Lindy, The Eagle of the U.S.A., Goodnight Ladies and I'll See You in My Dreams. I remember teenagers and grown-ups dancing the foxtrot and waltzing, and admiring those who were accomplished enough to dance The Charleston. Goodnight Ladies and I'll See You in My Dreams were two favorites usually played last, bringing the evening to a close.

Frequently Miss Maybelle Hale, a legendary pianist and beloved music teacher of Jefferson, provided the music and transported her own piano with the help of the football team. Her lively tunes resounded down the river. The programs and performances which she produced and directed added to the entertainment aboard the Queen and to the cultural life of Jefferson for several decades. May, as her students affectionately called her, touched many lives and brought much pleasure to the town.

The Queen of Cypress continued to ply the waters of Cypress Bayou and Caddo Lake for a few years after the stock market crash of

See Dance, page 14



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




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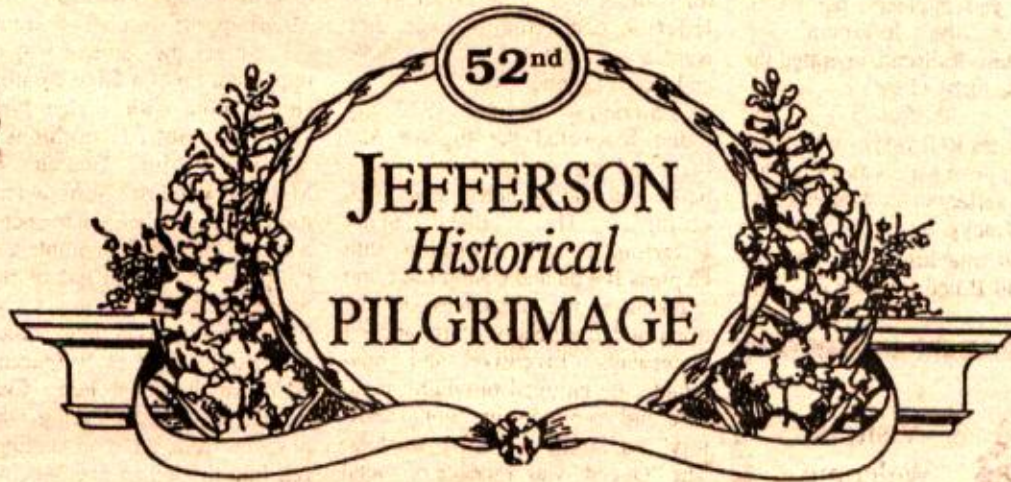
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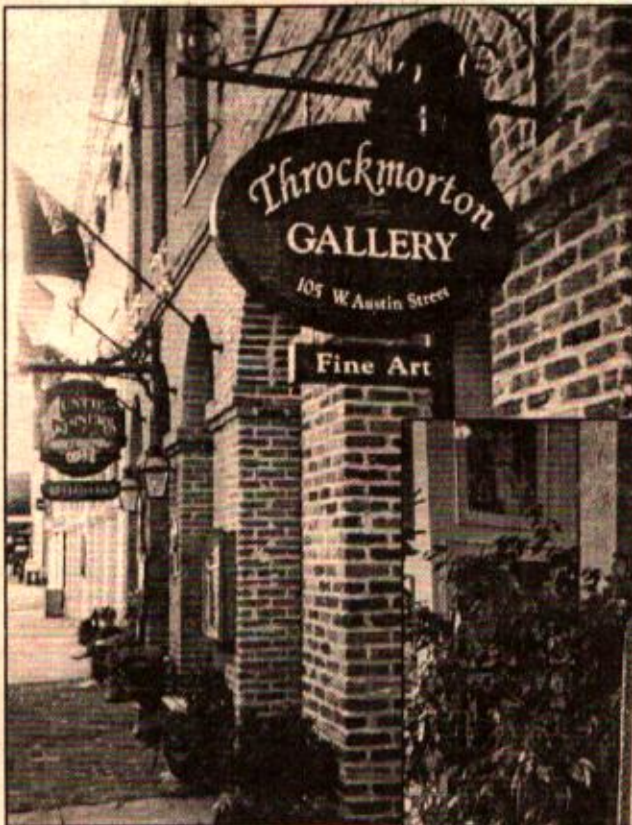
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Jefferson College Center of Panola Junior College experiences record enrollment

By Jeanne Scott

The Jefferson College Center of Panola College located at the Lafayette Center in the Historic Riverfront District of Jefferson recently enrolled 130 students with a duplicated headcount of 381 in 25 classes, yielding an average of 15.24 students per class.

Five of the twenty-five courses are the Licensed Vocational Nursing classes, which are held Monday through Friday at the Banker's Building on Walnut Street. The First National Bank of Jefferson furnishes the building for the Nursing Department. Computer classes are taught in the evening from 6:00-8:45 p.m. at the Lafayette Center. Other evening classes are taught at Jefferson High School.

Panola College has an excellent rapport with all the surrounding colleges and universities. One of the Panola College instructors from Carthage teaches economics in the evenings for ETBU, and Panola College employs the adjuncts to teach the academic courses at Texas State Technical College in Marshall. Panola College also has an excellent working relationship with Texas A&M University-Texarkana which also holds classes at the Lafayette Center.

Both the students and instructors at the Jefferson College Center are very special. For example, stu-

dents who take Texas History are taught by Bill O'Neal who teaches in downtown Jefferson on Monday nights. He dresses as a character from the era which he is teaching, and he takes his students on meaningful field trips to show them points

of historical significance. The classes are taught at the famous Haywood House, an 1860s building which is the home of the Texas Heritage Archives and Library which house one of the largest private collections of Texana in the world.

Mr. O'Neal has authored seventeen books: *Encyclopedia of Western Gunfighters*; *Henry Brown*; *Outlaw Marshal*; *The Texas League: A Century of Baseball*; *Cattlemen vs. Shepherders*; *Five Decades of Western Violence*; *The Pacific Coast League*; *Fighting Men of the Indian Wars*; *The Arizona Rangers*; *The American Association*; *The International League*; *The Southern League*; *Baseball in Dixie*; *Ghost Towns of the American West*; *Panola College, 1947-1997: Best of the West*; *Historic Ranches of the West*; *Tex Ritter, a Biography*; *The Bloody Legacy of Pink Higgins* (to be published by Eakin Press in 1999); and co-author of four books. He has written 400 articles and book

reviews, as well as dozens of papers, and delivered addresses throughout Texas and several Western states. Mr. O'Neal has given numerous interviews and appeared on more than 30 radio and TV stations, including the BBC. In addition, he has constructed scale model diaramas with historical accuracy; several are used in class; and five large ones were donated to appropriate museums. He has been guest lecturer on several college campuses.

Moreover, Bill O'Neal has received many honors: Recipient of PJC's first Excellent Teacher Award (1973); subject of Texas Senate Resolution #791 (1973); various academic honors and fellowships while a college student; published *Contemporary Authors* (1980); *Outstanding Educators of America* (1973); *Panola County Citizens of the Year* (1988); *Navarro College Ex-Student of the Year Award* (1987); *Otis Loek Award for Excellence in Teaching* (1987); and *Honorary Arizona Ranger* (1992).

If a student needs a fine arts course, I direct them to art appreciation, taught by the world-class artist Christian Seidler of Marshall, Texas. Mr. Seidler is an accomplished artist of twenty years and has painted some of the leading social and political figures in Texas such as Caroline Rose Hunt, B. B.

Barr, Judge Ted Akin, Senator Bill Cerveraha's daughter, and other outstanding Texans.

The artist has developed a new process in art called Matricism, which he explains in his recently completed book *The Art of Matricism*. This new painting technique, matricism, is a tool to teach any type of student, landscape painter or portraitist, the science of making color decisions using oil pigments. It is the first new painting technique developed in three decades. Dr. Richard Bretteil, former Director of the Dallas Museum of Art, touted matricism as "the first innovative technique since the sixties."

The matricism technique is not only for accomplished artists; it is also a powerful tool for art teachers and novice painters. According to Dr. Paul Forrester, former head of the Art Department at Brigham Young University, Christian Seidler's matricism technique is "the finest technique I have ever seen for teaching the science of color."

In addition to having numerous newspaper articles written about him, Mr. Seidler has been published in *Portraits International Magazine* (one of his paintings on the cover) and in the *Joplin Magazine* (on the cover). He has won many art awards, including the Sierra Contest and first place at the Portrait Institute of New York. Mr. Seidler has donated his art work to such charities as the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the Kidney Classic in Dallas and the Dallas Ballet.

These are only two of the various courses and outstanding instructors at the Jefferson College Center. Others include: Financial Accounting, Business, Introduction to Computers, Microsoft Windows, Principles of Macroeconomics, Composition and Rhetoric I, Technical and Business Writing, British Literature: Before 1800, U.

S. History I, TASP Math Remediation, General Psychology, TASP Reading Remediation, Introduction to Sociology and Introduction to Speech Communication. All of these instructors make significant contributions in the classroom.

In addition to the academic courses taught this fall, the Jefferson College Center also offers Continuing Education and Community Service classes such as art workshops; beginning and advanced "Computers for Grandparents"; spreadsheet courses; database classes; certified nurse assistant classes; CPR training; beginning and intermediate EMT courses; medical terminology, a course in how to market your own business; introduction to needlepoint; introduction to cross stitching; financial planning; and other excellent courses of instruction.

Last year Vice President, Charles Hughes, Jeanette Hammons and Janelle Reed of the Excelsior Hotel, and Jeanne Scott planned three courses in the application for the Elder Hostel Program to be held in Jefferson with Panola College as its sponsor. The three classes included Southern recipes, a lesson in pottery making, including a field trip to area potteries; and classes about the Caddo Indians and their nearby village, taught by Bill O'Neal.

Jefferson College Center, like Jefferson, has much to offer students and visitors of all ages. Panola College welcomes all guests at its offices at the Lafayette Center at 114 Lafayette Street. For further information call (903) 665-7837.



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Artist captures love for Jefferson by opening Throckmorton Gallery

"All my life I have been going through Jefferson on my way to our family's farm near Avinger. Jefferson was a quiet town when I was a child. I would occasionally see some older people playing dominoes along the sidewalk of Polk Street as we passed through town. Some businesses were boarded up. I always loved Jefferson," reflected Marilyn Jones.

A native of Avinger, Jones studied art in college and spent 34 years in commercial art as a fashion illustrator for The Fashion in Shreveport. She was and is responsible for style shows for the Shreveport Opera Guild and Loyola University, among other organizations. She coordinates the models, dresses them and narrates the show. Jones also married, and as a working mom, reared and educated four sons while she pursued her own individual art interests which included watercolor paintings and making and decorating pottery.

"As I watched Jefferson improve and grow as a tourist destination, I asked myself 'What can I do there?' stated Jones. The idea about what to do in Jefferson became reality for Jones in 1998 when Jones and her business partner, prominent Shreveport attorney Gordon Rountree, opened the Throckmorton Gallery at 105 West Austin Street in Jefferson.

The Gallery was named for Jones' great-great-grandfather, James W. Throckmorton, a famous governor of Texas during the mid-19th century. The Throckmorton Gallery was designed to showcase regional artists who were discovered by Jones and Rountree.

Today the Throckmorton Gallery has grown and features

many regional artists who have been discovered or who have discovered the Gallery. Bright watercolors, acrylic and oil paintings, fine art glass and signed prints decorate the sixteen feet tall walls, supporting pillars and the easels on the floor of the Gallery. A novel addition is antler art. All of the art is original and the only prints sold are of paintings by artists who exhibit at the Gallery.

The subject of much of the art is inspired in the Cypress Valley region with beautiful watercolors of historic homes, paintings of Caddo Lake, and portraits of some of the region's characters, real and imagined. It also features fine art by Christian Seidler in his original style of matricism. With natural light streaming through the stately windows overlooking Austin Street, the building and its location provide an important setting for art.

Located in an historic 19th Century Italianate building next to Auntie Skinner's Bar and Restaurant, the Throckmorton Gallery is very laid back. "Jefferson is different, so we do things differently here," said Jones. "Our customers are welcome to view the art and visit. We have places to sit and

we encourage good conversation. This Gallery definitely is not a sterile, intimidating setting. Everyone who comes to the gallery is so relaxed, and I have met some of the most interesting people," she added. Most of the visitors who have signed the register come from the Dallas - Ft. Worth and Houston areas, and they also come from distant U.S. cities and foreign countries. "Some of our customers write thank you notes to me and some invite me to dinner," said Jones. Friday and Saturday nights are popular at the Gallery both before and after dinner.

"Now, when I cross the bridge over Big Cypress Bayou coming into Jefferson, I can just feel my body relax. Everything I do in business has a deadline, and Jefferson is a great place to relieve tension. Now both my customers and I have an opportunity to collect art and enjoy the ambiance of Jefferson and the surrounding countryside," Marilyn stated. "I hope that my Gallery helps Jefferson become a center for artists and those who appreciate fine art."

For further information, please call (903) 665-9410 or (318) 929-3184.

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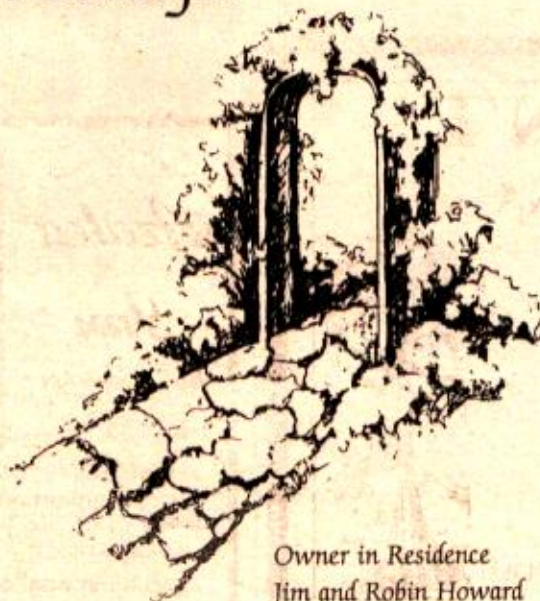
Website: www.excelsior@jeffersontx.com

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*Enjoy the seclusion and privacy of
individual garden cottages and still
be in the heart of the historic section
of Jefferson, Texas.*



Owner in Residence
Jim and Robin Howard

Dance

Continued from page 10

1929 and the ensuing great depression, adding fun times and relief to that troubled period. Two songs come to mind which reflect poignantly the hardship of that era: Brother, Can You Spare a Dime? and Let's Have Another Cup of Coffee and Let's Have Another Piece of Pie.

Her demise signaled the ending of an era and time when people created and participated in their own recreation and entertainment. Boating, fishing, swimming upriver in the Old Corral, horseback riding, tennis and dances were the main activities. The radio had barely arrived, television had not been invented and a plane ride at the Shreveport Airport (open cockpit) — which cost a dollar — was a daring, rare and novel experience.

I do not remember — perhaps mercifully so — the events leading to the demise of the "Queen of Cypress". Those events are cloudy in memory. Dr. Jesse M. DeWare III recalls that a stump or log damaged the boat and that she was brought into dry dock. Efforts to repair her were unsuccessful; and she eventually disintegrated.

The Queen of Cypress left in her wake many happy memories, and, I think, brought us all closer to the beauty, enchantment and mystery of Cypress Bayou and Caddo Lake. Certain memories and scenes

linger and are imprinted in the heart and mind.

The "Cathedral Nave" of Government Ditch, the arched ceiling of which was formed by ancient cypress trees linking moss covered branches, the wide expanse of Alligator Bayou and acres of green "lily pads" and lime-yellow lotuses. My sister, Sarah W. Taylor, once said that the difference between Caddo Lake and Lake O'the Pines is that one is "God-Made" and the other "man-made".

Imprinted also is another memory of an overnight voyage on the Queen. As a child, perhaps seven- or eight-years old, I recall one early morning standing by the upper deck railing and witnessing a particular sunrise on Caddo Lake — the stillness of ancient moss-festooned cypresses, green lily pads with touches of purple from curled up and still sleeping water hyacinths, the heavy sweetness of the air, the Queen moving slowly and silently — and suddenly — the rays of the sun bursting over the tops of trees and scattering thousands of sparkling diamonds on the ripples of the waves.

And last, I remember, too, that my father's favorite song was, "When My Dreamboat Comes Home"

Myers Antique Company features antiques in an historic building

Since 1984, Jim and Vicki Myers operated a hardware store at the corner of Lafayette and Walnut Streets in the Historic District of Jefferson. This hardware store was located in a 19th century building of Tom D. Rowell known as the "T.D. Rowell Block". For more than 70 years the first level of this imposing brick building has been used for several hardware businesses. Prior to the acquisition of the building by the Myers, it was used for a family-oriented hardware retail business by Tommy and Pinkie Turner. Pinkie Turner's father, Perry M. Woods, had also operated it as a hardware store. The building's second level had served as legal offices for Tom D. Rowell, Jr. and his father, T.D. Rowell, Sr., who were both prominent Jefferson attorneys. Later, these offices were used as telephone company offices and then as apartments.

While the Myers operated a hardware store, they had many visitors who stopped in their shop looking for antiques. They realized that the historic district of Jefferson was better suited for goods sought by visitors to the town. When the Myers closed the hardware business, they changed the first level of their building to an antique mall.



Myers Antique Company is housed in a former hardware store. The building was constructed in the 1800s.

The hardware store had a dropped ceiling. They removed it and saw the original pressed tin ceiling. They repaired and painted this handsome ceiling and erected a staircase to reach a mezzanine level which they constructed around the perimeter of the walls. Wood for the handrails was obtained from the building. The windows above the roof over the sidewalk were restored to provide more sunlight to the interior space.

Now the Myers Antique Company is filling up its large space with goods and customers. It features spaces which offer such items as fine antique prints and frames, collectible decoys from Ducks Unlimited, signed prints from Larry Redlin, antique fabric pillows, 19th

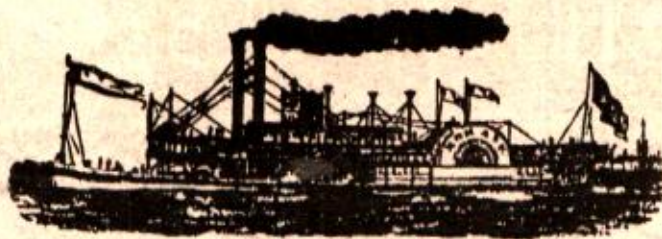
century American antiques, barn wood furniture, original civil war documents and civil war prints, oil paintings and fine reproduction hardware and children's toys.

"The customers come mostly from the Dallas - Ft. Worth area and they are so relaxed and friendly," said Vicki Myers. "We like what has happened to our building. And we like the customers we meet."

For further information call 903-665-2762.



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A bit of old humor

From the July 6, 1872, Clarksville Standard! A gentleman traveling in Texas met on the road a wagon drawn by four oxen, driven by a country man, who, in addition to the skillful flourish and crack of his whip, was vociferously encouraging his homed horses, after this fashion: "Haw, Presbyterian!", "Gee, Baptist!", "Whoa, Episcopalian!", "Get up, Methodist!"

The traveler stopped the driver, remarking to him that he had strange names for his oxen, and that he would like to know why he thus called them.

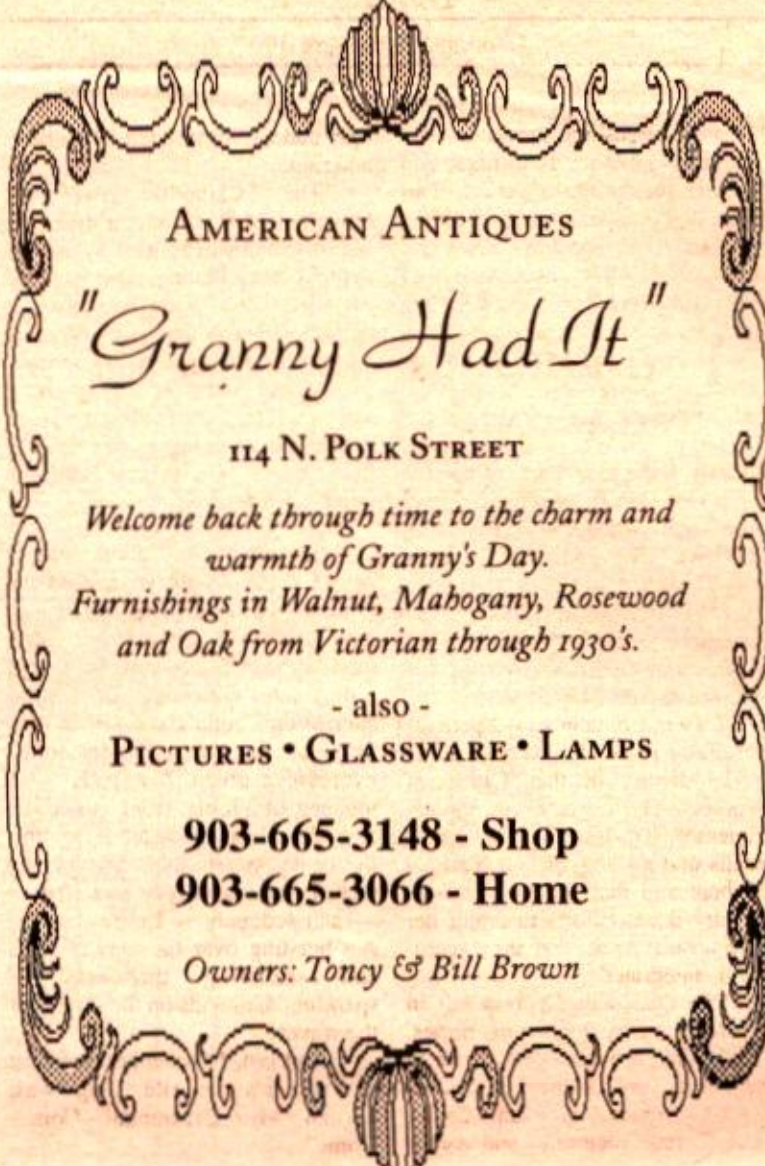
Said the driver: I call this one Presbyterian, because he is true blue, and never fails, pulls through difficulties and holds on to the end; besides he knows more than the rest. I call this one Baptist, because he is always after water, and seems as though he'd never drink enough; then again he won't eat with the others.

I call this ox Episcopalian, because he has a mighty way of holding his head up, and if the yoke gets a little too tight, he tries to kick and draw clear out of the traces. I call this ox Methodist, because he puffs and blows, and bellows, as he goes along, and you'd think he was pulling all creation; but he doesn't pull a pound, unless you continually stir him.

Questions You May Want to Ask when Inquiring About Staying in a Bed and Breakfast ...

1. Price ... The Jefferson area has over 60 bed and breakfasts. There are varied price ranges. Be sure to add the State of Texas hotel-motel occupancy tax as well as the City of Jefferson tax.
2. Payment ... Cash, credit cards, personal checks.
3. Cancellation Policy and Refunds ... Check to see when the last date you can cancel and not lose your money.
4. Location of bed and breakfast ... Do you want to be located in town, walking distance from downtown, historic area, or out of town?
5. Innkeepers ... Do innkeepers live on the property?
6. Where are the rooms located? Are the rooms in the house, or in a separate structure. Parking ... will your car be close to the room?
7. What type of room is it? Are there antiques, private or shared baths, showers, tubs, steps to climb, private entrances, television, individual heating and air controls, sitting areas? If size of bed matters, be sure to ask what is in each room.
8. How many people can occupy the room?
9. Does the bed and breakfast accept children or pets?
10. Check in and check out time ... This is very important to the innkeeper when cleaning rooms and preparing for the next guests. If you are going to be late arriving, please be considerate and let your innkeepers know in advance.
11. Breakfast ... Does the innkeeper prepare breakfast? What type of breakfast is served - full or continental? If you have allergies to certain foods be sure to tell the innkeeper upon arrival or when making your reservation. What time is breakfast served? Where is breakfast served? If breakfast is not served on the property, what does the bed and breakfast offer its guests.
12. Smoking Policy ... If you smoke, check to see if there are designated areas on the property.
13. Guests ... Most bed and breakfasts, are for paid guests only. If you are meeting friends or inviting people to the place you are staying - please check with the innkeeper first. You are the innkeepers' only invited guests.
14. Private areas ... Innkeepers probably will have areas in their homes that are off limits. Make sure you know areas that are designated for guests and respect the innkeepers' privacy.
15. Experiencing a bed and breakfast can be very enjoyable and relaxing. When making your reservations, if you know what to ask before you arrive, your stay will be much more enjoyable and you will have selected a bed and breakfast that fits your needs.

Be sure to ask your innkeepers about restaurants, places to visit, tour, and shop!



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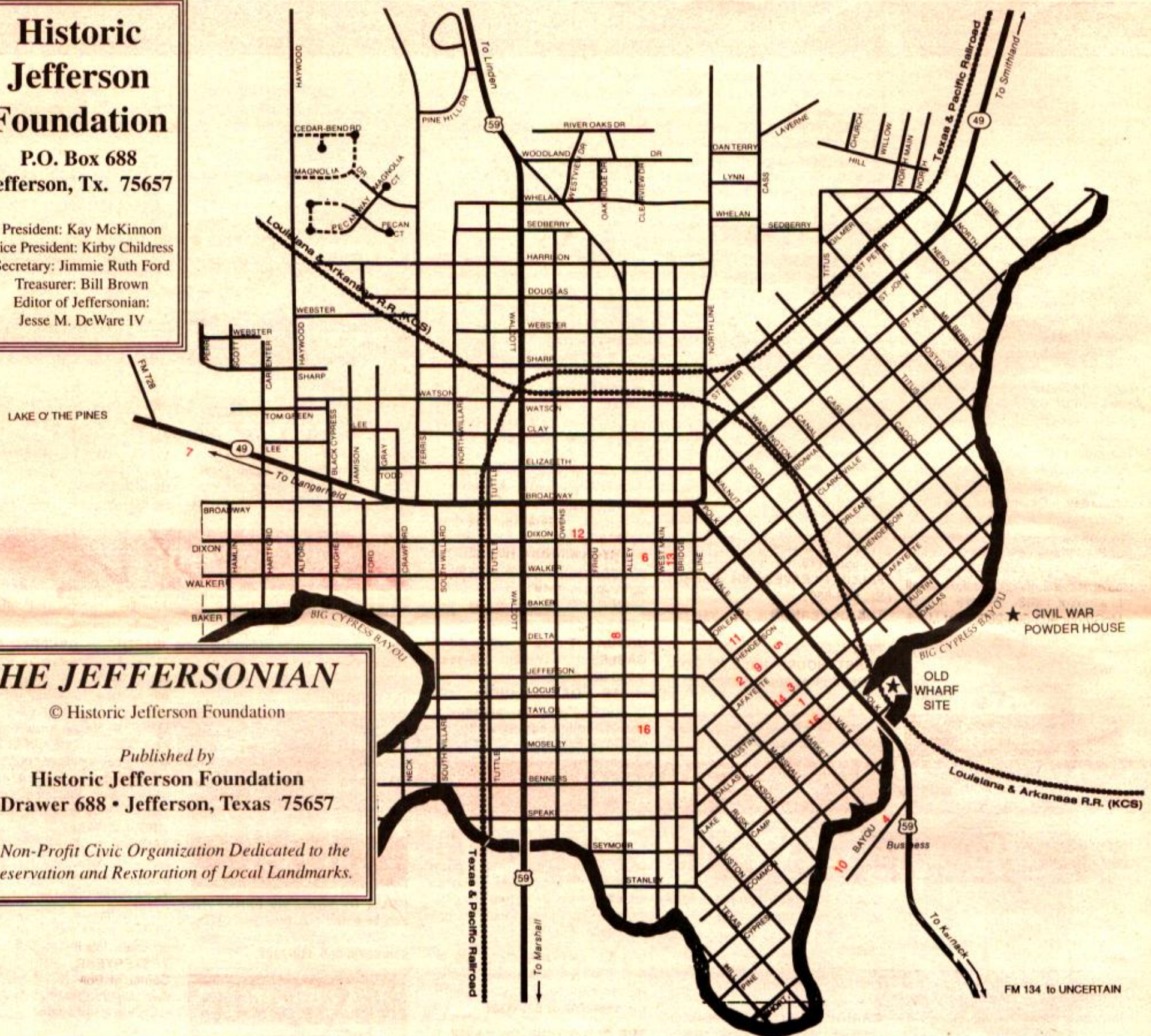
THE JEFFERSONIAN

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A Non-Profit Civic Organization Dedicated to the
Preservation and Restoration of Local Landmarks.



Tours & Attractions

- 1. THE ATALANTA:** Jay Gould's private railroad car. Tours from the Excelsior House, 9:00 - 12:00 - 2:30 - 4:30. \$1 Adults, Children 50¢.
- 2. CARNEGIE LIBRARY:** Built in 1907. Open Tuesday - Friday 1-5 p.m. and Sat. 9-12 p.m. Closed Monday.
- 2. ANTIQUE DOLLS:** Located in Carnegie Library, 301 W. Lafayette. 50¢. 665-8911.
- 3. EXCELSIOR HOUSE HOTEL:** Austin Street. Tours every day, 1 and 2 p.m. \$2 Adults, \$1 Children. Available for weddings, parties, receptions. 903-665-2513.
- 4. TURNING BASIN RIVERBOAT TOURS:** Across bridge to right. Relax on a 1 hour historic and nature tour of Big Cypress Bayou, beginning at the turning basin of Texas' largest inland port. 665-2222.
- 5. THE BEARD HOUSE:** Corner of Henderson and Vale. Open daily except Wednesday and Sunday

Historical Home Tours

- 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and by appt. For information call 665-2606.
- 6. CAPTAIN'S CASTLE:** Corner of Alley and Walker, in the Historic District. Open for tours by appt. only. Website: <http://jeffersontx.com/captainscastle>. 665-2330.
- 7. FREEMAN PLANTATION:** Hwy. 49 West. Tours daily, except Wednesday and Sunday, at 3:00 and 3:30. Group tours by appointment. 665-2320.
- 8. HOUSE OF THE SEASONS:** Tours daily. 903-665-1218.
- 9. KENNEDY MANOR:** 217 W. Lafayette. Available for weddings, receptions, and parties. 665-2528.
- 10. MAISON-BAYOU:** Bayou Street. Authentic reproduction of an 1850's Plantation Overseer's House. Lodging in either the plantation house, cabins, or rustic campsites available. Call for reservations and more information, 665-7600.
- 11. RUTH LESTER MEMORIAL & JEFFERSON PLAYHOUSE:** Corner of Market and Henderson Sts. Open for tours Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday at 2:30. Group tours by appointment. 665-2513.

- 12. SAGAMORE:** Corner of Dixon and Owens Streets. Group tours Friday- Saturday, 2:30 p.m. 665-2051.

Museums

- 13. ALLEY CARLSON HOUSE MUSEUM:** Located at the corner of Main and Walker. Open by appointment. Adults, \$3; children, \$1. 665-3533.
- 14. JEFFERSON MUSEUM:** Austin Street. 9:30 - 5:00 daily.

- Antique & Gift Shops
- Restaurants & Clubs

DIRECTORY OF ADVERTISERS

- Bed & Breakfast Inns
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Museums

Adults, \$2; Children through 11, 50¢.

15. TEXAS HERITAGE ARCHIVES & LIBRARY: Hundreds of rare maps, books, and the largest privately held collection of Texas bank notes. Museum store. Multi-media presentation.

16. SCARLETT O'HARDY'S GONE WITH THE WIND MUSEUM: 408 Taylor St. Open Wed.-Sat. 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Sunday 1-4 p.m. Adult \$3 and children 12 & under \$1. 665-1939.

Theatres

JEFFERSON JUNIOR HISTORIANS #61 DALLAS STREET: Performances by The Jefferson Junior Historians during the annual Christmas Candlelight tour will be as follows: Friday, December 4th and December 11th, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 5th and December 12th, 3:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. For ticket information call Carol or Stacey at the First National Bank of Jefferson 903-665-2535 weekdays or evenings and weekends call Leslie Wood 903-665-8219 or Pam McGregór 903-665-2872. For Mardi Gras information for 1999 please call the above listed numbers. You can visit our web site at www.jeffersontx.com/jrhistorians.

Lodging

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THE JEFFERSON HOTEL: 124 W. Austin. Offers fine Old World accommodations with private baths and antiques. Website: jeffersontx.com/jeffersonhotel. 665-2631 or 800-226-9026.

PINE NEEDLE LODGE: FM 805 East, Caddo Lake. Lakefront lodging. 903-665-2911.

TEJAS VILLAGE: Located on Lake O' the Pines, one and a half miles west of the dam off FM 726 777-2460.

Bed & Breakfast Inns

AUSTIN COTTAGE AND GUEST SUITES: 406 Austin St. 903-665-8553, 1-800-299-1593.

AZALEA INN: 203 E. Dixon. Websites: jeffersontx.com/Azalea or www.jeffersontx.com. 665-2051.

BAKER STREET INN: 409 E. Baker St. 665-3662.

BRECKENRIDGE GARDEN COTTAGES: 502 Houston St. 665-7738.

BUSY B RANCH & LODGE: Rt. 2 Box 87. 665-7448 or 665-3018.

CAPTAIN'S CASTLE: Alley & Walker Sts. Website: <http://jeffersontx.com/captainscastle>. 665-2330.

CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS: 107 Saint John St. 665-1246, 665-3760.

CLARKSVILLE ST. INN: 107 E. Clarksville. 665-6659, 1-877-665-6659 - Res.

COTTONWOOD INN: 209 N. Market St. 665-2080.

DANIEL HOUSE: 502 E. Taylor. 665-7840.

THE ELEVATOR TOWN HOUSE: 114 N. Vale St. 665-2051 or 1-800-299-1593.

THE FADED ROSE: 1101 S. Line St. 665-2716.

FALLING LEAVES: 304 Jefferson St. 665-8803.

THE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE: 321 N. Walnut. 665-7933, 1-800-891-7933.

GUEST HOUSE PRIVATE COTTAGE: 509 W. Austin. 665-2080.

HALE HOUSE: 702 S. Line. Website: www.jeffersontx.com. 665-8877, for reservations.

HONEY-DO INN/GINGERBREAD HOUSE: 601 E. Jefferson St. 665-8994.

HOUSE OF THE SEASONS: 409 S. Alley. 665-1218.

THE ICE HOUSE: 309 North Soda. 665-6659 or 877-665-6659.

KENNEDY MANOR: 217 W. Lafayette. 665-2528.

MAISON BAYOU: Cross the bridge, turn right and go to the end of Bayou Street. On the river. 665-7600. www.maisonbayou.com

THE OLD JEFFERSON INN: 313 Walnut St. (903) 679-4148.

OLD MULBERRY INN: 209 Jefferson St. 665-1945.

PACE HOUSE: 402 N. Polk St. 665-1433, 1-800-850-1433.

1ST BED AND BREAKFAST IN TEXAS - PRIDE HOUSE: 409 Broadway. jefftx@mind.net. 1-800-894-3526, www.jeffersontexas.com

STEAMBOAT INN: 114 N. Marshall. Web page: <http://jeffersontx.com/steamboat>. 665-8946.

STILLWATER INN: 203 E. Broadway. 665-8415, Fax 665-8416.

TERRY-McKINNON HOUSE: 109 W. Henderson. Website: www.jeffersontx.com. 665-1933.

TWIN OAKS COUNTRY INN: Hwy. 134. 665-3535.

URQUHART HOUSE OF ELEVEN GABLES: 301 Walker. 665-8442, 1-888-922-8442.

WHITE OAK MANOR: 502 Benners. Visit our website @ www.bbonline.com/tx/whiteoak. 665-1271, 665-1048.

Antiques

CHOICES: 215 N. Polk St. Antiques and glasswares, collectibles, quality monograms. 665-8504.

GOLD LEAF ANTIQUE MALL: 207 N. Polk. Antiques, collectables, crafts, and antique jewelry. 665-2882.

GOOD PICKIN'S: 220 N. Polk St. Antiques, brass restoration, hardware, wicker supplies.

GRANNY HAD IT: American antiques, Victorian era thru 1920's. Furniture, glass, pictures, lamps. 665-3148.

JEFFERSON GENERAL STORE: 113 E. Austin. American antiques, jukeboxes, primitives. 903-665-8481.

LEO'S ANTIQUES: 119 Polk St. Fine crystal, unusual lamps, primitives and coins. Open Fri.-Sun.

LIZ-BETH'S: 216 Austin St. Select group of fine pieces. Brilliant period cutglass, American and European art glass, antique furniture and primitives; Aromatic potpourri. Open 10-5 daily.

MYERS ANTIQUE CO.: 129 N. Walnut St. Buy, sell & trade, vendor spaces available. 120 yr. old building. 665-2762 or 665-3201.

THE OLD STORE: 123 Walnut St. China, crystal, furniture, clocks, and much more. Open everyday 9-5. 903-665-3562.

THREE RIVERS ANTIQUES: 116 Walnut St. Old bottles, glassware, lamps, crockery, ironware, furniture and primitives.

Real Estate Agents

EAST TEXAS REALTY: 126 W. Lafayette. Historic homes - Commercial - Ranches - Lake "O" Pines. Visit our website @ eastexasrealty@jeffersontx.com. 665-1048.

JEFFERSON REALTY: P.O. Box 668. Historic properties in the

Jefferson area, houses and lots at Lake of the Pines and Caddo Lake, and rural acreage. 665-2567, 665-2320. jmdeware@worldnet.att.net

MOORE LAND & REALTY: 105 N. Walcott. All kinds of real estate. 665-3681.

Restaurants - Clubs

BLACK SWAN: 210 W. Austin St, Jefferson, Texas (Located across from the Excelsior Hotel) In operation since 1982. Enjoy dining on Jefferson's only balcony seating. Cajun creole cuisine hand-prepared daily by our own in-house chef. Best prime rib in East Texas! Open for dinner Thurs.-Mon. 5 p.m.-til, Sunday lunch specials with a home-style flare - every Sunday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Private banquet room available. 665-SWAN (7926); FAX 665-7350.

CLUB CAFE: 109 N. Polk. Oldest operating cafe in Jefferson, specializing in Southern homestyle cooking. Breakfast 6-10:30; Lunch 11-2:30.

DAIRY QUEEN: Hwy. 59 S. 665-3682.

JEFFERSON GENERAL STORE: 113 E. Austin St. Indoor and patio seating, gourmet coffees and teas, sandwiches, desserts, frozen yogurt and gifts. (903) 665-8481.

JEFFERSON'S OLD-FASHIONED

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STILLWATER INN: 203 E. Broadway. Fine food prepared in chef-owned restaurant and private club. A complete dining experience in a charming old home. Sunday brunch last Sunday of each month. Dinner nightly except Sunday, 6 p.m. til ? Banquet facilities available. Reservations. 665-8415, Fax 665-8416.

TEJAS VILLAGE: Located on Lake O' the Pines, one and a half miles west of the dam off FM 726. 777-2460.

WATERFRONT RESTAURANT: Located at Highway 43 bridge on Big Cypress Bayou, Karnack. "Lake catfish at its best". 903-679-3957.

Gifts

AMAZING GRACE: 121 N. Polk. Arts & Crafts Mall, 903-665-7754; 123 N. Polk. Clothing Outlet, Name Brand Denim Clothing. 903-665-7756.

CITY DRUG: 109 W. Lafayette. Gifts, sundries, Jefferson memorabilia. One of few remaining soda fountains, featuring the "best limeade in Texas."

GASLIGHT: 116 Polk St. Christian books, gifts, prints, jewelry, Ty beans, Yankee candles, collector bears

& dolls, Boyds and other collectibles. 665-3895.

JEFFERSON GENERAL STORE: 113 E. Austin. Soda fountain, nostalgia, Texas gifts, old country store atmosphere. 903-665-8481.

JEFFERSON IMAGES: 108 E. Lafayette. Custom framing, prints, frames, original art, mini books, film, cookbooks, children's books, decorative items, knives, pottery, lamps, stained glass, Blackburn's products, Williams food products. 665-1128, 1-800-657-5073.

PACE HOUSE GIFTS: 112 W. Lafayette. 665-1433 or 1-800-850-1433.

TEXAS TREASURES: 214 N. Polk St. Jefferson souvenirs, wind chimes, home decor, wood, metal sculpture, lots more. 665-3757.

YESTERYEAR NICK NACKS: Corner of Polk and Austin. Gifts, collectibles, lace, many other specialty items. 665-8692.

RV Parks

COUNTRY PINES RV PARK: Full hookups and pull throughs. Hwy. 59, 9 miles south of Jefferson. 903-938-4278, 800-848-7087.

Galleries

THROCKMORTON GALLERY: 105 W. Austin St. Features timeless art by the area's finest artists and a couple of clever artisans from far away places.

Golf

RUSTY RAIL GOLF CLUB: 5 miles north of Jefferson, 1/2 mile off Hwy. 59, turn right on Prospect Road. 665-7245.

Abstract Co.

PORT JEFFERSON ABSTRACT & TITLE CO.: 111 Vale Street. 903-665-2583.

Lodging Reservations

AAA RESERVATIONS: 1-800-299-1593, 665-3692.

JEFFERSON CONCIERGE: 512 North Polk St. Accommodations, conferences, tours and special events. (903) 665-9776.

DIRECTORY LISTINGS

Continued on page 18

DIRECTORY LISTINGS

Continued from page 17

Steamboat Tours

STEAMBOAT ON CADDO: Caddo Lake tour on an authentic paddle-wheel steamboat. Departs from Uncertain, 18 miles from Jefferson. 903-665-1665 or 903-789-3978.

Guide Services

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hotel was built and was not impressed. In June 1847, he was "agreeably surprised by the improved appearance of the place, since last summer, and the increased air of comfort which it has, from having a better supply of house room." DeMorse was particularly impressed by the formal gardens of the Soda Lake Hotel, which were occupied by exotic plants (apparently brought in by Sardinia from New Orleans).

"The Hotel of Mr. Perry is a large and commodious establishment, certainly well kept, and withal, having about it pleasant evidences of taste: rare shrubs and flowers, which greeted the eye and refreshed the senses. These things are rather rare in all the country East and North of Nacogdoches, and as the cultivation of them, is a recreation in which we take continual delight, it gave us pleasure to see them in so new a town as Jefferson, as it does to speak of them. Not that the grounds and walks were laid off in a manner to challenge criticism, but simply that they were decidedly neat of arrangement, the plants many of them rare, and that they imparted delight from the general absence of such things in a region entirely new, and in which the trunks of the first pines felled, still lie in close contiguity to the town."

DeMorse was visiting Jefferson to attend the Cass County court. Cass County was created in April 1846. According to the Act that created the county, the court was directed to meet at William Perry's hotel until a suitable structure could be erected. The court proceedings, which are described extensively by DeMorse, apparently took place at the hotel (although he does not say so explicitly).

What is surprising about the sophistication of this establishment is that houses did not begin to be built at the townsite of Jefferson until late 1844 and that by May 1845 there were only three log cabins in Jefferson, two of which were unfin-

ished and all of which were unoccupied. A large hotel in November 1846 indicates that the town was expanding rapidly.

It is particularly fitting that the hotel was built by the Perrys. William was responsible for clearing out Cypress Bayou in late 1844, which enabled the town to come into existence. He was a real estate speculator, preferred contractor for navigation improvements, steamboat captain, builder in the late 1850s of the first wing of what was later to become the Excelsior House and mayor of Jefferson during the Civil War. Sardinia gave birth to the first child born in Jefferson.

He visited Jefferson again in April 1848 and reports that the hotel had passed into the hands of Nesmith and Brownell and that it was "one of the most spacious in the Eastern part of the State." It passed into the hands of S.H. Ellis and J. Elliott in March 1850, was operated by S.H. Ellis alone after September 1851 under the name Jefferson Hotel and under the management of Henry Gooding, and passed into Gooding's hands in December 1851, with the stables continuing to be operated by Nesmith.

The Jefferson Hotel is shown on Graham's 1869 "Plan of the City of Jefferson, Texas" as located on the north side of Dallas Street between Marshall and Jackson.

Dear Reader:

On behalf of the members of the Historic Jefferson Foundation we want to welcome you to Jefferson.

The goals of our Foundation are to promote education and historic preservation in Jefferson. All of the work by members of our Foundation on the *Jeffersonian* is volunteered. The net proceeds from our advertisers are spent only for our charitable purposes.

As ongoing projects, we maintain and improve the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Park, the Sterne Memorial Fountain and the historic Jefferson Powder Magazine. We are working with the Center for Historic Architecture of the University of Houston College of Architecture on a program to inventory all of Jefferson's historical structures and to establish guidelines for restoration and new construction. We are providing financial assistance to the Jefferson Junior Historians in their efforts to restore their historic building located at 61 Dallas Street. Our members are involved in many other civic projects which seek to preserve and restore historic buildings and to preserve and enhance the ambiance which makes Jefferson so special.

We would welcome your contribution or participation in any of the Foundation's projects. We are pleased to have you share our city here in the lush Cypress Valley and hope you return many times.

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Texas Heritage Archives & Library offers museum setting in an educational facility

Slide presentations on both the history of Jefferson and the history of cartography in the New World are now running at the Texas Heritage Archives & Library, a Texas history museum and educational facility located in the heart of Jefferson's downtown historic district.

The non-profit facility, opened in December 1997, features one of Texas' premier collections of rare maps, paper currency, books and documents. Compiled by Dallas philanthropists B.B. Barr and John N. Rowe III, the collections were donated to the museum as a gift and educational tool for the people of Texas. The museum's mission specifies the collections be used in exhibits and as research tools to support education and scholarly research into the rich historical heritage of the Great State of Texas.

Some 600 maps from as far back as 1513 now call Jefferson home, along with more than 3,000 obsolete notes and national bank notes from Texas banks and the 1,000-plus volume research library are housed in Jefferson's old Haywood House, once the finest

hotel west of the Mississippi and almost 100 years later, the location of a treasure that drew national attention.

The former hotel, turned into residential quarters after a Reconstruction-era fire reduced it to a quarter of its original size, was the resting spot of more than \$55,000 in coin left behind by tenant Clarence Braden. The eccentric bachelor had amassed tens of thousands of coins during his life, storing them in just about any container he possessed in his apartment at the building. Following his death in 1962, news of the tremendous cache of coins was spread around the world via the UPI and AP wire services, putting both Jefferson and the Haywood House in an international spotlight.

Today, the old hotel attracts treasure seekers of a different sort. Map collectors, aficionados and lovers of Texas history pore over the more than five dozen map on display, ranging from the earliest map including Texas (published in 1513) to early 20th century county maps made when the last of Texas' 254 counties were created.

The currency collection spans

the paper-money history of Texas, with samples of the very first paper money used in Texas (scrip used to pay the Mexican garrison at Nacogdoches from 1826-1832) as well as hand-written notes issued by the fledgling Republic of Texas government. The 1,500-plus national bank notes were issued by nearly 600 national banks operating in Texas between 1865 and 1929 when the Great Depression changed the way America did business.

The research library upstairs houses the earliest published works including information on Texas, dating all the way back to the mid-16th century. Early immigrant guides, revolutionary and Mexican war accounts from both sides of the conflicts and many of the earliest treatises on Texas' history are included among the volumes. The archives also contain a growing number of rare paper documents, including Empresarial grants and broadsides, land conveyances paid to Texas soldiers in lieu of cash and other documents pertinent to the founding of the great former nation and state.

The two slide presentations

recently added to the exhibits at the museum run daily and provide a quick glimpse at Jefferson's history and the fascinating story behind the explorers and mapmakers that dealt with Texas.

Crossroads of Empire, a slide program produced by the Texas Humanities Resource Center, covers the discovery and exploration of Texas as it was documented by European cartographers from 1513 through the 19th century. Jefferson: The Old South in Texas was produced by the Institute of Texan Cultures and gives a brief overview of Jefferson as the important river port in Northeast Texas.

The museum's educational mission is currently beginning to gel. Nearly 300 campuses in 30 counties surrounding Jefferson are targeted for visits to the museum or by the museum to their classrooms with a traveling map exhibit. The Contours of Discovery map set reproduced by the Texas State Historical Association is being purchased in bulk for contribution to each of those numerous campuses over the next three years. The first year's supply of those map sets was

purchased through funds provided for the project by the Southwestern Bell Foundation. The museum also acts as a classroom for history students at Panola Junior College who meet weekly in the library.

The Texas Heritage Archives & Library is open daily, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12 years of age. Group rates and special tours are of course available.

For more information, contact the museum at (903) 665-1101 or e-mail TxHerArLib@aol.com. The Texas Heritage Archives & Library is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all contributions made to the facility are tax exempt to the fullest extent of the law.



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The Haywood House is large part of Jefferson's rich historic heritage

By Jacques Bagur

The building presently occupied by the Texas Heritage Archives & Library is one-fourth of an original four-story brick building that extended from Dallas Street to Lake Street along Market Street, with the front on Dallas Street, the most important street in Jefferson until the middle 1870s. The building was constructed by H. P. Mabry in 1867 and largely destroyed by fire in 1872. Abbie Haywood, daughter of a local planter, was Mabry's wife. The building was obviously named in honor of his wife's family. The designation "house" indicates that the building was intended as a hotel from its inception. Throughout its brief life as a whole structure, the building was primarily devoted to the operations of a hotel considered by many, including non-

Jeffersonians, to be the finest establishment west of the Mississippi River.

Jefferson emerged from the Civil War with at least three hotels intact: the City Hotel, the Jefferson Hotel and the Perry House. The Jefferson Hotel, on the north side of Dallas Street between Marshall and Jackson, began advertising in the newspapers in 1851, but it was actually much older, having been built by William Perry in 1846 and operated under the name Soda Lake Hotel. The Perry House, on the north side of Austin Street between Vale and Market, appears to have been built in the late 1850s by William Perry, but did not advertise in the newspapers because it was a modest establishment. It was acquired in April 1867 by H. A. Cutrer, refurbished, and operated under the name Fulton House. The City Hotel, a

brick structure on the corner of Marshall and Austin, began advertising in April 1858, but it was also much older, having advertised as the Planters Hotel in 1854 and pre-existing that year under the proprietorship of B. Figures.

The City Hotel was destroyed in January 1866 in the first of many fires that were to devastate portions of the city during the 1860s and 1870s. In February, Ward Taylor, Jr., of the Jimplecute, predicted that Jefferson would have a population of 10,000 in five years and suggested that a joint-stock company be formed to build a new hotel on the site of the City Hotel because Jefferson was in need of a "splendid hotel" to commensurate with its emerging status. The site recommendation was not accepted, but the objective was realized.

When R. W. Loughery, editor of the Texas Republican, visited Jefferson in February, he noted that "there are three excellent hotels in the place. Among them, that of Dr. Walker of the Bulletin, who has leased the large and commodious building known as the Alhambra. He is fitting it up in a style that combines elegance and comfort and, when finished, will be second to no house in this section. He keeps an excellent table, and good rooms. Everything looks clean, neat and inviting." The other two hotels besides the Alhambra were apparently the Jefferson Hotel and the Perry House, which continued to operate under that name until April.

Loughery also noted that many new buildings had been built and that 75 were being erected. "Among

the most notable of these new buildings," according to Loughery, was "the large and stately brick, on Dallas street, owned by Judge Mabry, now nearly completed." Loughery added that "It is four stories high, and covers the extent of the block south to Lake street. When finished, it will be one of the most elegant and imposing buildings in the state." The owner was Hinch P. Mabry, recently returned from the Civil War, in which he had achieved the rank of General.

The building, as completed, can be seen in H. Brosius' 1872 Bird's Eye View of Jefferson, which can be found in the Texas Heritage Archives & Library and in the Jefferson Museum. This detailed sketch was made in the spring of 1872, shortly before the building burned. From the Brosius sketch, it can be seen that the Haywood House was the tallest, but apparently not the largest, building in Jefferson. The building remained in Mabry's ownership throughout its life. The upper three stories, at least, and probably most of the lower floor for most of the time, were devoted to the hotel operations. The hotel apparently did not begin operation until late 1867, since when W. G. Barrett, editor of the Marshall Harrison Flag, visited Jefferson in June, he stayed at the Alhambra and did not mention the Haywood House.

The first newspaper mention of the Haywood House in operation is in the Dec. 7 Texas Republican, which refers to the Daily Shreveport Times:

"Attention is called to the adver-

tisement of the Haywood House. This is one of the best houses in the South. The Daily Times, of the fourth, in speaking of it says: 'The Haywood House continues to be thronged with guests, the arrivals for the last few days having been great; but it is impossible for too many to arrive at once, as there is always ample provisions ready made for all who may seek the

hospitalities of this most excellent hotel.'"

The referenced advertisement, which is dated Dec. 7, indicates that the hotel was operated by R. Ruth, W. G. Rives, and T. D. Powell through the firm of Ruth, Rives & Co. It can be presumed that the hotel became operational in November:

R. RUTH, W. G. RIVES, T. D. POWELL, *The Haywood House, Jefferson, Texas, the largest and finest hotel building West of the Mississippi, HAS been fitted up in a style of elegance and comfort, that entitles it to the patronage of the home and traveling public. The rooms are comfortable, and have new furniture; the table supplied with the best the market affords; it is the business of the Proprietors to consult the comfort of guests, and to make the house a desirable stopping place. RUTH, RIVES & CO., Proprietors. Dec. 7, '57.*

The only newspaper description of the hotel that indicates its dimensions is given in the Dec. 21 Texas Republican: "The Haywood House, Jefferson, Texas, of which Messrs. Ruth, Rives, and Powell are proprietors, is the finest and best constructed establishment of the kind in the South, outside of New Orleans. The building is of brick, four-stories high, fronting 50 feet on Dallas street, and running back 150 to Lake Street. It has about 55 sleeping rooms, besides parlors, offices, dining room, etc., and all finished and furnished in magnificent style. The traveling public will not fail to visit this number one house." The traveling public included those passing through Shreveport, La., where the hotel was advertised in the South-Western beginning in 1868 and in the Daily Shreveport Times in 1872.

The Dec. 21 Texas Republican also mentions that a Christmas Eve ball would be held at the hotel, featuring Sam Williams and his son, both of whom were popular on the fiddle. A large number of tickets had been sent out, "with instructions to send one to every young lady." This was a common practice for all dances, since the attendance of young ladies was critical to their success. It can be assumed that such balls were an annual occurrence at the hotel.

After the great fire of late February 1868, the firm of Pratt, Ward & Co., whose building had

See Haywood House, page 22

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'Gone With The Wind' museum set to open

Bobbie Hardy has been collecting Gone With the Wind memorabilia since visiting Atlanta, Georgia in 1980. During that visit, she experienced first-hand the enduring phenomenon surrounding Margaret Mitchell's masterful creation and David O. Selznick's incomparable motion picture.

After residing in Houston for thirty years, Bobbie and her husband, Randy Hardy, decided in 1995 to think about how they would spend the rest of their lives. Randy was interested in moving near his hometown of Atlanta, Texas. The Hardys settled upon Jefferson because they were so inspired by the spirit of its citizens, their love of history, and their determination to preserve the past. Gone With the Wind seemed to fit perfectly into the community.

The Hardys had no real plans to open a museum. It just evolved during the four months they spent looking for property. The existing homes offered for sale at that time did not meet their criteria, so they began a

search for a vacant lot where they could build a neo-Greek Revival home. While looking at the property they eventually purchased, the idea for a museum simply entered Bobbie's mind because of an existing structure. The building, lovingly referred to by the Hardys as "the ugliest structure in Marion County," was built about 1953 to serve as a vocational shop for Jefferson High School, located across the street. In the late 1950s, the high school was destroyed by fire and the shop building became a warehouse until it was remodeled by the Hardys in the summer of 1996.

The 1,500 square foot museum dedicated to Gone With the Wind features one of the world's largest private collections of memorabilia from this epic story of the Old South. The museum is located at 408 Taylor Street across the street from Christ Episcopal Church.

Among the hundreds of items on display are rare domestic and foreign movie posters, a first edition of the novel signed by Margaret Mitchell, a personal letter by the

author, dozens of foreign editions of Mitchell's beloved novel from around the world, promotional novelties and items inspired by the original movie release including a "Scarlett's Chocolates" candy box, perfume bottles, figurines, toys, handkerchiefs, and jewelry. There are numerous photos and autographs of the film's major stars, three costume reproductions from the film, character dolls including an extraordinary collection of famous Madame Alexander "Scarlett" dolls, Berea sweaters inspired by the movie, and original seats from Loew's Grand Theatre in Atlanta, site of the world premiere of Gone With the Wind.

A special holiday exhibit is the Hardys' one-of-a-kind Gone With the Wind Christmas tree, decorated with dozens of movie inspired ornaments and 1-inch Madame Alexander dolls. A small gift shop offers Gone With the Wind and Scarlett O'Hardy related souvenirs.

Beginning on November 27, 1998, the Museum is open Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. It will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. After January 10, 1999, the Museum will be closed on Monday and Tuesday. Admission is \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children 12 and under. For more information, or to make private tour arrangements, call 903-665-1939.



Pictured above is a display of memorabilia at the Gone with the Wind Museum.

To receive information about advertising in the next edition of the Jeffersonian, call (903) 665-2462 and get on the mailing list.

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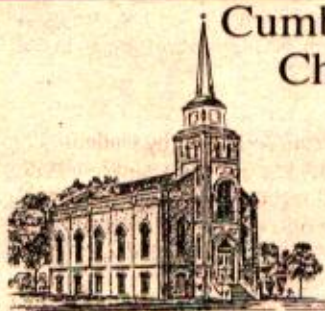
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Haywood House

Continued from page 20

been destroyed, relocated "under the Haywood House." Pratt, Ward & Co. was a large wholesale and retail dealer in dry goods, groceries and plantation supplies. It probably occupied the whole of the lower floor, indicating that the building was used for purposes other than that of a hotel. However, the notice of the relocation confirms that the building itself was referred to as the Haywood House. Dr. Jones, an oculist who specialized in correcting cross-eyed vision, had an office in the building in 1870.

In April 1868, proprietorship of the Haywood House hotel operation passed into the hands of W. G. Rives alone. The change of ownership was noted by Loughery in May.

"There are two excellent hotels at Jefferson. We stopped at the Haywood House, which is kept in a style that equals if it does not surpass any management that has preceded it," he wrote. "We venture to say that there is no better house outside of New Orleans." Rapid change of ownership of many different types of businesses was common for this period, particularly in the case of hotels.

Rives modified the original Texas Republican advertisement for the Haywood House in April to include rates, which are stated as follows: board and lodging, per month, payable weekly, \$40; without lodging, per month, payable weekly, in advance, \$7.50; transient customers, per week, \$15; transient customers, per day, \$3; single meals, \$1.

The business relationship between Rives and Mabry cannot be determined from newspaper accounts. Space for the hotel operation was probably leased from Mabry, who maintained ownership of the building. Lucille Bullard, in Marion County, 1860-1870, indicates that Rives lived with his family in the hotel, which was also occupied by Mabry and his family and in-laws.

In May 1872, the hotel operation passed into the hands of the portly Acton Young, recently from Tennessee. The editor of the Daily

Shreveport Times was visited by Young and records the following in the issue for the 12th:

"We yesterday had the pleasure of a visit from Dr. Young, the popular landlord of that popular hotel, the Haywood House, Jefferson. If he feeds his customers as well as he evidently feeds himself, they will certainly have no reason to complain. His house is most admirably arranged and managed, and is daily growing in reputation as one of the very best hotels in Texas."

On the 15th, the following advertisement began appearing in the Daily Shreveport Times:

Haywood House, Jefferson, THIS popular Hotel is now open for the reception of guests. Terms reasonable.

Acton Young, late of Tennessee, in charge, would be glad to see old friends at the Haywood, May 15.

The end of the Haywood House is recorded in a July 30 telegraph dispatch by Loughery to the Daily Shreveport Times that appeared in the issue of the next day:

A fire broke out this morning in the Freeman Building on Dallas street, about three o'clock, and swept both sides of the street from Market street to Vale street, on the north side of Dallas. The houses burned were those of Breen & Dwan, grocery merchants; next, unoccupied; Fredericks, a furniture store; O. F. Lang, confectioner and grocer; O. C. Herrenkind, grocer; James Hoban, fancy and staple dry goods; W. B. Abbey, in the rear of Hoban's shoe shop—all frame buildings; next the Freeman Building; in it were the stores of J. M. Thomas & Co., and Mr. Smith. The upper part of the house was variously occupied; in it was Gen. Rogers' law office. Next, Kleinback's grocery; then Dr. Taylor's drug store; the next building unoccupied; Sample Room. Then followed Mrs. Getz's restaurant and two cigar stores; in the rear of these were Dr. Eagon's office, Murdock's apothecary store, Mrs. Henry's millinery establishment and Messrs. Gill & Nix's gun shop; across the street were the confectionery and grocery establishment of Hugo Fox, a restaurant, Mischelle's barber shop; Morgenstein & Co., shoemakers;

Schabb, of the International; Gardner & Co., undertakers, and Gugenheim & Rose; next a frame building belonging to Judge Mabrey, and Mrs. Dwyer's fancy millinery establishment. The large grocery store of F. Shutz and the large and elegant building known as the Haywood House, and regarded as one of the finest buildings in the State, owned by Judge Mabrey. A great many people have lost their all; there was comparatively little insurance. The fire is believed to have been the work of an incendiary. One thousand dollars reward is offered to find out the perpetrators. The total loss is estimated at about \$150,000.

The Freeman Building occupied the northeastern half of the block encompassed by Dallas, Austin, Market, and Vale. The fire reached the Haywood House by crossing Dallas. The mixture of businesses provides some insight into the importance of Dallas Street as a commercial artery. The fact that the fire crossed Dallas and consumed a large part of one of the most impressive brick buildings in the city suggests the intensity of these early fires, which spread rapidly through the mix of wood and brick structures. The building presently occupied by the Texas Heritage Archives & Library is what remained of the Haywood House after the fire.



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Early postal routes in area pre-date Civil War

by Jacques Bagur

In earlier times, the mails of the United States were carried by private citizens operating under contract to the Federal Government. Contracts were secured by bids. The routes and the specifics of carriage were advertised in local newspapers to allow citizens the opportunity to bid. The following requests for proposals appeared in the Clarksville newspaper, which changed its name from the Northern Standard to Standard in April 1853.

The requests contain a great deal of information on the towns of Northeast Texas, including many of which that have disappeared, and show their emergence into prominence over time and the development of their relationships. Of particular interest are the old towns of Clinton, Williams' Bluff, and Gallatin. Clinton was a steamboat port on the northern edge of Clinton Lake and is mentioned in the requests for 1849. Williams' Bluff, which is mentioned in the same year, was an old name for Monterey (also called Point Monterey) on Jim's Bayou. Gallatin, which is mentioned in the requests for 1854 and 1858, is shown in The Official Military Atlas of the Civil War on Cypress Bayou in the approximate vicinity of Port Caddo (although they were not the same).

Numerous newspaper reports make it clear that the elaborate schedules were often not kept.

Proposals for carrying the mails from July 1, 1847, to June 30, 1850, were advertised in the April 1, 1847, Northern Standard:

From Jefferson, by Port Caddo,

to Shreveport, 45 miles and back, once a week. Leave Jefferson every Monday at 5 a.m.; arrive at Shreveport next day by noon. Leave Shreveport every Tuesday at 1 p.m.; arrive at Jefferson next day by 6 p.m.

From Jefferson, by Cass County Courthouse, Daingerfield, Mount Pleasant (Titus County Courthouse), Tarrant (Hopkins County Courthouse), and Hunt County Courthouse, to Dallas, 120 miles and back, once in two weeks. Leave Jefferson every other Tuesday at 1 p.m.; arrive at Dallas next Friday by 6 p.m.; leave Dallas every other Tuesday at 1 p.m.; arrive at Jefferson next Friday by 6 p.m.

From Marshall, by Jefferson, Hughes Springs, Daingerfield, Weaver's, and Dunham's, to Boston, 90 miles and back, once a week.

Proposals for carrying mails from July 1, 1849, to June 30, 1850, were advertised in the March 17, 1849, Northern Standard:

From Fulton at 11 a.m. on Thursday, by Moore's Ferry on Sulphur Fork, Williams' Bluff, and Clinton in Cass County, to Jefferson by 3 p.m., 90 miles and back, between 6 a.m. Tuesday and 10 a.m. Thursday.

From Mooresville in Bowie County at 7 a.m. Thursday, by Old Hickory, Clear Springs, and Gertrude, to Jefferson, by noon Friday, 50 miles and back, between 1 p.m. Friday and 6 p.m. Saturday.

Proposals for carrying the mails from July 1, 1851, to June 30, 1854, were advertised in the March 8, 1851, Northern Standard:

From Jefferson at 7 a.m. once a

week on Tuesday, by Alley's Mills and Coffeerville, to Gilmer by 11 a.m. next day, 45 miles and back, between 1 p.m. Wednesday and 5 p.m. next day.

Proposals for carrying the mails from July 1, 1854, to June 30, 1858 were advertised in the February 18, 1854, Standard:

From Jefferson, by Union Springs, Marshall, Concord, Powelton, and Greenwood, to Shreveport, 59 miles and back, three times a week. Leave Jefferson every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at noon; arrive at Shreveport next days by 4 p.m.; leave Shreveport every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 11 a.m.; arrive at Jefferson next days by 4 p.m.

From Jefferson, by Hickory Hill, to Daingerfield, 31 miles and back, three times a week. Leave Jefferson every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at noon; arrive at Daingerfield next days by noon; leave Daingerfield every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday at 1 p.m.; arrive at Jefferson next days by 11 a.m.

From Jefferson, by Smithland, to Point Monterey, 25 miles and back, once a week. Leave Jefferson every Friday at 3 p.m.; arrive at Point Monterey next day by 11 a.m.; leave Point Monterey every Saturday at noon; arrive at Jefferson next day by 11 a.m.

From Jefferson, by Gallatin, Port Caddo, Cook's Store, and Jonesville, to Powelton, 48 miles and back, once a week. Leave Jefferson every Saturday at 6 a.m.; arrive at Powelton next day by 11 a.m.; leave Powelton every Sunday at 1 p.m.;

arrive at Jefferson next day by 5 p.m.

From Jefferson, by Coffeerville, to Gilmer, 48 miles and back, once a week. Leave Jefferson every Tuesday at 10 a.m.; arrive at Gilmer next day by 1 p.m.; leave Gilmer every Wednesday at 2 p.m.; arrive at Jefferson next day by 9 a.m.

From Boston, by Forest Home and Linden, to Jefferson, 39 miles and back, once a week. Leave Boston every Thursday at 7 a.m.; arrive at Jefferson next day by 1 p.m.; leave Jefferson every Tuesday at 1 p.m.; arrive at Boston next day at 6 p.m.

Proposals for carrying the mails from July 1, 1858, to June 30, 1862, were advertised in the February 20, 1858, Standard:

From Jefferson, by Floyd's Ferry on Red River, to Fulton, 90 miles and back, once a week. Leave Jefferson on Monday at 6 a.m.; arrive at Fulton next Wednesday by 10 a.m.; leave Fulton on Wednesday at noon; arrive at Jefferson next Friday by 5 p.m.

From Jefferson, by Alley's Mills and Coffeerville, to Gilmer, 45 miles and back, three times a week. Leave Jefferson on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10 a.m.; arrive at Gilmer next days at 1 p.m.;

leave Gilmer on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10 a.m.; arrive at Jefferson next days by (?) p.m.

From Jefferson, by Smithland, to Point Monterey, 25 miles and back, once a week. Leave Jefferson on Friday at 3 p.m.; arrive at Point Monterey next day by 11 a.m.; leave Point Monterey on Saturday at noon; arrive at Jefferson next day by 11 a.m.

From Jefferson, by Gallatin, Port Caddo, Cook's Store, and Jonesville, to Powelton, 48 miles and back, three times a week. Leave Jefferson on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6 a.m.; arrive at Powelton next days by 11 a.m.; leave Powelton on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 1 p.m.; arrive at Jefferson next days by 5 p.m.

From Boston, by Douglasville, Havana, Forest Home, and Linden, to Jefferson 80 miles and back, once a week. Leave Boston on Thursday at 6 a.m.; arrive at Jefferson next day at 6 p.m.; leave Jefferson on Friday at 6 a.m.; arrive at Boston next day by 6 p.m.

From Marshall, by Jefferson, Hickory Hill, Daingerfield, Snow Hill, Mt. Pleasant, and Gouldsboro, to Clarksville, 120 miles and back, three times a week.

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Pictured above is an oil painting of a nighttime street scene of Jefferson by Christian Seidler.

Christian Seidler teaches at Panola

By Dr. Jeanne Scott
Christian Seidler moved with his family from Pittsburg, Kansas to East Texas in the Spring of 1998. He chose the Cypress Valley because of its natural beauty and because of the local interest in pro-

moting fine art. Seidler not only produces fine paintings, he is now an art instructor at Panola College in Jefferson.

Seidler is the inventory of Matricism, a technique which can be used to teach the science of col-

ors. The technique involves breaking down colors into their primary components of value, intensity, and hues and making decisions independently. Normally, an artist mixes a color and makes decisions about its components simultaneously. The technique gives the appearance of making objects move in and out of the picture plane.

Christian's work has been juried to hang in many national shows throughout the South and Midwest. He has received numerous awards at local, county, state and national levels, winning first place at the age of six in a Pittsburg, Kansas, local show which was judged by the Art Department instructors at Kansas State University.

Having a total of seven years of structured fine arts training in both public and private schools, including three years in New York, Christian studied under the renowned John Sanden. Christian is a disciplined student of the European methods of art instruction. Having taught and lectured on the community college and university level, Christian enjoys training artists in the classical skills of the old masters and teaching them how they can use their skills for both commercial and academic success as professionals.

Seidler has recently begun painting street scenes of Jefferson. His paintings can be found at the Throckmorton Gallery in Jefferson. For further information call (903) 665-9410 or (318) 929-3184.

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Marion County is namesake of Revolutionary War hero

by Jacques Bagur

Marion County, in which Jefferson is located, was created out of Cass County on Feb. 8, 1860. The name of Marion has traditionally been assumed to have been derived from Francis Marion of Revolutionary War fame. In 1780, the British captured Charleston and overran South Carolina. Francis Marion was appointed brigadier-general by the governor and organized a band of guerrilla volunteers that became widely known for its exploits against the British. The British Colonel Tarleton was sent to capture him but was unsuccessful, designating Marion "the old swamp fox" because he eluded capture by following swamp paths.

The traditional interpretation was challenged by Lucille Bullard in her book, Marion County, Texas, 1860-1870, pointing out that Marion DeKalb Taylor was a better possibility. Taylor was a highly respected resident of the county and was instrumental in its organization while serving in the Texas House of Representatives in 1860. Both interpretations were carried forward by Fred Tarpley in his book, Jefferson: Riverport to the Southwest.

This issue can be laid to rest in favor of the "Swamp Fox" interpretation because of the availability of a contemporary source, which appeared in the correspondence column of the March 3, 1860,

Clarksville Standard. The letter, which follows, was dated Feb. 12 and was written to the newspaper's editor, Charles DeMorse. The letter was written by a Jefferson resident, who signed with the initials A. J. E. I have been unable to determine who this person was.

While I write I hear the shrill whistle of some steamer, plying for our port. Navigation is very good now and, if reports be true, we are destined ere long to have a full "Bayou." The largest size "Red River Packets" visit this place very regularly now, but the freights are yet high, owing mainly to the fact that the water is not yet at the mid-dling fair point.

The "Trio" reached here between 7 and 8 o'clock P.M. yesterday, and left for upper "Red River" about 3 P.M. Latest news from the city — notes the cotton market depressed, extremes ruling from 5 to 7 to 12 and 12. Cotton still continues to come in here at the rates of 1,000 and 1,500 bales per week. Some selling at 7 to 10c. None can be shipped at lower marks than \$2.50. We are enjoying very pleasant weather now, and it seems the citizens are improving the opportunity, as every street and corner are alive with business.

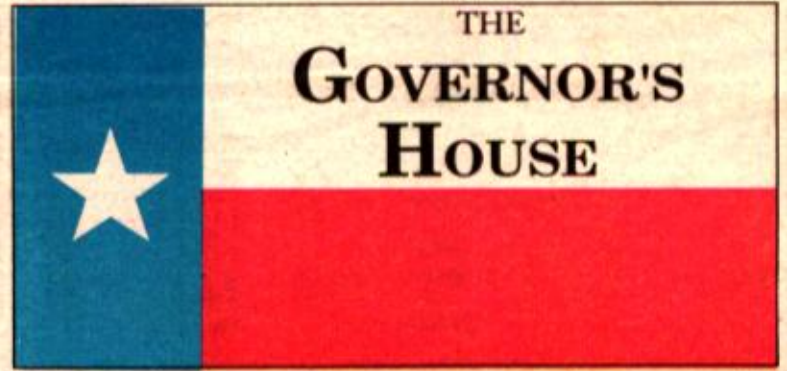
Jefferson was improving very rapidly. In every part of town new buildings are being erected. Several new stores have been opened this

season, which clearly evidences an increase in her trade.

The news of the division of this county was received here by every citizen with the strongest demonstrations of joy — and approval of the step. It will be a great help as well as convenience to the people of Jefferson.

The name given them is appropriate if for no other than to retain fresh and verdant in the memory of the people the name and acts of the noble and patriotic Marion the "Wily Fox of the Swamps," whose blood flowed freely in the cause of freedom, and whose strong arm and bold heart wielded a mighty influence in establishing permanently upon American soil the liberty which we all enjoy.

And with his name are associated others, the memory of whom can never fail, to endear to the hearts of every American, the soil which holds their ashes and the institutions fostered upon it under the guidance of their wise admonitions.



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Sterne Memorial Fountain, located at the intersection of Market and Lafayette Streets in downtown Jefferson, was given to the city by the children of Jacob and Ernestine Sterne in 1913. Engraved on the fountain is: "Dedicated in honor of Jacob and Ernestine Sterne, who lived in Jefferson for many years. Presented to the City of Jefferson by their children as an expression of affection for their native town."

Mr. and Mrs. Sterne came to Jefferson in the 1850s by wagon from Galveston.

In 1980, public donations were used to employ Phoebe Weil and Robert Martin of St. Louis, Missouri, to restore the fountain.

With generous support from Lady Bird Johnson, Tommie Wurtsbaugh Glick and the Historic Jefferson Foundation, planters, flood lighting, and a watering system were added. Seasonal flowers in the planter are provided several times a year by Jefferson sculptress, Tommie Wurtsbaugh Glick.

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Sun. - 6 p.m. - Service Worship

Wed. - 7 p.m. - Service Worship

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Sunday Worship - 6 p.m.

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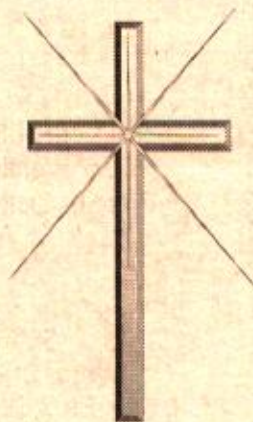
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Rail travel comes to Jefferson

by Jacques Bagur

The legend of Jay Gould has given rise to the impression that early Jeffersonians were not interested in railroads. This is not the case. Until the 1870s, Jefferson was one of the most important trade centers in Texas, second only to the coastal port of Galveston. Like everyone else, Jefferson's businessmen and public officials were railroad enthusiasts. The wealth and political influence of the town enabled it to secure one of the earliest railroad charters granted in Texas. The antebellum development of rails in Texas was restricted to the northeast and southern portions of the state, where ports attempted to extend and consolidate their trade hinterlands and to tie into the transcontinental roads advancing from the east.

The Jefferson Railroad Company was chartered by the State of Texas on Feb. 2, 1854, only nine years after Jefferson came into existence. The incorporators were John Speake, D.N. Alley (the co-founder of Jefferson), Hiram Tomlin, W.C. Baker, William Brooks, J.M. Murphy, W.B. Aikin, E.G. Rogers, S.J. Pounds, W.C. Baffle and Orin Conner. The line was to begin at Jefferson and connect with the east through the Mississippi and Pacific Railroad or the Vicksburg and El Paso Railroad (usually referred to as the Texas Western and later the Southern Pacific). By charter amendment in 1855, it was allowed to connect with the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas Railroad.

What the incorporators had in mind is obvious. The main purpose was to tie Jefferson by a north-south line into one of the projected east-west transcontinental lines, if none of these lines chose to proceed through Jefferson. This would provide Jefferson with relationships to the east and to the far west to the Pacific. The Mississippi and Pacific was projected to run north of Jefferson out of the Fulton, Ark. area to El Paso. The Texas Western was projected to run south of Jefferson in the general vicinity of Marshall. The Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas was chartered in Louisiana to run west through Shreveport, where it

would join the Texas Western at the state line. On the south, Jefferson had the opportunity to connect through a north-south line with the Texas Western or through a northwest-southeast line with the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas at the state line.

The Jefferson Railroad and the Mississippi and Pacific were never built. On the south, the Texas Western was begun under the name Southern Pacific. This was the road that began at Swanson's Landing on Caddo Lake and then ran south to Jonesville, then west to Marshall in October 1858, before activities were interrupted by the Civil War.

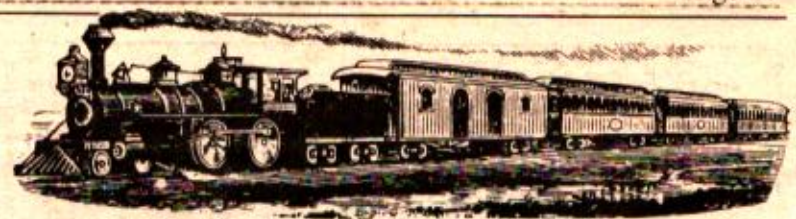
The Texas Western (under the name Vicksburg and El Paso) received its charter in February 1852, but work was not begun until November 1855 under the name Southern Pacific. In early 1855, when the route that would be taken by the line was still uncertain, Jeffersonians were working politically and with the railroad company to have the line run through Jefferson. A meeting was held in Jefferson in April to express enthusiasm for the line and public support for the money and labor to do the grading. The organizers of this effort were Frank H. Clark, John M. Wascom, John C. Murphy, John Speake, John C. Smedley, and W.M. Freeman.

The expectations of Jeffersonians were not unreason-

able. Because of the immense difficulties in transporting railroad iron over land, railroads were built from existing lines or from ports, where the iron could be brought in by steamboats. The Southern Pacific was begun at Swanson's Landing because the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas had not even reached Shreveport, and the Southern Pacific would lose its charter if a portion of the line was not completed within a specified period. Benton on Cypress Bayou was surveyed in August 1854 for the line to Marshall that was eventually developed out of Swanson's Landing. Jefferson was in the running, but its proposal was rejected by the company because of the high cost and time that would be involved in bridging the Cypress bayous.

The Jefferson Railroad allowed its charter to expire, apparently in part, because the Swanson's Landing to Jonesville and Jonesville to Marshall portions of the Southern Pacific were nothing but local roads as long as the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas was not complete, and that was a long way off. More importantly, new opportunities emerged through a local line, the Metropolitan Railroad and another transcontinental line to the north, The Memphis, El Paso and Pacific (ME&P).

The Metropolitan Railroad was incorporated on February 1860 to run from Texarkana, through



Jefferson and Marshall, and on to Austin. Although this was not specifically a Jefferson project, it provided Jefferson two opportunities. As a local road between Jefferson and Texarkana, the Metropolitan would capture all of the upper Red River trade, which went to Jefferson only when low water made the upper Red River inaccessible to steamboats. More importantly, the Metropolitan provided an opportunity to tie in with a transcontinental line. The ME&P was chartered in February 1853 and, by amendment in February 1856, was to begin near Texarkana joining with such roads as the Cairo and Fulton advancing from the east and proceeding west over the northern tier of Texas counties to El Paso and then to the Pacific.

A meeting in connection with

the raising of additional stock for the Metropolitan was held in Linden in May 1860, with W.P. Saufley, D.S. McRay, and Cols. Yerger and Willerson from Jefferson in attendance. Saufley read the charter, and Saufley, Yerger and Willerson gave speeches emphasizing the importance of the road to the development of Northeast Texas. Clarksville, the trade center on the upper Red River, was not happy about the prospects for this local line, because it would shift trade to the south and eliminate steamboat activity on the upper Red River.

The Metropolitan was not built under its own name, but became absorbed in the effort to construct the ME&P. The latter line was to

See Rail Travel, page 29

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Junior Historians

Continued from page 5



Opening Can-Can Line of the Jefferson Junior Historians' 1997 Christmas show

repair of the roof of the building. Work accelerated when

International Paper Company team members converged on No. 61 Dallas Street to make needed safety and security repairs. The team members donated labor over a three-year period to install boards and materials that were furnished. A concrete floor was installed, new wiring placed in a conduit and a foot light box was given by team members.

A grant from the Historic Jefferson foundation, Carl Cooley of Colco, International, a well-known expert in the restoration of historic masonry structures, was employed to restore the building's exterior. Cooley restored the parapet walls, inserted through-wall flashing, cut and re-pointed all existing mortar joints and made general masonry repairs to the exterior of the building to restore it to 19th century appearance. Cooley was careful to match the color and texture of new brick mortar with the mortar used in the original construction.

Panola College's office of Workforce Education has teamed with the Junior Historians on a project to help restoration on the No. 61 Dallas Street building and establish an educational fund. The project is arts-related and programs will consist of plays and musicals, dramatic readings, chorale concerts and musical revues. The teaming has already been granted \$7,000 by the Texas Commission on the Arts and hopes to attract more funding. The money granted is to be used in production costs of upcoming events.

Donations may be sent for the continuing restoration project of No. 61 Dallas Street to: No. 61 Dallas Street, Inc., attention David C. Little, P.O. Drawer K, Jefferson, TX 75657. All donations are tax deductible.



Junior Historians talk about their organization and how much they care about their project at No. 61 Dallas Street, it is clear they have gained poise and a sense of self-worth while donating their time and talent.

Several years ago, the Junior Historians acquired the Old Masonic Lodge, a two story brick "shell" building on Dallas Street. In 1992 the building was awarded a Historical Marker and the Junior Historians continue their efforts for restoration of the building, which is now known as 'McGarity's Saloon' at No. 61 Dallas Street.

Community spirit conquers most civic problems and deficiencies. That is certainly the case in Jefferson with the renovation of No. 61 Dallas Street. This historic brick building has been in serious need of restoration. It was formerly a lodge, saloon and mercantile building during the mid-19th century. It is a fine example of 19th century riverport architecture and has been designated as a Recorded Texas Landmark and has been included in the Historic Register of Historic Places. With assistance from parents, International Paper Company employees and others, a goal has been set to restore the building this year. The work started three years ago with a bank loan from First National Bank of Jefferson for the

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Rail Travel

Continued from page 27

start at Texarkana and run north of Clarksville to Paris. As was the case with the Southern Pacific, there was as yet no line from the east to Texarkana. As a consequence, it was necessary to begin at some port where rails could be brought in by water. Railroad iron could not be transported to Texarkana on the Red River because of a shallow place in the river above the mouth of the Sulphur Fork that could not be negotiated by heavily laden steamboats.

The company decided to import railroad iron at Moore's Landing on the Sulphur Fork, a tributary of the Red River running in a west-east direction below Clarksville and above Jefferson. A branch line was to run north from Moore's Landing to Texarkana and the ME&P would then be constructed to the west. A locomotive, three construction cars and chains and spikes for six miles of the ME&P arrived at Moore's Landing in April 1860. The Southerlin, the steamboat that had brought up these materials, was to begin bringing rails which had been purchased from the Mt. Savage Iron Works in Maryland. Then nature intervened.

In May 1860, the Great Raft on the Red River advanced beyond the mouth of Red Bayou, a distributary of the Red that was used to bypass the raft on the west. The Sulphur Fork was no longer accessible. Although plans were soon underway to develop another outlet farther north above the raft, the ME&P

could not wait. It soon became obvious that the only way to stay on schedule was to begin a branch line at Jefferson, advancing north to Moore's Landing, then to Texarkana.

In late May, the meeting was held in Linden to discuss the future of the Metropolitan. In June, Col. Thomas C. Bates, the contractor for the ME&P rails, agreed to ship them to Jefferson and take the contract for building the Metropolitan's rails. The ME&P advertised in October for contractors to provide the grading, referring to the Metropolitan as the Jefferson Division of the ME&P. The entire contract was taken by Capt. J.H. Pratt in November. By March 1861, the Texas Legislature had formally recognized the absorption of the Metropolitan by the ME&P.

Also by March, Capt. Pratt was at work on the grading and Judge H.A. Bennett, the new president of the ME&P, was on his way to secure rails for the main road and the Jefferson branch. In April, Pratt attended a meeting of the ME&P in Paris and wrote to Samuel F. Moseley in Jefferson that the board had decided to concentrate all of its energies on the Jefferson branch and that all of the iron would be sent to Jefferson.

There is no firm record of any railroad iron having been sent to Jefferson. The Civil War began in April and the rails for the ME&P

that were in New Orleans and on the Red and Mississippi rivers, which were in possession of the then alien enemy Thomas Bates, were seized by the Confederate Government in May. Capt. George Kouns of the famous steamboat family was at the Confederate Congress in Montgomery and, with the assistance of Judge W.B. Ochiltree from the Jefferson area, was able to get the seized rails transferred to the ME&P, as indicated in a letter to Bennett written from New Orleans on May 25.

Kouns said that he would transport the iron to Shreveport on the Saracen and then bring it to Moore's Landing when the fall rise provided better navigation conditions, suggesting that no iron was sent to Jefferson. However, low water prevailed through February of 1862, and there is no mention in the Clarksville papers of any iron having reached Moore's Landing, an event that surely would have been noted.

The only evidence for a rail out of Jefferson is a Texas Railroad Commission record that six miles of track were completed by the ME&P in 1861 between Moore's Landing and Jefferson. The track was obviously laid north out of Jefferson rather than south out of Moore's Landing. Any construction out of Moore's Landing would have taken

place to the north, since the whole point of starting at Jefferson was the inability to build north out of Moore's Landing.

The grading for the Jefferson Division of the ME&P was completed almost to Moore's Landing. (I have been unable to locate any portion of the grading, perhaps because the Texas and Pacific was built along the same route after the Civil War.) The fate of the rails is another matter.

In early 1862, the Confederacy was in desperate need to secure railroad iron to complete the casements of the ironclads Louisiana and Mississippi in New Orleans. According to the March 21 and April 1 issues of the semi-weekly Shreveport News, the Era No. 5 — a

Kouns boat — arrived from New Orleans, discontinued her regular trips, made a special trip to Jefferson, and departed for New Orleans from Shreveport on March 29 "with iron for the gunboats." The April 5 New Orleans Daily Picayune notes the arrival of the Era No. 5 from Jefferson carrying 108 pieces of iron for W.H. McComb and 1,127 pieces for E. Rousseau.

Although some of this iron could have been secured at Shreveport, Jefferson is the apparent source, including the six miles of track and whatever was in storage for laying. Jefferson's first railroad was an accidental undertaking that extended only six miles into the wilderness and was destroyed to defend the Confederacy.

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Ruth Lester Memorial was once a convent

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When the synagogue ceased to be used by Mount Sinai, it was closed much like a time capsule for there were no changes to the interior of the structure. The Ruth Lester Memorial continued to be used as a residence until the 1950s when the Jefferson Historical Restoration and Preservation Corporation acquired it and the adjoining former syna-

agogue. This corporation, which is a Texas non-profit corporation and supporter of the Jesse Allen Wise Garden Club, restored both the interior and exterior of the synagogue and convent building and used them for meetings, receptions and the annual performance of the Diamond Bessie Murder Trial. The former synagogue provides a good room for theatrical performances and for meetings since no microphones are needed. The building has a balcony, and it seats close to 130 people. It features the original gas lights, pews and Italianate windows.

A Jefferson leader, Ruth Lester, was responsible for the Garden Club becoming involved in this restoration project. When she died, members of the Garden Club named the convent "The Ruth Lester Memorial" in her memory. Since her death, additional restoration work has been performed on these

buildings.

Now the family of Ruth Lester has provided the funds to construct a gazebo on the grounds so that it can be used for garden weddings. Future plans call for the construction of a catering kitchen and meeting rooms capable of handling large groups of visitors.

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Clinton Landing

Continued from page 3

Bend on Caddo Lake was one of the three areas that Smith particularly recommended to immigrants. But the colony was located elsewhere, only to fail.

The person interviewed by Smith was John P. Campbell, listed in the 1850 Cass County Census as a 47-year-old farmer born in North Carolina, with a 40-year-old wife, Louisa, born in Tennessee. Their five children (Leonidas, Sarah, James, Thomas and Samuel) were born in Missouri and ranged in age from 17 years to six years. There was another child, Louisa M. McKinny, aged two and born in Missouri, obviously named for the wife. The plantation was a large one, since the Campbell estate was valued at \$7,000, a considerable sum of money in 1850. The dimensions of the plantation are also suggested by the fact that the Census enumeration for Campbell lists James M. McCord (mechanic, 44, born in North Carolina), Thomas Roper (overseer, 39, born in Tennessee) and William H. Roberson (physician, 35, born in Alabama).

The settlement of which the Campbells were a part was not important enough to merit a post office, but it was important enough to be included on the postal routes between Fulton, Ark., and Jefferson and between Port Caddo on Cypress Bayou and Moore's Ferry on the Sulphur Fork of Red River. Clinton may have served briefly in 1848 as the site of the Masonic Lodge established at Monterey during that year and its commercial activities were significant enough to be mentioned (along with Swanson's Landing, Port Caddo, Benton, Jefferson, Smithland, and Monterey) in the Dec. 3, 1853, Marshall Texas Republican as one of the areas that should be concerned about a price-fixing scheme by steamboatmen.

There are no actual accounts of steamboats to Clinton, which is not surprising given its off-channel status and short life. That it appeared in steamboat advertisements at all is significant, since steamboats would not travel to a distant off-channel landing unless it offered at least a modicum of freight. It can be assumed that the major commodity out of Clinton was cotton, from the Campbell plantation and other plantations and farms to the north.

Clinton is included in four different steamboat advertisements: Jefferson (Texas Republican, Sept. 6, 1851); Cleona (Texas Republican, June 5, 1852); Pitser Miller (Jefferson Herald, May 14, 1853); and Ruby (New Orleans Daily Picayune, June 1, 1854).

The advertisement for the Ruby indicates that Clinton was a recognized name in the New Orleans trade. The other advertisements appear in local newspapers and the boats are advertised as regular lake packets, stopping at many ports and landings on Cypress Bayou and Caddo Lake. The advertisement for the Pitser Miller is typical, listing

"Port Caddo, Benton, Smithland, Jefferson, Clinton, Monterey and all landings on the Lake" and signed by Williamson Freeman, John Speake, William Saufley and Samuel Nimmo as agents in Jefferson. The Cleona and Pitser Miller also traveled to New Orleans. The Jefferson never made it to the area because it wrecked on its maiden voyage.

According to an advertisement that appeared weekly in the Shreveport South-Western, beginning on Oct. 8, 1854, commercial services at Clinton Landing were provided by H. E. Curtis & Company. Curtis advertised as a receiving and forwarding merchant. The advertisement does not mention any goods for sale or the extension of credit. It appears that Curtis operated only a warehouse for the storing of merchandise brought in and taken out by steamboats. The advertisement disappears after the first few months of 1855 and may indi-

cate that the business itself disappeared during the regional commercial disaster precipitated by an absence of navigation during that year. Clinton Landing does not appear in any documents after 1855, and the Campbells are not listed in the 1860 Census.

The old Clinton area can be seen today by taking the farm road to the south out of Gethsemane on Texas Highway 49 above Caddo Lake and traveling east when the road branches. The landing area is inaccessible because it is occupied by a private camp. However, the old wagon road that serviced the Campbell plantation and plantations and farms to the north can be seen heavily indented in the landscape on the west side of the farm road.



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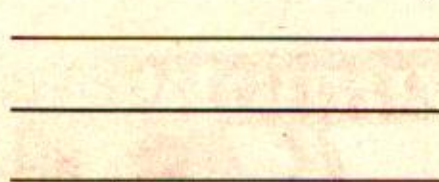
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Nov. 28 Dedication Harriet Potter Ames Memorial
 Dec. 3-5 & 10-12 Jefferson Christmas Candlelight Tour
 Dec. 4-5 & 11-12 Junior Historian's Musical Review

1999 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan. 18 Martin Luther King Parade
 Jan. 30 Mardi Gras Ball
 Feb. 5-7 Mardi Gras Upriver
 Feb. 6-7 Junior Historian's Musical Review
 Feb. 13-14 Junior Historian's Musical Review
 April 30-May 2 52nd Annual Pilgrimage

* All dates and events are subject to change without notice.



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